

# Linear Algebra Basics

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# Outline

- Linear Algebra Basics ←
- Norms
- Multiplications
- Matrix Inversion
- Trace and Determinant
- Eigen Values and Eigen Vectors
- Singular Value Decomposition
- Matrix Calculus



# Linear algebra basics

- Transpose of a matrix results from flipping the rows and the columns.

Given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$ , the transpose is  $\mathbf{A}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times N}$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For each element of the matrix, the transpose can be written as  $A_{ij}^T = A_{ji}$
- The following properties of the transposes are easily verified
  - $(\mathbf{A}^T)^T = \mathbf{A}$
  - $(\mathbf{AB})^T = \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{A}^T$
  - $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^T = \mathbf{A}^T + \mathbf{B}^T$

# Linear algebra basics

- A square matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times D}$  is symmetric if  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^T$  and it is skew-symmetric if  $\mathbf{A} = -\mathbf{A}^T$ . Thus each matrix can be written as a sum of symmetric and anti-symmetric matrices:

$$\mathbf{A} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T)}_H + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T)}_G$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^T \leftarrow \text{A is symmetric}$$


$$\mathbf{A} = -\mathbf{A}^T \leftarrow \text{A is skew-symmetric}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = -\mathbf{H}^T \leftarrow \text{H is skew symmetric}$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^T \leftarrow \text{G is symmetric}$$

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T \\ H^T &= (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T)^T = \mathbf{A}^T - \mathbf{A} = -(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T) = -H \\ G &= \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T \\ G^T &= (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T)^T = \mathbf{A}^T + \mathbf{A} = G \end{aligned}$$

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# Norms

$$\mathbb{R}^D \xrightarrow{\text{Vectors}} \mathbb{R}$$

$$\|\cdot\|$$

$$\|x\|$$

- Norm of a vector  $\|x\|$  is informally a measure of the length of a vector
- More formally, a norm is any function  $f: \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that satisfies:
  - For all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $f(x) \geq 0$  (non-negativity)
  - $f(x) = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$  (definiteness)
  - For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(tx) = |t|f(x)$  (homogeneity)
  - For all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $f(x + y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$  (triangle inequality)

# Norms

$l_p$  norms  $p = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$p=1 \rightarrow l_1$  norm  $\rightarrow$  Manhattan distance

$l_2$  norm  $\rightarrow$  Euclidean distance  $x = [1, 3, -2]$

- Common norms used in machine learning are:

- $l_2$ -norm:  $\|x\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^D x_i^2}$

$$\|x\|_2 = \sqrt{1^2 + 3^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{14}$$

- $l_1$ -norm:  $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^D |x_i|$

$$\|x\|_1 = |1| + |3| + |-2| = 6$$

- $l_\infty$ -norm:  $\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max(|1|, |3|, |-2|) = 3$$

# Norms

$$\|x\| \sim \|x\|_2$$

generally, we use  $(\ell_2 \text{ norm})^2$

- All norms presented so far are examples of the family of  $\ell_p$  norms, which are parametrized by a real number  $p \geq 1$

- $\ell_p$ -norm:  $\|x\|_p = (\sum_{i=1}^D |x_i|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$

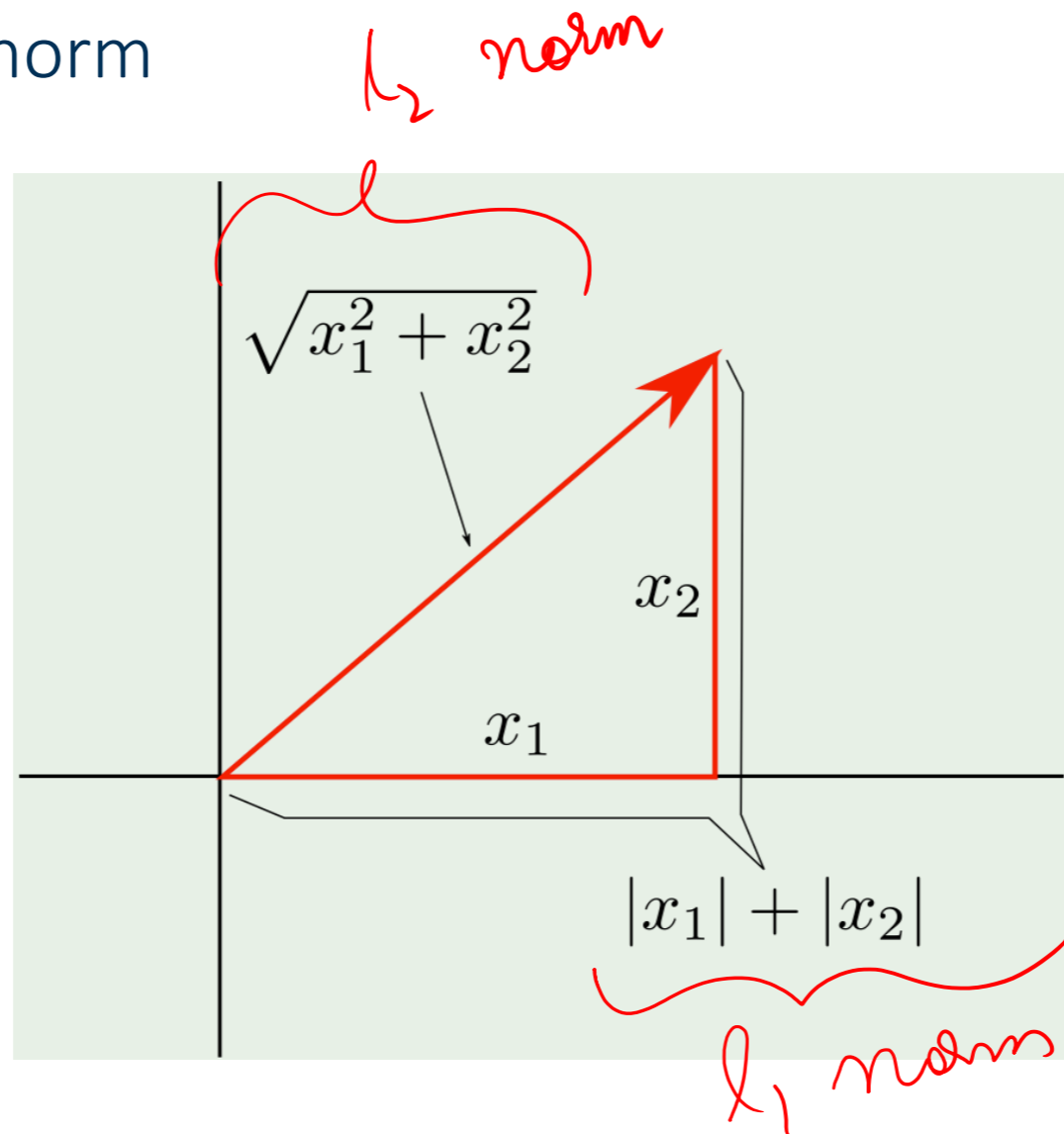
- Norms can be defined for matrices, such as the Frobenius norm

- $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^D A_{ij}^2} = \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^T A)}$

$$\|A\|_F$$

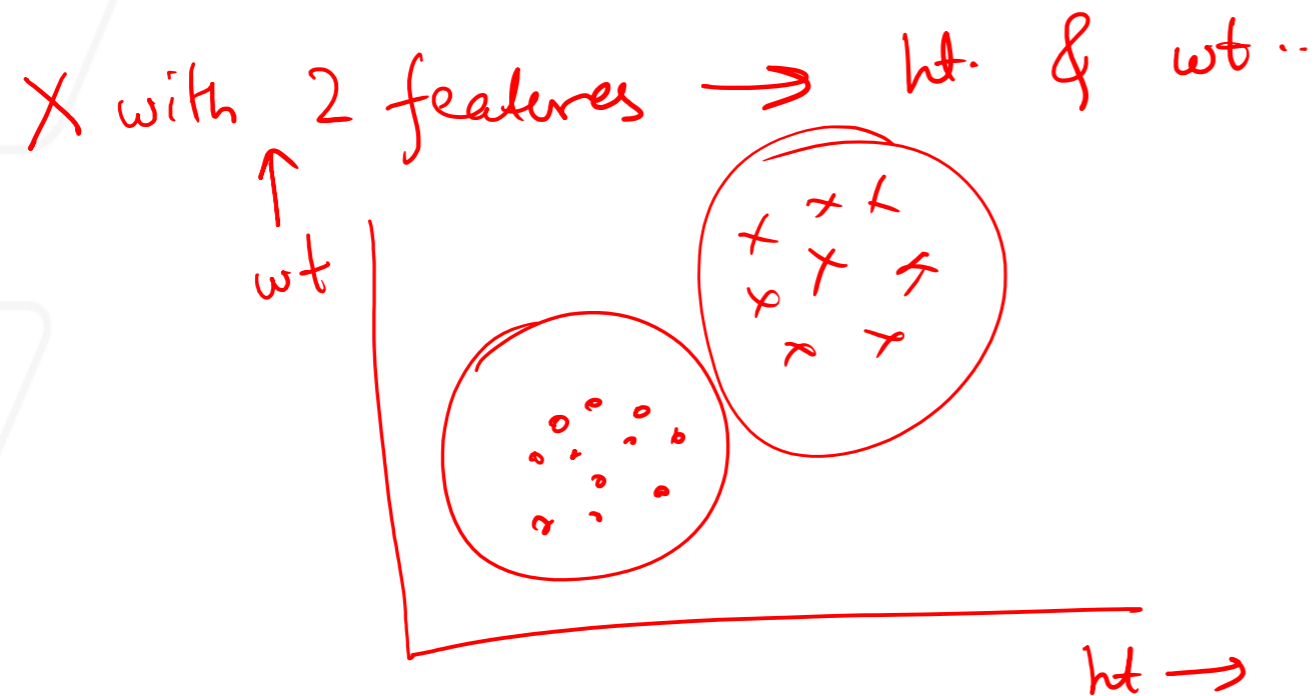
# Vector norm examples

- $\ell_1$ -norm and  $\ell_2$ -norm



# In context: how are norms useful in ML?

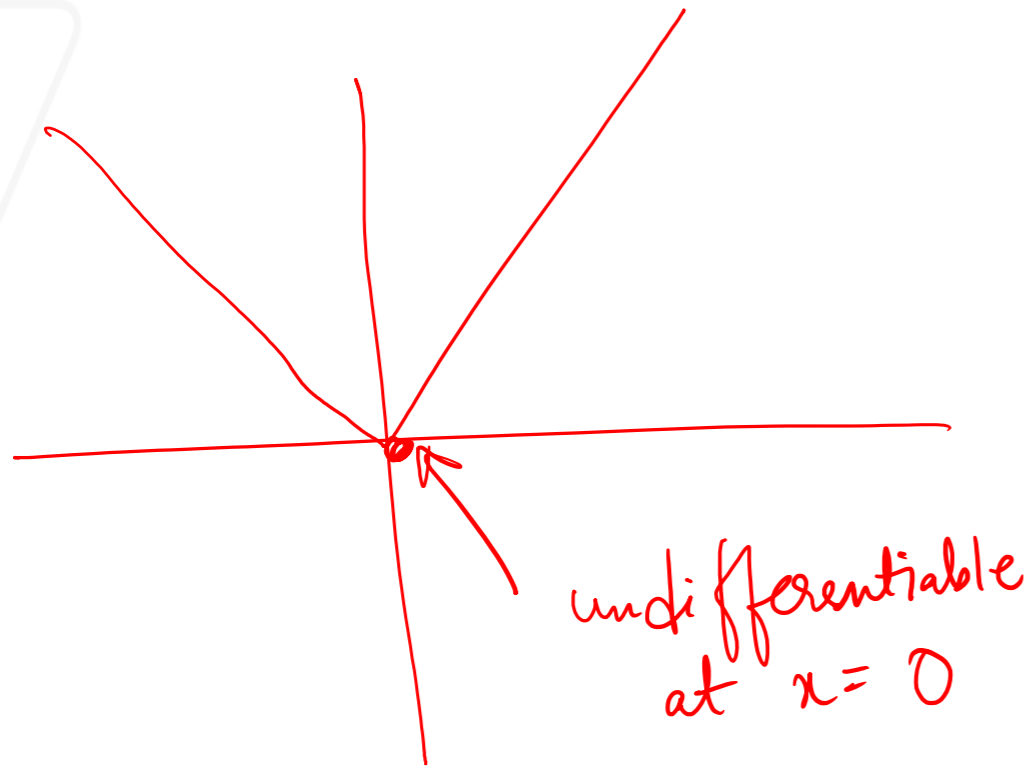
## *Unsupervised learning*



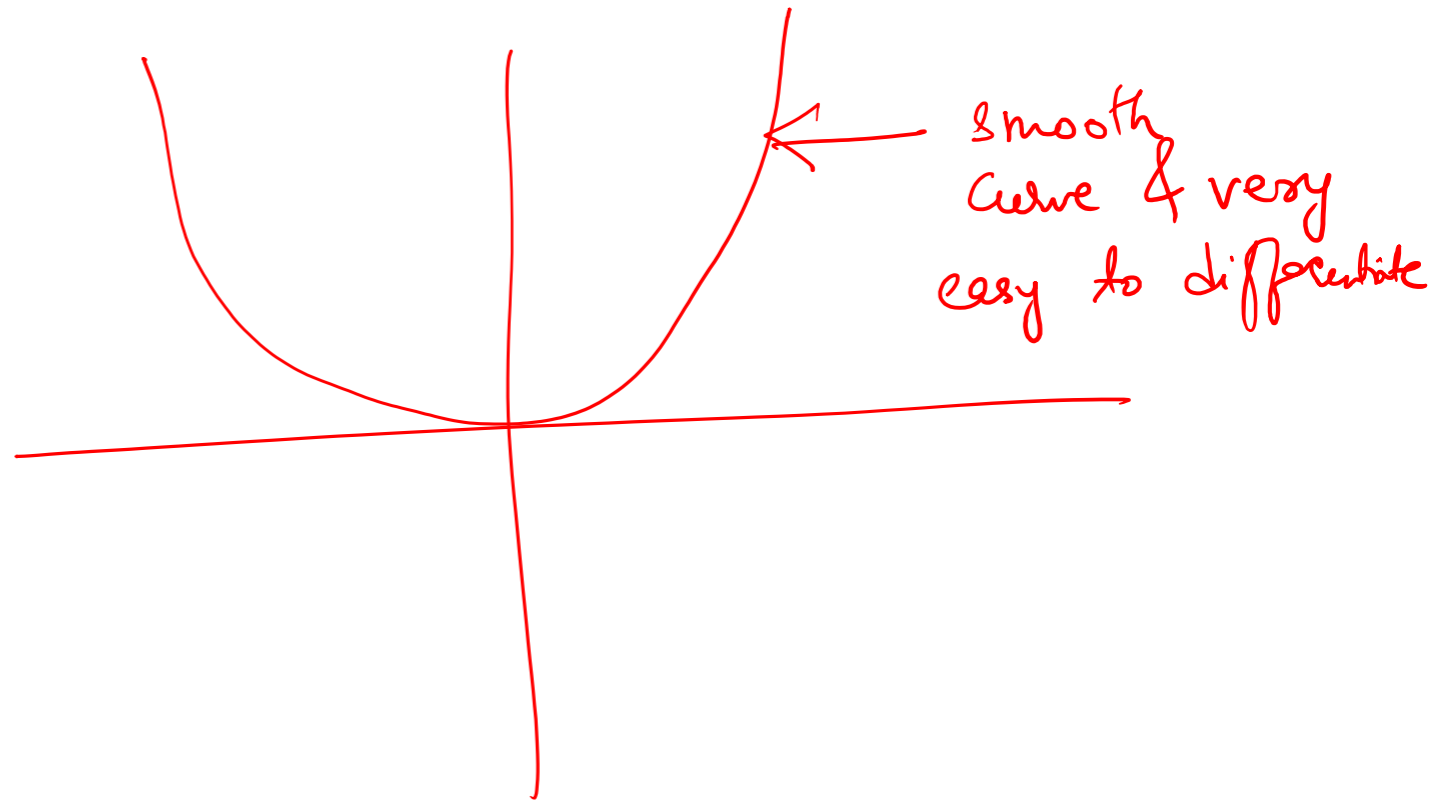
# In context: choosing an appropriate norm

## Manhattan vs. Euclidean

$$l_1$$
$$y = |x|$$



$$l_2$$
$$y = x^2$$



# Special Matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Do not Like List

- ① For loops
- ② Inverse

- The identity matrix, denoted by  $I \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is a square matrix with ones on the diagonal and zeros everywhere else

- A diagonal matrix is a matrix where all non-diagonal 'ELEMENTS' are 0. This is typically denoted as  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_d)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Why is diagonal matrix helpful?

- $A^T A =$  elementwise squaring of all diagonal elements
- $A^{-1} = 1/A$  (elementwise)

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/c \end{bmatrix}$$

# Special Matrices

$$x \cdot y = 0$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Two vectors  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  are orthogonal if  $x \cdot y = 0$ . A square matrix  $U \in \mathbb{R}^d \times d$  is **Orthonormal** if all its columns are orthogonal to each other and are normalized

unitary  $\approx$  orthonormal

- It follows from orthogonality and normality that

- $U^T U = I = U U^T$

- $\|Ux\|_2 = \|x\|_2$

Is the inverse of a unitary matrix equal to its transpose?

$$c_1 \cdot c_2 = 0$$

$$c_1 \cdot c_3 = 0$$

$$c_2 \cdot c_3 = 0$$


$$\|c_1\|_2 = 1$$

$$\|c_2\|_2 = \|c_3\|_2 = 1$$

$$U^T U = I = U U^T \quad U^T = U^{-1} \quad U U^T = I$$

Orthonormal Matrices do not STRETCH OR SHRINK a vector. It only ROTATES it.

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# Multiplications

Matrix multiplication is  
a bunch of dot products

A =

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ d_1 & e_1 & f_1 \\ g_1 & h_1 & i_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

B =

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ d_2 & e_2 & f_2 \\ g_2 & h_2 & i_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

A+B  
 $(1,1)$   
 $= a_1 a_2 +$   
 $b_1 d_2 +$   
 $c_1 g_2$

- The product of two matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times P}$  is given by  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times P}$ , where  $C_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^D A_{ik} B_{kj}$
- Given two vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ , the term  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$  (or  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$ ) is called the inner product or dot product of the vectors, and is a real number given by  $\sum_{k=1}^D x_i y_i$ . For example,

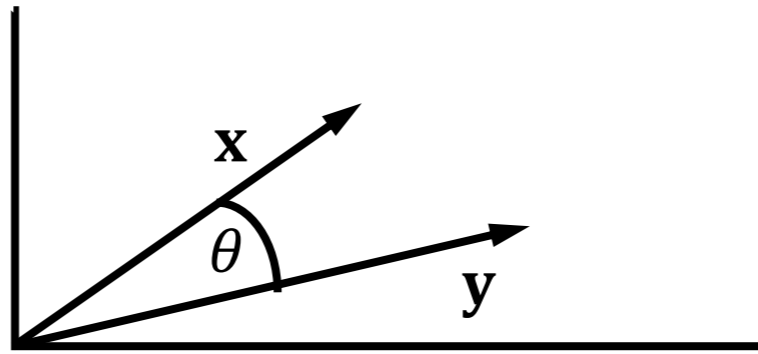
$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = [x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3] \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^3 x_i y_i$$

$1 \times 3$        $3 \times 1$

# Multiplications

$$\text{project } x \text{ onto } y = x \cdot \frac{y}{\|y\|_2}$$

- The dot product also has a geometrical interpretation, for vectors in  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  with an angle  $\theta$  between them:

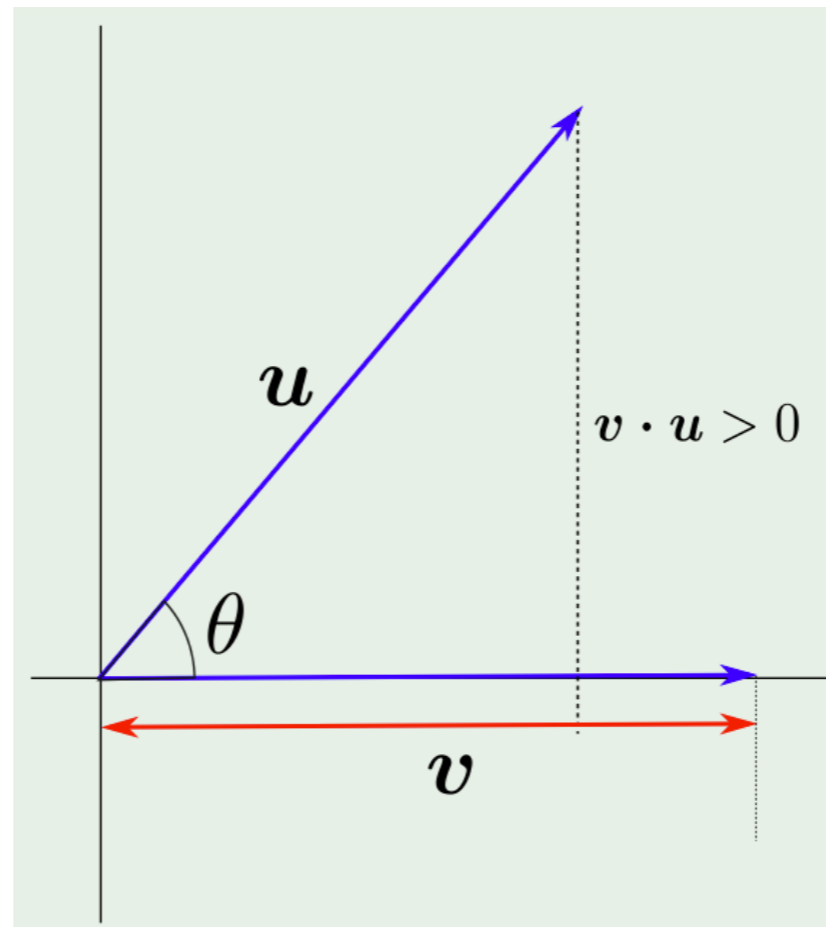


$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 \cos \theta$$

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \cos \theta$$

# Inner product properties

- The inner product is a measure of **correlation** between two vectors scaled by the norms of the vectors
- Here **correlation** term is used in the loose sense of directional alignment – not statistical sense

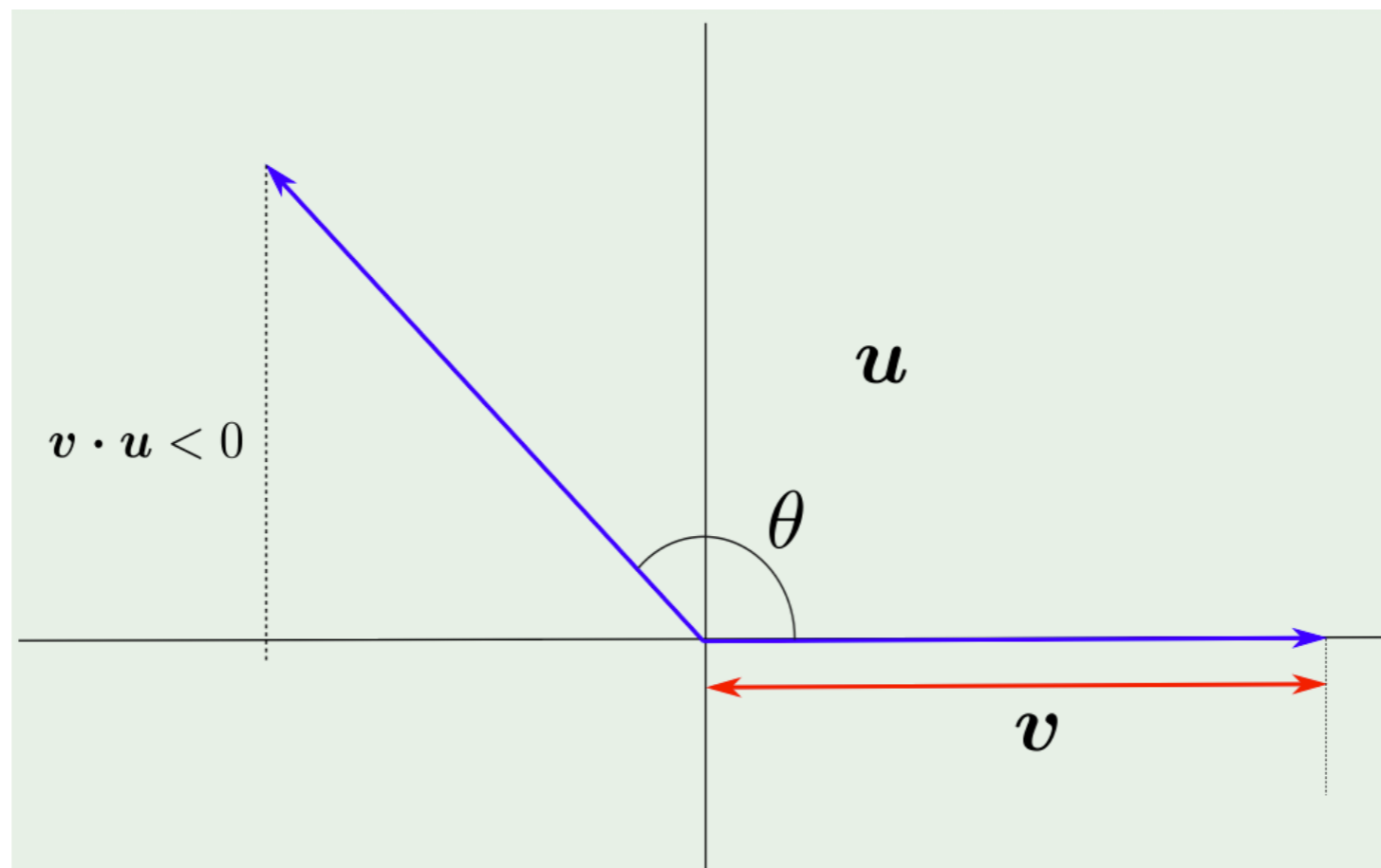


$$u \cdot v = \|u\|_2 \cdot \|v\|_2 \cdot \cos \theta$$

$\theta < 90$   
 $\cos \theta > 0$   
 $u \cdot v > 0$

# Inner product properties

- The inner product is a measure of correlation between two vectors, scaled by the norms of the vectors



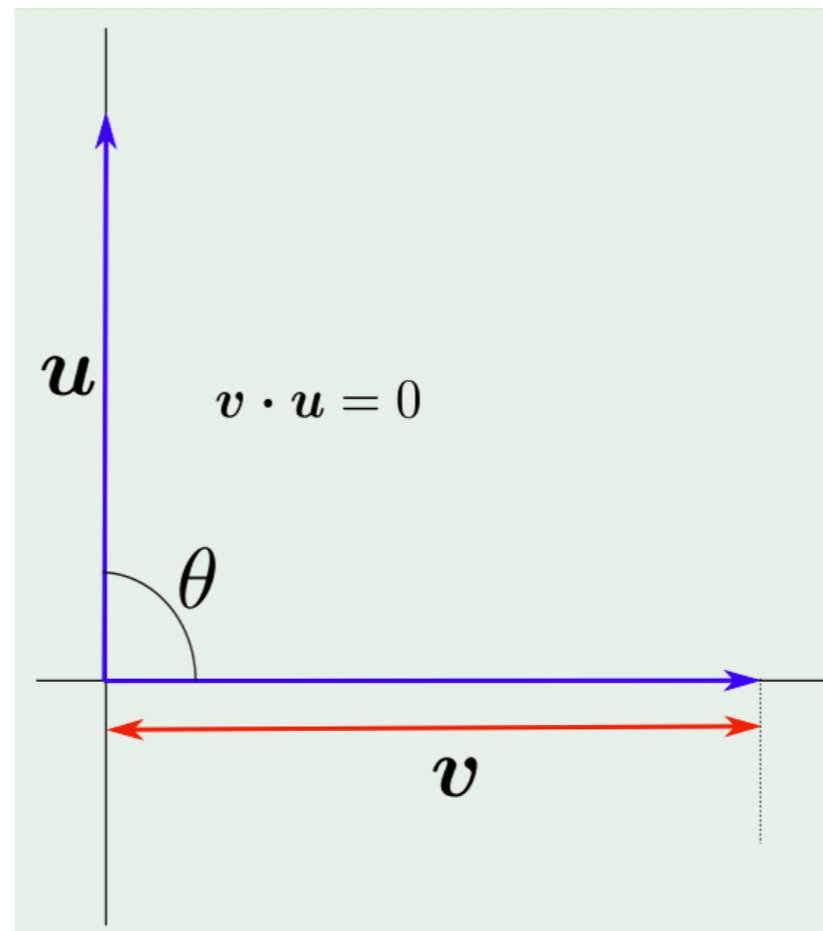
$\theta > 90^\circ$   
 $\cos \theta < 0$   
 $u \cdot v =$   
 $\|u\|_2 \cdot \|v\|_2$   
 $> 0 \cdot \cos \theta$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $-ve$   
Hence,  
 $u \cdot v < 0$

# Inner product properties

Dot product is a linear operation.

- The inner product is a measure of correlation between two vectors scaled by the norms of the vectors

linearly independent vectors

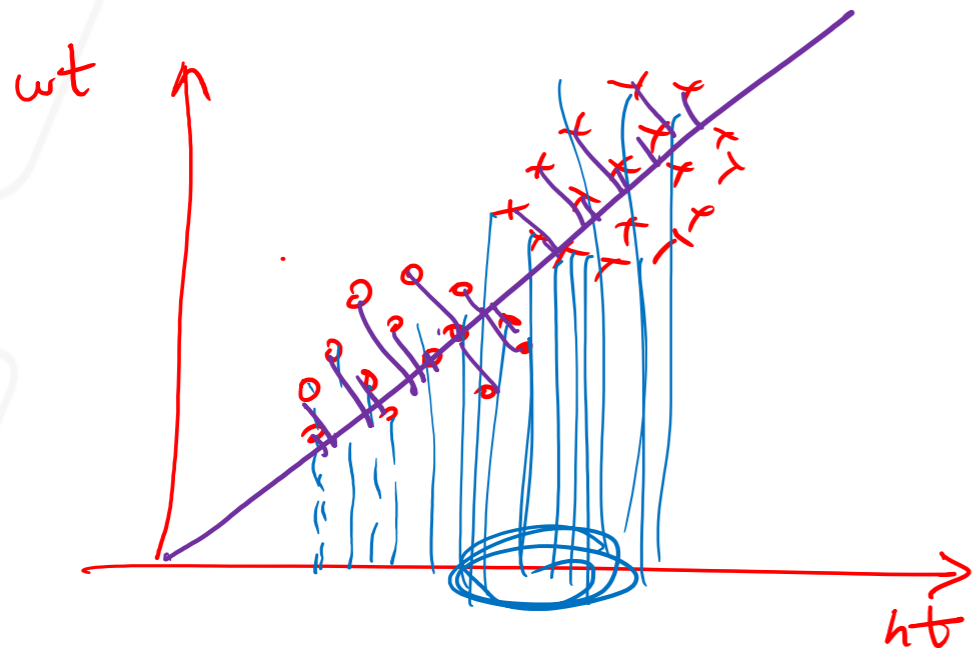


$$u \cdot v = 0$$

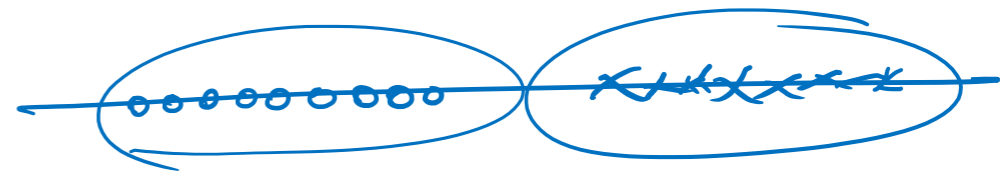
$$\cos 90 = 0$$

# In context: how is the inner product useful in ML?

## *Projecting data onto a new direction*




Dimensionality reduction



This will be helpful in dimensionality reduction, classification and feature engineering



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$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1}Aw &= A^{-1}b \\ w &= A^{-1}b \end{aligned} \quad x^T x$$

# Linear Independence and Matrix Rank

- A set of vectors  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  are said to be **(linearly) independent** if no vector can be represented as a linear combination of the remaining vectors. That is if

$$x_d = \sum_{i=1}^{d-1} \alpha_i x_i$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

for some scalar values  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots \in \mathbb{R}$  then we say that the vectors are linearly **dependent**; otherwise the vectors are linearly independent

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = 3$$

A is a linearly independent matrix

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{rank}(B) = 2$$

$$c_1 = \alpha_1 c_2 + \alpha_2 c_3$$

$$c_2 = 2c_1 + 0 \cdot c_3$$

$$c_3 \quad \times$$

In ML, we want as many linearly independent columns as possible

tall matrix  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 \\ 3 & 6 \\ 5 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$  column rank = 2  
row rank = 2

wide matrix  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$   
row rank = 2  
= column rank

# Linear Independence and Matrix Rank

- The **column rank** of a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  is the size of the largest subset of columns of  $A$  that constitute a linearly independent set. **Row rank** of a matrix is defined similarly for rows of a matrix.

It can be easily shown that the row and column ranks are equivalent, therefore we shall refer only to the **rank** of a matrix.

In general, for a full rank rectangular matrix, rank is the min of number of rows and number of columns.

# Matrix Rank: Examples

What are the ranks for the following matrices? How about an identity matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{rank}(A) = 1$$

Rank Deficiency means that the number of linearly independent vectors in our set is smaller than the smallest dimension

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{rank}(B) = 3 \\ c_1 - 1 = c_2 \\ c_1 + (-1)c_3 = c_2 \end{array}$$

full rank matrix

# Matrix Inverse

- The inverse of a square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is denoted  $A^{-1}$  and is the unique matrix such that  $A^{-1}A = I = AA^{-1}$
- For some square matrices  $A^{-1}$  may not exist, and we say that  $A$  is **singular or non-invertible**. In order for  $A$  to have an inverse,  $A$  must be full rank.
- For non-square matrices the inverse, denoted by  $A^+$ , is given by  $A^+ = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  called the pseudo inverse

$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$   
 $A^T$  is  $n \times d$   
 $A$  is  $d \times n$

# In context: why is matrix rank important in ML?


## *Dataset preprocessing*

If full rank  $\longrightarrow$   $V$  Good

If not full rank  $\longrightarrow$  Either combine  
dependent features  
or just get rid of  
it

No redundancy

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# Matrix Trace

- The trace of a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ , denoted as  $\mathbf{tr}(A)$ , is the sum of the diagonal elements in the matrix

$$\mathbf{tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^d A_{ii}$$

- The trace has the following properties
  - For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{tr}(A) = \mathbf{tr}A^\top$
  - For  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{tr}(A + B) = \mathbf{tr}(A) + \mathbf{tr}(B)$
  - For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{tr}(tA) = t \cdot \mathbf{tr}(A)$
  - For  $A, B, C$  such that  $ABC$  is a square matrix  $\mathbf{tr}(ABC) = \mathbf{tr}(BCA) = \mathbf{tr}(CAB)$
- The trace of a matrix helps us easily compute norms and eigenvalues of matrices as we will see later

# Matrix Determinant

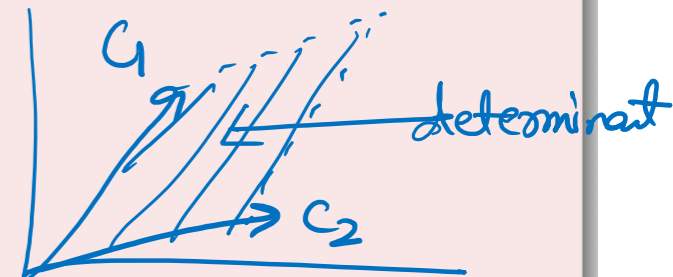
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cancel{a} & \cancel{b} & \cancel{c} \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a(ei - fh) - b(di - fg) + c(dh - eg)$$

## Definition (Determinant)

The determinant of a square matrix  $A$ , denoted by  $|A|$ , is defined as

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^d (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} M_{ij}$$



where  $M_{ij}$  is determinant of matrix  $A$  without the row  $i$  and column  $j$ .

For a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$

$$|A| = ad - bc$$

Linearly dependent columns  $\rightarrow$  matrix is not full rank  $\rightarrow$   
determinant 0  $\rightarrow$  non-invertible matrix

# Properties of Matrix Determinant

## Basic Properties

- $|A| = |A^T|$
- $|AB| = |A| |B|$
- $|A| = 0$  if and only if  $A$  is not invertible
- If  $A$  is invertible, then  $|A^{-1}| = \frac{1}{|A|}$ .

# In context: how is the determinant useful in ML?

## *Matrix inversion*

$$A w = b \quad w = A^{-1} b \quad A \text{ is not invertible}$$

linear regression

Testing out if  $\det(A) = 0$  before trying to invert a matrix saves on computation

In that case, we can try out numerical methods

Gradient Descent

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# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

- Given a square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  we say that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  and  $x \in \mathbb{C}^d$  is an eigenvector if

$$Ax = \lambda x, \quad x \neq 0$$

- Intuitively this means that upon multiplying the matrix  $A$  with a vector  $x$ , we get the same vector, but scaled by a parameter  $\lambda$
- So, eigenvectors are the special vectors whose direction is preserved under transformation (no rotation)

# Matrix Eigen Decomposition

- All the eigenvectors can be written together as  $AX = X\Lambda$  where the columns of  $X$  are the eigenvectors of  $A$ , and  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix whose elements are eigenvalues of  $A$

# Matrix Eigen Decomposition

- If the eigenvectors of  $A$  are invertible, then  $A = X\Lambda X^{-1}$
- There are several properties of eigenvalues and eigenvectors
  - $Tr(A) = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i$
  - $|A| = \prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i$
  - If  $A$  is non-singular then  $1/\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$
  - The eigenvalues of a diagonal matrix are the diagonal elements of the matrix itself!

# Matrix Eigen Decomposition

- For a symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  it can be shown that eigenvalues are real and the eigenvectors are orthonormal. Thus it can be represented as  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{X}^T$

# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Geometrically, we are transforming the matrix  $A$  (if symmetric) from its original orthonormal basis/coordinates to a new set of orthonormal basis  $x$  with magnitude as  $\lambda$

- If  $A$  is symmetric, eigenvectors are orthogonal. So, eigenvectors form an orthonormal basis
- Eigenvectors define the directions along which the transformation acts independently
- In the eigenvector basis, there is no rotation or shear, only scaling by the eigenvalues
- Each eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  controls the amount of stretching or compression along eigenvector  $x_i$

# Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

- We can rewrite the original equation in the following manner

$$\begin{aligned} Ax &= \lambda x, & x &\neq 0 \\ \Rightarrow (A - \lambda I) x &= 0, & x &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- This is only possible if  $(A - \lambda I)$  is singular, that is  $|(A - \lambda I)| = 0$ .
- Thus, eigenvalues and eigenvectors can be computed.
  - Compute the determinant of  $A - \lambda I$ .
    - This results in a polynomial of degree  $d$ .
  - Find the roots of the polynomial by equating it to zero.
    - The  $d$  roots are the  $d$  eigenvalues of  $A$ . They make  $A - \lambda I$  singular.
  - For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , solve  $(A - \lambda I) x$  to find an eigenvector  $x$

# Eigenvalue Example

$$\text{Matrix } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Compute the determinant of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}$

$$\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ 3 & -4 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}| = (1 - \lambda)(-4 - \lambda) - 6$$

2. Find the roots of the polynomial equating it to zero

$$|\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}| = 0 \rightarrow (1 - \lambda)(-4 - \lambda) - 6 = 0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} \lambda_1 = -5 \\ \lambda_2 = 2 \end{cases}$$

# Eigenvalue Example

3. For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  solve  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  to find eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ 3 & -4 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} (1 - \lambda)x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 - (4 + \lambda)x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Eigenvector for  $\lambda_1 = -5$

$$\begin{cases} 6x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 0.3162 \\ -0.9487 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvector for  $\lambda_2 = 2$

$$\begin{cases} -x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 - 6x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 0.8944 \\ 0.4472 \end{bmatrix}$$

*Can a matrix have the same eigenvalues?*

*If two vectors are linearly independent, does it mean they are orthogonal to each other?*

# In context: how is eigenvalues and eigenvectors helpful in ML?

- Eigenvectors are “special directions” where a matrix doesn’t rotate or shear – it only stretches or shrinks.
- The stretch amount is the eigenvalue.
- Many ML tools boil down to understanding **data transformations** (via matrices). Eigenvectors/eigenvalues tell us the **essential structure** of those transformations:
  - Eigenvectors reveal the fundamental directions along which the transformation acts independently.
  - Eigenvalues quantify the strength of that action (how much stretching or shrinking occurs).
  - This decomposition simplifies complex transformations into basic “rotate–stretch–rotate back” operations, making it easier to analyze patterns, reduce dimensionality, or understand stability and sensitivity in models.

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# Singular Value Decomposition

$$\bar{X}_{n \times d}$$

n: datapoints

d: dimensions

X is a centered matrix

$$\bar{X} = U \Sigma V^T$$

$U_{n \times n} \rightarrow$  unitary matrix  $\rightarrow U \times U^T = I$

$\Sigma_{n \times d} \rightarrow$  diagonal matrix

$V_{d \times d} \rightarrow$  unitary matrix  $\rightarrow V \times V^T = I$

$$\begin{matrix}
 X = & \begin{bmatrix} u_{1 \times 1} & \dots & \dots & \dots & u_{1 \times n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{1 \times 1} & \dots & \dots & \dots & u_{n \times n} \end{bmatrix} & \times & \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{1 \times 1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \Sigma_{d \times d} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} & \times & \begin{bmatrix} v_{1 \times 1} & \dots & \dots & \dots & v_{1 \times d} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_{d \times 1} & \dots & \dots & \dots & v_{d \times d} \end{bmatrix} \\
 & U & & \Sigma & & V^T \\
 & & & d < n & & 
 \end{matrix}$$

# Covariance matrix:

$$C_{d \times d} = \frac{\bar{X}^T \bar{X}}{n}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \bar{X} &= U \Sigma V^T \\ C &= \frac{\bar{X}^T \bar{X}}{n} \end{aligned} \right\} C = \frac{V \Sigma^T U^T U \Sigma V^T}{n} = \frac{V \Sigma^2 V^T}{n}$$

$$C = \frac{V\Sigma^2V^T}{n} = V \frac{\Sigma^2}{n} V^T$$

$$CV = V \frac{\Sigma^2}{n} V^T V = V \frac{\Sigma^2}{n}$$

$$CV = V\Lambda$$

Remember:

$$AX = X\Lambda$$

$\lambda_i = \frac{\Sigma_i^2}{n} \rightarrow$  The eigenvalues of covariance matrix

$\lambda_i$ : Eigenvalue of  $C$  or covariance matrix

$\Sigma_i$ : Singular value of  $X$  matrix

So, we can **directly** calculate eigenvalue and eigenvectors of a covariance matrix by having the singular value decomposition of matrix  $X$

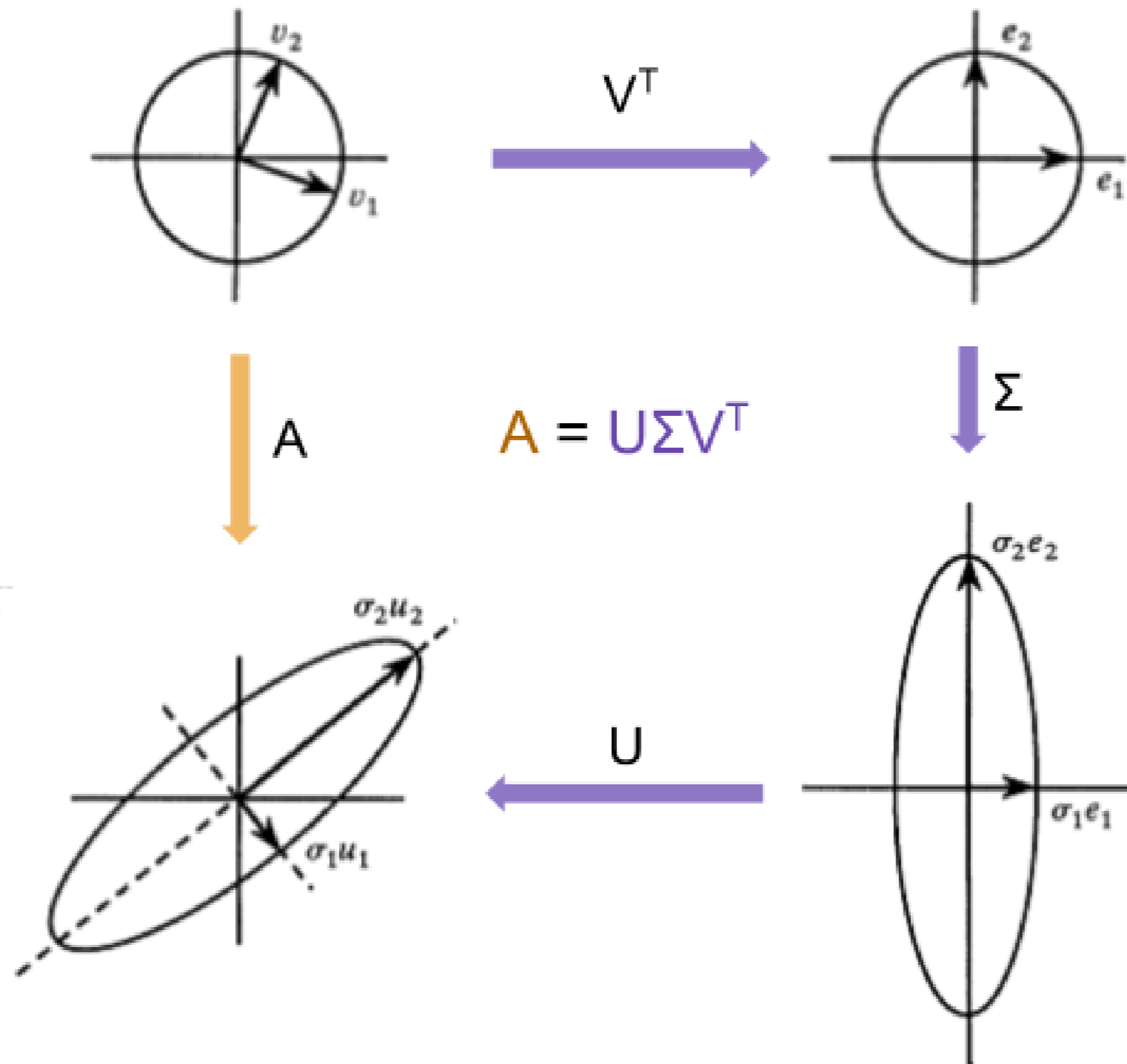
So, we can **directly** calculate eigenvalue and eigenvectors of a covariance matrix by having the singular value decomposition of matrix  $X$

Why is this helpful?

Because SVD **always exists** for **any** matrix (rectangular, non-symmetric) and is **more numerically stable**. That's why in ML (e.g., PCA) we usually prefer **SVD of  $X$**  over eigen-decomposition of  $X^T X$ .

# Geometric Meaning of SVD

SVD tells us that *any* linear transformation can be decomposed into:  
a rotation  $\rightarrow$  a scaling  $\rightarrow$  another rotation.



# In context: why is SVD and covariance matrix useful in ML?

## SVD ( $X = U\Sigma V^T$ )

- Finds the **most informative directions** in the data (columns of  $V$ );  $\sigma_i$  tell how strong each is.
- Gives the **best low-rank approximation** → dimensionality reduction, compression, **denoising** (Low values of  $\sigma_i$  means often represents noise)

## Covariance ( $C = \frac{X^T X}{n}$ with centered $X$ )

- Summarizes **spread** (variances) and **relationships** (correlations) between features.
- Drives **PCA**: eigenvectors = principal components; eigenvalues = **explained variance**.
- Basis for **whitening/standardization**, which helps many models.

→ Covariance tells us what varies; **SVD** shows how to **use** it—rotate to those directions and keep the big values.

# Summary

- Linear Algebra Basics
- Norms
- Multiplications
- Matrix Inversion
- Trace and Determinant
- Eigen Values and Eigen Vectors
- Singular Value Decomposition