

Example: Linear algebra and derivatives

Prof. Yao Xie

H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology

Multiple linear regression

- set-up

$$y_i = \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots \beta_p x_{ip} + \beta_0 + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

coefficient for p variables: $\beta = [\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p]^\top$

n samples: $(y_i, x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ip}), i = 1, \dots, n$

- Find coefficient using least-square method

$$\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - (\beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots \beta_p x_{ip} + \beta_0))^2$$

- matrix-vector form

$$y = A\beta + \epsilon, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{11} & \cdots & x_{p1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{1n} & \cdots & x_{pn} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (p+1)}$$

- solving optimization problem

$$\min_{\beta} \|y - A\beta\|_2^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\|y - A\beta\|_2^2 &= (y - A\beta)^T (y - A\beta) \\
&= y^T y + \beta^T A^T A \beta - \beta^T A^T y - y^T A \beta \\
&= y^T y + \beta^T A^T A \beta - 2y^T A \beta
\end{aligned}$$

Take the derivative with respect to β , using rules

$$\frac{\partial x^T A}{\partial x} = A, \quad \frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial x} = 2Ax.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{\partial \|y - A\beta\|_2^2}{\partial \beta} \\
&= 2A^T A \beta - 2A^T y
\end{aligned}$$

(Please note that $y^T y$ is a constant term with regard to β)