

## ETC5521: Exploratory Data Analysis

**Going beyond two variables, exploring high dimensions**

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CALENDAR Week 8 - Session 2



# This lecture

linked brushing between plots  
parallel rather than orthogonal axes  
tours (rotations) through high-dimensions

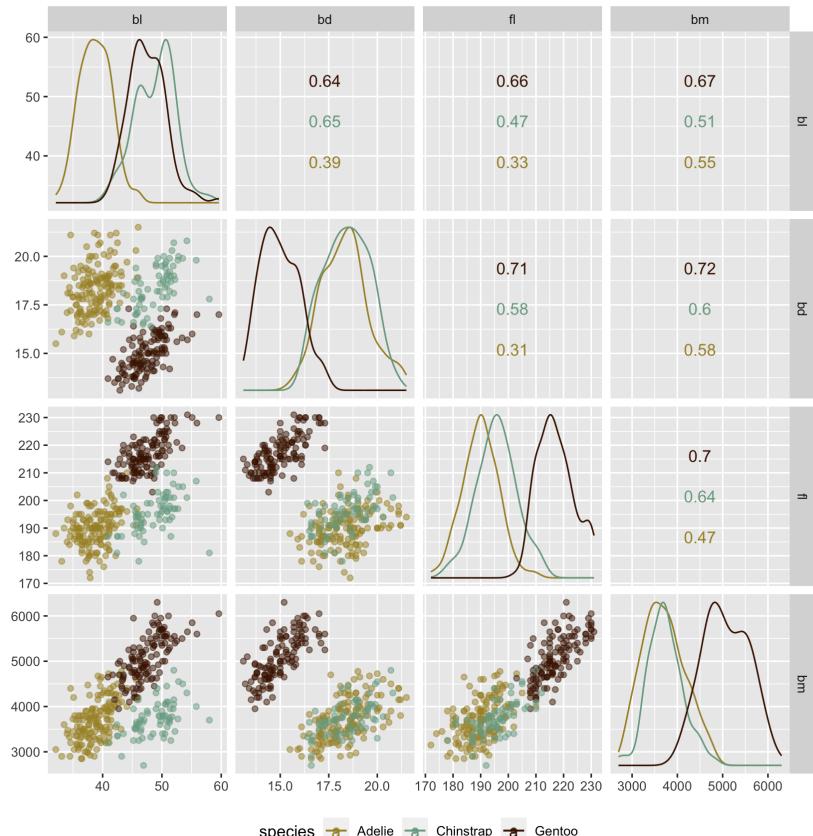
# Case study 4 Penguins



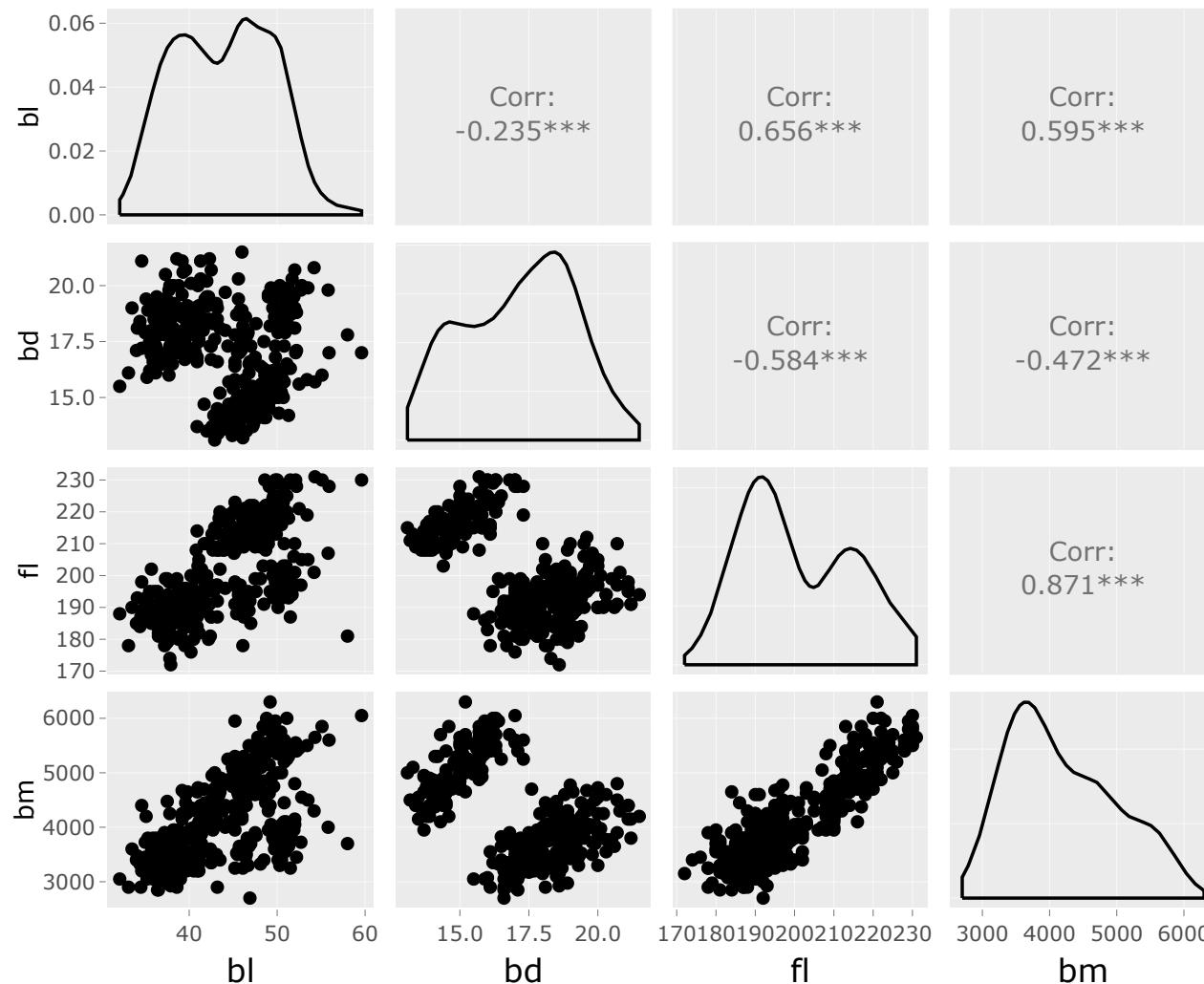
R

Size measurements for adult foraging penguins near Palmer Station, Antarctica

- ▶ species: a factor denoting penguin species (Adélie, Chinstrap and Gentoo)
- ▶ bill\_length\_mm: a number denoting bill length (millimeters)
- ▶ bill\_depth\_mm: a number denoting bill depth (millimeters)
- ▶ flipper\_length\_mm: an integer denoting flipper length (millimeters)
- ▶ body\_mass\_g: an integer denoting body mass (grams)



# Linking between plots



If you have interactive plots you can investigate whether

- ▶ an outlier in one or two variables is one of the extremes in other variables  
→ then it is a multivariate outlier
- ▶ clusters of observations in one plot are concentrated in a cluster in other variables → the data is multimodal in multivariate space, and there are likely sub-populations.



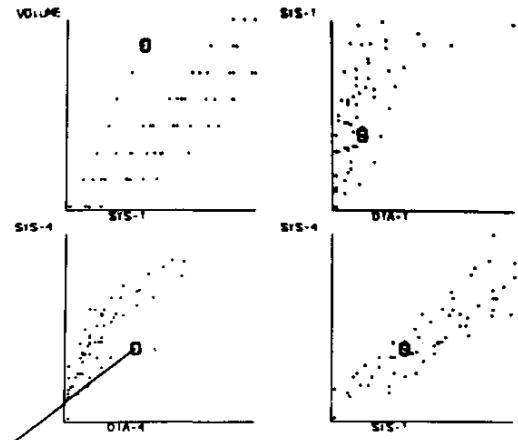
Your turn, [cut and paste the code](#) into your R console, and **select** regions of the resulting plot to examine where these points lie in other plots.

```
# Load the penguins data with code from previous slide
library(tidyverse)
library(tourr)
library(plotly)
highlight_key(penguins) %>%
  GGally::ggpairs(aes(color = species),
                  columns = 3:6) %>%
  ggplotly() %>%
  highlight("plotly_selected")
```

05:00

5/30

# History



**Figure 2:** The user has designated a point on one graph by means of the light-pen. It and corresponding points on the other graphs then are identified by a circle, and the values of all variables for that case are as follows:

First linked brushing across a set of scatterplots done by Carol Newton (1978) "Graphics from Alpha to Omega in Data Analysis" in Graphical Representation of Multivariate Data.

brushing

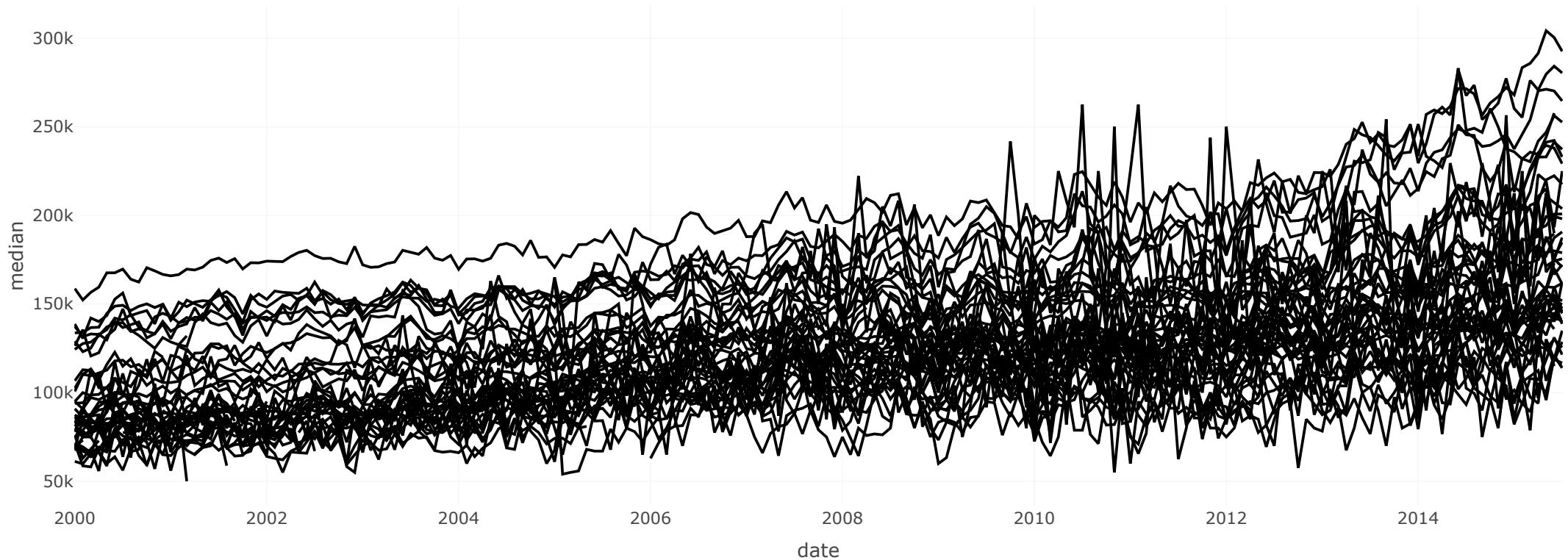


Brushing on a scatterplot matrix, Rick Becker (Becker and Cleveland, 1987 Brushing Scatterplots, Technometrics)

# Parallel coordinate plots

Another way to display multivariate display

You can think about parallel coordinate plots like time series plots. Each variable is treated as a parallel axis. Observations are drawn as a line across the axes.



Median house price by date for a number of cities in Texas.

## What can you learn?

- 👉 lines that are parallel indicate positive linear association, possibly across many variables
- 👉 lines that cross indicate negative linear association
- 👉 lines that go up and down differently from any other lines indicate multivariate outliers
- 👉 lines that go up and down together, but differently from other lines indicate multivariate clustering

You need to have an [interactive](#) parallel coordinate plot for them to be effective for exploring data



Your turn, [cut and paste the code](#) into your R console, and **click** in the resulting plot to examine the line for an observation.

```
# Using the same penguins data subset as earlier in the slides
library(shiny)
library(plotly)
library(tidyverse)
ui <- fluidPage(
  plotlyOutput("parcoords"),
  verbatimTextOutput("data"))

server <- function(input, output, session) {
  penguins_numeric <- penguins[,3:6] %>%
    na.omit()

  output$parcoords <- renderPlotly({
    dims <- Map(function(x, y) {
      list(values = x, range = range(x), label = y)
```

05:00

12/30

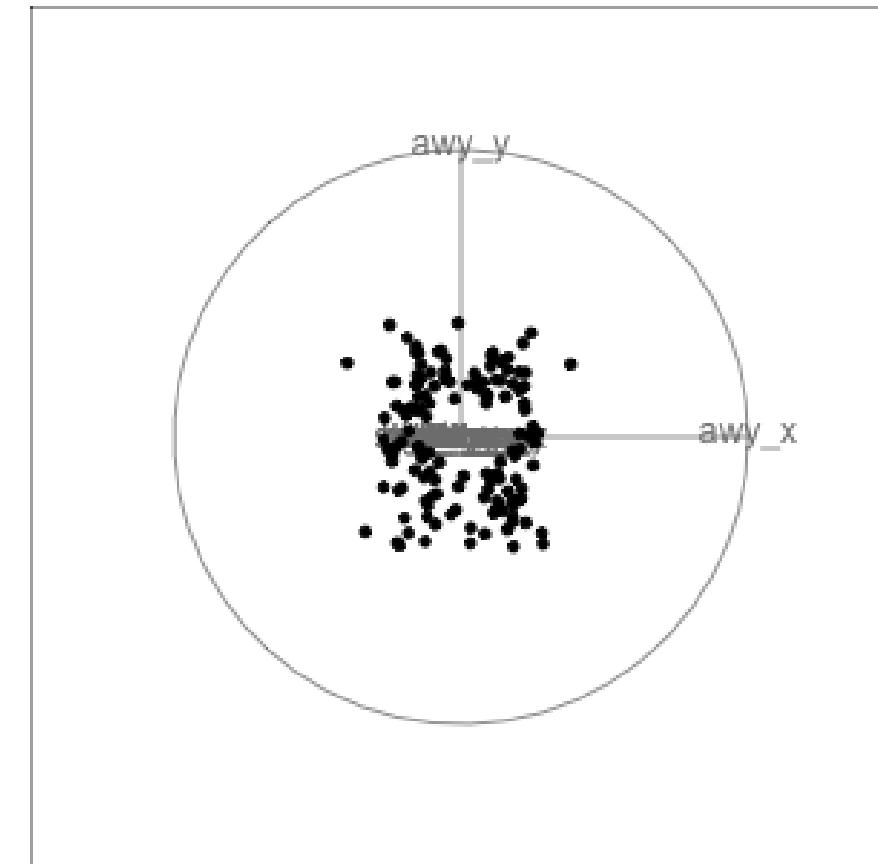
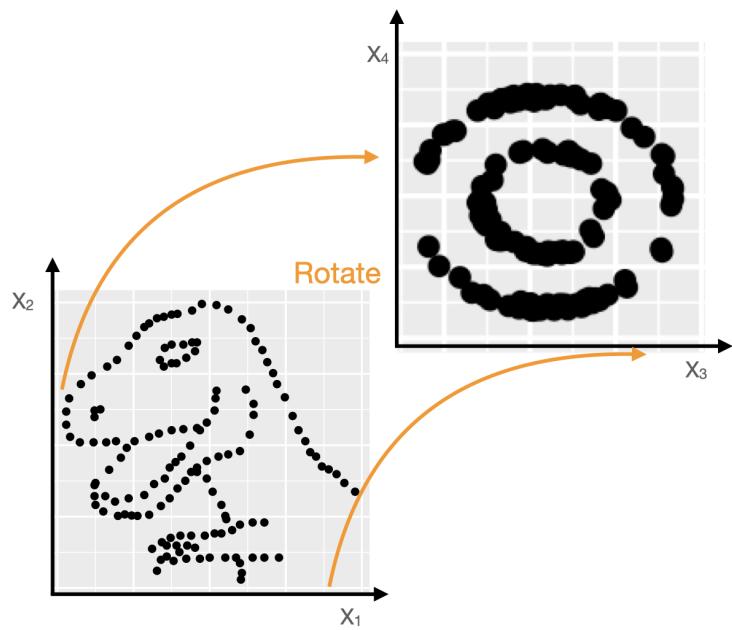
# Dynamic graphics: tours

Remember Tukey's PRIM-9?? This is the evolution of that, and allows us to look at all possible linear combination of variables.

# Touring between pairs of variables

Dinosaur dozen in wide form as multivariate data.

Rotate one pair of variables into the other - special type of interpolation/animation called a *little tour*



# Tours of multivariate data

We look at **combinations of variables**, as well as the individual variables. The grand tour does this in an elegant way so that there's a chance of seeing all possible combinations of the variables, and it glues these together so that there is a smooth change from one to another. With an important note: that always when scatterplots (or higher dimensional combinations are shown) that the axes are always orthogonal.

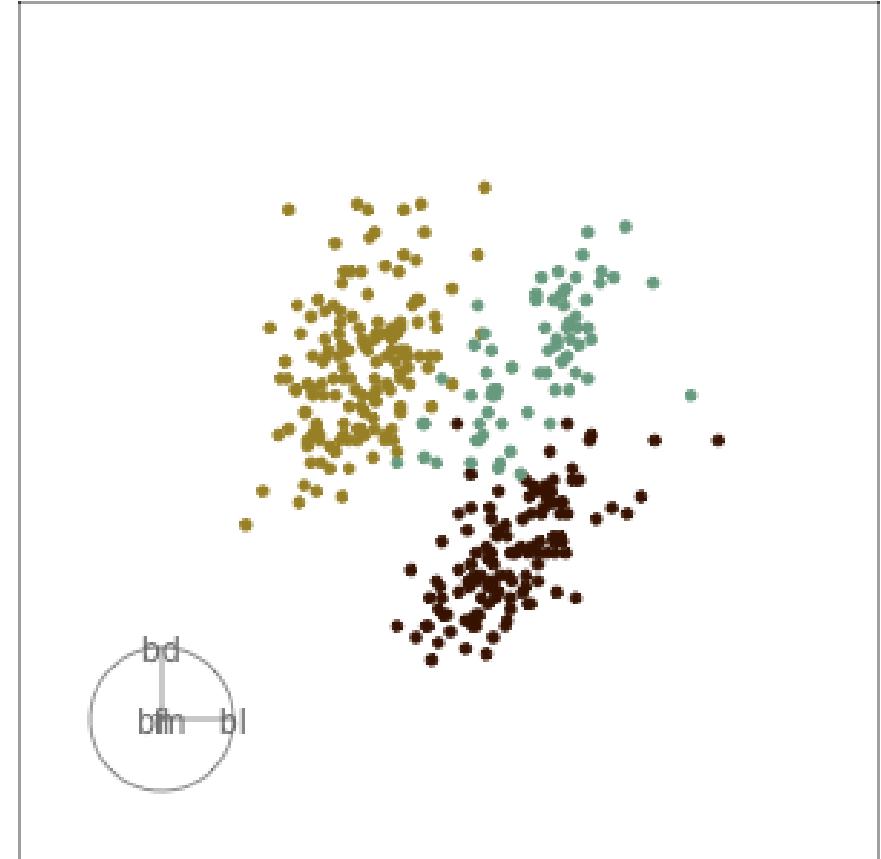
Using combinations of variables, it can be possible to see **separations between groups, outliers, linear and non-linear dependencies** that were not visible in the single variable plots.

3D plots aren't enough. You need tours to find unusual multiple variable relationships.

# Our first grand tour

Here's the code

```
clrs <- ochre_pal(  
  palette="nolan_ned")(3)  
col <- clrs[  
  as.numeric(  
    penguins$species)]  
animate_xy(penguins[,3:6],  
  col=col,  
  axes="off")
```



## Case study 4 Penguins

What do you learn about this data?

- clusters ✓
- outliers ✓
- linear dependence ✓
- elliptical clusters with slightly different shapes ✓
- separated elliptical clusters with slightly different shapes ✓

# What is a tour?

A grand tour is by definition a movie of low-dimensional projections constructed in such a way that it comes arbitrarily close to showing all possible low-dimensional projections; in other words, a grand tour is a space-filling curve in the manifold of low-dimensional projections of high-dimensional data spaces.

$\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $i^{\text{th}}$  data vector

$F$  is a  $p \times d$  orthonormal matrix,  $F'F = I_d$ , where  $d$  is the projection dimension.

The projection of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  onto  $F$  is  $\mathbf{y}_i = F'\mathbf{x}_i$ .

Tour is indexed by time,  $F(t)$ , where  $t \in [a, z]$ .

Starting and target frame denoted as

$F_a = F(a), F_z = F(z)$ .

The animation of the projected data is given by a path  
 $\mathbf{y}_i(t) = F'(t)\mathbf{x}_i$ .

# Geodesic interpolation between planes

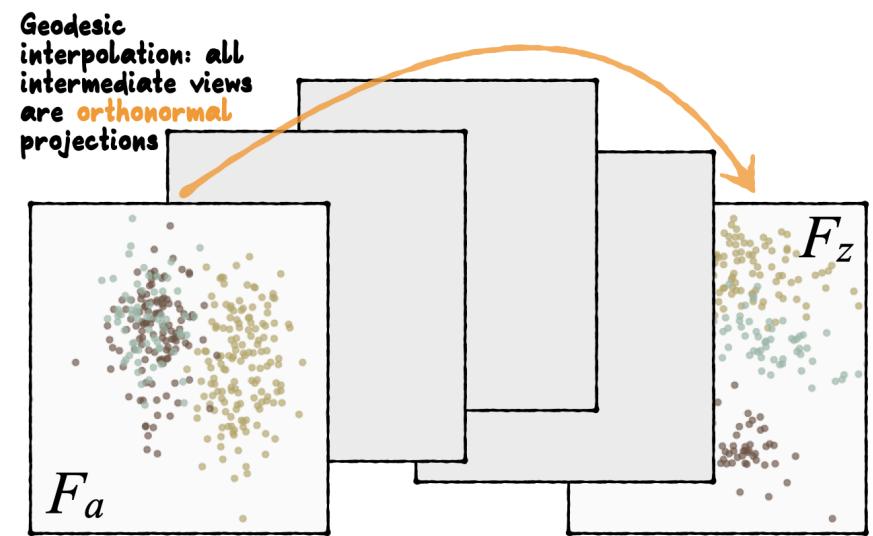
Tour is indexed by time,  $F(t)$ , where  $t \in [a, z]$ .

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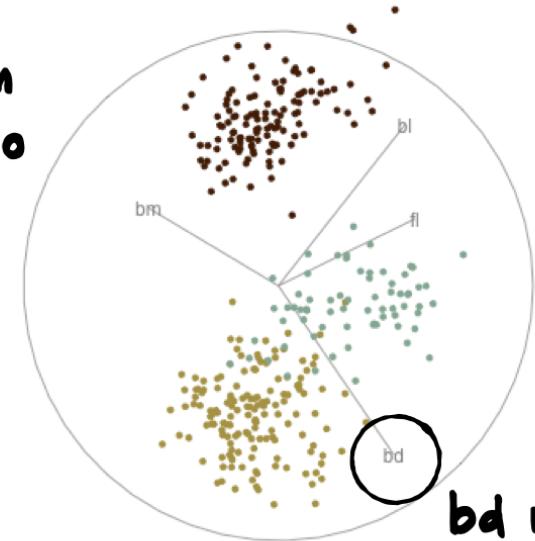
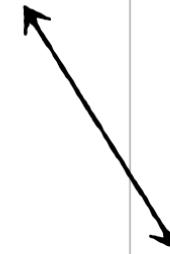
$$\mathbf{y}_i(t) = F'(t)\mathbf{x}_i.$$



## Reading axes - interpretation

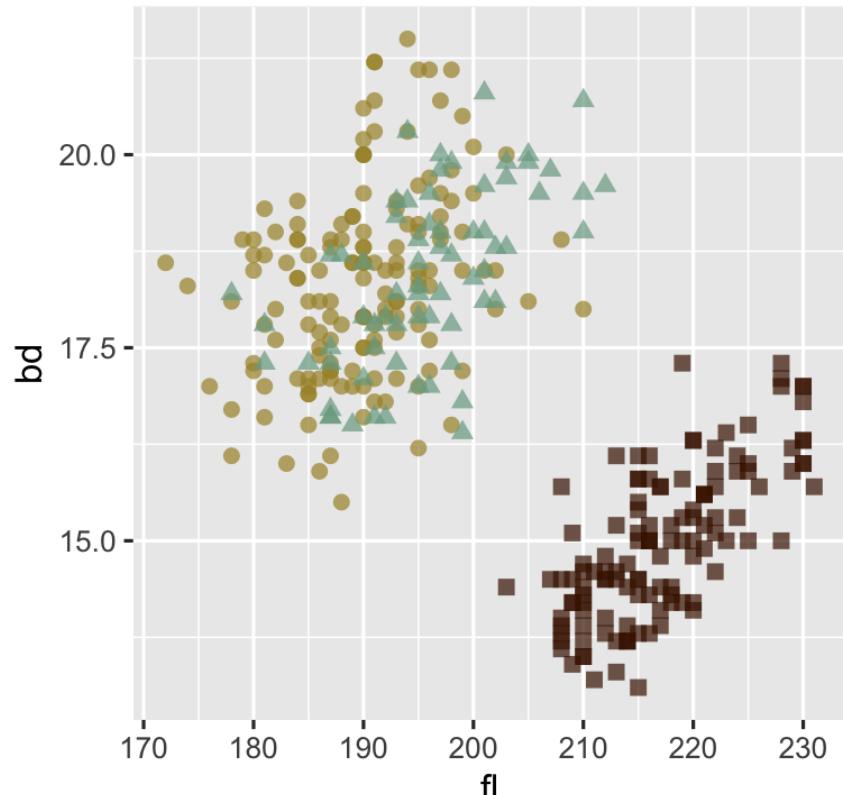
Length and direction of axes relative to the pattern of interest

Brown cluster separated from others in NW to SE direction



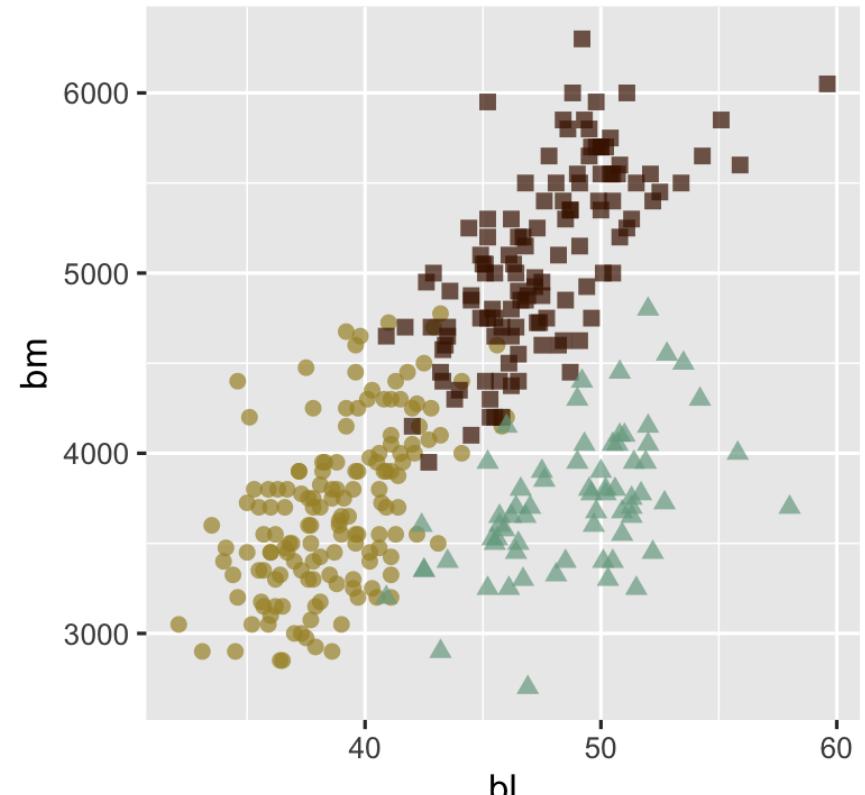
bd most important

## Case study 4 Penguins



species   ● Adelie   ▲ Chinstrap   ■ Gentoo

Gentoo from others in contrast of fl, bd



species   ● Adelie   ▲ Chinstrap   ■ Gentoo

Chinstrap from others in contrast of bl, bm

There may be multiple and different combinations of variables that reveal similar structure. ☺  
The tour can help to discover these, too. 😂

## Other tour types

- **guided**: follows the optimisation path for a projection pursuit index.
- **little**: interpolates between all variables.
- **local**: rocks back and forth from a given projection, so shows all possible projections within a radius.
- **dependence**: two independent 1D tours
- **frozen**: fixes some variable coefficients, others vary freely.
- **manual**: control coefficient of one variable, to examine the sensitivity of structure this variable. (In the **spinifex** package)
- **slice**: use a section instead of a projection.

# Guided tour

New target bases are chosen using a projection pursuit index function

maximize  $\underset{F}{g(F'x)}$  subject to F being orthonormal

► **holes**: This is an inverse Gaussian filter, which is optimised when there is not much data in the center of the projection, i.e. a "hole" or donut shape in 2D.

► **central mass**: The opposite of holes, high density in the centre of the projection, and often "outliers" on the edges.

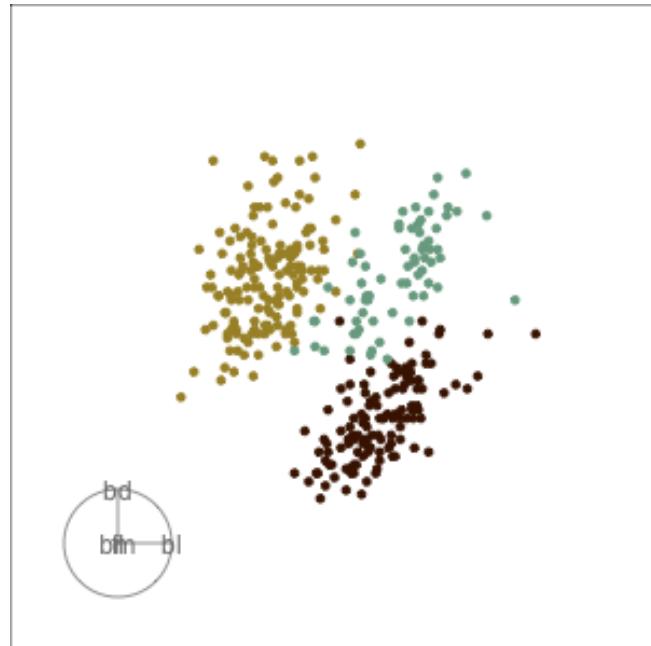
► **LDA/PDA**: An index based on the linear discriminant dimension reduction (and penalised), optimised by projections where the named classes are most separated.

## Case study 4 Penguins



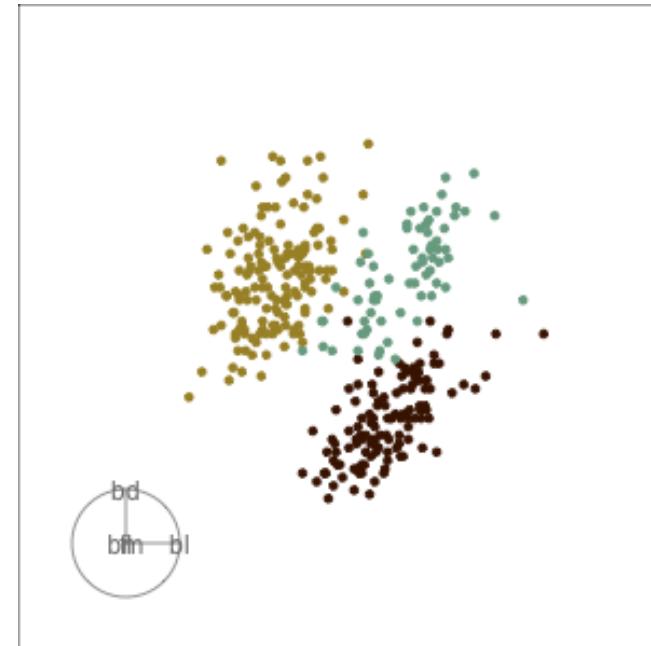
R

Grand



Might accidentally see best separation

Guided, using LDA index



Moves to the best separation

## Manual tour

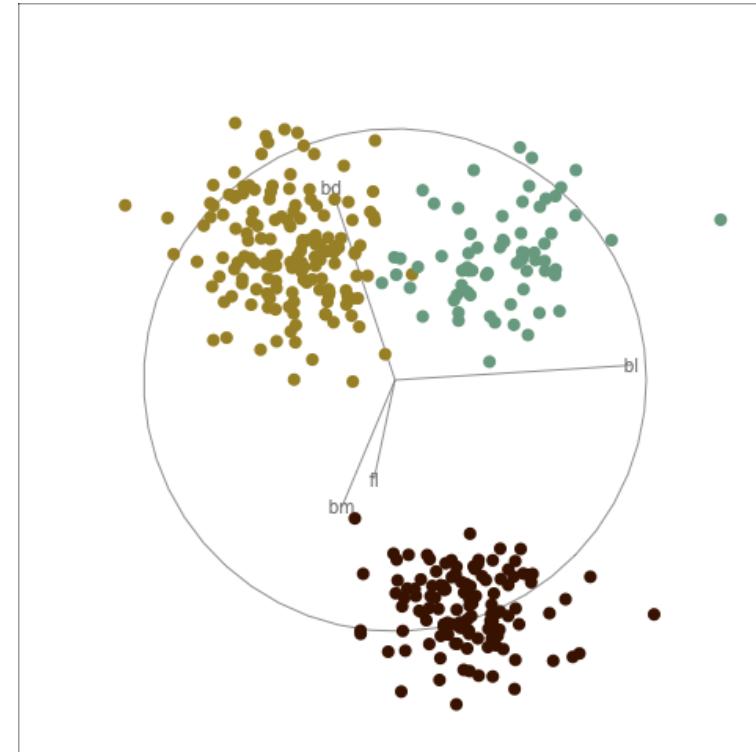
Control the coefficient of one variable, reduce it to zero, then increase it to 1, maintaining orthonormality

## Case study 4 Penguins



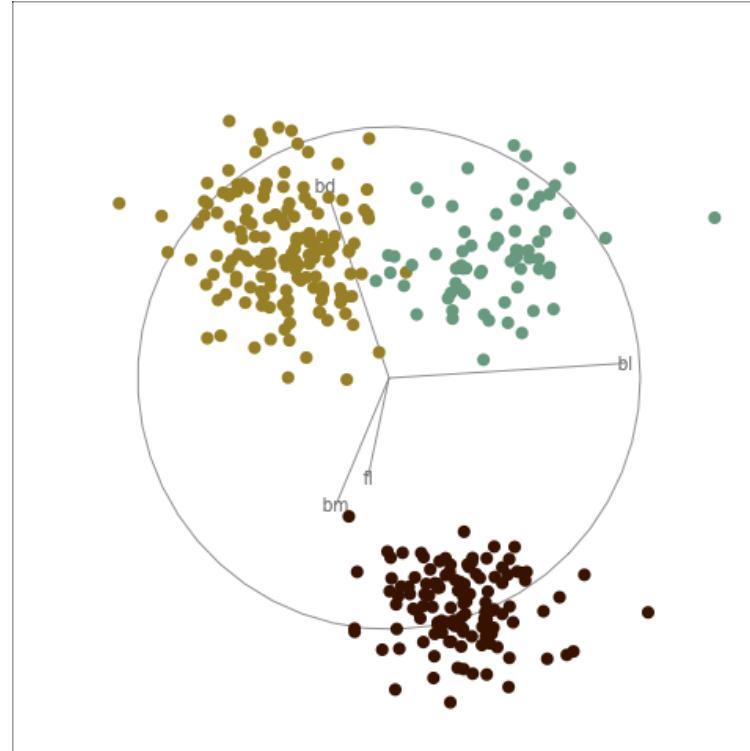
R

- start from best projection, given by projection pursuit
- **b1** contribution controlled
- if **b1** is removed from projection, Adelie and chinstrap are mixed
- **b1** is important for Adelie



## Case study 4 Penguins

- start from best projection, given by projection pursuit
- $f_1$  contribution controlled
- cluster less separated when  $f_1$  is fully contributing
- $f_1$  is important, in small amounts, for Gentoo



# Resources

- 👉 Wickham et al (2011). tourr: An R Package for Exploring Multivariate Data with Projections.  
<http://www.jstatsoft.org/v40/i02/>.
- 👉 Cook and Laa (2023) Interactively exploring high-dimensional data and models in R,  
[https://dcook.github.io/mulgar\\_book/](https://dcook.github.io/mulgar_book/)
- 👉 Sievert (2019) Interactive web-based data visualization with R, plotly, and shiny, <https://plotly-r.com>
- 👉 Horst et al (2020) <https://allisonhorst.github.io/palmerpenguins/>
- 👉 Gorman KB, Williams TD, Fraser WR (2014) [Ecological Sexual Dimorphism and Environmental Variability within a Community of Antarctic Penguins \(Genus Pygoscelis\)](#). PLoS ONE 9(3): e90081. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0090081



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