

Exercise 3.25 Solution

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- (a) Since x_1 , x_2 and x_3 are independent variables, it follows that $\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_1} = 1$ and $\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_2} = 0$ etc. Therefore, by extending this reasoning we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x_j} &= 1 && \text{when } i \neq j \\ &= 0 && \text{when } i = j\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x_j} = \delta_{ij}\tag{2}$$

- (b) From Eq. (A.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial x_i} &= \frac{\partial(\mathbf{e}_j x_j)}{\partial x_i} \\ &= \mathbf{e}_j \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial x_i} \\ &= \mathbf{e}_j \delta_{ij} = \mathbf{e}_i\end{aligned}\tag{3}$$

- (c) From the definition of r , we have

$$\begin{aligned}r &= [(\mathbf{e}_i x_i) \cdot (\mathbf{e}_j x_j)]^{1/2} \\ &= [\mathbf{e}_i \cdot \mathbf{e}_j x_i x_j]^{1/2} \\ &= [\delta_{ij} x_i x_j]^{1/2} = [x_i x_i]^{1/2}\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} &= \frac{\partial(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x})^{1/2}}{\partial x_i} \\
&= \frac{\partial(x_j x_j)^{1/2}}{\partial x_i} \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(x_j x_j)^{1/2} 2x_i \\
&= \frac{x_i}{(x_j x_j)^{1/2}} = \frac{x_i}{r}
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

(d) From Eq. (A.17), we have

$$\bar{x}_j = a_{kj} x_k \tag{6}$$

Differentiating both sides, we get

$$\frac{\partial \bar{x}_j}{\partial x_i} = a_{kj} \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial x_i} = a_{kj} \delta_{ik} = a_{ij} \tag{7}$$

(e) Eq. (A.16) gives

$$x_j = a_{jk} \bar{x}_k \tag{8}$$

Differentiation gives

$$\frac{\partial x_j}{\partial \bar{x}_i} = a_{jk} \frac{\partial \bar{x}_k}{\partial \bar{x}_i} = a_{jk} \delta_{ik} = a_{ji} \tag{9}$$

(f) From Eq. (4) and (5), we have

$$\frac{\partial \bar{x}_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial \bar{x}_k} = a_{ji} a_{jk} = \delta_{ik} \tag{10}$$

The last line follows from Eq. (A.13)