

# The First Algorithms to Compute the SVD



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## The Singular Value Decomposition

- Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \geq n$

- There exist

- singular vectors:

$$U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ and } V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

$$U^\top U = V^\top V = I_n \text{ orthogonal}$$

- singular values:

$$\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ diagonal}$$

with  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n \geq 0$  such that

$$A = U \Sigma V^\top = \sigma_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^\top + \sigma_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{v}_2^\top + \dots + \sigma_n \mathbf{u}_n \mathbf{v}_n^\top$$

## The Three Heros



Christian Reinsch \*1934  
TU München



Gene H. Golub (1932–2007)  
Stanford



William M. Kahan \*1933  
Berkeley

# The Famous Golub-Reinsch Algorithm

*Handbook Series Linear Algebra*

## Singular Value Decomposition and Least Squares Solutions\*

Contributed by

G. H. GOLUB\*\* and C. REINSCH

### 1. Theoretical Background

#### 1.1. Introduction

Let  $A$  be a real  $m \times n$  matrix with  $m \geq n$ . It is well known (cf. [4]) that

$$A = U \Sigma V^T \quad (1)$$

where

$$U^T U = V^T V = V V^T = I_n \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n).$$

- Developed 1967 by Reinsch, published 1970 in *Numerische Mathematik*
- Cited 4093 times as of February 28, 2022
- How was the collaboration? Did Golub and Reinsch meet in 1967?
- Comments in “*Milestones in Matrix Computations, 2007*”

## Why not Compute the SVD via $A^T A$ ?

- Eigenvalues of  $A^T A$  are  $\lambda_k = \sigma_k^2 \implies \sigma_k = \sqrt{\lambda_k}$
- Numerically bad algorithm. Golub-Kahan (1965):

*But the calculation of  $A^T A$  using ordinary floating point arithmetic does serious violence to the smaller singular values ...*

Example:  $10 \times 7$  section of Hilbert matrix

<code>m=10; format long</code>	<code>ans =</code>	<code>RelError =</code>
<code>A=hilb(m); A=A(:,1:7);</code>	1.703422789369242	1.703422789369242
<code>E=eig(A'*A); E=sqrt(E(7:-1:1));</code>	0.303861884355195	0.303861884355195
<code>[E svd(A)]</code>	0.027332449735276	0.027332449735275
<code>format short e</code>	0.001576339549570	0.001576339549570
<code>RelError= (E-svd(A))./svd(A)</code>	0.000060439432051	0.000060439432540
	0.000001483441024	0.000001483519405
	0.000000020984384	0.000000020211193
		1.3035e-16
		9.1343e-16
		2.7291e-14
		2.5517e-13
		-8.0919e-09
		-5.2835e-05
		3.8256e-02

## The Golub-Kahan Algorithm, 1965

- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with  $m \geq n$
- Consider the **augmented matrix**  $\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ A^\top & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(m+n) \times (m+n)}$
- Eigenvalues of  $\tilde{A}$  are  $\lambda_k = \pm\sigma_k$  and  $m - n$  zeros.
- Bidiagonalize  $A = P \begin{pmatrix} J \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} Q^\top$  with  $P, Q$  orthogonal,  $J$  bidiagonal

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \begin{pmatrix} J \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} J^\top, 0 \end{pmatrix} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} P^\top & 0 \\ 0 & Q^\top \end{pmatrix}$$

Similarity transformation

## Further Simplifications

- Consider  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  (eliminate zero EV)

$$\implies \bar{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & J \\ J^\top & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n}, \quad \lambda_k(\bar{A}) = \pm \sigma_k$$

- Adjust signs in  $J$  (similarity transformation)

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & a_{n-1} & b_{n-1} \\ & & & & a_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{may assume } a_k, b_k \geq 0$$





## Computing the Eigenvalues of $S$

Golub-Kahan (1965):

*There are a number of methods for obtaining the eigenvalues of a tridiagonal symmetric matrix. One of the most accurate and effective methods is to use Sturm sequences; an ALGOL program is given by Wilkinson.<sup>a</sup>*

```
procedure tridibisection1(c,b,n,gu,go,t,gamma) result: (w,norm,m1) ;
value n,gu,go,t,gamma;
integer n,t,m1 ;
real gu,go,gamma,norm;
array c,b,w;
comment c is the diagonal and b the sub-diagonal of a symmetric tridiagonal
matrix of order n. The number m1 of eigenvalues lying between gu and go is
determined and these eigenvalues are then computed in decreasing order by
the method of bisection, and stored as the vector w of order m1. t is the
number of bisection steps and norm is the infinity norm of the tridiagonal
matrix, gamma the square of the relative machine precision;
```

---

<sup>a</sup>J.H. Wilkinson, *Calculation of the eigenvalues of a symmetric tridiagonal matrix by the method of bisection*, Numerische Mathematik 4, 362–367 (1962).

## Translation of tridibisection1 to MATLAB

```

function [w, NormInf, m1]=tribisection(c,b,gu,go)
% TRIBISECTION is a translation from Wilkinson's tridibisection1 from
% ALGOL to MATLAB by W. Gander, May 2019.
% Changes in ALGOL tridibisection:
    % eliminate t=number of bisection steps,
    % instead compute EV to machine precision
gamma=eps^2; % square of machine precision
n=length(c); % no need to be in parameter list.
    % function [q1,a1]=sturmssequence(c,p,lambda)
    % with parameters, no global variables
b(n)=0; % add zero for same length as c
NormInf=abs(c(1))+abs(b(1));
for i=2:n, l=abs(b(i-1))+abs(c(i))+abs(b(i)); if l>NormInf, NormInf=l; end, end
if nargin==2 % added by W. Gander:
    go=1.5*NormInf; gu=-go; % if no interval specified
end % compute all eigenvalues
if nargin==3 % compute all lambda>=gu
    go=1.5*NormInf;
end

```

## Algorithm of Golub-Kahan (1965)

```

function q=SVDGolubKahan1(A)
% SVDGOLUBKAHAN1 singular values by the first Golub Kahan algorithm.
% Applying Wilkinson's TRIBISECTION to matrix S (2n x 2n)
[m,n]=size(A); if n>m, A=A'; [m,n]=size(A);end
[a,b]=Bidiagonalize(A);           % Householder bidiagonalization
sk=zeros(2*n-1,1);                % form tridiagonal matrix (3.3)
k=1:n; sk(2*k-1)=abs(a(k));        % S on page 213
k=1:n-1; sk(2*k)=abs(b(k+1));
q=tribisection(zeros(2*n,1),sk,0); % compute all nonnegative EV

```

## Example

- Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} B & 2B \\ 3B & -B \end{pmatrix}$

where  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 & -1 & 6 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 4 & -7 & -2 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & -4 & 5 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 4 & -1 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 6 & -1 \\ 3 & -3 & -5 & 8 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ -5 & 4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 7 \\ 3 & 4 & -3 & 6 & 7 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{9 \times 6}$

- $A$  is a  $(18 \times 12)$  matrix with rank=6

**Results:** we obtain the 12 singular values:

testRankDeficient

With Wilkinson's tribisection	Matlab's SVD
72.265903120085341	72.265903120085312
49.630339183086065	49.630339183086065
44.288698552845858	44.288698552845858
36.427417335191990	36.427417335192004
30.416324106579545	30.416324106579548
25.017401012828763	25.017401012828763
0.0000000000000008	0.0000000000000006
0.0000000000000006	0.0000000000000005
0.0000000000000005	0.0000000000000003
0.0000000000000003	0.0000000000000002
0.0000000000000002	0.0000000000000002
0.0000000000000001	0.0000000000000001

Results are good,  
but large computa-  
tional effort with bi-  
section

## Lost CS-Report

- CS 73 is **missing** in Stanford's on-line collection
- I got a **paper copy** from Åke Björck
- We **reconstructed** the ALGOL procedure
- We found an ALGOL **compiler** by **Jan van Katwijk**
- We can **test** the ALGOL Businger procedure!

(8)  
CS 73

With best wishes,  
Gene

14

### LEAST SQUARES, SINGULAR VALUES AND MATRIX APPROXIMATIONS

BY

GENE H. GOLUB

AN ALGOL PROCEDURE FOR COMPUTING THE  
SINGULAR VALUE DECOMPOSITION

BY

PETER BUSINGER

TECHNICAL REPORT NO. CS73  
JULY 31, 1967

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT  
School of Humanities and Sciences  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY





## ALGOL Procedure by Businger

```

procedure singular values decomposition
    (a, m, n, u desired, vt desired, eta) results: (sigma, u, vt) ;
value m, n, u desired, vt desired, eta ;
real array a, sigma, u, vt ;
integer m, n ;
boolean u desired, vt desired ;
real eta ;
comment Householder's and the QR method are used to find all singular
    values sigma[i], (i=1, 2, ..., n) of the given matrix a[1:m, 1:n],
    (m>=n). The orthogonal matrices u[1:m, 1:m] and vt[1:n, 1:n] which
    effect the singular values decomposition a=u sigma vt are computed
    individually depending on whether u desired or vt desired. The input
    parameter eta is the relative machine precision ;

```



## Theory by Golub

- Compute  $\lambda(K_0)$  by **QR-Algorithm with implicit shifts**
- Since  $\lambda(K_0)$  occur in pairs, consider QR-decomposition of  $(K_i - s_i I)(K_i + s_i) = K_i^2 - s_i^2 I = M_i R_i$
- Note that if

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \gamma_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma_1 & 0 & \gamma_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_2 & 0 & \gamma_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_3 & 0 & \gamma_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \gamma_4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- then

$$K^2 - s^2 I = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1^2 - s^2 & 0 & \gamma_1 \gamma_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_1^2 + \gamma_2^2 - s^2 & 0 & \gamma_2 \gamma_3 & 0 \\ \gamma_1 \gamma_2 & 0 & \gamma_2^2 + \gamma_3^2 - s^2 & 0 & \gamma_3 \gamma_4 \\ 0 & \gamma_2 \gamma_3 & 0 & \gamma_3^2 + \gamma_4^2 - s^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_3 \gamma_4 & 0 & \gamma_4^2 - s^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

is pentadiagonal with 3 nonzero diagonals

- Define first Givens-reflection  $Z_1$  to annihilate the (3,1)-element  $\gamma_1 \gamma_2$

$$Z_1(K^2 - s^2 I)$$



## First Transformation

- Apply first Givens-reflection  $Z_1$  (defined to annihilate the (3,1)-element  $\gamma_1\gamma_2$  in  $Z_1(K_0^2 - s^2 I)$  to  $K_0$ .

- $K_1 = Z_1 K_0 Z_1 = Z_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_1 & & & \\ a_1 & 0 & b_1 & & \\ & b_1 & 0 & a_2 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} Z_1$

- Generates bulge  $X$  in  $K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \hat{a}_1 & 0 & X & \\ \hat{a}_1 & 0 & \hat{b}_1 & & \\ 0 & \hat{b}_1 & 0 & \hat{a}_2 & \\ X & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$

- Bulge  $X$  is chased down by subsequent Givens-reflections  $K_i = Z_i K_{i-1} Z_i$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ , preserving zero diagonal

## Shift Strategy

- Shift  $s_i^2$  used for  $(K_i - s_i I)(K_i + s_i) = K_i^2 - s_i^2 I$  is square of eigenvalue of bottom  $4 \times 4$  matrix closer to  $\gamma_{t-1}^2$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \gamma_{t-3} & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma_{t-3} & 0 & \gamma_{t-2} & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_{t-2} & 0 & \gamma_{t-1} \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_{t-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Characteristic polynomial

$$\det(M - \lambda I) = \lambda^4 - (\gamma_{t-3}^2 + \gamma_{t-2}^2 + \gamma_{t-1}^2) \lambda^2 + \gamma_{t-3}^2 \gamma_{t-1}^2$$

## Solution of $\det(M - \lambda I) = 0$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{(\gamma_{t-3}^2 + \gamma_{t-2}^2 + \gamma_{t-1}^2) \pm \sqrt{(\gamma_{t-3}^2 + \gamma_{t-2}^2 + \gamma_{t-1}^2)^2 - 4\gamma_{t-3}^2\gamma_{t-1}^2}}{2}$$

- Compare with the ALGOL statements:

```
g0:=gamma[t-1]^2+gamma[t-2]^2+gamma[t-3]^2 ;
```

```
g1:=gamma[t-1]^2*gamma[t-3]^2 ;
```

```
g2:=0.5*(g0+sqrt(g0^2-4.0*g1)) ;
```

```
g3:=g1/g2 ;
```

```
kappa:=if abs(gamma[t-1]^2-g2)<abs(gamma[t-1]^2-g3) then g2 else g3 ;
```

- **Carefully solved** for larger solution g2, then smaller g3 by relation of Vieta
- Shift kappa is solution **closer to**  $\gamma_{t-1}^2$
- But **no check whether the discriminant is negative**

## Observations

- Symmetry and **zero-diagonal** of  $K_i$  is preserved
- The algorithm **works only on the subdiagonal**  
 $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{2n-1}) = (a_1, b_1, a_2, \dots, b_{n-1}, a_n)$
- If  $b_{n-1} \rightarrow 0$  then  $\lambda = a_n$  is eigenvalue, **deflate**  $n := n - 2$

## Example

DemosALGOL/Bsp7p1.alg

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \implies K_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & & & & \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & & & & & \\ & 2 & 0 & 1 & & & & \\ & & 1 & 0 & 4 & & & \\ & & & 4 & 0 & 1 & & \\ & & & & 1 & 0 & 6 & \\ & & & & & 6 & 0 & 1 \\ & & & & & & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example cont.

- Main loop in ALGOL procedure starts with label `inspect`
- `s`, `t` define current block in subdiagonal  $\gamma$
- `sigma` contains computed eigenvalues
- we added a variable to `count` iterations

```

.....
inspect:
    ; comment scan for lower block limit t ;
    count:=count+1;
    outstring(1,"\n\ninspect "); outinteger(1,count); outstring(1,"\n");
    outvec("sigma",sigma,n);
    gamma[s]:=gamma[t]:=0.0 ;
    for i:=t-2 while abs(gamma [i])<= epsilon do
    begin comment pick up computed value ;
        .....
```



## Example Results

Bsp7p1.alg

```
inspect 1
```

```
gamma
```

```
-1.0000e0  2.0000e0  1.0000e0  4.0000e0  1.0000e0  -6.0000e0 -1.0000e0  0
```

```
s and t:  0 8 , zero shift
```

```
inspect 2
```

```
gamma
```

```
2.4083e0  1.4948e0  3.8669e0  1.5422e0  5.8850e0  -3.1456e-3  1.8246e-2  0
```

```
s and t:  0 8 , zero shift
```

```
inspect 3
```

```
gamma
```

```
3.4918e0  2.1196e0  3.8644e0  3.4473e0  4.0614e0  4.8402e-8  1.8246e-2  0
```

```
determine shift  kappa=3.329227607e-4
```

```
s and t:  0 8
```

```
inspect 4
```

```
gamma
```

```
4.5505e0  2.1040e0  5.1932e0  1.5866e0  2.3191e0  -1.0213e-23  1.8246e-2  0
```

- since  $|\gamma_6| \leq \text{eta} \|K_0\|_\infty$ ,  $\implies \sigma_4 = 1.8246e-2$ , deflate  $t := t - 2$

## The next iterations give:

s and t: 0 6 , zero shift

inspect 5

gamma

5.4666e0 1.9829e0 4.6208e0 3.5192e-1 2.1696e0 0

determine shift , kappa=4.672568312

s and t: 0 6

inspect 6

gamma

6.0855e0 9.5698e-1 4.1695e0 -1.9043e-4 2.1599e0 0

determine shift , kappa=4.665413228

s and t: 0 6

inspect 7

gamma

6.2029e0 3.5366e-1 4.0906e0 8.1443e-15 2.1599e0 0

determine shift , kappa=4.665413228

s and t: 0 6

inspect 8

gamma

6.2184e0 1.2520e-1 4.0803e0 2.3665e-30 2.1599e0 0

- $\sigma_3 = 2.1599, t := t - 2$

## Finally

```

gamma
6.2184e0  1.2520e-1  4.0803e0  0
s and t:  0 4 , zero shift
inspect 9
gamma
6.2202e0  -5.3871e-2  4.0792e0  0
determine shift , kappa=16.63775489
s and t:  0 4
inspect 10
gamma
6.2206e0  -2.0816e-17  4.0789e0  0

```

Thus one step with **zero shift** followed by one with **shift 16.63775489** yields

$$\gamma_2 = -2.0816e - 17 \approx 0 \implies \sigma_1 \text{ and } \sigma_2$$

<b>sigma</b>	<b>Check with MATLAB</b>	<b>&gt;&gt; svd(J)</b>
6.220651007345815e0	<b>&gt;&gt; J=[1</b>	<b>ans =</b>
4.078940413139840e0	<b>0</b>	6.220651007345817e+00
2.159956765331501e0	<b>0</b>	4.078940413139843e+00
1.824617112552942e-2	<b>0</b>	2.159956765331501e+00
	<b>0</b>	1.824617112552942e-02
	<b>0</b>	
	<b>0</b>	
	<b>0</b>	
	<b>1];</b>	

## Rank Deficient Example

beispiel1B.alg

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 & -1 & 6 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 4 & -7 & -2 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & -4 & 5 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 4 & -1 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 6 & -1 \\ 3 & -3 & -5 & 8 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ -5 & 4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 7 \\ 3 & 4 & -3 & 6 & 7 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $A = \begin{pmatrix} B & 2B \\ 3B & -B \end{pmatrix}$
- Golub-Businger needs  
18 steps for 12  $\sigma_k$
- good result!

sigma

7.226590312008532e1  
 4.963033918308604e1  
 4.428869855284583e1  
 3.642741733519196e1  
 3.041632410657953e1  
 2.501740101282876e1  
 3.445807702749013e-15  
 5.861665712052792e-15  
 2.351807372845660e-15  
 4.488399943021106e-15  
 2.802195408089914e-15  
 2.226465746728873e-15

## Close Singular Values

- Bidiagonal matrix with 2 clusters, gap  $1e-7$

$b_{kk}$	$b_{k,k+1}$	$\sigma_k$
1.614874172816116	9.264623902779769e-01	2.000000100000000
1.238486644745703	2.131595816650056e-07	2.000000000000000
1.926281858121494	4.598199463754764e-01	1.000000100000000
1.038269760777829		1.000000000000000

- Start:

$$\gamma = [-1.6148, 9.2646e-1, 1.2384e0, 2.1315e-7, 1.9262, -4.5981e-1, -1.0382, 0]$$

step	shift	$\gamma_4$	$\gamma_6$	step	shift	$\gamma_2$
0		2.1315e-7	4.5981e-1	6	zero	-8.5471e-8
1	zero	7.4224e-7	-1.2203e-1	7	4.000000011	-3.3341e-9
2	1.000000179	3.3742e-1	-7.4612e-9	8	4.000000011	-9.8840e-11
3	1.000000199	2.3202e-8	-1.0219e-11	9	3.999999993	1.5748e-12
4	1.000000198	1.5378e-15	-5.9455e-14	10	3.999999993	-2.5092e-14
5	1.000000199	1.0250e-22	-1.1886e-17	11	3.999999993	3.9981e-16

- deflate  $t := t - 4$

linear convergence

## Results

The computed  $\sigma_k$  are correct:

sigma

2.000000099999999e0

2.000000000000000e0

1.000000099999999e0

9.99999999999994e-1

## Narrowing the Gap

clusterB.alg

- Consider bidiagonal matrix with 2 clusters, gap  $1e-8$

$b_{kk}$	$b_{k,k+1}$	$\sigma_k$
1.614874124853175	9.264623389167206e-01	2.000000010000000
1.238486628039565	2.131595964078222e-08	2.000000000000000
1.926281841828408	4.598199397802367e-01	1.000000010000000
1.038269674236179		1.000000000000000

- The Golub-Businger program produces an **infinite loop**

**Reason:** after QR-step #9, shift is NaN, discriminant  $g_0^2 - 4.0 * g_1$  is  $-8.881784197e-16$  negative due to rounding errors

- Matrix with  $\sigma_k = [2, 2, 1, 1]$ . Golub-Businger needs 11 QR-steps for

$b_{kk}$	$b_{k,k+1}$	$\sigma_k$
1.546667895215945	9.673182260019585e-01	1.999999999999999e0
1.293102421137901	1.845276169487005e-15	1.999999999999999e0
1.984647769311140	2.136408344093210e-01	1.0000000000000001e0
1.007735493887760		1.000000000000000e0

- Augment the multiplicity:  $\sigma_k = [1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2]$

diagonal	secondary diagonal
1.666426845302032	8.846508172580001e-01
1.200172696232285	2.323234527365937e-15
1.927953055087120	4.548199770714277e-01
1.037369657276030	1.265849009056839e-15
1.994732361709430	1.255160648047072e-01
1.002640774467638	

- Golub-Businger produces an **infinite loop** because when scanning

```
for i:=t-2 while abs(gamma [i])<= epsilon do
```

we have:  $\epsilon = 5.664412841e-16 < \text{abs}(\text{gamma}[2]) = 7.7715e-16$ .

Since  $\text{gamma}[2]$  remains constant the iteration never ends.





## The Springer Handbook Project in the Sixties:

- First attempt for building a software library
- Golub-Businger submitted their SVD procedure – **was not accepted**.
- Chr. Reinsch was in charge of testing the submissions:

*It was easy to find sample matrices with unsatisfactory convergence rates and in some cases the algorithm would not converge at all.*

- Reinsch developed his own SVD algorithm at the same time in 1967, **independently of Golub-Businger**
- F. L. Bauer decided to accept the algorithm of Reinsch in the Handbook under **joint authorship Golub-Reinsch** .

## Handbook for Automatic Computation

Edited by

F. L. Bauer · A. S. Householder · F. W. J. Olver  
H. Rutishauser † · K. Samelson · E. Stiefel

Volume II

J. H. Wilkinson · C. Reinsch

## Linear Algebra

Chief editor

F. L. Bauer

## The Algorithm of Reinsch

- developed 1967, published 1970 in *Numerische Mathematik*

Numer. Math. 14, 403—420 (1970)

### *Handbook Series Linear Algebra*

## Singular Value Decomposition and Least Squares Solutions<sup>\*</sup>

Contributed by

G. H. GOLUB<sup>\*\*</sup> and C. REINSCH

### 1. Theoretical Background

#### *1.1. Introduction*

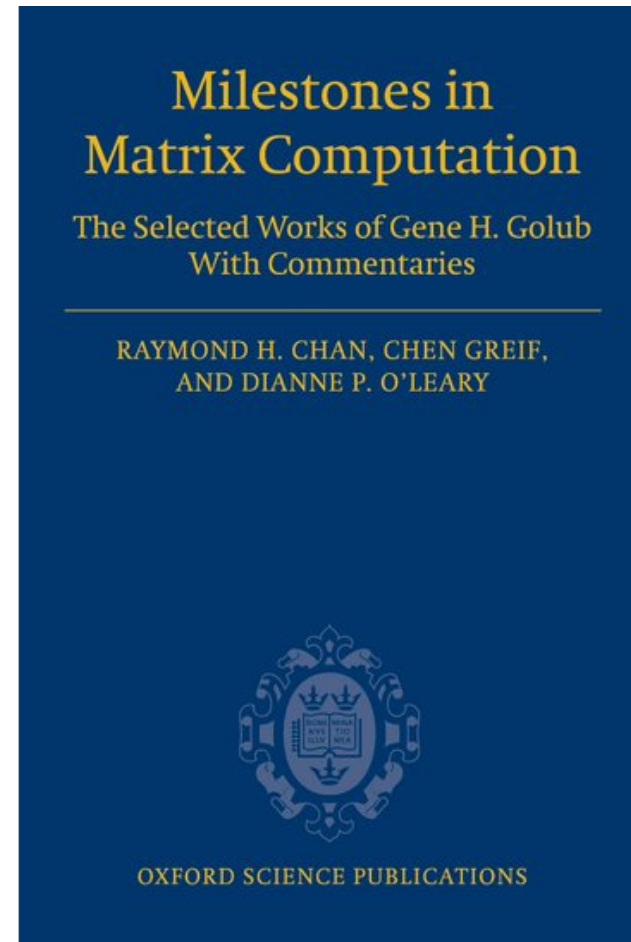
Let  $A$  be a real  $m \times n$  matrix with  $m \geq n$ . It is well known (cf. [4]) that

$$A = U \Sigma V^T \quad (1)$$

## Gene Golub's 75th Birthday Celebration 2007 in Stanford

RAYMOND H. CHAN,  
CHEN GREIF, and  
DIANNE P. O'LEARY

- Compiled a book with selected papers of Gene Golub
- with commentaries of his coauthors
- This gave Reinsch opportunity to explain



## The Algorithm of Reinsch

- Bidiagonalize  $A = PBQ^\top$ ,  $\lambda_k(B^\top B) = \sigma_k(B)^2$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & e_2 & & & & \\ & q_2 & e_3 & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & & \ddots & e_n \\ & & & & & q_n \end{pmatrix}$$

- Consider applying the QR-Algorithm with implicit shift  $\sigma$  to

$$T = B^\top B = \begin{pmatrix} q_1^2 & q_1 e_2 & & & & \\ q_1 e_2 & e_2^2 + q_2^2 & q_2 e_3 & & & \\ & q_2 e_3 & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & e_{n-1}^2 + q_{n-1}^2 & q_{n-1} e_n & \\ & & & q_{n-1} e_n & e_n^2 + q_n^2 & \end{pmatrix}$$

- Use Wilkinson's shift  $\sigma$ : EV of lower  $2 \times 2$  minor closer to  $T_{nn}$

- First QR transformation by Givens rotation  $G_1$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{pmatrix}^\top \begin{pmatrix} q_1^2 - \sigma \\ q_1 e_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Applying  $G_1$  and  $G_1^\top$  to  $T = B^\top B$  yields

$$G_1^\top B^\top B G_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x & & & \\ x & x & x & & & \\ x & x & x & x & & \\ & & x & x & x & \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix},$$

- and subsequent transformations chase the bulge  $x$  till the tridiagonal form is restored

## Clever Idea of Reinsch: Work with $B$ alone!

- consider  $BG_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & & & & \\ \mathbf{x} & x & x & & & \\ & & x & x & & \\ & & & x & x & \\ & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$

- chasing the bulge  $\mathbf{x}$  by Givensrotations to restore **bidiagonal form**:

$$P_1^\top BG_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & \mathbf{x} & & & \\ & x & x & & & \\ & & x & x & & \\ & & & x & x & \\ & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, P_1^\top BG_1 G_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & & & & \\ & x & x & & & \\ & & \mathbf{x} & x & x & \\ & & & x & x & \\ & & & & x & x \\ & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\tilde{B}$  is again bidiagonal:  $\tilde{B} = P_{n-1}^\top \cdots P_1^\top BG_1 \cdots G_{n-1}$
- Theorem**: This transformation  $B \rightarrow \tilde{B}$  is mathematically the same process as a QR-step for the tridiagonal matrix  $T = B^\top B \rightarrow \tilde{B}^\top \tilde{B}$

Splitting  $B = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & e_2 & & & \\ & q_2 & e_3 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & e_n \\ & & & & q_n \end{pmatrix}$

- If  $e_i = 0 \implies B$  splits in two bidiagonal matrices

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ 0 & B_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{svd}(B) = \text{svd}(B_1) \cup \text{svd}(B_2).$$

The singular values of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  can be computed **independently** (even in parallel).

- If split for  $i = n$ ,  $e_n = 0 \implies B_2 = q_n$  and  $q_n$  is a singular value. Continue computations with  $B_1$ .





## Convergence

- Cannot expect  $e_i = 0$  or  $q_i = 0$ , need a **threshold** to decide when zero.
  - Golub-Reinsch recommend (with  $\varepsilon$ =machine precision)
$$|e_{i+1}|, |q_i| \leq \varepsilon \max_i (|q_i| + |e_i|) = \varepsilon \|B\|_1,$$
- Deflation:  
If  $e_n$  is negligible  $\implies q_n$  is a singular value.  
Proceed iteration with submatrix of order  $n - 1$ .

## Results for Rank Deficient Matrix $A$ :

beispiel1R.alg

ALGOL Program Golub-Reinsch	Matlab's SVD
72.265903120085326	72.265903120085312
49.630339183086043	49.630339183086065
44.288698552845872	44.288698552845858
36.427417335191983	36.427417335192004
30.416324106579530	30.416324106579548
25.017401012828770	25.017401012828763
0.000000000000015	0.000000000000006
0.000000000000005	0.000000000000005
0.000000000000004	0.000000000000003
0.000000000000004	0.000000000000002
0.000000000000003	0.000000000000002
0.000000000000002	0.000000000000001

Golub-Reinsch needs 15 steps for these 12  $\sigma_k$

## Close and Multiple Singular Values

2 clusters, gap  $1e-8$

$b_{kk}$	$b_{k,k+1}$
1.614874124853175	9.264623389167206e-01
1.238486628039565	2.131595964078222e-08
1.926281841828408	4.598199397802367e-01
1.038269674236179	

$\sigma_k = [1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2]$

diagonal	secondary diagonal
1.666426845302032	8.846508172580001e-01
1.200172696232285	2.323234527365937e-15
1.927953055087120	4.548199770714277e-01
1.037369657276030	1.265849009056839e-15
1.994732361709430	1.255160648047072e-01
1.002640774467638	

Golub-Reinsch needs 4 steps

```
2.000000010000000
2.000000000000000
1.000000000000000
1.000000009999999
```

Golub-Reinsch needs 6 steps to get

```
9.999999999999996e-1
1.000000000000000
1.999999999999999
2.000000000000000
2.000000000000000
1.000000000000001
```



## Remarks

- Reinsch has created a wonderful foolproof algorithm for computing the SVD
- Golub became coauthor though he did not work on this algorithm
- Is this plagiarism? Why did Bauer made him a coauthor?
- the answer is:
  - **Golub-Businger and Golub-Reinsch compute the same iterates!**
- The data structure is different, but both algorithms work on the same elements of the bidiagonal matrix.
- When using the same shifts, the iterates of Golub-Businger and Golub-Reinsch produces the same numbers

This may explain the decision of F. L. Bauer to make Golub a coauthor

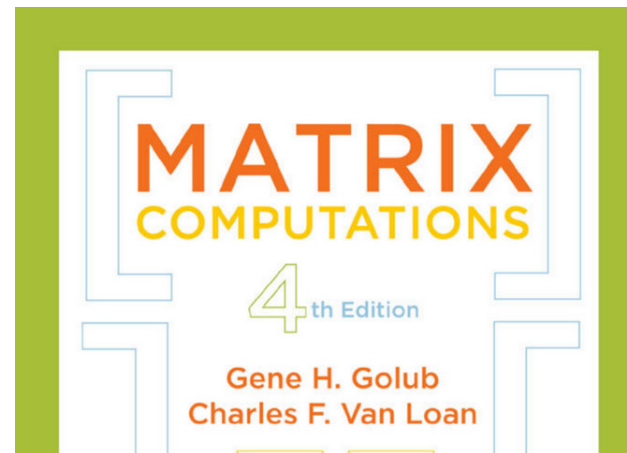
## Reinsch is Missing Credit for his SVD-Algorithm

- in the famous textbook **Golub-van Loan** the Reinsch SVD algorithm is **explained in details**

- But reference is completely wrong.  
page 489: *A preferable method for computing the SVD is described by Golub and Kahan (1965). Their technique finds  $U$  and  $V$  simultaneously by implicitly applying the symmetric QR algorithm to  $A^T A$*

This is completely wrong!

- Reinsch is not mentioned at all!



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- **Johann Joss**, my old fellow student from ETH. He is a gifted mathematician and computer scientist. With his help we got rid of all problems and finally we had running ALGOL procedures.
- **Å. Björck**. I am indebted to Åke for sending me a paper copy of the Stanford CS Report #73. This paper by Golub and Businger is not well known and it is hard to get hold of this report

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