

## **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.

<b>Steps for Solving by Substitution</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Isolate one variable in one of the equations</li><li>2) Substitute that solution into the other equation, and solve for the remaining variable</li><li>3) Substitute the value into one of the original equation to solve for the other variable</li><li>4) Check your answer by substituting into BOTH original equations.</li></ol>



**Example 1:**

Solve the following linear system algebraically using substitution.

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

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

**Example 2:**

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

$$2x + y = 13$$

$$x - 0.4y = -16$$

**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?

**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 you answer by substituting into **BOTH** original equations.

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

## 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
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Make sure the coefficients of one variable are the same</li><li>2) Add or subtract equations to eliminate one variable</li><li>3) Substitute the value into one of the original equation to solve for the other variable</li><li>4) Check your answer by substituting into BOTH original equations.</li></ol>



**Example 1:**

Solve the system of linear equations algebraically by elimination.

- a)  $2x + 3y = 20$   
 $2x + y = 4$

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

**Example 2:**

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

$$2x + 7y = 24$$

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

**Example 3:**

A group of people bought tickets for a University of Alberta football playoff game. Two student 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?

**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.

## 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.

$$3x - 4y = 17$$

$$4x + 5y = 48.5$$

**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?

**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?

**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.

### 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