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Dept - Mathematics

Topic $\rightarrow$ Problem based On Direction Cosines (Analytical Geometry of 3-D)

Class - B.Sc I (Sub + H)

Date - 30-07-2020

Time - 1.00 P.M to 1.45 P.M

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* Problem : $\rightarrow$ Show that st. lines whose direction cosines are given by the Equations

$$l + m + n = 0$$

and $2mn + 3nl - 5lm = 0$ are at right angles

Solution : $\rightarrow$ Here By the question $l + m + n = 0$

$$\Rightarrow l = -(m+n) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Also } 2mn + 3nl - 5lm = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2mn - 3n(m+n) + 5(m+n)m = 0$$

$$\text{Putting } l = -(m+n)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2mn - 3mn - 3n^2 + 5m^2 + 5mn = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 5m^2 + 4mn - 3n^2 = 0$$

It is a quadratic equation in m .

$$\therefore m = \frac{-4n \pm \sqrt{16n^2 + 60n^2}}{10} = \frac{-4 \pm 2\sqrt{19}n}{10}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{19}}{5} n$$

$$\text{Thus } m_1 = \frac{-2 + \sqrt{19}}{5} n_1 \quad m_2 = \frac{-2 - \sqrt{19}}{5} n_2$$

$$\text{When } m_1 = \frac{-2 + \sqrt{19}}{5} n_1, \quad m_2 = \frac{-2 - \sqrt{19}}{5} n_2$$

$$\text{from (1) } l_1 = \frac{-3 + \sqrt{19}}{5} n_1 \quad l_2 = \frac{-3 - \sqrt{19}}{5} n_2$$

If θ be the angle between them -

$$\text{then } \theta = \cos^{-1} (l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2)$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \left\{ \frac{9 - 19}{25} n_1 n_2 + \frac{4 - 19}{25} n_1 n_2 + n_1 n_2 \right\}$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \left\{ -\frac{10}{25} n_1 n_2 - \frac{15}{25} n_1 n_2 + n_1 n_2 \right\}$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \left[-\frac{10}{25} + \frac{15}{25} - 1 \right] n_1 n_2$$

$$= \cos^{-1} 0 = \pi/2$$

Problem - Find the angle between two lines whose direction co-efficients are given by the Equations

$$l + m + n = 0; \quad l^2 + m^2 - n^2 = 0$$

Solution $\rightarrow$ The solution of the two Equations gives two values of l, m, n ,
 let (l_1, m_1, n_1) and (l_2, m_2, n_2)
 are the values of l, m, n
 obtained by the equation

$$l + m + n = 0 \text{ and } l^2 + m^2 - n^2 = 0$$

And then angle between the two lines
 $= \cos^{-1} [l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2]$

Q1 Elimination on n between the two Equations

$$l^2 + m^2 - (l+m)^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2lm = 0$$

Either $l = 0$ or $m = 0$

If $l = 0 \Rightarrow m + n = 0 \therefore m = -n$

But $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$

$$0 + m^2 + m^2 = 1$$

$$m^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$m = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Thus Direction Co-ordinates of One line is

$$(0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$$

If $m = 0$, the Direction co-ordinates of

the other line are $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$

$$\therefore \theta = \cos^{-1} (0 + 0 \pm \frac{1}{2})$$

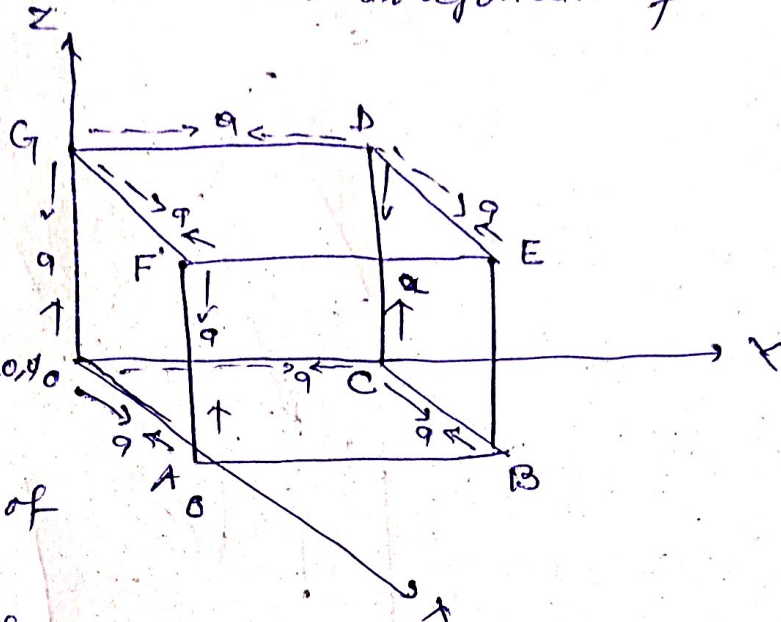
$$= \cos^{-1} (\pm \frac{1}{2})$$

$$\therefore \theta = \pi/3 \text{ or } 2\pi/3$$

Find the angle between two diagonals of a cube $\rightarrow$

Let each side of cube be a .

Let us take O as the origin and OA, OC, OG as x, y, z axes respectively.



The co-ordinates of

$$O = (0, 0, 0)$$

The co-ordinates of

$$E = (a, a, a)$$

$\therefore$ Direction ratio of $OE = (a, a, a)$

and direction cosines of $OE = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+a^2+a^2}}, \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+a^2+a^2}}, \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+a^2+a^2}}$
 $= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$

The co-ordinates of $A = (a, 0, 0)$

and $D = (0, a, a)$

$$= (0, a, a)$$

Direction ratio of $AD = (-a, +a, +a)$

Direction cosines of $AD = \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$

If θ be the angle between the diagonal OE and AD .

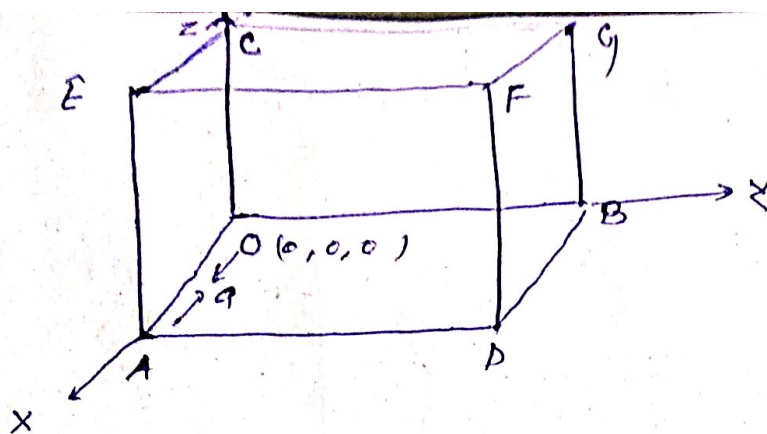
$$\cos \theta = -\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{using } \cos \theta = l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2$$

$$\therefore \theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{1}{3}$$

Problem $\rightarrow$ If the edges of a rectangular parallelepiped are a, b, c , show that the angle between the four diagonals are given by

$$\cos^{-1} \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$$



Let us take one of the vertices O of the parallelepiped as the origin and the three planes as three Rect-angular faces.

Let $OA = a$, $OB = b$, $OC = c$

$\therefore$ Co-ordinates of A = $(a, 0, 0)$

" " B = $(0, b, 0)$

" " C = $(0, 0, c)$

" " D = $(a, b, 0)$

" " E = $(a, 0, c)$

" " G = $(0, b, c)$

" " F = (a, b, c)

Direction cosines of diagonal OF are

$$\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}$$

Direction cosines of AG

$$= \frac{-a}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}$$

Direction cosines of CD = $\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{-c}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}$

Direction cosines of BE = $\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{-b}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}, \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}}$

Angle between OF and AG is use

$$\cos \theta = \frac{-a^2+b^2+c^2}{a^2+b^2+c^2}$$

$$\text{using } l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2$$