# Métodos Matemáticos de Bioingeniería Grado en Ingeniería Biomédica Chapter 2: Differentation in Several Variables Lecture 5

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8 de marzo de 2021

# Outline

# 1 Functions of Several Variables; Graphing Surfaces

- Functions and applications
- Graphing functions: contour and level curves
- Conic sections curves

Functions and applications

# Outline

# Functions of Several Variables; Graphing Surfaces

- Functions and applications
- Graphing functions: contour and level curves
- Conic sections curves

Functions and applications

# Motivation

• The volume and surface area of a sphere depend on its radius:

$$V=rac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$
 and  $S=4\pi r^2$ 

• These equations define the volume and surface area as functions of the radius,

$$V(r)=rac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$
 and  $S(r)=4\pi r^2$ 

Functions have an essential characteristic:
 The so-called independent variable (the radius) determines

 a unique value of the dependent variable (V or S)

Functions and applications

# Motivation

- There are many quantities that are determined uniquely not by one variable **but by several** 
  - The area of a rectangle
  - The volume of a cylinder or cone
  - The average rainfall in Madrid
  - The National debt
  - ...
- Realistic modelling of the world requires the understanding of:
  - The concept of a function of more than one variable
  - How to find meaningful ways to visualize such functions

Functions and applications

#### Features of Any Function

- Any function has three features
  - 1. A domain set X.
  - 2. A codomain set Y.
  - 3. A rule of assignment that associates to each element x in the domain X a unique element, f(x), in the codomain Y.
- We will frequently use the notation

 $f:X \to Y$ 

• Such notation indicates the sets involving a particular function

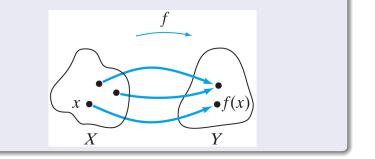
Although it does not make the nature of the rule of assignment explicit

Functions and applications

# Features of Any Function

$$f: X \to Y$$

• This notation also suggests the mapping nature of a function



Functions and applications

#### Example 1a

- Consider the act of assigning to each U.S. citizen his or her social security number.
- This pairing defines a function.

Each citizen is assigned one social security number

- The **domain** is the set of U.S. citizens.
- The codomain is the set of all nine-digit strings of numbers.

Functions and applications

### Example 1b

- A university assigns students to dormitory rooms.
- It is unlikely that it is creating a function from the set of available rooms to the set of students.
- Some rooms may have more than one student assigned to them.

A particular room does not necessarily determine a unique student occupant Functions and applications

# Definition 1.1: Range of a function

- The range or image of a function f : X → Y is the set of those elements of Y that are actual values of f.
- The range of f consists of those y in Y such that y = f(x) for some x in X.
- Using set notation,

Range f = Image f = { $y \in Y | y = f(x)$  for some  $x \in X$ }

Functions and applications

#### Example 1a

- Recall the social security function of Example 1a.
- The range consists of those nine-digit numbers **actually** used as social security numbers.
- For example, is the number 000 00 0000 in the range?

No one is actually assigned this number

Functions and applications

# Single-Variable Real functions

• For single-variable calculus, the functions of interest are those whose domains and codomains are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Usually only the rule of assignment is made explicit

- It is generally assumed that the domain is the largest possible subset of  $\mathbb R$  for which the function makes sense.
- The codomain is generally taken to be all of  $\mathbb R.$

# Example 3

- Suppose g is a function such that  $g(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ .
- If we take the codomain to be all of  $\mathbb{R}$ , the domain cannot be any larger than  $[1,\infty)$ .
- If the domain included any values less than one, the radicand would be negative and, hence, g would not be real-valued.

Functions and applications

# Multiple-Variable Real functions

Multiple-variable real functions are the functions whose

- Domains are subsets X of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and
- Codomains are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , for some  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$
- For simplicity of notation, we will take the codomains to be all of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (except when specified otherwise)
- Such a function is a mapping  $\mathbf{f}: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$

It associates to a vector (or point)  $\mathbf{x}$  in Xa unique vector (point)  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ 

Functions and applications

#### Example 4

• Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$T(x, y, z) = xy + xz + yz$$

- We can think of T as a sort of "temperature function".
- Given a point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, z)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , T(x) calculates the temperature at that point.

Functions and applications

# Example 5

• Let 
$$L: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$$
 be given by

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|$$

- This is a "length function".
- It computes the length of any vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- It is one-one? L is not, since,

$$L(\mathbf{e}_i)=L(\mathbf{e}_j)=1,$$

with  $\mathbf{e}_i$  and  $\mathbf{e}_i$  any two of the standard basis vectors for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

• Is *L* **onto**? *L* also fails to be onto, since the length of a vector is always non-negative.

Functions and applications

# Example 6

• Consider the function given by

$$\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}) = rac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|}$$

where **x** is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

• Note that  ${\bf N}$  is not defined if  ${\bf x}={\bf 0},$  so the largest possible domain for  ${\bf N}$  is,

$$\mathbb{R}^3 - \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

- The range of **N** consists of all unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- The function N is the "normalization function".
- It takes a nonzero vector in ℝ<sup>3</sup> and returns the unit vector that points in the same direction.

Functions and applications

# Example 7

- Sometimes a function may be given numerically by a table.
- One such example is the notion of windchill.

The apparent temperature one feels when taking into account both the actual air temperature and the speed of the wind

Air Temp (deg F)	Windspeed (mph)												
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	
40	36	34	32	30	29	28	28	27	26	26	25	25	
35	31	27	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	19	18	17	
30	25	21	19	17	16	15	14	13	12	12	11	10	
25	19	15	13	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	3	
20	13	9	6	4	3	1	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-4	
15	7	3	0	-2	-4	-5	-7	-8	-9	-10	-11	-11	
10	1	-4	-7	-9	-11	-12	-14	-15	-16	-17	-18	-19	
5	-5	-10	-13	-15	-17	-19	-21	-22	-23	-24	-25	-26	
0	-11	-16	-19	-22	-24	-26	-27	-29	-30	-31	-32	-33	
-5	-16	-22	-26	-29	-31	-33	-34	-36	-37	-38	-39	-40	
-10	-22	-28	-32	-35	-37	-39	-41	-43	-44	-45	-46	-48	
-15	-28	-35	-39	-42	-44	-46	-48	-50	-51	-52	-54	-55	
-20	-34	-41	-45	-48	-51	-53	-55	-57	-58	-60	-61	-62	
-25	-40	-47	-51	-55	-58	-60	-62	-64	-65	-67	-68	-69	
-30	-46	-53	-58	-61	-64	-67	-69	-71	-72	-74	-75	-76	
-35	-52	-59	-64	-68	-71	-73	-76	-78	-79	-81	-82	-84	
-40	-57	-66	-71	-74	-78	-80	-82	-84	-86	-88	-89	-91	
-45	-63	-72	-77	-81	-84	-87	-89	-91	-93	-95	-97	-98	

Functions and applications

#### Windspeed (mph) Air Temp (deg F) 5 10 15 20 25 45 50 55 30 35 40 28 40 36 34 30 29 28 26 26 35 31 27 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 19 18 30 19 16 14 13 25 7 19 9 8 6 5 4 4 20 13 9 6 4 3 1 0 -1-2-3-315 -2-77 3 0 -4-5 -8-9 -10-11-7 10 -4-9 -14-15-16-185 -5-10-13-15-17-19-21-22-23-24-250 -11-16-19-22-24-26-29-30-31-32-5-16-26-29-31-33-34-36-37-38-39-10-28-32-35-37-39-41-43-44-45-46-42-28-35-39-44-46-48-50-51-52-54-20-51-34-41-45-48-55-57-58-60-61-25-40-47-55-58-60-62-64-65-67-68-30-46-53-58-61-64-67-69-71-72-74-75

# Example 7

-35

-40

-45

-52 -59 -64 -68 -71 -73 -76 -78

-57 -66 -71 -74 -78 -80 -82 -84 -86 -88 -89 -91

-63 -72 -77 -81 -84 -87 -89 -91 -93 -95 -97 -98

 If the air temperature is 20°F and the windspeed is 25 mph, the windchill temperature ("how cold it feels") is 3°F

-79

-81 -82 -84

60

25

10

3

-4

-11

-19

-26

-40

-48

-55

-62

-69

-76

Functions and applications

# Example 7

Air Temp	Windspeed (mph)												
(deg F)	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	
40	36	34	32	30	29	28	28	27	26	26	25	25	
35	31	27	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	19	18	17	
30	25	21	19	17	16	15	14	13	12	12	11	10	
25	19	15	13	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	3	
20	13	9	6	4	3	1	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-4	
15	7	3	0	$^{-2}$	-4	-5	-7	-8	-9	-10	-11	-11	
10	1	-4	-7	-9	-11	-12	-14	-15	-16	-17	-18	-19	
5	-5	-10	-13	-15	-17	-19	-21	-22	-23	-24	-25	-26	
0	-11	-16	-19	-22	-24	-26	-27	-29	-30	-31	-32	-33	
-5	-16	-22	-26	-29	-31	-33	-34	-36	-37	-38	-39	-40	
-10	-22	-28	-32	-35	-37	-39	-41	-43	-44	-45	-46	-48	
-15	-28	-35	-39	-42	-44	-46	-48	-50	-51	-52	-54	-55	
-20	-34	-41	-45	-48	-51	-53	-55	-57	-58	-60	-61	-62	
-25	-40	-47	-51	-55	-58	-60	-62	-64	-65	-67	-68	-69	
-30	-46	-53	-58	-61	-64	-67	-69	-71	-72	-74	-75	-76	
-35	-52	-59	-64	-68	-71	-73	-76	-78	-79	-81	-82	-84	
-40	-57	-66	-71	-74	-78	-80	-82	-84	-86	-88	-89	-91	
-45	-63	-72	-77	-81	-84	-87	-89	-91	-93	-95	-97	-98	

• If *s* denotes **windspeed** and *t* **air temperature**, then the windchill is a function

W(s,t)

Functions and applications

### Scalar-valued functions

• The functions described in Examples 4, 5, and 7 are scalar-valued functions

# Functions whose codomains are $\mathbb{R}$ or subsets of $\mathbb{R}$

- Scalar-valued functions are our main concern for this chapter.
- Nonetheless, let's look at a few examples of functions whose codomains are ℝ<sup>m</sup> where m > 1. They are usually called

# Vector-valued functions

Functions and applications

# Example 8

• Define 
$$\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^3$$
 by

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$$

 $\bullet$  The range of f is the curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with parametric equations

$$\begin{cases} x = \cos t \\ y = \sin t \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \\ z = t \end{cases}$$

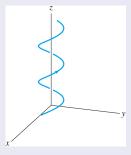
Functions and applications

# Example 8

• Define 
$$\mathbf{f}: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^3$$
 by

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$$

• If we think of t as a time parameter, then this function traces out the corkscrew curve.



• This curve is called a helix.

Functions and applications

# Example 9

- We can think on the velocity of a fluid as a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$
- This vector depends on (at least)
  - The point at which one measures the velocity , and
  - The time at which one makes the measurement
- Velocity may be considered to be a function

$$\mathbf{v}: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4 o \mathbb{R}^3$$

- The domain X is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :
  - Three variables *x*, *y*, *z* are required to describe a point in the fluid.
  - A fourth variable t is needed to keep track of time.

Functions and applications





• For instance, such a function **v** might be given by the expression

$$\mathbf{v}(x, y, z, t) = xyzt\mathbf{i} + (x^2 - y^2)\mathbf{j} + (3z + t)\mathbf{k}$$

Functions and applications

# Vector-valued functions explicit form

- In general, if we have a function  $\mathbf{f}: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ , then
  - $\mathbf{x} \in X$  can be written as,

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$

 $\bullet\,$  and f can be written in terms of its component functions,

$$f_1, f_2, ..., f_m$$

- The component functions are scalar-valued functions of x ∈ X.
- So, **Vector functions** can be written as the Cartesian product of scalar-valued functions. In general, is enough to study the properties of the scalar-valued function, and then apply those properties in each component.

Functions and applications

# Vector-valued functions explicit form

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
(emphasizing the variables)

$$= (f_1(\mathbf{x}), f_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{x}))$$
(emphasizing the component functions)

$$= (f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), \dots, f_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
(writing out all components)

Functions and applications

# Example 5

• Let 
$$L : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$$
 be given by

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|$$

• The function L, when expanded, becomes

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$$

Functions and applications

# Example 6

• Consider the function given by

$$N(x) = \frac{x}{\|x\|}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{x}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  .

• The function **N** becomes

$$\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} = \frac{(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}$$
$$= \left(\frac{x_1}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}, \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}, \frac{x_3}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}\right)$$

Functions and applications

# Example 6

 ${\ensuremath{\,\circ\,}}$  Hence, the three component functions of N are

$$N_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{x_1}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}$$

$$N_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}$$

$$N_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{x_3}{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}}$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

# Outline

# I Functions of Several Variables; Graphing Surfaces

Functions and applications

# • Graphing functions: contour and level curves

Conic sections curves

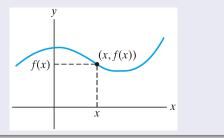
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

# Graphing Scalar-Valued Functions

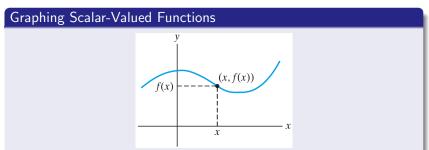
• A function  $f: X \subseteq \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  takes a real number and returns another real number

$$\xrightarrow{x} \mathbf{R} \xrightarrow{f} f(x)$$

• The graph of f is something that "lives" in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ 



Graphing functions: contour and level curves



• The graph of f consists of points (x, y) such that y = f(x).

Graph 
$$f = \{(x, f(x)) \mid x \in X\}$$

 In general, the graph of a scalar-valued function of a single variable is a curve
 A one-dimensional object sitting inside a two dimensional space
 Graphing functions: contour and level curves

# Graphing a Function of Two Variables

- Suppose we have a function  $f: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$
- We make essentially the same definition for the graph

Graph 
$$f = \{(\mathbf{x}, f(\mathbf{x})) \mid \mathbf{x} \in X\}$$

 $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$  is a point of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ 

• Thus,  $\{(\mathbf{x}, f(\mathbf{x}))\}$  may also be written as

 $\{(x, y, f(x, y))\}$  or  $\{(x, y, z) \mid (x, y) \in X, z = f(x, y)\}$ 

 $\bullet\,$  Hence, the graph of a scalar-valued function of two variables is something that sits in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 

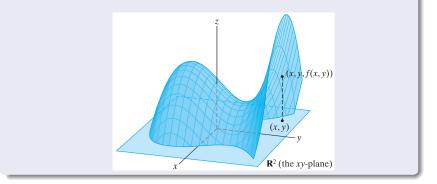
# The graph will be a surface

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

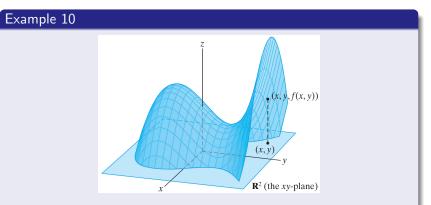
# Example 10

• Consider the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \ f(x,y) = rac{1}{12}y^3 - y - rac{1}{4}x^2 + rac{7}{2}$$



Graphing functions: contour and level curves



• Each point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , is graphed as a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with coordinates

$$\left(x, y, \frac{1}{12}y^3 - y - \frac{1}{4}x^2 + \frac{7}{2}\right)$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

# Contour Curves and Level Curves

• Graphing functions of two variables is a much more difficult task than graphing functions of one variable

One method is to let a computer do the work

 Nonetheless, to get a feeling, a sketch of a rough graph is still a valuable skill

The trick is to find a way to cut down on the dimensions involved

One way is to draw certain special curves that lie on the surface

$$z=f(x,y)$$

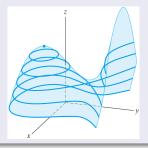
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Contour Curves and Level Curves

- This special curves that lie on the surface z = f(x, y) are called contour curves.
- Contour curves are obtained by intersecting the surface with horizontal planes *z* = *c*, for various values of the constant *c*.

#### Example 10

• Some contour curves drawn on the surface of Example 10



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Contour Curves and Level Curves

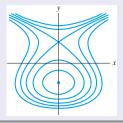
• Let us compress all the contour curves onto the xy-plane

## Look down along the positive *z*-axis

• Then we create a "topographic map" of the surface called level curves of the original function *f* 

#### Example 10

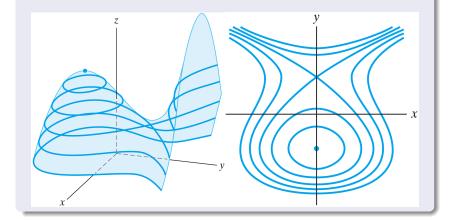
• Some level curves drawn for the Example 10



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 10

• Some contour and level curves drawn for the Example 10



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Contour Curves and Level Curves

We can reverse the process in order to sketch systematically the graph of a function f of two variables

- 1. We first construct a topographic map in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by finding the **level curves** of f.
- 2. Then situate these curves in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  as **contour curves** at the appropriate heights.
- 3. Finally, complete the graph of the function.

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Definition 1.4: Level Curve

- Let  $f: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$  be a scalar-valued function of two variables.
- The level curve at height c of f is the curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  defined by the equation

$$f(x,y)=c$$

where c is a constant.

In mathematical notation,

$$L_c = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid f(x, y) = c\}$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Definition 1.4: Contour Curve

- Let  $f: X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$  be a scalar-valued function of two variables
- The contour curve at height c of f is the level curve drawn in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- In mathematical notation,

$$C_c = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid f(x, y) = c\}$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

• By Definition 1.4, the level curve at height c is

$$\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 4 - x^2 - y^2 = c\} = \{(x,y) \mid x^2 + y^2 = 4 - c\}$$

- The level curves for c<4 are circles centered at the origin of radius  $\sqrt{4-c}$
- The level "curve" at height c = 4 is not a curve but just a single point (the origin)
- There are no level curves at heights larger than 4, since the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 4 c$  has no real solutions in x and y

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

С	level curve $x^2 + y^2 = 4 - c$
-5	$x^2 + y^2 = 9$
-1	$x^2 + y^2 = 5$
0	$x^2 + y^2 = 4$
1	$x^2 + y^2 = 3$
3	$x^2 + y^2 = 1$
4	$x^2 + y^2 = 0 \iff x = y = 0$
c, where $c > 4$	empty

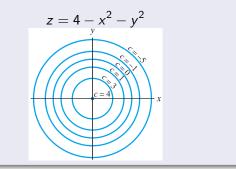
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

## Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

• "Topographic map" or family of level curves of the surface



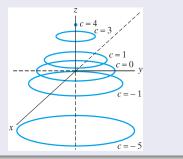
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

### Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

• Some contour curves, which sit in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :

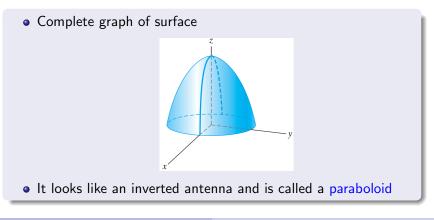


Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 11 - Sections of the surface

If you want to get even a better feeling about the shape of the surface, is also useful to "chop" the surface with (vertical) planes of the form x = c or y = c:

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

• Section of the surface  $z = 4 - x^2 - y^2$  by the plane x = 0

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = 4 - x^2 - y^2, x = 0\} = \{(0, y, z) \mid z = 4 - y^2\}$$

• Section of the surface  $z = 4 - x^2 - y^2$  by the plane y = 0

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = 4 - x^2 - y^2, y = 0\} = \{(x, 0, z) \mid z = 4 - x^2\}$$

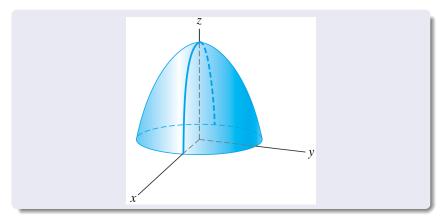
#### All these sections are parabolas

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

## Example 11

Use level and contour curves to construct the graph of the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$$

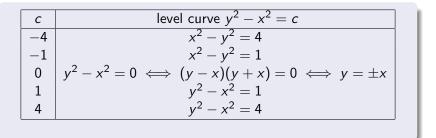


Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 12

Graph the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$$



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

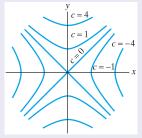
## Example 12

Graph the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$$

#### The level curves are almost all hyperbolas

• The exception is the level curve at height 0, which is a pair of intersecting lines



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 12

Graph the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$$

• Section of the surface  $z = y^2 - x^2$  by the plane x = c

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = y^2 - x^2, x = c\} = \{(c, y, z) \mid z = y^2 - c^2\}$$

Parabolas in the planes x = c

• Section of the surface  $z = y^2 - x^2$  by the plane y = c

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = y^2 - x^2, y = c\} = \{(c, y, z) \mid z = c^2 - x^2\}$$

Parabolas in the planes y = c

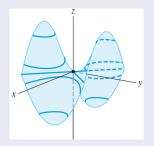
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 12

Graph the function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x,y) = y^2 - x^2$$

• The level curves and sections generate the contour curves and surface depicted in figure



• This surface is called a hyperbolic paraboloid.

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 13

Graph the function:

$$h: \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x,y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

• The level curve of h at height c is

$$\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \ln(x^2 + y^2) = c\} = \{(x,y) \mid x^2 + y^2 = e^c\}$$

• Since  $e^c > 0$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , the level curve

- Exists for any *c*, and
- Is a circle of radius  $\sqrt{e^c} = e^{c/2}$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

### Example 13

Graph the function:

$$h: \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0,0)\} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x,y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

С	level curve $x^2 + y^2 = e^c$	
-5	$x^2 + y^2 = e^{-5}$	
-1	$x^2 + y^2 = e^{-1}$	
0	$y^2 + x^2 = 1$	
1	$y^2 + x^2 = e$	
3	$y^2 + x^2 = e^3$	
4	$y^2 + x^2 = e^4$	

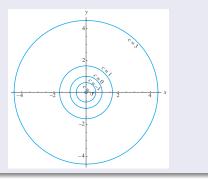
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 13

Graph the function:

$$h: \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0,0)\} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x,y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

• The collection of level curves is shown in figure



Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 13

Graph the function:

$$h: \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0,0)\} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x,y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

• Section of the graph by the plane x = 0

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = \ln(x^2 + y^2), x = 0\} \\= \{(0, y, z) \mid z = \ln(y^2) = 2\ln|y|\}$$

• Section of the graph by the plane y = 0

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z = \ln(x^2 + y^2), y = 0\} \\= \{(x, 0, z) \mid z = \ln(x^2) = 2\ln|x|\}$$

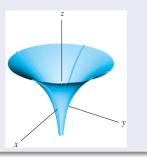
Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 13

Graph the function:

$$h: \mathbb{R}^2 - \{(0,0)\} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad h(x,y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$$

• The complete graph is shown in figure

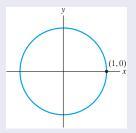


Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### The Unit Circle Example

Important remark: Not all curves in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  can be described as the graph of a single function of one variable

• The most familiar example is the unit circle



• Its graph cannot be determined by a single equation of the form

$$y = f(x)$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### The Unit Circle Example

• The graph of the circle may be described analytically by the equation

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

• In general, a curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is determined by an arbitrary equation in x and y

Not necessarily one that isolates *y* alone on one side

• This means that a general curve is given by an equation of the form

F(x,y) = c

# As level set of a function of two variables

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

## The Unit Circle Example

- The analogous situation occurs with surfaces in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Frequently a surface is determined by an equation of the form

$$F(x,y,z)=c$$

# As a level set of a function of three variables

• It is not necessarily one of the form

$$z=f(x,y)$$

If it is not possible to state a variable as function of the other ones then is called a **implicit formula**. All functions can be expressed as implicit formula doing, z - f(x, y) = c, c = 0.

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 15

A sphere is a surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 

whose points are all equidistant from a fixed point

• If this fixed point is the origin, then the equation for the sphere is

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{0}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\| = a$$

where a is a positive constant and  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, z)$  is a point on the sphere.

• If we square both sides of equation and expand the dot product

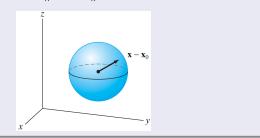
$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 15

#### A sphere is a surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$ whose points are all equidistant from a fixed point

• If the center of the sphere is at the point  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (x, y, z)$  then equation should be modified to

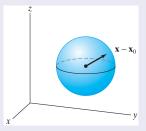


$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x_0}\| = a$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

## Example 15

# A sphere is a surface in $\mathbb{R}^3$ whose points are all equidistant from a fixed point



• When equation  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x_0}\| = a$  is expanded, the following general equation for a sphere is obtained

$$(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2 + (z - z_0)^2 = a^2$$

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

## Example 15

A sphere is a surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose points are all equidistant from a fixed point

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$$

- In the equation for a sphere, there is no way to solve for z uniquely in terms of x and y
- If we try to isolate z, then

$$z^2 = a^2 - x^2 - y^2$$

• So we are forced to make a choice of positive or negative square roots in order to solve for *z* 

$$z = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2}$$
 or  $z = -\sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2}$ 

Graphing functions: contour and level curves

#### Example 15

A sphere is a surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose points are all equidistant from a fixed point

$$z = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2}$$
 or  $z = -\sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2}$ 

• The positive square root corresponds to the upper hemisphere.

• The negative square root corresponds to the lower hemisphere.

## In any case, the entire sphere cannot be the graph of a single function of two variables

Conic sections curves

## Outline

## 1 Functions of Several Variables; Graphing Surfaces

- Functions and applications
- Graphing functions: contour and level curves
- Conic sections curves

Conic sections curves

## Quadratic Surfaces

#### Conic sections

- Conic sections are curves obtained from the intersection of a cone with various planes.
- They are among the simplest, yet also the most interesting, of plane curves:
  - The circle.
  - The ellipse.
  - The parabola.
  - The hyperbola.
- They have an elegant algebraic connection:

Every conic section is described analytically by a polynomial equation of degree two in two variables

Conic sections curves

#### Conic sections

Every conic section is described analytically by a polynomial equation of degree two in two variables

• That is, every conic can be described by an equation that looks like

$$Ax^2 + Bxy + Cy^2 + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

for suitable constants  $A, \ldots, F$ .

#### Conic sections curves

### General Quadric Surfaces

- In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , the analytic analogue of the conic section is called a quadratic surface.
- Quadratic surfaces are defined by equations that are polynomials of degree two in three variables

$$Ax2 + Bxy + Cxz + Dy2 + Eyz + Fz2 + Gx + Hy + Iz + J = 0$$

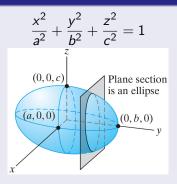
• To pass from this equation to the appropriate graph is, in general, a cumbersome process

We need the aid of either a computer or more linear algebra than we currently have at our disposal

 We sketch some examples whose corresponding analytic equations are relatively simple.

#### Conic sections curves

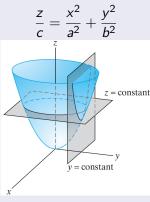
#### Ellipsoid



- It is the three-dimensional analogue of an ellipse in the plane.
- If a = b = c, then the ellipsoid is a sphere of radius a.
- The sections of the ellipsoid by planes perpendicular to the coordinate axes are all ellipses.

#### Conic sections curves

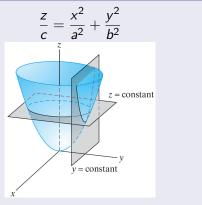
## Elliptic paraboloid



- The paraboloid has:
  - Elliptical (or single-point or empty) sections by the planes "z = constant", and
  - Parabolic sections by "x = constant" or "y = constant" planes

Conic sections curves

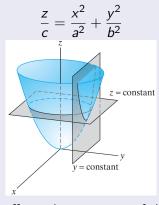
#### Elliptic paraboloid



• The constants *a* and *b* affect the aspect ratio of the elliptical cross sections

#### Conic sections curves

### Elliptic paraboloid

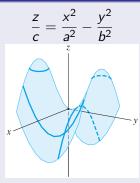


• The constant c affects the steepness of the dish

## Larger values of *c* produce steeper paraboloids

Conic sections curves

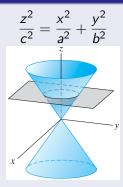
#### Hyperbolic paraboloid



- It is shaped like a saddle whose
  - "x = constant" or "y = constant" sections are parabolas , and
  - "z = constant" sections are hyperbolas

Conic sections curves

#### Elliptic cone



- The sections by "z = constant" planes are ellipses
- The sections by x = 0 or y = 0 are each a pair of intersecting lines.