

Chapter 3 Vectors and Motion in Two Dimensions

Topics:

- Vectors, coordinate systems, and components
- Projectile motion
- Circular motion

Sample question:

The archer fish shoots a stream of water droplets at an insect. What determines the path that the droplets take through the air?



Physics 131

Velocity is a rate of change in position:

Velocity $v_x = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$

Acceleration represents a rate of change in velocity:

Acceleration
$$a_x = \frac{\Delta v_x}{\Delta t}$$

In general, both of these are vectors.

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What direction is the acceleration of a ball in free fall?



acceleration $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{v}_f - \vec{v}_i}{\Delta t}$ Given by the change in velocity per time. a v_f

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Vector Representation

Four ways of representing a vector



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Multiplying by a scalar

Multiplying a vector by a scalar number



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Physics 131

Trigonometry reminder: "SOHCAHTOA"



To determine the x- and y-axis components of a vector it is useful to remember "SOH CAH TOA" For example, the x-axis component would be $A = H \cos \theta$ Physics 131

Depending on a vector's direction, the components A_x and A_y can be positive or negative:



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Consider two vectors $\mathbf{A} = (4,3)$ and $\mathbf{B} = (7,-1)$. The magnitude of $\mathbf{A}-\mathbf{B}$ is closest to...

1) 2 2) 5 3) 7 4) 11 5) 12



Meet Pythagoras...



Length of hypotenuse H

$$H = \sqrt{A^2 + O^2}$$

A jet flies at an "airspeed" of 400 km/h. A novice pilot sets a course to travel due north, not realizing that there is a constant crosswind from the west of 300 km/h. Relative to its starting point, the distance the plane flies in 2 h is closest to...

- 1) 500 km
- 2) 700 km
- 3) 800 km
- 4) 1000 km
- 5) 1200 km
- 6) 1400 km



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