Write the matrix A = [3, -1, 1, -2] as a linear combination of A1 = [1, 1, 0, -1], A2 = [1, 1, -1, 0] and A3 = [1, -1, 0, 0]

Solution:

We need to present the matrix A in the form:

$$A = x * A_1 + y * A_2 + z * A_3$$

where *x*, *y*, *z* some constants.

$$x * A_1 + y * A_2 + z * A_3 = x * [1,1,0,-1] + y * [1,1,-1,0] + z * [1,-1,0,0]$$

= [x, x, 0, -x] + [y, y, -y, 0] + [z, -z, 0,0]
= [x + y + z, x + y - z, 0 - y + 0, -x + 0 + 0]
= [x + y + z, x + y - z, -y, -x]

So we have that

$$[x + y + z, x + y - z, -y, -x] = A$$
$$[x + y + z, x + y - z, -y, -x] = [3, -1, 1, -2]$$

We have next system of linear equation:

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

So matrix A can be present as

$$A = 2A_1 - A_2 + 2A_3$$

Answer: $A = 2A_1 - A_2 + 2A_3$