Section 6.3A Vectors in the Plane

Vector: magnitude and direction

Terminal point

Q

Initial point

P
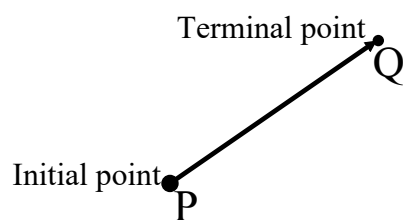
$$v = \overrightarrow{PQ}$$

*vectors are denoted by lowercase, boldface letters such as **u**, **v**, **w**.

$\|PQ\|$ *magnitude or length
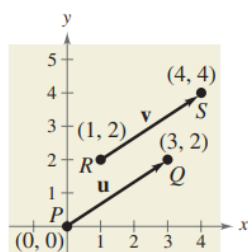
Show that **u** and **v** are equivalent

Component Form of a Vector

The component form of the vector with the initial point $P(p_1, p_2)$ and terminal point $Q(q_1, q_2)$ is given by

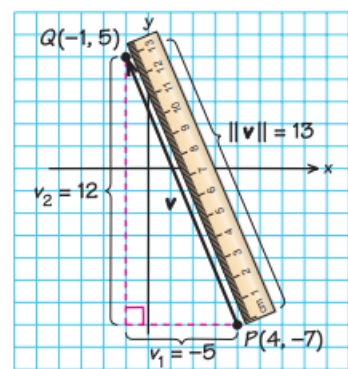$$\vec{PQ} = \langle q_1 - p_1, \ q_2 - p_2 \rangle = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = \mathbf{v}.$$

The **magnitude** (or length) of $\mathbf{v}$ is given by

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2} \ = \ \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2}$$

If $\|v\| = 1$, then $\mathbf{v}$ is a **unit vector**. Moreover, $\|v\| = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{v}$ is the zero vector $\mathbf{0}$
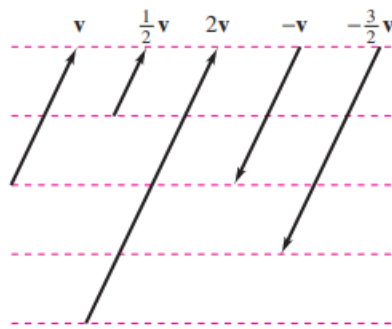
zero vector is when the initial point and terminal point lie at the origin.

Find the component form and magnitude of the vector $\mathbf{v}$ that has initial point (4, -7) and terminal point (-1, 5)
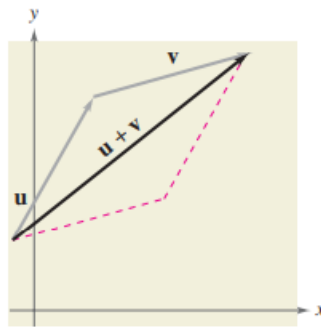
Vector Operations

$$\mathbf{v} \quad \tfrac{1}{2}\mathbf{v} \quad 2\mathbf{v} \quad -\mathbf{v} \quad -\tfrac{3}{2}\mathbf{v}$$

*scalar multiplication

*vector addition

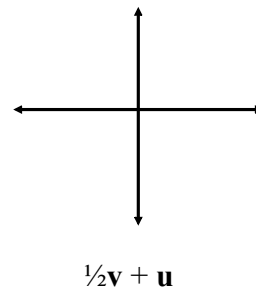Let $\mathbf{v} = \langle\, -2, 5\,\rangle$ and $\mathbf{w} = \langle\, 3, 4\,\rangle$ Find each vector algebraically.
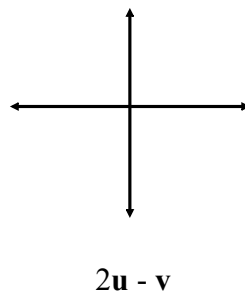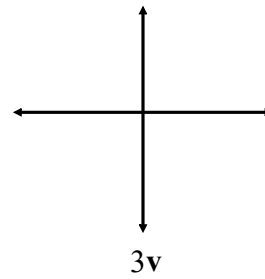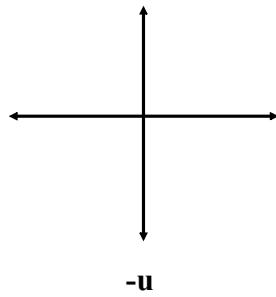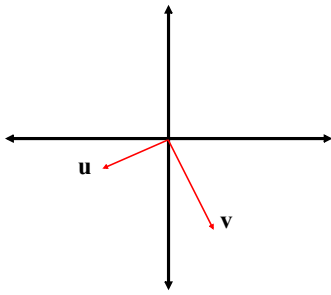
a) $2\mathbf{v}$ b) $\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{v}$ c) $\mathbf{v} + 2\mathbf{w}$

Pull

Use the given figure to sketch a graph of the specified vector.

u

v

-u

3v

2u - v

½v + u

Finding the magnitude of a Scalar Multiple

Let **u** = ⟨ 1, 3 ⟩ and **v** = ⟨ -2, 5 ⟩

a) $\|2u\|$

b) $\|-5u\|$

c) $\|3v\|$

Finding a unit vector

$$\mathbf{u} = \text{unit vector} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$$ Unit vector has a magnitude of 1

Find a unit vector $\mathbf{u}$ in the direction of $\mathbf{v} = \langle -2, 5 \rangle$.

Find a unit vector $\mathbf{u}$ in the direction of $\mathbf{v} = \langle 6, -1 \rangle$.

Find the vector $\mathbf{v}$ with the given magnitude and the same direction as $\mathbf{u}$.

$\|\mathbf{v}\| = 3$ $\mathbf{u} = \langle -12, -5 \rangle$ (magnitude of $\mathbf{v}$)(unit vector of $\mathbf{u}$)

Section 6.3A Pgs. 425-428

#9-13 odd, 14-18, 19-23 odd, 25-30, 31-50 odd