

Provide justification or explanation for all of your assertions.

1. Suppose that  $A = [\vec{a}_1 | \vec{a}_2 | \vec{a}_3 | \vec{a}_4]$  is a  $3 \times 4$  matrix whose column vectors are four nonzero vectors  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ , and  $\vec{a}_4$  in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . Describe, with as much specificity as possible,  $A_{\text{ref}}$ , the row-reduced echelon form of  $A$  if the vectors
- $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ , and  $\vec{a}_4$  are coplanar and  $\vec{a}_1$  and  $\vec{a}_2$  are not collinear.
  - $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2$  and  $\vec{a}_3$  are not coplanar.
  - $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2$  and  $\vec{a}_3$  are not coplanar and  $4\vec{a}_1 - 3\vec{a}_2 + 2\vec{a}_3 - \vec{a}_4 = \vec{0}$ .

2. Suppose that  $A = [\vec{a}_1 | \vec{a}_2 | \vec{a}_3 | \vec{a}_4]$  is a  $4 \times 4$  matrix whose column vectors are four nonzero vectors  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ , and  $\vec{a}_4$  in  $\mathbf{R}^4$ . Describe, with as much specificity as possible,  $A_{\text{ref}}$ , the row-reduced echelon form of  $A$  if
- $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3, \vec{a}_4)$  is linearly independent.
  - $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3)$  is linearly independent and  $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3, \vec{a}_4)$  is linearly dependent.
  - $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3)$  and  $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_4)$  are linearly independent and  $(\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3, \vec{a}_4)$  is linearly dependent.

3. Consider a linear system of equations summarized by the matrix equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  where  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $\vec{b} \in \mathbf{R}^m$ . Suppose that  $A$  has  $p$  pivots.
- If  $p = m$ , what can be said about the number of solutions of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ?
  - If  $p = n$ , what can be said about the number of solutions of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ?
  - If  $p = m = n$ , what can be said about the number of solutions of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ?