

**Problem statement** Consider the function  $F(x, y) = x^3 + ye^{x-2}$ ; note that  $F(2, 1) = 9$ .

a) Find the equation of the tangent plane to the graph of  $F$  (the surface  $z = F(x, y)$ ) at the point  $(2, 1, 9)$ , and find the equation of the line in which this plane intersects the  $xy$ -plane.

b) Find the equation of the tangent to the level curve  $F(x, y) = 9$  at the point  $(2, 1)$ .

c) Show that the lines found in a) and b) are parallel. Is this an accident? Explain.