

**ZMATH 2013c.00623**

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**A brief historical introduction to determinants with applications.**

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Summary: This article deals with a short historical introduction to determinants with applications to the theory of equations, geometry, multiple integrals, differential equations and linear algebra. Included are some properties of determinants with proofs, eigenvalues, eigenvectors and characteristic equations with examples of applications to simple harmonic oscillations and eigenvalue problems.

*Classification:* H65 A30

*Keywords:* determinants; eigenvalues; eigenfunctions

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