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**Taechang Byun\*** (tcbyun@math.ou.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. *Horizontal displacement of curves in bundle*  
 $SO(3) \rightarrow SO_0(1,3) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^3$ . Preliminary report.

Consider the principal bundle  $SO(n) \rightarrow SO_0(1,n) \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{H}^n$ , where  $\pi$  is a Riemannian submersion. Let  $\gamma$  be a simple closed curve in the base  $\mathbb{H}^n$ , bounding an embedded disk  $S$ . We are concerned with the horizontal lift of  $\gamma$  starting at  $e \in SO(n)$ . The horizontal displacement for  $\gamma$  gives rise to a point  $p$  in the fiber  $SO(n)$ .

When  $n = 2$ , it was known that the distance between  $e$  and  $p \in SO(2)$  is the same as the area of the  $S$ . We study the case when  $n = 3$ . The surface  $S$  enables us to find a curve  $f$  connecting  $e$  and  $p$  in  $SO(3)$ , whose length is exactly the area of the surface  $S$ . In addition, on a dense subset of the domain of  $f$ , the left translations of the tangent vectors  $\dot{f}(t)$  to  $e$  will be related to the curvature of the connection of the principal bundle  $SO(1,3) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^3$  with respect to the 2-dimensional horizontal distribution in  $SO(1,3)$ , induced from the tangent planes of  $S$  in  $\mathbb{H}^3$ . (Received August 10, 2009)