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Chapter:-
Sphere

Topic:- Solid
geometry (3D)

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(7)

Problem of Sphere

Ex 1 Find the equation of the sphere through the points $(0,0,0)$, $(0,1,-1)$, $(-1,2,0)$ and $(1,2,3)$. Locate its centre and find the radius.

Soln: General equation of the sphere is

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2ux + 2vy + 2wz + d = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

It passes through $(0,0,0)$, $(0,1,-1)$, $(-1,2,0)$ and $(1,2,3)$.
 $\therefore d = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$

$$0 + 1 + 1 + 2v - 2w + d = 0 \Rightarrow v - w + 1 = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$1 + 4 + 2u + 4v + d = 0 \Rightarrow -2u + 4v + 5 = 0 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$1 + 4 + 9 + 2u + 4v + 6w + d = 0 \Rightarrow u + 2v + 3w + 7 = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

Solving (3), (4) and (5) we get the value of u, v, w

$$(3) + (1) \Rightarrow -2u + 5v - w + 6 = 0$$

$$2 \times (5) \Rightarrow 2u + 4v + 6w + 14 = 0$$

$$\frac{9v + 5w + 20 = 0}{}$$

$$9 \times (3) \quad \frac{9v - 9w + 9 = 0}{}$$

$$\frac{- + -}{14w = -11} \Rightarrow w = -\frac{11}{14} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{From (3)} \quad v = w - 1 = -\frac{11}{14} - 1 = -\frac{25}{14} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{From (4)} \quad -2u + \cancel{\frac{5v}{7}} + \cancel{\frac{6w}{7}} + 5 = 0$$

$$\text{or } -2u = \frac{50 - 35}{7} = \frac{15}{7} = \frac{15}{7} \Rightarrow u = -\frac{15}{14} \quad \checkmark$$

Putting the value of u, v, w, d in (1)

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2\left(-\frac{15}{14}\right)x + 2\left(-\frac{25}{14}\right)y + 2\left(-\frac{11}{14}\right)z + 0 = 0$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - \frac{30}{7}x - \frac{50}{7}y - \frac{22}{7}z = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - \frac{15}{7}x - \frac{25}{7}y - \frac{11}{7}z = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

which is the required eqn of the sphere.

Its centre is $(\frac{15}{14}, \frac{25}{14}, -\frac{11}{14})$ or $(-u, -v, -w)$

$$\text{and the radius} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{15}{14}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{25}{14}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{11}{14}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{971}{14}} \quad \text{R}$$

② Deduce the eqn of the sphere described on the line joining the points $(2, -1, 4)$ and $(-2, 2, -2)$ as diameter. Find the area of the circle in which the sphere is intersected by the plane $2x + y - z = 3$. (8)

Sol: - Equation of the sphere is

$$(x-x_1)(x-x_2) + (y-y_1)(y-y_2) + (z-z_1)(z-z_2) = 0$$

Here, $x_1 = 2, y_1 = -1, z_1 = 4$

$$\Rightarrow (x-2)(x+2) + (y+1)(y-2) + (z-4)(z+2) = 0 \quad x_2 = -2, y_2 = 2, z_2 = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - y - 2z - 14 = 0 \quad \text{--- } ①$$

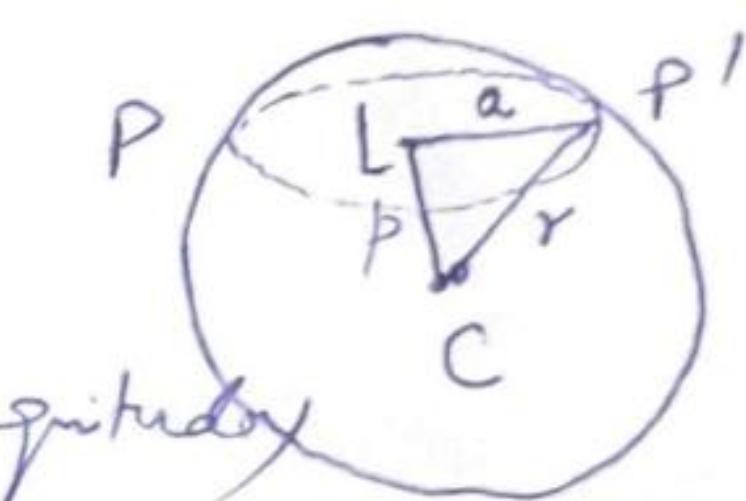
Its centre is $C(0, -\frac{1}{2}, 1)$

$$\text{radius } r = \sqrt{0 + \frac{1}{4} + 1 + 14} = \sqrt{6\frac{1}{4}}$$

Let the given plane is $2x + y - z - 3 = 0 \quad \text{--- } ②$

cut the sphere ① in the circle PP' having centre L .

$$P = \text{perpendicular } CL \text{ from } C \text{ on the plane } ② = \frac{|2 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot -\frac{1}{2} - 3|}{\sqrt{4+1+1}} = \frac{7}{2\sqrt{6}}$$



If α be the radius of the circle PP' , then

$$\alpha^2 = r^2 - P^2 = \frac{61}{4} - \frac{49}{24} = \frac{312}{24}$$

Hence the area of circle $PP' = \pi \alpha^2 = \frac{312}{24} \pi$.

③ A plane passes through a fixed point (a, b, c) and cuts the axes in A, B, C . Show that the locus of the centre of the sphere $OABC$ is $\frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{y} + \frac{c}{z} = 1$.

Sol: Let the centre of the sphere $OABC$ be $P(f, g, h)$ so that

$$\text{its radius } OP = \sqrt{f^2 + g^2 + h^2}$$

The eqn of the sphere is $(x-f)^2 + (y-g)^2 + (z-h)^2 = f^2 + g^2 + h^2$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2fx - 2gy - 2hz = 0 \quad \text{--- } ①$$

To find OA , put $y=0, z=0$ in ① $\Rightarrow x^2 - 2fx = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2f$. Similarly, $OB = 2g, OC = 2h$.

Thus the eqn of the plane ABC is $\frac{x}{2f} + \frac{y}{2g} + \frac{z}{2h} = 1$

Since the plane passes through $(a, b, c) \Rightarrow \frac{a}{2f} + \frac{b}{2g} + \frac{c}{2h} = 1$

Hence the locus of the centre (f, g, h) of the sphere is $\frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{y} + \frac{c}{z} = 1$

- ④ Find the equation of the sphere having the circle
 $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 10y - 4z - 8 = 0$, $x + y + z = 3$
as a great circle.

Sol: The eqn of any sphere through the given circle is

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 10y - 4z - 8 + \kappa(x + y + z - 3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + \kappa x + (10 + \kappa)y + (-4 + \kappa)z + (-8 - 3\kappa) = 0 \quad \text{--- } ①$$

In order that ① may have the given circle as its great circle, its centre $\left[-\frac{\kappa}{2}, -\frac{(10+\kappa)}{2}, \frac{(4-\kappa)}{2}\right]$ must lie on the plane $x + y + z = 3$

$$-\frac{\kappa}{2} - \frac{10+\kappa}{2} + \frac{4-\kappa}{2} = 3, \Rightarrow \kappa = -4$$

whence ① becomes, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 4x + 6y - 8z + 4 = 0$
which is the required equation.

- ⑤ Find the equation of the smallest sphere which contains the circle $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2x + 6y + 4z - 11 = 0$ and $2x + 2y + z + 1 = 0$.

Sol: Equation of any sphere containing the given circle is

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2x + 6y + 4z - 11 + \kappa(2x + 2y + z + 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + (2+2\kappa)x + (6+2\kappa)y + (4+\kappa)z + (-11+\kappa) = 0 \quad \text{--- } ①$$

$$\text{Its radius, } r^2 = (1+\kappa)^2 + (3+\kappa)^2 + \left(2 + \frac{1}{2}\kappa\right)^2 - (\kappa-11)$$

$$= \frac{9}{4} \left[(\kappa+2)^2 + \frac{64}{9} \right]$$

Now r^2 has the least value when $\kappa = -2$

Putting the value of κ in ①

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x + 2y + 2z - 13 = 0$$

which is the required smallest sphere.

⑥ Prove that the circles $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x + 3y + 4z - 5 = 0$, (10)
 $5y + 6z + 1 = 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 3x - 4y + 5z - 6 = 0$
 $x + 2y - 7z = 0$ lie on the same sphere and find its equation.

Soln: Eqn of any sphere containing the first circle is
 $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x + 3y + 4z - 5 + k(5y + 6z + 1) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + (-2x) + (3+5k)y + (4+6k)z + (k-5) = 0 \quad \text{--- } ①$

Similarly eqn of any sphere containing the second given circle is
 $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 3x - 4y + 5z - 6 + k'(x + 2y - 7z) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + (-3+k')x + (-4+2k')y + (5-7k')z = 0 \quad \text{--- } ②$

① and ② will represent the same sphere when
 $-2 = -3 + k' \Rightarrow k' = 1 \quad \text{--- } ③$

$$3+5k = -4+2k' \quad \text{--- } ④$$

$$4+6k = 5-7k' \quad \text{--- } ⑤$$

$$k-5 = -6 \quad \text{--- } \cancel{④} \Rightarrow k = -1 \quad \text{--- } ⑥$$

Clearly $k = -1$ and $k' = 1$ also satisfy ④ and ⑤.

This shows that the given circles lie on the same sphere.

Putting $k = -1$ in ① or $k' = 1$ in ②, we get

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 2y - 2z - 6 = 0 \quad \text{which is the desired sphere.}$$

⑦ Find the eqns of the sphere passing through the circle $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x - 2z + 5 = 0$, $y = 0$ and touching the plane $3y + 4z + 5 = 0$.

Soln: Eqn of any sphere through the given circle is

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x - 2z + 5 + ky = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x + ky - 2z + 5 = 0$$

∴ Its centre is $(3, -\frac{k}{2}, 1)$ and radius $= \sqrt{9 + \frac{k^2}{4} + 1 - 5} = \sqrt{5 + \frac{k^2}{4}}$

The sphere ⑦ will touch the plane $3y + 4z + 5 = 0$ if

+ distance of the centre $(3, -\frac{k}{2}, 1)$ from the plane = radius.

$$\therefore \frac{3(-\frac{k}{2}) + 4 + 5}{\sqrt{9 + 16}} = \sqrt{5 + \frac{k^2}{4}} \Rightarrow 4k^2 + 27k + 94 = 0 \Rightarrow k = \frac{-11}{2} \text{ or } -4.$$

Putting the value of $k = 0$, $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x - \frac{11}{4}y + 9z + 5 = 0$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x - 4y - 9z + 5 = 0$ as the two required spheres.

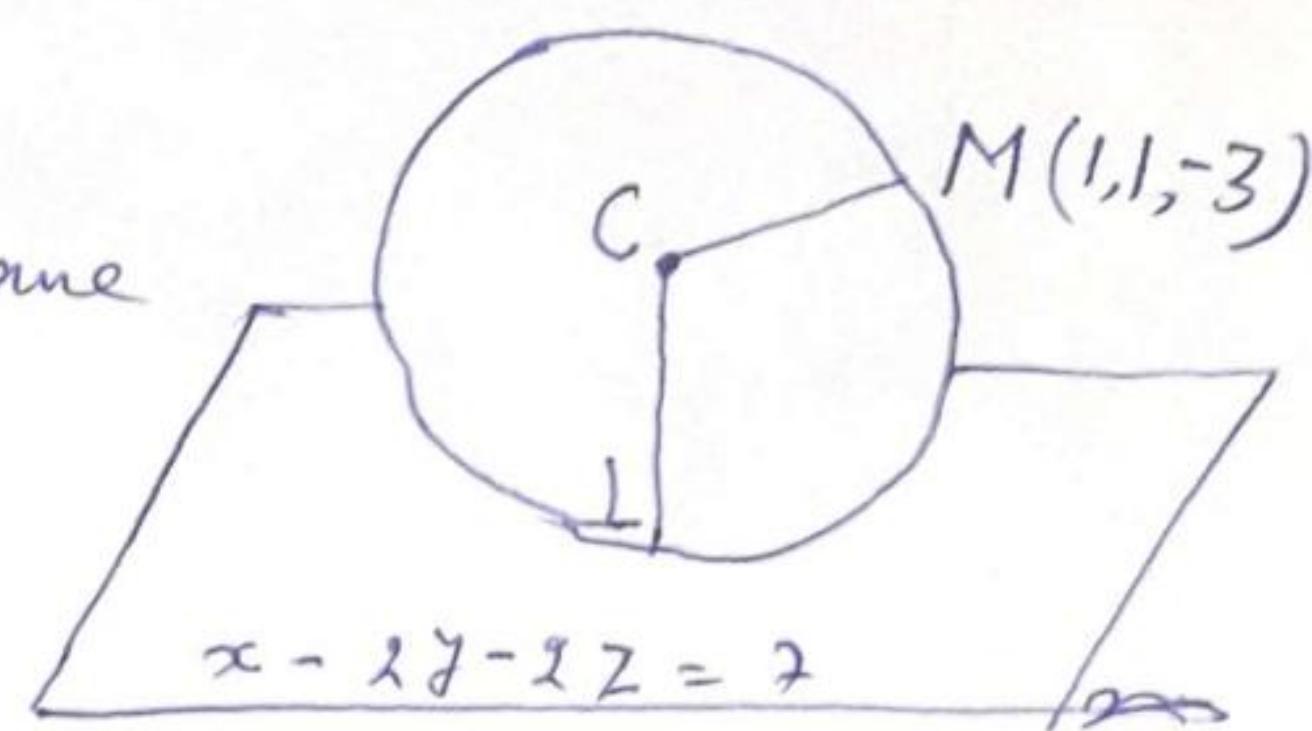
- ⑧ Find the equation of the sphere which touches the plane $x - 2y - 2z = 7$ at the point $L(3, -1, -1)$ and passes through the point $M(1, 1, -3)$. (11)

Soln: If C is the centre of the sphere, then CL is perpendicular to the given plane $x - 2y - 2z = 7$.

\therefore The d.rs of CL being $\{1, -2, -2\}$, the

eqn of CL is

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y+1}{-2} = \frac{z+1}{-2} = k \text{ (say)}$$



Any point on CL is $(k+3, -2k-1, -2k-1)$

which will represent C for some value of k .

Since M lies on the sphere, therefore its radius CM $= CL$

$$\therefore (CL)^2 = (CM)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} (k+3-3)^2 + (-2k-1+1)^2 + (-2k-1+1)^2 \\ = (k+3-1)^2 + (-2k-1-1)^2 + (-2k-1+3)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or } 4k = -12 \Rightarrow k = -3$$

\therefore The centre C is $(0, 5, 5)$ and radius $CL = \sqrt{9+36+36} = 9$

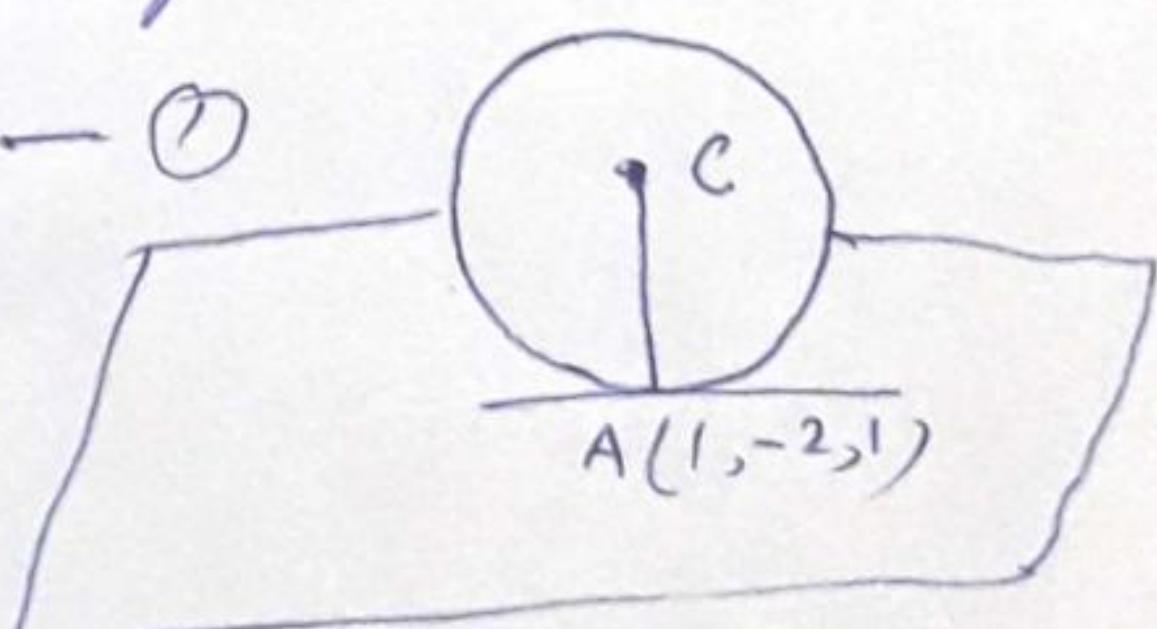
Hence the required equation of the sphere is

$$\begin{aligned} (x-0)^2 + (y-5)^2 + (z-5)^2 = (9)^2 \\ \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 10y - 10z - 31 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- ⑨ Find the equation of the sphere which touches the plane $3x + 2y - 2z + 2 = 0$ at the point $(1, -2, 1)$ and cuts the sphere $R^2 = 2(2I - 3J)$. $R+4=0$ orthogonally.

Soln: Given plane $\&$ $3x + 2y - 2z + 2 = 0 \quad \textcircled{1}$

will touch the required sphere at $A(1, -2, 1)$ if its centre lies on the normal to $\textcircled{1}$ at A .



The equations of the normal to $\textcircled{1}$ at A are

$$\frac{x-1}{3} = \frac{y+2}{2} = \frac{z-1}{-1} .$$

Any point on this line is $C(3r+1, 2r-2, \pi r+1)$

Also radius AC of the required sphere:

$$= \sqrt{(3r)^2 + (2r)^2 + (-r)^2} = r\sqrt{14}$$

Since the required sphere cuts the given sphere

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 4x + 6y + 4 = 0 \text{ orthogonally,}$$

{ centre = $(2, -3, 0)$

{ radius = 3

therefore (distance between their centres)²

= sum of squares of their radii

$$\text{i.e. } (3r+1-2)^2 + (2r-2+3)^2 + (-r+1)^2 = 14r^2 + 9$$

$$\text{or } r = -\frac{3}{2}$$

Thus centre C is $(-\frac{7}{2}, 5, \frac{5}{2})$ and radius = $\frac{3\sqrt{14}}{2}$

Hence the required sphere is

$$(x + \frac{7}{2})^2 + (y + 5)^2 + (z - \frac{5}{2})^2 = (\frac{3\sqrt{14}}{2})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 7x + 10y - 5z + 12 = 0$$