

Table 3-1: Summary of vector relations.

	Cartesian Coordinates	Cylindrical Coordinates	Spherical Coordinates
Coordinate variables	x, y, z	r, ϕ, z	R, θ, ϕ
Vector representation $\mathbf{A} =$	$\hat{\mathbf{x}}A_x + \hat{\mathbf{y}}A_y + \hat{\mathbf{z}}A_z$	$\hat{\mathbf{r}}A_r + \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}A_\phi + \hat{\mathbf{z}}A_z$	$\hat{\mathbf{R}}A_R + \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}A_\theta + \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}A_\phi$
Magnitude of A $ \mathbf{A} =$	$\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}$	$\sqrt{A_r^2 + A_\phi^2 + A_z^2}$	$\sqrt{A_R^2 + A_\theta^2 + A_\phi^2}$
Position vector $\overrightarrow{OP_1} =$	$\hat{\mathbf{x}}x_1 + \hat{\mathbf{y}}y_1 + \hat{\mathbf{z}}z_1,$ for $P = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$	$\hat{\mathbf{r}}r_1 + \hat{\mathbf{z}}z_1,$ for $P = (r_1, \phi_1, z_1)$	$\hat{\mathbf{R}}R_1,$ for $P = (R_1, \theta_1, \phi_1)$
Base vectors properties	$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = 1$ $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} = 0$ $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \times \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ $\hat{\mathbf{y}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$	$\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = 1$ $\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = 0$ $\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$	$\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{R}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = 1$ $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{R}} = 0$ $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \hat{\mathbf{R}}$ $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \times \hat{\mathbf{R}} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$
Dot product $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} =$	$A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$	$A_r B_r + A_\phi B_\phi + A_z B_z$	$A_R B_R + A_\theta B_\theta + A_\phi B_\phi$
Cross product $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} =$	$\begin{vmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}} & \hat{\mathbf{y}} & \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{r}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} & \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ A_r & A_\phi & A_z \\ B_r & B_\phi & B_z \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{R}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \\ A_R & A_\theta & A_\phi \\ B_R & B_\theta & B_\phi \end{vmatrix}$
Differential length $d\mathbf{l} =$	$\hat{\mathbf{x}} dx + \hat{\mathbf{y}} dy + \hat{\mathbf{z}} dz$	$\hat{\mathbf{r}} dr + \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} r d\phi + \hat{\mathbf{z}} dz$	$\hat{\mathbf{R}} dR + \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} R d\theta + \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} R \sin \theta d\phi$
Differential surface areas	$ds_x = \hat{\mathbf{x}} dy dz$ $ds_y = \hat{\mathbf{y}} dx dz$ $ds_z = \hat{\mathbf{z}} dx dy$	$ds_r = \hat{\mathbf{r}} r d\phi dz$ $ds_\phi = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} dr dz$ $ds_z = \hat{\mathbf{z}} r dr d\phi$	$ds_R = \hat{\mathbf{R}} R^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$ $ds_\theta = \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} R \sin \theta dR d\phi$ $ds_\phi = \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} R dR d\theta$
Differential volume $dV =$	$dx dy dz$	$r dr d\phi dz$	$R^2 \sin \theta dR d\theta d\phi$

Table 3-2: Coordinate transformation relations.

Transformation	Coordinate Variables	Unit Vectors	Vector Components
Cartesian to cylindrical	$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ $\phi = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$ $z = z$	$\hat{r} = \hat{x} \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \phi$ $\hat{\phi} = -\hat{x} \sin \phi + \hat{y} \cos \phi$ $\hat{z} = \hat{z}$	$A_r = A_x \cos \phi + A_y \sin \phi$ $A_\phi = -A_x \sin \phi + A_y \cos \phi$ $A_z = A_z$
Cylindrical to Cartesian	$x = r \cos \phi$ $y = r \sin \phi$ $z = z$	$\hat{x} = \hat{r} \cos \phi - \hat{\phi} \sin \phi$ $\hat{y} = \hat{r} \sin \phi + \hat{\phi} \cos \phi$ $\hat{z} = \hat{z}$	$A_x = A_r \cos \phi - A_\phi \sin \phi$ $A_y = A_r \sin \phi + A_\phi \cos \phi$ $A_z = A_z$
Cartesian to spherical	$R = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ $\theta = \tan^{-1}[\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}/z]$ $\phi = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$	$\hat{R} = \hat{x} \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \theta \sin \phi + \hat{z} \cos \theta$ $\hat{\theta} = \hat{x} \cos \theta \cos \phi + \hat{y} \cos \theta \sin \phi - \hat{z} \sin \theta$ $\hat{\phi} = -\hat{x} \sin \phi + \hat{y} \cos \phi$	$A_R = A_x \sin \theta \cos \phi + A_y \sin \theta \sin \phi + A_z \cos \theta$ $A_\theta = A_x \cos \theta \cos \phi + A_y \cos \theta \sin \phi - A_z \sin \theta$ $A_\phi = -A_x \sin \phi + A_y \cos \phi$
Spherical to Cartesian	$x = R \sin \theta \cos \phi$ $y = R \sin \theta \sin \phi$ $z = R \cos \theta$	$\hat{x} = \hat{R} \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{\theta} \cos \theta \cos \phi - \hat{\phi} \sin \phi$ $\hat{y} = \hat{R} \sin \theta \sin \phi + \hat{\theta} \cos \theta \sin \phi + \hat{\phi} \cos \phi$ $\hat{z} = \hat{R} \cos \theta - \hat{\theta} \sin \theta$	$A_x = A_R \sin \theta \cos \phi + A_\theta \cos \theta \cos \phi - A_\phi \sin \phi$ $A_y = A_R \sin \theta \sin \phi + A_\theta \cos \theta \sin \phi + A_\phi \cos \phi$ $A_z = A_R \cos \theta - A_\theta \sin \theta$
Cylindrical to spherical	$R = \sqrt{r^2 + z^2}$ $\theta = \tan^{-1}(r/z)$ $\phi = \phi$	$\hat{R} = \hat{r} \sin \theta + \hat{z} \cos \theta$ $\hat{\theta} = \hat{r} \cos \theta - \hat{z} \sin \theta$ $\hat{\phi} = \hat{\phi}$	$A_R = A_r \sin \theta + A_z \cos \theta$ $A_\theta = A_r \cos \theta - A_z \sin \theta$ $A_\phi = A_\phi$
Spherical to cylindrical	$r = R \sin \theta$ $\phi = \phi$ $z = R \cos \theta$	$\hat{r} = \hat{R} \sin \theta + \hat{\theta} \cos \theta$ $\hat{\phi} = \hat{\phi}$ $\hat{z} = \hat{R} \cos \theta - \hat{\theta} \sin \theta$	$A_r = A_R \sin \theta + A_\theta \cos \theta$ $A_\phi = A_\phi$ $A_z = A_R \cos \theta - A_\theta \sin \theta$

Grad, Div, Curl and the Laplacian

	Cartesian Coordinates	Cylindrical Coordinates	Spherical Coordinates
Conversion to Cartesian Coordinates		$x = \rho \cos \varphi \quad y = \rho \sin \varphi \quad z = z$	$x = r \cos \varphi \sin \theta \quad y = r \sin \varphi \sin \theta$ $z = r \cos \theta$
Vector A	$A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$	$A_\rho \hat{\rho} + A_\varphi \hat{\varphi} + A_z \hat{z}$	$A_r \hat{r} + A_\theta \hat{\theta} + A_\varphi \hat{\varphi}$
Gradient $\nabla \phi$	$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \mathbf{k}$	$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\varphi} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \hat{z}$	$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\varphi}$
Divergence $\nabla \cdot A$	$\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$	$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial(\rho A_\rho)}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial \varphi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$	$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial(r^2 A_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\theta \sin \theta}{\partial \theta}$ $+ \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial \varphi}$
Curl $\nabla \times A$	$\begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{\rho} \hat{\rho} & \hat{\varphi} & \frac{1}{\rho} \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_\rho & \rho A_\varphi & A_z \end{vmatrix}$	$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \hat{r} & \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \hat{\theta} & \frac{1}{r} \hat{\varphi} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \\ A_r & r A_\theta & r A_\varphi \sin \theta \end{vmatrix}$
Laplacian $\nabla^2 \phi$	$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2}$	$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2}$	$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right)$ $+ \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \varphi^2}$