

# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

## LECTURE : MANIFOLD LEARNING

slides due to L.Saul, V. C. Raykar, N. Verma

# Topics

- PCA
  - MDS
  - IsoMap
  - LLE
  - EigenMaps
- Done!

# Dimensionality Reduction

- Data representation

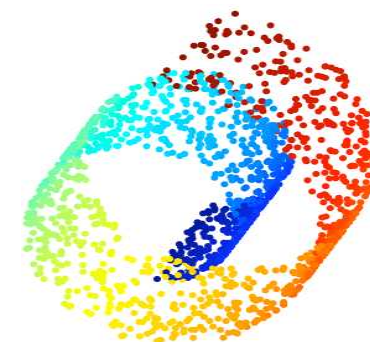
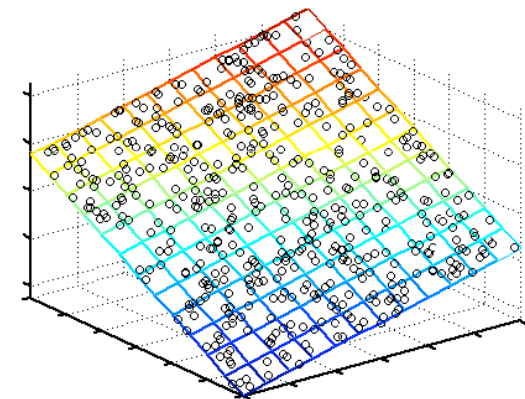
Inputs are real-valued vectors in a high dimensional space.

- Linear structure

Does the data live in a low dimensional subspace?

- **Nonlinear structure**

Does the data live on a low dimensional submanifold?



# Notations

- Inputs (**high dimensional**)

$\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^D$

- Outputs (**low dimensional**)

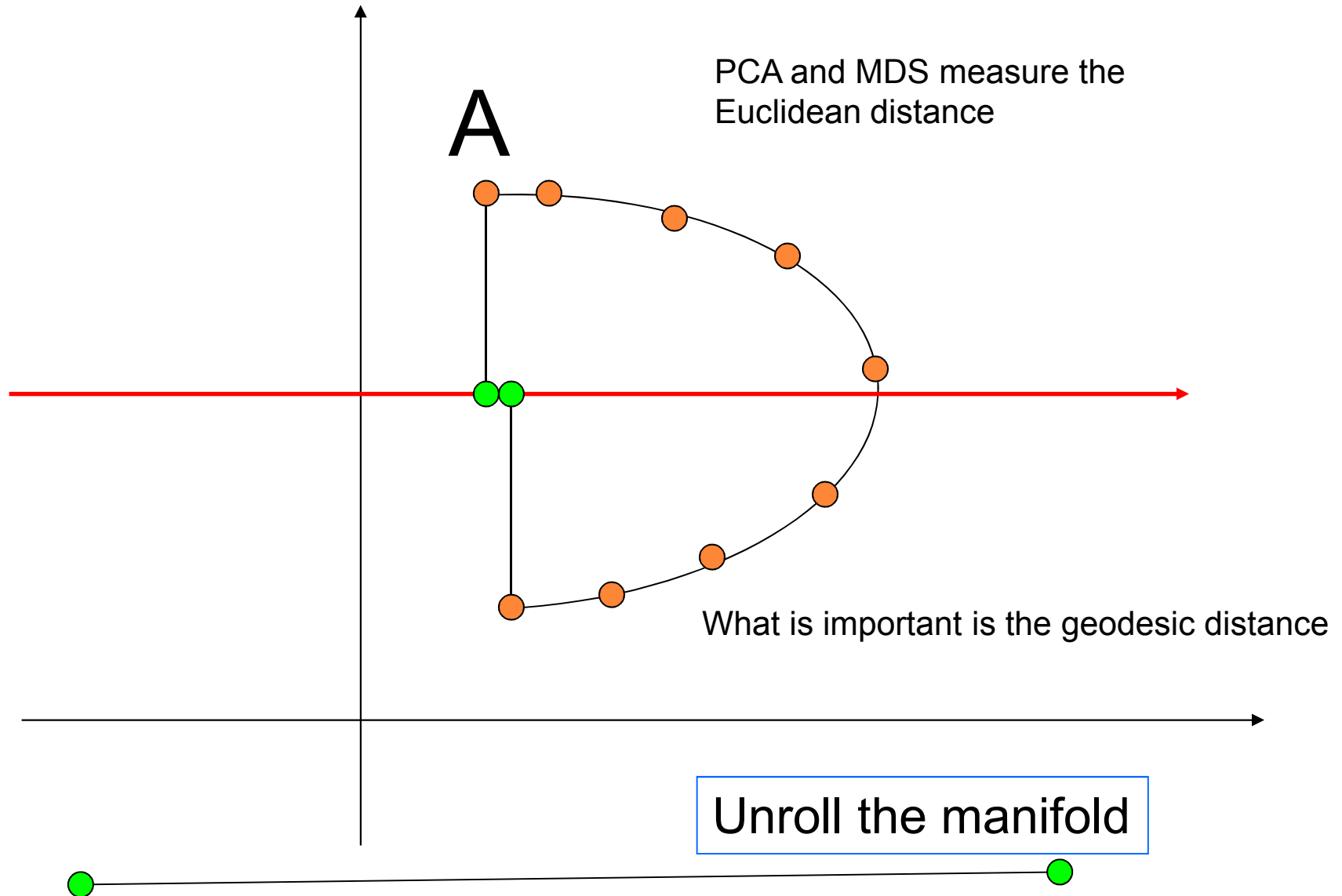
$\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d \ll D$ )

- Goals

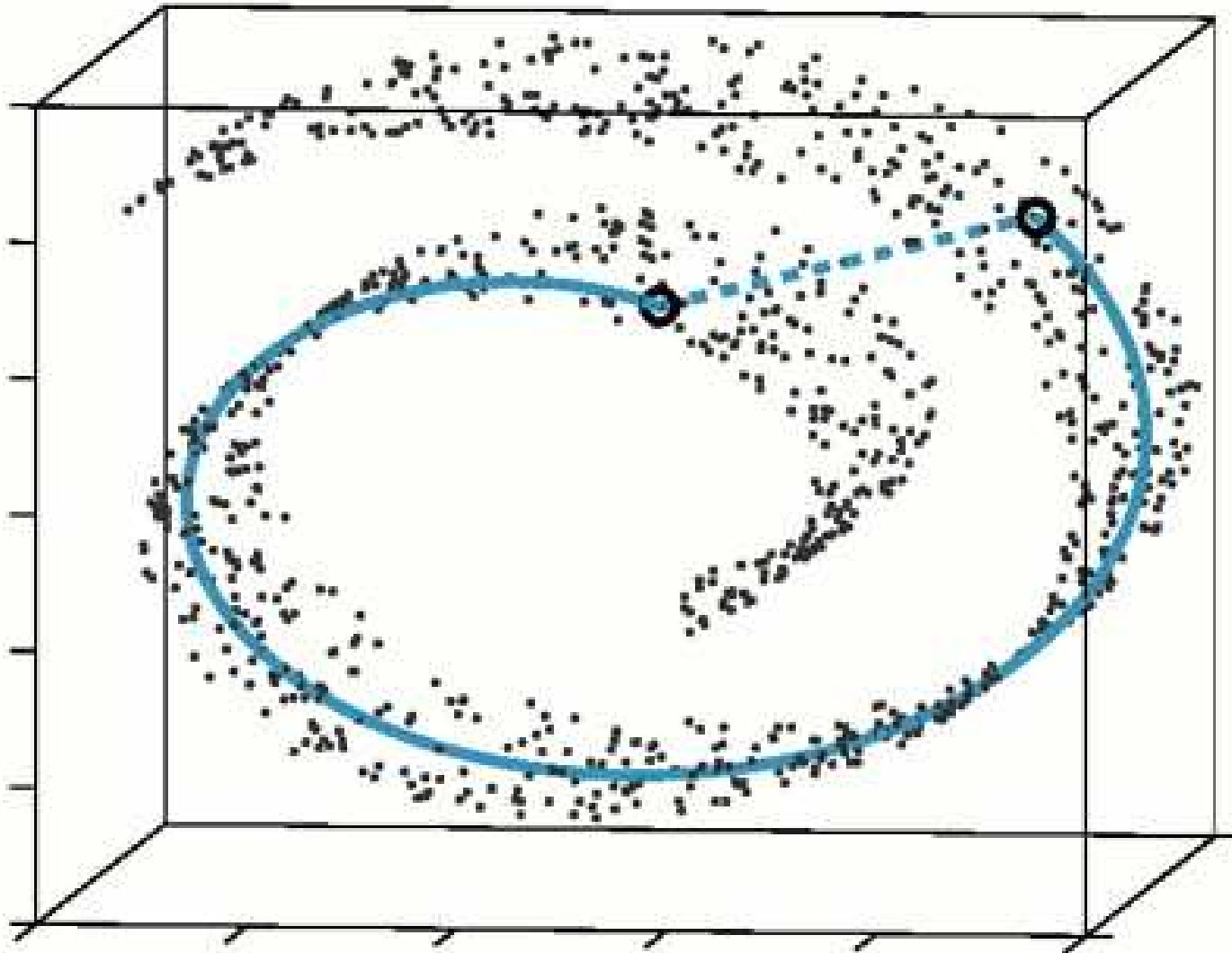
Nearby points remain nearby.

Distant points remain distant.

# Nonlinear Manifolds



To preserve structure preserve the geodesic distance and not the euclidean distance.

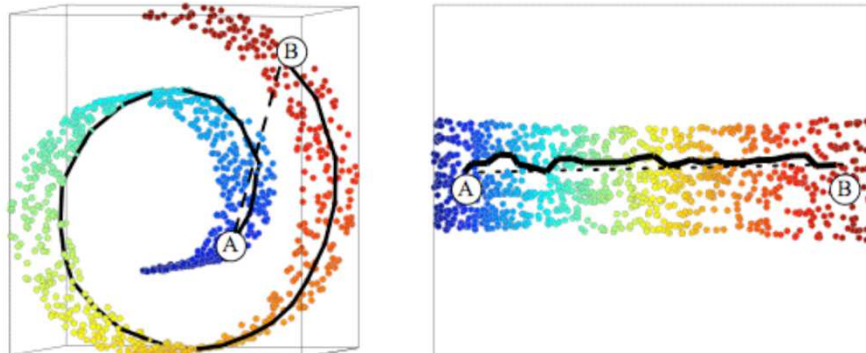


# Graph-Based Methods

- Tenenbaum et.al's **Isomap** Algorithm
  - Global approach.  
**Preserves global pairwise distances.**
- Roweis and Saul's **Locally Linear Embedding** Algorithm
  - Local approach  
**Nearby points should map nearby**
- Belkin and Niyogi **Laplacian Eigenmaps** Algorithm
  - Local approach
  - minimizes approximately the same value as LLE

# Isomap - Key Idea:

- Use **geodesic** instead of Euclidean distances in MDS.
- For neighboring points Euclidean distance is a good approximation to the geodesic distance.
- For distant points estimate the distance by a series of short hops between neighboring points. Find shortest paths in a graph with edges connecting neighboring data points.





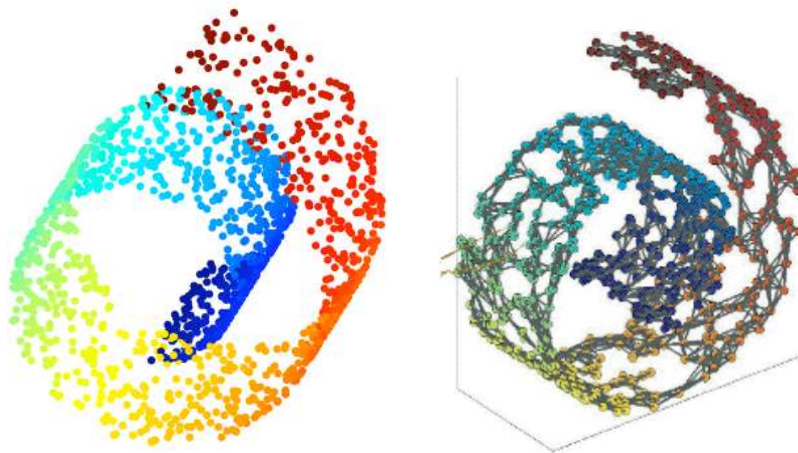
# Step 1. Build adjacency graph.

- Adjacency graph

Vertices represent inputs. Undirected edges connect neighbours.

- Neighbourhood selection

Many options: k-nearest neighbours, inputs within radius  $r$ , prior knowledge.



**Graph is discretized approximation of submanifold.**

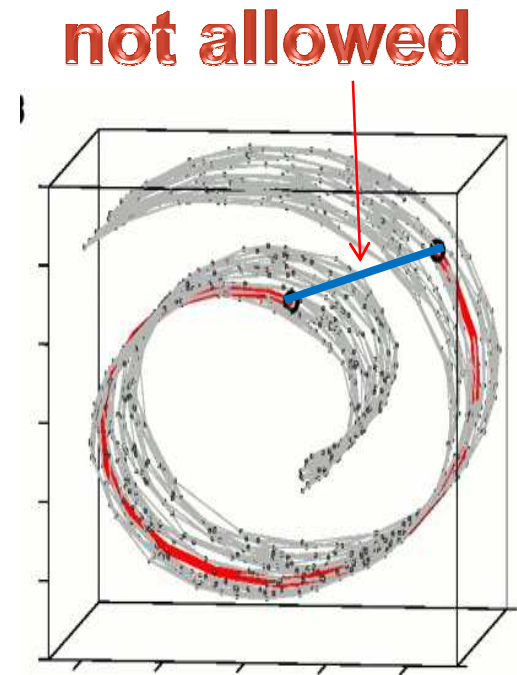
# Building the graph

## ⦿ Computation

- kNN scales naively as  $O(n^2 D)$
- Faster methods exploit data structures.

## ⦿ Assumptions

1. Graph is connected.
2. Neighbourhoods on graph reflect neighbourhoods on manifold.



# Step 2. Estimate geodesics

- ⦿ Dynamic programming
  - Weight edges by local distances.
  - Compute shortest paths through graph.
- ⦿ Geodesic distances
  - Estimate by lengths of shortest paths:  
denser sampling = better estimates.
- ⦿ Computation
  - Dijkstra's algorithm for shortest paths  
 $O(n^2 \log n + n^2 k)$ .

# Step 3. Metric MDS

## ⦿ Embedding

- Top  $d$  eigenvectors of Gram matrix yield embedding.

## ⦿ Dimensionality

- Number of significant eigenvalues yield estimate of dimensionality.

## ⦿ Computation

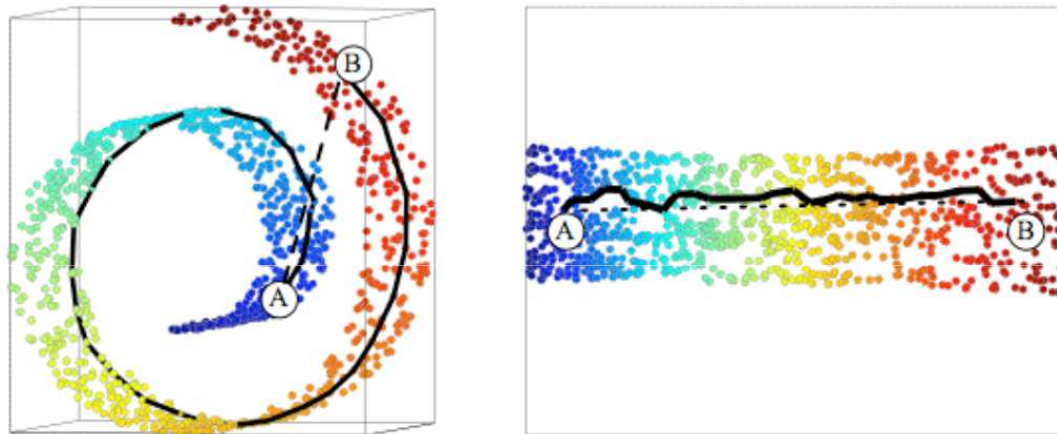
- Top  $d$  eigenvectors can be computed in  $O(n^2d)$ .

# Summary

## ⦿ Algorithm

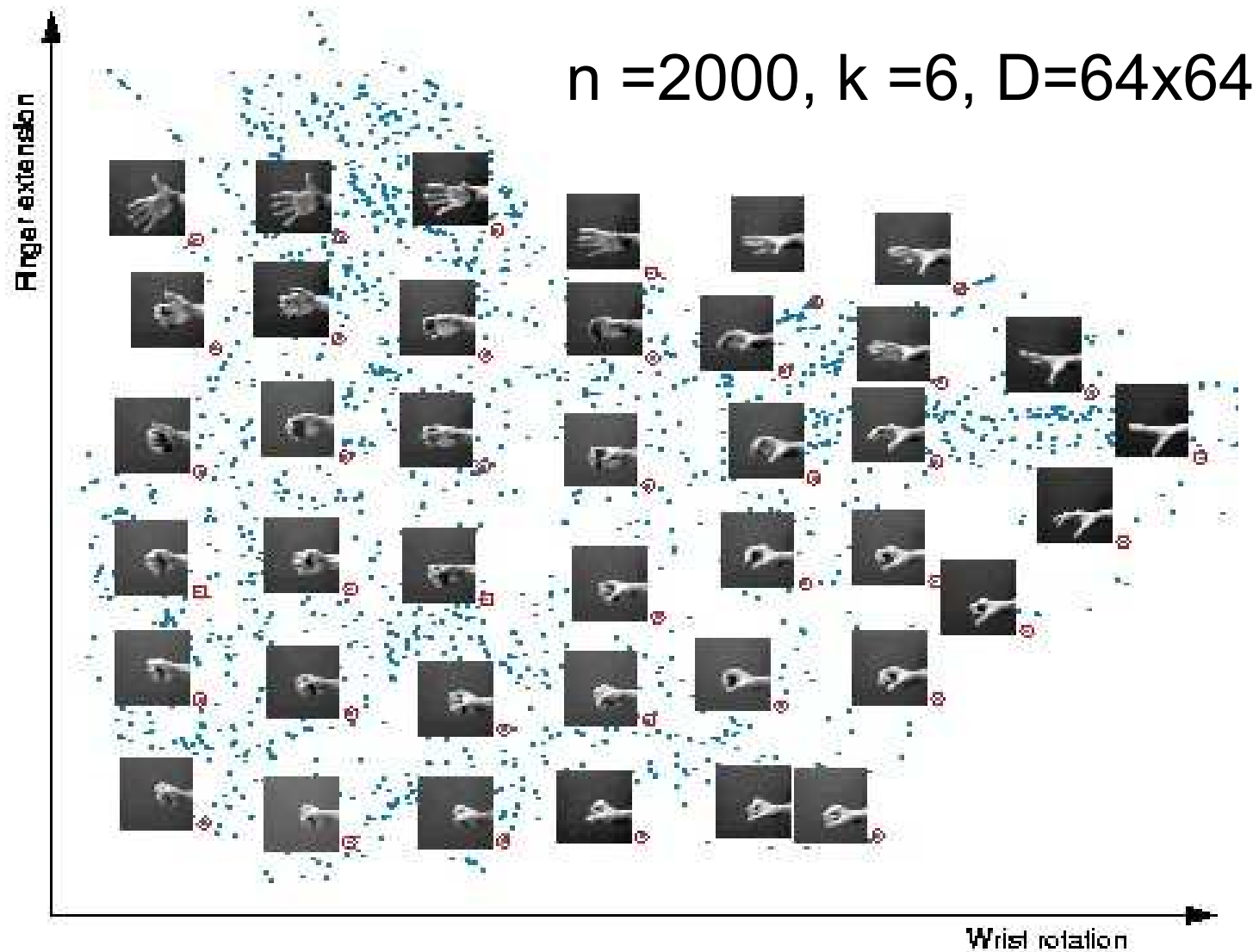
1. k nearest neighbours
2. shortest paths through graph
3. MDS on geodesic distances

# Swiss Roll

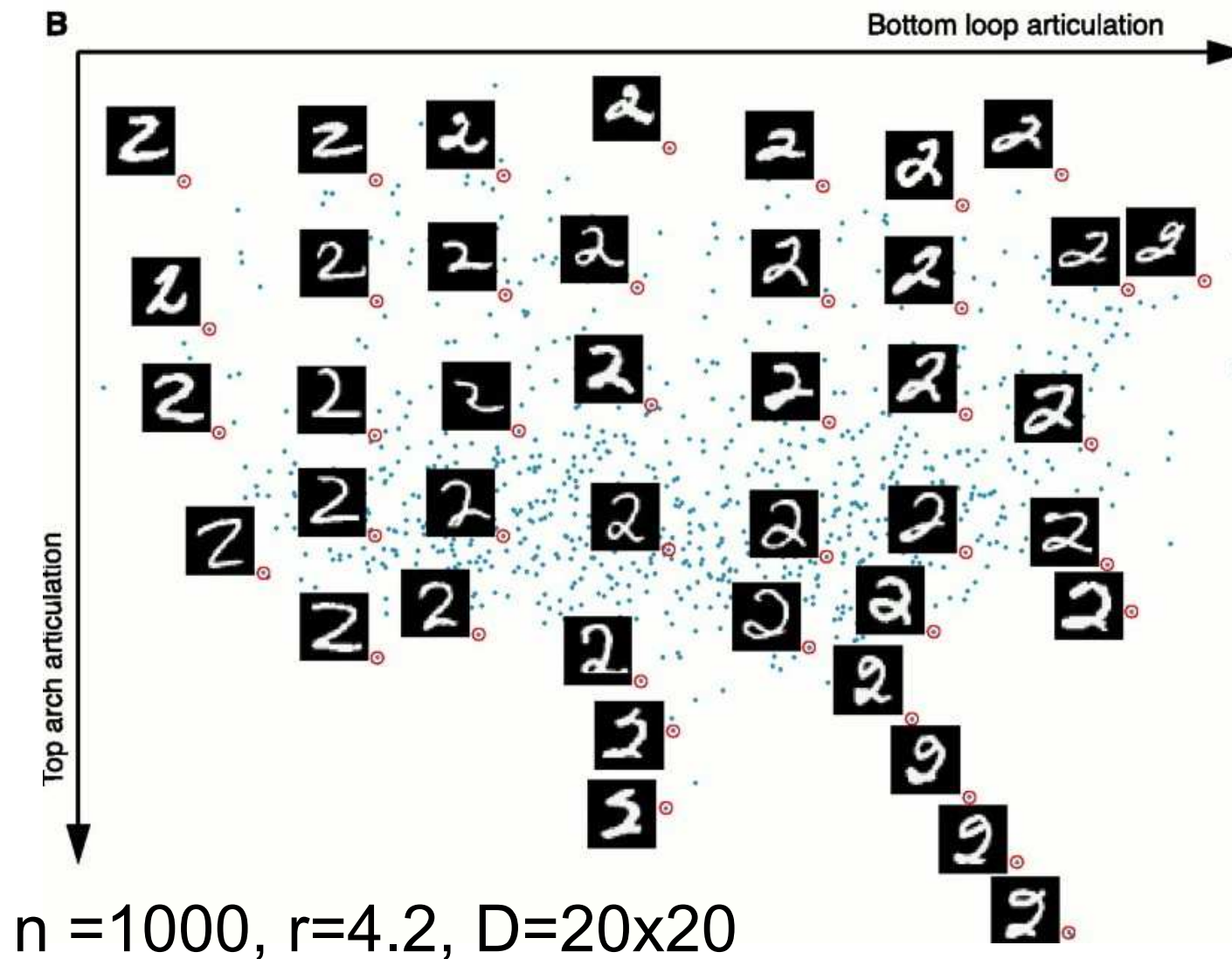


$n$  (points) = 1024  
 $k$  (neighbors) = 12

Isomap: Two-dimensional embedding of hand images (from Josh. Tenenbaum, Vin de Silva, John Langford 2000)



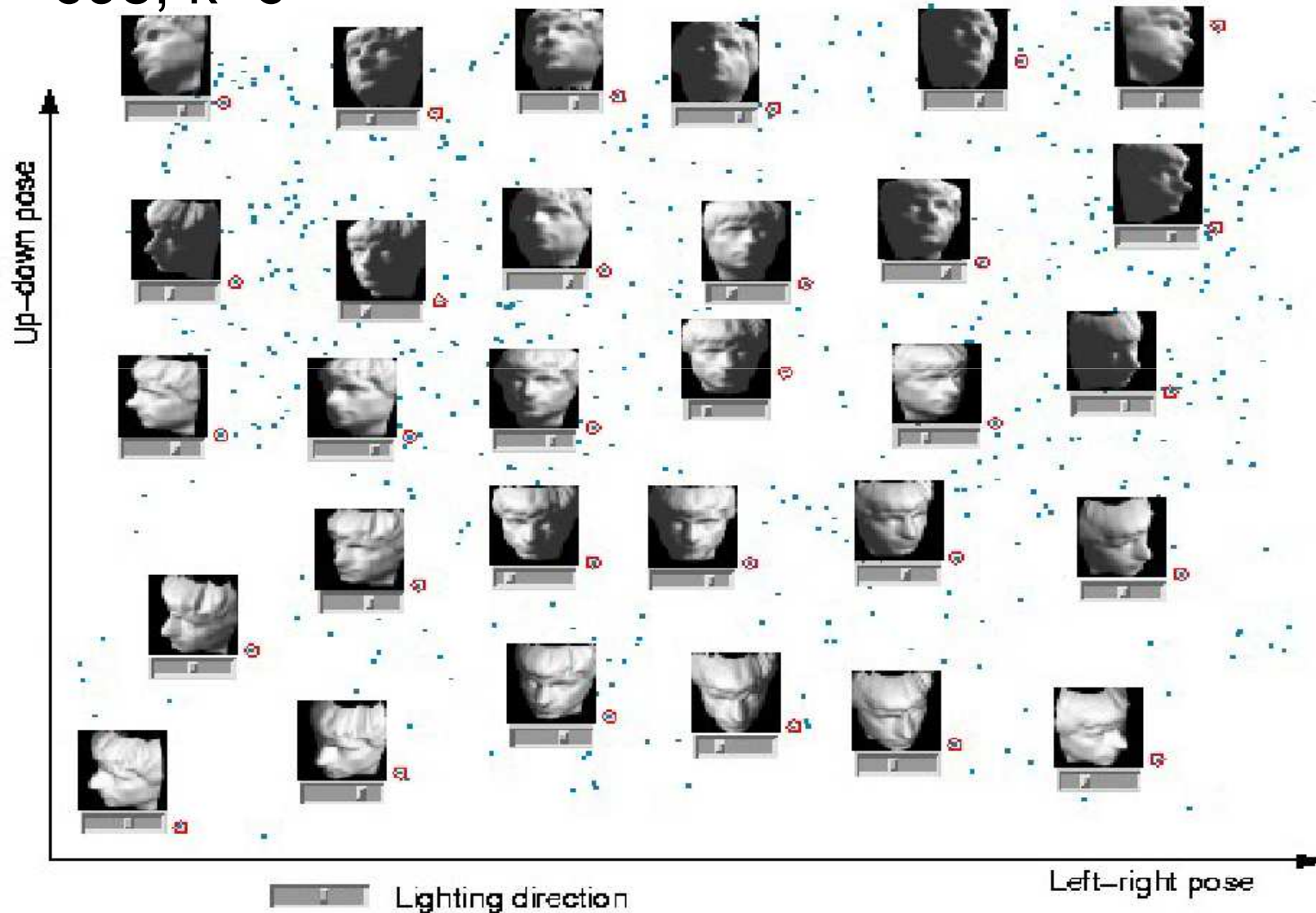
Isomap: two-dimensional embedding of hand-written '2' (from Josh. Tenenbaum, Vin de Silva, John Langford 2000)





Isomap: three-dimensional embedding of faces (from Josh. Tenenbaum, Vin de Silva, John Langford 2000)

$n = 698$ ,  $k=6$



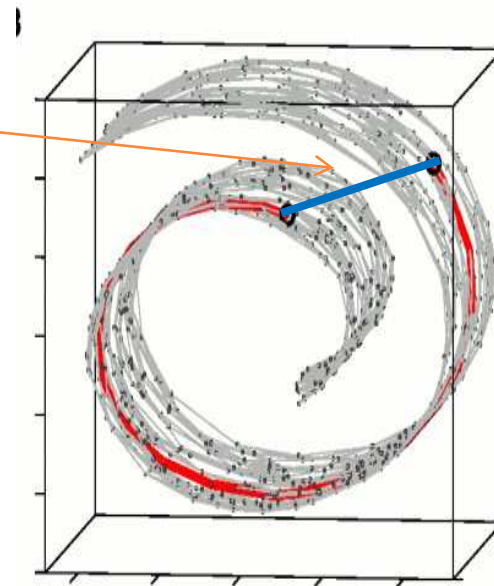
# Properties of Isomap

## Strengths :

- Preserves the global data structure
- Performs global optimization
- Non-parametric (Only heuristic is neighbourhood size)

## Weaknesses :

- Sensitive to “shortcuts”
- Very slow



# Spectral Methods

- ◎ Common framework

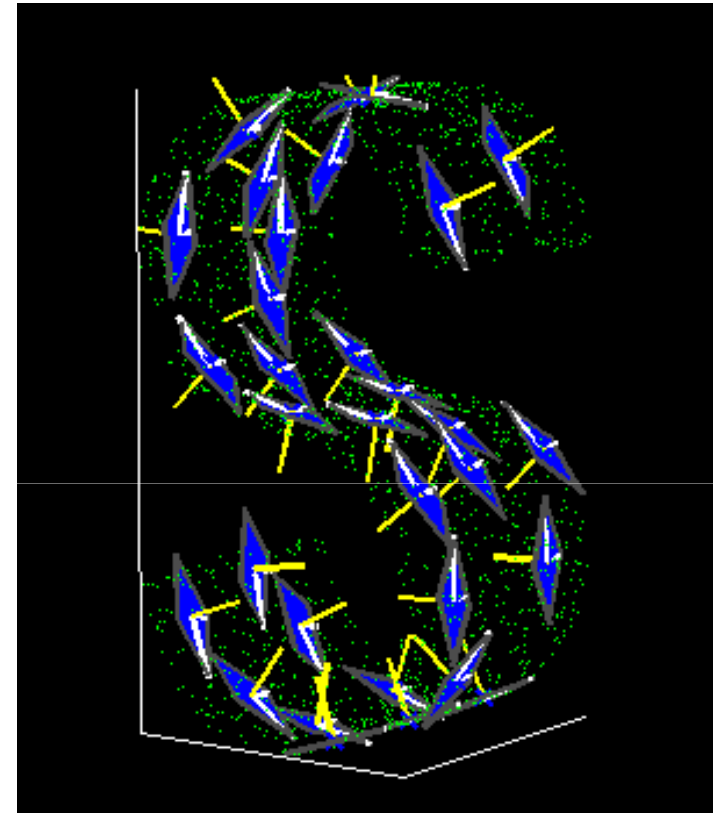
1. Derive sparse graph from  $kNN$ .
2. Derive matrix from graph weights.
3. Derive embedding from eigenvectors.

- ◎ Varied solutions

Algorithms differ in step 2. Types of optimization: shortest paths, least squares fits, semidefinite programming.

# Locally Linear Embedding (LLE)

- Assume that data lies on a manifold: each sample and its neighbors lie on approximately linear subspace
- Idea:
  1. Approximate data by a set of linear patches
  2. Glue these patches together on a low dimensional subspace s.t. neighborhood relationships between patches are preserved.



Algorithm: <http://cs.nyu.edu/~roweis/lle/algorithm.html>

# LLE at glance

## ⦿ Steps

1. Nearest neighbour search.
2. Least squares fits.
3. Sparse eigenvalue problem.

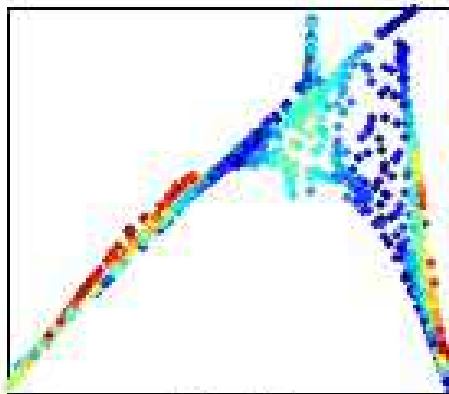
## ⦿ Properties

- Obtains highly nonlinear embeddings.
- Not prone to local minima.
- Sparse graphs yield sparse problems.

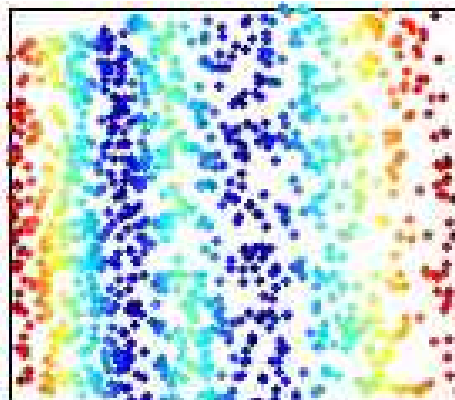
# Step 1. Nearest neighbours search



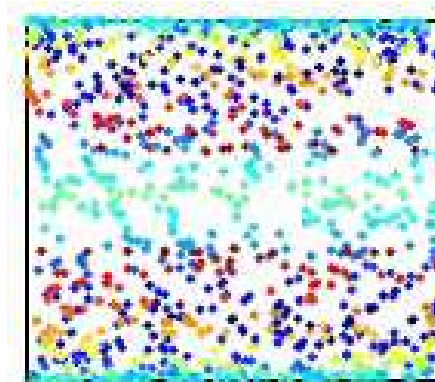
## Effect of Neighbourhood Size



K = 5



K = 20

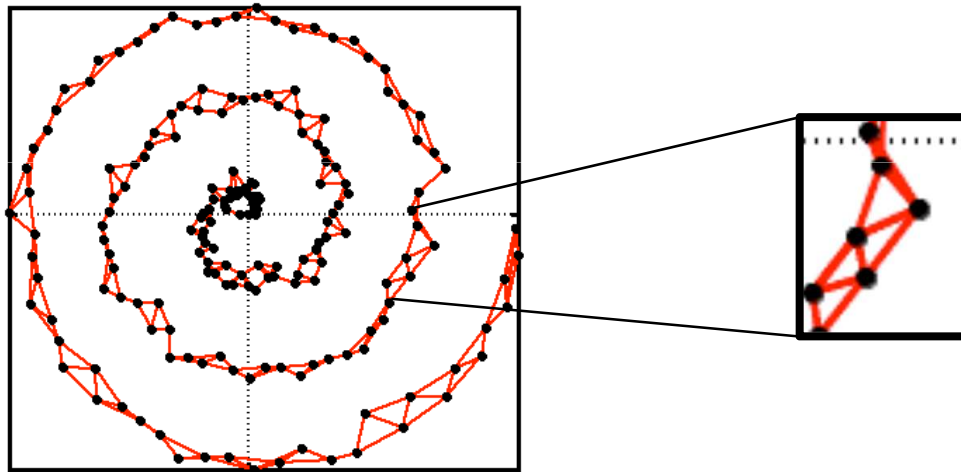


K = 60



## Step 2. Compute weights

- Characterize local geometry of each neighbourhood by weights  $W_{ij}$ .



- Compute weights by reconstructing each input (linearly) from neighbours.

# Linear reconstructions

## Local linearity

- Assume neighbours lie on locally linear patches of a low dimensional manifold.

## Minimize reconstruction error

- Each point can be written as a linear combination of its neighbors.
- The weights chosen to minimize the reconstruction error:

$$\min_W \sum_i \left| x_i - \sum_j W_{ij} x_j \right|^2$$



# Least squares fits (Computing $W_{ij}$ )

## Local reconstructions

- Choose weights to minimize:  $\Phi(W) = \sum_i \left| x_i - \sum_j W_{ij} x_j \right|^2$

## Constraints

- Set  $W_{ij} = 0$  if  $x_j$  is not a neighbor of  $x_i$
- Weights must sum to one:  $\sum_j W_{ij} = 1$

invariance to translation

## Local invariance

- Optimal weights  $W_{ij}$  are invariant to rotation, translation, and scaling.

## Step 3. Finding the Embedding

- Low dimensional representation

Map inputs to outputs:  $x_i \in R^D \rightarrow y_i \in R^d$

- Minimize reconstruction errors

Optimize outputs for fixed weights:

$$\Psi(y) = \sum_i \left| y_i - \sum_j W_{ij} y_j \right|^2$$

- Constraints:

- Center outputs on origin  $\sum_i y_i = 0$
- Impose unit covariance matrix  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_i y_i y_i^T = I_d$

# Minimization

- Quadratic form:

$$\Psi(y) = \sum_{ij} M_{ij} (y_i \cdot y_j)$$

$$M_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - W_{ij} - W_{ji} + \sum_k W_{ki} W_{kj},$$

$$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

It can be shown that

$$M = (I - W)^T (I - W)$$

# Sparse eigenvalue problem

- ◉ Optimal embedding

given by bottom  $d+1$  eigenvectors,  
corresponding to the  $d+1$  smallest eigenvalues  
(Rayleigh-Ritz theorem).

- ◉ Solution

- Discard bottom eigenvector  $[1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]$  (with eigenvalue zero).
- Other eigenvectors satisfy constraints.

# Surfaces

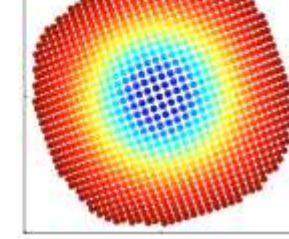
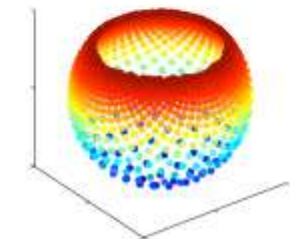
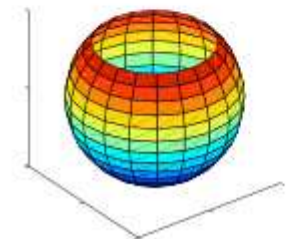
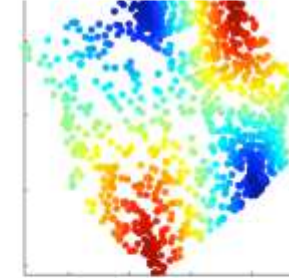
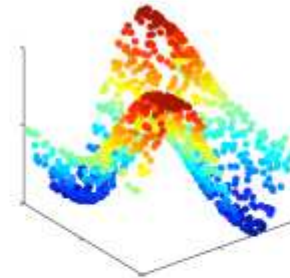
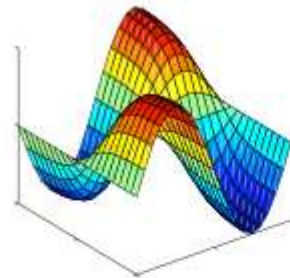
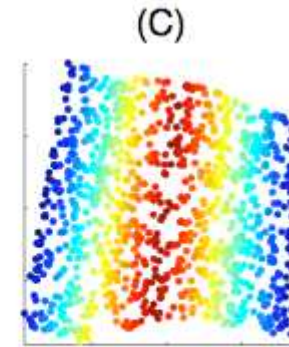
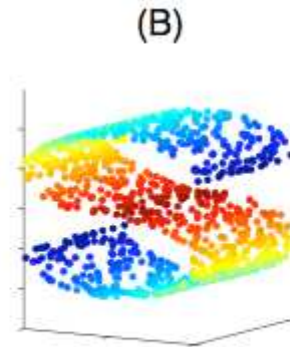
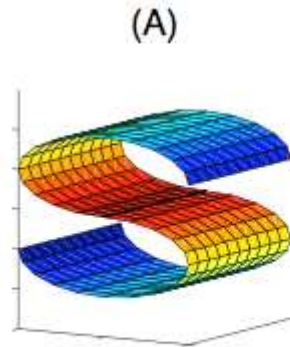
**N=1000**

**inputs**

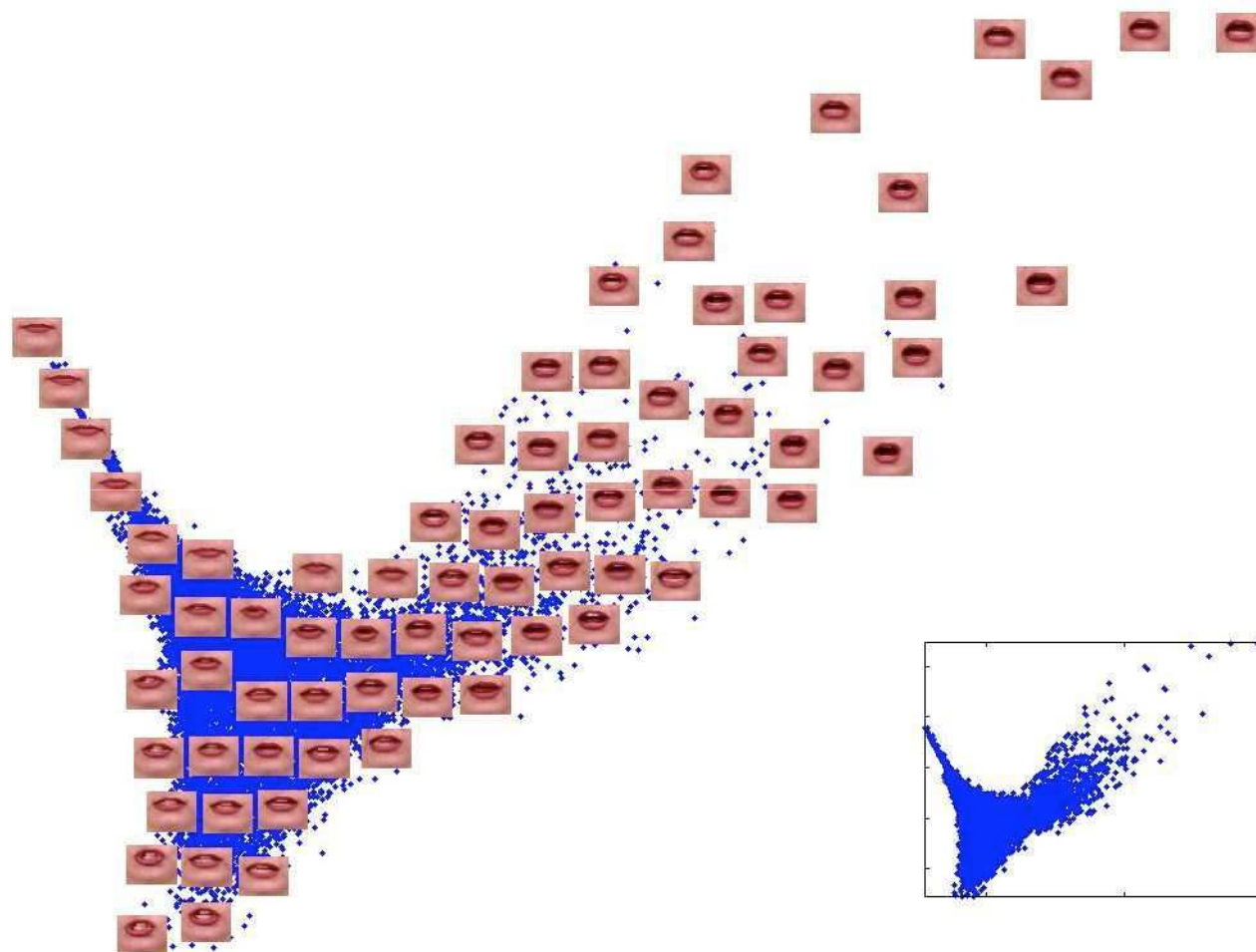
**k=8**

**nearest**

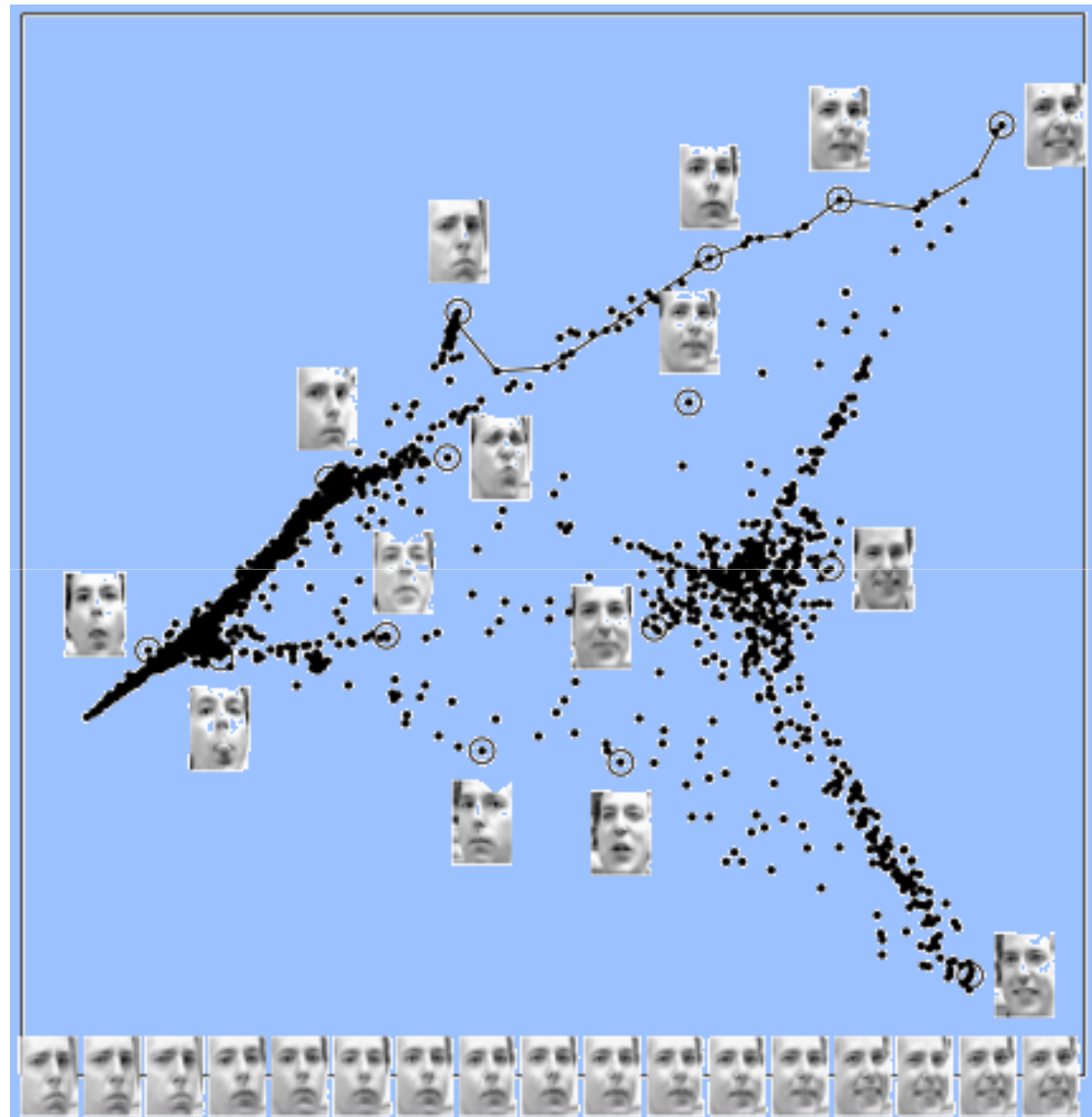
**neighbors**



**Lips**  
**N=15960**  
**images**  
**K=24**  
**neighbors**  
**D=65664**  
**pixels**  
**d=2**  
**(shown)**



**Pose and  
expression  
N=1965  
images  
k=12  
nearest  
neighbors  
D=560  
pixels  
d=2  
(shown)**



# Properties of LLE

## ⦿ Strengths:

- Fast
- No local minima
- Non-iterative
- Non-parametric (only heuristic is neighbourhood size).

## ⦿ Weaknesses:

- Sensitive to “shortcuts”
- No estimate of dimensionality



# LLE versus Isomap

- ⦿ Many similarities

- Graph-based, spectral method
- No local minima

- ⦿ Essential differences

- Does not estimate dimensionality ☹️
- No theoretical guarantees ☹️
- Constructs sparse vs. dense matrix 😊
- Preserves weights vs. distances
- Much faster 😊

# Laplacian Eigenmaps

- Map nearby inputs to nearby outputs, where nearness is encoded by graph.
- Summary of the Algorithm
  1. Identify k-nearest neighbours (as in LLE)
  2. Assign weights to neighbours
  3. Sparse eigenvalue problem

## Step 2. Construct the graph

- ⦿ Vertices represent inputs.
- ⦿ Undirected edges connect neighbours.
- ⦿ Assign weights to neighbours:
  - Simple:  $W_{ij} = 1$   
or
  - Heat kernel  $W_{ij} = \exp\left(-\beta\|x_i - x_j\|^2\right)$

# Step 3. Graph Laplacian

- Compute outputs by minimizing:

$$\Psi(y) = \sum_{ij} W_{ij} \|y_i - y_j\|^2 \quad \text{under appropriate constraints}$$

$$\Psi(y) = \sum_{ij} W_{ij} (y_i^2 + y_j^2 - 2y_i y_j) \quad W_{ij} \text{ is symmetric}$$

$$= \sum_i y_i^2 D_{ii} + \sum_j y_j^2 D_{jj} - 2 \sum_{ij} y_i y_j W_{ij} = 2y^t L y$$

$$D_{ii} = \sum_j W_{ij}$$

$$\text{Graph Laplacian } L = D - W$$

## Step 3. Generalized eigenvalue problem

- Minimize  $y^t L y$   
constrained by  $y^t D y = 1$
- Optimal embedding:  $(L e = \lambda D e)$   
given by bottom  $d+1$  eigenvectors  
(corresponding to the  $d+1$  smallest eigenvalues).
- Solution:  
Discard bottom eigenvector  $[1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]$  (with eigenvalue zero). Other eigenvectors satisfy constraints.

# Analysis on Manifolds

- ⊙ Consider Riemannian manifold  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^D$ 
  - a real differentiable manifold in which tangent space is equipped with dot product.
- ⊙ Laplace Beltrami operator
  - $\Omega$  has a ‘natural’ operator  $\Delta$  on differentiable functions.
  - $\Delta$  is a second order differential operator defined as a “divergence of the gradient”

$$\Delta = \sum_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$$

# Spectral decomposition of $\Delta$

- Assume  $\mathcal{L}^2(\Omega)$  is space of all square integrable functions on  $\Omega$
- $\Delta$  is a self-adjoint positive semi-definite operator and its eigenfunctions form the basis.
- Thus all  $f$  in  $\mathcal{L}^2(\Omega)$  can be written as

$$f(x) = \sum_i \alpha_i e_i(x)$$

(provided  $\Omega$  is compact)

# Smoothness functional

- Defined as

$$S(f) = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla f|^2 d\omega = \int f \Delta f d\omega = \langle \Delta f, f \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

- value close to zero implies  $f$  being smooth.

- Since

$$S(e_i) = \langle \Delta e_i, e_i \rangle = \lambda_i$$

we have

$$S(f) = \langle \Delta f, f \rangle = \left\langle \sum_i \alpha_i \Delta e_i, \sum_i \alpha_i e_i \right\rangle = \sum_i \lambda_i \alpha_i$$

choosing the lowest  $p$  eigenfunctions provides a maximally smooth approximation to the manifold.



# Spectral graph theory

- ◉ Weighted graph is discretized representation of manifold.
- ◉ Laplacian measures smoothness of functions over manifold and graph.

Manifold: 
$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla f|^2 d\omega = \int f \Delta f d\omega$$

Graph: 
$$\sum_{ij} W_{ij} (f_i - f_j)^2 = f^t L f$$

# Interpreting Laplacian Eigenmaps

- Eigenvectors

functions from nodes to  $\mathbb{R}$  in a way that "close by" points are assigned "close by" values.

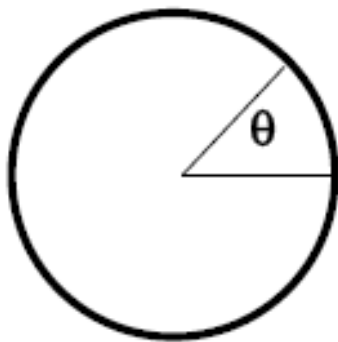
- Eigenvalues

measure how close are the values of neighbouring points – smoothness.

# Example: S1 (the circle)

## Continuous

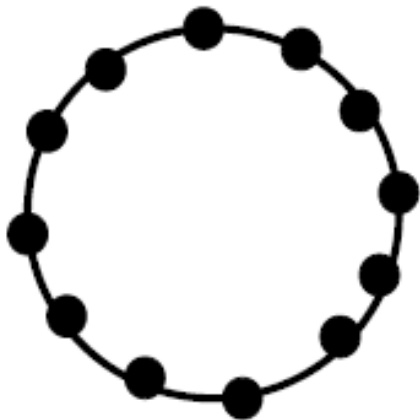
- Eigenfunctions of Laplacian are basis for periodic functions on circle, ordered by smoothness.
- Eigenvalues measure smoothness.



$$-\frac{\partial^2 f_m}{\partial^2 \theta} = \lambda_m f_m(\theta)$$
$$f_m(\theta) = \begin{cases} \sin(m\theta) \\ \cos(m\theta) \end{cases} \text{ with } \lambda_m = m^2$$

# Example: S1 (the circle)

- Discrete (n equally spaced points)
  - Eigenvectors of graph Laplacian are discrete sines and cosines.
  - Eigenvalues measure smoothness.



**Graph embedding from  
Laplacian eigenmaps:**

$$\vec{y}_k = (\cos(2\pi k/n), \sin(2\pi k/n))$$

# Laplacian vs LLE

- ⦿ More similar than different
  - Graph-based, spectral method
  - Sparse eigenvalue problem
  - Similar results in practice
- ⦿ Essential differences
  - Preserves locality vs local linearity
  - Uses graph Laplacian