

Solving Systems with Gaussian Elimination

1. Set up the Augmented Matrix for the System of Equations.

2. Perform Row Operations on the Matrix:

- If there are zero rows, place them at the bottom of the matrix.
- In any nonzero row, make the first nonzero number a 1 (called the "leading 1").
- Ensure each leading 1 is below and to the right of the previous leading 1.
- Each column containing a leading 1 should have zeros in all other positions below the leading 1.

3. Allowed Operations on the Matrix:

- Interchange (swap) rows.
- Multiply a row by a constant.
- Add the product of a row (multiplied by a constant) to another row.

4. Solving the System:

- Perform the above row operations to convert the augmented matrix into row echelon form.
- Once in row echelon form, use back-substitution to find the solution.