

Vv256 Lecture 23

Dr Jing Liu

UM-SJTU Joint Institute

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Definition

A square matrix in which all the entries **below** the main diagonal are **0** is called an **upper triangular matrix**. In case of all the entries **above** the main diagonal are **0**,

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \cdots & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \cdots & u_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & \cdots & l_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

it is called a **lower triangular matrix**. A square matrix in which all the entries **off** the main diagonal are zero is called a **diagonal matrix**, which is also **triangular**.

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & d_n \end{bmatrix} = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$$

Theorem

If \mathbf{A} is triangular, then the eigenvalues are the entries on the main diagonal.

Definition

If \mathbf{A} is a square matrix, then we define the **nonnegative** integer powers of \mathbf{A} to be

$$\mathbf{A}^0 = \mathbf{I} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{A}^n = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A} \cdots \mathbf{A} \quad [n \text{ factors}]$$

and if \mathbf{A} is invertible, then we define the **negative** integer powers of \mathbf{A} to be

$$\mathbf{A}^{-n} = (\mathbf{A}^{-1})^n = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdots \mathbf{A}^{-1} \quad [n \text{ factors}]$$

- It is much easier to compute powers and inverses of diagonal matrices.

Exercise

Find the square of $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and the inverse of $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/(-1) & 0 \\ 0 & 1/0.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Definition

A matrix $\mathbf{A}_{n \times n}$ is said to be **diagonalizable** if there is an invertible matrix \mathbf{P} and a **diagonal** matrix \mathbf{D} such that

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{P} \text{ is said to } \mathbf{diagonalize} \mathbf{A}.$$

Theorem

An $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable **if and only if**

\mathbf{A} has n linearly independent eigenvectors.

Moreover, when \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable, then

1. The columns of the diagonalizing matrix \mathbf{P} are the n eigenvectors.
2. The diagonal elements of \mathbf{D} are the corresponding eigenvalues.

Proof

- Suppose the matrix \mathbf{A} has linearly independent eigenvector $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$.
- Let λ_i be the eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} corresponding to \mathbf{x}_i for each i , some of the λ_i 's may be equal, and \mathbf{P} be the matrix whose j th column is \mathbf{x}_j ,

Proof

- It follows that $\mathbf{AP} = [\mathbf{Ax}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{Ax}_n] = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{x}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \lambda_n \mathbf{x}_n]$
$$= [\mathbf{x}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{x}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \mathbf{PD}$$

- \mathbf{P} has n linearly independent columns, so \mathbf{P} is invertible and

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{AP}$$

- Let \mathbf{A} be diagonalizable, then there exists a nonsingular matrix \mathbf{P} such that

$$\mathbf{AP} = \mathbf{PD}$$

- If $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ are the columns of \mathbf{P} , then

$$\mathbf{Ax}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i, \quad \lambda_i = d_{ii} \quad \text{for each } i$$

- Since \mathbf{P} is invertible, thus $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ are linearly independent.

Exercise

Find a matrix \mathbf{P} that diagonalizes $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 2 & -5 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$ where \mathbf{D} is diagonal.

Solution

- The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are

$$\lambda_1 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = -4$$

- Corresponding to λ_1 and λ_2 , the eigenvectors are $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$,

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

You can easily verify that $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$.

- Note the diagonalizing matrix \mathbf{P} is not unique.

Exercise

Consider $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, are they diagonalizable?

Solution

- You can easily verify that both \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} have the same eigenvalues,

$$\lambda_1 = 4 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 2$$

- The eigenspace of \mathbf{A} corresponding to $\lambda_1 = 4$ is spanned by \mathbf{e}_2 , however, the other eigenspace of \mathbf{A} is spanned by \mathbf{e}_3 . So there are only two linearly independent eigenvectors for \mathbf{A} instead of three.
- On the other hand, \mathbf{B} has three linearly independent eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{e}_2 + 3\mathbf{e}_3 \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = 2\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 \quad \mathbf{x}_3 = \mathbf{e}_3$$

Therefore \mathbf{B} is diagonalizable while \mathbf{A} is not diagonalizable.

Q: Why diagonalization is useful for solving a linear homogeneous system?

Exercise

Solve the system of differential equations by diagonalization:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution

- Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for \mathbf{A} , we find that \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 & 1/8 \\ -1/4 & 3/8 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

- So the system of differential equations can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution

- If we define a new vector \mathbf{y} ,

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Thus, the system can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \implies \mathbf{P}^{-1} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}$$

- Then we realise $\dot{\mathbf{y}}$ is simply $\mathbf{P}^{-1} \dot{\mathbf{x}}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[\mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \right] = \frac{d}{dt} \left[x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ -1/4 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1/8 \\ 3/8 \end{bmatrix} \right] = \dot{x}_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ -1/4 \end{bmatrix} + \dot{x}_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1/8 \\ 3/8 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \dot{\mathbf{x}}$$

- Therefore, our new vector \mathbf{y} satisfies,

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{y}$$

Solution

- This system is not coupled and can be solve directly

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^4 \\ c_2 e^{-4t} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Now back transform to \mathbf{x} ,

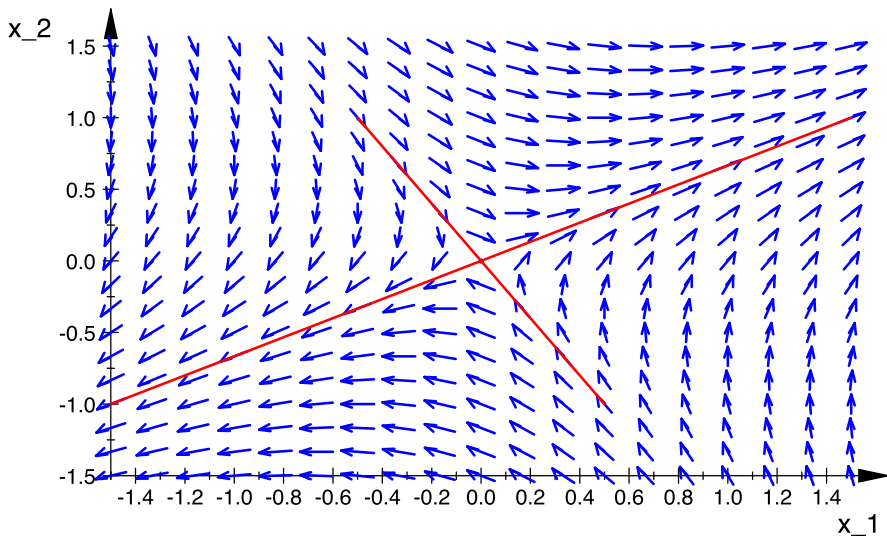
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^4 \\ c_2 e^{-4t} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Therefore the solution \mathbf{x} is

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-4t} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- This is the same as what we have got earlier. This also explains the connection between the long-run behaviour and eigenvalues/eigenvectors.

Phase plane with Eigenvectors



- Recall the coefficient matrix for the sensitive couple model,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ b & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{a/b} & -\sqrt{a/b} \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{b/4a} & 1/2 \\ -\sqrt{b/4a} & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{PDP}^{-1}$$

- So the system of differential equations can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ \dot{J} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix}$$

- If we define a new vector \mathbf{x} ,

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{where } x_1 \text{ and } x_2 \text{ are two new functions of } t.$$

- Thus, the system can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ \dot{J} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \implies \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ \dot{J} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

- If we consider the derivative of the vector

$$\mathbf{x} = x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2 \implies \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \dot{x}_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + \dot{x}_2 \mathbf{e}_2$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{x}} &= \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(R \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{b/4a} \\ -\sqrt{b/4a} \end{bmatrix} + J \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \frac{dR}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{b/4a} \\ -\sqrt{b/4a} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{dJ}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ \dot{J} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- Therefore, we can rewrite the system again,

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

- The new system of differential equations, which is not coupled, can be solve,

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{ab} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{ab} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= \sqrt{ab} x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\sqrt{ab} x_2 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x_1 &= c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} \\ x_2 &= c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t} \end{aligned}$$

- Thus

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} \\ c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t} \end{bmatrix}$$

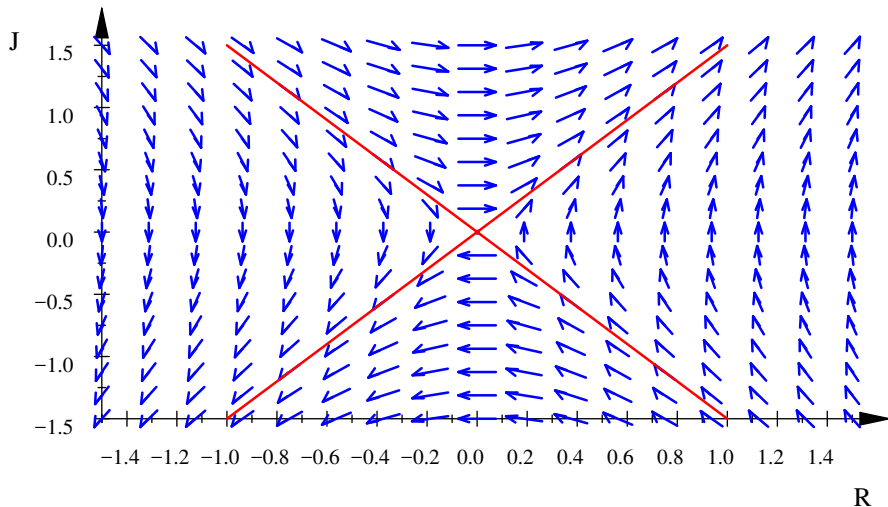
- Now back transform to R and J ,

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{a/b} & -\sqrt{a/b} \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} \\ c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Hence the exact solution R and J are,

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ J \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{a/b} (c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} - c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t}) \\ c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t} \end{bmatrix} = c_1 e^{\sqrt{ab}t} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{a/b} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{ab}t} \begin{bmatrix} -\sqrt{a/b} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sensitive Couple



Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors Method

- In general, if the coefficient matrix \mathbf{A} is **diagonalizable**, and has eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n, \quad \text{and corresponding eigenvectors } \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$$

then the system can always be solved by decoupling

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \implies \mathbf{P}^{-1}\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

- Since $\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{d}{dt}(\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\dot{\mathbf{x}}$, then

$$\dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{y}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x}.$$

- Thus \mathbf{y} in terms of t and therefore \mathbf{x} in terms of t are given by

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \\ \vdots \\ c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \\ \vdots \\ c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix} = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \mathbf{v}_n$$

Exercise

Solve the system of differential equations,

$$\dot{x} = x + 2y - 3z, \quad \dot{y} = -5x + y - 4z, \quad \dot{z} = -2y + 4z$$

Solution

- The corresponding coefficient matrix is $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ -5 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$.
- Solve the eigenvalue problem to determine whether it is diagonalizable,

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = \lambda^3 - 6\lambda^2 + 11\lambda - 6 = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = 2, \quad \lambda_3 = 3$$

the corresponding eigenvectors are $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 15 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

- Since we have 3 **distinct eigenvalues**, \mathbf{A} must be diagonalizable.

$$x\mathbf{e}_x + y\mathbf{e}_y + z\mathbf{e}_z = c_1 e^t \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 e^{2t} \mathbf{v}_2 + c_3 e^{3t} \mathbf{v}_3$$

Exercise

Solve the system of differential equations, $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$, where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution

- Solve the eigenvalue problem to determine whether it is diagonalizable,

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \lambda^3 - 6\lambda^2 + 9\lambda - 4 = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1, \quad \lambda_3 = 4$$

the corresponding eigenvectors are $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

- We have 3 linearly independent eigenvectors, so \mathbf{A} must be diagonalizable,

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 e^t \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 e^t \mathbf{v}_2 + c_3 e^{4t} \mathbf{v}_3$$

- Notice having **repeated eigenvalues** does not change the form of our solution.

Exercise

Solve the system of differential equations $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$, where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -4 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution

- Solve the eigenvalue problem to determine whether it is diagonalizable,

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + \lambda - 1 = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_{2,3} = \pm i,$$

the corresponding eigenvectors are $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3+i \\ 2-i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$, $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3-i \\ 2+i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

- We have 1 real and 2 **complex eigenvalues**, so \mathbf{A} must be diagonalizable, and

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 e^{it} \begin{bmatrix} 3+i \\ 2-i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + d_3 e^{-it} \begin{bmatrix} 3-i \\ 2+i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution

- Express complex coefficients and complex exponential functions in real form,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} &= c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 e^{it} \begin{bmatrix} 3+i \\ 2-i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + d_3 e^{-it} \begin{bmatrix} 3-i \\ 2+i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \\&= c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 (\cos t + i \sin t) \begin{bmatrix} 3+i \\ 2-i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + d_3 (\cos -t + i \sin -t) \begin{bmatrix} 3-i \\ 2+i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \\&= c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cos t - \sin t \\ 2 \cos t + \sin t \\ 5 \cos t \end{bmatrix} + i d_2 \begin{bmatrix} \cos t + 3 \sin t \\ -\cos t + 2 \sin t \\ 5 \sin t \end{bmatrix} \\&= c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cos t - \sin t \\ 2 \cos t + \sin t \\ 5 \cos t \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} \cos t + 3 \sin t \\ -\cos t + 2 \sin t \\ 5 \sin t \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$