

**Problem 3** { 30 pts }. Solve the following optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} d^2 &= \inf \left\{ \int_0^\infty |e^{-3t} - ae^{-t} - be^{-2t}|^2 dt : a \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and } b \in \mathbb{C} \right\} \\ &= \int_0^\infty |e^{-3t} - \alpha e^{-t} - \beta e^{-2t}|^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

In other words, find  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $d^2$ .

$$\alpha = -\frac{3}{10} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta = \frac{6}{5} \quad \text{and} \quad d^2 = \frac{1}{600}$$

The inner product is

$$(f, g) = \int_0^\infty f(t) \overline{g(t)} dt$$

In particular, for  $\Re(\lambda) < 0$  and  $\Re(\mu) < 0$ , we have

$$(e^{\lambda t}, e^{\mu t}) = \int_0^\infty e^{\lambda t} \overline{e^{\mu t}} dt = -\frac{1}{\lambda + \bar{\mu}}$$

Recall that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (e^{-t}, e^{-3t}) & (e^{-2t}, e^{-3t}) \end{bmatrix} G^{-1}$$

where  $G$  is the Gram matrix formed by  $\{e^{-t}, e^{-2t}\}$ . In fact, the Gram matrix is

$$\begin{aligned} G &= \begin{bmatrix} (e^{-t}, e^{-t}) & (e^{-t}, e^{-2t}) \\ (e^{-2t}, e^{-t}) & (e^{-2t}, e^{-2t}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} \\ G^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 18 & -24 \\ -24 & 36 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} (e^{-t}, e^{-3t}) & (e^{-2t}, e^{-3t}) \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

This readily implies that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 18 & -24 \\ -24 & 36 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{3}{10} & \frac{6}{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} d^2 &= \|e^{-3t}\|^2 - \begin{bmatrix} (e^{-t}, e^{-3t}) & (e^{-2t}, e^{-3t}) \end{bmatrix} G^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} (e^{-t}, e^{-3t}) \\ (e^{-2t}, e^{-3t}) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} - \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{3}{10} & \frac{6}{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{600} \end{aligned}$$