

VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYA PITH

शक्तिउत्थानआश्रमलखीसरायबिहार

Class :-12(Maths) Date:-28.12.2020

1. Show that the line joining the origin to the point (2, 1, 1) is perpendicular to the line determined by the points (3, 5, -1), (4, 3, -1).

Solution:

Let us consider OA be the line joining the origin (0, 0, 0) and the point A (2, 1, 1).

And let BC be the line joining the points B (3, 5, -1) and C (4, 3, -1)

So the direction ratios of OA = $(a_1, b_1, c_1) \equiv [(2 - 0), (1 - 0), (1 - 0)] \equiv (2, 1, 1)$

And the direction ratios of BC = $(a_2, b_2, c_2) \equiv [(4 - 3), (3 - 5), (-1 + 1)] \equiv (1, -2, 0)$

Given:

OA is \perp to BC

Now we have to prove that:

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 0$$

Let us consider LHS: $a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2$

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 2 \times 1 + 1 \times (-2) + 1 \times 0$$

$$= 2 - 2$$

$$= 0$$

We know that R.H.S is 0

So LHS = RHS

\therefore OA is \perp to BC

Hence proved.

2. If l_1, m_1, n_1 and l_2, m_2, n_2 are the direction cosines of two mutually perpendicular lines, show that the direction cosines of the line perpendicular to both of these are $(m_1n_2 - m_2n_1), (n_1l_2 - n_2l_1), (l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)$

Solution:

Let us consider l, m, n be the direction cosines of the line perpendicular to each of the given lines.

$$\text{Then, } ll_1 + mm_1 + nn_1 = 0 \dots (1)$$

$$\text{And } ll_2 + mm_2 + nn_2 = 0 \dots (2)$$

Upon solving (1) and (2) by using cross – multiplication, we get

$$\frac{l}{m_1n_2 - m_2n_1} = \frac{m}{n_1l_2 - n_2l_1} = \frac{n}{l_1m_2 - l_2m_1}$$

Thus, the direction cosines of the given line are proportional to

$$(m_1n_2 - m_2n_1), (n_1l_2 - n_2l_1), (l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)$$

So, its direction cosines are

$$\frac{m_1n_2 - m_2n_1}{\lambda}, \frac{n_1l_2 - n_2l_1}{\lambda}, \frac{l_1m_2 - l_2m_1}{\lambda}$$

Where,

$$\lambda = \sqrt{(m_1n_2 - m_2n_1)^2 + (n_1l_2 - n_2l_1)^2 + (l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)^2}$$

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We know that

$$\begin{aligned} & (l_1^2 + m_1^2 + n_1^2)(l_2^2 + m_2^2 + n_2^2) - (l_1l_2 + m_1m_2 + n_1n_2)^2 \\ &= (m_1n_2 - m_2n_1)^2 + (n_1l_2 - n_2l_1)^2 + (l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)^2 \dots (3) \end{aligned}$$

It is given that the given lines are perpendicular to each other.

$$\text{So, } l_1l_2 + m_1m_2 + n_1n_2 = 0$$

Also, we have

$$l_1^2 + m_1^2 + n_1^2 = 1$$

$$\text{And, } l_2^2 + m_2^2 + n_2^2 = 1$$

Substituting these values in equation (3), we get

$$(m_1n_2 - m_2n_1)^2 + (n_1l_2 - n_2l_1)^2 + (l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)^2 = 1$$

$$\lambda = 1$$

Hence, the direction cosines of the given line are $(m_1n_2 - m_2n_1)$, $(n_1l_2 - n_2l_1)$, $(l_1m_2 - l_2m_1)$

3. Find the angle between the lines whose direction ratios are a, b, c and $b - c, c - a, a - b$.

Solution:

Angle between the lines with direction ratios a_1, b_1, c_1 and a_2, b_2, c_2 is given by

$$\cos\theta = \left| \frac{a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}} \right|$$

Given:

$$a_1 = a, b_1 = b, c_1 = c$$

$$a_2 = b - c, b_2 = c - a, c_2 = a - b$$

Let us substitute the values in the above equation we get,

$$\cos\theta = \left| \frac{a(b-c) + b(c-a) + c(a-b)}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \sqrt{(b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2 + (a-b)^2}} \right|$$

$$= 0$$

$$\cos\theta = 0$$

So, $\theta = 90^\circ$ [Since, $\cos 90 = 0$]

Hence, Angle between the given pair of lines is 90° .