Finding determinants
Linear Algebra

1. compute det$A$ and det$B$.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

7. (a) Evaluate this determinant by cofactors of row 1:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

(b) Check by subtracting column 1 from the other columns and recomputing.

8. Compute the determinants of A_2, A_3, A_4. Can you predict A_n?

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Use row operations to produce zeros, or use cofactors of row 1.

10. In a 5 by 5 matrix, does a $+$ sign or $-$ sign go with $a_{15}a_{24}a_{33}a_{42}a_{51}$ down the reverse diagonal? In other words, is $P = (5,4,3,2,1)$ even or odd?

13. Compute the determinants of A, B, C from six terms.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

22. Prove that 4 is the largest determinant for a 3 by 3 matrix of 1s and -1s.