

16.6

More parameterization of surfaces

1. Let $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = \langle u + v, u - v, u^2 - v^2 \rangle$

(a) Evaluate $\mathbf{r}(2, -1)$ and $\mathbf{r}(-1, 2)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}(2, -1) &= (2 - 1, 2 - (-1), 2^2 - (-1)^2) \\ &= (1, 3, 3)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}(-1, 2) &= (-1 + 2, -1 - 2, (-1)^2 - 2^2) \\ &= (1, -3, -3)\end{aligned}$$

(b) Find u, v so that $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (3, -1, -3)$.

Solution: If $u + v = 3$ then $v = 3 - u$. Then

$$u - v = -1 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad u - (3 - u) = -1 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad 2u = 2 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad u = 1$$

Which implies $v = 3 - 1 = 2$. To verify $u = 1, v = 2$ is correct,

$$\mathbf{r}(1, 2) = (1 + 2, 1 - 2, (1)^2 - (2)^2) = (3, -1, -3).$$

(c) Show that $(0, 0, 1)$ is not a point on the surface.

Solution: Since $u - v = 0$, $u = v$. Then $u + v = 0$ gives $u + u = 0$ which means $u = 0 = v$. But $\mathbf{r}(0, 0) = (0, 0, 0) \neq (0, 0, 1)$.

(d) Recall that a surface $\mathbf{r}(u, v)$ is *smooth* if \mathbf{r}_u and \mathbf{r}_v are both continuous and $|\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v|$ is never 0 for (u, v) in the interior of the domain (this means that at any point on the surface, the normal vector to the tangent plane is not $\mathbf{0}$). Show that $\mathbf{r}(u, v)$ is continuous.

Solution: We first compute \mathbf{r}_u , \mathbf{r}_v , $\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v$, and $|\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v|$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}_u(u, v) &= \langle 1 + 0, 1 - 0, 2u - 0 \rangle \\ &= \langle 1, 1, 2u \rangle \\ \mathbf{r}_v(u, v) &= \langle 0 + 1, 0 - 1, 0 - 2v \rangle \\ &= \langle 1, -1, -2v \rangle. \\ \mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 1 & 2u \\ 1 & -1 & -2v \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \langle 2u - 2v, 2u + 2v, -2 \rangle \\ |\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v| &= \sqrt{(2u - 2v)^2 + (2u + 2v)^2 + (-2)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{4u^2 - 4uv + 4v^2 + 4u^2 + 4uv + 4v^2 + 4} \\ &= \sqrt{8u^2 + 8v^2 + 4}\end{aligned}$$

It is clear that \mathbf{r}_u and \mathbf{r}_v are continuous everywhere (constant functions and polynomials). The only way $|\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v| = \sqrt{8u^2 + 8v^2 + 4} = 0$ is if $8u^2 + 8v^2 + 4 = 0$. Since $8u^2 + 8v^2 + 4 \geq 4$ for any (u, v) we know $|\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v|$ is never 0.

This means the surface is continuous

- (e) Find an equation of the tangent plane to the parametric surface $\mathbf{r}(u, v)$ at the point $u = 1$ and $v = -1$.

Solution: A point on the tangent plane is given by $\mathbf{r}(1, -1) = (0, 2, 0)$. Using $\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v$ found above,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v(1, -1) &= \langle 2(1) - 2(-1), 2(1) + 2(-1), -2 \rangle \\ &= \langle 4, 0, -2 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Therefore an equation for the tangent plane is

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 4, 0, -2 \rangle \cdot \langle x - 0, y - 2, z - 0 \rangle &= 0 \\ 4(x - 0) + 0(y - 2) - 2(z - 0) &= 0 \\ 4x - 2z &= 0\end{aligned}$$