

Some formulas for families of curves and surfaces and their applications

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Abstract. A unit vector field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ in the Euclidean space E^3 is considered. Let \boldsymbol{P} be the vector field from the first Aminov divergent representation $K = \text{div}[(\boldsymbol{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau})\boldsymbol{P}]$ for the total curvature of the second kind K of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$. For the field \boldsymbol{P} , an invariant representation of the form $\boldsymbol{P} = -\text{rot } \boldsymbol{R}^*$ is obtained, where the field \boldsymbol{R}^* is expressed in terms of the Frenet basis $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$ and the first curvature k and the second curvature \varkappa of the streamlines L_τ of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$. Formulas relating to the quantities K (or \boldsymbol{P}), \varkappa , $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ are derived.

Three-dimensional analogs to the conservation law $\text{div } \boldsymbol{S}_p^* = 0$, which is valid for a family of plane curves L_τ , are obtained, where \boldsymbol{S}_p^* is the sum of the curvature vectors of the plane curves L_τ and their orthogonal curves L_ν . It is shown that if the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is holonomic: 1) the vector field $\boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ from the second Aminov divergent representation $K = -\frac{1}{2} \text{div } \boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ can be interpreted as the sum of three curvature vectors of three curves related to surfaces S_τ with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$; 2) the non-holonomicity values of the fields of the principal directions \boldsymbol{l}_1 and \boldsymbol{l}_2 are equal. Applications of the obtained geometric formulas to the equations of mathematical physics are discussed.

Keywords: vector field, total curvature, family of curves, family of surfaces, conservation laws.

1. Introduction

1.1. The vector physical fields described by the equations of mathematical physics have vector lines L_τ (e.g., the rays for the eikonal equation or the streamlines for the Euler hydrodynamic equations) which form a family of curves $\{L_\tau\}$ and continuously fill a domain D in the three-dimensional space. The surfaces S_τ with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ which are orthogonal to the curves L_τ (if such surfaces S_τ exist), e.g., wavefronts for the eikonal equation, also form a family $\{S_\tau\}$. It is therefore of interest to study not only the properties of a fixed curve L_τ or a fixed surface S_τ but also the properties of a family of curves $\{L_\tau\}$ or a family of surfaces $\{S_\tau\}$ which continuously fill a domain D .

In this paper, we consider the three-dimensional case where we have a unit vector field $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y, z)$, a family of spatial curves L_τ with the Frenet basis $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$ [1] ($\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is the unit tangent vector, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ is the unit principal normal vector, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ is the unit binormal vector), the first curvature k and the second curvature \varkappa , and the family $\{S_\tau\}$ of the surfaces S_τ which are orthogonal

to the curves L_τ and have the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, the principal directions \boldsymbol{l}_1 and \boldsymbol{l}_2 , the principal curvatures k_1 and k_2 , the mean curvature $H \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (k_1 + k_2)/2$ and the Gausian curvature $K \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} k_1 k_2$ [1]. All the quantities $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, k , $\boldsymbol{\varkappa}$, and \boldsymbol{l}_1 , \boldsymbol{l}_2 , k_1 , k_2 , H , K are the vector and the scalar fields in the domain D .

1.2. Assume that D is a domain in the Euclidean space E^3 with the Cartesian coordinates x, y, z ; \boldsymbol{i} , \boldsymbol{j} , and \boldsymbol{k} are the unit vectors along the coordinate axes x, y , and z , respectively; $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y, z) = \tau_1 \boldsymbol{i} + \tau_2 \boldsymbol{j} + \tau_3 \boldsymbol{k}$ is the unit vector field defined in D , and $\tau_k = \tau_k(x, y, z)$ are the scalar functions ($k = 1, 2, 3$), $|\boldsymbol{\tau}|^2 = 1$. The geometry of vector fields (see [2]) considers the case of a holonomic field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ for which there is a family of surfaces S_τ with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ which are orthogonal to the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and the general case, where the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ can be non-holonomic. A necessary and sufficient condition for the holonomicity of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ [2, Ch.1, § 1] is the fulfillment of the identity $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$ in D . The geometry of vector fields introduces analogs to the classical characteristics of the surfaces S_τ for a non-holonomic field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ [2]. For example, the analog to the Gaussian curvature of the surface S_τ is the total curvature of the second kind K [2]. In the case of a holonomic field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, these analogs coincide with the corresponding classical characteristics of the surfaces S_τ with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$; for example, the above-mentioned quantity K coincides with the Gaussian curvature [2]. For the quantity K , Yu.A. Aminov (see [2, Ch. 1, § 7; 3]) has obtained the first divergent representation:

$$K = \text{div}[(\boldsymbol{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau})\boldsymbol{P}], \quad (1)$$

where \boldsymbol{r} is the radius vector of the point (x, y, z) , and the vector \boldsymbol{P} called the curvature vector of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ has the invariant form [2, Ch. 1, § 10]:

$$\boldsymbol{P} = K\boldsymbol{\tau} - 2 \text{div } \boldsymbol{\tau} \boldsymbol{K}_\tau + (\boldsymbol{K}_\tau \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau}, \quad (2)$$

where $\boldsymbol{K}_\tau = k\boldsymbol{\nu} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau} = (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} = \frac{d\boldsymbol{\tau}}{ds} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s$ is the curvature vector of the curve L_τ with the unit tangent vector $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and the principal normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, L_τ is a streamline or a vector line of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, k is its curvature, $(\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{a}$ is the derivative of the vector \boldsymbol{a} in the direction of the vector \boldsymbol{v} , d/ds is the differentiation operator in the direction $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ along the curve L_τ with respect to the natural parameter s ; $d\varphi/ds = \varphi_s = \text{grad } \varphi \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$ for the scalar function $\varphi(x, y, z)$. The symbols $\boldsymbol{a} \cdot \boldsymbol{b}$ and $\boldsymbol{a} \times \boldsymbol{b}$ denote the scalar and the vector products of the vectors \boldsymbol{a} and \boldsymbol{b} , ∇ is the Hamiltonian operator (nabla).

1.3. Assume that $\{L_\tau\}$ is a family of curves L_τ which continuously fill the domain D and:

- (A) one and only one curve $L_\tau \in \{L_\tau\}$ passes through each point $(x, y, z) \in D$;

- (B) at each point (x, y, z) of any curve $L_\tau \in \{L_\tau\}$ there is a right-hand Frenet basis $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$ ($\boldsymbol{\beta}$ is the binormal), so that the three mutually orthogonal vector fields $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ are defined in D ; $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \boldsymbol{\beta}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}$;
- (C) $\boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y, z) \in C^2(D)$.

It this paper (Section 2, Theorem 3), we will show that under conditions (A)–(C), the field \boldsymbol{P} of the form (2) from formula (1) can be represented as

$$\boldsymbol{P} = -\text{rot } \boldsymbol{R}^*, \quad (3)$$

where the vector field \boldsymbol{R}^* can be given by any of the following invariant representations:

$$\boldsymbol{R}^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varkappa \boldsymbol{\tau} + k \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\nu} - \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\beta}, \quad (4)$$

$$\boldsymbol{R}^* = (\varkappa - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}) \boldsymbol{\tau} + \nabla(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \boldsymbol{\Phi} + \boldsymbol{S}^* \times \boldsymbol{\tau}, \quad (5)$$

$$\boldsymbol{R}^* = \varkappa \boldsymbol{\tau} + (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu}) \boldsymbol{\nu} + (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) \boldsymbol{\beta}. \quad (6)$$

Here \varkappa is the second curvature of the curve L_τ , $\boldsymbol{\Phi} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varkappa \boldsymbol{\tau} + k \boldsymbol{\beta}$ is the Darboux vector [1], $\nabla(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \nabla) \boldsymbol{\nu} - (\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla) \boldsymbol{\beta}$ is the Poisson bracket [2] for $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, \boldsymbol{S}^* is the sum of three curvature vectors of vector lines L_τ , L_ν , and L_β of the fields $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, respectively. The formulas for the quantities K (or \boldsymbol{P}), \varkappa , $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ will be derived in Section 2.3.

1.4. Let us introduce the vector field

$$\boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{K}_\tau - \boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau}. \quad (7)$$

In the plane case ($\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y) = \tau_1 \boldsymbol{i} + \tau_2 \boldsymbol{j}$, $\tau_3 \equiv 0$, $\theta \equiv \pi/2$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{k}$, $\varkappa = 0$), as shown in [4], we have $\boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \boldsymbol{S}_p^*$, where $\boldsymbol{S}_p^* = \boldsymbol{K}_\tau + \boldsymbol{K}_\nu$ is the sum of the curvature vectors $\boldsymbol{K}_\tau = k \boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{K}_\nu = k_\nu \boldsymbol{\eta} = -k_\nu \boldsymbol{\tau}$ of the two plane curves L_τ and L_ν from the mutually orthogonal families $\{L_\tau\}$, $\{L_\nu\}$ (k , $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ are the curvature, the unit tangent vector, and the unit normal of the curve L_τ , and k_ν , $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\eta} = -\boldsymbol{\tau}$ are the same quantities for the curve L_ν). It has been found [4] that $\text{div } \boldsymbol{S}_p^* = \text{div } \boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0$, i.e., \boldsymbol{S}_p^* is a solenoidal field and $\boldsymbol{S}_p^* = -\text{rot}[\alpha(x, y) \boldsymbol{k}]$, where $\alpha = \alpha(x, y)$ is the angle that the vector $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ makes with the axis Ox : $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(\alpha) = \cos \alpha \boldsymbol{i} + \sin \alpha \boldsymbol{j}$. The identity $\text{div } \boldsymbol{S}_p^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{div } \boldsymbol{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0$ can be regarded as the law of conservation for the family $\{L_\tau\}$ of plane curves [4]. It explains the geometric meaning of the differential conservation laws for the eikonal equation (here \boldsymbol{S}_p^* is the sum of the curvature vectors of the rays and fronts) and for the Euler's hydrodynamic equations (here \boldsymbol{S}_p^* is the sum of the curvature vectors of streamlines and the curves orthogonal to them) in the two-dimensional case obtained in [5, 6].

As stated in [5], any vector field $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(x, y, z) = |\mathbf{v}|\boldsymbol{\tau}$ with the direction $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ ($|\boldsymbol{\tau}| \equiv 1$) and modulus $|\mathbf{v}| \neq 0$ in D ($\mathbf{v} \in C^1(D)$) satisfies the identity $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v})$, where $\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v}) = \text{grad} \ln |\mathbf{v}| + (\text{rot} \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} \text{div} \mathbf{v})/|\mathbf{v}|^2$. Therefore, in the plane case, the identity $\text{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0$ is equivalent to the identity $\text{div} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v}) = 0$. In the case $\mathbf{v} = \text{grad} u(x, y)$, the latter was obtained (see the references in [4–6]) as vector representation of the formula relating to the differential invariants of the Lie group G . (The group G is an equivalence group of the eikonal equation $u_x^2 + u_y^2 = n^2(x, y)$ and other equations of mathematical physics, as well as an extension of the group of conformal transformations of the plane x, y to the space $x, y, t, u^1 = u, u^2 = n^2$.) This formula expresses the Gaussian curvature $K = -\Delta \ln n^2 / (2n^2)$ of the surface with the linear element $ds^2 = n^2(x, y)(dx^2 + dy^2)$ in terms of the other differential invariants of the group G . The search for the three-dimensional analogs to the conservation law $\text{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0$ for the plane case, the geometric meaning of the field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, and their applications in mathematical physics has led to the results described in [4–6] and in the present paper.

In the three-dimensional case, the analog to the field \mathbf{S}_p^* is naturally defined as the sum $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{K}_\tau + \mathbf{K}_\nu + \mathbf{K}_\beta$ of the three curvature vectors of the vector lines of the Frenet unit vector fields $\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta}$ of the curves L_τ , and $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \neq \mathbf{S}^*$. The relationship between the fields $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and \mathbf{S}^* is given in Lemma 3; the measure of a difference between $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and \mathbf{S}^* is in a sense the field \mathbf{R}^* . Generally, in the three-dimensional case, $\text{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \neq 0$ and $\text{div} \mathbf{S}^*(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \neq 0$. The three-dimensional scalar and vector analogs to the conservation law $\text{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{div} \mathbf{S}_p^* = 0$ for the plane case is obtained in Section 2.3. Note that the vector field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ enters the second Aminov divergent representation [2, Ch. 1, § 8] for the total curvature K of the second kind of the vector field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$: $K = -\text{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})/2$ (in this case, $-\text{div} \boldsymbol{\tau} = 2H$, where H is the mean curvature).

1.5. In Sections 3.2 and 3.3, it is shown that in the case of a holonomic field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$:

- the vector field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, as well as the field \mathbf{S}^* , can be geometrically interpreted as the sum of three curvature vectors of three curves (related to the surfaces S_τ with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$);
- the non-holonomicity values [2, Ch. 1, § 1] the principal direction fields on S_τ are equal.

1.6. Section 4 contains applications of the geometric formulas obtained in Sections 2 and 3 for the equations of mathematical physics.

2. Representation of the field \mathbf{P} in the form of $\mathbf{P} = -\text{rot } \mathbf{R}^*$

2.1. The vector fields $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, \mathbf{S}^* , and \mathbf{R}^* . We represent the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ as

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(\alpha, \theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \cos \alpha \sin \theta \mathbf{i} + \sin \alpha \sin \theta \mathbf{j} + \cos \theta \mathbf{k}, \quad (8)$$

where $\alpha = \alpha(x, y, z)$ is the angle that the vector $(\tau_1 \mathbf{i} + \tau_2 \mathbf{j})$ makes with the axis Ox , so that $\cos \alpha = \tau_1 / \sqrt{g}$, $\sin \alpha = \tau_2 / \sqrt{g}$, where $g = \tau_1^2 + \tau_2^2$, i.e., $\alpha(x, y, z)$ is the polar angle of the point $(\xi = \tau_1, \eta = \tau_2)$ in the plane ξ, η : $\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arctg(\tau_2/\tau_1) + (2k + \delta)\pi$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\delta = 0$, and $\delta = 1$, respectively, in quadrants I, IV and II, III of the plane ξ, η ; $\theta = \theta(x, y, z)$ is the angle between the vector $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and the axis Oz : $\theta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arccos(\tau_3/|\boldsymbol{\nu}|)$, so that $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$, $\cos \theta = \tau_3$, and $\sin \theta = \sqrt{g}$. This means that α and θ are spherical coordinates in the space $\xi = \tau_1, \eta = \tau_2, \zeta = \tau_3$.

Lemma 1. *Let conditions (A)–(C) be satisfied. Then the field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ of the form (7) can be represented in D as $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \sin \theta \text{grad } \alpha \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 - \text{grad } \theta \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_2$, $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 2(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \sin \theta \mathbf{A})$, where $\sin \theta \mathbf{A} = -\text{grad } \alpha \times \text{grad } \cos \theta = \text{rot}(\cos \theta \text{grad } \alpha) = -\text{rot}(\alpha \text{grad } \cos \theta)$, $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{grad } \alpha \times \text{grad } \theta$; the principal normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and the binormal $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ of the curve $L_\tau \in \{L_\tau\}$, and the field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ can be represented as ($k \neq 0$) $\boldsymbol{\nu} = (\alpha_s \sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 + \theta_s \boldsymbol{\nu}_1)/k$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (-\alpha_s \sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 + \theta_s \boldsymbol{\nu}_2)/k$, where $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \cos \alpha \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + \sin \alpha \cos \theta \mathbf{j} - \sin \theta \mathbf{k}$ ($\sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 = \cos \theta \boldsymbol{\tau} - \mathbf{k}$), $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2 = -\sin \alpha \mathbf{i} + \cos \alpha \mathbf{j}$, $\alpha_s = d\alpha/ds = \text{grad } \alpha \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\theta_s = d\theta/ds = \text{grad } \theta \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$; $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = (\mathbf{A}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\nu} - \mathbf{A}_2 \times \boldsymbol{\beta})/k$, where $\mathbf{A}_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sin \theta (\theta_s \text{grad } \alpha - \alpha_s \text{grad } \theta)$, $\mathbf{A}_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \alpha_s \sin^2 \theta \text{grad } \alpha + \theta_s \text{grad } \theta$. The unit vectors $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_1, \boldsymbol{\nu}_2)$ form the right-hand system, i.e., $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 = \boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 = \boldsymbol{\nu}_2$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2 \times \boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\nu}_1$.*

Proof. From formula (8) we have $\boldsymbol{\tau}_s = \alpha_s \sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 + \theta_s \boldsymbol{\nu}_1$ and $\text{div } \boldsymbol{\tau} = \sin \theta (\text{grad } \alpha \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_2) + \text{grad } \theta \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}_1$, whence using the well-known formulas [7] $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s/k$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}$ and expressing $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1$ and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2$ in terms of $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, we obtain the formulas of the lemma for $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, and $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$. The formula for $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ can be obtained, for example, by rewriting $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ in the form $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = -\sin^2 \theta \text{rot}(\alpha \mathbf{k}) - \sin \theta \cos \theta \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 - \cos \alpha \text{rot}(\theta \mathbf{j}) + \sin \alpha \text{rot}(\theta \mathbf{i})$ and using the well-known formula [7] $\text{div}(\varphi \text{rot } \mathbf{a}) = \text{grad } \varphi \cdot \text{rot } \mathbf{a}$. \square

Lemma 2. *Let conditions (A)–(C) be satisfied. Then for the first curvature k and the second curvature \varkappa of the curve $L_\tau \in \{L_\tau\}$ in the domain D , the following formulas hold ($k \neq 0$): $k^2 = \alpha_s^2 \sin^2 \theta + \theta_s^2$, $\varkappa = \varphi_s + \alpha_s \cos \theta$, and $\varphi_s = \text{grad } \varphi \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = [(\theta_s \alpha_{ss} - \alpha_s \theta_{ss}) \sin \theta + \alpha_s \theta_s^2 \cos \theta]/k^2$, where $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arctg \frac{\alpha_s \sin \theta}{\theta_s}$, $\alpha_{ss} = \frac{d^2 \alpha}{ds^2} = \text{grad } \alpha_s \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\theta_{ss} = \frac{d^2 \theta}{ds^2} = \text{grad } \theta_s \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$.*

Proof. The lemma follows from the well-known formulas [7] $k^2 = |\boldsymbol{\tau}_s|^2$, $\varkappa = ([\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_s] \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ss})/k^2 = (\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ss} \cdot k\boldsymbol{\beta})/k^2$ (we have $k\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times k\boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_s$), and $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ss} = (\boldsymbol{\tau}_s)_s$, the expression $\boldsymbol{\tau}_s = \alpha_s \sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 + \theta_s \boldsymbol{\nu}_1$, and the formulas of Lemma 1 for $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1$, and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2$ using simple calculations. \square

The field \mathbf{R}^* included in formula (3) appears in the following

Lemma 3. *Let the family $\{L_\tau\}$ of the curves L_τ with the Frenet unit vectors $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, the first curvature k , and the second curvature \varkappa in the domain D satisfy conditions (A)–(C). Let the field \mathbf{S}^* be the sum of the three curvature vectors:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}^* &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{K}_\tau + \mathbf{K}_\nu + \mathbf{K}_\beta = (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} + (\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\nu} + (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\beta} \\ &= \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau} + \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \boldsymbol{\nu} + \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{\beta} \\ &= -(\boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau} + \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\nu} + \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\beta}) = [\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) + \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\beta})]/2. \end{aligned}$$

Here $\mathbf{K}_\tau = (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau} = k\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\mathbf{K}_\nu = (\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\nu} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\mathbf{K}_\beta = (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\beta} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{\beta}$ are the curvature vectors of the vector lines L_τ , L_ν , and L_β of the fields $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, respectively. Then, in D , $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \mathbf{R}^*$, where the vector field \mathbf{R}^* is expressed by any of formulas (4)–(6).

Proof. The expression $\mathbf{S}^* = -(\boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau} + \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\nu} + \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\beta})$ follows from the well-known formulas $\text{div}(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = (\mathbf{b} \cdot \text{rot } \mathbf{a}) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \text{rot } \mathbf{b})$, $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \boldsymbol{\beta}$ [7], $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}$. Combining this expression for \mathbf{S}^* with the original one (in terms of rotors), we obtain $\mathbf{S}^* = [\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\nu}) + \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\beta})]/2$. Substituting the formulas for $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ from Lemma 1, the formula for k^2 from Lemma 2, the relations between $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1$, and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2$ from Lemma 1 into the expression for \mathbf{S}^* , after lengthy but simple calculations, we obtain $-\mathbf{S}^* = \text{grad } \alpha \times \mathbf{k} + \text{grad } \theta \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 + \text{grad } \varphi \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$, where the function φ is defined in Lemma 2. Combining the latter equality with the first formula for $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ from Lemma 1 and with allowance for $\sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 = \cos \theta \boldsymbol{\tau} - \mathbf{k}$, we obtain $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \mathbf{R}^*$, where $\mathbf{R}^* = \text{grad } \varphi + \cos \theta \text{ grad } \alpha$.

We will now show that the latter vector \mathbf{R}^* satisfies the invariant expression (4). Indeed, $\mathbf{R}^* \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = \varphi_s + \alpha_s \cos \theta = \varkappa$ by virtue of Lemma 2. Multiplying the identity $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \mathbf{R}^*$ vectorially by $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and by $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and using the well-known formulas $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$, $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = 0$, and $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta} = 0$ [7], we obtain $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \mathbf{R}^* = -\text{div } \boldsymbol{\beta}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{R}^* = k + \text{div } \boldsymbol{\nu}$, respectively. This brings about the desired formula for \mathbf{R}^* . Using the formulas $k\boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}) = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\tau}(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}) \Rightarrow k = \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = \text{rot}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \times \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\nu} + \nabla(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$, $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$, $\text{div } \boldsymbol{\beta} = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}) = -\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\text{div } \boldsymbol{\nu} = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}) = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} - k$, we obtain the remaining representations for \mathbf{R}^* in the lemma. \square

Remark 1. The formula $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^* = (\varkappa - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau})^2 - [\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot (\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta} \times \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot (\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\nu})]$ is proved in a similar way.

From formulas (2), $\mathbf{R}^* = \operatorname{grad} \varphi + \cos \theta \operatorname{grad} \alpha$, $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \mathbf{R}^*$, and Lemma 1, we obtain

Corollary 1. Under conditions (A)–(C), in D , we have $\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* = \sin \theta \mathbf{A} = \sin \theta (\operatorname{grad} \alpha \times \operatorname{grad} \theta)$, $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 2(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^*)$, and $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^* = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \varkappa(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau}) + k(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta})$.

The latter is derived using the equalities $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^* = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \mathbf{R}^* \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} - \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$ and $\mathbf{R}^* \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} = \varkappa(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau}) + k(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta})$ by virtue of $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} = k$, and $\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$.

2.2. Invariant forms of the vector $\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^*$

Theorem 1. Let conditions (A)–(C) be satisfied. Then, the quantity $\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^*$ with the vector field \mathbf{R}^* defined by any one of formulas (4)–(6) has any of the representations

$$\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\tau} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) - k \boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}) - k \boldsymbol{\beta}(\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}) \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \boldsymbol{\tau} \left[\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + k(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right] - k \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta} - \varkappa k \boldsymbol{\beta} \\ &= \boldsymbol{\tau} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^* - \varkappa \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} - k \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where the vector fields $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and \mathbf{S}^* are defined in (7) and in Lemma 3.

Proof. We calculate the quantity $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}$ using the formulas $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (-\alpha_s \sin \theta \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 + \theta_s \boldsymbol{\nu}_2)/k$ (from Lemma 1), $\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 = \cos \theta (\operatorname{grad} \alpha \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_2) - \operatorname{grad} \theta \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 = -\operatorname{grad} \alpha \times (\cos \alpha \mathbf{i} + \sin \alpha \mathbf{j})$, the relations $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\nu}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_2$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1 = \boldsymbol{\nu}_2 \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\boldsymbol{\nu}_2 = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}_1$, and the formulas of Lemma 2 for k^2 and \varkappa . Then we obtain $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta} = -\varkappa + \sin \theta [\theta_s (\operatorname{grad} \alpha \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}) - \alpha_s (\operatorname{grad} \theta \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu})]/k$. Here, substituting $\alpha_s = \operatorname{grad} \alpha \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\theta_s = \operatorname{grad} \theta \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$ and using the well-known formula $(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d}) - (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d}) = [\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}] \cdot [\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}]$ [7, § 7] for $\mathbf{a} = \operatorname{grad} \theta$, $\mathbf{b} = \operatorname{grad} \alpha$, $\mathbf{c} = \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $\mathbf{d} = \boldsymbol{\nu}$, we obtain $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta} = -\varkappa - \sin \theta [(\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}) \cdot (\operatorname{grad} \alpha \times \operatorname{grad} \theta)] = -\varkappa - (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \sin \theta \mathbf{A})/k = -\varkappa - (\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^*)/k$. This results in $\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* = -k[\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}]$. Similarly we obtain $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta} = -\sin \theta [\theta_s (\operatorname{grad} \alpha \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}) - \alpha_s (\operatorname{grad} \theta \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})] = -(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \sin \theta \mathbf{A})/k = -(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^*)/k$, whence $\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* = -k \boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta})$. From Corollary 1 we have $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{R}^* = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, which leads to formula (9). From this formula, by virtue of Corollary 1, we obtain identity (10). \square

In the similar way we prove the following

Lemma 4. *Let conditions (A)–(C) be satisfied. Then the vector fields \mathbf{A}_1 and \mathbf{A}_2 defined in Lemma 1 are expressed in the domain D in terms of the characteristics $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, k , and \varkappa of the curves $L_\tau \in \{L_\tau\}$ by the formulas $\mathbf{A}_1 = k\boldsymbol{\nu}(\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) - k\boldsymbol{\beta}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta})$ and $\mathbf{A}_2 = k[k\boldsymbol{\tau} + \boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu}) - \boldsymbol{\beta}(\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu})]$.*

2.3. The relationship between the quantities $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = -2\mathbf{K}$, \varkappa , $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$. On the conservation laws for the family of curves L_τ

Theorem 2. *Let conditions (A)–(C) be satisfied. Then, in the domain D , we have $\frac{1}{2} \text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \varkappa(\varkappa - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}) - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) \Leftrightarrow \varkappa^2 = \frac{1}{2} \text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \varkappa(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}) + \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\text{rot } \mathbf{R}^* + \varkappa \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} + \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta})$.*

Proof. From the definition of the quantities \mathbf{A}_1 and \mathbf{A}_2 in Lemma 1 we obtain $\sin \theta \text{grad } \alpha = (\theta_s \mathbf{A}_1 + \alpha_s \sin \theta \mathbf{A}_2)/k^2$ and $\text{grad } \theta = (-\alpha_s \sin \theta \mathbf{A}_1 + \theta_s \mathbf{A}_2)/k^2 \Rightarrow \sin \theta \mathbf{A} = \sin \theta \text{grad } \alpha \times \text{grad } \theta = \text{rot } \mathbf{R}^* = (\mathbf{A}_1 \times \mathbf{A}_2)/k^2$, whence, using the formulas from Lemma 4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rot } \mathbf{R}^* &= \boldsymbol{\tau}[\varkappa^2 - \varkappa(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}) - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta})] - \\ &k\boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) - k\boldsymbol{\beta}(\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The theorem is proved by multiplying the latter equation by $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and using formula (9). \square

Remark 2. The formulas in Corollary 1 and Theorem 2 containing the expressions $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and the formulas in Theorem 1 are respectively the scalar and vector analogs to the conservation law $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{div } \mathbf{S}_p^* = 0$ of the plane case for the family of plane curves $\{L_\tau\}$. In the plane case, we have $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y)$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} \equiv \mathbf{k}$, $\varkappa = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{R}^* = 0$, $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \mathbf{S}_p^*$, and $\text{rot } \mathbf{R}^* = 0$, and these formulas imply this conservation law. In the three-dimensional case, Theorem 1 leads to a higher-order conservation law $\text{div } \mathbf{F} = 0$ for the family $\{L_\tau\}$ of curves L_τ . Here the vector solenoidal field \mathbf{F} is expressed in terms of the characteristics $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, k , and \varkappa of the curves L_τ and is the right-hand side of any of formulas (9)–(11). For example,

$$\text{div} \left[\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\tau} \text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) - k\boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) - k\boldsymbol{\beta}(\varkappa + \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right] = 0, \quad (12)$$

$$\text{div}[\boldsymbol{\tau} \text{div } \mathbf{S}^* - \varkappa \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} - k \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}] = 0, \quad (13)$$

where the fields $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, \mathbf{S}^* are expressed using formulas (7) and Lemma 3.

2.4. Solenoidal representation of the vector \mathbf{P} in terms of the field \mathbf{R}^*

Theorem 3. Assume that for the family $\{L_\tau\}$ of streamlines L_τ of the unit vector field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ in the domain D conditions (A)–(C) are satisfied and $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$, k , and \varkappa are the Frenet basis, the first curvature, and the second curvature of the curves L_τ . Then the field \mathbf{P} in formula (1) can be represented as (3), where the field \mathbf{R}^* is expressed by any of the invariant forms (4)–(6). Furthermore, in addition to formula (2), any one of the expressions in terms of the quantities $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, k , and \varkappa contained in the right-hand sides of formulas (9)–(11) is valid for the field $(-\mathbf{P})$.

Proof. We show that the right-hand sides of (2) and (9) differ only in their signs. From the second Frenet equation $d\boldsymbol{\nu}/ds = (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\nu} = -k\boldsymbol{\tau} + \varkappa\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and the formulas $\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} = \text{rot}(\boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}) = (\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} - (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\nu} + \boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\nu} - \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\text{div } \boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}$, and $k = \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau}$, we obtain $(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta} + \varkappa\boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\tau}(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \boldsymbol{\nu} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau}$. Next we use $K = -\frac{1}{2} \text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ [2, Ch. 1, § 8], $(\mathbf{K}_\tau \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} = k(\boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau}$, and the theorem is proved. \square

Corollary 2. Representation (1) is equivalent to the formula

$$K = -\text{grad}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}) \cdot \text{rot } \mathbf{R}^* \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad K = \text{div}[\text{grad}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}) \times \mathbf{R}^*].$$

Remark 3. The Frenet unit vectors $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and the first curvature k of the curves L_τ can be expressed in terms of $\boldsymbol{\tau}$:

$$\boldsymbol{\nu} = (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau})/k, \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\nu}, \quad k = |\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}|. \quad (14)$$

Substituting the latter for $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ into the formula [2, Ch. 1, § 15]:

$$\varkappa = \frac{1}{2}(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\nu} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} - \boldsymbol{\beta} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) \quad (15)$$

we also express the second curvature \varkappa in terms of the single quantity $\boldsymbol{\tau}$.

As, by virtue of formulas (4)–(7), Lemmas 3 and 4, and Theorems 1–3, the quantities $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, \mathbf{S}^* , \mathbf{R}^* , $\text{div } \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$, $\text{div } \mathbf{S}^*$, $\text{rot } \mathbf{R}^*$, and K are expressed in terms of the unit vectors $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, $\boldsymbol{\nu}$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, the first curvature k and the second curvature \varkappa of the curves L_τ , it follows that all these quantities can ultimately be expressed only in terms of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$. Therefore, all the formulas in Theorems 1–3 and Lemmas 3 and 4 can be expressed only in terms of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, i.e. the unit tangent vectors of the curves L_τ .

3. Properties of the family $\{S_\tau\}$ of surfaces S_τ

3.1. Conditions on the family $\{S_\tau\}$. Let us assume that for the field τ in D , there exists a family of surfaces S_τ orthogonal to the field τ . According to the Jacobi theorem [2, Ch. 1, § 1], this is equivalent to the identity $\tau \cdot \text{rot } \tau = 0$ in D . Let $\{S_\tau\}$ be the family of surfaces S_τ with a unit normal $\tau = \tau(x, y, z)$ which continuously fill the domain D in the space x, y, z . The principal direction will be represented by the unit vector l_i ($i = 1, 2$) with the corresponding direction; the vector l_i is the unit tangent vector of the curvature line L_i on S_τ , and at a point $(x, y, z) \in S_\tau$ it is equal to the derivative of the radius vector $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}(x, y, z)$ of the point of the surface S_τ with respect to the principal direction at the point (x, y, z) . Suppose that:

- (D) one and only one surface $S_\tau \in \{S_\tau\}$ passes through each point $(x, y, z) \in D$;
- (E) at each point $(x, y, z) \in D$, there exists a right-hand system of mutually orthogonal unit vectors τ, l_1 , and l_2 , where τ is the unit normal and l_1 and l_2 are the principal directions on the surface S_τ passing through this point. For this, it is sufficient that each surface $S_\tau \in \{S_\tau\}$ be C^2 -regular [8]. Thus, in the domain D , we define three mutually orthogonal unit vector fields $\tau(x, y, z)$, $l_1(x, y, z)$, and $l_2(x, y, z)$; $l_1 = l_2 \times \tau$, $l_2 = \tau \times l_1$, and $\tau = l_1 \times l_2$;
- (F) $\tau, l_1, l_2 \in C^1(D)$.

3.2. The equality of non-holonomicity values of the fields l_1 and l_2

Theorem 4. *Let a family $\{S_\tau\}$ of surfaces S_τ with the unit normal $\tau = \tau(x, y, z)$ satisfy conditions (D)–(F) in the domain D . Then the non-holonomicity values of the vector fields of the principal directions l_1 and l_2 (unit tangent vectors of the curvature lines L_i on S_τ) are equal in D :*

$$l_1 \cdot \text{rot } l_1 = l_2 \cdot \text{rot } l_2. \quad (16)$$

Proof. Writing down the general formulas [7, § 17] $\text{rot}[\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}] = (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{a} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \text{ div } \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} \text{ div } \mathbf{a}$, and $\text{grad}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) = (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{a} + (\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \times \text{rot } \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a} \times \text{rot } \mathbf{b}$ for $\mathbf{a} = l_2$ and $\mathbf{b} = \tau$, subtracting and taking into account the Rodrigues formulas [8] written as $(l_1 \cdot \nabla)\tau = -k_1 l_1$ and $(l_2 \cdot \nabla)\tau = -k_2 l_2$, we obtain $\text{rot } l_1 = (2k_2 + \text{div } \tau)l_2 - \tau \text{ div } l_2 + \text{rot } \tau \times l_2 + \text{rot } l_2 \times \tau$. Multiplying the latter scalarly by l_1 , we prove the theorem. Another proof follows from the fact that the principal curvatures are stationary values of the normal curvatures [9]. \square

Remark 4. Theorem 2 for $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in C^2(D)$ implies the following formula relating to the Gaussian curvature K of the surface $S_\tau \in \{S_\tau\}$, the Frenet basis $(\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$, and the second curvature \varkappa of the vector lines L_τ of the field of normals $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ of the surfaces S_τ :

$$K = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\beta}) - \varkappa^2. \quad (17)$$

Here the second curvature \varkappa of the curves L_τ can be expressed in terms of the Frenet unit vectors $\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\beta}$ by formula (15), assuming $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$.

3.3. Geometric meaning of the field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$

Theorem 5. Let $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}(x, y, z)$ be a unit vector field in the domain D ; the family $\{L_\tau\}$ of vector lines L_τ of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and the family $\{S_\tau\}$ of surfaces S_τ with normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ are mutually orthogonal in D . Let conditions (D)–(F) be satisfied in D . Then the field $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ of the form (7) at any point $(x, y, z) \in D$ is the sum of the three curvature vectors: $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \mathbf{K}_\tau + \mathbf{K}_{g1} + \mathbf{K}_{g2} = \mathbf{K}_\tau + 2H\boldsymbol{\tau}$ (H is the mean curvature of the surface). Here $\mathbf{K}_\tau = (\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\tau} = \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$ is the curvature vector of the vector line L_τ of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ at the point (x, y, z) ; $\mathbf{K}_{g1} = k_{g1}\boldsymbol{\tau}$ and $\mathbf{K}_{g2} = k_{g2}\boldsymbol{\tau}$ are the curvature vectors (at the same point) of two geodesic lines with the curvatures k_{g1} and k_{g2} at the surface S_τ which pass through the point $(x, y, z) \in S_\tau$ in any two mutually orthogonal directions.

Proof. For a geodesic line γ_i ($i = 1, 2$) on the surface S_τ , the principal normal coincides with the normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ to the surface, and the curvature k_{gi} everywhere is equal to the normal curvature k_{ni} [1, § 73]. Therefore, $\mathbf{K}_{gi} = k_{ni}\boldsymbol{\tau} \Rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{g1} + \mathbf{K}_{g2} = (k_{1n} + k_{2n})\boldsymbol{\tau} = (k_1 + k_2)\boldsymbol{\tau} = 2H\boldsymbol{\tau} = -\boldsymbol{\tau} \text{ div } \boldsymbol{\tau}$. \square

4. Application of the obtained geometric formulas to the mathematical physics equations

Suppose that $\boldsymbol{v} = \boldsymbol{v}(x, y, z) = |\boldsymbol{v}|\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is a vector field with direction $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ ($|\boldsymbol{\tau}| \equiv 1$) and modulus $|\boldsymbol{v}| \neq 0$, defined in a domain D of the three-dimensional Euclidean space E^3 . The vector lines L_τ of the fields \boldsymbol{v} and $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ coincide and $\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{v} = |\boldsymbol{v}|^2(\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau})$. Therefore, a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a family $\{S_\tau\}$ of surfaces S_τ with the unit normal $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, which are orthogonal to the fields \boldsymbol{v} and $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ (the condition on holonomicity of the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$) is the identity $\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{v} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$.

Remark 5. On the other hand, as stated by the theorem from Problem 136 in [7, § 17], in order that the variable vector field \boldsymbol{v} can be represented as $\boldsymbol{v} = \psi \text{ grad } \varphi$, where φ and ψ are scalar functions, it is also necessary and sufficient that the identity $\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \text{rot } \boldsymbol{v} = 0$ be satisfied. Therefore, for

vector fields of the form $\mathbf{v} = \psi \operatorname{grad} \varphi$, and only for them, there exists a family $\{S_\tau\}$ of surfaces S_τ orthogonal to the fields \mathbf{v} and $\boldsymbol{\tau}$, i.e., the case of the holonomic field of directions $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ reduces to fields of the form $\mathbf{v} = \psi \operatorname{grad} \varphi$. Below we will take into account the fact that $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v})$, where $\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v}) = \operatorname{grad} \ln \mathbf{v} + (\operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v})/|\mathbf{v}|^2$ (see Section 1).

4.1. The eikonal equation. We consider the eikonal equation $|\operatorname{grad} \tau|^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \tau_x^2 + \tau_y^2 + \tau_z^2 = n^2(x, y, z)$ for a scalar time field $\tau = \tau(x, y, z)$, which is the basic mathematical model of kinematic seismics (geometric optic) in an inhomogeneous isotropic medium with the refractive index $n(x, y, z)$. The function $\tau(x, y, z)$ is the travel time of a signal (wave) of any nature, whose kinematics satisfies the Fermat principle, along the ray (the geodesic line of the metric $ds^2 = n^2(x, y, z)(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)$) which connects the point source and the point (x, y, z) . In this case, the ray plays the role of a curve L_τ and is the vector line of the vector potential (non-force) field $\mathbf{v} = \operatorname{grad} \tau$ with tangent unit vector $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \operatorname{grad} \tau/n$ and modulus $|\operatorname{grad} \tau| = n$. Obviously, in this case, the field $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is holonomic ($\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} = 0$); the role of the surfaces S_τ orthogonal to the rays L_τ is played by the wavefronts $\tau(x, y, z) = \text{const}$ (level surfaces of the scalar field τ).

From the general geometric formula (17) for $\tau \in C^3(D)$ and $n \in C^2(D)$, we obtain the following expression for the Gaussian curvature K of the front S_τ : $K = \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\nu} \times \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\beta}) - \varkappa^2$. Here $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \operatorname{grad} \tau/n$; the principal normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ and the binormal $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ of the ray are calculated by formulas (14), and the second curvature \varkappa of the ray is calculated by (15). Another formula for K of the form $K = -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{T}$, where $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}(\operatorname{grad} \tau) = \operatorname{grad} \ln n - \frac{\Delta \tau}{n^2} \operatorname{grad} \tau$, or $K = -\frac{1}{2} \left[\Delta \ln n - \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\Delta \tau}{n^2} \operatorname{grad} \tau \right) \right]$, follows from the equality $K = -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ [2, Ch. 1, § 8] and the identity $\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v})$. Generally, for the solutions τ of the eikonal equation, all the formulas in Sections 2 and 3 hold, including the formulas for $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^*$ from Corollary 1 and Theorem 2, which are analogs to the conservation law $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{T} = 0$ for the plane case (see [6] and Remark 2) and the conservation law (12), (13), with consideration of the equalities $\boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \operatorname{grad} \tau/n$ and Remark 3.

4.2. The Euler hydrodynamic equations. Let $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(x, y, z, t) = v\boldsymbol{\tau}$ be the velocity in the Euler hydrodynamic equations $\mathbf{v}_t + \operatorname{grad} v^2/2 - \mathbf{v} \times \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{F} - \operatorname{grad} p/\rho$, which can be rewritten as $\mathbf{G} = -\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v})$ ($= -\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$), where $\mathbf{G} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbf{v}_t + \mathbf{v} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} + \operatorname{grad} p/\rho - \mathbf{F})/v^2$, in domain D ; $v \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\mathbf{v}|$, $\mathbf{v} \in C^2(D)$, the pressure $p \in C^2(D)$, the density $\rho \in C^1(D)$, and the body force $\mathbf{F} \in C^1(D)$.

Here the role of the curves L_τ is played by the streamlines (the vector lines of the field \mathbf{v} or $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ at fixed t). The class of fields \mathbf{v} for which there exists a family $\{S_\tau\}$ of the surfaces S_τ orthogonal to the field \mathbf{v} (curves L_τ)

is described by the formula $\mathbf{v} = \psi \operatorname{grad} \varphi$, where ψ and φ are scalar functions (Remark 5). This class, in particular, includes the potential field $\mathbf{v} = \operatorname{grad} \varphi$. To calculate the Gaussian curvature K of the surface S_τ orthogonal to the streamlines L_τ , we use formula (17) taking into account the equality $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{v}/v$ and Remark 3. The second formula for K of the form $K = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{G}$ follows from the identities $K = -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and $\mathbf{G} = -\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{v}) = -\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$. The formulas for $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\tau})$ and $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{S}^*$ from Corollary 1 and Theorem 2, which are analogs to the conservation law $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{G} = 0$ for the plane case ([5] and Remark 2) and conservation laws (12), (13), also hold for the velocity field \mathbf{v} with allowance for the equality $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{v}/v$ and Remark 3.

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