

# Advanced Linear Algebra

Alvin Lin

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## Singular Value Decomposition

Recall that the diagonalization of  $A$  can be written as:

$$A = [\vec{v}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ \dots & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} [\vec{v}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{v}_n]^{-1}$$

If  $A$  is symmetric, we can orthogonally diagonalize it as  $A = PDP^T$ .

$$A = [\hat{v}_1 \ \dots \ \hat{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ \dots & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dots & \hat{v}_1^T & \dots \\ \dots & \hat{v}_n^T & \dots \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

Recall from the definition of singular values of  $A$ :

$$(A^T A)\hat{v}_i = \lambda_i \hat{v}_i \quad (\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n)$$

We define the singular values  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i} = \|A\hat{v}_i\|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\hat{v}_i\|^2 &= (A\hat{v}_i)^T (A\hat{v}_i) \\ &= \hat{v}_i^T A^T A \hat{v}_i \\ &= \lambda(\hat{v}_i^T \hat{v}_i) = \lambda \end{aligned}$$

## Singular Value Decomposition

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

$$[A] = [\hat{u}_1 \ \dots \ \hat{u}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ \dots & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dots & \hat{v}_1^T & \dots \\ \dots & \hat{v}_n^T & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Find the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  and eigenvectors  $\hat{v}_i$  of  $A^T A$ .
2. Let  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$  and normalize  $\hat{v}_i$ .
3. Let  $\hat{u}_i = \frac{1}{\sigma_i} A \hat{v}_i$

Why does this work?

$$\begin{aligned}
 AV &= U\Sigma \\
 A [\hat{v}_1 \ \dots \ \hat{v}_n] &\stackrel{?}{=} [\hat{u}_1 \ \dots \ \hat{u}_n] \Sigma \\
 [A\hat{v}_1 \ \dots \ A\hat{v}_n] &\stackrel{?}{=} [\sigma_1 \hat{u}_1 \ \dots \ \sigma_n \hat{u}_n] \\
 [\sigma_1 \hat{u}_1 \ \dots \ \sigma_n \hat{u}_n] &= [\sigma_1 \hat{u}_1 \ \dots \ \sigma_n \hat{u}_n]
 \end{aligned}$$

Observations:

- $V$  is orthogonal because the columns are eigenvectors of the symmetric matrix  $A^T A$ .
- $U$  is orthogonal because the columns  $\hat{u}_i$  and  $\hat{u}_j$  are orthogonal.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{u}_i \cdot \hat{u}_j &= \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_i} A \hat{v}_i \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_j} A \hat{v}_j \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sigma_j} (A \hat{v}_j)^T (A \hat{v}_i) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sigma_j} \hat{v}_j^T (A^T A \hat{v}_i) \\
 &= \frac{\lambda_i}{\sigma_i \sigma_j} \hat{v}_j^T \hat{v}_i \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

In general,  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  where

- $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix
- $U$  is an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix
- $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix
- $V^T$  is an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix

### Example

Find the singular value decomposition of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

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

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

$$\lambda_1 = 2 \quad \sigma_1 = \sqrt{2} \quad \hat{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 1 \quad \sigma_2 = \sqrt{1} \quad \hat{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = 0 \quad \sigma_3 = 0 \quad \hat{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} A \hat{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sigma_2} A \hat{v}_2 = \frac{1}{1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

You can find all my notes at <http://omgimanerd.tech/notes>. If you have any

questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at [alvin@omgimanerd.tech](mailto:alvin@omgimanerd.tech)