

# Chapter 2 Linear Equations

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## 1 Equations In Two Unknowns

### Problem 7

Solve the following systems of equations for  $x$  and  $y$ .

$$\begin{aligned}7x - y &= 2 \\ 2x + 2y &= 4\end{aligned}$$

### Solution 7

$$\begin{aligned}7x - y &= 2 \leftrightarrow 14x - 2y = 4 \\ (14x - 2y) + (2x + 2y) &= 4 + 4 \\ 16x &= 8 \\ x &= \frac{8}{16} \\ x &= \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}7x - y &= 2 \\ 7\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - y &= 2 \\ 7\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 2 &= y \\ \left(\frac{7}{2}\right) - \frac{4}{2} &= y \\ \frac{3}{2} &= y\end{aligned}$$

### Problem 8

Solve the following systems of equations for  $x$  and  $y$ .

$$\begin{aligned}-4x - 7y &= 5 \\ 2x + y &= 6\end{aligned}$$

**Solution 8**

$$\begin{aligned}2(2x + y = 6) &\leftrightarrow 4x + 2y = 12 \\(4x + 2y) + (-4x - 7y) &= 12 + 5 \\-5y &= 17 \\y &= \frac{-17}{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}2x + y &= 6 \\2x + \frac{-17}{5} &= 6 \\2x &= 6 + \frac{17}{5} \\(\frac{10}{5})x &= \frac{30}{5} + \frac{17}{5} \\(\frac{10}{5})x &= \frac{47}{5} \\x &= \frac{\frac{47}{5}}{(\frac{10}{5})} \\x &= \frac{235}{50} \\x &= \frac{47}{10}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 9**

Let  $a, b, c, d$  be numbers such that  $ad - bc \neq 0$ . Solve the following systems of equations for  $x$  and  $y$  in terms of  $a, b, c, d$ .

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= 1 \\cx + dy &= 2\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= 3 \\cx + dy &= -4\end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= -2 \\cx + dy &= 3\end{aligned}$$

(d)

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= 5 \\cx + dy &= 7\end{aligned}$$

**Solution 9 (a)**

First multiply by  $d$ ,  $ax + by = 1 \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = d$ .

Then multiply by  $b$ ,  $cx + dy = 2 \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = 2b$ .

Also multiply by  $c$ ,  $ax + by = 1 \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = c$ .

And multiply by  $a$ ,  $cx + dy = 2 \leftrightarrow acx + ady = 2a$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) &= d - 2b \\ adx - bcx &= d - 2b \\ x(ad - bc) &= d - 2b \\ x &= \frac{d - 2b}{ad - bc}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) &= 2a - c \\ ady - bcy &= 2a - c \\ y(ad - bc) &= 2a - c \\ y(ad - bc) &= \frac{2a - c}{ad - bc}\end{aligned}$$

**Solution 9 (b)**

First multiply by  $d$ ,  $ax + by = 3 \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = 3d$ .

Then multiply by  $b$ ,  $cx + dy = -4 \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = -4b$ .

Also multiply by  $c$ ,  $ax + by = 3 \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = 3c$ .

And multiply by  $a$ ,  $cx + dy = -4 \leftrightarrow acx + ady = -4a$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) &= 3d + 4b \\ adx - bcx &= 3d + 4b \\ x(ad - bc) &= 3d + 4b \\ x &= \frac{3d + 4b}{ad - bc}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) &= -4a - 3c \\ ady - bcy &= -4a - 3c \\ y(ad - bc) &= -4a - 3c \\ y(ad - bc) &= \frac{-4a - 3c}{ad - bc}\end{aligned}$$

**Solution 9 (c)**

First multiply by  $d$ ,  $ax + by = -2 \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = -2d$ .

Then multiply by  $b$ ,  $cx + dy = 3 \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = 3b$ .

Also multiply by  $c$ ,  $ax + by = -2 \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = -2c$ .

And multiply by  $a$ ,  $cx + dy = 3 \leftrightarrow acx + ady = 3a$ .

$$(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) = -2d + 3b$$

$$adx - bcx = -2d + 3b$$

$$x(ad - bc) = -2d + 3b$$

$$x = \frac{-2d + 3b}{ad - bc}$$

$$(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) = 3a - c$$

$$ady - bcy = 3a - c$$

$$y(ad - bc) = 3a - c$$

$$y(ad - bc) = \frac{3a - c}{ad - bc}$$

**Solution 9 (d)**

First multiply by  $d$ ,  $ax + by = 5 \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = 5d$ .

Then multiply by  $b$ ,  $cx + dy = 7 \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = 7b$ .

Also multiply by  $c$ ,  $ax + by = 5 \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = 5c$ .

And multiply by  $a$ ,  $cx + dy = 7 \leftrightarrow acx + ady = 7a$ .

$$(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) = 5d - 7b$$

$$adx - bcx = 5d - 7b$$

$$x(ad - bc) = 5d - 7b$$

$$x = \frac{5d - 7b}{ad - bc}$$

$$(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) = 5a - 7c$$

$$ady - bcy = 5a - 7c$$

$$y(ad - bc) = 5a - 7c$$

$$y(ad - bc) = \frac{5a - 7c}{ad - bc}$$

### Problem 10

Making the same assumptions as in Excercise 9, show that the solution of the system

$$ax + by = 0$$

$$cx + dy = 0$$

must be  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$ .

### Solution 10

First  $ax + by = 0 \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = 0$ .

Then  $cx + dy = 0 \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = 0$ .

Also  $ax + by = 0 \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = 0$ .

And  $cx + dy = 0 \leftrightarrow acx + ady = 0$ .

$$(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) = 0$$

$$adx - bcx = 0$$

$$x(ad - bc) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{0}{ad - bc}$$

$$x = 0$$

$$(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) = 0$$

$$ady - bcy = 0$$

$$y(ad - bc) = 0$$

$$y = \frac{0}{ad - bc}$$

$$y = 0$$

Problem 11

Let  $a, b, c, d, u, v$  be numbers and assume that  $ad - bc \neq 0$ . Solve the following system of equations for  $x$  and  $y$  in terms of  $a, b, c, d, u, v$

$$ax + by = u$$

$$cx + dy = v$$

Verify that the answer you get is actually a solution.

**Solution 9 (d)**

First multiply first equation by  $d$ ,  $ax + by = u \leftrightarrow adx + bdy = ud$ .

Then multiply second equation by  $b$ ,  $cx + dy = v \leftrightarrow bcx + bdy = vb$ .

Also multiply first equation by  $c$ ,  $ax + by = u \leftrightarrow acx + bcy = uc$ .

And multiply second equation by  $a$ ,  $cx + dy = v \leftrightarrow acx + ady = va$ .

$$(adx + bdy) - (bcx + bdy) = ud - vb$$

$$adx - bcx = ud - vb$$

$$x(ad - bc) = ud - vb$$

$$x = \frac{ud - vb}{ad - bc}$$

$$(acx + ady) - (acx + bcy) = va - uc$$

$$ady - bcy = va - uc$$

$$y(ad - bc) = va - uc$$

$$y = \frac{va - uc}{ad - bc}$$

Verifying the first equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
a \left( \frac{ud - vb}{ad - bc} \right) + b \left( \frac{va - uc}{ad - bc} \right) &= u \\
\frac{aud - avb + bva - buc}{ad - bc} &= u \\
\frac{v(-ab + ba) + u(ad - bc)}{ad - bc} &= u \\
\frac{u(ad - bc)}{ad - bc} &= u \\
u &= u
\end{aligned}$$

Verifying the second equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
c \left( \frac{ud - vb}{ad - bc} \right) + d \left( \frac{va - uc}{ad - bc} \right) &= v \\
\frac{cud - cvb + dva - duc}{ad - bc} &= v \\
\frac{u(cd - cd) + v(ad - bc)}{ad - bc} &= v \\
\frac{v(ad - bc)}{ad - bc} &= v \\
v &= v
\end{aligned}$$

## 2 Equations In Three Unknowns

**Problem 7**

Solve the following equations for  $x, y, z$ .

$$(1) \quad 4x - 2y + 5z = 1$$

$$(2) \quad x + y + z = 0$$

$$(3) \quad -x + y - 2z = 2$$

**Solution 7**

Summing (2) and (3).

$$(x + y + z) + (-x + y - 2z) = 0 + 2$$

$$(4) \quad 2y - z = 2$$

Summing (1) and (2) multiplied by  $-4$ .

$$(4x - 2y + 5z) + (-4x - 4y - 4z) = 1 + 0$$

$$(5) \quad -6y + z = 1$$

Summing (4) and (5).

$$(2y - z) + (-6y + z) = 2 + 1$$

$$-4y = 3$$

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

Summing (2) and (3). Setting  $y = \frac{-3}{4}$ .

$$(x + \frac{-3}{4} + z) + (-x + \frac{-3}{4} - 2z) = 0 + 2$$

$$2 \cdot \frac{-3}{4} - z = 2$$

$$\frac{-3}{2} - 2 = z$$

$$\frac{-3}{2} - \frac{4}{2} = z$$

$$\frac{-7}{2} = z$$

Using (2). Setting  $y = \frac{-3}{4}$  and  $z = \frac{-7}{2}$ .

$$x + \frac{-3}{4} + \frac{-7}{2} = 0$$

$$x + \frac{-3}{4} + \frac{-14}{4} = 0$$

$$x + \frac{-17}{4} = 0$$

$$x = \frac{17}{4}$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{17}{4}, y = \frac{-3}{4}, z = \frac{-7}{2}$$



Problem 8

Solve the following equations for  $x, y, z$ .

(1)  $x + y + z = 0$

(2)  $x - y - z = 1$

(3)  $x + y - z = 1$

**Solution 8**

Summing (1) and (2).

$$(x + y + z) + (x - y - z) = 0 + 1$$

$$2x = 1$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

Summing (2) and (3). Setting  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} - y - z\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} + y - z\right) = 1 + 1$$

$$1 - 2z = 2$$

$$-2z = 1$$

$$z = \frac{-1}{2}$$

Using (3). Setting  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $z = \frac{-1}{2}$ .

$$\frac{1}{2} + y - \left(\frac{-1}{2}\right) = 1$$

$$y + 1 = 1$$

$$y = 0$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{1}{2}, y = 0, z = \frac{-1}{2}$$

**Problem 11**

Solve the following equations for  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ .

$$(1) \quad \frac{1}{2}x + y - \frac{3}{4}z = 1$$

$$(2) \quad x - \frac{1}{2}y + z = 0$$

$$(3) \quad x + y - \frac{1}{3}z = 0$$

**Solution 11**

Multiply (1) by  $-4$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}x + y - \frac{3}{4}z &= 1 \\ (4) \quad -2x - 4y + 3z &= -4 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply (2) by 2.

$$\begin{aligned} x - \frac{1}{2}y + z &= 0 \\ (5) \quad 2x - y + 2z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply (3) by 3.

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - \frac{1}{3}z &= 0 \\ (6) \quad 3x + 3y - z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Summing (4) and (5).

$$\begin{aligned} (-2x - 4y + 3z) + (2x - y + 2z) &= -4 + 0 \\ (7) \quad -5y + 5z &= -4 \end{aligned}$$

Sum (5) times 3 and (6) times  $-2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (6x - 3y + 6z) + (-6x - 6y + 2z) &= 0 \\ (8) \quad -9y + 8z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Sum (7) times  $-9$  and (8) times 5.

$$\begin{aligned} (45y - 45z) + (-45y + 40z) &= 36 \\ -5z &= 36 \\ z &= \frac{-36}{5} \end{aligned}$$

Using (7) and setting  $z = \frac{-36}{5}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} -9y + 8\left(\frac{-36}{5}\right) &= 0 \\ -9y - \frac{288}{5} &= 0 \\ -9y &= \frac{288}{5} \\ y &= \frac{-32}{5} \end{aligned}$$

Using (5) and setting  $y = \frac{-32}{5}$ ,  $z = \frac{-36}{5}$ .

$$2x - (\frac{-32}{5}) + 2(\frac{-36}{5}) = 0$$

$$2x + \frac{32}{5} - \frac{72}{5} = 0$$

$$2x - \frac{40}{5} = 0$$

$$x = \frac{40}{10}$$

$$x = 4$$

**Problem 12**

Solve the following equations for  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ .

$$(1) \quad \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{2}{3}y + z = 1$$

$$(2) \quad x - \frac{1}{5}y + z = 0$$

$$(3) \quad 2x - \frac{1}{3}y + \frac{2}{5}z = 1$$

**Solution 12**

Multiply (1) by 6.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{2}{3}y + z &= 1 \\ (4) \quad 3x - 4y + 6z &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply (2) by  $-30$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x - \frac{1}{5}y + z &= 0 \\ (5) \quad -30x + 6y - 30z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply (3) by 15.

$$\begin{aligned} 2x - \frac{1}{3}y + \frac{2}{5}z &= 1 \\ (6) \quad 30x - 5y + 6z &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

Summing (5) and (6).

$$\begin{aligned} (-30x + 6y - 30z) + (30x - 5y + 6z) &= 15 \\ (7) \quad y - 24z &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

Sum (4) times 10 and (5).

$$\begin{aligned} (30x - 40y + 60z) + (-30x + 6y - 30z) &= 60 \\ (8) \quad -34y + 30z &= 60 \end{aligned}$$

Sum (7) times 34 and (8).

$$\begin{aligned} (34y - 816z) + (-34y + 30z) &= (15 * 34) + 60 \\ (34y - 816z) + (-34y + 30z) &= 510 + 60 \\ -786z &= 570 \\ z &= \frac{-95}{131} \end{aligned}$$

Using (7). Set  $z = \frac{-95}{131}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y - 24\left(\frac{-95}{131}\right) &= 15 \\ y + \frac{2280}{131} &= 15 \\ y &= \frac{1965}{131} - \frac{2280}{131} \\ y &= \frac{-315}{131} \end{aligned}$$

Using (7). Set  $z = \frac{-95}{131}$  and  $y = \frac{-315}{131}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}x - \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{-315}{131} + \frac{-95}{131} &= 0 \\x &= \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{-315}{131} - \frac{-95}{131} \\x &= \frac{-315}{655} - \frac{-475}{655} \\x &= \frac{160}{655} \\x &= \frac{32}{131}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{32}{131}, y = \frac{-315}{131}, z = \frac{-95}{131}$$