



The tangent plane to  $S$  at  
some point

$$\underline{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0),$$

where  $S$  is described by

$$\phi(x, y, z) = k,$$

consists of all points  $\underline{r} = (x, y, z)$

such that

$$\nabla\phi(\underline{r}_0) \cdot (\underline{r} - \underline{r}_0) = 0$$

Example Find a unit normal vector to the surface  $S$ :

$$2x^2 + 4yz - 5z^2 = -10$$

at the point  $\underline{r}_0 = (3, -1, 2)$ . Then find the equation of the tangent plane to  $S$  at  $(3, -1, 2)$ .

Sol<sup>n</sup> Note

$$2(3^2) + 4(-1)(2) - 5(2^2) = -10$$

Let

$$\phi(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + 4yz - 5z^2$$

$$\text{grad } \phi = \nabla \phi = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \underline{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \underline{j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \underline{k}$$

$$= 4x \underline{i} + 4z \underline{j} + (4y - 10z) \underline{k}$$

$$\nabla \phi(\underline{r}_0) = 12 \underline{i} + 8 \underline{j} - 24 \underline{k}$$

$$= (12, 8, -24)$$

So  $(12, 8, -24)$  is normal (i.e. at right angles) to  $S$  at the point

$$\underline{P_0} = (3, -1, 2).$$

A unit normal vector must have Length 1.

$$\|(12, 8, -24)\| = \sqrt{12^2 + 8^2 + (-24)^2} = 28$$

So a unit normal vector is

$$\underline{n} = \frac{1}{28} (12, 8, -24) = \frac{1}{14} (6, 4, -12)$$

$$\underline{n} = \frac{1}{7} (3, 2, -6)$$

The equation of the tangent plane is

$$(3, 2, -6) \cdot ((x, y, z) - (3, -1, 2)) = 0$$

$$(3, 2, -6) \cdot (x-3, y+1, z-2) = 0$$

$$3x - 9 + 2y + 2 - 6z + 12 = 0$$

$$3x + 2y - 6z = -5$$



Required equation of the  
tangent plane.



## Curl

Given a vector field

$$F = F_1 \underline{i} + F_2 \underline{j} + F_3 \underline{k}$$

on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (where

$$F_1 = F_1(x, y, z) \quad \text{real valued function}$$

$$F_2 = F_2(x, y, z) \quad "$$

$$F_3 = F_3(x, y, z) \quad " \quad )$$

we define the associated work

1-form

$$\omega = F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz.$$

Suppose the exterior derivative  
of  $\omega$  is

$$d\omega = A dx \wedge dy + B dy \wedge dz + C dz \wedge dx.$$

Then we define

$$\text{Curl}(F) = B \underline{i} + C \underline{j} + A \underline{k}$$

Example  $F = xz \underline{i} + y^2 \underline{j} + 2x^2y \underline{k}$

Find  $\text{Curl}(F)$ .

$$\omega = xz dx + y^2 dy + 2x^2y dz$$

$$d\omega = (z dx + x dz) \wedge dx$$

$$+ (2y dy) \wedge dy$$

$$+ (4xy dx + 2x^2 dy) \wedge dz$$

$$= \cancel{z dx \wedge dx} + x dz \wedge dx + 2y dy \wedge \cancel{dy}$$

$$+ 4xy dx \wedge dz + 2x^2 dy \wedge dz$$

$$= x dz \wedge dx - 4xy dz \wedge dx + 2x^2 dy \wedge dz$$

$$= (x - 4xy) dz \wedge dx + 2x^2 dy \wedge dz$$

So

$$\text{Curl}(F) = (x-4xy) \underline{\underline{j}} + 2x^2 \underline{\underline{i}}$$

or

$$\text{Curl}(F) = (2x^2, x-4xy, 0) .$$

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