

1. (15%) Consider a matrix $M = \begin{bmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{bmatrix}$. Under what condition is this matrix singular?
2. (15%) Find the volume of the parallelepiped spanned by the three vectors in the Cartesian space $\mathbf{a} = (-2, 3, 1)$, $\mathbf{b} = (0, 4, 0)$, and $\mathbf{c} = (-1, 3, 3)$.
3. (15%) The expected value is the mean value of the probability distribution. Determine the expected value for the number of heads when a coin is tossed four times.
4. (15%) Find the solution for $y'' + y' - 2y = 0$ with the initial conditions of $y(0) = 4$ and $y'(0) = 1$.
5. (20%) The function V at a particular point in space is given by: $V = 2x^2 + 4y^2 + 6z^2$. (a) Find the rate of change of V at $P(2, -2, 1)$ in a direction towards $(0, 0, 0)$. (b) Find the magnitude and direction of the maximum rate of change of V at P .
6. (20%) Find an orthogonal matrix C such that $C^{-1}AC = D$ where D is a diagonal matrix with diagonal elements equal to the eigenvalues of A where the matrix A is given by $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 10 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$.