

Mathematics of Image and Data Analysis
Math 5467

Principal Component Analysis

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Last time

- Diagonalization and Vector Calculus
- Introduction to Numpy and reading/writing images in Python.

Today

- Principal Component analysis (PCA)

Recall

Let v_1, \dots, v_k be orthonormal vectors in \mathbb{R}^n and set

$$L = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\},$$

and

$$V = [v_1 \quad v_2 \quad \dots \quad v_k].$$

Then we have

- $\text{Proj}_L x = VV^T x$
- $\|\text{Proj}_L x\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k (x^T v_i)^2$
- $\|x\|^2 = \|\text{Proj}_L x\|^2 + \|x - \text{Proj}_L x\|^2$

Given $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, projection onto an affine space $A = x_0 + L$ is given by

$$\text{Proj}_A x = x_0 + \text{Proj}_L(x - x_0).$$

Also, for a symmetric matrix A

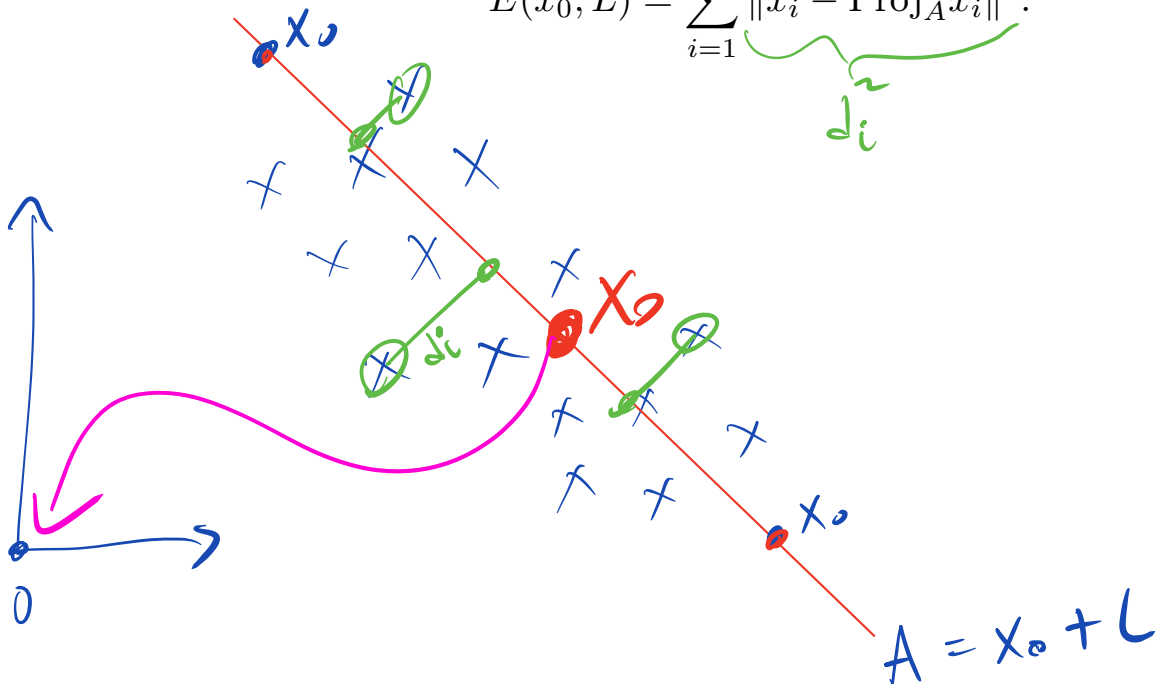
$$\nabla \|Ax\|^2 = 2A^2 x.$$

Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

Given points x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m in \mathbb{R}^n , find the k -dimensional linear or affine subspace that “best fits” the data in the mean-squared sense. That is, we seek an affine subspace $A = x_0 + L$ that minimizes the energy

$$E(x_0, L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - \text{Proj}_A x_i\|^2.$$

(Handwritten green annotations: a bracket under the summand with a tilde symbol \sim and the label d_i below it.)



Optimizing over x_0 $\text{proj}_A x = x_0 + \text{proj}_L(x - x_0)$

Claim: For any L , the function $x_0 \mapsto E(x_0, L)$ is minimized by the centroid

$$x_0 = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i.$$

Proof: $E(x_0, L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - \text{proj}_A x_i\|^2$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - x_0 - \text{proj}_L(x_i - x_0)\|^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - x_0 - VV^T(x_i - x_0)\|^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \|(I - VV^T)(x_i - x_0)\|^2$$

$$\text{proj}_L x = VV^T x$$

residual operator

$$R = I - vv^T$$

$$E(x_0, L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|R(x_i - x_0)\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} D &= \nabla_{x_0} E(x_0, L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \nabla \|R(x_i - x_0)\|^2 \\ &= -\sum_{i=1}^m 2R^2(x_i - x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$R^2 = R$$

$$(I - vv^T)^2 = I - vv^T$$

$$\hookrightarrow \nabla \sum_{i=1}^m R(x_i - x_0) = 0$$

$$Ry = 0, \quad y = \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - x_0)$$

$$(I - vv^T)y = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad y \in L = \text{span}(v)$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$y = vv^T y$$

Choice $y = 0$

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - x_0)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = \sum_{i=1}^m x_0 = m x_0$$

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = x_0$$

If $y \in L$, $y \neq 0$, then

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - x_0) = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i - mx_0$$

$$x_0 = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i - \frac{y}{m}$$

centroid $+ L$

$$\begin{aligned} E(x_0, L) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - \text{proj}_A x_i\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - x_0 - \text{proj}_L(x_i - x_0)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Define $y_i = x_i - x_0$ (centering data).

$$E(x_0, L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|y_i - \text{proj}_L y_i\|^2$$

Reduction to fitting a linear subspace

Since the centroid is optimal, we can center the data (replace x_i by $x_i - x_0$), and reduce to the problem of finding the optimal linear subspace L . Thus, we can consider the problem

$$\min_L E(L) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - \text{Proj}_L x_i\|^2,$$

where the \min_L is over k -dimensional linear subspaces L . We can write

$$L = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\},$$

and treat the problem as optimizing over the orthonormal basis v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k of L .

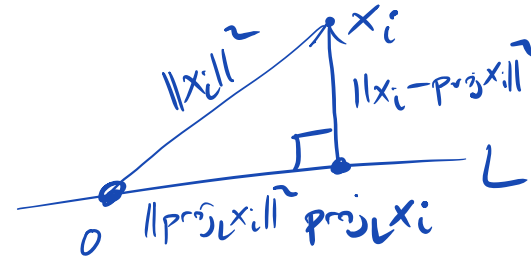
The covariance matrix

Lemma 1. The energy $E(L)$ can be expressed as

$$(1) \quad E(L) = \text{Trace}(M) - \sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T M v_j,$$

where M is the covariance matrix of the data, given by

$$(2) \quad M = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i x_i^T.$$



Note: We can write $M = X^T X$, where $X = [x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_m]^T$.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} E(L) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i - \text{proj}_L x_i\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m (\|x_i\|^2 - \|\text{proj}_L x_i\|^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^m \|\text{proj}_L x_i\|^2$$

Note: $\text{trace}(xx^T) = \text{trace} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x(1)^2 & x(1)x(2) & \dots & x(1)x(n) \\ x(1)x(2) & x(2)^2 & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ x(n)x(1) & \dots & \dots & x(n)^2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

$$= \|x\|^2$$

First term

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \text{Trace}(x_i x_i^T)$$

$$= \text{Trace} \left(\sum_{i=1}^m x_i x_i^T \right) = \text{Trace}(M)$$

Second term

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^m \|\text{proj}_{L} x_i\|^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^k (x_i^T v_j)^2 \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i^T v_j) (v_j^T x_i) \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^m v_j^T (x_i x_i^T) v_j \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T \left(\sum_{i=1}^m x_i x_i^T \right) v_j \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T M v_j \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Covariance Matrix

$$M^T = (X^T X)^T = X^T X$$

The covariance matrix

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i x_i^T = X^T X.$$

is a positive semi-definite (i.e., $v^T M v \geq 0$) and symmetric matrix. Indeed, for a unit vector v we have

$$v^T M v = \sum_{i=1}^m v^T x_i x_i^T v = \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i^T v)^2 \geq 0,$$

which is exactly the amount of variation in the data in the direction of v .

If v is an eigenvector with eigenvalue λ , then $Mv = \lambda v$ and

$$\lambda = v^T M v = \text{Variation in direction } v.$$

$$v^T M v = v^T \lambda v = \lambda v^T v = \lambda \underbrace{\|v\|^2}_{=1}$$

Covariance Matrix

Since the covariance matrix M is symmetric, it can be diagonalized:

$$M = \underline{PDP^T}$$

where $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ and

$$P = [p_1 \quad p_2 \quad \cdots \quad p_n].$$

We choose $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n$, and note that p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n are orthonormal eigenvectors of M , so

$$Mp_i = \lambda_i p_i.$$

Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

Theorem 2. The energy $E(L)$ is minimized over k -dimensional linear subspaces $L \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ by setting

$$L = \text{span}\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$$

and the optimal energy is given by

$$E(L) = \sum_{i=k+1}^n \lambda_i.$$

amount of variation missed.

Note: The p_i are called the *principal components* of the data, and the λ_i are the principal values. The principal components are the directions of highest variation in the data.

Proof: We can consider maximizing

$$A = \sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T M v_j \quad \text{over } v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T P D P^T v_j \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^k (v_j^T P D^{1/2}) (D^{1/2} P^T v_j) \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^k (D^{1/2} P^T v_j)^T (D^{1/2} P^T v_j) \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^k \|D^{1/2} P^T v_j\|^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$D^{1/2} P^T v_j = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^{1/2} & & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2^{1/2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & \lambda_n^{1/2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P_1^T \\ P_2^T \\ \vdots \\ P_n^T \end{bmatrix} v_j$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} d_1^{1/2} & & & 0 \\ & d_2^{1/2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & d_n^{1/2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P_1^T v_j \\ P_2^T v_j \\ \vdots \\ P_n^T v_j \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \left[\lambda_1^{1/2} P_1^T v_j \mid \dots \mid \lambda_n^{1/2} P_n^T v_j \right]^T$$

$$\|D^{1/2} P^T v_j\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (\lambda_i^{1/2} P_i^T v_j)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i (P_i^T v_j)^2$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^k v_j^T M v_j = \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i (P_i^T v_j)^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^k (P_i^T v_j)^2}_{= \| \text{proj}_{L P_i} \|^2}$$

$$= \| \text{proj}_{L P_i} \|^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \lambda_i, \quad a_i = \| \text{proj}_{L P_i} \|^2$$

$$0 \leq a_i \leq 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^k (P_i^T v_j)^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_i^T v_j)^2}_{\|v_j\|^2 = 1} = k \end{aligned}$$

HW1 #6

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \lambda_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i$$

Choice of $v_1 = p_1, v_2 = p_2, \dots, v_k = p_k$

gives $a_i = \|\text{proj}_L p_i\|^2 = \|p_i\|^2 = 1$

for $i \leq k$.

If $i > k$ then $p_i \perp p_j, j \leq k$

So $a_i = 0$ for $i > k$.

Since $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i d_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i$, this

choice is optimal.



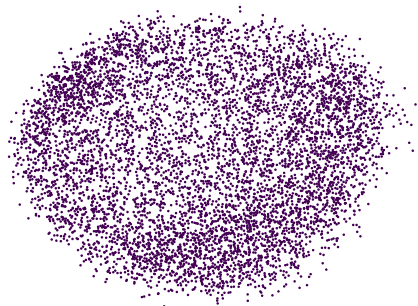
PCA for dimension reduction

The steps for dimension reduction to \mathbb{R}^k are outlined below. We assume we are given an $m \times n$ data matrix X

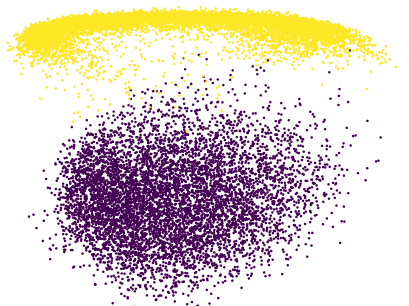
1. Compute the PCA covariance matrix $M = X^T X$, with the option of centering X first.
2. Compute the top k eigenvectors of M , and store them in a matrix P of size $n \times k$.
3. Compute the PCA dimension reduced dataset $B = XP$. $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \\ \vdots \\ x_m^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & p_2 & \dots & p_k \end{bmatrix}$$

Example on MNIST



(a) 0



(b) 0,1



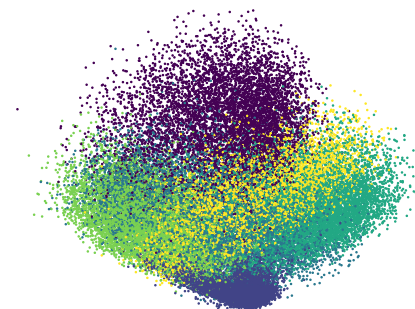
(c) 0,1,2



(d) 0,1,2,3



(e) 0,1,2,3,4



(f) 0,1,2,3,4,5

How many principal directions?

If we wish to capture $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ fraction of the total variation in the data, we can choose k so that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \geq \alpha \text{Trace}(M). = \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n d_i$$

Intro to PCA Notebook: ([.ipynb](#))