

Sec. 12.6 Review of ellipses  
and hyperbolas;  
Cylinders

6-1

① Eqs. of an ellipse (in 2D)

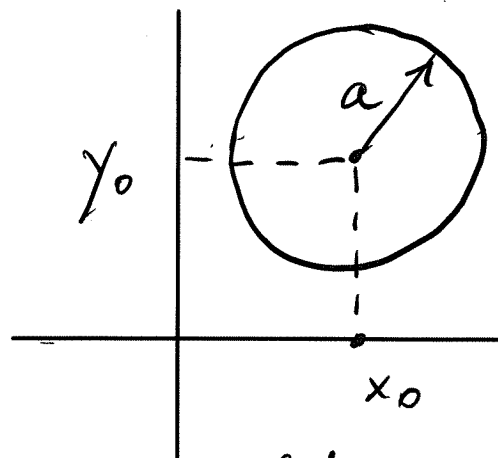
Circle:

radius =  $a$

center @  $(x_0, y_0)$

Equation:

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



In the remainder of this section, let  
 $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$ . Then

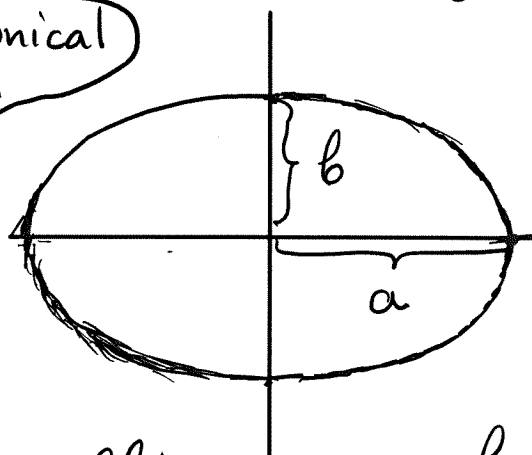
$$x^2 + y^2 = a^2 \quad \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{a^2} = 1$$

The equation of an ellipse is more general:

$$\boxed{\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1} \quad (*) \leftarrow \text{Canonical form}$$

$a, b$  are semi-axes of the ellipse.



Question:

How can we draw an ellipse given by

$$Ax^2 + By^2 = C \quad (A, B, C > 0) ?$$

6-2

Answer: We must first put it in the canonical form and from it, find  $a$  &  $b$ .

- Make a "1" on the right-hand side:

$$\frac{Ax^2}{C} + \frac{By^2}{C} = 1$$

- Move  $A, B$  in the denominator:

$$\frac{x^2}{(C/A)} + \frac{y^2}{(C/B)} = 1$$

Therefore,  $a^2 = C/A$ ,  $b^2 = C/B$ ,  $\Rightarrow$   
 $a = \sqrt{C/A}$ ,  $b = \sqrt{C/B}$ .

Parametric eqs. of an ellipse given by (\*):

$$x = a \cdot \cos t, \quad y = b \cdot \sin t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

**MUST MEMORIZE and  
USE ONLY THEM FOR PLOTTING ELLIPSES!**

Why are these eqs. correct? Sub into (\*):

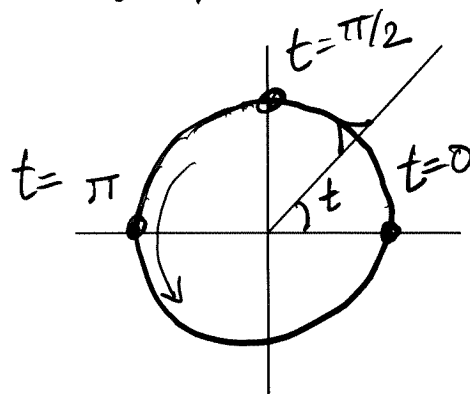
$$\frac{(a \cos t)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(b \sin t)^2}{b^2} = \frac{a^2 \cos^2 t}{a^2} + \frac{b^2 \sin^2 t}{b^2} =$$

$$\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1. \quad \checkmark$$

The above range of  $t$ :

$$0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

corresponds to:



## ② Hyperbola in 2D

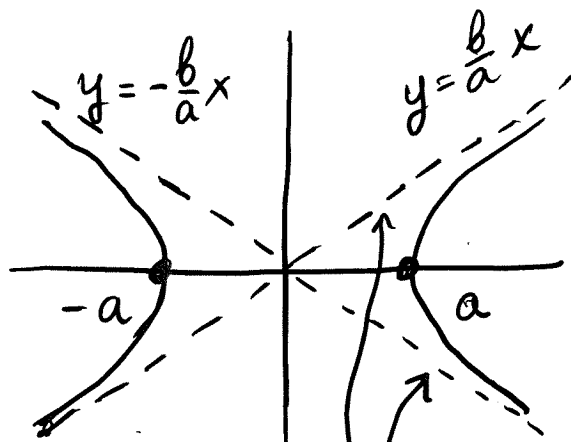
Canonical equations:

$$(**-I) \quad \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

For  $x, y$  "very large",  
the "1" on the r.h.s.  
almost doesn't matter,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} \approx 0 \Rightarrow y^2 \approx \frac{b^2}{a^2} x^2 \Rightarrow y = \pm \frac{b}{a} x$$

(asymptotes)



Why does it open "sideways"?

Let for a moment  $a = b = 1$ ; then

$$x^2 - y^2 = 1, \text{ i.e. } \boxed{x^2 > y^2}.$$

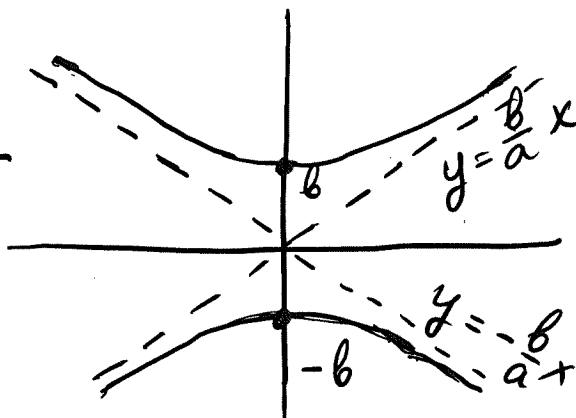
Can take  $y = 0$  (get the intercept  $(\pm a, 0)$ );  
but cannot get  $x = 0$ :  $0^2 - y^2 \neq 1$ !

or

$$(**-II) \quad \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{x^2}{a^2} = 1$$

$$a = b = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{y^2 > x^2}$$

Opens up/down;  
intercepts @  $(0, \pm b)$ .



Parametric eqs. of hyperbolas:  
see Lab 1, Part 1.

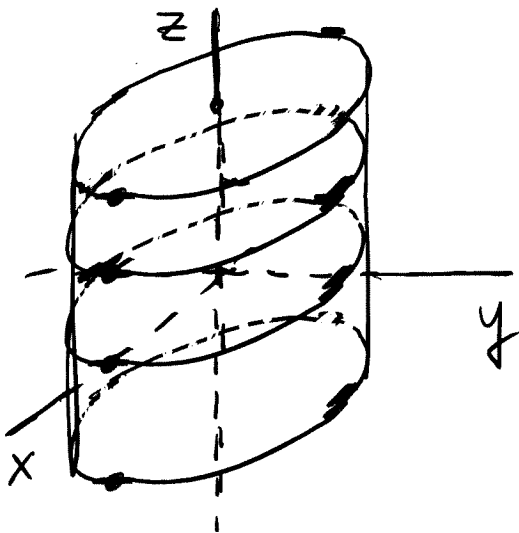
### ③ Cylindrical surfaces in 3D

Consider  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  on 3D (not 2D).

Let's count degrees of freedom, as in  
secs. 12.5A & 12.5B:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 3 & - & 1 & = & 2 \\ \uparrow & & \nwarrow & & \\ \# \text{ of d.o.f.} & & \# \text{ of} & & \\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 & & \text{eqs.} & & \end{array} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{So, the equation} \\ x^2 + y^2 = 1 \text{ in 3D} \\ \text{must define a} \\ \text{surface, not a curve.} \end{array}$$

Since this equation does not involve  $z$ ,  
we can obtain this surface by drawing  
the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  in every plane  $z = \text{const}$ :



We extrude the circle  
along the  $z$ -axis,  
obtaining a  
circular cylinder.

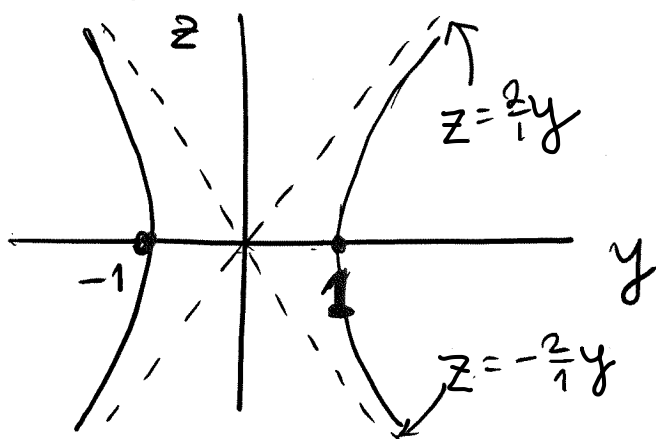
In general, any equation in 3D that is missing a variable, defines a cylinder obtained by extruding some 2D curve along the axis corresponding to the missing variable.

Ex. 1(a) What is  $4y^2 - z^2 = 4$  in 3D?

Sol'n: 1) The equation is missing  $x$ . Therefore it is a cylinder obtained by extruding curve  $(4y^2 - z^2 = 4, x=0)$  along the  $x$ -axis.  
Note 2 eqs to denote a curve !!!

2) We now need to sketch the above curve. As on p. 6-2, must put in canonical form:

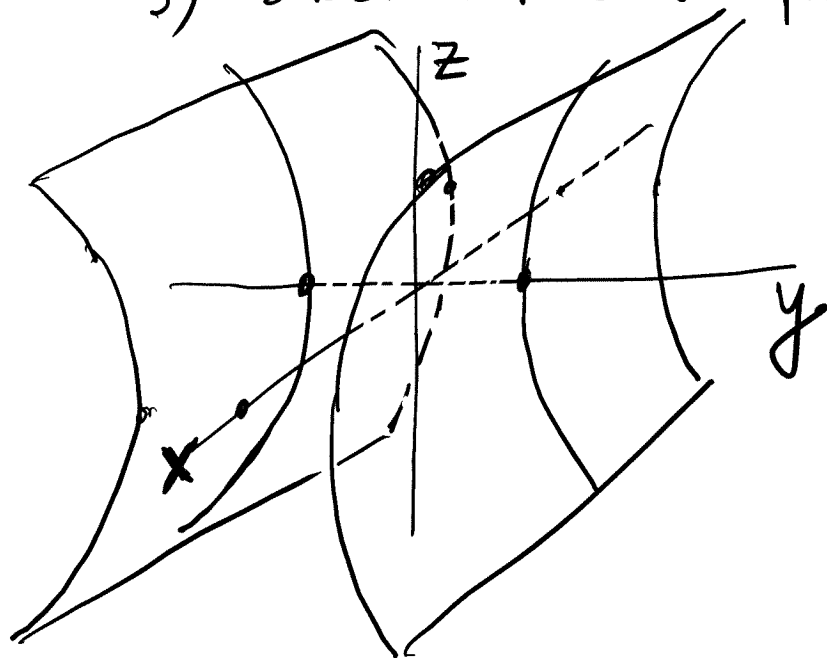
$$y^2 - \frac{z^2}{4} = 1. \quad \text{This is a hyperbola.}$$



$y^2 > z^2 \Rightarrow$   
opens sideways  
(as in (xx-I))

6-6

3) Sketch the surface:



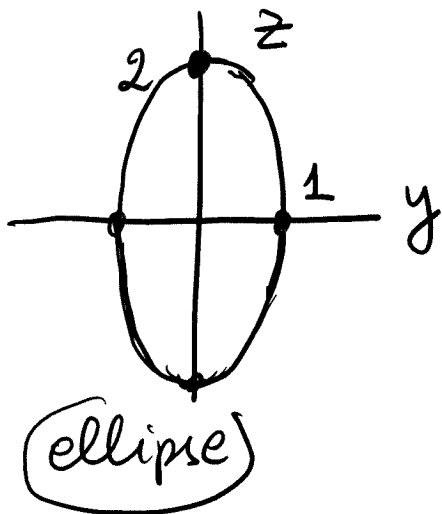
Hyperbolic cylinder

Ex. 1(b) What is  $4y^2 + z^2 = 4$  in 3D?

Sol'n: Follow the same steps.

1) This must be some cylinder along the x-axis

2) Canonical form:  $\frac{y^2}{1^2} + \frac{z^2}{2^2} = 1$



3) Surface:

