

Proof of Sherman-Morrison Formula

Sherman-Morrison states that for: A , an invertible $P \times P$ matrix; u, v , $P \times 1$ column vectors; λ , constant.

$$(A + \lambda uv^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1} - \frac{\lambda A^{-1} u v^T A^{-1}}{1 + \lambda v^T A^{-1} u})$$

We will show that:

$$(*) (A + \lambda uv^T) \left(A^{-1} - \frac{\lambda A^{-1} u v^T A^{-1}}{1 + \lambda v^T A^{-1} u} \right) = I$$

Now letting K (constant) replace the denominator we can expand the LHS:

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (A + \lambda uv^T) (A^{-1} - K \lambda A^{-1} u v^T A^{-1}) \\ = I - K \lambda u v^T A^{-1} + \lambda u v^T A^{-1} - K \lambda^2 u v^T A^{-1} u v^T A^{-1} \\ = I + \underbrace{(\lambda - K \lambda - K \lambda^2 u v^T A^{-1} u)}_{\text{Find } K \text{ s.t. this expression is } = 0} v^T A^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Find K s.t. this expression is $= 0$.

$$\lambda - \lambda K - \lambda^2 K u v^T A^{-1} u = 0$$

$$K(1 + \lambda u v^T A^{-1} u) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow K(1 + \lambda v^T A^{-1} u) = 1$$

This holds if $K = (1 + \lambda v^T A^{-1} u)^{-1}$ which is exactly as K is defined, thus proving (*).