


Lesson 82 – Geometric Vectors

HL Math - Santowski

What is the difference between speed and velocity?



=> Velocity is speed combined with direction

What are Vectors?

- A **scalar** quantity is simply anything in life that can be described by just a number
e.g. the temperature, my age etc.
- However, a vector is a quantity that needs a direction as well for it to make sense.

=> Vectors have both **magnitude** (size) and **direction**

Examples

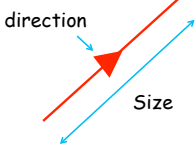
- Velocity = speed + direction
e.g. wind velocity is 20kmh East
- Displacement = distance + direction
e.g. displacement of Leeds from York is 25 miles W

=> Vectors are directed quantities

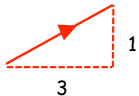
What do they look like?

Vectors can be represented as:

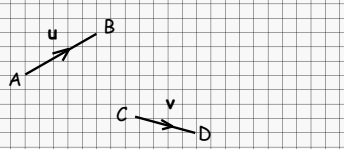
-Straight Lines
(directed lines segments)



- Column Vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


→ Vectors are pathways



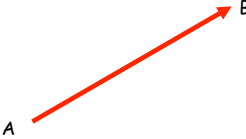
$\vec{AB} = \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

$\vec{CD} = \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

These are known as column vectors.

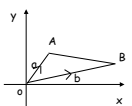
What do they look like?

The most common notation for vectors is threefold

$$\vec{AB} = \mathbf{a} = \underline{a}$$


Position Vectors

\vec{OA} is the journey from the origin to the point A. It is known as the position vector written \mathbf{a}
 \vec{OB} is the position vector of the point b, written \mathbf{b} .



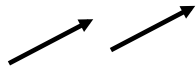
$\vec{AB} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}$ where \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are the position vectors of A and B

Example
 If P and Q have coordinates (4,8) and (2,3), respectively, find the components of \vec{PQ} .

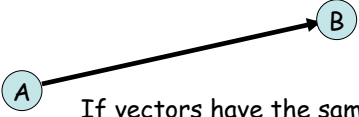
$\vec{PQ} = \mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Properties



Vectors with the same **magnitude** and **direction** are equal



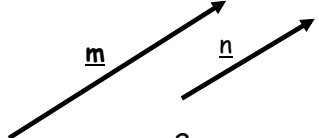
If vectors have the same magnitude and opposite directions then:

$$\vec{AB} = \mathbf{a} \text{ then } \vec{BA} = -\mathbf{a}$$

Properties

If different sized vectors have the same direction they are **scalar multiples** of each other

e.g. $\mathbf{m} = k\mathbf{n}$

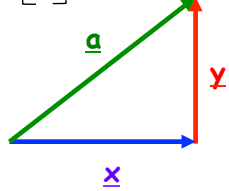


$\mathbf{m} = 2\mathbf{n}$

Rewriting resultants

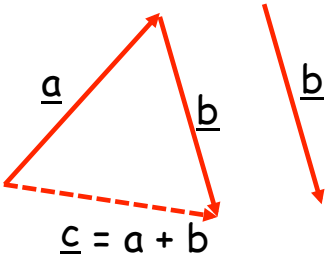
Resultant vectors can be broken down in to their component vectors

e.g. $\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$



Resultants

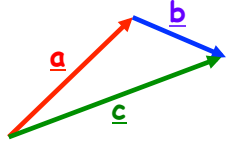
The **resultant** is a single vector which is equivalent to a set of vectors
 e.g. the result of adding \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b}



$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$

Rewriting Vectors

=> vectors can be rewritten in terms of other vectors



$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} , \underline{b} and \underline{c}

i) \overrightarrow{BA}
 ii) \overrightarrow{CB}
 iii) \overrightarrow{DC}
 iv) \overrightarrow{AC}
 v) \overrightarrow{AD}

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} , \underline{b} and \underline{c}

i) $\overrightarrow{BA} = -\underline{a}$
 ii) $\overrightarrow{CB} = -\underline{b}$
 iii) $\overrightarrow{DC} = -\underline{c}$
 iv) $\overrightarrow{AC} = \underline{a} + \underline{b}$
 v) $\overrightarrow{AD} = \underline{a} + \underline{b} + \underline{c}$

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} , \underline{b} and \underline{c}

i) \overrightarrow{ED}
 ii) \overrightarrow{FE}
 iii) \overrightarrow{AF}
 iv) \overrightarrow{AE}
 v) \overrightarrow{DA}
 vi) \overrightarrow{BF}
 vii) \overrightarrow{EC}
 viii) \overrightarrow{DF}

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} , \underline{b} and \underline{c}

i) $\overrightarrow{ED} = \underline{a}$
 ii) $\overrightarrow{FE} = \underline{b}$
 iii) $\overrightarrow{AF} = \underline{c}$
 iv) $\overrightarrow{AE} = \underline{c} + \underline{b}$
 v) $\overrightarrow{DA} = -\underline{c} - \underline{b} - \underline{c}$
 vi) $\overrightarrow{BF} = -\underline{a} + \underline{c}$
 vii) $\overrightarrow{EC} = \underline{a} - \underline{c}$
 viii) $\overrightarrow{DF} = -\underline{a} - \underline{b}$

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} and \underline{b}

a. $AP =$
 b. $AB =$
 c. $OQ =$
 d. $PO =$
 e. $PQ =$
 f. $PN =$
 g. $ON =$
 h. $AN =$
 i. $BP =$
 j. $QA =$

Rewrite the following vectors in terms of \underline{a} and \underline{b}

a. $AP = \underline{a}$
 b. $AB = \underline{b} - \underline{a}$
 c. $OQ = 2\underline{b}$
 d. $PO = -2\underline{a}$
 e. $PQ = 2\underline{b} - 2\underline{a}$
 f. $PN = \underline{b} - \underline{a}$
 g. $ON = \underline{a} + \underline{b}$
 h. $AN = \underline{b}$
 i. $BP = 2\underline{a} - \underline{b}$
 j. $QA = \underline{a} - 2\underline{b}$

Vector Geometry

$\vec{AB} = \underline{r}$
 $\vec{AD} = \underline{s}$
 $AY:YD = 1:2$
 $DX:XB = 1:2$

i) Show that YX is parallel to AC
 ii) What is the ratio YX:AC

Solutions

$\vec{AC} = \underline{r} + \underline{s}$
 $\vec{DB} = \underline{r} - \underline{s}$
 $\vec{YX} = 2/3\underline{r} + 1/3(\underline{r} - \underline{s})$
 $\vec{YX} = 1/3(\underline{r} + \underline{s})$

i) AC and YX are scalar multiples \Rightarrow parallel
 ii) YX : AC = 1 : 3

i) Show that YX is parallel to AC
 ii) What is the ratio YX:AC

Vector Geometry

$\vec{AB} = \underline{p}$
 $\vec{AC} = \underline{q}$
 $\vec{BC} = \underline{q} - \underline{p}$
 $\vec{XZ} = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{q} - \underline{p})$

\Rightarrow Scalar multiples
 (same direction)

X, Y and Z are all midpoints

i) Express \vec{BC} in terms of \underline{p} and \underline{q}
 ii) Show that XZ is parallel to BC

• Exercises from Cirrito 26.3

• Exercises from Cirrito, 26.4