

Dimensionality reduction

Feature extraction with PCA (an unsupervised learning technique)



Feature extraction / feature selection

- In the previous lecture, we learned about techniques for feature
 selection (e.g. with SBS/SFS) where we selected a subset of the original
 features to reduce the number of features
- Here, we learn how to reduce dimensionality of a dataset by feature
 extraction: which describes techniques for computing new features from
 existing features

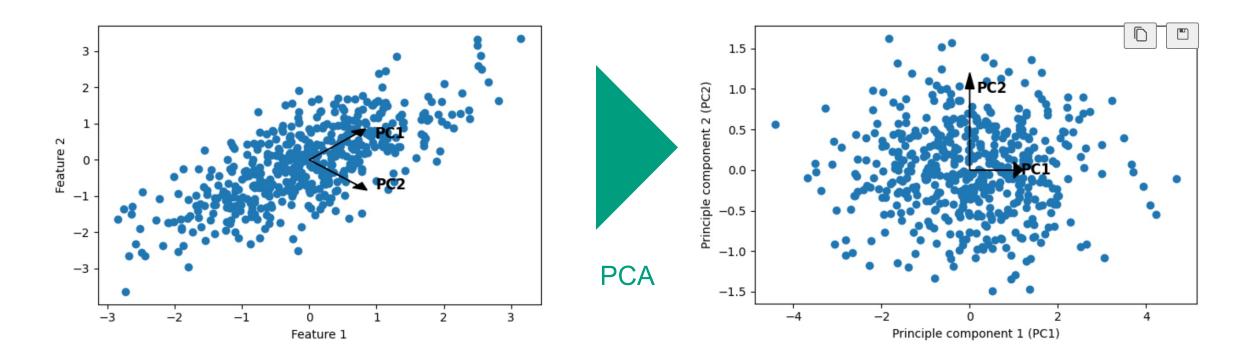


Unsupervised learning

- The goal of unsupervised learning is to identify hidden patterns or structure in the data
- We only work with the design matrix X
- We do not know or do not use the labels/outcome y

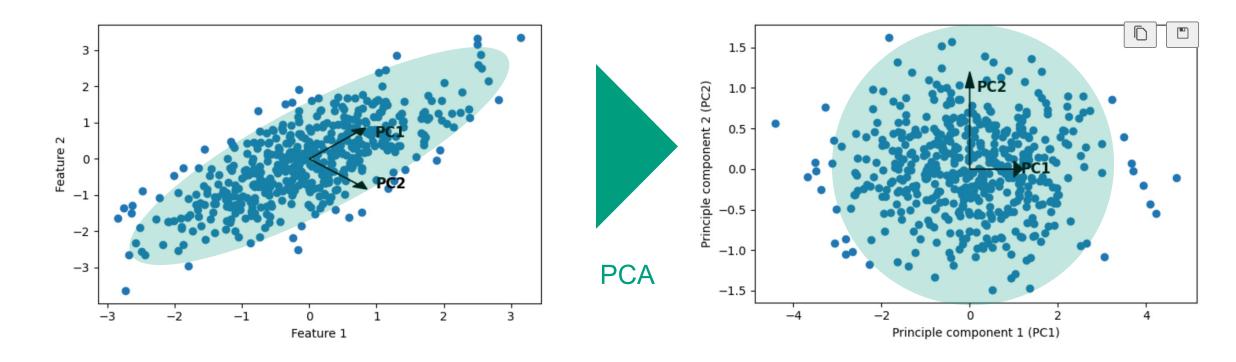


- A linear transformation technique often used for dimensionality reduction
- Identifies patterns/structure in the data based on the covariance (centered data) or correlation (standardized data) matrix of the data





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- A linear transformation technique often used for dimensionality reduction
- Identifies patterns in the data based on the covariance (centered data) or correlation (standardized data) matrix of the data
- Unsupervised learning technique
- Used for feature extraction: computing new features from existing features
- In the context of dimensionality reduction, we perform data compression by finding new features such that a few features contain most of the relevant information

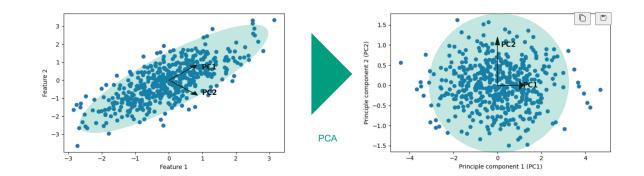


- Applied as pre-processing technique for other models and for data visualization
 - May help to prevent overfitting (especially for model without regularization option)
 - Denoising of original data
 - Make high-dimensional data suitable for visualization

- Widely used across different fields, examples:
 - Explorative data analysis (EDA)
 - Noise reduction in signal data (e.g. stock market prices, imagine intensity-time signals, etc.)
 - Analysis of genome and gene expression data (very high-dimensional data)



Algorithm is explained in:



Example applications:

→ Preprocessing / feature extraction

→ Feature extraction / importance

→ Visualization

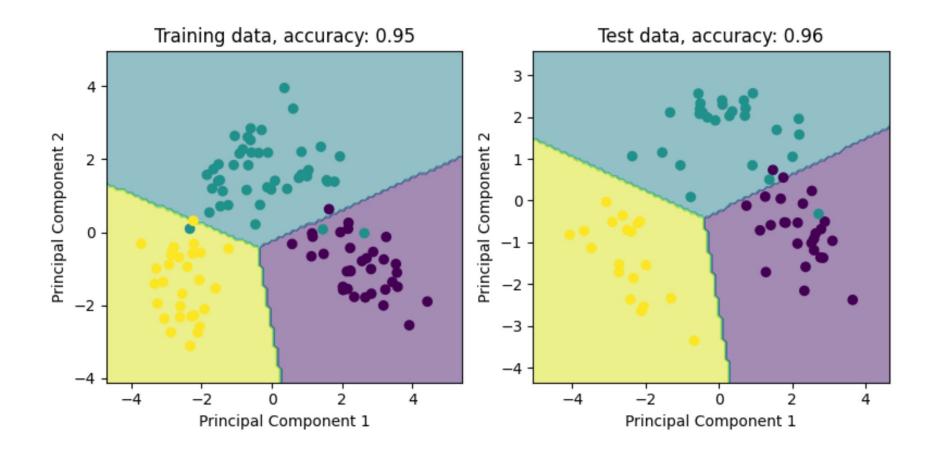


Summary of steps (centering but not standardization is included in PCA from sklearn)

- 1. Center (covariance matrix) or standardize (correlation matrix) the data. [→ Always at least center (subtract mean), but don't standardize if the scale carries significant meaning, e.g. several features measuring similar things (signal intensity at different locations)]
- 2. Compute covariance/correlation matrix ($\Sigma = \frac{1}{n-1} X^T X$)
- 3. Compute the **eigendecomposition** of Σ [\rightarrow 2./3. may be replaced by one step by performing a singular value decomposition directly on the centered data]
- 4. Rank eigenvectors according to the value of the corresponding eigenvalues of Σ
- 5. Keep $k \leq m$ features
- 6. Transform data set with m features to the new k features (principal components)



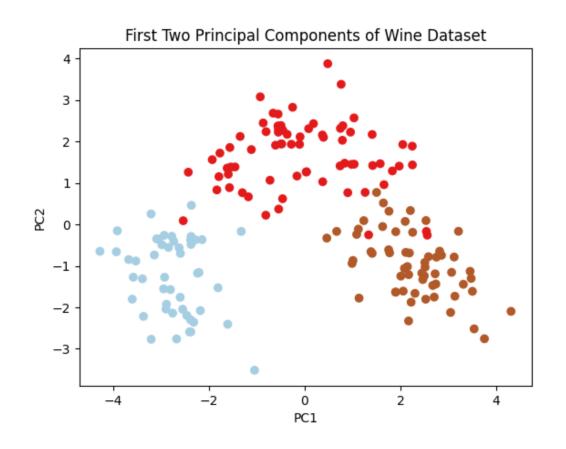
05_PCA_logreg_wine.ipynb

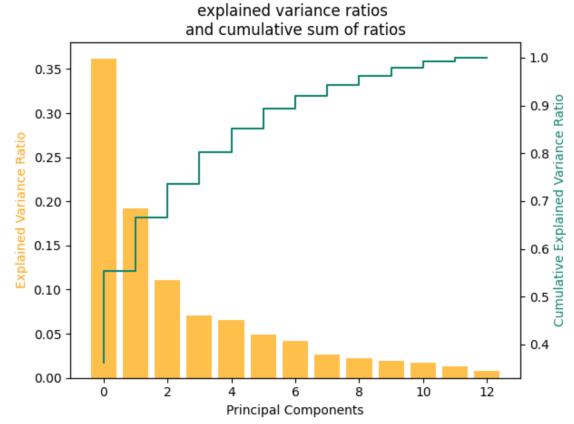




05_PCA_wine_explained_variance.ipynb

Explained variance ratio =
$$\frac{\lambda_j}{\sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j}$$

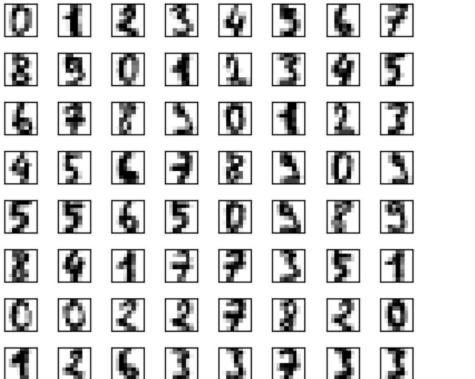






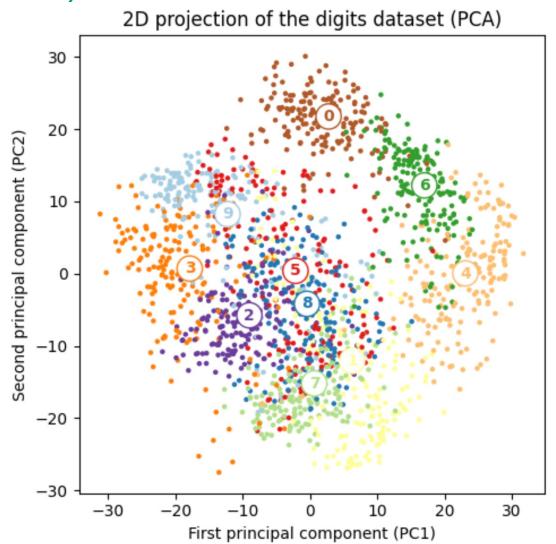
05_PCA_handwritten_digits.ipynb

First 64 samples of the digits dataset





(k=2)



Why use PCA? Advantages of PCA



- Reduces the number of features which can lead to
 - a significant speed-up of the model training and prediction and
 - a reduction in required memory to store the data (data compression)
- May reduce noise in the data (e.g. common for signal data) which may improve performance of an ML model that is sensitive to noise
- Makes it possible to visualize high-dimensional data sets using only the features with highest variance

Why not always use PCA? Disadvantages of PCA



- Principal components are difficult to interpret (no obvious connection to the original features)
- Principal components with a low explained variance may, in fact, be important for class separation. PCA detect features with high variance. It doesn't use class labels (is unsupervised). In case highly discriminative features (separating classes) have low variance, PCA discards important information.
- PCA is a linear model, but relations between features may be more complex than linear combinations of the original features
- The PCA result highly depends on the scaling of variables. For example, going from km to cm for a length feature will increase importance of the feature by a lot

Principle component analysis in other fields



All based on the same principle and mathematics!

- Eigenvalue decomposition (for symmetric matrices) of X^TX (X centered)
- Singular value decomposition of X (singular values are square root of eigenvalues)
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition (POD): surrogate models and reduced order models (ROM) in engineering and robotics
- Karhunen–Loève transformation: signal processing
- Spectral decomposition / modal analysis: audio and vibration signal processing, structural dynamic (e.g. eigenmodes of vibrating drum or string)
- Principal axis transformation: mechanical engineering, structural mechanics



Kernel PCA

Nonlinear feature extraction PCA + Kernel trick



- Kernelized, nonlinear variant of PCA
- Non-zero eigenvalues of X^TX and XX^T are the same

$$(X^TX)v = \lambda v \implies X(X^TX)v = \lambda Xv \implies (XX^T)u = \lambda u; \quad u := Xv$$

- XX^T is the **kernel matrix** when using the **linear kernel function** $\kappa(x^{(i)}, x^{(j)}) = x^{(i)^T} x^{(j)}$. It contains the inner products of all pairs of samples in the data set.
- **Basic idea:** Replace XX^T with the kernel matrix of a nonlinear kernel function to perform PCA in some high-dimensional (possibly infinite dimensional) feature space
- The hope is that in this transformed feature space (nonlinear transformation) the data may be decomposable into linear combinations of the transformed features



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$$K_{ij} = \kappa(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \begin{bmatrix} \kappa(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}) & \cdots & \kappa(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \kappa(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}) & \cdots & \kappa(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$$

(Kernel matrix)

(Kernel function)



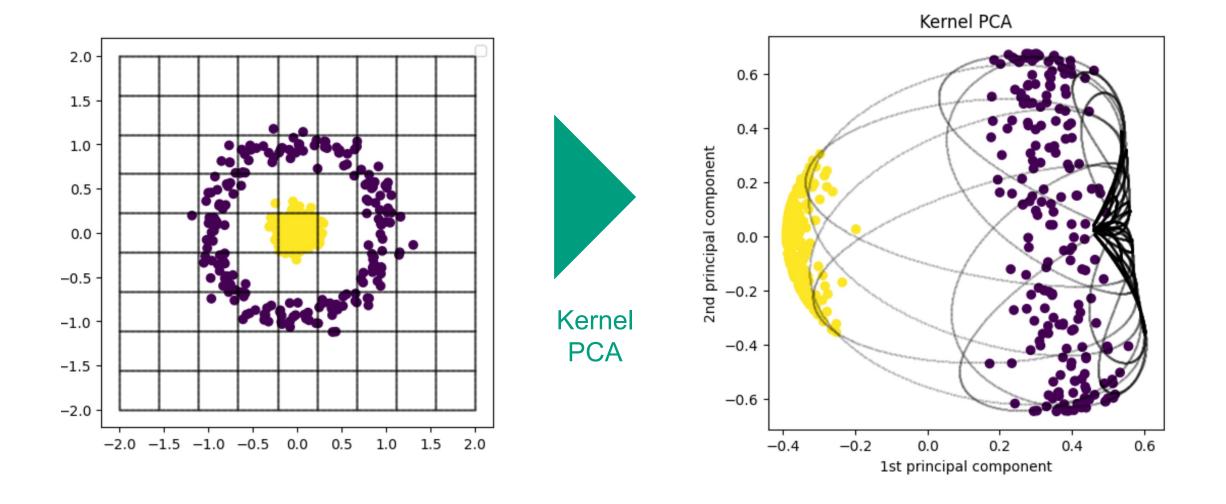
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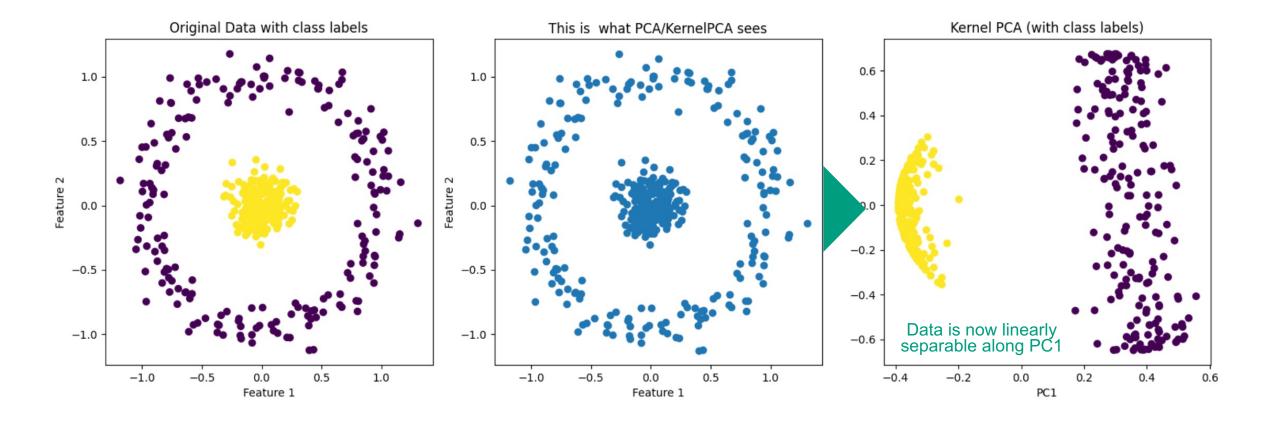
05_KernelPCA.ipynb





05_KernelPCA.ipynb

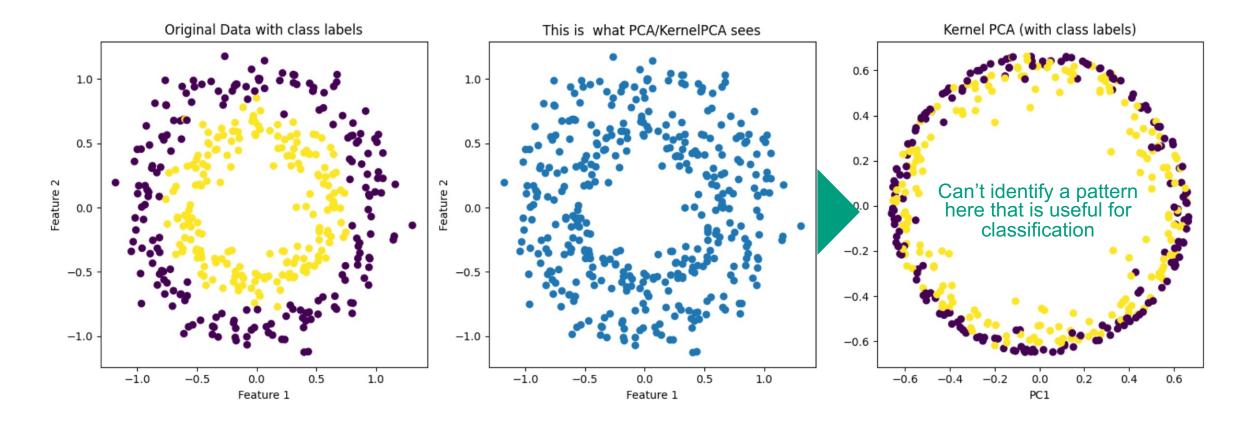
Be aware that PCA is an unsupervised learning technique! → Doesn't use labels





05_KernelPCA.ipynb

Be aware that PCA is an unsupervised learning technique! → Doesn't use labels





- Difficult to interpret
- Very sensitive to kernel parameters
- Can identify possible nonlinear feature interactions / nonlinear patterns in the data
- Could be combined in a pipeline with a performant linear classifier

 Whether no PCA, linear, or kernel PCA is the best choice depends on the data set and the relationships between features



