## Polar, Cylindrical, and Spherical Coordinates

- 1. (a) In polar coordinates, what shapes are described by r = k and  $\theta = k$ , where k is a constant?
  - (b) Draw r = 0,  $r = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ ,  $r = \frac{4\pi}{3}$ ,  $r = 2\pi$ ,  $\theta = 0$ ,  $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , and  $\theta = \frac{4\pi}{3}$  on the following axes. (Why can't we draw  $\theta = 2\pi$ ?)



(c) On the axes in (b), sketch the curve with polar equation  $r = \theta$ .

2. In cylindrical coordinates, what shapes are described by r = k,  $\theta = k$ , and z = k, where k is a constant?

3. In spherical coordinates, what shapes are described by  $\rho = k$ ,  $\theta = k$ , and  $\phi = k$ , where k is a constant?

4. (a) In cylindrical coordinates, let's look at the surface r = 5. What does z = k look like on this surface? How about  $\theta = k$ ? (k is a constant.)

(b) In spherical coordinates, let's look at the surface  $\rho = 5$ . What does  $\theta = k$  look like on this surface? How about  $\phi = k$ ?

5. Write the point  $(x, y, z) = (\sqrt{6}, -\sqrt{6}, -2)$  in cylindrical and spherical coordinates.

6. Consider the surface whose equation in cylindrical coordinates is z = r. How could you describe this surface in Cartesian coordinates? Spherical? Can you sketch the surface?

7. Most of the time, a single equation like 2x + 3y + 4z = 5 in Cartesian coordinates or  $\rho = 1$  in spherical coordinates defines a surface. Can you find examples in Cartesian, cylindrical, and spherical coordinates where this is not the case?