

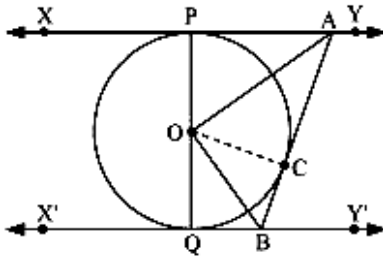
Answer on Question #48835 – Math – Geometry

Question:

The angles subtended by the intercept of a tangent between two parallel tangents to the circle is ...

Answer:

The angles subtended by the intercept of a tangent between two parallel tangents to the circle is **90°**.



Given: XY and X'Y' are two parallel tangents to the circle with centre O and AB is the tangent at the point C, which intersects XY at A and X'Y' at B.

To prove: $\angle AOB = 90^\circ$.

Construction: Join OC.

Proof:

In $\triangle OPA$ and $\triangle OCA$, we have

$OP = OC$ (Radii of the same circle)

$AP = AC$ (Tangents from point A)

$AO = AO$ (Common side)

$\triangle OPA \cong \triangle OCA$ (SSS congruence criterion)

Therefore, $\angle POA = \angle COA$... (1) (C.P.C.T)

Similarly, $\triangle OQB \cong \triangle OCB$

$\angle QOB = \angle COB$... (2)

POQ is a diameter of the circle. Hence, it is a straight line.

Therefore, $\angle POA + \angle COA + \angle COB + \angle QOB = 180^\circ$

From equations (1) and (2), it can be observed that

$$2\angle COA + 2\angle COB = 180^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle COA + \angle COB = 90^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle AOB = 90^\circ$$