

## 5.2.2

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**Question.** Solve the simultaneous linear equations

$$5u - 4v + 8 = 0, \quad 7u + 6v - 9 = 0.$$

**Solution.**

Writing each line in normal form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{p} = -8, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{p} = 9, \quad (1)$$

where the unknown point vector is

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Equivalently,

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -4 \\ 7 & 6 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{p} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{b}}. \quad (3)$$

Since

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = 5 \cdot 6 - (-4) \cdot 7 = 58 \neq 0, \quad (4)$$

the unique solution is

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{58} (\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{58} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ -7 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{58} \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 101 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

Hence,

$$\boxed{u = -\frac{6}{29}, \quad v = \frac{101}{58}}. \quad (6)$$

(Here we used the matrix normal-form method  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{b}$  and the  $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{\text{adj}(\mathbf{A})}{\det(\mathbf{A})}$ .)

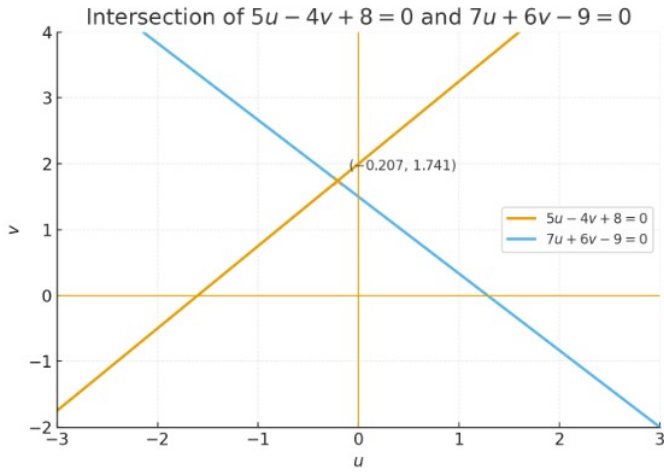


Fig. 0.1: Intersection of  $5u - 4v + 8 = 0$  and  $7u + 6v - 9 = 0$  at  $\left(-\frac{6}{29}, \frac{101}{58}\right)$ .