

Section 3.6 Systems of 3 Equations

Learning Goal: To understand how to solve systems of linear equations in three variables and use linear systems in three variables to model real life situations.

Essential Questions:

What is the process for finding the solutions to a system of equations with three unknowns?

What does it mean when a false statement is obtained?

What does it mean when a true statement is obtained?

Warm Up:

1.
$$\begin{aligned}x + 2y &= 16 \\ 0.5x - y &= 10\end{aligned}$$

The solution to the system of equations above (x, y) . What is the value of x ?

- A) -2
- B) 2
- C) 18
- D) 36

2.
$$\begin{aligned}x^2 - 6x + 11 &= y \\ x &= y + 1\end{aligned}$$

The system of equations above is graphed in the xy -plane. Which of the following is the y -coordinate of an intersection point (x, y) of the graphs of the two equations?

- A) -4
- B) -2
- C) 2
- D) 4

3. If $x^4 - y^4 = -15$ and $x^2 - y^2 = -3$, what is the value of $x^2 + y^2$?

A) 5

B) 4

C) 2

D) 1

4. $2x + 3y = 5$
 $4x + cy = 8$

In the system of equations above, c is a constant. For what value of c will there be no solution (x, y) to the system of equations?

A) 3

B) 4

C) 5

D) 6

Vocabulary:

System of three linear equations - three equations in the same variable

Solution - an ordered triple (x, y, z) that satisfies all three equations.

Linear Combination Method (3-Variable Systems) -

- Step 1** - Use the linear combination method to rewrite the linear system in three variables as a linear system in two variables.
- Step 2**- Solve the new linear system for both of its variables.
- Step 3** - Substitute the values found in Step 2 into one of the original equations and solve for the remaining variable.

Note: if you obtain a false equation, such as $0 = 1$, in any step, then the system has no solution. If you do not obtain a false solution but obtain a true statement, such as $0 = 0$, then the equation is an identity and the system will have infinitely many solutions.

Example 1:

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + z &= 2 \\-x + 3y + 2z &= 8 \\4x + y &= 4\end{aligned}$$

$$x - 2y - 3z = -1$$

Example 2: $2x + y + z = 6$

$$x + 3y - 2z = 13$$

You Try:

$$5x + 2y - z = -7$$

1. $x - 2y + 2z = 0$

$$3y + z = 17$$

$$x + y + z = 6$$

2. $2x - y + z = 3$

$$3x - z = 0$$

$$x + 3y + z = 0$$

3. $x + y - z = 0$

$$x - 2y - z = 0$$

$$3x - 2y + 4z = 1$$

4. $x + y - 2z = 3$

$$2x - 3y + 6z = 8$$

$$x - 2y + 3z = -4$$

5. $y - z = 3$

$$z = -1$$

$$2x + 3y - z = 4$$

6. $4x + 6y - 2z = 6$

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

$$x + 2y - 3z = -8$$

7. $2x + y + 3z = 17$

$$x - 3y + 3z = 11$$

$$x + 2y - 4z = 2$$

8. $-x + 2y - 4z = -2$

$$-x - 2y + 4z = -2$$

$$x + y + z = 5$$

9. $2x - y + z = 4$

$$3x - y + 2z = 8$$

Closure:

Homework:

