

When a handball strikes a vertical wall, its velocity changes from 25 m/s [S15°E] to 30 m/s [S40°W]. Determine the handball's change in velocity.

Solution

$$|\vec{V}_2 - \vec{V}_1| = \sqrt{|\vec{V}_2|^2 + |\vec{V}_1|^2 - 2|\vec{V}_2||\vec{V}_1| \cos a} =$$
$$\sqrt{25^2 + 30^2 - 2 * 25 * 30 \cos(30 + 15)} = 21.5 \text{ m/s}$$

the handball's change in velocity 21.5 m/s S85°W