

# Computational Methods

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## Eigenvalues and Singular Values



# Eigenvalues and Singular Values

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- Eigenvalues and singular values describe important aspects of transformations and of data relations
  - Eigenvalues determine the important the degree to which a linear transformation changes the length of transformed vectors
  - Eigenvectors indicate the directions in which the principal change happen
- Eigenvalues are important for many problems in computer science and engineering, including
  - Dimensionality reduction
  - Compression



# Eigenvalues

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- Eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and eigenvectors  $x$  characterize dimensions that are purely stretched by a given linear transformation

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

- The spectrum of  $A$  is the set of its eigenvalues
  - The spectral radius of  $A$  is the magnitude of the largest of its eigenvalues
- Eigenvalues characterize the degree to which a linear transformation stretches input vectors
    - Also important for sensitivity analysis of linear problems



# Eigenvalues

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- A linear transformation has as many eigenvalues and eigenvectors as it has dimensions
  - Eigenvectors might be duplicates
  - Eigenvalues might be complex
- Any data point (vector) can be written as a linear combination of eigenvectors
  - Allows efficient decomposition of vectors



# Power Iteration

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- The eigenvalue equation is related to the fixed point equations (except with scaling)

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

- Simplest solution method to find eigenvectors (and eigenvalues) is power iteration
  - characterize dimensions that are purely stretched by a given linear transformation
- Power iteration converges to a scaled version of the eigenvector with the dominant eigenvalue

$$x_{t+1} = Ax_t$$



# Power Iteration

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- Power iteration converges except if
  - $x_0$  has no component of the dominant eigenvector
  - There are more than one eigenvector with the same eigenvalue
- Normalized power iteration renormalizes the result  $x_{t+1}$  after each iteration

$$y_{k+1} = Ax_k \quad , \quad x_{k+1} = \frac{y_{k+1}}{\|y_{k+1}\|_\infty}$$

- Converges to dominant eigenvector and dominant eigenvalue

$$\|y_k\|_\infty \rightarrow \lambda_d \quad , \quad x_k \rightarrow \frac{1}{\|v_d\|_\infty} v_d$$



# Inverse Iteration

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- Inverse iteration is used to find the smallest eigenvalue
- converges except if

$$Ay_{k+1} = x_k \quad , \quad x_{k+1} = \frac{y_{k+1}}{\|y_{k+1}\|_\infty}$$

- Inverse iteration corresponds to power iteration with the inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$
- Inverse iteration and power iteration can only find the smallest and the largest eigenvalues
  - Need to find a way to determine other eigenvalues and eigenvectors



# Characteristic Polynomial

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- The determination of eigenvectors and eigenvalues can be transformed into a root finding problem

$$(A - \lambda I)x = 0$$

- Has a nonzero solution for the eigenvector  $x$  if and only if  $(A - \lambda I)$  is not singular
- Eigenvalues of the nonsingular matrix are the roots of the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

- The characteristic polynomial is a polynomial of degree  $n$
  - Complex eigenvalues occur in conjugate pairs
- Computation of the characteristic polynomial is complex
    - Can be accelerated by first performing LU factorization





# Characteristic Polynomial

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- Computing roots of a polynomial of degree larger than 4 cannot always be computed directly and require an iterative solution
- Computing eigenvalues using the characteristic polynomial is numerically not stable and highly complex
  - Computing coefficients of characteristic polynomial requires computation of the determinant
  - Root finding requires iterative solution process
  - Coefficients of characteristic are very sensitive
- Characteristic polynomial is a powerful theoretical tool but not a practical computational approach



# Eigenvalue Problems

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- Characteristics of eigenvalue problems influence the choice of algorithm
  - All or only some eigenvalues
  - Only eigenvalues or eigenvalues and eigenvectors
  - Dense or sparse matrix
  - Real or complex values
  - Other properties of matrix  $A$



# Problem Transformations

- A number of transformations either preserve or have a predictable effect on the eigenvalues

- Shift: For any scalar  $\sigma$

$$Ax = \lambda x \quad \rightarrow \quad (A - \sigma I)x = (\lambda - \sigma)x$$

- Inversion:

$$Ax = \lambda x \quad \rightarrow \quad A^{-1}x = \frac{1}{\lambda}x$$

- Powers:

$$Ax = \lambda x \quad \rightarrow \quad A^k x = \lambda^k x$$

- Polynomial: for any polynomial  $p(t)$

$$Ax = \lambda x \quad \rightarrow \quad p(A)x = p(\lambda)x$$

- Similarity: for any similar matrix  $B = T^{-1}AT$

$$Bx = \lambda x \quad \rightarrow \quad ATx = \lambda(Tx)$$



# Problem Transformations

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- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors of diagonal matrices are easy to determine
  - Eigenvalues are the values on the diagonal
  - Eigenvectors are the columns of the identity matrix
- Not all matrices are diagonalizable using similarity transformations
- Eigenvalues of triangular matrices can also be determined easily
  - Eigenvalues are diagonal entries of the matrix
  - Eigenvectors can be computed from  $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$



# Convergence of Iterations

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- Speed of convergence of power iteration and inverse iteration depends on the ratio of two eigenvalues
  - For power iteration, convergence is faster the larger the ratio of the largest and the second largest eigenvalue is
  - For inverse iteration, convergence is faster the smaller the ratio of the smallest and the second smallest eigenvalue is
- Shift transformation allows to change the ratio of eigenvalues  $\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2} \rightarrow \frac{\lambda_1 - \sigma}{\lambda_2 - \sigma}$ 
  - Knowledge of eigenvalue of sought after eigenvector would allow to lower this ratio to 0
    - Allows to increase the convergence rate of inverse iteration



# Rayleigh Quotient Iteration

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- Rayleigh quotient iteration uses the Rayleigh quotient as a shift parameter  $\sigma = \frac{x^T Ax}{x^T x}$ ,  $(A - \sigma I)$ 
  - This allows to make the ratio of eigenvalues close to 0 and thus accelerates the convergence of inverse iteration

$$(A - \sigma_k I)y_{k+1} = x_k$$

$$x_{k+1} = \frac{y_{k+1}}{\|y_{k+1}\|_\infty}$$

- This algorithm is usually called Rayleigh quotient iteration
- Rayleigh quotient iteration converges usually very fast
  - Each iteration requires a new matrix factorization and is therefore  $O(n^3)$



# Computing All Eigenvalues

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- Power iteration and inverse iteration allow to compute only the largest and the smallest eigenvalues and eigenvectors.
  - To compute the other eigenvalues we need to either
    - Remove the already found eigenvector (and eigenvalue) from the matrix to be able to reapply power or inverse iteration
    - Find a way to find all the eigenvectors simultaneously
  - Removing eigenvectors from the space spanned by a transformation  $A$  is called deflation



# Deflation

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- To remove an eigenvalue (and corresponding eigenvector) we have to find a set of transformations that preserves all other eigenvalues

- Householder transforms can be used to derive such a transformation  $H$  with

$$Hx_1 = \alpha e_1$$

- The similarity transform described by  $H$  yields a matrix

$$HAH^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & b^T \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}$$

- Since similarity transforms were used this matrix has the same eigenvalues
- $B$  has all the eigenvalues of  $A$  with the exception of  $\lambda_1$
- Power iteration can be applied to this new matrix  $B$





# Deflation

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- Power iteration with deflation can compute all eigenvalues but requires determining the eigenvector in each iteration
  - Eigenvector in B can be used to compute eigenvector in A

$$x_3 = H^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b^T y_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Alternatively, the eigenvalue could be used directly in A to determine the eigenvector
  - More computationally complex



# Simultaneous Iteration

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- Simultaneous iteration attempts to simultaneously iterate multiple vectors

$$X_{k+1} = AX_k$$

- $X$  converges to the space spanned by the  $p$  dominant eigenvectors
  - Subspace iteration
- But  $X$  becomes ill-conditioned since all columns in  $X$  ultimately converge to the dominant eigenvector
  - Need normalization that keeps vectors well conditioned and non-equal
    - Orthogonal iteration using QR factorization



# QR Iteration

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- As for least squares (and equation solving) QR factorization allows a factorization of the matrix into components that stay well conditioned

$$Q_{k+1}R_{k+1} = X_k$$

$$X_{k+1} = AQ_{k+1}$$

- By using Q (a similarity transform) for the iteration, the eigenvalues are preserved and it converges to block triangular form
  - Triangular form if all eigenvalues are real values and distinct



# QR Iteration

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- To find eigenvalues, QR iteration can be applied directly to  $A$

$$A_k = Q_k^H A_{k-1} Q_k$$

- Converges to triangular or block triangular matrix containing all eigenvalues as diagonal elements or as eigenvalues of diagonal blocks
  - Can be computed without explicitly performing the product

$$Q_{k+1} R_{k+1} = A_k$$

$$A_{k+1} = R_{k+1} Q_{k+1} (= Q_{k+1}^H A_k Q_{k+1})$$

- Can be accelerated using shift transformation



# Singular Values

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- Singular values are related to Eigenvalues and characterize important aspects of the space described by the transformation
  - Nullspace
  - Span
- Singular Value Decomposition divides a transformation  $A$  into a sequence of 3 transformations where the second is pure rescaling
  - Scaling parameters are the singular values
  - Columns of the other two transformations are the left and right singular vectors, respectively



# Singular Values

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- Singular values exist for all transformations  $A$ , independent of  $A$  being square or not
  - Right singular vectors represent the input vectors that span the orthogonal basis that is being scaled
  - Left singular vectors represent the vectors that the scaled internal basis vectors are transformed into for the output
- Singular values are directly related to the eigenvalues
  - Singular values are the nonnegative square roots of the eigenvalues of  $AA^T$  or  $A^T A$
  - Left singular vectors are eigenvectors of  $AA^T$
  - Right singular vectors are eigenvectors of  $A^T A$



# Singular Value Decomposition

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- Singular value decomposition (SVD) factorizes A

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

- U is an  $m \times m$  orthogonal matrix of left singular vectors
- V is an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix of right singular vectors
- $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  diagonal matrix of singular values
  - Usually  $\Sigma$  is arranged such that the singular values are ordered by magnitude
- Left and right singular vectors are related through the singular values

$$Av_{,i} = \sigma_i u_{,i}$$

$$A^T u_{,i} = \sigma_i v_{,i}$$



# Singular Value Decomposition

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- Singular value decomposition (SVD) can be computed in different ways
  - Using eigenvalue computation on  $AA^T$ 
    - Compute eigenvalues of  $AA^T$
    - Determine left singular vectors as eigenvectors for  $AA^T$
    - Determine right singular vectors as eigenvectors for  $A^T A$
    - Leads to some conditioning issues due to the need for matrix multiplication
  - Directly from  $A$  by performing Householder transformations and Givens rotations until a diagonal matrix is reached
    - Perform QR factorization to achieve triangular matrix
    - Use Householder transforms to achieve bidiagonal shape
    - Use Givens rotations to achieve diagonal form
    - This is usually better conditioned





# Singular Value Decomposition

- Singular value decomposition (SVD) can be used for a range of applications
  - Compute least squares solution  $Ax \cong b \rightarrow x = \sum_{\sigma_i \neq 0} \frac{u_i^T b}{\sigma_i} v_i$
  - Compute pseudoinverse  $A^+ = V\Sigma^+U^T$
  - Euclidean matrix norm:  $\|A\|_2 = \sigma_{\max}$
  - Condition number of a matrix:  $cond(A) = \sigma_{\max} / \sigma_{\min}$
  - Matrix rank is equal to the number of non-zero singular values
  - Nullspace of the matrix is spanned by the set of right singular vectors corresponding to singular values of 0
  - Span of a matrix is spanned by the left singular vectors corresponding to non-zero singular values



# Singular Value Decomposition

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- Singular value decomposition (SVD) is useful in a number of applications
  - Data compression
    - Right singular values transform data into a basis in which it is only scaled
    - Data dimensions with 0 or very small scaling factors are not important for the overall data
    - Wide range of applications:
      - Image compression
      - Dimensionality reduction for data
      - Dimensionality reduction for matrix operations
  - Filtering and noise reduction
    - Most of the time, data has only few important dimensions and noise is most apparent in additional dimensions (with smaller singular values)
    - Ignoring dimensions with small singular values can lead to less noisy data

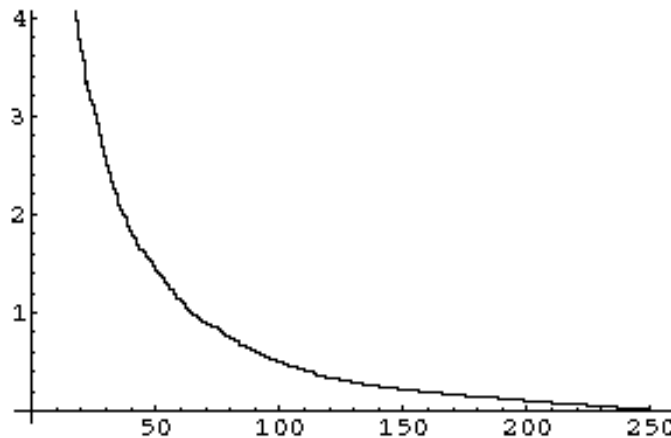
# Compression Example

- Image compression is an area where SVD has been used relatively early on
  - Given an image, can we reduce the amount of data that has to be transmitted without losing too much information
    - Use SVD to find a lower rank approximation of the image that has only limited loss.



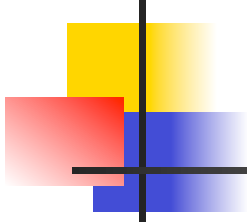
# Compression Example

- In SVD, the magnitude of the singular values often decreases rapidly after the first few singular values



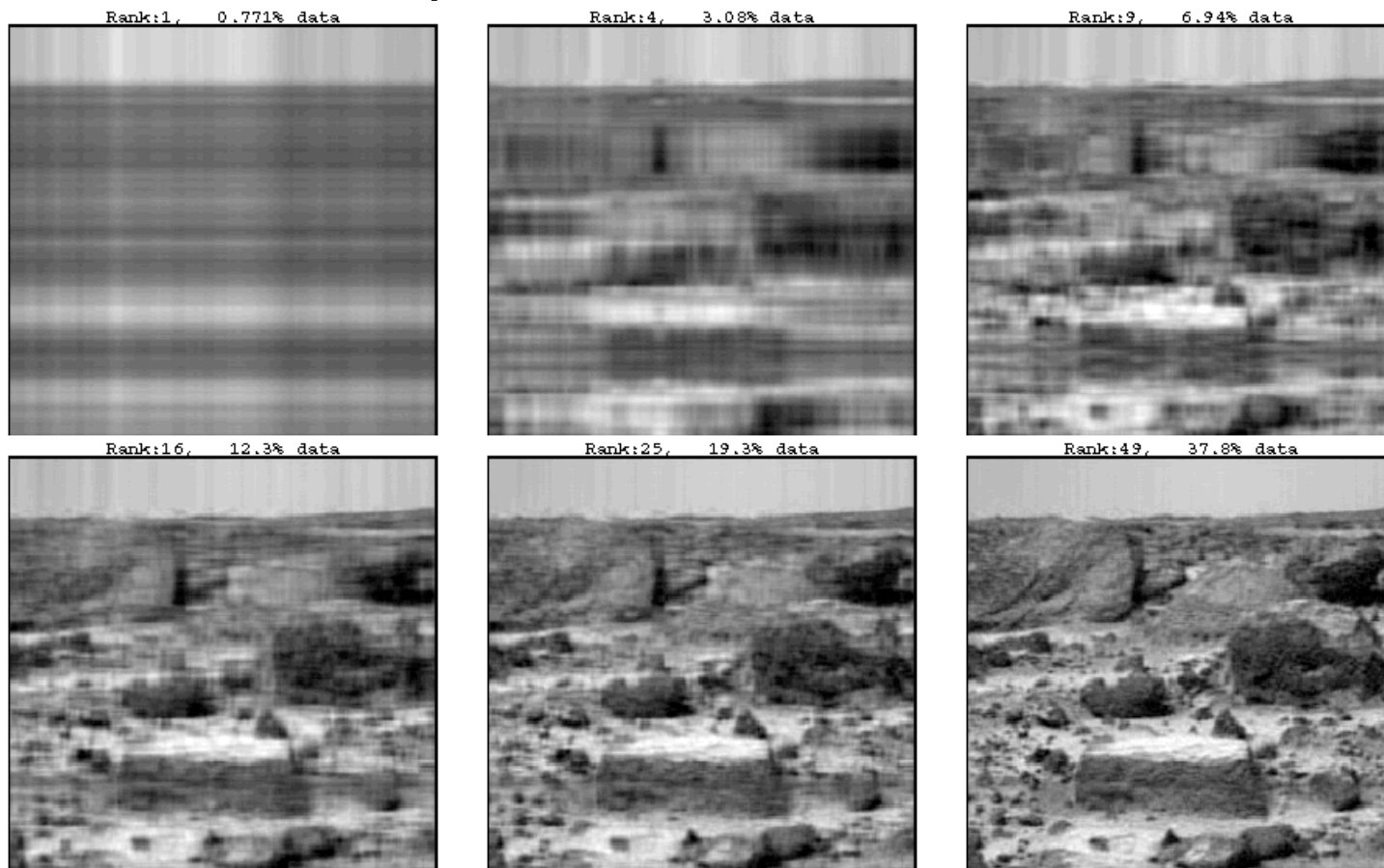
- To compress the image, only keep the  $k$  largest singular values (and thus singular vectors) to reconstruct the image

$$A \approx U_p \Sigma_p V_p^T$$



# Compression Example

- Different compression levels have different loss





# Eigenvalues and Singular Values

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- Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors capture important properties about linear transformations  $A$
- Eigenvalues and Singular values indicate the importance of particular dimensions of the space
  - Can be used for compression
- Singular values can capture noise characteristics
  - Can be used for filtering of data
  - Can be used to remove noise from data before transformations are applied
- Singular values are also important to analyze problems such as conditioning and sensitivity