

# Linear Combinations and Span Practice Problems Solutions

1. Write 3 different examples of linear combinations of the vectors in each of the given sets.

(a)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(b)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(c)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(d)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(e)

$$\{x^2 + 2x + 1, x - 1, -x^2 - 5\}$$

(f)

$$\{x^2, x^2 + x, x^2 + x + 1\}$$

(g)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

*solution:*

(a)

$$2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \\
0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5/2 \\ -1 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix} \\
0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + 4 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \\
\sqrt{2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

(d)

$$\begin{aligned}
1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
(-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

(e)

$$\begin{aligned}
3 \cdot (x^2 + 2x + 1) + (-2) \cdot (x - 1) + 1 \cdot (-x^2 - 5) &= 2x^2 + 4x \\
-\frac{1}{2} \cdot (x^2 + 2x + 1) + 1 \cdot (x - 1) + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot (-x^2 - 5) &= 1 \\
-\frac{1}{2} \cdot (x^2 + 2x + 1) + 2 \cdot (x - 1) + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot (-x^2 - 5) &= x
\end{aligned}$$

(f)

$$\begin{aligned}
1 \cdot (x^2) + 0 \cdot (x^2 + x) + 0 \cdot (x^2 + x + 1) &= x^2 \\
(-1) \cdot (x^2) + 1 \cdot (x^2 + x) + 0 \cdot (x^2 + x + 1) &= x \\
0 \cdot (x^2) + (-1) \cdot (x^2 + x) + 1 \cdot (x^2 + x + 1) &= 1
\end{aligned}$$

(g)

$$\begin{aligned}
1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \\
(-2) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

□

2. For each of the following, determine whether the given vector  $\mathbf{v}$  belongs to the span of the given set of vectors. If it does, express it as a linear combination, otherwise explain why it does not belong.

(a)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(b)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(c)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(d)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(e)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(f)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(g)

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 7 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad , \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(h)

$$\mathbf{v} = 2x^2 - 3x + 1 \quad , \quad \{-x^2 - x - 1, x^2 + 3x, 3x - 1\}$$

(i)

$$\mathbf{v} = x^2 + x + 1 \quad , \quad \{x^2 + 2x - 3, x + 2, 1\}$$

(j)

$$\mathbf{v} = x \quad , \quad \{x^2 + x, x^2x + 2, x^2 - 3x - 4\}$$

*solution:*

- (a) Our goal is to solve the vector equation,

$$x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This yields the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - z &= 0 \\ -2x + 2z &= 2 \\ -y + z &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

which we can solve using the augmented matrix form.

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) &\xrightarrow{R_2+2R_1} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_2} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\ &\xrightarrow[\frac{R_3+R_2}{R_1-R_2}]{} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1+R_3} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The unique solution is  $x = 1, y = 1, z = 2$ , so

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (b) Solving with the same strategy as part (a), we see that

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (c) Solving with the same strategy as part (a), we obtain an inconsistent system. Thus vector  $\mathbf{v}$  does not belong to the span of the given set of vectors.  
 (d) Solving with the same strategy as part (a), we obtain the solution set

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1/6 \\ 1/6 \\ 1/3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -1/3 \\ -1/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \middle| t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Setting  $t = 0$  (for example) yields

$$\frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (e) Our goal is to solve the vector equation,

$$x \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Equating entries on both sides yields the system

$$\begin{aligned} -x + y + 4z &= 1 \\ 2x - 2z &= 0 \\ x - z &= 0 \\ 3x + 3y + 4z &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

which we can solve using the augmented matrix form.

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

Solving yields the unique solution  $x = 1, y = -2, z = 1$ , so we see

$$1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + (-2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (f) Solving with the same strategy as part (e), we obtain an inconsistent system. Thus vector  $\mathbf{v}$  does not belong to the span of the given set of vectors.
- (g) We may solve with the same strategy as part (e), and obtain an inconsistent system (this would involve system of 9 equations with 5 unknowns). However we can see this more simply by inspection. Consider the equation

$$x_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_5 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 7 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

The 3 in the 1, 1-entry of  $\mathbf{v}$  forces the  $x_1$  to be 3, which in turn forces  $x_3$  to be  $-2$  because the 2, 2-entry of  $\mathbf{v}$  is 1. This makes the 3, 3-entry of the sum the left equal to 1 and not 5, since the 3, 3-entries in the other matrices are all 0. Thus vector  $\mathbf{v}$  does not belong to the span of the given set of vectors.

(h)

$$\mathbf{v} = 2x^2 - 3x + 1 \quad , \quad \{-x^2 - x - 1, x^2 + 3x, 3x - 1\}$$

(i)

$$\mathbf{v} = x^2 + x + 1 \quad , \quad \{x^2 + 2x - 3, x + 2, 1\}$$

(j)

$$\mathbf{v} = x \quad , \quad \{x^2 + x, x^2x + 2, x^2 - 3x - 4\}$$

□

3. In each part, determine whether  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ ,  $S_2 \subseteq S_1$ ,  $S_1 = S_2$ , or neither.

(a)

$$S_1 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad S_2 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(b)

$$S_1 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad S_2 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(c)

$$S_1 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad S_2 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(d)

$$S_1 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad S_2 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(e)

$$S_1 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad S_2 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

*solution:*

In each part the strategy is the same. If the vectors which span  $S_1$  belong to  $S_2$  then their  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ . Vice versa if the vectors which span in  $S_2$  belong to  $S_1$  then  $S_2 \subseteq S_1$ . If both of these are true then  $S_1 = S_2$ .

(a) We solve

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + B \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = C \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + D \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

This gives us two systems of equations

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2A - B & = & 1 \\ A + B & = & 0 \\ 4A + B & = & 1 \\ -A + 2B & = & -1 \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

and

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2C - D & = & 0 \\ C + D & = & 1 \\ 4C + D & = & 2 \\ -C + 2D & = & 1 \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

Since the coefficients are the same in each system, we can solve these simultaneously with the augmented matrix

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} R_1 - 2R_2 \\ R_3 - 4R_2 \\ R_4 + R_2 \end{array} \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & -3 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\begin{array}{c} R_3 + R_4 \\ R_1 + R_4 \end{array}]{\begin{array}{c} R_3 + R_4 \\ R_1 + R_4 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

Rows 1 and 3 show that this system is inconsistent, and hence there is no solution for  $A$  and  $B$  to make the first equation work. Thus  $S_1$  is not a subset of  $S_2$ .

Similarly, by swapping sides we can use the matrix

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

to determine whether  $\text{span}S_2 \subseteq \text{span}S_1$  (this solves for  $C$  and  $D$  above).

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\begin{array}{c} R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}]{\begin{array}{c} R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 3 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_2 \\ R_4 - R_2 \end{array}]{\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_2 \\ R_4 - R_2 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

Again we get an inconsistent system, thus  $S_2$  is not a subset of  $S_1$ .

- (b) As we did in part (a), to determine if the vectors which span  $S_1$  belong to  $S_2$  we can solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 & \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 4 & \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & \end{array} \right)$$

however, we immediately see that this system is inconsistent, so  $S_1$  is not a subset of  $S_2$ . On the other hand to determine whether  $S_2$  is a subset of  $S_1$  we solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}]{\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

Since this system is consistent, it follows that  $S_2 \subset S_1$ .

- (c) To determine whether  $S_1$  is a subset of  $S_2$  we solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}]{\begin{array}{c} R_3 - 2R_1 \\ R_4 - R_1 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

We see that the system is consistent, which shows that  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ . On the other hand since the system

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

is inconsistent we see that  $S_2$  is not a subset of  $S_1$ .

(d) To determine whether  $S_1$  is a subset of  $S_2$  we solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} -2 & 3 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 8 & 2 & 10 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\ & \xrightarrow[\substack{R_3+2R_1 \\ R_4+4R_1}]{\substack{R_3-4R_2 \\ R_4-7R_2}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} -2 & 3 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 8 & 8 & 4 & -4 \\ 0 & 14 & 14 & 7 & -7 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\substack{R_3-4R_2 \\ R_4-7R_2}]{\substack{R_3+2R_1 \\ R_4+4R_1}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} -2 & 3 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

We see that the system is consistent, which shows that  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ . On the other hand to determine whether  $S_2$  is a subset of  $S_1$  we solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & -2 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & 8 & 2 & 10 \end{array} \right) \\ & \xrightarrow[\substack{R_3-2R_1 \\ R_4-3R_1}]{\substack{R_2-R_1 \\ R_3-4R_2 \\ R_4-7R_2}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & -2 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 8 & -4 & 4 \\ 0 & 7 & 14 & -7 & 7 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\substack{R_3-4R_2 \\ R_4-7R_2}]{\substack{R_2-R_1 \\ R_3-2R_1 \\ R_4-3R_1}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & -2 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Since this system is consistent, it follows that  $S_2 \subset S_1$ , and hence  $S_1 = S_2$ .

(e) To determine whether  $S_1$  is a subset of  $S_2$  we solve

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \\ & \xrightarrow{R_4+R_1} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Since this system is inconsistent we see that  $S_1$  is not a subset of  $S_2$ . On the other hand to determine whether  $S_2$  is a subset of  $S_1$  we solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

We see that the system is consistent, which shows that  $S_2 \subset S_1$ .

□