Ordination

PCA for English Channel:

- 1) How the variables are correlated
- 2) Mapping out the samples in PC space
- Where those samples fall on environmental axes, how that relates to season, etc.

How about the same kind of mapping for **community composition**?

```
species.data[1,1:8]
     Ceratium.fusus Ceratium.lineatum Nitzschia.closterium
##
## 1
                               0.02002
                                                         0.2
     Nitzschia.delicatissima Nitzschia.panduriformis Chaetoceros.danicus
##
                        1.111
## 1
                                                     0
                                                                         0
##
     Chaetoceros.decipiens Roperia.tesselata
                                      0.03966
## 1
```

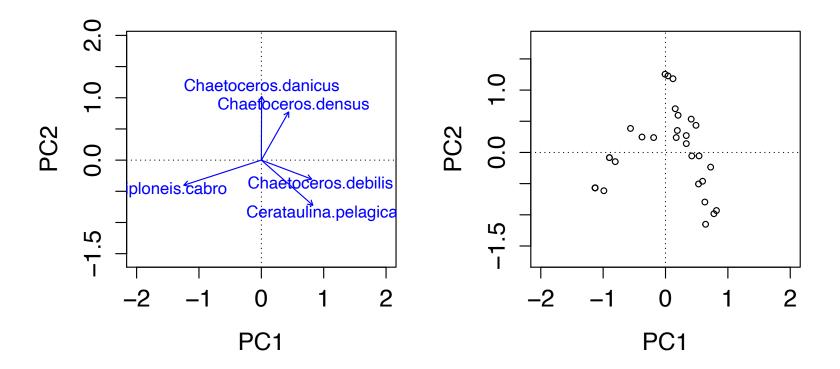
Ordination

What are the major axes of variation in composition? Dimensionality?

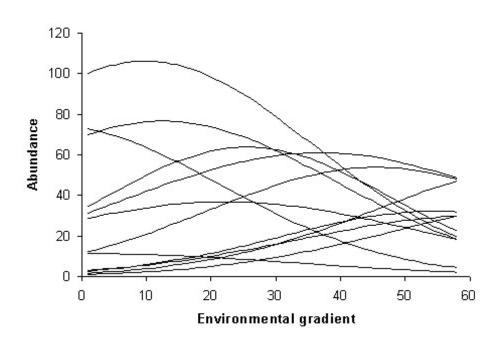
This is ordination: ordering community samples along gradients of composition

Can also use this to visualize if composition correlates with the environment, or with experimental treatments, etc.

```
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## 1
                                                    0
                                                                         0
##
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```

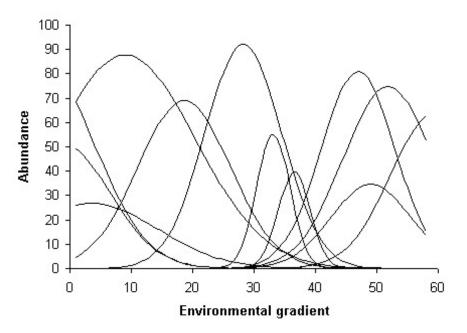


- PC1 34%, PC2 25%
- We can see how species tend to correlate along major axes
- We can map/ordinate samples in 'species space', for further analysis
- Problem: PCA is a linear method



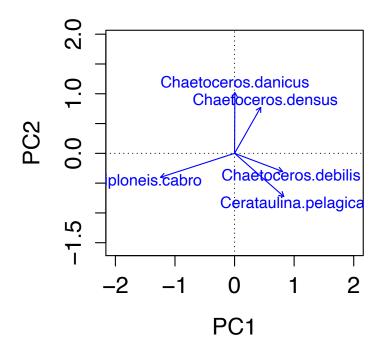
Low turnover / beta diversity

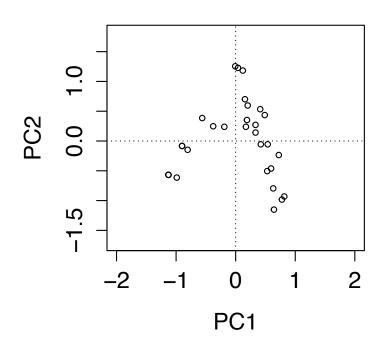
PCA might work OK

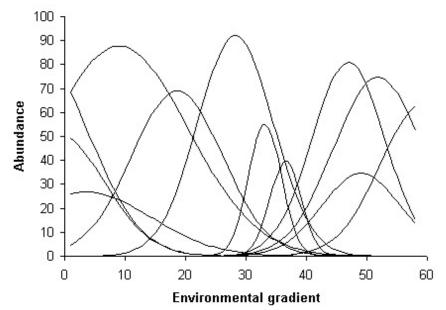


High turnover / beta diversity

PCA will do a poor job of reconstructing this







The 'arch' or 'horseshoe' effect

Samples at opposite ends of a gradient look somewhat similar, because intermediate species are absent

Community similarity / dissimilarity metrics

There are many

Jaccard index, for presence-absence (binary) data

$$S = \frac{J}{A + B + J}$$

J is the number of species present at both sites (or at both times)

A is the number of species present only at site A; B is the number of species only at site B

S = similarity, D = 1 - S = dissimilarity

Note this ignores species that are absent from both sites

The 'double zero' problem: a species could be absent from two sites for two different reasons

Most community similarity metrics treat presences as more informative than absences

Community similarity / dissimilarity metrics

There are many

Bray-Curtis is a similar index, for abundance data

$$D_{jk} = \frac{\sum_{i} |X_{ij} - X_{ik}|}{\sum_{i} (X_{ij} + X_{ik})}$$

For abundance, you usually need to transform as well

To make species of equal importance, regardless of absolute abundance

E.g. vegan will do:

- 1) square root
- 2) Wisconsin double standardization: divide each species by its max; make each sample have the same total

Also, dropping rare species entirely is good, they just add noise

Clearly there are a lot of judgment calls, because we aren't modeling the raw data

Part of the solution is to use dissimilarity indices appropriate for communities

• Jaccard, Bray-Curtis

How do we use dissimilarities to find underlying gradients?

Dissimilarity matrix

	Site1	Site2	Site3	Site4
Site1	0	0.2	0.6	0.3
Site2		0	0.5	0.1
Site3			0	0.8
Site4				0

Note: the original abundance data is gone

- the dissimilarity matrix is the 'data' for the ordination methods I will now explain
- Can make with vegdist()

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Jaccard, Bray-Curtis

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Principal coordinates analysis = PCoA = (metric) multidimensional scaling

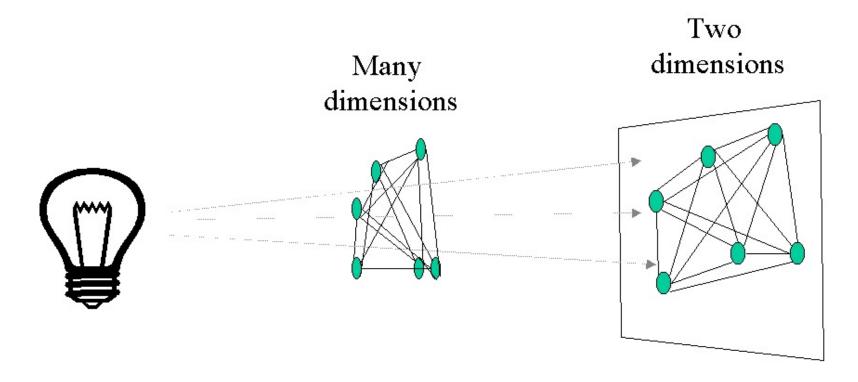
Find ordination axes so that spatial distances approximate dissimilarities

Axis 1 accounts for as much dissimilarity as possible

Axis 2 is orthogonal, accounts for as much remaining dissimilarity as possible

An eigenanalysis of the dissimilarity matrix

The underlying math of PCoA is harder to visualize than PCA



The upshot: can use any dissimilarity index to map out samples along orthogonal axes

Useful for community data, and anything else where euclidean distance not great

• E.g. comparing individuals based on trait distances

```
species.data.use = wisconsin(sqrt(species.data.use))
pcoa = capscale(species.data.use ~ 1, dist = "bray")
pcoa
## Call: capscale(formula = species.data.use ~ 1, distance = "bray")
##
##
                Inertia Rank
                   5.17
## Total
## Real Total 6.21
## Unconstrained 6.21 19
## Imaginary -1.04 20
## Inertia is squared Bray distance
##
## Eigenvalues for unconstrained axes:
## MDS1 MDS2 MDS3 MDS4 MDS5 MDS6 MDS7 MDS8
## 2.635 0.907 0.804 0.500 0.459 0.196 0.157 0.140
## (Showed only 8 of all 19 unconstrained eigenvalues)
```

Capscale() makes the dissimilarity matrix for you

Total inertia = summed eigenvalues = total variation

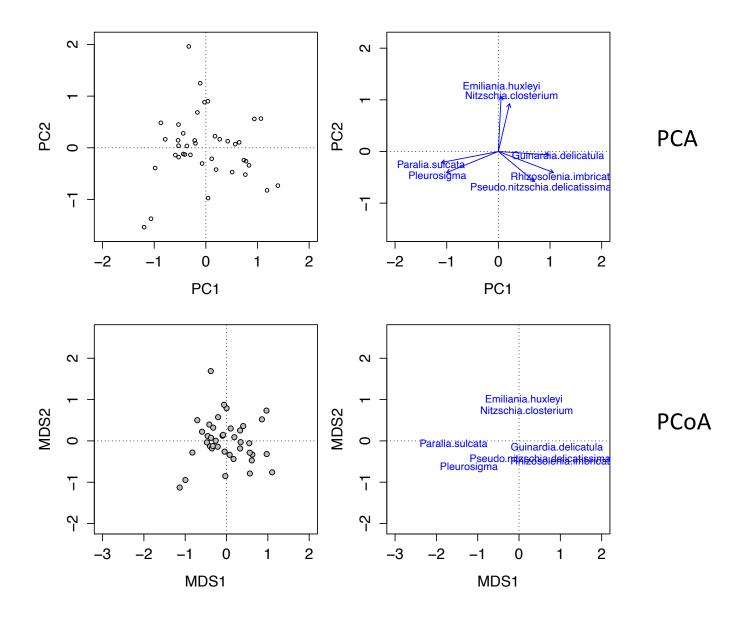
Imaginary: can get negative eigenvalues, corrections are made

```
summary(pcoa)
##
## Eigenvalues, and their contribution to the squared Bray distance
##
## Importance of components:
##
                         MDS1 MDS2 MDS3
                                            MDS4
                                                   MDS5
                                                          MDS6
                                                                 MDS7
                                                                        MDS8
## Eigenvalue
                        2.635 0.907 0.804 0.4999 0.4588 0.1958 0.1575 0.1396
## Proportion Explained 0.424 0.146 0.130 0.0805 0.0739 0.0315 0.0254 0.0225
## Cumulative Proportion 0.424 0.571 0.700 0.7806 0.8545 0.8861 0.9114 0.9339
```

First axis explains 42% of total community dissimilarity

```
par(mfrow = c(2,2))
biplot(pca, type = 'text', col = c('blue'), display = "species", xlim = c(-2,2), cex = 0.5)
biplot(pca, type = c('points'), col = c('black'), display = "sites", xlim = c(-2,2))

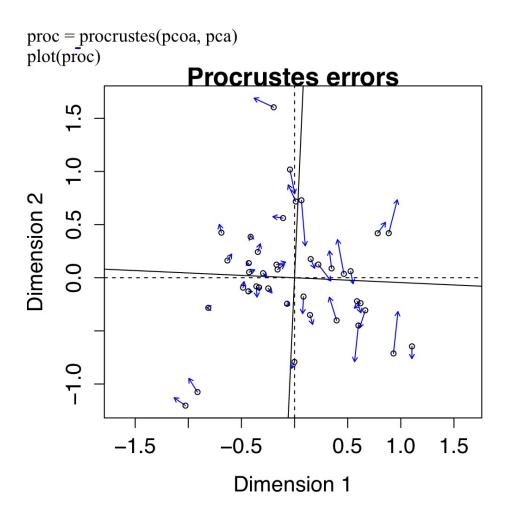
plot(pcoa, type = 'n', xlim = c(-3, 2))
text(pcoa, "species", col = 'blue', cex = 0.7)
plot(pcoa, type = 'n', xlim = c(-3, 2))
points(pcoa, col = 'black', bg = 'grey', pch = 21)
```

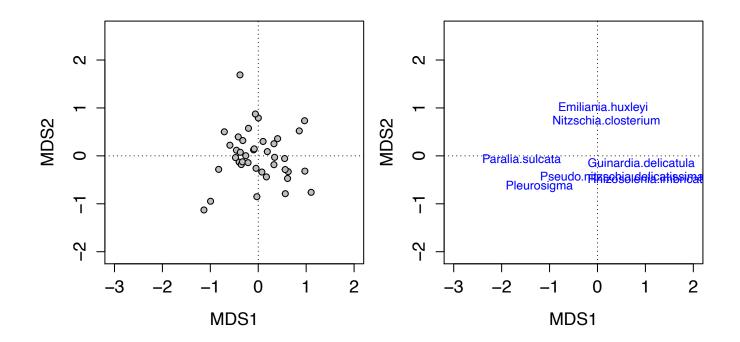


- Note: species are points (scores), not vectors for PCoA
- Weighted average of the sample scores where the species occur
- Samples close to a species have the highest abundance of that species

How much do the PCA and PCoA ordinations differ? Can use procrustes rotation

- Rotate one ordination to line up as well as possible with another
- Arrows show the difference in where the samples are located
- In this case, PCA and PCoA not that different (not always the case)

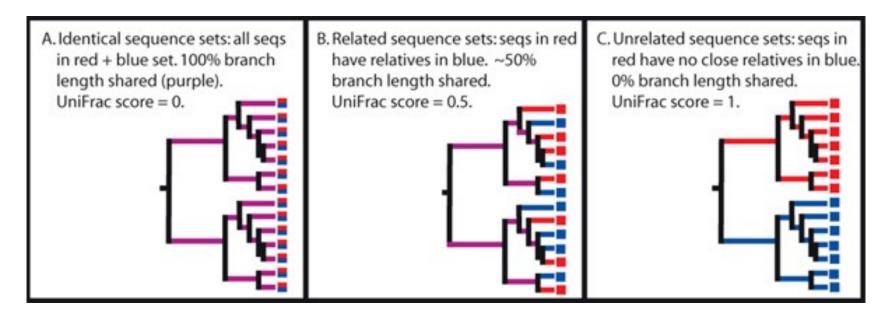




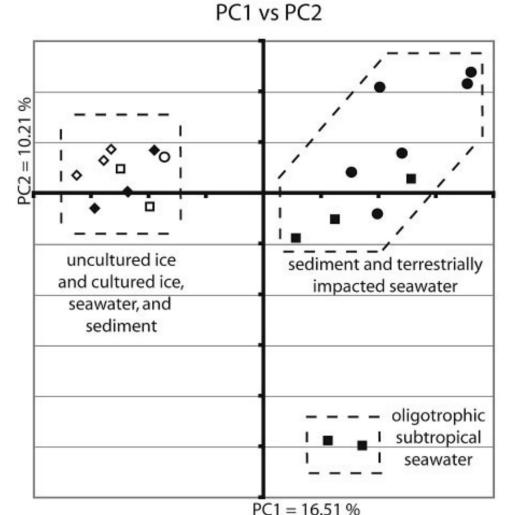
We've ordinated the data. What next?

- Do samples from different areas / times / experimental treatments differ?
- Are the axes correlated with environmental variables?
- Do related species have similar scores?
- Show these later

PCoA example: Unifrac for microbial genetic data



PCoA example: Unifrac for microbial genetic data



Cultured isolates are similar to each other, And to uncultured sea ice communities

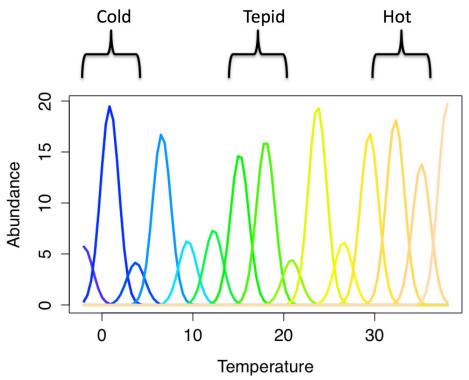
Other uncultured microbial communities are distinct

Non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS)

PCoA is flexible because it can use any dissimilarity index

But it still assumes that community dissimilarity increases linearly with distance along an

underlying gradient



- Imagine we take samples at different temperatures
- As different in temperature increases, dissimilarity saturates at 1
- But if we want to reconstruct this from community data, the 'tepid' community needs to be closer to the 'cold' community than the 'hot' community

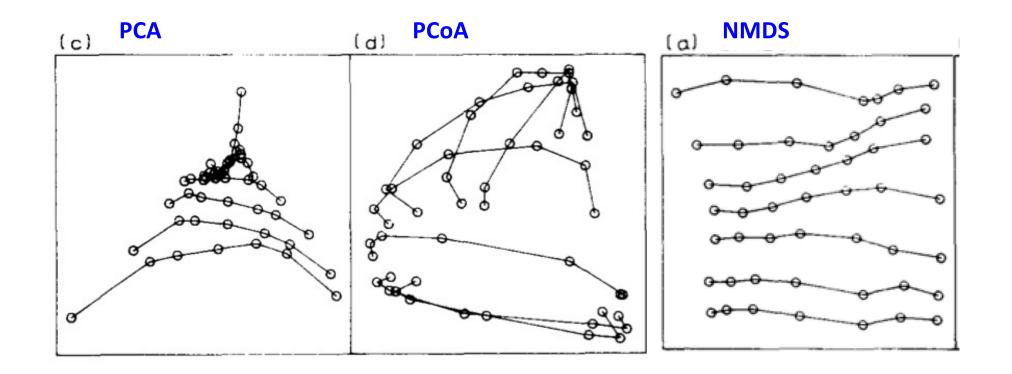
Non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS)

NMDS also takes a dissimilarity matrix and represents it in low-dimensional space

But it only assumes that the ranking of distances is correlated with the ranking of dissimilarities

Captures long gradients better

From a simulation of composition on a 2D grid, e.g. temperature and nitrogen (Minchin 1987):

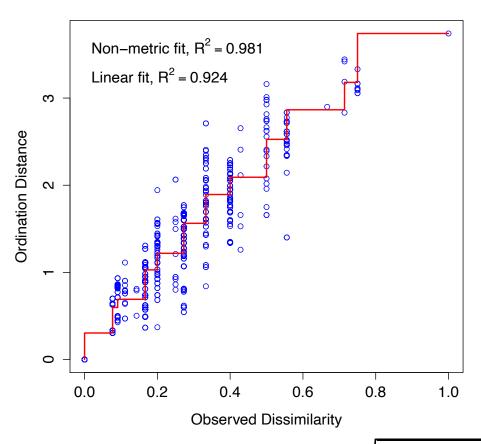


Non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS)

Not an eigenanalysis method: uses an iterative algorithm

- 1) You pick how many dimensions (usually 2-4).
- 2) The samples are placed in an initial configuration (often from PCoA)

- 1) You pick how many dimensions (usually 2-4).
- 1) The samples are placed in an initial configuration (often from PCoA)
- 2) Compare the observed dissimilarities to the ordination distances, non-parametrically:



Relationship is **nonlinear** but **monotonic**

Calculate the spread around this fit:
$$Stress = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{h,i} \left(d_{hi} - \hat{d}_{hi}\right)^2}{\sum_{h,i} d_{hi}^2}} = \sqrt{1 - R^2}$$

- 4) Adjust the configuration of the samples in the ordination to reduce stress
- 5) Repeat until stress doesn't decrease any more

metaMDS() will do this, starting from **many initial configurations**, to see if they converge on the same ordination

```
ord = metaMDS(species.data.use, dist = "bray", trymax = 20)
ord
##
## Call:
## metaMDS(comm = species.data.use, distance = "bray", trymax = 20)
##
## global Multidimensional Scaling using monoMDS
##
## Data:
         species.data.use
## Distance: brav
##
## Dimensions: 2
## Stress: 0.1488
## Stress type 1, weak ties
## Two convergent solutions found after 15 tries
## Scaling: centring, PC rotation, halfchange scaling
## Species: expanded scores based on 'species.data.use'
```

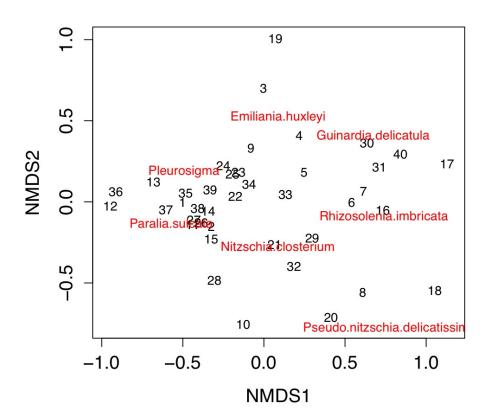
How well does it 'fit'?

Stress > 0.3 considered very bad; **stress < 0.1** considered very good

'weak ties': pairs of samples with the same dissimilarity, e.g. sharing no species, are allowed to have different ordination distances

• Important for long gradients

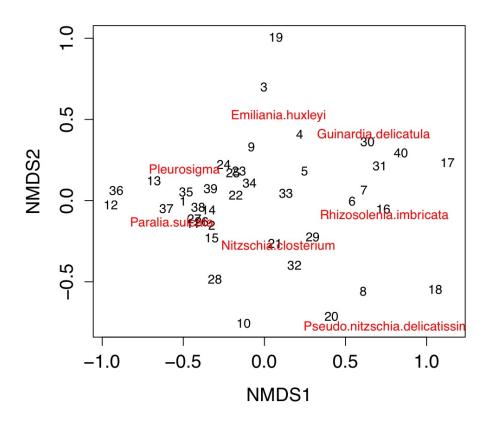
plot(ord, type = 'text')



- The sample scores are what the algorithm is configuring
- The species scores are weighted averages

Note: **NMDS axes don't mean anything**, can be rotated without changing the results metaMDS rotates using a PCA on the scores

Scales the axes as 'half-change' – one unit change means a halving of similarity



Is this ordination any good?

Downside of NMDS is: no % variation explained, no orthogonal axes of variation Mostly used for visualization because simulation shows it does a better job Can compare to another method, e.g. PCoA, see if the results are similar

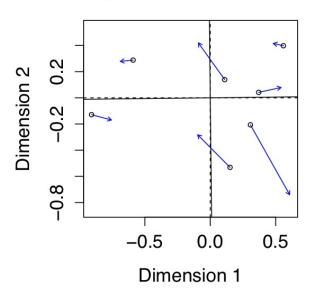
```
par(mfrow = c(1,2))
proc = procrustes(ord, pcoa)
plot(proc, main = 'sample ordination')

proc = procrustes(ord$species, summary(pcoa)$species[,1:2])
plot(proc, main = 'species ordination')
```

sample ordination

Dimension 1

species ordination



What is ordination good for

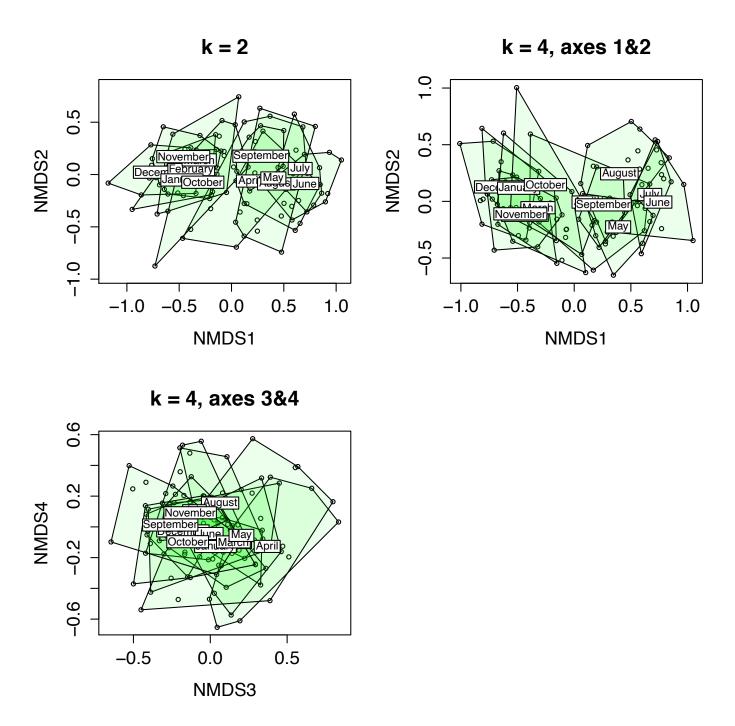
Can see if groups of data have distinct composition

- Use English Channel data, 35 species, 120 samples (10 years)
- Look for seasonal signal, also taxonomic differences

Try NMDS with 2, 3, 4 dimensions

- Got stresses of 0.2, 0.15, 0.12
- Does it matter for what I care about? Let's compare.

```
par(mfrow = c(1,3))
plot(ord, display = "sites", main = 'k = 2')
ordihull(ord, month.use, label = TRUE, col = 'green', border = 'black', alpha
= 20, cex = 0.6, draw = 'polygon')
plot(ord4, display = "sites", main = 'k = 4, axes 1&2')
ordihull(ord4, month.use, label = TRUE, col = 'green', border = 'black', alpha
= 20, cex = 0.6, draw = 'polygon')
plot(ord4, display = "sites", main = 'k = 4, axes 3&4', choices = c(3,4))
ordihull(ord4, month.use, label = TRUE, col = 'green', border = 'black', alpha
= 20, cex = 0.6, draw = 'polygon', choices = c(3,4))
```



Note: can use other methods to directly ask how much variation by month

```
plot(ord, display = "species", type = "n", main = 'species 2D')
points(ord, display = "species", col = c('blue', 'black', 'red')[taxa], pch =
19)
```

Species scores are weighted averages of the 'site' scores

Like 'optima', but really just the center of mass

