Data-driven Methods: Faces

Portrait of Piotr Gibas
© Joaquin Rosales Gomez

15-463: Computational Photography
Alexei Efros, CMU, Fall 2007

The Power of Averaging

8-hour exposure

© Atta Kim

Figure-centric averages

Antonio Torralba & Aude Oliva (2002)

Averages: Hundreds of images containing a person are averaged to reveal regularities in the intensity patterns across all the images.

More by Jason Salavon

More at: http://www.salavon.com/

“100 Special Moments” by Jason Salavon

Why blurry?

Computing Means

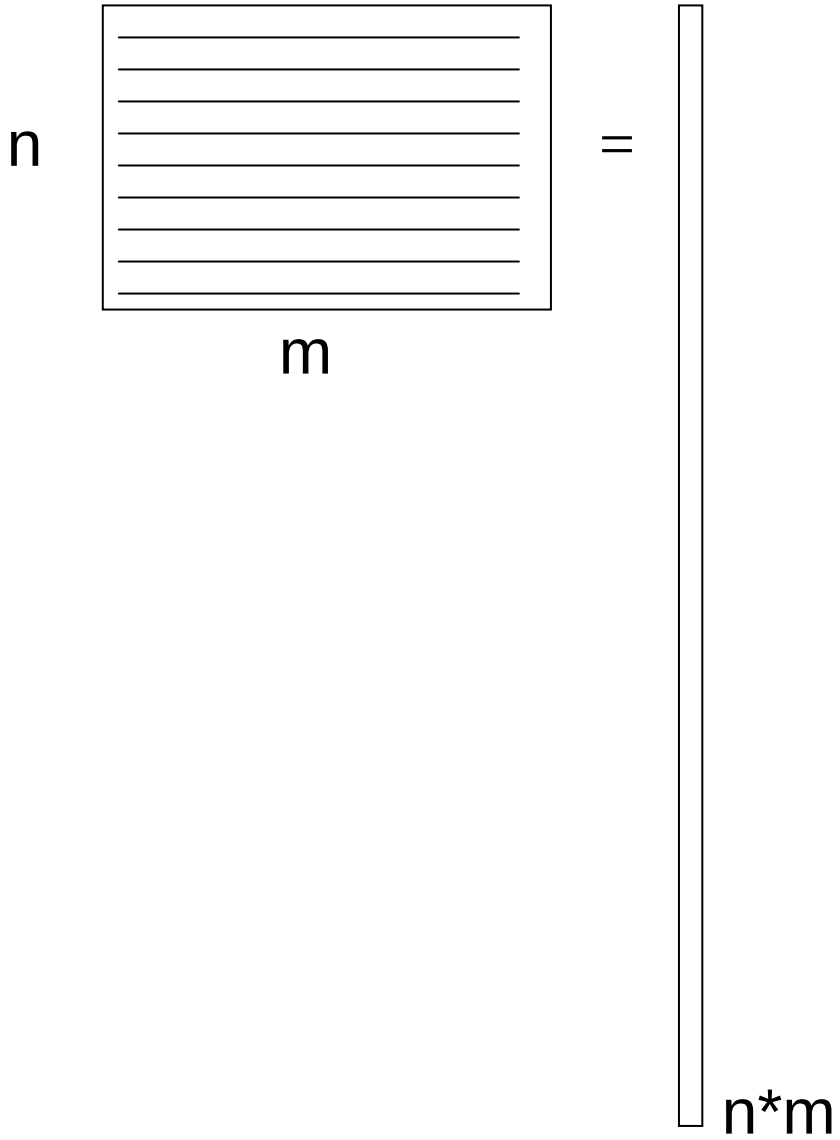
Two Requirements:

- Alignment of objects
- Objects must span a subspace

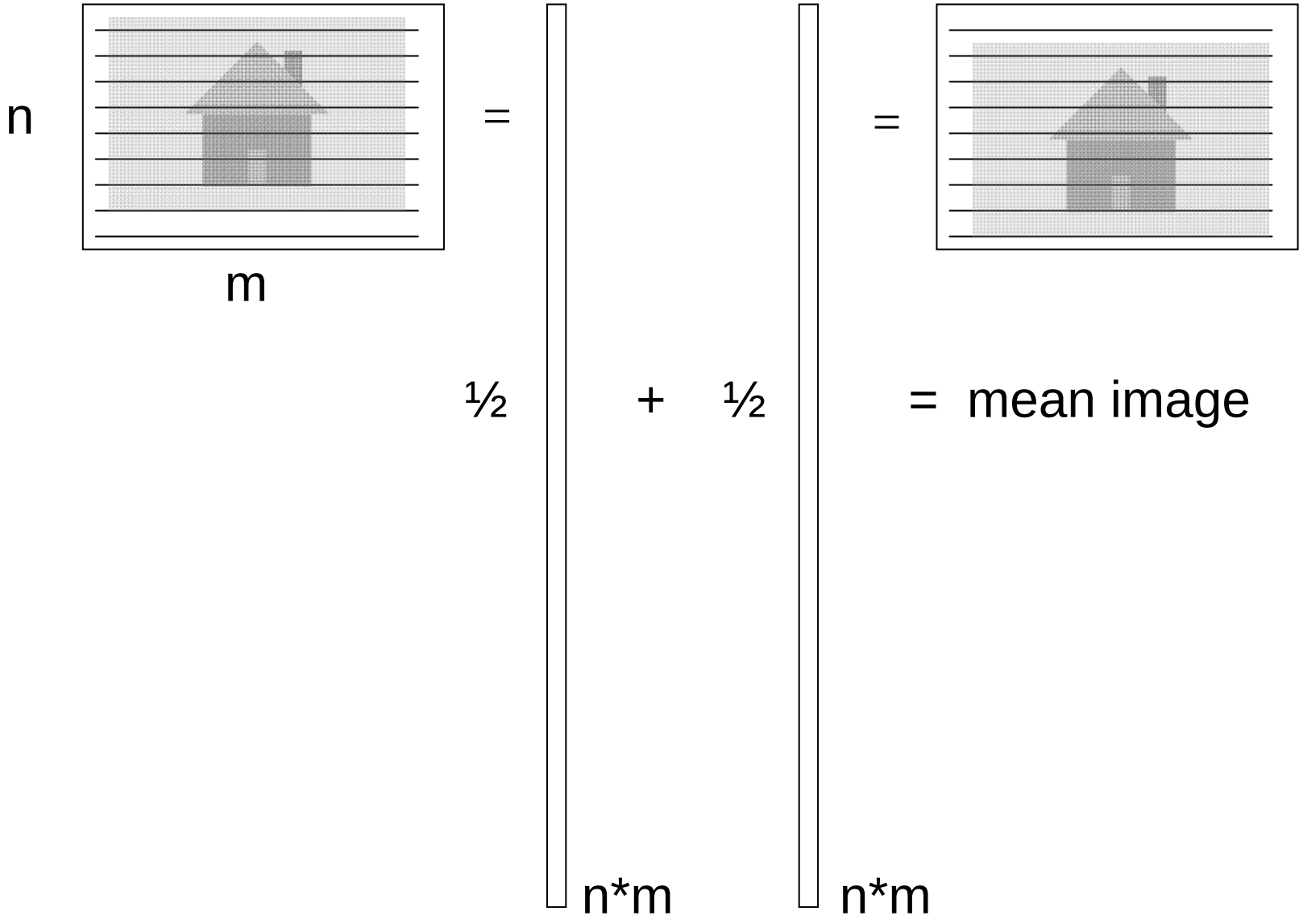
Useful concepts:

- Subpopulation means
- Deviations from the mean

Images as Vectors



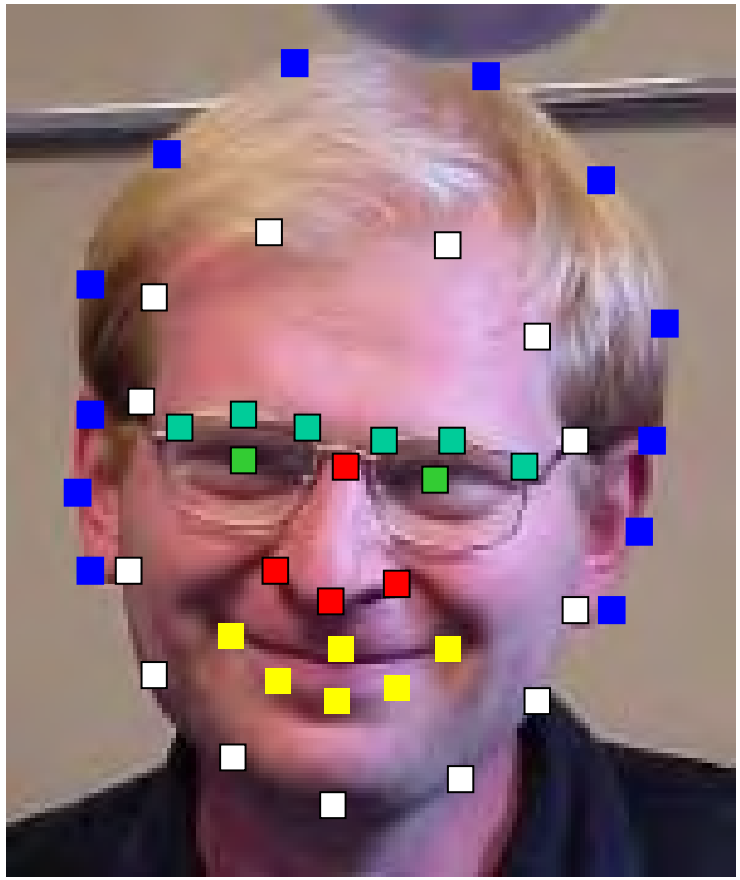
Vector Mean: Importance of Alignment



How to align faces?

http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/~aam/datasets/datasets.html

Shape Vector



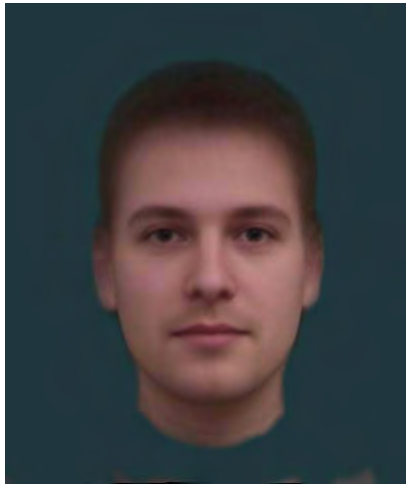
=

43

Provides alignment!

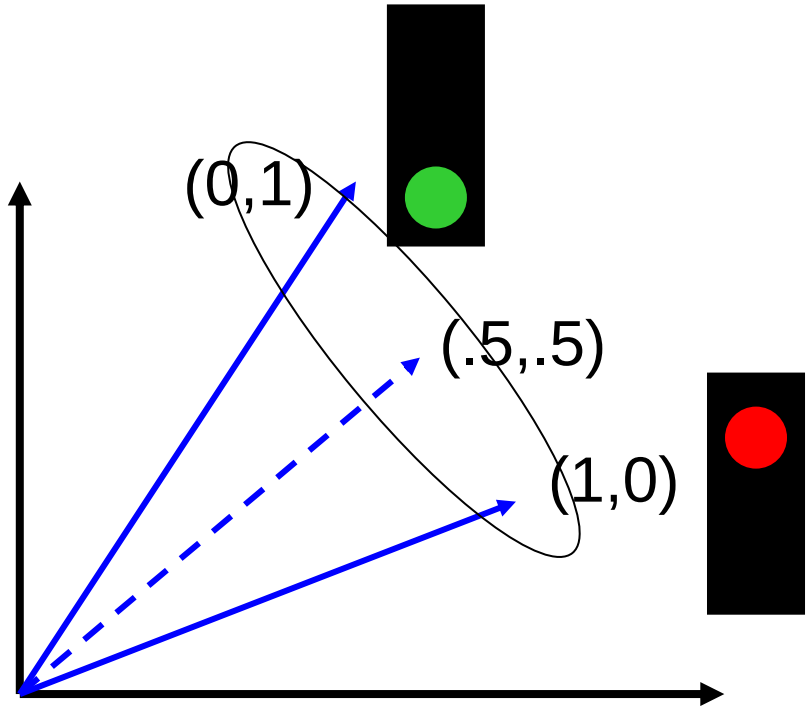
Average Face

1. Warp to mean shape
2. Average pixels



http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/courses/15-463/2004_fall/www/handins/brh/final/

Objects must span a subspace



Example

mean

Does not span a subspace

Subpopulation means

Examples:

- Happy faces
- Young faces
- Asian faces
- Etc.
- Sunny days
- Rainy days
- Etc.
- Etc.

Average female

Average male

Deviations from the mean

Image X

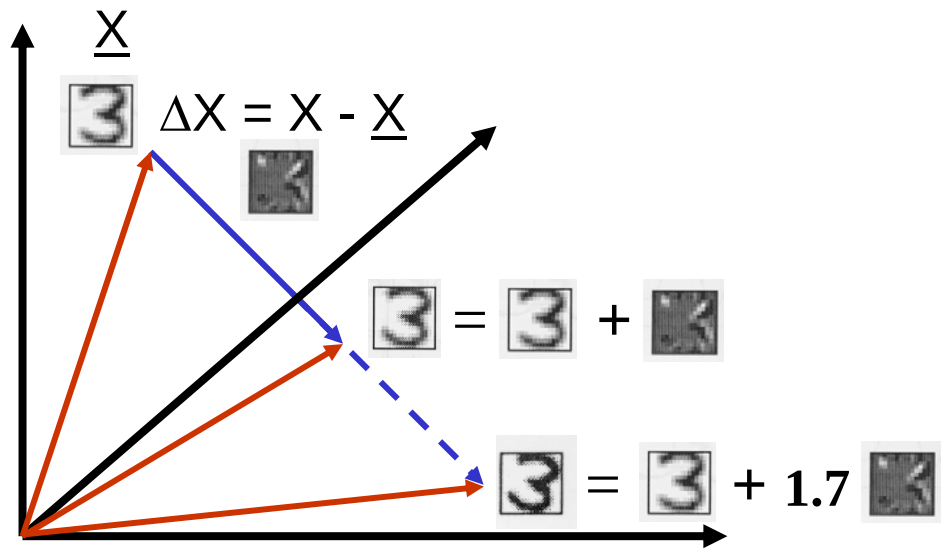
-

Mean $\underline{X}$

=

$\Delta X = X - \underline{X}$

Deviations from the mean



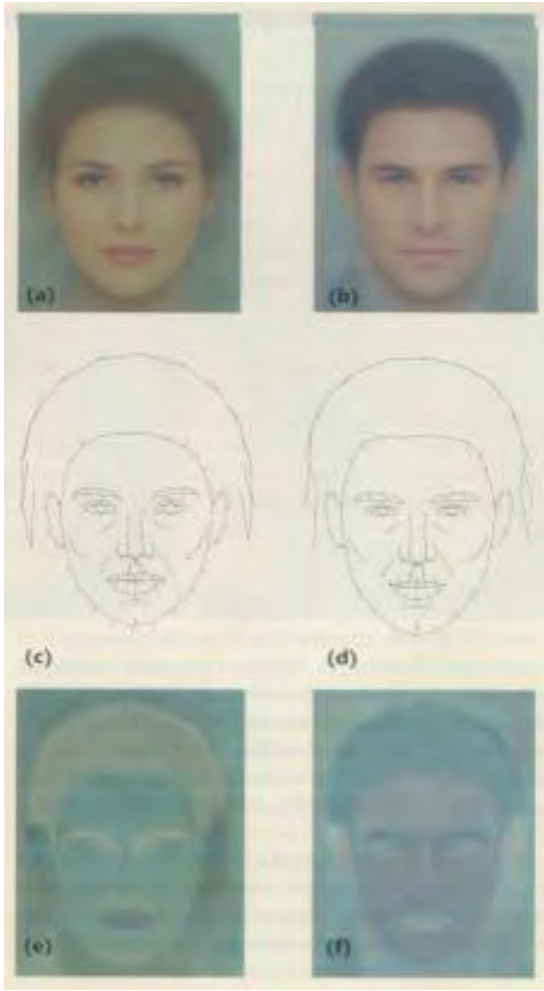
Manipulating Facial Appearance through Shape and Color

Duncan A. Rowland and David I. Perrett
St Andrews University
IEEE CG&A, September 1995

Face Modeling

Compute *average* faces
(color and shape)

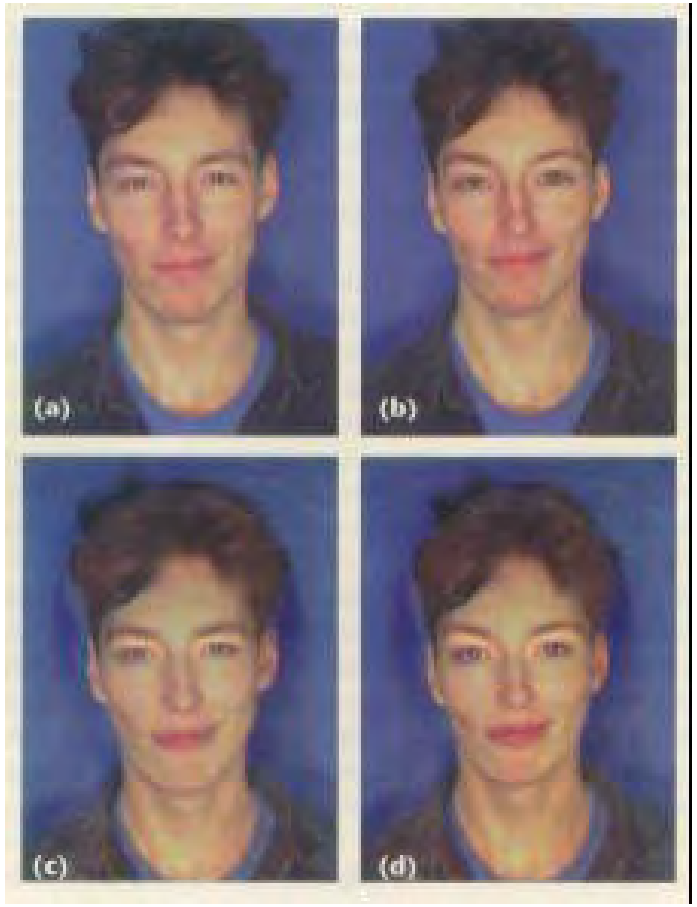
Compute *deviations*
between male and
female (vector and color
differences)



Changing gender

Deform shape and/or color of an input face in the direction of “more female”

original



shape

color

both

Enhancing gender

more same **original** androgynous more opposite

Changing age

Face becomes “rounder” and “more textured” and “grayer”

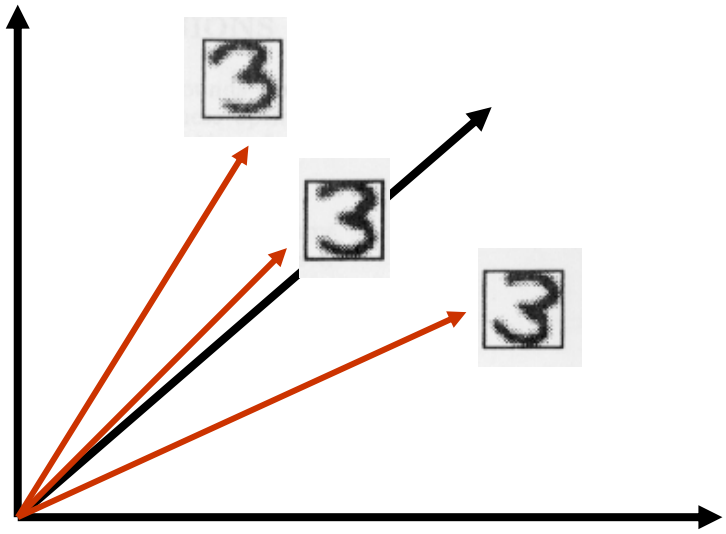
original

shape

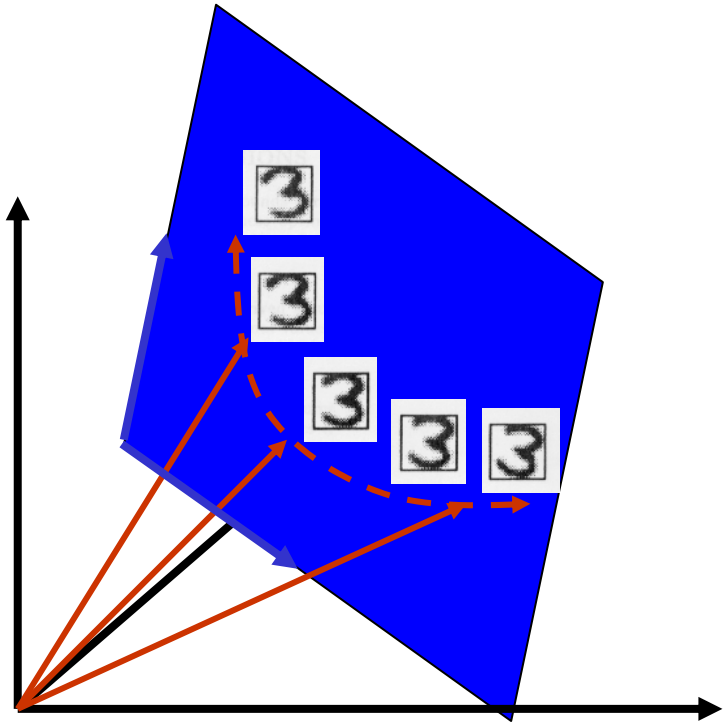
color

both

Back to the Subspace



Linear Subspace: convex combinations



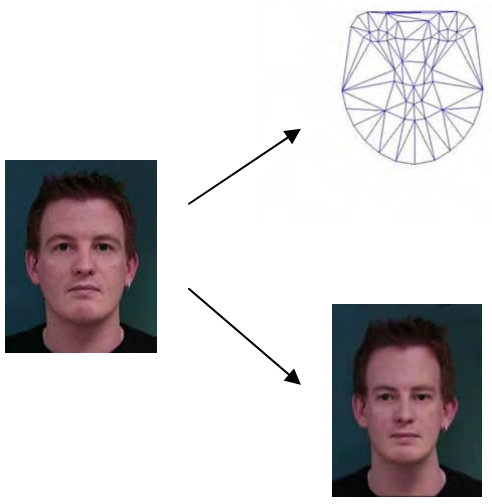
Any new image X can be obtained as weighted sum of stored “basis” images.

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i X_i$$

Our old friend, change of basis! What are the new coordinates of X?

The Morphable Face Model

The actual structure of a face is captured in the shape vector $\mathbf{S} = (x_1, y_1, x_2, \ldots, y_n)^T$, containing the (x, y) coordinates of the n vertices of a face, and the appearance (texture) vector $\mathbf{T} = (R_1, G_1, B_1, R_2, \ldots, G_n, B_n)^T$, containing the color values of the mean-warped face image.



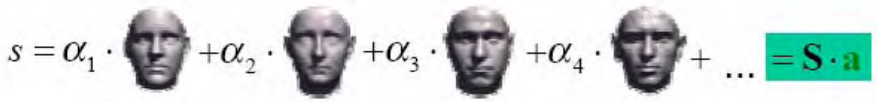
Shape S

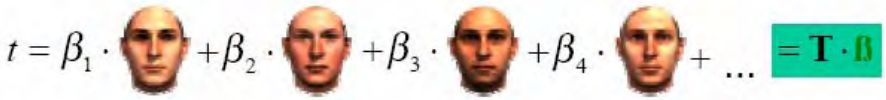
Appearance T

The Morphable face model

Again, assuming that we have ***m*** such vector pairs in full correspondence, we can form new shapes $\mathbf{S}_{model}$ and new appearances $\mathbf{T}_{model}$ as:

$$\mathbf{S}_{model} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i \mathbf{S}_i \qquad \mathbf{T}_{model} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} b_i \mathbf{T}_i$$





If number of basis faces ***m*** is large enough to span the face subspace then:

Any new face can be represented as a pair of vectors

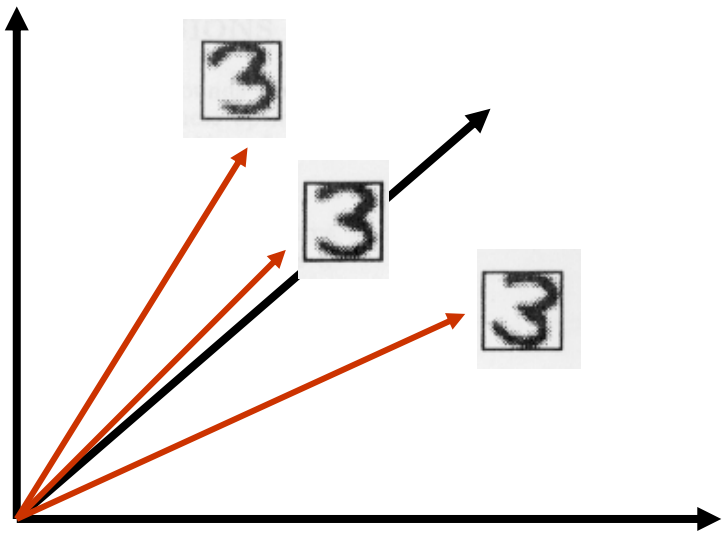
$(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_m)^T$ and $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_m)^T$!

Issues:

1. How many basis images is enough?
2. Which ones should they be?
3. What if some variations are more important than others?
   - E.g. corners of mouth carry much more information than haircut

Need a way to obtain basis images automatically, in order of importance!

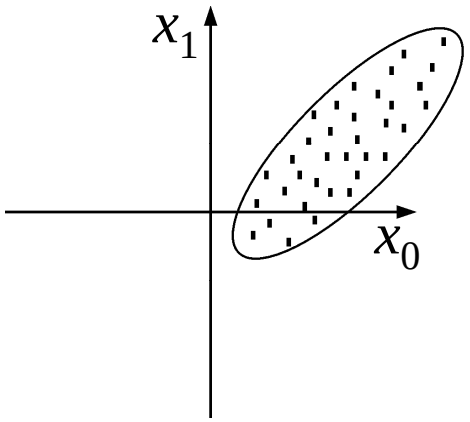
But what's important?

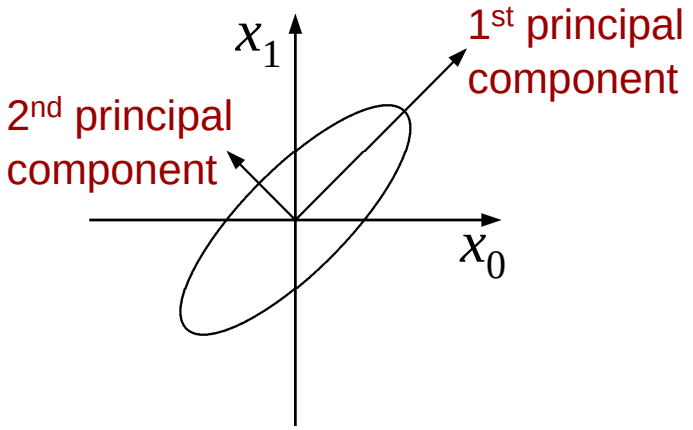


Principal Component Analysis

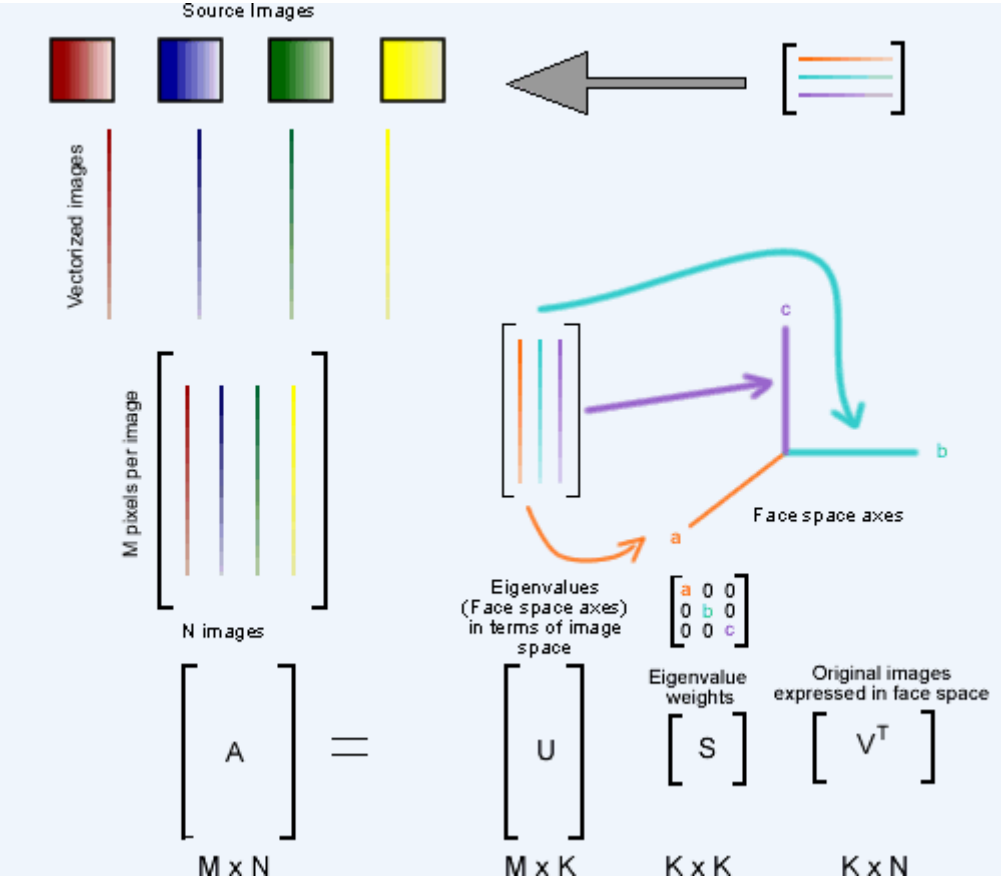
Given a point set $\{\vec{\mathbf{p}}_j\}_{j=1\ldots P}$, in an M-dim space, PCA finds a basis such that

- coefficients of the point set in that basis are uncorrelated
- first $r < M$ basis vectors provide an approximate basis that minimizes the mean-squared-error (MSE) in the approximation (over all bases with dimension r)





PCA via Singular Value Decomposition



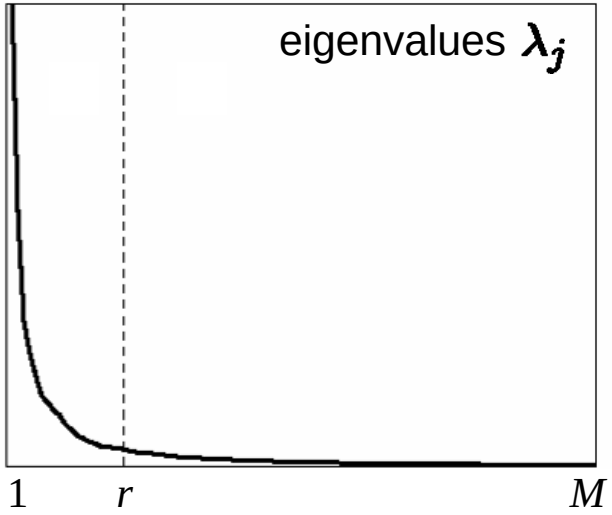
[u,s,v] = svd(A);

http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/courses/15-463/2004_fall/www/handins/brh/final/

Principal Component Analysis

Choosing subspace dimension r:

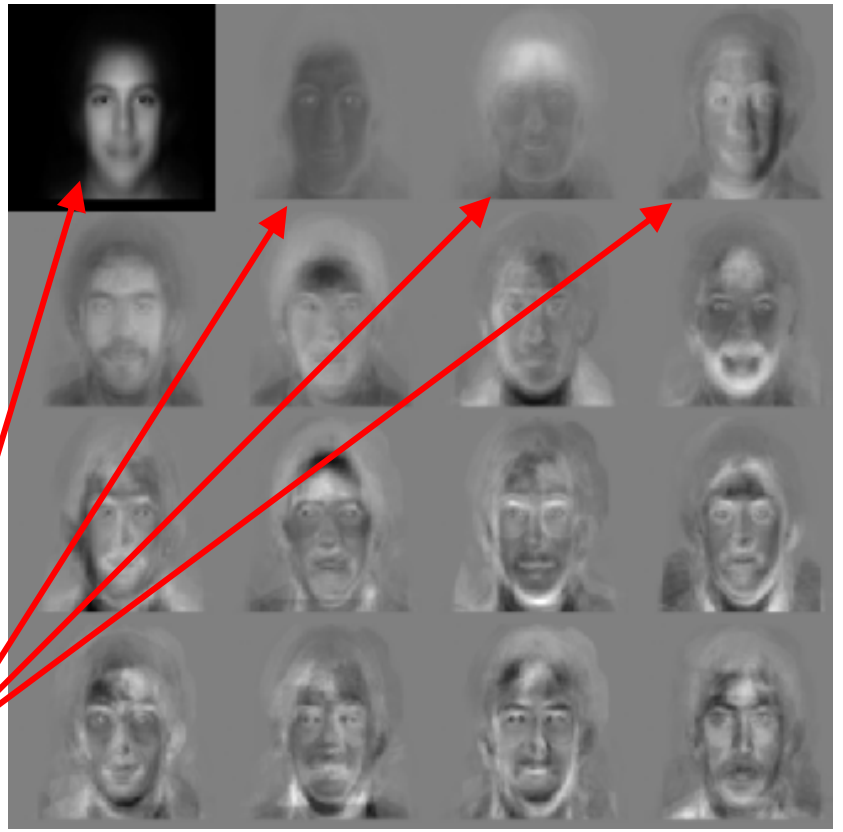
- look at decay of the eigenvalues as a function of r
- Larger r means lower expected error in the subspace data approximation



EigenFaces

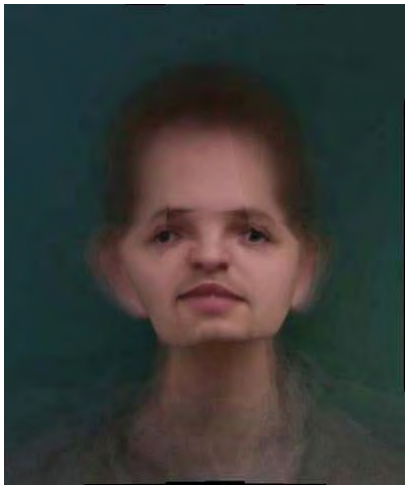
First popular use of PCA on images was for modeling and recognition of faces *[Kirby and Sirovich, 1990, Turk and Pentland, 1991]*

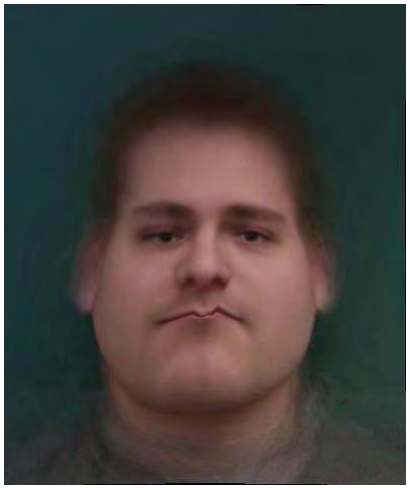
- Collect a face ensemble
- Normalize for contrast, scale, & orientation.
- Remove backgrounds
- Apply PCA & choose the first N eigen-images that account for most of the variance of the data.



First 3 Shape Basis

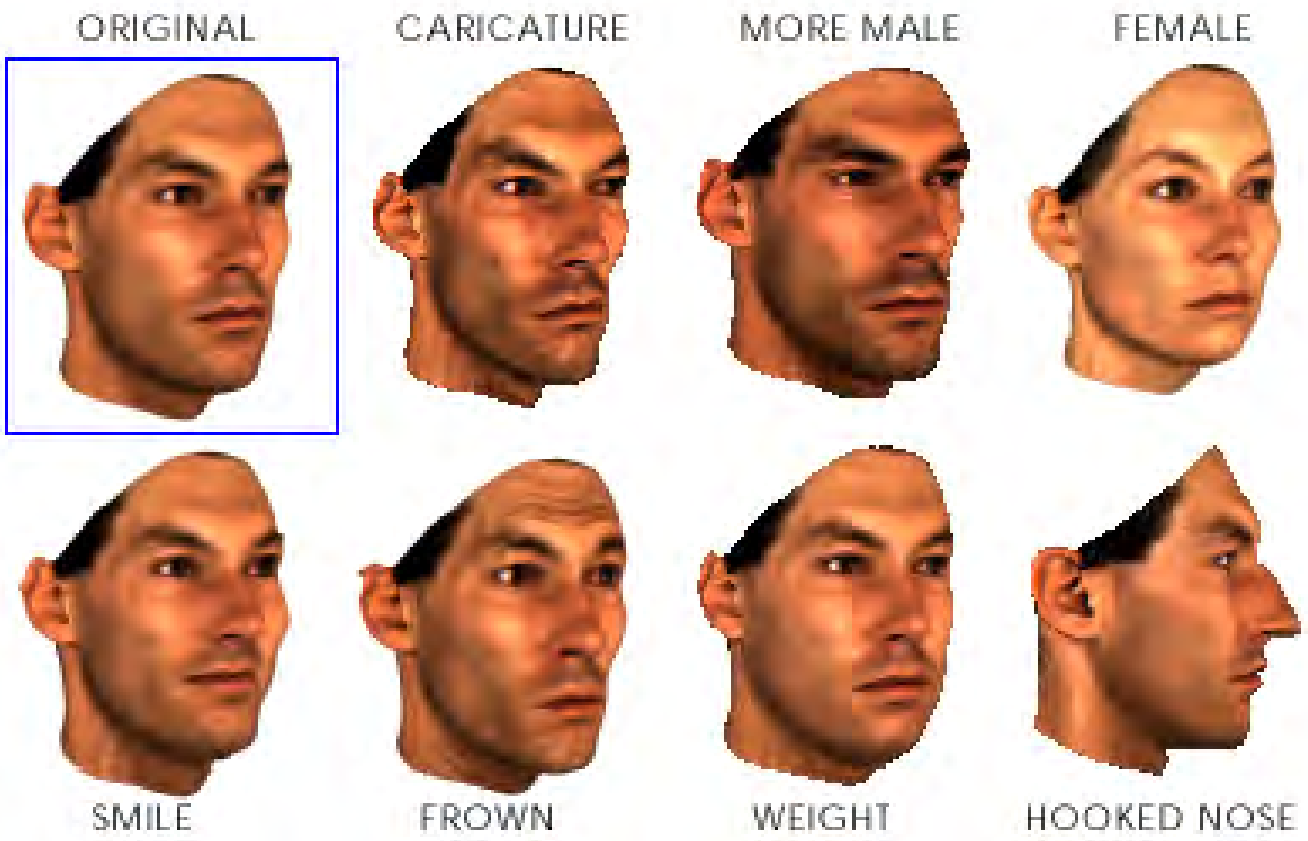
Mean appearance





http://graphics.cs.cmu.edu/courses/15-463/2004_fall/www/handins/brh/final/

Using 3D Geometry: Blinz & Vetter, 1999



show SIGGRAPH video