



# Almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifolds with cyclic-parallel Ricci tensor

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## Abstract

In this paper, we prove that the Ricci tensor of an almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifold is cyclic-parallel if and only if it is parallel and hence, the manifold is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ . ©2016 All rights reserved.

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## 1. Introduction

Let us recall the following notions defined by Gray [13]. A pseudo-Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  is said to belong to class  $\mathcal{A}$  if its Ricci operator  $Q$  is cyclic-parallel, that is,

$$g((\nabla_X Q)Y, Z) + g((\nabla_Y Q)Z, X) + g((\nabla_Z Q)X, Y) = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  tangent to  $M$ . It is known that (1.1) is equivalent to requiring that the Ricci tensor is a Killing tensor, that is,

$$g((\nabla_X Q)X, X) = 0 \quad (1.2)$$

for any vector field  $X$  on  $M$ . Moreover,  $(M, g)$  is said to belong to class  $\mathcal{B}$  if its Ricci operator  $Q$  is of Codazzi-type, that is,

$$(\nabla_X Q)Y = (\nabla_Y Q)X \quad (1.3)$$

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for any vector fields  $X, Y$  tangent to  $M$ . Here, we remark that equation (1.3) is also equivalent to requiring that the Riemannian curvature tensor is harmonic, that is,  $\operatorname{div}R = 0$ . In addition,  $(M, g)$  is said to belong to class  $\mathcal{P}$  if its Ricci operator  $Q$  is parallel, that is,

$$\nabla Q = 0. \quad (1.4)$$

A. Gray in [13] obtained an interesting result, namely  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$  denotes the class of all Einstein manifolds. A semi-Riemannian metric whose Ricci tensor satisfying relations (1.1), (1.3) or (1.4) is called an Einstein-like metric.

Many authors studied equations (1.1)-(1.4) on some types of almost contact metric manifolds and some other manifolds. For examples, Gouli-Andreou and Xenos in [12] proved that a  $k$ -contact metric manifold of dimension  $2n + 1$  satisfying equation (1.3) is locally isometric to either an Einstein-Sasakian manifold or the product space  $\mathbb{S}^n(4) \times \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Moreover, they proved that a contact metric 3- $\tau$ -manifold satisfying equation (1.3) is either flat or an Einstein-Sasakian manifold. Gouli-Andreou et al. in [11] proved that a complete three-dimensional  $(\kappa, \mu, \nu)$ -contact metric manifold satisfying (1.1) is either Sasakian or a  $(\kappa, \mu)$ -contact metric manifold. De and Pathak [7] obtained that a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold has a cyclic-parallel Ricci tensor if and only if the manifold is of constant sectional curvature  $-1$ . Generalizing this result, the cyclic-parallel Ricci tensors on three-dimensional normal almost contact metric manifolds were also studied by De and Mondal [6]. For more results regarding Equations (1.1)-(1.4) on some semi-Riemannian manifolds and almost contact metric manifolds, we refer reader to De et al. [5, 8], Calvaruso [2], Wang [18, 20, 22] and the present author [19].

We remark that Cho [3] and Wang [18] recently obtained an interesting local classification of an almost Kenmotsu 3-manifold, namely any almost Kenmotsu 3-manifold is locally symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ . We observe that almost Kenmotsu 3-manifolds under some additional geometric conditions were also investigated by Cho [4] and Wang [20, 21], respectively. Note that (1.4) implies (1.1) trivially, however the converse is not necessarily true. Therefore, in this paper we aim to present an extension of the corresponding results shown in [3, 18] on a special class of three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Our main results is to show that the equations (1.1)-(1.4) are equivalent to each other on an almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifold.

## 2. Almost Kenmotsu manifolds

A smooth manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  of dimensional  $2n + 1$  is called an almost contact metric manifold if it admits an almost contact structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ , that is, there exist a  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor field  $\phi$ , a global vector field  $\xi$  and a 1-form  $\eta$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^2 &= -\operatorname{id} + \eta \otimes \xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1, \\ g(\phi X, \phi Y) &= g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  tangent to  $M^{2n+1}$ , where  $\operatorname{id}$  denotes the identity map and  $\xi$  is called the Reeb vector field. On the product manifold  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$  of an almost contact manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ , one can define an almost complex structure  $J$  by

$$J \left( X, f \frac{d}{dt} \right) = \left( \phi X - f\xi, \eta(X) \frac{d}{dt} \right),$$

where  $X$  denotes the vector field tangent to  $M^{2n+1}$ ,  $t$  is the coordinate of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  is a smooth function. An almost contact structure is said to be normal if the above almost complex structure  $J$  is integrable, that is,  $J$  is a complex structure. According to Blair [1], the normality of an almost contact structure is given by  $[\phi, \phi] = -2d\eta \otimes \xi$ , where  $[\phi, \phi]$  denotes the Nijenhuis tensor of  $\phi$  defined by

$$[\phi, \phi](X, Y) = \phi^2[X, Y] + [\phi X, \phi Y] - \phi[\phi X, Y] - \phi[X, \phi Y]$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ . The fundamental 2-form  $\Phi$  of an almost contact metric manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  is defined by  $\Phi(X, Y) = g(X, \phi Y)$  for any vector fields  $X$  and  $Y$ .

From [1] and [15], an almost contact metric manifold is called

- (1) a contact metric manifold if  $d\eta = \Phi$ ;
- (2) an almost Kenmotsu manifold if  $d\eta = 0$  and  $d\Phi = 2\eta \wedge \Phi$ ;
- (3) an almost cosymplectic manifold if  $d\eta = 0$  and  $d\Phi = 0$ .

A normal contact metric (resp. almost Kenmotsu, almost cosymplectic) manifold is called a Sasakian (resp. Kenmotsu, cosymplectic) manifold.

We denote by  $h = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\phi$  and  $h' = h \circ \phi$  on an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$ . Following [9, 10], it is seen that both  $h$  and  $h'$  are symmetric operators and the following formulas are true.

$$h\xi = l\xi = 0, \text{tr}h = \text{tr}(h') = 0, h\phi + \phi h = 0, \tag{2.2}$$

$$\nabla\xi = h' + \text{id} - \eta \otimes \xi, \tag{2.3}$$

$$\phi l\phi - l = 2(h^2 - \phi^2), \tag{2.4}$$

$$\nabla_\xi h = -\phi - 2h - \phi h^2 - \phi l, \tag{2.5}$$

$$\text{tr}(l) = S(\xi, \xi) = g(Q\xi, \xi) = -2n - \text{tr}h^2, \tag{2.6}$$

where  $l := R(\cdot, \xi)\xi$  is the Jacobi operator along the Reeb vector field and the Riemannian curvature tensor  $R$  is defined by

$$R(X, Y)Z = \nabla_X\nabla_Y Z - \nabla_Y\nabla_X Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]}Z,$$

tr and  $S$  denote the trace operator and the Ricci tensor, respectively.

### 3. Almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifolds with cyclic-parallel Ricci tensors

We first give the following definition.

**Definition 3.1.** A three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold is called an almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifold if it satisfies  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$ .

It is known that on a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold there holds  $h = 0$  and hence  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$  holds trivially. However, Dileo and Pastore [9, Proposition 6] proved that even on a locally symmetric non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu manifold there still holds  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$ . By using this condition, Wang [20, 21] gave some local classifications of three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds. He also presented some examples of three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds on which  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$  but  $h \neq 0$ .

**Example 3.2** ([21]). Let  $G$  be a three-dimensional non-unimodular Lie group (see [17]) with a left invariant local orthonormal frame fields  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  satisfying

$$[e_1, e_2] = \alpha e_2 + \beta e_3, [e_2, e_3] = 0, [e_1, e_3] = \beta e_2 + (2 - \alpha)e_3$$

for  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . If either  $\alpha \neq 1$  or  $\beta \neq 0$ ,  $G$  admits a left invariant non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu structure satisfying  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$  and  $h \neq 0$ .

For almost Kenmotsu structures defined on three-dimensional non-unimodular Lie groups we refer the reader to Dileo and Pastore [10, Section 5]. From Example 3.2, although there exist many examples of almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifolds, but not all non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu 3-manifolds satisfy  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$ .

**Example 3.3** ([20]). Let  $M$  be a  $(k, \mu, \nu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, that is, its Reeb vector field  $\xi$  satisfies the  $(k, \mu, \nu)$ -nullity condition,

$$R(X, Y)\xi = k(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \mu(\eta(Y)hX - \eta(X)hY) + \nu(\eta(Y)h'X - \eta(X)h'Y) \tag{3.1}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  and some smooth functions  $k, \mu, \nu$ . Then, if either  $\mu \neq 0$  or  $\nu \neq -2$ , then we have  $\nabla_\xi h = \mu h' - (\nu + 2)h \neq 0$  provided that  $h \neq 0$  (or equivalently,  $k < -1$ ).

Let us recall some useful formula shown in Cho [4]. Let  $\mathcal{U}_1$  be the open subset of a three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^3$  such that  $h \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{U}_2$  the open subset of  $M^3$  defined by  $\mathcal{U}_2 = \{p \in M^3 : h = 0 \text{ in a neighborhood of } p\}$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{U}_1 \cup \mathcal{U}_2$  is an open and dense subset of  $M^3$  and there exists a local orthonormal basis  $\{\xi, e, \phi e\}$  of three smooth unit eigenvectors of  $h$  for any point  $p \in \mathcal{U}_1 \cup \mathcal{U}_2$ . On  $\mathcal{U}_1$ , we set  $he = \lambda e$  and hence  $h\phi e = -\lambda\phi e$ , where  $\lambda$  is a positive function on  $\mathcal{U}_1$ . The eigenvalue function  $\lambda$  is continuous on  $M^3$  and smooth on  $\mathcal{U}_1 \cup \mathcal{U}_2$ .

**Lemma 3.4** ([4, Lemma 6]). *On  $\mathcal{U}_1$  we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_\xi \xi &= 0, \quad \nabla_\xi e = a\phi e, \quad \nabla_\xi \phi e = -ae, \\ \nabla_e \xi &= e - \lambda\phi e, \quad \nabla_e e = -\xi - b\phi e, \quad \nabla_e \phi e = \lambda\xi + be, \\ \nabla_{\phi e} \xi &= -\lambda e + \phi e, \quad \nabla_{\phi e} e = \lambda\xi + c\phi e, \quad \nabla_{\phi e} \phi e = -\xi - ce, \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

where  $a, b, c$  are smooth functions.

Applying Lemma 3.4 in the following Jacobi identity

$$[[\xi, e], \phi e] + [[e, \phi e], \xi] + [[\phi e, \xi], e] = 0,$$

we obtain

$$\begin{cases} e(\lambda) - \xi(b) - e(a) + c(\lambda - a) - b = 0, \\ \phi e(\lambda) - \xi(c) + \phi e(a) + b(\lambda + a) - c = 0. \end{cases} \tag{3.3}$$

Moreover, applying Lemma 3.4 we have

$$\begin{cases} Q\xi = -2(\lambda^2 + 1)\xi - (\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b)e - (e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c)\phi e, \\ Qe = -(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b)\xi - (f + 2\lambda a)e + (\xi(\lambda) + 2\lambda)\phi e, \\ Q\phi e = -(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c)\xi + (\xi(\lambda) + 2\lambda)e - (f - 2\lambda a)\phi e, \end{cases} \tag{3.4}$$

where  $f = e(c) + \phi e(b) + b^2 + c^2 + 2$ .

We also need the following well known result (see also [13]).

**Lemma 3.5.** *If the Ricci tensor of a Riemannian manifold is cyclic-parallel or of Codazzi-type, then the scalar curvature is a constant.*

We first give the following result for Kenmotsu 3-manifolds.

**Proposition 3.6.** *On a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *The Ricci tensor is parallel;*
- (2) *The Ricci tensor is of Codazzi-type;*
- (3) *The Ricci tensor is cyclic-parallel;*
- (4) *The manifold is of constant sectional curvature  $-1$ .*

*Proof.* It is known that on a three-dimensional Riemannian manifold the curvature tensor  $R$  is given by

$$R(Y, Z)W = g(Z, W)QY - g(Y, W)QZ + g(QZ, W)Y - g(QY, W)Z - \frac{r}{2}(g(Z, W)Y - g(Y, W)Z)$$

for any vector fields  $Y, Z, W$ . Taking the covariant derivative of the above relation along arbitrary vector field  $X$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_X R)(Y, Z)W &= g(Z, W)(\nabla_X Q)Y - g(Y, W)(\nabla_X Q)Z + g((\nabla_X Q)Z, W)Y \\ &\quad - g((\nabla_X Q)Y, W)Z - \frac{1}{2}X(r)(g(Z, W)Y - g(Y, W)Z) \end{aligned}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z$  and  $W$ , where  $r$  denotes the scalar curvature.

If a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold  $M^3$  has a parallel Ricci tensor, then, the scalar curvature of  $M^3$  is a constant and hence by the above relation we see that the manifold is locally symmetric. On the other hand, K. Kenmotsu [16, Corollary 6] proved that a locally symmetric Kenmotsu manifold is of constant sectional curvature  $-1$ . This means (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (4).

If a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold  $M^3$  is of constant sectional curvature  $-1$ , that is,  $R(X, Y)Z = -g(Y, Z)X + g(X, Z)Y$  for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z$ , then we obtain easily that the Ricci operator is given by  $Q = -2\text{id}$ . This means that the Ricci tensor is parallel (that is,  $\nabla Q = 0$ ) and hence we obtain (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1), (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) and (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (3).

It can be easily seen that a three-dimensional Riemannian manifold with a Codazzi-type or a cyclic-parallel Ricci tensor is of constant scalar curvature (see also Gray [13]). Moreover, J. Inoguchi in [14] proved that a three-dimensional Kenmotsu manifold having a constant scalar curvature is of constant sectional curvature  $-1$ . This means (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) and (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4). This completes the proof.  $\square$

Next we give our main result, stating that the equations (1.1)-(1.4) are equivalent to each other even on a special type of non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu 3-manifolds, namely non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifolds.

**Theorem 3.7.** *On an almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifold with  $h \neq 0$ , the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *The Ricci tensor is parallel;*
- (2) *The Ricci tensor is of Codazzi-type;*
- (3) *The Ricci tensor is cyclic-parallel;*
- (4) *The manifold is locally isometric to the product space  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ .*

*Proof.* Recently, Wang [18] and Cho [3] independently obtained that any non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu 3-manifold is locally symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to the product space  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ . Since on a locally symmetric non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu manifold there holds  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$ , therefore, (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) follows from [18] and [3].

Very recently, Wang [20] obtained that a three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold satisfying  $\nabla_\xi h = 0$  and having a harmonic curvature tensor is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3(-1)$  or the product space  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ . This means (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4).

Since the product space  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$  is locally symmetric, then in what follows we need only to show that (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4).

Now, we suppose that  $M^3$  is a non-Kenmotsu almost Kenmotsu 3- $h$ -manifold whose Ricci tensor is cyclic-parallel. Firstly, by a direct calculation we obtain from Lemma 3.4 and relation (2.4) that

$$(\nabla_\xi h)e = \xi(\lambda)e + 2a\lambda\phi e \text{ and } (\nabla_\xi h)\phi e = -\xi(\lambda)\phi e + 2a\lambda e.$$

In view of Definition 3.1 and  $\lambda$  being a positive function, we have

$$\xi(\lambda) = a = 0. \tag{3.5}$$

Then, using (3.5) in (3.4) we obtain from Lemma 3.4 that

$$(\nabla_\xi Q)\xi = -\xi(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b)e - \xi(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c)\phi e, \tag{3.6}$$

$$(\nabla_\xi Q)e = -\xi(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b)\xi - \xi(f)e, \tag{3.7}$$

$$(\nabla_\xi Q)\phi e = -\xi(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c)\xi - \xi(f)\phi e, \tag{3.8}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_e Q)\xi = & 2(\phi e(\lambda) - 3\lambda e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b - 2\lambda^2 c)\xi \\ & + (f - 2 - e(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b) - b(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c))e \\ & + (2\lambda^3 + b(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b) - e(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - \lambda f)\phi e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_e Q)e = & (f - 2 - e(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b) - b(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c))\xi \\ & - (e(f) + 2\phi e(\lambda))e + (e(\lambda) + \lambda\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda^2 b - 2\lambda c)\phi e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_e Q)\phi e = & (2\lambda^3 - f\lambda + b(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b) - e(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c))\xi \\ & + (e(\lambda) + \lambda\phi e(\lambda) - 2\lambda c + 2\lambda^2 b)e \\ & + (2\lambda(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - e(f) - 4\lambda b)\phi e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_{\phi e} Q)\xi = & 2(e(\lambda) - 3\lambda\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c - 2\lambda^2 b)\xi \\ & + (2\lambda^3 + c(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - \phi e(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b) - \lambda f)e \\ & + (f - 2 - \phi e(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - c(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b))\phi e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_{\phi e} Q)e = & (2\lambda^3 - f\lambda + c(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - \phi e(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b))\xi \\ & - (\phi e(f) + 4\lambda c - 2\lambda(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b))e \\ & + (\phi e(\lambda) + \lambda e(\lambda) + 2\lambda^2 c - 2\lambda b)\phi e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_{\phi e} Q)\phi e = & (f - 2 - \phi e(e(\lambda) + 2\lambda c) - c(\phi e(\lambda) + 2\lambda b))\xi \\ & + (\phi e(\lambda) + \lambda e(\lambda) + 2\lambda^2 c - 2\lambda b)e - (\phi e(f) + 2e(\lambda))\phi e. \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

Since on  $M^3$  the Ricci tensor is assumed to be cyclic-parallel, substituting  $X$  with  $e$  and  $\phi e$ , respectively, in (1.2) we have

$$\begin{cases} e(f) + 2\phi e(\lambda) = 0, \\ \phi e(f) + 2e(\lambda) = 0. \end{cases} \tag{3.15}$$

From (3.4) and (3.5) we get  $r = -2\lambda^2 - 2 - 2f$ . By Lemma 3.5 we know that the scalar curvature is a constant, then it follows that

$$e(f) = -2\lambda e(\lambda) \text{ and } \phi e(f) = -2\lambda\phi e(\lambda).$$

Using this in (3.15) we observe that either  $\lambda = 1$  or  $\lambda$  is a positive constant not equal to 1, where we have used (3.5) and that  $\lambda$  is continuous.

Now let us consider the second case, that is,  $\lambda$  is a positive constant not equal to 1. Setting  $Y = Z$  in Equation (1.1) and using the symmetry of the Ricci tensor give

$$g((\nabla_X Q)Y, Y) + 2g((\nabla_Y Q)Y, X) = 0. \tag{3.16}$$

Putting  $X = e$  and  $Y = \phi e$  in (3.16) and using (3.11) and (3.14) we have

$$b - \lambda c = 0. \tag{3.17}$$

Similarly, putting  $X = \phi e$  and  $Y = e$  in (3.16) and using (3.10) and (3.13) we have

$$c - \lambda b = 0. \tag{3.18}$$

Since  $\lambda \neq 1$ , it follows from (3.17) and (3.18) that

$$b = c = 0$$

and using this in (3.7), (3.11) and (3.12) gives

$$(\nabla_{\xi}Q)e = 0, (\nabla_eQ)\phi e = 2\lambda(\lambda - 1)\xi, (\nabla_{\phi e}Q)\xi = 2\lambda(\lambda - 1)e,$$

where we have used  $f = 2$ . Putting  $X = e$ ,  $Y = \phi e$  and  $Z = \xi$  in equation (1.1) and using the above relation we obtain  $\lambda = 1$ , a contradiction. Then, based on the above analysis we conclude that  $\lambda = 1$ . Next we prove that in this context the cyclic-parallelism of the Ricci tensor implies the parallelism.

Putting  $X = e$  and  $Y = \phi e$  in (3.16) and using (3.11), (3.14) we get

$$b = c. \tag{3.19}$$

Using (3.5),  $\lambda = 1$  and (3.19) in the first term of Relation (3.3) we have

$$\xi(b) = 0. \tag{3.20}$$

Similarly, using  $X = \xi$  and  $Y = e$  in (3.16) and applying (3.7), (3.10) we obtain

$$f - 2 - 2e(b) - 2b^2 = 0. \tag{3.21}$$

It follows from the above relation, (3.4), and (3.19) that

$$e(b) = \phi e(b). \tag{3.22}$$

Using (3.22) and putting  $X = e$ ,  $Y = \xi$ , and  $Z = \phi e$  in (1.1) we have

$$f - 2 + 2e(b) - 2b^2 = 0.$$

Comparing the above relation with (3.21) and making use of (3.20) and (3.22) we conclude that  $b = c$  is a constant. Finally, applying  $\lambda = 1$ ,  $f = 2 + 2b^2$ , and  $b = c = \text{constant}$  in equations (3.6)–(3.14) it can be easily seen that the Ricci operator  $Q$  is parallel and hence the manifold is locally symmetric.

Because Wang [18] and Cho [3] proved that any almost Kenmotsu 3-manifold is locally symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^3(-1)$  or the product space  $\mathbb{H}^2(-4) \times \mathbb{R}$ , then the proof follows.  $\square$

*Remark 3.8.* Proposition 3.4 and Theorem 3.7 can be regarded as some generalizations of the main results proved in [3], [7] and [18].

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