



Special Cases of Systems of Equations

Video Notes

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Special Cases of Systems of Equations



Solve the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} 4x - 3y = 12 \\ 8x - 6y = 24 \end{cases}$$

substitution
isolate y

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x - 3y = 12 \\ +3y \quad +3y \\ \hline 4x = 12 + 3y \\ -12 \quad -12 \\ \hline \frac{4x-12}{3} = \frac{3y}{3} \\ \left(\frac{4}{3}x - 4\right) = y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 8x - 6y &= 24 \\ 8x - 6\left(\frac{4}{3}x - 4\right) &= 24 \\ 8x - 8x + 24 &= 24 \\ \downarrow \\ \underline{24} &= \underline{24} \\ \text{true stmt} \end{aligned}$$

elimination

$$\begin{array}{r} -2(4x - 3y = 12) \longrightarrow -8x + 6y = -24 \\ 8x - 6y = 24 \longrightarrow +8x - 6y = 24 \\ \hline \underline{0} = \underline{0} \\ \text{true stmt.} \end{array}$$

LCM of 4, 8 = 8

Since both equations in the system are equivalent, they intersect everywhere along the line. \therefore any point on the line is a solution, making this system have infinite solutions. ∞

Solve the following system of equations:

$$5x - 2y = 14$$

$$y - 6 = \frac{5}{2}x$$

$$\begin{matrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{matrix} \cdot \frac{5}{2}x$$

substitution (isolate y)

$$y - 6 = \frac{5}{2}x$$

$$\begin{matrix} +6 & +6 \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$y = \frac{5}{2}x + 6$$

$$5x - 2y = 14$$

$$5x - 2\left(\frac{5}{2}x + 6\right) = 14$$

$$5x - 5x - 12 = 14$$

$$-12 \neq 14$$

NOT TRUE!

elimination:

$$5x - 2y = 14$$

$$2(y - 6 = \frac{5}{2}x)$$

$$\begin{matrix} 2y - 12 = 5x \\ -5x & -5x \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} -5x + 2y - 12 = 0 \\ +12 & +12 \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} -5x + 2y = 12 \\ 5x - 2y = 14 \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$0 \neq 26$$

NOT TRUE!

$$5x - 2y = 14$$

$$\begin{matrix} +2y & +2y \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$5x = 14 + 2y$$

$$\begin{matrix} -14 & -14 \\ \hline \end{matrix}$$

$$\frac{5x - 14}{2} = \frac{2y}{2}$$

$$\frac{5}{2}x - 7 = y$$

'same slopes
different y-int.' } parallel lines.

$$y = \frac{5}{2}x + 6$$

→ Since the lines are parallel, they will never intersect
∴ this system has no solution.