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are also solutions to [a]. We find that  $\{a_1 e^{i\omega t} \cos \mu t + b_1 e^{i\omega t} \sin \mu t,$   
 $b_1 e^{i\omega t} \cos \mu t + a_1 e^{i\omega t} \sin \mu t, \dots, a_R e^{i\omega t} \cos \mu t - b_R e^{i\omega t} \sin \mu t, b_R e^{i\omega t} \cos \mu t$   
 $+ a_R e^{i\omega t} \sin \mu t, u_{2R+1} e^{i\omega t}, \dots, u_n e^{i\omega t}\} = \{\varphi_1(t), \dots, \varphi_n(t)\}$  is a

collection of real-valued solutions to [a]. Claim that

$\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$  is a fundamental set of [a]. Proof of the

claim: We need to prove that  $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(t) \neq 0$ , for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $t=0$ . Then,  $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(0) = \det(\varphi_1(0), \dots, \varphi_n(0)) = \det(a_1, b_1, \dots, a_R, b_R,$

$u_{2R+1}, \dots, u_n)$ . Check that  $\{a_1, b_1, \dots, a_R, b_R, u_{2R+1}, \dots, u_n\}$  are linearly

independent. If not, we can find  $(c_1, d_1, k_1, d_2, \dots, c_R, d_R, c_{2R+1},$

$c_{2R+2}, \dots, c_n) \neq 0$ , such that  $c_1 a_1 + d_1 b_1 + \dots + c_R a_R + d_R b_R +$

$c_{2R+1} u_{2R+1} + \dots + c_n u_n = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} (c_1 + i d_1) (a_1 + i b_1) + \frac{1}{2} (c_1 + i d_1) (a_1 - i b_1)$

$+ \frac{1}{2} (c_2 - i d_2) (a_2 + i b_2) + \frac{1}{2} (c_2 + i d_2) (a_2 - i b_2) + \dots + \frac{1}{2} (c_R - i d_R) (a_R + i b_R)$

$+ \frac{1}{2} (c_R + i d_R) (a_R - i b_R) + c_{2R+1} u_{2R+1} + \dots + c_n u_n = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = d_1 = \dots = c_R = d_R =$

$= c_{2R+1} = \dots = c_n = 0$ . Hence  $\{a_1, b_1, \dots, a_R, b_R, u_{2R+1}, \dots, u_n\}$  are linear

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independent. Hence  $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(0) \neq 0$ . By Thm 7.12, we deduce

that  $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(t) \neq 0$ , for every  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus,  $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$  is

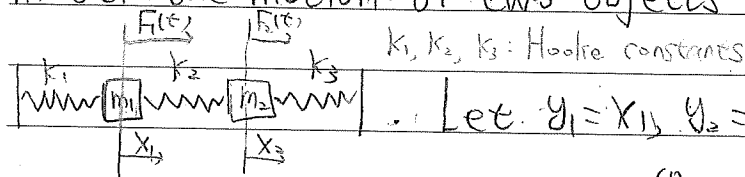
a real-valued fundamental set of  $[a]$ . Hence the general solution

$$\text{of } x' = Ax \text{ is of the form } x(t) = \sum_{j=1}^k [C_1^{(j)}(a_j \cos \mu_j t - b_j \sin \mu_j t) + C_2^{(j)}(a_j \sin \mu_j t + b_j \cos \mu_j t)] e^{j t} + \sum_{j=2k+1}^n C_j u_j e^{j t}$$

Example 7.17: Consider the two-mass three-spring system

$$\begin{cases} m_1 x_1''(t) = -(k_1 + k_2)x_1 + k_2 x_2 + F_1(t) \\ m_2 x_2''(t) = k_2 x_1 - (k_2 + k_3)x_2 + F_2(t) \end{cases} \quad (7.17)$$

model the motion of two objects shown in the figure below:



Let  $y_1 = x_1, y_2 = x_2, y_3 = x_1', y_4 = x_2'$ . Then

$$y = (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)^T \text{ satisfies } y' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k_1+k_2}{m_1} & \frac{k_2}{m_1} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{k_2}{m_2} & -\frac{k_2+k_3}{m_2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{F_1(t)}{m_1} \\ \frac{F_2(t)}{m_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Suppose  $F_1(t) = 0, F_2(t) = 0, m_1 = 2, m_2 = \frac{9}{4}, k_1 = 1, k_2 = 3, k_3 = \frac{15}{4}$ .

$\Rightarrow y' = Ay, A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{4}{3} & \frac{4}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{4}{3} & -\frac{19}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . The eigenvalue  $r$  of  $A$  satisfies

$$\det(A - rI) = 0. \quad \det(A - rI) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -r & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -r & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{4}{3} & \frac{4}{3} & -r & 0 \\ \frac{4}{3} & -\frac{19}{3} & 0 & -r \end{pmatrix} = r^4 + 5r^2 + 4$$

$\Rightarrow \pm i, \pm 2i$  are eigenvalues of  $A$ . Let  $r_1 = i, r_2 = -i, r_3 = 2i, r_4 = -2i$ .

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Corresponding eigenvectors can be chosen as  $u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $u_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $u_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $a =$

$(3, 2, 0, 0)^T$ ,  $b = (0, 0, 3, 2)^T$ ,  $c = (3, -4, 0, 0)^T$ ,  $d = (4, 0, 6, -8)^T$ . The general

solution to  $y' = Ay$  is  $y(t) = C_1 (a \cos t - b \sin t) + C_2 (a \sin t + b \cos t)$

$+ C_3 (c \cos 2t - d \sin 2t) + C_4 (c \sin 2t + d \cos 2t)$ . □

§ 7.3.3. The case that  $A$  has repeated eigenvalues.

When  $A$  is diagonalizable, the discussion is pretty much

the same as Sections § 6.3.1 and § 6.3.2. Assume  $A$  is

diagonalizable, then  $A = P \Lambda P^{-1}$  for some diagonal matrix  $\Lambda$ .

Then,  $x' = Ax$  with initial data  $x(t_0) = x_0$  can be written as

$x(t) = P e^{(t-t_0)\Lambda} P^{-1} x_0$ . So we focus on the case when

$A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix which is not diagonalizable.

Recall some linear algebra: Write  $\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda - \lambda_1)^{m_1} (\lambda - \lambda_2)^{m_2}$

$(\lambda - \lambda_j)^{m_j}$  For  $j=1, \dots, k$ , let  $E_{\lambda_j} := \{v \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid (A - \lambda_j I)v = 0\}$ .  
 $m_1 + \dots + m_k = n$ .

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A is diagonalizable if and only if  $\dim E_{\lambda_j} = m_j$ , for every

$j=1, 2, \dots, k$ . A is not diagonalizable if and only if there is

a  $j_0 \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ , such that  $\dim E_{\lambda_{j_0}} < m_{j_0}$ .

Example 7.18: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & 3-\lambda \end{pmatrix} =$

$$(1-\lambda)(3-\lambda) + 1 = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4 = (\lambda - 2)^2 \quad E_2 = \{v \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid Av = 2v\} = \text{span} \{(1, -1)^T\}$$

$\Rightarrow \dim E_2 = 1 < 2 \Rightarrow A$  is not diagonalizable.  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1' = x_1 - x_2 \\ x_2' = x_1 + 3x_2 \end{cases} \quad [*] \Rightarrow x_2 = x_1 - x_1' \Rightarrow x_1' - x_1'' = x_1 + 3(x_1 - x_1') = 4x_1 - 3x_1'$$

$\Rightarrow x_1'' - 4x_1' + 4x_1 = 0$ . This is a second order O.D.E. and the

characteristic equation  $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0$  has double root  $r = 2$ .

$$\Rightarrow x_1(t) = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t} \Rightarrow X = (x_1(t), x_2(t))^T = (C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t}, - (C_1 + C_2) e^{2t} - C_2 t e^{2t})^T$$

Given an large non-diagonalizable matrix A, it is almost

impossible to carry out the same computation as in Example 7.18.

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Thm 7.19: Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}$  be a real constant matrix. Then thesolution to  $x' = Ax$  with initial data  $x(t_0) = x_0$  is given by

$$x(t) = e^{(t-t_0)A} x_0.$$

pf: Let  $y(t) = e^{(t-t_0)A} x_0$ . Then,  $y(t) = (I + (t-t_0)A + \frac{(t-t_0)^2}{2!} A^2 + \dots) x_0$ 

$$= x_0 + (t-t_0)A x_0 + \frac{(t-t_0)^2}{2!} A^2 x_0 + \dots + \frac{(t-t_0)^{p-1}}{(p-1)!} A^{p-1} x_0 + \dots. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$y'(t) = A x_0 + (t-t_0)A^2 x_0 + \dots + \frac{(t-t_0)^{p-1}}{(p-1)!} A^p x_0 + \dots = A(I + (t-t_0)A$$

$$+ \dots + \frac{(t-t_0)^{p-1}}{(p-1)!} A^{p-1} + \dots) x_0 = A e^{(t-t_0)A} x_0 = A y(t). \Rightarrow y' = Ay.$$

When  $A$  is diagonalizable,  $A = P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)P^{-1}$ ,  $e^{At} = P(\begin{matrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{matrix})P^{-1}$ Q: How to compute  $e^{At}$  when  $A$  is not diagonalizable?Example 7.20: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .  $\det(A - \lambda I) = (1 - \lambda)^2$ .  $E_\lambda = \{v \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid$  $Av = \lambda v\}$ .  $\dim E_\lambda = 1 < 2 \Rightarrow A$  is not diagonalizable. For every

$$k \in \mathbb{N}, t^k A^k = t^k \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^k. \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 3 \times 2 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 12 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16 & 8 \times 2 \\ 0 & 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2^k & 4 \times 2^{k-1} \\ 0 & 2^k \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^k = \begin{pmatrix} 2^k & k \cdot 2^{k-1} \\ 0 & 2^k \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow t^k A^k = \begin{pmatrix} t^k 2^k & t^k k \cdot 2^{k-1} \\ 0 & t^k 2^k \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\Rightarrow e^{tA} = I + tA + \frac{1}{2!}(tA)^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{(r-1)!}(tA)^{r-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \frac{(t\lambda)^k}{k!} & \dots & \frac{t^{r-1}}{(r-1)!} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \frac{(t\lambda)^k}{k!} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{t\lambda} & t e^{t\lambda} \\ 0 & e^{t\lambda} \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Similarly, for } A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{t\lambda} & t e^{t\lambda} \\ 0 & e^{t\lambda} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Def 7.21: A matrix  $A \in M_{n \times n}$  is said to be of Jordan canonical

form if  $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 & & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & A_r \end{pmatrix}$ , where each  $0$  is zero matrix and

each  $A_j$  is a square matrix of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  or  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$ ,

for some eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ .

Note that the diagonal elements of different  $A_j$  might be the

same and a diagonal matrix is of Jordan canonical form.

Thm 7.22: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & A_r \end{pmatrix}$  be a Jordan canonical form. Then,

$$A^k = \begin{pmatrix} A_1^k & 0 \\ 0 & A_r^k \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for every } k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } e^{tA} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{tA_1} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{tA_r} \end{pmatrix}.$$

pt: By some straightforward computation.

Example 7.23: Let  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is of Jordan canonical

form and  $e^{t\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{t\lambda} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{t\lambda} & t e^{t\lambda} \\ 0 & 0 & e^{t\lambda} \end{pmatrix}$ .

Example 7.24: Let  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is of Jordan canonical

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Form and  $\Lambda^R = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^R & \lambda^R \lambda^{R-1} & \dots & \lambda^R \lambda^{R-2} \\ 0 & \lambda^R & \dots & \lambda^R \lambda^{R-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda^R \end{pmatrix}$ , for every  $R \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $e^{\Lambda t}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \lambda^{R-k} & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \lambda^{R-k-1} & \dots & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \lambda^{R-k-2} \\ 0 & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \lambda^{R-k} & \dots & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \lambda^{R-k-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} \lambda^k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t} & t e^{\lambda t} & \dots & \frac{1}{2} t^2 e^{\lambda t} \\ 0 & e^{\lambda t} & \dots & t e^{\lambda t} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & e^{\lambda t} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thm 7.25 Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$  is a  $m \times m$  matrix. For every

$R \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\Lambda^R = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^R & R \lambda^{R-1} & \binom{R}{2} \lambda^{R-2} & \dots & \binom{R}{m-1} \lambda^{R-m+1} \\ 0 & \lambda^R & R \lambda^{R-1} & \dots & \binom{R}{m-2} \lambda^{R-m+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda^R & R \lambda^{R-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda^R \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $C_m^R = \frac{R!}{m! (R-m)!}$  if  $R \geq m$  and  $C_m^R = 0$  if  $R < m$ .

pf: [\*] holds for  $R=1$ . Assume that [\*] holds for every  $R \leq k$ .

$k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ . We are going to prove that [\*] holds for  $R = k_0 + 1$ .

$$\Lambda^{k_0+1} = \Lambda^{k_0} \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{k_0} & k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} & \binom{k_0}{2} \lambda^{k_0-2} & \dots & \binom{k_0}{m-1} \lambda^{k_0-m+1} \\ 0 & \lambda^{k_0} & k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} & \dots & \binom{k_0}{m-2} \lambda^{k_0-m+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda^{k_0} & k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda^{k_0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{k_0+1} & \lambda^{k_0} + k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} & k_0 \lambda^{k_0-2} + \binom{k_0}{2} \lambda^{k_0-2} & \dots & \binom{k_0}{m-1} \lambda^{k_0-m+1} + \binom{k_0}{m-2} \lambda^{k_0-m+2} \\ 0 & \lambda^{k_0+1} & \lambda^{k_0} + k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} & \dots & \binom{k_0}{m-2} \lambda^{k_0-m+2} + \binom{k_0}{m-3} \lambda^{k_0-m+3} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda^{k_0+1} & \lambda^{k_0} + k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda^{k_0+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda^{k_0} + k_0 \lambda^{k_0-1} = (k_0+1) \lambda^{k_0}, \quad k_0 \lambda^{k_0-2} + \binom{k_0}{2} \lambda^{k_0-2} = \lambda^{k_0-2} (k_0 + \binom{k_0}{2}) = \lambda^{k_0-2} (C_1 + C_2)$$

$$= \lambda^{k_0} + C_{k_0+1}^{k_0} \quad C_j \lambda^{k_0-j} + C_{j+1} \lambda^{k_0-j} = \lambda^{k_0-j} (C_j + C_{j+1}) = \lambda^{k_0-j} C_{j+1}^{k_0+1}$$

$\Rightarrow$  [\*] holds for  $R = k_0 + 1$ . By induction, the theorem follows.

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$  be a  $m \times m$  matrix. From Thm 7.25,

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We deduce that  $e^{tA} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{t\lambda} & te^{t\lambda} & \frac{1}{2}t^2e^{t\lambda} & \dots & \frac{t^{m-1}}{(m-1)!}e^{t\lambda} \\ & e^{t\lambda} & te^{t\lambda} & \dots & \frac{t^{m-2}}{(m-2)!}e^{t\lambda} \\ & & e^{t\lambda} & \dots & \frac{t^{m-3}}{(m-3)!}e^{t\lambda} \\ & & & \dots & e^{t\lambda} \end{pmatrix} := [*I]$

Thm 7.26: Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}$ . There exists an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix  $P$  and a matrix  $\Lambda$  of Jordan canonical form such that  $A = P\Lambda P^{-1}$ .

Given a Jordan decomposition  $A = P\Lambda P^{-1}$ , we have  $e^{tA} = P e^{t\Lambda} P^{-1}$ .

We can compute  $e^{t\Lambda}$  by using Thm 7.22 and [\*I]. Thus the computation of  $e^{tA}$  becomes easier as long as we know how to find the decomposition  $A = P\Lambda P^{-1}$ .

$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} C_k t^k A^k$   
 $C_0 + C_1 A + C_2 A^2 + \dots + C_{m-1} A^{m-1}$

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Review some linear algebra: How to obtain a Jordan decomposition of a matrix  $A \in M_{\mathbb{C}^n}$ .

Def 7.27: Let  $A \in M_{\mathbb{C}^n}$ . A vector  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is called a generalized eigenvector of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda$  if  $(A - \lambda I)^p v = 0$  for some positive  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .

If  $v$  is a generalized eigenvector of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda$  and  $p$  is the smallest positive integer for which  $(A - \lambda I)^p v = 0$ .

Then,  $(A - \lambda I)^{p-1} v \neq 0$  and  $(A - \lambda I)^{p-1} v$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda$ . Therefore  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

Def 7.28: (Generalized eigenspaces): Let  $A \in M_{\mathbb{C}^n}$  and  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$ . The generalized eigenspace of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda$ , denoted by  $K_\lambda$ , is the subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  given by  $K_\lambda := \{v \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid (A - \lambda I)^p v = 0, \text{ for some positive integer } p\}$ .

The construction of Jordan decomposition:

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For simplicity, we assume that  $\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda - \lambda_0)^n$ . We look for

an invertible matrix  $P$  so that  $A = P \Lambda P^{-1}$ ,  $\Lambda$  Jordan form. Let  $E_{\lambda_0} = \{v \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid (A - \lambda_0 I)v = 0\}$

$K_{\lambda_0} = \{v \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid (A - \lambda_0 I)^p v = 0, \text{ for some } p \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Let  $r = \dim E_{\lambda_0}$

It is well known that (linear algebra),  $\dim K_{\lambda_0} = n$ .  $\Phi$  Determine

the smallest integer  $k$  such that  $n = \dim(\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_0 I)^k)$ . For simplicity

We assume that  $k=3$ .  $\exists \exists$  Find  $p_l = \dim(\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_0 I)^l)$ ,  $l=1, 2, 3$ .

Note that  $0 < p_1 < p_2 < p_3 = n$ . Let  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{p_1}\}$  be a basis for  $\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_0 I)^1$

Let  $\{(A - \lambda_0 I)v_1, \dots, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1}, v_{p_1+1}, \dots, v_{p_2}\}$  be a basis for  $\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_0 I)^2$

Let  $\{(A - \lambda_0 I)^2 v_1, \dots, (A - \lambda_0 I)^2 v_{p_1}, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1+1}, \dots,$

$(A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1+2}, \dots, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_2+1}, \dots, v_{p_2+2}, \dots, v_{p_3}\}$  be a basis for  $\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_0 I)$ .

Note that  $s_1 = p_3 - p_2$ ,  $s_1 + s_2 = p_2 - p_1$ ,  $s_1 + s_2 + s_3 = p_1$ . Let  $W_1 = \{v_{p_2+1}, \dots,$

$v_{p_1+s_2+s_3}\}$ ,  $W_2 = \{(A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1+1}, v_{p_1+1}, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1+2}, v_{p_1+2}, \dots, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1+s_2},$

$v_{p_1+s_2}\}$ ,  $W_3 = \{(A - \lambda_0 I)^2 v_1, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_1, v_1, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_2, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_2, v_2, \dots,$

$(A - \lambda_0 I)^2 v_{p_1}, (A - \lambda_0 I)v_{p_1}, v_{p_1}\}$ . Then  $\{a_1, \dots, a_{s_1+s_2+s_3}, b_1, c_1,$

$\dots, b_{s_1+s_2}, c_{s_1+s_2}, a_1, b_1, c_1, \dots, a_{s_1}, b_{s_1}, c_{s_1}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

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Now  $A\alpha_1 = \lambda_0 \alpha_1, \dots, A\alpha_{s_1+s_2+s_3} = \lambda_0 \alpha_{s_1+s_2+s_3}, A\beta_1 = \lambda_0 \beta_1, A\gamma_1 = \beta_1$

$+ \lambda_0 \gamma_1 = (A - \lambda_0 I)\gamma_1 + \lambda_0 \gamma_1, \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \lambda_0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & \lambda_0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$  with respect to  $\{\beta_1, \gamma_1\}$ .

$\dots, A\beta_{s_1+s_2} = \lambda_0 \beta_{s_1+s_2}, A\gamma_{s_1+s_2} = \beta_{s_1+s_2} + \lambda_0 \gamma_{s_1+s_2}, A\alpha_1 = \lambda_0 \alpha_1,$

$A\beta_1 = \alpha_1 + \lambda_0 \beta_1, A\gamma_1 = (A - \lambda_0 I)\gamma_1 + \lambda_0 \gamma_1 = \beta_1 + \lambda_0 \gamma_1. \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} \lambda_0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & \lambda_0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \lambda_0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$  with

respect to  $\{\alpha_1, \beta_1, \gamma_1\}$ ,  $\dots, A\alpha_{s_1} = \lambda_0 \alpha_{s_1}, A\beta_{s_1} = \alpha_{s_1} + \lambda_0 \beta_{s_1}, A\gamma_{s_1} =$

$\beta_{s_1} + \lambda_0 \gamma_{s_1}$ . We have obtained a Jordan decomposition for  $A$  □

Example 7.29: Find the Jordan decomposition of the matrix

$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 6 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$ .  $\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 4-\lambda & -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 6-\lambda & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 6-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (\lambda - 4)^3 (\lambda - 6)$ .

We can check that  $\dim(\text{Ker}(A - 4I)) = 2, \dim(\text{Ker}(A - 4I)^2) = 3$ .

$\text{Ker}(A - 4I) = \text{span}\{(1, 0, 0, 0)^T, (0, 1, 1, 1)^T\}, \text{Ker}(A - 4I)^2 =$

$\text{span}\{(1, 0, 0, 0)^T, (0, 1, 0, 2)^T, (0, 1, 2, 0)^T\}$ . Note that either

$(0, 1, 0, 2)^T$  or  $(0, 1, 2, 0)^T$  is in  $\text{Ker}(A - 4I)$ . We can

take  $V = (0, 1, 0, 2)^T$  as a basis for the quotient space

$\frac{\text{Ker}(A - 4I)^2}{\text{Ker}(A - 4I)} \Rightarrow (A - 4I)V = (2, 2, 2, 2)^T$ . Take  $(1, 0, 0, 0)^T$  so

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that  $\{(1, 0, 0, 0)^T, (0, 1, 0, 0)^T, (A-4I)(0, 1, 0, 0)^T = (2, 2, 2, 2)^T\}$  is a basis

for  $\text{Ker}((A-4I)^2)$ . Moreover,  $(1, 0, 0, 0)^T$  is an eigenvector of  $A$

associated to  $\lambda=6$ . Let  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $A = P \Lambda P^{-1}$ ,

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 & u_4 \end{matrix}$$

Example 7.30: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find general solution to

$x' = Ax$ . The general solution is given by  $x(t) = e^{tA} x_0$ , for

some vector  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^4$ . Now,  $e^{tA} = P e^{t\Lambda} P^{-1}$ . By  $[*I]$ ,

$$\text{we have } e^{t\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} & t e^{4t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{4t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{4t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{8t} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x(t) = (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} & t e^{4t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{4t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{8t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1} x_0 \Rightarrow x(t) = (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) \begin{pmatrix} c_1 e^{4t} + c_2 t e^{4t} \\ c_2 e^{4t} \\ c_3 e^{4t} \\ c_4 e^{8t} \end{pmatrix} = (c_1 e^{4t} + c_2 t e^{4t}) u_1$$

$$+ c_2 e^{4t} u_2 + c_3 e^{4t} u_3 + c_4 e^{8t} u_4.$$

§7.4: Fundamental matrices: Consider  $x' = P(t)x$ ,  $P(t) \in \mathbb{I} \rightarrow$

$M^{n \times n}$  is a matrix valued function. Let  $\{\varphi_1(t), \dots, \varphi_n(t)\}$

be a fundamental set of  $[*]$ . Recall that (see Def 7.11),

the fundamental matrix for  $[*]$  is the matrix  $\Phi(t) = (\varphi_1(t), \dots, \varphi_n(t))$ .

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Since each column of  $\Phi$  is a solution to  $[*]$ , we have that

$$\Phi'(t) = P(t)\Phi(t) \Rightarrow \Phi'(t)\Phi(t)^{-1} = P(t), \text{ for all } t \in I. \text{ A special}$$

kind of fundamental matrix  $\Phi$  whose initial value  $\Phi(t_0)$

is the identity matrix, is in particular helpful for

constructing solutions to  $\begin{cases} x' = P(t)x \\ x(t_0) = x_0 \end{cases}$ . Let  $x(t) = \Phi(t)x_0$ .

Then,  $x(t_0) = \Phi(t_0)x_0 = x_0$  and  $x'(t) = \Phi'(t)x_0 = P(t)x_0$ .

Property: For each fundamental matrix  $\Psi$  of  $[*]$ , we have

$$\Psi(t) = \Phi(t)\Psi(t_0). \quad \square$$

pf: Let  $\Psi(t) = (\varphi_1(t), \dots, \varphi_n(t))$ , where  $\{\varphi_1(t), \dots, \varphi_n(t)\}$  is a

fundamental set for  $[*]$ . Moreover,  $\varphi_j'(t) = P(t)\varphi_j$ ,  $j=1, \dots, n$ .

Now, consider  $\hat{\varphi}_j(t) := \Phi(t)\varphi_j(t_0)$ ,  $j=1, \dots, n$ . For every  $j=1, \dots, n$ ,

we have  $\hat{\varphi}_j'(t) = P(t)\hat{\varphi}_j(t)$  and  $\hat{\varphi}_j(t_0) = \Phi(t_0)\varphi_j(t_0)$ . By

Thm 7.1,  $\hat{\varphi}_j(t) = \varphi_j(t)$ . Hence,  $\Phi(t)\varphi_j(t_0) = \varphi_j(t)$ ,  $j=1, \dots, n$ .

Thus,  $\Phi(t)\Phi(t_0) = \Psi(t)$ . □

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By [i], given a fundamental matrix  $\Psi$ , we can easily construct the fundamental matrix  $\Phi(t)$  by  $\Phi(t) = \Psi(t)\Psi(t_0)^{-1}$ .

§7.5: Non-homogeneous linear system. Consider the non-homogeneous

$$\begin{cases} x' = P(t)x + g(t); & \text{[a]} \\ x(t_0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

for some non-zero vector-valued function  $g$ .

To solve [a], we need to find a particular solution  $x_p(t)$ .

If we could find such  $x_p(t)$ , then the general solution

to [a] is given by  $x(t) = \Psi(t)C + x_p(t)$ , where  $\Psi$  is a fundamental matrix of  $x' = P(t)x$  [b] and  $C$  is an arbitrary

constant vector. To satisfy the initial data [a], we let

$$C = \Psi(t_0)^{-1}(x_0 - x_p(t_0)) \text{ and the solution to [a] is } x(t) =$$

$$\Psi(t)\Psi(t_0)^{-1}(x_0 - x_p(t_0)) + x_p(t).$$

Thm 7.31: Let  $\Psi(t)$  be a fundamental matrix of system  $x' = P(t)x$

and  $\varphi(t)$  be the solution to the non-homogeneous system

$$\begin{cases} x'(t) = P(t)x + g(t). \\ x(t_0) = x_0 \end{cases} \text{ Then } \varphi(t) = \Psi(t)\Psi(t_0)^{-1}x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Psi(t)\Psi(s)^{-1}g(s)ds$$

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$$p.f.: \varphi(t) = \Phi(t) \Phi(t_0)^{-1} x_0 + \Phi(t) \Phi(t_0)^{-1} g(t) + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi(t) \Phi(s)^{-1} g(s) ds$$

$$= \Phi(t) \Phi(t_0)^{-1} \left( \Phi(t_0) \Phi(t_0)^{-1} x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi(t_0) \Phi(s)^{-1} g(s) ds \right) +$$

$$g(t) = P(t) \varphi(t) + g(t).$$

Note that  $x_p(t) = \Phi(t) \int_{t_0}^t \Phi(s)^{-1} g(s) ds$  is a particular solution  
[ii]

$$t_0: x' = P(t)x + g(t).$$

Example 7.32: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $g(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 2e^t \\ 3e^t \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a particular

solution of  $x' = Ax + g(t)$ .  $\det(A - \lambda I) = (-2 - \lambda)^2 - 1 \Rightarrow \lambda = -1$

and  $\lambda = -3$  are eigenvalues of  $A$ . The corresponding eigenvectors

are  $(1, 1)^T$  and  $(1, -1)^T$ . Thus,  $\{\varphi_1(t) = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \varphi_2(t) = e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}\}$

is a fundamental set of  $x' = Ax$ . By (ii), we find that

$$x_p(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & e^{-3t} \\ e^{-t} & -e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix} \int_0^t \begin{pmatrix} e^{-s} & e^{-3s} \\ e^{-s} & -e^{-3s} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{-s} \\ 3e^{-s} \end{pmatrix} ds$$
 is a

particular solution to  $x' = Ax + g(t)$ . By some straightforward

computation, we can check that  $x_p(t) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 5te^{-t} + 3(t-1) + e^{-t} - (t-\frac{1}{3}) \\ 5te^{-t} + 3(t-1) - e^{-t} + (t-\frac{1}{3}) \end{pmatrix}$