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Determine whether the statements 1 to 7 below are true or false, and carefully justify your answer.

1. There exists a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$ , such that  $A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $A \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

2. There exists scalars  $a$  and  $b$  such that the columns of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & a \\ -1 & 0 & b \\ -a & -b & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  span the whole of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

3. If a vector  $\vec{u}$  is a linear combination of the vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ , and  $\vec{v}$  is a linear combination of the vectors  $\vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{q}$ , and  $\vec{r}$ , then  $\vec{u}$  is a linear combination of the vectors  $\vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{q}$ ,  $\vec{r}$ , and  $\vec{w}$ .

4. If  $A$  is any  $4 \times 3$  matrix, then there exists a vector  $\vec{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  such that the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  is inconsistent.

5. If  $A$  is a  $4 \times 3$  matrix with a pivot position in every column and  $A\vec{v} = A\vec{w}$ , for two vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , then the vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  must be equal.

6. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $n \times n$  matrices, such that the systems  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  and  $B\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  each has only the trivial solution  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , then  $A$  can be transformed into  $B$  by means of elementary row operations.

7. If  $A = (\vec{u} \ \vec{v} \ \vec{w})$  and the row reduced echelon form of  $A$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then the equation  $\vec{w} = 3\vec{u} + 2\vec{v}$  must hold.

8. Show that if  $\vec{w}$  belongs to  $\text{span}\{\vec{t}, \vec{u}, \vec{v}\}$  but  $\vec{w}$  does not belong to  $\text{span}\{\vec{t}, \vec{u}\}$ , then  $\vec{v}$  belongs to  $\text{span}\{\vec{t}, \vec{u}, \vec{w}\}$ .