证明: x T Ax = tr(Axx T).

回答:

对 $x^T A x$ 求导:

$$\frac{d(x^T A x)}{dx} = (A + A^T)x$$

同时对 $\operatorname{tr}(Axx^T)$ 求导:

$$dtr(Axx^{T}) = (Ax)'x^{T} + (Ax)(dx)^{T}$$
$$= tr(A^{T}x^{T} + Adx)$$
$$= (A + A^{T})x$$

因此:

$$\frac{d(x^T A x)}{dx} = dtr(A x x^T)$$
$$x^T A x = tr(A x x^T)$$

证毕。