

Chapter 3

1

VECTORS

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Vectors

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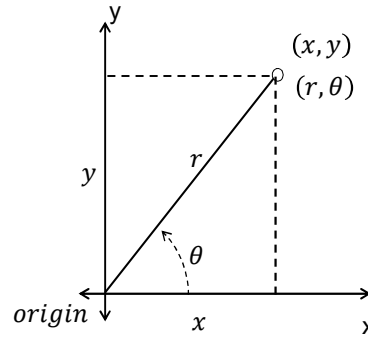
- Vector quantities
 - Physical quantities that have both numerical and directional properties.
- Mathematical operations of vectors in this chapter
 - Addition
 - Subtraction
 - Multiplication:
 - Multiplying with a scalar
 - Scalar product
 - Vector product

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Coordinate Systems

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- Used to describe the position of a point in space
- Common coordinate systems are:
 - Cartesian
 - Polar



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Polar to Cartesian Coordinates

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- Based on forming a right triangle from r and θ

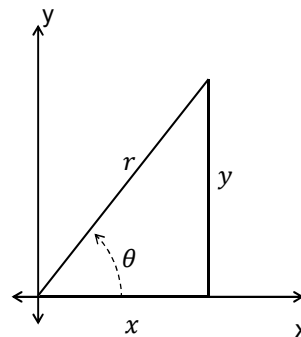
$$\cos\theta = \frac{x}{r} \Leftrightarrow x = r\cos\theta$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{y}{r} \Leftrightarrow y = r\sin\theta$$

- If the Cartesian coordinates are known:

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{y}{x} \Leftrightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}$$



x: adjacent
y: opposite
r: hypotenuse

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Vectors and Scalars

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A scalar quantity is completely specified by a magnitude with an appropriate unit and has no direction.

- Many are always positive
- Some may be positive or negative
- Rules for ordinary arithmetic are used to manipulate scalar quantities.

A vector quantity is completely described by a magnitude, an appropriate units and a direction.

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Vector and scalar Examples

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SCALARS

- Distance
- Speed
- Time intervals
- Mass

VECTORS

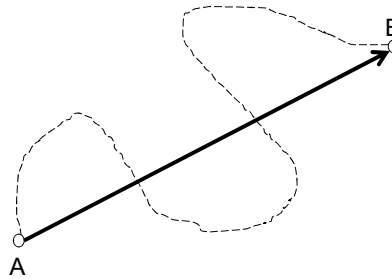
- Displacement
- Velocity
- Acceleration
- Force

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Vector and scalar Example

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- A particle travels from A to B along the path shown by the broken line.
 - This is the distance traveled and is a scalar.
- The displacement is the solid line from A to B
 - The displacement is independent of the path taken between the two points.
 - Displacement is a vector.



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Vector Notation

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Bold font is used for printing: **A**

When dealing with just the magnitude of a vector in print, an italic letter will be used: *A* or $|\vec{A}|$

The magnitude of a vector is always a positive number.

When handwritten, use an arrow: \vec{A}

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Vectors representation

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Length = magnitude direction

Tail
Initial point
(i)

Head
Final point (f)

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Vectors representation

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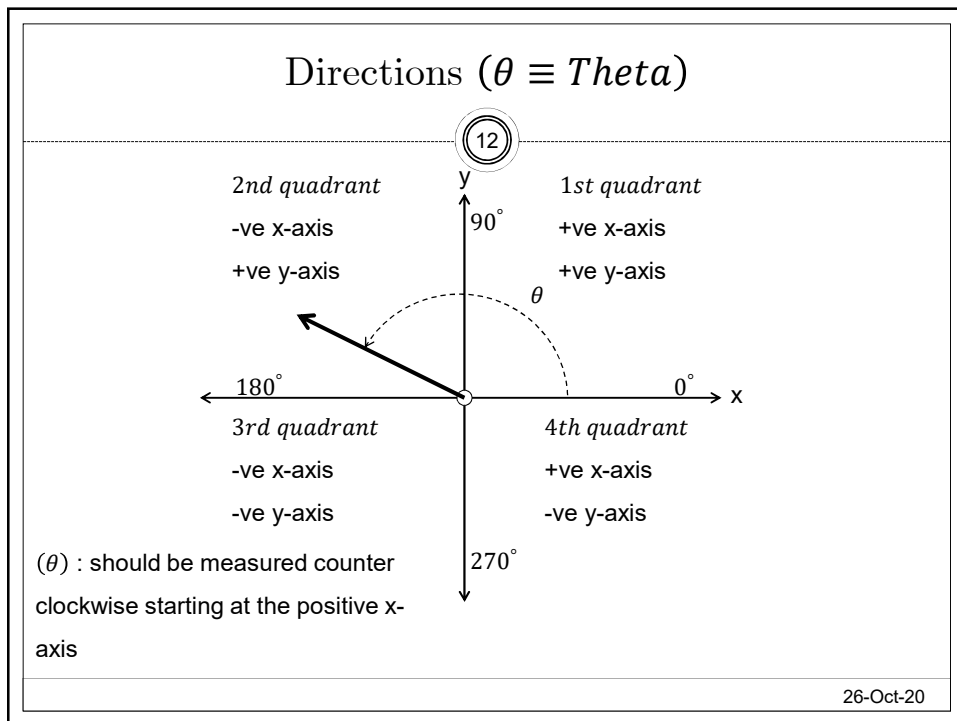
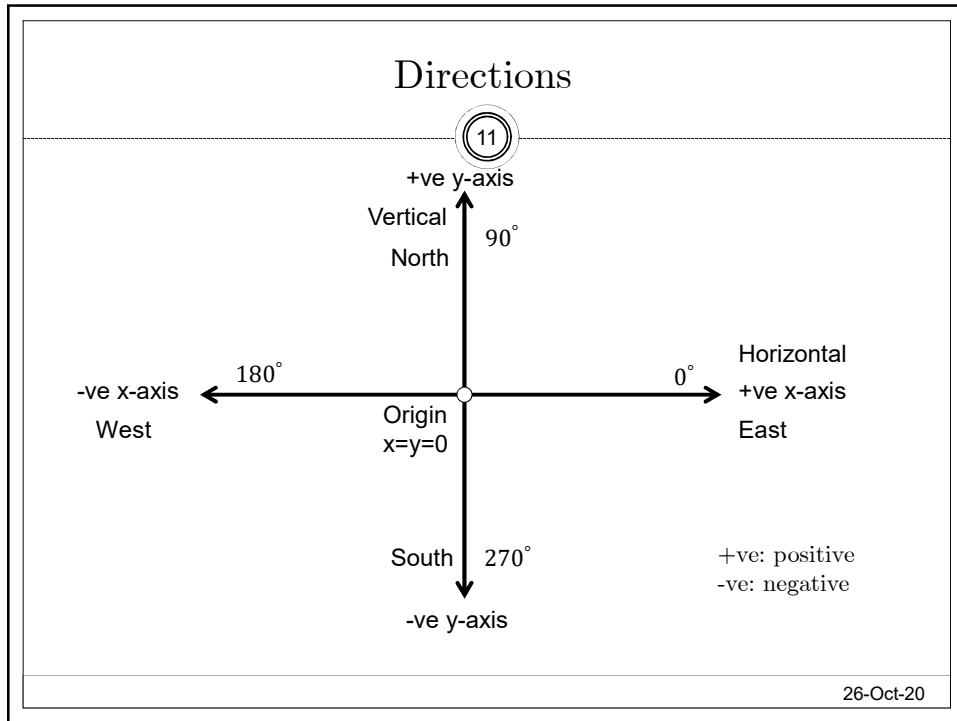
$$\vec{A} = |\vec{A}|, \theta$$

Vector A

Its direction

Its magnitude

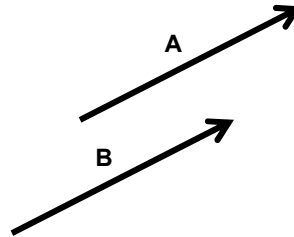
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Equality of Two Vectors

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- Two vectors are equal if:
 - they have the same magnitude and
 - points in the same direction.



- $\vec{A} = \vec{B}$ if:
 - $|\vec{A}| = |\vec{B}|$ and
 - In the same direction, or
 - Parallel, or
 - $\theta_{A,B} = 0^\circ$

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Adding Vectors

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- Vector addition is very different from adding scalar quantities.
- When adding vectors, their directions must be taken into account.
- Units must be the same
- Graphical methods
 - Use scale drawings
- Algebraic methods
 - More convenient

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Adding Vectors Graphically

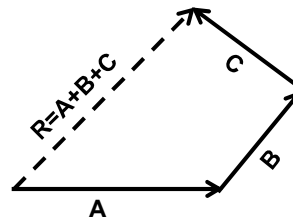
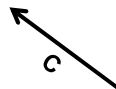
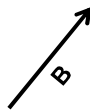
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- Choose a scale.
- Draw the first vector, \vec{A} , with the appropriate length and in the direction specified, with respect to a coordinate system.
- Draw the next vector with the appropriate length and in the direction specified, with respect to a coordinate system whose origin is the end of vector \vec{A} and parallel to the coordinate system used for \vec{A} .
- Continue drawing the vectors “tip-to-tail” or “head-to-tail”.
- The resultant is drawn from the origin of the first vector to the end of the last vector.

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Adding Vectors Graphically, cont.

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R: resultant

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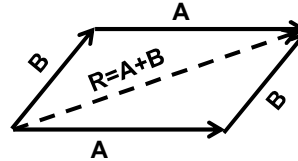
Adding Vectors, Rules

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◦ The Commutative Law of Addition:
when two vectors are added, the sum is independent of the order of the addition.

◦ This is

$$\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B} = \vec{B} + \vec{A}$$



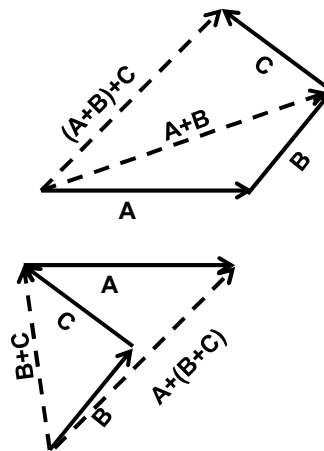
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Adding Vectors, Rules cont.

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• The Associative Property of Addition:
when adding three or more vectors, their sum is independent of the way in which the individual vectors are grouped.

$$(\vec{A} + \vec{B}) + \vec{C} = \vec{A} + (\vec{B} + \vec{C})$$



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Adding Vectors, Rules final

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- When adding vectors, all of the vectors must have the same units.
- All of the vectors must be of the same type of quantity.
 - For example, you cannot add a displacement to a velocity.

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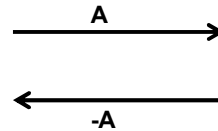
Negative of a Vector

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• The negative of a vector is defined as the vector that, when added to the original vector, gives a resultant of zero.

- Represented as $-\vec{A}$
- $\vec{A} + (-\vec{A}) = 0$

• The negative of the vector will have the same magnitude, but points in the opposite direction.

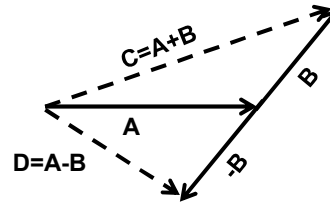


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Subtracting Vectors

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- Special case of vector addition.
- If $\vec{A} - \vec{B}$, then use $\vec{A} + (-\vec{B})$
- Continue with standard vector addition procedure.



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Subtracting Vectors, Method 2

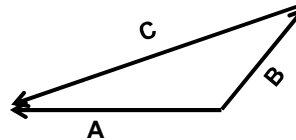
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In the figure shown:

$$\vec{B} + \vec{C} = \vec{A}$$

$$\vec{C} = \vec{A} - \vec{B}$$

- The resultant vector \vec{C} of subtracting \vec{B} from \vec{A} points from the tip of the second to the tip of the first.

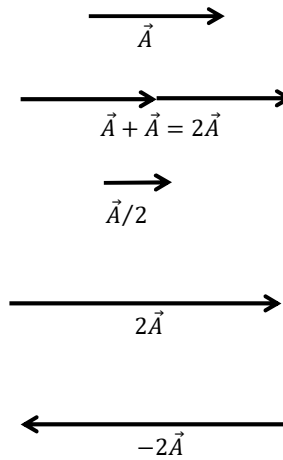


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Multiplying or Dividing a Vector by a Scalar

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- The result of the multiplication or division of a vector by a scalar is a vector.
- The magnitude of the vector is multiplied or divided by the scalar.
- If the scalar is positive, the direction of the result is the same as of the original vector.
- If the scalar is negative, the direction of the result is opposite that of the original vector.



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Component Method of Adding Vectors

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- Graphical addition is not recommended when:
 - High accuracy is required
 - If you have a three-dimensional problem
- Component method is an alternative method
 - It uses projections of vectors along coordinate axes

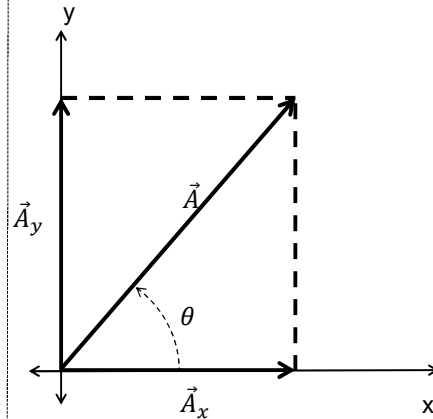
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Components of a Vector, Introduction

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• A **component** is a projection of a vector along an axis.

- A_x : the component (projection) of the vector along the x-axis.
- A_y : the component (projection) of the vector along the y-axis.



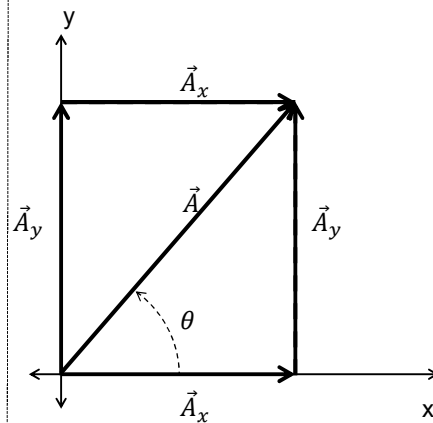
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Components of a Vector, Introduction

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$$\vec{A}_x + \vec{A}_y = \vec{A}$$

$$\vec{A}_y + \vec{A}_x = \vec{A}$$



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Vector Component Terminology

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- \vec{A}_x and \vec{A}_y are the component vectors of \vec{A} .
 - They are vectors and follow all the rules for vectors.
- $|\vec{A}_x|$ and $|\vec{A}_y|$ are scalars, and will be referred to as the components of \vec{A} .

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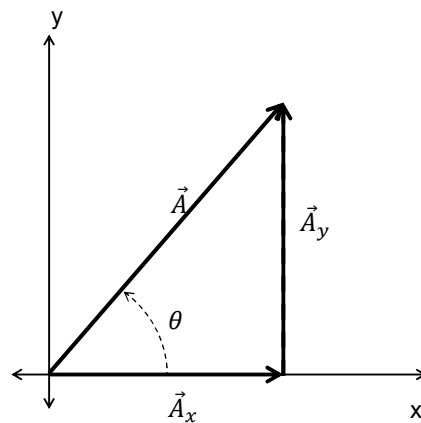
Components of a Vector

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- Assume you are given a vector \vec{A}
- It can be expressed in terms of two other vectors, \vec{A}_x and \vec{A}_y

$$\vec{A}_x + \vec{A}_y = \vec{A}$$

- These three vectors form a right triangle.



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Components of a Vector

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The x-component is:

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{A_x}{A}$$

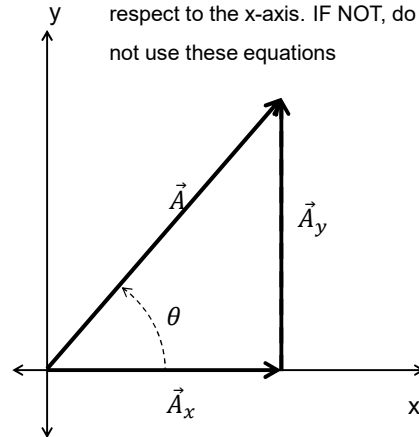
$$A_x = A \cos\theta$$

The y-component is:

$$\sin\theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{A_y}{A}$$

$$A_y = A \sin\theta$$

The angle θ is measured with respect to the x-axis. IF NOT, do not use these equations



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Components of a Vector

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The magnitude of the vector is:

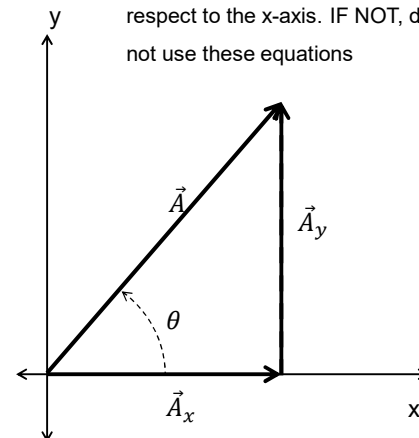
$$A = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2}$$

The direction of the vector is:

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} = \frac{A_y}{A_x}$$

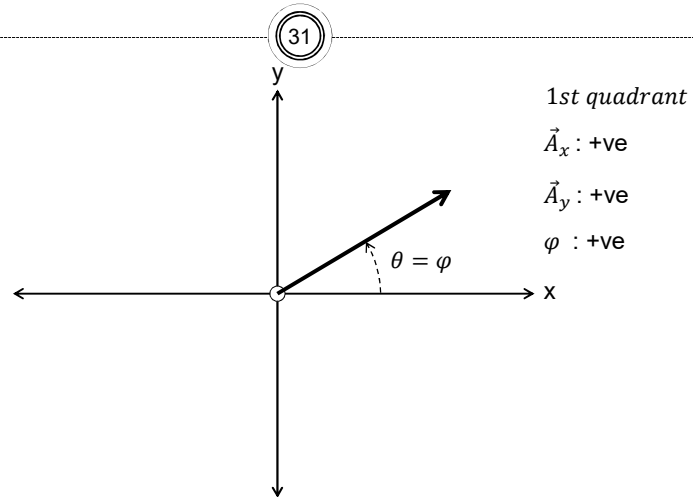
$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{A_y}{A_x}$$

The angle θ is measured with respect to the x-axis. IF NOT, do not use these equations



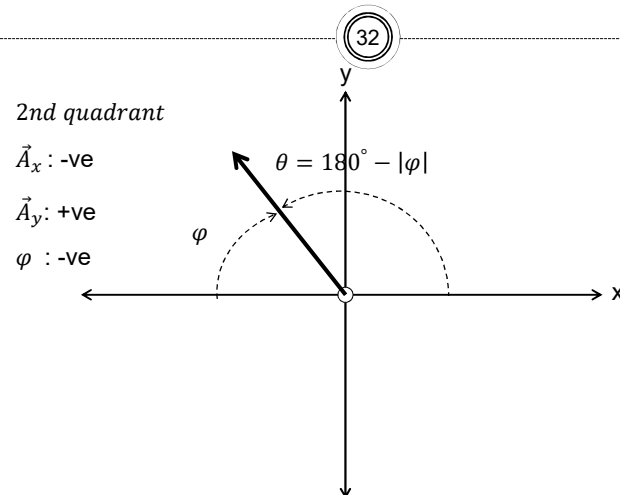
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Direction (θ) and calculations from your calculator (φ)

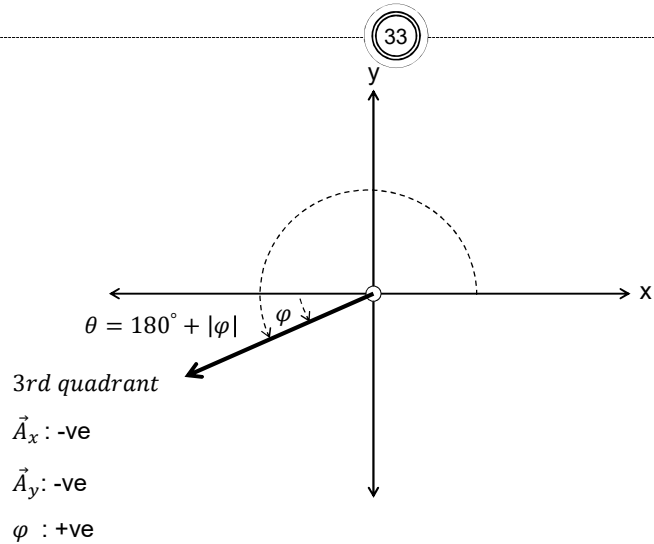


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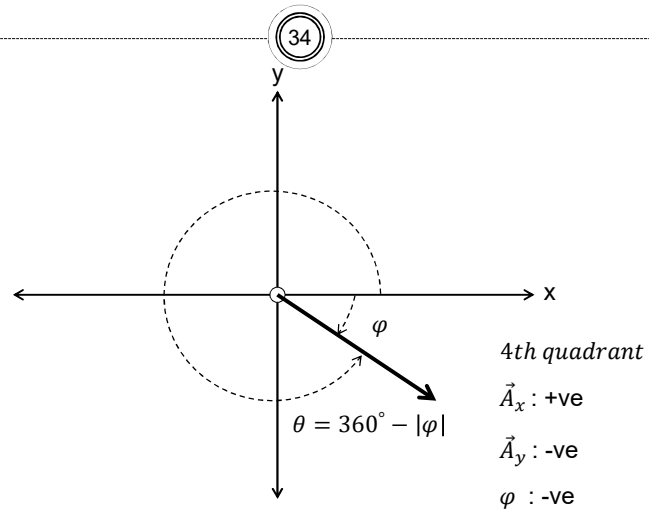
Direction (θ) and calculations from your calculator (φ)



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Direction (θ) and calculations from your calculator (φ)

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Direction (θ) and calculations from your calculator (φ)

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Unit Vectors

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- A unit vector is a dimensionless vector with a magnitude of exactly 1.
- Unit vectors are used to specify a direction and have no other physical significance.

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Unit Vectors, cont.

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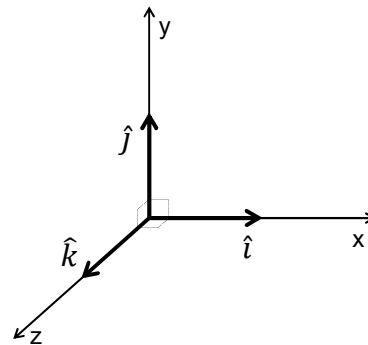
- The symbols \hat{i} , \hat{j} and \hat{k} represent unit vectors.
- The magnitude of each unit vector is 1.

$$\hat{i} = \hat{j} = \hat{k} = 1$$

- They form a set of mutually perpendicular vectors in a right-handed coordinate system.

$$\hat{i} \perp \hat{j} \perp \hat{k}$$

- Dimensionless vectors.



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Unit Vectors in Vector Notation

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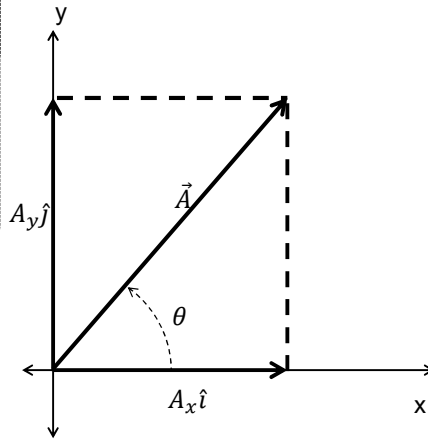
• \vec{A}_x is the same as $A_x \hat{i}$, \vec{A}_y is the same as $A_y \hat{j}$ and \vec{A}_z is the same as $A_z \hat{k}$.

• The complete vector can be expressed as:

$$\vec{A} = \vec{A}_x + \vec{A}_y$$

$$\vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{A} = A \cos \theta \hat{i} + A \sin \theta \hat{j}$$



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Position Vector, Example

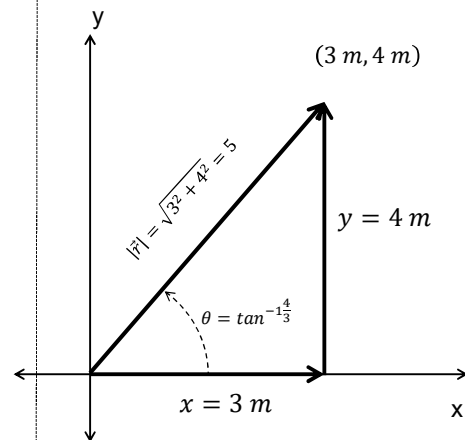
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• If $x = 3\text{ m}$ and $y = 4\text{ m}$:

$$\vec{r} = 3 + 4 = 7 \quad \text{X}$$

$$\vec{r} = \vec{3}_x + \vec{4}_y \quad ?$$

$$\vec{r} = 3\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} \quad \checkmark$$



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Adding Vectors Using Unit Vectors

(39)

- Given:

$$\begin{array}{c} \vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \vec{B} = B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} \end{array}$$

- Find: $\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$

$$\vec{R} = (A_x + B_x)\hat{i} + (A_y + B_y)\hat{j}$$

$$\vec{R} = R_x \hat{i} + R_y \hat{j}$$

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Adding Vectors Using Unit Vectors

(40)

So, the x-component of the resultant is:

$$R_x = A_x + B_x$$

The y-component of the resultant is:

$$R_y = A_y + B_y$$

The magnitude of the resultant is:

$$R = \sqrt{R_x^2 + R_y^2}$$

The direction of the resultant is:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{R_y}{R_x}$$

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Three-Dimensional Extension

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- Given:

$$\begin{array}{c} \vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \vec{B} = B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} + B_z \hat{k} \end{array}$$

- Find: $\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{R} &= (A_x + B_x)\hat{i} + (A_y + B_y)\hat{j} + (A_z + B_z)\hat{k} \\ \vec{R} &= R_x \hat{i} + R_y \hat{j} + R_z \hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

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Three-Dimensional Extension

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So, the x-component of the resultant is:

$$R_x = A_x + B_x$$

The y-component of the resultant is:

$$R_y = A_y + B_y$$

The z-component of the resultant is:

$$R_z = A_z + B_z$$

The magnitude of the resultant is:

$$R = \sqrt{R_x^2 + R_y^2 + R_z^2}$$

The direction of the resultant is:

LATER

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Adding Three or More Vectors

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- The same method can be extended to adding three or more vectors.

- Assume

$$\begin{array}{r} \vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \vec{B} = B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} + B_z \hat{k} \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \vec{C} = C_x \hat{i} + C_y \hat{j} + C_z \hat{k} \end{array}$$

- And

$$\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C}$$

$$\vec{R} = (A_x + B_x + C_x)\hat{i} + (A_y + B_y + C_y)\hat{j} + (A_z + B_z + C_z)\hat{k}$$

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Scalar Product of Two Vectors

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The scalar product of two vectors is defined as.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = |\vec{A}| |\vec{B}| \cos \theta$$

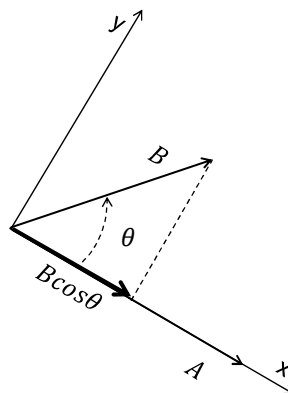
- It is also called the dot product.

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Scalar Product of Two Vectors

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- θ is the angle between \vec{A} and \vec{B} when they are drawn starting at the same point.
- The scalar product of any two vectors is a scalar quantity.



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Scalar Product, cont

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The scalar product is commutative.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{A}$$

The scalar product obeys the distributive law of multiplication.

$$\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} + \vec{C}) = (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}) + (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{C})$$

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Dot Products of Unit Vectors

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$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} = (1)(1)\cos 0^\circ = 1$$

$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{j} = (1)(1)\cos 90^\circ = 0$$

• In general:

$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} = \hat{j} \cdot \hat{j} = \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k} = 1$$

$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{j} = \hat{i} \cdot \hat{k} = \hat{j} \cdot \hat{k} = 0$$

• Using component form with vectors:

$$\vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k}$$

$$\vec{B} = B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} + B_z \hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

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Dot Products of Unit Vectors

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Special cases:

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \begin{cases} AB; & \text{If they are parallel; } \theta = 0^\circ \\ -AB; & \text{If they are anti-parallel; } \theta = 180^\circ \\ 0; & \text{If they are perpendicular; } \theta = 90^\circ \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{A} = A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2 = A^2$$

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The Vector Product

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- There are instances where the product of two vectors is another vector.
- Earlier we saw where the product of two vectors was a scalar.
- The vector product of two vectors is called the cross product.

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The Vector Product Defined

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The vector (cross) product of \vec{A} and \vec{B} is defined as a third vector:

$$\vec{C} = \vec{A} \times \vec{B}$$

The magnitude of \vec{C} :

$$|\vec{C}| = |\vec{A}||\vec{B}|\sin\theta$$

θ is the angle between \vec{A} and \vec{B} when they are drawn starting at the same point.

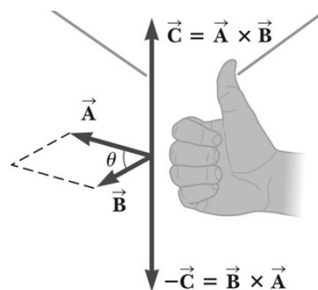
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More About the Vector Product

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The direction of \vec{C} is perpendicular to the plane formed by \vec{A} and \vec{B} .

The best way to determine this direction is to use the right-hand rule (R.H.R.).



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Properties of the Vector Product

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The vector product is not commutative. The order in which the vectors are multiplied is important.

To account for order, remember:

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = -\vec{B} \times \vec{A}$$

If \vec{A} is parallel to \vec{B} ($\theta = 0^\circ$ or 180°), then

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = 0$$

Therefore

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{A} = 0$$

If \vec{A} is perpendicular to \vec{B} , then

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = |\vec{A}||\vec{B}|$$

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Properties of the Vector Product

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The vector product obeys the distributive law:

$$\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} + \vec{C}) = (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) + (\vec{A} \times \vec{C})$$

The derivative of the cross product with respect to some variable such as t is:

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = \left(\frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} \times \vec{B} \right) + \left(\vec{A} \times \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt} \right)$$

where it is important to preserve the multiplicative order of the vectors.

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Vector Products of Unit Vectors

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$\hat{i} \times \hat{i} = (1)(1)\sin 0^\circ = 0$
 $\hat{i} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k} \times \hat{k} = 0$

$\hat{i} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k}$

$\hat{j} \times \hat{k} = \hat{i}$

$\hat{k} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j}$

$\hat{j} \times \hat{i} = -\hat{k}$

$\hat{k} \times \hat{j} = -\hat{i}$

$\hat{i} \times \hat{k} = -\hat{j}$

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Signs in Cross Products

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- Signs are interchangeable in cross products

$$\vec{A} \times (-\vec{B}) = -\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$$

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Using Determinants

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- The cross product can be expressed as

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = +(A_y B_z - A_z B_y)\hat{i} - (A_x B_z - A_z B_x)\hat{j} + (A_x B_y - A_y B_x)\hat{k}$$

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