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### De curvis tractoriis compositis

Leonhard Euler

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# CVRVIS TRACTORIIS COMPOSITIS

Auctore
L. EVLERO.

Conuent. exhib. d. 14. Aug. 1775:

#### §. I.

Quando filo, cuius alter terminus super plano horizontali per datam viam protrahitur, duo pluraue corpuscula suerint alligata, ita vt singula per curuas peculiares procedant, ista curuae Tractoriae compositae sunt appellatae, quas hic simili modo, quo nuper Tractorias simplices tractaui, accuratius investigare constitui.

nem secundum principia mechanica, quorsum ea vuique proprie est referenda, euoluere vellemus, tunc quidem facile ad formulas differentiales secundi gradus perduceremur, quas autem nullo adhuc modo ob desectum Analyseos resoluere licet. Hinc istam quaestionem a Mechanica ad puram Geometriam simili modo sum translaturus, quo Geometrae Tractoriam vulgarem contemplari sunt soliti. Loco scilicet verorum principiorum motus hic substituam hanc Hypothesin: quod viribus sollicitantibus non accelerationes quibus singula corpuscula promouentur, sed ipsa spatiola tempusculo minimo descripta, sint proportionalia, cuiusmodi motum essent secutura, si quoris

designation motus iam genitus subito destrueretur et concontrol de nouo generari deberet, quemadmodum vere euecontrol si frictio esset infinite magna. Iam olim quidem a
marchione Hospitalio in Analysi infinitorum tangentes huiusmodi ciruarum desinitae reperiuntur; non autem memini vtrum
prorfus eadem Hypothesi sit vsus. Ceterum autem istas curuas
ficultatibus hic determinare conabor, quo magis pateat, quantis
difficultatibus huiusmodi quaestiones, quae primo intuitu facilesi videantur, adhuc sint obuolutae.

#### Problema I.

Si filum duobus corpusculis A et B fuerit onustum, eiusque Tab. I. rerminus R super plano horizontali iuxta lineam rectam I O pro-Fig. 7.

#### Solutio.

§. 3. Elapso tempore t filum cum corpusculis iam penductum sit in situm ABR, sintque stil portiones AB = a et BR = b, dum litterae mainsculae A et B exprimunt massam vtriusque corporis. Hinc ad restam IO, tanquam ad exem, ducantur perpendicula AP et BQ, ponanturque coordinatae vtriusque curuae IP = x, PA = y et IQ = x', QB = y'; pro puncto R autem sit spatium IR = x'', existente x'' = 0. Praeterea vero vocemus angulos PAB = p et QBR = q, ac manifestum est fore IQ = x' = x + a sin. p et QB = y' = y - a cos. p; tum vero x'' = x + a sin. p + b sin. q et y'' = y' - a cos. p - b cos. q = 0. Hinc ergo sumtis differentialibus erit

$$\frac{\partial x'}{\partial y'} = \frac{\partial x + a}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial$$

- §. 4. Cum nunc corpufcula alias vires non fusineant, nisi quibus filum tenditur, quandoquidem ratio frictionis tanquam infinite spectatae iam in nostra hypothesi stabilita inuolvitur, sit tensio portionis AB=T, portionis autem BR=T/, quibus positis corpusculum A in directione AB sollicitatur vi = T, quae secundum coordinatas resoluta praebet vim seet secundum directionem AP cundum IP = T cof. p - T cof. p; alterum vero corpusculum duas sustinet vires, alteram secundum BA=T, alteram vero secundum BR=T', ex quarum resolutione nascuntur: 1°) vis secundum IQ = T fin. p + T' fin. q et  $2^{\circ}$ ) fecundum Q B vis  $= + T \cos p - T \cos p$ T'col. q. His igitur viribus proportionalia funt spatiola tempusculo da percursa secundum easdem directiones, vel potius ipse motus, qui oritur si spatiola illa per massas vtriusque corpusculi multiplicentur, quandoquidem massarum ratio hic inprimis est habenda.
- fecundum directiones coordinatarum resoluatur, formulae viribus proportionales erunt  $A \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial t}$  et  $A \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$  pro corpusculo A: at  $B \cdot \frac{\partial x'}{\partial t}$  et  $B \cdot \frac{\partial y'}{\partial t}$  pro corpusculo B, hincque nanciscimur sequentes quatuor aequationes:

I. 
$$\frac{A \frac{\partial x}{\partial I}}{\frac{\partial x}{\partial I}} = T \cdot \text{fin. } p$$
.

II.  $\frac{A \frac{\partial y}{\partial I}}{\frac{\partial x}{\partial I}} = -T \cdot \text{fin. } p + T' \cdot \text{fin. } q$ .

IV.  $\frac{B \frac{\partial y'}{\partial I}}{\frac{\partial x}{\partial I}} = T \cdot \text{cof. } p - T' \cdot \text{cof. } q$ ,

ex quarum binis prioribus deducitur  $\frac{\partial x}{\partial y} = -\tan y$ , tum vero prima cum sterpia praebet

$$\frac{A\partial x + B\partial x'}{\partial I} = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \text{fin. } q;$$

fecun-

secunda áutem cum quarta:

Haec igitur aequatio per illam diuisa dat

$$\frac{A \partial x + B \partial x'}{A \partial y + B \partial y'} = - \text{tang. } q;$$

sieque ipsae tensiones T et T' e calculo sunt elisae.

§. 6. Nunc igitur loco x' et y' valores ante datos libstituamus, et aequationes a tensionibus T et T' liberatae equation

I. 
$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial \hat{y}} \stackrel{\triangle}{=} - \tan g. \hat{p}$$

II. 
$$\frac{(A+B)\partial x + B \alpha \partial p \cos p}{(A+B)\partial y + B \alpha \partial p \sin p} = -\tan q;$$

cum quibus aequationibus coniungi oportet supra inuentam  $y - a \cosh p - b \cosh q = 0$ 

§. 7. Tota igitur nostri problematis folutio perducta cili ad tres istas aequationes, in quibus adhuc continentur quatuor quantitates variabiles, binae scilicet coordinatae principales x et y cum binis angulis p et q, quarum ergo termas per quartam determinare licebit. Ex prima autem commodistime definimus  $\partial x = -\partial y$  tang. p, qui valor in secunda substitutus dat

guae reducitur ad hanc formam:

 $(A+B)\partial y$  (tang. p—tang. q)= $B\bar{a}\partial p$  (fin. p tang. q+cof. p), fineque porro ad islam:

 $(A+B) \partial y \text{ fin.} (q-p) = B a \partial p \text{ cof.} (q-p),$ Wrogue

$$\partial y = \frac{B \cdot a \cdot b \cdot p \cdot cof. (q - p)}{(A + B) \int in. (q - p)}$$

At vero ex tertia aequatione est  $y = a \cos p + b \cos q$ , vnde sit  $\partial y = a \partial p \sin p - b \partial q \sin q$ , ex quo valore nascirur haec aequatio:

 $\frac{\stackrel{\text{B } a \partial p \text{ cof. } p \text{ cof. } q - p)}{(A + B) fin. (q - p)} = \frac{\stackrel{\text{B } a \partial p \text{ cof. } p}{(A + B) fang. (q - p)}}{(A + B) fang. (q - p)}$   $= -a \partial p \text{ fin. } p - b \partial q \text{ fin. } q.$ 

Hic autem non liquet quomodo resolutio sit instituenda.

#### Problema II.

Tab. I. Si filo tria corpuscula A, B, C fuerint alligata, ciusque Fig. 8. terminus D per lineam rectam I O protrahatur, inuestigare curuas, quas singula corpuscula describent.

#### Solutio.

§. 8. Vocentur fili portiones AB = a, BC = b, CD = c, ac demissis ad rectam IO perpendiculis AP, BQ, CR ponantur coordinatae:

P = x, Q = x', Q = x''; P = x''; Q = x''; Q = x'';

tum vero statuantur anguli P A B = p, Q B C = q, R C D = r vnde statim sluunt sequentes relationes:

 $x'-x \equiv a \text{ fin. } p, \quad x''-x' \equiv b \text{ fin. } q,$  $y-y' \equiv a \text{ cof. } p, \quad y'-y'' \equiv b \text{ cof. } q,$ 

eftque  $y'' = a \operatorname{cof.} r$ , hincque

 $y' \equiv b \operatorname{cof.} q + c \operatorname{cof.} r \operatorname{et}$  $y \equiv a \operatorname{cof.} p + b \operatorname{cof.} q + c \operatorname{cof.} r.$ 

§. 9. Pro motu nunc definiendo denotent litterae T T' et T" tensiones portionum fili AB, BC et CD, ac per hypothesin stabilitam habebimus sequentes aequationes:

$$\frac{\frac{\partial x}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = T \text{ fin. } p,$$

$$\frac{\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = -T \text{ cof. } p,$$

$$\frac{\frac{B\partial x'}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = -T \text{ fin. } p + T' \text{ fin. } q,$$

$$\frac{\frac{B\partial x'}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = T \text{ cof. } p - T' \text{ cof. } q,$$

$$\frac{\frac{C\partial x''}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = -T' \text{ fin. } q + T'' \text{ fin. } r$$

$$\frac{\frac{C\partial y''}{\partial t}}{\frac{\partial t}{\partial t}} = +T' \text{ cof. } q - T'' \text{ cof. } r.$$

Hinc autem formentur sequentes combinationes:

$$\frac{A \partial x + B \partial x'}{\partial t} = T' \text{ fin. } q$$

$$\frac{A \partial y + B \partial y'}{\partial t} = -T' \text{ cof. } q$$

$$\frac{A \partial x + B \partial x' + C \partial x''}{\partial t} = T'' \text{ fin. } r,$$

$$\frac{A \partial y + B \partial y' + C \partial y''}{\partial t} = -T'' \text{ cof. } r.$$

§. 10. Ex his iam aequationibus facile eliminantur tensiones T, T' et T", quippe quae sunt incognitae, nihilque ad institutum refert eas nosse; tum autem ad tres istas aequationes peruenietur:

I. 
$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial y} = -\tan y$$
;  
II.  $\frac{A \partial x + B \partial x'}{A \partial y + B \partial y'} = -\tan y$ ;  
III.  $\frac{A \partial x + B \partial x' + c \partial x''}{A \partial y + B \partial y' + c \partial y''} = -\tan y$ .

quibus adiungi oportet aequationem iam supra inuentam

$$y = a \cos p + b \cos q + c \cos r$$

in quibus aequationibus, si loco x', x'' et y', y'' substituantur valores supra assignati, inerunt adhuc hae quinque variabiles: x, y, p, q, r, quarum ergo quaternas per quintam definiri oportet.

§. 11. Substituamus igitur loco x', x'' et y', y'' suos valores, et cum sit

Noua Acta Acad. Imp. Sc. T. II.

E x'=

$$x' \equiv x + a \text{ fin. } p,$$
  
 $y' \equiv y - a \text{ cof. } p,$   
 $x'' \equiv x + a \text{ fin. } p + b \text{ fin. } q,$   
 $y'' \equiv y - a \text{ cof. } p - b \text{ cof. } q,$ 

quatuor nostrae aequationes ita se habebunt:

I. 
$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial y} = -\tan y$$
.

II. 
$$\frac{(A+B)\partial x + B a \partial p cof p}{(A+B)\partial x + B a \partial p in p} = - tang. q,$$

II. 
$$\frac{(A+B)\partial x + B a \partial p \cos p}{(A+B)\partial y + B a \partial p \sin p} = -\tan g \cdot q,$$
III. 
$$\frac{(A+B+C)\partial x + (B+C)a \partial p \cos p + C b \partial q \cos q}{(A+B+C)\partial y + (B+C)a \partial p \sin p + C b \partial q \sin q} = -\tan g \cdot r,$$

IV. 
$$y = a \cos p + b \cos q + c \cos r$$
,

vbi ex vltima habetur

$$\partial y = -a \partial p \operatorname{fin} p - b \partial q \operatorname{fin} q - c \partial r \operatorname{fin} r$$

ficque folutio nostri problematis a resolutione harum aequationum pendet.

§. 12. Cum ex prima harum aequationum fit  $\partial x = \frac{1}{2}$ dy tang. p, substituamus hunc valorem in reliquis, vt tantum tres nobis remaneant aequationes, quae erunt:

1. 
$$\frac{-(A+B)\partial y tang. p+B a \partial p cos. p}{(A+B)\partial y+B a \partial p sin. p} = -tang. q,$$

II. 
$$\frac{-(A+B+C)\partial y tang.p + (B+C)a\partial p cof.p + Cb\partial q cof.q}{(A+B+C)\partial y + (B+C)a\partial p fin.p + Cb\partial q fin.q} = -tang.r$$

III. 
$$y = a \cos p + b \cos q + c \cos r$$
,

priores autem duae aequationes euolutae euadent

$$(A+B)\partial y(\tan q - \tan q \cdot p) + B a \partial p(\cos p + \sin p \tan q) = 0$$

$$(A+B+C) \partial y (tang. r-tang. p) + (B+C) a \partial p (cof. p+fin. p tang. r)$$

$$-4$$
 Cib  $\partial g(\cos q + \sin q \tan q \cdot r) = 0$ ,

ybi si loco dy scriberemus eius valorem

$$\rightarrow a \partial p \text{ fin. } p - b \partial q \text{ fin. } q - c \partial r \text{ fin. } r$$

nancisceremur duas aequationes inter ternos angulos p, q, r quorum binos per tertium definire oportebit.

§. 13. Quemadmodum autem has duas aequationes viterius tractari conueniat multo minus patet quam in problemate praecedente, quam ob rem superfluum foret hanc inuestigationem ad plura corpuscula filo nostro alligata extendere; ita vt hoc negotium penitus abrumpere cogamur.

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