

LINEAR ALGEBRA  
TUTORIAL 10 – SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

1. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(A) Determine  $V$  and the  $V^T$ .

(B) Determine the singular values,  $\sigma$  and then  $\Sigma$ .

(C) Determine  $U$  using  $A = U\Sigma V^T \rightarrow AV = U\Sigma$  since  $V$  is orthogonal to  $V^T$ , we know  $VV^T = I$ .

(D) Compute a single value decomposition of  $A$ .

2. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(A) Determine  $U$  using  $A = U\Sigma V^T \rightarrow AV = U\Sigma$  since  $V$  is orthogonal to  $V^T$ , we know  $VV^T = I$ .

(B) Compute a single value decomposition of  $A$ .

3. Compute a single value decomposition of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

4. Compute a single value decomposition of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

## 2 Steps for Calculation of SVD

Here, we provide an algorithm to calculate a singular value decomposition of a matrix.

1. Compute  $A^T A$  of a real  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$ .

2. Compute the singular values of  $A^T A$ .

Solve the characteristic equation  $\Delta_{A^T A}(\lambda) = |A^T A - \lambda I| = 0$  of  $A^T A$  for the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  of  $A^T A$ . These eigenvalues will be positive. Take their square roots to obtain  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  which are the singular values of  $A$ , that is,

$$\sigma_i = +\sqrt{\lambda_i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, r. \quad (7)$$

3. Sort the singular values, possibly renaming them, so that  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r$ .

4. Construct the  $\Sigma$  matrix of size  $m \times n$  such that  $\Sigma_{ii} = \sigma_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , and  $\Sigma_{ij} = 0$  when  $i \neq j$ .

5. Compute the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ .

Find a basis for  $\text{Null}(A^T A - \lambda_i I)$ . That is, solve  $(A^T A - \lambda_i I)s_i = 0$  for  $s_i$ , an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to  $\lambda_i$ , for each eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ . Since  $A^T A$  is symmetric, its eigenvectors corresponding to different eigenvalues are already orthogonal (but likely not orthonormal). See Lemma 1.

6. Compute the (right singular) vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  by normalizing each eigenvector  $s_i$  by multiplying it by  $\frac{1}{\|s_i\|}$ . That is, let

$$v_i = \frac{1}{\|s_i\|} s_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, r. \quad (8)$$

7. Construct the orthogonal matrix  $V = [v_1 | \dots | v_n]$ .

8. Verify  $V^T V = I$ .

9. Compute the (left singular) vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  as

$$Av_i = \sigma_i u_i \implies u_i = \frac{Av_i}{\sigma_i}, \quad i = 1 \dots r. \quad (10)$$

In this method,  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  are orthogonal by Lemma 5.

Alternatively,

(i) Note that  $AA^T = U(\Sigma\Sigma^T)U^T$  suggests the vectors of  $U$  can be calculated as the eigenvectors of  $AA^T$ . In using this method, the vectors need to be normalized first. Namely,  $u_i = \frac{1}{\|s_i\|} s_i$ , where  $s_i$  is an eigenvector of  $AA^T$ .

(ii) Since  $\Delta_{A^T A}(\lambda) = \Delta_{AA^T}(\lambda)$  by Lemma 8,  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  are also the square roots of the eigenvalues of  $AA^T$ .

If  $m > r$ , the additional  $m - r$  vectors  $u_{r+1}, \dots, u_m$  need to be chosen as an orthonormal basis in  $\text{Null}(A^T)$ . Note that since  $Av_i = \sigma_i u_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  provide an orthonormal basis for  $\text{Col}(A)$  while the vectors  $u_{r+1}, \dots, u_m$  provide an orthonormal basis for the left null space  $\text{Null}(A^T)$ . In particular,

$$\mathbb{R}^m = \text{Col}(A) \perp \text{Null}(A^T) = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_r\} \perp \text{span}\{u_{r+1}, \dots, u_{r+(m-r)}\}. \quad (11)$$

10. Construct  $U = [u_1 | \dots | u_m]$ .

11. Verify  $U^T U = I$ .

12. Verify  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ .

13. Construct the dyadic decomposition<sup>1</sup> of  $A$ , as described in Thm. 13:

$$A = U\Sigma V^T = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T. \quad (12)$$