## Math 1553 Worksheet §1.2, §1.3

**1. a)** Circle the 'operations' that are legal to use in row reduction, in other words, the operations that will not change the solution set of an arbitrary linear system.

$$(1) R_2 = R_3 + 4R_2$$

(2) 
$$R_3 = 3R_3$$

(3) 
$$R_1 = R_2 - R_3$$

(4) 
$$R_1 \longleftrightarrow R_2$$

(5) 
$$R_2 = R_2 + (R_1)^5$$

(6) 
$$R_3 = R_3 - \ln(R_2)$$

b) These are row operations only. Try performing a column operation: for example, try doubling any column in (1 | 1). What happens to the solution set?

- **2. a)** Which of the following matrices are in row echelon form (REF)? Which are in reduced row echelon form (RREF)?
  - **b)** For the matrices that are in REF or RREF, which entries are the pivots? What are the pivot columns?

- **c)** Why is RREF useful, i.e. what information does it reveal about the linear system?
- **d)** How many nonzero entries are there in a pivot column of a matrix that is in RREF?

**3.** Each matrix below is in RREF. In each case, determine whether the corresponding system of linear equations is **consistent**, and if so, how many solutions does it have?

**4.** Find the parametric form for the solution set of the following system of linear equations in  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  by putting an augmented matrix into reduced row echelon form. State which variables (if any) are free variables. Describe the solution set geometrically.

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$-4x_1 - 9x_2 + 2x_3 = -1$$

$$-3x_2 - 6x_3 = -3.$$