

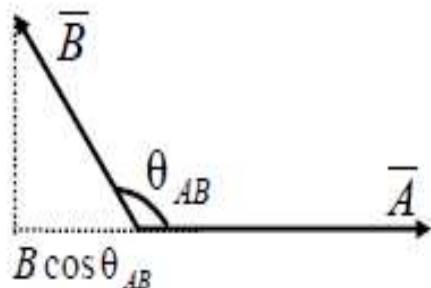
## Lecture 2

# **Review of Vector Analysis and Electrostatic Field Intensity**

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# The Dot Product

- Given two vectors  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , the dot product, is defined as the product of the magnitude of  $\mathbf{A}$ , the magnitude of  $\mathbf{B}$ , and the cosine of the smaller angle between them,



$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = |\mathbf{A}| |\mathbf{B}| \cos \theta_{AB}$$

Orthogonal vectors condition?

If  $\mathbf{A} = A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z$  and  $\mathbf{B} = B_x \mathbf{a}_x + B_y \mathbf{a}_y + B_z \mathbf{a}_z$

Then the dot product can be calculated as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

$\mathbf{a}_x$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_y$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_z$  are the unit vectors of the Cartesian coordinate system

## Evaluation of the dot product in the Cartesian space

Let  $\bar{A} = A_x \hat{a}_x + A_y \hat{a}_y + A_z \hat{a}_z$  and

$$\bar{B} = B_x \hat{a}_x + B_y \hat{a}_y + B_z \hat{a}_z$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \bar{A} \cdot \bar{B} &= (A_x \hat{a}_x + A_y \hat{a}_y + A_z \hat{a}_z) \cdot (B_x \hat{a}_x + B_y \hat{a}_y + B_z \hat{a}_z) \\ &= A_x B_x \hat{a}_x \cdot \hat{a}_x + A_x B_y \hat{a}_x \cdot \hat{a}_y + A_x B_z \hat{a}_x \cdot \hat{a}_z \\ &\quad + A_y B_x \hat{a}_y \cdot \hat{a}_x + A_y B_y \hat{a}_y \cdot \hat{a}_y + A_y B_z \hat{a}_y \cdot \hat{a}_z \\ &\quad + A_z B_x \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_x + A_z B_y \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_y + A_z B_z \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_z\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\therefore \bar{A} \cdot \bar{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z}$$

# Properties of the dot product

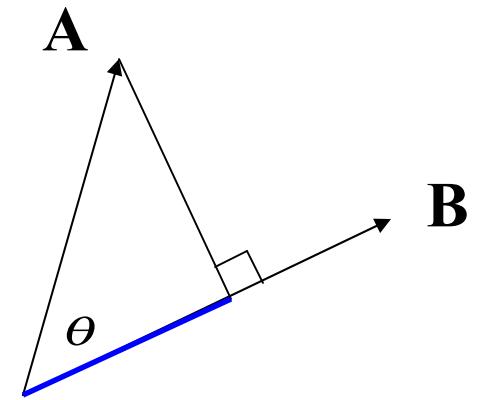
- The dot product is commutative
  - $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{A}$
- The dot product is distributive over addition
  - $\mathbf{C} \cdot (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{B}$
- The dot product of a vector with itself
  - $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{A} = |\mathbf{A}|^2$
- Scaling the dot product by a constant
  - $k(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = k\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} \cdot k\mathbf{B}$

## Projection of **A** on **B**

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = |\mathbf{A}| |\mathbf{B}| \cos (\theta)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} / |\mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{A}| \cos (\theta)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot a_{\mathbf{B}} = |\mathbf{A}| \cos (\theta)$$



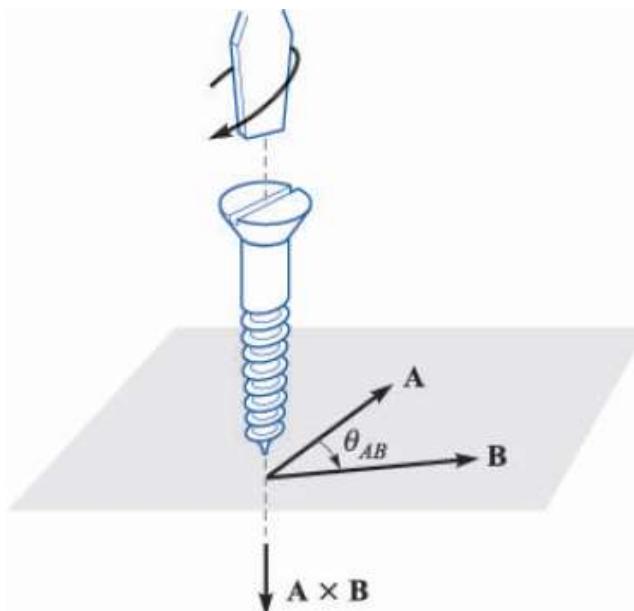
The projection of vector **A** on vector **B** is the dot product of vector **A** and the **unit vector** in the direction of vector **B**

# The Cross Product

- Given two vectors  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , the cross product of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  is a vector defined as:

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a}_N |\mathbf{A}| |\mathbf{B}| \sin \theta_{AB}$$

- The magnitude of  $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}$  equals the product of the magnitudes of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$ , and the sine of the smaller angle between  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .
- The direction of  $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}$  is perpendicular to the plane containing  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  and is along the direction of advance of a right-handed screw as  $\mathbf{A}$  is turned into  $\mathbf{B}$ .



The cross product is  
not commutative

$$\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{A} = -(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})$$

# Properties of the cross product

- The cross product is anticommutative,

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a},$$

- Distributive over addition,

$$\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}),$$

- and compatible with scalar multiplication so that

$$(r\mathbf{a}) \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \times (r\mathbf{b}) = r(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}).$$

- It is not associative, but satisfies the Jacobi identity:

$$\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{b} \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{0}.$$

- If  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ , then

- Either or both of them is the zero vector, ( $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$  and/or  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ ) , or
  - $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are parallel ( $\mathbf{a} \parallel \mathbf{b}$ ), so that the sine of the angle between them is zero, ( $\theta = 0^\circ$  or  $\theta = 180^\circ$  and  $\sin\theta = 0$ ).

- The self cross product of a vector is the zero vector, i.e.,  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$ .

# The cross product of unit vectors using Cartesian coordinates

$$\mathbf{a}_x \times \mathbf{a}_y = \mathbf{a}_z$$

$$\mathbf{a}_y \times \mathbf{a}_z = \mathbf{a}_x$$

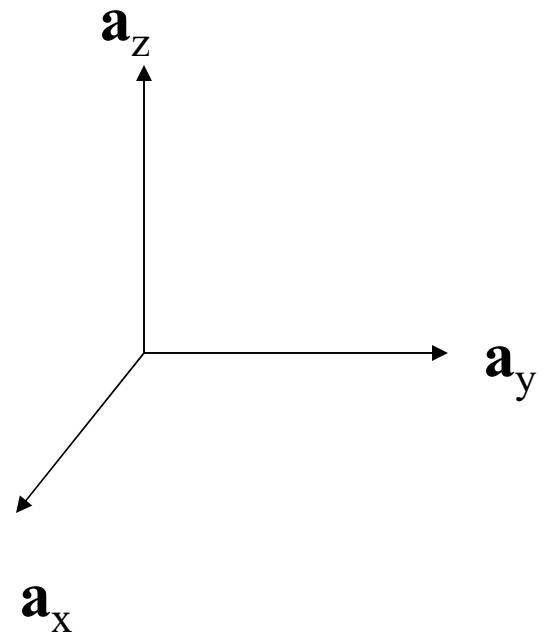
$$\mathbf{a}_z \times \mathbf{a}_x = \mathbf{a}_y$$

and

$$\mathbf{a}_x \times \mathbf{a}_z = -\mathbf{a}_y$$

$$\mathbf{a}_z \times \mathbf{a}_y = -\mathbf{a}_x$$

$$\mathbf{a}_y \times \mathbf{a}_x = -\mathbf{a}_z$$



Unit vectors of a right-handed Cartesian coordinate system.

## Example 1: Evaluation of the Cross product of two vectors using the Cartesian Coordinates

- Given two vectors  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  in a right-handed Cartesian coordinates as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} = A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z \quad \text{and}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = B_x \mathbf{a}_x + B_y \mathbf{a}_y + B_z \mathbf{a}_z$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} &= A_x B_x \mathbf{a}_x \times \mathbf{a}_x + A_x B_y \mathbf{a}_x \times \mathbf{a}_y + A_x B_z \mathbf{a}_x \times \mathbf{a}_z \\ &\quad + A_y B_x \mathbf{a}_y \times \mathbf{a}_x + A_y B_y \mathbf{a}_y \times \mathbf{a}_y + A_y B_z \mathbf{a}_y \times \mathbf{a}_z \\ &\quad + A_z B_x \mathbf{a}_z \times \mathbf{a}_x + A_z B_y \mathbf{a}_z \times \mathbf{a}_y + A_z B_z \mathbf{a}_z \times \mathbf{a}_z\end{aligned}$$

Which can be reduced to the following:

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = (A_y B_z - A_z B_y) \mathbf{a}_x + (A_z B_x - A_x B_z) \mathbf{a}_y + (A_x B_y - A_y B_x) \mathbf{a}_z$$

or written as a determinant in a more easily remembered form,

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a}_x & \mathbf{a}_y & \mathbf{a}_z \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}$$

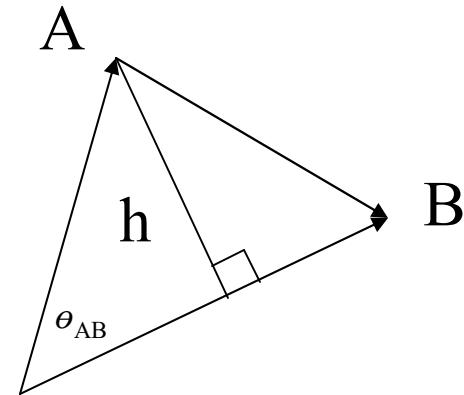
Thus, if  $\mathbf{A} = 2\mathbf{a}_x - 3\mathbf{a}_y + \mathbf{a}_z$  and  $\mathbf{B} = -4\mathbf{a}_x - 2\mathbf{a}_y + 5\mathbf{a}_z$ ,

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a}_x & \mathbf{a}_y & \mathbf{a}_z \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \\ -4 & -2 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= [(-3)(5) - (1)(-2)]\mathbf{a}_x - [(2)(5) - (1)(-4)]\mathbf{a}_y + [(2)(-2) - (-3)(-4)]\mathbf{a}_z \\ &= -13\mathbf{a}_x - 14\mathbf{a}_y - 16\mathbf{a}_z \end{aligned}$$

## ■ Example 2:

Use the result obtained in the previous example to find the area of the triangle formed by the two vectors  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .



## Solution

The Area of the triangle =  $0.5 h |\mathbf{B}|$

$$= 0.5 |\mathbf{A}| \sin \theta_{AB} |\mathbf{B}|$$

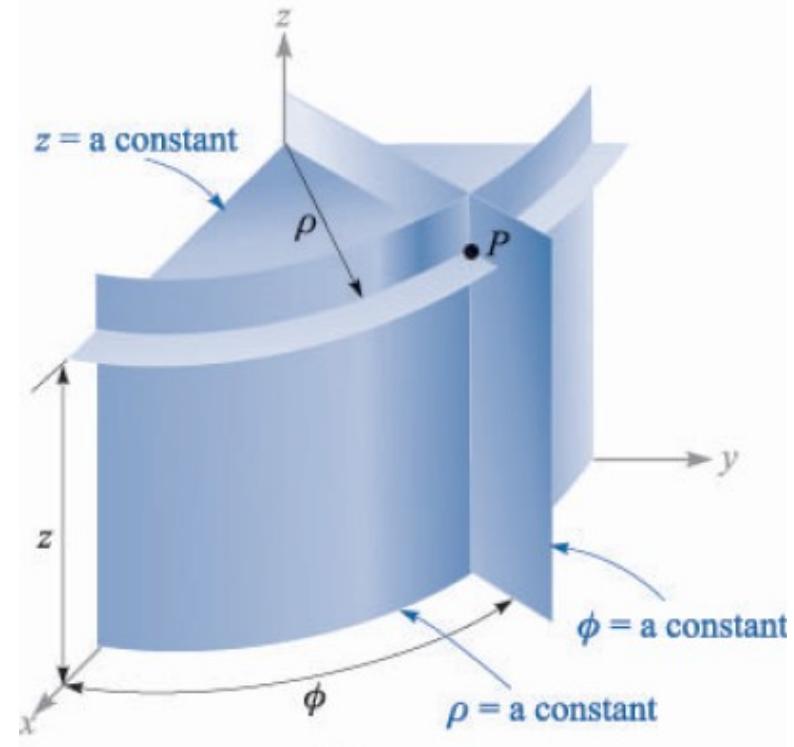
$$= 0.5 |\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}|$$

$$= 0.5 \sqrt{13^2 + 14^2 + 16^2}$$

$$= 12.459 \text{ square units}$$

# The Cylindrical Coordinate System

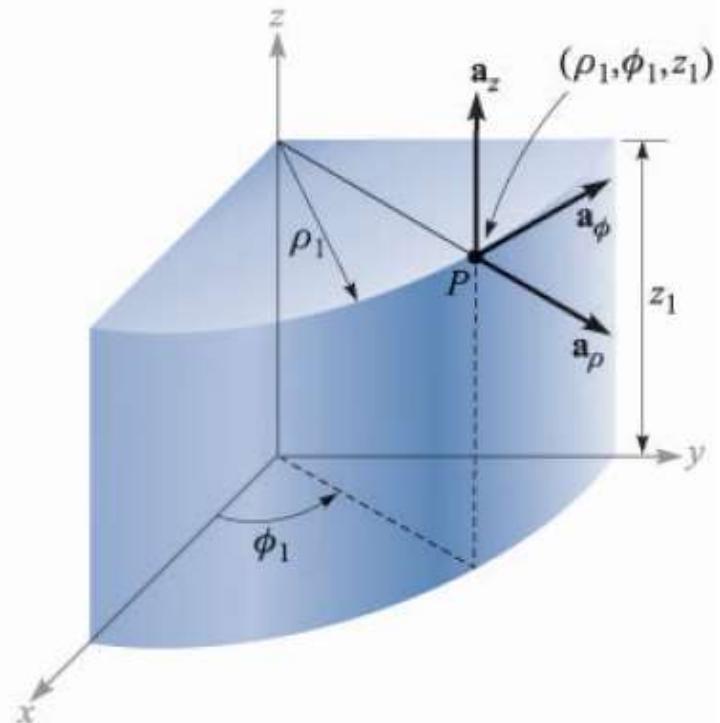
- Is a three-dimensional coordinate system, in which a point is specified by the intersection of three mutually perpendicular surfaces:
  - Constant  $\rho$  plane
  - Constant  $\phi$  plane
  - Constant  $z$  plane



This corresponds to the location of a point in a Cartesian coordinate system by the intersection of three planes ( $x = \text{constant}$ ,  $y = \text{constant}$ , and  $z = \text{constant}$ ).

# The Cylindrical Coordinate System

- Three unit vectors are utilized in the cylindrical coordinate system:
  - $\mathbf{a}_\rho$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $\rho$ ;
  - $\mathbf{a}_\phi$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $\phi$ ; and
  - $\mathbf{a}_z$ : unit vector in the direction of increasing  $z$ .



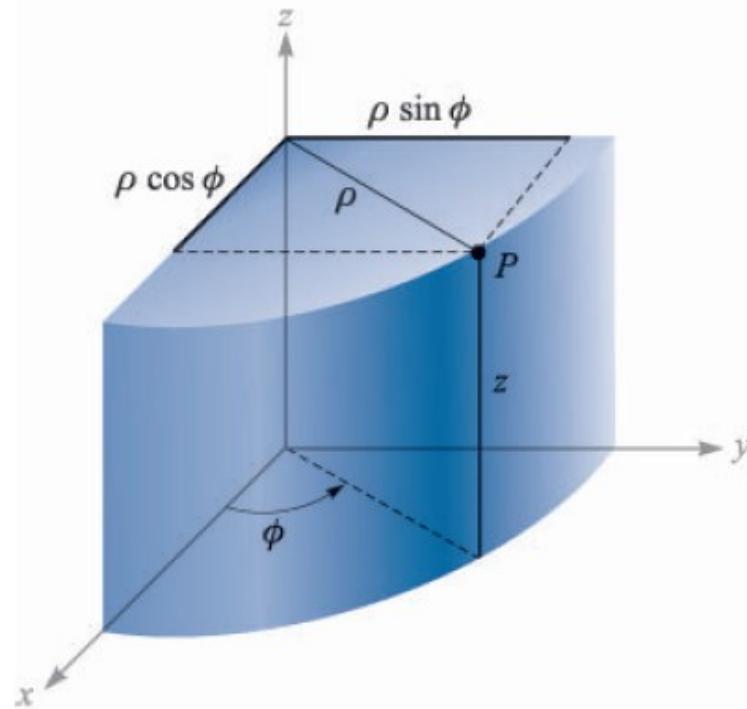
$$(0 \leq \rho < \infty)$$

$$(0 \leq \phi < 2\pi)$$

$$(-\infty < z < \infty)$$

# Transformation between Cartesian and Cylindrical Coordinates

## ■ 1- A point



From Cartesian to Cylindrical:

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad (\rho \geq 0)$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

$$z = z$$

From Cylindrical to Cartesian:

$$x = \rho \cos \phi$$

$$y = \rho \sin \phi$$

$$z = z$$

## ■ 2- Vector transformation

Given a Cartesian vector

$$\mathbf{A} = A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z$$

where vector components are represented in terms of x; y, and z, and we need a vector in Cylindrical coordinates

$$\mathbf{A} = A_\rho \mathbf{a}_\rho + A_\phi \mathbf{a}_\phi + A_z \mathbf{a}_z$$

where vector components are represented in terms of  $\rho$ ,  $\phi$ , and z.

Thus, we need to find the components of  $\mathbf{A}$  in the directions  $\mathbf{a}_\rho$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_\phi$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_z$

How can we achieve that?

**Recall that:**

$$A_\rho = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho \quad \text{and} \quad A_\phi = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi$$

Expanding these dot products, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_\rho &= (A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z) \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho = A_x \mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho + A_y \mathbf{a}_y \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho \\ A_\phi &= (A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z) \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi = A_x \mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi + A_y \mathbf{a}_y \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$A_z = (A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z) \cdot \mathbf{a}_z = A_z \mathbf{a}_z \cdot \mathbf{a}_z = A_z$$

**Dot products of unit vectors in cylindrical and cartesian coordinate systems**

	$\mathbf{a}_\rho$	$\mathbf{a}_\phi$	$\mathbf{a}_z$
$\mathbf{a}_x \cdot$	$\cos \phi$	$-\sin \phi$	0
$\mathbf{a}_y \cdot$	$\sin \phi$	$\cos \phi$	0
$\mathbf{a}_z \cdot$	0	0	1

- Transforming vectors from Cartesian to Cylindrical coordinates or vice versa is therefore accomplished in two steps:
  - Converting variables (as in slide 14), and
  - Converting components using the dot products of the unit vectors (as in slide 16).
- The two steps may be taken in either order.

## Example 3

Transform the vector  $\mathbf{B} = y\mathbf{a}_x - x\mathbf{a}_y + z\mathbf{a}_z$  into cylindrical coordinates.

*Solution.* The new components are

$$\begin{aligned}B_\rho &= \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho = y(\mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho) - x(\mathbf{a}_y \cdot \mathbf{a}_\rho) \\&= \underline{y \cos \phi} - \underline{x \sin \phi} = \underline{\rho \sin \phi \cos \phi} - \underline{\rho \cos \phi \sin \phi} = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}B_\phi &= \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi = y(\mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi) - x(\mathbf{a}_y \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi) \\&= -y \sin \phi - x \cos \phi = -\rho \sin^2 \phi - \rho \cos^2 \phi = -\rho\end{aligned}$$

$$B_z = \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{a}_z = z\mathbf{a}_z$$

Thus,

$$\boxed{\mathbf{B} = -\rho\mathbf{a}_\phi + z\mathbf{a}_z}$$

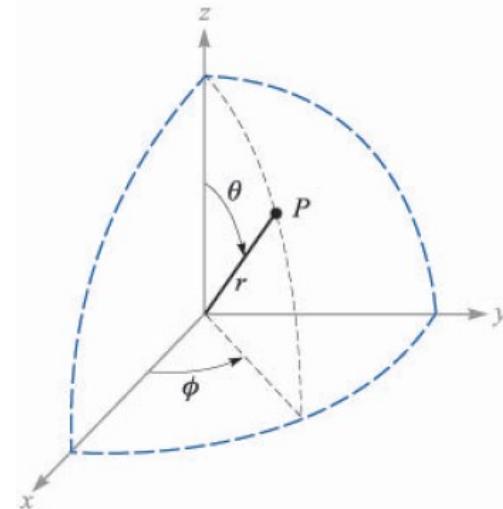
# The Spherical Coordinate System

From Spherical to Cartesian:

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$z = r \cos \theta$$

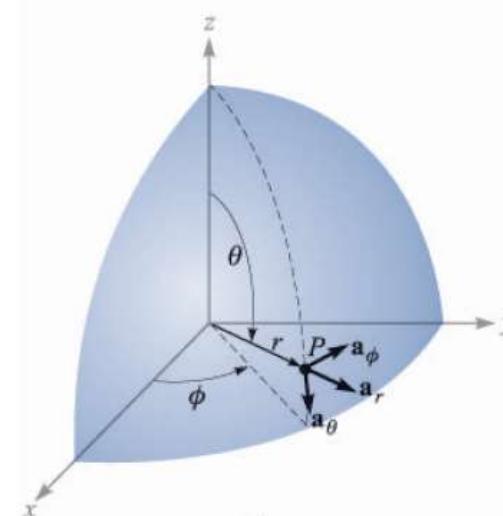


From Cartesian to Spherical:

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad (r \geq 0)$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \quad (0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ)$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$



## Dot products of unit vectors in spherical and cartesian coordinate systems

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	$\mathbf{a}_r$	$\mathbf{a}_\theta$	$\mathbf{a}_\phi$
$\mathbf{a}_x$	$\sin \theta \cos \phi$	$\cos \theta \cos \phi$	$-\sin \phi$
$\mathbf{a}_y$	$\sin \theta \sin \phi$	$\cos \theta \sin \phi$	$\cos \phi$
$\mathbf{a}_z$	$\cos \theta$	$-\sin \theta$	0

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## Example 4:

transform the vector field  $\mathbf{G} = (xz/y)\mathbf{a}_x$  into spherical components and variables.

*Solution.*

$$\begin{aligned} G_r &= \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{a}_r = \frac{xz}{y} \mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_r = \frac{xz}{y} \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ &= r \sin \theta \cos \theta \frac{\cos^2 \phi}{\sin \phi} \\ G_\theta &= \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\theta = \frac{xz}{y} \mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\theta = \frac{xz}{y} \cos \theta \cos \phi \\ &= r \cos^2 \theta \frac{\cos^2 \phi}{\sin \phi} \\ G_\phi &= \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi = \frac{xz}{y} \mathbf{a}_x \cdot \mathbf{a}_\phi = \frac{xz}{y} (-\sin \phi) \\ &= -r \cos \theta \cos \phi \end{aligned}$$

Collecting these results, we have

$$\mathbf{G} = r \cos \theta \cos \phi (\sin \theta \cot \phi \mathbf{a}_r + \cos \theta \cot \phi \mathbf{a}_\theta - \mathbf{a}_\phi)$$

# Electrostatic Fields

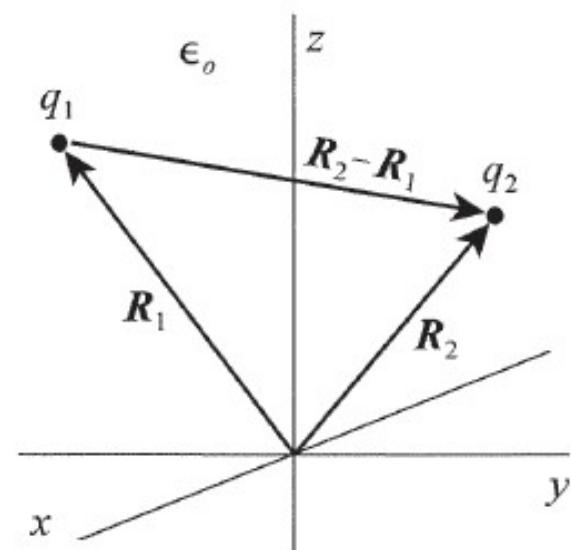
- Electrostatic fields are time invariant electric fields produced by stationary charges.

## Coulomb's Law

Given point charges [ $q_1, q_2$  (units=C)] in air located by vectors  $\mathbf{R}_1$  and  $\mathbf{R}_2$ , respectively, the vector force acting on charge  $q_2$  due to  $q_1$  [ $\mathbf{F}_{12}$  (units=N)] is defined by Coulomb's law as

$$\mathbf{F}_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|^2} \hat{\mathbf{a}}_{12} \text{ (Coulomb's law)}$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{12}$  is a unit vector pointing from  $q_1$  to  $q_2$  and  $\epsilon_o$  is the free-space permittivity [ $\epsilon_o = 8.854 \times 10^{-12}$  F/m].



## Coulomb's Law (Alternative form )

We have

$$\mathbf{F}_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|^2} \hat{\mathbf{a}}_{12}$$

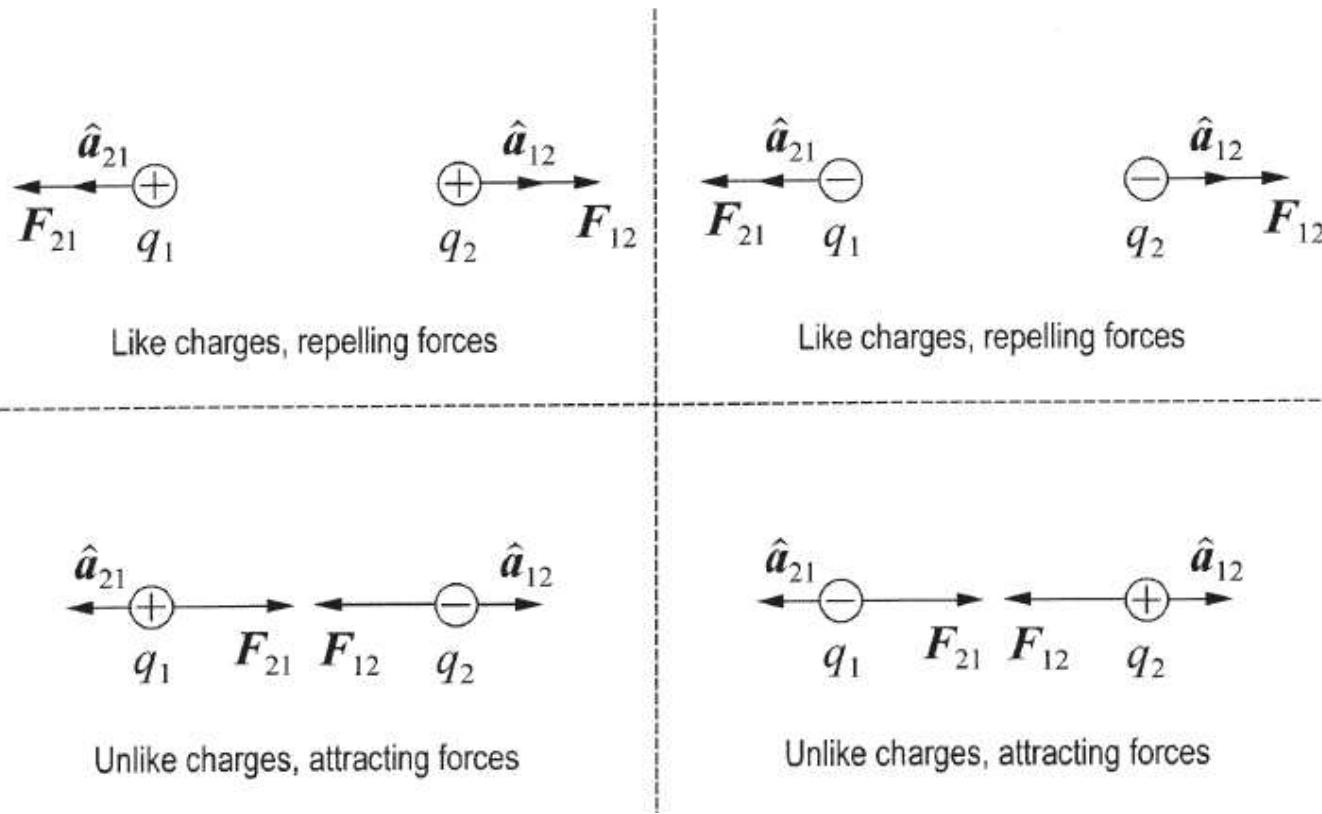
And the unit vector

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{12} = \frac{\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1}{|\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|}$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbf{F}_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2 (\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1)}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R}_2 - \mathbf{R}_1|^3} \quad (\text{Coulomb's law})$$

## Illustration of forces.



## Example 5

A point charge  $Q_1 = 2nC$  is located in free space at  $P_1(-3, 7, -4)$ , while  $Q_2 = -5nC$  is at  $P_2(2, 4, -1)$ . Find the force vector on  
(a)  $Q_2$ ; (b)  $Q_1$

$$\bar{F}_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}^2} \hat{a}_{R_{12}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{a}_{R_{12}} &= \frac{\bar{R}_{12}}{|\bar{R}_{12}|} = \frac{(x_2 - x_1)\hat{a}_x + (y_2 - y_1)\hat{a}_y + (z_2 - z_1)\hat{a}_z}{|\bar{R}_{12}|} \\ &= \frac{5\hat{a}_x - 3\hat{a}_y + 3\hat{a}_z}{\sqrt{25 + 9 + 9}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{F}_{12} = \frac{-10 \times 10^{-18}}{4\pi \times 8.854 \times 10^{-12}} \frac{5\hat{a}_x - 3\hat{a}_y + 3\hat{a}_z}{43\sqrt{43}}$$

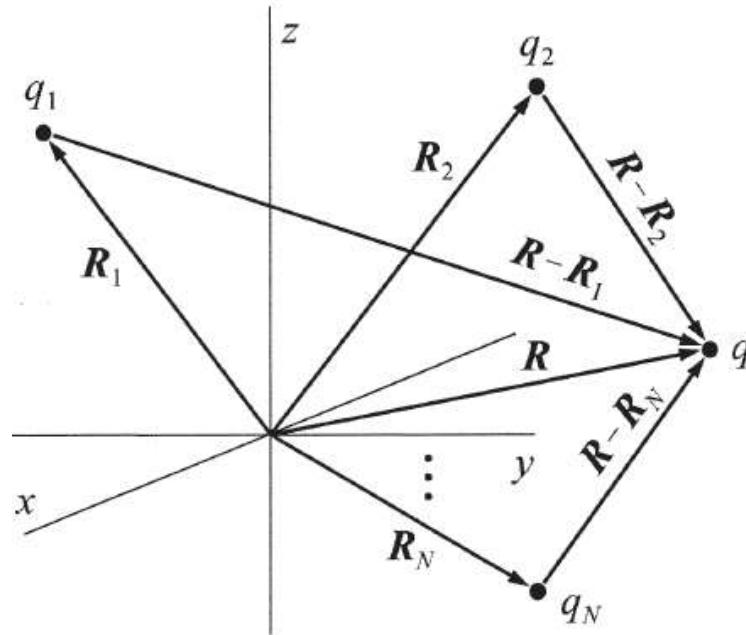
$$\bar{F}_{12} = -1.59\hat{a}_x + 0.957\hat{a}_y - 0.957\hat{a}_z \text{ nN}$$

(b)  $\bar{F}_{21} = -\bar{F}_{12}$

## Force due to multiple point charges (Superposition).

Given a point charge  $q$  in the vicinity of a set of  $N$  point charges ( $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N$ ), the total vector force on  $q$  is the vector sum of the individual forces due to the  $N$  point charges.

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \sum_{k=1}^N q_k \frac{(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k)}{|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k|^3}$$



$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{qq_1(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_1)}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_1|^3} + \frac{qq_2(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_2)}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_2|^3} + \dots + \frac{qq_N(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_N)}{4\pi\epsilon_o |\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_N|^3}$$

## Electric Field Intensity

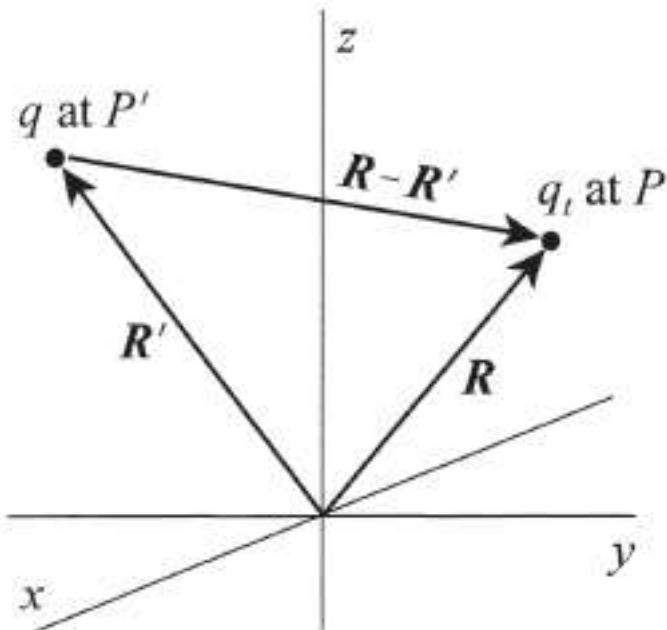
Using a positive test charge to measure the electric field, the electric field intensity is defined as the *vector force per unit charge* experienced by the test charge.

$q$  - point charge producing the electric field

$q_t$  - positive test charge used to measure the electric field of  $q$

$\mathbf{R}'$  - locates the *source point*  $P'$  (location of source charge  $q$ )

$\mathbf{R}$  - locates the *field point*  $P$  (location of test charge  $q_t$ )

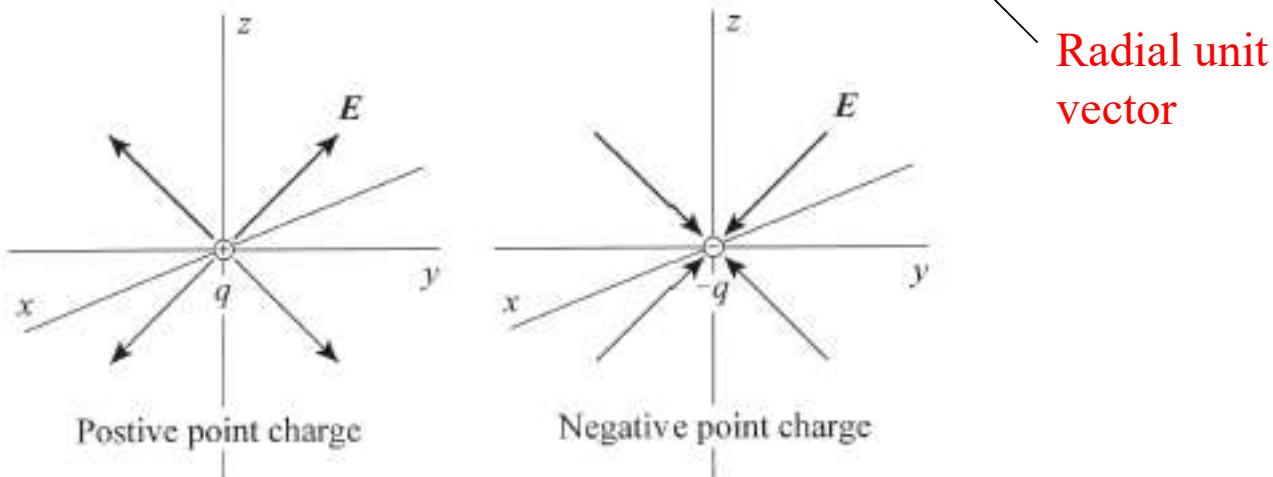


$$\mathbf{E} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{F}}{q_t} = \frac{q(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}')}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}'|^3} \quad (\text{N/C})$$

$$\frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} = \frac{\text{J/m}}{\text{C}} = \frac{\text{J/C}}{\text{m}} = \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}}$$

For the special case of a point charge at the origin ( $\mathbf{R}' = \mathbf{0}$ ), the electric field reduces to the following spherical coordinate expression:

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{q\mathbf{R}}{4\pi\epsilon_0|\mathbf{R}|^3} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0|\mathbf{R}|^2} \frac{\mathbf{R}}{|\mathbf{R}|} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \quad (\text{V/m})$$



Note that the electric field points radially outward given a positive point charge at the origin and radially inward given a negative point charge at the origin. In either case, the electric field of the a point charge at the origin is spherically symmetric and the magnitude of the electric field varies as  $R^{-2}$ .

## Electric field due to multiple point charges

The electric field due to multiple point charges can be determined using the principle of superposition. The vector force on a test charge  $q_t$  at  $\mathbf{R}$  due to a system of point charges  $(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N)$  at  $(\mathbf{R}_1', \mathbf{R}_2', \dots, \mathbf{R}_N')$  is, by superposition,

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{q_t}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \sum_{k=1}^N q_k \frac{(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k')}{|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k'|^3}$$

The resulting electric field is

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{\mathbf{F}}{q_t} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \sum_{k=1}^N q_k \frac{(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k')}{|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_k'|^3}$$

## Example 6

Determine the vector electric field at  $(1, -3, 7)$  m due to point charges  $q_1 = 5$  nC at  $(2, 0, 4)$  m and  $q_2 = -2$  nC at  $(-3, 0, 5)$  m.

$$\mathbf{R} = \hat{x} - 3\hat{y} + 7\hat{z}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_1' = 2\hat{x} + 4\hat{z}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_2' = -3\hat{x} + 5\hat{z}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \left[ q_1 \frac{(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_1')}{|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_1'|^3} + q_2 \frac{(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_2')}{|\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_2'|^3} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \left[ (5 \times 10^{-9}) \frac{(-\hat{x} - 3\hat{y} + 3\hat{z})}{[1^2 + 3^2 + 3^2]^{3/2}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (-2 \times 10^{-9}) \frac{(4\hat{x} - 3\hat{y} + 2\hat{z})}{[4^2 + 3^2 + 2^2]^{3/2}} \right] \\ &= 8.988 \left[ \frac{5}{(19)^{3/2}} (-\hat{x} - 3\hat{y} + 3\hat{z}) - \frac{2}{(29)^{3/2}} (4\hat{x} - 3\hat{y} + 2\hat{z}) \right]\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{E} = (-1.004\hat{x} - 1.284\hat{y} + 1.399\hat{z}) \text{ V/m}}$$

# Announcements

- Homework 1 is assigned (Check Webcourses).
- Next lecture:
  - Electrostatic Field Intensity (continued)
  - Introduction to Matlab