
EECS 16B

Spring 2022

Lecture 22

4/7/2022 

LECTURE 22: Applications of SVD:

- pseudoinverse
- least squares
- min energy solution

Recall: Given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank} = r$, SVD decomposes it as:

$$A = U \Sigma V^T \quad (\text{full SVD})$$

where $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ and $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are orthogonal matrices and

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r & 0_{r \times (n-r)} \\ 0_{(m-r) \times r} & 0_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_r = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_r \end{bmatrix}.$$

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

If we partition U and V as $\begin{matrix} m \times r & m \times (m-r) \\ [U_r & U_{m-r}] \end{matrix}$, $\begin{matrix} n \times r & n \times (n-r) \\ [V_r & V_{n-r}] \end{matrix}$ then

$$U \Sigma V^T = U_r \Sigma_r V_r^T \quad (\text{compact form})$$

U_{m-r} , V_{n-r} get canceled but contain useful information about A :

$$\text{Col}(V_{n-r}) = \text{Null}(A)$$

$$\text{Col}(U_{m-r}) = \text{Null}(A^T)$$

Also,

$$\text{Col}(U_r) = \text{Col}(A)$$

$$\text{Col}(V_r) = \text{Col}(A^T)$$

Suppose $m=n=r$ (i.e. A invertible), so

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

What is A^{-1} in terms of U, Σ, V ? $A^{-1} = V \Sigma^{-1} U^T$

because $A^{-1}A = V \Sigma^{-1} \underbrace{U^T U}_{=I} \Sigma V^T = V \underbrace{\Sigma^{-1} \Sigma}_{=I} V^T = V V^T = I$.

Thus, SVD makes inversion easy.

In addition, a "pseudo inverse" can be derived from SVD when an inverse doesn't exist.

Defn: Given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ with rank r and SVD

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

the (Moore-Penrose) pseudo inverse is

$$A^+ = V \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{(n-r) \times (m-r)} \end{bmatrix} U^T$$

or, equivalently,

$$A^+ = V_r \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \quad (\text{compact form})$$

$$= [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_r] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \frac{1}{\sigma_r} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{u}_r^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \vec{v}_i \vec{u}_i^T \quad (\text{outer-product form}).$$

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $A^+ = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_1^T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

$$= \underbrace{\sqrt{5}}_{\sigma_1} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)}_{\vec{u}_1} \underbrace{1}_{\vec{v}_1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} & \frac{2}{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: (i) $A^+ \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ when $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

(ii) applicable to any $A \neq 0$, not necessarily square nor full rank

(iii) if $m=n=r$ (A invertible) then

$$A^{\dagger} = V \Sigma^{-1} U^T = A^{-1}$$

↑ as shown above.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iv)} \quad AA^{\dagger} &= U \underbrace{\Sigma V^T \cdot V_r \Sigma_r^{-1}}_{I_{r \times r}} U_r^T \\ &= U_r \Sigma_r \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T = U_r U_r^T \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(v)} \quad A^{\dagger}A = V_r \Sigma_r^{-1} \underbrace{U_r^T U_r}_{=I} \Sigma_r V_r^T = V_r V_r^T$$

Recall: If $Q = [\vec{q}_1 \dots \vec{q}_k]$ has orthonormal columns

$$Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1^T \vec{q}_1 & \vec{q}_1^T \vec{q}_2 & \dots \\ \vec{q}_2^T \vec{q}_1 & \vec{q}_2^T \vec{q}_2 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} = I_{k \times k}$$

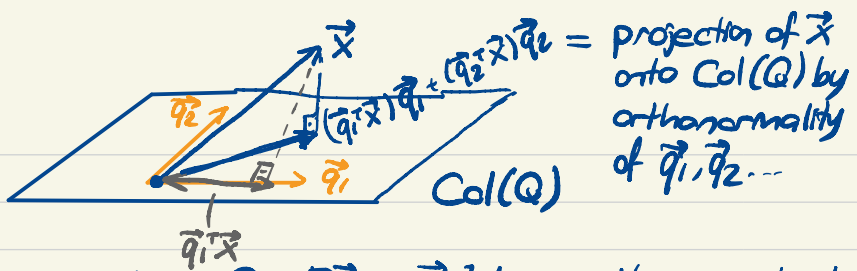
whether Q is square or not, but $Q Q^T = I$ only when Q is square.

Example: $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

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

What is an interpretation of $Q Q^T$ when Q is not square?

$$Q Q^T \vec{x} = [\vec{q}_1 \dots \vec{q}_k] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{q}_k^T \end{bmatrix}}_{\begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1^T \vec{x} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{q}_k^T \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}} \vec{x} = (\vec{q}_1^T \vec{x}) \vec{q}_1 + \dots + (\vec{q}_k^T \vec{x}) \vec{q}_k$$



Therefore, when $Q = [\vec{q}_1 \dots \vec{q}_k]$ has orthonormal columns $QQ^T \vec{x}$ projects $\vec{x}$ onto $\text{Col}(Q)$.

(iv) $\Rightarrow AA^+$ is a projection onto $\text{Col}(U_r) = \text{Col}(A)$

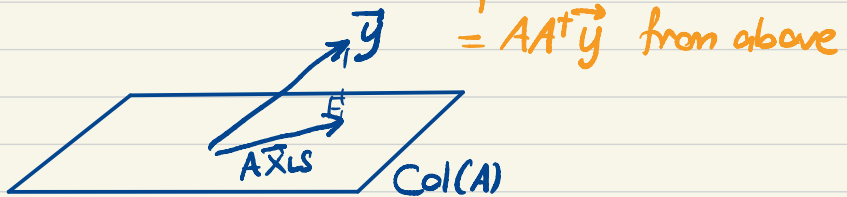
(v) $\Rightarrow A^+A$ " " " " $\text{Col}(V_r) = \text{Col}(A^T)$

Least Squares with SVD:

as shown in the last lecture

Want to minimize $\|A\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|$ when $m > n$ (tall matrix). Recall the minimizer $\vec{x}_{LS}$ is such that

$A\vec{x}_{LS} = \underbrace{\text{projection of } \vec{y} \text{ onto } \text{Col}(A)}_{= AA^+ \vec{y} \text{ from above}}$



Want $A\vec{x}_{LS} = AA^+ \vec{y}$. $\vec{x}_{LS} = A^+ \vec{y}$ does the job!

How does this compare to LS solution from before:

$$\vec{x}_{LS} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{y}$$

when A has full column rank ($r=n$)?

Answer: It's the same because $A^+ = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ --- (1)
when A has full column rank.

Example above: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $A^T A = 5$ $A^\dagger = \frac{1}{5} A^T = \frac{1}{5} [1 \ 2]$

same as what we found above.

Let's show $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T = A^\dagger$ by substituting SVD:

$$A = U_r \Sigma_r V^T \rightarrow V_r = V \text{ (square) because } r=n$$

$$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T = \underbrace{(V \Sigma_r U_r^T)^{-1}}_{A^T} \underbrace{U_r \Sigma_r V^T}_A V \Sigma_r U_r^T$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (V \underbrace{\Sigma_r^2}_{1 \times r \times r} V^T)^{-1} V \Sigma_r U_r^T \\
 &= \underbrace{(V^T)^{-1}}_V \underbrace{\Sigma_r^{-2}}_{V^T} V^T V \Sigma_r U_r^T = V \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \\
 &= A^\dagger \text{ by def'n.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Annotations: $\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_r^2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \frac{1}{\sigma_r^2} \end{bmatrix}$ are shown with arrows pointing to Σ_r^2 and Σ_r^{-2} respectively.

Therefore (1) is proven.

Likewise, when A is wide and full row rank ($r=m$):

$$A^\dagger = A^T (A A^T)^{-1} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Can be shown similarly to derivation of (1), by substituting

$$A = U \Sigma_r V_r^T$$

where $U_r = U$ because $r=m$.

Minimal Norm Solution: Now $m < n$ (wide) so, if $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$ has a sol'n, it has infinitely many others. Want the one with least $\|\vec{x}\|$.

Substitute compact SVD for A in $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$:

$$U_r \Sigma_r V_r^T \vec{x} = \vec{y}$$

Multiply from left by U_r^T :

$$\cancel{U_r^T U_r} \Sigma_r V_r^T \vec{x} = U_r^T \vec{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_r^T \vec{x} = \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Any $\vec{x}$ satisfying (3) solves $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$. Minimize

$$\|\vec{x}\| = \overset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{since } V \text{ orthogonal}}}{\|V^T \vec{x}\|} = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} V_r^T \\ V_{n-r}^T \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{V_r^T \vec{x}}_{\text{fixed by (3)}} \\ V_{n-r}^T \vec{x} \end{bmatrix} \right\|$$

$V_r^T \vec{x}$ is fixed by (3). No constraint on $V_{n-r}^T \vec{x}$. Set it to zero to minimize the norm:

$$V_{n-r}^T \vec{x} = 0. \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

(3) ensures $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$; (4) minimizes $\|\vec{x}\|$. Together:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_r^T \vec{x} \\ V_{n-r}^T \vec{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e., $V^T \vec{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

Multiply from left by V :

$$\underbrace{V V^T}_{=I} \vec{X} = V \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

= I because V is square and orthogonal

$$\Rightarrow \vec{X} = \underbrace{[V_r \ V_{n-r}]}_V \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{X}_{MN} = V_r \Sigma_r^{-1} U_r^T \vec{y} = A^+ \vec{y} \text{ by def'n of } A^+ \\ \hookrightarrow \text{"Minimum Norm"}$$

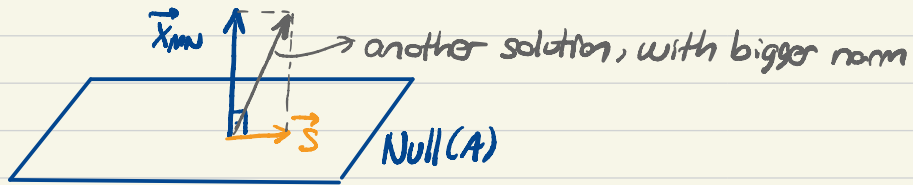
Thus, $\boxed{\vec{X}_{MN} = A^+ \vec{y}.}$

Note that (4) means: $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_{r+1}^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{v}_n^T \end{bmatrix} \vec{X} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{X} \perp \vec{v}_{r+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$

Since $\vec{v}_{r+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ span $\text{Null}(A)$, we can see that the minimum norm solution keeps $\vec{X}_{MN}$ orthogonal to the null space of A . This shows the "wisdom" of the minimum norm solution: any $\vec{X}$ of the form

$$\vec{X} = \vec{X}_{MN} + \vec{\beta}, \quad \vec{\beta} \in \text{Null}(A) \text{ satisfies } A\vec{X} = A\vec{X}_{MN} + \underbrace{A\vec{\beta}}_{=0} = \vec{y}$$

but $\vec{s}$ adds unnecessarily to the norm of $\vec{x}$.



When A is wide and full row rank, $A^+ = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}$

by (2), Thus: $\vec{x}_{MN} = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}\vec{y}$.