
Preface

Matrix algebra plays a very important role in statistics and in many other disciplines. In many areas of statistics, it has become routine to use matrix algebra in the presentation and the derivation or verification of results. One such area is linear statistical models; another is multivariate analysis. In these areas, a knowledge of matrix algebra is needed in applying important concepts, as well as in studying the underlying theory, and is even needed to use various software packages (if they are to be used with confidence and competence).

On many occasions, I have taught graduate-level courses in linear statistical models. Typically, the prerequisites for such courses include an introductory (undergraduate) course in matrix (or linear) algebra. Also typically, the preparation provided by this prerequisite course is not fully adequate. There are several reasons for this. The level of abstraction or generality in the matrix (or linear) algebra course may have been so high that it did not lead to a “working knowledge” of the subject, or, at the other extreme, the course may have emphasized computations at the expense of fundamental concepts. Further, the content of introductory courses on matrix (or linear) algebra varies widely from institution to institution and from instructor to instructor. Topics such as quadratic forms, partitioned matrices, and generalized inverses that play an important role in the study of linear statistical models may be covered inadequately if at all. An additional difficulty is that several years may have elapsed between the completion of the prerequisite course on matrix (or linear) algebra and the beginning of the course on linear statistical models.

This book* is about matrix algebra. A distinguishing feature is that the content, the ordering of topics, and the level of generality are ones that I consider appropriate for someone with an interest in linear statistical models and perhaps also

* The content of the paperback version is essentially the same as that of the earlier, hard-cover version. The paperback version differs from the earlier version in that a number of (mostly minor) corrections and alterations have been incorporated. In addition, the typography has been improved—as a side effect, the content and the numbering of the individual pages differ somewhat from those in the earlier version.

for someone with an interest in another area of statistics or in a related discipline. I have tried to keep the presentation at a level that is suitable for anyone who has had an introductory course in matrix (or linear) algebra. In fact, the book is essentially self-contained, and it is hoped that much, if not all, of the material may be comprehensible to a determined reader with relatively little previous exposure to matrix algebra. To make the material readable for as broad an audience as possible, I have avoided the use of abbreviations and acronyms and have sometimes adopted terminology and notation that may seem more meaningful and familiar to the non-mathematician than those favored by mathematicians. Proofs are provided for essentially all of the results in the book. The book includes a number of results and proofs that are not readily available from standard sources and many others that can be found only in relatively high-level books or in journal articles.

The book can be used as a companion to the textbook in a course on linear statistical models or on a related topic—it can be used to supplement whatever results on matrices may be included in the textbook and as a source of proofs. And, it can be used as a primary or supplementary text in a second course on matrices, including a course designed to enhance the preparation of the students for a course or courses on linear statistical models and/or related topics. Above all, it can serve as a convenient reference book for statisticians and for various other professionals.

While the motivation for the writing of the book came from the statistical applications of matrix algebra, the book itself does not include any appreciable discussion of statistical applications. It is assumed that the book is being read because the reader is aware of the applications (or at least of the potential for applications) or because the material is of intrinsic interest—this assumption is consistent with the uses discussed in the previous paragraph. (In any case, I have found that the discussions of applications that are sometimes interjected into treatises on matrix algebra tend to be meaningful only to those who are already knowledgeable about the applications and can be more of a distraction than a help.)

The book has a number of features that combine to set it apart from the more traditional books on matrix algebra—it also differs in significant respects from those matrix-algebra books that share its (statistical) orientation, such as the books of Searle (1982), Graybill (1983), and Basilevsky (1983). The coverage is restricted to real matrices (i.e., matrices whose elements are real numbers)—complex matrices (i.e., matrices whose elements are complex numbers) are typically not encountered in statistical applications, and their exclusion leads to simplifications in terminology, notation, and results. The coverage includes linear spaces, but only linear spaces whose members are (real) matrices—the inclusion of linear spaces facilitates a deeper understanding of various matrix concepts (e.g., rank) that are very relevant in applications to linear statistical models, while the restriction to linear spaces whose members are matrices makes the presentation more appropriate for the intended audience.

The book features an extensive discussion of generalized inverses and makes heavy use of generalized inverses in the discussion of such standard topics as the solution of linear systems and the rank of a matrix. The discussion of eigenvalues

and eigenvectors is deferred until the next-to-last chapter of the book—I have found it unnecessary to use results on eigenvalues and eigenvectors in teaching a first course on linear statistical models and, in any case, find it aesthetically displeasing to use results on eigenvalues and eigenvectors to prove more elementary matrix results. And the discussion of linear transformations is deferred until the very last chapter—in more advanced presentations, matrices are regarded as subservient to linear transformations.

The book provides rather extensive coverage of some nonstandard topics that have important applications in statistics and in many other disciplines. These include matrix differentiation (Chapter 15), the *vec* and *vech* operators (Chapter 16), the minimization of a second-degree polynomial (in n variables) subject to linear constraints (Chapter 19), and the ranks, determinants, and ordinary and generalized inverses of partitioned matrices and of sums of matrices (Chapter 18 and parts of Chapters 8, 9, 13 16, 17, and 19). An attempt has been made to write the book in such a way that the presentation is coherent and non-redundant but, at the same time, is conducive to using the various parts of the book selectively.

With the obvious exception of certain of their parts, Chapters 12 through 22 (which comprise approximately three-quarters of the book's pages) can be read in arbitrary order. The ordering of Chapters 1 through 11 (both relative to each other and relative to Chapters 12 through 22) is much more critical. Nevertheless, even Chapters 1 through 11 include sections or subsections that are prerequisites for only a small part of the subsequent material. More often than not, the less essential sections or subsections are deferred until the end of the chapter or section.

The book does not address the computational aspects of matrix algebra in any systematic way, however it does include descriptions and discussion of certain computational strategies and covers a number of results that can be useful in dealing with computational issues. Matrix norms are discussed, but only to a limited extent. In particular, the coverage of matrix norms is restricted to those norms that are defined in terms of inner products.

In writing the book, I was influenced to a considerable extent by Halmos's (1958) book on finite-dimensional vector spaces, by Marsaglia and Styan's (1974) paper on ranks, by Henderson and Searle's (1979, 1981b) papers on the *vec* and *vech* operators, by Magnus and Neudecker's (1988) book on matrix differential calculus, and by Rao and Mitra's (1971) book on generalized inverses. And I benefited from conversations with Oscar Kempthorne and from reading some notes (on linear systems, determinants, matrices, and quadratic forms) that he had prepared for a course (on linear statistical models) at Iowa State University. I also benefited from reading the first two chapters (pertaining to linear algebra) of notes prepared by Justus F. Seely for a course (on linear statistical models) at Oregon State University.

The book contains many numbered exercises. The exercises are located at (or near) the ends of the chapters and are grouped by section—some exercises may require the use of results covered in previous sections, chapters, or exercises. Many of the exercises consist of verifying results supplementary to those included in the body of the chapter. By breaking some of the more difficult exercises into parts

and/or by providing hints, I have attempted to make all of the exercises appropriate for the intended audience. I have prepared solutions to all of the exercises, and it is my intention to make them available on at least a limited basis.*

The origin and historical development of many of the results covered in the book are difficult (if not impossible) to discern, and I have not made any systematic attempt to do so. However, each of Chapters 15 through 21 ends with a short section entitled Bibliographic and Supplementary Notes. Sources that I have drawn on more-or-less directly for an extensive amount of material are identified in that section. Sources that trace the historical development of various ideas, results, and terminology are also identified. And, for certain of the sections in a chapter, some indication may be given of whether that section is a prerequisite for various other sections (or vice versa).

The book is divided into (22) numbered chapters, the chapters into numbered sections, and (in some cases) the sections into lettered subsections. Sections are identified by two numbers (chapter and section within chapter) separated by a decimal point—thus, the third section of Chapter 9 is referred to as Section 9.3. Within a section, a subsection is referred to by letter alone. A subsection in a different chapter or in a different section of the same chapter is referred to by referring to the section and by appending a letter to the section number—for example, in Section 9.3, Subsection b of Section 9.1 is referred to as Section 9.1b. An exercise in a different chapter is referred to by the number obtained by inserting the chapter number (and a decimal point) in front of the exercise number.

Certain of the displayed “equations” are numbered. An equation number comprises two parts (corresponding to section within chapter and equation within section) separated by a decimal point (and is enclosed in parentheses). An equation in a different chapter is referred to by the “number” obtained by starting with the chapter number and appending a decimal point and the equation number—for example, in Chapter 6, result (2.5) of Chapter 5 is referred to as result (5.2.5). For purposes of numbering (and referring to) equations in the exercises, the exercises in each chapter are to be regarded as forming Section E of that chapter.

Preliminary work on the book dates back to the 1982–1983 academic year, which I spent as a visiting professor in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Texas at Austin (on a faculty improvement leave from my then position as a professor of statistics at Iowa State University). The actual writing began after my return to Iowa State and continued on a sporadic basis (as time permitted) until my departure in December 1995. The work was completed during the first part of my tenure in the Mathematical Sciences Department of the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center.

I am indebted to Betty Flehinger, Emmanuel Yashchin, Claude Greengard, and Bill Pulleyblank (all of whom are or were managers at the Research Center) for the time and support they provided for this activity. The most valuable of that support (by far) came in the form of the secretarial help of Peggy Cargiulo, who entered

* The solutions were published by Springer-Verlag in 2001 in a volume entitled *Matrix Algebra: Exercises and Solutions* (ISBN 0-387-95318-3).

the last six chapters of the book in L^AT_EX and was of immense help in getting the manuscript into final form. I am also indebted to Darlene Wicks (of Iowa State University), who entered Chapters 1 through 16 in L^AT_EX.

I wish to thank John Kimmel, who has been my editor at Springer-Verlag. He has been everything an author could hope for. I also wish to thank Paul Nikolai (formerly of the Air Force Flight Dynamics Laboratory of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio) and Dale Zimmerman (of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of the University of Iowa), whose careful reading and marking of the manuscript led to a number of corrections and improvements. These changes were in addition to ones stimulated by the earlier comments of two anonymous reviewers (and by the comments of the editor).