

A system of linear equations is called inconsistent if it has no solutions. A system which has a solution is called consistent.

The system can be inconsistent even with only  $n=3$ .  
put the system of equations into an augmented matrix.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & t_1 & -\frac{1}{2}t_1^2 & \gamma_1 \\ 1 & t_2 & -\frac{1}{2}t_2^2 & \gamma_2 \\ 1 & t_3 & -\frac{1}{2}t_3^2 & \gamma_3 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{find RREF}}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & t_1 & -\frac{1}{2}t_1^2 & \gamma_1 \\ 0 & t_2 - t_1 & -\frac{1}{2}(t_2 - t_1)(t_2 + t_1) & \gamma_2 - \gamma_1 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2}(t_2 - t_1)(t_3 - t_1)(t_3 - t_2) & ((\gamma_3 - \gamma_1)(t_2 - t_1) - (\gamma_2 - \gamma_1)(t_3 - t_1)) \end{array} \right]$$

When  $t_1 = t_2$  or  $t_3 = t_1$  or  $t_3 = t_2$ , but

$$\gamma_1 \neq \gamma_2 \text{ or } \gamma_3 \neq \gamma_1 \text{ or } \gamma_3 \neq \gamma_2,$$

the equation becomes  $0 = C$  ( $C \neq 0$ ).

So the system will be inconsistent.