

PCA

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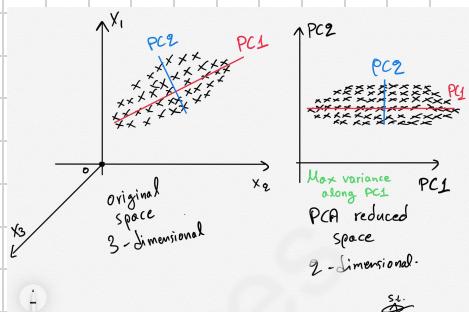
- PCA is a linear dimensionality reduction technique that can be used to simplify a dataset by reducing the number of dimensions

- Dimensions: Number of features

- Why reduce the dimensionality?
 - Too many features
 - Correlated features

Plotting

The idea of PCA is to find directions in the data where variance is maximized.



- PCA transforms the original data into principal components

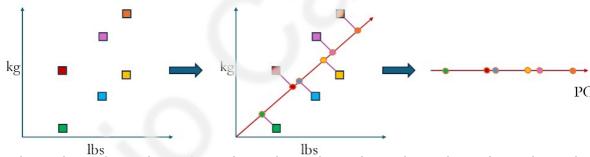
- Principal components: New dimensions that my data are projected, they are chosen to capture the most important patterns in the data

- How can we measure "the most important patterns"? Using the variance.

Furthermore, PC is a linear combination of the original features (each PC is a weighted sum of my original features)

$$PC_1 = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \dots + w_n x_n = w^T X$$

→ Come from eigenvectors of the covariance matrix



Variance means how much our data spread out or varies from its own mean

$\text{Variance} = \frac{\sum (X - \mu)^2}{N}$

- High variance direction: My data are more spread out, which usually means there's more information in that direction
- Low variance direction: Is flat or compressed; it likely contains less useful information (noise, redundancy...)

Covariance means whether two variables move in the same direction. We calculate the covariance matrix to identify relations between features so the algorithm can rotate the data and drop unimportant dimensions

Covariance matrix: $\frac{1}{N} X^T X$

We find from the covariance matrix

Eigenvectors: Are principal components

Eigenvalues: Are how much variance is in that direction

Therefore, we select the highest eigenvector with the highest eigenvalues

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ cov(x, y) & var(y) \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties of covariance matrix

Symmetric

Real and non-negative elements ($\text{variance} \geq 0$)

Diagonal elements: Variance of each feature

Off-diagonal elements: Covariances between pairs

$$\text{covariance} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - \bar{x})(y_n - \bar{y})$$

\Rightarrow Positive relationship $\uparrow x \uparrow y$

\Rightarrow No linear relationship $\uparrow x \uparrow y$

\Rightarrow Negative relationship $\uparrow x \downarrow y$

• How can we get eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

In math terms:

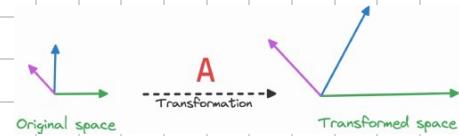
$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

A : covariance matrix (in PCA)

\vec{v} : eigenvectors

λ : eigenvalues

This means: multiply a matrix A by a vector \vec{v} , it gives you the same vector \vec{v} , just scaled by λ



Rearrange the eigenvalue equation

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda\vec{v} = 0$$

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = 0 \rightarrow \text{To solve it for a non-zero } \vec{v} \text{ the } \det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

Solving this would give us the eigenvalues and then we can calculate the eigenvectors

Example:

① Covariance matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

② Solve the equation

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} \rightarrow (A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = 0$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \rightarrow \det\begin{pmatrix} 4-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 3-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0 \rightarrow (4-\lambda)(3-\lambda) - 2 \cdot 2 = 0$$

$$12 - 4\lambda - 3\lambda + \lambda^2 - 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 7\lambda + 8 = 0 \quad x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \rightarrow x = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{(-7)^2 - 4 \cdot 8}}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{17}}{2}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{7 + \sqrt{17}}{2} = 7.438$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{7 - \sqrt{17}}{2} = 1.438$$

③ Solve for eigenvalues

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{7 + \sqrt{17}}{2} = 7.438$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4-7.438 & 2 \\ 2 & 3-7.438 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1.56 & 2 \\ 2 & -2.56 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} -1.56x + 2y = 0 \\ 2x - 2.56y = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \frac{2.56y}{2} \Rightarrow x = 1.28y$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1.28y \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.28 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.28/1.28 \\ 1/1.28 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0.789 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\vec{v}_1\| = \sqrt{1.28^2 + 1^2} = 1.5$$

We normalize the eigenvector have the length 1

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{7 - \sqrt{17}}{2} = 1.438$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4-1.438 & 2 \\ 2 & 3-1.438 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2.562 & 2 \\ 2 & 1.562 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$2.562x + 2y = 0$$

$$2x + 1.562y = 0$$

$$y = \frac{2.562x}{2} = 1.281x$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1.281x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1.281 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/1.281 \\ 1.281/1.281 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.789 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\vec{v}_2\| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1.281^2} = 1.625$$

Therefore:

Eigenvalues: 5.56 and 1.438

Eigen vectors: $\begin{bmatrix} 0.85 \\ 0.615 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0.615 \\ 0.783 \end{bmatrix}$

If you observe the plotting of both vector you will realize that both vector are orthogonal.

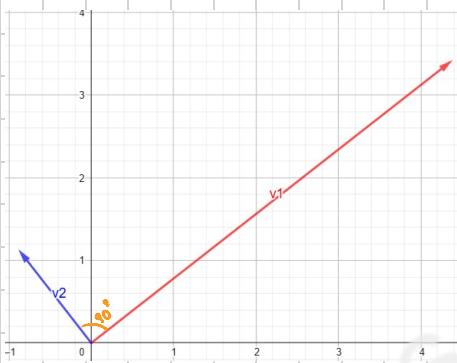
Two orthogonal vectors form 90-degree angle and their dot product is zero ($v_1 \cdot v_2 = 0$)

This means they don't share component in the same direction, they are completely independent

Finally, if each Principal Component is orthogonal they captures a unique type of variance.

PC 2 is orthogonal to PC 1

PC 3 is orthogonal to both PC 1 and PC 2



Steps to calculate PCA

① Standardize the data $(X - \bar{x})$ → mean of X

② Compute the covariance matrix $A = \frac{1}{N} X^T X$

③ Compute eigenvalues and eigenvectors $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$

④ Sort eigenvectors by eigenvalues in descending order (top k eigenvector = top k principal components)

⑤ Project the data (reduce the dimension while keeping the variance)

$X_{\text{new}} = X_{\text{old}} @ W_k$ → Matrix with top k eigenvectors
My current data
Data with K dimension

Dimension of each element
 $(n_samples, k_eigenvalues) = (n_samples, n_features) @ (n_features, K_eigenvalues)$