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# Localized regression on principal manifolds

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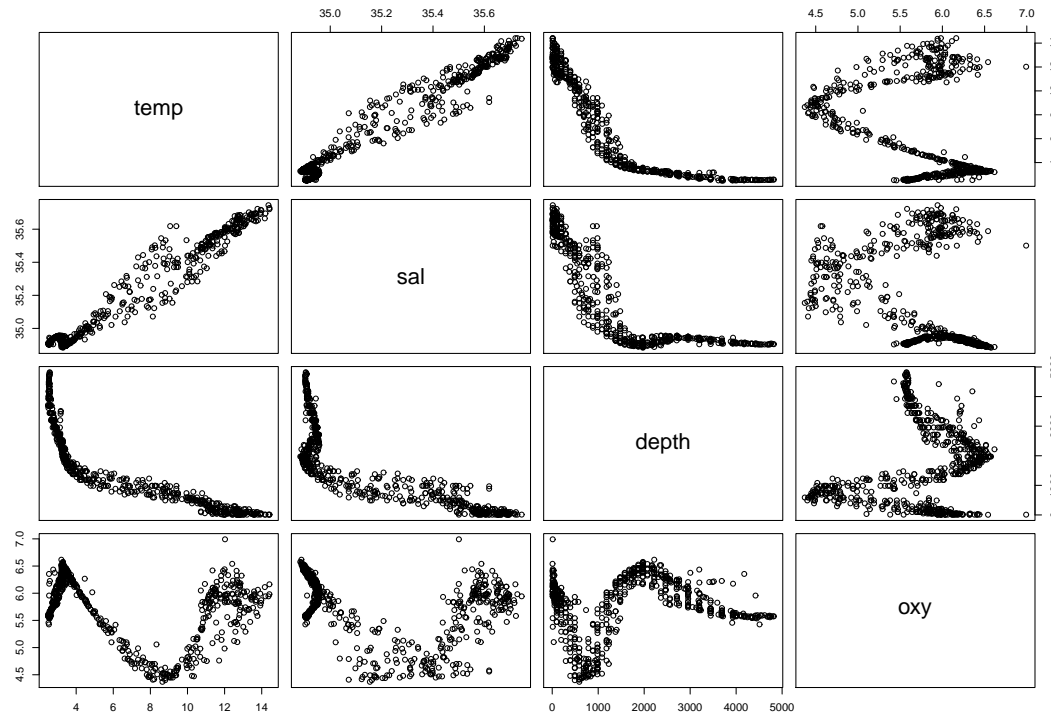
joint work with Ludger Evers (University of Glasgow),

*Glasgow, 8th of July 2010*



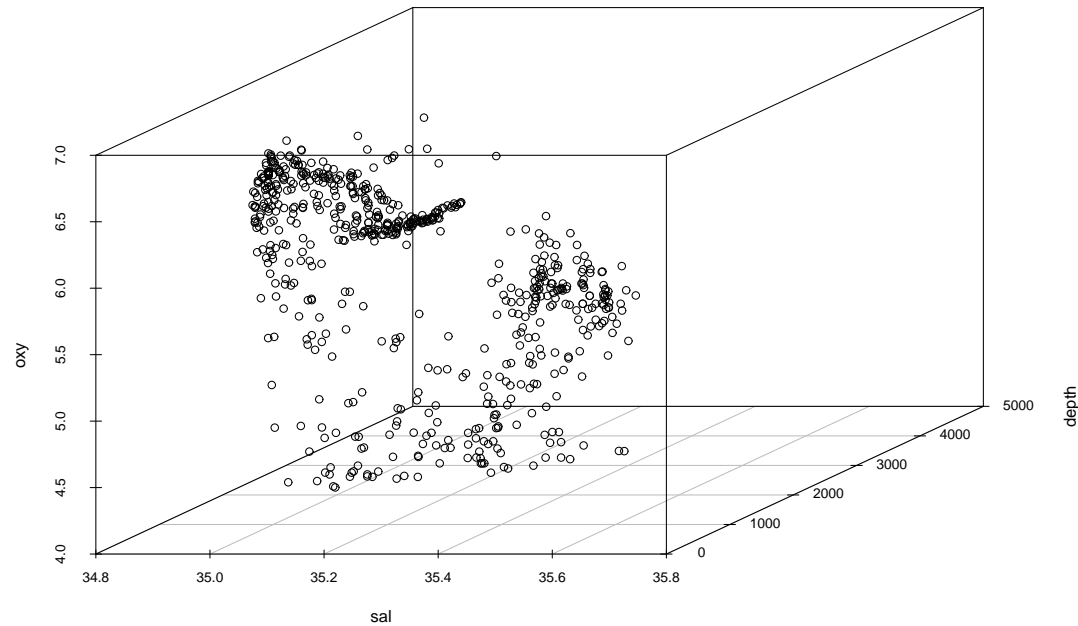
# Motivation

- Consider oceanographic data recorded by the German vessel “Gauss” in May 2000 southwest of Ireland.
- $N = 643$  Measurements on water temperature (response), salinity, water depth, oxygen content.



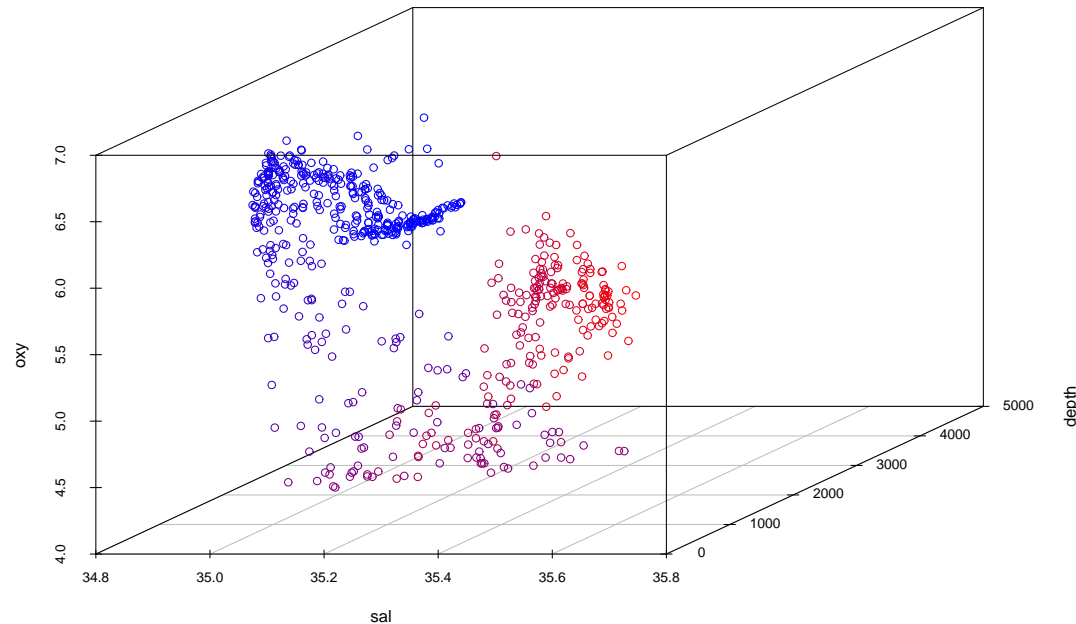
# Motivation (cont.)

- This is a 3-variate regression problem, with the predictor space given by salinity, water depth, and oxygen:



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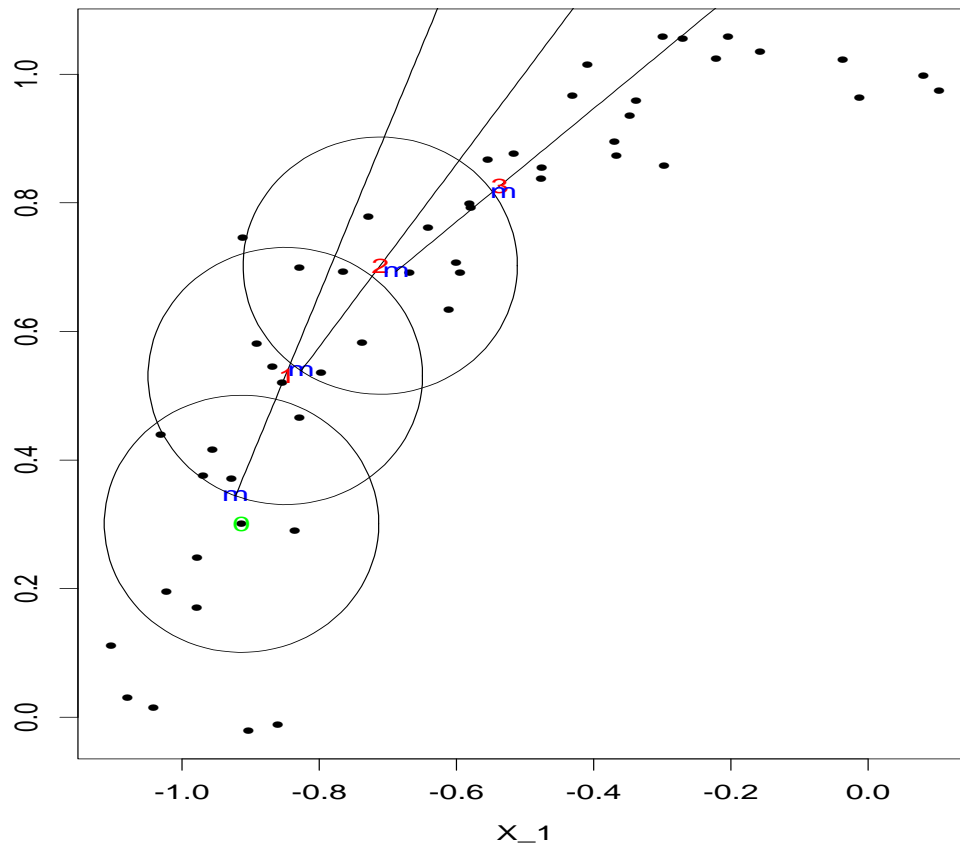
- This is a 3-variate regression problem, with the predictor space given by salinity, water depth, and oxygen:



- We shade higher water temperatures **red**.
- Can we make use of the one-(?) dimensional inner structure?
- This is a task for principal curves (Hastie & Stuetzle, 1989).

# Local principal curves (LPCs)

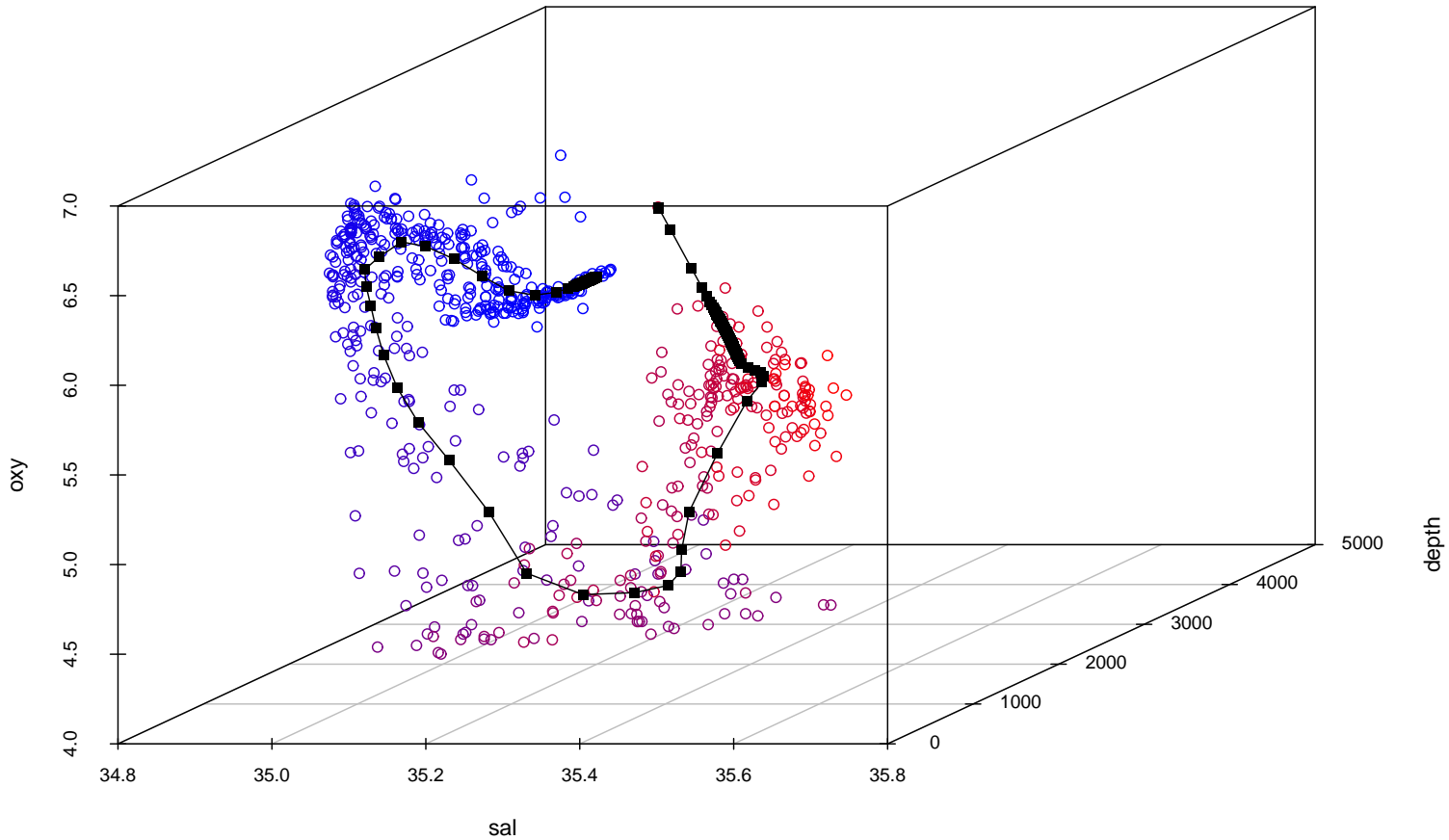
- Idea: Calculate alternately a local center of mass and a first localized principal component (Einbeck, Tutz, & Evers, 2005).



0: starting point,  
*m*: points of the LPC,  
1, 2, 3 : enumeration of steps.

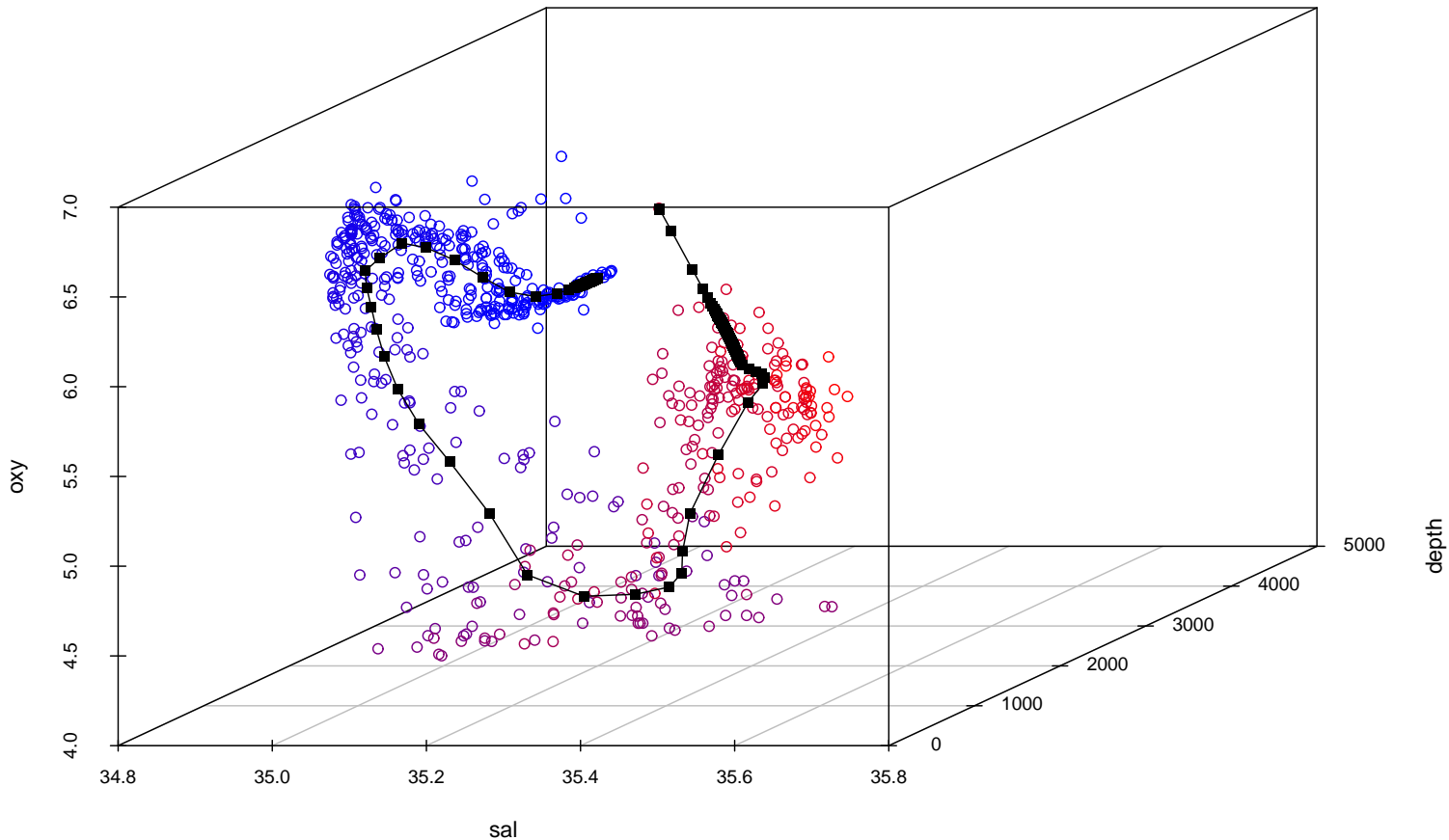
# Fitting the LPC

- LPC through oceanographic data set, with local centers of mass:



# Fitting the LPC

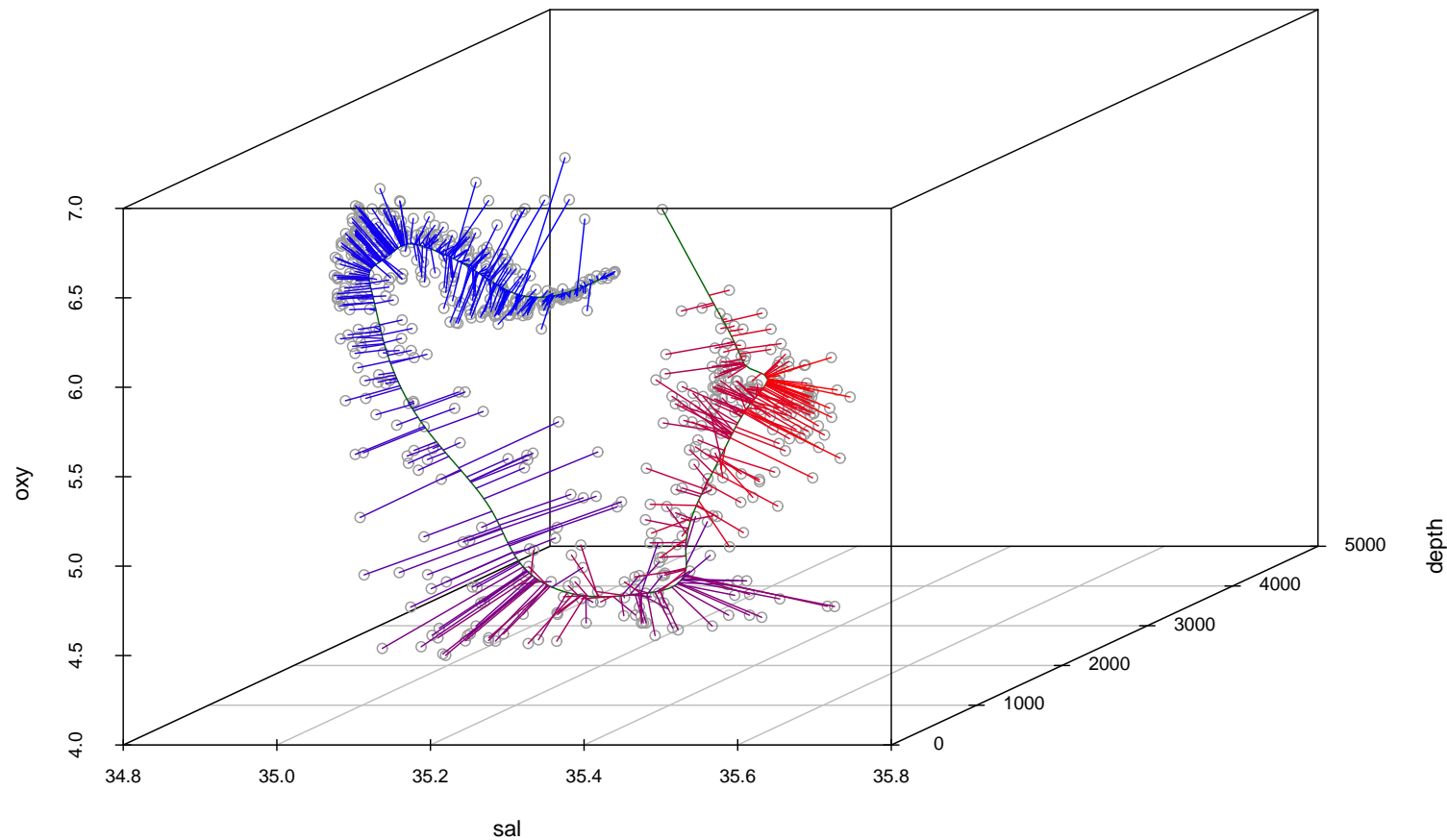
- LPC through oceanographic data set, with local centers of mass:



- The curve has yet to be parametrized, and one needs to be able to project the data points onto it.

# Projecting onto the LPC

- We parametrize the LPC through the arc length of a cubic spline function laid through the local centers of mass, and project each data point  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  onto the nearest point on the curve, yielding a one-dimensional projection index  $t_i \in \mathbb{R}$  (Einbeck, Evers, & Hinchliff, 2010).

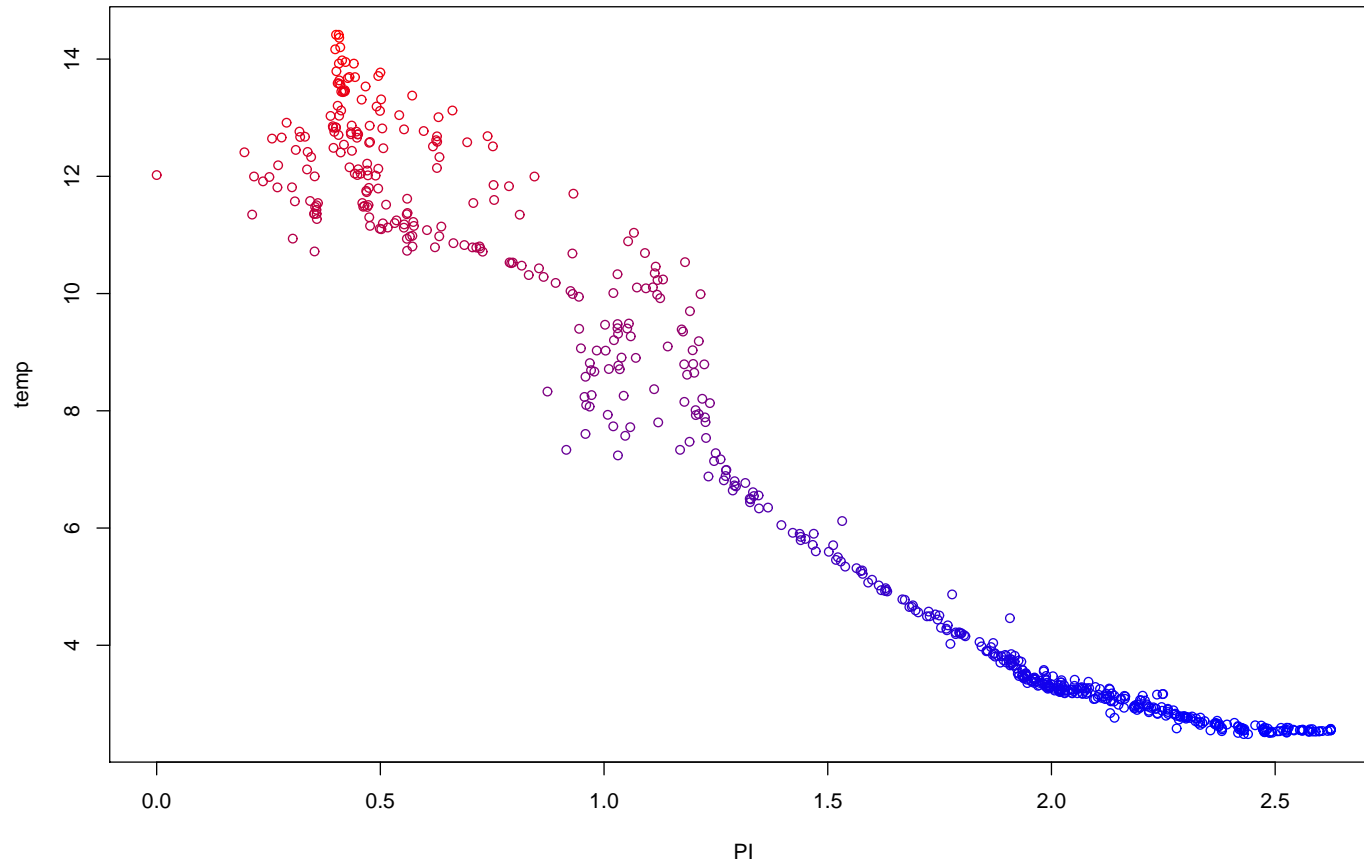




# Regression based on the LPC

- It remains a simple univariate regression problem of type

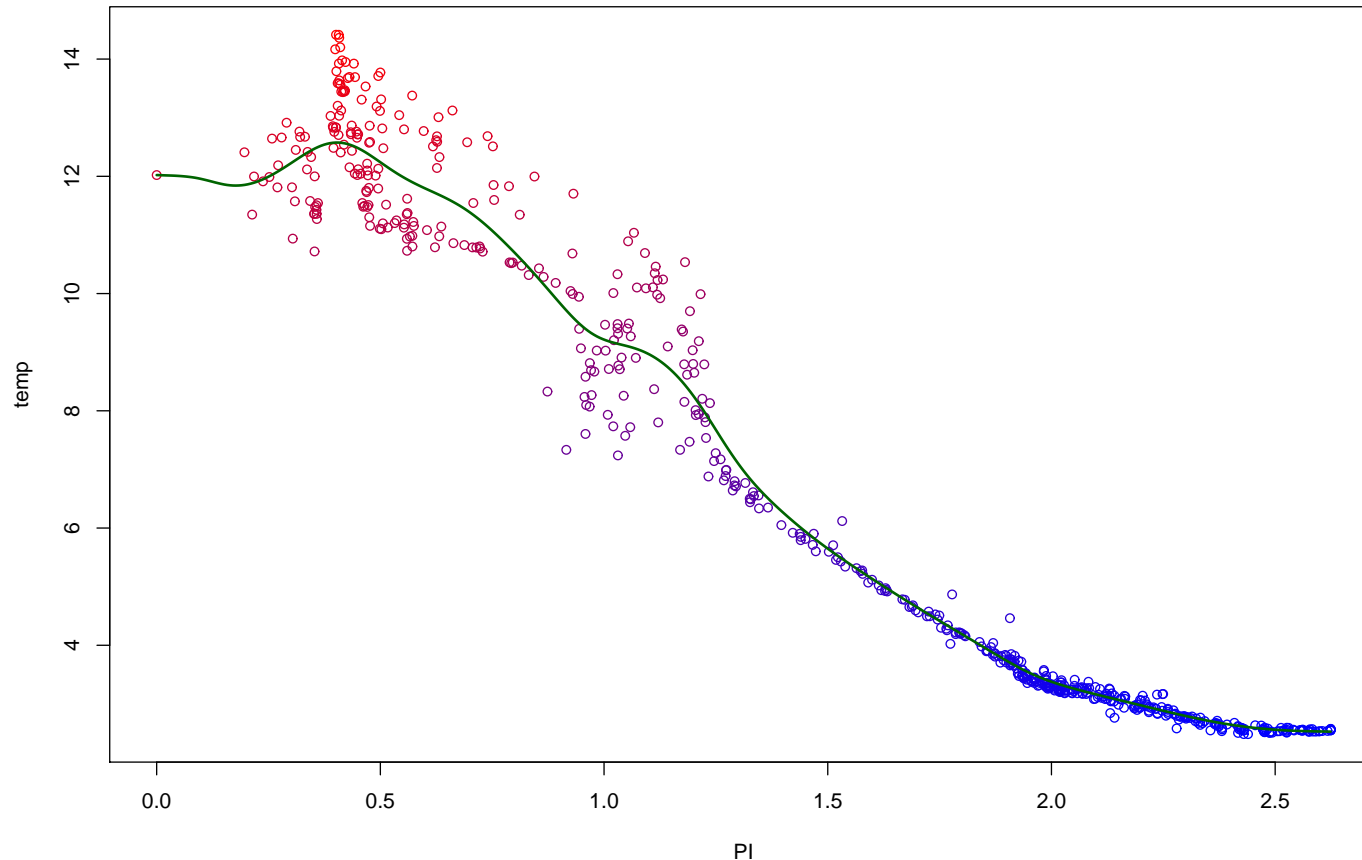
$$y_i = g(t_i) + \varepsilon_i.$$



# Regression based on the LPC

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- This can be fitted any nonparametric smoother; for instance, a **local linear smoother**.

# Manifolds of higher order?

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- This may be considered as unsatisfactory: The data corresponding to “hot” temperatures show a branched structure, indicating that some information relevant for the response is orthogonal to the principal curve.
- If we deem the predictor space to be of intrinsic dimensionality 2 (rather than 1), we need to fit a **principal surface** (rather than a **principal curve**).
- Can we extend the local principal curve algorithm towards local principal surfaces (or manifolds of higher dimension)?

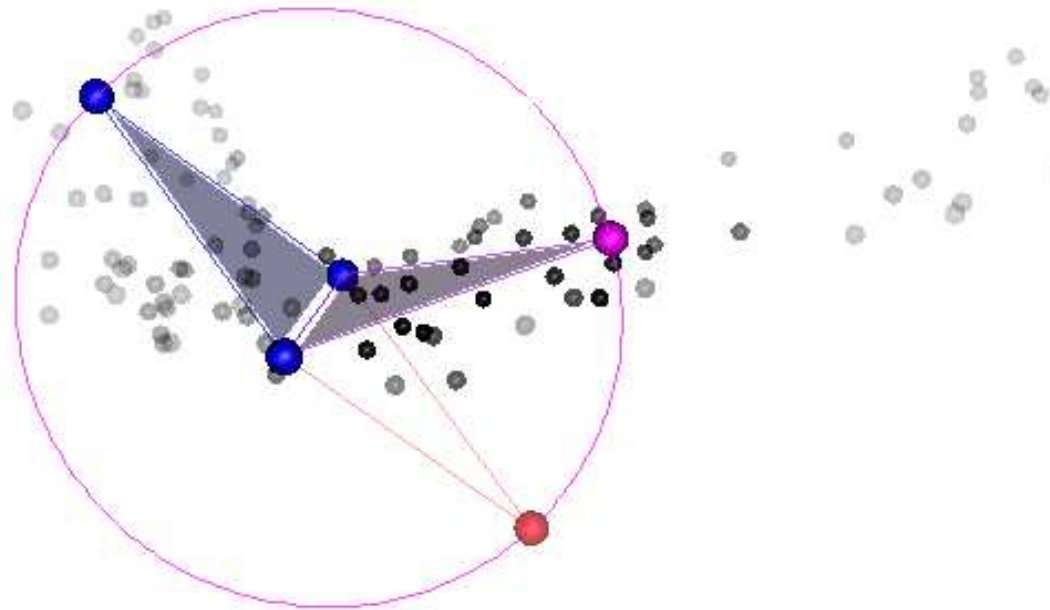
# Local principal surfaces

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- We are working now with the “building block” triangles  $\Delta$ .
- Local PCA is only used to determine the initial triangle, say  $\Delta_0$ .
- Then, the algorithm iterates
  - (1) For a given triangle  $\Delta$ , we glue further triangles at each of its sides  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .
  - (2) For  $j = 1, 2, 3$ , adjust the free triangle vertex via the mean shift. We dismiss the new triangle if
    - the new vertex falls into a region of small density, or
    - the new vertex is too close to an existing one (Delaunay triangulation).until all sides of all triangles (including the new ones) have been considered.

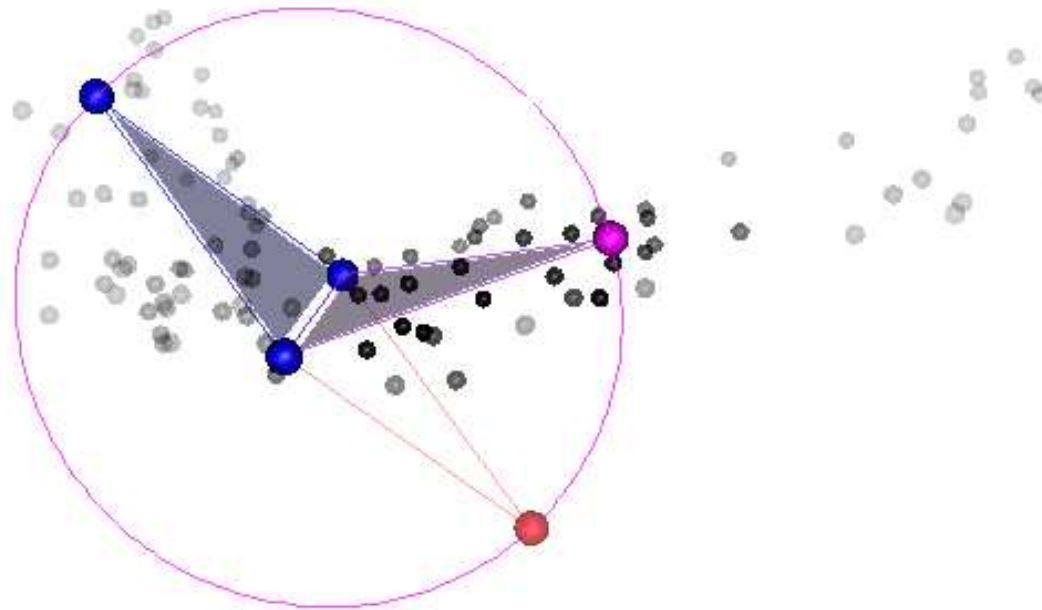
# Local principal surfaces (cont.)

- Illustration: Constrained mean shift on a circle (enforcing equilateral triangles):



# Local principal surfaces (cont.)

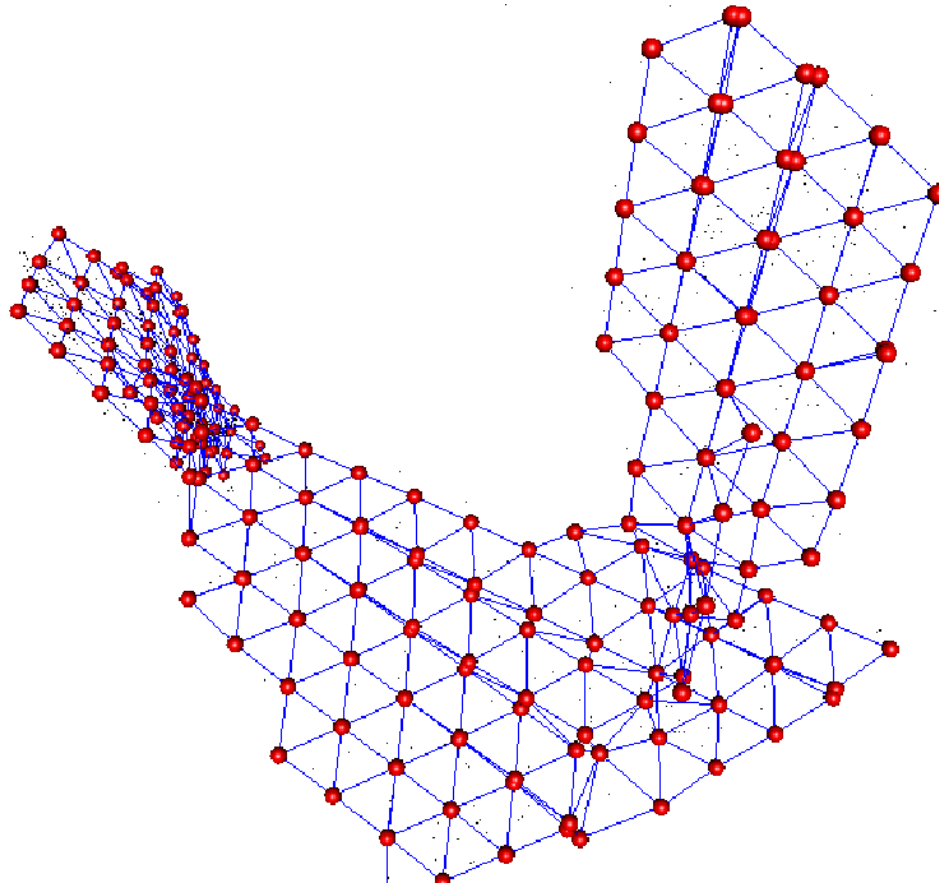
- Illustration: Constrained mean shift on a circle (enforcing equilateral triangles):



- Extendable to local principal manifolds (LPMs) of arbitrary dimension  $> 2$  by replacing “triangles” with suitable “tetrahedrons” or “simplices”.

# Local principal surfaces (cont.)

- Local principal surface (LPS) for oceanographic data set:



# Regression on the surface

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- Then, how to use this surface for regression?
- It seems hard to define a meaningful 2-dim. parametrization on the surface.
- However, we may use *distances* instead: For each triangle, we can count the distance  $d$  to all other triangles through the smallest number of triangle borders that have to be crossed to walk from one to the other.
- Assign local weights via discrete distance-based kernel

$$\kappa(d) = e^{-d/\lambda}$$

The parameter  $\lambda \in [0, \infty)$  steers the degree of smoothing on the manifold: the higher  $\lambda$ , the smoother.



# Regression on the surface (cont.)

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The entire fitting process is summarized as follows:

- (I) Fit a LPS as explained above, yielding a surface with, say,  $R$  triangles.
- (II) Assign each data point  $\mathbf{x}_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  to their nearest triangle.
- (III) For each triangle  $r = 1, \dots, R$ , compute the mean  $\bar{y}_r$  over the response values of all data points assigned to it.
- (IV) Compute all pairwise distances  $d_{r,s}$  between all triangles on the surface.
- (V) Use the discrete kernel  $\kappa(\cdot)$  to smooth over the manifold. The smoothed response value  $g_r$  on triangle  $r$  is given by

$$g_r = \frac{\sum_s \kappa(d_{r,s}) \bar{y}_s}{\sum_s \kappa(d_{r,s})}.$$

# Simulation study

- We divide the data into a training and a test data set of size 500 and 143, respectively.
- Squared prediction errors for the additive model (AM), LPC– and LPS– based regression are given below.

|          |        | LPS   |       |                 |               |               |
|----------|--------|-------|-------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
|          |        | AM    | LPC   | $\lambda = 0.2$ | $\lambda = 1$ | $\lambda = 2$ |
| Training | mean   | 0.089 | 0.326 | 0.043           | 0.073         | 0.144         |
| error    | median | 0.015 | 0.007 | 0.001           | 0.007         | 0.015         |
| Test     | mean   | 0.155 | 0.310 | 0.111           | 0.116         | 0.175         |
| error    | median | 0.029 | 0.009 | 0.004           | 0.010         | 0.021         |

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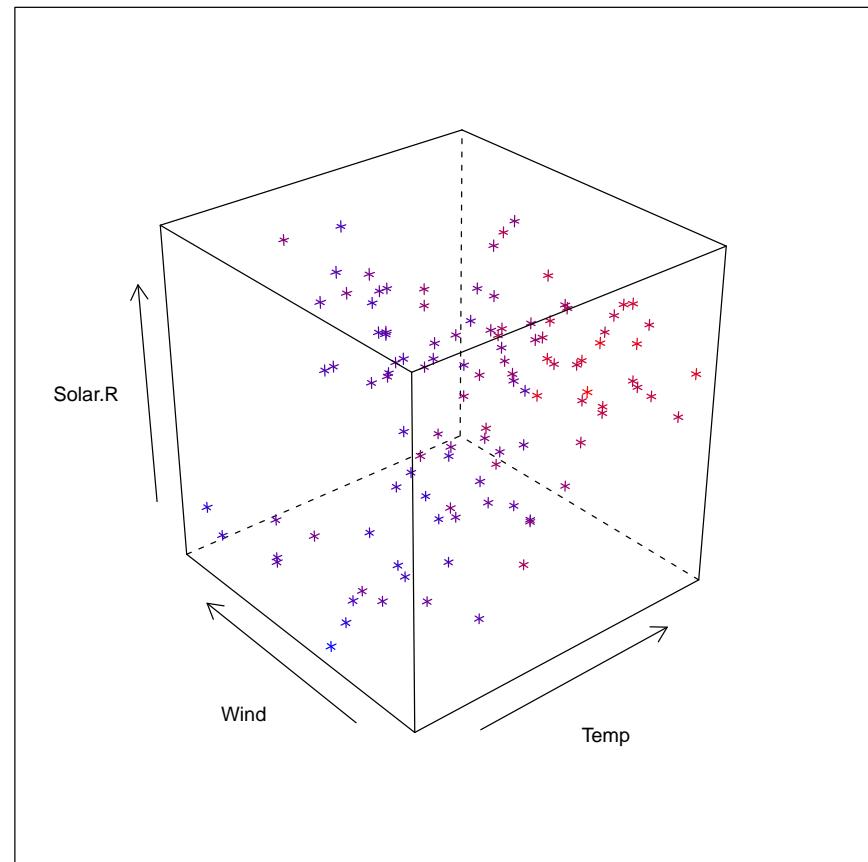
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- The LPS for  $\lambda = 1$  performs superior to all other techniques.

# New York Air Quality Measurements

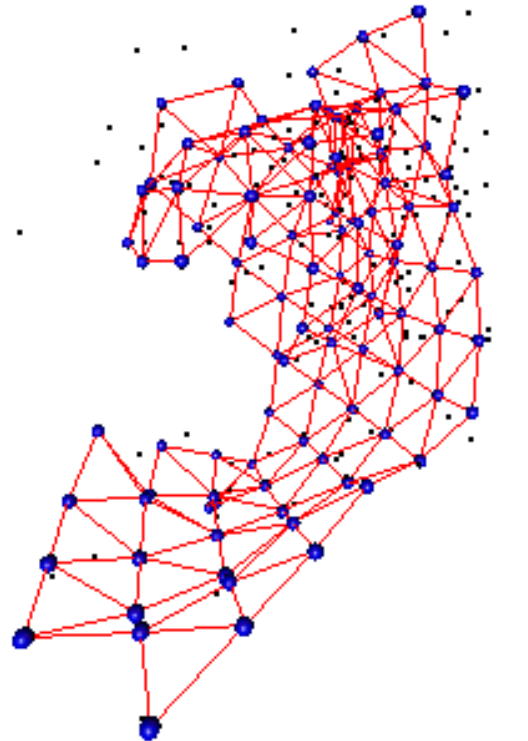
|     | Ozone | Solar.R | Wind | Temp |
|-----|-------|---------|------|------|
| 1   | 41    | 190     | 7.4  | 67   |
| ... |       |         |      |      |
| 24  | 32    | 92      | 12.0 | 61   |
| 25  | NA    | 66      | 16.6 | 57   |
| 26  | NA    | 266     | 14.9 | 58   |
| 27  | NA    | NA      | 8.0  | 57   |
| 28  | 23    | 13      | 12.0 | 67   |
| 29  | 45    | 252     | 14.9 | 81   |
| 30  | 115   | 223     | 5.7  | 79   |
| 31  | 37    | 279     | 7.4  | 76   |
| 32  | NA    | 286     | 8.6  | 78   |
| 33  | NA    | 287     | 9.7  | 74   |
| 34  | NA    | 242     | 16.1 | 67   |
| 35  | NA    | 186     | 9.2  | 84   |
| 36  | NA    | 220     | 8.6  | 85   |
| ... |       |         |      |      |
| 153 | 20    | 223     | 11.5 | 68   |

High ozone levels = red



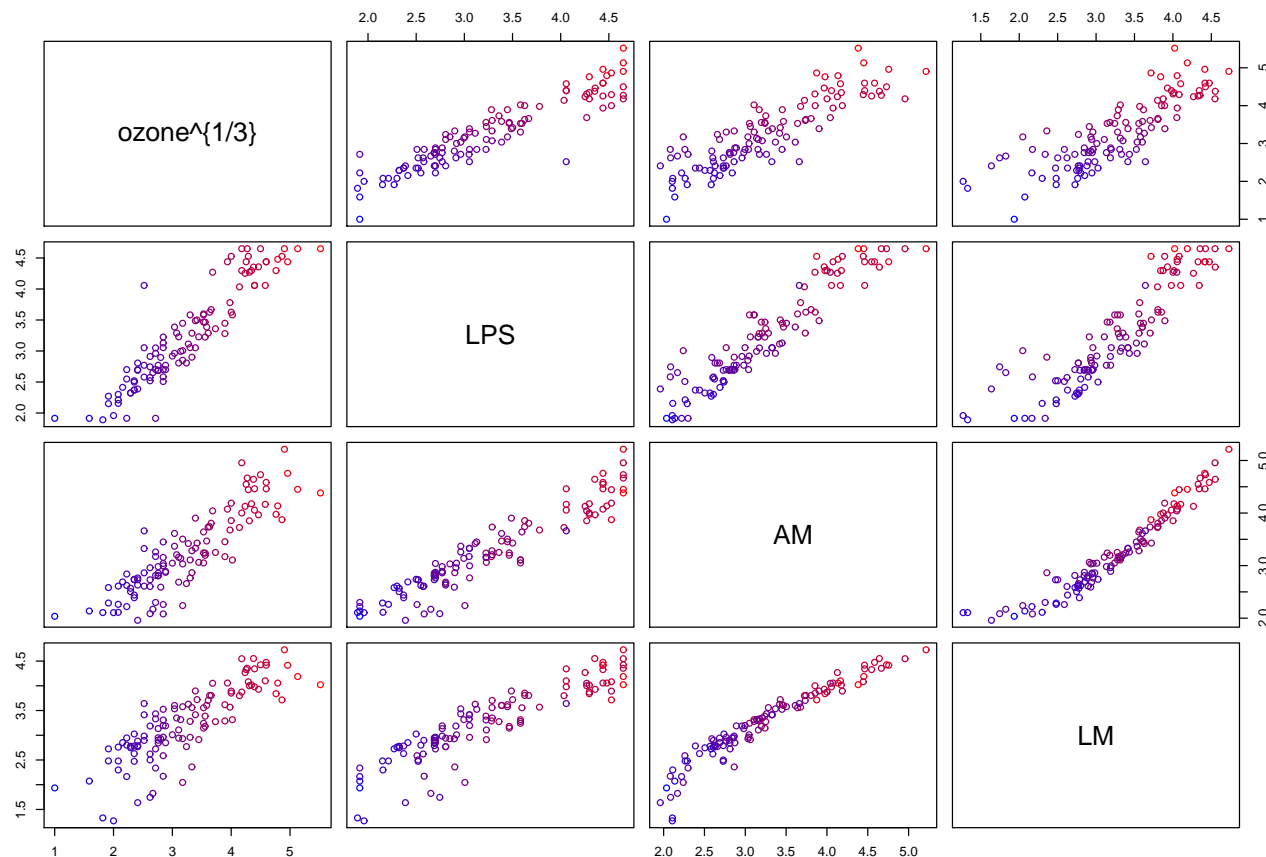
# Air Quality Measurements (cont.)

- Definitely needs a surface rather than a curve!
- Special feature: Lots of missing values in the response (42 out of 153), but few missing predictors (only 7 out 153 rows).
- However, we can estimate the manifold using the complete 146 rows of the predictor space, and then use this manifold to predict the response.



# Air Quality Measurements (cont.)

- True response, LPS-fitted ( $\lambda = 1$ ), Additive Model (AM)-, and Linear Model (LM)- fitted values:



# Remarks and Outlook

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- The proposed techniques are neither thought to be “universal” nor “automatic”, but may be useful in particular circumstances if there are strong nonlinear dependencies between the involved predictor variables.
- The technique unfolds its real power when considering predictor spaces of far higher dimension (for instance, spectral data).
- For high-dimensional predictor spaces a two-step strategy may be beneficial: Apply PCA on raw data, and approximate the scores through the manifold (Einbeck, Evers, & Powell, 2010).
- Retrospective post-processing (smoothing) of the manifold possible via the Elastic net algorithm (Gorban & Zinovyev, 2005).

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- Retrospective post-processing (smoothing) of the manifold possible via the Elastic net algorithm (Gorban & Zinovyev, 2005).
- Desirable:
  - Smoothing "within" the triangle (or simplex).
  - More "Statistics" ...



# References

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