

If the vectors  $\mathbf{a} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} - \hat{\mathbf{j}} + 2\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = 2\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 4\hat{\mathbf{j}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}}$  and  $\mathbf{c} = \lambda\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \mu\hat{\mathbf{k}}$  are mutually orthogonal, then  $(\lambda, \mu)$  is equal to [AIEEE 2010]

(a)  $(-3, 2)$

(b)  $(2, -3)$

(c)  $(-2, 3)$

(d)  $(3, -2)$

*Exp. (a)*

Since, the given vectors are mutually orthogonal, therefore

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 2 - 4 + 2 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} = \lambda - 1 + 2\mu = 0 \quad \dots(i)$$

and  $\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} = 2\lambda + 4 + \mu = 0 \quad \dots(ii)$

On solving Eqs. (i) and (ii), we get

$$\mu = 2$$

and  $\lambda = -3$

Hence,  $(\lambda, \mu) = (-3, 2)$