

**MTH 42 LECTURE NOTES (Ojakian)**  
**Topic 15: Eigen Vectors and Eigen Values**

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**OUTLINE**  
(References: 6.1)

1. Eigen Vectors
  2. Eigen Values
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1. Definitions of Eigen Vector and Eigen Value

- (a) See Definition 6.1
- (b) Recall Leontieff's Closed Economy - production vector was an eigen vector.
- (c)

**PROBLEM 1.** *Do exercise 1 from Section 6.1 (page 227).*

**PROBLEM 2.** *Find a 3 by 3 matrix such that every non-zero vector is an Eigen Vector.*

- (d) See Theorem 6.2: Once you have one Eigen Vector, you have more Eigen Vectors.

2. Finding Eigen Vectors and Eigen Spaces

- (a) Finding Eigen Vectors when given an Eigen Value

**PROBLEM 3.** *Consider exercise 11 in Section 6.1 (page 228). Assume you have magically been given an eigen value.*

- i. Find the associated eigen vectors.*
- ii. Describe these eigen vectors as the span of some vectors (as long as you throw in the zero vector).*
- iii. Conclude that this set of eigen vectors is a subspace and find its dimension.*

- (b) Eigen Space

See Theorem 6.3 and Definition 6.4

**PROBLEM 4.** *Note that in the last problem we found an eigen space.*

3. Finding Eigen Values

- (a) See Theorem 6.5.

Note: Characteristic Polynomial and Characteristic Equation.

**PROBLEM 5.** *Do exercise 21 from Section 6.1 (page 228) - just find the eigen-values*

#### 4. Putting it altogether

**PROBLEM 6.** *Continue the last problem - find the eigen spaces associated to each eigen value.*

(a) Multiplicity of Eigen Value

- i. Definition of multiplicity for a root of a polynomial.

**PROBLEM 7.** *Find all the roots and multiplicities of the following polynomial:  $y^3 - 6y^2 + 9y$*

- ii. See Theorem 6.6

**PROBLEM 8.** *Consider the last problem. Suppose that polynomial is the characteristic polynomial for some matrix. Determine the maximum possible dimensions of each eigen space.*

- iii.

**PROBLEM 9.** *Do exercise 29 from Section 6.1 (page 228) - note the validity of Theorem 6.6*

- iv.

**PROBLEM 10.** *Do exercises from Section 6.1 (pages 228-229): 37, 47.*

(b) Why using characteristic polynomial works?

- i. Recall key fact about determinant related to invertibility  
ii. Note the fact:  $M\bar{x} = \bar{b}$  has a unique solution **if and only if**  $M$  is invertible.