Chapter 1 Section 2

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Problem 1. Find all solutions for the equations

$$\begin{vmatrix} x+y-2z=5\\2x+3y+4z=2 \end{vmatrix}$$

Solution 1. We can use Gauss-Jordan elimination.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & -2 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$
$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & -2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$
$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & -10 & 13 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$

This gives us the equations x - 10z = 13 and y + 8z = -8.

Thus there are infinitely many solutions. The solutions are

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 13 + 10t \\ -8 - 8t \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$

for an arbitrary real number t.