

# An explicit Jordan Decomposition of Companion matrices

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## Abstract

We derive a closed form for the Jordan decomposition of companion matrices with emphasis on properties of generalized eigenvectors. As a by product we provide a formula for the inverse of confluent Vandermonde matrices and results on sensitivity of roots of polynomials.

## 1 Introduction

We are concerned with companion matrices of the form

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & -a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -a_{m-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where  $a_i \in \mathbb{C}, i = 0, \dots, m-1$ . Matrices like this appear in a variety of areas in science and engineering [1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 11]. There is a close relationship between companion matrices and polynomials in a complex variable. Of course, roots of polynomials can be computed as eigenvalues of  $C$  and vice versa. This relies on the fact that the characteristic polynomial of  $C$ ,  $\det(tI - C) = \pi(t)$ , is readily proved to be  $\pi(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + \cdots + a_{m-1} t^{m-1} + t^m$ .

We denote by  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$  the  $p$  distinct eigenvalues of  $C$  and by  $m_1, \dots, m_p$  their respective algebraic multiplicities (i.e,  $\pi(t) = (t-\lambda_1)^{m_1} (t-\lambda_2)^{m_2} \cdots (t-\lambda_p)^{m_p}$  with  $m_1 + \cdots + m_p = m$ ). The fact that  $C$  is a non derogatory matrix [8, 10] ensures thus that a particular Jordan decomposition of  $C$  can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} J_{\lambda_1} & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & J_{\lambda_p} & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_1 \\ \vdots \\ L_p \end{bmatrix} C \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & \cdots & R_p \end{bmatrix},$$

where for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ ,

$$J_{\lambda_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & & \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \\ & & \cdot & \cdot \\ & & & 1 \\ & & & & \lambda_i \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{m_i \times m_i},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_1 \\ \vdots \\ L_p \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & \cdots & R_p \end{bmatrix} = I \quad (2)$$

where  $I$  is the  $m \times m$  identity matrix,  $R_i \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m_i}$ , and  $L_i \in \mathbb{C}^{m_i \times m}$ . The columns of  $R_i$  (resp.  $L_i^*$ ) represent a right (resp. left) Jordan chain associated with  $\lambda_i$  the leading eigenvector being  $R_i e_1^{[m_i]}$  (resp.  $L_i^* e_{m_i}^{[m_i]}$ ). The star symbol denotes conjugate transpose, i.e.,  $L^* = \bar{L}^T$ , and  $e_j^{[m_i]}$  is the  $j$ -th column of the  $m_i \times m_i$  identity matrix.

In this work we describe a closed form for the Jordan decomposition of  $C$  concentrating on properties of generalized eigenvectors. This leads to a formula for the inverse of Confluent Vandermonde matrices and results on the sensitivity of the roots of  $\pi(t)$ .

## 2 Jordan Decomposition of Companion Matrices

In this section, we provide an explicit Jordan decomposition of  $C$ . The following technical result will be needed.

**Lemma 2.1** For arbitrary  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  we set  $\phi(\lambda) = [1, \lambda, \dots, \lambda^{m-1}]^T$  and define by  $\phi^{(m)}(\lambda)$  the  $m$ -th derivative of  $\phi(\lambda)$  with respect to  $\lambda$ .

Let  $H$  be the  $m \times m$  matrix

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{m-1} & 1 \\ a_2 & \cdots & a_{m-1} & 1 & \\ \vdots & \vdots & 1 & & \\ a_{m-1} & 1 & & & \\ 1 & & & & \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

Then for any integers  $i$  and  $j$ , there holds

$$\frac{\phi^{(i)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} = \frac{\pi^{(i+j+1)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+1)!}.$$

**Proof.** The proof is done by induction on  $i$ . For  $i = 0$  an elementary computation shows that

$$\phi^T(\lambda) H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} = \frac{\pi^{(j+1)}(\lambda)}{(j+1)!}.$$

Assume now that for a given  $i$ ,

$$\frac{\phi^{(i)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} = \frac{\pi^{(i+j+1)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+1)!}.$$

Taking the derivative of the above expression with respect to  $\lambda$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\phi^{(i+1)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} + \frac{\phi^{(i)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j+1)}(\lambda)}{j!} &= \\ \frac{\phi^{(i+1)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} + (j+1) \frac{\pi^{(i+j+2)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+2)!} &= \\ \frac{\pi^{(i+j+2)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+1)!}, & \end{aligned}$$

which shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\phi^{(i+1)T}(\lambda)}{i!} H \frac{\phi^{(j)}(\lambda)}{j!} &= \frac{\pi^{(i+j+2)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+1)!} - \\ (j+1) \frac{\pi^{(i+j+2)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+2)!} &= \frac{(i+1)\pi^{(i+j+2)}(\lambda)}{(i+j+2)!} \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.2** Define  $R_l = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{m_l}]$  where  $r_i = H \frac{\phi^{(i-1)}(\lambda_l)}{(i-1)!}$ . The set  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{m_l}\}$  is a right Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda_l$  and  $r_1$  is the leading right eigenvector. Similarly, define  $\check{L}_l^* = [\check{l}_1, \check{l}_2, \dots, \check{l}_{m_l}]$  where  $\check{l}_i = \frac{\bar{\phi}^{(m_l-i)}(\lambda_l)}{(m_l-i)!}$ . The set  $\{\check{l}_1, \check{l}_2, \dots, \check{l}_{m_l}\}$  is a left Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda_l$  and  $\check{l}_{m_l}$  is the leading left eigenvector. The left and right generalized Jordan chains satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \check{L}_l R_l &\equiv \begin{bmatrix} \check{l}_1^* \\ \vdots \\ \check{l}_{m_l}^* \end{bmatrix} [r_1 \quad \dots \quad r_{m_l}] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \cdot & \alpha_{m_l-1} & \alpha_{m_l} \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \alpha_{m_l-1} \\ & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ & & & \cdot & \alpha_2 \\ & & & & \alpha_1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &\equiv F_l \in \mathbb{C}^{m_l \times m_l}, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{where } \alpha_i = \frac{\pi^{(m_l+i-1)}(\lambda_l)}{(m_l+i-1)!}.$$

**Proof.** For arbitrary  $\lambda$  of multiplicity  $q$  consider the vectors  $r_1, \dots, r_q$ . It is clear that these vectors are linearly independent. Thus, if we set  $r_0 = 0$ , we have to prove that  $r_1$  is a right eigenvector of  $C$  associated with  $\lambda$  and that

$$(C - \lambda I)r_j = r_{j-1}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq q. \quad (5)$$

For this, if  $x = [x_1 \cdots x_m]^T$  is a right eigenvector of  $C$  associated with  $\lambda$  then

$$Cx = \lambda x \iff \begin{cases} -a_0 x_m & = \lambda x_1 \\ x_1 - a_1 x_m & = \lambda x_2 \\ \vdots & \\ x_{m-2} - a_{m-2} x_m & = \lambda x_{m-1} \\ x_{m-1} - a_{m-1} x_m & = \lambda x_m \end{cases}$$

This shows that  $x_m$  cannot be zero otherwise  $x$  would be the 0 vector. Setting  $x_m = 1$  it is easy to see  $x = H\phi(\lambda)$ . Thus one has

$$CH\phi(\lambda) = \lambda H\phi(\lambda). \quad (6)$$

We now prove the conditions (5). Taking derivative with respect to  $\lambda$  in (6) we have

$$CH\phi^{(1)}(\lambda) = H\phi(\lambda) + \lambda H\phi^{(1)}(\lambda). \quad (7)$$

This shows that (5) holds for  $j = 2$ , and an inductive argument obtained by repeated differentiation of (7) concludes the proof in the case of the right generalized eigenvectors. A similar proof can be obtained for the generalized left eigenvectors by starting with  $\phi(\lambda)^T C^T = \phi(\lambda)^T \lambda$  instead of (6) and taking the derivatives of this equality. The normalization factors  $\alpha_i$  are a consequence of Lemma 2.1.  $\square$

To obtain the Jordan decomposition, we transform the left Jordan chain so that the normalization (2) holds.

**Proposition 2.3** Define  $L_l^* = [l_1, l_2, \dots, l_{m_l}] = \check{L}_l^* F_l^{-*}$ . The set  $\{l_1, l_2, \dots, l_{m_l}\}$  is a left Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda_l$ ,  $l_{m_l}$  being the leading left eigenvector.

The left and right generalized Jordan chains are normalized so that

$$L_l R_l \equiv \begin{bmatrix} l_1^* \\ \vdots \\ l_{m_l}^* \end{bmatrix} [r_1 \quad \dots \quad r_{m_l}] = I \in \mathbb{R}^{m_l \times m_l}. \quad (8)$$

Similarly, we define  $\check{R}_l = [\check{r}_1, \check{r}_2, \dots, \check{r}_{m_l}] = [r_1, \dots, r_{m_l}] F_l^{-1}$ . The set  $\{\check{r}_1, \check{r}_2, \dots, \check{r}_{m_l}\}$  is a right Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda_l$ , and  $\check{L}_l \check{R}_l = I \in \mathbb{R}^{m_l \times m_l}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\gamma_i$  be defined by the recursion

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_1 &= 1/\alpha_1, \\ \gamma_{i+1} &= -\frac{1}{\alpha_1} \sum_{k=1}^i \alpha_{i-k+2} \gamma_k, \quad i = 1, \dots, m_l - 1.\end{aligned}$$

in such a way that

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \cdot & \gamma_{m_l-1} & \gamma_{m_l} \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \gamma_{m_l-1} \\ & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ & & & \cdot & \gamma_2 \\ & & & & \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix} = F_l^{-1}$$

The set  $\{\check{l}_{m_l} \dots \check{l}_1\}$  forms a right Jordan chain of  $C^T$  associated with  $\lambda_l$ . For any nonsingular matrix  $X$  commuting with  $J_{\lambda_l}$ ,  $[\check{l}_{m_l} \dots \check{l}_1]X$  is a right Jordan chain  $C^T$  associated with  $\lambda_l$ . By definition of the  $l_i$ 's,  $[l_{m_l} \dots l_1] = [\check{l}_{m_l} \dots \check{l}_1] \check{G}$ . A direct computation shows that  $\check{G}$  commutes with  $J_{\lambda_l}$ , which implies that  $\{\check{l}_{m_l}, \dots, \check{l}_1\}$  is a right Jordan chain of  $C^T$  associated with  $\lambda_l$ , that is,  $\{l_l, \dots, l_{m_l}\}$  is a left Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with  $\lambda_l$ . Since by definition of the  $\gamma_i$ 's,  $GF_l = F_l G = I$ , it follows

$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1^* \\ \vdots \\ l_{m_l}^* \end{bmatrix} [r_1 \dots r_{m_l}] = G \begin{bmatrix} \check{l}_1^* \\ \vdots \\ \check{l}_{m_l}^* \end{bmatrix} [r_1 \dots r_{m_l}] = I,$$

and the first part of the proposition is proved. The proof of the remaining part is a consequence of Eq. (4) since  $[r_1 \dots r_{m_l}]F_l^{-1}$  is a right Jordan chain of  $C$  associated with  $\lambda_l$  as we have seen that  $F^{-1}$  commutes with  $J_{\lambda_l}$ .  $\square$

### 3 Eigenvector properties

An immediate consequence of (8) is an explicit formula for computing the inverse of confluent Vandermonde matrices as described in the corollary below.

**Corollary 3.1 (Inversion formula)** *Let  $\check{L}$  be the confluent Vandermonde matrix defined by  $\check{L}^* = [\check{L}_1^* \dots \check{L}_p^*]$ . Then  $\check{L}^{-1} = [R_1 \dots R_p]F^{-1}$  with  $F = \text{diag}(F_1, \dots, F_p)$ .*

It is known that right eigenvectors of companion matrices like the one we use here can be computed by applying the Euclidean algorithm to divide  $\pi(t)$  by  $(t - \lambda_l)$  (see, e.g., Toh and Trefethen [6] or Bezerra and Bazán [3]) yielding in our notations a deflated polynomial

$$\pi_1(t) \equiv \phi(t)^T r_1 = \pi(t)/(t - \lambda_l).$$

This shows that the coefficients of the right eigenvector can be seen as coefficients of a deflated polynomial. The following proposition shows that the complete right Jordan chain  $[r_1 \dots r_{m_l}]$  also enjoy this property.

**Proposition 3.2** *Define  $\pi_i(t) = \phi(t)^T r_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m_l$ ) where  $r_i$  are generalized right eigenvectors of  $C$  as introduced in Prop. 2.2. Then  $\pi_i$  is a monic polynomial of degree  $m - i$  of the form*

$$\pi_i(t) = (t - \lambda_l)^{m_l-i} \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq l}}^p (t - \lambda_j)^{m_j}. \quad (9)$$

**Proof:** It is clear that all  $\pi_i$  are monic polynomials of degree  $m - i$ . The definition of the  $r_i$ 's and successive differentiation imply

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_1(t) &= \phi^T(t) H \phi(\lambda_l) \\ \pi_1^{(1)}(t) &= \phi^{(1)T}(t) H \phi(\lambda_l) \\ &\vdots \\ \pi_1^{(i)}(t) &= \phi^{(i)T}(t) H \phi(\lambda_l) \\ &\vdots \\ \pi_1^{(m_l-1)}(t) &= \phi^{(m_l-1)T}(t) H \phi(\lambda_l).\end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

If  $t = \lambda_l$ , Prop. 2.1 implies that (10) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_i(\lambda_l) &= \pi_1^{(i-1)}(\lambda_l) = (i-1)! \phi^T(\lambda_l) H \frac{\phi^{(i-1)}(\lambda_l)}{(i-1)!} \\ &= (i-1)! \pi^{i-1}(\lambda_l) \quad i = 1, \dots, m_l\end{aligned}$$

But since  $\lambda_l$  is a multiple root of  $\pi$ , this equality implies that  $\lambda_l$  is a root of  $\pi_i$  ( $i = 1 \dots m_l - 1$ ) and a recursive argument shows that this root is of multiplicity  $m_l - i$ . If  $t = \lambda_k \neq \lambda_l$ , a similar procedure and the existing biorthogonality condition between left and right generalized eigenvectors leads to

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_i(\lambda_k) &= \pi_1^{(i-1)}(\lambda_k) \\ &= (i-1)! \phi^T(\lambda_l) H \frac{\phi^{(i-1)}(\lambda_k)}{(i-1)!} \\ &= 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m_l,\end{aligned}$$

which concludes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark** A comment concerning the meaning of this proposition is in order. Let  $C_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m_l - 1$ ) denote the  $(m - i) \times (m - i)$  companion matrix associated with the polynomial  $\pi_i$  and, for  $i = 1, \dots, m_l$ , let  $\check{r}_i$  be the vector formed by taking the first  $m - i + 1$  components of  $r_i$ . Then, with the convention that  $C_0 = C$ , the proposition ensures that

$$C_{i-1} \check{r}_i = \lambda_l \check{r}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m_l, \quad (11)$$

and  $\lambda_l$  is a simple eigenvalue of the companion matrix  $C_{m_l-1}$ . For future reference, the left eigenvector of  $C_{m_l-1}$ , will be denoted by  $\psi(\lambda_l)$ . It is defined by

$$\psi(\lambda_l) = [1, \bar{\lambda}_l, \dots, \bar{\lambda}_l^{m-m_l}]^T. \quad (12)$$

#### 3.1 Numerical illustration: Jordan decomposition

We present an illustration of the above notions for  $m = 5$ ,  $(\lambda_1, m_1) = (1, 2)$ ,  $(\lambda_2, m_2) = (2, 2)$ ,

$(\lambda_3, m_3) = (3, 1)$ , in which case,  $\pi(t) = (t-1)^2(t-2)^2(t-3)$ . We show how to obtain easily a Jordan form of the companion matrix associated with  $\pi$ . Note that  $\pi(t) = t^5 - 9t^4 + 31t^3 - 51t^2 + 40t - 12$ .

- Case of  $\lambda = 1, m_1 = 2$ .

From  $(t-2)^2(t-3) = t^3 - 7t^2 + 16t - 12$  and  $(t-1)(t-2)^2(t-3) = t^4 - 8t^3 + 23t^2 - 28t + 12$  follows using Proposition 3.2 and the definition of the  $\check{L}_i$ 's that

$$R_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & -12 \\ -28 & 16 \\ 23 & -7 \\ -8 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \check{L}_1^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

From  $\pi^{(2)}(1)/2 = -2$  and  $\pi^{(3)}(1)/6 = 5$ , we obtain

$$F_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad F_1^{-1} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -5 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } L_1^* = \check{L}_1^* F_1^{-1} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} -5 & -2 \\ -7 & -2 \\ -9 & -2 \\ -11 & -2 \\ -13 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- The same calculation for the two remaining roots gives

$$R = [R_1, R_2, R_3] = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & -12 & 6 & -3 & 4 \\ -28 & 16 & -17 & 7 & -12 \\ 23 & -7 & 17 & -5 & 13 \\ -8 & 1 & -7 & 1 & -6 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$L^* = [L_1^*, L_2^*, L_3^*] = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} -5 & -2 & 4 & -4 & 1 \\ -7 & -2 & 4 & -8 & 3 \\ -9 & -2 & 0 & -16 & 9 \\ -11 & -2 & -16 & -32 & 27 \\ -13 & -2 & -64 & -64 & 81 \end{pmatrix},$$

yielding

$$R J L = C,$$

where  $J$  (a Jordan matrix) and  $C$  are of the form

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -40 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 51 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -31 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 9 \end{pmatrix},$$

which is a Jordan decomposition, as expected.

## 4 Condition estimation

We shall analyze the sensitivity of the roots of  $\pi(t)$  to perturbations in the coefficients  $a_j$  viewing the roots as eigenvalues of the associated companion matrix  $C$ . Let  $\tilde{\pi}(t)$  denote the perturbed monic polynomial with coefficients  $\tilde{a}_j = a_j + \Delta a_j$  and let  $\tilde{C}$  denote its associated companion matrix. Then, depending on the way the perturbations  $\tilde{a}_j$  are measured, different condition numbers for  $\lambda$  can be obtained. Suppose for instance that the  $\Delta a_j$ 's are assumed to satisfy the componentwise inequalities

$$|\Delta a_j| \leq \epsilon \alpha_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, m-1, \quad (13)$$

where  $\alpha_j$  are arbitrary non negative real numbers. Similarly we denote by  $\tilde{\lambda}_j, j = 1, \dots, d$  the eigenvalues of  $\tilde{C}$  corresponding to  $\lambda$  for  $\epsilon$  small enough. We set  $|\Delta \lambda| = \max_{j=1, \dots, d} |\lambda - \tilde{\lambda}_j|$ . For the so-called *componentwise* model of perturbations defined by (13), we have the definition below, where for simplicity,  $\lambda_l$  and its corresponding multiplicity  $m_l$  will be denoted by  $\lambda$  and  $d$ , respectively.

**Definition 4.1** ([4]) *The componentwise relative condition number of the root  $\lambda$  of multiplicity  $d$  is defined by*

$$\kappa^C(\lambda) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sup_{|\Delta a_j| \leq \epsilon \alpha_j} \frac{|\Delta \lambda|}{|\lambda| \epsilon^{1/d}}. \quad (14)$$

A precise description of this condition number is the subject of the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.2** *Suppose the perturbations  $\Delta a_j$  satisfy (13). Then the componentwise relative condition number of the root  $\lambda$  of multiplicity  $d$ ,  $\kappa^C(\lambda)$ , is*

$$\kappa^C(\lambda) = \frac{1}{|\lambda|} \left( \frac{d! \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} |\lambda^j| \alpha_j}{|\pi^{(d)}(\lambda)|} \right)^{1/d} \quad (15)$$

**Proof.** A sketch of the proof is as follows. Let  $\{\tilde{\lambda}, \tilde{r}\}$  be a right eigenpair of  $\tilde{C} = C + \Delta C$ , with  $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda + \Delta \lambda, \tilde{r} = r + \Delta r$ . Then  $(C + \Delta C)(r + \Delta r) = (\lambda + \Delta \lambda)(r + \Delta r)$  iff  $C \Delta r + \Delta C r + \Delta C \Delta r = \lambda \Delta r + \Delta \lambda r + \Delta \lambda \Delta r$ . Using the fact that the right eigenvector  $\tilde{r}$  of  $\tilde{C}$  is (see Prop. 2.2)  $r + \Delta r = \tilde{H} \phi(\lambda)$ , where  $\tilde{H} = H + \Delta H$  has the same structure as  $H$  but with entries  $\tilde{a}_j = a_j + \Delta a_j$ , it can be proved that the  $m$ -th component of  $\Delta r$  equals zero. Next, use this observation and the fact that  $\Delta C = -\Delta a e_m^{[m]*}$  where  $\Delta a = [\Delta a_0, \Delta a_1, \dots, \Delta a_{m-1}]^T$  and  $e_m^{[m]*}$  is the  $m$ -th canonical vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , to prove that

$$\Delta C \Delta r = 0. \quad (16)$$

Some algebraic manipulations lead then to the following first order result

$$\Delta\lambda^d = \frac{d! \phi^T(\lambda)\Delta a}{\pi^{(d)}(\lambda)}, \quad (17)$$

from which the proof follows.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** Another condition number for  $\lambda$  can be readily obtained if the perturbations are assumed to satisfy

$$\|\Delta a\|_2 \leq \delta\alpha, \quad (18)$$

where  $\alpha$  is an arbitrary positive real number (e.g.,  $\alpha = \|a\|_2$ ). This gives rise to the so-called *normwise relative condition number*  $\kappa(\lambda)$ . It is immediate that

$$\kappa(\lambda) = \frac{1}{|\lambda|} \left( \frac{d! \|\phi(\lambda)\| \|\alpha\|}{|\pi^{(d)}(\lambda)|} \right)^{1/d} \quad (19)$$

**Remark 2.** When the perturbations are measured in a normwise absolute sense. i.e., when  $\alpha = 1$  in (18), a similar procedure leads to the so-called *normwise absolute condition*  $\kappa_a(\lambda)$  which can be shown to be

$$\kappa_a(\lambda) = \left[ \frac{d! \|\phi(\lambda)\|_2}{\pi^{(d)}(\lambda)} \right]^{1/d}. \quad (20)$$

**Proposition 4.3** *Assume the same hypothesis as in the previous proposition. Let  $\sec \Theta_\lambda$  be the secant of the angle between the leading left generalized eigenvector and the last right generalized eigenvector associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , as defined in Prop. 2.2, i.e.,*

$$\sec \Theta_\lambda = \frac{\|\phi(\lambda)\|_2 \|r_d\|_2}{|\phi^T(\lambda)r_d|} \quad (21)$$

and define

$$\omega_k = |\lambda|^2 + 2|\lambda| \cos\left(\frac{m-d+k}{m-d+k+1}\right), \quad k = 1, \dots, d.$$

Assume also that the perturbation  $\Delta a$  satisfy the model (18) with  $\alpha = \|a\|_2$ . Then the condition number  $\kappa(\lambda)$  given in (19) satisfies

$$\kappa(\lambda) \leq \frac{1+|\lambda|}{|\lambda|} \left( \frac{\|a\|_2^2}{1+\|a\|_2^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2d}} [\sec \Theta_\lambda]^{1/d} \quad (22)$$

**Proof:** Omitted because of space limitation.

There exists a close relationship between  $\sec \Theta_\lambda$  and the Wilkinson number of  $\lambda$  when regarded as eigenvalue (simple) of the companion matrix  $C_{d-1}$  in (11) (or equivalently, as simple root of  $\pi_{d-1}(t)$ , see the remark after Prop. 3.2). This can be seen as follows. Since  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue simple of this matrix, the Wilkinson condition number of  $\lambda$  is [12]

$$\kappa_w(\lambda) = \frac{\|\psi(\lambda)\|_2 \|\check{r}_d\|_2}{|\psi^*(\lambda)\check{r}_d|}.$$

From this, because  $\phi^T(\lambda)r_d = \psi^*(\lambda)\check{r}_d$  (see (11) again), it is clear that

$$\sec \Theta_\lambda = \kappa_w(\lambda) \frac{\|\phi(\lambda)\|_2}{\|\psi(\lambda)\|_2}. \quad (23)$$

It turns out that if the the multiplicity  $d$  is not large and  $|\lambda|$  is a moderate number then

$$\sec \Theta_\lambda \approx \kappa_w(\lambda),$$

in which case  $\kappa(\lambda)$  essentially depends on  $\kappa_w(\lambda)$ . Thus if  $\lambda$  is a well conditioned eigenvalue of the deflated companion matrix  $C_{d-1}$  (or equivalently, a well conditioned simple root of  $\pi_{d-1}(t)$ ) and the ratio  $\|\phi(\lambda)\|_2/\|\psi(\lambda)\|_2$  is rather small, then moderate values for  $\kappa(\lambda)$  may be expected. However, even if  $\kappa(\lambda)$  is small, the error in  $\lambda$  will be determined by the multiplicity  $d$  and the size of  $\Delta a_j$ . In general, if the perturbations  $\Delta a_j$  are small enough, the relative error in  $\lambda$  can be estimated by the rule

$$\frac{|\Delta\lambda|}{|\lambda|} \approx \kappa(\lambda)\delta^{1/d}. \quad (24)$$

while the absolute error by

$$|\Delta\lambda| \approx \kappa_a(\lambda)\delta^{1/d}. \quad (25)$$

#### 4.1 Numerical illustration: Condition estimation

We consider the polynomial  $\pi(t)$  of degree  $m = 20$  defined by

$$\pi(t) = (t - \lambda)^5(1 + t + \dots + t^{15})$$

with  $\lambda = (1 + 9s) + si$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq 2$ . This example is designed to illustrate the role of the deflated polynomial  $\pi_{d-1}$  (in this case  $d = 5$ , see Prop. 3.2) in estimating the sensitivity of a multiple root. In fact, as in in this case the deflated polynomial  $\pi_{d-1}(t) = (t - \lambda)(1 + t + \dots + t^{15})$  reduces to the polynomial  $t^{16} - 1$  when  $\lambda = 1$ , all roots of which are known to be extremely well-conditioned [7, Example 4.3], small condition condition numbers for the multiple root  $\lambda$  (as root of  $\pi(t)$ ) can be expected provided that  $\lambda \approx 1$ , the conditioning being more favorable for the (simple) roots of  $\pi(t)$  (the roots of  $1 + t + \dots + t^{15}$ ). Indeed, if the simple roots of  $\pi(t)$  are denoted by  $\check{\lambda}_k$ , it is not difficult to prove that

$$\kappa_a(\lambda) = \frac{(1 + |\lambda|^2 + |\lambda|^4 + \dots + |\lambda|^{38})^{0.1}}{\prod_{k=1}^{15} |\lambda - \check{\lambda}_k|^{0.2}},$$

whereas for simple roots one has

$$\kappa_a(\check{\lambda}_k) = \frac{\sqrt{5} |\check{\lambda}_k - 1|}{8 |\check{\lambda}_k - \lambda|^5}.$$

Some numerical results displayed in Tables 1 and 2 corresponding to several  $\lambda$ 's confirm the theoretical prediction. The tables include condition numbers, the predicted eigenvalue errors described in

(24) and (25), and the ratio  $\rho = \|\phi(\lambda)\|_2/\|\psi(\lambda)\|_2$ . Also, and mainly to verify the theoretical prediction of the error, approximate roots obtained from polynomials with coefficients  $\tilde{a}_j = a_j + \Delta a_j$  where  $\Delta a_j$  are random numbers satisfying a normwise relative error  $\delta = 10^{-10}$ , are displayed in Figure 1. All computations were performed using MATLAB.

$\lambda$	$\kappa(\lambda)$	$\kappa_a(\lambda)$	$\kappa_w$
$19 + 2i$	$1.3169e + 1$	$1.0480e + 1$	$3.7970e + 0$
$15 + 1.5i$	$1.0724e + 1$	$8.6469e + 0$	$3.7443e + 0$
$10 + i$	$7.4747e + 0$	$6.2102e + 0$	$3.6221e + 0$
$5 + 0.5i$	$3.9220e + 0$	$3.4955e + 0$	$3.2743e + 0$
$1.45 + 0.05i$	$1.5800e + 0$	$1.1384e + 0$	$1.7266e + 0$
1	$1.2693e + 0$	$7.7495e - 1$	$1.0000e + 0$

Table 1: Condition numbers.

$\lambda$	$\rho$	$ \Delta\lambda / \lambda $	$ \Delta\lambda $
$19 + 2i$	$1.3322e + 5$	$1.3169e - 1$	$2.5159e + 0$
$15 + 1.5i$	$5.1642e + 4$	$1.0724e - 1$	$1.6167e + 0$
$10 + i$	$1.0201e + 4$	$7.4747e - 2$	$7.5120e - 1$
$5 + 0.5i$	$6.3756e + 2$	$3.9220e - 2$	$1.9707e - 1$
$1.45 + 0.05i$	$4.4310e + 0$	$1.5800e - 2$	$2.2924e - 2$
1	$1.1180e + 0$	$1.2693e - 2$	$1.2693e - 2$

Table 2: Ratio  $\rho$  and predicted errors .

The results confirm that moderate values of  $\kappa(\lambda)$  do not necessarily imply small eigenvalue errors when the multiplicity is rather large and that reasonably small errors can be expected when both the Wilkinson condition number  $\kappa_w(\lambda)$  and the ratio  $\rho$  are small. Further, the theoretical prediction of the eigenvalue error according to (25) displayed in columns 3 and 4 of Table 2 is verified to be consistent with the numerical results as displayed in Figure 1. The relative insensitivity of simple roots is also apparent, as predicted.

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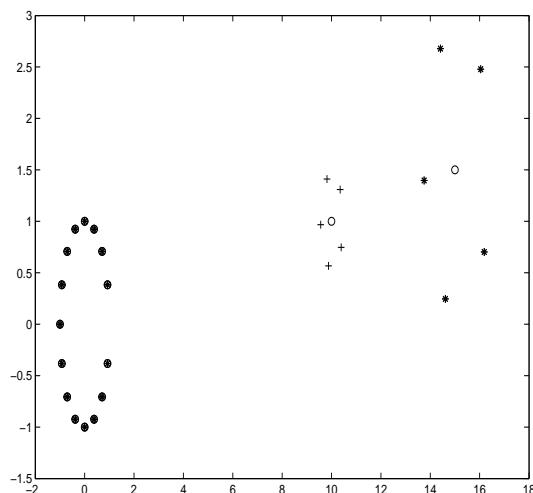


Figure 1: Case 1:  $\lambda = 15 + 1.5i$ .  $\circ$ : Exact eigenvalue,  $*$ : Approximate eigenvalue. Case 2:  $\lambda = 10 + i$ .  $\circ$ : Exact eigenvalue,  $+$ : Approximate eigenvalue.