Dr Oliver Mathematics Worked Examples Angle 1

From: Edexcel GCSE Mathematics June 2022 Paper 3H (Calculator)

1. Here is a prism *ABCDSPQR*.



The base ABCD of the prism is a square of side 14 cm. T is the point on BC such that BT : TC = 4 : 3.

The cross-section of the prism is in the shape of a trapezium of area 147 cm². CR = 12 cm.

Find the size of the angle between the line ST and the base ABCD. Give your answer correct to 1 decimal place.

Solution

We want to find the $\angle DTS$. Now,

 $BT: TC = 4: 3 \Rightarrow BT: TC = 8: 6$

so that makes TC = 6 cm.

(5)

Next,

$$\begin{split} DT^2 &= CD^2 + TC^2 \Rightarrow DT^2 = 14^2 + 6^2 \\ \Rightarrow DT^2 &= 196 + 36 \\ \Rightarrow DT^2 &= 232 \\ \Rightarrow DT &= 2\sqrt{58} \text{ cm.} \end{split}$$

Now, the cross-section of the prism is in the shape of a trapezium of area 147 cm². If we use the rear face, CDSR, we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 14 \times (SD + 12) = 147 \Rightarrow SD + 12 = 21$$
$$\Rightarrow SD = 9.$$

Finally,

$$\tan = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{adj}} \Rightarrow \tan DTS = \frac{9}{2\sqrt{58}}$$
$$\Rightarrow \angle DTS = 30.577\,946\,78 \text{ (FCD)}$$
$$\Rightarrow \underline{\angle DTS = 30.6^{\circ} \text{ (1 dp)}.}$$





