

## SOLUTIONS

### Problem 1

a) Row-echelon

b) Reduced row echelon

c) Neither. The "1" in the  $(4,1)$  position violates the rule that there should be only zeros below leading entries. This is a non-zero entry in the first column below the leading entry in Row 1.

d) Row-echelon

e) Row-echelon

f) Reduced Row-echelon

g) Neither. The "1" in the  $(2,1)$  position appears in the column below the leading entry in Row 1.

One way to do this:

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

$$\begin{array}{l} R_2 \mapsto R_2 - 4R_1 \\ R_3 \mapsto R_3 - 6R_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & -9 \\ 0 & -5 & -10 & -15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_2 \mapsto -\frac{1}{3}R_2 \\ R_3 \mapsto -\frac{1}{5}R_3 \end{array} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_3 \mapsto R_3 - R_2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_1 \mapsto R_1 - 2R_2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Problem 3

$$i) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

First, we convert this to REF:

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the system:

$$x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 = 3 \quad \text{--- ①}$$

$$x_3 = -7 \quad \text{--- ②}$$

Substituting ② in ①:

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + 7 = 3$$

$$\therefore x_1 = -4 + 2x_2$$

Therefore, the system has infinitely

many solutions given by:

$$x_1 = -4 + 2t$$

$$x_2 = t$$

$$x_3 = -7$$

for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -3 \\ -1 & 7 & -4 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

converting this to REF:

$$R_3 \mapsto R_3 + R_1: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 8 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_3 \mapsto R_3 + 4R_2: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We now write the corresponding linear system:

$$x_1 - 7x_2 + 6x_4 = 5 \quad - \textcircled{1}$$

$$x_3 - 2x_4 = -3 \quad - \textcircled{2}$$

$\textcircled{2}$  gives:  $x_3 = 2x_4 - 3$  (so  $x_4$  is a free variable)

$\textcircled{1}$  gives  $x_1 = 5 - 7x_2 + 6x_4$

(so  $x_2$  is another free variable)

Thus, the set of solutions is :

$$x_1 = 5 - 7s + 6t$$

$$x_2 = s$$

$$x_3 = 2t - 3$$

$$x_4 = t$$

for any  
 $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

### Problem 4

The corresponding linear system is obtained by equating the number of atoms of C, H and O on both sides:

$$\text{C:} \quad x_1 + x_2 = x_4$$

$$\text{O:} \quad x_1 + 2x_2 = x_5.$$

$$\text{H:} \quad 2x_3 = 2x_5 + 4x_4$$

This leads to the matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -4 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_2 \mapsto R_2 - R_1$  gives:

$$R_3 \mapsto R_3/2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

which is in REF.

The associated linear system is :

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_4 = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$x_2 + x_4 - x_5 = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$x_3 - 2x_4 - x_5 = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

(3) gives :  $x_3 = 2x_4 + x_5$  , so  $x_4$  and  $x_5$  are free variables.

(2) gives :  $x_2 = -x_4 + x_5$

(1) gives  $x_1 = -x_2 + x_4$   
 $= -(-x_4 + x_5) + x_4$   
 $= 2x_4 - x_5$

$$\text{let } x_4 = s, \quad x_5 = t.$$

$$\text{Therefore } x_1 = 2s - t$$

$$x_2 = t - s$$

$$x_3 = 2s + t$$

$$x_4 = s$$

$$x_5 = t.$$

for any  
 $s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$

Since  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$  represent no. of atoms, the values must be positive integers.

$$\text{This gives } x_1 = 2s - t > 0$$

$$\text{and } x_2 = t - s > 0$$

$$\text{so we get } s < t < 2s.$$

If we let  $s = 1$ . Then  $t$  needs to be between 1 and 2, which is impossible.

so this choice of  $s$  does NOT work.



Choose  $s = 2$ . Then we can take  $t = 3$ ,  
 since it lies between  $s (= 2)$  and  
 $2s (= 4)$ .

Thus, one solution is

$$x_1 = 1, \quad x_2 = 1, \quad x_3 = 7, \quad x_4 = 2, \quad x_5 = 3.$$

**Note:** if  $s$  is any integer  $> 1$ , we get a  
 valid solution, for example

$$s = 3, \quad t = 5 \quad \text{or} \quad s = 3, \quad t = 4.$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 2$$

$$x_3 = 11$$

$$x_4 = 3$$

$$x_5 = 5$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$x_1 = 2$$

$$x_2 = 1$$

$$x_3 = 10$$

$$x_4 = 3$$

$$x_5 = 4.$$

### Problem 5

We get the linear system:

at nodes

$$A: \quad 50 + x_2 = 120 + x_1$$

$$B: \quad 150 + x_1 = 80 + x_3$$

$$C: \quad x_4 = 100 + x_2$$

$$D: \quad x_3 + 100 = x_4$$

leading to the augmented matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 70 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -70 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 100 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 100 \end{bmatrix}$$

Convert this into REF:

$$\begin{array}{l} R_2 \mapsto R_2 + R_1: \\ R_3 \mapsto R_3 + R_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 70 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 100 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 100 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 + R_3: \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 70 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 100 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

leading to the equivalent system:

$$-x_1 + x_2 = 70 \quad -\textcircled{1}$$

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0 \quad -\textcircled{2}$$

$$-x_3 + x_4 = 100 \quad -\textcircled{3}$$

③ gives:  $x_4 = 100 + x_3$ , so  $x_3$  is a free variable.

② gives  $x_2 = x_3$

① gives  $x_1 = x_2 - 70$   
 $= x_3 - 70.$

$\therefore$  Taking  $x_3 = t$ , we get

$$x_1 = t - 70, \quad x_2 = t, \quad x_3 = t, \quad x_4 = t + 100.$$

Since  $x_i \geq 0$ , we can choose  $t$  to be any integer  $> 70$ . Thus,  $x_4 \geq 170$ .

### Problem 6

$$x_1 + h x_2 = 2$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = k.$$

[sample solution. This is not the only set of correct answers.]

a) Let  $h = 2$ ,  $k = 0$ .

Then, the equations become:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 2 \quad - \textcircled{1}$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = 0.$$

Multiplying  $\textcircled{1}$  by 4 we get

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = 8$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = 0,$$

which clearly has no solution.

b) Let  $h = 1$ ,  $k = 12$ .

The system becomes

$$x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = 12.$$

Solving,  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1$  is the only solution.

c) Let  $h = 2$ ,  $k = 8$ .

The system becomes

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 2 \quad \text{--- ①}$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = 8 \quad \text{--- ②}$$

② is just  $4 \times$  ①.

So we really just have one equation.

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 2$$

Let  $x_2 = t$ . Then  $x_1 = 2(1-t)$ .

Therefore, this system has infinitely

many solutions given by

$$x_1 = 2(1-t)$$

$$x_2 = t$$

for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .