

Elimination Method

Given equations: $x - 2 = -5y$
 $-2y = -3x + 6$

1) Arrange both equations in standard form, placing like terms one above the other

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2 = -5y \\ + 2 \quad + 2 \\ \hline x \quad = -5y + 2 \\ + 5y \quad + 5y \\ \hline x + 5y = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2y = -3x + 6 \\ + 3x \quad + 3x \\ \hline 3x - 2y = 6 \end{array}$$

2) Choose a variable to eliminate, and with a proper choice of multiplication, arrange so that the coefficients of that variable are opposites of one another

$$\begin{array}{r} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ x + 5y = 2 \\ + 3x - 2y = 6 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Multiply by 2} \\ \longrightarrow 2x + 10y = 4 \\ \longrightarrow 15x - 10y = 30 \\ \text{Multiply by 5} \end{array}$$

3) Add the equations, leaving one equation with one variable.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + 10y = 4 \\ + 15x - 10y = 30 \\ \hline 17x \quad = 34 \end{array}$$

4) Solve for the remaining variable

$$\begin{array}{l} x = 2 \\ (2) - 2 = -5y \\ 0 = -5y \end{array}$$

5) Substitute the value in Step 4 into any original equation and solve for the other variable.

$$0 = y$$

6) Write answer as an ordered pair (x, y)

$x = 2$ and $y = 0$ so... (2,0)