

# Reflective Writing Assignment 2

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# 1 Mathematical Theme 1: Sets & Vectors

## 1.1 Reason of Choosing

The reason of choosing sets, vectors and notations is they are the basic of basic and is our first impression towards linear algebra world. Without knowing clearly how to write and read the sets, all our theorems can't be describe in mathematical language, without knowing clearly what's a vectors and read the vectors, all our linear algebra can be introduced. Sets and vectors in linear algebra are like water and electricity, the basic living condition in Toronto.

## 1.2 Sets

Set is an unordered collection of distinct objects. There are some important notations:

1.  $a \in A$ :  $a$  is an element of set  $A$
2.  $a \notin A$ :  $a$  is not an element of set  $A$
3.  $\emptyset$ : the set containing no elements
4.  $A \subseteq B$ : set  $A$  is a subset of set  $B$  (for all  $a \in A$  we also have  $a \in B$ )
5.  $A = B$ :  $A \subseteq B$  &  $B \subseteq A$
6. Set-builder Notation:  $Y = \{a \in X \mid \text{some rule involving } a\}$

Moreover, there are some common sets:

1.  $\mathbb{N}$ : *{Natural Numbers}*
2.  $\mathbb{Z}$ : *{Integers}*
3.  $\mathbb{Q}$ : *{Quotient of Integers}*
4.  $\mathbb{R}$ : *{Real Numbers}*
5.  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : *{Vectors in  $n$  - dimensional Euclidean Space}*

Besides, in this section, the difference between for all and for some is also worth noting.

1.  $A = \{x \mid x = 2m \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}\} : A = \emptyset$
2.  $B = \{y \mid y = 2m \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\} : B = \text{set of all even number}$

## 1.3 Vectors

Vector is modelling a relationship between points (displacement with a direction and a magnitude). Similarly, there are some notations.

1.  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$ : the vector from  $P$  to  $Q$
2.  $|a|$ : the magnitude of the vector  $\vec{a}$  (normal or length is sometimes called).
3.  $\vec{0}$ : the vector with no magnitude

In vector, there are the laws of vector arithmetic. The following is the basic operation between vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ , called Linear Combination:

$$\vec{w} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n$$

## 2 Mathematical Theme 2: System of Linear Equations

### 2.1 Reason of Choosing

The reason of choosing System of Linear Equations as the second theme is calculations using matrix are frequently being used in the future units.

### 2.2 Linear System

Linear System is a collection of one or more linear equations involving the same variables.

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n \end{cases}$$

Every row,  $a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$ , is a linear equation. There are  $m$  equations and  $n$  variables.

A linear system is either consistent which means exactly one solution or infinite many solutions or inconsistent which means no solutions.

### 2.3 Solving Matrix

$$\begin{cases} x_2 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 + 5x_4 + 5x_5 = 7 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 + 4x_3 + 9x_4 + 10x_5 = 11 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 + 3x_4 + 6x_5 = 9 \end{cases}$$

Firstly we need to write the augmented matrix for the linear system.

$$\begin{cases} x_2 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 + 5x_4 + 5x_5 = 7 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 + 4x_3 + 9x_4 + 10x_5 = 11 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 + 3x_4 + 6x_5 = 9 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 5 & 5 & 7 \\ 3 & 6 & 4 & 9 & 10 & 11 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 3 & 6 & 9 \end{array} \right]$$

Use row reduction to change the matrix into REF and RREF.

$$\xrightarrow[r_4 - r_1 \quad r_4 - 3r_3]{r_2 - 2r_1 \quad r_3 - 3r_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 7 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -8 & -16 & 8 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow[r_2 + \frac{1}{3}r_4 \quad r_1 - 2r_2 \quad r_1 - r_3 \quad r_1 - 2r_4]{r_4 \times \frac{-1}{3} \quad r_4 \times \frac{-1}{8} \quad r_3 - 3r_4 \quad r_2 + \frac{1}{3}r_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Use the free variable to express the basic variable and write it in vector form

$$\begin{cases} x_1 - 4x_5 = -2 \\ x_2 = 0 \\ x_3 + x_5 = 2 \\ x_4 + 2x_5 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 4x_5 - 2 \\ x_2 = 0 \\ x_3 = -x_5 + 2 \\ x_4 = -2x_5 + 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3 Mathematical Theme 3: Lines

#### 3.1 Reason of Choosing

The reason of choosing as the third theme is line is also the important knowledge point to be understood and used. The point moves draw a line, which is another form of expressing the line. The line moves draw a plane, which is studied in the future units.

#### 3.2 Vector Form of a Line

As mentioned in the first paragraph, 'point moves draw a line' is the idea of another form of stating a line. Let  $l$  be a line and let  $\vec{d}$  and  $\vec{p}$  be vectors.

If  $l = \{\vec{x} | \vec{x} = t\vec{d} + \vec{p} \text{ for some } t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , we say the vector equation :

$$\vec{x} = t\vec{d} + \vec{p} \text{ (where } t \in \mathbb{R} \text{) is } l \text{ expressed in vector form.}$$

The vector  $\vec{d}$  is called a direction vector for  $l$ .

#### 3.3 Determine the relationship between lines

##### 3.3.1 Question

Determine if the lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ , given in vector form as:

$$\vec{x} = t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\vec{x} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

are the same line.

##### 3.3.2 Answer

Firstly, give different parametric variables different names

$$\text{If } \vec{x} \in l_1, \vec{x} = t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{If } \vec{x} \in l_2, \vec{x} = s \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } s \in \mathbb{R}$$

Set their equations equal and solve

$$\vec{x} = t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{x} = \vec{x} = s \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} t+2 \\ t+1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2s+4 \\ 2s+3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 2s - t + 2$$

This equation has a solution whenever  $0 = 2s - t + 2$  has a solution.  $l_1 = l_2$ .