

CSC 411: Lecture 14: Principal Components Analysis & Autoencoders

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- Dimensionality Reduction
- PCA
- Autoencoders

Mixture models and Distributed Representations

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- Alternative: **Distributed** representation, with several latent variables relevant to each observation
- Can be several binary/discrete variables, or continuous

Example: Continuous Underlying Variables

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- How can we find these dimensions from the data?

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- Important assumption: variation contains information
- Data is assumed to be continuous:
 - ▶ **linear relationship** between data and the learned representation

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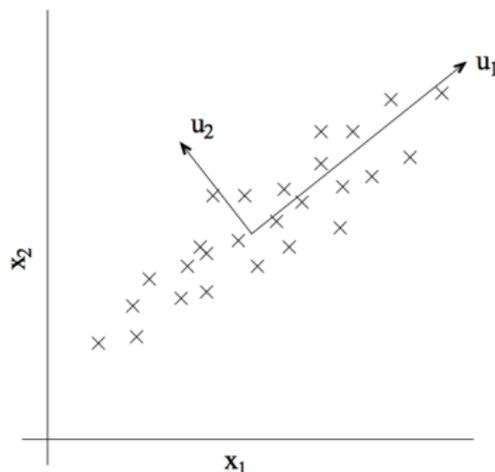
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- Structure of data vectors is encoded in sample covariance



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- Find the M eigenvectors with largest eigenvalues of C : these are the principal components
- Assemble these eigenvectors into a $D \times M$ matrix U
- We can now express D -dimensional vectors \mathbf{x} by projecting them to M -dimensional \mathbf{z}

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where U is orthogonal, columns are unit-length eigenvectors

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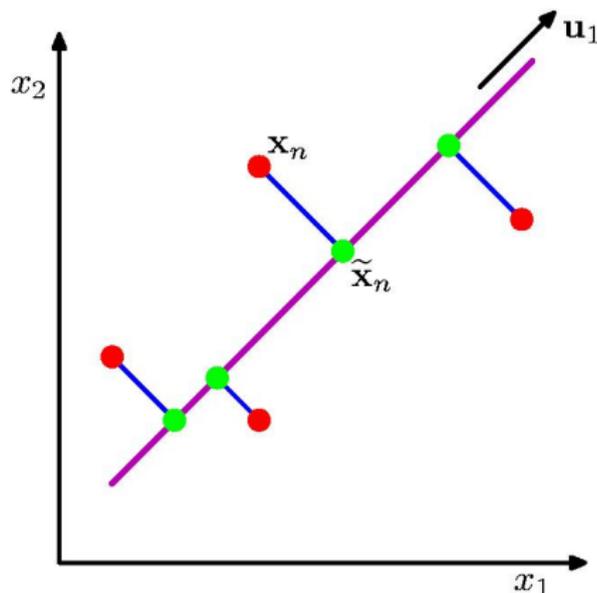
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2. Project each input vector \mathbf{x} into this subspace, e.g.,

$$z_j = \mathbf{u}_j^T \mathbf{x}; \quad \mathbf{z} = U_{1:M}^T \mathbf{x}$$

Two Derivations of PCA

- Two views/derivations:
 - ▶ Maximize variance (scatter of green points)
 - ▶ Minimize error (red-green distance per datapoint)



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where

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(n)} = \sum_{j=1}^M z_j^{(n)} \mathbf{u}_j + \sum_{j=M+1}^D b_j \mathbf{u}_j$$

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- Objective minimized when first M components are the eigenvectors with the maximal eigenvalues

$$z_j^{(n)} = \mathbf{u}_j^T \mathbf{x}^{(n)}; \quad b_j = \bar{\mathbf{x}}^T \mathbf{u}_j$$

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- PCA for pre-processing: can apply classifier to latent representation
 - ▶ PCA with 3 components obtains 79% accuracy on face/non-face discrimination on test data vs. 76.8% for GMM with 84 states
- Can also be good for visualization

Applying PCA to faces: Learned basis



Applying PCA to digits



reconstructed with 2 bases



reconstructed with 10 bases



reconstructed with 100 bases



reconstructed with 506 bases



mean



principal basis 1



principal basis 2



principal basis 3

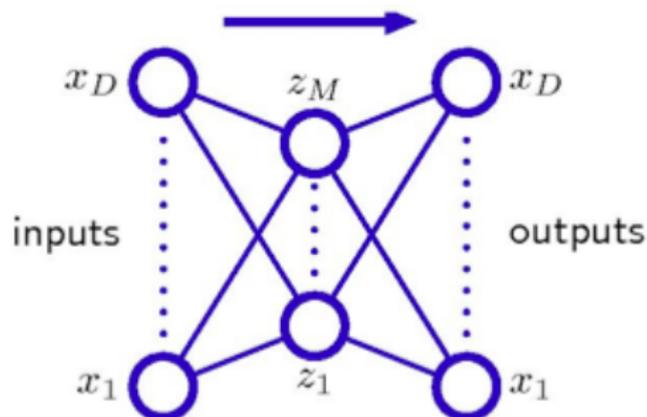


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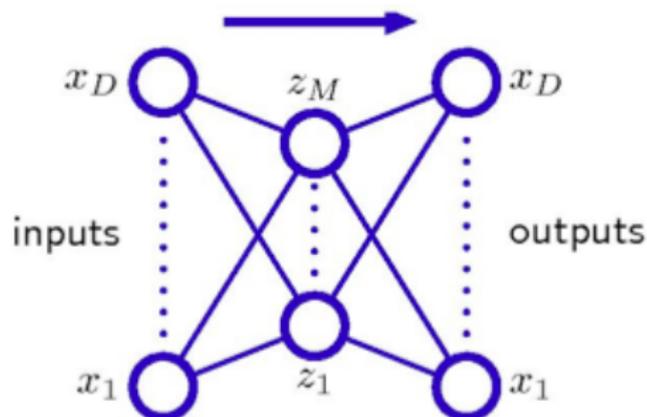
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- The goal is to minimize [reconstruction error](#)

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$$\mathbf{z} = f(W\mathbf{x}); \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}} = g(V\mathbf{z})$$

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- In other words, the optimal solution is PCA.

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- What if $g()$ is not linear?
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- Some subtleties but in general this is an accurate description

Comparing Reconstructions



Real data

30-d deep autoencoder

30-d logistic PCA

30-d PCA