

**MECHANICAL THEOREM PROVING IN  
DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY  
II. BERTRAND CURVES**

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# Mechanical Theorem Proving in Differential Geometry

## II. Bertrand Curves\*

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**Abstract** This paper reports the study of the properties of the curve pairs of the Bertrand types using our automated reasoning program for differential geometry. A complete list of about 50 results of Bertrand curves in metric and affine geometries has been obtained. The list includes most of the known results of various Bertrand curves which are among the most eminent results in the local theory of space curves. Some of the properties found by our program are unknown to us, and to the best of our knowledge, are not in textbooks for differential geometry. Computer plays a major role in obtaining such a list with very few human interactions. The basis of our automated reasoning system is the Ritt–Wu method for differential polynomials.

**Keywords** Mechanical theorem proving, Mechanical formula derivation, metric differential geometry, affine differential geometry, Bertrand’s theorem, Mannheim’s theorem.

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## 1. Introduction to the Problem

This is a collection of the results about various Bertrand curves obtained using a computer program based on an improved version of Ritt-Wu's zero decomposition algorithm presented in part I of this paper [CG1]. We adopt two approaches to treating the problems. First, we use Formulation II to prove known results under some explicitly given non-degenerate conditions. Second, we derive "unknown" relations among certain variables using Ritt-Wu's characteristic method and then prove them using Formulation II. In this way, we have proved or derived most of the known results for various Bertrand curves mechanically. We have also derived some results which we have not found in textbooks of differential geometry or relevant papers.

The Bertrand curves problem was first studied using a computer by Wu in [WU1]. This paper is a further study of the same problem, but contains more results than those of Wu's: totally 18 types of Bertrand curves in metric and affine differential geometries are studied and a complete list of about 50 results are given. Also our study here follows a different approach: we use the complete decomposition algorithm to derive or prove certain results under some explicitly given conditions. Also, the proving procedure for the known or derived results is automatically carried out by our program without any human assistance.

Theorems on various Bertrand curves are among the most eminent results in the local theory of space curves. The success of our method in dealing with these problems shows that our program based on the Ritt-Wu's decomposition algorithm can be used to solve quite difficult problems in elementary differential geometry, or even discover new results.

A pair of space curves having their principal normals in common are said to be associate Bertrand curves [BE1]. Here following Wu [WU1], we shall further consider more general problems. Given two space curves  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  in an one to one correspondence, let us attach *moving triads*  $(C_1, e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13})$  and  $(C_2, e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23})$  to  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  at the corresponding points of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively. We denote the arcs, curvature and torsions of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  by  $s_1, k_1, t_1$  and  $s_2, k_2, t_2$  respectively. Then all the quantities introduced above can be looked as functions of  $s_1$ . Let  $r = \frac{ds_2}{ds_1}$ , and let

$$C_2 = C_1 + a_1 E_{11} + a_2 E_{12} + a_3 E_{13} \quad (1.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} e_{21} &= u_{11}e_{11} + u_{12}e_{12} + u_{13}e_{13} \\ e_{22} &= u_{21}e_{11} + u_{22}e_{12} + u_{23}e_{13} \\ e_{23} &= u_{31}e_{11} + u_{32}e_{12} + u_{33}e_{13} \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

where  $a_i$  are variables and  $(u_{ij})$  is a matrix of variables satisfying certain relations which will be given in the following sections. For the original Bertrand Curves, (1.1) and (1.2) become

$$C_2 = C_1 + a_2 E_{12}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e_{21} &= u_{11}e_{11} + u_{13}e_{13} \\ e_{22} &= e_{12} \\ e_{23} &= -u_{13}e_{11} + u_{11}e_{13} \end{aligned}$$

where  $u_{11}^2 + u_{13}^2 = 1$ .

Roughly speaking, the problem is to find under what conditions for the curve pairs ( $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ) their moving triads will satisfy some given relations. For example, the original Bertrand curve problem is to ask under what conditions (of  $C_1$  or  $C_2$ )  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  will have identical principal normals at the corresponding points, i.e.  $E_{22} = E_{12}$  at the corresponding points.

In this paper, we mainly consider the following three groups of problems.

$MI_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$ ) means that  $e_{2j}$  is identical with  $e_{1i}$  in metric differential geometry.

$MP_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$ ) means that  $e_{2j}$  is parallel to  $e_{1i}$  in metric differential geometry.

$AI_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$ ) means that  $e_{2j}$  has the same direction with  $e_{1i}$  in affine differential geometry.

So totally 18 kinds of Bertrand curves are studied.

In this paper, we assume the reader has already known the Ritt-Wu's decomposition algorithm and Wu's method of mechanical theorem proving in the differential case. A detailed description of the algorithm can be found in [WU2] or part I of this paper [CG1].

In section 2, we will discuss the following two cases in metric differential geometry. In section 3, we will discuss the case in affine differential geometry.

## 2. Bertrand Curves In Metric Space

In metric differential geometry, let  $(e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13})$  and  $(e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23})$  be the Frenet triads of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  at their corresponding points respectively, then we have the following Frenet formulas.

$$\begin{aligned} e'_{11} &= k_1 e_{12} \\ e'_{12} &= -k_1 e_{11} + t_1 e_{13} \\ e'_{13} &= -t_1 e_{12} \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e'_{21} &= r k_2 e_{22} \\ e'_{22} &= -r k_2 e_{21} + r t_2 e_{23} \\ e'_{23} &= -r t_2 e_{22} \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

where  $r = \frac{ds_2}{ds_1}$  and the differentiations here and in the following of this paper are all wrpt  $s_1$ .

Differentiate (1.1) and (1.2); eliminate  $e'_{11}, e'_{12}, e'_{13}, e'_{21}, e'_{22}$  and  $e'_{23}$  using (2.1) and (2.2); eliminate  $e_{21}, e_{22}$ , and  $e_{23}$  using (1.2); at last, comparing coefficients for the vectors  $e_{11}, e_{12}$ , and  $e_{13}$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 t_1 - r u_{13} + a'_3 &= 0 \\ a_3 t_1 - a_1 k_1 + r u_{12} - a'_2 &= 0 \\ a_2 k_1 + r u_{11} - a'_1 - 1 &= 0 \\ r u_{23} k_2 - u_{12} t_1 - u'_{13} &= 0 \\ r u_{22} k_2 + u_{13} t_1 - u_{11} k_1 - u'_{12} &= 0 \\ r u_{21} k_2 + u_{12} k_1 - u'_{11} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
ru_{33}t_2 - ru_{13}k_2 - u_{22}t_1 - u'_{23} &= 0 \\
ru_{32}t_2 - ru_{12}k_2 + u_{23}t_1 - u_{21}k_1 - u'_{22} &= 0 \\
ru_{31}t_2 - ru_{11}k_2 + u_{22}k_1 - u'_{21} &= 0 \\
ru_{23}t_2 + u_{32}t_1 + u'_{33} &= 0 \\
ru_{22}t_2 - u_{33}t_1 + u_{31}k_1 + u'_{32} &= 0 \\
ru_{21}t_2 - u_{32}k_1 + u'_{31} &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

To transform a right-handed orthogonal system  $\{e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13}\}$  to another right handed orthogonal system  $\{e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23}\}$ ,  $(u_{ij})$  must satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{13}^2 + u_{12}^2 + u_{11}^2 - 1 &= 0 \\
u_{23}^2 + u_{22}^2 + u_{21}^2 - 1 &= 0 \\
u_{33}^2 + u_{32}^2 + u_{31}^2 - 1 &= 0 \\
u_{13}u_{23} + u_{12}u_{22} + u_{11}u_{21} &= 0 \\
u_{13}u_{33} + u_{12}u_{32} + u_{11}u_{31} &= 0 \\
u_{23}u_{33} + u_{22}u_{32} + u_{21}u_{31} &= 0 \\
(u_{11}u_{22} - u_{12}u_{21})u_{33} + (-u_{11}u_{23} + u_{13}u_{21})u_{32} + (u_{12}u_{23} - u_{13}u_{22})u_{31} - 1 &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

(2.3) and (2.4) were first given by Wu in [WU1] except the last equation in (2.4) which is added by us to preerve the right-handness of the moving triads.

## 2.1. The Identical Case

Let  $MI_{ij}$  be the case for which  $e_{2j}$  is identical with  $e_{1i}$  at the corresponding points. Since  $(e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13})$  and  $(e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23})$  are orthogonal systems, at case  $MI_{ij}$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
a_m &= 0 \quad m \neq i \\
u_{ji} - 1 &= 0 \\
u_{jk_1} &= 0 \quad k_1 \neq i \\
u_{ki} &= 0 \quad k \neq j
\end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

For each concrete case  $MI_{i_0j_0}$ , apply Ritt-Wu's decomposition theorem to (2.3), (2.4), and (2.5) under the following variable order  $r < a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < u_{11} < u_{12} < u_{13} < u_{21} < u_{22} < u_{23} < u_{31} < u_{32} < u_{33} < k_1 < t_1 < k_2 < t_2$ . Once the decomposition is furnished, we can prove or derive formulas from the given asc chains in the decomposition.

The following non-degenerate conditions are often used:

$k_1 \neq 0$  means curve  $C_1$  is not a straight line.

$k_2 \neq 0$  means curve  $C_2$  is not a straight line.

$r \neq 0$  means the arc length of  $C_2$  as a function of the arc length of  $C_1$  is not a constant, i.e.,  $C_2$  is not a fixed point.

At first, we list some of the known or derived results.

**Case  $MI_{11}$ .** Under the non-degenerate condition  $rk_1k_2 \neq 0$ ,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  must be identical, i.e.  $C_1 = C_2$ . For other variables, we have two cases:

- (i).  $r = 1$ ,  $e_{11} = e_{21}$ ,  $e_{12} = e_{22}$ ,  $e_{13} = e_{23}$   $k_1 = k_2$ , and  $t_1 = t_2$ .  
(ii).  $r = 1$ ,  $e_{11} = e_{21}$ ,  $e_{12} = -e_{22}$ ,  $e_{13} = -e_{23}$   $k_1 = -k_2$ , and  $t_1 = t_2$ .

Note that (ii) is impossible as we assume  $k_1 > 0$  and  $k_2 > 0$ .

**Case  $MI_{12}$ .** Under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$ , we have

- a.  $C_2$  and  $C_1$  are both plane curves ( $t_1 = t_2 = 0$ ).  
b.  $C_2 = C_1 + a_1 e_{11}$ .  
c. There are two cases:

$$\begin{aligned} e_{21} &= -e_{12}, e_{22} = e_{11}, e_{23} = e_{13} \\ a'_1 &= -1, a_1 k_2 = -1 \\ r &= -a_1 k_1 \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e_{21} &= e_{12}, e_{22} = e_{11}, e_{23} = -e_{13} \\ a'_1 &= -1, a_1 k_2 = -1 \\ r &= a_1 k_1 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

The geometric meaning of the above results can be stated as follows.

*If  $C_2$  is the involute of  $C_1$  in the strong sense that the principal normals of  $C_2$  are identical with the tangent lines of  $C_1$ , then both curve must be plane curves, and*

(i)  $C_2 = C_1 + (c_0 - s)e_{11}$  where  $c_0$  is a constant.

(ii)  $C_1 = C_2 + \frac{1}{k_2} e_{22}$ , i.e  $C_1$  is the locus of the curvature center of  $C_2$ .

(iii) The arc length of  $C_1$  between two points equal to the difference of the reciprocal of the curvature of  $C_2$  at the corresponding points.

**Case  $MI_{13}$ .** There exist no curves satisfying  $e_{11} = e_{23}$  under the condition  $r \neq 0$ .

**Case  $MI_{22}$ .** Under the non-degenerate conditions  $r \neq 0$  and  $a_2 \neq 0$  ( $C_2 \neq C_2$ ), we have

- a. The distance from  $C_1$  to  $C_2$  is a constant.  
b. The angle formed by the tangent lines at  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively is a constant.  
c. (Bertrand) There exists a linear relation between  $k_1$  and  $t_1$  with constant coefficients.  
d. (Schell) The production of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  is a constant.

We actually have the concrete expressions for results c and d in (2.10) and (2.11).

**Case  $MI_{23}$ .** Under the non-degenerate condition  $r k_1 \neq 0$ , we have

- a. The distance from  $C_1$  to  $C_2$  is a constant.  
b. (Mannheim)  $k_1^2 + t_1^2 = c_1 k_1$

c.  $t_1 t_2' = c_2(t_1 - t_2)$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants.

We actually have the concrete expressions for results b and c in (2.12).

**Case  $MI_{33}$ .** Under the non-degenerate condition  $rk_1 k_2 \neq 0$ , we have either

a.  $C_1 = C_2$ ; or

b.  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are both plane curves and  $e_{11} = e_{21}, e_{12} = e_{22}, e_{13} = e_{23}, a_3' = 0, r = 1, k_1 = k_2$ ; or

c.  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are both plane curves and  $e_{11} = -e_{21}, e_{12} = -e_{22}, e_{13} = e_{23}, a_3' = 0, r = -1, k_1 = -k_2$ .

In this case, we have either  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are identical or both curves are plane curves and  $C_2$  is translation of  $C_1$  with a constant distance along the binormal of  $C_1$ .

Take  $MI_{22}$ , the original case of Bertrand as an example. Other cases can be proved similarly. Using Ritt-Wu's decomposition algorithm to  $(2.3) \cup (2.4) \cup (2.5)$  and  $r \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0$ , we get 3 components the ascending chains representing the components are:

$ASC_1 =$	$ASC_2 =$	$ASC_3 =$
$a_1$	$a_1$	$a_1$
$a_2'$	$a_2'$	$a_2'$
$a_3$	$a_3$	$a_3$
$u_{11} - 1$	$u_{11} + 1$	$u_{11}'$
$u_{12}$	$u_{12}$	$u_{12}$
$u_{13}$	$u_{13}$	$u_{13}^2 + u_{11}^2 - 1$
$u_{21}$	$u_{21}$	$u_{21}$
$u_{22} - 1$	$u_{22} - 1$	$u_{22} - 1$
$u_{23}$	$u_{23}$	$u_{23}$
$u_{31}$	$u_{31}$	$u_{31} + u_{13}$
$u_{32}$	$u_{32}$	$u_{32}$
$u_{33} - 1$	$u_{33} + 1$	$u_{33} - u_{11}$
$a_2 k_1 + r - 1$	$a_2 k_1 - r - 1$	$a_2 k_1 + r u_{11} - 1$
$t_1$	$t_1$	$a_2 t_1 - r u_{13}$
$r a_2 k_2 + r - 1$	$r a_2 k_2 + r + 1$	$r a_2 k_2 - u_{11} + r$
$t_2$	$t_2$	$r a_2 t_2 - u_{13}$

By the method of eliminating constants in [CG1], the four conclusions of  $MI_{22}$  are equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_2' &= 0 \\
 u_{11}' &= 0 \\
 DLR(1, k_1, t_1) &= k_1'' t_1' - t_1'' k_1' = 0 \\
 (t_1 t_2)' &= 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

respectively. The pseudo remainders of the differential polynomials (ab. d-pols) in (2.9) wrpt  $ASC_1, ASC_2,$  and  $ASC_3$  are zero which proves the result.

On the other hand, we can obtain our results from  $ASC_3$ , which represents the main component [CG1], directly. The differential equations representing results a ( $a'_2 = 0$ ) and b ( $u'_{11} = 0$ ) are already in  $ASC_3$ . Eliminate  $r$  from the last four equations of  $ASC_3$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 u_{11} t_1 + a_2 u_{13} k_1 - u_{13} &= 0 \\ a_2^2 t_1 t_2 - u_{13}^2 & \\ a_2^2 t_1 k_2 + a_2 t_1 - u_{11} u_{13} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

As  $a_2, u_{11}$ , (and hence  $u_{13} = \sqrt{1 - u_{11}^2}$ ) are constants, the first two formulas of (2.10) actually give the concrete expression for Bertrand's theorem and Schell's theorem. From (2.10) we can find formulas between  $k_1, k_2$ ;  $k_1, t_2$ ; and  $k_2, t_2$  respectively as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - a_2 k_1)(1 + a_2 k_2) - u_{11}^2 &= 0 \\ a_2^2 k_1 t_2 - a_2 t_2 + u_{11} u_{13} &= 0 \\ a_2 u_{11} t_2 - a_2 u_{13} k_2 - u_{13} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

The conclusions in (2.10) and (2.11) are correct at the nondegenerate condition  $k_1 k_2 r \neq 0$ .

For  $MI_{23}$ , we can find the following concrete expressions for (b) and (c) of  $MI_{23}$  similarly:

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 t_1^2 + a_2 k_1^2 - k_1 &= 0 \\ a_2^2 t_1 t_2^2 - t_2 + t_1 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

where  $a_2$  is a constant. We can also find the following algebraic relations among  $k_1, k_2$ , and  $t_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 t_1 t_2 - k_1 &= 0 \\ k_1^2 + t_1^2 - t_1 t_2 &= 0 \\ (a_2^2 k_1 - a_2) t_2^2 + k_1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

For  $r$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= t_1^2 / (t_1^2 + k_1^2) \\ r^2 &= t_1 / t_2 \\ r &= u_{11} \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $k_2$  does not occurred in the above expressions. There are no algebraic relations among  $k_2, k_1, t_1, t_2$ , and  $a_2$ . We have the following formulas for  $k_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 2t_1 k_2 + dk_1/ds' &= 0 \\ a_2 t_2 k_2 - r'/r^2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

All the above results are true under the nondegenerate condition  $k_1 k_2 r \neq 0$ .

## 2.2. The Parallel Case

Let  $MP_{ij}$  be the case for which vector  $e_{2j}$  is parallel to vector  $e_{1i}$  at the corresponding points. Then at case  $MP_{ij}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_{jk} &= 0 \quad k \neq i \\ u_{ki} &= 0 \quad k \neq j \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$



For each concrete case  $MP_{i_0j_0}$ , apply Ritt-Wu's decomposition algorithm to (2.3), (2.4) and (2.13) under the non-degenerate condition  $k_1k_2r \neq 0$ . The following results can be derived and then proved automatically under the non-degenerated condition  $k_1k_2r \neq 0$ .

**Case  $MP_{11}$ .** There are four cases:

- a.  $a_3a'_3 + a_2a'_2 + a_1a'_1 + (r+1)a_1 = 0$   
 $r = -k_1/k_2 = -t_1/t_2$   
 $e_{21} = -e_{11}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = -e_{13}$ ; OR
- b.  $a_3a'_3 + a_2a'_2 + a_1a'_1 + (r+1)a_1 = 0$   
 $r = k_1/k_2 = -t_1/t_2$   
 $e_{21} = -e_{11}, e_{22} = -e_{12}, e_{23} = e_{13}$ ; OR
- c.  $a_3a'_3 + a_2a'_2 + a_1a'_1 + (-r+1)a_1 = 0$   
 $r = -k_1/k_2 = t_1/t_2$   
 $e_{21} = e_{11}, e_{22} = -e_{12}, e_{23} = -e_{13}$ ; OR
- d.  $a_3a'_3 + a_2a'_2 + a_1a'_1 + (-r+1)a_1 = 0$   
 $r = k_1/k_2 = t_1/t_2$   
 $e_{21} = e_{11}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = e_{13}$ .

**Case  $MP_{12}$ .** There are two cases:

- a.  $u_{21} - 1 = 0$   
 $a_2k_1 - a'_1 - 1 = 0$   
 $r^2 = \frac{k_1^2}{t_2^2 + k_2^2}$   
 $k_2/u_{12} = -t_2/u_{13} = -k_1/r$ ; OR
- b.  $u_{21} + 1 = 0$   
 $a_2k_1 - a'_1 - 1 = 0$   
 $r^2 = \frac{k_1^2}{t_2^2 + k_2^2}$   
 $k_2/u_{12} = t_2/u_{13} = k_1/r$ .

**Case  $MP_{13}$ .** There are four cases:

- a.  $e_{21} = -e_{13}, e_{22} = -e_{12}, e_{23} = -e_{11}$ , OR  
 $r = -t_1/k_2 = -k_1/t_2$
- b.  $e_{21} = e_{13}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = -e_{11}$ , OR  
 $r = -t_1/k_2 = k_1/t_2$ .
- c.  $e_{21} = -e_{13}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = e_{11}$ , OR  
 $r = t_1/k_2 = -k_1/t_2$ .
- d.  $e_{21} = e_{13}, e_{22} = -e_{12}, e_{23} = e_{11}$ .  
 $r = t_1/k_2 = k_1/t_2$ .

Case  $MP_{22}$  There are two cases

$$\begin{aligned}
a. \quad & u_{22} - 1 = 0 \\
& u'_{11} = 0 \\
& u'_{13} = 0 \\
& u_{13}(t_1 t_2 + k_1 k_2) = u_{11}(k_1 t_2 - t_1 k_2) \\
& r^2 = \frac{t_1^2 + k_1^2}{t_2^2 + k_2^2} \\
& a_3 t_1 - a_1 k_1 - a'_2 = 0 \\
& r^2 k_1 t_2 - r^2 t_1 k_2 - a_2 t_1^3 - a'_3 t_1^2 - a_2 k_1^2 t_1 - a'_3 k_1^2 = 0 \\
& r^2 t_1 t_2 + r^2 k_1 k_2 + (a_2 k_1 - a'_1 - 1)t_1^2 + a_2 k_1^3 + (-a'_1 - 1)k_1^2 = 0; \text{ or} \\
b. \quad & u_{22} + 1 = 0 \\
& u'_{11} = 0 \\
& u'_{13} = 0 \\
& u_{13}(t_1 t_2 - k_1 k_2) = u_{11}(k_1 t_2 + t_1 k_2) \\
& r^2 = \frac{t_1^2 + k_1^2}{t_2^2 + k_2^2} \\
& a_3 t_1 - a_1 k_1 - a'_2 = 0 \\
& r^2 k_1 t_2 + r^2 t_1 k_2 - a_2 t_1^3 - a'_3 t_1^2 - a_2 k_1^2 t_1 - a'_3 k_1^2 = 0 \\
& r^2 t_1 t_2 - r^2 k_1 k_2 + (a_2 k_1 - a'_1 - 1)t_1^2 + a_2 k_1^3 + (-a'_1 - 1)k_1^2 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Note that from the fourth differential polynomial, we know that  $t_1, k_1, k_2$ , and  $t_2$  satisfy a homogeneous quadratic equation of constant coefficients.

Case  $MP_{23}$  We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& r^2 t_2^2 - t_1^2 - k_1^2 = 0 \\
& t_1/u_{11} = k_1/u_{13} = r t_2 \\
& (a_2 a_3^2 + a_1^2 a_2)k_1^2 + (a_1 a_3 a'_3 + (-a'_1 - 1)a_3^2 + 2a_1 a_2 a'_2)k_1 + a'_2 a_3 a'_3 + a_2 a_2'^2 = 0 \\
& a_3 t_1 - a_1 k_1 - a'_2 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Case  $MP_{33}$ . We have the same results as  $MP_{11}$ .

Take  $MP_{11}$  as an example. Using Ritt-Wu's decomposition algorithm to (2.3), (2.4), and  $\{u_{12} = 0, u_{13} = 0, u_{21} = 0, u_{31} = 0\}$  under the following variable order:  $k_1 < t_1 < k_2 < t_2 < r < a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < u_{11} < u_{12} < u_{13} < u_{21} < u_{22} < u_{23} < u_{31} < u_{32} < u_{33}$ , we find four main components which give the four results respectively.

Some of the results obtained in this section cannot be found in textbooks of differential geometry.

### 3. Bertrand Curves in Affine Space

In affine differential geometry, let  $e_{11} = \frac{dC_1}{ds_1}, e_{12} = \frac{de_{11}}{ds_1}, e_{13} = \frac{de_{12}}{ds_1}$  and  $e_{21} = \frac{dC_2}{ds_2}, e_{22} = \frac{de_{21}}{ds_2}, e_{23} = \frac{de_{22}}{ds_2}$  be the moving triads of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  at their corresponding points respectively,

where  $s_i$  are the arc length of curves  $C_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Then we have the following Frenet formulas.

$$\begin{aligned} e'_{11} &= e_{12} \\ e'_{12} &= e_{13} \\ e'_{13} &= -k_1 e_{12} + t_1 e_{11} \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} e'_{21} &= r e_{22} \\ e'_{22} &= r e_{23} \\ e'_{23} &= -r k_2 e_{22} + r t_2 e_{21} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

where  $r = \frac{ds_2}{ds_1}$ . We also have

$$(e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13}) = 1 \quad (3.3)$$

$$(e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23}) = 1 \quad (3.4)$$

Similar as section 2, we can get the following d-pol equations.

$$\begin{aligned} r u_{13} - a'_3 - a_2 &= 0 \\ a_3 k_1 + r u_{12} - a'_2 - a_1 &= 0 \\ a_3 t_1 + r u_{11} - a'_1 - 1 &= 0 \\ r u_{23} - u'_{13} - u_{12} &= 0 \\ u_{13} k_1 + r u_{22} - u'_{12} - u_{11} &= 0 \\ u_{13} t_1 + r u_{21} - u'_{11} &= 0 \\ r u_{33} - u'_{23} - u_{22} &= 0 \\ u_{23} k_1 + r u_{32} - u'_{22} - u_{21} &= 0 \\ u_{23} t_1 + r u_{31} - u'_{21} &= 0 \\ r u_{13} t_2 + r u_{23} k_2 + u'_{33} + u_{32} &= 0 \\ r u_{12} t_2 + r u_{22} k_2 - u_{33} k_1 + u'_{32} + u_{31} &= 0 \\ r u_{11} t_2 + r u_{21} k_2 - u_{33} t_1 + u'_{31} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

From (3.3), (3.4), and (1.2) we have that the determinant of the transformation matrix  $(u_{ij})$  is the unit, i.e.

$$(u_{11} u_{22} - u_{12} u_{21}) u_{33} + (-u_{11} u_{23} + u_{13} u_{21}) u_{32} + (u_{12} u_{23} - u_{13} u_{22}) u_{31} - 1 = 0 \quad (3.6)$$

Let  $AI_{ij}$  be the case such that  $e_{2j}$  has the same direction\* as  $e_{1i}$  at the corresponding points. At case  $AI_{ij}$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= 0 \quad k \neq i \\ u_{jk_1} &= 0 \quad k_1 \neq i \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

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\* In affine case the vectors in the moving triads are not unit vectors. Then there is no identical case as section 2.1

We first apply Ritt-Wu's decomposition theorem to (3.5), (3.6), and (3.7) under the following variable order  $r < a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < u_{11} < u_{12} < u_{13} < u_{21} < u_{22} < u_{23} < u_{31} < u_{32} < u_{33} < k_1 < t_1 < k_2 < t_2$ . Once the decomposition is furnished, we may prove or derive results from the given asc chains in the decomposition.

At first, we list some of the known or derived results.

**Case  $AI_{11}$ .** The following results are true under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$

a.  $C_2 = C_1$ .

b. There are two cases.

$$\begin{aligned} r &= 1 \\ k_2 &= k_1, t_2 = t_1 \\ e_{21} &= e_{11}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = e_{13} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= -1 \\ k_2 &= k_1, t_2 = -t_1 \\ e_{21} &= -e_{11}, e_{22} = e_{12}, e_{23} = -e_{13} \end{aligned}$$

**Case  $AI_{12}$ .** There exist no curves such that  $e_{11}$  has the same direction as  $e_{22}$ .

**Case  $AI_{13}$ .** The following results are true under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} C_2 &= C_1 + a_1 e_{11} \\ e_{23} &= u_{31} e_{11} \\ a_1 &= \frac{r}{3} \int r ds_1 \\ u_{31} &= r^3 / a_1^2 \\ k_2 &= 0 \\ a_1^3 t_2 + r^3 &= 0 \\ a_1 t_2 + u_{31} &= 0 \\ r^3 t_2^3 + t_2^4 &= 0 \\ r^2 a_1 k_1 + (-2rr'' + 3r'^2) a_1 + 2rr' &= 0 \\ 3r^3 a_1^3 t_1 + (-3r^2 r''' + 12rr' r'' - 9r'^3) a_1^3 + (4r^2 r'' - 10rr'^2) a_1^2 + 3r^9 &= 0 \\ 18t_2^2 t_2' t_2''' - 9t_2^2 t_2''^2 - 66t_2 t_2'^2 t_2'' + 64t_2'^4 + 9k_1 t_2^2 t_2'' &= 0 \\ 3ra_1' - 3r'a_1 + r &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Case  $AI_{22}$ .** The following results are true under the non-degenerate conditions  $r \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} C_2 &= C_1 + a_2 e_{12} \\ e_{22} &= u_{22} e_{11} \\ a_2^2 &= cu_{22} \end{aligned}$$

where  $c$  is a constant. For  $k_1$  and  $t_1$ , we get a formula for  $k_1, k_1', k_1'', t_1, t_1', t_1'',$  and  $t_1'''$  of 55 terms.

$$\begin{aligned}
& ((12t_1^2 - 4k_1' t_1)t_1')t_1''^2 \\
& + ((-15t_1^2 + 5k_1' t_1)t_1''^2 + ((-24t_1 + 4k_1')t_1'^2 + 4k_1'' t_1 t_1' - 90k_1 t_1^3 + 30k_1 k_1' t_1^2)t_1'' \\
& - 20k_1 k_1' t_1 t_1'^2 + (-144t_1^4 + 216k_1' t_1^3 + (20k_1 k_1'' - 56k_1'^2)t_1^2)t_1' - 75k_1^2 t_1^4 + 25k_1^2 k_1' t_1^3)t_1'' \\
& + (15t_1 t_1' - 5k_1'' t_1)t_1'^3 + (12t_1'^3 - 4k_1'' t_1'^2 + (90k_1 t_1^2 + 25k_1 k_1' t_1)t_1' \\
& - 135t_1^4 + 15k_1' t_1^3 + (-55k_1 k_1'' + 10k_1'^2)t_1^2)t_1''^2 \\
& + (20k_1 k_1' t_1^3 + (144t_1^3 - 72k_1' t_1^2 + (-20k_1 k_1'' - 12k_1'^2)t_1)t_1'^2 + ((-144k_1'' + 75k_1^2)t_1^3 \\
& + (68k_1' k_1'' + 150k_1^2 k_1')t_1^2)t_1' + 90k_1 t_1^5 - 510k_1 k_1' t_1^4 + (-175k_1^2 k_1'' + 160k_1 k_1'^2)t_1^3)t_1'' \\
& - 16k_1'^2 t_1^4 + 32k_1' k_1'' t_1 t_1'^3 + (240k_1 k_1' t_1^3 + (-16k_1''^2 - 180k_1 k_1'^2)t_1^2)t_1''^2 \\
& + (432t_1^6 - 1152k_1' t_1^5 + (-240k_1 k_1'' + 924k_1'^2)t_1^4 + (180k_1 k_1' k_1'' - 196k_1'^3 + 125k_1^3 k_1')t_1^3)t_1'' \\
& + 225k_1^2 t_1^6 - 525k_1^2 k_1' t_1^5 + (-125k_1^3 k_1'' + 150k_1^2 k_1'^2)t_1^4 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

For other variables we have two cases

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{22} - r &= 0 \\
2ra_2' - r'a_2 &= 0 \\
t_2 - t_1 &= 0 \\
r^2 a_2 k_2 + a_2 k_1 + 2r^3 - 2 &= 0 \\
ra_2 t_1 + r' &= 0 \\
a_2^2 t_1 + 2a_2' &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{22} + r &= 0 \\
2ra_2' - r'a_2 &= 0 \\
t_2 + t_1 &= 0 \\
r^2 a_2 k_2 + a_2 k_1 - 2r^3 - 2 &= 0 \\
ra_2 t_1 + r' &= 0 \\
a_2^2 t_1 + 2a_2' &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

**Case  $AI_{23}$ .** The following results are true under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
r^4 a_2 t_2 + (2ra_2' - r'a_2)u_{32}^2 + r^4 u_{32} &= 0 \\
r^2 k_2 - u_{32}^2 &= 0 \\
a_2^2 u_{32} t_1 + 2a_2' u_{32} + r^3 &= 0 \\
r^2 a_2 k_1 - 3r^2 a_2'' + 6rr'a_2' + (rr'' - 3r'^2)a_2 - r^2 &= 0 \\
(a_2^4 t_1^2 + 4a_2^2 a_2' t_1 + 4a_2'^2)k_2 - r^4 &= 0 \\
(a_2^4 t_1^2 + 4a_2^2 a_2' t_1 + 4a_2'^2)k_2^3 - u_{32}^4 &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

**Case  $AI_{33}$ .** The following results are true under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
r^2 k_2 - u_{33}^2 k_1 &= 0 \\
(r^2 a_3 t_1 - r^2)t_2 + (ra_3 t_1' + (2ra_3' - r'a_3)t_1 + r')k_2 + r^2 u_{33} t_1 &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

All the above results can be proved similar as section 2. For example, let us show how to prove the result  $a_2^2 = cu_{22}$  in case  $AI_{22}$ . Since  $c$  is a constant. We need to prove  $DLR(a_2^2, u_{22}) =$

$2a_2a'_2u_{22} - a_2^2u'_{22} = 0$ . Using Ritt-Wu's decomposition theorem to  $(3.5) \cup (3.6) \cup \{a_1, a_3, u_{21}, u_{23}\}$  under the non-degenerate condition  $r \neq 0$ , we get six components. the pseudo remainders of  $DLR(a_2^2, u_{22})$  with respect to (ab. wrpt) the six ascending chains representing the six components are all zero which means the result is true. We actually can derive this result automatically. Of the six components, there are two main components whose ascending chains are:

$  \begin{aligned}  ASC_1 = & \\  & a_1 \\  & 2ra'_2 - r'a_2 \\  & a_3 \\  & ru_{11} - 1 \\  & 2r^2u_{12} - r'a_2 \\  & ru_{13} - a_2 \\  & u_{21} \\  & u_{22} + r \\  & u_{23} \\  & u_{31} \\  & ru_{32} + r' \\  & u_{33} + 1 \\  & 4r^2a_2k_1 + (-2rr'' + 3r'^2)a_2 - 4r^5 - 4r^2 \\  & ra_2t_1 + r' \\  & 4r^4a_2k_2 + (2rr'' - 3r'^2)a_2 - 4r^5 - 4r^2 \\  & ra_2t_2 - r'  \end{aligned}  $	$  \begin{aligned}  ASC_2 = & \\  & a_1 \\  & 2ra'_2 - r'a_2 \\  & a_3 \\  & ru_{11} - 1 \\  & 2r^2u_{12} - r'a_2 \\  & ru_{13} - a_2 \\  & u_{21} \\  & u_{22} - r \\  & u_{23} \\  & u_{31} \\  & ru_{32} - r' \\  & u_{33} - 1 \\  & 4r^2a_2k_1 + (-2rr'' + 3r'^2)a_2 + 4r^5 - 4r^2 \\  & ra_2t_1 + r' \\  & 4r^4a_2k_2 + (2rr'' - 3r'^2)a_2 + 4r^5 - 4r^2 \\  & ra_2t_2 + r'  \end{aligned}  $
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In  $ASC_1$  and  $ASC_2$ , there is a differential equation  $2ra'_2 - r'a_2 = 0$  whose solution is just  $a_2^2 = cr$  for a constant  $c$ . All the results of case  $AI_{22}$  can be found similarly. In this way, we have rediscovered all the formulas among  $t_1, t_2, a_2, r, u_{22}$  in [OG1]. We also found some results which are not in [OG1], e.g. the relations between  $k_1, t_1$  and  $k_1, k_2$ .

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