Spanning Sets & Linear Independence Linear Algebra

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PART I:

LINEAR COMBINATIONS OF VECTORS

For the remainder of Linear Algebra & higher math courses, the notion of a **linear combination** of vectors is crucial to the development of key ideas.

Definition

(Linear Combination of Vectors)

Let *V* be a vector space. Then a vector $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \in V$ is represented as a **linear combination** of the vectors $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \dots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \in V$ if $\vec{\mathbf{u}}$ can be written in the form

$$\vec{\mathbf{u}} = c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$$

where scalars $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$

Examples of Linear Combinations

• Let
$$S = \{(1, 1), (2, -1), (0, 4), (1, 12)\} \equiv \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$
.
Then \vec{v}_4 is a linear combination of $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3$ because
 $\vec{v}_4 = 3\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2 + 2\vec{v}_3 = 3(1, 1) - (2, -1) + 2(0, 4) = (1, 12)$

• Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1\\3\\5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\5\\10 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Then \vec{v}_3 is a linear combination of \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 because

$$\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 = 5\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 = 5\begin{bmatrix}0\\1\\2\end{bmatrix} + (0)\begin{bmatrix}-1\\3\\5\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}0\\5\\10\end{bmatrix}$$

• Let $S = \{(1, 1, 1, 1)^T, (8, 8, 8, 8)^T\} \equiv \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$. Then \vec{v}_2 is a linear combination of \vec{v}_1 because $\vec{v}_2 = 8\vec{v}_1 = 8(1, 1, 1, 1)^T = (8, 8, 8, 8)^T$ Then \vec{v}_1 is a linear combination of \vec{v}_2 because $\vec{v}_1 = \frac{1}{8}\vec{v}_2 = \frac{1}{8}(8, 8, 8, 8)^T = (1, 1, 1, 1)^T$

Examples of Linear Combinations

•
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 8 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3}.$$

Then A_1 is a linear combination of A_2, A_3 because
 $A_1 = (1)A_2 + 2A_3 = (1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + (2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 8 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$
• $S = \{2 - t^3, t^2 - t + 5, 4t^2, 6, t - t^2 - 3t^3\} \equiv \{p_1(t), p_2(t), p_3(t), p_4(t), p_5(t)\} \subseteq P_3$
Then $p_5(t)$ is a linear combination of $p_1(t), p_2(t), p_3(t), p_4(t)$ because
 $p_5(t) = 3p_1(t) + (-1)p_2(t) + (0)p_3(t) - \frac{1}{6}p_4(t)$
 $= 3(2 - t^3) + (-1)(t^2 - t + 5) + (0)(4t^2) - \frac{1}{6}(6)$
 $= 6 - 3t^3 - t^2 + t - 5 + 0 - 1$
 $= t - t^2 - 3t^3$
• Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$
Then $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3$ is a linear combination of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2$ because
 $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 = (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 = (0) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + (0) \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Examples that are **not** Linear Combinations

• Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

Then \vec{v}_1 is <u>not</u> a linear combination of \vec{v}_2 (and vice-versa). Why not??

• Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1\\0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Then \vec{v}_1 is **not** a linear combination of \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3 . Why not??

• Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}.$$

Then A_3 is <u>**not**</u> a linear combination of A_1, A_2 . Why not??

• Let $S = \{1 - t^2, t^2, -3, t^2 + 7t + 1\} \equiv \{p_1(t), p_2(t), p_3(t), p_4(t)\} \subseteq P_2$ Then $p_4(t)$ is <u>not</u> a linear combination of $p_1(t), p_2(t), p_3(t)$. Why not??

Finding a Linear Combination (Procedure)

Proposition

(Writing a Vector as a Linear Combination of other Vectors)

<u>TASK:</u> Write $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \in V$ as a linear combination of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \dots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \in V$.

(1) Let $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$ be unknown scalars such that

 $c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1+c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2+\cdots+c_k\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k=\vec{\mathbf{u}}$

- (2) Compute & simplify/factor LHS expression: $c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$
- (3) Equate both sides of equation, component by component.
- (4) Solve the resulting linear system for c₁, c₂,..., c_k using Gauss-Jordan on the resulting augmented matrix [A | u] (A is coefficient matrix of LHS)
- (*) If there are infinitely many solutions, let the parameters t, s,... be any specific values (e.g. Let t = 1, s = 0, ...)
- (⋆) If there are no solutions (i.e. linear system is inconsistent), it's not possible to write u as a linear combination of v
 ₁, v
 ₂,..., v
 _k

WEX 4-4-1: Write
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix}$$
 as a linear combination of $\begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix}$



WEX 4-4-1: Write
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix}$$
 as a linear combination of $\begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix}$
 $c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\implies \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3\\3c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 2c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\underbrace{\text{WEX 4-4-1:}}_{4} \text{ Write} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of} \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\ c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 2c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies \begin{cases} 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3 = 1\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 2c_3 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\underbrace{\text{WEX 4-4-1:}} & \text{Write} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of} \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\
c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2\\2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3\\3c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 2c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\
\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3\\c_1 + 3c_2 + 3c_3 = 1\\3c_1 + 3c_2 + 2c_3 = 4 \\
\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2&3&3\\3&2&3\\1&3&2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1\\c_2\\c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$







$$\begin{array}{l} \textbf{WEX 4-4-1:} \text{ Write} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of} \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\3 & 2 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1\\c_2\\c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1\\c_2\\c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 & 0\\0 & 1\\0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow c_1 = 5, c_2 = 5, c_3 = -8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textbf{WEX 4-4-1:} \text{ Write} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of} \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\3 & 2 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1\\c_2\\c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\3 & 2 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1\\c_2\\c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 3\\3 & 2 & 3\\1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 & 0\\0 & 1\\0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5\\0\\0 & 0\\1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow c_1 = 5, c_2 = 5, c_3 = -8 \\ \therefore \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\4 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 3\\2\\3 \end{bmatrix} + (-8) \begin{bmatrix} 3\\3\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

WEX 4-4-2: Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$ $c_1(3t - 3) + c_2(-3t + 3) + c_3(t^2 - 4t + 1) + c_4(-4t - 1) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$ $c_1(3t - 3) + c_2(-3t + 3) + c_3(t^2 - 4t + 1) + c_4(-4t - 1) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$ $\implies 3c_1t - 3c_1 - 3c_2t + 3c_2 + c_3t^2 - 4c_3t + c_3 - 4c_4t - c_4 = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$ $c_1(3t - 3) + c_2(-3t + 3) + c_3(t^2 - 4t + 1) + c_4(-4t - 1) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$ $\implies 3c_1t - 3c_1 - 3c_2t + 3c_2 + c_3t^2 - 4c_3t + c_3 - 4c_4t - c_4 = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$ $\implies c_3t^2 + (3c_1 - 3c_2 - 4c_3 - 4c_4)t + (-3c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 - c_4) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$

Write
$$-3t^2 - 3t - 3$$
 as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$
 $c_1(3t - 3) + c_2(-3t + 3) + c_3(t^2 - 4t + 1) + c_4(-4t - 1) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$
 $\implies 3c_1t - 3c_1 - 3c_2t + 3c_2 + c_3t^2 - 4c_3t + c_3 - 4c_4t - c_4 = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$
 $\implies c_3t^2 + (3c_1 - 3c_2 - 4c_3 - 4c_4)t + (-3c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 - c_4) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$
 $\implies \begin{cases} 3c_1 - 3c_2 - 4c_3 - 4c_4)t + (-3c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 - c_4) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3 \\ -3c_1 + 3c_2 - 4c_3 - 4c_4 = -3 \\ -3c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 - c_4 = -3 \end{cases}$

WEX 4-4-2:

$$\overline{\text{Write } -3t^2 - 3t - 3 \text{ as a linear combination of } \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} 3t - 3, & -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, & -4t - 1 \end{array} \right\}}$$

$$c_1(3t - 3) + c_2(-3t + 3) + c_3(t^2 - 4t + 1) + c_4(-4t - 1) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$$

$$\implies 3c_1t - 3c_1 - 3c_2t + 3c_2 + c_3t^2 - 4c_3t + c_3 - 4c_4t - c_4 = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$$

$$\implies c_3t^2 + (3c_1 - 3c_2 - 4c_3 - 4c_4)t + (-3c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 - c_4) = -3t^2 - 3t - 3$$

$$\implies \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} c_3 & = -3 \\ 3c_1 - 3c_2 & -4c_3 - 4c_4 & = -3 \\ -3c_1 & + 3c_2 & + c_3 & -c_4 & = -3 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\implies \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\overline{\text{Write } -3t^2 - 3t - 3 \text{ as a linear combination of } \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 3t - 3, & -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, & -4t - 1 \end{array} \right\}}$ $\implies \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{array} \right]$ $\implies \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{array} \right]$

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$ $\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ $\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\text{Write} - 3t^2 - 3t - 3 \text{ as a linear combination of } \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 3t - 3, & -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, & -4t - 1 \end{array} \right\} \\ \implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | -3 \end{bmatrix}} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies \text{Let } c_2 = \tilde{t}. \text{ Then, } c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

WEX 4-4-2:

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\implies \text{Let } c_2 = \tilde{t}. \text{ Then, } c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1$$
$$\implies (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = (\tilde{t} - 1, \tilde{t}, -3, 3)^T$$

Write
$$-3t^2 - 3t - 3$$
 as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Let } c_2 = \tilde{t}. \text{ Then, } c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = (\tilde{t} - 1, \tilde{t}, -3, 3)^T$$

Since there's a parameter (\tilde{t}) , the linear system has infinitely many solutions. But for the purposes of this problem, only one solution is needed:

WEX 4-4-2:

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\implies$$
 Let $c_2 = \tilde{t}$. Then, $c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1$

$$\implies (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = \left(\tilde{t} - 1, \tilde{t}, -3, 3\right)^T$$

Since there's a parameter (\tilde{t}) , the linear system has infinitely many solutions. But for the purposes of this problem, only one solution is needed:

Let
$$\tilde{t} = 1$$
. Then $(c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = (0, 1, -3, 3)^T$
Therefore.

$$-3t^2 - 3t - 3 = (0)(3t - 3) + (1)(-3t + 3) + (-3)(t^2 - 4t + 1) + (3)(-4t - 1)$$

 $r(t) = (0)p_1(t) + 1p_2(t) + (-3)p_3(t) + 3p_4(t)$

WEX 4-4-2:

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\implies$$
 Let $c_2 = \tilde{t}$. Then, $c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1$

$$\implies (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = \left(\tilde{t} - 1, \tilde{t}, -3, 3\right)^T$$

Since there's a parameter (\tilde{t}) , the linear system has infinitely many solutions. But for the purposes of this problem, only one solution is needed:

Let
$$\tilde{t} = 0$$
. Then $(c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = (-1, 0, -3, 3)^T$
Therefore.

$$-3t^2 - 3t - 3 = (-1)(3t - 3) + (0)(-3t + 3) + (-3)(t^2 - 4t + 1) + (3)(-4t - 1)$$

 $r(t) = (-1)p_1(t) + (0)p_2(t) + (-3)p_3(t) + 3p_4(t)$

WEX 4-4-2:

Write $-3t^2 - 3t - 3$ as a linear combination of $\begin{cases} 3t - 3, -3t + 3, \\ t^2 - 4t + 1, -4t - 1 \end{cases}$

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 3 & -3 & -4 & -4 & | & -3 \\ -3 & 3 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\implies$$
 Let $c_2 = \tilde{t}$. Then, $c_4 = 3, c_3 = -3, c_1 - c_2 = -1$

$$\implies (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = \left(\tilde{t} - 1, \tilde{t}, -3, 3\right)^T$$

Since there's a parameter (\tilde{t}) , the linear system has infinitely many solutions. But for the purposes of this problem, only one solution is needed:

Let
$$\tilde{t} = 2$$
. Then $(c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4)^T = (1, 2, -3, 3)^T$
Therefore.

$$-3t^2 - 3t - 3 = (1)(3t - 3) + (2)(-3t + 3) + (-3)(t^2 - 4t + 1) + (3)(-4t - 1)$$

 $r(t) = 1p_1(t) + 2p_2(t) + (-3)p_3(t) + 3p_4(t)$

$$\frac{\text{WEX 4-4-3:}}{\text{Write} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of } \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$







$$\frac{\text{WEX 4-4-3:}}{\text{Write}} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as a linear combination of } \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\
c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\
\implies \begin{bmatrix} -c_1 & 3c_1 \\ -3c_1 & -3c_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3c_2 & -4c_2 \\ 2c_2 & 2c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\
\implies \begin{bmatrix} -c_1 + 3c_2 & 3c_1 - 4c_2 \\ -3c_1 + 2c_2 & -3c_1 + 2c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\
\implies \begin{cases} -c_1 + 3c_2 & = -1 \\ 3c_1 & -4c_2 & = -1 \\ -3c_1 & + 2c_2 & = -1 \\ -3c_1 & + 2c_2 & = -1 \\ -3c_1 & + 2c_2 & = -1 \\ \end{bmatrix}$$











But interpreting the 3^{rd} row of the RREF yields: $0c_1 + 0c_2 = 1 \implies 0 = 1 \leftarrow \text{CONTRADICTION!}$



But interpreting the 3^{rd} row of the RREF yields: $0c_1 + 0c_2 = 1 \implies 0 = 1 \leftarrow \text{CONTRADICTION!}$

Therefore, the linear system has **no solution**.

The desired linear combination is **not possible**

Finding a Linear Combination (Simplified Procedure)

Notice in the previous examples that in the resulting linear system $A\vec{c} = \vec{u}$, the vectors $\vec{v}_1, \ldots, \vec{v}_k$ always formed the columns of *A*.

For polynomials, form each column using the <u>coefficients</u> of each polynomial.

Based on this observation, the procedure can be simplified:

Proposition

(Writing a Vector as a Linear Combination of other Vectors)

<u>TASK:</u> Write $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \in V$ as a linear combination of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \dots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \in V$.

(1) Let
$$\vec{\mathbf{c}} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$
 be scalars s.t. $c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k = \vec{\mathbf{u}}$

(2) Solve $A\vec{\mathbf{c}} = \vec{\mathbf{u}}$ for $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ using Gauss-Jordan on $[A \mid \vec{\mathbf{u}}] = \begin{vmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \cdots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k & | & | \\ | & | & | & | \end{vmatrix}$

(★) If there are infinitely many solutions, let the parameters *t*, *s*, ... be any specific values (e.g. Let *t* = 1, *s* = 0, ...)
(★) If there are no solutions (i.e. linear system is inconsistent), it's not possible to write **ū** as a linear combination of **v**₁, **v**₂, ..., **v**_k

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PART II: SPANNING SETS OF VECTORS LINEAR INDEPENDENCE OF VECTORS

Spanning a Vector Space (Definitions)

Definition

(Spanning Set of a Vector Space)

Let *V* be a vector space and $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V$ Then the **span of** *S* is the **set of all linear combination** of vectors in *S*:

 $\operatorname{span}(S) \equiv \operatorname{span}\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \cdots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k\} := \{c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_k\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k : c_1, c_2, \cdots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Moreover, *S* spans *V* if span(S) = V.

i.e. S spans V if every vector of V can be written as a linear combination of vectors in S.

Theorem

(A Spanning Set is a Subspace)

```
Let V be a vector space and S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V
```

Then span(S) is a subspace of V.

Moreover, span(S) is the smallest subspace of V that contains S.

Example Spanning Set (Procedure Motivation)

The set
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
 spans \mathbb{R}^2 :

Let $\vec{\mathbf{x}} = (x_1, x_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be an **arbitrary** vector in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then if *S* spans \mathbb{R}^2 , $\vec{\mathbf{x}}$ can be written as linear combination of vectors in *S*.

$$\Rightarrow c_{1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + c_{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} + c_{3} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } c_{1}, c_{2}, c_{3} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4}c_{1} + \frac{1}{2}c_{2} - c_{3} \\ -c_{1} - \frac{5}{2}c_{2} + 5c_{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \end{bmatrix} \implies \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & -1 \\ -1 & -\frac{5}{2} & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} \\ c_{2} \\ c_{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow [A \mid \vec{\mathbf{x}}] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & -1 \\ -1 & -\frac{5}{2} & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} (20x_{1} + 4x_{2})$$

$$\Rightarrow (c_{1}, c_{2}, c_{3})^{T} = (20x_{1} + 4x_{2}, 2t - 2x_{2} - 8x_{1}, t)^{T} \quad \text{(parameter } t \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \end{bmatrix} = (20x_{1} + 4x_{2}) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + (2t - 2x_{2} - 8x_{1}) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ Every vector in *V* can be written as a linear combination of vectors in *S*. ∴ *S* spans \mathbb{R}^2

Notice that every row of RREF of matrix *A* has a pivot!

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Example <u>non</u>-Spanning Set (Procedure Motivation)

The set
$$S = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{c} 2\\ 4 \end{array} \right], \left[\begin{array}{c} 4\\ 8 \end{array} \right] \right\}$$
 does not span \mathbb{R}^2 :

Let $\vec{\mathbf{x}} = (x_1, x_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be an **arbitrary** vector in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then if *S* spans \mathbb{R}^2 , $\vec{\mathbf{x}}$ can be written as linear combination of vectors in *S*.

 $\implies c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2\\4 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 4\\8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1\\x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ where $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ $\implies \left|\begin{array}{c} 2c_1 + 4c_2 \\ 4c_1 + 8c_2 \end{array}\right| = \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array}\right] \implies \left[\begin{array}{c} 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 8 \end{array}\right] \left[\begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array}\right]$ $\implies [A \mid \vec{\mathbf{x}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \mid x_1 \\ 4 & 8 \mid x_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & \frac{1}{2}x_1 \\ 0 & 0 & (x_2 - 2x_1) \end{bmatrix}$ Now, interpreting the 2^{nd} row yields $0c_1 + 0c_2 = (x_2 - 2x_1)$ which is only true for certain vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 like $\begin{bmatrix} 1\\2 \end{bmatrix}$ where $x_2 - 2x_1 = 0$ However, there are vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 like $\begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$ where $x_2 - 2x_1 \neq 0$ Therefore, some vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 are not linear combinations of vectors in *S*.

Therefore, *S* does <u>not</u> span \mathbb{R}^2 .

Notice that the 2^{nd} row of RREF of matrix A is <u>all zeros</u>!

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Proposition

(Testing whether a Set Spans a Vector Space or not)

<u>TASK</u>: Determine whether $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k}$ spans vector space *V*.

(1) Let $\vec{\mathbf{x}} \in V$ be an **arbitrary** vector in *V* and $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$ be unknown scalars such that

 $c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_k\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k = \vec{\mathbf{x}}$

- (2) Compute & simplify/factor LHS expression: $c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$
- (3) Equate both sides of equation, component by component.
- (4) Form coefficient matrix A from the LHS of the resulting linear system.
- (5) Perform Gauss-Jordan Elimination on matrix A.
- (*) If every row of RREF(A) contains a pivot, then S spans V.
- (*) If RREF(A) <u>contains a row of all zeros</u>, then S does <u>not</u> span V.

Spanning Set Test (Simplified Procedure)

Fortunately, the procedure can be greatly simplified:

Proposition

(Testing whether a Set Spans a Vector Space or not)

<u>TASK</u>: Determine whether $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k}$ spans vector space *V*.

(1) Form matrix A with $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \cdots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$ as its columns: $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 & \cdots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \end{bmatrix}$

(2) Perform Gauss-Jordan Elimination on matrix A.

(*) If every row of RREF(A) contains a pivot, then S spans V.

(*) If RREF(A) <u>contains a row of all zeros</u>, then S does <u>not</u> span V.

Definition

(Linear Independence & Linear Dependence of a Set of Vectors)

Let *V* be a vector space. Let $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V$ Then *S* is called **linearly independent** if the vector equation

$$c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1+c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2+\cdots+c_k\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k=\vec{\mathbf{0}}$$

has only the **trivial solution** (of all zeros): $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 0, \cdots, c_k = 0$

If there are also nontrivial solutions, then *S* is called **linearly dependent**.

Theorem

Let *V* be a vector space. Let $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V$. Then:

S is linearly dependent \iff

At least one of the vectors in S can be written as a linear combination of the other vectors in S

Linear Dependence & Linear Combinations

Theorem

Let *V* be a vector space. Let $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V$. Then:

S is linearly dependent	\iff	At least one of the vectors in S
		can be written
		as a linear combination
		of the other vectors in S

PROOF:

 (\Leftarrow) : Suppose at least 1 vector in *S* can be written as a linear combination of the other vectors in *S*

WLOG, assume \vec{v}_1 can be written as a linear comb. of $\vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \cdots, \vec{v}_k$.

Then,
$$\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 = c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + c_3 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 + \cdots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$$
, where $c_2, c_3, \cdots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\implies (-1)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + c_3\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 + \dots + c_k\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

 $\implies c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$ has a nontrivial solution (since $c_1 = -1 \neq 0$)

 \implies S is linearly dependent

Linear Dependence & Linear Combinations

Theorem

Let *V* be a vector space. Let $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k} \subseteq V$. Then:

S is linearly dependent \iff

At least one of the vectors in S can be written as a linear combination of the other vectors in S

PROOF:

 (\Rightarrow) : Suppose *S* is linearly dependent.

Then, $c_1 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_k \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$ has a nontrivial solution.

WLOG, assume $c_1 \neq 0$. Then, $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 = \left(-\frac{c_2}{c_1}\right)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \left(-\frac{c_3}{c_1}\right)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 + \dots + \left(-\frac{c_k}{c_1}\right)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$ $\implies \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1$ is a linear comb. of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3, \dots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$

 \implies At least one vector in *S* can be written as a linear combination of the other vectors in *S*.

QED

Examples of Linear Dependence

• Let
$$S = \{(1, 1), (2, -1), (0, 4), (1, 12)\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_4\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$
.
Then *S* is linearly dependent because
 $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_4 = 3\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 - \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + 2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 = 3(1, 1) - (2, -1) + 2(0, 4) = (1, 12)$
• Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1\\3\\5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\5\\10 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$.
Then *S* is linearly dependent because
 $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 = 5\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 = 5\begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix} + (0)\begin{bmatrix} -1\\3\\5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\5\\10 \end{bmatrix}$

• Let $S = \{(1, 1, 1, 1)^T, (8, 8, 8, 8)^T\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$.

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Then S is linearly dependent because} \\ \vec{v}_2 = 8\vec{v}_1 = 8(1,1,1,1)^T = (8,8,8,8)^T & \mbox{OR} \\ \vec{v}_1 = \frac{1}{8}\vec{v}_2 = \frac{1}{8}(8,8,8,8)^T = (1,1,1,1)^T & \end{tabular} \end{array}$

Examples of Linear Dependence

•
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 8 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3}.$$

Then *S* is linearly dependent because

$$A_1 = (1)A_2 + 2A_3 = (1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + (2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 8 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

•
$$S = \{2 - t^3, t^2 - t + 5, 4t^2, 6, t - t^2 - 3t^3\} \equiv \{p_1(t), p_2(t), p_3(t), p_4(t), p_5(t)\} \subseteq P_3$$

Then S is linearly dependent because

$$p_{5}(t) = 3p_{1}(t) + (-1)p_{2}(t) + (0)p_{3}(t) - \frac{1}{6}p_{4}(t)$$

$$= 3(2-t^{3}) + (-1)(t^{2}-t+5) + (0)(4t^{2}) - \frac{1}{6}(6)$$

$$= 6 - 3t^{3} - t^{2} + t - 5 + 0 - 1$$

$$= t - t^{2} - 3t^{3}$$

• Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

Then *S* is linearly dependent because

$$\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3 = (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + (0)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 = (0)\begin{bmatrix}1\\-3\end{bmatrix} + (0)\begin{bmatrix}-7\\-5\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}0\\0\end{bmatrix}$$

Proposition

(Testing whether a Set of Vectors is Linearly Independent or not)

<u>TASK:</u> Determine whether $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k}$ is linearly independent.

- (1) Let $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$ be unknown scalars s.t. $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \cdots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{0}$ (2) Compute & simplify/factor LHS expression: $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \cdots + c_k \vec{v}_k$
- (3) Equate both sides of equation, component by component.
- (4) Form coefficient matrix A from the LHS of the resulting linear system.
- (5) Perform Gauss-Jordan Elimination on matrix A.
- (*) If every column of RREF(A) contains a pivot, S is linearly independent.
- (*) If RREF(A) **contains column(s) without a pivot**, *S* is linearly dependent. Non-pivot columns of *A* are linear combinations of pivot columns of *A*. Such linear comb's are expressed in the non-pivot columns of RREF(A).

Linear Independence Test (Simplified Procedure)

Fortunately, the procedure can be greatly simplified:

Proposition

(Testing whether a Set of Vectors is Linearly Independent or not)

<u>TASK</u>: Determine whether $S = {\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \cdots, \vec{v}_k}$ is linearly independent.

- (1) Form matrix A with $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \cdots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k$ as its columns: $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 & \cdots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \end{bmatrix}$
- (2) Perform Gauss-Jordan Elimination on matrix A.
- (*) If every column of RREF(A) contains a pivot, S is linearly independent.
- (*) If RREF(A) **contains column(s) without a pivot**, *S* is linearly dependent. Non-pivot columns of *A* are linear combinations of pivot columns of *A*. Such linear comb's are expressed in the non-pivot columns of RREF(A).

WEX 4-4-4: Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$$

(a) Does *S* span \mathbb{R}^3 ? (b) Is *S* linearly independent or dependent?

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{WEX 4-4-4:}}_{\mathbf{X}} \text{ Let } S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\-4\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2\\-3\\2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$$
(a) Does *S* span \mathbb{R}^3 ? (b) Is *S* linearly independent or dependent?

$$\operatorname{Let} A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | \\ \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 \\ | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\\-4 & -3\\2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Then Gauss-Jordan applied to } A \text{ yields:}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\\-4 & -3\\2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2\\-4 & -3\\0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-4 & -3\\0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 & 1\\0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0 & 0\\0 & 1\\0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

WEX 4-4-4: Let
$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ -4\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ -3\\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \equiv \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$$

(a) Does *S* span \mathbb{R}^3 ? (b) Is *S* linearly independent or dependent?
Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 \\ | & | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\\ -4 & -3\\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Then Gauss-Jordan applied to *A* yields:
 $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\\ -4 & -3\\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2\\ -4 & -3\\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1\\ -4 & -3\\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 0 & 1\\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0\\ 0 & 1\\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
(a) RREF(*A*) contains a row of zeros $\implies S$ does not span \mathbb{R}^3
(b) Every column of RREF(*A*) contains a pivot $\implies S$ is linearly independent

WEX 4-4-5: Let $S = \{1 + 4t + t^2, 2 + 2t - t^2, -2 - 4t, 1 - 2t, -2 - 2t + t^2\} \equiv \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5\}$ (a) Does *S* span *P*₂? (b) Is *S* linearly independent or dependent?

WEX 4-4-5: Let $\overline{S = \{1 + 4t + t^2, 2 + 2t - t^2, -2 - 4t, 1 - 2t, -2 - 2t + t^2\}} \equiv \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5\}$ (a) Does S span P_2 ? (b) Is S linearly independent or dependent? Then: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \cdots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2/3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

WEX 4-4-5: Let $S = \{1 + 4t + t^2, 2 + 2t - t^2, -2 - 4t, 1 - 2t, -2 - 2t + t^2\} \equiv \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5\}$ (a) Does S span P_2 ? (b) Is S linearly independent or dependent? Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | & | & | \\ p_1(t) & p_2(t) & p_3(t) & p_4(t) & p_5(t) \\ | & | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$ Then: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2/3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (a) Every row of RREF(A) contains a pivot $\implies |S$ spans $P_2|$ (b) Columns 3 & 5 of RREF(A) contain no pivot $\implies |S|$ is linearly dependent

WEX 4-4-5: Let $S = \{1 + 4t + t^{2}, 2 + 2t - t^{2}, -2 - 4t, 1 - 2t, -2 - 2t + t^{2}\} \equiv \{p_{1}, p_{2}, p_{3}, p_{4}, p_{5}\}$ (a) Does S span P₂? (b) Is S linearly independent or dependent? Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | & | \\ p_{1}(t) & p_{2}(t) & p_{3}(t) & p_{4}(t) & p_{5}(t) \\ | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Then:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2/3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Every row of RREF(A) contains a pivot \implies S spans P_2

(b) Columns 3 & 5 of RREF(A) contain no pivot \implies *S* is linearly dependent (Column 3 of A) = $\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(1^{st}$ Pivot Column of A) + $\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(2^{nd}$ Pivot Column of A) $p_3(t) = \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) p_1(t) + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) p_2(t)$ $-2 - 4t = \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(1 + 4t + t^2\right) + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \left(2 + 2t - t^2\right)$

$\begin{array}{l} \underline{\textbf{WEX 4-4-5:}} & \text{Let} \\ S = \{1 + 4t + t^2, 2 + 2t - t^2, -2 - 4t, 1 - 2t, -2 - 2t + t^2\} \equiv \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5\} \\ \text{(a) Does S span P_2? (b) Is S linearly independent or dependent?} \\ \text{Let $A = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} | & | & | & | \\ p_1(t) & p_2(t) & p_3(t) & p_4(t) & p_5(t) \\ | & | & | & | \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1\end{array}\right]. \\ \text{Then:} \end{array}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & -2/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & -2/3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Every row of RREF(A) contains a pivot \implies S spans P_2

(b) Columns 3 & 5 of RREF(*A*) contain no pivot \implies *S* is linearly dependent (Column 3 of *A*) = $\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)$ (1st Pivot Column of *A*) + $\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)$ (2nd Pivot Column of *A*) (Column 5 of *A*) = (-1) (2nd Pivot Column of *A*) $p_5(t) = (-1)p_2(t) \implies -2 - 2t + t^2 = (-1)(2 + 2t - t^2)$

Fin.