

## Functions of Several Variables

Functions often depend on more than one variable. For example, if a company sells two products (one for \$50 per unit, and one for \$35 per unit), then their revenue function might look like:

$$R(x, y) = 50x + 35y$$

**Ex 1.**

Suppose  $f(x, y) = \frac{4x^3 + 2x^2 - 4}{x - y}$ . Compute  $f(2, -1)$ . Also, find the domain of  $f$ .

**Ex 2.**

Find the domain of  $f(x, y) = \sqrt{y - x^2}$ .

**Ex 3.**

Compute  $f(2, \ln 2, 1)$  if  $f(x, y, z) = \frac{e^{xy}}{1+z}$ .

**Notes:**

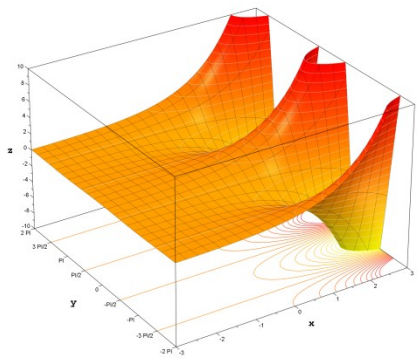
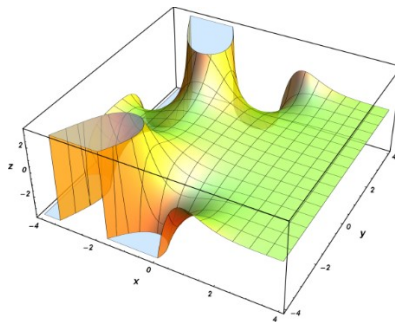
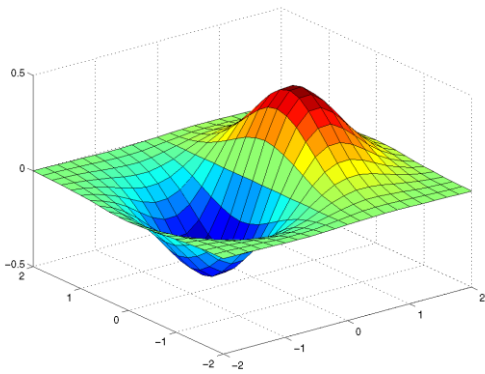
The graph of a function in one variable  $f(x)$  is the set of all ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  such that  $y = f(x)$ .  
(Think: input is  $x$ , and output is the height  $y$ .)

The **graph of a function in two variables**  $f(x, y)$  is the set of all triples  $(x, y, z)$  such that  $z = f(x, y)$ .  
(Think: input is the point  $(x, y)$ , and output is the height  $z$ .)

Graphs of functions in one variable, like  $f(x)$ , are curves.

Graphs of functions in two variables, like  $f(x, y)$ , are **surfaces**.

Here are some examples of surfaces made from functions:




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**Practice**


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1. Find the domain of  $f(x, y) = xye^{xy}$ . Find  $f(\ln 2, 1)$ .

2. Find the domain of  $f(x, y) = \ln(y - x^2)$ . Find  $f(0, 1)$ .

Q: A man while looking at a photograph said, "Brothers and sisters have I none. That man's father is my father's son." Who was the person in the photograph?