

Intuition for Matrix/Vector from Scalar

MATRIX (X)	SCALAR (x)
$X = Q\Lambda Q^T$ ¹	$x = \sqrt{x}\sqrt{x}$
$X \succ 0$ (positive definite)	$x > 0$
$X \succcurlyeq 0$ (positive semi-definite)	$x \geq 0$
Jacobian Matrix ²	first derivative
Hessian Matrix ³	second derivative

1. Every real symmetric matrix can be decomposed into an expression using only real-valued eigenvectors and eigenvalues. Analogy in the scalar world: Every real number can be decomposed into the square root of itself multiply the square root of itself. ↩

2. Given $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, Jacobian Matrix \mathcal{J} is defined as $f_{i,j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} f(x)_i$ ↩

3. Given $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, Hessian Matrix \mathcal{H} is defined as $f_{i,j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x)$ ↩