

o Computational Complexity  
of the conventional method

Construct  $S_y : \mathcal{O}(np^2)$  } both steps

Spectral decomp. :  $\mathcal{O}(p^3)$  }  $\mathcal{O}(\max\{np^2, p^3\})$

We can do better (assume  $p < n$ ). Write

$$X = (x_1, \dots, x_n), \quad S_y = \frac{1}{n-1} (X - \bar{x} \mathbf{1}_n^\top) (X - \bar{x} \mathbf{1}_n^\top)^\top$$

$$\text{SVD of } (X - \bar{x} \mathbf{1}_n^\top) = U^{pxp} \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_p) V^{nxn}^\top \quad (\star)$$

$$U = \mathcal{O}(p), \quad V^\top V = I_p, \quad D = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_p)$$

$$\text{Then } S_y = \frac{1}{n-1} U D V^\top V D U^\top = \frac{1}{n-1} U D^2 U^\top$$

Hence  $U = (u_1, \dots, u_p)$  contains the eigenvalues of  $S_y$ .

o Computational complexity of  $(\star)$ .

SVD of  $X - \bar{x} \mathbf{1}_n^\top : \mathcal{O}(\min\{n^2 p, p^2 n\})$

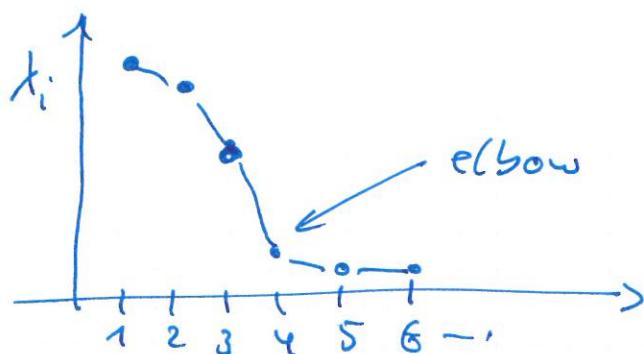
Only the top  $k$  eigenvectors:  $\mathcal{O}(knp)$

- o Finding the right  $k$

Recall that  $\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i(S_k)$ , with  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_p$

the eigenvalues of  $S_k$ , is the preserved variance in the projected points.

Choosing  $k$  by a scree plot in practice, depicting the ordered eigenvalues



Choose  $k$  as "elbow" - 1.

- o Often PCA is applied before further processing, because these may be ineffective for high-dim. data.

#### 4.1.4. The eigenvalue structure of $S_n$ in high dim.

Assume:

$x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  independent samples of a Gaussian r.v.  $\cancel{\sim} N(0, \Sigma)$ . Write  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

Estimate  $\Sigma$  by  $S_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i x_i^\top = \frac{1}{n} X X^\top$ .

It holds:  $S_n \rightarrow \Sigma$  a.e. (p fixed) ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ )

Histogramm and scree plot of eigenvalues of  $S_n$   
for  $n = 1000$ ,  $p = 500$ ,  $S_n$  generated by  $N(0, I_p)$

#### Th. 4.1. (Marchenko - Pastur, 1967)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , i.i.d. r.v. with  $E(X) = 0$

and  $\text{Cov}(X_i) = \sigma^2 I_p$ .  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ ,

$S_n = \frac{1}{n} X X^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ ,  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$  the eigenvalues of  $S_n$ .

Let  $p, n \rightarrow \infty$  such that  $\frac{p}{n} \rightarrow \gamma \in [0, 1]$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ).

Then the sample distribution of  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$

(the histogram) converges a.s. to the density

$$f_\gamma(u) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2 u \gamma} \sqrt{(b-u)(u-a)}, \quad a \leq u \leq b$$

with  $a = a(\gamma) = \sigma^2(1 - \sqrt{\gamma})^2$ ,  $b = b(\gamma) = \sigma^2(1 + \sqrt{\gamma})^2$ .

Remark: If  $\gamma > 1$  there will be a mass point at zero.

Conclusion: even in the i.i.d. uncorrelated case there is a wide spectrum of eigenvalues.

Question: What happens, if there is a low dim. structure in the data? Is PCA useful.

#### 4.1.5 Spike model

Model assumptions:  $X_1, \dots, X_n \in \mathbb{R}^P$ , i.i.d.

$\text{Cov}(X_i) = \Sigma = I_p + \beta v v^\top$  for some  $v \in \mathbb{R}^P$ ,  $\|v\|=1$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$

Interpretation:  $X_i = U_i + \sqrt{\beta} V_i v^\top$ ,

$U_i \sim N(0, I_p)$  noise

$V_i \sim N(0, 1)$  signal, indep. of  $U_i$

multiplied by a fixed  $\sqrt{\beta} v \in \mathbb{R}^P$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \text{Cov}(X_i) &= \text{Cov}(U_i) + \beta \text{Cov}(V_i) v v^\top \\ &= I_p + \beta v v^\top. \end{aligned}$$

Th. 4.2. (BBP transition, Baik, Ben Arous, Peche [2005])

Assume  $X_1, \dots, X_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  r.v.  $E(X_i) = 0$ ,  $\text{Cov}(X_i) = I_p + \beta v v^\top$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $\|v\| = 1$ .  $S_n = \frac{1}{n} X X^\top$ .

$n, p \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{p}{n} \rightarrow \gamma$ .

If  $\beta \leq \sqrt{\gamma}$  then  $\lambda_{\max}(S_n) \rightarrow (1 + \sqrt{\gamma})^2$

and  $|\langle v_{\max}, v \rangle|^2 \rightarrow 0$

If  $\beta > \sqrt{\gamma}$  then  $\lambda_{\max}(S_n) \rightarrow (1 + \beta)(1 + \frac{\gamma}{\beta}) > (1 + \sqrt{\gamma})^2$

↑  
and  $|\langle v_{\max}, v \rangle|^2 \rightarrow \frac{1 - \gamma/\beta^2}{1 - \gamma/\beta}$  ↓