**Math 120  
5.1 System of Linear Equations**

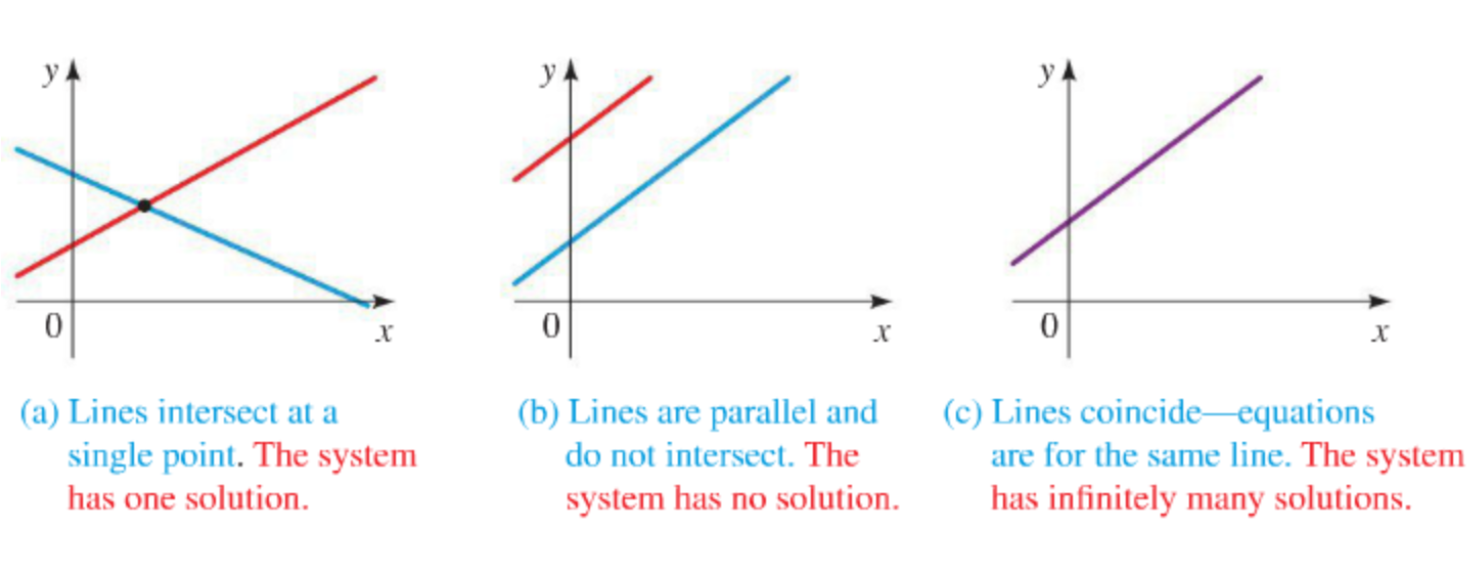
# **Objectives:**

1. Determine whether an ordered pair is a solution of a linear system.
2. Solve linear systems by substitution.
3. Solve linear systems by addition.
4. Identify systems that do not have exactly 1 ordered pair solution.
5. Solve problems using systems of linear equations.

# **Topic #1 - System of Linear Equations in Two Variables/Two Equations**

A system of two linear equations can be thought of as two lines in the plane. The solution set is an ordered pair that satisfies both equations/falls on both lines.

From this geometric standpoint, three possibilities emerge:



*Example #1* – Determine if the Ordered Pair is a Solution to the System

Ordered Pair:

This is a system, one line is in the form , the other in the form . To determine if the given point works, plug into both systems where and :

Both equations are true when plugging the values into the system. The ordered pair **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to the system.

Ordered Pair:

To determine if the given point works, plug into both systems where and .

The first equation is true, but the second one is false. The ordered pair **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to the system.

# **Topic #2 – Solving a System of Linear Equations: Substitution Method**

Consider the system from the previous example:

Notice the first equation gives in terms of , we can rewrite the second equation accordingly and solve for :

Since , we can go back to the first equation and solve for .

Therefore, the solution to the system is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ We can check by plugging into both equations to confirm!

*Example #1* – Solve the System Using Substitution

Isolate in the second equation and it will be in terms of :

Rewrite the first equation accordingly and solve for :

Since we can go back to the second equation and solve for :

Therefore, the solution to the system is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plug into the system to confirm.

**Topic #3 – Solving a System of Linear Equations: Addition Method**

Consider the system:

The first equation can be rewritten in form by subtracting :

There is a theorem that states an equation can be multiplied by any constant and that any two equations can be added together.

Suppose we multiply/scale all terms in the first equation by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Notice the values are OPPOSITES, we can add the two equations together and the values drop out:

Therefore, the solution to the system is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ We can check by plugging into both equations to confirm!

*Example #1* – Solve the System Using Addition

Both equations are in form, so there is no need to rewrite either equation accordingly.

Multiply all terms in the second equation by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get OPPOSITE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, the solution to the system is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plug into the system to confirm.

Both equations are in form, so there is no need to rewrite either equation accordingly.

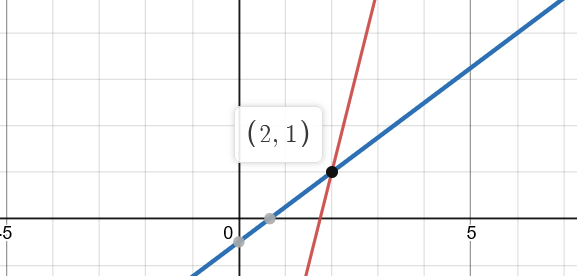
Multiply all terms in the second equation by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get OPPOSITE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# **Topic #4 – Solving a System of Linear Equations: Graphing Method**

The solution to a system of two linear equations is where the two lines \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

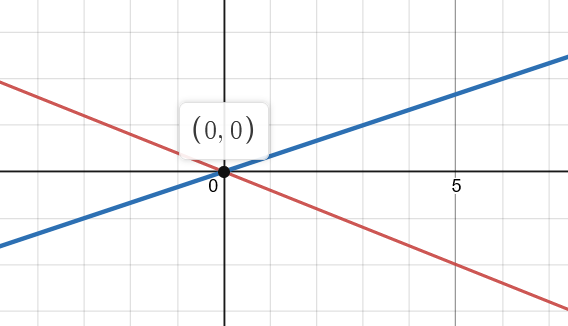
Consider the system:

If using a graphing calculator, both equations must be solved for :



Here is the graph:

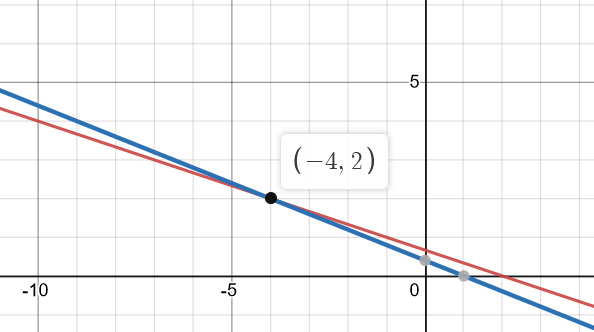
The solution to the system is where the lines meet, at the point .

*Example #1* – Solve the System Using Graphing

Solve both equations for if using a graphing calculator:

Here is the graph:

The solution to the system is where the lines meet, at the point \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

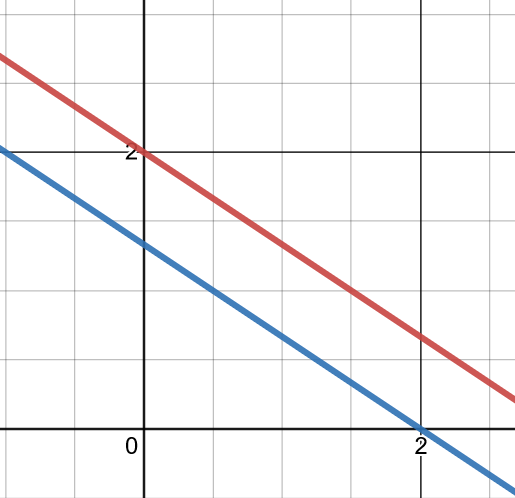


Solve both equations for if using a graphing calculator:

Here is the graph:

The solution to the system is where the lines meet, at the point \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# **Topic #5 – System of Linear Equations with No Solution**

A system with **no solution** is two lines in the plane that DO NOT meet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A graph will show this and solving with addition or substitution will produce a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_statement when both variables drop out.

Consider the system:

By the addition method, multiply the terms of first equation by :

Adding the equations results in both variables dropping out and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A graph confirms the lines are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which also indicates NO SOLUTION:

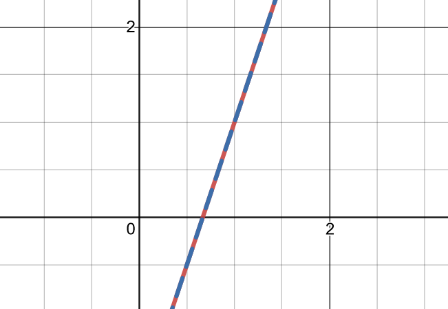
Feel free to try out the substitution method; it also will cause both variables to drop out and leave a FALSE statement.

**Topic #6 – System of Linear Equations with Infinitely Many Solutions**

A system with **infinitely many solutions** are two lines that coincide \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A graph will show this and solving with addition or substitution will produce a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when both variables drop out.

Consider the system:

By the substitution method, the first equation has in terms of . Rewrite the second equation accordingly to solve for :

The variables drop out and the statement is TRUE, which indicates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A graph confirms the lines are the SAME, which also indicates INFINITELY MANY SOLUTIONS:

Feel free to try out the addition method; it also will cause both variables to drop out and leave a TRUE statement.

**Topic #7 – Application of Systems of Linear Equations: Revenue, Cost, and Profit Functions**

Suppose a company produces and sells units of a product. The revenue is the money generated by selling units and the cost is the amount spent producing units.

Revenue Function:

Cost Function:

The profit is what is left over from the revenue after the cost is taken out:

Profit Function:

The break-even point is where

OR where

*Example #1* – Build and Solve a System of Linear Equations

A company manufactures and sells a certain model of Bluetooth speakers. The fixed cost to operate daily production is and it costs to produce each speaker. The selling price is per speaker. Assume each unit produced is sold.

a. Write the cost function.

Let x be:

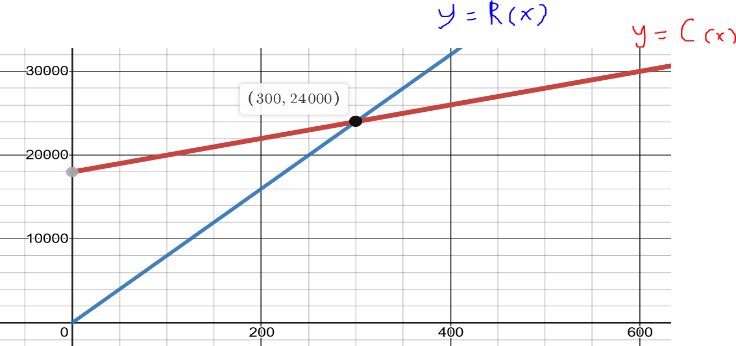
Let C(x) be:

b. Write the revenue function.

Let x be:

Let R(x) be:

c. Determine the break-even point and interpret the meaning in context.



This means that the company will break-even (neither make nor lose money) by producing and selling \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_speakers. A graph confirms:

d. Will the company make a profit by producing and selling units? Explain.

Using the definition:

When \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This means the company will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by producing and selling 250 units; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_