



## Curvature Properties of Almost Kenmotsu Manifolds with Generalized Nullity Conditions

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**Abstract.** In this paper, it is proved that on a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  of dimension  $2n + 1$ ,  $n > 1$ , the conditions of local symmetry, semi-symmetry, pseudo-symmetry and quasi weak-symmetry are equivalent and this is also equivalent to that  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . Moreover, we also prove that a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $2n + 1$ ,  $n > 1$ , is pseudo-symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .

### 1. Introduction

It is well-known that a Riemannian manifold  $M$  is said to be locally symmetric in the sense of Cartan if its curvature tensor  $R$  is parallel with respect to its Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$ , i.e.,  $\nabla R = 0$ . Locally symmetric spaces have been a fundamental research field in differential geometry.

The notion of local symmetry was later generalized by Cartan [4] and Sinjukov [16] to the notion of semi-symmetry, i.e.,

$$R(X, Y) \cdot R = 0 \quad (1)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M$ , where the curvature operator  $R$  acts on the curvature tensor field  $R$  as a derivative. Some structure theorems on Riemannian manifolds satisfying semi-symmetry condition were obtained by Szabó [17, 18]. Obviously, a locally symmetric space is always semi-symmetric, however, in general, the converse is not necessarily true. An example of semi-symmetric but not locally symmetric Riemannian manifold was shown by Takagi [19].

In 1987, Deszcz and Grycak [6] introduced a generalization of semi-symmetry which is named pseudo-symmetry, i.e.,

$$R(X, Y) \cdot R = l_R\{(X \wedge_g Y) \cdot R\} \quad (2)$$

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for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M$ , where  $l_R$  is a smooth function on  $M$ ,  $X \wedge_g Y$  is an endomorphism field defined by

$$(X \wedge_g Y)(Z) = g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y$$

for any vector field  $Z$  on  $M$  and  $X \wedge_g Y$  acts on the curvature tensor field  $R$  as a derivative (see also Deszcz [7]). In particular, a pseudo-symmetric manifold with  $l_R = 0$  reduces to a semi-symmetric manifold. If  $l_R$  is a constant on a pseudo-symmetric manifold  $M$ , then  $M$  is said to be a pseudo-symmetric manifold of constant type. In addition, a pseudo-symmetric manifold is said to be proper if it is a non-semi-symmetric manifold.

We also observe that another generalization of local symmetry was introduced by Chaki [5] which is defined by

$$(\nabla_X R)(Y, Z, U) = 2\alpha(X)R(Y, Z)U + \alpha(Y)R(X, Z)U + \alpha(Z)R(Y, X)U + \alpha(U)R(Y, Z)X + g(X, R(Y, Z)U)P \quad (3)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z, U$ , where  $\alpha$  is a 1-form and  $P$  is a vector field related to  $\alpha$  by  $\alpha(X) = g(X, P)$ . It is easy to see that a Riemannian manifold satisfying equation (3) is locally symmetric if  $\alpha$  vanishes.

If a Riemannian manifold  $M$  satisfies equation (3), then it is also said to be pseudo-symmetric (see Tarafdar and De [23]). In order to distinguish between the above two kinds of pseudo-symmetry, in this paper, we say that a Riemannian manifold  $M$  satisfying equation (3) is a quasi weakly-symmetric manifold. The meaning of this notion comes from the fact that a quasi weakly-symmetric manifold is a special case of weakly-symmetric space in the sense of Tamásy and Binh [20, 21], which is defined by

$$(\nabla_X R)(Y, Z, U) = \alpha(X)R(Y, Z)U + \beta(Y)R(X, Z)U + \gamma(Z)R(Y, X)U + \sigma(U)R(Y, Z)X + g(X, R(Y, Z)U)P \quad (4)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z, U$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\sigma$  are 1-forms on  $M$  and  $P$  a vector field on  $M$ .

Many authors have studied almost contact metric manifolds for which curvature tensors satisfy some symmetry conditions. See, for example, Tarafdar and De [23] obtained a non-existence theorem regarding quasi weakly-symmetric  $K$ -contact metric manifold; Kenmotsu [11] proved that a locally symmetric Kenmotsu manifold is locally a hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ . Moreover, Binh et al. [2] and Özgür [13] studied semi-symmetric and weakly-symmetric Kenmotsu manifolds, respectively. After the notion of almost Kenmotsu manifolds was introduced by Janssens and Vanhecke [10], Kim and Pak [12] and Dileo and Pastore [8, 9] recently obtained some fundamental formulas and properties of such manifolds. Following their results, Aktan et al. [1] and Wang and Liu [24–26] obtained some classification theorems of some types of almost Kenmotsu manifolds with certain symmetry conditions.

In this paper, we aim to investigate generalized  $(k, \mu)'$  and  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with certain symmetry conditions. We first prove that a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $2n+1, n > 1$ , is pseudo-symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . However, we also show that without the restriction on dimension of  $M^{2n+1}$ , the above conclusion keeps correct on a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. Similarly, we also prove that on a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, the conditions of local symmetry, semi-symmetry and pseudo-symmetry are equivalent, and this is also equivalent to that  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ . Main results in this paper generalize some corresponding theorems proved in Kenmotsu [11], Binh et al. [2], Dileo and Pastore [9] and Wang and Liu [25].

## 2. Almost Kenmotsu Manifolds

According to Blair [3], an almost contact structure on a  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional smooth manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  is a triplet  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ , where  $\phi$  is a  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor field,  $\xi$  a global vector field (which is called the characteristic or the Reeb vector field) and  $\eta$  a 1-form, such that

$$\phi^2 = -\text{id} + \eta \otimes \xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1, \quad (5)$$

where  $\text{id}$  denotes the identity endomorphism. From relation (5) we obtain that  $\phi(\xi) = 0$ ,  $\eta \circ \phi = 0$  and  $\text{rank}(\phi) = 2n$ . A Riemannian metric  $g$  on  $M^{2n+1}$  satisfying

$$g(\phi X, \phi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \tag{6}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$ , is said to be compatible with the almost contact structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ . An almost contact structure endowed with a compatible Riemannian metric is said to be an almost contact metric structure. A smooth manifold furnished with an almost contact metric structure is called an almost contact metric manifold, which is denoted by  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ . 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  $Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ . We may define an almost complex structure  $J$  on the product manifold  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$  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 on  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$ . An almost contact structure is said to be normal if the above almost complex structure is integrable. According to Blair [3], the normality of an almost contact structure is expressed by  $[\phi, \phi] = -2d\eta \otimes \xi$ , where  $[\phi, \phi]$  denotes the Nijenhuis tensor of  $\phi$  which is 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  $M^{2n+1}$ .

According to Janssens and Vanhecke [10], an almost contact metric manifold such that  $d\eta = 0$  and  $d\Phi = 2\eta \wedge \Phi$  is called an almost Kenmotsu manifold. A normal almost Kenmotsu manifold is said to be a Kenmotsu manifold.

The following three tensor fields  $l = R(\cdot, \xi)\xi$ ,  $h = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\phi$  and  $h' = h \circ \phi$ , defined on an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$ , play key roles in the studies of geometry of almost Kenmotsu manifolds, where  $R$  denotes the curvature tensor of  $M^{2n+1}$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  is the Lie differentiation. According to [8, 9, 12], we see that the three  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor fields  $l, h$  and  $h'$  are all symmetric and satisfy the following equations:

$$\phi l \phi - l = 2(h^2 - \phi^2), \tag{7}$$

$$\nabla_X \xi = X - \eta(X)\xi + h'X \tag{8}$$

$$h\xi = l\xi = 0, \quad \text{tr}h = \text{tr}h' = 0, \quad h\phi + \phi h = 0. \tag{9}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ , where  $S, Q, \nabla$  and  $\text{tr}$  denote the Ricci curvature tensor, the Ricci operator with respect to  $g$ , the Levi-Civita connection of  $g$  and the trace operator, respectively.

### 3. Curvature Properties of Generalized $(k, \mu)'$ -Almost Kenmotsu Manifolds

Considering an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{D}$  the distribution defined by  $\mathcal{D} = \ker(\eta)$ . According to Dileo and Pastore [9], if the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  on  $M^{2n+1}$  satisfies the  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity condition, i.e.,

$$R(X, Y)\xi = k(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \mu(\eta(Y)h'X - \eta(X)h'Y) \tag{10}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ , where both  $k$  and  $\mu$  are constants, then  $M^{2n+1}$  is called a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold.

Moreover, according to Pastore and Saltarelli [14], if on an almost Kenmotsu manifold the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  satisfies equation (10) for two smooth functions  $k$  and  $\mu$ , then  $M^{2n+1}$  is called a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. In both cases, it follows directly from equation (10) that

$$R(\xi, X)Y = k(g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X) + \mu(g(h'X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)h'X) \tag{11}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$ . A generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold is said to be proper if  $k$  and  $\mu$  are not constants.

Noticing that the class of generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds includes the set of  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds and the set of  $k$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds (see Pastore and Saltarelli [15]) as its proper subsets.

In this section, we shall consider  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  being a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, substituting  $Y$  with  $\xi$  in equation (10) gives  $l = -k\phi^2 + \mu h'$ . Putting this relation into (7) yields that

$$h'^2 = (k + 1)\phi^2. \tag{12}$$

It follows from equation (12) that  $\lambda^2 = -(k + 1)$ , hence we have  $k \leq -1$  and  $\lambda = \pm \sqrt{-k - 1}$ .

**Lemma 3.1 ([9, Proposition 4.1]).** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold such that  $h' \neq 0$ . If  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric, then it is locally isometric to the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .*

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$ , then  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .*

*Proof.* In fact, if  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric, applying [8, Proposition 6] we have that  $\nabla_{\xi} h = 0$ . Then, making use of it in [14, Proposition 3.1] we have  $\mu = -2$  and using this in [14, Proposition 3.2] we obtain that  $\xi(k) = X(k) = 0$  for any  $X \in \mathcal{D}$ , which implies that  $k$  is also a constant. Hence, from Lemma 3.1 we see that  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to either  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . Conversely, according to Dileo and Pastore [9, Remark 4.1], we know that the product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally symmetric. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Making use of the Dileo and Pastore [9, Proposition 4.2], Wang and Liu [25] obtained the following result.

**Lemma 3.3 ([25, Theorems 1.1, 1.2]).** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. If  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric, then it is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .*

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. Then  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric if and only if it is semi-symmetric.*

*Proof.* The proof follows from Lemma 3.3 and Dileo and Pastore [9, Remark 4.1], i.e., the product manifold  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$  is locally symmetric and hence semi-symmetric. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Next, we present the following result by showing the equivalence between pseudo-symmetry and semi-symmetry on a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, then  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric if and only if it is semi-symmetric.*

*Proof.* The semi-symmetry implies pseudo-symmetry is trivial. In what follows, we assume that  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric, i.e., equation (2) holds. Then we have  $(R(X, Y) \cdot R)(U, V, W) = l_R\{(X \wedge_g Y) \cdot R\}(U, V, W)$  for any vector fields  $X, Y, U, V, W$ . Substituting  $Y = U$  with  $\xi$ , the pseudo-symmetry condition becomes

$$(R(X, \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) = l_R\{(X \wedge_g \xi) \cdot R\}(\xi, V, W) \tag{13}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . Since the curvature operator  $R(X, \xi)$  acts on the curvature tensor field  $R$  as a derivative, then we have

$$(R(X, \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) = R(X, \xi)R(\xi, V)W - R(R(X, \xi)\xi, V)W - R(\xi, R(X, \xi)V)W - R(\xi, V)R(X, \xi)W \tag{14}$$

We shall compute the left hand side of equation (13) by using equation (14) and some relations which were already shown in Wang and Liu [25, Proof of Theorem 1.1] (noticing that these relations keep correct in a

generalized  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifolds). For the sake of completeness, we present these relations as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(X, \xi)R(\xi, V)W = & [-k^2g(V, W)\eta(X) + k^2\eta(W)g(X, V) + 2k\mu\eta(W)g(h'V, X) \\
 & - k\mu\eta(X)g(h'V, W) + \mu^2\eta(W)g(h'^2X, V)]\xi \\
 & + k^2g(V, W)X + k\mu g(V, W)h'X - k^2\eta(V)\eta(W)X \\
 & - k\mu\eta(V)\eta(W)h'X + k\mu g(h'V, W)X + \mu^2g(h'V, W)h'X,
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(R(X, \xi)\xi, V)W = & - [k^2\eta(X)g(V, W) + k\mu\eta(X)g(h'V, W)]\xi + kR(X, V)W \\
 & + \mu R(h'X, V)W + k^2\eta(X)\eta(W)V + k\mu\eta(X)\eta(W)h'V,
 \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(\xi, R(X, \xi)V)W = & [k^2\eta(V)g(X, W) + k\mu\eta(V)g(h'X, W) + k\mu\eta(V)g(h'X, W) + \mu^2\eta(V)g(h'^2X, W)]\xi \\
 & - k^2\eta(V)\eta(W)X - 2k\mu\eta(V)\eta(W)h'X - \mu^2\eta(V)\eta(W)h'^2X
 \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(\xi, V)R(X, \xi)W = & [-k^2\eta(V)g(X, W) + k^2\eta(W)g(X, V) + 2k\mu\eta(W)g(h'X, V) \\
 & - k\mu\eta(V)g(h'X, W) + \mu^2\eta(W)g(h'^2X, V)]\xi + k^2g(X, W)V \\
 & + k\mu g(X, W)h'V - k^2\eta(X)\eta(W)V - k\mu\eta(X)\eta(W)h'V \\
 & + k\mu g(h'X, W)V + \mu^2g(h'X, W)h'V,
 \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ , where equations (10) and (11) have been used. Making use of equations (15)-(18) in (14) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (R(X, \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) = & -kR(X, V)W - \mu R(h'X, V)W + k^2g(V, W)X + k\mu g(h'V, W)X \\
 & + k\mu g(V, W)h'X + k\mu\eta(V)\eta(W)h'X + \mu^2\eta(V)\eta(W)h'^2X \\
 & + \mu^2g(h'V, W)h'X - k^2g(X, W)V - k\mu g(h'X, W)V \\
 & - \mu^2g(h'X, W)h'V - k\mu g(X, W)h'V \\
 & - [k\mu\eta(V)g(h'X, W) + \mu^2\eta(V)g(h'^2X, W)]\xi
 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . On the other hand, since the operator  $X \wedge_g \xi$  acts on curvature tensor field  $R$  as also a derivative, then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 ((X \wedge_g \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) = & (X \wedge_g \xi)(R(\xi, V)W) - R((X \wedge_g \xi)(\xi), V)W \\
 & - R(\xi, (X \wedge_g \xi)(V))W - R(\xi, V)(X \wedge_g \xi)(W)
 \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . Next, we compute the right hand side of equation (13) by using (20) and the following relations

$$\begin{aligned}
 (X \wedge_g \xi)(R(\xi, V)W) = & kg(V, W)X - k\eta(V)\eta(W)X + \mu g(h'V, W)X - k\eta(X)g(V, W)\xi \\
 & + k\eta(W)g(X, V)\xi - \mu\eta(X)g(h'V, W)\xi + \mu\eta(W)g(h'X, V)\xi,
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R((X \wedge_g \xi)(\xi), V)W = & R(X, V)W - k\eta(X)g(V, W)\xi - \mu\eta(X)g(h'V, W)\xi + k\eta(X)\eta(W)V \\
 & + \mu\eta(X)\eta(W)h'V,
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

$$R(\xi, (X \wedge_g \xi)(V))W = \eta(V)(kg(X, W) + \mu g(h'X, W))\xi - k\eta(V)\eta(W)X - \mu\eta(V)\eta(W)h'X, \tag{23}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(\xi, V)(X \wedge_g \xi)(W) = & k\eta(W)g(X, V)\xi + \mu\eta(W)g(h'X, V)\xi - k\eta(V)g(X, W)\xi \\
 & - k\eta(X)\eta(W)V + kg(X, W)V - \mu\eta(X)\eta(W)h'V + \mu g(X, W)h'V,
 \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ , where equations (10) and (11) have been used. Putting equations (21)-(24) into (20) yields that

$$\begin{aligned} (X \wedge_g \xi) \cdot R(\xi, V, W) &= -R(X, V)W - kg(X, W)V - \mu g(X, W)h'V \\ &\quad + \mu g(h'V, W)X + kg(V, W)X + \mu \eta(V)\eta(W)h'X \\ &\quad - \eta(V)(2kg(X, W) + \mu g(h'X, W))\xi \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . In view of equation (12), next we shall separate our discussions into two cases as follows:

*Case I:  $k = -1$ .* In this case we have  $h = 0$  and using it in (19) and (25) gives two equations, putting the two equations in (13) yields that

$$R(X, V)W + g(V, W)X - g(X, W)V = l_R\{-R(X, V)W + g(X, W)V - g(V, W)X + 2\eta(V)g(X, W)\xi\} \tag{26}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . Using  $h = 0$  and  $k = -1$  in (10) gives

$$R(X, V)\xi = -\eta(V)X + \eta(X)V \tag{27}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V$ . Thus, substituting  $W$  with  $\xi$  in equation (26) and taking into account equation (27) yields that  $2l_R\eta(X)\eta(V)\xi = 0$  holds for any vector fields  $X, V$ , and hence we have  $l_R = 0$ , which means that  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric.

*Case II:  $k < -1$ .* In this case we have  $h \neq 0$ , substituting  $W$  with  $\xi$  in equation (19) gives

$$\begin{aligned} (R(X, \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) &= k^2\eta(V)X + 2k\mu\eta(V)h'X + \mu^2\eta(V)h'^2X - k^2\eta(X)V - k\mu\eta(X)h'V \\ &\quad - kR(X, V)\xi - \mu R(h'X, V)\xi \end{aligned}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . By using equation (10) in the above equation we have that  $(R(X, \xi) \cdot R)(\xi, V, W) = 0$ . On the other hand, substituting  $W$  with  $\xi$  in equation (25) and making use of (10) we have  $(X \wedge_g \xi) \cdot R(\xi, V, W) = -2k\eta(X)\eta(V)\xi$  for any vector fields  $X, V$ , then it follows from equation (13) that  $-2kl_R\eta(X)\eta(V)\xi = 0$  and hence we have  $l_R = 0$ . Therefore, we conclude that  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric. This completes the proof.  $\square$

From equation (12), in case of  $h \neq 0$ , we denote by  $[\lambda]'$  and  $[-\lambda]'$  the eigenspaces associated with  $h'$  corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and  $-\lambda$ , respectively, where we assume that  $\lambda = \sqrt{-k-1} > 0$ . Thus, we have

**Lemma 3.6 ([14, Theorem 5.1]).** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$  such that  $h \neq 0$ . Then, for any  $X_\lambda, Y_\lambda, Z_\lambda \in [\lambda]'$  and  $X_{-\lambda}, Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda} \in [-\lambda]'$ , the Riemannian curvature tensor  $R$  satisfies :*

$$\begin{aligned} R(X_\lambda, Y_\lambda)Z_{-\lambda} &= 0, \\ R(X_{-\lambda}, Y_{-\lambda})Z_\lambda &= 0, \\ R(X_\lambda, Y_{-\lambda})Z_\lambda &= (k+2)g(X_\lambda, Z_\lambda)Y_{-\lambda}, \\ R(X_\lambda, Y_{-\lambda})Z_{-\lambda} &= -(k+2)g(Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})X_\lambda, \\ R(X_\lambda, Y_\lambda)Z_\lambda &= (k-2\lambda)[g(Y_\lambda, Z_\lambda)X_\lambda - g(X_\lambda, Z_\lambda)Y_\lambda], \\ R(X_{-\lambda}, Y_{-\lambda})Z_{-\lambda} &= (k+2\lambda)[g(Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})X_{-\lambda} - g(X_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})Y_{-\lambda}]. \end{aligned}$$

Our main result in this paper can be stated as follows:

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric, i.e.,  $\nabla R = 0$ .
- (2)  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric, i.e.,  $R \cdot R = 0$ .
- (3)  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric, i.e.,  $R(X, Y) \cdot R = l_R\{(X \wedge_g Y) \cdot R\}$ .
- (4)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Proof.* According to Corollary 3.2 and Lemma 3.5 we have (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) and (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3). Since (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is trivial, to complete the proof it is necessary to prove that a semi-symmetric generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$  is locally isometric to either  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . We still separate the discussions into two cases as follows:

*Case 1:*  $h \neq 0$ . In this case, by (12) we have  $k < -1$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Letting  $X, V, W \in [\lambda]'$  in equation (19), applying Lemma 3.6 and noticing that  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric, then we have

$$k\mu + 2k + \mu^2\lambda + 2\mu\lambda = 0. \tag{28}$$

Similarly, letting  $X, V, W \in [-\lambda]'$  in equation (19) and applying Lemma 3.6 we obtain

$$-k\mu - 2k + \mu^2\lambda + 2\mu\lambda = 0. \tag{29}$$

Adding (28) to (29) and using  $h \neq 0$  gives that either  $\mu = 0$  or  $\mu = -2$ . Making use of  $\mu = 0$  in (28) we get  $k = 0$ , a contradiction. Applying  $\mu = -2$  in [14, Proposition 3.2] we see that  $k$  is also a constant. This means that  $M^{2n+1}$  is a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, the remaining proof follows from [25, Theorem 1.1].

*Case 2:*  $h = 0$ . By equation (12) we have  $k = -1$ , using it in equation (19) we have  $R(X, V)W = -g(V, W)X + g(X, W)V$  for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, then  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric if and only if it is quasi weakly-symmetric.*

*Proof.* The local symmetry implies quasi weak-symmetry is trivial. Next, suppose that  $M^{2n+1}$  is quasi weakly-symmetric, i.e., equation (3) holds. Noticing that a  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution is a special case of a  $(k, \mu, \nu)$ -nullity distribution, then, in this context, in view of  $k \leq -1$  being a constant we may apply [1, Theorem 3.1] and obtain that  $4\alpha = \frac{X(k)}{k} = 0$  and hence  $P = 0$ . Using this in equation (3) we obtain  $\nabla R = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric.
- (2)  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric.
- (3)  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric.
- (4)  $M^{2n+1}$  is quasi weakly-symmetric, i.e., (3) holds.
- (5)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to either the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  or the Riemannian product  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Proof.* From Corollary 3.2 we know that (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (5). Moreover, (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) and (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) were already shown in Lemma 3.8 and Lemma 3.5, respectively. From Corollary 3.3 we have (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (5). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.10.** *A Kenmotsu manifold is pseudo-symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .*

From Dileo and Pastore [8, Proposition 2], we see that an almost Kenmotsu manifold is Kenmotsu if and only if  $h = 0$  and the integral manifolds of  $\mathcal{D}$  are Kählerian. Then the above result follows directly from Theorem 3.9.

#### 4. Curvature properties of generalized $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds

Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be an almost Kenmotsu manifold, if the Reeb vector field  $\xi$  satisfies the generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -nullity condition, i.e.,

$$R(X, Y)\xi = k(\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y) + \mu(\eta(Y)hX - \eta(X)hY) \tag{30}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  and certain smooth functions  $k$  and  $\mu$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ , then we say that  $M^{2n+1}$  is a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold (see Pastore and Saltarelli [14]). In particular, if both  $k$  and  $\mu$  in equation (30) are constants, then  $M^{2n+1}$  is to be a  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold (see Dileo and Pastore [9]). As shown in Section 3, on a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold we see that equation (12) keeps correct and by (30) we have

$$R(\xi, X)Y = k(g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X) + \mu(g(hX, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)hX) \tag{31}$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$ . Noticing that a  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold satisfies  $h = 0$  and  $k = -1$ .

**Lemma 4.1 ([9, Theorem 4.1]).** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. If  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric, then it is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .*

The above result was generalized to the following

**Lemma 4.2 ([15, 25]).** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold. If  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric, then it is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .*

In this section, we shall give another result extending Lemma 4.1 and Lemma 4.2.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$ . Then  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric if and only if it is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .*

*Proof.* The hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$  is locally symmetric. Proceeding similarly to that of Lemma 3.5 and using  $R \cdot R = 0$  we

$$\begin{aligned} &kR(X, V)W + \mu R(hX, V)W - k^2g(V, W)X - k\mu g(hV, W)X \\ &- k\mu g(V, W)hX - k\mu\eta(V)\eta(W)hX - \mu^2\eta(V)\eta(W)h^2X \\ &- \mu^2g(hV, W)hX + k^2g(X, W)V + k\mu g(hX, W)V + \mu^2g(hX, W)hV \\ &+ k\mu g(X, W)hV + [k\mu\eta(V)g(hX, W) + \mu^2\eta(V)g(h^2X, W)]\xi = 0 \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

for any vector fields  $X, V, W$ .

In case of  $k < -1$ , i.e.,  $h \neq 0$ , by (12) we denote by  $[\lambda]$  and  $[-\lambda]$  the eigenspaces associated with  $h$  corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and  $-\lambda$ , respectively, where  $\lambda = \sqrt{-k-1} > 0$ . According to Pastore and Saltarelli [14, Theorem 4.1] we have

$$\begin{aligned} R(X_\lambda, Y_{-\lambda})Z_\lambda &= g(X_\lambda, Z_\lambda)Y_{-\lambda} + \lambda^2g(\phi Y_{-\lambda}, Z_\lambda)\phi X_\lambda \\ &+ \lambda(g(X_\lambda, Z_\lambda)\phi Y_{-\lambda} - g(\phi Y_{-\lambda}, Z_\lambda)X_\lambda) \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} R(X_{-\lambda}, Y_{-\lambda})Z_{-\lambda} &= -g(Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})X_{-\lambda} + g(X_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})Y_{-\lambda} \\ &- \lambda(g(Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})\phi X_{-\lambda} - g(X_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda})\phi Y_{-\lambda}) \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

for any  $X_\lambda, Y_\lambda, Z_\lambda \in [\lambda]$  and  $X_{-\lambda}, Y_{-\lambda}, Z_{-\lambda} \in [-\lambda]$ .

Now, letting  $X, W \in [\lambda]$  and  $V \in [-\lambda]$  in equation (32) we have

$$(k + \lambda\mu + k^2 - \lambda^2\mu^2)g(X, W)V + \lambda^2(k + \lambda\mu)g(\phi V, W)\phi X - \lambda(k + \lambda\mu)g(\phi V, W)X + \lambda(k + \lambda\mu)g(X, W)\phi V = 0.$$

Choosing  $X = \phi V \in [\lambda]$  in the above relation and taking into account  $\lambda^2 = -k - 1$  and  $h \neq 0$  we obtain

$$(k + \lambda\mu)(2\lambda + \mu) = 0. \tag{35}$$

Next, letting  $X, V, W \in [-\lambda]$  in equation (32) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (-k + \lambda\mu - k^2 + 2\lambda k\mu - \lambda^2\mu^2)g(V, W)X - \lambda(k - \lambda\mu)g(V, W)\phi X \\ & + (k - \lambda\mu + k^2 - 2\lambda k\mu + \lambda^2\mu^2)g(X, W)V + \lambda(k - \lambda\mu)g(X, W)\phi V = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Assuming that  $V \in [-\lambda]$  and  $W \in [-\lambda]$  in the above relation are orthogonal, in view of  $h \neq 0$ , then we have

$$k - \lambda\mu = 0. \quad (36)$$

Making use of (36) in (35) gives that either  $k = 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ , or,  $k = -2$  and  $\mu = -2$ . However, if  $k$  is a constant, applying Pastore and Saltarelli [14, Proposition 3.2] we obtain  $k = -1$  and hence by (12) we have  $h = 0$ , a contradiction. Moreover,  $k = 0$  contradicts to  $h \neq 0$  ( $\Leftrightarrow k < -1$ ).

From the above analyses we get  $h = 0$ , then  $M^{2n+1}$  turns out to be a generalized  $(k, 0)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, the remaining proof follows from Theorem 3.7. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold, then  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric if and only if it is semi-symmetric.*

*Proof.* We omit the proof since it is very similarly to that of Lemma 3.5.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a generalized  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally symmetric.
- (2)  $M^{2n+1}$  is semi-symmetric.
- (3)  $M^{2n+1}$  is pseudo-symmetric.
- (4)  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to the hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}^{2n+1}(-1)$ .

*Proof.* The proof follows directly from Lemma 4.3 and Lemma 4.4.  $\square$

Finally, we remark that conclusions of Theorem 4.5 still hold on a  $(k, \mu)$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold of dimension  $\geq 3$ .

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