

## Jordan normal form

**Example:** The matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is not diagonalizable in any field.

**Proof:** It has eigenvalue 1 of multiplicity two, hence could only be similar to  $I_2$ . But for any regular  $R$ :  $R^{-1}I_2R = I_2 \neq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

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**Definition:** A *Jordan block* is a square matrix of the form

$$J_\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & & \\ & \lambda & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

**Theorem:** Every square complex matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is similar to a matrix  $\mathbf{J}$  in the so called *Jordan normal form*

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} J_{\lambda_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & J_{\lambda_k} \end{pmatrix}$$

Each Jordan block  $J_{\lambda_i}$  corresponds to an eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  of  $\mathbf{A}$ . A  $\lambda_i$  may yield several Jordan blocks, indeed of various sizes.

**Fact:** For each  $\lambda$ , the number of blocks and their sizes are uniquely determined by  $\mathbf{A}$ . Hence the Jordan normal form of  $\mathbf{A}$  is unique upto a permutation of the Jordan blocks on the diagonal.

**Observation:** A diagonalizable matrix has Jordan blocks of size one.

# Generalized eigenvectors

When  $\mathbf{A}$  is diagonalizable, i.e.  $\mathbf{AR} = \mathbf{RD}$ ,  
 then the columns of  $\mathbf{R}$  are eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

What can we say about matrices that are not diagonalizable?

Proposition: Let  $\mathbf{AR} = \mathbf{RJ}_\lambda$ .

If  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is the  $i$ -th column of  $\mathbf{R}$ , then it satisfies  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})^i \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{0}$ .

Proof:

$\mathbf{RJ}_\lambda$	$\lambda$	$1$	$\dots$	$1$
$\mathbf{x}_1 \quad \mathbf{x}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{x}_n$	$\lambda\mathbf{x}_1$	$\mathbf{x}_1 + \lambda\mathbf{x}_2$	$\dots$	$\mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \lambda\mathbf{x}_n$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{Ax}_1 = \lambda\mathbf{x}_1 &\quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{0} \\
 \mathbf{Ax}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + \lambda\mathbf{x}_2 &\quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})^2\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{0} \\
 &\quad \vdots \\
 \mathbf{Ax}_n = \mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \lambda\mathbf{x}_n &\quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}_{n-1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})^n\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0}
 \end{aligned}$$

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**Definition:** *Generalized eigenvector* of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  for an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is any vector  $\mathbf{x}$  satisfying  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})^i \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

They form *chains*  $\mathbf{x}_k, \dots, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{0}$ , where  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i-1}$ .

Analogously, for a linear map  $f$  we get  $f(\mathbf{x}_i) - \lambda\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i-1}$ .

In another notation:  $\mathbf{x} \in \ker((\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})^i)$ , or  $\mathbf{x} \in \ker((f - \lambda id)^i)$ .

**Theorem:** (equivalent version of Jordan's normal form theorem)

Each finitely generated space  $V$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  and linear  $f : V \rightarrow V$  has a basis from chains of generalized eigenvectors of the map  $f$ .

**Note:** Also holds for any  $\mathbb{K}$ , when eigenvalues have algebraic multiplicity  $\dim(V)$ , i.e. if  $p_{[f]_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}}}(t)$  decomposes into linear terms.

## Example

The matrix  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 7 & -5 \\ -2 & 7 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  is similar to a matrix in the

Jordan normal form with two blocks  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , because

$$\mathbf{AR} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 7 & -5 \\ -2 & 7 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{RJ}$$

$(3, 2, 1)^T$  is an eigenvector for 2, i.e.  $(\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I}_3)(3, 2, 1)^T = \mathbf{0}$  and  
 $(1, 1, 1)^T$  is an eigenvector for 1, i.e.  $(\mathbf{A} - 1\mathbf{I}_3)(1, 1, 1)^T = \mathbf{0}$ .

The middle column of the matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  however satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} \cdot (2, 2, 1)^T &= (3, 2, 1)^T + 2 \cdot (2, 2, 1)^T \implies \\ (\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I}_3) (2, 2, 1)^T &= (3, 2, 1)^T \implies \\ (\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I}_3)^2 (2, 2, 1)^T &= (\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I}_3)(3, 2, 1)^T = \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

## Proof of the theorem — Part 1

By induction on  $\dim(V)$ . For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  we introduce the map  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) - \lambda\mathbf{x}$ . We fix some eigenvalue  $\lambda$  arbitrarily.

Since both  $f$  and  $id$  are linear maps,  $g_\lambda = f - \lambda id$  is also linear.

Denote  $W = g_\lambda(V)$ , the range of the map  $g_\lambda$ .

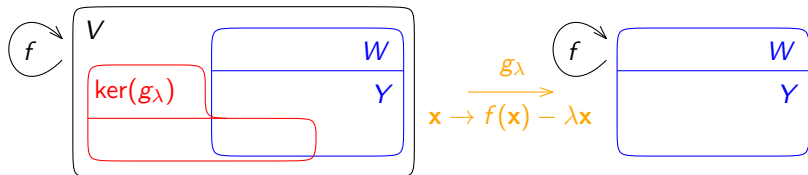
Since  $g_\lambda$  is a linear map,  $W$  is a vector space. Indeed  $W$  is a *subspace* of  $V$ , because  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in V : g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) - \lambda\mathbf{x} \in V$ .

Next,  $\dim(W) < \dim(V)$  because the eigenvector  $\mathbf{u}$  for  $\lambda$  satisfies  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) - \lambda\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , i.e.  $\dim(\ker(g_\lambda)) \geq 1$  and thus  $\dim(V) = \dim(g_\lambda(V)) + \dim(\ker(g_\lambda)) = \dim(W) + \dim(\ker(g_\lambda))$ .

The map  $f$  can be restricted to  $W$ , since for  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) \in W$  we have  $f(g_\lambda(\mathbf{x})) = f(f(\mathbf{x}) - \lambda\mathbf{x}) = f(f(\mathbf{x})) - \lambda f(\mathbf{x}) = g_\lambda(f(\mathbf{x})) \in W$ .

According to the inductive hypothesis for  $f$  and  $W$ , the subspace  $W$  has a basis  $Y$  from chains of generalized eigenvectors of  $f$ .

## Example for the first part of the proof



For  $[f]_{K,K} = \begin{pmatrix} -17 & -5 \\ -27 & -4 \\ -13 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  a  $\lambda = 2$  is  $[g_2]_{K,K} = \begin{pmatrix} -37 & -5 \\ -25 & -4 \\ -13 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \sim \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -3 \\ 01 & -2 \\ 00 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$Z = \{(3, 2, 1)^T\}$  is a basis of  $\ker(g_2)$  so  $\dim(W) = 3 - 1 = 2$ .

When we extend  $Z$  by  $\mathbf{e}^1, \mathbf{e}^2$  to a basis of  $V$ , we get  $\{g_2(\mathbf{e}^1), g_2(\mathbf{e}^2)\} = \{(-3, -2, -1)^T, (7, 5, 3)^T\}$  as a basis of  $W$ .

Note that  $W \cap \ker(g_2) \neq \emptyset$ . This intersection has dimension 1.

There are two chains that form the basis  $Y$  of the subspace  $W$ : the first is  $(3, 2, 1)^T$  for  $\lambda = 2$  and the next is  $(1, 1, 1)^T$  for  $\lambda = 1$ . (Both have length one, so they contain "ordinary" eigenvectors.)

## Proof of theorem — Part 2

Denote  $d = \dim(\ker(g_\lambda))$  and  $d' = \dim(\ker(g_\lambda) \cap W)$ .

Arrange the basis  $Y$  into  $r$  strings so that the first  $d'$  corresponds to  $\lambda$  and others correspond to the other eigenvalues  $\lambda', \dots, \lambda^{r-1}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathbf{y}_{k_1}^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_2^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_1^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{0} \\
 \mathbf{y}_{k_2}^2 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_2^2 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_1^2 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & & & \vdots \\
 & & & & \mathbf{y}_{k_{d'}}^{d'} & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_1^{d'} & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & \mathbf{y}_{k_{d'+1}}^{d'+1} & \xrightarrow{g_{\lambda'}} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_{\lambda'}} & \mathbf{y}_1^{d'+1} & \xrightarrow{g_{\lambda'}} & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\
 & & & & & & \dots & & \mathbf{y}_1^r & \xrightarrow{g_{\lambda^{r-1}}} & \mathbf{0}
 \end{array}$$

As chains of  $Y$  are in  $W$ , we can extend each of the first  $d'$  chains by some  $\mathbf{x}^i \in V$  so that  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}^i) = \mathbf{y}_{k_i}^i$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, d'\}$ .

The vectors  $\mathbf{y}_1^1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1^{d'}$  form the basis of the space  $\ker(g_\lambda) \cap W$ .

Complete them by  $\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^{d-d'}$  to a basis of  $\ker(g_\lambda)$  (other than  $Z$ ) and get  $d - d'$  new chains of length 1 formed by  $\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^{d-d'}$ .



That yields chains

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
 \mathbf{x}^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_{k_1}^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_2^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_1^1 & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\
 \mathbf{x}^{d'} & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_{k_{d'}}^{d'} & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \dots & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{y}_1^{d'} & \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} & \mathbf{0} & & \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\
 & & & & & & & & & & \mathbf{0}
 \end{array}$$

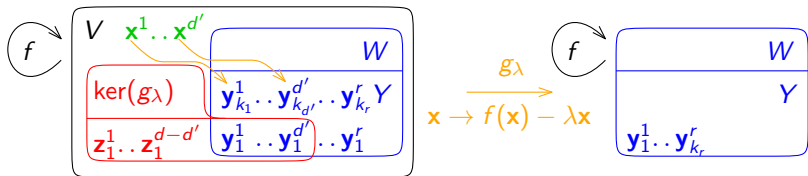
In our example:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (2, 2, 1)^T & \xrightarrow{g_2} & (3, 2, 1)^T & \xrightarrow{g_2} & \mathbf{0} & & \\
 & & (1, 1, 1)^T & \xrightarrow{g_1} & \mathbf{0} & & \\
 & & & & & \dots & \mathbf{y}_1^r \xrightarrow{g_{\lambda^1 \dots \lambda^r}} \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & \mathbf{z}^1 \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} \mathbf{0} \\
 & & & & & & \vdots \\
 & & & & & & \mathbf{z}^{d-d'} \xrightarrow{g_\lambda} \mathbf{0}
 \end{array}$$

We have no  $\mathbf{z}^i$  because  $d = d' = 1$ .

We added  $d = \dim(\ker(g_\lambda))$  vectors to the basis of  $W$ , so in total we have as many as is the dimension of the space  $V$ .

We show that they are linearly independent and therefore they form a basis of the space  $V$ .



Consider a linear combination  $\sum_i a_i \mathbf{x}^i + \sum_j b_{i,j} \mathbf{y}_j^i + \sum_i c_i \mathbf{z}^i = \mathbf{0}$ .

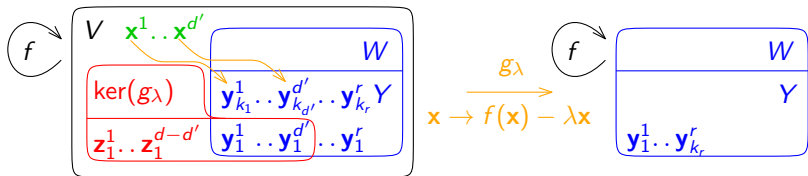
Since  $\mathbf{0} = g_\lambda(\mathbf{0}) = g_\lambda \left( \sum_i a_i \mathbf{x}^i + \sum_{i,j} b_{i,j} \mathbf{y}_j^i + \sum_i c_i \mathbf{z}^i \right) = \sum_{i,j} b'_{i,j} \mathbf{y}_j^i$ ,

where the vectors  $\mathbf{y}_j^i$  are linearly independent,

we must have  $0 = b'_{i,j} = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{for } i \leq d', j = k_i \\ b_{i,j+1} & \text{for } i \leq d', j < k_i \\ (\lambda^* - \lambda) b_{i,j} & \text{for } i > d', j = k_i \\ (\lambda^* - \lambda) b_{i,j} + b_{i,j+1} & \text{for } i > d', j < k_i \end{cases}$

where  $\lambda^* \neq \lambda$  matches the  $i$ -th chain.

It follows from  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{x}^i) = \mathbf{y}_{k_i}^i$  and  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{y}_j^i) = \mathbf{y}_{j-1}^i$  for  $i \leq d'$ ; while for  $i > d'$ :  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{y}_1^i) = f(\mathbf{y}_1^i) - \lambda \mathbf{y}_1^i = \lambda^* \mathbf{y}_1^i - \lambda \mathbf{y}_1^i = (\lambda^* - \lambda) \mathbf{y}_1^i$  and for  $j > 1$  also:  $g_\lambda(\mathbf{y}_j^i) = f(\mathbf{y}_j^i) - \lambda \mathbf{y}_j^i = f(\mathbf{y}_j^i) - \lambda^* \mathbf{y}_j^i + (\lambda^* - \lambda) \mathbf{y}_j^i = g_{\lambda^*}(\mathbf{y}_j^i) + (\lambda^* - \lambda) \mathbf{y}_j^i = \mathbf{y}_{j-1}^i + (\lambda^* - \lambda) \mathbf{y}_j^i$ .



Consider a linear combination  $\sum_i a_i x^i + \sum_j b_{i,j} y_j^j + \sum_i c_i z^i = \mathbf{0}$ .

Since  $\mathbf{0} = g_\lambda(\mathbf{0}) = g_\lambda \left( \sum_i a_i x^i + \sum_{i,j} b_{i,j} y_j^j + \sum_i c_i z^i \right) = \sum_{i,j} b'_{i,j} y_j^j$ ,

where the vectors  $y_j^j$  are linearly independent,

we must have  $0 = b'_{i,j} = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{for } i \leq d', j = k_i \\ b_{i,j+1} & \text{for } i \leq d', j < k_i \\ (\lambda^* - \lambda) b_{i,j} & \text{for } i > d', j = k_i \\ (\lambda^* - \lambda) b_{i,j} + b_{i,j+1} & \text{for } i > d', j < k_i \end{cases}$

where  $\lambda^* \neq \lambda$  matches the  $i$ -th chain.

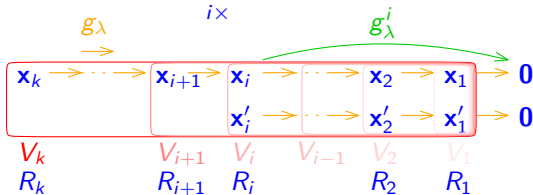
The first case gives:  $\forall i : a_i = 0$ , the next:  $\forall i \leq d', \forall j > 1 : b_{i,j} = 0$  and the other two:  $\forall i > d', \forall j : b_{i,j} = 0$ . In the combination, only the coefficients  $b_{i,1}$  for  $i \leq d'$  and  $c_i$  remain, but they are also zero, since the vectors  $y_1^1, \dots, y_1^{d'}, z_1^1, \dots, z_1^{d-d'}$  form a basis of  $\ker(g_\lambda)$ .

## Calculation of chains corresponding to $\lambda$

Notation: Map  $g_\lambda^i = \underbrace{g_\lambda \circ g_\lambda \circ \cdots \circ g_\lambda}_{i \times}$

... corresponds to  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I})^i$

Procedure:



- ▶ We determine the sequence of spaces  $V_1 \subsetneq V_2 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq V_k$ , where  $V_i = \ker(g_\lambda^i)$  and  $k = \min\{i : \ker(g_\lambda^i) = \ker(g_\lambda^{i+1})\}$ .
- ▶ We set  $R_{k+1} = \emptyset$  and for  $i$  from  $k$  to 1:
  - ▶ calculate the set  $g_\lambda(R_{i+1})$ 
    - ... we extend the already established chains
  - ▶ and extend it by vectors from  $V_i \setminus V_{i-1}$  to a linearly independent set  $R_i$  of size  $\dim(V_i) - \dim(V_{i-1})$ 
    - ... we add to  $R_i$  the beginnings of new chains

A Jordan cell of size  $i$  corresponds to a chain that begins some  $x_i \in R_i \setminus g_\lambda(R_{i+1})$  followed by its images  $x_{i-j} = g_\lambda^j(x_i) \in R_{i-j}$ .

## Example

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -3 & 6 & 2 & -3 & -2 & -8 \\ -2 & 0 & 4 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -4 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -3 & 4 & 1 & -4 & 1 & -5 \\ 2 & 3 & -4 & -1 & 5 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \rho_{\mathbf{A}}(t) &= \\ &= t^7 - 6t^6 + 15t^5 - 20t^4 + 15t^3 - 6t^2 + t \\ &= t \cdot (t - 1)^6 \end{aligned}$$

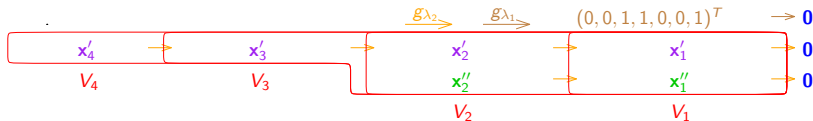
Eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$ .

Since the algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda_1$  is **1**, it has geometric multiplicity **1** as well and it corresponds to a Jordan cell of size **1**.

$$\xrightarrow{g_{\lambda_1}} (0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)^T \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$$

We choose an eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}_1 = (0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)^T$  for  $\lambda_1$ .

## Example



The matrix  
 $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} - \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_7 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -3 & 6 & 2 & -3 & -2 & -8 \\ -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -4 & -1 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -3 & 4 & 1 & -4 & 0 & -5 \\ 2 & 3 & -4 & -1 & 5 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$   
 has rank 5.

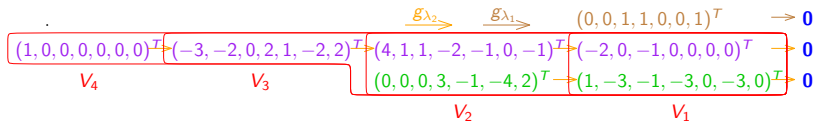
$$\dim(V_1) = 7 - 5 = 2.$$

The eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1$   
 thus corresponds to  
 two Jordan cels,  
 i.e. to two chains.

The chain lengths can be derived from dimensions of  $V_2, V_3, \dots$   
 $\text{rank}(\mathbf{B}^2) = 3 \Rightarrow \dim(V_2) = 4 \Rightarrow$  both chains have length at least 2  
 $\text{rank}(\mathbf{B}^3) = 2 \Rightarrow \dim(V_3) = 5 \Rightarrow$  one length is 2 and the other 4.

Jordan normal form is  $\mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

## Example — calculation of generalized eigenvectors



Choose e.g.  $\mathbf{x}'_4 = (1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)^T \in V_4$ , then

$\mathbf{x}'_3 = g_{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{x}'_4) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}'_4 = (-3, -2, 0, 2, 1, -2, 2)^T \in V_3$  and

$\mathbf{x}'_2 = g_{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{x}'_3) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}'_3 = (4, 1, 1, -2, -1, 0, -1)^T \in V_2$ .

Choose vector  $\mathbf{x}''_2 \in V_2 \setminus V_1$  linearly independent on  $\mathbf{x}'_2$  (we show later how), e.g.  $\mathbf{x}''_2 = (0, 0, 0, 3, -1, -4, 2)^T$ .

Now  $\mathbf{x}'_1 = g_{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{x}'_2) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}'_2 = (-2, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0)^T \in V_1$

and  $\mathbf{x}''_1 = g_{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{x}''_2) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}''_2 = (1, -3, -1, -3, 0, -3, 0)^T \in V_1$ .

The desired regular matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  for  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{J}$  is

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}'_1 & \mathbf{x}'_2 & \mathbf{x}'_3 & \mathbf{x}'_4 & \mathbf{x}''_1 & \mathbf{x}''_2 \\ | & | & | & | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & 4 & -3 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & 2 & 0 & -3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & -3 & -4 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example — choice of $\mathbf{x}_2''$

Calculate the basis of  $V_2$ , i.e. of the space  $\ker(\mathbf{B}^2)$ .

$$\mathbf{B}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & -8 & -2 & 6 & 2 & 10 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -2 & 0 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ -2 & -5 & 4 & 2 & -8 & 1 & -5 \\ -1 & -2 & 2 & 1 & -3 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -3 & 2 & 1 & -5 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \ker(\mathbf{B}^2) =$$

$$= \mathcal{L}((-2, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0)^T, (0, 2, 0, 1, -1, 0, 0)^T, (1, -1, 0, -1, 0, -1, 0)^T, (2, -1, 0, -3, 0, 0, -1)^T)$$

Put the basis row-wise into a matrix and transform it to a echelon form.

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & -3 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \sim \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 4 & 10 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_1$$

Do the same for the space  $V_1$ , where we add  $\mathbf{x}_2'$  to the basis.

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -3 & 6 & 2 & -3 & -2 & -8 \\ -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -4 & -1 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -3 & 4 & 1 & -4 & 0 & -5 \\ 2 & 3 & -4 & -1 & 5 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \sim \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\ker(\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{L}((2, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0)^T, (1, -1, 0, -1, 0, -1, 0)^T)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 & -2 & -1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \sim \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & -3 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 6 & 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_2$$

The row of  $\mathbf{M}_1$  with pivot in another column, that are pivots of  $\mathbf{M}_2$ , is  $\mathbf{x}_2''$ .