

**STEP/Vectors Q9 (30/6/23)**

Are the vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  &  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  linearly independent?

**Solution**

Is there a non-trivial solution to  $\alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

Yes: eg  $\alpha = 0, \beta = 1$

So  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  &  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  are not linearly independent.