

CPSC 340: Machine Learning and Data Mining

Principal Component Analysis

Andreas Lehrmann and Mark Schmidt

University of British Columbia, Fall 2022

<https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-340>

Last Time: MAP Estimation

- MAP estimation maximizes posterior:

$$p(w | X, y) \propto p(y | X, w) p(w)$$

"posterior" "likelihood" "prior"

- Likelihood measures probability of labels 'y' given parameters 'w'.
- Prior measures probability of parameters 'w' before we see data.
- For IID training data and independent priors, equivalent to using:

$$f(w) = -\sum_{i=1}^n \log(p(y_i | x_i, w)) - \sum_{j=1}^d \log(p(w_j))$$

- So log-likelihood is an error function, and log-prior is a regularizer.
 - Squared error comes from Gaussian likelihood.
 - L2-regularization comes from Gaussian prior.

Motivation: Human vs. Machine Perception

- Huge difference between what we see and what computer sees:

What we see:



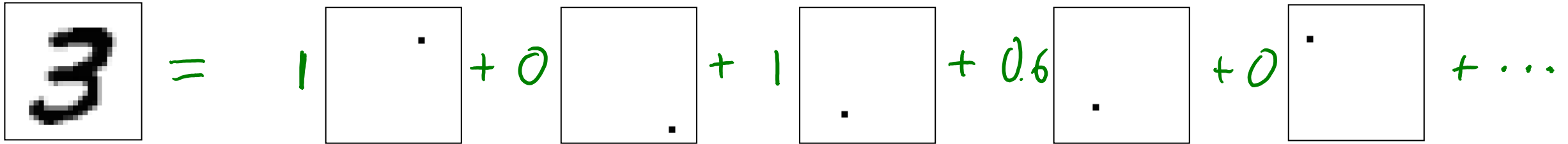
What the computer “sees”:



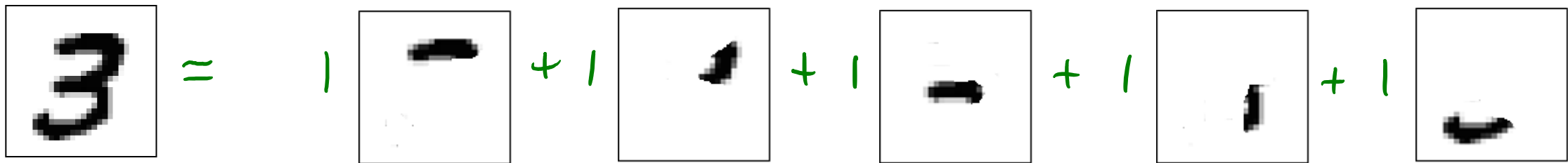
- But maybe images shouldn't be written as combinations of pixels.
 - Can we learn a better representation?
 - In other words, can we learn good features?

Motivation: Pixels vs. Parts

- Can view 28x28 image as **weighted sum** of “single pixel on” images:


$$\text{3} = 1 \cdot \text{[pixel at (1,1)]} + 0 \cdot \text{[pixel at (1,28)]} + 1 \cdot \text{[pixel at (28,1)]} + 0.6 \cdot \text{[pixel at (28,28)]} + 0 \cdot \text{[pixel at (1,1)]} + \dots$$

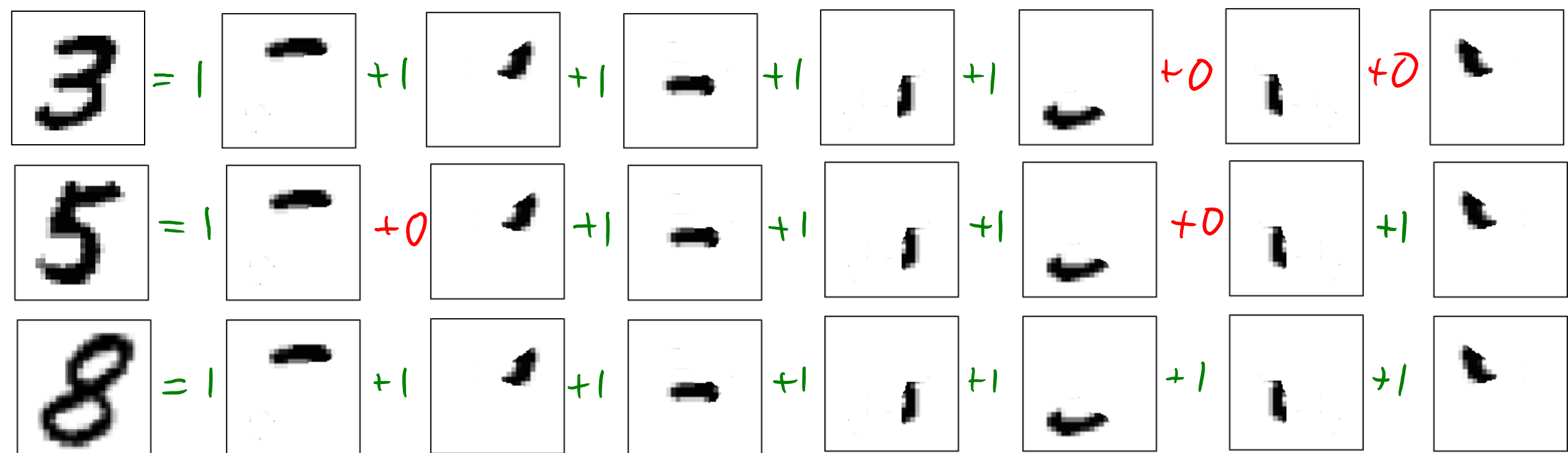
- We have one image/feature for each pixel.
- The **weights** specify “how much of this pixel is in the image”.
 - A weight of zero means that pixel is white, a weight of 1 means it’s black.
- This is **non-intuitive**, isn’t a “3” made of **small number of “parts”**?


$$\text{3} = 1 \cdot \text{[part 1]} + 1 \cdot \text{[part 2]} + 1 \cdot \text{[part 3]} + 1 \cdot \text{[part 4]} + 1 \cdot \text{[part 5]} + \dots$$

- Now the weights are “**how much of this part is in the image**”.

Motivation: Pixels vs. Parts

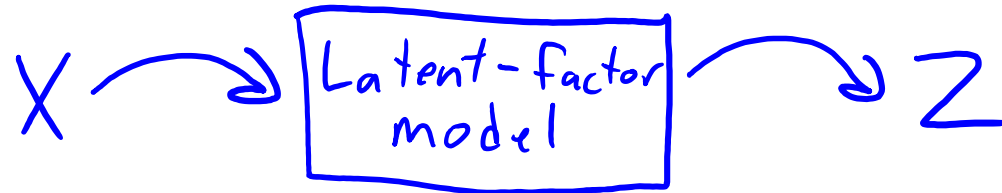
- We could represent other digits as different combinations of “parts”:



- Consider replacing images x_i by the weights z_i of the different parts:
 - The 784-dimensional x_i for the “5” image is replaced by 7 numbers: $z_i = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1]$.
 - Features like this could make learning much easier.

Part 4: Latent-Factor Models

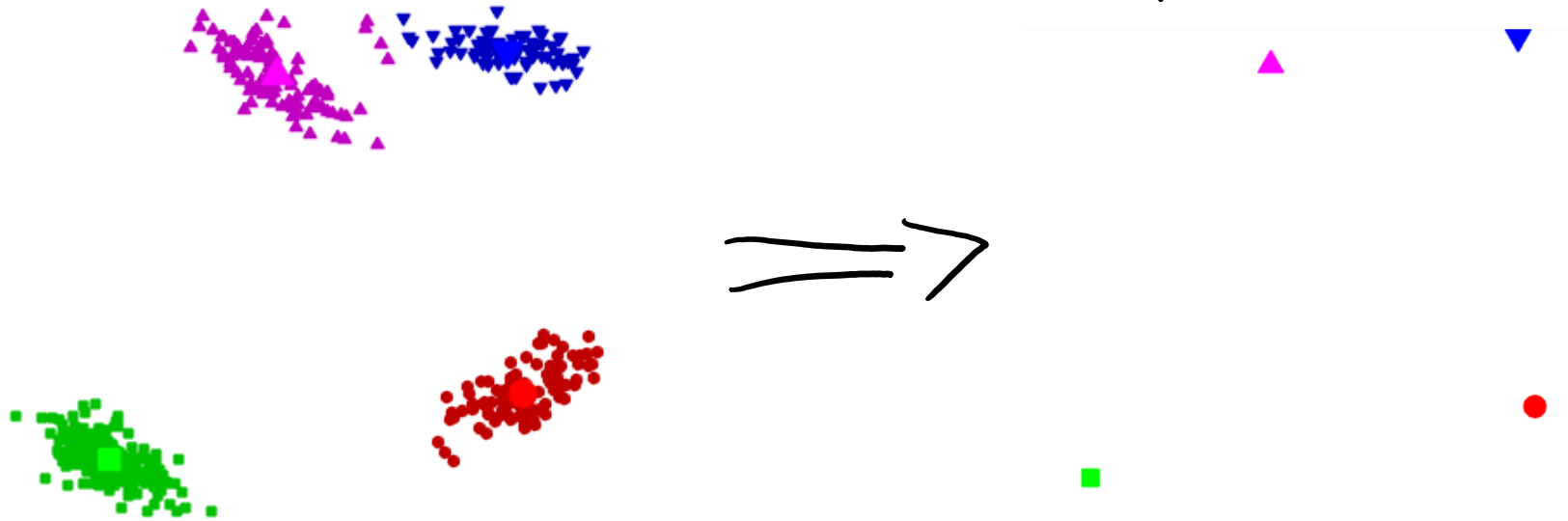
- The “part weights” are a change of basis from x_i to some z_i .
 - But in high dimensions, it can be hard to find a good basis.
- Part 4 is about learning the basis from the data.



- Why?
 - Supervised learning: we could use “part weights” as our features.
 - Outlier detection: it might be an outlier if isn’t a combination of usual parts.
 - Dimension reduction: compress data into limited number of “part weights”.
 - Visualization: if we have only 2 “part weights”, we can view data as a scatterplot.
 - Interpretation: we can try and figure out what the “parts” represent.

Previously: Vector Quantization

- Recall using **k-means for vector quantization**:
 - Run k-means to find a set of “means” w_c .
 - This gives a cluster \hat{y}_i for each object ‘i’.
 - Replace features x_i by mean of cluster: $\hat{x}_i \approx w_{\hat{y}_i}$



- This can be viewed as a (really bad) latent-factor model.

Vector Quantization (VQ) as Latent-Factor Model

- When $d=3$, we could write x_i exactly as:

$$x_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_{i1} \\ x_{i2} \\ x_{i3} \end{bmatrix} = z_{i1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z_{i2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z_{i3} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(this is like "one pixel on" representation of images)}$$

"part 1" *"part 2"* *"part 3"*

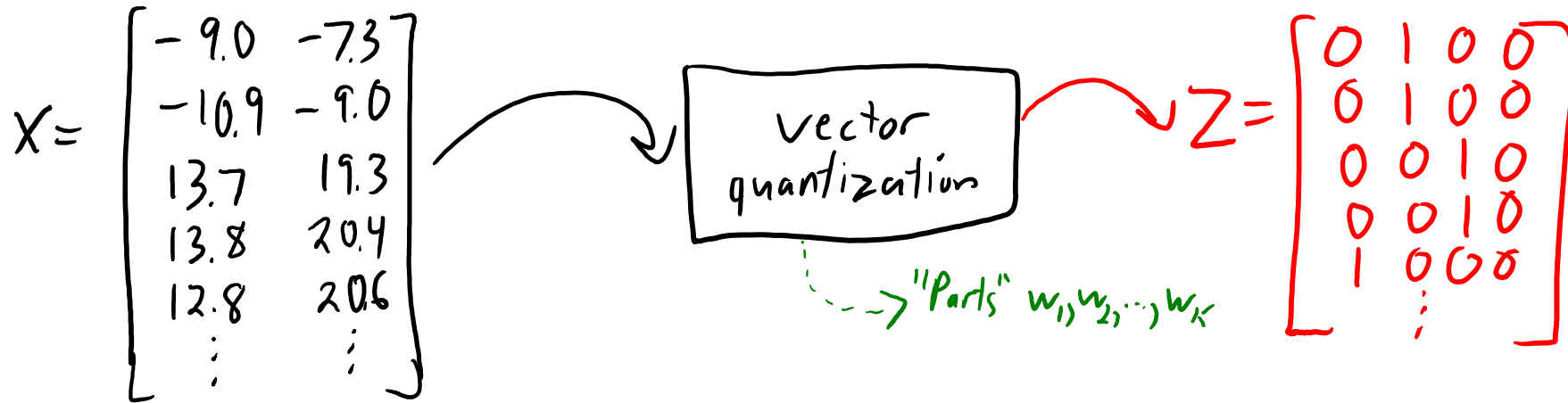
- In this “pointless” latent-factor model we have $z_i = [x_{i1} \ x_{i2} \ x_{i3}]$.
- If x_i is in cluster 2, VQ approximates x_i by mean w_2 of cluster 2:

$$x_i \approx w_2 = 0w_1 + 1w_2 + 0w_3 + 0w_4$$

- So in this example we would have $z_i = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]$.
 - The “parts” are the means from k-means.
 - VQ only uses one part (the “part” from the cluster).

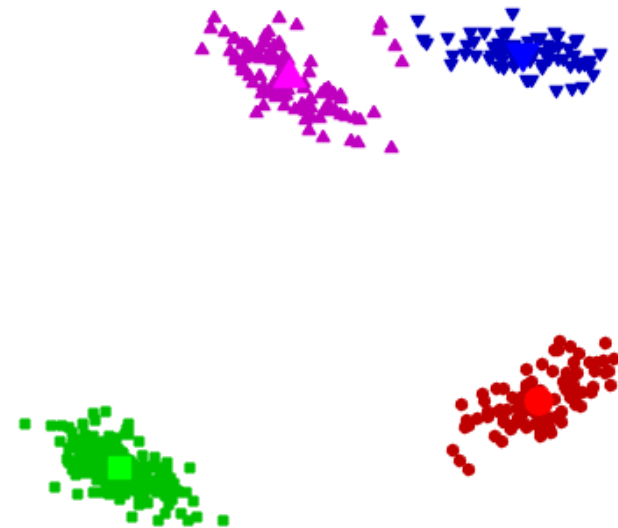
Vector Quantization vs. PCA

- Viewing vector quantization as a **latent-factor model**:



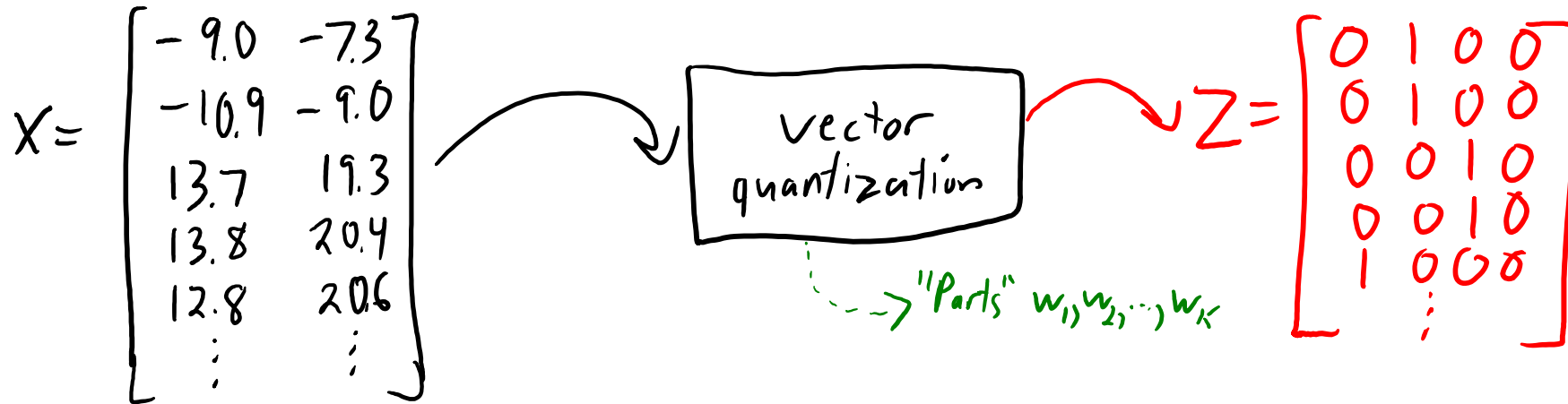
- Suppose we're doing supervised learning, and the colours are the true labels 'y':

- Classification would be really easy with this "k-means basis" 'Z'.



Vector Quantization vs. PCA

- Viewing vector quantization as a **latent-factor model**:



- But it **only uses 1 part**, it's just memorizing 'k' points in x_i space.
 - What we want is **combinations of parts**.
- PCA is a generalization that allows continuous 'z_i'**:
 - It can have more than 1 non-zero.
 - It can use fractional weights and negative weights.

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 1.6 \\ 0.3 & 1.5 \\ 0.1 & -2.7 \\ 0.3 & -2.7 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) Applications

- Principal component analysis (PCA) has been invented many times:

PCA was invented in 1901 by [Karl Pearson](#),^[1] as an analogue of the [principal axis theorem](#) in mechanics; it was later independently developed (and named) by [Harold Hotelling](#) in the 1930s.^[2] Depending on the field of application, it is also named the discrete [Kosambi–Karhunen–Loève](#) transform (KLT) in signal processing, the [Hotelling](#) transform in multivariate quality control, proper orthogonal decomposition (POD) in mechanical engineering, [singular value decomposition](#) (SVD) of \mathbf{X} (Golub and Van Loan, 1983), [eigenvalue decomposition](#) (EVD) of $\mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{X}$ in linear algebra, [factor analysis](#) (for a discussion of the differences between PCA and factor analysis see Ch. 7 of ^[3]), [Eckart–Young theorem](#) (Harman, 1960), or [Schmidt–Mirsky theorem](#) in psychometrics, [empirical orthogonal functions](#) (EOF) in meteorological science, [empirical eigenfunction decomposition](#) (Sirovich, 1987), [empirical component analysis](#) (Lorenz, 1956), [quasiharmonic modes](#) (Brooks et al., 1988), [spectral decomposition](#) in noise and vibration, and [empirical modal analysis](#) in structural dynamics.

standard deviation of 3 in roughly the (0.878, 0.478) direction and of 1 in the orthogonal direction. The vectors shown are the eigenvectors of the [covariance matrix](#) scaled by the square root of the corresponding eigenvalue, and shifted so their tails are at the mean.

PCA Notation (MEMORIZE)

- PCA takes in a matrix 'X' and an input 'k', and outputs two matrices:

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} z_1^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} z_2^T \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} z_n^T \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \left. \vphantom{\begin{bmatrix} \text{---} z_1^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} z_2^T \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} z_n^T \text{---} \end{bmatrix}} \right\} n$$
$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} w_1^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} w_2^T \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} w_k^T \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \left. \vphantom{\begin{bmatrix} \text{---} w_1^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} w_2^T \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} w_k^T \text{---} \end{bmatrix}} \right\} k = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ w^1 & w^2 & \dots & w^d \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} \left. \vphantom{\begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ w^1 & w^2 & \dots & w^d \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix}} \right\} k$$

The diagram shows the decomposition of matrix W into its columns. The first matrix Z is a vertical stack of row vectors z_i^T, with a brace on the right indicating n rows and a brace below indicating k columns. The second matrix W is a vertical stack of row vectors w_c^T, with a brace on the right indicating k rows and a brace below indicating d columns. The third matrix is a vertical stack of column vectors w^j, with a brace on the right indicating k columns and a brace below indicating d rows.

- For row 'c' of W, we use the notation w_c .
 - Each w_c is a “part” (also called a “factor” or “principal component”).
- For row 'i' of Z, we use the notation z_i .
 - Each z_i is a set of “part weights” (or “factor loadings” or “features”).
- For column 'j' of W, we use the notation w^j .
 - Index 'j' of all the 'k' “parts” (value of pixel 'j' in all the different parts).

PCA Notation (MEMORIZE)

- PCA takes in a matrix 'X' and an input 'k', and outputs two matrices:

$$Z = \left[\begin{array}{c} -z_1^T- \\ -z_2^T- \\ \vdots \\ -z_n^T- \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} -z_1^T- \\ -z_2^T- \\ \vdots \\ -z_n^T- \end{array}} \right\} n$$

$$W = \left[\begin{array}{c} -w_1^T- \\ -w_2^T- \\ \vdots \\ -w_k^T- \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} -w_1^T- \\ -w_2^T- \\ \vdots \\ -w_k^T- \end{array}} \right\} k = \left[\begin{array}{c} | \\ w^1 \quad w^2 \quad \dots \quad w^d \\ | \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} | \\ w^1 \quad w^2 \quad \dots \quad w^d \\ | \end{array}} \right\} k$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_k$
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_d$
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_d$

- With this notation, we can write our approximation of one x_{ij} as:

$$\hat{x}_{ij} = z_{i1}w_{1j} + z_{i2}w_{2j} + \dots + z_{ik}w_{kj} = \sum_{c=1}^k z_{ic}w_{cj} = (w^j)^T z_i = \langle w^j, z_i \rangle$$

(NEW NOTATION)

- K-means: "take index 'j' of closest mean".
- PCA: "z_i gives weights for index 'j' of all means".

- We can write approximation of the vector x_i as:

$$\hat{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} \langle w^1, z_i \rangle \\ \langle w^2, z_i \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle w^d, z_i \rangle \end{bmatrix} = W^T z_i$$

$d \times 1$
 $d \times k$
 $k \times 1$

Different views (MEMORIZE)

- PCA approximates each x_{ij} by the inner product $\langle w^j, z_i \rangle$.
- PCA approximates each x_i by the matrix-vector product $W^T z_i$.
- PCA approximates matrix 'X' by the matrix-matrix product ZW .

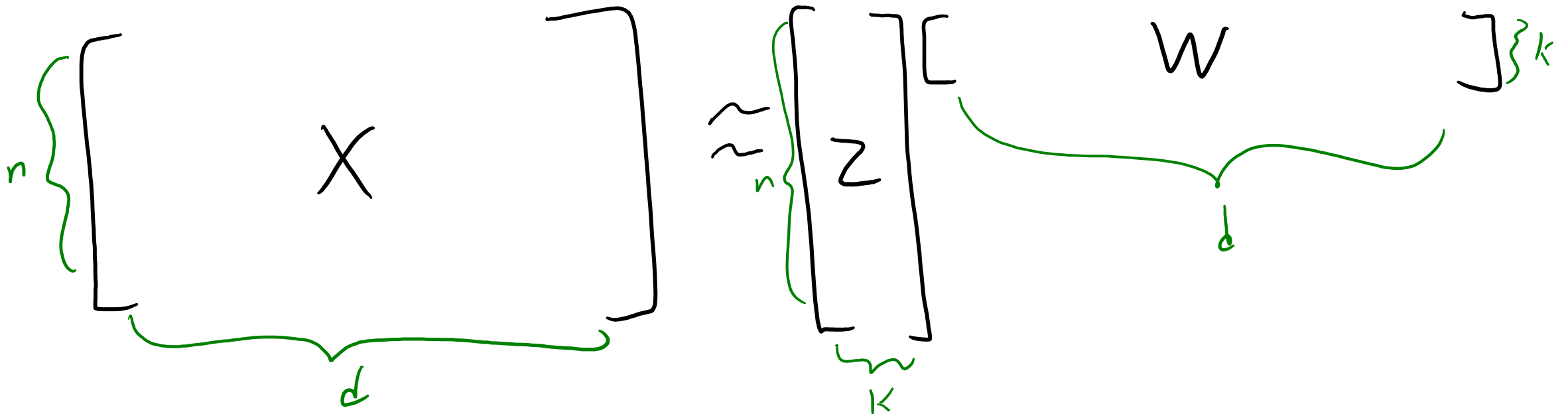
$$X \approx ZW$$

(Handwritten dimensions: X is $n \times d$, Z is $n \times k$, and W is $k \times d$)

- PCA is also called a “**matrix factorization**” model.
 - Both ‘Z’ and ‘W’ are variables.
- This can be viewed as a “change of basis” from x_i to z_i values.
 - The “basis vectors” are the rows of W , the w_c .
 - The “coordinates” in the new basis of each x_i are the z_i .

PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - **Dimensionality reduction**: replace 'X' with lower-dimensional 'Z'.
 - If $k \ll d$, then compresses data.
 - Often better approximation than vector quantization.



PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:

- **Dimensionality reduction**: replace 'X' with lower-dimensional 'Z'.

- If $k \ll d$, then compresses data.
- Often better approximation than vector quantization.

X

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64

\approx

Z

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

W

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Compresses 64 elements
of 'X' down to 16 elements
of 'Z' and 'W'
(can predict all x_i values from one z_i value)

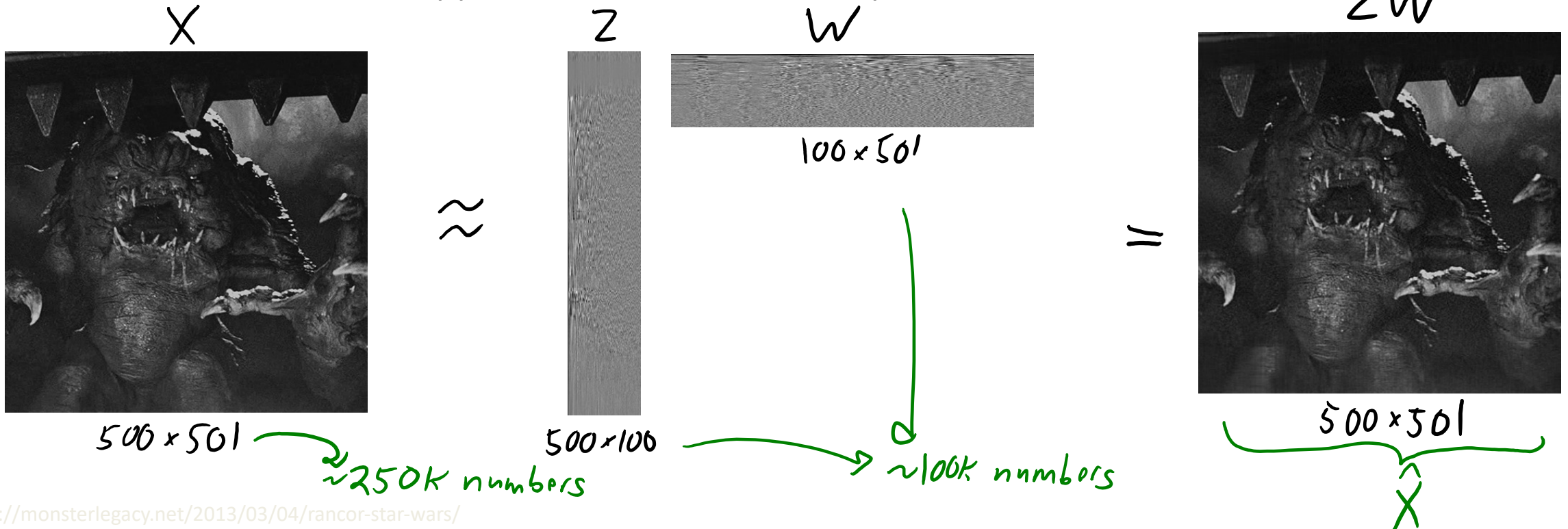
PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:

- **Dimensionality reduction**: replace 'X' with lower-dimensional 'Z'.

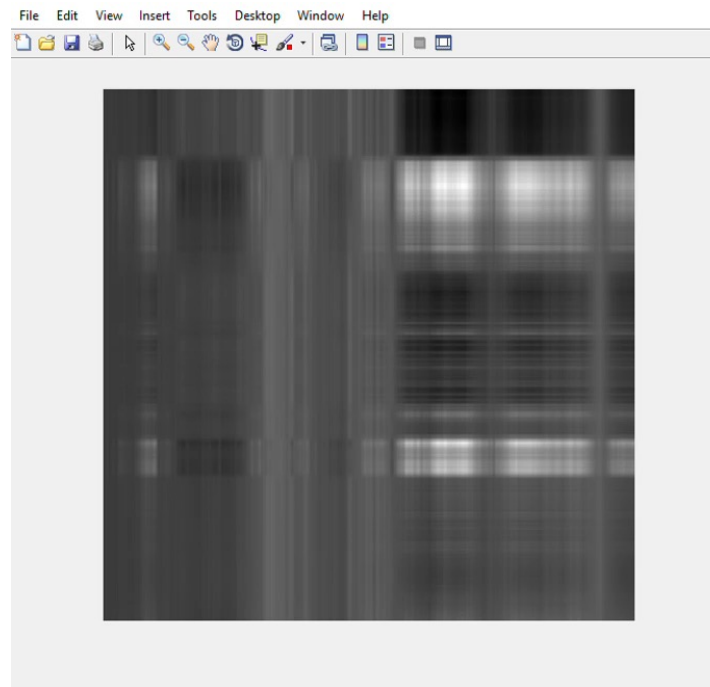
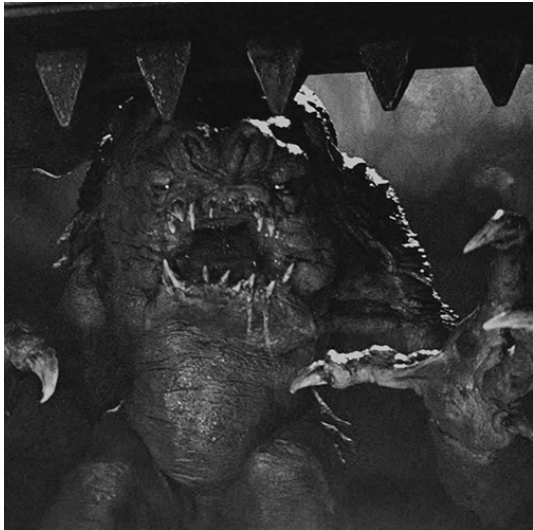
- If $k \ll d$, then compresses data.

- Often better approximation than vector quantization.



PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - **Dimensionality reduction**: replace 'X' with lower-dimensional 'Z'.
 - If $k \ll d$, then compresses data.
 - Often better approximation than vector quantization.

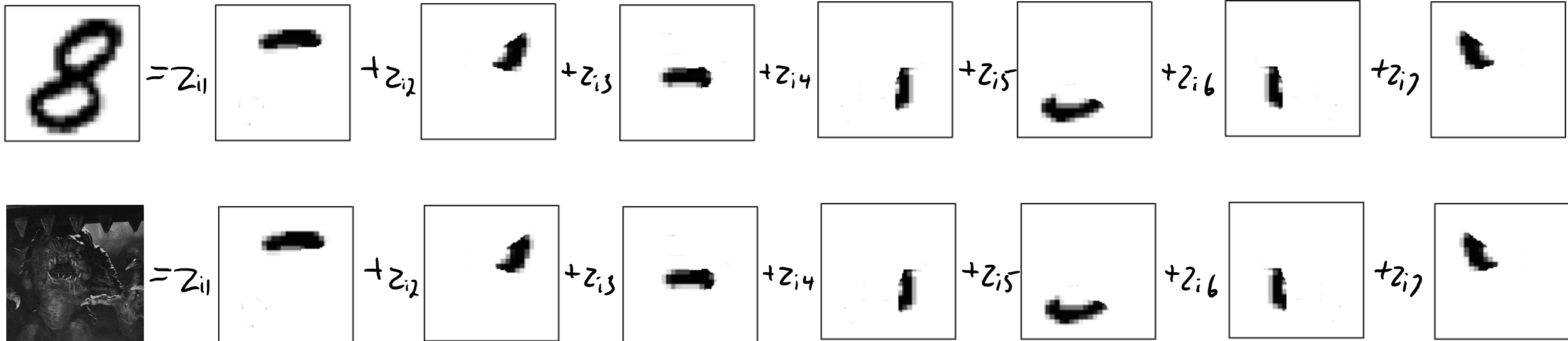


PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:

- **Outlier detection**: if PCA gives poor approximation of x_i , could be 'outlier'.

- Though due to squared error **PCA is sensitive to outliers**.



PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - Partial least squares: uses PCA features as basis for linear model.

Compute approximation $X \approx ZW$

Now use Z as features in a linear model:

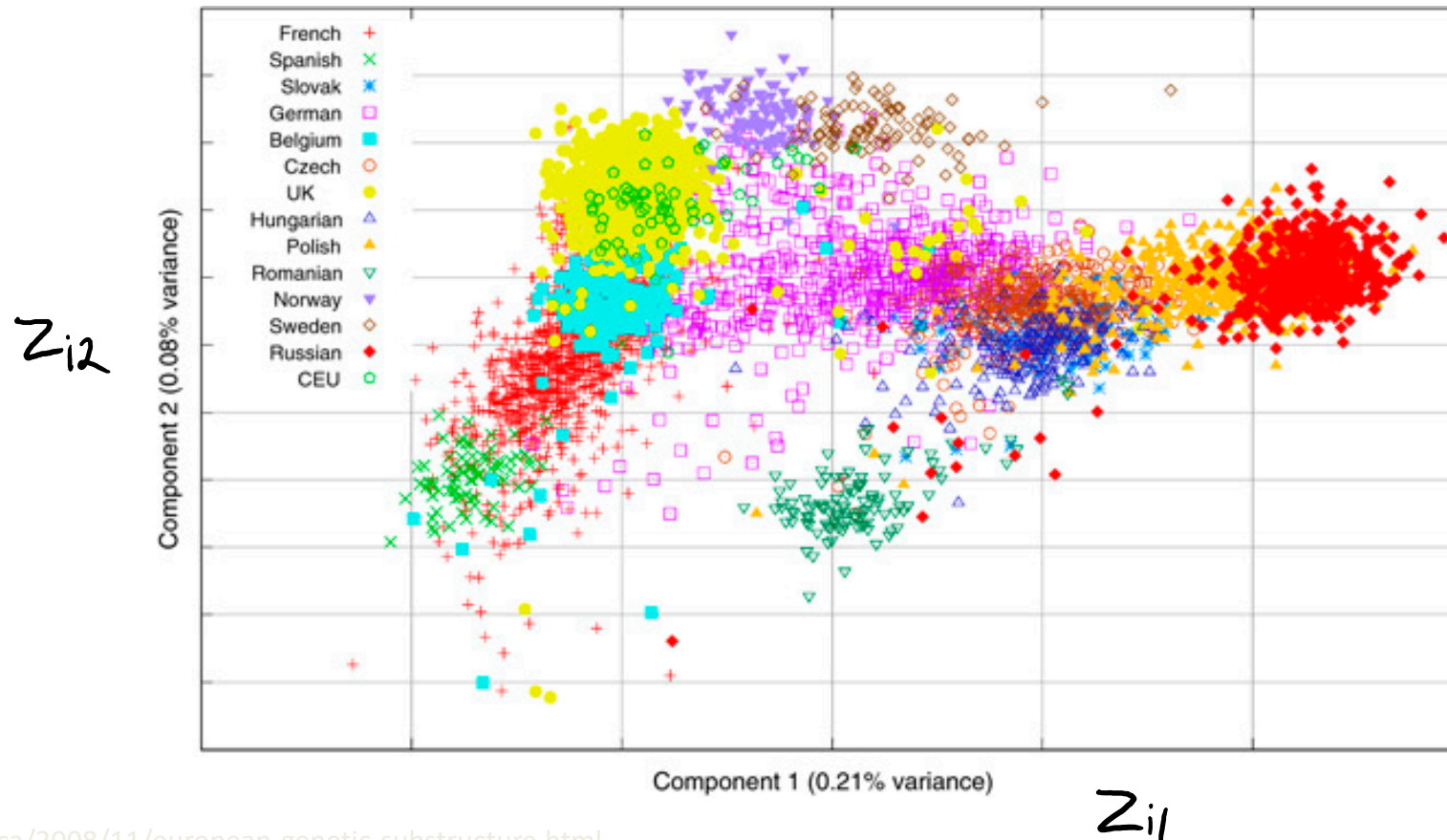
$$y_i = v^T z_i$$

linear regression
weights ' v ' trained
under this change
of basis.

lower-dimensional than original features so less overfitting

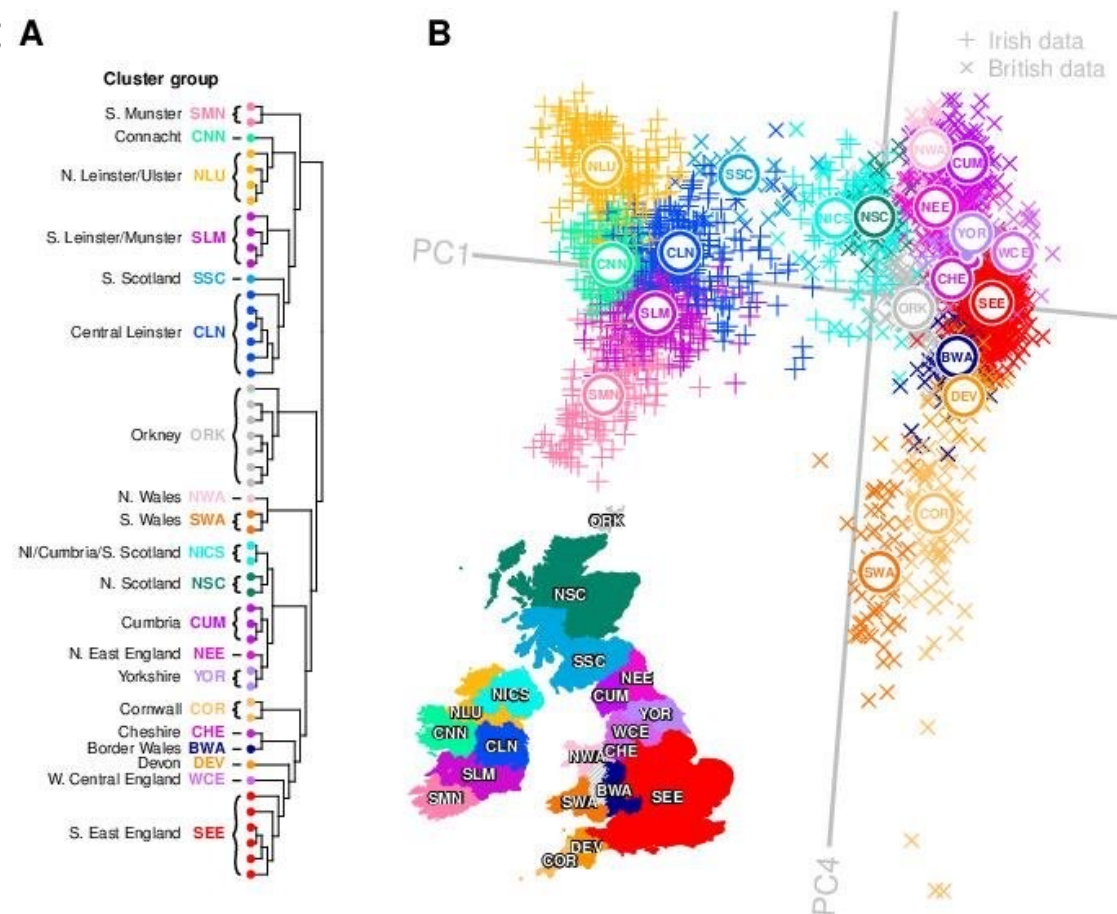
PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - **Data visualization**: plot z_i with $k = 2$ to visualize high-dimensional objects.



PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - **Data visualization**: plot z_i with $k = 2$ to **visualize high-dimensional objects**.
 - Can augment other visualizations: **A**



PCA Applications

- Applications of PCA:
 - **Data interpretation**: we can try to **assign meaning to latent factors** w_c .
 - Hidden “factors” that influence all the variables.

Trait	Description
O penness	Being curious, original, intellectual, creative, and open to new ideas.
C onscientiousness	Being organized, systematic, punctual, achievement-oriented, and dependable.
E xtraversion	Being outgoing, talkative, sociable, and enjoying social situations.
A greeableness	Being affable, tolerant, sensitive, trusting, kind, and warm.
N euroticism	Being anxious, irritable, temperamental, and moody.

<https://new.edu/resources/big-5-personality-traits> ["Most Personality Quizzes Are Junk Science. I Found One That Isn't."](#)

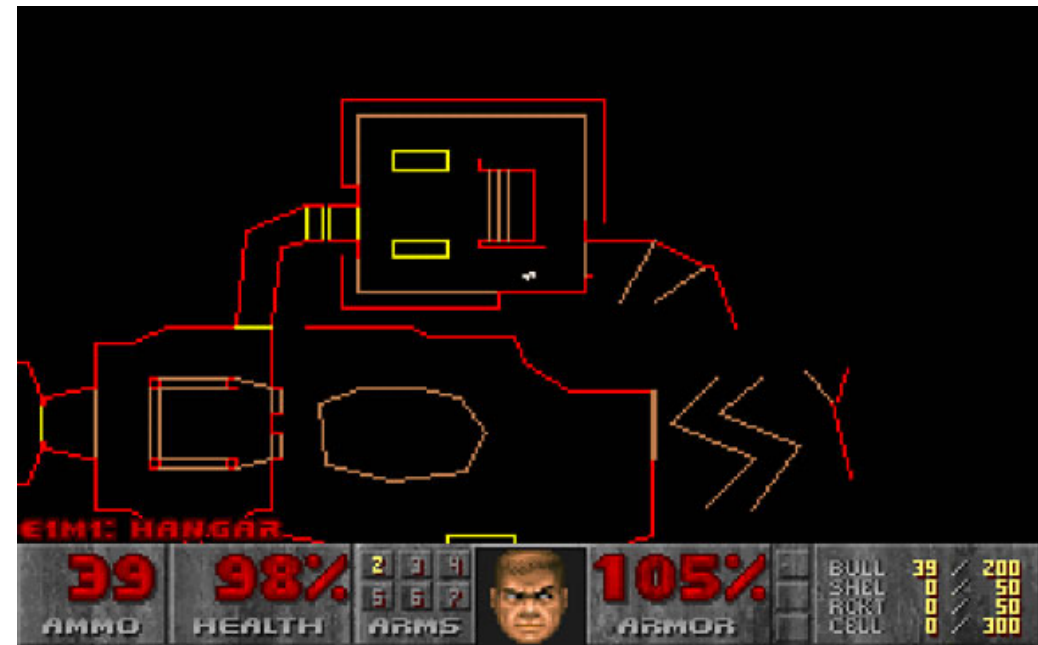
What is PCA actually doing?

When should PCA work well?

Today I just want to show geometry,
we'll talk about implementation next time.

Doom Overhead Map and Latent-Factor Models

- Original “Doom” video game included an “overhead map” feature:



- This map can be viewed as a latent-factor model of player location.

Overhead Map and Latent-Factor Models

- Actual player location at time 'i' can be described by 3 coordinates:

$$x_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_{i1} \\ x_{i2} \\ x_{i3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{"x" coordinate} \\ \leftarrow \text{"y" coordinate} \\ \leftarrow \text{"z" coordinate} \end{array}$$

- The overhead map approximates these 3 coordinates with only 2:

$$z_i = \begin{bmatrix} z_{i1} \\ z_{i2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{"x" coordinate} \\ \leftarrow \text{"y" coordinate} \end{array}$$

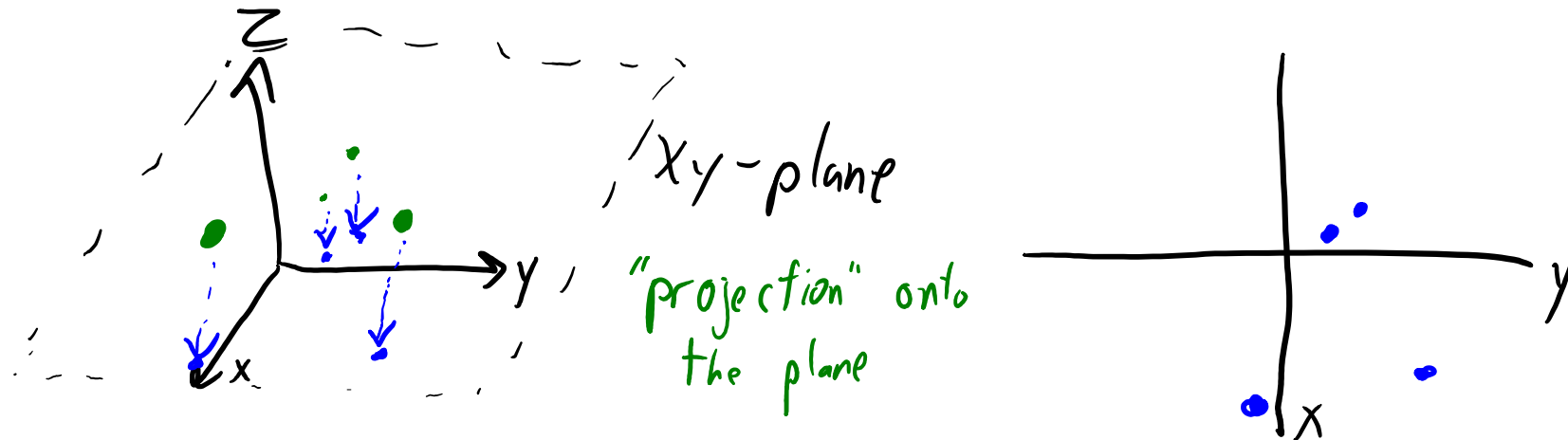
- Our $k=2$ latent factors are the following:

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- So our approximation of x_i is: $\hat{x}_i = z_{i1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z_{i2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Overhead Map and Latent-Factor Models

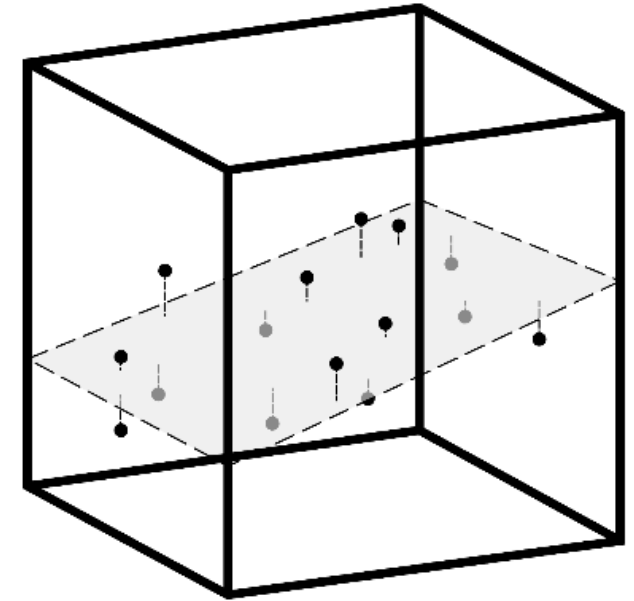
- The “overhead map” approximation just **ignores the “height”**.



- This is a **good approximation if the world is flat**.
 - Even if the character jumps, the first two features will approximate location.
- But it’s a **poor approximation if heights are different**.

Overhead Map and Latent-Factor Models

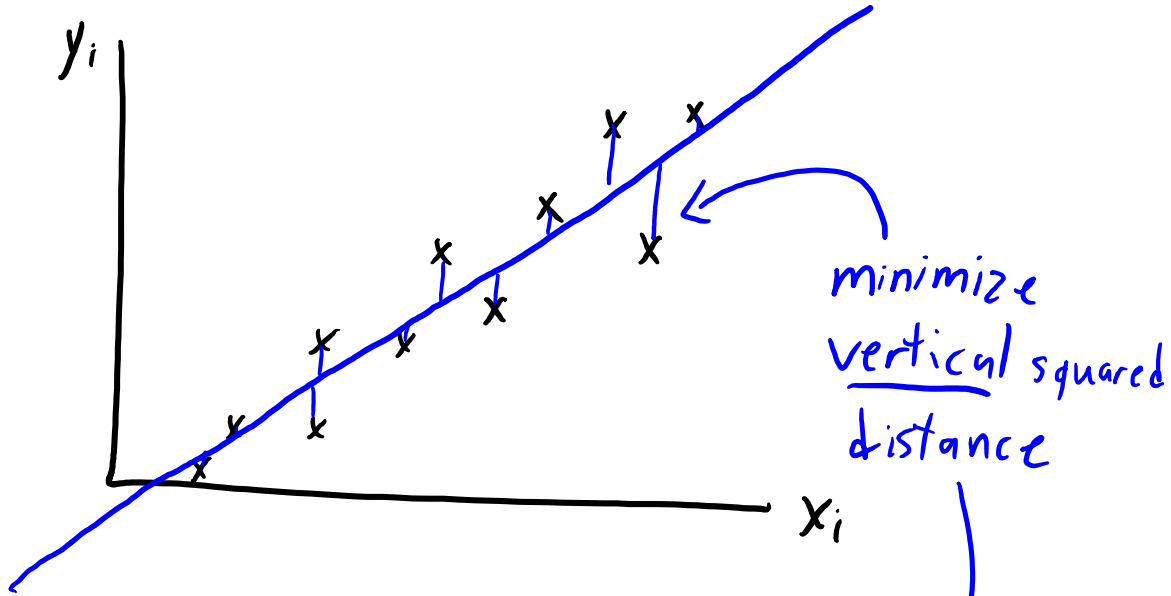
- Consider these crazy goats trying to get some salt:
 - Ignoring height gives poor approximation of goat location.



- But the “goat space” is basically a **two-dimensional plane**.
 - Better $k=2$ approximation: **define ‘W’** so that combinations give the plane.

PCA with $d=2$ and $k=1$

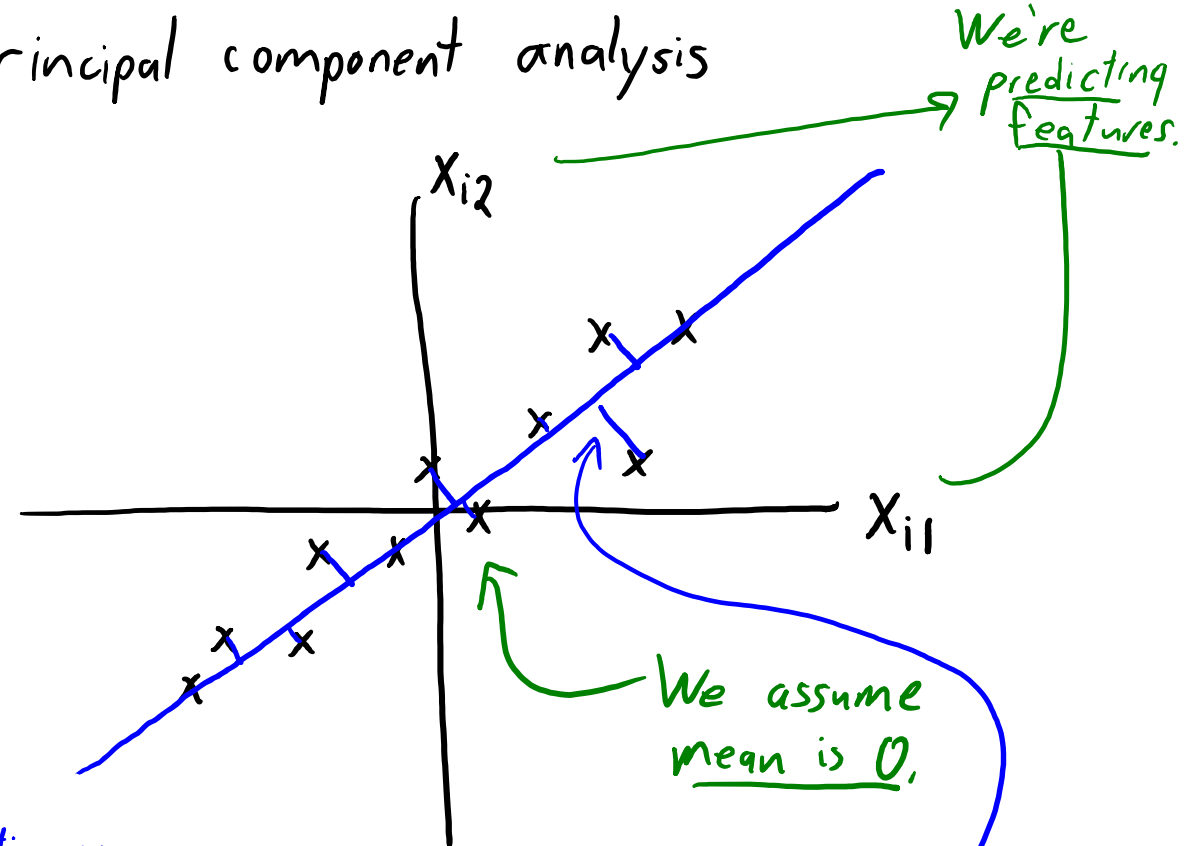
Least squares



minimize vertical squared distance

We only care about predicting y_i

Principal component analysis



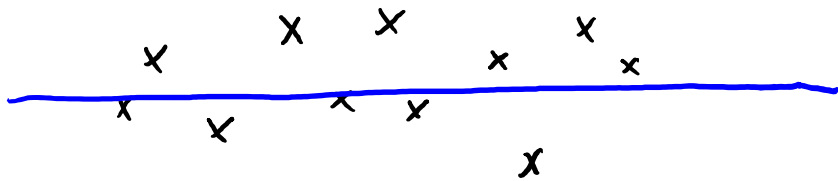
We're predicting features.

We assume mean is 0,

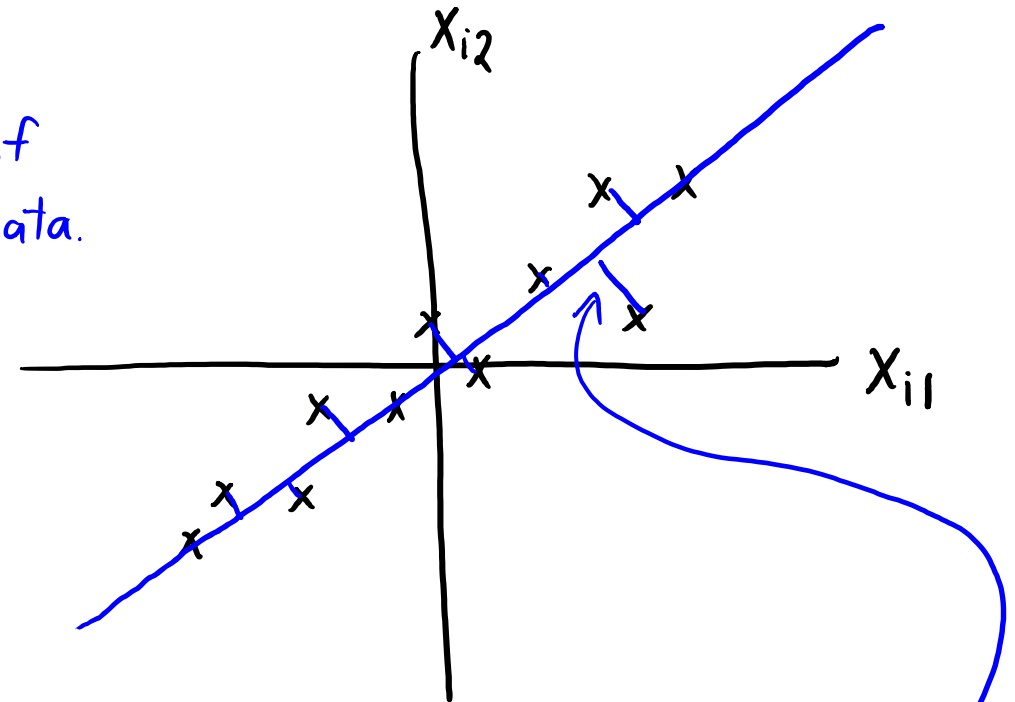
PCA finds line ' w ' minimizing squared distance in both dimensions.

PCA with $d=2$ and $k=1$

Principal component analysis



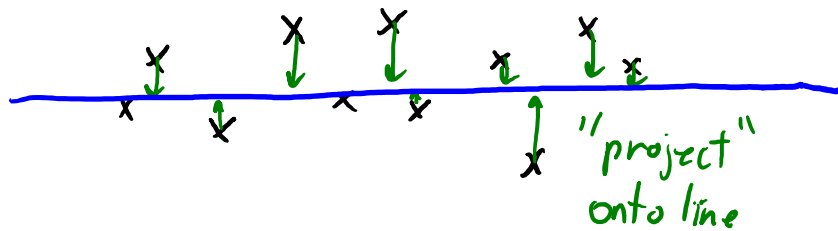
You can think of
'W' as rotating data.



PCA finds line 'W'
minimizing squared distance
in both dimensions.

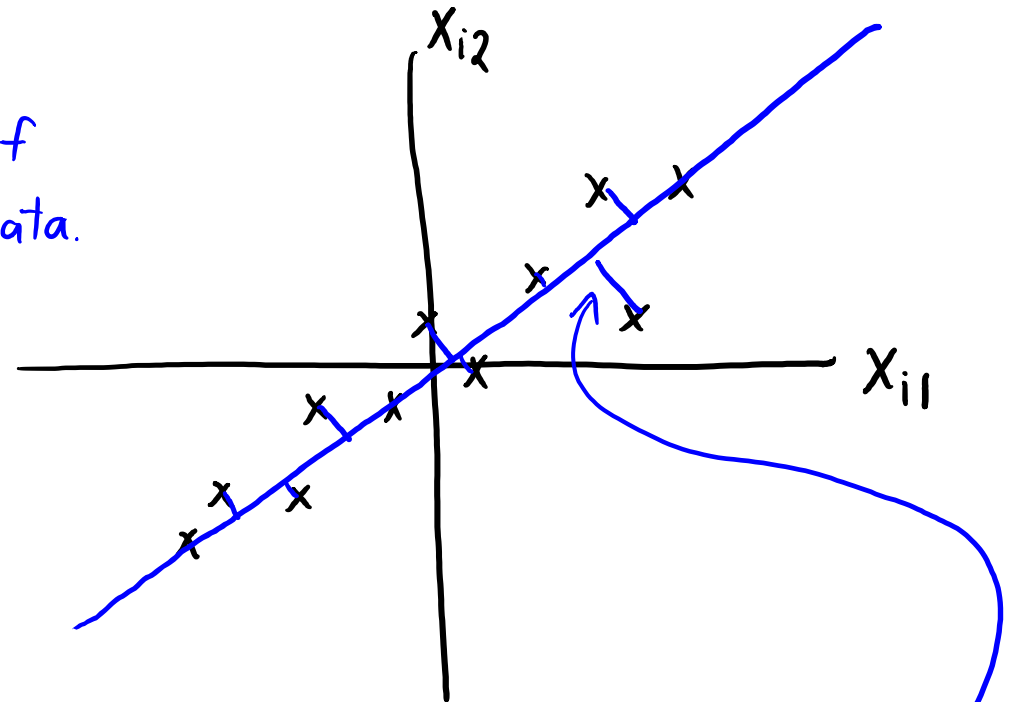
PCA with $d=2$ and $k=1$

Principal component analysis



"project"
onto line

You can think of
'W' as rotating data.



PCA finds line 'W'
minimizing squared distance
in both dimensions.

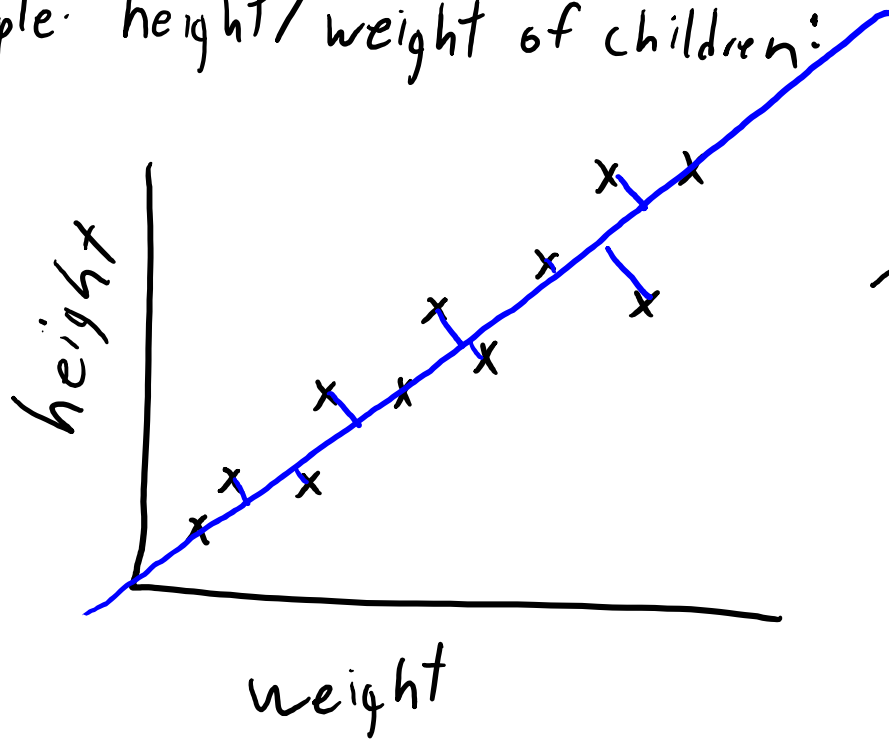


Z_i can be interpreted as
position along the line.

(turned a 2d dataset
into a 1d dataset)

PCA with $d=2$ and $k=1$

Example: height/weight of children:



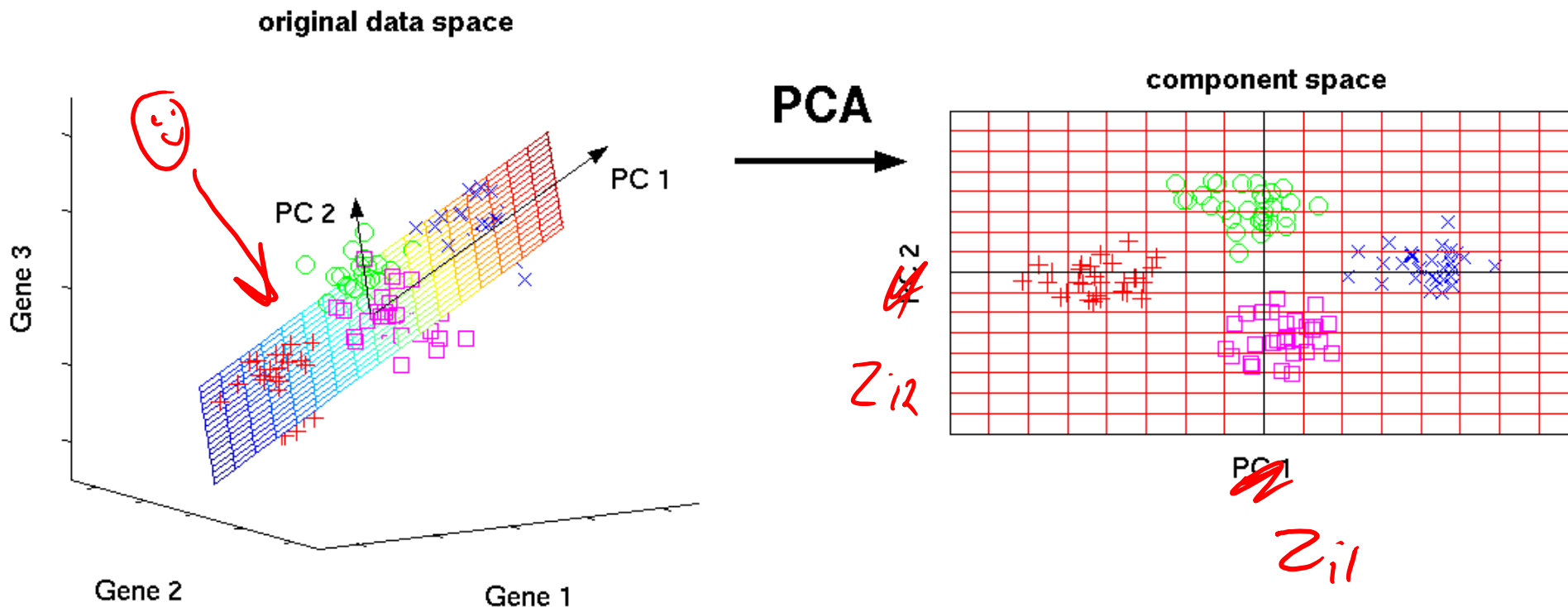
PCA with $k=1$



Latent factor could be viewed as measure of size.

PCA with $d=3$ and $k=2$.

- With $d=3$, PCA ($k=1$) finds **line minimizing squared distance** to x_i .
- With $d=3$, PCA ($k=2$) finds **plane minimizing squared distance** to x_i .



Summary

- **Latent-factor models:**
 - Try to learn basis Z from training examples X .
 - Usually, the z_i are “part weights” for “parts” w_c .
 - Useful for dimensionality reduction, visualization, factor discovery, etc.
- **Principal component analysis:**
 - Writes each training examples as linear combination of parts.
 - We learn both the “parts” ‘ W ’ and the “features” Z .
 - We can view ‘ W ’ as best lower-dimensional hyper-plane.
 - We can view ‘ Z ’ as the coordinates in the lower-dimensional hyper-plane.
- Next time: PCA in 4 lines of code.