

5 5 5

← Sorting code, from list as you hand
in exam

Exam 1

Linear Algebra, Dave Bayer, February 15, 2005

Name: _____ Solutions

[1] (5 pts)	[2] (5 pts)	[3] (5 pts)	[4] (5 pts)	[5] (5 pts)	[6] (5 pts)	TOTAL

Please work only one problem per page, starting with the pages provided, and number all continuations clearly. Only work which can be found in this way will be graded.

Please do not use calculators or decimal notation.

[1] What is the set of all solutions to the following system of equations?

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xleftarrow{\text{swap rows}}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & w \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & y \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & z \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

↙ starting pattern

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{(3)=(3)-(2)} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|cc} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{(2)-(2)-(1)} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Solution particular homogeneous

$$\begin{bmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

check:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} s \\ 1 \\ 1-t \\ t \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{array} \right]$$

↙ free cols

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} s \\ 1 \\ 1-t \\ t \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{array} \right]$$

↙

[2] Express the following matrix as a product of elementary matrices:

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & \textcircled{1} \rightarrow \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} + 2\textcircled{1} & \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} - 2\textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} = -\textcircled{3} & \textcircled{1} = \textcircled{1} - 3\textcircled{3} & \textcircled{2} = \textcircled{2} - 2\textcircled{3} \\
 & & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright \\
 \left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] & \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right]
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & \textcircled{1} \rightarrow \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} - 2\textcircled{1} & \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} + 2\textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} = -\textcircled{3} & \textcircled{1} = \textcircled{1} + 3\textcircled{3} & \textcircled{2} = \textcircled{2} + 2\textcircled{3} \\
 & & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright
 \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \end{matrix} \right]$$

↑
answer

check:

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right] \left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 2 & -1 \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \end{matrix} \right] \quad \text{✓}$$

[3] What is the determinant of the following 4×4 matrix?

answer \Rightarrow

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a & c \\ 2 & 1 & b & d \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 21$$

block upper triangular, so det is product of block dets,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = (-3)(-7) = 21$$

check:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a & c \\ 2 & 1 & b & d \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = +1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & b & d \\ 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & a & c \\ 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|cc} + & - & + & - & & \\ - & + & - & + & & \\ + & - & + & - & & \\ - & + & - & + & & \end{array}$$

$$= 1 \cdot 1 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \cdot 2 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (1 \cdot 1 - 2 \cdot 2) \underbrace{\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix}}_{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}} = (-3)(-7) = 21$$

[4] Using Cramer's rule, find w satisfying the following system of equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$= 1 \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{vmatrix}$$

expand 1st cols

$$\begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & + & + \\ + & - & + \\ & + & + \\ + & - & - \\ + & - & + \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{col swap} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad -(16) \quad +(-16) \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} \\ +(-16) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{col swap} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad -(16) \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad +(-16) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline + & & \\ & 29 & -1 & -1 \\ - & / & / & / \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad -(\cancel{44}) 16$$

$$w = \frac{2(-16) - (-1)(16) + (-1)(-16) - 0(16)}{1(-16) - 1(16) + (-16) - (16)} = \frac{0}{-64} = 0$$

$$\boxed{w=0}$$

↑
answer

check $w=0 \Rightarrow 4(x_1, y_1, z) = (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4})$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{1} - \textcircled{4}$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \textcircled{5}$$

Continued on (back of) page: _____

(try again)

[4] Using Cramer's rule, find w satisfying the following system of equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \left. \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 9 & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{sum to } 0444 \\ \left. \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = -64 \end{array}$$

so singular, $\det = 0$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} = \textcircled{1} - \textcircled{4} \\ \textcircled{2} = \textcircled{2} - \textcircled{4} \\ \textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} - \textcircled{4} \end{array}$$

$w = 0$

check:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 3 & -1 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$\textcircled{1} = \textcircled{1} - \textcircled{4}$
 $\textcircled{2} = \textcircled{2} - \textcircled{4}$
 $\textcircled{3} = \textcircled{3} - \textcircled{4}$

divide out 4's
rearrange rows

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{4} \end{array} \right]$$

$\textcircled{1} = \textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2}$
 $+ \textcircled{3} + \textcircled{4}$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{4} \end{array} \right]$$

$w = 0 \quad \checkmark$

[5] Give a formula for the matrix which is inverse to:

answer \Rightarrow

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & a & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]^{-1} = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1-a+ab & 1-abc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-b+bc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & a & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & c & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$① = ① - a②$$

$$[A | I]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & -ab & -1 & 1-a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & a-bc & 0 & 0 & 1-b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$② = ② - b③$$

$$③ = ③ - c④$$

$$[I | A^{-1}]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1-a+ab & -abc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-b+bc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$① = ① + ab③$$

$$② = ② + bc④$$

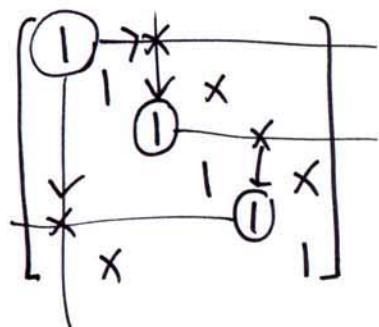
$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-a+ab & -abc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-b+bc & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

check!

✓

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & a & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & -a+ab & 1-abc & 0 \\ 0 & 1-b+bc & +bc & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

[6] What is the determinant of the following 6×6 matrix? What is the determinant of the corresponding $n \times n$ matrix?



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & x \\ x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

n even: 4 terms to determinant

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right]$$

$1 + x^{n/2} + x^{n/2} + x^n$

(no swaps) (6 swaps) (6 swaps) (8 swaps)

n odd: 2 terms to determinant

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & x & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & x & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & & \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & x & & \\ x & x & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \end{array} \right]$$

$1 + x^n$

(6 swaps)

so $\det = \begin{cases} (1+x^{n/2})^2, & n \text{ even} \\ 1+x^n, & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

$\det = (1+x^3)^2$
above

check: $x=-1 \Rightarrow \underbrace{\text{rows sum to } 0}_{\text{singular}}, \text{ and } (1+(-1)^3)^2=0 \quad \text{X}$

```
a = {{1, 0, x, 0, 0},  
      {0, 1, 0, x, 0},  
      {0, 0, 1, 0, x},  
      {x, 0, 0, 1, 0},  
      {0, x, 0, 0, 1}};  
a // MatrixForm  
Det[a]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & x \\ x & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 + x^5$$

```
a = {{1, 0, x, 0, 0, 0},  
      {0, 1, 0, x, 0, 0},  
      {0, 0, 1, 0, x, 0},  
      {0, 0, 0, 1, 0, x},  
      {x, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0},  
      {0, x, 0, 0, 0, 1}};  
a // MatrixForm  
Det[a]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & x \\ x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 + 2 x^3 + x^6$$