

**Exercises.****Solution to Question 1.**

(a) Because

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (1 - \lambda)^2,$$

so eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$ . The eigenvector corresponds to  $\lambda = 1$  is  $e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(b)  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if the space spanned by eigenvectors is the whole space. But in this case, the whole space is 2-dimensional, while the space spanned by eigenvectors is 1-dimensional.

**Solution to Question 2.**

(a) Because

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

so eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{-1}$  and  $\lambda_2 = -\sqrt{-1}$ .

The eigenvector corresponds to  $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{-1}$  is  $e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{-1} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The one corresponds to  $\lambda_2 = -\sqrt{-1}$  is  $e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{-1} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) Let  $P = [e_1 \ e_2]$  be the matrix with columns being  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ . Then

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

So  $A$  is diagonalizable over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

However,  $A$  is not diagonalizable over  $\mathbb{R}$ , because not all of its eigenvalues are in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Solution to Question 3.**

(a) We may check that

$$f(z) = (z - \lambda)(z - \bar{\lambda}) = z^2 - (\lambda + \bar{\lambda})z + \lambda\bar{\lambda},$$

so  $f(z)$  is a quadratic polynomial. Both  $(\lambda + \bar{\lambda}) = 2a$  and  $\lambda\bar{\lambda} = a^2 + b^2$  are real numbers.

(b) If we can write a quadratic polynomial  $f(z) = \alpha z^2 + \beta z + \gamma$  as a product of 2 polynomials  $f(z) = a(z - \lambda_1)(z - \lambda_2)$ , then  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  must be the roots of  $f(z)$ . The roots are real if and only if the discriminant  $\Delta = \beta^2 - 4\alpha\gamma \geq 0$ . In our case,  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = -2a$  and  $\gamma = a^2 + b^2$ . Remember that we assume  $b > 0$  here, so

$$\Delta = 4a^2 - 4(a^2 + b^2) < 0,$$

which means  $f(z)$  is irreducible.

(c) By the fundamental theorem of algebra,  $f(z)$  has a factorization of the form

$$f(z) = a(z - c_1) \dots (z - c_n),$$

where  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$ . By reordering the factors, we can always assume that  $c_1, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}$  for some non-negative integer  $r$ , and the rest  $c_i$ 's are not in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Notice that if  $c$  satisfies  $f(c) = 0$ , then  $f(\bar{c}) = 0$ , too. This is because the coefficients of  $f(z)$  are in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Therefore, if  $c \notin \mathbb{R}$  and  $(z - c) \mid f(z)$ , then  $(z - \bar{c}) \mid f(z)$ . So by reordering the factors, we may assume

$$\begin{aligned} (z - c_{r+1}) \dots (z - c_n) &= (z - c_{i_1})(z - \bar{c}_{i_1}) \dots (z - c_{i_s})(z - \bar{c}_{i_s}) \\ &= (z^2 - p_1z + q_1) \dots (z^2 - p_sz + q_s), \end{aligned}$$

where  $p_j = c_j + \bar{c}_j$  and  $q_j = c_j\bar{c}_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, s$ . All of the  $p_j$ 's and  $q_j$ 's are real numbers.

We need to show that this factorization is unique up to reordering the factors.

We define an order  $\leq$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by  $(p, q) \leq (p', q')$  if  $p < p'$ , or if  $p = p'$  and  $q \leq q'$ . This is an total order on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then by reordering the factors, we may always assume  $c_1 \leq c_2 \leq \dots \leq c_r$  and  $(p_1, q_1) \leq \dots \leq (p_s, q_s)$ .

Now assume there is another factorization

$$f(z) = (z - b_1) \dots (z - b_{r'}) (z^2 - d_1z + e_1) \dots (z^2 - d_{s'}z + e_{s'}),$$

where  $b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_{r'}$  and  $(d_1, e_1) \leq \dots \leq (d_{s'}, e_{s'})$ .

First of all, notice that all the quadratic factors are irreducible. Therefore,

$$(z - b_1) \dots (z - b_{r'}) = (z - c_1) \dots (z - c_r)$$

and

$$(z^2 - p_1z + q_1) \dots (z^2 - p_sz + q_s) = (z^2 - d_1z + e_1) \dots (z^2 - d_{s'}z + e_{s'}).$$

In particular, by comparing the degrees, we can see  $r = r'$  and  $s = s'$ .

Now, if there exist a number  $i$  such that  $c_i \neq b_i$ , then let

$$k := \min\{i \mid c_i \neq b_i\}.$$

So we have

$$(z - c_k) \dots (z - c_r) = (z - b_k) \dots (z - b_r).$$

WLOG, assume  $c_k < b_k$ . Then  $c_k < b_j$  for all  $j = k, \dots, r$ . But

$$(c_k - b_k) \dots (c_k - b_r) = 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Hence  $c_i = b_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, r$ .

Similarly, if there exist a number  $i$  such that  $(p_i, q_i) \neq (d_i, e_i)$ , then let

$$k := \min\{i \mid c_i \neq b_i\}.$$

So we have

$$(z^2 - p_k z + q_k) \dots (z^2 - p_r z + q_r) = (z^2 - d_k z + e_k) \dots (z^2 - d_r z + e_r).$$

WLOG, assume  $(p_k, q_k) < (d_k, e_k)$ . Then  $(p_k, q_k) < (d_j, e_j)$  for all  $j = k, \dots, r$ . However, if  $w \in \mathbb{C}$  is a root of  $(z^2 - p_k z + q_k)$ , then  $(w^2 - d_j w + e_j) \neq 0$  for all  $j = k, \dots, r$ . So

$$(w^2 - d_k w + e_k) \dots (w^2 - d_r w + e_r) \neq 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Hence  $(p_k, q_k) = (d_k, e_k)$  for all  $k = 1, \dots, r$ .

**Solution to Question 4.** Assume that

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^i.$$

Because

$$A^k v = A^{k-1}(Av) = \lambda A^{k-1}v = \dots = \lambda^k v,$$

so

$$f(A)v = \left(\sum_{i=0}^n c_i A^i\right)v = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i A^i v = \left(\sum_{i=0}^n c_i \lambda^i\right)v.$$

Therefore,  $v$  is also an eigenvector of  $f(A)$ . Its corresponding eigenvalue is  $f(\lambda)$ .

**Solution to Question 5.**

(a) This is because

$$D(f(t)e^{rt}) = f'(t)e^{rt} + rf(t)e^{rt}.$$

(b) Claim:  $(e^{2t}, te^{2t}, t^2e^{2t})$  is a basis for  $\ker(D - 2I)^3$ .

Reason: By repeatedly applying part (a), we can see that

$$(D - rI)^n(f(t)e^{rt}) = f^{(n)}(t)e^{rt}.$$

So  $e^{2t}, te^{2t}, t^2e^{2t} \in \ker(D - 2I)^3$  and they are linearly independent. Because  $\dim \ker(D - 2I)^3 = 3$ , so we know  $(e^{2t}, te^{2t}, t^2e^{2t})$  is a basis for  $\ker(D - 2I)^3$ .

(c) Claim:  $(e^t, e^{2t}, te^{2t})$  is a basis for  $\ker(D - I)(D - 2I)^2$ .

Reason: Because  $(D - I)(D - 2I)^2 = (D - 2I)^2(D - I)$ , so  $e^t \in \ker(D - I) \subset \ker(D - I)(D - 2I)^2$  and  $e^{2t}, te^{2t} \in \ker(D - 2I)^2 \subset \ker(D - I)(D - 2I)^2$ .

It is easy to check  $(e^t, e^{2t}, te^{2t})$  is linearly independent.

(d) The solution set of  $y(t)$  satisfying

$$y''' + y'' - y' + y = 0$$

equals  $\ker(D^3 + D^2 - D + I)$ .

Let  $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - x + 1$ . Because  $\gcd(f(x), f'(x)) = 1$ , so there is no multiple root of  $f(x)$ . Assume the roots of  $f(x)$  are  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$ . Then

$$(e^{\lambda_1 t}, e^{\lambda_2 t}, e^{\lambda_3 t})$$

is a basis for  $\ker(D^3 + D^2 - D + I)$ .

(d') The solution set of  $y(t)$  satisfying

$$y''' - y'' - y' + y = 0$$

equals  $\ker(D + I)(D - I)^2$ . And  $(e^{-t}, e^t, te^t)$  is a basis of  $\ker(D + I)(D - I)^2$ .

**Solution to Question 6.**

(a) If  $A$  is the diagonal matrix  $\text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ , then

$$A^k = \text{diag}(\lambda_1^k, \lambda_2^k, \dots, \lambda_n^k).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} e^A &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{k!} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \text{diag}(\lambda_1^k, \lambda_2^k, \dots, \lambda_n^k) \\ &= \text{diag}(e^{\lambda_1}, \dots, e^{\lambda_n}). \end{aligned}$$

(b) Notice that

$$A^2 = -I.$$

Therefore,

$$e^A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$a = d = 1 - \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{4!} + \dots$$

and

$$b = -c = \frac{1}{1!} - \frac{1}{3!} + \frac{1}{5!} + \dots$$

Recall that

$$\sin x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k+1)!} x^{2k+1}$$

and

$$\cos x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{(2k)!} x^{2k}.$$

So  $a = d = \cos 1$  and  $b = -c = \sin 1$ .

(c) Let  $R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , then

$$A = I + R.$$

Notice that  $R^2 = 0$ . So

$$A^k = I^k + kRI^{k-1} = I + kR.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} e^A &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (I + kR) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & e \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(d) First of all notice that if

$$B = Q^{-1}AQ,$$

then

$$B^k = Q^{-1}A^kQ$$

for all  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} e^B &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} Q^{-1}A^kQ \\ &= Q^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k \right) Q \\ &= Q^{-1} e^A Q. \end{aligned}$$