Jordan Chains Minimal Polynomial

#### Let A be an nxn matrix and Ā be its Jordan canonical form.

•  $\bar{A} = B^{-1}AB$ , where B is invertible and composed of the basis vectors for the  $N(A - \lambda_i I)^{m_i}$ 

$$\bullet \ \, \operatorname{rank}(A) = \operatorname{rank}(BA) = \operatorname{rank}(AB) = \operatorname{rank}(\bar{A})$$

• 
$$\dim(N(A - \lambda_i I)) = \dim(N(\bar{A} - \lambda_i I))$$

 $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ 

$$\bar{A}=J=B^{-1}AB$$

$$\mathbb{C}^n = N(A-\lambda_1 I)^{m_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus N(A-\lambda_k I)^{m_k}$$

We look for basis vectors for  $N((A - \lambda_i I)^{m_i})$ 

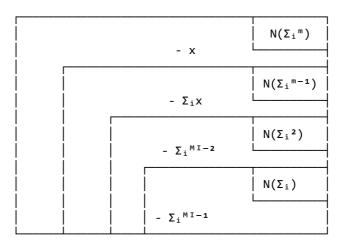
$$B = \begin{bmatrix} B_1 & B_2 & \cdots & B_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_i = \begin{bmatrix} b_i^2 & b_i^3 & \cdots & b_i^{r_i} \end{bmatrix}$$
 where  $b_i, \cdots, b_i^{r_i}$  have to be basis vectors for  $N((A-\lambda_i I)^{m_i})$ 

Let  $M_i:=A-\lambda_i I$  , and let's choose a vector x such that  $x\in N(M_i^j)$  or  $M_i^j x=0$  , but  $x\notin N(M_i^{j-1})$ 

Now consider the chain of vectors  $x, M_i x, M_i^2 x, \cdots, M_i^{j-1} x$ , which is linearly independent. We can see this by contradiction. Suppose that the chain is linearly dependent. Then there exists a vector  $M_i^k x$  such that  $M_i^k x = \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} c_l M_i^l x$ , where  $c_l \in \mathbb{C}$ . But then  $M_i^k x = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Thus, the chain is linearly independent.

$$\{M_i^{m_i-1}x, M_i^{m_i-2}x, \cdots, M_ix, x\}$$
 is linearly independent



Example: Find the Jordan canonical form of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ 

Solution:

$$d(s) = \det(sI - A) = (s - 1)[(s - 3)(s - 1) + 1] = (s - 2)^{2}(s - 1)$$

$$\lambda_1=2, \lambda_2=1$$

$$\Sigma_1 \ = \ A-2I \ = egin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 1 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \ \dim N(\Sigma_1) = 3-2 = 1 
eq r_1 = 2$$

$$\Sigma_1^2 = (A-2I)^2 = egin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 1 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 1 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 4 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \, \dim N(\Sigma_1^2) = 3-1 = 2 = r_1$$

No need to check  $\Sigma_2$  because  $r_2=1$ 

$$m(s) = (s-2)^2(s-1) = d(s)$$

From the minimal polynomial, we can see that the Jordan canonical form will have a 2x2 block for  $\lambda_1=2$  and a 1x1 block for  $\lambda_2=1$ 

$$ar{A} = J = egin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \ 0 & 2 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} 
ightarrow PJ = AP$$

Now we will construct the chain of vectors, which will be used to construct the basis vectors.

$$x \in N(\Sigma_1^2) ext{ but } x 
otin N(\Sigma_1)$$

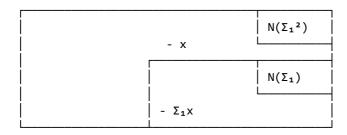
$$\Sigma_1^2 x = 0 o egin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 4 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} 0 \ 0 \ 0 \end{bmatrix} o x_3 = 0$$

$$\Sigma_1 x 
eq 0 
ightarrow egin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 1 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ 0 \end{bmatrix} 
eq egin{bmatrix} 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \end{bmatrix} 
ightarrow x_1 
eq x_2$$

Select 
$$x=egin{bmatrix}1\\0\\0\end{bmatrix}$$
 such that  $x\in N(\Sigma_1^2)$  but  $x
otin N(\Sigma_1)$ 

The chain of vectors for  $\lambda_1=2$  is

$$\left\{ \ \Sigma_1 x \ , \ x \ 
ight\} = \left\{ \left[ egin{matrix} -1 \ -1 \ 0 \end{matrix} \right] , \left[ egin{matrix} 1 \ 0 \ 0 \end{matrix} \right] 
ight\}$$



Now we will construct the chain of vectors for  $\lambda_2=1$ 

$$\Sigma_2 = A - I = egin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 2 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \; \dim N(\Sigma_2) = 3 - 2 = 1 = r_2$$

$$y \in N(\Sigma_2)$$

$$\Sigma_2 y = 0 
ightarrow egin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \ -1 & 2 & 2 \ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3 \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} 0 \ 0 \ 0 \end{bmatrix} 
ightarrow y = egin{bmatrix} 4 \ 1 \ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The chain of vectors for  $\lambda_2=1$  is

$$\left\{y
ight\}=\left\{egin{bmatrix}4\\1\\1\end{bmatrix}
ight\}$$



Now we will construct the change of basis matrix P, or B in the general case.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 x & | & x & | & y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$AP = P\bar{A} \implies \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# **Special Case I**

A has a single eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  and  $m_i=r_i$ 

For this case, we can see that m(s)=d(s), which means that the Jordan canonical form will have a single block for  $\lambda$ , and the size of the block will be  $m_i=r_i$ . This is because the minimal polynomial is the product of the linear factors of the characteristic polynomial, and the characteristic polynomial is the product of the eigenvalues. Since there is only one eigenvalue, the minimal polynomial will be the same as the characteristic polynomial.

$$ar{A} = J = egin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \ 0 & \lambda & 1 & \cdots & 0 \ dots & dots & dots & dots \ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

## **Special Case II**

A has a single eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  and  $m_i=1$ 

For this case, we can see that  $m(s)=(s-\lambda_i)$ , which means that the Jordan canonical form will have a single block for  $\lambda$ , and the size of the block will be  $m_i=1$ . This is because the minimal polynomial is the product of the linear factors of the characteristic polynomial, and the characteristic polynomial is the product of the eigenvalues. Since there is only one eigenvalue, the minimal polynomial will be the same as the characteristic polynomial. The number of chains will be equal to the dimension of  $N(\Sigma_i)$ , which is  $r_i$ .

$$\dim N(\Sigma_i) = r_i$$

$$ext{chain } 1 = ig\{x_1ig\} \ ext{chain } 2 = ig\{x_2ig\}$$

$$\overset{\cdot}{\operatorname{chain}}\ r_i = \left\{x_{r_i}
ight\}$$

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\underline{\mathsf{Example}} \text{: Given } m_i = 6 \text{ and } r_i = 8 \text{ , Find the largest K value such that } y \in N(\Sigma_i^K) \text{ but } y \notin N(\Sigma_i^{K-1})$ 

$N(\Sigma_i)$	-Σ <sub>i</sub> y - Σ <sub>i</sub> <sup>5</sup>				   	   
N(Σ <sub>i</sub> <sup>2</sup> )	-у	- Σ <sub>i</sub> 4χ		   	   	   
N(Σ <sub>i</sub> <sup>3</sup> )			- Σ <sub>i</sub> <sup>3</sup> χ	   	   	   
$N(\Sigma_i^4)$			- Σ	i <sup>2</sup> X	   	   
$N(\Sigma_i^5)$				- Σ	iΧ	   
N(Σ <sub>i</sub> <sup>6</sup> )					- x	-

First chain  $\left\{\Sigma_i^5 x, \Sigma_i^4 x, \Sigma_i^3 x, \Sigma_i^2 x, \Sigma_i x, x\right\}$  has  $r_i$  vectors, which is the same as the dimension of  $N(\Sigma_i^6)$ 

Second chain  $\left\{\Sigma_i y,y\right\}$  has 2 vectors, which is the same as the dimension of  $N(\Sigma_i^1)$ 

$$B = egin{bmatrix} \Sigma_i^5 x & \Sigma_i^4 x & \Sigma_i^3 x & \Sigma_i^2 x & \Sigma_i x & x & \Sigma_i y & y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{6 \times 6}$  with a single eigenvalue.  $m(s) = (s - \lambda_i)^3$ ,  $\dim N(\Sigma_i) = 2$ , Find the Jordan canonical form of A and construct the change of basis matrix B.

## Solution:

$$d(s) = (s - \lambda_i)^6 o \dim{(v)} = 6 ext{ single eigenvalue } \lambda_i$$

 $\dim N(\Sigma_i) = 2 \implies \text{ There are 2 Jordan blocks or chains}$ 

$$m(s) = (s - \lambda_i)^3 \implies ext{ The size of largest Jordan block is } 3 imes 3$$

Then we would have 2 Jordan blocks of size 3x3. The change of basis matrix B would be composed of the basis vectors.

$$ar{A}=J=egin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 0 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 \ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

Jordan chains for  $\lambda_i$  are  $\left\{\Sigma_i^2x,\Sigma_ix,x\right\}$  and  $\left\{\Sigma_i^2y,\Sigma_iy,y\right\}$ 

$$B = egin{bmatrix} \Sigma_i^2 x & \Sigma_i x & x & \Sigma_i^2 y & \Sigma_i y & y \end{bmatrix}$$

Try to find x and y such that  $x \in N(\Sigma_i^2)$  but  $x \notin N(\Sigma_i)$  and  $y \in N(\Sigma_i)$ 

#### ASK FOR HELP FOR NEXT

the basis for A.

### Solution:

$$d(s) = \det(sI - A) = (s - 1)^3(s - 2)$$

For the minimal polynomial, we need to check the null space of  $A - \lambda_i I$  for each eigenvalue.

$$\Sigma_2 = egin{array}{cccc} A-2I &= egin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ \end{bmatrix} \dim N(\Sigma_2) = 4-1 = 3 = r_2$$

 $m(s) = (s-1)^2(s-2)$  Largest Jordan block is 2x2

$$ar{A}=J=egin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Jordan chains for  $\lambda_1=1$  are  $\left\{\Sigma_1 x,x
ight\}$ 

choose 
$$x=egin{bmatrix}1\\1\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}$$
 Then  $\left\{\Sigma_1x,x
ight\}=\left\{egin{bmatrix}1\\0\\0\\1\end{bmatrix},egin{bmatrix}1\\1\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}
ight\}$ 

choose 
$$y=egin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Then  $\left\{y\right\}=\left\{egin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right\}$ 

choose 
$$z=egin{bmatrix}0\\0\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}$$
 Then  $\left\{z
ight\}=\left\{egin{bmatrix}0\\0\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}
ight\}$ 

$$B = egin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 x & x & y & z \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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