J · Vectors

AQA · A-Level · Mathematics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
↗ **vector** /ˈvektə/	A **vector** describes both size and direction.
# **scalar** /ˈskeɪlə/	Mass is a **scalar** because it has no direction.
magnitude /ˈmægnɪtjuːd/	The **magnitude** of the vector 3i + 4j is 5. 3i + 4j 5
position vector /pəˈzɪʃn ˈvektə/	The **position vector** of point A tells you where A is from the origin. A A
→ **displacement** /dɪˈspleɪsmənt/	The **displacement** from A to B is the vector that takes you from A to B. A B A B
↗ **unit vector** /ˈjuːnɪt ˈvektə/	A **unit vector** has a magnitude of 1, such as i or j. 1 i j
— **collinear** /ˈkɒlɪnɪə/	Three points are **collinear** if they all lie on the same straight line.
resultant /rɪˈzʌltənt/	The **resultant** of two forces is the single force that has the same effect as both together.
equilibrium /ˌiːkwɪˈlɪbrɪəm/	The book is in **equilibrium** because the forces balance.
• **scalar product** /ˈskeɪlə ˈprɒdʌkt/	The **scalar product** of perpendicular vectors is zero.

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