

Repeated Roots with Defect (3.7)

Example Solve $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$ if $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ by using $e^{At} = e^{\lambda t} e^{(A-\lambda I)t}$.

This is not the method used in most textbooks, and so your fundamental set will be different from the book answers. There is a good reason for this: the method above will not generalize to systems larger than 2×2 . The standard method completes the fundamental set by finding a **generalized eigenvector** \vec{v}^* so that $(A - \lambda I)\vec{v}^* = \vec{v}$ where \vec{v} is an eigenvector of the repeated eigenvalue. Then since $(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$, $(A - \lambda I)^2\vec{v}^* = \vec{0}$, and so $(A - \lambda I)^n\vec{v}^* = \vec{0}$ for all integers $n \geq 2$. Consequently a new independent solution is,

$$e^{At}\vec{v}^* = e^{\lambda t} \left(I + (A - \lambda I)t + (A - \lambda I)^2 \frac{t^2}{2} + \dots \right) \vec{v}^* = e^{\lambda t} (\vec{v}^* + \vec{v}t)$$

Solve the system again using this method.

Solve $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$ if $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solve $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$ if $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solve $\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = A\vec{u}$ if $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\text{Solve } \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = A\vec{u} \text{ if } A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$