PROBLEM-SOLVING TACTICS

$$\text{Let } \Delta(x) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1(x) & f_2(x) & f_3(x) \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}, \text{ then } \Delta'(x) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1'(x) & f_2'(x) & f_3'(x) \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} \text{ and in general }$$

$$\Delta^{n}(x) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1^{n}(x) & f_2^{n}(x) & f_3^{n}(x) \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$
 where n is any positive integer and $f^{n}(x)$ denotes the n^{th} derivative of $f(x)$.

Let
$$\Delta(x) = \begin{vmatrix} f(x) & g(x) & h(x) \\ a & b & c \\ l & m & n \end{vmatrix}$$
, where a, b, c, l, m and n are constants.

$$\Rightarrow \int_{a}^{b} \Delta(x) dx = \begin{vmatrix} \int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx & \int_{a}^{b} g(x) dx & \int_{a}^{b} h(x) dx \\ a & b & c \\ l & m & n \end{vmatrix}$$

If the elements of more than one column or rows are functions of x then the integration can be done only after evaluation/expansion of the determinant.

FORMULAE SHEET

(a) Determinant of order
$$3 \times 3 = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} - b_1 \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} + c_1 \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

(b) In the determinant D =
$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$
, minor of a_{12} is denoted as $M_{12} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$ and so on.

(c) Cofactor of an element
$$a_{ij} = C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$$

- (d) Properties of determinants:
 - (i) Reflection property: $|A_{i\times j}| = |A_{j\times i}|$
 - (ii) All-zero property: If all the elements of a row (or column) are zero, then the determinant is zero.
 - (iii) **Proportionality (Repetition) Property:** If all the elements of a row (or column) are proportional (identical) to the elements of some other row (or column), then the determinant is zero.
 - (iv) Switching Property: The interchange of any two rows (or columns) of the determinant changes its sign.
 - (v) Scalar Multiple Property: If all the elements of a row (or column) of a determinant are multiplied by a non-zero constant, then the determinant gets multiplied by the same constant.
- (vi) Sum Property: $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & c_1 & d_1 \\ a_2 + b_2 & c_2 & d_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & c_3 & d_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & c_1 & d_1 \\ a_2 & c_2 & d_2 \\ a_3 & c_3 & d_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & c_1 & d_1 \\ b_2 & c_2 & d_2 \\ b_3 & c_3 & d_3 \end{vmatrix}$
- (vii) Property of Invariance: $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 + \alpha b_1 + \beta c_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 + \alpha b_2 + \beta c_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 + \alpha b_3 + \beta c_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

That is, a determinant remains unaltered under an operation of the form $C_i \rightarrow C_i + \alpha C_j + \beta C_k$, where $j, k \neq i$, or an operation of the form $R_i \rightarrow R_i + \alpha R_j + \beta R_k$, where $j, k \neq i$.

- (viii) Triangle Property: $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ 0 & b_2 & b_3 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 \\ a_2 & b_2 & 0 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1b_2c_3$
- (e) Cramer's rule: if $a_1x + b_1y + c_1z = d_1$, $a_2x + b_2y + c_2z = d_2$ and $a_3x + b_3y + c_3z = d_3$ then $x = \frac{\Delta_1}{\Delta}$, $y = \frac{\Delta_2}{\Delta}$, $z = \frac{\Delta_3}{\Delta}$ where

$$\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}, \ \Delta_1 = \begin{vmatrix} d_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ d_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ d_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}, \ \Delta_2 = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & d_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & d_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & d_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} \ \text{and} \ \Delta_3 = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & d_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & d_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & d_3 \end{vmatrix}.$$

And if $a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0$ and $a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0$ then $x = \frac{\Delta_1}{\Delta} y = \frac{\Delta_2}{\Delta}$.

Where
$$\Delta_1 = \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}$$
, $\Delta_2 = \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & a_1 \\ c_2 & a_2 \end{vmatrix}$ and $\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}$

- (f) (i) lines $a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0$, $a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0$ and $a_3x + b_3y + c_3 = 0$ are concurrent if, $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$
 - (ii) $ax^2 + 2hxy + by^2 + 2gx + 2fy + c = 0$ represents a pair of straight lines if $\begin{vmatrix} a & h & g \\ h & b & f \\ g & f & c \end{vmatrix} = 0$
 - (iii) area of a triangle whose vertices are (x_r, y_r) ; r = 1, 2, 3 is: $D = \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$
 - (iv) Equation of a straight line passing through $(x_1, y_1) & (x_2, y_2)$ is $\begin{vmatrix} x & y & 1 \\ x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$