

When you are done with your homework you should be able to...

- π Write the component form of a vector
- π Perform vector operations and interpret the results geometrically
- π Write a vector as a linear combination of standard unit vectors
- π Use vectors to solve problems involving force or velocity

Warm-up: Find the distance between the points $(2, 1)$ and $(4, 7)$.

What is a scalar quantity?

Give examples of quantities which can be characterized by a scalar.

What is a vector?

Give examples of quantities which are represented by vectors.

How do you find the length, aka magnitude, aka norm, of a vector?

What makes two vectors equivalent?

DEFINITION OF COMPONENT FORM OF A VECTOR IN THE PLANE

If \mathbf{v} is a vector in the plane whose initial point is the origin and whose terminal point is (v_1, v_2) , then the **component form** \mathbf{v} is given by

$$\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle.$$

The coordinates v_1 and v_2 are called the **components** of \mathbf{v} . If both the initial point and the terminal point lie at the origin, then \mathbf{v} is called the **zero vector** and is denoted by $\mathbf{0} = \langle 0, 0 \rangle$.

Example 1: Sketch the vector whose initial point is the origin and whose terminal point is $(3, -2)$.

DEFINITIONS OF VECTOR ADDITION AND SCALAR MULTIPLICATION

Let $\mathbf{u} = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$ be vectors and let c be a scalar.

1. The **vector sum** of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} is the vector $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \langle u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2 \rangle$.
2. The **scalar multiple** of c and \mathbf{u} is the vector $c\mathbf{u} = \langle cu_1, cu_2 \rangle$.
3. The **negative** of \mathbf{v} is the vector $-\mathbf{v} = (-1)\mathbf{v} = \langle -v_1, -v_2 \rangle$.
4. The **difference** of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} is the vector $\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{v}) = \langle u_1 - v_1, u_2 - v_2 \rangle$.

Example 2: Find the component form and length of the vector \mathbf{v} that has initial point $(-1, 4)$ and terminal point $(7, 3)$. Find the norm of \mathbf{v} .

Example 3: Let $\mathbf{u} = \langle -1, -3 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, -8 \rangle$ find the following vectors. Illustrate the vector operations geometrically.

a) $\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$

b) $-2\mathbf{v}$

THEOREM: PROPERTIES OF VECTOR OPERATIONS

Let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} be vectors in the plane, and let c and d be scalars.

1. $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$

2. $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$

3. $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{u}$

4. $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$

5. $c(d\mathbf{u}) = (cd)\mathbf{u}$

6. $(c + d)\mathbf{u} = c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{u}$

7. $c(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = c\mathbf{u} + c\mathbf{v}$

8. $1(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}$, and $0(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$

THEOREM: LENGTH OF A SCALAR MULTIPLE

Let \mathbf{v} be a vector, and let c be a scalar. Then

$$\|c\mathbf{v}\| = |c|\|\mathbf{v}\|.$$

THEOREM: UNIT VECTOR IN THE DIRECTION OF \mathbf{v}

If \mathbf{v} is a nonzero vector in the plane, then the vector

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$$

Has length 1 and the same direction as \mathbf{v} .

Example 4: Find a unit vector in the direction of $\mathbf{v} = \langle 7, -5 \rangle$. Verify that it has length 1.

Standard Unit Vectors

$\mathbf{i} = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{j} = \langle 0, 1 \rangle$

Example 5: Let \mathbf{u} be the vector with initial point $(-4, 1)$ and terminal point $(3, -1)$ and let $\mathbf{v} = 5\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$. Write each vector as a linear combination of \mathbf{i} and \mathbf{j} .

a) \mathbf{u}

b) $\mathbf{w} = 4\mathbf{u} - 2\mathbf{v}$

Example 6: The vector \mathbf{v} has a magnitude of 2 and makes an angle of $\frac{\pi}{3}$ with the positive x -axis. Write \mathbf{v} as a linear combination of the unit vectors \mathbf{i} and \mathbf{j} .