Finally, using the third row of the table, we get

$$\frac{1}{4}x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_2 + \frac{1}{4}x_3 = x_3$$

These equations can be rewritten as a homogeneous system:

$$\begin{aligned} -\tfrac{1}{2}x_1 + \tfrac{1}{3}x_2 + \tfrac{1}{2}x_3 &= 0 \\ \tfrac{1}{4}x_1 - \tfrac{2}{3}x_2 + \tfrac{1}{4}x_3 &= 0 \\ \tfrac{1}{4}x_1 + \tfrac{1}{3}x_2 - \tfrac{3}{4}x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix for this system is

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -\frac{5}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

There is one free variable: x_3. Setting $x_3 = 3$, we obtain the solution $(5, 3, 3)$, and the general solution consists of all multiples of $(5, 3, 3)$. It follows that the variables x_1, x_2, and x_3 should be assigned values in the ratio

$$x_1 : x_2 : x_3 = 5 : 3 : 3$$

This simple system is an example of the closed Leontief input–output model. Leontief's models are fundamental to our understanding of economic systems. Modern applications would involve thousands of industries and lead to very large linear systems.

SECTION 2 EXERCISES

1. Which of the matrices that follow are in row echelon form? Which are in reduced row echelon form?

(a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (d) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(e) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ (f) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

(g) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ (h) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

2. The augmented matrices that follow are in row echelon form. For each case, indicate whether the corresponding linear system is consistent. If the system has a unique solution, find it.

(a) $\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right]$ (b) $\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

(c) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

(d) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -2 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array}\right]$

(e) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right]$

(f) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 3 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

3. The augmented matrices that follow are in reduced row echelon form. In each case, find the solution set of the corresponding linear system.

(a) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array}\right]$ (b) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right]$

(c) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

(d) $\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \end{array}\right]$

(e) $\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 5 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

(f) $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$

4. For each of the systems in Exercise 3, make a list of the lead variables and a second list of the free variables.

5. For each of the systems of equations that follow, use Gaussian elimination to obtain an equivalent system whose coefficient matrix is in row echelon form. Indicate whether the system is consistent. If the system is consistent and involves no free variables, use back substitution to find the unique solution. If the system is consistent and there are free variables, transform it to reduced row echelon form and find all solutions.

(a) $\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 &= 9 \end{aligned}$ (b) $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - 3x_2 &= 5 \\ -4x_1 + 6x_2 &= 8 \end{aligned}$

(c) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 &= 0 \\ 3x_1 - 2x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

(d) $\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 &= 4 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\ 11x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 14 \end{aligned}$

(e) $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 3 \\ 3x_1 + 4x_2 + 2x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$

(f) $\begin{aligned} x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 &= 4 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 &= 1 \\ 7x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_3 &= 7 \end{aligned}$

(g) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 - x_4 &= 2 \\ 3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 5 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 - x_3 - x_4 &= 4 \end{aligned}$

(h) $\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 &= 1 \\ -5x_1 + 8x_2 &= 4 \end{aligned}$

(i) $\begin{aligned} -x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 &= 2 \\ -2x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 4 \\ 3x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= 5 \\ -3x_1 + 8x_2 + 5x_3 &= 17 \end{aligned}$

(j) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 - 3x_3 + x_4 &= 1 \\ -x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 - x_4 &= 6 \\ -2x_1 - 4x_2 + 7x_3 - x_4 &= 1 \end{aligned}$

(k) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 + 2x_4 &= 8 \\ x_1 - 5x_2 \qquad + x_4 &= 5 \end{aligned}$

(l) $\begin{aligned} x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &= 2 \\ x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 &= 1 \\ 5x_1 - 8x_2 + 2x_3 &= 5 \end{aligned}$

6. Use Gauss–Jordan reduction to solve each of the following systems:

(a) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= -1 \\ 4x_1 - 3x_2 &= 3 \end{aligned}$

(b) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 + 2x_4 &= 8 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 &= -1 \end{aligned}$

(c) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 - x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

(d) $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + 3x_4 &= 0 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

7. Give a geometric explanation of why a homogeneous linear system consisting of two equations in three unknowns must have infinitely many solutions. What are the possible numbers of solutions of a nonhomogeneous 2×3 linear system? Give a geometric explanation of your answer.

8. Consider a linear system whose augmented matrix is of the form

$$\left(\begin{array}{rrr|r} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & a & 3 \end{array}\right)$$

For what values of a will the system have a unique solution?

9. Consider a linear system whose augmented matrix is of the form

$$\left(\begin{array}{rrr|r} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & \beta & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

(a) Is it possible for the system to be inconsistent? Explain.

(b) For what values of β will the system have infinitely many solutions?

10. Consider a linear system whose augmented matrix is of the form

$$\left(\begin{array}{rrr|r} 1 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & a & b \end{array}\right)$$

(a) For what values of a and b will the system have infinitely many solutions?

(b) For what values of a and b will the system be inconsistent?

11. Given the linear systems

(a) $x_1 + 2x_2 = 2$
$3x_1 + 7x_2 = 8$

(b) $x_1 + 2x_2 = 1$
$3x_1 + 7x_2 = 7$

solve both systems by incorporating the right-hand sides into a 2 × 2 matrix B and computing the reduced row echelon form of

$$(A\,|\,B) = \left(\begin{array}{rr|rr} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 7 & 8 & 7 \end{array}\right)$$

12. Given the linear systems

(a)
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 2 \\ -x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 \qquad &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

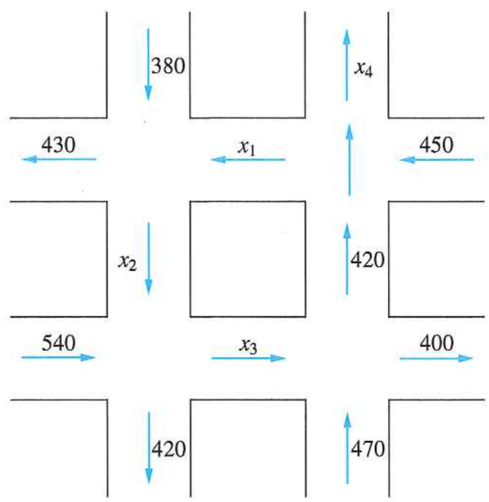
(b)
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= -1 \\ -x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 &= 2 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 \qquad &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

solve both systems by computing the row echelon form of an augmented matrix $(A\,|\,B)$ and performing back substitution twice.

13. Given a homogeneous system of linear equations, if the system is overdetermined, what are the possibilities as to the number of solutions? Explain.

14. Given a nonhomogeneous system of linear equations, if the system is underdetermined, what are the possibilities as to the number of solutions? Explain.

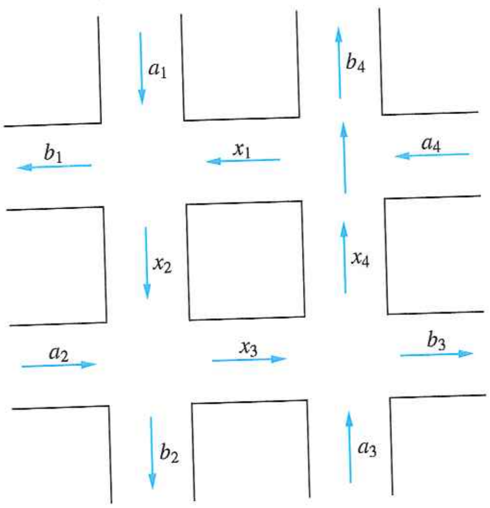
15. Determine the values of x_1, x_2, x_3, and x_4 for the following traffic flow diagram:



16. Consider the traffic flow diagram that follows, where $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4$ are fixed positive integers. Set up a linear system in the unknowns x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 and show that the system will be consistent if and only if

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 = b_1 + b_2 + b_3 + b_4$$

What can you conclude about the number of automobiles entering and leaving the traffic network?



17. Let (c_1, c_2) be a solution of the 2×2 system

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = 0$$
$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 = 0$$

Show that, for any real number α, the ordered pair $(\alpha c_1, \alpha c_2)$ is also a solution.

18. In Application 3, the solution (6, 6, 6, 1) was obtained by setting the free variable $x_4 = 1$.

(a) Determine the solution corresponding to $x_4 = 0$. What information, if any, does this solution give about the chemical reaction? Is the term "trivial solution" appropriate in this case?

(b) Choose some other values of x_4, such as 2, 4, or 5, and determine the corresponding solutions. How are these nontrivial solutions related?

19. Liquid benzene burns in the atmosphere. If a cold object is placed directly over the benzene, water will condense on the object and a deposit of soot (carbon) will also form on the object. The chemical equation for this reaction is of the form

$$x_1 C_6H_6 + x_2 O_2 \rightarrow x_3 C + x_4 H_2O$$

Determine values of x_1, x_2, x_3, and x_4 to balance the equation.

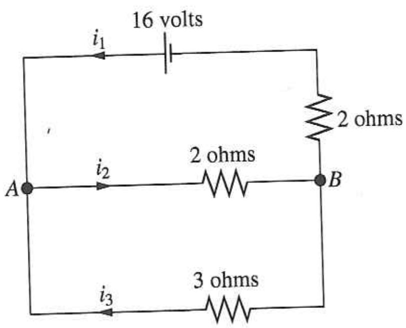
20. Nitric acid is prepared commercially by a series of three chemical reactions. In the first reaction, nitrogen (N_2) is combined with hydrogen (H_2) to form ammonia (NH_3). Next, the ammonia is combined with oxygen (O_2) to form nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) and water. Finally, the NO_2 reacts with some of the water to form nitric acid (HNO_3) and nitric oxide (NO). The amounts of each of the components of these reactions are measured in moles (a standard unit of measurement for chemical reactions). How many moles of nitrogen, hydrogen, and oxygen are necessary to produce 8 moles of nitric acid?

21. In Application 4, determine the relative values of x_1, x_2, and x_3 if the distribution of goods is as described in the following table:

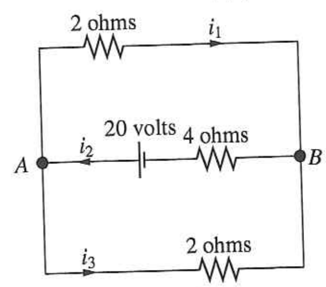
	F	M	C
F	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
M	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{6}$
C	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

22. Determine the amount of each current for the following networks:

(a)



(b)



(c)