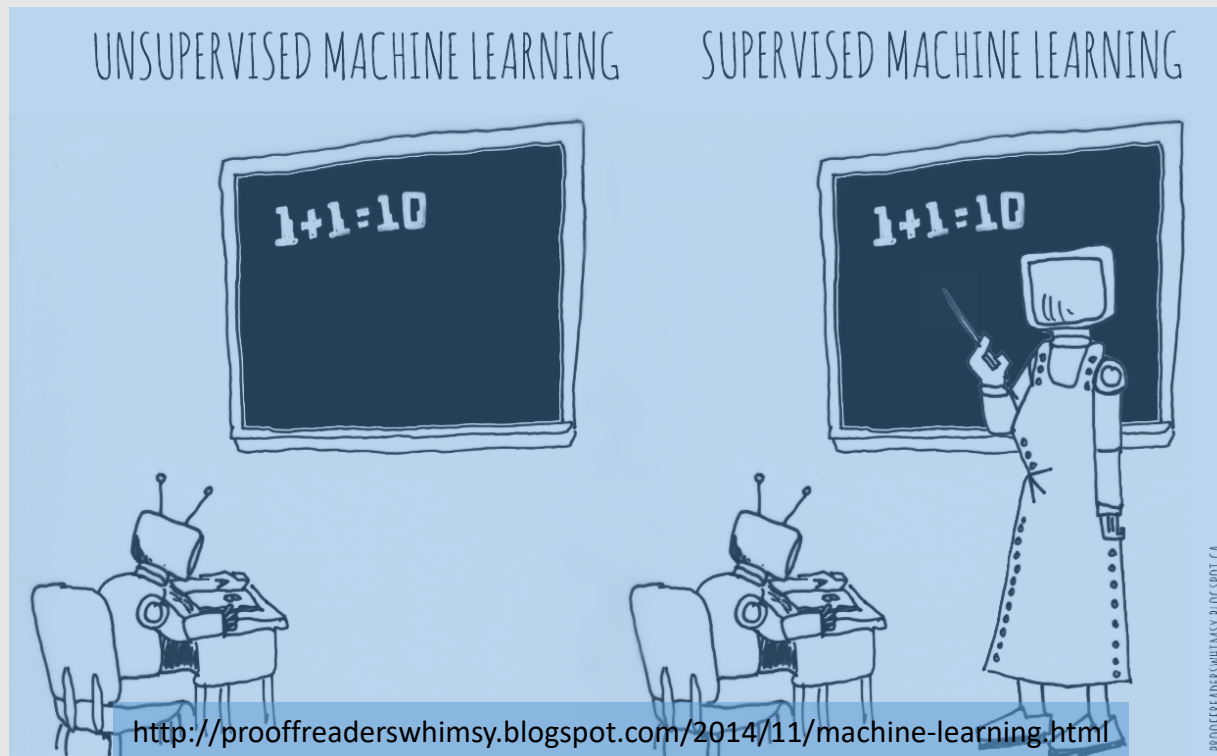


Lecture 8: Unsupervised Learning



[Haiping Lu](#)

YouTube Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/c/HaipingLu/playlists>

[COM4059/6059: MLAI21@The University of Sheffield](#)

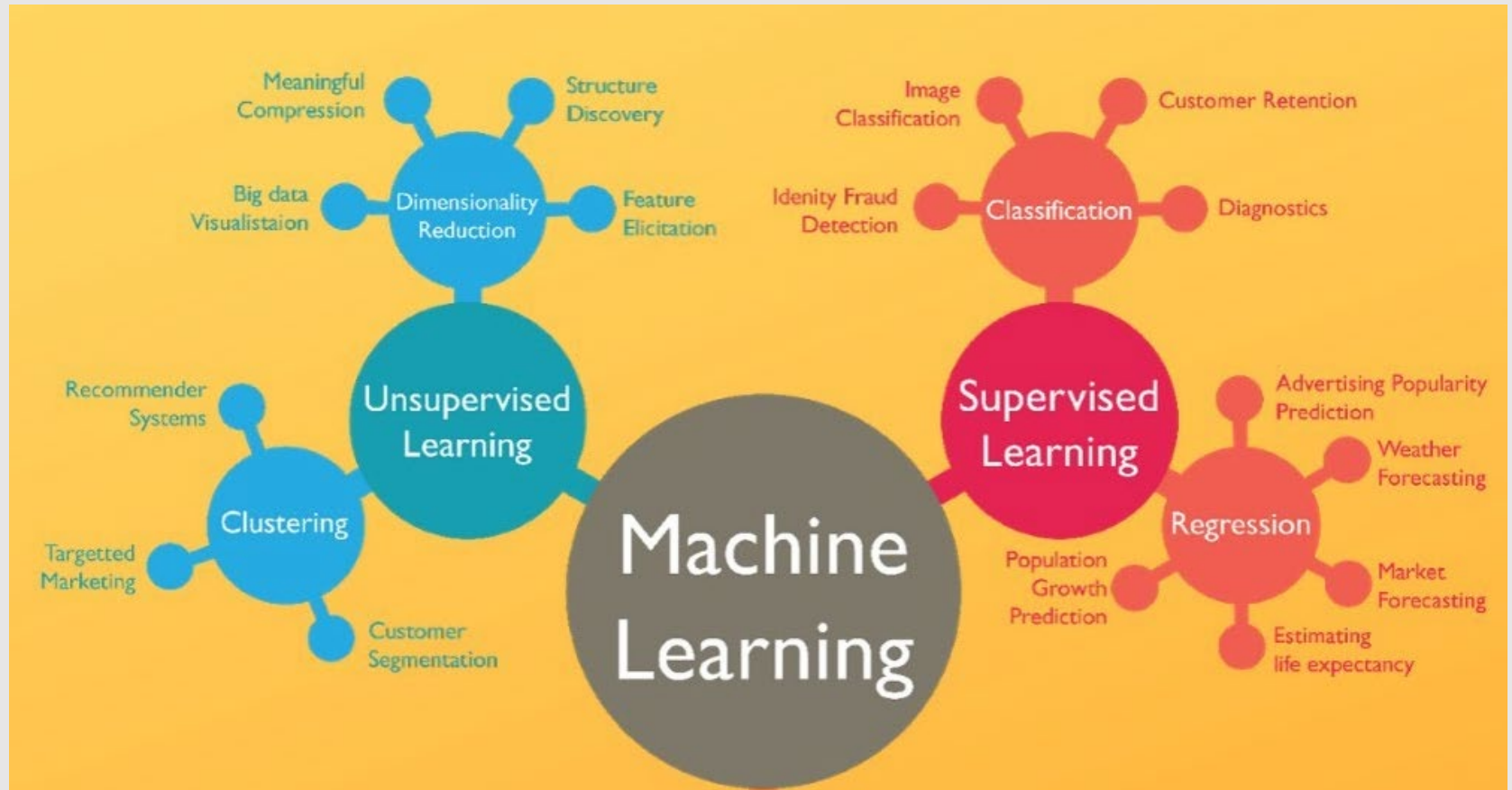
Week 8 Contents / Objectives

- Why Unsupervised Learning?
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- PCA Unboxing
- Clustering: from k -means to spectral
- Autoencoder

Week 8 Contents / Objectives

- **Why Unsupervised Learning?**
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- PCA Unboxing
- Clustering: from k -means to spectral
- Autoencoder

Supervised vs Unsupervised



<https://i.morloh.com/2020/04/14/ff897f322fed.jpg>

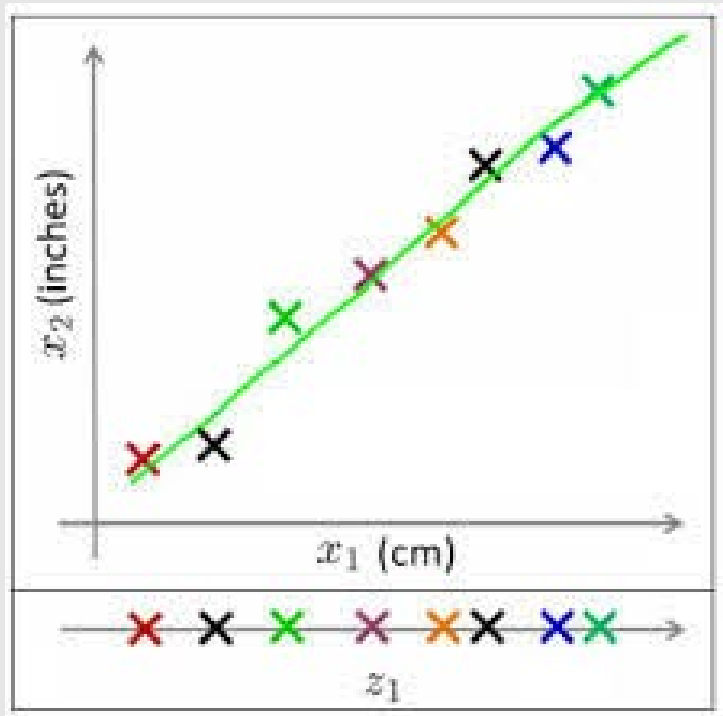
Unsupervised Learning

- Supervised learning: each data point has a label
- Unsupervised learning: no labels for the data
 - Dimensionality reduction
 - Clustering

Machine Learning	Supervised	Unsupervised
Discrete output	Classification	Clustering
Continuous output	Regression	Dimensionality Reduction

Dimensionality Reduction (DR)

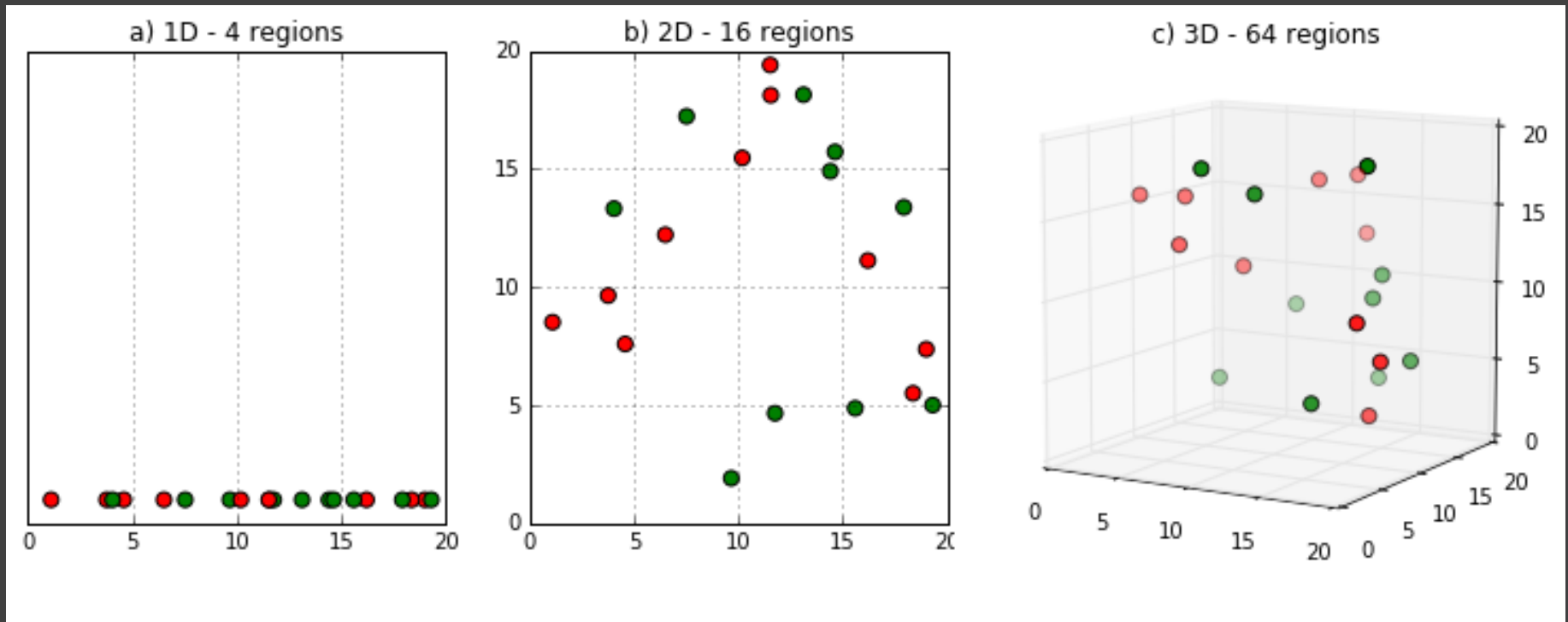
- $2 \rightarrow 1$



High Dimensional Low Dimensional



Original data	Transformed
(1, 1.2)	1.15
(2, 2)	2
(3, 3.3)	3.1
...	...



Why DR?
High D \rightarrow Low D

- **Curse of dimensionality**
 - **Nearest neighbours**
- Reduce redundancy (correlation)
- Visualisation

Question

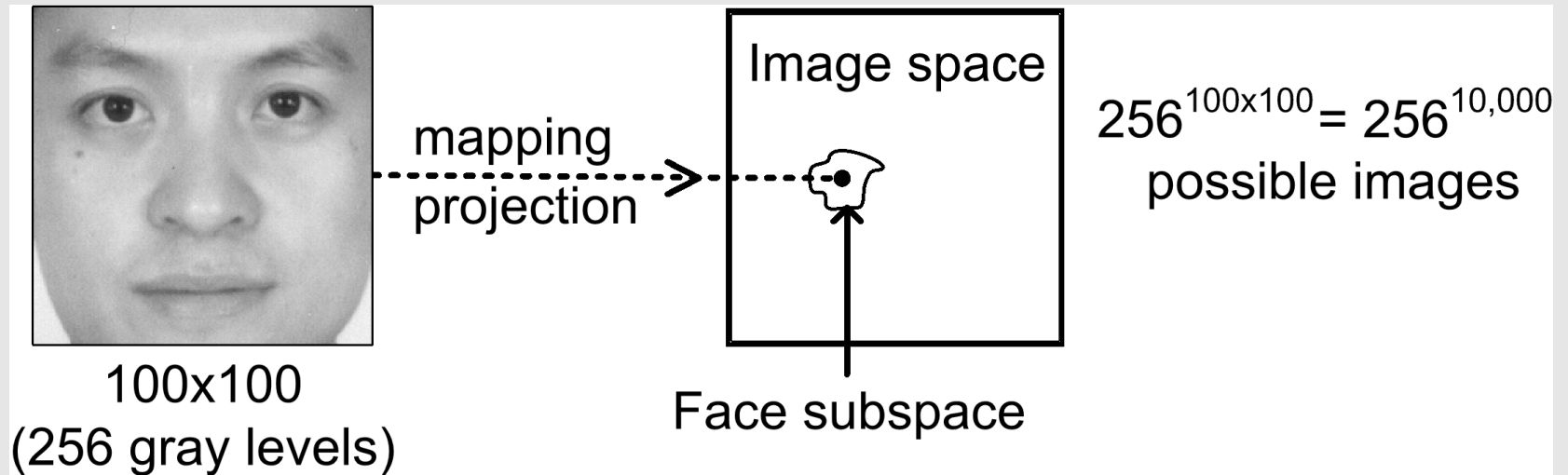
- USPS dataset handwritten digit
- Size: 64 x 57; binary (1-bit, BW)
- The binary image space contains much more than just this digit.



How many possible images of this size and bit depth?

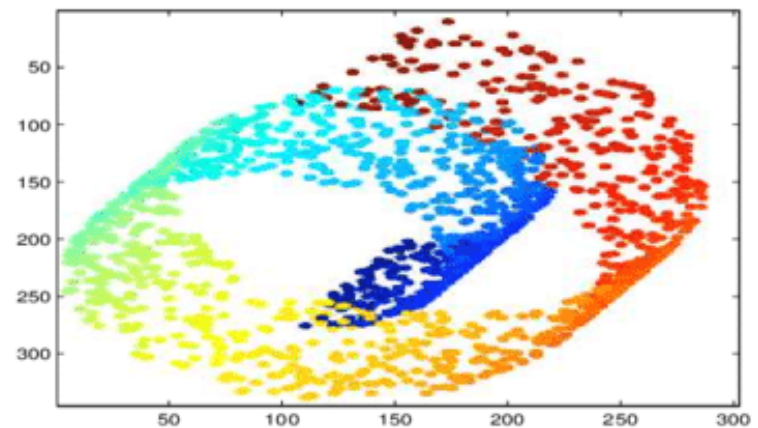
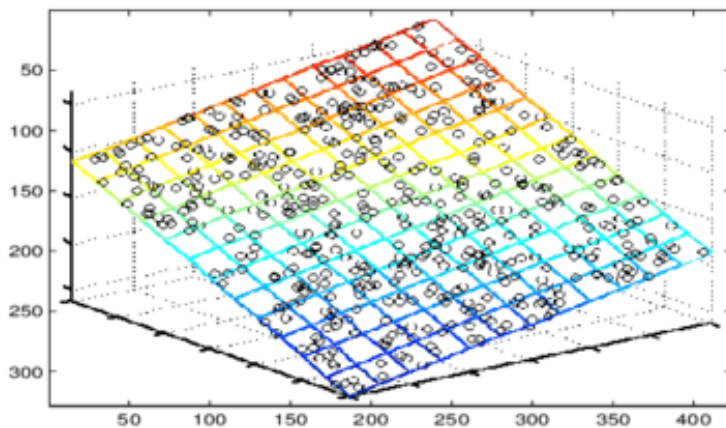
$$2^{64 \times 57} = 2^{3648} = ?$$

How About a Face?



Low-D Subspace/Manifolds

- For high dimensional data with **structure**:
 - Fewer variations than dimensions
 - Data to live on a lower dimensional manifold
 - → Deal with them by looking for a lower dimensional embedding (or projection, transformation)

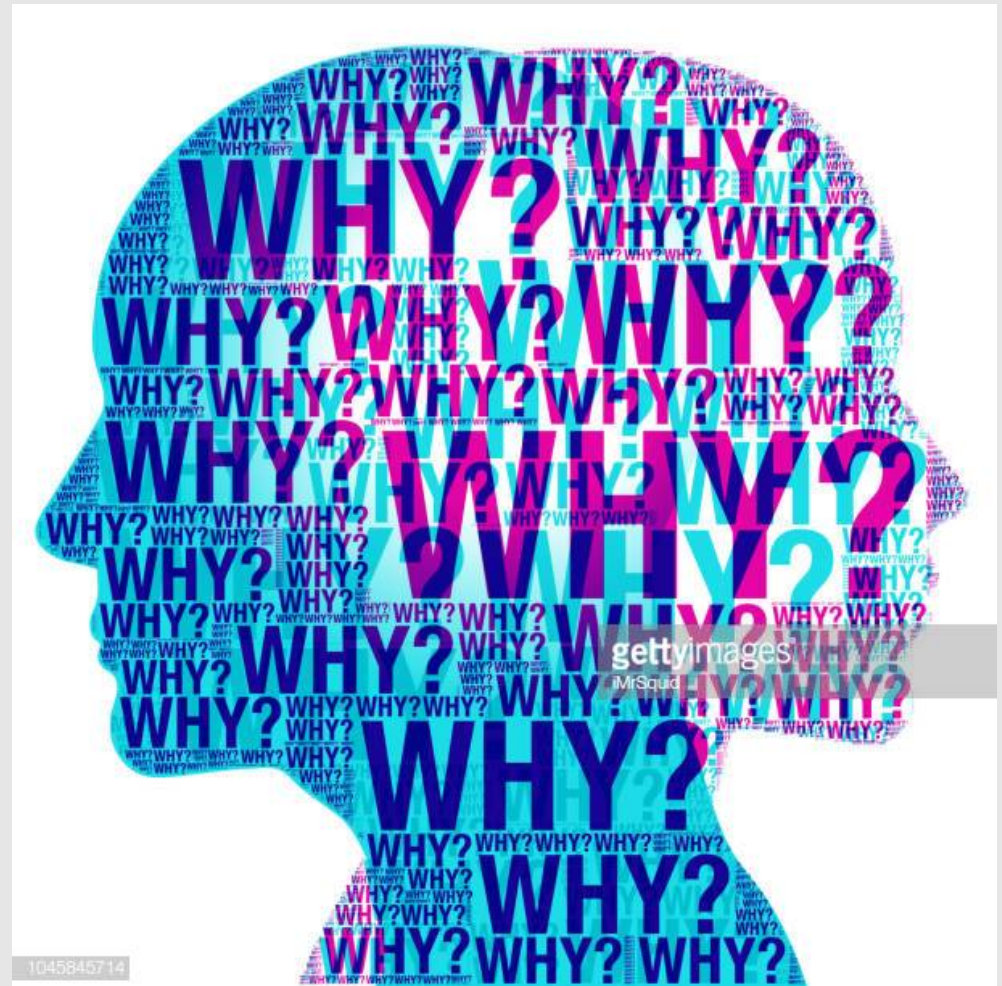


Week 8 Contents / Objectives

- Why Unsupervised Learning?
- **Principal Component Analysis (PCA)**
- PCA Unboxing
- Clustering: from k -means to spectral
- Autoencoder

PCA?

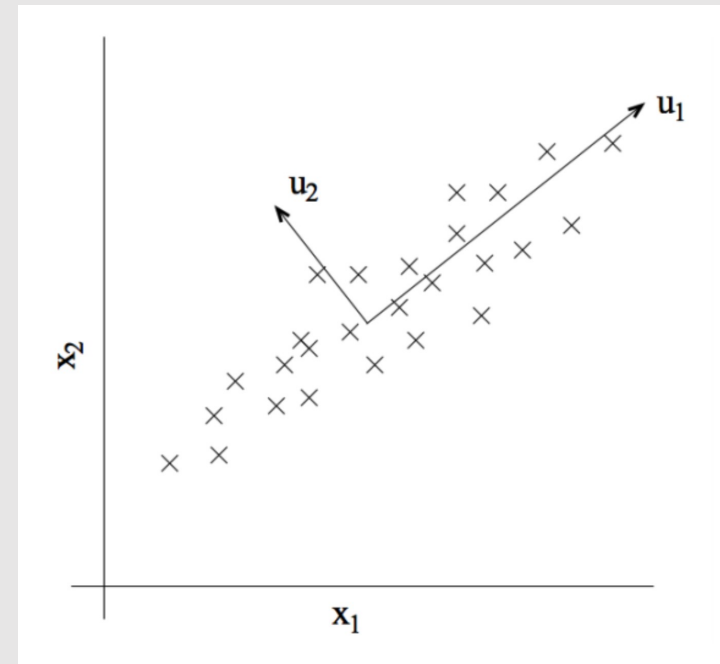
Visualisation demo



Principal Component Analysis

The idea:

1. Rotate the data with some [rotation matrix](#) \mathbf{R} (change of basis) so that the new features are **uncorrelated**
2. Keep the dimension with the highest **variance** for DR



Principal Component Analysis

- PCA (@Hotelling:analysis33): a linear embedding
- Rotate to find *directions* in data with **maximum variance**
- How do we find these directions?
 - Diagonalize the **sample covariance (scatter) matrix** of N samples $\{\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, i = 1, \dots, N\}$

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^{\top}$$

Principal Component Analysis

- Given data $\{\mathbf{x}^{(i)}\}$, PCA finds **orthogonal** directions defined by a projection (rotation) \mathbf{U} capturing the **maximum variance** in the data
- Solution: eigenvectors of $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{U}$
- PCA representation $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{x}$
- **Question:** Given the PCA representation \mathbf{y} , how to obtain an approximation/reconstruction of \mathbf{x} ?

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{y}$$

Representation & Reconstruction

- Face \mathbf{x} in k “face space” coordinates

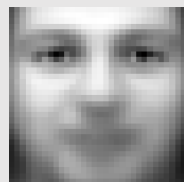


$$\mathbf{x} \rightarrow [\mathbf{u}_1^\top (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}), \dots, \mathbf{u}_k^\top (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})] \\ = [w_1, \dots, w_k]$$

- Reconstruction: eigenvectors as orthonormal basis vectors



=



+



$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + w_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + w_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + w_3 \mathbf{u}_3 + w_4 \mathbf{u}_4 + \dots$$

Reconstruction

$k = 4$



$k = 200$



$k = 400$



After computing eigenfaces using 400 face images from the ORL face database

PCA Ingredients

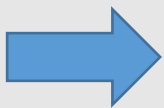
- **Data:** +pre-processing, e.g., $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$
- **Model**
 - Structure/Architecture: linear projection $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{x}$
 - **Hyper-parameter:** lower dimension k
 - Parameters (theta): the principal components (eigenvectors)
- Evaluation metric: max variance
- Optimisation: eigen-decomposition

Week 8 Contents / Objectives

- Why Unsupervised Learning?
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- **PCA Unboxing**
- Clustering: from k -means to spectral
- Autoencoder

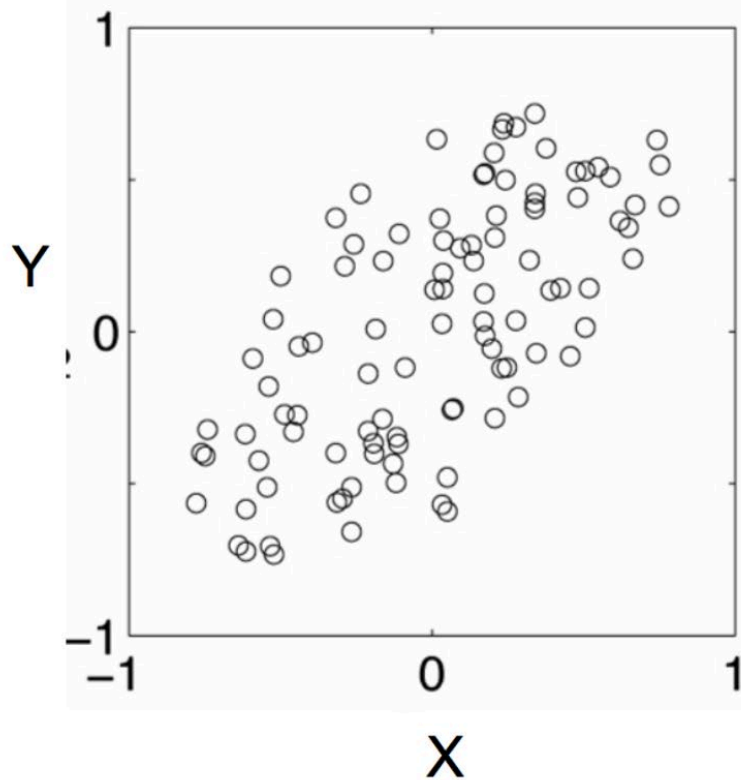
Variance → Covariance (Matrix)

- Variance and covariance:
 - Measure of the “spread” of a set of points around their *center of mass* (mean)
- Variance (scalar):
 - Measure of the deviation from the mean for points in **one dimension**
- Covariance (**matrix**):
 - Measure of how much each of the dimensions vary from the mean with **respect to each other**

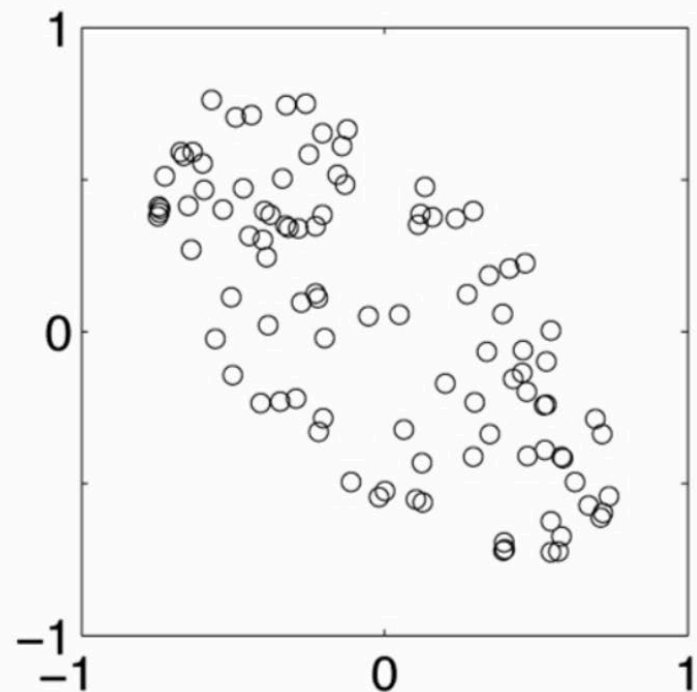


- Covariance is measured between two dimensions
- Covariance sees if there is a **relation** between the two dimensions
- Covariance between one dimension is the variance (degeneration)

Positive/Negative Covariance




Positive: Both dimensions increase or decrease together



Negative: While one increase the other decrease

Covariance

- Find relationships between dimensions in high dimensional data sets \mathbf{X}
- Scatter matrix \mathbf{S} : sample-based estimation of covariance matrix (i : sample; j/k : variable)

$$s_{jk} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (X_{ij} - E(X_j))(X_{ik} - E(X_k))$$


The Sample mean

- Uncorrelated variables \rightarrow covariance = 0
- Diagonal covariance mat \rightarrow all variables are uncorrelated

PCA Derivation – Max Variance

- Scatter mat for the input $\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^\top$
- **Question:** what is the scatter mat for the projections?

$$\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{U}$$

- First PC: **maximise the variance** in the **projected** space, i.e. the variance of $y = \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(y) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(y^{(i)} - \mu_y \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{u}_1^\top \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_x \right) \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_x \right)^\top \mathbf{u}_1 \\ &= \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 \end{aligned}$$

PCA: Max Variance \rightarrow Eigenvalue

- Find the first direction \mathbf{u}_1 via a unit-norm constrained optimisation, using [Lagrange multipliers](#):

$$L(\mathbf{u}_1, \lambda_1) = \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 + \lambda_1 (1 - \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{u}_1)$$

- Gradient w.r.t. \mathbf{u}_1 : $\frac{dL(\mathbf{u}_1, \lambda_1)}{d\mathbf{u}_1} = 2\mathbf{S}\mathbf{u}_1 - 2\lambda_1\mathbf{u}_1$
- Set to 0 and rearrange: $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{u}_1 = \lambda_1\mathbf{u}_1 \rightarrow$ First PC
 - [Eigenvalue problem](#)
- **Question:** many solutions (eigen-pairs), which to choose?

$$\text{var}(y) = \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u} = \lambda \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{u} = \lambda$$

PCA Solution

- Further directions: **orthogonal** (uncorrelated) to the first and each others \rightarrow top k eigenvectors of \mathbf{S}
 - Eigenvectors: basis functions, principal components
 - Eigenvalue: the **variance** captured respectively
- **Questions**
 - For \mathbf{u}_1 , what if we do not have the unit-norm constraint?
$$L(\mathbf{u}_1, \lambda_1) = \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{u}_1 + \lambda_1 (1 - \mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{u}_1)$$
 \rightarrow Trivial solution: infinity
 - For further directions: what if we do not require them to be orthogonal? \rightarrow We will have the same \mathbf{u}_1 , useless solution

PCA: Max Variance \leftrightarrow Min MSE

Consider the first PC with the projection vector \mathbf{u} . We assume **zero-mean**, i.e. *centered* data

Maximum Variance Direction: 1st PC = a vector \mathbf{u} such that projection on it captures max variance in the data

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)})^2 = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{u}$$

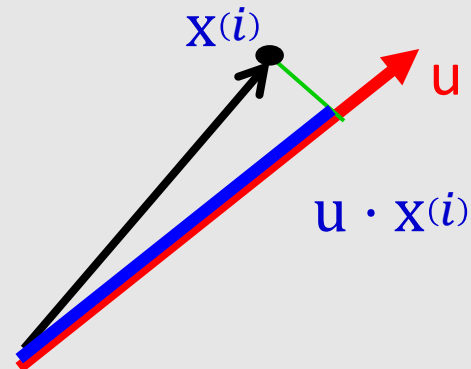
Minimum Reconstruction Error: 1st PC = a vector \mathbf{u} such that projection on it yields minimum MSE reconstruction

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}) \mathbf{u}\|^2$$

$$\text{blue}^2 + \text{green}^2 = \text{black}^2$$

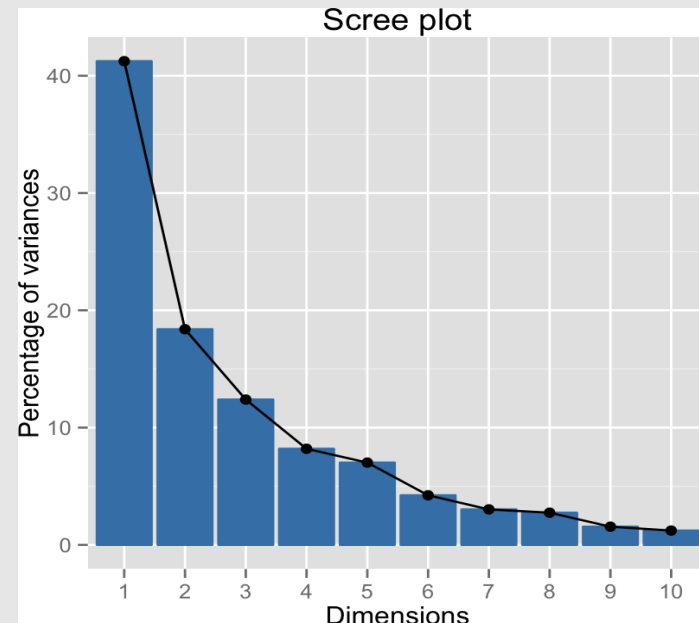
black² is fixed (it's just the data)

So, maximizing blue² is equivalent to minimizing green²



How many (k) PCs to keep?

- Pick based on percentage of variance captured / lost
 - Variance captured: the variance of the projected data
 - Pick smallest k that explains a certain percentage of variance
(Sum of first k EVs)/(sum of all EVs)
- Look for an “elbow” in [scree plot](#) (plot of explained variance or eigenvalues)

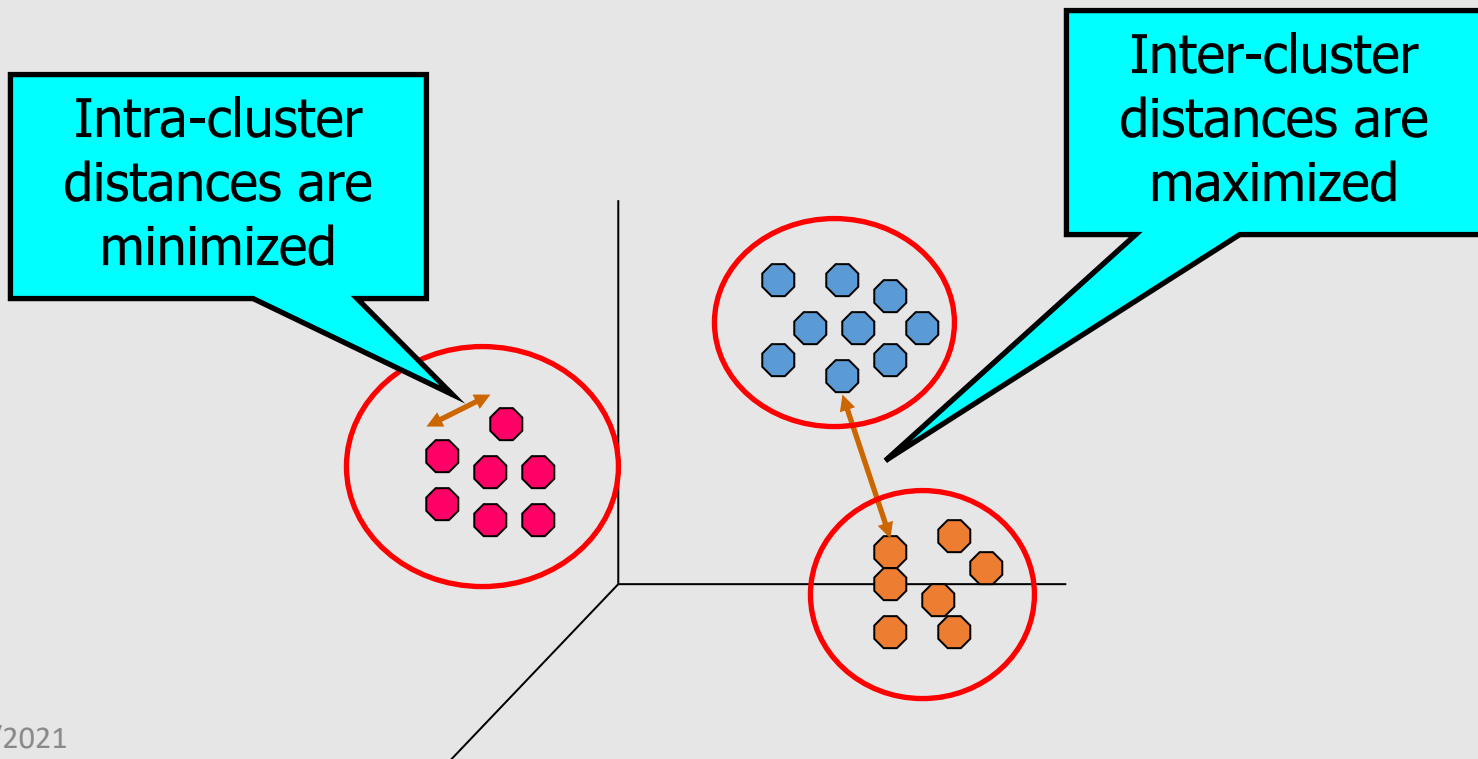


Week 8 Contents / Objectives

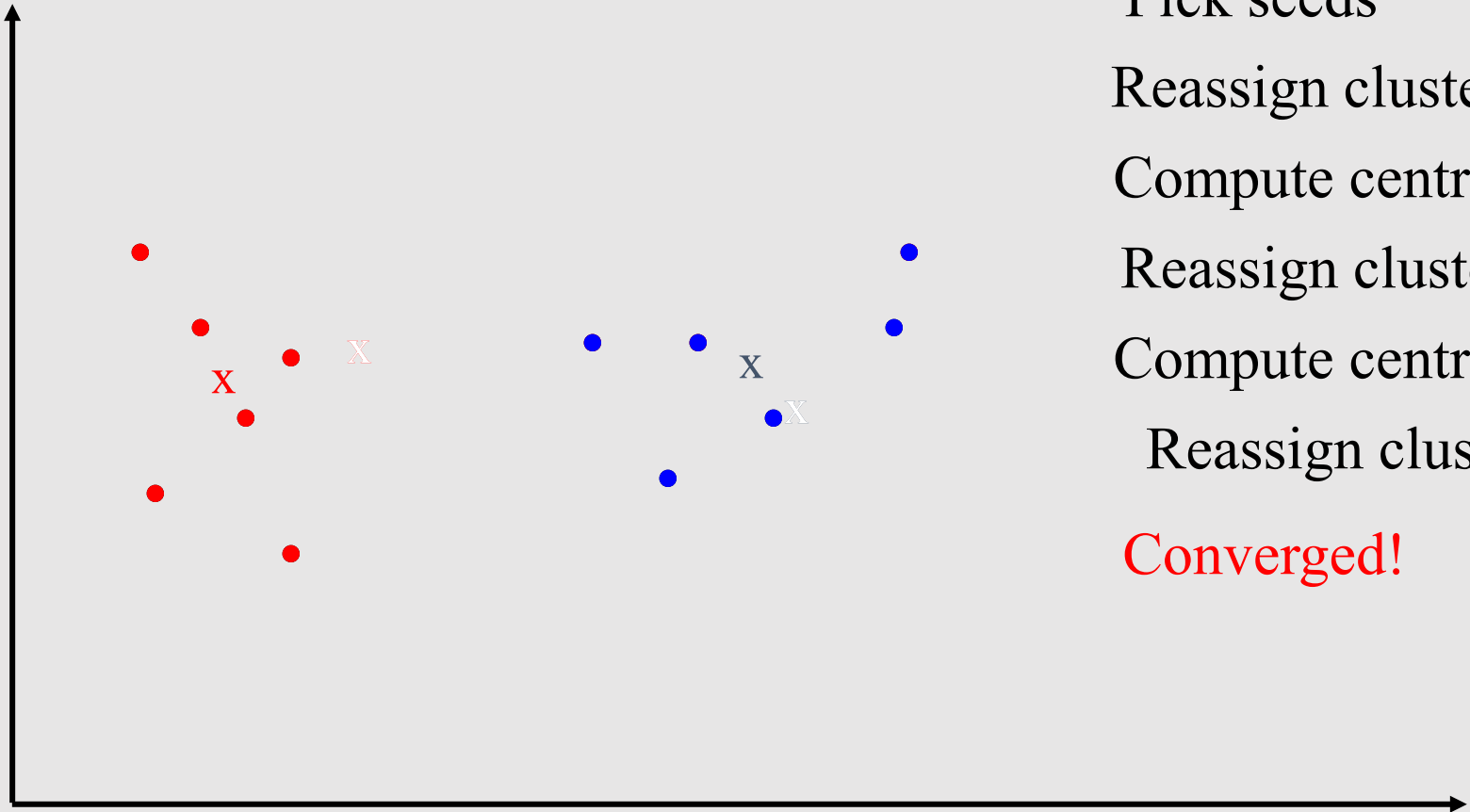
- Why Unsupervised Learning?
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- **Clustering: from k -means to spectral**
- Autoencoder

What is Clustering?

- Find grouping of objects such that the objects in a group will be similar or more related to one another and those in different groups will be different or less related



k -means Example ($k=2$)



Pick seeds

Reassign clusters

Compute centroids

Reassign clusters

Compute centroids

Reassign clusters

Converged!

k -means & PCA

Machine Learning	Supervised	Unsupervised
Discrete output	Classification	Clustering
Continuous output	Regression	Dimensionality Reduction

- The objective of k -means clustering: to minimize the within-cluster scatter

$$\min \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i \text{ allocated to } j} \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(j)} \right)^{\top} \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(j)} \right)$$

- Similarity with PCA: also measure of the “spread” of a set of points around their *center of mass* (mean)
- Clustering analogy
 - Classification w/o labelled training data
 - Extreme dimensionality reduction (to a **cluster label**)

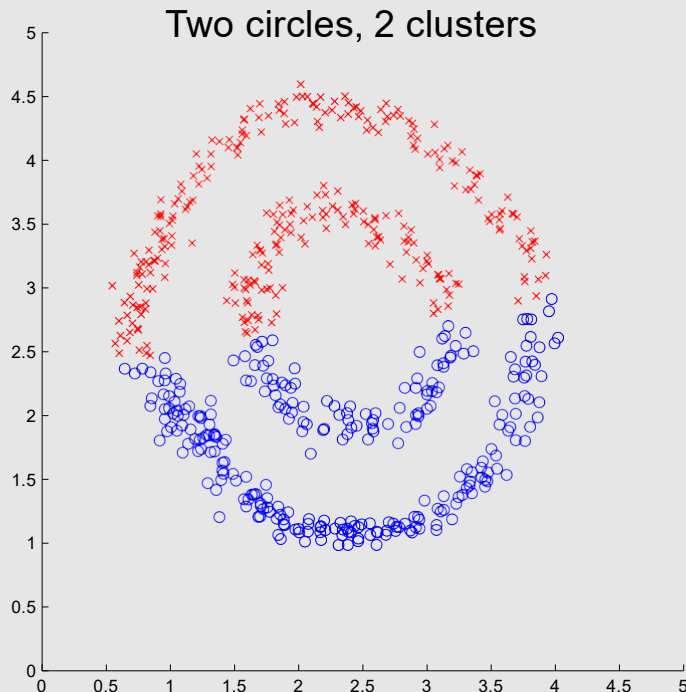
k -means Clustering Ingredients

- **Data:** +pre-processing, e.g., $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$
- **Model**
 - Structure/Architecture: linear separation btw clusters
 - **Hyper-parameter:** #clusters k
 - Parameters (theta): the k cluster centroids
- Evaluation metric: within-cluster scatter
- Optimisation: expectation maximisation (EM), kind of gradient descent

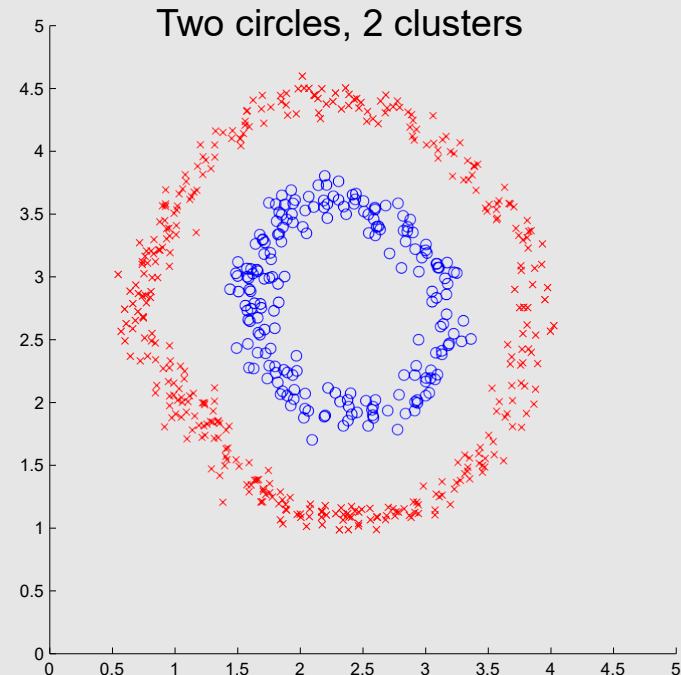
k -means Has a Problem

- k -means: centroid-based, for compactness (scatter)
- Spectral clustering: **connectivity**

k -means

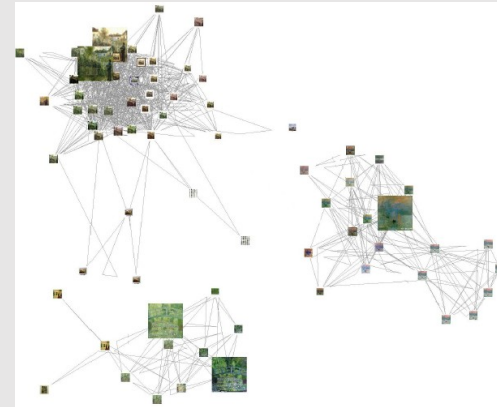
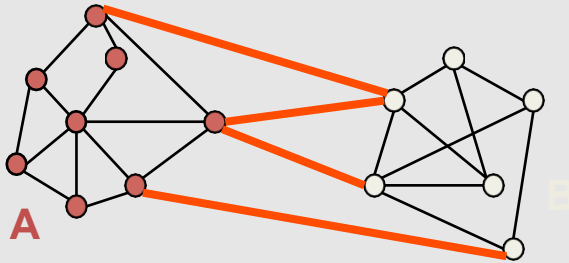


Spectral clustering

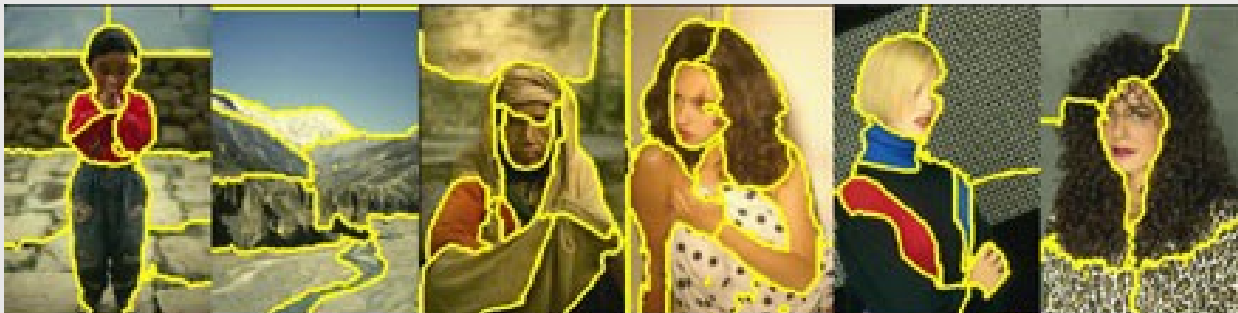


Spectral Clustering

- Group points based on **links** in a **graph**



- Image as graph: segmentation as clustering

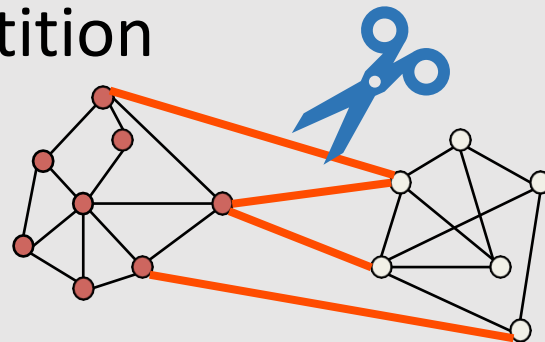


How to Create the Graph?

- Gaussian kernel \rightarrow compute similarity between objects

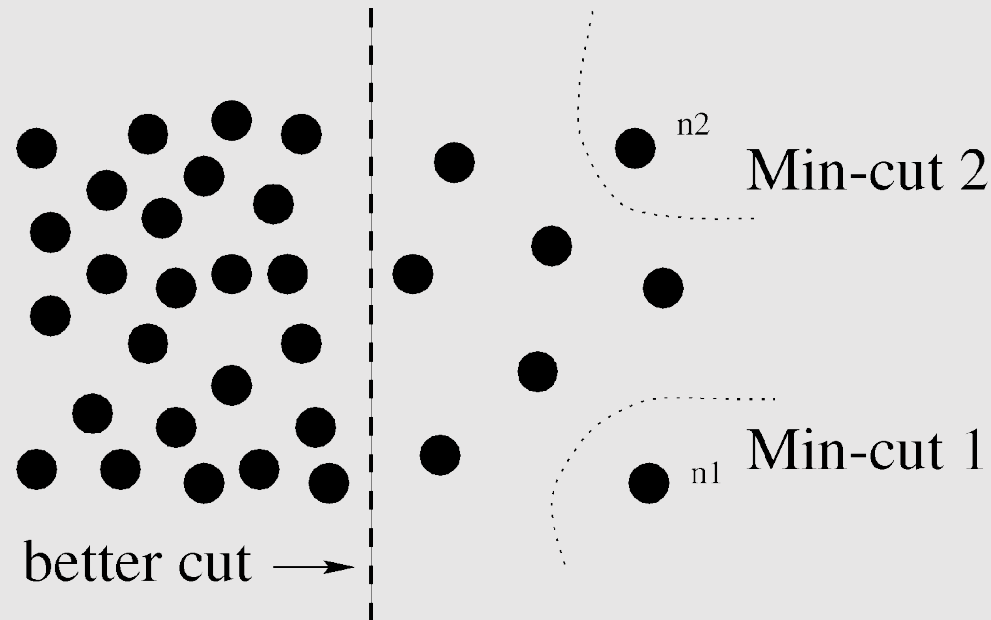
$$\mathbf{W}(i, j) = \exp \frac{-|x_i - x_j|^2}{\sigma^2}$$

- One could create
 - A fully connected graph (\sim FC layer)
 - K-nearest neighbour graph: each node is only connected to its K-nearest neighbours (\sim convolutional layer, local connectivity)
- Clustering \rightarrow Graph cut/partition
 - Objective: **minimise** cut



Min Cut = Good Cut?

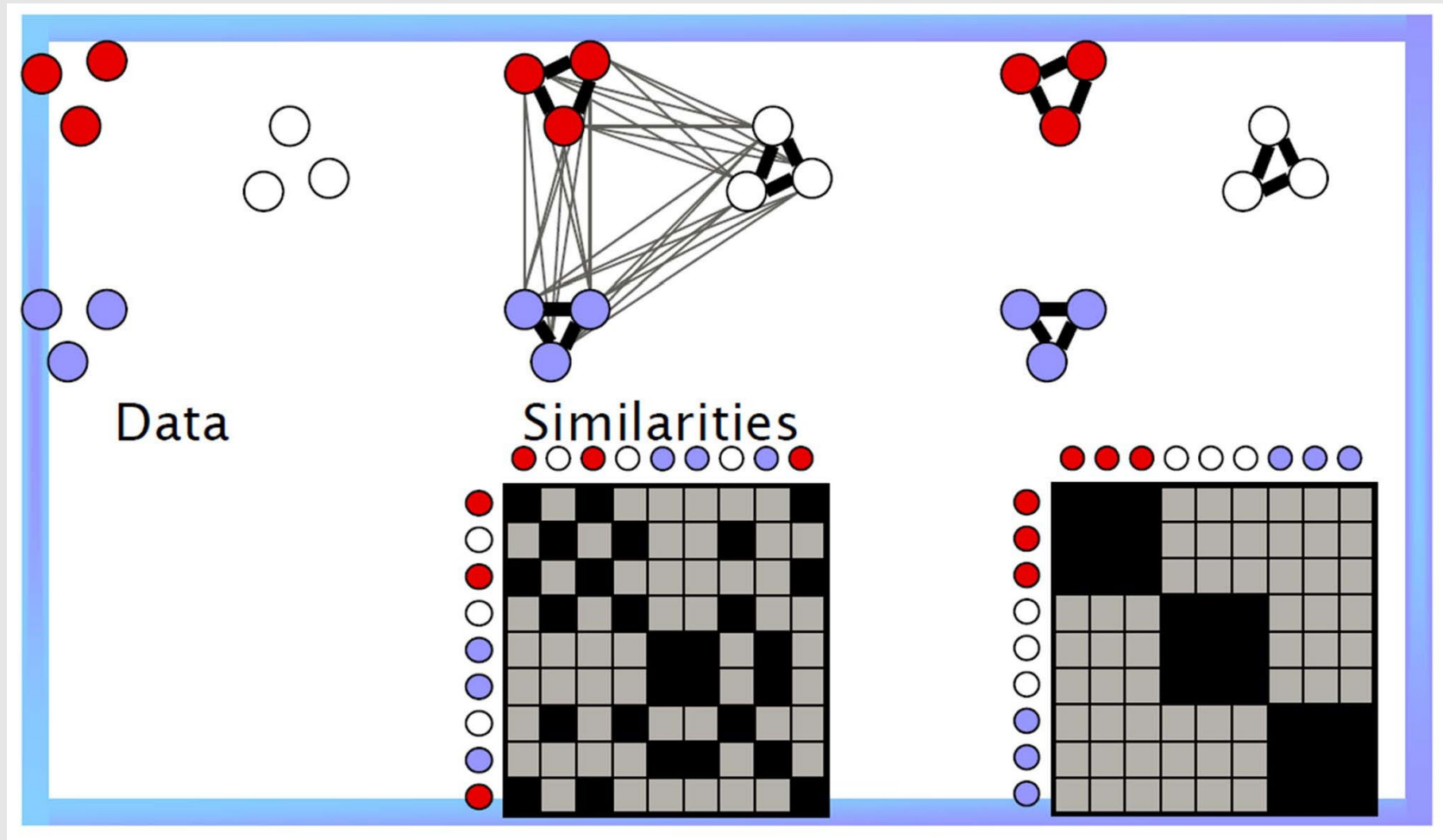
- A case where minimum cut gives a bad partition



- Solution: **Normalise** the cut

[Shi & Malik '00]

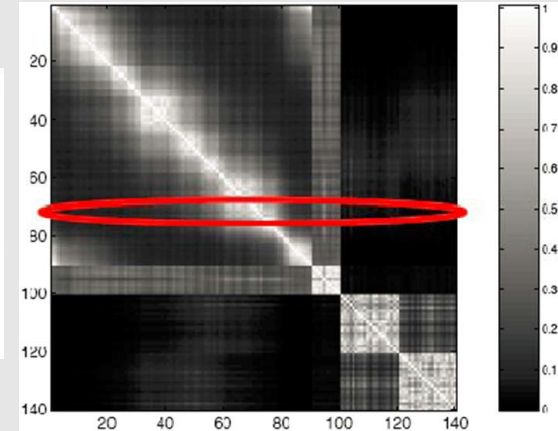
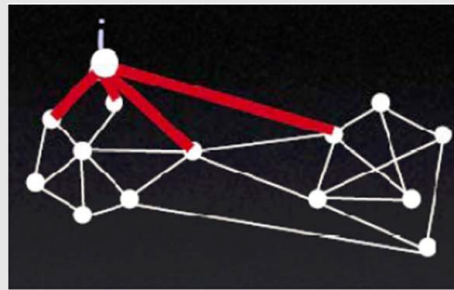
Graph Clustering Process



Graph Terminologies

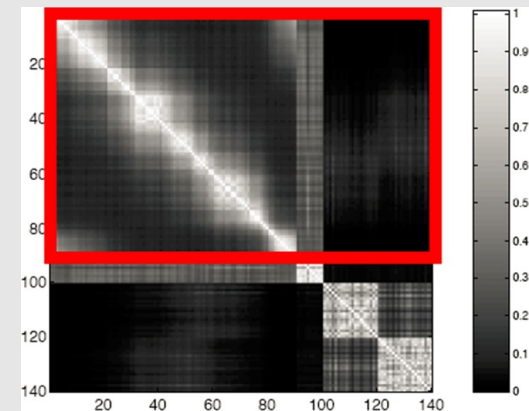
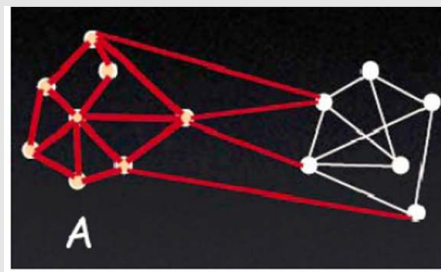
- Degree of nodes

$$d_i = \sum_j w_{i,j}$$



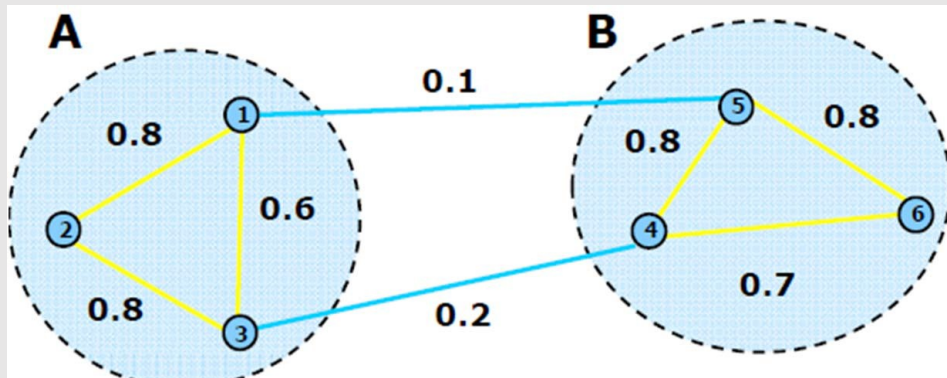
- Volume of a set

$$vol(A) = \sum_{i \in A} d_i, A \subseteq V$$



Graph Cut

- Consider a partition of the graph into two parts A & B



Question

$$\text{cut}(A, B) =$$

- $\text{cut}(A, B)$: sum of the weights of the set of edges that connect the two groups

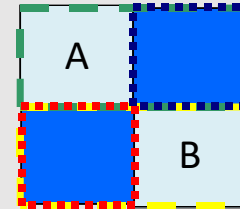
$$\text{cut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} w_{ij}$$

- Goal: find the partition that minimizes the cut

Normalized Cut (Ncut)

- Consider the **connectivity** between groups **relative** to the volume of each group

$$Ncut(A, B) = \frac{cut(A, B)}{Vol(A)} + \frac{cut(A, B)}{Vol(B)}$$



$$Ncut(A, B) = cut(A, B) \frac{Vol(A) + Vol(B)}{Vol(A)Vol(B)}$$

Solving/Minimising Ncut

- Compute the similarity matrix \mathbf{W} : $\mathbf{W}(i, j) = w_{i,j}$
- Compute the degree matrix \mathbf{D} : $\mathbf{D}(i, i) = \sum_j w_{i,j}$
- Solve a generalised **eigenvalue** problem (relaxed Ncut)

$$\min_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{y}^\top (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W}) \mathbf{y} \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{D} \mathbf{y} = 1 \Rightarrow (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W}) \mathbf{y} = \lambda \mathbf{D} \mathbf{y}$$

$(\mathbf{D}-\mathbf{W})$: Laplacian matrix

- Solution:
 - Bipartition: use the eigenvector with the second smallest eigenvalue to partition the graph into two parts
 - Splitting point: minimum Ncut (plot).
 - K-way partition: **k-means clustering** of multiple eigenvectors
 - Graph embedding (dimensionality reduction) \rightarrow eigenvectors

Recap: Power of Transform

- Logistic regression **transforms** classification into linear regression of the log odds, modelling the probability of the predicted output rather than the output itself.
- Spectral clustering **transforms** non-linear clustering into (linear) k -means clustering of generalised eigenvectors based on the similarity graph, modelling the connectivity of data points rather than themselves.



Spectral Clustering Ingredients

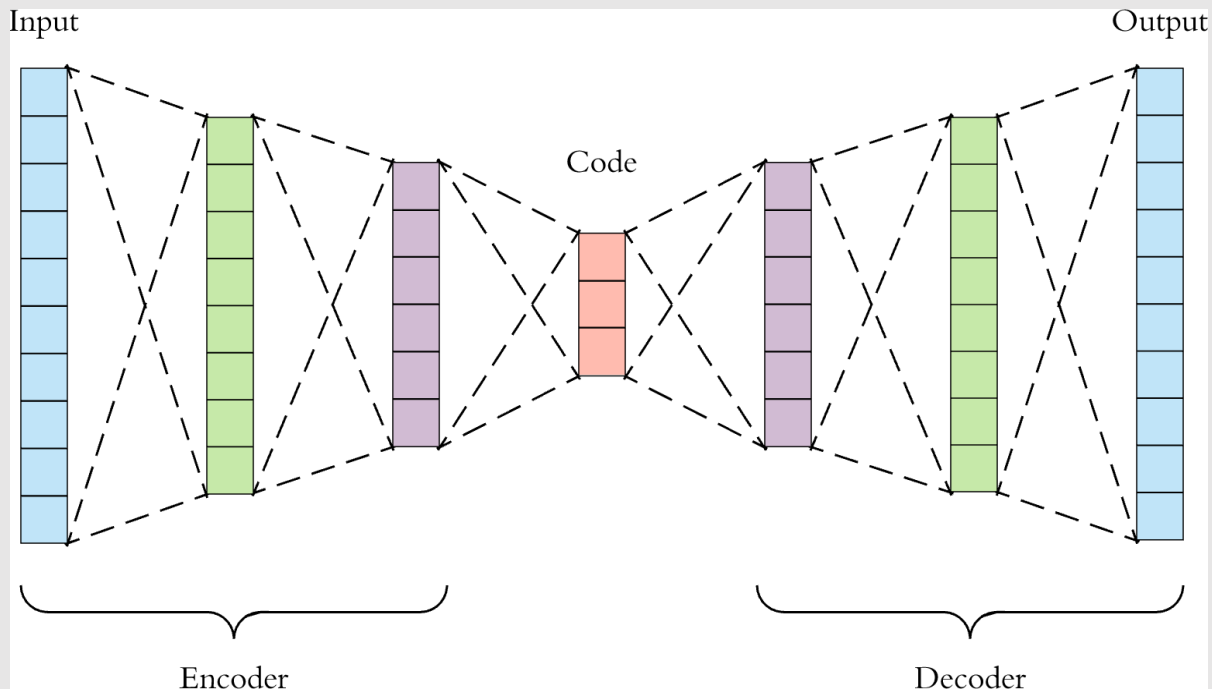
- **Data:** +pre-processing, e.g., $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$
- **Model**
 - Structure/Architecture: spectral (nonlinear) separation btw clusters
 - **Hyper-parameter:** #clusters k (+#eigenvectors), kernel bandwidth σ
 - Parameters (theta): the (generalised) eigenvectors
- Evaluation metric: normalised (graph) cut
- Optimisation: eigen-decomposition (and expectation maximisation in k -means)

Week 8 Contents / Objectives

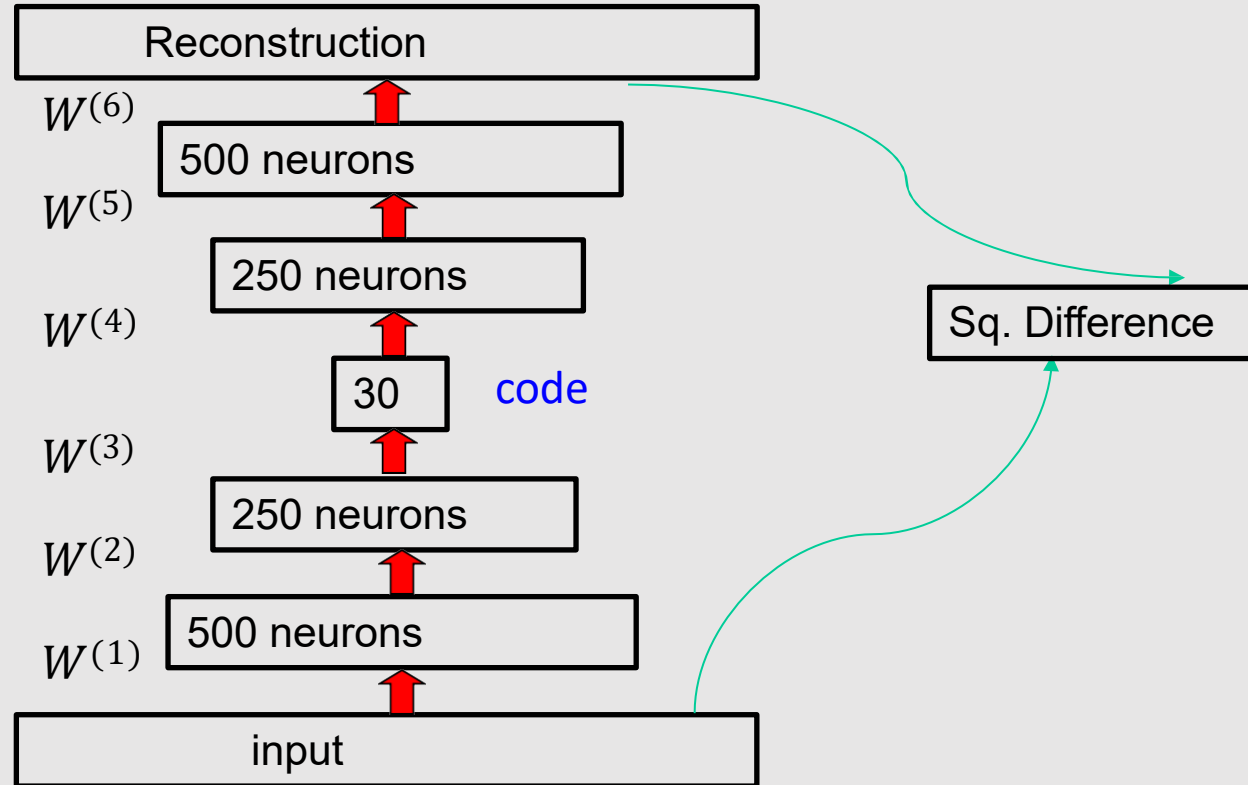
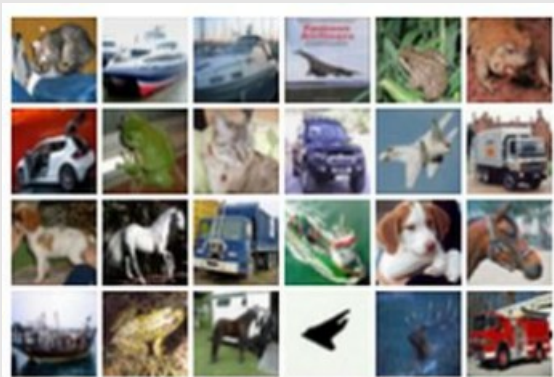
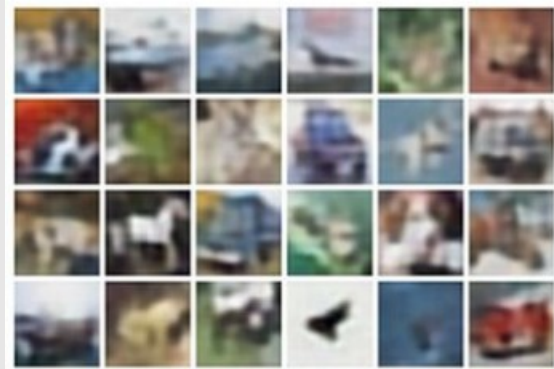
- Why Unsupervised Learning?
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- PCA Unboxing
- Clustering: from k -means to spectral
- **Autoencoder**

Autoencoder

- **Encoder:** compress data or extract features
- **Decoder:** generate images given a new code
- **Bottleneck (code):** to make it non-trivial, much smaller dimension as the latent representation



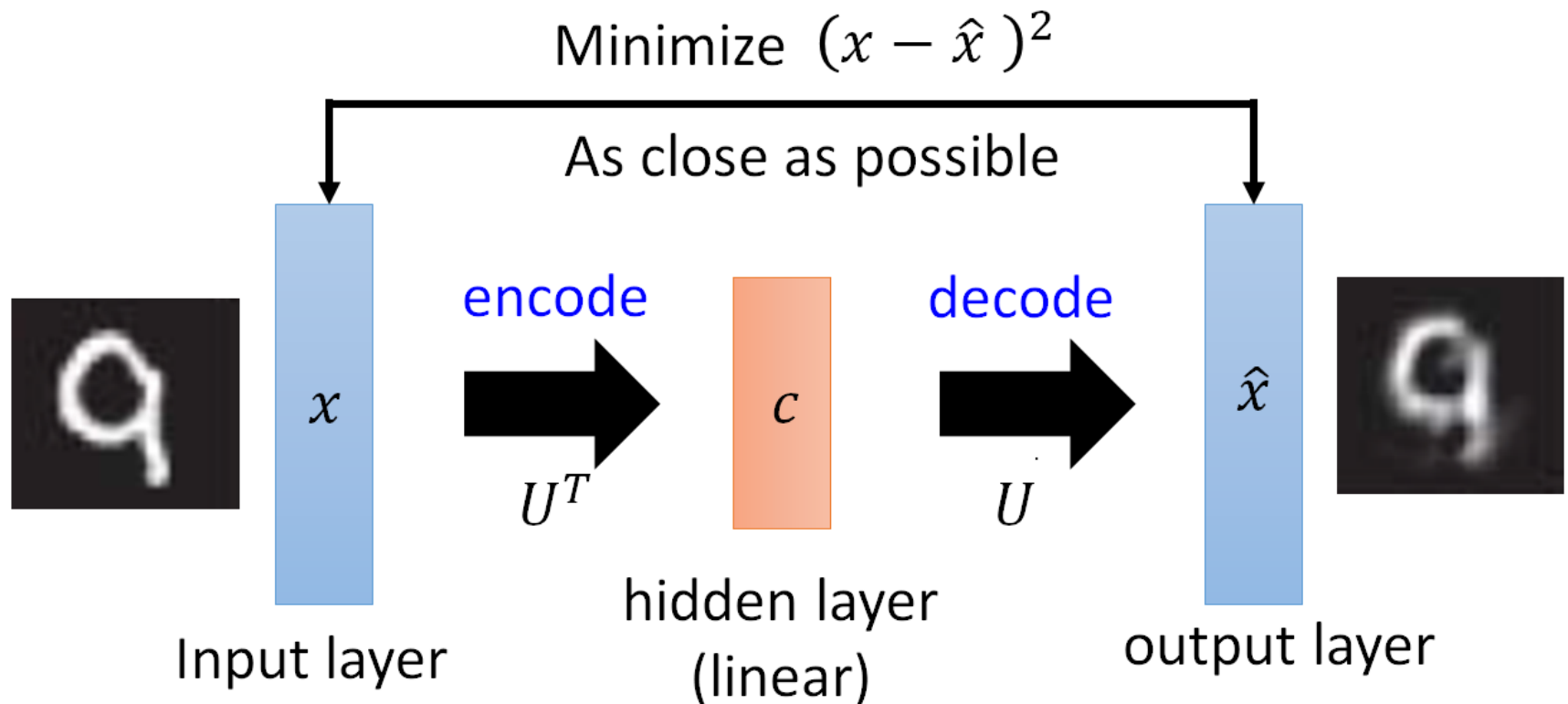
Autoencoder Example



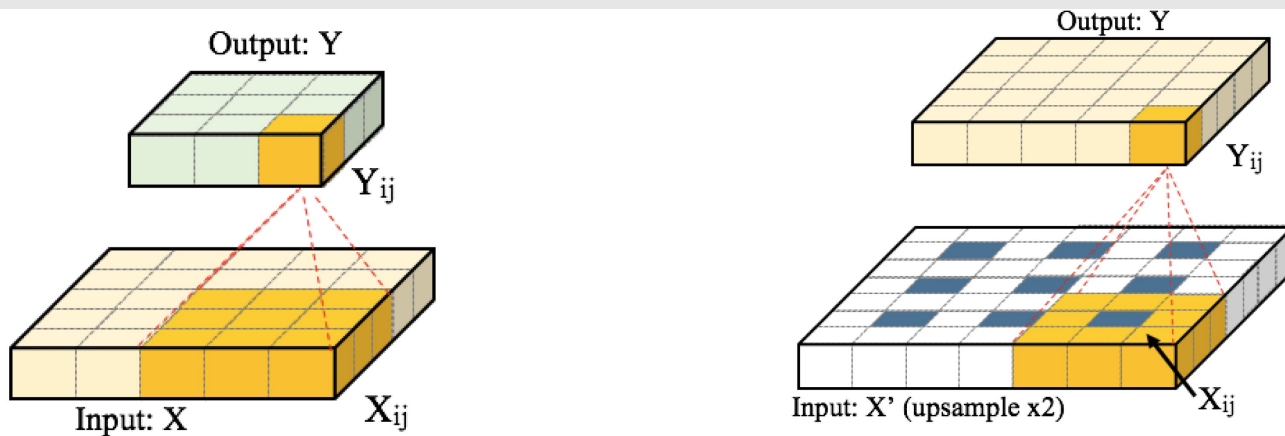
- Find the weights minimising the difference between the input and reconstruction
- The **code** layer (bottleneck) is a low-dimensional summary of the input

PCA as Linear Autoencoder

- PCA: autoencoder w/t single-layer encoder/decoder
- Weight sharing between the encoder and decoder



Transpose Convolution Layer



(a) Convolutional layer: the input size is $W_1 = H_1 = 5$; the receptive field $F = 3$; the convolution is performed with stride $S = 1$ and no padding ($P = 0$). The output Y is of size $W_2 = H_2 = 3$.

(b) Transposed convolutional layer: input size $W_1 = H_1 = 3$; transposed convolution with stride $S = 2$; padding with $P = 1$; and a receptive field of $F = 3$. The output Y is of size $W_2 = H_2 = 5$.

<https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/9/6/522/htm>

More at https://github.com/vdumoulin/conv_arithmetic

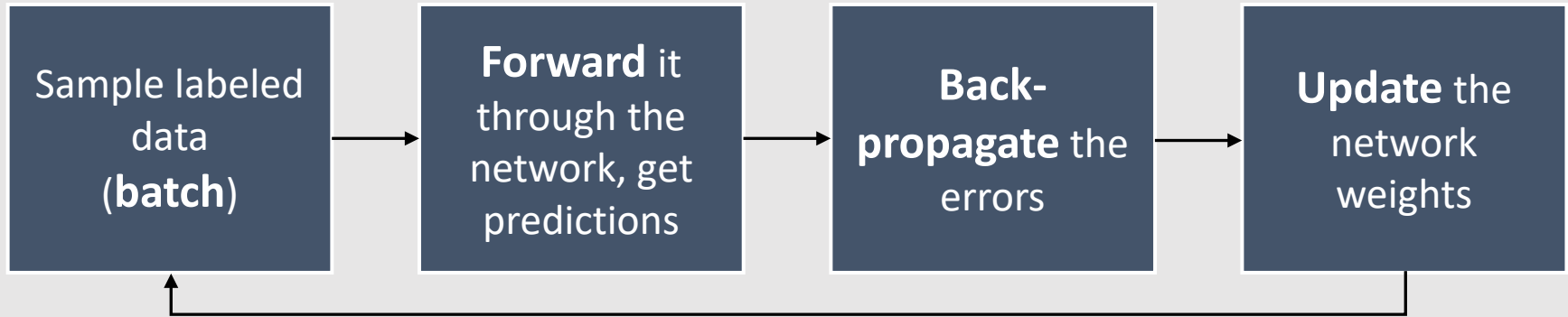
Convolutional Autoencoder (Lab)

```
class Autoencoder(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self):
        super(Autoencoder, self).__init__()
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(
            # 1 input image channel, 16 output channel, 3x3 square convolution
            nn.Conv2d(1, 16, 3, stride=2, padding=1),
            nn.ReLU(),
            nn.Conv2d(16, 32, 3, stride=2, padding=1),
            nn.ReLU(),
            nn.Conv2d(32, 64, 7)
        )
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(
            nn.ConvTranspose2d(64, 32, 7),
            nn.ReLU(),
            nn.ConvTranspose2d(32, 16, 3, stride=2, padding=1, output_padding=1),
            nn.ReLU(),
            nn.ConvTranspose2d(16, 1, 3, stride=2, padding=1, output_padding=1),
            nn.Sigmoid() #to range [0, 1]
        )

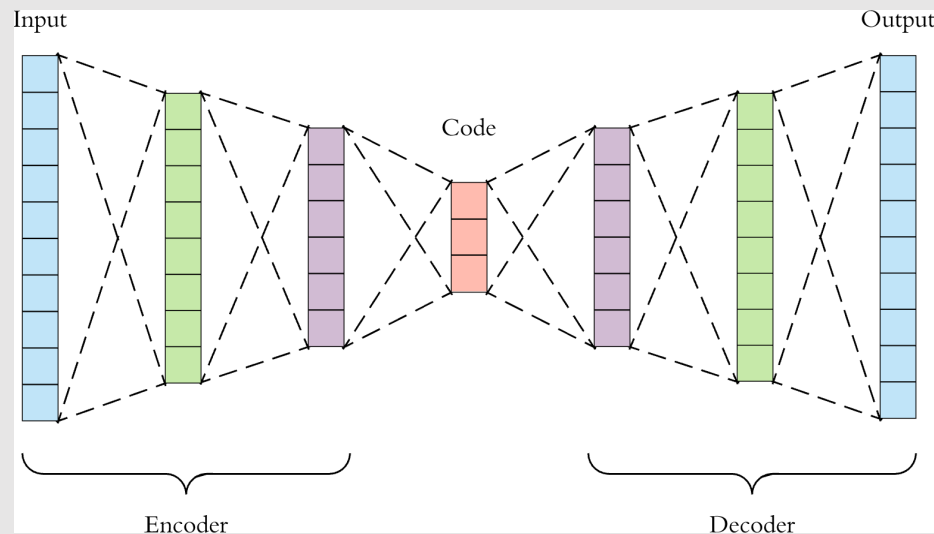
    def forward(self, x):
        x = self.encoder(x)
        x = self.decoder(x)

    def __repr__(self):
        return x
```

Training



Data → Model → Metric → Optimisation



Autoencoder Ingredients

- **Data:** + pre-processing, e.g., $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$
- **Model**
 - Structure/Architecture: layers defined in `nn.module`
 - **Hyper-parameter:** layer specs, e.g. #layers #channels, kernel size
 - Parameters (theta): layer weights and biases
- Evaluation metric: MSE or other
- Optimisation: backprop, SGD or the like



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Recommended Reading

- The [PCA book](#) (from a UIUC link)
- Chapter on PCA in most machine learning books
- Chapter on clustering in most machine learning books
- The [normalized cut paper](#) in 2000
- Chapter on autoencoder in [the Deep Learning Book](#)
- Wikipedia entries on covered topics
- Scikit-learn/PyTorch documentations
- The lab notebook and references