

A simple DE system example

Katharine Long, MATH 4354

Here's how to solve $u' = A u$ with initial value $u(0) = u_0$. With this method, it's essential that A is diagonalizable.

```
In[ ]:= A = {{7, -1}, {-1, 7}}
Out[ ]=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & -1 \\ -1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

To write u_0 with the subscript, type `uCTRL_0`. Not sure if this is possible on the cloud version. If not, or if you don't want to bother with subscripts, just call the variable `u0` instead of u_0 .

```
In[ ]:= u_0 = {4, 2}
Out[ ]=
```

{4, 2}

To make the capital lambda (Λ) symbol, type `ESCLESC`. If your cloud version won't let you do this, just call the variable `L` instead of Λ .

```
In[ ]:= Λ = DiagonalMatrix[Eigenvalues[A]]
Out[ ]=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
In[ ]:= V = Transpose[Eigenvectors[A]]
Out[ ]=
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
In[ ]:= c = LinearSolve[V, u_0]
Out[ ]=
```

{-1, 3}

Important: put a space between Λ and t . If not, it will be treated as a single variable named " Λt " instead of the product Λ times t .

The underscore is important here. Trust me. I'll explain why later.

```
In[ ]:= decoupledSoln[t_] = MatrixExp[Λ t].c
Out[ ]=
```

$$\{-e^{8t}, 3e^{6t}\}$$

```
In[*]:= uSoln[t_] = V . decoupledSoln[t]  
Out[*]= {3 e6 t + e8 t, 3 e6 t - e8 t}
```