

# Numerical Linear Algebra Homework Project 2: Least Squares, Orthogonalization, and the SVD

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## Problem 3

(1) Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , with  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ . The singular value decomposition of  $A$  can be written as  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  or, equivalently, as  $A = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$ , where  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n$  represent the singular values of  $A$ , while  $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}_{i=1,\dots,n}$  and  $\{\mathbf{v}_i\}_{i=1,\dots,n}$  are, respectively, left and right singular vectors of  $A$ .

Express the singular values and singular vectors of the following matrices in terms of those of  $A$ .

(a)  $(A^T A)^{-1}$

$$(A^T A)^{-1} = (V^T)^{-1} \Sigma^{-2} V^{-1} = V \Sigma^{-2} V^T$$

In order to obtain this expression we used that  $U^T U = \mathbb{1}$  and that  $V^{-1} = V^T$ , since  $U$  and  $V$  are orthogonal. We can conclude that both left and right singular vectors of  $(A^T A)^{-1}$  are equal to the right singular vectors of  $A$ , while singular values of the former matrix are equal to those of  $A$  raised to the  $-2$  power. Note that, since singular values of  $A$  are in increasing order and in this expression they are raised to a negative power, they must appear in reverse order.

(b)  $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$

$$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T = V \Sigma^{-2} V^T V \Sigma U^T = V \Sigma^{-1} U^T$$

Analogously to the previous case, we know that  $V^T V = \mathbb{1}$ . Here we see that left singular vectors of  $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  are equal to the right singular vectors of  $A$ , right singular vectors of  $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  are equal to the left singular vectors of  $A$ , while singular values of this matrix are equal to the inverse of singular values of  $A$ .

(c)  $A(A^T A)^{-1}$

$$A(A^T A)^{-1} = U \Sigma V^T V \Sigma^{-2} V^{-T} = U \Sigma^{-1} V^T$$

Note that this result can also be obtained from the previous case, by noting that  $A(A^T A)^{-1} = ((A^T A)^{-1} A^T)^T$ . We can see that left and right singular vectors of  $(A^T A)^{-1}$  coincide with that of  $A$ , while singular values of this matrix are equal to the inverse of singular values of  $A$ .

(d)  $A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$

$$A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T = U \Sigma^{-1} V^T V \Sigma U^T = U U^T$$

In this case, both left and right singular vectors of  $A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  are equal to left singular vectors of  $A$ , while singular values of this matrix are all equal to 1.

(2) Given the following matrix:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

its singular values can be computed by considering the square root of the eigenvalues of the matrix  $A^T A$ , which has the form:

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 8 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Hence, by imposing that  $p(\lambda) = \det(A^T A - \lambda \mathbb{1}) = 0$ , we find the two eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  and, therefore, the two singular values of  $A$ , which are:

$$\sigma_{1,2} = \sqrt{\frac{9 \pm \sqrt{65}}{2}}. \quad (3)$$

Finally, knowing that the spectral condition number is defined as  $k_2(A) = \frac{\sigma_{\max}}{\sigma_{\min}}$ , we can find the condition number of  $A$ :

$$k_2(A) = \sqrt{\frac{9 + \sqrt{65}}{9 - \sqrt{65}}} \simeq 4.26. \quad (4)$$

We want now to see how the unit ball is modified by the transformation described by the matrix  $A$ . In other words, we want to see what is the image of a vector  $\mathbf{x} = (\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta))$ , parametrizing the unit ball on a plane, when considering the linear transformation  $\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}$ . The vector  $\mathbf{y}$  under the transformation  $A$  assumes the form:

$$\mathbf{y} = (\cos(\theta) + 2\sin(\theta), 2\sin(\theta)) \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi).$$

Graphically, we have:

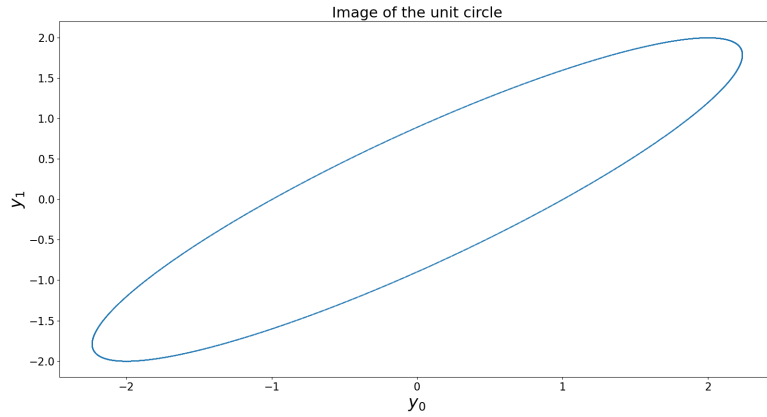


Figure 1: Image of the unit circle

(3) jvejkbkdj

(4) Given a matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & -4 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & 1 \\ -800 & 200 & -800 & -401 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

we want to compute the the singular values of  $A$ , the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of  $A$  and its spectral condition number. We report in the following the Python script that we used to do it.

```

1 import numpy as np
2
3 A = np.array([[ -4., -2., -4., -2.], [2., -2., 2., 1.], [-800, 200, -800, -401]])
4 U, singular_values, V_transpose = np.linalg.svd(A, compute_uv=True)
5 pseudoinverse = np.linalg.pinv(A)
6 spectral_cond_num = np.linalg.cond(A)
7 print(f'singular values of A = {singular_values}')
8 print(f'pseudoinverse of A = {pseudoinverse}')
9 print(f'spectral condition number of A = {spectral_cond_num}')

```

The results we obtained are reported below:

```

singular values of A = [1.21689895e+03 3.30829410e+00 4.21538860e-03]
pseudoinverse of A = [[-2.50833333e+01 5.00833333e+01 2.50000000e-01]
                     [-1.66666667e-01 -3.33333333e-01 7.57226996e-16]
                     [-2.50833333e+01 5.00833333e+01 2.50000000e-01]
                     [ 1.00000000e+02 -2.00000000e+02 -1.00000000e+00]]
spectral condition number of A = 288680.1350686104

```

Given the obtained results, we can say that  $\text{rank}(A) = 3$ .

(5) The best rank- $k$  approximation of a matrix  $A$ , in the Frobenius norm, is obtained by computing the singular value decomposition of  $A$  and then by considering only the first  $k$  terms in that expression. In other words, given a matrix  $A$  written in terms of its singular value decomposition as  $A = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$ , its best rank- $k$  approximation is given by  $\tilde{A}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$ . Below is reported the Python code that we used to obtain the best rank-1 and rank-2 approximations of the matrix  $A$  mentioned in the previous point of this exercise.

```

1 A_rank_1 = singular_values[0]*np.outer(U[:,0],V_transpose[0])
2 A_rank_2 = A_rank_1 + singular_values[1]*np.outer(U[:,1],V_transpose[1])
3 spectral_cond_num_A_rank_2 = singular_values[0]/singular_values[1]
4 print(f'A_rank_1 = {A_rank_1}')
5 print(f'A_rank_2 = {A_rank_2}')
6 print(f'Spectral condition number of A_rank_2 =
   ↪ {spectral_cond_num_A_rank_2}')

```

We obtained the following two matrices:

```

A_rank_1 = [[-3.67478811e+00 9.18652344e-01 -3.67478811e+00 -1.84198740e+00]
            [ 2.16152803e+00 -5.40355726e-01 2.16152803e+00 1.08346585e+00]
            [-8.00001057e+02 1.99990537e+02 -8.00001057e+02 -4.01000500e+02]]

A_rank_2 = [[ -3.99955481 -2.00000178 -3.99955481 -2.00177721]
            [ 1.99910978 -1.99999645 1.99910978 1.00355377]
            [-800.00000445 200.00000002 -800.00000445 -400.99998223]]

```

Spectral condition number of  $A_{\text{rank}_2} = 367.8327598758788$

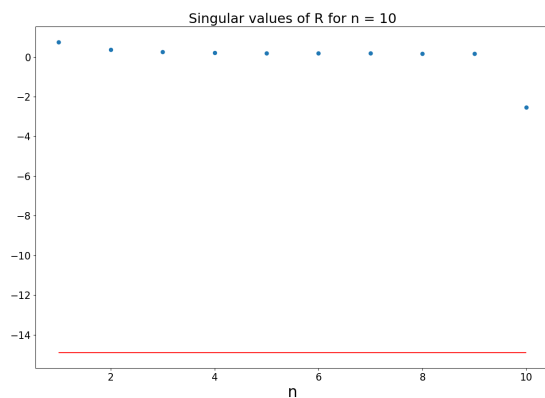
As we can see, the best rank-1 approximation of  $A$  returns a matrix that is already quite similar to the initial one, and the approximation improves when considering the best rank-2 approximation of  $A$ . This can be seen, in a more quantitative way, by considering the Frobenius norm of the difference between the approximated matrix and the initial matrix, both for the rank-1 and rank-2 approximation. By doing this, one obtains:

Frobenious norm between A and A\_rank\_1 = 3.308296788282531  
Frobenious norm between A and A\_rank\_2 = 0.004215388599497665

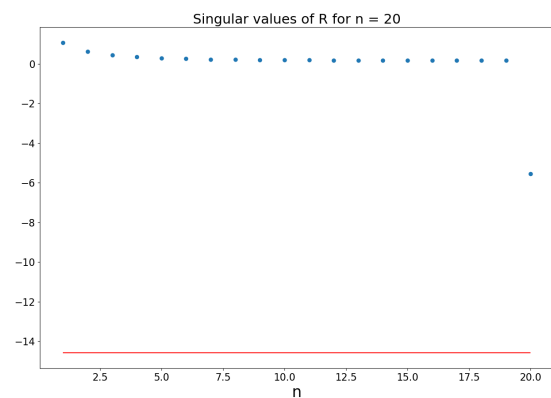
**(6)** Consider an upper triangular matrix  $R = (r_{ij})$ , whose entries are given by  $r_{ii} = 1$  and  $r_{ij} = -1$  for  $j > i$ . We defined a function `R_matrix(n)` that allows us to compute this matrix for a given dimension  $n$ :

```
def R_matrix(n):
    R = np.triu(-np.ones((n,n)),k=1) + np.eye(n)
    return R
```

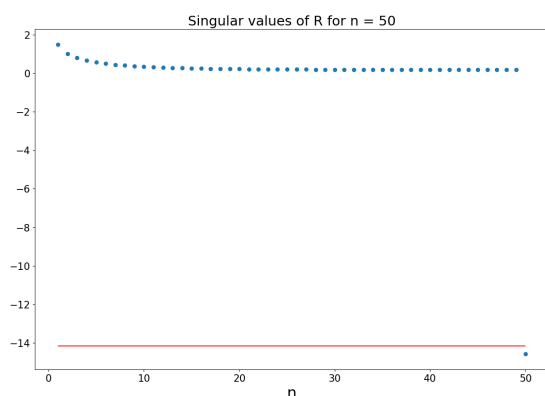
Note that we used an upper triangular mask to obtain the entries  $r_{ij}$ . Once derived  $R$ , we computed its singular values for  $n = 10, 20, 50, 100$ , as required. The plot of the singular values are reported below.



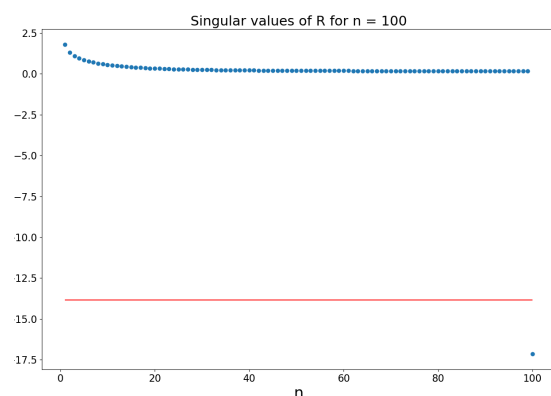
(a)  $n=10$



(b)  $n=20$



(c) n=50



(d)  $n=100$

Figure 2: Singular values of the matrix  $R$  defined at the beginning of this exercise for  $n = 10, 20, 50, 100$ .

It can be observed that for  $n = 50$  and for  $n = 100$  the last singular value becomes smaller than the threshold value fixed by  $u\sigma_1$ , where  $u$  is the machine precision. This means that, when this happens, the matrix  $R$  becomes numerically singular.

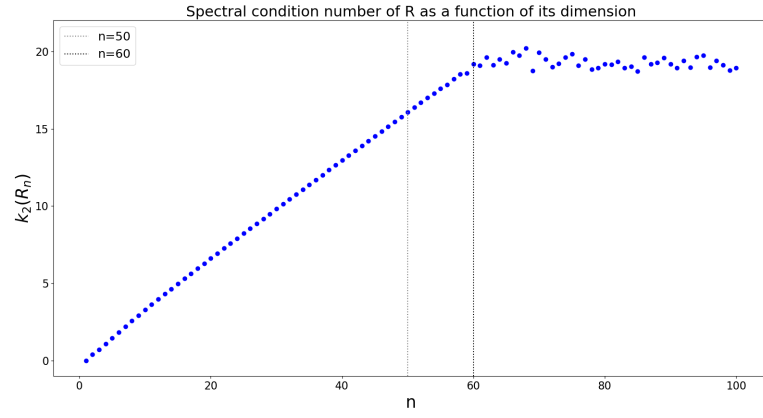


Figure 3: Spectral condition number of  $R$  as a function of its dimension.