

Lecture 8: Vectors & Two-Dimensional Kinematics

Physics for Engineers & Scientists (Giancoli): Chapter 3
University Physics V1 (Openstax): Chapters 2 & 4

Multiplying Two Vectors

- There are two ways to multiply a vector by another vector.
 - One is called a “dot-product”, which produces a scalar. ($\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$)
 - One is called a “cross-product”, which produces a vector. ($\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$)

We won't be using cross-products for a while. We will return to this when needed.

- There are two ways to calculate a dot product. One uses magnitudes and angles. The other uses components. Choose the more convenient option.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = AB \cdot \cos\theta = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

- The angle, θ , is the angle between the two vectors.

$$\cos\theta = \cos(\theta_A - \theta_B) = \cos(\theta_B - \theta_A)$$

- The square of a vector is considered a dot product with itself. We can represent the magnitude of a vector as a dot product.

$$\vec{A}^2 = \vec{A} \cdot \vec{A} = A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2$$

$$A = |\vec{A}| = \sqrt{\vec{A}^2} = \sqrt{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{A}} = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}$$

- Dot products with unit vectors.
 - The dot product of a unit vector with itself is 1. (*Unit magnitude and $\theta = 0^\circ$*)

$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} = \hat{j} \cdot \hat{j} = \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k} = 1$$

- The dot product of a unit vector with any other unit vector is 0. (*$\theta = 90^\circ$*)

$$\hat{i} \cdot \hat{j} = \hat{j} \cdot \hat{i} = \hat{i} \cdot \hat{k} = \hat{k} \cdot \hat{i} = \hat{j} \cdot \hat{k} = \hat{k} \cdot \hat{j} = 0$$

- With unit vectors we can multiply products term by term to produce the answer.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = (A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j}) \cdot (B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j})$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x \underbrace{\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i}}_1 + A_x B_y \underbrace{\hat{i} \cdot \hat{j}}_0 + A_y B_x \underbrace{\hat{j} \cdot \hat{i}}_0 + A_y B_y \underbrace{\hat{j} \cdot \hat{j}}_1$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y$$

Example: Find the dot product of $\vec{A} = 3\hat{i} + 4\hat{j}$ and $\vec{B} = 5\hat{i} + 12\hat{j}$.

We can do this two ways. In this case, the first (using components) is simplest.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y = 3 \cdot 5 + 4 \cdot 12 = 15 + 48 = 63$$

The second method requires determining the magnitudes and angles of both vectors.

$$A = |\vec{A}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{9 + 16} = \sqrt{25} = 5$$

$$\theta_A = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{A_y}{A_x}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) = 53.13^\circ$$

$$B = |\vec{B}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} = \sqrt{25 + 144} = \sqrt{169} = 13$$

$$\theta_B = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{B_y}{B_x}\right) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{12}{5}\right) = 67.38^\circ$$

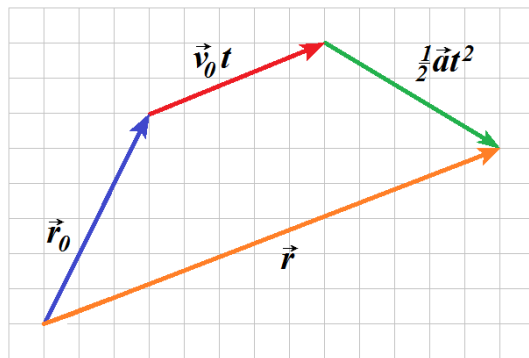
$$\theta_A - \theta_B = 53.13^\circ - 67.38^\circ = -14.25^\circ$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = AB \cdot \cos\theta = 5 \cdot 13 \cdot \cos(14.25^\circ) = 63$$

Two-Dimensional Quantities *(Everything but time (t) is now a vector).*

Quantity	One Dimension	Two Dimensions
Position	x (or y)	$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$
Initial Position	x_0 (or y_0)	$\vec{r}_0 = x_0\hat{i} + y_0\hat{j}$
Displacement	Δx (or Δy)	$\Delta\vec{r} = \Delta x\hat{i} + \Delta y\hat{j}$
Average Velocity	$v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$	$\vec{v}_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta\vec{r}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}\hat{i} + \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta t}\hat{j} = v_{x\text{-avg}}\hat{i} + v_{y\text{-avg}}\hat{j}$
Average Acceleration	$a_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$	$\vec{a}_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\Delta\vec{v}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\Delta v_x}{\Delta t}\hat{i} + \frac{\Delta v_y}{\Delta t}\hat{j} = a_{x\text{-avg}}\hat{i} + a_{y\text{-avg}}\hat{j}$
Const a equation #1 (no x)	$v = v_0 + at$	$\vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{a}t$
Const a equation #2 (no a)	$x = x_0 + \frac{1}{2}(v + v_0)t$	$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + \frac{1}{2}(\vec{v} + \vec{v}_0)t$
Const a equation #3 (no v)	$x = x_0 + v_0t + \frac{1}{2}at^2$	$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + \vec{v}_0t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}t^2$
Const a equation #4 (no t)	$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2a(x - x_0)$	$\vec{v}^2 = \vec{v}_0^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0)$

Solving Problems



- If the vectors are all in the same direction, then you can treat it 1-dimensionally.
- If not, then you split everything into components and solve x and y separately, then recombine back into vectors at the end.
- The x and y equations are linked by time and/or any angles given. Apart from that, the x- and y-components are independent from each other.
- Projectile motion problems (i.e. falling near the Earth's surface): $a_{\text{horizontal}} = 0$, $a_{\text{vertical}} = -9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$ (downward)

Example: A player kicks a ball at rest. The ball remains in contact with the kicker's foot for 0.0500s, during which time it experiences an acceleration of 340.0 m/s^2 . The ball is launched at an angle of 51.0° above the ground. Determine the horizontal and vertical components of the launch velocity.

$$\vec{v}_0 = 0 \quad t = 0.0500 \text{ s} \quad \vec{a} = 340.0 \angle 51.0^\circ \quad \vec{v} = ?$$

$$\vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{a}t = \vec{a}t = \left(340.0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right)(0.0500 \text{ s}) = 17.0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$v_x = v \cdot \cos(\theta) = \left(17.0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right) \cos(51.0^\circ) = 10.698 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \Rightarrow 10.7 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$v_y = v \cdot \sin(\theta) = \left(17.0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right) \sin(51.0^\circ) = 13.211 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \Rightarrow 13.2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

Example: For the previous example, after the ball leaves the kicker's foot, how far from the initial position will it land?

x-components: $x_0 = 0$ $v_{0x} = 10.698 \text{ m/s}$ $a_x = 0$ $v_x = v_{0x}$

As $a_x = 0$, the only equation available is: $x = x_0 + v_x t = v_x t$

This would give us the answer ...if we had $t \rightarrow$ Need t from y-components.

y-components: What is v_y when it lands?

When $y = y_0$, then $v = -v_0$. $\{ v_y^2 = v_{0y}^2 + 2a_y \underbrace{(y - y_0)}_0 \rightarrow v_y^2 = v_{0y}^2 \}$

$y_0 = y = 0$ $v_{0y} = 13.211 \text{ m/s}$ $v_y = -v_{0y} = -13.211 \text{ m/s}$ $a_y = -g = -9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$ $t = ???$

$$v_y = v_{0y} + a_y t \quad v_y - v_{0y} = a_y t$$

$$t = \frac{v_y - v_{0y}}{a_y} = \frac{v_y - v_{0y}}{-g} = \frac{-v_{0y} - v_{0y}}{-g} = \frac{-2v_{0y}}{-g} = \frac{2v_{0y}}{g} = \frac{2 \left(13.211 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)}{9.80 \text{ m/s}^2} = 2.6961 \text{ s}$$

$$x = v_{0x} t = \left(10.698 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)(2.6961 \text{ s}) = 28.843 \text{ m} \Rightarrow 28.8 \text{ m.}$$

Example: For the previous examples, after the ball leaves the kicker's foot, how high will the ball go? (i.e. determine the maximum height)

What do we know about maximum displacement? $v_y = 0$

$y_0 = 0$ $v_{0y} = 13.211 \text{ m/s}$ $v_y = 0$ $a_y = -g = -9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$ $y = ???$ (no t)

$$v_y^2 = v_{0y}^2 + 2a_y(y - y_0) \quad 0 = v_{0y}^2 + 2a_y y \quad -v_{0y}^2 = 2a_y y$$

$$y = \frac{-v_{0y}^2}{2a_y} = \frac{-v_{0y}^2}{-2g} = \frac{v_{0y}^2}{2g} = \frac{\left(13.211 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)^2}{2 \left(9.80 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right)} = 8.90462 \text{ m} \Rightarrow 8.90 \text{ m}$$

Note: we could have found t first.

$$v_y = v_{0y} + a_y t \quad v_y - v_{0y} = a_y t$$

$$t = \frac{v_y - v_{0y}}{a_y} = \frac{-v_{0y}}{-g} = \frac{v_{0y}}{g} = \frac{13.211 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}}{9.80 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}} = 1.3481 \text{ s} \quad (\text{half the time of the previous example})$$

$$y = y_0 + v_{0y} t + \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2 = 0 + \left(13.211 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}\right)(1.3481 \text{ s}) + \frac{1}{2} \left(-9.80 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right)(1.3481 \text{ s})^2 = 8.90462 \text{ m}$$