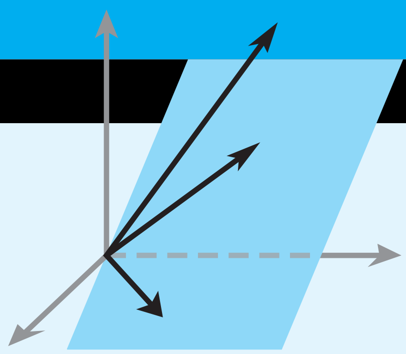


CHAPTER 1

Systems of Linear Equations and Matrices

CHAPTER CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Information in science, business, and mathematics is often organized into rows and columns to form rectangular arrays called "matrices" (plural of "matrix"). Matrices often appear as tables of numerical data that arise from physical observations, but they occur in various mathematical contexts as well. For example, we will see in this chapter that all of the information required to solve a system of equations such as

$$\begin{aligned} 5x + y &= 3 \\ 2x - y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

is embodied in the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and that the solution of the system can be obtained by performing appropriate operations on this matrix. This is particularly important in developing computer programs for solving systems of equations because computers are well suited for manipulating arrays of numerical information. However, matrices are not simply a notational tool for solving systems of equations; they can be viewed as mathematical objects in their own right, and there is a rich and important theory associated with them that has a multitude of practical applications. It is the study of matrices and related topics that forms the mathematical field that we call "linear algebra." In this chapter we will begin our study of matrices.

1.1 Introduction to Systems of Linear Equations

Systems of linear equations and their solutions constitute one of the major topics that we will study in this course. In this first section we will introduce some basic terminology and discuss a method for solving such systems.

Linear Equations

Recall that in two dimensions a line in a rectangular xy-coordinate system can be represented by an equation of the form

x, y } 2-dim

$$\boxed{ax + by = c} \quad (a, b \text{ not both } 0)$$

$a=b=0 \Rightarrow c=0$

and in three dimensions a plane in a rectangular xyz-coordinate system can be represented by an equation of the form

x, y, z

$$ax + by + cz = d \quad (a, b, c \text{ not all } 0)$$

These are examples of "linear equations," the first being a linear equation in the variables x and y and the second a linear equation in the variables x, y, and z. More generally, we define a ***linear equation*** in the n variables $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ to be one that can be expressed in the form

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = b \tag{1}$$

where $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$ and b are constants, and the a's are not all zero. In the special cases where $n = 2$ or $n = 3$, we will often use variables without subscripts and write linear equations as

$$a_1x + a_2y = \boxed{b} \quad (a_1, a_2 \text{ not both } 0) \tag{2}$$

$$a_1x + a_2y + a_3z = \boxed{b} \quad (a_1, a_2, a_3 \text{ not all } 0) \tag{3}$$

In the special case where $b = 0$, Equation (1) has the form

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = 0 \tag{4}$$

which is called a ***homogeneous linear equation*** in the variables $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$.

EXAMPLE 1 Linear Equations

Observe that a linear equation does not involve any products or roots of variables. All variables occur only to the first power and do not appear, for example, as arguments of trigonometric, logarithmic, or exponential functions. The following are linear equations:

①

$$x + 3y = 7 \qquad x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 + x_4 = 0$$
$$\tfrac{1}{2}x - y + 3z = -1 \qquad x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n = 1$$

The following are not linear equations:

②

$$x + 3y^2 = 4 \qquad 3x + 2y - \boxed{xy} = 5$$
$$\boxed{\sin x} + y = 0 \qquad \boxed{\sqrt{x_1}} + 2x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$\sqrt{5}\, x_1 + x_2 = \sin 7$

A finite set of linear equations is called a ***system of linear equations*** or, more briefly, a ***linear system***. The variables are called ***unknowns***. For example, system (5) that follows has unknowns x and y, and system (6) has unknowns x_1, x_2, and x_3.

$$\begin{aligned} 5x + y &= 3 \\ 2x - y &= 4 \end{aligned} \qquad \begin{aligned} 4x_1 - x_2 + 3x_3 &= -1 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 + 9x_3 &= -4 \end{aligned} \tag{5–6}$$

$x+1=0$

$\boxed{x=-1}$

The double subscripting on the coefficients a_{ij} of the unknowns gives their location in the system—the first subscript indicates the equation in which the coefficient occurs, and the second indicates which unknown it multiplies. Thus, a_{12} is in the first equation and multiplies x_2.

A general linear system of m equations in the n unknowns $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ can be written as

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \quad\vdots \qquad\quad \vdots \qquad\qquad\quad \vdots \qquad\quad \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array}\right\} \tag{7}$$

m: equations

n: variables

A ***solution*** of a linear system in n unknowns $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ is a sequence of n numbers $s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n$ for which the substitution

$$x_1 = s_1, \quad x_2 = s_2, \ldots, \quad x_n = s_n$$

makes each equation a true statement. For example, the system in (5) has the solution

$$\boxed{x = 1, \quad y = -2}$$

$5x + y = 3$ ✓

$2x - y = 4$ ✓

$x=1, \quad y=-2$

$5(1)+(-2)=5-2=3$ ✓

$2(1)-(-2)=2+2=4$ ✓

and the system in (6) has the solution

$$\boxed{x_1 = 1, \quad x_2 = 2, \quad x_3 = -1} \quad *$$

These solutions can be written more succinctly as

$$\boxed{(1, -2)} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{(1, 2, -1)}$$

in which the names of the variables are omitted. This notation allows us to interpret these solutions geometrically as points in two-dimensional and three-dimensional space. More generally, a solution

$$x_1 = s_1, \quad x_2 = s_2, \ldots, \quad x_n = s_n$$

of a linear system in n unknowns can be written as

$$(s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n)$$

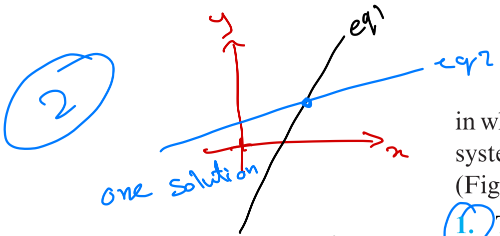
which is called an ***ordered n-tuple***. With this notation it is understood that all variables appear in the same order in each equation. If $n = 2$, then the n-tuple is called an ***ordered pair***, and if $n = 3$, then it is called an ***ordered triple***.

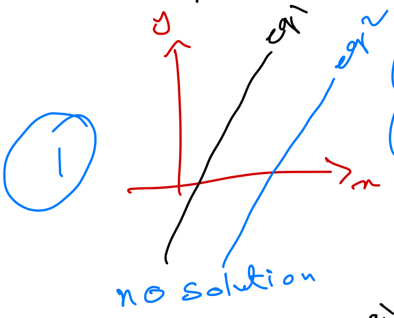
Linear Systems in Two and Three Unknowns

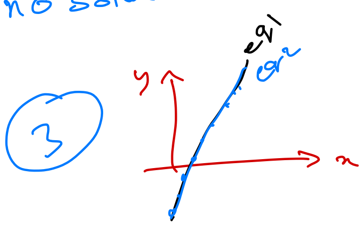
Linear systems in two unknowns arise in connection with intersections of lines. For example, consider the linear system

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{eq1} & a_1x + b_1y = c_1 \\ \text{eq2} & a_2x + b_2y = c_2 \end{array}$$

in which the graphs of the equations are lines in the xy-plane. Each solution (x, y) of this system corresponds to a point of intersection of the lines, so there are three possibilities (Figure 1.1.1):







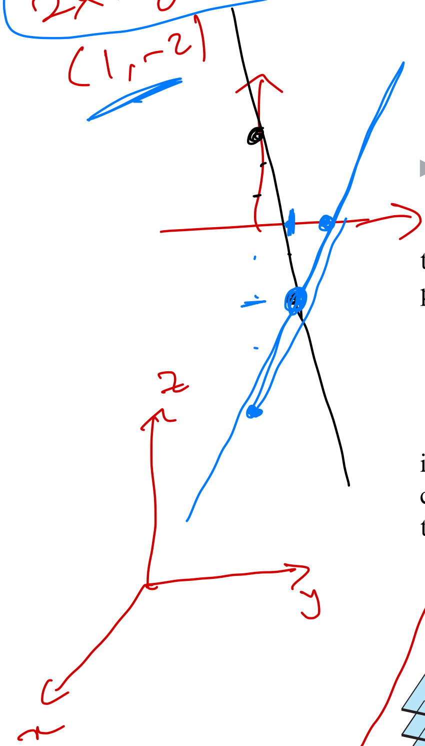
1. The lines may be parallel and distinct, in which case there is no intersection and consequently no solution.
2. The lines may intersect at only one point, in which case the system has exactly one solution.
3. The lines may coincide, in which case there are infinitely many points of intersection (the points on the common line) and consequently infinitely many solutions.

In general, we say that a linear system is ***consistent*** if it has at least one solution and ***inconsistent*** if it has no solutions. Thus, a *consistent* linear systemof two equations in

one

infinitely many

$5x+y=3$
$2x-y=4$
$(1,-2)$



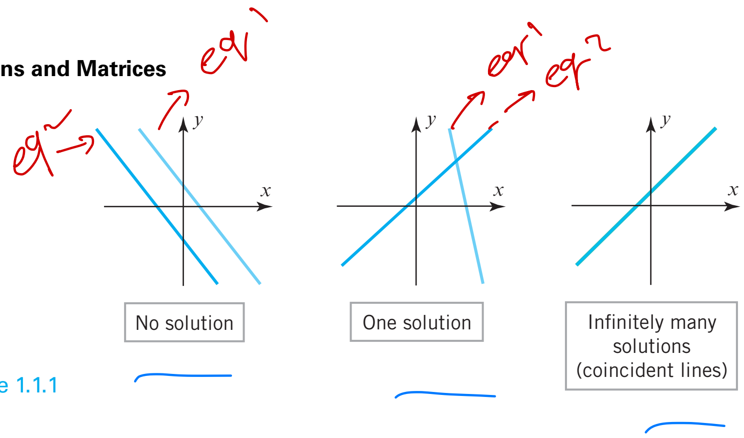


Figure 1.1.1

two unknowns has either one solution or infinitely many solutions—there are no other possibilities. The same is true for a linear system of three equations in three unknowns

$$
\begin{aligned}
a_1x + b_1y + c_1z &= d_1\\
a_2x + b_2y + c_2z &= d_2\\
a_3x + b_3y + c_3z &= d_3
\end{aligned}
$$

plane

in which the graphs of the equations are planes. The solutions of the system, if any, correspond to points where all three planes intersect, so again we see that there are only three possibilities—no solutions, one solution, or infinitely many solutions (Figure 1.1.2).

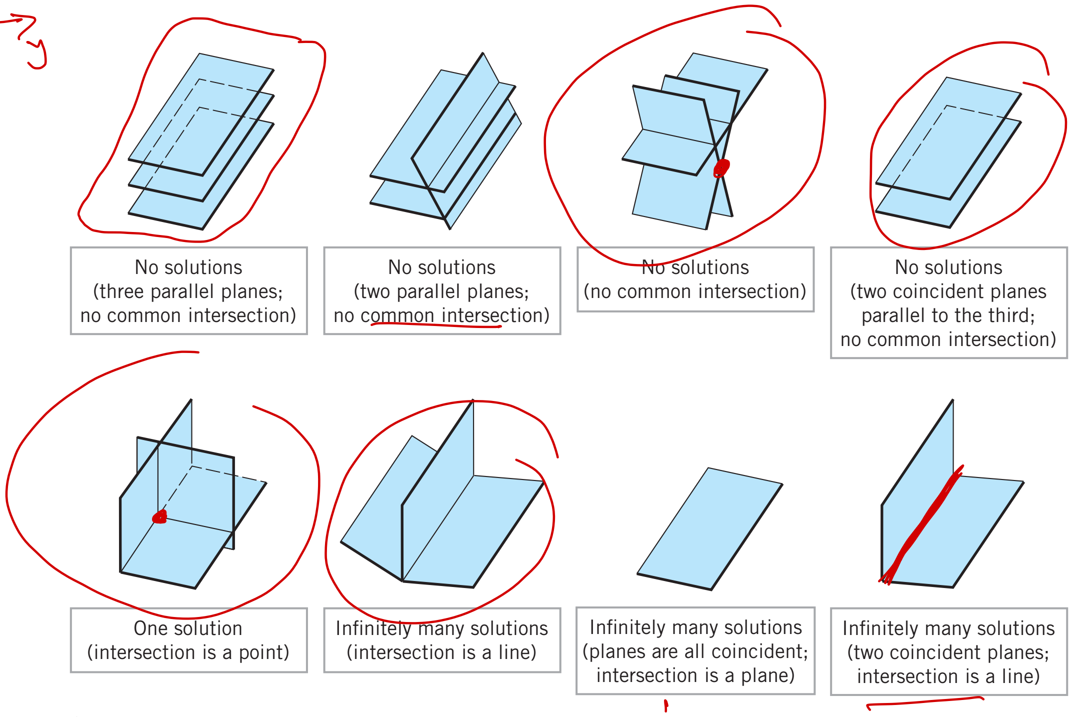
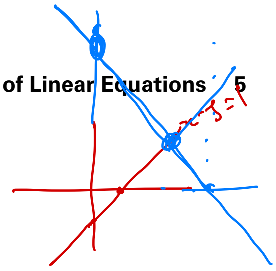


Figure 1.1.2

We will prove later that our observations about the number of solutions of linear systems of two equations in two unknowns and linear systems of three equations in three unknowns actually hold for *all* linear systems. That is:

Every system of linear equations has zero, one, or infinitely many solutions. There are no other possibilities.



▶ EXAMPLE 2 A Linear System with One Solution

Solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 1 \\ 2x + y &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Solution We can eliminate x from the second equation by adding -2 times the first equation to the second. This yields the simplified system

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 1 \\ 3y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

From the second equation we obtain $y = \frac{4}{3}$, and on substituting this value in the first equation we obtain $x = 1 + y = \frac{7}{3}$. Thus, the system has the unique solution

$$x = \tfrac{7}{3}, \quad y = \tfrac{4}{3}$$

Geometrically, this means that the lines represented by the equations in the system intersect at the single point $\left(\frac{7}{3}, \frac{4}{3}\right)$. We leave it for you to check this by graphing the lines.

$\boxed{x = y + 1}$
$2(y+1) + y = 6$
$2y + 2 + y = 6$
$3y + 2 = 6$
$3y = 6 - 2$
$3y = 4$
$\boxed{y = \frac{4}{3}} \Rightarrow x = \frac{4}{3} + 1$
$\boxed{x = \frac{7}{3}}$
$\left(\frac{7}{3}, \frac{4}{3}\right)$

▶ EXAMPLE 3 A Linear System with No Solutions

Solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= 4 \quad \times 3 \\ 3x + 3y &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 3y &= \boxed{12} \\ 3x + 3y &= \boxed{6} \end{aligned}$$

Solution We can eliminate x from the second equation by adding -3 times the first equation to the second equation. This yields the simplified system

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= 4 \\ 0 &= -6 \end{aligned}$$

The second equation is contradictory, so the given system has no solution. Geometrically, this means that the lines corresponding to the equations in the original system are parallel and distinct. We leave it for you to check this by graphing the lines or by showing that they have the same slope but different y-intercepts.

$x = 4 - y$
$3(4 - y) + 3y = 6$
$12 - \cancel{3y} + \cancel{3y} = 6$
$12 = 6$ ✗
no solution

▶ EXAMPLE 4 A Linear System with Infinitely Many Solutions

Solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} 4x - 2y &= 1 \quad \times 4 \\ 16x - 8y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 16x - 8y &= \boxed{4} \\ 16x - 8y &= \boxed{4} \end{aligned}$$

Solution We can eliminate x from the second equation by adding -4 times the first equation to the second. This yields the simplified system

$$\begin{aligned} 4x - 2y &= 1 \\ 0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The second equation does not impose any restrictions on x and y and hence can be omitted. Thus, the solutions of the system are those values of x and y that satisfy the single equation

$$4x - 2y = 1 \tag{8}$$

Geometrically, this means the lines corresponding to the two equations in the original system coincide. One way to describe the solution set is to solve this equation for x in terms of y to obtain $x = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}y$ and then assign an arbitrary value t (called a ***parameter***)

$4x - 2y = 1$
$4x = 1 + 2y$
$x = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{4}y$
$\boxed{x = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}y}$
$16\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}y\right) - 8y = 4$
$4 + \cancel{8y} - \cancel{8y} = 4$
$4 = 4$

$x = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t$, $\quad y = t$

$x = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$
$y = t$

$t = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{4}, \; y = 0$
$t = 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{3}{4}, \; y = 1$

> In Example 4 we could have also obtained parametric equations for the solutions by solving (8) for y in terms of x and letting $x = t$ be the parameter. The resulting parametric equations would look different but would define the same solution set.

to y. This allows us to express the solution by the pair of equations (called ***parametric equations***)

$$x = \tfrac{1}{4} + \tfrac{1}{2}t, \quad y = t$$

We can obtain specific numerical solutions from these equations by substituting numerical values for the parameter t. For example, $t = 0$ yields the solution $\left(\tfrac{1}{4}, 0\right)$, $t = 1$ yields the solution $\left(\tfrac{3}{4}, 1\right)$, and $t = -1$ yields the solution $\left(-\tfrac{1}{4}, -1\right)$. You can confirm that these are solutions by substituting their coordinates into the given equations.

▶ EXAMPLE 5 A Linear System with Infinitely Many Solutions

Solve the linear system

$3x - 3y + 6z = 15$ $\quad 3\times$

$$\begin{aligned} x - y + 2z &= 5 \\ 2x - 2y + 4z &= 10 \\ 3x - 3y + 6z &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

$\times 2 \Rightarrow 2x - 2y + 4z = 10$

$x - y + 2z = 5$

let

$\boxed{z = t}$

$\boxed{y = s}$

$\Rightarrow x = 5 + y - 2z$

$\boxed{x = 5 + s + 2t}$

$\boxed{(5 + s + 2t, s, t)}$

$t = s = 0$

$(5, 0, 0)$

$s = 1 \wedge t = 0$

$(6, 1, 0)$

Solution This system can be solved by inspection, since the second and third equations are multiples of the first. Geometrically, this means that the three planes coincide and that those values of x, y, and z that satisfy the equation

$$x - y + 2z = 5 \tag{9}$$

automatically satisfy all three equations. Thus, it suffices to find the solutions of (9). We can do this by first solving this equation for x in terms of y and z, then assigning arbitrary values r and s (parameters) to these two variables, and then expressing the solution by the three parametric equations

$$x = 5 + r - 2s, \quad y = r, \quad z = s$$

Specific solutions can be obtained by choosing numerical values for the parameters r and s. For example, taking $r = 1$ and $s = 0$ yields the solution (6, 1, 0). ◀

Augmented Matrices and Elementary Row Operations

As the number of equations and unknowns in a linear system increases, so does the complexity of the algebra involved in finding solutions. The required computations can be made more manageable by simplifying notation and standardizing procedures. For example, by mentally keeping track of the location of the +'s, the x's, and the ='s in the linear system

$$\begin{matrix} a_{11}x_1 & + & a_{12}x_2 & + \cdots + & a_{1n}x_n & = & b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 & + & a_{22}x_2 & + \cdots + & a_{2n}x_n & = & b_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 & + & a_{m2}x_2 & + \cdots + & a_{mn}x_n & = & b_m \end{matrix}$$

m : equations

n : variables $\in \mathbb{R}$

we can abbreviate the system by writing only the rectangular array of numbers

coefficients of x_1

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc:c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{array}\right]$$

> As noted in the introduction to this chapter, the term "matrix" is used in mathematics to denote a rectangular array of numbers. In a later section we will study matrices in detail, but for now we will only be concerned with augmented matrices for linear systems.

This is called the ***augmented matrix*** for the system. For example, the augmented matrix for the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 9 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 - 5x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{is} \quad \begin{array}{cccc} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & \\ \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc:c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

$x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 - 9 = 0$

$= 9$

system of linear equations

one solution

no solution

infinitley many solutions

2-dim $x - y$

3-dim $x - y, z$

$\vdots$

n-dim $x_1, x_2, \ldots x_n$

$x =$ $y =$ $z =$

or (x, y, z)

The basic method for solving a linear system is to perform algebraic operations on the system that do not alter the solution set and that produce a succession of increasingly simpler systems, until a point is reached where it can be ascertained whether the system is consistent, and if so, what its solutions are. Typically, the algebraic operations are:

equation

1. Multiply an equation through by a nonzero constant.
2. Interchange two equations.
3. Add a constant times one equation to another.

Since the rows (horizontal lines) of an augmented matrix correspond to the equations in the associated system, these three operations correspond to the following operations on the rows of the augmented matrix:

matrix (row)

1. Multiply a row through by a nonzero constant.
2. Interchange two rows.
3. Add a constant times one row to another.

These are called ***elementary row operations*** on a matrix.

In the following example we will illustrate how to use elementary row operations and an augmented matrix to solve a linear system in three unknowns. Since a systematic procedure for solving linear systems will be developed in the next section, do not worry about how the steps in the example were chosen. Your objective here should be simply to understand the computations.

▶ EXAMPLE 6 Using Elementary Row Operations

In the left column we solve a system of linear equations by operating on the equations in the system, and in the right column we solve the same system by operating on the rows of the augmented matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ 2x + 4y - 3z &= 1 \\ 3x + 6y - 5z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Add -2 times the first equation to the second to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ 2y - 7z &= -17 \\ 3x + 6y - 5z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Add -2 times the first row to the second to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & -17 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Maxime Bôcher (1867–1918)

Historical Note The first known use of augmented matrices appeared between 200 B.C. and 100 B.C. in a Chinese manuscript entitled *Nine Chapters of Mathematical Art*. The coefficients were arranged in columns rather than in rows, as today, but remarkably the system was solved by performing a succession of operations on the columns. The actual use of the term *augmented matrix* appears to have been introduced by the American mathematician Maxime Bôcher in his book *Introduction to Higher Algebra*, published in 1907. In addition to being an outstanding research mathematician and an expert in Latin, chemistry, philosophy, zoology, geography, meteorology, art, and music, Bôcher was an outstanding expositor of mathematics whose elementary textbooks were greatly appreciated by students and are still in demand today.

[*Image: Courtesy of the American Mathematical Society www.ams.org*]

Example 6 Solve

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 2z = 9 \\ 2x + 4y - 3z = 1 \\ 3x + 6y - 5z = 0 \end{cases}$$

3 equations

3 : varaibles (x, y, z)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} x & y & z & \\ \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{-2R1+R2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & -17 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{-3R1+R3}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & -17 \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & -27 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & -27 \end{array}\right]$$

$-\frac{3}{\cancel{7}} \cdot (-\cancel{7})$

$$\xrightarrow[-1R2+R1]{-3R2+R3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & \frac{35}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{-2R3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & \frac{35}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array}\right]$$

$$\xrightarrow[-\frac{11}{2}R3+R1]{\frac{7}{2}R3+R2} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} x & y & z & \end{array} \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array}\right] \end{array}$$

$3 \cdot \frac{7}{2} + \left(\frac{-17}{2}\right) = \frac{21}{2} - \frac{17}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$

$-\frac{11}{2}(3) + \frac{35}{2} = -\frac{33}{2} + \frac{35}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$

The solution is:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} x = 1 \\ y = 2 \\ z = 3 \end{array}}$$

or $(x, y, z) = (1, 2, 3)$

Add -3 times the first equation to the third to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ 2y - 7z &= -17 \\ 3y - 11z &= -27 \end{aligned}$$

Add -3 times the first row to the third to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & -17 \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & -27 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiply the second equation by $\frac{1}{2}$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ y - \tfrac{7}{2}z &= -\tfrac{17}{2} \\ 3y - 11z &= -27 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply the second row by $\frac{1}{2}$ to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & -27 \end{bmatrix}$$

Add -3 times the second equation to the third to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ y - \tfrac{7}{2}z &= -\tfrac{17}{2} \\ -\tfrac{1}{2}z &= -\tfrac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Add -3 times the second row to the third to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiply the third equation by -2 to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 9 \\ y - \tfrac{7}{2}z &= -\tfrac{17}{2} \\ z &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply the third row by -2 to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Add -1 times the second equation to the first to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x \qquad + \tfrac{11}{2}z &= \tfrac{35}{2} \\ y - \tfrac{7}{2}z &= -\tfrac{17}{2} \\ z &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Add -1 times the second row to the first to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & \frac{35}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{7}{2} & -\frac{17}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The solution in this example can also be expressed as the ordered triple (1, 2, 3) with the understanding that the numbers in the triple are in the same order as the variables in the system, namely, x, y, z.

Add $-\frac{11}{2}$ times the third equation to the first and $\frac{7}{2}$ times the third equation to the second to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x \qquad &= 1 \\ y \quad &= 2 \\ z &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Add $-\frac{11}{2}$ times the third row to the first and $\frac{7}{2}$ times the third row to the second to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The solution $x = 1$, $y = 2$, $z = 3$ is now evident. ◀

Exercise Set 1.1

1. In each part, determine whether the equation is linear in x_1, x_2, and x_3.

(a) $x_1 + 5x_2 - \sqrt{2}\,x_3 = 1$

(b) $x_1 + 3x_2 + x_1x_3 = 2$

(c) $x_1 = -7x_2 + 3x_3$

(d) $x_1^{-2} + x_2 + 8x_3 = 5$

(e) $x_1^{3/5} - 2x_2 + x_3 = 4$

(f) $\pi x_1 - \sqrt{2}\,x_2 = 7^{1/3}$

2. In each part, determine whether the equation is linear in x and y.

(a) $2^{1/3}x + \sqrt{3}y = 1$

(b) $2x^{1/3} + 3\sqrt{y} = 1$

(c) $\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{7}\right)x - 4y = \log 3$

(d) $\frac{\pi}{7}\cos x - 4y = 0$

(e) $xy = 1$

(f) $y + 7 = x$

3. Using the notation of Formula (7), write down a general linear system of

(a) two equations in two unknowns.

(b) three equations in three unknowns.

(c) two equations in four unknowns.

4. Write down the augmented matrix for each of the linear systems in Exercise 3.

In each part of Exercises 5–6, find a linear system in the unknowns $x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots$, that corresponds to the given augmented matrix.

5. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -2 & 5 \\ 7 & 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$

6. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 5 & 2 & 0 & -3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

(b) $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 3 \\ -4 & 0 & 4 & 1 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 & -2 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

In each part of Exercises 7–8, find the augmented matrix for the linear system.

7. (a) $\begin{aligned} -2x_1 &= 6 \\ 3x_1 &= 8 \\ 9x_1 &= -3 \end{aligned}$ (b) $\begin{aligned} 6x_1 - x_2 + 3x_3 &= 4 \\ 5x_2 - x_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$

(c) $\begin{aligned} 2x_2 - 3x_4 + x_5 &= 0 \\ -3x_1 - x_2 + x_3 &= -1 \\ 6x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 + 2x_4 - 3x_5 &= 6 \end{aligned}$

8. (a) $\begin{aligned} 3x_1 - 2x_2 &= -1 \\ 4x_1 + 5x_2 &= 3 \\ 7x_1 + 3x_2 &= 2 \end{aligned}$ (b) $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 &= 7 \\ 6x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

(c) $\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 1 \\ x_2 &= 2 \\ x_3 &= 3 \end{aligned}$

9. In each part, determine whether the given 3-tuple is a solution of the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - 4x_2 - x_3 &= 1 \\ x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 - 5x_2 - 3x_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

(a) $(3, 1, 1)$ (b) $(3, -1, 1)$ (c) $(13, 5, 2)$

(d) $\left(\frac{13}{2}, \frac{5}{2}, 2\right)$ (e) $(17, 7, 5)$

10. In each part, determine whether the given 3-tuple is a solution of the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y - 2z &= 3 \\ 3x - y + z &= 1 \\ -x + 5y - 5z &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

(a) $\left(\frac{5}{7}, \frac{8}{7}, 1\right)$ (b) $\left(\frac{5}{7}, \frac{8}{7}, 0\right)$ (c) $(5, 8, 1)$

(d) $\left(\frac{5}{7}, \frac{10}{7}, \frac{2}{7}\right)$ (e) $\left(\frac{5}{7}, \frac{22}{7}, 2\right)$

11. In each part, solve the linear system, if possible, and use the result to determine whether the lines represented by the equations in the system have zero, one, or infinitely many points of intersection. If there is a single point of intersection, give its coordinates, and if there are infinitely many, find parametric equations for them.

(a) $\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 4 \\ 6x - 4y &= 9 \end{aligned}$ (b) $\begin{aligned} 2x - 4y &= 1 \\ 4x - 8y &= 2 \end{aligned}$ (c) $\begin{aligned} x - 2y &= 0 \\ x - 4y &= 8 \end{aligned}$

12. Under what conditions on a and b will the following linear system have no solutions, one solution, infinitely many solutions?

$$\begin{aligned} 2x - 3y &= a \\ 4x - 6y &= b \end{aligned}$$

In each part of Exercises 13–14, use parametric equations to describe the solution set of the linear equation.

13. (a) $7x - 5y = 3$

(b) $3x_1 - 5x_2 + 4x_3 = 7$

(c) $-8x_1 + 2x_2 - 5x_3 + 6x_4 = 1$

(d) $3v - 8w + 2x - y + 4z = 0$

14. (a) $x + 10y = 2$

(b) $x_1 + 3x_2 - 12x_3 = 3$

(c) $4x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 + x_4 = 20$

(d) $v + w + x - 5y + 7z = 0$

In Exercises 15–16, each linear system has infinitely many solutions. Use parametric equations to describe its solution set.

15. (a) $\begin{aligned} 2x - 3y &= 1 \\ 6x - 9y &= 3 \end{aligned}$

(b) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 &= -4 \\ 3x_1 + 9x_2 - 3x_3 &= -12 \\ -x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$

16. (a) $\begin{aligned} 6x_1 + 2x_2 &= -8 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 &= -4 \end{aligned}$ (b) $\begin{aligned} 2x - y + 2z &= -4 \\ 6x - 3y + 6z &= -12 \\ -4x + 2y - 4z &= 8 \end{aligned}$

In Exercises 17–18, find a single elementary row operation that will create a 1 in the upper left corner of the given augmented matrix and will not create any fractions in its first row.

17. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} -3 & -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & -3 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & -5 & 0 \\ 2 & -9 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

18. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -6 & 8 \\ 7 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ -5 & 4 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 7 & -4 & -2 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 & 8 & 1 \\ -6 & 3 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 19–20, find all values of k for which the given augmented matrix corresponds to a consistent linear system.

19. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & k & -4 \\ 4 & 8 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & k & -1 \\ 4 & 8 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

20. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 & k \\ -6 & 8 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} k & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

21. The curve $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ shown in the accompanying figure passes through the points (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), and (x_3, y_3). Show that the coefficients a, b, and c form a solution of the system of linear equations whose augmented matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & x_1 & 1 & y_1 \\ x_2^2 & x_2 & 1 & y_2 \\ x_3^2 & x_3 & 1 & y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

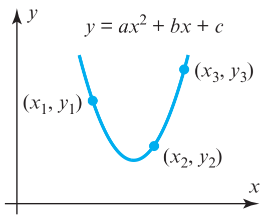


Figure Ex-21

22. Explain why each of the three elementary row operations does not affect the solution set of a linear system.

23. Show that if the linear equations

$$x_1 + kx_2 = c \quad \text{and} \quad x_1 + lx_2 = d$$

have the same solution set, then the two equations are identical (i.e., $k = l$ and $c = d$).

24. Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} ax + by &= k \\ cx + dy &= l \\ ex + fy &= m \end{aligned}$$

Discuss the relative positions of the lines $ax + by = k$, $cx + dy = l$, and $ex + fy = m$ when

(a) the system has no solutions.

(b) the system has exactly one solution.

(c) the system has infinitely many solutions.

25. Suppose that a certain diet calls for 7 units of fat, 9 units of protein, and 16 units of carbohydrates for the main meal, and suppose that an individual has three possible foods to choose from to meet these requirements:

Food 1: Each ounce contains 2 units of fat, 2 units of protein, and 4 units of carbohydrates.

Food 2: Each ounce contains 3 units of fat, 1 unit of protein, and 2 units of carbohydrates.

Food 3: Each ounce contains 1 unit of fat, 3 units of protein, and 5 units of carbohydrates.

Let x, y, and z denote the number of ounces of the first, second, and third foods that the dieter will consume at the main meal. Find (but do not solve) a linear system in x, y, and z whose solution tells how many ounces of each food must be consumed to meet the diet requirements.

26. Suppose that you want to find values for a, b, and c such that the parabola $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ passes through the points $(1, 1)$, $(2, 4)$, and $(-1, 1)$. Find (but do not solve) a system of linear equations whose solutions provide values for a, b, and c. How many solutions would you expect this system of equations to have, and why?

27. Suppose you are asked to find three real numbers such that the sum of the numbers is 12, the sum of two times the first plus the second plus two times the third is 5, and the third number is one more than the first. Find (but do not solve) a linear system whose equations describe the three conditions.

True-False Exercises

TF. In parts (a)–(h) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) A linear system whose equations are all homogeneous must be consistent.

(b) Multiplying a row of an augmented matrix through by zero is an acceptable elementary row operation.

(c) The linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 3 \\ 2x - 2y &= k \end{aligned}$$

cannot have a unique solution, regardless of the value of k.

(d) A single linear equation with two or more unknowns must have infinitely many solutions.

(e) If the number of equations in a linear system exceeds the number of unknowns, then the system must be inconsistent.

(f) If each equation in a consistent linear system is multiplied through by a constant c, then all solutions to the new system can be obtained by multiplying solutions from the original system by c.

(g) Elementary row operations permit one row of an augmented matrix to be subtracted from another.

(h) The linear system with corresponding augmented matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is consistent.

Working with Technology

T1. Solve the linear systems in Examples 2, 3, and 4 to see how your technology utility handles the three types of systems.

T2. Use the result in Exercise 21 to find values of a, b, and c for which the curve $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ passes through the points $(-1, 1, 4)$, $(0, 0, 8)$, and $(1, 1, 7)$.