

$$\vec{v} = \langle \sqrt{5}, -2, 4 \rangle$$

unit vector

Task: find a vector  $\vec{u}$  of unit length pointing in the same direction as  $\vec{v}$

$$\|\vec{v}\|^2 = (\sqrt{5})^2 + (-2)^2 + 4^2$$

$$= 5 + 4 + 16$$

$$= 25$$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{5} \langle \sqrt{5}, -2, 4 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{v}\| = 5$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}, -\frac{2}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

Divide  $\vec{v}$  by its length.  $\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$

Common unit vectors  $\hat{i} = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$  ( $\hat{i} = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$ )

$\hat{j} = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$  ( $\hat{j} = \langle 0, 1 \rangle$ )

$\hat{k} = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$

standard basis vectors  $\vec{0}$

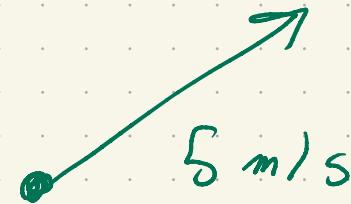
$$\vec{a} = \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle$$

$$= a_1 \hat{i} + a_2 \hat{j} + a_3 \hat{k}$$

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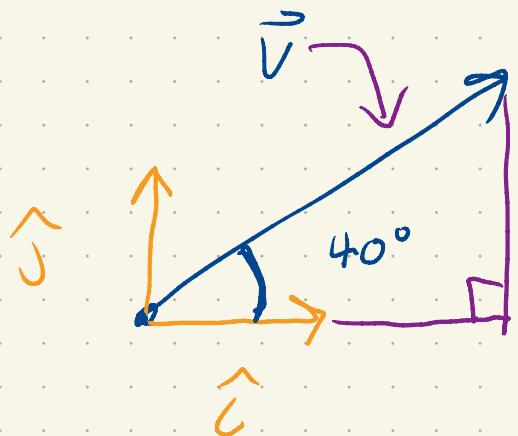
Other vectorial quantities

• velocity  $\text{m/s}$



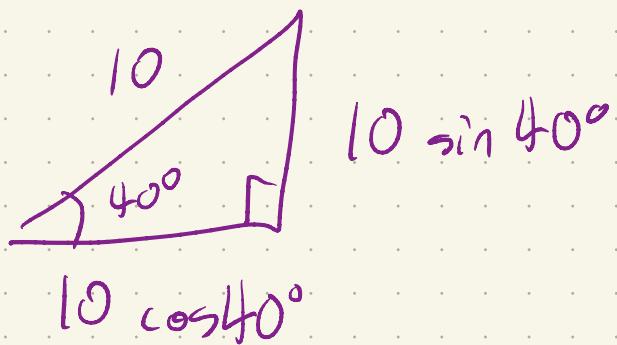
• acceleration  $\text{m/s}^2$

• force  $\text{kg m/s}^2$  ( $N$ )



$$|\vec{v}| = 10 \text{ km/h}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= v_1 \hat{i} + v_2 \hat{j} \\ &= \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

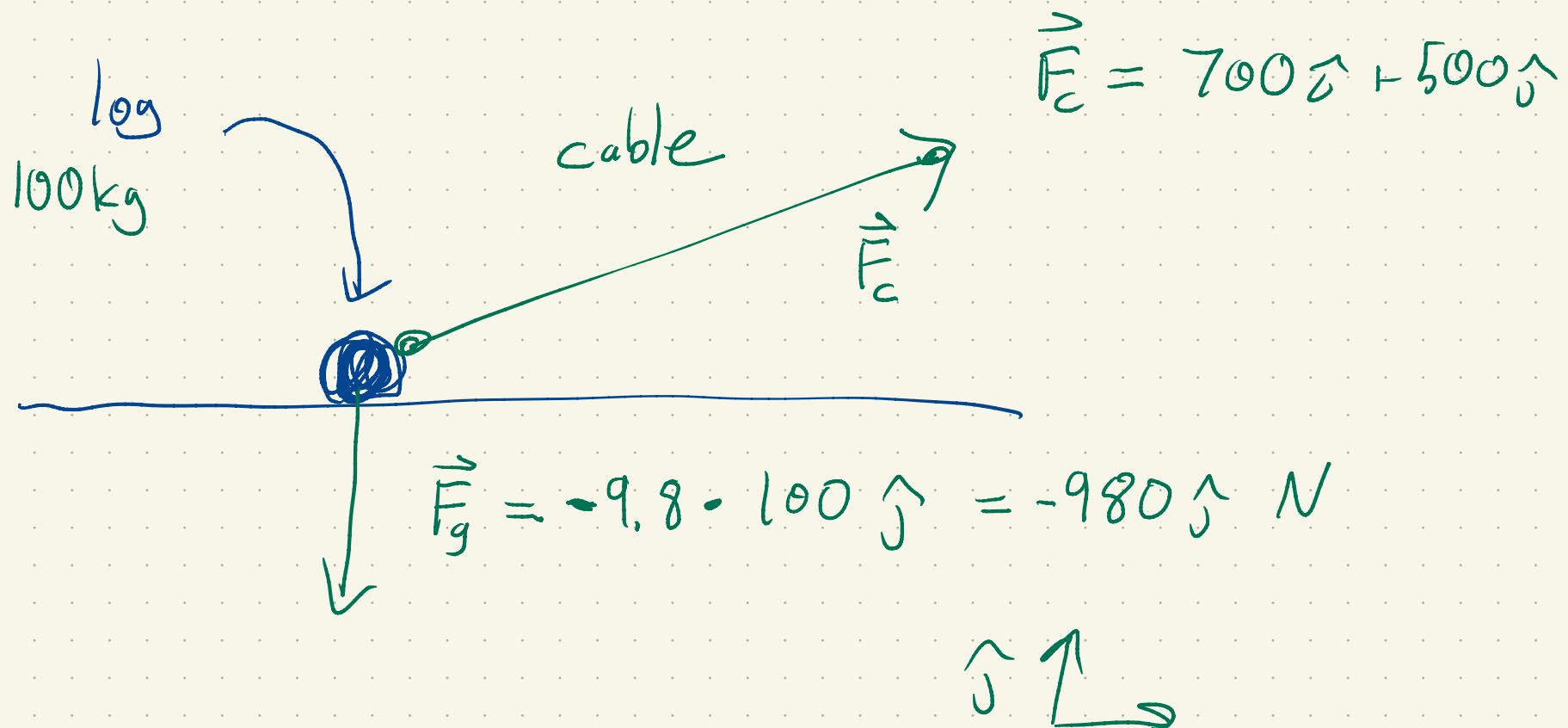


$$v_1 = 10 \cos(40^\circ) \approx 7.7$$

$$v_2 = 10 \sin(40^\circ) \approx 6.4$$

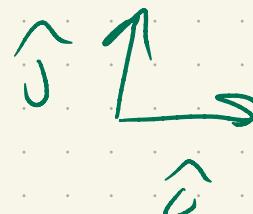
$$\vec{v} \approx 7.7 \hat{i} + 6.4 \hat{j}$$

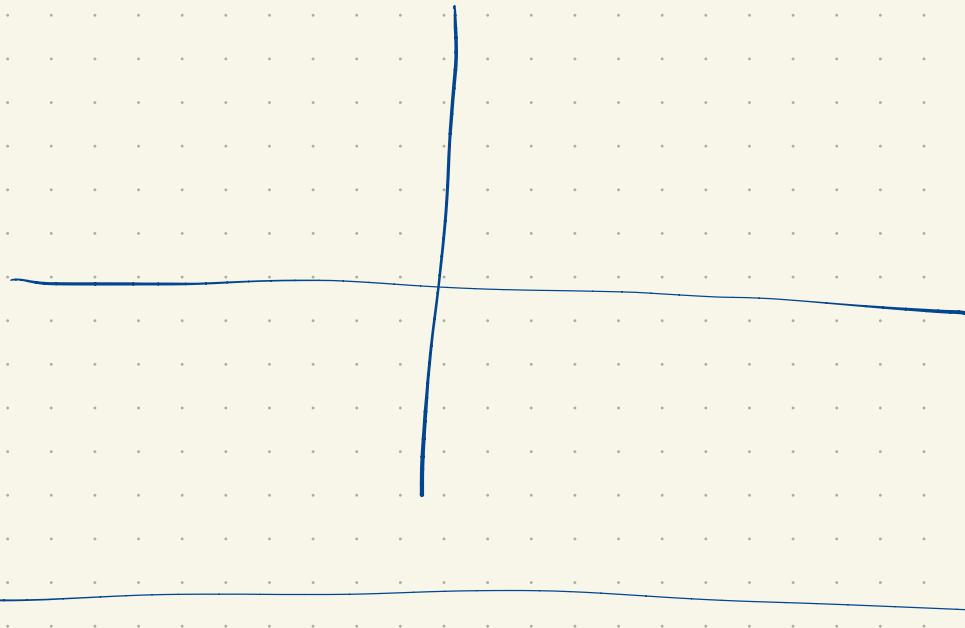
When multiple forces act on an object  
the net force is the vector sum of the forces.



$$F = \vec{F}_c + \vec{F}_g$$

$$= 700\hat{i} + 500\hat{j} - 980\hat{j} = 700\hat{i} - 480\hat{j} \text{ N}$$





## 2.3 Dot Product

Def:  $\vec{a} = \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle$

$\vec{b} = \langle b_1, b_2, b_3 \rangle$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \underbrace{a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3}_{\text{number (scalar)}}$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = a_1 \cdot a_1 + a_2 \cdot a_2 + a_3 \cdot a_3$$

$$= a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2$$

$$= \|\vec{a}\|^2$$

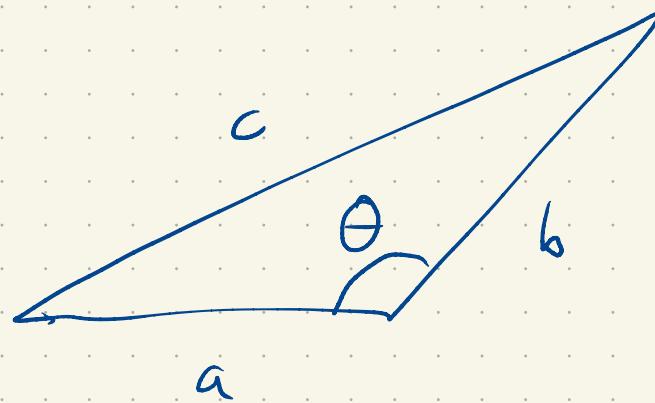
$$\|\vec{a} - \vec{b}\|^2 = (\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b})$$

$$= \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}$$

$$= \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} - 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}$$

$$= \|\vec{a}\|^2 - 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \|\vec{b}\|^2$$

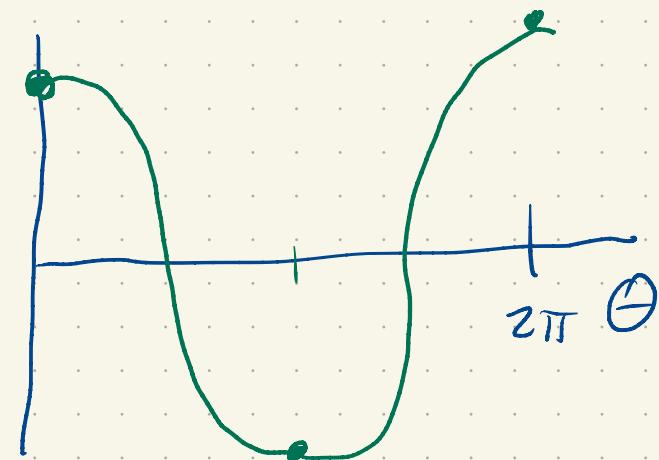
$$2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\|^2 + \|\vec{b}\|^2 - \|\vec{a} - \vec{b}\|^2$$

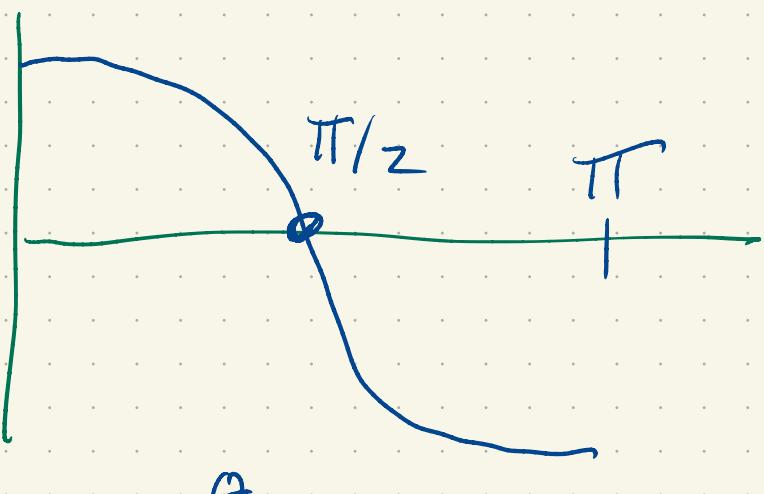


$$2ab \cos \theta = a^2 + b^2 - c^2$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta$$

$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$





$$\hat{a} \cdot \hat{j} = 0$$

$\uparrow$

$$\|\hat{a}\| \|\hat{j}\| \cos \theta$$

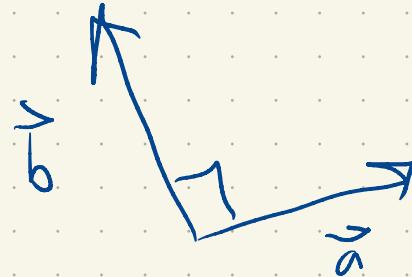
$$\hat{j} \cdot \hat{k} = 0$$

$$\hat{j} \cdot \hat{j} = 1^2 = \|\hat{j}\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{a} &= \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle \\ \hat{j} &= \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} = 0 \quad \text{if and only if}$$

$\hat{a}$  and  $\hat{b}$  are perpendicular



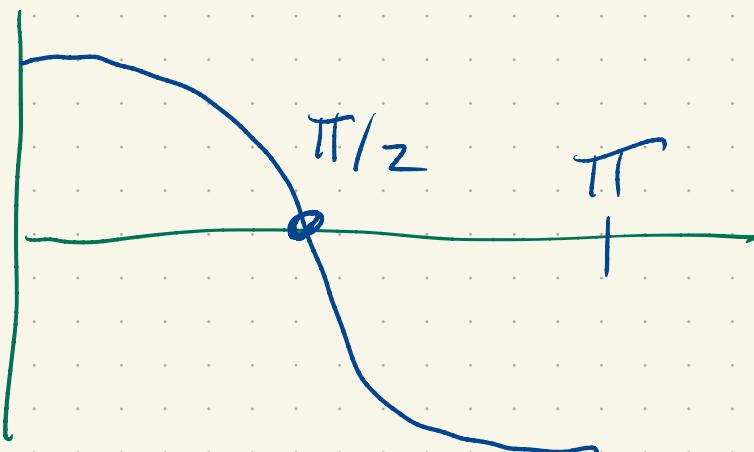
## Fundamental Properties of Dot Product

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \text{ iff } \vec{a} \perp \vec{b}$$

## Secondary Property

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = \|\vec{a}\|^2$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta$$



$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} > 0$$

$$\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta > 0$$



$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta > 0$$

angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is acute

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} < 0 \Rightarrow \text{angle is obtuse}$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{right angle}$$

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$$\vec{a} = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$$

Task: compute the angle  
between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

$$\vec{b} = \langle -1, 2, 1 \rangle$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\|}$$

$$\|\vec{a}\|^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 = 14$$

$$\|\vec{b}\|^2 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} &= 1 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 1 \\ &= -1 + 4 + 3\end{aligned}$$

$$= 6$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{6}{\sqrt{14} \cdot \sqrt{6}} = \sqrt{\frac{6}{14}}$$

$$\theta = \arccos \left( \sqrt{\frac{6}{14}} \right) = 49.1^\circ$$

# Dot Products and Physics

If a constant force  $\vec{F}$  is applied to a body

that moves from P to Q

then the body gains / loses energy

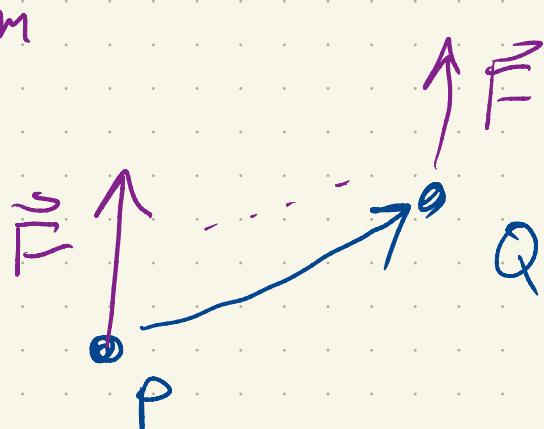
This change is the work done on the body.

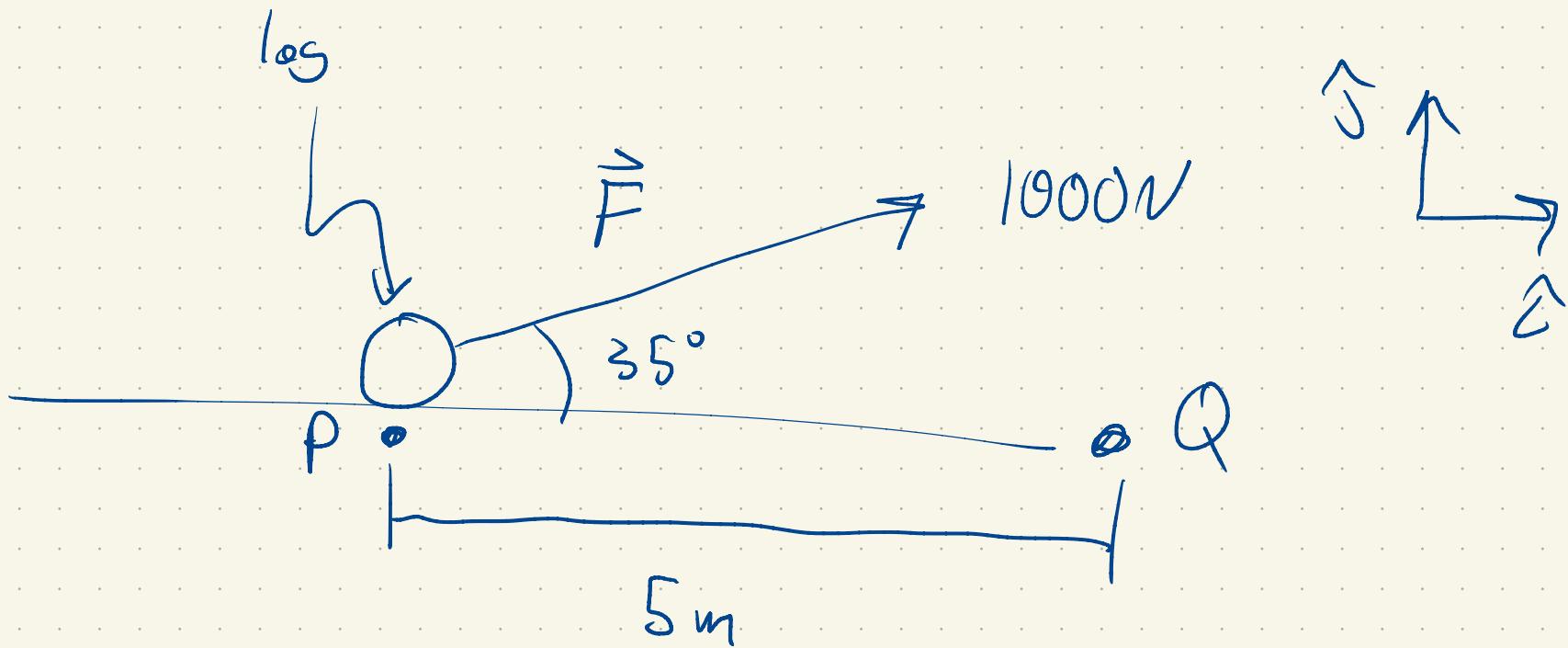
Work is a change in energy, so is a scalar.

$$\text{work} = \vec{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{PQ}$$

↑  
energy, joules  
 $\text{kg m}^2/\text{s}^2$

↑  
 $N$   
 $\text{kg m s}^{-2}$





Task: compute the work done.

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = 5 \hat{i}$$

$$\vec{F} = 1000 \cos 35^\circ \hat{i} + 1000 \sin 35^\circ \hat{j}$$

Work:  $\vec{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{PQ} = 5000 \cos 35^\circ$

$= 819 \text{ J}$

$$1.2 \approx$$

= 4095 J