

MOTION OF A SURFACE IN FOUR DIMENSIONAL SPACE

H. Gomez and M. Grillakis

STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION EQUATIONS :

$$\Sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\mathbf{x} \in R^4 : x^j(u^\alpha)\} \quad \text{where } j = 1, 2, 3, 4 \quad \text{and } \alpha = 1, 2 \quad . \quad (1)$$

Tangent vectors,

$$\mathbf{t}_\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial u^\alpha} \quad ; \quad \alpha = 1, 2 \quad . \quad (2)$$

The metric, and surface area

$$g_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \mathbf{t}_\alpha, \mathbf{t}_\beta \rangle \quad ; \quad g \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\det(g_{\alpha\beta})} \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

The normal vector to the surface

$$\mathbf{n} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\Delta_g \mathbf{x}}{|\Delta_g \mathbf{x}|} \quad . \quad (4)$$

Binormal vector? Form a frame on the surface $[\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{b}]$

COMPLEX VERSION : A complex vector bundle over the surface,

$$\mathbf{m} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{n} + i\mathbf{b} \quad ; \quad \lambda_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \kappa_{\alpha\beta} + i\tau_{\alpha\beta} , \quad (5)$$

and ... structure equations

$$\partial_\alpha \mathbf{t}_\beta = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}{}^\gamma \mathbf{t}_\gamma + \frac{1}{2} [\lambda_{\alpha\beta} \bar{\mathbf{m}} + \bar{\lambda}_{\alpha\beta} \mathbf{m}] \quad ; \quad \partial_\alpha \mathbf{m} = -\lambda_\alpha{}^\gamma \mathbf{t}_\gamma + iA_\alpha \mathbf{m} . \quad (6)$$

GAUGE INVARIANCE : $\theta(u^\alpha)$, defined on the surface Σ , rotate the vector \mathbf{m} and the complex tensor $\lambda_{\alpha\beta}$ by $e^{i\theta}$, the new quantities will be denoted by the same name

$$\lambda_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^{i\theta} (\kappa_{\alpha\beta} + i\tau_{\alpha\beta}) \quad ; \quad \mathbf{m} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^{i\theta} (\mathbf{n} + i\mathbf{b}) . \quad (7)$$

Complex scalar mean curvature Ψ and a gauge field A_α on the surface

$$A_\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_\alpha - \partial_\alpha \theta \quad ; \quad \Psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} g^{\alpha\beta} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} . \quad (8)$$

NOTATION (covariant derivatives)

$$\partial_\alpha^A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \partial_\alpha - iA_\alpha \quad ; \quad \alpha = 1, 2 , \quad (9)$$

STRUCTURE EQUATIONS :

$$\partial_\alpha \mathbf{t}_\beta = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}{}^\gamma \mathbf{t}_\gamma + \frac{1}{2} [\lambda_{\alpha\beta} \bar{\mathbf{m}} + \bar{\lambda}_{\alpha\beta} \mathbf{m}] \quad ; \quad \partial_\alpha^A \mathbf{m} = -\lambda_\alpha{}^\gamma \mathbf{t}_\gamma . \quad (9)$$

Form the traceless complex tensor (Hopf)

$$\mu_{\alpha\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2} g_{\alpha\beta} \Psi . \quad (10)$$

The Gauss, Codazzi-Mainardi and torsion equations respectively are

$$R = \langle \mu ; \bar{\mu} \rangle - \frac{1}{2} |\Psi|^2 \quad ; \quad \nabla_\beta^A \mu^\beta{}_\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \nabla_\alpha^A \Psi \quad ; \quad \nabla_{[\alpha} A_{\beta]} = [\mu ; \bar{\mu}]_{\alpha\beta} . \quad (11)$$

The torsion on the surface is

$$T := \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} [\mu ; \bar{\mu}]_{\alpha\beta} .$$

In general not pure gauge.

CONFORMAL COORDINATES :

$$ds^2 = g(z, \bar{z}) dz d\bar{z} , \quad (12)$$

where $g(z, \bar{z})$ is the conformal factor. Complex differentiation

$$\partial_{\bar{z}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(\partial_1 + i\partial_2) \quad ; \quad \partial_z \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(\partial_1 - i\partial_2) , \quad (13)$$

and define a real potential σ from g and complex functions from A^α , $\mu_{\alpha\beta}$ as follows,

$$\sqrt{g} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^\sigma \quad ; \quad a \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2}(A_1 - iA_2) \quad ; \quad \mu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu_{11} + i\mu_{12} \quad ; \quad \mu^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu_{11} - i\mu_{12} . \quad (14)$$

The Conformal version of Gauss, Codazzi-Mainardi and torsion equations

$$\Delta\sigma = \frac{1}{2}(|\mu|^2 + |\mu^*|^2)e^{-2\sigma} - \frac{1}{4}|\Psi|^2 e^{2\sigma} \quad (15, a)$$

$$(\partial_z - ia)\mu = \frac{1}{2}g(\partial_{\bar{z}} - i\bar{a})\Psi \quad ; \quad (\partial_{\bar{z}} - i\bar{a})\mu^* = \frac{1}{2}g(\partial_z - ia)\Psi \quad (15, b)$$

$$i(\partial_{\bar{z}}a - \partial_z\bar{a}) = -\frac{1}{4g} [|\mu|^2 - |\mu^*|^2] . \quad (15, c)$$

The torsion is given by

$$T := -\frac{1}{4g} [|\mu|^2 - |\mu^*|^2] .$$

MOTION BY MEAN CURVATURE :

$$\partial_t \mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} [\Psi \bar{\mathbf{m}}_c + \bar{\Psi} \mathbf{m}_c] + X^\gamma \mathbf{t}_\gamma \quad ; \quad c = e^{ia} . \quad (16)$$

Binormal means $a = \pi/2$. Evolution of metric,

$$\partial_t g_{\alpha\beta} = 2N_\alpha^\gamma g_{\gamma\beta} + \mathcal{L}_X g_{\alpha\beta}$$

($c = i$ Binormal direction). How to choose X ?

Evolution of mean curvature,

$$i\partial_t \Psi - i\mathcal{L}_X^A \Psi = \Delta_g^A \Psi + \frac{1}{2} [\langle \mu; \bar{\mu} \rangle \Psi - \langle \mu; \mu \rangle \bar{\Psi}] - B\Psi . \quad (17)$$

Evolution of Gauge fields,

$$\partial_t A_\alpha - \partial_\alpha B = \nabla_\beta P_\alpha^\beta + [\mu; \bar{\mu}]_{\alpha\beta} X^\beta$$

$$P \sim \Psi \mu$$

Conservation laws, Gauss curvature R ,

$$\partial_t R - X^\gamma \nabla_\gamma R + 2\nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta \{Q^{\alpha\beta}\} = 0 . \quad (18)$$

The square mean curvature satisfies an evolution equation of the form

$$\partial_t (|\Psi|^2/2) - X^\gamma \nabla_\gamma (|\Psi|^2/2) + \langle Q; P \rangle = \nabla_\alpha J^\alpha , \quad (19)$$

where the current J_α is defined by

$$J_\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2i} \left(\bar{\Psi} \nabla_\alpha^A \Psi - \Psi \bar{\nabla}_\alpha^A \bar{\Psi} \right) . \quad (20)$$

and $\langle P, Q \rangle \sim (\Psi \mu)^2$.

CONFORMAL AGAIN : This requires an appropriate choice of the Lie vector field X .

$$ds^2 = g(t, z, \bar{z})dzd\bar{z} , \quad (21)$$

We can form, from the vector field X^α and the matrices $P_{\alpha\beta}$ and $Q_{\alpha\beta}$, the complex functions

$$X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} X^1 + iX^2 \quad ; \quad P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P_{11} + iP_{12} \quad ; \quad Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Q_{11} + iQ_{12} , \quad (22)$$

and a short calculation shows that,

$$P = \frac{1}{2} [\mu\bar{\Psi} + \bar{\mu}^*\Psi] \quad ; \quad Q = \frac{1}{2i} [\mu\bar{\Psi} - \bar{\mu}^*\Psi] . \quad (23)$$

The complex function X has to satisfy the first order equation

$$\partial_{\bar{z}}X = -Q/g . \quad (24)$$

The evolution of g , $a = (1/2)(A_1 - iA_2)$, B and Ψ are given by the following set of equations,

$$\langle D_z, X \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \partial_z X + \partial_{\bar{z}}\bar{X} \quad ; \quad \langle X, D_z \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} X\partial_z + \bar{X}\partial_{\bar{z}} \quad (25)$$

$$\partial_t g = \langle D_z, X \rangle \quad ; \quad \partial_t a - \partial_z B = \frac{1}{g} (\partial_{\bar{z}}\bar{P}) + \frac{i}{8g} (|\mu|^2 - |\mu^*|^2) \bar{X} \quad (26)$$

$$i\partial_t(g\Psi) - i\langle D_z, X\Psi \rangle - \langle X, a \rangle\Psi = \Delta^a\Psi + \frac{i}{g} [Q\mu^* + \bar{Q}\mu] - gB\Psi \quad (26)$$

where the operator Δ^a is defined below (covariant Laplacian)

$$\Delta^a \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 2\langle D_z, D_{\bar{z}} \rangle - 4i\langle \bar{a}, D_z \rangle - |a|^2 - 2i\langle D_z, \bar{a}_{,z} \rangle$$

RADIAL SYMMETRY : An interesting special case arises when we examine the equations of motion under the assumption of radial symmetry,

$$h(t, r)(dr^2 + r^2 d\phi^2) . \quad (2.1)$$

Notice that $g = rh$. Thus we can label the components of tensors using the indices r and ϕ . First notice that $\partial_z, \partial_{\bar{z}}$ become in radial coordinates,

$$2\partial_{\bar{z}} = e^{i\phi}(\partial_r + \frac{i}{r}\partial_\phi) \quad ; \quad 2\partial_z = e^{-i\phi}(\partial_r - \frac{i}{r}\partial_\phi) . \quad (2.2)$$

write $\mu_{rr}, \mu_{r\phi}$ for the corresponding coordinate entries of the tensor $\mu_{\alpha\beta}$ and define

$$\pi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu_{rr} + \frac{i}{r}\mu_{r\phi} \quad ; \quad \pi^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu_{rr} - \frac{i}{r}\mu_{r\phi} . \quad (2.3)$$

Express μ, μ^* in terms of π and π^* ,

$$\mu = \pi e^{2i\phi} \quad ; \quad \mu^* = \pi^* e^{-2i\phi} . \quad (2.4)$$

Radial symmetry means

$$\Psi(t, r) \quad ; \quad \mu_{r\phi} = 0 \quad ; \quad A_\phi = 0$$

the torsion is zero. The Coulomb gauge implies that $A_r = 0$ and the Codazzi-Mainardi equations become

$$\partial_r(r^2\pi) = \frac{1}{2}hr^2\partial_r\Psi . \quad (2.5)$$

Integrating the equation above we obtain

$$\pi(t, r) = \frac{1}{2}h\Psi - \frac{1}{2r^2} \int_0^r (s^2h)_{,s} (\Psi(t, s) - \Psi(t, 0)) ds . \quad (2.6)$$

define a complex function Φ as follows

$$\Phi(t, r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{r^2 h} \int_0^r (s^2 h)_{,s} [\Psi(t, s) - \Psi(t, 0)] ds \quad (2.7)$$

Now define two real potentials V and W , using Φ and Ψ ,

$$V = \frac{1}{4}(\Psi\bar{\Phi} + \bar{\Psi}\Phi) \quad ; \quad W = \frac{1}{4i}(\Psi\bar{\Phi} - \bar{\Psi}\Phi) . \quad (2.8)$$

The vector field $X^1 + iX^2$ must satisfy, in polar coordinates, $X^\phi = 0$, call $X^r = Y(t, r)$ and $X = Y e^{i\phi}$

$$\partial_r(Y/r) = -W/r \quad ; \quad \partial_t g = \frac{1}{r} \partial_r(rY) \quad (2.10)$$

therefore $h(t, r)$ satisfies the integrodifferential equation

$$\partial_t h = -W - 2 \int_0^r (W(t, s)/s) ds . \quad (2.11)$$

The potential B can be computed

$$-\partial_r B = \frac{1}{hr^2} \partial_r \left(hr^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} |\Psi|^2 - V \right) \right) \quad (2.12)$$

Evolution of $\Psi(t, r)$

$$i\partial_t \Psi + i \left(r \int_0^r (W/s) ds \right) \partial_r \Psi = \frac{1}{h} \Delta \Psi + (-B + iW) \Psi - iW \Phi , \quad (2.14)$$

where Δ is the radial Laplacian.

SPECIAL SOLUTIONS : Torus

$$\mathbf{r}_\alpha(t, u^\alpha) = R_\alpha(t) \exp[iu^\alpha/R_\alpha(t)] \quad \alpha = 1, 2 \quad (3.1)$$

where we made the identification $\mathbf{r}_1 = x^1 + ix^2$ and $\mathbf{r}_2 = x^3 + ix^4$. The time derivative of the surface is

$$\partial_t \mathbf{r}_\alpha = R'_\alpha \exp[iu^\alpha/R_\alpha] - i \frac{u^\alpha R'_\alpha}{R_\alpha} \exp[iu^\alpha/R_\alpha] . \quad (3.2)$$

Using the binormal vector the evolution of the surface must be described by

$$\partial_t \mathbf{r}_1 = H \sin \theta \mathbf{n}_1 + X^1 \mathbf{s}_1 \quad ; \quad \partial_t \mathbf{r}_2 = -H \sin \theta \mathbf{n}_2 + X^2 \mathbf{s}_2 . \quad (3.3)$$

Notice that $H_\alpha = 1/R_\alpha$ and mean curvature is $H = R_1 R_2 / \sqrt{R_1^2 + R_2^2}$. The evolution equations for R_1 and R_2

$$R'_1 = \frac{-1}{R_1 R_2} R_1 \quad ; \quad R'_2 = \frac{1}{R_1 R_2} R_2 . \quad (3.4)$$

Notice that $R_1 R_2 = C$ i.e. the product of the two radii is constant, therefore set $p = 1/R_1 R_2$, which is the inverse of the area,

$$R_1(t) = R_1(0) e^{-pt} \quad ; \quad R_2(t) = R_2(0) e^{pt} \quad (3.5)$$

The initial angle is $\cos \theta_0 = H_1(0) / \sqrt{H_1^2(0) + H_2^2(0)}$ mean curvature is

$$\Psi(t) = H(0) q(t) e^{i\theta(t)} \quad (3.6)$$

where $q(t)$ and $\theta(t)$ are

$$q(t) = \sqrt{\cosh(2pt) + \cos(2\theta_0) \sinh(2pt)} \quad ; \quad \theta(t) = \arctan(\tan(\theta_0) e^{-2pt}) . \quad (3.7)$$

Notice that the mean curvature blows up but not in finite time These solutions are elementary, to produce more interesting solutions we have to address the problem of representing a surface embedded in R^4 , the idea is that elementary solutions of the evolution equations might give rise to interesting evolving surfaces.

QUATERNIONS AND MOVING FRAMES : The quaternions can be realized as an Algebra of 2×2 complex matrices that are linear combinations of the following basis,

$$\mathbf{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad \mathbf{i} = \begin{bmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad \mathbf{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad , \quad \mathbf{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (C.1)$$

for $(p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3) \in R^4$ we can write $\mathbf{p} = p_0\mathbf{1} + p_1\mathbf{i} + p_2\mathbf{j} + p_3\mathbf{k}$ i.e. we form the 2×2 complex matrix,

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} p_0 + ip_1 & p_2 + ip_3 \\ -p_2 + ip_3 & p_0 - ip_1 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (C.2)$$

The algebra of quaternions is noncommutative, the algebraic relations between the elements of the basis are,

$$\mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 = -\mathbf{1} \quad ; \quad \mathbf{ij} = \mathbf{k} \ ; \ \mathbf{jk} = \mathbf{i} \ ; \ \mathbf{ki} = \mathbf{j} , \quad (C.4)$$

moreover $\mathbf{ij} + \mathbf{ji} = \mathbf{jk} + \mathbf{kj} = \mathbf{ki} + \mathbf{ik} = \mathbf{0}$

For a given surface Σ in R^4 , let us denote by $\mathbf{x}(u^1, u^2)$ the position vector as a function of local coordinates and make the identification

$$\mathbf{x} = x^1\mathbf{1} + x^2\mathbf{i} + x^3\mathbf{j} + x^4\mathbf{k} . \quad (C.6)$$

FRAME at each point on the surface, $[\mathbf{x}_{,1}; \mathbf{x}_{,2}; \mathbf{n}; \mathbf{b}]$ where $[\mathbf{x}_{,1}; \mathbf{x}_{,2}]$ are tangent while $[\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{b}]$ are the normal and binormal vectors.

CONFORMAL METRIC on the surface,

$$\langle \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_1 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_2 \rangle = g \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2 \rangle = 0 . \quad (C.7)$$

MAP from the frame $\{\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2\}$ to the basis $\{\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}\}$

$$\mathbf{b} \mapsto \mathbf{1} \quad ; \quad \mathbf{n} \mapsto \mathbf{i} \quad ; \quad \frac{\mathbf{x}_{,2}}{\sqrt{g}} \mapsto \mathbf{j} \quad ; \quad \frac{\mathbf{x}_{,1}}{\sqrt{g}} \mapsto \mathbf{k} , \quad (C.8)$$

Rotation in R^4 (Hamilton) is right-left multiplication

$$[\mathbf{b} ; \mathbf{n} ; \mathbf{x}_{,2}/\sqrt{g} ; \mathbf{x}_{,1}/\sqrt{g}] = L(\mathbf{p})[\mathbf{1} ; \mathbf{i} ; \mathbf{j} ; \mathbf{k}]R(\mathbf{q}) . \quad (C.9)$$

Unit Quaternions,

$$L(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{p}\mathbf{x} \quad ; \quad R(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{q} \quad ; \quad |\mathbf{p}| = 1 \quad ; \quad |\mathbf{q}| = 1 . \quad (C.10)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}} = \sqrt{g}L \begin{bmatrix} 0 & i \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} R \quad ; \quad \mathbf{x}_{, z} = \sqrt{g}L \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} R \quad (C.12, a)$$

$$\mathbf{m} = L \begin{bmatrix} 2i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} R \quad ; \quad \bar{\mathbf{m}} = L \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2i \end{bmatrix} R . \quad (C.12, b)$$

The structure equations on the surface (recall the quantities)

$$\sqrt{g} = e^\sigma \quad ; \quad \mu = \mu_{11} + i\mu_{12} \quad ; \quad \mu^* = \mu_{11} - i\mu_{12} . \quad (C.13)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}\bar{z}} = \frac{1}{8}g (\Psi \bar{\mathbf{m}} + \bar{\Psi} \mathbf{m}) \quad ()$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{, zz} = 2\sigma_{, z}\mathbf{x}_{, z} + \frac{1}{4}(\mu^* \bar{\mathbf{m}} + \bar{\mu} \mathbf{m})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}z} = 2\sigma_{, \bar{z}}\mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}} + \frac{1}{4}(\mu \bar{\mathbf{m}} + \bar{\mu}^* \mathbf{m}) \quad ()$$

$$\mathbf{m}_{, \bar{z}} = -\frac{1}{2}\Psi \mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}} - \frac{\mu}{g} \mathbf{x}_{, z} + i\bar{a}\mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathbf{m}_{, z} = -\frac{1}{2}\bar{\Psi} \mathbf{x}_{, z} - \frac{\mu^*}{g} \mathbf{x}_{, \bar{z}} + iam , \quad ()$$

a is a complex gauge vector field i.e. $a = (A_1 - iA_2)/2$.

EVOLUTION OF FRAME : Only Ψ , g and a ,

$$\mathbf{p}_l := \begin{bmatrix} \psi_l & -\overline{\phi}_l \\ \phi_l & \overline{\psi}_l \end{bmatrix} \quad ; \quad \mathbf{p}_r := \begin{bmatrix} \psi_r & -\overline{\phi}_r \\ \phi_r & \overline{\psi}_r \end{bmatrix}$$

Evolution equation (not in time)

$$(\partial_z - ia/2)\psi_l = -\widehat{\Psi}\phi_l \quad ; \quad (\partial_{\bar{z}} - i\bar{a}/2)\psi_r = -\widehat{\Psi}\phi_r \quad (C.39, a)$$

$$(\partial_{\bar{z}} + i\bar{a}/2)\phi_l = \widehat{\Psi}\psi_l \quad ; \quad (\partial_z + ia/2)\phi_r = \widehat{\Psi}\psi_r \quad (C.39, b)$$

where $\widehat{\Psi} = \sqrt{g}\Psi/4$.

GAUGE INVARIANCE

$$\psi^l \mapsto \psi^l e^{i\theta/2} \quad ; \quad \phi^l \mapsto \phi^l e^{-i\theta/2} \quad (C.40, a)$$

$$\psi^r \mapsto \psi^r e^{-i\theta/2} \quad ; \quad \phi^r \mapsto \phi^r e^{i\theta/2} \quad (C.40, b)$$

$$a \mapsto a + \theta_{,z} \quad ; \quad \widehat{\Psi} \mapsto \widehat{\Psi} e^{i\theta} . \quad (C.40, c)$$

COULOMB gauge means $\partial_1 A_1 + \partial_2 A_2 = 0$ and this translates to $a = i\omega_{,z}$.

Renormalizing

$$\psi_l = \psi_l e^{\omega/2} \quad ; \quad \phi_l = \phi_l e^{\omega/2} \quad (C.41, a)$$

$$\psi_r = \psi_r e^{-\omega/2} \quad ; \quad \phi_r = \phi_r e^{-\omega/2} \quad (C.41, b)$$

we have the system of equations,

$$\partial_z \psi_l = -\widehat{\Psi}\phi_l \quad ; \quad \partial_{\bar{z}} \psi_r = -\widehat{\Psi}\phi_r \quad (C.42, a)$$

$$\partial_{\bar{z}} \phi_l = \widehat{\Psi}\psi_l \quad ; \quad \partial_z \phi_r = \widehat{\Psi}\psi_r . \quad (C.42, b)$$

TORSION is given by,

$$2\omega = \log \left(\frac{|\psi_l|^2 + |\phi_l|^2}{|\psi_r|^2 + |\phi_r|^2} \right) . \quad (C.43)$$

Take the Laplacian of ω .

BOBENKO, KONOPELCHENKO, TAIMANOV,... WEIER-STRASS

CONSTANT CURVATURE : We want to solve,

$$\partial_z \psi_l = -\widehat{\Psi} \phi_l \quad ; \quad \partial_{\bar{z}} \psi_r = -\widehat{\Psi} \phi_r \quad ; \quad \widehat{\Psi} = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{g} \Psi \quad (1)$$

$$\partial_{\bar{z}} \phi_l = \overline{\widehat{\Psi}} \psi_l \quad ; \quad \partial_z \phi_r = \overline{\widehat{\Psi}} \psi_r . \quad (2)$$

$\omega = -2ns$ (no torsion), write $u^1 = s$, $u^2 = u$ the mean curvature,

$$\Psi = H \exp[2i(\theta_0 + nu)] \quad (3)$$

where H , n and θ_0 are constants. Assume the quaternions have the following form

$$\psi_l = p(s) \exp[i(n - m)u + i\theta_0 - ns] \quad (4)$$

$$\phi_l = q(s) \exp[-i(n + m)u - i\theta_0 - ns] \quad (5)$$

$$\psi_r = p(s) \exp[i(n + m)u + i\theta_0 + ns] \quad (6)$$

$$\phi_r = q(s) \exp[-i(n - m)u - i\theta_0 + ns] , \quad (7)$$

system of ordinary differential equations for $p(s)$ and $q(s)$

$$p' - mp = -\frac{1}{2}H(|p|^2 + |q|^2)q \quad (8)$$

$$q' + mp = \frac{1}{2}H(|p|^2 + |q|^2)p . \quad (9)$$

The system above is Hamiltonian. Conserved quantities,

$$E := \frac{1}{4}H(|p|^2 + |q|^2)^2 - m(p\bar{q} + \bar{p}q) \quad (10)$$

$$M = \frac{1}{i}(p\bar{q} - \bar{p}q) . \quad (11)$$

Assume that $M = 0$ to simplify matters,

$$p(s) = p(s)e^{i\alpha} \quad ; \quad q(s) = q(s)e^{i\alpha} \quad ()$$

for some fixed angle α and $p(s), q(s)$ real functions.

$$E = \frac{1}{4}H(p^2 + q^2)^2 - 2m(pq) \quad ()$$

We have **three critical points** :

$$(0, 0) \quad ; \quad (\pm \sqrt{m/H}, \pm \sqrt{m/H}) . \quad ()$$

Evaluating E at the critical points

$$E(0, 0) = 0 \quad ; \quad E(\pm \sqrt{m/H}, \pm \sqrt{m/H}) = -m/H$$

thus $(\pm \sqrt{m/H}, \pm \sqrt{m/H})$ are minima, while $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point, hence there is a homoclinic orbit emanating and ending at $(0, 0)$ while near

$$(\pm \sqrt{m/H}, \pm \sqrt{m/H})$$

there are periodic solutions. Level curves of $E(p, q)$ for $-m/H < E < 0$. Let us call $(p(s), q(s))$ such a periodic solution.

These give rise to solutions

$$(x^1 + ix^2)_{,\bar{z}} = i\psi_l\phi_r \quad ; \quad (x^3 + ix^4)_{,\bar{z}} = i\psi_l\bar{\psi}_r \quad ()$$

$$(x^1 + ix^2)_{,z} = i\phi_l\psi_r \quad ; \quad (x^3 + ix^4)_{,z} = -i\phi_l\bar{\phi}_r . \quad ()$$