

## Section 1.4 Solving Systems of Linear Equations

5. you can use octave as a calculator:

```
octave:1> A=[-1,3,0,1,4;1,-3,0,0,-1;2,-6,2,4,0;0,0,1,3,-4]
A =

   -1    3    0    1    4
    1   -3    0    0   -1
    2   -6    2    4    0
    0    0    1    3   -4

octave:2> rref(A)
ans =

    1   -3    0    0    0
    0    0    1    0    0
    0    0    0    1    0
    0    0    0    0    1
```

14.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 4 & -3 & 10 \\ 8 & -1 & 10 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 4 & -3 & 10 \\ 0 & 5 & -10 \end{array} \right],$$

$$\begin{cases} 4x_1 - 3x_2 = 10 \\ 5x_2 = -10 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 1 \\ x_2 = -2 \end{cases}$$

26.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -4 & 1 & 8 \\ 3 & -12 & 5 & 26 \\ 2 & -9 & -1 & 14 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -4 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{array} \right],$$

which shows that  $\begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 26 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}$  is in the span of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -12 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}$ , and

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Thm 1.7** Let  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  be a linear system, and let  $[A|\vec{b}] \sim [H|\vec{c}]$ , where  $H$  is in row-echelon form.

- (a) The system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  is inconsistent if and only the augmented matrix  $[H|\vec{c}]$  has a row with all entries 0 to the left of the partition and a non-zero entry to the right of the partition.
- (b) If  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  is consistent and every column of  $H$  contains a pivot, the system has a unique solution.
- (c) If  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  is consistent and some column of  $H$  has no pivot, the system has infinitely many solutions, with as many free variables as there are pivot-free columns in  $H$ .

**38.**

We need a vector  $\vec{b}$  so that  $[A|\vec{b}]$  has solution, where

$$[A|\vec{b}] = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & b_1 \\ 3 & 6 & b_2 \end{array} \right], \text{ and } rref[A|\vec{b}] = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & b_2 - 3b_1 \end{array} \right]$$

Therefore, the linear system is consistent only if  $b_2 - 3b_1 = 0$  by Theorem 1.7 (3).

**40.**

We need a vector  $\vec{b}$  so that  $[A|\vec{b}]$  has solution, where

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

Since  $rref(A) = I_3$ , the linear system is consistent with all possible  $b_i$  by Theorem 1.7 (2).