

$\lambda = -1$  is the only eigenvalue of  $T$ , and hence  $K_\lambda = P_2(\mathbb{R})$

by theorem 7.1.6. So  $\beta$  is a basis for  $K_\lambda$ . Now

$$\dim(E_\lambda) = 3 - \text{rank}(A + I) = 3 - \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 3 - 2 = 1$$

Therefore a basis for  $K_\lambda$  cannot be a union of two or three cycles because the initial vector of each cycle is an eigenvector, and there do not exist two or more linearly independent eigenvectors. So the desired basis must consist of a single cycle of length 3. If  $\gamma$  is such a cycle, then  $\gamma$  determines a single Jordan block  $[T]_\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  which is a

Jordan canonical form of  $T$ .  
The end vector  $h(x)$  of such a cycle must satisfy  $(T+I)^2(h(x)) \neq 0$ . In any basis for  $K_\lambda$ , there must be a vector that satisfies this condition, or else no vector in  $K_\lambda$  satisfies this condition, or else contrary to our reasoning. Testing the vectors in  $\beta$ , we see that  $h(x) = x^2$  is acceptable. Therefore  $\gamma = \{(T+I)^2(x^2), (T+I)(x^2), x^2\} = \{2, -2x, x^2\}$  is a Jordan canonical basis for  $T$ .

## 7.2 The Jordan Canonical form (Part-II)

For the purpose of this section, we fix a linear operator  $T$  on an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $V$  such that the characteristic polynomial

of  $T$  splits. Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$  be the distinct eigenvalues of  $T$ .

By Theorem 7.1.12 (page-148), each generalized eigenspace  $K_{\lambda_i}$  contains an ordered basis  $\beta_i$  consisting of a union of disjoint cycles of generalized eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda_i$ .

So, by Theorems 7.1.6(v) and 7.1.9 (page-142 and page-145 respectively), the union  $\beta = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \beta_i$  is a Jordan Canonical basis for  $T$ .

For each  $i$ , let  $T_i$  be the restriction of  $T$  to  $K_{\lambda_i}$ , and let  $A_i = [T_i]_{\beta_i}$ . Then  $A_i$  is the Jordan Canonical form of  $T_i$  and

$$J = [T]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & A_k \end{pmatrix}$$

is the Jordan Canonical form of  $T$ . In this matrix, each  $0$  is a zero matrix of appropriate size.

In this section, we compute the matrices  $A_i$  and the bases  $\beta_i$ , thereby computing  $J$  and  $\beta$  as well. While doing developing a method for finding  $J$ , it becomes evident that in some sense the matrices  $A_i$  are unique.

To aid in formulating the uniqueness of  $J$  theorem of  $J$ , we adopt the following convention:

The basis  $\beta_i$  for  $K_{\lambda_i}$  will henceforth be ordered in such a way that the cycles appear in order of decreasing length. That is, if  $\beta_i$  is a disjoint union of cycles  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{n_i}$  and if the length of cycle  $\gamma_j$  is  $p_j$ , we index the cycles so that  $p_1 \geq p_2 \geq \dots \geq p_{n_i}$ . This ordering of the cycles limits the possible orderings of vectors in  $\beta_i$ , which in turn determines the matrix  $A_i$ . It is in this sense  $A_i$  is unique. It then follows that the Jordan canonical form for  $T$  is unique up to an ordering of the eigenvalues of  $T$ . As we shall see, there is no uniqueness theorem for the bases for  $\beta_i$  or for  $\beta$ . Specifically, we show that for each  $i$ , the number  $n_i$  of cycles that form  $\beta_i$ , and the lengths  $p_j$  ( $j=1, 2, \dots, n_i$ ) of each cycle, is completely determined by  $T$ .

Example 1 To illustrate the discussion above, suppose that, for some  $i$ , the ordered basis  $\beta_i$  for  $K_{\lambda_i}$  is the union of the cycles  $\beta_i = \gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2 \cup \gamma_3 \cup \gamma_4$  with respective lengths  $p_1 = 3, p_2 = 3, p_3 = 2$  and  $p_4 = 1$ . Then

$$A_i = \left( \begin{array}{c|ccccc} \lambda_i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_i & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_i & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_i & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

To help us visualize each of the matrices  $A_i$  and ordered bases  $\beta_i$ , we use an array of dots called a dot diagram of  $T_i$ , where  $T_i$  is the restriction of  $T$  to  $K_{\lambda_i}$ . Suppose that  $\beta_i$  is a disjoint union of cycles of generalized eigenvectors  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{n_i}$  with lengths  $p_1 \geq p_2 \geq \dots \geq p_{n_i}$ , respectively. The dot diagram of  $T_i$  contains one dot for each vector in  $\beta_i$ , and the dots are configured according to the following rules:

1. The array consists of  $n_i$  columns (one column for each cycle).

2. Counting from left to right, the  $j$ th column consists of the  $p_j$  dots that correspond to the vectors of  $\gamma_j$  starting with the initial vector at the top and continuing down to the end vector.

Denote the end vectors of the cycles by  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_i}$ . In the following dot diagram of  $T_i$ , each dot is labeled with the name of the vector in  $\beta_i$  to which it corresponds.

$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_1-1}(v_1)$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_2-1} \dots$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}-1}(v_{n_i})$
$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_1-2}(v_1)$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_2-2} \dots$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}-2}(v_{n_i})$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)(v_1)$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)(v_2) \dots$	$\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}}(v_{n_i})$
$\bullet v_1$	$\bullet v_2$	$\bullet v_{n_i}$
<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_1-1}(v_1)</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_2-1} \dots</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}-1}(v_{n_i})</math></del>
<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_1-2}(v_1)</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_2-2} \dots</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}-2}(v_{n_i})</math></del>
<del><math>\vdots</math></del>	<del><math>\vdots</math></del>	<del><math>\vdots</math></del>
<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)(v_1)</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)(v_2) \dots</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet (T - \lambda_i I)^{p_{n_i}}(v_{n_i})</math></del>
<del><math>\bullet v_1</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet v_2</math></del>	<del><math>\bullet v_{n_i}</math></del>

Notice that the dot diagrams of  $T_i$  has  $n_i$  columns (one for each cycle) and  $p_i$  rows. Since  $p_1 \geq p_2 \geq \dots \geq p_{n_i}$ , the columns of the dot diagram become shorter (or at least not longer) as we move from left to right..