

From (4.56) we have

60 cont.

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$$\det [L(x+dx)] - \det [L(x)] = dx \operatorname{tr} [A(x)] \det [L(x)] + O[(dx)^2] \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{\det [L(x+dx)] - \det [L(x)]}{dx} = \operatorname{tr} [A(x)] \det [L(x)] + O[(dx)] \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \det [L(x)] = \{ \operatorname{tr} [A(x)] \} \{ \det [L(x)] \}.$$

This proves (4.57). Next we may write

$$\frac{\frac{d}{dx} \det [L(x)]}{\det [L(x)]} = \operatorname{tr} [A(x)] \Rightarrow$$

↙ integrating

$$\log \{ \det [L(x')] \} \Big|_{x^0}^x = \int_{x^0}^x dx' \operatorname{tr} [A(x')].$$

$$\text{Also, } L(x^0) = I \Rightarrow \log \{ \det [L(x^0)] \} = \log 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \det [L(x)] = \exp \left\{ \int_{x^0}^x dx' \operatorname{tr} [A(x')] \right\},$$

which is (4.58). In particular,