

Exercise 3.2.2

If Q is orthogonal, then $\det(Q) = \pm 1$.

Answer

We know $Q^t = Q^{-1}$ and $\det(Q^t) = \det(Q)$.

$$\det(I) = 1$$

$$\det(QQ^{-1}) = 1$$

$$\det(Q) \det(Q^{-1}) = 1$$

$$\det(Q) \det(Q^t) = 1$$

$$(\det(Q))^2 = 1$$

$$\det(Q) = \pm 1$$