

**Problem 1.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -9 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a real invertible matrix  $P$  and a real matrix  $C$  of the form  $C = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$  such that  $A = PCP^{-1}$ .

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (2 - \lambda)^2 - 1 \cdot (-9) = (\lambda - (2 + 3i))(\lambda - (2 - 3i))$$

Take  $\lambda_1 = a - bi = 2 - 3i$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 3$ . To find complex eigenvectors,

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 3i & 1 & 0 \\ -9 & 3i & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 3i & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Therefore one eigenvector is  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3i \end{pmatrix}$ , and its real and imaginary parts are  $Re \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $Im \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Therefore we have  $A = PCP^{-1}$  with

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(the correct final answer may be non-unique)