

# LINEAR ALGEBRA II

## Orthogonal Projections

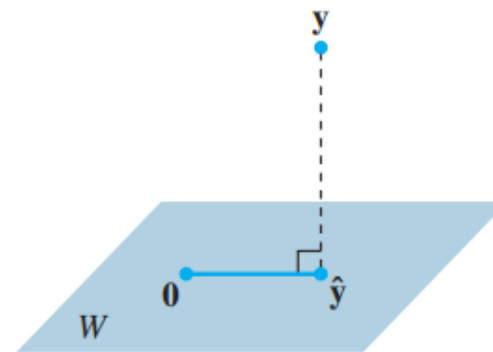
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### Introduction

The orthogonal projection of a point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  onto a line through the origin has an important analogue in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Given a vector  $\mathbf{y}$  and a subspace  $W$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a vector  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  in  $W$  such that

- (1)  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is the unique vector in  $W$  for which  $\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is orthogonal to  $W$ , and
- (2)  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is the unique vector in  $W$  closest to  $\mathbf{y}$ .



### The Orthogonal Decomposition Theorem

Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then each  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be written uniquely in the form

$$\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is in  $W$  and  $\mathbf{z}$  is in  $W^\perp$ .

In fact, if  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  is any orthogonal basis of  $W$ , then

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p}{\mathbf{u}_p \cdot \mathbf{u}_p} \mathbf{u}_p$$

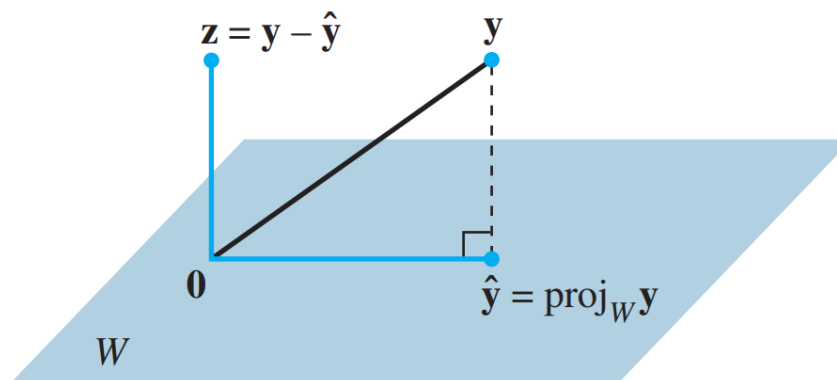
and  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$ .

### The Orthogonal projection

Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then each  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be written uniquely in the form

$$\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}$$

The vector  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is called the **orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  onto  $W$**  and often is written as  $\text{proj}_W \mathbf{y}$ .



## Orthogonal Projections

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### Example 2

Let  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Observe that  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $W = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$ . Write  $\mathbf{y}$  as the sum of a vector in  $W$  and a vector orthogonal to  $W$ .

## Orthogonal Projections

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### Solution

The orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  onto  $W$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{y}} &= \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \mathbf{u}_2 \\ &= \frac{9}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{3}{6} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Also, } \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7/5 \\ 0 \\ 14/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

### **Solution (continued)**

The orthogonal decomposition theorem ensures that  $\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is in  $W^\perp$ . To check the calculations, however, it is a good idea to verify that  $\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is orthogonal to both  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2$  and hence to all of  $W$ . The desired decomposition of  $\mathbf{y}$  is

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 7/5 \\ 0 \\ 14/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Orthogonal Projections

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### Properties of Orthogonal Projections

If  $\mathbf{y}$  is in  $W = \text{Span} \{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ , then  $\text{proj}_W \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}$



## The Best Approximation Theorem

Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $\mathbf{y}$  be any vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  be the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  onto  $W$ . Then  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is the closest point in  $W$  to  $\mathbf{y}$ , in the sense that

$$\|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\| < \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{v}\|$$

for all  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $W$  distinct from  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ .

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# PROJECTION MATRIX

A **projection matrix** is a special type of square matrix that represents a linear transformation orthogonally **projecting** vectors onto a subspace of the vector space.

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# PROJECTION MATRIX

When we want to project onto the **column space of a matrix  $A$**  when columns of  $A$  are linearly independent. The **projection matrix** is:

$$A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$$

This is particularly useful when  $A$  is not necessarily a square matrix (e.g.,  $A$  has more rows than columns).

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## EXAMPLE:

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the projection matrix  $P$  that projects vectors onto the column space of  $A$ .

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{5}{6} \end{bmatrix}$$

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## EXAMPLE:

For the projection matrix

$$P = A(A^T A)^{-1}A^T$$

Show that  $P^2 = P$ .

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# THE GRAM–SCHMIDT PROCESS

The Gram–Schmidt process is a simple algorithm for producing an orthogonal or orthonormal basis for any nonzero subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

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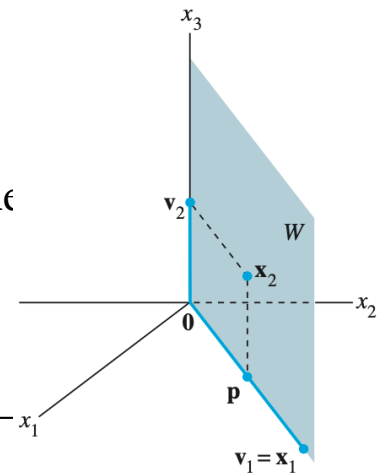
## EXAMPLE 1:

Let  $W = \text{span} \{ \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \}$ , where  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Construct an orthogonal basis  $\{ \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \}$  for  $W$ .

**SOLUTION** The subspace  $W$  is shown in the figure, along with  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ , and the projection  $\mathbf{p}$  of  $\mathbf{x}_2$  onto  $\mathbf{x}_1$ . The component of  $\mathbf{x}_2$  orthogonal to  $\mathbf{x}_1$  is  $\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{p}$ , which is in  $W$  because it is formed from  $\mathbf{x}_2$  and a multiple of  $\mathbf{x}_1$ . Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$  and

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{x}_2 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1}{\mathbf{x}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1} \right) \mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $\{ \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \}$  is an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors in  $W$ . Since,  $\dim W = 2$ , the  $\{ \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \}$  is a basis for  $W$ .



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## EXAMPLE 2:

Let  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3\}$  is clearly linearly independent and thus is a basis for a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Construct an orthogonal basis for  $W$ .

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## SOLUTION

**Step 1.** Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$  and  $W_1 = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{x}_1\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1\}$ .

**Step 2.** Let  $\mathbf{v}_2$  be the vector produced by subtracting from  $\mathbf{x}_2$  its projection onto the subspace  $W_1$ . That is, let

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \text{proj}_{W_1} \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3/4 \\ 1/4 \\ 1/4 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

As in Example 1,  $\mathbf{v}_2$  is the component of  $\mathbf{x}_2$  orthogonal to  $\mathbf{x}_1$ , and  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is an orthogonal basis for the subspace  $W_2$  spanned by  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$ .

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## SOLUTION

***Step 2' (optional).*** If appropriate, scale  $\mathbf{v}_2$  to simplify later computations. Since  $\mathbf{v}_2$  has fractional entries, it is convenient to scale it by a factor of 4 and replace  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  by the orthogonal basis

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}'_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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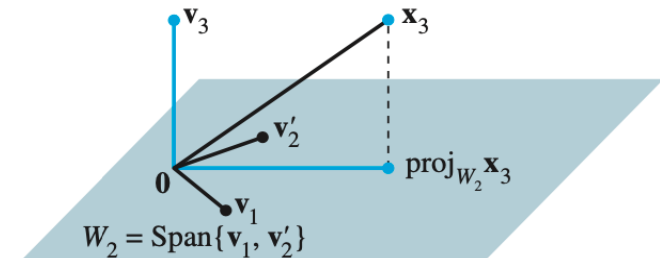
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**Step 3.** Let  $\mathbf{v}_3$  be the vector produced by subtracting from  $\mathbf{x}_3$  its projection onto the subspace  $W_2$ . Use the orthogonal basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}'_2\}$  to compute this projection onto  $W_2$ :

$$\text{proj}_{W_2} \mathbf{x}_3 = \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}'_2}{\mathbf{v}'_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}'_2} \mathbf{v}'_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2/3 \\ 2/3 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

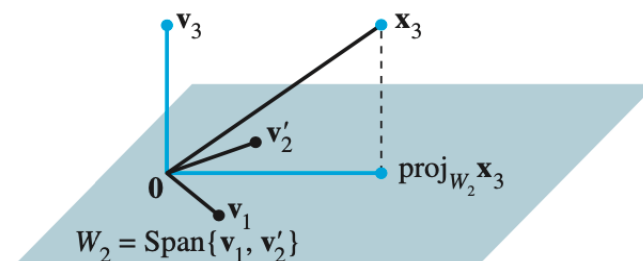
Then  $\mathbf{v}_3$  is the component of  $\mathbf{x}_3$  orthogonal to  $W_2$ , namely,

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \text{proj}_{W_2} \mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$



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See the figure for a diagram of this construction. Observe that  $\mathbf{v}_3$  is in  $W$ , because  $\mathbf{x}_3$  and  $\text{proj}_{W_2}\mathbf{x}_3$  are both in  $W$ . Thus  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}'_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors and hence a linearly independent set in  $W$ . Note that  $W$  is three-dimensional since it was defined by a basis of three vectors. Hence, by the Basis Theorem in Section 4.5,  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}'_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $W$ .



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## THEOREM: THE GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS

Given a basis  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p\}$  for a nonzero subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , define

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{x}_p - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2 - \dots - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}}{\mathbf{v}_{p-1} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}} \mathbf{v}_{p-1}$$

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## THEOREM: THE GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS

Then  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $W$ . In addition

$$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k\} \text{ for } 1 \leq k \leq p \quad (1)$$

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# ORTHONORMAL BASES

An orthonormal basis is constructed easily from an orthogonal basis  $\{\boldsymbol{v}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{v}_p\}$ : simply normalize (i.e., “scale”) all the  $\boldsymbol{v}_k$ . When working problems by hand, this is easier than normalizing each  $\boldsymbol{v}_k$  as soon as it is found (because it avoids unnecessary writing of square roots).

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# PROJECTION MATRIX

When we want to project onto the **column space of a matrix  $A$**  when columns of  $A$  are linearly independent. The **projection matrix** is:

$$P = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$$

This is particularly useful when  $A$  is not necessarily a square matrix (e.g.,  $A$  has more rows than columns).

Let  $W$  be the column space of  $A$ , then  $P\mathbf{y}$  will give us the projection of the vector  $\mathbf{y}$  onto  $W$ .

$$proj_W \mathbf{y} = P\mathbf{y}.$$

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## **EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS**

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### Example

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find  $A\mathbf{u}$  and  $A\mathbf{v}$ , what do you observe?

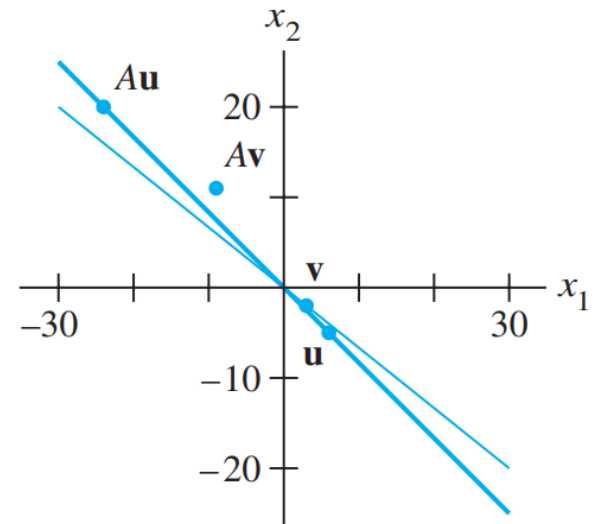
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## Solution

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{u} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -24 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} = -4 \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -4\mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

$$A\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -9 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \neq \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus,  $\mathbf{u}$  is an eigenvector corresponding to an eigenvalue  $(-4)$ , but  $\mathbf{v}$  is not an eigenvector of  $A$ , because  $A\mathbf{v}$  is not a multiple of  $\mathbf{v}$ .



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## Definition

- An **eigenvector** of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{x}$  such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$  for some scalar  $\lambda$ .
- A scalar  $\lambda$  is called an **eigenvalue** of  $A$  if there is a nontrivial solution  $\mathbf{x}$  of
$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x};$$
such an  $\mathbf{x}$  is called an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .
- Note that

$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow (A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

- In other words,  $\lambda$  is an **eigenvalue** of  $A$  if and only if
$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$
has a non-trivial solution.

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**Example**

Show that 7 is an eigenvalue of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and find the corresponding eigenvectors.

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## Solution

The scalar 7 is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if the equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = 7\mathbf{x} \quad (1)$$

has a nontrivial solution. But (1) is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{x} - 7\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , or

$$(A - 7I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$

To solve this homogeneous equation, form the matrix

$$A - 7I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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### **Solution (continued)**

The columns of  $A - 7I$  are obviously linearly dependent, so (2) has nontrivial solutions. Thus 7 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . To find the corresponding eigenvectors, use row operations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 & 0 \\ 5 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The general solution has the form  $x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Each vector of this form with  $x_2 \neq 0$  is an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = 7$ .

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## Eigen Space

For any  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if the equation

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

has a nontrivial solution.

The set of all solutions of (1) is just the null space of the matrix  $A - \lambda I$ .

This set is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and is called the **eigen space** of  $A$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

The eigen space consists of the zero vector and all the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .



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## Example

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$ . An eigenvalue of  $A$  is 2. Find a basis for the corresponding eigenspace.

## Solution

$$A - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

and row reduce the augmented matrix for  $(A - 2I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Solution (continued)**

At this point, it is clear that 2 is indeed an eigenvalue of  $A$  because the equation  $(A - 2I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has free variables. The general solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}; x_2 \text{ and } x_3 \text{ free}$$

The eigenspace is a two-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . A basis is

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

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**Theorem**

The eigenvalues of a triangular matrix are the entries on its main diagonal.

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**Example**

Find the eigenvalues of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution**

The eigenvalues of  $A$  are 3, 0, and 2. The eigenvalues of  $B$  are 4 and 1.

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## Eigen value of 0

What does it mean for a matrix  $A$  to have an eigenvalue of 0.

This happens if and only if the equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = 0\mathbf{x}$$

has a nontrivial solution.

But  $A\mathbf{x} = 0\mathbf{x}$  is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ ,

which has a nontrivial solution if and only if  $A$  is not invertible.

Thus,

*0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is not invertible.*

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**Theorem**

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$  are eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , then the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  is linearly independent.

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# APPLICATIONS IN AI

Application Area	Role of Eigenvalues/Eigenvectors
PCA / Dimensionality Reduction	Directions of max variance (eigenvectors), importance (eigenvalues)
Face Recognition (Eigenfaces)	Feature extraction from images
Graph AI / Spectral Clustering	Partitioning via Laplacian eigenvectors
Optimization (Hessian)	Curvature → stability, convergence
Neural Nets (RNN stability)	Prevent exploding/vanishing gradients
Markov Chains / RL	Stationary distribution = dominant eigenvector
PageRank	Ranking via largest eigenvalue eigenvector
Kernel Methods (SVM, KPCA)	Nonlinear projections using kernel eigen-decomposition

# DEFINITION

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A matrix  $A$  is said to be diagonalizable if  $A$  is similar to a diagonal matrix, that is, if  $A = PDP^{-1}$  for some invertible matrix  $P$  and some diagonal matrix  $D$ .

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# THEOREM: THE DIAGONALIZATION THEOREM

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if  $A$  has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors.

In fact,

- $A = PDP^{-1}$ , with  $D$  a diagonal matrix, if and only if the columns of  $P$  are  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$ .
  - In this case, the diagonal entries of  $D$  are eigenvalues of  $A$  that correspond, respectively, to the eigenvectors in  $P$ .
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# EXAMPLE

Diagonalize the following matrix, if possible.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Find the eigenvalues of A.
  - Find three linearly independent eigenvectors of A.
  - Construct P, whose columns are eigenvectors.
  - Construct D, whose diagonal entries are eigenvalues.
-

- Step 1
- 

To find eigen values solve characteristic equation

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5-\lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = -\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$$
$$= -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 2)^2$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda=1$  and  $\lambda=-2$

- **Step 2:** Find  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$
  - For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , we find a basis for the solution space of  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .
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- For  $\lambda = 1$ , we solve  $(A - 1I)x = \mathbf{0}$ :

- The augmented matrix is  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & -6 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

- This reduces to  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

- For  $\lambda = -2$ , we solve  $(A - (-2)I)x = \mathbf{0}$ :

- The augmented matrix is  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & -3 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

- This reduces to  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

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## BASIS

- The basis for  $\lambda = 1$  is  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
  - The basis for  $\lambda = -2$  is  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
  - Now we construct the matrices  $P$  and  $D$
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- The basis vectors we found form the columns of  $P$ :

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The corresponding eigenvalues form the diagonal entries of  $D$ :

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Example 2

- Diagonalize  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , if possible.
  - **Step 1:** Find the eigenvalues of  $A$
  - **Step 2:** Find  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$
  - **Step 3:** Construct  $P$  from the vectors found in Step 2
  - **Step 4:** Construct  $D$  from the corresponding eigenvalues
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## EXAMPLE 2

- **Step 1:** Find the eigenvalues of  $A$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 - \lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = -\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$$

- This is the same characteristic equation as in Example 1!
  - So the eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2$
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- **Step 2:** Find  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$
  - We first solve  $(A - 1I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ -4 & -7 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- **Step 2:** Find  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$
  - Now we solve  $(A - (-2)I)x = \mathbf{0}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ -4 & -4 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- We have found two linearly independent eigenvectors:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- There are no other eigenvalues, and every eigenvector of  $A$  is either a multiple of  $\mathbf{v}_1$  or  $\mathbf{v}_2$
  - Thus it is not possible to find three linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$ , and so  $A$  is not diagonalizable!
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# THEOREM

If  $A$  is symmetric, then any two eigenvectors from different eigenspaces are orthogonal.

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# DEFINITION

- An **orthogonal matrix** is a square invertible matrix  $U$  such that  $U^{-1} = U^T$ .
- Such a matrix has orthonormal columns.
- Any square matrix with orthonormal columns is an orthogonal matrix.
- Surprisingly, such a matrix must have orthonormal rows, too.

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## DEFINITION

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is said to be **orthogonally diagonalizable** if there are an orthogonal matrix  $P$  (with  $P^{-1} = P^T$ ) and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that

$$A = PDP^T = PDP^{-1}$$

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# THE SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

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# Introduction

- The diagonalization theorems play a part in many interesting applications.
  - Unfortunately, as we know, not all matrices can be factored as  $A = PDP^{-1}$  with  $D$  diagonal.
  - However, a factorization  $A = QDP^{-1}$  is possible for any  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ .
  - A special factorization of this type, called the *singular value decomposition*, is one of the most useful matrix factorizations in applied linear algebra.
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The singular value decomposition is based on the following property of the ordinary diagonalization that can be imitated for rectangular matrices:

- The absolute values of the eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix  $A$  measure the amounts that  $A$  stretches or shrinks certain vectors (the eigenvectors).
- If  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$  and  $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$ , then

$$\|A\mathbf{x}\| = \|\lambda\mathbf{x}\| = |\lambda|\|\mathbf{x}\| = |\lambda| \quad (1)$$

- If  $\lambda_1$  is the eigenvalue with the greatest magnitude, then a corresponding unit eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}_1$  identifies a direction in which the stretching effect of  $A$  is greatest. That is, the length of  $A\mathbf{x}$  is maximized when  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}_1$ , and  $\|A\mathbf{v}_1\| = |\lambda_1|$ , by (1).
  - This description of  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $|\lambda_1|$  has an analogue for rectangular matrices that will lead to the singular value decomposition.
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# THE SINGULAR VALUES OF AN $m \times n$ MATRIX

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix.

Then  $A^T A$  is symmetric and can be orthogonally diagonalized.

Let  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ , and let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the associated eigenvalues of  $A^T A$ . Then, for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\|A\mathbf{v}_i\|^2 &= (A\mathbf{v}_i)^T A\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{v}_i^T A^T A\mathbf{v}_i \\ &= \mathbf{v}_i^T (\lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i) && \text{Since } \mathbf{v}_i \text{ is an eigenvector of } A^T A \\ &= \lambda_i && \text{Since } \mathbf{v}_i \text{ is a unit vector}\end{aligned}$$

So, the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are all nonnegative.

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## THE SINGULAR VALUES OF AN $m \times n$ MATRIX

- The **singular values** of  $A$  are the square roots of the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$ , denoted by  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ , and they are arranged in decreasing order.
  - That is,  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The **singular values of  $A$**  are the lengths of the vectors  $A\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, A\mathbf{v}_n$ .
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## EXAMPLE:

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Since the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 360, 90, and 0, the singular values of  $A$  are

$$\sigma_1 = \sqrt{360} = 6\sqrt{10}, \sigma_2 = \sqrt{90} = 3\sqrt{10}, \sigma_3 = 0$$

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# THEOREM

Suppose  $\{\boldsymbol{v}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{v}_n\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ , arranged so that the corresponding eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  satisfy  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ , and suppose  $A$  has  $r$  nonzero singular values.

Then  $\{A\boldsymbol{v}_1, \dots, A\boldsymbol{v}_r\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $\text{Col } A$ , and  $\text{rank } A = r$ .

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# THE SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

The decomposition of  $A$  involves an  $m \times n$  “diagonal” matrix of the form

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

where  $D$  is an  $r \times r$  diagonal matrix for some  $r$  not exceeding the smaller of  $m$  and  $n$ . (If  $r$  equals  $m$  or  $n$  or both, some or all of the zero matrices do not appear.)

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# THE SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with rank  $r$ . Then there exists an  $m \times n$  matrix as in (3) for which the diagonal entries in  $D$  are the first  $r$  singular values of  $A$ ,  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0$ , and there exist an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix  $U$  and an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix  $V$  such that

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

Any factorization  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ , is called a **singular value decomposition** (or **SVD**) of  $A$ .

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# THE SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

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

- Any factorization  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ , with  $U$  and  $V$  orthogonal,  $\Sigma$  as in (3), and positive diagonal entries in  $D$ , is called a **singular value decomposition** (or **SVD**) of  $A$ .
  - The matrices  $U$  and  $V$  are not uniquely determined by  $A$ , but the diagonal entries of  $\Sigma$  are necessarily the singular values of  $A$ .
  - The columns of  $U$  in such a decomposition are called **left singular vectors** of  $A$ , and
  - the columns of  $V$  are called **right singular vectors** of  $A$ .
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## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**SOLUTION** A construction can be divided into three steps.

**Step 1. Find an orthogonal diagonalization of  $A^T A$ .** That is, find the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  and a corresponding orthonormal set of eigenvectors. If  $A$  had only two columns, the calculations could be done by hand. Larger matrices usually require a matrix program. The eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 360$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 90$ , and  $\lambda_3 = 0$ . Corresponding unit eigenvectors are, respectively,

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 2/3 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 \\ -2/3 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**SOLUTION** (Continued) **Step 2. Set up  $V$  and  $\Sigma$ .** Arrange the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  in decreasing order. The eigenvalues are already listed in decreasing order: 360, 90, and 0. The corresponding unit eigenvectors,  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_3$ , are the right singular vectors of  $A$ .

$$V = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \mathbf{v}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & -2/3 & 2/3 \\ 2/3 & -1/3 & -2/3 \\ 2/3 & 2/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The square roots of the eigenvalues are the singular values:

$$\sigma_1 = 6\sqrt{10}, \sigma_2 = 3\sqrt{10}, \sigma_3 = 0$$

The nonzero singular values are the diagonal entries of  $D$ . The matrix  $\Sigma$  is the same size as  $A$ , with  $D$  in its upper left corner and with 0's elsewhere.

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$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 6\sqrt{10} & 0 \\ 0 & 3\sqrt{10} \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} D & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6\sqrt{10} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3\sqrt{10} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**SOLUTION** (Continued) **Step 3. Construct  $U$ .** When  $A$  has rank  $r$ , the first  $r$  columns of  $U$  are the normalized vectors obtained from  $Av_1, \dots, Av_r$ .

In this example,  $A$  has two nonzero singular values, so  $\text{rank } A = 2$ . Since,  $\|Av_1\| = \sigma_1$  and  $\|Av_2\| = \sigma_2$ . Thus

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} Av_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{10} \\ 1/\sqrt{10} \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sigma_2} Av_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{10} \\ -3/\sqrt{10} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$  is already a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Thus, no additional vectors are needed for  $U$ , and  $U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2]$ . The singular value decomposition of  $A$  is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{10} & 1/\sqrt{10} \\ 1/\sqrt{10} & -3/\sqrt{10} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 6\sqrt{10} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3\sqrt{10} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ -2/3 & -1/3 & 2/3 \\ 2/3 & -2/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

---

## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

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

**SOLUTION** First, compute  $A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -9 \\ -9 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ . The eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 18 and 0, with corresponding unit eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

These unit vectors form the columns of  $V$  :

$$V = [\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

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

**SOLUTION** The singular values are  $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0$ . Since there is only one nonzero singular value, the “matrix”  $D$  may be written as a single number. That is,  $D = 3\sqrt{2}$ . The matrix  $\Sigma$  is the same size as  $A$ , with  $D$  in its upper left corner:

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To construct  $U$ , first construct  $A\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $A\mathbf{v}_2$ :

$$A\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{2} \\ -4/\sqrt{2} \\ 4/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, A\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

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

**SOLUTION** The only column found for U so far is

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 \\ -4/3 \\ 4/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The other columns of U are found by extending the set  $\{\mathbf{u}_1\}$  to an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . In this case, we need two orthogonal unit vectors  $\mathbf{u}_2$  and  $\mathbf{u}_3$  that are orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}_1$ . Each vector must satisfy  $\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{x} = 0$ , which is equivalent to the equation  $x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$ . A basis for the solution set of this equation is

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## EXAMPLE: CONSTRUCT A SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION OF

$$\text{SOLUTION } \mathbf{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply the Gram–Schmidt process (with normalizations) to  $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2\}$ , and obtain

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} \\ 1/\sqrt{5} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -2/\sqrt{45} \\ 4/\sqrt{45} \\ 5/\sqrt{45} \end{bmatrix}$$

$U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \mathbf{u}_3]$ . The singular value decomposition of  $A$  is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 2/\sqrt{5} & -2/\sqrt{45} \\ -2/3 & 1/\sqrt{5} & 4/\sqrt{45} \\ 2/3 & 0 & 5/\sqrt{45} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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## NOTE:

- The matrix  $AA^T$  and  $A^TA$  are very special in linear algebra.
  - Consider any  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , we can multiply it with  $A^T$  to form  $AA^T$  and  $A^TA$  separately. These matrices are
    - symmetrical,
    - square,
    - at least positive semidefinite (eigenvalues are zero or positive),
    - both matrices have the same positive eigenvalues, and
    - both have the same rank  $r$  as  $A$ .
-