

1.1 Systems of Linear Equations

Linear equation in n variables $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n$

$$a_1X_1 + a_2X_2 + \dots + a_nX_n = b$$

System of m linear equations

$$a_{11}X_1 + a_{12}X_2 + \dots + a_{1n}X_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}X_1 + a_{22}X_2 + \dots + a_{2n}X_n = b_2$$

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$$a_{m1}X_1 + a_{m2}X_2 + \dots + a_{mn}X_n = b_m$$

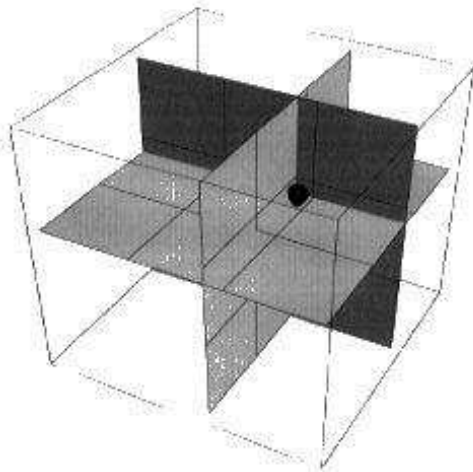
A solution is a set of numbers (S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n) for which

$X_1 = S_1, X_2 = S_2, \dots, X_n = S_n$ satisfies all m equations.

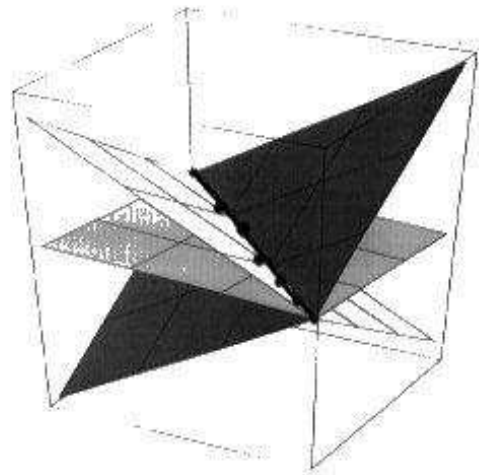
$$a_1X_1 + a_2X_2 + a_3X_3 = b$$

EXAMPLE: Three equations in three variables. Each equation determines a plane in 3-space.

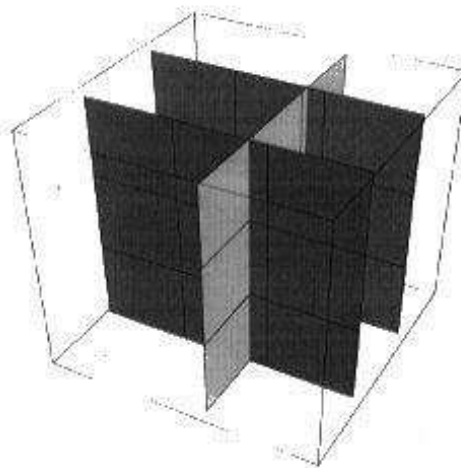
i) The planes intersect in one point. (*one solution*)



ii) The planes intersect in one line. (*infinitely many solutions*)



iii) There is not point in common to all three planes. (*no solution*)



Matrix Representations of Systems

An $m \times n$ matrix is array or table of m rows, n columns of numbers.

EX

$$\begin{aligned}X_1 - 2X_2 + X_3 &= 0 \\2X_2 - 8X_3 &= 8 \\-4X_1 + 5X_2 + 9X_3 &= -9\end{aligned}$$

Coefficient Matrix:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}X_1 & X_2 & X_3 \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 \\ -4 & 5 & 9 \end{array} \right] & \begin{array}{l} EQ1 \\ EQ2 \\ EQ3 \end{array} \end{array}$$

Augmented Matrix

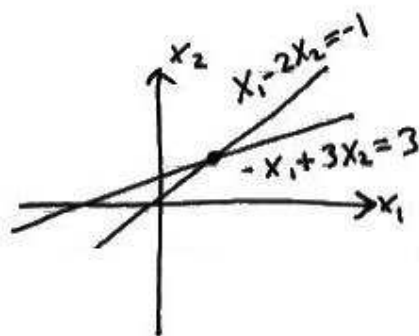
$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 & 8 \\ -4 & 5 & 9 & -9 \end{array} \right]$$

Solving Systems by Elimination

EX:

$$X_1 - 2X_2 = -1$$

$$-X_1 + 3X_2 = 3$$



Adding EQ1 to EQ2:

$$X_1 - 2X_2 = -1$$

$$-X_1 + 3X_2 = 3$$

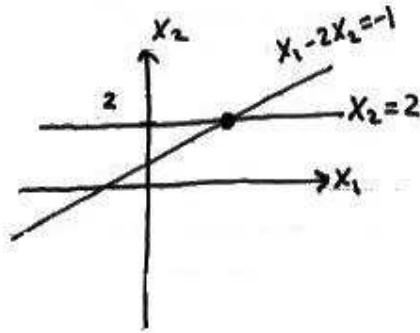
$$\text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

$$0 + X_2 = 2$$

New System:

$$X_1 - 2X_2 = -1$$

$$X_2 = 2$$



2 * EQ2 add:

$$X_1 - 2X_2 = -1$$

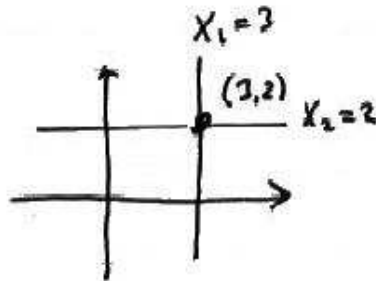
$$2X_2 = 4$$

$$X_1 + 0 = 3$$

New System:

$$X_1 = 3$$

$$X_2 = 2$$



One solution $(3, 2)$

EX:

$$\begin{aligned}X_1 - 2X_2 + X_3 &= 0 \\2X_2 - 8X_3 &= 8 \\-4X_1 + 5X_2 + 9X_3 &= -9\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcll}4 * EQ1 & 4X_1 & -8X_2 & +4X_3 = 0 \\EQ3 & -4X_1 & +5X_2 & +9X_3 = -9 \\& \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\Add & & -3X_2 & +13X_3 = -9\end{array}$$

New System:

$$\begin{aligned}X_1 - 2X_2 + X_3 &= 0 \\2X_2 - 8X_3 &= 8 \\-3X_2 + 13X_3 &= -9\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcll}3 * EQ1 & 6X_2 & -24X_3 & = 24 \\2 * EQ3 & -6X_2 & +26X_3 & = -18 \\& \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\Add & & 2X_3 & = 6\end{array}$$

New System:

$$X_1 - 2X_2 + X_3 = 0$$

$$2X_2 - 8X_3 = 8$$

$$2X_3 = 6$$

$$\begin{array}{rclcl}
 EQ2 & 2X_2 & -8X_3 & = & 8 \\
 4 * EQ3 & & 8X_3 & = & 24 \\
 & \text{---} & \text{---} & & \text{---} \\
 & 2X_2 & & = & 32
 \end{array}$$

New System:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 X_1 - 2X_2 + X_3 & = & 0 \\
 2X_2 & = & 32 \\
 2X_3 & = & 6
 \end{array}$$

...Continue, eliminate X_3 term in EQ1, then eliminate X_2 term in EQ1

Final System:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 X_1 & = & 29 \\
 X_2 & = & 16 \\
 X_3 & = & 3
 \end{array}$$

One solution (29,16,3)

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$$2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & -3 \\ -2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & -3 \\ 0 & (2h+4) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad 2R_1 + R_2$$

$$h = -2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X_1 - 2X_2 = -2 \Rightarrow X_1 = -2 + 2X_2$$

$$0 = 0 \quad \leftarrow X_2 \text{ is arbitrary}$$

$(-2 + 2X_2, X_2)$ Many solutions if $h = -2$

$$h \neq -2$$

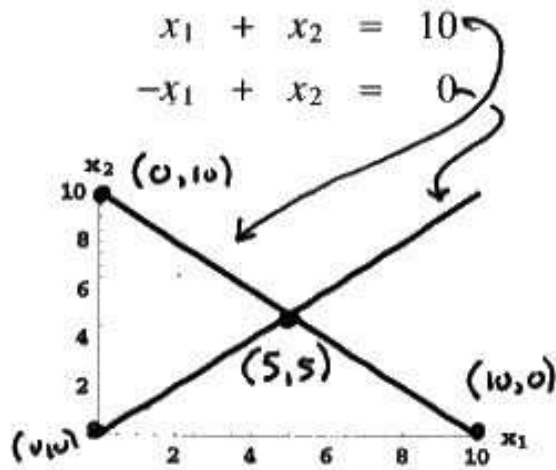
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & -2 \\ 0 & (2h+4) & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X_1 + hX_2 = -2 \rightarrow X_1 = -2$$

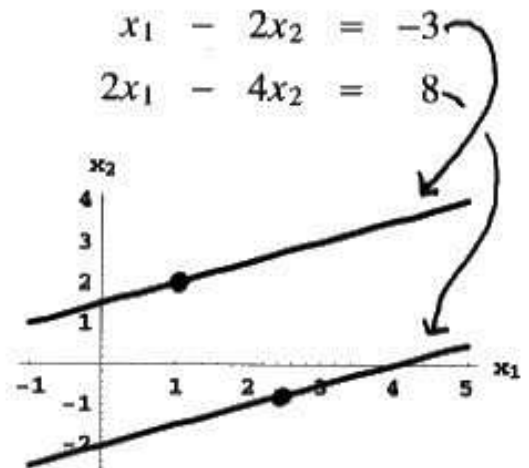
$$(2h+4)X_2 = 0 \Rightarrow X_2 = 0$$

$(-2, 0)$: One unique solution if $h \neq -2$

EXAMPLE Two equations in two variables:

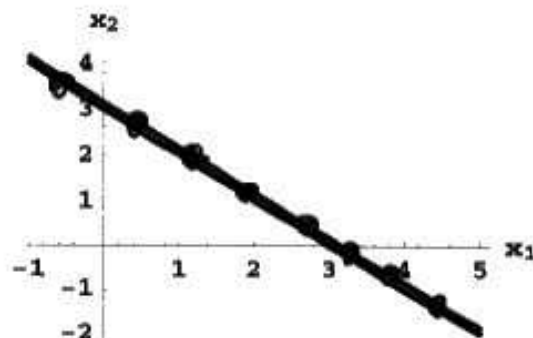


one unique solution



no solution

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 3 \\ -2x_1 - 2x_2 &= -6 \end{aligned}$$



infinitely many solutions

BASIC FACT: A system of linear equations has either

- (i) exactly one solution (*consistent*) or
- (ii) infinitely many solutions (*consistent*) or
- (iii) no solution (*inconsistent*).

Figure 1: