October 7, 2015 Physics 131 Prof. E. F. Redish

<u>Theme Music:</u> Steve Dorff *Every which way but loose* <u>Cartoon:</u> Bob Thaves *Frank & Ernest*





The Equation of the Day

Vectors

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$$

Physics 131

Review of Vectors (2-dimensional coordinates)

- We have 2 directions to specify. We must
 - Choose a reference point (origin)
 - Pick 2 perpendicular axes (x and y)
 - Choose a scale
- We specify our x and y directions by drawing little arrows of unit length in their positive direction. \hat{i}, \hat{j}
- A force vector is written $\vec{F} = F_x \hat{i} + F_y \hat{j} = (F_x, F_y)$

10/7/15

Adding Forces

We define the
sum of two vectors
as if they were
successive displacements.



$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2$$

Adding Vectors: Methods

There are 3 mathematical ways to add vectors



Trig review

• The ratios of a triangle's sides only depend on θ .

- $-\sin(\theta) = \text{opposite/hypotenuse}$
- $-\cos(\theta) = adjacent/hypotenuse$
- $\tan(\theta) = \text{opposite/adjacent.}$





