## Use vectors to describe position and its variation in 2-d

A directed quantity can be graphically related to its x-component and its y-component using a drawing of a right triangle.

## Vectors



Representations of  $\vec{A}$ 

The defining characteristics of a vector are its magnitude (length) and its direction (angle). Ex. 5 m in a direction  $37^{\circ}$  above the +x direction

Cartesian components

$$\vec{\mathbf{A}} = A_x \hat{\mathbf{x}} + A_y \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$
$$\vec{\mathbf{A}} = A_x \hat{\mathbf{i}} + A_y \hat{\mathbf{j}}$$
$$A = |\vec{\mathbf{A}}| = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{A_y}{A_x}$$



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## Vectors can be multiplied by scalars

Multiply a vector by a scalar by multiplying its components individually by that scalar. Multiplication by a negative sign reverses the direction of each non-zero component.







