

# How to Compute $e^{At}$ ?

(I) Simplest Case -  $A^{n \times n}$  is diagonalizable

Suppose  $A$  has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors  
 $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$

corresponding to  $n$  eigenvalues,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$   
(which might be repeating)

i.e.  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n$

Then

$$e^{At} = P e^{\Lambda t} P^{-1}$$

(I) Simplest Case -  $A^{n \times n}$  is diagonalizable

where  $P = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & & \\ & e^{\lambda_2 t} & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

## (II) Jordan Canonical Form

There is a matrix  $P$  whose columns  $v_i$  are  
eigenvectors

$$A v_i = \lambda_i v_i \quad \text{i.e.} \quad (A - \lambda_i I) v_i = 0$$

or generalized eigenvectors

$$(A - \lambda_i I)^{k_i} v_i = 0$$

such that

$$A = P \Lambda P^{-1}$$

## (II) Jordan Canonical Form

where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{J_1} & & \\ & \boxed{J_2} & \\ & & \dots \\ & & & \boxed{J_k} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Jordan block } [J_i] &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & & \\ & \lambda_i & \dots & \\ & & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & & & \\ & \dots & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & 1 \\ & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{\lambda_i I}_{D_i} + N_i \end{aligned}$$

## (II) Jordan Canonical Form

Note:  $D_i$  is diagonal,

$N_i$  is nilpotent,  $N_i^{\square} = 0$

$D_i N_i = N_i D_i$ , i.e.  $D_i, N_i$  commute

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$$A = P \Lambda P^{-1} \Rightarrow e^{At} = P e^{\Lambda t} P^{-1}$$

$$e^{\Lambda t} = \begin{bmatrix} [e^{J_1 t}] & & \\ & [e^{J_2 t}] & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & [e^{J_k t}] \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} [e^{J_1 t}] & & & \\ & [e^{J_2 t}] & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & [e^{J_k t}] \end{bmatrix}$$

$$e^{J_i t} = I + \frac{(J_i t)}{1!} + \frac{(J_i t)^2}{2!} + \frac{(J_i t)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

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"Easy" to compute  $J_i^m$

$$J_i^m = (D_i + N_i)^m$$

$$= D_i^m + \binom{m}{1} D_i^{m-1} N_i + \binom{m}{2} D_i^{m-2} N_i^2$$

$$+ \dots + \binom{m}{k-1} D_i^{m-k+1} N_i^{k-1}$$

$$\underline{(N_i^k = 0)}$$

## (III) Laplace Transform

$$\mathcal{L}(e^{At}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{At} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= (sI - A)^{-1}$$

$$e^{At} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left((sI - A)^{-1}\right)$$

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# Examples

$$\textcircled{1} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (-1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\swarrow v_1 \quad \searrow \lambda_1$

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = (-3) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\swarrow v_2 \quad \searrow \lambda_2$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & \\ & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{-t} & \\ & e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} e^{-t} + e^{-3t} & e^{-t} - e^{-3t} \\ e^{-t} - e^{-3t} & e^{-t} + e^{-3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\textcircled{2} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} : \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$v_1$                        $\lambda_1$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$v_2$                        $\lambda_2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$v_3$                        $\lambda_3$

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

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{-t} & & \\ & e^{3t} & \\ & & e^{3t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -e^{-t} & 0 & e^{3t} \\ 2e^{-t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-t} & 2e^{3t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{3t} & -\frac{1}{2}e^t + \frac{1}{2}e^{3t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^t & 0 \\ -2e^t + 2e^{3t} & -e^t + e^{3t} & e^t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(e^{At}) = (sI - A)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{s+2}{(s+2)^2 - 1} & 1 \\ -1 & s+2 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(s+2)^2 - 1} \begin{bmatrix} s+2 & 1 \\ 1 & s+2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{s+2}{(s+3)(s+1)} & \frac{1}{(s+3)(s+1)} \\ \frac{1}{(s+3)(s+1)} & \frac{s+2}{(s+3)(s+1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Partial fraction

$$\mathcal{L}(e^{At}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+3)} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+1)} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+1)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+3)} \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+1)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+3)} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+3)} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(s+1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathcal{L}^{-1}$

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} e^{3t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} & \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t} \\ \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t} & \frac{1}{2} e^{3t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} \end{bmatrix}$$