4.2 Compute the following determinant efficiently:

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

Solution.

We can apply Gauss Jordan reduction to convert the matrix to an upper triangular matrix. Then, the determinant is the product of the diagonal elements.

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \\ -R_1 \\ \\ +R_1 \\ -R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ +R_2 \\ \\ \\ \end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ -3R_3 \\ +R_3 \end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} +R_4$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\det = 2 * -1 * 1 * 1 * -3 = 6.$