

## Solution to Problem 4

The eigenvalues of a matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

are the roots of its characteristic polynomial

$$p(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)$$
$$= (\lambda - 1)^2 + 6$$

We get  $\lambda_1 = 1 + \sqrt{6}j$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1 - \sqrt{6}j$ . Their corresponding eigenvectors satisfy

$$(\lambda_1 I - A)v_1 = 0$$
$$(\lambda_2 I - A)v_2 = 0$$

We obtain that

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}j \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}j \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

Let two complex numbers  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  such that  $x = w_1v_1 + w_2v_2$ . It is equivalent to

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

By solving the foregoing matrix equation, we obtain  $w_1 = 1/2 - \sqrt{6}/3j$ ,  $w_2 = 1/2 + \sqrt{6}/3j$ . As a result, x can be expressed by a linear combination of eigenvectors of A.