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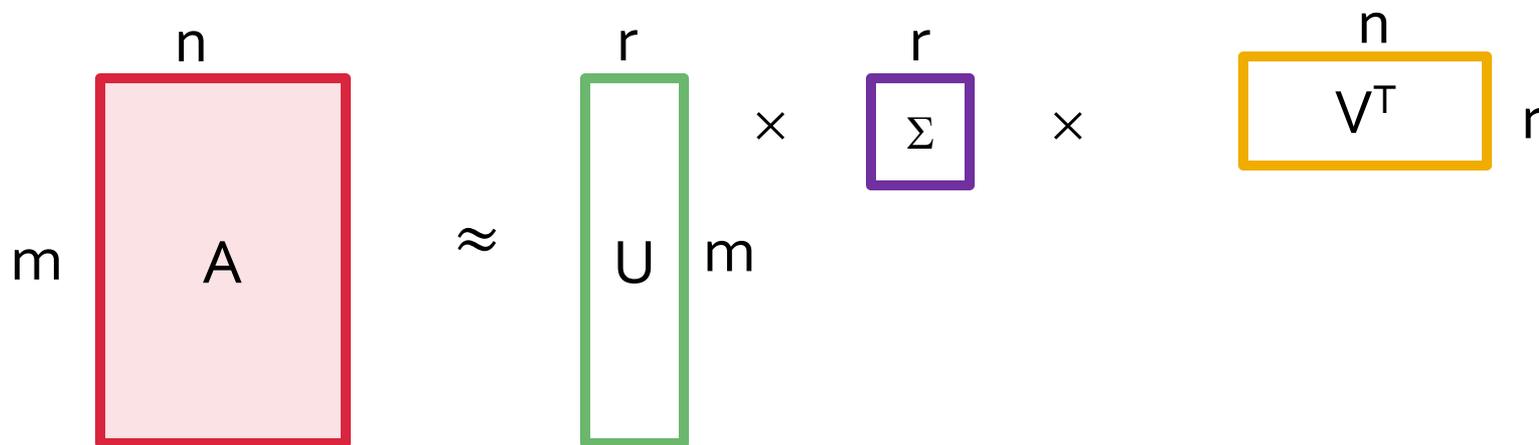
# Dimensionality Reduction: SVD & CUR

CS246: Mining Massive Datasets  
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Charilaos Kanatsoulis, Stanford University  
<http://cs246.stanford.edu>



# Reducing Matrix Dimension

- Often, our data can be represented by an  $m$ -by- $n$  matrix
- And this matrix can be closely approximated by the product of three matrices that share a small common dimension  $r$



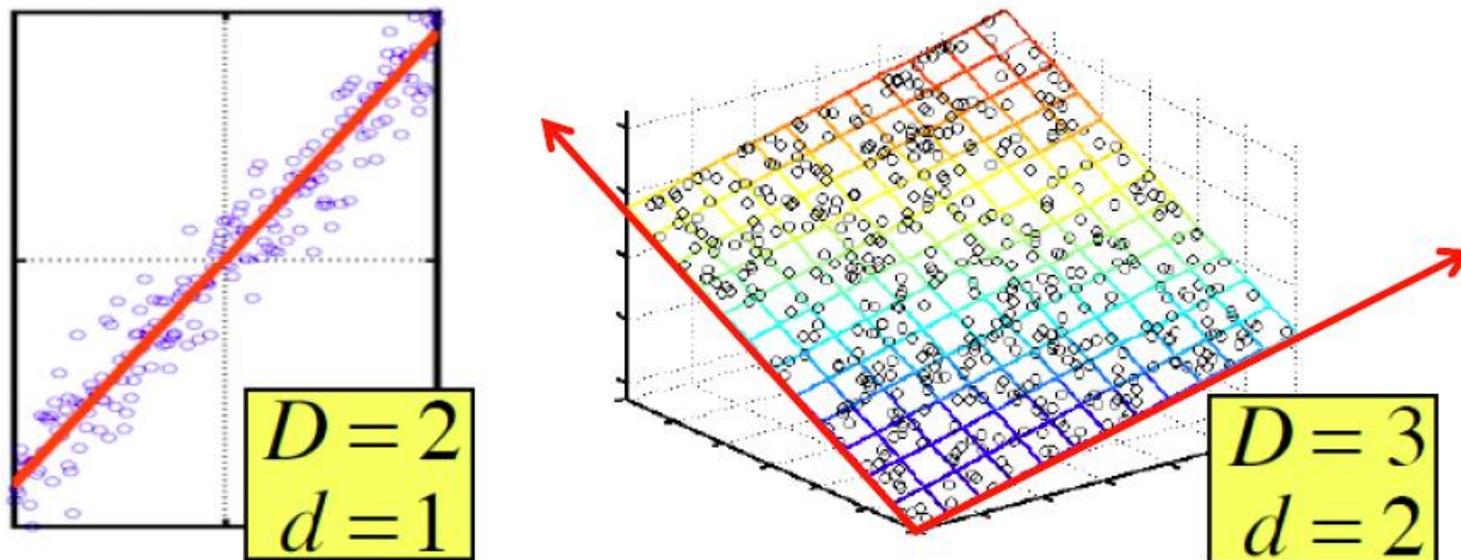
# Dimensionality Reduction

- **Compress / reduce dimensionality:**
  - $10^6$  rows;  $10^3$  columns; no updates
  - Random access to any cell(s); **small error: OK**

customer	day	We 7/10/96	Th 7/11/96	Fr 7/12/96	Sa 7/13/96	Su 7/14/96	New representation
ABC Inc.		1	1	1	0	0	[1 0]
DEF Ltd.		2	2	2	0	0	[2 0]
GHI Inc.		1	1	1	0	0	[1 0]
KLM Co.		5	5	5	0	0	[5 0]
Smith		0	0	0	2	2	[0 2]
Johnson		0	0	0	3	3	[0 3]
Thompson		0	0	0	1	1	[0 1]

**Note:** The above matrix is really “2-dimensional.” All rows can be reconstructed by scaling [1 1 1 0 0] or [0 0 0 1 1]

# Dimensionality Reduction

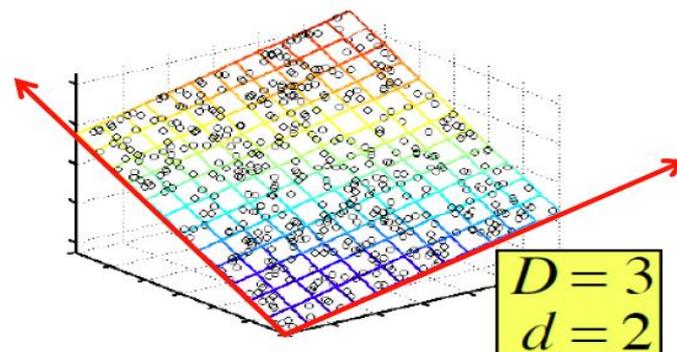
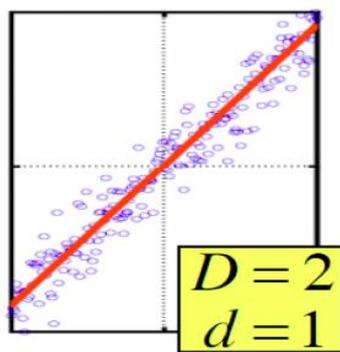


There are hidden, or **latent factors, latent dimensions** that – to a close approximation – explain why the values are as they appear in the data matrix

# Dimensionality Reduction

The axes of these dimensions can be chosen by:

- The first dimension is the direction in which the points exhibit the greatest variance
- The second dimension is the direction, orthogonal to the first, in which points show the 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest variance
- And so on..., until you have enough dimensions that variance is really low



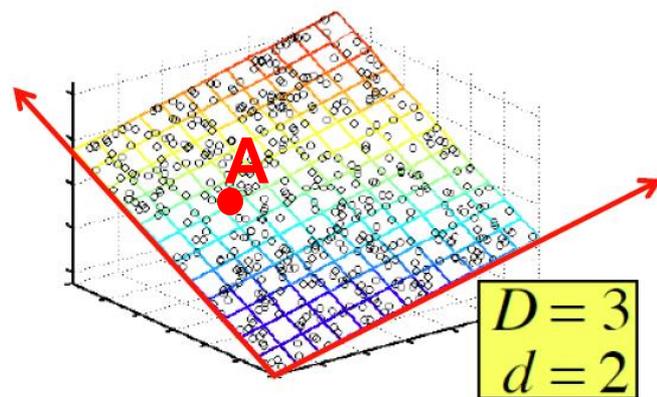
# Rank is “Dimensionality”

- **Q:** What is **rank** of a matrix **A**?
- **A:** Number of **linearly independent** rows of **A**
- **Cloud of points in 3D space:**

- Think of point coordinates

as a matrix: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{matrix}$$

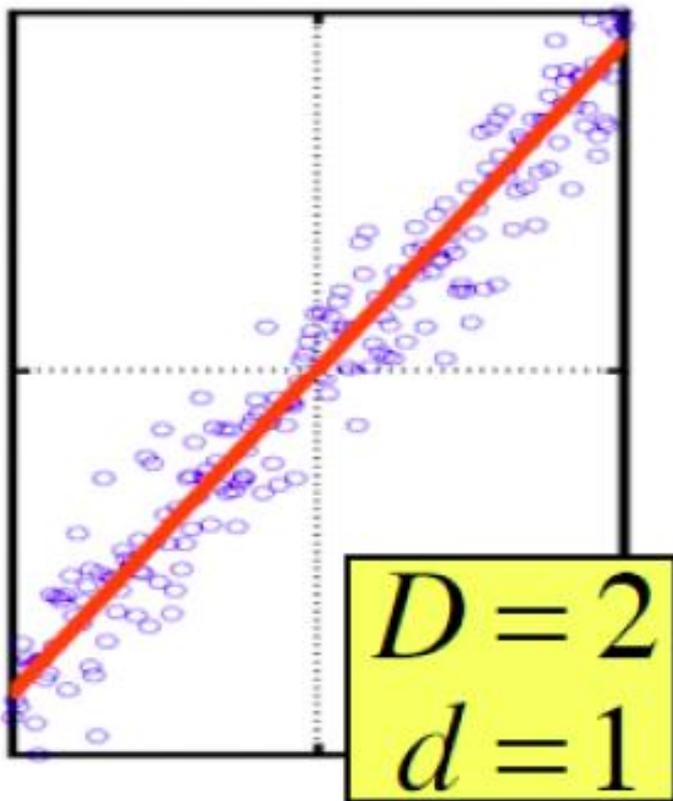
1 row per point:



- **We can rewrite coordinates more efficiently!**
  - Old basis vectors:  $[1 \ 0 \ 0]$   $[0 \ 1 \ 0]$   $[0 \ 0 \ 1]$
  - **New basis vectors:**  $[1 \ 2 \ 1]$   $[-2 \ -3 \ 1]$
  - Then **A** has new coordinates:  $[1 \ 0]$ , **B**:  $[0 \ 1]$ , **C**:  $[1 \ -1]$ 
    - **Notice:** We reduced the number of dimensions/coordinates!

# Dimensionality Reduction

- Goal of dimensionality reduction is to discover the axes of data!



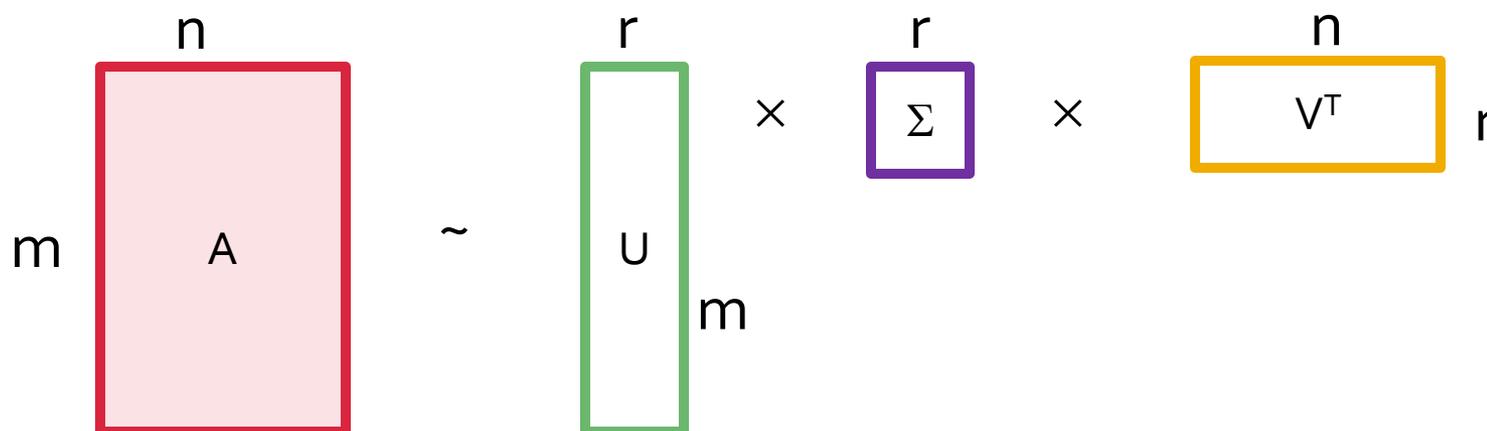
Rather than representing every point with 2 coordinates we represent each point with 1 coordinate (corresponding to the position of the point on the red line).

By doing this we incur a bit of **error** as the points do not exactly lie on the line

# **SVD: Singular Value Decomposition**

# Reducing Matrix Dimension

- Gives a decomposition of any matrix into a product of three matrices:

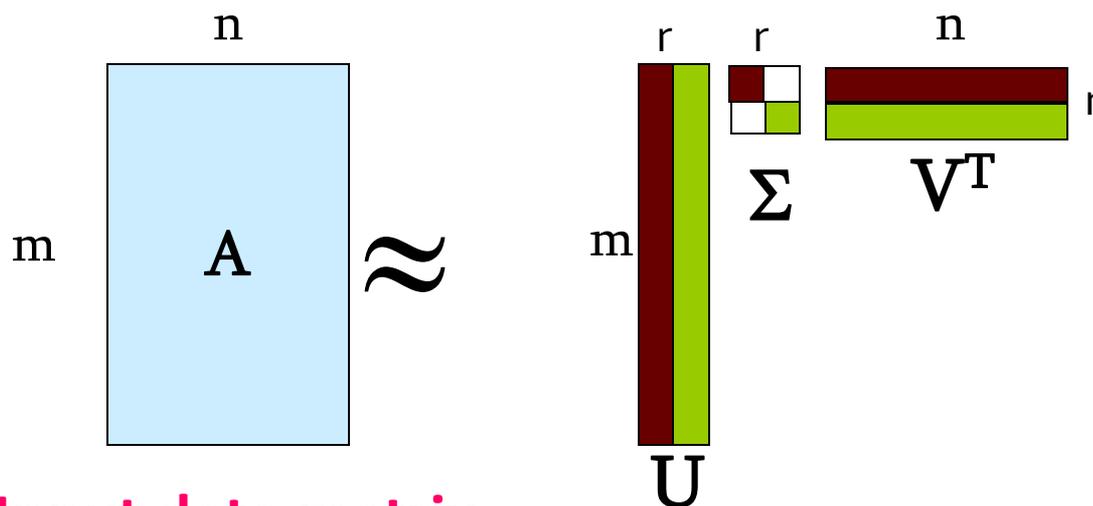


The diagram illustrates the matrix decomposition  $A \sim U \Sigma V^T$ . Matrix  $A$  is a pink rectangle with dimensions  $m$  (height) and  $n$  (width). Matrix  $U$  is a green rectangle with dimensions  $r$  (height) and  $m$  (width). Matrix  $\Sigma$  is a purple square with dimension  $r$  (width). Matrix  $V^T$  is a yellow rectangle with dimensions  $n$  (height) and  $r$  (width). The matrices are connected by multiplication symbols ( $\times$ ) and an approximation symbol ( $\sim$ ).

- There are strong constraints on the form of each of these matrices
  - Results in a unique decomposition
- From this decomposition, you can choose any number  $r$  of intermediate concepts (latent factors) in a way that minimizes the reconstruction error

# SVD – Definition

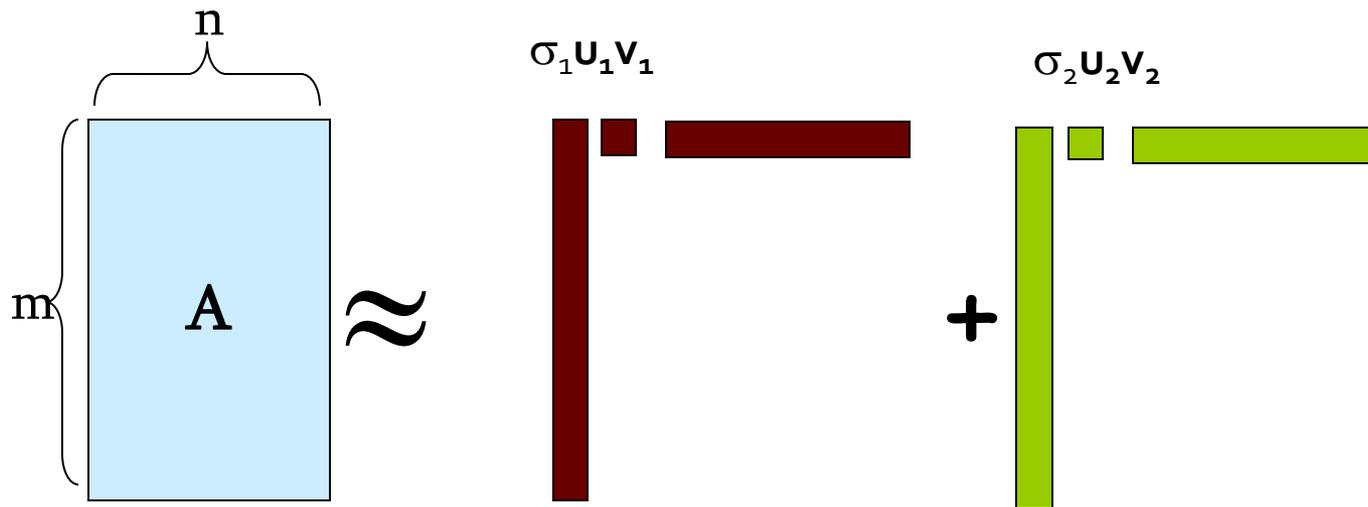
$$\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T = \sum_i \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \circ \mathbf{v}_i^T$$



- **A: Input data matrix**
  - $m \times n$  matrix (e.g.,  $m$  documents,  $n$  terms)
- **U: Left singular vectors**
  - $m \times r$  matrix ( $m$  documents,  $r$  concepts)
- **$\Sigma$ : Singular values**
  - $r \times r$  diagonal matrix (strength of each ‘concept’)  
( $r$ : rank of the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ )
- **V: Right singular vectors**
  - $n \times r$  matrix ( $n$  terms,  $r$  concepts)

# SVD

$$\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T = \sum_i \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \circ \mathbf{v}_i^T$$



If we set  $\sigma_2 = 0$ , then the green columns are wiped out.

$\sigma_i \dots$  scalar  
 $\mathbf{u}_i \dots$  vector  
 $\mathbf{v}_i \dots$  vector

# SVD – Properties

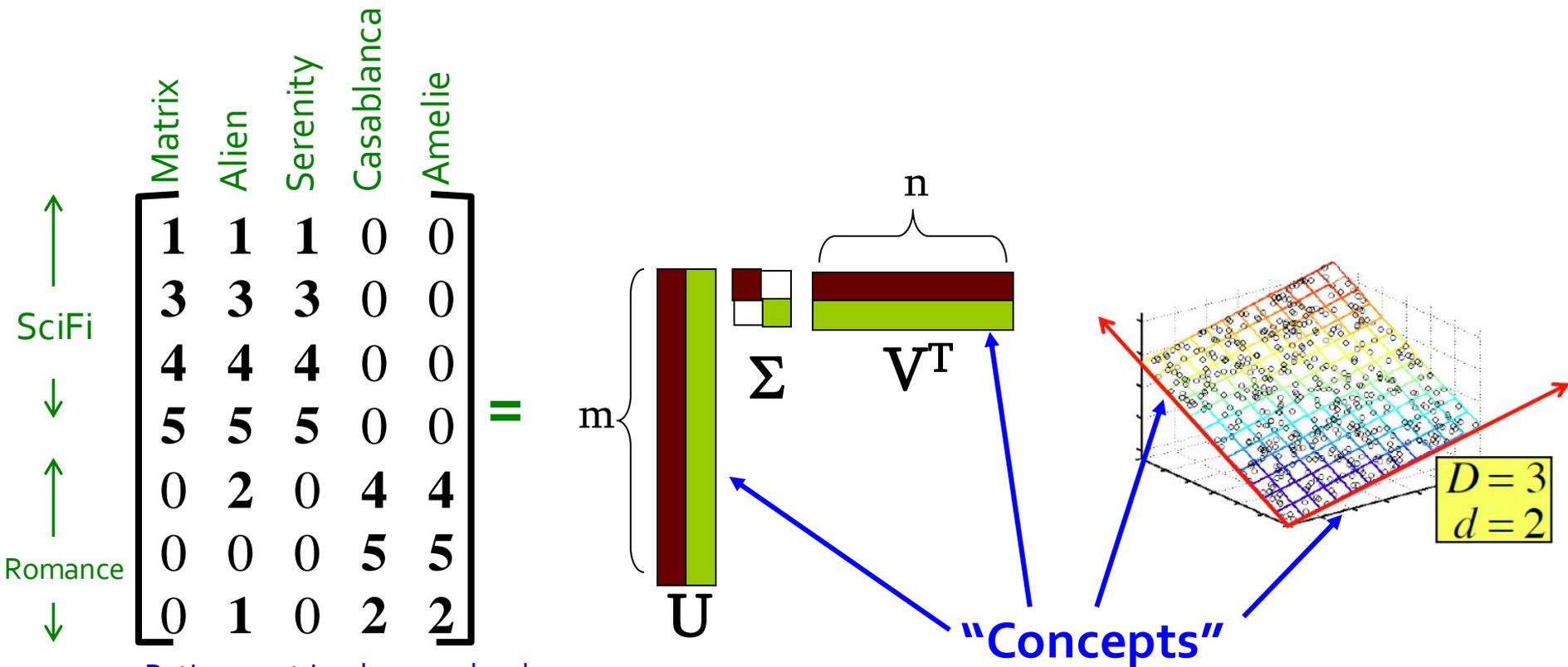
It is **always** possible to decompose a real matrix  $A$  into  $A = U \Sigma V^T$ , where

- $U, \Sigma, V$ : **unique**
- $U, V$ : **column orthonormal**
  - $U^T U = I; V^T V = I$  ( $I$ : identity matrix)
  - (Columns are orthogonal unit vectors)
- $\Sigma$ : **diagonal**
  - Entries (**singular values**) are **non-negative**, and sorted in decreasing order ( $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq 0$ )

Nice proof of uniqueness: [https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs322/2008sp/stuff/TrefethenBau\\_Lec4\\_SVD.pdf](https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs322/2008sp/stuff/TrefethenBau_Lec4_SVD.pdf)

# SVD – Example: Users-to-Movies

- Consider a matrix. What does SVD do?



Ratings matrix where each column corresponds to a movie and each row to a user. First 4 users prefer SciFi, while others prefer Romance.

**"Concepts"**  
**AKA Latent dimensions**  
**AKA Latent factors**

# SVD – Example: Users-to-Movies

- $A = U \Sigma V^T$  - example: Users to Movies

	Matrix	Alien	Serenity	Casablanca	Amelie							
↑	1	1	1	0	0	=	x	x	x			
SciFi	3	3	3	0	0					0.13	0.02	-0.01
↓	4	4	4	0	0					0.41	0.07	-0.03
↑	5	5	5	0	0					0.55	0.09	-0.04
Romance	0	2	0	4	4					0.68	0.11	-0.05
↓	0	0	0	5	5					0.15	-0.59	0.65
	0	1	0	2	2	0.07	-0.73	-0.67	12.4			
						0.07	-0.29	0.32	0			
									9.5			
									0			
									1.3			
									0.56			
									0.59			
									0.56			
									0.09			
									0.09			
									-0.69			
									-0.69			
									0.40			
									-0.80			
									0.40			
									0.09			
									0.09			



# SVD – Example: Users-to-Movies

■  $A = U \Sigma V^T$  - example:

$U$  is “user-to-concept” factor matrix

	Matrix	Alien	Serenity	Casablanca	Amelie		SciFi-concept	Romance-concept	
	1	1	1	0	0	=	0.13	0.02	-0.01
↑	3	3	3	0	0		0.41	0.07	-0.03
SciFi	4	4	4	0	0		0.55	0.09	-0.04
↓	5	5	5	0	0		0.68	0.11	-0.05
↑	0	2	0	4	4		0.15	-0.59	0.65
Romance	0	0	0	5	5		0.07	-0.73	-0.67
↓	0	1	0	2	2		0.07	-0.29	0.32

  
 $\times$ 

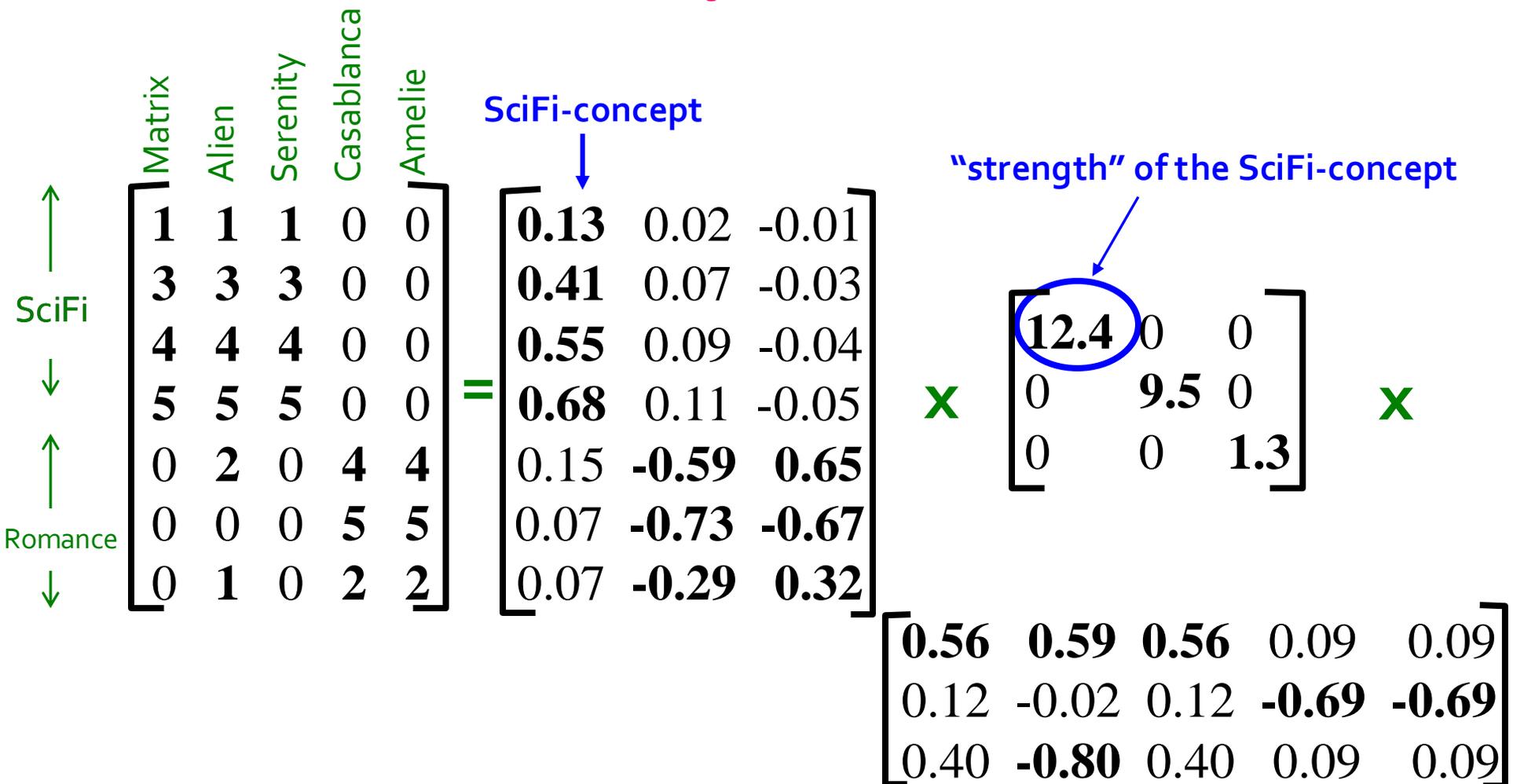
12.4	0	0
0	9.5	0
0	0	1.3

 $\times$ 

0.56	0.59	0.56	0.09	0.09
0.12	-0.02	0.12	-0.69	-0.69
0.40	-0.80	0.40	0.09	0.09

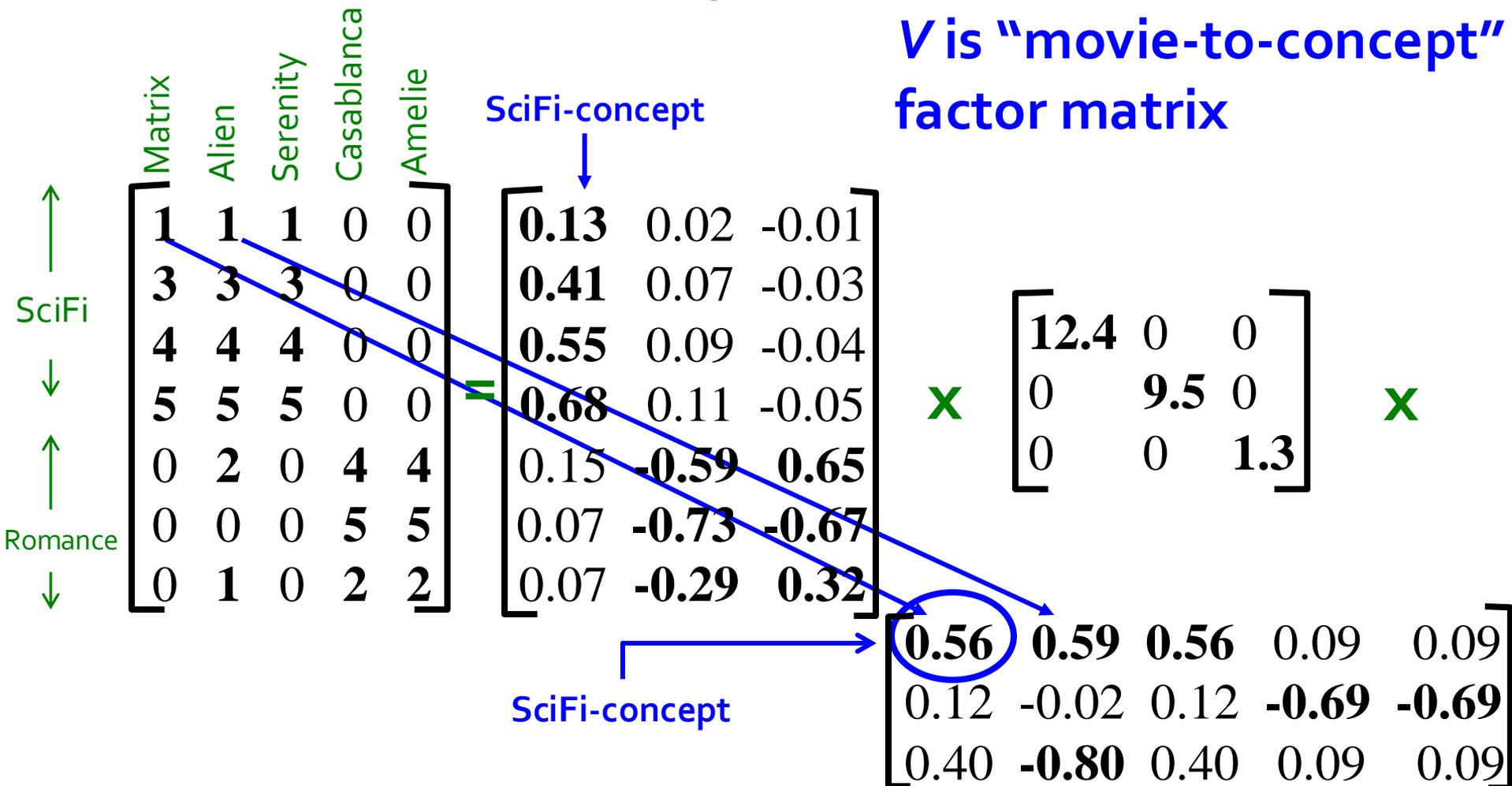
# SVD – Example: Users-to-Movies

## ■ $A = U \Sigma V^T$ - example:



# SVD – Example: Users-to-Movies

## ■ $A = U \Sigma V^T$ - example:



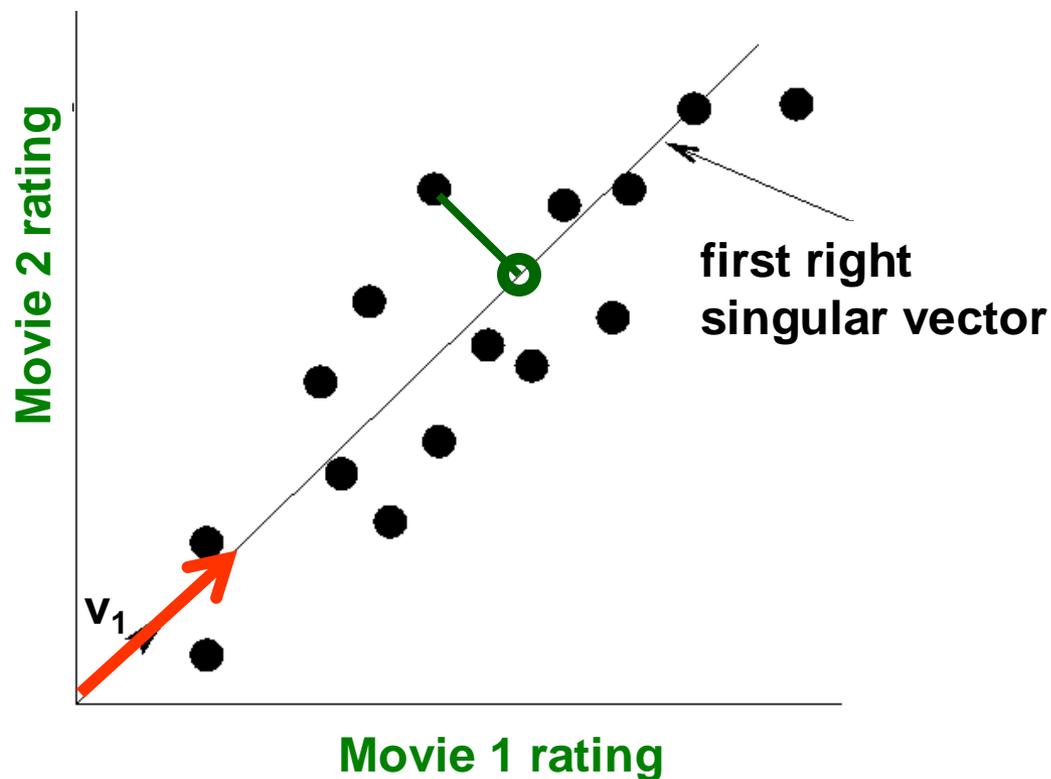
# SVD – Interpretation #1

## Movies, users and concepts:

- $U$ : user-to-concept matrix
- $V$ : movie-to-concept matrix
- $\Sigma$ : its diagonal elements:  
‘strength’ of each concept

# Dimensionality Reduction with SVD

# SVD – Dimensionality Reduction



- Instead of using two coordinates  $(x, y)$  to describe point positions, let's use only one coordinate
- Point's position is its location along vector  $v_1$

# SVD – Dimensionality Reduction

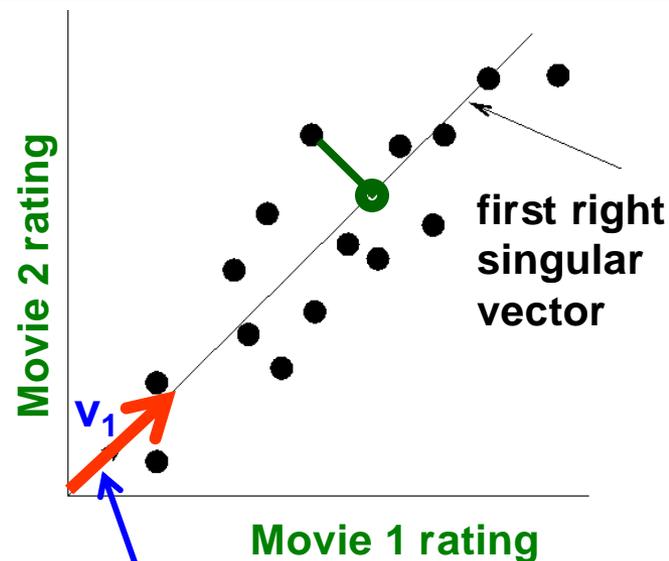
## ■ $A = U \Sigma V^T$ - example:

- $U$ : “user-to-concept” matrix
- $V$ : “movie-to-concept” matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.13 & 0.02 & -0.01 \\ 0.41 & 0.07 & -0.03 \\ 0.55 & 0.09 & -0.04 \\ 0.68 & 0.11 & -0.05 \\ 0.15 & -0.59 & 0.65 \\ 0.07 & -0.73 & -0.67 \\ 0.07 & -0.29 & 0.32 \end{bmatrix} \times$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} \times$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.59 & 0.56 & 0.09 & 0.09 \\ 0.12 & -0.02 & 0.12 & -0.69 & -0.69 \\ 0.40 & -0.80 & 0.40 & 0.09 & 0.09 \end{bmatrix}$$

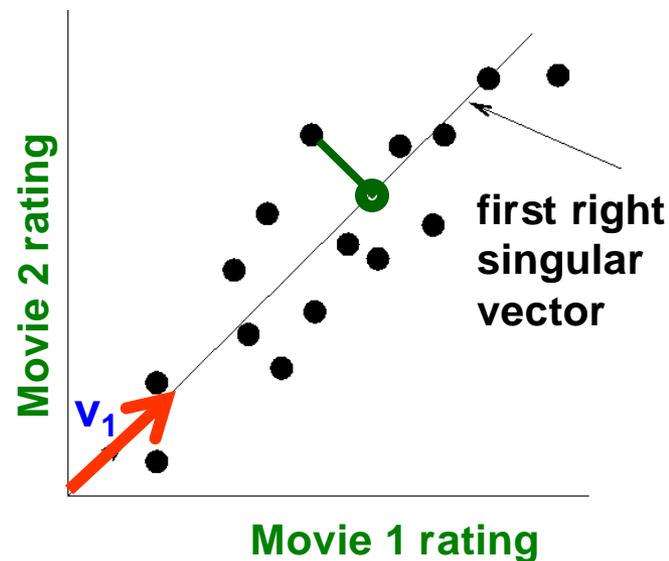


# SVD – Dimensionality Reduction

## ■ $A = U \Sigma V^T$ - example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.13 & 0.02 & -0.01 \\ 0.41 & 0.07 & -0.03 \\ 0.55 & 0.09 & -0.04 \\ 0.68 & 0.11 & -0.05 \\ 0.15 & -0.59 & 0.65 \\ 0.07 & -0.73 & -0.67 \\ 0.07 & -0.29 & 0.32 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.59 & 0.56 & 0.09 & 0.09 \\ 0.12 & -0.02 & 0.12 & -0.69 & -0.69 \\ 0.40 & -0.80 & 0.40 & 0.09 & 0.09 \end{bmatrix}$$

variance ('spread')  
on the  $v_1$  axis



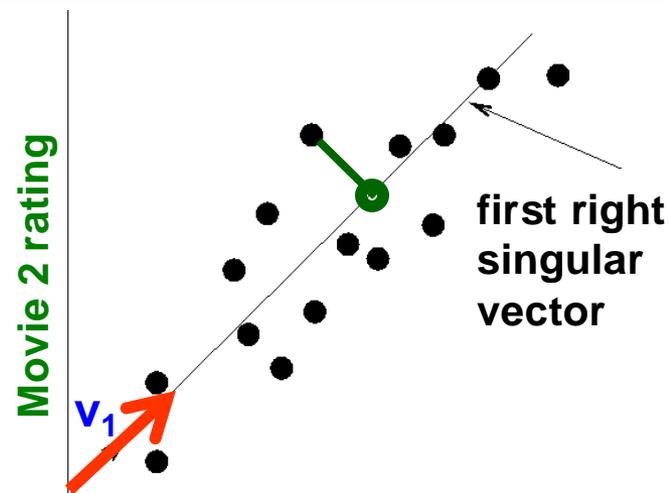
# SVD – Dimensionality Reduction

$A = U \Sigma V^T$  - example:

- $U \Sigma$ : Gives the coordinates of the points in the projection axis

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Projection of users  
on the “Sci-Fi” axis  
 $U \Sigma$ :



Movie 1 rating

1.61	0.19	-0.01
5.08	0.66	-0.03
6.82	0.85	-0.05
8.43	1.04	-0.06
1.86	-5.60	0.84
0.86	-6.93	-0.87
0.86	-2.75	0.41

# SVD – Interpretation #2

## More details

- **Q:** How is dim. reduction done?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.13 & 0.02 & -0.01 \\ 0.41 & 0.07 & -0.03 \\ 0.55 & 0.09 & -0.04 \\ 0.68 & 0.11 & -0.05 \\ 0.15 & -0.59 & 0.65 \\ 0.07 & -0.73 & -0.67 \\ 0.07 & -0.29 & 0.32 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.59 & 0.56 & 0.09 & 0.09 \\ 0.12 & -0.02 & 0.12 & -0.69 & -0.69 \\ 0.40 & -0.80 & 0.40 & 0.09 & 0.09 \end{bmatrix}$$

# SVD – Interpretation #2

## More details

- **Q:** How exactly is dim. reduction done?
- **A:** Set smallest singular values to zero

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.13 & 0.02 & -0.01 \\ 0.41 & 0.07 & -0.03 \\ 0.55 & 0.09 & -0.04 \\ 0.68 & 0.11 & -0.05 \\ 0.15 & -0.59 & 0.65 \\ 0.07 & -0.73 & -0.67 \\ 0.07 & -0.29 & 0.32 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \del{1.3} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.59 & 0.56 & 0.09 & 0.09 \\ 0.12 & -0.02 & 0.12 & -0.69 & -0.69 \\ 0.40 & -0.80 & 0.40 & 0.09 & 0.09 \end{bmatrix}$$

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# SVD – Interpretation #2

This is Rank 2 approximation to A. We could also do Rank 1 approx. The larger the rank the more accurate the approximation.

## More details

- **Q:** How exactly is dim. reduction done?
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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 0.13 & 0.02 & -0.01 \\ 0.41 & 0.07 & -0.03 \\ 0.55 & 0.09 & -0.04 \\ 0.68 & 0.11 & -0.05 \\ 0.15 & -0.59 & 0.65 \\ 0.07 & -0.73 & -0.67 \\ 0.07 & -0.29 & 0.32 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.59 & 0.56 & 0.09 & 0.09 \\ 0.12 & -0.02 & 0.12 & -0.69 & -0.69 \\ 0.40 & -0.80 & 0.40 & 0.09 & 0.09 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Reconstructed data matrix B

Reconstruction Error is quantified by the Frobenius norm:

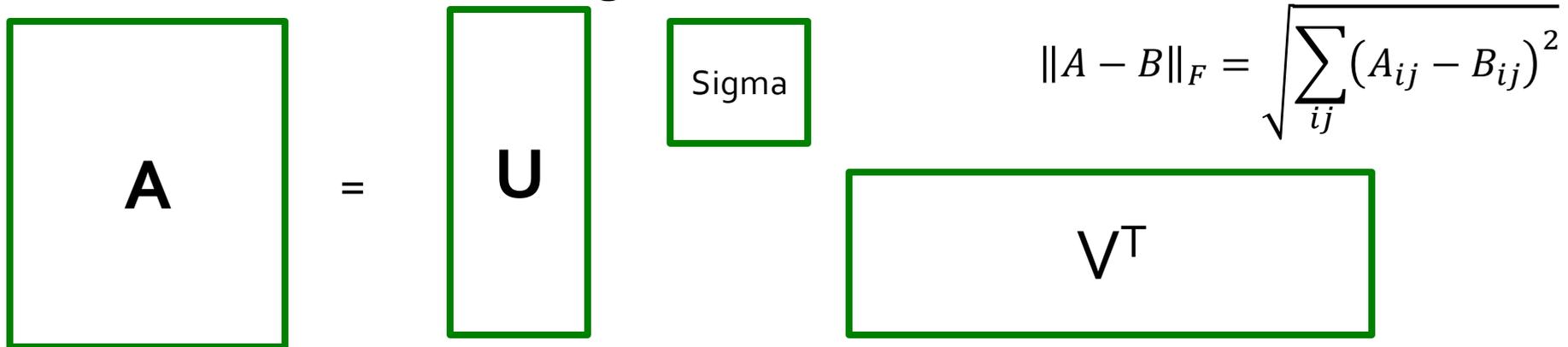
$$\|M\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} M_{ij}^2}$$

$$\|A-B\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} (A_{ij}-B_{ij})^2}$$

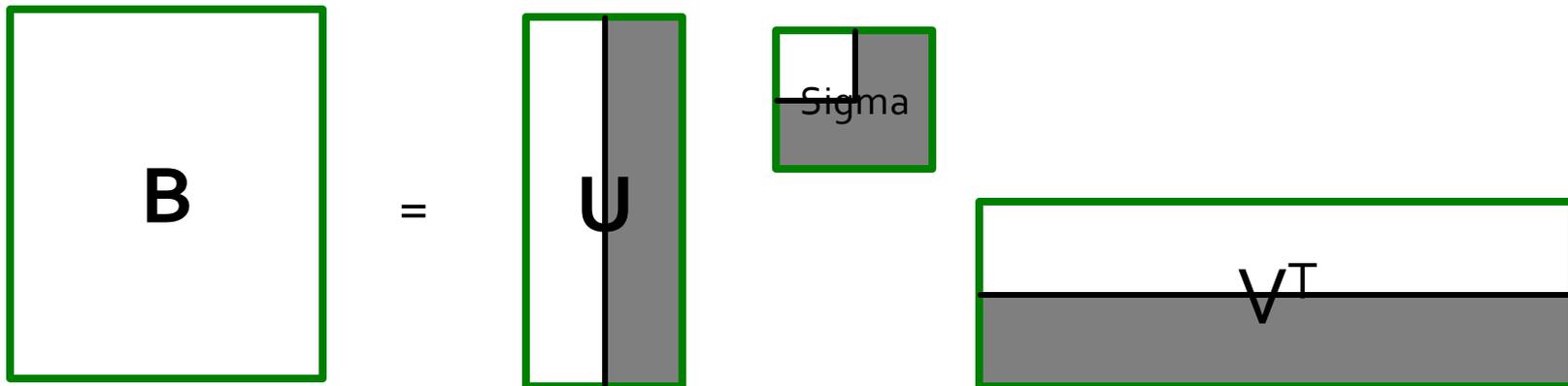
is “small”

# SVD – Best Low Rank Approx.

- **Fact: SVD gives ‘best’ axis to project on:**
  - **‘best’** = minimizing the sum of reconstruction errors



**B is best approximation of A:**



# SVD – Best Low Rank Approx.

- Theorem:

Let  $A = U \Sigma V^T$  and  $B = U S V^T$  where

$S = \text{diagonal } r \times r \text{ matrix}$  with  $s_i = \sigma_i$  ( $i=1 \dots k$ ) else  $s_i = 0$

then  $B$  is a **best**  $\text{rank}(B) = k$  approx. to  $A$

## What do we mean by “best”:

- $B$  is a solution to  $\min_B \|A - B\|_F$  where  $\text{rank}(B) = k$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1n} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ x_{m1} & & & x_{mn} \end{pmatrix}_{m \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} U & \\ & \text{grey bar} \end{pmatrix}_{m \times r} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & \\ & \text{grey bar} \end{pmatrix}_{r \times r} \begin{pmatrix} V^T & \\ & \text{grey bar} \end{pmatrix}_{r \times n}$$

$$\|A - B\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} (A_{ij} - B_{ij})^2}$$

Refer to the MMDS book for a proof.

# SVD – Conclusions so far

- **SVD:  $A = U \Sigma V^T$ : unique**
  - **U**: user-to-concept factors
  - **V**: movie-to-concept factors
  - $\Sigma$  : strength of each concept
- **Q: So what's a good value for  $r$  (# of latent factors)?**
- Let the *energy* of a set of singular values be the sum of their squares.
- Pick  $r$  so the retained singular values have at least 90% of the total energy.
- **Back to our example:**
  - With singular values 12.4, 9.5, and 1.3, total energy = 245.7
  - If we drop 1.3, whose square is only 1.7, we are left with energy 244, or over 99% of the total

# How to Compute SVD

# Finding Eigenpairs

- How do we actually compute SVD?
- First we need a method for finding the **principal eigenvalue** (the largest one) and the corresponding **eigenvector** of a symmetric matrix
  - $M$  is *symmetric* if  $m_{ij} = m_{ji}$  for all  $i$  and  $j$
- **Method:**
  - Start with any “guess eigenvector”  $\mathbf{x}_0$
  - Construct  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \frac{M\mathbf{x}_k}{\|M\mathbf{x}_k\|}$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ 
    - $\| \dots \|$  denotes the Frobenius norm
  - Stop when consecutive  $\mathbf{x}_k$  show little change

# Example: Iterative Eigenvector

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{M\mathbf{x}_0}{\|M\mathbf{x}_0\|} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} / \sqrt{34} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.51 \\ 0.86 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{x}_1$$

$$\frac{M\mathbf{x}_1}{\|M\mathbf{x}_1\|} = \begin{pmatrix} 2.23 \\ 3.60 \end{pmatrix} / \sqrt{17.93} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.53 \\ 0.85 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{x}_2$$

.....

# Finding the Principal Eigenvalue

- Once you have the principal eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}$ , you find its eigenvalue  $\lambda$  by  $\lambda = \mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x}$ .
  - **In proof:** We know  $\mathbf{x}\lambda = M\mathbf{x}$  if  $\lambda$  is the eigenvalue; multiply both sides by  $\mathbf{x}^T$  on the left.
  - Since  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = 1$  we have  $\lambda = \mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x}$
- **Example:** If we take  $\mathbf{x}^T = [0.53, 0.85]$ , then

$$\lambda = [0.53 \ 0.85] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.53 \\ 0.85 \end{bmatrix} = 4.25$$

# Finding More Eigenpairs

- Eliminate the portion of the matrix  $M$  that can be generated by the first eigenpair,  $\lambda$  and  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$M^* := M - \lambda \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^T$$

- Recursively find the principal eigenpair for  $M^*$ , eliminate the effect of that pair, and so on

- **Example:**

$$M^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} - 4.25 \begin{bmatrix} 0.53 \\ 0.85 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.53 & 0.85 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.19 & 0.09 \\ 0.09 & 0.07 \end{bmatrix}$$

# How to Compute the SVD

- Start by supposing  $A = U\Sigma V^T$
- $A^T = (U\Sigma V^T)^T = (V^T)^T \Sigma^T U^T = V\Sigma U^T$ 
  - **Why?** (1) Rule for transpose of a product; (2) the transpose of the transpose and the transpose of a diagonal matrix are both the identity functions
- $A^T A = V\Sigma U^T U \Sigma V^T = V\Sigma^2 V^T$ 
  - **Why?**  $U$  is orthonormal, so  $U^T U$  is an identity matrix
  - Also note that  $\Sigma^2$  is a diagonal matrix whose  $i$ -th element is the square of the  $i$ -th element of  $\Sigma$
- $A^T A V = V\Sigma^2 V^T V = V\Sigma^2$ 
  - **Why?**  $V$  is also orthonormal

# Computing the SVD –(2)

- Since  $A^T A = V \Sigma^2 V^T \rightarrow A^T A V = V \Sigma^2$ 
  - **Note** that therefore the  $i$ -th column of  $V$  is an eigenvector of  $A^T A$ , and its eigenvalue is the  $i$ -th element of  $\Sigma^2$
- Thus, we can find  $V$  and  $\Sigma$  by finding the eigenpairs for  $A^T A$ 
  - Once we have the eigenvalues in  $\Sigma^2$ , we can find the singular values by taking the square root of these eigenvalues
- Symmetric argument,  $A A^T$  gives us  $U$

# SVD – Complexity

- **To compute the full SVD using specialized methods:**
  - $O(nm^2)$  or  $O(n^2m)$  (whichever is less)
- **But:**
  - Less work, if we just want singular values
  - or if we want the first  $k$  singular vectors
  - or if the matrix is sparse
- **Implemented in** linear algebra packages like
  - LINPACK, Matlab, SPlus, Mathematica ...

# Example of SVD

# Case study: How to query?

- Q: Find users that like 'Matrix'
- A: Map query into a 'concept space' – how?

Diagram illustrating the mapping of a query into a concept space. The query is a matrix of user ratings for movies, and the concept space is a matrix of movie ratings for users. The resulting matrix is the product of the query matrix and the concept space matrix.

Query Matrix (User Ratings for Movies):

	Matrix	Alien	Serenity	Casablanca	Amelie
1	1	1	1	0	0
3	3	3	3	0	0
4	4	4	4	0	0
5	5	5	5	0	0
0	2	0	4	4	4
0	0	0	5	5	5
0	1	0	2	2	2

Concept Space Matrix (Movie Ratings for Users):

0.13	0.02	-0.01
0.41	0.07	-0.03
0.55	0.09	-0.04
0.68	0.11	-0.05
0.15	-0.59	0.65
0.07	-0.73	-0.67
0.07	-0.29	0.32

Resulting Matrix (User Ratings for Movies):

12.4	0	0
0	9.5	0
0	0	1.3

Annotations:

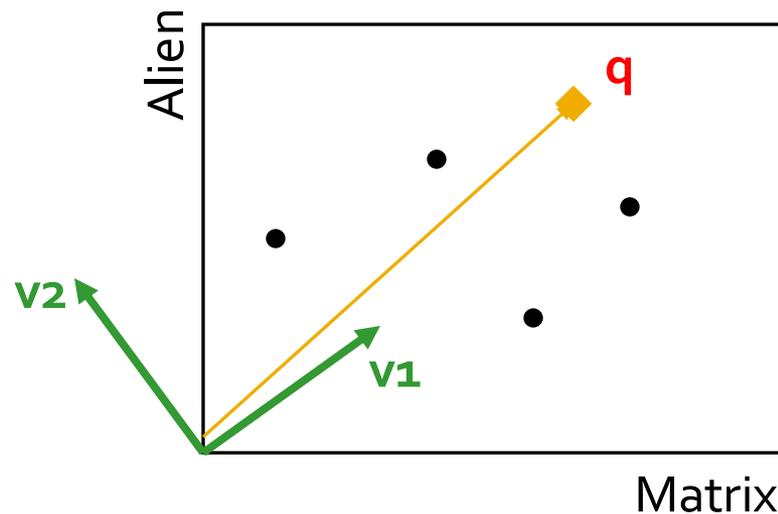
- SciFi: ↑ (positive correlation)
- Romance: ↓ (negative correlation)

# Case study: How to query?

- **Q: Find users that like 'Matrix'**
- **A: Map query into a 'concept space' – how?**

$$q = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Matrix} \\ 5 \\ \text{Alien} \\ 0 \\ \text{Serenity} \\ 0 \\ \text{Casablanca} \\ 0 \\ \text{Amelie} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Project into concept space:**  
Inner product with each  
'concept' vector  $v_i$

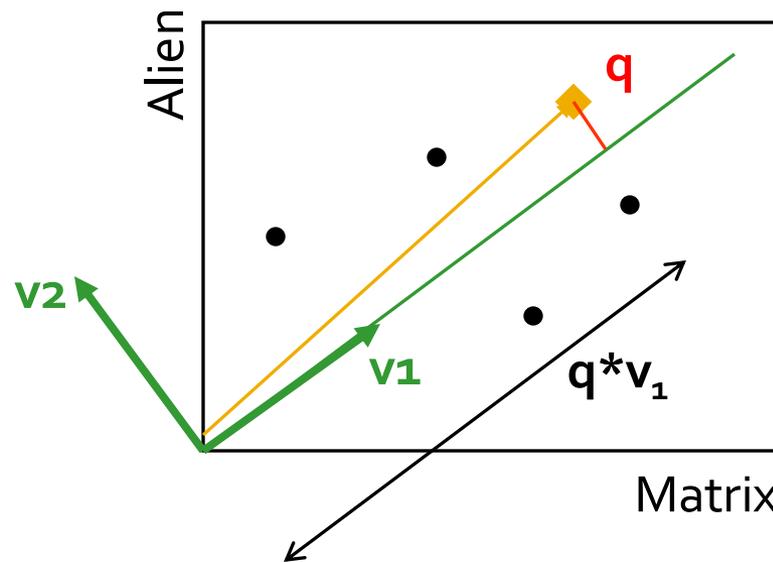


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**Project into concept space:**  
Inner product with each  
'concept' vector  $v_i$



# Case study: How to query?

Compactly, we have:

$$\mathbf{q}_{\text{concept}} = \mathbf{q} \mathbf{V}$$

E.g.:

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Matrix} \\ 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.12 \\ 0.59 & -0.02 \\ 0.56 & 0.12 \\ 0.09 & -0.69 \\ 0.09 & -0.69 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{SciFi-concept} \\ \downarrow \\ 2.8 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

movie-to-concept factors (V)

# Case study: How to query?

- How would the user  $d$  that rated ('Alien', 'Serenity') be handled?

$$\mathbf{d}_{\text{concept}} = \mathbf{d} \mathbf{V}$$

E.g.:

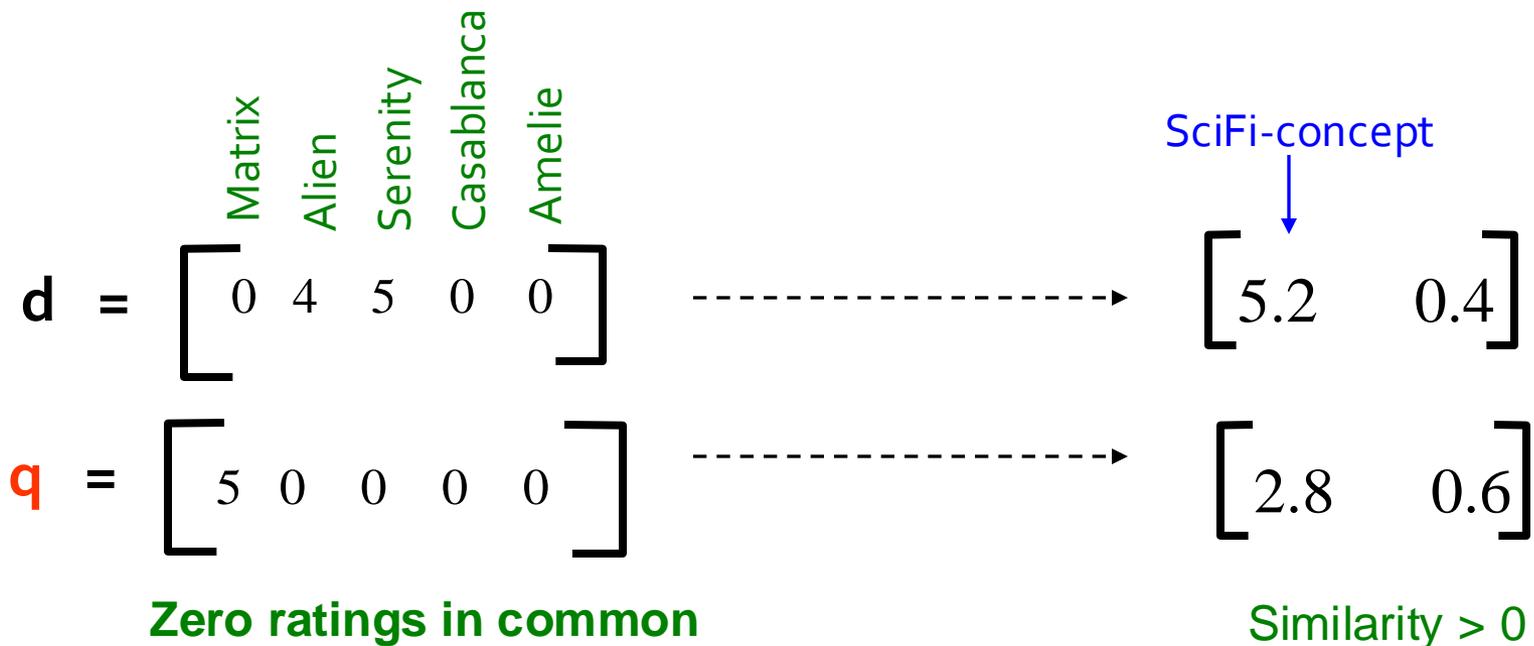
$$\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Matrix} & \text{Alien} & \text{Serenity} & \text{Casablanca} & \text{Amelie} \\ 0 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \begin{bmatrix} 0.56 & 0.12 \\ 0.59 & -0.02 \\ 0.56 & 0.12 \\ 0.09 & -0.69 \\ 0.09 & -0.69 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

movie-to-concept factors (V)

SciFi-concept

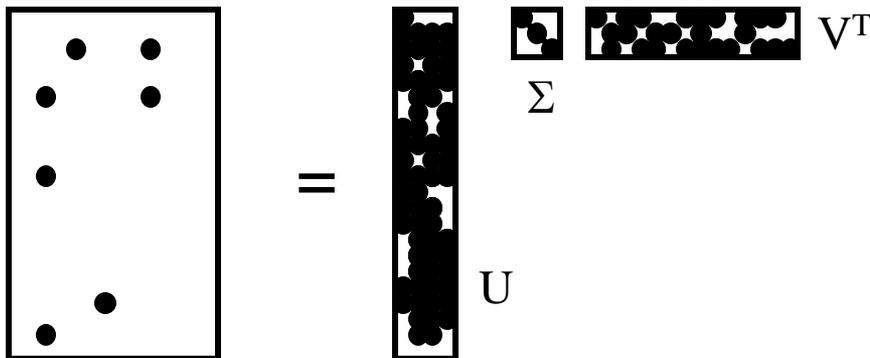
# Case study: How to query?

- **Observation:** User  $d$  that rated (*'Alien'*, *'Serenity'*) will be **similar** to user  $q$  that rated (*'Matrix'*), although  $d$  and  $q$  have **zero ratings in common!**



# SVD: Drawbacks

- + **Optimal low-rank approximation**  
in terms of Frobenius norm
- **Interpretability problem:**
  - A singular vector specifies a linear combination of all input columns or rows
- **Lack of sparsity:**
  - Singular vectors are **dense!**



# CUR Decomposition

# Sparsity

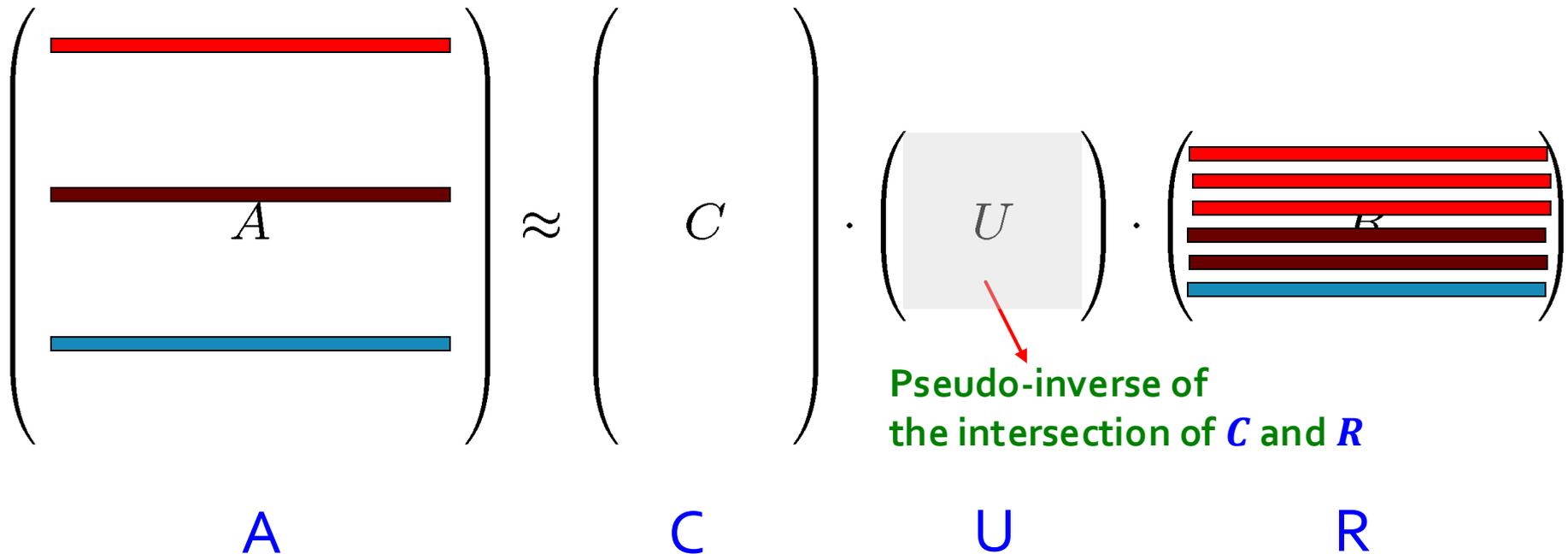
- It is common for the matrix  $A$  that we wish to decompose to be very sparse
- But  $U$  and  $V$  from a SVD decomposition will **not** be sparse
- **CUR** decomposition solves this problem by using only (randomly chosen) rows and columns of  $A$



# CUR Decomposition

Frobenius norm:  
 $\|X\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{ij} X_{ij}^2}$

- Goal: Express  $A$  as a product of matrices  $C, U, R$   
Make  $\|A - C \cdot U \cdot R\|_F$  small
- “Constraints” on  $C$  and  $R$ :



# Computing U

- Let  $W$  be the “intersection” of sampled columns  $C$  and rows  $R$

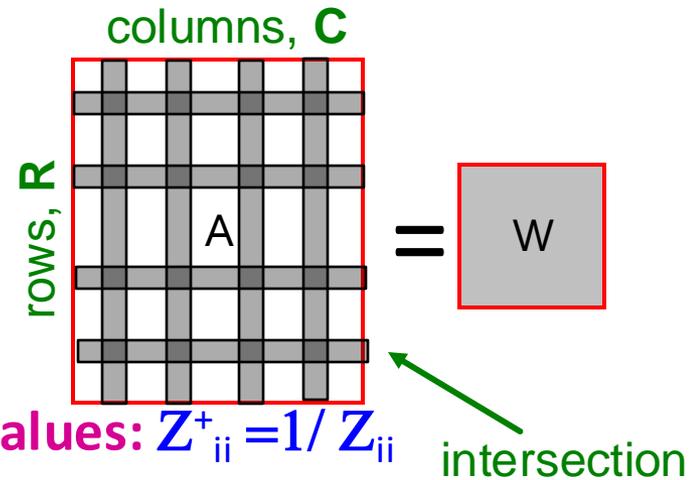
- Def:  $W^+$  is the **pseudoinverse**

- Let SVD of  $W = X Z Y^T$

- Then:  $W^+ = Y Z^+ X^T$

- $Z^+$ : reciprocals of non-zero singular values:  $Z_{ii}^+ = 1/Z_{ii}$

- Let:  $U = Y (Z^+) X^T$



Why the intersection? These are high magnitude numbers

Why pseudoinverse works?

$$W = X Z Y^T \text{ then } W^{-1} = (Y^T)^{-1} Z^{-1} X^{-1}$$

$$\text{Due to orthonormality: } X^{-1} = X^T, \quad Y^{-1} = Y^T$$

$$\text{Since } Z \text{ is diagonal } Z^{-1} = 1/Z_{ii}$$

**Thus**, if  $W$  is nonsingular, pseudoinverse is the true inverse

# Which Rows and Columns?

- To decrease the expected error between  $A$  and its decomposition, we must pick rows and columns in a nonuniform manner
- The **importance** of a row or column of  $A$  is the **square of its Frobenius norm**
  - That is, the sum of the squares of its elements.
- When picking rows and columns, the probabilities must be proportional to importance
- **Example:**  $[3,4,5]$  has importance 50, and  $[3,0,1]$  has importance 10, so pick the first 5 times as often as the second

# CUR: Row Sampling Algorithm

- Sampling columns (similarly for rows):

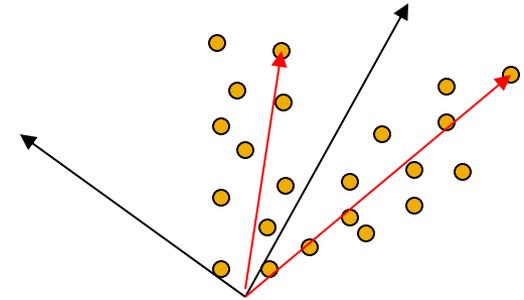
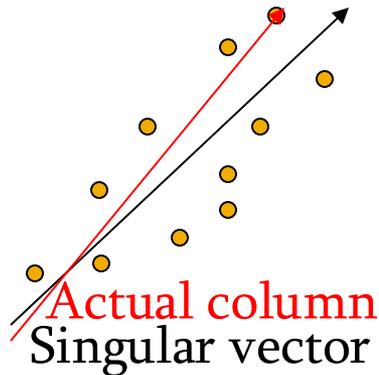
**Input:** matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , sample size  $c$

**Output:**  $\mathbf{C}_d \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times c}$

1. for  $x = 1 : n$  [column distribution]
2.  $P(x) = \sum_i \mathbf{A}(i, x)^2 / \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{A}(i, j)^2$
3. for  $i = 1 : c$  [sample columns]
4. Pick  $j \in 1 : n$  based on distribution  $P(x)$
5. Compute  $\mathbf{C}_d(:, i) = \mathbf{A}(:, j) / \sqrt{cP(j)}$

Note this is a randomized algorithm, same column can be sampled more than once

# Intuition



- **Rough and imprecise intuition behind CUR**
  - CUR is more likely to pick points away from the origin
    - Assuming smooth data with no outliers these are the directions of maximum variation
- **Example:** Assume we have 2 clouds at an angle
  - SVD dimensions are orthogonal and thus will be in the middle of the two clouds
  - CUR will find the two clouds (but will be redundant)

# CUR: Provably good approx. to SVD

- **For example:**

- Select  $c = O\left(\frac{k \log k}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  columns of  $A$  using **ColumnSelect** algorithm (slide 56)

- Select  $r = O\left(\frac{k \log k}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  rows of  $A$  using **RowSelect** algorithm (slide 56)

- Set  $U = Y (Z^+) X^T$

- **Then:**  $\overset{\text{CUR error}}{\|A - CUR\|_F} \leq (2 + \varepsilon) \overset{\text{SVD error}}{\|A - A_K\|_F}$   
with probability 98%

**In practice:** Pick  $4k$  cols/rows for a “rank- $k$ ” approximation

# CUR: Pros & Cons

## + Easy interpretation

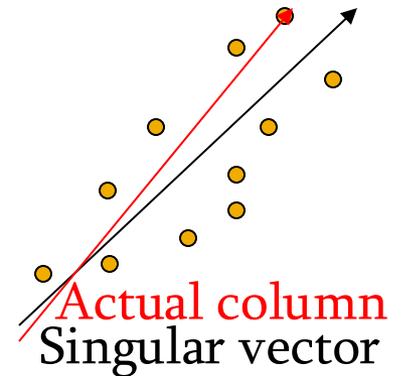
- Since the basis vectors are actual columns and rows

## + Sparse basis

- Since the basis vectors are actual columns and rows

## - Duplicate columns and rows

- Columns of large norms will be sampled many times



# SVD vs. CUR

sparse and small

$$\text{SVD: } A = U \Sigma V^T$$

Huge but sparse      Big and dense

dense but small

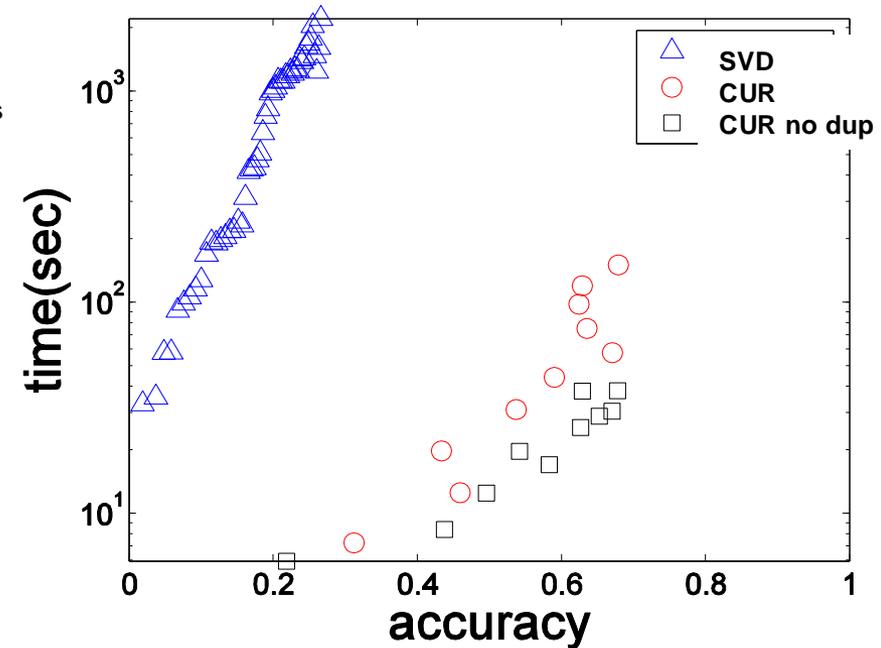
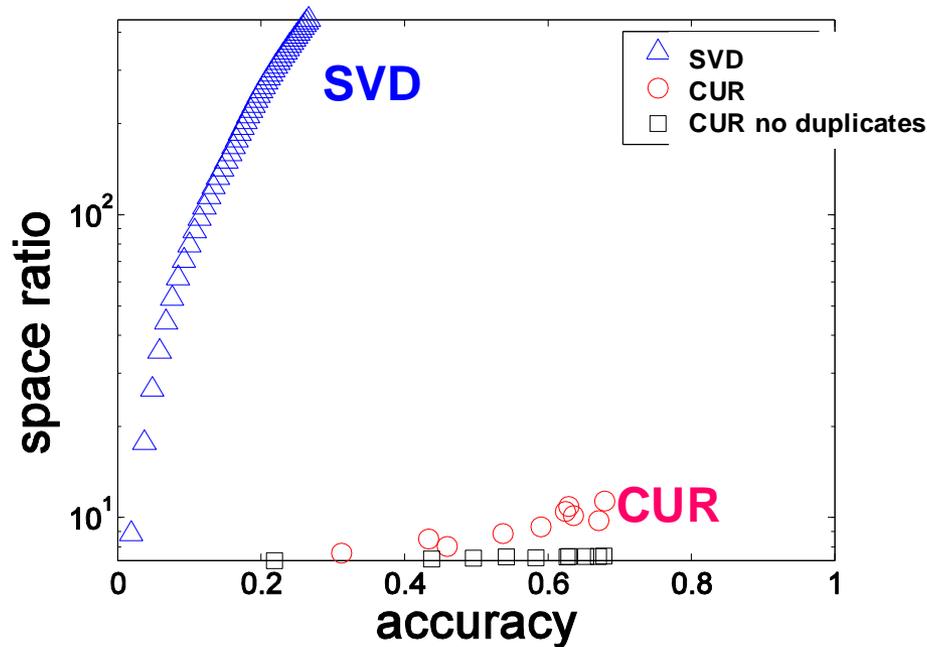
$$\text{CUR: } A = C U R$$

Huge but sparse      Big but sparse

# SVD vs. CUR: Simple Experiment

- **DBLP bibliographic data**
  - Author-to-conference big sparse matrix
  - $A_{ij}$ : Number of papers published by author  $i$  at conference  $j$
  - 428K authors (rows), 3659 conferences (columns)
    - **Very sparse**
- **Want to reduce dimensionality**
  - How much time does it take?
  - What is the reconstruction error?
  - How much space do we need?

# Results: DBLP- big sparse matrix



- **Accuracy:**
  - 1 – relative sum squared errors
- **Space ratio:**
  - #output matrix entries / #input matrix entries
- **CPU time**

Sun, Faloutsos: *Less is More: Compact Matrix Decomposition for Large Sparse Graphs*, SDM '07.