

Differential Invariant Algebras

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Basic Framework

M — m -dimensional manifold

$J^n = J^n(M, p)$ — n^{th} order jet space for
 p -dimensional submanifolds $N \subset M$

G — transformation group acting on M

$G^{(n)}$ — prolonged action
on the submanifold jet space J^n

Differential Invariants

Differential invariant

$$I : \mathbf{J}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$I(g^{(n)} \cdot (x, u^{(n)})) = I(x, u^{(n)})$$

\implies curvature, torsion, ...

Invariant differential operators:

$$\mathcal{D}_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}_p$$

\implies arc length derivative

$\mathcal{I}(G)$ — the algebra of differential invariants

The Basis Theorem

Theorem. The differential invariant algebra $\mathcal{I}(G)$ is generated by a finite number of differential invariants

$$I_1, \dots, I_\ell$$

and $p = \dim N$ invariant differential operators

$$\mathcal{D}_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}_p$$

meaning that *every* differential invariant can be locally expressed as a function of the generating invariants and their invariant derivatives:

$$\mathcal{D}_J I_\kappa = \mathcal{D}_{j_1} \mathcal{D}_{j_2} \cdots \mathcal{D}_{j_n} I_\kappa.$$

⇒ Lie, Tresse, Ovsiannikov, Kumpera

Key Issues

- Minimal basis of generating invariants: I_1, \dots, I_ℓ
- Commutation formulae for
the invariant differential operators:

$$[\mathcal{D}_j, \mathcal{D}_k] = \sum_{i=1}^p Y_{j,k}^i \mathcal{D}_i$$

\implies Non-commutative differential algebra

- Syzygies (functional relations) among
the differentiated invariants:

$$\Phi(\dots \mathcal{D}_J I_\kappa \dots) \equiv 0$$

\implies Gauss–Codazzi relations

Applications

- Equivalence and signatures of submanifolds
- Characterization of moduli spaces
- Invariant differential equations:

$$H(\dots \mathcal{D}_J I_\kappa \dots) = 0$$

- Group splitting of PDEs and explicit solutions
- Invariant variational problems:

$$\int L(\dots \mathcal{D}_J I_\kappa \dots) \omega$$

The Infinite Jet Bundle

Jet bundles

$$M = J^0 \leftarrow J^1 \leftarrow J^2 \leftarrow \dots$$

Inverse limit

$$J^\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J^n$$

Local coordinates

$$z^{(\infty)} = (x, u^{(\infty)}) = (\dots x^i \dots u_J^\alpha \dots)$$

Differential Forms

Coframe — basis for the cotangent space T^*J^∞ :

- Horizontal one-forms

$$dx^1, \dots, dx^p$$

- Contact (vertical) one-forms

$$\theta_J^\alpha = du_J^\alpha - \sum_{i=1}^p u_{J,i}^\alpha dx^i$$

Intrinsic definition of contact form

$$\theta \mid j_\infty N = 0 \quad \iff \quad \theta = \sum A_J^\alpha \theta_J^\alpha$$

The Variational Bicomplex

⇒ *Vinogradov, Tsujishita, I. Anderson*

Bigrading of the differential forms on J^∞ :

$r = \#$ horizontal forms

$$\Omega^* = \bigoplus_{r,s} \Omega^{r,s}$$

$s = \#$ contact forms

The Differentials

Horizontal and vertical differentials: $d = d_H + d_V$

$$d_H : \Omega^{r,s} \longrightarrow \Omega^{r+1,s}$$

$$d_H F = \sum_{i=1}^p (D_i F) dx^i \quad \text{— total derivatives}$$

$$d_V : \Omega^{r,s} \longrightarrow \Omega^{r,s+1}$$

$$d_V F = \sum_{\alpha,J} \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_J^\alpha} \theta_J^\alpha \quad \text{— variation}$$

The Simplest Example

x — independent variable

$$(x, u) \in M = \mathbb{R}^2$$

u — dependent variable

Horizontal form

$$dx$$

Contact (vertical) forms

$$\theta = du - u_x dx$$

$$\theta_x = du_x - u_{xx} dx$$

$$\theta_{xx} = du_{xx} - u_{xxx} dx$$

\vdots

$$\theta = du - u_x dx, \quad \theta_x = du_x - u_{xx} dx, \quad \theta_{xx} = du_{xx} - u_{xxx} dx$$

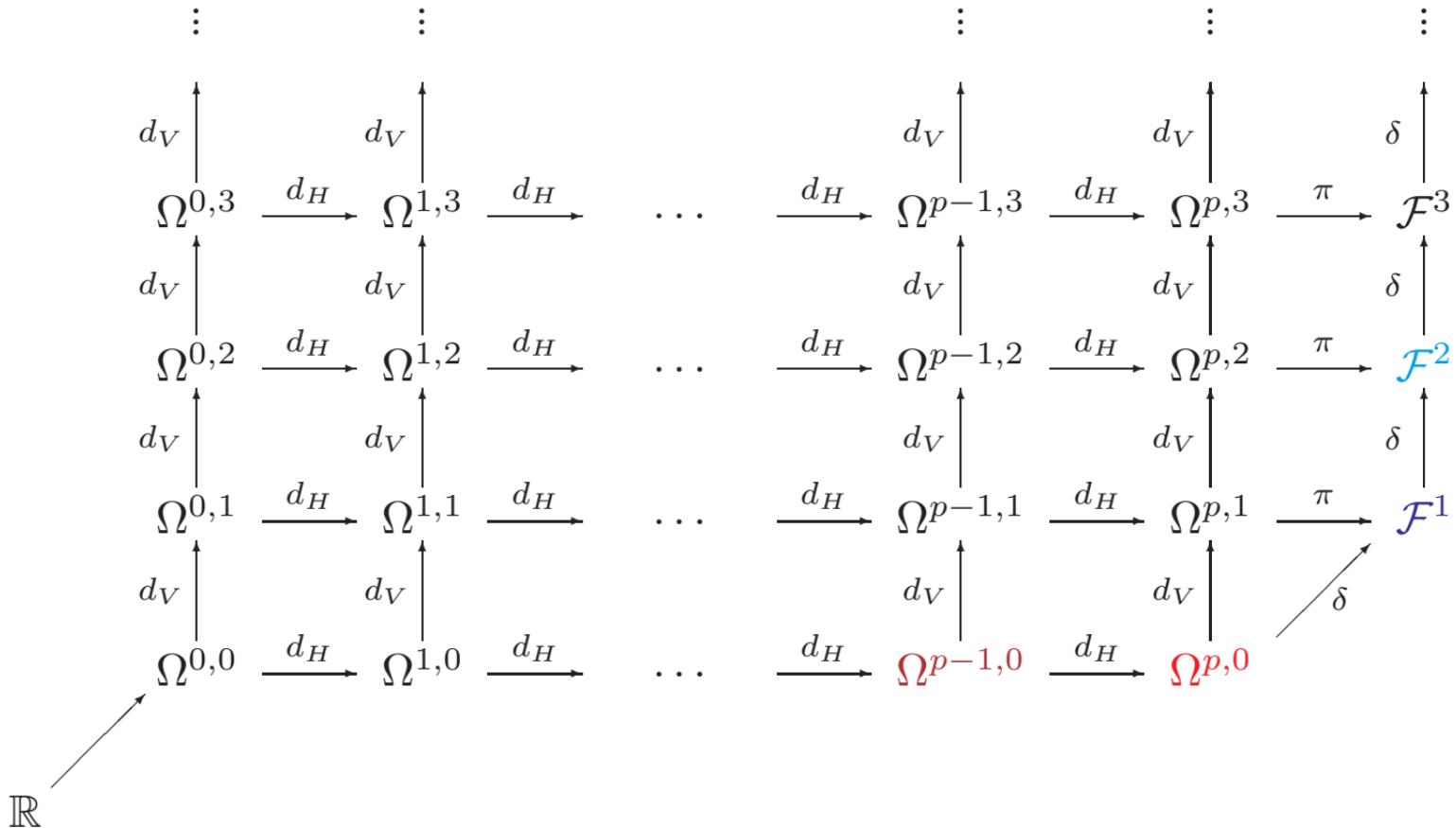
Differential:

$$\begin{aligned} dF &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} du + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_x} du_x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{xx}} du_{xx} + \dots \\ &= (D_x F) dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} \theta + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_x} \theta_x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{xx}} \theta_{xx} + \dots \\ &= d_H F + d_V F \end{aligned}$$

Total derivative:

$$D_x F = \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} u_x + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_x} u_{xx} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{xx}} u_{xxx} + \dots$$

The Variational Bicomplex



Moving Frames

Definition. An n^{th} order *moving frame* is a G -equivariant map

$$\rho^{(n)} : V^n \subset J^n \longrightarrow G$$

Equivariance:

$$\rho(g^{(n)} \cdot z^{(n)}) = \begin{cases} g \cdot \rho(z^{(n)}) & \text{left moving frame} \\ \rho(z^{(n)}) \cdot g^{-1} & \text{right moving frame} \end{cases}$$

Note $\rho_{left}(z^{(n)}) = \rho_{right}(z^{(n)})^{-1}$

Theorem. A moving frame exists in a neighborhood of a point $z^{(n)} \in J^n$ if and only if G acts freely and regularly near $z^{(n)}$.

Theorem. If G acts locally effectively on subsets, then for $n \gg 0$, the (prolonged) action of G is locally free on an open subset of J^n .

\implies Ovsiannikov, PJO

The Normalization Construction

1. Write out the explicit formulas for the prolonged group action:

$$w^{(n)}(g, z^{(n)}) = g^{(n)} \cdot z^{(n)}$$

\implies *Implicit differentiation*

2. From the components of $w^{(n)}$, choose $r = \dim G$
normalization equations:

$$w_1(g, z^{(n)}) = c_1 \quad \dots \quad w_r(g, z^{(n)}) = c_r$$

3. Solve the normalization equations for the group parameters $g = (g_1, \dots, g_r)$:

$$g = \rho(z^{(n)}) = \rho(x, u^{(n)})$$

The solution is the right moving frame.

4. Substitute the moving frame formulas

$$g = \rho(z^{(n)}) = \rho(x, u^{(n)})$$

for the group parameters into the un-normalized components of $w^{(n)}$ to produce a complete system of functionally independent differential invariants of order $\leq n$:

$$I_k(x, u^{(n)}) = w_k(\rho(z^{(n)}), z^{(n)}), \quad k = r + 1, \dots, \dim J^n$$

Invariantization

The process of replacing group parameters in transformation rules by their moving frame formulae is known as invariantization:

$$\iota : \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Functions} & \longrightarrow \text{Invariants} \\ \text{Forms} & \longrightarrow \text{Invariant Forms} \\ \text{Differential} & \longrightarrow \text{Invariant Differential} \\ \text{Operators} & \longrightarrow \text{Operators} \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{array} \right.$$

- Invariantization defines an exterior algebra morphism.
- Analysis of invariant objects relies on the **invariantized bicomplex** defined by the moving frame.

The Fundamental Differential Invariants

$$I^{(n)}(x, u^{(n)}) = \iota(x, u^{(n)}) = \rho(x, u^{(n)}) \cdot (x, u^{(n)})$$

$$H^i(x, u^{(n)}) = \iota(x^i) \quad I_K^\alpha(x, u^{(l)}) = \iota(u_K^\alpha)$$

The constant differential invariants, as dictated by the moving frame normalizations, are known as the *phantom invariants*. The remaining non-constant differential invariants are the *basic invariants* and form a complete system of functionally independent differential invariants for the prolonged group action.

Invariantization of general differential functions:

$$\iota [F(\dots x^i \dots u_J^\alpha \dots)] = F(\dots H^i \dots I_J^\alpha \dots)$$

The Replacement Theorem:

If J is a differential invariant, then $\iota(J) = J$.

$$J(\dots x^i \dots u_J^\alpha \dots) = J(\dots H^i \dots I_J^\alpha \dots)$$

The Double Fibration

$$\mathcal{B}^{(n)} = \mathrm{J}^n \times G$$



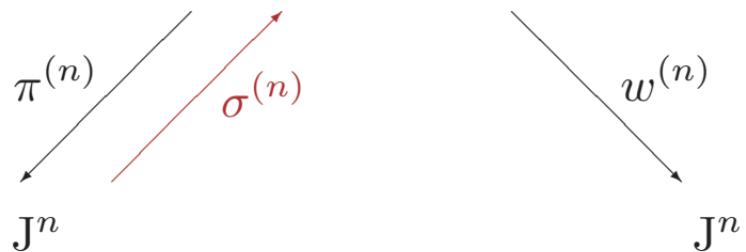
Source and target maps:

$$\pi^{(n)}(z^{(n)}, g) = z^{(n)}, \quad w^{(n)}(z^{(n)}, g) = g^{(n)} \cdot z^{(n)}$$

\implies groupoid

The Moving Frame Section

$$\mathcal{B}^{(n)} = \mathbf{J}^n \times G$$



Source and target maps:

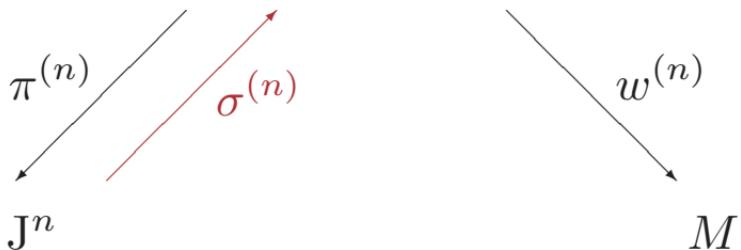
$$\pi^{(n)}(z^{(n)}, g) = z^{(n)}, \quad w^{(n)}(z^{(n)}, g) = g^{(n)} \cdot z^{(n)}$$

Moving frame section:

$$\sigma^{(n)}(z^{(n)}) = (z^{(n)}, \rho^{(n)}(z^{(n)}))$$

Invariantization of Differential Forms

$$\mathcal{B}^{(n)} = J^n \times G$$



Invariantization of a differential form Ω on J^n :

$$\iota(\Omega) = (\sigma^{(n)})^* [\pi_J((w^{(n)})^* \Omega)]$$

- π_J projects differential forms on $T^*\mathcal{B}^{(n)} = T^*J^n \times T^*G$ to their *jet components*, i.e., π_J annihilates all the (lifted) Maurer–Cartan forms:

$$\pi_J: \mu^\kappa \longmapsto 0, \quad \kappa = 1, \dots, r = \dim G.$$

Differential Invariants and Forms

- Fundamental differential invariants

$$H^i(x, u^{(n)}) = \iota(x^i) \quad I_K^\alpha(x, u^{(l)}) = \iota(u_K^\alpha)$$

- Invariant horizontal forms

$$\varpi^i = \iota(dx^i)$$

- Invariant contact forms

$$\vartheta_J^\alpha = \iota(\theta_J^\alpha)$$

The Invariant “Quasi–Tricomplex”

Differential forms

$$\Omega^* = \bigoplus_{r,s} \hat{\Omega}^{r,s}$$

Differential

$$d = d_{\mathcal{H}} + d_{\mathcal{V}} + d_{\mathcal{W}}$$

$$d_{\mathcal{H}} : \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r,s} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r+1,s}$$

$$d_{\mathcal{V}} : \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r,s} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r,s+1}$$

$$d_{\mathcal{W}} : \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r,s} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \hat{\Omega}^{r-1,s+2}$$

$$\iota(\Omega) = (\sigma^{(n)})^*[\pi_{\textcolor{brown}{J}}((w^{(n)})^* \Omega)].$$

⇒ Due to $\pi_{\textcolor{brown}{J}}$, in general differentiation and invariantization do not commute:

$$d\iota(\Omega) \neq \iota(d\Omega)$$

The Universal Recurrence Formula

$$d\iota(\Omega) = \iota(d\Omega) + \sum_{\kappa=1}^r \gamma^\kappa \wedge \iota[\mathbf{v}_\kappa(\Omega)]$$

$\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$ — basis for (prolonged) infinitesimal generators

$\gamma^\kappa = (\sigma^{(n)})^*(\mu^\kappa)$ — invariantized dual Maurer–Cartan forms

The Universal Recurrence Formula

$$d\iota(\Omega) = \iota(d\Omega) + \sum_{\kappa=1}^r \gamma^\kappa \wedge \iota[\mathbf{v}_\kappa(\Omega)]$$

- The invariantized Maurer–Cartan forms γ^κ are uniquely determined by the recurrence formulae for the Maurer–Cartan forms!
- All identities, commutation formulae, etc., in the invariant variational bicomplex are obtained as consequences of this universal formula — by specializing Ω to the various basic functions and differential forms!

Euclidean Curves

Prolonged group action (implicit differentiation):

$$y = w^*(x) = x \cos \phi - u \sin \phi + a$$

$$v = w^*(u) = x \sin \phi + u \cos \phi + b$$

$$v_y = w^*(u_x) = \frac{\sin \phi + u_x \cos \phi}{\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi}$$

$$v_{yy} = w^*(u_{xx}) = \frac{u_{xx}}{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)^3}$$

$$v_{yyy} = w^*(u_{xxx}) = \frac{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)u_{xxx} - 3u_{xx}^2 \sin \phi}{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)^5}$$

Normalization:

$$y = w^*(x) = x \cos \phi - u \sin \phi + a = 0$$

$$v = w^*(u) = x \cos \phi + u \sin \phi + b = 0$$

$$v_y = w^*(u_x) = \frac{\sin \phi + u_x \cos \phi}{\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi} = 0$$

$$v_{yy} = w^*(u_{xx}) = \frac{u_{xx}}{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)^3}$$

Right moving frame $\rho: J^1 \longrightarrow SE(2)$

$$\phi = - \tan^{-1} u_x \quad a = - \frac{x + uu_x}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} \quad b = \frac{xu_x - u}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}}$$

Fundamental normalized differential invariants

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \iota(x) = H = 0 \\ \iota(u) = I_0 = 0 \\ \iota(u_x) = I_1 = 0 \\ \\ \iota(u_{xx}) = I_2 = \kappa \\ \iota(u_{xxx}) = I_3 = \kappa_s \\ \iota(u_{xxxx}) = I_4 = \kappa_{ss} + 3\kappa^3 \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{phantom diff. invs.} \\ \\ \text{basic diff. invs.} \end{array}$$

$$dy = w^*(dx) = (\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi) dx - (\sin \phi) \theta + da - v d\phi$$

$$\pi_J(dy) = (\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi) dx - (\sin \phi) \theta$$

Invariant horizontal one-form:

$$\phi = - \tan^{-1} u_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iota(dx) = \sigma^*(\pi_J(dy)) &= \varpi &= \omega &+ \eta \\ &= \sqrt{1 + u_x^2} dx &+ \frac{u_x}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} \theta \end{aligned}$$

Dual invariant differential operator:

$$\mathcal{D} = \iota(D_x) = \sigma^*(D_y) = \sigma^* \left(\frac{1}{\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi} D_x \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} D_x = D_s$$

$$\theta = du - u_x dx$$

$$\pi_J(w^*(\theta)) = \pi_J(dv - v_y dy) = (\cos \phi - v_y \sin \phi) \theta = \frac{\theta}{\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi}$$

$$\pi_J(w^*(\theta_x)) = \pi_J(dv_y - v_{yy} dy) = \frac{\theta_x}{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)^2} + \frac{(u_{xx} \sin \phi) \theta}{(\cos \phi - u_x \sin \phi)^3}$$

Invariant contact forms:

$$\phi = - \tan^{-1} u_x$$

$$\iota(\theta) = \vartheta = \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} \quad \iota(\theta_x) = \vartheta_1 = \frac{(1 + u_x^2) \theta_x - u_x u_{xx} \theta}{(1 + u_x^2)^2}$$

Prolonged infinitesimal generators

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \partial_x \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \partial_u$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = -u \partial_x + x \partial_u + (1 + u_x^2) \partial_{u_x} + 3u_x u_{xx} \partial_{u_{xx}} + \dots$$

Recurrence formula

$$d\iota(F) = \iota(dF) + \iota(\mathbf{v}_1(F)) \gamma^1 + \iota(\mathbf{v}_2(F)) \gamma^2 + \iota(\mathbf{v}_3(F)) \gamma^3$$

Use phantom invariants

$$0 = dH = \iota(dx) + \sum \iota(\mathbf{v}_\kappa(x)) \gamma^\kappa = \varpi + \gamma^1,$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = dI_0 &= \iota(du) + \sum \iota(\mathbf{v}_\kappa(u)) \gamma^\kappa \\ &= \iota(u_x dx + \theta) + \sum \iota(\mathbf{v}_\kappa(u)) \gamma^\kappa = \vartheta + \gamma^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = dI_1 &= \iota(du_x) + \sum \iota(\mathbf{v}_\kappa(u_x)) \gamma^\kappa \\ &= \iota(u_{xx} dx + \theta_x) + \sum \iota(\mathbf{v}_\kappa(u)) \gamma^\kappa = \kappa \varpi + \vartheta_1 + \gamma^3, \end{aligned}$$

to solve for

$$\gamma^1 = -\varpi, \quad \gamma^2 = -\vartheta, \quad \gamma^3 = -\kappa \varpi - \vartheta_1.$$

$$\gamma^1 = -\varpi, \quad \gamma^2 = -\vartheta, \quad \gamma^3 = -\kappa \varpi - \vartheta_1.$$

Recurrence formulae

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_s \varpi + d_{\mathcal{V}} \kappa &= d(I_2) = \iota(du_{xx}) + \iota(\mathbf{v}_3(u_{xx})) \gamma^3 \\ &= \iota(u_{xxx} dx + \theta_{xx}) - \iota(3u_x u_{xx})) \kappa \varpi \\ &= I_3 \varpi + \vartheta_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{D}_s I_3) \varpi + d_{\mathcal{V}} I_3 &= d_{\mathcal{H}}(I_3) = \iota(d_H u_{xxx}) + \iota(\mathbf{v}_3(u_{xxx})) \gamma^3 \\ &= \iota(u_{xxxx} dx + \theta_{xxx}) - \iota(4u_x u_{xxx} + 3u_{xx}^2) \kappa \varpi \\ &= (I_4 - 3\kappa^3) \varpi + \vartheta_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
d\varpi &= d\iota(dx) = \iota(d^2x) + \sum_{\kappa} \gamma^{\kappa} \wedge \iota(\mathbf{v}_{\kappa}(dx)) \\
&= \gamma^3 \wedge \iota(-du) = -\kappa \vartheta \wedge \varpi + \vartheta_1 \wedge \vartheta,
\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$d_{\mathcal{H}} \varpi = 0, \quad d_{\mathcal{V}} \varpi = -\kappa \vartheta \wedge \varpi, \quad d_{\mathcal{W}} \varpi = \vartheta_1 \wedge \vartheta.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
d\vartheta &= d\iota(\theta) = \iota(d\theta) + \sum_{\kappa} \gamma^{\kappa} \wedge \iota(\mathbf{v}_{\kappa}(\theta)) \\
&= \iota(-\theta_x \wedge dx) + \gamma^3 \wedge \iota(u_x \theta) = -\vartheta_1 \wedge \varpi,
\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$d_{\mathcal{H}} \vartheta = -\vartheta_1 \wedge \varpi, \quad d_{\mathcal{V}} \vartheta = d_{\mathcal{W}} \vartheta = 0,$$

etc.

Key Recurrence Formulae

$$\kappa = I_2 \qquad \qquad I_2 = \kappa$$

$$\kappa_s = I_3 \qquad \qquad I_3 = \kappa_s$$

$$\kappa_{ss} = I_4 - 3I_2^3 \qquad \qquad I_4 = \kappa_{ss} + 3\kappa^3$$

$$\kappa_{sss} = I_5 - 19I_2^2I_3 \qquad I_5 = \kappa_{sss} + 19\kappa^2\kappa_s$$

$$d_V \kappa = (\mathcal{D}^2 + \kappa^2) \vartheta,$$

$$d_V \kappa_s = (\mathcal{D}^3 + \kappa^2 \mathcal{D} + 3\kappa \kappa_s) \vartheta,$$

$$d_V \kappa_{ss} = (\mathcal{D}^4 + \kappa^2 \mathcal{D}^2 + 5\kappa \kappa_s \mathcal{D} + 4\kappa \kappa_{ss} + 3\kappa_s^2) \vartheta.$$

$$\mathcal{D}\vartheta = \vartheta_1 \qquad \mathcal{D}\vartheta_1 = \vartheta_2 - \kappa^2 \vartheta \qquad \mathcal{D}\vartheta_2 = \vartheta_3 - 3\kappa^2 \vartheta_1 - \kappa \kappa_s \vartheta$$

$$d_V \varpi = -\kappa \vartheta \wedge \varpi$$

Invariantized infinitesimal generator coefficients:

$$\eta_\kappa^i(H, I) = \iota[\xi_\kappa^i(x, u)],$$

$$\psi_\kappa^\alpha(H, I) = \iota[\varphi_\kappa^\alpha(x, u)], \quad \kappa = 1, \dots, r$$

$$\psi_{J,\kappa}^\alpha(H, I^{(k)}) = \iota[\varphi_{J,\kappa}^\alpha(x, u^{(k)})],$$

Assemble into vectors:

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}^j(H, I) = (\eta_r^i(H, I), \dots, \eta_r^i(H, I))$$

$$\boldsymbol{\psi}_J^\alpha(H, I^{(k)}) = (\psi_{J,1}^\alpha(H, I^{(k)}), \dots, \psi_{J,r}^\alpha(H, I^{(k)}))$$

\implies Rows of invariantized Lie matrix.

Recurrence Formulae for Differential Invariants

$$\mathcal{D}_i H^j = \delta_i^j + \boldsymbol{\eta}^j(H, I) \mathbf{R}_i \quad \mathcal{D}_i I_J^\alpha = I_{J,i}^\alpha + \boldsymbol{\psi}_J^\alpha(H, I^{(k)}) \mathbf{R}_i$$

Maurer–Cartan invariants:

$$\mathbf{R}_i = (R_i^1, \dots, R_i^r)^T, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

Pulled-back Maurer–Cartan forms:

$$\gamma^\kappa = (\rho^{(n)})^*(\mu^\kappa) = \sum_{i=1}^p R_i^\kappa \omega^i + \dots$$

The *phantom recurrence relations*

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_i H^l = \delta_i^l + \boldsymbol{\eta}^l \mathbf{R}_i \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_i I_K^\beta = I_{K,i}^\beta + \boldsymbol{\psi}_K^\beta \mathbf{R}_i$$

can be uniquely solved for the Maurer–Cartan invariants.

Indices

$$\mathcal{T} = \{ \dots i \dots (J; \alpha) \}$$

— jet variable indices ($\dots x^i \dots u_J^\alpha \dots$)

$$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{T} \quad \text{phantom indices:} \quad |\mathcal{P}| = r = \dim G.$$

Coordinate cross-section:

$$x^i = c^i, \quad u_K^\beta = c_K^\beta, \quad \text{for all} \quad i, (K; \beta) \in \mathcal{P},$$

Minimal cross-section:

$$|\mathcal{P}^{(k)}| = r_k = \max \text{orbit dim of } G^{(k)}$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{T} \setminus \mathcal{P} \quad \text{basic indices}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{B}^{(0)} \cup \{ (J, i; \alpha) \in \mathcal{B} \mid (J; \alpha) \in \mathcal{P} \} \quad \text{edge indices.}$$

Minimal Order Moving Frames

Definition. A cross-section $K^n \subset J^n$, and, hence its induced moving frame $\rho^{(n)} : J^n \rightarrow G$, is said to be of *minimal order* if, for each $0 \leq k \leq n$, its projection $K^k = \pi_k^n(K^n) \subset J^k$ forms a cross-section to the orbits of $G^{(k)}$ on J^k .

Theorem. Given a moving frame of order n , the normalized differential invariants corresponding to indices in $\mathcal{B}^{(n)} \cup \mathcal{E}$ form a generating system.

Theorem. The edge differential invariants arising from a **minimal order** moving frame form a generating system of differential invariants.

Euclidean Space Curves

$M = \mathbb{R}^3$ — coordinates: $z = (x, u, v)$

$C = \{u = u(x), v = v(x)\}$ — curve

$G = \text{SE}(3) = \text{SO}(3) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^3$

Infinitesimal generators:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \partial_x,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \partial_u,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \partial_v,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_4 = v\partial_u - u\partial_v,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_5 = -u\partial_x + x\partial_u,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_6 = -v\partial_x + x\partial_v.$$

The classical moving frame cross-section:

$$x = 0, \quad u = 0, \quad v = 0, \quad u_x = 0, \quad v_x = 0, \quad v_{xx} = 0,$$

Phantom indices:

$$\mathcal{P} = \{ 1, (0; 1), (0; 2), (1; 1), (1; 2), (2; 2) \},$$

Basic indices

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ (k; 1), (l; 2) \text{ for all } k \geq 2, l \geq 3 \}$$

Edge indices:

$$\mathcal{E} = \{ (2; 1), (3; 2) \} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad u_{xx}, v_{xxx}$$

Phantom invariants

$$H = \iota(x) = 0, \quad I_0 = \iota(u) = 0, \quad J_0 = \iota(v) = 0,$$

$$I_1 = \iota(u_x) = 0, \quad J_1 = \iota(v_x) = 0, \quad J_2 = \iota(v_{xx}) = 0,$$

Edge invariants:

$$I_2 = \iota(u_{xx}) = \kappa, \quad J_3 = \iota(v_{xxx}) = \kappa \tau$$

Non-edge basic invariants:

$$I_3 = \iota(u_{xxx}) = \kappa_s,$$

$$I_4 = \iota(u_{xxxx}) = \kappa_{ss} + 3\kappa^3 - \kappa \tau^2,$$

$$J_4 = \iota(v_{xxxx}) = 2\kappa_s \tau + \kappa \tau_s,$$

⋮

Recurrence formulae:

$$\mathcal{D}H = 1 + R_1,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_0 = I_1 + R_2 = R_2,$$

$$\mathcal{D}J_0 = J_1 + R_3 = R_3,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_1 = I_2 + R_5,$$

$$\mathcal{D}J_1 = J_2 + R_6 = R_6,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_2 = I_3,$$

$$\mathcal{D}J_2 = J_3 - I_2 R_4,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_3 = I_4 + J_3 R_4 + 3 I_2^2 R_5,$$

$$\mathcal{D}J_3 = J_4 - I_3 R_4,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_4 = I_5 + J_4 R_4 + 10 I_2 I_3 R_5 + 4 I_2 J_3 R_6, \quad \mathcal{D}J_4 = J_5 - I_4 R_4 + 6 I_2 J_3 R_5,$$

Maurer–Cartan invariants:

$$R_1 = -1, \quad R_2 = 0, \quad R_3 = 0, \quad R_4 = J_3/I_2, \quad R_5 = -I_2, \quad R_6 = 0.$$

Normalizations:

$$0 = \mathcal{D}H = 1 + R_1,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}I_0 = I_1 + R_2 = R_2,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}J_0 = J_1 + R_3 = R_3,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}I_1 = I_2 + R_5,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}J_1 = J_2 + R_6 = R_6,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_2 = I_3,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}J_2 = J_3 - I_2 R_4,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_3 = I_4 + J_3 R_4 + 3 I_2^2 R_5,$$

$$\mathcal{D}J_3 = J_4 - I_3 R_4,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_4 = I_5 + J_4 R_4 + 10 I_2 I_3 R_5 + 4 I_2 J_3 R_6, \quad \mathcal{D}J_4 = J_5 - I_4 R_4 + 6 I_2 J_3 R_5,$$

Solve for Maurer–Cartan invariants:

$$R_1 = -1, \quad R_2 = 0, \quad R_3 = 0, \quad R_4 = J_3/I_2, \quad R_5 = -I_2, \quad R_6 = 0.$$

Recurrence relations

$$\mathcal{D}I_2 = I_3, \quad \mathcal{D}I_3 = I_4 - 3I_2^3 + J_3^2/I_2, \quad \mathcal{D}J_3 = J_4 - I_3J_3/I_2,$$

$$\mathcal{D}I_4 = I_5 - 10I_2^2I_3 + J_3J_4/I_2, \quad \mathcal{D}J_4 = J_5 - 6I_2^2J_3 + J_3I_4/I_2,$$

Non-traditional cross-section:

$$x = 0, \quad u = 0, \quad v = 0, \quad v_x = 0, \quad v_{xx} = 0, \quad v_{xxx} = 1,$$

Phantom indices:

$$\mathcal{P} = \{ 1, (0; 1), (0; 2), (1; 2), (2; 2), (3; 2) \};$$

Basic indices:

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ (k; 1), (l; 2) \text{ for all } k \geq 1, l \geq 4 \};$$

Edge indices:

$$\mathcal{E} = \{ (1; 1), (4; 2) \} \longleftrightarrow u_x, v_{xxxx}.$$

Phantom invariants:

$$\widetilde{H} = \tilde{\iota}(x) = 0, \quad \widetilde{I}_0 = \tilde{\iota}(u) = 0, \quad \widetilde{J}_0 = \tilde{\iota}(v) = 0,$$

$$\widetilde{J}_1 = \tilde{\iota}(v_x) = 0, \quad \widetilde{J}_2 = \tilde{\iota}(v_{xx}) = 0, \quad \widetilde{J}_3 = \tilde{\iota}(v_{xxx}) = 1,$$

Basic differential invariants:

$$\widetilde{I}_1 = \tilde{\iota}(u_x), \quad \widetilde{I}_2 = \tilde{\iota}(u_{xx}), \quad \widetilde{I}_3 = \tilde{\iota}(u_{xxx}), \quad \widetilde{I}_4 = \tilde{\iota}(u_{xxxx}),$$

$$\widetilde{J}_4 = \tilde{\iota}(v_{xxxx}), \quad \dots,$$

Phantom recurrence formulae:

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} H = 1 + \tilde{R}_1,$$

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{I}_0 = \tilde{I}_1 + \tilde{R}_2,$$

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{J}_0 = \tilde{J}_1 + \tilde{R}_3 = \tilde{R}_3,$$

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{J}_1 = \tilde{J}_2 - \tilde{I}_1 \tilde{R}_4 + \tilde{R}_6 = -\tilde{I}_1 \tilde{R}_4 + \tilde{R}_6,$$

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{J}_2 = \tilde{J}_3 - \tilde{I}_2 \tilde{R}_4 = 1 - \tilde{I}_2 \tilde{R}_4,$$

$$0 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{J}_3 = \tilde{J}_4 - \tilde{I}_3 \tilde{R}_4 + 3 \tilde{I}_1 \tilde{R}_5.$$

Maurer–Cartan invariants:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{R}_1 &= -1, & \tilde{R}_2 &= -\tilde{I}_1, & \tilde{R}_3 &= 0, \\ \tilde{R}_4 &= \frac{1}{\tilde{I}_2}, & \tilde{R}_5 &= \frac{1}{3\tilde{I}_1} \left(\frac{\tilde{I}_3}{\tilde{I}_2} - \tilde{J}_4 \right), & \tilde{R}_6 &= \frac{\tilde{I}_1}{\tilde{I}_2}.\end{aligned}$$

Fundamental recurrence formulae:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathcal{D}}\tilde{I}_1 &= \tilde{I}_2 + \frac{1 + \tilde{I}_1^2}{3\tilde{I}_1} \left(\frac{\tilde{I}_3}{\tilde{I}_2} - \tilde{J}_4 \right), & \tilde{\mathcal{D}}\tilde{I}_2 &= 2\tilde{I}_3 - \tilde{I}_2\tilde{J}_4, \\ \tilde{\mathcal{D}}\tilde{I}_3 &= \tilde{I}_4 + \frac{4\tilde{I}_1\tilde{I}_3 + 3\tilde{I}_2^2}{3\tilde{I}_1} \left(\frac{\tilde{I}_3}{\tilde{I}_2} - \tilde{J}_4 \right) + \frac{1 + \tilde{I}_1^2}{\tilde{I}_2},\end{aligned}$$

The edge invariants \tilde{I}_1 and \tilde{J}_4 do not generate!

$$\tilde{I}_3 = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{I}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{I}_2 \tilde{J}_4, \quad \tilde{I}_4 = \tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{I}_3 - \frac{4 \tilde{I}_1 \tilde{I}_3 + 3 \tilde{I}_2^2}{3 \tilde{I}_1} \left(\frac{\tilde{I}_3}{\tilde{I}_2} - \tilde{J}_4 \right) + \frac{1 + \tilde{I}_1^2}{\tilde{I}_2},$$

But

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{I}_1 = \tilde{I}_2 + \frac{1 + \tilde{I}_1^2}{6 \tilde{I}_1} \left(\frac{\tilde{\mathcal{D}} \tilde{I}_2}{\tilde{I}_2} - \tilde{J}_4 \right)$$

Replacement Rule:

$$\kappa = \tilde{\iota} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(u_x v_{xx} - u_{xx} v_x)^2 + u_{xx}^2 + v_{xx}^2}}{(1 + u_x^2 + v_x^2)^{3/2}} \right) = \frac{|\tilde{I}_2|}{(1 + \tilde{I}_1^2)^{3/2}},$$

$$\tau = \tilde{\iota} \left(\frac{u_{xx} v_{xxx} - u_{xxx} v_{xx}}{(u_x v_{xx} - u_{xx} v_x)^2 + u_{xx}^2 + v_{xx}^2} \right) = \frac{\tilde{I}_2}{\tilde{I}_2^2} = \frac{1}{\tilde{I}_2}.$$

$$\tilde{I}_1 = \sqrt{(\kappa\tau)^{-2/3} - 1}, \quad \tilde{I}_2 = \frac{1}{\tau}.$$

★ Only valid for curves with $\kappa\tau > 1$.

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}} = (\kappa\tau)^{-1/3}\mathcal{D} = (\kappa\tau)^{-1/3} \frac{d}{ds}.$$

$$\tilde{J}_4 = \frac{2\kappa_s\tau + \kappa\tau_s}{(\kappa\tau)^{4/3}} + 6\frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\tau^{1/3}}\sqrt{(\kappa\tau)^{-2/3} - 1},$$

$$\tilde{I}_3 = \frac{\kappa_s}{(\kappa\tau)^{4/3}} + 3\frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\tau^{4/3}}\sqrt{(\kappa\tau)^{-2/3} - 1}.$$

Equi-affine Surfaces

$$M = \mathbb{R}^3 \quad G = \text{SA}(3) \quad \dim G = 11.$$

$$g \cdot z = Az + b, \quad \det A = 1, \quad z = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ u \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Surfaces $S \subset M = \mathbb{R}^3$:

$$u = f(x, y)$$

Hyperbolic case

$$u_{xx}u_{yy} - u_{xy}^2 < 0$$

Cross-section:

$$x = y = u = u_x = u_y = u_{xy} = 0, \quad u_{xx} = 1, \quad u_{yy} = -1,$$

$$u_{xyy} = u_{xxx}, \quad u_{xxy} = u_{yyy} = 0.$$

Power series normal form:

$$u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - y^2) + \frac{1}{6}c(x^3 + 3xy^2) + \dots$$

\implies Nonsingular: $c \neq 0$.

Invariantization — differential invariants: $I_{jk} = \iota(u_{jk})$

Phantom differential invariants:

$$\iota(x) = \iota(y) = \iota(u) = \iota(u_x) = \iota(u_y) = \iota(u_{xy}) = \iota(u_{xxy}) = \iota(u_{yyy}) = 0,$$

$$\iota(u_{xx}) = 1, \quad \iota(u_{yy}) = -1, \quad \iota(u_{xxx}) - \iota(u_{xyy}) = 0.$$

Pick invariant:

$$P = \iota(u_{xxx}) = \iota(u_{xyy}).$$

Basic differential invariants of order 4:

$$Q_0 = \iota(u_{xxxx}), \quad Q_1 = \iota(u_{xxxy}), \quad Q_2 = \iota(u_{xxyy}),$$

$$Q_3 = \iota(u_{xyyy}), \quad Q_4 = \iota(u_{yyyy}),$$

Invariant differential operators:

$$\mathcal{D}_1 = \iota(D_x), \quad \mathcal{D}_2 = \iota(D_y).$$

\implies Since the moving frame has order 3, one can generate all higher order differential invariants from the basic differential invariants of order ≤ 4 .

Thus, to prove the Theorem, it suffices to generate Q_0, \dots, Q_4 from P by invariant differentiation.

Infinitesimal generators:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = x \partial_x - u \partial_u, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = y \partial_y - u \partial_u,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = y \partial_x, \quad \mathbf{v}_4 = u \partial_x, \quad \mathbf{v}_5 = x \partial_y,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_6 = u \partial_y, \quad \mathbf{v}_7 = x \partial_u, \quad \mathbf{v}_8 = y \partial_u,$$

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = \partial_x, \quad \mathbf{w}_2 = \partial_y, \quad \mathbf{w}_3 = \partial_u,$$

Recurrence formulae

$$\mathcal{D}_1 I_{jk} = I_{j+1,k} + \sum_{\kappa=1}^8 \varphi_\kappa^{jk}(0,0,I^{(j+k)}) R_1^\kappa, \quad j+k \geq 1.$$

$$\mathcal{D}_2 I_{jk} = I_{j,k+1} + \sum_{\kappa=1}^8 \varphi_\kappa^{jk}(0,0,I^{(j+k)}) R_2^\kappa,$$

$\varphi_\kappa^{jk}(x,y,u^{(j+k)})$ — Prolonged infinitesimal
generator coefficients

$\varphi_\kappa^{jk}(0,0,I^{(j+k)})$ — invariantized coefficients

R_i^κ — Maurer–Cartan invariants

Phantom recurrence formulae:

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{10} = 1 + R_1^7, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{10} = R_2^7,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{01} = R_1^8, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{01} = -1 + R_2^8,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{20} = I_{30} - 3R_1^1 - R_1^2, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{20} = -3R_2^1 - R_2^2,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{11} = -R_1^3 + R_1^5, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{11} = I_{30} - R_2^3 + R_2^5,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{02} = I_{12} + R_1^1 + 3R_1^2, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{02} = R_2^1 + 3R_2^2,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{21} = I_{31} - I_{30}R_1^3 - 2I_{30}R_1^5 + R_1^6,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{21} = I_{22} - I_{30}R_2^3 - 2I_{30}R_2^5 + R_2^6,$$

$$0 = \mathcal{D}_1 I_{03} = I_{13} - 3I_{30}R_2^3 - 3R_2^6, \quad 0 = \mathcal{D}_2 I_{03} = I_{04} - 3I_{30}R_2^3 - 3R_2^6.$$

Maurer–Cartan invariants:

$$R_1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}P, -\frac{1}{2}P, \frac{3Q_1 + Q_3}{12P}, \frac{1}{4}Q_0 - \frac{1}{4}Q_2 - \frac{1}{2}P^2, \frac{3Q_1 + Q_3}{12P}, -\frac{1}{4}Q_1 + \frac{1}{4}Q_3, -1, 0 \right)$$

$$R_2 = \left(0, 0, \frac{3Q_2 + Q_4}{12P} + \frac{1}{2}P, \frac{1}{4}Q_1 - \frac{1}{4}Q_3, \frac{3Q_2 + Q_4}{12P} - \frac{1}{2}P, -\frac{1}{4}Q_2 + \frac{1}{4}Q_4 - \frac{1}{2}P^2, 0, 1 \right)$$

Fourth order invariants:

$$P_1 = \mathcal{D}_1 P = \frac{1}{4}Q_0 + \frac{3}{4}Q_2, \quad P_2 = \mathcal{D}_2 P = \frac{1}{4}Q_1 + \frac{3}{4}Q_3.$$

Commutator:

$$\mathcal{D}_3 = [\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2] = \mathcal{D}_1 \mathcal{D}_2 - \mathcal{D}_2 \mathcal{D}_1 = Y_1 \mathcal{D}_1 + Y_2 \mathcal{D}_2,$$

where

$$Y_1 = R_2^1 - R_1^3 = -\frac{3Q_1 + Q_3}{12P}, \quad Y_2 = R_2^5 - R_1^2 = \frac{3Q_2 + Q_4}{12P}.$$

Another fourth order invariant:

$$P_3 = \mathcal{D}_3 P = \mathcal{D}_1 \mathcal{D}_2 P - \mathcal{D}_2 \mathcal{D}_1 P = Y_1 P_1 + Y_2 P_2. \quad (*)$$

Nondegeneracy condition: If

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ \mathcal{D}_1 P_j & \mathcal{D}_2 P_j \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \text{ or } 3,$$

we can solve $(*)$ and

$$\mathcal{D}_3 P_j = Y_1 \mathcal{D}_1 P_j + Y_2 \mathcal{D}_2 P_j$$

for the fourth order commutator invariants:

$$Y_1 = -\frac{3Q_1 + Q_3}{12P}, \quad Y_2 = \frac{3Q_2 + Q_4}{12P}.$$

So far, we have constructed four combinations of the fourth order differential invariants

$$S_1 = Q_0 + 3Q_2, \quad S_2 = Q_1 + 3Q_3,$$

$$S_3 = 3Q_1 + Q_3, \quad S_4 = 3Q_2 + Q_4.$$

as rational functions of the invariant derivatives of the Pick invariant. To obtain the final fourth order differential invariant:

$$\begin{aligned} 12P(\mathcal{D}_1S_4 - \mathcal{D}_2S_3) &= 48P^2Q_0 - 30P^2S_1 + 18P^2S_4 \\ &\quad - 3S_2S_3 - S_3^2 + 3S_1S_4 + S_4^2. \end{aligned}$$

★ ★ ★ This completes the proof ★ ★ ★

General Problem:

Find minimal generating sets of differential invariants.