

# SOLUTIONS TO EXERCISES IN AXLER, SECTION 8A.

1. Check that  $T^2 = 0$ , so that every <sup>nonzero</sup> vector is a generalized eigenvector with eigenvalue 0.  $\blacksquare$

5. Suppose  $v, \dots, T^{m-1}v$  is linearly dependent, and write  $\sum_{0 \leq j \leq m-1} a_j T^j v = 0$  where not all  $a_j$ 's are 0. Apply  $T^{m-1}$ , so  $a_0 T^{m-1} v = 0$ ; since  $T^{m-1} v \neq 0$ , we have  $a_0 = 0$ . Similarly  $0 = T^{m-2} 0 = \underbrace{a_1 T^{m-2} v}_0 + a_2 \underbrace{T^{m-1} v}_0 + T^{m-2}(\underbrace{0}_{\text{junk}}) = 0$  so  $a_1 T^{m-2} v = 0$  and  $a_1 = 0$ . Continue in this manner to show  $0 = a_2 = \dots = a_{m-1}$ . CONTRADICTION! Therefore  $\{v, \dots, T^{m-1}v\}$  is lin indep.  $\blacksquare$

8.  $S(u, v) = (v, 0)$ ,  $T(u, v) = (0, u) \Rightarrow S^2 = T^2 = 0$   
 However  $S+T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  which is not nilpotent.  $\blacksquare$   
 $(S+T)^2 = I$ .

9. Suppose  $(ST)^n = 0$ . Then  $(TS)^{n+1} = T(ST)^n S = 0$ .  $\blacksquare$

13.  $N$  normal + nilpotent.  $N^p = 0 \Rightarrow 0$  is the only eigenvalue.  $NN^* = N^*N \Rightarrow N$  has a basis of eigen vectors, say  $v_i$ . Combining these,  $Nv_i = 0$  all  $i$ , which means that  $Nv = 0$  all  $v$ .  $\blacksquare$

## SOLUTIONS TO EXERCISES IN AXLER, SECTION 8B

1. If  $N$  is the only eigenvalue, and  $N$  is triangular form, then  $N^p = 0$ . For a general  $N$  we know  $N = P^{-1}AP$  where  $A$  is upper triangular, since  $A$  also has only  $0$  as an eigenvalue, we have  $A^p = 0$  for some  $p$ , hence

$$N^p = (P^{-1}AP)^p = P^{-1}A^pP = P^{-1}0P = 0.$$

3. Suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  is a basis for the eigenvectors of  $T$  with eigenvalue  $c$ . Then  $W = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ .  
 $\Rightarrow S^{-1}[W]$  &  $W$  have the same dimension, and in fact  $S^{-1}x_1, \dots, S^{-1}x_k$  satisfy

$$S^{-1}TS(S^{-1}x_j) = S^{-1}TS(cS^{-1}x_j) = cS^{-1}x_j.$$

Hence if  $W$  is as above then  $S^{-1}[W] \subseteq$  space of eigenvectors for  $S^{-1}TS$  with eigenvalue  $c$ .

Hence  $\dim W \leq \dim X$ . Similarly, if we consider

$S(S^{-1}TS)S^{-1}$  we see  $\dim X \leq \dim W$ . Thus  $\dim X = \dim W$ .  $\square$

6. In matrix form,

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Observe that  $N^5 = 0$  and ~~also~~ find  $\sqrt{I+N}$  using the Binomial Series Formula. This converges because all higher powers are zero.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{I+N} &= I + \frac{1}{2}N + \frac{1(-1)}{2 \cdot 2}N^2 + \frac{1(-1)(-3)}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3!}N^3 + \\ &\quad \frac{1(-1)(-3)(-5)}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 4!}N^4 = \\ &= I + \frac{1}{2}N + \frac{1}{8}N^2 + \frac{1}{16}N^3 - \frac{5}{128}N^4. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

9. Write  $\mathbb{R}^n = V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_m$  where  $n = \text{size of } A, B$  (# rows/columns), and  $\text{size } V_j = \text{size } A_j, B_j$ . Then  $A(y_1, \dots, y_m) = (A_1 y_1, \dots, A_m y_m)$  and

$$B(x_1, \dots, x_m) = (B_1 x_1, \dots, B_m x_m).$$

Combining these, we obtain

$$AB(x_1, \dots, x_m) = A(B_1 x_1, \dots, B_m x_m) = (A_1 B_1 x_1, \dots, A_m B_m x_m). \quad \text{If } z \in V_j$$

then view  $z = (0, \dots, z_j, \dots, 0)$  and notice that  $\uparrow$   $j$ th place

$ABz = (0, \dots, A_j B_j z_j, \dots, 0)$ . Thus if we take an ordered basis  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_m$  for  $\mathbb{R}^n$

it follows that the matrix of  $AB$  for this ordered basis is the block sum  $A_1 B_1 \oplus \dots \oplus A_m B_m$ .  $\square$

1.1. If  $A$  is upper triangular and  $B$  is a Jordan form for  $A$ , then the assertions about the characteristic polynomial (not yet proven) imply  $\chi_A = \chi_B$ . Hence the numbers of factors  $(t - \lambda)$  in both are the same (fixed  $\lambda$ ). On the right hand side this number is the sum of the sizes of the Jordan blocks for  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

This corrects the conclusion stated in Axler: The number of factors is the dimension of  $V_\lambda$ , NOT the dimension of the eigenspace for  $\lambda$ !



SOLUTIONS TO EXERCISES IN AXLER, SECTION 8C  
 $\rightarrow$  characteristic poly has the

1. The minimal polynomial is divisible by  $(t-3)(t-5)(t-8)$ , and it has the form  $(t-3)^a(t-5)^b(t-8)^c$  where  $a, b, c \geq 1$

and  $a+b+c=4$ . This means that two of  $\{a, b, c\}$  are 1 and one is 2. For all such possibilities we have  $\chi \mid (t-3)^2(t-5)^2(t-8)^2$ .

Since  $\chi(T)=0$  by the Cayley-Hamilton Thm., it follows that  $(T-3I)^2(T-5I)^2(T-8I)^2=0$ .  $\square$

5. 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \square$$

6. 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \square$$

7. We know  $m+n = \dim V$ ,  $m = \dim V_0$ . Hence  $n = \dim V_1$ , so  $\chi(P) = t^m(t-1)^n$ .  $\square$

11. Let  $p(t)$  be the minimal poly of  $T$ ,  $\chi(t)$  the char poly. for Jordan form. Then, over  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\chi(t)$  is a product  $(t - \lambda_i)^{m_i}$  where  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ , so

$p(t)$  is a poly  $(t - \lambda_i)^{n_i}$  where  $n_i \leq m_i$ .

The constant term for  $\chi(t)$ ,  $\neq 0$   $\Rightarrow$

same true for  $p(T) = T^k + a_{k-1}T^{k-1} + \dots + a_0 I$ .

It follows that  $T^{-1} = \frac{1}{a_0} \left( \sum_{j=1}^k a_j T^{j-1} \right)$ .  $\blacksquare$



## SOLUTIONS TO EXERCISES FROM AXLER, SECTION 8D

The assignment simplifies these problems by adding the condition that  $T: V \rightarrow V$  has a matrix which is an elementary Jordan matrix.

4. The assumption is that  $Tv_k = \lambda v_k + v_{k-1}$  for  $k \geq 2$  and  $Tv_1 = \lambda v_1$ . Reversing the order of the  $v$ 's yields  $w_j = v_{n-j+1}$  and  $Tw_j = \lambda v_{n-j+1} + v_{n-j} = \lambda w_j + w_{j+1}$  if  $n-j \geq 1$ , i.e., if  $j < n$ . To complete the picture,  $Tw_n = Tv_1 = \lambda v_1 = \lambda w_n$ .  $\square$

Another description The matrix  $A$  for  $T$  w.r.t. the first ordered basis satisfies

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} \lambda & i=j \\ 1 & j=i+1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{The matrix } B$$

w.r.t. the reordered basis is

$$b_{ij} = \begin{cases} \lambda & i=j \\ 1 & i=j+1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence  $B$  is the transpose of  $A$ .  $\square$

5.  $T = \lambda I + N$ , where  $N$  is an elementary matrix in Jordan form.

$$N_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & j=i+1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

3x3  
example  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$(N^2)_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & j=i+2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

example  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$T^2 = (\lambda I + N)^2 = \lambda^2 I + 2\lambda N + N^2 \Rightarrow$$

matrix looks like  $\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^2 & 2\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda^2 & 2\lambda \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda^2 \end{pmatrix}$

If  $C$  is this matrix then

$$C_{ij} = \begin{cases} \lambda^2 & i=j \\ 2\lambda & j=i+1 \\ 1 & j=i+2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

