

Spherical Coordinates

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The Cartesian system uses x, y, z , and is most commonly used.

We use spherical variables r, θ, ϕ in the Spherical system.

Converting from Cartesian to Spherical requires use of these equations.

Cartesian to Spherical

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

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

$$z = r \cos(\phi)$$

Conversely, to go from Spherical to Cartesian, use these equations.

Spherical to Cartesian

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

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

$$\phi = \arccos\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}\right)$$

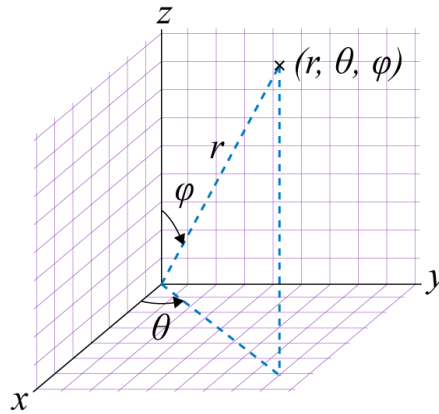


Figure 1: <https://byjus.com/maths/spherical-coordinates/>