

## 7.2 Solutions in Three Variables

Open - How can you verify  $(-3, 6, 1)$  is a solution to the following system?

$$2x + y - z = -1$$

$$x - y + 3z = -6$$

$$-4x + y + z = 19$$

Substitute

$(-3, 6, 1)$  for  $(x, y, z)$

in ALL equations

to verify

$$2(-3) + 6 - 1 = -1$$

$$-1 = -1 \checkmark$$

$$-3 - 6 + 3(1) = -6$$

$$-6 = -6 \checkmark$$

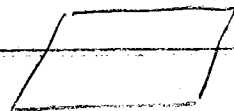
$$-4(-3) + 6 + 1 = 19$$

$$19 = 19 \checkmark$$

## Linear Equations in Three Dimensions

$$Ax + By + Cz = D$$

Graph: plane in 3-dimensions



Intersection of planes (pg. 449 - graphic)

solution may be:

①  $(x, y, z) \Rightarrow$  point

② dependent  $\Rightarrow$  line; infinite set of  $(x, y, z)$

③ independent  $\Rightarrow$  parallel planes; empty set

Solving systems in three variables

① use elimination to eliminate the same variable from two equations

② Create a new system with those equations

③ Solve and substitute

Example 1 Solve analytically

$$\begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} \quad 2x + y + z = 9 \\ \textcircled{2} \quad -x - y + z = 1 \\ \textcircled{3} \quad 3x - y + z = 9 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Eliminate } y \text{ from } \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3} \text{ using } \textcircled{1} \\ 2x + y + z = 9 \\ -x - y + z = 1 \\ \hline x + 2z = 10 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 2x + y + z = 9 \\ 3x - y + z = 9 \\ \hline 5x + 2z = 9 \end{array}$$

Create a new system  $\left. \begin{array}{l} x + 2z = 10 \\ 5x + 2z = 9 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{use elimination} \\ \text{or subst. to solve} \end{array}$

Elimination

$$\begin{array}{l} x + 2z = 10 \\ -1(5x + 2z = 9) \Rightarrow -5x - 2z = -9 \\ \hline -4x = -19 \\ \boxed{x = 2} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Substitute } x = 2 \\ x + 2z = 10 \\ 2 + 2z = 10 \\ 2z = 8 \\ \boxed{z = 4} \end{array}$$

Substitution

$$\begin{array}{l} x + 2z = 10 \Rightarrow x = -2z + 10 \\ 5x + 2z = 9 \\ 5(-2z + 10) + 2z = 9 \\ -10z + 50 + 2z = 9 \\ -8z = -41 \\ \boxed{z = 4} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Substitute } z = 4 \\ x + 2z = 10 \\ x + 2(4) = 10 \\ x + 8 = 10 \\ \boxed{x = 2} \end{array}$$

Substitute  $x$  and  $z$  in any of the original questions to find  $y$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x + y + z = 9 \\ 2(2) + y + 4 = 9 \\ y + 8 = 9 \\ \boxed{y = 1} \end{array} \quad \text{Solution: } \boxed{(2, 1, 4)}$$

7.2 cont'd

$$\checkmark (2, 1, 4) = (x, y, z)$$

$$2x + y + z = 9$$

$$2(2) + 1 + 4 = 9$$

$$9 = 9 \checkmark$$

$$-x - y + z = 1$$

$$-2 - 1 + 4 = 1$$

$$1 = 1 \checkmark$$

$$3x - y + z = 9$$

$$3(2) - 1 + 4 = 9$$

$$9 = 9 \checkmark$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad 3x - 2y - 8z &= 1 \\ 9x - 6y - 24z &= -2 \\ x - y + z &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Eliminate any variable

I will choose to eliminate

$z$  from  $\textcircled{1} : \textcircled{2}$  using  $\textcircled{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y - 8z &= 1 \\ 8(x - y + z) &= 8 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 3x - 2y - 8z &= 1 \\ 8x - 8y + 8z &= 8 \\ \hline 11x - 10y &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 9x - 6y - 24z &= -2 \\ 24(x - y + z) &= 24 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 9x - 6y - 24z &= -2 \\ 24x - 24y + 24z &= 24 \\ \hline 33x - 30y &= 22 \end{aligned}$$

New System

$$11x - 10y = 9$$

$$33x - 30y = 22$$

Elimination

$$-3(11x - 10y = 9)$$

$$33x - 30y = 22$$

$$\begin{aligned} -33x + 30y &= -27 \\ 33x - 30y &= 22 \\ \hline 0 &= -5 \end{aligned}$$

NO solution!

Stop here!

$$\begin{cases} 2x + y - z = -4 & \textcircled{1} \\ y + 2z = 12 & \textcircled{2} \\ 2x - z = -4 & \textcircled{3} \end{cases}$$

Reduce down to two variables in two equations  
Multiple ways to solve!

Eliminate  $x$  from  $\textcircled{1}$  using  $\textcircled{3}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + y - z = 4 \\ -1(2x - z = -4) \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{r} 2x + y - z = 4 \\ -2x + z = 4 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{y = 0}$$

Substitute  $y = 0$  into

$$\begin{array}{l} y + 2z = 12 \\ 0 + 2z = 12 \\ \boxed{z = 6} \end{array}$$

Substitute  $y = 0$   $z = 6$  into  $\textcircled{1}$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x + y - z = -4 \\ 2x + 0 - 6 = -4 \\ 2x - 6 = -4 \\ 2x = 2 \\ \boxed{x = 1} \end{array}$$

Solution:  $\boxed{(1, 0, 6)}$