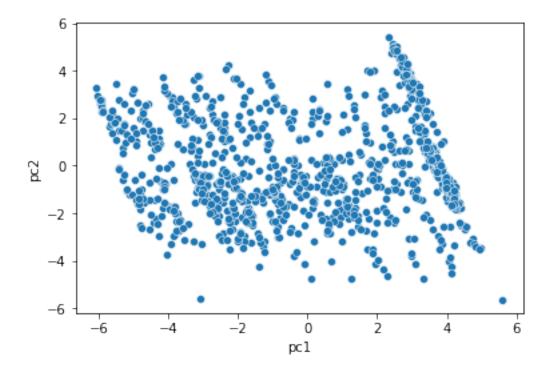
0.1 Question 2d

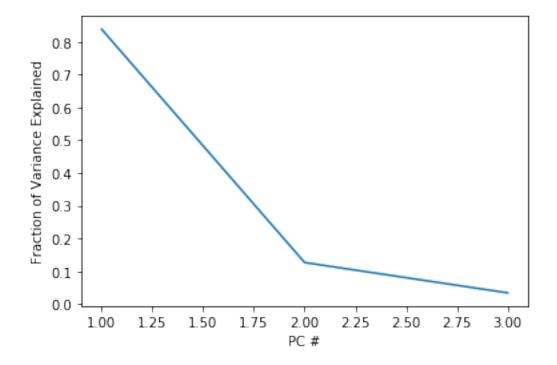
Create a 2D scatterplot of the first two principal components of mid1_grades_centered_scaled. Use colorize_midterm_data to add a color column to mid1_1st_2_pcs. Your code will be very similar to the code from problems 2a and 2b.



0.2 Question 2e

If you compute the fraction of the variance captured by this 2D scatter plot, you'll see it's only 17%, roughly 12% by the 1st PC, and roughly 5% by the 2nd PC. In the cell below, create a scree plot showing the fraction of the variance explained by each principle componant using the data from 2d.

Informally, we can say that our midterm scores matrix has a high rank. More formally, we can say that a rank 2 approximation only captures a small fraction of the variance, and thus the data are not particularly amenable to 2D PCA scatterplotting.



Unfortunately, we have two problems:

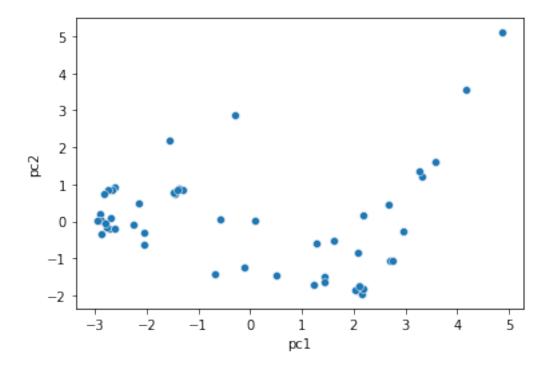
- 1. There is a lot of overplotting, with only 27 distinct dots. This means that at least some states voted exactly alike in these elections.
- 2. We don't know which state is which because the points are unlabeled.

Let's start by addressing problem 1.

In the cell below, create a new dataframe first_2_pcs_jittered with a small amount of random noise added to each principal component. In this same cell, create a scatterplot.

The amount of noise you add should not significantly affect the appearance of the plot, it should simply serve to separate overlapping observations. Don't get caught up on the exact details of your noise generation, it's fine as long as your plot looks roughly the same as the original scatterplot.

Hint: See the pairplot from the intro to question 2 for an example of how to introduce noise.



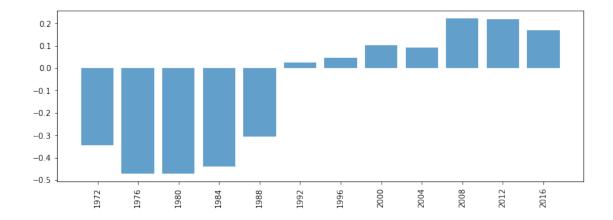
Give an example of a cluster of states that vote a similar way. Does the composition of this cluster surprise you? If you're not familiar with U.S. politics, it's fine to just say 'No, I'm not surprised because I don't know anything about U.S. politics.'

No im not surprised because if we look at an example of a cluster like (4, 1.5) we see Rhode island, Hawaii, Massachusetts all on the liberal side which makes sense since they always vote blue in an election.

In the cell below, write down anything interesting that you observe by looking at this plot. You will get credit for this as long as you write something reasonable that you can take away from the plot.

States like Flordia, Ohio, Georgia are typically swing states in an election and that is most likely why they are not in a cluster of any sort.

In the cell below, plot the the 2nd row of V^T .



0.3 Question 3i

Using your plots from question 3h as well as the original table, give a description of what it means to have a relatively large positive value for pc1 (right side of the 2D scatter plot), and what it means to have a relatively large positive value for pc2 (top side of the 2D scatter plot).

In other words, what is generally true about a state with relatively large positive value for pc1? For a large positive value for pc2?

Note: pc2 is pretty hard to interpret, and the staff doesn't really have a consensus on what it means either. We'll be nice when grading.

Note: Principal components beyond the first are often hard to interpret (but not always; see question 1 earlier in this homework).

The large positive values for pc1 tend to show more liberal voting while the smaller pc1 show more conservative. pc2 however, can be interpreted as dividedness/variation when pc2 is larger. It is hard to actually tell what this might mean but it definately shows a trend independent on liberal/conservative voting.

0.4 Question 3j

To get a better sense of whether our 2D scatterplot captures the whole story, create a scree plot for this data. On the y-axis plot the fraction of the total variance captured by the ith principal component. You should see that the first two principal components capture much more of the variance than we were able to capture when using the Data 100 Midterm 1 data. It is partially for this reason that the 2D scatter plot was so much more useful for this dataset.

Hint: Your code will be very similar to the scree plot from problem 1d. Be sure to label your axes appropriately!

Out[124]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Fraction Variance Explained')

