

L12 Commutation matrices

1. Comments on $\text{vec}(AXB) = (B' \otimes A) \text{vec}(X)$

(1) Isomorphic spaces

As spaces with inner products, $R^{m \times n}$ and R^{mn} are isomorphic since $\text{vec}(\cdot)$ is a 1-1 mapping from $R^{m \times n}$ to R^{mn} that preserves the inner products. This mapping is called an isomorphism. As vectors in a linear space with inner products we can treat $A \in R^{m \times n}$ and $\text{vec}(A) \in R^{mn}$ “the same thing”.

(2) A linear transformation from $R^{p \times q}$ to $R^{m \times n}$

$Y = f(X) = AXB$ is a linear transformation from $X \in R^{p \times q}$ to $Y \in R^{m \times n}$ since $f(\alpha X_1 + \beta X_2) = \alpha f(X_1) + \beta f(X_2)$.

(3) A linear transformation from R^{pq} to R^{mn}

Thus $\text{vec}(Y) = \text{vec}(AXB)$ must be a linear transformation from $\text{vec}(X) \in R^{pq}$ to $\text{vec}(Y) \in R^{mn}$. But for column vector linear transformation, it has general form $u = Av$. So $\text{vec}(Y) = \text{vec}(AXB) = M \text{vec}(X)$. This M is $M = B' \otimes A$.

2. Commutation matrices

(1) Relations

In exploring the relations of $A \otimes B$ and $B \otimes A$; and $\text{vec}(A)$ and $\text{vec}(A')$ for $A \in R^{m \times n}$ and $B \in R^{p \times q}$, it will be shown that It will be shown that

$$\text{vec}(A') = K_{mn} \text{vec}(A) \text{ and } K_{pm} (A \otimes B) K_{nq} = B \otimes A.$$

Here K_{mn} is called a commutation matrix.

(2) Definition of commutation matrix K_{mn}

With $I_m = (e_{1m}, \dots, e_{mm})$ and $I_n = (e_{1n}, \dots, e_{nn})$ define

$$K_{mn} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn} \in R^{mn \times mn}.$$

Then $K_{mn} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{im} e'_{jn}) \otimes (e_{im} e'_{jn})'$.

Ex1: For column vectors x and y , $y' \otimes x = x \otimes y' = xy'$ and $\text{vec}(xy') = y \otimes x$.

Thus $K_{m,n}$ takes on many forms.

$$K_{m,n} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{im} e'_{jn}) \otimes (e_{im} e'_{jn})'$$

$$\begin{aligned} K_{m,n} &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{im} \otimes e_{jn}) \otimes (e_{jn} \otimes e_{im})' = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{im} \otimes e_{jn})(e_{jn} \otimes e_{im})' \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \text{vec}(e_{jn} e'_{im}) [\text{vec}(e_{im} e'_{jn})]'. \end{aligned}$$

One can stick to one form.

(3) Property I

Transpose of a commutation matrix is a commutation matrix $K'_{mn} = K_{nm}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \textbf{Proof } K'_{mn} &= \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn} \right]' \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn} \otimes e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m e_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e_{im} \\ &= K_{nm} \end{aligned}$$

Ex2: $K_{m1} = \sum_{i=1}^m e_{im} \otimes 1' \otimes e'_{im} \otimes 1 = \sum_{i=1}^m e_{im} e'_{im} = I_m$.

$$K_{1n} = K'_{n1} = I'_n = I_n.$$

(4) Property II

Commutation matrix is an orthogonal matrix $K_{mn}^{-1} = K'_{nm}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\textbf{Proof} \quad & K_{mn} K_{nm} \\
&= \left[\sum_i^m \sum_j^n (e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn}) \right] \left[\sum_p^n \sum_q^m (e_{pn} \otimes e'_{qm} \otimes e'_{pn} \otimes e_{qm}) \right] \\
&= \sum_i^m \sum_j^n \sum_p^n \sum_q^m (e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn}) (e'_{qm} \otimes e_{pn} \otimes e_{qm} \otimes e'_{pn}) \\
&= \sum_i^m \sum_j^n \sum_p^n \sum_q^m (e_{im} e'_{qm}) \otimes (e'_{jn} e_{pn}) \otimes (e'_{im} e_{qm}) \otimes (e_{jn} e'_{pn}) \\
&= \sum_i^m \sum_j^n (e_{im} e'_{im}) \otimes (e_{jn} e'_{jn}) = \sum_i^m (e_{im} e'_{im}) \otimes \sum_j^n (e_{jn} e'_{jn}) \\
&= I_m \otimes I_n = I_{mn}
\end{aligned}$$

So $K_{mn}^{-1} = K_{nm} = K'_{mn}$. K_{mn} is orthogonal.

3. Application of commutation matrices

(1) For $A \in R^{m \times n}$, $K_{mn} \text{vec}(A) = \text{vec}(A')$.

Pf: For $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{vec}(A') &= \text{vec} \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e'_{im} A e_{jn}) (e_{jn} e'_{im}) \right] \\
&= \text{vec} \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (e_{jn} e'_{im}) A (e_{jn} e'_{im}) \right] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \text{vec} [(e_{jn} e'_{im}) A (e_{jn} e'_{im})] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n [(e_{jn} e'_{im})' \otimes (e_{jn} e'_{im})] \text{vec}(A) \\
&= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \right) \text{vec}(A) \\
&= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n e_{im} \otimes e'_{jn} \otimes e'_{im} \otimes e_{jn} \right) \text{vec}(A) = K_{mn} \text{vec}(A).
\end{aligned}$$

(2) For $A \in R^{m \times n}$ and $B \in R^{p \times q}$, $K_{pm} (A \otimes B) K_{nq} = B \otimes A$.

Pf: With $A \in R^{m \times n}$ and $B \in R^{p \times q}$, for all $X \in R^{q \times n}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
K_{pm} (A \otimes B) \text{vec}(X) &= K_{pm} \text{vec}(B X A') = \text{vec}(A X' B') \\
&= (B \otimes A) \text{vec}(X') = (B \otimes A) K_{qn} \text{vec}(X).
\end{aligned}$$

So $K_{pm} (A \otimes B) = (B \otimes A) K_{qn}$. Thus $K_{pm} (A \otimes B) K_{nq} = B \otimes A$.

Ex3: With $A \in R^{m \times n}$ and $y \in R^p$, $K_{pm} (A \otimes y) K_{n1} = y \otimes A$, i.e.,

$$K_{pm} (A \otimes y) = y \otimes A.$$

L13 Matrices that store all derivatives

1. One function

(1) Definition

For one function, argument can be allowed to be a matrix: $y = f(X)$ where $X = (x_{ij})_{p \times q}$.

Define $\frac{\partial y}{\partial X} = \left(y'_{x_{ij}} \right)_{p \times q}$.

(2) Formula I: $\frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x} = (A^T + A)x$ and $\frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x^T} = x^T (A^T + A)$.

With symmetric A , $\frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x} = 2Ax$ and $\frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x^T} = x^T 2A$.

Ex1: $y = f(x) = x^T \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} x = 2x_1^2 - 2x_1x_2 + 4x_2^2$

By definition: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} y'_{x_1} \\ y'_{x_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4x_1 - 2x_2 \\ -2x_1 + 8x_2 \end{pmatrix}$.

By formula: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4x_1 - 2x_2 \\ -2x_1 + 8x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

(3) Formula II: $\frac{\partial \alpha^T X \beta}{\partial X} = \alpha \beta^T \in R^{p \times q}$.

Ex2: $y = (a_1, a_2) \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$

$x_{11}a_1b_1 + x_{12}a_1b_2 + x_{13}a_1b_3 + x_{21}a_2b_1 + x_{22}a_2b_2 + x_{23}a_2b_3$.

By definition: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial X} = \begin{pmatrix} y'_{x_{11}} & y'_{x_{12}} & y'_{x_{13}} \\ y'_{x_{21}} & y'_{x_{22}} & y'_{x_{23}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1b_1 & a_1b_2 & a_1b_3 \\ a_2b_1 & a_2b_2 & a_2b_3 \end{pmatrix}$.

By formula: $\frac{\partial y}{\partial X} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix} (b_1, b_2, b_3) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1b_1 & a_1b_2 & a_1b_3 \\ a_2b_1 & a_2b_2 & a_2b_3 \end{pmatrix}$

(4) Formula III: With $X = (x_{ij})_{p \times p}$ $\frac{\partial \text{tr}(X)}{\partial X} = I_p$.

Proof: $\frac{\partial \text{tr}(X)}{\partial X} = \frac{\partial x_{11} + \dots + x_{pp}}{\partial X} = I_p$.

(5) Formula IV: $\frac{\partial |X|}{\partial X} = |X|(X')^{-1}$.

Proof: Let $C = (c_{ij})_{p \times p}$ be the cofactor matrix for $X = (x_{ij})_{p \times p}$.

From $|X| = x_{i1}c_{i1} + \dots + x_{ip}c_{ip}$, $\frac{\partial |X|}{\partial X} = \left(|X|'_{x_{ij}} \right)_{p \times p} = (c_{ij})_{p \times p} = C$.

But $XC' = |X|I_p \implies C' = |X|X^{-1} \implies C = |X|(X')^{-1}$.

Hence $\frac{\partial |X|}{\partial X} = |X|(X')^{-1}$.

2. A vector of functions

(1) Definition

For a vector of m functions, the argument could be a vector of n components.

Define $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x^T} = \begin{pmatrix} (y_1)'_{x_1} & \dots & (y_1)'_{x_p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (y_m)'_{x_1} & \dots & (y_m)'_{x_p} \end{pmatrix}$ and $\frac{\partial y^T}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} (y_1)'_{x_1} & \dots & (y_m)'_{x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (y_1)'_{x_p} & \dots & (y_m)'_{x_p} \end{pmatrix}$

$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x^T} \right)^T = \frac{\partial y^T}{\partial x}$.

(2) Formula V: $\frac{\partial Ax}{\partial x^T} = A$ and $\frac{\partial (Ax)^T}{\partial x} = A^T$.

Proof: $y = Ax = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + \cdots + a_{1p}x_p \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{mp}x_p \end{pmatrix}.$

$$\frac{\partial Ax}{\partial x^T} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mp} \end{pmatrix} = A.$$

3. A matrix of functions

(1) Definition

For a matrix of functions with one argument, $Y = (y_{st}(x))_{m \times n}$ define $\frac{dY}{dx} = \left(\frac{dy_{st}}{dx} \right)_{m \times n}$

Ex3: For $Y = (2x \quad -4x^2)$, $\frac{dY}{dx} = (2, -8x)$.

(2) For a matrix of functions with a matrix of arguments

$\frac{\partial \text{vec}(Y)}{\partial [\text{vec}(X)]^T}$ and/or $\frac{\partial [\text{vec}(Y)]^T}{\partial \text{vec}(X)}$ store of partial derivatives.

Ex4: For $Y = AXB$, $\frac{\partial \text{vec}(AXB)}{\partial [\text{vec}(X)]^T} = \frac{\partial (B^T \otimes A) \text{vec}(X)}{\partial [\text{vec}(X)]^T} = B^T \otimes A.$

(3) For $Y \in R^{m \times n}$ and $X \in R^{p \times q}$,

mn matrices $\frac{\partial y_{st}}{\partial X} \in R^{p \times q}$, $s = 1, \dots, m; t = 1, \dots, n$ store all partial derivatives

Ex5: For $Y = AXB$, $\frac{\partial (AXB)_{st}}{\partial X} = A^T E_{m \times n}(s, t) B^T$ where $E_{m \times n}(s, t) \in R^{m \times n}$ with elements at (s, t) is 1 and 0 elsewhere.

$$\frac{\partial (AXB)_{st}}{\partial X} = \frac{\partial e_{sm}^T A X B e_{tn}}{\partial X} = A^T e_{sm} e_{tn}^T B^T = A^T E_{m \times n}(s, t) B^T.$$

(4) For $Y \in R^{m \times n}$ and $X \in R^{p \times q}$,

pq matrices $\frac{\partial Y}{\partial x_{ij}} \in R^{m \times n}$, $i = 1, \dots, p; j = 1, \dots, q$ store all partial derivatives

Ex6: $\frac{\partial AXB}{\partial x_{ij}} = A E_{p \times q}(i, j) B.$

$$A = (A_1, \dots, A_p), A_i = A e_{ip}; B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{(1)}^T \\ \vdots \\ B_{(q)}^T \end{pmatrix} B_{(j)}^T = e_{jq}^T B$$

$$\frac{\partial AXB}{\partial x_{ij}} = \frac{\partial \sum_{ij} x_{ij} A_i B_{(j)}^T}{\partial x_{ij}} = A_i B_{(j)}^T = A e_{ip} e_{jq}^T B = A E_{p \times q}(i, j) B.$$

Summary of formulas

$$\frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x} = (A^T + A)x; \quad \frac{\partial Ax}{\partial x^T} = A; \quad \frac{\partial \alpha^T X \beta}{\partial X} = \alpha \beta^T$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{tr}(X)}{\partial X} = I \quad \frac{\partial |X|}{\partial X} = |X| (X')^{-1}$$

$$\frac{\partial [\text{vec}(AXB)]}{\partial [\text{vec}(X)]^T} = B^T \otimes A; \quad \frac{\partial (AXB)_{st}}{\partial X} = A^T E_{m \times n}(s, t) B^T; \quad \frac{\partial AXB}{\partial x_{ij}} = A E_{p \times q}(i, j) B$$

Ex7: $x, \beta \in R^p$. Find $\frac{\partial x^T \beta}{\partial x}$.

$$\frac{\partial x^T \beta}{\partial x} = \left(\frac{\partial \beta^T x}{\partial x^T} \right)^T = (\beta^T)^T = \beta.$$

$$\frac{\partial x^T \beta}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \beta^T x}{\partial x} = \beta^T 1 = \beta$$