

1. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Compute  $e^{At}$ .

The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 = (\lambda - 1)^2.$$

Therefore  $(A - I)^2 = 0$ , so

$$e^{At} = e^t e^{(A-I)t} = e^t (I + (A - I)t) = e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1+t & -t \\ t & 1-t \end{pmatrix}.$$

2. Let  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Compute  $e^{Bt}$ .

By inspection, we see that the characteristic polynomial of  $B$  is  $(\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 1)$  and that the eigenspace for the eigenvalue 2 is spanned by  $(1 \ 0)^T$ . The eigenspace for the eigenvalue 1 is

$$NS(B - I) = NS \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

The a fundamental matrix for  $B$  is given by

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & -e^t \\ 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} e^{Bt} &= \mathbf{X}(t)[\mathbf{X}(0)]^{-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & -e^t \\ 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & -e^t \\ 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & e^{2t} - e^t \\ 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$