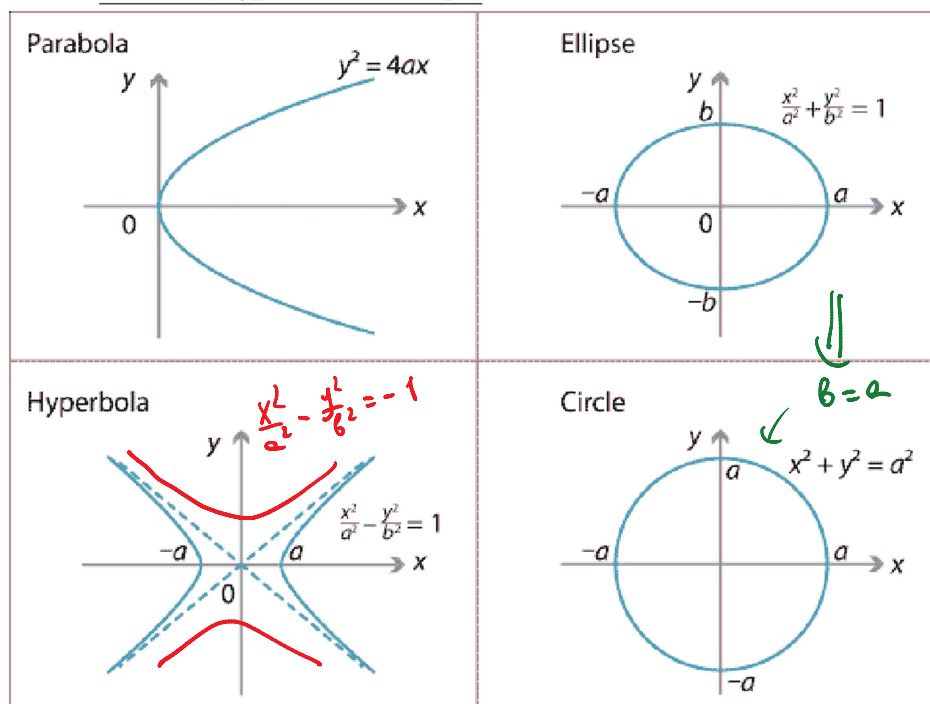


12.6: Quadric surfaces

REVIEW: Parabola, hyperbola and ellipse.



The most general second-degree equation in three variables x, y and z :

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + axy + bxz + cyz + d_1x + d_2y + d_3z + E = 0, \tag{1}$$

where $A, B, C, a, b, c, d_1, d_2, d_3, E$ are constants. The graph of (1) is a quadric surface.

Note if $A = B = C = a = b = c = 0$ then (1) is a linear equation and its graph is a plane (this is the case of degenerated quadric surface).

By translations and rotations (1) can be brought into one of the two standard forms:

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + J = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad Ax^2 + By^2 + Iz = 0.$$

In order to sketch the graph of a surface determine the curves of intersection of the surface with planes parallel to the coordinate planes. The obtained in this way curves are called **traces** or **cross-sections** of the surface.

Quadric surfaces can be classified into 5 categories:

ellipsoids, hyperboloids, cones, paraboloids, quadric cylinders (shown in the table below.)

was discussed in sec 11.1

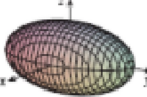
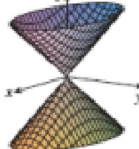

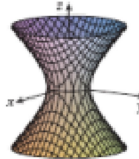
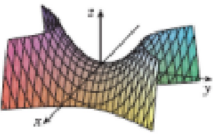
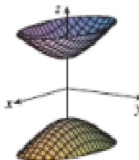
Quadric surfaces can be classified into 5 categories:

[in sec 7.7]

ellipsoids, hyperboloids, cones, paraboloids, **quadric cylinders** (shown in the table below.)

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Surface	Equation	Surface	Equation
<p>Ellipsoid</p> 	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$ <p>All traces are ellipses. If $a = b = c$, the ellipsoid is a sphere.</p>	<p>Cone</p> 	$\frac{z^2}{c^2} = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2}$ <p>Horizontal traces are ellipses. Vertical traces in the planes $x = k$ and $y = k$ are hyperbolas if $k \neq 0$ but are pairs of lines if $k = 0$.</p>
<p>Elliptic Paraboloid</p> 	$\frac{z}{c} = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2}$ <p>Horizontal traces are ellipses. Vertical traces are parabolas. The variable raised to the first power indicates the axis of the paraboloid.</p>	<p>Hyperboloid of One Sheet</p> 	$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$ <p>Horizontal traces are ellipses. Vertical traces are hyperbolas. The axis of symmetry corresponds to the variable whose coefficient is negative.</p>
<p>Hyperbolic Paraboloid</p> 	$\frac{z}{c} = \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2}$ <p>Horizontal traces are hyperbolas. Vertical traces are parabolas. The case where $c < 0$ is illustrated.</p>	<p>Hyperboloid of Two Sheets</p> 	$-\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$ <p>Horizontal traces in $z = k$ are ellipses if $k > c$ or $k < -c$. Vertical traces are hyperbolas. The two minus signs indicate two sheets.</p>

The elements which characterize each of these categories:

1. Standard equation.
2. Traces (horizontal (by planes $z = k$), yz -traces (by $x = 0$) and xz -traces (by $y = 0$)).
3. Intercepts (in some cases).

To find the equation of a trace substitute the equation of the plane into the equation of the surface.

Note, in the examples below *the constants a, b , and c are assumed to be positive.*

EXAMPLE 1. Use traces to sketch the following quadric surfaces:

Note, in the examples below the constants $a, b,$ and c are assumed to be positive.

EXAMPLE 1. Use traces to sketch the following quadric surfaces:

(a)

$$x^2 + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{9} = 1$$

Solution

• Find intercepts:

– x -intercepts: if $y = z = 0$ then $x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x = \pm 1$

– y -intercepts: if $x = z = 0$ then $y^2 = 16 \Rightarrow y = \pm 4$

– z -intercepts: if $x = y = 0$ then $z^2 = 9 \Rightarrow z = \pm 3$

• Obtain traces of:

– the xy -plane: plug in $z = 0$ and get $x^2 + \frac{y^2}{16} = 1 \rightarrow$ ellipse with semi-axes 1 and 4

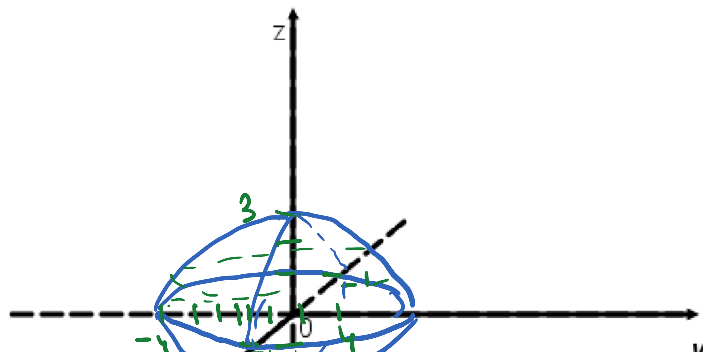
– the yz -plane: plug in $x = 0$ and get $\frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{9} = 1 \rightarrow$ ellipse with semi-axes 4 and 3

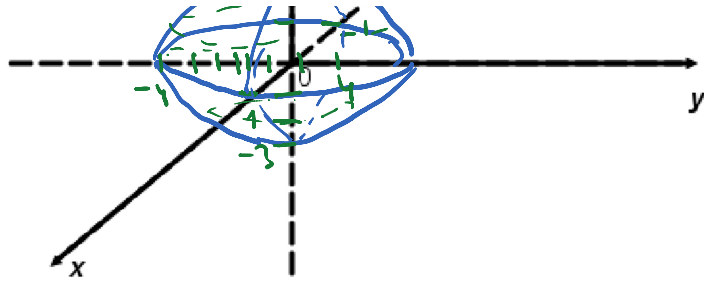
– the xz -plane: plug in $y = 0$ and get $x^2 + \frac{z^2}{9} = 1 \rightarrow$ ellipse with semi-axes 1 and 3

– plug in $z = k \rightarrow$ section by a horizontal plane
 $x^2 + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{k^2}{9} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^2}{1 - \frac{k^2}{9}} + \frac{y^2}{16(1 - \frac{k^2}{9})} = 1$
 \downarrow an ellipse for $-3 < k < 3$

– plug in $x = k$

– plug in $y = k$



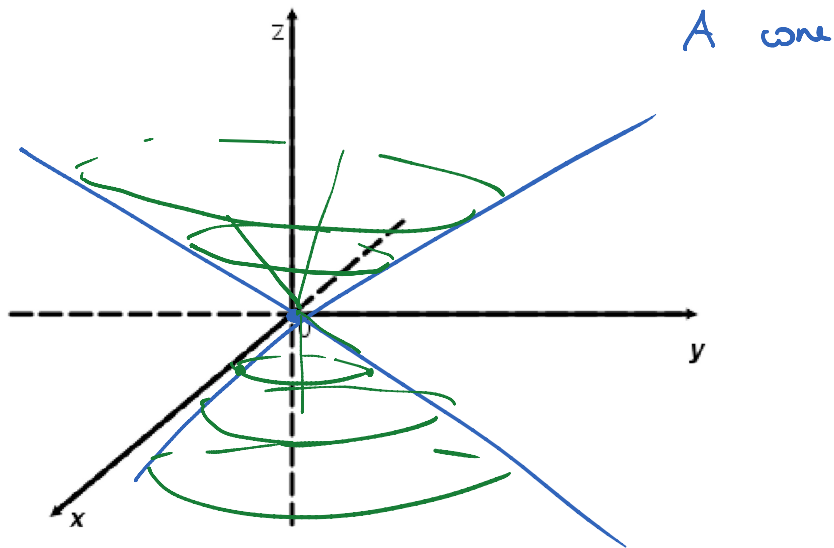


(b)

$$z^2 = x^2 + \frac{y^2}{9} \quad z^2 = x^2 - \frac{y^2}{9} = 0$$

Plane	Trace
$z = k$	$x^2 + \frac{y^2}{9} = k^2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^2}{k^2} + \frac{y^2}{9k^2} = 1 \rightarrow$ ellipse
$x = 0$	$z^2 = \frac{y^2}{9} \Leftrightarrow$ either $z = \frac{y}{3}$ or $z = -\frac{y}{3}$
$y = 0$	$z^2 = x^2 \Leftrightarrow$ either $z = x$ or $z = -x$

Using these 2 items we already can draw a surface



(c)

$$z = \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9}$$

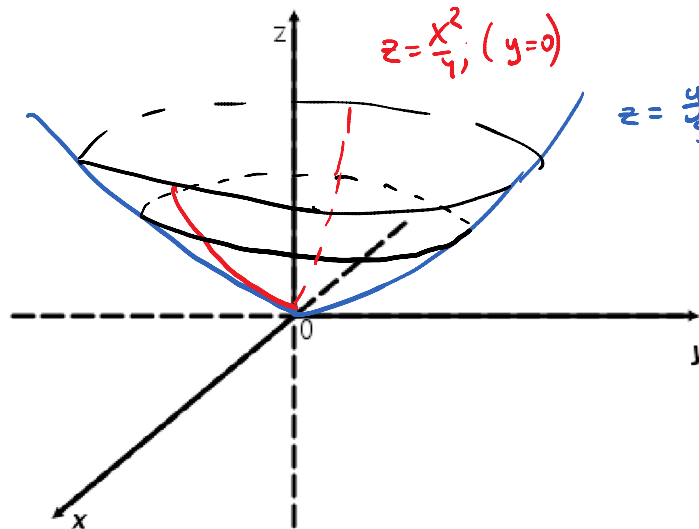
Plane	Trace
$z = k$	$\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = k$

$$\frac{0 \times 1}{k} = 0: \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$k \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$

Plane	Trace
$z = k$	$k = \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} \stackrel{k \neq 0}{\Leftrightarrow} \frac{x^2}{4k} + \frac{y^2}{9k} = 1$
$x = 0$	$z = \frac{y^2}{9} \rightarrow$ parabola } upward
$y = 0$	$z = \frac{x^2}{4} \rightarrow$ parabola }

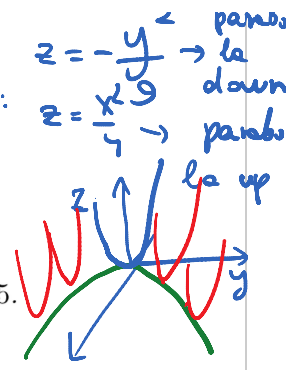
$\frac{0 \pm 1}{k} = 0: \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 0 \Rightarrow$
 $x=y=0 \rightarrow$ a point
 Case? $k > 0 \rightarrow$ ellipse with
 semi axes $2\sqrt{k}$ & $3\sqrt{k}$



elliptic
paraboloid

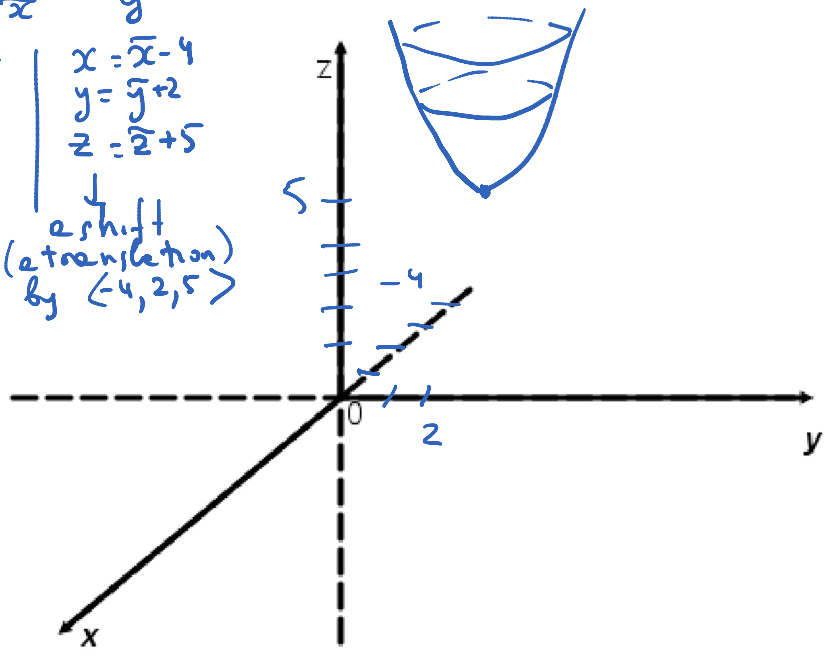
y -intercept: $z = -\frac{y^2}{9} \rightarrow$ parabola down
 x -intercept: $z = -\frac{x^2}{4} \rightarrow$ parabola down

What if we consider : $z = \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{y^2}{9}$; yz -intercept: $z = -\frac{y}{9}$ → parab down
 xz -intercept: $z = \frac{x^2}{4}$ → parab up
 hyperbolic paraboloid ← horizontal intercepts → hyperbolas if $k \neq 0$ and 2 lines if $k=0$
 TRANSLATIONS AND REFLECTIONS OF QUADRIC SURFACES



EXAMPLE 2. Describe and sketch the surface $z = (x+4)^2 + (y-2)^2 + 5$.

$z-5 = (x+4)^2 + (y-2)^2$
 $\bar{z} = \bar{x}^2 + \bar{y}^2$
 elliptic (even circular) paraboloid
 in $\bar{x} \bar{y} \bar{z}$ -space
 $x = \bar{x} - 4$
 $y = \bar{y} + 2$
 $z = \bar{z} + 5$
 a shift (a translation) by $\langle -4, 2, 5 \rangle$



Better look on traces of $y=k$: $z = \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{k^2}{9}$ parabolas up

Note that replacing a variable by its negative in the equation of a surface causes that surface to be reflected about a coordinate plane.

EXAMPLE 3. Identify and sketch the surface.

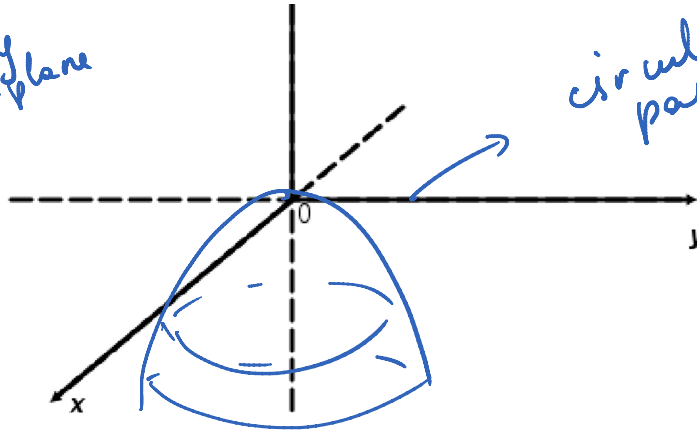
(a) $z = -(x^2 + y^2)$

We know how to draw $z = x^2 + y^2$
 replacing z by $-z$
 reflecting ... plane



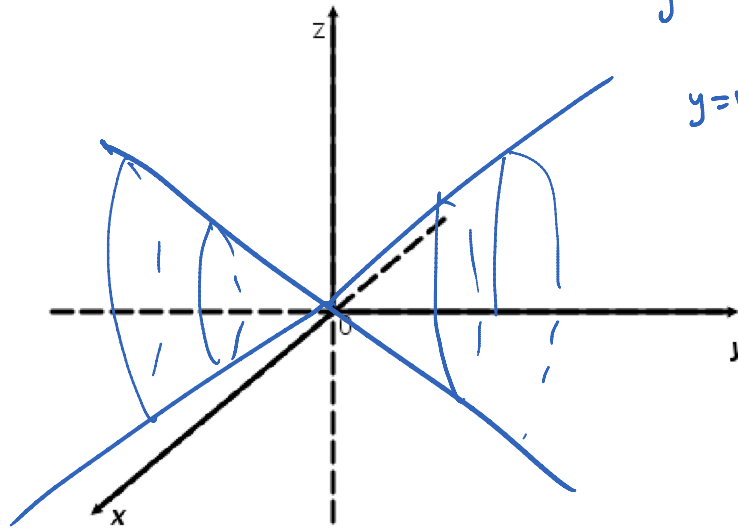
circular paraboloid and

z
↓
reflecting
w.r.t. xy -plane



circular
paraboloid
downward

(b) $y^2 = x^2 + z^2$



y^2 -intercept: $x=0$
 $y^2 = z^2 \Leftrightarrow y = \pm z$
 $y=k : x^2 + z^2 = k^2 \rightarrow$
circles

A cone
but around
 y -axis

EXAMPLE 4. Classify and sketch the surface

$$x^2 + y^2 + z - 4x - 6y + 13 = 0.$$

Complete squares: $(x^2 - \underline{4}x + 4) - 4 + (y^2 - 6y + 9) - 9 + z + 13 = 0$

Complete squares: $(x^2 - \underbrace{4x}_{2 \cdot 2} + 4) - 4 + (y^2 - \underbrace{6y}_{2 \cdot 3} + 9) - 9 + z + 13 = 0$

$$(x-2)^2 + (y-3)^2 + z - 4 - 9 + 13 = 0$$

$$z = -(x-2)^2 - (y-3)^2$$

elliptic (even circular) paraboloid with vertex $(2, 3, 0)$ directed down.

