

Name: Key 2/18/2020

HansenMath™ Pre-calc: 7.3 Multivariable Linear Systems, Day 1

The method of elimination can be applied to a system of linear equations in more than two variables. When elimination is used to solve a system of linear equations, the goal is to rewrite the system in a form to which back-substitution can be applied.

Example 1 below is said to be in **row-echelon form**, which means that it has a "stair-step" pattern with leading coefficients of 1. It is easier to solve the system in row-echelon form, using back-substitution.

Example 1

Solve the system of linear equations:

Row-echelon form

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} y - 2(1) &= 4 \\ y &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Write as "ordered triple": $(\underset{x}{4}, \underset{y}{6}, \underset{z}{1})$

To solve a system that is not in row-echelon form, Convert it to an equivalent system that IS in row-echelon form.

This process is called Gaussian Elimination named after the famous German mathematician, Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777 - 1855)

There are three elementary row operations that can be used on a system of linear equations to produce an equivalent system of linear equations:

- 1.) Interchange two equations
- 2.) Multiply one of the equations by a non-zero constant
- 3.) Add a multiple of one equation to another equation.

The number of solutions of a system of linear equations in more than two variables is:

- exactly one solution
- infinitely many solutions
- No solution

Example 2: Solve the system

STEP 1

$$\begin{cases} ① & x + y + z = 3 \\ ② & 2x - y + 3z = 16 \\ ③ & x - 2y - z = 1 \end{cases}$$

eliminate x from EQ2

$$\rightarrow (-2)EQ1: -2x - 2y - 2z = -6$$

$$EQ2: 2x - y + 3z = 16$$

$$\hline -3y + z = 10$$

New EQ2

$$\begin{cases} ① & x + y + z = 3 \\ ② & -3y + z = 10 \\ ③ & x - 2y - z = 1 \end{cases}$$

STEP 2 eliminate x from

EQ3 \rightarrow EQ1: $x + y + z = 3$

$$(-1)EQ3: -x + 2y + z = -1$$

$$\begin{cases} ① & x + y + z = 3 \\ ② & -3y + z = 10 \\ ③ & 3y + 2z = 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\hline 3y + 2z = 2$$

New EQ3

STEP 3

eliminate y from EQ3

$$EQ2: -3y + z = 10$$

$$EQ3: 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$\hline 3z = 12$$

$$z = 4$$

So... Back Sub

$$(1, -2, 4)$$

Example 3: Solve the system

STEP 1:

$$\begin{cases} ① & x - 2y + 3z = 9 \\ ② & -x + 3y + z = -2 \\ ③ & 2x - 5y + 5z = 17 \end{cases}$$

ADD ① & ② Eliminate x from EQ2

$$EQ1: x - 2y + 3z = 9$$

$$EQ2: -x + 3y + z = -2$$

$$\hline y + 4z = 7 \text{ *new EQ2}$$

$$\begin{cases} ① & x - 2y + 3z = 9 \\ ② & y + 4z = 7 \\ ③ & 2x - 5y + 5z = 17 \end{cases}$$

STEP 2: Eliminate x from EQ3

$$-2(EQ1): -2x + 4y - 6z = -18$$

$$EQ3: 2x - 5y + 5z = 17$$

$$\hline -y - z = -1$$

*new EQ3

$$\begin{cases} ① & x - 2y + 3z = 9 \\ & y + 4z = 7 \\ & -y - z = -1 \end{cases}$$

STEP 3: Eliminate y from EQ3

$$EQ2: y + 4z = 7$$

$$EQ3: -y - z = -1$$

$$3z = 6 \rightarrow z = 2$$

Back sub, so...

$$(1, -1, 2)$$