

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

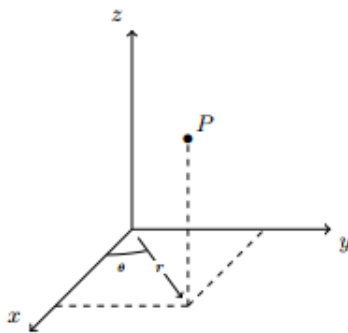
MATH 234 – SPRING 2024

LECTURE NOTES

1 Cylindrical coordinates

- Cylindrical coordinates represent a point $P(x, y, z)$ in space by ordered triples (r, θ, z) in which (r, θ) is the polar coordinate of (x, y) .
- z remains unchanged.

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \\ z = z \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \\ \frac{y}{x} = \tan \theta. \end{cases}$$



- **Example.** Change $(x, y, z) = (-1, 1, 1)$ into cylindrical coordinates.

Proof. $r^2 = x^2 + y^2 = 2$, thus $r = \sqrt{2}$. Then $\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x} = \frac{1}{-1} = -1$, thus $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$. Hence

$$(-1, 1, 1) \mapsto \left(\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}, 1 \right).$$

□

- **Example.** Change $(\sqrt{2}, 3\pi/4, 2)$ to Cartesian coordinates.

Proof. We have $x = r \cos \theta = \sqrt{2} \times \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = -1$ and $y = r \sin \theta = \sqrt{2} \times \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = 1$. Thus

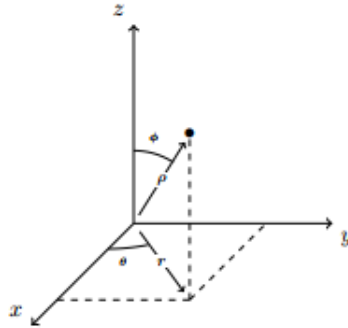
$$(\sqrt{2}, 3\pi/4, 2) \mapsto (-1, 1, 2).$$

□

2 Spherical coordinates

- $(x, y, z) \mapsto (\rho, \theta, \phi)$, where basically we repeat the polar coordinate first, and the *height* z is tracked via the variable ϕ , the angle with Oz . Note that the order is sometime written as (r, ϕ, θ) . **Pay attention to the order!**
- The relations, still introducing an extra variable r as in polar coordinates (it will be very useful)

$$\begin{cases} x = (\rho \sin \phi) \cos \theta \\ y = (\rho \sin \phi) \sin \theta \\ z = \rho \cos \phi \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} \rho^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \\ r = \rho \sin \phi \\ \frac{r}{z} = \tan \phi \end{cases}, \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi], \phi \in [0, \pi]$$



- If $\phi > \frac{\pi}{2}$ then $z < 0$, the angle make P lies below the Oxy -plane.
- **Example.** Convert $(1, 1, 0)$ into spherical coordinate.

Proof. $\rho^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 2$, thus $\rho = \sqrt{2}$. Now $z = \rho \cos \phi$ implies $0 = \sqrt{2} \cos \phi$, thus $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2}$. Finally $\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x} = 1$, thus $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ (since $x > 0, y > 0$). We conclude

$$(1, 1, 0) \mapsto \left(\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = (r, \theta, \phi).$$

□

- **Example.** True/False: Consider the point with spherical coordinates $(\rho, \theta, \phi) = (4, \frac{3\pi}{4}, \frac{5\pi}{7})$. The product of the Cartesian coordinates, xyz , is positive.

Proof. **True.** We see that $\phi = \frac{5\pi}{7} > \frac{\pi}{2}$, thus $z < 0$. Now $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{4}$, thus $x > 0, y < 0$ (draw a picture). Therefore $xyz > 0$. □

3 Practice

- **Example.** Convert the equation $z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ into cylindrical coordinates and spherical coordinates.

Proof.

- Cylindrical: $z = r$.
- Spherical: $\rho \cos \phi = r = \rho \sin \phi$, thus $\tan \phi = 1$, thus $\phi = \frac{\pi}{4}$ is the equation of the cone!

□

- **Example.** Identify the surface whose equation is $z = 4 - r^2$ in cylindrical coordinate.

Proof. We have $z = 4 - x^2 - y^2$, thus this is a elliptical paraboloid (one term of 1st order, two terms of second order having the same sign). \square

- **Example.** Convert to x, y, z the surface: $\rho = \sin \phi \cos \phi$.

Proof. We can do

$$(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} = \rho^3 = (\rho \sin \phi)(\rho \cos \phi) = rz = z\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}.$$

The answer is $(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} = z\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$. \square

- **Example.** Identify the surface whose equation is: $\rho = \sin \phi \cos \theta$.

Proof. We can do

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = \rho^2 = (\rho \sin \phi) \cos \theta = r \cos \theta = x$$

Therefore

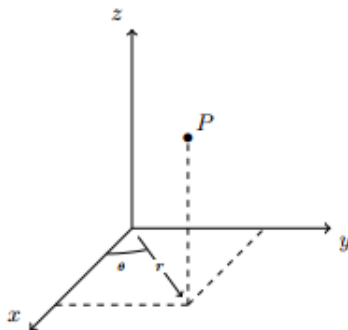
$$\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + y^2 + z^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

This is a sphere centered at $(\frac{1}{2}, 0, 0)$ with radius $\frac{1}{2}$, this is a *ellipsoid*. \square

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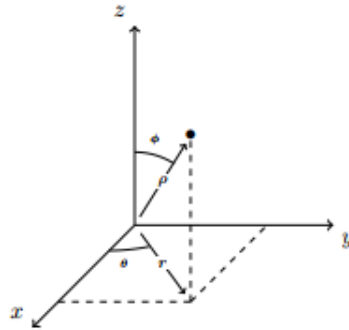
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Therefore

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + y^2 + z^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

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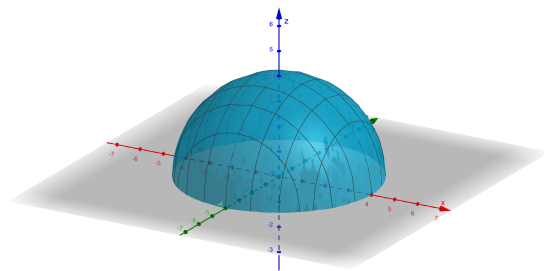
7 Function of several variables

Definition 1.

- A function of two variables is a rule that assigns to each ordered pair of real numbers (x, y) in a set D a unique real number denoted by $f(x, y)$. The set D is the domain of f and its range is the set of values that f takes on, that is, $\{f(x, y) : (x, y) \in D\}$.
- We often write $z = f(x, y)$.
- The graph of $z = f(x, y)$ is the set of all points $(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $z = f(x, y)$ and $(x, y) \in D$.

Example 1. Consider $f(x, y) = \sqrt{16 - x^2 - y^2}$. Sketch the domain of f . Graph $z = f(x, y)$ using traces of $z = 0, x = 0, y = 0$.

Proof. The domain is $D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 16 - x^2 - y^2 \geq 0\} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 4^2\}$. This is the (closed) circle centered at $(0, 0)$ with radius 4. The trace of $z = 0, y = 0, x = 0$ give us $x^2 + y^2 = 16$, $z^2 + y^2 = 16$ and $z^2 + x^2 = 16$, i.e., in any cross-section it is a circle, therefore the graph of this function is a sphere of radius 4 in \mathbb{R}^3 (but only half of the sphere, the upper half as $z \geq 0$).

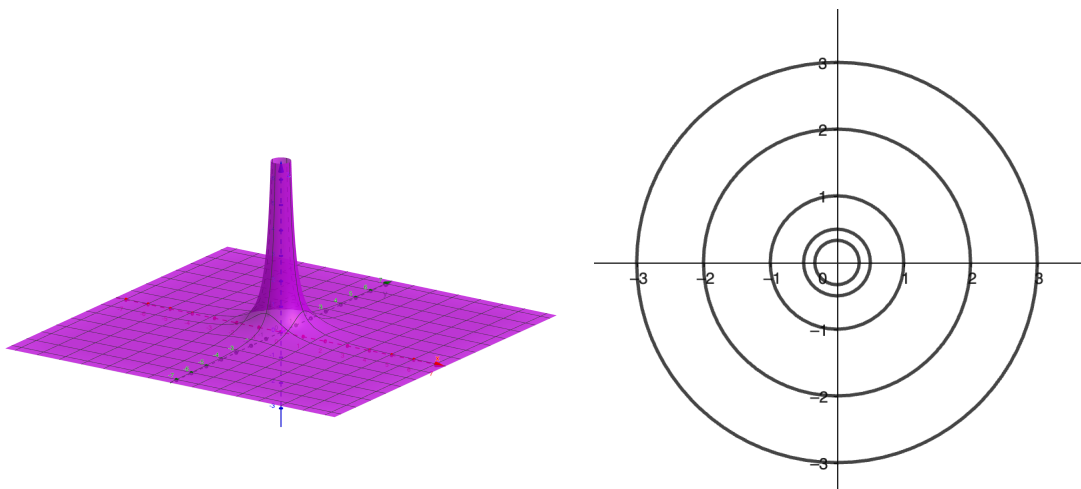


□

Definition 2. The contours of a function f of two variables are the curves with equations $f(x, y) = k$, where k is constant (in the range of f).

Example 2. Sketch the level curves of $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2}$, with $k = \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{4}, 1, 4, 9$. Use these to attempt to sketch a 3D version of the graph.

Proof. With $k = \frac{1}{9}$ we have $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{9}$ is equivalent to $x^2 + y^2 = 3^2$, it is a circle. Similarly with $k = \frac{1}{4}$ it is a circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$. We have a set of circles centered at $(0, 0)$ with radius $3, 2, 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$, correspondingly to $k = \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{4}, 1, 4, 9$.

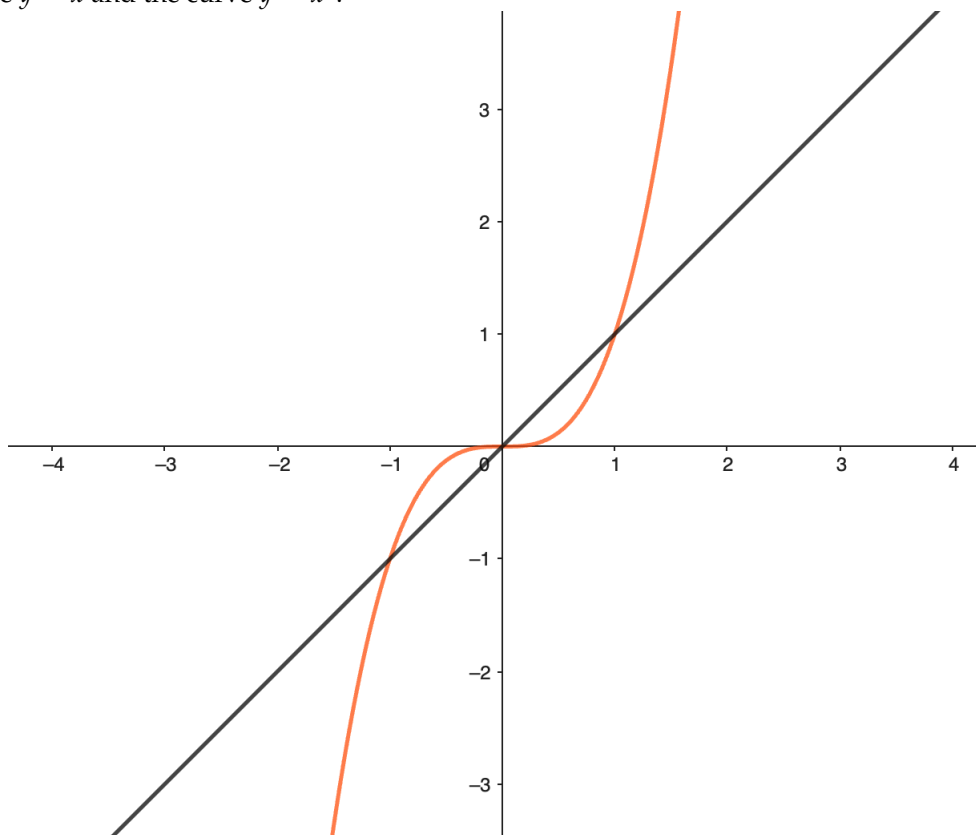


Note: if $f(x, y)$ is a 2-variables function then $\text{graph}(f)$ is 3D (on the left), but its contours are 2D as in the picture (on the right). \square

Definition 3. A function of 3 variables is $f(x, y, z)$ from a domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ to \mathbb{R} . The **level surfaces** of $f(x, y, z)$ are the surfaces with the equation $f(x, y, z) = k$ where k is a constant (by looking at level surfaces, we can view it in 3D, instead of the graph of f is in 4D).

Example 3. Find the domain of $f(x, y) = \frac{(x-1)(y+2)}{(y-x)(y-x^3)}$. Sketch and write the domain in set notation.

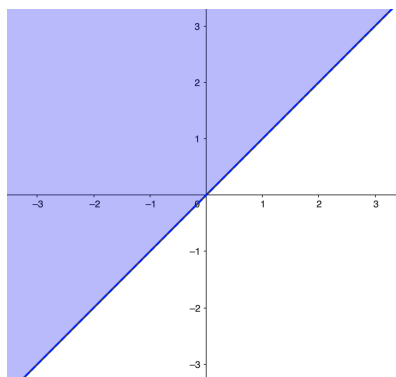
Proof. $D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : y \neq x, y \neq x^3\}$. The domain is the whole plane \mathbb{R} (the xy -plane) removing the line $y = x$ and the curve $y = x^3$.



\square

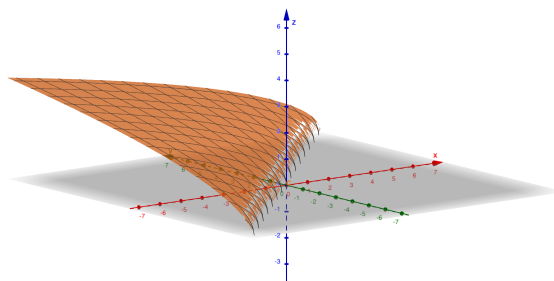
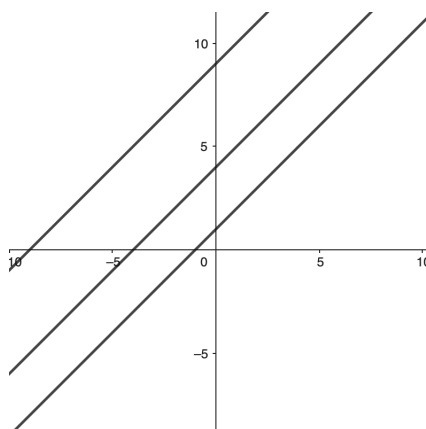
Example 4. Consider the function $z = f(x, y) = \sqrt{y - x}$.

(a) Domain $D = \{(x, y) : y - x \geq 0\} = \{(x, y) : y \geq x\}$. (The line $y = x$ is included.)



(b) The range is $z \in [0, +\infty)$.

(c) Sketch some level curves and the graph



8 Partial derivatives

Definition 4 (Partial Derivatives).

(a) The partial derivatives of $f(x, y)$ with respect to x at (a, b) is denoted by $f_x(a, b)$ and is given by

$$f_x(a, b) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h, b) - f(a, b)}{|h|}.$$

This is equivalent to considering y as a constant and taking derivative in x .

(b) The partial derivatives of $f(x, y)$ with respect to y at (a, b) is denoted by $f_y(a, b)$ and is given by

$$f_y(a, b) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a, b + k) - f(a, b)}{|k|}.$$

This is equivalent to considering x as a constant and taking derivative in y .

(c) Other notations

$$\begin{aligned} f_x(x, y) = f_x &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = D_x f \\ f_y(x, y) = f_y &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y) = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = D_y f. \end{aligned}$$

(d) Second-order derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}(f_x)_x &= f_{xx} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} \\(f_y)_y &= f_{yy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} \\(f_x)_y &= f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x} \\(f_y)_x &= f_{yx} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}.\end{aligned}$$

Note the sequence: the first derivative is taken closest to the function.

(e) (Clairaut's Theorem) The order of taking derivatives (around a point (a, b)) does not matter if the second order derivatives are continuous and defined around a point (a, b) .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b).$$

(f) The gradient

$$\nabla f(a, b) = (f_x(a, b), f_y(a, b))$$

gives the direction in which the value of the function increases the fastest.

Example 5. We have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(xy + x \sin y + \frac{y}{x} \right) \right) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(x + x \cos y + \frac{1}{x} \right) = 1 + \cos y - \frac{1}{x^2} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(xy + x \sin y + \frac{y}{x} \right) \right) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(y + \sin y - \frac{y}{x^2} \right) = 1 + \cos y - \frac{1}{x^2}\end{aligned}$$

Example 6. Let $v(x, y) = \frac{xy}{x-y}$. Compute v_x, v_{xx}, v_{xy} .

Proof. We use product rule or quotient rule, or any rule from Calculus 1 and 2:

$$\begin{aligned}v_x &= \frac{y(x-y) - xy}{(x-y)^2} = \frac{-y^2}{(x-y)^2}, & v_{xx} &= \frac{-(-y^2)2(x-y)}{(x-y)^4} = \frac{2y^2}{(x-y)^3} \\ v_{xy} &= \frac{-2y(x-y)^2 - (-y^2)2(x-y)}{(x-y)^4} = \frac{-2y + 2y^2}{(x-y)^3}.\end{aligned}$$

□

Example 7. Find f_{xyz} for $f(x, y, z) = xyz + (x^2 + y^2) \frac{\sin^{-1}(x\sqrt{y})}{\tan(x)}$.

Proof. Note that $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\sin^{-1}(x)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\arcsin(x)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$. We compute (product rule, then quotient rule)

$$f_x = yz + 2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left((x^2 + y^2) \frac{\sin^{-1}(x\sqrt{y})}{\tan(x)} \right).$$

Let us not computing the derivative of that term for now, for a reason we will see soon. Now we have

$$\begin{aligned}f_{xy} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f_x = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (yz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left((x^2 + y^2) \frac{\sin^{-1}(x\sqrt{y})}{\tan(x)} \right) \right] \\ &= z + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left((x^2 + y^2) \frac{\sin^{-1}(x\sqrt{y})}{\tan(x)} \right) \right].\end{aligned}$$

Now we have

$$f_{xyz} = 1 + \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[2x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left((x^2 + y^2) \frac{\sin^{-1}(x\sqrt{y})}{\tan(x)} \right) \right]}_{\text{no } z \text{ involved, thus this term is 0}}.$$

The intergral is zero, since there is no z involved, and we treat x, y as constants when taking $\frac{\partial}{\partial z}$. □

Example 8. Suppose you are surrounded by bees given by the bee density function

$$B(x, y) = 100 - x^2 + y^2 + 3y \quad \text{bees/unit}^2.$$

You are currently standing at $(1, 1)$. Which of the four directions would be best to run in $\{\mathbf{i}, -\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, -\mathbf{j}\}$?

Proof. We have

$$\nabla B(x, y) = (-2x, 2y + 3) \implies \nabla B(1, 1) = (-2, 5).$$

The best direction to run would be the opposite of $(-2, 5)$, i.e. $\mathbf{v} = (2, -5)$. Now among the 4 directions, we choose the one that is closest, i.e., taking the dot product to find the one with smallest angle, i.e., $\cos \theta$ the biggest:

- For $\mathbf{i} = (1, 0)$ then $(1, 0) \cdot (2, -5) = 2$.
- For $-\mathbf{i} = (-1, 0)$ then $(-1, 0) \cdot (2, -5) = -2$.
- For $\mathbf{j} = (0, 1)$ then $(0, 1) \cdot (2, -5) = -5$.
- For $-\mathbf{j} = (0, -1)$ then $(0, -1) \cdot (2, -5) = 5$.

Therefore we choose $-\mathbf{j}$. □

9 Tangent planes

Example 9. Find equation of the tangent plane of the surface $z = f(x, y) = 3y^2 - 2x^2 + x$ at the point $(2, -1, 3)$.

Proof.

- Step 1. We write the general form

$$z - z_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0).$$

- Step 2. Plug in $(x_0, y_0, z_0) = (2, -1, -3)$

$$\begin{aligned} z - (-3) &= f_x(2, -1)(x - 2) + f_y(2, -1)(y - (-1)). \\ z + 3 &= f_x(2, -1)(x - 2) + f_y(2, -1)(y + 1). \end{aligned}$$

- Step 3. Compute the partial derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} f_x(x, y) &= -4x + 1, & f_x(2, -1) &= -7 \\ f_y(x, y) &= 6y, & f_y(2, -1) &= -6. \end{aligned}$$

- Step 4. Final answer

$$z + 3 = -7(x - 2) - 6(y + 1).$$

□

Example 10. Find the linear approximation of $f(x, y) = \frac{2x+3}{4y+1}$ at $(0, 0)$. Use it to approximate $f(0.1, -0.2)$ and $f(0.01, -0.02)$.

Proof. Find the tangent plane at $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$ with $z_0 = f(x_0, y_0) = 3$.

- Step 1. We write the general form

$$z - z_0 = f_x(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0) + f_y(x_0, y_0)(y - y_0).$$

- Step 2. Plug in $(x_0, y_0, z_0) = (0, 0, 3)$

$$z - 3 = f_x(0, 0)(x - 0) + f_y(0, 0)(y - 0).$$

$$z - 3 = f_x(2, -1)x + f_y(2, -1)y$$

- Step 3. Compute the partial derivatives

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{2}{4y+1}, \quad f_x(0, 0) = 2$$

$$f_y(x, y) = (2x+3)\frac{-4}{(4y+1)^2}, \quad f_y(0, 0) = -12$$

- Step 4. The tangent plane

$$z + 3 = 2x - 12y$$

- Step 5. The linear approximation

$$L(x, y) = 2x - 12y - 3$$

- Now plug in the value

$$L(0.1, -0.2) = 5.6 \quad \text{while the true value} \quad f(0.1, -0.2) = 16$$

Here the change in x, y are 0.1 and -0.2 . Now

$$L(0.01, -0.02) = 3.26 \quad \text{while the true value} \quad f(0.01, -0.02) = 3.28$$

Here the change in x, y are 0.01 and -0.02 .

We see that if the changes in x and y are small then the approximation is good! □

Example 11. Consider $z = f(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy - y^2$. Find dz . If x changes from $2 \rightarrow 2.05$ and y changes from $3 \rightarrow 2.96$, compare the value of Δz (true differences) and dz (the total differential).

Proof.

- Step 1. Here $(x_0, y_0) = (2, 3)$ and $dx = 0.05, dy = -0.04$.
- Step 2. Write the total differential formula $dz = f_x(2, 3)dx + f_y(2, 3)dy$.
- Step 3. Compute the partial derivatives

$$f_x(x, y) = 2x + 3y, \quad f_x(2, 3) = 13$$

$$f_y(x, y) = 3x - 2y, \quad f_y(2, 3) = 0$$

- Step 4. Plug in to the formula dz

$$dz = 13 \times (0.05) + 0 \times (-0.04) = 0.65$$

- Step 5. The true value

$$\begin{cases} f(2.05, -2.96) = (2.05)^2 - 3 \times (2.05) \times (-2.96) - (-2.96)^2 = 13.6449 \\ f(2, 3) = 2^2 - 3 \times 2 \times 3 - 3^2 = 13 \end{cases} \implies \Delta z = 0.06449$$

We see that $\Delta z \approx dz$, but dz is much easier to compute. □

Example 12. The dimensions of a box are measure to be 10cm, 5cm, 8cm. If each measurement is correct within 0.2cm, approximate the largest possible error when the volume of the box is calculated from these measurements.

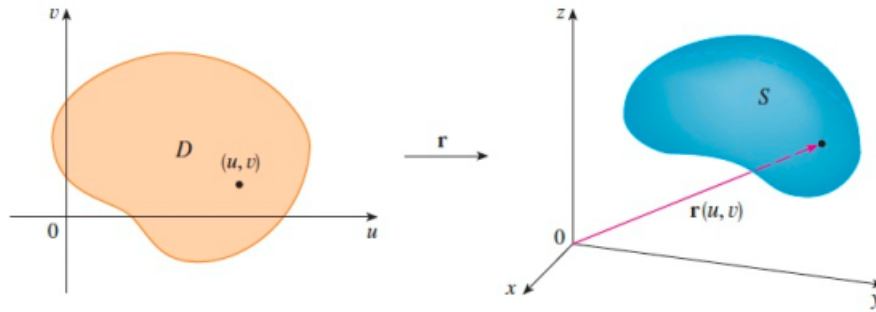
Proof. We have $V(x, y, z) = xyz$, thus

$$\begin{aligned} dV &= V_x dx + V_y dy + V_z dz \\ &= yz dx + xz dy + xy dz \\ &= 0.2(yz + xz + xy) = 0.2(10 \times 5 + 10 \times 8 + 5 \times 8) = 170 \times 0.2 = 34 \text{ cm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

The error is at most 34 cm^3 . □

10 Parametric surfaces

- A curve is a function with one parameter $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$.
 - Example 1. $\mathbf{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, 0)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$, this is a circle in xy -plane ($z = 0$).
 - Example 2. $\mathbf{r}(t) = (t, 2t, 3t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$, this is a line going through $(0, 0, 0)$ with direction $\mathbf{v} = (1, 2, 3)$.
- A parametric surface is a function with two parameter $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$, $(u, v) \in D$.



Example 13. $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (u, v, 1 - u - v)$, $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

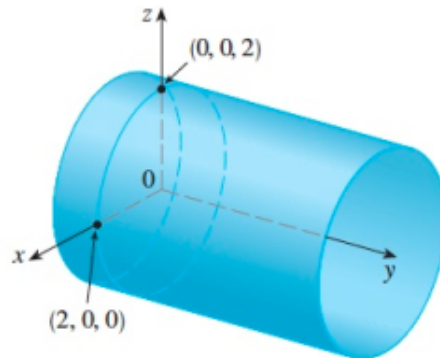
- This is the plane $x + y + z = u + v + (1 - u - v) = 1$.
- We can also view it as

$$(u, v, 1 - u - v) = (0, 0, 1) + (u, 0, -u) + (0, v, -v) = (0, 0, 1) + u(1, 0, -1) + v(0, 1, -1), \quad (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

In this way, the plane is the one containing $(0, 0, 1)$ and all vectors in the planes generated by $(1, 0, -1)$ and $(0, 1, -1)$.

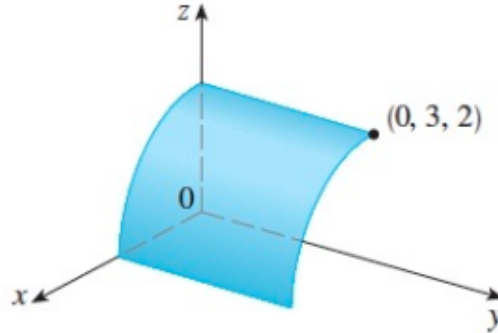
Example 14. $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (2 \cos u, v, 2 \sin u)$, $u \in [0, 2\pi], v \in \mathbb{R}$.

- Look at $x = 2 \cos u$, $y = v$, $z = 2 \sin u$, thus $x^2 + z^2 = 4$, while $y \in \mathbb{R}$. This is a cylinder.



Example 15. $r(u, v) = (2 \cos u, v, 2 \sin u)$, $u \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$, $v \in [0, 3]$.

- Look at $x = 2 \cos u$, $y = v$, $z = 2 \sin u$, thus $x^2 + z^2 = 4$, while $y \in \mathbb{R}$. This is a cylinder.
- Note the angle θ in the Oxz -plane is $\pi/4$, thus only a quarter of the Oxz -plane is covered.



11 Parametrize a surface in x, y, z

Example 16. Find a parametric equation for $x^2 + y^2 = 4$, $0 \leq z \leq 1$.

Proof. We can use polar coordinates $x = 2 \cos \theta$, $y = 2 \sin \theta$ and $0 \leq z \leq 1$, thus

$$r(\theta, z) = (2 \cos \theta, 2 \sin \theta, z)$$

The domain is $D = \{(\theta, z) : 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, 0 \leq z \leq 1\}$. □

Example 17. Find a parametric equation for $z = 2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$, $0 \leq z \leq 1$.

Proof 1. We can just use the graph

$$r(x, y) = (x, y, z) = (x, y, 2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}).$$

Note the condition $0 \leq z \leq 1$ means $0 \leq 2\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq 1$, thus $x^2 + y^2 \leq \frac{1}{4}$. Therefore

$$D = \left\{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \right\}.$$

□

Proof 2. We can use polar coordinates $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$ and $0 \leq z = 2r \leq 1$ which means $0 \leq r \leq \frac{1}{2}$, thus

$$r(\theta, z) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, 2r)$$

The domain now is

$$D = \left\{ (\theta, r) : 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, 0 \leq r \leq \frac{1}{2} \right\}.$$

□

12 Grid

For a parametric surface $\mathbf{r}(u, v)$, if we:

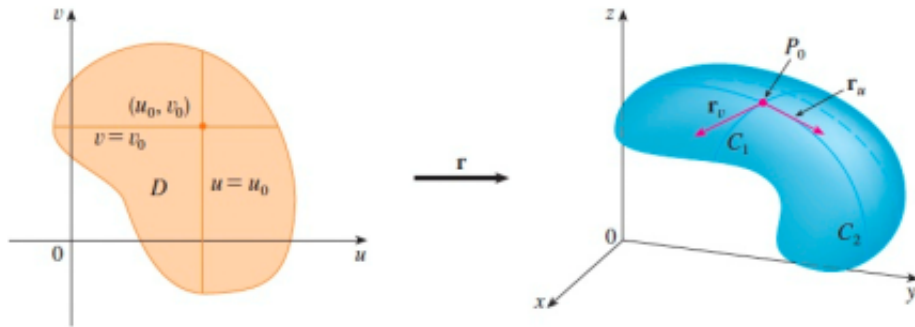
- Fix $u = u_0$, run v we get the images as a curvy grid on the surface
- Fix $v = v_0$, run u we get the images as a curvy grid on the surface

The two direction at each point $(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \mathbf{r}(u_0, v_0)$ form a tangent plane at that point. The two directions here are the partial derivatives

$$\mathbf{r}_u \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{r}_v.$$

The normal vector of the tangent plane is

$$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ x_u & y_u & z_u \\ x_v & y_v & z_v \end{vmatrix}.$$



Example 18. Find the tangent plane of $x = u^2, y = v^2, z = u + 2v$ at $(1, 1, 3)$.

Proof.

- Step 1. Solve for (u, v) :

$$\begin{cases} x = u^2 = 1 \\ y = v^2 = 1 \\ z = u + 2v = 3 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u = \pm 1 \\ v = \pm 1 \\ u + 2v = 3 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u = 1 \\ v = 1 \end{cases}$$

- Step 2. Compute the partial derivatives of $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (u^2, v^2, u + 2v)$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_u &= (2u, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{r}_v &= (0, 2v, 2). \end{aligned}$$

- Step 3. Plug in the value $u = v = 1$ to get

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{r}_u = (2, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{r}_v = (0, 2, 2) \end{cases}$$

- Step 4. Compute the normal by cross product

$$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = (-2, -4, 4)$$

- The tangent plane with normal $(-2, -4, -4)$ going through $(1, 1, 3)$ is

$$\boxed{-2(x-1) - 4(y-1) - 4(z-3) = 0.}$$

□

Example 19. Find the tangent plane of $x = u^2 + 1, y = v^3 + 1, z = u + v$ at $(5, 2, 3)$.

Proof.

- Step 1. Solve for (u, v) :

$$\begin{cases} x = u^2 + 1 = 5 \\ y = v^3 + 1 = 2 \\ z = u + v = 3 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} u = 2 \\ v = 1. \end{cases}$$

- Step 2. Compute the partial derivatives of $\mathbf{r}(u, v) = (u^2 + 1, v^3 + 1, u + v)$

$$\mathbf{r}_u = (2u, 0, 1)$$

$$\mathbf{r}_v = (0, 3v^2, 1).$$

- Step 3. Plug in the value $u = 2, v = 1$ to get

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{r}_u = (4, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{r}_v = (0, 3, 1) \end{cases}$$

- Step 4. Compute the normal by cross product

$$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-3, -4, 12)$$

- The tangent plane with normal $(-3, -4, 12)$ going through $(5, 2, 3)$ is

$$\boxed{-3(x-5) - 4(y-2) + 12(z-3) = 0.}$$

□