

# *Vector Equation of a Circle*

2D

$$\left| \underline{v} - \underline{v}_0 \right| = r$$

Is the **vector equation** of a circle in 2D with;  
centre:  $\underline{v}_0$   
radius =  $r$  units

$$\left| (x - x_0)\underline{i} + (y - y_0)\underline{j} \right| = r$$

$$(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2 = r^2$$

**cartesian equation of a circle**

$$\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$

$$r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta = r^2$$

$$\text{let } (x - x_0) = r \cos \theta \Rightarrow x = x_0 + r \cos \theta$$

$$(y - y_0) = r \sin \theta \Rightarrow y = y_0 + r \sin \theta$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} r \cos \theta \\ r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**parametric equation of a circle**

e.g. Show that  $(\underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j}) \cdot (\underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j}) = 12$  represents a circle and find its centre and radius

$$(\underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j}) \cdot (\underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j}) = 12$$

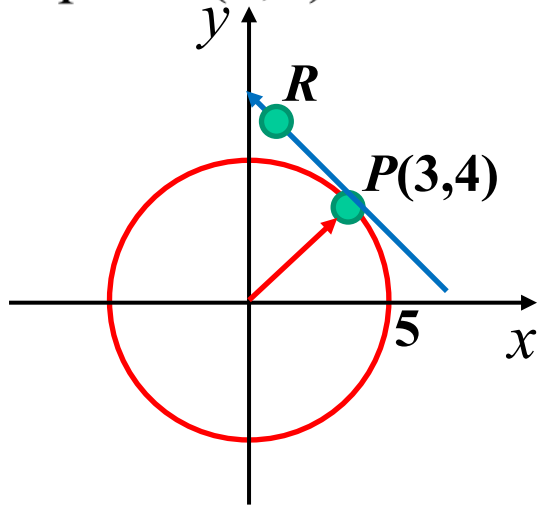
$$\left| \underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j} \right|^2 = 12$$

$$\left| \underline{r} - 2\underline{i} + 3\underline{j} \right| = 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$\underline{u} \cdot \underline{u} = |\underline{u}|^2$$

which represents a circle, centre  $(2, -3)$  and radius  $2\sqrt{3}$  units

(ii) a) Find a vector equation of the tangent to  $x^2 + y^2 = 25$  at the point  $(3,4)$



$$\vec{PR} = (r - 3i - 4j)$$

$$\vec{OP} = 3i + 4j$$

$$\vec{PR} \cdot \vec{OP} = 0 \quad (\text{radius} \perp \text{tangent})$$

$$\underline{(r - 3i - 4j) \cdot (3i + 4j) = 0}$$

b) Find the Cartesian equation of the tangent

$$\left( (x - 3)i + (y - 4)j \right) \cdot (3i + 4j) = 0$$

$$3(x - 3) + 4(y - 4) = 0$$

$$3x - 9 + 4y - 16 = 0$$

$$\underline{3x + 4y - 25 = 0}$$

# Vector Equation of a Sphere

3D

$$\left| \underline{v} - \underline{v}_0 \right| = r$$

Is the **vector equation** of a sphere in 3D with;  
centre:  $\underline{v}_0$   
radius =  $r$  units

$$\left| (x - x_0)\underline{i} + (y - y_0)\underline{j} + (z - z_0)\underline{k} \right| = r$$

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

**cartesian equation  
of a sphere**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} r \cos \theta \cos \varphi \\ r \cos \theta \sin \varphi \\ r \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**parametric equation  
of a sphere**

e.g. The spheres with equations  $(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + (z - 4)^2 = 16$  and  $(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + (z + 2)^2 = 25$  intersect at a circle.

a) Upon which plane does the circle lie?

$$\begin{aligned}(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + (z - 4)^2 &= 16 \\ (x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + (z + 2)^2 &= 25\end{aligned}$$

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$$(z + 2)^2 - (z - 4)^2 = 9$$

$$z^2 + 4z + 4 - z^2 + 8z - 16 = 9$$

$$12z = 21$$

$$z = \frac{7}{4}$$

the two spheres intersect on the plane  $z = \frac{7}{4}$

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b) Find the centre and radius of the intersecting circle

$$(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + \left(\frac{7}{4} - 4\right)^2 = 16$$

$$(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 + \frac{81}{16} = 16$$

$$(x + 2)^2 + (y + 3)^2 = \frac{175}{16}$$

circle has centre  $\left(-2, -3, \frac{7}{4}\right)$  and radius  $= \frac{5\sqrt{7}}{4}$  units

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(ii) Find the intersection points of the sphere  $\left| \underline{r} - \underline{i} - 4\underline{j} \right| = 4$  and the line  $\underline{r} = \underline{i} + 2\underline{j} + 3\underline{k} + \lambda(\underline{i} - 2\underline{k})$

$$\left| \underline{i} + 2\underline{j} + 3\underline{k} + \lambda(\underline{i} - 2\underline{k}) - \underline{i} - 4\underline{j} \right| = 4$$

$$\left| \lambda\underline{i} - 2\underline{j} + (3 - 2\lambda)\underline{k} \right| = 4$$

$$\lambda^2 + 4 + 9 - 12\lambda + 4\lambda^2 = 16$$

$$5\lambda^2 - 12\lambda - 3 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{204}}{10}$$

$$= \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{51}}{5}$$

$$x = 1 + \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{51}}{5}$$

$$y = 2$$

$$z = 3 - \frac{12 \pm 2\sqrt{51}}{5}$$

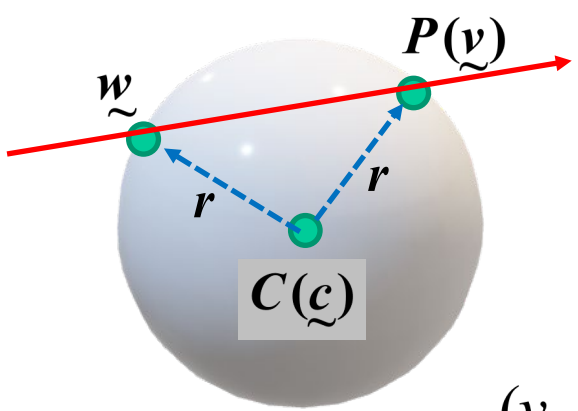
pts of intersection are  $\left( \frac{11 + \sqrt{51}}{5}, 2, \frac{3 - 2\sqrt{51}}{5} \right)$  and  $\left( \frac{11 - \sqrt{51}}{5}, 2, \frac{3 + 2\sqrt{51}}{5} \right)$

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(iii) Let  $\underline{v}$  be the position vector of a point  $P$  on a sphere  $S$  with centre  $C$  and radius  $r$ , so that  $|\underline{v} - \underline{c}| = r$ , where  $\underline{c} = \overrightarrow{OC}$  Do NOT prove this)

a) The equation of the line  $l$  through  $P$  in the direction of the vector  $\underline{m}$   
 $\underline{w} = \underline{v} + \lambda \underline{m}$

Find the values of  $\lambda$  that correspond to the intersection of the line  $l$  and the sphere  $S$ . Give your answer in terms of  $\underline{v}$ ,  $\underline{c}$  and  $\underline{m}$



$$|\underline{w} - \underline{c}| = r$$

$$|\underline{v} + \lambda \underline{m} - \underline{c}| = r$$

$$[(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) + \lambda \underline{m}] \cdot [(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) + \lambda \underline{m}] = r^2$$

$$(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot (\underline{v} - \underline{c}) + 2\lambda(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot \underline{m} + \lambda^2 \underline{m} \cdot \underline{m} = r^2$$

$$|\underline{v} - \underline{c}|^2 + 2\lambda(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot \underline{m} + \lambda^2 |\underline{m}|^2 = r^2$$

$$r^2 + 2\lambda(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot \underline{m} + \lambda^2 |\underline{m}|^2 = r^2$$



$$2\lambda(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot \underline{m} + \lambda^2 |\underline{m}|^2 = 0$$

$$\lambda[2(\underline{v} - \underline{c}) \cdot \underline{m} + \lambda |\underline{m}|^2] = 0$$

$$\lambda = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = \frac{2\underline{m} \cdot (\underline{c} - \underline{v})}{|\underline{m}|^2}$$

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b) Deduce that the line  $l$  is tangent to the sphere  $S$  if and only if  $\underline{m} \cdot (\underline{v} - \underline{c}) = 0$ . Interpret this result geometrically

If  $l$  is a tangent, then there is only one point of intersection

$$\text{i.e. } \underline{w} = \underline{v}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{v} + \lambda \underline{m} &= \underline{v} \\ \lambda &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{-2\underline{m} \cdot (\underline{c} - \underline{v})}{|\underline{m}|^2} = 0$$

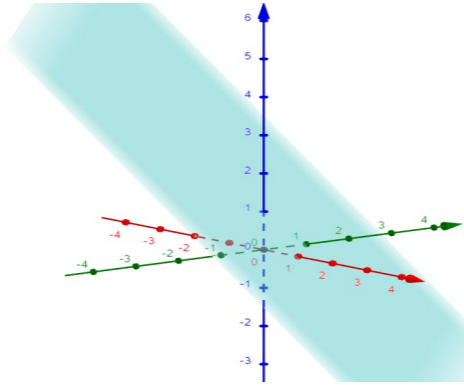
$$\underline{m} \cdot (\underline{v} - \underline{c}) = 0$$

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If the dot product equals zero then the tangent must be perpendicular to the radius.

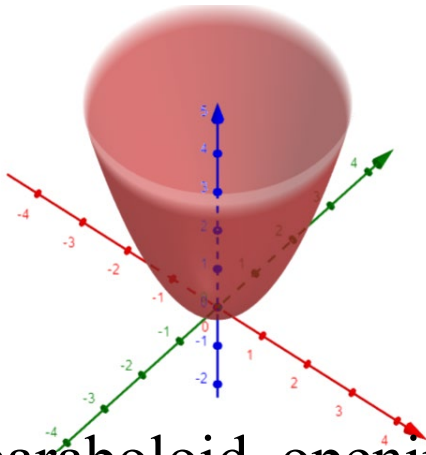
# Other Common Graphs in 3D

$$ax + by + cz = d$$



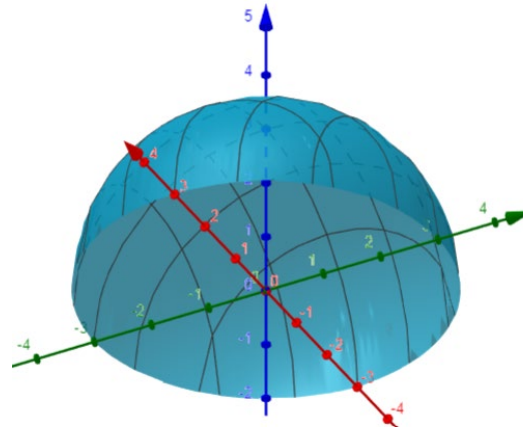
plane

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



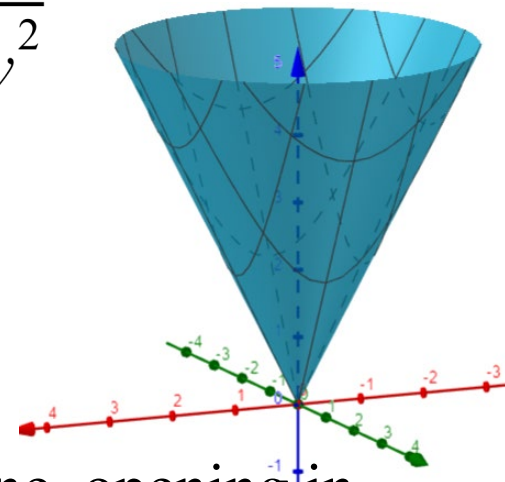
paraboloid, opening  
in the z direction

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



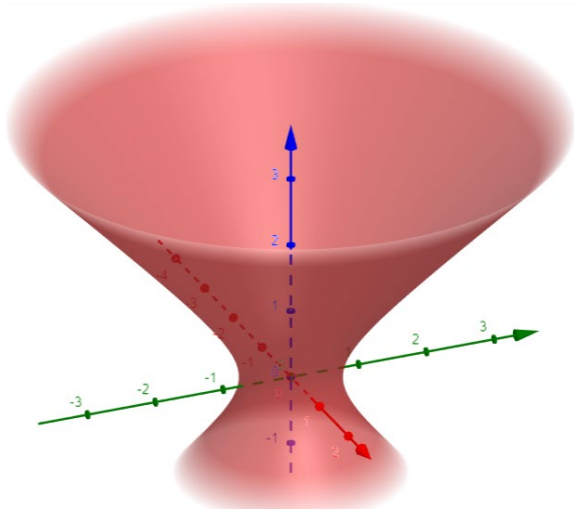
hemisphere, with base on xy plane

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



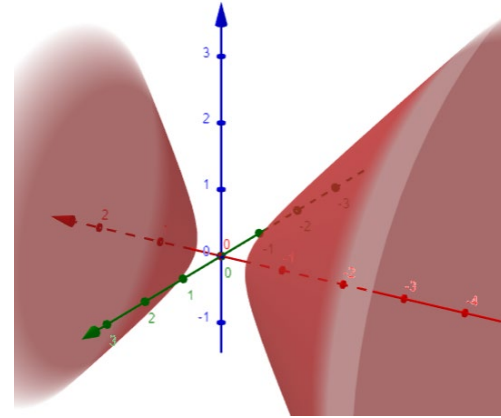
cone, opening in  
the z direction

$$x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = d$$



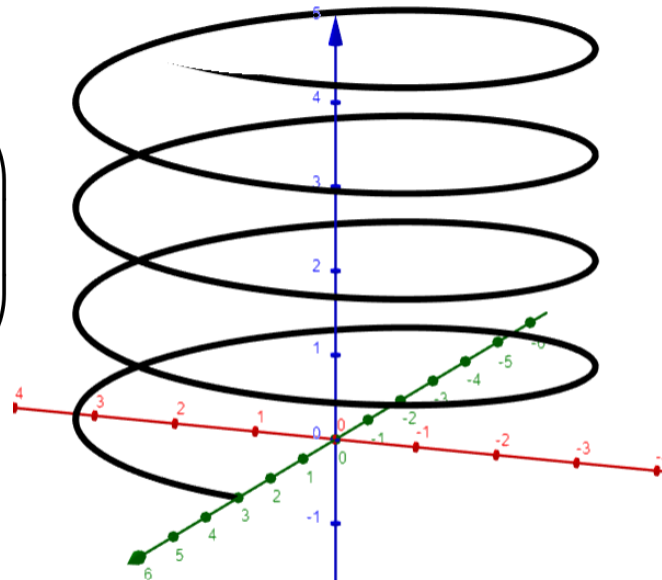
hyperboloid of one sheet

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



hyperboloid of two sheets

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \sin 5t \\ 3 \cos 5t \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$



helix (spiral)

**Exercise 5G; 1, 2, 4, 5b, 7, 8, 9, 10,  
11, 13, 14, 15, 17a, 18**