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### Final Exam Question 2.

Find all points  $P(a, b, c)$  on the paraboloid  $z = x^2 + y^2$  such that the tangent plane to the paraboloid at the point  $P$  contains the line:

$$L : x = 3t + 1, \quad y = t - 1, \quad z = 14t - 3; \quad (-\infty < t < \infty)$$

Show all your work!

Explain your reasoning fully and in detail using correct mathematical notation and terminology, and in well-formed mathematical and English sentences!

Let  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ . An equation for the tangent plane is:

$$z = f_x(a, b) \cdot (x - a) + f_y(a, b) \cdot (y - b) + f(a, b)$$

Since  $f_x = 2x$  and  $f_y = 2y$ , this becomes:

$$z = 2a \cdot (x - a) + 2b \cdot (y - b) + a^2 + b^2,$$

(or) 
$$z = 2ax + 2by - a^2 - b^2.$$

The line  $L$  is contained in the tangent plane if and only if

$$14t - 3 = 2a \cdot (3t + 1) + 2b \cdot (t - 1) - a^2 - b^2 \quad \text{for all } t.$$

This is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} 14 &= 6a + 2b \\ \text{and} \\ -3 &= 2a - 2b - a^2 - b^2 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \right\} \begin{aligned} b &= 7 - 3a \\ -3 &= 2a - 2(7 - 3a) - a^2 - (7 - 3a)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$10a^2 - 50a + 60 = 0$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$a = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad a = 3$$

$$\Downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \Downarrow$$

$$b = 1 \qquad \qquad \qquad b = -2$$

Hence  $(a, b, c) = (2, 1, 5)$  and  $(3, -2, 13)$  are the only points satisfying the condition.