



# Tensor Derivatives

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**CE282: Linear Algebra**

Computer Engineering Department

Sharif University of Technology

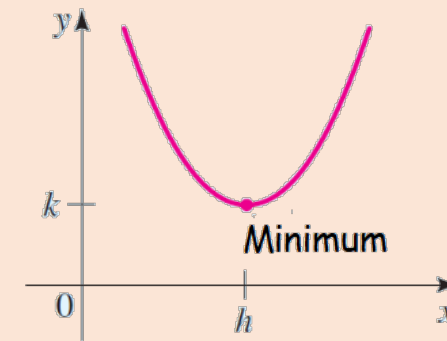
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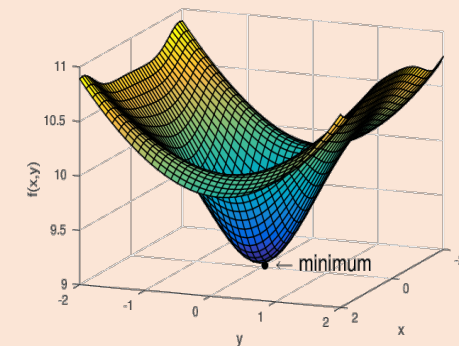


## Motivation

- ❑ Machine Learning training requires one to evaluate how one vector changes with respect to another
  - ❑ How output changes with respect to parameters
- ❑ How do we find minimum of a scalar function?



- ❑ How do we find minimum of two variables?





## Resources

- ❑ [https://en.Wikipedia.org/wiki/matrix\\_calculus](https://en.Wikipedia.org/wiki/matrix_calculus)
- ❑ <https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/~hwolkowi/matrixcookbook.pdf>
- ❑ [https://www.kamperh.com/notes/kamper\\_matrixcalculus13.pdf](https://www.kamperh.com/notes/kamper_matrixcalculus13.pdf)

## Definition

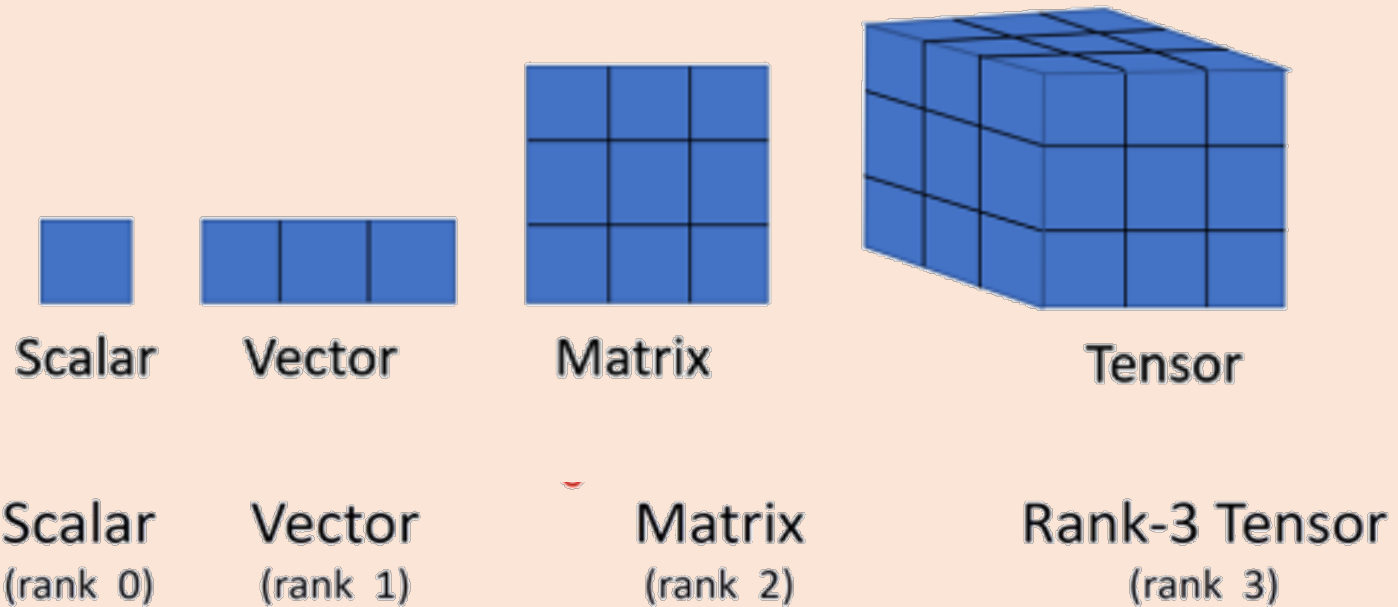
□ Multi-dimensional array of numbers

```
w = torch.empty(3)
```

```
x = torch.empty(2, 3)
```

```
y = torch.empty(2, 3, 4)
```

```
z = torch.empty(2, 3, 2, 4)
```





## Definition

□ Derivative of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with respect to vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ :

$$\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_N} \end{bmatrix}$$

□ Derivative of a vector function  $f: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$  with respect to vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ :

$$\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_N} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_M(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_M(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_M(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_N} \end{bmatrix}$$



## Definition

□ Derivative of a scalar function  $f: \mathbb{R}^{M \times N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with respect to matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ :

$$\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial \mathbf{X}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{1,1}} & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{2,1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{M,1}} \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{1,2}} & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{2,2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{M,2}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{1,N}} & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{2,N}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial X_{M,N}} \end{bmatrix}$$

□ Using the above definitions, we can generalize the chain rule, Given  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})$  (i.e.  $\mathbf{u}$  is a function of  $\mathbf{x}$ ) and  $\mathbf{g}$  is a vector function of  $\mathbf{u}$ , the vector-by-vector chain rule states:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{u}}$$









## Resource

❑ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgAr5kzza78&list=RDCMUCYa1WtI-vb\\_bx-anHdmpNfA&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgAr5kzza78&list=RDCMUCYa1WtI-vb_bx-anHdmpNfA&index=3)



## Example

Find the derivative of quadratic form

Yet another approach using the Frobenius product notation.

For a column vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  we can write:

$$x^T A x = \text{Tr}(x^T A x) = x : A x$$

Then we take the differential and derivative as

$$\begin{aligned} d(x : A x) &= dx : A x + x : A dx \\ &= A x : dx + A^T x : dx \\ &= (A x + A^T x) : dx \\ \frac{\partial (x^T A x)}{\partial x} &= (A x + A^T x) = (A + A^T) x \end{aligned}$$



Conclusion

$$\square \frac{\partial(u(x) + v(x))}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u(x)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v(x)}{\partial x}$$

$$\square \frac{\partial(Ax)}{\partial x} = A$$

$$\square \frac{\partial(x^T a)}{\partial x} = a$$

$$\square \frac{\partial(x^T A x)}{\partial x} = (A + A^T)x$$

$$\square \frac{\partial(x^T A x)}{\partial x} = 2Ax \text{ if } A \text{ is symmetric}$$

$$\square \frac{\partial |X|}{\partial X} = |X| (X^{-1})^T$$

$$\square \frac{\partial(\ln(|X|))}{\partial X} = (X^{-1})^T$$



$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 \\ a_3x_1 + a_4x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{dA\vec{x}}{dx} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2)}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial(a_3x_1 + a_4x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial(a_3x_1 + a_4x_2)}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix} = A$$



## Note

$$\frac{\partial(y^T A X)}{\partial A} = y X^T$$
$$\frac{\partial(X^T A X)}{\partial A} = X X^T$$

Geometry:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bohL918kXQk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahvmZX9WvVY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhTvwrNz1Qk>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMPhPwmcixM>



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIXLbZZzc\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIXLbZZzc_Q)



## Important

1. Derivative of a linear function:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{x}} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{x}} \vec{a}^T \vec{x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \vec{x}} \vec{x}^T \vec{a} = \vec{a}$$

(If you think back to calculus, this is just like  $\frac{d}{dx} ax = a$ ).

2. Derivative of a quadratic function:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = 2A \vec{x}$$

(Again, if you think back to calculus, this is just like  $\frac{d}{dx} ax^2 = 2ax$ ).

If you ever need it, the more general rule (for non-symmetric A) is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = (A + A^T) \vec{x}$$

which of course is the same thing as  $2A \vec{x}$  when A is symmetric.





## Resources

❏ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZRsegSgqy0>



## Resources

- ❑ <https://vedadian.com/matrices-and-differentiation-2/>
- ❑ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Vub-tiPhII>



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fc-kdSRE7Y>