

\hat{i} and \hat{j} are unit vectors along x- and y- axis respectively. What is the magnitude and direction of the vectors
(i) $\hat{i} + \hat{j}$ (ii) $\hat{i} - \hat{j}$?

Ans) Magnitude of $\hat{i} + \hat{j}$

$$\text{i) } = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{Direction, } \tan \theta = \frac{1}{1} = 1$$

$$\implies \theta = 45^\circ$$

So, $\hat{i} + \hat{j}$ makes 45° angle with the X-axis.

ii) Magnitude of $\hat{i} - \hat{j}$

$$= \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{Direction, } \tan \theta = \frac{-1}{1} = -1$$

$$\implies \theta = 135^\circ$$

So, $\hat{i} - \hat{j}$ makes 135° angle with the X-axis.