

***COMP 7180***  
***Quantitative Methods for Data  
Analytics and Artificial  
Intelligence***

Lecture 4: Dimensionality Reduction  
(Feature Extraction) – Part I

# Dimensionality

- An object can be described by a set of characters
- Mathematically, an object can be defined as one point in the vector space
  - Each dimension of the vector space is used to describe one character of the object
  - Example: a pixel in an image/video

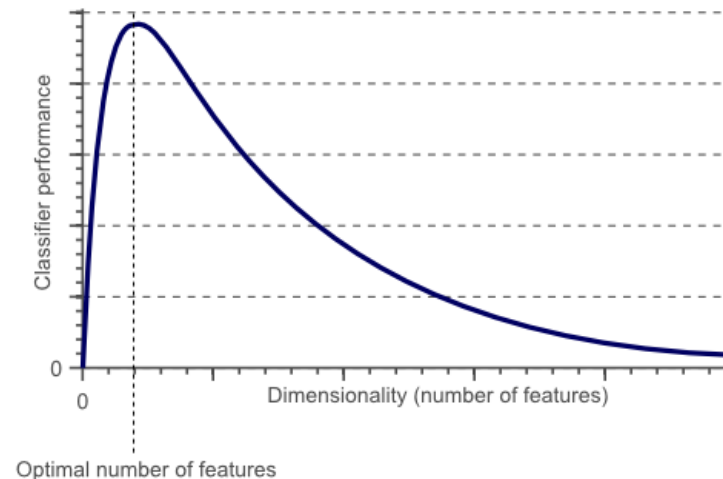
# How High the dimensionality could be?

- A small gray image with the resolution  $100 \times 100$  is represented as a 10,000-dimensional vector in the pixel space
- The movie “Kung Fu Panda 3”: consider each pixel value as a dimension, the total dimension of this data will be  $1280 \times 720 \times 25 \times 60 \times 120 \times 3 =$   
**500,000,000,000 !!!**



# Curse of Dimensionality

- From a theoretical point of view, increasing the number of features should lead to better performance. However ...

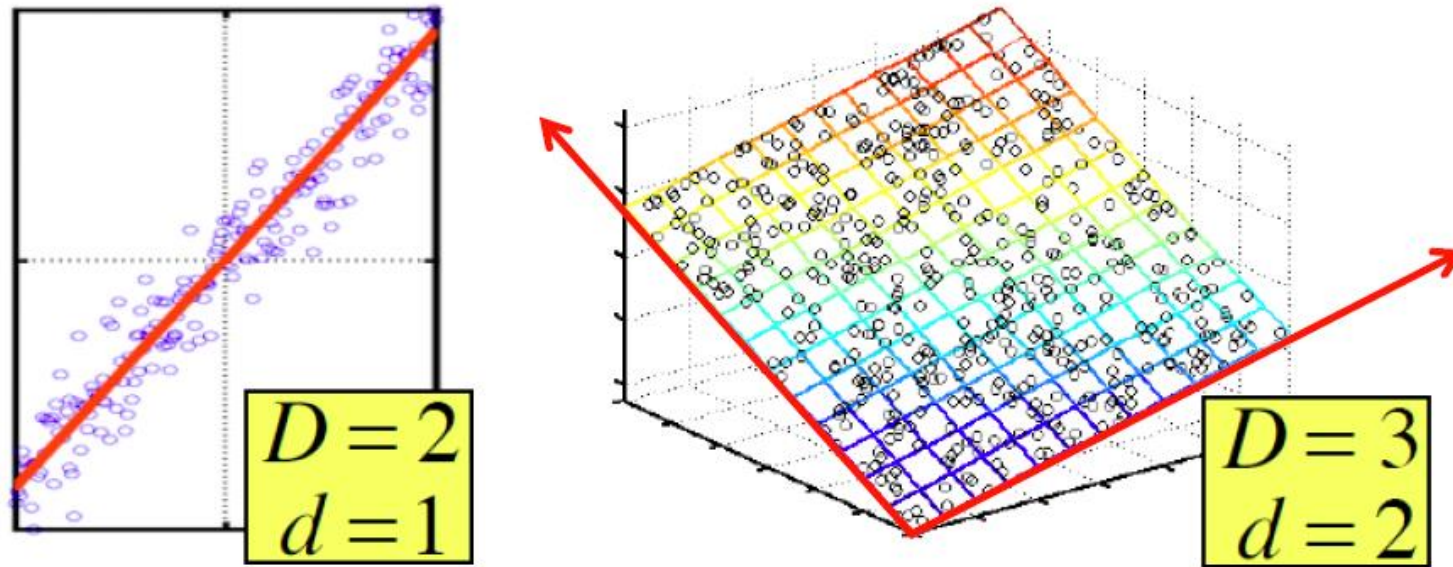


- In practice, the inclusion of more features leads to worse performance (i.e., curse of dimensionality)
  - High computational cost
  - Redundant information

# Dimensionality Reduction

- Motivation
  - Overcome the curse of dimensionality
  - The intrinsic dimension may be small
  - Visualization: projection of high-dimensional data onto 2D or 3D
  - Data compression: efficient storage and retrieval
  - Noise removal: positive effect on query accuracy
- Definition
  - Generate a lower dimensional equivalence to the original high-dimensional feature space while capturing essentials of original data according to some criteria
- Applications
  - Face recognition, handwritten digit recognition, text summarization, image retrieval, movie editing, protein classification, ...

# Dimensionality Reduction



- **Assumption:** Data lies on or near a low  $d$ -dimensional subspace
- **Axes of this subspace are effective representation of the data**

# Dimensionality Reduction

- **Compress / reduce dimensionality:**

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

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

# Rank of a Matrix

- **Q:** What is **rank** of a matrix **A**?
- **A:** Number of **linearly independent** columns of **A**
- **For example:**
  - Matrix **A** =  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  has rank **r=2**
    - **Why?** The first two rows are linearly independent, but all three rows are linearly dependent.
- **Why do we care about low rank?**
  - We can write **A** as two “basis” vectors:  $[1 \ 2 \ 1] \ [-2 \ -3 \ 1]$
  - And new coordinates of :  $[1 \ 0] \ [0 \ 1] \ [1 \ -1]$



# Mathematic Definition of Dimensionality Reduction

- Given the high-dimensional data point

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)^T$$

- Find a compact representation

$$\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_d)^T \quad d \leq D$$

- Construct the transformation function to capture essentials in the original

$$\Phi : \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{y}$$



$$\rightarrow [32 \ 79 \ 54 \ \dots \ \dots]^T$$

# Objectives of Dimensionality Reduction

- Generate a lower dimensional equivalence to the original high-dimensional feature space while capturing essentials of original data according to some criteria
- Information preserving (unsupervised)
  - We would like to retain as much information (data variance/distance) as possible
  - Principal component analysis (PCA)
- Classification (supervised)
  - We would like to maximize the separation among classes
  - Linear discriminant analysis (LDA)

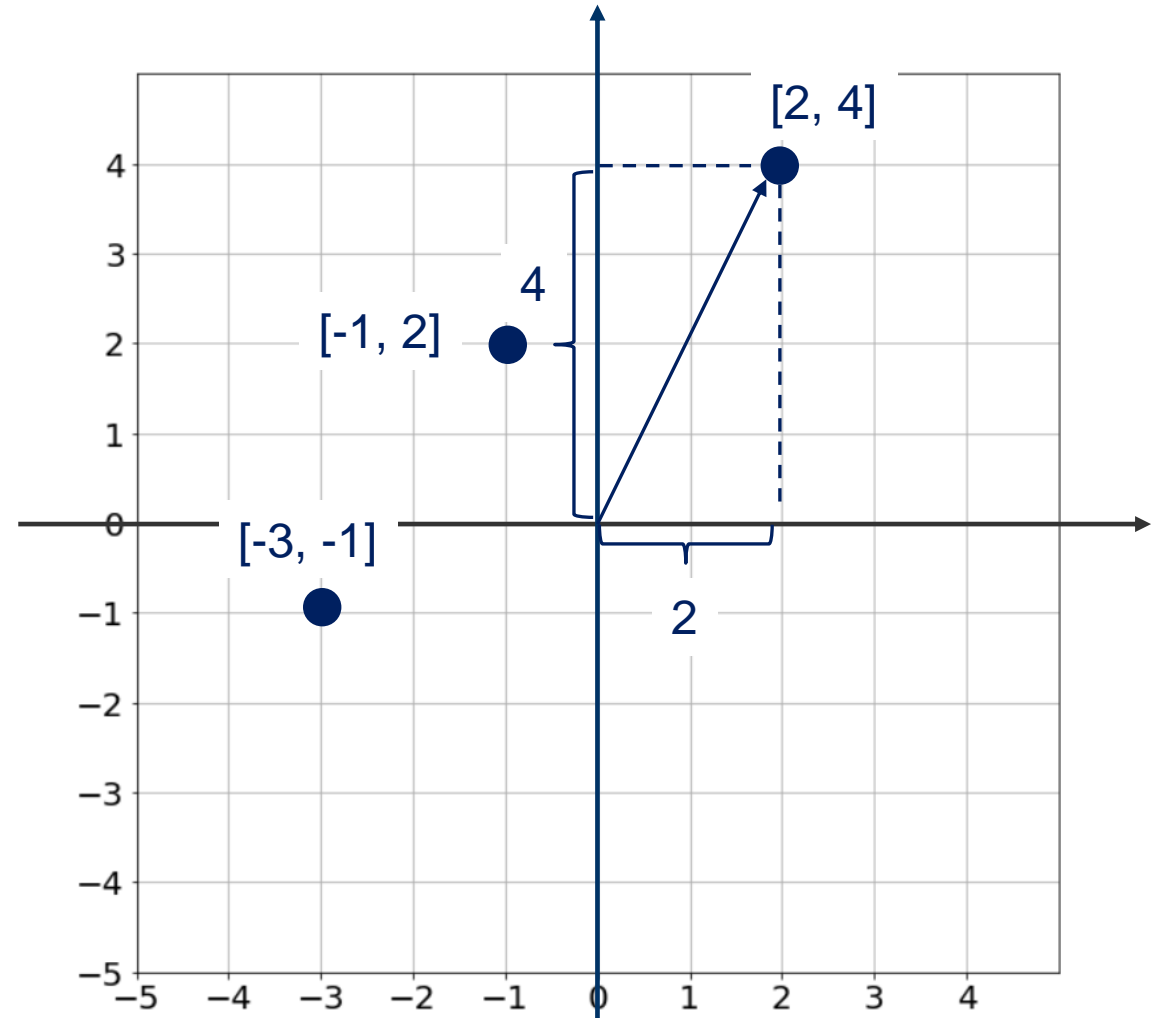
# Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

# What is PCA

- Principal component analysis (PCA)
  - A classic linear dimensionality reduction method (Pearson, 1901; Hotelling, 1930)
  - Reduce the dimensionality of a data set by finding a new set of projection directions (coordinates), smaller than the original set of directions (coordinates)
  - Preserve most of the samples' information
    - Directions that capture maximum variance in data

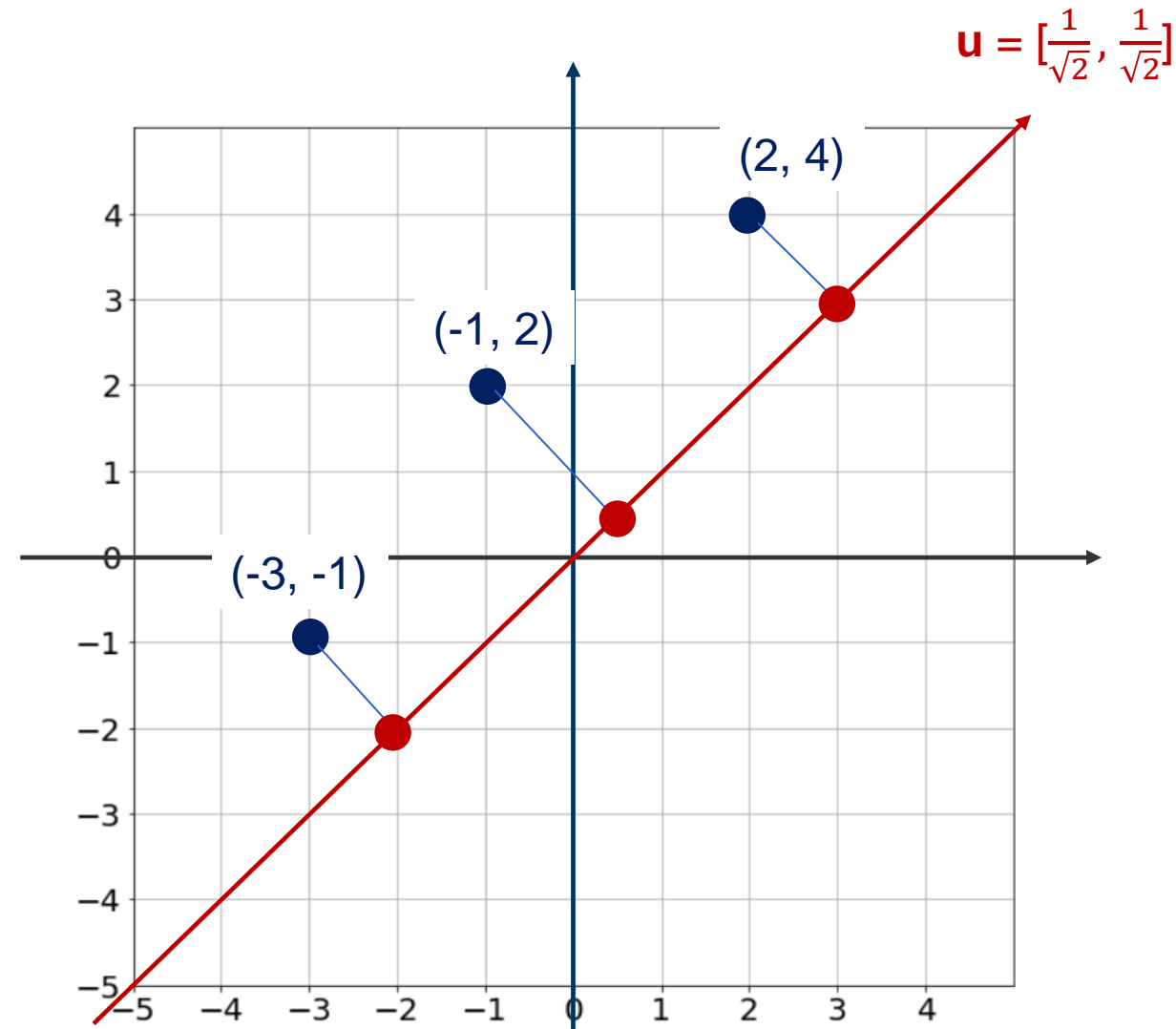
# Projection

- Vector projection
  - Dot/inner product of two vectors
  - $\mathbf{a} = [a_1, a_2]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = [b_1, b_2]$
  - $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta$
- Projection on “standard coordinate system”
  - Vector  $[2, 4]^T$  projection on the x-axis is the dot production between  $[2, 4]$  and  $[1, 0]$ :  $2*1 + 4*0 = 2$
  - Vector  $[2, 4]^T$  projection on the y-axis is the dot production between  $[2, 4]$  and  $[0, 1]$ :  $2*0 + 4*1 = 4$

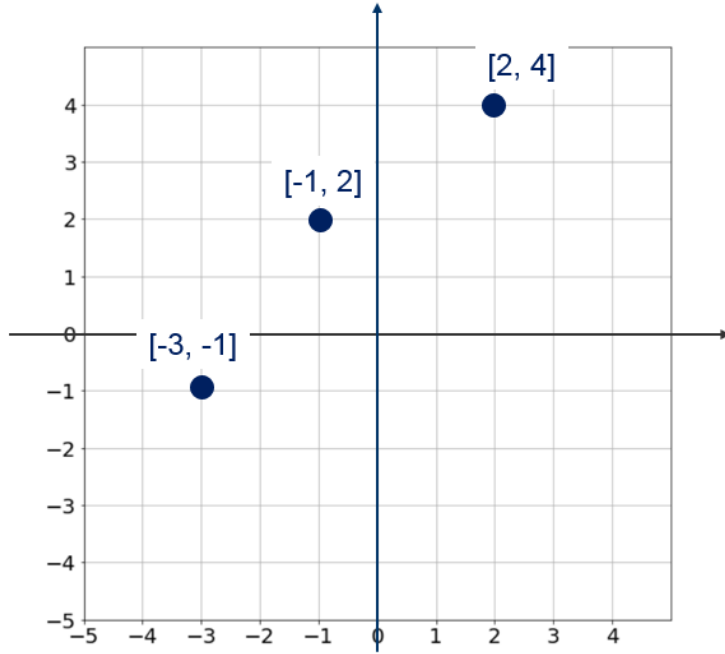


# Projection on other directions

- Project on the direction  $\mathbf{u} = \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right]$
- Project  $[2, 4]^T$  on direction  $\mathbf{u}$ :  
$$2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 4\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}}$$
- Project  $[-1, 2]^T$  on direction  $\mathbf{u}$ :  
$$-1\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$
- Project  $[-3, -1]^T$  on direction  $\mathbf{u}$ :  
$$-3\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + (-1)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = -\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}$$

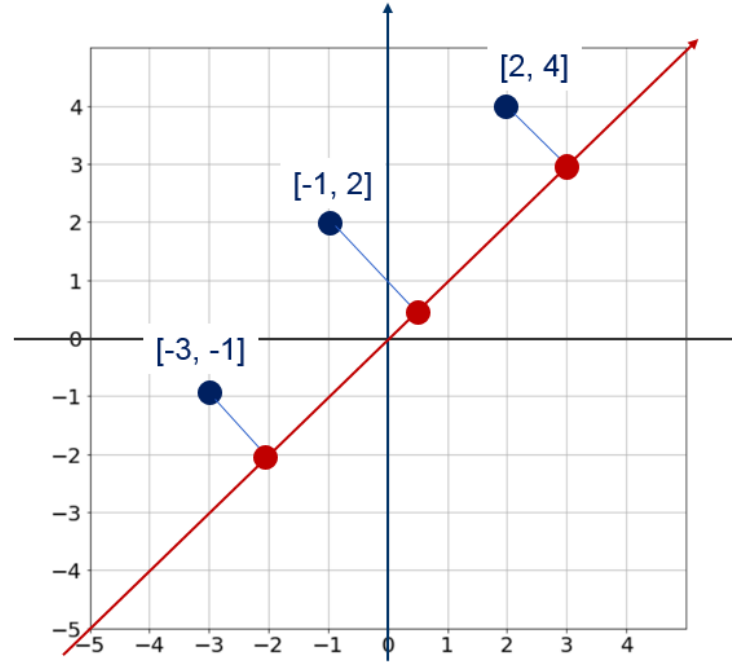


# Projection for Dimensionality Reduction



Data Points in 2D

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Projection onto 1D

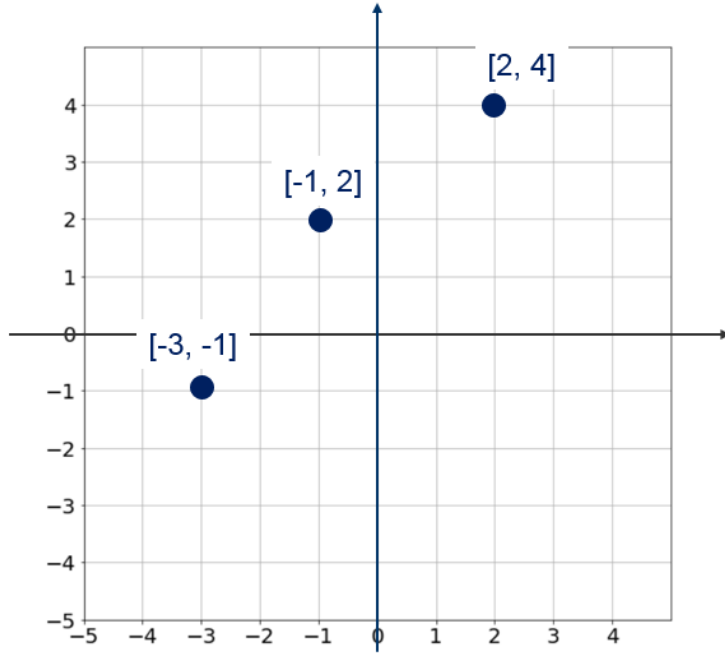
$$\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$



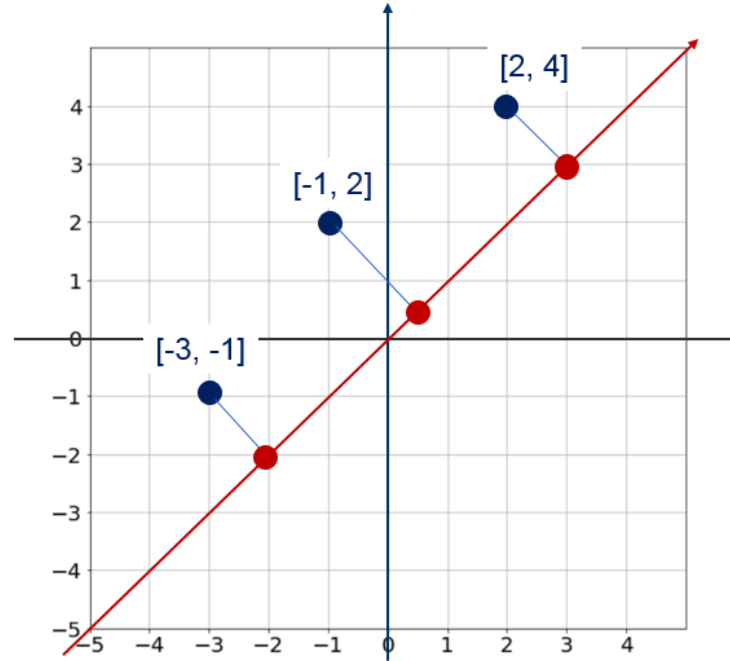
Data Points in 1D

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Projection for Dimensionality Reduction



Data Points in 2D



Projection onto 1D

This process projects 2 dimensional data to 1 dimensional data (i.e., dimensionality reduction).



Data Points in 1D

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Linear Dimensionality Reduction

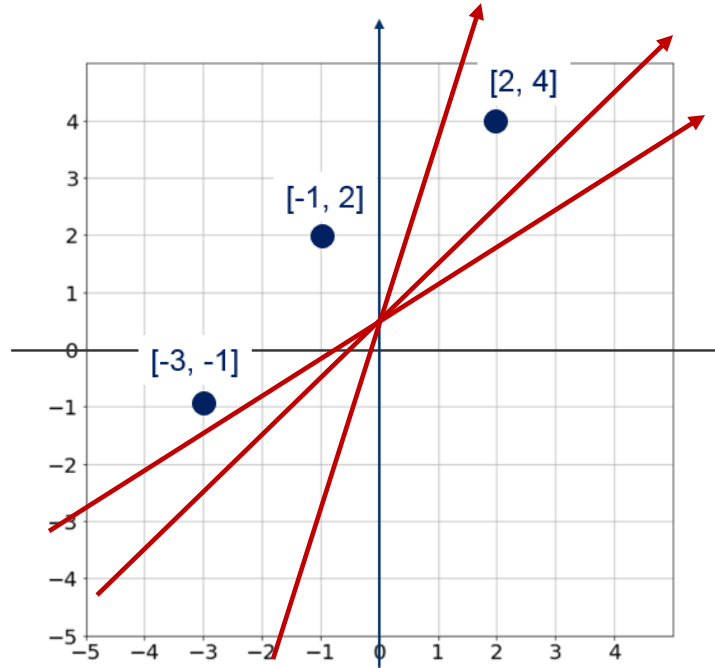
- A projection matrix  $\mathbf{U} = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{u}_k]$  of size  $d \times k$  defines  $k$  linear projection directions.
- Each column  $\mathbf{u}_k$  in  $\mathbf{U}$  denotes a linear project direction for  $d$  dimensional data (assume  $k < d$ )
- Then projection matrix  $\mathbf{U}$  can be used to transform a high dimensional sample  $\mathbf{x}$  into a low dimensional sample  $\mathbf{z}$  by:

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{x}$$

The diagram illustrates the dimensions of the matrices in the equation  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{x}$ . Three blue arrows point from dimension labels below to the corresponding terms in the equation:

- An arrow from  $k \times 1$  points to  $\mathbf{z}$ .
- An arrow from  $k \times d$  points to  $\mathbf{U}^T$ .
- An arrow from  $d \times 1$  points to  $\mathbf{x}$ .

# Linear Dimensionality Reduction

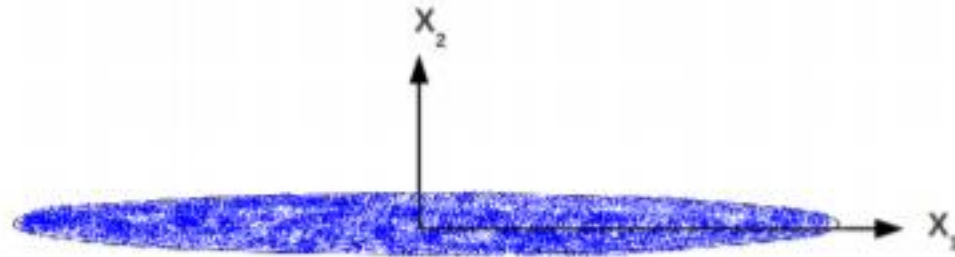


There are infinite ways to project the data  $\mathbf{X}$ .

- How do we learn the “best” projection matrix  $\mathbf{U}$ ?
- What criteria should we optimize for learning  $\mathbf{U}$ ?
- Principle Component Analysis (PCA) is an algorithm for doing this.

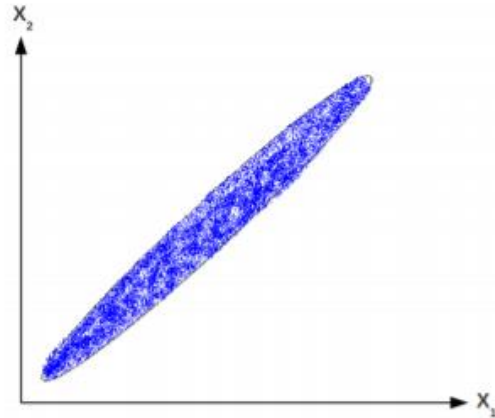
# PCA as Maximizing Variance

# PCA as Maximizing Variance: A Simple Illustration



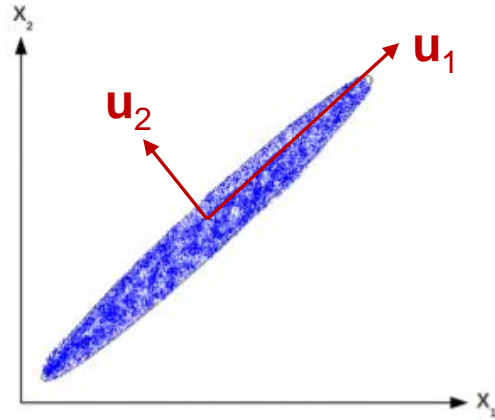
- Consider this two dimensional data
- Each data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  is represented by 2 features  $[x_1, x_2]^T$
- Considering ignoring the feature  $x_2$  for each data sample
- Each 2-dimensional data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  now becomes one-dimensional  $[x_1]$
- Are we losing much information by simply removing  $x_2$  ?
  - **No.** Most of the data spread is along  $x_1$  (**very little variance** along  $x_2$ )

# PCA as Maximizing Variance: A Simple Illustration



- Consider this two dimensional data
- Each data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  is represented by 2 features  $[x_1, x_2]^T$
- Considering ignoring the feature  $x_2$  for each data sample
- Each 2-dimensional data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  now becomes one-dimensional  $[x_1]$
- Are we losing much information by simply removing  $x_2$  ?
  - **Yes.** This data has **substantial variance** along both features.

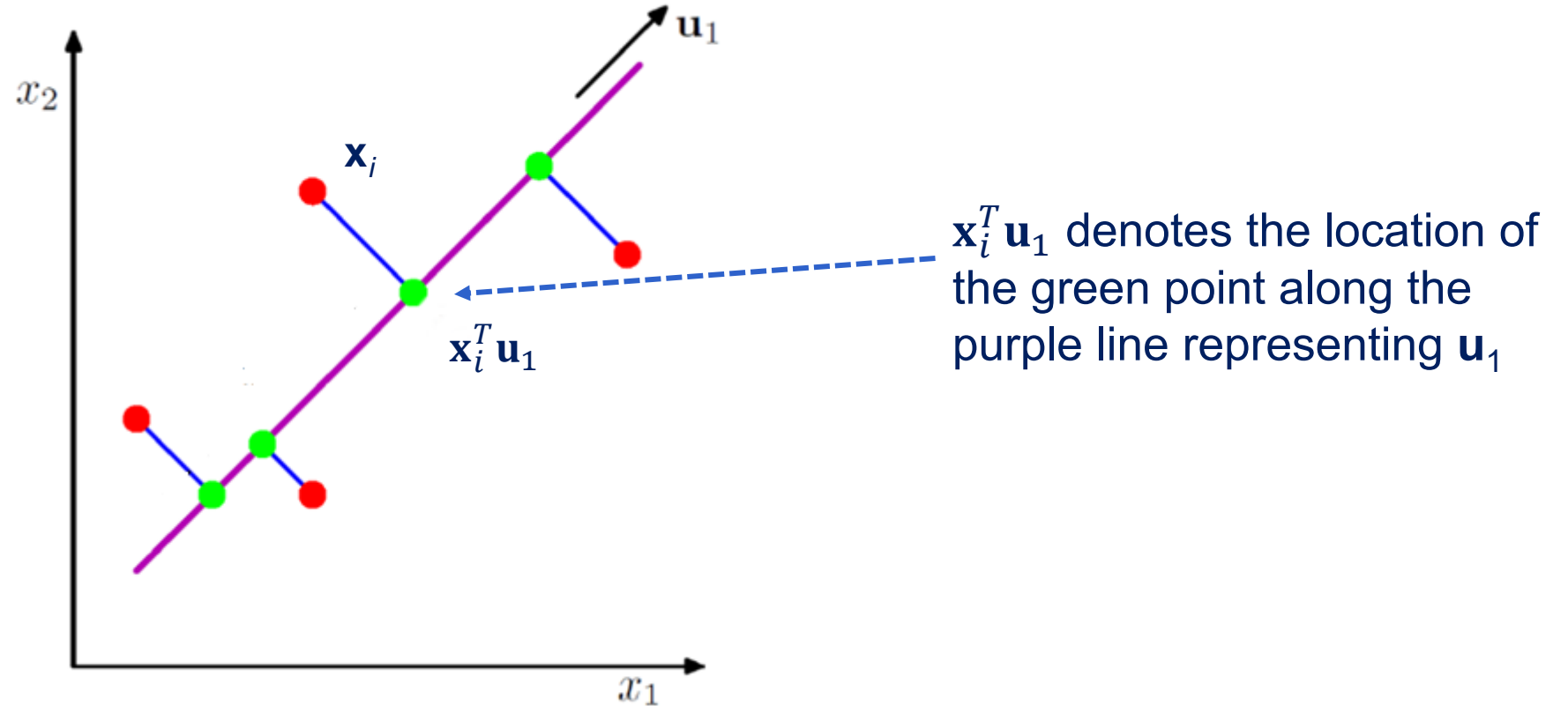
# PCA as Maximizing Variance: A Simple Illustration



- Now consider we project the data into another two directions  $u_1, u_2$
- Each data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  is represented by 2 features  $[z_1, z_2]^T$
- Considering ignoring the feature  $z_2$  for each data sample
- Each 2-dimensional data sample  $\mathbf{x}$  now becomes one-dimensional  $[z_1]$
- Are we losing much information by simply removing  $z_2$  ?
  - **No.** Most of the data spread is along  $z_1$  (very little variance along  $z_2$ )

# PCA as Maximizing Variance

- Projecting  $\mathbf{x}_i$  (a  $d$ -dimensional feature vector) to a one-dimensional vector  $z_i$  by  $\mathbf{u}_1$ :  $z_i = \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{u}_1$



# PCA as Maximizing Variance

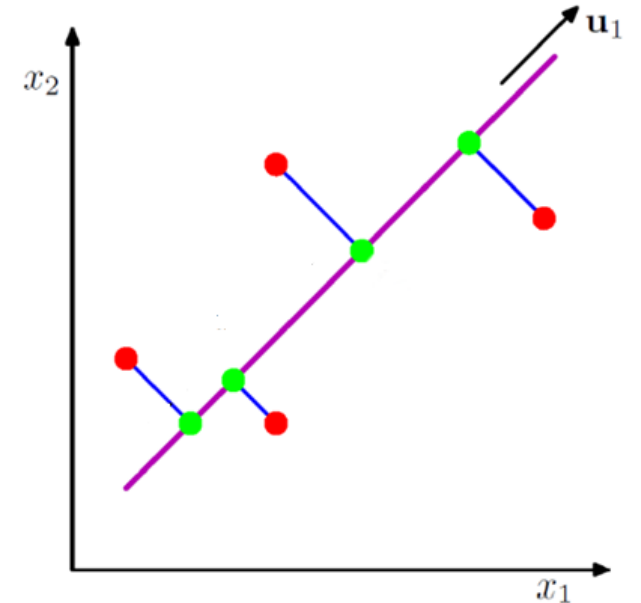
- Projecting  $\mathbf{x}_i$  (a  $d$ -dimensional feature vector) to a one-dimensional vector  $z_i$  by  $\mathbf{u}_1$ :  $z_i = \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{u}_1$
- Therefore, the mean of projections of all data (i.e., “center” of the green points ) can be computed as

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{u}_1}{n} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i^T}{n} \mathbf{u}_1 = \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T \mathbf{u}_1$$

$\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  is the mean feature vector  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i$

- Variance of the projected data (i.e., “spread” of the green points)

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{u}_1 - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{n} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n ((\mathbf{x}_i^T - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T) \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{n}$$





# PCA as Maximizing Variance

- Variance of the projected data

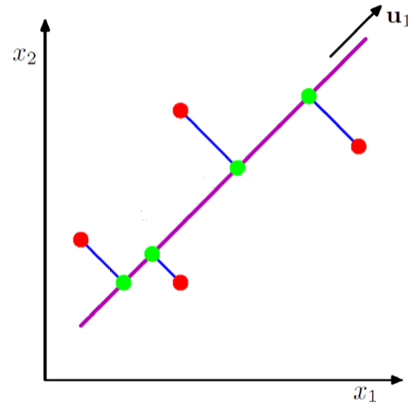
$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n ((\mathbf{x}_i^T - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T) \mathbf{u}_1)^2}{n} = \mathbf{u}_1^T \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{x}_i^T - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T)}{n} \mathbf{u}_1$$

- Let  $\mathbf{S} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{x}_i^T - \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T)}{n}$ , the variance of the projected data is

$$\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1$$

- $\mathbf{S}$  is the  $d^*d$  data covariance matrix. If data is already centered (i.e.,  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = 0$ ), then  $\mathbf{S} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i)(\mathbf{x}_i^T)}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$

# Direction of Maximum Variance



Variance of the projected data is:

$$\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1$$

- Objective: We want  $\mathbf{u}_1$  that the variance of the project data is maximized

$$\max_{\mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1$$

- To prevent trivial solution (max variance = infinite), assume  $\|\mathbf{u}_1\|_2 = \sqrt{\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1} = 1$ . Therefore  $\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 1$
- Therefore,  $\mathbf{u}_1$  can be obtained by solving the following optimization problem

$$\max_{\mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 + \lambda_1 (1 - \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1)$$

$\lambda_1$  is a Lagrange multiplier

# Direction of Maximum Variance

- The objective:  $\max_{\mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 + \lambda_1 (1 - \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1)$
- Obtaining the optimal solution by taking the derivative with respect to  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and setting to zero

$$\mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1$$

- Thus  $\mathbf{u}_1$  is an eigenvector of  $\mathbf{S}$  (with corresponding eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ )
- $\mathbf{S}$  is a  $d \times d$  matrix, there are  $d$  possible eigenvectors, which ones to take?

# Direction of Maximum Variance

- Note that the constraint  $\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 1$ , the variance of the projected data is

$$\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{u}_1^T \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 = \lambda_1$$

- Therefore, variance is maximized when  $\mathbf{u}_1$  is the (top) eigenvector with largest eigenvalue.
- Other directions can also be found similarly (with each being orthogonal to all previous ones)

# Direction of Maximum Variance

- Question: What is  $\mathbf{u}_2$  ?

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\mathbf{u}_2} \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_2 \\ & s. t. \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 = 1, \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\max_{\mathbf{u}_2} \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_2 - \lambda (\mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 - 1) - \phi \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1$$



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}_2} (\mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_2 - \lambda (\mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 - 1) - \phi \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1) = 0$$

# Direction of Maximum Variance

- Question: What is  $\mathbf{u}_2$  ?

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}_2} (\mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_2 - \lambda (\mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 - 1) - \phi \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1) = 0$$



$$2\mathbf{S}\mathbf{u}_2 - 2\lambda\mathbf{u}_2 - \phi\mathbf{u}_1 = 0$$

$$\phi = 0 ? \quad \downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{S}\mathbf{u}_2 = \lambda\mathbf{u}_2$$

$\mathbf{u}_2$  is the eigenvector with the second largest eigenvalue.

# Steps of Principle Component Analysis

- Center the data (subtract the mean  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i$  from each data point) to get  $\mathbf{X}_c$
- Compute the covariance matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  using the centered data as

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_c \mathbf{X}_c^T$$

- Do an eigen-decomposition of the covariance matrix  $\mathbf{S}$
- Take first  $k$  leading eigenvectors  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  with  $k$  largest eigenvalue  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$
- The final  $k$  dimensional representation of data is obtained by

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{X}_c$$

# How many Principal Components to Use?

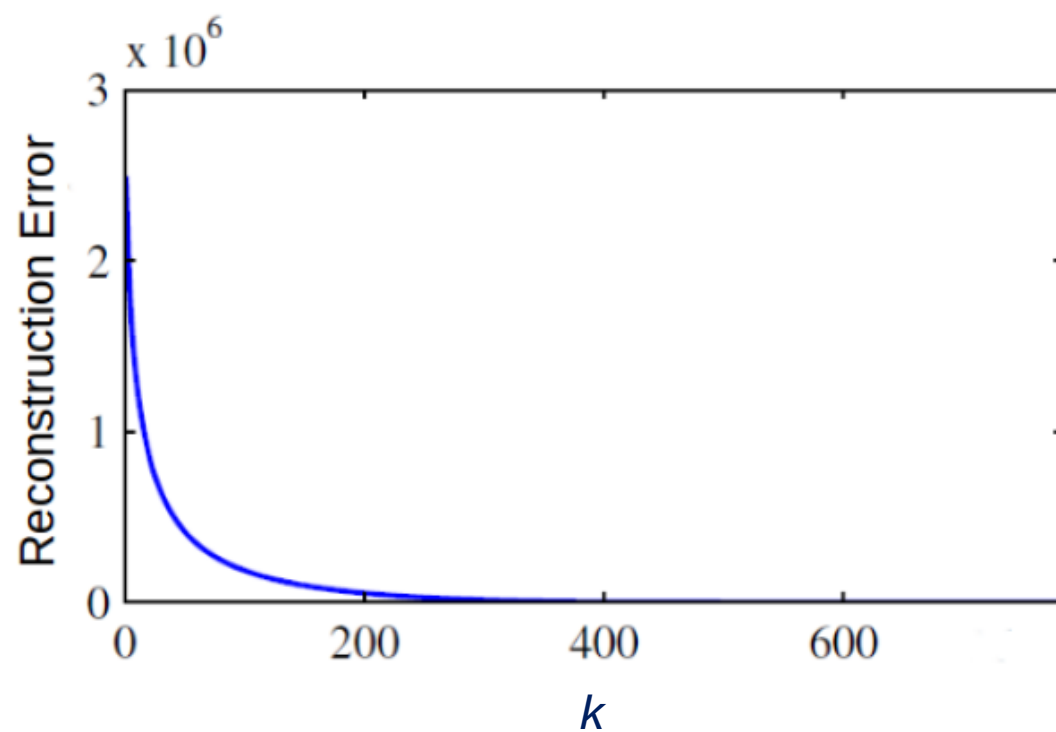
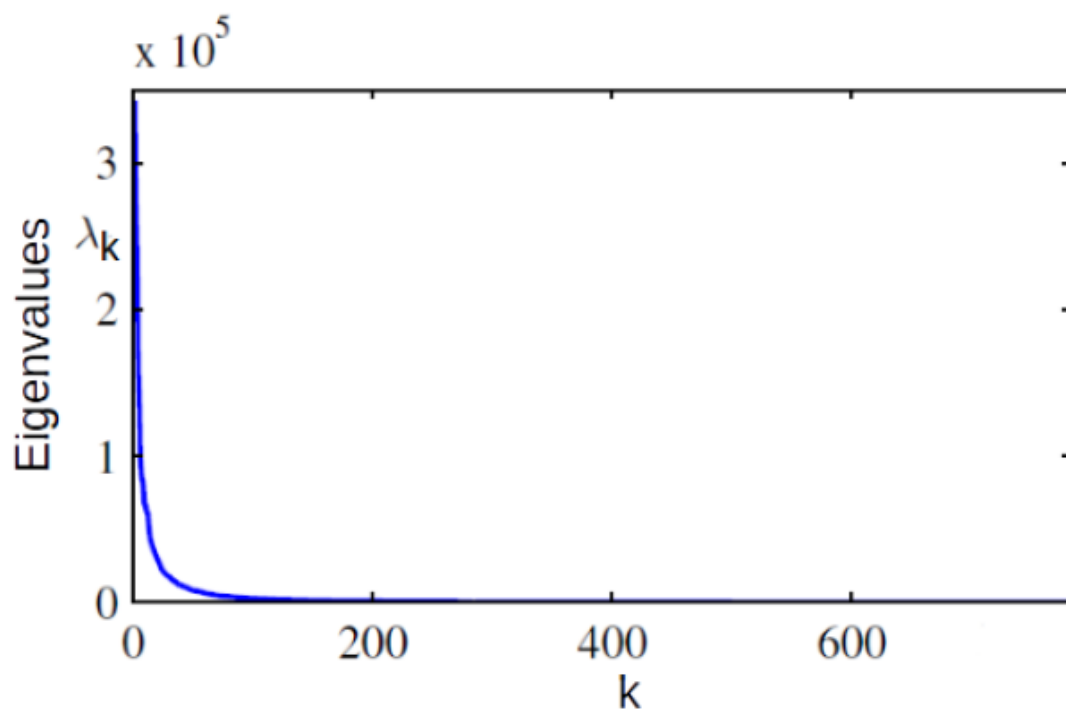
- Eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  measures the variance captured by the corresponding projection direction  $\mathbf{u}_i$

$$\mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_i^T \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{u}_i = \lambda_i$$

- The “left-over” variance will therefore be  $\sum_{i=k+1}^d \lambda_i$
- Can choose  $k$  by looking at what fraction of variance is captured by the first  $k$  projection directions:  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$
- Another direct way is to look at the spectrum of the eigenvalues plot, or the plot of reconstruction error vs  $k$



# How many Principal Components to Use?



# PCA for image compression



**d=1**



**d=2**



**d=4**



**d=8**



**d=16**



**d=32**



**d=64**



**d=100**

$$\begin{aligned}z &= U^T x \\ \bar{x} &= Uz \\ \bar{x} &= UU^T x\end{aligned}$$

**Original Image**

**64\*64**

