

Chapter One: Vectors & Scalars

بهشی زانستی گشتی-قوناغی یهکه م-میکانیک

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<http://www.jfinternational.com/ph/vectors-scalars.html>

VECTORS AND SCALARS

In physics and all science branches quantities are categorized in two ways. *Scalars* and *vectors* are used for to define quantities.

We can use scalars in just indication of the magnitude, they are only numerical value of that quantity.

A **vector** is an **oriented quantity**; it has **magnitude** and **direction** like velocity, force and displacement.

Scalars have **no direction** associated to them, **only magnitude**, like time, temperature, mass and energy.

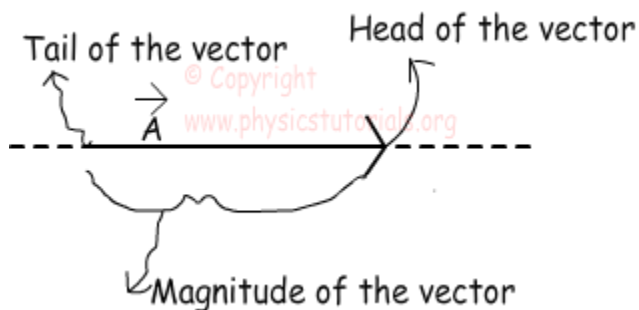
Vectors are represented by **arrows** where the **length of the arrow** is drawn proportionally to the **magnitude** of the **vector**.

The letters denoting **vectors** are written in boldface.

However, if we talk about the vectors we should consider more than numeric value of the quantities. Vectors are explained in detail below.

VECTORS

Vectors are used for some quantities having both magnitude and direction. We will first learn the properties of vectors and then pass to the vector quantities. You will be more familiar with concepts after learning vectors. Look at the given shape which is a vector having magnitude and direction.

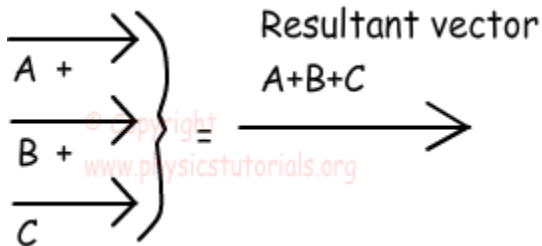


Head of the vector shows the direction and tail shows the starting point. We can change the position of the vector however, we should be careful not to change the direction and magnitude of it. In next subject we will learn how to

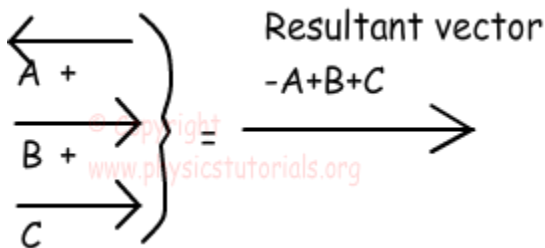
add and subtract vectors. Moreover, we will learn how to find the X and Y components of a given vector using a little bit trigonometry.

ADDITION OF VECTORS

Look at the picture given below. It shows the classical addition of three vectors. We can add them just like they are scalars. However, you should be careful, they are not scalar quantities. They have both magnitude and direction. In this example their magnitudes and directions are the same thus; we just add them and write the resultant vector.



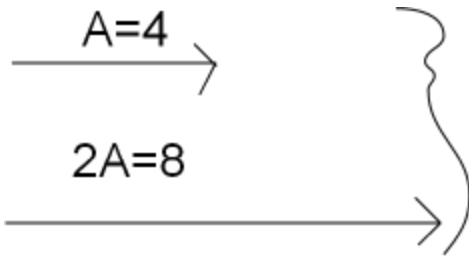
Let's look at a different example. In this example as you can see the vector A has negative direction with respect to vectors B and C. So, while we add them we should consider their directions and we put a minus sign before the vector A. As a result our resultant vector becomes smaller in magnitude than the first example.



MULTIPLYING A VECTOR WITH A SCALAR

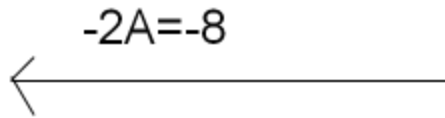
When we multiply a vector with a scalar quantity, if the scalar is positive than we just multiply the scalar with the magnitude of the vector. But, if the scalar is negative then we must change the direction of the vector. Example given below shows the details of multiplication of vectors with scalar.

Example Find $2A$, $-2A$ and $1/2A$ from the given vector A.

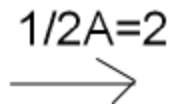


When we multiply with a positive scalar its direction does not change

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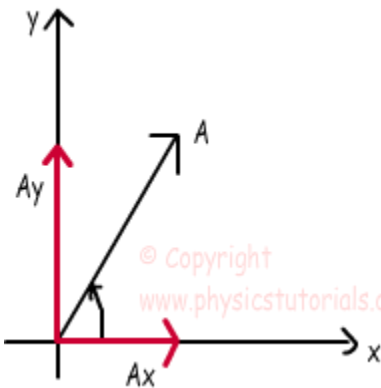


When we multiply a vector with a negative scalar its direction changes.

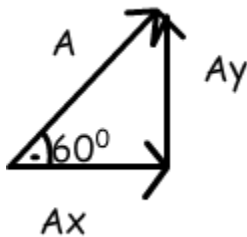


COMPONENTS OF VECTORS

Vectors are not given all the time in the four directions. For doing calculation more simple sometimes we need to show vectors as in the X, -X and Y, -Y components.



For example, look at the vector given below, it is in northeast direction. In the figure, we see the X and Y component of this vector. In other words, addition of A_x and A_y gives us A vector. We benefit from trigonometry at this point. I will give two simple equations which you can use and find the components of any given vector.



$$\sin 60^\circ = \frac{A_y}{A} \quad \text{and,} \quad \cos 60^\circ = \frac{A_x}{A}$$

Thus,

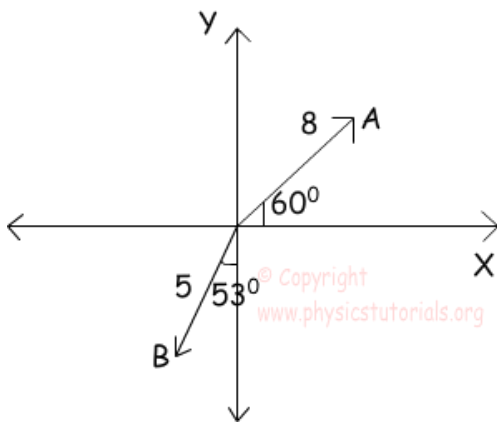
$$A_x = A \cdot \cos 60^\circ$$

$$A_y = A \cdot \sin 60^\circ$$

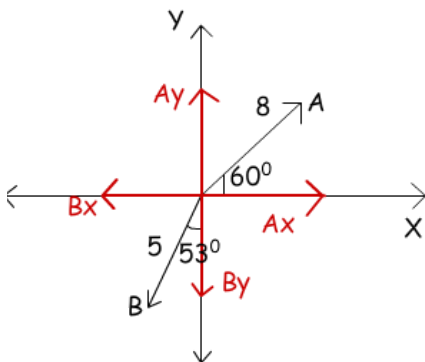
All vectors can be divided into their components. Now we solve an example and see how we use this technique.

Example Find the resultant vector of A and B given in the graph below. ($\sin 30^\circ = 1/2$, $\sin 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}/2$, $\sin 53^\circ = 4/5$, $\cos 53^\circ = 3/5$)

We use trigonometric equations first and find the components of the vectors then, make addition and subtraction between the vectors sharing same direction.



Components of A:	Components of B:
$A_x = A \cdot \cos 60^\circ$	$B_x = B \cdot \sin 53^\circ$
$A_x = 8 \cdot 1/2 = 4$	$B_x = 5 \cdot 4/5 = 4$
$A_y = A \cdot \sin 60^\circ$	$B_y = B \cdot \cos 53^\circ$
$A_y = 8 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = 4\sqrt{3}$	$B_y = 5 \cdot 3/5 = 3$

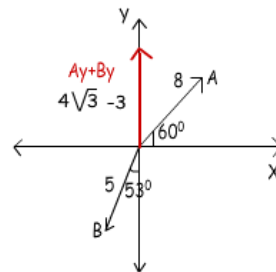


We sum the vectors having same direction:

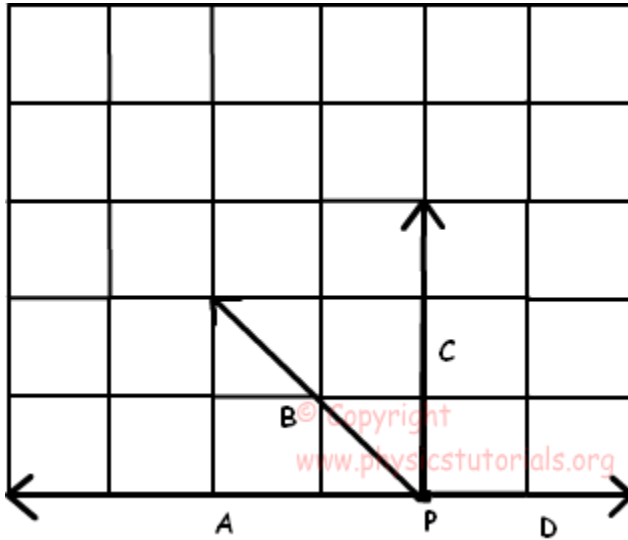
$$A_x + B_x = 4 - 4 = 0$$

$$A_y + B_y = 4\sqrt{3} - 3$$

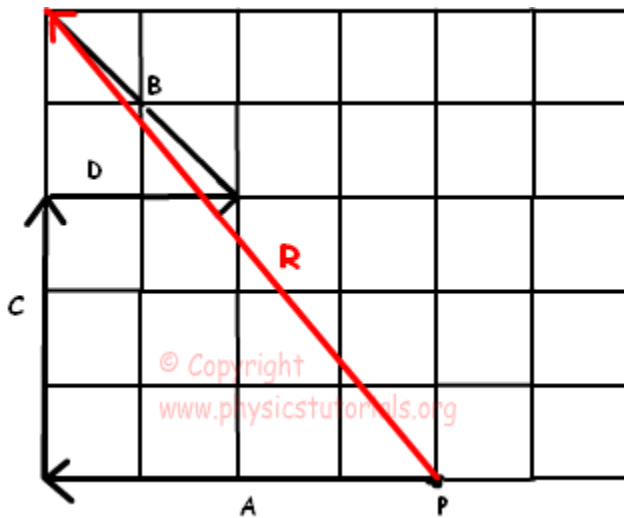
We put "-" in front of B_x , and B_y because we take right side and upward direction as positive



Example: Find resultant of the following forces acting on an object at point P in figure given below.



We add all vectors to find resultant force. Start with vector A and add vector C to it. After that, add vector D and C and draw resultant vector by the starting point to the end. Examine given solution below, resultant force is given in red color.

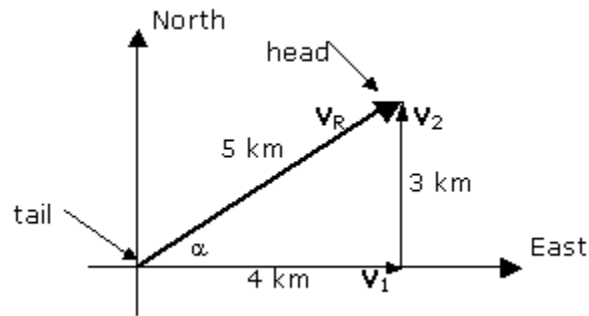


1.- VECTORS ADDITION. GRAPHIC METHOD.

To **add scalars** like mass or time, ordinary arithmetic is used.

If two **vectors** are in the **same line** we can also use arithmetic, but**not** if they are not in the same line. Assume for example you walk 4 km to the East and then 3 km to the

North, the resultant or net displacement respect to the start point will have a magnitude of 5 km and an angle $\alpha = 36.87^\circ$ with the positive x direction. See figure.



The resultant displacement \mathbf{V}_R , is the sum of vectors \mathbf{V}_1 and \mathbf{V}_2 , that is we write

$$\mathbf{V}_R = \mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{V}_2 \text{ This is a vector equation.}$$

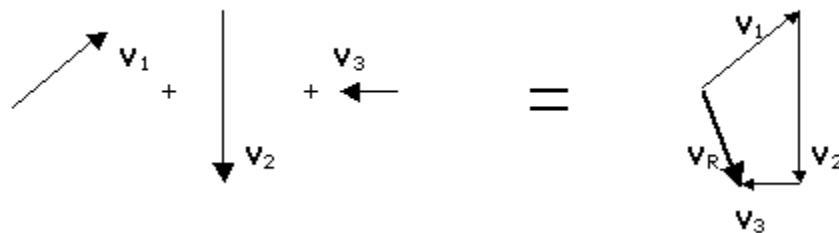
The general rule to **sum vectors** in a **graphic** way (**geometrically**) which is in fact the **definition** how vectors are added, is the following:

- (1) Use a same scale for the magnitudes.
- (2) Draw one of the vectors, say \mathbf{V}_1 .
- (3) Draw the other vector \mathbf{V}_2 , placing its tail on the head of the first one, making sure to keep its direction.
- (4) The sum or resultant of the vectors is the arrow drawn from the tail of the first vector to the head of the second vector.

This method is called **vector addition** from **tail to head**.

Notice that $\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{V}_2 = \mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{V}_1$, that is, the order does not matter.

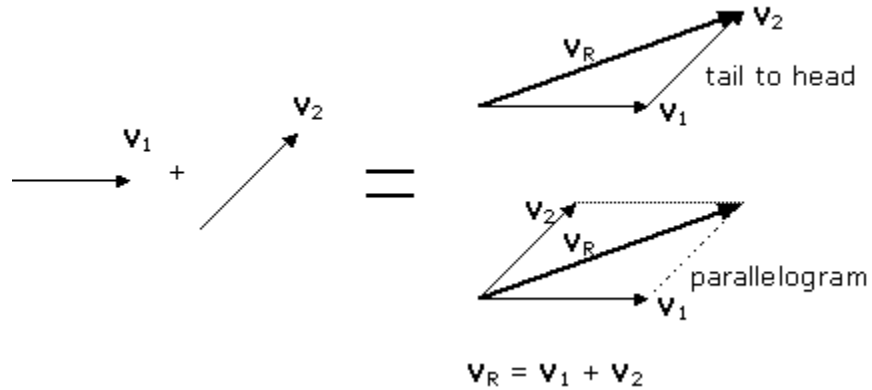
This **tail to head method** can be extended to three or more vectors. Suppose we want to add the vectors \mathbf{V}_1 , \mathbf{V}_2 and \mathbf{V}_3 shown below:



$\mathbf{V}_R = \mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{V}_3$ is the resultant vector outlined with a heavy line.

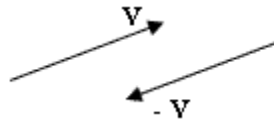
A second method to **add two vectors** is the **parallelogram rule** equivalent to the tail to head method. In using this parallelogram rule the two vectors are drawn from a common

origin and a parallelogram is formed using the two vectors as adjacent sides. The resultant is the diagonal drawn from the common origin.



2.- SUBTRACTION OF VECTORS

Given a vector \mathbf{V} it is defined the negative of this vector ($-\mathbf{V}$) as a vector with the same magnitude as \mathbf{V} but opposite direction:



The difference of two vectors \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} is defined as per this equation:

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} + (-\mathbf{B})$$

So we can use the addition rules to subtract vectors.

3.- MULTIPLICATION OF A VECTOR BY A REAL NUMBER.

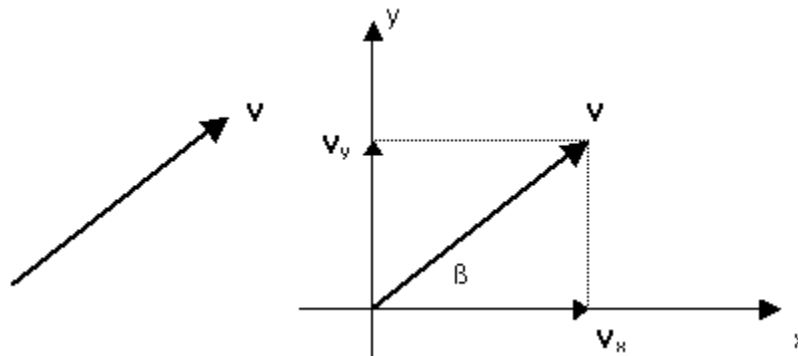
A vector \mathbf{V} can be multiplied by a real number c . This product is defined in such a way that $c\mathbf{V}$ has the same direction as \mathbf{V} and magnitude cV . If c is positive, the sense is not altered. If c is negative, the sense is exactly opposite to \mathbf{V} .

ANALYTIC METHOD, VECTORS ADDITION.

1.- COMPONENTS

The graphical sum often has not enough exactitude and is not useful when the **vectors** are in **three dimensions**. As every vector can be represented as the sum of two other vectors, these vectors are called the **components** of the original vector. Usually the components are chosen along two mutually perpendicular directions. For example, assume the

vector \mathbf{V} below in the figure. It can be split in the component \mathbf{V}_x parallel to the x axis and the component \mathbf{V}_y parallel to the y axis.



We use coordinate axis x-y with origin at the tail of vector \mathbf{V} . Notice that $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_x + \mathbf{V}_y$ according to the parallelogram rule.

The magnitudes of \mathbf{V}_x and \mathbf{V}_y are denoted V_x and V_y , and are numbers, positive or negatives as they point at the positive or negative side of the x-y axis.

Notice also that $V_x = V \cos \beta$ and $V_y = V \sin \beta$.

2.- UNIT VECTORS

Vector quantities can often be expressed in terms of unit vectors. A unit vector is a vector whose magnitude is equal to one and dimensionless. They are used to specify a determined direction. The symbols \mathbf{i} , \mathbf{j} y \mathbf{k} represent unit vectors pointing in the directions x, y and z positives, respectively.

Now \mathbf{V} can be written $\mathbf{V} = V_x \mathbf{i} + V_y \mathbf{j}$.

If we need to add the vector $\mathbf{A} = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j}$ with the vector $\mathbf{B} = B_x \mathbf{i} + B_y \mathbf{j}$ we write

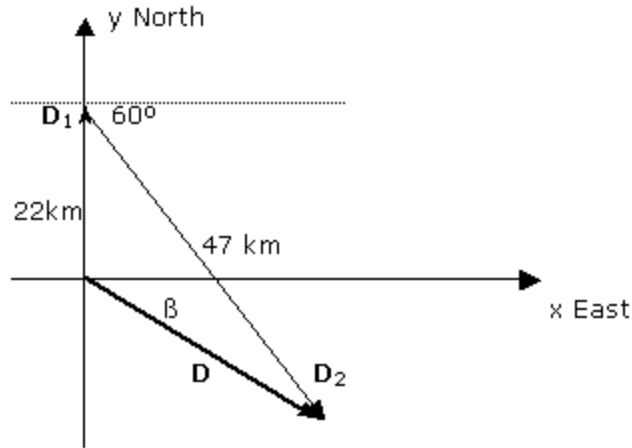
$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + B_x \mathbf{i} + B_y \mathbf{j} = (A_x + B_x) \mathbf{i} + (A_y + B_y) \mathbf{j}.$$

The components of \mathbf{R} are $R_x = A_x + B_x$ and $R_y = A_y + B_y$

Exercise, Example: Use of **components** and **unit vectors**.

A boyscout walks 22 km in North direction, and then he walks in direction 60° Southeast during 47.0 km. Find the components of the resulting vector displacement from the starting point, its magnitude and angle with the x axis.

Solution: The two displacements are shown in the figure, where we choose the positive x axis pointing to East and the positive y axis pointing to North.



The resultant displacement \mathbf{D} is the sum of \mathbf{D}_1 and \mathbf{D}_2 .

Using unit vectors:

$$\mathbf{D}_1 = 22 \mathbf{j}$$

$$\mathbf{D}_2 = 47\cos 60^\circ \mathbf{i} - 47\sin 60^\circ \mathbf{j}$$

$$\text{Then } \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{D}_1 + \mathbf{D}_2 = 22 \mathbf{j} + 47\cos 60^\circ \mathbf{i} - 47\sin 60^\circ \mathbf{j} = 23.5 \mathbf{i} - 18.7 \mathbf{j}$$

and the resultant vector is completely specified with an x component $D_x = 23.5$ km and a y component $D_y = -18.7$ km. (Note D_x and D_y are scalars).

The same resultant vector can be specified giving its magnitude and angle:

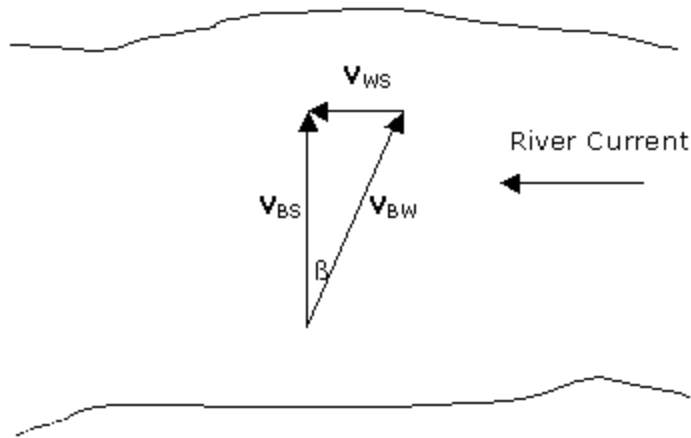
$$D^2 = D_x^2 + D_y^2 = (23.5 \text{ km})^2 + (-18.7 \text{ km})^2 \text{ finding } D = 30 \text{ km.}$$

$\tan \beta = D_y/D_x = -18.7/23.5 = -0.796$ finding $\beta = -38.5^\circ$ (under the x axis) or 38.5° Southeast.

Application Problems: Use of Addition Vector Tools to Solve Relative Velocity

Vector Problems, Example One.-

A motorboat velocity is 20 km/h in still water. If the boat must travel straight to the nearest shore in a river whose current is 12 km/h, ¿What up stream angle must the bow boat point at?



Before attempting to solve this problem, it is useful to do some considerations:

- Whenever a velocity is mentioned, it is necessary to specify what is its frame of reference to measure it. This is a case where we have relative velocities and the tool to find the resultant or the components is the vector sum.
- It is helpful to use an identification procedure that uses two sub indexes: the first sub index refers to the object and the second one to the frame of reference in which that velocity is measured. In this example V_{BW} is the velocity of the **B**oat relative to the **W**ater, V_{BS} is the Boat velocity relative to the **S**hore and V_{WS} is the **W**ater velocity relative to the **S**hore. Notice V_{BW} is produced by the boat motor, instead V_{BS} is V_{BW} plus the current effect. Hence, the boat velocity relative to the shore V_{BS} , is

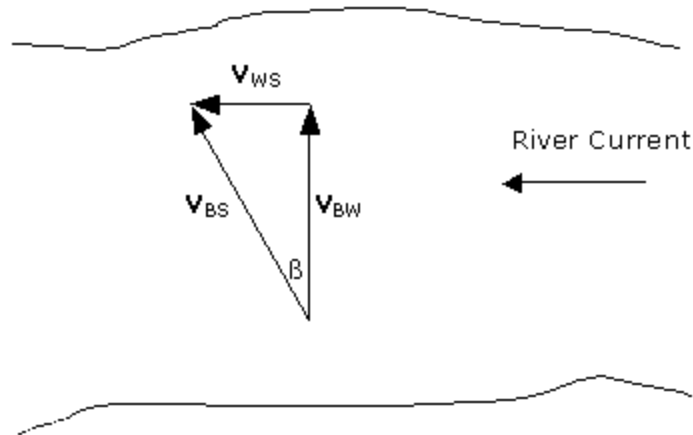
$$(A) \mathbf{V}_{BS} = \mathbf{V}_{BW} + \mathbf{V}_{WS}$$

The sentence "a motorboat velocity is 20 km/h in still water" means $V_{BW} = 20$ km/h, and the sentence "a river whose current is 12 km/h" means $V_{WS} = 12$ km/h. Notice V_{BS} points directly straight to the opposite shore as wanted. The angle β can be obtained from the rectangular triangle in the figure:

$\sin \beta = V_{WS}/V_{BW} = 12/20 = 0.6$ then $\beta = 36.87^\circ$. The bow boat must point at an angle of 36.87° up stream in order to cross the river directly to the other shore.

Vector Problems, Example 2.-

A boat velocity is 2 m/s in still water. a) If the boat points the bow straight to the opposite shore to cross the river whose current is 1 m/s, what is the velocity, in magnitude and direction, of the boat relative to the shore? b) What is the boat position relative to its starting point, after 3 min?



a) The boat velocity relative to the shore V_{BS} , is the sum of its velocity relative to the water V_{BW} , and the water velocity relative to the shore V_{WS} :

$$V_{BS} = V_{BW} + V_{WS}$$

As V_{BW} and V_{WS} are the sides of a rectangular triangle,

$$V_{BS}^2 = V_{BW}^2 + V_{WS}^2 \text{ or}$$

$$V_{BS}^2 = (2\text{m/s})^2 + (1\text{m/s})^2$$

$$\text{i.e. } V_{BS} = 2.24 \text{ m/s.}$$

$$\text{Also, } \tan \beta = V_{WS}/V_{BW} = 1/2 ,$$

$$\text{then } \beta = 26.57^\circ.$$

b) To calculate the position after 3 min we can use

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{V}t,$$

with \mathbf{D} the vector displacement, \mathbf{V} the vector velocity and t the time, an scalar. The direction of \mathbf{D} is the same as \mathbf{V} and its magnitude is

$$V \cdot t = 2.24 \text{ m/s} \cdot 3 \cdot 60 \text{ s}$$

$$= 403.2 \text{ m.}$$

The boat position is then at 403.2 m from the starting point and at a direction 26.57° down stream transverse to it

Scalar quantities: **پرسیار و وهلام**

- mass
- length
- time
- speed
- temperature
- electric current

Vector quantities:

- force
- velocity
- acceleration
- displacement
- magnetic induction

Question

Define Momentum. It is a scalar and vector quantity ? give its unit and dimension

Solution

Momentum of a body can be defined as the product of mass of the body and velocity of the body. It means momentum of a body is directly proportional to the mass of the body. Momentum of a body is also directly proportional to the Velocity of the body. The SI unit of momentum is kilogram metre per second.

It is a vector quantity.

Problem statement:

Given the vectors: $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{B} = 5\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}$.

Determine:

- a. Their magnitude.
- b. The direction of \mathbf{B} .
- c. $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$
- d. $\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{B}$
- e. A unit vector parallel to \mathbf{A} .

f. A vector of magnitude 2 and opposite to **B**

Solution:

The magnitude of **A** is given by:

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

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 2^2 + (-1)^2} = 3.74$$

Similarly, the magnitude of **B** is:

$$|\vec{B}| = B = \sqrt{B_x^2 + B_y^2 + B_z^2}$$

$$|\vec{B}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 5^2 + 0^2} = 7.07$$

The magnitude of a vector is always a positive number.

Example:

$$\vec{A} - 2\vec{B} = (A_x - 2B_x)\vec{i} + (A_y - 2B_y)\vec{j} + (A_z - 2B_z)\vec{k}$$

$$\vec{A} - 2\vec{B} = (3 - 2 \cdot 5)\vec{i} + (2 - 2 \cdot 5)\vec{j} + (-1 - 2 \cdot 0)\vec{k}$$

$$\vec{A} - 2\vec{B} = -7\vec{i} + 8\vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

Example :

A ball is thrown with an initial velocity of 70 cm per second., at an angle of 35° with the horizontal. Find the vertical and horizontal components of the velocity.

Let **v** represent the velocity and use the given information to write **v** in unit vector form:

$$\begin{aligned} v &= 70(\cos(35^\circ))\vec{i} + 70(\sin(35^\circ))\vec{j} \\ &= 70(\cos(35^\circ))\vec{i} + 70(\sin(35^\circ))\vec{j} \end{aligned}$$

Simplify the scalars, we get:

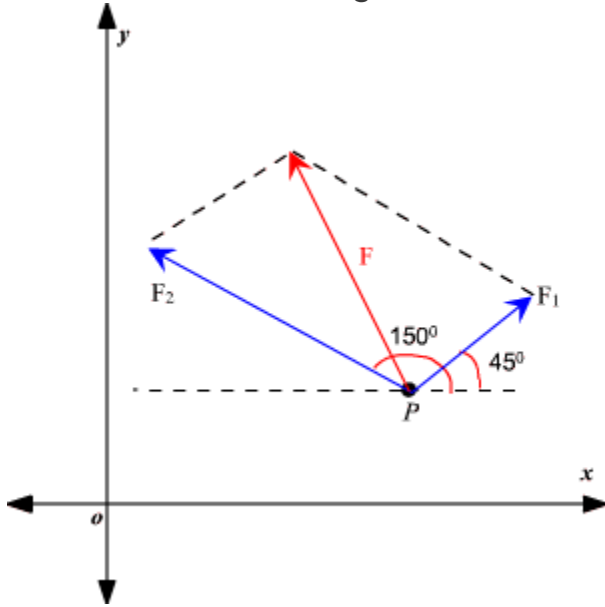
$$\begin{aligned} v &\approx 57.34\vec{i} + 40.15\vec{j} \\ &\approx 57.34\vec{i} + 40.15\vec{j} \end{aligned}$$

Since the scalars are the horizontal and vertical components of **v** ,

Therefore, the horizontal component is 57.34 cm per second and the vertical component is 40.15 cm per second.

Example :

Two forces F_1 and F_2 with magnitudes 20 and 30 Newtons , respectively, act on an object at a point P as shown. Find the resultant forces acting at P .



First we write F_1 and F_2 in component form:

$$v \approx 57.34i + 40.15j \approx 57.34i + 40.15j$$

Simplify the scalars, we get:

$$F_1 = (20\cos(45^\circ))i + (20\sin(45^\circ))j$$

$$= 20(2\sqrt{2})i + 20(2\sqrt{2})j$$

$$= 102\sqrt{i} + 102\sqrt{j}$$

$$F_2 = (30\cos(150^\circ))i + (30\sin(150^\circ))j$$

$$= 30(-3\sqrt{2})i + 30(12)j$$

$$= -153\sqrt{i} + 15j$$

So, the resultant force F is

$$F = F_1 + F_2 = (102\sqrt{i} + 102\sqrt{j}) + (-153\sqrt{i} + 15j)$$

$$= (102\sqrt{-153\sqrt{i}} + (102\sqrt{+15})j$$

$$\approx -12i + 29j$$