

# On Interpolating Sesqui-Harmonic Legendre Curves in Sasakian Space Forms

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**Abstract.** We consider interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms. We find the necessary and sufficient conditions for Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms to be interpolating sesqui-harmonic. Finally, we obtain an example for an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve in a Sasakian space form.

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## 1. Introduction

A map  $\varphi : (M, g) \rightarrow (N, h)$  between Riemannian manifolds is called a *harmonic map* and a *biharmonic map*, respectively if it is a critical point of the  $E(\varphi)$  and  $E_2(\varphi)$

$$E(\varphi) = \int_{\Omega} \|d\varphi\|^2 d\nu_g,$$

$$E_2(\varphi) = \int_{\Omega} \|\tau(\varphi)\|^2 d\nu_g,$$

where  $\Omega$  is a compact domain of  $M$ . The harmonic map equation is

$$\tau(\varphi) = \text{tr}(\nabla d\varphi) = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

and it is called the *tension field* of  $\varphi$  [5]. The Euler-Lagrange equation of  $E_2(\varphi)$  is

$$\tau_2(\varphi) = \text{tr}(\nabla^\varphi \nabla^\varphi - \nabla_{\frac{\varphi}{\nabla}}^\varphi) \tau(\varphi) - \text{tr}(R^N(d\varphi, \tau(\varphi))d\varphi) = 0, \quad (1.2)$$

and it is called the *bitension field* of  $\varphi$  [11].

In [3], Branding defined and considered interpolating sesqui-harmonic maps between Riemannian manifolds. The author introduced an action functional for maps between Riemannian manifolds that interpolated between the actions for harmonic and biharmonic maps. The map  $\varphi$  is said to be *interpolating sesqui-harmonic* if it is a critical point of  $E_{\delta_1, \delta_2}(\varphi)$

$$E_{\delta_1, \delta_2}(\varphi) = \delta_1 \int_{\Omega} \|d\varphi\|^2 d\nu_g + \delta_2 \int_{\Omega} \|\tau(\varphi)\|^2 d\nu_g, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\Omega$  is a compact domain of  $M$  and  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  [3]. The interpolating sesqui-harmonic map equation is

$$\tau_{\delta_1, \delta_2}(\varphi) = \delta_2 \tau_2(\varphi) - \delta_1 \tau(\varphi) = 0 \quad (1.4)$$

for  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  [3]. An interpolating sesqui-harmonic map is biminimal if variations of (1.3) that are normal to the image  $\varphi(M) \subset N$  and  $\delta_2 = 1$ ,  $\delta_1 > 0$  [13]. For some recent study of biminimal immersions see [8], [13], [14] and [15].

Interpolating sesqui-harmonic curves in a 3-dimensional sphere were studied in [3]. In [6] and [7], Fetcu and Oniciuc considered biharmonic Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms. In [4], Cho, Inoguchi and Lee studied affine biharmonic curves in 3-dimensional pseudo-Hermitian geometry. In [10], Inoguchi and Lee studied affine biharmonic curves in 3-dimensional homogeneous geometries. In [16], the second author and Güvenç studied biharmonic Legendre curves in generalized Sasakian space forms. In [9], Güvenç and the second author studied  $f$ -biharmonic Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms. Motivated by the above studies, in the present paper, we consider interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms. We obtain the necessary and sufficient conditions for Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms to be interpolating sesqui-harmonic. We also give an example for an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve in a Sasakian space form.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $M = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be an almost contact metric manifold with an almost contact metric structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ . A contact metric manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is called a *Sasakian manifold* if it is normal, that is,

$$N_\phi = -2d\eta \otimes \xi$$

where  $N_\phi$  is the Nijenhuis tensor field of  $\phi$  [1]. It is well-known that an almost contact metric manifold is Sasakian if and only if

$$(\nabla_X \phi) Y = g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y) X$$

and

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\phi X$$

[2]. The sectional curvature of a  $\phi$ -section is called a  $\phi$ -*sectional curvature*. When the  $\phi$ -sectional curvature is a constant, then the Sasakian manifold is called a *Sasakian space form* and it is denoted by  $M(c)$  [2]. The curvature tensor  $R$  of a Sasakian space form  $M(c)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y) Z &= \frac{c+3}{4} \{g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y\} \\ &+ \frac{c-1}{4} \{g(X, \phi Z)\phi Y - g(Y, \phi Z)\phi X + 2g(X, \phi Y)\phi Z \\ &+ \eta(X)\eta(Z)Y - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)X + g(X, Z)\eta(Y)\xi - g(Y, Z)\eta(X)\xi \} \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

for all  $X, Y, Z \in TM$  [2].

A submanifold of a Sasakian manifold  $M$  is called an *integral submanifold* if  $\eta(X) = 0$ , for every tangent vector  $X$ . An integral curve of a Sasakian manifold  $M$  is called a *Legendre curve* [2].

### 3. Interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curves in Sasakian space forms

Let  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (M^n, g)$  be a curve parametrized by arc length in a Riemannian manifold  $(M^n, g)$ . Then  $\gamma$  is called a Frenet curve of osculating order  $r$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq n$ , if there exists orthonormal vector fields  $\{E_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  along  $\gamma$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= T = \gamma', \\ \nabla_T E_1 &= k_1 E_2, \\ \nabla_T E_i &= -k_{i-1} E_{i-1} + k_i E_{i+1}, \quad 2 \leq i \leq n-1, \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

$$\nabla_T E_n = -k_{n-1} E_{n-1},$$

where the function  $\{k_1 = k, k_2 = \tau, k_3, \dots, k_{n-1}\}$  are called the curvatures of  $\gamma$  [12].

Firstly, we have the following theorem for an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve in a Sasakian space form:

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with constant  $\phi$ -sectional curvature  $c$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  be a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  and  $m = \min\{r, 4\}$ . Then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if there exists real numbers  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  such that*

- (1)  $c = 1$  or  $\phi T \perp E_2$  or  $\phi T \in \{E_2, \dots, E_m\}$ ; and
- (2) the first  $m$  of the following equations are satisfied:

$$-3\delta_2 k_1 k'_1 = 0, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\delta_2 \left[ k_1'' - k_1^3 - k_1 k_2^2 - \left( \frac{c+3}{4} \right) k_1 \right. \\ &\left. + 3 \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 [g(\phi T, E_2)]^2 - \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 [\eta(E_2)]^2 \right] - \delta_1 k_1 = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\delta_2 \left[ 2k_1' k_2 + k_1 k_2' + 3 \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 g(\phi T, E_2) g(\phi T, E_3) \right. \\ &\left. - \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 \eta(E_2) \eta(E_3) \right] = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\delta_2 \left[ k_1 k_2 k_3 + 3 \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 g(\phi T, E_2) g(\phi T, E_4) \right. \\ &\left. - \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 \eta(E_2) \eta(E_4) \right] = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma : I \rightarrow M$  be a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  in  $M(c)$ . By the use of (1.1) and (3.1), we have

$$\tau(\gamma) = \nabla_T T = k_1 E_2. \quad (3.6)$$

From (3.1), we get

$$\nabla_T \nabla_T T = -k_1^2 E_1 + k_1' E_2 + k_1 k_2 E_3,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_T \nabla_T \nabla_T T &= -3k_1 k_1' E_1 + (k_1'' - k_1^3 - k_1 k_2^2) E_2 \\ &\quad + (2k_1' k_2 + k_1 k_2') E_3 + (k_1 k_2 k_3) E_4, \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} R(T, \nabla_T T) T &= - \left( \frac{c+3}{4} \right) k_1 E_2 \\ &\quad - 3 \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 g(\phi T, E_2) \phi T + \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) k_1 \eta(E_2) \xi. \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

Using the equations (3.6), (3.7) and (3.8) into the equation (4.1) in [3], we find

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\delta_1, \delta_2}(\gamma) &= (-3\delta_2 k_1 k_1') E_1 + \left[ \delta_2 \left( k_1'' - k_1^3 - k_1 k_2^2 + \left( \frac{c+3}{4} \right) k_1 \right) - \delta_1 k_1 \right] E_2 \\ &\quad + \delta_2 (2k_1' k_2 + k_1 k_2') E_3 + \delta_2 (k_1 k_2 k_3) E_4 \\ &\quad + 3 \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) \delta_2 k_1 g(\phi T, E_2) \phi T - \left( \frac{c-1}{4} \right) \delta_2 k_1 \eta(E_2) \xi. \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

Taking the scalar product of equation (3.9) with  $E_2, E_3$  and  $E_4$  respectively, then we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

Now we shall discuss some special cases of Theorem 3.1:

**Case I.**  $c = 1$ .

From Theorem 3.1, we have:

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $M(1) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c = 1$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(1)$  be a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  such that  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . Then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if*

$$k_1 = \text{constant} > 0, \quad k_2 = \text{constant},$$

$$k_1^2 + k_2^2 = 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2},$$

$$k_2 k_3 = 0$$

where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$ ,  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  is a constant.

*Proof.* Assume that  $\gamma$  is an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  in  $M(1)$  such that  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$  and  $c = 1$ . From Theorem 3.1, we obtain the result.  $\square$

Using Proposition 3.1, we have:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $M(1) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c = 1$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(1)$  be a non geodesic Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$ . Then*

(1) *It is a Legendre geodesic or*

(2)  *$\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic with  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$  if and only if it is a Legendre circle with  $k_1 = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}}$  where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$  is a constant or*

(3)  *$\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic with  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$  if and only if it is a Legendre helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$  where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$ ,  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  is a constant.*

In both cases, if  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$ , then such an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve does not exist.

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma : I \rightarrow M(1)$  be an interpolating sesqui-harmonic curve with  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . From Theorem 3.1, if we consider the osculating order  $r = 2$ , then  $\gamma$  is a Legendre circle with  $k_1 = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}}$  where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$  is a constant. Similarly, if we consider the osculating order  $r = 3$ , then we obtain that  $k_2$  is a non-zero constant. Thus,  $\gamma$  is a Legendre helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$  where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$  is a constant. On the other hand, assume that  $\gamma$  is a Legendre circle with  $k_1 = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}}$  or a Legendre helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$  where  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} > 0$  is a constant. Obviously,  $\gamma$  satisfies Theorem 3.1, respectively. It is trivial that  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$  cannot be possible. If  $1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} = 0$ , we obtain a geodesic. This proves the theorem.  $\square$

**Case II.**  $c \neq 1$  and  $\phi T \perp E_2$ .

From Theorem 3.1, we can state:

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$ ,  $\phi T \perp E_2$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  be a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  such that  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . Then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if*

$$k_1 = \text{constant} > 0, \quad k_2 = \text{constant},$$

$$k_1^2 + k_2^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2},$$

$$k_2 k_3 = 0$$

where  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  is a constant.

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma$  be an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  in  $M(c)$  such that  $c \neq 1$ ,  $\phi T \perp E_2$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . From Theorem 3.1, we get the result.  $\square$

From [7], we have the following lemma:

**Lemma 3.1.** [7] *Let  $\gamma$  be a Legendre Frenet curve of osculating order 3 in a Sasakian space form  $M(c)$  and  $\phi T \perp E_2$ . Then  $\{T = E_1, E_2, E_3, \phi T, \nabla_T \phi T, \xi\}$  is linearly independent at any point of  $\gamma$  and therefore  $n \geq 3$ .*

Hence we can state:

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$ ,  $\phi T \perp E_2$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$ .*

(1) *If  $c \leq -3$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \geq 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a geodesic.*

(2) *If  $c > -3$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if either*

(a)  $\gamma$  is of osculating order  $r = 2$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and  $\gamma$  is a circle with  $k_1^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ , in which case  $\{T, E_2, \phi T, \nabla_T \phi T, \xi\}$  are linearly independent, or

(b)  $\gamma$  is of osculating order  $r = 3$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $\gamma$  is a helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ , in which case  $\{T, E_2, E_3, \phi T, \nabla_T \phi T, \xi\}$  are linearly independent, where  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* (1) From Proposition 3.2, if we take  $c \leq -3$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \geq 0$ , it is easy to see that  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a geodesic.

(2) Assume that  $c > -3$ ,  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$  and  $\gamma : I \rightarrow M(c)$  be an interpolating sesqui-harmonic curve. From Proposition 3.2, if we take  $n \geq 2$  and  $\gamma$  is of osculating order  $r = 2$ , then  $\gamma$  is a circle with  $k_1^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ . Using Lemma 3.1, we have that  $\{T, E_2, \phi T, \nabla_T \phi T, \xi\}$  are linearly independent. Similarly, if we take  $n \geq 3$  and  $\gamma$  is of osculating order  $r = 3$ , then we obtain that  $k_2$  is a non-zero constant. Thus,  $\gamma$  is a helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ . Using Lemma 3.1, we have that  $\{T, E_2, E_3, \phi T, \nabla_T \phi T, \xi\}$  are linearly independent. Conversely, assume that  $\gamma$  is a Legendre circle with  $k_1^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$  or a Legendre helix with  $k_1^2 + k_2^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ . Obviously,  $\gamma$  satisfies Theorem 3.1, respectively. Hence, we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

**Case III.**  $c \neq 1$  and  $\phi T \parallel E_2$ .

From Theorem 3.1, we have:

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  be a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  with  $\phi T \parallel E_2$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . Then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if*

$$k_1 = \text{constant} > 0, \quad k_2 = \text{constant},$$

$$k_1^2 + k_2^2 = c - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2},$$

$$k_2 k_3 = 0$$

where  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  is a constant.

*Proof.* Assume  $\gamma$  is an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve in  $M(c)$  such that  $c \neq 1$ ,  $\phi T \parallel E_2$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$ . From Theorem 3.1, we get the result.  $\square$

Hence we can state:

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  such that  $\phi T \parallel E_2$ . Then  $\{T, \phi T, \xi\}$  is the Frenet frame field of  $\gamma$ .*

(1) *If  $c < 1$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \geq 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a geodesic.*

(2) *If  $c > 1$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a helix with  $k_1^2 = c - 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ , ( $k_2 = 1$ ) where  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

*Proof.* If we take  $\phi T \parallel E_2$ , we get  $g(\phi T, E_2) = \pm 1$ ,  $g(\phi T, E_3) = g(\phi T, E_4) = 0$ .

(1) From Proposition 3.3 and the above equations and if we take  $c \leq 1$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \geq 0$ , it is easy to see that  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a geodesic.

(2) If  $c > 1$ ,  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$  from Proposition 3.3 and the above equations, we have  $k_1 = \text{constant}$  and  $k_1^2 = c - 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$ , and  $k_2 = 1$ . Conversely, assume that  $\gamma$  is a Legendre helix with  $k_1^2 = c - 1 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}$  and  $k_2 = 1$ . Then  $\gamma$  satisfies Theorem 3.1 obviously. This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

**Case IV.**  $c \neq 1$  and  $g(\phi T, E_2) \neq 0, 1, -1$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$ ,  $g(\phi T, E_2) \neq 0, 1, -1$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  such that  $4 \leq r \leq 2n + 1$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic with  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \neq 0$  if and only if*

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \text{constant} > 0, \\ k_1^2 + k_2^2 &= \frac{c+3}{4} + \frac{3(c-1)}{4} f^2 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}, \\ k_2' &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f g(E_3, \phi T), \\ k_2 k_3 &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f g(E_4, \phi T). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Assume that  $\gamma$  is an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre Frenet curve such that  $g(\phi T, E_2)$  is not a constant equal to 0, 1 or  $-1$ . In this case, we get  $4 \leq r \leq 2n + 1$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and  $\phi T \in \text{span}\{E_2, E_3, E_4\}$ .

Hence, we can take  $f(t) = g(\phi T, E_2)$ . So by a differentiation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f'(t) &= g(\nabla_T \phi T, E_2) + g(\phi T, \nabla_T E_2) \\ &= -k_1 g(T, \phi T) + k_2 g(E_3, \phi T) + g(E_2, \xi) + k_1 g(E_2, \phi E_2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\gamma$  is a Legendre curve and  $\phi$  is anti-symmetric, we have  $\eta(E_2) = 0$ ,  $g(T, \phi T) = 0$  and  $g(E_2, \phi E_2) = 0$ . Thus we obtain

$$f'(s) = k_2 g(E_3, \phi T). \quad (3.10)$$

Additionally, we can write

$$\phi T = g(\phi T, E_2) E_2 + g(\phi T, E_3) E_3 + g(\phi T, E_4) E_4. \quad (3.11)$$

From Theorem 3.1, the equations (3.10) and (3.11), the curve  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \text{constant}, \\ k_1^2 + k_2^2 &= \frac{c+3}{4} + \frac{3(c-1)}{4} f^2 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}, \\ k_2' &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f g(E_3, \phi T), \end{aligned}$$

$$k_2 k_3 = -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f g(E_4, \phi T).$$

If  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  satisfies the converse statement, it is obvious that the first four of the equations in Theorem 3.1 are satisfied. Thus  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic. This proves the theorem.  $\square$

Using the equation (3.10) and the third equation of Proposition 3.4, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} k_2' &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f g(E_3, \phi T) = -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f \frac{f'}{k_2} \\ k_2 k_2' &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f f' \\ k_2^2 &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{4} f^2 + w_0 \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

where  $w_0 = \text{constant}$ . Substituting the equation (3.12) in the second equation of Proposition 3.4, we get

$$k_1^2 = \frac{c+3}{4} + \frac{3(c-1)}{2} f^2 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} - w_0.$$

Then we have  $f = \text{constant}$ . Thus  $k_2 = \text{constant} > 0$ ,  $g(E_3, \phi T) = 0$  and then  $\phi T = fE_2 + g(\phi T, E_4)E_4$ . We obtain that there exists a unique constant  $\alpha_0 \in (0, 2\pi) \setminus \{\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi, \frac{3\pi}{2}\}$  such that  $f = \cos \alpha_0$  and  $g(E_4, \phi T) = \sin \alpha_0$ .

So we can state:

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $M(c) = (M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a Sasakian space form with  $c \neq 1$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and  $\gamma : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M(c)$  a Legendre curve of osculating order  $r$  such that  $g(\phi T, E_2) \neq 0, 1, -1$ .*

(1) *If  $c \leq -3$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} \geq 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if it is a geodesic.*

(2) *If  $c > -3$  and  $\frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2} < 0$ , then  $\gamma$  is interpolating sesqui-harmonic if and only if  $\phi T = \cos \alpha_0 E_2 + \sin \alpha_0 E_4$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} k_1, k_2, k_3 &= \text{constant} > 0, \\ k_1^2 + k_2^2 &= \frac{c+3}{4} + \frac{3(c-1)}{4} \cos^2 \alpha_0 - \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_2}, \\ k_2 k_3 &= -\frac{3(c-1)}{8} \sin 2\alpha_0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha_0 \in (0, 2\pi) \setminus \{\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi, \frac{3\pi}{2}\}$  is constant such that  $(c+3+3(c-1)\cos^2 \alpha_0)\delta_2 - 4\delta_1 > 0$  and  $3(c-1)\sin 2\alpha_0 < 0$ .

**Remark 3.1.** *For  $c \neq 1$  and  $g(\phi T, E_2) \neq 0, 1, -1$ , there are also interpolating sesqui-harmonic curves which are not helices.*



Now, we give brief information about the Sasakian space form  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}(-3)$  [2]:

Let us take  $M = \mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$  with the standard coordinate functions  $(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n, z)$ , the contact structure  $\eta = \frac{1}{2}(dz - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i dx_i)$ , the characteristic vector field  $\xi = 2\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$  and the tensor field  $\phi$  given by

$$\phi = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \delta_{ij} & 0 \\ -\delta_{ij} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & y_j & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The Riemannian metric is  $g = \eta \otimes \eta + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n ((dx_i)^2 + (dy_i)^2)$ . Thus,  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}(-3)$  is a Sasakian space form with constant  $\phi$ -sectional curvature  $c = -3$ . The vector fields

$$X_i = 2\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}, \quad X_{i+n} = \phi X_i = 2\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + y_i \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right), \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \quad \xi = 2\frac{\partial}{\partial z}, \quad (3.13)$$

form a  $g$ -orthonormal basis and Levi-Civita connection is obtained as

$$\nabla_{X_i} X_j = \nabla_{X_{i+n}} X_{j+n} = 0, \quad \nabla_{X_i} X_{j+n} = \delta_{ij} \xi, \quad \nabla_{X_{i+n}} X_j = -\delta_{ij} \xi, \quad (3.14)$$

$$\nabla_{X_i} \xi = \nabla_{\xi} X_i = -X_{n+i}, \quad \nabla_{X_{i+n}} \xi = \nabla_{\xi} X_{i+n} = X_i \quad (3.15)$$

(see [1]).

Now, we give an example for interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curves in  $\mathbb{R}^5(-3)$ :

**Example.** Let  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_5)$  be a unit speed Legendre curve in  $\mathbb{R}^5(-3)$ . We can write the tangent vector field  $T$  of

$$\gamma T = \frac{1}{2} \{ \gamma'_3 X_1 + \gamma'_4 X_2 + \gamma'_1 X_3 + \gamma'_2 X_4 + (\gamma'_5 - \gamma'_1 \gamma_3 - \gamma'_2 \gamma_4) \xi \}.$$

Using the above equation,  $\eta(T) = 0$  and  $g(T, T) = 1$ , we have

$$\gamma'_5 = \gamma'_1 \gamma_3 + \gamma'_2 \gamma_4$$

and

$$(\gamma'_1)^2 + \dots + (\gamma'_5)^2 = 4.$$

So for a Legendre curve (3.14), (3.15) and (3.13) gives us

$$\nabla_T T = \frac{1}{2} (\gamma''_3 X_1 + \gamma''_4 X_2 + \gamma''_1 X_3 + \gamma''_2 X_4), \quad (3.16)$$

and

$$\phi T = \frac{1}{2} (-\gamma'_1 X_1 - \gamma'_2 X_2 + \gamma'_3 X_3 + \gamma'_4 X_4). \quad (3.17)$$

From (3.16) and (3.17),  $\phi T \perp E_2$  if and only if

$$\gamma'_1 \gamma''_3 + \gamma'_2 \gamma''_4 = \gamma'_3 \gamma''_1 + \gamma'_4 \gamma''_2.$$

So we can state the following example:

Let us take  $\gamma(t) = (\sin 2t, -\cos 2t, 0, 0, 1)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^5(-3)$ . By the use of Theorem 3.1 and the above equations,  $\gamma$  is an interpolating sesqui-harmonic Legendre curve with

osculating order  $r = 2$ ,  $k_1 = 2$ ,  $\delta_1 = -8$ ,  $\delta_2 = 2$  and  $\phi T \perp E_2$ . We can see that Theorem 3.1 are verified. From the equations (3-1) in [7], the curve  $\gamma$  is not biharmonic. Hence the biharmonicity and interpolating sesqui-harmonic of  $\gamma$  are different.

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