The Characterizations of the Spherical Images of Timelike W-Curves in Minkowski Space-Time

Minkowski Uzay-Zamanda Timelike W-Eğrilerin Küresel Göstergelerinin Karakterizasyonları

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Abstract

We know that \( W \)-curve is a curve which has constant Frenet curvatures. In this study, firstly, we have investigated the principal normal and binormal spherical images of a timelike \( W \)-curve on pseudohyperbolic space \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \) in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \). Besides, the binormal spherical image of the timelike \( W \)-curve is a spacelike curve which lies on pseudohyperbolic space \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \). Hence, we have obtained the Frenet-Serret invariants of the mentioned image curve in terms of the invariants of the timelike \( W \)-curve in the same space. Finally, we have given some characterizations of the spherical image in the case of being helix for the timelike \( W \)-curve in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \).

Keywords: Spherical Images, Timelike W-Curve, General Helix, CCR-Curves

Özet

\( W \)-eğrisinin sabit Frenet eğriliklerine sahip bir eğri olduğunu biliyoruz. Bu çalışmada, öncelikle, \( E^4_1 \) Minkowski uzay-zamanında, \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \) pseudohiperbolik uzay üzerinde bir timelike \( W \)-eğrisinin asıl normal ve binormal küresel göstergelerini araştırdık. Yansırsa, \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \) pseudohiperbolik uzay üzerinde yatan timelike \( W \)-eğrisinin binormal küresel göstergesi spacelike bir eğridir. Bu nedenle, aynı uzayda, söz konusu görüntü eğrisinin Frenet-Serret değişimlerini timelike \( W \)-eğrisinin değişimleri cinsinden elde ettik. Son olarak, \( E^4_1 \) Minkowski uzay-zamanındaki timelike \( W \)-eğrisi için helis olması durumunda küresel göstergenin bazı karakterizasyonlarını verdik.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Küresel Göstergeler, Timelike W - Eğrileri, Genel Helis, CCR-Eğriler
1. Introduction

Lorentzian geometry helps to bridge the gap between modern differential geometry and the mathematical physics of general relativity by giving an invariant treatment of Lorentzian geometry. Nearly a century ago, Einstein’s formulation of general relativity expressed in terms of Lorentzian geometry was attractive for geometers who could penetrate surprisingly into cosmology (redshift, expanding universe, big bang)[1].

Despite its long history, the theory of curve is still one of the most interesting topics in differential geometry and it is still being studied by many mathematicians until now. A tetrad of mutually orthogonal unit vectors (called tangent, normal, binormal, trinormal) was defined and constructed at each point of a differentiable curve. The rates of change of these vectors along the curve define the curvatures of the curve in the four dimensional space. Spherical images of a regular curve in the Euclidean space are obtained by means of Frenet-Serret frame vector fields, so the mentioned topic is a well-known concept in differential geometry of the curves [2]. Also, these kind of curves were studied in four dimensional Euclidean and Lorentzian space [3,4,5,6,7].

W-curve is another curve among the prominent curves which have the constant Frenet curvature. All $W$-curves in Minkowski 3-space are completely classified by Walrave in [3]. Besides, in Minkowski space-time, the spacelike, timelike, null W-curves are studied [8,9].

In this study, we have investigated the principal normal and binormal spherical images of a timelike $W$-curve on pseudohyperbolic space $\mathbb{H}^3_1$ in Minkowski space-time $E^4_1$. The binormal spherical image of the timelike $W$-curve is a spacelike curve which lies on pseudohyperbolic space $\mathbb{H}^3_1$. Hence, we have obtained the Frenet-Serret invariants of the mentioned image curve in terms of the invariants of the timelike $W$-curve. Finally, we have given some characterizations of the spherical image in the case of being helix for the timelike $W$-curve in Minkowski space-time $E^4_1$.

2. Material and Method

Minkowski spacetime $E^4_1$ is a real vector space $R^4$ furnished with the standard indefinite flat metric $g$ defined by

$$ g = -dx_1 + dx_2 + dx_3 + dx_4, $$

where $(x_1,x_2,x_3,x_4)$ is a rectangular coordinate system in $E^4_1$ [1]. Since $g$ is an indefinite metric, recall that a vector $v \in E^4_1$ can have one of the three causal characters; it can be spacelike if $g(v,v) > 0$ or $v = 0$, timelike if $g(v,v) < 0$ and null (lightlike) if $g(v,v) = 0, v \neq 0$. Similarly, an arbitrary curve $\alpha = \alpha(s)$ in $E^4_1$ can be locally spacelike, timelike or null (lightlike), if all of its velocity vectors $\alpha'(s)$ are spacelike, timelike or null (lightlike), respectively. Also, the norm of the vector $v$ is given by

$$ ||v|| = \sqrt{g(v,v)}. $$

The vector $v$ is a unit vector if $g(v,v) = 1$. Vectors $v,w \in E^4_1$ are said to be orthogonal if $g(v,w) = 0$ [10]. Let $u$ and $v$ be two spacelike vectors in $E^4_1$, then there is a unique real number $0 \leq \delta \leq \pi$, called the angle between $u$ and $v$, such that $g(u,v) = ||u||||v||\cos \delta$ [11].

The pseudohyperbolic space with the center $m = (m_1,m_2,m_3,m_4) \in E^4_1$ and radius $r \in R^+$ in the spacetime $E^4_1$ is the hyperquadric

$$ \mathbb{H}^3_1 = \{ a = (a_1,a_2,a_3,a_4) \in E^4_1 \mid g(a-m,a-m) = -r^2 \}, $$

with dimension 3 and index 0 [1].

Let $\varphi = \varphi(s)$ be a curve in $E^4_1$. If the tangent vector field of this curve forms a constant angle with a constant vector field $\Omega$, then this curve is called a general helix. Recall that, if a regular curve has constant Frenet-Serret curvatures ratios in $E^4_1$, then it is called a ccr-curve [12,13,14]. Also, if these curvatures are non-zero constants, the curve is said to be $W$-curve (or helix) [15,16,17].

Denote by $(T(s),N(s),B_1(s),B_2(s))$ the moving Frenet-Serret frame along the curve $\varphi(s)$ in $E^4_1$. Then $T,N,B_1,B_2$ are, respectively, the tangent, the principal normal, the binormal (the first binormal) and the trinormal (the second binormal) vector fields. A spacelike or timelike curve $\varphi(s)$ is said to be parametrized by arclength function $s$, if $g(\varphi'(s),\varphi'(s)) = \pm 1$. 


Let \( \varphi(s) \) be a timelike curve in \( E^4_1 \), parametrized by arc-length function \( s \). Then the following Frenet-Serret equations are given in [3]:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
T' \\
N' \\
B_1' \\
B_2'
\end{bmatrix}
= \begin{bmatrix}
0 & \kappa & 0 & 0 \\
\kappa & 0 & \tau & 0 \\
0 & -\tau & 0 & \sigma \\
0 & 0 & -\sigma & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
T \\
N \\
B_1 \\
B_2
\end{bmatrix},
\]

(1)

where \( T, N, B_1, B_2 \) are mutually orthogonal vectors satisfying equations:

\[
g(T, T) = -1,
\]

\[
g(N, N) = g(B_1, B_1) = g(B_2, B_2) = 1,
\]

and where \( \kappa, \tau, \sigma \) are the first, second, and third curvatures of the curve \( \varphi \), respectively.

In the same space, the authors expressed a characterization of spacelike curves lying on \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \) by the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.1.** Let \( \varphi(s) \) be an unit speed spacelike curve in \( E^3_1 \), with the spacelike vectors \( N, B_1 \) and the curvatures \( \kappa \neq 0, \tau \neq 0, \sigma \neq 0 \) for each \( s \in I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \). Then, the curve \( \varphi \) lies on pseudohyperbolic space if and only if

\[
\frac{\sigma \, dp}{\tau \, ds} = \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \rho \tau + \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma} dp \right) \right) \right)^2.
\]

(2)

where

\[
\left( \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \rho \tau + \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma} dp \right) \right) \right)^2 > \rho^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \frac{dp}{ds} \right)^2
\]

and \( \rho = \frac{1}{\kappa} \) [15].

**Definition 2.2.** Let \( \alpha = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4) \), \( \beta = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4) \) and \( c = (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4) \) be vectors in \( E^4_1 \). The vector product is defined by

\[
a \times b \times c = \begin{vmatrix}
-a_1 & e_2 & e_3 & e_4 \\
a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\
b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & b_4 \\
c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & c_4
\end{vmatrix}
\]

where \( e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4 \) are mutually orthogonal vectors (coordinate direction vectors) satisfying equations

\[
e_1 \times e_2 \times e_3 = e_4, \quad e_2 \times e_3 \times e_4 = e_1,
\]

\[
e_3 \times e_4 \times e_1 = e_2, \quad e_4 \times e_1 \times e_2 = -e_3,
\]

[5].

**Theorem 2.3.** Let \( \varphi(s) \) be an arbitrary spacelike curve in \( E^4_1 \). The Frenet-Serret apparatus of the curve \( \varphi \) can be written as follows:

\[
T = \frac{\varphi'}{\| \varphi' \|},
\]

\[
N = \frac{\| \varphi'' \| \varphi' - g(\varphi', \varphi') \varphi'}{\| \varphi'' \| \varphi' - g(\varphi', \varphi') \varphi'},
\]

\[
B_1 = \mu N \times T \times B_2,
\]

\[
B_2 = \frac{T \times N \times \varphi''}{\| T \times N \times \varphi'' \|},
\]

and

\[
\kappa = \frac{\| \varphi'' \|^2 \varphi' - g(\varphi', \varphi') \varphi'}{\| \varphi' \|^3},
\]

\[
\tau = \frac{\| T \times N \times \varphi'' \|^2}{\| T \times N \times \varphi'' \|^3} \| \varphi'' \|,
\]

\[
\sigma = \frac{\mu g(\varphi', B_2)}{\| T \times N \times \varphi'' \|^2},
\]

where \( \mu \) is taken -1 or 1 to make 1 the determinant of \( \{T, N, B_1, B_2\} \) matrix [5].

3. Results

3.1. The principal normal spherical image of a timelike \( W \) – curve in \( E^4_1 \)

In this section, we give the definition of the principal normal spherical image for the timelike \( W \) – curves in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \).

**Definition 3.1.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \) – curve in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \). If we translate the principal normal vector to the center \( O \) of the pseudohyperbolic space \( \mathbb{H}^3_0 \), we obtain a curve \( \delta = \delta(s) \). This curve is called the principal normal spherical indicatrix or image of the curve \( \beta \) in \( E^4_1 \).

**Theorem 3.2.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \) – curve and \( \delta = \delta(s) \) be its principal normal spherical image. Then,

i) \( \delta = \delta(s) \) is a spacelike curve if the first and second curvatures of \( \beta(s) \) satisfy the following

\[
\tau < \kappa < 0, \quad 0 < \kappa < \tau.
\]

ii) Frenet-Serret apparatus of the curve \( \delta, \{T_\delta, N_\delta, B_{1\delta}, B_{2\delta}, \kappa_\delta, \tau_\delta, \sigma_\delta\} \) can be formed by the apparatus of the curve \( \beta \).
DEU FMD 22(64), 59-66, 2020

Proof. Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$-curve and $\delta = \delta(s)\delta$ be its principal normal spherical indicatrix. It can be written as

$$\delta = N(s).$$

(5)

Differentiating the equation (5) with respect to $s$, then we obtain

$$\delta' = \delta \frac{ds}{ds} = \kappa T + \tau B_1.$$  

(6)

Here, we shall denote differentiation according to $s$ by a dash, and differentiation according to $s$ by a dot. Thus, we obtain the unit tangent vector of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$ as

$$T_\delta = \frac{\kappa T + \tau B_1}{\sqrt{\kappa^2 - \tau^2}}.$$  

(7)

and

$$\|\delta'\| = \frac{ds}{ds} = \sqrt{\kappa^2 - \tau^2}.$$  

(8)

The causal character of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$ is determined by the following inner product:

$$g(\delta', \delta') = \tau^2 - \kappa^2.$$  

(9)

From the expression (9), we will take the spherical image curve as spacelike one by assuming the conditions

$$\tau < \kappa < 0, \quad 0 < \kappa < \tau.$$  

(10)

Considering the previous method and using the property of the curve to be $W$-curve, we form the following differentiations with respect to $s$:

$$\delta'' = (\kappa^2 - \tau^2)N + \tau \sigma B_2,$$

$$\delta''' = \kappa(\kappa^2 - \tau^2)T + \tau(\kappa^2 - \tau^2 - \sigma^2)B_1,$$

$$\delta^{(IV)} = ((\kappa^2 - \tau^2)\kappa^2 + \tau^2 \sigma^2)N + \tau \sigma(\kappa^2 - \tau^2 - \sigma^2)B_2.$$  

(11)

By the expressions (2), we arrive at

$$\|\delta''\|^2 \delta'' - g(\delta', \delta'')\delta' = (\kappa^2 - \tau^2)^2 N + \tau \sigma(\kappa^2 - \tau^2)B_2.$$  

(12)

Then, we can write the principal normal vector of the spherical image curve $\delta$

$$N_\delta = \frac{\kappa^2 - \tau^2}{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} N + \frac{\tau \sigma}{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} B_2.$$  

(13)

and the first curvature of the spherical image curve $\delta$ is obtained by

$$\kappa_\delta = \frac{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}}{\tau^2 - \kappa^2}.$$  

(14)

Now, calculate the vector product

$$U = T_\delta \times N_\delta \times \delta^{'''},$$

that is, we have the vector $U$ as

$$U = \frac{-\kappa \sigma \tau}{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} N + \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} B_2.$$  

(15)

Hence, we obtain the trinormal (second binormal) vector field of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$ as follows:

$$B_{2\delta} = \mu \left( \tau \sigma \frac{N}{\sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} + \frac{\tau}{\tau^2 - \kappa^2} B_2 \right).$$  

(16)

Taking the norm of both sides of the expressions (15) and (12) then the second curvature of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$ is

$$\tau_\delta = \frac{-\kappa \sigma \tau}{(\tau^2 - \kappa^2) \sqrt{(\tau \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}}.$$  

(17)

To obtain the binormal vector field of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$, we express $V = N_\delta \times T_\delta \times B_{2\delta}$ as follows:

$$V = -\frac{\tau}{\sqrt{\tau^2 - \kappa^2}} T - \frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{\tau^2 - \kappa^2}} B_1.$$  

(18)

From the expression (18), then we get the binormal vector of the principal normal spherical image curve $\delta$.
DEU FMD 22(64), 59-66, 2020

\[ B_{1,6} = \mu \left( \frac{T}{\sqrt{T^2 - \kappa^2}} - \frac{\kappa B_1}{\sqrt{T^2 - \kappa^2}} \right) \]  \hspace{1cm} (19)

Using the equation (16), the third curvature is given by

\[ \alpha_6 = \mu \frac{\kappa \sigma}{\sqrt{(\kappa \sigma)^2 + (\tau^2 - \kappa^2)^2}} \]  \hspace{1cm} (20)

**Corollary 3.3.** Frenet-Serret apparatus of the principal normal spherical image curve \( \delta \) is an orthonormal frame of Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \).

**Proof.** It can be straightforwardly seen by using the equations (7), (13), (16), (19).

**Corollary 3.4.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \)-curve and \( \delta = \delta(s_0) \) be its principal normal spherical image. Then, the curve \( \delta \) is also a helix.

**Proof.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \)-curve. We know that the curvature functions are constants. Therefore, we know that the curvature functions of the principal normal spherical image \( \delta(s_0) \) are constants by means of the equations (14), (17) and (20). Hence, the curve \( \delta(s_0) \) becomes \( W \)-curve which is the special case of helix.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \)-curve and \( \delta = \delta(s_0) \) be its principal normal spherical image. If \( \delta \) is a general helix, then its fixed direction \( \Phi \) is composed

\[ \Phi = \left( -\frac{1}{2} x_1 k s^2 - x_2 k s + x_3 \right) T \]
\[ + (x_1 s + x_2) N \]
\[ + \left( \frac{1}{2} x_1 k^2 s^2 - \frac{1}{8} x_2 k^2 s \right) + \frac{1}{t} x_4 \kappa \sigma \frac{s}{t} + \frac{1}{t} x_3 \kappa \sigma \]
\[ + \left( \frac{1}{6 t} x_1 k^2 \sigma s^3 + \frac{1}{2 t} x_2 k^2 \sigma s^2 \right) \]
\[ - \frac{1}{t} x_4 \kappa \sigma \frac{s}{t} + \frac{1}{t} x_3 \kappa \sigma \frac{s}{t} + x_4 \]  \hspace{1cm} (21)

where \( x_1 \) is a non-zero constant and \( x_2, x_3, x_4 \) are constants.

**Proof.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \)-curve and \( \delta = \delta(s_0) \) be its principal normal spherical image. If \( \delta \) is a general helix, then for a spacelike vector \( \Phi \), we may express

\[ g(T, \Phi) = \cos \theta, \]  \hspace{1cm} (22)

where \( \theta \) is a constant angle. The equation (22) is also congruent to

\[ g \left( \frac{k T + \tau B_1}{\sqrt{T^2 - \kappa^2}}, \Phi \right) = \cos \theta. \]  \hspace{1cm} (23)

The constant vector \( \Phi \) according to \( T, N, B_1, B_2 \) is formed as

\[ \phi = e_1 T + e_2 N + e_3 B_1 + e_4 B_2 \]  \hspace{1cm} (24)

Differentiating the expression (24) with respect to \( s \), then we have the following system of ordinary differential equations

\[ \begin{cases} e_1' + e_2 k = 0 \\ e_1 k + e_2' - e_3 \tau = 0 \\ e_2 - e_4 \sigma + e_3' = 0 \\ e_4' + e_3 \sigma = 0 \end{cases} \]  \hspace{1cm} (25)

We know that \(-e_1 k + e_2 \tau = x_4 \neq 0\) is a non-zero constant. Since the curve \( \beta = \beta(s) \) is a \( W \)-curve, its curvature functions are constants. Then the solution of the system (25) can be obtained as

\[ e_1 = -\frac{1}{2} x_1 k s^2 - x_2 k s + x_3 \]
\[ e_2 = x_1 s + x_2 \]
\[ e_3 = -\frac{1}{2 t} x_1 k^2 s^2 - \frac{1}{t} x_2 k^2 s \]
\[ + \frac{1}{t} x_3 k \sigma \frac{s}{t}, \]  \hspace{1cm} (26)
\[ e_4 = \frac{1}{6 t} \frac{1}{t} x_3 k^2 \sigma s^3 + \frac{1}{2 t} x_2 k^2 \sigma s^2 \]
\[ - \frac{1}{t} x_3 k \sigma \frac{s}{t} + x_4. \]

**3.2. The binormal spherical image of a timelike \( W \)-curve in \( E^4_1 \)**

In this section, we give the definition of the binormal spherical image for timelike \( W \)-curves in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \).

**Definition 3.6.** Let \( \beta = \beta(s) \) be a unit speed timelike \( W \)-curve in Minkowski space-time \( E^4_1 \). If we translate the binormal vector to the center \( O \) of the pseudohyperbolic space \( R^4_{1,0} \), we obtain a curve \( \varphi = \varphi(s_p) \). This curve is called the
binormal spherical indicatrix or image of the curve $\beta$ in $E_1^4$.

**Theorem 3.7.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$-curve and $\varphi = \varphi(s_\varphi)$ be its binormal spherical image. Then,

i) $\varphi = \varphi(s_\varphi)$ is a spacelike curve.

ii) Frenet-Serret apparatus of the curve $\varphi, (T_\varphi, N_\varphi, B_1, B_2, \tau_\varphi, \sigma_\varphi, \kappa_\varphi)$ can be formed by the apparatus of the curve $\beta$.

iii) $\varphi = \varphi(s_\varphi)$ is also a helix lying on the pseudohyperbolic sphere $\mathbb{H}_\beta^3$ in $E_1^4$.

**Proof.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$-curve and $\varphi = \varphi(s_\varphi)$ be its binormal spherical image. It can be written as

$$\varphi = B_1(s).$$

(27)

Differentiating the equation (27) with respect to $s$, we obtain

$$\varphi' = \varphi \frac{ds_\varphi}{ds} = -\tau N + \sigma B_2.$$  

(28)

Here, we shall denote differentiation according to $s$ by a dash, and differentiation according to $s_\varphi$ by a dot. Thus, we obtain the unit tangent vector of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$ as

$$T_\varphi = \frac{-\tau N + \sigma B_2}{\sqrt{\tau^2 + \sigma^2}},$$

(29)

and

$$||\varphi'|| = \frac{ds_\varphi}{ds} = \sqrt{\tau^2 + \sigma^2}.$$  

(30)

The causal character of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$ is determined by the following inner product:

$$g(\varphi', \varphi') = \tau^2 + \sigma^2.$$  

(31)

According to the expression (31), the binormal spherical image is a spacelike curve.

Considering the previous method and using the property of the curve to be $W$-curve, the following differentiations with respect to $s$ are formed:

$$\varphi'' = -\tau \kappa T - (\tau^2 + \sigma^2)B_1,$$

$$\varphi''' = \tau \left(\frac{\tau^2 + \sigma^2}{-\kappa^2}\right) N - \sigma(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)B_2,$$

$$\begin{align*}
\varphi^{(iv)} &= \tau\kappa (\tau^2 + \sigma^2 - \kappa^2)T \\
&\quad + ((\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - \tau^2 \kappa^2)B_1.
\end{align*}$$  

(32)

By the expressions (2), then we get

$$||\varphi'||^2 \varphi'' - g(\varphi', \varphi'') \varphi' = -((\tau^2 + \sigma^2)\tau \kappa T - (\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 B_1).$$

(33)

Then, we can get the principal normal vector of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$

$$N_\varphi = \frac{-\kappa \tau}{\sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|}} T - \frac{\tau^2 + \sigma^2}{\sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|}} B_1,$$

(34)

and the first curvature of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$ is as:

$$k_\varphi = \frac{\sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|}}{\tau^2 + \sigma^2}.$$  

(35)

The vector product $X = T_\varphi \times N_\varphi \times \varphi'''$ is given by

$$X = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|} \sqrt{(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - \tau^2 \kappa^2}} \left((\tau^2 + \sigma^2) T + (\kappa \tau) B_1 \right).$$  

(36)

Using the expression (36), then the trinormal (second binormal) vector field of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$ is obtained as

$$B_{2,\varphi} = \frac{\mu}{\kappa \tau \sigma \sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|}} \left((\tau^2 + \sigma^2) T + (\kappa \tau) B_1 \right).$$

(37)

Taking the norm of both sides of the equations (33) and (36), then we find the second curvature of the binormal spherical image curve $\varphi$

$$\tau_\varphi = \frac{\kappa \tau \sigma}{(\tau^2 + \sigma^2) \sqrt{|(\tau^2 + \sigma^2)^2 - (\kappa \tau)^2|}}.$$  

(38)
The binormal vector field of the binormal spherical image curve $\phi$ is expressed as

$$B_{\phi} = -\frac{\mu}{\sqrt{\tau^2 - \kappa^2}}\left(\sigma N + \tau B_2\right),$$  \hspace{1cm} \text{(39)}$$

Finally, using the equation (39), then the third curvature of the binormal spherical image curve $\phi$ is obtained by

$$\sigma_{\phi} = 0.$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(40)}$$

**Corollary 3.8.** Frenet-Serret apparatus of the binormal spherical image $\phi$ is an orthonormal frame of Minkowski space-time $E_1^4$.

**Proof.** It can be straightforwardly seen by using the equations (29), (34), (37), (39).

**Corollary 3.9.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$ -- curve and $\phi = \phi(s_\phi)$ be its binormal spherical image. Then, the curve $\phi$ is also a helix.

**Proof.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$ -- curve. We know that the curvature functions of the binormal spherical image $\phi(s_\phi)$ are constants. Hence, the curve $\phi(s_\phi)$ becomes $W$ -- curve which is the special case of helix.

**Theorem 3.10.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$ -- curve and $\phi = \phi(s_\phi)$ be its binormal spherical image. If $\phi$ is a general helix, then its fixed direction $\Phi$ is composed

$$\Phi = \left(\frac{1}{6t}x_1\sigma^2s^3 + \frac{x_2\sigma^2ks^2}{2t} \right)T$$

$$+ \left(-\frac{1}{2t}x_1\sigma^2s^2 - \frac{1}{t}x_2\sigma^2s \right)N$$

$$+ \left(+\frac{1}{t}x_2\sigma - \frac{x_1}{t}\right)B_1$$

$$+ \left(\frac{1}{2}\sigma x_2s^2 - x_2\sigma s + x_3\right)B_2,$$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(41)}$$

where $x_1$ is a non-zero constant and $x_2, x_3, x_4$ are constants.

**Proof.** Let $\beta = \beta(s)$ be a unit speed timelike $W$ -- curve and $\phi = \phi(s_\phi)$ be its binormal spherical indicatrix. If $\phi$ is a general helix, then for a constant spacelike vector $\Phi$, we may express

$$g(T_\phi, \Phi) = \cos \theta,$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(42)}$$

where $\theta$ is a constant angle. The equation (28) is also congruent to

$$g\left(-\tau N + \sigma B_2, \Phi\right) = \cos \theta.$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(43)}$$

The constant vector $\Phi$ according to ($T, N, B_1, B_2$) is formed as

$$\Phi = \varepsilon_1 T + \varepsilon_2 N + \varepsilon_3 B_1 + \varepsilon_4 B_2$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(44)}$$

Differentiating the expression (43) with respect to $s$, then we have the following system of ordinary differential equations

$$\begin{cases} 
\varepsilon_1' + \varepsilon_2\kappa = 0 \\
\varepsilon_1\kappa + \varepsilon_2' - \varepsilon_3\tau = 0 \\
\varepsilon_2\tau - \varepsilon_4\sigma + \varepsilon_3' = 0 \\
\varepsilon_4' + \varepsilon_3\sigma = 0
\end{cases}$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(45)}$$

We know that $-\varepsilon_2\tau + \varepsilon_4\sigma = x_1 \neq 0$ is a non-zero constant. Since the curve $\beta = \beta(s)$ is a $W$ -- curve, its curvature functions are constants. Then the solution of the system (44) can be obtained as

$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{1}{6t}x_1\sigma^2s^3 + \frac{x_2\sigma^2ks^2}{2t} - \frac{1}{t}x_3\kappa s$$

$$+ x_4\kappa s + x_4,$$$

$$\varepsilon_2 = -\frac{1}{2t}x_1\sigma^2s^2 - \frac{1}{t}x_2\sigma^2s + \frac{1}{t}x_3\sigma$$

$$- \frac{x_4}{t},$$

$$\varepsilon_3 = x_2s + x_3,$$$

$$\varepsilon_4 = -\frac{1}{2}x_1\sigma s^2 - x_2\sigma s + x_3.$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(46)}$$

**4. Discussion and Conclusion**

In the present work, we extend spherical image concept to timelike $W$ -- curve in Minkowski space-time. We investigate principal normal and
binormal spherical images of a timelike $W$–curve and observe that principal normal spherical curves are spacelike curves under certain conditions, and also binormal spherical images occur entirely as spacelike curves. Thereafter, we determine relations between Frenet-Serret invariants of the base curve and its spherical images.

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