



## Why

We want to find a low-dimensional affine set into which we can project some high-dimensional data.

## Problem

For  $a \in \mathbf{R}^n$  and  $U \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times k}$ , the set  $W(a, U) = \{a + Uz\}z \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is an affine set. Denote the projection of  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$  onto  $W(a, U)$  by  $\text{proj}_{W(a, U)}(x)$ .

Given  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(m)} \in \mathbf{R}^n$ , and a dimension  $k$ , we want to choose  $a$  and  $U$  to minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \|x - \text{proj}_{W(a, U)}(x)\|^2,$$

the sum of squares of the distance from  $x$  to its projection in  $W(a, U)$ .



