

## Lecture 25 8.D Jordan Form

The story so far ...

$V$  is a v.s. over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . Suppose  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  are the eigenvalues with multiplicities  $d_1, \dots, d_m$ . Then we can find a basis so that

$$M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & A_m \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } A_i = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & * \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$$

$\uparrow d_i \times d_i$

Note Under this basis, if  $A_i = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & * \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$

the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  comes from the nilpotent operator  $(T - \lambda_i I)|_{G(\lambda_i, T)}$

To "improve" this result, want a basis for nilpotent operators so that the associated matrix has as few zeros as possible  $\Rightarrow$  need a "better" basis for nilpotent operators

Thm Suppose  $N \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is nilpotent. Then there exists  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  and nonnegative integers  $m_1, \dots, m_n$  such that

- $N^{m_1} v_1, N^{m_1-1} v_1, \dots, N v_1, v_1, N^{m_2} v_2, N^{m_2-1} v_2, \dots, N v_2, v_2, \dots, N^{m_n} v_n, N^{m_n-1} v_n, \dots, N v_n, v_n$  is a basis for  $V$

- $N^{m_1+1} v_1 = N^{m_2+1} v_2 = \dots = N^{m_n+1} v_n = 0$

This is a "better" basis.

Note  $N(N^i v_j) = N^{i+1} v_j$   $\leftarrow N$  maps a basis element to another basis element or 0 (e.g.  $N(N^{m_i} v_i) = 0$ )

$\uparrow$   
 basis element  
 of  $V$

So, with respect to this basis,  $M(N) =$

$$\begin{matrix} m_1 & m_1-1 & & m_n & m_n-1 \\ Nv_1 & Nv_1 \dots Nv_1 v_1 & \dots & Nv_n & Nv_n \dots Nv_n v_n \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} Nv_1^{m_1} \\ Nv_1^{m_1-1} \\ \vdots \\ Nv_1^2 \\ Nv_1 \\ v_1 \\ \vdots \\ Nv_n^{m_n} \\ Nv_n^{m_n-1} \\ \vdots \\ Wv_n \\ v_n \end{matrix} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix}} & & & \\ & \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 0 & & \\ & & & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}} & \text{Other blocks} & \\ & & \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & 0 \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & 0 & 1 \end{matrix}} & & \\ & & & \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & & & \\ & & & & 0 \end{matrix}} \end{array} \right]$$

$M(N)$  is made up of  $(m_i+1) \times (m_i+1)$  blocks of matrices with all 1's above diagonals and zeros everywhere else

Def<sup>n</sup> A basis for  $V$  is called a Jordan Basis for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  if respect to this basis

$$M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & A_p \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{when } A_i = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 & \\ & & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$$

Cor If  $N \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is nilpotent, then  $V$  has a Jordan Basis

Proof See the matrix above. It has the correct form

Thm If  $V$  is a complex vector space,  
then every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  has a Jordan Basis

Proof Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$   
So

$$V = G(\lambda_1, T) \oplus \dots \oplus G(\lambda_m, T)$$

Each  $(T - \lambda_i I)|_{G(\lambda_i, T)}$  is nilpotent on  $G(\lambda_i, T)$

So, can find a Jordan Basis of  $G(\lambda_i, T)$

Put all the bases together. This becomes a basis  
for  $V$  that puts  $M(T)$  into Jordan form  $\square$

Ex In Lec 23, looked

$T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^4)$  with

$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (10x_1 - 7x_2 + 15x_3 - 2x_4, \\ 10x_2 + 5x_3 - 5x_4, -4x_2 + 25x_3 + x_4, 10x_2 - 5x_3 + 25x_4)$$

Show that if we use basis

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} .3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then  $M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 & -5 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 20 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 20 \end{bmatrix}$

Extra video  
I work out  
the details  
for this example

But if we use  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/5 \\ 0 \\ 1/5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 17/300 \\ 1/30 \\ 2/30 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

then  $M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{10} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{20} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 20 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 20 \end{bmatrix}$   $\leftarrow$  Jordan Form

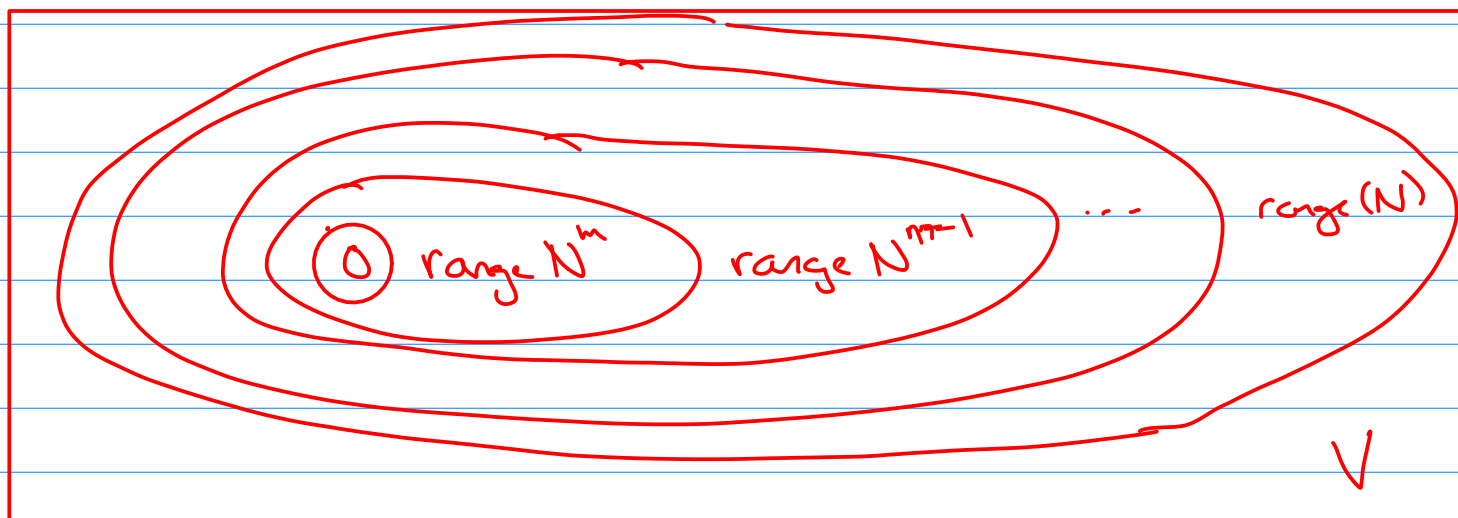
(Main Idea of Nilpotent Result)

If  $N$  is nilpotent on  $V$ , then we have

$$V \xrightarrow{N} \text{range}(N) \xrightarrow{N} \text{range}(N^2) \xrightarrow{N} \dots \rightarrow \text{range}(N^+) = 0$$

for some range  $t$

In particular, if  $m$  is the largest integer such that  $\text{range}(N^m) \neq \{0\}$



The proof works via the following steps

1. Find a basis for  $\text{range}(N^m)$
2. use this basis to make a linearly independent set in  $\text{range}(N^{m-1})$ .  $u_1, \dots, u_t$
3. extend this basis to a basis of  $\text{range}(N^{m-1})$   
 $u_1, \dots, u_t, v_1, \dots, v_r$
4. "truncate" the basis so extended elements get sent to zero by  $N$ . We get a new basis  
 $u_1, \dots, u_t, v'_1, \dots, v'_r$
5. Repeat this process in  $\text{range}(N^{m-1})$ , and so on
6. Stop when you get a basis of  $V$

Compare to proof for basis with upper triangular matrices: There we had

$$\text{Null}(N) \subseteq \text{Null}(N^2) \subseteq \dots \subseteq \text{Null}(N^{m+1}) = V$$

There, we extended a basis of  $\text{Null}(N^i)$  to  $\text{Null}(N^{i+1})$

Key ideas

- \* basis for nilpotent operator
- \* Jordan form
- \* every  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  with  $V$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  gives a Jordan Basis of  $V$

Extra lecture  $\Rightarrow$  a worked out example  
of finding the Jordan form