

## 8.1) Vectors in kinematics

## Worked example

A particle starts from the position vector  $(7\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})$  m and moves with constant velocity  $(-3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j})$  ms<sup>-1</sup>.

- (a) Find the position vector of the particle 2 seconds later.
- (b) Find the time at which the particle is due north of the origin.

## Your turn

A particle starts from the position vector  $(3\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j})$  m and moves with constant velocity  $(2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})$  ms<sup>-1</sup>.

- (a) Find the position vector of the particle 4 seconds later.
- (b) Find the time at which the particle is due east of the origin.

a)  $(11\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j})$  ms<sup>-1</sup>

b) 7 s

## Worked example

A particle  $P$  has velocity  $(-i + 5j) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . The particle moves with constant acceleration  $\mathbf{a} = (4i + 7j) \text{ ms}^{-2}$ . Find:

- (a) the speed of the particle at time  $t = 6$  seconds.
- (b) the bearing on which it is travelling at time  $t = 6$  seconds.

## Your turn

A particle  $P$  has velocity  $(-3i + j) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ . The particle moves with constant acceleration  $\mathbf{a} = (2i + 3j) \text{ ms}^{-2}$ . Find:

- (a) the speed of the particle at time  $t = 3$  seconds.
- (b) the bearing on which it is travelling at time  $t = 3$  seconds.

a)  $10.4 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  (3 sf)

b)  $017^\circ$

## Worked example

An ice skater is skating on a large flat ice rink. At time  $t = 0$  the skater is at a fixed point  $O$  and is travelling with velocity  $(-4\mathbf{i} - 9\mathbf{j}) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

At time  $t = 5$  s the skater is travelling with velocity  $(-34\mathbf{i} + 29\mathbf{j}) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

Relative to  $O$ , the skater has position vector  $\mathbf{s}$  at time  $t$  seconds.

Modelling the ice skater as a particle with constant acceleration, find:

- The acceleration of the ice skater
- An expression for  $\mathbf{s}$  in terms of  $t$
- The time at which the skater is directly south-west of  $O$ .

A second skater travels so that she has position vector  $\mathbf{r} = (-132\mathbf{i} + (6 - 22t)\mathbf{j})$  m relative to  $O$  at time  $t$ .

- Show that the two skaters will meet.

## Your turn

An ice skater is skating on a large flat ice rink. At time  $t = 0$  the skater is at a fixed point  $O$  and is travelling with velocity  $(2.4\mathbf{i} - 0.6\mathbf{j}) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

At time  $t = 20$  s the skater is travelling with velocity  $(-5.6\mathbf{i} + 3.4\mathbf{j}) \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

Relative to  $O$ , the skater has position vector  $\mathbf{s}$  at time  $t$  seconds.

Modelling the ice skater as a particle with constant acceleration, find:

- The acceleration of the ice skater
- An expression for  $\mathbf{s}$  in terms of  $t$
- The time at which the skater is directly north-east of  $O$ .

A second skater travels so that she has position vector  $\mathbf{r} = (1.1t - 6)\mathbf{j}$  m relative to  $O$  at time  $t$ .

- Show that the two skaters will meet.

a)  $(-0.4\mathbf{i} + 0.2\mathbf{j}) \text{ ms}^{-2}$

b)  $((2.4t - 0.2t^2)\mathbf{i} + (-0.6t + 0.1t^2)\mathbf{j}) \text{ m}$

c)  $t = 10$  s

d) Shown: Meet when  $t = 12$  s

## Worked example

A ship  $S$  is moving with constant velocity  $(2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) \text{ kmh}^{-1}$ .

At time  $t = 0$ , the position vector of  $S$  is  $(-3\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}) \text{ km}$ .

A ship  $T$  is moving with constant velocity  $(6\mathbf{i} + n\mathbf{j}) \text{ kmh}^{-1}$

At time  $t = 0$ , the position vector of  $T$  is  $(-15\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}) \text{ km}$ .

The two ships meet at point  $P$ .

Find the value of  $n$  and the distance  $OP$

## Your turn

A ship  $S$  is moving with constant velocity  $(3\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}) \text{ kmh}^{-1}$ .

At time  $t = 0$ , the position vector of  $S$  is  $(-4\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}) \text{ km}$ .

A ship  $T$  is moving with constant velocity  $(-2\mathbf{i} +$

$$n = 3.5, OP = 8.25 \text{ km (3 sf)}$$