Algorithms and Data Structures

Matrix Approximation Singular Value Decomposition & Principal Component Analysis



Learning goals

- Singular value decomposition
- Principal component analysis



For a matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ of rank *r*, there exists a decomposition

 $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^{ op}$

with $\boldsymbol{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ and $\boldsymbol{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are orthogonal matrices, and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a diagonal matrix with non-negative diagonal entries sorted in descending order, i.e. $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots$

 $\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \vdots \\ & \ddots & & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ & & \sigma_r & \vdots \\ \hline & \vdots & & \vdots \\ & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & \cdots \\ & \vdots & & \vdots & & \end{pmatrix}$

Definition:

- $\bullet\,$ The diagonal elements of the matrix Σ are known as singular values of the matrix ${\bf A}$
- The column vectors of **U** are called left singular vectors
- The row vectors of V are called right singular vectors

A non-negative real number σ is a singular value if both left and right singular vectors **u** and **v** exist, such that

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \sigma\mathbf{u}$$
$$\mathbf{A}^{\top}\mathbf{u} = \sigma\mathbf{v}$$

A **truncated** singular value decomposition of rank $k \le r$ is given by

 $\mathbf{U}_k \mathbf{\Sigma}_k \mathbf{V}_k^{ op}$

where $\Sigma_k \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ only contains the *k* largest singular values and U_k and V_k the corresponding left/right singular vectors.

"Intuition":

- Each matrix defines a matrix transformation x → Ax. The singular value decomposition splits this transformation into a rotation / mirror (x → V^Tx), a scaling (x → Σx) and another rotation / mirror (x → Ux).
- In 2D, the singular values can be interpreted as the magnitude of the semiaxis of the ellipse defined by **A**.
- The columns of **U** form an orthonormal basis for the column space of **A**, the columns of **V** span the row space of **A**.

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Example:

Consider $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

The A matrix defines a linear transformation.



It can be decomposed using the singular value decomposition:

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Note: The red / blue vectors are the canonical unit vectors $(1,0)^{\top}$ and $(0,1)^{\top}$ and their transformations after the respective matrix multiplications.

Given: *n* data points with *p* features (*) each

Goal: Projection of the *n* data points into a *k*-dimensional space (k < p) with as little information loss as possible

Idea:

- Find a linear transformation *f* : ℝ^p → ℝ^k, which maps each observation *x* ∈ ℝ^p to a *k*-dimensional point *z*.
- Lose as little information as possible through this dimensionality reduction.
- As little information as possible is lost if we can reconstruct the point *z* as good as possible, i.e. we can use a linear function *h* : ℝ^k → ℝ^p, such that *x* ≈ *h*(*z*).

 $^{(*)}$ We assume the data points are centered around 0.







The linear transformations f, h are described by matrix multiplication: $f : \mathbf{x}^\top \mapsto \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{F} =: \mathbf{z}$ and $h : \mathbf{z}^\top \mapsto \mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{H}$

Note: Here, we are writing **x** as a **row vector** \mathbf{x}^{\top} , to be in line with the matrix notation in the following slides (the observations are the rows of the design matrix **X**).

Goal: Minimize the reconstruction error between data $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ and the projected and reconstructed data *XFH*.

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times k}, \boldsymbol{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times p}} \|\boldsymbol{X} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{F} \boldsymbol{H}\|_{\boldsymbol{F}}^{2}$$

Defining $XF =: W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$, we write this as

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{W}\in\mathbb{R}^{n\times k},\boldsymbol{H}\in\mathbb{R}^{k\times p}}\|\boldsymbol{X}-\boldsymbol{W}\boldsymbol{H}\|_{F}^{2}.$$

This is the problem of matrix approximation. One solution is

$$\boldsymbol{XF} = \boldsymbol{W} = \boldsymbol{\mathsf{U}}_k \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k; \quad \boldsymbol{H} = \boldsymbol{\mathsf{V}}_k^{ op},$$

with $\boldsymbol{U}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$, $\boldsymbol{V}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times k}$ chosen as truncated singular value decomposition of \boldsymbol{X} .

 $\boldsymbol{H} = \boldsymbol{V}_{k}^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times p}$ is the reconstruction transformation matrix. The projection matrix $\boldsymbol{F} = \boldsymbol{V}_{k} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times k}$ fulfills $\boldsymbol{XF} = \boldsymbol{U}_{k} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k}$:

$$XF = XV_k = U\Sigma V^{\top}V_k = U\Sigma \begin{pmatrix} I_k \\ \mathbf{0}_{p-k} \end{pmatrix} = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_k \\ \mathbf{0}_{n-k} \end{pmatrix} = U_k\Sigma_k,$$

• The rows of $XF = U_k \Sigma_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ are the projected observations.

• It can be shown (see next slide), that the rows of $\boldsymbol{H} = \boldsymbol{V}_k^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times p}$ correspond to the *k* (pair-wise orthogonal) principal components.

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A more common motivation of PCA is the following: Linearly transform the data to a new coordinate system such that the greatest variance in the (transformed) data is along the first PC, the second greatest variance is along a second PC orthogonal to the first PC, etc.

- In this formulation, it can be shown that the *k* first principal components correspond to the *k* eigenvectors with the greatest eigenvalues of the covariance matrix *X*[⊤]*X*.
- The eigenvalue decomposition X[⊤]X and the singular value decomposition of X are related. Given the singular value decomposition of X, we can derive the eingevalue decomposition of X[⊤]X:

$$\boldsymbol{X}^{ op} \boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{V} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{U}^{ op} \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{V}^{ op} = \boldsymbol{V} \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^2 \boldsymbol{V}^{ op}$$

with $\widehat{\Sigma}^2 := \Sigma^\top \Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{\rho \times \rho}$ having the squared singular values of X on the diagonal.

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The right singular vectors V of X are equivalent to the eigenvectors of X[⊤]X, and the singular values of X are equal to the square-root of the eigenvalues of X[⊤]X. So we come up with the same solution for both approaches.