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MULTIVAR STATS IN ECOL AND GENETICS — EXERCISES, SHEET 5

Principal component analysis (PCA) can be used to visualize multivariate data. We start with self-generated data to get a feeling for the `R` command `prcomp()`.

Exercise 1 Let's see how PCA rotates 2-dimensional data.

- Sample 500 values from a multivariate normal distribution mean vector $(0,0)^T$ and with covariance matrix
$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$
For this load the library `mvtnorm` and sample with the `R` command `rmvnorm()` as in the lecture.

- Plot the data cloud with `plot( ,xlim=c(-7,7),ylim=c(-7,7) )` (The cloud looks roundish if the ranges are not fixed). Guess how PCA is going to rotate the cloud.

- Apply `prcomp(,scale=FALSE)` to your sampled data and store the returned object as `mypca`. Have a look on the object `mypca` with `unclass(mypca)`. Add the transformed data cloud to the plot of the original cloud with `points(mypca$x,col="red"`. Consider the rotation matrix. Rounding its entries, which matrix does the rotation matrix resemble?

- Have a look on the distance biplot and on the correlation biplot.

Exercise 2 Let us see how 5-dimensional data is visualized. In order to know the result in advance, we start with 2-dimensional data and transform it into $\mathbb{R}^5$.

- Sample 500 values from a multivariate normal distribution mean vector $(0,0)^T$ and with covariance matrix
$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$
Denote the data matrix as `x`. Look at the data cloud (set the x-range and the y-range suitably).

- Multiply (matrix multiplication `%*%`) `x` with the matrix
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0.5 & -0.5 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

- Now apply PCA. Try to plot the transformed data into the same plot as `x` such that the points match. You might have to rotate or flip the transformed data (e.g. multiply the x-coordinate with -1). For this note that the transformed data is 5-dimensional and that you only need the first two columns.

- Have a look on the distance biplot and on the correlation biplot.

Exercise 3 This exercise trains you in reading biplots. Consider the correlation biplot and the distance biplot of the height and weight data of the lecture.

- First execute the commands from the script to produce the biplots yourself. You find the file `HeightShoeWeight.txt` on the course homepage.
- In the distance biplot 'Gewicht' and 'Groesse' are orthogonal to each other. Does that mean that they are uncorrelated? You might want to confirm your answer with the `cor()` command.
- From the two biplots read off the approximate (Eucledian) distance between data point '211' and data point '103'.
- Is the data point '211' a student with normal weight, overweight or underweight?
- Guess the sex of student '121'.

Exercise 4 Let us continue as in Exercise 3. Consider the two biplots of the height and weight data of the lecture.

- By looking at the biplots, order the students '104', '106' and '226' by increasing weight. Hint: You need to use projections.
- The number of students used in the pca was $N = 226$. Looking at the lines in the correlation biplot how well (in $\%$) is weight represented by the first two principal components.
- Due the projection in the plane of the first two principal components, the angle between lines in the correlation biplot might not well represent the correlation. Use the command `cor()` to find out which of the correlations between `weight`, `shoe` and `height` is represented poorly.
- By looking at the biplots, order the students '98', '103' and '106' by increasing shoe sizes.

Exercise 5 Download the data set 'EWU.txt' from the web page. The variables X1, X2, X3 and X4 have been explained in the lecture.

- Apply PCA to the data set and produce the distance biplot and the correlation biplot.
- Sort the countries GB, D, I and IRL according to their public dept level in 1997. Which of these countries have a debt level below the average?
- Apply all three rules from the lecture in order to decide which of the principal components are important.