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**Linear Algebra and its Applications**journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/laa](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/laa)**3-Lie algebras with an ideal  $N^{\star}$** **Rui-pu Bai<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Cai-hong Shen<sup>a</sup>, Yao-zhong Zhang<sup>b</sup>**<sup>a</sup> College of Mathematics and Computer, Key Lab. in Machine Learning and Computational Intelligence, Hebei University, Baoding 071002, China<sup>b</sup> School of Mathematics and Physics, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD 4072, Australia**ARTICLE INFO****Article history:**

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The simplest filiform  $n$ -Lie algebra**ABSTRACT**

We define the hypo-nilpotent ideal in  $n$ -Lie algebras and obtain all solvable 3-Lie algebras with an  $m$ -dimensional simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra as a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal. We prove that the dimension of such solvable 3-Lie algebras is at most  $m + 2$ , and there is no solvable 3-Lie algebra with the simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra as the nilradical.

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**1. Introduction**

Recently, the study on  $n$ -Lie algebras has attracted much attention largely due to their close connection with the Nambu mechanics and geometries [1,2], Poisson and Jacobi manifolds, and Hamiltonian mechanics [3–6].

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In 1985, Filippov [7] introduced the concept of  $n$ -Lie algebras. He classified  $n$ -Lie algebras of dimension  $n + 1$  over an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. Kasymov [8] developed the structural notions such as simplicity, nilpotency, representations and Cardan subalgebras. Bai and Meng described the Frattini subalgebras, formations, and the centroid of  $n$ -Lie algebras, and constructed some finite dimensional  $n$ -Lie algebras over fields of characteristic  $p \geq 0$  [9–11]. Ling [12] proved that for  $n \geq 3$  all finite dimensional simple  $n$ -Lie algebras over an algebraically closed field  $F$  of characteristic 0 are isomorphic to the vector product on  $F^{n+1}$ . Up to now, infinite dimensional simple  $n$ -Lie algebras over fields of characteristic  $p \geq 0$  are only Jacobian algebras and their quotient algebras [1–15]. There are other results on representations and structures of  $n$ -Lie algebras [16–19].

The organization for the rest of this paper is as follows. Section 2 introduces some basic notions, defines hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $n$ -Lie algebras and proves some lemmas. Section 3 studies 3-Lie algebras with the simplest filiform nilradicals. Section 4 describes the structures of solvable 3-Lie algebras with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ , where  $N$  is the simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra.

Throughout this paper we consider  $n$ -Lie algebras over a field  $F$  of characteristic zero, and with  $n \geq 3$ .

## 2. Fundamental notions

First we introduce some notions of  $n$ -Lie algebras (see [7,8]). A vector space  $A$  over a field  $F$  is an  $n$ -Lie algebra if there is an  $n$ -ary multilinear operation  $[, \dots , ]$  satisfying the following identities

$$[x_1, \dots, x_n] = (-1)^{\tau(\sigma)} [x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)}], \quad (2.1)$$

and

$$[[x_1, \dots, x_n], y_2, \dots, y_n] = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_1, \dots, [x_i, y_2, \dots, y_n], \dots, x_n], \quad (2.2)$$

where  $\sigma$  runs over the symmetric group  $S_n$  and the number  $\tau(\sigma)$  is equal to 0 or 1 depending on the parity of the permutation  $\sigma$ .

A derivation of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  is a linear map  $D : A \rightarrow A$ , such that for any elements  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of  $A$

$$D([x_1, \dots, x_n]) = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_1, \dots, D(x_i), \dots, x_n].$$

The set of all derivations of  $A$  is a subalgebra of Lie algebra  $\text{gl}(A)$ . This subalgebra is called the derivation algebra of  $A$ , and is denoted by  $\text{Der}A$ . The map  $\text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) : A \rightarrow A$  defined by  $\text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})(x_n) = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$  for  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A$  is called a left multiplication. It follows from (2.2) that  $\text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  is a derivation. The set of all finite linear combinations of left multiplications is an ideal of  $\text{Der}A$  and is denoted by  $\text{ad}(A)$ . Every element in  $\text{ad}(A)$  is by definition an inner derivation, and for  $\forall x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$  of  $A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & [\text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}), \text{ad}(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})] \\ &= \text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})\text{ad}(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) - \text{ad}(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})\text{ad}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \text{ad}(y_1, \dots, [x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_i], \dots, y_{n-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2^*)$$

Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  be subalgebras of  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  and  $[A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n]$  stands for the subspace of  $A$  generated by all vectors  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ , where  $x_i \in A_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . The subalgebra  $[A, A, \dots, A]$  is called the derived algebra of  $A$ , and is denoted by  $A^1$ . If  $A^1 = 0$ , then  $A$  is called an abelian  $n$ -Lie algebra.

An ideal of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  is a subspace  $I$  such that  $[I, A, \dots, A] \subseteq I$ . If  $A^1 \neq 0$  and  $A$  has no ideals except for 0 and itself, then  $A$  is by definition a simple  $n$ -Lie algebra.

An ideal  $I$  of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  is called a solvable ideal, if  $I^{(r)} = 0$  for some  $r \geq 0$ , where  $I^{(0)} = I$  and  $I^{(s)}$  is defined by induction,

$$I^{(s+1)} = [I^{(s)}, I^{(s)}, A, \dots, A]$$

for  $s \geq 0$ . When  $A = I$ ,  $A$  is a solvable  $n$ -Lie algebra.

An ideal  $I$  of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  is called a nilpotent ideal, if  $I$  satisfies  $I^r = 0$  for some  $r \geq 0$ , where  $I^0 = I$  and  $I^r$  is defined by induction,  $I^{r+1} = [I^r, I, A, \dots, A]$  for  $r \geq 0$ . If  $I = A$ ,  $A$  is called a nilpotent  $n$ -Lie algebra.

The sum of two nilpotent ideals of  $A$  is nilpotent, and the largest nilpotent ideal of  $A$  is called the nilradical of  $A$ , and is denoted by  $NR(A)$ .

We refer to the ideals  $A^{(s+1)} = [A^{(s)}, A^{(s)}, A, \dots, A]$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots$ , and  $A^{s+1} = [A^s, A, A, \dots, A]$ ,  $s = 0, 1, \dots$  respectively, as the derived series and the lower central series of  $A$ . We shall use the notations  $DS$  and  $CS$  for sets of integers denoting the dimensions of subalgebras in derived series and lower central series of  $A$ , respectively.

Denote by  $A^*$  an associative algebra generated by all operators  $\text{ad}(x)$ , where  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in A^{(n-1)}$ . If  $I$  is an ideal of  $A$ , denote by  $I^*$ ,  $K(I)$  and  $\text{ad}(I, A)$  respectively the subalgebra of  $A^*$ , the ideal of  $A^*$  and the subalgebra of  $\text{ad}(A)$  generated by the operators of the form  $\text{ad}(c, x_1, \dots, x_{n-2})$ ,  $c \in I$ ,  $x_i \in A$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-2$ . It follows at once from (2.2\*) that  $K(I) = I^* \cdot A^* = A^* \cdot I^*$ , and  $\text{ad}(I, A)$  is an ideal of  $\text{ad}(A)$ .

**Lemma 2.1** [8]. *An ideal  $I$  of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  is a nilpotent ideal if and only if  $K(I)$  is a nilpotent ideal of the associative algebra  $A^*$ .*

An ideal  $I$  of an  $n$ -Lie algebra  $A$  may not be a nilpotent ideal although it is a nilpotent subalgebra. This property is different from that of Lie algebras. In the following, we concern such types of ideals of  $n$ -Lie algebras.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  be an  $n$ -Lie algebra and  $I$  be an ideal of  $A$ . If  $I$  is a nilpotent subalgebra but is not a nilpotent ideal, then  $I$  is called a hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ . If  $I$  is not properly contained in any hypo-nilpotent ideals, then  $I$  is called a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ .

### Remark 2.1

- (1) From Definition 2.1, a hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$  is a proper ideal.
- (2) The nilradical  $NR(A)$  is properly contained in maximal hypo-nilpotent ideals. In fact, if  $N$  is a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal, then  $J = N + NR(A)$  is an ideal of  $A$ . And  $J$  is not a nilpotent ideal since the hypo-nilpotency of  $N$ . Hence  $J$  is also a hypo-nilpotent ideal. Since  $N$  is maximal, we get  $J = N$ . Therefore,  $NR(A)$  is properly contained in  $N$ .
- (3) The sum of two hypo-nilpotent ideals of  $A$  may not be hypo-nilpotent. See the following example.

**Example 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a 6-dimensional 4-Lie algebra over  $F$ , and its multiplication table in the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_6$  be as follows:

$$\begin{cases} [e_1, e_4, e_5, e_6] = e_1 + \alpha e_2, \\ [e_2, e_4, e_5, e_6] = e_2 + \alpha e_3, \\ [e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6] = e_3, \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha \in F$ ,  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Set  $I_1 = Fe_1 + Fe_2 + Fe_3 + Fe_4$ ,  $I_2 = Fe_1 + Fe_2 + Fe_3 + Fe_5$ ,  $I_3 = Fe_1 + Fe_2 + Fe_3 + Fe_4 + Fe_6$  and  $I_4 = Fe_1 + Fe_2 + Fe_3 + Fe_5 + Fe_6$ . For  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,  $I_k$  are hypo-nilpotent ideals of  $A$  since

$$I_k^{s+1} = [I_k^s, I_k, A, A] = Fe_1 + Fe_2 + Fe_3 \neq 0,$$

$$[I_k, I_k, I_k, I_k] = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, 4; s \geq 0.$$

A simple computation shows that  $I_1 + I_2$  is a hypo-nilpotent ideal, but  $I_3 + I_4$  is not nilpotent.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $A$  be a nilpotent  $m$ -dimensional  $n$ -Lie algebra over  $F$  ( $m > n$ ). If the lower central series  $A^i$  ( $i \geq 1$ ) satisfy the following condition:

$$\dim A^i = m - n - i + 1, \quad i \geq 1,$$

$A$  is called a filiform  $n$ -Lie algebra.

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $A$  be an  $m$ -dimensional filiform  $n$ -Lie algebra ( $m \geq n + 2$ ). If there is a basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  of  $A$  such that

$$[e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}, e_j] = e_{j-1}, \quad n+1 \leq j \leq m, \quad (2.3)$$

and other brackets of the basis vectors equal zero, then  $A$  is called the simplest filiform  $n$ -Lie algebra.

For later convenience, we give the inner derivation algebra of  $m$ -dimensional the simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra.

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $N$  be  $m$ -dimensional the simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra with a basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  satisfying (2.3). Then the inner derivation algebra  $\text{ad}(N)$  has a basis  $\text{ad}(e_1, e_2), \text{ad}(e_1, e_j), \text{ad}(e_2, e_j), j = 4, 5, \dots, m$ . And with respect to the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$ ,  $\text{ad}(e_k, e_l)$  is represented by the following matrix form

$$\text{ad}(e_1, e_2) = \sum_{j=4}^m E_{jj-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_1, e_i) = E_{2i-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_2, e_i) = E_{1i-1}, \quad 4 \leq i \leq m, \quad (2.4)$$

where  $E_{ij}$  is the  $(m \times m)$  matrix unit.

**Proof.** From (2.3) we have

$$\text{ad}(e_1, e_2)(e_i) = e_{i-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_1, e_i)(e_2) = -e_{i-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_2, e_i)(e_1) = e_{i-1}, \quad 4 \leq i \leq m.$$

Then the matrix form of  $\text{ad}(e_i, e_j)$  with respect to the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  is

$$\text{ad}(e_1, e_2) = \sum_{j=4}^m E_{jj-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_1, e_i) = E_{2i-1}, \quad \text{ad}(e_2, e_i) = E_{1i-1}, \quad 4 \leq i \leq m.$$

Therefore,

$$\text{ad}(A) = F\text{ad}(e_1, e_2) + \sum_{i=4}^m F\text{ad}(e_1, e_i) + \sum_{i=4}^m F\text{ad}(e_2, e_i). \quad \square$$

Unless stated otherwise, in the following  $N$  is  $m$ -dimensional the simplest filiform 3-Lie algebra with the multiplication table (2.3) in the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$ , and  $m \geq 5$ .

Now let  $A$  be an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with ideal  $N$ . If  $x$  is a vector of  $A$  which is not contained in  $N$ . Then  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is a basis of  $A$ , and the computation table in the basis  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is given by

$$\begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, & 4 \leq j \leq m, \\ [x, e_i, e_j] = \sum_{k=1}^m a_{ij}^k e_k, & 1 \leq i, j \leq m, \end{cases} \quad (2.5)$$

where  $a_{ij}^k \in F$ ,  $a_{ij}^k = -a_{ji}^k$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ . Therefore, the following  $\left(\frac{m(m-1)}{2} \times m\right)$  matrix  $M$  determines the structure of  $A$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & a_{12}^3 & a_{12}^4 & a_{12}^5 & \cdot & a_{12}^{m-3} & a_{12}^{m-2} & a_{12}^{m-1} & a_{12}^m \\ a_{13}^1 & a_{13}^2 & a_{13}^3 & a_{13}^4 & a_{13}^5 & \cdot & a_{13}^{m-3} & a_{13}^{m-2} & a_{13}^{m-1} & a_{13}^m \\ a_{14}^1 & a_{14}^2 & a_{14}^3 & a_{14}^4 & a_{14}^5 & \cdot & a_{14}^{m-3} & a_{14}^{m-2} & a_{14}^{m-1} & a_{14}^m \\ a_{15}^1 & a_{15}^2 & a_{15}^3 & a_{15}^4 & a_{15}^5 & \cdot & a_{15}^{m-3} & a_{15}^{m-2} & a_{15}^{m-1} & a_{15}^m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdot & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{1m-2}^1 & a_{1m-2}^2 & a_{1m-2}^3 & a_{1m-2}^4 & a_{1m-2}^5 & \cdot & a_{1m-2}^{m-3} & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & a_{1m-2}^{m-1} & a_{1m-2}^m \\ a_{1m-1}^1 & a_{1m-1}^2 & a_{1m-1}^3 & a_{1m-1}^4 & a_{1m-1}^5 & \cdot & a_{1m-1}^{m-3} & a_{1m-1}^{m-2} & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & a_{1m-1}^m \\ a_{1m}^1 & a_{1m}^2 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdot & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^m \\ a_{23}^1 & a_{23}^2 & a_{23}^3 & a_{23}^4 & a_{23}^5 & \cdot & a_{23}^{m-3} & a_{23}^{m-2} & a_{23}^{m-1} & a_{23}^m \\ a_{24}^1 & a_{24}^2 & a_{24}^3 & a_{24}^4 & a_{24}^5 & \cdot & a_{24}^{m-3} & a_{24}^{m-2} & a_{24}^{m-1} & a_{24}^m \\ a_{25}^1 & a_{25}^2 & a_{25}^3 & a_{25}^4 & a_{25}^5 & \cdot & a_{25}^{m-3} & a_{25}^{m-2} & a_{25}^{m-1} & a_{25}^m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdot & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{2m-2}^1 & a_{2m-2}^2 & a_{2m-2}^3 & a_{2m-2}^4 & a_{2m-2}^5 & \cdot & a_{2m-2}^{m-3} & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & a_{2m-2}^{m-1} & a_{2m-2}^m \\ a_{2m-1}^1 & a_{2m-1}^2 & a_{2m-1}^3 & a_{2m-1}^4 & a_{2m-1}^5 & \cdot & a_{2m-1}^{m-3} & a_{2m-1}^{m-2} & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & a_{2m-1}^m \\ a_{2m}^1 & a_{2m}^2 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdot & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^m \\ a_{34}^1 & a_{34}^2 & a_{34}^3 & a_{34}^4 & a_{34}^5 & \cdot & a_{34}^{m-3} & a_{34}^{m-2} & a_{34}^{m-1} & a_{34}^m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdot & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m-1m}^1 & a_{m-1m}^2 & a_{m-1m}^3 & a_{m-1m}^4 & a_{m-1m}^5 & \cdot & a_{m-1m}^{m-3} & a_{m-1m}^{m-2} & a_{m-1m}^{m-1} & a_{m-1m}^m \end{array} \right) \quad (2.5^*)$$

The matrix  $M$  is called the structural matrix of  $A$  with respect to the basis  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$ . By the above notations we have following result.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $A$  be an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with the ideal  $N$ . Then the structural matrix  $M$  is of the following form

$$M = \left( \begin{array}{cccccccccc} a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right), \quad (2.6)$$

where  $a_{ij}^k$  for  $1 \leq i, j, k \leq m$  satisfy the identities

$$a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m-i)a_{12}^2, \quad a_{2i}^i = a_{2m}^m - (m-i)a_{12}^1, \quad i = 3, 4, \dots, m; \quad (2.7)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1m}^3 & a_{2m}^3 \\ a_{1m}^4 & a_{2m}^4 \\ \dots & \dots \\ a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-2} \\ a_{1m}^m & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{12}^1 \\ a_{12}^2 \end{pmatrix} = 0. \quad (2.8)$$

**Proof.** Firstly, since  $N$  is an ideal of  $A$  and  $\dim A = m + 1$ , the derived algebra  $A^1 = [A, A, A] = [A, A, N] \subseteq N$ . Then the structural matrix  $M$  is (2.5\*) with respect to the basis  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$ .

Substituting the relations (2.5) into the Jacobi identities

$$[[x, e_1, e_2], e_1, e_j] = [[x, e_1, e_j], e_1, e_2] + [x, e_1, [e_2, e_1, e_j]], \quad 3 \leq j \leq m,$$

we obtain

$$a_{1j}^1 = a_{1j}^2 = 0, \quad a_{1j}^{j+1} = a_{1j}^{j+2} = \dots = a_{1j}^m = 0, \quad 3 \leq j \leq m-1;$$

and

$$a_{1j-1}^{j-1} = a_{1j}^j + a_{12}^2, \quad 4 \leq j \leq m; \quad a_{1j}^k = a_{1j-1}^{k-1}, \quad 4 \leq k < j \leq m.$$

Secondly, imposing the Jacobi identities for  $\{[x, e_1, e_2], e_2, e_j\}$ ,  $3 \leq j \leq m$ , we get

$$a_{2j}^1 = a_{2j}^2 = 0, \quad a_{2j}^{j+1} = a_{2j}^{j+2} = \dots = a_{2j}^m = 0, \quad 3 \leq j \leq m-1;$$

and

$$a_{2j-1}^{j-1} = a_{2j}^j - a_{12}^1, \quad 4 \leq j \leq m; \quad a_{2j}^k = a_{2j-1}^{k-1}, \quad 4 \leq k < j \leq m.$$

Now comparing the coefficients in each of the following identities,

$$[[x, e_1, e_2], e_4, e_m] = [[x, e_4, e_m], e_1, e_2],$$

$$[[x, e_1, e_2], e_5, e_{m-1}] = [[x, e_5, e_{m-1}], e_1, e_2],$$

$$[[x, e_1, e_4], e_1, e_m] = [[x, e_1, e_m], e_1, e_4],$$

$$[[x, e_1, e_5], e_2, e_m] = [[x, e_2, e_m], e_1, e_5] + [x, e_{m-1}, e_5],$$

$$[[x, e_1, e_m], e_2, e_5] = [[x, e_2, e_5], e_1, e_m] + [x, e_4, e_m],$$

$$[[x, e_2, e_4], e_2, e_m] = [[x, e_2, e_m], e_2, e_4],$$

$$[[x, e_1, e_i], e_2, e_j] = [[x, e_2, e_j], e_1, e_i] + [x, [e_1, e_2, e_j], e_i] = 0, \quad 3 \leq i, j \leq m,$$

we get  $a_{2m}^2 = a_{2m}^1 = 0$ ,  $a_{1m}^1 = a_{1m}^2 = 0$ , and  $a_{ij}^k = 0$ ,  $3 \leq i, j \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq m$ .

Therefore, the matrix  $M$  has the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & a_{12}^3 & a_{12}^4 & a_{12}^5 & \cdots & a_{12}^{m-3} & a_{12}^{m-2} & a_{12}^{m-1} & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.9)$$

where

$$a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m-i)a_{12}^2, \quad a_{2i}^i = a_{2m}^m - (m-i)a_{12}^1, \quad i = 3, 4, \dots, m.$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $x - a_{2m}^{m-1}e_1 + a_{1m}^{m-1}e_2 - a_{12}^3e_4 - a_{12}^4e_5 - \cdots - a_{12}^{m-1}e_m$ , we see that the matrix  $M$  is reduced to (2.6) and  $a_{ij}^k$  for  $1 \leq i, j, k \leq m$  satisfy (2.7).

Lastly, using the Jacobi identities for vectors  $\{[x, e_1, e_2], x, e_i\}$ ,  $3 \leq i \leq m$ , we get

$$a_{12}^1 a_{1m}^i + a_{12}^2 a_{2m}^i = 0, \quad a_{12}^1 a_{1m}^m + a_{12}^2 a_{2m}^m = 0, \quad i = 3, 4, \dots, m-2.$$

Therefore, we get the matrix equation (2.8).  $\square$

From Lemma 2.3, if the left multiplications  $\text{ad}(x, e_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$  are restricted to the ideal  $N$ , then their matrix forms with respect to  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  are given by

$$\text{ad}(x, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.10)$$

$$\text{ad}(x, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.11)$$

and  $\text{ad}(x, e_i)|_N$ ,  $3 \leq i \leq m$  are nilpotent, where  $a_{ij}^k$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ;  $2 \leq j \leq m$ ;  $1 \leq k \leq m$  satisfy (2.7) and (2.8).

### 3. 3-Lie algebras with nilradical $N$

In this section we study 3-Lie algebras with nilradical  $N$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *There is no solvable non-nilpotent 3-Lie algebra with nilradical  $N$ .*

**Proof.** Firstly, let  $A$  be an  $(m+k)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with the nilpotent ideal  $N$ ,  $k = 1, 2$ . We will prove  $A$  is nilpotent.

When  $k = 1$ , suppose  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is a basis of  $A$ . Then the associative algebra  $A^*$  is generated by left multiplications  $\text{ad}(x, e_i)$  and  $\text{ad}(e_i, e_j)$ , where  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ . Therefore, we have  $A^* = K(N, A)$ . It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $A$  is nilpotent.

When  $k = 2$ , let  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  be a basis of  $A$ . Set  $B = Fx_1 + Fe_1 + \cdots + Fe_m$  and  $C = Fx_2 + Fe_1 + \cdots + Fe_m$ . Then  $B$  and  $C$  are  $(m+1)$ -dimensional subalgebras of  $A$  with the nilpotent ideal  $N$ . It follows from the result of the case  $k = 1$ , (2.10) and (2.11), that the matrices of  $\text{ad}(x_i, e_j)|_N$  ( $i = 1, 2, 1 \leq j \leq m$ ) with respect to  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  are of the form

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & c_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & c_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a, b, c_l \in F$ ,  $3 \leq l \leq m-2$ . Therefore  $\text{ad}(x_i, e_j)$  are nilpotent maps of  $A$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, m$ . Now suppose

$$[x_1, x_2, e_i] = \sum_{j=1}^m r_{ij} e_j, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

With the help of the Jacobi identities for  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_i], e_1, e_2\}$ ,  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_i], e_1, e_4\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ ;  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_2], e_1, e_i\}$ ,  $i \geq 4$ ;  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_m], e_1, e_2\}$ ,  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_m], e_1, e_4\}$ ,  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_m], e_2, e_4\}$ , we get that  $\text{ad}(x_1, x_2)|_N$  has the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & r_{13} & r_{14} & r_{15} & \cdots & r_{1m-3} & r_{1m-2} & r_{1m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24} & r_{25} & \cdots & r_{2m-3} & r_{2m-2} & r_{2m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{63} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{73} & r_{63} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & r_{m-23} & r_{m-33} & r_{m-43} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{m-13} & r_{m-23} & r_{m-33} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{m3} & r_{m-13} & r_{m-23} & \cdots & r_{63} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\text{ad}(x_1, x_2)|_N$  is nilpotent, and  $\text{ad}(x_1, x_2)$  is also nilpotent to  $A$ . This proves that  $A$  is nilpotent when  $k = 2$ .

Lastly we suppose that there is a solvable non-nilpotent  $(m+k)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with nilradical  $N$  for  $k \geq 3$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_k, e_1, \dots, e_m$  be a basis of  $A$ . Then there exist  $x_i, x_j$  such that  $\text{ad}(x_i, x_j)$  is not a nilpotent map of  $A$ . Set  $T = Fx_i + Fx_j + Fe_1 + \cdots + Fe_m$ , then  $N$  is a nilpotent ideal of  $(m+2)$ -dimensional subalgebra  $T$ . From the above discussions,  $T$  is a nilpotent subalgebra. Hence there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $\text{ad}^r(x_i, x_j)(T) = 0$ . Since  $A$  is solvable and  $N$  is the nilradical of  $A$ , we have  $[A, \dots, A] \subseteq N$ . Therefore,

$$\text{ad}^{r+1}(x_i, x_j)(A) \subseteq \text{ad}^r(x_i, x_j)(N) \subseteq \text{ad}^r(x_i, x_j)(T) = 0.$$

This is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Remark 3.1.** The solvable condition in Theorem 3.1 is necessary. See the following example.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $A$  be an  $(m+4)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with basis  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, e_1, \dots, e_m$ , and its multiplication table be

$$\begin{cases} [x_1, x_2, x_4] = x_3, \\ [x_1, x_3, x_4] = x_2, \\ [x_2, x_3, x_4] = x_1, \\ [x_4, e_1, e_2] = e_3, \\ [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, \quad 4 \leq j \leq m, \end{cases}$$

and other brackets of the basis vectors equal 0. By a direct computation we get that  $N$  is the nilradical of  $A$ , and

$$A^{(1)} = Fx_1 + Fx_2 + Fx_3 + Fe_3 + \cdots + Fe_{m-1}, A^{(s)} = Fx_1 + Fx_2 + Fx_3 \neq 0, \quad s > 1.$$

It follows that  $A$  is an unsolvable 3-Lie algebra.

#### 4. 3-Lie algebras with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal $N$

In this section we study 3-Lie algebras with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ . We construct all such solvable 3-Lie algebras and give them a simple classification.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $A$  be an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ . Then  $A$  is solvable, and up to isomorphisms, one and only one of the following possibilities for the structural matrix  $M$  of  $A$  holds

$$M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & b_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & \cdots & b_3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-2} & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & \cdots & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & c_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & c_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m-3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m-3+\alpha & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4+\alpha & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-5+\alpha & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2+\alpha & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1+\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & m-2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $b_i, c_i, \alpha \in F$ ,  $3 \leq i \leq m-2$ ;  $\alpha \neq 0$ .

**Proof.** From Lemma 2.3, the structural matrix  $M$  with respect to a basis  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$  of  $A$  is of the form (2.6) and satisfies conditions (2.7) and (2.8). Since  $A$  is not nilpotent, we have that  $a_{12}^1, a_{12}^2, a_{1m}^m$  and  $a_{2m}^m$  can not be equal to zero simultaneously.

Now we determine the structural matrix  $M$  according to the solutions of (2.8).

(I). In the case of  $a_{12}^1 = a_{12}^2 = 0$ , then  $a_{1m}^m \neq 0$  or  $a_{2m}^m \neq 0$ . Therefore, the structural matrix  $M$  is given by

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Without loss of generality we may assume that  $a_{1m}^m \neq 0$  (similar for  $a_{2m}^m \neq 0$ ). Taking a linear transformation of the basis  $x, e_1, \dots, e_m$  by replacing  $x$  and  $e_2$  by  $\frac{1}{a_{1m}^m}x + \frac{a_{12}^m}{a_{1m}^m} \left( \sum_{j=4}^{m-1} \frac{a_{1m}^{j-1}}{a_{1m}^m} e_j \right)$  and  $e_2 - \frac{a_{2m}^m}{a_{1m}^m}e_1 - \frac{a_{12}^m}{a_{1m}^m}e_m$  respectively, we get the structural matrix

$$M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & b_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & \cdots & b_3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-2} & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & \cdots & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & c_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & c_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $b_i, c_i \in F, i = 3, \dots, m-2$ .

(II). If  $a_{12}^1 \neq 0$  or  $a_{12}^2 \neq 0$ , then the rank  $r$  of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a_{1m}^3 & a_{2m}^3 \\ a_{1m}^4 & a_{2m}^4 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-2} \\ a_{1m}^m & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}$  is equal to 0 or 1.

When  $r = 0$ , we might as well suppose  $a_{12}^2 \neq 0$  (similar for  $a_{12}^1 \neq 0$ ), then we have  $a_{1m}^i = a_{1m}^m = a_{2m}^i = a_{2m}^m = 0, i = 3, 4, \dots, m - 2$  and the matrix  $M$  is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & (m-3)a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (m-4)a_{12}^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (m-5)a_{12}^2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -(m-3)a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -(m-4)a_{12}^1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -(m-5)a_{12}^1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -2a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now substituting  $\frac{1}{a_{12}^2}x$  and  $\frac{a_{12}^1}{a_{12}^2}e_1 + e_2 + \frac{a_{12}^m}{a_{12}^2}e_m$  for  $x$  and  $e_2$  respectively, the structural matrix  $M$  is reduced to the form

$$M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m-3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

When  $r = 1$ , without lose of generality we may assume that there is an  $a_{1m}^i \neq 0$  for some  $i, 3 \leq i \leq m$ . Then we have  $a_{2m}^i = ka_{1m}^i, i = 3, 4, \dots, m - 2, m; k \in F$ . Replacing  $e_2$  by  $e_2 - ke_1$ , the structural matrix  $M$  is reduced to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m - i)a_{12}^2$ ,  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ , and  $a_{12}^2 \neq 0$ .

If  $a_{1m}^m \neq 0$ , then for any  $l$  satisfying  $3 \leq l \leq m - 2$ , we take a series of linear transformations defined by

$$\tilde{e}_k = e_k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq l + 1; \quad \tilde{e}_k = e_k - \frac{a_{1m}^{m-l+1}}{(l-1)a_{12}^2} e_{k-l+1}, \quad l + 2 \leq k \leq m.$$

Then the basis vectors  $\tilde{e}_1, \dots, \tilde{e}_m$  satisfy (2.3). And with respect to the basis  $x, \tilde{e}_1, \dots, \tilde{e}_m$ , the structural matrix of  $A$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m - i)a_{12}^2$ ,  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ .

In the case of  $a_{1m}^m \neq a_{12}^2$ , replacing  $x$  and  $\tilde{e}_2$  by  $\frac{1}{a_{12}^2}x$  and  $\tilde{e}_2 - \frac{a_{12}^m}{a_{1m}^m - a_{12}^2}\tilde{e}_m$  respectively, we get the structural matrix

$$M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m-3+\alpha & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4+\alpha & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-5+\alpha & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2+\alpha & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1+\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\alpha \in F, \alpha \neq 0, 1$ .

In the case of  $a_{1m}^m = a_{12}^2, a_{12}^m \neq 0$ , substituting  $\frac{1}{a_{12}^2}x$  and  $\frac{a_{12}^m}{a_{12}^2}\tilde{e}_i$  for  $x$  and  $\tilde{e}_i, i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ , we get the structural matrix

$$M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & m-2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In the case of  $a_{1m}^m = a_{12}^2, a_{12}^m = 0$ , substituting  $\frac{1}{a_{12}^2}x$  for  $x$ , we get that the structural matrix of  $A$  is  $M_3$  with  $\alpha = 1$ .

If  $a_{1m}^m = 0$ , similar to the above discussions, we get that the structural matrix of  $A$  is  $M_2$ . Lastly by a direct computation, we get  $DS$  and  $CS$  corresponding to all cases  $M_i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ :

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 : DS &= [m+1, m-2, 0], CS = [m+1, m-2, m-2, \dots]; \\ M_2 : DS &= [m+1, m-2, m-4, 0], CS = [m+1, m-2, m-2, \dots]; \\ M_3 : DS &= [m+1, m-1, m-3, 0], CS = [m+1, m-1, m-1, \dots]; \\ M_4 : DS &= [m+1, m-1, m-3, 0], CS = [m+1, m-1, m-1, \dots]. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from  $M_i^{(4)} = 0$  and  $M_i^r = M_i^2 \neq 0$  when  $r \geq 3$ , that  $A$  with structural matrix  $M_i$  is solvable but not nilpotent for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Since  $A$  in the case of  $M_3$  is spilt, it is not isomorphic to the case  $M_4$ . Therefore, the 3-Lie algebra  $A$  with the structural matrix  $M_i$  is not isomorphic to the case  $M_j$  when  $i \neq j, 1 \leq i, j \leq 4$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $A$  be an  $(m+2)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ . Then  $A$  is solvable, and there exists a basis  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  such that the multiplication table of  $A$  is given by:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, 4 \leq j \leq m, \\ [x_1, e_1, e_2] = e_2, \\ [x_1, e_1, e_i] = (m-i)e_i, i = 3, 4, \dots, m, \\ [x_2, e_1, e_i] = e_i, i = 3, 4, \dots, m, \end{array} \right. \quad (4.1)$$

and other brackets of the basis vectors are equal to zero.

**Corollary 4.1.** There is an unique  $(m+2)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$  up to isomorphisms.

**The proof of Theorem 4.2.** Since  $\dim A = m+2$ , we have  $A^1 = [A, A, A] = [A, A, N] \subseteq N$ . Let  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  be a basis of  $A$ . Then  $A_1 = Fx_1 + N, A_2 = Fx_2 + N$  are ideals and  $N$  is a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  respectively.

Firstly, we prove that there exist a basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  of  $N$  satisfying (2.3), and vectors  $x_i$  of  $A_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) which are not contained in  $N$  such that  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-independent. We might as well suppose that the structural matrix of  $A_1$  in the basis  $x_1, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is  $M_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ), and the structural matrix of  $A_2$  in the basis  $x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is (2.6) (If the structural matrix of  $A_2$  in the basis  $x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is (2.9), then we get the structural matrix (2.6) in the basis  $x'_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$ , where  $x'_2 = x_2 - a_{2m}^{m-1}e_1 + a_{1m}^{m-1}e_2 - a_{12}^3e_4 - a_{12}^4e_5 - \dots - a_{12}^{m-1}e_m$ ).

(1). Suppose that the structural matrix of  $A_1$  in the basis  $x_1, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is  $M_1$ . Then

$$ad(x_1, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & b_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & b_{m-5} & \cdots & b_3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{m-2} & b_{m-3} & b_{m-4} & \cdots & b_4 & b_3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & c_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & c_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $a_{ij}^k$  satisfying (2.7) and (2.8).

If  $|\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-dependent, then we have  $\begin{cases} k_2 a_{12}^2 = 0, \\ k_1 + k_2 a_{1m}^m = 0, \end{cases}$  where  $k_1, k_2 \in F$  are not equal to zero simultaneously. Therefore,  $a_{12}^2 = 0, k_2 \neq 0$ . From (2.8) we obtain  $a_{12}^1 a_{1m}^j = 0$  for  $j = 3, \dots, m-2, m$ . If  $a_{12}^1 = 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}.$$

From  $[[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_2, e_3] = 0$ , we get  $a_{2m}^m = 0$ ,

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $-a_{1m}^m \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N + \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $-a_{1m}^m \text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N + \text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N$  are nilpotent, that is  $I = F(-a_{1m}^m x_1 + x_2) + N$  is an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ . This is a contradiction.

Therefore,  $a_{12}^1 \neq 0$ ,  $a_{1m}^3 = a_{1m}^4 = \cdots = a_{1m}^{m-2} = a_{1m}^m = 0$  and

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $\tilde{e}_1 = e_1 + e_2, \tilde{e}_i = e_i, i = 2, 3, \dots, m$ . Then  $\tilde{e}_1, \dots, \tilde{e}_m$  is a basis of  $N$  satisfying (2.3) and

$$\text{ad}(x_1, \tilde{e}_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_3 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_4 & d_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & d_{m-4} & d_{m-5} & d_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{m-3} & d_{m-4} & d_{m-5} & \cdots & d_3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{m-2} & d_{m-3} & d_{m-4} & \cdots & d_4 & d_3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $d_i = b_i + c_i, i = 3, 4, \dots, m - 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad}(x_2, \tilde{e}_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & -a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x_1, \tilde{e}_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & c_{m-6} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & c_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_4 & c_3 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x_2, \tilde{e}_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_{2j}^j = a_{2m}^m - (m-j)a_{12}^1, 3 \leq j \leq m$ . Since  $a_{12}^1 \neq 0$ ,  $\text{ad}(x_1, \tilde{e}_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, \tilde{e}_1)|_N$  are linear nil-independent.

(2). When the structural matrix of  $A_1$  is  $M_2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} ad(x_1, e_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m-3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & m-4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & m-5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ ad(x_1, e_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $[ad(x_1, e_1)|_N, ad(x_2, e_1)|_N] =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3a_{1m}^{m-3} & -2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & (5-m)a_{1m}^5 & (6-m)a_{1m}^6 & (7-m)a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (4-m)a_{1m}^4 & (5-m)a_{1m}^5 & (6-m)a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & -2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (3-m)a_{1m}^3 & (4-m)a_{1m}^4 & (5-m)a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & -3a_{1m}^{m-3} & -2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $[ad(x_1, e_1)|_N, ad(x_2, e_1)|_N]$  is a finitely linear combination of  $\{ad(e_1, e_2)|_N, ad(e_1, e_i)|_N, ad(e_2, e_j)|_N, i, j = 4, 5, \dots, m\}$ ,  $[ad(x_1, e_1)|_N, ad(x_2, e_1)|_N]$  is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \cdots & \alpha_{m-5} & \alpha_{m-4} & \alpha_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_3 & \cdots & \beta_{m-5} & \beta_{m-4} & \beta_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \gamma & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Comparing the elements of two matrices above, we obtain  $a_{1m}^3 = \cdots = a_{1m}^{m-2} = 0, a_{12}^1 = a_{12}^m = 0$ . Then

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-dependent, then there exist  $k_1, k_2 \in F$  and  $k_1 \neq 0$  or  $k_2 \neq 0$  such that  $\begin{cases} k_1 + k_2 a_{12}^2 = 0, \\ k_2 a_{1m}^m = 0. \end{cases}$ . Therefore,  $a_{1m}^m = 0, k_2 \neq 0$ . From (2.8) we have  $a_{12}^2 = 0$  or  $a_{2m}^m = 0$ .

If  $a_{12}^2 = 0$ , then  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = 0$ ,

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}.$$

From  $[[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_2, e_3] = 0$ , we get  $a_{2m}^m = 0$ , and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N$  is nilpotent. Then  $A_2$  is an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore, we have  $a_{12}^2 \neq 0$  and  $a_{2m}^m = 0$ , and

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (m-3)a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (m-4)a_{12}^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (m-5)a_{12}^2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 3a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 2a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that  $-a_{12}^2 \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N + \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  and  $-a_{12}^2 \text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N + \text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N$  are nilpotent, and  $I = F(-a_{12}^2 x_1 + x_2) + N$  is an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-independent.

(3). If the structural matrix of  $A_1$  in the basis  $x_1, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is  $M_3$  or  $M_4$ , then  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-independent by similar discussions to the case (2).

Secondly, without lose of generality, suppose that  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  is a basis of  $A$ , and the structural matrices of  $A_1 = Fx_1 + N$  and  $A_2 = Fx_2 + N$  are of the form (2.6), and  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N$  are linear nil-independent. Then we have

$$\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix},$$
  

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b_{12}^1 & b_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & b_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & b_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & b_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{1m}^{m-3} & b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & b_{1m}^5 & b_{1m}^6 & b_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{1m}^4 & b_{1m}^5 & b_{1m}^6 & \cdots & b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{1m-1}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{1m}^3 & b_{1m}^4 & b_{1m}^5 & \cdots & b_{1m}^{m-3} & b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m-i)a_{12}^2$ ,  $b_{1i}^i = b_{1m}^m + (m-i)b_{12}^2$  for  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ , and  $a_{1m}^m, b_{1m}^m$  are not equal to zero simultaneously.

We might as well suppose  $a_{1m}^m = 0, b_{1m}^m \neq 0$  (If  $a_{1m}^m \neq 0$  and  $b_{1m}^m \neq 0$ , then by substituting  $x'_1 = x_1 - \frac{a_{1m}^m}{b_{1m}^m} x_2$  for  $x_1$  we obtain  $a_{1m}^m = 0, b_{1m}^m \neq 0$ , and  $\{\text{ad}(x'_1, e_1), \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)\}$  are also linear nil-independent.), then  $a_{12}^2 \neq 0$ . Without lose of generality we may further assume that  $a_{1m}^m = 0, a_{12}^2 = 1, b_{1m}^m = 1, b_{12}^2 = 0$ . From Theorem 4.1,  $\text{ad}(x_1, e_i)|_N$  for  $i = 1, 2$  can be written as follows

$$\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N = \text{diag}(0, 1, m-3, m-4, \dots, 2, 1, 0),$$

$$\text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we have

$$[\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N] = \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N - \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & b_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3b_{1m}^{m-3} & -2b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & (5-m)b_{1m}^5 & (6-m)b_{1m}^6 & (7-m)b_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (4-m)b_{1m}^4 & (5-m)b_{1m}^5 & (6-m)b_{1m}^6 & \cdots & -2b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (3-m)b_{1m}^3 & (4-m)b_{1m}^4 & (5-m)b_{1m}^5 & \cdots & -3b_{1m}^{m-3} & -2b_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

On the other hand the product  $[\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N]$  is a finitely linear combination of  $\{\text{ad}(e_1, e_2)|_N, \text{ad}(e_1, e_i)|_N, \text{ad}(e_2, e_j)|_N, i, j = 4, 5, \dots, m\}$ . Then  $[\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N]$  has the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \cdots & \alpha_{m-5} & \alpha_{m-4} & \alpha_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_3 & \cdots & \beta_{m-5} & \beta_{m-4} & \beta_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \gamma & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Comparing the elements of two matrices above, we obtain  $b_{1m}^3 = \cdots = b_{1m}^{m-2} = 0, b_{12}^1 = b_{12}^m = 0$ . Then we have

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \text{diag}(0, 0, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 1, 1),$$

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{2m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^{m-3} & b_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^5 & b_{2m}^6 & b_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & b_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^4 & b_{2m}^5 & b_{2m}^6 & \cdots & b_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{2m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_{2m}^3 & b_{2m}^4 & b_{2m}^5 & \cdots & b_{2m}^{m-3} & b_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & b_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}.$$

Summarizing, we get

$$\begin{aligned} [x_1, e_1, e_2] &= e_2, [x_1, e_1, e_i] = (m-i)e_i, \quad i = 3, 4, \dots, m; \\ [x_2, e_1, e_i] &= e_i, \quad i = 3, 4, \dots, m; \quad [x_2, e_2, e_j] = 0, \quad j = 1, 2; \quad [x_2, e_2, e_3] = b_{2m}^m e_3, \\ [x_2, e_2, e_4] &= b_{2m}^m e_4, [x_2, e_2, e_k] = \sum_{j=3}^{k-2} b_{2m}^{m-k+j} e_j + b_{2m}^m e_k, \quad k = 5, 6, \dots, m. \end{aligned}$$

Now suppose

$$[x_1, x_2, e_i] = \sum_{j=1}^m r_{ij} e_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

From  $\left[ \sum_{j=1}^m r_{1j} e_j, e_2, e_m \right] = [[x_1, e_2, e_m], x_2, e_1] + [x_1, [x_2, e_2, e_m], e_1] + [x_1, x_2, [e_1, e_2, e_m]]$ , we get  $r_{11} = r_{m-1m-1}, r_{m-11} = r_{m-12} = r_{m-1m} = 0, r_{m-1i} = b_{2m}^i (m-i), i = 3, 4, \dots, m-2$ .

From  $\left[ \sum_{j=1}^m r_{2j} e_j, e_1, e_m \right] = [[x_1, e_1, e_m], x_2, e_2] + [x_1, [x_2, e_1, e_m], e_2] + [x_1, x_2, [e_2, e_1, e_m]]$ , we get  $r_{22} = r_{m-1m-1}, r_{m-1i} = r_{m-1m} = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m-2$ .

Therefore,  $b_{2m}^i = 0$ , for  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m-2$ . Again by  $[[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_2, e_3] = 0$ , we get  $b_{2m}^m = 0$ .

By imposing Jacobi identities on  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_2], e_1, e_2\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_2, e_4\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_2], e_1, e_4\}$ , and  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_1], x_1, e_2\}$ , we get  $r_{2i} = 0$  for  $4 \leq i \leq m$ ;  $r_{3j} = 0, 1 \leq j \leq m$  and  $j \neq 3$ ;  $r_{11} = r_{22} = r_{33}$ , and  $r_{11} = r_{23} = 0$  respectively.

Again using the Jacobi identities on  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_1, e_i\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_1], e_2, e_i\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_2], e_1, e_i\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_2], e_2, e_i\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_m], e_1, e_i\}, \{[x_1, x_2, e_m], e_2, e_i\}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m, i \neq 3$ ; and  $\{[x_1, x_2, e_1], x_1, e_m\}$ , we get  $r_{ij} = 0$  when  $i \neq 1$  and  $j \neq 3$ , that is

$$[x_1, x_2, e_1] = r_{13} e_3, [x_1, x_2, e_i] = 0, \quad i = 2, \dots, m.$$

After replacing  $x_1$  by  $x_1 - r_{13} e_3$ , we get  $[x_1, x_2, e_1] = 0$ . Therefore,  $A$  has the multiplication table (4.1) in a basis  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_m$  and  $A$  is solvable.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $A$  be a solvable  $(m+k)$ -dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ . Then we have  $k = 1$  or  $2$ .

**Proof.** We suppose  $k \geq 3$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_k, e_1, \dots, e_m$  be a basis of  $A$ . Thanks to the solvability of  $A$  and Remark 2.1, we have  $[A, A, A] \subseteq N$ . By Theorem 4.2, we might as well suppose

$$\text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N = \text{diag}(0, 1, m-3, m-4, \dots, 2, 1, 0),$$

$$\text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N = \text{diag}(0, 0, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 1, 1), \text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N = 0,$$

$$\text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

in the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  of  $N$ .

By (2.9),  $\text{ad}(x_3, e_1)|_N$  and  $\text{ad}(x_3, e_2)|_N$  are of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad}(x_3, e_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & a_{12}^3 & a_{12}^4 & a_{12}^5 & \cdots & a_{12}^{m-3} & a_{12}^{m-2} & a_{12}^{m-1} & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & a_{1m}^{m-1} & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x_3, e_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & -a_{12}^2 & -a_{12}^3 & -a_{12}^4 & -a_{12}^5 & \cdots & -a_{12}^{m-3} & -a_{12}^{m-2} & -a_{12}^{m-1} & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & a_{2m}^{m-1} & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m-i)a_{12}^i$ ,  $a_{2i}^i = a_{2m}^m - (m-i)a_{12}^i$ ,  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ .

Let  $x'_3 = x_3 - a_{2m}^{m-1}e_1 + a_{1m}^{m-1}e_2 - a_{12}^3e_4 - a_{12}^4e_5 - \cdots - a_{12}^{m-1}e_m$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12}^1 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^3 & a_{1m}^4 & a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & a_{1m}^{m-3} & a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{ad}(x'_3, e_2)|_N &= \begin{pmatrix} -a_{12}^1 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{24}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{25}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_{1i}^i = a_{1m}^m + (m-i)a_{12}^2, a_{2i}^i = a_{2m}^m - (m-i)a_{12}^1, i = 3, 4, \dots, m$ . From

$$[\text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N] = \text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N - \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N \text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N =$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -a_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & -a_{12}^m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3a_{1m}^{m-3} & 2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & (m-5)a_{1m}^5 & (m-6)a_{1m}^6 & (m-7)a_{1m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (m-4)a_{1m}^4 & (m-5)a_{1m}^5 & (m-6)a_{1m}^6 & \cdots & 2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (m-3)a_{1m}^3 & (m-4)a_{1m}^4 & (m-5)a_{1m}^5 & \cdots & 3a_{1m}^{m-3} & 2a_{1m}^{m-2} & 0 \end{array} \right), \quad (4.2)$$

and the product  $[\text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N]$  is a finitely linear combination of  $\{\text{ad}(e_1, e_2)|_N, \text{ad}(e_1, e_i)|_N, \text{ad}(e_2, e_j)|_N, i, j = 4, 5, \dots, m\}$ , we have the matrix form of  $[\text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N, \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N]$  in the basis  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  is as follows

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & 0 & \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \cdots & \alpha_{m-5} & \alpha_{m-4} & \alpha_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_3 & \cdots & \beta_{m-5} & \beta_{m-4} & \beta_{m-3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \gamma & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \gamma & 0 \end{array} \right). \quad (4.3)$$

Comparing (4.2) and (4.3), we get

$$\text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N = \left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{13}^3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14}^4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{15}^5 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & a_{1m-2}^{m-2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{1m-1}^{m-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{1m}^m \end{array} \right),$$
  

$$\text{ad}(x'_3, e_2)|_N = \left( \begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{2m}^{m-3} & d_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & a_{2m}^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & a_{2m}^m \end{array} \right).$$

By  $[[x_1, x'_3, e_1], e_2, e_3] = 0$ , we obtain  $a_{2m}^m = 0$ , and

$$\text{ad}(x'_3, e_2)|_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & a_{2m}^7 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & a_{2m}^6 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{2m}^3 & a_{2m}^4 & a_{2m}^5 & \cdots & a_{2m}^{m-3} & a_{2m}^{m-2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore,  $\text{ad}(x'_3, e_1)|_N - a_{1m}^m \text{ad}(x_2, e_1)|_N - a_{12}^2 \text{ad}(x_1, e_1)|_N = 0$  and  $\text{ad}(x'_3, e_2)|_N - a_{1m}^m \text{ad}(x_2, e_2)|_N - a_{12}^2 \text{ad}(x_1, e_2)|_N$  is nilpotent. It follows that  $I = F(x'_3 - a_{1m}^m x_2 - a_{12}^2 x_1) + N$  is an  $(m+1)$ -dimensional hypo-nilpotent ideal of  $A$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore, we have  $k \leq 2$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *There are no  $(m+k)$ -dimensional solvable 3-Lie algebras with a maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$  when  $k \geq 3$ .*

In the following we give all solvable 3-Lie algebras with a 5-dimensional the simplest filiform maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ .

**1.** Let  $A$  be a 6-dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a 5-dimensional hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ , and  $x, e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5$  be a basis of  $A$ . Then up to isomorphisms, one and only one of following possibilities holds:

$$(M_1). \begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, j = 4, 5, \\ [x, e_1, e_3] = e_3, \\ [x, e_1, e_4] = e_4, \\ [x, e_1, e_5] = be_3 + e_5, \\ [x, e_2, e_5] = ce_3; \end{cases} \quad (M_2). \begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, j = 4, 5, \\ [x, e_1, e_2] = e_2, \\ [x, e_1, e_3] = 2e_3, \\ [x, e_1, e_4] = e_4; \end{cases}$$

$$(M_3). \begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, j = 4, 5, \\ [x, e_1, e_2] = e_2, \\ [x, e_1, e_3] = (\alpha + 2)e_3, \\ [x, e_1, e_4] = (\alpha + 1)e_4, \\ [x, e_1, e_5] = \alpha e_5; \end{cases} \quad (M_4). \begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, j = 4, 5, \\ [x, e_1, e_2] = e_2 + e_5, \\ [x, e_1, e_3] = 3e_3, \\ [x, e_1, e_4] = 2e_4, \\ [x, e_1, e_5] = e_5; \end{cases}$$

where  $b, c, \alpha \in F, \alpha \neq 0$ .

**2.** Let  $A$  be a 7-dimensional 3-Lie algebra with a 5-dimensional maximal hypo-nilpotent ideal  $N$ . Then there is a basis  $x_1, x_2, e_1, \dots, e_5$  of  $A$  such that the multiplication table is as follows:

$$\begin{cases} [e_1, e_2, e_j] = e_{j-1}, j = 4, 5, \\ [x_1, e_1, e_2] = e_2, \\ [x_1, e_1, e_i] = (5-i)e_i, i = 3, 4, 5, \\ [x_2, e_1, e_i] = e_i, i = 3, 4, 5. \end{cases}$$

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