

# Singular Value Decomposition

When  $A$  is real, symmetric, we have this nice decomposition

$$A = Q \Lambda Q^T, \quad \Lambda \text{ real}, \quad Q Q^T = Q^T Q = I$$

But for other matrices,  $\lambda$  complex, eigenvectors not orthogonal.

For non-square  $A$ , no eigenvalues/eigenvectors.

Want a more general factorization

Instead of eigenvectors, **Singular vectors**

Need two sets. For  $A \ m \times n$

$$\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{and} \quad \text{both } u\text{'s and } v\text{'s are ortho normal sets}$$
$$\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_m \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

If  $A$  is rank  $r$ , we have

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A v_1 = \sigma_1 u_1 \\ A v_2 = \sigma_2 u_2 \\ \vdots \\ A v_r = \sigma_r u_r \end{array} \right\} \text{first } r$$
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A v_{r+1} = 0 \\ \vdots \\ A v_n = 0 \end{array} \right\} n-r$$

We order these so that

$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0$$

$\vec{v}_{r+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are the nullspace of  $A$

$\vec{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \vec{u}_m$  are the nullspace of  $A^T$

Write these in matrix form

$$AV = U\Sigma$$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} \sigma_1 & \sigma_2 & & & 0 \\ & & \dots & & \\ & & & \sigma_r & \\ \hline & & & & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$v_1, \dots, v_r$  basis for row space of  $A$

$u_1, \dots, u_r$  basis for col space of  $A$

$$VV^T = V^TV = I_{n \times n}$$

$$UU^T = U^TU = I_{m \times m}$$

Singular  
Value

Decomposition

$$A = U\Sigma V^T$$

By multiplying columns of  $U\Sigma$   
by rows of  $V^T$

$$A = (U\Sigma)V^T = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

Example

$$AV = U\Sigma \quad \begin{matrix} A \\ \left( \begin{array}{cc} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} V \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} U \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} 1 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \Sigma \\ \left( \begin{array}{cc} 3\sqrt{5} & \\ & \sqrt{5} \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

$$\sigma_1 = 3\sqrt{5}, \quad \sigma_2 = \sqrt{5}$$

$$A = U\Sigma V^T$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3\sqrt{5} & \\ & \sqrt{5} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = 3\sqrt{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \sqrt{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

## Reduced Form of the SVD

$$A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

In matrix form

$$A_{m \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_r \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & \\ & \sigma_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \sigma_r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} - & v_1^T & - \\ - & v_2^T & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & v_r^T & - \end{pmatrix}$$

$m \times r$                        $r \times r$                        $r \times n$

## Reduced SVD

$$A = U_r \Sigma_r V_r^T$$

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Important fact

$$A_k = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \dots + \sigma_k u_k v_k^T$$

is the best rank  $k$  approximation to  $A$ .

① Find  $U, V^T, \Sigma$

by looking at

$$A^T A$$

$$A A^T$$

② Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{45} & \\ & \sqrt{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

③ Polar Decomposition.

$$A = U \Sigma V^T$$

$$= U \Sigma U^T U V^T = S_1 Q$$

or

$$= U \Sigma V^T V U^T U V^T$$

$$= U \Sigma V^T V \Sigma V^T$$

$$= Q S_2$$

Find  $U, \Sigma, V^T$  s.t.  $A = U \Sigma V^T$   
 $A$  is  $m \times n$

Note:

$$A^T A = V \Sigma^T \cancel{U^T U} \Sigma V^T = V \Sigma^T \Sigma V^T \quad n \times n \quad (1)$$

$$A A^T = U \Sigma \cancel{V^T V} \Sigma^T U^T = U \Sigma \Sigma^T U^T \quad m \times m \quad (2)$$

These take the form of eigen decompositions of symmetric matrices. Specifically,

- the columns of  $V$  are the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$
- the columns of  $U$  are the eigenvectors of  $A A^T$

To construct  $A = U \Sigma V^T$

- Form  $A^T A$  and find its eigenvalues and eigenvectors (orthogonal),  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$

$$A^T A v_k = \lambda_k v_k = \sigma_k^2 v_k \quad (3)$$

That is,  $\sigma_k = \sqrt{\lambda_k}$

- Choose  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  as follows

$$A v_k = \sigma_k u_k \Rightarrow u_k = \frac{1}{\sigma_k} A v_k$$

To check that the above procedure works, we need to verify that  $u_k$ 's chosen this way do indeed

form an orthonormal set: (i.e.,  $u_k^T u_j = \delta_{kj} = \begin{cases} 1 & k=j \\ 0 & k \neq j \end{cases}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} u_k^T u_j &= \frac{1}{\sigma_k} (A v_k)^T \frac{1}{\sigma_j} A v_j = \frac{1}{\sigma_k \sigma_j} v_k^T A^T A v_j = \frac{1}{\sigma_k \sigma_j} v_k^T \lambda_j v_j \\ &= \frac{\lambda_j}{\sigma_k \sigma_j} v_k^T v_j = \frac{\sigma_j^2}{\sigma_k \sigma_j} v_k^T v_j = \frac{\sigma_j}{\sigma_k} \delta_{jk} = \delta_{jk} \checkmark \end{aligned} \quad \text{by } (3)$$