Electromagnetic waves

Coordinate System

- Used to describe the position of a point in space
- Coordinate System consists of
 - A fixed reference point called the origin
 - \circ $\,$ Specific axes with scales and labels
 - \circ Instruction on how to label a point relative to the origin and the axes

* Types of Coordinate Systems

- Number line.
- Cartesian coordinate system.
- Polar coordinate system.
- Cylindrical and spherical coordinate systems.
- Homogeneous coordinate system.
- Other commonly used systems.
- Relativistic coordinate systems.

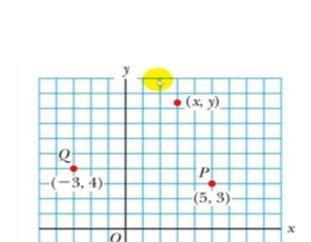
* Cartesian Coordinate System

- Also called rectangular Coordinate System
- x- and y- axes intersect at the origin
- Points are labeled (x , y)
- The plural of axis is axes
- Ordered pair (x , y) with x-value first

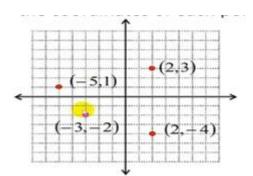
Example /Determine the following points

a.(2,3) b.(-5,1) c.(-3,-2) d.(2,-4)

solution :

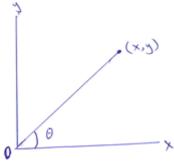


-3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3



* Polar coordinate system

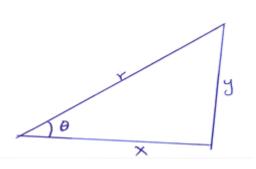
- Origin and reference line are noted.
- Point is distance r from the origin in the direction of angle θ , ccw from reference line .
- Points are labeled (r, θ) .



* Polar to Cartesian coordinates

 $sin\theta = \frac{y}{r}, cos\theta = \frac{x}{r}, tan\theta = \frac{y}{x}$

- Based on forming a right triangle from r and θ .
- $x = r \cos \theta$
- $y = r \sin \theta$



* Cartesian to Polar coordinates

- If the Cartesian coordinates are known :
 - \circ r is the hypotenuse and θ an angle

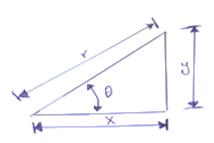
$$tan\theta = \frac{y}{x}$$
$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

 $\circ \theta$ must be ccw from positive x axis for these equations to be valid

Example : The Cartesian coordinates of a point in the xy Plane are (x,y)=(12, 5). Fined the polar coordinates of this point .

Solution : from equation

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
$$r = \sqrt{12^2 + 5^2}$$
$$r = 13$$

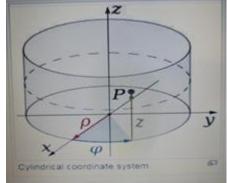


And from equation,

$$tan\theta = \frac{y}{x}$$
$$tan\theta = \frac{5}{12}$$
$$tan\theta = 12$$
$$\theta = 22.6^{\circ}$$

* Cylindrical coordinate systems

- There are two common methods for extending the polar coordinate system to three dimensions.
- In the cylindrical coordinate system, a z coordinate with the same meaning as in Cartesian coordinates is added to the r and θ polar coordinates giving a triple (r, θ , z).



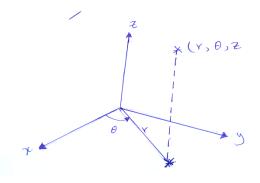
Convert from Cartesian coordinates to cylindrical coordinates

$$(x, y,z) \to (r,\theta,z)$$
$$\theta = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$
$$z = z$$

 Convert from cylindrical coordinates to Cartesian coordinates

$$(r,\theta,z) \rightarrow (x,y,z)$$

 $x = rcos\theta$
 $y = rsin\theta$
 $z=z$



Example: Convert from cylindrical coordinates to Cartesian coordinates $(4, \frac{2\pi}{3}, -2)$

Solution :
$$x = r\cos\theta$$

 $x = 4\cos\frac{2\pi}{3}$
 $x = -2$
 $y = r\sin\theta$
 $y = 4\sin\frac{2\pi}{3}$
 $y = 2\sqrt{3}$
 $z=z$
 $z=-2$
 $p=(-2,2\sqrt{3},-2)$

Example: Convert from Cartesian coordinates to cylindrical coordinates (1, -3, 5)

Solution :

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

$$r = \sqrt{1^{2} + -3^{2}}$$

$$r = \sqrt{10}$$

$$\theta = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

$$\theta = tan^{-1} \left(\frac{-3}{1}\right)$$

$$\theta = -1.249$$

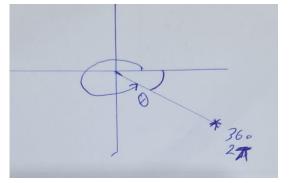
$$\theta = -1.249 + 2\pi$$

$$\theta = 5.03$$

$$z = z$$

$$z = 5$$

$$(r, \theta, z) = (\sqrt{10}, 5.03, 5)$$



Homework :

Convert from Cartesian coordinates to polar coordinates (3,-3,-7).