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**Generalized Singular Value Decompositions:
A Proposal for a Standardized Nomenclature**

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Generalized Singular Value Decompositions: A proposal for a standardized nomenclature *

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Abstract

An alphabetic and mnemonic system of names for several matrix decompositions related to the singular value decomposition is proposed: the OSVD, PSVD, QSVD, RSVD, SSVD, TSVD. The main purpose of this note is to propose a standardization of the nomenclature and the structure of these matrix decompositions.

1 Introduction

The *ordinary singular value decomposition (OSVD)* has become an important tool in the analysis and numerical solution of **numerous** problems. Not only does it allow for an elegant problem formulation, but at the same time it provides geometrical and algebraic insight together with an immediate numerically robust implementation [10]. It plays a prominent role in numerous

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applications in linear algebra, systems theory and signal processing (e.g. [5] [10]). Recently, several generalizations of the OSVD have been proposed and their properties analysed.

This note proposes a mnemonic system of names and abbreviations for several matrix decompositions that are related to the OSVD of a (complex) matrix. At the same time, for each of the **factorizations**, the **specific** structure is emphasised.

A survey, discussing more in detail the properties and connections between these generalizations such as the relation to (generalized) **eigenvalue** problems, variational characterizations, uniqueness issues and typical applications, including linear and total linear least squares, rank minimization, generalized inverses, etc . . . , is in preparation [4].

Besides the Ordinary **SVD**, we **briefly** discuss the Product, Quotient and Restricted **SVD**, all of which are **referred to as generalized SVDs** (GSVD). We also briefly consider the Structured Singular Value (SSV) arising in system theory and the **Takagi SVD** (TSVD) for a complex symmetric matrix.

Throughout this note, matrices are denoted by capitals, vectors by lower case letters other than $i, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r$, which are positive integers. Scalars (complex) are denoted by greek letters. A ($m \times n$), B ($m \times p$), C ($q \times n$) are given complex matrices. Their rank **will** be denoted by r_a, r_b, r_c . We also **define**:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{ac} &= \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ C \end{pmatrix} & r_{abc} &= \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ r_{ab} &= \text{rank}(A \ B) & r_1 &= \text{rank}(A^* B) \end{aligned}$$

A^\dagger is the transpose of a (possibly complex) matrix while \bar{A} is the conjugate of A and A^* the complex conjugate transpose of a (complex) **matrix**: $A^* = \bar{A}^\dagger$. A^{-*} is the inverse of A^* . I_k is the $k \times k$ identity matrix. U_a ($m \times m$), V_a ($n \times n$), V_b ($p \times p$), U_c ($q \times q$) are **unitary matrices**:

$$\begin{aligned} U_a U_a^* &= I_m = U_a^* U_a & V_a V_a^* &= I_n = V_a^* V_a \\ V_b V_b^* &= I_p = V_b^* V_b & U_c U_c^* &= I_q = U_c^* U_c \end{aligned}$$

P ($m \times m$), Q ($n \times n$) are square **non-singular** matrices. S_a ($m \times n$), S_b ($m \times p$), S_c ($q \times n$) are sparse matrices, with real, nonnegative elements, the structure of which will be explored in detail in the main theorems. The

non-zero elements are denoted by α_i , β_i and γ_i . Moreover, we will adopt the following convention for block matrices: **Any** (possibly rectangular) block of zeros is denoted by $\mathbf{0}$, the precise dimensions being obvious from the block dimensions. The symbol \mathbf{I} represents a matrix block corresponding to the square identity matrix of appropriate dimensions. Whenever a dimension indicating integer in a block **matrix** is zero, the corresponding block row or block column should be omitted. An equivalent formulation would be that we allow $\mathbf{0} \times n$ or $n \times \mathbf{0}$ ($n \neq \mathbf{0}$) blocks to appear in matrices. This allows an elegant treatment of several cases at once.

2 The Ordinary Singular Value Decomposition (OSVD)

The *singular-value decomposition* was introduced in its general form by Autonne [1] in 1902 and an important characterization was described by Eckart and Young in 1936 [7].

With the notations and conventions of section 1, we have the following:

Theorem 1 *The Ordinary Singular Value Decomposition: The Autonne-Eckart-Young theorem*

Every $m \times n$ matrix A can be factorized as:

$$A = U_{\mathbf{a}} S_{\mathbf{a}} V_{\mathbf{a}}^*$$

where $U_{\mathbf{a}}$ and $V_{\mathbf{a}}$ are unitary matrices and $S_{\mathbf{a}}$ is a real $m \times n$ diagonal matrix with $r_{\mathbf{a}} = \text{rank}(A)$ positive diagonal entries:

$$S_{\mathbf{a}} = \begin{matrix} r_{\mathbf{a}} & n - r_{\mathbf{a}} \\ m - r_{\mathbf{a}} & \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} D_{\mathbf{a}} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

where $D_{\mathbf{a}} = \text{diag}(\sigma_i)$, $\sigma_i > 0$, $i = 1, \dots, r_{\mathbf{a}}$.

The columns of $U_{\mathbf{a}}$ are the left singular vectors while the columns of $V_{\mathbf{a}}$ are the right singular vectors. The diagonal elements of $S_{\mathbf{a}}$ are the so-called singular values and by convention they are ordered in non-increasing order. A proof of the OSVD and numerous properties can be found in e.g. [5] [10]. Applications include rank reduction with unitarily invariant norms, linear and total linear least squares, computation of canonical correlations, pseudo-inverses and canonical forms of matrices.

3 The Product Singular Value Decomposition (PSVD)

The *product singular value decomposition* (PSVD) was introduced by Fernando and Hammarling [9] in 1987 but it is also implicit in the work of Heath et al. [11] [13].

With the notations and conventions of section 1, we have the following:

Theorem 2 The Product SVD

Every pair of matrices A , $m \times n$ and B , $m \times p$ can be factorized as:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= P^{-*} S_a V_a^* \\ B &= P S_b V_b^* \end{aligned}$$

where V_a, V_b are unitary and P is square nonsingular. S_a and S_b are real and have the following structure:

$$S_a = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} r_1 & r_a - r_1 & n - r_a \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} r_1 \\ r_a - r_1 \\ r_b - r_1 \\ m - r_a - r_b + r_1 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} D_a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$S_b = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} r_1 & r_b - r_1 & p - r_b \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} r_1 \\ r_a - r_1 \\ r_b - r_1 \\ m - r_a - r_b + r_1 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} D_b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

where $D_a = D_b$ is square diagonal with positive diagonal elements and $r_1 = \text{rank}(A^*B)$.

A constructive proof based on the OSVDs of A and B , can be found in [2], where also all possible sources of non-uniqueness are explored.

The name **PSVD originates** in the fact that the OSVD of the product A^*B is a direct consequence of the **PSVD** of the pair A, B . The matrix $D_a^2 = D_b^2$ contains the **nonzero** singular values of A^*B . The column vectors of P are the eigenvectors of the eigenvalue problem $(BB^*AA^*)P = PA$. The column vectors of V_a are the eigenvectors of $(A^*BB^*A)V_a = V_a\Lambda$ while those of V_b are the eigenvectors in $(B^*AA^*B)V_b = V_b\Lambda$. The pairs of diagonal elements

of S_a and S_b are called the *product singular value pairs* while their products are called the *product singular values*. By convention, the diagonal elements of S_a and S_b are ordered such that the product singular values are **non-increasing**.

Applications will be surveyed in [2], including the orthogonal Procrustes problem, balancing of state space models and computing the Kalman decomposition.

4 The Quotient Singular Value Decomposition

The *quotient singular value decomposition* was introduced by Van Loan in [16] (‘the **BSVD**’) in 1976 although the idea had been around for a number of years, albeit implicitly (disguised as a generalized eigenvalue problem). Paige and Saunders extended Van Loan’s idea in order to handle all possible cases [14] (they called it the generalized SVD).

With the notations and conventions of section 1, we have the following:

Theorem 3 The Quotient SVD

Every pair of matrices A , $m \times n$ and B , $m \times p$ can be factorized as:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= P^{-*} S_a V_a^* \\ B &= P^{-*} S_b V_b^* \end{aligned}$$

where V_a and V_b are unitary and P is square nonsingular. The matrices S_a and S_b are real and have the following structure:

$$S_a = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \tau_{ab} - \tau_b & \tau_a + \tau_b - \tau_{ab} & n - \tau_a \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \tau_{ab} - \tau_b \\ \tau_a + \tau_b - \tau_{ab} \\ \tau_{ab} - \tau_a \\ m - \tau_{ab} \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$S_b = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} p - \tau_b & \tau_a + \tau_b - \tau_{ab} & \tau_{ab} - \tau_a \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \tau_{ab} - \tau_b \\ \tau_a + \tau_b - \tau_{ab} \\ \tau_{ab} - \tau_a \\ m - \tau_{ab} \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

where D_a and D_b are square diagonal matrices with positive diagonal elements, satisfying:

$$D_a^2 + D_b^2 = I_{r_a+r_b-r_{ab}}$$

There are 4 different kinds of pairs of diagonal elements of S_a and S_b :

- $r_{ab} - r_b$ pairs $(\alpha_i, \beta_i) = (1, 0)$
- $r_a - r_b - r_{ab}$ pairs (α_i, β_i) with $\alpha_i \neq 0$ and $\beta_i \neq 0$.
- $r_{ab} - r_a$ pairs $(\alpha_i, \beta_i) = (0, 1)$
- $m - r_{ab}$ pairs $(\alpha_i, \beta_i) = (0, 0)$

The first three kinds of pairs are called *non-trivial* while the zero pairs are called *trivial quotient singular value pairs*.

The quotient-singular values are defined as the ratios of elements of these pairs. Hence, there are zero, non-zero, infinite and arbitrary (or undefined) quotient singular values. By convention, the non-trivial quotient singular value pairs are ordered such that the quotient singular values are non-increasing.

The name QSVD originates in the fact that under certain conditions [4], the QSVD provides the OSVD of $A+B$, which could be considered as a matrix quotient. Moreover, in most applications, the quotient singular values are relevant (not the diagonal elements of S_a and S_b as such). A typical example is the prewhitening of data (**Mahalanobis** transformation) when the (possibly **singular**) (square root of the) noise covariance matrix is known. The column vectors of P are the eigenvectors of the generalized eigenvalue problem $AA^*P = BB^*P\Lambda$.

Applications include rank reductions of the form $A + BD$ with minimization of any unitarily **invariant** norm of D , least squares (with constraints) and total least squares (with exact columns), signal processing and system identification, etc . . . [4] [5] [10] [14] [16].

5 The Restricted Singular Value Decomposition (RSVD).

The idea of a generalization of the OSVD for three matrices is implicit in the S, T-singular value decomposition of Van Loan [16] via its relation to a generalized eigenvalue problem. An explicit formulation and derivation of

the *restricted singular value decomposition* was introduced by Zha in 1988 [17]. Constructive proofs and a lot of applications are discussed in [3].

With the notations and conventions of section 1, we have the following:

Theorem 4 The Restricted SVD

Every triplet of matrices A ($m \times n$), B ($m \times p$) and C ($q \times n$) can be factorized as:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= P^{-*} S_a Q^{-1} \\ B &= P^{-*} S_b V_b^* \\ C &= U_c S_c Q^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where P ($m \times m$) and Q ($n \times n$) are square **nonsingular**, V_b ($p \times p$) and U_c ($q \times q$) are **unitary**. S_a ($m \times n$), S_b ($m \times p$) and S_c ($q \times n$) are **real matrices** with **nonnegative elements** and the following structure:

$$S_a = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{matrix} & \left(\begin{array}{cccccc} S_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

$$S_b = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{matrix} & \left(\begin{array}{cccc} I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & S_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

$$S_c = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \left(\begin{array}{cccccc} I & 000 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 100 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 000 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & S_3 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

The block dimensions of the matrices S_a, S_b, S_c are:

Blockcolumns of S_a and S_c :

1. $r_{abc} + r_a - r_{ac} - r_{ab}$
2. $r_{ab} + r_c - r_{abc}$
3. $r_{ac} + r_b - r_{abc}$
4. $r_{abc} - r_b - r_c$
5. $r_{ac} - r_a$
6. $n - r_{ac}$

Blockcolumns of S_b :

1. $r_{abc} + r_a - r_{ac} - r_{ab}$
2. $r_{ac} + r_b - r_{abc}$
3. $p - r_b$
4. $r_{ab} - r_a$

Block rows of S_a and S_b :

1. $r_{abc} + r_a - r_{ab} - r_{ac}$
2. $r_{ab} + r_c - r_{abc}$
3. $r_{ac} + r_b - r_{abc}$
4. $r_{abc} - r_b - r_c$
5. $r_{ab} - r_a$
6. $m - r_{ab}$

Block rows of S :

1. $r_{abc} + r_a - r_{ab} - r_{ac}$
2. $r_{ab} + r_c - r_{abc}$
3. $q - r_b$
4. $r_{ac} - r_a$

The matrices S_1, S_2, S_3 are square nonsingular diagonal.

The restricted singular value' triplets are the following triplets of numbers:

- $r_{abc} + r_a - r_{ab} - r_{ac}$ triplets of the form $(\alpha_i, 1, 1)$ with $\alpha_i > 0$.
- $r_{ab} + r_c - r_{abc}$ triplets of the form $(1, 0, 1)$.
- $r_{ac} + r_b - r_{abc}$ triplets of the form $(1, 1, 0)$.
- $r_{abc} - r_b - r_c$ triplets of the form $(1, 0, 0)$.
- $r_{ab} - r_a$ triplets of the form $(0, \beta_j, 0)$, $\beta_j > 0$ (elements of S_2).
- $r_{ac} - r_a$ triplets of the form $(0, 0, \gamma_i)$, $\gamma_i > 0$ (elements of S_3).
- $\min(m - r_{ab}, n - r_{ac})$ trivial triplets $(0, 0, 0)$.

Formally, the *restricted singular values* are the numbers:

$$\sigma_i = \frac{\alpha_i}{\beta_i \gamma_i}$$

Hence, there are zero, **infinite**, **nonzero** and **undefined** (arbitrary, trivial) restricted singular values.

A constructive proof, based upon the OSVD-PSVD or OSVD-QSVD is derived in [3]. It is not too difficult to show that the **OSVD**, PSVD and **QSVD** are special cases of the RSVD (see theorem 5 in [3]).

The name RSVD originates in some of its applications. A typical one is **finding** the matrix D of minimal (unitarily invariant) norm that reduces the rank of $A + BDC$ where A , B and C are given. Hence, one attempts reducing the rank of A by *restricting* the **modifications** to the column space of B and the row space of C . A detailed analysis and many other applications can be found in [3], including the analysis of the extended shorted operator, **unitarily invariant** norm minimization with rank constraints, rank minimization in matrix balls, the analysis and solution of linear matrix equations, rank minimization of a partitioned matrix and the connection with generalized **Schur** complements, constrained linear and total linear least squares problems with mixed exact and noisy data, including a generalized Gauss-Markov estimation scheme.

6 The Structured Singular Value (SSV)

The concept of *structured singular value* was introduced by Doyle in 1982 [6] as a tool for analysis and synthesis of feedback systems with structured

uncertainties.

Consider a block partition of a matrix A as:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & \dots & A_{1q} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ A_{p1} & \dots & A_{pq} \end{pmatrix}$$

and a matrix ΔA , partitioned in the same way as A , consisting of zero and **nonzero** blocks ΔA_{ij} , with possibly **some** constraints $\Delta A_{ij} = \Delta A_{kl}$.

Definition 1 *The structured singular value*
The structured singular value σ_{SSV} is defined as:

$$\sigma_{SSV} = \min \|\Delta A\|_{\sigma} \text{ such that } \text{rank}(A + \Delta A) < \text{rank}(A)$$

where $\|\cdot\|_{\sigma}$ is the **largest** singular value of a matrix.

Applications are mainly in H_{∞} control theory. and some characterizations and algorithms may be found in [8]. For instance, it can be shown that it **suffices** to investigate matrices ΔA that are block diagonal. For some structures of the matrix ΔA , the solution can also be found via the **P-Q-R SVD** [4].

7 The Takagi Singular Value Decomposition (TSVD)

A (possibly complex) matrix A is symmetric whenever $A = A^t$. If $A = A_r + iA_i$, then A is symmetric if and only if both A_r and A_i are real symmetric. Every complex symmetric matrix has the property that all the eigenvalues of $A\bar{A} = AA^*$ are nonnegative. This leads to the so called **Takagi** factorization, which is a special singular value decomposition for complex symmetric matrices and was derived by **Takagi** in 1925 [15].

Theorem 5 *Takagi's factorization*

If A is symmetric, there exists a unitary U and a real nonnegative diagonal matrix $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$ such that $A = U\Sigma U^t$. The columns of U are an orthonormal set of eigenvectors for $A\bar{A}$ and the corresponding diagonal entries of Σ are the nonnegative square roots of the corresponding eigenvalues of $A\bar{A}$.

The original proof can be found in [15]. Further properties are described in [12].

8 Conclusions and summary

In this note, we have proposed a standardized nomenclature for some generalizations and special cases of the singular value decomposition. Summarizing, we propose the following set of names and abbreviations:

OSVD: Ordinary Singular Value Decomposition (theorem 1)

PSVD: Product Singular Value Decomposition (theorem 2)

QSVD: Quotient Singular Value Decomposition (theorem 3)

RSVD: Restricted Singular Value Decomposition (theorem 4)

The last three cases can be considered as Generalized Singular Value Decomposition-s, (**GSVD**). The RSVD contains the others as special cases and hence is the most general. **Furthermore**, we have also mentioned:

SSV: The Structured Singular Value

TSVD: The Takagi Singular Value Decomposition

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