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Subject: singular value decomposition

Posted by [Dave Bazell](#) on Thu, 01 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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I am trying to use the IDL routine SVDC to do principal component analysis. In order to understand SVD better I was doing an example I found online. However, the IDL SVD routine gives me different results than the online example.

$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

matlab, which uses linalg gives (to two decimal places):

$[U, S, V] = \text{svd}(x)$  where  $X = U S \text{transpose}(V)$

$U = \begin{bmatrix} .15 & .82 & -.39 & -.38 \\ .35 & .42 & .24 & .80 \\ .55 & .02 & .70 & .46 \\ .74 & -.38 & -.54 & .04 \end{bmatrix}$

$S = \begin{bmatrix} 14.3 & 0 \\ 0 & .62 \end{bmatrix}$

$V = \begin{bmatrix} .64 & -.77 \\ .77 & .64 \end{bmatrix}$

IDL gives

`svdc, x,w,u,v,/column`

$w = \begin{bmatrix} 14.2691 & 0.626828 \end{bmatrix}$

$u = \begin{bmatrix} -0.641423 & -0.767187 \\ -0.767187 & 0.641423 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 \\ 0.00000 & 0.00000 \end{bmatrix}$

$v = \begin{bmatrix} -0.152483 & -0.349918 & -0.547354 & -0.744789 \\ 0.822647 & 0.421375 & 0.0201032 & -0.381169 \\ 0.547723 & -0.730297 & -0.182574 & 0.365149 \\ 0.00000 & 0.408249 & -0.816496 & 0.408248 \end{bmatrix}$

clearly the eigenvalues are the same but the u and v matrices are exchanged. But what really bothers me is that some values are changed from positive to negative. And the IDL V does not have the same values as the MATLAB U.

What am I doing wrong? Even if I leave out the /column in the call to

svdc, I don't get the right answers.

The eigenvalues do not correspond to the eigenvalues returned by the IDL routine pcomp which calculates principal components. I thought PCA could be done using SVD but I don't see the correspondence.

Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks.

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