

3.1 Linear systems

We now shift topics from differential equations to linear algebra. Later we will apply linear algebra to differential equations.

Ex Find the solution set for

$$3x + 2y = 9$$

$$x - y = 8$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 3x + 2y = 9 \\ x - y = 8 \end{array} \right\} *$$

Here x, y are the "unknowns" or "variables"

A solution to $*$ is an ordered pair

(x, y) of real numbers that makes each equation true

the solution set is the set of all solutions.

the equations $*$ are linear in the variables

x, y . Such an equation has the form

$$ax + by = c$$

$$a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$$

2/10/17
2

terms such as

$$x^2, \quad \sqrt{x}, \quad xy, \quad \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\sin x, \quad e^x \quad \text{etc}$$

or forbidden

Solve *:

obs

$$x = y + 8$$

so

$$3(y+8) + 2y = 9$$

$$5y + 24 = 9$$

$$5y = -15$$

$$y = -3$$

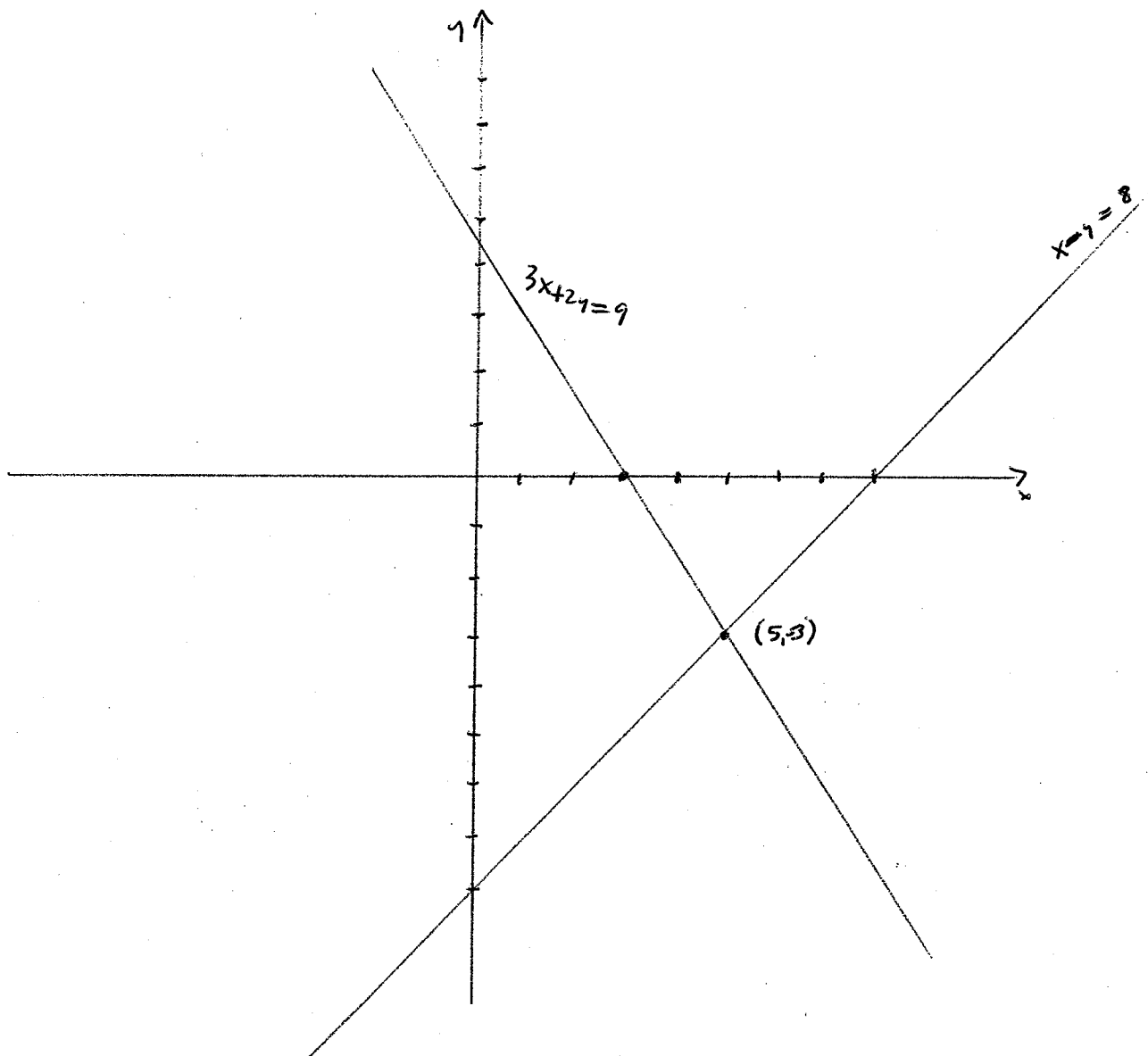
$$x = -3 + 8$$

$$x = 5$$

$x=5, y=-3$ is unique solution.

2/10/14
3

Geometric interp of *

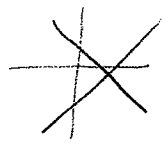
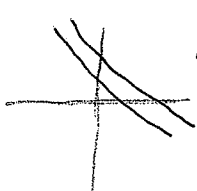
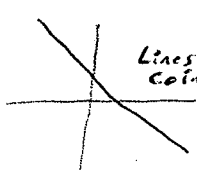


Solution set for $3x+2y=9$ is a line

Solution set for $x-y=8$ is a line

Solution set for * is where the lines intersect.

Given a system of 2 linear equations
in x, y , there are 3 possibilities for
the solution set

Case	example	graph
unique sol	$3x + 2y = 9$ $x - y = 8$	
No sol	$x + y = 1$ $2x + 2y = 3$	 parallel Lines
∞ many sols	$x + y = 1$ $2x + 2y = 2$	 Lines Coincide

Ex Consider the linear system in the variables x, y, z :

$$2x + 7y + 3z = 11$$

$$x + 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$3x + 7y + 9z = -12$$

} *

Find the solution set.

Strategy We employ three types of moves to transform * into a simpler linear system that has the same solution set.

(i) For some equation multiply each side by the same non 0 constant

(ii) Interchange two equations

(iii) Add a constant multiple of some equation to another equation

"elementary operations"

2/10/14
6

Using the elementary operations we try
to put X in the form

$$-x + -y + -z = -$$

"triangular form"

$$-y + -z = -$$

$$-z = -$$

We then "backsolve" to find z , then y , then x .

I interchange eqs one and two:

$$x + 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$2x + 7y + 3z = 11$$

$$3x + 7y + 9z = -12$$

2/10/14
7

II Replace eq 2 by eq 2 - 2 eq 1:

$$x + 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$y - z = 7$$

$$3x + 7y + 9z = -12$$

III Replace eq 3 by eq 3 - 3 eq 1:

$$x + 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$y - z = 7$$

$$-2y + 3z = -18$$

III Replace eq 3 by eq 3 + 2 eq 2:

$$x + 3y + 2z = 2$$

$$y - z = 7$$

$$z = -4$$

(triangular form)

Backsolve

2/10/14
8

$$z = -4$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 7 + z \\ &= 7 - 4 \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2 - 3y - 2z \\ &= 2 - 9 + 8 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Unique sol to * is

$$x=1, \quad y=3, \quad z=-4$$

Double check:

$$2 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 3 + 3(-4) = 11 \quad \checkmark$$

$$1 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 3 + 2(-4) = 2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$3 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 3 + 9(-4) = -12 \quad \checkmark$$

Ex Find the solution set for the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x - 3y + 2z &= 6 \\ x + 4y - z &= 4 \\ 5x + 6y + z &= 20 \end{aligned}$$

} *

Sol Apply elem ops to put in triangular form:

I Replace eq2 by eq2 - eq1:

$$x - 3y + 2z = 6$$

$$7y - 3z = -2$$

$$5x + 6y + z = 20$$

II Replace eq3 by eq3 - 5eq1:

$$x - 3y + 2z = 6$$

$$7y - 3z = -2$$

$$21y - 9z = -10$$

III Replace eq 3 by $\text{eq 3} - 3\text{eq 2}$:

$$x - 3y + 2z = 6$$

$$7y - 3z = -2$$

$$0 = -4$$

(tr form)

the last equation shows

No sol

(ie solution set is empty)

2/10/14

"

Ex Find the solution set for
the linear system

$$x + y - z = 5$$

$$3x + y + 3z = 11$$

$$4x + y + 5z = 14$$

} *

Sol Apply elem ops to put * in triang form

I Replace eq2 by eq2 - 3 eq 1:

$$x + y - z = 5$$

$$-2y + 6z = -4$$

$$4x + y + 5z = 14$$

II Replace eq3 by eq3 - 4 eq 1:

$$x + y - z = 5$$

$$-2y + 6z = -4$$

$$-3y + 9z = -6$$

IIIReplace eq 2 by $-\frac{1}{2}$ eq 2:

$$x + y - z = 5$$

$$y - 3z = 2$$

$$-3y + 9z = -6$$

IV

Replace eq 3 by eq 3 + 3eq 2:

$$x + y - z = 5$$

$$y - 3z = 2$$

$$0 = 0$$

(triangular form)

Backsolve:no constraint on z , so write

$$z = t$$

t free

$$y = 2 + 3z$$

$$= 2 + 3t$$

$$x = 5 - y + z$$

$$= 5 - (2 + 3t) + t$$

$$= 3 - 2t$$

2/10/14

13

Sol set is

$$x = 3 - 2t, \quad y = 2 + 3t, \quad z = t \quad t \text{ free}$$

Double check:

$$1(3 - 2t) + 1(2 + 3t) - t = 5 \quad \checkmark$$

$$3(3 - 2t) + 1(2 + 3t) + 3t = 11 \quad \checkmark$$

$$4(3 - 2t) + 1(2 + 3t) + 5t = 14 \quad \checkmark$$

Application of Linear systems to diff eqs

2/10/14
14

Consider function

$$y = e^{5x}$$

Obs

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= 5e^{5x} \\ &= 5y \end{aligned}$$

So

$$y'' = 5y' = 25y$$

So $y = e^{5x}$ is a particular sol to

$$y'' - 25y = 0$$

Consider The function

$$y = e^{-5x}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= -5e^{-5x} \\ &= -5y \end{aligned}$$

So

$$y'' = -5y' = 25y$$

So $y = e^{-5x}$ is another particular sol to

$$y'' - 25y = 0$$

As we will see, the gen solution to

2/10/14
15

$$y'' - 25y = 0$$

is

$$y = Ae^{5x} + Be^{-5x}$$

A, B constants.

Ex Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - 25y = 0,$$

$$y(0) = 10,$$

$$y'(0) = 20$$

Sol

$$y = Ae^{5x} + Be^{-5x}$$

A, B = const

Find A, B

obs

$$y' = 5Ae^{5x} - 5Be^{-5x}$$

Require

$$10 = y(0) = A + B$$

$$20 = y'(0) = 5A - 5B$$

Solve the linear system in variables A, B:

$$A + B = 10$$

$$5A - 5B = 20$$

$$A = 7, \quad B = 3 \quad \text{is unique sol}$$

so

$$y = 7e^{5x} + 3e^{-5x}$$

□