

## 2.2: Evaluating Determinants by Row Reduction

①

$$\textcircled{a} \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = (-2)(4) - (3)(1) = -8 - 3 = -11$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = (-2)(4) - (1)(3) = -8 - 3 = -11$$

$$\textcircled{b} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & -3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = (2)(2)(6) + (-1)(4)(5) + (3)(1)(-3) - (3)(2)(5) - (2)(4)(-3) - (-1)(1)(6) = 24 - 20 - 9 - 30 + 24 + 6 = -5$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 5 \\ -1 & 2 & -3 \\ 3 & 4 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = (2)(2)(6) + (1)(-3)(3) + (5)(-1)(4) - (5)(2)(3) - (-2)(-3)(4) - (1)(-1)(6) = 24 - 9 - 20 - 30 + 24 + 6 = -5$$

②

$$\textcircled{a} (3)(5)(-2) = -30$$

$$\textcircled{b} (\sqrt{2})(\sqrt{2})(-1)(1) = -2$$

$$\textcircled{c} 0$$

$$\textcircled{d} 0$$

③

$$\textcircled{a} (1)(1)(-5)(1) = -5$$

$$\textcircled{b} -(1)(1)(1)(1) = -1$$

$$\textcircled{c} (1)(1)(1)(1) = 1$$

$$\textcircled{4} \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 & -9 \\ -2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ -2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = (-3)(5) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/5 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = (-3)(5)(-2) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-3)(5)(-2)(1) = 30$$

$$\textcircled{5} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \end{vmatrix} = (-1)(-5) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-1)(-5)(1) = 5$$

$$\textcircled{6} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & -2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 5 & -2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 13 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 13 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{17}{2} \end{vmatrix} = (-2)(1)(\frac{17}{2}) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-2)(\frac{17}{2})(1) = -17$$

$$\textcircled{7} \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -6 & 9 \\ -2 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ -2 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = (3)(3) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (3)(3) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{11}{3} \end{vmatrix} = (3)(3)(\frac{11}{3}) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (3)(3)(\frac{11}{3})(1) = 33$$

$$\textcircled{8} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & -9 & 6 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & -6 & -2 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 & -6 & -2 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 12 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 108 & 23 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 108 & 23 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -13 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-3)(-13) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -9 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-3)(-13)(1) = 39$$

$$\textcircled{9} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-1) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-1) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-1)(6) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (2)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-1)(6)(1) = 6$$

$$\textcircled{10} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -1 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -1 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{vmatrix} = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \end{vmatrix} = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{vmatrix} = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-1)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(1) = -\frac{1}{6}$$

$$\textcircled{11} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 2 & -7 & 0 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -(2) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-1)(2)(1) = -2$$

⑫

a) -6

b)  $(3)(-1)(4)(-6) = 72$

c) -6

d)  $(-3)(-6) = 18$

⑬

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a & b & c \\ a^2 & b^2 & c^2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Consider  $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 1 & b & b^2 \\ 1 & c & c^2 \end{bmatrix}$

Since  $\det(A) = \det(A^T)$ , we solve for  $\det(A^T)$ .

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a & b & c \\ a^2 & b^2 & c^2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ a & b-a & c \\ a^2 & b^2-a^2 & c^2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ a & b-a & c-a \\ a^2 & b^2-a^2 & c^2-a^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 1 & b & b^2 \\ 1 & c & c^2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & b-a & b^2-a^2 \\ 1 & c & c^2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & b-a & b^2-a^2 \\ 0 & c-a & c^2-a^2 \end{vmatrix} = (b-a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & 1 & b+a \\ 0 & c-a & c^2-a^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (b-a)(c-a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & 1 & b+a \\ 0 & 1 & c+a \end{vmatrix} = (b-a)(c-a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & 1 & b+a \\ 0 & 0 & c-b \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (b-a)(c-a)(c-b) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 0 & 1 & b+a \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (b-a)(c-a)(c-b)$$

⑭

⑥ Proof: The only elementary product from the matrix that can be nonzero is  $a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}$ . To see that this is so, consider a typical elementary product  $a_{i_1}a_{j_2}a_{k_3}$ . Since  $a_{11}=a_{12}=0$ , we must have  $j_1=3$  in order to have a nonzero product. If  $j_1=3$ , we must have  $j_2 \neq 3$ , since no two factors come from the same column. Further, since  $a_{21}=0$ , we must have  $j_2=2$  in order to have a nonzero product. Therefore,  $j_3=1$ . Since  $a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}$  is multiplied by  $-1$  in forming the signed elementary product, the determinant is  $-a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}$ .  $\square$

⑦ Proof: The only elementary product from the matrix that can be nonzero is  $a_{14}a_{23}a_{32}a_{41}$ . To see that this is so, consider a typical elementary product  $a_{i_1}a_{j_2}a_{k_3}a_{l_4}$ . Since  $a_{11}=a_{12}=a_{13}=0$ , we must have  $j_1=4$  in order to have a nonzero product. If  $j_1=4$ , we must have  $j_2 \neq 4$ , since no two factors come from the same column. Further, since  $a_{21}=a_{22}=0$ , we must have  $j_2=3$  in order to have a nonzero product. Continuing in this way, we obtain  $j_3=2$  and  $j_4=1$ . Since  $a_{14}a_{23}a_{32}a_{41}$  is multiplied by  $+1$  in forming the signed elementary product, the determinant is  $a_{14}a_{23}a_{32}a_{41}$ .  $\square$

⑤

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \det(B) &= k a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} + k a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + k a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - k a_{13} a_{22} a_{31} - k a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - k a_{12} a_{21} a_{33} \\ &= k (a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33}) \\ &= k \det(A) \end{aligned}$$

⑥

$$\begin{aligned} \det(B) &= a_{21} a_{12} a_{33} + a_{22} a_{13} a_{31} + a_{23} a_{11} a_{32} - a_{23} a_{12} a_{31} - a_{21} a_{13} a_{32} - a_{22} a_{11} a_{33} \\ &= -(-a_{21} a_{12} a_{33} - a_{22} a_{13} a_{31} - a_{23} a_{11} a_{32} + a_{23} a_{12} a_{31} + a_{21} a_{13} a_{32} + a_{22} a_{11} a_{33}) \\ &= -\det(A) \end{aligned}$$

⑬

① -1. This is the identity matrix (with  $\det(I) = 1$ ), with rows 1 and 3 swapped. So  $-(1)$ , or  $-1$ .

② 1. This is the identity matrix (with  $\det(I) = 1$ ), with two row swaps (1 and 4) and (2 and 3). So  $-(-1)$ , or 1.

⑰

$$(x)(x+1)(2x-1) = 0$$

$$x = 0, -1, \frac{1}{2}$$

⑱

①  $x = -3, 1$

② No. Because this guy says so.



Also, just hand calculating the determinant, shows that  $x = -3$  or  $x = 1$ .