

Question 1: The normal at a point P on the ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 16$ meets x-axis at Q. If M is the mid point of the line segment PQ, then the locus of M intersects the latus rectums of the given ellipse at the point

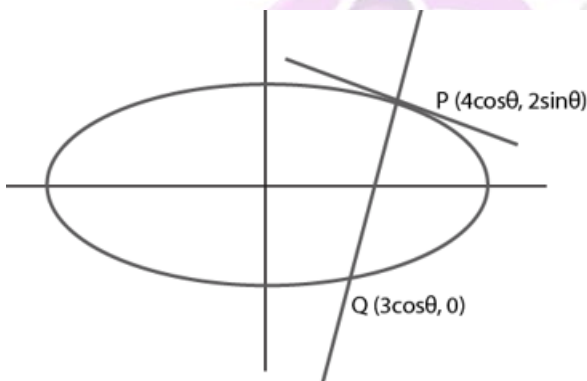
- (a) $(\pm \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2}, \pm \frac{2}{7})$
- (b) $(\pm \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2}, \pm \frac{\sqrt{19}}{4})$
- (c) $(\pm 2\sqrt{3}, \pm \frac{1}{7})$
- (d) $(\pm 2\sqrt{3}, \pm \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{7})$

Answer: (c)

Solution:

Equation of ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 16$ or

$$\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$$



From figure,

$$4x \sec \theta - 2y \operatorname{cosec} \theta = 12 \text{ and } x = 3 \cos \theta$$

Coordinates of point Q: $(3 \cos \theta, 0)$

Also, $2h = 7 \cos \theta$ and $2k = 2 \sin \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4x^2}{49} + \frac{y^2}{1} = 1$$

Latus rectum = $x = 2\sqrt{3}$

and $y = \pm 1/7$

Therefore, required point is $(\pm 2\sqrt{3}, \pm 1/7)$

Question 2: The ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$ is inscribed in a rectangle aligned with the coordinate axes, which in turn is inscribed in another ellipse that passes through the point $(4, 0)$.

Find the equation of the ellipse.

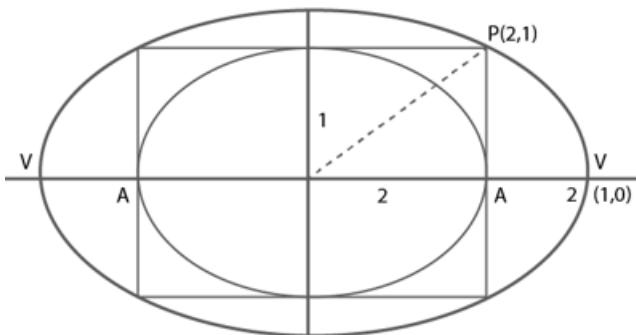
Solution:

Given equation of ellipse : $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$

$$\Rightarrow x^2/4 + y^2/1 = 1$$

Here $a = 2$ and $b = 1$

We know the general equation of ellipse is $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$



$$4/16 + 1/b^2$$

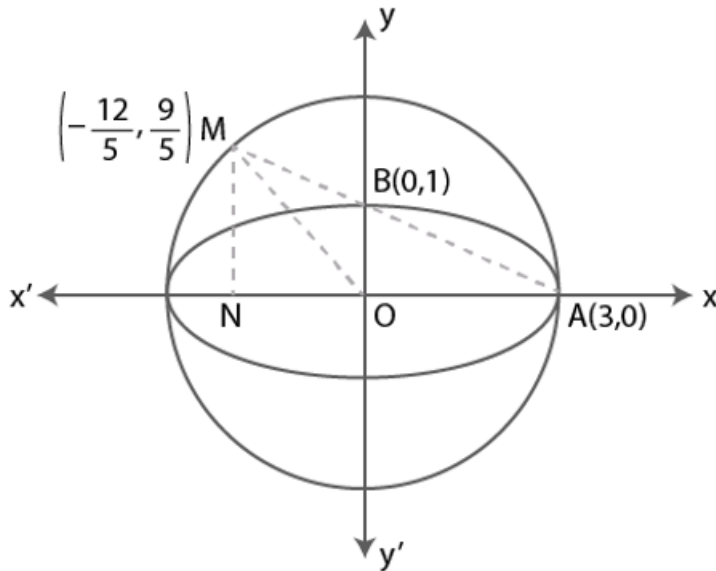
$$\Rightarrow b^2 = 4/3$$

$$\text{Therefore, } x^2/16 + y^2/(4/3) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2/16 + 3y^2/4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 12y^2 = 16$$

Question 3: The line passing through the extremity A of the major axis and extremity B of the minor axis of the ellipse $x^2 + 9y^2 = 9$ meets its auxiliary circle at the point M. Find the area of the triangle with vertices at A, M and the origin O.



Solution:

$$\text{Equation of AM: } y = -1/3(x + 3)$$

$$\text{or } x + 3y + 3 = 0, \text{ Slope of line} = -1/3$$

$$\text{So, } y - 1 = -1/3(x - 0) \Rightarrow 3y + x - 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Equation of AM is } 3y + x - 3 = 0, \text{ which is chord of auxiliary circle, } x^2 + 9y^2 = 9.$$

Coordinates of point A(3,0) and B(0, 1).

$$\text{Distance of AM from the origin} = |(0+0-3)/(\sqrt{9+1})| = 3/\sqrt{10}$$

The equation of an auxiliary circle of an ellipse is $x^2 + y^2 = 9$

From figure, line AM cuts auxiliary circle at M.

By solving these equations, we have $M(-12/5, 9/5)$ co-ordinates of point M.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area of triangle AOM} &= \frac{1}{2} |0(0 - 9/5) + 3(9/5 - 0) - 12/5(0-0)| \\ &= 27/10 \end{aligned}$$

Question 4: If $3x + 4y = 12\sqrt{2}$ is a tangent to the ellipse $x^2/a^2 + y^2/9 = 1$, for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$ then the distance between the foci of the ellipse is:

- (a) $2\sqrt{5}$ (b) $2\sqrt{7}$ (c) $2\sqrt{2}$ (d) 4

Answer: (b)

Solution:

Here $3x + 4y = 12\sqrt{2}$ is the tangent to ellipse.

$$\Rightarrow y = -3x/4 + 3\sqrt{2} \quad \dots(1)$$

We know, the equation of tangent to ellipse $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$ is $y = mx + \sqrt{a^2m^2 + b^2}$

$$\text{Here } b^2 = 9$$

So, equation of tangent to given ellipse is $y = mx + \sqrt{a^2m^2 + 9}$

Now, using (1), we have

$$m = -3/4 \text{ and } \sqrt{a^2m^2 + 9} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2m^2 + 9) = 18$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2(-3/4)^2 + 9) = 18$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 \times 9/16 = 9$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 4$$

$$\text{Now, } e^2 = 1 - b^2/a^2 = 1 - 9/16 = 7/16$$

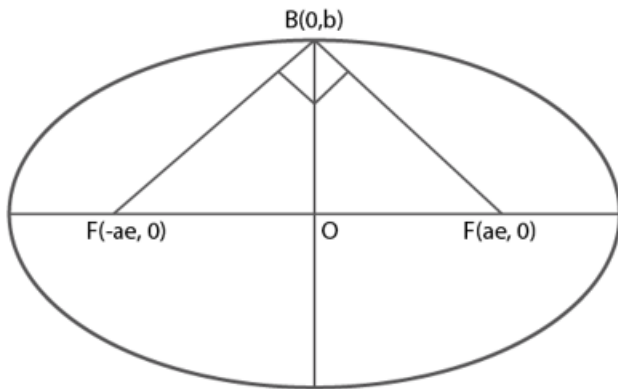
$$\text{Or } e = \sqrt{7}/4$$

$$\text{The distance between foci is } 2ae = 2 \times 4 \times \sqrt{7}/4 = 2\sqrt{7}$$

Question 5: An ellipse has OB as semi minor axis, F and F' its foci and the angle FBF' is a right angle. Then the eccentricity of the ellipse is

- (a) $1/\sqrt{2}$ (b) $1/2$ (c) $1/4$ (d) $1/\sqrt{3}$

Solution:



The angle FBF' is a right angle.

Therefore,

$$(\sqrt{a^2e^2 + b^2})^2 + (\sqrt{a^2e^2 + b^2})^2 = (2ae)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(a^2e^2 + b^2) = 4a^2e^2$$

$$\Rightarrow e^2 = b^2/a^2$$

We know, $e^2 = 1 - b^2/a^2 = 1 - e^2$

$$\Rightarrow 2e^2 = 1$$

or $e = 1/\sqrt{2}$

Question 6: Find the equation of the ellipse whose axes are the axes of coordinates and which passes through the point $(-3, 1)$ and has eccentricity $\sqrt{2/5}$

Solution:

Given, eccentricity = $\sqrt{2/5}$

$$e^2 = 2/5$$

we know, $e^2 = 1 - b^2/a^2$

$$\Rightarrow b^2/a^2 = 1 - 2/5 = 3/5$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2/5k + y^2/3k = 1, \text{ this equation passes through the point } (-3, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow (9/5) + (1/3) = k$$

$$\text{Or } k = 32/15$$

$$\text{Therefore, required equation of ellipse is } 3x^2/32 + 5y^2/32 = 1$$

Question 7: The eccentricity of an ellipse, with its centre at the origin is $1/2$. If one of the directrices is $x = 4$, then what will be the equation of the ellipse.

Solution:

We know, equation of directrix is $x = a/e = 4$

$$\Rightarrow a = 2$$

$$\text{Now, } b^2 = a^2 (1 - e^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = 3$$

Therefore, the equation of ellipse is $3x^2 + 4y^2 = 12$

Question 8: Tangents are drawn from the point $P(3, 4)$ to the ellipse $x^2/9 + y^2/4 = 1$ touching the ellipse at points A and B

The coordinates of A and B are

(a) $(3, 0)$ and $(0, 2)$

(b) $(-8/5, 2\sqrt{26}/15)$ and $(-9/8, 8/5)$

(c) $(-8/5, 2\sqrt{16}/15)$ and $(0, 2)$

(d) $(3, 0)$ and $(-9/5, 8/5)$

Answer: (d)

Solution:

Given equation of ellipse is $x^2/9 + y^2/4 = 1 \dots(1)$

The equation of chord is

$$xx_1/a^2 + yy_1/b^2 = 1$$

$$3x/9 + 4y/4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x + 3y - 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3(-y + 1)$$

Now,

(1) =>

$$\frac{9(-y+1)^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 - 2y + 1 + y^2/4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 5y^2 - 2y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y(5y/4 - 2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } y = 8/5$$

$$\text{So, } x = 3 - 3y$$

$$\text{At } y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 3$$

$$\text{At } y = 8/5 \Rightarrow x = -9/5$$

Therefore, the required coordinates are (3, 0) and (-9/5, 8/5)

Question 9: In an ellipse, the distance between its foci is 6 and minor axis is 8. Then its eccentricity is

- (a) 3/5 (b) 1/2 (c) 4/5 (d) 1/√5

Answer: (a)

Solution:

In an ellipse, the distance between its foci is 6 and minor axis is 8

The equation of ellipse,

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1, \quad a^2 > b^2$$

$$\text{and } b^2/a^2 = 1 - e^2 \dots(1)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } ae/b = 3/4$$

$$\Rightarrow e^2 = 9/16 \times b^2/a^2$$

Using (1), we have

$$e = 3/5$$

Question 10: If the distance between the foci of an ellipse is 6 and the distance between its directrices is 12, then the length of its latus rectum is

- (a) $2\sqrt{3}$ (b) $\sqrt{3}$ (c) $3/\sqrt{2}$ (d) $3\sqrt{2}$

Answer: (d)

Solution:

Let the equation of ellipse be $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$ ($a > b$)

Now, $2ae = 6$ and $2a/e = 12$

$\Rightarrow ae = 3$ and $a/e = 6$

$\Rightarrow a^2 = 18$

$\Rightarrow a^2e^2 = c^2 = a^2 - b^2 = 9$

$\Rightarrow b^2 = 9$

Length of latus rectum = $2b^2/a$

= $18/\sqrt{18}$

= $3\sqrt{2}$