

Formulas & Definitions: Section 12-1

Distance formula in three dimensions: The distance $|P_1P_2|$ between the points $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ is

$$|P_1P_2| = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

Equation of a sphere: An equation of a sphere with center $C(h, k, l)$ and radius r is

$$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 + (z-l)^2 = r^2$$

In particular, if the center is the origin O , then an equation of the sphere is

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$$