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1 Conic Sections

A conic in general form can be written as

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



2 Quadric surfaces

Quadric surfaces are the graphs of equations that can be expressed in the form



3 Visualizing things in 3-space

Definition. The **traces** of a surface are the cross-sections created from intersecting the surface with a plane parallel to one of the coordiante planes.

Software https://c3d.libretexts.org/CalcPlot3D/index.html Use "Implicit Surface" to draw these.

4 Example problems

Example (Similar to Exercise 311). A graph of a quadric surface is given.



- (a) Specify the name of the quadric surface.
- (b) Determine the axis of symmetry of the quadric surface.

Answer. Elliptic cone. *x*-axis of symmetry.

Example (Similar to Exercise 319). Rewrite the given equation of the quadric surface in standard form. Identify the surface.

$$-3x^2 + 5y^2 - z^2 = 10$$

Solution. Dividing to get into standard form,

$$-\frac{x^2}{\frac{10}{3}} + \frac{y^2}{2} - \frac{z^2}{10} = 1$$

This is a two-sheeted hyperboloid with the *y*-axis of symmetry

Example (Similar to Exercise 340). The equation of a quadric surface is given.

- (a) Use the method of completing the square to write the equation in stnadard form.
- (b) Identify the surface

$$x^{2} + 4y^{2} - 4z^{2} - 6x - 16y - 16z + 5 = 0$$

$$\chi^{2} + 2a + a^{2} = (x + a)^{2}$$

Solution.

$$(x^{2} - 6x + 9) + 4(y^{2} - 4y + 4) - 4(z^{2} + 4z + 4) + 5 = 9 + 16 - 16$$
$$(x - 3)^{2} + 4(y - 2)^{2} - 4(z + 2)^{2} = 4$$
$$\boxed{\frac{(x - 3)^{2}}{4} + (y - 2)^{2} - (z + 2)^{2} = 1}$$

This is a one-sheeted hyperboloid centered at (3, 2, -2) with z-axis of symmetry