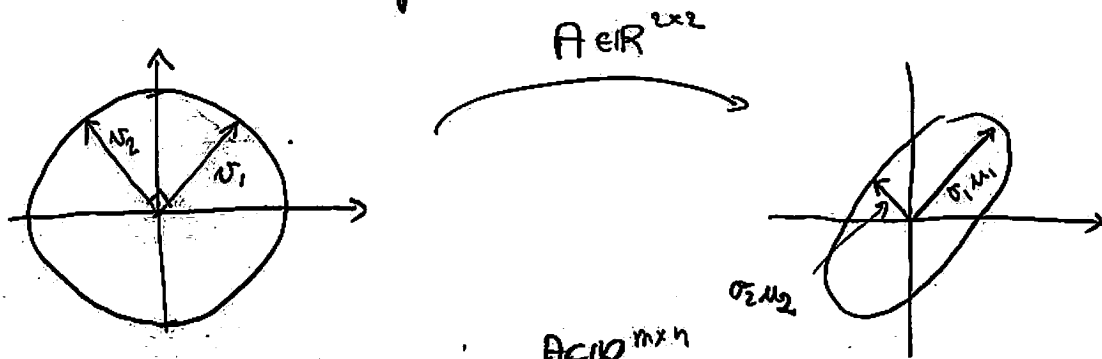


# The Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

Idea: A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  transforms unit sphere  $\subset \mathbb{R}^n$  into a hyperellipsoid  $\subset \mathbb{R}^m$ .



mutually orthogonal vectors  
 $v_i$  in unit sphere

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

$\sigma_1 u_1, \sigma_2 u_2, \dots, \sigma_n u_n$

where:

- $\sigma_i$  = length of principal axis
- $u_i$  = direction of principal axis.  
= mutually orthogonal and of unit length.

Usually the  $\sigma_i$  are ordered in decreasing order:  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n$ .

(Assumption  $m \geq n$ :  $A = \begin{matrix} & n \\ m & \square \end{matrix}$ )

We get then:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} A v_i &= \sigma_i u_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ v_i^T v_j &= \delta_{ij} \\ u_i^T u_j &= \delta_{ij} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

In matrix form (always assuming  $m \geq n$ )

$$A [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n] = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \dots \ u_n] \text{diag}(\sigma_i)$$

$$A V^T = \tilde{U} \tilde{\Sigma}$$

where  $\tilde{U} = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \dots \ u_n]$

$$\tilde{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \dots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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$u_i =$  left singular vectors  
 $v_i =$  right singular vectors  
 $\sigma_i =$  singular values

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or more simply:

$$\boxed{A = \tilde{U} \tilde{\Sigma} V^T} \text{ , s.t. } \tilde{U}^T \tilde{U} = I, V^T V = I.$$

This is the "economy" sized SVD:

$$\begin{matrix} m & n \\ \boxed{\phantom{A}} & \\ A & \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} m & n & n & n \\ \boxed{\phantom{\tilde{U}}} & \boxed{\phantom{\tilde{\Sigma}}} & \boxed{\phantom{V}} & \\ \tilde{U} & \tilde{\Sigma} & V^T & \end{matrix}$$

The full SVD is:

$$\begin{matrix} m & n \\ \boxed{\phantom{A}} & \\ A & \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} & m & & \\ m & \boxed{\phantom{U}} & & \\ \hat{U} & & & \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} m & n & n \\ \boxed{\phantom{\Sigma}} & \boxed{\phantom{\Sigma}} & \boxed{\phantom{\Sigma}} \\ \Sigma & & \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} n & n \\ \boxed{\phantom{V}} & \\ V & \end{matrix}$$

Here  $U = [\tilde{U}, \hat{U}]$  s.t.  $U^T U = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{U}^T \tilde{U} & \tilde{U}^T \hat{U} \\ \hat{U}^T \tilde{U} & \hat{U}^T \hat{U} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = I$

Also:  $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  s.t.  $U\Sigma = [\tilde{U}, \hat{U}] \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{U}\tilde{\Sigma}$ . ©

### Relation to eigendecomposition

Let  $A = \tilde{U}\tilde{\Sigma}V^T$  (economy sized, assuming  $m \geq n$ )

$$\boxed{A^T A = V \tilde{\Sigma}^T \underbrace{\tilde{U}^T \tilde{U}}_I \tilde{\Sigma} V^T = V \tilde{\Sigma}^2 V^T}$$

$\Rightarrow$  To compute SVD.

- Find eigendecomposition  $V\Lambda V^T$  of  $A^T A$ , with eigenvalues sorted by decreasing order. ( $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ )
- Singular values are:  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$ .
- Right singular vectors are:  $V$  (matrix of eigenvectors)
- Left singular vectors are:

$$\tilde{U} = AV\tilde{\Sigma}^{-1}$$

(assuming  $\sigma_i > 0$ )

$$\left( u_i = \frac{Av_i}{\sigma_i} \text{ vector by vector} \right).$$

Note: There are more efficient ways of computing SVD using the Golub-Kahan bidiagonalization. (matrix is reduced, through Householder reflectors, into a form where SVD is easier to compute)

When  $A = A^T$  the SVD is related to eigendecomposition: (D)

$$\begin{aligned} A &= U \Lambda U^T = \text{eigendecomposition} \\ &= U |\Lambda| \text{sign}(\Lambda) U^T = \text{SVD} \end{aligned}$$

Indeed:  $|\Lambda| = \Sigma$

$$U = U$$

$$V = U \text{sign}(\Lambda) \quad (\text{check } V^T V = I)$$

So for symmetric matrices:

- the singular values are the absolute values of eigenvalues
- the singular vectors are up to a sign the eigenvectors of  $A$ .

Here is another useful form of SVD: (assume  $m \geq n$ )

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$$

(obtained  $\Sigma = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i e_i e_i^T$ )

$$e_i e_i^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

If some of the  $\sigma_i$  are zero, say for example:

$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > \sigma_{r+1} = \sigma_{r+2} = \dots = \sigma_m = 0$$

Then sum collapses to  $r$  terms:

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i u_i v_i^T = U_r \Sigma_r V_r^T$$

Where:

$$U_r = \begin{matrix} r \\ m \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \phantom{0} \end{matrix}, \quad \Sigma_r = \begin{matrix} r \\ r \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \phantom{0} \end{matrix} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r) \quad V_r = \begin{matrix} n \\ r \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \phantom{0} \end{matrix}$$

$=$  first  $r$  columns of  $U$   $=$  first  $r$  columns of  $V$ .

Going back to full SVD we partition:

$$U = [U_r, \bar{U}]$$

$$V = [V_r, \bar{V}]$$

$$A = U \Sigma V^T = [U_r \bar{U}] \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \Sigma_r & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} V_r^T \\ \bar{V}^T \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= U_r \Sigma_r V_r^T.$$

It is easy to show that:

$$\text{Range}(A) = \text{Range}(U_r)$$

$$\text{Null}(A) = \text{Range}(\bar{V})$$

$$\text{Range}(A^T) = \text{Range}(V_r)$$

$$\text{Null}(A^T) = \text{Range}(\bar{U})$$

So that:

$$\text{Rank}(A) = \dim(\text{Range } U_r) = r.$$

$$= \# \text{ of non zero singular values}$$

and also we can show Fundamental theorem of linear algebra<sup>(F)</sup> immediately:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^m &= \text{Range}(U_r) \oplus \text{Range}(\bar{U}) \\ &= \text{Range}(A) \oplus \text{Null}(A^T) \\ \mathbb{R}^n &= \text{Range}(V_r) \oplus \text{Range}(\bar{V}) \\ &= \text{Range}(A^T) \oplus \text{Null}(A) \end{aligned}$$

Another fundamental property of SVD is:

$$\sigma_i = \|A\|_2 \quad (\text{induced matrix norm by } \|\cdot\|_2 = \text{Euclidean norm})$$

The SVD provides a systematic way of approximating matrices with rank  $k$  matrices.

$$\text{Let } A_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$$

$$\text{Rank}(A_k) = k \quad (\text{if } \sigma_k > 0)$$

Theorem:  $\|A - A_k\|_2 = \min_{\text{rk}(B)=k} \|A - B\|_2 = \sigma_{k+1}$

i.e.  $A_k$  is best rank  $k$  approx of  $B$  in induced 2-norm w/ error  $\sigma_{k+1}$ .

Similar result holds for Frobenius norm:

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (a_{ij})^2.$$

Theorem

$$\|A - A_k\|_F = \min_{\text{rank}(B)=k} \|A - B\|_F = \sqrt{\sigma_{k+1}^2 + \dots + \sigma_n^2}$$