
Subject: Re: Principal component analysis
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 14:57:18 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> Don't know. You will have to ask someone whose last math
> class wasn't over 30 years ago. :-)

I will say, though, that when I was looking into this I noticed that what you pass in really doesn't matter as long as you preserve the "vector" nature of the data. That is to say, the absolute magnitude of the vectors that comes out is irrelevant. The *relative* magnitudes of the orthogonal vectors "explains" the data. So I would say the various ways you can manipulate the data prior to sending it to analysis are "scaling" functions that don't fundamentally change the nature of the result.

At least that is my hand-waving explanation. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
