

# Compute the gradient (First derivative) of the following function.

a)  $f(z) = \log_e(1+z)$

where,  $z = x^T x$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

b)  $f(z) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} z)$

where,  $z = g(y) = y^T S^{-1} y$

$y = h(x) = x - \mu$

$x, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$

Answer to the Question (a):

(a)  $f(z) = \log_e(1+z)$

where,  $z = x^T x$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x^T = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3 \ \dots \ x_d]$$

$$n^T n = [n_1 \ n_2 \ n_3 \ \dots \ n_d] \begin{bmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \\ \vdots \\ n_d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= [n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 + \dots + n_d^2]$$

Using chain rule,

$$\frac{df}{dn} = \frac{df}{dz} \cdot \frac{dz}{dn}$$

$$= \frac{d}{dz} [\log_e(1+z)] \cdot \frac{d}{dn} (n^T n)$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{1+z} \right) \cdot \frac{d}{dn} [n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 + \dots + n_d^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+z} \cdot 2 \sum_{i=1}^d n_i$$

so, the gradient is ,  $\frac{2}{1+z} \sum_{i=1}^d n_i$

(Ans)

Answer to the question (b):

$$(b) f(z) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} z\right) \\ = e^{-\frac{1}{2} z}$$

$$\text{where, } z = g(y) = y^T S^{-1} y$$

$$y = h(x) = x - \mu$$

$$x, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^d, S \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

Using chain Rules,

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dz} \cdot \frac{dz}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$= \frac{d}{dz} \left( e^{-\frac{z}{2}} \right) \cdot \frac{d}{dy} (y^T S^{-1} y) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x - \mu)$$

Computing the derivatives of

$$\frac{d}{dz} \left( e^{-\frac{z}{2}} \right), \frac{d}{dy} (y^T S^{-1} y), \frac{d}{dx} (x - \mu)$$

$$(i) \frac{d}{dz} \left( e^{-\frac{z}{2}} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{z}{2}}$$

$$(ii) \frac{d}{dy} (y^T S^{-1} y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(y+h) - g(y)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(y^T + h) S^{-1} (y + h) - y^T S^{-1} y}{h}$$

~~$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{y^T S^{-1} y + y^T S^{-1} h + h S^{-1} y + S^{-1} h^2 - y^T S^{-1} y}{h}$$~~

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{y^T S^{-1} y + y^T S^{-1} h + h S^{-1} y + S^{-1} h^2 - y^T S^{-1} y}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{y^T S^{-1} h + h S^{-1} y + S^{-1} h^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (y^T S^{-1} + S^{-1} y + S^{-1} h)$$

$$= y^T S^{-1} + S^{-1} y$$

$$(iii) \frac{d}{dx}(x - \mu) = 1$$

So,

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dz} \cdot \frac{dz}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{z}{2}} (y^T S^{-1} + S^{-1} y) \cdot 1$$

$$\text{So, the gradient is, } -\frac{e^{-\frac{z}{2}}}{2} (y^T S^{-1} + S^{-1} y)$$

(Ans)