

1 Jacobian Derivatives

Let \mathbf{y} be an m -dimensional vector consisting of y_1 through y_m :

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix}.$$

Its transposed vector is given by

$$\mathbf{y}^T = [y_1 \quad y_2 \quad \cdots \quad y_m].$$

Assume that elements y_1 through y_m depend on scalar x . Partial derivatives of \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{y}^T with respect to x are defined as follows:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let y be a scalar depending on an n -dimensional vector \mathbf{x} . Assume that \mathbf{x} consists of x_1 through x_n :

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

Its transposed vector is given by

$$\mathbf{x}^T = [x_1 \quad x_2 \quad \cdots \quad x_n].$$

Partial derivatives of y with respect to \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}^T are defined as follows:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Assume that m -dimensional vector \mathbf{y} depends on n -dimensional vector \mathbf{x} . Partial derivative of \mathbf{y} with respect to \mathbf{x}^T is defined as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Note that the above two equations are equivalent to each other, resulting in an $m \times n$ matrix. Partial derivative of \mathbf{y}^T with respect to \mathbf{x} is defined as

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

or equivalently

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^T}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

Note that the above two equations are equivalent to each other, resulting in an $n \times m$ matrix. The above equations directly yield the followings:

$$\left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top}\right)^\top = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top} = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)^\top.$$

Assume that vectors \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{z} depend on vector \mathbf{x} . Let A be a constant matrix that defines a quadratic form $\mathbf{y}^\top A \mathbf{z}$. Since $\mathbf{y}^\top A \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}^\top A^\top \mathbf{y}$, the gradient vector of the quadratic form with respect to n -dimensional vector \mathbf{x} is described as

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{y}^\top A \mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}} A \mathbf{z} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}} A^\top \mathbf{y}. \quad (5)$$

Partial derivatives $\partial \mathbf{y}^\top / \partial \mathbf{x}$ and $\partial \mathbf{z}^\top / \partial \mathbf{x}$ are given in (3) or (4). Note that the above equation provides an n -dimensional gradient vector. Additionally, the above equation yields

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{y}^\top A \mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = 2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}} A \mathbf{y}. \quad (6)$$

Recall that matrix A that defines quadratic form $\mathbf{y}^\top A \mathbf{y}$ should be symmetric.

2 Time Derivatives

Let y be a scalar depending on an n -dimensional vector \mathbf{x} consisting of x_1 through x_n . Assume that x_1 through x_n depend on time. Time derivative of y is then described as:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y} &= \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \frac{dx_1}{dt} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \frac{dx_2}{dt} + \cdots + \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \frac{dx_n}{dt} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{x}_n \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top} \dot{\mathbf{x}} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

or equivalently

$$\dot{y} = \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)^\top \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} y\right)^\top \dot{\mathbf{x}}. \quad (8)$$

The first-order partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

is referred to as gradient vector.

Noting that $\partial y / \partial x_k$ depends on \mathbf{x} , time derivative of $\partial y / \partial x_k$ is described as:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_k} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_k} \right)^T \dot{\mathbf{x}}.$$

Time derivative of vector $\partial y / \partial \mathbf{x}$ is then described as:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \right)^T \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \right)^T \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ \vdots \\ \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \right)^T \dot{\mathbf{x}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \right)^T \\ \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \right)^T \\ \vdots \\ \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \right)^T \end{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \partial \mathbf{x}} \dot{\mathbf{x}}. \end{aligned}$$

The second-order partial derivative

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top \partial \mathbf{x}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \tag{10}
\end{aligned}$$

is referred to as Hessian matrix. Hessian matrix is symmetric.

Differentiating (8) with respect to time t yields the second-order time derivative:

$$\begin{aligned}
\ddot{y} &= \left(\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^\top \dot{\mathbf{x}} + \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^\top \ddot{\mathbf{x}} \\
&= \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\top \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top \partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \dot{\mathbf{x}} + \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^\top \ddot{\mathbf{x}}.
\end{aligned}$$

In summary,

$$\begin{aligned}
y &= y(\mathbf{x}), \\
\dot{y} &= \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^\top \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \\
\ddot{y} &= \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^\top \ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \dot{\mathbf{x}}^\top \left(\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^\top \partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \dot{\mathbf{x}}.
\end{aligned}$$

The first-order time derivative \dot{y} includes the first-order time derivative $\dot{\mathbf{x}}$. The second-order time derivative \ddot{y} includes the second-order time derivative $\ddot{\mathbf{x}}$ as well as a quadratic form with respect to $\dot{\mathbf{x}}$. Gradient vector given in (9) and Hessian matrix given in (10) characterize the above time derivatives.