

Extreme Problem 1

Relative to an origin O , the points A and B have position vectors a and b respectively, where $a \cdot b > 0$. S is the sphere on which AB is the diameter and point C being the centre of this sphere. Prove that tangents can be drawn from O to S and show that the length of each of these tangents is $(a \cdot b)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Show that each tangent makes an angle θ with OC , where

$$\cos \theta = \frac{2(a \cdot b)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{|a + b|}.$$

The cone formed by all tangents from O to S meets S in a circle of radius r .

Prove that $|a + b|^2 r^2 = (a \cdot b) |a - b|^2$.