

# Unit 4: Singular Value Decomposition

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# Summary

- ① Eigenspaces
- ② Singular Value Decomposition
- ③ Singular Values of an  $m \times n$  Matrix  
Singular Value Decomposition
- ④ Examples
- ⑤ Four fundamental subspaces of a matrix

# Eigenspaces

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## Eigenspace

The set of all eigenvectors corresponding to an eigenvalue of a matrix together with the zero vector is called the **Eigenspace** associated with the eigenvalue.

## Theorem

The **Eigenspace** associated with an eigenvalue of a matrix is a vector space.

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**Proof.** If  $v$  and  $w$  are eigenvectors associated with the same eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then

$$A(v + w) = Av + Aw = \lambda v + \lambda w = \lambda(v + w)$$

and for any realnumber  $c$ ,

$$A(cv) = c(Av) = c(\lambda v) = \lambda(cv).$$





Let  $A$  be a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix. By spectral decomposition theorem,

$$A = V\Lambda V^T, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Lambda$  is the diagonal matrix of eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$ 's arranged in decreasing order and  $V$  is the  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix of the eigenvectors associated with the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$ 's.

From Equation 1, we get

$$A = (u_1 \dots u_n) \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1^T \\ \vdots \\ u_n^T \end{pmatrix}$$

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 &= (\lambda_1 u_1 \dots \lambda_n u_n) \begin{pmatrix} u_1^T \\ \vdots \\ u_n^T \end{pmatrix}
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 &= (\lambda_1 u_1 \dots \lambda_n u_n) \begin{pmatrix} u_1^T \\ \vdots \\ u_n^T \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i u_i u_i^T.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have expressed the matrix  $A$  as a sum of  $n$  terms, each of which is the outer product of an eigenvector with its transpose, and is scaled by its associated eigenvalue.

Equation (1) gives the spectral decomposition of the matrix  $A$ , also called the **Eigenvalue Decomposition** (EVD).

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The spectral decomposition theorem of a symmetric matrix  $A$  can be restated as follows:

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## Proof.

If  $A$  is orthogonally diagonalizable, then

$$A^T = (PDP^T)^T = P^{TT}D^TP^T = PDP^T = A.$$

Thus,  $A$  is symmetric. □

# Singular Value Decomposition

We have seen that symmetric matrices are always (orthogonally) diagonalizable. That is, for any symmetric matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , there exist an orthogonal matrix  $V = (v_1 \ \dots \ v_n)$  and a diagonal matrix  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ , both real and square, such that

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## What about general rectangular matrices?

Let's now consider the generalization of the spectral theorem to an arbitrary  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ .

The singular value decomposition is based on the following property of the ordinary diagonalization that can be imitated for rectangular matrices:

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The absolute values of the eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix  $A$  measure the amounts that  $A$  stretches or shrinks certain vectors (the eigenvectors).

If  $Ax = \lambda x$  and  $\|x\| = 1$ , then

$$\|Ax\| = \|\lambda x\| = |\lambda|\|x\| = |\lambda|.$$

If  $\lambda_1$  is the largest eigenvalue, then a corresponding unit eigenvector  $v_1$  identifies a direction in which the stretching effect of  $A$  is greatest.



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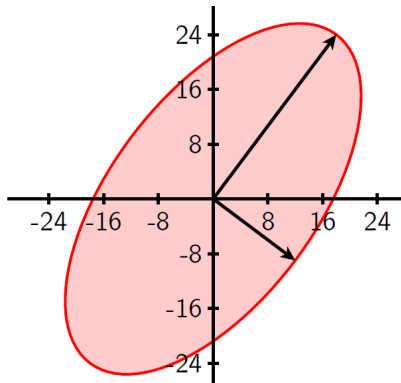
$$x = v_1, \text{ and } \|Av_1\| = |\lambda_1|.$$

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## Example

If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ , then the linear transformation  $x \mapsto Ax$  maps the unit circle  $\{x : \|x\| = 1\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  onto an ellipse in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , shown in the figure. Find a unit vector  $x$  at which the length  $\|Ax\|$  is maximized, and compute this maximum length.



**Solution.** The quantity  $\|Ax\|^2$  is maximized at the same  $x$  that maximizes  $\|Ax\|$ , and  $\|Ax\|^2$  is easier to study. Observe that

$$\|Ax\|^2 = (Ax)^T(Ax) = x^T A^T A x = x^T (A^T A)x.$$

Also,  $A^T A$  is a symmetric matrix, since

$$(A^T A)^T = A^T A^{TT} = A^T A.$$

So the problem now is

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{to maximize: } x^T(A^T A)x \\ &\text{subject to: } \|x\| = 1. \end{aligned}$$

We know that the maximum value is the greatest eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  of  $A^T A$ . Also, the maximum value is attained at a unit eigenvector of  $A^T A$  corresponding to  $\lambda_1$ .

For the matrix  $A$  in this example,

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 12 \\ 12 & 26 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are

$$\lambda_1 = 32, \lambda_2 = 2.$$

Corresponding unit eigenvectors are, respectively,

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The maximum value of  $\|Ax\|^2$  is 32, attained when  $x$  is the unit vector  $v_1$ . The vector  $Av_1$  is a point on the ellipse in the above figure farthest from the origin, namely,

$$Av_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, for  $\|x\| = 1$ , the maximum value of  $\|Ax\|$  is

$$\|Av_1\| = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}.$$



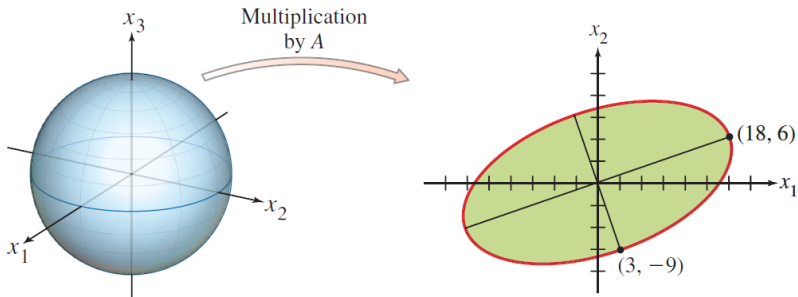
This description of  $v_1$  and  $|\lambda_1|$  has an analogue for rectangular matrices that will lead to the singular value decomposition.

## Example

If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ , then the linear

transformation  $x \mapsto Ax$  maps the unit sphere  $\{x : \|x\| = 1\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  onto an ellipse in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , shown in the figure. Find a unit vector  $x$  at which direction the length  $\|Ax\|$  is maximized, and compute this maximum length.





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We know that the maximum value is the greatest eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  of  $A^T A$ . Also, the maximum value is attained at a unit eigenvector of  $A^T A$  corresponding to  $\lambda_1$ .

For the matrix  $A$  in this example,

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ 11 & 7 \\ 14 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 11 & 14 \\ 8 & 7 & -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 80 & 100 & 40 \\ 100 & 170 & 140 \\ 40 & 140 & 200 \end{pmatrix}.$$



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The eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are

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The eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are

$$\lambda_1 = 360, \lambda_2 = 90, \lambda_3 = 0.$$

Corresponding unit eigenvectors are, respectively,

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 2/3 \\ 2/3 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -2/3 \\ -1/3 \\ 2/3 \end{pmatrix}, v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2/3 \\ -2/3 \\ 1/3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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The maximum value of  $\|Ax\|^2$  is 360, attained when  $x$  is the unit vector  $v_1$ . The vector  $Av_1$  is a point on the ellipse in the above figure farthest from the origin, namely,

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The maximum value of  $\|Ax\|^2$  is 360, attained when  $x$  is the unit vector  $v_1$ . The vector  $Av_1$  is a point on the ellipse in the above figure farthest from the origin, namely,

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Therefore, for  $\|x\| = 1$ , the maximum value of  $\|Ax\|$  is

$$\|Av_1\| = \sqrt{360} = 6\sqrt{10}.$$

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- The effect of  $A$  on the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is related to the quadratic form  $x^T(A^T A)x$ .
- To decompose an  $m \times n$ , it is worthwhile to study  $A^T A$  or  $AA^T$ . Both are symmetric square matrices and can be orthogonally diagonalized, as we know.



# Singular Values of an $m \times n$ Matrix

Since matrix products of the form  $A^T A$  will play an important role in our further work, we now give some basic properties of  $A^T A$ .

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## Theorem.

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Then

- ①  $A^T A$  is a square matrix.
- ②  $A^T A$  is symmetric and so it is orthogonally diagonalizable.
- ③ All the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are non-negative.

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Then

1. We observe that

$$(A^T)_{n \times m}(A)_{m \times n} = (A^T A)_{n \times n}.$$

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This shows that  $A^T A$  is symmetric. Then by the spectral decomposition theorem,  $A^T A$  is orthogonally diagonalizable.

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$$\begin{aligned}\|Av_i\|^2 &= (Av_i)^T Av_i = v_i^T A^T Av_i \\ &= v_i^T (\lambda_i v_i) = \lambda_i (v_i^T v_i)\end{aligned}$$

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## Singular values

The square roots of the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are called the **singular values** of  $A$ .

If  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$ , then the corresponding singular values of  $A$  are denoted by

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$$\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

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and

$$\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

## Problem

The singular values of  $A$  are the lengths of the vectors  $Av_1, \dots, Av_n$ .

## Example.

Find the singular values of the matrix

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**Solution.** Let

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The first step is to find the eigenvalues of the matrix  $A^T A$ .

We have

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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so the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 3$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$   
and the singular values of  $A$  in order of  
decreasing size are

$$\sigma_1 = \sqrt{\lambda_1} = \sqrt{3},$$

$$\sigma_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_2} = \sqrt{1} = 1.$$

## Theorem

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**Proof.** Suppose  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, and suppose that  $\lambda$  is a nonzero eigenvalue of  $A^T A$ .

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$$\Rightarrow (AA^T)(Ax) = \lambda(Ax).$$

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Since  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $x \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda x \neq 0$ , and thus,  $(A^T A)x \neq 0$ ; thus  $A^T(Ax) \neq 0$ , implying that  $Ax \neq 0$ .

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Since  $\lambda \neq 0$  and  $x \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda x \neq 0$ , and thus,  $(A^T A)x \neq 0$ ; thus  $A^T(Ax) \neq 0$ , implying that  $Ax \neq 0$ . Therefore  $Ax$  is an eigenvector of  $AA^T$  corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . An analogous argument can be used to show that every nonzero eigenvalue of  $AA^T$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^T A$ , thus completing the proof.  $\square$



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- To obtain a similar result for the rank of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , not necessarily square, we arrange the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  in decreasing order:

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Thus, by definition, the corresponding singular values of  $A$  follow the same order:

$$\sigma_1 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_n.$$

The decomposition of  $A$  involves an  $m \times n$  “diagonal” matrix  $\Sigma$  of the form

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

←  $m - r$  rows

↑  
←  $n - r$  columns

where  $D$  is an  $r \times r$  diagonal matrix for some  $r$  not exceeding the smaller of  $m$  and  $n$ . (If  $r$  equals  $m$  or  $n$  or both, some or all of the zero matrices do not appear.)

## Theorem

*Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with rank  $r$ . Then there exists an  $m \times n$  matrix  $\Sigma$  as in the above for which the diagonal entries in  $D$  are the first  $r$  singular values of  $A$ ,*

$$\sigma_1 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_r > 0$$

*and there exist an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix  $U$  and an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix  $V$  such that*

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

Any factorization  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ , with  $U$  and  $V$  orthogonal,  $\Sigma$  as in the above, and positive diagonal entries in  $D$ , is called a **singular value decomposition** (or SVD) of  $A$ .

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The columns of  $U$  in such a decomposition are called **left singular vectors** of  $A$ , and the columns of  $V$  are called **right singular vectors** of  $A$ .



## Geometry

The theorem allows to decompose the action of  $A$  on a given input vector as a three-step process.

To get  $Ax$ , where  $x$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we first form  $\tilde{x} := V^T x$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Since  $V$  is an orthogonal matrix,  $V^T$  is also orthogonal, and  $\tilde{x}$  is just a rotated version of  $x$ , which still lies in the input space. Then we act on the rotated vector  $\tilde{x}$  by scaling its elements.

Precisely, the first  $r$  elements of  $\tilde{x}$  are scaled by the singular values  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$ ; the remaining  $n - r$  elements are set to zero. This step results in a new vector  $\tilde{y}$  which now belongs to the output space  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . The final step consists in rotating the vector  $\tilde{y}$  by the orthogonal matrix  $U$ , which results in  $y = U\tilde{y} = Ax$ .

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**Corollary** (EVD in terms of outer products).

The equation  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  can be written as

$$A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T.$$

The following summary of the proof also provides an algorithm to obtain an SVD of an  $m \times n$  real matrix  $A$ . Note that by construction  $U$  and  $V$  are not unique, especially if an eigenvalue of  $A^T A$  repeats. However, the matrix  $\Sigma$  is unique.

**Step 1.** Find the eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0.$$

of  $A^T A$ . Put  $\sigma_j = \sqrt{\lambda_j}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, r$  ( $r$  the largest index with  $\lambda_j > 0$ ). Take

$$D = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$$

and extend  $D$  to an  $m \times n$  matrix  $\Sigma$  with the block  $D$  at its upper left corner, zeros elsewhere.

**Step 2.** Find unit eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  corresponding to  $\lambda_j$ . Take  $V$  to be the  $n \times n$  (orthonormal) matrix with  $v_j$  as its  $j$ -th column.

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**Step 3.** For  $j = 1, \dots, r$ , put  $u_j = \frac{1}{\sigma_j} Av_j$ . Then  $\{u_1, \dots, u_r\}$  is an orthonormal set in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Extend it to an orthonormal basis  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Take  $U$  to be the  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix with  $u_j$  as its  $j$ -th column.

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**Step 4.** Check that

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



## Theorem

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix and let  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ , with corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Then  $Av_i$  is orthogonal to  $Av_j$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Since  $B$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , if  $i \neq j$ , then

$$(Av_i) \cdot (Av_j) = (Av_i)^T(Av_j)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}(Av_i) \cdot (Av_j) &= (Av_i)^T (Av_j) \\&= v_i^T (A^T A) v_j \\&= v_i^T \lambda_j v_j \\&= \lambda_j v_i^T v_j \\&= 0.\end{aligned}$$



# Examples

## Example (Non-symmetric matrix):

Find the SVD of the matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$



**Solution.**

**Step 1.** We have

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Solution.

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To find the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$ , we have

$$\begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -3 \\ -3 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (5 - \lambda)^2 - 9.$$

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$$\begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -3 \\ -3 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (5 - \lambda)^2 - 9.$$

Clearly, the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 8 and 2. So its singular values are  $\sigma_1 = 2\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sigma_2 = \sqrt{2}$ , and

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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$$x_1 + x_2 = 0.$$

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This gives

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0.$$

So,

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $\lambda_2 = 2$ , we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ -3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$



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This gives

$$x_1 - x_2 = 0.$$

So,

$$v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $\lambda_2 = 2$ , we have

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This gives

$$x_1 - x_2 = 0.$$

So,

$$v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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**Step 3.** We now find  $U$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A v_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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 u_2 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_2} A v_2 \\
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 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.
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 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Step 4.** Check if we got the SVD of  $A$ :

$$U\Sigma V^T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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 &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= A.
 \end{aligned}$$

## Example (Rectangular matrix):

Find the SVD of the matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Solution.**

**Step 1.** We have

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} = 9 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Put } B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Put  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $A^T A = 9B$ , the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 9 times those of  $B$ .



Put  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $A^T A = 9B$ , the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 9 times those of  $B$ . To find the eigenvalues of  $B$ , we have

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)^2 - 1.$$

Put  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $A^T A = 9B$ , the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are 9 times those of  $B$ . To find the eigenvalues of  $B$ , we have

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Clearly, the eigenvalues of  $B$  are 2 and 0.

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Clearly, the eigenvalues of  $B$  are 2 and 0. So, the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 18$  and  $\lambda_2 = 0$ .

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Clearly, the eigenvalues of  $B$  are 2 and 0. So, the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 18$  and  $\lambda_2 = 0$ . Thus, its singular values are  $\sigma_1 = 3\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0$ , and

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 3\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$



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This gives

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This gives

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0.$$

So,

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $\lambda_2 = 0$ , we have

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So,

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So,

$$v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Step 3.** We now find  $U$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A v_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 u_1 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A v_1 \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$



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We have only one nonzero eigenvalue. So, we have to extend  $\{u_1\}$  to an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . For it we pick any orthonormal basis  $\{u_2, u_3\}$  of the orthogonal complement of  $u_1$ , i.e. the solution space of the equation

$$u_1 \cdot x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x - 2y + 2z = 0.$$

The vectors satisfying the last equation are

$$w_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad w_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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We now use Gram-Schmidt orthonormalisation method. Put

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $u_3$ , we have

$$w_3 - (w_3 \cdot u_2)u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2/5 \\ 4/5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Now, put

$$u_3 = \frac{\sqrt{45}}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$



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Thus,

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**Step 4.** Finally, check that  $U\Sigma V^T = A$ .

# Four fundamental subspaces of a matrix

Suppose that  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix that maps vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Suppose that  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix that maps vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . The four fundamental subspaces of  $A$ , two in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and two in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , are:

**Column space, Row space, Null space, Left null space**

## Column space

**Column space** of  $A$  is the span of the columns of  $A$ . In symbols,

$$\text{Col}(A) = \{Ax : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

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## Row space

**Row space** of  $A$  is the span of the rows of  $A$ . In symbols,

$$\text{Row}(A) = \{A^T y : y \in \mathbb{R}^m\}$$

## Null space

**Null space** of  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{Null}(A)$  and is defined by

$$\text{Null}(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax = 0\}$$



## Null space

**Null space** of  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{Null}(A)$  and is defined by

$$\text{Null}(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax = 0\}$$

## Left null space

**Left null space** of  $A$ , the set of all  $y$  for which  $A^T y = 0$ . In symbols,

$$\text{Null}(A^T) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m : A^T y = 0\}.$$

## Dimension and rank.

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In other words, the number of linearly independent rows is equal to the number of linearly independent columns. Hence

$$\dim \text{Row}(A) = \dim \text{Col}(A).$$

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The following theorem gives relationships among them.

## Theorem

*Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Then*

- ①  $\text{Null}(A) = \text{Row}(A)^\perp.$
- ②  $\text{Null}(A^T) = \text{Col}(A)^\perp.$

**Proof.**

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Moreover,  $x \in \text{Null}(A)$  is arbitrary. Therefore,

$$\text{Null}(A) \subseteq \text{Row}(A)^\perp.$$

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Hence

$$\text{Null}(A) = \text{Row}(A)^\perp.$$

(b) Substitute  $A^T$  for  $A$  in part (a) and note that  $\text{Row}(A^T) = \text{Col}(A)$ .

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## Theorem

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  be any SVD for  $A$  where  $U$  and  $V$  are orthogonal of size  $m \times m$  and  $n \times n$  respectively, and  $\text{rank } A = r$ .

Also, let

$$\begin{pmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}.$$

where  $D = \underline{\text{diag}}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r)$  with each  $\lambda_i > 0$ .



If  $U = \{u_1 \dots u_r \dots u_m\}$  and  $V = \{v_1 \dots v_r \dots v_n\}$  are orthonormal bases for  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$  respectively, then

- ❶  $\{u_1 \dots u_r\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{Col } A$
- ❷  $\{u_{r+1} \dots u_m\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{Null } A^T$
- ❸  $\{v_{r+1} \dots v_n\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{Null } A$
- ❹  $\{v_1 \dots v_r\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{Row } A$

# Principal Component Analysis

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Consider a real-valued data matrix  $X$  that is  $n \times p$  where  $n$  is the number of samples and  $p$  is the number of features. Its SVD is

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

Now consider the covariance matrix of  $X$ , namely  $X^T X$ , in the context of the SVD decomposition:

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We already know that  $V$  and  $V^T$  are just rotation matrices, while  $U$  disappears because  $U^T U = I$ . And even without knowing about eigenvectors or eigenvalues, we can see what PCA is doing by understanding SVD: it is diagonalizing the covariance matrix of  $X$ . So PCA is finding the major axes along which our data varies.