

Solving a simple system using the method of substitution.

Example:

$$\text{Eq1.: } y=4x$$

$$\text{Eq2.: } x+y=10$$

1) In Eq2., replace y with the $4x$ because that is how it's defined in Eq1.

$$x+(4x)=10 \quad \text{Replace } y \text{ with } 4x$$

$$x + 4x=10 \quad \text{Drop the parenthesis.}$$

$$5x=10 \quad \text{Add } 1x \text{ and } 4x \text{ to get } 5x \text{ on the left}$$

$$x=2 \quad \text{Divide both sides by } 5 \text{ to get } x=2$$

2) Now we can use Eq1., which is $y=4x$, to find the value of y .

$$y=4(2)=8 \quad \text{Replace } x \text{ with } 2 \text{ to get that } y=8$$

3) This means that point $(2,8)$ solves the system.

Check:

$$\text{Eq1.: } y=4x$$

$$\text{Eq2.: } x+y=10$$

Let's confirm that the point $(2,8)$ solves the system.

1) Check the first equation. 2) Check the second equation.

$$8=2 \cdot 4$$

$$8=8$$

$$2+8=10$$

$$10=10$$

So this confirms that the point $(2,8)$ solves the system.

Solving a simple system using the method of substitution.

Example:

Eq1.: $y = x + 1$

Eq2.: $x + 2y = 10$

1) Replace y in the second equation with the expression $x + 1$

1a) $x + 2(x + 1) = 10$ This is the step of substitution

1b) $x + 2x + 2 = 10$ Distribute the 2 into the parenthesis on the left.

1c) $3x + 2 = 10$ Combine like terms on the left side.

1d) $3x = 10 - 2$ Subtract 2 from both sides

$$3x = 8$$

1e) $x = \frac{8}{3}$ Divide both sides by 3 to get the final result for x .

2) Now we can use Eq1. to find the corresponding value of y .

2a) $y = \frac{8}{3} + 1$ Replace x with $\frac{8}{3}$ in Eq1.

$$= \frac{8}{3} + \frac{3}{3}$$

Change the number 1 into $\frac{3}{3}$ so you can add easily

$$= \frac{11}{3}$$

3) So now we can say that the point $\left(\frac{8}{3}, \frac{11}{3}\right)$ solves the system

Example:

$$\text{Eq1.: } x+y=2$$

$$\text{Eq2.: } 2x+y=10$$

1) Solve Eq1. for x or y . It doesn't matter. So we choose x .

1a) $x+y=2$ Original equation

1b) $x=2-y$ Subtract y from both sides

2) In Eq2., replace x with the expression $2-y$.

2a) $2(2-y)+y=10$ This is the step of substitution.

2b) $4-2y+y=10$ Distribute the 2 into the parenthesis

2c) $4-y=10$ Combine like terms on the left side

2d) $-y=6$ Subtract 4 from both sides

2e) $y=-6$ Divide both sides by -1 to get $y=-6$

3) Now that we know y , we have to solve for x . We can do this by making use of equation 1b), which says $x=2-y$
 $x=2-(-6)=2+6=8$ Replace y with -6 and simplify to get x

4) At this point, we can say the point $(8,-6)$ solves the system.