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LARSON—MATH 610—CLASSROOM WORKSHEET 16
Generalized Eigenvectors.

Concepts & Notation

- (Chp. 5) *eigenvalue, eigenvector, invariant subspace, minimal polynomial,*
- (Chp. 8) *generalized eigenvector.*

Complex Vector Spaces

1. Suppose $T : \mathbb{C}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$, with $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (4x_1, 0, 5x_2)$. Find all eigenvalues and associated eigenvectors.

2. Find the eigenspaces corresponding to the eigenvalues of T and check that they do not sum to \mathbb{C}^3 .

3. What is a *generalized eigenvector*?

4. Find the generalized eigenvectors for $T : \mathbb{C}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$, with $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (4x_1, 0, 5x_2)$.

5. For each eigenvalue λ of T find the corresponding set G_λ of generalized eigenvectors of T .
6. Show that there is a basis of \mathbb{C}^3 consisting of generalized eigenvectors of T .
7. Show that \mathbb{C}^3 is a direct sum of the generalized eigenspaces corresponding to the eigenvalues of T .
8. For eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ of T , and generalized eigenspaces G_1, \dots, G_k , let $d_i = \dim G_i$. Check that $d_1 + \dots + d_k = \dim(\mathbb{C}^3)$.
9. Find the characteristic polynomial $q(x) = (x - \lambda_1)^{d_1} \dots (x - \lambda_k)^{d_k}$.
10. Check that $q(T) = 0$.
11. Explain why the minimal polynomial $p(x)$ of T must divide the characteristic polynomial $q(x)$ of T . Use this fact and other facts we proved to make conclusions about the minimal polynomial of T .