

C3_W2_Lab01_PCA_Visualization_Examples

September 15, 2025

1 PCA - An example on Exploratory Data Analysis

In this notebook you will:

- Replicate Andrew's example on PCA
- Visualize how PCA works on a 2-dimensional small dataset and that not every projection is “good”
- Visualize how a 3-dimensional data can also be contained in a 2-dimensional subspace
- Use PCA to find hidden patterns in a high-dimensional dataset

1.1 Importing the libraries

```
[1]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.decomposition import PCA
from pca_utils import plot_widget
from bokeh.io import show, output_notebook
from bokeh.plotting import figure
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import plotly.offline as py
```

```
[2]: py.init_notebook_mode()
```

```
[3]: output_notebook()
```

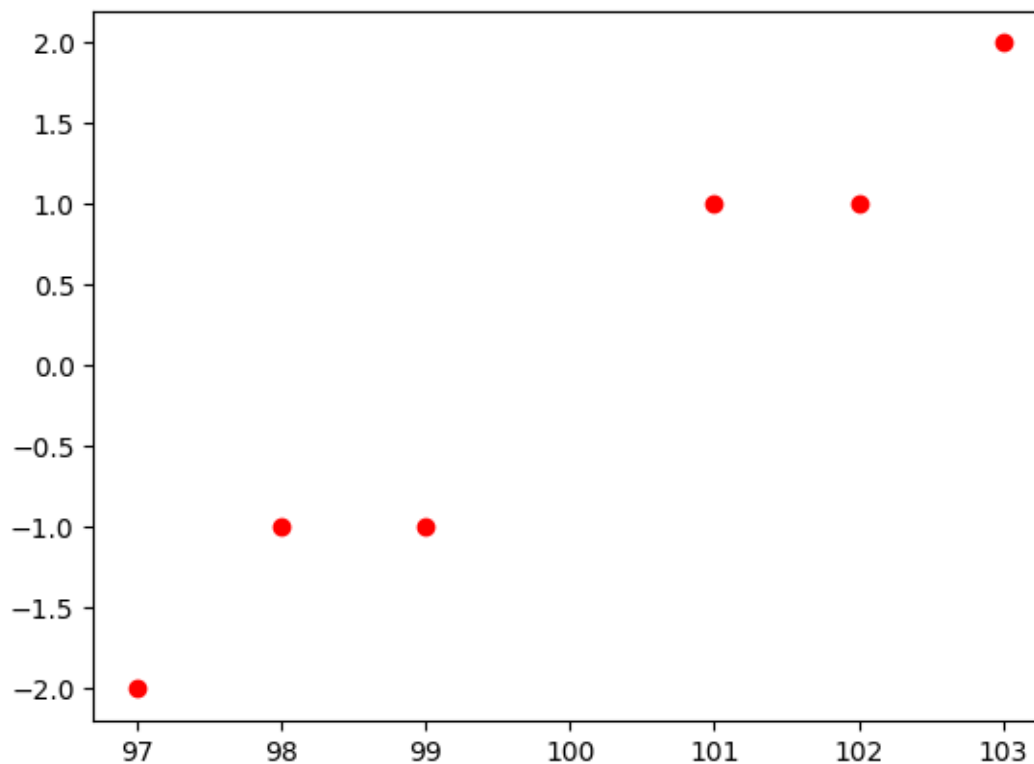
1.2 Lecture Example

We are going work on the same example that Andrew has shown in the lecture.

```
[4]: X = np.array([[ 99,  -1],
                  [ 98,  -1],
                  [ 97,  -2],
                  [101,   1],
                  [102,   1],
                  [103,   2]])
```

```
[5]: plt.plot(X[:,0], X[:,1], 'ro')
```

```
[5]: [ <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x709a0153fc90>]
```



```
[6]: # Loading the PCA algorithm
pca_2 = PCA(n_components=2)
pca_2
```

```
[6]: PCA(n_components=2)
```

```
[7]: # Let's fit the data. We do not need to scale it, since sklearn's
      ↪ implementation already handles it.
pca_2.fit(X)
```

```
[7]: PCA(n_components=2)
```

```
[8]: pca_2.explained_variance_ratio_
```

```
[8]: array([0.99244289, 0.00755711])
```

The coordinates on the first principal component (first axis) are enough to retain 99.24% of the information (“explained variance”). The second principal component adds an additional 0.76% of the

information (“explained variance”) that is not stored in the first principal component coordinates.

```
[9]: X_trans_2 = pca_2.transform(X)
X_trans_2
```

```
[9]: array([[ 1.38340578,  0.2935787 ],
          [ 2.22189802, -0.25133484],
          [ 3.6053038 ,  0.04224385],
          [-1.38340578, -0.2935787 ],
          [-2.22189802,  0.25133484],
          [-3.6053038 , -0.04224385]])
```

Think of column 1 as the coordinate along the first principal component (the first new axis) and column 2 as the coordinate along the second principal component (the second new axis).

You can probably just choose the first principal component since it retains 99% of the information (explained variance).

```
[10]: pca_1 = PCA(n_components=1)
pca_1
```

```
[10]: PCA(n_components=1)
```

```
[11]: pca_1.fit(X)
pca_1.explained_variance_ratio_
```

```
[11]: array([0.99244289])
```

```
[12]: X_trans_1 = pca_1.transform(X)
X_trans_1
```

```
[12]: array([[ 1.38340578],
          [ 2.22189802],
          [ 3.6053038 ],
          [-1.38340578],
          [-2.22189802],
          [-3.6053038 ]])
```

Notice how this column is just the first column of `X_trans_2`.

If you had 2 features (two columns of data) and choose 2 principal components, then you’ll keep all the information and the data will end up the same as the original.

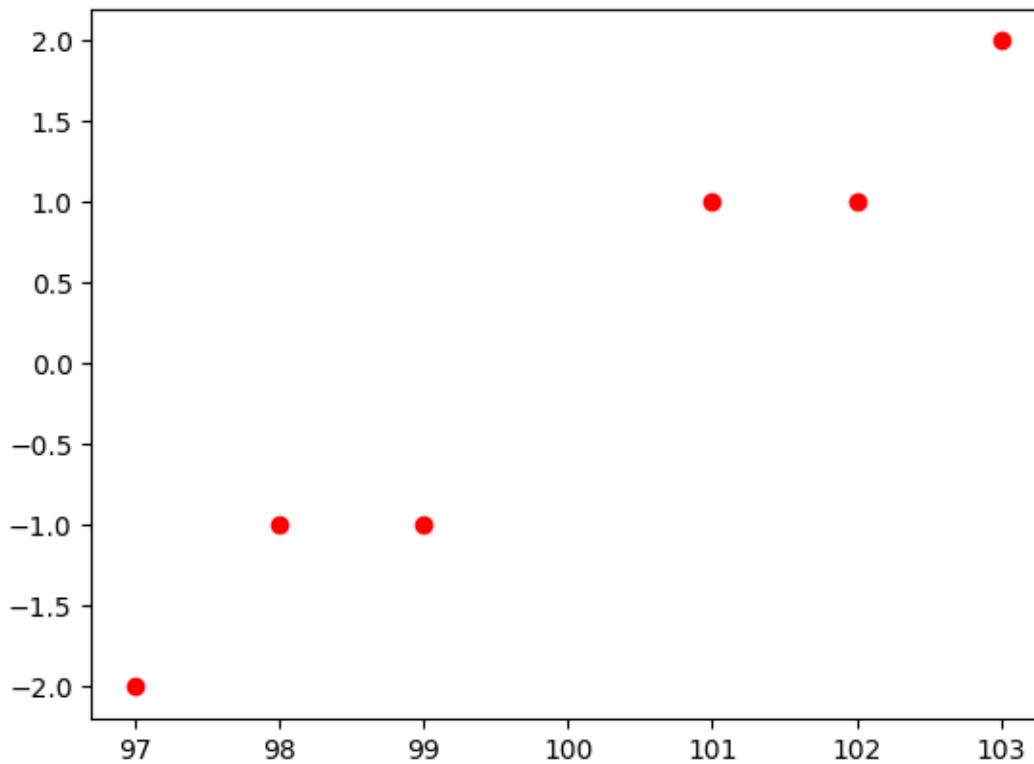
```
[13]: X_reduced_2 = pca_2.inverse_transform(X_trans_2)
X_reduced_2
```

```
[13]: array([[ 99., -1.],
          [ 98., -1.],
          [ 97., -2.]])
```

```
[101.,  1.],  
[102.,  1.],  
[103.,  2.]])
```

```
[14]: plt.plot(X_reduced_2[:,0], X_reduced_2[:,1], 'ro')
```

```
[14]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x709a006604d0>]
```



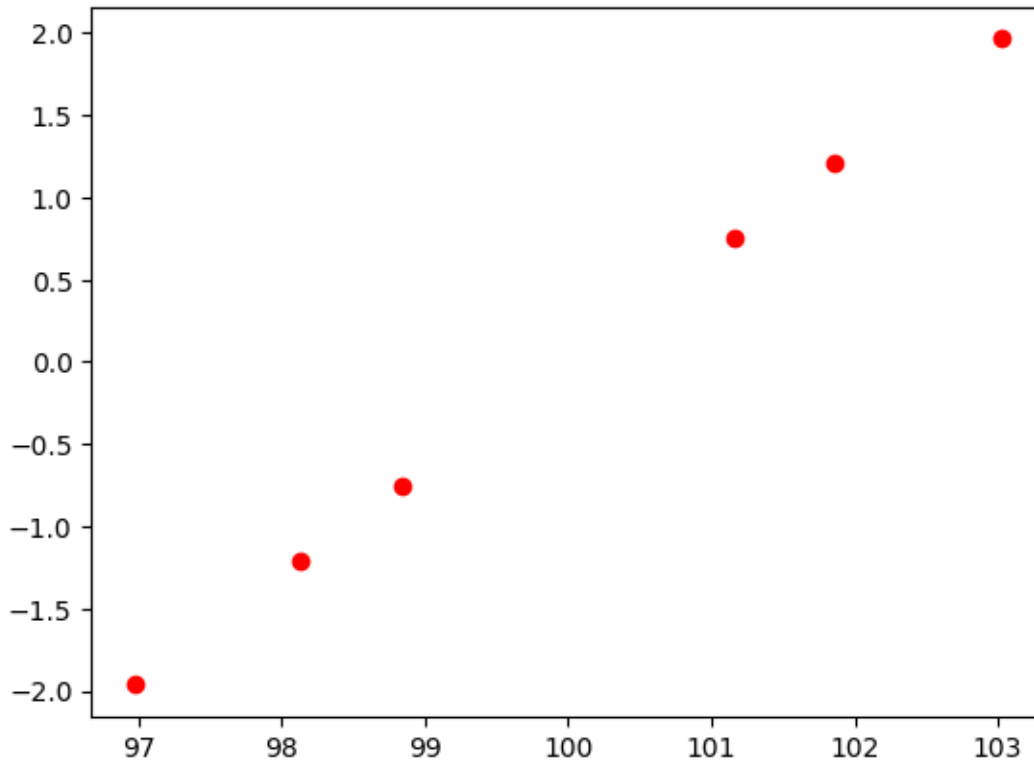
Reduce to 1 dimension instead of 2

```
[15]: X_reduced_1 = pca_1.inverse_transform(X_trans_1)  
X_reduced_1
```

```
[15]: array([[ 98.84002499, -0.75383654],  
          [ 98.13695576, -1.21074232],  
          [ 96.97698075, -1.96457886],  
          [101.15997501,  0.75383654],  
          [101.86304424,  1.21074232],  
          [103.02301925,  1.96457886]])
```

```
[16]: plt.plot(X_reduced_1[:,0], X_reduced_1[:,1], 'ro')
```

```
[16]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x709a0056f850>]
```



Notice how the data are now just on a single line (this line is the single principal component that was used to describe the data; and each example had a single “coordinate” along that axis to describe its location.

1.3 Visualizing the PCA algorithm

Let’s define 10 points in the plane and use them as an example to visualize how we can compress this points in 1 dimension. You will see that there are good ways and bad ways.

```
[17]: X = np.array([[ -0.83934975, -0.21160323],  
                  [ 0.67508491,  0.25113527],  
                  [-0.05495253,  0.36339613],  
                  [-0.57524042,  0.24450324],  
                  [ 0.58468572,  0.95337657],  
                  [ 0.5663363 ,  0.07555096],  
                  [-0.50228538, -0.65749982],  
                  [-0.14075593,  0.02713815],  
                  [ 0.2587186 , -0.26890678],  
                  [ 0.02775847, -0.77709049]])
```

```
[19]: p = figure(title = '10-point scatterplot', x_axis_label = 'x-axis',
    ↪y_axis_label = 'y-axis') ## Creates the figure object
p.scatter(X[:,0],X[:,1],marker = 'o', color = '#C00000', size = 5) ## Add the
    ↪scatter plot

## Some visual adjustments
p.grid.visible = False
p.grid.visible = False
p.outline_line_color = None
p.toolbar.logo = None
p.toolbar_location = None
p.xaxis.axis_line_color = "#f0f0f0"
p.xaxis.axis_line_width = 5
p.yaxis.axis_line_color = "#f0f0f0"
p.yaxis.axis_line_width = 5

## Shows the figure
show(p)
```

The next code will generate a widget where you can see how different ways of compressing this data into 1-dimensional datapoints will lead to different ways on how the points are spread in this new space. The line generated by PCA is the line that keeps the points as far as possible from each other.

You can use the slider to rotate the black line through its center and see how the points' projection onto the line will change as we rotate the line.

You can notice that there are projections that place different points in almost the same point, and there are projections that keep the points as separated as they were in the plane.

```
[20]: plot_widget()

HBox(children=(FigureWidget({
    'data': [{'hovertemplate': 'x={x}<br>y={y}<extra></extra>',
    ...
```

1.4 Visualization of a 3-dimensional dataset

In this section we will see how some 3 dimensional data can be condensed into a 2 dimensional space.

```
[21]: from pca_utils import random_point_circle, plot_3d_2d_graphs

[22]: X = random_point_circle(n = 150)

[23]: deb = plot_3d_2d_graphs(X)

[24]: deb.update_layout(yaxis2 = dict(title_text = 'test', visible=True))
```

1.5 Using PCA in Exploratory Data Analysis

Let's load a toy dataset with 500 samples and 1000 features.

```
[25]: df = pd.read_csv("toy_dataset.csv")
```

```
[26]: df.head()
```

```
[26]:   feature_0  feature_1  feature_2  feature_3  feature_4  feature_5  \
0  27.422157 -29.662712 -23.297163 -15.161935   0.345581   3.706750
1   3.489482 -19.153551 -14.636424  14.688258  20.114204  13.532852
2   4.293509  22.691579  -1.045155  -8.740350  12.401082  31.362987
3  -2.139348  23.158754 -26.241206  19.426465   9.472049   8.453948
4 -35.251034  27.281816 -29.470282 -21.786865  11.806822  58.655133

      feature_6  feature_7  feature_8  feature_9  ...  feature_990  feature_991  \
0  -5.507209 -46.992476   5.175469 -47.768145  ...    7.815960    24.320965
1  34.298084  22.982509  37.938670 -35.648144  ...   11.145527   -38.886603
2 -18.831206 -35.384557   8.161430 -16.421762  ...   48.190331    -0.503157
3   0.637211 -26.675984 -43.823329  11.840874  ...  -51.613076    13.278858
4   5.375230  59.740676 -49.007717 -21.801155  ...    0.010857    20.975655

      feature_992  feature_993  feature_994  feature_995  feature_996  \
0  -33.987522    22.306088    31.173511    31.264830     8.380699
1   44.579337    37.308519    29.560535   -10.643331    -6.499263
2  -21.740678    15.972237     1.122335   -45.473538    10.518065
3  -44.179281    32.912282     4.805774     3.960836   -15.888356
4  -21.358371    18.709369    22.362477    41.214565    -7.217724

      feature_997  feature_998  feature_999
0  -25.843189    36.706408   -43.480792
1   19.921666    -3.528982    31.068739
2   -5.818320   -29.466301   -13.676685
3   61.384773    33.112334     5.088320
4   31.173870    37.097532   -27.509420
```

```
[5 rows x 1000 columns]
```

This is a dataset with 1000 features.

Let's try to see if there is a pattern in the data. The following function will randomly sample 100 pairwise tuples (x,y) of features, so we can scatter-plot them.

```
[27]: def get_pairs(n = 100):
      from random import randint
      i = 0
      tuples = []
      while i < 100:
```

```

x = df.columns[randint(0,999)]
y = df.columns[randint(0,999)]
while x == y or (x,y) in tuples or (y,x) in tuples:
    y = df.columns[randint(0,999)]
    tuples.append((x,y))
    i+=1
return tuples

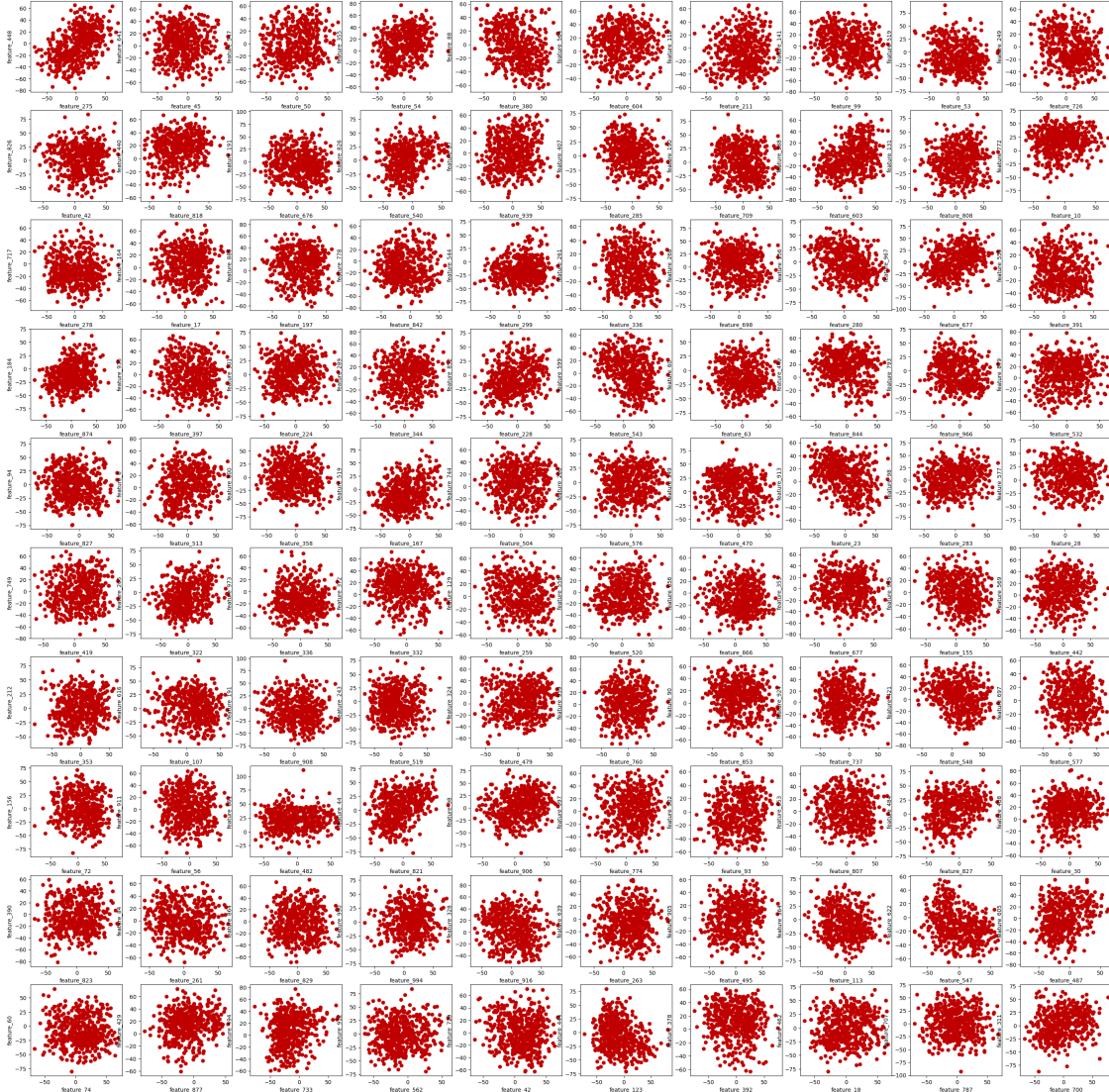
```

```
[28]: pairs = get_pairs()
```

Now let's plot them!

```
[29]: fig, axs = plt.subplots(10,10, figsize = (35,35))
i = 0
for rows in axs:
    for ax in rows:
        ax.scatter(df[pairs[i][0]],df[pairs[i][1]], color = "#C00000")
        ax.set_xlabel(pairs[i][0])
        ax.set_ylabel(pairs[i][1])
        i+=1

```

It looks like there is not much information hidden in pairwise features. Also, it is not possible to check every combination, due to the amount of features. Let's try to see the linear correlation between them.

```
[32]: # This may take 1 minute to run
corr = df.corr()
```

```
[33]: ## This will show all the features that have correlation > 0.5 in absolute
      ## value. We remove the features
      ## with correlation == 1 to remove the correlation of a feature with itself

mask = (abs(corr) > 0.5) & (abs(corr) != 1)
corr.where(mask).stack().sort_values()
```

```
[33]: feature_81    feature_657    -0.631294
      feature_657    feature_81    -0.631294
      feature_313    feature_4     -0.615317
      feature_4      feature_313    -0.615317
      feature_716    feature_1     -0.609056

      ...
      feature_792    feature_547    0.620864
      feature_35     feature_965    0.631424
      feature_965    feature_35     0.631424
      feature_395    feature_985    0.632593
      feature_985    feature_395    0.632593
      Length: 1870, dtype: float64
```

The maximum and minimum correlation is around 0.631 - 0.632. This does not show too much as well.

Let's try PCA decomposition to compress our data into a 2-dimensional subspace (plane) so we can plot it as scatter plot.

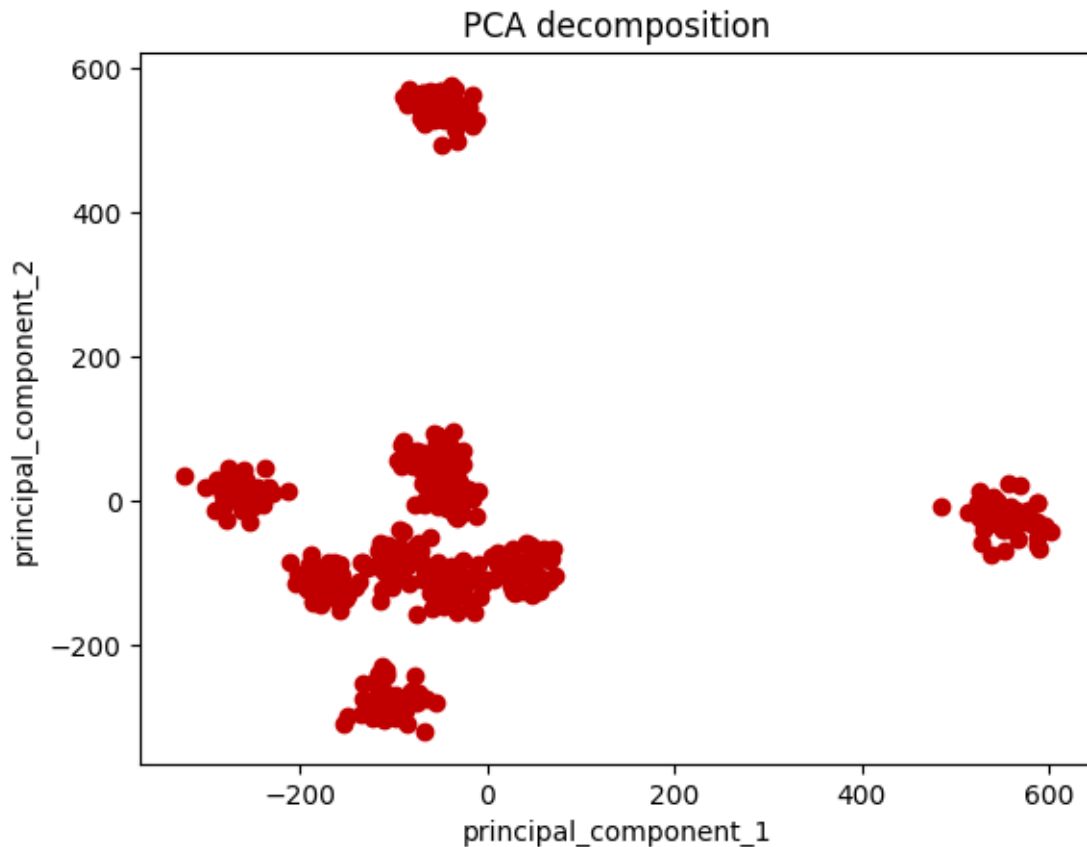
```
[34]: # Loading the PCA object
      pca = PCA(n_components = 2) # Here we choose the number of components that we
      ↪ will keep.
      X_pca = pca.fit_transform(df)
      df_pca = pd.DataFrame(X_pca, columns =
      ↪ ['principal_component_1', 'principal_component_2'])
```

```
[35]: df_pca.head()
```

```
[35]:   principal_component_1  principal_component_2
0             -46.235641             -1.672797
1            -210.208758             -84.068249
2             -26.352795            -127.895751
3            -116.106804            -269.368256
4            -110.183605            -279.657306
```

```
[36]: plt.scatter(df_pca['principal_component_1'], df_pca['principal_component_2'],
      ↪ color = "#C00000")
      plt.xlabel('principal_component_1')
      plt.ylabel('principal_component_2')
      plt.title('PCA decomposition')
```

```
[36]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'PCA decomposition')
```



This is great! We can see well defined clusters.

```
[37]: # pca.explained_variance_ratio_ returns a list where it shows the amount of
      ↪ variance explained by each principal component.
      sum(pca.explained_variance_ratio_)
```

```
[37]: 0.14572843555106268
```

And we preserved only around 14.6% of the variance!

Quite impressive! We can clearly see clusters in our data, something that we could not see before. How many clusters can you spot? 8, 10?

If we run a PCA to plot 3 dimensions, we will get more information from data.

```
[38]: pca_3 = PCA(n_components = 3).fit(df)
      X_t = pca_3.transform(df)
      df_pca_3 = pd.DataFrame(X_t, columns =
      ↪ ['principal_component_1', 'principal_component_2', 'principal_component_3'])
```

```
[39]: import plotly.express as px
```

```
[41]: fig = px.scatter_3d(df_pca_3, x = 'principal_component_1', y =  
    ↪ 'principal_component_2', z = 'principal_component_3').update_traces(marker =  
    ↪ dict(color = "#C00000"))  
fig.show()
```

```
[42]: sum(pca_3.explained_variance_ratio_)
```

```
[42]: 0.20806257816093227
```

Now we preserved 19% of the variance and we can clearly see 10 clusters.

Congratulations on finishing this notebook!