# 15 Nov. 2018

#### Rob 501 Handout: Grizzle

# The SVD and Numerical Rank of a Matrix (Based on a handout of Prof. Freudenberg)

Motivation: In abstract linear algebra, a set of vectors is either linearly independent or not. There is nothing in between. For example, the set of vectors

$$\left\{ v^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, v^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.999\\1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is linearly independent. In this case, you look at it and say, yes, BUT, the vectors are "almost" dependent because when I take the determinant

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 0.999 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] = 0.001,$$

I get something pretty small, so I am OK with calling them dependent. Well, what about the set

$$\left\{ v^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, v^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 10^4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}?$$

When you form the matrix and check the determinant, you get

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 10^4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = 1,$$

which seems pretty far from zero. So are these vectors "adequately" linearly independent?

Maybe not! Let's note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10^4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 10^{-4} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10^4 \\ 10^{-4} & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

is clearly singular! Hence, we can add a very small perturbation to our vectors and make them dependent! This cannot be good! :(

**Question:** How to quantify the statement, "the rank is *nearly* 1" or more generally, how to quantify that a set of vectors is *nearly* linearly dependent?

Answer: The Singular Value Decomposition (SVD).

A good reference on numerical linear algebra is G. H. Golub and C. F. van Loan, *Matrix Computations*, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983.

**Remark:** In practice, you may have a need to deal with matrices that have complex entries, so the end of the handout also does things for  $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ . The generalization of a real *symmetric* matrix is called a *Hermitian* matrix. And the generalization of a real *orthogonal* matrix is called a *unitary matrix*. These will not be on any ROB 501 exam.

**Def.** An  $m \times n$  matrix  $\Sigma$  is <u>rectangular diagonal</u> if  $\Sigma_{ij} = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . The diagonal of  $\Sigma$  is

$$\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma) = (\Sigma_{11}, \ \Sigma_{22}, \ \cdots, \ \Sigma_{pp})$$

where  $p := \min(m, n)$ .

Examples Consider rectangular matrices

$$\Sigma_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then,

$$\operatorname{diag}\left(\Sigma_{1}\right)=\begin{bmatrix}3 & 4 & -1\end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\operatorname{diag}\left(\Sigma_{2}\right)=\begin{bmatrix}1 & -6\end{bmatrix}$ 

**SVD Theorem:** Any  $m \times n$  real matrix A can be factored as

$$A = U\Sigma V^{\top}$$

where

 $U = m \times m$  orthogonal matrix

 $V = n \times n$  orthogonal matrix

 $\Sigma = m \times n$  rectangular diagonal matrix

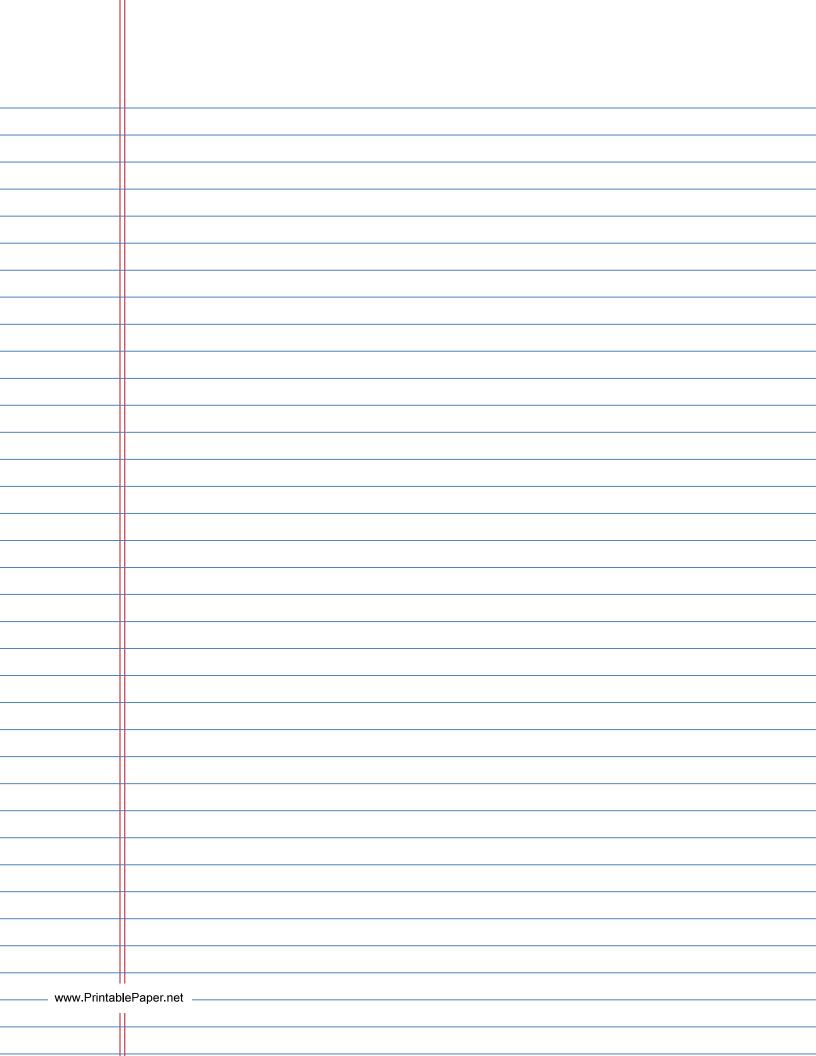
and diag( $\Sigma$ ) = [ $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $\sigma_p$ ] satisfies  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_p \geq 0$  where  $p = \min(m, n)$ . Moreover, the columns of U are eigenvectors of  $AA^{\top}$ , the columns of V are eigenvectors of  $A^{\top}A$ , and the  $(\sigma_i)^2$  are eigenvalues of both  $AA^{\top}$  and  $A^{\top}A$ .

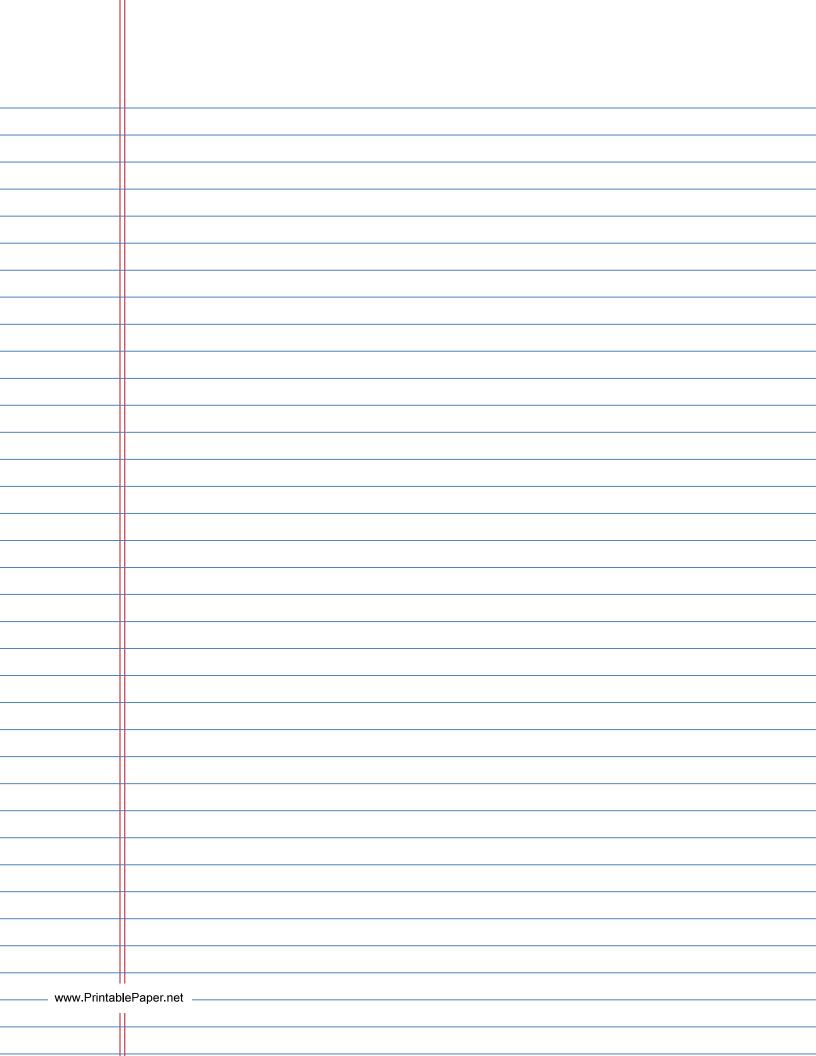
**Remark:** The entries of  $\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma)$  are called <u>singular values</u> of A. We refer to  $\sigma_i$  as the *i*'th singular value, to  $u_i$  as the *i*'th left singular vector, and to  $v_i$  as the *i*'th right singular vector. The proof of the theorem is on page 12.

Proof for the special case that A is mxm and A ATSO Let {u', u2, .., um} be an orthonormal set of vectors of AAT satisfying (AA) u' = \; ui and highzen ghmoo. (WLD Define vi= A ui (Vi, Vi) = (Vi) TVi = (u') TA ATW = (ui)T x; wi Re-label viz LATui then {v', uz, .., vmg is orthonormal.

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$$\begin{array}{c}
V = \begin{bmatrix} v' | v^2 | \dots | v^m \end{bmatrix} \\
V = \begin{bmatrix} u' | u^2 | \dots | u^m \end{bmatrix} \\
V = \begin{bmatrix} av | Av^2 | \dots | Av^m \end{bmatrix} \\
V = \begin{bmatrix} AA^Tuv | AA^Tuv | \dots | AA^Tuv | \dots$$





SVD Singular value decomposition.

[U,S,V] = SVD(X) produces a diagonal matrix S, of the same dimension as X and with non-negative diagonal elements in decreasing order, and unitary matrices U and V so that X = U\*S\*V.

By itself, SVD(X) returns a vector containing diag(S).

```
A = [
    0.8038
                        0.0960
              0.1788
    0.8576
              0.6365
                        0.6991
    0.1107
              0.6680
                        0.8653
                        0.7041
    0.9522
              0.6690
    0.6551
              0.7961
                        0.9283];
```

>> [U,S,V]=svd(A)

```
V =
   -0.5877
              -0.8020
                          0.1065
   -0.5375
               0.2886
                         -0.7923
               0.5229
                          0.6007
   -0.6047
>> U*U'
ans =
    1.0000
               0.0000
                          0.0000
                                    -0.0000
                                                0.0000
               1.0000
                         -0.0000
                                     0.0000
    0.0000
                                               -0.0000
    0.0000
              -0.0000
                          1.0000
                                    -0.0000
                                               -0.0000
   -0.0000
               0.0000
                         -0.0000
                                     1.0000
                                               -0.0000
    0.0000
                         -0.0000
                                    -0.0000
              -0.0000
                                                1.0000
>> A-U*S*V'
ans =
   1.0e-15 *
         0
               0.0278
                         -0.8327
   -0.3331
                    0
                          0.1110
   -0.2220
                          0.2220
```



-0.2220

-0.1110

Theorem: rank(A) = number of nonzero singular values.

-0.2220

0

0

0.2220

0.2220

Fact: The numerical rank of A is the number of singular values that are larger than a given threshold. Often the threshold is chosen as a percentage of the largest singular value.

Example:  $5 \times 5$  matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -32.57514 & -3.89996 & -6.30185 & -5.67305 & -26.21851 \\ -36.21632 & -11.13521 & -38.80726 & -16.86330 & -1.42786 \\ -5.07732 & -21.86599 & -38.27045 & -36.61390 & -33.95078 \\ -36.51955 & -38.28404 & -19.40680 & -31.67486 & -37.34390 \\ -25.28365 & -38.57919 & -31.99765 & -38.36343 & -27.13790 \end{bmatrix}$$

[U,Sigma,V]=svd(A);

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 132.459 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 37.70811 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 33.41836 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 19.34060 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.79164 \end{bmatrix}$$

Because the smallest singular value  $\sigma_5 = 0.79164$  is less than 1% of the largest singular value  $\sigma_1 = 132.459$ , in many cases, one might say that the numerical rank of A was 4 instead of 5.

This notion of numerical rank can be formalized by asking the following question: Suppose rank(A) = r. How far away is A from a matrix of rank strictly less than r?



The numerical rank of a matrix is based on the expansion

$$A = U\Sigma V^\top = \sum_{i=1}^p \sigma_i \underline{u_i} v_i^\top = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^\top + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^\top + \dots + \sigma_p u_p v_p^\top$$

where  $p = \min\{m, n\}$ , and once again, the singular values are ordered such that  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_p$ . Each term  $u_i v_i^{\top}$  is a rank-one matrix. The following exercises will help you understand the expansion.

**Exercises:** Suppose that A is  $m \times n$ , B is  $n \times m$ , and that  $A = U\Sigma V^{\top}$  is the singular value decomposition of A.

• Partition A by columns, that is,  $A = [A_1 \mid A_2 \mid \cdots \mid A_n]$  and B by rows, that is,  $B^{\top} = [B_1^{\top} \mid B_2^{\top} \mid \cdots \mid B_n^{\top}]$ . Show that

**Hint:** Show that  $[A_k B_k]_{ij} = a_{ik} b_{kj}$  and recall the formula for  $[AB]_{ij}$ 

- For here and the following, let m = n.  $U\Sigma = [\sigma_1 u_1 \mid \sigma_2 u_2 \mid \cdots \mid \sigma_m u_m]$
- $A = U\Sigma V^{\top} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sigma_i u_i v_i^{\top}$
- $\forall \ 1 \le j \le m, \ [u_i v_i^\top] \ v_j = \begin{cases} u_i & j = i \\ 0 & j \ne i \end{cases}$
- $\bullet \ A^{\top}A = V\Sigma^2V^{\top}$
- $A^{\top}A = V\Sigma^2V^{\top} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\sigma_i)^2 v_i v_i^{\top}$
- The e-values of  $v_i v_i^{\top}$  are  $\lambda_1 = 1$  and the rest are zero. **Hint:** Show that

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_i v_i^{\top} \end{bmatrix} v_j = \begin{cases} v_i & j = i \\ 0 & j \neq i \end{cases}$$

Recall from HW For a symmetric real matrix M,

$$\max_{x^{\top}x=1} x^{\top} M x = \lambda_{\max}(M)$$

(Induced matrix norm) Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Then the matrix norm induced by the Euclidean vector norm is given by:

$$||A||_2 := \max_{x^\top x = 1} ||Ax||$$
 (1)

$$= \max_{x^{\top}x=1} \sqrt{x^{\top}A^{\top}Ax} \tag{2}$$

$$= \max_{x^{\top}x=1} \sqrt{x^{\top}A^{\top}Ax}$$

$$= \sqrt{\max_{x^{\top}x=1} x^{\top}A^{\top}Ax}$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^{\top}A)}$$

$$(2)$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^{\top}A)}$$

$$(3)$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^{\top}A)} \tag{4}$$

where  $\lambda_{\max}(A^{\top}A)$  denotes the largest eigenvalue of the matrix  $A^{\top}A$ . (Recall that we proved in lecture that all the eigenvalues of a matrix having the form  $A^{\top}A$  are real and non-negative.)(Also, recall HW 2)

**Fact:** Suppose that rank(A) = r, so that  $\sigma_r$  is the smallest non-zero singular value. Then

- (i) if an  $n \times m$  matrix E satisfies  $||E|| < \sigma_r$ , then  $\operatorname{rank}(A + E) = r$ .
- (ii) there exists E with  $||E|| = \sigma_r$  and rank(A + E) < r.
- (iii) In fact, for  $E = -\sigma_r u_r v_r^{\top}$ , rank(A + E) = r 1.
- (iv) Moreover, for  $E = -\sigma_r u_r v_r^{\top} \sigma_{r-1} u_{r-1} v_{r-1}^{\top}$ , rank(A + E) = r 2.

Corollary: Suppose A is square and invertible. Then  $\sigma_r$  measures the distance from A to the nearest singular matrix.

### Example: Using A above

```
>> d=diag(Sigma);

>> d(end)=0;

>> D=diag(d);

>> E=A-B;

E = \begin{bmatrix} -0.04169 & 0.12122 & 0.09818 & -0.21886 & 0.05458 \\ 0.02031 & -0.05906 & -0.04784 & 0.10663 & -0.02659 \\ 0.01966 & -0.05716 & -0.04629 & 0.10320 & -0.02574 \\ 0.07041 & -0.20476 & -0.16584 & 0.36968 & -0.09220 \\ -0.08160 & 0.23728 & 0.19218 & -0.42839 & 0.10684 \end{bmatrix}
>> max(sqrt(eig(E'*E)))

0.7916

>> [U,Sigma,V]=svd(A-E);
```

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 132.45977 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 37.70811 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 33.41836 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 19.34060 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 & 0.00000 \end{bmatrix}$$

I added a matrix with norm 0.7916 and made the (exact) rank drop from 4 to 5! How cool is that? It really shows that the matrix was close to a singular matrix.

# Another Example:

Hence, yeah, the SVD captures the fact that A is nearly singular.

# Interesting and Useful Facts not on any ROB 501 Exam:

(a) We have not had the time to do anything with the nullspace and range of an  $m \times n$  matrix A; they are important subspaces.

Nullspace: 
$$N(A) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = 0\}$$

**Range:** 
$$\mathbf{R}(A) := \{ y \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \exists x \in \mathbb{C}^n \text{ such that } y = Ax \}$$

- (b) Fact: Let  $[U, \Sigma, V] = \text{svd}(A)$ ; Then the columns of U corresponding to non-zero singular values are a basis for  $\mathbf{R}(A)$  and the columns of V corresponding to zero singular values are a basis for  $\mathbf{N}(A)$ .
- (c) The SVD can also be used to compute an "effective" range and an "effective" nullspace of a matrix.
- (d) Suppose that  $\sigma_1 \geq ... \geq \sigma_r > \epsilon \geq \sigma_{r+1} \geq ... \sigma_n \geq 0$ , so that r is the "effective" or numerical rank of A. (Note the  $\epsilon$  inserted between  $\sigma_r$  and  $\sigma_{r+1}$  to denote the break point.)
- (e) Let  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{eff}}(A)$  and  $\mathbf{N}_{\text{eff}}(A)$  denote the effective range and effective nullspace of A, respectively. Then we can calculate bases for these subspaces by choosing appropriate singular vectors:

$$\mathbf{R}_{\text{eff}}(A) := \text{span}\{u_1, ..., u_r\} \text{ and } \mathbf{N}_{\text{eff}}(A) := \text{span}\{v_{r+1}, ..., v_n\}.$$

#### The SVD for Real Matrices

**Def.** An  $m \times n$  matrix  $\Sigma$  is <u>rectangular diagonal</u> if  $\Sigma_{ij} = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . The diagonal of  $\Sigma$  is

$$\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma) = (\Sigma_{11}, \ \Sigma_{22}, \ \cdots, \ \Sigma_{kk})$$

where  $k = \min(m, n)$ .

**Examples** Consider rectangular matrices

$$\Sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then,

$$\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ 

**SVD Theorem:** Any  $m \times n$  real matrix A can be factored as

$$A = U\Sigma V^{\top}$$

where

 $U = m \times m$  orthogonal matrix

 $V = n \times n$  orthogonal matrix

 $\Sigma = m \times n$  rectangular diagonal matrix

and diag( $\Sigma$ ) = [ $\sigma_1$ ,  $\sigma_2$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $\sigma_p$ ] satisfies  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_p \geq 0$  where  $p = \min(m, n)$ . Moreover, the columns of U are eigenvectors of  $AA^{\top}$ , the columns of V are eigenvectors of  $A^{\top}A$ , and the  $(\sigma_i)^2$  are eigenvalues of both  $AA^{\top}$  and  $A^{\top}A$ .

**Remark:** The entries of diag( $\Sigma$ ) are called singular values of A.

**Proof of the theorem:**  $A^{\top}A$  is  $n \times n$ , real, and symmetric. Hence, there exist orthonormal eigenvectors  $\{v^1, \dots, v^n\}$  such that  $A^{\top}Av^j = \lambda_j v^j$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that

$$\lambda_1 \ge \lambda_2 \ge \dots \ge \lambda_n \ge 0$$

If not, we simply re-order the  $v^i$ 's to make it so.

For  $\lambda_j > 0$ , say  $1 \le j \le r$ , we define

$$\sigma_j = \sqrt{\lambda_j}$$

and

$$q^j = \frac{1}{\sigma_j} A v^j \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\underline{\text{Claim:}} \ \left(q^i\right)^\top q^j = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & 1 \neq j \end{cases} \text{ for } 1 \leq i, \ j \leq r.$$

Proof of Claim:

$$(q^{i})^{\top} q^{j} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{i}} \frac{1}{\sigma_{j}} (v^{i})^{\top} A^{\top} A v^{j}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_{j}}{\sigma_{i} \sigma_{j}} (v^{i})^{\top} v^{j}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda_{j}}{(\sigma_{i})^{2}} & i = j\\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & i = j\\ 0 & 1 \neq j \end{cases}$$

### End of proof of Claim.

If r < m, we can extend the  $q^i$ 's to an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Define

$$U = [q^1 \mid q^2 \mid \cdots \mid q^m]$$
  
$$V = [v^1 \mid v^2 \mid \cdots \mid v^n]$$

and define  $\Sigma = m \times n$  by

$$\Sigma_{ij} = \begin{cases} \sigma_i \delta_{ij} & 1 \le i, \ j \le r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then,  $\Sigma$  is rectangular diagonal with

$$\operatorname{diag}(\Sigma) = [\sigma_1, \ \sigma_2, \ \cdots, \ \sigma_r, \ 0, \ \cdots, \ 0]$$

To complete the proof of the theorem, it is enough to show that  $U^{\top}AV = \Sigma$ . We note that the ij element of this matrix is

$$(U^{\mathsf{T}}AV)_{ij} = q_i^{\mathsf{T}}Av^j$$

If j > r, then  $Av^j = 0$ , and thus  $q_i^{\top} Av^j = 0$ , as required. If i > r, then  $q^i$  was selected to be orthogonal to

$$\{q^1, \dots, q^r\} = \{\frac{1}{\sigma_1} A v^1, \frac{1}{\sigma_2} A v^2, \dots, \frac{1}{\sigma_r} A v^r\}$$

and thus  $(q^i)^{\top} A v^j = 0$ .

Hence we now consider  $1 \leq i, j \leq r$  and compute that

$$(U^{\top}AV)_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sigma_i} (v^i)^{\top} A^{\top}Av^j$$
$$= \frac{\lambda_j}{\sigma_i} (v^i)^{\top} v^j$$
$$= \sigma_i \delta_{ij}$$

as required. End of Proof.

# SVD for Complex Matrices (not on ROB 501 Final Exam)

**Hermitian:** Consider  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . Then we define the vector "x Hermitian" by  $x^H := \bar{x}^\top$ . That is,  $x^H$  is the complex conjugate transpose of x. Similarly, for a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , we define  $A^H \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  by  $\bar{A}^\top$ . We say that a square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is a Hermitian matrix if  $A = A^H$ .

## Important things to note:

- Similar to  $A^{\top}A$  for real matrices, when A is complex,  $A^{H}A$  has e-values that are real and non-negative. The proof is similar to things we have done in lecture; if you care to see it, you can find it online.
- In MATLAB,  $A' = A^H$ . Yikes! It is not the ordinary transpose? No, it is the complex conjugate transpose. If you want the ordinary transpose, use transpose(A).

A =

>> A'

ans =

Inner product on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ : Given  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . Let the elements x and y be noted

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$ .

Then the Euclidean inner product is defined as

$$\langle x, y \rangle := x^H y \tag{5}$$

$$= \bar{x}_1 y_1 + \bar{x}_2 y_2 + \dots + \bar{x}_n y_n \tag{6}$$

We note that this puts the linearity on the right side of the "bracket", but as we have noted in HW, both definitions are common.

Euclidean vector norm: As in class, the vector norm associated with this inner product is given by

$$||x||_2 := \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle} \tag{7}$$

$$||x||_2 := \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$$
 (7)  
=  $\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2}$  (8)

We often omit the subscript "2" when we are discussing the Euclidean norm (or "2-norm") exclusively.

<u>Euclidean matrix norm:</u> Given  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ . Then the matrix norm induced by

the Euclidean vector norm is given by:

$$||A||_2 := \max_{x^H x = 1} ||Ax|| \tag{9}$$

$$= \max_{x^H x = 1} \sqrt{x^H A^H A x} \tag{10}$$

$$= \max_{x^H x = 1} \sqrt{x^H A^H A x}$$

$$= \sqrt{\max_{x^H x = 1} x^H A^H A x}$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^H A)}$$

$$(10)$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^H A)}$$

$$(12)$$

$$= \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^H A)} \tag{12}$$

where  $\lambda_{\max}(A^H A)$  denotes the largest eigenvalue of the matrix  $A^H A$ . (As noted above, all the eigenvalues of a matrix having the form  $A^HA$ are real and non-negative.)(Also, recall HW 2)

Orthogonality: Two vectors  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n$  are orthogonal if  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ .

Orthonormal Set: A collection of vectors  $\{x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_m\} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is said to be an orthonormal set if

$$\langle x_i, x_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 0, & i \neq j \\ 1, & i = j \end{cases}$$
 (Hence  $||x_i|| = 1, \forall i$ .)

Unitary Matrix: A matrix  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is unitary if  $U^H U = U U^H = I_n$ .

<u>Fact:</u> If U is a unitary matrix, then the columns of U form an orthonormal basis (ONB) for  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

<u>Proof of Fact:</u> Denote the columns of U as  $U = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \cdots & u_n \end{bmatrix}$ . Then

$$U^{H}U = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}^{H} \\ u_{2}^{H} \\ \vdots \\ u_{n}^{H} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{1} & u_{2} & \cdots & u_{n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1}^{H}u_{1} & u_{1}^{H}u_{2} & \cdots & u_{1}^{H}u_{n} \\ u_{2}^{H}u_{1} & u_{2}^{H}u_{2} & \cdots & u_{2}^{H}u_{n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{n}^{H}u_{1} & u_{n}^{H}u_{2} & \cdots & u_{n}^{H}u_{n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For real matrices, unitary is the same thing as orthogonal.

### Example:

U =

>>U\*U'

ans =

Unitary matrices are effectively rotation matrices: they do not change the length of a vector, nor the angle between two vectors. Indeed,

- 1) From  $U^H U = U U^H = I_n$ , it follows that  $U^{-1} = U^H$
- 2) Let's compute the inner product of Ux and Uy:

$$< Ux, Uy > := (Ux)^H Uy = x^H U^H Uy = x^H y = :< x, y >$$

- 3) It follows that
  - (a) norm of Ux equals the norm of x:

$$||Ux||^2 := \langle Ux, Ux \rangle = \langle x, x \rangle = : ||x||^2$$

(b) angle between x and y is the same as the angle between Ux and Uy:

$$\cos(\angle(x,y)) := \frac{\langle x,y \rangle}{||x|| \ ||y||} = \frac{\langle Ux, Uy \rangle}{||Ux|| \ ||Uy||} =: \cos(\angle(Ux, Uy))$$

4) All of the e-values of U have magnitude 1. Indeed, suppose that  $\lambda$  is an e-value with e-vector v:  $Uv = \lambda v$ 

Applying norms to both sides of the above yields:  $||Uv|| = ||\lambda v||$ 

But, by item (3) above and properties of norms:

$$||Uv|| = ||v|| \text{ and } ||\lambda v|| = |\lambda| ||v||$$

which, with the above, implies  $|\lambda| = 1$ .

Theorem (SVD for Complex matrices: Consider  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ . Then there exist unitary matrices

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \cdots & u_m \end{bmatrix}$$
$$V = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_n \end{bmatrix}$$

such that

$$A = \begin{cases} U \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} V^H, & m \ge n \\ U \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^H, & m \le n \end{cases}$$

where

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_p \end{bmatrix}, \ p = \min(m, n)$$

and

$$\sigma_1 \ge \sigma_2 \ge \cdots \sigma_p \ge 0$$

Terminology: We refer to  $\sigma_i$  as the *i*'th singular value, to  $u_i$  as the *i*'th left singular vector, and to  $v_i$  as the *i*'th right singular vector.