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(a)  $A \rightarrow MN \times 4$  Matrix where entries are as follows.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 1 & x_1 & y_2 & x_1 y_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_1 & y_N & x_1 y_N \\ 1 & x_2 & y_1 & x_2 y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 & x_2 y_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_M & y_N & x_M y_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Theta \rightarrow 4 \times 1$  Matrix

$$\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} \Theta_1 \\ \Theta_2 \\ \Theta_3 \\ \Theta_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$G \rightarrow MN \times 1$  Matrix

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} \\ F_{12} \\ \vdots \\ F_{1N} \\ F_{21} \\ F_{22} \\ \vdots \\ F_{MN} \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) We can see that  $A$  has 4 columns.

For a unique solution we need linearly independent columns. From independence-dimension inequality this means we require at least 4 rows.

$$\Rightarrow MN = 4$$

Possible candidates are  $M=4, N=1$   
 $M=2, N=2$   
 $M=1, N=4$

For  $M=4, N=1$  and  $M=1, N=4$

following matrices are generated

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_1 & x_2 y_1 \\ 1 & x_3 & y_1 & x_3 y_1 \\ 1 & x_4 & y_1 & x_4 y_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
Dependent

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 1 & x_1 & y_2 & x_1 y_2 \\ 1 & x_1 & y_3 & x_1 y_3 \\ 1 & x_1 & y_4 & x_1 y_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
Dependent

Hence, these don't generate unique solutions.

The remaining option is  $M=2, N=2$  which

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 1 & x_1 & y_2 & x_1 y_2 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_1 & x_2 y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 & x_2 y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

is the final answer.

Proof on following page.

On reducing this matrix to row-echelon form.

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_1(y_2 - y_1) \\ 1 & x_2 & y_1 & x_2 y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 & x_2 y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_3 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_1(y_2 - y_1) \\ 1 & x_2 & y_1 & x_2 y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_2(y_2 - y_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_1(y_2 - y_1) \\ 0 & x_2 - x_1 & 0 & (x_2 - x_1) y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_2(y_2 - y_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_1(y_2 - y_1) \\ 0 & x_2 - x_1 & 0 & (x_2 - x_1) y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 & x_1 y_1 \\ 0 & x_2 - x_1 & 0 & (x_2 - x_1) y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & y_2 - y_1 & x_1(y_2 - y_1) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, because  $x_1 < x_2$  &  $y_1 < y_2$

all the diagonal entries are non-zero and hence this has a full column rank. The columns are linearly independent and we have a unique sol<sup>n</sup>.