

## Three-dimensional homogeneous contact metric manifolds with weakly $\eta$ -Einstein structures

Sun Hyang CHUN<sup>1</sup> , Yunhee EUH<sup>2,\*</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Chosun University, Gwangju, South Korea

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, South Korea

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we determine the geometric structures of 3-dimensional weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein almost contact metric manifolds and classify 3-dimensional weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifolds based on Perrone's classification.

**Key words:** Weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structure, homogeneous contact metric manifold

### 1. Introduction

Let  $M = (M, g)$  be an  $m$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold. We consider a symmetric  $(0,2)$ -tensor field  $\bar{R}$  on  $M$  defined by

$$\bar{R}(X, Y) = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^m R(e_i, e_j, e_k, X)R(e_i, e_j, e_k, Y)$$

for  $X, Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$  and a local orthonormal frame field  $\{e_i\}$ , where  $\mathfrak{X}(M)$  denotes the Lie algebra of all smooth vector fields on  $M$ . Here, the  $(0,4)$ -type curvature tensor  $R$  is defined by  $R(X, Y, Z, W) = g(R(X, Y)Z, W)$  for  $X, Y, Z, W \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , where  $R(X, Y)Z = [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y]Z - \nabla_{[X, Y]}Z$  with respect to the Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  of  $g$ .

In [9], Euh, Park, and Sekigawa defined a *weakly Einstein manifold* which is an  $m$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold  $(M, g)$  satisfying the following condition:

$$\bar{R}(X, Y) = \frac{\|R\|^2}{m}g(X, Y). \quad (1.1)$$

They showed that a 4-dimensional Einstein manifold necessarily satisfies (1.1), but the converse does not hold. They provided interesting examples of 4-dimensional weakly Einstein not Einstein manifolds [10]. A weakly Einstein manifold can be regarded as a generalization of an Einstein manifold in dimension 4. Weakly Einstein manifolds have been studied by many authors [1, 2, 5, 8, 14]. In particular, Arias-Marco and Kowalski [1] classified 4-dimensional homogeneous weakly Einstein manifolds and showed that there are just two spaces illustrated in [10]. On the other hand, the  $\eta$ -Einstein structure is one of the most important geometric structures

\*Correspondence: prettyfish@skku.edu

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in almost contact geometry, that is, the Ricci tensor  $\rho$  is of the form  $\rho(X, Y) = \alpha g(X, Y) + \beta \eta(X)\eta(Y)$  with  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  being smooth functions. Cho, Chun, and Euh [6] defined a weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structure as analogues of a weakly Einstein structure on almost contact metric manifolds. An almost contact metric manifold  $M$  with dimension  $m = 2n + 1$  is said to be *weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein* if the symmetric  $(0, 2)$ -tensor  $\bar{R}$  satisfied

$$\bar{R}(X, Y) = \bar{\alpha}g(X, Y) + \bar{\beta}\eta(X)\eta(Y)$$

for smooth functions  $\bar{\alpha}$  and  $\bar{\beta}$  on  $M$ . They showed that a 3-dimensional  $\eta$ -Einstein almost contact metric manifold is necessarily weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein. In this paper, we shall classify a 3-dimensional weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein almost contact metric manifold. In section 2, we prepare for some preliminaries on almost contact metric manifolds. In section 3, we determine the geometric structures of weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein almost contact metric manifolds with dimension 3. In section 4, we recall Perrone’s classification [13] of 3-dimensional simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifolds and classify such homogeneous spaces with weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structures based on his classification.

**2. Preliminaries**

All manifolds in this paper are assumed to be connected and of class  $C^\infty$ . We refer to [3] for some preliminaries on contact metric manifolds. Let  $M$  be a  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional differentiable manifold. Let  $\varphi$ ,  $\xi$ , and  $\eta$  be a tensor field of type  $(1, 1)$ , a vector field and a 1-form on  $M$ , respectively. If  $\varphi$ ,  $\xi$ , and  $\eta$  satisfy the conditions

$$\varphi^2(X) = -X + \eta(X)\xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1$$

for any vector field  $X \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , then it is said that  $M$  has an *almost contact structure*  $(\eta, \varphi, \xi)$  and  $M = (M, \eta, \varphi, \xi)$  is called an *almost contact manifold*. If an almost contact manifold  $(M, \eta, \varphi, \xi)$  admits a Riemannian metric  $g$  such that

$$g(\varphi X, \varphi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)$$

for any  $X$  and  $Y \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , then  $M = (M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$  is said to be an *almost contact metric manifold*. We define the fundamental 2-form  $\Phi$  on  $M$  by  $\Phi(\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) = \bar{g}(\bar{X}, \phi\bar{Y})$ . An almost contact metric manifold  $\bar{M}$  with  $\Phi = d\eta$  is called a *contact metric manifold*, where  $d$  is the exterior differential operator. Given a contact metric manifold  $M = (M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$ , we define the tensor fields  $h$  and  $\tau$  by  $h = \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{L}_\xi\varphi)$  and  $\tau = \mathcal{L}_\xi g$ , where  $\mathcal{L}_\xi$  is the Lie derivative in the direction of  $\xi$ . It is easily checked that  $h$  and  $\tau$  are symmetric operators and satisfy the following conditions:

$$h\xi = 0, \quad h\varphi = -\varphi h, \tag{2.1}$$

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\varphi X - \varphi hX, \quad \nabla_\xi \varphi = 0, \tag{2.2}$$

$$\tau(\xi, X) = 0, \quad \tau(X, Y) = 2g(\varphi X, hY).$$

If the vector field  $\xi$  on a contact metric manifold  $(M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$  is a Killing vector field (i.e.  $\tau = 0$ ), then  $M$  is called a *K-contact manifold*. This is the case if and only if  $h = 0$ . For an almost contact manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \eta, \varphi, \xi)$ , we consider the manifold  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$ . We define a vector field on  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$  by  $(X, f \frac{d}{dt})$ , where  $X$  is tangent to  $M^{2n+1}$ ,  $t$  the coordinate on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  a smooth function on  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Define an almost complex structure  $J$  on  $M^{2n+1} \times \mathbb{R}$  by  $J(X, f \frac{d}{dt}) = (\varphi X - f\xi, \eta(X) \frac{d}{dt})$ . If  $J$  is integrable, we say that

an almost contact structure  $(\eta, \varphi, \xi)$  is *normal*. A normal contact metric manifold is called a *Sasakian manifold*. It is well-known that a Sasakian manifold is necessarily a K-contact manifold. In dimension 3, the converse is true.

### 3. Three-dimensional almost contact metric manifolds

Let  $(M, g)$  be a 3-dimensional almost contact metric manifold. Then we see that the following equation is satisfied on  $M$ :

$$\begin{aligned} R(X, Y, Z, W) = & \rho(Y, Z)g(X, W) - \rho(X, Z)g(Y, W) \\ & + g(Y, Z)\rho(X, W) - g(X, Z)\rho(Y, W) \\ & - \frac{r}{2}(g(Y, Z)g(X, W) - g(X, Z)g(Y, W)) \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

for  $X, Y, Z, W \in \mathfrak{X}(M)$ , where  $\rho$  is the Ricci tensor on  $M$  and  $r$  is the scalar curvature of  $M$ . From (3.1), we have the symmetric (0,2)-tensor  $\bar{R}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{R}(X, Y) &= \sum_{i,j,k=1}^3 R(e_i, e_j, e_k, X)R(e_i, e_j, e_k, Y) \\ &= (2\|\rho\|^2 - r^2)g(X, Y) + 2r\rho(X, Y) - 2\sum_{i=1}^3 \rho(X, e_i)\rho(Y, e_i) \end{aligned}$$

for any orthonormal frame field  $\{e_i\}$  on  $M$ . Now, we suppose that  $M$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein. We define the Ricci operator  $Q$  of  $M$  by  $g(QX, Y) = \rho(X, Y)$  and consider the orthonormal frame field  $\{e_i\} = \{e_1, e_2, e_3 = \xi\}$  as eigenvectors of  $Q$ , that is,  $Qe_i = \lambda_i e_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $Q\xi = \lambda_3 \xi$ . Then we have

$$2\|\rho\|^2 - r^2 + 2\lambda_1(r - \lambda_1) = \bar{\alpha}, \tag{3.2}$$

$$2\|\rho\|^2 - r^2 + 2\lambda_2(r - \lambda_2) = \bar{\alpha}, \tag{3.3}$$

$$2\|\rho\|^2 - r^2 + 2\lambda_3(r - \lambda_3) = \bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta}. \tag{3.4}$$

From (3.2) and (3.3), we have

$$(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)(r - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)) = 0. \tag{3.5}$$

From (3.2) and (3.4), we have

$$(\lambda_3 - \lambda_1)(r - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_3)) = \frac{\bar{\beta}}{2}. \tag{3.6}$$

From (3.3) and (3.4), we have

$$(\lambda_3 - \lambda_2)(r - (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)) = \frac{\bar{\beta}}{2}. \tag{3.7}$$

Then from (3.5) we obtain  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  or  $\lambda_3 = 0$ . (Similarly, from (3.6) and (3.7), we have the same result.) If  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ , the Ricci operator  $Q$  of  $M$  has two eigenvalues of multiplicities  $(2, 1)$ . Then, we see that  $M$  has an  $\eta$ -Einstein structure [7]. If  $\lambda_3 = 0$ ,  $M$  satisfies  $Q\xi = 0$  and hence  $\bar{R}$  is given by  $\bar{R} = (\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2)g - 2\lambda_1\lambda_2\eta \otimes \eta$ . Therefore, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $M$  be a 3-dimensional almost contact metric manifold. If  $M$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein then either it is  $\eta$ -Einstein or it satisfies  $Q\xi = 0$ .*

**Remark 1** ([6]) *A 3-dimensional contact  $(0,2)$ -space satisfies  $Q\xi = 0$  and it is an example which is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein but not  $\eta$ -Einstein.*

Let  $M = (M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a 3-dimensional contact metric manifold. Now, let  $U$  be the open subset of  $M$  on which  $h \neq 0$ , and  $V$  be the open subset of  $M$  on which  $h$  is identically zero. Then  $U \cup V$  is open and dense in  $M$ . If  $U$  is not empty for any point  $p \in U$  we can choose a local orthonormal frame field  $\{e_1, e_2 = \varphi e_1, e_3 = \xi\}$  on a neighborhood of  $p$  in such a way that

$$he_1 = \mu e_1, \quad he_2 = -\mu e_2, \tag{3.8}$$

where  $\mu$  is a smooth positive function on  $U$ . We note that if  $V$  is not empty, then  $V$  is a Sasakian manifold. Now, we assume that  $U$  is not empty. Then by making use of (2.1), (2.2), (3.1), and (3.8), we have the Ricci operator  $Q$  on  $U$  as following formulas [13]:

$$\begin{aligned} Qe_1 &= \left(\frac{r}{2} - 1 + \mu^2 + 2\mu\nu\right)e_1 + \xi(\mu)e_2 + \rho_{13}\xi, \\ Qe_2 &= \xi(\mu)e_1 + \left(\frac{r}{2} - 1 + \mu^2 - 2\mu\nu\right)e_2 + \rho_{23}\xi, \\ Q\xi &= \rho_{13}e_1 + \rho_{23}e_2 + 2(1 - \mu^2)\xi, \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

where  $\nu = -g(\nabla_\xi e_1, e_2)$ . We suppose that a 3-dimensional contact metric manifold  $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  has a weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structure. From Theorem 3.1, taking account of (3.9), we get  $\nu = 0$  if it is  $\eta$ -Einstein or we have the positive smooth function  $\mu = 1$  if  $Q\xi = 0$ . Then, we have

**Corollary 3.2** *Let  $(M, \varphi, \xi, \eta, g)$  be a 3-dimensional contact metric manifold. If  $M$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein, then either  $\nu = 0$  or  $h$  has eigenvalues 1,  $-1$ , and 0.*

#### 4. Three-dimensional weakly $\eta$ -Einstein homogeneous contact metric manifolds

In this section, we consider the weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structure on 3-dimensional homogeneous contact metric manifolds. A contact manifold is said to be *homogeneous* if there exists a connected Lie group  $G$  acting transitively as a group of diffeomorphisms on it which preserves the contact form  $\eta$ . If  $g$  is a metric associated to  $\eta$  and  $G$  is a group acting transitively as isometries which leave  $\eta$  invariant, then  $(\eta, g)$  is said to be a *homogeneous contact metric structure* on  $M$ . Perrone [13] showed that 3-dimensional simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifolds are Lie groups with left invariant contact metric structure. Furthermore, he classified such homogeneous spaces using the result of Milnor [12] and taking account of the Webster scalar curvature  $W$  and torsion invariant  $\|\tau\|$  introduced by Chern and Hamilton (see [4], p. 284). Here, the Webster scalar curvature  $W$  is given by

$$W = \frac{1}{8}(r - \rho(\xi, \xi) + 4) = \frac{1}{8}\left(r + 2 + \frac{\|\tau\|^2}{4}\right).$$

**Proposition 4.1** [13] *Let  $(M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$  be a 3-dimensional simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifold. Then  $M$  is a Lie group  $G$  together with a left invariant contact metric structure  $(\eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$ .*

(1) If  $G$  is unimodular, then  $G$  is one of the following:

(1.a) the Heisenberg group  $H_3$  when  $W = \|\tau\| = 0$ ;

(1.b) the 3-sphere group  $SU(2)$  when  $4\sqrt{2}W > \|\tau\|$ ;

(1.c) the group  $\tilde{E}(2)$ , universal covering of the group of rigid motions of Euclidean 2-space, when  $4\sqrt{2}W = \|\tau\| > 0$ ;

(1.d) the group  $\tilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  when  $-\|\tau\| \neq 4\sqrt{2}W < \|\tau\|$ ;

(1.e) the group  $E(1, 1)$  of rigid motions of Minkowski 2-space when  $4\sqrt{2}W = -\|\tau\| < 0$ .

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$  is generated by an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2 = \varphi e_1, e_3 = \xi\}$  with commutation relation:

$$[e_1, e_2] = 2e_3, \quad [e_2, e_3] = ae_1, \quad [e_3, e_1] = be_2. \tag{4.1}$$

(2) If  $G$  is nonunimodular, then the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$  is given by

$$[e_1, e_2] = ce_2 + 2e_3, \quad [e_2, e_3] = 0, \quad [e_3, e_1] = de_2, \tag{4.2}$$

where  $c \neq 0$ ,  $e_1, e_2 = \varphi e_1 \in \ker \eta$  and  $4\sqrt{2}W < \|\tau\|$ . If  $d = 0$ , then the structure is Sasakian and  $W = -\frac{c^2}{4}$ .

First, we consider the weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein unimodular Lie group  $G$  with a left invariant contact metric structure. Then by Proposition 4.1, we can choose an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2 = \varphi e_1, e_3 = \xi\}$  which satisfies (4.1).

We set  $\nabla_{e_i} e_j = \sum_{k=1}^3 \Gamma_{ijk} e_k$   $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$ . Then we get  $\Gamma_{ijk} = -\Gamma_{ikj}$  and further from (4.1) we obtain the coefficients  $\{\Gamma_{ijk}\}$  as follows:

$$\Gamma_{123} = \frac{1}{2}(2 - a + b), \quad \Gamma_{213} = \frac{1}{2}(-2 - a + b), \quad \Gamma_{312} = \frac{1}{2}(-2 + a + b) \tag{4.3}$$

and otherwise being zero up to sign. From (4.3), by direct calculations, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R(e_1, e_2)e_1 &= -Ae_2, & R(e_1, e_2)e_2 &= Ae_1, & R(e_1, e_2)e_3 &= 0, \\ R(e_1, e_3)e_1 &= Be_3, & R(e_1, e_3)e_2 &= 0, & R(e_1, e_3)e_3 &= -Be_1, \\ R(e_2, e_3)e_1 &= 0, & R(e_2, e_3)e_2 &= Ce_3, & R(e_2, e_3)e_3 &= -Ce_2, \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

where the coefficients are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{1}{4}(a - b)^2 + (a + b) - 3, \\ B &= \frac{1}{4}(a - b)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(a^2 - b^2) + (a - b) - 1, \\ C &= \frac{1}{4}(a - b)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(a^2 - b^2) - (a - b) - 1. \end{aligned}$$

By using (4.4), we have the following Ricci operators:

$$\begin{aligned} Qe_1 &= \left(-\frac{1}{2}(b^2 - a^2) - 2 + 2b\right)e_1, \\ Qe_2 &= \left(\frac{1}{2}(b^2 - a^2) - 2 + 2a\right)e_2, \\ Qe_3 &= \left(-\frac{1}{2}(b - a)^2 + 2\right)e_3. \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

From (4.1) and by the definition of the tensor field  $h$ , we have

$$he_1 = -\frac{1}{2}(a - b)e_1, \quad he_2 = \frac{1}{2}(a - b)e_2, \quad he_3 = h\xi = 0. \tag{4.6}$$

On the other hand, a (0,2)-tensor  $\bar{R}$  of  $G$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{R}(X, Y) \\ &= \sum_{i,j,k=1}^3 R(e_i, e_j, e_k, X)R(e_i, e_j, e_k, Y) \\ &= 2 \sum_{c=1}^3 R(e_1, e_2, e_c, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_c, Y) \\ &\quad + R(e_1, e_3, e_c, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_c, Y) \\ &\quad + R(e_2, e_3, e_c, X)R(e_2, e_3, e_c, Y) \\ &= 2 \left\{ R(e_1, e_2, e_1, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_1, Y) + R(e_1, e_2, e_2, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_2, Y) \right. \\ &\quad + R(e_1, e_3, e_1, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_1, Y) + R(e_1, e_3, e_3, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_3, Y) \\ &\quad \left. + R(e_2, e_3, e_2, X)R(e_2, e_3, e_2, Y) + R(e_2, e_3, e_3, X)R(e_2, e_3, e_3, Y) \right\} \\ &= 2 \left\{ A^2g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) + A^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) \right. \\ &\quad + B^2g(e_3, X)g(e_3, Y) + B^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) \\ &\quad \left. + C^2g(e_3, X)g(e_3, Y) + C^2g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) \right\} \\ &= 2 \left\{ A^2(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)) + B^2g(X, Y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + C^2\eta(X)\eta(Y) + (C^2 - B^2)g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) \right\} \\ &= 2 \left\{ (A^2 + B^2)g(X, Y) + (C^2 - A^2)\eta(X)\eta(Y) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (B^2 - C^2)g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

If  $G$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein, then  $B^2 - C^2 = 0$ . Therefore in the case of  $B = C$  we have  $a = b$  or  $a + b = 2$  or in the case of  $B = -C$  we have  $b = a \pm 2$ . Here, we note that if  $a = b$ , by (4.6), we get  $h = 0$  and hence

we see that  $G$  is Sasakian. In addition, from (4.5),  $G$  has an  $\eta$ -Einstein structure. If  $a + b = 2$  ( $a \neq b$ ),  $G$  is non-Sasakian  $\eta$ -Einstein from (4.5). By Milnor's classification of 3-dimensional homogeneous spaces [12], we see that the following structures are admissible.

(1) If  $a = b$ ,  $M$  is isometric to one of

$$\begin{cases} H_3 \text{ with an } \eta\text{-Einstein Sasakian structure} \\ SU(2) \text{ with an } \eta\text{-Einstein Sasakian structure} \end{cases}$$

(2) If  $a + b = 2$  ( $a \neq b$ ),  $M$  is isometric to one of

$$\begin{cases} SU(2) \text{ with a non-Sasakian } \eta\text{-Einstein structure} \\ \widetilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \text{ with a non-Sasakian } \eta\text{-Einstein structure} \\ \widetilde{E}(2) \text{ with a non-Sasakian } \eta\text{-Einstein structure} \end{cases}$$

(3) If  $a - b = \pm 2$ ,  $M$  is isometric to one of

$$\begin{cases} SU(2) \text{ with a contact metric structure} \\ \widetilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \text{ with a contact metric structure} \\ E(1, 1) \text{ with a contact metric structure} \\ \widetilde{E}(2) \text{ with a contact metric structure} \end{cases}$$

Now, if we consider the weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein nonunimodular Lie group  $G$  with contact left invariant metric structure, from Proposition 4.1, then there exists an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, e_2 = \varphi e_1, e_3 = \xi\}$  satisfying (4.2). By using the Koszul formula we have

$$\Gamma_{123} = \frac{d+2}{2}, \quad \Gamma_{212} = -c, \quad \Gamma_{213} = \frac{d-2}{2}, \quad \Gamma_{312} = \frac{d-2}{2} \tag{4.7}$$

all others are zero. Then, using (4.7), by a direct calculation we get

$$\begin{aligned} R(e_1, e_2)e_1 &= -\bar{A}e_2 - \bar{D}e_3, & R(e_1, e_2)e_2 &= \bar{A}e_1, & R(e_1, e_2)e_3 &= \bar{D}e_1, \\ R(e_1, e_3)e_1 &= -\bar{D}e_2 - \bar{B}e_3, & R(e_1, e_3)e_2 &= \bar{D}e_1, & R(e_1, e_3)e_3 &= \bar{B}e_1, \\ R(e_2, e_3)e_1 &= 0, & R(e_2, e_3)e_2 &= -\bar{C}e_3, & R(e_2, e_3)e_3 &= \bar{C}e_2, \end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

where the coefficients are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A} &= \frac{d^2 + 4d - 12}{4} - c^2, & \bar{B} &= \frac{-3d^2 + 4d + 4}{4}, \\ \bar{C} &= \frac{(d-2)^2}{4}, & \bar{D} &= cd. \end{aligned}$$

From (4.8), we obtain the Ricci operator as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Qe_1 &= \left(-c^2 - 2 + 2d - \frac{d^2}{2}\right) e_1, \\ Qe_2 &= \left(-c^2 - 2 + \frac{d^2}{2}\right) e_2 + cde_3, \\ Qe_3 &= cde_2 + \left(2 - \frac{d^2}{2}\right) e_3. \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

From (4.2) and by the definition of  $h$  we have

$$he_1 = \frac{1}{2}de_1, \quad he_2 = -\frac{1}{2}de_2, \quad he_3 = 0.$$

We see that  $G$  is Sasakian if and only if  $d = 0$  (i.e.  $h = 0$ ). If the nonunimodular group  $(G, \varphi, \eta, \xi, g)$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein, then we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\overline{R}(X, Y) \\ &= \sum_{a,b,c=1}^3 R(e_a, e_b, e_c, X)R(e_a, e_b, e_c, Y) \\ &= 2\left\{R(e_1, e_2, e_1, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_1, Y) + R(e_1, e_2, e_2, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_2, Y) + R(e_1, e_2, e_3, X)R(e_1, e_2, e_3, Y) \right. \\ &\quad + R(e_1, e_3, e_1, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_1, Y)R(e_1, e_3, e_2, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_2, Y) + R(e_1, e_3, e_3, X)R(e_1, e_3, e_3, Y) \\ &\quad \left. + R(e_2, e_3, e_2, X)R(e_2, e_3, e_2, Y) + R(e_2, e_3, e_3, X)R(e_2, e_3, e_3, Y)\right\} \\ &= 2\left\{\overline{A}^2g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) + \overline{A}\overline{D}g(e_2, X)g(e_3, Y) + \overline{A}\overline{D}g(e_3, X)g(e_2, Y) \right. \\ &\quad + \overline{D}^2g(e_3, X)g(e_3, Y) + \overline{A}^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) + \overline{D}^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) \\ &\quad + \overline{D}^2g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y) + \overline{B}\overline{D}g(e_2, X)g(e_3, Y) + \overline{B}\overline{D}g(e_3, X)g(e_2, Y) \\ &\quad + \overline{B}^2g(e_3, X)g(e_3, Y) + \overline{D}^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) + \overline{B}^2g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y) \\ &\quad \left. + \overline{C}^2g(e_3, X)g(e_3, Y) + \overline{C}^2g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y)\right\} \\ &= 2\left\{\overline{A}^2(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)) + \overline{D}^2(g(X, Y) + g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y)) \right. \\ &\quad + \overline{B}^2(g(X, Y) - g(e_2, X)g(e_2, Y)) + \overline{C}^2(g(X, Y) - g(e_1, X)g(e_1, Y)) \\ &\quad \left. + (\overline{A} + \overline{B})\overline{D}(g(e_2, X)g(e_3, Y) + g(e_3, X)g(e_2, Y))\right\} \\ &= \overline{\alpha}g(X, Y) + \overline{\beta}\eta(X)\eta(Y). \end{aligned} \tag{4.10}$$

From (4.10), we have the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{R}(e_1, e_1) &= 3(\overline{A}^2 + \overline{B}^2 + 2\overline{D}^2) = \overline{\alpha}, & \overline{R}(e_2, e_2) &= 2(\overline{A}^2 + \overline{C}^2 + \overline{D}^2) = \overline{\alpha} \\ \overline{R}(e_3, e_3) &= 2(\overline{B}^2 + \overline{C}^2 + \overline{D}^2) = \overline{\alpha} + \overline{\beta}, & \overline{R}(e_2, e_3) &= 2((\overline{A} + \overline{B})\overline{D}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$



Then, we have the relations:

$$(\bar{A} + \bar{B})\bar{D} = 0, \quad \bar{B}^2 + \bar{D}^2 = \bar{C}^2. \tag{4.11}$$

Therefore, from (4.11) we can consider the two cases:

Case I)  $\bar{A} + \bar{B} = 0$  and  $\bar{B}^2 + \bar{D}^2 = \bar{C}^2$ .

Since  $\bar{A} + \bar{B} = -\frac{1}{2}(d - 2)^2 - c^2 = 0$ , we have  $c = 0$  and  $d = 2$ . It is a contradiction for the condition  $c \neq 0$ .

Case II)  $\bar{D} = 0$  and  $\bar{B}^2 + \bar{D}^2 = \bar{C}^2$ .

(II-1)  $\bar{B} = \bar{C}$  and  $\bar{D} = 0$ .

From  $\bar{B} = \bar{C}$  we obtain  $d = 0$  (Sasakian) or  $d = 2$ . Since  $\bar{D} = cd = 0$  and  $c \neq 0$  by assumption, we have  $d = 0$ .

(II-2)  $\bar{B} = -\bar{C}$  and  $\bar{D} = 0$ .

From  $\bar{B} = -\bar{C}$  we get  $d = \pm 2$ . It is a contradiction for  $\bar{D} = 0$  and  $c \neq 0$ .

Then, from (4.8), we have the curvatures  $R_{1331} = R_{2332} = 1$ ,  $R_{1212} = c^2 + 3$  and otherwise being zero up to sign. Furthermore, since  $d$  is identically zero, we easily check that  $G$  has an  $\eta$ -Einstein structure from (4.9).

Finally, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $(M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$  be a 3-dimensional simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifold. Then  $M$  is a Lie group  $G$  together with a left invariant contact metric structure  $(\eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$ . Suppose that  $G$  is weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein.*

(1) *If  $G$  is unimodular, then  $M$  is isometric to one of the following Lie groups:*

(1.1) *Heisenberg group  $H_3$  with an  $\eta$ -Einstein Sasakian structure;*

(1.2)  *$SU(2)$  with either an  $\eta$ -Einstein Sasakian structure, a non-Sasakian  $\eta$ -Einstein structure, or a contact metric structure;*

(1.3)  *$\tilde{E}(2)$  with either a non-Sasakian  $\eta$ -Einstein structure or a contact metric structure;*

(1.4)  *$\tilde{S}L(2, \mathbb{R})$  with either a non-Sasakian  $\eta$ -Einstein structure or a contact metric structure;*

(1.5)  *$E(1,1)$  with a contact metric structure*

(2) *If  $G$  is nonunimodular, then  $M$  is an  $\eta$ -Einstein Sasakian manifold whose sectional curvatures containing the direction  $\xi$  are the same as one.*

**Remark 2** *We summarize the above characterization as the table. Let  $(M, \eta, \varphi, \xi, g)$  be a 3-dimensional simply connected homogeneous contact metric manifold with a weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein structure. Then  $M$  is isometric to one of Lie groups which can admit the following structures:*

Geometric structures	Sasakian	non-Sasakian
$\eta$ -Einstein	$H_3, SU(2)$ , nonunimodular	$SU(2), \widetilde{E}(2), \widetilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$
not $\eta$ -Einstein	none	$SU(2), \widetilde{E}(2), \widetilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}), E(1, 1)$

Consequently, we see that  $SU(2), \widetilde{E}(2), \widetilde{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , or  $E(1, 1)$  with only a contact metric structure can be weakly  $\eta$ -Einstein not  $\eta$ -Einstein.

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