

Linear Systems of Eq's

Part 1: The singular value decomposition (SVD)

m linear Eqn's in n unknowns:

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

:

$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m$$

Matrix notation \Rightarrow

$$\begin{matrix} \text{m} \\ \text{Matrix notation} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{n} \\ \text{unknowns} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{m} \\ \text{eqns} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Fundamental task: "solve" $Ax = b$

In high-level languages like Julia/Matlab

$$x = A \backslash b$$

↑ "backslash"

\Rightarrow Julia example: square systems
under/overdetermined
systems

What does it mean to solve $Ax = b$?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

↑↑
columns of A

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow "Find the coordinates of b in the basis $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ "

$$b = b_1 e_1 + b_2 e_2 + \dots + b_n e_n$$

\downarrow
 $e_i = [0, \dots, 0, \overset{i^{\text{th}} \text{ entry}}{1}, 0, \dots, 0]^T$
canonical basis

$$b = x_1 a_1 + x_2 a_2 + \dots + x_n a_n$$

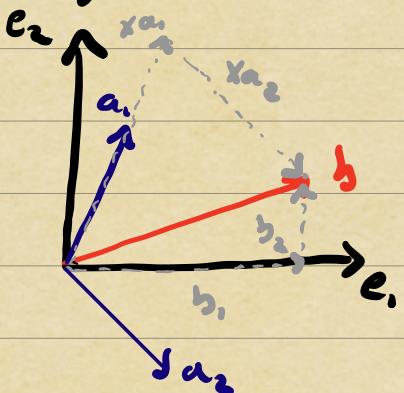
When can we perform this change of basis?

Case 1: $n = m$ # unknowns = # equations

If A is square and invertible,

$$\Rightarrow x = A^{-1}b$$

unique solution



Theorem 1.3 (Characterizations of invertibility)

These conditions are equivalent for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

(a) A is invertible

(b) $\text{rank}(A) = m$

(c) $\text{range}(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$

(d) $\text{null}(A) = \{0\}$

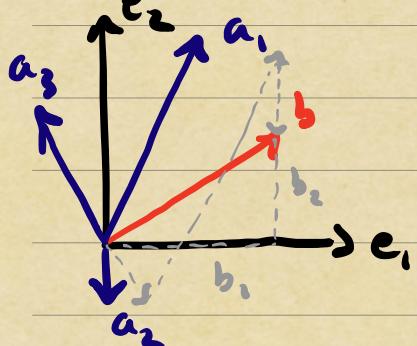
(e) $0 \notin \lambda(A)$ (^{no zero} eigenvalues)

(f) $0 \notin \sigma(A)$ (^{no zero} singular values)

(g) $\det(A) \neq 0$

If any of
these conditions
conditions is
unfamiliar, please
read Lecture 1
in Trefethen
carefully and
review 18.06 mat.
as necessary.

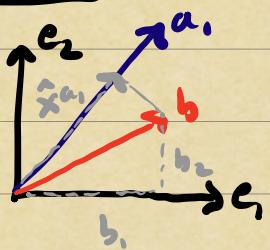
Case 2: $n > m$ # unknowns & # equations



If columns of A are
linearly independent, then
there is no unique solution.
 \Rightarrow many ways to write
 $x_1 a_1 + x_2 a_2 + x_3 a_3 = b$

\Rightarrow We need to specify
additional constraints,
like a minimal norm soln.

Case 3: $n \neq m$ # unknowns < # equations



\hat{x} = least squares soln.
minimizes $\|Ax - b\|_2$
 $= \sqrt{\text{sum of squares}}$

A powerful way to understand all 3 cases (and many other topics in NLA) is with the **singular value decomposition**.

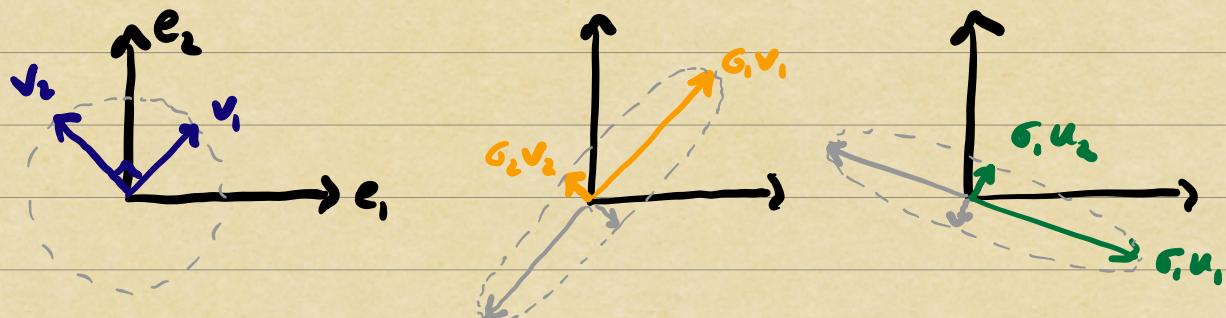
$$m \times n = m \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \sigma_m & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} v_1^* v_2^* \dots v_n^*$$

A U Σ V*

↑ ↑ ↑

unitary diagonal unitary

The SVD is one of many LA factorizations that decompose a matrix into a product of highly structured matrices, whose individual action is easier to understand.



rotation/reflection

scaling

rotation/refl.

Unitary / orthogonal matrices

$$\tilde{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & | \\ q_1 & \dots & q_m \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{if} \quad q_i^* q_j = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$Q^* Q = \begin{bmatrix} -q_1^* & - \\ \vdots & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{q_1} \\ \frac{1}{q_1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$Q^{-1} = Q^*$ for a unitary matrix!

Multiplying by Q means changing to a new orthonormal basis.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Length } \|Qx\|_2 = \|x\|!$$

$$\text{b/c } \|Qx\|_2^2 = (Qx)^* (Qx) = x^* Q^* Q x = x^* x \\ = \|x\|_2^2$$

Key idea: Since U and V are both unitary, the SVD usually allows us to replace

$$Ax = b \Leftrightarrow U \Sigma V^* x = b \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\Sigma V^* x}_y = \underbrace{U^* b}_d$$

with a
diag matrix $\Rightarrow \Sigma y = d$

Then Every $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ has an SVD.
 (See Trefethen Lecture 5 for uniqueness*)

Case 1 $m = n$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ invertible
IFF $\sigma_n > 0$.

If $\sigma_{k+1} = 0$, then $\text{rank}(A) = k$.

reduced SVD: drop zero σ 's

$$A = m \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & \dots & u_k & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & u_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -v_1^* \\ \vdots \\ -v_k^* \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Case 2 $n > m$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \sigma_m & & \\ & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \\ y_{m+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution if $\sigma_m > 0$! We say A has full row rank if $\text{rank}(A) = m$

Case 3 $n < m$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & a_n \\ \hline & 0 & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Exact soln possible only if

$$d_{m+1}, \dots, d_m = 0 \quad \text{and } a_n \neq 0$$

We say A has full column rank if $\text{rank}(A) = n$

In general, least squares residual is

$$\|Ax - b\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=n+1}^m |d_i|^2}$$