

- The equation of the sphere having (x_1, y_1, z_1) and (x_2, y_2, z_2) as the ends of the diameter is $(x - x_1)(x - x_2) + (y - y_1)(y - y_2) + (z - z_1)(z - z_2) = 0$
- If the plane $U=0$ intersects the sphere $S=0$, in a circle C , then for all real values of λ , $S + \lambda U = 0$ represents the equation to a sphere passing through the circle C .
- If $S=0$, $S' = 0$ are two distinct intersecting spheres, then $\lambda_1 S + \lambda_2 S' = 0$ represents a system of spheres passing through the circle of intersection of the spheres $S=0$, $S' = 0$.

Problems

1. Find the equations of the spheres passing through the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4, Z=0$ and is intersected by the plane $x+2y+2z=0$ in a circle of radius 3.

Sol: The equation of the sphere is $x^2 + y^2 - 4 + \lambda Z = 0$

Its centre is $(0, 0, -\frac{\lambda}{2})$ and the radius is $\sqrt{\frac{\lambda^2}{4} + 4}$

Given plane is $x+2y+2z=0$

Since perpendicular distance from the centre to the plane = radius of the sphere

$$\frac{|0+0+2*(-\frac{\lambda}{2})|}{\sqrt{1+4+4}} = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda^2}{4} + 4}$$

By simplifying we get $\lambda = \pm 6$

\therefore The equation of the sphere is $x^2 + y^2 - 4 \pm 6Z = 0$

2. Show that the two circles $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - y + 2z = 0, x - y - z = 2$, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + x - 3y + z - 5 = 0, 2x - y + 4z - 1 = 0$

Sol: The equation of the sphere is $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - y + 2z + \alpha(x - y - z - 2) = 0$ (1)

The equation of the sphere is $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + x - 3y + z - 5 + \mu(2x - y + 4z - 1) = 0$
(2)

Since both lie on the same sphere then

$$\alpha = 2\mu + 1, \alpha + 1 = 3 + \mu \text{ and } \alpha + 2 = 4\mu + 1$$

By solving two of the equations we get $\alpha = 3, \mu = 1$ and the third equation satisfied

Therefore both circles lie on the same sphere

The equation of the sphere is by substituting $\alpha = 3$ in (1) we get $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 3x - 4y + 5z - 6 = 0$

Angle of intersection of two spheres

➤ The two solids may intersect in different types. The type of intersection depends on their sizes, **angle of intersection** relative to their axes and relative position of their axes.

➤ The curve of intersection (COI) is a curve at the intersection of two or more solids. Curves of intersections are important for the production of components for engineering applications.

Angle of intersection of two spheres: The angle of intersection of two spheres is the angle between their tangent planes at the common point of intersection.

Theorem:

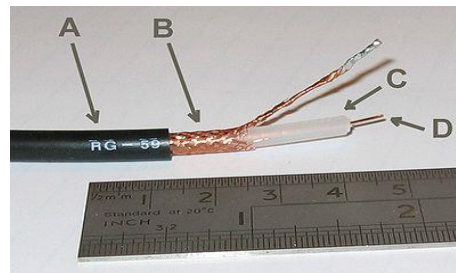
If r_1, r_2 are the radii, d is the distance between the centres, then angle of intersection is $\cos \theta = \frac{r_1^2 + r_2^2 - d^2}{2r_1 r_2}$

If the spheres are orthogonal then, $r_1^2 + r_2^2 = d^2$

Co-axial system of spheres

two or more three-dimensional linear forms share a common axis is called coaxial system .

A coaxial cable, as a common example, is a three-dimensional linear structure.



Limiting Point:

Point spheres of a coaxial system of spheres are called limiting points of the system. Let $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2\mu x + d = 0$ where d is a constant and μ is a parameter, represent a coaxial system of spheres .

for any sphere of the system the radius is $\sqrt{\mu^2 - d}$ and centre is $(-\mu, 0, 0)$

for limiting points of the system radius = 0

So $\mu = \pm\sqrt{d}$

- i) If $d=0$ and $\mu=0$ and hence the system has only one limiting point $(0,0,0)$. In this case the system is a touching type of coaxial system of spheres at $(0,0,0)$
- ii) If $d>0$ then μ has two values $\pm\sqrt{d}$ and hence the system has two limiting points only

The limiting points are $(-\sqrt{d}, 0, 0)$, $(\sqrt{d}, 0, 0)$. In this case no two spheres of the system intersect.

- iii) If $d<0$ the system has no limiting points. In this case the system is intersecting .

1. Find the limiting points of the coaxial system defined by the spheres $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 4x + 2y + 2z + 6 = 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2x - 4y - 2z + 6 = 0$

Sol:

Let $S = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 4x + 2y + 2z + 6 = 0$, $S' = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2x - 4y - 2z + 6 = 0$

The radical plane of the sphere of coaxial system is $S - S' = 0$

$2x + 2y + 4z = 0$ i.e., $x + y + 2z = 0$

Equation of the sphere of the coaxial system of spheres is $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 4x + 2y + 2z + 6 + \mu(x + y + 2z) = 0$

Centre is $\left(\frac{-(4+\mu)}{2}, \frac{2-\mu}{2}, -\mu - 1\right)$ radius is $\sqrt{\frac{(4+\mu)^2}{4} + \frac{(2-\mu)^2}{4} + (\mu + 1)^2 - 6}$

For limiting points radius = 0

By solving we get $\mu = 0, -2$

The limiting points are obtained by substituting μ in centre $(-2, 1, -1), (-1, 2, 1)$

Orthogonal spheres:-

The two spheres are said to be orthogonal to each other, if the tangent planes are orthogonal to each other at the point of intersection.

Condition for Orthogonality:

Two spheres $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2u_1x + 2v_1y + 2w_1z + d_1 = 0$, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2u_2x + 2v_2y + 2w_2z + d_2 = 0$ are said to be orthogonal if

$$2u_1u_2 + 2v_1v_2 + 2w_1w_2 = d_1 + d_2$$

Radical Plane

The radical plane of two spheres is defined as the locus of a point whose powers with respect to the spheres are equal.

Properties of the radical plane

- The radical plane of two spheres passes through their point of intersection.
- The radical plane of the two spheres is perpendicular to the line joining the centres.