

Section 6.3 Vectors in the Plane

Objective: In this lesson you learned how to represent vectors as directed line segments, perform mathematical operations on vectors, and find direction angles of vectors.

Course Number

Instructor

Date

Important Vocabulary Define each term or concept.

Vector \mathbf{v} in the plane

Standard position

Zero vector

Unit vector

Standard unit vectors

Direction angle

I. Introduction (Page 424)

A **directed line segment** \overrightarrow{PQ} , has _____ P and _____ Q .

The **magnitude**, or _____, of the directed line segment \overrightarrow{PQ} , is denoted by _____ and can be found by . . .

What you should learn

How to represent vectors as directed line segments

II. Component Form of a Vector (Page 425)

A vector whose initial point is at the origin $(0, 0)$ can be uniquely represented by the coordinates of its terminal point (v_1, v_2) . This is the _____, written $\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$, where v_1 and v_2 are the _____ of \mathbf{v} .

The component form of the vector with initial point $P = (p_1, p_2)$ and terminal point $Q = (q_1, q_2)$ is

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \mathbf{v}.$$

What you should learn

How to write the component forms of vectors

The **magnitude** (or length) of \mathbf{v} is:

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\quad} = \sqrt{\quad}$$

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

III. Vector Operations (Pages 426–428)

Geometrically, the product of a vector \mathbf{v} and a scalar k is . . .

If k is positive, $k\mathbf{v}$ has the _____ direction as \mathbf{v} , and if k is negative, $k\mathbf{v}$ has the _____ direction.

To add two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} geometrically, . . .

This technique is called the _____ for vector addition because the vector $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$, often called the _____ of vector addition, is . . .

Let $\mathbf{u} = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$ be vectors and let k be a scalar (a real number). The **sum** of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , is the vector

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

The **scalar multiple** of k times \mathbf{u} , is the vector:

$$k\mathbf{u} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Example 2: Let $\mathbf{u} = \langle 1, 6 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{v} = \langle -4, 2 \rangle$. Find:

- $3\mathbf{u}$
- $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$

What you should learn

How to perform basic vector operations and represent vectors graphically

Let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} be vectors and c and d be scalars. Complete the following properties of vector addition and scalar multiplication:

1. $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} =$ _____
2. $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} =$ _____
3. $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} =$ _____
4. $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) =$ _____
5. $c(d\mathbf{u}) =$ _____
6. $(c + d)\mathbf{u} =$ _____
7. $c(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) =$ _____
8. $1(\mathbf{u}) =$ _____ , $0(\mathbf{u}) =$ _____
9. $\|c\mathbf{v}\| =$ _____

IV. Unit Vectors (Pages 428–429)

To find a unit vector \mathbf{u} that has the same direction as a given nonzero vector \mathbf{v} , . . .

What you should learn
How to write vectors as linear combinations of unit vectors

In this case, the vector \mathbf{u} is called a _____
_____.

Example 3: Find a unit vector in the direction of $\mathbf{v} = \langle -8, 6 \rangle$.

Let $\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$. Then the standard unit vectors can be used to represent \mathbf{v} as $\mathbf{v} =$ _____, where the scalar v_1 is called the _____ and the scalar v_2 is called the _____. The vector sum $v_1\mathbf{i} + v_2\mathbf{j}$ is called a _____ of the vectors \mathbf{i} and \mathbf{j} .

Example 4: Let $\mathbf{v} = \langle -5, 3 \rangle$. Write \mathbf{v} as a linear combination of the standard unit vectors \mathbf{i} and \mathbf{j} .

Example 5: Let $\mathbf{v} = 3\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j}$ and $\mathbf{w} = 2\mathbf{i} + 9\mathbf{j}$. Find $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$.

V. Direction Angles (Page 430)

If \mathbf{u} is a unit vector and θ is the angle (measured counterclockwise) from the positive x -axis to \mathbf{u} , the terminal point of \mathbf{u} lies on the unit circle and

$$\mathbf{u} = \langle x, y \rangle = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Now, if $\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{i} + b\mathbf{j}$ is any vector that makes an angle θ with the positive x -axis, then it has the same direction as \mathbf{u} and

$$\mathbf{v} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Because $\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{i} + b\mathbf{j}$, then the direction angle θ for \mathbf{v} can be determined from $\tan \theta = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$.

Example 6: Let $\mathbf{v} = -4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}$. Find the direction angle for \mathbf{v} .

What you should learn
How to find the direction angles of vectors

VI. Applications of Vectors (Pages 431–432)

Describe several real-life applications of vectors.

What you should learn
How to use vectors to model and solve real-life problems

Homework Assignment

Page(s)

Exercises