

Geometric Algebra and Singularities arising in Differential Line Geometry

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This is a digest report of [12, 13]; we give an elementary characterization of local diffeomorphic types of **singular ruled/developable surfaces** in \mathbb{R}^3 and their bifurcations by using **dual quaternions** and **\mathcal{A} -classification theory of map-germs**. Maps and manifolds are of class C^∞ throughout.

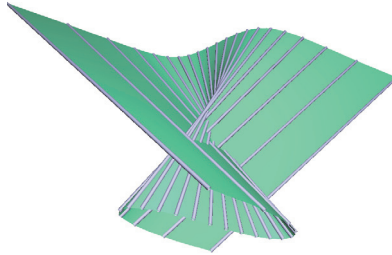


Fig. 1 Deforming Mond's H_2 -singularity via a family of ruled surfaces.

1 Geometric Algebra

Geometric Algebra is a new look at Clifford algebras; It provides very neat tools for describing motions in Klein geometries in the context of a vast of applications to physics, mechanics and computer vision etc (cf. e.g. [11]). First we present a quick introduction.

1.1 Clifford algebra

The Clifford algebra $Cl(p, q, r)$ is the quotient of the non-commutative polynomial ring of n indeterminates e_1, \dots, e_n with real coefficients ($n = p + q + r$), i.e., the tensor algebra $\bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} V_1^{\otimes r}$ of $V_1 = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{R}e_i$, via the two-sided ideal corresponding to relations

$$e_i^2 = 1 \quad (1 \leq i \leq p), \quad e_{p+i}^2 = -1 \quad (1 \leq i \leq q), \quad e_{p+q+i}^2 = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq r)$$

$$e_i e_j + e_j e_i = 0 \quad (i \neq j).$$

It is graded: $Cl(p, q, r) = \mathbb{R} \oplus V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_n = Cl^+ \oplus Cl^-$ (even/odd parts), where we put $V_k = \bigoplus_{i_1 < \dots < i_k} \mathbb{R} e_{i_1} \dots e_{i_k}$, called the space of k -blades.

Example 1.1

- $Cl(0, 0, 0) = \mathbb{R}$, $Cl(0, 1, 0) = \mathbb{C}$ ($\mathbf{e}_1 = \sqrt{-1}$)
- $Cl(0, 0, 1) = \mathbb{R}[\varepsilon]/\langle \varepsilon^2 \rangle = \mathbb{R} \oplus \varepsilon\mathbb{R} =: \mathbb{D}$: **Dual numbers** $a + b\varepsilon$ ($\varepsilon^2 = 0$)
- $Cl(0, 2, 0) =$ **Hamilton's quaternions** ($\mathbf{e}_1 = i, \mathbf{e}_2 = j, \mathbf{e}_3 = k$)

$$\mathbb{H} := \mathbb{R} \oplus \text{Im } \mathbb{H} = \{q = a + bi + cj + dk = a + \mathbf{v}\}, \quad \mathbf{v} = (b, c, d)^T$$

- $Cl^+(0, 3, 1) =$ **Dual quaternions**:

$$\mathbb{H} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{D} = \mathbb{H} \oplus \varepsilon\mathbb{H} = \{ \check{q} = q_0 + \varepsilon q_1 \mid q_0, q_1 \in \mathbb{H} \}$$

	$\mathbb{H} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{D}$	\simeq	$Cl^+(0, 3, 1)$
\mathbb{H}	$1, i, j, k$	\leftrightarrow	$1, \mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3, \mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2$
$\varepsilon\mathbb{H}$	$\varepsilon, i\varepsilon, j\varepsilon, k\varepsilon$	\leftrightarrow	$-\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_4, \mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_4, \mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_4, \mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_4$

1.2 Clifford algebra $Cl(0, 3, 1)$

1. **Blades** of $Cl(0, 3, 1)$ express geometric elements of \mathbb{R}^3 :

- **1-blade**

$$\pi = n_x\mathbf{e}_1 + n_y\mathbf{e}_2 + n_z\mathbf{e}_3 + d\mathbf{e}_4 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \text{Plane: } \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{x} = d$$

- **2-blade**

$$\ell = (v_0^x\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3 + v_0^y\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_1 + v_0^z\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2) + (v_1^x\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_4 + v_1^y\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_4 + v_1^z\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_4)$$

with $|v_0| = 1, v_0 \cdot v_1 = 0 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \text{Line: } \mathbf{x} = v_0 \times v_1 + tv_0 \quad (t \in \mathbb{R})$

- **3-blade**

$$p = \mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3 + x\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_4 + y\mathbf{e}_3\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_4 + z\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_4 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \text{Point: } \mathbf{x} = (x, y, z)$$

2. Algebraic operations in $Cl(0, 3, 1)$ (up to real positive multiples) express geometric manipulations:

- **exterior product:** $\ell = \pi_1 \wedge \pi_2, \quad p = \ell \wedge \pi, \quad p = \pi_1 \wedge \pi_2 \wedge \pi_3$

e.g., the intersection line ℓ of two planes π_1 and π_2 is expressed by the 2-blade $\pi_1 \wedge \pi_2$; the 2-blade is zero if and only if the two planes are parallel.

- **Shuffle product:** $\ell = p_1 \vee p_2, \quad \pi = p \vee \ell, \quad \pi = p_1 \vee p_2 \vee p_3$

e.g., the product of two points p_1, p_2 expresses the line ℓ passing through both points.

- **Contraction:** $\pi^\perp = \pi \rfloor \ell$

e.g., the 1-blade $\pi \rfloor \ell$ expresses the plane which contains ℓ and is perpendicular to π .

- **Euclidean motions:** $Sp(1) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \subset \mathbb{H} \oplus \varepsilon\mathbb{H} = Cl^+(0, 3, 1)$ is a double cover of the group of Euclidean motions $SE(3) = SO(3) \times \mathbb{R}^3$ so that $\pm \check{q} \in Sp(1) \times \mathbb{R}^3$ defines an Euclidean motions

$$\Theta(\check{q}) : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad 1 + \varepsilon\Theta(\check{q})(\mathbf{x}) = \check{q}(1 + \varepsilon\mathbf{x})\check{q}^*$$

3. **Dual vectors** $\mathbb{D}^3 := \{\check{v} = v_0 + \varepsilon v_1 \mid v_0, v_1 \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$ is the Lie algebra of $Sp(1) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^3$:

$$T_e(Sp(1) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^3) = T_e S^3 \oplus \varepsilon(\text{Im } \mathbb{H}) = (\text{Im } \mathbb{H}) \oplus \varepsilon(\text{Im } \mathbb{H}) = \mathbb{D}^3.$$

- Inner product and exterior product (Lie bracket) on \mathbb{D}^3 :

$$\check{u} \cdot \check{v} := -\frac{1}{2}(\check{u}\check{v} + \check{v}\check{u}) \in \mathbb{D}, \quad \check{u} \times \check{v} := \frac{1}{2}(\check{u}\check{v} - \check{v}\check{u}) = \frac{1}{2}[\check{u}, \check{v}] \in \mathbb{D}^3.$$

- **Dual vectors** = 2-blade ℓ :

- $\check{v} = v_0 + \varepsilon v_1 \in \mathbb{D}^3$ with $|v_0| = 1$, $v_0 \cdot v_1 = 0 \longleftrightarrow$ **oriented line** in \mathbb{R}^3
- $a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ lies on $L_{\check{v}} \iff a \times v_0 = v_1$;
- $L_{\check{u}}$ and $L_{\check{v}}$ intersect perpendicularly $\iff \check{u} \cdot \check{v} = 0$.

2 Classical line geometry

2.1 Dual Frenet formula

A **ruled surface** is described as a curve

$$\check{v} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^3, \quad \check{v}(s) = v_0(s) + \varepsilon v_1(s)$$

with $|v_0(s)| = 1$ and $v_0(s) \cdot v_1(s) = 0$ (I an open interval). It gives a canonical parametrization

$$F : I \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad F(s, t) = r(s) + t e(s)$$

($r = v_0 \times v_1$, $e = v_0$). That leads us to define the **dual curvature** by

$$\check{\kappa}(s) = \kappa_0(s) + \varepsilon \kappa_1(s) := \sqrt{\check{v}'(s) \cdot \check{v}'(s)} = |v_0'| + \varepsilon \frac{v_0' \cdot v_1'}{|v_0'|} \in \mathbb{D},$$

provided \check{v} is non-cylindrical, i.e., $v_0'(s) \neq 0$ ($s \in I$). Here \prime means $\frac{d}{ds}$. Note that $\check{\kappa}$ is invertible in \mathbb{D} .

From now on, we assume that s is the arc-length of v_0 ; $\kappa_0(s) = |v_0'(s)| = 1$. Put

$$\check{n}(s) = n_0(s) + \varepsilon n_1(s) := \check{\kappa}^{-1} \check{v}'(s), \quad \check{t}(s) = t_0(s) + \varepsilon t_1(s) := \check{v}(s) \times \check{n}(s).$$

Then $\check{v}(s)$, $\check{n}(s)$ and $\check{t}(s)$ form a basis of \mathbb{D}^3 (as a module over \mathbb{D}) which satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \check{v} \times \check{n} &= \check{t}, & \check{t} \times \check{v} &= \check{n}, & \check{n} \times \check{t} &= \check{v}, \\ \check{v} \cdot \check{n} &= \check{n} \cdot \check{t} = \check{t} \cdot \check{v} = 0, & \check{v} \cdot \check{v} &= \check{n} \cdot \check{n} = \check{t} \cdot \check{t} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The **dual torsion** $\check{\tau}(s)$ of \check{v} is defined by

$$\check{\tau}(s) = \tau_0(s) + \varepsilon \tau_1(s) := \check{n}'(s) \cdot \check{t}(s) \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Theorem 2.1 (cf. Guggenheimer [1, §8.2], Hlavatý [2]) Assume that $\check{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{v}_0 + \varepsilon \mathbf{v}_1 : I \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^3$ with the parameter s being the arc-length of \mathbf{v}_0 , i.e., $\kappa_0 = 1$.

1. (Frenet formula) It holds that

$$\frac{d}{ds} \begin{bmatrix} \check{\mathbf{v}}(s) \\ \check{\mathbf{n}}(s) \\ \check{\mathbf{t}}(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \check{\kappa}(s) & 0 \\ -\check{\kappa}(s) & 0 & \check{\tau}(s) \\ 0 & -\check{\tau}(s) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \check{\mathbf{v}}(s) \\ \check{\mathbf{n}}(s) \\ \check{\mathbf{t}}(s) \end{bmatrix}$$

2. (Completeness) Two possibly singular ruled surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 are transformed to each other by some Euclidean motion if and only if their dual curvatures and dual torsions $\check{\kappa}, \check{\tau}$ coincide, i.e., κ_1, τ_0, τ_1 are complete invariants of a non-cylindrical ruled surface.
3. (Developable) Gaussian curvature = 0 if and only if $\kappa_1 = 0$ identically. In particular, τ_0, τ_1 are complete invariants of a non-cylindrical developable surface.

2.2 Dual Bouquet formula

For every $s \in I$, three lines in \mathbb{R}^3 corresponding to unit dual vectors $\check{\mathbf{v}}(s), \check{\mathbf{n}}(s), \check{\mathbf{t}}(s)$ are mutually perpendicular and meet at one point, say $\sigma(s)$, which is known as a striction point. So, in \mathbb{R}^3 , direction vectors $\mathbf{v}_0(s), \mathbf{n}_0(s), \mathbf{t}_0(s)$ form a **moving frame** along the **striction curve** $\sigma(s)$. By an Euclidean motion, we may assume that

$$\check{\mathbf{v}}(0) = [1, 0, 0]^T, \check{\mathbf{n}}(0) = [0, 1, 0]^T, \check{\mathbf{t}}(0) = [0, 0, 1]^T \in \mathbb{D}^3,$$

that is, $\{\mathbf{v}_0(0), \mathbf{n}_0(0), \mathbf{t}_0(0)\}$ is the standard basis and $\sigma(0) = 0$ ($\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{v}_1(0) = \mathbf{n}_0(0) = \mathbf{t}_0(0) = 0$).

By iterating the Frenet formula, we obtain the **Bouquet formula** at $s = 0$;

$$\check{\mathbf{v}}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^r \frac{\check{\mathbf{v}}^{(n)}(0)}{n!} s^n + o(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{2}\check{\kappa}^2 s + \dots \\ \check{\kappa} s + \frac{1}{2}\check{\kappa}' s + \dots \\ \frac{1}{2}\check{\kappa}\check{\tau} s^2 + \dots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{D}^3.$$

Convention : $\check{\kappa}, \check{\tau}, \check{\kappa}', \check{\tau}', \dots$ denote their values at $s = 0$, e.g. $\check{\kappa}' = \check{\kappa}'(0)$, unless specifically mentioned.

Substitute $\check{\kappa} = \kappa_0 + \varepsilon \kappa_1$ and $\check{\tau} = \tau_0 + \varepsilon \tau_1$, we get the Taylor expansion of the map $F(s, t) = \mathbf{v}_0(s) \times \mathbf{v}_1(s) + t \mathbf{v}_0(s)$ at a point $(0, t_0)$ lying on the ruling of $s = 0$. It turns out that F is singular at $(0, t_0)$ iff $t_0 = 0$ (i.e. striction point) and $\kappa_1(0) = 0$. Then F is expanded at $(0, 0)$ as

$$\begin{cases} x &= t - \frac{1}{2} t s^2 + \frac{\tau_1}{2} s^3 + \dots \\ y &= t s - \frac{\tau_1}{2} s^2 - \frac{2\tau_0 \kappa_1' + \tau_1'}{6} s^3 + \dots \\ z &= \frac{\kappa_1'}{2} s^2 + \frac{\tau_0}{2} t s^2 + \frac{\kappa_1'' - 2\tau_0 \tau_1}{6} s^3 + \dots \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

3 Singularities of Ruled and Developable Surfaces

3.1 Equivalences

Let $f, g : \mathbb{R}^m, 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, 0$ be map-germs.

- f and g are **\mathcal{A} -equivalent** if $\exists (\sigma, \tau) \in \mathcal{A} := \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R}^m, 0) \times \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R}^n, 0)$ s.t. $g = \tau \circ f \circ \sigma^{-1}$.
- **Rigid equivalence** (tentatively): up to $(\sigma, \tau) \in \text{Diff}(\mathbb{R}^m, 0) \times SO(n)$.

Of our interest is to classify the germs of parametrizations $F : \mathbb{R}^2, 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, 0$ of ruled surfaces up to \mathcal{A} -equivalence and rigid equivalence.

3.2 \mathcal{A} -recognition of ruled surfaces

Crosscap $S_0 : (x, xy, y^2)$ is 2- \mathcal{A} -determined. Hence, by the above expansion (*) of F , we see that

$$F \sim_{\mathcal{A}} S_0 \iff \kappa_1(0) = 0, \kappa_1'(0) \neq 0$$

In case of $\kappa_1(0) = \kappa_1'(0) = 0$, $j^2 F(0) \sim_{\mathcal{A}} (x, y^2, 0)$ or $(x, xy, 0)$ according to whether $\tau_1(0) \neq 0$ or $= 0$. Then, applying Mond's \mathcal{A} -recognition tree [10], we obtain

Theorem 3.1 [13] For a non-cylindrical ruled surface ($\kappa_0 = 1$),

1. there is a unique singular point on the ruling $L_{\tilde{v}(s_0)}$ iff $\kappa_1(s_0) = 0$;
2. **\mathcal{A} -classification** of singularities of F arising in generic at most 3-parameter families of non-cylindrical ruled surfaces is given in Table 1;
3. For each \mathcal{A} -type, κ_1, τ_0, τ_1 with the condition gives a normal form of the ruled surface-germ in **rigid classification** by solving the Frenet ODE; its jet is given by (*).

Remark 3.2

1. The generic case (i.e. crosscap S_0) was firstly proved in Izumiya-Takeuchi [6] in a rigorous way. Martins and Nuño-Ballesteros [9] showed that any \mathcal{A} -simple map-germ is equivalent to a germ of non-cylindrical ruled surface.
2. From our theorem, all \mathcal{A} -types of codim ≤ 5 are realized by ruled surface-germs. Indeed, there is an \mathcal{A} -type of codim 6 which is not realized, e.g., the 3-jet (x, y^3, x^2y) and the 5-jet (x, y^2, x^4y) is not equivalent to jets of any (cylindrical/non-cylindrical) ruled surfaces.
3. For each type, \mathcal{A}_e -versal deformation is realized via deforming κ_1, τ_0, τ_1 properly.

	normal form	ℓ	cond. at $s = s_0$
S_0	(x, y^2, xy)	2	$\kappa_1 = 0, \kappa'_1 \neq 0$
S_1^\pm	$(x, y^2, y^3 \pm x^2y)$	3	$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = 0, \tau_1 \neq 0, \kappa_1''(\kappa_1'' - 2\tau_0\tau_1) \geq 0$
S_2	$(x, y^2, y^3 + x^3y)$	4	$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \kappa_1'' = 0, \kappa_1^{(3)}\tau_0\tau_1 \neq 0$
B_2^\pm	$(x, y^2, x^2y \pm y^5)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = 0, \kappa_1'' = 2\tau_0\tau_1 \neq 0, b_2 \geq 0$
H_2	$(x, xy + y^5, y^3)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \tau_1 = 0, \kappa_1'' \neq 0, h_2 \neq 0$
S_3^\pm	$(x, y^2, y^3 \pm x^4y)$	5	$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \kappa_1'' = \kappa_1^{(3)} = 0, \kappa_1^{(4)}\tau_0\tau_1 \geq 0$
C_3^\pm	$(x, y^2, xy^3 \pm x^3y)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \kappa_1'' = \tau_0 = 0, \tau_1 \neq 0, \kappa_1^{(3)}(\kappa_1^{(3)} - 2\tau_0'\tau_1) \geq 0$
B_3^\pm	$(x, y^2, x^2y \pm y^7)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = 0, \kappa_1'' = 2\tau_0\tau_1 \neq 0, b_2 = 0, b_3 \geq 0$
H_3	$(x, xy + y^7, y^3)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \tau_1 = 0, \kappa_1'' \neq 0, h_2 = 0, h_3 \neq 0$
P_3	$(x, xy + y^3, xy^2 + p_4y^4)$		$\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1 = \kappa_1'' = \tau_1 = 0, \tau_0\tau_1' \neq 0, p_4 \neq 0, 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$.

Table 1 Characterization of germs of ruled surfaces. There are certain polynomials b_2, b_3, h_2, h_3, p_4 in derivatives of κ_1, τ_0, τ_1 [13]. ℓ is \mathcal{A} -codimension of the germ.

3.3 \mathcal{A} -recognition of developable surfaces

Theorem 3.3 [13] For a non-cylindrical developable surface ($\kappa_0 = 1, \kappa_1 = 0$),

1. It is the tangent developable of the striction curve given by $\sigma(s) := F(s, -\mathbf{r}'(s) \cdot \mathbf{e}'(s))$ ($\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{v}_0 \times \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{v}_0$);
2. **\mathcal{A} -classification** of singularities of F arising in generic at most 2-parameter families of non-cylindrical developable surfaces is given in Table 2;
3. For each \mathcal{A} -type, τ_0, τ_1 with the condition gives a normal form of the developable surface-germ in **rigid classification** by solving the Frenet ODE; its jet is given by (*).

Remark 3.4 (i) Izumiya-Takeuchi [6] classified generic singularities of developable surfaces rigorously, and Kurokawa [8] treated 1-parameter families of developables. Our result generalizes those.

(ii) Some \mathcal{A} -types of frontal-germs are not realized by non-cylindrical developables.

- $cS_1^- : (x, y^2, y^3(x^2 - y^2))$ and $cC_3^- : (x, y^2, y^3(x^3 - xy^2))$ never appear.
- $\tau_1 \neq 0$ and $\tau_0 = \tau_0' = \tau_0'' = 0$ iff $j^5F \sim_{\mathcal{A}} (x, y^2, 0)$. Thus, $cS : (x, y^2, y^3(y^2 + h(x, y^2)))$ and $cB : (x, y^2, y^3(x^2 + h(x, y^2)))$ with $h(x, y^2) = o(2)$ never appear.
- $\tau_1 = 0$ iff $j^2F \sim_{\mathcal{A}} (x, xy, 0)$. Thus cuspidal beaks/lips type A_3^\pm and purse/pyramid types D_k never appear (indeed, their 2-jets are equivalent to $(x, 0, 0)$ and $(x^2 \pm y^2, xy, 0)$ respectively).

	normal form	ℓ	cond. at $s = s_0$
cE	(x, y^2, y^3)	1	$\tau_0 \neq 0, \tau_1 \neq 0$
cS_0	(x, y^2, xy^3)	2	$\tau_1 \neq 0, \tau_0 = 0, \tau'_0 \neq 0$
cS_1^+	$(x, y^2, y^3(x^2 + y^2))$	3	$\tau_1 \neq 0, \tau_0 = \tau'_0 = 0, \tau''_0 \neq 0$
cC_3^+	$(x, y^2, y^3(x^3 + xy^2))$	4	$\tau_1 \neq 0, \tau_0 = \tau'_0 = \tau''_0 = 0, \tau'''_0 \neq 0$
Sw	$(x, xy + 2y^3, xy^2 + 3y^4)$	2	$\tau_0 \neq 0, \tau_1 = 0, \tau'_1 \neq 0$
cA_4	$(x, xy + \frac{5}{2}y^4, xy^2 + 4y^5)$	3	$\tau_0 \neq 0, \tau_1 = \tau'_1 = 0, \tau''_1 \neq 0$
cA_5	$(x, xy + 3y^5, xy^2 + 5y^6)^\dagger$	4	$\tau_0 \neq 0, \tau_1 = \tau'_1 = \tau''_1 = 0, \tau'''_1 \neq 0$
T_1	$(x, xy + y^3, 0) + o(3)$	3	$\tau_0 = \tau_1 = 0, \tau'_1 \neq 0$
T_2	$(x, xy, 0) + o(3)$	4	$\tau_0 = \tau_1 = \tau'_1 = 0$

Table 2 Characterization of germs of developable surfaces. †: topological \mathcal{A} -equivalence.

A space curve-germ is called to be of type $(m, m + \ell, m + \ell + r)$ if it is \mathcal{A} -equivalent to the germ

$$x = s^m + o(m), \quad y = s^{m+\ell} + o(m + \ell), \quad z = s^{m+\ell+r} + o(m + \ell + r)$$

Theorem 3.5 (G. Ishikawa [4]) **Topological type** of the tangent developable of a space curve is uniquely determined by type $(m, m + \ell, m + \ell + r)$ of the curve, unless both ℓ, r are even.

Theorem 3.6 (Topological classification [13]) For a non-cylindrical developable surface, the germ of its striction curve $\sigma(s)$ at $s = s_0$ has the type $(m, m + 1, m + 1 + r)$, if the orders at $s = s_0$ are: $\tau_1(s) = o(m - 2)$ and $\tau_0(s) = o(r - 2)$. In particular, the **topological type of F** at a singular point is uniquely determined by vanishing orders of the **dual torsion** $\tilde{\tau} = \tau_0 + \varepsilon\tau_1$.

This generalizes a known result that the \mathcal{A} -type of the tangent developable of a non-singular space curve σ with non-zero curvature is uniquely determined by the vanishing order of its torsion function (Ishikawa [4]); that is the case of $(1, 2, 2 + r)$ (i.e., $\tau_1(s_0) \neq 0$) and then the order of τ_0 is equal to the order of torsion of σ .

4 Further discussion

4.1 Line congruence and line complex

Consider a 2-parameter family of lines $\tilde{\mathbf{v}} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^3$, $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}(p) = \mathbf{v}_0(p) + \varepsilon\mathbf{v}_1(p)$, with $|\mathbf{v}_0| = 1$ and $\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1 = 0$, $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ an open subset, which defines a *line congruence*. It is parameterized by the map $F : U \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $F(p, t) = \mathbf{v}_0(p) \times \mathbf{v}_1(p) + t\mathbf{v}_0(p)$. The

Frenet formula for the Darboux frame in \mathbb{D}^3 is available: $\exists \omega_i \in \Omega^1(U)$ s.t.

$$d \begin{bmatrix} \check{\mathbf{v}}(p) \\ \check{\mathbf{n}}(p) \\ \check{\mathbf{t}}(p) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \omega_1(p) & \omega_2(p) \\ -\omega_1(p) & 0 & \omega_3(p) \\ -\omega_2(p) & -\omega_3(p) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \check{\mathbf{v}}(p) \\ \check{\mathbf{n}}(p) \\ \check{\mathbf{t}}(p) \end{bmatrix}$$

(cf. Guggenheimer [1, §10]). This kind of Frenet formula is also available for a family of lines with 3 or more parameters, called a *line complex*. We can obtain \mathcal{A} -classification of singularities of line congruences and line complexes by using

- \mathcal{A} -classification of $\mathbb{R}^3, 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, 0$ (Bruce, Marar-Tari, Hawes)
- \mathcal{A} -classification of $\mathbb{R}^4, 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, 0$ (A. C. Nabarro)

4.2 Other Clifford Algebra

- Higher dimensional case $Cl^+(0, n, 1) \implies$ Ruled objects in \mathbb{R}^n .
- **Conformal Geometric Algebra** $\simeq Cl(4, 1, 0) \implies$ envelopes of circles, spheres, etc. e.g. Sing. of families of horospheres, etc. (Izumiya-Saji-Takahashi [5])
- Projectivized Clifford Algebra \implies projective differential geometry (Wilczynski, Kabata [7])

4.3 Curves and surfaces in \mathbb{D}^3

A curve of dual vectors, $I \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^3$, is called a *framed curve*, which describes a 1-parameter family of Euclidean motions of \mathbb{R}^3 . There is also a Frenet-type formula and various aspects of singular objects associated to framed curves have been studied by Honda-Takahashi [3]. It would be interesting to reformulate the theory of frontal surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 as surface theory in \mathbb{D}^3 .

4.4 Hybrid approach with discrete differential geometry

How to discretize ruled/developable surfaces around singular points? As seen above, we have obtained rigid classification of singularities of ruled/developable surfaces; the curve-germs in \mathbb{D}^3 is determined by jets of $\check{\kappa}, \check{\tau}$. Therefore, we may first discretize the curves in \mathbb{D}^3 with respect to the parameter s and then discretize rulings with respect to the parameter t . Semi-algebraic (e.g. Bézier) versions can also be considered. This approach might be interesting for singularity analysis in several applications from pure math. to applied math. ; (classical) integrable systems, architectural geometry, data analysis (surface fittings), computer visions, robotics and so on.

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