

**CONCIRCULAR CURVATURE TENSOR ON ALMOST  
KENMOTSU MANIFOLDS ADMITTING  
THE NULLITY DISTRIBUTIONS**

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**Abstract:** The object of the present paper is to study almost Kenmotsu manifolds with characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to some nullity distributions, considering concircular curvature tensor. Locally  $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifolds, concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifolds and locally concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds are studied. And we have obtained some interesting results.

**Keywords and Phrases:** Almost Kenmotsu manifolds, Nullity distributions, Concircular curvature tensor.

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## **1. Introduction**

Nowadays the study of nullity distributions occupies an important position in differential geometry. In 1966, Gray [10] introduced the notion of  $k$ -nullity

distribution and later studied by Tanno [18] on a Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$ , and is defined for any  $p \in M$  and  $k \in \mathfrak{R}$  as follows:

$$N_p(k) = \{Z \in T_pM : R(X, Y)Z = k[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y]\}, \quad (1.1)$$

for any  $X, Y \in T_pM$ , where  $T_pM$  denotes the tangent vector space of  $M$  at any point  $p \in M$  and  $R$  denotes the Riemannian curvature tensor of type  $(1, 3)$ . Moreover, if  $k$  is a smooth function then the distribution is called generalized  $k$ -nullity distribution.

Later, Blair, Koufogiorgos and Papantoniou [4] introduced a generalized notion of  $k$ -nullity distribution called  $(k, \mu)$ -nullity distribution on a contact metric manifold  $M^{2n+1}$ , and is defined for any  $p \in M^{2n+1}$  and  $(k, \mu) \in \mathfrak{R}^2$  as follows:

$$N_p(k, \mu) = \{Z \in T_pM^{2n+1} : R(X, Y)Z = k[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] + \mu[g(Y, Z)hX - g(X, Z)hY]\}, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $h = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\phi$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  denotes the Lie differentiation.

A new class of almost contact metric manifolds, called Kenmotsu manifolds, have been introduced and studied by Kenmotsu in 1972 [11]. An almost contact metric manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with 1-form  $\eta$  and fundamental 2-form  $\Phi$  defined by  $\Phi(X, Y) = g(X, \phi Y)$ , where  $\phi$  is a  $(1, 1)$  tensor field such that  $d\eta = 0$  and  $d\Phi = 2\eta \wedge \Phi$  is called almost Kenmotsu manifold. The normality of an almost contact metric manifold is given by vanishing the  $(1, 2)$ -type torsion tensor  $N = [\phi, \phi] + 2d\eta \otimes \xi$ , where  $[\phi, \phi]$  is the Nijenhuis torsion of  $\phi$  [3]. According to [11], the normality of an almost Kenmotsu manifold is given by

$$(\nabla_X\phi)Y = g(\phi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\phi X, \quad (1.3)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ .

Dileo and Pastore [8] introduced another generalized notion of the  $k$ -nullity distribution called  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution on an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  and is defined for any  $p \in M^{2n+1}$  and  $(k, \mu) \in \mathfrak{R}^2$  as follows:

$$N_p(k, \mu)' = \{Z \in T_pM^{2n+1} : R(X, Y)Z = k[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] + \mu[g(Y, Z)h'X - g(X, Z)h'Y]\}, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $h' = h \circ \phi$ . Recently, Dileo et al. ([8], [9]), Wang et al. ([21], [22], [23], [24]) and De et al. [12] obtained some important results on almost Kenmotsu manifolds with characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to some nullity distributions. In [6], De and Mandal proved some interesting results on locally  $\phi$ -conformally symmetric

almost Kenmotsu manifolds. In this paper, we study almost Kenmotsu manifolds with concircular curvature tensor  $C$  given by [25]

$$C(X, Y)Z = R(X, Y)Z - \frac{r}{2n(2n+1)} \left[ g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y \right], \quad (1.5)$$

where  $X, Y, Z$  are any vector fields and  $r$  is the scalar curvature.

The concircular curvature tensor has a lot of importance in differential geometry. Several researchers have made a remarkable contribution to its study. From the Riemannian viewpoint, the concircular curvature tensor is the most significant curvature tensor of type  $(1, 3)$ . Blair et al. [5] have studied the concircular curvature tensor on  $N(\kappa)$ -contact metric manifolds. Singh and Kothari [16] have studied the Tachibana concircular curvature tensor equivalent to the concircular curvature tensor of the Riemannian space. In [19], classification of  $(\kappa, \mu)$ -manifolds is discussed, and they [19] considered that concircular curvature tensor  $Z$  satisfies the equation  $Z(\xi, X) \cdot S = 0$ , where  $S$  denotes the Ricci tensor. Generalized Sasakian space forms are studied in [2] considering certain conditions on the concircular curvature tensor. Özgür and Tripathi [13] have discussed the concircular curvature tensor on  $N(k)$ -quasi Einstein manifolds and obtained a necessary and sufficient condition for an  $N(k)$ -quasi Einstein manifold to satisfy the condition  $R(\xi, X) \cdot Z = 0$ , where  $R$  and  $Z$  denote, respectively, Riemannian curvature tensor and concircular curvature tensor. The classification of  $P$ -Sasakian manifolds is studied in [14] based on certain conditions satisfied by the concircular curvature tensor. In [1], perfect fluid space-times are studied considering vanishing concircular curvature tensor. The present paper deals with the concircular curvature tensor on almost Kenmotsu manifolds.

The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we give some basic formulas and properties of almost Kenmotsu manifolds. In Section 3, we study locally  $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifolds with  $\xi$  belonging to some nullity distributions. Section 4 is concerned with the study of concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Section 5 deals with the locally concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Some important conclusions are summarized in Section 6.

## 2. Almost Kenmotsu manifolds and nullity distributions

Let  $M^{2n+1}$  be an almost Kenmotsu manifold with structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ , where  $\phi$  is a  $(1, 1)$  tensor field,  $\xi$  a characteristic vector field,  $\eta$  a 1-form and  $g$  a Riemannian metric such that [3]

$$\phi^2(X) = -X + \eta(X)\xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1, \quad \eta \circ \phi = 0, \quad \phi\xi = 0, \quad g(X, \xi) = \eta(X), \quad (2.1)$$

$$g(\phi X, \phi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y), \quad (2.2)$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ . Let  $D$  be the distribution orthogonal to  $\xi$  and defined by  $D = \text{Ker}(\eta) = \text{Im}(\phi)$ . The two tensor fields  $h = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\phi$  and  $l = R(\cdot, \xi)\xi$  on an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  are symmetric and satisfy the following relations [15]

$$h\xi = 0, \quad l\xi = 0, \quad \text{tr}(h\phi) = 0, \quad h\phi + \phi h = 0, \quad (2.3)$$

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\phi^2 X - \phi h X, \quad (2.4)$$

$$\phi l \phi - l = 2(h^2 - \phi^2), \quad (2.5)$$

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

$$R(X, Y)\xi = \eta(X)(Y - \phi h Y) - \eta(Y)(X - \phi h X) + (\nabla_Y \phi h)X - (\nabla_X \phi h)Y, \quad (2.7)$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ .

Now we give some basic properties on almost Kenmotsu manifolds with  $\xi$  belonging to the  $(k, \mu)$ '-nullity distribution. The  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor field  $h'$  satisfies  $h'\phi + \phi h' = 0$  and  $h'\xi = 0$ . Also it is known that

$$h = 0 \Leftrightarrow h' = 0, \quad h'^2 = (k+1)\phi^2 \quad (\Leftrightarrow h^2 = (k+1)\phi^2). \quad (2.8)$$

For an almost Kenmotsu manifold, we have from (1.4)

$$R(X, Y)\xi = k[\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y] + \mu[\eta(Y)h'X - \eta(X)h'Y], \quad (2.9)$$

$$R(\xi, X)Y = k[g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X] + \mu[g(h'X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)h'X], \quad (2.10)$$

where  $k, \mu \in \mathfrak{R}$ . Contracting  $Y$  in (2.10), we get

$$S(X, \xi) = 2k\eta(X). \quad (2.11)$$

Let  $X \in D$  be the eigenvector of  $h'$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  and orthogonal to  $\xi$ . It follows from (2.8) that  $\lambda^2 = -(k+1)$ , a constant. Therefore,  $k \leq -1$  and  $\lambda = \pm\sqrt{-k-1}$ . We denote  $[\lambda]'$  and  $[-\lambda]'$  as the corresponding eigenspaces associated with  $h'$  corresponding to the non-zero eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and  $-\lambda$  respectively. We have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** ([8], Proposition 4.1]) *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be an almost Kenmotsu manifold such that  $\xi$  belongs to the  $(k, \mu)$ '-nullity distribution and  $h' \neq 0$ . Then  $k < -1$ ,  $\mu = -2$  and  $\text{Spec}(h') = \{0, \lambda, -\lambda\}$  with 0 as simple eigenvalue and  $\lambda = \sqrt{-k-1}$ . The distributions  $[\xi] \oplus [\lambda]'$  and  $[\xi] \oplus [-\lambda]'$  are integrable with totally geodesic leaves. The distributions  $[\lambda]'$  and  $[-\lambda]'$  are integrable with totally umbilical*

leaves.

**Lemma 2.2.** ([8], Lemma 4.1) *Let  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be an almost Kenmotsu manifold with  $h' \neq 0$  and  $\xi$  belongs to the  $(k, -2)'$ -nullity distribution. Then for every  $X, Y \in T_pM$ ,*

$$(\nabla_X h')Y = -g(h'X + h'^2X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)(h'X + h'^2X). \tag{2.12}$$

According to Takahashi [17] and De et al. [7], we have the following definitions:

**Definition 2.1.** *An almost Kenmotsu manifold is said to be  $\phi$ -symmetric if it satisfies*

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z) = 0, \tag{2.13}$$

for all vector fields  $W, X, Y, Z \in T_pM$ . In addition, if the vector fields  $W, X, Y, Z$  are orthogonal to  $\xi$ , then the manifold is called locally  $\phi$ -symmetric.

**Definition 2.2.** *An almost Kenmotsu manifold is said to be  $\phi$ -recurrent if it satisfies*

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z) = A(W)R(X, Y)Z, \tag{2.14}$$

for all vector fields  $W, X, Y, Z \in T_pM$ . In (2.14), if the vector fields  $W, X, Y, Z$  are orthogonal to  $\xi$ , then the manifold is called locally  $\phi$ -recurrent.

### 3. Locally $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifolds

Consider a locally  $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifold with  $\xi$  belongs to  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution. Then we have

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z) = 0, \tag{3.1}$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y, Z, W$  orthogonal to  $\xi$ .

Putting  $Z = \xi$  in (3.1), we get

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)\xi) = 0. \tag{3.2}$$

By the influence of (1.5) and (2.9) in (3.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{(k+1)2n}{2n+1} [(\nabla_W \eta)(Y)\phi^2 X - (\nabla_W \eta)(X)\phi^2 Y] + \mu [(\nabla_W \eta)(Y)\phi^2(h'X) \\ &\quad + \eta(Y)\phi^2((\nabla_W h')X) - (\nabla_W \eta)X\phi^2(h'Y) - \eta(X)\phi^2((\nabla_W h')Y)]. \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Using (2.1), (2.4) and (2.12) in (3.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{(k+1)2n}{2n+1} [\{g(Y, W) + g(h'W, Y)\}(-X) + \{g(X, W) + g(h'W, X)\}Y] \\ &\quad + \mu [(-h'X)\{g(Y, W) + g(h'W, Y)\} + h'Y\{g(X, W) + g(h'W, X)\}]. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Making use of proposition (4.1) from [10], we get

$$0 = \frac{(k+1)2n}{2n+1} [\{g(Y, W) + g(h'W, Y)\}(-X) + \{g(X, W) + g(h'W, X)\}Y] \\ - 2[(-h'X)\{g(Y, W) + g(h'W, Y)\} + h'Y\{g(X, W) + g(h'W, X)\}]. \quad (3.5)$$

Letting  $X, Y, W \in [-\lambda]'$  in (3.5), we have

$$\left[\frac{(k+1)2n}{2n+1} + 2\lambda\right](1-\lambda)[g(X, W)Y - g(Y, W)X] = 0. \quad (3.6)$$

Again from proposition (4.1) of [10], we have  $k < -1$  and hence  $\lambda > 0$ . Therefore from (3.6), we get  $\lambda = 1$  and  $k = -2$ . Hence from theorem (4.1) of [6], one can state the following:

**Theorem 3.1.** *A locally  $\phi$ -conircularly symmetric  $(2n+1)$ -dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  ( $n > 1$ ) with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to the  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution and  $h' \neq 0$  is locally isometric to the Riemannian product of an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional manifold of constant sectional curvature  $-4$  and a flat  $n$ -dimensional manifold.*

Now we consider locally  $\phi$ -conircularly symmetric  $(2n+1)$ -dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  ( $n > 1$ ) with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to the  $(k, \mu)$ -nullity distribution. Then we have

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z) = 0, \quad (3.7)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y, Z, W$  orthogonal to  $\xi$ .

Putting  $X = \xi$  in (3.7), we get

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(\xi, Y)Z) = 0. \quad (3.8)$$

Using (1.5), (2.4) and (2.1) in (3.8), we obtain

$$0 = \frac{dr(W)}{2n(2n+1)} [\{-Y + \eta(Y)\xi\}]\eta(Z) + \left[1 + \frac{r}{2n(2n+1)}\right] [\{g(Z, W) \\ - \eta(Z)\eta(W)\}]\{-Y + \eta(Y)\xi\} - g(Y, Z)\{-W + \eta(W)\xi\}. \quad (3.9)$$

Since  $Y, Z, W$  are orthogonal to  $\xi$ , we have from (3.9) that

$$\left[1 + \frac{r}{2n(2n+1)}\right] [g(Y, Z)W - g(Z, W)Y] = 0. \quad (3.10)$$

This implies that

$$r = -2n(2n + 1). \tag{3.11}$$

Thus we can state the following:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $M^{2n+1}(n > 1)$  be a locally  $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifold with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to the  $(k, \mu)$ -nullity distribution. Then the scalar curvature of  $M^{2n+1}$  is  $-2n(2n + 1)$ .*

#### 4. Concircularly $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifolds

**Definition 4.1.** *An almost Kenmotsu manifold is concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent if there exists a non-zero 1-form  $A$  such that*

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z) = A(W)C(X, Y)Z, \tag{4.1}$$

for all vector fields  $X, Y, Z, W$ .

Now consider a concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifold. Then using (2.1) in (4.1), we have

$$-(\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z + \eta((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z)\xi = A(W)C(X, Y)Z. \tag{4.2}$$

Taking innerproduct of (4.2) with  $U$  and in view of (1.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & -g((\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z, U) + \eta((\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z)\eta(U) + \frac{dr(W)}{2n(2n + 1)} \\ & [g(Y, Z)g(X, U) - g(X, Z)g(Y, U) + g(X, Z)\eta(Y)\eta(U) - g(Y, Z)\eta(X)\eta(U)] \\ & = A(W)\{g(R(X, Y)Z, U) - \frac{r}{2n(2n + 1)}[g(Y, Z)g(X, U) - g(X, Z)g(Y, U)]\}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

Putting  $X = U = e_i$  in (4.3), where  $e_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n + 1$  is an orthonormal basis of the tangent space at each point of the manifold and taking summation over  $i$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -(\nabla_W S)(Y, Z) + \eta((\nabla_W R)(\xi, Y)Z) + \frac{dr(W)}{2n(2n + 1)}[(2n - 1)g(Y, Z) + \eta(Y)\eta(Z)] \\ & = A(W)[S(Y, Z) - \frac{r}{2n + 1}g(Y, Z)]. \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

Setting  $Y = Z = \xi$  in (4.4), we obtain

$$(\nabla_W S)(\xi, \xi) = \frac{dr(W)}{2n + 1} - A(W)[S(\xi, \xi) - \frac{r}{2n + 1}]. \tag{4.5}$$

Using lemma (3) of [23] in (4.5), we get

$$4n^2(k+1)A(W) = dr(W). \quad (4.6)$$

If  $r$  is a constant, then we have  $A(W) = 0$  or  $k = -1$ . Further if  $k = -1$ , then  $h' = 0$  and  $h = 0$ . This is contradiction to the assumption that  $h' \neq 0, h \neq 0$ . Therefore we can state the following:

**Theorem 4.1.** *A concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belonging to the  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution is concircularly  $\phi$ -symmetric provided the scalar curvature  $r$  is a constant.*

## 5. Locally concircularly $\phi$ -recurrent three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifolds

**Definition 5.1.** *Concircular curvature tensor  $C$  on a three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold is given by*

$$C(X, Y)Z = R(X, Y)Z - \frac{r}{6}[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] \quad (5.1)$$

A three-dimensional almost Kenmotsu manifold is said to be locally concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent if

$$\phi^2((\nabla_W C)(X, Y)Z) = A(W)C(X, Y)Z. \quad (5.2)$$

For a three-dimensional Riemannian manifold, we have [20]

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y)Z &= S(Y, Z)X - S(X, Z)Y + g(Y, Z)QX - g(X, Z)QY \\ &\quad - \frac{r}{2}[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y]. \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

For  $\xi \in (k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution, equation (5.3) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y)Z &= \left(\frac{r}{2} - 2k\right)[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{r}{2} - 3k\right)[g(Y, Z)\eta(X)\xi - g(X, Z)\eta(Y)\xi + \eta(Y)\eta(Z)X - \eta(X)\eta(Z)Y] \\ &\quad - 2g(Y, Z)h'X + 2g(X, Z)h'Y - 2g(h'Y, Z)X + 2g(h'X, Z)Y. \end{aligned} \quad (5.4)$$

Taking covariant derivative of (5.4) with respect to  $W$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z &= \frac{dr(W)}{2}[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)\eta(X)\xi - g(X, Z)\eta(Y)\xi \\ &\quad + \eta(Y)\eta(Z)X - \eta(X)\eta(Z)Y] - \left(\frac{r}{2} - 3k\right)[g(Y, Z)\{\nabla_W \eta(X)\xi + \eta(X)\nabla_W \xi\} \\ &\quad - g(X, Z)\{(\nabla_W \eta)(Y)\xi + \eta(Y)\nabla_W \xi\} + (\nabla_W \eta)(Y)\eta(Z)X + \eta(Y)(\nabla_W \eta)(Z)Y \\ &\quad - (\nabla_W \eta)(X)\eta(Z)Y - \eta(X)(\nabla_W \eta)(Z)Y] - 2g(Y, Z)(\nabla_W h')(X) \\ &\quad + 2g(X, Z)(\nabla_W h')(Y) - 2g((\nabla_W h')Y, Z)X + 2g((\nabla_W h')X, Z)Y. \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$



Since  $X, Y, Z, W$  are orthogonal to  $\xi$ , we have from (5.5) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z &= \frac{dr(W)}{2}[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] - \left(\frac{r}{2} - 3k\right)[g(Y, Z) \\
 &\quad \{g(X, W) + g(X, h'W)\} - g(X, Z)\{g(Y, W) + g(Y, h'W)\}]\xi \\
 &\quad + 2[g(Y, Z)g(h'W + h'^2W, X) - g(X, Z)g(h'W + h'^2W, Y)]\xi \\
 &\quad - 2[g((\nabla_W h')Y, Z)X - g((\nabla_W h')X, Z)Y]. \tag{5.6}
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying  $\phi^2$  on (5.6) and then using (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi^2((\nabla_W R)(X, Y)Z) &= \frac{dr(W)}{2}[g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)X] \\
 &\quad + 2[g((\nabla_W h')Y, Z)X - g((\nabla_W h')X, Z)Y]. \tag{5.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now using (5.1) and (5.7) in (5.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 A(W)C(X, Y)Z &= \frac{dr(W)}{3}[g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)X] \\
 &\quad + 2[g((\nabla_W h')Y, Z)X - g((\nabla_W h')X, Z)Y]. \tag{5.8}
 \end{aligned}$$

Using lemma (4.1) of [8] in (5.8), we obtain

$$C(X, Y)Z = \frac{dr(W)}{3A(W)}[g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)X]. \tag{5.9}$$

Putting  $W = e_i$  in (5.9), where  $e_i, i = 1, 2, 3$  is an orthonormal basis of the tangent space at any point of the manifold and taking summation over  $i, 1 \leq i \leq 3$ , we get

$$C(X, Y)Z = \frac{dr(e_i)}{3A(e_i)}[g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)X]. \tag{5.10}$$

By virtue of (5.10) in (5.1), we have

$$R(X, Y)Z = a[g(X, Z)Y - g(Y, Z)X], \tag{5.11}$$

where  $a = \frac{r}{6} - \frac{dr(e_i)}{3A(e_i)}$  is a scalar. By Schur's theorem,  $a$  is a constant on  $M^3$ . Therefore we can state the following:

**Theorem 5.1.** *A three-dimensional concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifold with  $\xi \in (k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution is of constant sectional curvature.*

## 6. Conclusions

In this paper, we have studied almost Kenmotsu manifolds considering concircular curvature tensor. We have considered that  $\xi$  belongs to two nullity distributions,  $(k, \mu)$ -nullity distribution and  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution. Locally  $\phi$ -concircularly symmetric almost Kenmotsu manifolds, taking  $\xi$  belongs to  $(k, \mu)$  and  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distributions and  $(1, 1)$ -type tensor field  $h' \neq 0$ , are discussed. We proved that a concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifold becomes concircularly  $\phi$ -symmetric if  $r$  is a constant and  $\xi$  belongs to the  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution. Further, we have examined three-dimensional concircularly  $\phi$ -recurrent almost Kenmotsu manifolds taking  $\xi$  belongs to the  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution and obtained an interesting result.

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