

Example Find general solution of the given system of equations:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1' = x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 \\ x_2' = 3x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 \\ x_3' = 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 \end{array} \right.$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 2-\lambda & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \text{char. pol. for } \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + 4 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2-\lambda \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= (1-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - \lambda - 1) - 3 - 3\lambda + 2 + 4(3 - 4 + 2\lambda) \\ &= \cancel{\lambda^2 - \lambda - 1} - \cancel{\lambda^3 + \lambda^2} + \cancel{\lambda} - 3\lambda - 1 - 4 + 8\lambda \\ &= -\lambda^3 + 2\lambda^2 + 5\lambda - 6 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

The candidates for roots are divisors of the free term:

$$\lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 6 = 0$$

which are $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \lambda = -2 & \Rightarrow -8 - 8 + 10 + 6 = 0 \\ x+2 & \boxed{\begin{array}{r} x^3 - 2x^2 - 5x + 6 \\ x^3 + 2x^2 \\ \hline -4x^2 - 5x \\ -4x^2 - 8x \\ \hline 3x + 6 \end{array}} \end{array} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} (\lambda+2)(\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 3) = 0 \\ (\lambda+2)(\lambda-1)(\lambda-3) = 0 \\ \lambda = 1, \lambda = -2, \lambda = 3 \end{array} \right.$$

Step 2 Find eigen vectors

$$(2) \lambda_1 = 1 \quad (A - I)v = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Use Gauss Elimination method (get matrix with elements under diagonal equals zero). Use elementary row operations on augmented matrix which corresponds to legitimate operations on the equations in the system.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\downarrow R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow 3R_3 - 2R_1} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftrightarrow R_3 + R_2}$$

$$\rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 3v_1 + v_2 - v_3 &= 0 \\ -v_2 + 4v_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } v_3 = 1 \Rightarrow v_2 = +4v_3 = +4$$

$$3v_1 = v_3 - v_2 = 1 - (+4) = -3 \Rightarrow v_1 = 1$$

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{solution } e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(b) \lambda = -2$$

$$A - \lambda I = A + 2I \Rightarrow \text{augm. matrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_2 - R_1 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_3 \leftrightarrow 3R_3 - 2R_1 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_3 \leftrightarrow R_3 - R_2 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$3V_1 - V_2 + 4V_3 = 0$$

$$V_2 - V_3 = 0$$

$$\text{If } V_3 = 1 \Rightarrow V_2 = 1 \Rightarrow 3V_1 - 1 + 4 = 0$$

$$3V_1 = 3$$

$$V_1 = 1$$

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{solution } e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(c) \lambda = 3 \Rightarrow A - 3I = \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -4 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$R_3 \leftrightarrow R_3 + R_1 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow 2R_2 + 3R_1} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$-2V_1 - V_2 + 4V_3 = 0$$

$$V_3 = 1 \Rightarrow 5V_2 = 10 \Rightarrow V_2 = 2$$

$$-5V_2 + 10V_3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -2V_1 - 2 + 4 = 0$$

$$V_1 = V_2 = 1$$

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{solution } e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step 3 General solution

$$x(t) = c_1 e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$