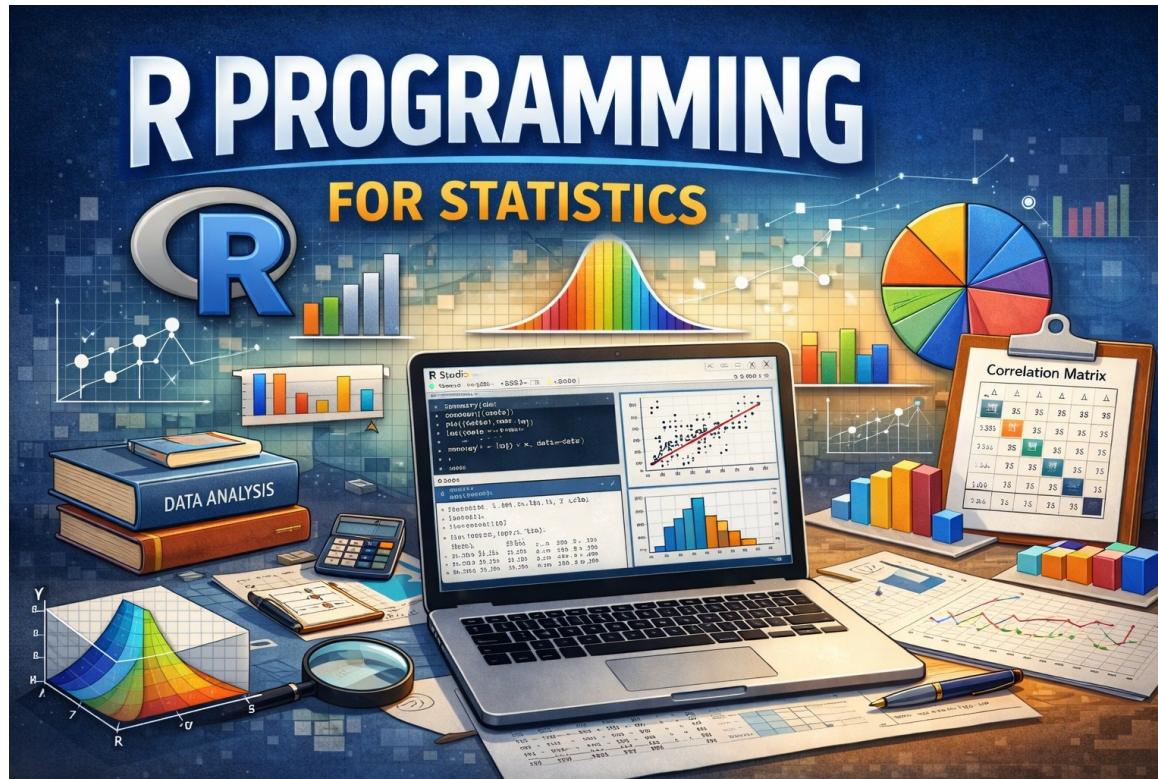




# Linear Dimensionality Reduction in R

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R course, 09.02.2026



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<https://nikolay-oskolkov.com>



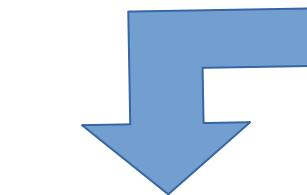
# Session content

Topics we'll cover in this session:

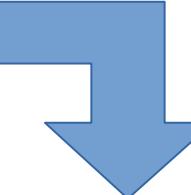
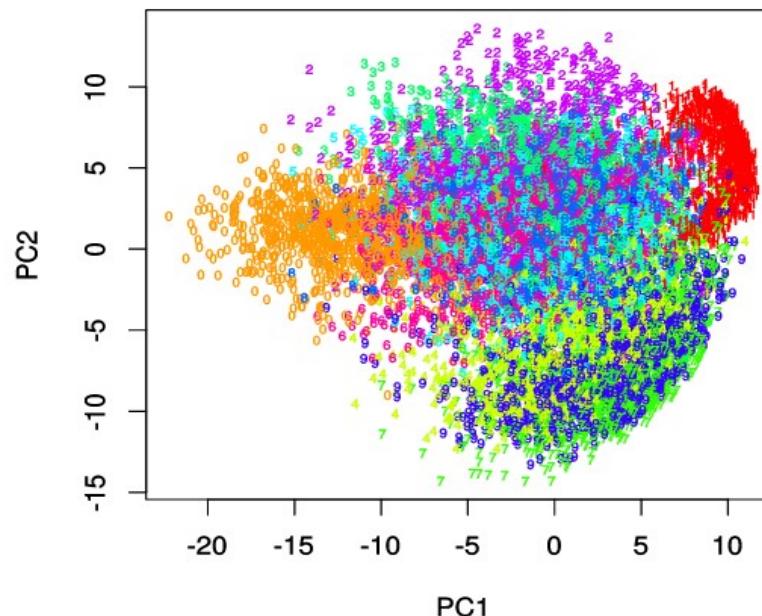
- 1) Dimensionality reduction is more than just visualization
- 2) Linear and non-linear dimensionality reduction techniques overview
- 3) Matrix factorization as a key principle of linear dimensionality reduction
- 4) Limitations of linear dimensionality reduction methods and need for more

# Dimension reduction: more than visualization

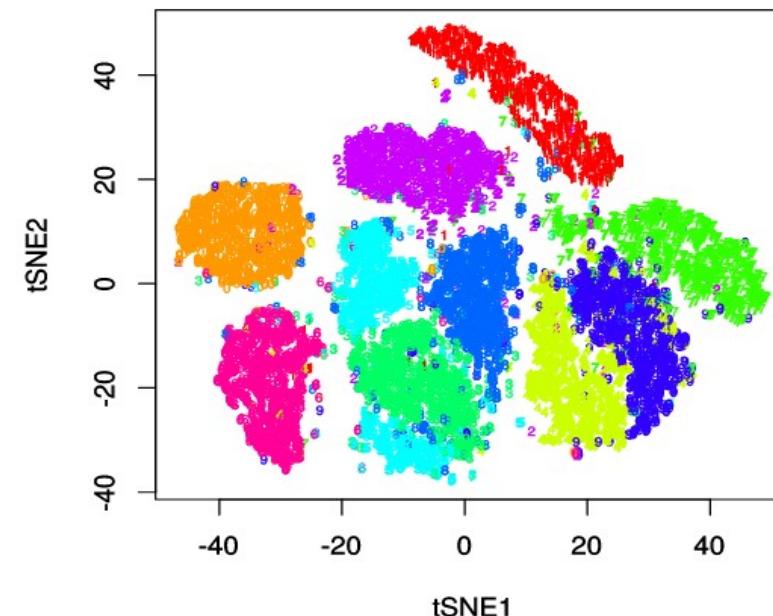
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PCA PLOT WITH PRCOMP

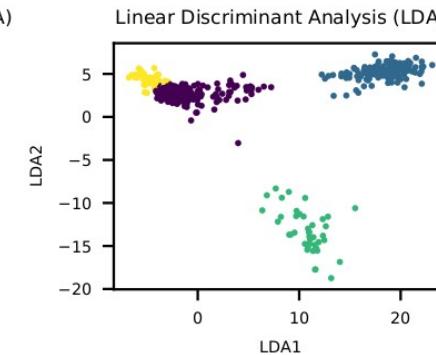
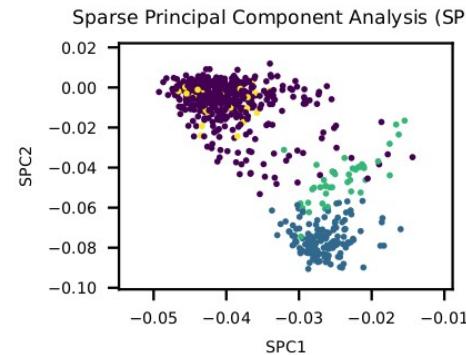
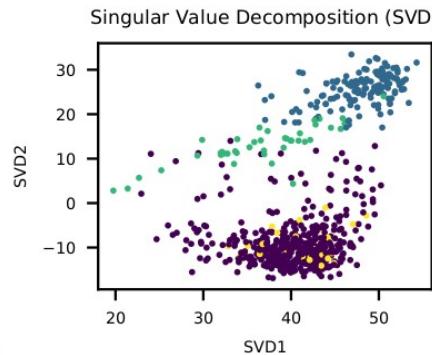
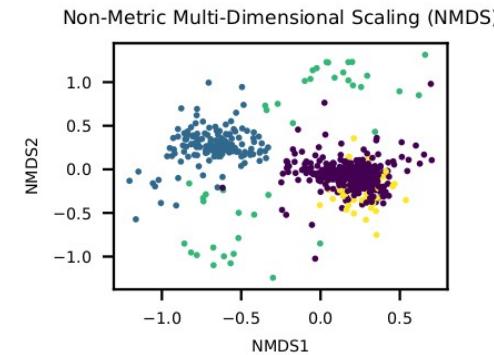
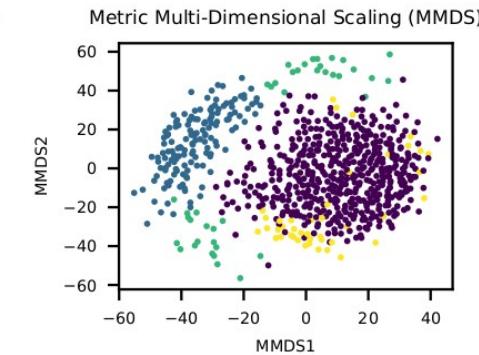
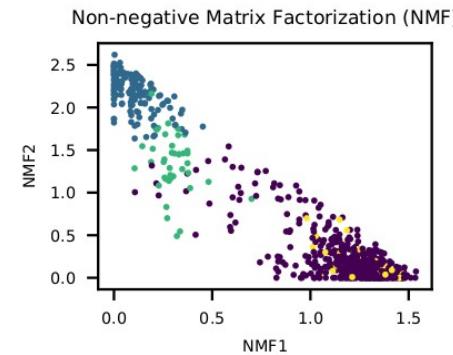
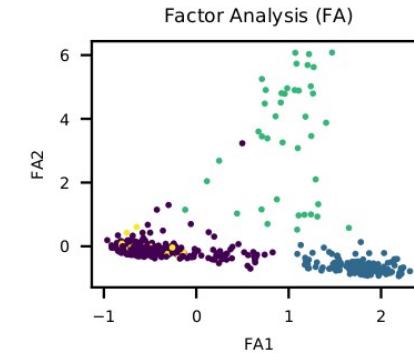
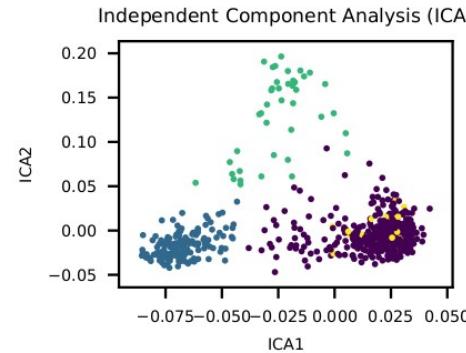
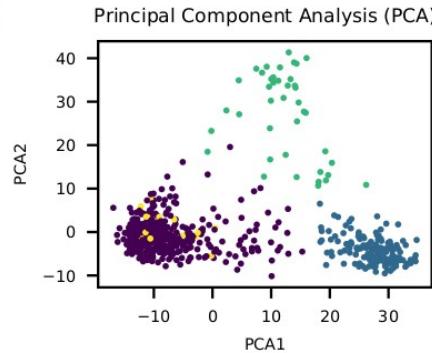


tSNE MNIST

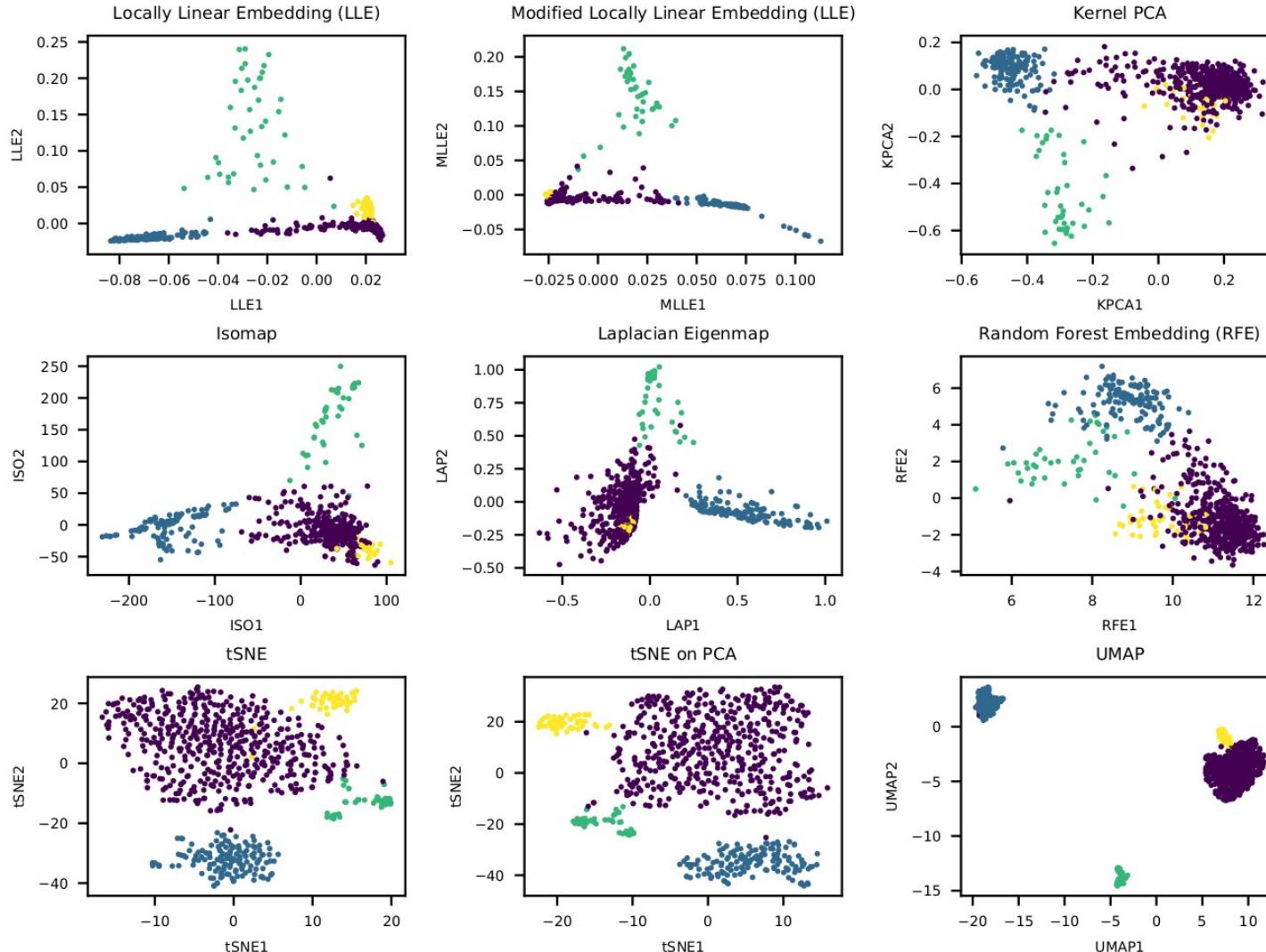


The goal of dimension reduction is not only visualization but also reducing dimensions

# Linear dimensionality reduction

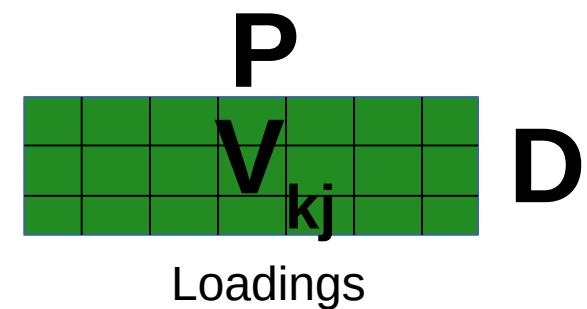
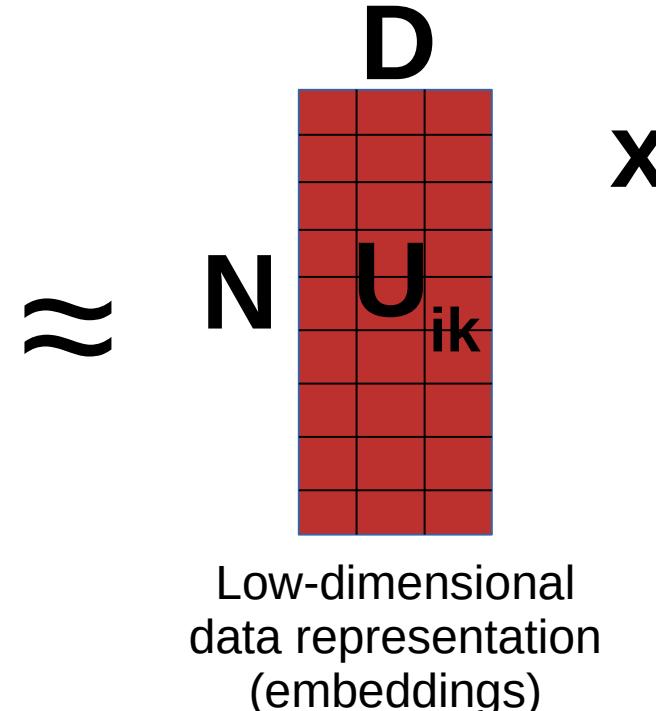
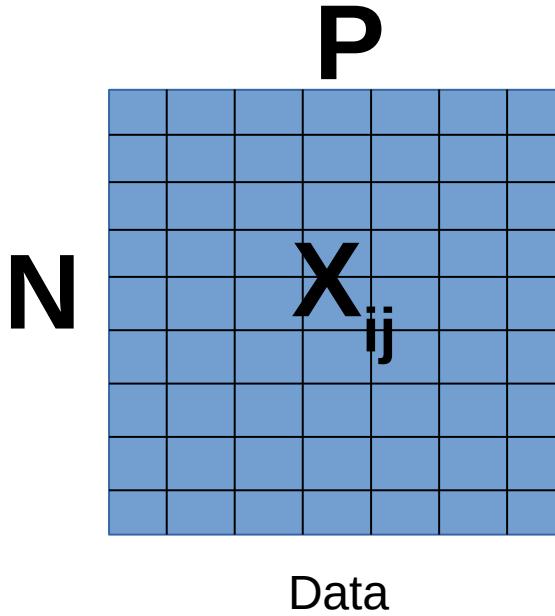


# Non-linear dimensionality reduction



# Linear dimension reduction: matrix factorization

$$\mathbf{X}_{ij} \approx \mathbf{U}_{ik} \mathbf{V}_{kj}$$



$$\text{Loss} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P (\mathbf{X}_{ij} - \mathbf{U}_{ik} \mathbf{V}_{kj})^2$$

# PCA dimension reduction algorithm

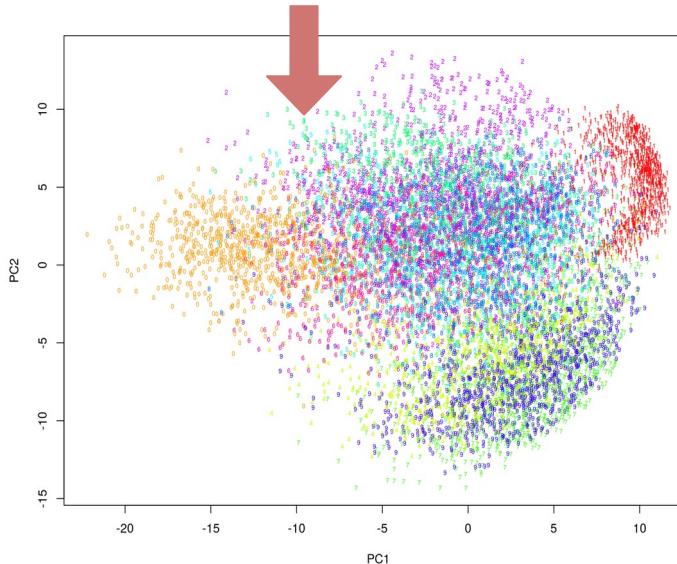
Coding in R:

```
data_centered <- scale(data, center = TRUE, scale = FALSE)
```

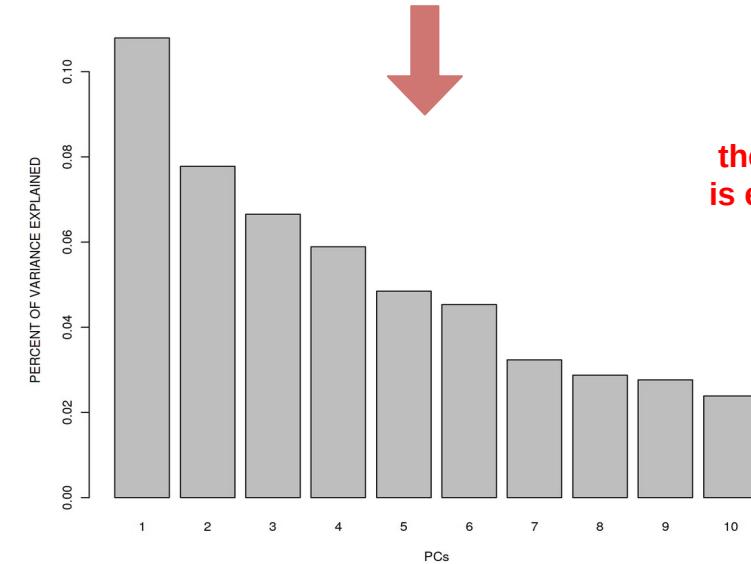
```
covariance <- t(data_centered) %*% data_centered
```

```
eig <- eigen(covariance)
```

```
plot(eig$vectors[,1:2]);
```



```
barplot(eig$values / sum(eig$values))
```



Mathematically:

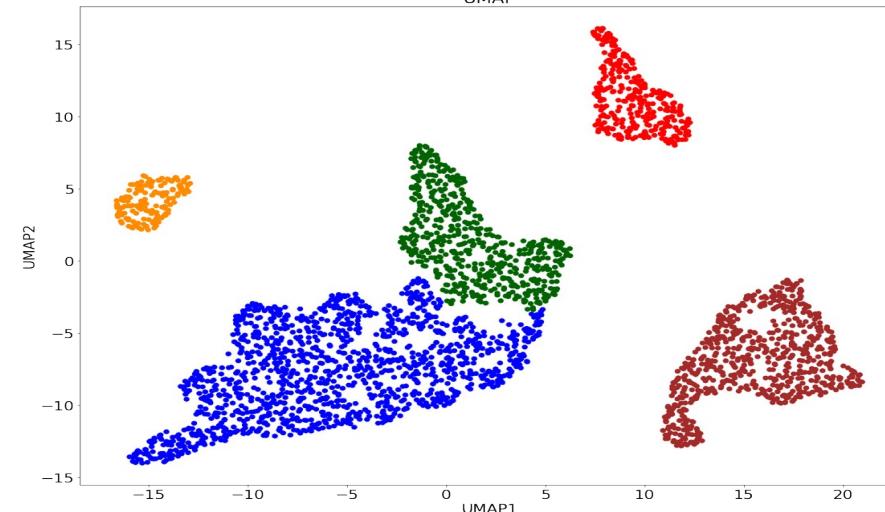
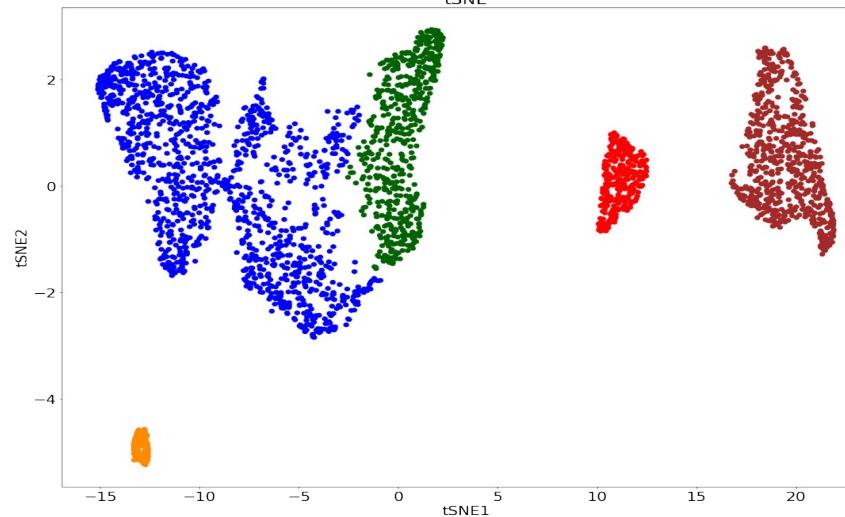
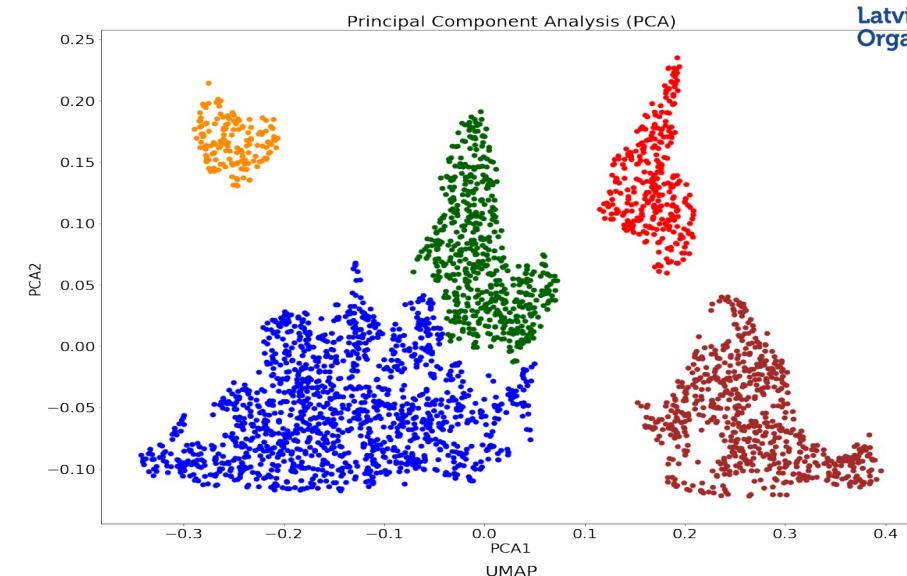
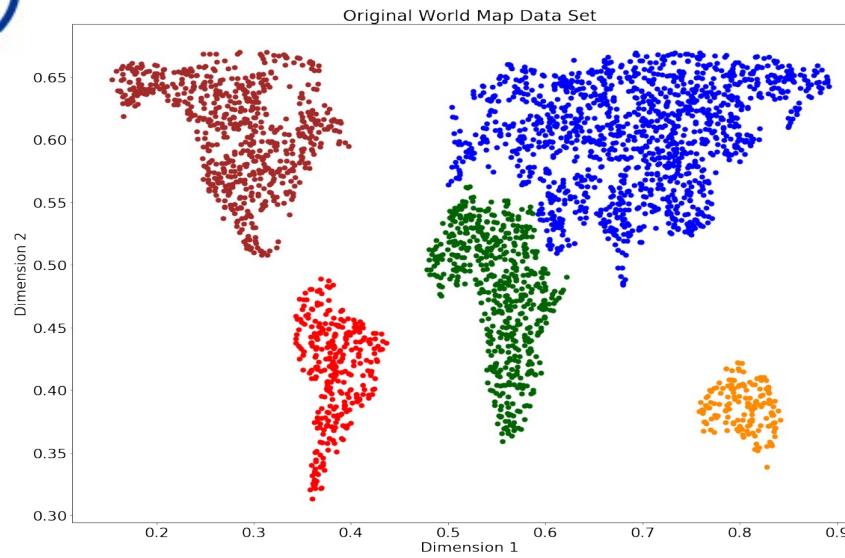
$$M_{ij} = X_{ij} - \mu_j$$

$$A = (1/N) * M^T * M$$

$$A^*u = \lambda^*u$$

It can be analytically derived that the eigen value decomposition in PCA is equivalent to projecting data on axes of maximal variation in the data

# PCA works fine on a linear manifold

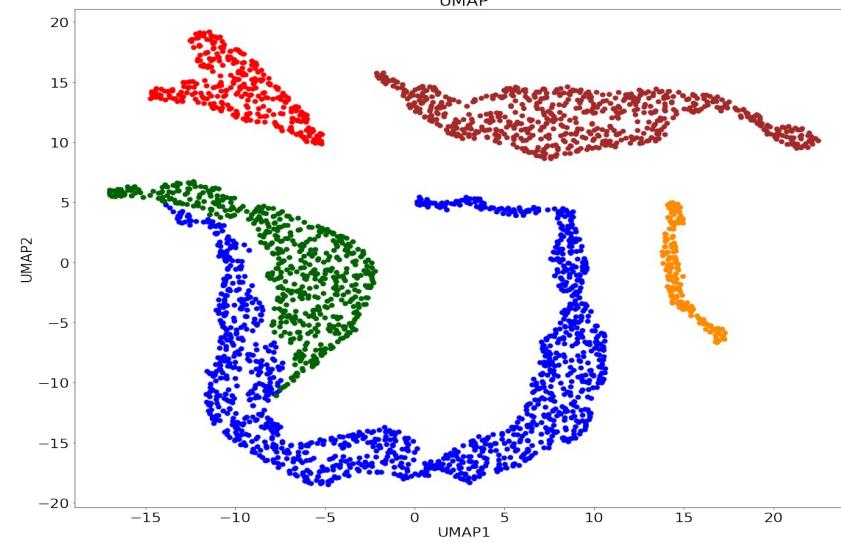
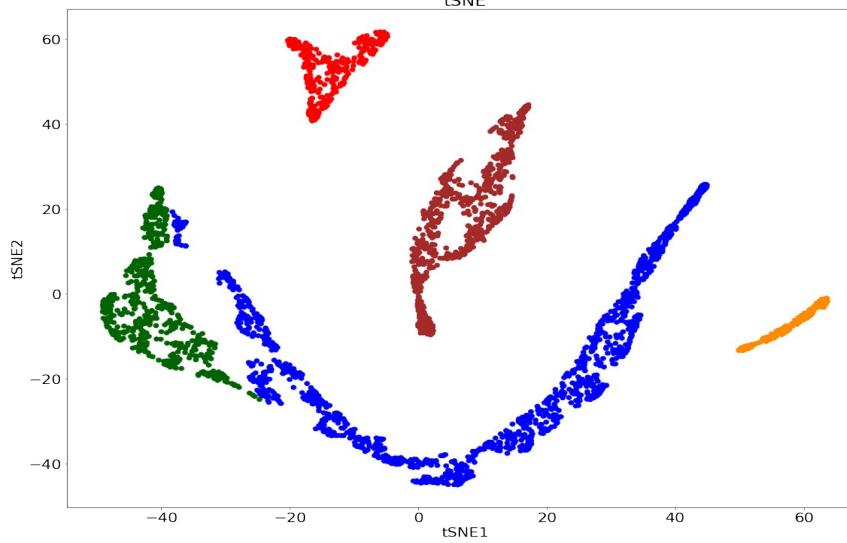
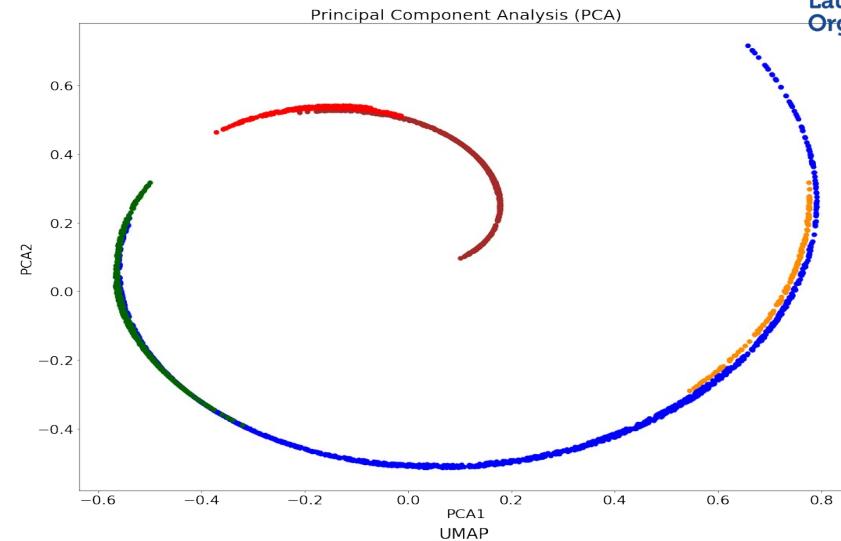
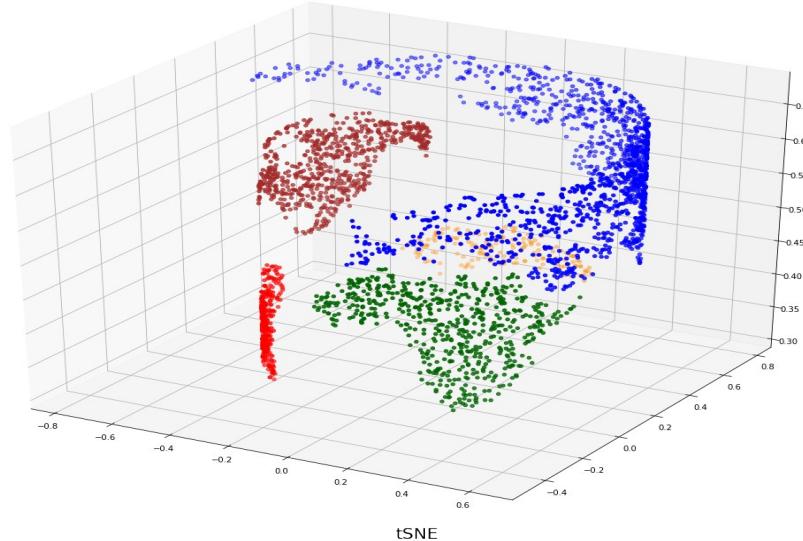




# PCA vs. tSNE vs. UMAP on non-linear manifold

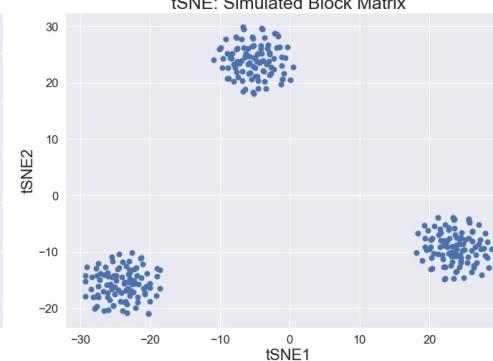
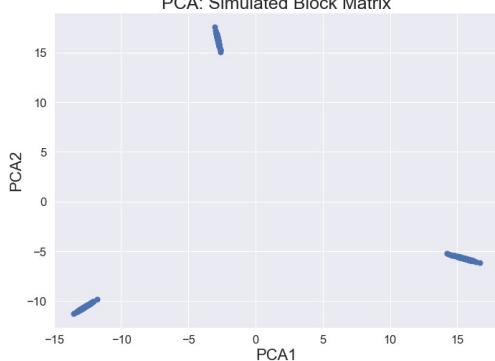
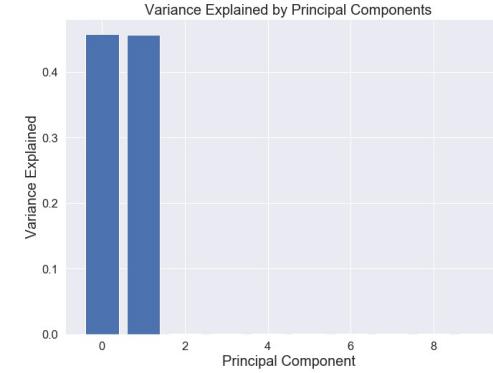
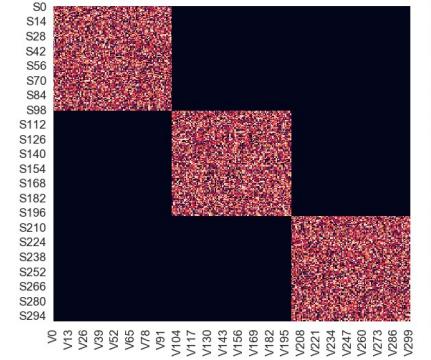


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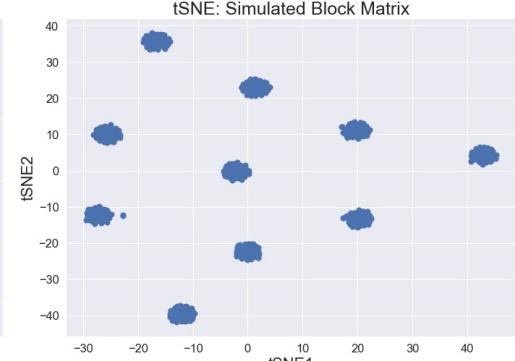
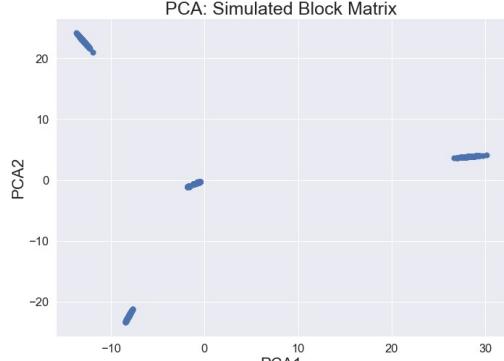
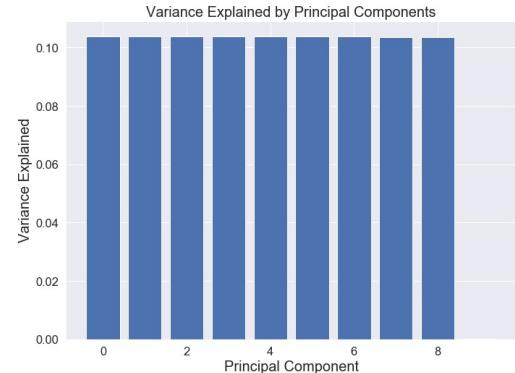
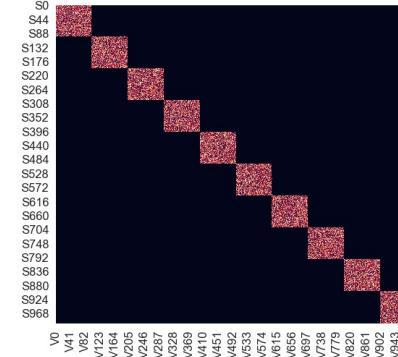


# PCA vs. tSNE when number of populations increases

Three classes of data points



Ten classes of data points



# Session summary

Take home messages of the session:

- 1) Dimensionality reduction function goes beyond simple data visualization as it helps to overcome the curse of dimensionality
- 2) Matrix factorization is a key principle of linear dimensionality reduction methods
- 3) Eigen vectors computed via PCA capture directions of maximal variation in the data
- 4) Data on a non-linear manifold cannot be correctly resolved by PCA, hence tSNE / UMAP are more informative



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