

# Principal Component Analysis

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Suppose to have  $n$  observations of  $p$  variables, such that  $\mathbf{X}' = (X_1, \dots, X_p)$ .

- Graphical representations are useful with small number of variables
- Summarizing data in presence of too many variables can be difficult: Suppose we have data on athletes and their scores in 5 different specialties. How to summarize such information in order to rank them?
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# Solutions

- Simplest: take just one element and discard all others: loss of information and in interpretation
- Consider a summary measure  $\frac{1}{p} \sum_{j=1}^p X_j$ : same importance to all the variables
- Consider a summary measure  $\mathbf{w}'\mathbf{X} = \sum_{j=1}^p w_j X_j$  such that  $\mathbf{w}'\mathbf{w} = \sum_{j=1}^p w_j^2 = 1$ 
  - How do we choose the weights?
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  - A more advanced solution: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

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# Principal Component Analysis

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is an unsupervised exploratory MVA technique that aims at:

- Data reduction: reduce the dimension of the data matrix without (almost) losing information;
- Data visualization: identify a lower dimensional space where to project the points without (almost) deforming the distance between them;
- Data interpretation: reducing the original data, we create a smaller number of new variables (artificial variables) that might have a more direct interpretation than the original ones.

Suppose to have a  $p$ -dimensional set of correlated variables  $\mathbf{X}' = (X_1, \dots, X_p)$ . PCA is used to extract and express important information of the original variables with a set of few new variables  $\mathbf{Y}' = (Y_1, \dots, Y_q)$  called principal components (PCs), that:

- correspond to linear combinations of  $\mathbf{X}$ :

$$Y_i = \mathbf{a}'_i \mathbf{X} = \sum_{j=1}^p a_{ij} X_j \quad i = 1, \dots, q \quad (q \leq p)$$

- are uncorrelated (orthogonal):  $Y'_i Y'_j = 0 \quad \forall i, j = 1, \dots, q$
- are build in a sequential way and ordered:
  - $Y_1$  is the variable with the highest variability;
  - $Y_2$  is orthogonal to  $Y_1$  and  $Var(Y_2) \leq Var(Y_1)$

The information of a data matrix  $X$  corresponds to its total variation:

$$I_{tot} = \sum_{j=1}^p \text{Var}(X_j)$$

The goal of PCA is to identify directions (or principal components) along which the variation in the data is maximal

- $Y_1$  is s.t.  $\text{Var}(Y_1) = \text{Var}(\mathbf{a}'_1 X) = \mathbf{a}'_1 \Sigma_x \mathbf{a}_1$  is maximal;
- $Y_2$  is s.t.  $\text{Var}(Y_2) = \text{Var}(\mathbf{a}'_2 X) = \mathbf{a}'_2 \Sigma_x \mathbf{a}_2$  is maximal s.t.  $\text{Cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = 0$

where  $\Sigma_x = \text{Var}(X)$ .

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 $\text{Cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = 0$

where  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_x = \text{Var}(X)$ .

The "interesting directions" are found through the **spectral decomposition** of  $\Sigma_X$ . They are given by the eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}$  corresponding to the largest eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of the covariance matrix  $\Sigma_X$ .

- 1 Find the eigenvalues of  $\Sigma_X$  and order them:

$$\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_p$$

- 2 Find the eigenvectors  $\phi_1 \dots \phi_p$  corresponding to the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$  and define the first component as:

$$Y_1 = \phi_1 \mathbf{X} = \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_{1j} X_j$$

- 3 Repeat the second step for each component.

Note that:

- $Var(Y_j) = \lambda_j$
- $\sum_{j=1}^p \lambda_j = I_{tot}$

When we choose the number of PCs, we agree on a maximum number of information to lose:

- We generally want to preserve 80% of the total information  $I_{tot}$
- We select the first  $q$  components such that:

$$\frac{Var(Y_1) + \dots + Var(Y_q)}{I_{tot}} \approx 0.8$$

- You can work with the original variables (variance-covariance matrix) or with the standardized variables (correlation matrix). The results are, in general, different.
- Original variables **X** strongly correlated: maximum dimensionality reduction;
- Original variables **X** uncorrelated:  $p = q$

- PCs are linear combination of the original variables:

$$Y_{ij} = \phi_{1j}X_{i1} + \phi_{2j}X_{i2} + \cdots + \phi_{qj}X_{iq}$$

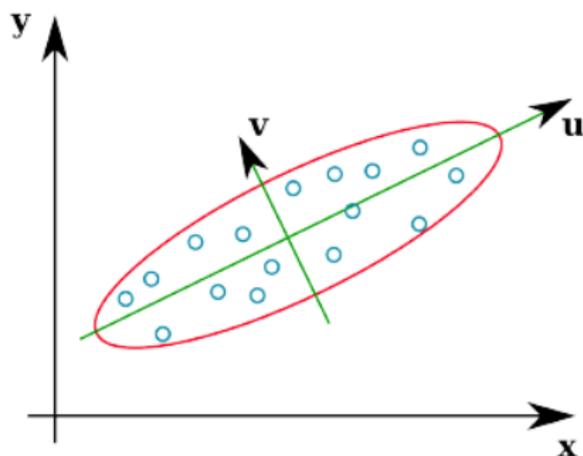
where the generic coefficient  $\phi_{ij}$  represents the weights that the variable  $X_j$  has in determining the  $j$ -th principal component;

- The component  $Y_j$  will be mostly represented by the variables with the larger coefficients.

# Geometrical interpretation

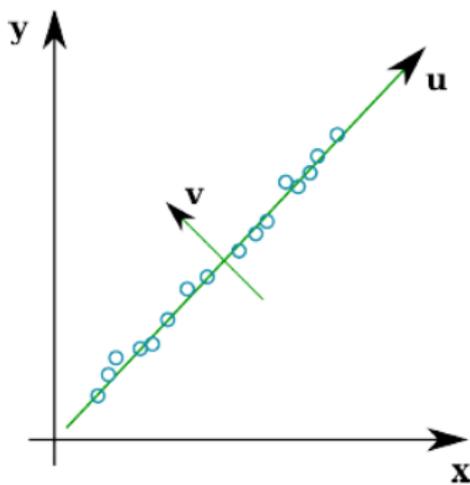
- PCs represent a selection of a new coordinate system obtained by rotating the original axes to a set of new axes (to provide a simpler structure).
  - The first PC represents the direction of maximum variability, followed by the others, all orthogonal.
- "Best" fit hyper-plane: minimizes the sum of squared distances between points that represent cases and space defined by PCs
  - The first PC defines a line; the first Two PCs define a plane.

## PCA for Data Representation



- the principal direction in which the data varies is shown by the  $U$  axis;
- the second most important direction is the  $V$  axis (orthogonal to  $U$ ).
- If we place the  $U - V$  axis system at the mean of the data it gives us a compact representation.

## Data Representation and dimension Reduction



- If the variation in the data is caused by some other relationship then PCA gives us a way of reducing the dimensionality of a data set
- the principal direction in which the data varies is shown by the  $U$  axis
- in this case all the  $V$  coordinates are all very close to zero: we can represent the data set by one variable  $U$  and discard  $V$

# PC calculation

Required background for PCA: (a little of) linear algebra:

- The principal components are found by calculating the eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the data covariance matrix: this process is equivalent to finding the axis system in which the co-variance matrix is diagonal.
- The eigenvector with the largest eigenvalue is the direction of greatest variation, the one with the second largest eigenvalue is the (orthogonal) direction with the next highest variation and so on.

# Eigendecomposition

Let  $A$  be a  $p \times p$  matrix. The eigenvalues of  $A$  are defined as the roots of:

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = |(A - \lambda I)| = 0$$

where  $I$  is a  $p \times p$  matrix and the equation has  $p$  roots.

Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Then there exists a vector  $\phi$  such that:

$$A\phi = \lambda\phi$$

The vector  $\phi$  is called an eigenvector of  $A$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Let consider a simple  $p=3$  case. Suppose we have a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  with eigenvectors  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3$ , and eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  so:

$$A\phi_1 = \lambda_1\phi_1 \quad A\phi_2 = \lambda_2\phi_2 \quad A\phi_3 = \lambda_3\phi_3.$$

By defining:

$$\Phi = [\phi_1 \quad \phi_2 \quad \phi_3] \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

we get the matrix equation

$$A\Phi = \Phi\Lambda$$

Since eigenvectors are normalized to unit magnitude, and they are orthogonal, so  $\Phi^T \Phi = I$ . Therefore

$$A\Phi = \Phi\Lambda$$

$$\Phi^T A\Phi = \Phi^T \Phi\Lambda$$

$$\Phi^T A\Phi = \Lambda$$

and

$$A = \Phi^T \Lambda \Phi$$

The matrix  $A$  is represented in terms of its eigenvalues and eigenvectors; this factorization<sup>†</sup> is defined **eigendecomposition**. If  $A$  is a symmetric matrix, the decomposition is called **spectral decomposition**.

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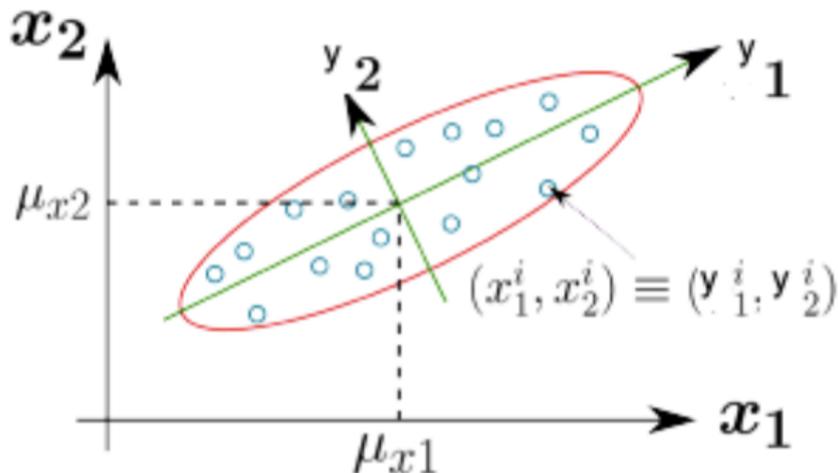
<sup>†</sup>a matrix factorization is a factorization of a matrix into a product of matrices

## Spectral decomposition in PCA

Let  $\Sigma_x$  be an  $p \times p$  covariance matrix. There is an orthogonal  $p \times p$  matrix  $\Phi$ , whose columns are eigenvectors of  $\Sigma_x$  and a diagonal matrix  $\Lambda$  whose non-zero elements are the eigenvalues of  $\Sigma_x$  such that

$$\Phi^T \Sigma_x \Phi = \Lambda$$

We can look on the matrix of eigenvectors as a linear transformation which transforms data points in the  $[x_1; x_2]$  axis system into the  $[y_1, y_2]$  axis system.



In the general case the linear transformation given by  $\Phi$  transforms the data points into a data set where the variables are uncorrelated: the covariance matrix of the data in the new coordinate system is  $\Lambda$  which has zeros in all the off diagonal elements.

## Summary

We start with the  $p$  ( $X_1, \dots, X_p$ ) original variables (quantitative), and we obtain  $q \leq p$  new variables, where  $q$  is a good compromise between

- the minimum number of variables (max dimensionality reduction)
- minimum lost of information (max variability)

$$(X_1, \dots, X_p) \rightarrow (Y_1, \dots, Y_q)$$

# When?

- High-dimension datasets;
- Quantitative variables;
- Variables with a correlation pattern (redundancy in the data);
- $n > p$

## Example: Brand ratings data

We investigate dimensionality using a simulated data set that is typical of consumer brand perception surveys. The data comprise ratings of 10 brands ( $a$  to  $j$ ) on 9 adjectives (performance, leader, fun, etc), for  $n = 100$  respondents, as expressed on survey items with the following form: scale from 1 (least) to 10 (most).

Example:

How trendy is Intelligentsia Coffee?

```
> brand.ratings <- read.csv("http://goo.gl/IQ18nc")
> head(brand.ratings)
```

	perform	leader	latest	fun	serious	bargain	value	trendy	rebuy	brand
1	2	4	8	8	2	9	7	4	6	a
2	1	1	4	7	1	1	1	2	2	a
3	2	3	5	9	2	9	5	1	6	a
4	1	6	10	8	3	4	5	2	1	a
5	1	1	5	8	1	9	9	1	1	a
6	2	8	9	5	3	8	7	1	2	a

```
> str(brand.ratings)
```

```
'data.frame':      1000 obs. of  10 variables:  
 $ perform: int  2 1 2 1 1 2 1 2 2 3 ...  
 $ leader  : int  4 1 3 6 1 8 1 1 1 1 ...  
 $ latest  : int  8 4 5 10 5 9 5 7 8 9 ...  
 $ fun     : int  8 7 9 8 8 5 7 5 10 8 ...  
 $ serious: int  2 1 2 3 1 3 1 2 1 1 ...  
 $ bargain: int  9 1 9 4 9 8 5 8 7 3 ...  
 $ value   : int  7 1 5 5 9 7 1 7 7 3 ...  
 $ trendy  : int  4 2 1 2 1 1 1 7 5 4 ...  
 $ rebuy   : int  6 2 6 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 ...  
 $ brand   : chr  "a" "a" "a" "a" ...
```

```
> library(psych)
> describe(brand.ratings)
```

	vars	n	mean	sd	median	trimmed	mad	min	max	range	skew
perform	1	1000	4.49	3.20	4.0	4.24	4.45	1	10	9	0.43
leader	2	1000	4.42	2.61	4.0	4.27	2.97	1	10	9	0.28
latest	3	1000	6.20	3.08	7.0	6.37	4.45	1	10	9	-0.35
fun	4	1000	6.07	2.74	6.0	6.18	2.97	1	10	9	-0.24
serious	5	1000	4.32	2.78	4.0	4.07	2.97	1	10	9	0.58
bargain	6	1000	4.26	2.67	4.0	4.07	2.97	1	10	9	0.37
value	7	1000	4.34	2.40	4.0	4.21	2.97	1	10	9	0.33
trendy	8	1000	5.22	2.74	5.0	5.19	2.97	1	10	9	0.02
rebuy	9	1000	3.73	2.54	3.0	3.43	2.97	1	10	9	0.74
brand*	10	1000	5.50	2.87	5.5	5.50	3.71	1	10	9	0.00

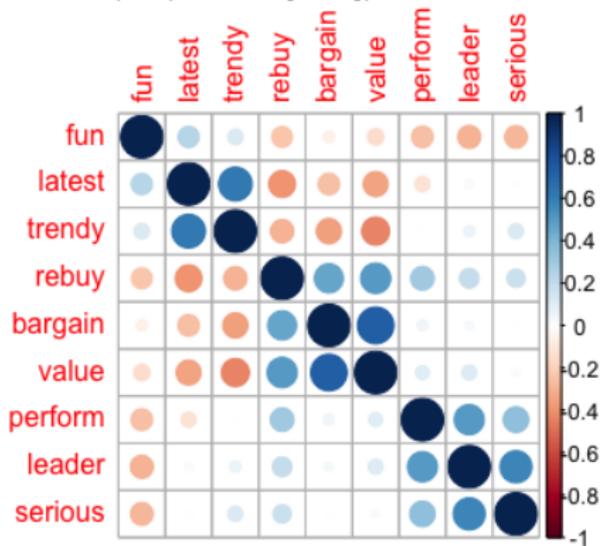
```

> brand.sc <- brand.ratings
> brand.sc[, 1:9] = apply(brand.ratings[, 1:9], 2, scale)
> summary(brand.sc)

```

perform	leader	latest	fun	se
Min. : -1.0888	Min. : -1.3100	Min. : -1.6878	Min. : -1.84677	Min.
1st Qu.: -1.0888	1st Qu.: -0.9266	1st Qu.: -0.7131	1st Qu.: -0.75358	1st Q
Median : -0.1523	Median : -0.1599	Median : 0.2615	Median : -0.02478	Media
Mean : 0.0000	Mean : 0.0000	Mean : 0.0000	Mean : 0.00000	Mean
3rd Qu.: 0.7842	3rd Qu.: 0.6069	3rd Qu.: 0.9113	3rd Qu.: 0.70402	3rd Q
Max. : 1.7206	Max. : 2.1404	Max. : 1.2362	Max. : 1.43281	Max.
bargain	value	trendy	rebuy	b
Min. : -1.22196	Min. : -1.3912	Min. : -1.53897	Min. : -1.0717	Leng
1st Qu.: -0.84701	1st Qu.: -0.9743	1st Qu.: -0.80960	1st Qu.: -1.0717	Clas
Median : -0.09711	Median : -0.1405	Median : -0.08023	Median : -0.2857	Mode
Mean : 0.00000	Mean : 0.0000	Mean : 0.00000	Mean : 0.0000	
3rd Qu.: 0.65279	3rd Qu.: 0.6933	3rd Qu.: 0.64914	3rd Qu.: 0.5003	
Max. : 2.15258	Max. : 2.3610	Max. : 1.74319	Max. : 2.4652	

```
> library(corrplot) > corrplot(cor(brand.sc[, 1:9]), order = "hclust")
```



# Perform PCA

```
> brand.pc <- prcomp(brand.sc[, 1:9])  
> summary(brand.pc)
```

Importance of components:

	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5
Standard deviation	1.726	1.4479	1.0389	0.8528	0.79846
Proportion of Variance	0.331	0.2329	0.1199	0.0808	0.07084
Cumulative Proportion	0.331	0.5640	0.6839	0.7647	0.83554

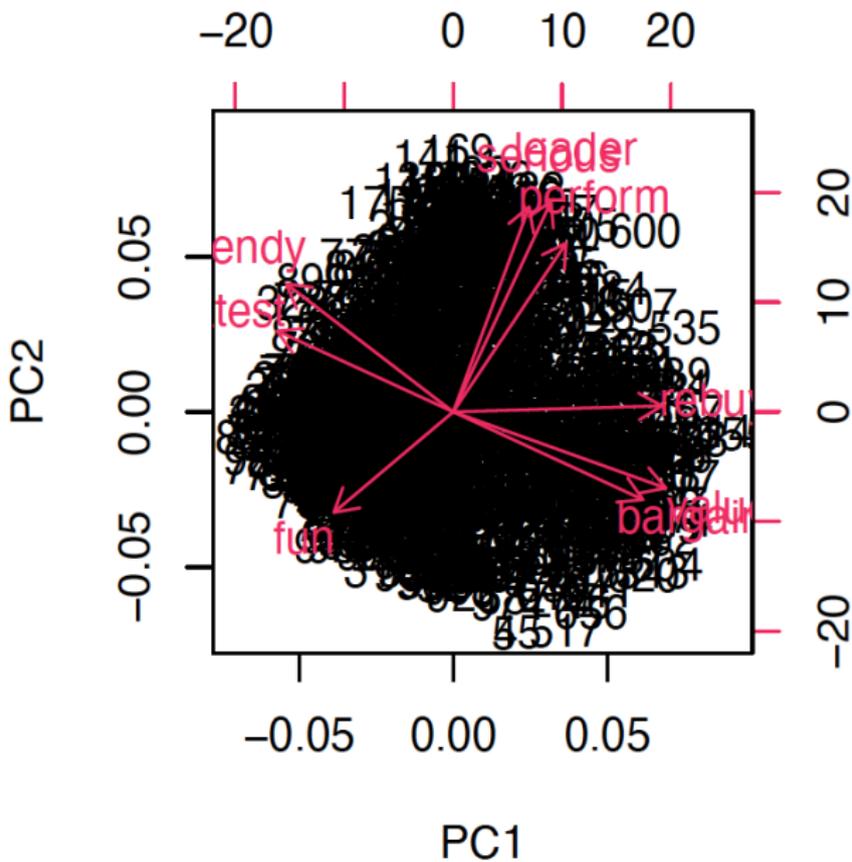
	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9
Standard deviation	0.73133	0.62458	0.55861	0.49310
Proportion of Variance	0.05943	0.04334	0.03467	0.02702
Cumulative Proportion	0.89497	0.93831	0.97298	1.00000

# Check orthogonality

```
> cor(brand.pc$x)
```

	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4					
PC1	1.000000e+00	-1.027928e-16	-8.324536e-17	8.071781e-16					
PC2	-1.027928e-16	1.000000e+00	5.124408e-16	2.578368e-15					
PC3	-8.324536e-17	5.124408e-16	1.000000e+00	-3.101350e-16					
PC4	8.071781e-16	2.578368e-15	-3.101350e-16	1.000000e+00					
PC5	-3.999033e-16	-9.154739e-16	3.040767e-16	2.044069e-15					
PC6	1.196430e-15	2.621610e-15	-2.423218e-16	-1.758965e-15					
PC7	-2.677865e-16	5.669396e-16	-6.452385e-16	1.236603e-15					
PC8	-1.195225e-16	5.143978e-16	-6.455569e-16	-4.750556e-16					
PC9	-8.130889e-17	7.586994e-16	-4.401351e-16	6.530373e-16					
	PC5	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9				
PC1	-3.999033e-16	1.196430e-15	-2.677865e-16	-1.195225e-16	-8.130889e-17				
PC2	-9.154739e-16	2.621610e-15	5.669396e-16	5.143978e-16	7.586994e-16				
PC3	3.040767e-16	-2.423218e-16	-6.452385e-16	-6.455569e-16	-4.401351e-16				
PC4	2.044069e-15	-1.758965e-15	1.236603e-15	-4.750556e-16	6.530373e-16				
PC5	1.000000e+00	1.154086e-15	-2.006218e-15	1.290515e-15	-1.117524e-15				
PC6	1.154086e-15	1.000000e+00	1.167053e-15	2.354267e-16	5.737252e-16				
PC7	-2.006218e-15	1.167053e-15	1.000000e+00	1.504508e-15	-5.307298e-16				
PC8	1.290515e-15	2.354267e-16	1.504508e-15	1.000000e+00	7.434271e-16				
PC9	-1.117524e-15	5.737252e-16	-5.307298e-16	7.434271e-16	1.000000e+00				

```
> biplot(brand.pc)
```



The plot of individual respondents' ratings is too dense and it does not tell us about the brand positions! Biplots are especially helpful when:

- there are a smaller number of points
- when there are clusters

Better solution: perform PCA using aggregated ratings by brand!

```
brand.mean <- aggregate(brand.sc[,1:9], list(brand.sc[,10]), mean)
rownames(brand.mean) = brand.mean[, 1]
brand.mean
```

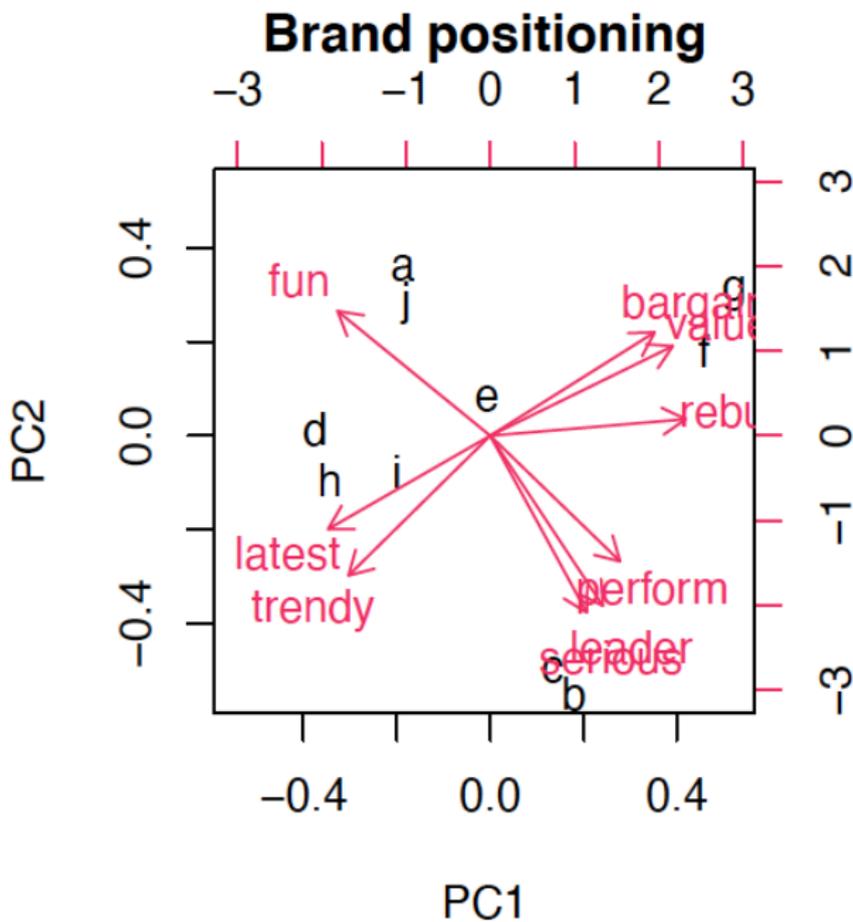
	Group.1	perform	leader	latest	fun	serious
a	a	-0.88591874	-0.5279035	0.4109732	0.6566458	-0.91894067
b	b	0.93087022	1.0707584	0.7261069	-0.9722147	1.18314061
c	c	0.64992347	1.1627677	-0.1023372	-0.8446753	1.22273461
d	d	-0.67989112	-0.5930767	0.3524948	0.1865719	-0.69217505
e	e	-0.56439079	0.1928362	0.4564564	0.2958914	0.04211361
f	f	-0.05868665	0.2695106	-1.2621589	-0.2179102	0.58923066
g	g	0.91838369	-0.1675336	-1.2849005	-0.5167168	-0.53379906
h	h	-0.01498383	-0.2978802	0.5019396	0.7149495	-0.14145855
i	i	0.33463879	-0.3208825	0.3557436	0.4124989	-0.14865746
j	j	-0.62994504	-0.7885965	-0.1543180	0.2849595	-0.60218870
		bargain	value	trendy	rebuy	
a		0.21409609	0.18469264	-0.52514473	-0.59616642	
b		0.04161938	0.15133957	0.74030819	0.23697320	
c		-0.60704302	-0.44067747	0.02552787	-0.13243776	
d		-0.88075605	-0.93263529	0.73666135	-0.49398892	
e		0.55155051	0.41816415	0.13857986	0.03654811	
f		0.87400696	1.02268859	-0.81324496	1.35699580	
g		0.89650392	1.25616009	-1.27639344	1.3609257	
h		-0.73827529	-0.78254646	0.86430070	-0.60402622	
i		-0.25459062	-0.80339213	0.59078782	-0.20317603	
j		-0.09711188	-0.07379367	-0.48138267	-0.96164748	

```
> brand.mu.pc <- prcomp(brand.mean[, 2:10], scale = TRUE)
> summary(brand.mu.pc)
```

Importance of components:

	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5
Standard deviation	2.1345	1.7349	0.7690	0.61498	0.50983
Proportion of Variance	0.5062	0.3345	0.0657	0.04202	0.02888
Cumulative Proportion	0.5062	0.8407	0.9064	0.94842	0.97730
	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9	
Standard deviation	0.36662	0.21506	0.14588	0.04867	
Proportion of Variance	0.01493	0.00514	0.00236	0.00026	
Cumulative Proportion	0.99223	0.99737	0.99974	1.00000	

```
> biplot(brand.mu.pc, main = "Brand positioning")
```



## Interpretation

What does the map tell us? First we interpret the adjective clusters and relationships and see four areas with well differentiated sets of adjectives and brands that are positioned in proximity. Brands f and g are high on value, for instance, while a and j are relatively high on fun, which is opposite in direction from leadership adjectives (leader and serious).

Let suppose that you are the brand manager for brand e. What does the map tell you?

Your brand is in the center and thus appears not to be well-differentiated on any of the dimensions. That could be good or bad, depending on your strategic goals.

If your goal is to be a safe brand that appeals to many consumers, then a relatively undifferentiated position like e could be desirable.

On the other hand, if you wish your brand to have a strong, differentiated perception, this finding would be unwanted.

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Suppose you wanted to move in the direction of brand c. You could look at the specific differences from c in the data:

```
> brand.mean <- aggregate(. ~ brand, data = brand.sc, mean)
> brand.mean[3, -1] - brand.mean[5, -1]
```

```
   perform    leader    latest      fun  serious
3 1.214314 0.9699315 -0.5587936 -1.140567 1.180621
   bargain      value    trendy      rebuy
-1.158594 -0.8588416 -0.113052 -0.1689859
```

This shows you that e is relatively stronger than c on value and fun, which suggests dialing down messaging or other attributes that reinforce those. Similarly, c is stronger on perform and serious.