

Show all work, including mental steps, in a clearly organized way that speaks for itself. Use proper mathematical notation, identifying expressions by their proper symbols (introducing them if necessary), and use arrows and equal signs when appropriate. Always simplify expressions. BOX final short answers. LABEL parts of problem. Keep answers EXACT (but give decimal approximations for interpretation). Indicate where technology is used and what type (Maple, GC).

$$1. \quad 2x_1 + 4x_2 + 10x_4 = 34$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 - x_4 = 31$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 12$$

a) Write down the coefficient matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , the RHS matrix  $\vec{\mathbf{b}}$  and the augmented matrix  $\mathbf{C} = \langle \mathbf{A} \mid \vec{\mathbf{b}} \rangle$  for this linear system of equations.

b) With technology (identify your choice!), reduce this matrix  $\mathbf{C}$  step by step to its ReducedRowEchelonForm avoiding fractions, recording the intermediate matrices and row operations for each step (as in

$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2, R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_1, R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1$ ). You may do AddRow operations simultaneously.

c) Write out the equations that correspond to the reduced matrix. Identify the leading variables and the free variables and solve. State your solution in the scalar form:  $x_1 = \dots, x_2 = \dots$ , etc, then state this solution in column matrix ("vector") form  $\vec{\mathbf{x}} = \dots$ .

d) **Optional.** Now express your vector form of the solution in the following linear combination form:

$\vec{\mathbf{x}} = \vec{\mathbf{C}}_0 + t_1 \vec{\mathbf{C}}_1 + t_2 \vec{\mathbf{C}}_2 + \dots$  depending on how many free parameters  $t_1, t_2, \dots$  there are, where  $\vec{\mathbf{C}}_0$  is the

contribution which does not involve any parameter and  $\vec{\mathbf{C}}_1$  etc are the vector coefficients of the parameters. [See Maple soln worksheet for graphical representation.]

## ► solution