

My Mathematical Autobiography

Rob Vanyo

September 10, 2007

My real mathematical learnings began with my Honors Algebra I class in the seventh grade. My hometown was one of few schools in Ohio to offer the course at such an early level. I then followed the natural course of Geometry, Algebra II: Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus (which included Calculus A) and BC Calculus, earning college credit on the AP test. In my senior year, I took the equivalent of Intro to Stats, Multivariable Calculus, and Linear Algebra. In college as an HTC Mathematics major I have spent the last two years in the Advanced Calculus Tutorial, with proofs pretty much pouring out my ears. I have also taken, as electives, Differential Equations, Matrix Theory, and Theory of Statistics.

My mathematical interests have been a bit varied. I intend to take the first Actuarial Science test sometime this year, but I am unsure that is the kind of work I would enjoy doing. Lately my interests have turned to more of a linear algebra, numerical analysis, and programming direction, and I am hoping to get a tutorial in Numerical Analysis this quarter. My future goals are a little bit fuzzy, but I hope to narrow my focus as to what kind of mathematics I want to deal with sometime in the near future. This is important, as I must write a thesis during my senior year. Naturally, graduate school is a distinct possibility.

This project is my first research project, and my first math related job, and it is a great opportunity to gain experience doing true mathematical work. That is why I am participating. Also, I happen to find the project, and my particular subproject, quite interesting. I am excited to work with \LaTeX as I never have before, I am excited to learn and work with the Python language, and I am very excited to really apply myself to the project and hopefully come up with some useful results.

As for learning, I have a mild read/write preference, according to the VARK test.