

ON THE ORBITS OF THE MAGNETIZED KEPLER PROBLEMS IN DIMENSION $2k + 1$

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ABSTRACT. It is demonstrated that, for the recently introduced classical magnetized Kepler problems in dimension $2k + 1$, the non-colliding orbits in the “external configuration space” $\mathbb{R}^{2k+1} \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ are all conics, moreover, a conic orbit is an ellipse, a parabola, and a branch of a hyperbola according as the total energy is negative, zero, and positive. It is also demonstrated that the Lie group $SO^+(1, 2k + 1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$ acts transitively on both the set of oriented elliptic orbits and the set of oriented parabolic orbits.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
1.1. Outline	2
1.2. Notations and Conventions	2
2. The Kepler problem in dimension n	3
2.1. The reformulation in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$	4
3. Magnetized Kepler problems in Dimension $n = 2k + 1$	4
4. A useful lemma on the generalized Dirac monopoles	6
5. The angular momentum and the Lenz vector	6
6. The MICZ-Kepler orbits are all conics	7
7. Oriented MICZ-Kepler orbits and the Lorentz group	11
References	13

1. INTRODUCTION

The Kepler problem for planetary motions is a two-body dynamic problem with an attractive force obeying the inverse square law. Mathematically it can be reduced to the one-body dynamic problem with the equation of motion

$$(1.1) \quad \mathbf{r}'' = -\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3},$$

where \mathbf{r} is a function of t taking value in $\mathbb{R}_*^3 := \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$, \mathbf{r}'' is the acceleration vector and r is the length of \mathbf{r} . We shall refer to this later one-body dynamic problem as the *Kepler problem*.

A surprising discovery due to D. Zwanziger [1] and to H. McIntosh and A. Cisneros [2] independently in the late 1960s is that there exist magnetized companions for the Kepler

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problem. These extra dynamic problems plus the Kepler problem, referred to as *MICZ-Kepler problems*, are indexed by the magnetic charge μ , with $\mu = 0$ for the Kepler problem. The parameter μ can take any real number at the classical mechanics level, a half of any integer at the quantum mechanics level.

The non-colliding orbits of a MICZ-Kepler problem are all conics, moreover, a conic orbit is an ellipse, a parabola, and a branch of a hyperbola according as the total energy is negative, zero, and positive. A recent discovery of the second author [3] says that *the Lie group* $SO^+(1, 3) \times \mathbb{R}_+$ *acts transitively on both the set of oriented elliptic orbits and the set of oriented parabolic orbits.* (Here $SO^+(1, 3)$ is the identity component of $SO(1, 3)$ and \mathbb{R}_+ be the multiplicative group of positive real numbers.) The significance of this new discovery is that, elliptic (or parabolic) orbits of various magnetic charges are related to each other via Lorentz transformations.

Although the Kepler problem has long been known to exist in all dimensions, for quite a while the magnetized Kepler problems were thought [4] to exist only in dimension 3, 5 and possibly 9, corresponding to the division algebra \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{H} and \mathbb{O} respectively. However, it was demonstrated by the second author [5] that the magnetized Kepler problems exist quantum mechanically in all dimensions, and that leads one to believe that they also exist classically in all dimensions. Indeed, the magnetized Kepler problems at the classical mechanics level were recently obtained by the second author [6] for all odd dimensions, and they are the MICZ-Kepler problems in dimension 3 and T. Iwai's $SU(2)$ -Kepler problems [4] in dimension 5.

The orbits for the MICZ-Kepler problems have been thoroughly studied from the very beginning, but the same cannot be said to Iwai's $SU(2)$ -Kepler problems. For example, it is not known up until now whether the non-colliding orbits of Iwai's $SU(2)$ -Kepler problems [4] are conics or not.

In this article, we shall show that the non-colliding orbits of a magnetized Kepler problem as defined by the second author in Ref. [6] are all conics and then extend the recent discovery of the second author in Ref. [3] about the MICZ-Kepler problems beyond dimension 3. We would like to point out that, for the magnetized Kepler problems in higher dimensions, the introduction of the equation of motion in Re. [6] is less straightforward, and so is the study of the orbits here.

1.1. Outline. In section 2, we quickly review the Kepler problem in arbitrary dimensions, with a focus on the non-colliding orbits and their light cone reformulation. In the next three sections, we review the magnetized Kepler problems in arbitrary odd dimensions, firstly the equation of motion in section 3, then a very useful lemma in section 4, and finally the total energy, the angular momentum and the Lenz vector in section 5; all of these are taken from Ref. [6]. In the remaining two sections, we state and prove our main results, cf. Theorem 1 in section 6 and Theorem 2 in section 7.

1.2. Notations and Conventions. We are mainly dealing with poly-vectors in the euclidean space \mathbb{R}^n or the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$, plus the wedge product, interior product, and inner product involving the poly-vectors.

The boldface Latin letters are reserved for vectors in the euclidean space \mathbb{R}^n only, and the inner product (i.e., the dot product) of the vectors \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} is written as $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$. Vectors in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$ are referred to as *Lorentz vectors*. For the Lorentz vectors $a = (a_0, \mathbf{a})$ and $b = (b_0, \mathbf{b})$, the (Lorentz) inner product of a and b , written as $a \cdot b$, is defined

as

$$a_0 b_0 - \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}.$$

The vector \mathbf{r} is reserved for a point in \mathbb{R}^n , and the Lorentz vector x is reserved for a point in $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$. We often write $x = (x_0, \mathbf{r})$ rather than (x_0, \mathbf{x}) . For the standard basis vectors e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n in $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$, we have $e_0 \cdot e_0 = 1$ and $e_i \cdot e_i = -1$ for $i > 0$. When we view the Lorentz e_i ($i > 0$) as a vector inside the subspace \mathbb{R}^n , we write it as \mathbf{e}_i .

Let V be either \mathbb{R}^n or $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$, $k > 0$ be an integer. A k -vector in V is just an element of $\wedge^k V$. An 1-vector is just a vector. A k -vector is called *decomposable* if it is the wedge product of k vectors. It is a trivial fact that a 2-vector in a 3D space is always decomposable. In case X is a non-zero decomposable k -vector in V , we use $[X]$ to denote the k -dimensional oriented subspace of V , with X representing its orientation.

The inner product extend from vectors to poly-vectors and is denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. By definition, for vectors $u_1, \dots, u_k, v_1, \dots, v_k$ in V , let $[u_i \cdot v_j]$ be the square matrix whose (i, j) -entry is $u_i \cdot v_j$, then

$$\langle u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_k, v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_k \rangle = \det[u_i \cdot v_j].$$

We define the interior product \lrcorner as the adjoint of the wedge product with respect to the inner product for poly-vectors: for poly-vectors X, u and v in V with $\deg X + \deg u = \deg v$, we have

$$\langle X \wedge u, v \rangle = \langle u, X \lrcorner v \rangle.$$

For poly-vector X , we write X^2 for $\langle X, X \rangle$. In case $\langle X, X \rangle \geq 0$, we write $|X|$ for $\sqrt{\langle X, X \rangle}$. We always write r for $|\mathbf{r}|$. Finally, we remark that a poly-vector X in \mathbb{R}^n is also viewed as a poly-vector X in $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$ in a natural way.

2. THE KEPLER PROBLEM IN DIMENSION n

Taking the equation of the motion (1.1) and replacing \mathbb{R}_*^3 by $\mathbb{R}_*^n := \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ with $n \geq 2$, we get an analogue of the Kepler problem in dimension n (referred to as the Kepler problem in dimension n) in the sense that these analogues share the same characteristic feature as the Kepler problem: existence of the Lenz vector. Indeed, if we introduce

$$L := \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}', \quad \mathbf{A} := \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner L + \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r},$$

one can easily check that both the angular momentum L and the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} are constants of motions.

An orbit is a colliding orbit if and only if $L = 0$. Note that we are only interested in the non-colliding orbits, so we assume hereon that $L \neq 0$. Since L is decomposable, L determines an oriented 2D subspace $[L]$ of \mathbb{R}^n . It is easy to see that $\mathbf{A} \wedge L = 0$ and

$$(2.1) \quad \mathbf{r} \wedge L = 0, \quad r - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r} = |L|^2.$$

Therefore, the non-colliding orbits are oriented conics inside the oriented 2D subspace $[L]$, with 0 as a focus and \mathbf{A} as its eccentricity vector; moreover, one can show that the total energy for a motion with such an orbit is

$$E = -\frac{1 - |\mathbf{A}|^2}{2|L|^2}.$$

Note that the orbit is oriented in the sense that $\mathbf{t} \wedge \mathbf{n}$ is a positive multiple of L . Here, \mathbf{t} and \mathbf{n} are respectively the unit tangent vector and unit normal vector of the oriented curve.

2.1. The reformulation in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$. The Kepler problem in dimension n has a mathematically appealing reformulation in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,n}$, as originally pointed out in Ref. [7]. To see this, we observe that \mathbb{R}_*^n is diffeomorphic to the future light cone

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{1,n} \mid x^2 = 0, x_0 > 0\},$$

so the Kepler problem in dimension n can be reformulated as a dynamic problem on the future light cone. As a result, an oriented orbit in \mathbb{R}_*^n can be reformulated as an oriented curve inside this future light cone, i.e., the intersection of the cylinder over the oriented orbit with the future light cone. It turns out this reformulated orbit is a conic section, and this gives another explanation why a non-colliding orbit must be a conic.

To see clearly the intersection plane for the conic section, we write A for $(1, \mathbf{A})$ and observe that $L \wedge A = L \wedge e_0 \neq 0$. For x on the future light cone, Eq. (2.1) can be recast as

$$(2.2) \quad x \wedge (L \wedge A) = 0, \quad A \cdot x = |L \wedge A|^2.$$

Eq. (2.2) defines an affine plane and its intersection with the future light cone is the same as the intersection of the cylinder over the orbit with the future light cone.

3. MAGNETIZED KEPLER PROBLEMS IN DIMENSION $n = 2k + 1$

The purpose of this section is to describe the equation of motion for the magnetized Kepler problems in odd dimension $n \geq 3$, as first appeared in Ref. [6]. This equation is the n -dimensional analogue of the equation of motion

$$(3.1) \quad \mathbf{r}'' = -\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3} + \mu^2 \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^4} - \mathbf{r}' \times \mu \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3}$$

for the MICZ-Kepler problems [2, 1], where the parameter μ is the magnetic charge.

It turns out that the high dimensional analogue of Eq. (3.1) is far from straightforward. The reason is that, if $k > 1$, instead of governing motions on \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} , the equation of motion governs motions on a manifold P_μ which fibers over \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} .

To describe the fiber bundle $P_\mu \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1}$, we let $G = \text{SO}(2k)$ and consider the canonical principal G -bundle over S^{2k} :

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{SO}(2k+1) \\ \downarrow \\ S^{2k}. \end{array}$$

This bundle comes with a natural connection

$$\omega(g) := \text{Pr}_{\mathfrak{so}(2k)}(g^{-1}dg),$$

where $g^{-1}dg$ is the Maurer-Cartan form for $\text{SO}(2k+1)$, so it is an $\mathfrak{so}(2k+1)$ -valued differential one form on $\text{SO}(2k+1)$, and $\text{Pr}_{\mathfrak{so}(2k)}$ denotes the orthogonal projection of $\mathfrak{so}(2k+1)$ onto $\mathfrak{g} := \mathfrak{so}(2k)$.

Under the map

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \pi : \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} & \rightarrow & S^{2k} \\ \mathbf{r} & \mapsto & \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r}, \end{array}$$

the above bundle and connection are pulled back to a principal G -bundle

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{array}{c} P \\ \downarrow \\ X := \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} \end{array}$$

with a connection which is usually referred to as the generalized Dirac monopole [8]. Now

$$P_\mu \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1}$$

is the associated fiber bundle with fiber being a certain co-adjoint orbit \mathcal{O}_μ of G , the so-called magnetic orbit with magnetic charge $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$.

To describe \mathcal{O}_μ , let us use γ_{ab} ($1 \leq a, b \leq 2k$) to denote the element of \mathfrak{g} such that in the defining representation of \mathfrak{g} , $M_{a,b} := i\gamma_{ab}$ is represented by the skew-symmetric real symmetric matrix whose ab -entry is -1 , ba entry is 1 , and all other entries are 0 . For the invariant metric (\cdot, \cdot) on \mathfrak{g} , we take the one such that $M_{a,b}$ ($1 \leq a < b \leq 2k$) form an orthonormal basis for \mathfrak{g} . Via this invariant metric, one can identify \mathfrak{g}^* with \mathfrak{g} , hence co-adjoint orbits with adjoint orbits. By definition, for any $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$(3.4) \quad \mathcal{O}_\mu := \text{SO}(2k) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} (|\mu| M_{1,2} + \cdots + |\mu| M_{2k-3,2k-2} + \mu M_{2k-1,2k}).$$

It is easy to see that $\mathcal{O}_\mu = \{0\}$ if $\mu = 0$ and is diffeomorphic to $\frac{\text{SO}(2k)}{\text{U}(k)}$ if $\mu \neq 0$.

We are now ready to describe the equation of motion for the magnetized Kepler problem in dimension $2k + 1$. Let $\mathbf{r}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ be a smooth map, and ξ be a smooth lifting of \mathbf{r} :

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & P_\mu & \\ & \xi \nearrow \downarrow & \\ \mathbb{R} & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{r}} & X \end{array}$$

Let Ad_P be the adjoint bundle $P \times_G \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow X$, d_∇ be the canonical connection, i.e., the generalized Dirac monopole on $\mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} = X$. Then the curvature $\Omega := d_\nabla^2$ is a smooth section of the vector bundle $\wedge^2 T^*X \otimes Ad_P$. (With a trivialization of $P \rightarrow X$, locally Ω can be represented by $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-1}F_{jk} dx^j \wedge dx^k$.) The equation of motion is

$$(3.6) \quad \boxed{\begin{cases} \mathbf{r}'' = -\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3} + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^4} + (\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner \Omega), \\ \frac{D}{dt} \xi = 0. \end{cases}}$$

Here $\frac{D}{dt} \xi$ is the covariant derivative of ξ , (\cdot, \cdot) refers to the inner product on the fiber of the adjoint bundle coming from the invariant inner product on \mathfrak{g} , and 2-forms are identified with 2-vectors via the standard euclidean structure of \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} . Eq. (3.6) defines a super integrable model, referred to as the **classical Kepler problem with magnetic charge μ in dimension $2k + 1$** , which generalize the classical MICZ-Kepler problem. Indeed, in dimension 3, the bundle is topological trivial, $\xi = \mu M_{12}$, and $\Omega = \frac{*(\sum_{i=1}^3 x^i dx^i)}{r^3} M_{12}$, then Eq. (3.6) reduces to Eq. (3.1), i.e., the equation of motion for the MICZ-Kepler problem with magnetic charge μ . In dimension 5, it is essentially Iwai's $\text{SU}(2)$ -Kepler problem, cf. Ref. [4].

The equation of motion appears to be mysterious, but it doesn't. As demonstrated in Ref. [6], with a key input from the work of Sternberg [9], Weinstein [10], and Montgomery [11], it emerges naturally from the notion of universal Kepler problem in Ref. [12].

4. A USEFUL LEMMA ON THE GENERALIZED DIRAC MONOPOLES

This article as well as Refs. [5, 6] crucially depend on a lemma about the generalized Dirac monopoles [8]. The purpose of this section is to introduce an abridged version of this lemma as used in Ref. [6].

We shall write $\mathbf{r} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$ for a point in \mathbb{R}_*^n and r for the length of \mathbf{r} . The small Latin letters j, k , etc. be indices that run from 1 to n , and the small Latin letters a, b , etc. be indices that run from 1 to $n-1$. To do local computations, we need to choose a bundle trivialization on U which is \mathbb{R}^n with the negative n -th axis removed and then write down the gauge potential explicitly. Indeed, there is a bundle trivialization on U such that the gauge potential $A = A_k dx^k$ can be written as

$$(4.1) \quad A_n = 0, \quad A_b = -\frac{1}{r(r+x_n)} x^a \gamma_{ab}$$

where $x^a \gamma_{ab}$ means $\sum_{a=1}^{n-1} x^a \gamma_{ab}$, something we shall assume whenever there is a repeated index. It is then clear that the gauge field strength $F_{jk} := \partial_j A_k - \partial_k A_j + i[A_j, A_k]$ is of the form

$$(4.2) \quad F_{nb} = \frac{1}{r^3} x^a \gamma_{ab}, \quad F_{ab} = -\frac{1}{r^2} (\gamma_{ab} + x^a A_b - x^b A_a).$$

The following lemma is an abridged version of Lemma 4.1 in Ref. [6].

Lemma 4.1. *Assume $n = 2k + 1$. Let $Q = \frac{1}{2k} \sum_{a,b} (\gamma_{ab})^2$ and $\nabla_k = \partial_k + iA_k$. For the gauge potential A defined in Eq. (4.1), the following statements are true.*

1) *As $i \mathfrak{so}(2k)$ -valued functions on U ,*

$$(4.3) \quad x^k A_k = 0, \quad x^j F_{jk} = 0, \quad \nabla_l F_{jk} = \frac{1}{r^2} (-x^j F_{lk} - x^k F_{jl} - 2x^l F_{jk}).$$

Consequently, we have $\mathbf{r} \lrcorner F = 0$ and $\frac{D}{dt}(r^2 F) = -\mathbf{r} \wedge (\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)$.

2) *Assume $\xi \in \mathcal{O}_\mu \subset \mathfrak{g}$. As real functions on U ,*

$$(4.4) \quad r^4 \sum_k (i\xi, F_{kj})(i\xi, F_{kj'}) = \frac{\mu^2}{k} \left(\delta_{jj'} - \frac{x^j x^{j'}}{r^2} \right).$$

Consequently, we have $|(i\xi, r^2 F)|^2 = \mu^2$ and

$$(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F) = -\frac{\mu^2/k}{r} \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)', \quad |r^2 (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)|^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{|\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2}{r^2}.$$

5. THE ANGULAR MOMENTUM AND THE LENZ VECTOR

Besides the equation of motion (3.6), Ref. [6] also provides formulae for the total energy

$$(5.1) \quad E = \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{r}'|^2 - \frac{1}{r} + \frac{\mu^2/k}{2r^2},$$

the angular momentum

$$(5.2) \quad L = \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' + (\xi, r^2 \Omega)$$

and the Lenz vector

$$(5.3) \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner L + \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r}.$$

To verify that L and \mathbf{A} are constants of motion directly, it suffices to do local computations over U . That is because U is \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} with a so called Dirac string (i.e., the negative

n -th coordinate axis) removed, and, for a given non-colliding orbit, by dimension reason we may assume it misses the entire n -th coordinate axis.

Over the dense open set U , the bundle $P \rightarrow X$ shall be trivialized in a way so that the gauge potential is of the form as in equation (4.1), so that the curvature Ω shall be represented by iF and the lifting ξ shall be represented by a smooth map (also denoted by ξ) from \mathbb{R} into \mathfrak{g} whose image is always inside \mathcal{O}_μ . With this understood, one can verify directly that L and \mathbf{A} are constants of motions. For example, use the lemma and the equation of motion, since $L = \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' + (i\xi, r^2 F)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L' &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'' + (i\xi, -\mathbf{r} \wedge (\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)) \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge (\mathbf{r}'' - (\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner \Omega)) \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \left(-\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3} + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^4} \right) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}' &= \mathbf{r}'' \lrcorner L + \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' \\ &= \left(-\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3} + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^4} + (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) \right) \lrcorner (\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' + (i\xi, r^2 F)) + \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' \\ &= \left(-\frac{1}{r^3} + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{1}{r^4} \right) \mathbf{r} \lrcorner (\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}') + (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F) + \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' \\ &= \left(-1 + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{1}{r} \right) \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' - \frac{\mu^2/k}{r} \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' + \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right)' \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

For a non-colliding orbit, since $\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \neq 0$, use the lemma, we have

$$(5.4) \quad |L|^2 = |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 + |(i\xi, r^2 F)|^2 = |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 + \mu^2 > \mu^2.$$

It has also been shown in Ref. [6] that, for a non-colliding orbit, the total energy is completely determined by the angular momentum L and the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} :

$$(5.5) \quad E = -\frac{1 - |\mathbf{A}|^2}{2(|L|^2 - \mu^2)}.$$

To see this, we note that

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{A}|^2 &= 1 + \frac{2}{r} \mathbf{r} \lrcorner (\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner L) + |\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner L|^2 \\ &= 1 + \frac{2}{r} \langle \mathbf{r}' \wedge \mathbf{r}, L \rangle + |(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}') \mathbf{r}' - (\mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r}') \mathbf{r} + r^2 (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)|^2 \\ &= 1 - \frac{2}{r} |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 + |(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}') \mathbf{r}' - (\mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r}') \mathbf{r}|^2 + |r^2 (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)|^2 \\ &= 1 - \frac{2}{r} |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 + |\mathbf{r}'|^2 |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 + \frac{\mu^2}{k} \frac{|\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2}{r^2} \\ &= 1 + 2|\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 E \quad \text{By Eq. (5.1)} \\ &= 1 + 2(|L|^2 - \mu^2) E. \quad \text{By identity (5.4)} \end{aligned}$$

6. THE MICZ-KEPLER ORBITS ARE ALL CONICS

In this and next sections we shall study the orbits of magnetized Kepler problems in a *fixed* dimension $2k + 1$, but with arbitrary magnetic charges. In dimension higher than 3, the angular momentum is no longer decomposable, and that makes our work in higher dimensions more sophisticated than it might appear.

A solution $(\mathbf{r}(t), \xi(t))$ to the equation of motion (3.6) shall be referred to as a *motion*, whose total trace inside P_μ shall be referred to as an *orbit*. Under the bundle projection $\pi_\mu : P_\mu \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1}$, these orbits become curves inside the “external configuration space” \mathbb{R}_*^{2k+1} , with the non-colliding ones being referred to as *MICZ-Kepler orbits*. In this section we shall show that the MICZ-Kepler orbits are all conics. As demonstrated in section 2, that is indeed the case when the magnetic charge is zero, so we shall assume that $\mu \neq 0$ in this section, unless said otherwise.

Let $(\mathbf{r}(t), \xi(t))$ be a motion that represents a MICZ-Kepler orbit, and

$$(6.1) \quad V := \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge r^3(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F).$$

Since both \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{r}' are orthogonal to $r^3(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)$, we have

$$(6.2) \quad |V|^2 = |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^2 |r^3(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)|^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{k} |\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'|^4 = \frac{\mu^2}{k} (|L|^2 - \mu^2)^2$$

by Lemma 4.1 and Eq. (5.4). Therefore $|V|$ is a constant of motion. In view of Eq. (5.4), it vanishes if and only if $\mu = 0$.

Lemma 6.1. *The 3-vector V in \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} is a constant of motion, and it vanishes if and only if $\mu = 0$.*

Proof. Using the product rule for differentiation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} V' &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}'' \wedge r^3(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) + \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge ((r\mathbf{r}')' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)) + \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge (r\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)') \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge ((r\mathbf{r}')' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)) + \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge (r\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner (i\xi, \frac{D}{dt}(r^2 F))) \quad \text{by eqn of motion} \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge ((r\mathbf{r}')' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)) + \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge (r\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner (i\xi, -\mathbf{r} \wedge (\mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F))) \quad \text{by Lemma 4.1} \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge ((r\mathbf{r}')' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)) - \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge r^2 r' (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge (r\mathbf{r}'' \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F)) \\ &= \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge (r(i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F)) \lrcorner (i\xi, r^2 F) \quad \text{by eqn of motion and Lemma 4.1} \\ &= -\frac{\mu^2}{k} \mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{r}' \wedge \left(\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r}\right)' \quad \text{by Lemma 4.1} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The rest is clear. \square

The nonzero constant decomposable 3-vector V determines a constant subspace $[V]$ of \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} . The presence of this 3D space $[V]$ is not mysterious because one can show that it is spanned by the three constant vectors \mathbf{A} , $\mathbf{A} \lrcorner L$, and $(\mathbf{A} \lrcorner L) \lrcorner L$ when $\mathbf{A} \lrcorner L \neq 0$. Anyhow, it is straightforward to see that \mathbf{A} is a vector inside the 3D space $[V]$. Since $\mathbf{r} \wedge V = 0$, we know that the MICZ-Kepler orbit is inside the 3D space $[V]$, in fact a conic inside $[V]$, as we shall see in a moment.

Let \bar{L} be the image of L under the orthogonal projection $\wedge^2 \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} \rightarrow \wedge^2 [V]$. Being referred to as the **effective angular momentum**, \bar{L} shall be seen to play an important role in the study of MICZ-Kepler orbits. A simple computation shows that

$$(6.3) \quad \bar{L} = \left(\mathbf{r} - \frac{r^4}{|L|^2 - \mu^2} (i\xi, \mathbf{r}' \lrcorner F) \right) \wedge \left(\mathbf{r}' - \frac{r'}{r} \mathbf{r} \right),$$

a decomposable 2-vector inside the 3D space $[V]$. With the help of Lemma 4.1 and Eq. (6.2), one can verify that

$$(6.4) \quad \bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{|L|^2 - \mu^2} V, \quad |\bar{L}|^2 - |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2 = |\bar{L}|^2 - \frac{\mu^2}{k} = |L|^2 - \mu^2 > 0.$$

From the definition, \bar{L} should be a constant of motion, a fact which can be verified directly. This fact holds even when $\mu = 0$ because $\bar{L} = L$ in this special case. By some simple computations, one can verify that $\mathbf{r} \in [V]$ and

$$(6.5) \quad r - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r} = \bar{L}^2 - \frac{\mu^2}{k}, \quad \bar{L} \wedge (\mathbf{r} - r\mathbf{A}) = 0.$$

In the following we let \mathcal{O} denote the set of all oriented MICZ-Kepler orbits and \mathcal{M} denote the set of all pairs (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) where \bar{L} is a decomposable 2-vector and \mathbf{A} is a vector (all inside \mathbb{R}^{2k+1}) such that $|\bar{L}|^2 > |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2$. For each $(\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) \in \mathcal{M}$, we claim that $|\bar{L} - \mathbf{A} \lrcorner (\mathbf{A} \wedge \bar{L})| > 0$, otherwise, $\bar{L} = \mathbf{A} \lrcorner (\mathbf{A} \wedge \bar{L})$, after taking the inner product with \bar{L} , we would have $|\bar{L}|^2 = |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2$, a contradiction.

The following theorem extends Theorem 1 of Ref. [3] beyond dimension 3.

Theorem 1. (1) *If two motions have the same oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit, then they must have the same effective angular momentum \bar{L} and the same Lenz vector \mathbf{A} . Consequently one can speak of an oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit with the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and the effective angular momentum \bar{L} .*

(2) *The map*

$$\varphi_1 : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$$

which maps an oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit with the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and the effective angular momentum \bar{L} to (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) is a bijection.

(3) *An oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit with the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and the effective angular momentum \bar{L} is a conic with its eccentricity e satisfying identity*

$$(6.6) \quad 1 - e^2 = \frac{|\bar{L}|^2 - |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2}{|\bar{L} - \mathbf{A} \lrcorner (\mathbf{A} \wedge \bar{L})|^2} (1 - |\mathbf{A}|^2).$$

Moreover, this MICZ-Kepler orbit is oriented in the sense that $\mathbf{t} \wedge \mathbf{n}$ is a positive multiple of $(\bar{L} - \mathbf{A} \lrcorner (\mathbf{A} \wedge \bar{L}))$. (Here, \mathbf{t} and \mathbf{n} are respectively its unit tangent and unit normal vector.) Consequently, reversing the orbit orientation amounts to turning (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) into $(\mathbf{A}, -\bar{L})$.

(4) *Fix an oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit with the Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and the effective angular momentum \bar{L} , the total energy for any motion with this oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit is*

$$(6.7) \quad E = -\frac{1 - |\mathbf{A}|^2}{2(|\bar{L}|^2 - |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2)}.$$

Consequently one can speak of the total energy E of a MICZ-Kepler orbit.

(5) *A MICZ-Kepler orbit is an ellipse, a parabola and a branch of a hyperbola according as its total energy E is negative, zero and positive.*

Proof. Proof of part (1). It is better to use the reformulation for the oriented MICZ-Kepler orbits as oriented conic sections. It shall be shown in the next section that, an oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit for a motion with Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and effective angular momentum \bar{L} corresponds to the intersection of the future light cone in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ with the oriented plane

$$m \wedge x = 0, \quad a \cdot x = 1$$

where

$$m = \frac{\bar{L} \wedge A}{|\bar{L} \wedge A|}, \quad a = \frac{A}{|\bar{L} \wedge A|^2}$$

with $A = (1, \mathbf{A})$, moreover, m is a decomposable 3-vector with $m^2 = 1$, and a is a vector inside the 3D space $[m]$ with $a_0 > 0$, and $a \lrcorner m$ represents the orientation of the plane.

Suppose now if a motion with Lenz vector \mathbf{A}_1 and effective angular momentum \bar{L}_1 have the same oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit, then we would have the same oriented plane with this second defining equation:

$$m_1 \wedge x = 0, \quad a_1 \cdot x = 1.$$

Since this plane does not pass through the origin, it spans both the 3D vector subspace $[m]$ and the 3D vector subspace $[m_1]$, so $m_1 = m$ or $-m$. But then we must have $a_1 = a$, hence $m_1 = m$ because both $a_1 \lrcorner m_1$ and $a \lrcorner m$ represent the orientation of the plane. Since (a, m) is uniquely determined by (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) , we have $\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{A}$ and $\bar{L}_1 = \bar{L}$. In summary, the oriented plane, hence the oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit, is uniquely determined by the pair (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) .

Proof of part (2). From part (1) we have a well-defined map

$$\varphi_1 : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{M},$$

which sends each oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit to the pair (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) consisting of its unique Lenz vector \mathbf{A} and effective angular momentum \bar{L} . It is clear from the proof of part (1) that φ_1 is one-to-one. It remains to show that φ_1 is onto, i.e., for a given pair $(\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) \in \mathcal{M}$, we need to find an initial data consisting of an initial position \mathbf{q} , an initial velocity \mathbf{v} (which shall be chosen such that $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{q} = 0$) and an initial point η in an magnetic orbit such that

$$(6.8) \quad \begin{cases} \bar{L} &= \mathbf{q} \wedge \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}|^2} \mathbf{v} \wedge (\mathbf{v} \lrcorner (i\eta, |\mathbf{q}|^2 F(\mathbf{q}))) \\ \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{v} \lrcorner \bar{L} + \frac{\mathbf{q}}{|\mathbf{q}|}. \end{cases}$$

Just as in the proof of part (3) of Theorem 1 in Ref. [3], a key step is to find a *unit* vector \mathbf{n} such that

$$\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{n} = \bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}, \quad \text{but } \mathbf{A} \neq \mathbf{n} \quad \text{and } |\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{n}| \text{ is maximal possible.}$$

The existence of such a unit vector \mathbf{n} is guaranteed by the condition $|\bar{L}|^2 > |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2$. To see this, we write \mathbf{A} as the sum of the vector $\mathbf{A}_{\parallel} \in [\bar{L}]$ and vector \mathbf{A}_{\perp} perpendicular to $[\bar{L}]$. Then the condition $|\bar{L}|^2 > |\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A}|^2$ is just $|\bar{L}|^2 > |\bar{L}|^2 |\mathbf{A}_{\perp}|^2$, which implies that $|\mathbf{A}_{\perp}| < 1$. Now we just take $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n}_{\parallel} + \mathbf{A}_{\perp}$ where $\mathbf{n}_{\parallel} \in [\bar{L}]$ such that $|\mathbf{n}_{\parallel}|^2 + |\mathbf{A}_{\perp}|^2 = 1$, $\mathbf{n}_{\parallel} \wedge \mathbf{A}_{\parallel} = 0$ and $\mathbf{n}_{\parallel} \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\parallel} \leq 0$. Clearly \mathbf{n} is unique unless $\mathbf{A}_{\perp} \bar{L} = 0$.

We are now ready to find the initial data. First, we let

$$(6.9) \quad \mathbf{v} := \frac{1}{|\bar{L}|^2} (\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{A}) \lrcorner \bar{L}.$$

Since $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{n} \neq 0$ and $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{n}) \wedge \bar{L} = 0$, we have $\mathbf{v} \neq 0$, so we can let

$$(6.10) \quad \mathbf{q} := \frac{1 - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{|\mathbf{v}|^2} \mathbf{n}.$$

Since $1 - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 1 - |\mathbf{A}_{\perp}|^2 - \mathbf{n}_{\parallel} \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\parallel} > 0$, we have $\mathbf{q} \neq 0$ and $\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$, as we promised a few paragraphs above.

With this choice of \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{q} , one can check that the second identity in Eq. (6.8) holds. One can also check that, when $\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A} = 0$, the first identity in Eq. (6.8) holds if we take $\eta := 0$. It remains to find η for the case $\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A} \neq 0$ so that the first identity in Eq. (6.8) holds.

When $\bar{L} \wedge \mathbf{A} \neq 0$, the vertical component \mathbf{n}_{\perp} of \mathbf{n} is nonzero, so

$$(6.11) \quad \mathbf{u} := \mathbf{v} \lrcorner \bar{L} + (1 - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \mathbf{n} \neq 0.$$

One can check that the nonzero vectors \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{n} are mutually orthogonal, so we can assume that $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{e}_{2k+1}$, $\mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{v}|\mathbf{e}_{2k}$, and $\mathbf{u} = |\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{e}_{2k-1}$ or $-|\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{e}_{2k-1}$. By letting

$$(6.12) \quad \eta := \frac{|\mathbf{u}|}{|\mathbf{v}|} (M_{12} + \cdots + M_{2k-3,2k-2} + \text{sign}(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{2k-1})M_{2k-1,2k}),$$

one can check that $\mathbf{v}_\perp(i\eta, |\mathbf{q}|^2 F(\mathbf{q})) = \mathbf{u}$ with the help of Eq. (4.2), therefore, the right-hand side of the first identity in Eq. (6.8) becomes

$$\mathbf{q} \wedge \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}|^2} \mathbf{v} \wedge \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}|^2} \mathbf{v} \wedge (\mathbf{v}_\perp \bar{L}) = \bar{L},$$

i.e., the left-hand side of the first identity in Eq. (6.8).

Proof of parts (3), (4) and (5). Part (3) follows by adapting the proof for part (1) of Theorem 1 in Ref. [3]. Part (4) follows from Eqs. (5.5) and (6.4). Part (5) is a consequence of parts (3) and (4). \square

7. ORIENTED MICZ-KEPLER ORBITS AND THE LORENTZ GROUP

The goal here is to relate the MICZ-Kepler orbits to the Lorentz group, a phenomena initially found by the second author [3] for dimension three.

As in Ref. [3], the key is to go to the light cone formulation for the oriented MICZ-Kepler orbits. To do that, we write $x = (x_0, \mathbf{r})$, $A = (1, \mathbf{A})$, and verify by computation that

$$(\bar{L} \wedge A, \bar{L} \wedge A)^2 = |L|^2 - \mu^2,$$

a positive number, so $\bar{L} \wedge A \neq 0$. Then the MICZ-Kepler orbit as defined in Eq. (6.5) can be reformulated as the intersection of the future light cone inside $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ with the affine plane

$$(7.1) \quad x \wedge (\bar{L} \wedge A) = 0, \quad A \cdot x = |\bar{L} \wedge A|^2.$$

This description of the MICZ-Kepler orbit is also valid when $\mu = 0$, because in this special case $\bar{L} = L$ and Eq. (7.1) is just Eq. (2.2).

We note that the affine plane defined by Eq. (7.1) passes through the point $\bar{L}_\perp(\bar{L} \wedge A)$ and is parallel to the 2D subspace $[A_\perp(\bar{L} \wedge A)]$ of $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$, that is because Eq. (7.1) is equivalent to equation

$$(7.2) \quad (x - \bar{L}_\perp(\bar{L} \wedge A)) \wedge (A_\perp(\bar{L} \wedge A)) = 0.$$

Since this affine plane is oriented by $A_\perp(\bar{L} \wedge A)$ and has a positive x_0 -intercept, its intersection with the future light cone is an oriented conic section. The natural projection from $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ onto \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} provides an orientation preserving diffeomorphism from this oriented conic section onto the oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit as defined via Eq. (6.5).

It is geometrically more convenient to rewrite equation (7.1) as

$$(7.3) \quad m \wedge x = 0, \quad a \cdot x = 1$$

and equation (7.2) as

$$(7.4) \quad \left(x - \frac{(e_0 \lrcorner m) \lrcorner m}{a_0}\right) \wedge (a \lrcorner m) = 0.$$

where $m = \frac{\bar{L} \wedge A}{|\bar{L} \wedge A|}$, $a = \frac{A}{|L \wedge A|^2}$. It is easy to see that the pair (a, m) thus obtained satisfies the following condition: *m is a decomposable 3-vector in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ such*

that $m^2 = 1$, and $a = (a_0, \mathbf{a})$ is a vector in the Lorentz space $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ with $a_0 > 0$ and $a \wedge m = 0$.

To proceed, we let \mathcal{M} be the set of all pairs (a, m) with the conditions we have just specified in the last paragraph. We remark that an element of \mathcal{M} is just an oriented 3D Lorentz subspace $[m]$ of $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ together with a vector $a \in [m]$ with a positive temporal component, moreover, the map $(a, m) \mapsto m$ is a fiber bundle map with the \mathcal{M} as the total space, the upper half 3D Lorentz space

$$\mathbb{R}_+^{1,2} := \{(x_0, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{1,2} \mid x_0 > 0\}$$

as the fiber, and the space $\widetilde{\text{Gr}}_{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1})$ consisting of oriented 3D Lorentz subspaces in $\mathbb{R}^{1,2k+1}$ as the base space.

For any $(a, m) \in \mathcal{M}$, we note that $a \lrcorner m \neq 0$, a fact one may check under the assumption that $m = e_0 \wedge e_1 \wedge e_2$. It is not hard to see that the map

$$(7.5) \quad \varphi_2 : \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}$$

$$(7.6) \quad (a, m) \mapsto \left(\frac{\mathbf{a}}{a_0}, \frac{e_0 \lrcorner m}{\sqrt{a_0}} \right)$$

is a bijection whose inverse maps (\mathbf{A}, \bar{L}) to

$$\left(\frac{A}{|\bar{L} \wedge A|^2}, \frac{\bar{L} \wedge A}{|\bar{L} \wedge A|} \right)$$

where $A = (1, \mathbf{A})$. By composing this bijection φ_2 with the bijection φ_1 in the part (2) of Theorem 1, we get a bijection

$$(7.7) \quad \varphi : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}.$$

The following theorem extends Theorem 2 of Ref. [3] beyond dimension 3.

Theorem 2. *Let \mathcal{O}_+ (\mathcal{O}_0 reps.) be the the set of oriented elliptic (parabolic reps.) MICZ-Kepler orbits, $\mathcal{M}_+ = \{(a, m) \in \mathcal{M} \mid a^2 > 0\}$, and $\mathcal{M}_0 = \{(a, m) \in \mathcal{M} \mid a^2 = 0\}$.*

(1) *For the oriented MICZ-Kepler orbit parametrized by $(a, m) \in \mathcal{M}$, we have the energy formula*

$$E = -\frac{a^2}{2a_0}.$$

(2) *The bijection φ in Eq. (7.7) maps \mathcal{O}_+ onto \mathcal{M}_+ and \mathcal{O}_0 onto \mathcal{M}_0 .*

(3) *The action of $\text{SO}^+(1, 2k+1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$ on \mathcal{M}_0 defined by*

$$(\Lambda, \lambda) \cdot (a, m) = (\lambda \cdot (\Lambda a), \Lambda m)$$

is transitive. So $\text{SO}^+(1, 2k+1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$, in fact $\text{SO}^+(1, 2k+1)$ also, acts transitively on the set of oriented parabolic MICZ-Kepler orbits.

(4) *The action of $\text{SO}^+(1, 2k+1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$ on \mathcal{M}_+ defined by*

$$(\Lambda, \lambda) \cdot (a, m) = (\lambda \cdot \Lambda a, \Lambda m)$$

is transitive. So $\text{SO}^+(1, 2k+1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$ acts transitively on the set of oriented elliptic MICZ-Kepler orbits.

(5) *The action in parts (3) and (4) extends to $\text{O}^+(1, 2k+1) \times \mathbb{R}_+$.*

Proof. Only the proof of transitivity in parts (3) and (4) needs a little effort. It is easy to see that, there are mutually orthogonal vectors u, v and w in \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} such that $|u| < 1$, $v \wedge w \neq 0$, and $m = (e_0 + u) \wedge v \wedge w$. After a rotation of \mathbb{R}^{2k+1} , we may assume that m is a decomposable 3-vector in the Lorentz subspace $\mathbb{R}^{1,3}$. Then, the proof of transitivity descends to the proof of transitivity in Theorem 2 of Ref. [3].

□

We conclude this article with a remark: while the Lenz vector and the angular momentum determine an oriented orbit, it is the Lenz vector and the effective angular momentum that determine an oriented orbit in the “external configuration space”; moreover, each oriented orbit is the lifting via the canonical connection (i.e., the generalized Dirac monopole) of an oriented orbit in the “external configuration space”.

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