

7.2

Solve Linear Systems by Substitution

Goal • Solve systems of linear equations by substitution.

Your Notes

SOLVING A LINEAR SYSTEM USING THE SUBSTITUTION METHOD

Step 1 _____ one of the equations for one of its variables. When possible, solve for a variable that has a coefficient of ___ or ____.

Step 2 _____ the expression from Step 1 into the other equation and solve for the other variable.

Step 3 _____ the value from Step 2 into the revised equation from Step 1 and solve.

Example 1 Use the substitution method

Solve the linear system: $x = -2y + 2$ Equation 1

$3x + y = 16$ Equation 2

1. _____ for x . Equation 1 is already solved for x .

2. **Substitute** _____ for x in Equation 2 and solve for y .

$$3x + y = 16$$

Write Equation 2.

$$3(\text{_____}) + y = 16$$

Substitute _____ for x .

$$\text{_____} + y = 16$$

Distributive property

$$\text{_____} = 16$$

Simplify.

$$\text{_____} = \text{_____}$$

Subtract _____ from each side.

$$y = \text{_____}$$

Divide each side by _____.

3. **Substitute** _____ for y in the original Equation 1 to find the value of x .

$$x = -2y + 2 = -2(\text{_____}) + 2 = 4 + 2 = \text{_____}$$

The solution is (____, ____).

Remember to check your solution in each of the original equations.

Your Notes

Example 2 Use the substitution method

Solve the linear system: $4x - 2y = 14$ Equation 1

$2x + y = -3$ Equation 2

Solution

1. Solve Equation 2 for y .

$$2x + y = -3$$

Write original Equation 2.

$$y = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Revised Equation 2

2. Substitute $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ for y in Equation 1 and solve for x .

$$4x - 2y = 14$$

Write Equation 1.

$$4x - 2(\underline{\hspace{2cm}}) = 14$$

Substitute $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ for y .

$$4x + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 14$$

Distributive property

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 14$$

Simplify.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Subtract $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ from each side.

$$x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Divide each side by $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$.

3. Substitute $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ for x in the revised Equation 2 to find the value of y .

$$y = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

The solution is $(\underline{\hspace{1cm}}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}})$.

- ✓ **Checkpoint** Solve the linear system using the substitution method.

1. $5x - 4y = -1$

$$y = 6x + 5$$

2. $x + y = 5$

$$7x - 9y = 3$$

Homework