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  - **4** parabola:  $y = ax^2$
- Considering these conic sections as three-dimensional objects by letting *z* vary, we obtain the family of **cylinders**.



 $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ 

Right-circular cylinder of radius r

MATH 127 (Section 12.6)

Quadric Surfaces

# Cylinders



MATH 127 (Section 12.6)





Parabolic cylinder

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- Given that D = E = F = 0, we say that a quadric surface is in standard position or of standard form.
- Quadric surfaces are uniquely determined by their **traces**, i.e., the conic sections that are obtained by intersecting a quadric surface with a plane that is parallel to one of the three coordinate planes.

• Ellipsoids are quadric surfaces whose traces are ellipses.

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- We can describe an ellipsoid in standard position by an equation

$$\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2 = 1$$

Given that a = b = c = r, we obtain the ellipsoid  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ , i.e., a sphere centered at the origin (0,0,0) with radius r > 0.



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$$\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2 + 1 \tag{1}$$
  
or  $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2 - 1. \tag{2}$ 

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Observe that the figure described by equation (2) does not contain any points such that the z-coordinate satisfies -c < z < c; otherwise, the right-hand side would be negative while the left-hand side is positive by definition — a contradiction. Consequently, the hyperboloid of equation (2) is said to have two "sheets."





(B) Hyperboloid of two sheets

• Elliptic cones are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are ellipses and whose *yz*- and *xz*-traces are pairs of diagonal lines.

- Elliptic cones are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are ellipses and whose *yz* and *xz*-traces are pairs of diagonal lines.
- We can describe an elliptic cone in standard position by an equation

$$\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2$$



**DF FIGURE 7** Elliptic cone  $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2$ .

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• Elliptic paraboloids are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are ellipses and whose *yz*- and *xz*-traces are upward-opening parabolas.

- Elliptic paraboloids are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are ellipses and whose *yz* and *xz*-traces are upward-opening parabolas.
- We can describe an elliptic paraboloid in standard position by

$$z = \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2.$$







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• **Hyperbolic paraboloids** are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are hyperbolas, whose *yz*-traces are downward-opening parabolas, and whose *xz*-traces are upward-opening parabolas.

- **Hyperbolic paraboloids** are quadric surfaces whose *xy*-traces are hyperbolas, whose *yz*-traces are downward-opening parabolas, and whose *xz*-traces are upward-opening parabolas.
- We can describe a hyperbolic paraboloid in standard position by

$$z = \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2.$$



(B) Hyperbolic paraboloid  $z = \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{y}{3}\right)^2$ 

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## True (a.) or False (b.)

Every trace of an ellipsoid is an ellipse.

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(a.) True.

Every trace of a hyperboloid is a hyperbola.

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(b.) False. Both vertical traces of a hyperboloid are hyperbolas, but the horizontal trace (xy-trace) of a hyperboloid is an ellipse.

There exists a quadric surface whose horizontal and vertical traces are each parabolas.

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(b.) False.

There exists a quadric surface whose horizontal and vertical traces are each parabolas.

(b.) False. On the contrary, if it were possible, then we would have *xy*-trace  $y = a_0x^2$ , *yz*-trace  $z = b_0y^2$ , and *xz*-trace  $x = c_0z^2$ , hence

 $Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + Dxy + Eyz + Fxz + ax + by + cz + d = 0$ 

is not a quadratic equation — a contradiction.

Classify the quadric surface in standard position with horizontal trace given by the equation  $\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2 = 1$  and vertical traces given by the equations  $\left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{6}\right)^2 = 1$  and  $\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{6}\right)^2 = 1$ .

(a.) right-circular cylinder

(c.) ellipsoid

(b.) elliptic cylinder

(d.) elliptic paraboloid

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(a.) right-circular cylinder

(c.) ellipsoid

(b.) elliptic cylinder

(d.) elliptic paraboloid

Each of the traces is an ellipse, hence the quadric surface is an ellipsoid.

Classify the quadric surface in standard position with horizontal trace given by the equation  $\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{6}\right)^2 = 1$  and vertical traces given by the equations  $\left(\frac{y}{6}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{27}}\right)^2 = 1$  and  $\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{27}}\right)^2 = 1$ .

- (a.) hyperbolic cylinder (c.) hyperboloid of two sheets
- (b.) hyperbolic paraboloid (d.) hyperboloid of one sheet

Classify the quadric surface in standard position with horizontal trace given by the equation  $\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{6}\right)^2 = 1$  and vertical traces given by the equations  $\left(\frac{y}{6}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{27}}\right)^2 = 1$  and  $\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{27}}\right)^2 = 1$ .

(a.) hyperbolic cylinder (c.) hyperboloid of two sheets

(b.) hyperbolic paraboloid (d.) hyperboloid of one sheet

Each of the vertical traces is a hyperbola, and the horizontal trace is an ellipse, hence this is a hyperboloid; moreover, there exist points corresponding to z = 0, from which it follows that there is one sheet.