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# UNIT 7 - AN INTRODUCTION TO VECTORS Section 4.1 - VECTOR CONCEPTS 

Definition: A scalar is a quantity that has $\qquad$ only.

A vector is a quantity that has $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ .

| Scalar Quantity | Vector Quantity |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. distance | 1. displacement |
| Maya lives 100 km from Kitchener. | Maya lives 100 km northeast of <br> Kitchener. |
| 2. speed | 2. velocity |
| The jet is travelling at $900 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$. | The jet is travelling at $900 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ west. |
| 3. mass | 3. weight |
| Joe has a mass of 100 kg. | Joe has a weight of 980 N (downwards). |
|  |  |

A vector can be expressed geometrically by a directed line segment.


- "directed " means that one end has been designated the tail and the other end the head.
- the direction is from its $\qquad$ to its $\qquad$ and is designated by an arrow.

The notation used to describe vector quantities is as follows:
i) $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$ are vectors.
iii) $\overrightarrow{A B}$ is the vector that starts at point $A$ and ends at point $B$.

ii) $\quad|\vec{u}|$ and $|\vec{v}|$ are the magnitudes
iv) $|\overrightarrow{A B}|$ is the magnitude of vector $\overrightarrow{A B}$. of the vectors $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$.

## Definitions:

Equal Vectors: Two vectors are equal if and only if their magnitudes and their directions are the same.


Opposite Vectors: Two vectors are opposite if they have the same magnitude but opposite directions.
When two vectors are opposite, such as $\overrightarrow{A B}$ and $\overrightarrow{C D}$, one is the negative of the other: $\overrightarrow{A B}=-\overrightarrow{C D}$ or $\overrightarrow{C D}=$ $\qquad$


Note: $-\overrightarrow{C D}=\overrightarrow{D C}$ and $-\overrightarrow{A B}=$ $\qquad$

Parallel Vectors: Two vectors are parallel if their directions are the same or opposite.

Zero Vector: The zero vector, $\overrightarrow{0}$, has a magnitude of 0 and a direction that is undefined.

Unit Vector: A unit vector, $\hat{v}$, has a magnitude of 1 unit, ie. $|\hat{v}|=1$.

1. A unit vector in the direction of any vector $\vec{v}$ can be found by dividing $\vec{v}$ by its magnitude $|\vec{v}|$.

$$
\hat{v}=\frac{1}{|\vec{v}|} \vec{v}
$$

2. Any vector $\vec{v}$ can be expressed as the product of its magnitude $|\vec{v}|$ and a unit vector $\hat{v}$ in the direction of $\vec{v}$.

$$
\vec{v}=|\vec{v}| \hat{v}
$$

Ex. 1. $A B C D E F$ is a regular hexagon. Find two vectors which are:
a) equal
b) parallel but having different magnitudes
c) equal in magnitude but opposite in direction


Ex. 2. a) Express $\vec{b}$ and $\vec{c}$ each as a scalar multiple of $\vec{a}$.

b) Express $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$ and $\vec{c}$ each in terms of the unit vector $\vec{a}$.

Ex. 3. A driver travels 3 km due east and then 5 km due north. Find the resultant vector, $\vec{r}$.

$$
\text { scale: } 1 \mathrm{~cm}=2 \mathrm{~km}
$$


'Bearings" are used to describe direction as:
i) an angle measured by compass bearings.
ii) an angle from the north and measured in a clockwise direction.

Ex. 4. Express $N 39^{\circ} W$ as a bearing.


THE COSINE LAW
$a^{2}=b^{2}+c^{2}-2 b c \cos A$
$\boldsymbol{o r}$
$\cos A=\frac{b^{2}+c^{2}-a^{2}}{2 b c}$

THE SINE LAW
$\frac{a}{\sin A}=\frac{b}{\sin B}=\frac{c}{\sin C}$
or
$\frac{\sin A}{a}=\frac{\sin B}{b}=\frac{\sin C}{c}$

Ex. 5. Mary drives 30 km due east and then $50 \mathrm{~km} N 45^{\circ} E$. Find the resultant vector, $\vec{r}$.
scale: $1 \mathrm{~cm}=10 \mathrm{~km}$


Ex. 1. Consider a particle at a point $A$ and suppose that the particle is displaced 10 cm to the right and then 3 cm upwards.
Determine the resultant vector.


Note: In Ex. 1. the two displacements may be represented by vectors $\overrightarrow{A B}$ and $\overrightarrow{B C}$. So, $\overrightarrow{A B}+\overrightarrow{B C}$ gives the resultant $\qquad$ .

## VECTOR ADDITION:

Suppose you are given two vectors $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$, below.


There are two ways of adding vectors geometrically.

## I Triangle Law of Addition

Find the sum $\vec{u}+\vec{v}$.

- translate the vectors so the "tail" of $\vec{v}$ is at the "head" of $\vec{u}$.
ie. "head-to-tail"

- the resultant vector is the vector from the "tail" of $\vec{u}$ to the "head" of $\vec{v}$.


## II Parallelogram Law of Addition

Find the sum $\vec{u}+\vec{v}$ and difference $\vec{u}-\vec{v}$.

- translate $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$ so that they are "tail-to-tail".

- complete the parallelogram
- the sum $\vec{u}+\vec{v}$ is the diagonal of the parallelogram that originates at the "tails". - the difference $\vec{u}-\vec{v}$ is the vector created by the second diagonal.

How does the $|\vec{u}+\vec{v}|$ compare to $|\vec{u}|$ and $|\vec{v}|$ ?


Note:

$$
|\vec{u}+\vec{v}|<|\vec{u}|+|\vec{v}|
$$

$$
\&
$$

$$
|\vec{u}+\vec{v}|=|\vec{u}|+|\vec{v}| \text { if } \vec{u} \text { and } \vec{v} \text { are }
$$

$\qquad$
generally, $|\vec{u}+\vec{v}| \leq|\vec{u}|+|\vec{v}|$

## Triangle Inequality

For vectors $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v},|\vec{u}+\vec{v}| \leq|\vec{u}|+|\vec{v}|$

Ex. 2. Given $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ and $\vec{d}$ below, construct the following:
i) $\vec{b}+\vec{d}$
ii) $\vec{a}+(-\vec{a})$
iii) $3 \vec{b}+2 \vec{c}$
iv) $2 \vec{a}-\frac{2}{3} \vec{d}$
v) $\vec{c}+\vec{d}+\vec{a}$

Ex. 3. Find the magnitude and direction of the sum of two vectors $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$, if their magnitudes are 5 and 8 respectively, and the angle between them is $30^{\circ}$. Find $\vec{u}+\vec{v}$.
Note: The angle between their tails is $30^{\circ}$.


Ex. 4. $\hat{p}$ and $\hat{q}$ are unit vectors that make an angle of $50^{\circ}$ with each other. Find $|3 \hat{p}-5 \hat{q}|$.


Recall: In Ex. 1. from the previous day's note we learned geometrically that

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

Today we will learn how to add and subtract vectors algebraically.
Ex. 1. Add and or subtract the following vectors algebraically.
a) $\overrightarrow{P Q}+\overrightarrow{Q T}$
b) $\overrightarrow{S T}-\overrightarrow{U T}$
c) $\overrightarrow{B A}+\overrightarrow{T B}+\overrightarrow{Q T}+\overrightarrow{P Q}$
d) $\overrightarrow{A D}-\overrightarrow{B D}-\overrightarrow{A C}-\overrightarrow{C B}$

## Properties of Vector Algebra

Given $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$ and $\vec{c}$ are distinct non-zero vectors and $k$ and $m$ are real numbers, then
A. Properties of Vector Addition
B. Properties of Scalar Multiplication
*1. $\vec{a}+\vec{b}=$
Commutative Law
*2. $(\vec{a}+\vec{b})+\vec{c}=$
Associative Law
3. $\vec{a}+\overrightarrow{0}=$
4. $\vec{a}+(-\vec{a})=$

1. $(k m) \vec{a}=$ Associative Law
*2. $k(\vec{a}+\vec{b})=$
Distributive Law
2. $(k+m) \vec{a}=$

Distributive Law

* We will prove these vector properties.
A. 1. Prove: $\vec{a}+\vec{b}=\vec{b}+\vec{a}$ (Commutative Law for Vector Addition)

Proof: Let $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{b}$ be distinct non-zero vectors.

A. 2. Prove: $(\vec{a}+\vec{b})+\vec{c}=\vec{a}+(\vec{b}+\vec{c})$ (Associative Law for Vector Addition)

Proof: Let $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$ and $\vec{c}$ be distinct non-zero vectors.

B. 2. Prove: $k(\vec{a}+\vec{b})=k \vec{a}+k \vec{b}$ (Distributive Law for Scalar Multiplication)

Proof: Let $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{b}$ be distinct non-zero vectors.


Ex. 2. Simplify.
a) $4 \vec{v}+3 \vec{v}-2 \vec{v}$
b) $3 \vec{u}+4(\vec{v}-\vec{u})$
c) $4(\vec{a}+\vec{b})+3(\vec{a}-\vec{b})$
d) $2(\vec{b}-\vec{a})-5(\vec{b}+\vec{a})$

Ex. 3. If $\vec{u}=2 \vec{a}-3 \vec{b}$ and $\vec{v}=4 \vec{a}+5 \vec{b}$ then express $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{b}$ in terms of $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$.

Force - that which pulls, pushes, compresses, distorts in any way

- that which changes the state of rest or state of motion in a body
- note: the magnitude of a force is measured in newtons, $\mathbf{N}$, where a 1 kg object weighs approximately 9.8 N

Vector Force - a vector equal in magnitude to the magnitude of a given force and having its direction parallel to the line of action of the force.

Equilibrant - the force that is equal in magnitude but opposite in direction to the resultant

An object will be in a state of equilibrium when the resultant of all the forces acting on it is zero. This means that the three given force vectors must form a triangle or be collinear According to the triangle inequality theorem, a triangle can only be formed if the sum of the shorter two sides is always greater than the longest side.
Note: Overall the sum of the smaller two magnitudes must be greater than or equal to the larger magnitude of the forces for equilibrium to be achieved.

Ex. 1. Which of the following sets of forces could keep an object at rest (in a state of equilibrium)?
a) $8 \mathrm{~N}, 4 \mathrm{~N}$ and 12 N
b) $3 \mathrm{~N}, 4 \mathrm{~N}$ and 12 N
c) $5 \mathrm{~N}, 7 \mathrm{~N}$ and 10 N

Ex. 2. The three forces $5 \mathrm{~N}, 7 \mathrm{~N}$ and 10 N are applied to an object. If the object is in a state of equilibrium, show how the forces must be arranged and calculate the angles between the lines of action of the three forces.


Ex. 3. Find the resultant and equilibrant when forces of 48 N and 35 N act at an angle of $35^{\circ}$ to each other.


Ex. 4. A 15 kg mass is suspended from the ceiling by two cords that make angles of $30^{\circ}$ and $50^{\circ}$ with the ceiling. Find the tensions in these cords. Note: A 1 kg mass exerts a force of 9.8 N .

## Position Diagram



Vector Force Diagram


A 15 kg mass exerts a force of

Vector Components: A vector can be broken down into horizontal and vertical components.
Ex. 1. A sled is being pulled by a force of 50 N . If the rope makes an angle of $31^{\circ}$ with the ground, find
a) the force that is pulling the sled forward (horizontal component)
b) the force that is pulling the sled upward (vertical component)


Ex. 2. A 20 kg trunk is resting on a ramp inclined at an angle of $15^{\circ}$. Calculate the components of the force of gravity on the trunk that are parallel and perpendicular to the ramp.

## Position Diagram



## Vector Force Diagram


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## Section 4.4 - Velocity as a Vector

Ex. 1. A boat with a water speed of $5 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ sets out to cross a 1 km wide river which flows at $2 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$. A pub lies directly across the river on the opposite bank.
a) If the boat attempts to head straight across, how long will it take to reach the other side and how far downstream will the boat land on the opposite bank?
b) If the boat crosses the river and arrives directly at the pub on the opposite bank, in what direction must the boat steer and how long will it take to cross?
a)
b)

Ex. 2. A pilot is flying her 747 jet at $525 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ in the direction $\mathrm{N} 45^{\circ}$ E. She encounters a wind from $\mathrm{N} 60^{\circ} \mathrm{W}$ at $98 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$. Find the resultant velocity.


Ex. 3. The pilot of an airplane that flies at $800 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ wishes to travel to a city 800 km due east. There is an $80 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$ wind from the northeast.
a) What should the plane's heading be?
b) How long will the trip take?


