

Chain Rule Assignment

Date

1. Given $f(z) = \log_e(1+z)$ where $z = X^T X$, $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Ans: if $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix}$ then $X^T = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d]$

$$X^T X = [x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_d^2]$$

Applying chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df}{dx} &= \frac{df}{dz} \cdot \frac{dz}{dx} \\ &= \frac{d}{dz} (\log(1+z)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (X^T X) \\ &= \frac{1}{1+z} \cdot \frac{d}{dz} (z) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_d^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{1+z} (2x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + 2x_d) \\ &= \frac{1}{1+z} \cdot 2 (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_d) \\ &= \frac{2}{1+z} \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \end{aligned}$$

2. $f(z) = e^{-\frac{z}{2}}$; where $z = g(y)$, $g(y) = y^T S^{-1} y$, $y = h(x)$,
 $h(x) = x - \mu$

Ans: Using chain rule,

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

$$\text{here, } \frac{df}{dz} = \frac{d}{dz} \left(e^{-\frac{z}{2}} \right) = -\frac{e^{-\frac{z}{2}}}{2}$$

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = \frac{d}{dy} (y^T S^{-1} y)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(y+h) - g(y)}{h}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial (x - \mu)}{\partial x} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \\ &= -\frac{e^{-\frac{z}{2}}}{2} (y^T S^{-1} + S^{-1} y) \cdot 1 \\ &= -\frac{e^{-\frac{z}{2}}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{S} (y^T + y)\end{aligned}$$