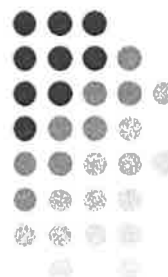


# PreCalculus

## Section 6.1 Combination of Vectors Resultant Vectors



HPC/RPC 2017

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**Example 1:** A boat is traveling due West at a speed of 20 mph. There is an 8 mph current flowing at a bearing of 60°. What is the "true" speed of the boat?

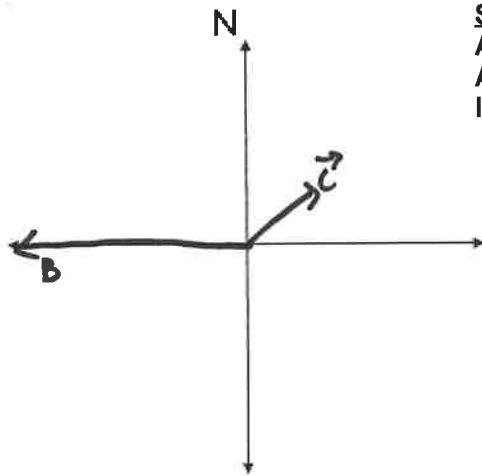
**Step 1:**  
Resolve each vector into its components

$\vec{B} = \langle 20 \cos 180, 20 \sin 180 \rangle$   
 $\vec{B} = \langle -20, 0 \rangle$

$\vec{C} = \langle 8 \cos 30, 8 \sin 30 \rangle$   
 $\vec{C} = \langle 6.93, 4 \rangle$

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**Example 1:** A boat is traveling due West at a speed of 20 mph. There is an 8 mph current flowing at a bearing of 60°. What is the "true" speed of the boat?



**Step 2:**  
 Add horizontal components;  
 Add vertical components.  
 In other words; add the vectors

$$\vec{B} + \vec{C} = \langle -20, 0 \rangle + \langle 6.93, 4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle -13.07, 4 \rangle$$

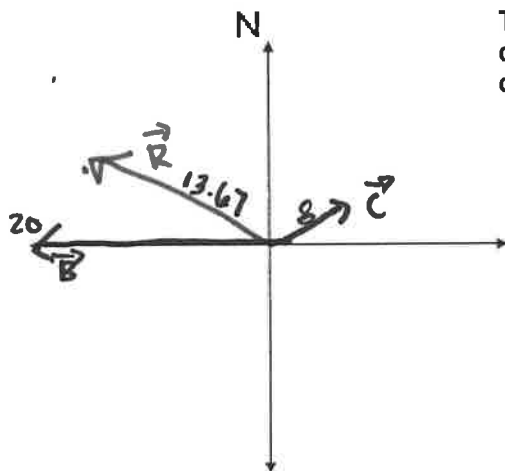
$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{(13.07)^2 + 4^2}$$

$$= 13.67 \text{ mph} \quad \text{Real Speed}$$

So, the boat's "true" speed due West is 13.07  
 without compensating for the current  
 it's traveling at 4mph North.

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**Example 1:** A boat is traveling due West at a speed of 20 mph. There is an 8 mph current flowing at a bearing of 60°. What is the "true" speed of the boat?



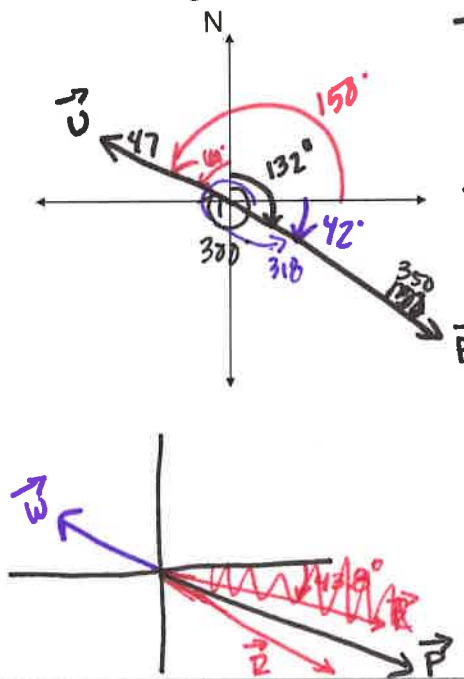
The resultant vector shows the actual direction of the boat, without compensating for the current

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**Example 2:** An airplane is flying 350 mph at a bearing of  $132^\circ$ .

If the wind is blowing 47 mph at a bearing of  $300^\circ$ , find:

- the actual ("ground") speed of the plane and
- the bearing of the plane as a result of the wind



$$\vec{P} = \langle 350 \cos 318, 350 \sin 318 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 260.10, -234.20 \rangle$$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 47 \cos 150, 47 \sin 150 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -40.70, 23.5 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 219.4, -210.7 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{219.4^2 + (-210.7)^2} = 304.2$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{219.4}{304.2} \right) = 43.8^\circ$$

$$\text{Bearing} = 90 + 43.8 = 133.8^\circ$$

Actual speed

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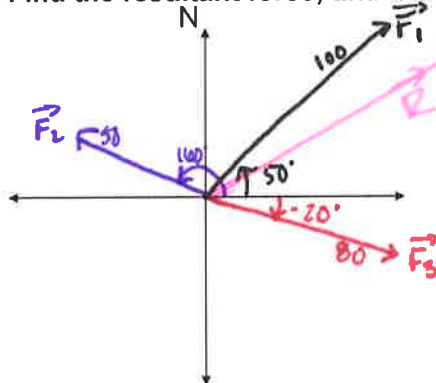
**Example 3:** Three forces all work on the same object.

Force 1 = 100 lb at an angle of  $50^\circ$

Force 2 = 50 lb at an angle of  $160^\circ$

Force 3 = 80 lb at an angle of  $-20^\circ$  (or  $340^\circ$ )

Find the resultant force, and the angle at which it acts.



$$\vec{F}_1 = \langle 100 \cos 50, 100 \sin 50 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 64.28, 76.6 \rangle$$

$$\vec{F}_2 = \langle 50 \cos 160, 50 \sin 160 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -46.98, 17.10 \rangle$$

$$\vec{F}_3 = \langle 80 \cos 340, 80 \sin 340 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 75.18, -27.36 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 92.47, 66.34 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{92.47^2 + 66.34^2} = 113.8$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{92.47}{113.8} \right) = 35.7^\circ$$

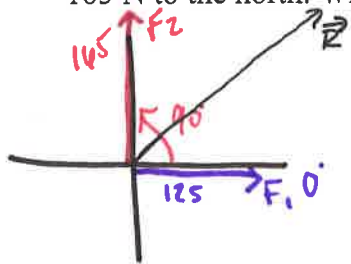
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# Vector Practice Problems

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Draw vector diagrams to solve each problem.

- 1) Two boys push on a box. One pushes with a force of 125 N to the east. The other exerts a force of 165 N to the north. What is the size and direction of the resultant force on the box?



$$F_1 = \langle 125 \cos 0, 125 \sin 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 125, 0 \rangle$$

$$\|R\| = \sqrt{125^2 + 165^2}$$

$$= 207.002$$

$$F_2 = \langle 165 \cos 90, 165 \sin 90 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0, 165 \rangle$$

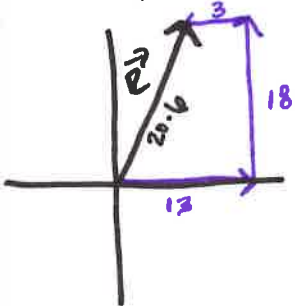
$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{125}{207}\right) = 52.9^\circ$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 125, 165 \rangle$$

- 2) An explorer walks 13 km due east, then 18 km north, and finally 3 km west.

a) What is the total distance walked?  $13 + 18 + 3 = 34 \text{ km}$

b) What is the displacement of the explorer (current distance from the starting point)?



$$\vec{R} = \langle 10, 18 \rangle$$

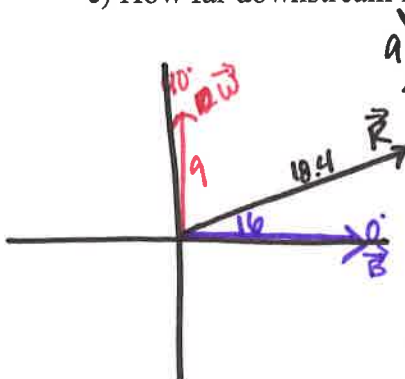
$$\|R\| = \sqrt{10^2 + 18^2} = 20.6 \text{ km}$$

- 3) A motorboat heads due east at 16 m/s across a river that flows due north at 9.0 m/s.

a) What is the resultant velocity (speed and direction) of the boat?

b) If the river is 136 m wide, how long does it take the motorboat to reach the other side?

c) How far downstream is the boat when it reaches the other side of the river?



a)  $\vec{B} = \langle 16, 0 \rangle$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 0, 9 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 16, 9 \rangle$$

$$\|R\| = \sqrt{16^2 + 9^2} = 18.4 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{16}{18.4}\right) = 29.4^\circ$$

b)  $d = rt$

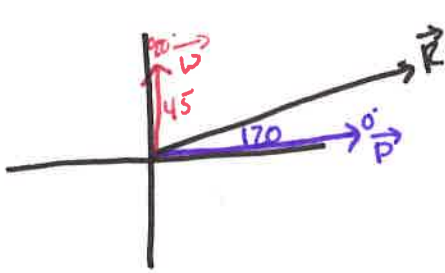
$$\frac{136}{16} = \frac{16t}{16}$$

$$8.5 \text{ s} = t$$

c)  $d = rt$

$$d =$$

- 4) While flying due east at 120 km/h, an airplane is also carried northward at 45 km/h by the wind blowing due north. What is the plane's resultant velocity?



$$\vec{P} = \langle 120, 0 \rangle$$

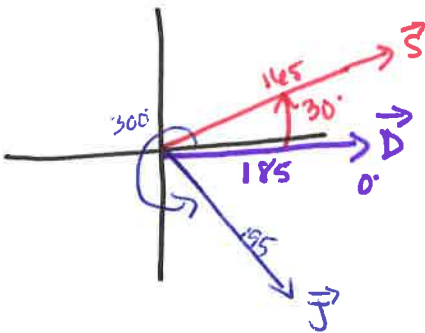
$$\vec{W} = \langle 0, 45 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 120, 45 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{120^2 + 45^2} = 128.16 \text{ km/h} \quad \text{Resultant velocity}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{120}{128.16}\right) = 20.56^\circ$$

- 5) Three teenagers push a heavy crate across the floor. Dion pushes with a force of 185 N at  $0^\circ$ . Shirley exerts a force of 165 N at  $30^\circ$ , while Joan pushes with 195 N force at  $300^\circ$ . What is the resultant force on the crate? What direction (angle) does the crate go?



$$\vec{D} = \langle 185, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{S} = \langle 165 \cos 30, 165 \sin 30 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 142.89, 82.5 \rangle$$

$$\vec{J} = \langle 195 \cos 300, 195 \sin 300 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 97.5, -168.88 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 425.4, -86.4 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{425.4^2 + (-86.4)^2}$$

$$= 434.1 \text{ N}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{425.4}{434.1}\right)$$

$$= 11.5^\circ$$

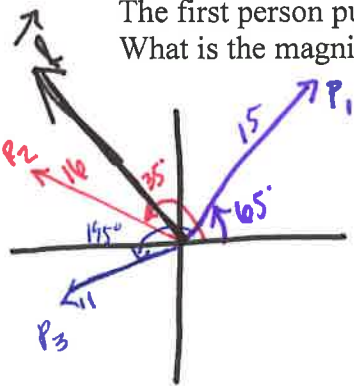
$$\theta = 360 - 11.5$$

$$\theta \approx 348.5^\circ$$

- 6) Three people are pulling on a tree.

The first person pulls with 15 N at  $65^\circ$ ; the second with 16 N at  $135^\circ$ ; the third with 11 N at  $195^\circ$ .

What is the magnitude and direction of the resultant force on the tree?



$$P_1 = \langle 15 \cos 65, 15 \sin 65 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 6.34, 13.6 \rangle$$

$$P_2 = \langle 16 \cos 135, 16 \sin 135 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -11.3, 11.3 \rangle$$

$$P_3 = \langle 11 \cos 195, 11 \sin 195 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -10.6, -2.8 \rangle$$

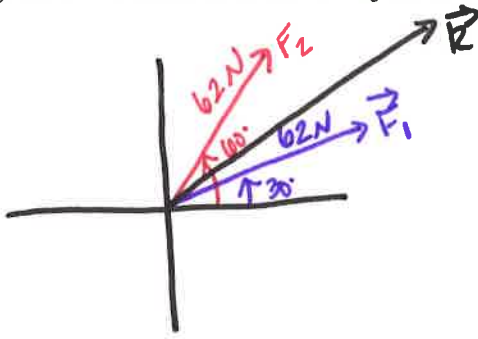
$$\vec{R} = \langle -15.6, 22.1 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{(-15.6)^2 + 22.1^2}$$

$$= 27.02 \text{ N}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-15.6}{27.02}\right) = 125.3^\circ$$

7) A 62-N force acts on an object at  $30^\circ$  and a second 62-N force acts at  $60^\circ$ . Determine the resultant force.



$$F_1 = \langle 62 \cos 30, 62 \sin 30 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 53.7, 31 \rangle$$

$$F_2 = \langle 62 \cos 60, 62 \sin 60 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 31, 53.7 \rangle$$

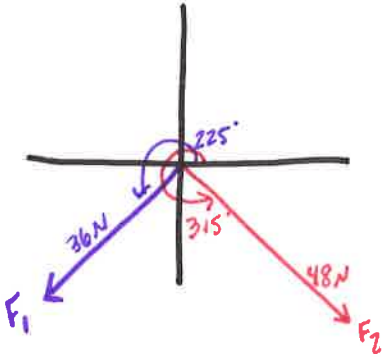
$$\vec{R} = \langle 84.7, 84.7 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{84.7^2 + 84.7^2} = 119.8 \text{ N}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{84.7}{119.8}\right)$$

$$= 45^\circ$$

8) Two forces act on an object. A 36-N force acts at  $225^\circ$ . A 48-N force acts at  $315^\circ$ . What would be the magnitude and direction of the resultant force?



$$F_1 = \langle 36 \cos 225, 36 \sin 225 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -25.5, -25.5 \rangle$$

$$F_2 = \langle 48 \cos 315, 48 \sin 315 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 33.9, -33.9 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 8.5, -59.4 \rangle$$

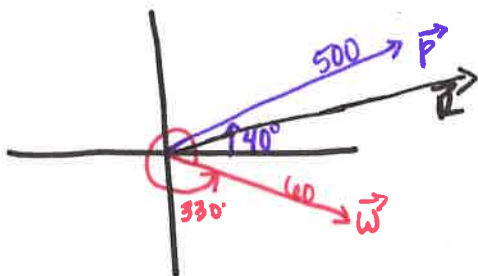
$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{8.5^2 + (-59.4)^2} = 60 \text{ N}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{8.5}{60}\right) = 81.9^\circ$$

$$\theta = 360 - 81.9 = 278.13^\circ$$

### Vector Word Problems Practice Worksheet 2 (Bearings)

1. An airplane has an airspeed of 500 kph bearing  $50^\circ$ . The wind velocity is 60 kph in the direction of  $330^\circ$ . Find the resultant vector representing the path of the plane relative to the ground. What is the ground speed of the plane? What is the direction?



$$\vec{P} = \langle 500 \cos 40, 500 \sin 40 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 383.02, 321.39 \rangle$$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 60 \cos 330, 60 \sin 330 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 51.96, -30 \rangle$$

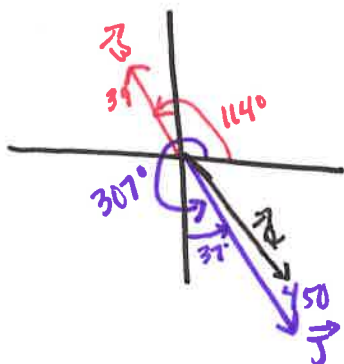
$$\vec{R} = \langle 434.98, 291.39 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{434.98^2 + 291.39^2} = \boxed{523.56 \text{ kph}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{434.98}{523.56} \right)$$

$$= 33.8^\circ$$

2. An airline route from San Francisco to Honolulu is  $S 37^\circ E$ . A jet flying at 450 mph on that bearing runs into a wind blowing at 39 mph from a direction of  $114$  degrees. Find the resulting groundspeed and direction of the jet.



$$\vec{J} = \langle 450 \cos 307, 450 \sin 307 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 270.82, -359.39 \rangle$$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 39 \cos 114, 39 \sin 114 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -15.9, 35.6 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 254.95, -323.76 \rangle$$

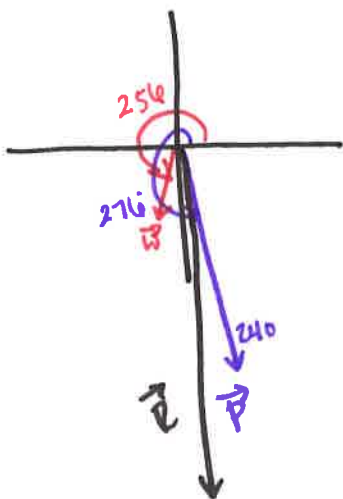
$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{254.95^2 + (-323.76)^2} = \boxed{412.09 \text{ mph}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{254.95}{412.09} \right)$$

$$= 91.8^\circ$$

$$\theta = 360 - 91.8 = \boxed{308.2^\circ}$$

3. An airplane is heading  $S 6^\circ E$  at an airspeed of 240 kph. A 20 kph wind is blowing from  $S 14^\circ W$ . Find the groundspeed and resultant direction of the plane.



$$\vec{P} = \langle 240 \cos 276, 240 \sin 276 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 25.09, -238.69 \rangle$$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 20 \cos 256, 20 \sin 256 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -4.24, -19.41 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle 20.2, -258.1 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{20.2^2 + (-258.1)^2} = \boxed{258.9 \text{ kph}}$$

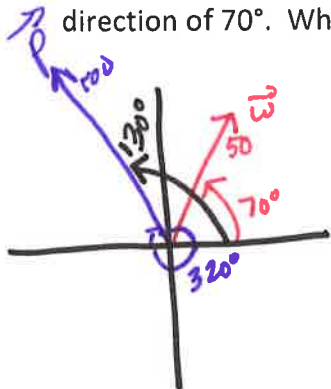
$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{20.2}{258.9} \right)$$

$$= 85.5^\circ$$

$$\theta = 360 - 85.5$$

$$= \boxed{274.5^\circ}$$

4. An airplane is traveling at a speed of 500 mph with a bearing of 320° at a fixed altitude and no wind. As the plane crosses the Mississippi river, it encounters a wind blowing with a velocity of 50 mph in the direction of 70°. What is the resultant speed and direction of the plane?



$$\vec{P} = \langle 500 \cos 130, 500 \sin 130 \rangle$$

$$= \langle -321.39, 383.02 \rangle$$

$$\vec{W} = \langle 50 \cos 70, 50 \sin 70 \rangle$$

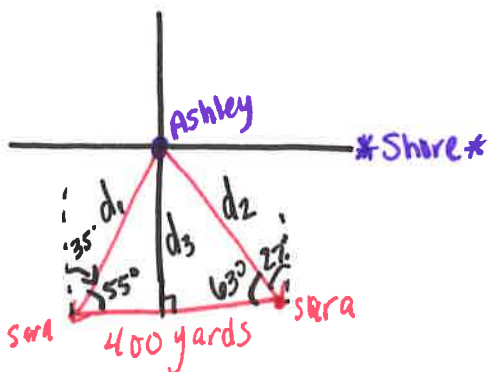
$$= \langle 17.10, 46.98 \rangle$$

$$\vec{R} = \langle -304.29, 430.01 \rangle$$

$$\|\vec{R}\| = \sqrt{(-304.29)^2 + 430.01^2} = \boxed{526.8 \text{ mph}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{-304.29}{526.8} \right) = \boxed{125.3^\circ}$$

5. Sara is in a boat traveling due west parallel to the shore. At one point Sara sees her friend Ashley on the shore at a bearing of S 35° W. Sara continues west for 400 more yards, where now she sees her friend at a bearing of S 27° E. How far is Sara from Ashley at both points? How far is Sara from the shore?



Law of Sines

$$\frac{d_1}{\sin 63^\circ} = \frac{400}{\sin 62^\circ}$$

$$d_1 = 403.65 \text{ yds.}$$

$$\frac{d_2}{\sin 55^\circ} = \frac{400}{\sin 62^\circ}$$

$$d_2 = 371.1 \text{ yd.}$$

$$\sin 63^\circ = \frac{d_3}{871.1}$$

$$d_3 = 330.65 \text{ yds.}$$