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Math 213 - Graphing Surfaces

Peter Perry

September 13, 2023

Unit A: Vectors, Curves, and Surfaces

- August 21 Points
- August 23 Vectors
- August 25 Dot Product
- August 28 Cross Product
- August 30 Equations of Planes
- September 1 Equations of Lines
- September 6 Curves
- September 8 Integrating Along Curves
- September 11 Integrating Along Curves
- September 13 Sketching Surfaces
- September 15 Cylinders and Quadric Surfaces



- Accommodation letters are due today by 5 PM
- Request for alternate exams are due Friday by 5 PM
- The exam will take place on Wednesday, September 20, 5:00-7:00 PM. You may bring one sheet of notes with formulas, definitions, etc., but NO solved problems. Be sure to bring your student ID. See the course syllabus for calculator policy..

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• Your exams will be held in the following rooms:

Section 011 CP 139

Sections 012-014 CP 153

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Finding a Surface by its Traces



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Finding a Surface by its Traces



- Graph the surface xy = 1
 - *z* can take any value
 - We can look at the trace of the surface in the plane *z* = 0

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Finding a Surface by its Traces



Graph the surface xy = 1

- z can take any value
- We can look at the trace of the surface in the plane *z* = 0
- We can shift the trace up or down to get traces in other planes

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Finding a Surface by its Traces



Graph the surface xy = 1

- z can take any value
- We can look at the trace of the surface in the plane *z* = 0
- We can shift the trace up or down to get traces in other planes

The surface xy = 1 is an example of a *cylinder*

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Graphing Surfaces

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Level Curves



For a function f(x, y) and a real number c, the *level curve* of f(x, y)at c is the set of all points (x, y)with f(x, y) = c

Example: Find the level curves of $f(x, y) = x^2 + 4y^2$ for c = 0, 2, 5, 10

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Level Curves



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Example: Find the level curves of $f(x, y) = x^2 + 4y^2$ for c = 0, 2, 5, 10

This collection of level curves gives a *contour map* of the function f(x, y)



Puzzler #1

Sketch the level curves of f(x, y) = xy for c = 1, 2, 3 and c = -1, -2, -3



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Level Curves and Surfaces

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Puzzler #1

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Level Curves and Surfaces

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Level Surfaces

A *level surface* of a function f(x, y, z) at c is the set of all points (x, y, z) so that f(x, y, z) = c



Find the level surfaces of the function

$$f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2$$

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for *c* = 1, 4, 9

The level surfaces are cylinders with axis of symmetry on the *z*-axis

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Puzzler #2

A *level surface* of a function f(x, y, z) at c is the set of all points (x, y, z) so that f(x, y, z) = c



Find the level surfaces of the function

$$f(x, y, z) = x + 2y + 3z$$

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for c = 1, 2, 3

The level surfaces are planes x + 2y + 3z = c with normal vector $\mathbf{n} = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$



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Graphs of Functions of Two Variables



Sketch the graph of

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$$

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Graphs of Functions of Two Variables



Sketch the graph of

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$$

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Puzzler #3



Sketch the graph of the function

$$f(x,y) = x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 2y$$

By completing the square we can write

$$f(x,y) = (x-1)^2 + (y-1)^2 - 2$$

so the vertex is shifted to (1, 1, -2)

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Preview-Quadric Surfaces

A *quadric surface* is any surface in the *xyz* plane defined by a quadratic equation

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + Dxy + Exz + Fyz + Gx + Hy + Iz = L$$

These equations can be reduced rotations and translations of coordinates to

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 = D$$

Here are some examples:



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Preview-Quadric Surfaces

We can understand quadric surfaces by looking at their cross sections (traces) in planes z = h

Cross sections for quadric surfaces in the form $Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 = D$ take one of the following forms:

- $\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 = \gamma$ with $\alpha, \beta, \gamma > 0$ (ellipse or circle)
- $\alpha x^2 \beta y^2 = \gamma$ with $\alpha, \beta > 0, \gamma \neq 0$ (hyperbola) or $\gamma = 0$ (two lines)
- $x^2 = \delta y$ for $\delta \neq 0$ (parabola) or $\delta = 0$ (straight line)





Preview-Quadric Surfaces

Every quadric surface is made by "stacking" these three basic kinds of curves



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Preview-Quadric Surfaces

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Sketching a Surface by Traces



Problem: Sketch the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$$

- Find traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$
- Find traces in planes x = 0, y = 0

We'll cover this and other material about surfaces on Wednesda 9/13

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Sketching a Surface by Traces



Problem: Sketch the surface

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$$4x^2 + y^2 = 1 + z^2$$

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For each *z*, we get the equation of an ellipse

We'll cover this and other material about surfaces on Wednesda 9/13

Sketching a Surface by Traces



Problem: Sketch the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$$

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- Find traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$
- Find traces in planes x = 0, y = 0

In the plane
$$x = 0$$
, we get $y^2 - z^2 = 1$
In the plane $y = 0$, we get $4x^2 - z^2 = 1$

We'll cover this and other material about surfaces on Wednesda 9/13

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Sketching a Surface by Traces



Here is the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = 1$$

Note that the traces in planes parallel to the *xy* are ellipses and the traces in the *xz* and *yz* planes are hyperbolas

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What Happens if One Sign Changes?



Let's try the same analysis with the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = -1$$

- Find the traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$
- Find the traces in the *xz* and *yz* planes

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What Happens if One Sign Changes?



Let's try the same analysis with the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = -1$$

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- Find the traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$
- Find the traces in the *xz* and *yz* planes

Traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$:

$$4x^2 + y^2 = z^2 - 1$$

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What Happens if One Sign Changes?



Let's try the same analysis with the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = -1$$

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- Find the traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$
- Find the traces in the *xz* and *yz* planes

In the *xz* plane, $4x^2 - z^2 = -1$ In the *yz* plane, $y^2 - z^2 = 1$

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What Happens if One Sign Changes?



Let's try the same analysis with the surface

$$4x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = -1$$

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- Find the traces in planes $z = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4$
- Find the traces in the *xz* and *yz* planes

Trace in yz plane

- Homework A5 is due tonight at 11:59 PM
- Quiz #3 on curves and reparametrizations is due on Thursday at 11:59 PM
- Read CLP 3-1.8 and CLP 3-1.9 for Friday. If you haven't already looked at the Gallery of Quadric Surfaces yet, go here now!
- Exam #1 is next Wednesday, September 20. I need accomodation letters today by 5 PM and alternate exam requests by Friday September 15 at 5 PM!

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