

Sps $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ (think of as linear map $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$)

Key Fact 1: it's possible to maximize $\|A\vec{v}\|$ over the n -sphere,

i.e. let $\sigma_1 = \sup_{\|\vec{v}\|=1} \|A\vec{v}\|$

then: σ_1 is realized, i.e.

$\exists \vec{v}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ s.t. ~~max~~ $\|A\vec{v}_1\| = \sigma_1$
with $\|\vec{v}_1\| = 1$

why: the function

$$\vec{v} \mapsto \|A\vec{v}\|$$

first "singular value" of A

is continuous and the n -sphere $\{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\vec{v}\| = 1\}$ is compact

$\hookrightarrow$ cts functions realize their extrema on compact domains

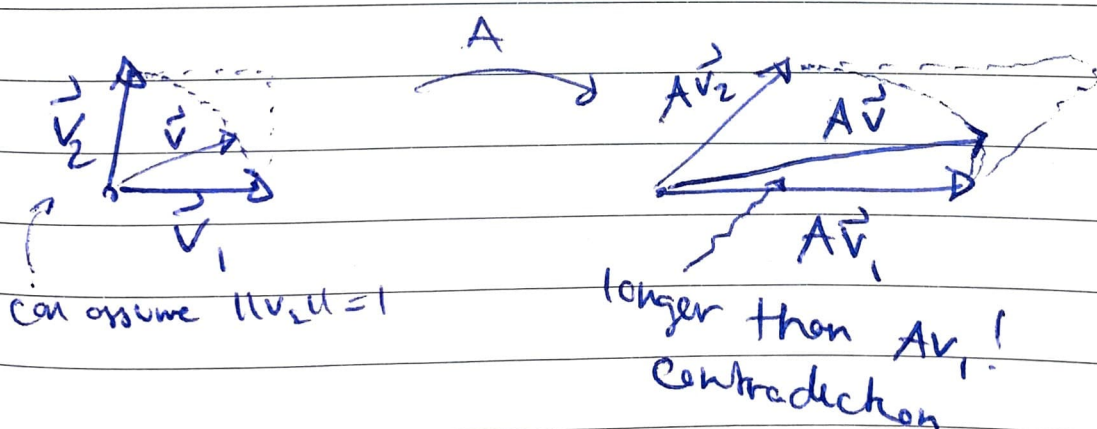
~~otherwise~~ since $\|A\vec{v}_1\| = \sigma_1$,
we can find $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ with $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$
s.t. $A\vec{v}_1 = \sigma_1 \vec{u}$

Key fact 2: if $\vec{v}_2 \perp \vec{v}_1$ (i.e. $\vec{v}_2 \in [V_1]^\perp$) then $A\vec{v}_2 \perp A\vec{v}_1$

!!! this is the
crux

of course it's not in general true that if $\vec{u} \perp \vec{v}$ then $A\vec{u} \perp A\vec{v}$

It's true here because if $A\vec{v}_2$ were not orthogonal to $A\vec{v}_1$, would be possible to find a unit vector $\vec{v}$ ("leaning toward" $\vec{v}_2$) s.t. $\|A\vec{v}\| > \|A\vec{v}_1\|$, contradicting maximality of $\|A\vec{v}_1\|$ among unit vectors



(this is only a sketchy pictorial justification - but we'll take fact for granted)

~~Another way~~ Another way
of saying this:

A maps the space $\{\vec{v}_1\}^\perp$
into $\{A\vec{v}_1\}^\perp (= \{\vec{u}_1\}^\perp)$
(cf dim's $n-1, m-1$ resp.)

Now we can repeat this
process within $\{\vec{v}_1\}^\perp$

i.e. we can find a $\vec{v}_2 \in \{\vec{v}_1\}^\perp$
with $\|\vec{v}_2\| = 1$

~~that maximizes~~ so that $\|A\vec{v}_2\| = \sigma_2$
is max possible

$$\text{i.e. } \|A\vec{v}_2\| = \sup_{\substack{\|\vec{v}\|=1 \\ \vec{v} \perp \vec{v}_1}} \|A\vec{v}\|$$

(possible to find such $\vec{v}_2$: again by
compactness)

the point: by key fact 2

$$A\vec{v}_2 + A\vec{v}_1 = \sigma_1 \vec{u}_1 \longrightarrow \vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2$$

can write $A\vec{v}_2 = \sigma_2 \vec{u}_2$ w/ $\|\vec{u}_2\| = 1$

notice $\sigma_2 \leq \sigma_1$ since we maximized
over smaller set.

end again: because $\vec{v}_2$
maximizes $\|A\vec{v}\|$ over $\{\vec{v}_1\}^\perp$,
~~so~~ if $\vec{v}_3 \in \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}^\perp$

then $A\vec{v}_3 \in \{A\vec{v}_1, A\vec{v}_2\}^\perp$
 $\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2\}^\perp$

so continue...

summary: Given A $m \times n$

① Find $\vec{v}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\|\vec{v}_1\| = 1$

s.t. $\|A\vec{v}_1\| = \sigma_1$ is max possible
 for $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$

can write $A\vec{v}_1 = \sigma_1 \vec{u}_1$ for some
 $\vec{u}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$
 (possible by key fact 1) $\|\vec{u}_1\| = 1$

② Find $\vec{v}_2 \perp \vec{v}_1$, $\|\vec{v}_2\| = 1$

s.t. $\|A\vec{v}_2\| = \sigma_2$ is max poss.
 for $\vec{v} \in \{\vec{v}_1\}^\perp$, $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$

can write $A\vec{v}_2 = \sigma_2 \vec{u}_2$ for some
 $\vec{u}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^m$

and we have (by key fact 2) $\|\vec{u}_2\| = 1$
 $A\vec{v}_1 \perp A\vec{v}_2$ (so $\vec{u}_1 \perp \vec{u}_2$)

③ Find $\vec{v}_3 \perp \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ with $\|\vec{v}_3\|=1$
 $\|A\vec{v}_3\| = \sigma_3$ w max poss.
 for $\vec{v} \in \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}^\perp$ with $\|\vec{v}\|=1$

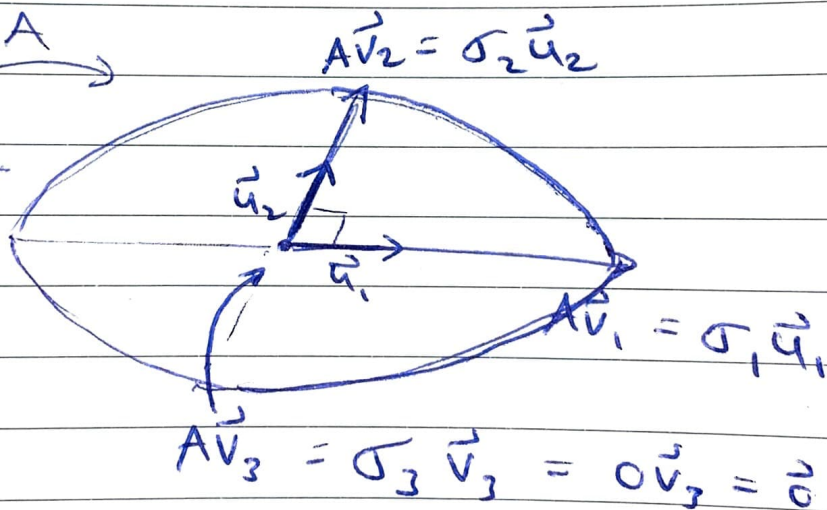
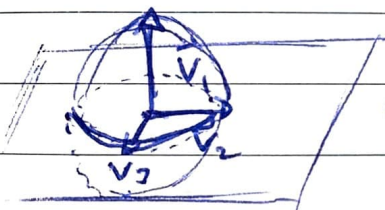
then $A\vec{v}_3 = \sigma_3 \vec{u}_3$ for some $\vec{u}_3$
 $\|\vec{u}_3\|=1$

and $\vec{u}_3 \in \{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2\}^\perp$

⋮

Picture:

$\xrightarrow{A}$



* when we say "we can find $\vec{u}_i$ w $\|\vec{u}_i\|=1$ s.t. $A\vec{u}_i = \sigma_i \vec{u}_i$ " we're assuming

~~nonzero~~ $A\vec{u}_i$ is nonzero

~~as in the picture~~

- If $A\vec{v}_i = 0$ we either
let $\vec{u}_i = \vec{0}$ (in case where
we've ~~already~~ already spanned
 $\mathbb{R}^m$ by $A\vec{v}_1, \dots, A\vec{v}_{i-1}$)

or pick $\vec{u}_i$ ~~arbitrary~~
to be some unit vector
($\|\vec{u}_i\| = 1$) orthonormal to
 $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_{i-1}$

In general: end up with
 orthonormal set $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$
 and orthonormal set (up to some
 $\vec{0}$'s perhaps) $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n$ in $\mathbb{R}^m$
 s.t. -

$$A\vec{v}_1 = \sigma_1 \vec{u}_1, \quad A\vec{v}_2 = \sigma_2 \vec{u}_2 \dots$$

$$\text{and } \sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n \geq 0 \quad A\vec{v}_n = \sigma_n \vec{u}_n$$

In matrix form:

$$\text{Let } V = [\vec{v}_1 | \dots | \vec{v}_n] \quad n \times n$$

$$\hat{U} = [\vec{u}_1 | \dots | \vec{u}_n] \quad m \times n$$

$$\text{So: } AV = [A\vec{v}_1 | \dots | A\vec{v}_n]$$

$$= [\sigma_1 \vec{u}_1 | \dots | \sigma_n \vec{u}_n]$$

$$= [\vec{u}_1 | \dots | \vec{u}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \hat{U} \hat{\Sigma}$$

$\nearrow$
 $n \times n$

V is always orthogonal
(i.e. orthonormal columns + square)

$\hat{U}$ has orthonormal columns
(up to some $\vec{0}$'s)

to get full SVD we
"make $\hat{U}$ square" (keeping
columns orthonormal) and
adjust Σ accordingly

by adding some $\vec{0}$'s or extra
orthonormal columns.

if $m \geq n$: - add columns $\vec{u}_{n+1}, \dots, \vec{u}_m$
to $\hat{U}$ so that $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n, \vec{u}_{n+1}, \dots, \vec{u}_m\}$ orthonormal (hence
a basis for $\mathbb{R}^m$)

- add rows of $\vec{0}$'s to $\hat{\Sigma}$
to preserve eq'n

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1 & \dots & \vec{u}_n & \vec{u}_{n+1} & \dots & \vec{u}_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \sigma_n & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \hat{\Sigma}$$