

## HELICOIDAL SURFACES IN THE 3-DIMENSIONAL LORENTZ-MINKOWSKI SPACE $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ SATISFYING $\Delta^{III}r = Ar$

By

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**Abstract.** In this paper the helicoidal surfaces in the 3-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space are classified under the condition  $\Delta^{III}r = Ar$ , where  $A$  is a real  $3 \times 3$  matrix and  $\Delta^{III}$  is the Laplace operator with respect to the third fundamental form.

### Introduction

Let  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  be a three-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space with the scalar product of index 1 given by

$$g_L = ds^2 = -dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + dx_3^2,$$

where  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  are the canonical coordinates in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

Let  $r = r(u, v)$  be a regular parametric representation of a surface  $M$  in the 3-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  which does not contain parabolic points.

The notion of finite type submanifolds in Euclidean space or pseudo-Euclidean space was introduced by B.-Y. Chen [5]. A surface  $M$  is said to be of finite type if its coordinate functions are a finite sum of eigenfunctions of its Laplacian  $\Delta$ . B.-Y. Chen posed the problem of classifying the finite type surfaces in the 3-dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbf{E}^3$ . Further, the notion of finite type can be extended to any smooth functions on a submanifold of a Euclidean space or a pseudo-Euclidean space.

If  $H$  is the mean curvature vector of the immersion  $r$ , we know that:

$$\Delta r = -2H.$$

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In [12] M. Choi, Y. H. Kim and G. C. Park classified helicoidal surfaces with pointwise 1-type Gauss maps and harmonic Gauss maps. In [8] G. Kaimakamis and B. J. Papantoniou classified the first three types of surfaces of revolution without parabolic points in the 3-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space, which satisfy the condition

$$\Delta^I r = Ar, \quad A \in \text{Mat}(3, \mathbf{R}),$$

where  $\text{Mat}(3, \mathbf{R})$  is the set of  $3 \times 3$  real matrices. They proved that such surfaces are either minimal or Lorentz hyperbolic cylinders or pseudospheres of real or imaginary radius.

In [1] Ch. Baba-Hamed and M. Bekkar studied the helicoidal surfaces without parabolic points in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ , which satisfy the condition

$$\Delta^I r_i = \lambda_i r_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq 3.$$

In [3] Chr. Beneki, G. Kaimakamis and B. J. Papantoniou obtained a classification of surfaces of revolution with constant Gauss curvature in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  and in [4] defined four kinds of helicoidal surfaces in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ . C. W. Lee, Y. H. Kim and D. W. Yoon [13] studied the ruled surfaces in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  which satisfy the condition

$$\Delta^{III} r = Ar, \tag{1}$$

where  $A \in \text{Mat}(3, \mathbf{R})$ .

S. Stamatakis and H. Al-Zoubi in [11] classified the surfaces of revolution with non zero Gaussian curvature in  $\mathbf{E}^3$  under the condition (1).

In [9] G. Kaimakamis, B. J. Papantoniou and K. Petoumenos classified and proved that such surfaces of revolution in the 3-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  satisfying (1) are either minimal or Lorentz hyperbolic cylinders or pseudospheres of real or imaginary radius.

Recently, the authors [2] studied the translation surfaces in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  satisfying (1).

In this work we classify the helicoidal surfaces with non-degenerate third fundamental form in the 3-dimensional Lorentz-Minkowski space under the condition (1).

## 1. Preliminaries

A vector  $X$  of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  is said to be timelike if  $g_L(X, X) < 0$ , spacelike if  $g_L(X, X) > 0$  or  $X = 0$  and lightlike or null if  $g_L(X, X) = 0$  and  $X \neq 0$ . A time-like or light-like vector in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  is said to be causal.

For two vectors  $X = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and  $Y = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  the Lorentz cross product of  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined by

$$X \wedge_L Y = (x_3 y_2 - x_2 y_3, x_3 y_1 - x_1 y_3, x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1).$$

The pseudo-vector product operation  $\wedge_L$  is related to the determinant function by

$$\det(X, Y, Z) = g_L(X \wedge_L Y, Z).$$

The matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cosh \theta & \sinh \theta & 0 \\ \sinh \theta & \cosh \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \theta & 0 & \sinh \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \sinh \theta & 0 & \cosh \theta \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cosh \theta & \sinh \theta \\ 0 & \sinh \theta & \cosh \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

are called the *Lorentzian rotation matrix* in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ , where  $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$ .

For an open interval  $I \subset \mathbf{R}$ , let  $\gamma : I \rightarrow \Pi$  be a curve in a plane  $\Pi$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  and let  $L$  be a straight line in  $\Pi$  which does not intersect the curve  $\gamma$  (axis). A helicoidal surface in Minkowski space  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  is a surface invariant by a uni-parametric group

$$G_{L,c} = \{g_v/g_v : \mathbf{E}_1^3 \rightarrow \mathbf{E}_1^3; v \in \mathbf{R}\}$$

of helicoidal motions. Each helicoidal surface is given by a group of helicoidal motions and a generating curve. A helicoidal surface parametrizes as

$$r(u, v) = g_v(\gamma(u)), \quad (u, v) \in I \times \mathbf{R}.$$

Each group of helicoidal motions is characterized by an axis  $L$  and a pitch  $c \neq 0$ . Depending on the axis  $L$  being spacelike, timelike or null, there are three types of motion.

If the axis  $L$  is spacelike (resp. timelike), then  $L$  is transformed to the  $y$ -axis or  $z$ -axis (resp.  $x$ -axis) by the Lorentz transformation. Therefore, we may consider  $z$ -axis (resp.  $x$ -axis) as the axis if  $L$  is spacelike (resp. timelike). If the axis  $L$  is lightlike, then we may suppose that the axis is the line spanned by the vector  $(1, 1, 0)$ . We distinguish helicoidal surfaces in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  into the following types.

**Case 1.** The axis  $L$  is spacelike, i.e.,  $(L = \langle(0, 0, 1)\rangle)$ .

Without loss of generality we may assume that the profile curve  $\gamma$  lies in the  $yz$ -plane or  $xz$ -plane. Hence, the curve  $\gamma$  can be represented by

$$\gamma(u) = (0, f(u), g(u)) \quad \text{or} \quad \gamma(u) = (f(u), 0, g(u)),$$

where  $f$  is a smooth positive function and  $g$  is a smooth function on  $I$ .

The helicoidal surfaces  $M$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  given by [4] are defined by

$$r(u, v) = (f(u) \sinh v, f(u) \cosh v, cv + g(u)), \quad c \in \mathbf{R}^+ \quad (2)$$

or

$$r(u, v) = (f(u) \cosh v, f(u) \sinh v, cv + g(u)), \quad c \in \mathbf{R}^+. \quad (3)$$

We call (2) and (3) a helicoidal surface of type **I** and type **II** respectively.

**Case 2.** The axis  $L$  is time-like, i.e.,  $(L = \langle(1, 0, 0)\rangle)$ .

In this case, we may assume that the profile curve  $\gamma$  lies in the  $xy$ -plane. So the curve  $\gamma$  is given by

$$\gamma(u) = (g(u), f(u), 0)$$

for a positive function  $f = f(u)$  on  $I$ . Hence, the helicoidal surface  $M$  is given by [4]

$$r(u, v) = (g(u) + cv, f(u) \cos v, f(u) \sin v), \quad f(u) > 0, c \in \mathbf{R}^+. \quad (4)$$

We call (4) a helicoidal surface of type **III**.

**Case 3.** The axis  $L$  is light-like, i.e.,  $(L = \langle(1, 1, 0)\rangle)$ .

In this case, we may assume that the profile curve  $\gamma$  lies in the  $xy$ -plane. Then its parametrization is given by

$$\gamma(u) = (f(u), g(u), 0), \quad u \in I,$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are functions on  $I$ , such that  $f(u) \neq g(u), \forall u \in I$ .

Therefore the helicoidal surface  $M$  may be parametrized as [4]

$$r(u, v) = \left( f(u) + \frac{v^2}{2}h(u) + cv, g(u) + \frac{v^2}{2}h(u) + cv, vh(u) \right), \quad c \in \mathbf{R}, \quad (5)$$

where  $h(u) = f(u) - g(u)$ . We call (5) a helicoidal surface of type **IV**.

If we take  $c = 0$ , then we obtain a rotations group related to axis  $L$ . The helicoidal surface is a generalization of rotation surface.

The immersion  $(M, r)$  is said to be of finite Chen-type if the position vector  $r$  admits the following spectral decomposition

$$r = r_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k r_i,$$

where  $r_i$  are  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ -valued eigenfunctions of the Laplacian of  $(M, r)$ :  $\Delta r_i = \lambda_i r_i$ ,  $\lambda_i \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  [5]. If  $\lambda_i$  are different, then  $M$  is said to be of  $k$ -type.

Let  $\{x^i, x^j\}$  be a local coordinate system of  $M$ . For the components  $e_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2$ ) of the third fundamental form  $III$  on  $M$  we denote by  $(e^{ij})$  the inverse matrix of the matrix  $(e_{ij})$ .

The Laplace operator  $\Delta^{III}$  of the third fundamental form  $III$  on  $M$  is formally defined by

$$\Delta^{III} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{|e|}} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left( \sqrt{|e|} e^{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \right) \right), \tag{6}$$

where  $e = \det(e_{ij})$ .

The coefficients of the first fundamental form and the second fundamental form are

$$\begin{aligned} E = g_{11} &= \langle r_u, r_u \rangle, & F = g_{12} &= \langle r_u, r_v \rangle, & G = g_{22} &= \langle r_v, r_v \rangle, \\ L = h_{11} &= \langle r_{uu}, \mathbf{N} \rangle, & M = h_{12} &= \langle r_{uv}, \mathbf{N} \rangle, & N = h_{22} &= \langle r_{vv}, \mathbf{N} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi : M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ ,  $(u, v) \rightarrow \varphi(u, v)$  is a smooth function and  $\Delta^{III}$  the Laplace operator with respect the third fundamental form, then it holds [10]:

$$\Delta^{III} \varphi = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{|e|}} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{e_{22}\varphi_u - e_{12}\varphi_v}{\sqrt{|e|}} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left( \frac{e_{12}\varphi_u - e_{11}\varphi_v}{\sqrt{|e|}} \right) \right). \tag{7}$$

The Gaussian curvature  $K_G$  and the mean curvature  $H$  of  $M$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} K_G &= g_L(\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{N}) \frac{(LN - M^2)}{EG - F^2} \\ H &= \frac{(EN + GL - 2FM)}{2|EG - F^2|}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{N}$  is the unit normal vector to  $M$ .

### 2. Helicoidal Surfaces of Type I, II

In this section we are concerned with non-degenerate helicoidal surfaces  $M$  without parabolic points satisfying the condition (1).

Suppose that  $M$  is given by (2), or equivalently by

$$r(u, v) = (u \sinh v, u \cosh v, cv + g(u)), \quad c \in \mathbf{R}^+. \tag{8}$$

We define smooth function  $W$  as:

$$W = \sqrt{\varepsilon g_L(r_u \wedge_L r_v, r_u \wedge_L r_v)} = \sqrt{\varepsilon(u^2(1 + g'^2) - c^2)}.$$

The coefficients of the first and the second fundamental form are:

$$E = 1 + g'^2, \quad F = cg', \quad G = c^2 - u^2$$

$$L = \frac{-ug''}{W}, \quad M = \frac{c}{W}, \quad N = \frac{u^2g'}{W},$$

where  $g' = \frac{dg}{du}$ ,  $g'' = \frac{d^2g}{du^2}$ .

The components of the third fundamental form of the surface  $M$  is given, respectively, by

$$e_{11} = \frac{\varepsilon}{W^4}(u^4g''^2 - c^2(ug'' + g')^2 - c^2),$$

$$e_{12} = \frac{-c}{W^2}(ug'' + g'), \quad e_{22} = \frac{1}{W^2}(c^2 - u^2g'^2),$$
(9)

hence

$$\sqrt{|e|} = \frac{\varepsilon_1 R}{W^3},$$

where  $\varepsilon_1 = \pm 1$  and  $R = u^3g'g'' + c^2$ .

From these we find that the curvature  $K_G$  and the mean curvature  $H$  of (8) are given by

$$K_G = \frac{u^3g'g'' + c^2}{W^4}$$

and

$$H = -\frac{u^2g'(1 + g'^2) - 2c^2g' - ug''(c^2 - u^2)}{2W^3}. \quad (10)$$

We rewrite the above equation as [7]

$$H = \frac{1}{2u} \left( \frac{u^2g'}{W} \right)'$$

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *If  $H = 0$ , then the function on the profile curve  $\gamma(u) = (0, u, g(u))$  is as follows*

$$g(u) = \pm \int \sqrt{\frac{a^2(u^2 - c^2)}{\varepsilon u^4 - a^2 u^2}} du + b \quad (11)$$

in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$ .

PROOF. If  $H = 0$ , then we obtain

$$u^2g' = aW, \quad a \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Hence, if we solve

$$g'^2 = \frac{a^2(u^2 - c^2)}{\varepsilon u^4 - a^2 u^2},$$

then we have (11). □

If a surface  $M$  in  $E_1^3$  has no parabolic points, then we have

$$u^3g'g'' + c^2 \neq 0, \quad \forall u \in I.$$

Suppose that  $LN - M^2 > 0$  (we have the same result if  $LN - M^2 < 0$ ).

By a straightforward computation, the Laplacian  $\Delta^{III}$  of the third fundamental form  $III$  on  $M$  with the help of (9) and (7) turns out to be

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{III} = & -\frac{\varepsilon W^3}{R} \left( \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_1}{WR^2} (-\varepsilon W^2 u^3 g' g''' (c^2 - u^2 g'^2) + c^4 u - 3c^2 u^3 g'^2 \right. \\ & + 3c^4 g'^2 u - 3c^2 g'^4 u^3 + 6c^4 g' g'' u^2 - 4c^2 g' g'' u^4 + c^2 g'^2 g''^2 u^5 \\ & - 2g'^4 g''^2 u^7 - g'^2 g''^2 u^7 - c^2 g''^2 u^5 + c^4 g''^2 u^3 - 6c^2 g'^3 g'' u^4) \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \\ & + \frac{c \varepsilon \varepsilon_1}{WR^2} (\varepsilon W^2 u g''' (c^2 - g'^2 u^2) - g' g''^2 u^5 - 2g'' g'^2 u^4 - 2g'^4 g'' u^4 \\ & + 3c^2 g' g''^2 u^3 + 3c^2 g'' u^2 + c^2 g' u + 7c^2 g'' g'^2 u^2 + c^2 g'^3 u \\ & - 2c^4 g'' + c^2 g''^3 u^4 - g''^3 u^6) \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \\ & + \frac{2\varepsilon_1 W c (u g'' + g')}{R} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u \partial v} + \frac{\varepsilon_1 W (c^2 - g'^2 u^2)}{R} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^2} \\ & \left. + \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_1 (g''^2 u^4 - c^2 (u g'' + g')^2 - c^2)}{WR} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} \right). \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

By using (8) and (12) we get

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^{III}(u \sinh v) = P(u) \cosh v + Q(u) \sinh v \\ \Delta^{III}(u \cosh v) = Q(u) \cosh v + P(u) \sinh v \\ \Delta^{III}(cv + g(u)) = T(u) \end{cases} \tag{13}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(u) &= -\frac{\varepsilon W^2}{R^3}(\varepsilon c W^2 u^2 g'''(c^2 - g'^2 u^2) - c g''^3 u^7 + c(1 + 2g'^2)g'g''^2 u^6 \\
 &\quad + c^3 g''^3 u^5 + c^3 g'g''^2 u^4 + c^3(7g'^2 + 5)g''u^3 + 3c^3(1 + g'^2)g'u^2 \\
 &\quad - 4c^5 g''u - 2c^5 g'), \\
 Q(u) &= -\frac{\varepsilon W^2}{R^3}(\varepsilon W^2 u^3 g'g'''(g'^2 u^2 - c^2) + 2c^4 g'^2 u + 4c^4 g''g'u^2 \\
 &\quad - 3c^2(g'^2 + g'^4)u^3 - c^2(7g'^3 g'' + 5g''g')u^4 - c^2 g'^2 g''^2 u^5 \\
 &\quad - c^2 g''^3 g'u^6 - (2g'^4 g''^2 + g'^2 g''^2)u^7 + g''^3 g'u^8), \quad (14) \\
 T(u) &= -\frac{\varepsilon W^2}{R^3}(\varepsilon W^2 u g'''(c^2 - g'^2 u^2)^2 + (-3g'^2 - 2)g'^3 g''^2 u^7 \\
 &\quad - c^2 g''^3 u^6 + c^2(3g'^2 - 1)g'g''^2 u^5 + c^2(c^2 g''^2 - 7g'^2 - 9g'^4)g''u^4 \\
 &\quad + 3c^2(c^2 g''^2 - g'^4 - g'^2)g'u^3 + c^4(15g'^2 + 4)g''u^2 \\
 &\quad + 2c^4(2g'^2 + 1)g'u - 3c^6 g'').
 \end{aligned}$$

REMARK 2.2. We observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u g' P(u) + c Q(u) &= 0 \\
 \left(\frac{\varepsilon K_G}{2cW}\right)((c^2 - g'^2 u^2)P(u) - cuT(u)) &= H. \quad (15)
 \end{aligned}$$

The equation (1) by means of (8) and (13) gives rise to the following system of ordinary differential equations

$$\begin{cases}
 (P(u) - a_{12}u) \cosh v + (Q(u) - a_{11}u) \sinh v - a_{13}(cv + g) = 0 \\
 (Q(u) - a_{22}u) \cosh v + (P(u) - a_{21}u) \sinh v - a_{23}(cv + g) = 0 \\
 a_{31}u \sinh v + a_{32}u \cosh v + a_{33}(cv + g) = T(u),
 \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

where  $a_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2, 3$ ) denote the components of the matrix  $A$  given by (1).

But  $\sinh v$  and  $\cosh v$  are linearly independent functions of  $v$ , so we finally obtain  $a_{32} = a_{31} = a_{33} = a_{13} = a_{23} = 0$ .

We put  $a_{11} = a_{22} = \lambda$  and  $a_{12} = a_{21} = \mu$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbf{R}$ . Therefore, this system of equations is equivalently reduced to



$$\begin{cases} Q(u) = \lambda u \\ P(u) = \mu u \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

Therefore, the problem of classifying the helicoidal surfaces  $M$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  given by (8) and satisfying (1) is reduced to the integration of this system of ordinary differential equations.

Next we study this system according to the values of the constants  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$ .

**Case 1.** Let  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\mu \neq 0$ .

The system of equations (17) takes the form

$$\begin{cases} g'P(u) = 0 \\ P(u) = \mu u \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

Then  $g'(u) = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Hence there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  in this case which satisfy (1).

**Case 2.** Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ .

In this case the system (17) is reduced equivalently to

$$\begin{cases} g'P(u) = -\lambda c \\ P(u) = 0 \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases}$$

But this is not possible. So, in this case there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ .

**Case 3.** Let  $\lambda = \mu = 0$  then  $A = \text{diag}(0, 0, 0)$ .

In this case the system (17) is reduced equivalently to

$$\begin{cases} P(u) = 0 \\ Q(u) = 0 \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases}$$

From (15) we have  $H = 0$ . If we substitute (11) in (14) we get  $Q(u) = 0$ . By using (15) we get  $P(u) = 0$  and  $T(u) = 0$ . Consequently  $M$  is a minimal surface.

**Case 4.** Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $\mu \neq 0$ .

In this case the system (17) is reduced equivalently to

$$g(u) = -\frac{\lambda c}{\mu} \ln(u) + k, \quad k \in \mathbf{R}. \quad (19)$$

If we substitute (19) in (14) we get  $Q(u) = 0$ . So we have a contradiction and therefore, in this case there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ .

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $r : M \rightarrow \mathbf{E}_1^3$  be an isometric immersion given by (8). Then  $\Delta^{\text{III}} r = Ar$  if and only if  $M$  has zero mean curvature.*

### 3. Helicoidal Surfaces of Type III

In this section, we study the case of helicoidal surfaces  $M$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  of type **III**. Suppose that  $M$  is given by (4), or equivalently by

$$r(u, v) = (cv + g(u), u \cos v, u \sin v). \quad (20)$$

The coefficients of the first and the second fundamental form are:

$$E = 1 - g^2, \quad F = -cg', \quad G = u^2 - c^2,$$

$$L = \frac{ug''}{W}, \quad M = -\frac{c}{W}, \quad N = \frac{u^2g'}{W}.$$

The unit normal vector field  $\mathbf{N}$  on  $M$  is given by

$$\mathbf{N} = \frac{-1}{W}(u, -c \sin v + g'u \cos v, c \cos v + g'u \sin v),$$

where  $W = \sqrt{\varepsilon g_L(r_u \wedge_L r_v, r_u \wedge_L r_v)} = \sqrt{\varepsilon(u^2(1 - g^2) - c^2)}$ .

The components of the third fundamental form of the surface  $M$  is given, respectively, by

$$\begin{aligned} e_{11} &= \frac{\varepsilon}{W^4}(u^4g'^2 - c^2(ug'' + g')^2 + c^2), \\ e_{12} &= \frac{-c}{W^2}(ug'' + g'), \quad e_{22} = \frac{1}{W^2}(u^2g'^2 + c^2), \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

hence

$$\sqrt{|e|} = \frac{\varepsilon_1 R}{W^3},$$

where  $\varepsilon_1 = \pm 1$  and  $R = u^3g'g'' - c^2$ .

By a direct computation, we can see that the Gauss curvature  $K_G$  and the mean curvature  $H$  of  $M$  are given by

$$K_G = \frac{u^3g'g'' - c^2}{W^4}$$

and

$$H = \frac{u^2g'(1 - g^2) - 2c^2g' - ug''(c^2 - u^2)}{2W^3}. \quad (22)$$

We rewrite the above equation as [7]

$$H = \frac{1}{2u} \left( \frac{u^2 g'}{W} \right)'$$

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *If  $H = 0$ , then the function on the profile curve  $\gamma(u) = (g(u), u, 0)$  is as follows*

$$g(u) = \pm \int \sqrt{\frac{a^2(u^2 - c^2)}{\varepsilon u^4 + a^2 u^2}} du + b \tag{23}$$

in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$ .

**PROOF.** If  $H = 0$ , then we obtain

$$u^2 g' = aW, \quad a \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Hence, if we solve

$$g'^2 = \frac{a^2(u^2 - c^2)}{\varepsilon u^4 + a^2 u^2},$$

then we have (23). □

If a surface  $M$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  has no parabolic points, then we have

$$u^3 g' g'' - c^2 \neq 0.$$

Suppose that  $LN - M^2 > 0$  (we have the same result if  $LN - M^2 < 0$ ).

By a straightforward computation, the Laplacian  $\Delta^{III}$  of the third fundamental form  $III$  on  $M$  with the help of (7) and (21) turns out to be

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{III} = & \frac{\varepsilon W^3}{R} \left( \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_1}{WR^2} (\varepsilon W^2 u^3 g' g''' (c^2 + g'^2 u^2) + (2g'^2 - 1)g'^2 g''^2 u^7 \right. \\ & + c^2(g'^2 + 1)g''^2 u^5 + c^2(4 - 6g'^2)g'g''u^4 \\ & + c^2(3g'^2 - 3g'^4 - c^2 g''^2)u^3 - 6c^4 g'g''u^2 + c^4(1 - 3g'^2)u) \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \\ & + \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_1 c}{WR^2} (\varepsilon W^2 u g''' (c^2 + g'^2 u^2) + g''^3 u^6 + g'g''^2 u^5 \\ & + (2g'^2 - 2g'^4 - c^2 g''^2)g''u^4 - 3c^2 g'g''^2 u^3 + c^2(3 - 7g'^2)g''u^2 \\ & \left. + c^2(1 - g'^2)g'u - 2c^4 g'' \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \left( \frac{2\varepsilon_1 Wc(ug'' + g')}{R} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u \partial v} - \left( \frac{\varepsilon_1 W(c^2 + g'^2 u^2)}{R} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u^2} \\
& - \left( \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_1 (-g''^2 u^4 + c^2(ug'' + g')^2 - c^2)}{WR} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} \Big) \quad (24)
\end{aligned}$$

By using (24) and (20) we get

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^{III}(cv + g(u)) = T(u) \\ \Delta^{III}(u \cos v) = P(u) \cos v + Q(u) \sin v \\ \Delta^{III}(u \sin v) = -Q(u) \cos v + P(u) \sin v, \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
P(u) &= \frac{\varepsilon W^2}{R^3} (\varepsilon W^2 u^3 g' g''' (c^2 + g'^2 u^2) + g' g''^3 u^8 + (2g'^2 - 1) g'^2 g''^2 u^7 \\
&\quad - c^2 g' g''^3 u^6 - c^2 g'^2 g''^2 u^5 + c^2 (5 - 7g'^2) g' g'' u^4 + 3c^2 (1 - g'^2) g'^2 u^3 \\
&\quad - 4c^4 g' g'' u^2 - 2c^4 g'^2 u), \quad (26)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
Q(u) &= \frac{-\varepsilon W^2}{R^3} (\varepsilon c W^2 u^2 g''' (c^2 + g'^2 u^2) + c g''^3 u^7 + c(-1 + 2g'^2) g' g''^2 u^6 \\
&\quad - c^3 g''^3 u^5 - c^3 g' g''^2 u^4 + (-7g'^2 + 5) c^3 g'' u^3 + 3c^3 g'(1 - g'^2) u^2 \\
&\quad - 4c^5 g'' u - 2c^5 g'), \quad (27)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(u) &= \frac{\varepsilon W^2}{R^3} (\varepsilon W^2 u g''' (c^2 + g'^2 u^2)^2 + (3g'^5 g''^2 - 2g'^3 g''^2) u^7 + c^2 g''^3 u^6 \\
&\quad + (3c^2 g'^3 g''^2 + c^2 g' g''^2) u^5 + (-c^4 g''^3 + 7c^2 g'^2 g'' - 9c^2 g'^4 g'') u^4 \\
&\quad + (-3c^4 g' g''^2 - 3c^2 g'^5 + 3c^2 g'^3) u^3 + (-15c^4 g'^2 g'' + 4c^4 g'') u^2 \\
&\quad + (-4c^4 g'^3 + 2c^4 g') u - 3c^6 g'').
\end{aligned}$$

REMARK 3.2. We observe that

$$\left( \frac{\varepsilon K_G}{2cW} \right) (cuT(u) + (c^2 + g'^2 u^2)Q(u)) = -H \quad (28)$$

$$cP(u) + ug'Q(u) = 0.$$

The equation (1) by means of (20) and (25) gives rise to the following system of ordinary differential equations

$$\begin{cases} a_{12}u \cos v + a_{13}u \sin v + a_{11}(cv + g) = T(u) \\ (P(u) - a_{22}u) \cos v + (Q(u) - a_{23}u) \sin v - a_{21}(cv + g) = 0 \\ (Q(u) + a_{32}u) \cos v - (P(u) - a_{33}u) \sin v + a_{31}(cv + g) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

From (29) we easily deduce that  $a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{13} = a_{21} = a_{31} = 0$ ,  $a_{22} = a_{33}$  and  $a_{32} = -a_{23}$ . We put  $a_{22} = a_{33} = \lambda$  and  $-a_{32} = a_{23} = \mu$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbf{R}$ . Therefore, this system of equations is equivalently reduced to

$$\begin{cases} P(u) = \lambda u \\ Q(u) = \mu u \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

Therefore, the problem of classifying the helicoidal surfaces  $M$  in  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  given by (20) and satisfying (1) is reduced to the integration of this system of ordinary differential equations.

We discuss four cases according to the constants  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ .

**Case 1.** Let  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\mu \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{cases} g'Q(u) = 0 \\ Q(u) = \mu u \\ cP(u) = 0. \end{cases}$$

From this system we get  $g' = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Hence there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$  in this case.

**Case 2.** Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ .

In this case the system (30) is reduced equivalently to

$$\begin{cases} g'Q(u) = -\lambda c \\ Q(u) = 0. \end{cases}$$

But this is not possible. So, in this case there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ .

**Case 3.** Let  $\lambda = \mu = 0$  then  $A = \text{diag}(0, 0, 0)$ .

In this case the system (30) is reduced equivalently to

$$\begin{cases} g'Q(u) = 0 \\ Q(u) = 0 \\ T(u) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Then, the equation (28) gives rise to  $H = 0$ . If we substitute (23) in (26) we get  $P(u) = 0$ . By using (28) we get  $Q(u) = 0$  and  $T(u) = 0$ . Consequently  $M$  is a minimal surface.

**Case 4.** Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $\mu \neq 0$ .

In this case the system (30) is reduced equivalently to

$$g(u) = -\frac{\lambda c}{\mu} \ln(u) + k, \quad k \in \mathbf{R}. \quad (31)$$

If we substitute (31) in (27) we get  $Q(u) = 0$ . So we have a contradiction and therefore, in this case there are no helicoidal surfaces of  $\mathbf{E}_1^3$ .

We are now ready to state the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $r : M \rightarrow \mathbf{E}_1^3$  be an isometric immersion given by (20). Then  $\Delta^{III}r = Ar$  if and only if  $M$  has zero mean curvature.*

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