

Chapter 9 Solving Systems of Linear Equations Algebraically

9.1 Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Substitution

Outcomes: 1. Interpret algebraic reasoning through the study of relations
 9. Solve problems that involve systems of linear equations in two variables algebraically.

Definitions:

Substitution Method: and algebraic method of solving a system of equations.

- Solving one equation for one variable, substitute that value into the other equation, and solve for the other variable.

Steps for Solving by Substitution

- 1) Isolate one variable in one of the equations
- 2) Substitute that solution into the other equation, and solve for the remaining variable
- 3) Substitute the value into one of the original equation to solve for the other variable
- 4) Check your answer by substituting into BOTH original equations.

Example 1:

Solve the following linear system algebraically using substitution.

a) $3x + 5y = 27$
 $4x = 16$

1) $\frac{4x}{4} = \frac{16}{4} \quad x = 4$

2) $3(4) + 5y = 27$

$12 + 5y = 27$
 $-12 \quad -12$

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

$y = 3$

∴ (4, 3) is the solution

4) Check

$3x + 5y = 27$
 $3(4) + 5(3) \quad | \quad 27$
 $12 + 15 \quad | \quad 27$
 $27 \quad | \quad 27 \checkmark$

$4x = 16$
 $4(4) \quad | \quad 16$
 $16 \quad | \quad 16 \checkmark$

b) $4x + 5y = 26$
 $3x = y - 9$

1) $\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{y-9}{3} \rightarrow x = \frac{y}{3} - 3$

2) $4\left(\frac{1}{3}y - 3\right) + 5y = 26$

$\frac{4}{3}y - 12 + 5y = 26$
 $\quad \quad \quad +12 \quad \quad \quad +12$

$\frac{4}{3}y + 5y = 38$

$\frac{4}{3}y + \frac{15}{3}y = 38$

$\frac{19}{3}y = 38$
 $\frac{19}{3}y \cdot \left(\frac{3}{19}\right) = 38 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{19}\right)$

$y = 6$

Example 2:

Solve the following linear system algebraically using substitution. Check your solution.

$2x + y = 13$
 $x - 0.4y = -16$

1) $2x + y = 13$

$y = -2x + 13$

2) $x - 0.4(-2x + 13) = -16$

$1x + 0.8x - 5.2 = -16$

$1.8x - 5.2 = -16$
 $\quad \quad \quad +5.2 \quad \quad +5.2$

$\frac{1.8x}{1.8} = \frac{-10.8}{1.8}$

$x = -6$

3) $3x = 6 - 9$

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

$x = -1$

4) $4x + 5y = 26$

$4(-1) + 5(6) = 26$

$-4 + 30 = 26$

$26 = 26 \checkmark$

$3x = y - 9$

$3(-1) = 6 - 9$

$-3 = -3 \checkmark$

$\therefore (-1, 6)$ is a solution

3) $2(-6) + y = 13$

$-12 + y = 13$
 $\quad \quad \quad +12 \quad \quad \quad +12$

$y = 25$

4) $2x + y = 13$

$2(-6) + 25 = 13$

$-12 + 25 = 13$

$13 = 13 \checkmark$

$-6 - 0.4(25) = -16$

$-6 - 10 = -16$

$-16 = -16$

$\therefore (-6, 25)$ is a solution

Example 3:

At a basketball game, there were 220 people. Tickets cost \$9.00 for adults, and \$6.00 for children. The school collected \$1614.00 in ticket sales. How many adults and how many children attended the basketball game?

let $a = \text{adults}$
 $c = \text{children}$

$$a + c = 220$$

$$9a + 6c = 1614$$

$$1) a = 220 - c$$

$$2) 9(220 - c) + 6c = 1614$$

$$1980 - 9c + 6c = 1614$$

$$1980 - 3c = 1614$$

$$-1980 \quad -1980$$

$$\frac{-3c}{-3} = \frac{-366}{-3}$$

$$c = 122$$

$$3) a + 122 = 220$$

$$-122 \quad -122$$

$$a = 98$$

$$(122, 98)$$

\therefore there are
122 children and
98 adults

Key Ideas

- You can solve systems of linear equations algebraically using substitution.

- Isolate a single variable in one of the two equations
- Where possible, choose a variable with a coefficient of 1.

Solve the linear system

$$3x + 2y = -11 \quad (a)$$

$$-2x + y = 12 \quad (b)$$

Isolate the variable y in equation (b) since its coefficient is 1.

$$y = 12 + 2x$$

Substitute the expression for y in (a)

$$3x + 2(12 + 2x) = -11$$

$$3x + 24 + 4x = -11$$

$$7x + 24 = -11$$

$$7x = -35$$

$$x = -5$$

- Substitute the solution for the first variable into the one of the original equations. Solve for the remaining variable.

$$-2(-5) + y = 12$$

$$10 + y = 12$$

$$y = 2$$

- Check your answer by substituting into **BOTH** original equations.

Textbook Questions: pg. 474 # 1 - 4, 6-14, 16, 19

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 2y &= 11 \\ -x + y &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

→ solve by Substitution

→ show elimination for x, & y.

9.2 Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Elimination

Outcomes: 1. Interpret algebraic reasoning through the study of relations

9. Solve problems that involve systems of linear equations in two variables algebraically.

Definitions:

Elimination Method: an algebraic method of solving a system of equations.

- Add or subtract the equations to eliminate one variable and solve for the other variable

Steps for Solving by Elimination

- 1) Make sure the coefficients of one variable are the same
- 2) Add or subtract equations to eliminate one variable
- 3) Substitute the value into one of the original equation to solve for the other variable
- 4) Check your answer by substituting into BOTH original equations.

Example 1:

Solve the system of linear equations algebraically by elimination.

a) $\begin{aligned} 2x + 3y &= 20 \\ 2x + y &= 4 \end{aligned}$

1) 2x are the same in both

$$\begin{array}{r} 2) \quad 2x + 3y = 20 \\ \quad -2x + y = 4 \\ \hline \quad \quad 0 + 2y = 16 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2y}{2} = \frac{16}{2} \rightarrow y = 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3) \quad 2x + 8 = 4 \\ \quad \quad -8 \quad -8 \\ \hline \quad \quad 2x = -4 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{-4}{2}$$

$$x = -2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4) \quad 2(-2) + 3(8) = 20 \\ \quad -4 + 24 = 20 \\ \quad \quad 20 = 20 \checkmark \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2(-2) + 8 = 4 \\ \quad -4 + 8 = 4 \\ \quad \quad 4 = 4 \checkmark \end{array}$$

∴ (-2, 8) is a solution

b) $3x - 4y = 7$
 $5x - 6y = 8$

1) $5(3x - 4y = 7) \rightarrow 15x - 20y = 35$
 $3(5x - 6y = 8) \rightarrow -15x - 18y = 24$

 $0 - 2y = 11$

$\frac{-2y}{-2} = \frac{11}{-2}$ $y = -5.5$

3) $3x - 4(5.5) = 7$
 $3x + 22 = 7$
 $\quad -22 \quad -22$

$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{-15}{3}$ $x = -5$

4) $3(-5) - 4(-5.5) = 7$
 $-15 + 22 = 7$
 $7 = 7 \checkmark$

$5(-5) - 6(-5.5) = 8$
 $-25 + 33 = 8$
 $8 = 8 \checkmark$

$\therefore (-5, -5.5)$ is a solution

Example 2:

Solve the system of linear equations algebraically by elimination. Check your answers.

1) $3(2x + 7y = 24)$
 $2(3x - 2y = -4)$

3) $2x + 7(3.2) = 24$

$2x + 22.4 = 24$
 $\quad -22.4 \quad -22.4$

$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{1.6}{2}$ $x = 0.8$

2) $6x + 21y = 72$
 $-6x - 4y = -8$

 $0 + 25y = 80$
 $\quad 25 \quad 25$

$y = 3.2$

4) $2(0.8) + 7(3.2) = 24$

$1.6 + 22.4 = 24$
 $24 = 24 \checkmark$

$3(0.8) - 2(3.2) = -4$

$2.4 - 6.4 = -4$
 $-4 = -4 \checkmark$

$\therefore (0.8, 3.2)$ is a solution

Example 3:

A group of people bought tickets for a University of Alberta football playoff game. Two students tickets and six adult tickets cost \$102. Eight student tickets and three adult tickets cost \$114. What was the price for a single adult ticket? What was the price for a single student ticket?

let s = students
 a = adult

1) $4(2s + 6a = 102)$
 $8s + 3a = 114$

2) $8s + 24a = 408$
 $- 8s + 3a = 114$

 $21a = 294$
 $\frac{21a}{21} = \frac{294}{21}$
 $a = 14$

3) $2s + 6(14) = 102$
 $2s + 84 = 102$
 $-84 \quad -84$

$\frac{2s}{2} = \frac{18}{2}$

$s = 9$

4) $2(9) + 6(14) = 102$
 $18 + 84 = 102$
 $102 = 102 \checkmark$

$8s + 24a = 408$
 $8(9) + 24(14) = 408$
 $72 + 336 = 408$
 $408 = 408 \checkmark$

\therefore there are 9 students and 14 adults

Example 4:

During lunch, the cafeteria sold a total of 160 muffins and individual yogurts. The price of each muffin is \$1.50. Each container of yogurt costs \$2.00. The cafeteria collected \$273.50. Set up and solve a linear system in order to determine the number of muffins and the number of yogurts sold.

try on their own

Let m = muffin
 y = yogurt

2) $m + y = 160$

$1.5m + 2y = 273.50$

$2m + 2y = 320$
 $= 1.5m + 2y = 273.50$

 $0.5m = 46.50$
 $\frac{0.5m}{0.5} = \frac{46.50}{0.5}$
 $m = 93$

3) $m + y = 160$

$93 + y = 160$
 $-93 \quad -93$

$y = 67$

4) $m + y = 160$
 $93 + 67 = 160$
 $160 = 160 \checkmark$

$1.5(93) + 2(67) = 273.50$
 $139.5 + 134 = 273.50$
 $273.50 = 273.50 \checkmark$

\therefore they sold 93 muffins and 67 yogurts.

Key Ideas

- A table can help you organize information in a problem. This can help you to determine the equations in a linear system
- You can solve a linear system by elimination.

$$3x + 2y + 6 = 0$$

$$7y = 5x + 41$$

- If necessary, rearrange the equations so that like variables appear in the same position in both equations. The most common form is $ax + by = c$

$$3x + 2y + 6 = 0$$

$$7y = 5x + 41$$

$$3x + 2y = -6 \quad (a)$$

$$-5x + 7y = 41 \quad (b)$$

- Determine which variable to eliminate. If necessary, multiply one or both equations by a constant to eliminate the variable by addition or subtraction.

Multiply (a) by 5 and (b) by 3 so that the coefficients of the terms involving x add to zero

$$5(3x + 2y) = 5(-6)$$

$$3(-5x + 7y) = 3(41)$$

$$15x + 10y = -30$$

$$-15x + 21y = 123$$

Add to eliminate x

$$15x + 10y = -30$$

$$+ \quad \underline{-15x + 21y = 123}$$

$$31y = 93$$

- Solve for the remaining variable.

$$31y = 93$$

$$y = 3$$

- Solve for the second variable by substituting the value for the first variable into one of the original equations.

$$7(3) = 5x + 41$$

$$21 = 5x + 41$$

$$-20 = 5x$$

$$-4 = x$$

- Check your solution by substituting each value into **BOTH** original equations.

Textbook Questions: Pg. 488 # 1-13, 15

9.3 Solving Problems Using Systems of Linear Equations

Outcomes: 1. Interpret algebraic and graphical reasoning through the study of relations

3. Demonstrate an understanding of slope with respect to:

- Rise and run
- Line segments and lines
- Rate of change
- Parallel lines
- Perpendicular lines

7. Determine the equations of a linear relation, given:

- A graph
- A point and the slope
- Two points
- A point and the equation of a parallel or perpendicular line

to solve problems.

9. Solve problems that involve systems of linear equations in two variables, graphically and algebraically.

Overall, you can solve:

Graphically

- Time consuming
- Provides visual as how questions are related

OR

Algebraically

- Allows for exact solution relatively quickly
- Easy to make errors

Example 1:

Solve the linear system twice, using both algebraic methods. Compare the two methods.

1) $4(3x - 4y = 17)$
 $3(4x + 5y = 48.5)$

Elimination

$$\begin{array}{r} 2) 12x - 16y = 68 \\ - 12x + 15y = 145.5 \\ \hline -31y = -77.5 \\ \frac{-31}{-31} \quad \frac{-77.5}{-31} \end{array}$$

$y = 2.5$

3) $3x - 4(2.5) = 17$
 $3x - 10 = 17$
 $+10 \quad +10$

$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{27}{3}$
 $x = 9$

Check

4) $3x - 4y = 17$
 $3(9) - 4(2.5) = 17$
 $27 - 10 = 17$
 $17 = 17 \checkmark$

$4(9) + 5(2.5) = 48.5$
 $36 + 12.5 = 48.5$
 $48.5 = 48.5 \checkmark$

Substitution

1) $3x - 4y = 17$
 $+4y \quad +4y$

$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{17 + 4y}{3}$

$x = \frac{17}{3} + \frac{4}{3}y$

2) $4(\frac{17}{3} + \frac{4}{3}y) + 5y = 48.5$

$\frac{68}{3} + \frac{16}{3}y + 5y = 48.5$ $- \frac{68}{3}$
 $\frac{16}{3}y + \frac{15}{3}y = \frac{145.5}{3} - \frac{68}{3}$

$\frac{31}{3}y = \frac{77.5}{3}$
 $(\frac{31}{3}) \quad (\frac{31}{3})$

$y = 2.5$

3) $4x + 5(2.5) = 48.5$

$4x + 12.5 = 48.5$
 $-12.5 \quad -12.5$

$\frac{4x}{4} = \frac{36}{4}$

$x = 9$

$\therefore (9, 2.5)$ is a solution

Example 2:

At Costco, 2 poutines and 3 hot dogs cost \$13.50. 5 poutines and 4 hot dogs cost \$21.50. What is the price of an individual hot dog and poutine?

p = poutines
h = hot dogs

1) $5(2p + 3h = 13.50)$
 $2(5p + 4h = 21.50)$

2) $10p + 15h = 67.5$
 $- 10p + 8h = 43$

 $7h = 24.5$
 $\frac{7h}{7} = \frac{24.5}{7}$

$h = 3.5$

3) $2p + 3(3.5) = 13.50$

$2p + 10.50 = 13.50$
 $-10.5 \quad -10.5$

$\frac{2p}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$ $P = 1.5$

4) $2p + 3h = 13.50$

$2(1.5) + 3(3.5) = 13.50$

$3 + 10.50 = 13.50$

$13.50 = 13.50 \checkmark$

\therefore A hot dog costs \$3.50 and a poutine costs \$1.50

Example 3:

The percentage of carbohydrates by mass in an orange is 15%. The percentage of carbohydrates by mass in an apple is 25%. Bill eats 175g of carbohydrates in a mixture of apples and oranges that contains 19.3% carbohydrates. How many grams of apples did he eat? How many grams of oranges?

a = apples (g)

x = oranges (g)

1) $x + a = 175$

$0.15x + 0.25a = 33.775$

2) $x = 175 - a$

$0.15(175 - a) + 0.25a = 33.775$

$26.25 - 0.15a + 0.25a = 33.775$

$26.25 + 0.10a = 33.775$

the total needs to be a weight since x and a are weights

$\frac{0.10a}{0.10} = \frac{7.525}{0.10}$

$a = 75.25g$

3) $x + 75.25 = 175$
 $-75.25 \quad -75.25$

$x = 99.75$

\therefore there is 75.25 grams of apples and 99.75 grams of oranges

Example 4:

The rectangular parking pad for a car has a perimeter of 12.2m. The width is 0.7m shorter than the length. Use a linear system to determine the dimensions of the parking pad.

l = length
 w = width

$$2l + 2w = 12.2$$

$$w = l - 0.7 \leftarrow \text{substitute!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2) 2l + 2(l - 0.7) &= 12.2 \\ 2l + 2l - 1.4 &= 12.2 \\ &+1.4 \quad +1.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{4l}{4} = \frac{13.6}{4}$$

$$l = 3.4\text{m}$$

$$3) w = l - 0.7$$

$$w = 3.4 - 0.7$$

$$w = 2.7\text{m}$$

$$4) 2l + 2w = 12.2$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2(3.4) + 2(2.7) &= 12.2 \\ 12.2 &= 12.2 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$w = l - 0.7$$

$$2.7 = 3.4 - 0.7$$

$$2.7 = 2.7 \checkmark$$

∴ the length is 3.4m
and the width is 2.7m

Key Ideas

- System of linear equations can be solved:
 - Graphically
 - Algebraically by substitution or by elimination
- It may be better to use a graphical approach to solve linear systems when you wish to see how the two variables relate, such as for cost analysis and speed problems
- It may be better to use an algebraic approach to solve linear equations when:
 - You need only the solution (point of intersection)
 - It is unclear where to locate the solution on a coordinate plane

Textbook Questions: Pg. 498 # 1 - 3, 5 - 12

