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## 2. Vector introduction

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PROFESSOR: So far in the classroom, in first couple of days, we were talking about functions that depend on two variables and partial derivatives. So those are some of the fundamental language



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**Definition 2.1** A **vector** is something that has both magnitude (length) and direction.

One example of a quantity that has both magnitude and direction is **displacement** . If you travel from point A to point B, whatever the path you took to get there, your displacement can be represented by the arrow that starts at point A and ends at point B.

Physics and mechanics offer many other examples of physical quantities that have both magnitude and direction: both velocity and forces have a magnitude and a direction. Think of some examples of quantities that naturally are best described by both a magnitude and direction, and enter them into the boxes below. The result will be a word cloud of vectors!

(Note that if you haven't seen examples of vector quantities before, you can still participate in this activity by looking some up!)

Quantities with magnitude and direction

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