

# Welcome

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 physics lab courses

## Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Add and subtract vectors:
  - graphically, and
  - mathematically by breaking them down into components

$\vec{A}$  denotes a vector **A** – your textbook bolds the letter to represent a vector.

## Getting here from the SFSU Bookstore

Different routes can take us from A to B.

Directions:

- Head North on Holloway Ave
- go straight into the Quad
- take the second left
- turn right at the T, and
- then veer to the left at the fork.

Each route has sub-steps.  
 By adding up all the little sub-steps, we get from A to B.

## Vector components

Any vector,  $\vec{C}$ , can be broken down into its

- x-component,  $C_x$ , and
- y-component,  $C_y$

If the vector  $\vec{A}$  is defined as in the diagram below, what is the y-component of  $\vec{A}$ ?

A. 0  
B. 1  
C. 2  
D. 3

If the vector  $\vec{A}$  is defined as in the diagram below, what is the y-component of  $\vec{A}$ ?

A. 0  
B. 1  
C. 2  
D. 3

If the vector  $\vec{B}$  is defined as in the diagram below, what is the x-component of  $\vec{B}$ ?

A. 0  
B. 1  
C. 3  
D. 4

If the vector  $\vec{B}$  is defined as in the diagram below, what is the x-component of  $\vec{B}$ ?

A. 0  
B. 1  
C. 3  
D. 4

$A_x = 3\text{cm}$      $B_x = 0$   
 $A_y = 0$          $B_y = 4\text{cm}$

$\vec{A} = A_x$  in the x-direction  
 $\vec{B} = B_y$  in the y-direction

$A_x = 3\text{cm}$      $B_x = 0$   
 $A_y = 0$          $B_y = 4\text{cm}$

Therefore,  $\vec{C}$  can be broken down into its x- and y-components such that:

$C_x = A_x = \vec{A}$   
 $C_y = B_y = \vec{B}$

$A_x = 3\text{cm}$      $B_x = 0$   
 $A_y = 0$          $B_y = 4\text{cm}$

Or,  $\vec{C}$  can be made up of vectors  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$  such that:

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

If we were to walk from (0,0) to the end point of  $\vec{C}$ , we could do so by:

- Walking along  $\vec{C}$  or
- By walking along  $\vec{A}$  and then turning to walk along  $\vec{B}$

If  $\vec{A}$  is What is  $\vec{A} + \vec{A}$ ?

$$2 \times \vec{A} = \vec{A} + \vec{A}$$

If  $\vec{A}$  is and  $\vec{B}$  is What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$ ?

<p>A. </p>	<p>B. </p>
<p>C. </p>	<p>D. </p>

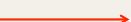
If  $\vec{A}$  is and  $\vec{B}$  is What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$ ?


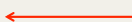


$$\vec{A} + \vec{B} = \vec{B} + \vec{A}$$

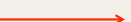
<p>C. </p>	<p>D. </p>
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If  $\vec{A}$  is and  $\vec{B}$  is What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$ ?

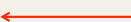
$$\vec{A} + \vec{B} = \vec{B} + \vec{A}$$

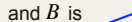

If  $\vec{A}$  is , what is  $-\vec{A}$ ?

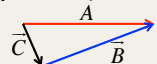
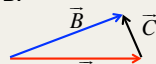

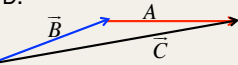
A. 	B. 
C. 	D. 

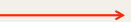

If  $\vec{A}$  is , what is  $-\vec{A}$ ?

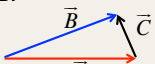
Magnitude same, switch direction



B. 

If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is   
 What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$ ?

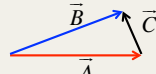
A. 	B. 
C. 	D. 



If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is   
 What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$ ?

B. 

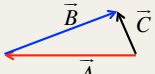
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is   
 What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$ ?

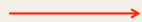

$\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A} = -\vec{A} + \vec{B}$

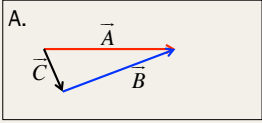


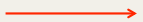

If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is   
 What is  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$ ?

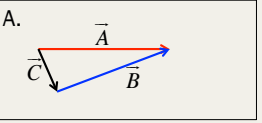
$\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A} = -\vec{A} + \vec{B}$

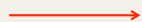



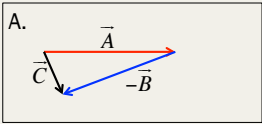
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is .  
 What is  $\vec{C}$  in terms of  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$ ?

A.  A.  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$   
 B.  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} - \vec{B}$   
 C.  $\vec{C} = -\vec{A} - \vec{B}$   
 D.  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$

If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is .  
 What is  $\vec{C}$  in terms of  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$ ?

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If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is .  
 What is  $\vec{C}$  in terms of  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$ ?

A.  A.  $\vec{C} = \vec{B} - \vec{A}$   
 B.  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} - \vec{B}$   
 C.  $\vec{C} = -\vec{A} - \vec{B}$   
 D.  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$

That's fine for two or three vectors...

But what if we have lots and lots of vectors?

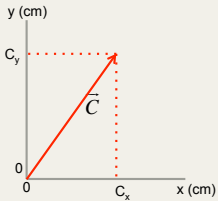
Drawing each connecting line might get tedious.



Not to mention when we get to 3-dimensions!

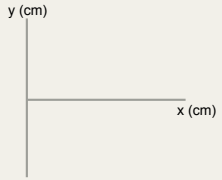
### Using components

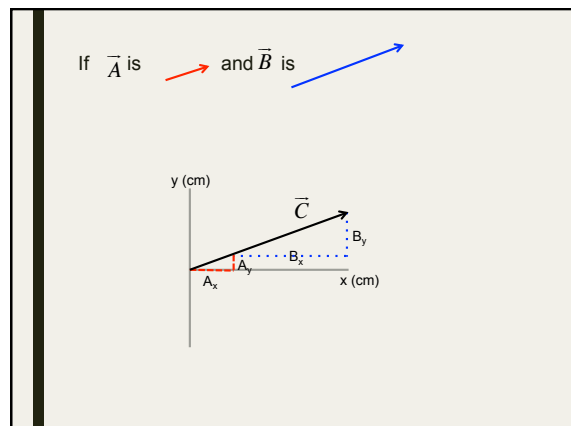
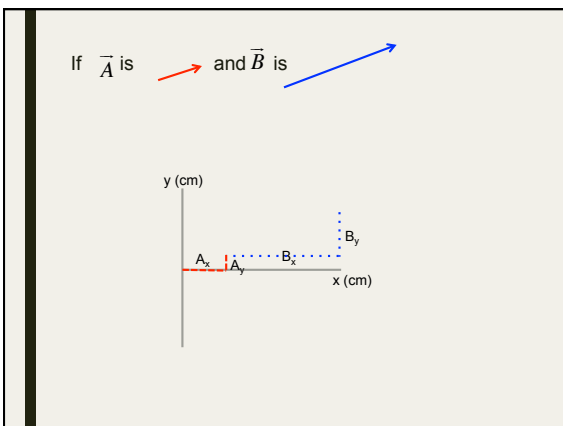
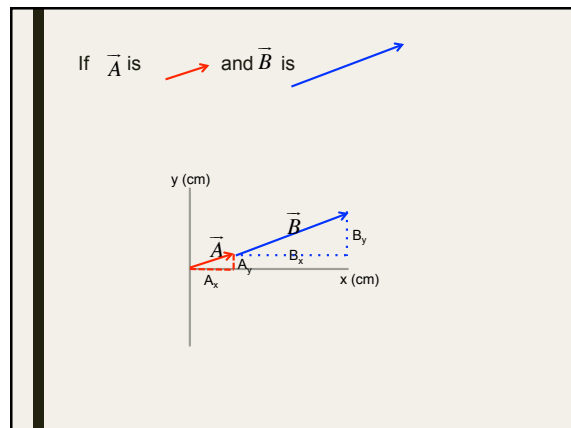
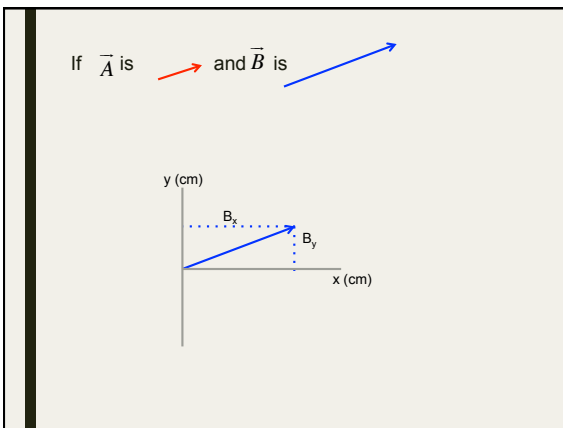
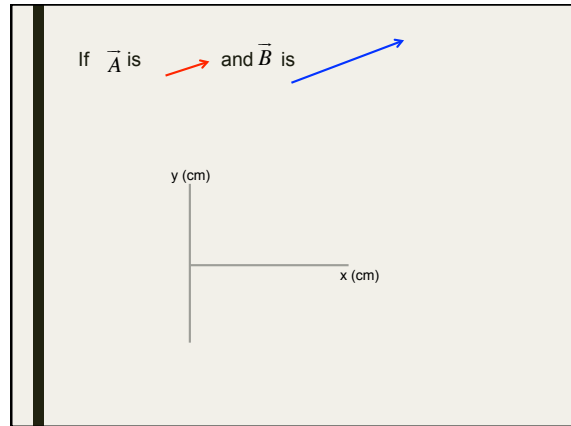
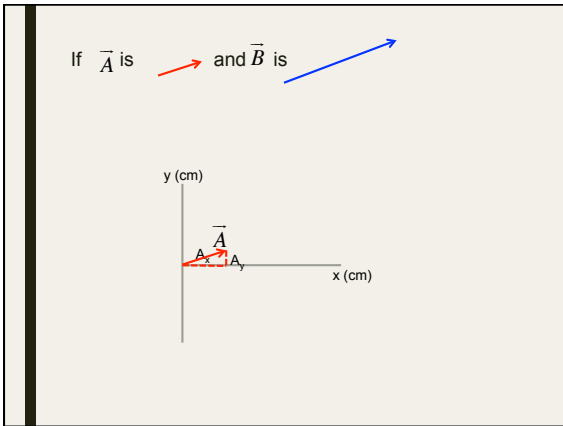
Any vector,  $\vec{C}$ , can be broken down into its



- x-component,  $C_x$ , and
- y-component,  $C_y$ ,



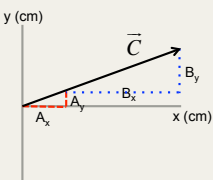
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is .


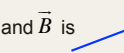




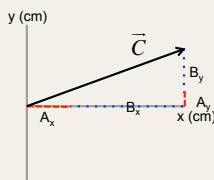
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 



$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$   
 $C_x = A_x + B_x$   
 $C_y = A_y + B_y$



If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 

$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$   
 $C_x = A_x + B_x$   
 $C_y = A_y + B_y$

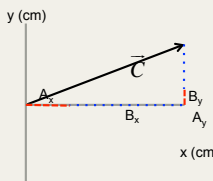



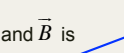
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 

such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

What are the x- and y-components of  $\vec{C}$ ?

$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$   
 $C_x = A_x + B_x = 2 + 3 = 5$   
 $C_y = A_y + B_y = 1 + 2 = 3$



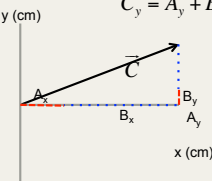
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 



such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

What is the magnitude of  $\vec{C}$ ?

A. 4  
 B. 6  
 C. 8  
 D. 34

Choose the closest answer



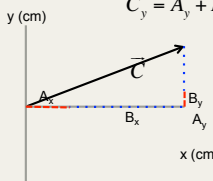
If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 


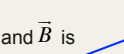
such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

What is the magnitude of  $\vec{C}$ ?

A. 4  
**B. 6**  
 C. 8  
 D. 34

Choose the closest answer

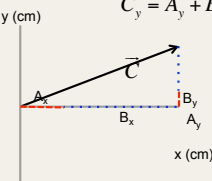


If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is 



such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

What is the magnitude of  $\vec{C}$ ?

$|\vec{C}| = \sqrt{C_x^2 + C_y^2}$   
 $|\vec{C}| = \sqrt{(A_x + B_x)^2 + (A_y + B_y)^2}$   
 $|\vec{C}| = \sqrt{(2+3)^2 + (1+2)^2} = \sqrt{34} = 5.8 \approx 6$

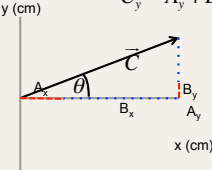


What about the direction angle?



If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is  such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$   
 $C_x = A_x + B_x$   
 $C_y = A_y + B_y$

What is the direction angle,  $\theta$  of  $\vec{C}$ ?

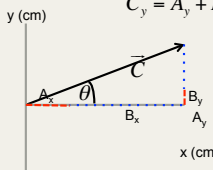


A.  $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)$   
 B.  $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)$   
 C.  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)$   
 D.  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)$

If  $\vec{A}$  is  and  $\vec{B}$  is  such that:  
 $A_x=2, A_y=1$   
 $B_x=3, B_y=2$

$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$   
 $C_x = A_x + B_x$   
 $C_y = A_y + B_y$

What is the direction angle,  $\theta$  of  $\vec{C}$ ?



$\tan \theta = \frac{C_y}{C_x} = \frac{A_y + B_y}{A_x + B_x} = \frac{1+2}{2+3} = \frac{3}{5}$




$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{3}{5} = 30.96^\circ \approx 31^\circ$

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Add and subtract vectors:
  - graphically, and
  - mathematically by breaking them down into components

Practice

  $\vec{A}$   $A_x=3, A_y=2$       $\vec{B}$   $B_x=0, B_y=-2$       $\vec{C}$   $A_x=-1, A_y=-1$

Find:

1.  $\vec{A} + \vec{B}$
2.  $\vec{B} - \vec{C}$
3.  $\vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C}$
4.  $\vec{A} + \vec{B} - \vec{C}$

Graphically and by breaking them into components (magnitude and direction)