

# Day 19: Recommender Systems and Dimensionality Reduction

# Recommender Systems

Goal: recommend things

↑ products, movies, music,  
websites, etc.

2 basic types:

① Content-based

② Collaborative Filtering

## Content-Based Systems

- Recommend based on explicit features
- Users and items share the same feature space

Example (unsupervised) :

Movies: ("items")

	Comedy	<120 mins	Korean?	Take place in Canada
1	1	0	1	0
2	0	1	1	1
3	1	1	1	1

Users:

A	1	0	1	0
B	0	1	1	1

Dot product between a user and a movie gives similarity.

$$\text{sim}(\text{movie 1, user A}) = |0| + 0 \cdot 0 + |1| + 0 \cdot 0 = 2$$

$$\text{sim}(\text{movie 1, user B}) = |0| + 0 \cdot 0 + |1| + 0 \cdot 0 = 2$$

## Example (Supervised)

Movies: same as above

Users:

A	$\theta_{1A}$	$\theta_{2A}$	$\theta_{3A}$	$\theta_{4A}$
B	$\theta_{1B}$	$\theta_{2B}$	$\theta_{3B}$	$\theta_{4B}$

Train a model to either:

- predict the user's rating (regression)
- predict whether user will like movie (class...)

# Collaborative Filtering

Basic idea: predict rating based on either similar items or similar users

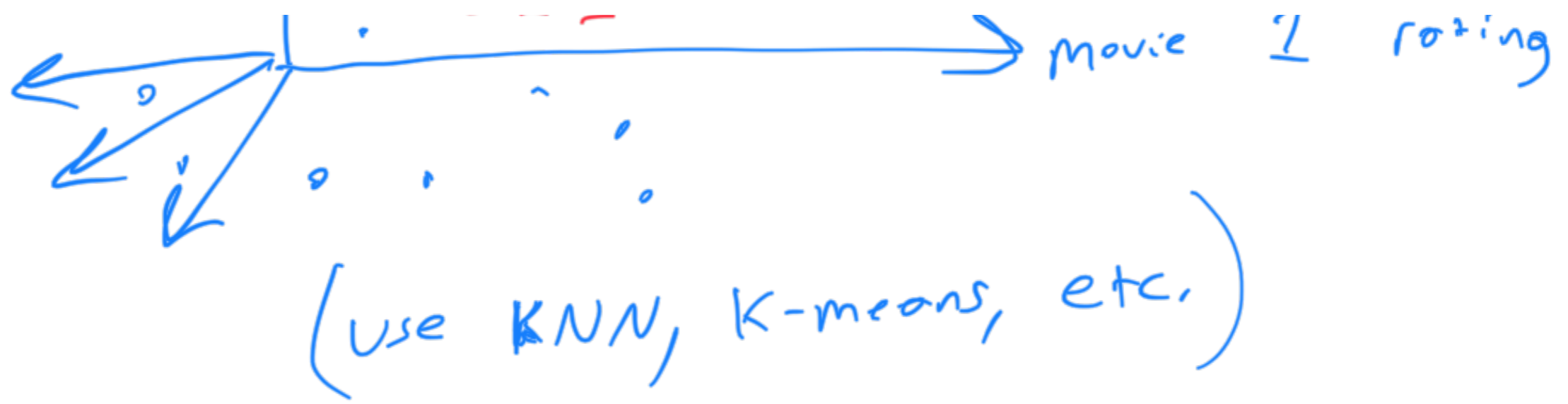
Two Variations:

- ① user-user
- ② item-item

User - User

① Find users w/ similar rating patterns





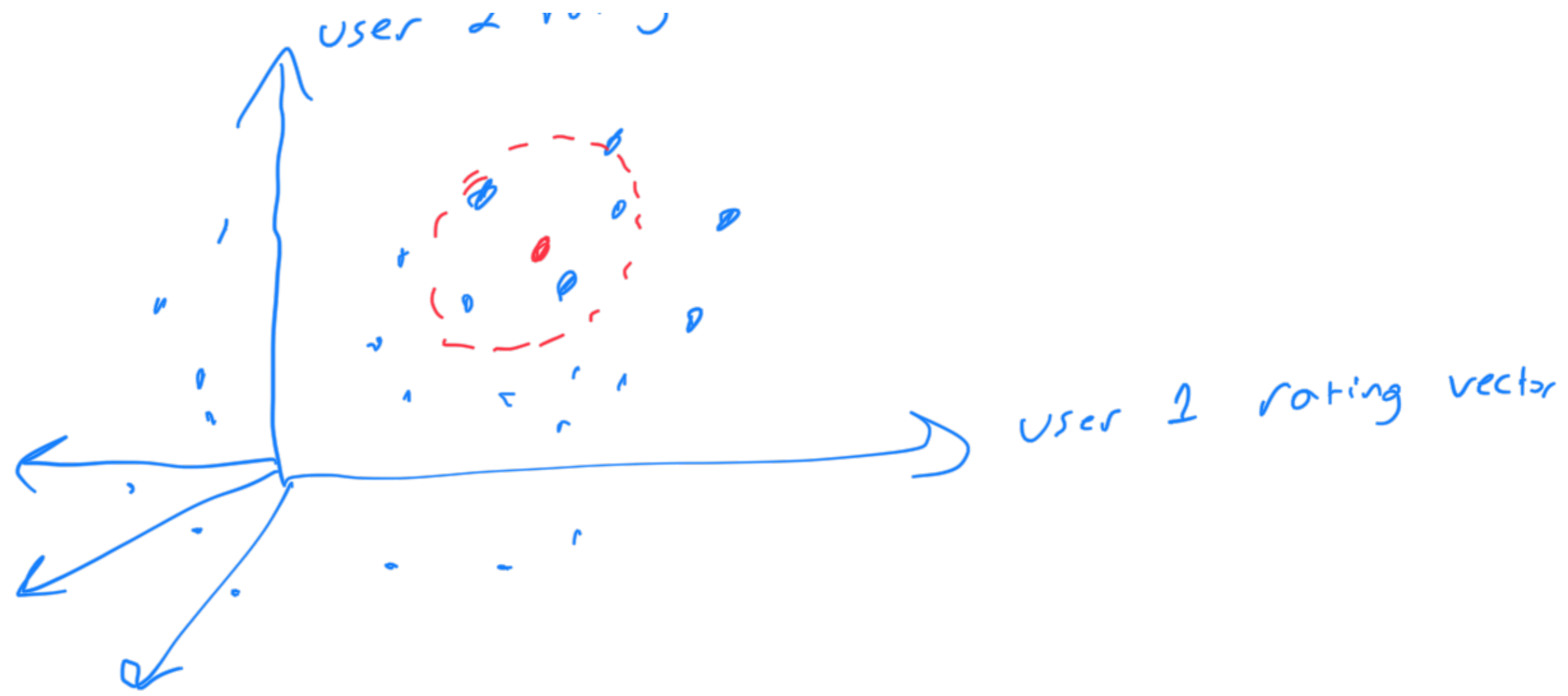
- ② use ratings of similar users to calculate rating for current users
- ③ suggest items according to highest predicted ratings

## Item - Item

// users who like  $X$  also like  $Y$

Find items similar to an item the user already bought based only on the ratings for that item

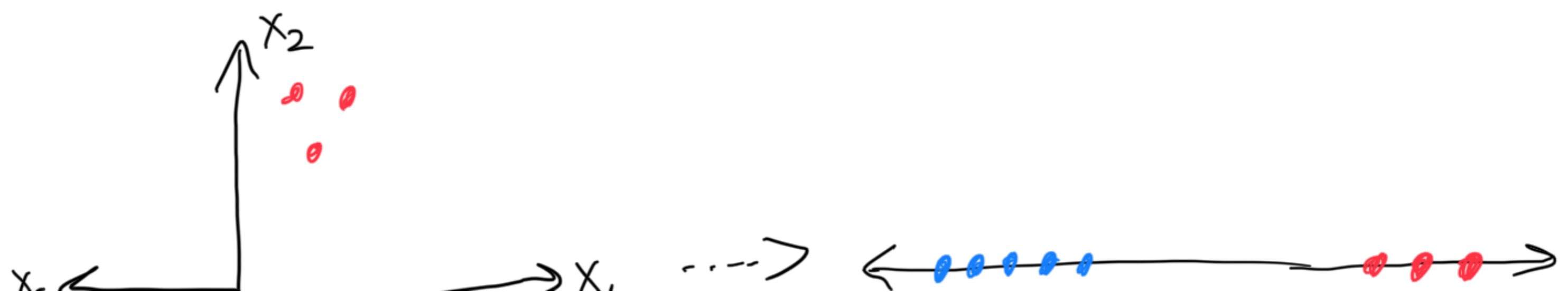
→ rating vector



These are all general ideas; there are many variations.

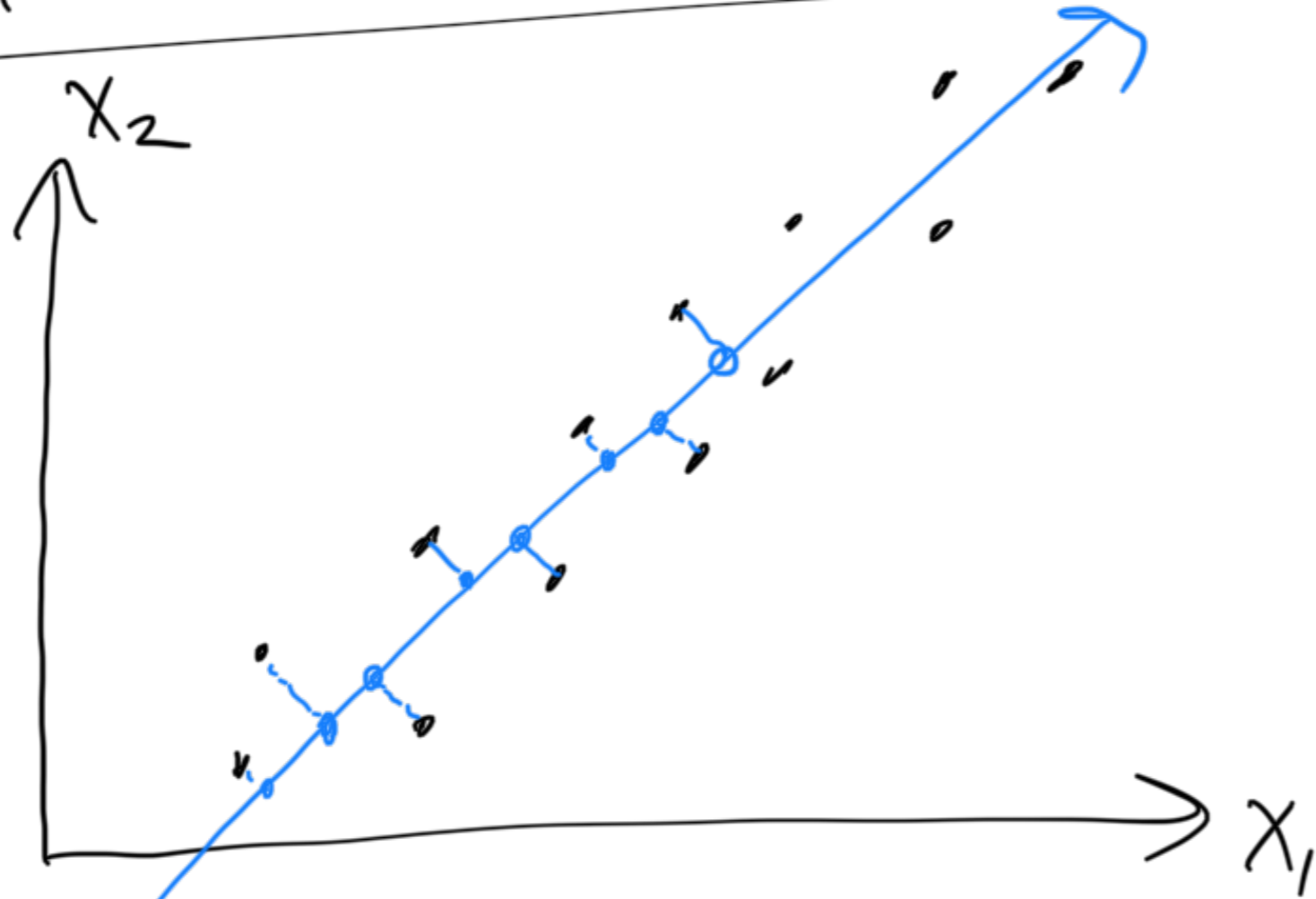
# Dimensionality Reduction

---



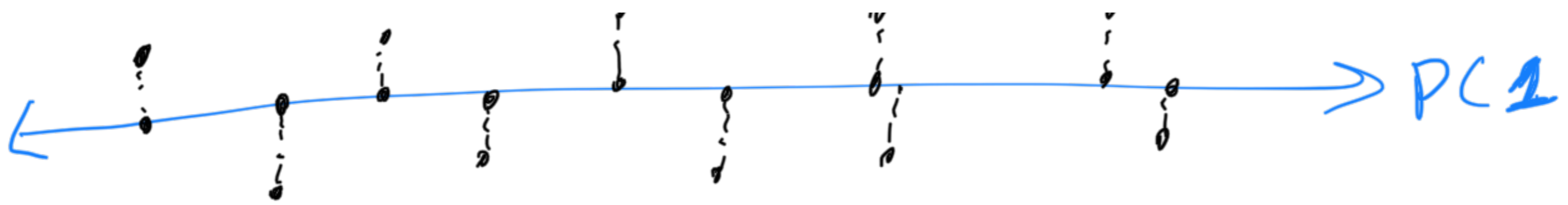


# Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

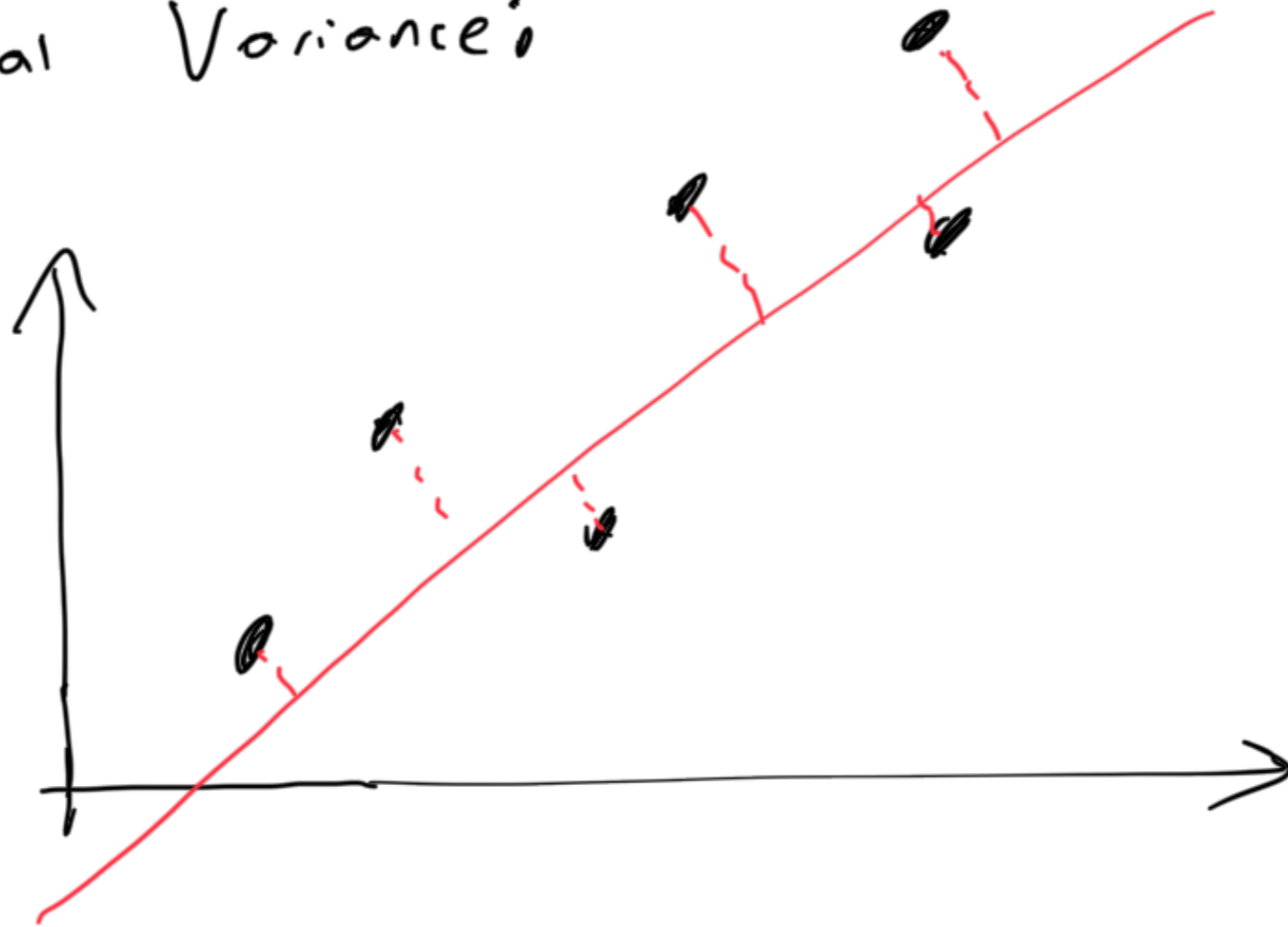


← find a new axis of the original data which describes the maximal variance





Maximal Variance:

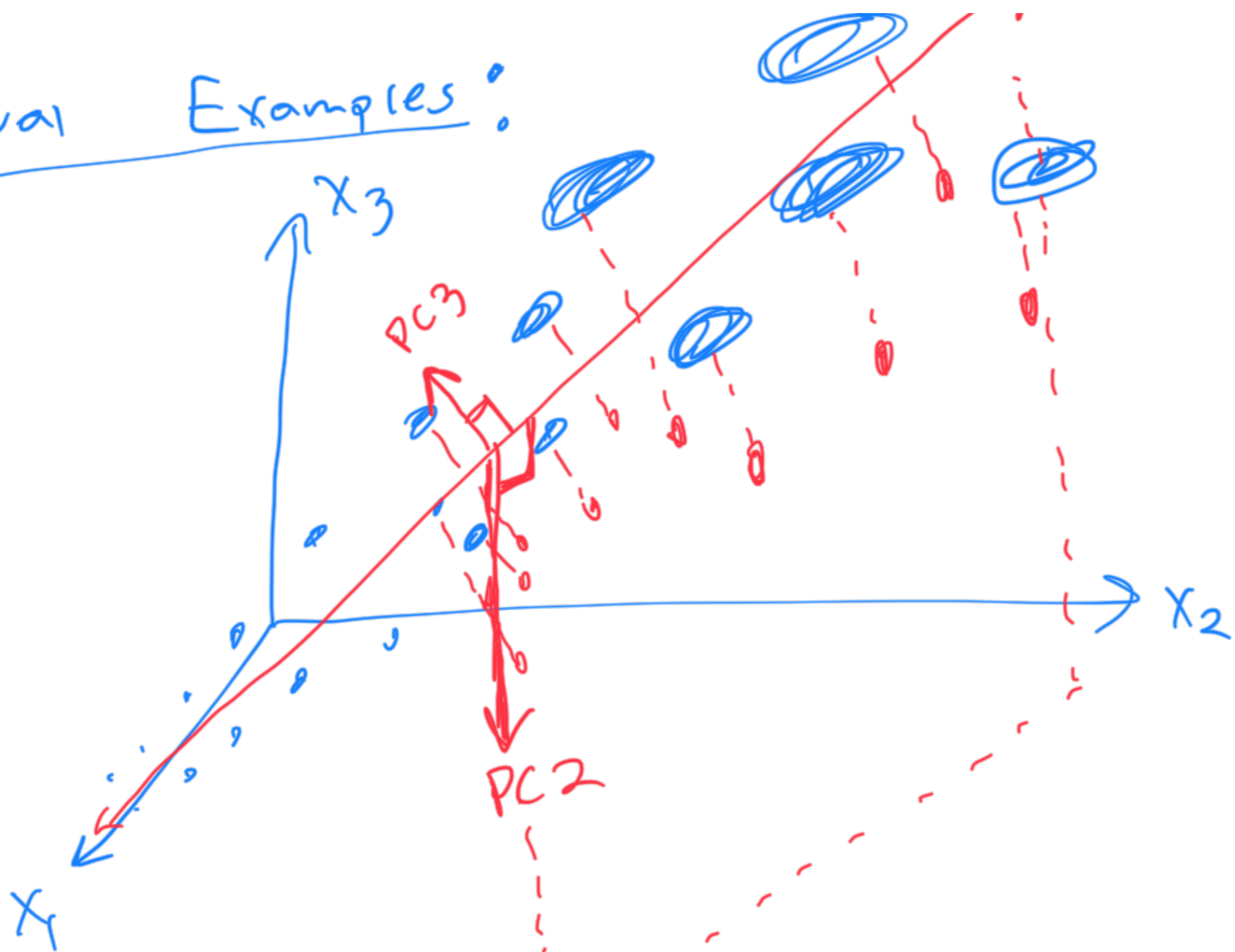


The new axis is called "principal component 1" or PC1

PC2 is an orthogonal axis to PC1 which has the second highest variance

PC2 (bigger points)

# Visual Examples:



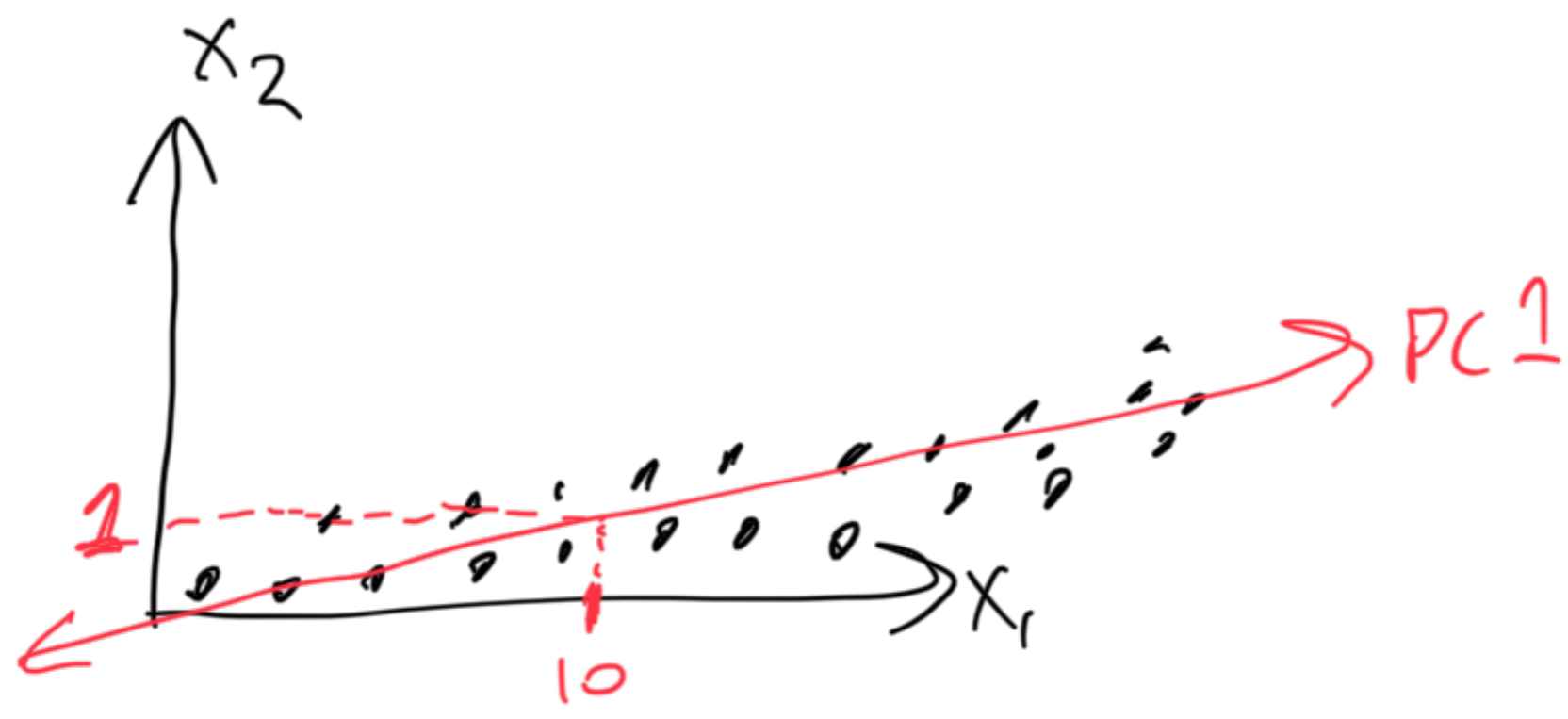
depict closer points to the observer of these notes in 3D space)

new coordinate system with axes PC1, PC2, PC3 with each point in the original space projected onto this coordinate space, is the reduced dimensional data

→

... to PCA

Accordingly



PC1, in this case, is 10 parts  $X_1$  and 1 part  $X_2$

In other words,  $X_1$  is 10x more important / variable than  $X_2$

## How to calculate PCs

① standardize data to make each feature unit-less:

$$\text{New Value} = \frac{\text{Old Value} - \text{Mean Value of that feature}}{\dots}$$

New

$N$  ← # data points

② Calculate <sup>(population)</sup> Covariance matrix

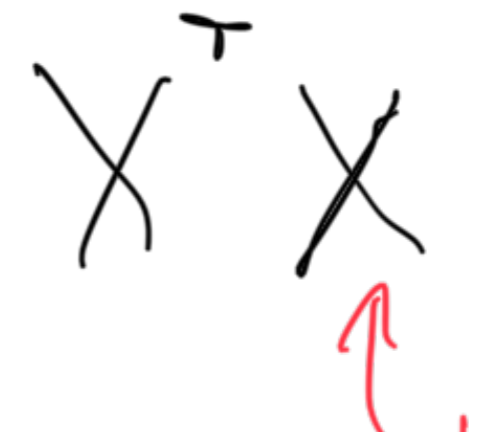
Covariance = how 2 variables vary with respect to each other

$$\text{Covariance}(A, B) = \text{Cov}(A, B) = \frac{\sum (a_i - \bar{a})(b_i - \bar{b})}{N}$$

Covariance matrix for 3 features a, b, c

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \text{Cov}(a, a) & \text{Cov}(a, b) & \text{Cov}(a, c) \\ \text{Cov}(b, a) & \text{Cov}(b, b) & \text{Cov}(b, c) \\ \text{Cov}(c, a) & \text{Cov}(c, b) & \text{Cov}(c, c) \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: you can calculate covariance matrix simply as  $X^T X$  (if dataset is standardized)



the dataset

Why?

$$X = \begin{matrix} & \text{feat 1} & \text{feat 2} \\ \text{dp 1} & a & b \\ \text{dp 2} & c & d \\ \text{dp 3} & e & f \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} \\ \\ \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X^T X = \begin{bmatrix} a & c & e \\ b & d & f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \\ e & f \end{bmatrix}$$

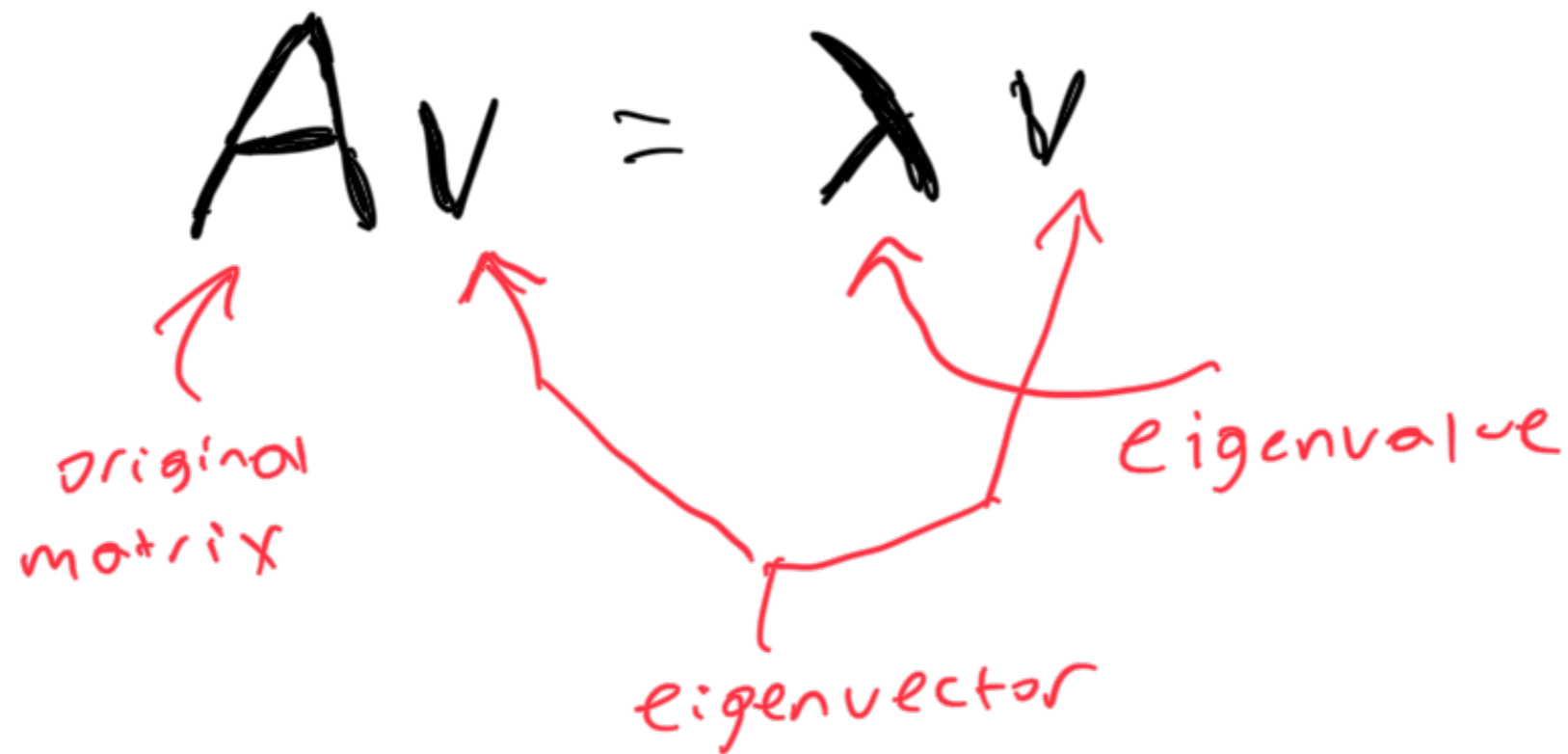
$$= \begin{bmatrix} a \cdot a + c \cdot c + e \cdot e = \text{cov}(\text{feat 1}, \text{feat 1}) & \dots \\ \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$= \text{cov}(\text{feat 1}, \text{feat 2})$

③ Calculate the eigenvalues/eigenvectors of the covariance matrix

$$Av = \lambda v$$

original matrix      eigenvector      eigenvalue



The eigenvectors  $v$  are the PCs,  
with the corresponding  $\lambda$   
describing the ranking of the PC

Why does calculating the  
eigenvalues / vectors of the  
Cov matrix give the

direction of maximal Variance!

---

Projecting a point  $X_i$  onto vector  $u$ :

$$\frac{u^T X_i}{\|u\|}$$

To make things easier, we will make  $u$  a unit vector

Mean of projections:

$$u^T \bar{X}$$

Variance of projections:  
-- 12

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (u^T x_i - u^T \bar{x}) = \dots \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n u^T (x_i - \bar{x})(x_i - \bar{x})^T u \\
 &= u^T \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(x_i - \bar{x})^T}_{\text{Covariance matrix} = S} u
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= u^T \underbrace{S}_{\text{Covariance matrix}} u$$

Variance of the projections

So: Solve  $\max u^T S u$  such that  $u^T u = 1$

maximize the



Variance of  
the projections

Solve using Lagrange multiplier:

$$\frac{d}{du} u^T S u + \lambda (1 - u^T u) = 0$$

$$S u = \lambda u$$

eigenvector/value

definition

$$\lambda = u^T S u$$

biggest eigenvalue gives us the  
biggest variance of the projected data

How to project data onto PC space?

$U^T X$

↑  
PC

↑  
original data

How many PCs to use?

explained variance  
of a PC

=

$$\frac{\lambda_i}{\sum_j \lambda_j}$$

# Scree Plot:

