

Section 1.3

Solutions and Hints

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for the book:
Calculus, Early Vectors
by James Stewart.

25. Find a vector equation and a parametric equation for the line passing through (1, 3) and (-2, 7).

Finding the vector equation:

By definition the vector equation of a line is: $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}_0 + t^*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a scalar variable (usually time) and \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are vectors with their heads on the given line. Additionally \mathbf{v} must have its tail also on the line (or be parallel with the line. What this means is that \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are basically formed from 2 points on the line.

To find a vector equation of a line you must have 2 points, P_0 and P on the line. We are given two points on the line.

\mathbf{r}_0 will be from (0, 0) to a point P_0 on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be from P_0 to another point on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be rewritten as the vector $t^*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a variable scalar.

(Think of \mathbf{a} as being a specific case of $t^*\mathbf{v}$, where $t = 1$)

We let $\mathbf{r}_0 = \langle 1, 3 \rangle - \langle 0, 0 \rangle = \langle 1, 3 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} = \langle -2, 7 \rangle - \langle 1, 3 \rangle = \langle -3, 4 \rangle$

And we arrive at:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 1, 3 \rangle + t^*\langle -3, 4 \rangle$$

Finding the parametric equation:

From the vector form we get:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \langle 1, 3 \rangle + t^*\langle -3, 4 \rangle = \langle 1 - 3t, 3 + 4t \rangle$$

Or rather:

$$x(t) = 1 - 3t \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = 3 + 4t.$$

26. Find a vector equation and a parametric equation for the line passing through (-3, 4) and (2, 8).

Finding the vector equation:

By definition the vector equation of a line is: $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}_0 + t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a scalar variable (usually time) and \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are a vectors with their heads on the given line. Additionally \mathbf{v} must have its tail also on the line (or be parallel with the line. What this means is that \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are basically formed from 2 points on the line.

To find a vector equation of a line you must have 2 points, P_0 and P on the line.

We are given two points on the line.

\mathbf{r}_0 will be from (0, 0) to a point P_0 on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be from P_0 to another point on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be rewritten as the vector $t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a variable scalar.

(Think of \mathbf{a} as being a specific case of $t*\mathbf{v}$, where $t = 1$)

We let $\mathbf{r}_0 = \langle -3, 4 \rangle - \langle 0, 0 \rangle = \langle -3, 4 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} = \langle 2, 8 \rangle - \langle -3, 4 \rangle = \langle 5, 4 \rangle$

And we arrive at:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle -3, 4 \rangle + t*\langle 5, 4 \rangle$$

Finding the parametric equation:

From the vector form we get:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \langle -3, 4 \rangle + t*\langle 5, 4 \rangle = \langle -3 + 5t, 4 + 4t \rangle$$

Or rather:

$$x(t) = -3 + 5t \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = 4 + 4t.$$

29. Find a vector equation, a parametric equation and a Cartesian equation for the line passing through P(-4, 5) and parallel to $\mathbf{a} = \langle -2, 6 \rangle$

Finding the vector equation:

By definition the vector equation of a line is: $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}_0 + t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a scalar variable (usually time) and \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are a vectors with their heads on the given line. Additionally \mathbf{v} must have its tail also on the line (or be parallel with the line. What this means is that \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are basically formed from 2 points on the line.

To find a vector equation of a line you must have 2 points, P_0 and P on the line.

We are given one point on the line and a vector parallel to the line.

\mathbf{r}_0 will be from (0, 0) to a point P_0 on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be the parallel vector.

\mathbf{a} will be rewritten as the vector $t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a variable scalar.

(Think of \mathbf{a} as being a specific case of $t*\mathbf{v}$, where $t = 1$)

We let $\mathbf{r}_0 = \langle -4, 5 \rangle - \langle 0, 0 \rangle = \langle -4, 5 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} = \langle -2, 6 \rangle$

And we arrive at:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle -4, 5 \rangle + t*\langle -2, 6 \rangle$$

Finding the parametric equation:

From the vector form we get:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \langle -4, 5 \rangle + t*\langle -2, 6 \rangle = \langle -4 - 2t, 5 + 6t \rangle$$

Or rather:

$$x(t) = -4 - 2t \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = 5 + 6t.$$

Finding the Cartesian equation:

From the parametric equation we get:

$$x = -4 - 2t \rightarrow x + 4 = -2t \rightarrow -(x + 4)/2 = t \rightarrow t = (-x - 4)/2$$

Putting that in for t in the y(t) equation we arrive at:

$$y = 5 + 6*[(-x - 4) / 2]$$

$$\rightarrow y = 5 - 3x - 12$$

$$\rightarrow y = -3x - 7$$

So the Cartesian equation is:

$$y = -3x - 7$$

30. Find a vector equation, a parametric equation and a Cartesian equation for the line passing through P(2, 5) and parallel to $\mathbf{a} = \langle 3, 0 \rangle$

Finding the vector equation:

By definition the vector equation of a line is: $\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}_0 + t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a scalar variable (usually time) and \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are vectors with their heads on the given line. Additionally \mathbf{v} must have its tail also on the line (or be parallel with the line. What this means is that \mathbf{r}_0 and \mathbf{v} are basically formed from 2 points on the line.

To find a vector equation of a line you must have 2 points, P_0 and P on the line.

We are given one point on the line and a vector parallel to the line.

\mathbf{r}_0 will be from (0, 0) to a point P_0 on the line.

\mathbf{a} will be the parallel vector.

\mathbf{a} will be rewritten as the vector $t*\mathbf{v}$, where t is a variable scalar.

(Think of \mathbf{a} as being a specific case of $t*\mathbf{v}$, where $t = 1$)

We let $\mathbf{r}_0 = \langle 2, 5 \rangle - \langle 0, 0 \rangle = \langle 2, 5 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} = \langle 3, 0 \rangle$

And we arrive at:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 2, 5 \rangle + t*\langle 3, 0 \rangle$$

Finding the parametric equation:

From the vector form we get:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \langle 2, 5 \rangle + t*\langle 3, 0 \rangle = \langle 2 + 3t, 5 \rangle$$

Or rather:

$$x(t) = 2 + 3t \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = 5.$$

Finding the Cartesian equation:

Notice in this case $y(t)$ is NOT dependent on the value of x (or t), in fact $y(t)$ is constantly 5.

So the Cartesian equation is:

$$y = 5$$