EXAMPLES:

① $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

both have only one eigenvalue, $\lambda = 2$, and have one block of size 1 and one block of size 2. Hence they are similar and are considered to be the same Jordan Form.

② $J_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $J_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

both have the same eigenvalues of the same multiplicity, but J_1 has two blocks of size 1, one of size 2, and J_2 has no blocks of size 1, two of size 2.

Hence J_1 and J_2 are not similar.

[We noted previously that $\Delta_{J_1}(t) = \Delta_{J_2}(t) = (t-2)^4$ and $m_{J_1}(t) = m_{J_2}(t) = (t-2)^2$, however.]

③ $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

both have two blocks of size 1 for $\lambda = 3$ and one block of size 2 for $\lambda = 2$, hence are similar.

④ No two of $J_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $J_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $J_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

are similar because block sizes in any pair differ for at least one eigenvalue.