EE25BTECH11032 - Kartik Lahoti

Question:

Find the position vector of a point **A** in space such that **OA** is inclined at 60° with **OX** and 45° to **OY** and $|\mathbf{OA}| = 10$ units.

Solution:

Given: Let A - O be represented as R

$$\|\mathbf{R}\| = 10$$
, Angle with x-axis = 60° and y-axis = 45° (0.1)

$$\mathbf{R} = ||\mathbf{R}||\mathbf{m} \tag{0.2}$$

where, let \mathbf{m} be the unit vector in direction of \mathbf{R} .

$$\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(60^\circ) \\ \cos(45^\circ) \\ m_3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.3}$$

$$\mathbf{m}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{m} = 1 \tag{0.4}$$

$$\cos^2(60^\circ) + \cos^2(45^\circ) + m_3^2 = 1 \tag{0.5}$$

$$m_3 = \pm \frac{1}{2} \tag{0.6}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{R} = 10 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \pm \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.7}$$

Hence,

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 5\sqrt{2} \\ +5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{A}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 5\sqrt{2} \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.8}$$

are the position vector for point A

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Fig:2.8.15

