

Section  
7.4

Goal: Introduce students to the ideas behind the singular value decomposition (SVD). Define the pieces for it and give a rough idea of its meaning.

Class Q we can interpret the  $\sigma_i$ 's as the lengths of which vectors?

Recall: Some matrices are orthogonally diagonalizable (the symmetric ones) ~~can~~ i.e.  $A = QDQ^T$ , some are diagonalizable (geometric & algebraic mults of the e. vals match) i.e.  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . What do we do if  $A$  is not square, or simply not diagonalizable?

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A^T$  is  $n \times m$

$A^T A$  is a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix that can be formed by any  $A$ .

↳ we call the square roots of the eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  the "singular values" of  $A$

Aside: these eigenvalues are always positive real numbers so their square roots are valid. For real see our previous notes. For positive see pg 590, it's based on examining  $(A\vec{v}) \cdot (A\vec{v})$  for  $\vec{v}$  an eigenvalue of  $A$

we can take all of these square roots & place them in order

this is the last non-zero  
↓ singular value  $r = \text{rank}(A)$

$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r \geq 0 \dots \geq 0$$

$$\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$$

for  $\lambda_i$  e. val of  $A^T A$  Hilroy

(2)

Ex:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$   $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$  evals of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 9$ ,  
 $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 1$

$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 = \sqrt{9} = 3$   $\sigma_2 = \sigma_3 = \sqrt{1} = 1$

$3 \geq 1 \geq 1$

Ex:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  now we find eigen values.

$\det(A^T A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2-\lambda)^2 - 1$   
 $= \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 3$   
 $= (\lambda-1)(\lambda-3)$

$\therefore$  evals of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 3$  &  $\lambda_2 = 1$

making the singular values of  $A$   $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{3}$   $\sigma_2 = \sqrt{1} = 1$

Question, how do we interpret these numbers?  
 What is their significance?



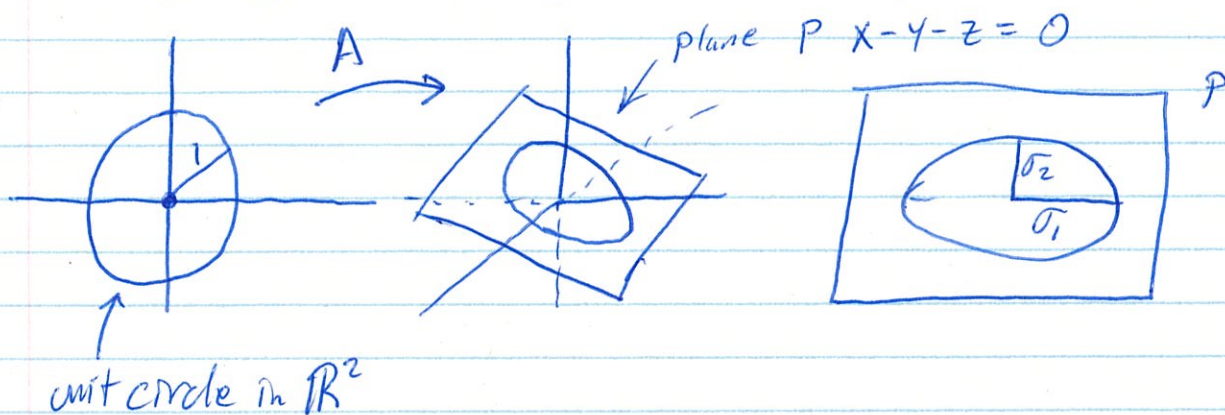
③

Answer (one potential one) geometry

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a+b \\ a \\ b \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{this is a transformation (where?)}$$

$$A: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

better pictures on pg. 591



note  $A\vec{v}$  always lies in the plane  $P$  as that that is  $\text{Col}(A) \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ .

This leads to the goal of today, the Singular Value decomposition (SVD)

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

$A$  is the original  $m \times n$  matrix

$U$  is an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix

$\Sigma$  is  $m \times n$  and "diagonal"

$V^T$  is  $n \times n$  & orthogonal

lets look at the 3 pieces individually.

(4)

①  $\Sigma$  is built from singular values by listing the non-zero ones on the "diagonal"

i.e.  $\sigma_1 = 3 \quad \sigma_2 = 1$

$$\Sigma \quad 2 \times 2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad 2 \times 3 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad 3 \times 3 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(note: the situation where you don't have the room does not arise, since there are  $r = \text{rank}(A)$  many non zero values &  $\text{row rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T A) = \text{col rank}(A)$   
 $\therefore r \leq m$  &  $r \leq n$  & will always fit)

②  $V$  these are the "right singular vectors"

this is an  $n \times n$  matrix but its just an orthogonal basis of e. v. s for  $A^T A$  (i.e. essentially the  $Q$  for  $A^T A$ )

i.e.  $V = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]$  with  $A^T A \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$  &  $\{\vec{v}_i\}$  orthonormal.

③  $U$  these are called the "left singular vectors" & have some complications

first note that  $A \vec{v}_1, A \vec{v}_2, \dots, A \vec{v}_n$  are orthogonal

Proof  $A \vec{v}_i \cdot A \vec{v}_j = \vec{v}_i^T A^T A \vec{v}_j = \vec{v}_i^T \lambda_j \vec{v}_j$   
 $= \lambda_j \vec{v}_i^T \vec{v}_j$   
 $= \lambda_j (\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{v}_j) = 0$

by discussion on orthogonal diagonalization of symmetric matrices.



(5)

we then define  $U$  in terms of these vectors.

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A \vec{v}_1, \quad u_2 = \frac{1}{\sigma_2} A \vec{v}_2 \quad \dots \quad u_r = \frac{1}{\sigma_r} A \vec{v}_r$$

for each non-zero  $\sigma_i$

★ Alarm bells! ★

if  $r=m$ ? great!  $U = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|} & \dots & \frac{u_r}{\|u_r\|} \end{bmatrix}$

however  $r \leq m$  what do we do if  $r < m$ ?  
we complete  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  to a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^m$   
(more on that Friday)