

Recall Last Time:

§4.1 Solving Systems of 2 linear equations
in 2 variables

- ① Substitution Method. ✓ Last Time
- ② Elimination Method. Today

New! §4.2 Systems in 3 variables. Today.
More stuff goin' on.

Elimination Method. The goal is a "triangular" system.

See pg 210 for book recipe.

My recipe:

$$\begin{aligned} 2x + by &= c \\ dx + ey &= f \end{aligned}$$

Eliminate x in the 2nd eq'n

$$2x + by = c$$

$$\textcircled{gy = h}$$

→ Solve for y

Plug y into the 1st eq'n to find x .

$$\begin{array}{l} R1 \quad 3x + 2y = 7 \\ R2 \quad 5x - 3y = 8 \end{array}$$

Use $3x$ to get rid of $5x$.

$$-5(3x) + 3(5x) = 0$$

Scratch:

most often overlooked

$$-5(3x + 2y = 7) = -5R1 \quad -15x - 10y = -35$$

$$3(5x - 3y = 8) = 3R2 \quad 15x - 9y = 24$$

$$-5R1 + 3R2$$

$$-19y = -11$$

$$y = \frac{-11}{-19} = \frac{11}{19}$$

New System

$$\begin{array}{l} 3x + 2y = 7 \\ y = \frac{11}{19} \end{array}$$

Triangular System can be solved by back-substitution

$$3x + 2y = 3x + 2\left(\frac{11}{19}\right) = 7 \quad \text{Solve for } x$$

$$(3x)\left(\frac{19}{19}\right) + \frac{22}{19} = \left(\frac{7}{1}\right)\left(\frac{19}{19}\right)$$

$$19(3x) + 2\left(\frac{11}{19}\right)(19) = 7(19)$$

$$57x + 22 = 133$$

$$\frac{57x + 22}{19} = \frac{133}{19}$$

$$57x + 22 = 133$$

$$-22 = -22$$

$$\hline 57x = 111$$

$$x = \frac{111}{57}$$

$$(x, y) = \left(\frac{111}{57}, \frac{11}{19}\right)$$

$$\text{Set answer: } (x, y) \in \left\{ \left(\frac{111}{57}, \frac{11}{19}\right) \right\}$$

$$\frac{A}{B} = \frac{C}{B} \quad \frac{x}{5} = \frac{26}{5}$$

$$A = C$$

$$x = 26$$

Two Possibilities for these
2-variable systems:

ONE-D
LINES IN
2-D "SPACE"

① Unique Solution 

② No Solution  Parallel

The next level: Systems of 3 linear
equations in 3 unknowns
variables.

TWO-D
Planes in
3-D "SPACE"

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

$$2x - 3y + 11z = 21$$

This represents
a plane.

A lot more can happen...



3 planes meet at a point.
Solution Like

$$(x, y, z) = (4, 3, -7)$$

$$(x, y, z) \in \{(4, 3, -7)\}$$



$$\begin{aligned} x - 2z &= -1 \\ y + 3z &= 0 \\ 0 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$0 = 1$$

→ FALSE!

No Solution. A lot more ways for this to happen in 3-space.



Infinitely many solutions.

Solution is a line.

1 degree of freedom

1 free variable, preferably z .

$$(x, y, z) = (2z - 1, -3z, z)$$

$$(x, y, z) \in \{(x, y, z) \mid x = 2z - 1, y = -3z, z \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$= \{(2z - 1, -3z, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

A system that would be interpreted this way:

$$x \quad -2z = -1 \implies x = 2z - 1$$

$$y \quad +3z = 0 \implies y = -3z$$

$$0 = 0$$

Nothing on z !

When a system has infinitely many solutions, the 3rd equation disappears by elimination.

Solving a system in 3 variables!

Eliminate x in 2nd & 3rd eq'ns.

Eliminate y in the 3rd eq'n.

Back-Substitute

$$\begin{array}{l} R1 \quad x - y + z = 2 \\ R2 \quad -x - y + z = 3 \\ R3 \quad 2x - y - z = 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R1 \quad x - y + z = 2 \\ R2 \quad -x - y + z = 3 \\ \hline R1+R2 \quad -2y + 2z = 5 \\ \\ -2R1 \quad -2x + 2y - 2z = -4 \\ R3 \quad 2x - y - z = 3 \\ \hline -2R1+R3 \quad y - 3z = -1 \end{array}$$

New System

$$\begin{array}{l} x - y + z = 2 \\ -2y + 2z = 5 \\ y - 3z = -1 \end{array}$$

→ Can be solved like a 2x2 with that solution, back-track to find x in 1st equation.