Lec 37: Spectral Theory

Properties of SVD

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SVD and the 2-Norm

Theorem 1

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ *have an SVD* $A = U \Sigma V^*$. *Then*

1. $\|A\|_2 = \sigma_1$ *and* $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \cdots + \sigma_r^2}$.
2. *The rank of* A *is the number of nonzero singular values.*
3. *Let* $r = \min\{m, n\}$. *Then*

$$\kappa_2(A) = \|A\|_2 \|A^+\|_2 = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_r}.$$

Connection to EVD

Let $A = U\Sigma V^* \in \mathbb{C}^{m\times n}$ and $B = A^*A$. Observe that

- $B \in \mathbb{C}^{n\times n}$ is a *hermitian matrix*[1], *i.e.*, $B^* = B$.
- B has an EVD:

  - The squares of singular values of A are eigenvalues of B.
  - An EVD of $B = A^*A$ reveals the singular values and a set of right singular vectors of A.

[1] This is the $\mathbb{C}$-extension of real symmetric matrices.

Connection to EVD (cont')

Theorem 2

The nonzero singular values of $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ are the square roots of the nonzero eigenvalues of A^*A or AA^*.

Unitary Diagonalization and SVD

Unitary Diagonalization of Hermitian Matrices

The previous discussion is relevant to hermitian matrices constructed in a specific manner. For a generic hermitian matrix, we have the following result.

Theorem 3 (Spectral Decomposition)

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n\times n}$ be hermitian. Then A has a unitary diagonalization

$$A = VDV^{-1},$$

where $V \in \mathbb{C}^{n\times n}$ is unitary and $D \in \mathbb{R}^{n\times n}$ is diagonal.

In words, a hermitian matrix (or symmetric matrix) has a complete set of orthonormal eigenvectors and all its eigenvalues are real.

Notes on Unitary Diagonalization and Normal Matrices

- A unitarily diagonalizable matrix $A = VDV^{-1}$ with $D \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, is called a **normal matrix**[2]. All hermitian matrices are normal.
- Let $A = VDV^{-1} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ be normal. Since $\kappa_2(V) = 1$ (why?), Bauer-Fike implies that eigenvalues of A can be changed by no more than $\|\delta A\|_2$.

[2] Usual defintion: $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is normal if $AA^* = A^*A$.

Unitary Diagonalization and SVD

Theorem 4

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n\times n}$ be hermitian. Then the singular values of A are the absolute values of the eigenvalues of A.

Precisely, if $A = VDV^{-1}$ is a unitary diagonalization of A, then

$$A = \big(V \operatorname{sign}(D)\big) \, |D| \, V^*$$

is an SVD, where

$$\operatorname{sign}(D) = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{sign}(d_1) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \operatorname{sign}(d_n) \end{bmatrix}, \qquad |D| = \begin{bmatrix} |d_1| & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & |d_n| \end{bmatrix}.$$

When Do Unitary EVD and SVD Coincide?

Theorem 5

If $A = A^*$, then the following statements are equivalent:

1. *Any unitary EVD of A is also an SVD of A.*
2. *The eigenvalues of A are positive numbers.*
3. $\mathbf{x}^* A\mathbf{x} > 0$ *for all nonzero* $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$. *(HPD)*

- The equivalence of 1 and 2 is immediate from Theorem~4
- The property in 3 is called the **hermitian positive definiteness**, *c.f.*, symmetric positive definiteness.

Rayleigh Quotient

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n\times n}$ be fixed. The **Rayleigh quotient** is the map $R_A : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$R_A(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}} A\mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x}}.$$

- R_A maps an eigenvector of A into its associated eigenvalue, *i.e.*, if $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$, then $R_A(\mathbf{v}) = \lambda$.
- If $A = A^{\mathrm{T}}$, then $\nabla R_A(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$ for an eigenvector $\mathbf{v}$, and so

$$R_A(\mathbf{v} + \epsilon\mathbf{z}) = R_A(\mathbf{v}) + 0 + O(\epsilon^2) = \lambda + O(\epsilon^2), \quad \text{as } \epsilon \to 0.$$

The Rayleigh quotient is a quadratic approximation of an eigenvalue.

Reduction of Dimensions

Low-Rank Approximations

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ with $m \geqslant n$. Its thin SVD $A = \widehat{U}\widehat{\Sigma}V^*$ can be written as

$$
\begin{aligned}
A &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{u}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1^* \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_n^* \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 & \cdots & \sigma_n \mathbf{u}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1^* \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_n^* \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{j=1}^{r} \sigma_j \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{v}_j^*,
\end{aligned}
$$

where r is the rank of A.

- Each outer product $\mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{v}_j^*$ is a rank-1 matrix.
- Since $\sigma_1 \geqslant \sigma_2 \geqslant \cdots \geqslant \sigma_r > 0$, important contributions to A come from terms with small j.

Low-Rank Approximations (cont')

For $1 \leqslant k \leqslant r$, define

$$A_k = \sum_{j=1}^{k} \sigma_j \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{v}_j^* = U_k \Sigma_k V_k^*,$$

where

- U_k is the first k columns of U;
- V_k is the first k columns of V;
- Σ_k is the upper-left $k \times k$ submatrix of Σ.

This is a rank-k approximation of A.

Best Rank-k Approximation

Theorem 6 (Eckart-Young)

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m\times n}$. Suppose A has rank r and let $A = U\Sigma V^*$ be an SVD. Then

- $\|A - A_k\|_2 = \sigma_{k+1}$, *for* $k = 1, \ldots, r-1$.
- *For any matrix* B *with* $\operatorname{rank}(B) \leqslant k$, $\|A - B\|_2 \geqslant \sigma_{k+1}$.