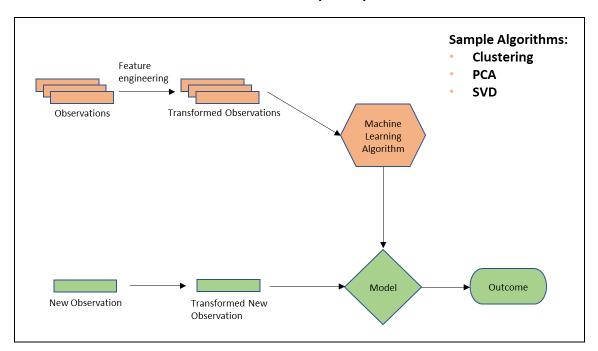
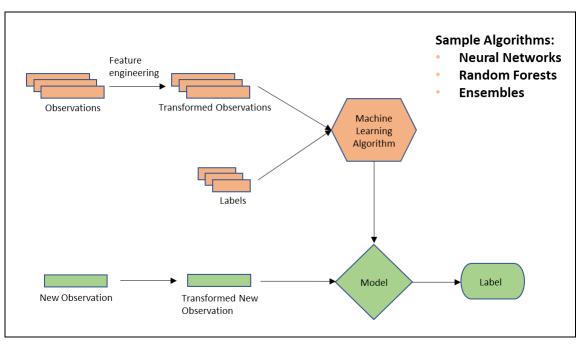
# Machine Learning Live Session #7

#### Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

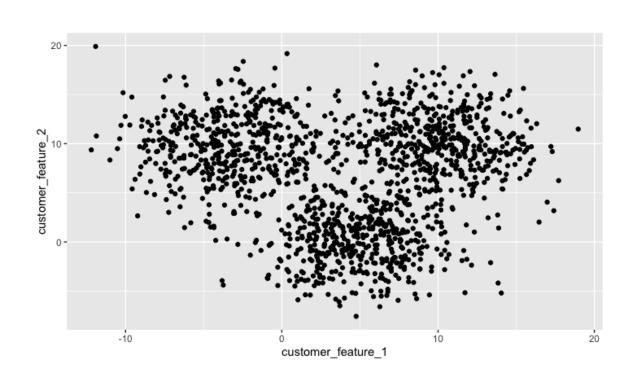
- Unsupervised learning: no labels associated with observations
  - Try to infer relationships between the observations or between the features
  - Useful for data visualization and dimension reduction
- Supervised learning: each observation is associated with a label
  - Try to infer a relationship between the features and labels
    - The label acts as a teacher that supervises the learning process
  - Use the relationship to predict label for a new observation





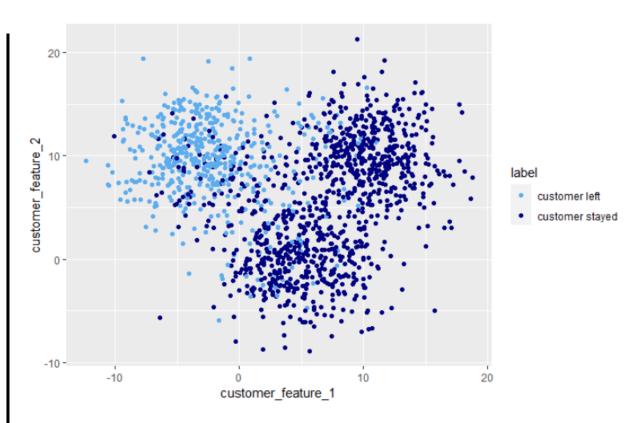
**Supervised Learning** 

#### Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning



#### **Unsupervised Learning**

- Observations (here, customers) have no labels
- Use unsupervised learning to explore and learn about customers
  - E.g., do sub-groups of customers exist, with each subgroup exhibiting similar characteristics?
  - This is called customer segmentation



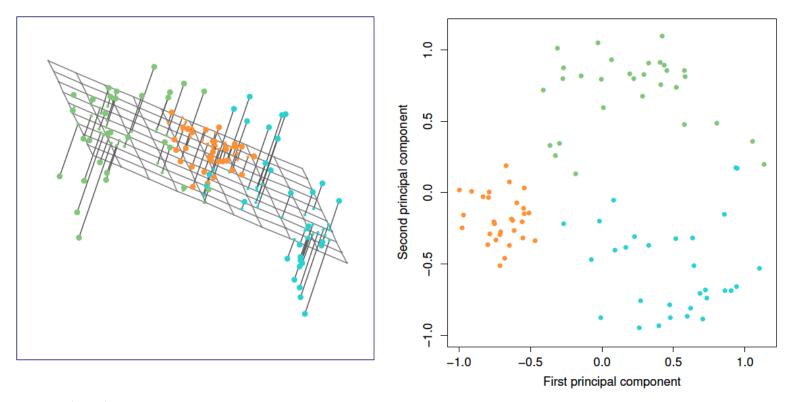
#### **Supervised Learning**

- Each observation (here, customer) is associated with a label
  - E.g., whether the customer left or stayed
- Use supervised learning to predict the label for new customers

#### Unsupervised Learning

- Unsupervised learning methods try to infer relationships between features or between observations
  - More subjective than supervised learning, since there is no clear objective
- Unsupervised learning is an important step in the machine learning process
  - Exploring and visualizing the data
  - Dimension reduction
- Unsupervised learning methods discussed in this course are:
  - Principal component analysis (PCA)
  - *k*-means clustering
  - Hierarchical clustering
- Important: these methods are intended for numerical features only

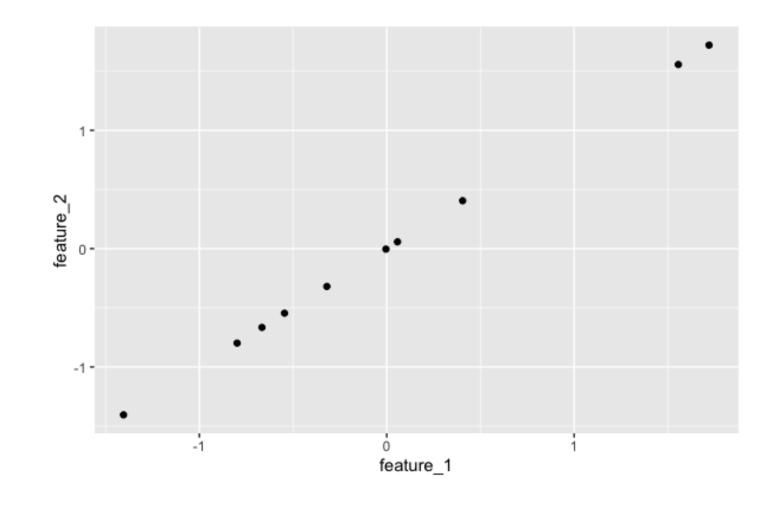
- In PCA, we try to find a low-dimensional representation of the data
  - If this low-dimensional representation is close enough to the data:
    - Use the low-dimensional representation to decrease the dimension of the problem
    - Visualize the data (not the focus here)



• What does it mean to "find a low-dimensional representation of the data"?

feature_1	feature_2
-0.67	-0.67
-0.32	-0.32
1.56	1.56
0.0	0.0
0.06	0.06
1.72	1.72
0.41	0.41
-1.4	-1.4
-0.8	-0.8
-0.55	-0.55

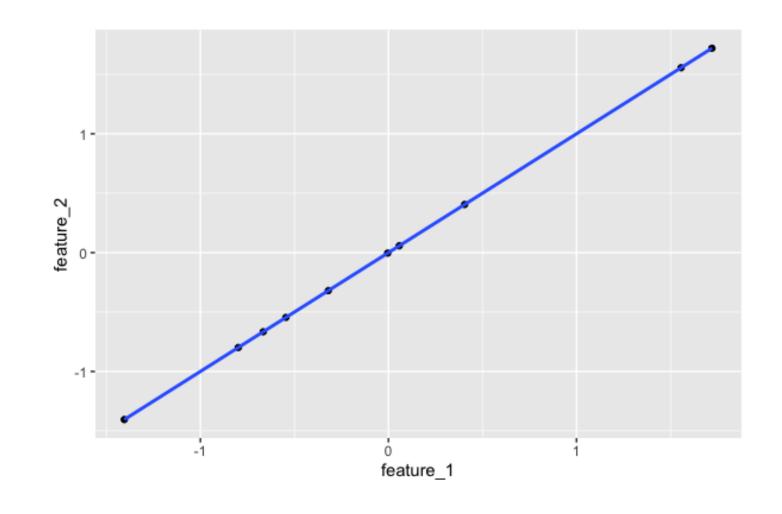
Observations



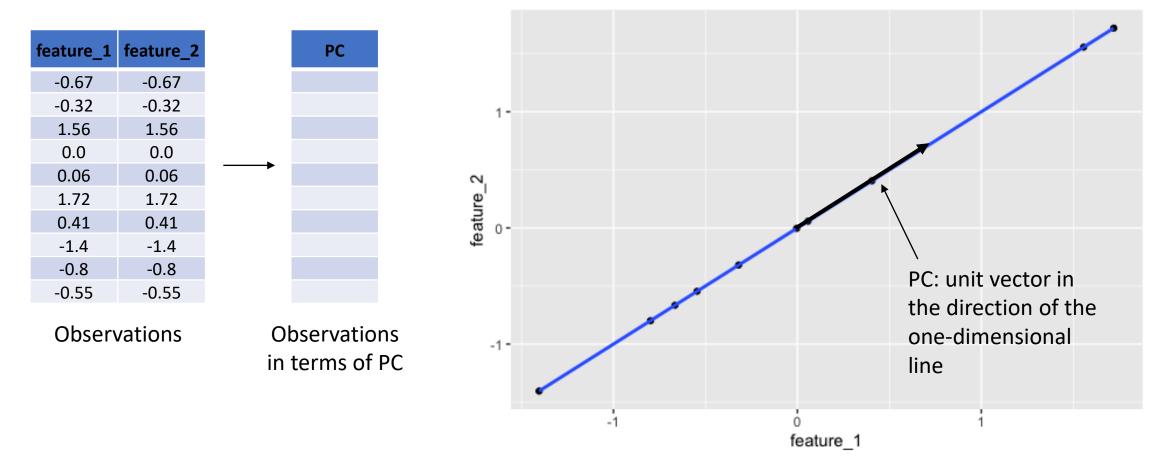
• The observations fall along a one-dimensional line

feature_1	feature_2
-0.67	-0.67
-0.32	-0.32
1.56	1.56
0.0	0.0
0.06	0.06
1.72	1.72
0.41	0.41
-1.4	-1.4
-0.8	-0.8
-0.55	-0.55

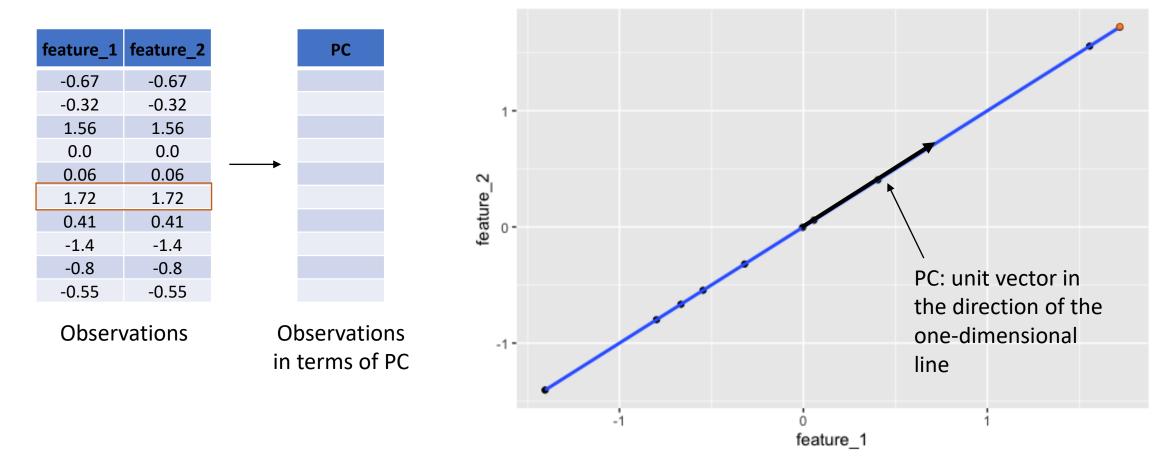
Observations



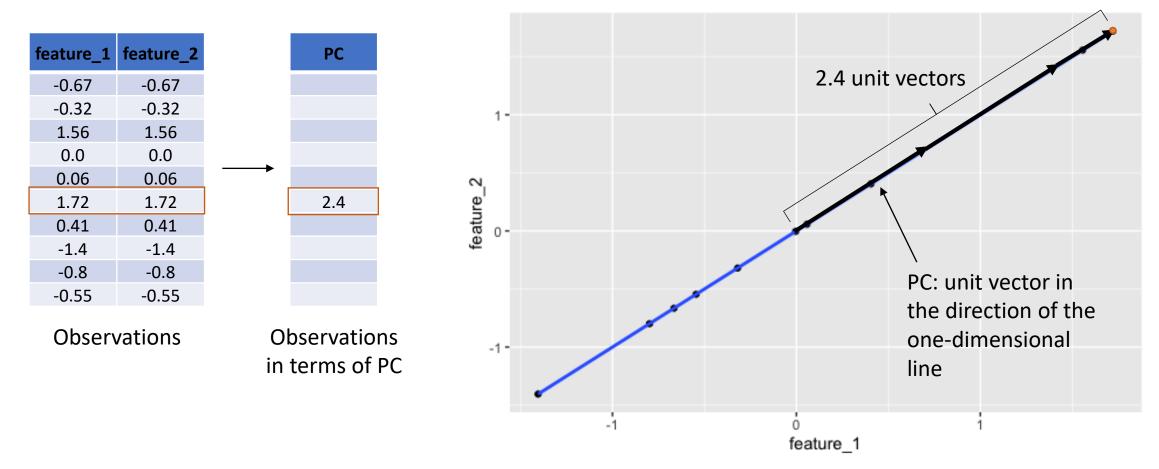
- Write the observations in terms of the unit vector in the direction of the onedimensional line
  - The unit vector is called a principal component (PC)



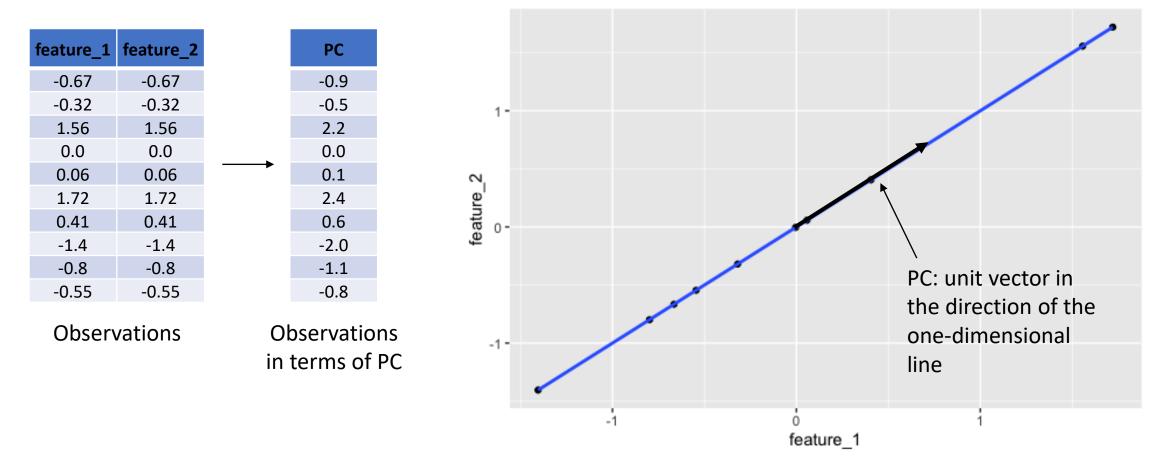
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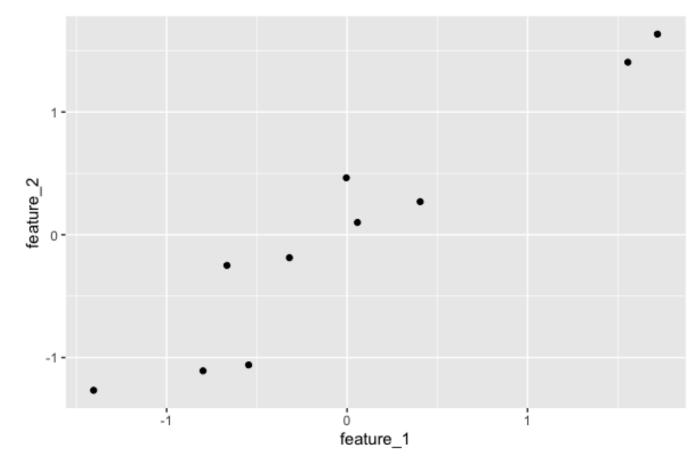
- Write the observations in terms of the unit vector in the direction of the onedimensional line
  - The unit vector is called a principal component (PC)



• What if the observations don't necessarily fall along a one-dimensional line, but are close?

feature_2
-0.25
-0.19
1.41
0.46
0.1
1.63
0.27
-1.27
-1.11
-1.06

**Observations** 



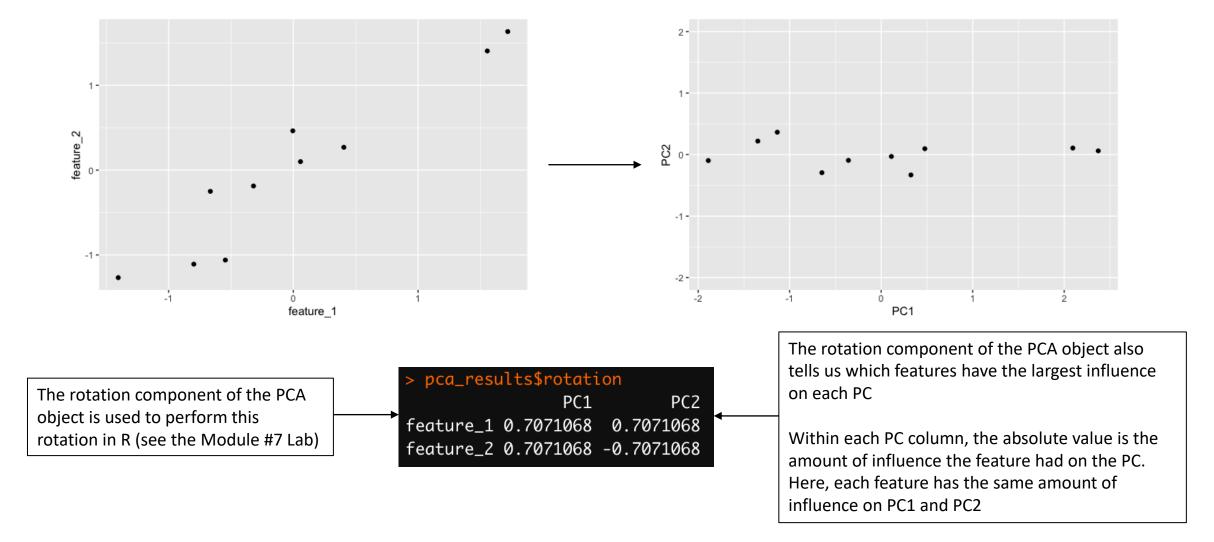
- PC1 is the unit vector in the direction the data varies most; PC2 is the unit vector orthogonal to PC1
- Write the observations in terms of PC1 and PC2
  - PC1 is the best one-dimensional approximation to the observations → try using only PC1 to represent the data

feature_1	feature_2
-0.67	-0.25
-0.32	-0.19
1.56	1.41
0.0	0.46
0.06	0.1
1.72	1.63
0.41	0.27
-1.4	-1.27
-0.8	-1.11
-0.55	-1.06
Observ	vations

- PC1 is the unit vector in the direction the data varies most; PC2 is the unit vector orthogonal to PC1
- Write the observations in terms of PC1 and PC2
  - PC1 is the best one-dimensional approximation to the observations → try using only PC1 to represent the data

feature_1	feature_2	PC1	PC2
-0.67	-0.25	-0.65	-0.29
-0.32	-0.19	-0.36	-0.09
1.56	1.41	2.09	0.11
0.0	0.46	0.32	-0.33
0.06	0.1	0.11	-0.03
1.72	1.63	2.37	0.06
0.41	0.27	0.48	0.1
-1.4	-1.27	-1.89	-0.1
-0.8	-1.11	-1.35	0.22
-0.55	-1.06	-1.14	0.36
Observ	vations	Observa terms ( and	of PC1

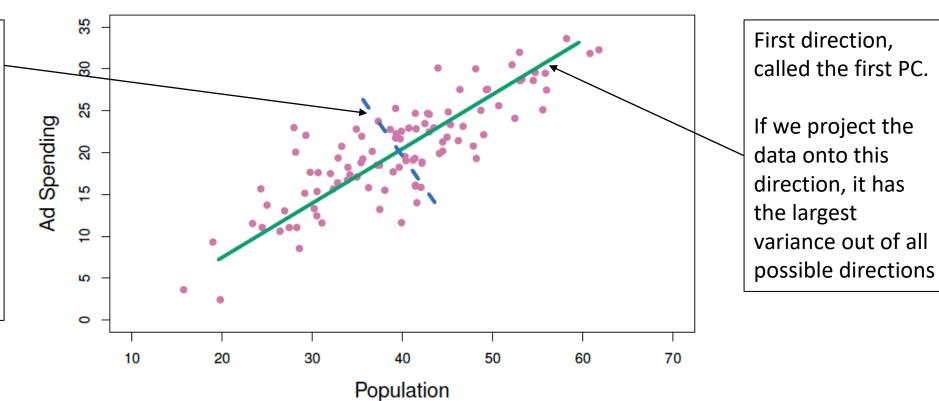
• Writing the original observations in terms of the PCs is equivalent to a rotation of the observations



- Find the directions (unit vectors) in which the data varies most
  - Directions are found sequentially, with each direction being orthogonal to all previous directions
  - Directions are the PCs

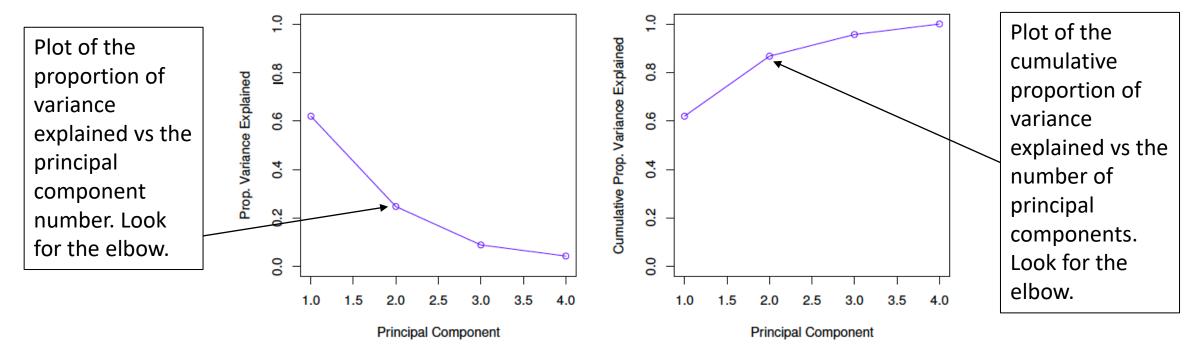
Second direction, called the second PC.

If we project the data onto this direction, it has the largest variance out of all possible directions that are orthogonal to the first direction



James, G., Witten, D., Hastie, T., & Tibshirani, R. (2017) An Introduction to Statistical Learning with Applications in R. Springer

- ullet For a dataset with d numerical features, there are d PCs
- Amount of variation explained by the PCs is decreasing, i.e., the first PC explains the most variation in the data and the last PC explains the least
- How do we decide how many PCs are enough?



- PCA can be used for dimension reduction
  - If the first p PCs explain a large amount of the variation in the data
    - Project the data onto the subspace spanned by these p PCs
    - Use this p-dimensional data instead of the original numerical data
- Numerical features should be centered and scaled before applying PCA
  - Centering is ALWAYS required since PCs are unit vectors originating from the origin
  - Scaling is ALMOST ALWAYS required to ensure each numerical feature has equal weight
    - Otherwise, PCA results in finding the features with the most variance
    - Special case: if all the numerical features are measured on similar scales AND
      we want features with larger variances to have more importance, then scaling
      may not be needed