## Principal component analysis



- Suppose a number of students take math and english tests
- Typically, we'd expect that the scores for each individual are highly correlated, and roughly lie along a diagonal line
- Given this correlation, is there a better way to view this data?


## Principal component analysis



- Introduce new rotated coordinate system
- Academic aptitude is most important coordinate: it explains the majority of the variance in the students
- If we just stored academic aptitude for each student, that would capture most of what the data says


## Principal component analysis



- To automatically find the coordinates, first construct the covariance matrix

$$
M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\operatorname{Var}(X) & \operatorname{Cov}(X, Y) \\
\operatorname{Cov}(X, Y) & \operatorname{Var}(Y)
\end{array}\right)
$$

- Symmetric positive-definite matrix, so eigenvalues are positive
- Order eigenvalues

$$
\lambda_{1} \leq \lambda_{2} \leq \ldots
$$

- Take components as corresponding eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}_{1}, \mathbf{v}_{2}$, $\mathbf{v}_{3}, \ldots$


## PCA for image analysis

- An $M \times N$ image can be thought of as an $M N$ dimensional vector $\left(v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{M N}\right)$
- Suppose we have many images of similar things, then the points are likely to be on a much lowerdimensional surface within the $M N$-dimensional space
- Principal components capture the majority of information from the images


# View from Magazine St and Upton St, Cambridge April 20th, 2014 

http://seas.harvard.edu/~ chr/teach/pca/office view.mov

## Mean image



Each pixel is the mean color over the 72 frames in the movie

## First component



Positive contribution


Negative contribution

The component has a negative part and a positive part, so it's hard to visualize. Hence split the component into two images showing the positive and negative parts separately.

Variance in this component: $85.99 \%$ of total

## Second component



Positive contribution


Negative contribution

Variance in this component: $7.80 \%$ of total

## Third component



Positive contribution


Negative contribution

Variance in this component: $2.34 \%$ of total

## Fourth component



Positive contribution


Negative contribution

Variance in this component: $1.46 \%$ of total

## Fifth component



Positive contribution


Negative contribution

Variance in this component: $0.78 \%$ of total

## Evolution of components



## Classification



## Image reconstruction



Original movie


One-mode representation


## Image reconstruction (3 modes)



Original movie


Three-mode representation

## Image reconstruction (10 modes)



Original movie


Ten-mode representation

