Physics with Synno - Motion-2 - Lesson 6

M.2.4 Acceleration

Acceleration is a quantity which tells us about the **change** in velocity of an object and is a vector. Acceleration is defined as the change in velocity over time.

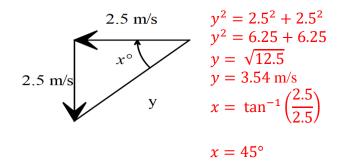
Thus
$$\vec{a} = \frac{\Delta v}{t} = \frac{v_2 - v_1}{t}$$

The units of acceleration are ms⁻².

Example Jack is traveling at a velocity of 2.5 ms⁻¹ North and makes a 90° left hand turn. If it takes 2 seconds to make the turn, what is his acceleration?

$$\Delta v = v_2 - v_1 = v_2 + (-v_1) - v_1 = 2.5 \text{ m/s South}$$

 $v_2 = 2.5 \text{ m/s West}$



Change in velocity is 3.54 m/s W 45° S or S 45° W or SW

$$\vec{a} = \frac{3.54}{2} = 1.77 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ SW}$$

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