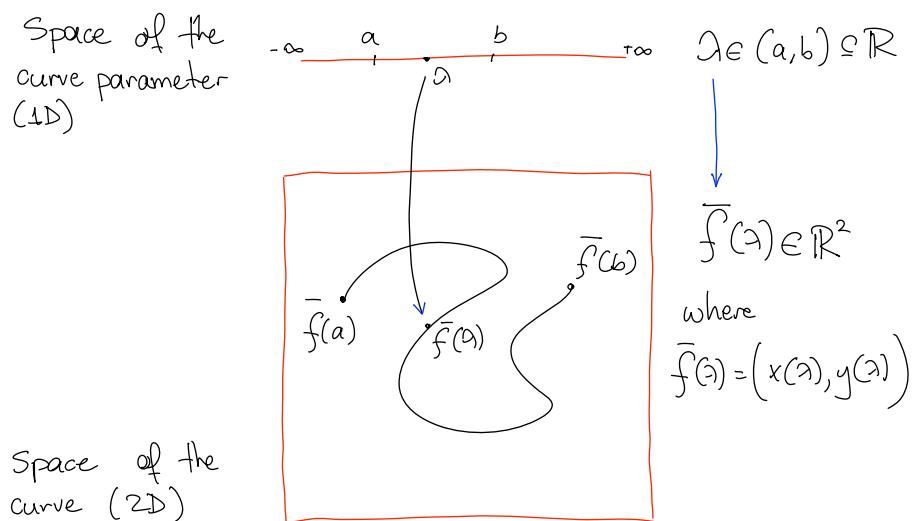


## Topic 5:

# 3D Objects

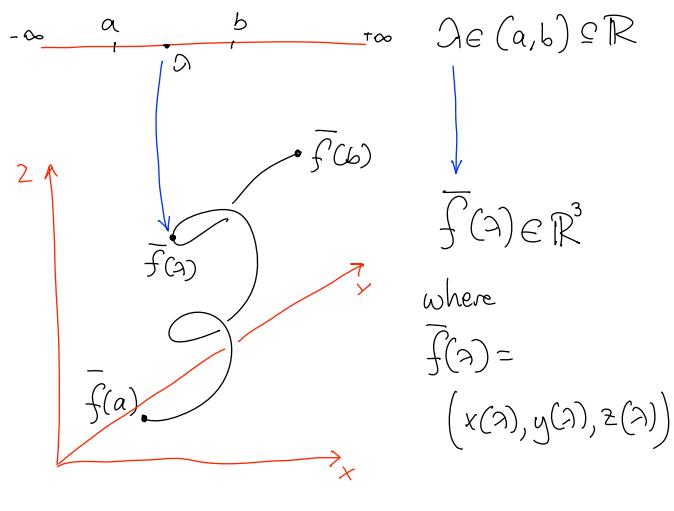
- General curves & surfaces in 3D
- Normal vectors, surface curves & tangent planes
- Implicit surface representations
- Example surfaces:  
surfaces of revolution, bilinear patches, quadrics

### Reminder: Curves in 2D



## Curves in 3D

Space of the curve parameter (1D)



Space of the curve (3D)

$$\gamma \in (a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

$$\bar{f}(\gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

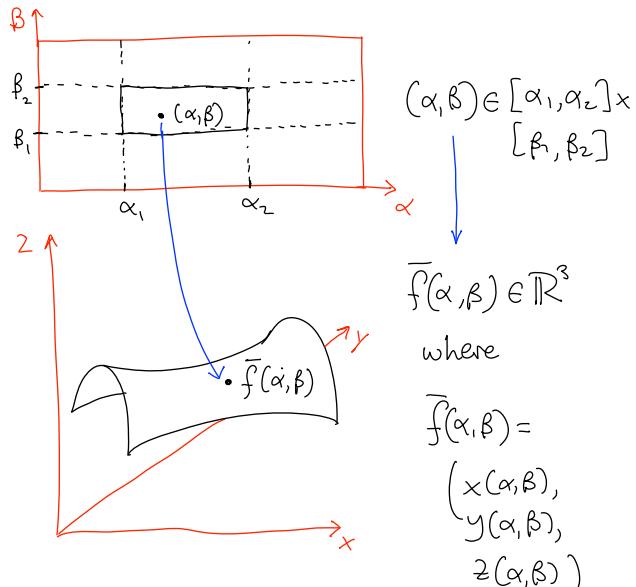
where

$$\bar{f}(\gamma) = (x(\gamma), y(\gamma), z(\gamma))$$

## Surfaces in 3D

Space of the surface parameters

Space of the surface (3D)



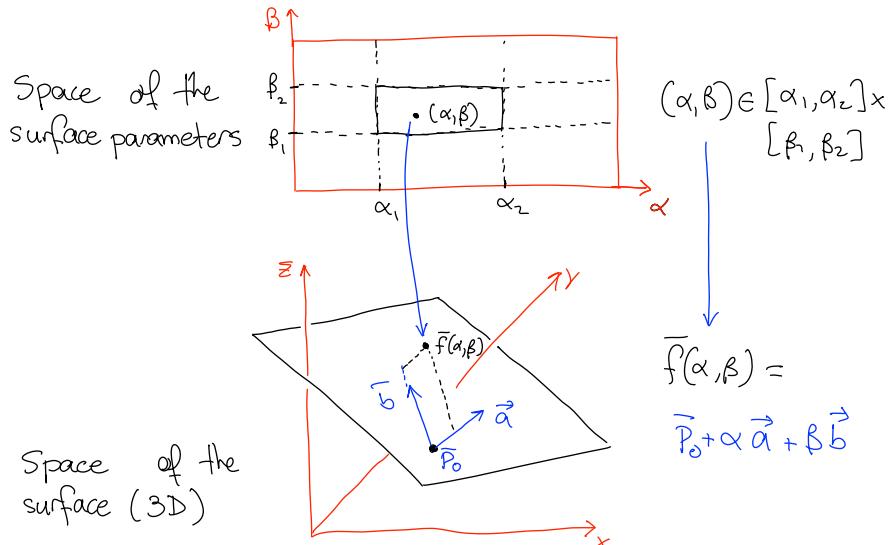
$$(\alpha, \beta) \in [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] \times [\beta_1, \beta_2]$$

$$\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

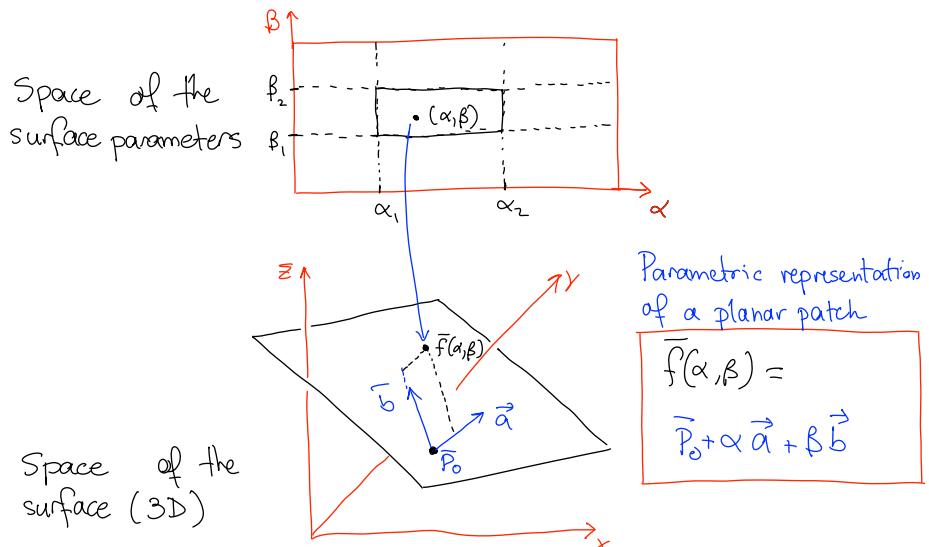
where

$$\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta) = (x(\alpha, \beta), y(\alpha, \beta), z(\alpha, \beta))$$

## Surface Example: Planes in 3D



## Surface Example: Planes in 3D



## Topic 5:

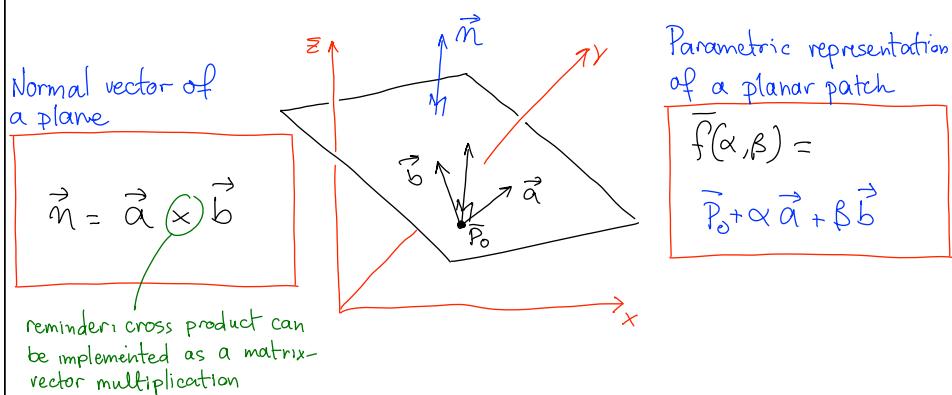
# 3D Objects

- General curves & surfaces in 3D
- Normal vectors, surface curves & tangent planes
- Implicit surface representations
- Example surfaces:  
surfaces of revolution, bilinear patches, quadrics

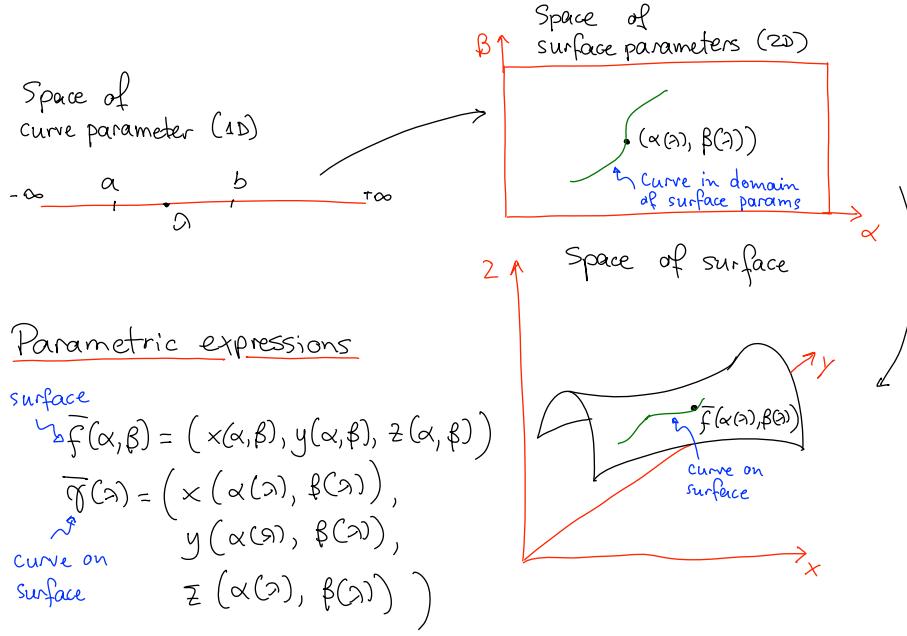
### Normal Vector of a Plane

#### Definition

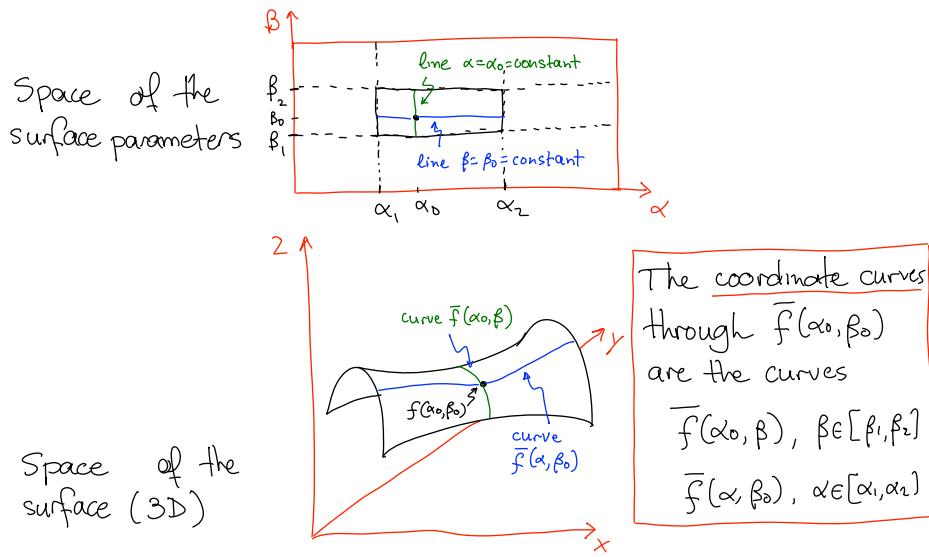
The normal vector of a plane is any vector that is perpendicular to it (i.e. normal  $\vec{n}$  is such that  $\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a} = \vec{n} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$ )



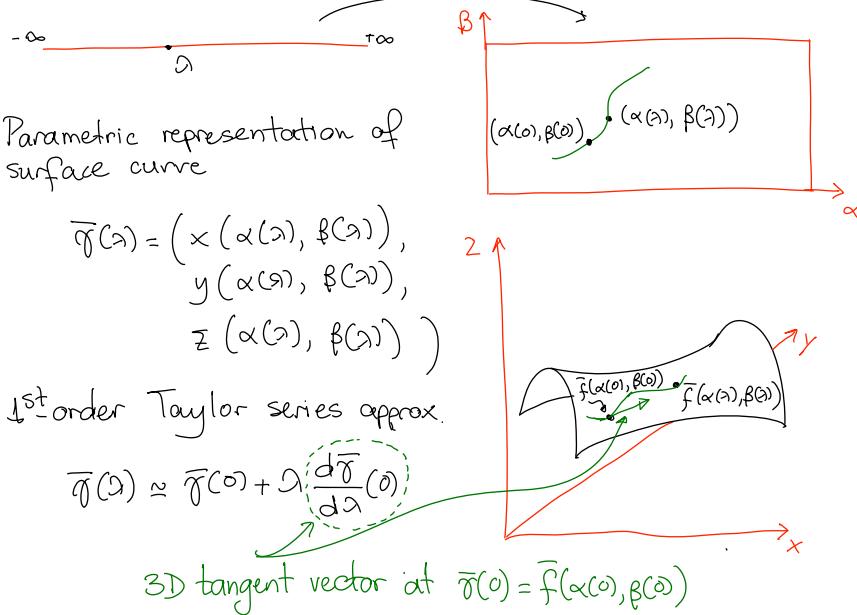
## Surface Curves: Parametric Representation



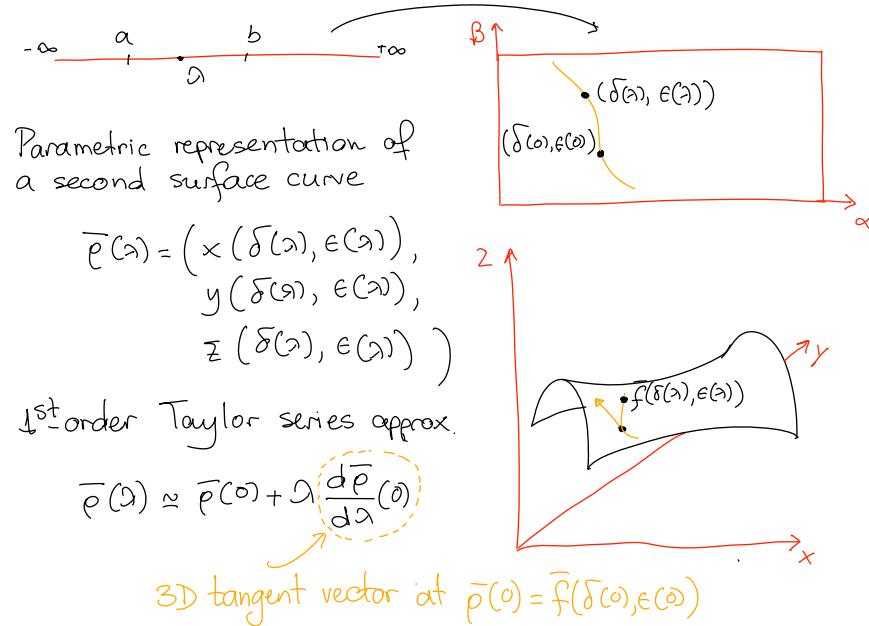
## The Coordinate Curves of a Surface



## The Tangent Vector of a Surface Curve



## The Tangent Vector of a Surface Curve



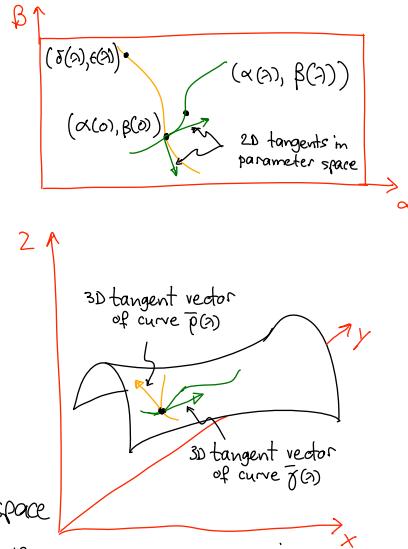
## The Set of All Curve Tangents at a Point

Question: What is the relation between

- the 3D tangent of a surface curve
- the corresponding 2D curve in the parameter space
- the 3D surface on which the curve lies?

Ans (intuitive)

- 3D tangent depends on 2D tangent in parameter space
- The set of all possible curve tangents spans a plane



## The Set of All Curve Tangents at a Point

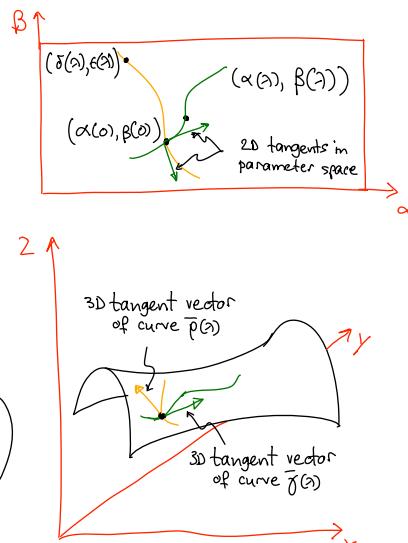
$$\text{Surface: } \vec{r}(\alpha, \beta) = (x(\alpha, \beta), y(\alpha, \beta), z(\alpha, \beta))$$

$$\text{Curve: } \vec{q}(t) = (x(\alpha(t), \beta(t)), y(\alpha(t), \beta(t)), z(\alpha(t), \beta(t)))$$

$$3D \text{ tangent: } \frac{d\vec{q}}{dt} = (\frac{\partial x}{\partial \alpha} \cdot \frac{d\alpha}{dt}, \frac{\partial x}{\partial \beta} \cdot \frac{d\beta}{dt}, \dots)$$

applying the chain rule, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\vec{q}}{dt} &= \left( \frac{\partial x}{\partial \alpha} \cdot \frac{d\alpha}{dt} + \frac{\partial x}{\partial \beta} \cdot \frac{d\beta}{dt}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{\partial y}{\partial \alpha} \cdot \frac{d\alpha}{dt} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial \beta} \cdot \frac{d\beta}{dt}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial \alpha} \cdot \frac{d\alpha}{dt} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial \beta} \cdot \frac{d\beta}{dt} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \alpha} \frac{d\alpha}{dt} + \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \beta} \frac{d\beta}{dt} \end{aligned}$$



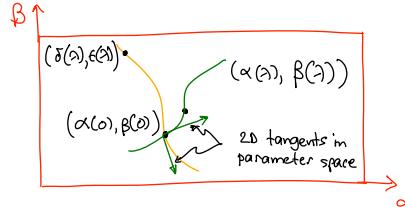
## The Set of All Curve Tangents at a Point

Surface:  $\vec{f}(\alpha, \beta) = (x(\alpha, \beta), y(\alpha, \beta), z(\alpha, \beta))$

Curve:  $\vec{r}(s) = (x(\alpha(s), \beta(s)),$

$y(\alpha(s), \beta(s)),$

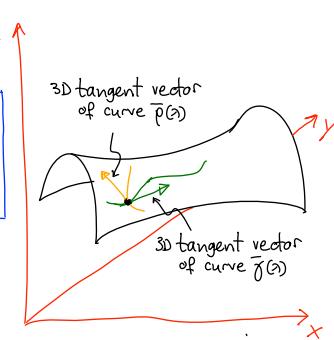
3D tangent:  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = (\alpha'(s), \beta'(s))$



3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \left( \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{ds} + \left( \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{ds}$$

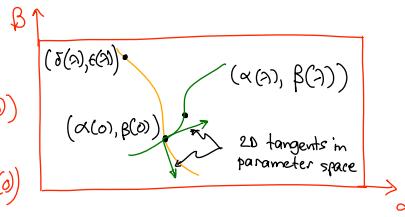


## The Tangent Plane of the Surface at a Point

The tangent of every surface curve through a point  $\vec{f}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$  is

a linear combination of the two 3D vectors  $\frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \alpha}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$  and  $\frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \beta}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$

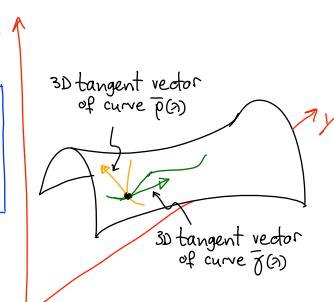
they span a plane called the tangent plane at  $\vec{f}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$



3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} = \left( \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{ds} + \left( \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{ds}$$



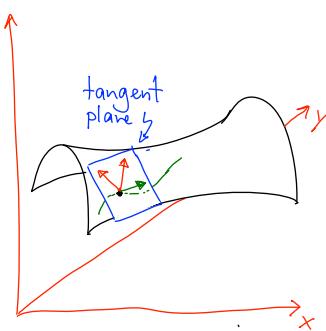
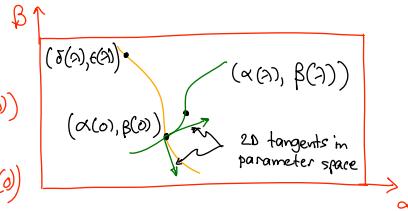
## The Tangent Plane of the Surface at a Point

The tangent of every surface curve through a point  $f(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$  is a linear combination of the two 3D vectors  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \alpha}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \beta}(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$ .  
 ⇒ they span a plane called the tangent plane at  $f(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$

3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda} = \left( \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{d\lambda} + \left( \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{d\lambda}$$



## The Tangent of a Surface Curve: Geometry

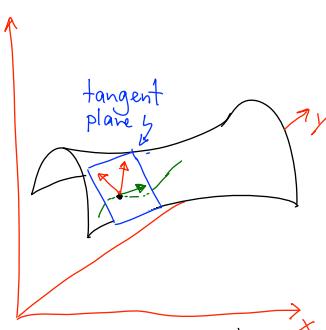
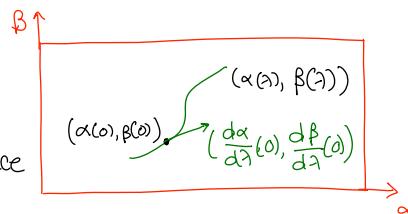
Question: What do the scalars  $\frac{d\alpha}{d\lambda}, \frac{d\beta}{d\lambda}$  represent geometrically?

Ans: They define the 2D tangent in parameter space

3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

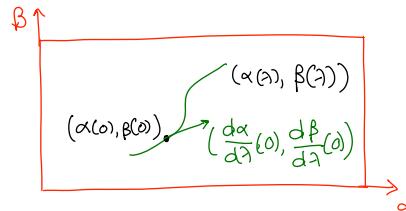
scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda} = \left( \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{d\lambda} + \left( \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{d\lambda}$$



## The Tangent of a Surface Curve: Geometry

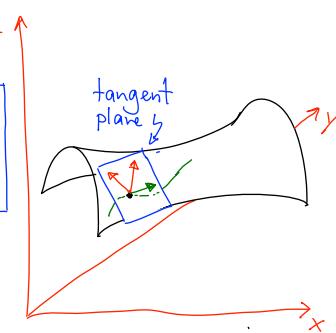
The tangent at parameter point  $(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$  determines the linear combination of vectors  $\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha}$  and  $\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta}$



3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\bar{f}}{d\gamma} = \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{d\gamma} + \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{d\gamma}$$



## The Tangent of a Surface Curve: Geometry

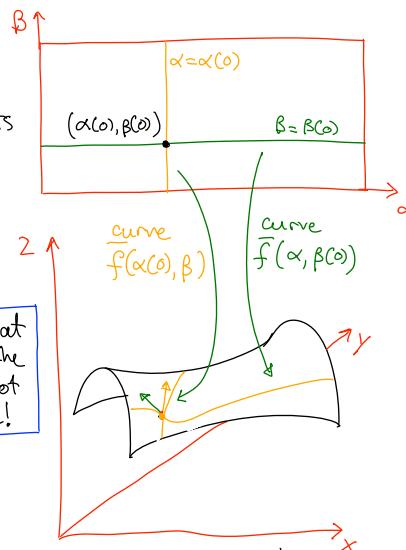
Question: What do the vectors  $\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta}$  represent geometrically?

Ans: They are the 3D tangents of the coordinate curves at  $(\alpha(0), \beta(0))$ . (Exercise: prove this!)

3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\bar{f}}{d\gamma} = \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{d\gamma} + \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{d\gamma}$$



## The Surface Normal at a Point

The tangent plane at  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$  is the plane spanned by vectors

$$\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha}(\alpha, \beta) \text{ and } \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta}(\alpha, \beta)$$

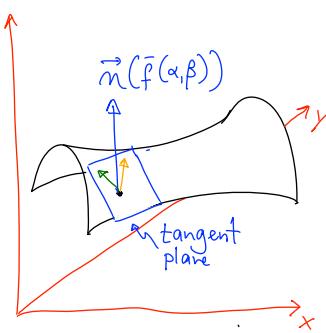
The surface normal at  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$  is the normal to the tangent plane:

$$\vec{n}(\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)) = \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha}(\alpha, \beta) \times \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta}(\alpha, \beta)$$

3D vectors that depend only on the surface, NOT the curve itself!

scalars that depend on the curve but not the surface!

$$\frac{d\bar{x}}{d\lambda} = \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \alpha} \right) \frac{d\alpha}{d\lambda} + \left( \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \beta} \right) \frac{d\beta}{d\lambda}$$



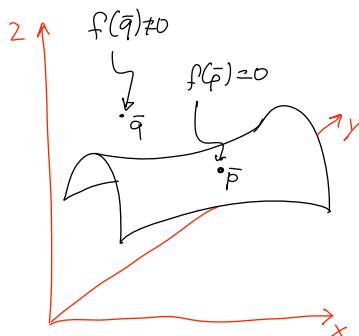
## Topic 5:

### 3D Objects

- General curves & surfaces in 3D
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- Implicit surface representations
- Example surfaces:  
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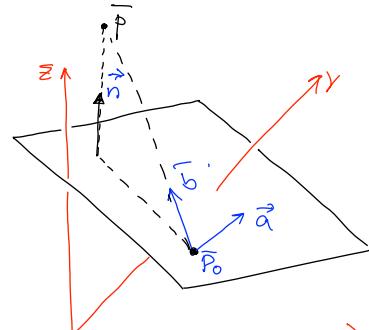
## Representing Surfaces by an Implicit Function

- Representation consists of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (called the Implicit Function)
- Surface defined as the set
 
$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid f(\vec{p}) = 0\}$$
- Intuitively,  $f$  can be thought of as measuring a "distance" to the surface
- Typically,  $f$  does NOT measure Euclidean distance to the surface



## Example: The Implicit Function of a Plane

- Representation consists of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- Surface defined as the set
 
$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid f(\vec{p}) = 0\}$$
- Intuitively,  $f$  can be thought of as measuring a "distance" to the surface
- Typically,  $f$  does NOT measure Euclidean distance to the surface



Example: Implicit function for a plane through  $\vec{p}_0$  with normal  $\vec{m}$ :

$$f(\vec{p}) = (\vec{p} - \vec{p}_0) \cdot \vec{m}$$

## The Level Sets of an Implicit Function

- Representation consists of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- Surface defined as the set

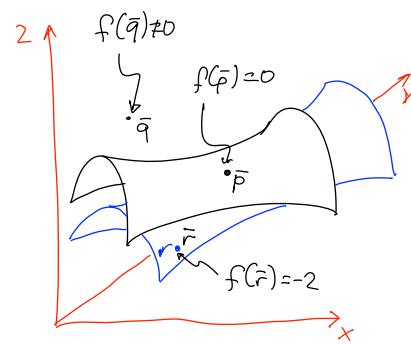
$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \{\bar{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid f(\bar{p}) = 0\}$$

- Intuitively,  $f$  can be thought of as measuring a "distance" to the surface

Given a value  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , the set

$$\mathcal{L}_c = \{\bar{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid f(\bar{p}) = c\}$$

also defines a surface called the  $c$ -level set of  $f$



Example: Point  $\bar{r}$  belongs to the  $-2$ -level set of  $f$ .

## Surface Normals from the Implicit Function

If  $\bar{p}$  is a surface point, the normal at  $\bar{p}$  is given by

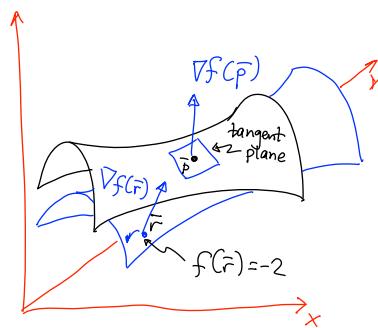
$$\vec{n}(\bar{p}) = \nabla f(\bar{p})$$

where

$$\nabla f(\bar{p}) = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\bar{p}), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\bar{p}), \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(\bar{p}) \right)$$

(a.k.a. the gradient of  $f$ )

Note: the above definition works for any level set: if  $\bar{r} \in \mathcal{L}_c$ , the normal of the  $c$ -level-set at point  $\bar{r}$  is given by  $\nabla f(\bar{r})$



## Surface Normals from the Implicit Function

**Proof:** Let  $\bar{q}(\lambda) = (x(\lambda), y(\lambda), z(\lambda))$  be a curve on the surface  $\mathcal{L}_c$  with  $\bar{q}(0) = \bar{r}$ .

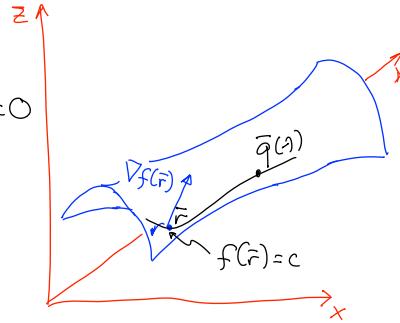
$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \lambda \quad f(\bar{q}(\lambda)) = c$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{df}{d\lambda}(\bar{q}(0)) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{d\lambda} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{d\lambda} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{d\lambda} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \nabla f(\bar{q}(0)) \cdot \frac{d\bar{q}}{d\lambda}(0) = 0$$

**Note:** the above definition works for any level set: if  $\bar{r} \in \mathcal{L}_c$ , the normal of the  $c$ -level-set at point  $\bar{r}$  is given by  $\nabla f(\bar{r})$



## Surface Normals from the Implicit Function

**Proof:** Let  $\bar{q}(\lambda) = (x(\lambda), y(\lambda), z(\lambda))$  be a curve on the surface  $\mathcal{L}_c$  with  $\bar{q}(0) = \bar{r}$ .

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \lambda \quad f(\bar{q}(\lambda)) = c$$

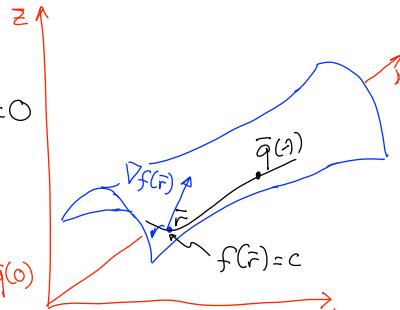
$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{df}{d\lambda}(\bar{q}(0)) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{d\lambda} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{d\lambda} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{d\lambda} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \nabla f(\bar{q}(0)) \cdot \frac{d\bar{q}}{d\lambda}(0) = 0$$

gradient at  $\bar{r}$

3D tangent at  $\bar{q}(0)$



since the above orthogonality holds

for any curve in  $\mathcal{L}_c$  through  $\bar{r}$ ,

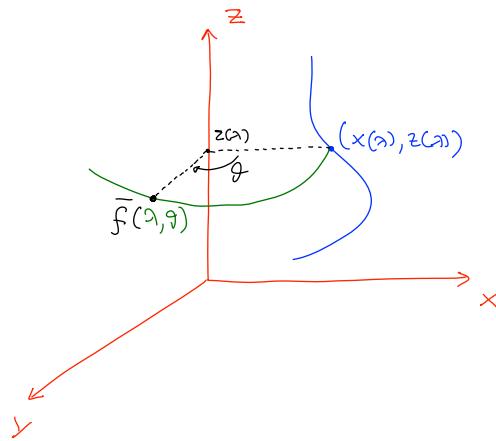
the gradient must be perpendicular to the tangent plane (QED).

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### Surfaces of Revolution: Basic Construction



Conceptual steps:

1. Define a 2D curve on the  $xz$ -plane:
2. Rotate it about the  $z$ -axis

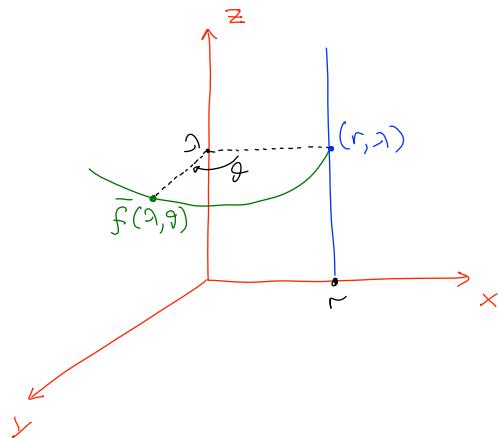
Another equivalent view:

- Point  $(x(\theta), y(\theta))$  will trace a circle in  $xy$ -plane
- The circle's radius is equal to  $x(\theta)$
- $\theta$  ranges in  $[0, 2\pi]$

Parametric representation

$$\bar{f}(\theta) = (x(\theta)\cos\theta, x(\theta)\sin\theta, z(\theta))$$

## Example: The Cylinder



Question: how do we express the cylinder of radius  $r$ ?

Ans:

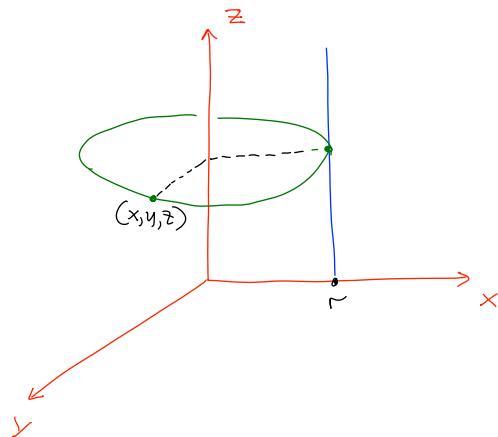
$$(x(\lambda), z(\lambda)) = (r \cos \theta, \lambda)$$

So

$$\bar{f}(\lambda, \theta) = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, \lambda)$$

Parametric representation  
 $\bar{f}(\lambda, \theta) = (x(\lambda) \cos \theta, x(\lambda) \sin \theta, z(\lambda))$

## Example: Implicit Function of the Cylinder



Question: how do we express the cylinder of radius  $r$ ?

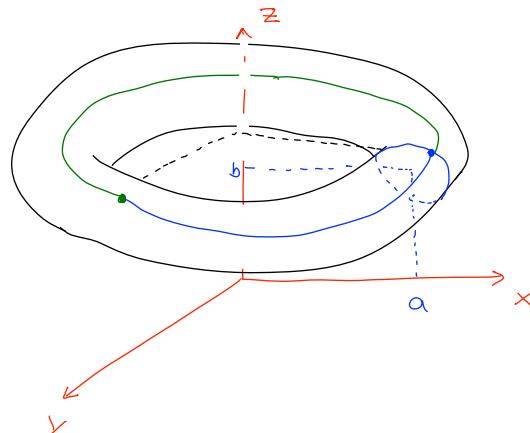
Ans:

The points  $(x, y, z)$  on the cylinder have constant distance  $r$  from  $z$ -axis

Implicit equation

$$f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 - r^2 = 0$$

## Example: The Torus as a Surface of Revolution



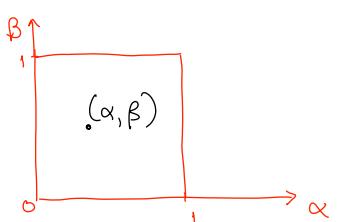
Question: how do we express the torus as a surface of revolution?

Ans: torus is formed by rotating a circle about the z-axis

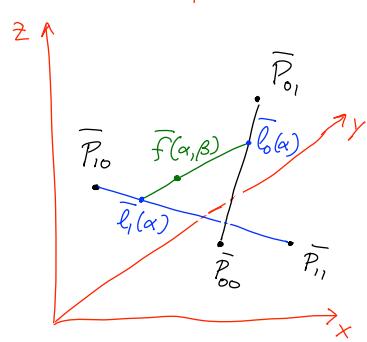
$$(x(\vartheta), z(\vartheta)) = (r \cos \vartheta + a, r \sin \vartheta + b)$$

Parametric representation  
 $f(\vartheta) = (x(\vartheta) \cos \vartheta, x(\vartheta) \sin \vartheta, z(\vartheta))$

## Bilinear Patches: Basic Construction



Space of parameters  
 $(\alpha, \beta) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$



Given 4 3D points  
 $\bar{P}_{00}, \bar{P}_{01}, \bar{P}_{10}, \bar{P}_{11}$ , the pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$   
 uniquely determines  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$ :

$$\bar{l}_0(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{00} + \alpha\bar{P}_{01}$$

$$\bar{l}_1(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{10} + \alpha\bar{P}_{11}$$

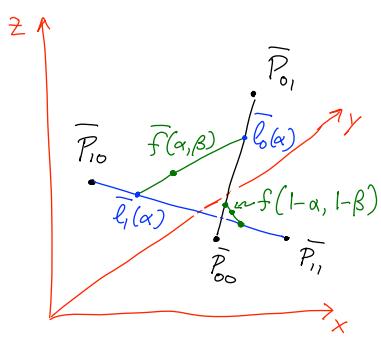
$$\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta) = (1-\beta)\bar{l}_0(\alpha) + \beta\bar{l}_1(\alpha)$$

## Bilinear Patches: Basic Construction

Question: What kind of surface do we get?

Is it a plane?

Ans.: It is a plane only if  $\bar{P}_{00}, \bar{P}_{01}, \bar{P}_{10}, \bar{P}_{11}$  are coplanar!



Given 4 3D points  
 $\bar{P}_{00}, \bar{P}_{01}, \bar{P}_{10}, \bar{P}_{11}$ , the pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$   
 uniquely determines  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$ :

$$\bar{l}_0(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{00} + \alpha\bar{P}_{01}$$

$$\bar{l}_1(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{10} + \alpha\bar{P}_{11}$$

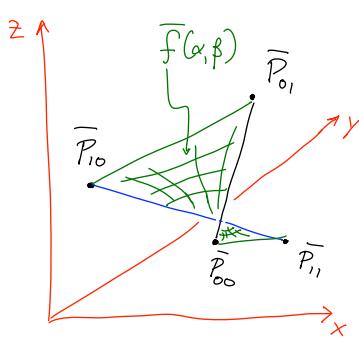
$$\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta) = (1-\beta)\bar{l}_0(\alpha) + \beta\bar{l}_1(\alpha)$$

## Bilinear Patches: Basic Construction

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Ans.: It is a plane only if  $\bar{P}_{00}, \bar{P}_{01}, \bar{P}_{10}, \bar{P}_{11}$  are coplanar!



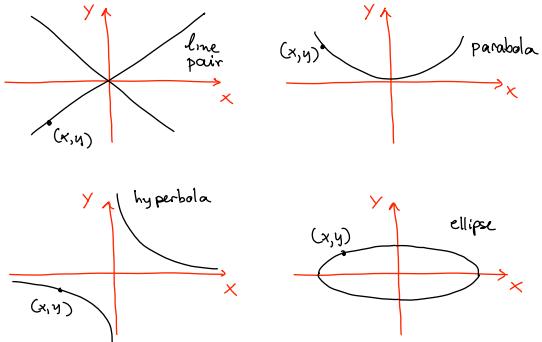
Given 4 3D points  
 $\bar{P}_{00}, \bar{P}_{01}, \bar{P}_{10}, \bar{P}_{11}$ , the pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$   
 uniquely determines  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$ :

$$\bar{l}_0(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{00} + \alpha\bar{P}_{01}$$

$$\bar{l}_1(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\bar{P}_{10} + \alpha\bar{P}_{11}$$

$$\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta) = (1-\beta)\bar{l}_0(\alpha) + \beta\bar{l}_1(\alpha)$$

## Refresher on (2D) Conic Sections



General implicit equation

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cxy + Dx + Ey + F = 0$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & y & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & C/2 & D/2 \\ C/2 & B & E/2 \\ D/2 & E/2 & F \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

shape controlled by params

$A, B, C, D, E, F$   
(one of  $A, B, C$  must be  $\neq 0$ )

same eq but in

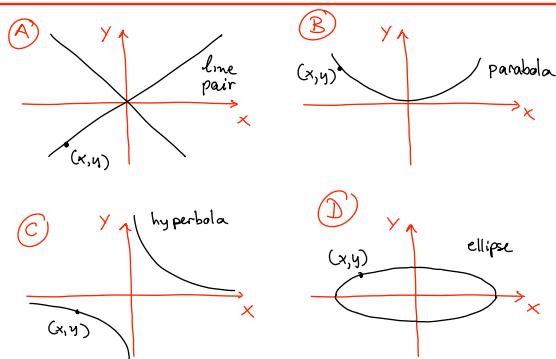
homogeneous/matrix  
notation

## Quadric Surfaces: Basic Construction

Definition:

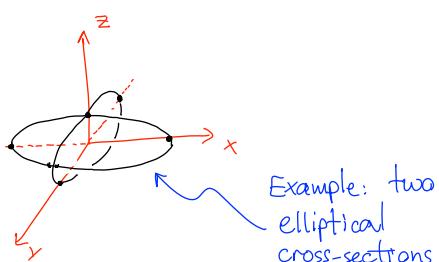
Surfaces whose planar cross-sections are conics

are conics



Intuition:

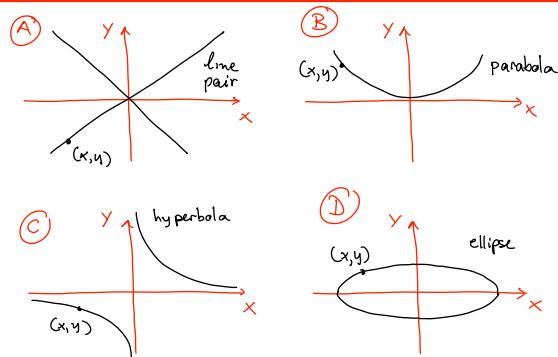
To visualize all possible shapes, consider their cross-sections with planes parallel to  $xz$  and  $yz$  planes



## Quadric Surfaces: Basic Construction

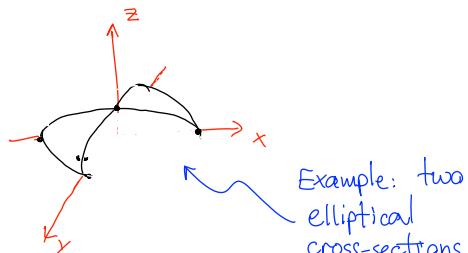
Case ④+⑤:

Ellipsoid



Intuition:

To visualize all possible shapes, consider their cross-sections with planes parallel to  $xz$  and  $yz$ -planes

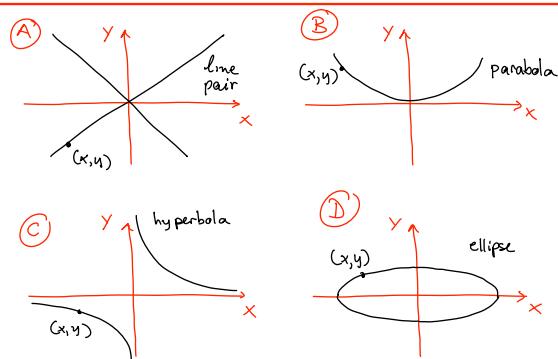


Example: two elliptical cross-sections

## Quadric Surfaces: Basic Construction

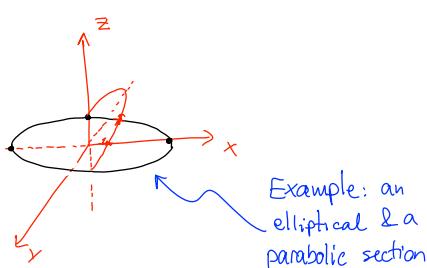
Case ④+⑤

Elliptical paraboloid



Intuition:

To visualize all possible shapes, consider their cross-sections with planes parallel to  $xz$  and  $yz$ -planes

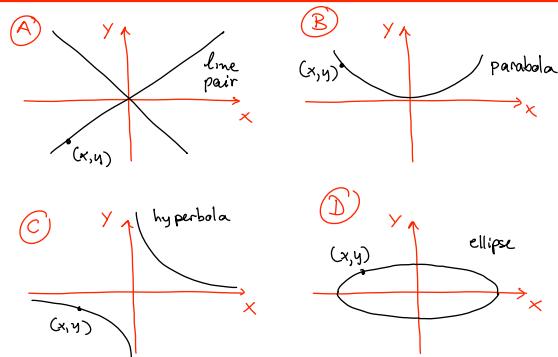


Example: an elliptical & a parabolic section

## Quadric Surfaces: Basic Construction

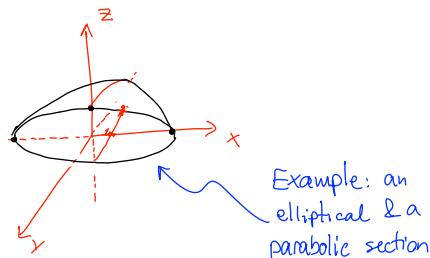
Case (B) + (D)

Elliptical paraboloid



Intuition:

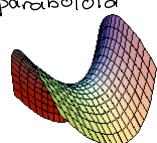
To visualize all possible shapes, consider their cross-sections with planes parallel to  $xz$  and  $yz$ -planes



## Quadric Surfaces: Basic Construction

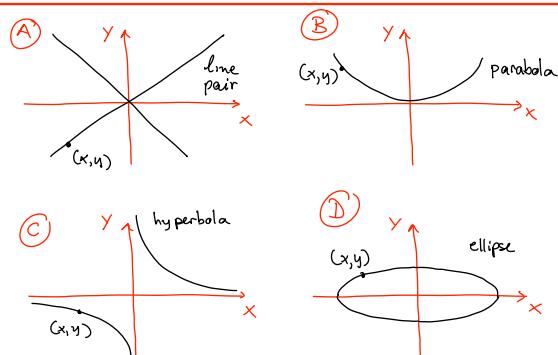
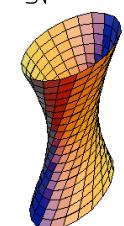
(B) + (C)

Hyperbolic paraboloid



(C) + (D)

Elliptic hyperboloid



## Quadric Surfaces: Implicit Equation

General implicit equation

$$[x \ y \ z \ 1] \begin{bmatrix} A & D & E & G \\ D & B & F & H \\ E & F & C & I \\ G & H & I & J \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

defined up to a scale factor

- 9 total degrees of freedom
- Planar cross-sections produce curves with an implicit eq of a conic section
- Only 5 parameters used (those circled) when cross-sections are "centered" on XY-, YZ-, XZ-planes

## Polygonal Meshes

Definition (polygonal mesh)

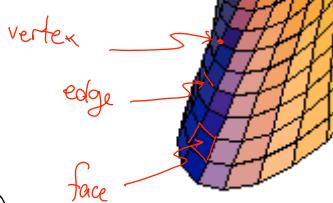
A collection of polygons

- vertices
- edges
- faces

· Polyhedron: a closed, connected, polygonal mesh

· Face: Planar polygonal patch inside a mesh

· A mesh is simple when it has no holes (i.e. topologically equiv to a sphere)



## Polygonal Meshes

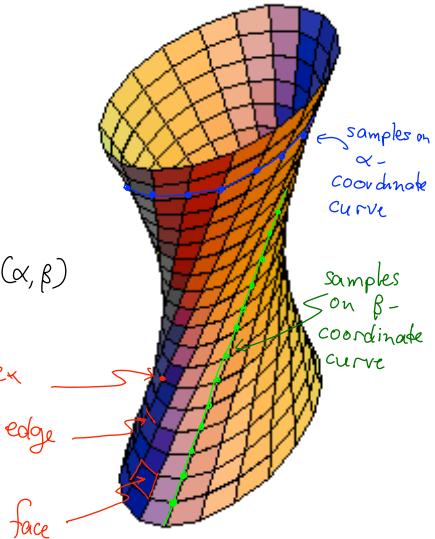
Definition (polygonal mesh)

A collection of polygons

- vertices
- edges
- faces

Given a parametric surface  $\bar{f}(\alpha, \beta)$   
we can sample values of  $\alpha, \beta$

to define a mesh that  
approximates it



## Generating Triangle Meshes

A quadruple of  
points may not  
define a  
planar face



Solution: break up quad  
into 2 triangles

\* See online notes on how  
to do this properly

\* See online notes about what  
data structure to use to store a mesh.

