

## A CLASSIFICATION OF 2-TYPE CURVES IN THE MINKOWSKI SPACE $E_1^n$

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ABSTRACT. We complete a classification of 2-type curves in Minkowski spaces. Namely, we give a classification of 2-type spacelike and timelike curves, lying fully in the Minkowski spaces  $E_1^4$  and  $E_1^5$ .

### 1. Introduction

A submanifolds of finite type were defined by Chen in [1]. Recall that a submanifold  $M$  is said to be of *finite type* (finite Chen type) if its position vector field  $\mathbf{x}$  can be written as a finite sum of the eigenfunctions  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k$  of the Laplace operator  $\Delta$  of  $M$ . More explicitly,

$$(1.1) \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{x}_i, \quad \Delta \mathbf{x}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i,$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_0$  is a constant vector,  $\mathbf{x}_i$  are non-constant vectors and  $\lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_k$  are eigenvalues of  $\Delta$ .

The simplest submanifolds of finite type are the curves of finite type. A curve  $\alpha$  is said to be of (finite)  $k$ -type for some natural number  $k$  if its Laplace operator  $\Delta$  has exactly  $k$  eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$  in decomposition (1.1) which are all different. In particular, if one of the eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$  in decomposition (1.1) is equal to zero,  $\alpha$  is said to be of (finite) null  $k$ -type. Moreover, in the case of null  $k$ -type submanifolds, decomposition (1.1) is not unique.

Finite type curves in the Euclidean space  $E^n$  were studied in [1], [2] and [3]. A full classification of 1-type, 2-type and 3-type curves in the space  $E^n$  is given respectively in [4], [6] and [8]. On the other hand, finite type curves in Minkowski

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spaces were studied in [5] and [7]. It is interesting that hyperbolas and straight lines are the only 1-type curves in Minkowski spaces. A classification of non-planar 3-type curves in the Minkowski 3-space is given in [10]. It is proved in [1] that arbitrary curve of  $k$ -type is contained in at most  $2k$ -dimensional subspace of the space  $E^n$ . This implies that the dimension  $n$  of the space  $E^n$  is not greater than  $2k$ . Similarly, arbitrary curve of  $k$ -type is contained in at most  $2k$ -dimensional subspace of the Minkowski space  $E_1^n$ , so the dimension  $n$  of the space  $E_1^n$  is not greater than  $2k + 1$ . Spacelike and timelike curves of 2-type, lying fully in the Minkowski space  $E_1^3$  are classified in [11]. In this paper, we give a classification of all 2-type spacelike and timelike curves, lying fully in the Minkowski spaces  $E_1^4$  and  $E_1^5$ . In this way, classification of such curves in Minkowski spaces is completed.

## 2. Preliminaries

In the sequel, we introduce some basic definitions and notions. Let  $E_1^n$  denote the  $n$ -dimensional Minkowski space, i.e., the Euclidean space  $E^n$  with the standard flat metric given by

$$g = -dx_1^2 + dx_2^2 + \cdots + dx_n^2,$$

where  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a rectangular coordinate system of  $E_1^n$ .

Recall that arbitrary subspace  $W$  of the Minkowski space  $E_1^n$  is said to be:

- (1) spacelike if  $g|_W$  is positive definite;
- (2) timelike if  $g|_W$  is nondegenerate of index 1;
- (3) lightlike (isotropic) if  $g|_W$  is degenerate.

The type into which  $W$  falls is called its causal character. In the same manner, a vector  $a$  in the space  $E_1^n$  is said to be:

- (1) spacelike if  $g(a, a) > 0$  or  $a = 0$ ;
- (2) timelike if  $g(a, a) < 0$ ;
- (3) null (lightlike) if  $g(a, a) = 0$  and  $a \neq 0$ .

Similarly, a curve  $\alpha = \alpha(s)$  in  $E_1^n$  is said to be spacelike, timelike or null (lightlike), if respectively all of its velocity vectors  $\alpha'(s)$  are spacelike, timelike or null (lightlike).

The norm of a vector  $a$  is given by  $\|a\| = \sqrt{|g(a, a)|}$  and two vectors  $a, b$  are said to be orthogonal if  $g(a, b) = 0$ .

Next, the curve  $\alpha(s)$  is said to be of unit speed, if for its velocity holds  $v = \|\alpha'(s)\| = 1$ , i.e., if  $g(\alpha'(s), \alpha'(s)) = \pm 1$ . The Laplace operator  $\Delta$  of the curve  $\alpha(s)$  is defined by  $\Delta = \pm d^2/ds^2$ . Its eigenfunctions are the functions  $s, \cos(ps), \sin(ps), \cosh(ps)$  and  $\sinh(ps)$ . Following the definition of Chen, the curve  $\alpha(s)$  is of finite type in the space  $E_1^n$  if and only if it can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) = a_0 + b_0 s + \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i \cos(p_i s) + b_i \sin(p_i s)) \\ + \sum_{j=1}^t (c_j \cosh(q_j s) + d_j \sinh(q_j s)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_0, b_0, a_i, b_i, c_j, d_j \in R^n$ ,  $p_i, q_j \in N$ ,  $0 < p_1 < \dots < p_m$ ,  $0 < q_1 < \dots < q_t$ .

Further, recall that an isometry of the space  $E_1^n$  is a diffeomorphism  $I: E_1^n \rightarrow E_1^n$  that preserves metric. More explicitly,  $g(I(a), I(b)) = g(a, b)$  for each  $a, b \in E_1^n$ . We mention here that the spacelike rotation (in the spacelike 2-plane  $\{x_3, x_4\}$ ) and the timelike rotation (in the timelike 2-plane  $\{x_1, x_2\}$ ) in the space  $E_1^4$  may be expressed respectively by matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos(\varphi) & \sin(\varphi) \\ 0 & 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & \cos(\varphi) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(\varphi) & \sinh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh(\varphi) & \cosh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Such rotations in the space  $E_1^5$  may be expressed in a similar way ([9]).

### 3. A classification of 2-type curves in the Minkowski space $E_1^4$

It is known that the space  $E_1^3$  is contained in the space  $E_1^4$  as its timelike subspace, i.e., as its timelike hyperplane. Therefore, if  $\alpha$  is a 2-type curve in  $E_1^3$ , it is also a 2-type curve in  $E_1^4$ . All 2-type spacelike and timelike curves, lying fully in  $E_1^3$  are classified in [11]. In the following two theorems, we give a classification of null 2-type and 2-type spacelike and timelike curves, lying fully in  $E_1^4$  and not lying in its timelike hyperplane.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $\alpha(s)$  be a unit speed spacelike or timelike curve, with one eigenvalue of its Laplace operator  $\Delta$  in decomposition (1.1) equal to zero, lying fully in  $E_1^4$  and not lying in its timelike hyperplane. Then up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a null 2-type curve if and only if  $\alpha$  is a part of one of the following spacelike circular helices:*

- (1)  $\alpha(s) = (0, ms, n \cos(ps), n \sin(ps))$ ,  $m^2 + p^2 n^2 = 1$ ,  $p \in N, m, n \in R_0$ ;
- (2)  $\alpha(s) = (ms, ms, n \cos(ps), n \sin(ps))$ ,  $p^2 n^2 = 1$ ,  $p \in N, m, n \in R_0$ ;

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\alpha(s)$  satisfies the assumptions of the theorem and that it is a null 2-type curve. Then  $\alpha(s)$  can be written in one of the following forms

- (a)  $\alpha(s) = a + bs + c \cos(ps) + d \sin(ps)$ ;
- (b)  $\alpha(s) = a + bs + c \cosh(ps) + d \sinh(ps)$ ;

where  $p \in N$ ,  $a, b, c, d \in R^4$ . Denote by  $R_0$  the set of all real numbers different from zero. Next, assume that  $a = (0, 0, 0, 0)$  up to a translation and let  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)$ ,  $d = (d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4)$ . In the sequel, we consider cases (a) and (b).

Case (a). Since  $g(\alpha', \alpha') = \pm 1$  and using the linear independence of the functions  $\sin(x)$  and  $\cos(x)$ , we obtain the system of equations

- (1)  $g(b, b) + \frac{p^2}{2}(g(c, c) + g(d, d)) = \pm 1$ ,
- (2)  $g(b, c) = g(b, d) = g(c, d) = 0$ ,
- (3)  $g(c, c) - g(d, d) = 0$ .

With respect to the causal character of the vectors  $c$  and  $d$ , we distinguish three subcases: (a.1)  $g(c, c) = g(d, d) > 0$ ; (a.2)  $g(c, c) = g(d, d) = 0$ ; (a.3)  $g(c, c) = g(d, d) < 0$ .

(a.1) We may assume that  $c = (0, 0, c_3, 0)$ ,  $d = (0, 0, 0, c_3)$ ,  $c_3 \neq 0$ . The equation (2) implies that  $b = (b_1, b_2, 0, 0)$ . If  $b$  is spacelike, let  $b_1 = \rho \sinh(\varphi)$ ,  $b_2 = \rho \cosh(\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (\rho s \sinh(\varphi), \rho s \cosh(\varphi), c_3 \cos(ps), c_3 \sin(ps)) \\ &= (0, \rho s, c_3 \cos(ps), c_3 \sin(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(\varphi) & \sinh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh(\varphi) & \cosh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike circular helix lying fully in a spacelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , where the equation (1) gives  $\rho^2 + p^2 c_3^2 = 1$ . Next, if  $b$  is timelike, let  $b_1 = \rho \cosh(\varphi)$ ,  $b_2 = \rho \sinh(\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (\rho s \cosh(\varphi), \rho s \sinh(\varphi), c_3 \cos(ps), c_3 \sin(ps)) \\ &= (\rho s, 0, c_3 \cos(ps), c_3 \sin(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(\varphi) & \sinh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh(\varphi) & \cosh(\varphi) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction to the assumption of the theorem. Finally, if  $b$  is null, let  $b = (b_1, b_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $b_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form  $\alpha(s) = (b_1 s, b_1 s, c_3 \cos(ps), c_3 \sin(ps))$ , where the equation (1) gives  $p^2 c_3^2 = 1$ . Therefore,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike circular helix with a null axis lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ .

(a.2) In this subcase, assume that  $c = (c_1, 0, 0, c_1)$ ,  $d = (d_1, 0, 0, d_1)$ ,  $c_1$  and  $d_1$  are not both equal to zero. The equation (2) implies that  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_1)$ . Let  $b_1 = \rho \cos(\varphi)$ ,  $b_2 = \rho \sin(\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (b_1 s + c_1 \cos(ps) + d_1 \sin(ps), \rho s \cos(\varphi), \rho s \sin(\varphi), \\ &\quad b_1 s + c_1 \cos(ps) + d_1 \sin(ps)) \\ &= (b_1 s + c_1 \cos(ps) + d_1 \sin(ps), \rho s, 0, \\ &\quad b_1 s + c_1 \cos(ps) + d_1 \sin(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi) & \sin(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & \cos(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $\alpha$  lies fully in a 2-dimensional lightlike subspace of  $E_1^4$  and hence lies in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction.

(a.3) It follows that  $c$  and  $d$  are mutually orthogonal timelike vectors in  $E_1^4$ , which is not possible.

Case (b). Since  $g(\alpha', \alpha') = \pm 1$  and using the linear independence of the functions  $\sinh(x)$  and  $\cosh(x)$ , we obtain the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & g(b, b) + \frac{p^2}{2}(g(d, d) - g(c, c)) = \pm 1, \\ (2) \quad & g(b, c) = g(b, d) = g(c, d) = 0, \\ (3) \quad & g(c, c) + g(d, d) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

With respect to the causal character of the vectors  $c$  and  $d$ , we distinguish three subcases: (b.1)  $g(c, c) = -g(d, d) > 0$ ; (b.2)  $g(c, c) = -g(d, d) < 0$ ; (b.3)  $g(c, c) = -g(d, d) = 0$ .

(b.1) We may take  $c = (0, 0, 0, c_4)$ ,  $d = (c_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $c_4 \neq 0$ . The equation (2) gives  $b = (0, b_2, b_3, 0)$ . Let  $b_2 = \rho \cos(\varphi)$ ,  $b_3 = \rho \sin(\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (c_4 \sinh(ps), \rho s \cos(\varphi), \rho s \sin(\varphi), c_4 \cosh(ps)) \\ &= (c_4 \sinh(ps), \rho s, 0, c_4 \cosh(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi) & \sin(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & \cos(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction.

(b.2) In a similar way we get a contradiction.

(b.3) We may assume that  $c = (c_1, 0, 0, c_1)$ ,  $d = (d_1, 0, 0, d_1)$ ,  $c_1$  and  $d_1$  are not both equal to zero. The equation (2) gives  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_1)$ . Let  $b_2 = \rho \cos(\varphi)$ ,  $b_3 = \rho \sin(\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . It follows that  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (b_1 s + c_1 \cosh(ps) + d_1 \sinh(ps), \rho s \cos(\varphi), \rho s \sin(\varphi), \\ &\quad b_1 s + c_1 \cosh(ps) + d_1 \sinh(ps)) \\ &= (b_1 s + c_1 \cosh(ps) + d_1 \sinh(ps), \rho s, 0, \\ &\quad b_1 s + c_1 \cosh(ps) + d_1 \sinh(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(\varphi) & \sin(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & \cos(\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\alpha$  lies fully in a 2-dimensional lightlike subspace and hence lies in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

*Remark 3.1.* All curves of null 2-type lie fully in a hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $\alpha(s)$  be a unit speed spacelike or timelike curve with both eigenvalues of its Laplace operator  $\Delta$  in decomposition (1.1) different from zero, lying fully in  $E_1^4$  and not lying in its timelike hyperplane. Then up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a 2-type curve if and only if  $\alpha$  is a part of one of the following curves:*

$$(1) \quad \alpha(s) = (m \cosh(ts), n \cos(ps), -n \sin(ps), m \sinh(ts));$$

$$p^2 n^2 + t^2 m^2 = 1, \quad p, t \in N, \quad m, n \in R_0;$$

- (2)  $\alpha(s) = (m \sinh(ts), n \cos(ps), -n \sin(ps), m \cosh(ts));$   
 $p^2 n^2 - t^2 m^2 = 1, \quad p, t \in N, \quad m, n \in R_0;$
- (3)  $\alpha(s) = (k \cos(ps) + l \sin(ps) + m \cosh(ts) + n \sinh(ts), r \cos(ps), -r \sin(ps),$   
 $k \cos(ps) + l \sin(ps) + m \cosh(ts) + n \sinh(ts));$   
 $p^2 r^2 = 1, \quad m^2 + n^2 \neq 0, \quad p, t \in N, \quad m, n, k, l \in R;$
- (4)  $\alpha(s) = (m \cos(ps) + n \sin(ps), m \cos(ps) + n \sin(ps), k \sin(ts), k \cos(ts));$   
 $t^2 k^2 = 1, \quad m^2 + n^2 \neq 0, \quad p, t \in N, \quad t \neq 3p, \quad m, n \in R;$
- (5)  $\alpha(s) = (k \cos(ps) + l \sin(ps) + m \cos(ts) + n \sin(ts),$   
 $k \cos(ps) + l \sin(ps) + m \cos(ts) + n \sin(ts), r \cos(ps), r \sin(ps));$   
 $p^2 r^2 = 1, \quad m^2 + n^2 \neq 0, \quad p, t \in N, \quad m, n, k, l \in R;$
- (6)  $\alpha(s) = (r \cos(ps), m \cos(p(\omega - s)), \frac{m^2}{12n} \cos(p(2\omega + s)) - \frac{r^2}{12n} \cos(ps)$   
 $+ n \cos(3ps), \frac{m^2}{12n} \sin(p(2\omega + s)) - \frac{r^2}{12n} \sin(ps) + n \sin(3ps));$   
 $p^2 (\frac{m^2 - r^2}{2} + (\frac{1}{12n})^2 (m^4 + r^4 - 2m^2 r^2 \cos(2p\omega)) + 9n^2) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N,$   
 $r, m, n, \omega \in R_0;$
- (7)  $\alpha(s) = (r \sin(ps), r \sin(ps), m \cos(3ps), m \sin(3ps)), \quad (3pm)^2 = 1,$   
 $p \in N, \quad m, r \in R_0;$
- (8)  $\alpha(s) = (0, r \sin(ps), m \cos(ps) + k \cos(3ps), m \sin(ps) + k \sin(3ps));$   
 $r^2 + 12mk = 0, \quad p^2 (m - 3k)^2 = 1, \quad p \in N, \quad r, m, k \in R_0;$
- (9)  $\alpha(s) = (r \sin(ps), 0, r \cos(ps) + m \cos(3ps), r \sin(ps) + m \sin(3ps));$   
 $r = 12m, \quad (9pm)^2 = 1, \quad p \in N, \quad m, r \in R_0;$
- (10)  $\alpha(s) = (-\frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \cosh(3ps), r \cosh(ps),$   
 $m \cosh(p(\omega + s)), -\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \sinh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{1}{12n})^2 (r^4 + m^4 + 2m^2 r^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) - \frac{r^2 + m^2}{2} + 9n^2) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N,$   
 $r, m, n, \omega \in R_0;$
- (11)  $\alpha(s) = (-\frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \cosh(3ps), r \sinh(ps),$   
 $m \cosh(p(\omega + s)), -\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \sinh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{1}{12n})^2 (r^4 + m^4 + 2m^2 r^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{r^2 - m^2}{2} + 9n^2) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N,$   
 $r, m, n, \omega \in R_0;$
- (12)  $\alpha(s) = (-\frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + n \cosh(3ps), r e^{p(s-\theta)},$   
 $m \cosh(ps), \frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + n \sinh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{m}{12n})^2 (m^2 + 4r^2 e^{-2p\theta}) - \frac{m^2}{2} + 9n^2) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N, \quad r, m, n \in R_0, \quad \theta \in R;$
- (13)  $\alpha(s) = (-\frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \cosh(3ps), r \sinh(ps),$   
 $m \sinh(p(\omega + s)), -\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(2\omega - s)) + n \sinh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{1}{12n})^2 (r^4 + m^4 + 2r^2 m^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{r^2 + m^2}{2} + 9n^2) = 1, \quad p \in N,$   
 $r, m, n, \omega \in R_0;$
- (14)  $\alpha(s) = (-\frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + n \cosh(3ps), r e^{p(s-\theta)}, m \sinh(ps),$   
 $\frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + n \sinh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{m}{12n})^2 (m^2 + 4r^2 e^{-2p\theta}) + \frac{m^2}{2} + 9n^2) = 1, \quad p \in N, \quad r, m, n \in R_0, \quad \theta \in R;$
- (15)  $\alpha(s) = (\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(s - 2\omega)) + n \sinh(3ps), r \cosh(ps),$   
 $m \cosh(p(\omega + s)), \frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(s - 2\omega)) + n \cosh(3ps));$   
 $p^2 ((\frac{1}{12n})^2 (-r^4 - m^4 - 2r^2 m^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) - \frac{r^2 + m^2}{2} - 9n^2) = -1, \quad p \in N,$

$$\begin{aligned}
& r, m, n, \omega \in R_0; \\
(16) \quad & \alpha(s) = \left(\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(s-2\omega)) + n \sinh(3ps), r \sinh(ps), \right. \\
& \quad \left. m \cosh(p(\omega+s)), \frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(s-2\omega)) + n \cosh(3ps)\right); \\
& p^2 \left( \left(\frac{1}{12n}\right)^2 (-r^4 - m^4 - 2r^2 m^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{r^2 - m^2}{2} - 9n^2 \right) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N, \\
& r, m, n, \omega \in R_0; \\
(17) \quad & \alpha(s) = \left(-\frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + n \sinh(3ps), r e^{p(s-\theta)}, \right. \\
& \quad \left. m \cosh(ps), \frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} + \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + n \cosh(3ps)\right); \\
& -p^2 \left( \left(\frac{m}{12n}\right)^2 (m^2 + 4r^2 e^{-2p\theta}) + \frac{m^2}{2} + 9n^2 \right) = -1, \quad p \in N, r, m, n \in R_0, \theta \in R; \\
(18) \quad & \alpha(s) = \left(\frac{r^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(p(s-2\omega)) + n \sinh(3ps), r \sinh(ps), \right. \\
& \quad \left. m \sinh(p(\omega+s)), \frac{r^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(p(s-2\omega)) + n \cosh(3ps)\right); \\
& p^2 \left( \left(\frac{1}{12n}\right)^2 (-r^4 - m^4 - 2r^2 m^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{r^2 + m^2}{2} - 9n^2 \right) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N, \\
& r, m, n, \omega \in R_0; \\
(19) \quad & \alpha(s) = \left(-\frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} + \frac{m^2}{12n} \sinh(ps) + n \sinh(3ps), r e^{p(s-\theta)}, \right. \\
& \quad \left. m \sinh(ps), \frac{r^2}{6n} e^{-p(s+2\theta)} + \frac{m^2}{12n} \cosh(ps) + n \cosh(3ps)\right); \\
& p^2 \left( -\left(\frac{m}{12n}\right)^2 (m^2 + 4r^2 e^{-2p\theta}) + \frac{m^2}{2} - 9n^2 \right) = \pm 1, \quad p \in N, r, m, n \in R_0, \theta \in R.
\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\alpha(s)$  satisfies the assumptions of the theorem and that it is a 2-type curve. Then  $\alpha(s)$  can be written in one of the following forms

$$\begin{aligned}
(a) \quad & \alpha(s) = a + b \cos(ps) + c \sin(ps) + d \cosh(ts) + e \sinh(ts); \\
(b) \quad & \alpha(s) = a + b \cos(ps) + c \sin(ps) + d \cos(ts) + e \sin(ts); \\
(c) \quad & \alpha(s) = a + b \cosh(ps) + c \sinh(ps) + d \cosh(ts) + e \sinh(ts);
\end{aligned}$$

where  $p, t \in N$ ,  $a, b, c, d, e \in R^4$ . Denote by  $R_0$  the set of all real numbers different from zero. Next, assume that  $0 < p < t$  and that  $a = (0, 0, 0, 0)$  up to a translation. Denote vectors  $b, c, d, e$  by  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)$  and so on. In the sequel, we consider cases (a), (b) and (c).

Case(a). Since  $g(\alpha', \alpha') = \pm 1$  and using the linear independence of the functions  $\sin(x)$  and  $\cos(x)$  as well as  $\sinh(x)$  and  $\cosh(x)$ , we get the system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad & \frac{p^2}{2} (g(b, b) + g(c, c)) + \frac{t^2}{2} (g(e, e) - g(d, d)) = \pm 1, \\
(2) \quad & g(c, c) - g(b, b) = 0, \\
(3) \quad & g(e, e) + g(d, d) = 0, \\
(4) \quad & g(b, d) = g(b, e) = g(c, d) = g(c, e) = g(b, c) = g(d, e) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

With respect to the causal character of vectors  $d$  and  $e$ , we distinguish three subcases: (a.1)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) > 0$ ; (a.2)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) < 0$ ; (a.3)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) = 0$ .

(a.1) In this subcase, assume that  $d = (e_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $e = (0, 0, 0, e_4)$ ,  $e_4 \neq 0$ . The equation (4) implies  $b = (0, b_2, b_3, 0)$ ,  $c = (0, c_2, c_3, 0)$ . Next, let  $b_2 = \rho \cos(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_2 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then the equations (2) and (4) imply  $b_3 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,

$c_3 = -\rho \cos(p\varphi)$ . Hence  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (e_4 \cosh(ts), \rho \cos(p(\varphi - s)), \rho \sin(p(\varphi - s)), e_4 \sinh(ts)) \\ &= (e_4 \cosh(ts), \rho \cos(ps), -\rho \sin(ps), \\ &\quad e_4 \sinh(ts)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(p\varphi) & \sin(p\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(p\varphi) & \cos(p\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2\rho^2 + t^2e_4^2 = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  lies fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (1).

(a.2) We may assume that  $e = (e_1, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $d = (0, 0, 0, e_1)$ ,  $e_1 \neq 0$ . This subcase is analogous to the subcase (a.1), so we get that (up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ )  $\alpha$  has the form  $\alpha(s) = (e_1 \sinh(ts), \rho \cos(ps), -\rho \sin(ps), e_1 \cosh(ts))$ , where the equation (1) gives  $p^2\rho^2 - t^2e_1^2 = \pm 1$ . Therefore,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike or a timelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (2). The causal character of  $\alpha$  depends on the choice of the constants.

(a.3) We may take that  $d = (d_1, 0, 0, d_1)$ ,  $e = (e_1, 0, 0, e_1)$ ,  $d_1$  and  $e_1$  are not both equal to zero. The equation (4) gives  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_1)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_1)$ . Let  $b_2 = \rho \cos(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_2 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . Then equations (2) and (4) imply  $b_3 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_3 = -\rho \cos(p\varphi)$ . Hence  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cosh(ts) + e_1 \sinh(ts), \rho \cos(p(\varphi - s)), \\ &\quad \rho \sin(p(\varphi - s)), b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cosh(ts) + e_1 \sinh(ts)) \\ &= (b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cosh(ts) + e_1 \sinh(ts), \rho \cos(ps), -\rho \sin(ps), \\ &\quad b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cosh(ts) \\ &\quad + e_1 \sinh(ts)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(p\varphi) & \sin(p\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin(p\varphi) & \cos(p\varphi) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) gives  $p^2\rho^2 = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (3).

Case(b). After using the equation  $g(\alpha'(s), \alpha'(s)) = \pm 1$ , we get that the arguments of the functions  $\sin(x)$  and  $\cos(x)$  are the numbers  $\{2p, 2t, p+t, t-p\}$ . Since  $0 < p < t$ , we distinguish two subcases: (b.1)  $t-p \neq 2p$ ; (b.2)  $t-p = 2p$ .

(b.1)  $t-p \neq 2p$ . The corresponding system of equations has the form

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & \frac{t^2}{2}(g(b, b) + g(c, c)) + \frac{t^2}{2}(g(d, d) + g(e, e)) = \pm 1, \\ (2) \quad & g(c, c) - g(b, b) = 0, \\ (3) \quad & g(e, e) - g(d, d) = 0, \\ (4) \quad & g(b, c) = g(b, d) = g(b, e) = g(c, d) = g(c, e) = g(d, e) = 0. \end{aligned}$$



With respect to the causal character of vectors  $d$  and  $e$ , we distinguish three sub-cases: (b.1.1)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) > 0$ ; (b.1.2)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) = 0$ ; (b.1.3)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) < 0$ .

(b.1.1) Take that  $e = (0, 0, e_3, 0)$ ,  $d = (0, 0, 0, e_3)$ ,  $e_3 \neq 0$ . Then the equation (4) implies  $b = (b_1, b_2, 0, 0)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, 0, 0)$ . If  $g(b, b) = g(c, c) > 0$ , then there exist four mutually orthogonal spacelike vectors  $b, c, d, e$  in  $E_1^4$ , which is impossible. If  $g(b, b) = g(c, c) < 0$ , then there exist two mutually orthogonal timelike vectors  $b$  and  $c$  in  $E_1^4$ , which is impossible again. Finally, if  $g(b, b) = g(c, c) = 0$ , take  $b = (b_1, b_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $b_1$  and  $c_1$  are not both equal to zero. We obtain that  $\alpha$  has the equation  $\alpha(s) = (b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps), b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps), e_3 \sin(ts), e_3 \cos(ts))$ , where the equation (1) becomes  $t^2 e_3^2 = 1$ . Thus  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve, lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (4).

(b.1.2) Assume that  $d = (d_1, d_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $e = (e_1, e_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $d_1$  and  $e_1$  are not both equal to zero. Then (4) implies that  $b = (b_1, b_1, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_1, c_3, c_4)$ . Let  $b_3 = \rho \cos(p\varphi)$ ,  $b_4 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi \in R$ . The equations (2) and (4) give  $c_3 = -\rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_4 = \rho \cos(p\varphi)$ . Thus  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cos(ts) + e_1 \sin(ts), \\ &\quad b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cos(ts) + e_1 \sin(ts), \\ &\quad \rho \cos(p(\varphi + s)), \rho \sin(p(\varphi + s))) \\ &= (b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cos(ts) + e_1 \sin(ts), \\ &\quad b_1 \cos(ps) + c_1 \sin(ps) + d_1 \cos(ts) + e_1 \sin(ts), \\ &\quad \rho \cos(ps), \rho \sin(ps)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos(p\varphi) & \sin(p\varphi) \\ 0 & 0 & -\sin(p\varphi) & \cos(p\varphi) \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2 \rho^2 = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (5).

(b.1.3) It follows that  $d$  and  $e$  are mutually orthogonal timelike vectors in  $E_1^4$ , which is not possible.

(b.2) Since  $g(\alpha', \alpha') = \pm 1$ , we get the system of the equations:

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & \frac{p^2}{2}(g(b, b) + g(c, c)) + \frac{t^2}{2}(g(d, d) + g(e, e)) = \pm 1, \\ (2) \quad & \frac{p^2}{2}(g(c, c) - g(b, b)) + pt(g(b, d) + g(c, e)) = 0, \\ (3) \quad & g(e, e) - g(d, d) = 0, \\ (4) \quad & -p^2 g(b, c) + pt(g(b, e) - g(c, d)) = 0, \\ (5) \quad & g(d, e) = 0, \\ (6) \quad & g(c, e) - g(b, d) = 0, \\ (7) \quad & g(b, e) + g(c, d) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Again we distinguish three subcases: (b.2.1)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) > 0$ ; (b.2.2)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) = 0$ ; (b.2.3)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) < 0$ .

(b.2.1) We may take  $d = (0, 0, d_3, 0)$ ,  $e = (0, 0, 0, d_3)$ ,  $d_3 \neq 0$ . The equations (6) and (7) give  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, -b_4, b_3)$ . If  $b, d, e$  ( $c, d, e$ ) are linearly dependent vectors, then  $b_1 = b_2 = 0$  ( $c_1 = c_2 = 0$ ), so  $\alpha$  lies fully in a 3-dimensional subspace of the space  $E_1^4$ . Moreover, if  $b_1 \neq 0$  and  $c_2 \neq 0$  ( $b_2 \neq 0$  and  $c_1 \neq 0$ ), then  $\alpha$  lies fully in the space  $E_1^4$ . In the sequel, we consider each of these cases.

(b.2.1.1)  $b_1 \neq 0$ ,  $c_2 \neq 0$  (or  $b_2 \neq 0$ ,  $c_1 \neq 0$ ).

Let  $b_1 = \rho \cos(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_1 = \rho \sin(p\varphi)$ ,  $b_2 = m \cos(p\theta)$ ,  $c_2 = m \sin(p\theta)$ ,  $\rho, m \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi, \theta \in R$ ,  $\varphi \neq \theta$ ,  $p\varphi \neq \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi$ ,  $p\theta \neq k\pi$ ,  $k \in Z$ . Then the equations (2) and (4) imply that  $b_3 = \frac{1}{12d_3}(m^2 \cos(2p\theta) - \rho^2 \cos(2p\varphi))$ ,  $b_4 = \frac{1}{12d_3}(m^2 \sin(2p\theta) - \rho^2 \sin(2p\varphi))$ . Consequently,  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (\rho \cos(p(\varphi - s)), m \cos(p(\theta - s)), \\ &\quad \frac{m^2}{12d_3} \cos(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{\rho^2}{12d_3} \cos(p(2\varphi + s)) + d_3 \cos(3ps), \\ &\quad \frac{m^2}{12d_3} \sin(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{\rho^2}{12d_3} \sin(p(2\varphi + s)) + d_3 \sin(3ps)). \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $u = s - \varphi$  and  $\omega = \theta - \varphi$ , we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(u) &= (\rho \cos(pu), m \cos(p(\omega - u)), \frac{m^2}{12d_3} \cos(p(2\omega + u)) - \frac{\rho^2}{12d_3} \cos(pu) \\ &\quad + d_3 \cos(3pu), \frac{m^2}{12d_3} \sin(p(2\omega + u)) - \frac{\rho^2}{12d_3} \sin(pu) \\ &\quad + d_3 \sin(3pu)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos(3p\varphi) & \sin(3p\varphi) \\ 0 & 0 & -\sin(3p\varphi) & \cos(3p\varphi) \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2(\frac{1}{2}(m^2 - \rho^2) + (\frac{1}{12d_3})^2(m^4 + \rho^4 - 2m^2\rho^2 \cos(2p\omega))) + 9d_3^2) = \pm 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike or a timelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (6).

(b.2.1.2)  $b_1 = b_2 = 0$  (or  $c_1 = c_2 = 0$ ).

The equation (4) implies  $b_4 = 0$  and thus  $b = (0, 0, b_3, 0)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_2, 0, b_3)$ . If  $b_3 = 0$ , then the equation (2) gives  $c = (c_1, c_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $c_1 \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $\alpha$  has the equation  $\alpha(s) = (c_1 \sin(ps), c_1 \sin(ps), d_3 \cos(3ps), d_3 \sin(3ps))$ , where the equation (1) becomes  $(3pd_3)^2 = 1$ . It follows that  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve, lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ . This gives us form (7). Next, suppose that  $b_3 \neq 0$ . If  $c$  is spacelike, let  $c_1 = \rho \sinh(p\theta)$ ,  $c_2 = \rho \cosh(p\theta)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Then the equation (2) gives  $\rho^2 + 12b_3d_3 = 0$  and  $\alpha$  has the equation

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (\rho \sinh(p\theta) \sin(ps), \rho \cosh(p\theta) \sin(ps), b_3 \cos(ps) + d_3 \cos(3ps), \\ &\quad b_3 \sin(ps) + d_3 \sin(3ps)) \\ &= (0, \rho \sin(ps), b_3 \cos(ps) + d_3 \cos(3ps), \\ &\quad b_3 \sin(ps) + d_3 \sin(3ps)) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(p\theta) & \sinh(p\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh(p\theta) & \cosh(p\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2(b_3 - 3d_3)^2 = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a spacelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (8). If  $c$  is timelike, then  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction. Finally, if  $c$  is null, let  $c_1 = b_3 \cosh(p\theta)$ ,  $c_2 = b_3 \sinh(p\theta)$ ,  $b_3 \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Then (2) gives  $b_3 = 12d_3$ , so  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(s) &= (b_3 \cosh(p\theta) \sin(ps), b_3 \sinh(p\theta) \sin(ps), b_3 \cos(ps) + d_3 \cos(3ps), \\ &\quad b_3 \sin(ps) + d_3 \sin(3ps)) \\ &= (b_3 \sin(ps), 0, b_3 \cos(ps) + d_3 \cos(3ps), \\ &\quad b_3 \sin(ps) + d_3 \sin(3ps)) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(p\theta) & \sinh(p\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ \sinh(p\theta) & \cosh(p\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Then the equation (1) becomes  $(9pd_3)^2 = 1$  and up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of the space  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (9).

(b.2.2) Take that  $d = (d_1, d_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $e = (e_1, e_1, 0, 0)$ , i.e., that  $d = \lambda e$ ,  $\lambda \in R$ ,  $d_1$  and  $e_1$  are not both equal to zero. The equations (6) and (7) imply  $(1 + \lambda^2)g(c, d) = 0$  and thus  $g(c, d) = 0$ . Then  $g(b, d) = 0$ , and thus  $b = (b_1, b_1, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_1, c_3, c_4)$ . We have the same vectors  $b, c, d, e$  as in the subcase (b.1.2), so we get the same form (5) of the curve  $\alpha$ .

(b.2.3) It follows that  $d$  and  $e$  are two mutually orthogonal timelike vectors in  $E_1^4$ , which is not possible.

Case (c). After using the equation  $g(\alpha', \alpha') = \pm 1$ , we get that arguments of the functions  $\sinh(x)$  and  $\cosh(x)$  are the numbers  $\{2p, 2t, p+t, t-p\}$ . Since  $0 < p < t$ , we distinguish two subcases: (c.1)  $t - p \neq 2p$ ; (c.2)  $t - p = 2p$ .

(c.1)  $t - p \neq 2p$ . The corresponding system of equations has the form:

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & \frac{t^2}{2}(g(c, c) - g(b, b)) + \frac{t^2}{2}(g(e, e) - g(d, d)) = \pm 1, \\ (2) \quad & g(d, d) + g(e, e) = 0, \\ (3) \quad & g(b, b) + g(c, c) = 0, \\ (4) \quad & g(b, c) = g(b, d) = g(b, e) = g(c, d) = g(c, e) = g(d, e) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

With respect to the causal character of vectors  $d$  and  $e$ , we distinguish three subcases: (c.1.1)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) > 0$ ; (c.1.2)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) < 0$ ; (c.1.3)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) = 0$ .

(c.1.1) Assume that  $d = (e_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $e = (0, 0, 0, e_4)$ ,  $e_4 \neq 0$ . The equation (4) implies  $b = (0, b_2, b_3, 0)$ ,  $c = (0, c_2, c_3, 0)$ , while the equation (3) gives  $b = c = 0$ , which is a contradiction.

(c.1.2) Again we get a contradiction.

(c.1.3) Assume that  $d = (d_1, 0, 0, d_1)$ ,  $e = (e_1, 0, 0, e_1)$ ,  $d_1$  and  $e_1$  are not both equal to zero. Then the equations (3) and (4) imply  $b = c = 0$ , which is a contradiction.

(c.2)  $t - p = 2p$ . The corresponding system of equations has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \quad & \frac{v^2}{2}(g(c, c) - g(b, b)) + \frac{t^2}{2}(g(e, e) - g(d, d)) = \pm 1, \\
 (2) \quad & g(e, e) + g(d, d) = 0, \\
 (3) \quad & \frac{v^2}{2}(g(b, b) + g(c, c)) + pt(g(c, e) - g(b, d)) = 0, \\
 (4) \quad & p^2 g(b, c) + pt(g(c, d) - g(b, e)) = 0, \\
 (5) \quad & g(d, e) = 0, \\
 (6) \quad & g(b, d) + g(c, e) = 0, \\
 (7) \quad & g(b, e) + g(c, d) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

With respect to the causal character of vectors  $d$  and  $e$ , we distinguish three sub-cases: (c.2.1)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) > 0$ ; (c.2.2)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) < 0$ ; (c.2.3)  $g(e, e) = -g(d, d) = 0$ .

(c.2.1) We may assume that  $e = (0, 0, 0, e_4)$ ,  $d = (e_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $e_4 \neq 0$ . The equations (6) and (7) give  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (b_4, c_2, c_3, b_1)$ . If  $b, d, e$  ( $c, d, e$ ) are linearly dependent vectors, then  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction. Next, comparing the numbers  $b_2$  and  $c_2$  as well as  $b_3$  and  $c_3$ , the following possibilities may occur:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (c.2.1.1) \quad & b_2^2 > c_2^2, \quad b_3^2 > c_3^2; \\
 (c.2.1.2) \quad & b_2^2 < c_2^2, \quad b_3^2 > c_3^2 \quad (\text{or } b_2^2 > c_2^2, \quad b_3^2 < c_3^2); \\
 (c.2.1.3) \quad & b_2 = c_2 \neq 0, \quad b_3^2 > c_3^2 \quad (\text{or } b_2^2 > c_2^2, \quad b_3 = c_3 \neq 0); \\
 (c.2.1.4) \quad & b_2^2 < c_2^2, \quad b_3^2 < c_3^2; \\
 (c.2.1.5) \quad & b_2 = c_2 \neq 0, \quad b_3^2 < c_3^2 \quad (\text{or } b_2^2 < c_2^2, \quad b_3 = c_3 \neq 0); \\
 (c.2.1.6) \quad & b_2 = c_2 \neq 0, \quad b_3 = c_3 \neq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

In the sequel, we consider them separately.

(c.2.1.1) Let  $b_2 = \rho \cosh(p\varphi)$ ,  $c_2 = \rho \sinh(p\varphi)$ ,  $b_3 = m \cosh(p\theta)$ ,  $c_3 = m \sinh(p\theta)$ ,  $m, \rho \in R_0$ ,  $\varphi, \theta \in R$ ,  $\varphi \neq \theta$ . Then the equations (3) and (4) imply  $b_1 = -\frac{1}{12e_4}(\rho^2 \cosh(2p\varphi) + m^2 \cosh(2p\theta))$ ,  $b_4 = \frac{1}{12e_4}(\rho^2 \sinh(2p\varphi) + m^2 \sinh(2p\theta))$ . Thus  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha(s) = & \left( \frac{-\rho^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\varphi - s)) - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\theta - s)) + e_4 \cosh(3ps), \right. \\
 & \left. \rho \cosh(p(\varphi + s)), m \cosh(p(\theta + s)), \right. \\
 & \left. \frac{\rho^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\varphi - s)) + \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\theta - s)) + e_4 \sinh(3ps) \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $u = s + \varphi$  and  $\omega = \theta - \varphi$ , we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha(u) = & \left( -\frac{\rho^2}{12e_4} \cosh(pu) - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\omega - u)) + e_4 \cosh(3pu), \rho \cosh(pu), \right. \\
 & \left. m \cosh(p(u + \omega)), -\frac{\rho^2}{12e_4} \sinh(pu) + \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\omega - u)) \right. \\
 & \left. + e_4 \sinh(3pu) \right) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(3p\varphi) & 0 & 0 & -\sinh(3p\varphi) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sinh(3p\varphi) & 0 & 0 & \cosh(3p\varphi) \end{bmatrix},
 \end{aligned}$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2((\frac{1}{12e_4})^2(\rho^4 + m^4 + 2m^2\rho^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) - \frac{1}{2}(\rho^2 + m^2) + 9e_4^2) = \pm 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike or a timelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (10).

(c.2.1.2) Using the similar methods as in the previous subcase (c.2.1.1), we get that  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(u) = (\frac{-\rho^2}{12e_4} \cosh(pu) - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\omega - u)) + e_4 \cosh(3pu), \rho \sinh(pu), \\ m \cosh(p(u + \omega)), \frac{-\rho^2}{12e_4} \sinh(pu) + \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\omega - u)) + e_4 \sinh(3pu)),$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2((\frac{1}{12e_4})^2(\rho^4 + m^4 + 2m^2\rho^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{1}{2}(\rho^2 - m^2) + 9e_4^2) = \pm 1$ . Hence  $\alpha$  is a spacelike or a timelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (11). In the case  $b_2^2 > c_2^2$ ,  $b_3^2 < c_3^2$ , up to isometries we obtain the same form (11).

(c.2.1.3) Let  $b_3 = m \cosh(p\theta)$ ,  $c_3 = m \sinh(p\theta)$ ,  $m \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Then the equations (3) and (4) imply  $b_1 = -\frac{1}{12e_4}(2b_2^2 + m^2 \cosh(2p\theta))$ ,  $b_4 = \frac{1}{12e_4}(2b_2^2 + m^2 \sinh(2p\theta))$ . It follows that  $\alpha$  has the equation

$$\alpha(s) = (\frac{-b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-ps} - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\theta - s)) + e_4 \cosh(3ps), b_2 e^{ps}, m \cosh(p(\theta + s)), \\ \frac{b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-ps} + \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\theta - s)) + e_4 \sinh(3ps)).$$

Putting  $u = s + \theta$ , we get that

$$\alpha(u) = (\frac{-b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-p(u+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(pu) + e_4 \cosh(3pu), b_2 e^{p(u-\theta)}, m \cosh(pu), \\ \frac{b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-p(u+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(pu) \\ + e_4 \sinh(3pu)) \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(3p\theta) & 0 & 0 & -\sinh(3p\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sinh(3p\theta) & 0 & 0 & \cosh(3p\theta) \end{bmatrix},$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2((\frac{m}{12e_4})^2(m^2 + 4b_2^2 e^{-2p\theta}) - \frac{m^2}{2} + 9e_4^2) = \pm 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^4$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike or a timelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (12). In the case  $b_2^2 > c_2^2$ ,  $b_3 = c_3 \neq 0$ , (up to isometries) we obtain the same form (12).

(c.2.1.4) Using the similar methods as in the subcase (c.2.1.1), up to isometries of  $E_1^4$  we get that  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(s) = (-\frac{\rho^2}{12e_4} \cosh(ps) - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(p(2\omega - s)) + e_4 \cosh(3ps), \rho \sinh(ps), \\ m \sinh(p(s + \omega)), -\frac{\rho^2}{12e_4} \sinh(ps) + \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(p(2\omega - s)) + e_4 \sinh(3ps))$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2((\frac{1}{12e_4})^2(\rho^4 + m^4 + 2m^2\rho^2 \cosh(2p\omega)) + \frac{\rho^2 + m^2}{2} + 9e_4^2) = 1$ . Thus  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (13).

(c.2.1.5) Using the similar methods as in the subcase (c.2.1.3), up to isometries of  $E_1^4$  we obtain that  $\alpha$  has the equation

$$\alpha(u) = \left( -\frac{b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-p(u+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \cosh(pu) + e_4 \cosh(3pu), b_2 e^{p(u-\theta)}, \right. \\ \left. m \sinh(pu), \frac{b_2^2}{6e_4} e^{-p(u+2\theta)} - \frac{m^2}{12e_4} \sinh(pu) + e_4 \sinh(3pu) \right)$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2 \left( \left( \frac{m}{12e_4} \right)^2 (m^2 + 4b_2^2 e^{-2p\theta}) + \frac{m^2}{2} + 9e_4^2 \right) = 1$ . Thus  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in  $E_1^4$ , which gives form (14). In the case  $b_2^2 < c_2^2$ ,  $b_3 = c_3 \neq 0$  (up to isometries) we obtain the same form (14).

(c.2.1.6) The equations (3) and (4) give  $b_1 = -\frac{1}{6e_4}(b_2^2 + b_3^2) = -b_4$ . It follows that  $b, c, d, e$  are linearly dependent vectors and since  $d$  is timelike,  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$ , which is a contradiction.

(c.2.2) This subcase is analogous to the subcase (c.2.1). Thus the similar computations give forms (15), (16), (17), (18) and (19) of the curve  $\alpha$ .

(c.2.3) Since  $d$  and  $e$  are two linearly dependent null vectors,  $\alpha$  lies in a 3-dimensional subspace of  $E_1^4$ . Let  $d = (d_1, d_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $e = (e_1, e_1, 0, 0)$ ,  $d_1$  and  $e_1$  are not both equal to zero. Then  $d = \lambda e$ ,  $\lambda \in R$ , and the equations (6) and (7) give  $(1 - \lambda^2)g(c, d) = 0$ . Hence we distinguish two subcases: (c.2.3.1)  $g(c, d) = 0$ ; (c.2.3.2)  $\lambda^2 = 1$ .

(c.2.3.1) The equation (7) gives  $g(b, e) = 0$  and thus  $b = (b_1, b_1, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_1, c_3, c_4)$ . Then  $g(b, d) = g(c, e) = 0$ , so the equations (3) and (4) give  $b = c = 0$ , which is a contradiction.

(c.2.3.2) The equation (6) implies  $g(b + \lambda c, d) = 0$ . Next, equations (3) and (4) give that  $d$  and  $b - \lambda c$  are two linearly independent null vectors. On the contrary, if  $d$  and  $b - \lambda c$  are two linearly dependent null vectors, then  $b - \lambda c = \mu d$ ,  $\mu \in R$ . Thus (6) implies  $g(\lambda c + \mu d, d) + g(c, \lambda d) = 0$ , i.e.,  $g(c, d) = 0$ , which gives a contradiction, as in subcase (c.2.3.1). Next, assume that  $b - \lambda c = (-a_0, a_0, 0, 0)$ ,  $a_0 \neq 0$ . Then  $b + \lambda c = (b_0, b_0, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $b_4 \neq 0$  and the last two equations for  $b - \lambda c$  and  $b + \lambda c$  give  $b = \frac{1}{2}(b_0 - a_0, b_0 + a_0, b_3, b_4)$ ,  $c = \frac{\lambda}{2}(a_0 + b_0, b_0 - a_0, b_3, b_4)$ . Let  $m = \frac{b_0 - a_0}{2}$ ,  $n = \frac{b_0 + a_0}{2}$ . Consequently,  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(s) = (m \cosh(ps) + \lambda n \sinh(ps) + d_1 e^{3\lambda ps}, n \cosh(ps) + \lambda m \sinh(ps) + d_1 e^{3\lambda ps}, \\ \frac{b_3}{2} e^{\lambda ps}, \frac{b_4}{2} e^{\lambda ps}).$$

Finally, let  $b_3 = \rho \cos(p\theta)$ ,  $b_4 = \rho \sin(p\theta)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Then we get that

$$\alpha(s) = (m \cosh(ps) + \lambda n \sinh(ps) + d_1 e^{3\lambda ps}, n \cosh(ps) + \lambda m \sinh(ps) + d_1 e^{3\lambda ps}, \\ \frac{1}{2} \rho e^{\lambda ps}, 0) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos(p\theta) & \sin(p\theta) \\ 0 & 0 & \sin(p\theta) & -\cos(p\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

and thus  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^4$  which is a contradiction.

#### 4. A classification of 2-type curves in the Minkowski space $E_1^5$

Since a 2-type curve is contained in at most 4-dimensional subspace of the space  $E_1^n$ , we study the cases when  $\alpha$  lies in a spacelike, timelike or lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^5$ . The case when  $\alpha$  lies fully in a timelike hyperplane of  $E_1^5$  is equivalent to the case when  $\alpha$  lies fully in  $E_1^4$ . This case has already been studied in the theorems 3.1 and 3.2.

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $\alpha(s)$  be a unit speed spacelike or timelike curve, with both eigenvalues of its Laplace operator  $\Delta$  in decomposition (1.1) different from zero, lying fully in  $E_1^5$  and not lying in its timelike hyperplane. Then up to isometries of  $E_1^5$ ,  $\alpha$  is a 2-type curve if and only if  $\alpha$  is a part of one of the following curves:*

- (1)  $\alpha(s) = (0, m \cos(ps), m \sin(ps), n \sin(ts), n \cos(ts)), \quad p^2 m^2 + t^2 n^2 = 1,$   
 $p, t \in N, \quad t \neq 3p, \quad m, n \in R_0;$
- (2)  $\alpha(s) = (0, m \sin(ps), r \cos(p(s - \theta)), \frac{r^2}{12n} \cos(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{m^2}{12n} \cos(ps)$   
 $+ n \cos(3ps), \frac{r^2}{12n} \sin(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{m^2}{12n} \sin(ps) + n \sin(3ps)),$   
 $p^2 (\frac{r^2 + m^2}{2} + (\frac{1}{12n})^2 ((r^2 - m^2)^2 + 4r^2 m^2 \sin^2(p\theta)) + 9n^2) = 1, \quad p \in N,$   
 $\theta \in R, \quad r, m, n \in R_0;$
- (3)  $\alpha(s) = (m \sin(p(s + \theta)), m \sin(p(s + \theta)), r \cos(ps), \frac{r^2}{12n} \cos(ps) + n \cos(3ps),$   
 $\frac{r^2}{12n} \sin(ps) + n \sin(3ps)),$   
 $p^2 (\frac{r^2}{2} + (\frac{r^2}{12n})^2 + 9n^2) = 1, \quad p \in N, \quad \theta \in R, \quad r, m, n \in R_0.$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\alpha(s)$  satisfies the assumptions of the theorem and that it is a 2-type curve. Then proof of the theorem 3.2 implies that subcases (b.1.1) and (b.2.1) are now the only possible cases. With respect to the causal character of vectors  $b, c, d, e$ , it is easy to see that in all other subcases we get a contradiction. In the sequel, we consider subcases (b.1.1) and (b.2.1) separately.

(b.1.1)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) > 0$ . If  $g(b, b) = g(c, c) > 0$ , then  $b, c, d, e$  are mutually orthogonal spacelike vectors, so we may take  $b = (0, b_2, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $c = (0, 0, b_2, 0, 0)$ ,  $d = (0, 0, 0, d_4, 0)$ ,  $e = (0, 0, 0, 0, d_4)$ ,  $b_2 \neq 0$ ,  $d_4 \neq 0$ . Thus  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(s) = (0, b_2 \cos(ps), b_2 \sin(ps), d_4 \cos(ts), d_4 \sin(ts)),$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2 b_2^2 + t^2 d_4^2 = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^5$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a spacelike hyperplane of the space  $E_1^5$ , which gives form (1).

(b.2.1)  $g(e, e) = g(d, d) > 0$ . Take that  $d = (0, 0, 0, d_4, 0)$ ,  $e = (0, 0, 0, 0, d_4)$ ,  $d_4 \neq 0$ . Further, vectors  $b$  and  $c$  belong to a spacelike or to a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^5$ . If  $b$  and  $c$  belong to a spacelike hyperplane, then they are all spacelike vectors. Let  $b = m_1 f + m_2 d + m_3 e$ ,  $c = n_1 h + n_2 f + n_3 d + n_4 e$ , where  $f = (0, 0, d_4, 0, 0)$ ,  $h = (0, d_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $m_1, m_2, m_3, n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 \in R_0$ . It follows that  $b = (0, 0, b_3, b_4, b_5)$ ,  $c = (0, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5)$ . Next, the equations (6) and (7) give  $c = (0, c_2, c_3, -b_5, b_4)$  and the equations (2) and (4) give  $b_4 = \frac{1}{12d_4}(b_3^2 - c_2^2 - c_3^2)$ ,  $b_5 = \frac{1}{6d_4}b_3c_3$ . Let

$b_3 = \rho \cos(p\theta)$ ,  $c_3 = \rho \sin(p\theta)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Then  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(s) = (0, c_2 \sin(ps), \rho \cos(p(s - \theta)), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \cos(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{c_2^2}{12d_4} \cos(ps) + d_4 \cos(3ps), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \sin(p(2\theta + s)) - \frac{c_2^2}{12d_4} \sin(ps) + d_4 \sin(3ps)),$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2(\frac{\rho^2+c_2^2}{2} + \frac{1}{(12d_4)^2}((\rho^2 - c_2^2)^2 + 4\rho^2c_2^2 \sin^2(p\theta)) + 9n^2) = 1$ . Up to isometries of  $E_1^5$ ,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a spacelike hyperplane of the space  $E_1^5$ , which gives form (2). Finally, if  $b$  and  $c$  belong to a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^5$ , let  $b = m_1f + m_2d + m_3e$ ,  $c = n_1h + n_2f + n_3d + n_4e$ , where  $f = (0, 0, d_4, 0, 0)$ ,  $h = (d_4, d_4, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $m_1, m_2, m_3, n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 \in R_0$ . It follows that  $b = (0, 0, b_3, b_4, b_5)$ ,  $c = (c_1, c_1, c_3, c_4, c_5)$ . Further, equations (6) and (7) give  $c = (c_1, c_1, c_3, -b_5, b_4)$  and from equations (2) and (4) follows  $b_4 = \frac{1}{12d_4}(b_3^2 - c_3^2)$ ,  $b_5 = \frac{1}{6d_4}b_3c_3$ . Let  $b_3 = \rho \cos(p\theta)$ ,  $c_3 = \rho \sin(p\theta)$ ,  $\rho \in R_0$ ,  $\theta \in R$ . Thus  $\alpha$  has the form

$$\alpha(s) = (c_1 \sin(ps), c_1 \sin(ps), \rho \cos(p(s - \theta)), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \cos(p(2\theta + s)) + d_4 \cos(3ps), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \sin(p(2\theta + s)) + d_4 \sin(3ps)).$$

Putting  $u = s - \theta$ , we get that

$$\alpha(u) = (c_1 \sin(p(u + \theta)), c_1 \sin(p(u + \theta)), \rho \cos(pu), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \cos(pu) + d_4 \cos(3pu), \frac{\rho^2}{12d_4} \sin(pu) + d_4 \sin(3pu)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cos(3p\theta) & \sin(3p\theta) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sin(3p\theta) & \cos(3p\theta) \end{bmatrix},$$

where the equation (1) becomes  $p^2(\frac{\rho^2}{2} + (\frac{\rho^2}{12n})^2 + 9n^2) = 1$ . Therefore,  $\alpha$  is a spacelike curve lying fully in a lightlike hyperplane of  $E_1^5$ , which gives form (3) and completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

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