

# Chapter 2: Force Vectors

# Plan

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- Scalars and vectors
- Vector operations
- Vector addition of forces
- Addition of a system of coplanar forces
- Cartesian vectors
- Addition of Cartesian vectors
- Position vectors
- Force vector directed along a line
- Dot product

# Scalars and Vectors

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- **Scalar:** a quantity that has only a magnitude.

Example: mass, length, time, temperature, volume, density

- **Vector:** a quantity that has both magnitude and direction.

Example: position, displacement, velocity, acceleration, momentum, force

# Scalars and Vectors

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## Vector:

- Represented by a letter with an arrow over it such as  $\vec{A}$  or by a bold face letter such as **A**
- Represented graphically as an arrow
- Magnitude is represented by  $|\vec{A}|$  or simply A

# Scalars and Vectors

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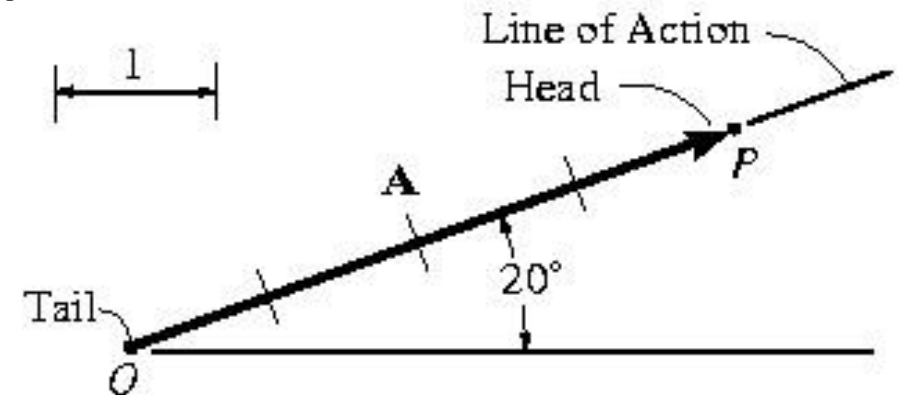
## Characteristics of a vector:

- **Magnitude** of vector: length of arrow.
- **Direction** of vector: angle between the reference axis and arrow's line of action.
- **Sense** of vector: arrowhead.

# Scalars and Vectors

## Example of vector:

- Magnitude of vector = 4 units
- Direction of vector =  $20^\circ$  measured counterclockwise from the horizontal axis
- Sense of vector = upward and to the right
- Point O is called **tail** of the vector
- Point P is called the **tip** or **head**



# Vector Operations

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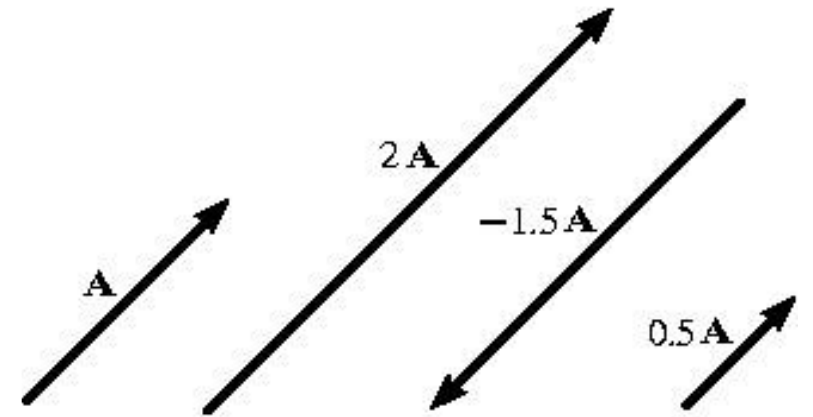
## Multiplication and Division of a Vector by a Scalar

- Product of vector  $\mathbf{A}$  and scalar  $a = a\mathbf{A}$
- Magnitude =  $|aA|$
- If  $a$  is positive, sense of  $a\mathbf{A}$  is the same as sense of  $\mathbf{A}$
- If  $a$  is negative sense of  $a\mathbf{A}$ , it is opposite to the sense of  $\mathbf{A}$

# Vector Operations

## Multiplication and Division of a Vector by a Scalar

- Negative of a vector is found by multiplying the vector by  $(-1)$
- Law of multiplication applies  
e.g:  $\mathbf{A}/a = (1/a) \mathbf{A}$ ,  $a \neq 0$



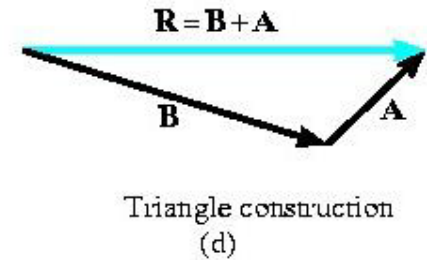
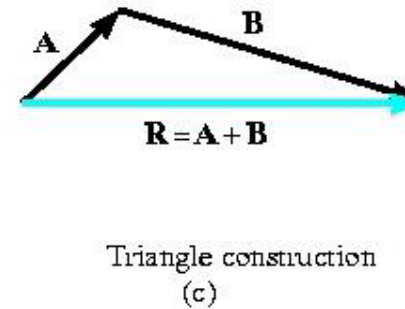
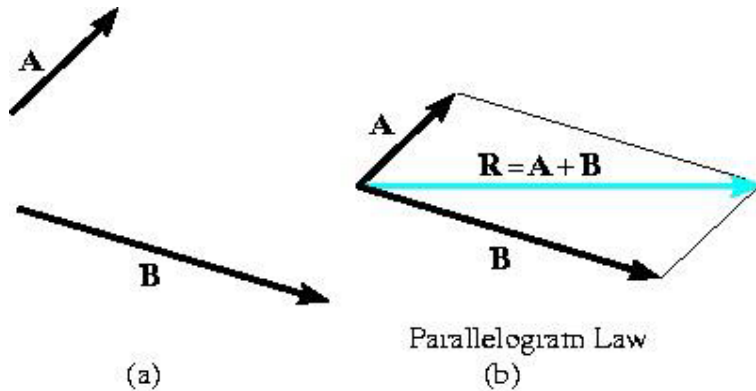
Scalar Multiplication and Division



# Vector Operations

## Vector Addition

- Addition of two vectors **A** and **B** gives a resultant vector **R** by the parallelogram law
- Result **R** can be found by triangle construction
- Commutative e.g.  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}$

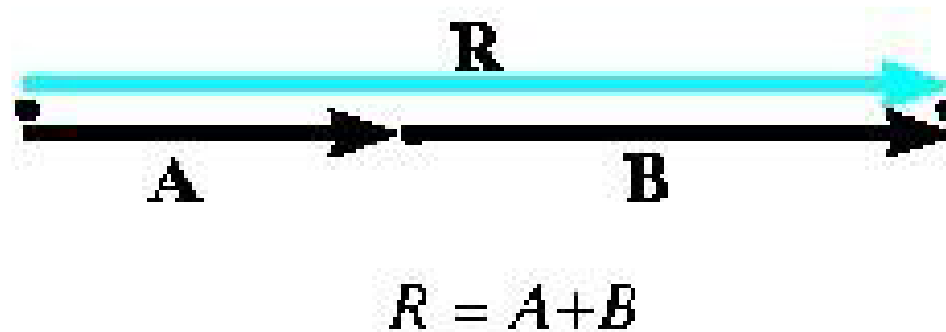


# Vector Operations

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## Vector Addition

- Special case: Vectors **A** and **B** are collinear (both have the same line of action)

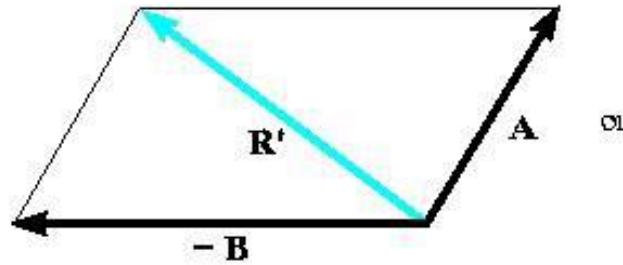
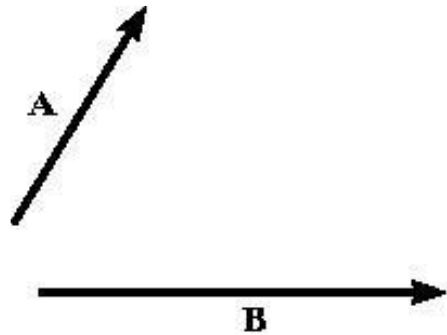


Addition of collinear vectors

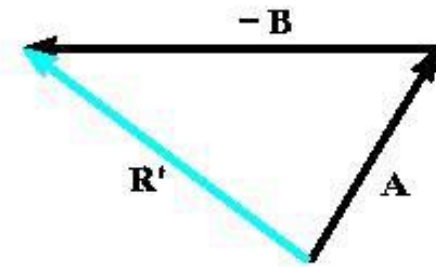
# Vector Operations

## Vector Subtraction

- Special case of addition  
e.g.  $R' = A - B = A + (-B)$
- Rules of Vector Addition Applies



Parallelogram law

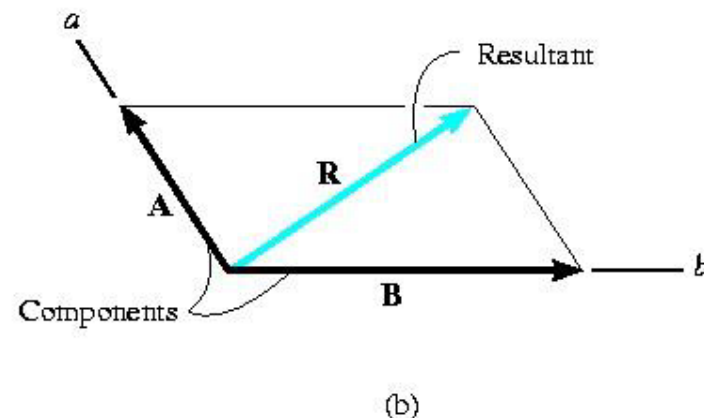
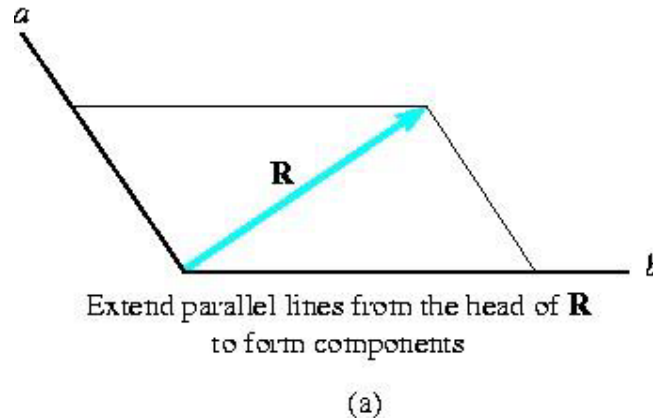


Triangle construction

# Vector Operations

## Resolution of Vector

- Any vector can be resolved into two components by the parallelogram law
- The two components **A** and **B** are drawn such that they extend from the tail of **R** to points of intersection



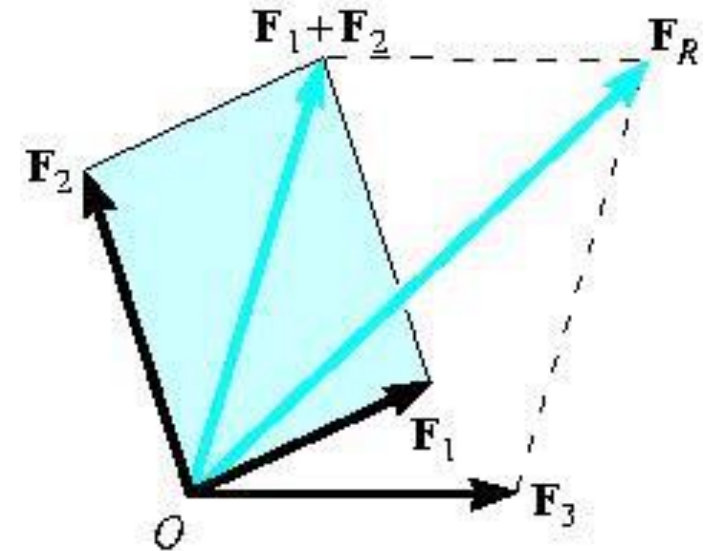
# Vector Addition of Forces

- When two or more forces are added, successive applications of the parallelogram law is carried out to find the resultant

e.g. Forces  $\mathbf{F}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{F}_2$  and  $\mathbf{F}_3$  acts at a point  $O$

First, find resultant of  $\mathbf{F}_1 + \mathbf{F}_2 \Rightarrow$

Resultant,  $\mathbf{F}_R = (\mathbf{F}_1 + \mathbf{F}_2) + \mathbf{F}_3$



# Vector Addition of Forces

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## Procedure for Analysis:

### *Parallelogram Law*

- Make a sketch using the parallelogram law
- Two components forces add to form the resultant force
- Resultant force is shown by the diagonal of the parallelogram
- The components is shown by the sides of the parallelogram

# Vector Addition of Forces

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## Procedure for Analysis:

### *Trigonometry*

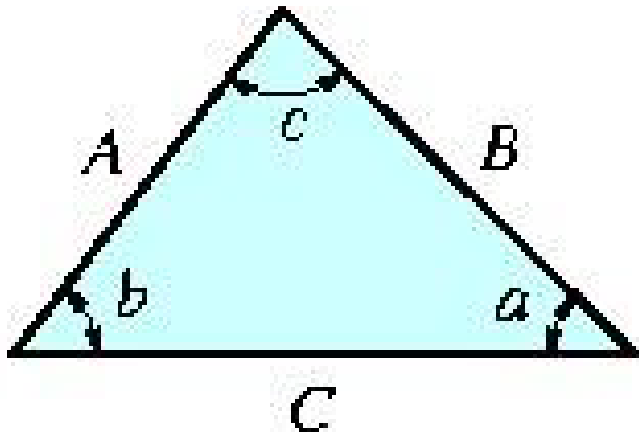
- Redraw half portion of the parallelogram
- Magnitude of the resultant force can be determined by the **law of cosines**
- Direction of the resultant force can be determined by the **law of sines**
- Magnitude of the two components can be determined by the **law of sines**

# Vector Addition of Forces

## Procedure for Analysis:

### *Trigonometry*

- Magnitude of the two components can be determined by the **law of sines**.



Sine law:

$$\frac{A}{\sin a} = \frac{B}{\sin b} = \frac{C}{\sin c}$$

Cosine law:

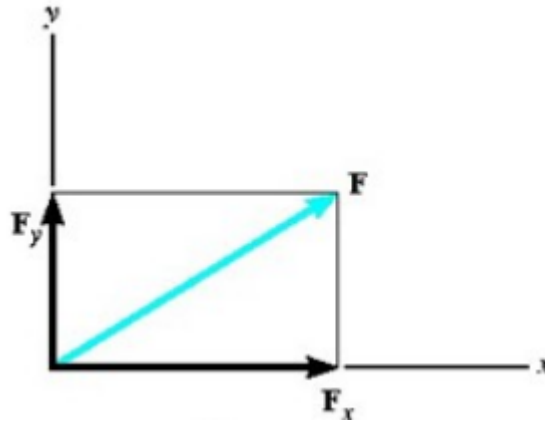
$$C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 - 2AB \cos c}$$



# Addition of a System of Coplanar Forces

- Scalar Notation: Components of forces expressed as algebraic scalars  $F_x = |\mathbf{F}| \cos \theta$  and  $F_y = |\mathbf{F}| \sin \theta$
- Cartesian Vector Notation in unit vectors  $\mathbf{i}$  and  $\mathbf{j}$

$$\mathbf{F} = F_x \mathbf{i} + F_y \mathbf{j}$$



# Addition of a System of Coplanar Forces

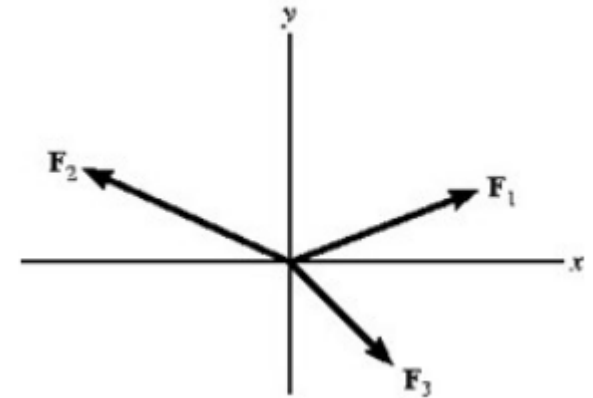
- Coplanar Force Resultants

$$\mathbf{F}_1 = F_{1x}\mathbf{i} + F_{1y}\mathbf{j}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_2 = -F_{2x}\mathbf{i} + F_{2y}\mathbf{j}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_3 = F_{3x}\mathbf{i} - F_{3y}\mathbf{j}$$

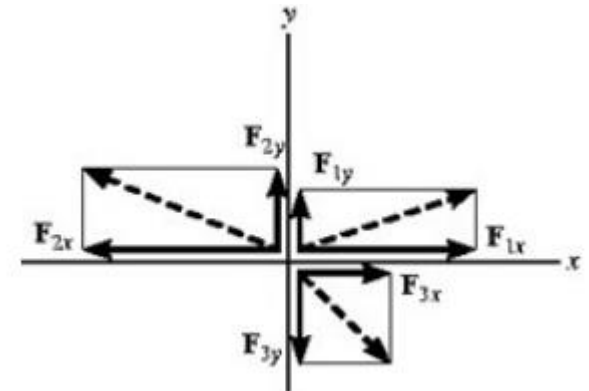
$$\mathbf{F}_R = \mathbf{F}_1 + \mathbf{F}_2 + \mathbf{F}_3 = (F_{Rx})\mathbf{i} + (F_{Ry})\mathbf{j}$$



- Scalar Notation

$$F_{Rx} = F_{1x} - F_{2x} + F_{3x}$$

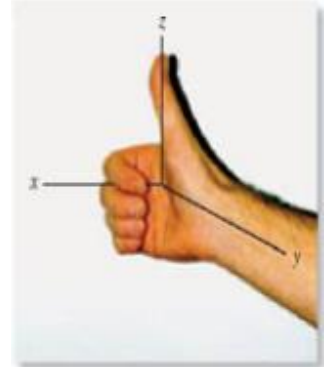
$$F_{Ry} = F_{1y} + F_{2y} - F_{3y}$$



# Cartesian Vectors

- **Right-Handed Coordinate System**

A right-handed rectangular or Cartesian coordinate system



- **Rectangular Components of a Vector**

A vector  $A$  may have one, two or three rectangular components along the  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  axes, depending on orientation

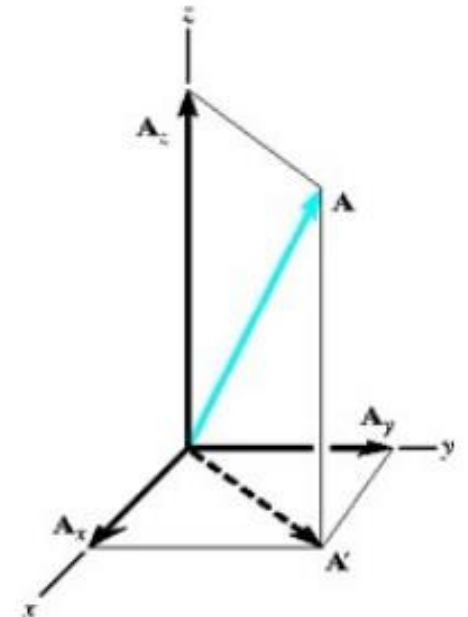
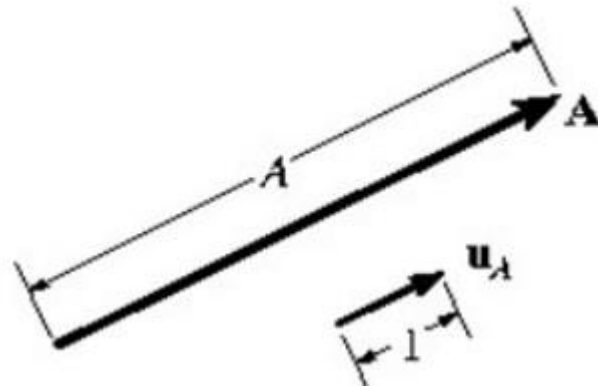
By two successive applications:

$$A = A' + A_z$$

$$A' = A_x + A_y$$

$$A = A_x + A_y + A_z$$

$$A = |A|u_A$$



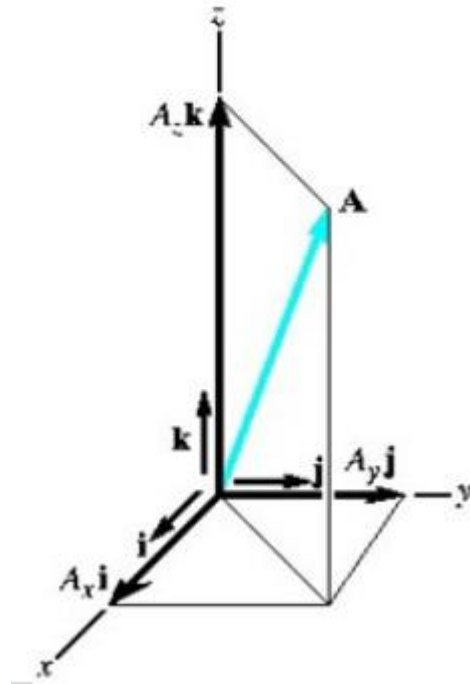
# Cartesian Vectors

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## Cartesian Vector Representation

- Three components of  $A$  act in the positive  $i$ ,  $j$  and  $k$  directions

$$\mathbf{A} = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$$

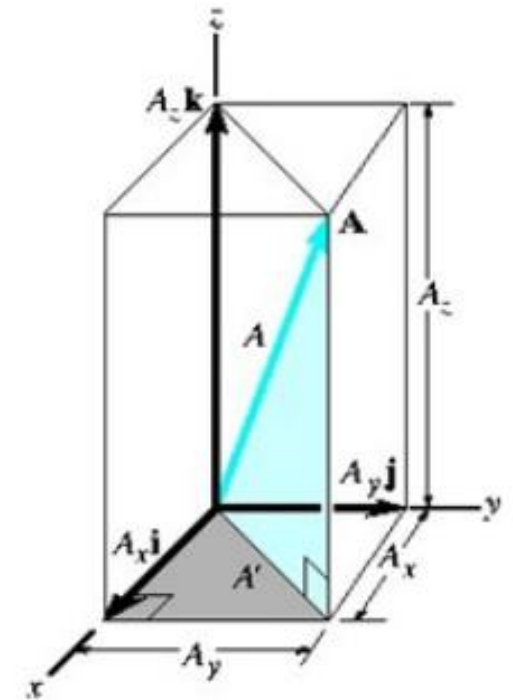


# Cartesian Vectors

## Magnitude of a Cartesian vector

- From the colored triangle  $A = \sqrt{A'^2 + A_z^2}$
- From the shaded triangle  $A' = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2}$
- Combining the equations gives magnitude of **A**

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



# Cartesian Vectors

- **Coordinate Direction Angles**

Orientation of  $\mathbf{A}$  is defined as the coordinate direction angles  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  measured between  $\mathbf{A}$  and the  $x, y$  and  $z$  axes  $0^\circ \leq \alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma \leq 180^\circ$

- The direction cosines of  $\mathbf{A}$  is

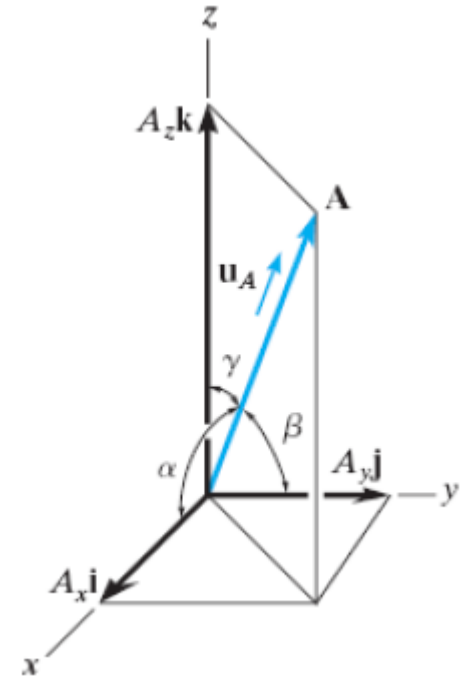
$$\cos \alpha = \frac{A_x}{|\mathbf{A}|} \quad \cos \beta = \frac{A_y}{|\mathbf{A}|} \quad \cos \gamma = \frac{A_z}{|\mathbf{A}|}$$

**The unit vector  $\mathbf{u}_A = \mathbf{A}/|\mathbf{A}| = (A_x/A)\mathbf{i} + (A_y/A)\mathbf{j} + (A_z/A)\mathbf{k}$**

$$\mathbf{u}_A = \cos \alpha \mathbf{i} + \cos \beta \mathbf{j} + \cos \gamma \mathbf{k}$$

$$\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma = 1$$

$$\mathbf{A} = |\mathbf{A}| \mathbf{u}_A = |\mathbf{A}| \cos \alpha \mathbf{i} + |\mathbf{A}| \cos \beta \mathbf{j} + |\mathbf{A}| \cos \gamma \mathbf{k} = A_x \mathbf{i} + A_y \mathbf{j} + A_z \mathbf{k}$$



# Cartesian Vectors

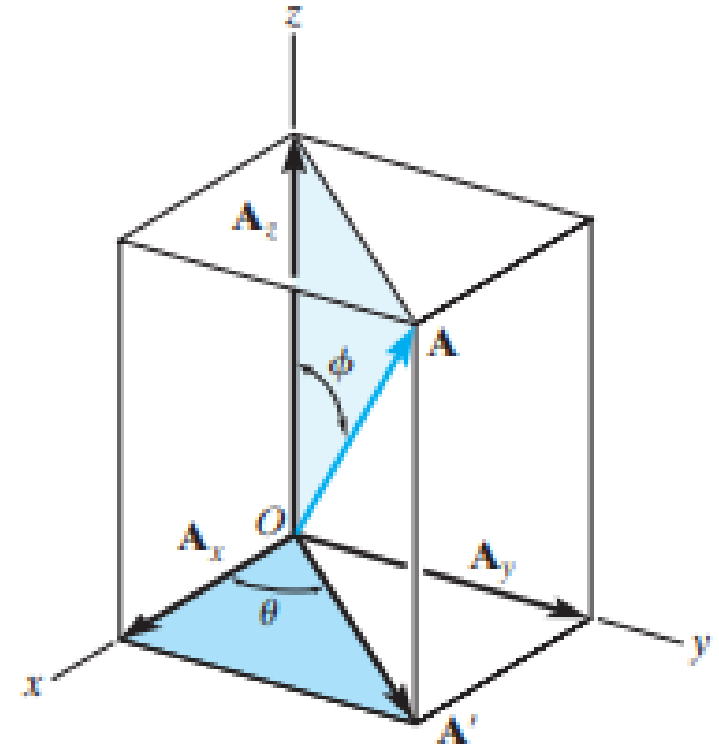
- **Transverse and Azimuth Angles**

The direction of  $A$  can be specified using two angles:  
Transverse angle  $\theta$  and Azimuth angle  $\Phi$ :

$$A_z = A \cos \Phi \text{ and } A' = A \sin \Phi \Rightarrow$$

$$A_x = A' \cos \theta = A \sin \Phi \cos \theta$$

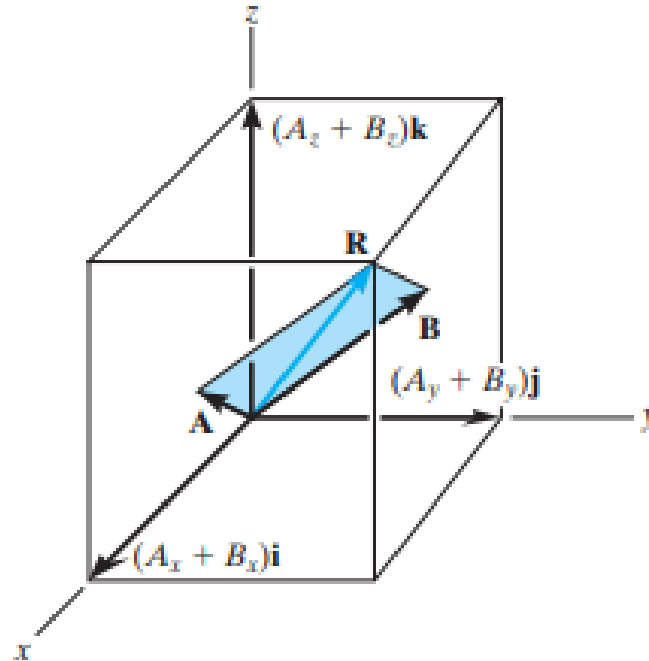
$$A_y = A' \sin \theta = A \sin \Phi \sin \theta$$



# Addition of Cartesian Vectors

- The resultant vector  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = (A_x + B_x)\mathbf{i} + (A_y + B_y)\mathbf{j} + (A_z + B_z)\mathbf{k}$
- For a system of several concurrent forces, the force resultant :

$$\mathbf{F}_R = \Sigma \mathbf{F} = \Sigma F_x \mathbf{i} + \Sigma F_y \mathbf{j} + \Sigma F_z \mathbf{k}$$

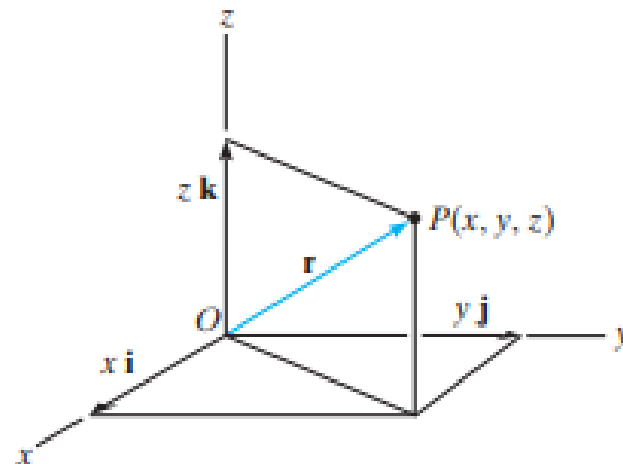




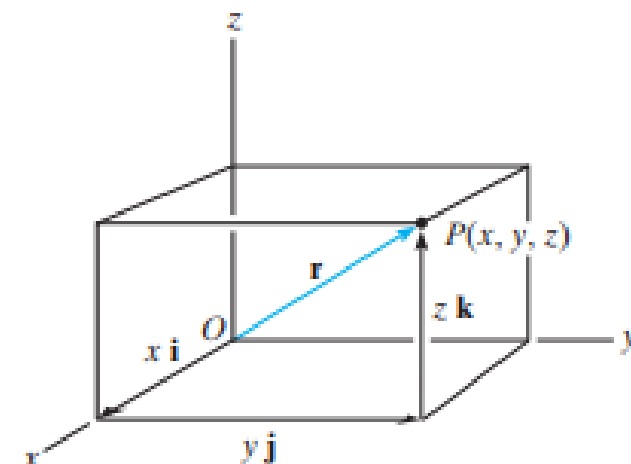
# Position Vectors

- Position vector: is a fixed vector which locates a point in space relative to another point  $\Rightarrow$  Position Displacement Vector

$$\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$$



(a)



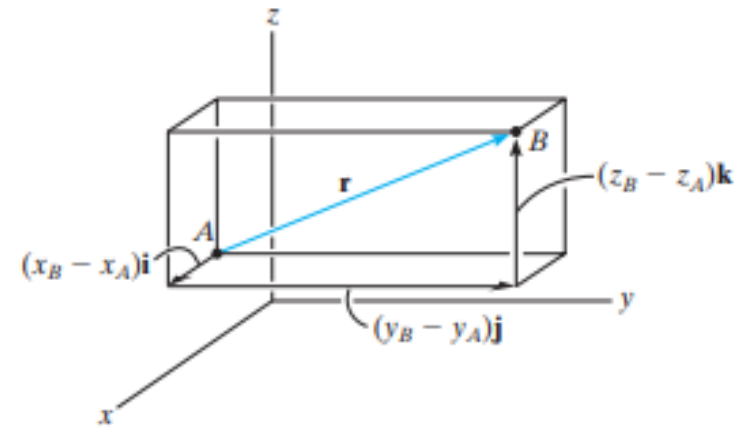
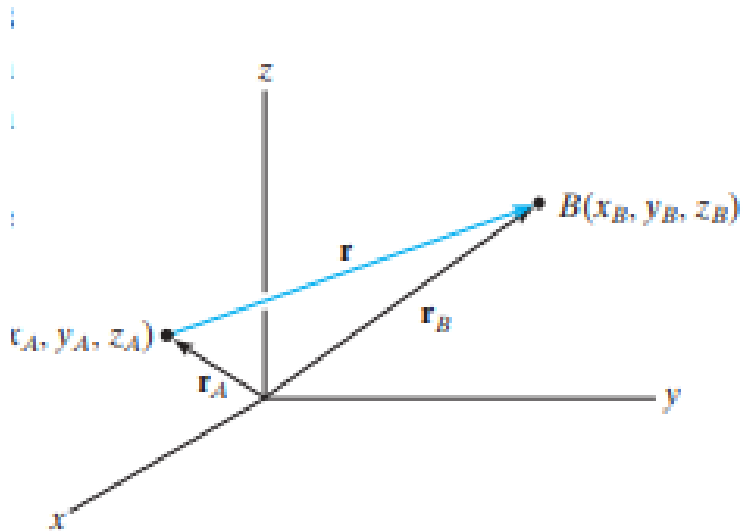
(b)

# Position Vector: Displacement and Force

- Using the triangle rule,  $\mathbf{r}_A + \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_B$

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_B - \mathbf{r}_A = (x_B \mathbf{i} + y_B \mathbf{j} + z_B \mathbf{k}) - (x_A \mathbf{i} + y_A \mathbf{j} + z_A \mathbf{k})$$

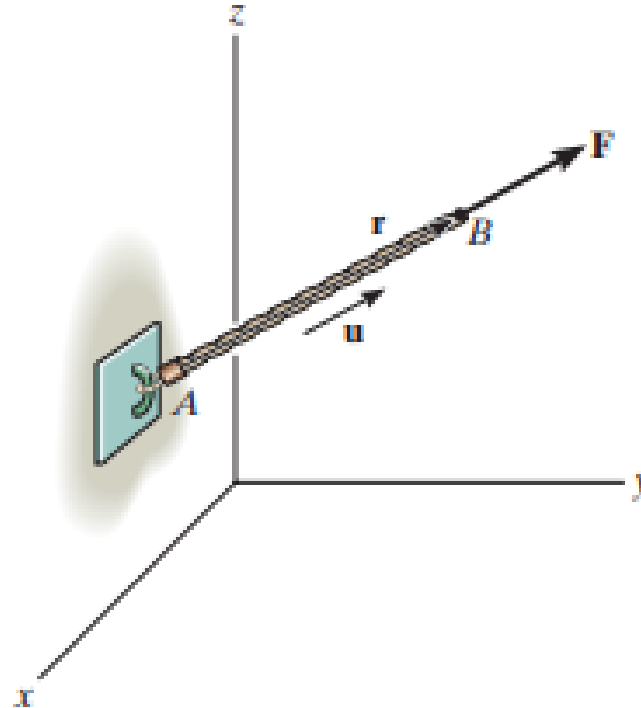
$$\mathbf{r} = (x_B - x_A) \mathbf{i} + (y_B - y_A) \mathbf{j} + (z_B - z_A) \mathbf{k}$$



# Force vector along a line

- Force  $F$  directed along the cord  $AB$

$$\mathbf{F} = F \mathbf{u} = F \left( \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \right) = F \left( \frac{(x_B - x_A)\mathbf{i} + (y_B - y_A)\mathbf{j} + (z_B - z_A)\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{(x_B - x_A)^2 + (y_B - y_A)^2 + (z_B - z_A)^2}} \right)$$

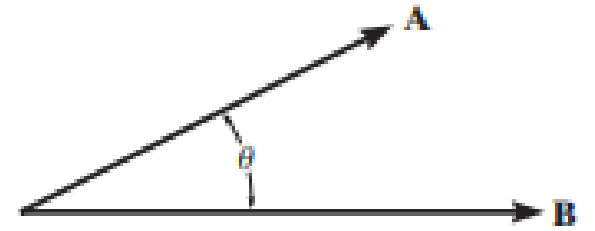


# Dot Product

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- Dot product of vectors A and B:

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = A B \cos \theta$$



- **Laws of Operation**

1. Commutative law  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{A}$
2. Multiplication by a scalar  $a(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = (a\mathbf{A}) \cdot \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} \cdot (a\mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B})a$
3. Distribution law  $\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{D}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) + (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{D})$

- **Cartesian Vector Formulation**

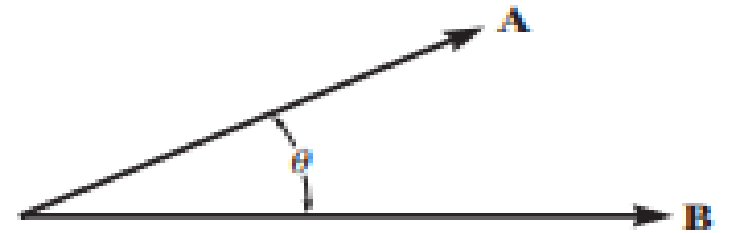
$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

# Dot Product

## Applications:

- The angle formed between two vectors or intersecting lines:

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{AB}\right), 0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ$$



- The components of a vector parallel and perpendicular to a line:

The parallel component:  $A_a = A \cos \theta = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_a$

The perpendicular component:

$$A_\perp = A \sin \theta \text{ with } \theta = \cos^{-1}(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_a / A)$$

$$\text{Or } A_\perp = \sqrt{A^2 - A_a^2}$$

