

# 7.1: Solving Linear Systems by Graphing

Note Title

4/21/2015

System of equations: group of equations

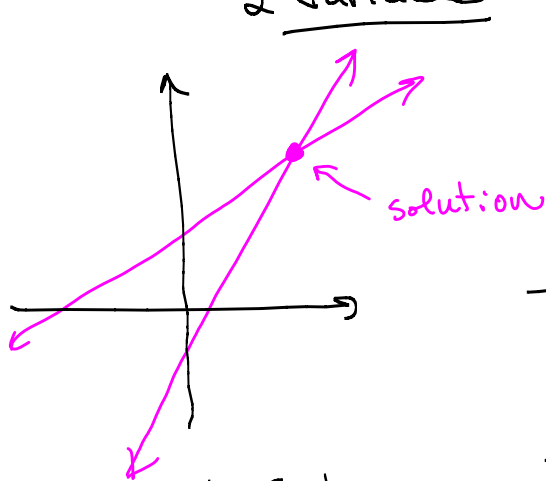
A Linear System is a system of linear equations.  
(each equation can be written as  
 $Ax + By = C$ ,  $Ax + By + Cz = D$ )

A solution to a system of equations: A set of values for the variables that makes all the equations true.

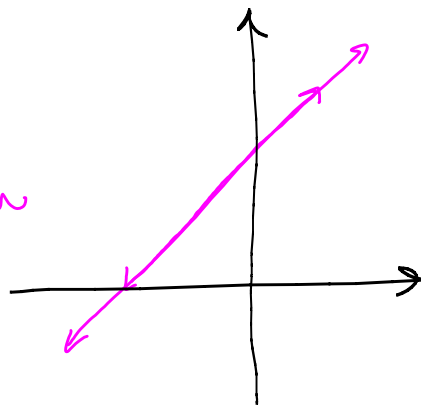
For us: we will solve systems of 2 equations in 2 variables (generally  $x$  and  $y$ ).

Ex:  $\begin{cases} 2x - 5y = 4 \\ x + 6y = -10 \end{cases}$  } graphs of these equations are lines

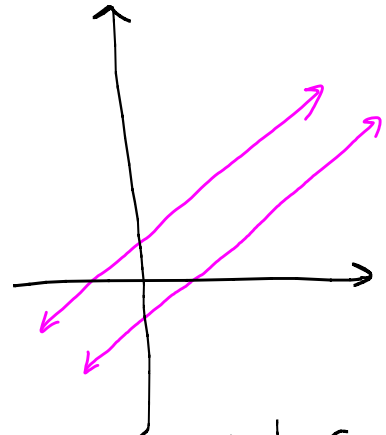
3 possible scenarios for a system of 2 equations in 2 variables:



Independent System  
One solution  
(lines intersect (cross) at)  
a single point



Dependent System  
Infinitely many solutions  
(both equations represent  
the same line)



Inconsistent System  
No solution  
(lines are parallel)

## Question on Test #5

For an inconsistent, dependent, or independent system.

- 1) State the number of solutions
- 2) Describe the graph in words (lines are parallel, lines are the same, lines intersect at 1 point)
- 3) Illustrate with an example graph.

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Example: Is the ordered pair  $(9, -2)$  a solution of this system?

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 5y = 8 \\ 3x - 2y = 23 \end{cases}$$

Put  $x=9$ ,  $y=-2$  into  $2x + 5y = 8$ :

$$2(9) + 5(-2) = 8$$

$$18 - 10 = 8$$

$$8 = 8 \quad \text{True} \quad \checkmark$$

So the ordered pair is a solution to the 1<sup>st</sup> equation.

Put  $x=9$ ,  $y=-2$  into  $3x - 2y = 23$ .

$$3(9) - 2(-2) = 23$$

$$27 + 4 = 23$$

$$31 = 23 \quad \text{False. So } (9, -2) \text{ is not a solution to the 2nd equation.}$$

No,  $(9, -2)$  is not a solution to the system.

(To be a solution to the system, it must be a solution to both of the equations)

Ex. Is  $(1, -\frac{2}{3})$  a solution of this system?

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

Put  $x=1, y=-\frac{2}{3}$  into  $2x - 3y = 4$

$$2(1) - 3(-\frac{2}{3}) = 4$$
$$2 + 2 = 4$$
$$4 = 4 \checkmark$$

Put  $x=1, y=-\frac{2}{3}$  into  $5x + 6y = 1$

$$5(1) + 6(-\frac{2}{3}) = 1$$
$$5 - 4 = 1$$
$$1 = 1 \checkmark$$

Yes,  $(1, -\frac{2}{3})$  is a solution.

Methods for solving linear systems:

- 1) Graphing (Section 7.1)
- 2) Substitution (Section 7.2)
- 3) Elimination (Section 7.3)
- 4) Matrix Methods (College Algebra or Finite Math)

To solve a system by graphing:

Graph both lines.

Estimate the intersection point.

Check your solutions.

Example: solve the system by graphing.

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y = 8 \\ x - 3y = 3 \end{cases}$$

1st, graph the line  $x + 2y = 8$

Find the  $x$ -intercept: set  $y=0$ :  $x + 2(0) = 8$

$$x = 8$$

ordered pair  $(8, 0)$

Find the y-intercept: Set  $x=0$ :  $0+2y=8$   
 $2y=8$   
 $y=4$

ordered pair  $(0,4)$

Next, graph the 2nd line  $x-3y=3$ :

Find the x-intercept: Set  $y=0$ :  $x-3(0)=3$   
 $x-0=3$   
 $x=3$

ordered pair:  $(3,0)$

Find the y-intercept: Set  $x=0$ :  $0-3y=3$

$$-3y=3$$

$$\frac{-3y}{-3} = \frac{3}{-3}$$

$$y = -1$$

ordered pair  $(0,-1)$

See graph paper

From graph, the solution appears to be  $(6,1)$ .

$$x+2y=8$$

$$x=6, y=1 \Rightarrow 6+2(1)=8$$

$$6+2=8$$

$$8=8$$

$$x-3y=3$$

$$x=6, y=1 \Rightarrow 6-3(1)=3$$

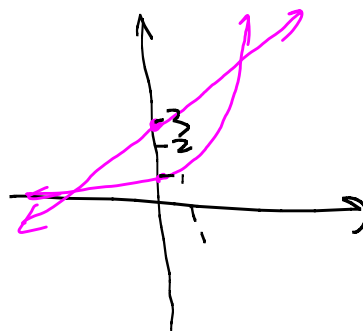
$$6-3=3$$

$$3=3 \checkmark$$

Solution is  $(6,1)$ .

You need to understand the concept of solving by graphing, because some systems (not linear systems) that cannot be solved with substitution or elimination.

Example:  $y=2^x$   
 $y=x+3$

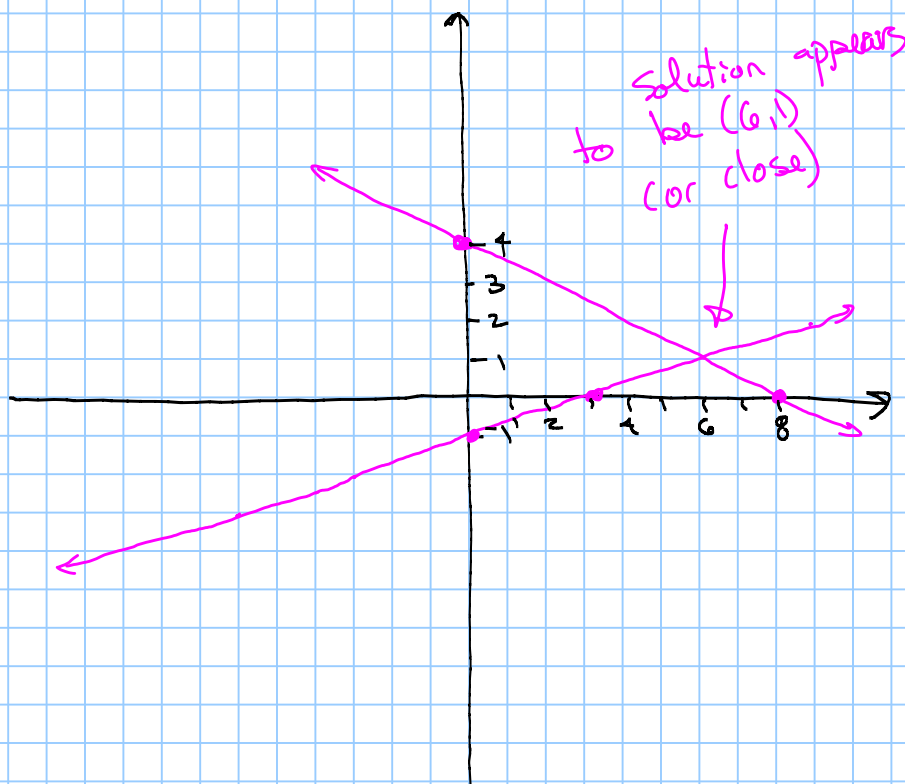


Example from Section 7.1

1st line

 $(8, 0)$   
 $(0, 4)$ 

2nd line

 $(3, 0)$   
 $(0, -1)$ 

## 7.2: The Substitution Method (For solving linear systems)

Solving by substitution (step-by-step):

- 1) Solve one equation (your choice) for one variable (your choice).
- 2) Substitute this result into the other equation.
- 3) Solve for the remaining variable.
- 4) Substitute this value into either equation and solve.
- 5) Check your solution. (substitute into both equations and see if it makes them true)

Example: Solve the system.

$$\begin{cases} x - y = 9 \\ 2x - 11y = -18 \end{cases}$$

1) Solve  $x - y = 9$  for  $x$ :

$$x = 9 + y$$

2) Substitute  $x = 9 + y$  into  $2x - 11y = -18$ .

$$2(9 + y) - 11y = -18$$

3) Solve for  $y$ :

$$18 + 2y - 11y = -18$$

$$18 - 9y = -18$$

$$-9y = -36$$

$$\frac{-9y}{-9} = \frac{-36}{-9}$$

$$y = 4$$

4) Substitute  $y = 4$  into  $x - y = 9$ :

$$x - 4 = 9$$

$$x = 13$$

Solution is  $(13, 4)$ .

Check is on next page.

5) Check it!

$$x - y = 9$$

$$x = 13, y = 4 \Rightarrow 13 - 4 = 9 \\ 9 = 9 \checkmark$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 26 \\ -26 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \checkmark$$

$$2x - 11y = -18$$

$$x = 13, y = 4 \Rightarrow 2(13) - 11(4) = -18 \\ 26 - 44 = -18 \\ -18 = -18 \checkmark$$

Example: Solve the system by substitution.

$$\begin{cases} -4x + 3y = 19 \\ -6x - 5y = 0 \end{cases}$$

1) Solve  $-6x - 5y = 0$  for  $y$ .

$$-5y = 6x$$

$$\frac{-5y}{-5} = \frac{6x}{-5}$$

$$y = -\frac{6}{5}x$$

2) Substitute  $y = -\frac{6}{5}x$  into the other equation:

$$-4x + 3y = 19$$

$$-4x + 3\left(-\frac{6}{5}x\right) = 19$$

$$-4x - \frac{18}{5}x = 19$$

$$-\frac{4x}{1}\left(\frac{5}{5}\right) - \frac{18}{5}x = 19$$

$$-\frac{20}{5}x - \frac{18}{5}x = 19$$

$$-\frac{38}{5}x = 19$$

$$\left(-\frac{5}{38}\right)\left(-\frac{38}{5}\right)x = \frac{1}{1}\left(-\frac{5}{38}\right)19$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 19 \\ 2 \overline{)38} \\ \underline{38} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

4) Put  $x = -\frac{5}{2}$  into either equation

$$-6x - 5y = 0$$

$$-6\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right) - 5y = 0$$

$$\frac{30}{2} - 5y = 0$$

$$15 - 5y = 0$$

$$-5y = -15$$

$$\frac{-5y}{-5} = \frac{-15}{-5}$$

$$y = 3$$

Solution is  $\left(-\frac{5}{2}, 3\right)$ .  
check it!

5) Check:

$$-6x - 5y = 0$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{2}, y = 3 \Rightarrow -6\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right) - 5(3) = 0$$

$$15 - 15 = 0$$

$$0 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$-4x + 3y = 19$$

$$-4\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right) + 3(3) = 19$$

$$\frac{20}{2} + 9 = 19$$

$$10 + 9 = 19$$

$$19 = 19 \checkmark$$