

Trace 證明題 90 台大電機

Prove that

- (a) If A is an $m \times n$ matrix such that $AA^T = 0$ or $A^T A = 0$, then $A = 0$.
- (b) If A is an $n \times n$ matrix such that $A = A^T$ and $A^2 = 0$, then $A = 0$.

Ans.

$$A \in F^{m \times n}, A^T \in F^{n \times m}, AA^T \in F^{m \times m}, A^T A \in F^{n \times n}$$

$$\text{若 } AA^T = 0,$$

$$\text{tr}(AA^T) = \sum_{i=1}^m (AA^T)_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n A_{ik} (A^T)_{ki} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} a_{ik}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ik}^2 = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq m, \forall 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ik} = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq m, \forall 1 \leq k \leq n$$

因此 $A = 0$

同理, 若 $A^T A = 0$

$$\text{tr}(A^T A) = \sum_{i=1}^n (A^T A)_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m (A^T)_{ik} (A)_{ki} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m a_{ki} \cdot a_{ki}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m a_{ki}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ki}^2 = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n, \forall 1 \leq k \leq m$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ki} = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n, \forall 1 \leq k \leq m$$

因此 $A=0$, $\therefore \text{tr}(AA^T) = \text{tr}(A^T A) = 0$, $A=0$

(b)

因為 $A=A^T$, 所以 $AA^T=A^2$,

$$A^2=0,$$

因由 (a) 證明 $AA^T=0$ or $A^T A=0$, 則 $A=0$ 可知

$A=A^T$ 且 $A^2=0$, 則 $A=0$ 。