

# numpy.linalg.svd

**linalg.svd**(*a*, *full\_matrices=True*, *compute\_uv=True*, *hermitian=False*)

[\[source\]](#)

Singular Value Decomposition.

When *a* is a 2D array, it is factorized as  $u @ np.diag(s) @ vh = (u * s) @ vh$ , where *u* and *vh* are 2D unitary arrays and *s* is a 1D array of *a*'s singular values. When *a* is higher-dimensional, SVD is applied in stacked mode as explained below.

**Parameters:** **a** : (*..., M, N*) *array\_like*

A real or complex array with *a.ndim* >= 2.

**full\_matrices** : *bool, optional*

If True (default), *u* and *vh* have the shapes (*..., M, M*) and (*..., N, N*), respectively. Otherwise, the shapes are (*..., M, K*) and (*..., K, N*), respectively, where *K* = min(*M, N*).

**compute\_uv** : *bool, optional*

Whether or not to compute *u* and *vh* in addition to *s*. True by default.

**hermitian** : *bool, optional*

If True, *a* is assumed to be Hermitian (symmetric if real-valued), enabling a more efficient method for finding singular values. Defaults to False.

*New in version 1.17.0.*

**Returns:**

**u** : {(*..., M, M*), (*..., M, K*)} *array*

Unitary array(s). The first *a.ndim* - 2 dimensions have the same size as those of the input *a*. The size of the last two dimensions depends on the value of *full\_matrices*. Only returned when *compute\_uv* is True.

**s** : (*..., K*) *array*

Vector(s) with the singular values, within each vector sorted in descending order. The first *a.ndim* - 2 dimensions have the same size as those of the input *a*.

**vh** : {(*..., N, N*), (*..., K, N*)} *array*

Unitary array(s). The first *a.ndim* - 2 dimensions have the same size as those of the input *a*. The size of the last two dimensions depends on the value of *full\_matrices*. Only returned when *compute\_uv* is True.

**Raises:**

**LinAlgError**

If SVD computation does not converge.



## See also

[scipy.linalg.svd](#)

Similar function in SciPy.

[scipy.linalg.svdvals](#)

Compute singular values of a matrix.

## Notes

*Changed in version 1.8.0:* Broadcasting rules apply, see the [numpy.linalg](#) documentation for details.

The decomposition is performed using LAPACK routine `_gesdd`.

SVD is usually described for the factorization of a 2D matrix  $A$ . The higher-dimensional case will be discussed below. In the 2D case, SVD is written as  $A = USV^H$ , where  $A = a$ ,  $U = u$ ,  $S = \text{np.diag}(s)$  and  $V^H = vh$ . The 1D array  $s$  contains the singular values of  $a$  and  $u$  and  $vh$  are unitary. The rows of  $vh$  are the eigenvectors of  $A^H A$  and the columns of  $u$  are the eigenvectors of  $AA^H$ . In both cases the corresponding (possibly non-zero) eigenvalues are given by  $s**2$ .

If  $a$  has more than two dimensions, then broadcasting rules apply, as explained in [Linear algebra on several matrices at once](#). This means that SVD is working in “stacked” mode: it iterates over all indices of the first `a.ndim - 2` dimensions and for each combination SVD is applied to the last two indices. The matrix  $a$  can be reconstructed from the decomposition with either `(u * s[..., None, :]) @ vh` or `u @ (s[..., None] * vh)`. (The `@` operator can be replaced by the function `np.matmul` for python versions below 3.5.)

If  $a$  is a `matrix` object (as opposed to an `ndarray`), then so are all the return values.

## Examples

```
>>> a = np.random.randn(9, 6) + 1j*np.random.randn(9, 6)
>>> b = np.random.randn(2, 7, 8, 3) + 1j*np.random.randn(2, 7, 8, 3)
```

Reconstruction based on full SVD, 2D case:

```
>>> u, s, vh = np.linalg.svd(a, full_matrices=True)
>>> u.shape, s.shape, vh.shape
((9, 9), (6,), (6, 6))
>>> np.allclose(a, np.dot(u[:, :6] * s, vh))
True
>>> smat = np.zeros((9, 6), dtype=complex)
>>> smat[:, :6] = np.diag(s)
>>> np.allclose(a, np.dot(u, np.dot(smat, vh)))
True
```

Reconstruction based on reduced SVD, 2D case:

```
>>> u, s, vh = np.linalg.svd(a, full_matrices=False)
>>> u.shape, s.shape, vh.shape
((9, 6), (6,), (6, 6))
>>> np.allclose(a, np.dot(u * s, vh))
True
>>> smat = np.diag(s)
>>> np.allclose(a, np.dot(u, np.dot(smat, vh)))
True
```

Reconstruction based on full SVD, 4D case:

```
>>> u, s, vh = np.linalg.svd(b, full_matrices=True)
>>> u.shape, s.shape, vh.shape
((2, 7, 8, 8), (2, 7, 3), (2, 7, 3, 3))
>>> np.allclose(b, np.matmul(u[..., :3] * s[..., None, :], vh))
True
>>> np.allclose(b, np.matmul(u[..., :3], s[..., None] * vh))
True
```

Reconstruction based on reduced SVD, 4D case:

```
>>> u, s, vh = np.linalg.svd(b, full_matrices=False)
>>> u.shape, s.shape, vh.shape
((2, 7, 8, 3), (2, 7, 3), (2, 7, 3, 3))
>>> np.allclose(b, np.matmul(u * s[..., None, :], vh))
True
>>> np.allclose(b, np.matmul(u, s[..., None] * vh))
True
```