

MTH 42 LECTURE NOTES (Ojakian)

Topic 14: Determinant

OUTLINE

(References: 5.1)

1. Computing the Determinant
 2. Connection to inverse
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1. Determinant - Informal Introduction

- (a) Minors

PROBLEM 1. *Choose any 4 by 4 matrix and find some of its minors.*

- (b) First Examples

PROBLEM 2. *Choose any 2 by 2 matrix and find its determinant.*

PROBLEM 3. *Do exercise 12 from Section 5.1 (page 191).*

- (c) Cofactors

PROBLEM 4. *For the last problem, find some cofactors.*

2. Determinant - Recursive Definition

- (a) $\text{Det}([a]) = a$ (i.e. for 1 by 1 matrix)

- (b) $\text{Det}(A) = a_{11}C_{11} + a_{12}C_{12} + \dots + a_{1n}C_{1n}$

PROBLEM 5. *Do exercise 13 from Section 5.1 (page 191).*

- (c) Can “expand” along any row or column to compute the determinant.

PROBLEM 6. *Redo one of exercise 12 or 13 from Section 5.1 (page 191). But now expand using a different row or column.*

3. Some properties of determinant

- (a)

PROBLEM 7. *Compute $\text{Det}(I)$.*

- (b) See Theorem 5.6

- (c) See Theorem 5.12

PROBLEM 8. *Prove that if either matrix A or B is not invertible, then neither is AB (use the determinant).*