

Two Equations in Two Variables (section 9.1)

We consider a system of two linear equations in two variables

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= e \\cx + dy &= f\end{aligned}$$

We can try to solve this system using substitution, elimination, or graphing.

Two Equations in Two Variables

Theorem: Let $a, b, c, d, e,$ and f be fixed constants. The system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}ax + by &= e \\cx + dy &= f\end{aligned}$$

satisfies one of three cases:

- ▶ It has exactly one solution.
- ▶ It has infinitely many solutions.
- ▶ It has no solutions.

If the system has a solution (first two cases), it is called **consistent**. If it has no solutions, it is called **inconsistent**.

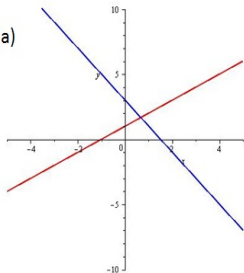
Consistent and Inconsistent Systems

Consistent Independent: A system is called this when it has exactly one solution. Graphically, two lines intersect in one point.

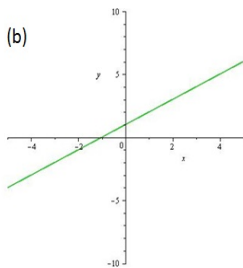
Consistent Dependent: A system is called this when it has infinitely many solutions. Graphically, the equations define the same line. All points on that line represent solutions.

Inconsistent: A system is called this when it has no solutions. Graphically, the equations define distinct, parallel lines.

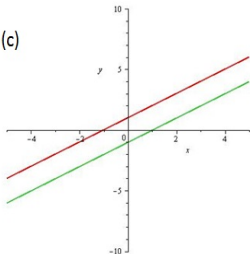
(a)



(b)



(c)



Graphical Illustration of Solution Cases

(a) $x - y = -1$ One solution case.
 $2x + y = 3$ Intersecting lines

(b) $x - y = -1$ Infinitely many solutions.
 $2x - 2y = -2$ One line

(c) $x - y = -1$ No solutions case.
 $2x - 2y = 2$ Parallel lines

Example

Determine if the system is consistent. If so, characterize the solution.

$$2x + y = 3$$

$$x + \frac{1}{2}y = \frac{3}{2}$$

using substitution

$$2x + y = 3 \Rightarrow y = 3 - 2x$$

Subbing in

$$x + \frac{1}{2}(3 - 2x) = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$x + \frac{3}{2} - x = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

this is always true!

This system is consistent, dependent.

The solutions are all the points on the

line $y = -2x + 3$ (we got this from
the 1st equation)

Question

Consider the system of equations

$$x - y = 3$$

$$3x + y = 5$$

$$x = 3 + y$$

$$3(3 + y) + y = 5$$

$$9 + 3y + y = 5$$

$$4y = -4 \quad y = -1$$

$$x = 3 + (-1) = 2$$

(a) This is consistent, independent with solutions (4, 1).

(b) This is consistent, independent with solutions (2, -1).

(c) This is consistent, dependent with infinitely many solutions.

(d) This is inconsistent.

Circles (Back to Section 1.1)

Definition: A **circle** is the set of all points in a plane equidistant from a fixed point called the center. The fixed distance is called the **radius**.

Equation of a circle: If the point (h, k) is the center of a circle of radius r in the Cartesian plane, then the set of points (x, y) on the circle satisfy

$$(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2.$$

The above is referred to as the **standard form** of the equation of the circle.

Question

$$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$$

The equation

$$(x-2)^2 + y^2 = 5$$

defines a circle with

$$(x-2)^2 + (y-0)^2 = (\sqrt{5})^2$$

(a) center $(-2, 0)$ and radius 5

(b) center $(0, 2)$ and radius $\sqrt{5}$

(c) center $(2, 0)$ and radius $\sqrt{5}$

(d) center $(2, 0)$ and radius 25

Example

Plot the circle whose points (x, y) satisfy the equation

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2x + 4y - 4 = 0$$

We need to know the center (h, k) and radius r .
We'll complete the square to write this as

$$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$$

$$x^2 - 2x + y^2 + 4y = 4$$



Complete the squares

add 1 add 4

$$x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 + 4y + 4 = 4 + 1 + 4$$

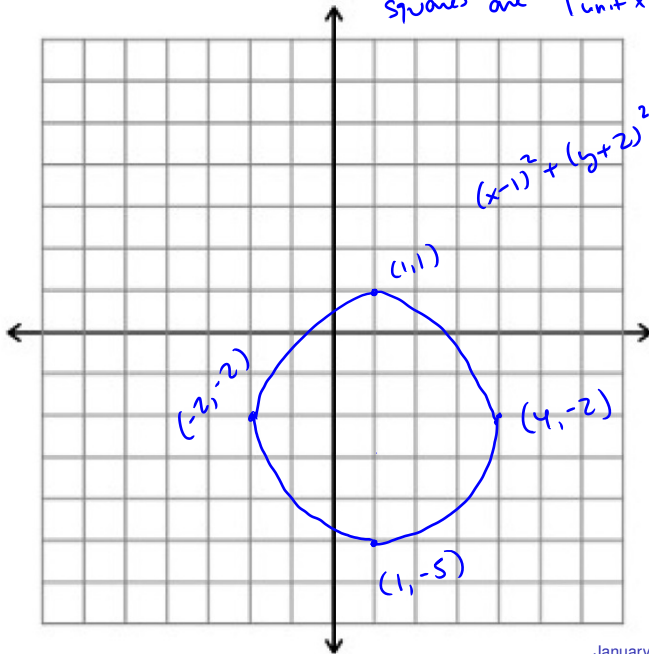
$$(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 9$$

$$(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 3^2$$

$$h=1 \quad k=-2 \quad r=3$$

Center $(1, -2)$ radius 3

Squares are 1 unit x 1 unit



$$(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 3^2$$

$(-2, -2)$

$(1, 1)$

$(4, -2)$

$(1, -5)$