

## 5.2 - Systems of Linear Equations in Three Variables.

Ex ①

$$\begin{cases} 3y - z = 5 \\ 2x + y + z = 9 \\ x + 2y + 2z = 3 \end{cases}$$

Step 1: Interchange eqns to get the first eqn with a coeff. of 1 on  $x$ .

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y + 2z = 3 \\ 2x + y + z = 9 \\ 3y - z = 5 \end{cases}$$

Step 2: Eliminate  $x$  terms from 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> eqn.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + y + z = 9 \\ + (-2)(x + 2y + 2z = 3) \\ \hline 0x - 3y - 3z = 3 \end{array}$$

add multiple of 1<sup>st</sup> eqn to 2<sup>nd</sup> eqn to get a new 2<sup>nd</sup> eqn.

So

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y + 2z = 3 \\ -3y - 3z = 3 \\ 3y - z = 5 \end{cases}$$

→ Now get a coeff. of 1 on  $y$  in 2<sup>nd</sup> eqn.

Mult. 2<sup>nd</sup> eqn by  $-\frac{1}{3}$ :

$$\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)(-3y - 3z = 3) \rightarrow y + z = -1$$

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y + 2z = 3 \\ y + z = -1 \\ 3y - z = 5 \end{cases}$$

Step 3: Eliminate  $y$  from 3<sup>rd</sup> eqn.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3y - z = 5 \\ + (-3)(y + z = -1) \\ \hline 0y - 4z = 8 \\ -4z = 8 \\ \boxed{z = -2} \end{array}$$

Step 4: Plug  $z$  into 2<sup>nd</sup> eqn to find  $y$ :

$$\begin{array}{r} y + z = -1 \\ y + (-2) = -1 \\ \boxed{y = 1} \end{array}$$

Step 5: Plug  $y$  &  $z$  into 1<sup>st</sup> eqn to find  $x$ :

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 2y + 2z = 3 \\ x + 2(1) + 2(-2) = 3 \\ x - 2 = 3 \\ \boxed{x = 5} \end{array}$$