

Math 2210-1

Exam Wed!

today 12.3: quadric surfaces
(see also, Maple handout)

quadric surfaces are solution sets to a single
quadratic eqn in 3 variables

$$ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2 \\ + dxy + exz + fyz \\ + gx + hy + jz + k = 0.$$

So they are the $\mathbb{R}^3$ analog of conic sections in $\mathbb{R}^2$.

We'll assume no cross terms $d=e=f=0$,
and usually (at least in class), that we've completed
the square and translated our axes, so that $g=h=j=0$,
whenever the corresponding a, b, c are $\neq 0$.

To draw (and visualize) these surfaces it helps to
draw their intersections ("traces") with various planes
// to the coord planes.

examples: "cylinders": at least one of the variables does
not appear in the eqn.

① example $z^2 + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$

this is a
cylinder in
the x -direction,
since if (x_1, y, z)
is on the surface,
so is (x_2, y, z) .

→ So if you draw the
traces on 2 planes
 $\perp$ to the x -axis,
you can draw the
cylinder.

② ellipsoids

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

e.g. $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} + z^2 = 1$

→ draw the trace ellipses
in the coord planes.

③ paraboloids: one variable only appears linearly (and the others appear quadratically)

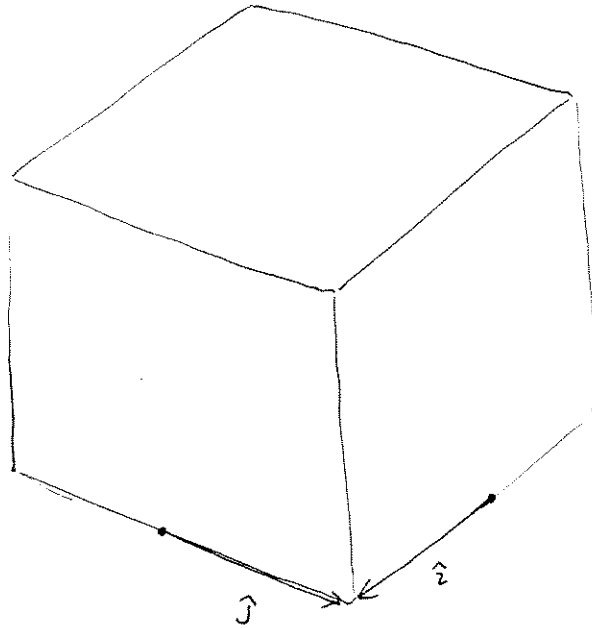
elliptic paraboloid: quadratic terms have same sign

e.g. $z = x^2 + y^2$

→ use the trace parabolas
in xz , yz planes,
and the trace ellipses
in planes $\perp$ to z -axis.

hyperbolic paraboloid : quadratic terms have opposite sign

eg. $z = x^2 - y^2$



origin at
center of box.
sides are planes
at

$$x = \pm 1$$

$$y = \pm 1$$

$$z = \pm 1.$$

draw trace
parabolas!

④ hyperboloids

4a) one-sheeted, e.g.

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

e.g. $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$

$$\text{or } x^2 + y^2 = 1 + z^2$$

→ use traces (ellipses)
in planes $\perp$ to z axis,
and in coord planes

4b) two-sheeted. e.g.

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = -1$$

e.g.

$$x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = -1$$

$$\text{or } x^2 + y^2 = z^2 - 1$$

4c) cones, e.g.

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 0 \quad \sim \text{ if } (x_1, y_1, z_1) \text{ is on the surface, so is}$$

the line $r(t) = t \langle x_1, y_1, z_1 \rangle$

e.g. $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 0$