

Exercise 1 Circle the correct statement(s), without justification:

1. The determinant of a matrix with only 0 on its diagonal is equal to 0,

No, $\text{Det} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -1$.

2. If 0 is an eigenvalue of $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, then A can not be invertible,

Since $AX = 0$ for some $X \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $X \neq 0$, one has $\text{Ker}(L_A) \neq \{0\}$
 $\Rightarrow L_A$ is not invertible $\Rightarrow A$ not invertible.

3. If two $n \times n$ matrices A and B are similar, then the equality $\text{Det}(A) = \text{Det}(B)$ must hold,

by $B = UAU^{-1}$ then $\text{Det}(B) = \text{Det}(U)\text{Det}(A)\text{Det}(U^{-1})$
 $= \text{Det}(A)$.

4. The determinant of a symmetric matrix can be equal to 0,

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is symmetric and its determinant is 0.

5. If $A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, then $\text{Det}(A+B) = \text{Det}(A) + \text{Det}(B)$,

No, if $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, then $\text{Det}(A+B) = 1$ but
 $\text{Det}(A) = \text{Det}(B) = 0$.

6. For any $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, one has $\text{Det}(A^t A) = \text{Det}(A^t A)$,

Since $\text{Det}(A^t A) = \text{Det}(A^t) \text{Det}(A) = \text{Det}(A) \text{Det}(A^t)$
 $= \text{Det}(A^t A)$.

7. If $A \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$, then $\text{Det}(-A) = \text{Det}(A)$,

No, $\text{Det} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = -1 \neq 1 = \text{Det} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

8. If $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $A^2 = 1_n$, then $\text{Det}(A) = 1$,

No, if $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ then $A^2 = 1_2$ but $\text{Det}(A) = -1$.

9. If all entries of a 3×3 matrix are 3, its determinant must be $3^3 = 27$,

No, its determinant is 0.

10. The sum of two invertible matrices is invertible.

No, 1_n and -1_n are invertible, but $1_n + (-1_n) = 0_n$
and 0_n is not invertible.