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# Chapter 1

## Systems of Linear Equations and Matrices

### 1.1 Introduction to Systems of Linear Equations

**Definition.** A linear equation can be written as

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = b$$

A homogenous linear equation has  $b = 0$ , so

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = 0$$

**Definition.** A system of linear equations or linear system is a finite set of linear equations.

A solution of a system of linear equations is a system sequence of  $n$  numbers

$$x_1 = s_1, \dots, x_n = s_n$$

that makes each equation a true statement.

We often write solutions as  $(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ , called an *ordered  $n$ -tuple*.

Go over two and three variables and number of solutions. Cover *consistent* and *inconsistent*. Maybe *dependent*.

- $\begin{cases} x + y = 6 \\ x - y = 2 \end{cases}$
- $\begin{cases} x - 2y = 4 \\ 2x - 4y = 8 \end{cases}$

Talk about parametric solutions  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = t$ .

- $\begin{cases} 5x - 2y - 5z = 1 \\ 10x - 4y - 10z = 2 \\ 15x - 6y - 15z = 3 \end{cases}$

Talk row operations. Do a few examples with solutions.

### 1.1.1 Homework

#10, 15

## 1.2 Gaussian Elimination

Define *row echelon form* and *reduced row echelon form*.

$$\text{Ex 1.} \quad \bullet \quad \begin{cases} x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 = -1 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 - 2x_4 = -2 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 - 4x_3 + x_4 = 1 \\ 3x_1 \qquad \qquad - 3x_4 = -3 \end{cases}$$

### 1.2.1 Homework

#7,21,22,25