

# Outline

- 1 Principal axes and variance maximization



# Finding the best axis (1)

## Definition of the problem

- The best axis  $\Delta_1$  is the “closest” to the point cloud
- Inertia of  $\Delta_1$  measures the distance between the data and  $\Delta_1$
- $\Delta_1$  is defined by the director vector  $\mathbf{u}_1$ , such as  $\|\mathbf{u}_1\| = 1$
- $\Delta_1^\perp$  is defined by the normal vector  $\mathbf{u}_1$ , such as  $\|\mathbf{u}_1\| = 1$

⇒ The best axis  $\Delta_1$  is the one with the minimal Inertia.

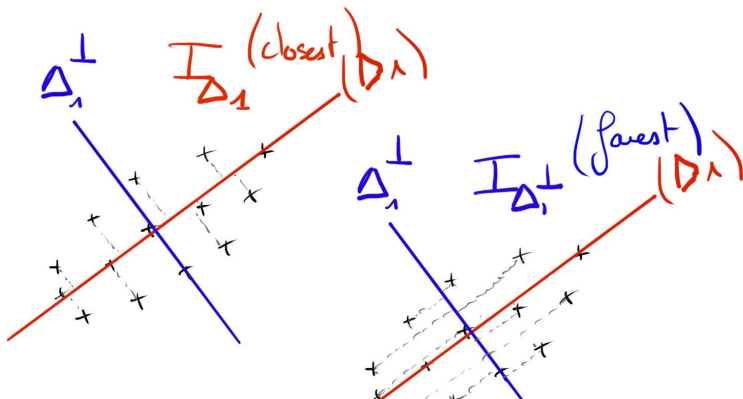


# Finding the best axis (2)

## Stating the optimization problem

Since  $\Delta_1 \oplus \Delta_1^\perp = \mathbb{R}^p$  and  $I_T = I_{\Delta_1} + I_{\Delta_1^\perp}$ , then

$$\underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^p : \|\mathbf{u}\|=1}{\text{minimize}} I_{\Delta_1} \Leftrightarrow \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^p : \|\mathbf{u}\|=1}{\text{maximize}} I_{\Delta_1^\perp}$$



# Finding the best axis (3)

Stating the problem  
(algebraically)

Find  $\mathbf{u}_1$ ;  $\|\mathbf{u}_1\| = 1$  that maximizes

$$\begin{aligned} I_{\Delta_1^\perp} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{dist}(\mathbf{x}_i, \Delta_1^\perp)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{u}_1^\top (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}) (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^\top \mathbf{u}_1 \\ &= \mathbf{u}_1^\top \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}}) (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^\top \right) \mathbf{u}_1 \\ &= \mathbf{u}_1^\top \hat{\Sigma} \mathbf{u}_1 \end{aligned}$$

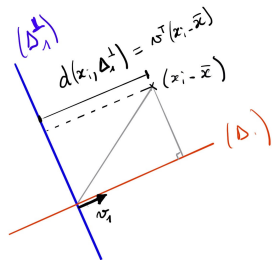


Figure 1: Geometrical insight

## Finding the best axis (4)

We solve a simple constraint maximization problem with the method of Lagrange multipliers:

By straightforward (vector) differentiation, and using that  $\mathbf{u}_1^\top \mathbf{u}_1 = 1$



# Finding the following axes

Second best axis



# Interpretation in $\mathbb{R}^p$

$\mathbf{U}$  describes a new orthogonal basis and a rotation of data in this basis

$\rightsquigarrow$  PCA is an appropriate rotation on axes that maximizes the variance

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ccccccc} \Delta_1 & \oplus & \dots & \oplus & \Delta_p \\ \mathbf{u}_1 & \perp & \dots & \perp & \mathbf{u}_p \\ \lambda_1 & > & \dots & > & \lambda_p \\ I_{\Delta_1^\perp} & > & \dots & > & I_{\Delta_p^\perp} \end{array} \right.$$

