

Partners: _____ Day _____ Time _____

Purpose: To determine

(a) the resultant and equilibrant of two or more vectors

(b) the components of a vector

analytically and to verify the results using a force table and a website.

Apparatus: force table with pulleys, mass hangers, mass set, string, level, and PC.

Theory: Analytical method

Let's say two forces F_1 (making an angle θ_1 , counterclockwise from the +X-axis) and F_2 (making an angle θ_2 , counterclockwise from the +X-axis) are acting on an object.

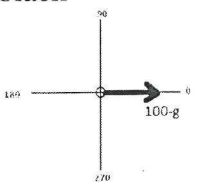
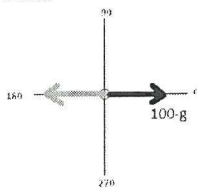
To find the resultant (net) force, F_R we need to find the X and Y components of the two forces, as shown below:

Magnitude of the resultant (F_R) is given by;

$$F_R = \sqrt{|F_x|^2 + |F_y|^2}$$

Force	X component	Y component
F_1	$F_1 \cos \theta_1$	$F_1 \sin \theta_1$
F_2	$F_2 \cos \theta_2$	$F_2 \sin \theta_2$
$F_R = F_1 + F_2$	$F_x = F_1 \cos \theta_1 + F_2 \cos \theta_2$	$F_y = F_1 \sin \theta_1 + F_2 \sin \theta_2$

Equilibrant vector: A single vector that will make a system to be in equilibrium. You will need the equilibrant vector when you use the force table.

For a single vector 100 g @ 0°	Resultant Vector, black 	Equilibrant vector, blue 	Magnitude of the equilibrant = magnitude of the resultant. Direction of the equilibrant = $\theta_E = \theta_R \pm 180$.
--	--	--	---

Direction of the resultant, θ_R , measured from the +X axis counterclockwise, depends on the signs of F_x and F_y , as shown in the data table below.

Case	Vector Diagram	θ_R	F_R
$F_x > 0$ and $F_y > 0$		$\theta_R = \tan^{-1} \frac{F_y}{F_x}$	$F_R = \sqrt{ F_x ^2 + F_y ^2}$
$F_x < 0$ and $F_y > 0$		$A = \tan^{-1} \frac{F_y}{ F_x }$ $\theta_R = 180 - A$	$F_R = \sqrt{ F_x ^2 + F_y ^2}$
$F_x < 0$ and $F_y < 0$		$B = \tan^{-1} \left \frac{F_y}{F_x} \right $ $\theta_R = 180 + B$	$F_R = \sqrt{ F_x ^2 + F_y ^2}$
$F_x > 0$ and $F_y < 0$		$C = \tan^{-1} \frac{ F_y }{F_x}$ $\theta_R = 360 - C$	$F_R = \sqrt{ F_x ^2 + F_y ^2}$

Procedure

A) Analytical Method

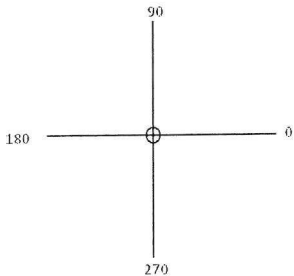
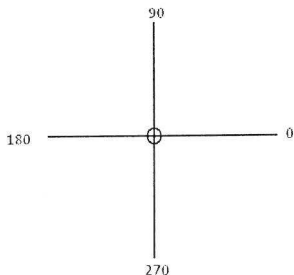
Using the analytical method (component method) find the magnitude and the direction of the resultant. Also estimate the direction of the equilibrant.

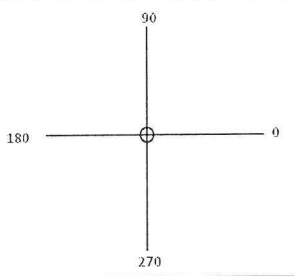
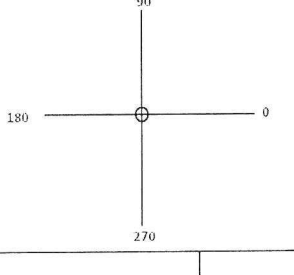
B) From the website: <http://www.1728.org/vectors.htm>

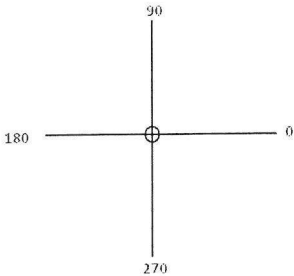
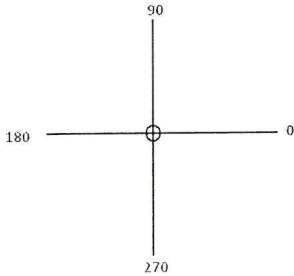
1. Open the above website, enter the vectors, and obtain the magnitude and the direction of the resultant.

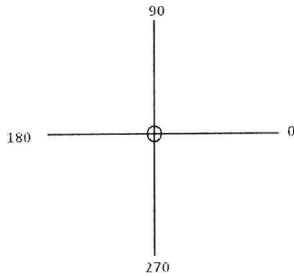
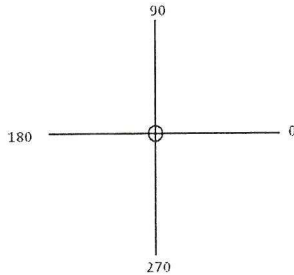
C) Force Table Check

- 1) Use a level to make sure the force table is leveled.
- 2) Mount a pulley on the 0^0 mark and suspend a 50-gram mass hanger. Mount a second pulley on the 90^0 mark and suspend a 100-gram mass (hanger and a 50-gram mass).
- 3) Set up the equilibrant on the force table and test the system for equilibrium.
- 4) Remove all the masses from the force table.
- 5) Mount a pulley on the 20^0 mark and suspend a 50-gram mass. Mount a second pulley on the 120^0 mark and suspend a 250-gram mass.
- 6) Set up the equilibrant on the force table and test the system for equilibrium.
- 7) Remove all the masses from the force table.
- 8) Repeat the above procedure for (3) 50 g @ 20^0 , 250 g @ 120^0 and 300 g @ 300^0 .
- 9) Repeat the above procedure for (4) 100 g @ 30^0 , 150 g @ 140^0 , 125 g @ 200^0 and 200 g @ 300^0 .
- 10) Repeat the above procedure for (5) A + B + C + D.
- 11) Repeat the above procedure for (6) Resolution 300 g @ 30^0 .
- 12) Write a conclusion for the purpose.

(1) 50 g @ 0° and 100 g @ 90°				
		X-Comp	Y-Comp	
	50 g @ 0°			
	100 g @ 90°			
	F_R	$F_x =$	$F_y =$	
				
	F_R	θ_R	θ_E	Force Table check
Analytical				
Website			XXXXXXXXXX	

(2) 50 g @ 20° and 250 g @ 120°				
		X-Comp	Y-Comp	
	50 g @ 20°			
	250 g @ 120°			
	F_R	$F_x =$	$F_y =$	
				
	F_R	θ_R	θ_E	Force Table check
Analytical				
Website			XXXXXXXXXX	

(3) 50 g @ 20°, 250 g @ 120° and 300 g @ 300°				
		X-Comp	Y-Comp	
	50 g @ 20°			
	250 g @ 120°			
	300 g @ 300°			
	F_R	$F_x =$	$F_y =$	
				
	F_R	θ_R	θ_E	Force Table check
Analytical				
Website			XXXXXXXXXX	

(4) 100 g @ 30°, 150 g @ 140°, 125 g @ 200° and 200 g @ 300°				
		X-Comp	Y-Comp	
	100 g @ 30°			
	150 g @ 140°			
	125 g @ 200°			
	200 g @ 300°			
	F_R	$F_x =$	$F_y =$	
				
	F_R	θ_R	θ_E	Force Table check
Analytical				
Website			XXXXXXXXXX	

