

Vector Algebra

12/10/21

multiplying by a scalar

→ multiplying a vector by a scalar multiplies each component in turn.

eg $\underline{a} = (a_x, a_y), \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \lambda \underline{a} = (\lambda a_x, \lambda a_y)$

eg $\underline{a} = |\underline{a}| \hat{a} \quad \hat{a} = \underline{a} / |\underline{a}|$

Adding Vectors

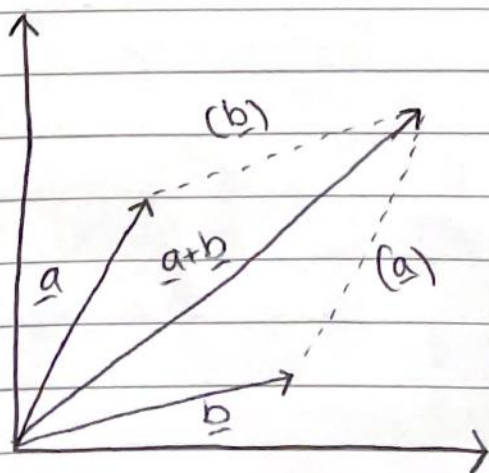
→ Vectors are added component wise

eg $\underline{a} = (a_x, a_y), \underline{b} = (b_x, b_y)$
 $\underline{a} + \underline{b} = \begin{pmatrix} a_x \\ a_y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_x \\ b_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_x + b_x \\ a_y + b_y \end{pmatrix}$

N.B (in \mathbb{R}^2)

using $\hat{i} = (1, 0) \quad \hat{j} = (0, 1)$
then $\underline{a} = (a_x, a_y) = a_x \hat{i} + a_y \hat{j}$

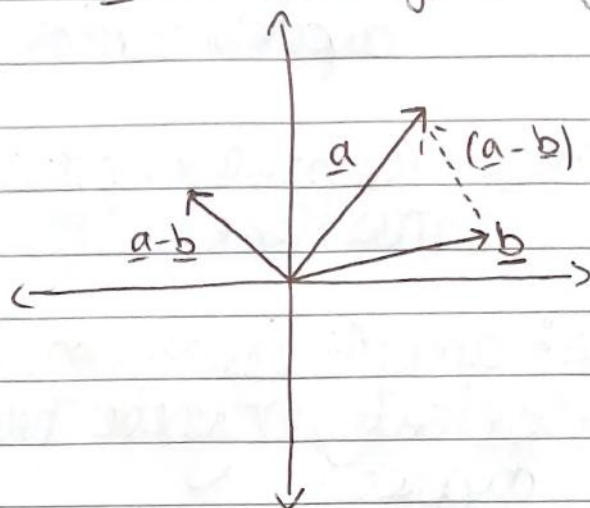
Graphically,



commutes
 $\underline{a} + \underline{b} = \underline{b} + \underline{a}$

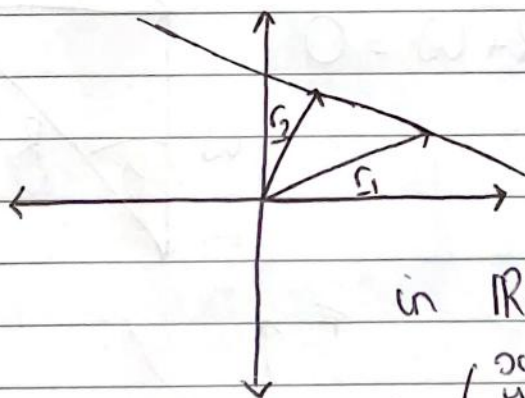
Subtraction:

$$\underline{a} - \underline{b} = \underline{a} + (-\underline{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} a_x \\ a_y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -b_x \\ -b_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_x - b_x \\ a_y - b_y \end{pmatrix}$$



Equation of a line

find eqn of line throu $\underline{r}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$
and $\underline{r}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$



$$\underline{r} = \underline{r}_1 + \lambda(\underline{r}_2 - \underline{r}_1)$$

in \mathbb{R}^3

$$\underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} x_2 - x_1 \\ y_2 - y_1 \\ z_2 - z_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve for λ :

$$\lambda = \frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{z_2 - z_1}$$

Equilibrium:

Common vectors: forces, direction, velocity, acceleration, electric fields, dipoles, current density, area

Common scalars: temperature, pressure, energy, mass, time

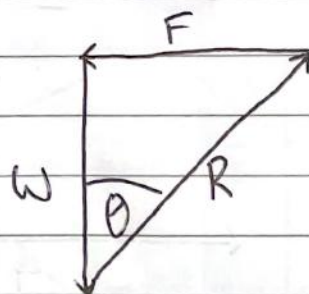
pseudovectors: angular momentum, torque, angular velocity, magnetic fields, magnetic dipoles

Problem:



What force does the finger need to apply to hold the particle constant?

$$F + R + W = 0$$



$$\frac{F}{W} = \tan \theta$$

$$F = W \tan \theta$$

$$F = mg \tan \theta$$

