Quiz 13

Problem 1.  $T_3$   $T_4$   $T_1$   $T_2$  $T_5$ 

Flow through each pipe is f gallons per unit time.

Each tank has constant volume V.

Symbols  $x_1(t)$  to  $x_5(t)$  are the salt amounts in tanks  $T_1$  to  $T_5$ , respectively.

The differential equations are obtained by the classical balance law, which says that the rate of change in salt amount is the rate in minus the rate out. Individual rates in/out are of the form (flow rate)(salt concentration), where flow rate f has units volume per unit time and  $x_i(t)/V$  is the concentration = amount/volume.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1'(t) &= \frac{f}{V} \left( x_2(t) + x_3(t) + x_4(t) + x_5(t) - 4x_1(t) \right) \\ x_2'(t) &= \frac{f}{V} \left( x_1(t) - x_2(t) \right), \\ x_3'(t) &= \frac{f}{V} \left( x_1(t) - x_3(t) \right), \\ x_4'(t) &= \frac{f}{V} \left( x_1(t) - x_4(t) \right), \\ x_5'(t) &= \frac{f}{V} \left( x_1(t) - x_5(t) \right). \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 1(a)**. Change variables t = Vr/f to obtain the new system

$$\frac{dx_1}{dr} = x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 - 4x_1$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dr} = x_1 - x_2,$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dr} = x_1 - x_3,$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dr} = x_1 - x_4,$$

$$\frac{dx_5}{dr} = x_1 - x_5.$$

Solution 1(a):

Because  $\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dr}\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dr}\frac{f}{V}$ , then the fraction f/V cancels in the equations, resulting in the new system.

**Problem 1(b)**. Formulate the equations in 1(a) in the system form  $\frac{d}{dr}\vec{u} = A\vec{u}$ .

Answer:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Problem 1(c)**. Find the eigenvalues of A. Answer:  $\lambda = 0, -1, -1, -1, -5$ 

# Solution 1(c).

Let  $D = |A - \lambda I|$ . Replace  $-1 - \lambda$  by symbol u. Then

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} -3+u & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & u & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & u & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & u & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & u \end{vmatrix}$$

Add each of rows 2, 3, 4 to row 1. Then 1 + u is a common factor of row 1 and the determinant multiply rule implies

$$D = (1+u) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & u & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & u & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & u & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & u \end{vmatrix}$$

Cofactor expansion along the last row, plus induction, gives the answer  $D = (u+1)(u-4)u^3 = (-\lambda)(-\lambda-5)(-\lambda-1)^3$  with roots  $\lambda = 0, -5, -1, -1, -1$ .

**Problem 1(d)**. Find the eigenvectors of A.

### Solution 1(d).

The root  $\lambda = -1$  causes us to solve  $(A + I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ , which has coefficient matrix

There are 2 lead variables and 3 free variables, hence 3 basis vectors

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ -1\\ 1\\ 0\\ 0\end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ -1\\ 0\\ 1\\ 0\end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ -1\\ 0\\ 1\\ 0\end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ -1\\ 0\\ 0\\ 1\end{array}\right).$$

The eigenvector for  $\lambda = 0$  has all components equal to 1. This fact is found from the equation  $(A - (0)I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ , which has coefficient matrix A.

The eigenvector for  $\lambda = -5$  has first component -4 and the remaining equal to 1. The task begins with the equation  $(A - (-5)I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ , which has coefficient matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5-4 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 5-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 5-1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5-1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

The eigenvectors for  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\lambda = -5$  are respectively

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1\\1\\1\\1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} -4\\1\\1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Problem 1(e)**. Solve the differential equation  $\frac{d\vec{u}}{dr} = A\vec{u}$  by the eigenanalysis method.

# Three Methods for Solving $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{u}(t) = A\vec{u}(t)$

• Eigenanalysis Method. The eigenpairs of matrix A are required. The matrix A must be diagonalizable, meaning there are n eigenpairs  $(\lambda_1, \vec{v}_1), (\lambda_2, \vec{v}_2), \ldots, (\lambda_n, \vec{v}_n)$ . The main theorem says that the general solution of  $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$  is

$$\vec{u}(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{v}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \vec{v}_n.$$

- Laplace's Method. Solve the scalar equations by the Laplace transform method. The resolvent method automates this process:  $\vec{u}(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( (sI A)^{-1} \right) \vec{u}(0)$ .
- Cayley-Hamilton-Ziebur Method. The solution  $\vec{u}(t)$  is a vector linear combination of the Euler solution atoms  $f_1, \ldots, f_n$  found from the roots of the characteristic equation  $|A \lambda I| = 0$ . The vectors  $\vec{d_1}, \ldots, \vec{d_n}$  in the linear combination

$$\vec{u}(t) = f_1(t)\vec{d_1} + f_2(t)\vec{u_2} + \dots + f_n(t)\vec{d_n}$$

are determined by the explicit formula

$$< \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \cdots | \vec{d_n} > = < \vec{u_0} | A\vec{u_0} | \cdots | A^{n-1}\vec{u_0} > (W(0)^T)^{-1}$$

where W(t) is the Wronskian matrix of atoms  $f_1, \ldots, f_n$  and  $\vec{u}_0$  is the initial data.

### Solution 1(e).

The eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda = 0, -5, -1, -1, -1$  are respectively

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1\\1\\1\\1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -4\\1\\1\\1\\1\\1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0\\-1\\1\\0\\0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0\\-1\\0\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0\\-1\\0\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0\\-1\\0\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Eigenanalysis method then implies the solution  $\vec{x}(r)$  of  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dr} = A\vec{x}$  is given for arbitrary constants  $c_1, \ldots, c_5$  by the expression

$$c_{1}e^{0r}\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\\1\\1\\1\end{pmatrix}+c_{2}e^{-5r}\begin{pmatrix}-4\\1\\1\\1\\1\end{pmatrix}+c_{3}e^{-r}\begin{pmatrix}0\\-1\\1\\0\\0\end{pmatrix}+c_{4}e^{-r}\begin{pmatrix}0\\-1\\0\\1\\0\end{pmatrix}+c_{5}e^{-r}\begin{pmatrix}0\\-1\\0\\1\\0\end{pmatrix}\\1\end{pmatrix}$$

# Problem 2. Home Heating

Consider a typical home with attic, basement and insulated main floor.



## Heating Assumptions and Variables

- It is usual to surround the main living area with insulation, but the attic area has walls and ceiling without insulation.
- The walls and floor in the basement are insulated by earth.
- The basement ceiling is insulated by air space in the joists, a layer of flooring on the main floor and a layer of drywall in the basement.

The changing temperatures in the three levels is modeled by Newton's cooling law and the variables

$$z(t) =$$
 Temperature in the attic,  
 $y(t) =$  Temperature in the main living area,  
 $x(t) =$  Temperature in the basement,  
 $t =$  Time in hours.

A typical mathematical model is the set of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= \frac{3}{4}(45-x) + \frac{1}{4}(y-x), \\ y' &= \frac{1}{4}(x-y) + \frac{1}{4}(40-y) + \frac{1}{2}(z-y) + 20, \\ z' &= \frac{1}{2}(y-z) + \frac{1}{2}(35-z). \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2(a)**. Formulate the system of differential equations as a matrix system  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{u}(t) = A\vec{u}(t) + \vec{b}$ . Show details.

**Answer**. 
$$\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{pmatrix}$$
,  $\vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4}(45) \\ 20 + \frac{40}{4} \\ \frac{35}{2} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & -1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

### Solution Details.

Expand the right side of the system as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= \frac{3}{4}45 - \frac{3x}{4} + \frac{y}{4} - \frac{x}{4}, \\ y' &= \frac{x}{4} - \frac{y}{4} + \frac{40}{4} - \frac{y}{4} + \frac{z}{2} - \frac{y}{2} + 20 \\ z' &= \frac{y}{2} - \frac{z}{2} + \frac{35}{2} - \frac{z}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then collect on the variables:

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= -x + \frac{y}{4} + \frac{3}{4}(45), \\ y' &= \frac{x}{4} - y + \frac{z}{2} + 20 + 10 \\ z' &= \frac{y}{2} - z + \frac{35}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

The right side of this system can be written as  $A\vec{u} + \vec{b}$ . Vector  $\vec{b}$  is obtained by formally setting x = y = z = 0 on the right. This justifies the answer given.

The matrix A has columns equal to the partial derivatives  $\partial_x, \partial_y, \partial_z$  of the right side of the scalar system. This idea is important, because it allows the computation of matrix A without any of the preceding details.

**Problem 2(b)**. The heating problem has an **equilibrium solution**  $\vec{u}_p(t)$  which is a constant vector of temperatures for the three floors. It is formally found by setting  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{u}(t) = 0$ , and then  $\vec{u}_p = -A^{-1}\vec{b}$ . Justify the algebra and explicitly find  $\vec{u}_p(t)$ .

**Answer 2(b)**. 
$$\vec{u}_p(t) = -A^{-1}\vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{560}{11} \\ \frac{755}{11} \\ \frac{570}{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 50.91 \\ 68.64 \\ 51.82 \end{pmatrix}.$$

### Solution Details.

The equation upon setting the derivative equal to zero becomes  $\vec{0} = A\vec{u} + \vec{b}$  which implies  $A\vec{u} = -\vec{b}$ and finally  $\vec{u} = A^{-1}\vec{b}$ .

The calculation is done by technology. The maple code:

A:=<-1,1/4,0|1/4,-1,1/2|0,1/4,-1>^+; b:=<3\*45/4,20+10,35/2>; -A^(-1).b; evalf(%);

The solution can also be obtained by hand from the augmented matrix of A and  $-\vec{b}$ , using the linear algebra toolkit of swap, combination and multiply.

**Problem 2(c)**. The homogeneous problem is  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{u}(t) = A\vec{u}(t)$ . It can be solved by a variety of methods, three major methods enumerated below. Choose a method and solve for  $\vec{x}(t)$ .

Answer 2(c): The homogenous scalar general solution is

$$x_{1}(t) = -\frac{1}{2}c_{1}e^{-t} + 2c_{2}e^{-at} + 2c_{3}e^{-bt},$$
  

$$x_{2}(t) = -\sqrt{5}c_{2}e^{-at} + \sqrt{5}c_{3}e^{-bt},$$
  

$$x_{3}(t) = c_{1}e^{-t} + c_{2}e^{-at} + c_{3}e^{-bt}.$$

# Three Methods for Solving $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$

• Eigenanalysis Method. Three eigenpairs of matrix A are required. The matrix A must be diagonalizable, meaning there are 3 eigenpairs  $(\lambda_1, \vec{v}_1), (\lambda_2, \vec{v}_2), (\lambda_3, \vec{v}_3)$ . The main theorem says that the general solution of  $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$  is

$$\vec{u}(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{v}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{v}_2 + c_3 e^{\lambda_3 t} \vec{v}_3.$$

- Laplace's Method. Solve the scalar equations by the Laplace transform method. The resolvent method automates this process:  $\vec{u}(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( (sI A)^{-1} \right) \vec{u}(0)$ .
- Cayley-Hamilton-Ziebur Method. The solution  $\vec{u}(t)$  is a vector linear combination of the Euler solution atoms found from the roots of the characteristic equation  $|A \lambda I| = 0$ . The vectors in the linear combination are determined by an explicit formula.

### Solution Details for Problem 2(c)

The roots of the characteristic polynomial are used in all three methods. This is the polynomial equation  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ , having n roots real and complex, for an  $n \times n$  matrix A.

Subtract  $\lambda$  from the diagonal of A and form the determinant. Then cofactor expansion on row 3 gives

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} -1 - \lambda & \frac{1}{4} & 0\\ \frac{1}{4} & -1 - \lambda & \frac{1}{2}\\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-1 - \lambda) \left( -\frac{1}{4} + (-1 - \lambda)^2 - \frac{1}{16} \right).$$

The roots are -1, -a, -b where  $a = 1 + \sqrt{5}/4 = 1.56, b = 1 - \sqrt{5}/4 = 0.44$ . The three roots are distinct, real and negative.

### **Eigenanalysis Method**

The eigenpairs must be found, in order to assemble the solution vector  $\vec{u}(t)$ . Technology can be used to find the answers, which are

$$\left(-1, \begin{pmatrix} -2\\0\\1 \end{pmatrix}\right), \quad \left(-a, \begin{pmatrix} 1\\-\sqrt{5}\\2 \end{pmatrix}\right), \quad \left(-b, \begin{pmatrix} 1\\\sqrt{5}\\2 \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

Without technology, there are three homogeneous problems to solve of the form  $B\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ , for eigenvector  $\vec{v}$ . Enumerated, they are:

Case 
$$\lambda = -1$$
. Then  $B = A + I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   
Case  $\lambda = -a$ . Then  $B = A + aI = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} \end{pmatrix}$   
Case  $\lambda = -b$ . Then  $B = A + bI = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} \end{pmatrix}$ 

In each case, the system  $B\vec{v} = \vec{0}$  is solved using the last frame algorithm (there is in each case one free variable). The eigenvector reported is the partial derivative of the general solution on the invented symbol  $t_1$ , which was assigned to the free variable.

### Application of the Theorem

System  $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$  is solved in the diagonalizable case in terms of the eigenpairs of A, denoted as  $(\lambda_1, \vec{v}_1), (\lambda_2, \vec{v}_2), (\lambda_3, \vec{v}_3)$ . The solution of  $\vec{u}' = A\vec{u}$  is given by the formula

$$\vec{u}(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{v}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{v}_2 + c_3 e^{\lambda_3 t} \vec{v}_3.$$

In the present case, the solution is

$$\vec{u}(t) = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -2\\0\\1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{-at} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\-\sqrt{5}\\2 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 e^{-bt} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\\sqrt{5}\\2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Symbols  $c_1, c_2, c_3$  in the solution are arbitrary constants, uniquely determined by initial conditions. In scalar form, the solution is

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(t) &= -2c_1e^{-t} + c_2e^{-at} + c_3e^{-bt}, \\ x_2(t) &= -\sqrt{5}c_2e^{-at} + \sqrt{5}c_3e^{-bt}, \\ x_3(t) &= c_1e^{-t} + 2c_2e^{-at} + 2c_3e^{-bt}. \end{aligned}$$

### Laplace Transform Method

The **Laplace Method** for solving  $\vec{u}'(t) = A\vec{u}(t)$  is based upon transforming all differential equations into the frequency domain. Then time variable t no longer appears, being replaced by the frequency variable s.

The homogeneous system of differential equations is

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x' & = & -x + \frac{y}{4}, \\ y' & = & \frac{x}{4} - y + \frac{z}{2} \\ z' & = & \frac{y}{2} - z. \end{array}$$

Transforming to the s-domain uses the parts rule  $\mathcal{L}(f'(t)) = s \mathcal{L}(f(t) - f(0))$ . Then

$$s \mathcal{L}(x) - x(0) = -\mathcal{L}(x) + \frac{1}{4}\mathcal{L}(y),$$
  

$$s \mathcal{L}(y) - y(0) = \frac{1}{4}\mathcal{L}(x) - \mathcal{L}(y) + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}(z),$$
  

$$s \mathcal{L}(z) - z(0) = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}(y) - \mathcal{L}(z).$$

View these equations as linear algebraic equations for the symbols  $\mathcal{L}(x), \mathcal{L}(y), \mathcal{L}(z)$ . Move terms left and right to re-write the scalar equations as a matrix system

$$\begin{pmatrix} s+1 & -\frac{1}{4} & 0\\ \frac{1}{4} & s+1 & -\frac{1}{2}\\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & s+1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{L}(x)\\ \mathcal{L}(y)\\ \mathcal{L}(z) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x(0)\\ y(0)\\ z(0) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The system is solved by inverting the coefficient matrix C on the left, using the adjugate formula  $C^{-1} = \operatorname{adj}(C)/|C|$ .

#### The Resolvent Method

The scalar system solved above is exactly

$$(sI - A) \mathcal{L}(\vec{u}(t)) = \vec{u}(0), \quad I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & -1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The system  $(sI - A)\mathcal{L}(\vec{u}(t)) = \vec{u}(0)$  is called the **resolvent equation**. The inverse of the coefficient matrix,  $(sI - A)^{-1}$ , is called the **resolvent matrix**, because  $\mathcal{L}(\vec{u}(t)) = (sI - A)^{-1}\vec{u}(0)$ . There are two ways to find the inverse Laplace transform of  $C = (sI - A)^{-1}\vec{u}(0)$ . Here is an illustration for Waterloo Maple.

```
u0:=<c1,c2,c3>:
map(inttrans[invlaplace],C^(-1) . u0,s,t);
# Or an alternative, not using Laplace theory
LinearAlgebra[MatrixExponential](A1,t) . u0;
```

While this method produces the correct answer, it is in an uncomfortable form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1/5 e^{-t} \left( 4 c1 + c2 \sqrt{5} \sinh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) - 2 c3 + \cosh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) (c1 + 2 c3) \right) \\ 1/5 e^{-t} \left( 5 c2 \cosh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) + \sinh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) \sqrt{5} (c1 + 2 c3) \right) \\ 1/5 e^{-t} \left( -2 c1 + 2 c2 \sqrt{5} \sinh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) + c3 + 2 \cosh \left( 1/4 t \sqrt{5} \right) (c1 + 2 c3) \right) \end{bmatrix}$$

### Cayley-Hamilton-Ziebur Method

The Ziebur Lemma implies that the solution of the system  $\vec{u}'(t) = A\vec{u}(t)$  is given by the formula

$$\vec{u}(t) = \vec{d_1}e^{-t} + \vec{d_2}e^{-at} + \vec{d_3}e^{-bt}$$

**THEOREM**. Vectors  $\vec{d_1}, \vec{d_2}, \vec{d_3}$  are uniquely determined by initial condition  $\vec{u}(0)$ , which is a column vector of prescribed constants, by the matrix equation.

$$\langle \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \vec{d_3} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}(0) | A \vec{u}(0) | A^2 \vec{u}(0) \rangle \left( W(0)^T \right)^{-1}$$

Symbol W(t) is the Wronskian matrix of the three Euler solution atoms. Notation  $\langle \vec{A} | \vec{B} | \vec{C} \rangle$  is the augmented matrix of the three columns vectors  $\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}$ .

**Illustration**. For the heating example, with  $a = 1 + \sqrt{5}/4 = 1.56$ ,  $b = 1 - \sqrt{5}/4 = 0.44$ , the Euler solution atoms are  $e^{-t}$ ,  $e^{-at}$ ,  $e^{-bt}$ . The Wronskian matrix is

$$W(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & e^{-at} & e^{-bt} \\ -e^{-t} & -ae^{-at} & -be^{-bt} \\ e^{-t} & a^2e^{-at} & b^2e^{-bt} \end{pmatrix}, \quad W(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -a & -b \\ 1 & a^2 & b^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$
Then  $(W(0)^T)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{5} & \frac{8}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{8}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{32}{5} & \frac{16}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{16}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{16}{5} & \frac{8}{5} & \frac{8}{5} \end{pmatrix}.$ 
For initial state  $\vec{u}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \langle \vec{u}(0) | A\vec{u}(0) | A^2\vec{u}(0) \rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & \frac{17}{16} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{8} \end{pmatrix}.$  Then  $\vec{u}(t) = \langle \vec{d}_1 | \vec{d}_2 | \vec{d}_3 \rangle \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} \\ e^{-at} \\ e^{-bt} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & \frac{17}{16} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{8} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{5} & \frac{8}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{8}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{32}{5} & \frac{16}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{16}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{32}{5} & \frac{16}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{16}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{16}{5} & \frac{8}{5} & \frac{8}{5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} \\ e^{-at} \\ e^{-bt} \end{pmatrix}$ 
For general initial state  $\vec{u}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$$\langle \vec{u}(0)|A\vec{u}(0)|A^{2}\vec{u}(0)\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} c_{1} & -c_{1} + \frac{1}{4}c_{2} & \frac{17}{16}c_{1} - \frac{1}{2}c_{2} + \frac{1}{8}c_{3}\\ c_{2} & \frac{1}{4}c_{1} - c_{2} + \frac{1}{2}c_{3} & -\frac{1}{2}c_{1} + \frac{21}{16}c_{2} - c_{3}\\ c_{3} & \frac{1}{2}c_{2} - c_{3} & \frac{1}{8}c_{1} - c_{2} + \frac{5}{4}c_{3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\vec{u}(t)$  is this matrix times  $\left(W(0)^T\right)^{-1}$  times the column vector of atoms  $e^{-t}, e^{-at}, e^{-bt}$ :

$$\vec{u}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & -c_1 + \frac{1}{4}c_2 & \frac{17}{16}c_1 - \frac{1}{2}c_2 + \frac{1}{8}c_3\\ c_2 & \frac{1}{4}c_1 - c_2 + \frac{1}{2}c_3 & -\frac{1}{2}c_1 + \frac{21}{16}c_2 - c_3\\ c_3 & \frac{1}{2}c_2 - c_3 & \frac{1}{8}c_1 - c_2 + \frac{5}{4}c_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{5} & \frac{8}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{8}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5}\\ -\frac{32}{5} & \frac{16}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{16}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5}\\ -\frac{16}{5} & \frac{8}{5} & \frac{8}{5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t}\\ e^{-at}\\ e^{-bt} \end{pmatrix}$$

#### Details for the Theorem

The idea for finding the three vectors is differentiation of Ziebur's equation, two times, to get three equations

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \vec{u}(t) &=& \vec{d_1}e^{-t} &+& \vec{d_2}e^{-at} &+& \vec{d_3}e^{-bt}, \\ \vec{u}'(t) &=& -\vec{d_1}e^{-t} &-& a\vec{d_2}e^{-at} &-& b\vec{d_3}e^{-bt}, \\ \vec{u}''(t) &=& \vec{d_1}e^{-t} &+& a^2\vec{d_2}e^{-at} &+& b^2\vec{d_3}e^{-bt}. \end{array}$$

Identities  $\vec{u}'(t) = A\vec{u}(t)$  and  $\vec{u}''(t) = A\vec{u}'(t) = AA\vec{u}(t)$  imply that the left sides are simplified to

$$\vec{u}(t) = \vec{d_1}e^{-t} + \vec{d_2}e^{-at} + \vec{d_3}e^{-bt}, A \vec{u}(t) = -\vec{d_1}e^{-t} - a\vec{d_2}e^{-at} - b\vec{d_3}e^{-bt}, A^2 \vec{u}(t) = \vec{d_1}e^{-t} + a^2\vec{d_2}e^{-at} + b^2\vec{d_3}e^{-bt}.$$

The critical idea is to substitute t = 0, which because of  $e^0 = 1$  gives the following three equations for unknowns  $\vec{d_1}, \vec{d_2}, \vec{d_3}$ :

$$\vec{u}(0) = d_1 + d_2 + d_3, A \vec{u}(0) = -d_1 - a d_2 - b d_3, A^2 \vec{u}(0) = d_1 + a^2 d_2 + b^2 d_3.$$

How to solve these vector equations for unknowns  $\vec{d_1}, \vec{d_2}, \vec{d_3}$ ? To begin, solve the scalar system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1\\ -1 & -a & -b\\ 1 & a^2 & b^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x\\ y\\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1\\ b_2\\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

where variables x, y, z are the first components of  $\vec{d_1}, \vec{d_2}, \vec{d_3}$ , and similarly,  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  are the first components of vector  $\vec{u}(0), A\vec{u}(0), A^2\vec{u}(0)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ll} x = \vec{d_1} \cdot \vec{v}, & b_1 = \vec{u}(0) \cdot \vec{v}, \\ y = \vec{d_2} \cdot \vec{v}, & b_2 = A \vec{u}(0) \cdot \vec{v}, \\ z = \vec{d_3} \cdot \vec{v}, & b_3 = A^2 \vec{u}(0) \cdot \vec{v}, \end{array} \qquad \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The equations also apply to find the second components, using  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then the third components using  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{pmatrix}$ . The three systems of equations can be written as one huge matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -a & -b \\ 1 & a^2 & b^2 \end{pmatrix} \langle \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \vec{d_3} \rangle^T = \langle \vec{u}(0) | A \vec{u}(0) | A^2 \vec{u}(0) \rangle^T$$

Taking the transpose across the equation gives

$$\langle \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \vec{d_3} \rangle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -a & -b \\ 1 & a^2 & b^2 \end{pmatrix}^T = \langle \vec{u}(0) | A \vec{u}(0) | A^2 \vec{u}(0) \rangle$$

Finally, invert the matrix  $W(0)^T$  and multiply across the equation on the right to obtain

$$\langle \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \vec{d_3} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}(0) | A \vec{u}(0) | A^2 \vec{u}(0) \rangle \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -a & -b \\ 1 & a^2 & b^2 \end{pmatrix}^T \right)^{-1}$$

This is exactly the equation reported in the theorem,

$$\langle \vec{d_1} | \vec{d_2} | \vec{d_3} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}(0) | A \vec{u}(0) | A^2 \vec{u}(0) \rangle \, \left( W(0)^T \right)^{-1}$$

It has been observed that if  $f_1 = e^{-t}$ ,  $f_2 = e^{-at}$ ,  $f_3 = e^{-bt}$  are replaced by a new basis of solutions such that W(0) = I, then  $\vec{d_1} = \vec{u}(0)$ ,  $\vec{d_2} = A\vec{u}(0)$ ,  $\vec{d_3} = A^2\vec{u}(0)$ . The resulting solution in this case is

$$\vec{u}(t) = f_1(t)\vec{u}(0) + f_2(t)A\vec{u}(0) + f_3(t)A^2\vec{u}(0).$$

In the example,

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1(t) \\ f_2(t) \\ f_3(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{5} & \frac{8}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{8}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{32}{5} & \frac{16}{5} - \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} & \frac{16}{5} + \frac{2}{5}\sqrt{5} \\ -\frac{16}{5} & \frac{8}{5} & \frac{8}{5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} \\ e^{-at} \\ e^{-bt} \end{pmatrix}$$

is the special basis with Wronskian equal to 1 at t = 0.