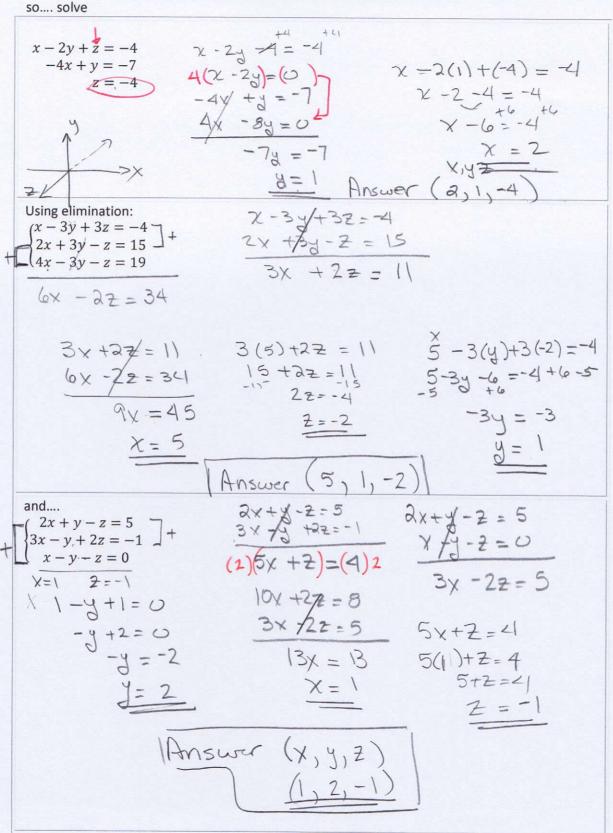
Algebra 2

Lesson Ch4: Matrices – Solving systems of 3 Variables By Hand Mrs. Snow, Instructor

All systems of 3 equations would be really nice to solve if they were all like:



Gaussian Elimination

Gaussian Elimination (aka row echelon form) is an effective algorithm (a step by step procedure for calculations) that may be used to reduce systems of 3 equations into a triangular shaped form:

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

$$-4x + y = -7$$

$$z = -4$$

In a college level algebra class you would learn how to perform Gaussian elimination to a matrix, in this class we will work with systems of equations. We saw last class that systems are easily converted to matrix equations.

To perform Gaussian Elimination on a system of equations, one uses a sequence of elementary row operations to modify the system until the last row of the system is a variable equal to a number, the second row is 2 variables equal to a number and the 1st row is 3 variables equal to a number.

There are three types of elementary row operations:

- 1) Swapping two rows,
- 2) Multiplying a row by a non-zero number, and
- 3) Adding a multiple of one row to another row.



NOTE: You will <u>use one row to change another</u> without actually changing the one row. For example: Below we will add – 4 times row 3 to row 2 so to change row 2.

Let's put the words to a problem:

y-27=-1 -3x+4y-2=-2 (-3x + 4y - z = -2)(5y-102)=5(5) R2 4-22=-1 $3R, \rightarrow R_3$ X-29+32=4 y -2 =-1 - 4 +42 = 5 3x-6y +92=12 -3x +4y-2=-2 R2+R3 X +2y +3Z=4 (1) -2y +82=10 2 -y +42=5 y-27=-1 7=2 9-2(2)=-1 y-2-=-1 /y+4z=5 y-4=-1+4 8=3 X-2(3)+3(2)=4 22 = 4 $\frac{2}{z} = 2$ (4,3,2)