

## Co-ordinate System

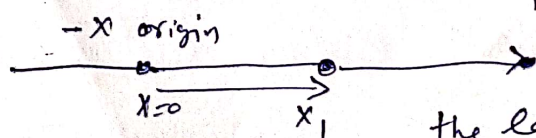
Position of any object in space describe by coordinate system. It is a artificial mathematic tool for describing the position of a real object. Co-ordinate system also help to understand the motion of particle or a system of particles. There are various Co-ordinate systems -

1. One dimensional coordinate system (Number line)
2. Two dimensional Cartesian coordinate systems
3. Polar Co-ordinate system
4. Three dimensional rectangular Cartesian system
5. Spherical ~~coordinates~~ polar coordinates.
6. Cylindrical polar coordinates.
7. Orthogonal curvilinear coordinates.

### 1- One dimensional or Number line Co-ordinate system

This Co-ordinate system describe the location of particle in one dimensional space (1-D). In this system only one Co-ordinate required for the defining location of an particle or object.

Example  $\rightarrow$  A Bus ~~at~~ is at position  $x=0$  ( $x$  is single real number) which we call origin. If bus is constrained to move along a straight line ( $x$ -axis), then all points of East side is ~~positive and~~ of the origin correspond to positive values of  $x$  and that of west side corresponds to the negative values of  $x$ .



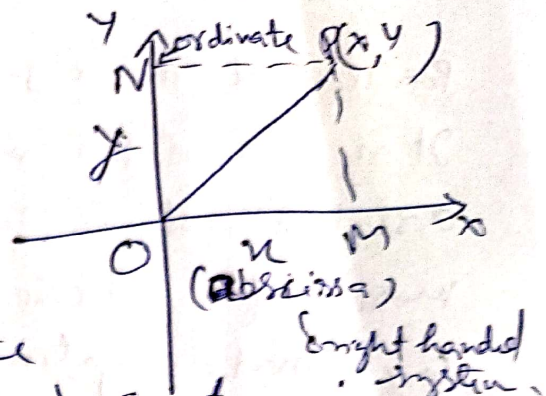
Here  $x$ -axis is our Co-ordinate system in which we can represent the location of a body by drawing

an arrow starting from the origin in the direction of increasing  $x$ .

## Two dimensional (2-D) Cartesian Co-ordinate system.

If particle have moves in a plane but not along a straight line, then 1-D Coordinate system is not appropriate to describe the position of the particle.

In this case 2-D Cartesian Co-ordinate System is used. 2-D Cartesian Coordinate system is formed by two mutually perpendicular axes which are intersect to each other at O point (origin).



The coordinate of position of particle at P point is  $(x, y)$ . If we draw a perpendicular from point P on x-axis. The foot of perpendicular meets on x-axis at M. the distance of M from origin is called x-coordinate of the point (abscissa) and similarly the distance of foot of perpendicular dropped from P on y-axis from origin is called y-coordinate at that point (ordinate). i.e.

$$OM = x \quad \text{and} \quad ON = y \quad \text{and point denoted by } P(x, y).$$

If  $\hat{i}$  and  $\hat{j}$  are unit vectors along x and y axis respectively then position vector at P point is

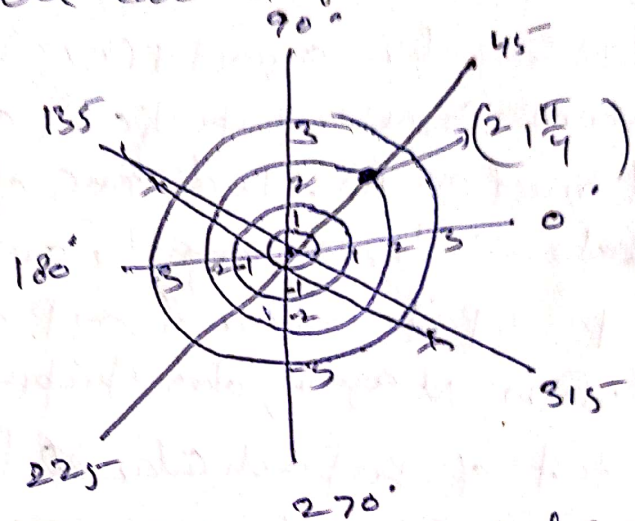
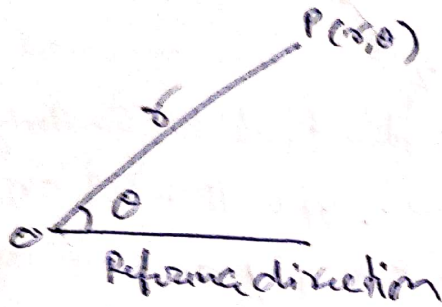
$$\vec{OP} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$$

distance between two point  $P_1(x_1, y_1)$  and  $P_2(x_2, y_2)$  in Cartesian Plane is

$$P_1 P_2 = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$$

## Polar Co-ordinates System

In this co-ordinate system every point on the plane is determined by a distance of the point from the reference origin ( $r$ ) and angle ( $\theta$ ) from a reference direction instead of  $(x, y)$ . Here  $r$  and  $\theta$  are called Polar Coordinate and labeled as  $(r, \theta)$



The distance of the point from origin is called radial coordinate or radius ( $r$ ) and angle is called polar or azimuthal or angular coordinate.

A positive  $\theta$  measured counter clockwise from the axis. In this  $r$  coordinate is length of directed line from the pole and  $\theta$  denotes the direction of  $r$ .

Range of  $r$  is  $0 \rightarrow \infty$  and range of  $\theta$  is  $0$  to  $\pi$ .

polar coordinate  $(r, \theta)$  and Cartesian coordinate are converted as

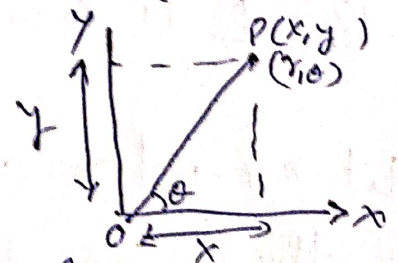
$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r} \Rightarrow x = r \cos \theta \quad (1)$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r} \Rightarrow y = r \sin \theta \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Also } x^2 + y^2 = r^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) = r^2 \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad (3)$$

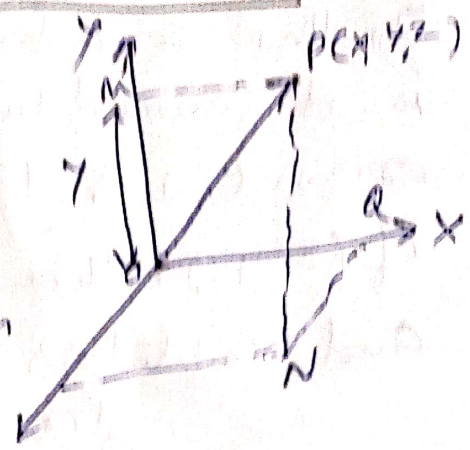
$$\frac{y}{x} = \frac{r \sin \theta}{r \cos \theta} = \tan \theta \Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{y}{x} \right) \quad (4)$$

These equations convert polar coordinate  $(r, \theta)$  to Cartesian coordinate  $(x, y)$  and vice versa.



## Three dimensional (3-D) Rectangular Cartesian Coordinates

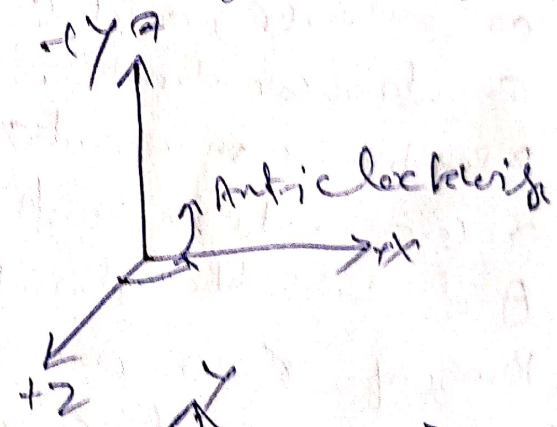
This system based on three mutually perpendicular coordinate axes,  $(x, y \text{ and } z)$ . These axes intersect at a common point, called the origin  $O$  of the system.



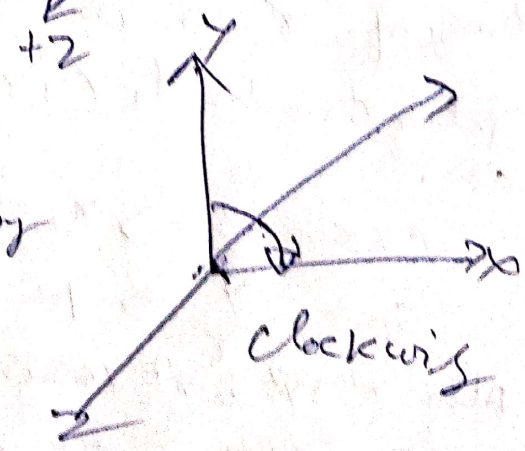
Now consider a point  $P(x, y, z)$  some where in room. Draw a perpendicular on  $z$ -axis.

It meet on  $M$ . The distance of foot of perpendicular  $M$  from the origin is  $z$ -coordinate of  $P$ . Similarly drop a perpendicular from  $P$  on  $xy$ -plane. It will meet on  $N$ . From  $N$  again, draw perpendicular on  $x$  and  $y$  axis distance of foot of perpendicular  $Q$  from  $N$  on  $x$  and  $y$  axis i.e.  $P$  and  $Q$  from the origin  $O$  represents  $x$  and  $y$  coordinate at point  $P$ . The rectangular Cartesian system may be of two type

① R.H Coordinate system



② L.H Coordinate system



Let  $x, y$  and  $z$  axes are represented by three unit vectors  $\hat{i}$ ,  $\hat{j}$  and  $\hat{k}$ . Position vector of point  $P(x, y, z)$  can be written as

$$\vec{OP} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$