

# Review: the SVD, So Far

L25

Last time, we covered the outer product form of SVD.

$A$ :  $m \times n$  matrix of rank  $r$

$$A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

- $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0$  are the **singular values**
- $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}$  are orthonormal vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - These are the **right singular vectors**.
  - They form a basis for **Row(A)**.
  - They are eigenvectors of  $A^T A$ :

$$A^T A v_i = \sigma_i^2 v_i$$

- $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r\}$  are orthonormal vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
  - These are the **left singular vectors**.
  - They form a basis for **Col(A)**.
  - They are eigenvectors of  $A A^T$ :

$$A A^T u_i = \sigma_i^2 u_i$$

The singular vectors are related by

$$A v_i = \sigma_i u_i$$

$$A^T u_i = \sigma_i v_i$$

The SVD of  $A^T$  is

$$A^T = \sigma_1 v_1 u_1^T + \sigma_2 v_2 u_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r v_r u_r^T$$

NB: If  $A$  is a **wide** matrix ( $m < n$ ) then

$$\underset{n \times n}{A^T A} \quad \text{vs} \quad \underset{m \times m}{A A^T} \quad \leftarrow \text{smaller!}$$

It's much easier to compute eigenvalues & eigenvectors of  $A A^T$  in this case.

If  $A$  is **wide**, compute the SVD of  $A^T$

Eg:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 10 & -10 & 10 \\ 10 & 5 & 10 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{wide}$

$$A^T A = \begin{pmatrix} 100 & -50 & 100 & -50 \\ -50 & 125 & -50 & 125 \\ 100 & -50 & 100 & -50 \\ -50 & 125 & -50 & 125 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{yikes!}$$

$$A A^T = \begin{pmatrix} 400 & -100 \\ -100 & 250 \end{pmatrix} \quad p(\lambda) = (\lambda - 450)(\lambda - 200)$$

$$\lambda_1 = 450 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_1 = \sqrt{\lambda_1} = 15\sqrt{2} \quad u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 200 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_2} = 10\sqrt{2} \quad u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow A^T = \sigma_1 v_1 u_1^T + \sigma_2 v_2 u_2^T$$

$$\rightsquigarrow A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T$$

$\uparrow$  These are **right-singular** vectors of  $A^T$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **left-singular** vectors of  $A$ .

# SVD: Matrix Form

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix of rank  $r$ .

Then  $A = U \Sigma V^T$  where:

- $U$  is an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix.
- $V$  is an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix.
- $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  diagonal matrix.

orthogonal:  
square with  
orthonormal  
columns

These matrices contain:

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & \dots & 0 \\ & \sigma_r & \\ 0 & & \ddots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0$   
are the singular values

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_r & u_{r+1} & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$

left singular vectors:  $\text{Col}(A)$       orthonormal basis for  $\text{Nul}(A^T)$

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_r & v_{r+1} & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$

right singular vectors:  $\text{Row}(A)$       orthonormal basis for  $\text{Nul}(A)$

**Recall:** To compute the SVD of  $A$ , you compute orthonormal eigenvectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r$  for the nonzero eigenvalues of  $A^T A$ . The 0-eigenspace of  $A^T A$  is  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) = \text{Nul}(A)$ , so

$v_1, \dots, v_r, v_{r+1}, \dots, v_n$  is an orthonormal eigenbasis of  $A^T A$ . Likewise,

$u_1, \dots, u_r, u_{r+1}, \dots, u_m$  is an orthonormal eigenbasis of  $A A^T$ .

In fact, if  $A = U\Sigma V^T$  then

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

$U^T U = I_m$

$$\Sigma^T \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{n \times m} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{m \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r^2 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m}$$

Likewise,  $AA^T = U\Sigma\Sigma^T U^T$ .

$ATA = V \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r^2 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{m \times m} V^T$

$AA^T = U \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r^2 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{n \times n} U^T$

same nonzero eigenvalues

How to Compute  $A = U\Sigma V^T$ :

(1) Compute the singular values & singular vectors

$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0 \quad \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\} \quad \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r\}$$

as before.

(2) Compute orthonormal bases

$\{v_{r+1}, v_{r+2}, \dots, v_n\}$  for  $\text{Nul}(A) = 0$ -eigenspace of  $ATA$

$\{u_{r+1}, u_{r+2}, \dots, u_m\}$  for  $\text{Nul}(A^T) = 0$ -eigenspace of  $AA^T$

probably using PIV and Gram-Schmidt.

$$(3) \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_r & u_{r+1} & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix} \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_r & v_{r+1} & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_r & \\ & & & \ddots \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
 U \Sigma^T V^T &= \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_r & u_{r+1} & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & \dots & 0 \\ & \sigma_r & & \\ 0 & & 0 & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} - & - & - \\ v_1^T & \dots & v_r^T & - \\ - & - & - & - \\ v_{r+1}^T & \dots & v_n^T & - \\ - & - & - & - \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_r & u_{r+1} & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & | & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} - & - & - \\ \sigma_1 v_1^T & \dots & \sigma_r v_r^T & - \\ - & 0 & - & - \\ & \vdots & & \\ - & 0 & - & - \end{pmatrix} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{outer product form}}{=} \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T + 0 + \dots + 0 \\
 &= A
 \end{aligned}$$

**NB:** We could have put any vectors we want in the last  $m-r$  columns of  $U$  and the last  $n-r$  columns of  $V$  and the product is still  $A = U \Sigma V^T$  (since these vectors are multiplied by 0). But we really want  $U$  and  $V$  to have orthonormal columns. So  $u_{r+1}, \dots, u_m$  must be  $\perp \text{Span}\{u_1, \dots, u_r\} = \text{Col}(A)$ , so they must be a basis for  $\text{Col}(A)^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T)$ . Likewise for  $V$ .

**NB:** In matrix form,

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

is the SVD of  $A^T$ .

Eg:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 10 & -10 & 10 \\ 10 & 5 & 10 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

$$(1) \quad \sigma_1 = 15\sqrt{2} \quad u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_2 = 10\sqrt{2} \quad u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(2) In this case,  $m=r=2$  (full row rank), so  $\text{Nul}(A^T) = \{0\} \Rightarrow$  no more  $u$ 's to compute.

But  $n=4$  and  $r=2 \Rightarrow \dim \text{Nul}(A) = 2$ , so we need to compute  $v_3$  and  $v_4$  (orthonormal basis for  $\text{Nul}(A)$ ).

$$\text{Nul}(A) : \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 10 & -10 & 10 \\ 10 & 5 & 10 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{ref}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{PVT}} \text{basis } \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

We got lucky that these vectors  $\nearrow$  are already orthogonal—usually we'd have to do Gram-Schmidt. So just divide by the lengths:

$$v_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_4 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(3) \quad U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} -2/\sqrt{10} & 1/\sqrt{10} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{10} & 2/\sqrt{10} & 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ -2/\sqrt{10} & 1/\sqrt{10} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{10} & 2/\sqrt{10} & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 15\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 10\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

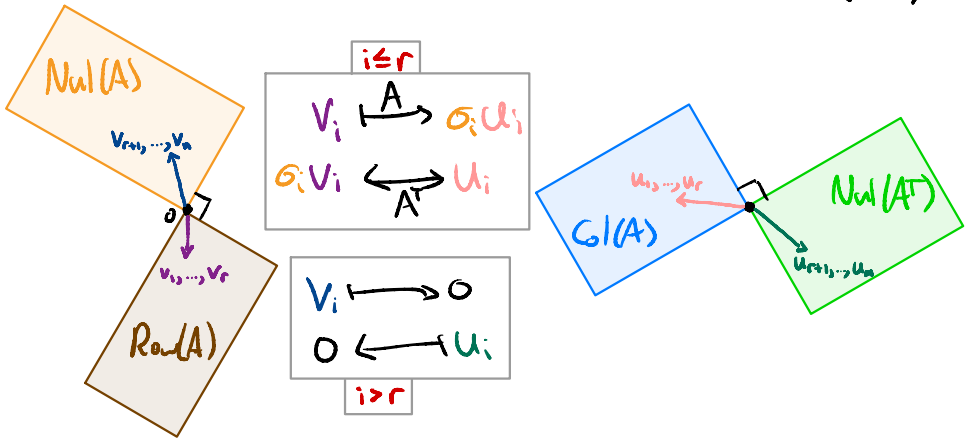
We can draw all this in the Big Picture:

## The Big Picture, Revisited

$A = m \times n$  matrix of rank  $r$

Row Picture ( $\mathbb{R}^n$ )

Column Picture ( $\mathbb{R}^m$ )

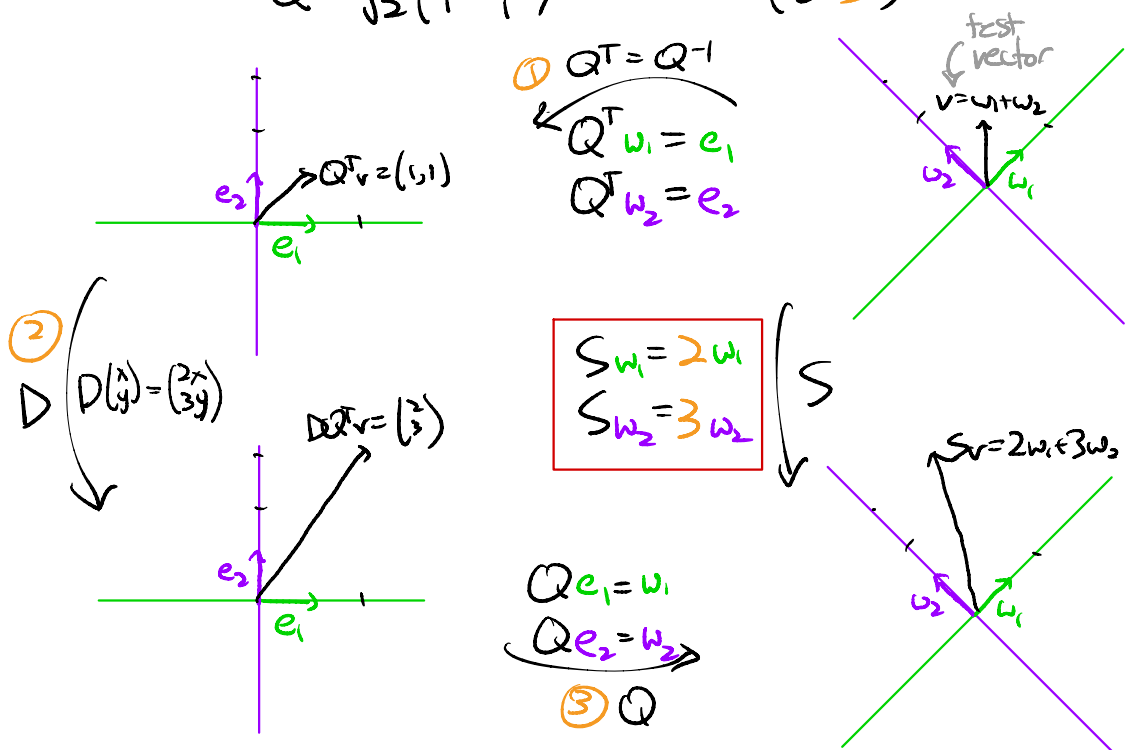


# Geometry of the SVD, Matrix Form

We've drawn a picture of a triple product decomposition before.

Eg (L21):  $S = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 \\ -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = Q D Q^T$  for

$$Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$



In the case of the SVD,  $A = U \Sigma^T V^T$  means:

- ① Multiply by  $V^T$ : **orthogonal** (rotate/flip)
- ② Multiply by  $\Sigma$ : **diagonal** (stretch coordinates)
- ③ Multiply by  $U$ : **orthogonal** (rotate/flip)

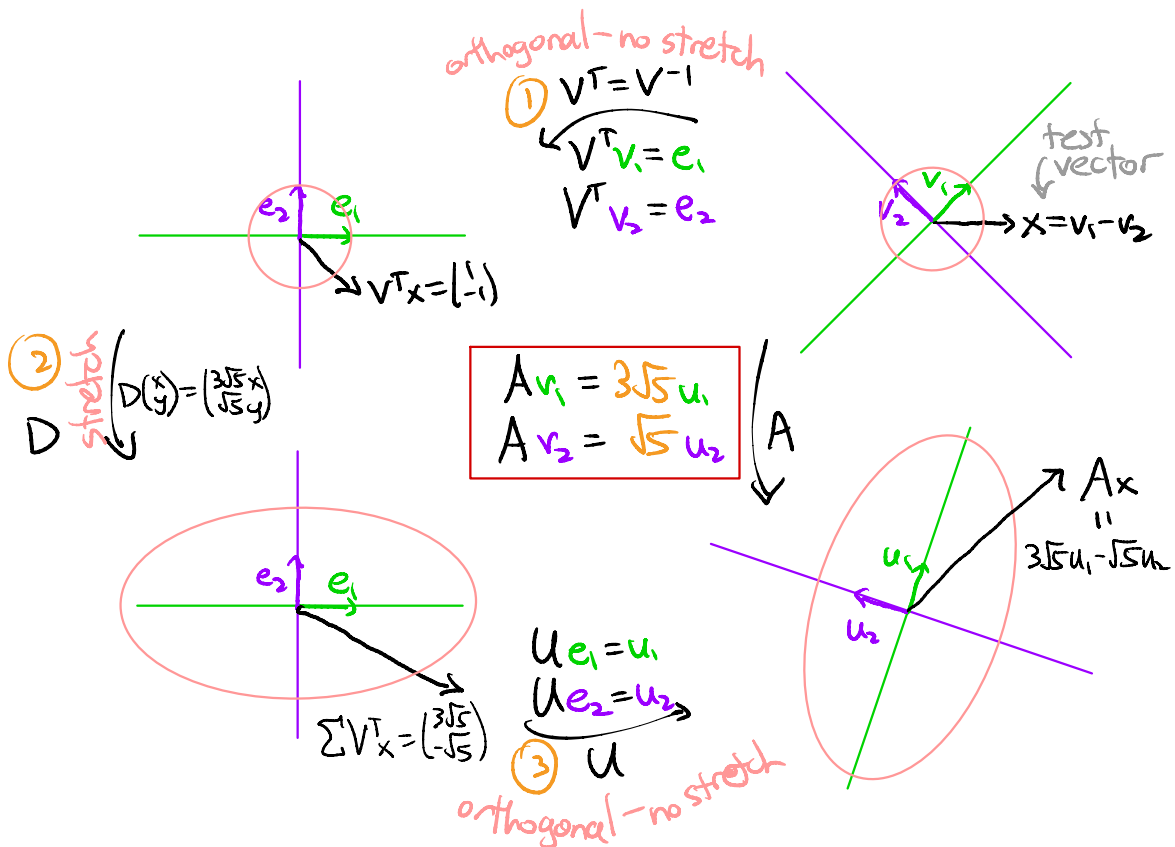
Eg:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{(1,2,4)}{=} 3\sqrt{5} u_1 v_1^T + \sqrt{5} u_2 v_2^T$  where

$u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$   $v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

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

$U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 3\sqrt{5} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{5} \end{pmatrix}$

Let's also draw the unit circle  $\bigcirc$  to visualize stretching.



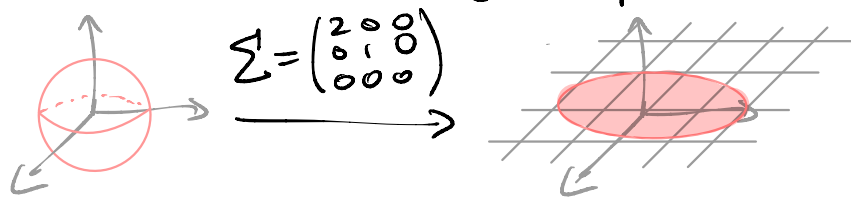
Reiterate: Any matrix can be expressed as:  
(rotate/flip) then (stretch) then (rotate/flip)

Notes/Caveats:

- In **diagonalization**, you start & end with the **same basis**  $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$  (eigenbasis).

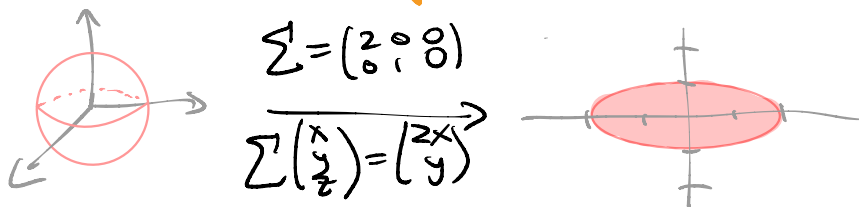
In the **SVD**, you start with the **right singular vectors**  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and you end with the **left singular vectors**  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$ .

- The  $\Sigma$  step can flatten your sphere  $\|x\|=1$ :



(This can happen with a  $S = QDQ^T$  decomposition too—that means 0 is an eigenvalue of  $S$ .)

- The  $\Sigma$  step can **change dimensions**:



"Project onto the xy-plane, then forget the z-coordinate."

# Geometry of the SVD: Outer Product Form

This is the geometric interpretation that we will use throughout L26 & L27 when we do the PCA.

Give the columns of  $A$  a name:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ d_1 & \cdots & d_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_i = \text{data points}$$

$$\text{SVD of } A: A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \cdots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

$$\text{Recall: } A v_i = \sigma_i u_i \quad A^T u_i = \sigma_i v_i$$

Expand out  $A^T u_i = \sigma_i v_i$ :

$$A^T u_i = \begin{pmatrix} -d_1^T - \\ \vdots \\ -d_n^T - \end{pmatrix} u_i = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \cdot u_i \\ \vdots \\ d_n \cdot u_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sigma_i u_i v_i^T &= u_i (\sigma_i v_i)^T \stackrel{A^T u_i = \sigma_i v_i}{=} u_i (A^T u_i)^T \\ &= u_i (d_1 \cdot u_i \quad \cdots \quad d_n \cdot u_i) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ (d_1 \cdot u_i) u_i & \cdots & (d_n \cdot u_i) u_i \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

**NB:**  $(d \cdot u_i) u_i$  is the **orthogonal projection** of  $d$  onto  $\text{Span}\{u_i\}$ :  $\frac{d \cdot u_i}{u_i \cdot u_i} u_i = (d \cdot u_i) u_i$  because  $\|u_i\|=1$ .

Upshot: The columns of  $\sigma_i u_i v_i^T$  are the orthogonal projections of the columns of  $A$  onto  $\text{Span}\{u_i\}$ .

Eg:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 & 7 & 1 & -4 & -3 \\ 7 & -6 & 8 & -1 & -1 & -7 \end{pmatrix}$

$A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T$  for

$\sigma_1 \approx 16.9$   $\sigma_2 \approx 3.92$

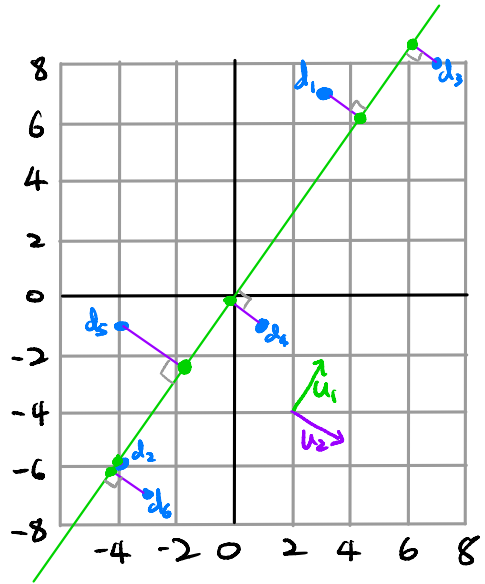
$u_1 \approx \begin{pmatrix} .561 \\ .828 \end{pmatrix}$   $u_2 \approx \begin{pmatrix} .828 \\ -.561 \end{pmatrix}$

LEGEND:

• =  $d_i = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$

• = columns of  $\sigma_i u_i v_i^T$   
= orthogonal projections of • onto  $\text{Span}\{u_1\}$

✓ = columns of  $\sigma_i u_i v_i^T$   
orthogonal projections of • onto  $\text{Span}\{u_2\}$



NB:  $A = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T$  means • = • + ✓  $\rightsquigarrow$

The SVD "pulls apart" the columns of  $A$  into the  $u_1, u_2$ -directions: the principal components.



In fact, the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of

$$\sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

$$\text{is } (d_i \cdot u_1) u_1 + (d_i \cdot u_2) u_2 + \dots + (d_i \cdot u_r) u_r$$

(projection formula) = orthogonal projection of  $d_i$  onto

$$\text{Col}(A) = \text{Span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r\}$$

=  $d_i$  because  $d_i \in \text{Col}(A)$  (it's the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column!)

This is just the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of the SYD:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ d_1 & \dots & d_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} = \sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_r u_r v_r^T$$

More generally, for  $k \leq n$ , the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of

$$\sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_k u_k v_k^T$$

is equal to

$$(d_i \cdot u_1) u_1 + (d_i \cdot u_2) u_2 + \dots + (d_i \cdot u_k) u_k$$

= orthogonal projection of  $d_i$  onto  $\text{Span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$

## Partial Sums are Projections

For  $k \leq n$ , the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of

$$\sigma_1 u_1 v_1^T + \sigma_2 u_2 v_2^T + \dots + \sigma_k u_k v_k^T$$

is the orthogonal projection of  $d_i$  onto

$$\text{Span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$$