

SYSTEMS OF LINEAR EQUATIONS

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A.1 VERIFYING SOLUTIONS TO LINEAR EQUATIONS

MCQ 1: Which ordered pair (x, y) is the solution to the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - 3y = 1 \\ x + 2y = 4 \end{cases}$$

- ☐ (1, 1)
- ☒ (2, 1)
- ☐ (-1, -1)
- ☐ (2, -1)

Answer: We check each option by substituting the values of x and y into both equations.

- (1, 1):
 - Eq 1: $2(1) - 3(1) = 2 - 3 = -1 \neq 1$. (Incorrect)
- (2, 1):
 - Eq 1: $2(2) - 3(1) = 4 - 3 = 1$. (Correct)
 - Eq 2: $(2) + 2(1) = 2 + 2 = 4$. (Correct)

Since both equations are satisfied, this is the solution.

- (-1, -1):
 - Eq 1: $2(-1) - 3(-1) = -2 + 3 = 1$. (Correct)
 - Eq 2: $(-1) + 2(-1) = -1 - 2 = -3 \neq 4$. (Incorrect)
- (2, -1):
 - Eq 1: $2(2) - 3(-1) = 4 + 3 = 7 \neq 1$. (Incorrect)

MCQ 2: Which ordered triple (x, y, z) is the solution to the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 6 \\ 2x + y - z = 1 \\ x - 2y + 3z = 6 \end{cases}$$

- ☒ (1, 2, 3)
- ☐ (3, 2, 1)
- ☐ (2, 2, 2)
- ☐ (4, 3, -1)

Answer: We check each option by substituting the values of x , y , and z into all three equations.

- **A:** (1, 2, 3):
 - Eq 1: $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$. (Correct)
 - Eq 2: $2(1) + 2 - 3 = 2 + 2 - 3 = 1$. (Correct)
 - Eq 3: $1 - 2(2) + 3(3) = 1 - 4 + 9 = 6$. (Correct)

Since all three equations are satisfied, this is the solution.

- **B:** (3, 2, 1):

- Eq 1: $3 + 2 + 1 = 6$. (Correct)
- Eq 2: $2(3) + 2 - 1 = 6 + 2 - 1 = 7 \neq 1$. (Incorrect)

- **C:** (2, 2, 2):

- Eq 1: $2 + 2 + 2 = 6$. (Correct)
- Eq 2: $2(2) + 2 - 2 = 4 \neq 1$. (Incorrect)

- **D:** (4, 3, -1):

- Eq 1: $4 + 3 + (-1) = 6$. (Correct)
- Eq 2: $2(4) + 3 - (-1) = 8 + 3 + 1 = 12 \neq 1$. (Incorrect)

MCQ 3: Which ordered pair (x, y) is **not** a solution to the equation $x + y = 2$?

- ☐ (1, 1)
- ☐ (4, -2)
- ☒ (2, 1)
- ☐ (-1, 3)

Answer: We check each option by substituting the values of x and y into the equation.

- (1, 1):
 - $1 + 1 = 2$. (This is a solution)
- (4, -2):
 - $4 + (-2) = 2$. (This is a solution)
- (2, 1):
 - $2 + 1 = 3 \neq 2$. (This is **not** a solution)
- (-1, 3):
 - $-1 + 3 = 2$. (This is a solution)

The only ordered pair that is not a solution is (2, 1).

A.2 IDENTIFYING LINEAR EQUATIONS

MCQ 4: Is the equation $2x + xy - 3y = 2$ a linear equation?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Answer: A linear equation is one in which each variable appears in a separate term and is raised to the first power. The term xy involves a product of two variables, which makes the equation non-linear.

MCQ 5: Is the equation $2x + 2 = y$ a linear equation?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Answer: The equation is linear. It can be rearranged into the standard form $ax + by = c$.

Starting from $2x + 2 = y$, subtract y from both sides and then subtract 2 from both sides to obtain $2x - y = -2$. Each variable appears in a separate term and is raised to the first power.

MCQ 6: Is the equation $x^2 + 3y = 7$ a linear equation?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Answer: The equation is not linear. In a linear equation, all variables must be raised to the first power. The term x^2 violates this condition.

MCQ 7: Is the equation $\frac{x+y}{2} = 1$ a linear equation?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Answer: The equation is linear. By multiplying both sides by 2, we can rewrite it as $x + y = 2$. This is in the standard form $ax + by = c$. The variables are not multiplied together, in a denominator, or raised to a power other than 1.

MCQ 8: Is the equation $\frac{4}{x} + 2y = 5$ a linear equation?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Answer: The equation is not linear. The term $\frac{4}{x}$ can be written as $4x^{-1}$. In a linear equation, all variables must be raised to the first power, not a negative power.

MCQ 9: Is the equation $x - 2\sqrt{y} = 3$ a linear equation?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Answer: The equation is not linear. The term $2\sqrt{y}$ can be written as $2y^{1/2}$. In a linear equation, all variables must be raised to the first power, not a fractional power.

A.3 SETTING UP LINEAR SYSTEMS

Ex 10: A father is talking to his son. "The sum of our ages is 50, and the difference between our ages is 28." Let x be the father's age and y be the son's age. Write a system of linear equations that represents this situation.

Answer: The problem translates into the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 50 \\ x - y = 28 \end{cases}$$

Ex 11: On a farm, there are chickens and rabbits. The total number of heads is 100 and the total number of legs is 320. Let x be the number of chickens and y be the number of rabbits. Write a system of linear equations that represents this situation.

Answer: Each animal has one head, so the equation for the total number of heads is:

$$x + y = 100$$

Chickens have 2 legs and rabbits have 4 legs, so the equation for the total number of legs is:

$$2x + 4y = 320$$

The problem translates into the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 100 \\ 2x + 4y = 320 \end{cases}$$

Ex 12: The perimeter of a rectangular garden is 34 meters. The length of the garden is 5 meters more than its width. Let x be the length and y be the width of the garden. Write a system of linear equations that represents this situation.

Answer: The formula for the perimeter of a rectangle is $2(\text{length} + \text{width})$. This gives the first equation:

$$2x + 2y = 34$$

The statement "the length is 5 meters more than its width" gives the second equation:

$$x = y + 5 \quad \text{or} \quad x - y = 5$$

The problem translates into the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 2y = 34 \\ x - y = 5 \end{cases}$$

Ex 13: A student buys a total of 10 items, consisting of pens and notebooks. Pens cost \$2 each and notebooks cost \$4 each. The total cost of the purchase was \$28. Let x be the number of pens and y be the number of notebooks. Write a system of linear equations that represents this situation.

Answer: The total number of items gives the first equation:

$$x + y = 10$$

The total cost of the items gives the second equation:

$$2x + 4y = 28$$

The problem translates into the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 10 \\ 2x + 4y = 28 \end{cases}$$

B REPRESENTATIONS OF SOLUTION SETS

B.1 IDENTIFYING PARAMETRIC SOLUTIONS

MCQ 14: Which of the following is the set of solutions for the equation $2x + 5y = 7$?

☐ $x = 1, y = 1$

☐ $x = 1 + 5t, y = 1 + 2t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

☒ $x = t, y = \frac{7-2t}{5}$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

☐ $x = 6, y = -1 + 2t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: We test each proposal by substituting into $2x + 5y$.

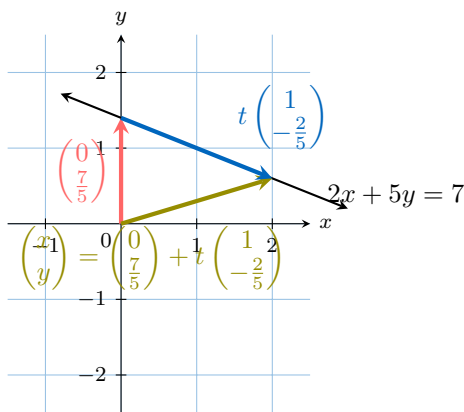
• **$x = 1, y = 1$:** $2(1) + 5(1) = 7$. This is a single solution, *not* the whole set. **Incorrect.**

• **$x = 1 + 5t, y = 1 + 2t$:** $2(1 + 5t) + 5(1 + 2t) = 7 + 20t \neq 7$ unless $t = 0$. **Incorrect.**

• **$x = t, y = \frac{7-2t}{5}$:** $2t + 5 \cdot \frac{7-2t}{5} = 7$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. This describes *all* solutions. **Correct.**

• **$x = 6, y = -1 + 2t$:** $12 + 5(-1 + 2t) = 7 + 10t \neq 7$ unless $t = 0$. **Incorrect.**

Correct choice: $x = t, y = \frac{7-2t}{5}$.



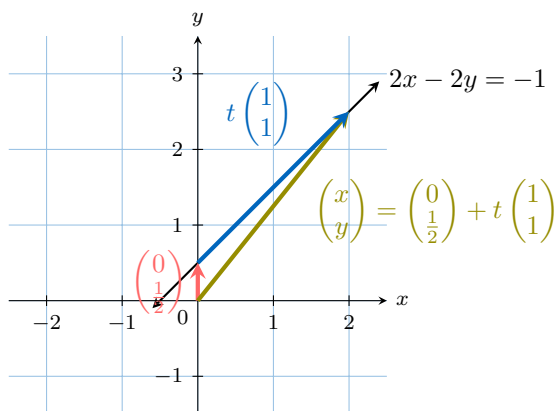
MCQ 15: Which of the following is the set of solutions for the equation $2x - 2y = -1$?

- ☐ $x = \frac{1}{2}, y = 1$
- ☐ $x = t, y = t - \frac{1}{2}$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☒ $x = t, y = t + \frac{1}{2}$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☐ $x = 1 + t, y = 2 + t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: We test each proposal by substituting the expressions for x and y into $2x - 2y$.

- $\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2}, \mathbf{y} = 1$: $2(\frac{1}{2}) - 2(1) = 1 - 2 = -1$. This is a single solution, *not* the whole set. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = t, \mathbf{y} = t - \frac{1}{2}$: $2(t) - 2(t - \frac{1}{2}) = 2t - 2t + 1 = 1 \neq -1$. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = t, \mathbf{y} = t + \frac{1}{2}$: $2(t) - 2(t + \frac{1}{2}) = 2t - 2t - 1 = -1$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. This describes *all* solutions. **Correct.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 1 + t, \mathbf{y} = 2 + t$: $2(1 + t) - 2(2 + t) = 2 + 2t - 4 - 2t = -2 \neq -1$. **Incorrect.**

Correct choice: $x = t, y = t + \frac{1}{2}$.



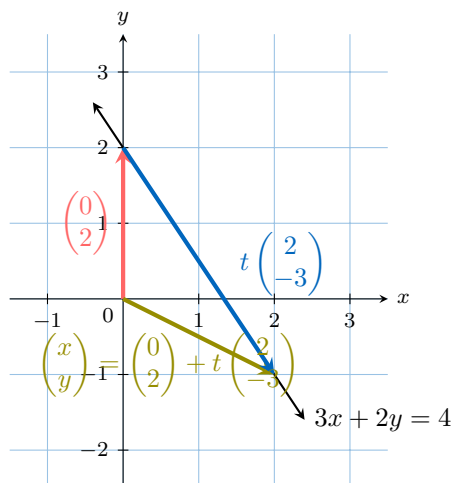
MCQ 16: Which of the following is the set of solutions for the equation $3x + 2y = 4$?

- ☐ $x = 2, y = -1$
- ☐ $x = 2t, y = 2 + 3t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☐ $x = 2 + 3t, y = -1 - 2t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☒ $x = 2t, y = 2 - 3t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: We test each proposal by substituting the expressions for x and y into $3x + 2y$.

- $\mathbf{x} = 2, \mathbf{y} = -1$: $3(2) + 2(-1) = 6 - 2 = 4$. This is a single solution, *not* the whole set. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 2t, \mathbf{y} = 2 + 3t$: $3(2t) + 2(2 + 3t) = 6t + 4 + 6t = 4 + 12t \neq 4$ unless $t = 0$. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 2 + 3t, \mathbf{y} = -1 - 2t$: $3(2 + 3t) + 2(-1 - 2t) = 6 + 9t - 2 - 4t = 4 + 5t \neq 4$ unless $t = 0$. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 2t, \mathbf{y} = 2 - 3t$: $3(2t) + 2(2 - 3t) = 6t + 4 - 6t = 4$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. This describes *all* solutions. **Correct.**

Correct choice: $x = 2t, y = 2 - 3t$.



B.2 FINDING PARAMETRIC SOLUTIONS

Ex 17: Find the solution set in parametric form for $2x + 4y = 1$.

Answer: Let $x = t$ be a free parameter. Then

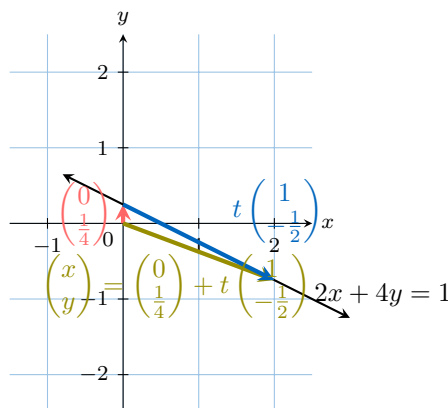
$$2t + 4y = 1 \Rightarrow 4y = 1 - 2t \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}t.$$

So the parametric solution set is

$$(x, y) = (t, \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Equivalently, in vector form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$



Ex 18: Find the solution set in parametric form for $3x - y = 2$.

Answer: Let $x = t$ be a free parameter, where $t \in \mathbb{R}$.
Substitute $x = t$ into the equation:

$$3(t) - y = 2$$

Now, solve for y in terms of t :

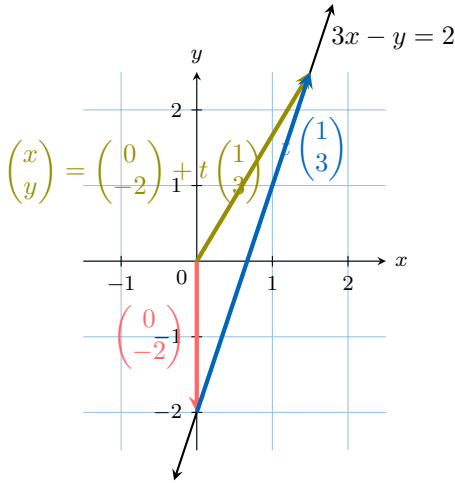
$$y = 3t - 2$$

The solution set in parametric form is:

$$(x, y) = (t, 3t - 2), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Equivalently, in vector form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$



Ex 19: Find the solution set in parametric form for $x + 3y = 6$.

Answer: Let $y = t$ be a free parameter, where $t \in \mathbb{R}$.
Substitute $y = t$ into the equation:

$$x + 3(t) = 6$$

Now, solve for x in terms of t :

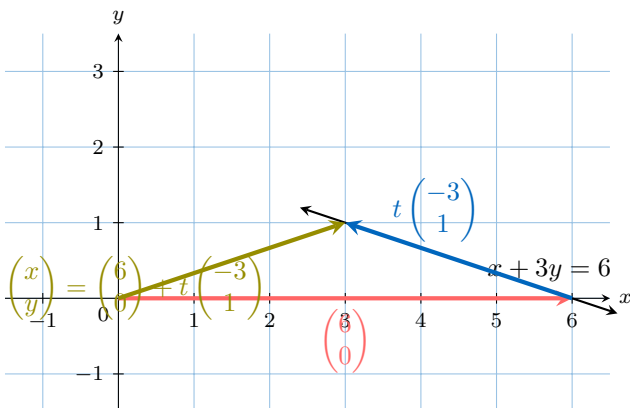
$$x = 6 - 3t$$

The solution set in parametric form is:

$$(x, y) = (6 - 3t, t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Equivalently, in vector form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$



B.3 IDENTIFYING PARAMETRIC SOLUTIONS OF SYSTEMS

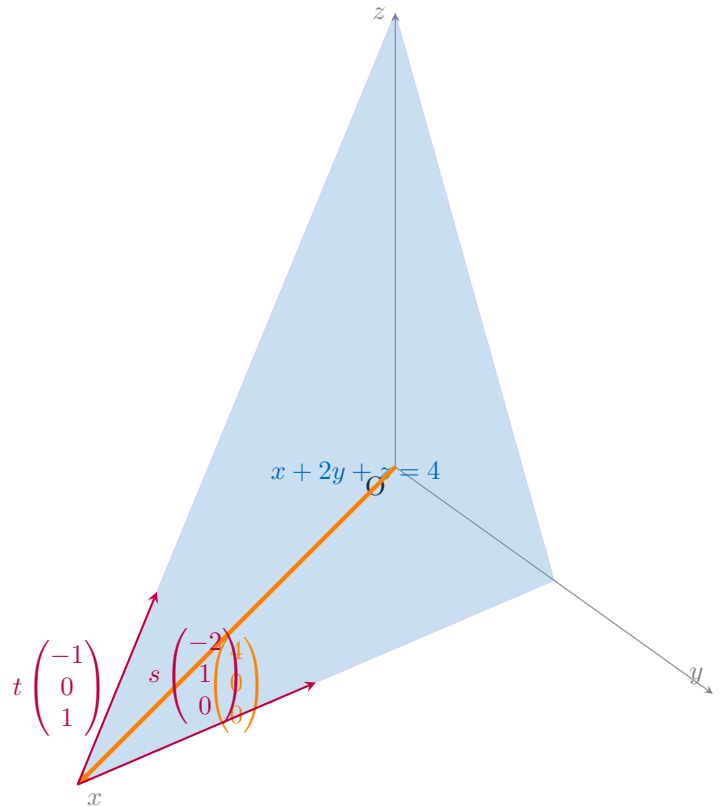
MCQ 20: Which of the following describes the set of solutions of the plane $x + 2y + z = 4$ in \mathbb{R}^3 ?

- ☐ $x = 1, y = 1, z = 1$
- ☐ $x = t, y = 2 - t, z = 2$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☒ $x = 4 - 2s - t, y = s, z = t$, for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☐ $x = 4 + 2s + t, y = s, z = t$, for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: Substitute each proposal into $x + 2y + z$.

- $(1, 1, 1)$: $1 + 2(1) + 1 = 4$. A single point, not the whole set. **Incorrect.**
- $x = t, y = 2 - t, z = 2$: $t + 2(2 - t) + 2 = 6 - t \neq 4$ unless $t = 2$. **Incorrect.**
- $x = 4 - 2s - t, y = s, z = t$: $(4 - 2s - t) + 2s + t = 4$ for all s, t . **Correct.**
- $x = 4 + 2s + t, y = s, z = t$: $(4 + 2s + t) + 2s + t = 4 + 4s + 2t \neq 4$ in general. **Incorrect.**

Correct choice: $x = 4 - 2s - t, y = s, z = t$ with $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.



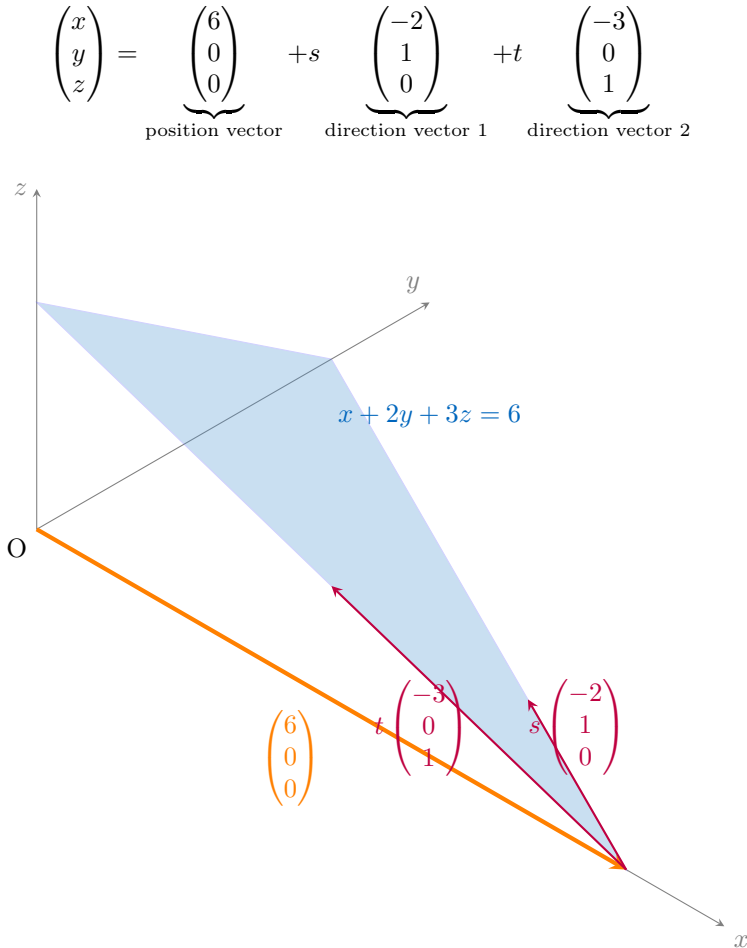
MCQ 21: Which of the following describes the set of solutions of the plane $x + 2y + 3z = 6$ in \mathbb{R}^3 ?

- ☐ $x = 1, y = 1, z = 1$
- ☐ $x = 6 - 2s - 3t, y = s, z = t + 1$, for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☒ $x = 6 - 2s - 3t, y = s, z = t$, for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☐ $x = t, y = s, z = 6 - t - 2s$, for all $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: Substitute each proposal into $x + 2y + 3z$.

- $(1, 1, 1)$: $1 + 2(1) + 3(1) = 6$. A single point, not the whole set. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 6 - 2\mathbf{s} - 3\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}$, $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{t} + 1$: $(6 - 2s - 3t) + 2s + 3(t + 1) = 6 - 2s - 3t + 2s + 3t + 3 = 9 \neq 6$. **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = 6 - 2\mathbf{s} - 3\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}$, $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{t}$: $(6 - 2s - 3t) + 2s + 3t = 6$ for all s, t . **Correct.**
- $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}$, $\mathbf{z} = 6 - \mathbf{t} - 2\mathbf{s}$: $(t) + 2(s) + 3(6 - t - 2s) = t + 2s + 18 - 3t - 6s = 18 - 2t - 4s \neq 6$ in general. **Incorrect.**

Correct choice: $x = 6 - 2s - 3t$, $y = s$, $z = t$ with $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$.



MCQ 22: Which of the following describes the set of solutions for the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ x - y + 2z = 2 \end{cases}$$

- ☐ $x = 1, y = 1, z = 1$
- ☐ $x = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}t$, $y = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}t$, $z = t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☐ $x = t, y = 1 - t, z = 2$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- ☒ $x = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}t$, $y = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t$, $z = t$, for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: We test each proposal by substituting the expressions for x, y , and z into both equations. A correct parametric solution must satisfy both equations for all values of t .

- $(1, 1, 1)$:
 - Eq 1: $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$. (Correct)
 - Eq 2: $1 - 1 + 2(1) = 2$. (Correct)

This is a single point solution, not the whole set of solutions. **Incorrect.**

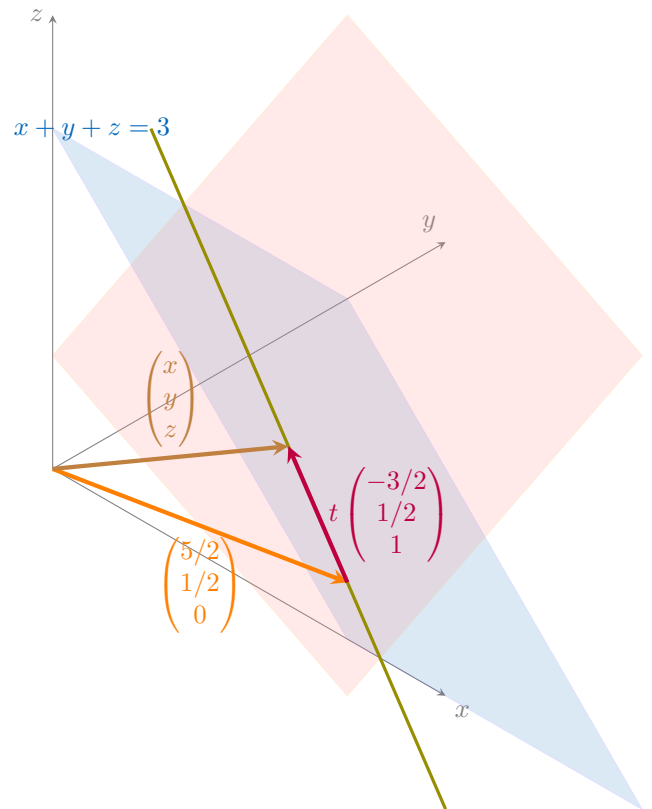
- $\mathbf{x} = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{t}$:
 - Eq 1: $(\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}t) + (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}t) + t = 3 + 2t$. This is not equal to 3 for all t . **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = 1 - \mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{z} = 2$:
 - Eq 1: $t + (1 - t) + 2 = 3$. (Correct)
 - Eq 2: $t - (1 - t) + 2(2) = 2t - 1 + 4 = 2t + 3$. This is not equal to 2 for all t . **Incorrect.**
- $\mathbf{x} = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{y} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}$, $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{t}$:
 - Eq 1: $(\frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}t) + (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t) + t = \frac{6}{2} + 0t = 3$. (Correct for all t)
 - Eq 2: $(\frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}t) - (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t) + 2t = \frac{4}{2} + 0t = 2$. (Correct for all t)

This describes all solutions. **Correct.**

Correct choice: $x = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}t$, $y = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t$, $z = t$ with $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 - 3/2t \\ 1/2 + 1/2t \\ t \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 5/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{position vector}} + t \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -3/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{direction vector}}$$

$x - y + 2z = 2$



MCQ 23: Which of the following describes the set of solutions for the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y - z = 1 \\ 2x + 3y + z = 8 \end{cases}$$

$$\square x = 3, y = 0, z = 2$$

$$\boxtimes x = 13 - 5t, \quad y = 3t - 6, \quad z = t, \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\square x = 1, y = 1, z = 2$$

$$\square x = 13 + 5t, \quad y = -6 - 3t, \quad z = t, \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Answer: We test each proposal by substituting the expressions into both equations. A correct parametric solution must satisfy both equations for all values of t .

• **(3, 0, 2):**

– Eq 1: $3 + 2(0) - 2 = 1$. (Correct)

– Eq 2: $2(3) + 3(0) + 2 = 8$. (Correct)

This is a single point solution, not the whole set. **Incorrect.**

• **$x = 13 - 5t, y = 3t - 6, z = t$:**

– Eq 1: $(13 - 5t) + 2(3t - 6) - t = 13 - 5t + 6t - 12 - t = 1$. (Correct for all t)

– Eq 2: $2(13 - 5t) + 3(3t - 6) + t = 26 - 10t + 9t - 18 + t = 8$. (Correct for all t)

This describes all solutions. **Correct.**

• **(1, 1, 2):**

– Eq 1: $1 + 2(1) - 2 = 1$. (Correct)

– Eq 2: $2(1) + 3(1) + 2 = 7 \neq 8$. (Incorrect).

• **$x = 13 + 5t, y = -6 - 3t, z = t$:**

– Eq 1: $(13 + 5t) + 2(-6 - 3t) - t = 13 + 5t - 12 - 6t - t = 1 - 2t$. This is not equal to 1 for all t . **Incorrect.**

Correct choice: $x = 13 - 5t, y = 3t - 6, z = t$ with $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 13 - 5t \\ -6 + 3t \\ t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 13 \\ -6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{position vector}} + t \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{direction vector}} \end{aligned}$$

C AUGMENTED MATRICES

C.1 WRITING AUGMENTED MATRICES

Ex 24: Write down the augmented matrix for the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} 3x + y = 7 \\ x - 4y = -2 \end{cases}$$

Answer: The system has two variables (x, y) and two equations. We write the coefficients of each variable in its own column. The augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & -4 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 25: Write down the augmented matrix for the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y + z = -1 \\ x + 3z = 4 \\ -x + 2y - z = 0 \end{cases}$$

Answer: The system has three variables (x, y, z) and three equations. We write the coefficients of each variable in its own column. If a variable is missing, its coefficient is 0. The augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 26: Write down the augmented matrix for the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y - z = 5 \\ -3x + 4z = 0 \end{cases}$$

Answer: The system has three variables (x, y, z) and two equations. We write the coefficients of each variable in its own column. The missing y term in the second equation has a coefficient of 0. The augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ -3 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 27: Write down the augmented matrix for the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} x - y = 3 \\ 2x = 10 \\ -x + 4y = 1 \end{cases}$$

Answer: The system has two variables (x, y) and three equations. The missing y term in the second equation has a coefficient of 0. The augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 10 \\ -1 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

C.2 WRITING SYSTEMS FROM AUGMENTED MATRICES

Ex 28: Write the system of linear equations corresponding to the augmented matrix, using variables x and y .

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & -6 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: The first column represents the coefficients of x , the second column represents the coefficients of y , and the column after the bar represents the constant terms.

- The first row, $[2 \ -1 \ | \ 5]$, translates to $2x - 1y = 5$.
- The second row, $[0 \ 3 \ | \ -6]$, translates to $0x + 3y = -6$.

The corresponding system of equations is:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y = 5 \\ 3y = -6 \end{cases}$$

Ex 29: Write the system of linear equations corresponding to the augmented matrix, using variables x, y , and z .

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: The columns represent the coefficients of x, y , and z respectively.

- The first row translates to $x + 0y - 2z = 9$.
- The second row translates to $0x + y + 5z = -3$.
- The third row translates to $0x + 0y + z = 4$.

The corresponding system of equations is:

$$\begin{cases} x - 2z = 9 \\ y + 5z = -3 \\ z = 4 \end{cases}$$

Ex 30: Write the system of linear equations corresponding to the augmented matrix:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: The first column represents the coefficients of x , the second column represents the coefficients of y , and the column after the bar represents the constant terms.

- The first row, $[1 \ 0 \ | \ 7]$, translates to $1 \cdot x + 0 \cdot y = 7$.
- The second row, $[0 \ 1 \ | \ -2]$, translates to $0 \cdot x + 1 \cdot y = -2$.

The corresponding system of equations is:

$$\begin{cases} x = 7 \\ y = -2 \end{cases}$$

Ex 31: Write the system of linear equations corresponding to the augmented matrix, using variables x, y , and z .

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 2 & 2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 5 & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: The first, second, and third columns represent the coefficients of x, y , and z respectively.

- The first row, $[-1 \ 2 \ 2 \ | \ -2]$, translates to $-x + 2y + 2z = -2$.
- The second row, $[1 \ -1 \ 5 \ | \ 5]$, translates to $x - y + 5z = 5$.

The corresponding system of equations is:

$$\begin{cases} -x + 2y + 2z = -2 \\ x - y + 5z = 5 \end{cases}$$

D ELEMENTARY ROW OPERATIONS

D.1 PERFORMING ROW OPERATIONS

Ex 32: Write the equivalent system with the first row multiplied by 2.

$$\begin{cases} x - 3y = 1 \\ 2x + y = -1 \end{cases}$$

Answer: The first row multiplied by 2 is:

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \times (x - 3y) &= 2 \times 1 \\ 2x - 6y &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

So the equivalent system is:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - 6y = 2 & (R_1 \leftarrow 2R_1) \\ 2x + y = -1 \end{cases}$$

Ex 33: Write the equivalent system after applying the row operation $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1$.

$$\begin{cases} x - 3y = 1 & (R_1) \\ 2x + y = -1 & (R_2) \end{cases}$$

Answer: We calculate the new second row, $R_2 - 2R_1$:

$$\begin{aligned} (2x + y) - 2(x - 3y) &= -1 - 2(1) \\ 2x + y - 2x + 6y &= -1 - 2 \\ 7y &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

So the equivalent system is:

$$\begin{cases} x - 3y = 1 \\ 7y = -3 & (R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1) \end{cases}$$

Ex 34: Write the equivalent system after swapping Row 1 and Row 2 ($R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$).

$$\begin{cases} 4x + 2y = 10 & (R_1) \\ x - 5y = -13 & (R_2) \end{cases}$$

Answer: Swapping the two rows means the first equation becomes the second, and the second becomes the first.

So the equivalent system is:

$$\begin{cases} x - 5y = -13 \\ 4x + 2y = 10 & (R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2) \end{cases}$$

Ex 35: Write the equivalent system after applying the row operation $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_1$.

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y = 4 & (R_1) \\ -3x + 5y = 1 & (R_2) \end{cases}$$

Answer: We calculate the new second row, $R_2 + 3R_1$:

$$\begin{aligned} (-3x + 5y) + 3(x + 2y) &= 1 + 3(4) \\ -3x + 5y + 3x + 6y &= 1 + 12 \\ 11y &= 13 \end{aligned}$$

So the equivalent system is:

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y = 4 \\ 11y = 13 & (R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_1) \end{cases}$$

D.2 PERFORMING ROW OPERATIONS (MATRICES)

Ex 36: Given the augmented matrix below, write the equivalent matrix after multiplying the first row by 2 ($R_1 \leftarrow 2R_1$).

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: Multiplying each element in Row 1 by 2 gives:

$$2 \times 1 = 2, \quad 2 \times (-3) = -6, \quad 2 \times 1 = 2$$

The new augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -6 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 37: Given the augmented matrix below, write the equivalent matrix after applying the row operation $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: We calculate the new second row, $R_2 - 2R_1$:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} R_2 : & [2 & 1 \mid -1] \\ -2R_1 : & [-2 & 6 \mid -2] \\ \hline \text{New } R_2 : & [0 & 7 \mid -3] \end{array}$$

The new augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 7 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 38: Given the augmented matrix below, write the equivalent matrix after swapping Row 1 and Row 2 ($R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$).

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 4 & 2 & 10 \\ 1 & -5 & -13 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: Swapping the two rows means the entries of the first row become the second row, and vice versa.

The new augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -5 & -13 \\ 4 & 2 & 10 \end{array} \right]$$

Ex 39: Given the augmented matrix below, write the equivalent matrix after applying the row operation $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_1$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ -3 & 5 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Answer: We calculate the new second row, $R_2 + 3R_1$:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} R_2 : & [-3 & 5 \mid 1] \\ +3R_1 : & [3 & 6 \mid 12] \\ \hline \text{New } R_2 : & [0 & 11 \mid 13] \end{array}$$

The new augmented matrix is:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 11 & 13 \end{array} \right]$$

E GAUSSIAN ELIMINATION

E.1 SOLVING 2×2 SYSTEMS OF LINEAR EQUATIONS: LEVEL 1

Ex 40: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x - 2y = 8 \\ 3x + y = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{2} \text{ and } y = \boxed{-3}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{cases} x - 2y = 8 \\ 3x + y = 3 \end{cases} \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & 8 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & 8 \\ 0 & 7 & -21 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{7} R_2 \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + 2R_2 \\ & \sim \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = -3 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 41: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x + 3y = 5 \\ 2x + y = 5 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{2} \text{ and } y = \boxed{1}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{cases} x + 3y = 5 \\ 2x + y = 5 \end{cases} \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right] \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & -5 & -5 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow -\frac{1}{5} R_2 \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 3R_2 \\ & \sim \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 42: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 3y = 13 \\ x + 4y = 14 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{2} \text{ and } y = \boxed{3}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{cases} 2x + 3y = 13 \\ x + 4y = 14 \end{cases} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 13 \\ 1 & 4 & 14 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 13 \\ 0 & 5 & 15 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow 2R_2 - R_1 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 13 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{5}R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 3R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1 \\
 & \sim \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = 3 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex 43: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 3y = 7 \\ x - y = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{2} \text{ and } y = \boxed{1}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{cases} 2x + 3y = 7 \\ x - y = 1 \end{cases} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & -5 & -5 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow 2R_2 - R_1 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow -\frac{1}{5}R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 3R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1 \\
 & \sim \begin{cases} x = 2 \\ y = 1 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex 44: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 5y = 16 \\ x + 2y = 7 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{3} \text{ and } y = \boxed{2}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{cases} 2x + 5y = 16 \\ x + 2y = 7 \end{cases} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 5 & 16 \\ 1 & 2 & 7 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 5 & 16 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow 2R_2 - R_1 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 5 & 16 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow -R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 5R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1 \\
 & \sim \begin{cases} x = 3 \\ y = 2 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

E.2 SOLVING 3×3 SYSTEMS OF LINEAR EQUATIONS: LEVEL 1

Ex 45: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 6 \\ 2x + y - z = 1 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 14 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{1}, y = \boxed{2}, z = \boxed{3}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 14 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & -11 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 8 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 11 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 8 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow -R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_3 \leftarrow -R_3 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_3 \\ R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 3R_3 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = 1, y = 2, z = 3.$$

Ex 46: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y + z = 7 \\ 2x - y + z = 6 \\ 3x + y - 2z = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{2}, y = \boxed{1}, z = \boxed{3}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & -5 & -1 & -8 \\ 0 & -5 & -5 & -20 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & -5 & -1 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & -12 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & -5 & -1 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow -\frac{1}{4}R_3 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & -5 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_2 \leftarrow -\frac{1}{5}R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 2R_2 - R_3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = 2, y = 1, z = 3.$$

Ex 47: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 2z = 9 \\ 2x + 3y + z = 11 \\ -x + y + z = 4 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{1}, y = \boxed{2}, z = \boxed{3}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -7 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 13 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + R_1 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 & 27 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow \frac{1}{9}R_3 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 2R_3 \\ R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_3 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = 1, y = 2, z = 3.$$

Ex 48: Use Gaussian elimination to solve:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 6 \\ 2x + y - z = 3 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 13 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \boxed{1}, y = \boxed{3}, z = \boxed{2}$$

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 13 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & -9 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow -R_3 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_3 \\ R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 3R_3 \end{array} \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] R_2 \leftarrow -R_2 \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = 1, y = 3, z = 2.$$

F ANALYZING SOLUTIONS FROM ROW-ECHELON FORM

F.1 ANALYZING 2X2 SYSTEMS WITH PARAMETERS

Ex 49: Consider the following system of linear equations, where $k \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{cases} x + ky = 3 \\ 2x + 4y = 1 \end{cases}$$

Determine the values of k for which the system has:

1. a unique solution.
2. no solution.
3. infinitely many solutions.

For the case where a unique solution exists, find the expressions for x and y in terms of k .

Answer: We begin by writing the system as an augmented matrix and performing Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & k & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right] \\
 & \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & k & 3 \\ 0 & 4 - 2k & -5 \end{array} \right] R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we analyze the second row, which corresponds to the equation $(4 - 2k)y = -5$.

1. Unique Solution:

A unique solution exists if we can uniquely solve for y . This is possible if the coefficient of y is not zero.

$$4 - 2k \neq 0 \implies 2k \neq 4 \implies k \neq 2$$

2. No Solution:

If the coefficient of y is zero, the system has no unique

solution. Let's check the case where $k = 2$. The second row becomes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & | & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the equation $0y = -5$, or $0 = -5$. This is a contradiction. Therefore, when $k = 2$, the system has **no solution**.

3. Infinitely Many Solutions:

For infinitely many solutions, the last row must be of the form $[0 \ 0 \ | \ 0]$. In our case, the last element is always -5. It is therefore impossible for this system to have infinitely many solutions.

Solution in terms of k (for $k \neq 2$):

From the row-echelon form, we use back-substitution.

From R_2 : $(4 - 2k)y = -5 \implies y = \frac{-5}{4-2k} = \frac{5}{2k-4}$.

From R_1 : $x + ky = 3 \implies x = 3 - ky$.

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 3 - k \left(\frac{5}{2k-4} \right) \\ &= \frac{3(2k-4) - 5k}{2k-4} \\ &= \frac{6k - 12 - 5k}{2k-4} \\ &= \frac{k - 12}{2k-4} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 50: Consider the following system of linear equations, where $k \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y = 4 \\ -6x + 3y = k \end{cases}$$

Determine the values of k for which the system has:

1. a unique solution.
2. no solution.
3. infinitely many solutions.

For the case where infinitely many solutions exist, find the general solution in parametric form.

Answer: We write the system as an augmented matrix and perform Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -1 & 4 \\ -6 & 3 & k \end{array} \right] \\ &\sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & k+12 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_1 \end{aligned}$$

The second row corresponds to the equation $0y = k + 12$.

1. Unique Solution:

A unique solution exists only if the coefficient of y in the second row is non-zero. Here, the coefficient is always 0. Therefore, this system can **never** have a unique solution.

2. No Solution:

The system has no solution if the second row leads to a contradiction. The equation is $0 = k + 12$. This is a contradiction if $k + 12 \neq 0$. Therefore, the system has no solution when $k \neq -12$.

3. Infinitely Many Solutions:

The system has infinitely many solutions if the second row becomes the identity $0 = 0$. This occurs when:

$$k + 12 = 0 \implies k = -12$$

Parametric Solution (for $k = -12$):

When $k = -12$, the system reduces to a single equation: $2x - y = 4$.

To find the parametric solution, let $x = t$, where $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$2t - y = 4 \implies y = 2t - 4$$

The general solution is $(x, y) = (t, 2t - 4)$.

F.2 ANALYZING 3X3 SYSTEMS WITH PARAMETERS

Ex 51: Consider the following system of linear equations, where $k \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ x + 2y - z = 4 \\ 2x + 3y + kz = 8 \end{cases}$$

1. Find the value of k for which the system does not have a unique solution.
2. For this value of k , determine if the system has no solution or infinitely many solutions.
3. Describe the geometric interpretation of the system for this value of k .
4. Given that $k = 1$, find the unique solution to the system.

Answer:

1. We write the system as an augmented matrix and perform Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & k & 8 \end{array} \right] \\ &\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & k-2 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_1 \end{array} \\ &\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & k & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2 \end{aligned}$$

The system does not have a unique solution when the coefficient of the last variable in the last row is zero. This occurs when $k = 0$.

2. When $k = 0$, the last row of the matrix becomes $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ | \ 1]$. This corresponds to the equation $0 = 1$, which is a contradiction. Therefore, the system has **no solution**.
3. The three equations represent three planes in 3D space. Since the system has no solution and no two planes are parallel, the planes intersect in pairs to form a triangular prism.
4. Given $k = 1$, we continue from the row-echelon form found in part (a).

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \\ &\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_3 \\ R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 2R_3 \end{array} \\ &\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2 \end{aligned}$$

The unique solution is $x = -1, y = 3, z = 1$.

Ex 52: Consider the following system of linear equations, where $a \in \mathbb{R}$:

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

1. Find the value of a for which the system has infinitely many solutions.
2. For this value of a , find the general solution to the system of equations.
3. Describe the geometric interpretation of the system for this value of a .

Answer:

1. We write the system as an augmented matrix and perform Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & a \end{array} \right] \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & a-1 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array} \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a-4 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2 \end{aligned}$$

For the system to have infinitely many solutions, the last row must be all zeros. This means the final entry must also be zero.

$$a - 4 = 0 \implies a = 4$$

2. With $a = 4$, the row-echelon form is $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$.

The last row $0 = 0$ is redundant. We have two equations for three variables. Let $z = t$, where $t \in \mathbb{R}$. From R_2 : $y + 3z = 3 \implies y + 3t = 3 \implies y = 3 - 3t$. From R_1 : $x + 2y - z = 1 \implies x + 2(3 - 3t) - t = 1 \implies x + 6 - 6t - t = 1 \implies x = -5 + 7t$. The general solution is $x = -5 + 7t, y = 3 - 3t, z = t$.

3. The three equations represent three planes in 3D space. Since the system has infinitely many solutions, the three planes intersect along a common line.

Ex 53: Consider the following system of linear equations, where $k, m \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 1 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 4 \\ 2x + 3y + kz = m \end{cases}$$

1. Find the value of k for which the system does not have a unique solution.
2. For this value of k , find the value of m for which the system has infinitely many solutions.
3. For the values of k and m found in parts (a) and (b), find the general solution to the system.

Answer:

1. We write the system as an augmented matrix and perform Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & k & m \end{array} \right] \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & k-2 & m-2 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_1 \end{array} \\ & \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & k-4 & m-5 \end{array} \right] R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2 \end{aligned}$$

The system does not have a unique solution when the leading coefficient in the third row is zero. This occurs when $k - 4 = 0$, so $k = 4$.

2. For the system to have infinitely many solutions, the last row of the row-echelon matrix must be entirely zeros, representing the identity $0 = 0$. With $k = 4$, the last row is $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ | \ m-5]$. For this row to be all zeros, we need:

$$m - 5 = 0 \implies m = 5$$

(If $m \neq 5$, the system would have no solution).

3. With $k = 4$ and $m = 5$, the system reduces to:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \implies \begin{cases} x + y + z = 1 \\ y + 2z = 3 \end{cases}$$

Let $z = t$, where $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

From the second equation: $y + 2t = 3 \implies y = 3 - 2t$.

Substitute into the first equation: $x + (3 - 2t) + t = 1 \implies x + 3 - t = 1 \implies x = t - 2$.

The general solution is $(x, y, z) = (t - 2, 3 - 2t, t)$.