FACTORABLE SURFACES IN 3-MINKOWSKI SPACE

Huihui Meng and Huili Liu*

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we mainly discuss factorable surfaces in 3dimensional Minkowski space and give classification of such surfaces whose mean curvature and Gauss curvature satisfy certain conditions.

1. Introduction

Let E_1^3 be 3-dimensional Minkowski space equipped with the inner product $g(x,y) = \langle x, y \rangle = x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1 + x_3 y_3$ (1.1)

and the vector product

$$x \times y = \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \left| x_3 & x_1 \\ y_3 & y_1 \end{array} \right| \; , \; \left| x_2 & x_3 \\ y_2 & y_3 \end{array} \right| \; , \; \left| x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{array} \right| \; \right),$$

where $x=(x_1,x_2,x_3),\ y=(y_1,y_2,y_3)\in E_1^3$. Let M be a connected, oriented 2-dimensional manifold and $r:M\to E_1^3$ be a surface in E_1^3 with parameters (u,v). We denote the surface S:r(u,v) by

$$r(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v)).$$

A surface S in E_1^3 is called a factorable surface if S can be written as

$$r(u, v) = (x, y, f(x)g(y))$$
 or $r(u, v) = (x, f(x)g(z), z)$ or $r(u, v) = (f(y)g(z), y, z)$.

According to the spacelike direction, timelike direction and lightlike direction, the factorable surfaces in \mathbb{E}^3_1 can be considered as the following six types

- type 1: along spacelike direction and spacelike direction;
- type 2: along spacelike direction and timelike direction;
- type 3: along lightlike direction and lightlike direction;
- type 4: along lightlike direction and spacelike direction;
- type 5: along timelike direction and lightlike direction;
- type 6: along timelike direction and timelike direction.

Received May 9, 2008.

 $^{2000\} Mathematics\ Subject\ Classification.\ 53B30,\ 53A35.$

Key words and phrases. Minkowski space, factorable surface, mean curvature, Gauss curvature

^{*}Partially supported by NSFC; Joint Research of NSFC and KOSEF; Northeastern University.

In [9], the authors studied the factorable surfaces along two spacelike directions and spacelike-timelike directions, and gave some classification theorems. In this paper, we will consider the factorable surface along two lightlike directions and spacelike-lightlike directions in E_1^3 , and also give some classification results.

2. Factorable surfaces in E_1^3

Theorem 1. Let S be a factorable surface of type 3 in E_1^3 .

- (1) If Gauss curvature K of surface S vanishes identity, S is one of the following surfaces or an open part of them:
 - (a) $z(x,y) = c_1 g(y)$,
 - (b) $z(x,y) = c_1 f(x)$,
 - (c) $z(x,y) = \exp(c_1x + c_2y + c_3)$,

(d)
$$z(x,y) = (c_1x + c_2)^{\frac{1}{1-k_1}} (c_3y + c_4)^{\frac{k_1}{k_1-1}}$$
.

- (2) If S is minimal, it is one of the following surfaces or an open part of them:
 - (a) $z(x,y) = c_1 g(y)$,
 - (b) $z(x,y) = c_1 f(x)$,

where $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, k_1, k_2$ are constants and $k_1 \neq 1$.

Proof. In 3-dimensional Minkowski space E_1^3 with metric $\mathrm{d}s^2=2\mathrm{d}x\mathrm{d}y+\mathrm{d}z^2$, the factorable surface of type 3 can be written as r(x,y)=(x,y,z(x,y))=(x,y,f(x)g(z)). Then Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of S are given by

$$\begin{split} K &= -\frac{f(x)f''(x)g(y)g''(y) - (f'(x)g'(y))^2}{(1 + 2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y))^2}, \\ H &= -\frac{H_1}{2[1 + 2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y)]^{\frac{3}{2}}}, \\ H_1 &= f(x)(f'(x))^2(g(y))^2g''(y) + (f(x))^2f''(x)g(y)(g'(y))^2 \\ &- 2f(x)(f'(x))^2g(y)(g'(y))^2 - 2f'(x)g'(y). \end{split}$$

(1) When K = 0, we have

(2.1)
$$f(x)f''(x)g(y)g''(y) - (f'(x)g'(y))^2 = 0.$$

Let $p(x) = \frac{df}{dx}$ and $q(y) = \frac{dg}{dy}$. Then by (2.1), we get

(2.2)
$$f(x)p(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}g(y)q(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}q} - (p(x)q(y))^2 = 0.$$

- (a) If p(x) = 0, we have $f(x) = c_1$. Thus we get $z(x, y) = c_1 g(y)$.
- (b) Analogously, if q(y) = 0, we have $z(x, y) = c_1 f(x)$.
- (c) If $p(x) \neq 0$ and $q(y) \neq 0$, from (2.2), we get

$$f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}g(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}q} = p(x)q(y).$$

Then by $p(x)q(y) \neq 0$ we know that $g(y)\frac{dq}{dy} \neq 0$. So we get

(2.3)
$$\frac{f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}}{p(x)} = \frac{q(y)}{g(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}q}} = k_1,$$

where k_1 is a constant.

(i) If $k_1 = 1$, from (2.3) we have

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = \exp(c_1 x + c_2) \\ g(y) = \exp(c_3 y + c_4) \end{cases}$$

Then we get the result (c) of Theorem 1(1).

(ii) If $k_1 \neq 1$, from (2.3) we have

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = (c_1 x + c_2)^{\frac{1}{1-k_1}} \\ g(y) = (c_3 y + c_4)^{\frac{k_1}{1-k_1}} \end{cases}$$

Then we get the result (d) of Theorem 1(1).

(2) Let $p(x) = \frac{df}{dx}$ and $q(y) = \frac{dg}{dy}$. When H = 0, we have

(2.4)
$$f(x)(p(x))^{2}(g(y))^{2}q(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}g} + (f(x))^{2}p(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}g(y)(q(y))^{2} -2f(x)(p(x))^{2}g(y)(q(y))^{2} -2p(x)q(y) = 0.$$

- (a) If p(x) = 0, we get $f(x) = c_1$. Then S can be written as $z(x, y) = c_1 g(y)$.
- (b) If q(y) = 0, we have $z(x, y) = c_1 f(x)$.
- (c) For $p(x) \neq 0$ and $q(y) \neq 0$, (2.4) can be written as

$$(2.5) \quad (f(x)p(x))g(y)(g(y)\frac{dq}{dq} - q(y)) + (g(y)q(y))f(x)(f(x)\frac{dp}{df} - p(x)) = 2.$$

Differentiating (2.5) with respect to x and y respectively, we get

$$(2.6) (f(x)p(x))'g(y)(g(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}g} - q(y)) + (g(y)q(y))[f(x)(f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f} - p(x))]' = 0,$$

$$(2.7) \ (f(x)p(x))[g(y)(g(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}g}-q(y))]' + (g(y)q(y))'f(x)(f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}-p(x)) = 0.$$

If (f(x)p(x))' = 0, from (2.6), by a calculation we can get p(x) = 0. This contradicts to $p(x)q(y) \neq 0$. So $(f(x)p(x))' \neq 0$ and analogously, $(g(y)q(y))' \neq 0$. Thus (2.6) and (2.7) can be written as

(2.8)
$$\frac{[f(x)(f(x)\frac{dp}{df} - p(x))]'}{(f(x)p(x))'} = -\frac{g(y)\frac{dq}{dg} - q(y)}{g(y)} = k_1,$$

(2.9)
$$\frac{f(x)\frac{dp}{df} - p(x)}{p(x)} = -\frac{[g(y)(g(y)\frac{dq}{dg} - q(y))]'}{(g(y)q(y))'} = k_2,$$

here k_1, k_2 are nonzero constants. From (2.8) and (2.9) we have $k_1 = k_2 = k$. With (2.5) we obtain

$$kf(x)p(x)g(y)q(y) = 1.$$

We get f(x)p(x) = constant and g(y)q(y) = constant. It is also a contradictory. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

Theorem 2. Let S be a factorable surface of type 4 in E_1^3 .

- (1) If Gauss curvature K of S vanishes identity, S is one of the following surfaces or an open part of them:
 - (a) $x(y,z) = c_1 f(y)$,
 - (b) $x(y,z) = c_1 g(z)$,
 - (c) $x(y,z) = \exp(c_1y + c_2z + c_3)$,
 - (d) $x(y,z) = (c_1y + c_2)^{\frac{1}{1-k_1}} (c_3z + c_4)^{\frac{k_1}{k_1-1}}$.
- (2) If S is minimal, it is one of the following surfaces or an open part of them:
 - (a) $x(y,z) = c_1 g(z)$,
 - (b) $x(y,z) = (c_1y + c_2) \exp(c_3z + c_4)$,
 - (c) f(y), g(z) satisfy

$$\begin{cases} f(y) &= c_1 \tan(\frac{c_1 k_2}{2} y + c_2), \\ g(z) &= \frac{k_2}{c_3} \sinh^2(\frac{\varepsilon \sqrt{c_3}}{2} z)) \end{cases}$$

where $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, k_1, k_2$ are constants and $k_1 \neq 1, k_2 \neq 0, \varepsilon = \pm 1$.

Proof. In 3-dimensional Minkowski space E_1^3 with the metric $\mathrm{d}s^2 = 2\mathrm{d}x\mathrm{d}y + \mathrm{d}z^2$, the factorable surface of type 4 can be written as r(y,z) = (x(y,z),y,z) = (f(y)g(z),y,z).

Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of S are given by

$$\begin{split} K &= -\frac{f(y)f''(y)g(z)g''(z) - (f'(y)g'(z))^2}{[(f(y)g'(z))^2 - 2f'(y)g(z)]^2} \ , \\ H &= -\frac{2f(y)f'(y)g(z)g''(z) + f''(y)g(z) - 2f(y)f'(y)(g'(z))^2}{2[(f(y)g'(z))^2 - 2f'(y)g(z)]^{\frac{3}{2}}}. \end{split}$$

(1) When K = 0, we have

$$f(y)f''(y)g(z)g''(z) - (f'(y)g'(z))^2 = 0.$$

Then we get the results of Theorem 2(1).

(2) When H = 0, we have

$$(2.10) 2f(y)f'(y)g(z)g''(z) + f''(y)g(z) - 2f(y)f'(y)(g'(z))^2 = 0.$$

Let $p(y) = \frac{df}{dy}$ and $q(z) = \frac{dg}{dz}$. Then (2.10) can be written as

(2.11)
$$2f(y)p(y)g(z)q(z)\frac{dq}{dg} + p(y)\frac{dp}{df}g(z) - 2f(y)p(y)(q(z))^{2} = 0.$$

- (a) If p(y) = 0, we have $x(y, z) = c_1 g(z)$.
- (b) If $p(y) \neq 0$, (2.11) can be written as

$$2f(y)g(z)q(z)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}q} + \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}g(z) - 2f(y)(q(z))^2 = 0,$$

that is

$$\frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}}{f(y)} = 2 \frac{q(z)^2 - g(z)q(z)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}g}}{g(z)} = k_2,$$

where k_2 is a constant.

(i) If $k_2 = 0$, solving this equation we have

$$\begin{cases}
f(y) = c_1 y + c_2 \\
g(z) = \exp(c_3 z + c_4).
\end{cases}$$

This is the result (b) of Theorem 2(2).

(ii) If $k_2 \neq 0$, we get

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f} = k_2 f(y) \\ (q(z))^2 - g(z)q(z)\frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}q} = \frac{k_2 g(z)}{2}. \end{cases}$$

Solving this equations, we get the result (c) of Theorem 2(2). Then we complete the proof of Theorem 2. \Box

Theorem 3. In 3-dimensional Minkowski space E_1^3 , there is no factorable surface of type 3 with nonzero constant Gauss curvature or nonzero constant mean curvature.

Proof. (1) If Gauss curvature K of a factorable surface S of type 3 is a nonzero constant C, we have

(2.12)
$$K = -\frac{f(x)f''(x)g(y)g''(y) - (f'(x)g'(y))^2}{[1 + 2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y)]^2} = C \neq 0.$$

 $K \neq 0$ yields that $f'(x)g'(y) \neq 0$.

Put $\alpha_1 = g(y)g''(y)$, $\alpha_2 = (g'(y))^2$ and $\alpha_3 = g(y)g'(y)$, where $\alpha_2\alpha_3 \neq 0$. Then

(2.13)
$$K = -\frac{\alpha_1 f(x) f''(x) - \alpha_2 (f'(x))^2}{[1 + 2\alpha_3 f(x) f'(x)]^2} = C.$$

Differentiating (2.13) with respect to y, we have

(2.14)
$$f(x)f''(x)[\alpha'_1 + f(x)f'(x)(2\alpha'_1\alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1\alpha'_3)] = (f'(x))^2[\alpha'_2 - f(x)f'(x)(4\alpha_2\alpha'_3 - 2\alpha'_2\alpha_3)].$$

(a) If
$$\alpha'_1 + f(x)f'(x)(2\alpha'_1\alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1\alpha'_3) = 0$$
, we have

(2.15)
$$\alpha_2' - f(x)f'(x)(4\alpha_2\alpha_3' - 2\alpha_2'\alpha_3) = 0.$$

By (2.15) $\alpha'_2 = 0$ yields g'(y) = 0. Combining $\alpha'_2 \neq 0$ and (2.15), we have

(2.16)
$$\frac{4\alpha_2\alpha_3'-2\alpha_2'\alpha_3}{\alpha_2'} = \frac{1}{f(x)f'(x)}.$$

Then we get f(x)f'(x) = constant. Together with (2.12), we obtain

$$(f(x))^{-2} \frac{g(y)g''(y) + (g'(y))^2}{[1 + c_1 g(y)g'(y)]^2} = \text{constant.}$$

That means f(x) = constant. Thus $\alpha_1' + f(x)f'(x)(2\alpha_1'\alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1\alpha_3') \neq 0$. (b) When

(2.17)
$$\alpha_1' + f(x)f'(x)(2\alpha_1'\alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1\alpha_3') \neq 0,$$

formula (2.14) can be written as

(2.18)
$$f(x)f''(x) = (f'(x))^2 \frac{\alpha_2' - f(x)f'(x)\beta_1}{\alpha_1' + f(x)f'(x)\beta_2},$$

here $\beta_1 = 4\alpha_2\alpha_3' - 2\alpha_2'\alpha_3$, $\beta_2 = 2\alpha_1'\alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1\alpha_3'$. Differentiating (2.18) with respect to y we have (2.19)

$$(f(x)f'(x))^2(\beta_1'\beta_2 - \beta_1\beta_2') + f(x)f'(x)(\alpha_1'\beta_1' - \alpha_1''\beta_1 - \alpha_2''\beta_2 + \alpha_2'\beta_2') + \alpha_1''\alpha_2' - \alpha_1'\alpha_2'' = 0.$$

Thus we get

(2.20)
$$\begin{cases} \beta_1' \beta_2 - \beta_1 \beta_2' &= 0, \\ \alpha_1' \beta_1' - \alpha_1'' \beta_1 - \alpha_2'' \beta_2 + \alpha_2' \beta_2' &= 0, \\ \alpha_1'' \alpha_2' - \alpha_1' \alpha_2'' &= 0, \end{cases}$$

here $\alpha_2\beta_1 \neq 0$, otherwise g'(y) = 0.

- (i) If $\alpha_1' = 0$, from (2.17) we have $\beta_2 \neq 0$. Applying this to (2.20) with $\alpha_1' = 0$ we get g'(y) = 0.
- (ii) If $\alpha_1' \neq 0$, $\beta_2 = 0$, from (2.20) we get g'(y) = constant. With $\beta_2 = 0$ we obtain g'(y) = 0 which contradicts to $K \neq 0$.
- (iii) When $\alpha'_1\beta_2 \neq 0$, we get $\alpha'_3 = 0$ which contradicts to $K \neq 0$ by solving (2.20).

Therefore, there is no factorable surface r(x, y) = (x, y, f(x)g(y)) with nonzero constant Gauss curvature.

(2) If mean curvature H of a factorable surface S is a nonzero constant C, we have

$$(2.21) H = -\frac{A_1}{2[1+2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y)]^{\frac{3}{2}}} = C,$$

$$A_1 = f(x)(f'(x))^2(g(y))^2g''(y) + (f(x))^2f''(x)g(y)(g'(y))^2$$

$$-2f(x)(f'(x))^2g(y)(g'(y))^2 - 2f'(x)g'(y).$$

Put $\alpha_1 = f(x)f'(x)$, $\alpha_2 = (f(x))^2 f''(x)$ and $\alpha_3 = f'(x)$. $H \neq 0$ yields that $\alpha_1 \alpha_3 \neq 0$. Differentiating (2.12) with respect to x, we have

(2.22)
$$\beta_1(g(y))^3 g'(y) g''(y) + \beta_2(g(y))^2 (g'(y))^3 + \beta_3 g(y) (g'(y))^2 + \beta_4(g(y))^2 g''(y) - 2\alpha_3' g'(y) = 0,$$

here $\beta_1 = 2\alpha_1^2\alpha_3' - \alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_3$, $\beta_2 = 2\alpha_1\alpha_2' - 3\alpha_1'\alpha_2 - 4\alpha_1^2\alpha_3' + 2\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_3$, $\beta_3 = \alpha_2' + 4\alpha_1'\alpha_3 - 6\alpha_1\alpha_3'$, $\beta_4 = \alpha_1'\alpha_3 + \alpha_1\alpha_3'$. Let p(y) = g'(y). Then (2.22) can be written as

$$(2.23) \qquad (g(y))^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}q} (\beta_1 g(y) p(y) + \beta_4) = 2\alpha_3' - \beta_2 (g(y) p(y))^2 - \beta_3 g(y) p(y).$$

(a) If
$$\beta_1 g(y)p(y) + \beta_4 = 0$$
, we get

$$(2.24) g(y)p(y) = constant,$$

or

$$(2.25) \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = \alpha_3' = 0.$$

Combining (2.24) with (2.21), we get g'(y) = 0; solving (2.25), we have f'(x) = 0. These contradict to $H \neq 0$.

(b) When $\beta_1 g(y)p(y) + \beta_4 \neq 0$, from (2.23) we get

$$(2.26) (g(y))^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}g} = \frac{2\alpha_3' - \beta_2(g(y)p(y))^2 - \beta_3g(y)p(y)}{\beta_1g(y)p(y) + \beta_4} .$$

Differentiating (2.26) with respect to x, we have

$$(2.27) \qquad \frac{(\beta_1'\beta_2 - \beta_1\beta_2')[g(y)p(y)]^3 + (\beta_1\beta_3' - \beta_1'\beta_3 + \beta_2'\beta_4 - \beta_2\beta_4')[g(y)p(y)]^2}{+(\beta_3'\beta_4 - \beta_3\beta_4' - 2\alpha_3''\beta_1 + 2\alpha_3'\beta_1')g(y)p(y) + 2(\alpha_3'\beta_4' - \alpha_3''\beta_4) = 0.}$$

Then we get

(2.28)
$$\begin{cases} \beta_1'\beta_2 - \beta_1\beta_2' &= 0, \\ \beta_1\beta_3' - \beta_1'\beta_3 + \beta_2'\beta_4 - \beta_2\beta_4' &= 0, \\ \beta_3'\beta_4 - \beta_3\beta_4' - 2\alpha_3''\beta_1 + 2\alpha_3'\beta_1' &= 0, \\ \alpha_3'\beta_4' - \alpha_3''\beta_4 &= 0. \end{cases}$$

Solving (2.28), we have f'(x) = 0, that means H = 0. Therefore, there is no factorable surface r(x,y) = (x,y,f(x)g(z)) with nonzero constant mean curvature. This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

Theorem 4. Let S be a factorable surface of type 4 in E_1^3 .

(1) If Gauss curvature K of S is a nonzero constant C, S is following surface or an open part of it: f(y), g(z) satisfy

$$\begin{cases} f(y) = (c_1 y + c_2)^{-1} \\ z = \int \left(\frac{c_1^2 c_3 g(z)}{c_1^2 - C c_3 g(z)} - 2c_1 g(y) \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dg(z), \end{cases}$$

where c_1, c_2, c_3 are constants.

(2) If mean curvature H of S is a nonzero constant C, S is following surface or an open part of it: f(x), g(z) satisfy

$$\begin{cases} f(y) = (c_1 y + c_2)^{-1} \\ z = \int \left[\left(\frac{2c_1 c_3 g(z)}{2c_1 + Cc_3 g(z)} \right)^2 - 2c_1 g(z) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} dg(z), \end{cases}$$

where c_1, c_2, c_3 are constants.

Proof. (1) We assume that Gauss curvature of S: r(y, z) = (f(y)g(z), y, z) is

(2.29)
$$K = -\frac{f(y)f''(y)g(z)g''(z) - (f'(y)g'(z))^2}{[(f(y)g'(z))^2 - 2f'(y)g(z)]^2} = C \neq 0.$$

 $K \neq 0$ yields that $f'(y)g'(z) \neq 0$. Put $\alpha_1 = f(y)f''(y)$, $\alpha_2 = f'(y)$ and $\alpha_3 = (f(y))^2$, where $\alpha_2\alpha_3 \neq 0$. Differentiating (2.29) with respect to y, we have

$$(2.30) \beta_1(g(z))^2 g''(z) - \beta_2 g(z)(g'(z))^2 g''(z) - \beta_3 (g'(z))^4 = 0,$$

here $\beta_1 = 2\alpha_1'\alpha_2 - 4\alpha_1\alpha_2'$, $\beta_2 = \alpha_1'\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_1\alpha_3'$, $\beta_3 = 2\alpha_2\alpha_2'\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3'$. As $g''(z) \neq 0$, from (2.29) we obtain $g(z) \neq 0$. Then (2.30) can be written as

(2.31)
$$\beta_1 - \beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - \beta_3 \left(\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}\right)^2 \frac{1}{g''(z)} = 0.$$

If $\beta_3 = 0$, we get the result of Theorem 4(1). If $\beta_3 \neq 0$, from (2.31) we have

(2.32)
$$\left(\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}\right)^2 \frac{1}{g''(z)} = -\frac{\beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - \beta_1}{\beta_3}.$$

Differentiating above equation with respect to y, we get

$$(2.33) \qquad (\beta_2'\beta_3 - \beta_2\beta_3') \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - (\beta_1'\beta_3 - \beta_1\beta_3') = 0.$$

From (2.33) we obtain

(2.34)
$$\begin{cases} \beta_2' \beta_3 - \beta_2 \beta_3' = 0, \\ \beta_1' \beta_3 - \beta_1 \beta_3' = 0, \end{cases}$$

or

(2.35)
$$\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} = \frac{\beta_1' \beta_3 - \beta_1 \beta_3'}{\beta_2' \beta_3 - \beta_2 \beta_3'} = \text{constant},$$

where $\beta_2'\beta_3 - \beta_2\beta_3' \neq 0$. Combining (2.34) with (2.29) we have f'(y) = 0; combining (2.35) with (2.29) we get g'(z) = 0; these yield K = 0. So when $\beta_3 \neq 0$ there is no factorable surface r(y,z) = (f(y)g(z), y, z) with nonzero constant Gauss curvature.

(2) We assume that the mean curvature H of S is (2.36)

$$H = -\frac{2f(y)f'(y)g(z)g''(z) + f''(y)g(z) - 2f(y)f'(y)(g'(z))^2}{2[(f(y)g'(z))^2 - 2f'(y)g(z)]^{\frac{3}{2}}} = C \neq 0.$$

 $H \neq 0$ yields that $f'(y)g'(z) \neq 0$. Put $\alpha_1 = f(y)f'(y), \ \alpha_2 = f''(y), \ \alpha_3 = f'(y)$ and $\alpha_4 = (f(y))^2$, here $\alpha_1 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \neq 0$. Differentiating (2.36) with respect to y we get

$$(8\alpha'_{1}\alpha_{3} - 12\alpha_{1}\alpha'_{3})(g(z))^{2}g''(z) - (4\alpha'_{1}\alpha_{4} - 6\alpha_{1}\alpha'_{4})g(z)(g'(z))^{2}g''(z)$$

$$+ (4\alpha'_{2}\alpha_{3} - 6\alpha_{2}\alpha'_{3})(g(z))^{2} - (2\alpha'_{2}\alpha_{4} - 3\alpha_{2}\alpha'_{4}$$

$$+ 8\alpha'_{1}\alpha_{3} - 12\alpha_{1}\alpha'_{2})g(z)(g'(z))^{2} + (4\alpha'_{1}\alpha_{4} - 6\alpha_{1}\alpha'_{4})(g'(z))^{4} = 0.$$

Let $\beta_1 = 8\alpha'_1\alpha_3 - 12\alpha_1\alpha'_3$, $\beta_2 = 4\alpha'_1\alpha_4 - 6\alpha_1\alpha'_4$, $\beta_3 = 4\alpha'_2\alpha_3 - 6\alpha_2\alpha'_3$, $\beta_4 = 2\alpha'_2\alpha_4 - 3\alpha_2\alpha'_4 + 8\alpha'_1\alpha_3 - 12\alpha_1\alpha'_3$. Then (2.37) can be written as

(2.38)
$$\beta_1(g(z))^2 g''(z) - \beta_2 g(z) (g'(z))^2 g''(z) + \beta_3 (g(z))^2 - \beta_4 g(z) (g'(z))^2 + \beta_2 (g'(z))^4 = 0,$$

that is

$$(2.39) g''(z) \left(\beta_1 - \beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}\right) = -\beta_2 \left[\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}\right]^2 + \beta_4 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - \beta_3,$$

here $g''(z) \neq 0$. If g''(z) = 0, from (2.36) we have g'(z) = 0. (a) If $\beta_1 - \beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} = 0$, we obtain $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$ or $\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} = 0$ constant. But from $\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} = \text{constant}$ we have g'(z) = 0. Thus we get the result of Theorem 4,(2)

(b) If $g''(z)(\beta_1 - \beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}) \neq 0$, (2.39) can be written as

(2.40)
$$g''(z) = \frac{-\beta_2 \left[\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} \right]^2 + \beta_4 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - \beta_3}{\beta_1 - \beta_2 \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}}.$$

Differentiating (2.40) with respect to y, we get

$$(2.41) \qquad (\beta_1'\beta_2 - \beta_1\beta_2' + \beta_2'\beta_4 - \beta_2\beta_4') \left[\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} \right]^2$$

$$-(\beta_1'\beta_4 - \beta_1\beta_4' + \beta_2'\beta_3 - \beta_2\beta_3') \frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)} - (\beta_1'\beta_3 - \beta_1\beta_3') = 0.$$

Then we get

(2.42)
$$\begin{cases} \beta_1' \beta_2 - \beta_1 \beta_2' + \beta_2' \beta_4 - \beta_2 \beta_4' &= 0, \\ \beta_1' \beta_4 - \beta_1 \beta_4' + \beta_2' \beta_3 - \beta_2 \beta_3' &= 0, \\ \beta_1' \beta_3 - \beta_1 \beta_3' &= 0, \end{cases}$$

here $\beta_1\beta_2\neq 0$ because $\beta_1=0$ yields $\beta_2=0$, this means $\beta_1-\beta_2\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)}=0$. From above equations, we obtain $(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_2})'=0$. Assume $\beta_1=c_0\beta_2$, where c_0 is a constant. From (2.42) we obtain also $\beta_1=\beta_2=0$. Therefore, there is no factorable surface satisfying $g''(z)(\beta_1-\beta_2\frac{(g'(z))^2}{g(z)})\neq 0$. This completes the proof of Theorem 4.

Theorem 5. There is no factorable surface of type 3 satisfying the equation $H^2 = K \neq 0$ in E_1^3 .

Proof. When $H^2 = K \neq 0$, we have

(2.43)

$$\begin{split} &[f(x)(f'(x))^2(g(y))^2g''(y) + (f(x))^2f''(x)g(y)(g'(y))^2 \\ &- 2f(x)(f'(x))^2g(y)(g'(y))^2 - 2f'(x)g'(y)]^2 + 4[1 + 2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y)] \\ &[f(x)f''(x)g(y)g''(y) - (f'(x)g'(y))^2] = 0. \end{split}$$

Put p(x) = f'(x), $\alpha_1 = f(x)p(x)$, $\alpha_2 = p(x)$, $\alpha_3 = f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}$. From (2.43) we have

$$(2.44) \qquad [\alpha_1 \alpha_2(g(y))^2 g''(y) + \alpha_1(\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_2)g(y)(g'(y))^2 - 2\alpha_2 g'(y)]^2 + 4[1 + 2\alpha_1 g(y)(g'(y))[\alpha_2 \alpha_3 g(y)g''(y) - \alpha_2^2 (g'(y))^2] = 0,$$

here $\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3\neq 0$. Denoting t(y)=g'(y), then (2.44) can be written as

(2.45)
$$\beta_1(g(y))^4(t(y))^2(\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g})^2 + \beta_2(g(y))^2(t(y))^4 + \beta_3(g(y))^3(t(y))^3\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g} + \beta_4(g(y))^2(t(y))^2\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g} - \beta_5g(y)(t(y))^3 + \beta_6g(y)t(y)\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g} = 0,$$

here $\beta_1 = \alpha_1^2 \alpha_2^2$, $\beta_2 = \alpha_1^2 (\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_2)$, $\beta_3 = 2\alpha_1^2 \alpha_2 (\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_2)$, $\beta_4 = 8\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 - 4\alpha_1 \alpha_2^2$, $\beta_5 = 4\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3$, $\beta_6 = 4\alpha_2 \alpha_3$. Using h = g(y)t(y) (2.45) can be written as

$$(2.46) \ [(g(y))^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g}]^2 (\beta_1 h) + [(g(y))^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g}] (\beta_3 h^2 + \beta_4 h + \beta_6) + \beta_2 h^3 - \beta_5 h^2 = 0.$$

Put $A_1 = \beta_1 h$, $A_2 = \beta_3 h^2 + \beta_4 h + \beta_6$, $A_3 = \beta_2 h^3 - \beta_5 h^2$. From (2.46) we have

$$(g(y))^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}q} = \frac{-A_2 + \varepsilon \sqrt{A_2^2 - 4A_1A_3}}{2A_1},$$

here $\varepsilon = \pm 1$. Differentiating above equation with respect to f, we get

$$(2.47) (A_1A_2' - A_1'A_2)(A_2'A_3 - A_2A_3') + (A_1A_3' - A_1'A_3)^2 = 0,$$

here $A_i' = \frac{\mathrm{d}A_i}{\mathrm{d}f}$, (i=1,2,3). That is (2.48)

$$\begin{split} &[(\beta_1\beta_3'-\beta_1'\beta_3)h^3+(\beta_1\beta_4'-\beta_1'\beta_4)h^2+(\beta_1\beta_6'-\beta_1'\beta_6)h][(\beta_2\beta_3'\\&-\beta_2'\beta_3)h^3+(\beta_3\beta_5'-\beta_3'\beta_5+\beta_2\beta_4'-\beta_2'\beta_4)h^2+(\beta_2\beta_6'-\beta_2'\beta_6+\beta_4\beta_5'-\beta_4'\beta_5)h\\&-(\beta_5\beta_6'-\beta_5'\beta_6)]+[(\beta_1\beta_2'-\beta_1'\beta_2)h^3+(\beta_1'\beta_5-\beta_1\beta_5')h^2]^2=0, \end{split}$$

where $\beta_i' = \frac{\mathrm{d}\beta_i}{\mathrm{d}f}$, $(i = 1, \dots, 6)$. If $h \neq \text{constant}$, observing (2.48), we have

$$(\beta_1 \beta_6' - \beta_1' \beta_6)(\beta_5' \beta_6 - \beta_5 \beta_6') = 0.$$

As $\beta_1 \beta_5 \beta_6 \neq 0$, we have $\beta_1 \beta_6' - \beta_1' \beta_6 = 0$ or $\beta_5' \beta_6 - \beta_5 \beta_6' = 0$.

- (a) If $\beta_1 \beta_6' \beta_1' \beta_6 = 0$, we have f'(x) = 0 from (2.43).
- (b) If $\beta_5'\beta_6 \beta_5\beta_6' = 0$, we have f'(x) = 0. Thus h = constant, that is g(y)t(y) = constant. Analogously, we have f(x)f'(x) = constant. From (2.43) we have f'(x)g'(y) = 0 which is a contradictory. Finally we obtain that there is no factorable surface r(x,y) = (x,y,f(x)g(y)) satisfying $H^2 = K \neq 0$ in E_1^3 . This completes the proof of Theorem 5.

Theorem 6. Let S: r(y, z) = (x(y, z), y, z) = (f(y)g(z), y, z) be a factorable surface of type 4 in E_1^3 . If Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H satisfy $H^2 = K \neq 0$, it is following surface or an open part of it:

$$x(y,z) = c_1(y+c_2)^{-1}(c_3 - \frac{c_1}{2}(\frac{z}{c_1} - c_4)^2),$$

where c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 are constants.

Proof. If Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of surface S satisfy $H^2 = K \neq 0$, we have (2.49)

$$\begin{aligned} & [2f(y)f'(y)g(z)g''(z) + f''(y)g(z) - 2f(y)f'(y)(g'(z))^2]^2 \\ & + 4[f(y)f''(y)g(z)g''(z) - (f'(y)g'(z))^2][(f(y)g'(z))^2 - 2f'(y)g(z)] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Put $\alpha_1 = g(z)g''(z)$ and $\alpha_2 = (g'(z))^2$. Then (2.49) can be written as

$$\beta_1(t(y)\frac{dt}{df})^2 - \beta_2 f(y)(t(y))^2 \frac{dt}{df} + \beta_3(f(y))^2 (t(y))^2 + \beta_4(f(y))^3 t(y) \frac{dt}{df} + \beta_5(t(y))^3 = 0,$$

here $t(y)=f'(y),\ \beta_1=(g(z))^2,\ \beta_2=4(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)g(z),\ \beta_3=4\alpha_1^2-8\alpha_1\alpha_2,\ \beta_4=4\alpha_1\alpha_2,\ \beta_5=8g(z)\alpha_2.$ From above equation we obtain

(2.50)
$$\left(\frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}f}}{f(y)}\right)^{2} \left(\beta_{1} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}}\right) + \left(\frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}f}}{f(y)}\right) \left(-\beta_{2} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}} + \beta_{4}\right) + \left(\beta_{5} \left(\frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}}\right)^{2} + \beta_{3} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}}\right) = 0.$$

(a) Put
$$h = \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^2}$$
. If $h \neq \text{constant}$, we get

$$[h(\beta_1'\beta_2 - \beta_1\beta_2') + (\beta_1\beta_4' - \beta_1'\beta_4)][(\beta_2\beta_5' - \beta_2'\beta_5)h^2 + (\beta_2\beta_3' - \beta_2'\beta_3 + \beta_4'\beta_5 - \beta_4\beta_5')h + (\beta_3\beta_4' - \beta_3'\beta_4)] + [(\beta_1\beta_5' - \beta_1'\beta_5)h^2 + (\beta_1\beta_3' - \beta_1'\beta_3)h]^2 = 0.$$

Observing (2.51), we have $\beta_1 \beta_5' - \beta_1' \beta_5 = 0$. With (2.49) we get g'(z) = 0, thus H = K = 0.

(b) If $h = C \neq 0$, we have $\frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^2} = \text{constant}$, here C is a constant. Solving it we obtain $f(y) = c_1(y + c_2)^{-1}$. With (2.49) we get

$$\left[-g(z)g''(z) + \frac{g(z)}{c_1} + (g'(z))^2\right]^2 + \left[2g(z)g''(z) - (g'(z))^2\right] \left[(g'(z))^2 + 2\frac{g(z)}{c_1}\right] = 0.$$

Solving above equation we have $g(z) = c_3 - \frac{c_1}{2}(\frac{z}{c_1} - c_4)^2$, that is

$$\begin{cases} f(y) = c_1 (y + c_2)^{-1} \\ g(z) = c_3 - \frac{c_1}{2} (\frac{z}{c_1} - c_4)^2. \end{cases}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 6.

Theorem 7. In E_1^3 , there is no factorable surface S: r(x,y) = (x,y,z(x,y)) of type 3 satisfying aH + bK = 0, where $HK \neq 0$ and $a, b \in R - \{0\}$.

Proof. If Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of S satisfy aH + bK = 0, we have H/K = -b/a = constant, that is

(2.52)
$$\frac{H_1 H_2}{f(x) f''(x) g(y) g''(y) - (f'(x) g'(y))^2} = -\frac{2b}{a},$$

$$H_1 = f(x)(f'(x))^2 (g(y))^2 g''(y) + (f(x))^2 f''(x)g(y)(g'(y))^2 -2f(x)(f'(x))^2 g(y)(g'(y))^2 - 2f'(x)g'(y),$$

$$H_2 = (1 + 2f(x)f'(x)g(y)g'(y))^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

We assume that p(x) = f'(x), $\alpha_1 = f(x)p(x)$, $\alpha_2 = p(x)$ and $\alpha_3 = f(x)\frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}f}$. $K \neq 0$ yields $\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3 \neq 0$. Differentiating (2.52) with respect to f, we get

$$\beta_{1}(g(y))^{3}(g''(y))^{2} - \beta_{2}(g(y)g'(y))^{2}g''(y) + \beta_{3}(g(y))^{4}g'(y)(g''(y))^{2}$$

$$(2.53) + \beta_{4}(g(y)g'(y))^{3}g''(y) + \beta_{5}g(y)(g'(y))^{4} - \beta_{6}(g(y))^{2}(g'(y))^{5}$$

$$+ \beta_{7}g(y)g'(y)g''(y) - \beta_{8}(g'(y))^{3} = 0,$$

$$\begin{cases} \beta_1 = \alpha_2^2(\alpha_1'\alpha_3 - \alpha_1\alpha_3'), \\ \beta_2 = \alpha_1'\alpha_2^3 - \alpha_1\alpha_2^2\alpha_2' - \alpha_1'\alpha_2\alpha_3^2 + 4\alpha_1'\alpha_2^2\alpha_3' + \alpha_1\alpha_2\prime\alpha_3^2 - 6\alpha_1\alpha_2^2\alpha_3', \\ \beta_3 = 3\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2^2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3', \\ \beta_4 = 3\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2\alpha_3^2 - 6\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2^2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_1\alpha_2'\alpha_3^2 + 4\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3' - 3\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2^3 + 2\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_2', \\ \beta_5 = -4\alpha_1\alpha_2^2\alpha_2' + 2\alpha_1'\alpha_2^2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_1\alpha_2^2\alpha_3' - \alpha_1'\alpha_2\alpha_3^2 + \alpha_1\alpha_2'\alpha_3^2 + 2\alpha_1'\alpha_2^3, \\ \beta_6 = 3\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2^2\alpha_3 + 2\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3' - 6\alpha_1\alpha_1'\alpha_2^3 + 4\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_2' - 4\alpha_1^2\alpha_2\alpha_2'\alpha_3, \\ \beta_7 = 2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3', \\ \beta_8 = 2\alpha_2^2\alpha_2', \\ \alpha_i' = \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_i}{\mathrm{d}f} \quad (i = 1, 2, 3). \end{cases}$$

Denoting t(y) = g'(y), then (2.52) is

$$[(g(y))^{2} \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g}]^{2} (\beta_{1} + \beta_{3}g(y)t(y)) + [(g(y))^{2} \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}g}] [\beta_{7} - \beta_{2}g(y)t(y) + \beta_{4}(g(y)t(y))^{2}]$$

$$+ [-\beta_{8}g(y)t(y) + \beta_{5}(g(y)t(y))^{2} - \beta_{6}(g(y)t(y))^{3}] = 0.$$

Using the same method as Theorem 5, we get (2.54)

$$\begin{split} &[(\beta_3'\beta_4 - \beta_3\beta_4')(g(y)t(y))^3 + (\beta_1'\beta_4 - \beta_1\beta_4' + \beta_2'\beta_3 - \beta_2\beta_3')(g(y)t(y))^2 \\ &+ (\beta_1\beta_2' - \beta_1'\beta_2 + \beta_3'\beta_7 - \beta_3\beta_7')g(y)t(y) - (\beta_1\beta_7' - \beta_1'\beta_7)] \\ &\times [(\beta_4'\beta_6 - \beta_4\beta_6')(g(y)t(y))^5 + (\beta_2\beta_6' - \beta_2'\beta_6 + \beta_4\beta_5' - \beta_4'\beta_5)(g(y)t(y))^4 \\ &+ (\beta_6\beta_7' - \beta_6'\beta_7 + \beta_2'\beta_5 - \beta_2\beta_5' + \beta_4'\beta_8 - \beta_4\beta_8')(g(y)t(y))^3 \\ &+ (\beta_5'\beta_7 - \beta_5\beta_7' + \beta_2\beta_8' - \beta_2'\beta_8)(g(y)t(y))^2 - (\beta_7\beta_8' - \beta_7'\beta_8)g(y)t(y)] \\ &\times [(\beta_3\beta_6' - \beta_3'\beta_6)(g(y)t(y))^4 + (\beta_3'\beta_5 - \beta_3\beta_5' + \beta_1\beta_6' - \beta_1'\beta_6)(g(y)t(y))^3 \\ &+ (\beta_1'\beta_5 - \beta_1\beta_5' + \beta_3\beta_8' - \beta_3'\beta_8)(g(y)t(y))^2 + (\beta_1\beta_8' - \beta_1'\beta_8)g(y)t(y)]^2 = 0. \end{split}$$

From above equations we get

$$(2.55) (\beta_1 \beta_7' - \beta_1' \beta_7)(\beta_7 \beta_8' - \beta_7' \beta_8) = 0.$$

At first we have $\beta_1 \neq 0$. If $\beta_1 = 0$, we obtain that the coefficient of $(g(y)t(y))^2$ doesn't equal to zero in above equation. Then we have $\beta_7 \neq 0$ and $\beta_8 \neq 0$. If $\beta_7 = 0$, f'(x) = 0 and from $\beta_7 \neq 0$ we can get $\beta_8 \neq 0$. As $\beta_1\beta_7\beta_8 \neq 0$, we obtain f'(x) = 0, this means K = 0 from (2.55). This completes the proof of Theorem 7.

Theorem 8. Let S: r(y, z) = (x(y, z), y, z) = (f(y)g(z), y, z) be a factorable surface of type 4 in E_1^3 . If Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of S satisfy aH + bK = 0 with $HK \neq 0$ and $a, b \in R - \{0\}$, S is following surface or an open part of it:

$$\begin{cases} f(y) = c_1(y+c_2)^{-1} \\ z = \int \left[2c_3^2(g(z))^2 \left(-\frac{2}{c_1} - \frac{2bc_3}{a|c_1|} \right) g(z) + 2\varepsilon c_3 g(z) \left(c_3^2(g(z))^2 - \frac{2bc_3}{a|c_1|} g(z) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathrm{d}g, \end{cases}$$

where $\varepsilon = \pm 1, c_1, c_2, c_3$ are constants.

Proof. If Gauss curvature K and mean curvature H of S satisfy aH + bK = 0, we have

$$(2.56) - \frac{2b}{a} = \frac{2f(y)f'(y)g(z)g''(z) + f''(y)g(z) - 2f(y)f'(y)(g'(z))^{2}}{f(y)f''(y)g(z)g''(z) - (f'(y)g'(z))^{2}} \times [(f(y)g'(z))^{2} - 2f'(y)g(z)]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Differentiating (2.56) with respect to g we have

$$\beta_{1}(f(y)f'(y))^{2}f''(y) - \beta_{2}f(y)(f'(y))^{4}$$

$$(2.57) + \beta_{3}(f(y))^{4}f'(y)f''(y) + \beta_{4}(f(y)f'(y))^{3}$$

$$+ \beta_{5}f(y)f'(y)(f''(y))^{2} - \beta_{6}(f'(y))^{3}f''(y) - \beta_{7}(f(y))^{3}(f''(y))^{2} = 0,$$

$$\begin{cases} \beta_{1} = -2\alpha_{1}^{2} + 4\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}'\alpha_{3} + 2\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2} - 4\alpha_{1}'\alpha_{2}\alpha_{3} - \alpha_{2}^{2} + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{2}\alpha_{2}'\alpha_{3}, \\ \beta_{2} = 4\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}'\alpha_{3} + 2\alpha_{2}^{2} - 4\alpha_{1}'\alpha_{2}\alpha_{3} - 2\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}, \\ \beta_{3} = \alpha_{1}^{2}\alpha_{2}' - 3\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}\alpha_{2}' + 2\alpha_{1}'\alpha_{2}^{2}, \\ \beta_{4} = \alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}\alpha_{2}' - 2\alpha_{1}'\alpha_{2}^{2} + \alpha_{2}^{2}\alpha_{2}', \\ \beta_{5} = 2\alpha_{1}'\alpha_{3}^{2} - 3\alpha_{1}\alpha_{3}, \\ \beta_{6} = 2\alpha_{2}'\alpha_{3}^{2} - 3\alpha_{2}\alpha_{3}, \\ \beta_{7} = \alpha_{1}'\alpha_{2}\alpha_{3} - \alpha_{1}\alpha_{2} - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}'\alpha_{3}, \\ \alpha_{1} = g(z)g''(z), \\ \alpha_{2} = (g'(z))^{2}, \\ \alpha_{3} = g(z), \\ \alpha_{i}' = \frac{d\alpha_{i}}{dg}. \end{cases}$$

Denoting t(y) = f'(y), then we have

(2.58)
$$\left(\frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}f}}{f(y)}\right)^{2} \left(\beta_{5} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}} - \beta_{7}\right)$$

$$+ \frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{\mathrm{d}f}}{f(y)} \left(-\beta_{6} \left(\frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}}\right)^{2} + \beta_{1} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}} + \beta_{3}\right)$$

$$-\beta_{2} \left(\frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}}\right)^{2} + \beta_{4} \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^{2}} = 0.$$

Put $h = \frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^2}$, we get

$$\begin{split} &[h^3(\beta_5\beta_6'-\beta_5'\beta_6)+h^2(\beta_6\beta_7'-\beta_6'\beta_7+\beta_1\beta_5'-\beta_1'\beta_5)+h(\beta_1'\beta_7-\beta_1\beta_7'+\beta_3\beta_5'\\ &-\beta_3'\beta_5)-(\beta_3\beta_7'-\beta_3'\beta_7)][h^4(\beta_2'\beta_6-\beta_2\beta_6')+h^3(\beta_1'\beta_2-\beta_1\beta_2'+\beta_4\beta_6'-\beta_4'\beta_6)\\ &+h^2(\beta_2\beta_3'-\beta_2'\beta_3+\beta_1\beta_4'-\beta_4'\beta_4)+h(\beta_3\beta_4'-\beta_3'\beta_4)]+[h^3(\beta_2'\beta_5-\beta_2\beta_5')\\ &+h^2(\beta_4\beta_5'-\beta_4'\beta_5+\beta_2\beta_7'-\beta_2'\beta_7)+h(\beta_4'\beta_7-\beta_4\beta_7')]^2=0. \end{split}$$

If $h \neq \text{constant}$, we have $(\beta_3 \beta_7' - \beta_3' \beta_7)(\beta_3 \beta_4' - \beta_3' \beta_4) = 0$.

(a) If $\beta_3\beta_7' - \beta_3'\beta_7 = 0$, we get $g(z) = c_1(y + c_2)^{c_3}$. With (2.56) we have $c_1 = 0$, that is g'(z) = 0.

(b) If $\beta_3 \beta_4' - \beta_3' \beta_4 = 0$, we get $\frac{g(z)}{(g'(z))^2} = \text{constant}$. With (2.56) we have g'(z) = 0.

Thus we know h = constant, that is $\frac{t(y)}{(f(y))^2} = \text{constant}$. Solving it we get $f(y) = c_1(y+c_2)^{-1}$. Applying $f(y) = c_1(y+c_2)^{-1}$ and (2.57) we get

$$z = \int \left[2c_3^2(g(z))^2 \left(-\frac{2}{c_1} - \frac{2bc_3}{a|c_1|} \right) g(z) + 2c_3 \varepsilon g(z) \left(c_3^2(g(z))^2 - \frac{2bc_3}{a|c_1|} g(z) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} dg.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 8.

References

- J. A. Aledo, J. M. Espinar, and J. A. Gálvez, Timelike surfaces in the Lorentz-Minkowski space with prescribed Gaussian curvature and Gauss map, J. Geom. Phys. 56 (2006), no. 8, 1357-1369.
- [2] C. Baikoussis and T. Koufogiorgos, Helicoidal surfaces with prescribed mean or Gaussian curvature, J. Geom. 63 (1998), no. 1-2, 25-29.
- [3] D. E. Blair and Th. Koufogiorgos, Ruled surfaces with vanishing second Gaussian curvature, Monatsh. Math. 113 (1992), no. 3, 177-181.
- [4] F. Dillen and W. Sodsiri, Ruled surfaces of Weingarten type in Minkowski 3-space, J. Geom. 83 (2005), no. 1-2, 10-21.
- [5] V. P. Gorokh, Two-dimensional minimal surfaces in a pseudo-Euclidean space, Ukrain. Geom. Sb. No. 31 (1988), 36–47; translation in J. Soviet Math. 54 (1991), no. 1, 691–699.
- [6] S. Hirakawa, Constant Gaussian curvature surfaces with parallel mean curvature vector in two-dimensional complex space forms, Geom. Dedicata 118 (2006), 229-244.
- [7] M. A. Magid, Timelike surfaces in Lorentz 3-space with prescribed mean curvature and Gauss map, Hokkaido Math. J. 20 (1991), no. 3, 447-464.
- [8] B. O'Neill, Semi-Riemannian Geometry, Academic Press, New York, 1983.
- [9] Y. Yu and H. Liu, The factorable minimal surfaces, Proceedings of the Eleventh International Workshop on Differential Geometry, 33–39, Kyungpook Nat. Univ., Taegu, 2007.

HUIHUI MENG

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

SHENYANG 110004, P. R. CHINA

E-mail address: mmhuihui0827@126.com

Huili Liu

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

SHENYANG 110004, P. R. CHINA

E-mail address: liuhl@mail.neu.edu.cn