

Solve for  $x$  &  $y$  :

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

isolate ...  $y$

$$y = -2x + 3$$

sub into other...

$$3x - 2(-2x + 3) = 8$$

only one variable!

$$3x + 4x - 6 = 8$$

$$7x = 14$$

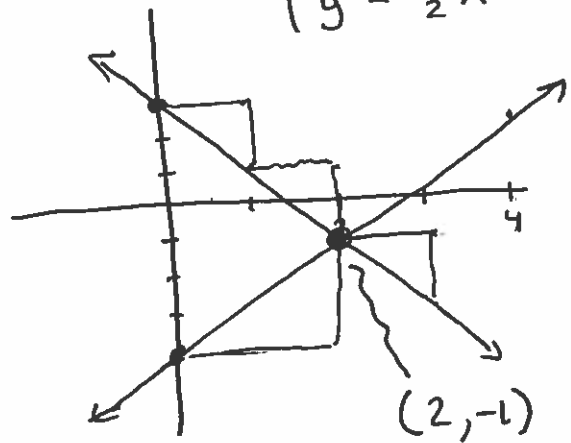
$$x = 2$$

$$y = -2(2) + 3$$

$$y = -1$$

graphically

$$\begin{cases} y = -2x + 3 \\ y = \frac{3}{2}x - 4 \end{cases}$$



elimination

Solution:  $x = 2$   
 $y = -1$

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

$\times 2$

$$\begin{cases} 4x + 2y = 6 \\ 3x - 2y = 8 \end{cases}$$

Add

$$7x = 14$$

$$x = 2$$

LCM of 2, 3 is 6

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

$\times 3$

$$6x + 3y = 9$$

$\times 2$

$$6x - 4y = 16$$

Subtract

$$7y = -7$$

$$y = -1$$

Solve  
for  
 $x, y, z$

$$\begin{cases} 3x + y + 4z = 3 \\ -5x - 2y - 10z = 1 \\ 2x - 2y + 3z = -4 \end{cases}$$

LCM is 30

This is  
laborious,  
tedious,  
prone to  
human error...  
if you use  
substitution

$$\begin{array}{l} \times 10 \\ \times 6 \\ \times 15 \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -30x - 12y - 60z = 6 \\ 30x - 30y + 45z = -60 \end{array} \right. \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\text{leave alone}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{add}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{sub.}} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -2y - 20z = 36 \\ 40y - 5z = 90 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \div 2 \\ \div 5 \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -y - 10z = 18 \\ 8y - z = 18 \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{\times 8} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -8y - 80z = 144 \\ 8y - z = 18 \end{array} \right. \xrightarrow{\text{add}}$$

LCM: 8

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -8y - 80z = 144 \\ -81z = 162 \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y + 40z = 30 \\ -8y - 80z = 144 \\ z = -2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 80R_3 + R_2 \\ \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y = 110 \\ -8y = -16 \\ z = -2 \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x + 10y = 110 \\ y = 2 \\ z = -2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -40R_3 + R_1 \\ \rightarrow R_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} -10R_2 + R_1 \\ \rightarrow R_1 \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30x = 90 \\ y = 2 \\ z = -2 \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} x = 3 \\ y = 2 \\ z = -2 \end{array} \quad \text{Check!}$$

Solve

$$\begin{cases} \cancel{3x + y + 4z} \\ 2x - 7y + 2z = 7 \\ 2x + 2y - 7z = -2 \\ 3x - 5y - 4z = 2 \end{cases}$$

still tedious,  
prone to human  
errors...  
takes up space..

Look for anything to streamline this...

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & y & z \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -7 & 2 & 7 \\ 2 & 2 & -7 & -2 \\ 3 & -5 & -4 & 2 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\xrightarrow{-R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -7 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 9 & -9 & -9 \\ 3 & -5 & -4 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

~~The~~ Augmented Matrix  
for the linear system.

Coefficient  
Matrix  
for the linear  
system.

still stands for  
 $9y - 9z = -9$

Smaller Example

Solve

$$\begin{cases} 2x + y = 3 \\ 3x - 2y = 9 \end{cases}$$

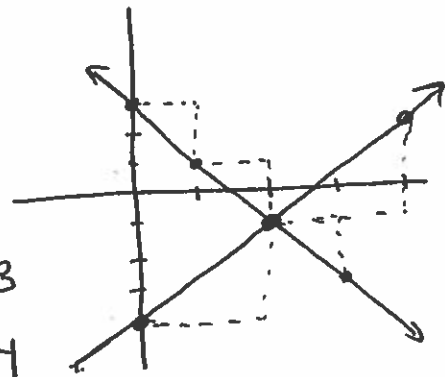
by using an augmented matrix.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & -2 & 8 \end{array} \right]$$

target.  
make it 0

$$\begin{array}{l} 3R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \\ 2R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 6 & -4 & 16 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x + y = 3 \\ y = -2x + 3 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{l} 3x - 2y = 8 \\ y = \frac{3}{2}x - 4 \end{array}$$

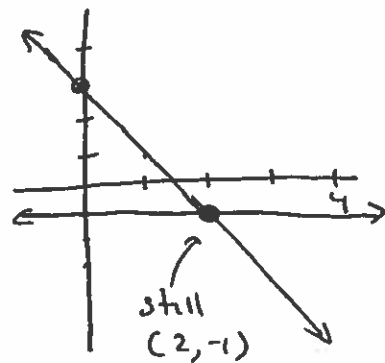
$$\begin{array}{l} 6x + 3y = 9 \\ 6x - 4y = 16 \end{array}$$

same plot

$$-R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 0 & -7 & 7 \end{array} \right]$$

$$6x + 3y = 9$$

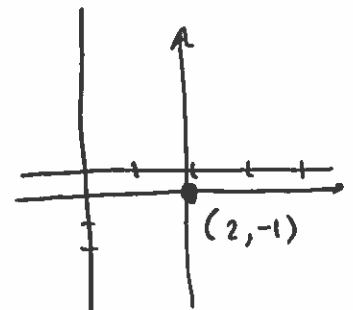
$$\begin{array}{l} -7y = 7 \\ (y = -1) \end{array}$$



$$-\frac{1}{7}R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -3R_2 + R_1 \\ \rightarrow R_1 \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 0 & 12 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 6x = 12 \\ (x = 2) \\ y = -1 \end{array}$$



$$\frac{1}{6}R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x = 2 \\ y = -1 \end{array}$$

Solve

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

using an augmented matrix.

More of the same?

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

Solve...

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 4 \\ -4 & 7 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{-2R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \\ 4R_1 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -5 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 15 & 3 & 14 \end{array} \right]$$

$$3R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -5 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x + 0y + 0z = 8$$

There is no solution!

The system is inconsistent.

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 8 \\ 2x + y = 4 \\ y + 2z = 12 \end{cases}$$

Solve...

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 8 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 12 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{-2R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -12 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 12 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & -4 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{-R_2 \rightarrow R_2}$$

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

free column

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Pivot columns

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

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

free to let z take any value...

there are infinitely many solutions...  
 $\begin{cases} x = z - 4 \\ y = -2z + 12 \end{cases}$

then x, y follow

## 1.1 Summary

To solve a system of l.n. eq.

1) Arrange in form

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = b$$

2) Make augmented matrix

3) Use row reductions...

• Scaling (Like  $3R_2 \rightarrow R_2$ )

• Interchange (Like  $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$ )

• Replacement (Like  $7R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3$ )

match

A system may have one, no, or infinitely many sols.

may need to parametrize  
solution set

$$\text{Like } \begin{cases} x = z - 4 \\ y = -2z + 12 \\ z \text{ is free} \end{cases}$$

## Section 1.2

We've seen a matrix like this:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

Some matrices are in (row) echelon form.

More examples

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{8} & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{3} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 3 & 5 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Read row by row...

Identify first nonzero entry

Moving down a row needs to move the leading entry to right.

Not like  $\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 3 \\ \boxed{3} & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

In ~~row~~ row echelon form these leading nonzero entries: pivot positions

$$\begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & * & * \\ 0 & \blacksquare & * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & * \\ 0 & \blacksquare \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

$\blacksquare$  nonzero for sure

\* any number possible

A matrix is in reduced (row) echelon form

if

- it's in row echelon form
- the pivot positions have 1 in them.
- positions above each pivot position are 0.

Ex

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix maybe came from a system of equations as the augmented matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} \implies x &= 2 \\ y &= 3 \\ z &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Ex

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

free column

is in RREF

$$\begin{cases} x = -2y + 3 \\ y \text{ is free} \\ z = 8 \end{cases}$$

Ex

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

is in RREF

tells us there is no solution.

Ex 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -4 & -12 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the RREF  
of this matrix

(Apply valid row  
operations to obtain  
an RREF matrix)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -4 & -12 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -4 & -12 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2R_1 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \\ -2R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -6 & -2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & -12 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \\ \frac{1}{2}R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -2R_1 + R_2 \\ 4R_1 + R_3 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

both in  
row echelon form

$$\begin{array}{l} -R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \\ -R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -\frac{1}{2}R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \\ -R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-2R_3 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -R_3 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \\ -2R_3 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-R_2 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-R_2 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

RREF for a  
matrix is  
unique no matter  
what path you  
take!

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{2} & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 3 & \boxed{1} & 1 \\ -12 & 0 & \boxed{2} & \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

these are pivot positions.

- because RREF is unique...

these may be called its pivot positions.

Ex  $\begin{cases} -3x_2 - 6x_3 + 4x_4 = 9 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 + 3x_4 = 1 \\ -2x_1 - 3x_2 + 3x_4 = -1 \\ x_1 + 4x_2 + 5x_3 - 9x_4 = -7 \end{cases}$  Are there  $\infty$ , 0, or 1 solutions to this system...?

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -3 & -6 & 4 & 9 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{lots of work}} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Wasn't asked to solve... I've got REF  $\uparrow$  ...  
I don't need RREF...

It's consistent  $\checkmark$   
(no  $|00\dots 0|1|$ )  
There's a free column  
 $\Rightarrow \infty$ -ly many sols.

# Summary of 1.2

## Theorem

You have a linear system...

You build its augmented matrix...

You reduce to REF...

Then the system is consistent (at least one sol.)  
if there are no rows

$$[0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ | \ \text{pivot}]$$

A column with no pivot pos. in the coefficient part of the aug. matrix.

And then there are ~~oo-ly~~ many sols if there is a free column.

(There is only one solution if there are no free columns)