

A SHERMAN–MORRISON–WOODBURY IDENTITY FOR RANK AUGMENTING MATRICES WITH APPLICATION TO CENTERING*

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Abstract. Matrices of the form $\mathbf{A} + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*$ are considered where \mathbf{A} is a singular $\ell \times \ell$ matrix and \mathbf{G} is a nonsingular $k \times k$ matrix, $k \leq \ell$. Let the columns of \mathbf{V}_1 be in the column space of \mathbf{A} and the columns of \mathbf{W}_1 be orthogonal to \mathbf{A} . Similarly, let the columns of \mathbf{V}_2 be in the column space of \mathbf{A}^* and the columns of \mathbf{W}_2 be orthogonal to \mathbf{A}^* . An explicit expression for the inverse is given, provided that $\mathbf{W}_i^* \mathbf{W}_i$ has rank k . An application to centering covariance matrices about the mean is given.

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The well-known Sherman–Morrison–Woodbury matrix identity [1]:

$$(1) \quad (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{X}_1 \mathbf{G} \mathbf{X}_2^T)^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_1 (\mathbf{G}^{-1} + \mathbf{X}_2^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_2^T \mathbf{A}^{-1}$$

is widely used.¹ Several excellent review articles have appeared recently [2]–[4]. However, (1) is only valid when \mathbf{A} is nonsingular. In this article, we consider matrix inverses of the form $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{X}_1 \mathbf{G} \mathbf{X}_2^T$ where the rank of $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{X}_1 \mathbf{G} \mathbf{X}_2^T$ is larger than the rank of \mathbf{A} .

We decompose the matrix \mathbf{X}_1 into $\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1$, where the columns of \mathbf{V}_1 are contained in the column space of \mathbf{A} and the columns of \mathbf{W}_1 are orthogonal to it. We denote the column space of \mathbf{A} by $M(\mathbf{A})$. Similarly, we decompose \mathbf{X}_2 into $\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2$, where the columns of \mathbf{V}_2 are contained in the column space of \mathbf{A}^* and the columns of \mathbf{W}_2 are orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A}^*)$. The Moore–Penrose generalized inverse will be denoted by the superscript $+$. We denote the $k \times k$ matrix $\mathbf{W}_i^* \mathbf{W}_i$ by \mathbf{B}_i and define $\mathbf{C}_i \equiv \mathbf{W}_i (\mathbf{W}_i^* \mathbf{W}_i)^{-1}$. We will require \mathbf{B}_i to be nonsingular. However, the rank of the perturbation k can be significantly less than the size of the original matrix. We note that $\mathbf{V}_i^* \mathbf{W}_i = 0$ and $\mathbf{W}_i^* \mathbf{C}_i = \mathbf{I}_k$. Finally, the projection operator onto the column space of \mathbf{W} satisfies $\mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{B}_i^{-1} \mathbf{W}_i^* = \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{C}_1^* = \mathbf{C}_2 \mathbf{W}_2^*$.

THEOREM 1. Let \mathbf{A} be an $\ell \times \ell$ matrix of rank ℓ_1 , $\ell_1 < \ell$, \mathbf{V}_i and \mathbf{W}_i be $\ell \times k$ matrices and \mathbf{G} be a $k \times k$ nonsingular matrix. Let the columns of $\mathbf{V}_1 \in M(\mathbf{A})$ and the columns of \mathbf{W}_1 be orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A})$. Similarly, let the columns of $\mathbf{V}_2 \in M(\mathbf{A}^*)$ and the columns of \mathbf{W}_2 be orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A}^*)$. Let $\mathbf{B}_i \equiv \mathbf{W}_i^* \mathbf{W}_i$ have rank k . $M(\mathbf{W}_1) = M(\mathbf{W}_2)$. The matrix,

$$\Omega \equiv \mathbf{A} + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*$$

has the following Moore–Penrose generalized inverse:

$$(2) \quad \Omega^+ = \mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{C}_2 \mathbf{V}_2^* \mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{V}_1 \mathbf{C}_1^* + \mathbf{C}_2 (\mathbf{G}^+ + \mathbf{V}_2^* \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{V}_1) \mathbf{C}_1^*.$$

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¹ We denote the transpose of a matrix \mathbf{A} by \mathbf{A}^T and the hermitian or conjugate transpose by \mathbf{A}^* .

Proof. We recall that the Moore–Penrose inverse is the unique generalized inverse which satisfies the following four conditions [5, p. 26]:

- (a) $\Omega\Omega^+\Omega = \Omega$,
- (b) $\Omega^+\Omega\Omega^+ = \Omega^+$,
- (c) $(\Omega\Omega^+)^* = \Omega\Omega^+$,
- (d) $(\Omega^+\Omega)^* = \Omega^+\Omega$.

The identity is verified by direct computation,

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega\Omega^+ &\equiv \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^* + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{C}_2(\mathbf{G}^+ + \mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1)\mathbf{C}_1^* \\ &\quad + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*\mathbf{A}^+ - (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+ \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^* \\ &\quad + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*\mathbf{C}_2(\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1)\mathbf{C}_1^* \\ &\quad + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2)^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^*.\end{aligned}$$

Since \mathbf{W}_2 is orthogonal to \mathbf{A}^* , we have $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{W}_2 = 0$, $\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+ = 0$, and $\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{W}_2 = 0$, which simplifies the previous expression to

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega\Omega^+ &\equiv \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^* + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+ \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+ - (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^* \\ &\quad + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^* + (\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1)\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^*.\end{aligned}$$

This expression may be simplified using $\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^* = \mathbf{C}_1^*$, $\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^* = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{V}_2^*$, and $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}_1 = \mathbf{V}_1$ to

$$\Omega\Omega^+ \equiv \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^+ + \mathbf{W}_1\mathbf{C}_1^*,$$

and clearly condition (c) is satisfied.

The corresponding identity for $\Omega^+\Omega \equiv \mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{W}_2^*$ requires the decomposition to satisfy $\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{W}_1 = 0$, $\mathbf{W}_1^*\mathbf{A} = 0$, $\mathbf{V}_1^*\mathbf{W}_1 = 0$, and $\mathbf{V}_2\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V}_2$. In addition, the matrix \mathbf{G} must satisfy $\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^*\mathbf{W}_1\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{C}_2$ and $\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^*\mathbf{W}_1\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{G}$. These requirements guarantee that conditions (a), (b), and (d) are also satisfied. \square

Remark. The conditions that \mathbf{G} and $\mathbf{W}_i^*\mathbf{W}_i$ have rank k may be replaced by the somewhat weaker but more complicated conditions that $\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^* = \mathbf{C}_1^*$, $\mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}_2^*\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{V}_2^* = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{V}_2^*$, $\mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^*\mathbf{W}_1\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{C}_2$ and $\mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{C}_1^*\mathbf{W}_1\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{V}_1\mathbf{G}$.

Note that the generalized inverse in (2) is singular and tends to infinity as \mathbf{W}_i approaches zero. Thus (2) does not reduce to the (1) as the perturbation tends to zero. When the perturbation of the column space of \mathbf{A} is zero, i.e., $\mathbf{V} \equiv 0$, Theorem 1 simplifies to

$$(3) \quad \Omega^+ = \mathbf{A}^+ + \mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{G}^+\mathbf{C}_1^*.$$

When \mathbf{A} is a symmetric matrix, the column spaces of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^* are identical. Thus, for the case of symmetric \mathbf{A} and Ω , Theorem 1 reduces to Theorem 2.

THEOREM 2. Let \mathbf{A} be a symmetric $\ell \times \ell$ matrix of rank ℓ_1 , $\ell_1 < \ell$, \mathbf{V} and \mathbf{W} be $\ell \times k$ matrices, and \mathbf{G} be a $k \times k$ nonsingular matrix. Let $\mathbf{V} \in M(\mathbf{A})$ and the columns of \mathbf{W} be orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A})$. Let $\mathbf{B} \equiv \mathbf{W}^*\mathbf{W}$ have rank k . The matrix

$$\Omega \equiv \mathbf{A} + (\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W})\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W})^*$$

has the following Moore-Penrose generalized inverse:

$$(4) \quad \Omega^+ = \mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{V}^*\mathbf{A}^+ - \mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V}\mathbf{C}^* + \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{G}^+ + \mathbf{V}^*\mathbf{A}^+\mathbf{V})\mathbf{C}^*.$$

For concreteness, we specialize the preceding identities to the case of rank one perturbations. In this special case, $k \equiv 1$, and \mathbf{V}_i and \mathbf{W}_i reduce to ℓ vectors v_i and w_i . In the nonsingular case, (1) reduces to Bartlett's identity [6]. It states for an arbitrary nonsingular $\ell \times \ell$ matrix \mathbf{A} and ℓ vectors v_i ,

$$(5) \quad (\mathbf{A} + v_1 v_2^*)^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \frac{(\mathbf{A}^{-1} v_1)(v_2^* \mathbf{A}^{-1})}{(1 + v_2^* \mathbf{A}^{-1} v_1)}.$$

In this case, Theorem 1 reduces to the analogous result for an arbitrary singular matrix \mathbf{A} with a rank one perturbation which contains a component perpendicular to the column space of \mathbf{A} . Noting that $\mathbf{G} \equiv 1$ and $\mathbf{C}_i \equiv w_i/|w_i|^2$, Theorem 1 simplifies to the following result.

THEOREM 3. Let \mathbf{A} be an $\ell \times \ell$ matrix of rank ℓ_1 , $\ell_1 < \ell$, and v_i, w_i , $i = 1, 2$ be ℓ vectors. Let $v_1 \in M(\mathbf{A})$ and w_1 be orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A})$, and $v_2 \in M(\mathbf{A}^*)$ and w_2 be orthogonal to $M(\mathbf{A}^*)$. Assume w_2 is parallel to w_1 and $w_i \neq 0$. Let

$$\Omega \equiv \mathbf{A} + (v_1 + w_1)(v_2 + w_2)^*.$$

The Moore-Penrose generalized inverse is

$$(6) \quad \Omega^+ = \mathbf{A}^+ - \frac{w_2 v_2^* \mathbf{A}^+}{|w_2|^2} - \frac{\mathbf{A}^+ v_1 w_1^*}{|w_1|^2} + (1 + v_2^* \mathbf{A}^+ v_1) \frac{w_2 w_1^*}{|w_1|^2 |w_2|^2}.$$

This generalized inverse is singular and tends to infinity as $1/|w_1||w_2|$, as w_i approaches zero. Thus (6) does not reduce to Bartlett's identity.

The projection operator onto the row space of Ω is

$$P_{X_T} = \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{A} + \frac{w_i w_i^*}{|w_i|^2}.$$

The symmetric version of Theorem 3 was originally developed and applied by the author in his statistical analysis of magnetic fusion data [7]. To estimate the regression parameters in ordinary least squares regression, the sum of the squares and products (SSP) matrix needs to be inverted. We apply Theorem 3 to determine the inverse of the SSP matrix in terms of the inverse of the covariance matrix of the covariates.

We decompose the independent variable vector x into a mean value vector \bar{x} and a fluctuating part \tilde{x} . Thus the i th individual observation has the form

$$x_i = \bar{x} + \tilde{x}_i.$$

Let \mathbf{X} denote the $n \times \ell$ data matrix whose rows consist of x_i^T and let $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}$ be the centered data matrix whose rows consist of \tilde{x}_i^T .

We assume that some of the independent variables x_k have not been varied. Thus $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}}$ is singular.

The inverse of the uncentered sum of squares and crossproducts matrix $\mathbf{X}^* \mathbf{X}$ can now be expressed in terms of the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of the centered covariance matrix $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}}$. We decompose a multiple of the mean value vector $\sqrt{n} \bar{x}$ into $v + w$, where $v \in M(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}})$ and $w \perp M(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}})$. The data matrix has the form

$$\mathbf{X}^* \mathbf{X} = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}} + n \bar{x} \bar{x}^T = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{X}} + (v + w)(v + w)^*.$$

Thus we have rewritten $\mathbf{X}^*\mathbf{X}$ in a form appropriate to the application of Theorem 3.

In conclusion, the application of these matrix identities requires the decomposition of \mathbf{X}_i into the orthogonal components \mathbf{V}_i and \mathbf{W}_i . Thus our theorems are most useful in situations where the decomposition is trivial.

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Note added in proof. A first order approximation to the matrix identity given in Theorem 1 in the limit of small perturbing matrices is given in equation (3.24) of [8].

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