

MATH 223: Multivariable Calculus
Vector Differential Calculus

Curvilinear Coordinates

Polar Coordinates (r, θ)

For any point $\mathbf{x} = (x,y)$ in the plane, there are numbers r and θ , called the **polar coordinates** of \mathbf{x} such that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= r \cos \theta \\y &= r \sin \theta\end{aligned}$$

Spherical Coordinates (r, ϕ, θ)

For any point $\mathbf{x} = (x,y,z)$ in three dimensional space, there are numbers r and θ and ϕ , called the **spherical coordinates** of \mathbf{x} such that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= r \sin \phi \cos \theta \\y &= r \sin \phi \sin \theta \\z &= r \cos \phi\end{aligned}$$

Cylindrical Coordinates (r, θ, z)

For any point $\mathbf{x} = (x,y,z)$ in three dimensional space, there are numbers r , θ and z called the **cylindrical coordinates** of \mathbf{x} such that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= r \cos \theta \\y &= r \sin \theta \\z &= z\end{aligned}$$

Jacobian Matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -r \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & r \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -r \sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & r \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \cdot \quad \begin{pmatrix} \sin \phi \cos \theta & r \cos \phi \cos \theta & -r \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ \sin \phi \sin \theta & r \cos \phi \sin \theta & r \sin \phi \cos \theta \\ \cos \phi & -r \sin \phi & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$