

## Problem Statement

Consider a set of  $N$  vectors  $X = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  each in  $R^d$ , with average vector  $\bar{x}$ . We have seen in class that the direction  $e$  such that  $\|x_i - \bar{x} - (e \cdot (x_i - \bar{x}))e\|^2$  is minimized, is obtained by maximizing  $e^T C e$ , where  $C$  is the covariance matrix of the vectors in  $X$ . This vector  $e$  is the eigenvector of matrix  $C$  with the highest eigenvalue. Prove that the direction  $f$  perpendicular to  $e$  for which  $f^T C f$  is maximized, is the eigenvector of  $C$  with the second highest eigenvalue. For simplicity, assume that all non-zero eigenvalues of  $C$  are distinct and that  $\text{rank}(C) > 2$  [10 points]

Consider the direction  $f$  st. it is perpendicular to  $e$   
& has unit norm

$$\Rightarrow f^T e = e^T f = 0$$

$$\|f\|^2 = f^T f = 1$$

To max.  $f^T C f$

or min  $-f^T C f$ , we'll use Lagrange Multiplier method.

$$J(f) = -f^T C f + \lambda(f^T f - 1) + \mu(f^T e)$$

$$\frac{\partial J(f)}{\partial f} = -2 C f + 2 \lambda f + \mu e = 0$$

On Premultiplying by  $f^T$ :

$$-2 f^T C f + 2 \lambda f^T f + \mu f^T e = 0$$

$$\lambda = f^T C f \quad \left( \text{as } \begin{matrix} f^T f = 1 \\ f^T e = 0 \end{matrix} \right)$$

Premult by  $e^T$

$$-2 e^T C f + 2 \lambda (e^T f) + \mu e^T e = 0$$

$$\mu = 2 e^T C f$$

$$\Rightarrow 2Cf = 2f^T C f^2 + 2e^T C f e$$

$$Cf = (f^T C f) f + (e C e^T)^T f e$$

$$Cf = (f^T C f) f + (C e)^T f e$$

$$Cf = (f^T C f) f + \lambda e^T f e$$

where  $\lambda$  = largest eigv.  
corresponding to  $e$

$$Cf = (f^T C f) f + \lambda(0) e \quad [\text{Since } e \text{ and } f \text{ are orthogonal to each other}]$$

$$\Rightarrow Cf = (f^T C f) f$$

$\Rightarrow f$  is eigenvector of  $C$ . (Let the eigenvalue be  $\lambda_0$ )

$$\Rightarrow Cf = \lambda_0 f$$

$$\Rightarrow f^T C f = \lambda_0$$

Thus to max.  $f^T C f$ ,  $\lambda_0$  (Eigenvalue) needs to be as high as possible  
 $\Rightarrow \lambda_0$  is second highest eigenvector.