

## Lecture 9

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## 1 Singular Value Decomposition

**Proposition 1** Consider  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  of rank  $r$ . Then we can write  $A$  in the form

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

where  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are orthogonal matrices and  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is diagonal and exactly  $r$  of the diagonal values  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots$  are non-zero.

**Definition 2** Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) is a matrix factorization technique that decomposes a matrix into three simpler matrices, revealing the underlying structure and relationship with the orthogonal matrix.

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

Where  $U$  is a left orthogonal ( $m \times m$ ) matrix and  $m$  is the number of rows in  $A$ ,  $V^T$  is the transpose of a right orthogonal ( $n \times n$ ) matrix and  $n$  is the number of columns in  $A$ , and  $\Sigma$  is a ( $m \times n$ ) diagonal matrix with non-negative real numbers on its diagonal, called singular values.

**Proof of Proposition 1:** Consider a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with rank  $r$ . Now consider a matrix  $B := A^T A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ , which is therefore symmetric and positive semi-definite (PSD).

$$\text{Symmetric: } (A^T A)^T = A^T (A^T)^T = A^T A$$

$$\text{PSD: } x^T Bx = \langle x, Bx \rangle = \langle x, A^T Ax \rangle = \langle Ax, Ax \rangle = \|Ax\|^2 \geq 0$$

Therefore, there exists an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \geq 0$ .

Let  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be the diagonal matrix of singular values,  $\sigma_i$ , where  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$ . We know we can take the square root of the eigenvalues because PSD matrices are equivalently characterized as matrices with non-negative eigenvalues.

We can now construct a unit eigenvector  $r_i$  of matrix  $B$  as  $r_i := \frac{(Ax_i)}{\sigma_i}$ . Now define matrices  $U$  and  $V$  with columns of  $r_i$ , and  $x_i$ , respectively. Columns of  $U\Sigma$  are given as  $\sigma_i r_i = \sigma_i \frac{Ax_i}{\sigma_i} = Ax_i$ .

Multiply the columns of  $U\Sigma$  by  $V^T$ . Consider that the rows of  $V^T$  are the  $x_i$  vectors; and if  $i \neq j$ , then  $x_i \perp x_j$  and  $\|x_i\| = 1$ . The terms consisting of  $i, j$  with  $x_i \perp x_j$  cancel, and the terms with  $i = j$  will equal 1.

What remains afterward will be matrix  $A$ , therefore proving that  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ .  $\square$

## 2 Key Differences Between SVD and Eigendecomposition

**Remark 3** SVD always exists, no matter how matrix  $A$  looks like.

**Remark 4** Matrices  $U, V$  are orthogonal, which is not true of eigenvectors in general.

**Remark 5** Singular values are always real and non-negative.

**Remark 6** If  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric, then the SVD is "nearly" the same as the eigenvalue decomposition. If  $(\lambda_i, v_i)$  are the eigenvalue/eigenvector pairs of  $A$ , then  $|\lambda_i|, v_i$  are the singular value / singular vector pairs of  $A$ . In particular, left-and-right singular vectors are the same.

**Remark 7** Left-singular vectors of  $A$  are the eigenvectors of  $AA^T$ .

**Remark 8** Right-singular vectors of  $A$  are the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ .

**Remark 9** Right-singular vectors of  $A$  are the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ .

**Remark 10**  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  is an eigenvalue of  $AA^T \vee A^T A \iff \sqrt{\lambda_i} \neq 0$  is a singular value of  $A$ .

### 3 Matrix Norms

Consider a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

**Definition 11**

$$\|A\|_{max} = \|A\|_{\infty} = \max_{i,j} |a_{ij}|$$

**Definition 12**

$$\|A\|_1 = \sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|$$

**Definition 13** Frobenius Norm

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\|_F &= \sqrt{\sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}^2|} = \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^T A)} \\ &= \sqrt{\sum \sigma_i^2} \quad \text{where } \sigma_i \text{ are the singular values of } A. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 14** Operator norm/Spectral Norm

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\|_2 &= \sigma_{max}(A) \quad \text{where } \sigma_{max} \text{ is the largest singular value.} \\ &= \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|} \quad [ \text{where } \|Ax\|, \|x\| \text{ are Euclidean norm on vectors in } \mathbb{R}^m ] \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Rank-k Approximations of Matrices

**Definition 15** Consider a matrix  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  with entries  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots$  sorted in decreasing order. We define a new matrix  $A_k$  as follows:

$$A_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i u_i v_i^T \quad [u_i v_i \text{ is rank-1 matrix}]$$

**Proposition 16** Let  $B$  be any rank- $k$  matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Then:

$$\|A - A_k\|_F \leq \|A - B\|_F$$

$A_k$  is the best rank- $k$  approximation (in Frobenius norm).

**Proposition 17** For any matrix  $B$  of rank- $k$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,

$$\|A - A_k\|_2 \leq \|A - B\|_2$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_2$  denotes the operator norm.  $A_k$  is the best rank- $k$  approximation (in operator norm)

## 5 Pseudo-Inverse of Matrix

**Definition 18** For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , a pseudo inverse of  $A$  is defined as the matrix  $A^\dagger \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  which satisfies the following properties:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (i) \quad AA^\dagger A = A \\ (ii) \quad A^\dagger AA^\dagger = A^\dagger \end{array} \right\} \text{ "nearly inverse"}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (iii) \quad (AA^\dagger)^T = AA^\dagger \\ (iv) \quad (A^\dagger A)^T = A^\dagger A \end{array} \right\} \text{ symmetry}$$

**Intuition 19** •  $A$  is a projection from  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ :  $A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

• Cannot invert, obviously (inverting means reconstructing original)

• But I could "make up" a reconstruction:  $R: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $R \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

• Now we have:  $ARA = A \implies AA^\dagger A = A$

**Proposition 20** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  its SVD. Then:  $A^\dagger = V\Sigma^\dagger U^T$  where  $\Sigma^\dagger \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ .

$$\Sigma_{ii}^\dagger = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Sigma_{ii}} & \text{if } \Sigma_{ii} \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \frac{1}{\sigma_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Intuition 21** Assume  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , invertible, has eigendecomposition  $A = U\Lambda U^T$ . Then:

- All entries of  $\text{diag}(\Lambda)$  are  $\neq 0$  (eigenvalues  $\neq 0$ )

- $A^{-1} = U\Lambda^{-1}U^T$  with  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\Lambda^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix}$