

The equiform differential geometry of curves in 4-dimensional galilean space \mathbb{G}_4

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Abstract. In this paper, we establish equiform differential geometry of curves in 4-dimensional Galilean space \mathbb{G}_4 . We obtain the angle between the equiform Frenet vectors and their derivatives in \mathbb{G}_4 . Also, we characterize generalized helices with respect to their equiform curvatures.

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1. Introduction

Differential geometry of the Galilean space \mathbb{G}_3 has been largely developed in O. Röschel's paper [12]. The Frenet formulas of a curve in 4-dimensional Galilean space \mathbb{G}_4 are given by [13]. The helices in \mathbb{G}_3 are characterized by [8]. The equiform differential geometry of isotropic spaces and Galilean-pseudo Galilean spaces are represented by [9, 4, 5]. In this paper, we construct equiform differential geometry of curves in \mathbb{G}_4 .

The Galilean space is three dimensional complex projective space, \mathbb{P}_3 , in which absolute figure $\{w, f, I_1, I_2\}$ consist of a real plane w (absolute plane), a real line $f \subset w$ (absolute line) and two complex conjugate points, $I_1, I_2 \in f$ (absolute points) [7].

The equiform geometry of Cayley - Klein space is defined by requesting that similarity group of the space preserves angles between planes and lines, respectively. Cayley-Klein geometries are studied for many years. However, they recently have become interesting again since their importance for other fields, like soliton theory [11], have been rediscovered. The positive aspect of this paper is the equiform Frenet formulas and equiform curvatures of \mathbb{G}_3 to generalize these of \mathbb{G}_4 .

2. Preliminaries

Four-dimensional Galilean geometry can be described as the study of properties of four-dimensional space with coordinates that are invariant under general Galilean transformations

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= (\cos \beta \cos \alpha - \cos \gamma \sin \beta \sin \alpha) x + (\sin \beta \cos \alpha - \cos \gamma \sin \beta \sin \alpha) y \\ &\quad + (\sin \gamma \sin \alpha) z + (v \cos \delta_1) t + a, \\y' &= -(\cos \beta \sin \alpha + \cos \gamma \sin \beta \cos \alpha) x + (-\sin \beta \sin \alpha - \cos \gamma \cos \beta \cos \alpha) y \\ &\quad + (\sin \gamma \cos \alpha) z + (v \cos \delta_2) t + b, \\z' &= (\sin \gamma \sin \beta) x - (\sin \gamma \cos \beta) y + (\cos \gamma) z + (v \cos \delta_3) t + c, \\t' &= t + d,\end{aligned}$$

where $\cos^2 \delta_1 + \cos^2 \delta_2 + \cos^2 \delta_3 = 1$.

Given two vectors $\vec{\alpha}$ and $\vec{\beta}$ with the coordinates $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4)$ and $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4)$, respectively, then the Galilean scalar product g between the vectors is defined as follows

$$g(\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}) = \begin{cases} \alpha_1 \beta_1, & \text{if } \alpha_1 \neq 0 \text{ or } \beta_1 \neq 0, \\ \alpha_2 \beta_2 + \alpha_3 \beta_3 + \alpha_4 \beta_4, & \text{if } \alpha_1 = 0 \text{ and } \beta_1 = 0. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

For the vectors $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ with the coordinates $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3, \gamma_4)$, the cross product of \mathbb{G}_4 given by

$$\vec{\alpha} \times_{\mathbb{G}} \vec{\beta} \times_{\mathbb{G}} \vec{\gamma} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \vec{e}_2 & \vec{e}_3 & \vec{e}_4 \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \alpha_4 \\ \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_3 & \beta_4 \\ \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \gamma_3 & \gamma_4 \end{vmatrix}, \quad (2.2)$$

where \vec{e}_i are the standard basis vectors.

Let $C : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_4$ be a curve, parametrized by the invariant parameter $s = x$, is given in the coordinate form

$$C(s) = (s, c_1(s), c_2(s), c_3(s)),$$

the Frenet vector fields of the curve C defined by

$$\begin{aligned}V_1 &= (1, \dot{c}_1, \dot{c}_2, \dot{c}_3), \\V_2 &= \frac{1}{k_1} (0, \ddot{c}_1, \ddot{c}_2, \ddot{c}_3), \\V_3 &= \frac{1}{k_2} \left(0, \frac{d\left(\frac{1}{k_1} \ddot{c}_1\right)}{ds}, \frac{d\left(\frac{1}{k_1} \ddot{c}_2\right)}{ds}, \frac{d\left(\frac{1}{k_1} \ddot{c}_3\right)}{ds} \right), \\V_4 &= V_1 \times_{\mathbb{G}} V_2 \times_{\mathbb{G}} V_3,\end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

where k_1, k_2, k_3 are the first, second and third curvature functions, respectively, defined by

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \left((\ddot{c}_1)^2 + (\ddot{c}_2)^2 + (\ddot{c}_3)^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ k_2 &= \left[g \left(\dot{V}_2, \dot{V}_2 \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ k_3 &= g \left(\dot{V}_3, V_4 \right), \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where the derivative with respect to s denote by a dot. Thus, the Frenet equations of \mathbb{G}_4 given by as follows ([13])

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_1 &= k_1 V_2, \\ \dot{V}_2 &= k_2 V_3, \\ \dot{V}_3 &= -k_2 V_2 + k_3 V_4, \\ \dot{V}_4 &= -k_3 V_3. \end{aligned}$$

3. Frenet formulas in equiform geometry of \mathbb{G}_4

Let $C : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_4$ be a curve parametrized by arclength s . The equiform parameter of the curve $C(s)$ defined by

$$\sigma = \int \frac{ds}{\rho}, \quad (3.1)$$

where $\rho = \frac{1}{k_1}$ is radius of curvature of the curve. Considering the equation (3.1), it is written that

$$\frac{ds}{d\sigma} = \rho. \quad (3.2)$$

Suppose that h is a homothety with the center in the origin and the coefficient λ . If we take $\tilde{C} = h(C)$, then it can easily be seen that

$$\tilde{s} = \lambda s \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\rho} = \lambda \rho, \quad (3.3)$$

where \tilde{s} is the arc-length parameter of \tilde{C} and $\tilde{\rho}$ the radius of curvature of this curve. Hence σ is an equiform invariant parameter of C .

Remark 3.1. Denote by k_1, k_2, k_3 the curvature functions of the curve C . Then, the curvatures k_1, k_2, k_3 are not invariants of the homothety group, because from (2.4), it follows that

$$\tilde{k}_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda} k_1, \quad \tilde{k}_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda} k_2, \quad \tilde{k}_3 = \frac{1}{\lambda} k_3.$$

Now, if we get

$$\mathbb{V}_1 = \frac{dC}{d\sigma}, \quad (3.4)$$

then using (2.1), we have

$$\mathbb{V}_1 = \rho V_1. \quad (3.5)$$

Also, we define the vectors $\mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4$ by

$$\mathbb{V}_2 = \rho V_2, \quad \mathbb{V}_3 = \rho V_3, \quad \mathbb{V}_4 = \rho V_4 \tag{3.6}$$

Thus, $\{\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4\}$ is an equiform invariant tetrahedron of the curve C .

Now, we will find the derivatives of these vectors with respect to σ using by (3.2), (3.4) and (3.6). For this purpose, it can be written that

$$\mathbb{V}'_1 = \frac{d}{d\sigma} (\mathbb{V}_1) = \dot{\rho} \mathbb{V}_1 + \mathbb{V}_2.$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}'_2 &= \frac{d\mathbb{V}_2}{d\sigma} = \dot{\rho} \mathbb{V}_2 + \frac{k_2}{k_1} \mathbb{V}_3, \\ \mathbb{V}'_3 &= \frac{d\mathbb{V}_3}{d\sigma} = -\frac{k_2}{k_1} \mathbb{V}_2 + \dot{\rho} \mathbb{V}_3 + \frac{k_3}{k_1} \mathbb{V}_4, \\ \mathbb{V}'_4 &= \frac{d\mathbb{V}_4}{d\sigma} = -\frac{k_3}{k_1} \mathbb{V}_3 + \dot{\rho} \mathbb{V}_4, \end{aligned}$$

where the derivatives of the vectors $\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4$ with respect to σ are denoted by a dash ($'$).

Definition 3.2. The function $\mathbb{K}_i : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) is defined by

$$\mathbb{K}_1 = \dot{\rho}, \quad \mathbb{K}_2 = \frac{k_2}{k_1}, \quad \mathbb{K}_3 = \frac{k_3}{k_1} \tag{3.7}$$

is called *i.th* equiform curvature of the curve C . It is easy to prove that \mathbb{K}_i is differential invariant of the group of equiform transformations.

Thus the formulas analogous to famous the Frenet formulas in the equiform geometry of the Galilean 4-space \mathbb{G}_4 have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}'_1 &= \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_1 + \mathbb{V}_2, \\ \mathbb{V}'_2 &= \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_2 + \mathbb{K}_2 \mathbb{V}_3, \\ \mathbb{V}'_3 &= -\mathbb{K}_2 \mathbb{V}_2 + \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_3 + \mathbb{K}_3 \mathbb{V}_4, \\ \mathbb{V}'_4 &= -\mathbb{K}_3 \mathbb{V}_3 + \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_4, \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

where the functions $\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2, \mathbb{K}_3$ is the equiform curvatures of this curve.

These formulas can be written in matrix form as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{V}'_1 \\ \mathbb{V}'_2 \\ \mathbb{V}'_3 \\ \mathbb{V}'_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{K}_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{K}_1 & \mathbb{K}_2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbb{K}_2 & \mathbb{K}_1 & \mathbb{K}_3 \\ 0 & 0 & -\mathbb{K}_3 & \mathbb{K}_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{V}_1 \\ \mathbb{V}_2 \\ \mathbb{V}_3 \\ \mathbb{V}_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Because of the equiform Frenet formulas (3.8), the below equalities regarding equiform curvatures can be given

$$\mathbb{K}_i = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\rho^2} g(\mathbb{V}'_j, \mathbb{V}_j), & (j = 1, 2, 3, 4), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\ \frac{1}{\rho^2} g(\mathbb{V}'_i, \mathbb{V}_{i+1}) = -\frac{1}{\rho^2} g(\mathbb{V}_i, \mathbb{V}'_{i+1}), & \text{for } i = 2, 3, \end{cases} \tag{3.9}$$

where $\rho = \frac{1}{\kappa_1}$ is radius of curvature of C .

Theorem 3.3. *Let $C : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_4$ be a curve parametrized by arclength s , $\{\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4\}$ be the equiform invariant tetrahedron and the function $\mathbb{K}_i : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) be i .th equiform curvature of the curve C . Then for $1 \leq i \leq 4$, the angle between the vectors \mathbb{V}_i and \mathbb{V}'_i is given as follows*

$$\angle(\mathbb{V}_i, \mathbb{V}'_i) = \begin{cases} \rho\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 - 2\mathbb{K}_1 + 2} & \text{for } i = 1, \\ \arccos\left(\frac{\mathbb{K}_1}{\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 + \mathbb{K}_2^2}}\right), & \text{for } i = 2, \\ \arccos\left(\frac{\mathbb{K}_1}{\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 + \mathbb{K}_2^2 + \mathbb{K}_3^2}}\right), & \text{for } i = 3, \\ \arccos\left(\frac{\mathbb{K}_1}{\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 + \mathbb{K}_3^2}}\right), & \text{for } i = 4 \end{cases} \quad (3.10)$$

Proof. For $i = 1$, let θ_1 be the angle between the vectors \mathbb{V}_1 and \mathbb{V}'_1 . Since these vectors are non-isotropic, it is obtained as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 &= [g(\mathbb{V}_1 - \mathbb{V}'_1, \mathbb{V}_1 - \mathbb{V}'_1)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \rho\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 - 2\mathbb{K}_1 + 2}. \end{aligned}$$

For $i = 2$, denote by θ_2 , the angle between the vectors \mathbb{V}_2 and \mathbb{V}'_2 . The vectors \mathbb{V}_2 and \mathbb{V}'_2 are isotropic and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta_2 &= \frac{g(\mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}'_2)}{[g(\mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} [g(\mathbb{V}'_2, \mathbb{V}'_2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{K}_1}{\sqrt{\mathbb{K}_1^2 + \mathbb{K}_2^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

The others are obtained in a similar way.

4. The characterizations of the curves

The equiform curvatures \mathbb{K}_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$) in \mathbb{G}_4 have important geometric interpretation. For example,

(i) The equiform curvatures of a curve have following form

$$\mathbb{K}_2 = \text{const.}, \mathbb{K}_3 = \text{const.}, \quad (4.1)$$

if and only if the curve is generalized helix. Here, we do not set condition on \mathbb{K}_1 .

(ii) If (4.1) holds and \mathbb{K}_1 is identically zero, then the curve is a W -curve.

Now, we present a few characterizations regarding a curve in \mathbb{G}_4 with respect to the its equiform curvatures.

Theorem 4.1. *Let C be a curve in \mathbb{G}_4 with the equiform invariant tetrahedron $\{\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4\}$ and with equiform curvatures $\mathbb{K}_1 \neq 0$. Then C has $\mathbb{K}_2 \equiv 0$ if and only if C lies fully in a 2-dimensional subspace of \mathbb{G}_4 .*

Theorem 4.2. *Let C be a curve in \mathbb{G}_4 with the equiform invariant tetrahedron $\{\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3, \mathbb{V}_4\}$ and with equiform curvatures $\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2 \neq 0$. Then C has $\mathbb{K}_3 \equiv 0$ if and only if C lies fully in a hyperplane of \mathbb{G}_4 .*

Proof. If C has $\mathbb{K}_3 \equiv 0$, then from (3.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} C' &= \mathbb{V}_1, \\ C'' &= \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_1 + \mathbb{V}_2, \\ C''' &= (\rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 + \mathbb{K}_1^2) \mathbb{V}_1 + 2\mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_2 + \mathbb{K}_2 \mathbb{V}_3, \\ C^{(4)} &= \left(\frac{d(\rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 + \mathbb{K}_1^2)}{d\sigma} + (\rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 + \mathbb{K}_1^2) \mathbb{K}_1 \right) \mathbb{V}_1 \\ &\quad + (\rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 + 3\mathbb{K}_1^2 + 2\rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 - \mathbb{K}_2^2) \mathbb{V}_2 \\ &\quad + (3\mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{K}_2 + \rho \dot{\mathbb{K}}_2) \mathbb{V}_3. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by using Mclaren expansion for C , given by

$$C(\sigma) = C(0) + C'(0)\sigma + C''(0)\frac{\sigma^2}{2!} + C'''(0)\frac{\sigma^3}{3!} + \dots,$$

we obtain that C lies fully in a hyperplane of \mathbb{G}_4 by spanned

$$\{C'(0), C''(0), C'''(0)\}.$$

Conversely, we suppose that C lies fully in a hyperplane Γ of \mathbb{G}_4 . Then, there exist the points $p, q \in \mathbb{G}_4$ such that C satisfies the equation of Γ given by

$$g(C(\sigma) - p, q) = 0, \tag{4.2}$$

where $q \in \Gamma^\perp$. Differentiating (4.2) with respect to σ , we can write

$$g(C', q) = g(C'', q) = g(C''', q) = 0.$$

Since

$$C' = \mathbb{V}_1 \text{ and } C'' = \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_1 + \mathbb{V}_2,$$

it follows that

$$g(\mathbb{V}_1, q) = g(\mathbb{V}_2, q) = 0. \tag{4.3}$$

Similarly, we have

$$g(\mathbb{V}_3, q) = 0. \tag{4.4}$$

Again, differentiating (4.4)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g(-\mathbb{K}_2 \mathbb{V}_2 + \mathbb{K}_1 \mathbb{V}_3 + \mathbb{K}_3 \mathbb{V}_4, q) \\ 0 &= \mathbb{K}_3 g(\mathbb{V}_4, q), \end{aligned}$$

because \mathbb{V}_4 is the only vector perpendicular to $\{\mathbb{V}_1, \mathbb{V}_2, \mathbb{V}_3\}$, we obtain

$$\mathbb{K}_3 = 0,$$

this completes the proof. □

Last, we give a characterization for a generalized helix in \mathbb{G}_4 with respect to the curvatures in equiform geometry.

Theorem 4.3. *Let C be a curve with equiform invariant vector \mathbb{V}_3 in the equiform geometry of \mathbb{G}_4 is a generalized helix if and only if*

$$\mathbb{V}_3'' + \varphi_1 \mathbb{V}_3 = \varphi_2 \mathbb{V}_2 + \varphi_3 \mathbb{V}_4, \tag{4.5}$$

where $\varphi_1 = \mathbb{K}_2^2 + \mathbb{K}_3^2 - \mathbb{K}_1^2 - \rho\dot{\mathbb{K}}_1$, $\varphi_2 = -2\mathbb{K}_1\mathbb{K}_2$ and $\varphi_3 = 2\mathbb{K}_1\mathbb{K}_3$.

Proof. Suppose that the curve C is a generalized helix. Thus, we have

$$\mathbb{K}_2 = \text{const. and } \mathbb{K}_3 = \text{const.} \quad (4.6)$$

From (3.8) and (4.6), it is easy to prove that the equation (4.5) is satisfied.

Conversely, we assume that the equation (4.5) holds. Then from (3.8), it follows that

$$\mathbb{V}'_3 = -\mathbb{K}_2\mathbb{V}_2 + \mathbb{K}_1\mathbb{V}_3 + \mathbb{K}_3\mathbb{V}_4, \quad (4.7)$$

and differentiating (4.7) with respect to σ

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}''_3 &= \left(-\rho\dot{\mathbb{K}}_2 - 2\mathbb{K}_1\mathbb{K}_2\right)\mathbb{V}_2 \\ &\quad + \left(\rho\dot{\mathbb{K}}_1 + \mathbb{K}_1^2 - \mathbb{K}_2^2 - \mathbb{K}_3^2\right)\mathbb{V}_3 \\ &\quad + \left(\rho\dot{\mathbb{K}}_3 + 2\mathbb{K}_1\mathbb{K}_3\right)\mathbb{V}_4, \end{aligned}$$

so, we obtain

$$\dot{\mathbb{K}}_2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\mathbb{K}}_3 = 0$$

which completes the proof. \square

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