Assignment 1

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Question 1: Show that the matrix B'AB is symmetric or skew symmetric according as A is symmetric or skew symmetric?

(a)when A is symmetric.

As A is symmetric matrix

$$A' = A \tag{1}$$

Taking (B'AB)'

Let

$$AB = P$$

Therefore

$$(B'AB)' = (B'P)'$$

$$(B'AB)' = P'(B')'$$

$$(B'AB)' = P'B$$

Putting P=AB

$$(B'AB)' = (AB)'B$$

$$(B'AB)' = B'A'(B)$$

$$(B'AB)' = B'AB \tag{2}$$

From Eq.2, it is clear that B'AB is a Symmetric matrix.

(b)when A is skew symmetric.

As A is Skew symmetric matrix

$$A' = -A \tag{3}$$

Taking (B'AB)'

Let

$$AB = Q$$

$$(B'AB)' = (B'Q)'$$

$$(B'AB)' = Q'(B')'$$

$$(B'AB)' = Q'B$$
Putting Q=AB
$$(B'AB)' = (AB)'B$$

$$(B'AB)' = B'A'(B)$$

$$(B'AB)' = B'(-A)B$$

$$(B'AB)' = -(B'AB)$$

$$(4)$$

From Eq.4, it is clear that B'AB is a Skew Symmetric matrix.