

DIRAC EIGENVALUES ESTIMATES IN TERMS OF DIVERGENCEFREE SYMMETRIC TENSORS

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Dedicated to Professor Thomas Friedrich on his 60th birthday

ABSTRACT. We proved in [10] that Friedrich's estimate [5] for the first eigenvalue of the Dirac operator can be improved when a Codazzi tensor exists. In the paper we further prove that his estimate can be improved as well via a well-chosen divergencefree symmetric tensor. We study the geometric implication of the new first eigenvalue estimates over Sasakian spin manifolds and show that some particular types of spinors appear as the limiting case.

1. Introduction

Let (M^n, g) be an n -dimensional closed Riemannian spin manifold. Let us denote by ∇ the Levi-Civita connection on (M^n, g) as well as the induced covariant derivative on the spinor bundle $\Sigma(M)$ and denote by D the Dirac operator of (M^n, g) . Using a local orthonormal frame (E_1, \dots, E_n) , we have the local formulas

$$\nabla_X \psi = X(\psi) + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot \nabla_X E_i \cdot \psi, \quad D\psi = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot \nabla_{E_i} \psi, \quad \psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma(M)),$$

where the dot “ \cdot ” indicates the Clifford multiplication [6]. Associated to any nondegenerate symmetric $(0, 2)$ -tensor field β on (M^n, g) , we define the β -twist D_β of the Dirac operator D by

$$D_\beta \psi = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta^{-1}(E_i) \cdot \nabla_{E_i} \psi = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot \nabla_{\beta^{-1}(E_i)} \psi,$$

where β was identified with the induced $(1, 1)$ -tensor β via $\beta(X, Y) = g(X, \beta(Y))$. In this paper, we are interested in two particular types of symmetric tensors, i.e., Codazzi tensors and divergencefree tensors: A symmetric $(0, 2)$ -tensor field β is called

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(i) a *Codazzi tensor* if $(\nabla_X\beta)(Y, Z) = (\nabla_Y\beta)(X, Z)$ holds for all vector fields X, Y, Z .

(ii) a *divergencefree tensor* if $\operatorname{div}(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\nabla_{E_i}\beta)(E_i) = 0$.

Throughout the paper we fix some terminology.

Definition 1.1. Let P be a first order self-adjoint elliptic operator on some closed Riemannian spin manifold. An eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ of P is called the *first eigenvalue* if λ^2 is the smallest eigenvalue of P^2 . An eigenspinor φ of P is called a *first eigenspinor* if its associated eigenvalue λ is the first eigenvalue of P .

Well-known examples for the first eigenspinors of the Dirac operator are, e.g., parallel spinors [3, 12], Killing spinors [2, 3] and Kählerian Killing spinors [11].

We have recently proved in [10] the following two theorems.

Theorem A ([10]). *Let (M^n, g) be an n -dimensional closed Riemannian spin manifold and consider a nondegenerate Codazzi tensor β such that $\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ vanishes identically. Denote by \bar{g} the metric induced by β via $\bar{g}(X, Y) = g(\beta(X), \beta(Y))$ and by \bar{D} the Dirac operator of \bar{g} . Let $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of the Dirac operators D and \bar{D} , respectively. Then we have*

$$(1.1) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \inf_M \left\{ \frac{nS}{4(n-1)} + \frac{n\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{(n-1)|\beta^{-1}|^2} + \frac{n\Delta F}{2(n-1)F} \right\},$$

where $F : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a real-valued function defined by

$$(1.2) \quad F = |\det(\beta^{-1})| \cdot |\beta^{-1}|^2,$$

$\Delta F := -(\operatorname{div} \circ \operatorname{grad})(F)$, and S is the scalar curvature of (M^n, g) .

The limiting case of (1.1) occurs if and only if there exists a spinor field ψ_1 on (M^n, g) with the following properties:

(i) The differential equation

$$\nabla_X\psi_1 = -\frac{\lambda}{n} X \cdot \psi_1 - \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{|\beta^{-1}|^2} \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot \psi_1$$

holds for some constants $\lambda, \bar{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}$ and for all vector fields X .

(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of both D and \bar{D} .

Theorem B ([10]). *Let (M^n, g) be an n -dimensional closed Riemannian spin manifold and consider a nondegenerate Codazzi tensor β . Let $\lambda_1 \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of the Dirac operators D and \bar{D} , respectively. Then, in the notations of Theorem A, we have*

$$(1.3) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \inf_M \left\{ \frac{S}{4(p+1)} - \frac{q\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{p+1} + \frac{\Delta F}{2(p+1)F} \right\},$$

where the real-valued function $F : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$(1.4) \quad F = -\frac{|\det(\beta^{-1})|}{q}$$

and $p, q : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are such bounded real-valued functions satisfying

$$-\frac{1}{n} < p < 0, \quad -\frac{1}{|\beta^{-1}|^2} < q < 0,$$

that solve the system of two linear equations

$$np + c(\text{tr}\beta^{-1})q = -1, \quad (\text{tr}\beta^{-1})p + c|\beta^{-1}|^2q = -c$$

for some nonzero constant $c \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

The limiting case of (1.3) occurs if and only if there exists a spinor field ψ_1 on (M^n, g) with the following properties:

(i) The differential equation

$$\nabla_X \psi_1 = \lambda p X \cdot \psi_1 + \bar{\lambda} q \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot \psi_1$$

holds for some constants $\lambda, \bar{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \neq 0$, and for all vector fields X .

(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of both D and \bar{D} .

In the limiting case, the parameter $c = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$ is the ratio of the two first eigenvalues.

Note that inequalities (1.1) and (1.3) both generalize Friedrich's inequality [5]

$$(1.5) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \frac{n}{4(n-1)} S_{\min},$$

where S_{\min} denotes the minimum of the (positive) scalar curvature. The limiting case of (1.5) is characterized by the existence of a Killing spinor ψ_1 , i.e., a solution of the differential equation

$$\nabla_X \psi_1 = -\frac{\lambda}{n} X \cdot \psi_1, \quad \lambda \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Any manifold admitting Killing spinors is necessarily Einstein and the simply-connected manifolds admitting Killing spinors were completely classified [2, 3]: They are the standard spheres, 6-dimensional nearly Kähler nonKähler manifolds, Einstein Sasakian manifolds, 3-Sasakian manifolds and 7-dimensional manifolds with nearly parallel G_2 -structure.

Let $(\cdot, \cdot) := \text{Re}\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denote the real part of the standard Hermitian product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ on the spinor bundle $\Sigma(M)$ over M^n . Let $\alpha = \alpha(\phi, \psi)$ be a 1-form on M^n induced by a nondegenerate symmetric tensor β and spinor fields $\phi, \psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma)$ via

$$\alpha(X) = (\phi, \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot \psi).$$

Then

$$\text{div}(\alpha) = -(D_\beta \phi, \psi) + (\phi, D_\beta \psi) + (\phi, \text{div}(\beta^{-1}) \cdot \psi).$$

Thus, if β is a nondegenerate symmetric tensor with $\text{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$, then D_β is a self-adjoint elliptic operator of first order and hence the spectrum of D_β is discrete and real.

In this paper we want to show that inequalities (1.1) and (1.3) remain valid even when we use a nondegenerate symmetric tensor β with $\operatorname{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ to estimate lower bounds for the first eigenvalue of the Dirac operator. In our new theorems in the next section, Theorems 2.1 and 2.2, $\bar{\lambda}_1$ shall denote the first eigenvalue of the operator D_β and the free functions, $F = |\det(\beta^{-1})| \cdot |\beta^{-1}|^2$ in (1.2) and $F = -\frac{|\det(\beta^{-1})|}{q}$ in (1.4), will be replaced by $F = |\beta^{-1}|^2$ and $F = -\frac{1}{q}$, respectively. We will in fact transform inequality (1.3) into a more explicit form (2.15) and compare it with Friedrich's inequality (1.5). It turns out that inequality (2.15) can be sharper than (1.5) under certain additional conditions (see Remarks 2.2 and 3.3).

In the last section of the paper, we apply Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 to Sasakian spin manifolds and study the geometric meaning of the limiting case of the resulting inequalities (see Propositions 3.5 and 3.6). Recall that a Sasakian manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ of dimension $2m + 1$ consists of a $(1,1)$ -tensor field ϕ , a vector field ξ , a 1-form η , and a metric g that satisfy $\eta(\xi) = 1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^2(X) &= -X + \eta(X)\xi, & g(\phi X, \phi Y) &= g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \\ (\nabla_X \phi)(Y) &= g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X \end{aligned}$$

for all vector fields X, Y . A Sasakian manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is called *eta-Einstein* [4] if the Ricci curvature tensor Ric satisfies

$$(1.6) \quad \operatorname{Ric} = \kappa g + \tau \eta \otimes \eta$$

for some constants $\kappa, \tau \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\kappa + \tau = 2m$. Any eta-Einstein Sasakian manifold is necessarily of constant scalar curvature S and we can rewrite eta-Einstein condition (1.6) as

$$(1.7) \quad \operatorname{Ric} = \left(\frac{S}{n-1} - 1\right)g + \left(n - \frac{S}{n-1}\right)\eta \otimes \eta, \quad n = 2m + 1.$$

Over Sasakian spin manifolds, a special class of spinors deserves attention [9].

Definition 1.2. A nontrivial spinor field ψ on Sasakian spin manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is called an *eta-Killing spinor* with Killing pair (a, b) if it satisfies

$$\nabla_X \psi = aX \cdot \psi + b\eta(X)\xi \cdot \psi$$

for some real numbers $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \neq 0$, and for all vector fields X .

In Propositions 3.1-3.4, we will establish some relations between the Killing pair (a, b) of an eta-Killing spinor and the decomposition property of the spinor bundle over Sasakian manifolds, proving in particular that a simply connected closed Sasakian spin manifold is eta-Einstein if and only if there exists either an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair

$$(1.8) \quad \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right), \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right) \quad \text{for } n \geq 5$$

or an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair

$$(1.9) \quad \left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}, \frac{4 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4} \right) \quad \text{for } n = 3.$$

Applying Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 to divergencefree symmetric tensors $\beta^{-1} = \frac{2}{n}I - 2\xi \otimes \eta$ and $\gamma^{-1} = I - 2\xi \otimes \eta$, we obtain Propositions 3.5 and 3.6, respectively. We will show that the limiting case of (3.9) occurs if and only if there exists an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair (1.8) or (1.9) such that it is a first eigenspinor of D_β . Similarly, the limiting case of (3.14) is attained only if there exists an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair (1.8) or (1.9) such that it is a first eigenspinor of D_γ .

2. Dirac eigenvalues estimates in terms of divergencefree symmetric tensors

We start with recalling some lemmata that we will need to prove Theorems 2.1 and 2.2.

Lemma 2.1. *Let β be a nondegenerate symmetric tensor field on (M^n, g) . If there exists a nontrivial spinor field ψ on (M^n, g) such that*

$$(2.1) \quad \nabla_X \psi = p X \cdot D\psi + q \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot D_\beta \psi$$

holds for some real-valued functions $p, q : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and for all vector fields X , then we have

$$(2.2) \quad (1 + np)D\psi = -q \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})D_\beta \psi, \quad (1 + q|\beta^{-1}|^2)D_\beta \psi = -p \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})D\psi$$

and

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} S\psi &= 4 dp \cdot D\psi + 4 \beta^{-1}(dq) \cdot D_\beta \psi \\ &+ 4(p + 1) D^2 \psi + 4q D_\beta^2 \psi + 4q \operatorname{div}(\beta^{-1}) \cdot D_\beta \psi. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Contracting both sides of (2.1) gives (2.2). Applying (2.1) to the formulas

$$\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Ric}(X) \cdot \psi = D(\nabla_X \psi) - \nabla_X(D\psi) - \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot \nabla_{\nabla_{E_i} X} \psi,$$

$$S\psi = - \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot \operatorname{Ric}(E_i) \cdot \psi,$$

we obtain

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Ric}(X) \cdot \psi &= \operatorname{grad}(p) \cdot X \cdot D\psi + \operatorname{grad}(q) \cdot \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot D_\beta \psi \\ &- p X \cdot D^2 \psi - (2p + 1) \nabla_X(D\psi) - q \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot D(D_\beta \psi) \\ &- 2q \nabla_{\beta^{-1}(X)}(D_\beta \psi) + q \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \cdot (\nabla_{E_i} \beta^{-1})(X) \cdot D_\beta \psi \end{aligned}$$

and identity (2.3), respectively. □

Lemma 2.2. *Let ψ and F be a spinor field and a real-valued function on (M^n, g) , respectively. Then we have*

$$F \cdot \Delta(\psi, \psi) - (\psi, \psi) \cdot \Delta F = \operatorname{div}\{(\psi, \psi)\operatorname{grad}F - F\operatorname{grad}(\psi, \psi)\}.$$

Theorem 2.1. *Let (M^n, g) be an n -dimensional closed Riemannian spin manifold. Let β be such a nondegenerate symmetric tensor on M^n that both $\operatorname{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ and $\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ vanish identically. Let $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of D and D_β , respectively. Then we have*

$$(2.5) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \inf_M \left\{ \frac{nS}{4(n-1)} + \frac{n\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{(n-1)|\beta^{-1}|^2} + \frac{n\Delta F}{2(n-1)F} \right\},$$

where $F : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a real-valued function defined by $F = |\beta^{-1}|^2$.

The limiting case of (2.5) occurs if and only if $\Delta F = 0$ vanishes identically and there exists a spinor field ψ_1 on (M^n, g) with the following properties:

(i) The differential equation

$$(2.6) \quad \nabla_X \psi_1 = -\frac{\lambda}{n} X \cdot \psi_1 - \frac{\bar{\lambda}}{|\beta^{-1}|^2} \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot \psi_1$$

holds for some constants $\lambda, \bar{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}$ and for all vector fields X .

(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of both D and D_β .

Proof. Let $\mathcal{Q} : \Gamma(T(M)) \times \Gamma(\Sigma(M)_g) \rightarrow \Gamma(\Sigma(M)_g)$ be a twistor-like operator defined by

$$\mathcal{Q}_X(\varphi) = \nabla_X \varphi - pX \cdot D\varphi - q\beta^{-1}(X) \cdot D_\beta \varphi,$$

where $p, q : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are some real-valued functions. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^n (\mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\varphi), \mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\varphi)) \\ &= \operatorname{div} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n (\varphi, E_j \cdot D\varphi + \nabla_{E_j} \varphi) E_j \right] + (np^2 + 2p + 1)(D\varphi, D\varphi) - \frac{1}{4} S(\varphi, \varphi) \\ (2.7) \quad & + \{q^2 |\beta^{-1}|^2 + 2q\} (D_\beta \varphi, D_\beta \varphi) + 2pq \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})(D\varphi, D_\beta \varphi). \end{aligned}$$

Let ψ_1 be an eigenspinor of D for the first eigenvalue λ_1 . Let μ denote the volume form of (M^n, g) . By Lemma 2.2, we then see that

$$(2.8) \quad \int_{M^n} F \operatorname{div} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n (\psi_1, E_j \cdot D\psi_1 + \nabla_{E_j} \psi_1) E_j \right] \mu = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{M^n} (\psi_1, \psi_1) \Delta(F) \mu$$

holds for any real-valued function $F : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, since $(\psi_1, E_j \cdot \psi_1) = 0$ vanishes identically. Now, let $\bar{\lambda}_1$ be the first eigenvalue of D_β . Making use of (2.7)-(2.8) and $\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ and introducing a free function $F : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

which is assumed to be a positive function, to control the unnecessary terms, we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.9) \quad H_1 &:= \int_{M^n} \left[(D_\beta \psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1) - \bar{\lambda}_1^2(\psi_1, \psi_1) \right] \mu + \int_{M^n} \left[F \sum_{j=1}^n (\mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\psi_1), \mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\psi_1)) \right] \mu \\
 &= \int_{M^n} \left[\lambda_1^2 (np^2 + 2p + 1)F - \frac{1}{4}FS - \bar{\lambda}_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\Delta F) \right] (\psi_1, \psi_1) \mu \\
 &\quad + \int_{M^n} \left[(q^2 |\beta^{-1}|^2 + 2q)F + 1 \right] (D_\beta \psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1) \mu.
 \end{aligned}$$

Choose the free parameters p, q, F as

$$p = -\frac{1}{n}, \quad q = -\frac{1}{|\beta^{-1}|^2}, \quad F = |\beta^{-1}|^2.$$

Then the last line of (2.9) vanishes and we have

$$(2.10) \quad H_1 = \int_{M^n} \left[\frac{(n-1)\lambda_1^2 F}{n} - \frac{1}{4}FS - \bar{\lambda}_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\Delta F) \right] (\psi_1, \psi_1) \mu \geq 0,$$

which proves inequality (2.5). The conditions (i)-(ii) for the limiting case of (2.5) are clear. \square

Assume that $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ is nonzero, and let $c_1 := \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$ denote the ratio of the two first eigenvalues. Then (2.10) can be rewritten as

$$(2.11) \quad H_2 = \int_{M^n} \left[\lambda_1^2 F \left(\frac{n-1}{n} - \frac{c_1^2}{|\beta^{-1}|^2} \right) - \frac{1}{4}FS - \frac{1}{2}(\Delta F) \right] (\psi_1, \psi_1) \mu \geq 0.$$

This proves:

Corollary 2.1. *In the notations of Theorem 2.1, we have*

$$(2.12) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \inf_{M_*} \left\{ \frac{S}{4\rho} + \frac{\Delta F}{2\rho F} \right\},$$

where ρ is a real-valued function on M^n defined by

$$\rho = \frac{n-1}{n} - \frac{c_1^2}{|\beta^{-1}|^2}$$

and the infimum is taken over the subset $M_* \subset M^n$,

$$M_* := \{ x \in M^n : \rho(x) > 0 \}.$$

Remark 2.1. If the scalar curvature $S > 0$ is positive and $|\beta^{-1}|^2$ is constant on M^n , then (2.11) implies that $\rho > 0$ is a positive constant and inequality (2.12) is sharper than Friedrich's inequality (1.5). In fact, (2.12) reduces to (1.5) if $c_1 = 0$ equals zero and $|\beta^{-1}|^2$ is a constant.

Theorem 2.2. *Let (M^n, g) be an n -dimensional closed Riemannian spin manifold. Let β be a nondegenerate symmetric tensor on M^n such that $\operatorname{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ and $n|\beta^{-1}|^2 > (\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})^2 > 0$ hold at all points. Let $\lambda_1 \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of D and D_β , respectively, and denote $c_1 = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$. For any real-valued function $C : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfying either*

$$(2.13) \quad \frac{\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})}{n} < C < \frac{|\beta^{-1}|^2}{\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})}, \quad \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) > 0,$$

or

$$(2.14) \quad \frac{\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})}{n} > C > \frac{|\beta^{-1}|^2}{\operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})}, \quad \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) < 0,$$

we have

$$(2.15) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \inf_{M_*} \left\{ \frac{S}{4\rho(C)} + \frac{\Delta F}{2\rho(C)F} \right\},$$

where $\rho(C)$ and F are real-valued functions on M^n defined by

$$\rho(C) = \frac{(\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})C^2 + \left[(n-1)|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})^2 - nc_1^2 \right] C + (\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})c_1^2}{C \left[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})^2 \right]},$$

$$F = \frac{C \left[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr}\beta^{-1})^2 \right]}{Cn - \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})},$$

respectively, and $M_* = \{x \in M : \rho(C)(x) > 0\}$.

The limiting case of (2.15) occurs if and only if $\Delta F = 0$ vanishes identically, $C = c_1 = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$ is a constant and there exists a spinor field ψ_1 on (M^n, g) with the following properties:

(i) The differential equation

$$(2.16) \quad \nabla_X \psi_1 = \lambda p X \cdot \psi_1 + \bar{\lambda} q \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot \psi_1$$

holds for some real-valued functions p, q on M^n , for some constants $\lambda, \bar{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \neq 0$, and for all vector fields X .

(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of both D and D_β .

In the limiting case, the functions p and q are expressed as (2.22) with $C = c_1 = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{Q} : \Gamma(T(M)) \times \Gamma(\Sigma(M)_g) \rightarrow \Gamma(\Sigma(M)_g)$ be a twistor-like operator defined by

$$\mathcal{Q}_X(\varphi) = \nabla_X \varphi - p X \cdot D\varphi - q \beta^{-1}(X) \cdot D_\beta \varphi,$$

where $p, q : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are some real-valued functions. Let ψ_1 be an eigenspinor of D for the first eigenvalue $\lambda_1 \neq 0$. Let $\bar{\lambda}_1 = c_1 \lambda_1$ be the first eigenvalue of D_β . Making use of (2.7)-(2.8) and introducing free functions $F, B, C : M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

(We assume that F is a positive function.) to control the unnecessary terms, we compute

(2.17)

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_2 &:= \int_{M^n} \left[(D_\beta \psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1) - c_1^2 \lambda_1^2(\psi_1, \psi_1) \right] \mu \\
 &\quad + \int_{M^n} \left[F \sum_{j=1}^n (\mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\psi_1), \mathcal{Q}_{E_j}(\psi_1)) + B^2 (D_\beta \psi_1 - C D \psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1 - C D \psi_1) \right] \mu \\
 &= \int_{M^n} \left[\lambda_1^2 \left((np^2 + 2p + 1)F + B^2 C^2 - c_1^2 \right) - \frac{1}{4} F S - \frac{1}{2} (\Delta F) \right] (\psi_1, \psi_1) \mu \\
 &\quad + \int_{M^n} \left[2\lambda_1 (pqF \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1}) - B^2 C) (\psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \left((q^2 |\beta^{-1}|^2 + 2q)F + B^2 + 1 \right) (D_\beta \psi_1, D_\beta \psi_1) \right] \mu.
 \end{aligned}$$

We choose the functions F, B, C in such a way that the last two lines of (2.17) vanish and the equations in (2.2) are satisfied with $D_\beta \psi_1 = C D \psi_1$. Namely, the functions p, q, B, F have to satisfy the following four equations:

$$(2.18) \quad np + C(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})q = -1,$$

$$(2.19) \quad (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})p + C|\beta^{-1}|^2 q = -C,$$

$$(2.20) \quad pqF(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1}) - B^2 C = 0,$$

$$(2.21) \quad (q^2 |\beta^{-1}|^2 + 2q)F + B^2 + 1 = 0.$$

Solving (2.18)-(2.21), we obtain

$$(2.22) \quad p = \frac{-|\beta^{-1}|^2 + C(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})}{n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})^2}, \quad q = \frac{-Cn + (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})}{C[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})^2]},$$

and

$$(2.23) \quad F = -\frac{1}{q} = \frac{C[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})^2]}{Cn - \operatorname{tr}(\beta^{-1})},$$

$$(2.24) \quad B^2 = 1 + q|\beta^{-1}|^2 = \frac{-C(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})^2 + |\beta^{-1}|^2(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})}{C[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})^2]}.$$

Note that (2.18) and (2.19) together give

$$C = -\frac{1 + np}{q(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})} = -\frac{p(\operatorname{tr} \beta^{-1})}{1 + q|\beta^{-1}|^2}$$

and so the relations

$$(2.25) \quad F = -\frac{1}{q} > 0, \quad B^2 = 1 + q|\beta^{-1}|^2 > 0, \quad C^2 = \frac{p(1 + np)}{q(1 + q|\beta^{-1}|^2)} > 0$$

imply the restriction

$$(2.26) \quad -\frac{1}{|\beta^{-1}|^2} < q < 0, \quad -\frac{1}{n} < p < 0.$$

It is easy to check, using the relations in (2.22), that (2.26) can equivalently be expressed as (2.13)-(2.14). Now, inserting (2.23)-(2.24) into (2.17), we have

$$(2.27) \quad H_2 = \int_{M^n} \left[\lambda_1^2(p+1+c_1^2q)F - \frac{1}{4}FS - \frac{1}{2}(\Delta F) \right] (\psi_1, \psi_1)\mu \geq 0,$$

and applying (2.22) to (2.27) proves inequality (2.15), where $\rho(C) := p+1+c_1^2q$. The conditions (i)-(ii) for the limiting case of (2.15) are easy to check. \square

Remark 2.2. Assume that, in Theorem 2.2, the scalar curvature $S > 0$ is positive and both $\text{tr}(\beta^{-1})$ and $|\beta^{-1}|^2$ are positive constants. Choose a constant $C = c$ satisfying (2.13). Then (2.27) implies that $\rho(C = c) > 0$ is a positive constant. Therefore, if we can choose a constant c such that

$$[nc - \text{tr}(\beta^{-1})] [(\text{tr}\beta^{-1})c - nc_1^2] < 0$$

is satisfied(see Remark 3.3), then (2.15) is sharper than Friedrich’s inequality (1.5), for a simple computation gives

$$\frac{1}{\rho(c)} - \frac{n}{n-1} = -\frac{[nc - \text{tr}(\beta^{-1})] [(\text{tr}\beta^{-1})c - nc_1^2]}{c(n-1)[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\text{tr}\beta^{-1})^2]\rho(c)} > 0.$$

Remark 2.3. Inequality (2.15) remains essentially the same when the tensor β with $\text{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ is replaced by a Codazzi tensor β (see Theorem B in Section 1). In this case, $\bar{\lambda}_1$ should denote the first eigenvalue of the Dirac operator \bar{D} of $\bar{g}(\cdot, \cdot) := g(\beta(\cdot), \beta(\cdot))$ and the free function $F = -\frac{1}{q}$ in (2.23) must be replaced by

$$F = -\frac{|\det(\beta^{-1})|}{q} = \frac{C|\det(\beta^{-1})|[n|\beta^{-1}|^2 - (\text{tr}\beta^{-1})^2]}{Cn - \text{tr}(\beta^{-1})}.$$

Remark 2.4. Assume that, in Theorem 2.1, $|\beta^{-1}|^2$ is constant on M^n . Let ψ_1 be a spinor field on (M^n, g) satisfying equation (2.6) and suppose that ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_β , i.e., $\bar{\lambda} = \bar{\lambda}_1$. Then, by (2.3), we have

$$(2.28) \quad \lambda^2 = \frac{nS}{4(n-1)} + \frac{n\bar{\lambda}_1^2}{(n-1)|\beta^{-1}|^2}.$$

Comparing (2.28) to (2.5), we conclude that ψ_1 is also a first eigenspinor of D . Similarly, when, in Theorem 2.2, both $\text{tr}(\beta^{-1})$ and $|\beta^{-1}|^2$ are constant on M^n , the second condition “(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of both D and D_β ” for the limiting case of (2.15) simplifies to “(ii) ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_β ”.

3. Dirac eigenvalues estimates over Sasakian manifolds

In this section we will apply Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 to Sasakian spin manifolds and investigate the geometric implication of the limiting case of the resulting inequalities (see Propositions 3.5 and 3.6). For this purpose we need to establish some relations between the Killing pair (a, b) of an eta-Killing spinor (see Definition 1.2) and the decomposition property of the spinor bundle over Sasakian manifolds.

Consider a manifold M^{2m+1} of odd dimension $2m + 1$. An almost contact metric structure (ϕ, ξ, η, g) of M^{2m+1} consists of a $(1,1)$ -tensor field ϕ , a vector field ξ , a 1-form η , and a metric g with the following properties:

$$\eta(\xi) = 1, \quad \phi^2(X) = -X + \eta(X)\xi, \quad g(\phi X, \phi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y).$$

The *fundamental 2-form* Φ of the contact structure is a 2-form defined by

$$\Phi(X, Y) = g(X, \phi(Y)).$$

An almost contact metric structure (ϕ, ξ, η, g) of M^{2m+1} is called *Sasakian structure* if

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

holds for all vector fields X, Y . The Riemann curvature tensor R of Sasakian manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ has some special symmetries, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} g(R(\phi X, \phi Y)(\phi Z), \phi W) &= g(R(X, Y)Z, W) + \eta(Y)\eta(W)g(X, Z) \\ &\quad - \eta(Y)\eta(Z)g(X, W) - \eta(X)\eta(W)g(Y, Z) \\ &\quad + \eta(X)\eta(Z)g(Y, W). \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Expressing the components of the curvature tensor R with respect to an adapted local orthonormal frame $E_1, E_{\bar{1}} := \phi(E_1), E_2, E_{\bar{2}} := \phi(E_2), \dots, E_m, E_{\bar{m}} := \phi(E_m), E_{2m+1} := \xi$, we can reformulate identity (3.1) as follows.

Lemma 3.1 ([9]). *On any Sasakian manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\bar{i}\bar{j}\bar{k}\bar{l}} &= R_{ijkl}, & R_{ij\bar{k}\bar{l}} &= R_{\bar{i}\bar{j}kl}, & R_{i\bar{j}k\bar{l}} &= R_{\bar{i}\bar{j}\bar{k}l}, \\ R_{i\bar{j}\bar{k}\bar{l}} &= -R_{\bar{i}\bar{j}kl}, & R_{\bar{i}\bar{j}k\bar{l}} &= -R_{ij\bar{k}l}, \\ R_{i2m+1k2m+1} &= R_{\bar{i}2m+1\bar{k}2m+1} = \delta_{ik} & (1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq m). \end{aligned}$$

In all the other cases, $R_{uvwz} = 0$ as soon as one of its indices equals $2m + 1$.

Assume that an almost contact metric manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ has a spin structure. Then the spinor bundle of $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ splits under the action of the fundamental 2-form Φ as follows.

Lemma 3.2 ([9]). *Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be an almost contact metric manifold with spin structure and fundamental 2-form Φ . Then the spinor bundle Σ splits into the orthogonal direct sum $\Sigma = \Sigma_0 \oplus \Sigma_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \Sigma_m$ with*

$$(i) \Phi|_{\Sigma_r} = \sqrt{-1}(2r - m)I, \quad \dim(\Sigma_r) = \binom{m}{r} \quad (0 \leq r \leq m),$$

(ii) $\xi|_{\Sigma_0 \oplus \Sigma_2 \oplus \Sigma_4 \oplus \dots} = (\sqrt{-1})^{2m+1}I$, $\xi|_{\Sigma_1 \oplus \Sigma_3 \oplus \Sigma_5 \oplus \dots} = -(\sqrt{-1})^{2m+1}I$, where I stands for the identity map. Moreover, the bundles Σ_0 and Σ_m can be defined by

$$\Sigma_0 = \{ \psi \in \Sigma : \phi(X) \cdot \psi + \sqrt{-1}X \cdot \psi + (-1)^m \eta(X)\psi = 0 \text{ for all vectors } X \},$$

$$\Sigma_m = \{ \psi \in \Sigma : \phi(X) \cdot \psi - \sqrt{-1}X \cdot \psi - \eta(X)\psi = 0 \text{ for all vectors } X \}.$$

In particular, we have the formulas

$$\xi \cdot \psi_0 = (-1)^m \sqrt{-1}\psi_0, \quad \Phi \cdot \psi_0 = -m\sqrt{-1}\psi_0, \quad \psi_0 \in \Sigma_0,$$

$$\xi \cdot \psi_m = \sqrt{-1}\psi_m, \quad \Phi \cdot \psi_m = m\sqrt{-1}\psi_m, \quad \psi_m \in \Sigma_m.$$

Obviously, any eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair (a, b) is an eigenspinor of the Dirac operator with eigenvalue $\lambda = -(2m + 1)a - b$. Now we further establish some basic relations between the Killing pair (a, b) of an eta-Killing spinor and the geometry of the Sasakian manifold. For proofs for Propositions 3.2-3.4 we refer to [9]. In the following we will often write n to mean the dimension $2m + 1$ of the manifold M^{2m+1} .

Proposition 3.1. *Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 2$, be a Sasakian spin manifold and suppose that it admits an eta-Killing spinor ψ with Killing pair (a, b) , where both $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$ are nonzero. Then $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is eta-Einstein with scalar curvature $S = 4n(n - 1)a^2 + 8(n - 1)ab$. Moreover, all the possible values for a, b can be expressed in terms of the scalar curvature as*

$$(a, b) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)} \right), \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)} \right),$$

and the following statements are true:

- (i) If $(a, b) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)} \right)$, then $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ and $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_0)$ is a section in Σ_0 .
- (ii) If $(a, b) = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)} \right)$ and $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$, then $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_m)$ is a section in Σ_m .
- (iii) If $(a, b) = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)} \right)$ and $m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$, then $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_0) \cup \Gamma(\Sigma_m)$ is a section in Σ_0 or in Σ_m .

Proof. Let ψ be an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair (a, b) , where a and b both are nonzero. On the one hand, a direct computation gives

$$\begin{aligned} R(E_k, \xi)(\psi) &= \nabla_{E_k} \nabla_{\xi} \psi - \nabla_{\xi} \nabla_{E_k} \psi - \nabla_{[E_k, \xi]} \psi \\ (3.2) \qquad \qquad &= -b E_{\bar{k}} \cdot \psi - 2a(a + b) E_k \cdot \xi \cdot \psi. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, applying Lemma 3.1 to

$$R(E_k, \xi)(\psi) = -\frac{1}{2} R(E_k, \xi) \cdot \psi = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{u < v} R(E_u, E_v, E_k, \xi) E_u \cdot E_v \cdot \psi$$

gives

$$(3.3) \quad R(E_k, \xi)(\psi) = -\frac{1}{2}E_k \cdot \xi \cdot \psi.$$

Thus, combining (3.2) and (3.3), we obtain

$$(3.4) \quad \{4a(a+b) - 1\}E_k \cdot \xi \cdot \psi + 2bE_{\bar{k}} \cdot \psi = 0, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m.$$

Since (3.4) implies

$$\left(\{4a(a+b) - 1\}E_k \cdot \xi \cdot \psi, \{4a(a+b) - 1\}E_k \cdot \xi \cdot \psi \right) = \left(2bE_{\bar{k}} \cdot \psi, 2bE_{\bar{k}} \cdot \psi \right),$$

we have

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \{4a(a+b) - 1\}^2 = 4b^2 \\ \iff & (2a-1)(2a+1)(2a+2b-1)(2a+2b+1) = 0 \\ \iff & a = \pm \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad a+b = \pm \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the decomposition properties in Lemma 3.2, we now show that the latter case $a+b = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ of (3.5) is not allowed. Comparing (3.4)-(3.5) to the definitions of the bundles Σ_0 and Σ_m in Lemma 3.2, we find that $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_0) \cup \Gamma(\Sigma_m)$ must be a section in Σ_0 or in Σ_m . Suppose first that $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_0)$. Then, since $(\nabla_X \Phi) \cdot \psi = -X \cdot \xi \cdot \psi - \eta(X)\psi$, we have

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi \cdot \nabla_X \psi &= \nabla_X(\Phi \cdot \psi) - (\nabla_X \Phi) \cdot \psi \\ &= -m\sqrt{-1}\nabla_X \psi + (-1)^m \sqrt{-1}X \cdot \psi + \eta(X)\psi. \end{aligned}$$

Inserting $\nabla_X \psi = aX \cdot \psi + b\eta(X)\xi \cdot \psi$ into both sides of (3.6) and using the identity $X \cdot \Phi \cdot \psi - \Phi \cdot X \cdot \psi = 2\phi(X) \cdot \psi$, we come to

$$\begin{aligned} & (-am + 2a)\sqrt{-1}X \cdot \psi + (-1)^m(2a + bm)\eta(X)\psi \\ &= [-am + (-1)^m]\sqrt{-1}X \cdot \psi + [1 + (-1)^m bm]\eta(X)\psi, \end{aligned}$$

which gives $a = (-1)^m \frac{1}{2}$. Similarly, we conclude in the second case $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma_m)$ that $a = -\frac{1}{2}$. To prove that $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is eta-Einstein, it suffices to compute the Ricci tensor

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}\text{Ric}(X) \cdot \psi &= D(\nabla_X \psi) - \nabla_X(D\psi) - \sum_{u=1}^{2m+1} E_u \cdot \nabla_{\nabla_{E_u} X} \psi \\ &= (4ma^2 + 2ab)X \cdot \psi + b\phi(X) \cdot \xi \cdot \psi + (m - 4ma^2 - 2ab)\eta(X)\xi \cdot \psi \end{aligned}$$

and apply (3.4)-(3.5) to (3.7). Finally, contracting both sides of (3.7), we obtain

$$(3.8) \quad S = 4n(n-1)a^2 + 8(n-1)ab = n(n-1) \pm 4(n-1)b,$$

which enables us to express the Killing pair (a, b) in terms of the scalar curvature. \square

Remark 3.1. Following the arguments in the proof of Proposition 3.1, one proves easily that any Sasakian spin manifold $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 2$, admits no eta-Killing spinors with Killing pair $(0, b)$, $b \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$. However, there exists an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair $(0, \frac{1}{2})$ over every 3-dimensional simply-connected eta-Einstein Sasakian spin manifold (see Proposition 3.4). Note further that there exist no parallel spinors over Sasakian manifolds, since Sasakian manifolds cannot be Ricci-flat.

It was proven in [9] that, for simply-connected Sasakian spin manifolds, the converse of Proposition 3.1 holds.

Proposition 3.2 ([9]). *Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 2$, be a simply-connected Sasakian spin manifold. Suppose that $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is eta-Einstein. Then, in case*

(i) $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$, *there exists an eta-Killing spinor $\psi_0 \in \Gamma(\Sigma_0)$ with Killing pair $(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)})$ as well as an eta-Killing spinor $\psi_m \in \Gamma(\Sigma_m)$ with Killing pair $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)})$.*

(ii) $m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$, *there exist two eta-Killing spinors ψ_0, ψ_m with Killing pair $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)})$ such that ψ_α is a section in the bundle Σ_α ($\alpha = 0, m$).*

Over 3-dimensional Sasakian spin manifolds $(M^3, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, relation (3.4) implies

$$a = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad a + b = \frac{1}{2}.$$

In contrast to higher dimensional case $m \geq 2$, the latter relation $a + b = \frac{1}{2}$ is allowed in 3-dimensional case, since $-E_1 \cdot \xi \cdot \psi + E_{\bar{1}} \cdot \psi = 0$ holds for all spinor fields $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma = \Sigma_0 \oplus \Sigma_1)$.

Proposition 3.3 ([9]). *Let $(M^3, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a 3-dimensional Sasakian spin manifold and suppose that it admits an eta-Killing spinor ψ with Killing pair (a, b) , where $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$. Then $(M^3, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is eta-Einstein with constant scalar curvature $S = 24a^2 + 16ab$. Moreover, all the possible values for a, b can be expressed in terms of the scalar curvature as*

$$(a, b) = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4} - \frac{S}{8} \right), \left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}, \frac{4 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4} \right), \\ \left(\frac{-2 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}, \frac{4 + \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4} \right).$$

To state the converse of Proposition 3.3, we note that any 3-dimensional Sasakian manifold with constant scalar curvature is eta-Einstein in the sense of (1.6).

Proposition 3.4 ([9]). *Let $(M^3, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ be a simply-connected Sasakian spin manifold of dimension 3 and suppose that the scalar curvature S of g is constant. Then,*

(i) there exist two eta-Killing spinors ψ_0, ψ_1 with Killing pair $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4} - \frac{S}{8})$ such that ψ_α is a section in the bundle Σ_α ($\alpha = 0, 1$).

(ii) If $S \geq -2$, there exists an eta-Killing spinor $\psi \in \Gamma(\Sigma = \Sigma_0 \oplus \Sigma_1)$ with Killing pair $(\frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4+2S}}{4}, \frac{4 \mp \sqrt{4+2S}}{4})$.

We are now ready to apply Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 to Sasakian spin manifolds.

Proposition 3.5. *Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 1$, be a closed Sasakian spin manifold. Let β^{-1} be a nondegenerate symmetric tensor field on M^{2m+1} defined by $\beta^{-1} = \frac{2}{n} I - 2\xi \otimes \eta$. (Note that $\text{div}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$ and $\text{tr}(\beta^{-1}) = 0$.) Let $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of D and D_β , respectively. Then we have*

$$(3.9) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \frac{n S_{\min}}{4(n-1)} + \frac{n^2 \bar{\lambda}_1^2}{4(n-1)^2}.$$

In case that $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ is nonzero, inequality (3.9) can be rewritten as

$$(3.10) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \frac{n(n-1) S_{\min}}{4(n-1)^2 - n^2 c_1^2},$$

where $c_1 = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$. The limiting case of (3.9) occurs, in case

(i) $n \geq 5$, if and only if there exists an eta-Killing spinor ψ_1 with Killing pair

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right), \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right),$$

such that ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_β .

(ii) $n = 3$, if and only if there exists an eta-Killing spinor φ_1 with Killing pair

$$\left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt{4+2S}}{4}, \frac{4 - \sqrt{4+2S}}{4}\right)$$

such that φ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_β .

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, the limiting case of (3.9) occurs if and only if there exists an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair

$$(3.11) \quad (a_1, b_1) = \left(-\frac{2(n-1)\lambda_1 + n\bar{\lambda}_1}{2n(n-1)}, \frac{n\bar{\lambda}_1}{2(n-1)}\right)$$

such that it is a first eigenspinor of both D and D_β . Due to Propositions 3.1 and 3.3 we are able to express $a_1 = -\frac{2(n-1)\lambda_1 + n\bar{\lambda}_1}{2n(n-1)}$ and $b_1 = \frac{n\bar{\lambda}_1}{2(n-1)}$ in terms of the scalar curvature. Assume that $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ is nonEinstein, i.e., $S \neq n(n-1)$. We have to find out which type of eta-Killing spinors, among the various ones in Proposition 3.1 (resp. Proposition 3.3), is a candidate for a first eigenspinor of D . Since the case $m \geq 2$ is clear, we consider the 3-dimensional case. Because of the inequality

$$\left(\frac{3}{4} + \frac{S}{8}\right)^2 > \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{4+2S}}{2}\right)^2,$$

one finds easily that the eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair

$$(a_1, b_1) = \left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}, \frac{4 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4} \right)$$

is a candidate for a first eigenspinor of D , satisfying (3.11) with

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{2}, \quad \bar{\lambda}_1 = \frac{4 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{3}.$$

Consequently, the discussion in Remark 2.4 completes the proof. □

Remark 3.2. Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 1$, be a closed Sasakian spin manifold. From inequality (3.9) we see that $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ is necessarily nonzero if the scalar curvature is positive $S > 0$. The statement for the limiting case then gives rise to a question:

Is every eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair (1.8) or (1.9) a first eigenspinor of the Dirac operator when the scalar curvature is positive ?

If the scalar curvature $S \leq 0$ is nonpositive, then the first eigenvalue λ_1 is allowed to be zero and the answer to the question is negative. Note that, if ψ is an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair $(\pm \frac{1}{2}, \mp \frac{n}{4} \pm \frac{S}{4(n-1)})$, then its associated eigenvalue λ is given by

$$(3.12) \quad \lambda = \mp \frac{n(n-1) + S}{4(n-1)}.$$

There exist 5-dimensional eta-Einstein Sasakian spin manifolds with scalar curvature $S = -4$ that admit harmonic spinors and so the eigenvalue in (3.12) cannot be the first eigenvalue. Examples are certain S^1 -bundles over a 4-dimensional flat torus or quotients of the 5-dimensional Heisenberg group [1, 7, 8].

To consider an application of Theorem 2.2 to Sasakian spin manifolds, we choose a divergencefree tensor $\gamma^{-1} = I - 2\xi \otimes \eta$.

Proposition 3.6. *Let $(M^{2m+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$, $m \geq 1$, be a closed Sasakian spin manifold with positive scalar curvature $S > 0$. Let γ^{-1} be a nondegenerate symmetric tensor field on M^{2m+1} defined by $\gamma^{-1} = I - 2\xi \otimes \eta$. Let $\lambda_1 \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the first eigenvalue of D and D_γ , respectively, and denote $c_1 = \bar{\lambda}_1/\lambda_1$. Then, for any positive constant c with*

$$(3.13) \quad \frac{n-2}{n} < c < \frac{n}{n-2},$$

we have

$$(3.14) \quad \lambda_1^2 \geq \frac{c(n-1)S_{\min}}{(n-2)c^2 + (3n-4-nc_1^2)c + (n-2)c_1^2}.$$

The limiting case of (3.14) occurs, in case

(i) $n \geq 5$, if and only if $c = c_1$ and there exists an eta-Killing spinor ψ_1 with Killing pair

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n}{4} + \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right), \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{n}{4} - \frac{S}{4(n-1)}\right),$$

such that ψ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_γ .

(ii) $n = 3$, if and only if $c = c_1$ and there exists an eta-Killing spinor φ_1 with Killing pair

$$\left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}, \frac{4 - \sqrt{4 + 2S}}{4}\right)$$

such that φ_1 is a first eigenspinor of D_γ .

Proof. By Theorem 2.2, the limiting case of (3.14) occurs if and only if $c = c_1$ and there exists an eta-Killing spinor with Killing pair

$$(a_1, b_1) = \left(-\frac{(c_1 + 1)\lambda_1}{2(n-1)}, \frac{(nc_1 - n + 2)\lambda_1}{2(n-1)}\right)$$

such that it is a first eigenspinor of both D and D_γ . Proceeding as in the proof of Proposition 3.5, one establishes the proposition. \square

Remark 3.3. Inequality (3.14) is not generally sharper than Friedrich’s inequality (1.5), i.e.,

$$\frac{c(n-1)S_{\min}}{(n-2)c^2 + (3n-4-nc_1^2)c + (n-2)c_1^2} > \frac{nS_{\min}}{4(n-1)}$$

holds if and only if

$$(3.15) \quad (nc - n + 2)[(n-2)c - nc_1^2] < 0$$

is satisfied.

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