

## Solving Simultaneous Equations with Matrix Mathematics

Given a set of three equations with three unknowns, we could solve for the unknowns through a process of substitution and elimination using algebra. For situations with a small number of simultaneous equations, we can also use matrix mathematics to solve for the unknowns.

Consider the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}4x + y - z &= 10 \\-x + 3y + 2z &= 4 \\x - y - z &= -1\end{aligned}$$

This system can be represented by three matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can then write the system of equations:

$$AX = B$$

We know from matrix mathematics that a matrix times its inverse yields the identity matrix:

$$A^{-1}A = I$$

Multiplying both sides of the system by  $A^{-1}$  we get:

$$A^{-1}AX = A^{-1}B \text{ or } X = A^{-1}B$$

Use the matrix inverse function `inv` in MATLAB or the `numpy.linalg.inv` or `scipy.linalg.inv` in Python to solve this system of equations using this approach.