

# **Electromagnetism**

## **Lecture 2**

# Coordinate System

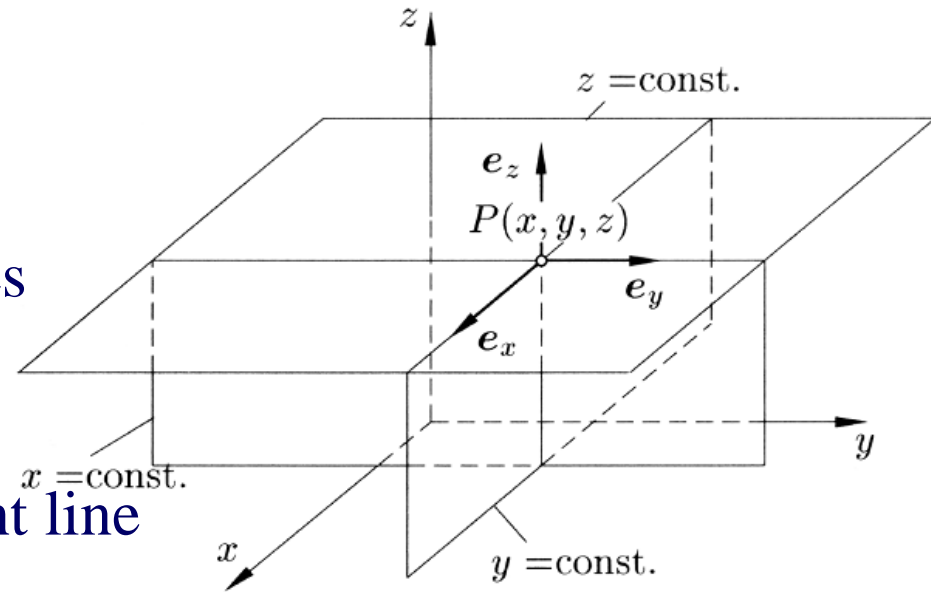
# Different Coordinate Systems

- Cartesian (Rectangular) Coordinate System
- Cylindrical Coordinate System
- Spherical Coordinate System

# Cartesian Coordinate System

- Cartesian (Rectangular) Coordinate System is defined by a set of three **mutually perpendicular planes**
- The point where all the three planes intersect is known as the origin.
- Pair of planes intersect in a straight line
- Hence three planes define a set of three straight lines that are called coordinate axis. Which are denoted by  $x, y,$  and  $z$ .
- The value of  $x, y$  and  $z$  at origin is

$(0, 0, 0)$



**Coordinates**  $x, y, z$

# Cartesian Coordinate System (cont.)

- A point is also defined by the intersection of three orthogonal surfaces.

- In cartesian coordinates the surfaces are the infinite planes  $x = \text{const.}$ ,  $y = \text{const.}$  and  $z = \text{const.}$

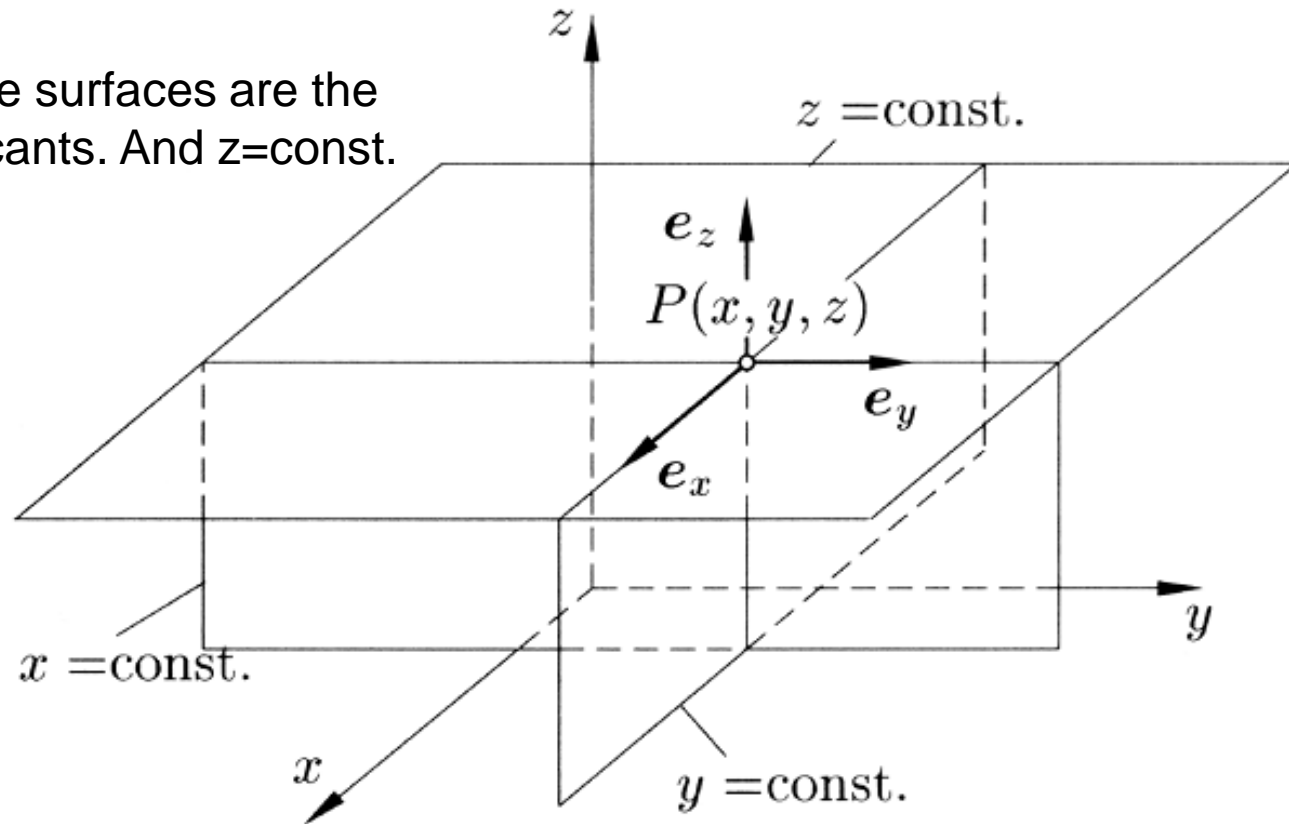
## Limits

$$-\infty < x < \infty$$

$$-\infty < y < \infty$$

$$-\infty < z < \infty$$

- yz plane - x constant
- zx plane - y constant
- xy plane - z constant



Unit vectors have fixed directions, independent of the location of point P

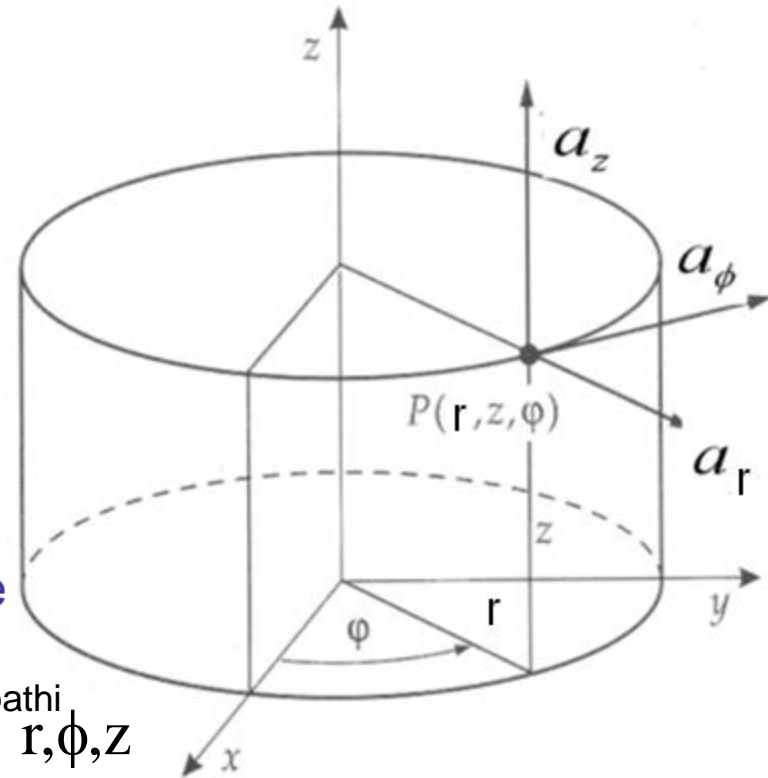
# CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES

- Very convenient when dealing with problems having cylindrical symmetry.
- Cylindrical coordinate system involves set of three mutually perpendicular surfaces.
- The three surfaces are **one cylindrical** and **two planes**.
- A point P in cylindrical coordinate is  $(r, \phi, z)$  where

$r$ : is the radius of the cylinder; radial displacement from the z-axis

$\phi$ : *azimuthal* angle or the angular displacement from x-axis

$z$ : vertical displacement  $z$  from the origin (as in the cartesian system).



# CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES

- The range of the variables are

$$0 \leq r < \infty, \quad 0 \leq \Phi < 2\pi, \quad -\infty < z < \infty$$

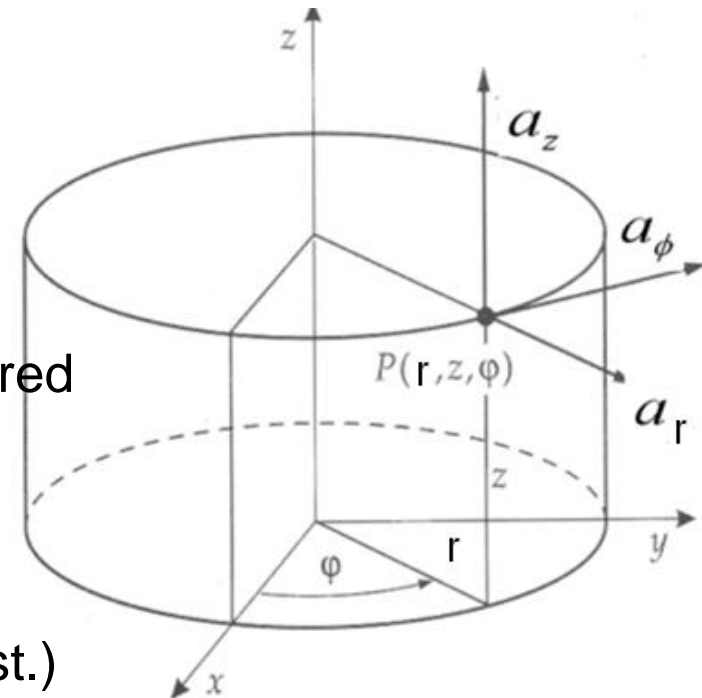
- vector  $\vec{A}$  in cylindrical coordinates can be written as  $(A_r, A_\phi, A_z)$  or  $A_r \mathbf{a}_r + A_\phi \mathbf{a}_\phi + A_z \mathbf{a}_z$

- The magnitude of  $\vec{A}$  is

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_r^2 + A_\phi^2 + A_z^2}$$

Cylindrical coordinate system any point is considered as intersection of three mutually perpendicular surfaces.

- Circular cylinder ( $r = \text{constant}$ )
- Half plane with its edge along the  $z$  axis ( $\phi = \text{const.}$ )
- Another plane  $xy$  ( $z = \text{constant}$ )



# RELATION BETWEEN VARIABLES

- The relationships between the variables  $(x,y,z)$  of the Cartesian coordinate system and the cylindrical system  $(r,\phi,z)$  are obtained as

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

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} y/x$$

$$z = z$$

$$x = r \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \phi$$

$$z = z$$

- So a point P (3, 4, 5) in Cartesian coordinate is the same as?

$$\rho = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} 4/3 = 0.927 \text{ rad}$$

$$z = 5$$

- So a point P (3, 4, 5) in Cartesian coordinate is the same as P ( 5, 0.927,5) in cylindrical coordinate)



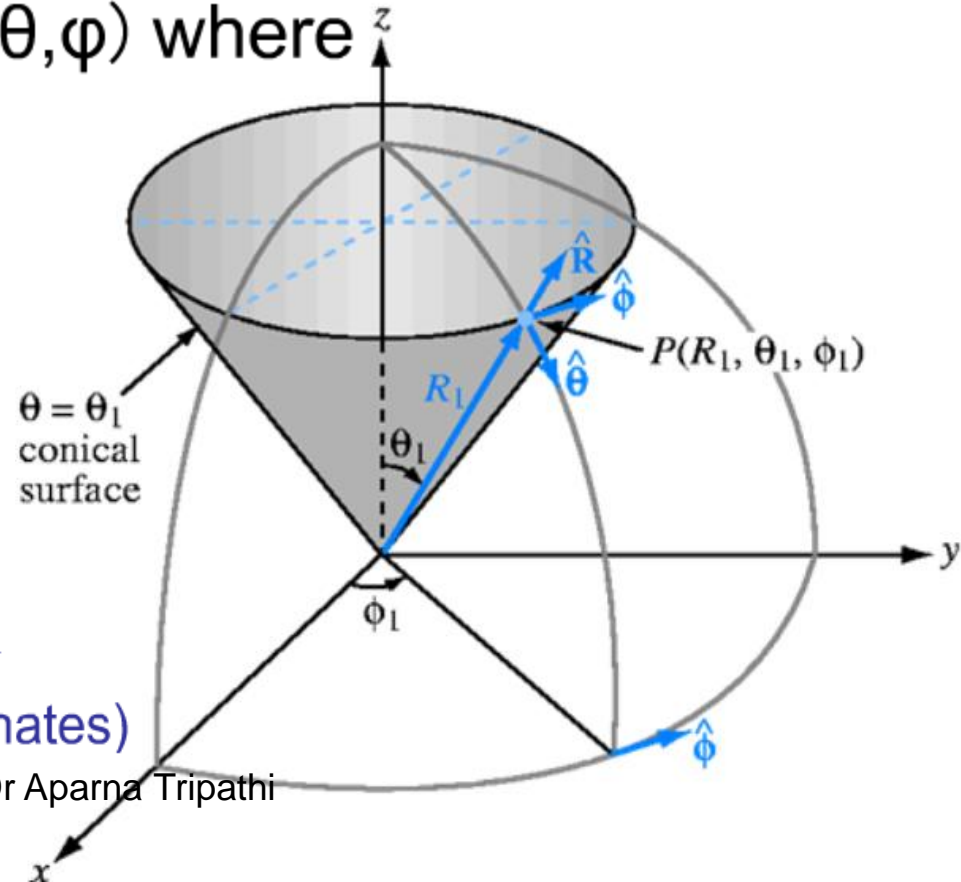
# SPHERICAL COORDINATES

- The spherical coordinate system is used dealing with problems having a degree of spherical symmetry.
- The three mutually orthogonal surfaces are a **sphere** , a **cone** and a **plane**
- Point P represented as  $(r, \theta, \phi)$  where

$r$  : the distance from the origin,

$\theta$  : called the *colatitude* is the angle between z-axis and vector of P,

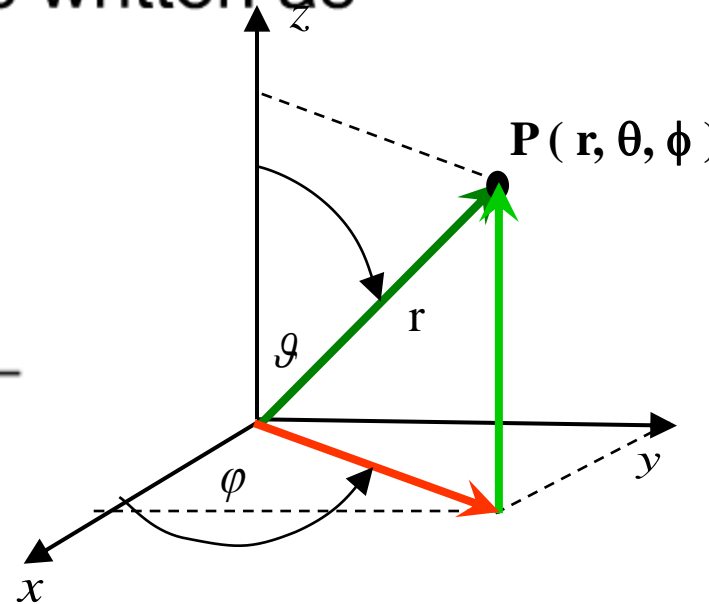
$\phi$  : *azimuthal* angle or the angular displacement from x-axis (the same azimuthal angle in cylindrical coordinates)



# SPHERICAL COORDINATES

- The range of the variables are  
 $0 \leq r < \infty$ ,  $0 \leq \theta < \pi$ ,  $0 < \phi < 2\pi$
- A vector  $\mathbf{A}$  in spherical coordinates written as  
 $(A_r, A_\theta, A_\phi)$  or  $A_r \mathbf{a}_r + A_\theta \mathbf{a}_\theta + A_\phi \mathbf{a}_\phi$
- The magnitude of  $\mathbf{A}$  is

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_r^2 + A_\phi^2 + A_\theta^2}$$



**Half plane with its edge along the z axis ( $\phi = \text{const.}$ )**

**Sphere with its center at origin ( $r = \text{constant}$ )**

**Circular cone whose axis is the z axis and whose vertex is at the origin ( $\theta =$**

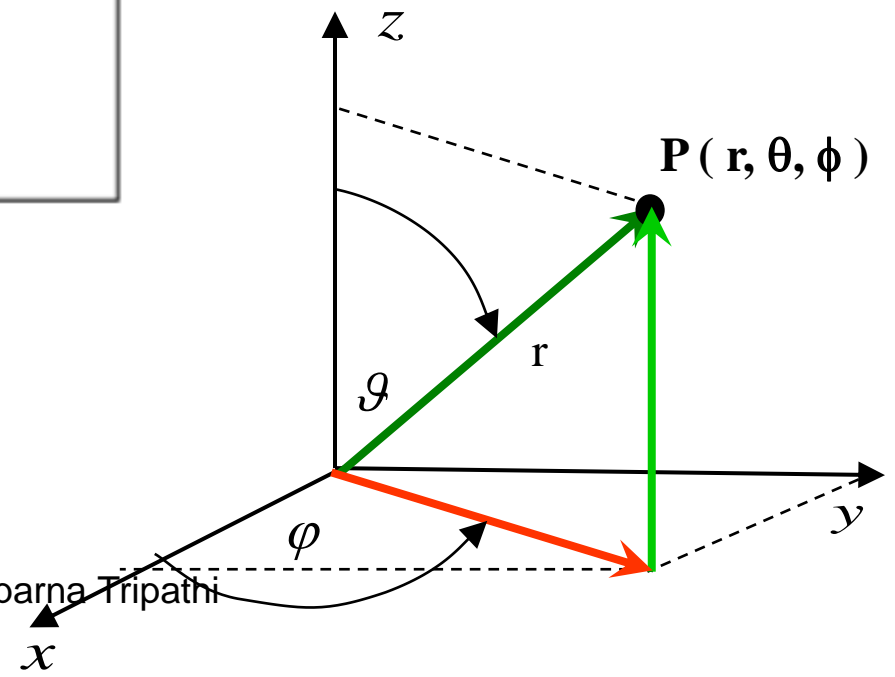
**const.)**  
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Lecture by Dr Aparna Tripathi

# RELATION BETWEEN VARIABLES

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$
$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z} \right)$$
$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$
$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$
$$z = r \cos \theta$$



# DIFFERENTIAL ELEMENTS

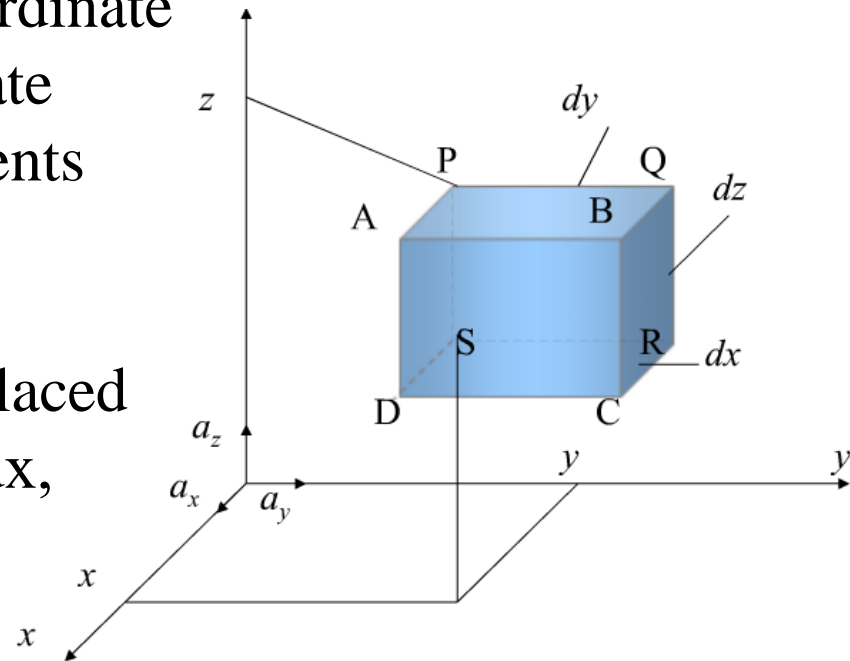
- In vector calculus the *differential elements* are length, area and volume are useful.
- They are defined in the Cartesian, cylindrical and spherical coordinate

## CARTESIAN COORDINATES

- Differential elements in Cartesian coordinate may be obtained by increasing coordinate values  $x, y,$  and  $z$  by differential increments  $dx, dy$  and  $dz$ .

- The this will lead to three slightly displaced planes intersecting at another pt  $P'$  ( $x+dx,$   $y+dy$  and  $z+dz$ ).

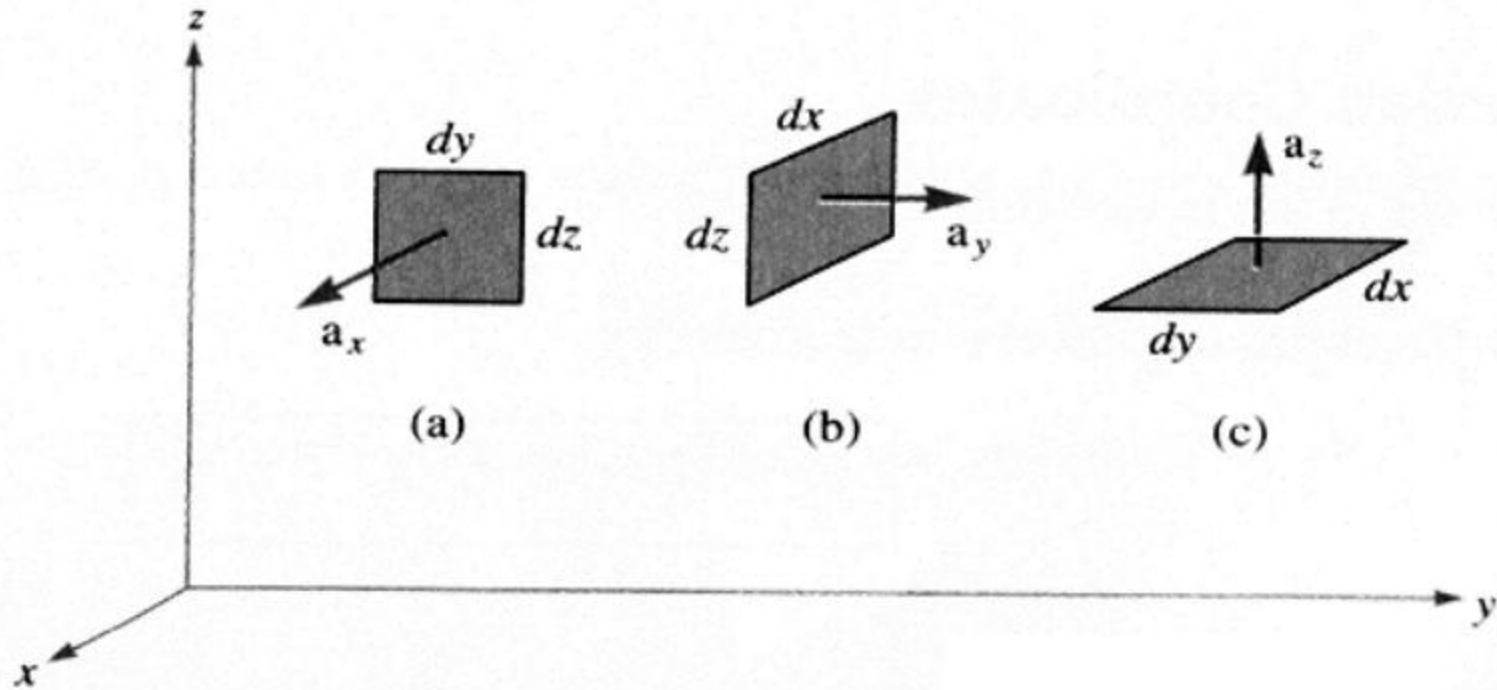
- Differential displacement  $dl$  is the distance between pt  $P$  and  $P'$



Differential displacement :

$$\vec{dl} = dx a_x + dy a_y + dz a_z$$

## CARTESIAN COORDINATES



Differential normal area:

$$d\vec{S} = dydz \mathbf{a}_x$$

$$d\vec{S} = dx dz \mathbf{a}_y$$

$$d\vec{S} = dx dy \mathbf{a}_z$$

## CARTESIAN COORDINATES

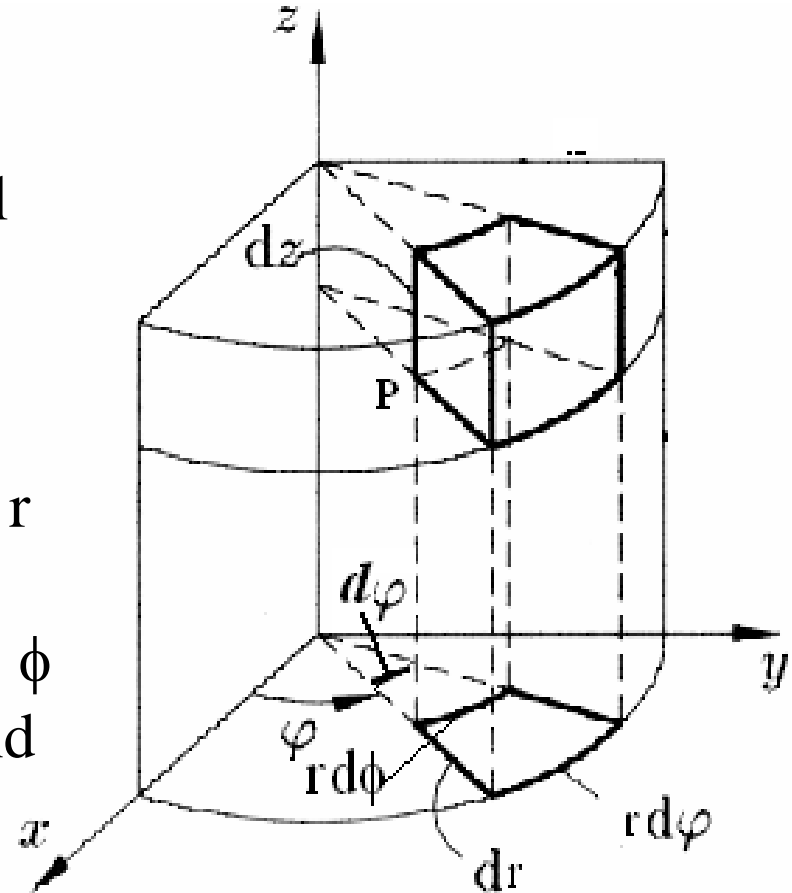
Differential displacement	$d\vec{l} = dx\mathbf{a}_x + dy\mathbf{a}_y + dz\mathbf{a}_z$
Differential normal area	$d\vec{S} = dydz \mathbf{a}_x$ $d\vec{S} = dxdz \mathbf{a}_y$ $d\vec{S} = dxdy \mathbf{a}_z$
Differential volume	$dv = dxdydz$

## CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES

• Differential elements in Cylindrical coordinate may be obtained by increasing coordinate values  $r, \phi$ , and  $z$  by differential increments  $dr, d\phi$  and  $dz$ .

• This will lead to

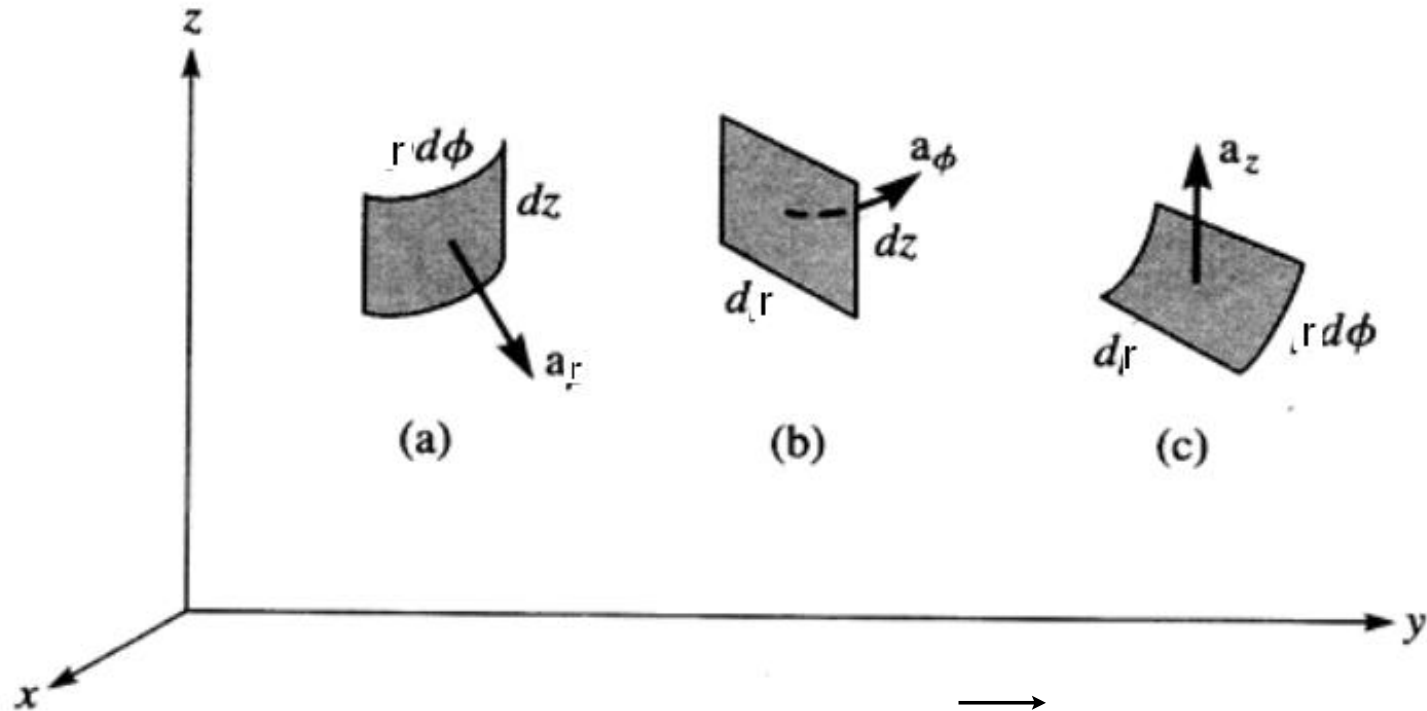
- two slightly displaced cylinders of radii  $r$  and  $r+dr$ ,
- the two radial planes at angle  $\phi$  and  $\phi+d\phi$
- The two horizontal planes at height  $z$  and  $z+dz$



Differential displacement :  $\vec{dl} = dr a_r + r d\phi a_\phi + dz a_z$



## CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES



$$\vec{dS} = r d\phi dz a_r$$

Differential normal area:  $\vec{dS} = dr dz a_\phi$

$$\vec{dS} = r d\phi dr a_z$$

## CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES

Differential displacement	$\vec{dl} = dr a_r + r d\phi a_\phi + dz a_z$
Differential normal area	$\vec{dS} = r d\phi dz a_r$ $\vec{dS} = dr dz a_\phi$ $\vec{dS} = r d\phi dr a_z$
Differential volume	$\vec{dv} = r dr d\phi dz$

## Example : 4

Use cylindrical coordinates to find the area of the curved surface of a right circular cylinder of radius  $a$  and height  $h$

The differential surface element is  $dA = r d\phi dz$

Then 
$$A = \int_0^h \int_0^{2\pi} r d\phi dz$$

$$A = a \int_0^h \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi dz = 2\pi ah$$

Its volume (for a radius  $r = a$ ) is 
$$V = \int_0^a \int_0^h \int_0^{2\pi} r dr d\phi dz$$

$$V = \pi a^2 h$$

## SPHERICAL COORDINATES

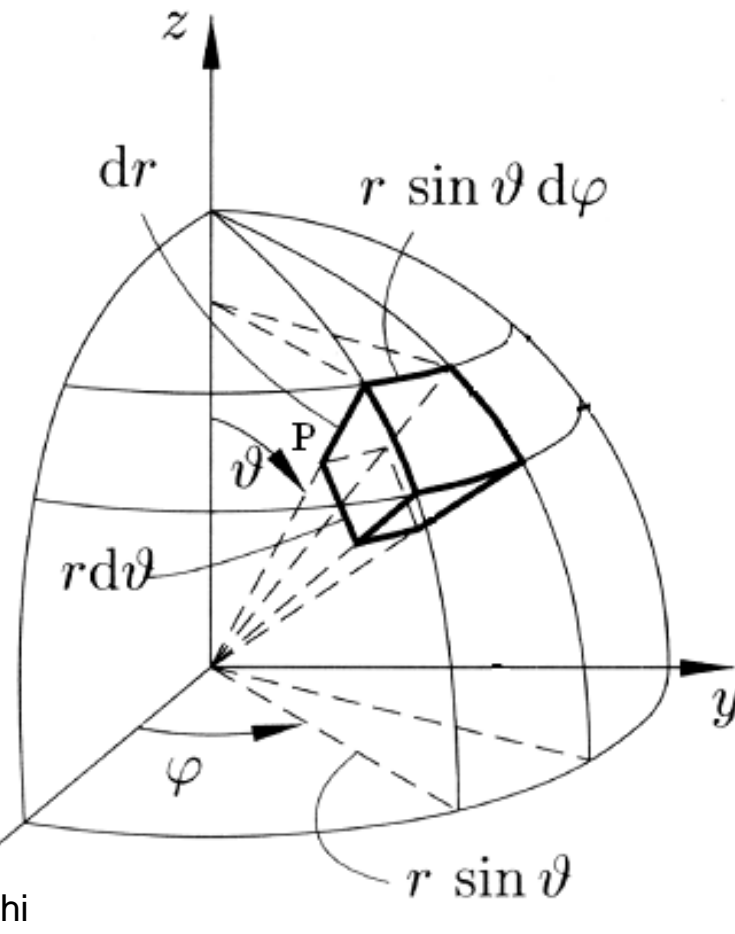
• Differential elements in Spherical coordinate may be obtained by increasing coordinate values  $r, \theta$  and  $\phi$  by differential increments  $dr, d\theta$  and  $d\phi$ .

• This will lead to

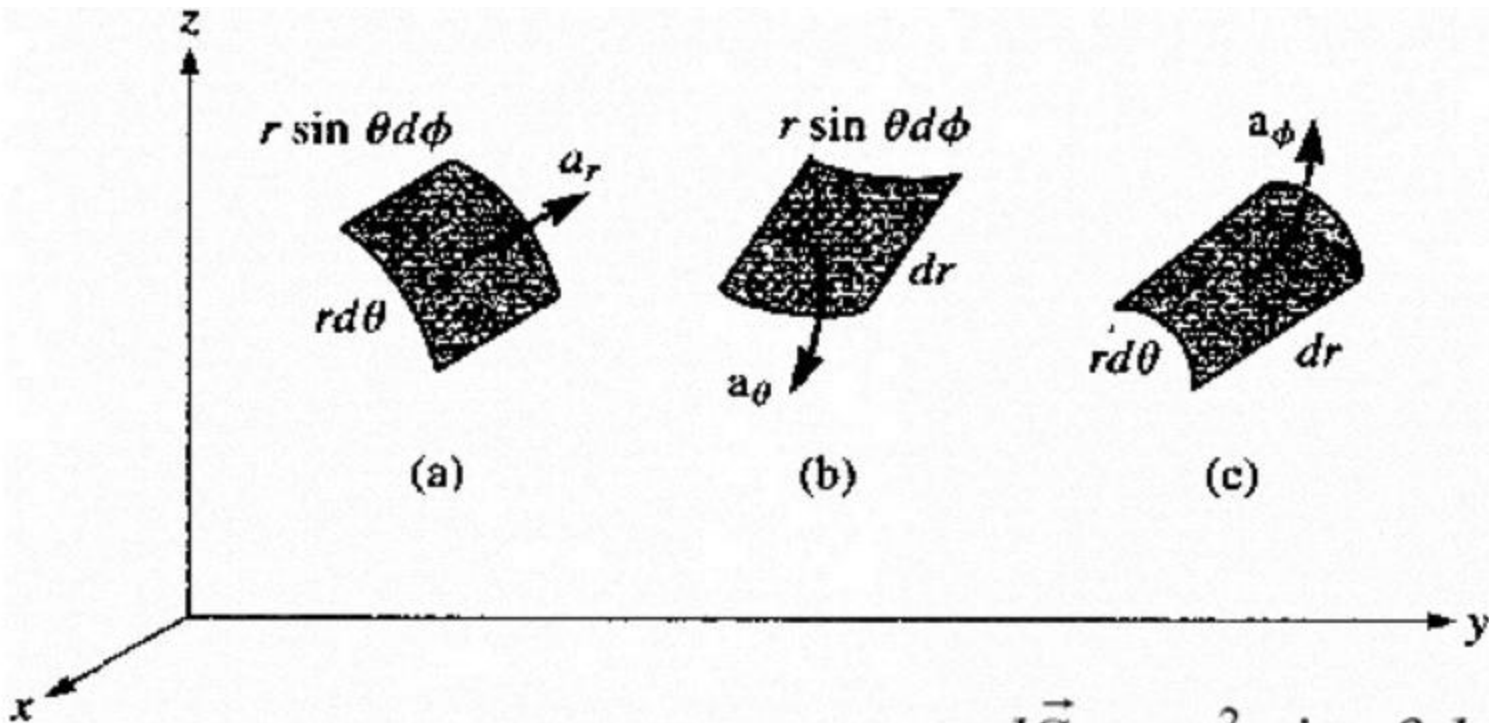
- Distance between two spheres -  $r$  and  $r+dr$ ,
- Distance between two cones  $\theta$  and  $\theta+d\theta$
- Distance between two planes  $\phi$  and  $\phi+d\phi$

Differential line elements

$$dl^2 = dr^2 + (r d\theta)^2 + (r \sin\theta d\phi)^2$$



## SPHERICAL COORDINATES



$$d\vec{S} = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \mathbf{a}_r$$

Differential normal area:  $d\vec{S} = r \sin \theta dr d\phi \mathbf{a}_\theta$

$$d\vec{S} = r dr d\theta \mathbf{a}_\phi$$

## SPHERICAL COORDINATES

Differential displacement	$d\vec{l} = dr a_r + r d\theta a_\theta + r \sin \theta d\phi a_\phi$
Differential normal area	$d\vec{S} = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi a_r$ $d\vec{S} = r \sin \theta dr d\phi a_\theta$ $d\vec{S} = r dr d\theta a_\phi$
Differential volume	$dv = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$