

**Access to Science, Engineering and Agriculture:**  
**Mathematics 1**  
**MATH00030**  
**Chapter 2 Solutions**

1. (a) In this case the slope of the line is  $m = \frac{0 - 6}{0 - (-3)} = \frac{-6}{3} = -2$ . Thus the equation of the line is  $y = -2x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ . If we substitute  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$  into  $y = -2x + c$ , we obtain  $c = 0$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = -2x$ .  
Note we could also say that  $c = 0$  since the  $y$ -intercept is zero (since  $(0, 0)$  is on the line).
- (b) In this case the slope of the line is  $m = \frac{-1 - 5}{-1 - 3} = \frac{-6}{-4} = \frac{3}{2}$ . Thus the equation of the line is  $y = \frac{3}{2}x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ . If we substitute  $x = -1$  and  $y = -1$  into  $y = \frac{3}{2}x + c$ , we obtain  $c = -1 + \frac{3}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ .  
Hence the equation of the line is  $y = \frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (c) Here we note that the  $x$ -coordinates of the points are the same. Thus the line is parallel to the  $y$ -axis and its equation is  $x = 5$ .
- (d) Here we note that the  $y$ -coordinates of the points are the same. Thus the line is parallel to the  $x$ -axis and its equation is  $y = 1$ .
- (e) In this case the slope of the line is  $m = \frac{1 - (-2)}{-2 - 3} = \frac{3}{-5} = -\frac{3}{5}$ . Thus the equation of the line is  $y = -\frac{3}{5}x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ .  
If we substitute  $x = 3$  and  $y = -2$  into  $y = -\frac{3}{5}x + c$ , we obtain  $c = -2 + \frac{3}{5}(3) = \frac{-10 + 9}{5} = -\frac{1}{5}$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = -\frac{3}{5}x - \frac{1}{5}$ .
2. (a) Here our line is parallel to a line that has slope  $-1$ , so our line also has slope  $m = -1$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = -x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ . On substituting  $x = 6$  and  $y = 3$  into  $y = -x + c$ , we obtain  $c = 3 + 6 = 9$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = -x + 9$ .
- (b) Here our line is parallel to a line that has slope  $4$ , so our line also has slope  $m = 4$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = 4x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ . On substituting  $x = -5$  and  $y = 4$  into  $y = 4x + c$ , we obtain  $c = 4 - 4(-5) = 24$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = 4x + 24$ .  
Note the fact that the line  $y = 4x + 123456789$  has  $y$ -intercept  $123456789$  has no bearing on this problem, the only relevant fact is its slope.
- (c) We know that the line  $y = 5$  is parallel to the  $x$ -axis, so we are looking for the line through the point  $(1, 2)$  parallel to the  $x$ -axis, which is  $y = 2$ .
3. (a) Since the line is parallel to the line through the points  $(1, 3)$  and  $(3, -5)$ , it has the same slope. Now the slope of the line through the points  $(1, 3)$  and

$(3, -5)$  is  $\frac{-5 - 3}{3 - 1} = \frac{-8}{2} = -4$ . Thus the equation of the line is  $y = -4x + c$ , where we still have to find  $c$ . Substituting  $x = 3$  and  $y = -5$  into  $y = -4x + c$  we obtain  $c = 1 + 4(3) = 13$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = -4x + 13$ .

(b) Since the line is parallel to the line through the points  $(-2, -3)$  and  $(6, 7)$ , it has the same slope. Now the slope of the line through the points  $(-2, -3)$  and  $(6, 7)$  is  $\frac{7 - (-3)}{6 - (-2)} = \frac{10}{8} = \frac{5}{4}$ . Thus the equation of the line is  $y = \frac{5}{4}x + c$ ,

where we still have to find  $c$ . Substituting  $x = -1$  and  $y = -3$  into  $y = \frac{5}{4}x + c$  we obtain  $c = -3 - \frac{5}{4}(-1) = -\frac{7}{4}$ . Hence the equation of the line is  $y = \frac{5}{4}x - \frac{7}{4}$ .

(c) Here we note that the line through the points  $(4, 5)$  and  $(4, 7)$  is parallel to the  $y$ -axis (the two points have the same  $x$ -coordinate) so this is also true of the line we want. Since  $(-1, -3)$  has  $x$ -coordinate  $-1$ , the equation we want is  $x = -1$ .

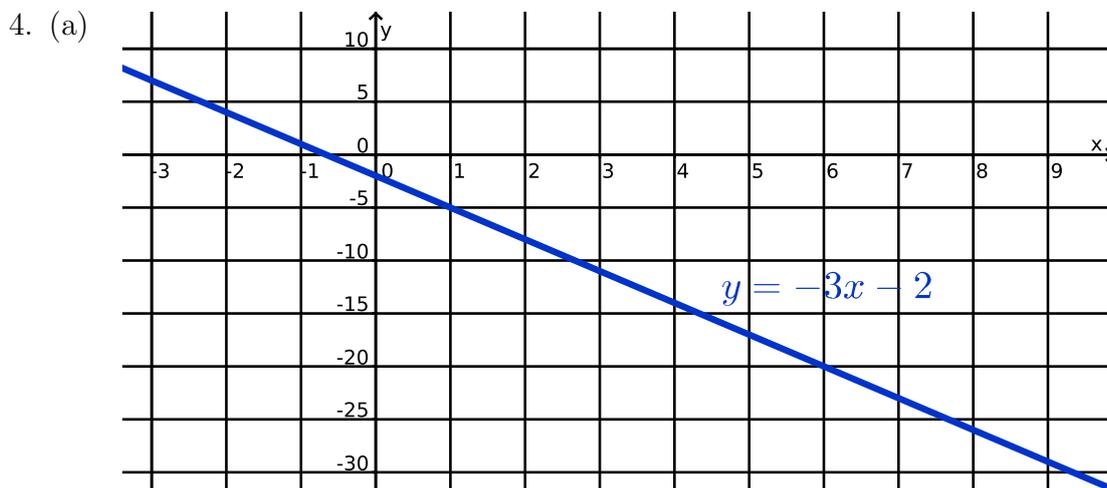


Figure 1: Graph of the line  $y = -3x - 2$ .

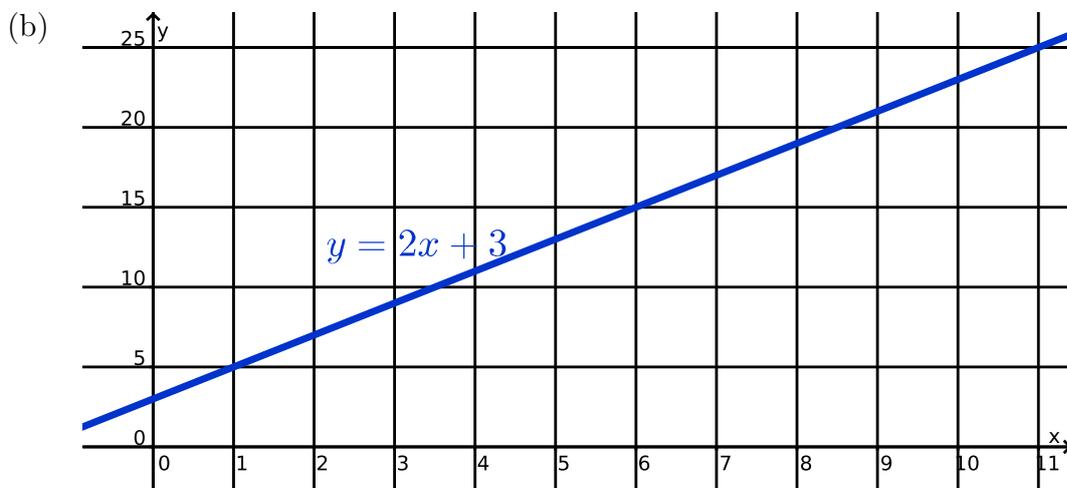


Figure 2: Graph of the line  $y = 2x + 3$ .

5. In the answers to these questions, I will alternate between the two methods described in the course notes.

(a) From (1) we obtain  $y = -3x + 4$  and on substituting this into (2) we obtain

$$-2x + 3(-3x + 4) = 1 \Rightarrow -2x - 9x + 12 = 1 \Rightarrow -11x = -11 \Rightarrow x = 1.$$

If we substitute this into  $y = -3x + 4$ , we obtain  $y = -3(1) + 4 = 1$ . Thus the solution is  $x = 1$  and  $y = 1$ .

(b) If we subtract two times (4) from (3) we obtain

$$\begin{array}{r} -4x + 3y = 13 \\ - \quad -4x + -6y = -14 \\ \hline 9y = 27 \end{array}$$

Hence  $y = 3$  and on substituting this into (3) we get  $-4x = -3(3) + 13 = 4$ , so that  $x = -1$ . Thus the solution is  $x = -1$  and  $y = 3$ .

(c) From (5) we obtain  $2x = 5y + 18$ , so that  $x = \frac{5}{2}y + 9$ . If we substitute this into (6) we obtain

$$-3\left(\frac{5}{2}y + 9\right) - 4y = -4 \Rightarrow -\frac{15}{2}y - 27 - 4y = -4 \Rightarrow -\frac{23}{2}y = 23 \Rightarrow y = -2.$$

Substituting  $y = -2$  into  $x = \frac{5}{2}y + 9$  we then get  $x = \frac{5}{2}(-2) + 9 = 4$ . Thus the solution is  $x = 4$  and  $y = -2$ .

(d) If we add seven times (8) to three times (7) we obtain

$$\begin{array}{r} 21x + -6y = -57 \\ + \quad -21x + -35y = 98 \\ \hline -41y = 41 \end{array}$$

Hence  $y = -1$ . If we then substitute this into (7) we obtain  $7x = 2(-1) - 19 = -21$ , so that  $x = -3$ .

Thus the solution is  $x = -3$  and  $y = -1$ .

(e) From (9) we obtain  $2x = -3y + 7$ , so that  $x = -\frac{3}{2}y + \frac{7}{2}$ . If we substitute this into (10) we get

$$-6\left(-\frac{3}{2}y + \frac{7}{2}\right) - 9y = 8 \Rightarrow 9y - 21 - 9y = 8 \Rightarrow -21 = 8.$$

Since  $-21 \neq 8$  this means that there are no solutions.

(f) If we add (12) to two times (11) we obtain

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

Here we have obtained  $0 = 0$ , so this means there are infinitely many solutions (note that (12) is a multiple of (11)). Since (11) yields  $y = 2x - 4$ , all the solutions are of the form  $x = t$  and  $y = 2t - 4$  where  $t$  is any real number.

6. (a) Using  $(x_1, y_1) = (0, 0)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (2, 2)$ , the formula tells us that the length of the line segment is

$$\sqrt{(2-0)^2 + (2-0)^2} = \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}.$$

- (b) Using  $(x_1, y_1) = (-2, -3)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (-4, 2)$ , the formula tells us that the length of the line segment is

$$\sqrt{(-4 - (-2))^2 + (2 - (-3))^2} = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{4 + 25} = \sqrt{29}.$$

- (c) Using  $(x_1, y_1) = (2, -2)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (-2, 2)$ , the formula tells us that the length of the line segment is

$$\sqrt{(-2 - 2)^2 + (2 - (-2))^2} = \sqrt{(-4)^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{16 + 16} = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}.$$

- (d) Using  $(x_1, y_1) = (-1, -2)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (1, -2)$ , the formula tells us that the length of the line segment is

$$\sqrt{(1 - (-1))^2 + (-2 - (-2))^2} = \sqrt{2^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{2^2} = 2.$$

Note the  $y$ -coordinates of  $(-1, -2)$  and  $(1, -2)$  are the same, so the distance can also be calculated as  $|1 - (-1)| = 2$ .

7. (a) If we let  $(x_1, y_1) = (0, 0)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (-3, 5)$ , then using the formula, we have that the midpoint is

$$\left( \frac{0 + (-3)}{2}, \frac{0 + 5}{2} \right) = \left( -\frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \right).$$

- (b) If we let  $(x_1, y_1) = (-1, 2)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (2, 3)$ , then using the formula, we have that the midpoint is

$$\left( \frac{-1 + 2}{2}, \frac{2 + 3}{2} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \right).$$

- (c) If we let  $(x_1, y_1) = (2, -4)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (2, 7)$ , then using the formula, we have that the midpoint is

$$\left( \frac{2 + 2}{2}, \frac{-4 + 7}{2} \right) = \left( 2, \frac{3}{2} \right).$$

Note the  $x$ -coordinates of  $(2, -4)$  and  $(2, 7)$  are the same, so the midpoint of  $(2, -4)$  and  $(2, 7)$  must also have this same  $x$ -coordinate.