

1.2.21: True or False (and short reason)

- ① In some cases, a matrix may be row reduced to more than one matrix in reduced echelon form, using a different sequence of row operations.
- ② The row reduction algorithm applies only to augmented matrices for a linear system.
- ③ A basic variable is a variable that corresponds to a pivot column in the coefficient matrix.
- ④ Finding a parametric description of the solution set of a linear system is the same as solving the system.
- ⑤ If one row in the echelon form of an augmented matrix is computed as $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 5 \ 0]$, then the associated linear system is inconsistent.

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- ① The (row) reduced echelon form of a matrix is unique.
- ② If every column of an augmented matrix contains a pivot, then the corresponding system is consistent.
- ③ The pivot positions in a matrix depend on whether row interchanges are used in the row reduction process.
- ④ A general solution of a system is an explicit description of all solutions of the system.
- ⑤ Whenever a system has free variables, the solution set contains many solutions.