
Subject: Re: does principle component=Factor analysis?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 27 Mar 2008 17:27:07 GMT
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d.poreh@gmail.com writes:

> i am using principle component for some remotly sensed data
> (classification). I hear we can do this by factor analysis too. does
> anybody know this is a same thing or not?

Uh, have you tried a Google search? I think I'd
start there. :-)

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.")

Subject: Re: does principle component=Factor analysis?
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 27 Mar 2008 17:50:58 GMT
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On Mar 27, 12:27 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

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wikipedia, too 8^)

Subject: Re: does principle component=Factor analysis?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 27 Mar 2008 18:18:48 GMT
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I guess Coyote got bored waiting for the mailman to show up with the next Girls Gone Wild video from Netflix, but he tells me he spent the whole morning researching this extensively on the Web. The answer, apparently is "Yeah, sorta."

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: does principle component=Factor analysis?
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Thu, 27 Mar 2008 19:23:22 GMT
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> David

Factor analysis is a statistical method used to explain variability among observed random variables in terms of fewer unobserved random variables called factors. The observed variables are modeled as linear combinations of the factors, plus "error" terms. The information gained about the interdependencies can be used later to reduce the set of variables in a dataset. Factor analysis originated in psychometrics, and is used in behavioral sciences, social sciences, marketing, product management, operations research, and other applied sciences that deal

with large quantities of data.

Factor analysis is often confused with principal components analysis. The two methods are related, but distinct, though factor analysis becomes essentially equivalent to principal components analysis if the "errors" in the factor analysis model are assumed to all have the same variance.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Factor_analysis
