

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) for Dimensionality Reduction

Welcome! Today we'll explore how Principal Component Analysis (PCA) helps us reduce data dimensionality without sacrificing valuable information.

○ By Nisha A K



What is Dimensionality Reduction?

Simplifying Complexity

Dimensionality reduction is a technique used to simplify data by reducing the number of variables (dimensions) while preserving meaningful information.

Reducing Noise

It can remove irrelevant or noisy features that might obscure the true underlying patterns in your data.

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Need for Dimensionality Reduction

1 Improved Performance

Reduces computational time for algorithms.

2 Enhanced Visualization

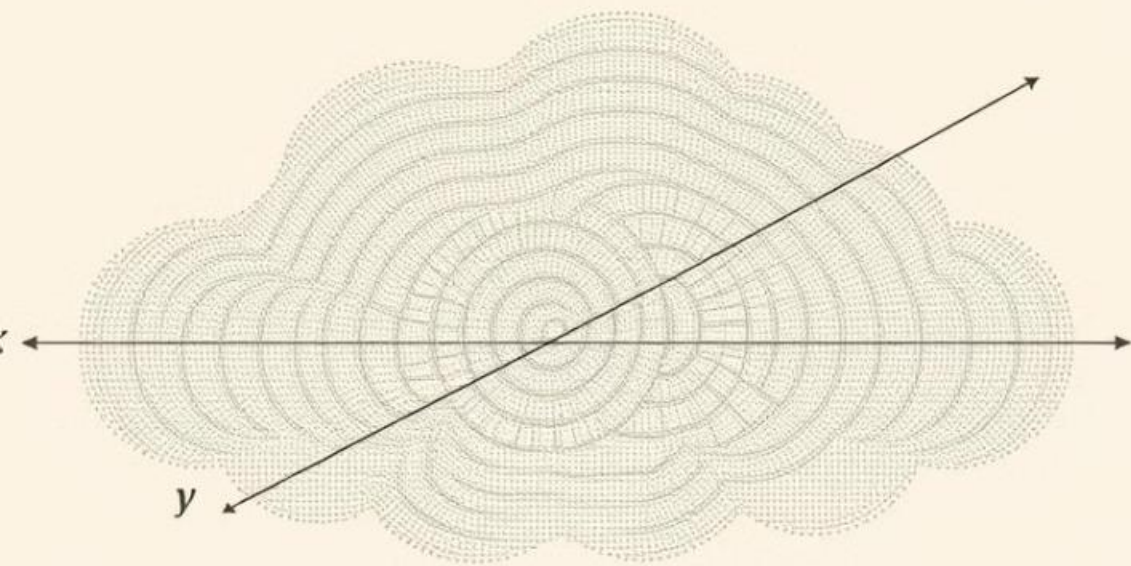
Makes data easier to visualize and interpret.

3 Reduced Storage

Requires less storage space.

4 Avoid Overfitting

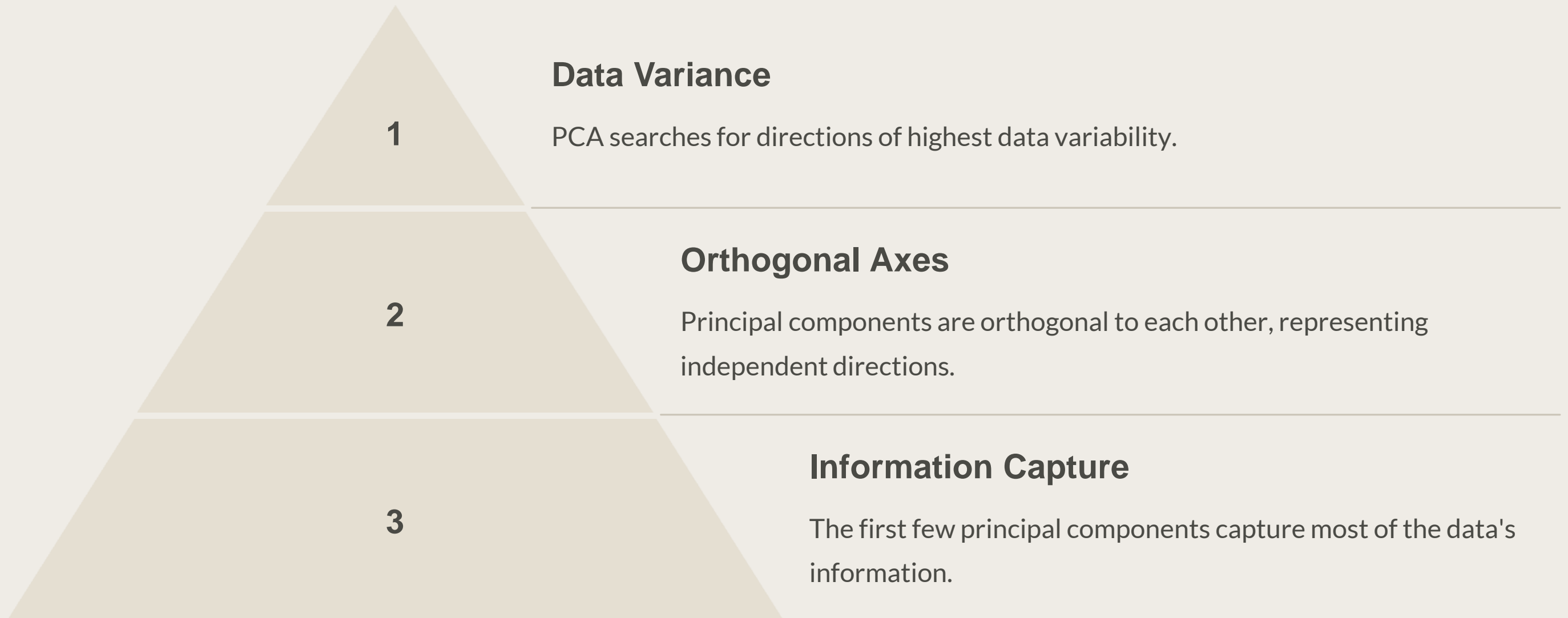
Prevents models from becoming too complex and losing generalization.



Overview of Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

PCA is a powerful technique that finds a new set of orthogonal axes (principal components) that capture the most variance in the data. These components are ordered by their variance, with the first component capturing the most variance.

Geometric Intuition behind PCA



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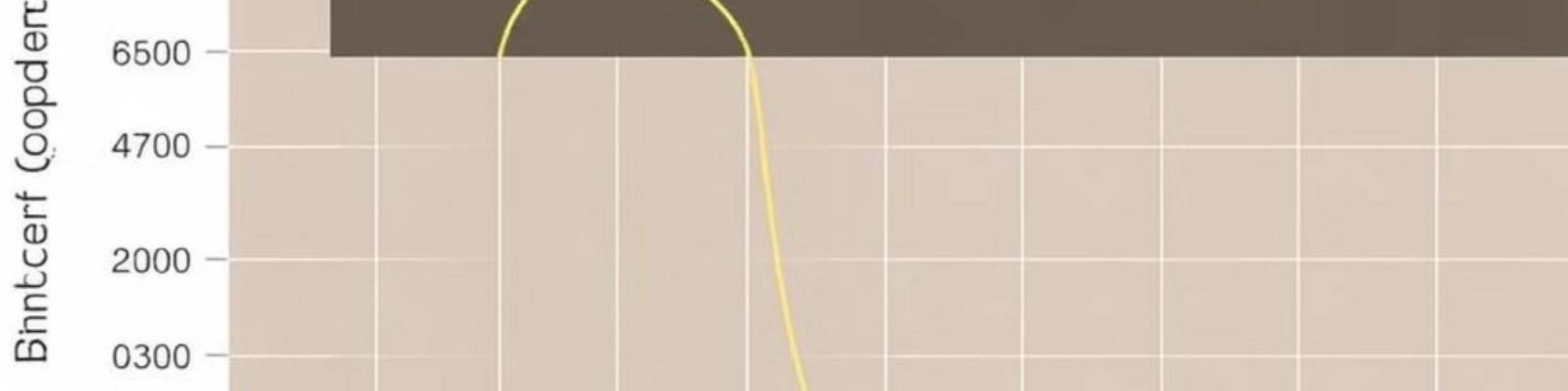
$$PCA = -i x$$

PCA

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Calculating Principal Components

PCA involves calculating the covariance matrix of your data and then finding its eigenvectors and eigenvalues. Eigenvectors represent the principal components, and eigenvalues measure the variance explained by each component.



Selecting the Number of Principal Components

You can choose the number of principal components based on the amount of variance you wish to retain. Techniques like the "elbow" method help visualize where diminishing returns set in.

Advantages and Limitations of PCA

Advantages

- Reduces dimensionality
- Improves performance
- Enhances visualization

Limitations

- Loss of interpretability
- Sensitive to outliers
- Assumptions about data distribution

PCA Unlabeled dimensionality reduction

	Advantages	Limitations
Reduces dimensionality	✓	✓
Improves performance	✓	✓
Enhances visualization	✓	✓
Loss of interpretability	✓	✓
Sensitive to outliers	✓	✓
Assumptions about data distribution	✓	✓

Applications of PCA



Facial Recognition

PCA can be used to identify individuals based on facial features.



Image Compression

PCA can reduce image storage size by removing redundant information.



Financial Analysis

PCA can identify underlying trends in stock market data.



Conclusion and Key Takeaways

PCA is a powerful tool for reducing dimensionality, improving performance, and enhancing understanding of data. Remember to consider its limitations and choose the right number of principal components for your application.