## Principal component analysis

## Dimensionality reduction

Why remove some of the features?

- Save storage and computation time.
- Reduce some redundancy in the data.
- Remove noises in the data.



## MNIST example



First 300 pixels with the lowest variance are undesirable features.

## A simple case

Suppose we want to reduce from 2D data to 1D.


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Make projections on this line.

## From 2D to 1D



The red line becomes the 1D axis.

## Vector Projection

If we want to project a vector $v$ in a direction of a unit vector $u$,

then the length of projection is $u \cdot v$.

## Examples

What is the projection of $v=\binom{1}{2}$ in the following directions?

- The $x$ axis.
- The direction of $u=\binom{-1}{1}$.


## Comparison between two directions



Which red line is better?

# Principal Component Analysis (PCA) 

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The first principal component is the direction of the maximum variance

## Sample Covariance

Suppose we have a data table:

|  | $X_{1}$ | $X_{2}$ | $X_{3}$ | $\ldots$ | $X_{d}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | $a_{1}$ | $b_{1}$ |  |  |  |
| 2 | $a_{2}$ | $b_{2}$ |  |  |  |
| 3 | $a_{3}$ | $b_{3}$ |  |  |  |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$ |  | $\vdots$ |  |  |
| $n$ | $a_{n}$ | $b_{n}$ |  |  |  |

The Sample Covariance between $X_{1}$ and $X_{2}$ is

$$
\operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{n-1}\left[X_{1} \cdot X_{2}-\bar{X}_{1} \bar{X}_{2}\right] .
$$

## Sample Covariance

Positive correlation Negative correlation No correlation

## Covariance matrix

Let $X_{1}, X_{2}, \ldots, X_{d}$ be the variable vectors.
The covariance matrix is a $d \times d$ matrix defined by

$$
\Sigma=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
\operatorname{Var}\left(X_{1}\right) & \operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{1}, X_{2}\right) & \ldots & \operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{1}, X_{d}\right) \\
\operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{2}, X_{1}\right) & \operatorname{Var}\left(X_{2}\right) & \ldots & \operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{2}, X_{d}\right) \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{d}, X_{1}\right) & \operatorname{Cov}\left(X_{d}, X_{2}\right) & \ldots & \operatorname{Var}\left(X_{d}\right)
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Example

Data with two variables:
$D=\{(0,1),(2,3),(5,0),(1,8)\}$.
$\Sigma=$

## Orthogonal vectors



## A basic of orthogonal unit vectors

Suppose we have $d$ orthogonal unit vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{d}$ :

$$
u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{d}
$$

We can write any vector $u \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ as a linear combination of $u_{1} \ldots, u_{d}$ :

$$
u=a_{1} u_{1}+a_{2} u_{2}+\ldots+a_{d} u_{d}=\sum_{i=1}^{d} a_{i} u_{i}
$$

## Example



Next slide is the main result from linear algebra that we will use for PCA...

## Spectral decomposition

Fact: The covariance matrix $\Sigma$ can be decomposed as

where

- $\lambda_{1} \geq \lambda_{2} \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_{d}$ are the eigenvalues.
- $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{d}$ are the eigenvectors of length $d$.
- $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{d}$ are orthogonal unit vectors .


## Eigenvectors

Fact: The covariance matrix $\Sigma$ can be decomposed as


- The eigenvectors $u_{1}$ is the direction with maximum variance
- The maximum variance is $\lambda_{1}$


## Spectral decomposition

$$
\Sigma=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\uparrow & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
u_{1} & u_{2} & \ldots & u_{d} \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\lambda_{1} & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & \lambda_{2} & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & \ldots & \lambda_{d}
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
\longleftarrow & u_{1} & \longrightarrow \\
\longleftarrow & u_{2} & \longrightarrow \\
& \vdots & \\
\longleftarrow & u_{d} & \longrightarrow
\end{array}\right)
$$

- The second best direction is $u_{2}$ with the second largest variance $\lambda_{2}$.
- The third best direction is $u_{3}$ with the third largest variance $\lambda_{3}$.
- and so on...


## Principal component analysis

Let $u \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ be a data point.
Principal axes $(k<d)$ :

$$
u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{k}
$$

The PCA of $u$ is

$$
\left(u \cdot u_{1}, u \cdot u_{2}, \ldots, u \cdot u_{k}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{k}
$$

## PCA of iris flowers


$\lambda_{1}=4.23, \quad \lambda_{2}=0.24$
$u_{1}=(0.36,-0.08,0.86,0.36)$
$u_{2}=(0.66,0.73,-0.17,-0.07)$

Three species of iris

- Setosa
- Versicolor
- Virginica

Four variables

- $x_{1}$ : sepal length
- $x_{2}$ : sepal width
- $x_{3}$ : petal length
- $x_{4}$ : petal width


## Reconstruction

Eigenvectors: $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{d}$.

- $k$ principal axes: $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{k} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$.
- In these axes, the coordinate of the PCA of a point $u$ is

$$
\left(u \cdot u_{1}, u \cdot u_{2}, \ldots, u \cdot u_{k}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{k}
$$

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$$
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$$

Reverse this point back to the original coordinate using

$$
\left(u \cdot u_{1}\right) u_{1}+\left(u \cdot u_{2}\right) u_{2}+\ldots+\left(u \cdot u_{k}\right) u_{k} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}
$$

## Reconstruction



The reconstructions are the black points on the red line. We see that there is some information loss in the process.

## Reconstruction of MNIST



