



# Crash Course in Vectors

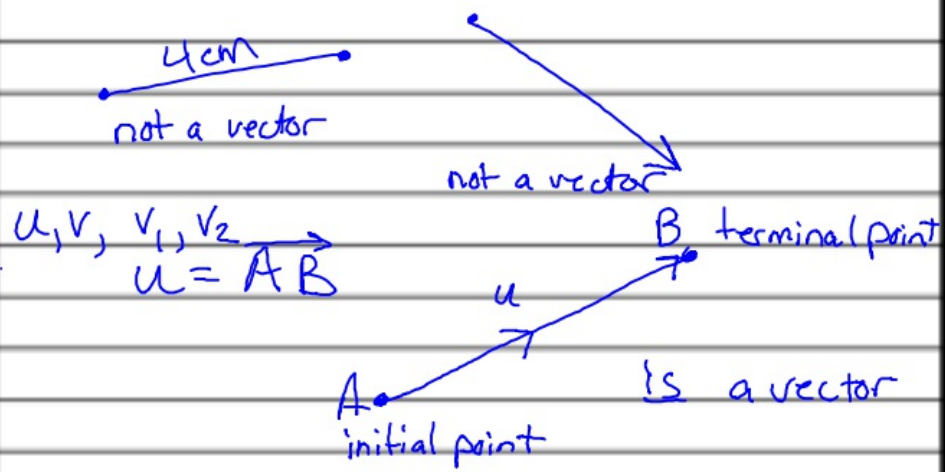
Class/Period: 4th

Date: 9/12/14

Essential Question: What is a vector and how do I add, subtract, multiply vectors?

Questions:

Notes: def - a vector in the plane is a segment with an assigned direction. A vector has magnitude (length) and direction.



Two vectors are considered equal if they have the same magnitude and direction.

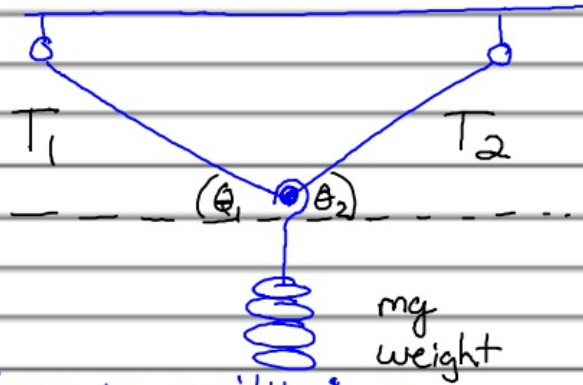


Where are vectors used?  
travel - maps  
wind speed & direction

## Physics

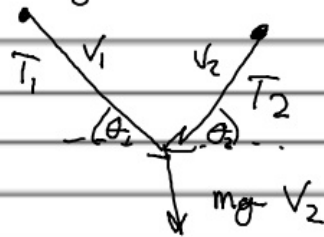
Forces: friction, gravity, push  
Centripetal,

Ex 1



Three Forces in equilibrium

free body diagram



Geometric

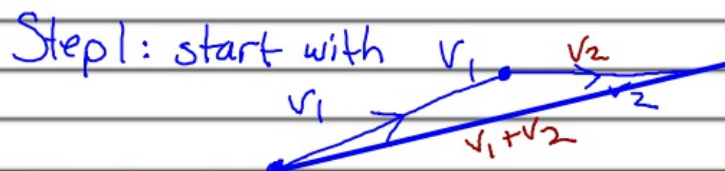
Vector addition



find  $v_1 + v_2$

adding two vectors results in a 3rd  
vector called the resultant vector.

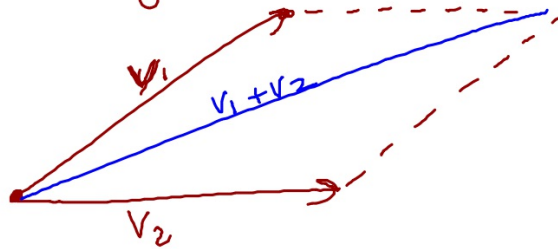
Step 1: start with



Step 2: place the initial point of  $v_2$   
onto the terminal point of  $v_1$

Step 3: connect initial of  $v_1$  to terminal  $v_2$

other way

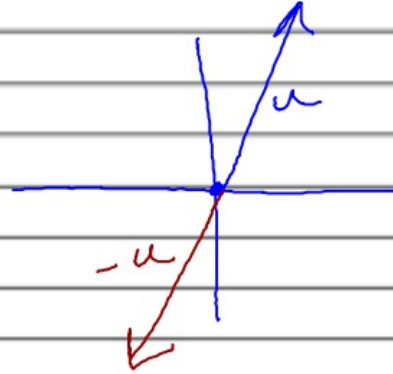


make a ~~para~~ parallelogram  
- the diagonal is the resultant  
vector

Questions:

Notes:

## Subtraction of vectors

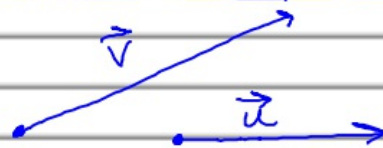


notation for vectors - so we know  $\vec{u}$  is not a variable.

$$\vec{u} + \vec{v}$$

$$\vec{u} - \vec{v} = \vec{u} + (-\vec{v})$$

## Geometric Representation



find  $\vec{v} - \vec{u}$

Step 1: place the initial point of the 2nd ( $\vec{u}$ ) onto the initial point of the 1st ( $\vec{v}$ )



Step 2: connect the resultant vector, with initial point on the terminal point of the 1st.

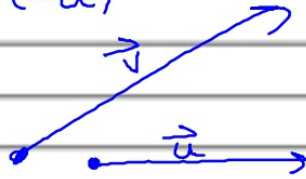
Questions:

Notes:

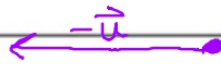
Other way

add the opposite!

$$\vec{v} - \vec{u} = \vec{v} + (-\vec{u})$$

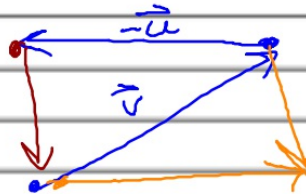


draw  $-\vec{u}$



add:

$$\vec{v} - \vec{u}$$



Questions:

Notes:

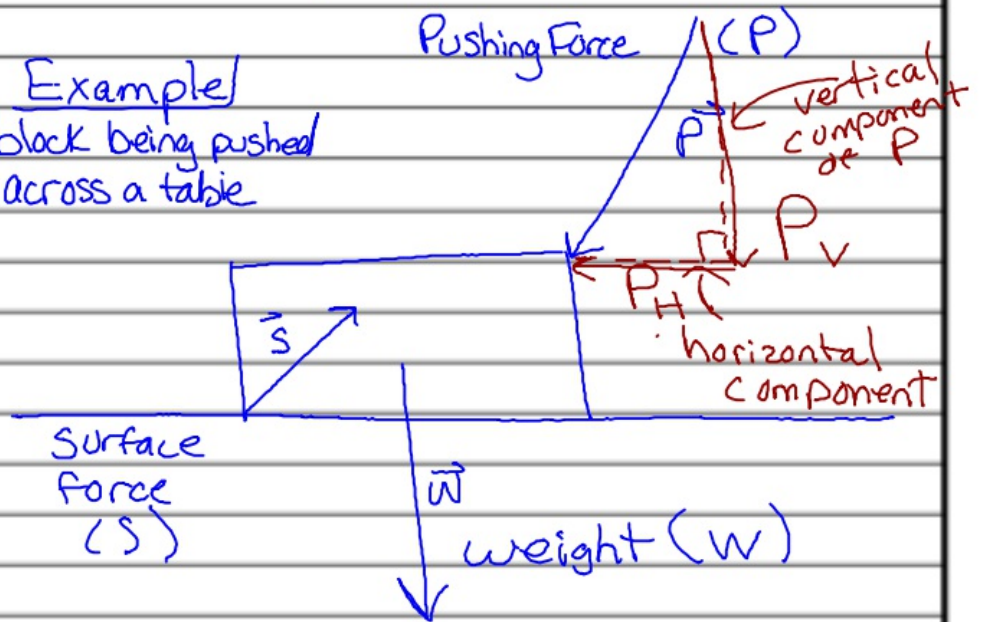
## Component Vectors

When working with adjacent vectors that do not form a 90 degree angle, it is often useful to break certain vectors

into component vectors. To do this, we draw two vectors, one horizontal, the other vertical. We then use trig to calculate the magnitude of the resultant vector.

Example  
block being pushed  
across a table

$f_s$



## Magnitude of a vector

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{v_H^2 + v_V^2}$$

$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

## Standard Vector

one whose initial point is at the origin.

