

# 6) Matrices

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## 6.1) Introduction to matrices

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## Worked example

Write down the size of the matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Write down the size of the matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$2 \times 3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$1 \times 2$

## Worked example

Find (where possible):

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -3 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find (where possible):

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & -3 \\ -4 & -4 & -6 \\ -7 & -8 & -8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Not additively conformable

# Worked example

Find:

$$5 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$-7 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Your turn

Find:

$$7 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 14 \\ 21 & 28 \\ 25 & 42 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

Find the value of  $k$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3k \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} 2k \\ 2k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3k \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find the value of  $k$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ k \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} 2k \\ 2k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} k \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$k = \frac{3}{2}$$

## Worked example

Write down the  $2 \times 2$  identity matrix

Write down the  $3 \times 3$  identity matrix

## Your turn

Write down the  $4 \times 4$  identity matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## 6.2) Matrix multiplication

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## Worked example

Determine the size of the matrix AB given the dimensions of A and B

Dimensions of A	Dimensions of B	Dimensions of AB (if valid)
$3 \times 2$	$2 \times 1$	
$3 \times 2$	$2 \times 4$	
$3 \times 2$	$4 \times 2$	
$3 \times 4$	$4 \times 2$	
$2 \times 4$	$4 \times 2$	
$2 \times 4$	$2 \times 4$	
$2 \times 2$	$2 \times 4$	
$2 \times 2$	$2 \times 2$	

## Your turn

Determine the size of the matrix AB given the dimensions of A and B

Dimensions of A	Dimensions of B	Dimensions of AB (if valid)
$2 \times 3$	$3 \times 1$	$2 \times 1$
$1 \times 4$	$1 \times 4$	Not valid
$1 \times 4$	$4 \times 1$	$1 \times 1$
$2 \times 5$	$3 \times 4$	Not valid
$3 \times 3$	$3 \times 3$	$3 \times 3$

## Worked example

Find the product of these matrices where possible:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find the product of these matrices where possible:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 10 & 11 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 27 & 30 & 33 \\ 61 & 68 & 75 \\ 95 & 106 & 117 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

Find:

$$(4 \ 5 \ 6) \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} (7 \ 8 \ 9)$$

## Your turn

Find:

$$(1 \ 2 \ 3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

(14)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} (1 \ 2 \ 3)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Worked example

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^3$$

# Your turn

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^4$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 199 & 290 \\ 435 & 634 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Worked example

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ b & 1 \end{pmatrix}^3$$

# Your turn

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c & 1 \end{pmatrix}^k$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ ck & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ b & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Given that  $A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -9 & 4 \\ -3 & 7 & -1 \\ 8 & -6 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$ , find the values of  $a$  and  $b$

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & b \\ a & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Given that  $A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -3 & -8 \\ 9 & 1 & -6 \\ 4 & -1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$ , find the values of  $a$  and  $b$

$$a = 3, b = -2$$

## Worked example

$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ a \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = (1 \quad b)$ . Given that  $BA = (0)$   
find  $AB$  in terms of  $a$

## Your turn

$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ a \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = (b \quad 2)$ . Given that  $BA = (0)$   
find  $AB$  in terms of  $a$

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} -2a & -2 \\ 2a^2 & 2a \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$



## 6.3) Determinants

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## Worked example

Calculate the determinant then decide if the matrix has an inverse.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Calculate the determinant then decide if the matrix has an inverse.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -3 \\ -1 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$-7$  Yes

$$\begin{pmatrix} 10 & -2 \\ 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$0$  No

## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & p - 1 \\ -2 & 4 - p \end{pmatrix}$$

Given that  $\mathbf{A}$  is singular, find the value of  $p$ .

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & p + 2 \\ -1 & 3 - p \end{pmatrix}$$

Given that  $\mathbf{A}$  is singular, find the value of  $p$ .

$$p = \frac{14}{3}$$

## Worked example

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 7 & 2 & 5 \\ -3 & 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Find the minor of:

a) 2

b) -3

c) 7

## Your turn

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & -6 \\ -1 & 8 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the minor of:

a) 5

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2$$

b) 0

$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ -1 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = 37$$

c) -6

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = 10$$

## Worked example

Calculate the determinant:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 4 & -6 \\ 8 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Calculate the determinant:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & -6 \\ -1 & 8 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

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## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & -4 \\ 2k + 1 & 3 & k \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

Given that  $A$  is singular, find the possible values of  $k$

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & k & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 0 & k + 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

Given that  $A$  is singular, find the possible values of  $k$

$$k = -\frac{1}{2}, -9$$

## 6.4) Inverting a 2 x 2 matrix

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## Worked example

Find the inverse matrix for:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find the inverse matrix for

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ -\frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$



## Worked example

For what value of  $p$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2-p \\ -4 & p+3 \end{pmatrix}$  singular?

Given  $p$  is not this value, find the inverse.

## Your turn

For what value of  $p$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & p+2 \\ -1 & 3-p \end{pmatrix}$  singular?

$$p = \frac{14}{3}$$

Given  $p$  is not this value, find the inverse.

$$\frac{1}{14-3p} \begin{pmatrix} 3-p & -(p+2) \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are non-singular matrices, prove that  $(\mathbf{AB})^{-1} = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}$

## Your turn

If  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  are non-singular matrices, prove that  $(\mathbf{PQ})^{-1} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$

$$\text{Let } C = (\mathbf{PQ})^{-1}$$

$$(\mathbf{PQ})C = (\mathbf{PQ})(\mathbf{PQ})^{-1}$$

$$(\mathbf{PQ})C = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{PQC} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{IQC} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{QC} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{QC} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{IC} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$(\mathbf{PQ})^{-1} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

## Worked example

If  $A$  and  $B$  are non-singular matrices such that  $\mathbf{ABA} = \mathbf{I}$ , prove that  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}$

## Your turn

If  $A$  and  $B$  are non-singular matrices such that  $\mathbf{BAB} = \mathbf{I}$ , prove that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^{-1}$

$$BAB = I$$

$$B^{-1}BAB = B^{-1}I$$

$$IAB = B^{-1}$$

$$AB = B^{-1}$$

$$ABB^{-1} = B^{-1}B^{-1}$$

$$AI = B^{-1}B^{-1}$$

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

## 6.5) Inverting a 3 x 3 matrix

## Worked example

$$\text{If } \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -3 & -2 \\ 1 & -4 & -2 \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ find } \mathbf{A}^{-1}.$$

## Your turn

$$\text{If } \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ find } \mathbf{A}^{-1}.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 8 & -7 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -4 & 4 \\ 8 & -7 & 8 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix},$$

Show that  $A^{-1} = A$ .

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

Show that  $A^{-1} = A$ .

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -4 & 4 \\ 8 & -7 & 8 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix},$$

The matrix  $B$  is such that  $(AB)^{-1} =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 \\ -4 & 1 & -8 \\ -1 & 0 & 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find  $B^{-1}$ .

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

The matrix  $B$  is such that  $(AB)^{-1} =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & -17 & 9 \\ -5 & 10 & -6 \\ -3 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find  $B^{-1}$ .

$$(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$$

$$(AB)^{-1}A = B^{-1}A^{-1}A$$

$$(AB)^{-1}A = B^{-1}$$

$$B^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -17 & 9 \\ -5 & 10 & -6 \\ -3 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -7 & -2 & -6 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Worked example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} k & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, k \neq -1$$

Find the inverse matrix of A in terms of  $k$

## Your turn

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} k & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, k \neq 1$$

Find the inverse matrix of A in terms of  $k$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{2 - 2k} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 1 \\ -4 & k - 3 & k + 1 \\ -2 & 2k - 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



## Worked example

Find the inverse of the matrix using elementary row operations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Your turn

Find the inverse of the matrix using elementary row operations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -5 & 3 & -6 \\ -6 & 3 & -7 \\ -2 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## 6.6) Solving systems of equations using matrices [Chapter CONTENTS](#)

## Worked example

Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$6x - y + 2z = 6$$

$$-x + 2y - 6z = 3$$

$$2x - 3y - 5z = 24$$

## Your turn

Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$-x + 6y - 2z = 21$$

$$6x - 2y - z = -16$$

$$-2x + 3y + 5z = 24$$

$$x = -1, y = 4, z = 2$$

## Worked example

A llama farmer has three types of llama: woolly, classic and Suri. Initially his flock had 2810 llamas in it. There were 160 more woolly llamas than classic.

After one year:

- The number of woolly llamas had increased by 5%
- The number of classic llamas had increased by 3%
- The number of Suri llamas had decreased by 4%
- Overall the flock size had increased by 46

Form and solve a matrix equation to find out how many of each type of llama there were in the initial flock.

## Your turn

A colony of 1000 mole-rats is made up of adult males, adult females and youngsters. Originally there were 100 more adult females than adult males.

After one year:

- The number of adult males had increased by 2%
- The number of adult females had increased by 3%
- The number of youngsters had decreased by 4%
- The total number of mole-rats had decreased by 20

Form and solve a matrix equation to find out how many of each type of mole-rat were in the original colony.

**100 adult males, 200 adult females, 700 youngsters in the original colony**

## Worked example

The system of equations is consistent and has a single solution. Determine the possible values of  $k$ .

$$x - 3y - 2z = 7$$

$$kx - y + 3z = 11$$

$$x - y + z = 13$$

## Your turn

The system of equations is consistent and has a single solution. Determine the possible values of  $k$ .

$$2x + 3y - z = 13$$

$$3x - y + kz = 11$$

$$x + y + z = 7$$

$$k \neq 15$$

## Worked example

A system of equations is shown below:

$$3x - ky - 6z = k$$

$$kx + 3y + 3z = 2$$

$$-3x - y + 3z = -2$$

For each of the following values of  $k$ , determine whether the system of equations is consistent or inconsistent.

If the system is consistent, determine whether there is a unique solution or an infinity of solutions.

In each case, identify the geometric configuration of the plane corresponding to each value of  $k$ .

(a)  $k = 0$

(b)  $k = -6$

## Your turn

A system of equations is shown below:

$$3x - ky - 6z = k$$

$$kx + 3y + 3z = 2$$

$$-3x - y + 3z = -2$$

For each of the following values of  $k$ , determine whether the system of equations is consistent or inconsistent.

If the system is consistent, determine whether there is a unique solution or an infinity of solutions.

In each case, identify the geometric configuration of the plane corresponding to each value of  $k$ .

(a)  $k = 1$

$$(a) k = 1: \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 & -6 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$3x - y - 6z = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$x + 3y + 3z = 2 \quad (2)$$

$$-3x - y + 3z = -2 \quad (3)$$

$$(1) + 2 \times (2): 5x + 5y = 5 \quad (4)$$

$$(2) - (3): 4x + 4y = 4 \quad (5)$$

Equations (4) and (5) are consistent so system is consistent and has an infinity of solutions. Planes meet at a sheaf

## Worked example

A system of equations is shown below:

$$\begin{aligned}x - ry - 6z &= r \\ rx - 4y - 12z &= s \\ -3x + ty + 18z &= u\end{aligned}$$

For each of the following values of  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $t$ , determine whether the system of equations is consistent or inconsistent.

If the system is consistent, determine whether there is a unique solution or an infinity of solutions.

In each case, identify the corresponding geometric configuration.

(a)  $r = 2, s = 5, t = 4, u = 1$

(b)  $r = 2, s = 4, t = 6, u = -6$

## Your turn

A system of equations is shown below:

$$\begin{aligned}x - ry - 6z &= r \\ rx - 4y - 12z &= s \\ -3x + ty + 18z &= u\end{aligned}$$

For each of the following values of  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $t$ , determine whether the system of equations is consistent or inconsistent.

If the system is consistent, determine whether there is a unique solution or an infinity of solutions.

In each case, identify the corresponding geometric configuration.

(a)  $r = 2, s = 4, t = 6, u = -5$

$$(a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & -6 \\ 2 & -4 & -12 \\ -3 & 6 & 18 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$x - 2y - 6z = 2 \quad (1)$$

$$2x - 4y - 12z = 4 \quad (2)$$

$$-3x + 6y + 18z = -5 \quad (3)$$

All three planes are parallel and non-identical.

The system of equations is inconsistent and has no solutions.