# Fundamentals of machine learning

## Course 4: Basics of dimension reduction

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# Table of contents

# Why dimension reduction ?

- Visualize high-dimensional data (e.g. in 2D).
- Interpret the data.
- Compress the data: advantages for storage and robustness.
- Reveal the "structure of the data".
- Avoid the curse of dimensionality (course 2).

# Learning rates & excess risk

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## The answer is statistical

- Can I bound (w.h.p. or in expectation)

$$\text{excess risk} \;=\; \text{estimation error} \;+\; \text{approximation error} \;\leq h(n)$$

- Ideally the function $h(n) \underset{n\to+\infty}{\to} 0$ fast: it is called the *learning rate*

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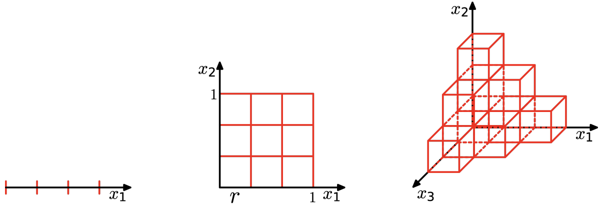
## Curse of dimensionality

- If the best function $f^\star$ is only Lipschitz-continuous:

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{ excess risk }] \lesssim n^{-1/d}$$

- This rate **is unavoidable** without further knowledge on $f^\star$
- Slow rates: exponentially many samples are needed !

# Curse of dimensionality




## Think about interpolation: goal find $f : [0,1]^d \to \mathbb{R}$

- You have $n$ values of this function $f(x_i)$ at *sampled locations* $x_i$
- To find $f$ you want to interpolate between the $f(x_i)$'s
- If $f$ is not regular, a good approximation requires precise covering of $[0,1]^d$ (small meshes)

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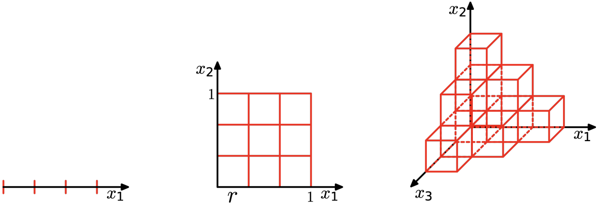


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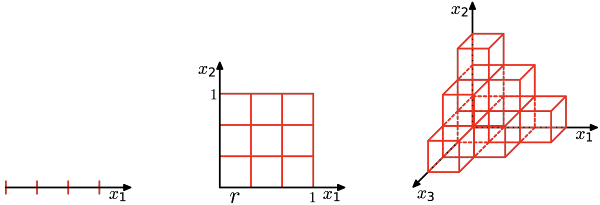
## Problem: points are isolated in high dimension

- Vol. of a hypercube with edge length $r < 1$ is $r^d$: quickly $\downarrow 0$ as $d \to \infty$
- To compensate you need a number of sample which **grows exponentially with** $d$

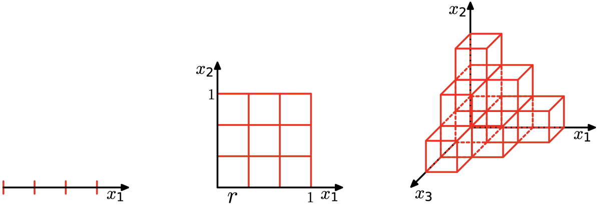
# Curse of dimensionality



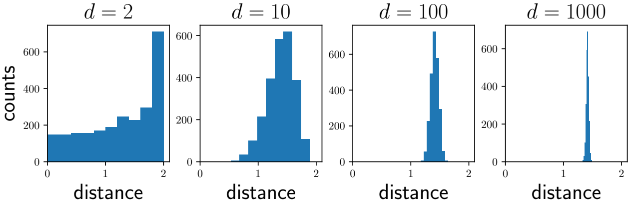

## Main ideas

- Without prior on $f^\star$ the required number of samples $n$ to estimate $f^\star$ **is exponential in d**.
- In high dim it is easy to overfit a model.
- The notion of nearest neighbors vanishes in high dim.
- Three remedies: use simple models (linear), dimensionality reduction or prior on $f^\star$

# Curse of dimensionality

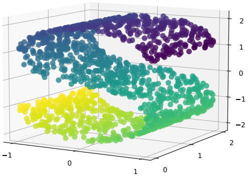



- Number of points needed to cover the hypercube cube $[0,1]^d$ with precision $r$: $\left(\frac{2}{r}\right)^d$
- Distances between points become meaningless. Pairwise distances between 50 random points of $\mathbb{R}^d$:

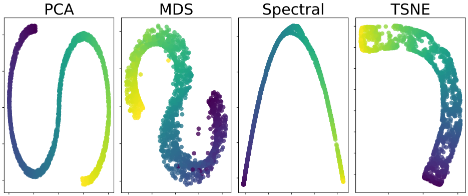


# The big picture

Original dataset




$\Rightarrow$




## Objective

$$(\mathbf{x}_i)_{i=1}^n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k\right)_{i=1}^n \text{ with } k \ll d$$

- Project the data into a low dimensional space $\mathbb{R}^k$ with $k \ll d$
- Preserve the information in the data (class, subspace, similarities)

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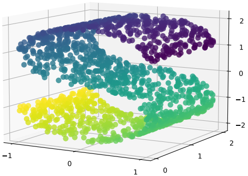


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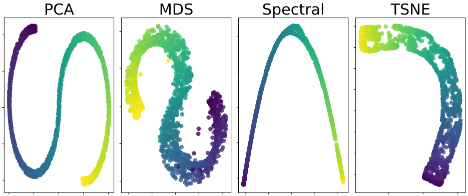


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## Hyperparameters

- Linear, non linear projection ?
- Similarity between samples.

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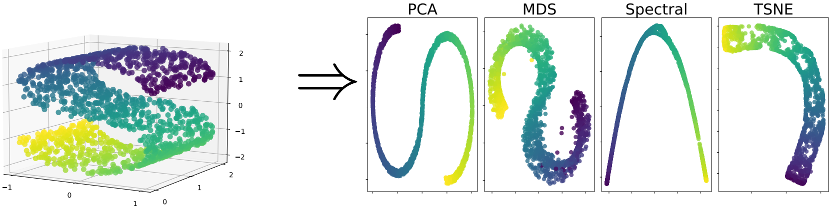


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## Hyperparameters

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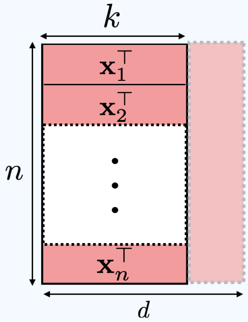
## Methods

- PCA, random projections.
- Non-linear methods (MDS, tSNE, Auto-Encoder)

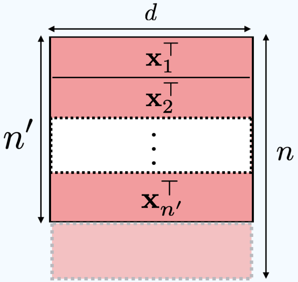
# Dimension reduction vs subsampling

## Dimension reduction




- Random projections (JL lemma)
- Feature selection
- Minimum distortion embedding, PCA

## Subsampling



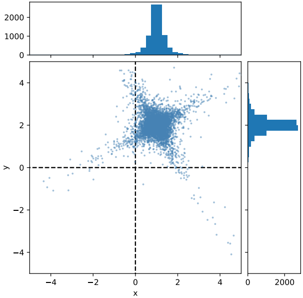

- Coresets
- Importance sampling

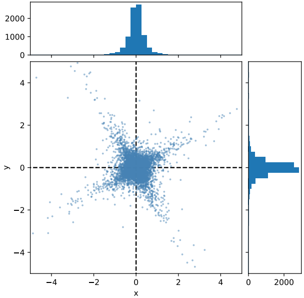
# Table of contents

# The principle

## Setting

- A dataset $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ with $d$ big.
- Suppose for simplicity $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{x}_i = 0$ (centered data), *i.e.* $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{1}_n = 0$.



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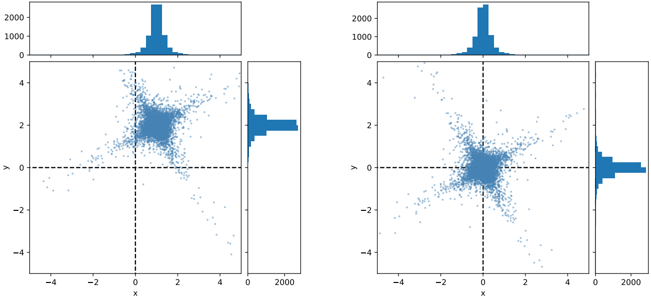


## Goal

- Find coordinates $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$ in $\mathbb{R}^k$ with $k \ll d$.
- The new data $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)_{i \in [\![n]\!]}$ should "look like" $\mathbf{X}$ (to be defined).
- First step: linear mapping $f$!

# The principle of PCA

## Linear mapping according to a reconstruction principle

- Find $\mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ with $\mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{u}_m = \delta_{nm}$ (orthonormal vectors)
- Dimension reduction via linear mapping: $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$

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- What make a $\mathbf{U}$ "better" than another?

# The principle of PCA

## Linear mapping according to a reconstruction principle

- Find $\mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times k}$ with $\mathbf{u}_n^\top \mathbf{u}_m = \delta_{nm}$ (orthonormal vectors)
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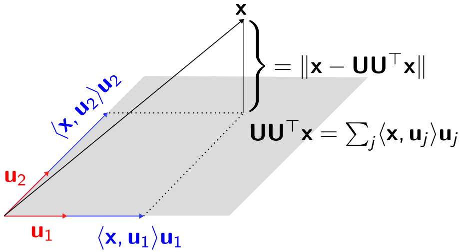
- Reconstruction principle Pearson 1901:

$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{U}\in\mathbb{R}^{d\times k}\\ \mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{U}=\mathbf{I}_k}} \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{U}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2$$

- $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{x}_i$ is the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{x}_i$ onto $\mathrm{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_k)$



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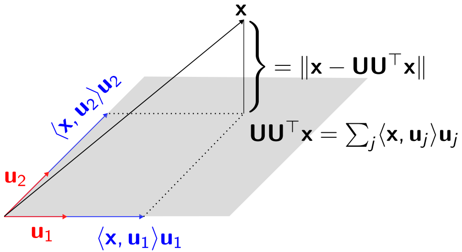
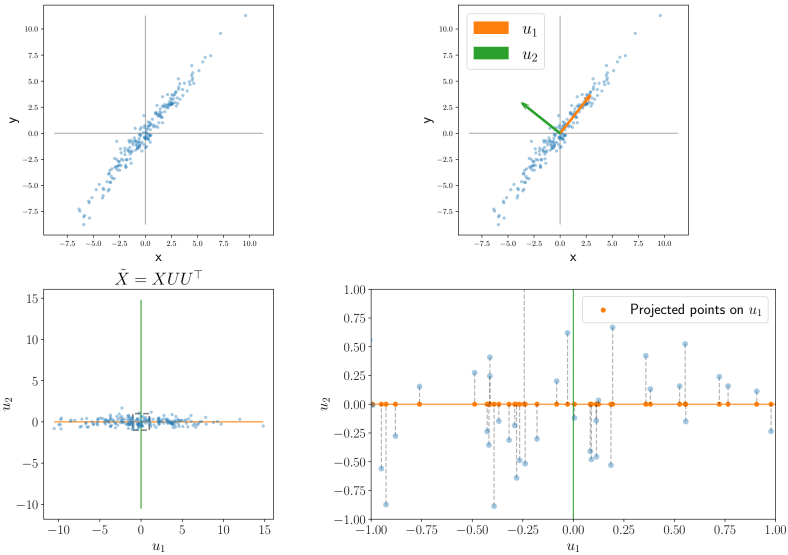
- After finding a sol. $\mathbf{U}^\star$, $\mathbf{x}_i \approx \sum_{j=1}^{k} \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_j^\star \rangle \mathbf{u}_j^\star$ (equality when $k = d$).



# Illustration



# Variance interpretation

## Equivalent problem

- The PCA problem is equivalent to the *non-convex* quadratic problem (board):

$$\max_{\substack{\mathbf{U}\in\mathbb{R}^{d\times k}\\ \mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{U}=\mathbf{I}_k}} \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\|\mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2 = \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbf{U}^\top\overbrace{(\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{X})}^{\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}}\mathbf{U}\right)$$

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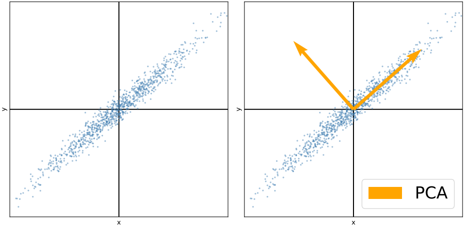
- Equivalent to maximizing the **variance of the projected samples $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i$**.




- *Empirical covariance matrix* $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times d}$

# Recap: Two views on PCA

The PCA is the linear mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ that (equivalently):

- minimizes the reconstruction error

$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \\ \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_k}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{x}_i\|^2$$

- maximizes the variance of the projected data

$$\max_{\substack{\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \\ \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_k}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}_i\|^2$$

Now how do we compute this optimal $\mathbf{U}$?

# Ky-Fan theorem

## Fan 1949

Let $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times d}$ **symmetric** with eigenvalues $\lambda_1 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_d$ and $k \leq d$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i$ (*resp.* $\sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_{d+i-1}$) is the maximum (*resp.* minimum) of $\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{U})$ over $\{\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times k}, \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_k\}$. In particular

$$\max_{\mathbf{U}\in\mathbb{R}^{d\times k}, \mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{U}=\mathbf{I}_k} \mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{U}) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i \,. \tag{1}$$

The solution of (1) is given by $\mathbf{U}^\star = (\mathbf{u}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_k)$ where $\mathbf{u}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_k$ are eigenvectors of $\mathbf{A}$ associated to the top-$k$ eigenvalues.

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## Consequences for PCA

- Solution of PCA: find the $k$ largest eigenvalues of $\widehat{\mathbf{\Sigma}} = \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$.
- Solution $\mathbf{U}^\star = (\mathbf{u}_1^\star, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_k^\star)$ associated to the top-$k$ eigenvalues of $\widehat{\mathbf{\Sigma}}$.
- $\mathbf{u}_1^\star \in \mathbb{R}^d, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_k^\star \in \mathbb{R}^d$ are called *principal components*.

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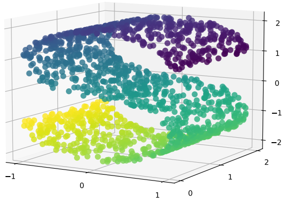
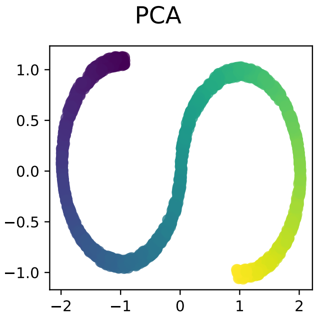
# Example with 3D data

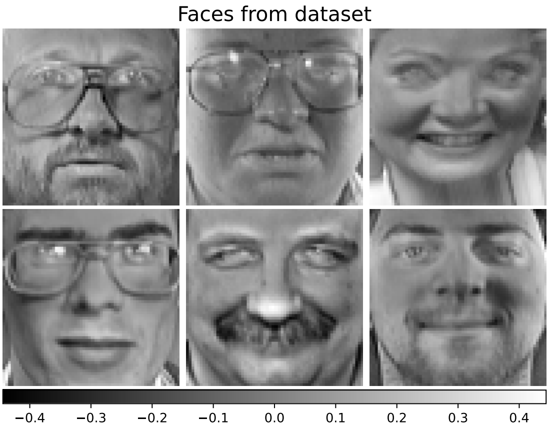
- Simple 3D data.




- Projection onto the two firsts principal components ($d = 3 \rightarrow k = 2$).



# Example with eigenfaces




## Setting

- Each image is a vector $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{4096}$ ($d = 4096$ pixels), $n = 400$ images.

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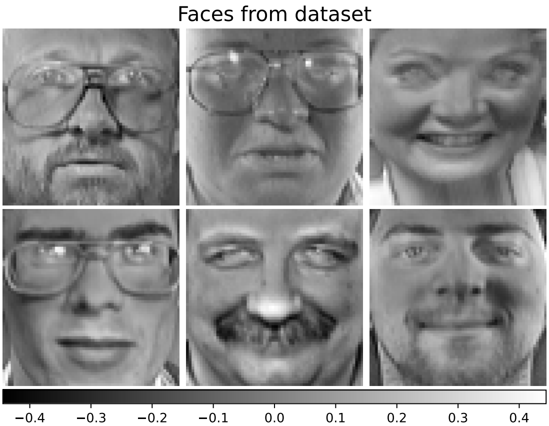


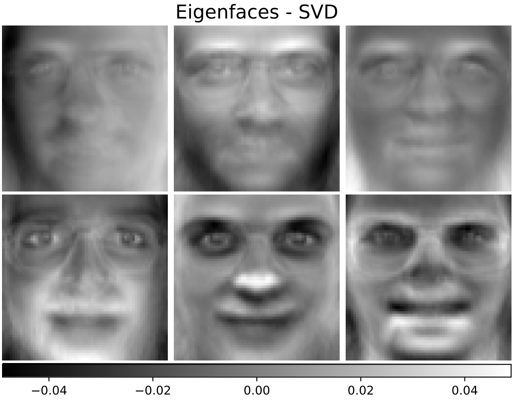

## Setting

- Each image is a vector $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{4096}$ ($d = 4096$ pixels), $n = 400$ images.
- Find $k$ "standard faces": principal components $\mathbf{u}_1^\star, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_k^\star \in \mathbb{R}^d$.
- Idea: explain images via $\mathbf{x}_i \approx \sum_{j=1}^k \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_j^\star \rangle \mathbf{u}_j^\star$, in other words

$$\text{image } \approx \alpha_1 \times \text{ eigenface } 1 + \cdots + \alpha_k \times \text{ eigenface k}$$

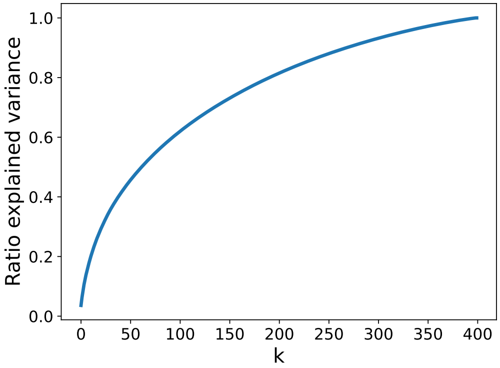
# Example with eigenfaces

- Result with $k = 6$



# Example with eigenfaces

- How to choose $k$ ? ratio explained variance: $r = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i / \sum_{i=1}^{d} \lambda_i$



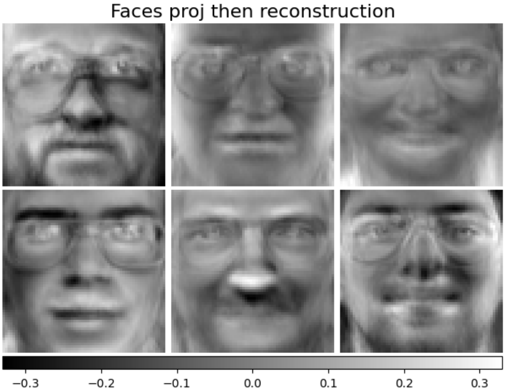

- Explanation:

$$r = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i / \sum_{i=1}^{d} \lambda_i = \mathrm{tr}\left( (\mathbf{U}^\star)^\top \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} (\mathbf{U}^\star) \right) / \mathrm{tr}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}})$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i\|_2^2 / \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2$$

# Example with eigenfaces

- Reconstruction with $k = 30$



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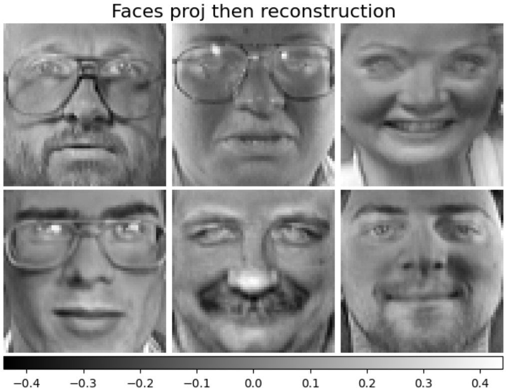

# How to compute the PCA?

## The "naive" way

- Find the eigenvalue decomposition of $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top$
- Compute $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$: $\mathcal{O}(nd^2)$ operations.
- Eigenvalue decomposition : $\mathcal{O}(d^3)$ operations.
- Keep only the $k$-largest eigenvalues associated to $k$ eigenvectors.
- Space complexity: $\mathcal{O}(d^2)$
- Time complexity: $\mathcal{O}(nd^2 + d^3)$

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- Eigenvalue decomposition : $\mathcal{O}(d^3)$ operations.
- Keep only the $k$-largest eigenvalues associated to $k$ eigenvectors.
- Space complexity: $\mathcal{O}(d^2)$
- Time complexity: $\mathcal{O}(nd^2 + d^3)$

## The right way

- Compute the singular value decomposition (SVD) of $\mathbf{X}$ !

# Table of contents

# One of the most useful tool in linear algebra

## Singular value decomposition

Let $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$. Then $\mathbf{X}$ can be decomposed as

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^\top \tag{2}$$

where $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ are *unitary* ($\mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{U}^\top = \mathbf{I}_n$, $\mathbf{V}^\top\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}^\top = \mathbf{I}_d$) and $\mathbf{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ is a rectangular diagonal matrix with *non-negative* real numbers $(\sigma_i)_{i \in [\![\min\{n,d\}]\!]}$ on the diagonal, called *singular values*.

# One of the most useful tool in linear algebra

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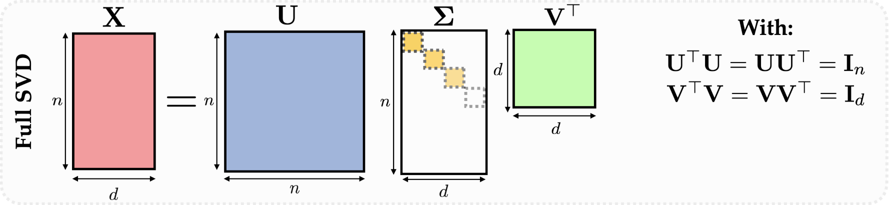
## Properties

- $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X})$ = number of non-zero $\sigma_i' s$.
- The *columns* of $\mathbf{V}$ are eigenvectors of $\mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times d}$.
- The *columns* of $\mathbf{U}$ are eigenvectors of $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n\times n}$.
- We have $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\text{eigenvalue}_i(\mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{X})} = \sqrt{\text{eigenvalue}_i(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top)}$.
- We have the relations $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{v}_i = \sigma_i\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{u}_i = \sigma_i\mathbf{v}_i$.

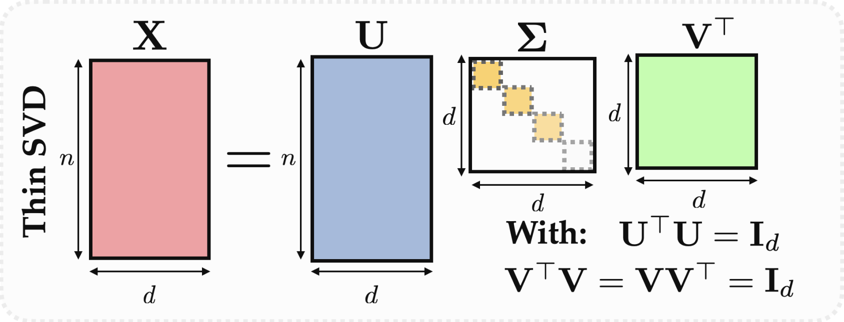
# SVD: many flavors




## Full SVD (image in case $n \geq d$)

- Generalizes eigenvalue decomposition for non-symmetric matrices.
- Complexity: $\mathcal{O}(nd \min\{n, d\})$ (Golub–Reinsch algorithm see Cline and Dhillon 2006).
- To find the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{X}^\top\mathbf{X}$ or $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top$ we do not even have to compute these matrices !

# SVD: many flavors

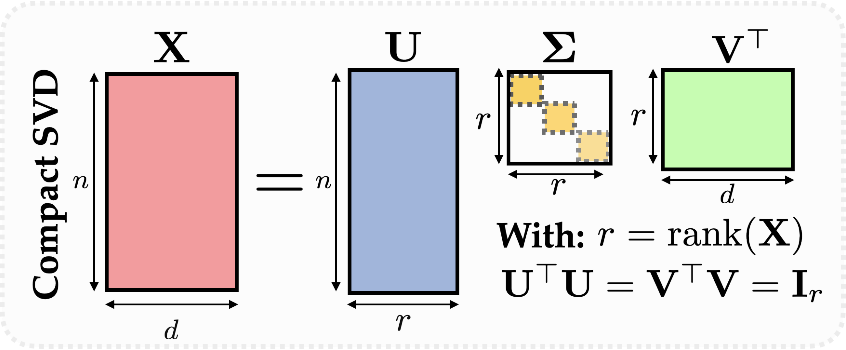



## Thin SVD

- If we write $\mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_n), \mathbf{V} = (\mathbf{v}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{v}_d)$ the full SVD, then Thin SVD gives:

$$\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^{\min\{n,d\}} \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\top$$

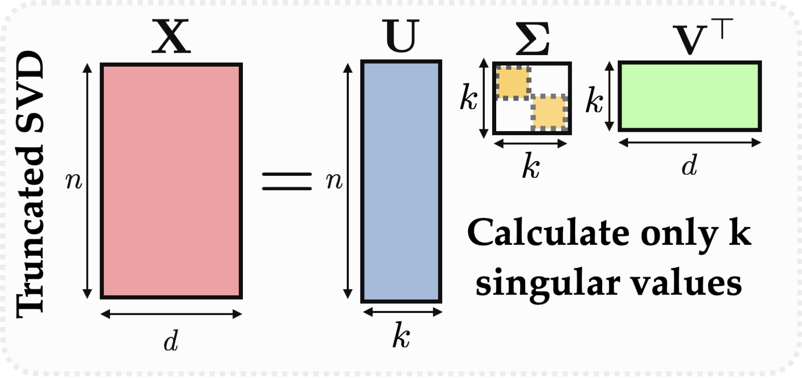
# SVD: many flavors




## Compact SVD

- Keep only the non-zero singular values. In particular $r = \mathrm{rank}(\mathbf{X})$.
- The pseudo-inverse of $\mathbf{X}$ is given by $\mathbf{X}^\dagger = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{U}^\top$.

# SVD: many flavors




## Truncated SVD

- Best rank-$k$ approximation of $\mathbf{X}$ (in the sense of $\|\cdot\|_F, \|\cdot\|_{2\to 2}$).
- The solution of the PCA is given by $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times k}$.
- The embedding $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i)_{i\in[\![n]\!]}$ in low dim of PCA is given by $\mathbf{U\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{n\times k}$.
- Efficient algorithms $\mathcal{O}(ndk)$ Halko, Martinsson, and Tropp 2011.

# PCA: a recap

- Dimension reduction $\mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$ via a linear mapping.
- Defined with a matrix $\mathbf{U}$ with orthonormal columns.
- Follows a reconstruction principle.
- Maximizes the variance of the projected samples.
- Used for compression, interpretation, robustess.
- Can be computed with SVD in $\mathcal{O}(ndk)$ time.

# A word on Kernel PCA

## From PCA...

- PCA solves $\max_{\substack{\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \\ \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_k}} \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbf{U}^\top (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}) \mathbf{U}\right)$.
- Eigenvalue decomposition of $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$.
- Same non-zero eigenvalues than $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top = (\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle)_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ (exercise).

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## ... to Kernel PCA Schölkopf, Smola, and Müller 2005

- PCA in a *high-dimensional non-linear* embedding $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$ of the data.
- *Kernel trick*: embedding is *implicit* we only need $\mathbf{K} = (\langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i), \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j) \rangle)_{ij}$.
- Kernel PCA: eigenvalue decomposition of $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.
- More powerful but expensive for large $n$.

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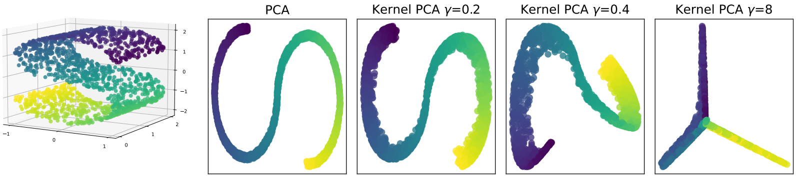

# A more general setting: dictionary learning

## From PCA...

- One principle of PCA is to represent a sample as a linear combination $\mathbf{x} \approx \sum_{j=1}^{k} \alpha_j \mathbf{d}_j$ with $\mathbf{d}_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$.
- PCA: $\alpha_j = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}_j^\star \rangle, \mathbf{d}_j = \mathbf{u}_j^\star$ principal component.

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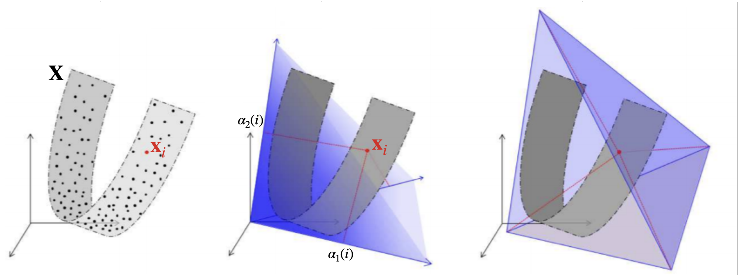
## ... to dictionary learning (DL)

- Represent $\mathbf{x}$ in another "base": $\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ (e.g. Fourier/Wavelet basis).
- $\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ is the *dictionary*. $k$ might be bigger than $d$ ! (overcomplete)
- $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is the representation of $\mathbf{x}$ in the dictionary $\mathbf{D}$.



# A more general setting: dictionary learning

## Find the representation

- Given a point $\mathbf{x}$ and a dictionary $\mathbf{D}$:

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \underset{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in C}{\arg\min} \; \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2^2 \tag{3}$$

- When $C = \mathbb{R}^k, \mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{I}_k$ then $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{x}$.
- Can also be used with different losses than $\| \cdot \|_2^2$.

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## Learn the representation **and** the dictionary

- Given a dataset $\mathbf{x}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{x}_n$, learn the dictionary and the representations

$$\widehat{\mathbf{D}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1}, \cdots, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_n} = \underset{\substack{\mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{D} \\ \boldsymbol{\alpha}_1, \cdots, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_n \in C}}{\arg\min}\ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i\|_2^2 \,. \tag{4}$$

- When $C = \mathbb{R}^k, \mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, \mathbf{D}^\top \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{I}_k\}$ we retrieve the PCA.
- But various possibilities Mairal et al. 2009 !
- Scikit-learn implementation : `sklearn.decomposition.DictionaryLearning`

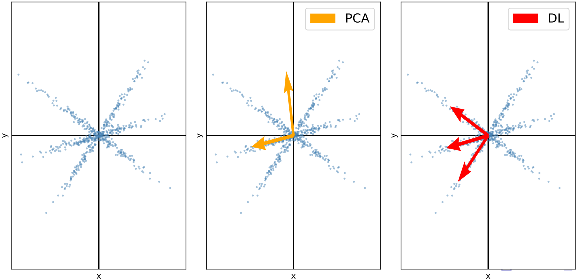
# One example

## Sparse dictionary learning

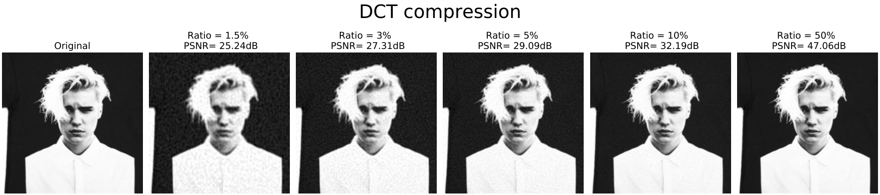
- Given a dataset $\mathbf{x}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{x}_n$, learn the dictionary and the representations

$$\widehat{\mathbf{D}}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1}, \cdots, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_n} = \underset{\substack{\mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{D} \\ \boldsymbol{\alpha}_1, \cdots, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_n \in C}}{\arg\min} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i\|_2^2 . \tag{5}$$

- Take $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} : \forall i, \|\mathbf{d}_i\|_2 = 1\}$ (normalized columns).
- Take $C = \{\boldsymbol{\alpha} : \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_1 \leq \lambda\}$ sparsity promoting regularization.
- Example $d = 2, k = 3$ (not dimension reduction !!)



# Justin Bieber is sparse ?



# Table of contents

# General setting

## Preserve the pairwise distances Agrawal, Ali, and Boyd 2021

- A dataset $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{x}_n), \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$.
- Find a dataset $\widetilde{\mathbf{X}} = (\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \cdots, \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_n), \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k, k \ll d$ such that

$$\forall (i,j),\ \text{similarity}_{\mathbb{R}^d}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \approx \text{similarity}_{\mathbb{R}^k}(\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_i, \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_j) \text{ or}$$
$$\forall (i,j),\ \text{dissimilarity}_{\mathbb{R}^d}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \approx \text{dissimilarity}_{\mathbb{R}^k}(\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_i, \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_j)$$

- Optional: find a mapping $f : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k, \widetilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$.

# General setting

## Preserve the pairwise distances Agrawal, Ali, and Boyd 2021

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## Example with $\| \cdot \|_2^2$

- Can we find $\delta \in [0,1]$ and $f : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$ such that

$$(1-\delta)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2 \le \|f(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_j)\|_2^2 \le (1+\delta)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2\,? \quad (6)$$

# One necessary result

## The notion of distortion Matou**v**sek 2013

- Consider two metric spaces $(X, d_X)$ and $(Y, d_Y)$. A function $f : X \to Y$ is called a $\mu$-embedding if, $\exists r > 0$, such that

$$\forall(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \in X, \; r \, d_X(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \leq d_Y(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) \leq \mu \times r \, d_X(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \,. \quad (7)$$

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## Example

- Not always possible to have low distortion !
- Every embedding of the $n$-point equilateral space $X = K_n$ (every two points have distance 1) into the Euclidean plane $(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)$ has distortion at least $\Omega(\sqrt{n})$.

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# Table of contents

# Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma

## Johnson and Lindenstrauss 1984

Let $0 < \delta < 1$ and *any* dataset $\mathbf{x}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Providing that

$$k > 8\delta^{-2} \log(n),$$

there is a matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$, such that,

$$\forall (i,j) \in [\![n]\!]^2, (1-\delta)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2 \leq (1+\delta)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2 .$$

# Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma

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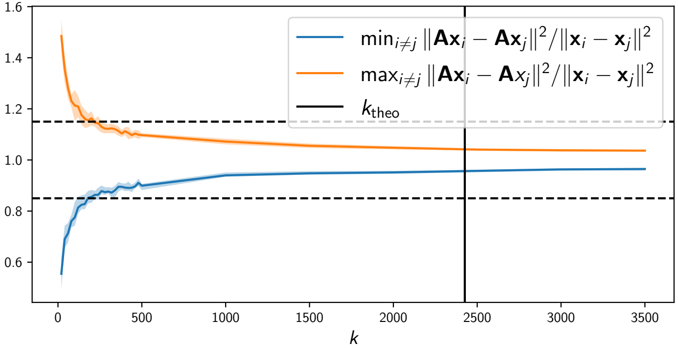
## Important comments

- The mapping is linear + works for any dataset !
- $k$ does not depend on the dimension $d$ !
- Magical: $\mathbf{A}$ can be drawn randomly: $A_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{k})$.
- This is tight in some sense Larsen and Nelson 2017.
- Caveat: $n = 300$ samples, $\delta = 10\%$ already requires $k > 4560$.

# Johnson-Lindenstrauss in practice

- Real dataset in $\mathbb{R}^{38\times 7129}$, $\delta = 0.15$.
- For various choices of $k$, draw random Gaussian $A \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{k}) \in \mathbb{R}^{k\times d}$.
- Compare distances between $\mathbf{Ax}_i$s to distances between $\mathbf{x}_i$s.



# Table of contents

# Multidimensional scaling (MDS)

## Learn from pairwise distances

- Distances in the big space: $D_{ij} = d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ for some "metric" $D$.
- Find $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \cdots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n \in \mathbb{R}^k$ that minimizes:

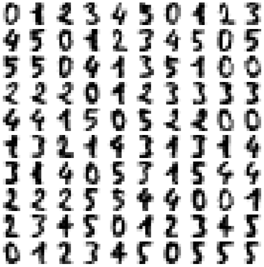
$$\mathrm{stress}_D(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \cdots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n) = \sum_{i \neq j} (D_{ij} - \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2)^2 \tag{9}$$

- Eq. (9) usually called *stress minimization*: $\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2 \approx D_{ij}$.
- Can also be used for embedding nodes $\mathbf{x}_i$ of a graph (not only Euclidean).
- Can be solved with eigenvalue decomposition.
- No map from the high dim space to the lower dim space.

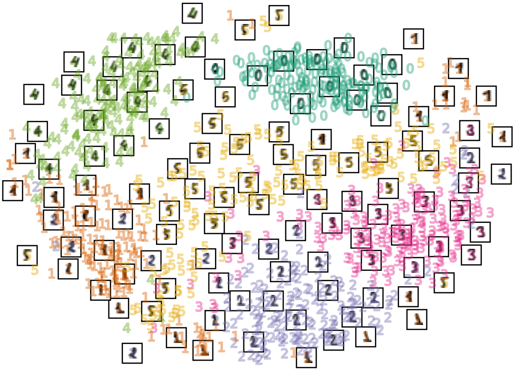
# Multidimensional scaling (MDS)

- With digits dataset:

A selection from the 64-dimensional digits dataset



MDS embedding (time 2.959s)



# Stochastic neighbor embedding (SNE)

## Learn from pairwise similarities

- One of the most used algorithm G. E. Hinton and Roweis 2002.
- Similarities in the high-dim space:

$$P_{ij} = \frac{\exp(-\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2^2 / 2\sigma_i^2)}{\sum_{k \neq i} \exp(-\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_k\|_2^2 / 2\sigma_i^2)}, P_{ii} = 0 \,.$$

- Similarities in the low-dim space:

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{\exp(-\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2^2)}{\sum_{k \neq i} \exp(-\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_k\|_2^2)}, Q_{ii} = 0 \,.$$

- SNE: find $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \cdots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n)$ that minimizes $\mathrm{KL}(\mathbf{P}|\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{ij} P_{ij} \log(\frac{P_{ij}}{Q_{ij}})$.
- $\sigma_i$ local scaling, tuned with *entropic affinities* with fixed *perplexity* Vladymyrov and Carreira-Perpinan 2013.
- t-SNE variant for the kernel $\mathbf{Q}$ (t-Student) Van der Maaten and G. Hinton 2008.

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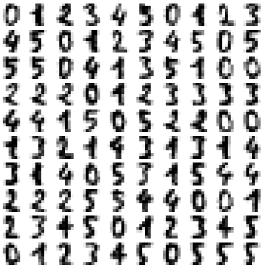
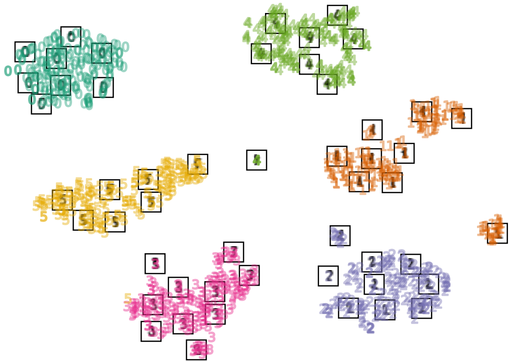


t-SNE embeedding (time 1.324s)



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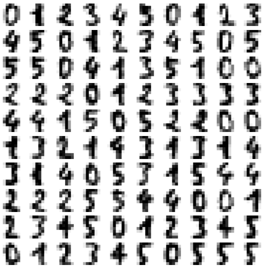
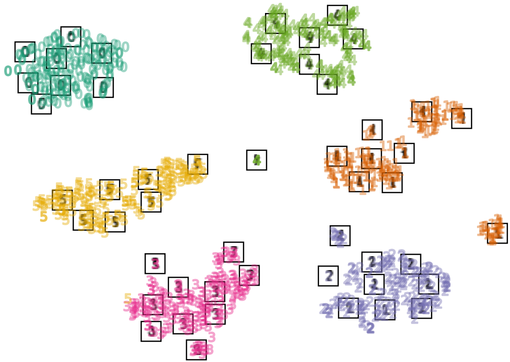


t-SNE embeedding (time 1.324s)



# Stochastic neighbor embedding (SNE)

## On the perplexity parameter

- $(\sigma_i)_i$ local scalings are found so that:

$$\forall i \in [\![n]\!], \mathrm{H}(P_{i,:}) = -\sum_j P_{ij} \log(P_{ij}) = \log(\mathrm{perp})$$

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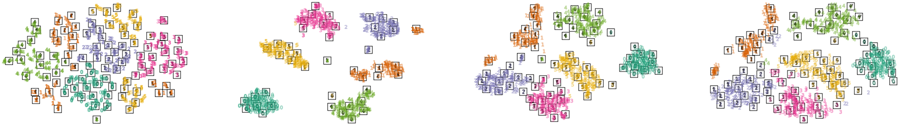
## Be aware of ...

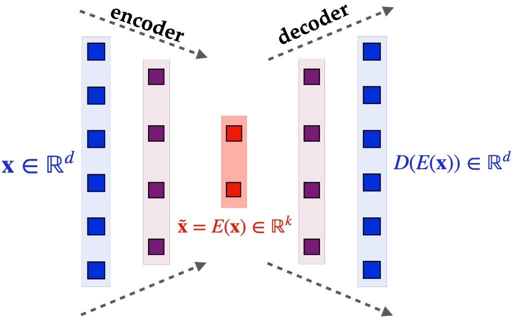
- (T)SNE has tendency to show non-existent clusters for small perplexity
- (T)SNE struggles in high-dim! In practice: PCA first.
- No geometrical relations between clusters.
- Difficult to interpret, sensitive to perplexity.
- No mapping from the high dim space to the lower dim space.

t-SNE perp=3 t-SNE perp=50 t-SNE perp=200 t-SNE perp=500



# Table of contents

# Autoencoders




## Principle

- Send the point $x$ from $\mathbb{R}^d$ to $\mathbb{R}^k$ with an *encoder* $E$.
- Map back the *code/latent variable* $E(x)$ to the original space with a *decoder* $D$.
- Decoded code should be close to the original point.
- Code dimension $k \ll$ original dimension $d$.
- Autoencoder: $E$ and $D$ are neural networks!

# Learning autoencoders

- Architecture of $E$ and $D$ is fixed (number of layers, non-linearity, type of layers)
- Typical fully-connected neural networks are a combination of matrix multiplication + bias with pointwise non-linearity:

$$g_K \circ \cdots \circ g_1 \text{ where } g_k(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}_k)$$

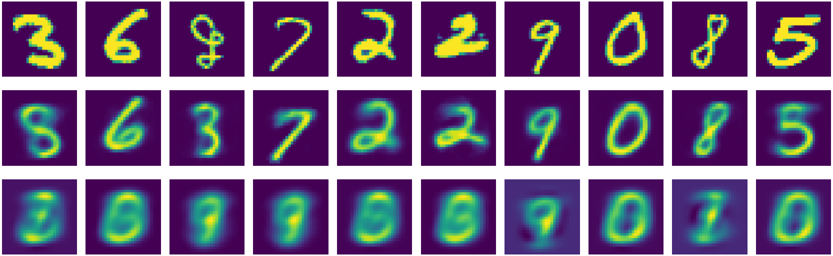
- Weights are learned by solving:

$$\min_{D,E} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|\mathbf{x}_i - D(E(\mathbf{x}_i))\|_2^2$$

- Optimisation is performed with first-order methods (SGD, Adam).

# Autoencoder application to MNIST

- MNIST data: $28 \times 28$ images (784 pixels)
- Compressed into $\mathbb{R}^2$ with Autoencoder or PCA



Top: original, middle: autoencoder, bottom: PCA.

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