

L22: Vectorization and Kronecker product

1. Matrix vectorization

(1) Definition

For $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \in C^{m \times n}$, define $\text{vec}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_n \end{pmatrix} \in C^{mn}$.

- (i) $\forall X \in C^{m \times n}, \exists! Y \in C^{mn}$ such that $\text{vec}(X) = Y$, i.e., $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is an injection from $C^{m \times n}$ to C^{mn} . (picture)
- (ii) $\forall Y \in C^{mn} \exists X \in C^{m \times n}$ such that $\text{vec}(X) = Y$, i.e., $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is a surjection from $C^{m \times n}$ to C^{mn} .
- (iii) $\forall Y \in C^{mn}, \exists! X \in C^{m \times n}$ such that $\text{vec}(X) = Y$.
(i)+(iii) means that $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is a 1-1 mapping between $C^{m \times n}$ and C^{mn} .

(2) $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is a linear transformation

$$\text{vec}(\alpha A + \beta B) = \alpha \text{vec}(A) + \beta \text{vec}(B).$$

(3) $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ preserves Frobenius inner product:

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \langle \text{vec}(A), \text{vec}(B) \rangle.$$

For $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$ and $B = (b_{ij})_{m \times n}$,

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \text{tr}(B^* A) = \text{tr}(AB^*) = \text{tr}(\overline{B} A') = \text{tr}(A' \overline{B}) = \sum_i \sum_j a_{ij} \bar{b}_{ij}.$$

$$\langle \text{vec}(A), \text{vec}(B) \rangle = [\text{vec}(B)]^* \text{vec}(A) = [\text{vec}(A)]' [\text{vec}(B)] = \sum_i \sum_j a_{ij} \bar{b}_{ij}.$$

For real matrices

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \text{tr}(B' A) = \text{tr}(AB') = \text{tr}(A' B) = \text{tr}(BA') = \sum_i \sum_j a_{ij} b_{ij}$$

$$\langle \text{vec}(A), \text{vec}(B) \rangle = [\text{vec}(B)]' \text{vec}(A) = [\text{vec}(A)]' \text{vec}(B) = \sum_i \sum_j a_{ij} b_{ij}.$$

Comment: $C^{m \times n}$ and C^{mn} as two sets, as two linear spaces and as two linear spaces with inner products are isomorphic (the same). The 1-1 mapping $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is called an isomorphism.

2. Kronecker product

(1) Definition

For $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{p \times q}$, $A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & \cdots & a_{1n}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1}B & \cdots & a_{mn}B \end{pmatrix} \in C^{(mp) \times (nq)}$ is the

Kronecker product of A and B .

(2) Basic properties

- (i) Kronecker product is not commutative

$$\text{Ex1: } x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, x \otimes y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, y \otimes x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}. x \otimes y \neq y \otimes x$$

- (ii) Kronecker product is associative

$$(A \otimes B) \otimes C = A \otimes (B \otimes C). \text{ So we simply write } A \otimes B \otimes C.$$

- (iii) Distribution law holds

$$(A + B) \otimes C = (A \otimes C) + (B \otimes C) \text{ and } C \otimes (A + B) = (C \otimes A) + (C \otimes B)$$

- (iv) Kronecker product with scalar multiplication

$$\alpha(A \otimes B) = (\alpha A) \otimes B = A \otimes (\alpha B)$$

(3) Kronecker product and matrix multiplication

$$(AB) \otimes (CD) = (A \otimes C)(B \otimes D)$$

Comment I: From the right to the left the condition on the validity of the left is needed.

Ex2: Let $A = B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $C = D = (0, 1)$. Then $(A \otimes C)(B \otimes D) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^2$.

But in $(AB) \otimes (CD)$ both AB and CD are not valid expressions.

Comment II: Multiple factors in matrix product

$$(A_1 A_2 \cdots A_k) \otimes (B_1 B_2 \cdots B_k) = (A_1 \otimes B_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2) \cdots (A_k \otimes B_k)$$

Comment III: Multiple factors in kronecker products

$$(A_1 A_2) \otimes (B_1 B_2) \otimes \cdots \otimes (C_1 C_2) = (A_1 \otimes B_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes C_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes C_2).$$

Comment IV: Multiple factors in both matrix multiplication and in Kronecker product

$$\begin{aligned} & (A_{11} \cdots A_{1k}) \otimes (A_{21} \cdots A_{2k}) \otimes \cdots \otimes (A_{n1} \cdots A_{nk}) \\ &= (A_{11} \otimes \cdots \otimes A_{n1})(A_{12} \otimes \cdots \otimes A_{n2}) \cdots (A_{1k} \otimes \cdots \otimes A_{nk}) \end{aligned}$$

3. Kronecker product of one row vector and one column vector

Let x, y and z be column vectors.

(1) While generally $A \otimes B \neq B \otimes A$, for column vectors x and y ,

$$x \otimes y' = y' \otimes x = xy' \text{ and } x \otimes y^* = y^* \otimes x = xy^*$$

Pf: Show the second equation system.

For $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix}$ and $y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}$, $x \otimes y^* = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y^* \\ \vdots \\ x_n y^* \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \bar{y}_1 & \cdots & x_1 \bar{y}_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_n \bar{y}_1 & \cdots & x_n \bar{y}_n \end{pmatrix} = xy^*$

and $y^* \otimes x = (\bar{y}_1 x \quad \cdots \quad \bar{y}_n x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \bar{y}_1 & \cdots & x_1 \bar{y}_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_n \bar{y}_1 & \cdots & x_n \bar{y}_n \end{pmatrix} = xy^*$

(2) $\text{vec}(x \otimes y') = \text{vec}(y' \otimes x) = \text{vec}(xy') = y \otimes x$
 $\text{vec}(x \otimes y^*) = \text{vec}(y^* \otimes x) = \text{vec}(xy^*) = \bar{y} \otimes x$

Pf: Show the first one

$$\text{vec}(xy') = \text{vec} \left[\begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 & \cdots & x_1 y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_m y_1 & \cdots & x_m y_n \end{pmatrix} \right] = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 x \\ \vdots \\ y_n x \end{pmatrix} = y \otimes x.$$

(3) $x' \otimes y \otimes z = y \otimes x' \otimes z = y \otimes z \otimes x' = (y \otimes z)x'$
 $x^* \otimes y \otimes z = y \otimes x^* \otimes z = y \otimes z \otimes x^* = (y \otimes z)x^*$
 $\text{vec}(x' \otimes y \otimes z) = \text{vec}(y \otimes z \otimes x') = \text{vec}[(y \otimes z)x'] = x \otimes y \otimes z$
 $\text{vec}(x^* \otimes y \otimes z) = \text{vec}(y \otimes z \otimes x^*) = \text{vec}[(y \otimes z)x^*] = \bar{x} \otimes y \otimes z$

Ex3: For $x \in C^n$ and $y \in C^n$ find $(x \otimes y')^2$ and $\text{vec}[(x \otimes y')^2]$.

$$(x \otimes y')^2 = (x \otimes y')(x \otimes y') = (y' \otimes x)(x \otimes y') = (y'x) \otimes (xy') = y'xy'$$

$$\text{vec}[(x \otimes y')^2] = \text{vec}(y'xy') = (y'x)(y \otimes x).$$

L23 Eigenvalues, ranks, trace and determinants of $A \otimes B$

1. More on $A \otimes B$

(1) $\overline{A \otimes B} = \overline{A} \otimes \overline{B}$. Recall that $\overline{AB} = \overline{A} \overline{B}$.

Proof With $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$, $\overline{A \otimes B}$ has (i, j) block $\overline{a_{ij}B}$. $\overline{A} \otimes \overline{B}$ has (i, j) block $\overline{a_{ij}} \overline{B}$.
But $\overline{a_{ij}B} = \overline{a_{ij}} \overline{B}$. So $\overline{A \otimes B} = \overline{A} \otimes \overline{B}$.

(2) $(A \otimes B)' = A' \otimes B'$. Recall that $(AB)' = B' A'$.

Proof $(A \otimes B)' = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & \cdots & a_{1n}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1}B & \cdots & a_{mn}B \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B' & \cdots & a_{m1}B' \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{1n}B' & \cdots & a_{mn}B' \end{pmatrix} = A' \otimes B'.$

Ex1: If both A and B are symmetric, so is $A \otimes B$ since $(A \otimes B)' = A' \otimes B' = A \otimes B$.

(3) $(A \otimes B)^* = A^* \otimes B^*$. Recall $(AB)^* = B^* A^*$.

Proof $(A \otimes B)^* = \left[\overline{(A \otimes B)} \right]' = (\overline{A} \otimes \overline{B})' = (\overline{A})' \otimes (\overline{B})' = A^* \otimes B^*$

Ex2: If both A and B are Hermitian so is $A \otimes B$ since $(A \otimes B)^* = A^* \otimes B^* = A \otimes B$.

(4) $(A \otimes B)^+ = A^+ \otimes B^+$. Under special conditions $(AB)^+ = B^+ A^+$.

Proof For $A \otimes B$ let $G = A^+ \otimes B^+$. One can show that the four Penrose conditions are satisfied. Here we show (iii) $(A \otimes B)G$ is Hermitian.

$(A \otimes B)G = (A \otimes B)(A^+ \otimes B^+) = (AA^+) \otimes (BB^+)$ is Hermitian since both AA^+ and BB^+ are Hermitian.

2. Schur-decomposition of $A \otimes B$

(1) If A and B are both unitary matrices, so is $A \otimes B$.

Proof If A and B are both unitary, then $A^* = A^{-1}$ and $B^* = B^{-1}$.

So $(A \otimes B)^*(A \otimes B) = (A^*A) \otimes (B^*B) = I_m \otimes I_n = I_{mn}$.

Thus $(A \otimes B)^* = (A \otimes B)^{-1}$. Hence $A \otimes B$ is unitary.

(2) If $A \in C^{m \times m}$ and $B \in C^{n \times n}$ are both upper-triangular, so is $A \otimes B$.

Proof If A and B are both upper-triangular, then

$$A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & \cdots & a_{1m}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & a_{nn}B \end{pmatrix} \text{ is also upper-triangular.}$$

Comments: If both A and B are lower-triangular, so is $A \otimes B$.

If both A and B are diagonal, so is $A \otimes B$.

(3) If $A = XDX^*$ and $B = YTY^*$ are Schur-decompositions for A and B , then $A \otimes B = (X \otimes Y)(D \otimes T)(X \otimes Y)^*$ is the Schur-decomposition for $A \otimes B$.

Pf: $A \otimes B = (XDX^*) \otimes (YTY^*) = (X \otimes Y)(D \otimes T)(X \otimes Y)^*$.

X and Y are unitary $\implies X \otimes Y$ is unitary.

D and T are upper-triangular $\implies D \otimes T$ is upper-triangular.

So $A \otimes B = (X \otimes Y)(D \otimes T)(X \otimes Y)^*$ is a Schur-decomposition.

Comment: $A \otimes B$ and $D \otimes T$ are similar.

3. Eigenvalues, ranks, traces and determinants of $A \otimes B$

(1) Eigenvalues of $A \otimes B$ and $B \otimes A$

If $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ are eigenvalues for $A \in C^{m \times m}$ and $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ are eigenvalues for $B \in C^{n \times n}$, then $\lambda_i \gamma_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, \dots, n$ are eigenvalues for $A \otimes B$.

Pf: $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ and $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ are eigenvalues for A and B with Schur-decompositions $A = XDX^*$ and $B = YTY^*$. Then $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ and $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ are diagonal elements of D and T . So $\lambda_i \gamma_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, \dots, n$ are diagonal elements of $D \otimes T$ in Shur-decomposition $A \otimes B = (X \otimes Y)(D \otimes T)(X \otimes Y)^*$. So $\lambda_i \gamma_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, \dots, n$ are eigenvalues of $A \otimes B$. Similarly they are eigenvalues of $B \otimes A$.

	γ_1	$\cdots$	γ_n
λ_1	$\lambda_1 \gamma_1$	$\cdots$	$\lambda_1 \gamma_n$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$
λ_m	$\lambda_m \gamma_1$	$\cdots$	$\lambda_m \gamma_n$

(2) $\text{rank}(A \otimes B) = \text{rank}(A) \text{rank}(B) = \text{rank}(B \otimes A)$

If $A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{p \times q}$, then $\text{rank}(A \otimes B) = \text{rank}(A) \text{rank}(B) = \text{rank}(B \otimes A)$.

Pf: $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(AA^+) = \#$ of non-zero in $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$, the eigenvalues of AA^+ .
 $\text{rank}(B) = \text{rank}(BB^+) = \#$ of non-zero in $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p$, the eigenvalues of BB^+ .
 $\text{rank}(A \otimes B) = \text{rank}[(A \otimes B)(A \otimes B)^+] = \text{rank}[(AA^+) \otimes (BB^+)]$
 $= \#$ of non-zero in $\lambda_i \gamma_j$, $i = 1, \dots, m$; $j = 1, \dots, p$, the eigenvalues of $(AA^+) \otimes (BB^+)$.
 But this number is the product of the previous two.

(3) $\text{tr}(A \otimes B) = \text{tr}(A) \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(B \otimes A)$

If $A \in C^{m \times m}$ and $B \in C^{n \times n}$, then $\text{tr}(A \otimes B) = \text{tr}(A) \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(B \otimes A)$.

Pf: Suppose A has eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ and B has eigenvalues $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(A \otimes B) &= [(\lambda_1 \gamma_1) + \cdots + (\lambda_1 \gamma_n)] + \cdots + [(\lambda_m \gamma_1) + \cdots + (\lambda_m \gamma_n)] \\ &= \lambda_1 \text{tr}(B) + \cdots + \lambda_m \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(A) \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(B \otimes A) \end{aligned}$$

(4) $|A \otimes B| = |A|^n |B|^m = |B \otimes A|$

If $A \in C^{m \times m}$ and $B \in C^{n \times n}$, then $|A \otimes B| = |A|^n |B|^m$

Pf: With the assumption on the eigenvalues in the proof of (3)

$$\begin{aligned} |A \otimes B| &= [(\lambda_1 \gamma_1) \cdots (\lambda_1 \gamma_n)] \cdots [(\lambda_m \gamma_1) \cdots (\lambda_m \gamma_n)] \\ &= \lambda_1^n |B| \cdots \lambda_m^n |B| = |A|^n |B|^m \end{aligned}$$

Comments: If $A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{n \times m}$ with $m \neq n$, then A and B do not have eigenvalues, traces and determinants. But $A \otimes B \in C^{mn \times mn}$ and $B \otimes A \in C^{mn \times mn}$ do.

(1) $A \otimes B$ and $B \otimes A$ may no longer share the eigenvalues.

(ii) $\text{rank}(A \otimes B) = \text{rank}(A) \text{rank}(B) = \text{rank}(B \otimes A)$ holds for $A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{p \times q}$.

(iii) When $A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{n \times m}$, one can find an example of $\text{tr}(A \otimes B) \neq \text{tr}(B \otimes A)$. This is a HW problem.

(iv) When $A \in C^{m \times n}$ and $B \in C^{n \times m}$, $|A \otimes B| = |B \otimes A|$ holds. This is also a HW problem.