

I Strategies for Solving a System of Equations

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 2y &= 7 \\ x - 3y &= -5 \end{aligned}$$

A Substitution

① From 2<sup>nd</sup> Equation  $x - 3y = -5 \Rightarrow x = 3y - 5$

② "Plug"  $x = 3y - 5$  into 1<sup>st</sup> equation

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 3(3y - 5) + 2y &= 7 \Rightarrow 9y - 15 + 2y = 7 \\ \Rightarrow 11y &= 22 \Rightarrow \boxed{y = 2} \end{aligned}$$

③ Now find  $x \Rightarrow x = 3y - 5 = 3(2) - 5 = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{x = 1}$

B) Gaussian Elimination

$$\begin{aligned} 3x + 2y &= 7 \\ x - 3y &= -5 \end{aligned}$$

① Make a variable "go away", i.e. multiply equation 2 by 3 and subtract equation 2 from equation 1

$$\left. \begin{array}{r} 3x + 2y = 7 \\ - (3x - 9y = -15) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow 11y = 22 \Rightarrow \boxed{y = 2}, \Rightarrow \text{find 'x'}$$

## C. Using Augmented Matrix

① Rewrite System as Augmented Matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 2 & 7 \\ 1 & -3 & -5 \end{array} \right]$$

coefficients of x and y      right hand side of equations

② We want to do row operations that will end in this matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & b \end{array} \right]$$

this will be the answer

③ Legal Row Operations are:

- (i) multiply row by non-zero scalar
- (ii) linearly combine rows
- (iii) swap rows.

$$(4) \quad \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{3} & 2 & 7 \\ 1 & -3 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \quad R1/3 \quad (\text{i.e. make } \overset{\text{circled}}{\text{element a 1}})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2/3 & 7/3 \\ \textcircled{1} & -3 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \quad R2-R1 \quad (\text{i.e. make circled element a zero})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2/3 & 7/3 \\ 0 & \textcircled{-11/3} & -22/3 \end{bmatrix} \quad R2 \times -\frac{3}{11} \quad (\text{i.e. make circled element a '1'})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \textcircled{2/3} & 7/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad R1 - 2/3 R2 \quad (\text{i.e. make circled element a '0'})$$

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

↑↑  
answer!!  $x=1, y=2$

## II Example 12. (APP 11)

$$2x + 6y + z = 7$$

$$x + 2y - z = -1$$

$$5x + 7y - 4z = 9$$

STEPS

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{2} & \textcircled{6} & \textcircled{1} & 7 \\ \textcircled{1} & \boxed{2} & \textcircled{-1} & -1 \\ \textcircled{5} & \textcircled{7} & \boxed{-4} & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\square \Rightarrow$  make these elements '1'

$\textcircled{\phantom{x}} \Rightarrow$  make these elements '0'

### III Finally by Calculator (RREF Function)

$$\text{RREF}([2, 6, 1, 7; 1, 2, -1, -1; 5, 7, -4, 9])$$

↑  
brackets  
indicate  
matrix

↑  
semi-colon  
separates  
rows of  
matrix