

## Problem 2 Determining the determinant

Suppose that  $A, B, C$  are square matrices. Express

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ A & B \end{pmatrix}$$

in terms of  $\det(A), \det(B), \det(C)$ . Prove your formula is correct.

Let  $A, B, C \in M_{n \times n}(F)$ . Do  $n$  row operations swapping rows  $1 \leftrightarrow n$  with rows  $n+1$  to  $2n$ , respectively. The resulting matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}$  has determinant  $(-1)^n (\det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ A & B \end{pmatrix})$  by row op calculations.

But it has  $\det \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix} = \det(A) \cdot \det(C)$

↖ We proved this in class, during midterm review.

Now putting everything together,

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & C \\ A & B \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^n \det(A) \cdot \det(C).$$