

Simultaneous Equations:1 Elimination.

Ex. 1.

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$\begin{aligned} x+y &= 8 \rightarrow 1 \\ x-y &= 4 \rightarrow 2 \end{aligned}$$

① - ②

$$\begin{array}{r} x+y=8 \\ -x-y=4 \\ \hline 0+2y=4 \end{array}$$

$$2y = 4$$

$$y = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

$$x+2=8$$

$$x=6$$

Ex. 2

Use elimination to solve the simultaneous equations

Step 1:

$$\begin{aligned} 7x+4y &= 17 \rightarrow ① \rightarrow 3 \\ 3x+2y &= 11 \rightarrow ② \rightarrow 7 \end{aligned}$$

Step 1:

$$\begin{array}{r} 21x+12y=51 \\ -21x-14y=77 \\ \hline 0 \quad 26y=-26 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Step 3: } y = \frac{-26}{26} = -1$$

$$\boxed{y=-1}$$

Step 4

$$7x+4(-1)=17$$

$$7x=17+4$$

$$x = \frac{21}{7} = \boxed{3}$$

Use elimination:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 6x - 15y & = & -1 \rightarrow \textcircled{1} \\ 9x + 20y & = & 7 \rightarrow \textcircled{2} \end{array}$$

Step 1: $\textcircled{1} \times 3$
 $\textcircled{2} \times 2$

Step 2:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 18x - 45y & = & -3 \\ -18x + 40y & = & 14 \\ \hline 0 - 5y & = & -17 \end{array}$$

Step 3: $y = \frac{-17}{-5} = \frac{17}{5}$

Step 4: x

Use Substitution:

Use substitution to solve the simultaneous equations

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2x - 5y & = & 4 \rightarrow \textcircled{1} \\ x + y & = & -5 \rightarrow \textcircled{2} \end{array}$$

Step 1: Rearrange eq.

$$y = -5 - x \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

Step 2:

$$2x - 5y = 4$$

$$2x - 5(-5 - x) = 4$$

$$2x + 25 + 5x = 4$$

$$x =$$

$$y =$$

Linear Simultaneous Equations – Elimination

What are simultaneous linear equations?

- When you have more than one equation in more than one unknown, then you are dealing with **simultaneous equations**
- An equation is **linear** if none of the unknowns in it is raised to a power other than one
- Solving a **pair of simultaneous equations** means finding **pairs of values** that make **both equations true** at the same time
- A linear equation in two unknowns will produce a straight line if you graph it... linear = line
- A pair of simultaneous equations will produce lines that will cross each other (if there is a solution!)

How do I use elimination to solve simultaneous linear equations?

Step 1: Multiply one (or both) of the equations by a constant (or constants) to get the numbers in front of **one** of the unknowns to match

Step 2: If the matching numbers have the **same** sign, then **subtract** one equation from the other. If the matching numbers have **different** signs then **add** the equations together

Step 3: Solve the new equation from Step 2 to find the value of one of the unknowns

Step 4: Substitute the value from Step 3 into one of the original equations, and solve to find the value of the other unknown

Step 5: Check your solution by substituting the values for the two unknowns into the original equation you **didn't** use in Step 4

Worked example



Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$-2x + 4y = 5$$

$$4x - 5y = -7$$

LABEL THE
EQUATIONS

$$-2x + 4y = 5 \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$4x - 5y = -7 \quad \textcircled{2}$$

STEP 1: $[2 \times \textcircled{1}] \quad -4x + 8y = 10$
 $[\textcircled{2}] \quad 4x - 5y = -7$

WE ONLY HAVE TO
MULTIPLY ONE OF THE
EQUATIONS HERE

STEP 2:
$$\begin{array}{r} -4x + 8y = 10 \\ + (4x - 5y = -7) \\ \hline 3y = 3 \end{array}$$

THE SIGNS IN FRONT OF
THE 4's ARE DIFFERENT,
SO ADD

STEP 3: $y = 3 \div 3 = 1$

STEP 4:
$$\begin{array}{l} 4x - 5(1) = -7 \\ 4x = -2 \\ x = -0.5 \end{array}$$

USING EQUATION $\textcircled{2}$

STEP 5:
$$\begin{array}{l} -2(-0.5) + 4(1) = 5 \\ 1 + 4 = 5 \\ 5 = 5 \checkmark \\ x = -0.5 \quad y = 1 \end{array}$$

USING EQUATION $\textcircled{1}$

Linear Simultaneous Equations – Substitution

What are simultaneous linear equations?

- When you have more than one equation in more than one unknown, then you are dealing with **simultaneous equations**
- An equation is **linear** if none of the unknowns in it is raised to a power other than one
- Solving a **pair of simultaneous equations** means finding **pairs of values** that make **both equations true** at the same time
- A linear equation in two unknowns will produce a straight line if you graph it... linear = line
- A pair of simultaneous equations will produce lines that will cross each other (if there is a solution!)

How do I use substitution to solve simultaneous linear equations?

Step 1: Rearrange one of the equations to make one of the unknowns the subject (if one of the equations is already in this form you can skip to Step 2)

Step 2: Substitute the expression found in Step 1 into the equation not used in Step 1

Step 3: Solve the new equation from Step 2 to find the value of one of the unknowns

Step 4: Substitute the value from Step 3 into the rearranged equation from Step 1 to find the value of the other unknown

Step 5: **Check** your solution by substituting the values for the two unknowns into the original equation you **didn't** rearrange in Step 1

Worked example



Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$3x + 5y = -9$$

$$y = 1 - 9x$$

LABEL THE
EQUATIONS

$$3x + 5y = -9 \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$y = 1 - 9x \quad \textcircled{2}$$

y IS ALREADY THE SUBJECT
OF EQUATION ②, SO WE
CAN SKIP STEP 1

STEP 2: $3x + 5(1 - 9x) = -9$
 $3x + 5 - 45x = -9$
 $-42x = -14$

SUBSTITUTE EQUATION ②
INTO EQUATION ①

STEP 3: $x = -14 \div (-42) = \frac{1}{3}$

STEP 4: $y = 1 - 9(\frac{1}{3}) = 1 - 3 = -2$

USING EQUATION ②

STEP 5: $3(\frac{1}{3}) + 5(-2) = -9$
 $1 - 10 = -9$
 $-9 = -9 \checkmark$

USING EQUATION ①

$$x = \frac{1}{3} \quad y = -2$$