

# The Spectral Theory Basis of PCA

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# Eigenvectors

- Only concerned with **square** matrices
- A **eigenvector** for a square matrix  $M$  is vector  $u$  where  $Mu = \lambda u$ 
  - $u$  is invariant under transformation  $M$
  - The corresponding scaling factor is called a **eigenvalue**
- The **eigenspace** of a matrix  $M$  is the set of all the vectors  $u$  that fulfills  $Mu = \lambda u$
- A **eigenbasis** of a  $n \times n$  matrix  $M$  is a set of  $n$  orthogonal eigenvectors of  $M$

Underlined = will not be defined here

# Eigendecomposition

- A eigendecomposition of matrix  $M$  is

$$M = Q\Lambda Q^{-1}$$

where  $\Lambda$  is diagonal, and  $Q$  contains (not necessarily orthogonal) **eigenvectors** of  $M$

- Any normal  $M$  can be eigendecomposed
- Furthermore, for **real symmetric**  $M$ ,
  - Eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal (Spectral Theorem)
  - For an orthogonal matrix  $Q$ ,  $Q^{-1} = Q^T$

Hence for real symmetric  $M$ ,  $M = Q\Lambda Q^T$

# Rayleigh Quotient

- Consider an  $n \times n$  real symmetric  $M$
- $M = Q\Lambda Q^T$ , where  $\Lambda$  is diagonal, and  $Q$  is the eigenbasis of  $M$

- Denote the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ .

- Then, for all unit vector  $u$

Maximum  
of Rayleigh  
Quotient

$$\max_{\|u\|=1} \frac{u^T M u}{u^T u} = \lambda_1$$

Similarly,  $\lambda_n$  is the  
minimum of the  
Rayleigh Quotient

- And for all orthogonal matrix  $P$  and  $k \leq n$

Minimax  
Principle

$$\max_{P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}, P^T P = I} \text{tr}(P^T M P) = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_k$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \min_{P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}, P^T P = I} \text{tr}(P^T M P) = \lambda_{n-k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n$$

# Eigendecomposition applications

- Matrix inverse
- Matrix approximation
- Minimization or maximization through the Rayleigh Quotient
  - PCA
    - Covariance matrix
    - Find maximum
  - Spectral clustering
    - Graph Laplacian
    - Find minimum

# Singular Value Decomposition

- Any matrix can be singular value decomposed

- $M = U\Sigma V^*$

- $M$  is  $m \times n$  matrix

- $U$  is an  $m \times m$  unitary matrix

Orthogonal

- $\Sigma$  is an  $m \times n$  diagonal matrix

- $V$  is an  $n \times n$  unitary matrix

- For a real  $M$ ,  $V^* = V^T$  (and  $U = U^T$ ) hence  
$$M = U\Sigma V^T$$

# SVD applications

- Solving linear equations
- Linear regression
- Pseudoinverse
- Kabsch algorithm
- Matrix approximation
- As a eigendecomposition (see next slide)

# SVD and eigendecomposition

- SVD is a eigendecomposition but not of  $M$ 
  - Given an SVD of  $M = U\Sigma V^*$
  - Then, clearly
    - $M^*M = V\Sigma^*U^*U\Sigma V^* = V(\Sigma^*\Sigma)V^*$
    - $MM^* = U\Sigma V^*V\Sigma^*U^* = U(\Sigma^*\Sigma)U^*$
  - Hence  $V$  is the eigenbasis of  $M^*M$  and  $U$  is the eigenbasis of  $MM^*$  respectively
  - That is,  $U$  and  $V$  are **eigenbases of the squared matrices of  $M$** 
    - However the eigenbasis of  $M^*M$  and  $MM^*$  are in general not the eigenbasis of  $M$



# Principal Component Analysis

- Let  $X$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix where each row represents a vector in an  $n$ -D space
  - That is,  $X$  represents the input data
- What do we ideally expect to be the “principal components” of  $X$ 
  1. The components **form a basis**
  2. The components are **orthogonal**
  3. The **first component accounts for the most variation**, the second component accounts for the most variation after removing the first component, and so on

# Principal Component Analysis

- Let  $X$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix where each row represents a vector in an  $n$ -D space
  - $X$  represents  $m$  datapoints in  $n$ -D
- Assume that the rows in  $X$  are generated by a random vector  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ 
  - Note the difference between  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $X$
  - The theory of PCA is based on  $\mathbf{X}$  (and its  $n \times n$  covariance matrix  $M$ )
- For the first component, we want to find unit vector  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\text{var}(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X})$  is maximized

# Principal Component Analysis

- The eigenvector  $\mathbf{u}$  of the covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{X}$  with the largest eigenvalue maximizes  $\text{var}(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X})$
- 

Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a random vector with

- mean  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and
- covariance matrix  $M = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X} - \mu)(\mathbf{X} - \mu)^T]$

For any  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the projection of  $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X}$  has

- $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{u}^T \mu$  and
- $\text{var}(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{u}^T \mu)^2]$   
 $= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{u}^T (\mathbf{X} - \mu)(\mathbf{X} - \mu)^T \mathbf{u}] = \mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}$

From earlier slide,  $\mathbf{u}^T M \mathbf{u}$  is maximized when  $\mathbf{u}$  is the eigenvector of  $M$  with the largest eigenvalue

# Principal Component Analysis

- Extend to  $k$  principal components, we want
    - $k$ -D subspace of  $\mathbf{X}$  that is defined by orthogonal basis  $p_1, \dots, p_k \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and displacement  $p_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$
    - Distance from  $\mathbf{X}$  to this subspace is minimized
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- Projection of  $\mathbf{X}$  onto subspace is  $P^T \mathbf{X} + p_0$ , where  $P$  is matrix whose rows are  $p_1, \dots, p_k$
  - Squared distance to subspace is  $\mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{X} - (P^T \mathbf{X} + p_0)\|^2$
  - By calculus,  $p_0 = \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{X} - P^T \mathbf{X}\| = (1 - P^T) \mu$ , hence
$$\mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{X} - (P^T \mathbf{X} + p_0)\|^2 = \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{X} - \mu\|^2 - \mathbb{E} \|P^T (\mathbf{X} - \mu)\|^2$$
  - To maximize that, need to maximize  $\mathbb{E} \|P^T (\mathbf{X} - \mu)\|^2 = \text{var}(P^T \mathbf{X})$
  - Finally, same as in previous slide,  $p_1, \dots, p_k$  are eigenvectors of  $M$

# Principal Component Analysis

- If  $X$  is normalized such that each column has zero mean, an unbiased estimator of  $M$  can be obtained as

$$M = \frac{1}{n-1} X^T X$$

- Since SVD of  $X$  eigendecomposes  $X^T X$ 
  - This allows us to solve PCA through either
    1. Eigendecompose  $M$ , or
    2. Solve SVD for  $X$