

Introduction to Matrix Algebra

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Why should I learn matrix algebra?

For at least two reasons, one

[Matrix algebra (MA)] furnishes a compact language that unifies important aspects of univariate and multivariate statistics. In this way, MA allows one to understand multivariable techniques using their univariate analogues and counterpoints (Raykov and Marcoulides 2011, 21 *passim*).

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1p} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2p} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{np} \end{bmatrix},$$

which is referred to as a $n \times p$ matrix.

A vector is a special kind of matrix used often in statistics. a row vector is a matrix with a single row and two or more columns, while a column vector is a vector with one column and two or more rows:

row vector:

$$x = [1, 3, 5, 7],$$

column vector:

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that x is a 1×4 row vector and y is a 4×1 column matrix. The convention is that when the type of vector is not specified, it is a column vector. Think of variables in a data frame as iconic vectors, which are column vectors.

A scalar can be thought of as a one dimensional matrix.

Matrix Operations

R version 3.2.2 (2015-08-14)

Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit)

Running under: Ubuntu 14.04.3 LTS

locale:

[1] LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8	LC_NUMERIC=C
[3] LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8	LC_COLLATE=en_US.UTF-8
[5] LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8	LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8
[7] LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8	LC_NAME=C
[9] LC_ADDRESS=C	LC_TELEPHONE=C

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[11] LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8 LC_IDENTIFICATION=C

attached base packages:
[1] stats      graphics  grDevices  utils      datasets  methods    base

other attached packages:
[1] knitr_1.11      mosaic_0.13.0    mosaicData_0.13.0 car_2.1-1
[5] ggplot2_2.0.0    lattice_0.20-33  dplyr_0.4.3

loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
 [1] Rcpp_0.12.2      formatR_1.2.1    nloptr_1.0.4
 [4] plyr_1.8.3       tools_3.2.2      digest_0.6.8
 [7] lme4_1.1-10      evaluate_0.8      gtable_0.1.2
[10] nlme_3.1-122     mgcv_1.8-10      Matrix_1.2-3
[13] DBI_0.3.1        yaml_2.1.13      parallel_3.2.2
[16] SparseM_1.7      ggdendro_0.1-17  gridExtra_2.0.0
[19] stringr_1.0.0    MatrixModels_0.4-1 grid_3.2.2
[22] nnet_7.3-11      R6_2.1.1         rmarkdown_0.9.2
[25] minqa_1.2.4      reshape2_1.4.1   magrittr_1.5
[28] scales_0.3.0     htmltools_0.3    MASS_7.3-45
[31] splines_3.2.2    assertthat_0.1   pbkrtest_0.4-4
[34] colorspace_1.2-6 quantreg_5.19     stringi_1.0-1
[37] munsell_0.4.2

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References

Raykov, Tenko, and George A Marcoulides. 2011. *Introduction to Psychometric Theory*. Routledge.