

5.3.17

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September 30, 2025

Question

Solve the system of linear equations using the matrix method

$$7x + 2y = 11 \quad (1)$$

$$4x - 7y = 2 \quad (2)$$

Solution

Using augmented matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 7 & 2 & 11 \\ 4 & -7 & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad (3)$$

Reducing it to reduced echelon form

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 7 & 2 & 11 \\ 4 & -7 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xleftrightarrow{R_2 = R_2 - \frac{4}{7}R_1} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 7 & 2 & 11 \\ 0 & -\frac{57}{7} & -\frac{30}{7} \end{array} \right) \quad (4)$$

Solution

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_2 = \frac{14}{57} R_2} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 7 & 2 & 11 \\ 0 & -2 & -\frac{60}{57} \end{array} \right) \xleftrightarrow{R_1 = R_1 + R_2} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 7 & 0 & \frac{567}{57} \\ 0 & -2 & -\frac{60}{57} \end{array} \right) \quad (5)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_1 = R_1/7} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{81}{57} \\ 0 & -2 & -\frac{60}{57} \end{array} \right) \xleftrightarrow{R_2 = R_2/-2} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{81}{57} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{30}{57} \end{array} \right) \quad (6)$$

Hence

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{57} \begin{pmatrix} 81 \\ 30 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

