

Matrices in Geometry - 5.2.40

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Problem Statement

Solve

$$\frac{4}{x} + 3y = 14$$

$$\frac{3}{x} - 4y = 23$$

Solution

We have the following two equations as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{x} \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 14 \\ 23 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Writing the augmented matrix for these equations,

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 4 & 3 & 14 \\ 3 & -4 & 23 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2]{R_1 \rightarrow R_1/4} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3/4 & 7/2 \\ 3 & -4 & 23 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1} \quad (2)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3/4 & 7/2 \\ 0 & -25/4 & 25/2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[R_2 \leftrightarrow -\frac{4}{25}R_2]{R_2 \rightarrow -\frac{4}{25}R_2} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3/4 & 7/2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - \frac{3}{4}R_2} \quad (3)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right) \quad (4)$$

Solution

This implies that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{x} \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \implies x = \frac{1}{5}, y = -2 \quad (5)$$

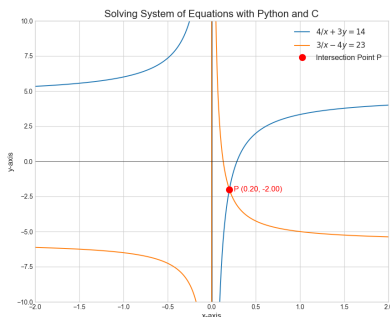


Figure: Graph for 5.2.40