

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

SECTION 3.2

Math 2050 Worksheet

WINTER 2018

SOLUTIONS

1. First observe that

$$\det(A^3 B^T (-2B) A^{-1}) = \det(A^3) \det(B^T) \det(-2B) \det(A^{-1}).$$

First,  $\det(A^3) = [\det(A)]^3 = (-7)^3 = -343$ . Second,  $\det(B^T) = \det B = 3$ . Third,  $\det(-2B) = (-2)^5 \det B = (-32)(3) = -96$ . Finally,  $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det A} = \frac{1}{7}$ . Therefore,

$$\det(A^3 B^T (-2B) A^{-1}) = (-343)(3)(-96) \left( \frac{1}{-7} \right) = -14112.$$

2. First we reduce  $A$  to row-echelon form, keeping track of row interchanges and row multiplications. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & -2 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 6 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 6 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - (-1)R_1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 6 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - (-3)R_2 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 4R_2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow (-2)R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - (-2)R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -26 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The determinant of this final matrix is  $(1)(1)(1)(-26) = -26$ . We have performed one row interchange, and performed scalar multiplications of rows by  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $-2$ . Hence

$$\det A = (-1)(4) \left( -\frac{1}{2} \right) (-26) = -52.$$