

Dimensionality reduction

Outline

- Dimensionality Reductions or data projections
- Random projections
- Singular Value Decomposition and Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

The curse of dimensionality

- The efficiency of many algorithms depends on the number of dimensions **d**
 - Distance/similarity computations are at least linear to the number of dimensions
 - Index structures fail as the dimensionality of the data increases

Goals

- Reduce dimensionality of the data
- Maintain the meaningfulness of the data

Dimensionality reduction

- Dataset X consisting of n points in a d -dimensional space
- Data point $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ (d -dimensional real vector):

$$x_i = [x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{id}]$$

- Dimensionality reduction methods:
 - **Feature selection:** choose a subset of the features
 - **Feature extraction:** create new features by combining new ones

Dimensionality reduction

- Dimensionality reduction methods:
 - **Feature selection:** choose a subset of the features
 - **Feature extraction:** create new features by combining new ones
- Both methods map vector $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, to vector $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$, ($k \ll d$)
- $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$

Linear dimensionality reduction

- Function **F** is a **linear** projection
- $y_i = x_i A$
- $Y = X A$
- **Goal:** **Y** is as **close** to **X** as possible

Closeness: Pairwise distances

- **Johnson–Lindenstrauss lemma:** Given $\varepsilon > 0$, and an integer n , let k be a positive integer such that $k \geq k_0 = O(\varepsilon^{-2} \log n)$. For every set X of n points in \mathbb{R}^d there exists $F: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ such that for all $x_i, x_j \in X$

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|x_i - x_j\|^2 \leq \|F(x_i) - F(x_j)\|^2 \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \|x_i - x_j\|^2$$

What is the intuitive interpretation of this statement?

JL Lemma: Intuition

- Vectors $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, are projected onto a k -dimensional space ($k \ll d$): $\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i A$
- If $\|\mathbf{x}_i\| = 1$ for all i , then,
 $\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2$ is approximated by $(d/k)\|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j\|^2$
- **Intuition:**
 - The expected squared norm of a projection of a unit vector onto a random subspace through the origin is k/d
 - The probability that it deviates from expectation is very small

Finding random projections

- Vectors $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, are projected onto a \mathbf{k} -dimensional space ($\mathbf{k} \ll \mathbf{d}$)
- Random projections can be represented by linear transformation matrix \mathbf{A}
- $\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{A}$
- What is the matrix \mathbf{A} ?

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Finding matrix **A**

- Elements **A(i,j)** can be Gaussian distributed
- Achlioptas* has shown that the Gaussian distribution can be replaced by

$$A(i, j) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{with prob } \frac{1}{6} \\ 0 & \text{with prob } \frac{2}{3} \\ -1 & \text{with prob } \frac{1}{6} \end{cases}$$

- All zero mean, unit variance distributions for **A(i,j)** would give a mapping that satisfies the **JL** lemma
- **Why is Achlioptas result useful?**

Datasets in the form of

We are given n objects and d features describing the objects.

(Each object has d numeric values describing it.)

Dataset

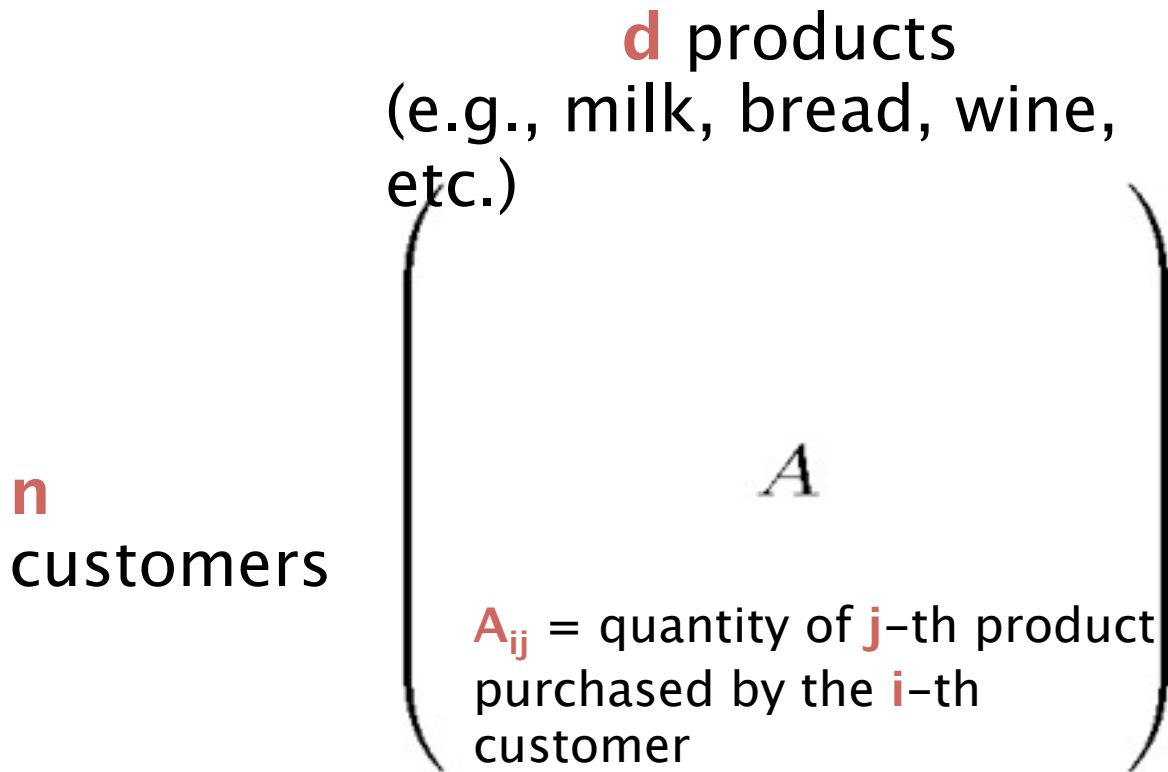
An n -by- d matrix A , A_{ij} shows the “importance” of feature j for object i .

Every row of A represents an object.

Goal

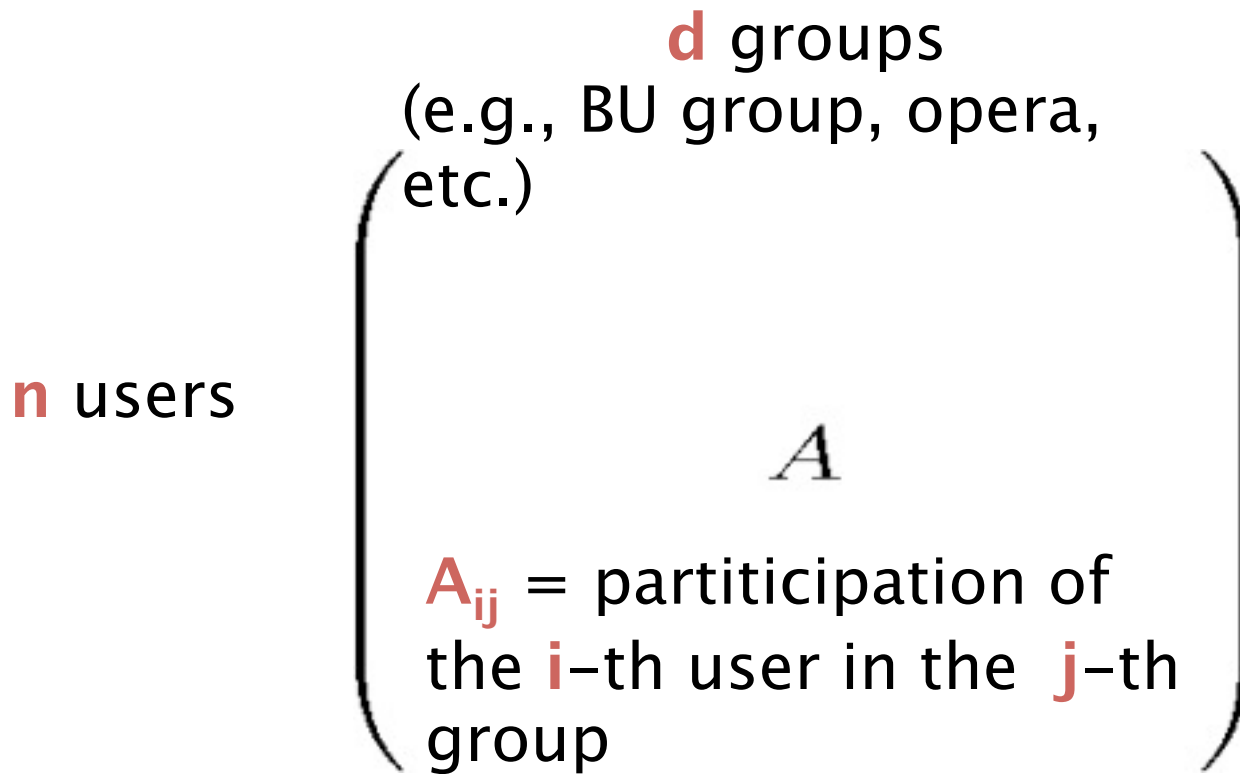
1. **Understand** the structure of the data, e.g., the underlying process generating the data.
2. **Reduce the number of features** representing the

Market basket matrices



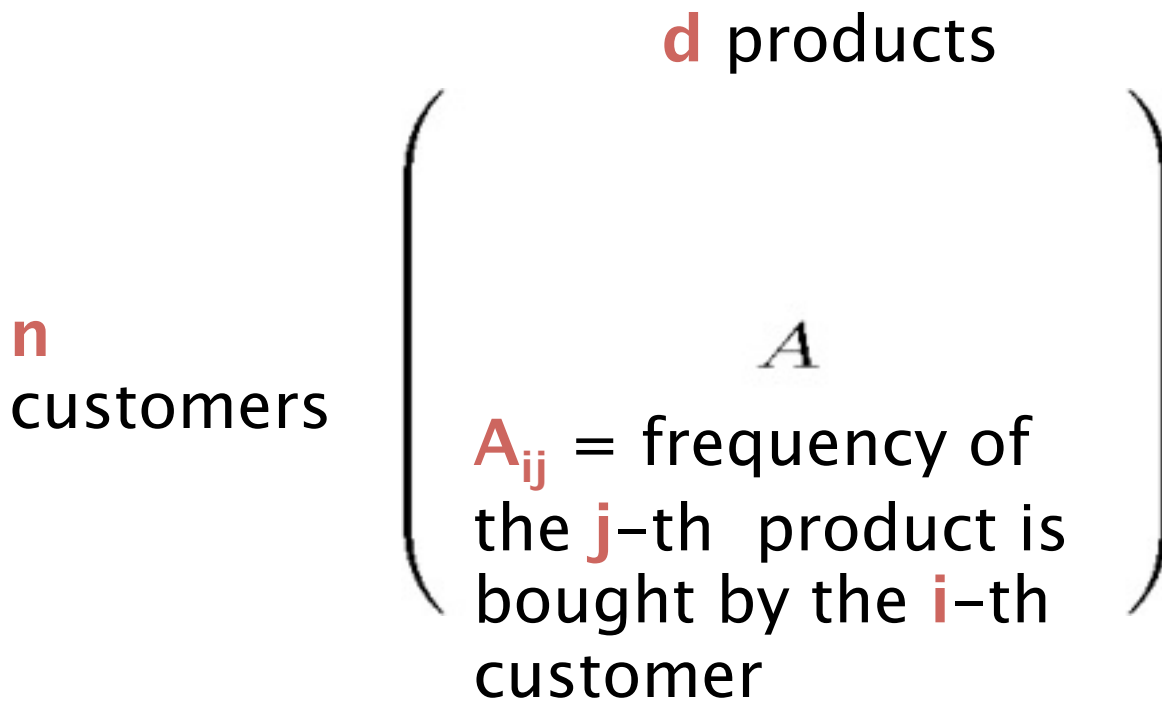
Find a subset of the products that
characterize customer behavior

Social-network matrices



Find a subset of the groups that accurately clusters social-network users

Recommendation systems



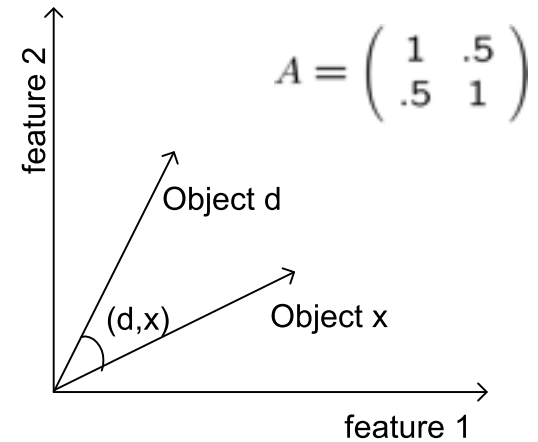
Find a subset of the products that accurately describe the behavior or the customers

The Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

Data matrices have **n** rows (one for each object) and **d** columns (one for each feature).

Rows: vectors in a Euclidean space,

Two objects are “**close**” if the angle between their corresponding vectors is small.



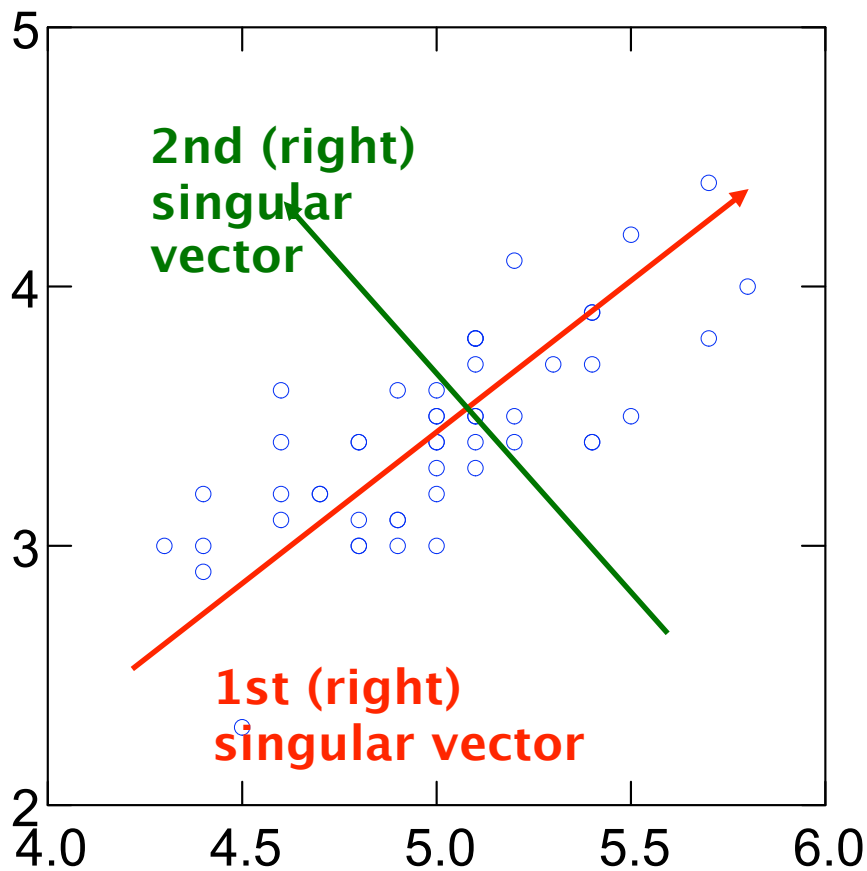
SVD: Example

Input: 2-d dimensional points

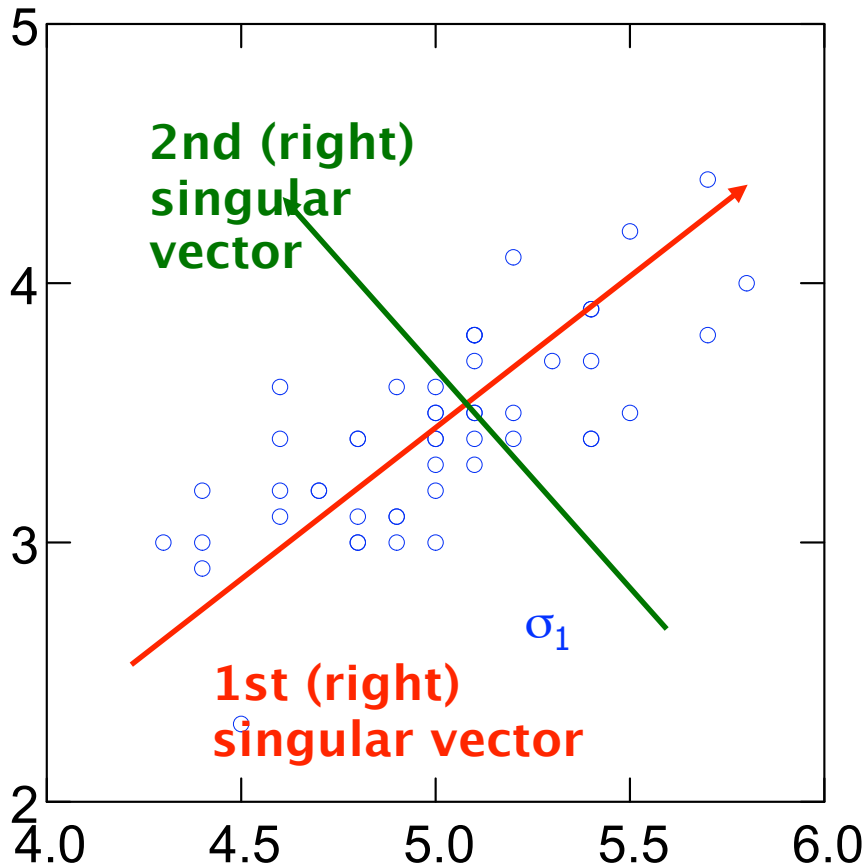
Output:

1st (right) singular vector:
direction of maximal variance,

2nd (right) singular vector:
direction of maximal variance,
after removing the projection
of the data along the first
singular vector.



Singular values



σ_1 : measures how much of the data variance is explained by the first singular vector.

σ_2 : measures how much of the data variance is explained by the second singular vector.

SVD decomposition

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ n \times \ell \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ \ell \times \ell \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} V \\ \ell \times d \end{pmatrix}^T$$

U (V): orthogonal matrix containing the left (right) singular vectors of **A**.

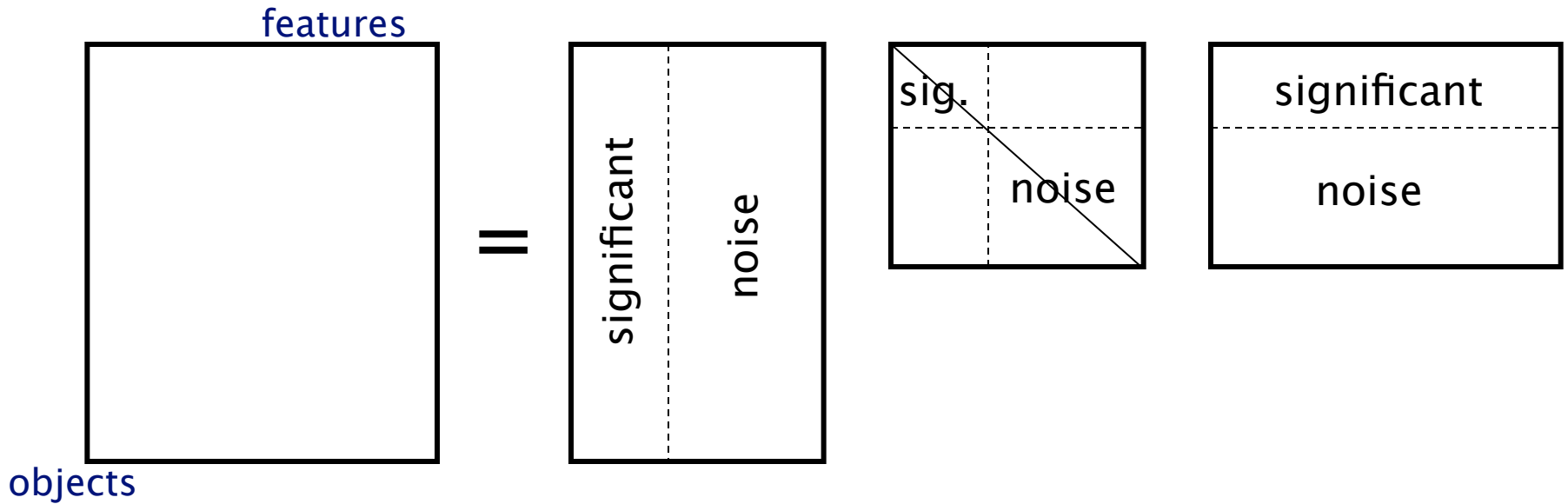
Σ : diagonal matrix containing the **singular values** of **A**:
($\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_\ell$)

Exact computation of the SVD takes **$O(\min\{mn^2, m^2n\})$** time.

The top k left/right singular vectors/values can be **computed faster** using Lanczos/Arnoldi methods.

SVD and Rank- k

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



Rank- k approximations (A_k)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_k \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_k \\ n \times k \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_k \\ k \times k \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} V_k^T \\ k \times d \end{pmatrix}$$

U_k (V_k): ortho-
(right) singular
 Σ_k : diagonal
values of A

A_k is the **best**
approximation
of A

A_k is an approximation of A

SVD as an optimization problem

Find **C** to minimize:

$$\min_C \left\| \begin{array}{cc} A & - C X \\ n \times d & n \times k \quad k \times d \end{array} \right\|_F^2 \quad \text{Frobenius norm:}$$

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij}^2$$

Given **C** it is easy to find **X** from standard least squares.

However, the fact that we can find the optimal **C** is fascinating!

PCA and SVD

- PCA is SVD done on **centered** data
- PCA looks for such a direction that the data projected to it has the maximal variance
- PCA/SVD continues by seeking the next direction that is orthogonal to all previously found directions
- All directions are orthogonal

How to compute the PCA

- Data matrix **A**, rows = data points, columns = variables (attributes, features, parameters)
 1. Center the data by subtracting the mean of each column
 2. Compute the SVD of the centered matrix **A'** (i.e., find the first **k** singular values/vectors)
 $A' = U\Sigma V^T$
 3. The principal components are the columns of **V**, the coordinates of the data in the basis defined by the principal components are **U\Sigma**

Singular values tell us something about the variance

- The variance in the direction of the **k**-th principal component is given by the corresponding singular value σ_k^2
- Singular values can be used to estimate how many components to keep
- **Rule of thumb:** keep enough to explain 85% of the variation:

$$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^k \sigma_j^2}{\sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j^2} \approx 0.85$$

SVD is “the Rolls–Royce and the Swiss Army Knife of Numerical Linear Algebra.”*

***Dianne O’Leary, MMDS ’06**

SVD as an optimization problem

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