# SVD Factorization for Tall-and-Fat Matrices on Map/Reduce Architectures

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## Abstract

We demonstrate an implementation for an approximate rank-k SVD factorization, combining well-known randomized projection techniques with previously implemented map/reduce solutions in order to compute steps of the random projection based SVD procedure, such QR and SVD. We structure the problem in a way that it reduces to Cholesky and SVD factorizations on  $k \times k$  matrices computed on a single machine, greatly easing the computability of the problem.

## 1 Introduction

[1] presents many excellent techniques for utilizing map/reduce architectures to compute QR and SVD for the so-called tall-and-skinny matrices. QR factorization is turned into an  $A^TA$  computation problem to be computed in parallel using map/reduce, and its key element the Cholesky decomposition, can be performed on a single machine. Since

$$A^T A = (QR)^T (QR) = R^T Q^T QR = R^T R$$

and because Cholesky factorization of an  $n \times n$  symmetric positive definite matrix is

$$A = LL^T$$

where L is an  $n \times n$  lower triangular matrix, and R is upper triangular, we can conclude if we factorize A into L and  $L^T$ , this implies  $LL^T = RR^T$ , we have a method of calculating R of QR using Cholesky factorization on  $A^TA$ . The key observation here is  $A^TA$  computation results an  $n \times n$  matrix and if A is "skinny" then n is relatively small (in the thousands), then Cholesky

decomposition can be executed on a small  $n \times n$  matrix on a single computer utilizing an already available function in a scientific computing library. Q is computed simply as  $Q = AR^{-1}$ . This again is relatively cheap because R is  $n \times n$ , the inverse is computed locally, matrix multiplication with A can be performed through map/reduce.

SVD is an additional step. SVD decomposition is

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

If we expand it with A = QR

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

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

Let's call  $\tilde{U} = Q^T U$ 

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

This means if we run a local SVD on R (we just calculated above with Cholesky) which is an  $n \times n$  matrix, we will have calculated  $\tilde{U}$ , the real  $\Sigma$ , and real  $V^T$ .

Now we have a map/reduce way of calculating QR and SVD on  $m \times n$  matrices where n is small.

## 1.1 Approximate rank-k SVD

Switching gears, we look at another method for calculating SVD. The motivation is computing SVD if n is large, creating a "fat" matrix which might have columns in the billions would require reducing the dimensionality of the problem. According to [2], one way to achieve is through random projection. First we draw an  $n \times k$  Gaussian random matrix  $\Omega$ . Then we calculate

$$Y=A\Omega$$

We perform QR decomposition on Y

$$Y = QR$$

Then form  $k \times n$  matrix

$$B = Q^T A$$

Then we can calculate SVD on this small matrix

$$B = \hat{U} \Sigma V^T$$

Then form the matrix

$$U=Q\hat{U}$$

The main idea is based on

$$A = QQ^T A$$

if replace Q which comes from random projection Y,

$$A \approx \tilde{Q} \tilde{Q}^T A$$

Q and R of the projection are close to that of A. In the multiplication above R is called B where  $B = \tilde{Q}^T A$ , and,

$$A \approx \tilde{Q}B$$

then, as in [1], we can take SVD of B and apply the same transition rules to obtain an approximate U of A.

This approximation works because of the fact that projecting points to a random subspace preserves distances between points, or in detail, projecting the n-point subset onto a random subspace of  $O(\log n/\epsilon^2)$  dimensions only changes the interpoint distances by  $(1 \pm \epsilon)$  with positive probability [3]. It is also said that Y is a good representation of the span of A.

## 1.2 Combining Both Methods

Our idea was using approximate k-rank SVD calculation steps where k << n, and using map/reduce based QR and SVD methods to implement those steps. By utilizing random projection, we would be able to work in a smaller dimension which would translate to local Cholesky, and SVD calls on  $k \times k$  matrices that can be performed in a speedy manner. Below we outline each map/reduce job.

## Algorithm 1: Random Projection Job

```
input : A output: Y function MAP(key, value)

Tokenize value and pick out id value pairs result \leftarrow zeros(1,k) for each \ j^{th} \ token \in value \ do

Initialize seed with j

r \leftarrow generate k random numbers

result \leftarrow result + r \cdot token[j]

end

emit key, result

function REDUCE(key, value)

noop
```

Each value of A will arrive to the algorithm as a key and value pair. Key is line number or other identifier per row of A. Value is a collection of id value pairs where id is column id this time, and value is the value for that column. Sparsity is handled through this format, if an id for a column does not appear in a row of A, it is assumed to be zero. The resulting Y matrix has dimensions  $m \times k$ .

```
Algorithm 2: A^T A Cholesky Job
```

```
\begin{array}{l} \textbf{input} \ : \textbf{Y} \\ \textbf{output:} \ \textbf{R} \\ \textbf{function} \ \textit{MAP(key} \ \textit{k, val a)} \\ & | \ \textbf{for} \ \textit{i, row} \ \textit{in enumerate(a^Ta)} \ \textbf{do} \\ & | \ \textbf{emit} \ \textit{i, row} \\ & | \ \textbf{end} \\ \textbf{function} \ \textit{REDUCE(key, value)} \\ & | \ \textbf{emit} \ (\textbf{k,sum}(< v_j^k >) \\ \textbf{function} \ \textit{FINAL LOCAL REDUCE (key, value)} \\ & | \ \textbf{result} \leftarrow \textbf{Cholesky}(A_{sum}) \\ & | \ \textbf{emit} \ (\textbf{result)} \end{array}
```

The FINAL\_LOCAL\_REDUCE step is a function provided in most map/reduce frameworks, it is a central point that collects the output of all reducers, naturally a single machine which makes it ideal to execute the final Cholesky call on by now a very small  $(k \times k)$  matrix. The output is R.

# Algorithm 3: Q Job input: Y,R output: Q function INIT() $|R_{inv} = R^{-1}$ function MAP(key, value) |for $row \ in \ Y \ do$ |emit $(key, \ row \cdot R_{inv})$ end

There is no reducer in the Q Job, it is a very simple procedure, it merely computes multiplication between row of Y and a local matrix R. Matrix R is very small,  $k \times k$ , hence it can be kept locally in every node. The INIT function is used to store the inverse of R locally, once the mapper is initialized, it will always use the same  $R^{-1}$  for every multiplication.

```
Algorithm 4: A^TQ Job
 input : A,Q
 output: B^T
 function REDUCE (key, value)
     for row in value do
        if row is from A then
         | left = row
        if row is from Q then
           right = row
        end
     end
     for nonzero j^{th} cell in left do
      | emit j, left[j] \cdot right
     end
 function REDUCESUM (key, value)
     result \leftarrow zeros(1,k)
     for row in value do
      | result \leftarrow result + row |
     end
     emit key, result
```

The job above takes A and Q matrices at the same time. Both of these

matrices are based on the same key (line number, or other pre-existing id) and we need to join them first. If a mapper is a pass-through mapper, in other words if it does not exist, it is assumed to simply re-emit the key and value, which will, indirectly force matching rows with the same id from A and Q to be sent to the first reducer. Then for each unique id, the first reducer gets exactly two rows. This is an indirect way of performing a join in map/reduce environment.

Once we have these two rows we need to deduce if the row is a Q row or an A row. We need this information because which row we iterate depends on it. We prefer to iterate cells of A one by one, which is assumed to be sparse, and multiply the entire row of Q. Then for each  $j^{th}$  non-zero cell of A, we multiply this value with the row from Q and emit the multiplication result with key j.

This job's formula in 1.1 is described  $Q^TA$ . For implementation purposes we changed this formula into

$$B^T = A^T Q$$

because as output we needed to have a  $n \times k$  matrix instead of a  $k \times n$  one, which would allow us to use map/reduce SVD that translates into a local Cholesky and SVD on  $k \times k$  matrices. Since we take SVD of  $B^T$  instead of B, that changes the output as well,

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

becomes

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

In other words, in order to obtain U of B, we need to take  $(U_{BT}^T)^T$  from the SVD of  $B^T$ . This is how  $A^TA$  Cholesky Job is called, this time with  $B^T$  as its input data.

# $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Algorithm 5: } Q\tilde{U} \text{ Job} \\ \textbf{input : } Q, R \\ \textbf{output: } U \\ \textbf{function } INIT() \\ \mid \tilde{U} = \text{svd of } R \\ \textbf{function } MAP(key, \ value) \\ \mid \textbf{for } row \ in \ Q \ \textbf{do} \\ \mid \textbf{emit } (key, \ row \cdot \tilde{U}) \\ \textbf{end} \end{array}$

The order of execution for everything is as follows:

## Algorithm 6: Map/Reduce SVD

```
Y = \text{Random Projection Job (A)}
R_Y = A^T A \text{ Cholesky Job(Y)}
Q_Y = Q \text{ Job}
B^T = A^T Q \text{ Job}
R_{BT} = A^T A \text{ Cholesky Job}(B^T)
U = Q\tilde{U} \text{ Job}(R_{BT}, Q)
```

## 1.3 Discussion

We performed few experiments on the Movielens 1M dataset which has 1 million ratings from 6000 users on 4000 movies. The implementation was programmed on Hadoop through mrjob framework, and SVD calculation on the full dataset with k=7 on a single notebook computer took 6 minutes. Sparse SVD from Scipy numeric library on the same dataset is much faster, however map/reduce environment incrues certain costs during its start-up and preparation phases for its jobs, plus writing, reading to and from disks due to the record-by-record processing nature of Hadoop can cause a slower performance. However, exactly for the same reasons a map/reduce algorithm can scale horizontally, processing records in the billions, proportional to the number of nodes in a cluster. All code relevant for this paper can be here https://github.com/burakbayramli/classnotes/tree/master/stat\_hadoop\_rnd\_svd

There are only two passes necessary on the full dataset, and three passes on m rows but with reduced k dimensions this time. Perhaps predictably, the procedure spends most of its time at  $A^TQ$  Job. This step performs not

only a join between A and Q, it also emits k cells per non-zero value of A's rows, then creates partial sums these k vectors creating  $n \times k$  result. If for simplicity we assume k non-zero cells in each A row, the complexity of this step would be O(mk) indicating that system, disk level improvements can greatly decrease the performance number shared above.

## References

- [1] Gleich, Benson, Demmel, Direct QR factorizations for tall-and-skinny matrices in MapReduce architectures, arXiv:1301.1071 [cs.DC], 2013
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