STEPS IN INTERPRETING CONFIGURATIONS:

1. ENSURE ADEQUACY & STABILITY OF CONFIGURATION:
   [DIMENSIONALITY – start with 2
   - Inspect effect of point removal (& re-insertion) PERMAP: Object outliers
   - Report Stress, Spence Stress values when satisfied
   - remind yourself of fixed vs arbitrary aspects (origin? axes?)
2. HINTS OF POSSIBLE/ LIKELY STRUCTURES: GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS
   - Top Quartile of smallest links (from data): cluster cores? Linear sequences? Curvilinear/horseshoe structures? PERMAP Smallest Waern links
   - Top quartile largest Waern links (separators: these do most 'work')
3. CONFIRM INTERNAL CONCENTRATIONS/CLUSTERS: [hierarchical] CLUSTERING
   - Submit <u>data</u> (not distances of scaling solution ... why?) to HCS
   - Inspect both MAX and MIN solutions even if you decide to present an averaged tree
   - Match LoM of HCS with scaling (i.e. not metric with non-metric)
   - Map top iso-similarity contours into 2D solution
   - Decide on " natural level" (Rosch) of clustering
   - Match & name if verbal data available
4. CONFIRM EXTERNAL DIRECTIONS / LINES and/or HIGH-POINTS: Property Fitting & PrefMapping
   - Identify external properties (these may even be your ratings!)
   - Decide on whether to represent each as SPPF (ideal points) or directions of increase (ideal vectors); possibly choose by PREFMAP 3,4 F-values
   - In dimensional models, fitting properties as line-vectors may be used to interpret dimensions
   - Be sure to cite goodness-of-fit measure for external properties in Report and in configurations