



## Why

Every matrix  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$  maps the unit ball in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  to an ellipsoid in  $\mathbf{R}^m$ .

## Definition

A *rotate scale rotate decomposition* (or *rotate scale rotate factorization*) of a matrix  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$  is an ordered triple  $(U, S, V)$  where  $U$  and  $V$  are orthogonal and  $S$  is diagonal decreasing ( $S_{11} \geq S_{22} \geq \cdots \geq S_{pp}$ , where  $p = \min\{m, n\}$ ) satisfying

$$A = USV^\top.$$

Other (universal) terminology includes the *singular value decomposition* or *SVD* of  $A$ . We call diagonal elements of  $S$  the *singular values* of  $A$ . We call the column vectors of  $U$  the *left singular vectors* or *output singular vectors*. We call the column vectors of  $V$  the *right singular vectors* or *input singular vectors*. We refer to them collectively as the *singular vectors*.

$$Av_i = \sigma_i u_i.$$



