

**Application of Linear Algebra  
to Differential Equations  
Segment 5: More Examples**

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## OUTLINE

- Segment 1. Introduction; the equation  $Y' = AY$
- Segment 2. The matrix exponential
- Segment 3. Spectral Mapping Theorem for matrix exponential
- Segment 4. Some easy examples
- **Segment 5. More examples**
- Segment 6. Complication:  $A$  not diagonalizable
- Segment 7. An example with  $A$  not diagonalizable

**References:** Section 8.3, Section 10.2

**Problems:** For Discussion May 1: page 328: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5    page 392: 1, 2, 4

Again we want to use the results of Segments 2 and 3:

**Theorem:** *If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix and  $C$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ,*

*then the function  $Y(t) = e^{tA}C$  is the unique solution*

*of the initial value problem:  $Y' = AY$  and  $Y(0) = C$*

and also:

**Theorem:**

*If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix and  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{C}^n$  consisting of*

*eigenvectors for  $A$  associated with the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ ,*

*then the unique solution of the initial value problem:  $Y' = AY$ ,  $Y(0) = C$*

*is  $Y(t) = \alpha_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} v_1 + \alpha_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n e^{\lambda_n t} v_n$ ,*

*where  $C = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$*

**Example:**

Solve the initial value problem:  $\begin{cases} y_1' = 2y_1 + y_2 \\ y_2' = -y_1 + 2y_2 \end{cases}$  and  $\begin{cases} y_1(0) = 3 \\ y_2(0) = 0 \end{cases}$

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We can rewrite this as  $Y' = FY$  and  $Y(0) = R$  by choosing

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad F = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

As before, we will use Matlab to do the calculations.

### Example (cont'd):

From the Matlab computations, the solution of  $Y' = FY$ ,  $Y(0) = R$  is

$$Y(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} w_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} w_2$$

where  $c_1 = 2.1213$ ,  $c_2 = 2.1213$

$$w_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.7071 \\ 0.7071i \end{pmatrix}, w_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.7071 \\ -0.7071i \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $\lambda_1 = 2 + i$ , and  $\lambda_2 = 2 - i$

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Since  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are different, the eigenvalues of  $F$  are distinct and  $F$  is diagonalizable. In particular, this means we get the solution exactly as before:

$$Y(t) = c_1 e^{(2+i)t} w_1 + c_2 e^{(2-i)t} w_2 = e^{(2+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.5i \end{pmatrix} + e^{(2-i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ -1.5i \end{pmatrix}$$



**Example (cont'd):**

On the other hand, our IVP:  $\begin{cases} y_1' = 2y_1 + y_2 \\ y_2' = -y_1 + 2y_2 \end{cases}$  and  $\begin{cases} y_1(0) = 3 \\ y_2(0) = 0 \end{cases}$  is real

and our answer is complex(!):  $Y(t) = e^{(2+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.5i \end{pmatrix} + e^{(2-i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ -1.5i \end{pmatrix},$

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(BUT we will see it does NOT hold for  $n \times n$  matrices for  $n \geq 2$ !!)



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Applying this to the complex exponential function in the Example, we see

$$e^{(2+i)t} = e^{2t} e^{it} = e^{2t} (\cos(t) + i \sin(t)) \quad \text{and} \quad e^{(2-i)t} = e^{2t} (\cos(t) - i \sin(t)) \quad \text{and}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Y(t) &= e^{(2+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.5i \end{pmatrix} + e^{(2-i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ -1.5i \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 1.5e^{2t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} (\cos(t) + i \sin(t)) \\ (\cos(t) + i \sin(t))i \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} (\cos(t) - i \sin(t)) \\ -(\cos(t) - i \sin(t))i \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{2t} \cos(t) \\ -3e^{2t} \sin(t) \end{pmatrix} \text{ or, } y_1(t) = 3e^{2t} \cos(t) \text{ and } y_2(t) = -3e^{2t} \sin(t) \end{aligned}$$

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Solve initial value problem:  $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$  with  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = -1$

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Since  $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$ , we see  $y_2' = y'' = -5y' - 6y = -6y_1 - 5y_2$ .

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Let  $y_1(t) = y(t)$ , so that  $y'_1 = y'$ . Also, let  $y_2(t) = y'_1(t)$ , so  $y'_2 = y''$ .

Since  $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$ , we see  $y'_2 = y'' = -5y' - 6y = -6y_1 - 5y_2$ .

The resulting IVP is: 
$$\begin{cases} y'_1 = & y_2 \\ y'_2 = -6y_1 - 5y_2 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} y_1(0) = 1 \\ y_2(0) = -1 \end{cases}$$

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We solve this system in the usual way, and interpret it as above!

### Another Example:

$$\text{Solve the IVP: } \begin{cases} y_1' = & y_2 \\ y_2' = -6y_1 - 5y_2 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} y_1(0) = 1 \\ y_2(0) = -1 \end{cases}$$

We can rewrite this as  $Y' = GY$  and  $Y(0) = S$  by choosing

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -6 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution of  $Y' = GY$ ,  $Y(0) = S$  is  $Y(t) = d_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} x_1 + d_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} x_2$

where  $d_1 = 4.4721$ ,  $d_2 = 3.1623$ ,  $\lambda_1 = -2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -3$ ,

$$x_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4472 \\ -0.8944 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.3162 \\ 0.9487 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Another Example:

In other words, the function

$$Y(t) = d_1 e^{-2t} x_1 + d_2 e^{-3t} x_2 = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

is the solution of the IVP:  $\begin{cases} y_1' = & y_2 \\ y_2' = -6y_1 - 5y_2 \end{cases}$  and  $\begin{cases} y_1(0) = 1 \\ y_2(0) = -1 \end{cases}$

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In particular, relating this to the original IVP, this means

$$y(t) = y_1(t) = 2e^{-2t} - e^{-3t}$$

is the solution of the initial value problem:

$$y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad y(0) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y'(0) = -1.$$

This is the end of the Fifth Segment.

In the next segment, we tackle initial value problems  
for which the coefficient matrix is non-diagonalizable.