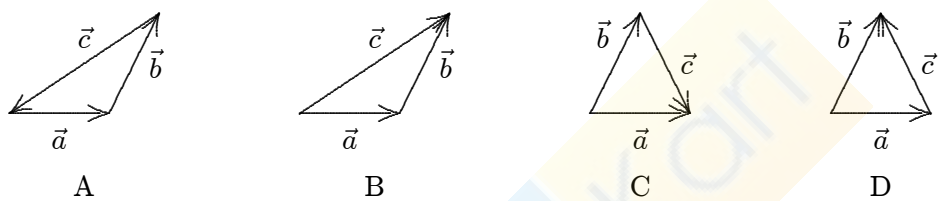
Chapter 3: VECTORS

1. We say that the displacement of a particle is a vector quantity. Our best justification for this assertion is:

   A. displacement can be specified by a magnitude and a direction
   B. operating with displacements according to the rules for manipulating vectors leads to results in agreement with experiments
   C. a displacement is obviously not a scalar
   D. displacement can be specified by three numbers
   E. displacement is associated with motion

   ans: B

2. The vectors $\vec{a}$, $\vec{b}$, and $\vec{c}$ are related by $\vec{c} = \vec{b} - \vec{a}$. Which diagram below illustrates this relationship?



A B C D

   E. None of these

   ans: D

3. A vector of magnitude 3 CANNOT be added to a vector of magnitude 4 so that the magnitude of the resultant is:

   A. zero
   B. 1
   C. 3
   D. 5
   E. 7

   ans: A

4. A vector of magnitude 20 is added to a vector of magnitude 25. The magnitude of this sum might be:

   A. zero
   B. 3
   C. 12
   D. 47
   E. 50

   ans: C

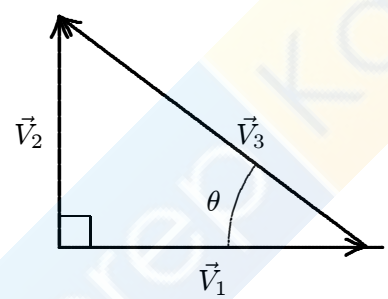
5. A vector $\vec{S}$ of magnitude 6 and another vector $\vec{T}$ have a sum of magnitude 12. The vector $\vec{T}$:
   A. must have a magnitud
   B. may have a magnitude of 20
   C. cannot have a magnitude greater than 12
   D. must be perpendicular to $\vec{S}$
   E. must be perpendicular to the vector sum

   ans: A

6. The vector $-\vec{A}$ is:
   A. greater than $\vec{A}$ in magnitude
   B. less than $\vec{A}$ in magnitude
   C. in the same direction as $\vec{A}$
   D. in the direction opposite to $\vec{A}$
   E. perpendicular to $\vec{A}$

   ans: D

7. The vector $\vec{V}_3$ in the diagram is equal to:



   A. $\vec{V}_1 - \vec{V}_2$
   B. $\vec{V}_1 + \vec{V}_2$
   C. $\vec{V}_2 - \vec{V}_1$
   D. $\vec{V}_1 \cos\theta$
   E. $\vec{V}_1/(\cos\theta)$

   ans: C

8. If $|\vec{A} + \vec{B}|^2 = A^2 + B^2$, then:
   A. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ must be parallel and in the same direction
   B. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ must be parallel and in opposite directions
   C. either $\vec{A}$ or $\vec{B}$ must be zero
   D. the angle between $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ must be $60°$
   E. none of the above is true

   ans: E

9. If $|\vec{A}+\vec{B}| = A + B$ and neither $\vec{A}$ nor $\vec{B}$ vanish, then:

A. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ are parallel ε
B. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ are parallel and in opposite directions
C. the angle between $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ is 45°
D. the angle between $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ is 60°
E. $\vec{A}$ is perpendicular to $\vec{B}$

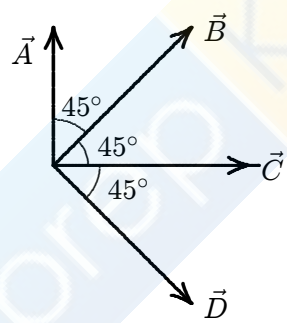
ans: A

10. If $|\vec{A}-\vec{B}| = A + B$ and neither $\vec{A}$ nor $\vec{B}$ vanish, then:

A. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ are parallel and in the same direction
B. $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ are parallel and in opposite directions
C. the angle between $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ is 45°
D. the angle between $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ is 60°
E. $\vec{A}$ is perpendicular to $\vec{B}$

ans: B

11. Four vectors ($\vec{A}$, $\vec{B}$, $\vec{C}$, $\vec{D}$) all have the same magnitude. The angle θ between adjacent vectors is 45° as shown. The correct vector equation is:



A. $\vec{A} - \vec{B} - \vec{C} + \vec{D} = 0$
B. $\vec{B} + \vec{D} - \sqrt{2}\vec{C} = 0$
C. $\vec{A} + \vec{B} = \vec{B} + \vec{D}$
D. $\vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C} + \vec{D} = 0$
E. $(\vec{A} + \vec{C})/\sqrt{2} = -\vec{B}$

ans: B

12. Vectors $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ lie in the xy plane. We can deduce that $\vec{A} = \vec{B}$ if:

A. $A_x^2 + A_y^2 = B_x^2 + B_y^2$
B. $A_x + A_y = B_x + B_y$
C. $A_x = B_x$ and $A_y = B_y$
D. $A_y/A_x = B_y/B_x$
E. $A_x = A_y$ and $B_x = B_y$

ans: C

13. A vector has a magnitude of 12. When its tail is at the origin it lies between the positive x axis and the negative y ax [illegible] s:

A. $6/\sqrt{3}$
B. $-6\sqrt{3}$
C. 6
D. -6
E. 12

ans: D

14. If the x component of a vector $\vec{A}$, in the xy plane, is half as large as the magnitude of the vector, the tangent of the angle between the vector and the x axis is:

A. $\sqrt{3}$
B. $1/2$
C. $\sqrt{3}/2$
D. $3/2$
E. 3

ans: D

15. If $\vec{A} = (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$ then $4\vec{A}$ has magnitude:

A. 10 m
B. 20 m
C. 30 m
D. 40 m
E. 50 m

ans: D

16. A vector has a component of 10 m in the $+x$ direction, a component of 10 m in the $+y$ direction, and a component of 5 m in the $+z$ direction. The magnitude of this vector is:

A. zero
B. 15 m
C. 20 m
D. 25 m
E. 225 m

ans: B

17. Let $\vec{V} = (2.00\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6.00\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3.00\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$. The magnitude of $\vec{V}$ is:

A. 5.00 m
B. 5.57 m
C. 7.00 m
D. 7.42 m
E. 8.54 m

ans: C

18. A vector in the xy plane has a magnitude of 25 m and an x component of 12 m. The angle it makes with the positive x

A. 26°
B. 29°
C. 61°
D. 64°
E. 241°

ans: C

19. The angle between $\vec{A} = (25\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (45\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$ and the positive x axis is:

A. 29°
B. 61°
C. 151°
D. 209°
E. 241°

ans: B

20. The angle between $\vec{A} = (-25\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (45\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$ and the positive x axis is:

A. 29°
B. 61°
C. 119°
D. 151°
E. 209°

ans: C

21. Let $\vec{A} = (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\vec{B} = (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$. The vector sum $\vec{S} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$ is:

A. $(6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
B. $(-2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
C. $(2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
D. $(8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (12\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
E. none of these

ans: A

22. Let $\vec{A} = (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\vec{B} = (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (2\,\mathrm{m}\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$. The vector difference $\vec{D} = \vec{A} - \vec{B}$ is:

A. $(6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
B. $(-2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
C. $(2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
D. $(8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (12\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
E. none of these

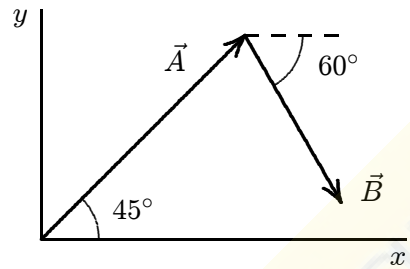
ans: B

23. If $\vec{A} = (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$ and $\vec{B} = (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}}$, then $\vec{A} - 2\vec{B} =$

A. $(1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$
B. $(-1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$
C. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (7\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$
D. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$
E. $(-4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (7\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$

ans: A

24. In the diagram, $\vec{A}$ has magnitude 12 m and $\vec{B}$ has magnitude 8 m. The x component of $\vec{A} + \vec{B}$ is about:



A. 5.5 m
B. 7.6 m
C. 12 m
D. 14 m
E. 15 m

ans: C

25. A certain vector in the xy plane has an x component of 4 m and a y component of 10 m. It is then rotated in the xy plane so its x component is doubled. Its new y component is about:

A. 20 m
B. 7.2 m
C. 5.0 m
D. 4.5 m
E. 2.2 m

ans: B

26. Vectors $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ each have magnitude L. When drawn with their tails at the same point, the angle between them is 30°. The value of $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$ is:

A. zero
B. L^2
C. $\sqrt{3}L^2/2$
D. $2L^2$
E. none of these

ans: C

27. Let $\vec{A} = (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\vec{B} = (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$. Then $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} =$

A. $(8\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (12\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (3\,$
B. $(12\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (14\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (20\,\mathrm{m})\,\mathrm{k}$
C. $23\,\mathrm{m}^2$
D. $17\,\mathrm{m}^2$
E. none of these

ans: D

28. Two vectors have magnitudes of $10\,\mathrm{m}$ and $15\,\mathrm{m}$. The angle between them when they are drawn with their tails at the same point is $65°$. The component of the longer vector along the line of the shorter is:

A. 0
B. $4.2\,\mathrm{m}$
C. $6.3\,\mathrm{m}$
D. $9.1\,\mathrm{m}$
E. $14\,\mathrm{m}$

ans: C

29. Let $\vec{S} = (1\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\vec{T} = (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$. The angle between these two vectors is given by:

A. $\cos^{-1}(14/15)$
B. $\cos^{-1}(11/225)$
C. $\cos^{-1}(104/225)$
D. $\cos^{-1}(11/15)$
E. cannot be found since $\vec{S}$ and $\vec{T}$ do not lie in the same plane

ans: D

30. Two vectors lie with their tails at the same point. When the angle between them is increased by $20°$ their scalar product has the same magnitude but changes from positive to negative. The original angle between them was:

A. 0
B. $60°$
C. $70°$
D. $80°$
E. $90°$

ans: D

31. If the magnitude of the sum of two vectors is less than the magnitude of either vector, then:

A. the scalar product of the vectors must be negative
B. the scalar product of the vectors must be positive
C. the vectors must be parallel and in opposite directions
D. the vectors must be parallel and in the same direction
E. none of the above

ans: A

32. If the magnitude of the sum of two vectors is greater than the magnitude of either vector, then:

A. the scalar product of t
B. the scalar product of the vectors must be positive
C. the vectors must be parallel and in opposite directions
D. the vectors must be parallel and in the same direction
E. none of the above

ans: E

33. Vectors $\vec{A}$ and $\vec{B}$ each have magnitude L. When drawn with their tails at the same point, the angle between them is 60°. The magnitude of the vector product $\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$ is:

A. $L^2/2$
B. L^2
C. $\sqrt{3}L^2/2$
D. $2L^2$
E. none of these

ans: C

34. Two vectors lie with their tails at the same point. When the angle between them is increased by 20° the magnitude of their vector product doubles. The original angle between them was about:

A. 0
B. 18°
C. 25°
D. 45°
E. 90°

ans: B

35. Two vectors have magnitudes of 10 m and 15 m. The angle between them when they are drawn with their tails at the same point is 65°. The component of the longer vector along the line perpendicular to the shorter vector, in the plane of the vectors, is:

A. 0
B. 4.2 m
C. 6.3 m
D. 9.1 m
E. 14 m

ans: E

36. The two vectors $(3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$ and $(2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (3\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (2\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$ define a plane. It is the plane of the triangle with both tails at one vertex and each head at one of the other vertices. Which of the following vectors is perpendicular to the plane?

A. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (13\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
B. $(-4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (13\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
C. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} - (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} + (13\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
D. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m}\,\hat{\mathrm{j}} - (13\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{k}}$
E. $(4\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{i}} + (6\,\mathrm{m})\,\hat{\mathrm{j}}$

ans: A

37. Let $\vec{R} = \vec{S} \times \vec{T}$ and $\theta \neq 90°$, where θ is the angle between $\vec{S}$ and $\vec{T}$ when they are drawn with their tails at the same poi

A. $|\vec{R}| = |\vec{S}||\vec{T}| \sin\theta$
B. $-\vec{R} = \vec{T} \times \vec{S}$
C. $\vec{R} \cdot \vec{S} = 0$
D. $\vec{R} \cdot \vec{T} = 0$
E. $\vec{S} \cdot \vec{T} = 0$

ans: E

38. The value of $\hat{\mathrm{i}} \cdot (\hat{\mathrm{j}} \times \hat{\mathrm{k}})$ is:

A. zero
B. $+1$
C. -1
D. 3
E. $\sqrt{3}$

ans: B

39. The value of $\hat{\mathrm{k}} \cdot (\hat{\mathrm{k}} \times \hat{\mathrm{i}})$ is:

A. zero
B. $+1$
C. -1
D. 3
E. $\sqrt{3}$

ans: A