Second Year Mathematics Revision Linear Algebra - Part 2

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Today's plan

- Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
 - Singular Value Decomposition (MATH2601)
- 2 The Jordan Canonical Form
 - Finding Jordan Forms
 - The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem
- Matrix Exponentials
 - Computing Matrix Exponentials
 - Application to Systems of Differential Equations



Singular Values (MATH2601 only section)

Definition 1: Singular Values

A singular value of a $m \times n$ matrix A is the square root of an eigenvalue of A^*A .

Recall: A^*A denotes the adjoint of A.

Definition 2: Singular Value Decomposition

A SVD for an $m \times n$ matrix A is of the form $A = U \Sigma V^*$ where

- U is an $m \times m$ unitary matrix.
- V is an $n \times n$ unitary matrix.
- Σ has entries
 - $\sigma_{ii} > 0$. (These are determined by the singular values.)
 - $\sigma_{ij} = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.



Nice properties of A^*A

Lemma 1: Properties of A^*A

- All eigenvalues of A^*A are real and non-negative (even if A has complex entries!)
- \circ rank $(A^*A) = \operatorname{rank}(A)$

The first one is pretty much why everything works.



SVD Algorithm

Algorithm 1: Finding a SVD

- Find all eigenvalues λ_i of A^*A and write in descending order. Also find their associated eigenvectors of unit length \mathbf{v}_i .
- ② Find an orthonormal set of eigenvectors for A^*A .
 - Automatically occurs when all eigenvalues are distinct, which will usually be the case. Otherwise require Gram-Schmidt for any eigenspace with dimension strictly greater than 1..
- **3** Compute $\mathbf{u}_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_i}} A \mathbf{v}_i$ for each non-zero eigenvalue.
- State U and V from the vectors you found, and Σ from the singular values.

Lemma 2: Used to speed up step 1

- A*A and AA* share the same non-zero eigenvalues.
- If rank(A) = r, then A^*A has r non-zero eigenvalues. All other eigenvalues are 0.



Example 1: MATH2601 2017 Q2 c)

For the matrix
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Find the eigenvalues of AA^* .
- 2 Explain why the eigenvalues in part 1 are also eigenvalues of A^*A , and state any other eigenvalues of A^*A .
- **I** Find all eigenvectors of A^*A .
- Find a singular value decomposition for A.



Part 1: We compute

$$AA^* = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 11 & 1 \\ 1 & 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This matrix has two eigenvalues, and they sum to $tr(AA^*) = 22$ and multiply to $det(AA^*) = 120$. By inspection, $\lambda_1 = 12$ and $\lambda_2 = 10$.



Part 2: Quoted word for word from the answers...

"We know that A^*A and AA^* have the same nonzero eigenvalues, so 12 and 10 are eigenvalues of A^*A .

Also, all eigenvalues of A^*A are real and nonnegative, so its third eigenvalue is 0."



Part 3: We compute

$$A^*A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 10 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For $\lambda = 12$:

$$A^*A - 12I = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & -10 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Looking at row 1, arbitrarily set first component to 1, and then the third component is 1. Equating row 2, the second component is 2.

$$\therefore \boxed{\mathbf{v}_1 = t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}.$$



Part 3: We compute

$$A^*A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 10 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For $\lambda = 10$:

$$A^*A - 10I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & -8 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Rows 1 and 2 force the third component to be 0. Looking at row 3, it is easier to set the second component to 1, and then the first component will be -2.

$$\therefore \boxed{\mathbf{v}_2 = t \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}.$$



Part 3: We compute

$$A^*A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 10 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For $\lambda=0$, looking at A^*A itself, there really are many possibilities we can go about it. But I follow the answers, which arbitrarily set the first component to -1. See if you can then show that

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$
.

Note: In each case, $t \in \mathbb{R}$.



Part 4: In each case, choose the value of *t* that normalises the eigenvectors:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = rac{1}{\sqrt{6}} egin{pmatrix} 1 \ 2 \ 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad (\lambda_1 = 12)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} -2\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad (\lambda_2 = 10)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{30}} \begin{pmatrix} -1\\ -2\\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$



Part 4: Compute $\mathbf{u}_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_i}} A \mathbf{v}_i$ for each non-zero eigenvector:

$$\mathbf{u}_{1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{u}_{2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$





Part 4: We conclude that a SVD for A is $A = U\Sigma V^*$, where

$$U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{10} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{30}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{30}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 & \frac{5}{\sqrt{30}} \end{pmatrix}$$



Remark

For $A = U\Sigma V^*$, where $A \in \mathrm{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$:

- The columns of $U = (\mathbf{u}_1 \dots \mathbf{u}_m)$ are called the left singular vectors.
- The columns of $V = (\mathbf{v}_1 \dots \mathbf{v}_n)$ are called the right singular vectors.

Word of advice: Write some of these numbers **very quickly**! SVDs are instructive when you know the method, but it always takes forever to do.

Reduced SVD

I don't see these examined, but I should still mention them.

- **1** Obtain $\hat{\Sigma}$ by removing any zero columns in Σ
- ② Obtain \hat{V} by removing the corresponding *columns* in V.
- **3** Then, $A = U\hat{\Sigma}\hat{V}^*$.

For the earlier example:

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{12} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{10} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$





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Jordan Blocks

Definition 3: Jordan blocks

The $k \times k$ Jordan block for λ is the matrix

$$J_k(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_{k \times k}(\mathbb{C}).$$

That is, put λ on every entry along the main diagonal, and a 1 immediately above each λ wherever possible.

Jordan Blocks

Quick examples:

$$J_3(-4) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J_4(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Powers of Jordan Forms

Find the pattern.

$$J_{1}(\lambda)^{n} = (\lambda^{n})$$

$$J_{2}(\lambda)^{n} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} \\ 0 & \lambda^{n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J_{3}(\lambda)^{n} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} & \binom{n}{2} \lambda^{n-2} \\ 0 & \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^{n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J_{4}(\lambda)^{n} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} & \binom{n}{2} \lambda^{n-2} & \binom{n}{3} \lambda^{n-3} \\ 0 & \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} & \binom{n}{2} \lambda^{n-2} \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} & \binom{n}{2} \lambda^{n-2} \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^{n} & \binom{n}{1} \lambda^{n-1} & \binom{n}{2} \lambda^{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda^{n} \end{pmatrix}$$



Powers of Jordan Forms

Lemma 3: Computing powers of Jordan forms

- **1** Start with λ^n on every diagonal entry.
- 2 Put $\binom{n}{1}\lambda^{n-1}$ wherever you can immediately above λ^n
- **9** Put $\binom{n}{2}\lambda^{n-2}$ wherever you can immediately above $\binom{n}{1}\lambda^{n-1}$
- **4** Keep doing this, increasing the binomial coefficient and decreasing the power on λ .

Note: Not *quite* the above. If you ever bump into $\binom{n}{n}$, that's the last diagonal you fill. Just put 0's everywhere else above.

Matrix Direct Sums

Definition 4: Direct sums of matrices

The direct sum of matrices A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n is the matrix formed by putting these matrices on the diagonals and zeroes everywhere else.

$$A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & A_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & A_n \end{pmatrix}$$

In MATH2501 and MATH2601, we only worry about this with Jordan blocks.

Matrix Direct Sums

Quick example:

$$J_2(3) \oplus J_4(5) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$





Matrix Direct Sums

Lemma 4: Powers on direct sums of Jordan blocks

The power of a Jordan form is the direct sum of powers on each individual block. I.e.,

$$(J_1\oplus\cdots\oplus J_m)^n=J_1^n\oplus\cdots\oplus J_m^n.$$

Example:

$$[J_2(3) \oplus J_1(2)]^n = \begin{pmatrix} 3^n & \binom{n}{1}3^{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 3^n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2^n \end{pmatrix}$$



The Generalised Eigenvector

Definition 5: Generalised Eigenvector

A generalised eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue λ is a non-zero vector \mathbf{v} satisfying the property $(A - \lambda I)^k \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$, for some k > 1.

This differs from the (usual) eigenvector in the sense that those must satisfy $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$, i.e. we *must* take k = 1.



The Generalised Eigenvector

Example 2: MATH2601 2016 Q4 c)

Let
$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$.

Show that for the matrix C, \mathbf{v} is a generalised eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda = 5$.



The Generalised Eigenvector

We compute that

$$C - 5I = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & -3 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and continuously left-multiplying to \mathbf{v} ,

$$(C-5I)\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(C-5I)^2\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\0\\0 \end{pmatrix}$$

3

so $\mathbf{v} \in GE_5$.



Generalised Eigenspaces

Definition 6: Generalised Eigenspace

The generalised eigenspace of λ , denoted GE_{λ} , is the set of all generalised eigenvectors corresponding to λ .

$$GE_{\lambda} = \{ \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid (A - \lambda I)^k \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \text{ for some } k \geq 1 \}$$

Lemma 4: Alternate representation of GE_{λ}

$$GE_{\lambda} = \ker(A - \lambda I) \cup \ker(A - \lambda I)^{2} \cup \ker(A - \lambda I)^{3} \cup \dots$$



Definition 7: Jordan matrix

A Jordan matrix J is a direct sum of Jordan blocks.

Lemma 5: Uniqueness

Every matrix A has one unique Jordan matrix, up to some permutation (arrangement) of the Jordan blocks.



Theorem $\overline{1}$: Useful properties in computing Jordan forms

Let dim ker $(A - \lambda I)^k$, i.e. nullity $(A - \lambda I)^k = d_k$. Set $d_0 = 0$. Then

- $0 d_0 \le d_1 \le d_2 \le d_3 \le \dots$

That is to say, the nullities must *not decrease*, but the *difference* in nullities must *not INcrease*.

Remark: Multiplicity

As a corollary, the algebraic multiplicity of an eigenvalue λ equals to dim GE_{λ} . This allows us to not compute $(A - \lambda I)^k$ forever - we stop when nullity $(A - \lambda I)^k = AM$.

We use Jordan chains to find the matrices P and J, such that $A = PJP^{-1}$. For an eigenvalue λ with algebraic multiplicity k, we need to start with some vector \mathbf{v}_1 such that on multiplication, we have

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_2 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \dots \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_k \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{0}.$$

We then include (note the reverse order!)

$$(\mathbf{v}_k \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{v}_1)$$

to P. This corresponds to *one* Jordan block $J_k(\lambda)$ in the direct sum for the Jordan matrix J of A.

(Or maybe your lecturer taught things the other way around.) We consider this chain

$$\mathbf{v}_k \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_{k-1} \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \dots \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_1 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{0}.$$

and we include this to P instead.

$$(\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{v}_{k-1} \quad \mathbf{v}_k)$$

We still use the Jordan block $J_k(\lambda)$.



Example 3: MATH2601 2016 Q4 c)

Let
$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$.

- Calculate $(C-5I)\mathbf{v}$ and $(C-5I)^2\mathbf{v}$. (Done earlier)
- Without using any matrix calculations, write down all the eigenvalues of C and their algebraic and geometric multiplicities. Give reasons for your answers.
- **3** (Not originally in the exam:) Find an invertible matrix P and a Jordan matrix J such that $C = PJP^{-1}$.



Part 2: The trace is usually helpful, because it is the sum of the eigenvalues.

$$tr(C) = 9 + 2 + 2 = 13$$

From part 1, 5 is an eigenvalue of C with algebraic multiplicity at least 2. The third eigenvalue λ_3 satisfies

$$5+5+\lambda_3=13 \implies \lambda_3=3.$$

Which is, of course, the only remaining eigenvalue and hence must have AM = 1. So we have:

- Eigenvalue 5: AM = 2, GM = 1
- Eigenvalue 3: AM = 1, GM = 1

Note: I haven't justified the GM's! Try doing that yourself!



Part 3: Row reducing C - 3I,

$$C - 3I = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -12 & 0 \\ -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so we can take a corresponding eigenvector $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.



So our chains are:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-3I} \mathbf{0}$$

and hence $A = PJP^{-1}$ where

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$



Example 4: MATH2601 2017 Q3 a)

Let
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 6 & -7 \\ 2 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
. We are **given** that

$$GE_2 = \operatorname{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \text{ and } GE_3 = \operatorname{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

- Find the Jordan chain for $\lambda=2$ starting with $\begin{pmatrix} 0\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}$.
- **②** Without any calculation, write down the geometric multiplicity of $\lambda = 2$, giving reasons for your answer.
- § Find a Jordan form J and invertible matrix P for A, such that $A = PJP^{-1}$.



Part 1:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A-2I} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A-2I} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Part 2: The algebraic multiplicity is 2, since we have another distinct eigenvalue, so $GM \le 2$. But $GM \ne 2$ since we have a chain of length 2, so GM = 1.



Part 3: $A = PJP^{-1}$ where

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 & 4 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$





Example 4: MATH2601 2017 Q3 a)

• Find $\mathbf{v} \in GE_2$ and $\mathbf{w} \in GE_3$ such that $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Theorem 2: \mathbb{C}^n and the generalised eigenspaces

The direct sum of generalised eigenspaces of any $A \in M_{n \times n}$ span \mathbb{C}^n .

Hence we just need to express $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ as a linear combination of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$.



You can have fun with the row reduction... I'll just state the final answer:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1\\3\\2 \end{pmatrix} - 4 \begin{pmatrix} 0\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1\\4\\2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 3\\5\\2 \end{pmatrix}}_{2} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -1\\-4\\-2 \end{pmatrix}}_{2}$$





Remark: Similarity Invariants

Theorem 3: Jordan forms are the complete similarity invariant

Two matrices A and B are similar, i.e. $A = PBP^{-1}$ for some invertible matrix P, if and only if they have the same Jordan forms. (At least, to within a different arrangement of direct sums.)



The Jordan matrix J can sometimes be found with less information if we don't need to find P.

Example 5: MATH2601 2016 Q4 b)

Let B be a 10×10 matrix and let λ be a scalar. Suppose it is known that

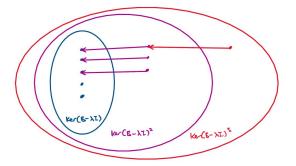
nullity
$$(B - \lambda I) = 5$$
,
nullity $(B - \lambda I)^2 = 8$,
nullity $(B - \lambda I)^3 = 9$.

Find all possible Jordan forms of B.

Idea: Our Jordan chains can be drawn on an onion diagram.



There are 5 eigenvectors in $\ker(B - \lambda I)$. The idea is that there are 8 - 5 = 3 more generalised eigenvectors in $\ker(B - \lambda I)^2$. This is because we know that $\ker(B - \lambda I) \subseteq \ker(B - \lambda I)^2$.



Similarly, there is another 9 - 8 = 1 in $ker(B - \lambda I)^3$.



We've addressed 9 of the 10 eigenvalues for B. There is only one more left to go.

Case 1: The tenth eigenvalue is NOT λ .

Then it must be some other value $\mu \neq \lambda$. It can only correspond to one eigenvector, so we include $J_1(\mu)$ to the direct sum.

The Jordan chains for λ have lengths 3, 2, 2, 1 and 1, so therefore (up to some permutation),

$$J = J_3(\lambda) \oplus J_2(\lambda) \oplus J_2(\lambda) \oplus J_1(\lambda) \oplus J_1(\lambda) \oplus J_1(\mu).$$

(again, up to some permutation of the Jordan blocks).



We've addressed 9 of the 10 eigenvalues for B. There is only one more left to go.

Case 2: The tenth eigenvalue IS also λ .

Problem: We cannot add it in $\ker(B - \lambda I)$, $\ker(B - \lambda I)^2$ or $\ker(B - \lambda I)^3$ without screwing up the nullities!

Recall that the difference is nullities is non-increasing. This means that the last generalised eigenvector must be in $\ker(B - \lambda I)^4$. Our original chain of length 3 also becomes chain of length 4. So we get

$$J = J_4(\lambda) \oplus J_2(\lambda) \oplus J_2(\lambda) \oplus J_1(\lambda) \oplus J_1(\lambda)$$

(again, up to some permutation of the Jordan blocks).



Remark: Why $ker(B - \lambda I)^4$? For completeness sake, here's a quick contradiction.

Suppose, say, the remaining generalised eigenvector was in $\ker(B-\lambda I)^5$ but *not* in $\ker(B-\lambda I)^4$. Then $\ker(B-\lambda I)^4$ must in fact be equal to $\ker(B-\lambda I)^3$, so $d_4=d_3$, i.e. $d_4-d_3=0$. Yet $d_5-d_4=1$. Therefore $d_5-d_4>d_4-d_3$, which cannot happen.



Invalid nullities

The property $d_1-d_0\geq d_2-d_1\geq d_3-d_2\geq \ldots$ helps determine things that are impossible.

Example 6: David Angell's MATH2601 notes

Let A be a matrix with eigenvalue λ . Explain why this is not possible:

nullity
$$(A - \lambda I) = 5$$
,
nullity $(A - \lambda I)^2 = 8$,
nullity $(A - \lambda I)^3 = 9$,
nullity $(A - \lambda I)^4 = 12$,
nullity $(A - \lambda I)^k = 12$ for all $k > 4$.

Answer: $d_4 - d_3 = 3 > 1 = d_3 - d_2$, which can't happen.



From Jordan forms back to nullities

Example 7: Peter Brown's MATH2501 notes

If *A* is similar to $J = J_2(-4) \oplus J_2(-4) \oplus J_2(-4) \oplus J_3(5) \oplus J_1(5)$. find

$$\text{nullity}(A+4I)^k$$
 and $\text{nullity}(A-5I)^k$

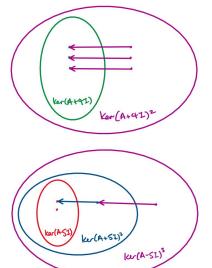
for all k > 1.

Solution: Go backwards!



From Jordan forms back to nullities

We know the lengths of the chains...





From Jordan forms back to nullities

So we see that:

- nullity(A + 4I) = 3
- nullity $(A + 4I)^k = 6$ for all $k \ge 2$
- $\operatorname{nullity}(A 5I) = 2$
- nullity $(A 5I)^2 = 3$
- nullity $(A 5I)^k = 4$ for all $k \ge 3$





Remark: *T*-invariance (MATH2601)

I've seen questions on this pop up in tutorials and exams, so I'll give an example involving proving this result. I won't have time to go over it in class though.

Definition 8: Invariance under T

A subspace U of V is said to be invariant under a transformation T if $T(U) \subseteq U$.

Example 8: MATH2601 2018 Q3 b)

Let V be a vector space, let S and T be linear transformations from V to V, and write $W = \ker(S - T)$. Show that if ST = TS then W is invariant under T.

Remark: *T*-invariance (MATH2601)

Let V be a vector space and let S and T be linear transformations from V to V. Let $W = \ker(S - T)$ and suppose that ST = TS.

Let
$$\mathbf{v} \in T(W)$$
. Then $\mathbf{v} = T(\mathbf{w})$ for some $\mathbf{w} \in W$.
Goal: Show that $\mathbf{v} \in W = \ker(S - T)$, i.e. $(S - T)(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$.

Then,

$$(S-T)(\mathbf{v}) = S(\mathbf{v}) - T(\mathbf{v})$$

$$= S(T(\mathbf{w})) - T(T(\mathbf{w}))$$

$$= T(S(\mathbf{w})) - T(T(\mathbf{w}))$$

since ST = TS.



Remark: *T*-invariance (MATH2601)

Further, since T is linear,

$$(S-T)(\mathbf{v}) = T(S(\mathbf{w}) - T(\mathbf{w}))$$

= $T((S-T)(\mathbf{w}))$.

But since $\mathbf{w} \in W = \ker(S - T)$, we know that $(S - T)(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{0}$. Hence

$$(S-T)(\mathbf{v}) = T(\mathbf{0})$$
$$= \mathbf{0}.$$

Therefore $\mathbf{v} \in W$, so $T(W) \subseteq W$ and hence W is invariant under T.



The Companion Matrix (MATH2501)

The companion matrix allows us to go backwards from a characteristic polynomial to a matrix. (Or at least, one such matrix.)

Definition 9: Companion matrix

Consider the polynomial

$$f(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + a_{n-2}\lambda^{n-2} + \cdots + a_1\lambda + a_0.$$

A matrix C whose characteristic polynomial is $f(\lambda)$ is

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & -a_2 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & -a_{n-2} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

The Companion Matrix (MATH2501)

Example: The companion matrix corresponding to $p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 5$ is

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, we set $a_0 = -5$, $a_1 = -2$ and $a_2 = 3$.



Recursively finding matrix powers

Theorem 4: The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix and f(z) be its characteristic polynomial. Then f(A) = 0, the zero matrix.

Example 9: Peter Brown's MATH2501 notes

- Verify the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem for $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$
- ② Use the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem to express A^4 and A^{-1} in terms of A and I, where I is the 2×2 identity matrix.



Recursively finding matrix powers

Part 1: Begin by computing

$$cp_{A}(z) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - z & 3 \\ 4 & -2 - z \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= (z - 1)(z + 2) - 12$$
$$= z^{2} + z - 14$$

Then observe that

$$\operatorname{cp}_{A}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 13 & -3 \\ -4 & 16 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix} - 14 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where we note that the constant term gets multiplied to the identity matrix.



Recursively finding matrix powers

Part 2: Using the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, we know that $A^2 = -A + 14I$. Hence

$$A^{3} = -A^{2} + 14A$$

$$= -(-A + 14I) + 14A$$

$$= 15A - 14I$$

$$A^{4} = 15A^{2} - 14A$$

$$= 15(-A + 14I) - 14A$$

$$= -29A + 210I$$

Also
$$A = -I + 14A^{-1}$$
, so $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{14}A + \frac{1}{14}I$.



Note: This has been taken out of the higher syllabus.

Definition 10: Minimal polynomial of a matrix

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. The minimal polynomial m of A is the polynomial:

- of smallest degree possible
- and monic (i.e. the leading coefficient is 1)

such that $m(A) = \mathbf{0}$.

Lemma 6: Minimal polynomials and characteristic polynomials

The minimal polynomial is a *factor* of the characteristic polynomial. (Not really useful for computations, but it can be a nice sanity check.)

We won't delve much into the theory, we just illustrate how to find it.

Theorem 5: Explicit form for the minimal polynomial

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix and denote the **distinct** eigenvalues of A as $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_r$.

For the *i*-th eigenvalue λ_i , let b_i be the size of the **largest** Jordan block corresponding to λ_i .

Then the minimal polynomial of A is

$$m(z) = (z - \lambda_1)^{b_1}(z - \lambda_2)^{b_2} \dots (z - \lambda_r)^{b_r}.$$



Example 10: Peter Brown's MATH2501 notes

The Jordan form of $A \in M_{15 \times 15}$ is

$$J_5(2) \oplus J_2(2) \oplus J_3(-2) \oplus J_3(-2) \oplus J_2(-2)$$
.

What is its minimal polynomial?

The largest block for $\lambda=2$ has size 5, and the largest block for $\lambda=-2$ has size 3. Therefore

$$m(z) = (z-2)^5(z+2)^3.$$



Example 11: Peter Brown's MATH2501 notes

The matrix
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 & -4 \\ -2 & -4 & 4 \\ -1 & -3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$
 has characteristic polynomial

$$cp_A(z) = z(z-1)(z-2).$$

What is its minimal polynomial?

The characteristic polynomial shows that the 3×3 matrix A has three *distinct* eigenvalues, so it must be *diagonalisable*. Hence $J = J_1(0) \oplus J_1(1) \oplus J_1(2)$, so for this matrix,

$$m(z) = cp_A(z) = z(z-1)(z-2).$$



Today's plan

- Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
 - Singular Value Decomposition (MATH2601)
- 2 The Jordan Canonical Form
 - Finding Jordan Forms
 - The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem
- Matrix Exponentials
 - Computing Matrix Exponentials
 - Application to Systems of Differential Equations





Matrix Exponential

Definition 11: Exponential of a matrix

The matrix exponential exp(tA) is defined as

$$\exp(tA) = e^{tA} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} A^k.$$



We will illustrate the ideas...

Lemma 7: Properties of matrix exponentials

- **1** If $A = PBP^{-1}$, then $\exp(A) = P \exp(B)P^{-1}$.
- ② If $A = A_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$, then $\exp(A) = \exp(A_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \exp(A_n)$

$$\bullet \exp(tJ_k(\lambda)) = e^{\lambda t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & \frac{t^2}{2!} & \dots & \frac{t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} \\ 0 & 1 & t & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \ddots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & t \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Also nice to note is that if AB = BA, then exp(A) exp(B) = exp(A + B).





Example for a Jordan block:

$$\exp(tJ_5(2)) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & \frac{t^2}{2!} & \frac{t^3}{3!} & \frac{t^4}{4!} \\ 0 & 1 & t & \frac{t^2}{2!} & \frac{t^3}{3!} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & t & \frac{t^2}{2!} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & t \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We're really filling the matrix in with terms from the power series of e^t , but then leaving a usual exponential in front.

Example 12: Not really an example...

Consider
$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 from earlier. We want $\exp(tC)$.

We have

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } J = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$



The earlier results show that we can do powers of Jordan blocks one at a time. So we obtain

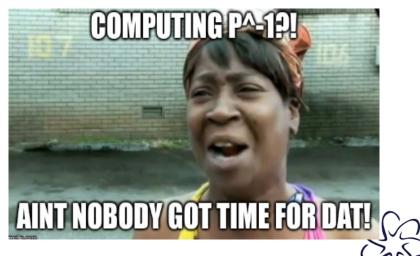
$$\exp(J) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{5t} & te^{5t} & 0\\ 0 & e^{5t} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & e^{3t} \end{pmatrix}$$

and hence

$$\exp(C) = P \begin{pmatrix} e^{5t} & te^{5t} & 0\\ 0 & e^{5t} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & e^{3t} \end{pmatrix} P^{-1}$$



A huge pain, as you can see.



So you probably won't be asked to do *that* in an exam. But you may be asked something else.

The 'Columns' technique

Theorem 6: Matrix Exponential times Generalised Eigenvector

If we have the Jordan chain

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_2 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_3 \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \dots \xrightarrow{A-\lambda I} \mathbf{v}_k$$

then

$$\exp(tA)\mathbf{v}_1 = e^{\lambda t}\left(\mathbf{v}_1 + t\mathbf{v}_2 + \frac{t^2}{2}\mathbf{v}_3 + \dots + \frac{t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}\mathbf{v}_k\right)$$



The 'Columns' technique

This does come with a caveat in that \mathbf{v}_1 must be a generalised eigenvector corresponding to λ .

(Otherwise, we have to decompose it into a sum of generalised eigenvectors first.)



More often than not, we just need to compute $\exp(tA)\mathbf{v}$ for some vector \mathbf{v} , instead of the actual matrix exponential itself.

Theorem 7: Solution to a homogeneous system

The solution to $\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}$ with initial condition $\mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{c}$ is

$$\mathbf{y} = \exp(tA)\mathbf{c}$$
.



Example 13: MATH2601 2016 Q4 c)

Recall for
$$C=\begin{pmatrix} 9 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{v}=\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ we have the chain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \mathbf{0}.$$

Use this to solve the initial value problem $\mathbf{y}' = C\mathbf{y}$, $\mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{v}$.



The solution is

$$\mathbf{y} = \exp(tA) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

So using the columns method,

$$\mathbf{y} = e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= e^{5t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - t \\ -2 + t \\ -3 + t \end{pmatrix}$$



The more general case (if time permits)

In general, if we can decompose \mathbf{c} into a sum of generalised eigenvectors, we work our way around this issue.

Example 14: MATH2601 2017 Q3 a)

For
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 6 & -7 \\ 2 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
, solve $\mathbf{y}' = A\mathbf{y}$ with initial condition

$$\mathbf{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ given that } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\in GE_2} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\in GE_3}.$$



The more general case (if time permits)

Construct the chains:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A-2I} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 12 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A-2I} \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A-3I} \mathbf{0}$$

Our solution will thus be

$$\mathbf{y} = e^{tA} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + e^{tA} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 3 + 4t \\ 5 + 12t \\ 2 + 8t \end{pmatrix} + e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$



Lemma 8: Solution to non-homogeneous systems

The general solution to $\mathbf{y}' = A\mathbf{y}$ can be expressed as $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_H + \mathbf{y}_P$ where

- \mathbf{y}_H is the general solution to $\mathbf{y}' = A\mathbf{y}$
- \mathbf{y}_P is any particular solution to $\mathbf{y}' = A\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}$

Lemma 9: Variation of parameters

We can approach the particular solution by subbing $\mathbf{y} = e^{tA}\mathbf{z}$.

Lemma 10: Derivative of matrix exponential

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{tA} = Ae^{tA}$$



Variation of parameters

In general, upon substituting in $\mathbf{y} = e^{tA}\mathbf{z}$ into $\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}$, we have

$$\frac{d(e^{tA}\mathbf{z})}{dt} = Ae^{tA}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}$$

$$e^{tA}\mathbf{z}' + Ae^{tA}\mathbf{z} = Ae^{tA}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}$$

$$e^{tA}\mathbf{z}' = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{z}' = e^{-tA}\mathbf{b}$$

So what we can do is:

- \bullet Find \mathbf{z}' , probably using the columns technique again.
- ② Integrate out to find z.
- **3** Recompute $\mathbf{y} = e^{tA}\mathbf{z}$ for our particular solution.



Example 15: MATH2601 2016 Q4 c)

Find a particular solution of $\mathbf{y}' = C\mathbf{y} + te^{5t}\mathbf{w}$, where

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 7 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$, given that \mathbf{w} is a generalised eigenvector of C .

Subbing $\mathbf{y} = e^{tC}\mathbf{z}$ gives

$$Ce^{tC}\mathbf{z} + e^{tC}\mathbf{z}' = Ce^{tC}\mathbf{z} + te^{5t}\mathbf{w}$$

 $\mathbf{z}' = te^{5t}e^{-tC}\mathbf{w}$



We need to construct a Jordan chain starting at **w** first:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so therefore

$$e^{tC}\mathbf{w} = e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}.$$

But observe how we want the negative exponent e^{-tC} ! This means what we're really interested in is

$$e^{-tC}\mathbf{w} = e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - t \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{z}' = te^{5t}e^{-tC}\mathbf{w} = t\begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - t^2\begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix}$$

so upon integrating,

$$\mathbf{z} = \frac{t^2}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{t^3}{3} \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{c}$$

Question: How to deal with that constant of integration?



In general, you can only deal with it when you know what $\mathbf{y}(0)$ is, i.e. you have an initial value for the original systems of DEs. When that's the case, you let $\mathbf{z}(0) = \mathbf{y}(0)$ to find it.

Here we don't, so we just proceed as usual.

$$\mathbf{y}_P = e^{tC}\mathbf{z} = \frac{t^2}{2}e^{tC} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{t^3}{3}e^{tC} \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} + e^{tC}\mathbf{c}.$$



To finish this off, we can recycle our Jordan chain from earlier:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This gives us

$$\mathbf{y}_{P} = \frac{t^{2}}{2} e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - t \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix} - \frac{t^{3}}{3} e^{5t} \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} + e^{tC} \mathbf{c}$$



To finish this off, we can recycle our Jordan chain from earlier:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{C-5I} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This gives us

$$\mathbf{y}_{P} = \frac{t^{2}}{2} e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -8\\2\\-4 \end{pmatrix} - t \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix} - \frac{t^{3}}{3} e^{5t} \begin{pmatrix} -6\\6\\6 \end{pmatrix} + e^{tC} \mathbf{c}$$

The remainder is trivial and is left as an exercise to the audience.

Note: The harsh reality is that if we knew what **c** was, that would potentially be *another* Jordan chain we need to deal with. Fingers crossed you don't have to do that in your exam.



Final remark: One single eigenvalue

When you're told that the matrix A only has *one* eigenvalue, you can take care of things more easily. The following comments assume n = 3, but the analogy can be adapted for all $n \times n$ matrices.

- Use the trace to find that eigenvalue λ .
- You automatically know that $GE_{\lambda}=\mathbb{C}^3$, so it's less difficult to construct a Jordan chain. Find $\ker(A-\lambda I)$, and only $\ker(A-\lambda I)^2$ if you don't already have two eigenvectors.
- Then, just pick a third vector out of thin air, not linearly indepedent to the other two. Construct a chain using that vector.
- Done!

You'll see this in all the examples in your tutorials...

