

Solve The Following Equations For The Vector $X \in \mathbb{R}^2$: If $3x + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ Then $X = (-7/3, 8/3)$

Understanding the Problem: Solving Equations for Vector X in $\mathbb{R}^2$

Solve The Following Equations For The Vector $X \in \mathbb{R}^2$: If $3x + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ Then $X = (-7/3, 8/3)$. At first glance, the problem appears to involve solving a vector equation involving a scalar multiplication and a vector addition. The goal is to find the vector X in $\mathbb{R}^2$ (the real coordinate plane) that satisfies the given linear equation. This type of problem is fundamental in linear algebra, where solving vector equations helps understand systems of equations, transformations, and vector spaces.

In this article, we will explore how to approach such problems systematically, interpret the equations correctly, and find the solution for vector X . We will also clarify the notation, step through the algebra involved, and provide practical tips for solving similar problems.

Breaking Down the Equation

The equation provided is:

$$3x + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

Here, the components can be interpreted as follows:

- $3x$ indicates scalar multiplication of the vector X by 3.
- $(4, 4)$ is a known vector in $\mathbb{R}^2$.
- The sum is vector addition.
- The right side, $(3, 4)$, is also a known vector.

Our goal is to solve for X , the vector in $\mathbb{R}^2$, which can be written as:

$$X = (x_1, x_2)$$

where x_1 and x_2 are real numbers.

Interpreting the Equation in Component Form

To solve the equation, it's best to write it in component form:

$$3(x_1, x_2) + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

This expands to:

$$(3x_1, 3x_2) + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

Adding the vectors component-wise gives:

$$(3x_1 + 4, 3x_2 + 4) = (3, 4)$$

Now, equate corresponding components:

$$1. 3x_1 + 4 = 3$$

$$2. 3x_2 + 4 = 4$$

This results in a system of two equations with two unknowns.

Solving for the Components of Vector X

Let's solve each equation separately.

Equation 1:

$$3x_1 + 4 = 3$$

Subtract 4 from both sides:

$$3x_1 = 3 - 4$$

$$3x_1 = -1$$

Divide both sides by 3:

$$x_1 = -1/3$$

Equation 2:

$$3x_2 + 4 = 4$$

Subtract 4 from both sides:

$$3x_2 = 4 - 4$$

$$3x_2 = 0$$

Divide both sides by 3:

$$x_2 = 0$$

Thus, the solution vector X is:

$$X = (x_1, x_2) = (-1/3, 0)$$

Verifying the Solution

It's good practice to verify the solution by substituting back into the original equation:

$$3(-1/3, 0) + (4, 4) = ?$$

Compute scalar multiplication:

$$(3 \cdot -1/3, 3 \cdot 0) = (-1, 0)$$

Add the vectors:

$$(-1 + 4, 0 + 4) = (3, 4)$$

which matches the right side exactly, confirming that our solution is correct.

Understanding the Given Solution in the Context of the Problem

The initial statement suggests that:

$$X = -7/3, 8/3$$

but based on our calculations, the solution is:

$$X = (-1/3, 0)$$

This discrepancy indicates there may be a typo or misinterpretation in the original problem statement. Alternatively, perhaps the problem involves different vectors or parameters.

Key points to consider:

- Ensure the problem's statement is correctly transcribed.
- Confirm the vectors involved are in the correct dimensions.
- Be cautious about the notation and whether the scalar multiplication is applied properly.

Additional Examples and Practice Problems

To deepen your understanding, here are some similar problems to try:

Example 1:

Solve for vector X in $\mathbb{R}^2$:

$$2x + (1, -2) = (5, 0)$$

Solution Approach:

- Write in component form.
- Set up equations and solve for x_1 and x_2 .

Example 2:

Find vector X such that:

$$-3x + (0, 3) = (6, 0)$$

Solution Approach:

- Isolate X and solve component-wise.

Practice Problem:

Solve for X in $\mathbb{R}^2$:

$$4x - (2, 5) = (10, 7)$$

Common Mistakes to Avoid When Solving Vector Equations

- Misreading vector notation: Always verify the dimensions and components.
- Incorrect algebraic manipulation: Remember to perform scalar multiplication before addition.
- Overlooking the order of operations: Follow order carefully, especially when dealing with subtraction or negative signs.
- Assuming solutions without verification: Always substitute your solution back into the original equation for confirmation.

Conclusion: Mastering the Art of Solving Vector Equations

Solving vector equations like $3x + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ is a fundamental skill in linear algebra, with applications across engineering, physics, computer science, and mathematics. The key steps involve translating the vector equation into components, setting up simple algebraic equations, solving for the unknowns, and verifying the solutions.

By practicing these steps regularly, you'll build confidence and improve your problem-solving skills for more complex systems involving vectors. Remember, understanding the underlying principles of scalar multiplication and vector addition is crucial for tackling a wide range of problems in vector calculus and linear algebra.

Happy solving!

Frequently Asked Questions

How do you solve the vector equation $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ for vector $\mathbf{x}$?

To solve for $\mathbf{x}$, subtract $(4, 4)$ from both sides: $3\mathbf{x} = (3, 4) - (4, 4) = (-1, 0)$. Then divide both components by 3: $\mathbf{x} = (-1/3, 0)$.

What is the value of $\mathbf{x}$ in the equation $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$?

$\mathbf{x} = (-1/3, 0)$.

Can you verify the solution $\mathbf{x} = (-7/3, 8/3)$ for the equation $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$?

Let's check: $3(-7/3, 8/3) + (4, 4) = (-7, 8) + (4, 4) = (-7+4, 8+4) = (-3, 12)$. Since this does not equal $(3, 4)$, the given solution is incorrect.

What are common mistakes when solving vector equations like $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$?

Common mistakes include incorrect subtraction of vectors, forgetting to divide each component by the scalar, or miscalculating the vector subtraction. Always verify by substituting your solution back into the original equation.

How do you interpret the solution $\mathbf{x} = -7/3, 8/3$ in the context of the equation?

The solution suggests that $\mathbf{x}$ is the vector $(-7/3, 8/3)$, which can be checked by substituting back into the original equation to verify its correctness.

Is $\mathbf{x} = (-7/3, 8/3)$ the correct solution for the equation $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$?

No, substituting $\mathbf{x} = (-7/3, 8/3)$ results in $3\mathbf{x} = (-7, 8)$, and adding $(4, 4)$ gives $(-3, 12)$, which does not equal $(3, 4)$. Therefore, it is not the correct solution.

What is the general approach to solving linear equations involving vectors?

The general approach involves isolating the vector variable by performing inverse operations: subtract constants from both sides, then divide by the scalar coefficient, ensuring to perform these operations component-wise.

How can you verify your solution to a vector equation?

Substitute your found value of $\mathbf{x}$ back into the original equation and check if both sides are equal. If they match, your solution is correct.

Additional Resources

Solve The Following Equations For The Vector $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}$: An In-Depth Analysis

In the realm of linear algebra, solving vector equations is fundamental to understanding the relationships between different vectors and their components. The problem statement, "Solve the following equations for the vector $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}$: If $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ then $\mathbf{x} = -\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}$ " presents a classic scenario where algebraic manipulation intersects with vector analysis. This article aims to carefully dissect this problem, explore its underlying principles, and provide a comprehensive overview suitable for both students and professionals seeking clarity on vector equations and their solutions.

Understanding the Problem Statement

Before delving into the solution, it's imperative to interpret the problem accurately.

Given:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

Find:

$$\mathbf{x}$$

The problem also suggests that the solution for $\mathbf{x}$ is $(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3})$, indicating the components of the vector $\mathbf{x}$.

Fundamentals of Vector Equations

Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$

A vector in two-dimensional real space, $\mathbb{R}^2$, can be represented as:

$$\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$$

where v_1 and v_2 are real numbers representing the components along the x and y axes, respectively.

Scalar Multiplication and Vector Addition

- Scalar multiplication: $(\alpha \mathbf{v} = (\alpha v_1, \alpha v_2))$

- Vector addition: $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2))$

Applying these operations allows us to manipulate and solve equations involving vectors.

Deciphering the Equation

The core equation:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

can be viewed component-wise as:

$$3x_1 + 4 = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad 3x_2 + 4 = 4$$

where $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)$.

Step-by-Step Solution

Isolating $\mathbf{x}$

Starting with the vector equation:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

Subtract $(4, 4)$ from both sides:

$$3\mathbf{x} = (3, 4) - (4, 4)$$

Calculate the right side:

$$(3 - 4, 4 - 4) = (-1, 0)$$

Now, divide both sides by 3:

$$\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{3}(-1, 0) = \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)$$

Thus, the solution vector is:

$$\boxed{\mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)}$$

Reconciling With the Provided Solution $\left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right)$

The initial calculation yields $\mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)$, which does not match the solution suggested in the problem statement $\left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right)$. This discrepancy prompts a deeper investigation into the problem's context.

Possible Interpretations and Clarifications

1. Is the Equation Correct?

- The original vector equation appears straightforward, but perhaps the problem intended a different form, such as:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)$$

- The provided solution $\left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right)$ does not satisfy this original equation:

Check:

$$3 \left(-\frac{7}{3}\right) + 4 = -7 + 4 = -3 \neq 3$$

Similarly,

$$3 \left(\frac{8}{3}\right) + 4 = 8 + 4 = 12 \neq 4$$

So, the proposed solution does not satisfy the original equation, implying that perhaps the problem statement contains a typo or is incomplete.

2. Alternative Equation Forms

Suppose the equation was intended as:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4), \quad \text{but with different constants or coefficients}$$

or perhaps:

$$\mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right)$$

and the equation is:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

Testing this:

Calculate $3\mathbf{x}$:

$$3 \times \left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right) = (-7, 8)$$

Add $(4, 4)$:

$$(-7 + 4, 8 + 4) = (-3, 12)$$

which does not equal $(3, 4)$. So, this doesn't satisfy the original equation either.

Understanding the Discrepancy: Clarifying the Original Problem

Given the inconsistency, it's likely that the problem statement as provided is either incomplete or contains typographical errors. For a meaningful analysis, consider the following possibilities:

- The initial vector equation might have been:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

and the suggested solution $\mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}\right)$ is perhaps the solution to a different, related equation.

- Alternatively, perhaps the equation was:

$$3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$$

but the solution provided is a typo, and the actual solution should be $\left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)$.

General Approach to Solving Vector Equations

In the broader context, solving vector equations involves several key steps:

Step 1: Write the equation component-wise

Express the vector equation as a system of scalar equations.

Step 2: Isolate the unknown vector components

Use algebraic operations to solve for each component individually.

Step 3: Verify the solution

Plug the obtained vector back into the original equation to ensure correctness.

Step 4: Interpret the solution

Determine whether the solution is unique, whether there are infinitely many solutions, or none at all.

Extensions and Related Concepts

Vector Equations in Higher Dimensions

The same principles apply in $\mathbb{R}^n$, where vectors have more components. The complexity increases with higher dimensions, but the algebraic approach remains similar.

Linear Independence and Dependence

Understanding whether vectors are linearly independent is vital in solving systems of vector equations, especially in determining the existence and uniqueness of solutions.

Applications

Solving vector equations is essential in various fields:

- Physics: motion analysis, force vectors
- Computer graphics: transformations
- Engineering: systems modeling

- Data science: vector space representations

Conclusion

The problem of solving the vector equation $3\mathbf{x} + (4, 4) = (3, 4)$ demonstrates core principles of linear algebra. The algebraic steps reveal that:

$$\mathbf{x} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 0\right)$$

is the solution that satisfies the original equation. The mention of $\mathbf{x} = -\frac{7}{3}, \frac{8}{3}$ does not align with the initial statement, indicating either a typographical error or a different intended problem.

This exploration underscores the importance of precise problem statements and careful algebraic manipulation when dealing with vector equations. Mastery of these foundational techniques enables students and practitioners to analyze more complex systems accurately and efficiently.

Key Takeaways:

- Always interpret vector equations component-wise.
- Isolate unknowns systematically.
- Verify solutions by substituting back into the original equation.
- Be attentive to possible discrepancies or errors in problem statements.

Through methodical reasoning and algebraic rigor, solving vector equations becomes a manageable and insightful process, forming the backbone of many applications across science and engineering.

References

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