

# Homework 2: Jordan decomposition and exponential of matrices

## General instructions

- You must submit your results and solutions in a single PDF file. We recommend using LaTeX with a basic template, which you can reuse for each homework assignment.
- This assignment is due on 07/03/2024 by 23:00:00. Submissions will not be accepted after this deadline.
- If you have any questions, you can contact TA Zhang Wenrang via email at 223040237@link.cuhk.edu.cn, or during office hours on Wednesday from 14:00 to 15:00 in room ZX, 4F-72.

## Problem 1: Jordan decomposition

The goal of this problem is to write the Jordan decomposition of the matrix:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

1. Compute the characteristic polynomial of  $B$  and deduce the possible Jordan decompositions of  $B$

**Correction:** Its characteristic polynomial (developed along the first column) is:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_B &= (1 - X) \cdot [-X(1 - X) - 1] + 1 \cdot (1 - X) \\ &= (1 - X) \cdot (X^2 - X) \\ &= \boxed{-X(X - 1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

It follows that 0 is an eigenvalue of algebraic multiplicity 1, and 1 is an eigenvalue of algebraic multiplicity 2; notably  $B$  is triangularizable and possesses a Jordan reduction over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Given the direct decomposition into characteristic spaces, there are essentially two possible forms for the reduction:

$$\boxed{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \text{ (diagonalizable)} \qquad \boxed{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \text{ (non-diagonalizable)}$$

Remember that the characteristic polynomial does not allow us to distinguish them. □

2. Express the eigenspaces of  $B$  and provide the algebraic and geometric multiplicities of the eigenvalues of  $B$ .

**Correction:** Firstly,  $E_0(B) = \ker B = \ker \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Vect}(v_1)$ , with  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Now,  $E_1(B) =$

$\ker(B - I_3) = \ker \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Vect}(v_2)$ , with  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Notably, this teaches us about its

minimal polynomial: equal to the characteristic polynomial, and its Jordan form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The algebraic multiplicity of 0 and 1 are respectively 1 and 2 and their geometric multiplicity is respectively 1 and 1.  $\square$

3. Find two vectors  $v_2, w_3 \in \ker(B - I_3)^2$  such that  $Bv_2 = v_2$  and  $Bw_3 = v_2 + w_3$ . Deduce a change of basis matrix  $P$  that allows to find the Jordan decomposition of  $B$  (no need to invert  $P$ ).

**Correction:** We can directly take  $v_2 = \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  for any  $\beta \neq 0$  from the previous part. By solving

$Bw_3 = v_2 + w_3$  we obtain  $w_3 = \beta \begin{pmatrix} \gamma \\ 1 \\ -1-\gamma \end{pmatrix}$  with the same  $\beta$  of  $v_2$  and any  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ .

As for the matrix  $P$ ,

- the column  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $J$  should correspond to the 0-eigenbasis that you found in the previous part.
- the columns  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $J$  should correspond to  $v_2$  and  $w_3$ .

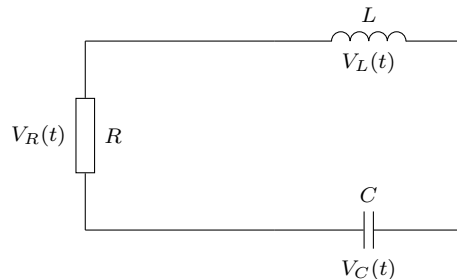
For example:

$$P^{-1}BP = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.5 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \dots$$

$$P^{-1}BP = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \dots$$

$\square$

## Problem 2: Dynamic of an electrical network



Noting  $I$  the intensity in the circuit, one has the following relations that model the dynamic behavior of the circuit:

$$L \frac{dI}{dt} = V_L,$$

$$C \frac{dV_C}{dt} = -I,$$

$$RI = V_R,$$

$$V_L + V_C + V_R = 0.$$

1. Express matricially the differential system of equation of  $y = \begin{pmatrix} I \\ V_C \end{pmatrix}$ . [Hint] Establish an equation between the differential of  $y$  and itself.

**Correction:** Noting  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{R}{L} & \frac{1}{L} \\ -\frac{1}{C} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $y(t) = \begin{pmatrix} I(t) \\ V_C(t) \end{pmatrix}$  and  $y_0 = \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , the differential equation system becomes  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$ .  $\square$

2. Solve the system with initial condition  $y(0) = \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . We want a result without exponential of matrices.

**Correction:** The solution of the system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dt} = Ay \\ y(0) = y_0 \end{cases}$$

is  $y(t) = e^{tA}y_0$ , we are then just left to compute  $e^{tA}$ . To find the Jordan decomposition of  $A$ , let us first compute:

$$\chi_A = \left( X + \frac{R}{L} \right) X + \frac{1}{CL} = X^2 + \frac{R}{L}X + \frac{1}{CL}.$$

There exists two complex roots  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  easy to compute such that  $\chi_A = (X - \alpha_1)(X - \alpha_2)$ . Let us first assume that  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$ . Then  $A$  is diagonalizable and we then look for  $u = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $Au = \alpha_1 u$ . That leads us to solving:

$$\begin{cases} -\frac{R}{L}u_1 + \frac{u_2}{L} &= \alpha_1 u_1 \\ -\frac{u_1}{C} &= \alpha_1 u_2 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Note that:

$$\frac{R}{L} = -\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{LC} = \alpha_1 \alpha_2. \quad (2)$$

It is then clear that the couple of solutions  $u_1 = 1$  and  $u_2 = -L\alpha_2$  satisfies the system (1). The same way, one sees that  $w = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -L\alpha_1 \end{pmatrix}$  is solution to  $Aw = \alpha_2 w$ . Then the matrix  $P \equiv (u, w) \in \mathcal{M}_2$  allow us to diagonalize:

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

As a consequence, the solution to our electric dynamic system is:

$$y(t) = P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\alpha_1 t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\alpha_2 t} \end{pmatrix} P \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

When  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 \equiv \alpha$ , we know that  $A$  is not diagonalizable because otherwise one would have  $A = \alpha I_2$ . In order to find a basis in which the matrix  $A$  takes the canonical Jordan form  $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 1 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$ , we look for a vector  $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $Ax = w + \alpha x$  with  $w = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{L}\alpha \end{pmatrix}$ . That leads to the equation:

$$\begin{cases} -\frac{R}{L} + \frac{x_2}{L} = 1 + \alpha \\ -\frac{1}{C} = -L\alpha + \alpha x_2, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

thanks to the identities  $\alpha = -\frac{R}{2L}$  and  $\alpha^2 = \frac{1}{CL}$ , it is not hard to see that  $x_2 \equiv L(1 - \alpha)$  is solution to (3). Finally writing  $P \equiv (w, x)$ , one has the decomposition:

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 1 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix},$$

which allows us to conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= P^{-1} \exp \left( \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) P \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1} \exp \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \cdot \exp \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\alpha t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\alpha t} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} P \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\alpha t} & te^{\alpha t} \\ 0 & e^{\alpha t} \end{pmatrix} P \begin{pmatrix} I_0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

□

## Exercises

1. Given  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{M}_m$  and  $C \in \mathcal{M}_{n,m}$  such that  $\text{Rank}(C) = m$  and  $AC = CB$ , prove that all the eigen values of  $B$  are eigen values of  $A$ .

**Correction:** For any eigen-pair  $(v, \lambda)$  of  $B$ , we have  $Bv = \lambda v$ , thus  $ACv = CBv = \lambda Cv$ , which means  $\exists y = Cv$  such that  $Ay = \lambda y$  therefore  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . □

2. Express the sufficient and necessary conditions on the coefficients  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$  such that the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  is triangularizable with a unitary matrix. Same question for  $A$  to be diagonalizable (with any matrix).

**Correction:** The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is  $\chi_A = (X - a)(X - d) - bc = X^2 - (a + d)X + ad - bc$ . For  $A$  to be triangularizable with an unitary matrix, the necessary and sufficient condition is that  $A$  has real roots which means  $(a + d)^2 - 4ad + 4bc \geq 0$ .

A sufficient condition for  $A$  to be diagonalizable is  $A$  having distinct roots  $((a + d)^2 - 4ad + 4bc > 0)$ . If  $(a + d)^2 - 4ad + 4bc = 0$ , the matrix can have just one eigenvalue equal to  $\lambda \equiv \frac{a+d}{2}$  then note that for any invertible matrix  $P \in \mathcal{M}_2$ :

$$P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} P = P^{-1}(\lambda I_2)P = \lambda I_2,$$

thus the only possibility for  $A$  to be diagonalizable in that case is that  $b = c = 0$ . To sum up with a sufficient and necessary condition for  $A$  to be diagonalizable is:

$$b = c = 0, a = d \quad \text{or} \quad (a + d)^2 - 4ad + 4bc > 0.$$

□

3. Find all the canonical forms that can have a matrix  $A$  having the characteristic polynomial:

$$\chi_A = (X - 2)^3(X + 1)^2$$

**Correction:** The different Jordan decomposition possible for  $A$  are:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 2 & & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 2 & 1 & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & & & \\ & 2 & 1 & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 2 & & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & 1 \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 2 & 1 & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & 1 \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & & & \\ & 2 & 1 & & \\ & & 2 & & \\ & & & -1 & 1 \\ & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

□

4. What is a necessary condition of two matrices  $A, B$  such that  $e^{A+B} \neq e^A e^B$  (No need for proof)? Give one example pair of such matrices in  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}_2$ .
5. Prove that for any  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\det(e^A) = e^{\text{Tr}(A)}$ .

**Correction:**

*Proof 1:*

(a) Any matrix  $A$  in  $\mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$  can have some Jordan decomposition  $A = SJS^{-1}$ . Therefore we have  $e^A = Se^J S^{-1}$  and  $\boxed{\det(e^A) = \det(e^J)}$ .

(b) Since  $J$  is upper triangular, we know  $J^k$  is upper triangular for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}_{++}$ , therefore  $e^J$  is upper triangular. We have  $\boxed{\det(e^J) = \prod_i [e^J]_{ii}}$  where  $[e^J]_{ii}$  is the  $i$ th diagonal element of  $e^J$ .

(c) For any 2 upper triangular matrix  $P$  and  $Q$ , we demonstrate  $[PQ]_{ii} = P_{ii}Q_{ii}$ :

$$[PQ]_{ii} = \sum_j P_{ij}Q_{ji} \xrightarrow{P \text{ is upper tri}} \sum_{j \geq i} P_{ij}Q_{ji} \xrightarrow{Q \text{ is upper tri}} \sum_{j=i} P_{ij}Q_{ji} = P_{ii}Q_{ii}$$

Combined with the additive construction of  $e^J$  we have  $\boxed{[e^J]_{ii} = \left[ \sum_k \frac{J^k}{k!} \right]_{ii} = \sum_k \frac{J^k_{ii}}{k!} = e^{J_{ii}}}$

(d) Therefore  $\det(e^A) = \det(e^J) = \prod_i [e^J]_{ii} = \prod_i e^{J_{ii}} = e^{\text{Tr}(J)}$ . We finally have  $\boxed{\det(e^A) = e^{\text{Tr}(A)}}$  since similar matrices have same trace.

*Proof 2:*

Any matrix  $A$  in  $\mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$  can have some Jordan decomposition  $A = SJS^{-1}$ . Therefore we have  $e^A = Se^J S^{-1}$  and  $\boxed{\det(e^A) = \det(e^J)}$ .

Denote  $J = \begin{pmatrix} J_{d_1}(\lambda_1) & & (0) \\ & \ddots & \\ (0) & & J_{d_k}(\lambda_k) \end{pmatrix}$ . Let us construct  $J_i = \begin{pmatrix} (0) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & J_{d_i}(\lambda_i) & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & (0) \end{pmatrix}$  for all

$i \in [k]$  and we have  $J = \sum_{i=1}^k J_i$ . We can easily prove that  $J_i$  and  $J_l$  commute for all  $i, l \in [k]$  thus  $\boxed{\det(e^J) = \det(e^{\sum_{i=1}^k J_i}) = \det(\prod_{i=1}^k e^{J_i}) = \prod_{i=1}^k \det(e^{J_i})}$ . Let us inspect  $\det(e^{J_i})$ :  $e^{J_i} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{J_i^k}{k!}$ ; since  $J_i$  is upper triangular,  $e^{J_i}$  is also upper triangular and its determinant is equal to the product of its diagonal entries. As a consequence, the  $n$ -th diagonal value of  $e^{J_i}$  is  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{[J_i]_{nn}^k}{k!} = e^{[J_i]_{nn}}$  where  $[J_i]_{nn}$  is the  $n$ -th diagonal value of  $J_i$ . therefore  $\boxed{\det(e^{J_i}) = \prod_n e^{[J_i]_{nn}} = e^{\text{Tr}(J_i)}}$ . Finally:

$$\det(e^A) = \prod_{i=1}^k e^{\text{Tr}(J_i)} = e^{\sum_{i=1}^k \text{Tr}(J_i)} = e^{\text{Tr}(J)} = \boxed{e^{\text{Tr}(A)}}$$

since similar matrices have same trace. □