

Randers Metrics of Scalar Flag Curvature*

Xinyue Cheng[†] and Zhongmin Shen[‡]

Abstract

We study an important class of Finsler metrics — Randers metrics. We classify Randers metrics of scalar flag curvature whose S-curvatures are isotropic. This class of Randers metrics contains all projectively flat Randers metrics with isotropic S-curvature and Randers metrics of constant flag curvature.

1 Introduction

Curvatures are the central concept of Finsler geometry. In this paper, our main focus is on the flag curvature, the S-curvature and their interaction.

For a Finsler manifold (M, F) , the flag curvature $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}(P, y)$ is a function of a tangent plane $P \subset T_x M$ and a non-zero vector $y \in P$. When F is Riemannian, $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}(P)$ is independent of $y \in P \setminus \{0\}$, which is called the sectional curvature. Thus the flag curvature is an analogue of sectional curvature in Riemannian geometry. A Finsler metric F is of *scalar flag curvature* if for any non-zero vector $y \in T_x M$, $\mathbf{K} = K(x, y)$ is independent of P containing $y \in T_x M$ (hence $\mathbf{K} = \sigma(x)$ when F is Riemannian). It is of *almost isotropic flag curvature* if

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{3\theta}{F} + \sigma, \quad (1)$$

where $\sigma = \sigma(x)$ and $c = c(x)$ are scalar functions, and $\theta = c_{x^m}(x)y^m$ [4]. It is of *isotropic flag curvature* if $\mathbf{K} = \sigma(x)$ in (1). In this case, $\sigma(x) = \text{constant}$ if dimension $n \geq 3$ (Schur Lemma). It is one of important problems in Finsler geometry to study and characterize Finsler metrics of scalar/almost isotropic/constant flag curvature.

There is another important quantity closely related to the flag curvature. That is the so-called S-curvature $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{S}(x, y)$. The S-curvature is introduced by the second author when he studied volume comparison in Riemann-Finsler geometry [11] [12]. The S-curvature is said to be *isotropic* if $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$ where $c = c(x)$ is a scalar function on M . It is proved that, for a Finsler metric F of scalar flag curvature, if it is of isotropic S-curvature $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$, then

*2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 53B40, 53C60

[†]supported by a Chinese NNSF grant (10671214)

[‡]supported in part by a Chinese NNSF grant (10671214) and a NSF grant (DMS-0810159)

the flag curvature must be in the form (1). See [8] for further developments. Thus the flag curvature and the S-curvature are closely related.

Studying Randers metrics is an important step to understand general Finsler metrics. A Randers metric on a manifold M is a special Finsler metric expressed in the following form:

$$F = \alpha + \beta,$$

where $\alpha = \sqrt{a_{ij}(x)y^i y^j}$ is a Riemannian metric and $\beta = b_i(x)y^i$ is a 1-form on M with $\|\beta_x\|_\alpha < 1$. Randers metrics arise naturally from the navigation problem on a Riemannian space (M, h) under an external force field W . The least time path from one point to another is a geodesic of a Randers metric $F = \alpha + \beta$ defined by

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda h^2 + W_0^2}}{\lambda} - \frac{W_0}{\lambda}, \quad W_0 := W_i y^i, \quad (2)$$

where

$$W_i := h_{ij}W^j, \quad \lambda := 1 - W_i W^i.$$

See [14]. It is easy to see that every Randers metric can be expressed in the form (2).

For Randers metrics of scalar flag curvature with isotropic S-curvature, we prove the following

Theorem 1.1 *Let $F = \alpha + \beta$ be a Randers metric on a manifold M of dimension $n \geq 3$, which is expressed in terms of a Riemannian metric h and a vector field W by (2). Then F is of scalar flag curvature $\mathbf{K} = K(x, y)$ and of isotropic S-curvature $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)c(x)F$ if and only if at any point, there is a local coordinate system in which h , c and W are given by*

$$h = \frac{\sqrt{|y|^2 + \mu(|x|^2|y|^2 - \langle x, y \rangle^2)}}{1 + \mu|x|^2}, \quad (3)$$

$$c = \frac{\delta + \langle a, x \rangle}{\sqrt{1 + \mu|x|^2}} \quad (4)$$

$$W = -2\left\{ \left(\delta\sqrt{1 + \mu|x|^2} + \langle a, x \rangle \right) x - \frac{|x|^2 a}{\sqrt{1 + \mu|x|^2} + 1} \right\} + xQ + b + \mu\langle b, x \rangle x, \quad (5)$$

where δ, μ are constants, $Q = (q_j^i)$ is an anti-symmetric matrix and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are constant vectors. In this case, the flag curvature is given by

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} + \sigma, \quad (6)$$

where $\sigma = \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m}W^m$.

Locally projectively flat Randers metrics are always of scalar flag curvature, hence Theorem 1.1 generalizes Theorem 1.3 in [4] which classifies the locally

projectively flat Randers metrics with isotropic S-curvature. Furthermore, since every Einstein-Randers metric F must have constant S-curvature [2], the class of Randers metrics of scalar flag curvature and isotropic S-curvature contains all Randers metrics of constant flag curvature. Therefore, Theorem 1.1 also generalizes the classification theorem on Randers metrics of constant flag curvature in [3].

Let us take a look at a special example. In (3)-(5), let $\mu = 0, \delta = 0, Q = 0$ and $b = 0$. We get

$$h = |y|, \quad c = \langle a, x \rangle, \quad W = -2\langle a, x \rangle x + |x|^2 a.$$

The Randers metric $F = \alpha + \beta$ is given by

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{(1 - |a|^2|x|^4)|y|^2 + (|x|^2\langle a, y \rangle - 2\langle a, x \rangle\langle x, y \rangle)^2}}{1 - |a|^2|x|^4} - \frac{|x|^2\langle a, y \rangle - 2\langle a, x \rangle\langle x, y \rangle}{1 - |a|^2|x|^4}.$$

The above defined Randers metric F is of isotropic S-curvature and scalar flag curvature, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{S} = (n+1)\langle a, x \rangle F, \quad \mathbf{K} = \frac{3\langle a, y \rangle}{F} + 3\langle a, x \rangle^2 - 2|a|^2|x|^2.$$

This example has already been constructed by the second author in [15].

The authors would like to thank D. Bao for showing us the proof of a formula for the spray coefficients (see equation (7) below) which is given in C. Robles' paper [10]. This formula is our starting point to prove Theorem 1.1.

2 Preliminaries

Consider a Randers metric $F = \alpha + \beta$ on a manifold M . We can express it in the form (2),

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda h^2 + W_0^2}}{\lambda} - \frac{W_0}{\lambda},$$

where $h = \sqrt{h_{ij}y^i y^j}$ be a Riemannian metric and $W = W^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ be a vector field on M . Let $DW = W_{i;j} dx^i \otimes dx^j$ denote the covariant derivative of W with respect to h . Let

$$\mathcal{R}_{ij} := \frac{1}{2}(W_{i;j} + W_{j;i}), \quad \mathcal{S}_{ij} := \frac{1}{2}(W_{i;j} - W_{j;i}),$$

$$\mathcal{R}_j := W^i \mathcal{R}_{ij}, \quad \mathcal{R} := W^j \mathcal{R}_j, \quad \mathcal{S}_j := W^i \mathcal{S}_{ij}.$$

The spray coefficients G^i of F are defined by (cf. [13])

$$G^i = \frac{1}{4} g^{il} \left\{ [F^2]_{x^j y^l y^j} - [F^2]_{x^l} \right\}.$$

Let \bar{G}^i denote the spray coefficients of h . We have the following

$$G^i = \bar{G}^i - \frac{1}{2}F^2(\mathcal{S}^i + \mathcal{R}^i) - F\mathcal{S}^i_0 + \frac{1}{2}(y^i/F - W^i)(2\mathcal{R}_0F - \mathcal{R}_{00} - \mathcal{R}F^2), \quad (7)$$

where $\mathcal{S}^i := h^{ij}\mathcal{S}_j$, $\mathcal{R}^i := h^{ij}\mathcal{R}_j$, $\mathcal{S}^i_j := h^{il}\mathcal{S}_{lj}$, $\mathcal{S}^i_0 := \mathcal{S}^i_j y^j$, $\mathcal{R}_0 := \mathcal{R}_i y^i$ and $\mathcal{R}_{00} := \mathcal{R}_{ij}y^i y^j$. Formula (7) is given in [10].

Let $dV_F := \sigma_F(x)dx^1 \cdots dx^n$ denote the volume form of a Finsler metric F , where

$$\sigma_F(x) := \frac{\text{Vol}(\mathbb{B}^n(1))}{\text{Vol}\{(y^i) | F(x, y) < 1\}}.$$

Here Vol denotes the Euclidean volume and $\text{Vol}(\mathbb{B}^n(1))$ denotes the Euclidean volume of the unit ball in R^n . Then the S-curvature \mathbf{S} of F is given by (cf. [12][13])

$$\mathbf{S}(x, y) = \frac{\partial G^m}{\partial y^m} - y^m \frac{\partial}{\partial x^m} (\ln \sigma_F). \quad (8)$$

The S-curvature $\mathbf{S}(x, y)$ measures the average rate of changes of $(T_x M, F_x)$ in the direction $y \in T_x M$. An important property is that $\mathbf{S} = 0$ for Berwald spaces [11][12].

Lemma 2.1 ([17]) *Let F be a Randers metric defined by (2) and $c = c(x)$ be a scalar function on an n -dimensional manifold. Then $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$ if and only if*

$$\mathcal{R}_{00} = -2ch^2. \quad (9)$$

Assume that F has isotropic S-curvature, $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$. By Lemma 2.1, W satisfies (9). Then the spray coefficients G^i are reduced to the following expression:

$$G^i = \bar{G}^i - F\mathcal{S}^i_0 - \frac{1}{2}F^2\mathcal{S}^i + cFy^i. \quad (10)$$

It is known that a Randers metric $F = \alpha + \beta$ expressed in the form (2) is of constant flag curvature $\mathbf{K} = k$ if and only if h has constant sectional curvature $\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mu$ and W is homothetic, i.e., it satisfies (9). In this case, $k = \mu - c^2$. Moreover, $c = 0$ if $\mu \neq 0$. This leads to the classification of Randers metrics of constant flag curvature [3]. See also [1], [2] and [7] for some early work on Randers metrics of constant flag curvature.

According to [5] and [17], for any scalar function $c = c(x)$, the equation (??) is equivalent to the following condition on the S-curvature:

$$\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF. \quad (11)$$

This fact also follows from the arguments in [2]. Thus a Randers metric of constant flag curvature must have constant S-curvature.

3 The Riemann Curvature

Let F be a Finsler metric on a manifold M and G^i be the spray coefficients of F . The Riemann curvature $R = R^i_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \otimes dx^k$ is defined by

$$R^i_k = 2 \frac{\partial G^i}{\partial x^k} - \frac{\partial^2 G^i}{\partial x^m \partial y^k} y^m + 2G^m \frac{\partial^2 G^i}{\partial y^m \partial y^k} - \frac{\partial G^i}{\partial y^m} \frac{\partial G^m}{\partial y^k}. \quad (12)$$

It is known that (cf. ([13]) F is of scalar flag curvature $\mathbf{K} = K(x, y)$ if and only if in a standard local coordinate system,

$$R^i_k = K(x, y) \{ F^2 \delta^i_k - F F_{y^k} y^i \}. \quad (13)$$

From now on, we always assume that F is a Randers metric given by (2) with isotropic S-curvature, $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$. We are going to use (10) to express the Riemann curvature in terms of h and W .

Rewrite (10) as follows

$$G^i = \bar{G}^i + Q^i,$$

where

$$Q^i := -F \mathcal{S}^i_0 - \frac{1}{2} F^2 \mathcal{S}^i + cF y^i.$$

Then

$$R^i_k = \bar{R}^i_k + 2Q^i_{;k} - [Q^i_{;m}]_{y^k} y^m + 2Q^m [Q^i]_{y^m y^k} - [Q^i]_{y^m} [Q^m]_{y^k}, \quad (14)$$

where $\bar{R} = \bar{R}^i_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \otimes dx^k$ denote the Riemann curvature of h , “;” denotes the horizontal covariant differentiation with respect to h (cf. [13]). We first compute the horizontal and vertical derivatives of Q^i and express them in terms of h , W and the covariant derivatives of W with respect to h . Since W satisfies (9), we have

$$W_{i;j;k} = 2(c_{x^i} h_{jk} - c_{x^j} h_{ik} - c_{x^k} h_{ij}) - \bar{R}_{kpij} W^p, \quad (15)$$

where \bar{R}_{kpij} denote the Riemann curvature tensor of h .

Equation (15) is proved in Lemma 3.1 in [16]. By (15) and the properties of the Riemann curvature tensor of h , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}^i_{k;0} &= 2(h^{im} c_{x^m} y_k - c_{x^k} y^i) - \bar{R}^i_{mq} W^m y^q, \\ \mathcal{S}^i_{0;k} &= 2(h^{im} c_{x^m} y_k - c_{x^m} y^m \delta^i_k) + \bar{R}^i_{kq} y^p W^q, \\ \mathcal{S}^i_{;k} &= 2c \mathcal{S}^i_k - \mathcal{S}^i_m \mathcal{S}^m_k + 2(c_{x^m} W^m \delta^i_k - h^{im} c_{x^m} W_k) - \bar{R}^i_{kq} W^p W^q, \\ \mathcal{S}^i_{;0} &= 2c \mathcal{S}^i_0 - \mathcal{S}^i_m \mathcal{S}^m_0 + 2(c_{x^m} W^m y^i - h^{im} c_{x^m} W_0) - \bar{R}^i_{mq} W^p W^q y^m, \\ \mathcal{S}^i_{0;0} &= 2(h^{im} c_{;m} h^2 - c_{;0} y^i) - \bar{R}^i_{mq} y^p y^q W^m. \end{aligned}$$

Let $A := \sqrt{\lambda h^2 + W_0^2}$. From (2), we have $A = \lambda F + W_0$. It is easy to verify that

$$h^2 - 2FW_0 = \lambda F^2. \quad (16)$$

By (16), we have the following identity

$$h^2 - FW_0 - AF = 0. \quad (17)$$

Further, by (17) and (9) we obtain the following formulas

$$\begin{aligned} F_{;k} &= \frac{2cF(y_k - FW_k) + F(F\mathcal{S}_k + \mathcal{S}_{k0})}{A}, \\ F_{;0} &= 2cF^2 + \frac{F^2}{A}\mathcal{S}_0, \\ (F_{y^k})_{;0} &= \left(\frac{h^2}{A^3}\mathcal{S}_0 + 2c\frac{F}{A}\right)\{y_k - FW_k\} - \frac{F^2}{A^2}\mathcal{S}_0W_k - \frac{F}{A}\mathcal{S}_{k0}. \end{aligned}$$

By (14) and the above identities and in virtue of Maple program, we first obtain the following very simple formula:

$$\begin{aligned} R^i_k &= \bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}y^p y^q - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}W^p y^q - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}y^p W^q \\ &\quad + F^2\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}W^p W^q - F_{y^k}\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}y^p y^q W^m + FF_{y^k}\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}y^p W^q W^m \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} - c^2 - 2c_{x^m}W^m\right)\{F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i\}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

It is surprised that all the terms with \mathcal{S}^i or \mathcal{S}^i_k do not occur in (18).

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}(y^p - FW^p)(y^q - FW^q) \\ &= \bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}y^p y^q - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}y^p W^q - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}W^p y^q + F^2\bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}W^p W^q \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}(y^p - FW^p)(y^q - FW^q)W^m \\ &= \bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}y^p y^q W^m - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}W^p y^q W^m \\ &\quad - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}y^p W^q W^m + F^2\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}W^p W^q W^m \\ &= \bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}y^p y^q W^m - F\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}W^p y^q W^m. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting them into (18), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} R^i_k &= \bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}(y^p - FW^p)(y^q - FW^q) \\ &\quad - F_{y^k}\bar{R}_p^i{}_{mq}(y^p - FW^p)(y^q - FW^q)W^m \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} - c^2 - 2c_{x^m}W^m\right)\{F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i\}. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Let

$$\xi^i := y^i - F(x, y)W^i, \quad \xi_k := h_{ik}\xi^i$$

and

$$\tilde{h} := h(x, \xi) = \sqrt{h_{pq}\xi^p\xi^q} = \sqrt{\xi_k\xi^k}, \quad \tilde{W}_0 := W_i\xi^i.$$

We have

$$\tilde{h}^2 = h_{pq}(y^p - FW^p)(y^q - FW^q) = h^2 - 2FW_0 + F^2h(x, W)^2 = F^2.$$

Thus

$$y^i = \xi^i + \tilde{h}W^i.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda\tilde{h} &= \lambda F = A - W_0 \\ &= A - W_i(\xi^i + \tilde{h}W^i) \\ &= A - \tilde{W}_0 - \tilde{h}(1 - \lambda). \end{aligned}$$

This gives

$$A = \tilde{h} + \tilde{W}_0.$$

By the above identities, we obtain

$$F_{y^k} = \frac{1}{A}(y_k - FW_k) = \frac{\xi_k}{\tilde{h} + \tilde{W}_0},$$

$$F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i = \tilde{h}^2\delta_k^i - \xi_k\xi^i - \frac{1}{\tilde{h} + \tilde{W}_0}\xi_k(\tilde{h}^2\delta_p^i - \xi_p\xi^i)W^p,$$

where $y_k := h_{ik}y^i$. Let

$$\tilde{R}^i_k := \bar{R}_p^i{}_{kq}\xi^p\xi^q.$$

By (19), we obtain the following

Lemma 3.1 *Let $F = \alpha + \beta$ be a Randers metric expressed by (2). Suppose that it has isotropic S-curvature, $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$. Then for any scalar function $\mu = \mu(x)$ on M ,*

$$\begin{aligned} R^i_k - \left(\frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} + \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m}W^m \right) \{ F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i \} \\ = \tilde{R}^i_k - \mu(\tilde{h}^2\delta_k^i - \xi_k\xi^i) - \frac{\xi_k}{\tilde{h} + \tilde{W}_0} \{ \tilde{R}^i_p - \mu(\tilde{h}^2\delta_p^i - \xi_p\xi^i) \} W^p \quad (20) \end{aligned}$$

4 The Ricci Curvature

In this section, we shall study the Ricci curvature of a Randers metric with isotropic S-curvature. Let Ric and $\overline{\text{Ric}}$ denote the Ricci curvature of F and h respectively. They are defined by

$$\text{Ric} := R^m_m, \quad \overline{\text{Ric}} := \bar{R}^m_m.$$

Let

$$\widetilde{\text{Ric}} := \tilde{R}^m_m = \bar{R}_p^m{}_{mq}\xi^p\xi^q.$$

Clearly, $\overline{\text{Ric}} = (n-1)\mu h^2$ if and only if $\widetilde{\text{Ric}} = (n-1)\mu\tilde{h}^2$.

First we have the following

Lemma 4.1 *Let $F = \alpha + \beta$ be a Randers metric expressed by (2). Suppose that it has isotropic S-curvature, $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)cF$. Then for any scalar function $\mu = \mu(x)$ on M ,*

$$\text{Ric} - (n - 1) \left(\frac{3c_{x^m} y^m}{F} + \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m} W^m \right) F^2 = \widetilde{\text{Ric}} - (n - 1) \mu \tilde{h}^2. \quad (21)$$

Proof: Observe that

$$\xi_m \tilde{R}_p^m = \xi_m \bar{R}_{i \ p j}^m \xi^i \xi^j = \xi^m \bar{R}_{i m p j} \xi^i \xi^j = 0$$

and

$$\xi_m \left(\tilde{h}^2 \delta_p^m - \xi_p \xi^m \right) = \tilde{h}^2 \xi_p - \xi_p \tilde{h}^2 = 0.$$

Then (21) follows from (20). Q.E.D.

From Lemma 4.1 we immediately obtain the following

Theorem 4.2 *Let F be a Randers metric on n -dimensional manifold M defined by (2) and let $c = c(x)$ and $\mu = \mu(x)$ be scalar functions on M . Suppose $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)cF$. Then $\text{Ric} = (n - 1)\mu h^2$ if and only if*

$$\text{Ric} = (n - 1) \left\{ \frac{3c_{x^m} y^m}{F} + \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m} W^m \right\} F^2. \quad (22)$$

Corollary 4.3 *Let F be a Randers metric defined by (2). If W is an infinitesimal homothety of h (or equivalently, $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)cF$ for some constant c), then for any scalar function $\mu = \mu(x)$, $\widetilde{\text{Ric}} = (n - 1)\mu h^2$ if and only if $\text{Ric} = (n - 1)(\mu - c^2)F^2$.*

Corollary 4.3 is already proved in Theorem 9 in [2] (see also [9]). In fact, Bao-Robles prove that for a Randers metric F defined by (2), F is Einstein $\text{Ric} = (n - 1)K(x)F^2$, if and only if $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)cF$ for some constant c and $\widetilde{\text{Ric}} = (n - 1)(K(x) + c^2)h^2$.

5 Proof of Theorem 1.1

In this section, we are going to prove Theorem 1.1. First we prove the following

Theorem 5.1 *Let F be a Randers metric on n -dimensional manifold M defined by (2). Suppose that $\mathbf{S} = (n + 1)cF$ where $c = c(x)$ is a scalar function. Then F is of scalar flag curvature if and only if h is of sectional curvature $\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mu$, where $\mu = \mu(x)$ is a scalar function (=constant if $n \geq 3$). In this case, the flag curvature of F is given by*

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{3c_{x^m} y^m}{F} + \sigma, \quad (23)$$

where $\sigma := \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m} W^m$.

Proof: Assume that F is of scalar curvature, then by Theorem 1.1 in [4], the flag curvature is given by

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} + \sigma,$$

where $\sigma = \sigma(x)$ is a scalar function on M . That is, we have

$$R^i_k = \left(\frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} + \sigma\right) \{F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i\}.$$

Let

$$\mu := \sigma + c^2 + 2c_{x^m}W^m.$$

It suffices to show that h has sectional curvature $\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mu$. It follows from (20) that

$$\tilde{R}^i_k - \mu(\tilde{h}^2\delta_k^i - \xi_k\xi^i) - \frac{1}{\tilde{h} + \tilde{W}_0}\xi_k\left\{\tilde{R}^i_p - \mu(\tilde{h}^2\delta_p^i - \xi_p\xi^i)\right\}W^p = 0.$$

Clearly, we have

$$\tilde{R}^i_k = \mu(\tilde{h}^2\delta_k^i - \xi_k\xi^i). \quad (24)$$

Thus h has sectional curvature $\bar{K} = \mu$. By the Schur lemma, $\mu = \text{constant}$ in dimension $n \geq 3$.

Conversely, if h has sectional curvature $\bar{K} = \mu$, then (24) holds. By (20) again, we get

$$R^i_k = \left(\frac{3c_{x^m}y^m}{F} + \sigma\right) \{F^2\delta_k^i - FF_{y^k}y^i\}, \quad (25)$$

where $\sigma = \mu - c^2 - 2c_{x^m}W^m$. Thus F is of scalar curvature. Q.E.D.

Proof of Theorem 1.1: By assumption, the dimension of M is not less than 3. First we assume that $F = \alpha + \beta$ is of isotropic S-curvature and of scalar flag curvature. By Theorem 5.1, the flag curvature of F is given by (23) and h has constant sectional curvature $\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mu$. At any point, there is a local coordinate system in which h is given by (3). By the Theorem 1.2 in [16], if $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$, then c and W are given by (4) and (5) respectively in the same local coordinate system.

Conversely, assume that there is a local coordinate system in which h , c and W are given by (3), (4) and (5) respectively, then by Theorem 1.2 in [16], $\mathbf{S} = (n+1)cF$. Since h has constant sectional curvature $\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mu$, by Theorem 5.1, F is of scalar curvature with flag curvature given by (23). Q.E.D.

References

- [1] D. Bao and C. Robles, *On Randers metrics of constant curvature*, Rep. Math. Phys. **51**(2003), 9-42.

- [2] D. Bao and C. Robles, *Ricci and flag curvatures in Finsler geometry*, In “A Sampler of Finsler Geometry” MSRI series, Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- [3] D. Bao, C. Robles and Z. Shen, *Zermelo Navigation on Riemannian manifolds*, J. Diff. Geom. **66**(2004), 391-449.
- [4] X. Chen, X. Mo and Z. Shen, *On the flag curvature of Finsler metrics of scalar curvature*, J. of the London Math. Soc., **68**(2) (2003), 762-780.
- [5] X. Chen and Z. Shen, *Randers metrics with special curvature properties*, Osaka J. Math., **40**(2003), 87-101.
- [6] X. Chen and Z. Shen, *Projectively flat Finsler metrics with almost isotropic S-curvature*, Acta Mathematica Scientia, **26B**(2)(2006), 307-313.
- [7] M. Matsumoto and H. Shimada, *The corrected fundamental theorem on Randers spaces of constant curvature*, Tensor, N. S. **63**(2002), 43-47.
- [8] , B. Najafi, Z. Shen and A. Tayebi, *Finsler metrics of scalar flag curvature with special non-Riemannian curvature properties*, Geometriae Dedicata, **131**(2008), 87-97
- [9] C. Robles, *Einstein metrics of Randers type*, Ph.D. thesis, University of British Columbia, Canada, 2003.
- [10] C. Robles, *Geodesics in Randers spaces of constant curvature*, Trans. AMS (to appear).
- [11] Z. Shen, *Volume comparison and its applications in Riemann-Finsler geometry*, Advances in Math. **128**(1997), 306-328.
- [12] Z. Shen, *Lectures on Finsler geometry*, World Scientific Publishers, 2001.
- [13] Z. Shen, *Differential geometry of spray and Finsler spaces* , Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001.
- [14] Z. Shen, *Finsler metrics with $\mathbf{K} = 0$ and $\mathbf{S} = 0$* , Canadian J. Math. **55**(2003), 112-132.
- [15] Z. Shen, *Landsberg Curvature, S-Curvature and Riemann Curvature*, In “A Sampler of Finsler Geometry” MSRI series, Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- [16] Z. Shen and H. Xing, *On Randers metrics with isotropic S-curvature*, Acta Math. Sinica, **24**(2008), 789-796.
- [17] H. Xing, *The geometric meaning of Randers metrics with isotropic S-curvature*, Adv. Math. (China) **34**(2005),717-730.

Xinyue Cheng (Chen)
Department of Mathematics,
Chongqing Institute of Technology,
Chongqing 400050, P.R. China
chengxy@cqit.edu.cn

Zhongmin Shen
Center of Mathematical Sciences
Zhejiang University
Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province 310027
P.R. China

and

Department of Mathematical Sciences
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
402 N. Blackford Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3216
USA
zshen@math.iupui.edu