

Name: Solutions**Directions:** Show all work. No credit for answers without work.

1. [6 points] Find the general solution of the system with the following augmented matrix.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -3 & 6 & -2 & -3 \\ 3 & 0 & -3 & 6 & -3 & -6 \\ 10 & 1 & -6 & 21 & -3 & 3 \\ -8 & 0 & 8 & -16 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R1 \pm (-3)R2, R3 \pm (-10)R2, R4 \pm 8R2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 7 & 23 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -5 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R1 \leftrightarrow R2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 7 & 23 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -5 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \\
 & \xrightarrow{R2 \leftrightarrow R3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 7 & 23 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -5 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R4 \pm (5)R3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 7 & 23 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R1 \pm R3, R2 \pm (-7)R3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 16 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
 & \text{pivot pivot pivot} \\
 & \text{base base free free basic}
 \end{aligned}$$

So the general soln is given by

$$x_5 = 3$$

 x_4 free

 x_3 free

$$x_2 = -4x_3 - x_4 + 2$$

$$x_1 = x_3 - 2x_4 + 1$$

$$\text{or } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + x_3 - 2x_4 \\ 2 - 4x_3 - x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

2. [2 parts, 1.5 points each] Let A be a (8×4) -matrix such that each of the four columns is a pivot column.

(a) Give the *reduced row-echelon form* of A .

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

(b) Describe the *row-echelon form(s)* of A .

These are the matrices of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ 0 & e & f & g \\ 0 & 0 & h & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & j \\ \vdots & & & \\ 4 & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ 0 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

where a, e, h, j are non-zero entries
and b, c, d, f, g, i are arbitrary entries

3. [1 point] Let A be an $(m \times n)$ augmented matrix that represents a linear system with a unique solution. What can be said about the relationship between m and n ?

By the existence and uniqueness theorem, the first $n-1$ columns are pivot columns and the last column is a non-pivot column.

Having $n-1$ pivot columns requires at least $n-1$ rows, and so $m \geq n-1$.

Conversely if $m \geq n-1$, then the matrix might be

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & & & 1 \\ & 0 & & 0 \\ & & & \vdots \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

in which the only solution is to set all variables equal to zero. So we can say

$$\boxed{m \geq n-1}.$$