



**NUS** | Computing

National University  
of Singapore

# IT5005 Artificial Intelligence

## Matrix Calculus

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# Matrix Calculus (Denominator Layout)

- Let  $y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_r \end{bmatrix}_{r \times 1}$      $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}$      $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{m1} & \cdots & x_{mn} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times n}$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial X} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_{11}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_{1n}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_{m1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_{mn}} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times n}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times r}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_{11}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_{1n}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_{m1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_{mn}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_{11}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_{1n}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_{m1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_r}{\partial x_{mn}} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times n \times r}$$

# Matrix Calculus (Denominator Layout)

- Vector-by-Vector Identities:

Condition	Expression	Numerator layout, i.e. by $y$ and $x^T$	Denominator layout, i.e. by $y^T$ and $x$
$\mathbf{a}$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{a}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{0}$	
	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{I}$	
$\mathbf{A}$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{Ax}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{A}$	$\mathbf{A}^T$
$\mathbf{A}$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{A}^T$	$\mathbf{A}$
$a$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$ , $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial a\mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$		$a \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$
$v = v(\mathbf{x})$ , $\mathbf{a}$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$	$\frac{\partial v\mathbf{a}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{a} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	$\frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{a}^T$
$v = v(\mathbf{x})$ , $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial v\mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$v \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{u} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	$v \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u}^T$
$\mathbf{A}$ is not a function of $\mathbf{x}$ , $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{Au}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\mathbf{A} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{A}^T$
$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$ , $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	
$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{u}}$
$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}))}{\partial \mathbf{x}} =$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{g})}{\partial \mathbf{g}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{g})}{\partial \mathbf{g}}$

# Chain Rule (Denominator Layout)

- $\mathbf{g}$  is a vector-valued function with output vector of shape  $m \times 1$
- $\mathbf{f}$  is a column vector of shape  $d \times 1$
- $\mathbf{x}$  is a column vector of shape  $n \times 1$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}}_{n \times m} \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}}_{n \times d} \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}}_{d \times m}$$

# Matrix Calculus: Matrix Identities

- Let  $\mathbf{z} = W\mathbf{x}$ , where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}, W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ . Find  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ ?

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_n}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_m} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_n}{\partial x_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z_i = \sum_{k=1}^m W_{ik} x_k \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial x_k} = W_{ik}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & \cdots & W_{n1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ W_{1m} & \cdots & W_{nm} \end{bmatrix} = W^T$$

# Matrix Calculus: Matrix Identities

- Let  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x}^T W$ , where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$ ,  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Find  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ ?

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_n}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_m} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_n}{\partial x_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z_i = \sum_{k=1}^m x_k W_{ki} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial x_j} = W_{ji}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & \cdots & W_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ W_{m1} & \cdots & W_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = W$$

# Matrix Calculus: Matrix Identities

- Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$  and  $\mathbf{z} = g(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} g(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ g(x_m) \end{bmatrix}$ , i.e., function  $g$  performs element-wise application for the vector  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Find  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ ?

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_m} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_m}{\partial x_m} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial g(x_1)}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g(x_m)}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g(x_1)}{\partial x_m} & \cdots & \frac{\partial g(x_1)}{\partial x_m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial g(x_1)}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{\partial g(x_1)}{\partial x_m} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{diag}[z']$$

$$z' = g'(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} g'(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ g'(x_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrix Calculus: Matrix Identities

- Let  $\mathbf{f} = W^T \mathbf{a}$ , where  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$ . Let  $g(\mathbf{f}(W))$  be a scalar function. Assuming denominator layout show that

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f}(W))}{\partial W} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W} \quad \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{a} \left( \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}} \right)^T$$

## Chain Rule in Denominator Layout:

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f}(W))}{\partial W} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W}}_{m \times n} \underbrace{\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}}_{m \times n \times n} \underbrace{\phantom{\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}}}_{n \times 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{a} &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1} \\ W &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \\ \mathbf{f} &\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \\ g(\mathbf{f}): \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}\end{aligned}$$

- Proof:

➤ Let's start with  $\frac{\partial g(f(W))}{\partial W_{ij}}$ , where  $W_{ij}$  is a scalar from  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column of matrix  $W$

$$\frac{\partial g(f)}{\partial W_{ij}} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial f(W)}{\partial W_{ij}}}_{\begin{matrix} 1 \times 1 \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}} \underbrace{\frac{\partial g(f)}{\partial f}}_{\begin{matrix} 1 \times n \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}} \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial f}}_{\begin{matrix} n \times 1 \\ \text{---} \end{matrix}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{a} &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1} \\ W &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \\ \boldsymbol{f} &\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \\ g(\boldsymbol{f}): \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

- Proof (contd):

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f}(W))}{\partial W_{ij}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial W_{ij}} \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f}(W))}{\partial \mathbf{f}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_k(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f} &= W^T \mathbf{a} \\ \Rightarrow f_k &= \sum_{l=1}^m \underset{k\text{-th column of matrix } W}{W_{lk}} a_l \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial f_k(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial W_{ij}} \left( \sum_{l=1}^m W_{lk} a_l \right)$$

$$= \begin{cases} a_i & \text{if } l = i \text{ and } k = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} = [0 \quad \dots \quad 0 \quad a_i \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0]$$

↓  
j - th element of the vector  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W_{ij}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1} \\ W &\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \\ \mathbf{f} &\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \\ g(\mathbf{f}): \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

$f_k$ : k-th element of vector  $\mathbf{f}$

- Proof (contd):

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f}(W))}{\partial W_{ij}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}$$

Let  $\boldsymbol{\delta} = \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}$

$\delta_j$ :  $j$ -th element of the vector  $\boldsymbol{\delta}$

$$\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$$

$$W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$$

$$g(\mathbf{f}): \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial W_{ij}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(W)}{\partial W_{ij}} \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}}$$

$f_k$ :  $k$ -th element of vector  $\mathbf{f}$

$$= [0 \quad \dots \quad 0 \quad a_i \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0] \boldsymbol{\delta}$$

$$= a_i \delta_j$$

- Proof (contd):

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial W_{ij}} = a_i \delta_j$$

$W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{W}} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \delta_1 & \cdots & a_1 \delta_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_m \delta_1 & \cdots & a_m \delta_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{f} = W^T \mathbf{a}$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix} [\delta_1 \quad \cdots \quad \delta_n]$$

$$= \mathbf{a} \boldsymbol{\delta}^T$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial W} = \mathbf{a} \left( \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{f})}{\partial \mathbf{f}} \right)^T}$$