

IV Traces vs Graphs

Compare $\checkmark^{B1, B2 \text{ or } C1}$ with $A1 \sim A4$. fundamental difference?

Geometrically, in type B & C, at any point (x, y, z) in the domain, we can "unambiguously" tell the z value by looking "up or down". (Not so in type A)

Algebraically, equations in type B & C can all be rewritten unambiguously into $z = \dots$ (in type A there will be \pm involved)

In other words, plots in type B & C are determined by first two components of the coordinates, they're "graphs" of α functions.

Precise Definitions:

Recall,
Defn The trace (or plot) of an equation $P: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$= \left\{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid P(\vec{x}) = 0 \right\}$$

e.g. \checkmark^{III} Sphere of radius r is the trace of

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

(also called "level set of P at 0)

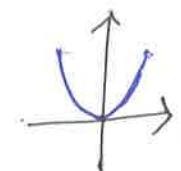
Defn a function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is a rule that associates ②
each element $x \in A$ unambiguously to an
element $f(x) \in B$

Defn For $f: \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the graph of f is defined.

$$\text{to be } \text{Gr}(f) = \left\{ (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})) \mid (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \right\}$$

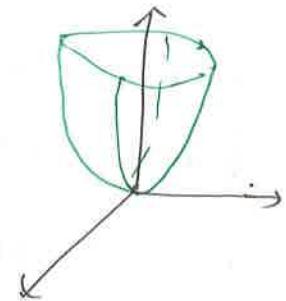
e.g. ④ 2 $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(x) = x^2$

$$\text{Gr}(f) = \left\{ (x, x^2) \mid x \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$



④ 3 $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$
(elliptical paraboloid)

$$\text{Gr}(f) = \left\{ (x, y, x^2 + y^2) \mid (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



A graph is always a trace:

for $f: \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

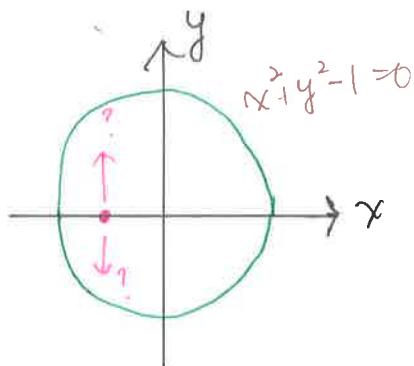
$$\text{Gr}(f) = \text{Trace defined by } P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_n - f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$$

In ④ 3, $\text{Gr}(f) = \text{Trace of } P(x, y, z) = z - f(x, y)$
 $= z - (x^2 + y^2)$

$$(\text{" } z = x^2 + y^2 \text{"})$$

Converse is NOT true:

(3)



Not graph of any function.

When are traces graphs?
(if no obvious sketch available)

ANS: Implicit Function Theorem.

10/22 ends



