

# Example: Sketching a Field



Sketch this vector field:  $\mathbf{E} = -1000 \hat{\mathbf{y}} \frac{\text{V}}{\text{cm}}$



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**ELEC 318 – *Electromagnetic Fields***

**Lecture 3(b)**

**Review of  
Coordinate Systems**

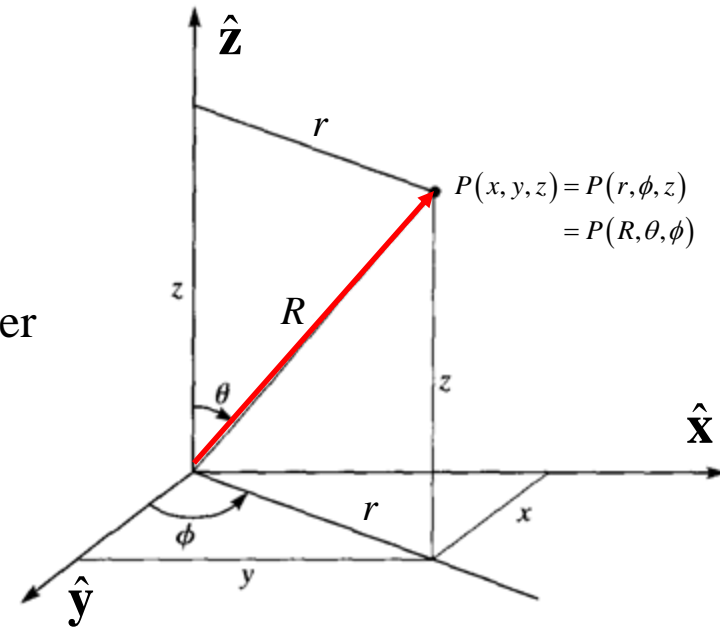
# Coordinate Systems

Points and vectors in space (and by extension, *fields*) can be represented using multiple coordinate systems.

## orthogonal system

- coordinate system; 3 unit vectors normal to each other
- most useful to us: Cartesian, cylindrical, spherical
- particular system is chosen from geometry, to save time & computation power

The result of a vector operation *does not change* w.r.t. coordinate system (e.g. dot product, cross product).



$$\mathbf{r}_p = 6\hat{\mathbf{x}} + 2\hat{\mathbf{y}} + 5\hat{\mathbf{z}} \text{ cm}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = 6 \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + 2 \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \hat{\phi} + 5 \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

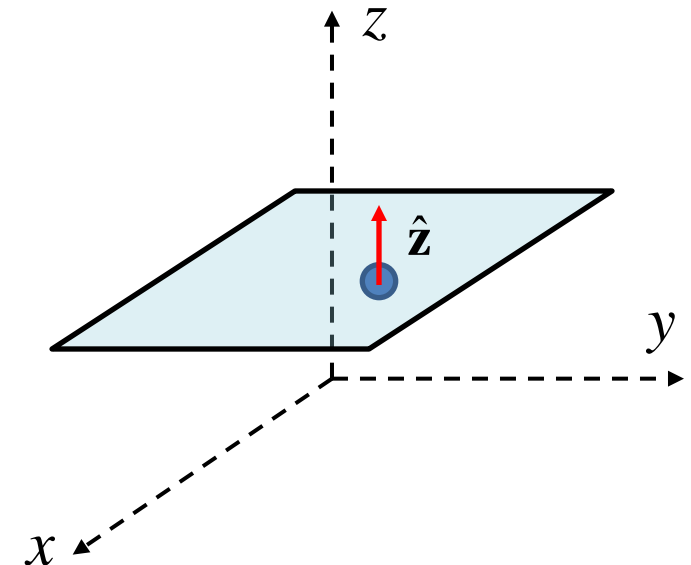
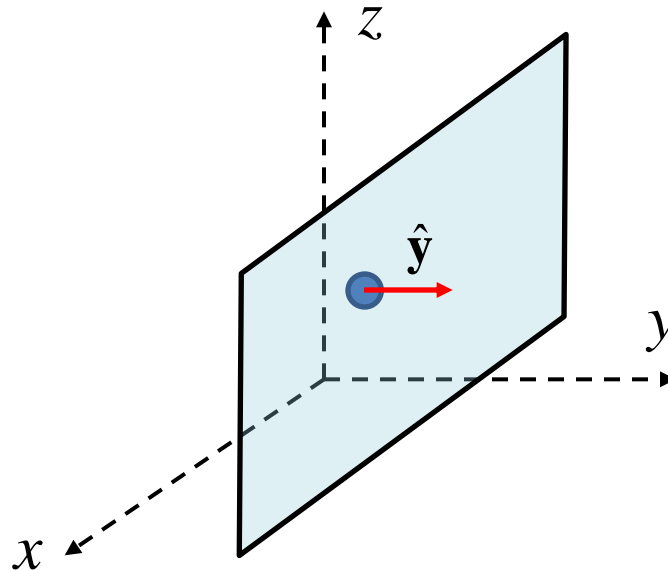
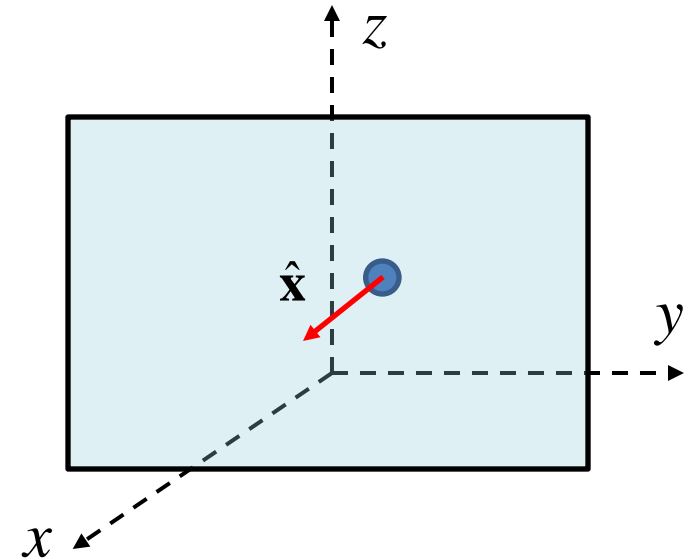
$$\mathbf{H} = 30 [\cos(\theta_2) - \cos(\theta_1)] \hat{\mathbf{z}} \frac{\text{A}}{\text{m}}$$

# Cartesian (Rectangular) Coordinates

at every point,

- 3 unit vectors that are orthogonal to each other
- 3 **constant-coordinate surfaces** defined by holding any 1 coordinate constant (e.g.  $y$ ) and freeing the other 2 coordinates (e.g.  $x$  and  $z$ )

Rectangular coordinates are our “default” coordinates.



# Examples: Cartesian Coordinates

Sketch the following vector fields:

$$\mathbf{H} = -y \hat{\mathbf{x}} \left( \frac{\text{A}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = x \hat{\mathbf{y}} \left( \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

# Examples: Cartesian Coordinates

Sketch the following vector fields:

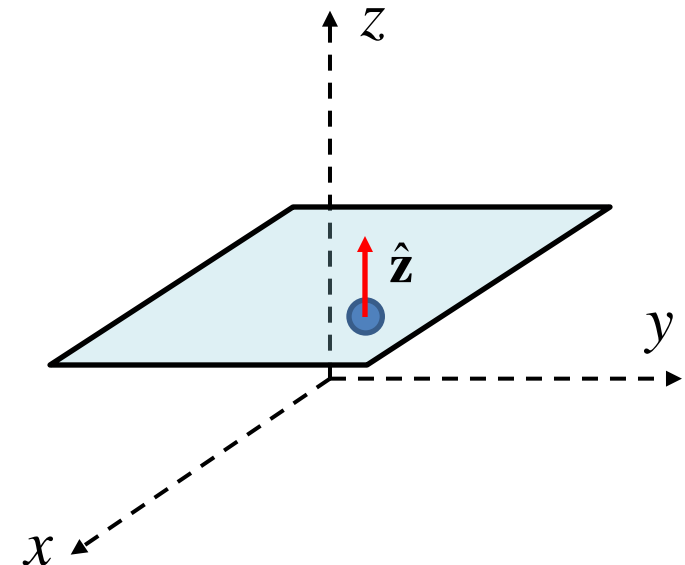
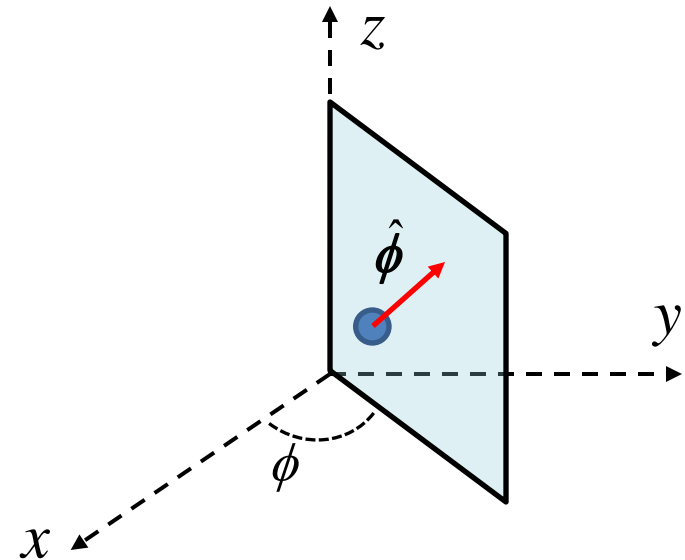
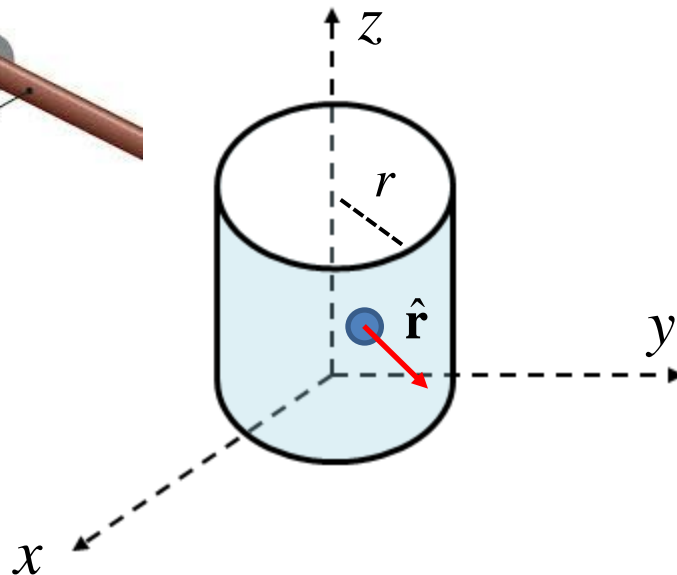
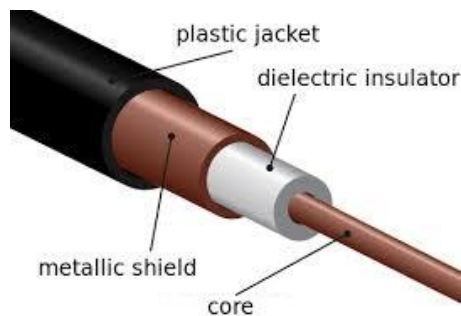
$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{x} \hat{\mathbf{y}} \left( \frac{\text{A}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = x \hat{\mathbf{x}} - y \hat{\mathbf{y}} \left( \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

# Cylindrical Coordinates $(r, \phi, z)$

at every point,

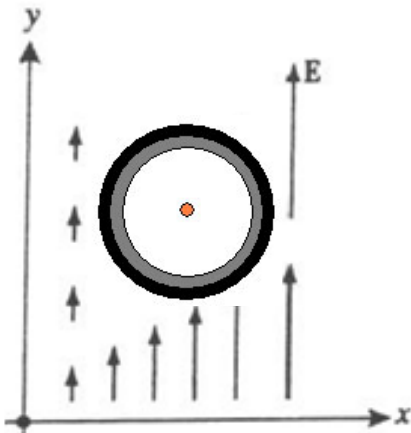
- 3 unit vectors that are orthogonal to each other
- 3 **constant-coordinate surfaces** defined by holding any 1 coordinate constant (e.g.  $r$ ) and freeing the other 2 coordinates (e.g.  $\phi$  and  $z$ )



# Cylindrical $\leftrightarrow$ Cartesian

**conversion** between coordinate systems:

- accomplished using *trigonometry*
- useful when fields, lengths, surfaces, volumes of a given problem are a *mix* of geometries



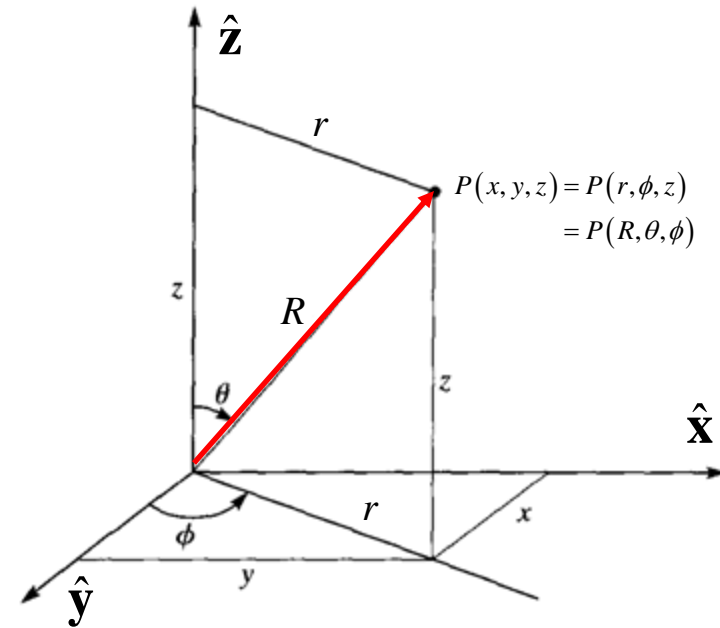
Example:

coaxial cable  
(cylindrical symmetry)  
in a vertical electric field  
(rectangular symmetry)

conversion of coordinates:

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}, \quad z = z$$

$$x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi, \quad z = z$$



conversion of unit vectors:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \sin \phi \hat{\phi} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \cos \phi \hat{\phi}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



# Cylindrical & Cartesian Position

```
>> P_rect = [2.0000 3.0000 3.0000];
```

```
>> x = P_rect(1);
```

```
>> y = P_rect(2);
```

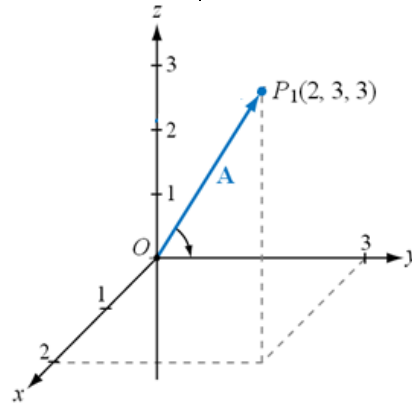
```
>> z = P_rect(3);
```

```
>> rho = sqrt( x^2 + y^2 );
```

```
>> phi = atan( y / x );
```

```
>> P_cyl = [rho phi z]
```

```
3.6056    0.9828    3.0000
```



```
>> P_cyl = [3.6056 0.9828 3.0000];
```

```
>> rho = P_cyl(1);
```

```
>> phi = P_cyl(2);
```

```
>> z = P_cyl(3);
```

```
>> x = rho * cos(phi);
```

```
>> y = rho * sin(phi);
```

```
>> P_rect = [x y z]
```

```
2.0000    3.0000    3.0000
```

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}, \quad z = z$$

$$x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi, \quad z = z$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \sin \phi \hat{\phi} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \cos \phi \hat{\phi}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

# Cylindrical & Cartesian Vectors



```
>> A_rect = [2.0000 3.0000 3.0000];
>> phi = pi;

>> A_x = A_rect(1);
>> A_y = A_rect(2);
>> A_z = A_rect(3);

>> A_rho = A_x*cos(phi)+A_y*sin(phi);
>> A_phi = -A_x*sin(phi)+A_y*cos(phi);

>> A_cyl = [A_rho A_phi A_z]

                -2.0000    -3.0000    3.0000
```

```
>> A_cyl = [-2.0000 -3.0000 3.0000];
>> phi = pi;

>> A_rho = A_cyl(1);
>> A_phi = A_cyl(2);
>> A_z = A_cyl(3);

>> A_x = A_rho*cos(phi)-A_phi*sin(phi)
>> A_y = A_rho*sin(phi)+A_phi*cos(phi);

>> A_rect = [A_x A_y A_z]

                2.0000    3.0000    3.0000
```

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}, \quad z = z$$

$$x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi, \quad z = z$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \sin \phi \hat{\phi} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \cos \phi \hat{\phi}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

# Examples: Cylindrical Coordinates

Sketch the following vector fields:

$$\mathbf{H} = r \hat{\phi} \left( \frac{\text{A}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = r \hat{\mathbf{r}} \left( \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

# Example: Conversion, Projection

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}, \quad z = z$$

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$$x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi, \quad z = z$$

---

$$\mathbf{A}_B = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \hat{\mathbf{b}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \sin \phi \hat{\phi} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

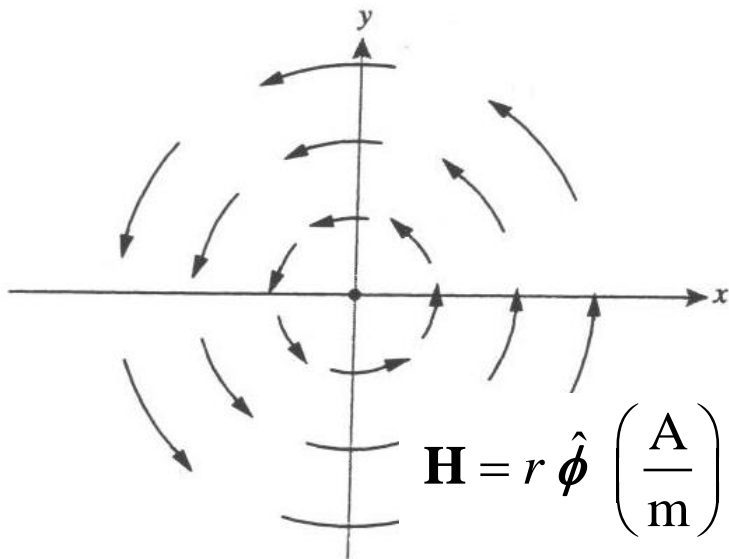
$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \cos \phi \hat{\phi}$$

---

$$r = \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

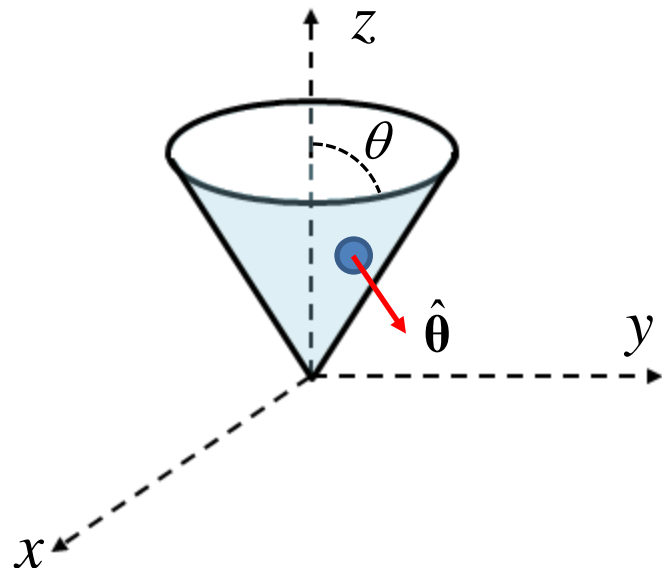
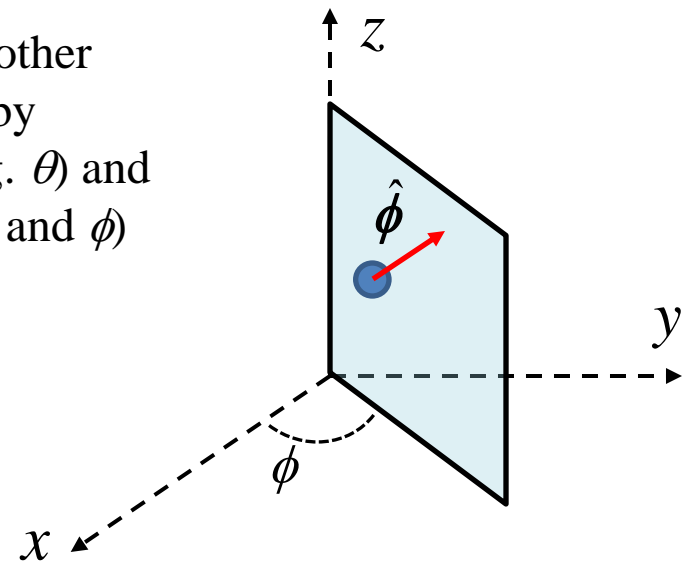
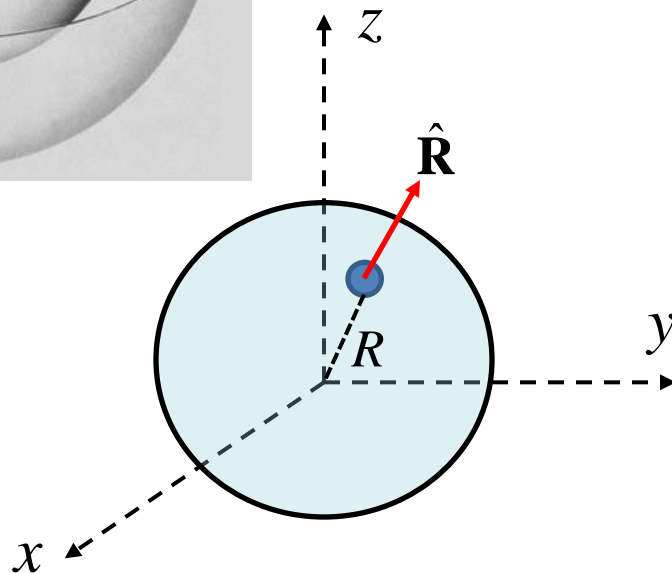
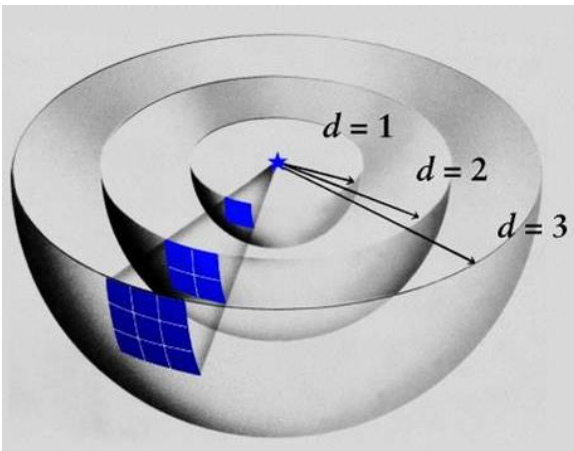
$$\hat{\phi} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

Find the vector projection of  $\mathbf{H}$  along  $y = 4$  m,  $z = 3$  m, for all values of  $x$  (as a function of  $x$ ).



# Spherical Coordinates ( $R, \theta, \phi$ )

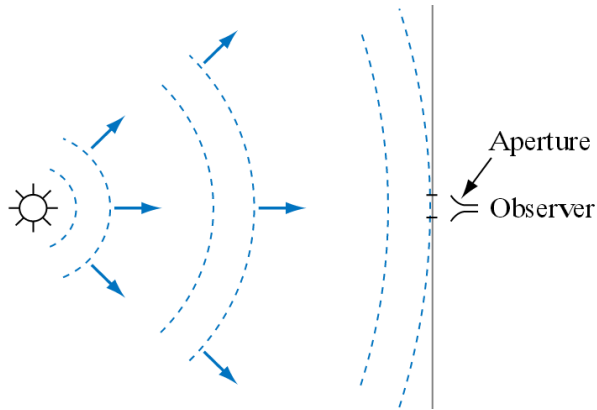
at every point, 3 unit vectors that are orthogonal to each other  
3 **constant-coordinate surfaces** defined by  
holding any 1 coordinate constant (e.g.  $\theta$ ) and  
freeing the other 2 coordinates (e.g.  $R$  and  $\phi$ )



# Spherical $\leftrightarrow$ Cartesian

**conversion** between coordinate systems:

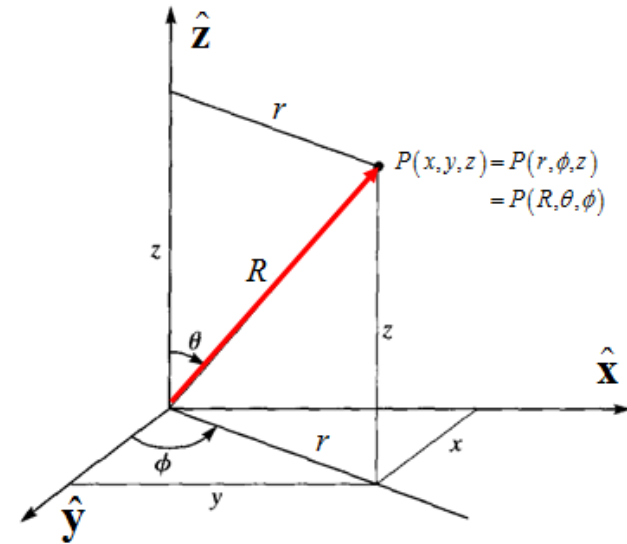
- accomplished using *trigonometry*
- useful when fields, lengths, surfaces, volumes of a given problem are a *mix* of geometries



conversion of coordinates:

$$R = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

$$x = R \sin \theta \cos \phi, \quad y = R \sin \theta \sin \phi, \quad z = R \cos \theta$$



conversion of unit vectors:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{R}} - \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

# Examples: Spherical Coordinates

Sketch the following vector fields:

$$\mathbf{E} = R \hat{\mathbf{R}} \left( \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & R \leq 3 \text{ cm} \\ R \hat{\mathbf{R}} \left( \frac{\text{V}}{\text{m}} \right) & R > 3 \text{ cm} \end{cases}$$

# Example: Spherical $\leftrightarrow$ Cartesian

$$R = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

$$x = R \sin \theta \cos \phi, \quad y = R \sin \theta \sin \phi, \quad z = R \cos \theta$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{R}} - \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = -\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

Determine the equation of a surface – as a function of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  – over which  $|\mathbf{E}|$  is constant and passes through  $(x = 2 \text{ m}, y = 1 \text{ m}, z = 3 \text{ m})$ .

