

University of Birmingham  
School of Mathematics  
Vectors, Geometry and Linear Algebra  
VGLA

**Problem Sheet 3**

Remember that there are practise questions under the materials section for each week.

- SUM** Q1. (i) Suppose that  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{F})$  are invertible. Assume that  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{B}^T = \mathbf{B}^{-1}$ . Show that  $(\mathbf{AB})^T = (\mathbf{AB})^{-1}$ .
- (ii) Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) Use Gaussian Elimination to find the inverse of  $\mathbf{A}$  if it exists.  
(b) Directly from the definition of the determinant as

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_3} (-1)^{N(\sigma)} \prod_{i=1}^3 a_{\sigma(i), i},$$

calculate  $\det(\mathbf{A})$ .

- (iii) Calculate the determinant of

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & 0 \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & 0 & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & 0 & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & 0 & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & 0 & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . (You may use whichever method you like.)

- (iv) Suppose that  $n \geq 2$  and  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$ . Assume that  $\mathbf{A}$  has at least  $n^2 - n + 2$  entries which are equal to  $\mu$  for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$ .
- (v) Show that there exists an invertible matrix  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$  with  $n^2 - n + 1$  entries which are equal to  $\mu$  for some fixed  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**SUM Q2.** Group the following matrices into sets which have the same determinant. In this  $\lambda$  is a real number which is the same in each matrix. Explain your answer.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \lambda \\ 5 & 19 & 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{B} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 5 & 19 & 6 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{C} &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & -4 & -6 \\ -6 & -2 & -3 & -5 \\ -5 & -19 & -6 & -3 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{D} &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 21 & 9 & \lambda + 3 \\ 5 & 19 & 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{E} &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 21 & \lambda + 3 & 9 \\ 5 & 19 & 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{F} &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 21 & \lambda + 3 & 9 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 3 \\ 5 & 19 & 3 & 6 \\ 1 & -2 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \bullet \mathbf{G} &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -21 & \lambda + 3 & 9 \\ 6 & -2 & 5 & 3 \\ 5 & -19 & 3 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 6 & 4 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$