

Section 5.2 – Solving Systems of Non-Linear Equations Algebraically

This booklet belongs to: _____ Block: _____

- When solving system of non-linear equations, we can use similar strategies as linear
- The most straightforward way of doing this is to use the concept of equality

$$\text{If } a = b \quad \text{and} \quad a = c \quad \text{then} \quad b = c$$

- We can use this concept to simplify the systems of equations by:
 - Writing both equations in **terms of one variable**
 - Setting them **equal to one another**
 - Solving for the **given variable**
 - **Substituting** back into the equation to solve for the remaining variable
 - Check our solution

Example 1: Solve the system: $y = x^2 - 3x - 4$ and $2x - y = 4$

Solution 1: Since one is already in terms of y , rearrange the other to also be in terms of y

$$2x - y = 4 \quad \rightarrow \quad y = 2x - 4$$

- Now since they are both equal to y we can set them equal to each other and solve for x

$$y = x^2 - 3x - 4 \quad \text{and} \quad y = 2x - 4 \quad (\text{Since they both equal } y, \text{ set them equal to each other})$$

Solve for x first:

$$2x - 4 = x^2 - 3x - 4 \quad \rightarrow \quad x^2 - 5x = 0$$

$$x^2 - 5x = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad x(x - 5) = 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 5$$

Now solve for y

$$y = 2x - 4 \qquad y = 2x - 4$$

$$y = 2(0) - 4 \qquad y = 2(5) - 4$$

$$y = -4 \qquad y = 6$$

Check:

$$y = x^2 - 3x - 4$$

$$-4 = (0)^2 - 3(0) - 4$$

$$-4 = -4$$

$$y = x^2 - 3x - 4$$

$$6 = (5)^2 - 3(5) - 4$$

$$6 = 6$$

System has Solutions:

(0, -4) and (5, 6)

Example 2: Solve the system: $y = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x - 3$ and $y = x - 2$

Solution 2: Since they are both already in terms of y , set them equal to each other and solve for x

Solve for x first:

$$x - 2 = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x - 3 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + 1 = 0 \quad (\text{Does not Factor})$$

$$x^2 - 2x + 2 = 0 \quad (\text{Multiply by the LCM})$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \rightarrow x = \frac{-(-2) \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(2)}}{2(1)} \quad \text{Use the Quadratic Equation}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = \emptyset$$

The line and parabola **do not intersect**. There are **No Real Solutions**.

Example 3: Solve the system: $y = x^2 - 3x - 4$ and $2x - y = 3$

Solution 3: Since one is already in terms of y , rearrange the other to also be in terms of y

$$2x - y = 3 \rightarrow y = 2x - 3$$

Now since they are both equal to y we can set them equal to each other and solve for x

$$y = x^2 - 3x - 4 \text{ and } y = 2x - 3 \quad \text{Since they both equal } y, \text{ set them equal to each other}$$

Solve for x first:

$$2x - 3 = x^2 - 3x - 4 \rightarrow x^2 - 5x - 1 = 0 \quad (\text{Does not factor})$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \rightarrow x = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)} \quad \text{Use the Quadratic Equation}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{29}}{2}$$

Now solve for y

$$y = 2x - 3 \quad y = 2x - 3$$

$$y = 2\left(\frac{5 + \sqrt{29}}{2}\right) - 3 \quad y = 2\left(\frac{5 - \sqrt{29}}{2}\right) - 3$$

$$y = 5 + \sqrt{29} - 3 \quad y = 5 - \sqrt{29} - 3$$

$$y = 2 + \sqrt{29} \quad y = 2 - \sqrt{29}$$

System has Solutions:

$$\left(\frac{5 + \sqrt{29}}{2}, 2 + \sqrt{29}\right) \text{ and } \left(\frac{5 - \sqrt{29}}{2}, 2 - \sqrt{29}\right)$$

Example 4: Solve the system: $y = x^2 - x - 3$ and $y = 2x^2 - x + 7$

Solution 4: Since they are both already in terms of y , set them equal to each other and solve for x

Solve for x first:

$$2x^2 - x + 7 = x^2 - x - 3$$

$$x^2 = -10 \quad (\text{Does not Factor})$$

$$x = \emptyset$$

The line and parabola **do not intersect**. There are **No Real Solutions**.

Example 5: Solve the system: $x^2 - 4x + y + 1 = 0$ and $2x^2 - 2x - y + 2 = 0$

Solution 5: Even though they are both equal to zero, set them both equal to y to eliminate one variable

$$x^2 - 4x + y + 1 = 0 \rightarrow y = -x^2 + 4x - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 2x^2 - 2x - y + 2 = 0 \rightarrow y = 2x^2 - 2x + 2$$

Now since they are both equal to y we can set them equal to each other and solve for x

$$y = -x^2 + 4x - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y = 2x^2 - 2x + 2 \quad (\text{Since they both equal } y, \text{ set them equal to each other})$$

Solve for x first:

$$-x^2 + 4x - 1 = 2x^2 - 2x + 2 \rightarrow 3x^2 - 6x + 3 = 0$$

$$3(x^2 - 2x + 1) = 0 \rightarrow 3(x - 1)(x - 1) = 0$$

$$x = 1$$

Now solve for y

$$(1)^2 - 4(1) + y + 1 = 0$$

$$1 - 4 + y + 1 = 0$$

$$y = 2$$

Check:

$$2(1)^2 - 2(1) - 2 + 2 = 0$$

$$2 - 2 - 2 + 2 = 0$$

System has Solutions:

$$(1, 2)$$

Section 5.2 – Practice Problems

Find all the real solutions of the system of equations

1. $2x^2 - y = 1$ and $y = 5x + 2$

2. $x^2 - y = 3$ and $y = 3x + 7$

3. $x^2 = 2y$ and $y = x - \frac{1}{2}$

4. $x^2 + y = 4$ and $1 = 2x + y$

5. $3x^2 - 10y = 5$ and $x - y = -2$

6. $2x^2 - 3y = 2$ and $x - 2y = -2$

7. $x^2 + 2y = -2$ and $-2x + y = 1$

8. $x + y = 2$ and $y = 1 - x^2$

9. $y = x^2 - x$ and $y = 2x$

10. $y = x^2 - 6x$ and $y = x - 12$

11. $y = x^2 + 8x - 10$ and $y = 3x + 4$

12. $x^2 = y$ and $1 = 2x - y$

13. $x^2 + y = 9$ and $16 = 3x + 2y$

14. $x^2 - y = 10$ and $2x - 3y = -10$

15. $y = x^2$ and $x + y = 3$

16. $y + 2x^2 - 2 = 0$ and $3y - x - 3 = 0$

17. $y - x^2 = 0$ and $x^2 - 2x + y = 6$

18. $2x^2 + y = 9$ and $y - x^2 - 5x = 1$

19. Find all the points of intersection of the parabola $y = x^2 - 4x + 2$ and the x - axis

20. Find all the points of intersection of the parabola $y = 75x^2 - 33x + 157$ and the y - axis

Answer Key – Section 5.2

1. $(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}), (3, 17)$	11. $(-7, -17), (2, 10)$
2. $(5, 22), (-2, 1)$	12. $(1, 1)$
3. $(1, \frac{1}{2})$	13. $(2, 5), (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{35}{4})$
4. $(3, -5), (-1, 3)$	14. $(4, 6), (-\frac{10}{3}, \frac{10}{9})$
5. $(5, 7), (-\frac{5}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$	15. $(\frac{-1+\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{7-\sqrt{13}}{2}), (\frac{-1-\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{7+\sqrt{13}}{2})$
6. $(2, 2), (-\frac{5}{4}, \frac{3}{8})$	16. $(\frac{-1+\sqrt{73}}{12}, \frac{35+\sqrt{73}}{36}), (\frac{-1-\sqrt{73}}{12}, \frac{35-\sqrt{73}}{36})$
7. $(-2, -3)$	17. $(\frac{1+\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{7+\sqrt{13}}{2}), (\frac{1-\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{7-\sqrt{13}}{2})$
8. <i>No Solution</i>	18. $(-\frac{8}{3}, -\frac{47}{9}), (1, 7)$
9. $(0, 0), (3, 6)$	19. $(2 + \sqrt{2}, 0), (2 - \sqrt{2}, 0)$
10. $(3, -9), (4, -8)$	20. $(0, 157)$

Extra Work Space