

# Cylindrical & Spherical Coordinates

## SUGGESTED REFERENCE MATERIAL:

As you work through the problems listed below, you should reference Chapter 11.8 of the recommended textbook (or the equivalent chapter in your alternative textbook/online resource) and your lecture notes.

## EXPECTED SKILLS:

- Be able to convert between rectangular, cylindrical, and spherical coordinates (Table 11.8.1).
- Be able describe simple surfaces in terms of cylindrical and spherical coordinates (Table 11.8.2).

## PRACTICE PROBLEMS:

1. Consider the point  $(r, \theta, z) = \left(2, \frac{\pi}{2}, 1\right)$  in cylindrical coordinates.
  - (a) Convert this point to rectangular coordinates.
  - (b) Convert this point to spherical coordinates.
2. Consider the point  $(r, \theta, z) = \left(1, \frac{\pi}{4}, -4\right)$  in cylindrical coordinates.
  - (a) Convert this point to rectangular coordinates.
  - (b) Convert this point to spherical coordinates.
3. Consider the point  $(\rho, \theta, \phi) = \left(5, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)$  in spherical coordinates.
  - (a) Convert this point to rectangular coordinates.
  - (b) Convert this point to cylindrical coordinates.
4. Consider the point  $(x, y, z) = \left(1, -\sqrt{3}, -2\right)$  in rectangular coordinates.
  - (a) Convert this point to cylindrical coordinates.
  - (b) Convert this point to spherical coordinates.

For problems 5-10, each of the given surfaces is expressed in rectangular coordinates. Express the equation of the surface in (a) cylindrical coordinates and (b) spherical coordinates.

5.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 16$

6.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3z$

7.  $z = \sqrt{2x^2 + 2y^2}$

8.  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$

9.  $x + 3y + 5z = 4$

10.  $z = 2$

For problems 11-15, each of the given surfaces is expressed in cylindrical coordinates. Express the equation of the surface in rectangular coordinates.

11.  $r = 5$

12.  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

13.  $r = 6 \sin \theta$

14.  $z = r \sin \theta$

15.  $r^2 \sin 2\theta = z$

For problems 16-19, each of the given surfaces is expressed in spherical coordinates. Express the equation of the surface in rectangular coordinates.

16.  $\rho = 4$

17.  $\phi = \frac{\pi}{3}$

18.  $\rho = 4 \cos \phi$

19.  $\rho = 3 \sec \phi$

For problems 20-21, describe in words all points in 3-space which satisfy the given inequalities.

20. In cylindrical coordinates:  $\left\{ (r, \theta, z) : 0 \leq r \leq 2, 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{3}, 0 \leq z \leq 1 \right\}$

21. In spherical coordinates:  $\left\{ (\rho, \theta, \phi) : 1 \leq \rho \leq 3, 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, 0 \leq \phi \leq \frac{\pi}{4} \right\}$