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An Intellectual Development

Mechanics

Space Force

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Ex. 9.1 A force of magnitude 650 N passes from P (0, 3, 0) to Q (5, 0, 4). Put this force in vector form.

Solution:

$$\vec{F} = F \cdot \hat{e}_{PQ}$$

$$= 650 \left(\frac{5\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{5^2 + 3^2 + 4^2}} \right)$$

$$\vec{F} = 459.6\mathbf{i} - 257.8\mathbf{j} + 367.7\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

9.2.2. Magnitude and direction of force

Fig. 9.2 shows a force $\vec{F} = F_x\mathbf{i} + F_y\mathbf{j} + F_z\mathbf{k}$ making angles θ_x , θ_y and θ_z with the x, y and z axis respectively.

Here F_x is the component of force in the x direction. Similarly F_y and F_z are the force components in the y and z direction.

The magnitude of the force is

$$F = \sqrt{F_x^2 + F_y^2 + F_z^2}$$

Also $F_x = F \cos \theta_x$

$$F_y = F \cos \theta_y$$

$$F_z = F \cos \theta_z$$

Here θ_x , θ_y and θ_z are known as the *force directions*, the value of which lies between 0 and 180. There is an important identity which relates them.

$$\cos^2 \theta_x + \cos^2 \theta_y + \cos^2 \theta_z = 1$$

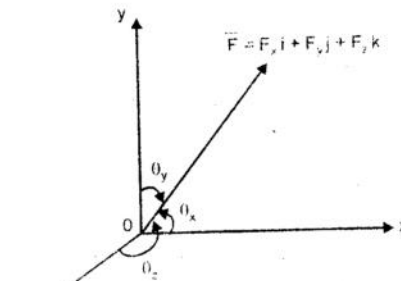


Fig. 9.2

Ex. 9.2 Determine the magnitude and the directions of the force

$$\vec{F} = 345\mathbf{i} + 150\mathbf{j} - 290\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

Solution: Magnitude of the force

$$F = \sqrt{F_x^2 + F_y^2 + F_z^2}$$

$$F = \sqrt{345^2 + 150^2 + 290^2}$$

$$F = 475 \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**



Direction of the force

$$F_x = F \cos \theta_x$$

$$345 = 475 \cos \theta_x$$

$$\theta_x = 43.42^\circ$$

..... **Ans.**

$$F_y = F \cos \theta_y$$

$$150 = 475 \cos \theta_y$$

$$\theta_y = 71.59^\circ$$

..... **Ans.**

$$F_z = F \cos \theta_z$$

$$-290 = 475 \cos \theta_z$$

$$\theta_z = 127.62^\circ$$

..... **Ans.**

Ex.9.3 The direction of a force is given by $\theta_x = 66^\circ$ and $\theta_y = 140^\circ$. If $F_z = -4$ N determine
i) θ_z ii) the magnitude of force iii) the other components.

Solution:

Using $\cos^2 \theta_x + \cos^2 \theta_y + \cos^2 \theta_z = 1$

$$\cos^2 66 + \cos^2 140 + \cos^2 \theta_z = 1$$

$$\cos^2 \theta_z = 0.2477$$

$$\therefore \cos \theta_z = \pm 0.4977$$

$$\therefore \theta_z = 60.14^\circ \quad \text{or} \quad \theta_z = 119.85^\circ \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{array} \right\} \text{Imp}$$

Since $F_z = -4$ N it implies that the force component is directed towards the negative direction of the z axis.

$$\therefore \theta_z = 119.85^\circ$$

..... **Ans.**

using $F_z = F \cos \theta_z$

$$-4 = F \cos 119.85$$

$$\therefore F = 8.036 \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

using $F_y = F \cos \theta_y$

$$= 8.036 \cos 140$$

$$\therefore F_y = 6.156 \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

using $F_x = F \cos \theta_x$

$$= 8.036 \cos 66$$

$$\therefore F_x = 3.269 \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

9.2.3. Moment of a force about a point

This is a very important operation while dealing with forces. For coplanar forces, moment about a point was the product of the force and the \perp distance. Here if the force is in space the moment calculation requires a vector approach.



Fig. 9.3 shows a force F in space passing through points $A (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $B (x_2, y_2, z_2)$ on its line of action. Let $C (x_3, y_3, z_3)$ be the moment centre i.e. the point about which we have to find the moment. The procedure of finding the moment of the force about the point is as follows.

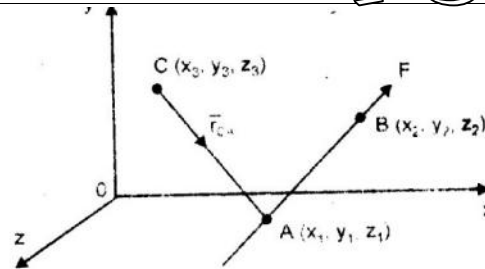


Fig. 9.3

Step 1: Put the force in vector form i.e.

$$\vec{F} = F_x \mathbf{i} + F_y \mathbf{j} + F_z \mathbf{k}$$

Step 2: Find the position vector extending from the moment centre to any point on the force i.e. $\vec{r} = r_x \mathbf{i} + r_y \mathbf{j} + r_z \mathbf{k}$

Step 3: Perform the cross product of the position vector and the force vector to get the moment vector i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{M}_{\text{point}}^F &= \vec{r} \times \vec{F} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ r_x & r_y & r_z \\ F_x & F_y & F_z \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Ex. 9.4 A force of magnitude 50 kN is acting at point $A (2, 3, 4)$ m towards point $B (6, -2, -3)$ m. Find the moment of the given force about a point $D (-1, 1, 2)$ m.

Solution: The force in vector form is

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F} &= F \cdot \mathbf{e}_{AB} \\ &= 50 \left(\frac{4\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} - 7\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2 + 7^2}} \right) \\ &= 21.08 \mathbf{i} - 26.35 \mathbf{j} - 36.89 \mathbf{k} \quad \text{kN} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{M}_D^F &= \vec{r}_{DA} \times \vec{F} \quad \text{Here } \vec{r}_{DA} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 21.08 & -26.35 & -36.89 \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \vec{M}_D^F = -21.08 \mathbf{i} + 152.8 \mathbf{j} - 121.2 \mathbf{k} \quad \text{kNm}$$

..... **Ans.**



9.2.4. Moment of force about a line

Moment of force about a line or axis implies finding the projection of the moment vector on the given axis. In other words, it is the component of the moment vector along the given axis.

Fig. 9.4 shows a force F in space passing through points $A (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $B (x_2, y_2, z_2)$ on its line of action. To find the moment of the force about line CD , we follow the following steps.

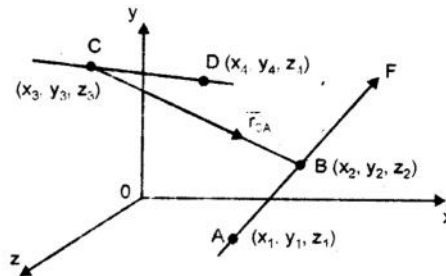


Fig. 9.4

Step 1: Put the force in vector form i.e. \vec{F}

Step 2: Find moment of the force about any point on the line i.e. \vec{M}_{point}^F

Step 3: Find the unit vector of the line about which we have to find moment i.e. \hat{e}_{line}

Step 4: Perform the dot product of the moment vector and the unit vector of the line. This gives the magnitude of the moment about the line, i.e.

$$M_{\text{line}}^F = \vec{M}_{\text{point}}^F \cdot \hat{e}_{\text{line}}$$

Step 5: Finally to get the moment of the force about the line in vector form, multiply the magnitude with the unit vector of the line, i.e.

$$\vec{M}_{\text{line}}^F = M_{\text{point}}^F (\hat{e}_{\text{line}})$$

Ex. 9.5 A force of 10 kN acts at a point $P (2, 3, 5)$ m and has its line of action passing through $Q (10, -3, 4)$ m. Calculate moment of this force about an axis passing through ST where S is a point $(1, -10, 3)$ m and T is $(5, -10, 8)$ m.

Solution: Putting the force in vector form

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F} &= F \cdot \hat{e}_{PQ} \\ &= 10 \left(\frac{8\mathbf{i} - 6\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{8^2 + 6^2 + 1}} \right) \\ \vec{F} &= 7.96\mathbf{i} - 5.97\mathbf{j} - 0.995\mathbf{k} \quad \text{kN} \end{aligned}$$

Finding the moment of the force about any point on the axis, let us take point s as the moment centre.



$$\vec{M}_S^F = \vec{r}_{Sp} \times \vec{F} \quad \text{where, } \vec{r}_{Sp} = \mathbf{i} + 13\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{M}_S^F &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 13 & 2 \\ 7.96 & -5.97 & -0.995 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 0.995\mathbf{i} - 16.92\mathbf{j} - 109.45\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

Finding the Unit Vector of the axis

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{e}_{ST} &= \frac{(4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{k})}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2}} \\ &= 0.625\mathbf{i} + 0.78\mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } M_{ST}^F &= \vec{M}_S^F \cdot \hat{e}_{ST} \\ &= (-0.995\mathbf{i} - 16.92\mathbf{j} - 109.45\mathbf{k}) \cdot (0.625\mathbf{i} + 0.78\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -86 \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \vec{M}_{ST}^F &= M_{ST}^F (\hat{e}_{ST}) \\ &= -86 [0.625\mathbf{i} + 0.78\mathbf{k}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \vec{M}_{ST}^F = -53.75\mathbf{i} - 67.08\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm} \dots\dots\dots \text{Ans.}$$

Ex. 9.6 A force $\vec{F} = -120\mathbf{i} + 30\mathbf{j} + 40\mathbf{k}$ N acts at a point C (4, -3, -4) m. Find its moment about a line MP lying in the y-z plane and making an angle of 60° with the positive y axis. The point M has co-ordinates (0, 2, 3) m.

Solution: Given $\vec{F} = -120\mathbf{i} + 30\mathbf{j} + 40\mathbf{k}$ N
The line MP passes through M (0, 2, 3) m and lies in the y-z plane making 60° with the y axis. The angles it makes with positive x, y and z axis are therefore 90° , 60° and 30° respectively.

The unit vector of the line MP is

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{e}_{MP} &= \cos \theta_x \mathbf{i} + \cos \theta_y \mathbf{j} + \cos \theta_z \mathbf{k} \\ &= \cos 90^\circ \mathbf{i} + \cos 60^\circ \mathbf{j} + \cos 30^\circ \mathbf{k} \\ &= 0.5\mathbf{j} + 0.866\mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

Finding moment of the force about point M (0, 2, 3) m on the line MP.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{M}_M^F &= \vec{r}_{MC} \times \vec{F} \quad \text{where, } \vec{r}_{MC} = 4\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} - 7\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (4\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} - 7\mathbf{k}) \times (-120\mathbf{i} + 30\mathbf{j} + 40\mathbf{k}) \\ &= 10\mathbf{i} + 680\mathbf{j} - 480\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now } M_{MP}^F &= \vec{M}_M^F \cdot \hat{e}_{MP} \\ &= (10\mathbf{i} + 680\mathbf{j} - 480\mathbf{k}) \cdot (0.5\mathbf{j} + 0.866\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -75.68 \text{ Nm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now } \vec{M}_{MP}^F &= M_{MP}^F (\hat{e}_{MP}) \\ &= -75.68 \times (0.5\mathbf{j} + 0.866\mathbf{k}) \\ \vec{M}_{MP}^F &= -37.84\mathbf{j} - 65.54\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}\end{aligned}$$

.....Ans.

9.2.5. Vector Components of force

Vector component of a force along any axis represents the component of the force along that axis. If \vec{F} is the given force then \vec{F}' is said to be its vector component. Fig. 9.5 shows a force \vec{F} passing through points A and B. To find the vector component of \vec{F} along the axis CD, the following steps are required to be followed.

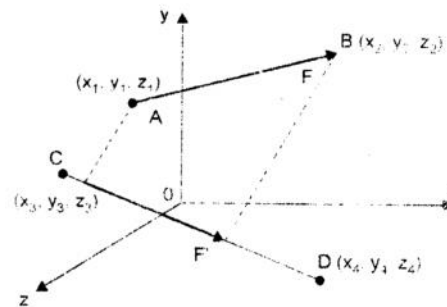


Fig. 9.5

Step 1: Put the force in vector form i.e. \vec{F}

Step 2: Find unit vector of the line along which the vector component is required i.e. \hat{e}_{Line} .

Step 3: Perform the dot product of the force vector and the unit vector of the line to get the magnitude of the force component, i.e.

$$F' = \vec{F} \cdot \hat{e}_{Line}$$

Step 4: To get the vector component, multiply the magnitude with the unit vector of the line, i.e

$$\vec{F}' = F' (\hat{e}_{Line})$$

Ex. 9.7 A force $\vec{F} = 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 8\mathbf{k}$ N acts at a point A (2, -1, 3) m. Find the vector component of \vec{F} along the line AB. The co-ordinates of point B are (3, 2, 3) m.

Solution : The force is already in the vector form

$$\text{i.e. } \vec{F} = 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 8\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$



Unit vector of line AB

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{e}_{AB} &= \frac{\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}}{\sqrt{1^2 + 3^2}} \\ &= 0.316\mathbf{i} + 0.943\mathbf{j}\end{aligned}$$

The scalar component $F' = \bar{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \hat{e}_{AB}$

$$\begin{aligned}&= (4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 8\mathbf{k}) \cdot (0.316\mathbf{i} + 0.943\mathbf{j}) \\ &= -1.58 \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

The vector component of the force,

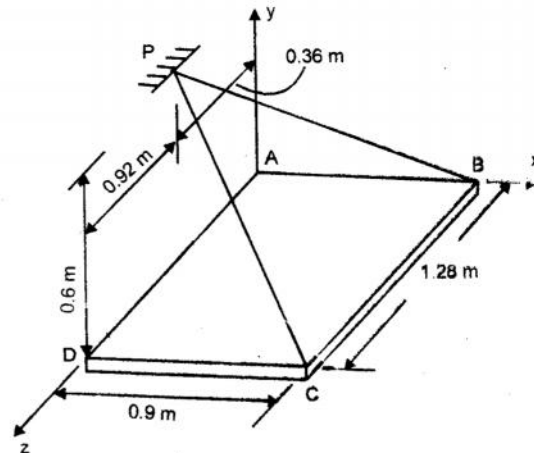
$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{F}}' &= F' (\hat{e}_{AB}) \\ &= -1.58 (0.316\mathbf{i} + 0.943\mathbf{j}) \\ \bar{\mathbf{F}}' &= -0.5\mathbf{i} - 1.5\mathbf{j} \quad \text{N}\end{aligned}$$

..... Ans.

Exercise 9.1

- ☒ **P1.** A 130 kN force acts at B (12, 0, 0) and passes through C (0, 3, 4). Put the force in vector form.
- ☒ **P2.** A force of 50 N acts parallel to the y axis in the -ve direction. Put the force in vector form.
- ☒ **P3.** A force $\bar{\mathbf{F}} = (3\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 12\mathbf{k})$ N acts at a point A (1, -2, 3) m. Find
 - a. moment of the force about origin.
 - b. moment of the force about point B (2, 1, 2) m.
 - c. vector component of force along line AB.
- ☒ **P4.** A force of magnitude 50 kN is acting at point A (2, 3, 4) m towards point B (6, -2, -3) m. Find vector component of this force along the line AC. Point C is (5, -1, 2) m.
- ☒ **P5.** A force $\bar{\mathbf{F}} = 80\mathbf{i} + 50\mathbf{j} - 60\mathbf{k}$ passes through a point A (6, 2, 6). Compute its moment about a point B (8, 1, 4).
- ☒ **P6.** A 700 N force passes through two points A (-5, -1, 4) towards B (1, 2, 6) m. Find:
 - a. Moment of the force about a point C (2, -2, 1) m.
 - b. Moment of the force about line OC where O is the origin.
- ☒ **P7.** A force $\bar{\mathbf{F}} = 30\mathbf{i} + 40\mathbf{j} + 20\mathbf{k}$ N acts at a point A (-2, 3, 2) m. Find its moment about a line OC lying in the x-y plane passing through origin and making an angle of 45° with positive x axis.

P12. Figure shows a plate ABCD supported by two cables PB and PC. The pull exerted by cable PB on the plate at B is 570 N. Calculate the moments of this pull about each of the co-ordinate axes with origin at A.



9.3 Resultant of Concurrent Space Force System

Resultant of a concurrent space force system is a single force \vec{R} , which acts through the point of concurrence. Fig. 9.6 (a) shows a concurrent system at point P. The resultant of the system is shown in Fig. 9.6 (b) and calculated as,

$$\vec{R} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_3 + \vec{F}_4$$

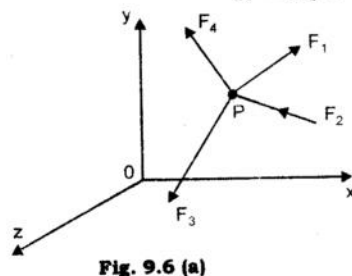


Fig. 9.6 (a)

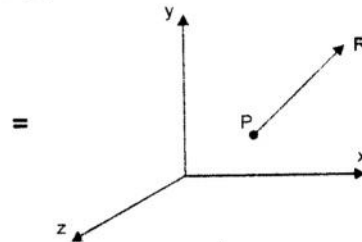
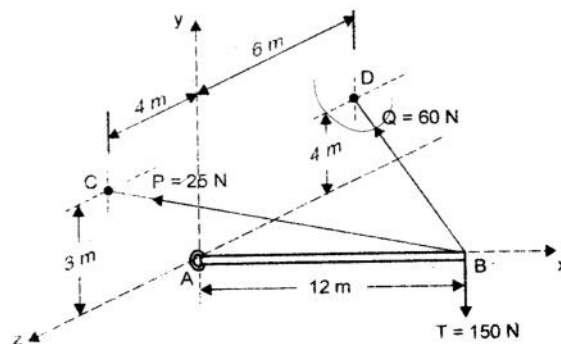


Fig. 9.6 (b)

Ex. 9.8 Three forces P, Q and T act at point B. Find the resultant of these forces.

Solution: The co-ordinates are found out, B (12, 0, 0), C (0, 3, 4) and D (0, 4, -6). The given system is a concurrent space force system of three forces. Putting the forces in vector form.





$$\begin{aligned}\bar{P} &= P \cdot \hat{e}_{BC} \\ &= 25 \left(\frac{-12\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{12^2 + 3^2 + 4^2}} \right) \\ &= -23.07\mathbf{i} + 5.77\mathbf{j} + 7.69\mathbf{k} \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{Q} &= Q \cdot \hat{e}_{BD} \\ &= 60 \left(\frac{-12\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{12^2 + 4^2 + 6^2}} \right) \\ &= -51.42\mathbf{i} + 17.14\mathbf{j} - 25.71\mathbf{k} \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{T} = -150\mathbf{j} \text{ N} \dots\dots\dots \text{since it is parallel to the } y \text{ axis and is directed in the } -ve \text{ direction.}$$

Now the resultant force $\bar{R} = \bar{P} + \bar{Q} + \bar{T}$

$$\bar{R} = (-23.07\mathbf{i} + 5.77\mathbf{j} + 7.69\mathbf{k}) + (-51.42\mathbf{i} + 17.14\mathbf{j} - 25.71\mathbf{k}) + (-150\mathbf{j})$$

$$\bar{R} = -74.49\mathbf{i} - 127.09\mathbf{j} - 18.02\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

Ex. 9.9 The lines of actions of three forces concurrent at origin O pass respectively through point A (-1, 2, 4), B (3, 0 - 3), C (2, -2, 4). Force $F_1 = 40 \text{ N}$ passes through A, $F_2 = 10 \text{ N}$ passes through B, $F_3 = 30 \text{ N}$ passes through C. Find magnitude and direction of their resultant.

Solution: The given system is a concurrent space force system of three forces.

Putting the forces in vector form.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_1 &= F_1 \cdot \hat{e}_{OA} \\ &= 40 \left(\frac{-\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 4^2}} \right) \\ &= -8.73\mathbf{i} + 17.45\mathbf{j} + 34.91\mathbf{k} \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_2 &= F_2 \cdot \hat{e}_{OB} \\ &= 10 \left(\frac{3\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + 3^2}} \right) \\ &= 7.07\mathbf{i} - 7.07\mathbf{k} \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{F}_3 = F_3 \cdot \hat{e}_{OC}$$

$$= 30 \left(\frac{2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{2^2 + 2^2 + 4^2}} \right)$$

$$\bar{F}_3 = 12.25\mathbf{i} - 12.25\mathbf{j} + 24.5\mathbf{k} \quad \text{N}$$

The resultant force $\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3$

$$\bar{R} = (-8.73\mathbf{i} + 17.45\mathbf{j} + 34.91\mathbf{k}) + (7.07\mathbf{i} - 7.07\mathbf{k}) + (12.25\mathbf{i} - 12.25\mathbf{j} + 24.5\mathbf{k})$$

$$\therefore \bar{R} = 10.59\mathbf{i} + 5.2\mathbf{j} + 52.34\mathbf{k} \quad \text{N} \quad \dots \text{Ans.}$$

Magnitude and direction of the resultant

$$R = \sqrt{10.59^2 + 5.2^2 + 52.34^2}$$

$$\therefore R = 53.65 \text{ N} \quad \dots \text{Ans.}$$

$$R_x = R \cos \theta_x$$

$$10.59 = 53.65 \cos \theta_x$$

$$\therefore \theta_x = 78.61^\circ \quad \dots \text{Ans.}$$

$$R_y = R \cos \theta_y$$

$$5.2 = 53.65 \cos \theta_y$$

$$\therefore \theta_y = 84.44^\circ \quad \dots \text{Ans.}$$

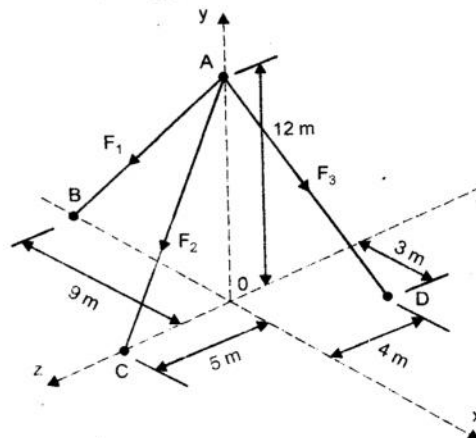
$$R_z = R \cos \theta_z$$

$$52.34 = 53.65 \cos \theta_z$$

$$\therefore \theta_z = 12.68^\circ \quad \dots \text{Ans.}$$

Ex. 9.10 The resultant of the three concurrent space forces at A is $\bar{R} = -788\mathbf{j}$ N. Find the magnitude of F_1 , F_2 and F_3 force.

Solution: This is a concurrent space force system of three forces. To put the forces in vector form, we need the coordinates of the points through which the forces pass.





From the figure the coordinates are, A (0, 12, 0) m, B (-9, 0, 0) m, C (0, 0, 5) m and D (3, 0, -4) m.

Putting the forces in vector form.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_1 &= F_1 \cdot \hat{e}_{AB} \\ &= F_1 \left(\frac{-9\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{j}}{\sqrt{9^2 + 12^2}} \right) \\ &= F_1 (-0.6\mathbf{i} - 0.8\mathbf{j}) \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_2 &= F_2 \cdot \hat{e}_{AC} \\ &= F_2 \left(\frac{-12\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{12^2 + 5^2}} \right) \\ &= F_2 (-0.923\mathbf{j} + 0.385\mathbf{k}) \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_3 &= F_3 \cdot \hat{e}_{AD} \\ &= F_3 \left(\frac{3\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + 12^2 + 4^2}} \right) \\ &= F_3 (0.231\mathbf{i} - 0.923\mathbf{j} - 0.308\mathbf{k}) \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

The resultant of the forces at A is $\bar{R} = -788\mathbf{j}$ N

$$\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3$$

$$\begin{aligned}0\mathbf{i} - 788\mathbf{j} + 0\mathbf{k} &= F_1 (-0.6\mathbf{i} - 0.8\mathbf{j}) + F_2 (-0.923\mathbf{j} + 0.385\mathbf{k}) \\ &\quad + F_3 (0.231\mathbf{i} - 0.923\mathbf{j} - 0.308\mathbf{k}) \\ 0\mathbf{i} - 788\mathbf{j} + 0\mathbf{k} &= (-0.6F_1 + 0.231F_3)\mathbf{i} + (-0.8F_1 - 0.923F_2 - 0.923F_3)\mathbf{j} \\ &\quad + (0.385F_2 - 0.308F_3)\mathbf{k}\end{aligned}$$

Equating the coefficients

$$-0.6F_1 - 0.231F_3 = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$-0.8F_1 - 0.923F_2 - 0.923F_3 = -788 \quad \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

$$0.385F_2 - 0.308F_3 = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

Solving equations (1), (2) and (3) we get,

$$F_1 = 154 \text{ N}, \quad F_2 = 320 \text{ N}, \quad F_3 = 400 \text{ N}$$

..... **Ans.**

9.4 Resultant of Parallel Space Force System

The resultant of a parallel space force system is a single force \bar{R} which acts parallel to the force system. The location of the resultant can be found out using Varignon's theorem.

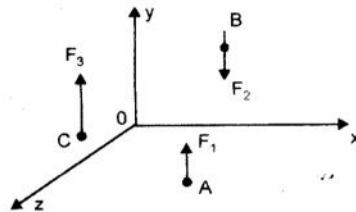


Fig. 9.7 (a)

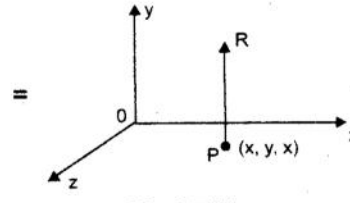


Fig. 9.7 (b)

Figure 9.7 (a) shows a parallel system of three forces F_1 , F_2 and F_3 . The resultant of the system is shown in figure 9.7 (b) and is calculated as,

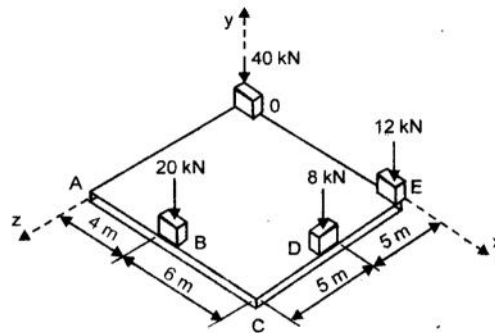
$$\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3$$

The resultant acts at P. The coordinates (x, y, z) of the point P can be calculated by using Varignon's theorem, the moments for which can be taken about any convenient point like point O. The equation of Varignon's theorem for space forces is $\sum \bar{M}_O^F = \bar{M}_O^R$

Ex.9.11 A square foundation mat supports the four columns as shown. Determine the magnitude and point of application of the resultant of the four loads.

Solution: The given system is a parallel force system of four forces. The co-ordinates through which the forces act are,

O (0, 0, 0), B (4, 0, 10), D (10, 0, 5), E (10, 0, 0)



Putting the forces in vector form

Let $F_1 = 20 \text{ kN}$

$\therefore \bar{F}_1 = -20 \hat{j} \text{ kN}$ since it is parallel to y axis and directed downwards.

Similarly

Let $F_2 = 8 \text{ kN}$

$\therefore \bar{F}_2 = -8 \hat{j} \text{ kN}$

Let $F_3 = 12 \text{ kN}$

$\therefore \bar{F}_3 = -12 \hat{j} \text{ kN}$



Let $F_4 = 40 \text{ kN}$
 $\therefore \bar{F}_4 = -40 \mathbf{j} \text{ kN}$

The resultant $\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3 + \bar{F}_4$
 $\bar{R} = (-20 \mathbf{j}) + (-8 \mathbf{j}) + (-12 \mathbf{j}) + (-40 \mathbf{j})$
 $\therefore \bar{R} = -80 \mathbf{j} \text{ kN}$

..... Ans.

Point of application of the resultant:

Let the resultant act at a point P (x, 0, z) in the plane of the foundation mat.
 To use Varignon's theorem, we need to find the moments of all the forces and also of the resultant about point O.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_1} &= \bar{r}_{OB} \times \bar{F}_1 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{OB} = 4 \mathbf{i} + 10 \mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (4 \mathbf{i} + 10 \mathbf{k}) \times (-20 \mathbf{j}) \\ &= 200 \mathbf{i} - 80 \mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_2} &= \bar{r}_{OD} \times \bar{F}_2 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{OD} = 10 \mathbf{i} + 5 \mathbf{k} \\ &= (10 \mathbf{i} + 5 \mathbf{k}) \times (-8 \mathbf{j}) \\ &= 40 \mathbf{i} - 80 \mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_3} &= \bar{r}_{OE} \times \bar{F}_3 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{OE} = 10 \mathbf{i} \text{ m} \\ &= (10 \mathbf{i}) \times (-12 \mathbf{j}) \\ &= -120 \mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{M}_O^{F_4} = 0 \quad \text{----- since } F_4 \text{ passes through O}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^R &= \bar{r}_{OP} \times \bar{R} \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{OP} = x \mathbf{i} + z \mathbf{k} \\ &= (x \mathbf{i} + z \mathbf{k}) \times (-80 \mathbf{j}) \\ &= (80z) \mathbf{i} + (-80x) \mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

Using Varignon's theorem

$$\sum \bar{M}_O^F = \sum \bar{M}_O^R$$

$$\bar{M}_O^{F_1} + \bar{M}_O^{F_2} + \bar{M}_O^{F_3} + \bar{M}_O^{F_4} = \bar{M}_O^R$$

$$(200 \mathbf{i} - 80 \mathbf{k}) + (40 \mathbf{i} - 80 \mathbf{k}) + (-120 \mathbf{k}) = (80z) \mathbf{i} + (-80x) \mathbf{k}$$

$$240 \mathbf{i} - 280 \mathbf{k} = (80z) \mathbf{i} + (-80x) \mathbf{k}$$



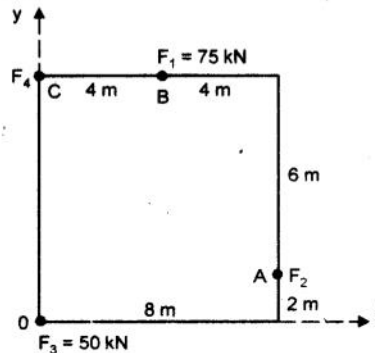
equating the coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} 240 &= 80z \\ z &= 3 \text{ m} \\ -280 &= -80x \\ x &= 3.5 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

∴ The resultant $\bar{R} = -80 \text{ j kN}$ passes through point P (3.5, 0, 3) m **Ans.**

Ex. 9.12 A square foundation is acted upon by four column loads. The resultant of the loads acts at the centre of the foundation. Find the magnitude of forces F_2 and F_4 . All the forces point in the $-z$ direction.

Solution: The given system is a parallel force system of four forces. The co-ordinates through which the forces act are,
O (0, 0, 0), A (8, 2, 0), B (4, 8, 0), C (0, 8, 0)



Putting the forces in vector form

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{F}_1 &= -75 \text{ k} \text{ kN} \\ \bar{F}_2 &= -F_2 \text{ k} \text{ kN} \\ \bar{F}_3 &= -50 \text{ k} \text{ kN} \\ \bar{F}_4 &= -F_4 \text{ k} \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

Let \bar{R} be the resultant of the four forces.

It is given \bar{R} acts at the centre G.

$$\therefore G = (4, 4, 0)$$

Let us use Varignon's theorem to find the unknown forces F_2 and F_4 . For this we need to find the moments of all the forces about any convenient point. Let us take G as the moment centre.

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_G^{F_1} &= \bar{r}_{GB} \times \bar{F}_1 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{GB} = 4 \text{ j m} \\ &= (4 \text{ j}) \times (-75 \text{ k}) \\ &= -300 \text{ i kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_G^{F_2} &= \bar{r}_{GA} \times \bar{F}_2 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{GA} = 4 \text{ i} - 2 \text{ j m} \\ &= (4 \text{ i} - 2 \text{ j}) \times (-F_2 \text{ k}) \\ &= 4 F_2 \text{ j} + 2 F_2 \text{ i kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_G^{F_3} &= \bar{r}_{GO} \times \bar{F}_3 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{GO} = -4\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} \text{ m} \\ &= (-4\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j}) \times (-50\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -200\mathbf{j} + 200\mathbf{i} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_G^{F_4} &= \bar{r}_{GO} \times \bar{F}_4 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{GO} = -4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} \text{ m} \\ &= (-4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) \times (-F_4\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -4F_4\mathbf{j} - 4F_4\mathbf{i} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

Since resultant \bar{R} passes through G, $\bar{M}_G^R = 0$

Using Varignon's theorem

$$\begin{aligned}\sum \bar{M}_G^F &= \bar{M}_G^R \\ (-300\mathbf{i}) + (4F_2\mathbf{j} + 2F_2\mathbf{i}) + (-200\mathbf{j} + 200\mathbf{i}) + (-4F_4\mathbf{j} - 4F_4\mathbf{i}) &= 0 \\ (2F_2 - 4F_4 - 100)\mathbf{i} + (4F_2 - 4F_4 - 200)\mathbf{j} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

i.e. $2F_2 - 4F_4 - 100 = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$

$4F_2 - 4F_4 - 200 = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots (2)$

Solving equations (1) and (2) we get

$F_2 = 50 \text{ kN} \quad \text{and} \quad F_4 = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{Ans.}$

9.5 Resultant of General Space Force system

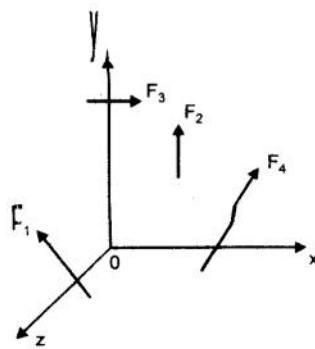


Fig. 9.8 (a)

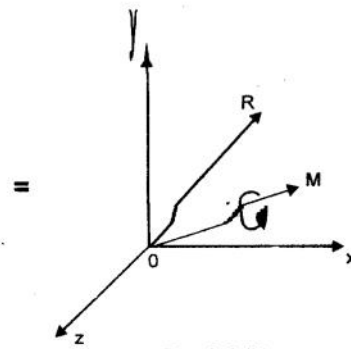


Fig. 9.8 (b)

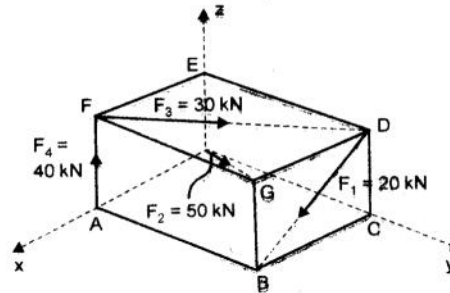
A general space force system is neither a concurrent nor a parallel system. The resultant of such a system is a single force R and a moment M at any desired point. Since the resultant contains one force and one moment, it is also known as a *Force Couple System*. Fig.9.8 (a) shows a general system of four forces F_1 , F_2 , F_3 and F_4 . If it is desired to have the resultant at point O, then as per figure 9.8 (b)

the single force $\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3 + \bar{F}_4$

and the single moment $\bar{M} = \bar{M}_O^{\bar{F}_1} + \bar{M}_O^{\bar{F}_2} + \bar{M}_O^{\bar{F}_3} + \bar{M}_O^{\bar{F}_4}$

Ex. 9.13 Determine the resultant force and couple moment about the origin of the force system shown in figure.
L (OA) = 4 m, L (OC) = 5 m, L(OE) = 3 m

Solution: The given system is a general system of four forces. The co-ordinates of the various points through which the force passes are, A (4, 0, 0), B (4, 5, 0), C (0, 5, 0), D (0, 5, 3), E (4, 0, 3), F (4, 0, 3), G (4, 5, 3) and O (0, 0, 0).



Putting the forces in vector form

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_1 &= F_1 \cdot \hat{e}_{DB} \\ &= 20 \left(\frac{4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 3^2}} \right) \\ &= 16\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{k} \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_2 &= F_2 \cdot \hat{e}_{OG} \\ &= 50 \left(\frac{4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2 + 3^2}} \right) \\ &= 28.28\mathbf{i} + 35.35\mathbf{j} + 21.21\mathbf{k} \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{F}_3 &= F_3 \cdot \hat{e}_{ED} \\ &= 30 \left(\frac{-4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2}} \right) \\ &= -18.74\mathbf{i} + 23.42\mathbf{j} \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{F}_4 = 40\mathbf{k} \text{ kN} \text{ since the force is parallel to } z \text{ axis.}$$

The resultant force $\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2 + \bar{F}_3 + \bar{F}_4$

$$\bar{R} = (16\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{k}) + (28.28\mathbf{i} + 35.35\mathbf{j} + 21.21\mathbf{k}) + (-18.74\mathbf{i} + 23.42\mathbf{j}) + (40\mathbf{k})$$

$$\therefore \bar{R} = 25.54\mathbf{i} + 58.77\mathbf{j} + 49.21\mathbf{k} \text{ kN}$$

.....Ans.



..... about the specified point, which is the origin.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_1} &= \bar{r}_{od} \times \bar{F}_1 && \text{where } \bar{r}_{od} = 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) \times (16\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -60\mathbf{i} + 48\mathbf{j} - 80\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{M}_O^{F_2} = 0 \quad \text{since } F_2 \text{ passes through } O$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_3} &= \bar{r}_{od} \times \bar{F}_3 && \text{where } \bar{r}_{od} = 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) \times (-18.74\mathbf{i} + 23.42\mathbf{j}) \\ &= -70.26\mathbf{i} - 56.22\mathbf{j} + 93.7\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M}_O^{F_4} &= \bar{r}_{oa} \times \bar{F}_4 && \text{where } \bar{r}_{oa} = 4\mathbf{i} \text{ m} \\ &= (4\mathbf{i}) \times (40\mathbf{k}) \\ &= -160\mathbf{j} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

The resultant moment at the origin is

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{M} &= \bar{M}_O^{F_1} + \bar{M}_O^{F_2} + \bar{M}_O^{F_3} + \bar{M}_O^{F_4} \\ &= (-60\mathbf{i} + 48\mathbf{j} - 80\mathbf{k}) + 0 + (-70.26\mathbf{i} - 56.22\mathbf{j} + 93.7\mathbf{k}) + (-160\mathbf{j}) \\ \therefore \bar{M} &= -130.26\mathbf{i} - 168.2\mathbf{j} + 13.7\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

..... **Ans.**

The resultant force and couple moment at the origin is

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{R} &= 25.54\mathbf{i} + 58.77\mathbf{j} + 49.21\mathbf{k} \text{ kN} \\ \bar{M} &= -130.26\mathbf{i} - 168.2\mathbf{j} + 13.7\mathbf{k} \text{ kNm}\end{aligned}$$

..... **Ans.**

Ex. 9.14 Determine the resultant and resultant couple moment at a point A (3, 1, 2) m of the following force system

$$\bar{F}_1 = 5\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{k} \text{ N acting at a point B (8, 3, 1) m}$$

$$\bar{F}_2 = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k} \text{ N acting at O (0, 0, 0) m}$$

$$\bar{M}_1 = 12\mathbf{i} - 20\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}$$

Solution: The given system is a general space force system of two forces and one couple. The forces and moments are already in the vector form.

$$\bar{F}_1 = 5\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

$$\bar{F}_2 = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$



∴ The resultant force $\bar{R} = \bar{F}_1 + \bar{F}_2$

$$\bar{R} = (5\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{k}) + (3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k})$$

$$\bar{R} = 8\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k} \text{ N} \quad \text{..... Ans.}$$

To find the resultant moment at point A
Taking moment of all forces about point A

$$\bar{M}_A^{F_1} = \bar{r}_{AB} \times \bar{F}_1 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{AB} = 5\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (5\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) \times (5\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{k})$$

$$= 16\mathbf{i} - 45\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}$$

$$\bar{M}_A^{F_2} = \bar{r}_{AO} \times \bar{F}_2 \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{AO} = -3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (-3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}) \times (3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k})$$

$$= 8\mathbf{i} - 18\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}$$

∴ The resultant moment $\bar{M} = \bar{M}_A^{F_1} + \bar{M}_A^{F_2} + \bar{M}_1$

$$= (16\mathbf{i} - 45\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k}) + (8\mathbf{i} - 18\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}) + (12\mathbf{i} - 20\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k})$$

$$= 36\mathbf{i} - 83\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm} \quad \text{.....Ans.}$$

The resultant force and couple moment at the point A is

$$\bar{R} = 8\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

$$\bar{M} = 36\mathbf{i} - 83\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k} \text{ Nm} \quad \text{.....Ans.}$$

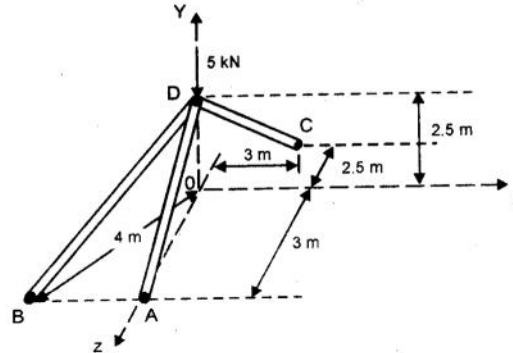
Exercise 9.2

- P1.** A force $P_1 = 10 \text{ N}$ in magnitude acts along direction AB whose co-ordinates of points A and B are (3, 2, -1) and (8, 5, 3) respectively. Another force $P_2 = 5 \text{ N}$ in magnitude acts along BC where C has co-ordinates (-2, 11, -5). Determine
- The resultant of P_1 and P_2 in its vectorial form.
 - The moment of the resultant about a point D (1, 1, 1)
 - The magnitude of the component of the resultant along the line BK where the coordinates of the point K are (5, 8, 3)

We can also use the other three scalar equations of equilibrium viz.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_x &= 0 \\ \sum M_y &= 0 \\ \sum M_z &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Ex. 9.15 Figure shows a tripod carrying a load of 5 kN. Supports A, B, C are coplanar in plane x-z. Compute the forces in members AD, BD and CD. Assume all joints to be of ball and socket type.



Solution: Since the load of 5 kN is being applied at the joint D of the tripod structure, axial forces get developed in the members forming a concurrent system at D. Let F_{AD} , F_{BD} and F_{CD} be the axial forces developed in the members AD, BD and CD respectively. Let us initially assume the forces to be of tensile nature. The co-ordinates of the joints through which the forces pass are shown on the figure.

Putting the forces in vector form

$$\vec{F}_{AD} = F_{AD} \cdot \hat{e}_{DA}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= F_{AD} \left(\frac{-2.5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{2.5^2 + 3^2}} \right) \\ &= F_{AD} (-0.64\mathbf{j} + 0.768\mathbf{k})\end{aligned}$$

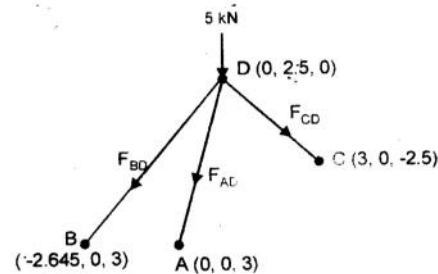
$$\vec{F}_{BD} = F_{BD} \cdot \hat{e}_{DB}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= F_{BD} \left(\frac{-2.645\mathbf{i} - 2.5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{2.645^2 + 2.5^2 + 3^2}} \right) \\ &= F_{BD} (-0.56\mathbf{i} - 0.53\mathbf{j} - 0.636\mathbf{k})\end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{F}_{CD} = F_{CD} \cdot \hat{e}_{DC}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= F_{CD} \left(\frac{3\mathbf{i} - 2.5\mathbf{j} - 2.5\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + 2.5^2 + 2.5^2}} \right) \\ &= F_{CD} (0.647\mathbf{i} - 0.539\mathbf{j} - 0.539\mathbf{k})\end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{W} = -5\mathbf{j} \text{ kN since it is parallel to y axis and directed in the -ve direction.}$$



Applying COE

$$\sum F_x = 0$$

$$-0.56 F_{BD} + 0.647 F_{CD} = 0 \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0$$

$$-0.64 F_{AD} - 0.53 F_{BD} - 0.539 F_{CD} - 5 = 0 \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

$$\sum F_z = 0$$

$$0.768 F_{AD} + 0.636 F_{BD} - 0.539 F_{CD} = 0 \quad \text{----- (3)}$$

Solving equations (1), (2) and (3), we get

$$F_{AD} = 1.29 \text{ kN} = 1.29 \text{ kN Tension}$$

..... Ans.

$$F_{BD} = -5.84 \text{ kN} = 5.84 \text{ kN Compression}$$

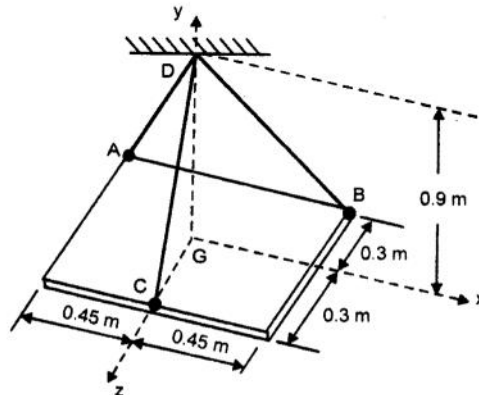
..... Ans.

$$F_{CD} = -5.06 \text{ kN} = 5.06 \text{ kN Compression}$$

..... Ans.

Ex. 9.16 A $0.6 \text{ m} \times 0.9 \text{ m}$ plate weighing 120 N is lifted by three cables which are joined at D directly above the centre of the plate. Determine the tension in each cable.

Solution: At support D , tensions in the cables and the reaction R_D form a concurrent system in equilibrium. Drawing the FBD of the joint D and finding the co-ordinates of the points through which the forces pass.



Putting the forces in vector form

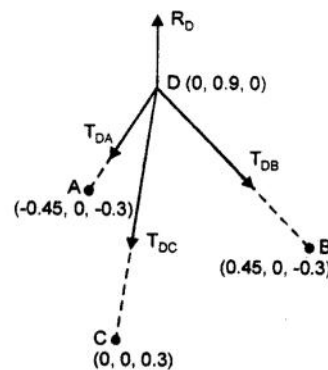
$$\vec{T}_{DA} = T_{DA} \cdot \vec{e}_{DA}$$

$$= T_{DA} \left(\frac{-0.45\mathbf{i} - 0.9\mathbf{j} - 0.3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{0.45^2 + 0.9^2 + 0.3^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{DA} (-0.428\mathbf{i} - 0.857\mathbf{j} - 0.286\mathbf{k})$$

$$\vec{T}_{DB} = T_{DB} \left(\frac{0.45\mathbf{i} - 0.9\mathbf{j} - 0.3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{0.45^2 + 0.9^2 + 0.3^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{DB} (0.428\mathbf{i} - 0.857\mathbf{j} - 0.286\mathbf{k})$$





$$\bar{T}_{DC} = T_{DC} \left(\frac{-0.9\mathbf{j} + 0.3\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{0.9^2 + 0.3^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{DC} (-0.948\mathbf{j} + 0.316\mathbf{k})$$

$$\bar{R}_D = 120\mathbf{j} \quad \text{since reaction } R_D \text{ would be equal to the weight in magnitude and direction and opposite in sense.}$$

Applying COE

$$\sum F_x = 0$$

$$-0.428 T_{DA} + 0.428 T_{DB} = 0 \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0$$

$$-0.857 T_{DA} - 0.857 T_{DB} - 0.948 T_{DC} + 120 = 0 \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

$$\sum F_z = 0$$

$$-0.286 T_{DA} - 0.286 T_{DB} + 0.316 T_{DC} = 0 \quad \text{----- (3)}$$

Solving equations (1), (2) and (3), we get

$$T_{DA} = T_{DB} = 35 \text{ N} \quad \text{..... Ans.}$$

$$T_{DC} = 63.3 \text{ N} \quad \text{..... Ans.}$$

9.9 Equilibrium of Non-Concurrent Force System

For equilibrium of both parallel and general space force systems, all the six scalar equations of equilibrium are applicable viz.

$$\sum F_x = 0$$

$$\sum M_x = 0$$

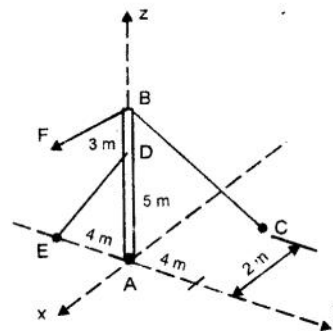
$$\sum F_y = 0$$

$$\sum M_y = 0$$

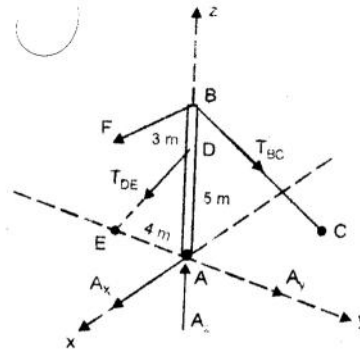
$$\sum F_z = 0$$

$$\sum M_z = 0$$

Ex. 9.17 A vertical mast AB is supported at A by a ball and socket joint and by cables BC and DE as shown. A force $\bar{F} = 500\mathbf{i} + 400\mathbf{j} - 300\mathbf{k}$ N is applied at B. Find the reaction at A.



Solution: The given system is a general space force system of four forces. Figure shows the FBD of the mast AB. The ball and socket offers a force reaction R_A having components A_x , A_y and A_z initially assumed to act along +ve direction of axes. Let T_{DE} and T_{BC} be the tension in the cables DE and BC respectively.



The co-ordinate of points through which the forces pass are A (0, 0, 0), B (0, 0, 8), C (-2, 4, 0), D (0, 0, 5) and E (0, -4, 0)

Putting the forces in vector form,

$$\vec{F} = 500 \mathbf{i} + 400 \mathbf{j} - 300 \mathbf{k} \quad \text{----- given}$$

$$\vec{T}_{BC} = T_{BC} \cdot \hat{e}_{BC}$$

$$= T_{BC} \left(\frac{-2 \mathbf{i} + 4 \mathbf{j} - 8 \mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{2^2 + 4^2 + 8^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{BC} (-0.218 \mathbf{i} + 0.436 \mathbf{j} - 0.873 \mathbf{k})$$

$$\vec{T}_{DE} = T_{DE} \cdot \hat{e}_{DE}$$

$$= T_{DE} \left(\frac{-4 \mathbf{j} - 5 \mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{DE} (-0.625 \mathbf{j} - 0.781 \mathbf{k})$$

$$\vec{R}_A = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$$

Taking moments of all forces about ball and socket A.

$$\vec{M}_A^F = \vec{r}_{AB} \times \vec{F} \quad \text{where } \vec{r}_{AB} = 8 \mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (8 \mathbf{k}) \times (500 \mathbf{i} + 400 \mathbf{j} - 300 \mathbf{k})$$

$$\vec{M}_A^F = -3200 \mathbf{i} + 4000 \mathbf{j} \text{ Nm}$$

$$\vec{M}_A^{T_{BC}} = \vec{r}_{AB} \times \vec{T}_{BC} \quad \text{where } \vec{r}_{AB} = 8 \mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (8 \mathbf{k}) \times \vec{T}_{BC} (-0.218 \mathbf{i} + 0.436 \mathbf{j} - 0.873 \mathbf{k})$$

$$\vec{M}_A^{T_{BC}} = -3.488 \vec{T}_{BC} \mathbf{i} - 1.744 \vec{T}_{BC} \mathbf{j} \text{ Nm}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{M}}_A^{T_{DE}} &= \bar{\mathbf{r}}_{AD} \times \bar{\mathbf{T}}_{DE} \quad \text{where } \bar{\mathbf{r}}_{AD} = 5 \mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (5 \mathbf{k}) \times \bar{\mathbf{T}}_{DE} (-0.625 \mathbf{j} - 0.0781 \mathbf{k})\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}}_A^R = 0 \quad \text{since } R_A \text{ passes through A}$$

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma M_x &= 0 \\ -3.488 T_{BC} + 3.125 T_{DE} - 3200 &= 0 \quad \text{----- (1)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma M_y &= 0 \\ -1.744 T_{BC} + 4000 &= 0 \quad \text{----- (2)}\end{aligned}$$

Solving equations (1) and (2) we get

$$T_{BC} = 2293.6 \text{ N}$$

$$T_{DE} = 3584 \text{ N}$$

.....Ans.

.....Ans.

To find reaction at A

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma F_x &= 0 \\ A_x + 500 - 0.218 T_{BC} &= 0 \\ A_x + 500 - 0.218 (2293.6) &= 0 \\ A_x &= 0 \\ \Sigma F_y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}A_y + 400 + 0.436 T_{BC} - 0.625 T_{DE} &= 0 \\ A_y + 400 + 0.436 (2293.6) - 0.625 (3584) &= 0 \\ A_y &= 840 \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Sigma F_z = 0$$

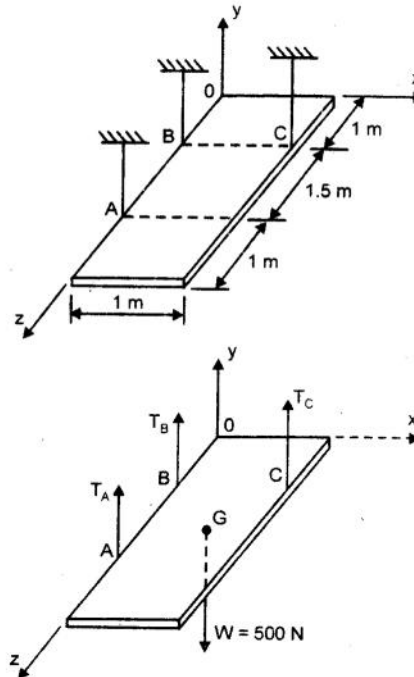
$$\begin{aligned}A_z - 300 - 0.873 T_{BC} - 0.781 T_{DE} &= 0 \\ A_z - 300 - 0.873 (2293.6) - 0.781 (3584) &= 0 \\ A_z &= 5101 \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

The reaction R_A at the ball and socket support at A is

$$\bar{\mathbf{R}}_A = 840 \mathbf{j} + 5101 \mathbf{k} \text{ N}$$

..... Ans.

Ex. 9.18 Find the tension in each of the cable supporting the rectangular plate. The plate weighs 500 N.



Solution: The given system is a parallel system of four forces. Let T_A , T_B and T_C be the tensions in the three cables at A, B and C respectively. Let W be the weight of the plate. FBD of the plate is shown in the figure.

The co-ordinates of the points through which the forces pass are

A (0, 0, 2.5), B (0, 0, 1),
C (1, 0, 0), G (0.5, 0, 1.75).

Putting the forces in vector form.

$$\vec{T}_A = T_A \mathbf{j} \text{ N}$$

$$\vec{T}_B = T_B \mathbf{j} \text{ N}$$

$$\vec{T}_C = T_C \mathbf{j} \text{ N}$$

$$\vec{W} = -500 \mathbf{j} \text{ N}$$

Taking moments of all forces about any point say B.

$$\vec{M}_B^{\vec{T}_A} = \vec{r}_{BA} \times \vec{T}_A \quad \text{where } \vec{r}_{BA} = 1.5 \mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (1.5 \mathbf{k}) \times (T_A \mathbf{j})$$

$$= -1.5 T_A \mathbf{i} \text{ Nm}$$

$$\vec{M}_B^{\vec{T}_C} = \vec{r}_{BC} \times \vec{T}_C \quad \text{where } \vec{r}_{BC} = \mathbf{i} \text{ m}$$

$$= (\mathbf{i}) \times (T_C \mathbf{j})$$

$$= T_C \mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}$$

$$\vec{M}_B^{\vec{W}} = \vec{r}_{BG} \times \vec{W} \quad \text{Where } \vec{r}_{BG} = 0.5 \mathbf{i} + 0.75 \mathbf{k} \text{ m}$$

$$= (0.5 \mathbf{i} + 0.75 \mathbf{k}) \times (-500 \mathbf{j})$$

$$= 375 \mathbf{i} - 250 \mathbf{k} \text{ Nm}$$

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_x &= 0 \\ -1.5 T_A + 375 &= 0 \\ T_A &= 250 \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

..... Ans.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_z &= 0 \\ T_C - 250 &= 0 \\ T_C &= 250 \text{ N}\end{aligned}$$

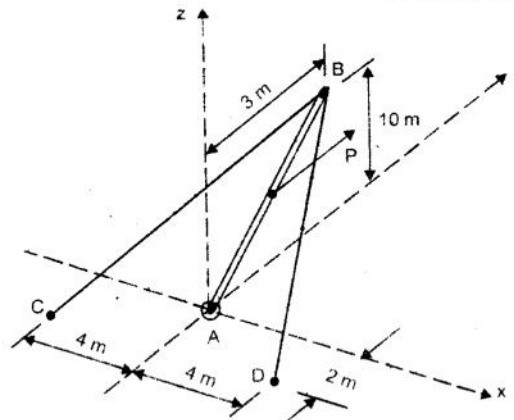
..... Ans.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum F_y &= 0 \\ T_A + T_B + T_C - W &= 0 \\ 250 + T_B + 250 - 500 &= 0 \\ T_B &= 0\end{aligned}$$

..... Ans.

Ex. 9.19 A boom weighing 1.5 kN/m lies in the yz plane. A force $P = 20$ kN is carried by the boom at the mid point of AB and acts parallel to the y axis. Find the force induced in the cables and reaction at support A.

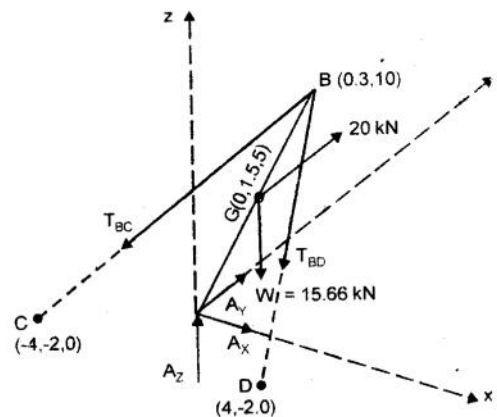
Solution: The given system is a general system of five forces. Let T_{BC} , T_{BD} be the forces in the cables. Let A be the reaction at the ball and socket at A giving reactions A_x , A_y and A_z .



The weight of boom $W = 1.5 \text{ kN/m} \times \text{length of boom}$
 $W = 1.5 \times 10.44 = 15.66 \text{ kN}$

Figure shows the FBD of the boom. Putting the forces in vector form
 $\vec{P} = 20 \hat{j}$ kN since it is parallel to y axis and directed in the +ve direction
 $\vec{W} = -15.66 \hat{k}$ kN since it is parallel to z axis and directed in the -ve direction

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{T}_{BC} &= T_{BC} \cdot \hat{e}_{BC} \\ &= T_{BC} \left(\frac{-4\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 10\hat{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2 + 10^2}} \right)\end{aligned}$$





$$= T_{BC} (-0.337 \mathbf{i} - 0.421 \mathbf{j} - 0.842 \mathbf{k}) \text{ kN}$$

$$\bar{T}_{BD} = T_{BD} \cdot \hat{e}_{BD}$$

$$= T_{BD} \left(\frac{4\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{4^2 + 5^2 + 10^2}} \right)$$

$$= T_{BD} (0.337 \mathbf{i} - 0.421 \mathbf{j} - 0.842 \mathbf{k}) \text{ kN}$$

$$\bar{R}_A = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$$

Taking moments of all forces about ball and socket A.

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_A^{T_{BC}} &= \bar{r}_{AB} \times \bar{T}_{BC} \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{AB} = 3\mathbf{j} + 10\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (3\mathbf{j} + 10\mathbf{k}) \times T_{BC} (-0.337 \mathbf{i} - 0.421 \mathbf{j} - 0.842 \mathbf{k}) \\ &= T_{BC} (1.684 \mathbf{i} + 3.37 \mathbf{j} - 1.011 \mathbf{k}) \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_A^{T_{BD}} &= \bar{r}_{AB} \times \bar{T}_{BD} \\ &= (3\mathbf{j} + 10\mathbf{k}) \times (0.337 \mathbf{i} - 0.421 \mathbf{j} - 0.842 \mathbf{k}) \\ &= T_{BD} (1.684 \mathbf{i} + 3.37 \mathbf{j} - 1.011 \mathbf{k}) \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_A^W &= \bar{r}_{AG} \times \bar{W} \quad \text{where } \bar{r}_{AG} = 1.5\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k} \text{ m} \\ &= (1.5\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}) \times (-15.66 \mathbf{k}) \\ &= -23.49 \mathbf{i} \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{M}_A^P &= \bar{r}_{AG} \times \bar{P} \\ &= (1.5\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}) \times (20 \mathbf{j}) \\ &= -100 \mathbf{i} \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{M}_A^R = 0 \quad \text{since } R_A \text{ passes through A}$$

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma M_x &= 0 \\ 1.684 T_{BC} + 1.684 T_{BD} - 23.49 - 100 &= 0 \quad \text{----- (1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma M_y &= 0 \\ -3.37 T_{BC} + 3.37 T_{BD} &= 0 \quad \text{----- (2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma M_z &= 0 \\ 1.011 T_{BC} - 1.011 T_{BD} &= 0 \quad \text{----- (3)} \end{aligned}$$

Solving equations (1), (2), and (3)

$$T_{BC} = T_{BD} = 36.66 \text{ kN}$$

..... Ans.

Applying COE

$$\Sigma F_x = 0$$

$$-0.337 T_{BC} + 0.337 T_{BD} + A_x = 0$$

$$-0.337 (36.66) + 0.337 (36.66) + A_x = 0$$

$$A_x = 0$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 0$$

$$-0.421 T_{BC} - 0.421 T_{BD} + 20 + A_y = 0$$

$$-0.421 (36.66) - 0.421 (36.66) + 20 + A_y = 0$$

$$A_y = 10.87 \text{ kN}$$

$$\Sigma F_z = 0$$

$$-0.842 T_{BC} - 0.842 T_{BD} - 15.66 + A_z = 0$$

$$-0.842 (36.66) - 0.842 (36.66) - 15.66 + A_z = 0$$

$$A_z = 77.39 \text{ kN}$$

∴ The reaction R_A at the ball and socket support is $\bar{R}_A = 10.87 \mathbf{j} + 77.39 \mathbf{k} \text{ kN}$...Ans.

Ex. 9.20 Find all the reactions at fixed end O of the bar bent and loaded as shown.

Solution: The given system is a general force system of four forces in equilibrium. The fixed support at O offers a force reaction R_O having components O_x , O_y and O_z and a moment reaction M_O having components M_{Ox} , M_{Oy} and M_{Oz} .

Figure shows the FBD of the bent up rod.

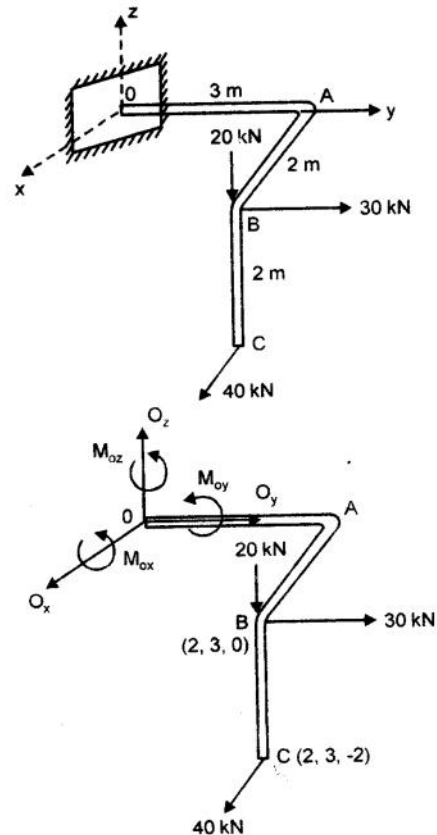
The co-ordinates of the points through which the forces pass are O (0, 0, 0), B (2, 3, 0), C (2, 3, -2)

Putting the forces in vector form

Let $P = 20 \text{ kN}$ then
 $\bar{P} = -20 \mathbf{k} \text{ kN}$

Let $Q = 30 \text{ kN}$
 $\bar{Q} = 30 \mathbf{j} \text{ kN}$

Let $S = 40 \text{ kN}$, then
 $\bar{S} = 40 \mathbf{i} \text{ kN}$





The force reaction $\vec{R}_O = O_x \vec{i} + O_y \vec{j} + O_z \vec{k}$
Taking moments of all forces about O

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{M}_O^P &= \vec{r}_{OB} \times \vec{Q} \\ &= (2 \vec{i} + 3 \vec{j}) \times (-20 \vec{k}) \\ &= -60 \vec{i} + 40 \vec{j} \quad \text{kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{M}_O^Q &= \vec{r}_{OB} \times \vec{Q} \\ &= (2 \vec{i} + 3 \vec{j}) \times (30 \vec{j}) \\ &= 60 \vec{k} \quad \text{kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{M}_O^S &= \vec{r}_{OC} \times \vec{S} \\ &= (2 \vec{i} + 3 \vec{j} - 2 \vec{k}) \times (40 \vec{i}) \\ &= -80 \vec{j} - 120 \vec{k} \quad \text{kN.m}\end{aligned}$$

Also $\vec{M}_O = M_{ox} \vec{i} + M_{oy} \vec{j} + M_{oz} \vec{k}$

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_x &= 0 \\ -60 + M_{ox} &= 0 \\ M_{ox} &= 60 \quad \text{kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_y &= 0 \\ 40 - 80 + M_{oy} &= 0 \\ M_{oy} &= 40 \quad \text{kNm}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum M_z &= 0 \\ 60 - 120 + M_{oz} &= 0 \\ M_{oz} &= 60 \quad \text{kNm}\end{aligned}$$

∴ The moment reaction M_o at fixed end O is

$$\vec{M}_o = 60 \vec{i} + 40 \vec{j} + 60 \vec{k} \quad \text{kNm}$$

.....**Ans.**

Applying COE

$$\begin{aligned}\sum F_x &= 0 \\ 40 + O_x &= 0 \\ O_x &= -40 \quad \text{kN} \\ \sum F_y &= 0 \\ 30 + O_y &= 0 \\ O_y &= -30 \quad \text{kN}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma F_z &= 0 \\ -20 + O_z &= 0 \\ O_z &= 20 \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

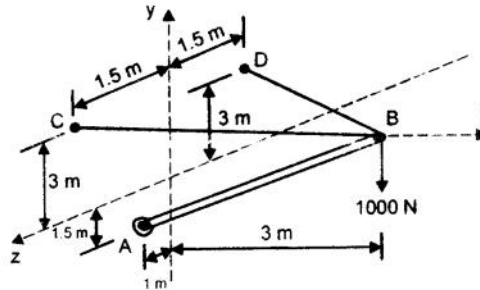
∴ The force reaction R_o at fixed end O is

$$\bar{R}_O = -40 \mathbf{i} - 30 \mathbf{j} + 20 \mathbf{k} \text{ kN}$$

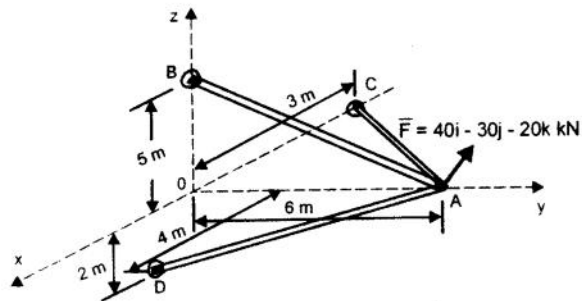
..... Ans.

Excercise 9.3

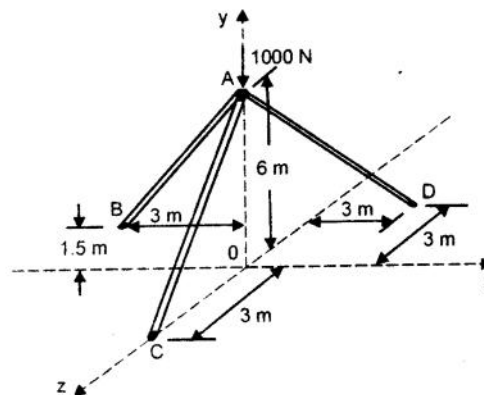
P1. A boom AB supports a load of 1000 N as shown. Neglect weight of the boom. Determine tension in each cable and the reaction at A.



P2. Figure shows a space truss. Find forces in members AB, AC and AD of the truss loaded at joint A by a force $F = 40 \mathbf{i} - 30 \mathbf{j} - 20 \mathbf{k}$ kN



P3. A vertical load of 1000 N is supported by three bars as shown. Find the force in each bar. Point C, O and D are in the x-z plane while B is 1.5 m above this plane.



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