

# Linear Algebra

## Lecture Notes

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APPLIED  
SCIENCES  
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## Lecture 13. Singular Value Decomposition

# Outline

- 1 Low rank approximations
  - Spectral Theorem
  - Low rank approximations
- 2 Singular Value Decomposition and applications
  - Singular value decomposition
  - Applications of SVD
- 3 What else could have been in that course?

100%

- Holds for symmetric/Hermitian, skew-Hermitian, orthogonal/unitary matrices
- claims existence of an orthogonal basis of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  for eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$
- spectral decomposition:

$$A = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_1^\top + \cdots + \lambda_n \mathbf{u}_n \mathbf{u}_n^\top$$

- orthogonally diagonalizable: with
  - $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$
  - $P$  with columns  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$

$$P^{-1}AP = P^{\top}AP = \Lambda \iff A = P\Lambda P^{\top}$$

- $\lambda_j$  are
  - real for symmetric/Hermitian matrices
  - purely imaginary for anti-symmetric/skew-Hermitian ones
  - unimodular for orthogonal/unitary matrices

# Applications of the Spectral Theorem

- to construct symmetric or anti-symmetric or orthogonal (Hermitian, skew-Hermitian or unitary) matrix with prescribed spectrum and eigenvectors
- to construct low-rank approximation of  $A$ :
  - if  $|\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \dots \geq |\lambda_n|$  and  $\lambda_{k+1}, \dots, \lambda_n$  are small compared to  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ , then

$$A_k = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_1^\top + \dots + \lambda_k \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{u}_k^\top$$

is a good rank  $k$  approximation of  $A$

- in what norm? use the so-called **Frobenius** norm

$$\|A\|_F^2 := \sum_{j,k=1}^n |a_{jk}|^2 = \text{tr}(A^* A)$$

- then  $\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j^2 \text{tr}(\mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{u}_j^\top) = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j^2$

and  $\|A - A_k\|_F^2 = \sum_{j=k+1}^n \lambda_j^2$

- in fact, the SVD says  $A_k$  is **the best rank  $k$**  approximation!

# Example of low-rank approximation

Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 10 \\ 10 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = 20$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -5$  ( $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 15$ ,  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = -100$ )
- eigenvectors:  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}})^\top$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}})^\top$
- rank-one approximation:

$$A_1 = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_1^\top = \begin{pmatrix} 16 & 8 \\ 8 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A - A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Frobenius norms:
  - $\|A\|_F^2 = 15^2 + 10^2 + 10^2 = 425$ ,
  - $\|A - A_1\|_F^2 = 25$  is just 1/17 of  $\|A\|_F^2$

# Why low-rank?

## Why low-rank matrix approximation are important?

- In reality, deal with huge matrices (sizes  $10^3$ – $10^6$  or larger)
- Sending and efficient storing becomes an issue!
- Low-rank approximations are much easier for storing and sending!

## Cost comparison:

- full  $m \times n$  matrix requires  $mn$  numbers to store;
- rank one matrix requires only  $m + n + 1$
- important e.g. for image compressions

# What if $A$ is non-symmetric or non-square?

- If  $A$  is non-symmetric, then
  - its eigenvectors need not be orthogonal, or even
  - too few eigenvectors (have to use generalized EVc's)
- If  $A$  is non-square, there are **no** eigenvalues and eigenvectors at all!

**However**, low rank approximations in (Frobenius norm) exist;  
what is the best one?



# Best rank one approximation to a generic $A$

## Problem

*What is the best rank one approximation  $\mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^\top$  of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  in Frobenius norm? (WLOG assume  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = 1$ )*

The matrix  $\mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^\top$  has rows  $u_1\mathbf{v}^\top, \dots, u_m\mathbf{v}^\top$ , if the rows of  $A$  are  $\mathbf{a}_1^\top, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m^\top$ , then

$$\|A - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^\top\|_F^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m \|\mathbf{a}_j^\top - u_j\mathbf{v}^\top\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m \|\mathbf{a}_j - u_j\mathbf{v}\|^2$$

This is minimal if  $u_j\mathbf{v}$  is the projection  $P_{\parallel}\mathbf{a}_j$  of  $\mathbf{a}_j$  onto  $\text{ls}(\mathbf{v})$ :

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \|\mathbf{a}_j - P_{\parallel}\mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m \|P_{\perp}\mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m \|\mathbf{a}_j\|^2 - \sum_{j=1}^m \|P_{\parallel}\mathbf{a}_j\|^2$$

Thus need to maximize

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \|P_{\parallel}\mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m |\mathbf{a}_j^\top \mathbf{v}|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m |\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{a}_j|^2 = \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|^2$$

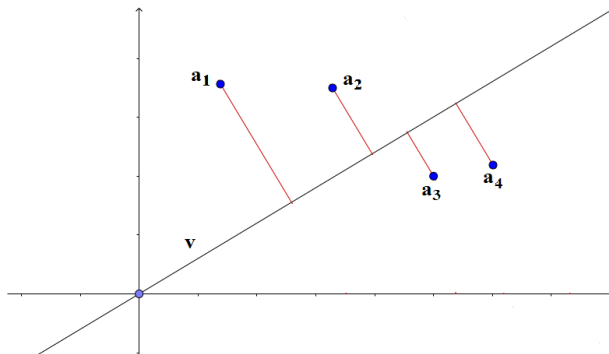
# The trolley-line-location problem

We reduced the above problem to the following one:

Maximize  $\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|$  under the restriction that  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = 1$

This is what we get in the **trolley-line-location** problem:

Choose a direction  $\mathbf{v}$  to minimize the sum of squared distances from  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  to the line



# The trolley line problem

## Problem:

For the given vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , find their best line fit  $\ell$

The objective function to be minimized:

$$f(\ell) := \sum_{k=1}^m \text{dist}^2(\mathbf{a}_k, \ell)$$

- $\mathbf{v}$  is the unit vector on  $\ell$  and  $P_{\mathbf{v}} := \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^{\top}$  the orthogonal projector;
- then  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{a}_k, \ell) = \|\mathbf{a}_k - P_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{a}_k\|$ , so that

$$f(\ell) = \sum \|\mathbf{a}_k - P_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{a}_k\|^2 = \sum \|\mathbf{a}_k\|^2 - \sum \|P_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{a}_k\|^2$$

- thus one needs to maximize the sum

$$\sum \|P_{\mathbf{v}}\mathbf{a}_k\|^2 = \sum \|\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^{\top}\mathbf{a}_k\|^2 = \sum |\mathbf{a}_k^{\top}\mathbf{v}|^2 = \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|^2,$$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  has rows  $\mathbf{a}_1^{\top}, \mathbf{a}_2^{\top}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m^{\top}$

# Solution to the rank-one approximation problem

Consider the quadratic form

$$Q(\mathbf{v}) := \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|^2 = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v})^\top (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}$$

and denote

- the largest eigenvalue by  $\sigma_1^2$
- corresponding eigenvector (the first principal axis) by  $\mathbf{v}_1$

then  $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}_1 = \sigma_1^2 \mathbf{v}_1$

$$\max\{Q(\mathbf{v}) \mid \|\mathbf{v}\| = 1\} = Q(\mathbf{v}_1) = \sigma_1^2$$

and  $\mathbf{u}_1 := \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_1$  satisfies  $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{u}_1 = \sigma_1^2 \mathbf{v}_1$

Solution to the rank-one approximation problem:

In Frobenius norm, the best rank-one approximation of  $A$  is  $\sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^\top$

This leads to the notion of **singular values** of  $A$

# Definition

- Let  $A$  be any  $m \times n$  matrix
- $B := A^T A$  is  $n \times n$  and nonnegative:

$$\mathbf{x}^T B \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^T (A^T A) \mathbf{x} = (A \mathbf{x})^T (A \mathbf{x}) = \|A \mathbf{x}\|^2 \geq 0$$

- denote by  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$  the EV's of  $B$
- $\sigma_j := \sqrt{\lambda_j}$  are called the **singular values** of  $A$
- notice that there are  $r := \text{rank } B = \text{rank } A$  positive  $\sigma_j$

## Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; B = A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ has EV's } \lambda_1 = 3 \text{ and } \lambda_2 = 1; \text{ thus}$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sqrt{3}, \sigma_2 = 1$$

# SVD theorem

## Theorem (SVD)

*Every  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  can be written as*

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

*where  $U$  and  $V$  are **orthogonal** and  $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with singular values of  $A$  on its main diagonal and zeros otherwise*

## Remark

*This is an analogue of the diagonalization  $A = UDU^T$  of a symmetric matrix  $A$*

# SVD theorem

## Theorem (SVD — expanded form)

Every  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$  can be written as  $A = U\Sigma V^\top$ , where

$$U = (\mathbf{u}_1 \dots \mathbf{u}_r | \mathbf{u}_{r+1} \dots \mathbf{u}_m),$$

$$V = (\mathbf{v}_1 \dots \mathbf{v}_r | \mathbf{v}_{r+1} \dots \mathbf{v}_n),$$

- $\Sigma$  has  $\sigma_j$  on its main diagonal and zeros otherwise
- $\mathbf{v}_j$  are eigenvectors of  $A^\top A$  with EV's  $\sigma_j^2$ :  $A^\top A \mathbf{v}_j = \sigma_j^2 \mathbf{v}_j$
- $\mathbf{u}_j := A \mathbf{v}_j / \|A \mathbf{v}_j\| = A \mathbf{v}_j / \sigma_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, r$  is an ONB for the column space of  $A$
- $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m$  is an ONB for  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$$A = \sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^\top + \dots + \sigma_r \mathbf{u}_r \mathbf{v}_r^\top$$

The vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r$  are the **left singular vectors** of  $A$ ;

$\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$  are the **right singular vectors** of  $A$

**Remark:**  $A \mathbf{v}_j = \sigma_j \mathbf{u}_j$ ,  $A^\top \mathbf{u}_j = \sigma_j \mathbf{v}_j$

# Proof of the SVD decomposition

- Start with normalized eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  and eigenvalues  $\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_n^2$  of  $A^\top A$
- Then  $\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_j\|^2 = \mathbf{v}_j^\top A^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}_j = \sigma_j^2, j = 1, \dots, n$
- Form  $\mathbf{u}_j := \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_j / \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_j\| = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_j / \sigma_j, j = 1, \dots, r (= \text{rank } A)$
- $\mathbf{u}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_j = \mathbf{v}_i^\top A^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}_j / (\sigma_i \sigma_j) = \mathbf{v}_i^\top (A^\top A) \mathbf{v}_j / (\sigma_i \sigma_j) = \frac{\sigma_j}{\sigma_i} \mathbf{v}_i^\top \mathbf{v}_j = \delta_{ij}$
- complete with  $\mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m$  to an ONB of  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 U\Sigma &= (\sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \ \dots \ \sigma_r \mathbf{u}_r \ \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{n-r}) \\
 &= (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_r \ \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{n-r}) = A(\mathbf{v}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_n) = AV
 \end{aligned}$$

- since  $V$  is orthogonal,  $VV^\top = I$  yields  $A = U\Sigma V^\top$



## Example

For  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , we find that

- $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{3}$  and  $\sigma_1 = 1$
- $\mathbf{v}_1 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^\top$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^\top$
- $\mathbf{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(\sqrt{2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^\top$ ,  
 $\mathbf{u}_2 = (0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^\top$ ,  
 $\mathbf{u}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(-1, 1, 1)^\top$
- $\sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^\top + \sigma_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{v}_2^\top = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} = A$
- $\sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^\top$  is the **best rank one approximation** of  $A$  in the **Frobenius norm**  $\sum (a_{ij} - b_{ij})^2$

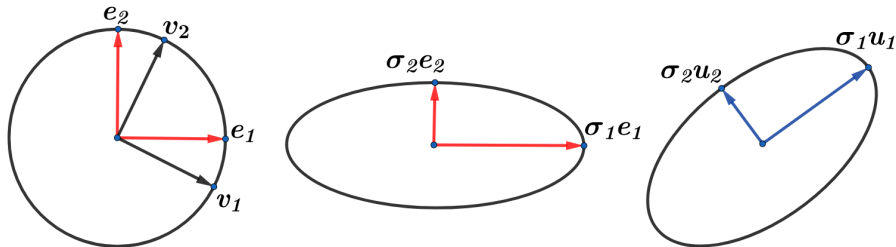
# Interpretation of SVD

$A = U\Sigma V^T$  implies decomposition of  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$  into

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{y} := V^T \mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{y} \mapsto \mathbf{z} := \Sigma \mathbf{y}, \quad \mathbf{z} \mapsto A\mathbf{x} = U\mathbf{z}$$

- $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{y}$  finds the coordinates of the vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in terms of one orthonormal basis  $(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n)$
- $\mathbf{y} \mapsto \mathbf{z}$  scales those coordinates
- $\mathbf{z} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$  find the vector with the scaled coordinates over another orthonormal basis  $(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$

# Interpretation of SVD



$$\mathbf{v}_1 \mapsto \mathbf{e}_1 \mapsto \sigma_1 \mathbf{e}_1 \mapsto \sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \mapsto \mathbf{e}_2 \mapsto \sigma_2 \mathbf{e}_2 \mapsto \sigma_2 \mathbf{u}_2$$

# Reduced SVD

- In the SVD representation, some part is uninformative:
  - $\mathbf{v}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  are chosen arbitrarily in the nullspace of  $A$
  - $\mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m$  are chosen arbitrarily in the nullspace of  $A^T$
  - $\Sigma$  has zero rows or columns
- The **reduced SVD** removes that uninformative part:

$$A = \underbrace{(\mathbf{u}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{u}_r)}_{m \times r} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \sigma_r \end{pmatrix}}_{r \times r} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_r^\top \end{pmatrix}}_{r \times n}$$

- The reduced SVD of  $A^T$ :

$$A^T = (\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{v}_r) \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \sigma_r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_r^\top \end{pmatrix}$$

# Polar decomposition

## Theorem (Polar decomposition)

*Any square matrix  $A$  can be written as  $QS$  with orthogonal  $Q$  and symmetric positive semidefinite  $S$*

## Why polar?

$$z = re^{i\theta}$$

## Proof.

Write  $A = U\Sigma V^T = (UV^T)(V\Sigma V^T) =: QS$

$Q := UV^T$  is orthogonal

$S := V\Sigma V^T$  is symmetric and positive semidefinite



# Image compression

## Image compression

Instead of storing  $m \times n$  numerical entries, can take the best rank- $r$  approximation of  $A$ ; need

numbers

$$r(1 + m + n)$$

# Pseudo-inverse

A rectangular  $A$  cannot be inverted!

However, a **pseudo-inverse**  $A^+$  can be defined s.t.

$$A^+A \approx I_n \text{ and } AA^+ \approx I_m \implies AA^+A \approx A \text{ and } A^+AA^+ \approx A^+$$

## Definition (Moore–Penrose pseudo-inverse)

For an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , its Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse is an  $n \times m$  matrix  $A^+$  satisfying

$$A^+AA^+ = A^+, \quad AA^+A = A, \quad (A^+A)^\top = A^+A, \quad (AA^+)^\top = AA^+$$

## Theorem

*For every matrix  $A$ , its Moore–Penrose pseudo-inverse  $A^+$  exists and is unique*

# Pseudo-inverse

## Moore–Penrose pseudo-inverse

If  $A = U\Sigma V^\top$  is the SVD of  $A$ , then the pseudo-inverse  $\Sigma^+$  of  $\Sigma$  should satisfy  $\Sigma^+\Sigma = I_r \oplus \mathbf{0}_{n-r}$ ,  $\Sigma\Sigma^+ = I_r \oplus \mathbf{0}_{m-r}$

Thus  $\Sigma^+$  gets transposed and  $\sigma_j$  replaced with  $1/\sigma_j$

Therefore, **Moore–Penrose** pseudo-inverse is  $A^+ := V\Sigma^+U^\top$ :

$$A^+A = V\Sigma^+(U^\top U)\Sigma V^\top = V\Sigma^+\Sigma V^\top = V(I_r \oplus \mathbf{0}_{n-r})V^\top$$

$$AA^+A = U\Sigma V^\top V(I_r \oplus \mathbf{0}_{n-r})V^\top = U\Sigma V^\top = A$$

$$A^+AA^+ = V(I_r \oplus \mathbf{0}_{n-r})V^\top V\Sigma^+U^\top = V\Sigma^+U^\top = A^+$$

## Example

- If a rectangular  $A$  has linearly independent columns, then

$$A^+ = (A^\top A)^{-1}A^\top$$

is the left inverse of  $A$  (ie,  $A^+A = I$ ) and  $AA^+$  is an old friend...

- In terms of  $A = QR$ ,  $A^+ = R^{-1}Q^\top$



## Theorem

$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = A^+ \mathbf{b}$  is the *best* solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$

- $A$  is invertible  $\implies A^+ = A^{-1}$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is the unique exact solution
- $A$  has linearly independent columns  $\implies A^+ = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ ;
  - if  $\mathbf{b}$  is in the column space, then  $A^+$  is the right inverse of  $A$ , and the unique exact solution  $\mathbf{x}$  satisfies  $\mathbf{x} = A^+ A \mathbf{x} = A^+ \mathbf{b} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$
  - if  $\mathbf{b}$  is not in the column space, then  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} := A^+ \mathbf{b}$  is the unique least square solution
- $A$  has linearly dependent columns  $\implies$  a solution (exact when  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{col}(A)$  or least square otherwise) is not unique
  - $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = A^+ \mathbf{b}$  is then the *shortest* solution (ie, of the smallest norm)
  - Indeed, if  $A = U \Sigma V^T$ , then
 
$$\|A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\| = \|\Sigma V^T \mathbf{x} - U^T \mathbf{b}\| = \|\Sigma \mathbf{y} - U^T \mathbf{b}\| \text{ with } \mathbf{y} := V^T \mathbf{x}$$
  - $\Sigma \mathbf{y} - U^T \mathbf{b}$  has the smallest norm when its first  $r = \text{rank } A$  entries are zero; the rest do not depend on  $\mathbf{y}$  and are equal to those of  $-U^T \mathbf{b}$
  - this specifies the first  $r$  entries of  $\mathbf{y}$  and leave the rest undefined
  - $\hat{\mathbf{y}} := \Sigma^+ U^T \mathbf{b}$  has the required first  $r$  entries and all the rest entries zero  $\implies$  is of the shortest norm among all such  $\mathbf{y}$
  - $\mathbf{x} = V \hat{\mathbf{y}} = V \Sigma^+ U^T \mathbf{b} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is then the shortest one among all solutions

# SVD vs PCA

- Observe that the largest value of  $\|A\mathbf{x}\|$  with  $\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq 1$  is obtained for  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}_1$  and is equal to  $\sigma_1$ ;
- this is the **first principal axis** for  $A^T A$ :
  - indeed,  $A^T A = V\Sigma^T U^T U \Sigma V^T = V\Sigma^T \Sigma V^T = V D V^T$  is the spectral decomposition of the symmetric matrix  $B := A^T A$
  - $B$  has eigenvalues  $\sigma_k^2$  with eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_k$
  - the quadratic form  $Q(\mathbf{x}) := \mathbf{x}^T B \mathbf{x}$  is equal to  $\|A\mathbf{x}\|^2$
  - by the **minimax** properties of the eigenvalues,

$$\sigma_1^2 = \max_{\|\mathbf{x}\|=1} \mathbf{x}^T B \mathbf{x} = \max_{\|\mathbf{x}\|=1} \|A\mathbf{x}\|^2,$$

$$\sigma_2^2 = \max_{\substack{\|\mathbf{x}\|=1, \\ \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_1}} \mathbf{x}^T B \mathbf{x} = \max_{\substack{\|\mathbf{x}\|=1, \\ \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{v}_1}} \|A\mathbf{x}\|^2,$$

$$\sigma_3^2 = \dots$$

- $A^T A$  can be considered as a covariance matrix for the columns of  $A$

# The trolley line problem, revisited

## Problem:

For the given vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , find the best-fit subspace  $L$  of dimension  $k$ . The objective function to be minimized:

$$f(L) := \sum_{j=1}^m \text{dist}^2(\mathbf{a}_j, L)$$

- $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  is an ONB of  $L$  and  $P_L := \sum \mathbf{u}_\ell \mathbf{u}_\ell^\top$  the orthoprojector;
- then  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{a}_j, L) = \|\mathbf{a}_j - P_L \mathbf{a}_j\|$ , so that

$$f(L) = \sum \|\mathbf{a}_j - P_L \mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum \|\mathbf{a}_j\|^2 - \sum \|P_L \mathbf{a}_j\|^2$$

- thus one needs to maximize the sum

$$\sum \|P_L \mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum_{j,\ell} \|\mathbf{u}_\ell \mathbf{u}_\ell^\top \mathbf{a}_j\|^2 = \sum_{j,\ell} |\mathbf{a}_j^\top \mathbf{u}_\ell|^2 = \sum_\ell \|\mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_\ell\|^2,$$

where  $A$  has rows  $\mathbf{a}_1^\top, \mathbf{a}_2^\top, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m^\top$

- **Solution:** the subspace spanned by the **first  $k$  right singular vectors**  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$  of  $A$
- Indeed,  $\|\mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}\|^2 = \|\Sigma V^\top \mathbf{u}\|^2 = \|\Sigma \mathbf{w}\|^2 = \sum \sigma_1^2 w_1^2 + \dots + \sigma_r^2 w_r^2 \dots$

# Best low-rank approximation of $A$

## Frobenius norm of a matrix

Indeed,

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|^2 = \sum_i \|\mathbf{a}_i\|^2 = \sum_i \sigma_i^2$$

- pre-/post-multiplying by an orthogonal matrix does not change  $\|\cdot\|_F$
- thus  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  yields  $\|A\|_F^2 = \|U^T A V\|_F^2 = \|\Sigma\|_F^2$
- another reason:  $\|A\|_F^2 = \text{tr}(A^T A)$ ; now  

$$\text{tr}(A^T A) = \text{tr}(V \Sigma^T \Sigma V^T) = \text{tr}(\Sigma^T \Sigma) = \sum \sigma_k^2$$

## Best rank-one approximation of $A$ in the Frobenius norm

For a rank-one operator  $B = \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T$ ,  $\|B\|_F^2 = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$ ; thus ( $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \|A - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T\|_F^2 &= \text{tr}(A - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T)^T (A - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T) \\ &= \dots = \|A\|_F^2 - \|A^T \mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|A^T \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus: maximize  $\|A\mathbf{u}\|$  and take  $\mathbf{v} = A^T \mathbf{u} \implies$

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_1 \text{ and } \mathbf{v} = A\mathbf{u}_1 = \sigma_1 \mathbf{v}_1$$

# What has not been covered (but could have been):

- Hamming codes as basis problem
- 2D image processing as change of basis problem
- Image rectification
- Iterative methods of solving  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}$ :  
rewrite as  $\mathbf{x} = B\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}_0$  and  $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = B\mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{x}_0$
- Iterative methods for finding eigenvalues/eigenvectors
- PageRank as an eigenvalue problem
- Numerical issues (condition number, stability etc)
- LA and optimization problems
  
- and lots of other fun stuff . . .

Thanks for being with

Linear Algebra