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Subject: Principal component analysis

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 14:00:11 GMT

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Hi,

I am puzzled by principal component analysis. I calculated the eigenvalues using both PCOMP and IMSP\_PRINC\_COMP routines. Could someone enlighten me why the results are completely different? I have tried different keywords to see whether I can match them by trial and error, but I had no success. There must be someone out there who understands this much better than I do.

Thanks so much,  
Haje

```
IDL> a=[[1,-2,-6],[-2,1,-3],[-6,-3,5]]
IDL> pca=pcomp(a,eigenvalues=ev) & print,transpose(ev)
      2.24227    0.757732    0.000000
IDL> ev=imsl_princ_comp(a) & print,ev
      9.53359   -5.19751    2.66392
```

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Subject: Re: Principal component analysis

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 16:51:05 GMT

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yes, but the imsl routine had a finite third eigenvalue while PCOMP showed this value as zero. That was difficult to understand. Vince came up with the call that will produce the same result as pcomp:  
IMSL\_PRINC\_COMP(CORRELATE(a)). Again, I am not quite sure I understand this. Shouldn't the correlation analysis be part of the PCA?

"David Fanning" <[news@dfanning.com](mailto:news@dfanning.com)> wrote in message  
[news:MPG.21c07edf91c4354298a12d@news.frii.com](mailto:news:MPG.21c07edf91c4354298a12d@news.frii.com)...

> Haje Korth writes:

>

>> thanks for validating this. I tend to just go with PCOMP since I don't

>> really know what the IMSL routine actually does. As I wrote in the

>> response

>> to David I just got thrown off by not being able to reconcile the output

>> from the different routines.

>

> It looks to me like passing the CORRELATE results

> to EIGENQL just scales the eigenvalues into -1 to 1. That

> would seem to be a sensible choice to me.

>

> Cheers,

>

> David  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: Principal component analysis  
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 16:57:06 GMT  
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On Dec 5, 10:47 am, "Haje Korth" <[haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu](mailto:haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu)> wrote:  
> Yup, that'll do it. I am still not sure I understand the logic behind this.  
> I though the correlation is part of the PCA.  
>  
> "Vince Hradil" <[hrad...@yahoo.com](mailto:hrad...@yahoo.com)> wrote in message  
>  
> [news:8362380a-217a-45d2-b7c4-0198e5931b39@y5g2000hsf.googlegroups.com](mailto:news:8362380a-217a-45d2-b7c4-0198e5931b39@y5g2000hsf.googlegroups.com)...  
>  
>> On Dec 5, 10:08 am, "Haje Korth" <[haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu](mailto:haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu)> wrote:  
>>> I have tried that, it gives  
>>> IDL> `ev=imsi_princ_comp(correlate(a,/cov)) & print,ev`  
>>> 45.2906 3.70938-2.65683e-006  
>  
>>> These EVs are the same as you get using PCOMP with /COV keyword.  
>  
>>> "Vince Hradil" <[hrad...@yahoo.com](mailto:hrad...@yahoo.com)> wrote in message  
>  
>>> [news:54fc6ed8-ccd7-4ac6-8e0d-09f5d190eeac@o6g2000hsd.googlegroups.com](mailto:news:54fc6ed8-ccd7-4ac6-8e0d-09f5d190eeac@o6g2000hsd.googlegroups.com)...  
>  
>>>> On Dec 5, 9:12 am, Vince Hradil <[hrad...@yahoo.com](mailto:hrad...@yahoo.com)> wrote:  
>>>> > On Dec 5, 8:00 am, "Haje Korth" <[haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu](mailto:haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu)> wrote:  
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>>>> > >      9.53359   -5.19751   2.66392
>
>>>> > From the HELP:
>
>>>> > Syntax
>>>> > Result = IMSL_PRINC_COMP(covariances [, /COV_MATRIX]
>>>> > [, /CORR_MATRIX] [, CORRELATIONS=variable] [, CUM_PERCENT=variable] [,
>>>> > DF=variable] [, /DOUBLE] [, EIGENVECTORS=variable] [,
>>>> > STDEV=variable] )
>
>>>> > Note that IMSL_PRINC_COMP requires that you pass the covariance or
>>>> > correlation matrix - not the vectors.
>
>>>> > so maybe try
>>>> > ev=imsl_princ_comp(correlate(a,/covariance) & print, ev
>>>> > (I don't have an analyst license)
>
>> > There you go 8^)
>> > How about
>> > ev=imsl_princ_comp(correlate(a)) & print, ev

```

Oh, yes correlation IS part of PCA, it's just that IMSL decided to let the user do that part him/herself. IMSL\_PRINC\_COMP calculates the principal components of the cov/cor matrix. Calculating these principal components is just part of "Principle Components Analysis". IMSL leaves it up to the user to decide how to implement the principal components in his/her analysis.

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Subject: Re: Principal component analysis  
 Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 17:02:28 GMT  
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THanks, I guess I was expecting the whole package for a routine with that name. And the help was not helping either. :-)

"Vince Hradil" <hradilv@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
 news:d447b810-a195-4e34-8dd6-a353ba4a3ac9@b40g2000prf.google groups.com...  
 > On Dec 5, 10:47 am, "Haje Korth" <haje.ko...@nospam.jhuapl.edu> wrote:  
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