## <u>AP PHYSICS I</u>

#### Activity: Vector Inspectors

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of today's lab is to create a mathematical relationship dealing with the properties of adding vectors. We will be analyzing why it is called vector "addition."

### **Procedure**

- 1. Go to http://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/vector-addition
- 2. <u>Choose the Lab option</u>
- 3. Take any 5 vectors with magnitudes and directions of your choice and add them with the head-to-tail method.
- 4. Display the Sum Vector and also arrange it to follow the head-to-tail method.
- 5. Record all of your data and make a mathematical analysis with the variables provided.

# **Setup Screenshot**:



Data

Vector #	Magnitude	Angle	X-Component	Y-Component
Vector 1	9.2	40.6	7.0	6.0
Vector 2	5.4	21.8	5.0	2.0
Vector 3	9.1	-6.3	9.0	-1.0
Vector 4	7.1	-81.9	1.0	-7.0
Vector 5	11.0	180.0	-11.0	0.0
Sum Vector	11.0	0.0	11.0	0.0

**Conclusion**: Are there <u>any</u> mathematical relationships between the components of Vectors and the Sum Vector? Write out the mathematical formula.

9.2 + 5.4 + 9.1 + 7.1 + 11.0 = 41.8

40.6 + 21.8 - 6.3 - 81.9 + 180.0 = 154.2

X component

7.0+5.0+9.0+1.0-11.0=11.0

Y component 6.0+2.0-1.0-7.0+0.0=0.0