

Algebra 2
Unit: Systems of Equations and Inequalities
Section: Systems of Equations with Three Variables

Flash Cards: Solving Systems of Equations with Three Variables Using Matrices

Directions: Solve the following systems of equations

1.
 $2x + y + z = 7$
 $x + y - z = 4$
 $x = 3y - z$

2.
 $x + y + z = 3$
 $-4x = z$
 $4x + y - z = -8$

3.
 $2x + 3y + z = 21$
 $x + y - z = 5$
 $x = z$

Answers:

1. A three by three matrix with the first row: 2, 1, 1; the second row: 1, 1, negative 1; and the third row: 1, negative 3, 1; times a three by one matrix with terms x, y, z, equals a three by one matrix with terms 7, 4, 0.

x, y, z equals a three by three matrix with the first row: one-fifth, two-fifths, one-fifth; the second row: one-fifth, negative one-tenth, negative three-tenths; and the third row: two-fifths, negative seven-tenths, negative one-tenth; times a three by one matrix with terms 7, 4, 0, equals a three by one matrix with terms 3, 1, 0.

Solution: (3, 1, 0)

2. A three by three matrix with the first row: 1, 1, 1; the second row: negative 4, 0, negative 1; and the third row: 4, 1, negative 1; times a three by one matrix with terms x, y, z, equals a three by one matrix with terms 3, 0, negative 8.

x, y, z equals a three by three matrix with the first row: negative one-eleventh, negative two-eleventh, one-eleventh; the second row: eight-elevenths, five-elevenths, three-elevenths; and the third row: four-elevenths, negative three-elevenths, negative four-elevenths; times a three by one matrix with terms 3, 0, negative 8, equals a three by one matrix with terms negative 1, 0, 4.

Solution: (-1, 0, 4)

3. A three by three matrix with the first row: 2, 3, 1; the second row: 1, 1, negative 1; and the third row: 1, 0, negative 1; times a three by one matrix with terms x, y, z, equals a three by one matrix with terms 21, 5, 0.

x, y, z equals a three by three matrix with the first row: one-third, negative 1, four-thirds; the second row: 0, 1, negative 1; and the third row: one-third, negative 1, one-third; times a three by one matrix with terms 21, 5, 0, equals a three by one matrix with terms 2, 5, 2.
Solution: (2, 5, 2)