

6.2 Notes

Monday, January 26, 2015

Solving Systems of linear equations using linear combinations

you can use this method if...

- 1) Everything is "lined up"
- 2) At least one of the variable pairs must be opposites

- ① Add the 2 equations
- ② solve
- ③ plug it in
- ④ get solution

$$\begin{array}{r} -3x + 2y = 12 \\ 3x - 4y = 8 \\ \hline -2y = 20 \\ \hline y = -10 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -3x + 2(-10) = 12 \\ -3x - 20 = 12 \\ \quad +20 \quad +20 \\ \hline -3x = 32 \\ \hline x = -10.\bar{6} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3x = 32 \\ \hline x = -10.\bar{6} \end{array}$$

$(-10.\bar{6}, -10)$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + 4y = -12 \\ (3x + 2y = 3) \cdot -2 \\ \hline 2x + 4y = -12 \\ -6x - 4y = -6 \\ \hline -4x = -18 \\ \hline x = 4.5 \end{array}$$

combine equations
solve

$$\begin{array}{l} 3(4.5) + 2y = 3 \\ 13.5 + 2y = 3 \\ \quad -13.5 \quad -13.5 \\ \hline 2y = -10.5 \\ \hline y = -5.25 \end{array}$$

plug into one equation
find solution

$(4.5, -5.25)$

$$\begin{array}{r} (5x - 3y = -2) \cdot 4 \\ (7x + 4y = 8) \cdot 3 \\ \hline 20x - 12y = -8 \\ 21x + 12y = 24 \\ \hline 41x = 16 \\ \hline x = 0.39 \end{array}$$

* Now that the y's are opposites, when I combine the two equations, the y's will cancel each other out and I will be able to solve for x

$$\begin{array}{l} 5x - 3y = -2 \\ 5(0.39) - 3y = -2 \\ 1.95 - 3y = -2 \\ \quad -1.95 \quad -1.95 \\ \hline -3y = -3.95 \\ \hline y = 1.32 \end{array}$$

$(0.39, 1.32)$