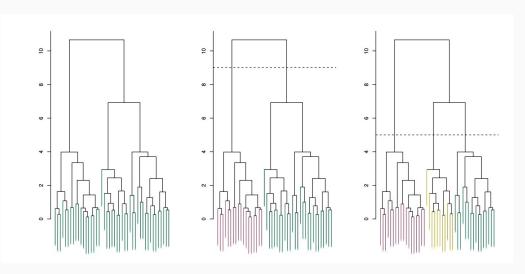
# Hierarchical Clustering

Townson Cocke with David Marcano

## Theory:

- Unlike k-means, hierarchical doesn't require pre-selecting # of clusters
- "Bottom up agglomerative"
- Unsupervised
- Produces visual dendrogram



## Theory:

- Each observation is a "leaf" on the dendrogram
- The lower the "height of fusion" the more similar the observations
- The higher the "height of fusion" the less similar the observations
- Distance matrix generated from observations,
  - Distances:
    - Euclidean
  - Linkage
    - How close/far are the clusters
    - Ward, complete, single

## Motivating Example: Asthma Phenotypes

- Heterogeneous disease:
  - Phenotypes are not very well understood
  - Difficult to precisely define
  - Depends on many factors
- ISAAC: International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood
  - Widely used questionnaire

#### Cluster analysis and clinical asthma phenotypes

P Haldar, ID Pavord, DE Shaw, MA Berry... - American journal of ..., 2008 - atsjournals.org

Rationale: Heterogeneity in asthma expression is multidimensional, including variability in

clinical, physiologic, and pathologic parameters. Classification requires consideration of these disparate domains in a unified model. Objectives: To explore the application of a ...

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Identification of asthma phenotypes using cluster analysis in the Severe **Asthma** Research Program

WC Moore, DA Meyers, SE Wenzel... - American journal of ..., 2010 - atsjournals.org Rationale: The Severe Asthma Research Program cohort includes subjects with persistent asthma who have undergone detailed phenotypic characterization. Previous univariate

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methods compared features of mild, moderate, and severe asthma. Objectives: To identify ...

### Identifying adult asthma phenotypes using a clustering approach

V Siroux, X Basagaña, A Boudier, I Pin... - European ..., 2011 - Eur Respiratory Soc There is a need to improve asthma characterisation by integrating multiple aspects of the disease. The aim of the present study was to identify distinct asthma phenotypes by applying latent class analysis (LCA), a model-based clustering method, to two large epidemiological ... ☆ Save ® Cite Cited by 296 Related articles All 11 versions ♦

[HTML] Cluster analysis of obesity and asthma phenotypes

.... Leung2, 4 for the Asthma Clinical Research Network - PloS one, 2012 - journals.plos.org

Background **Asthma** is a heterogeneous disease with variability among patients in characteristics such as lung function, symptoms and control, body weight, markers of

inflammation, and responsiveness to glucocorticoids (GC). Cluster analysis of well ... ☆ Save 
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### The Journal of Pediatrics

Volume 164, Issue 4, April 2014, Pages 815-820



Original Article

### Childhood Allergic Asthma Is Not a Single Phenotype

Jocelyne Just MD, PhD  $^1 \stackrel{\triangle}{\sim} \boxtimes$ , Philippe Saint-Pierre PhD  $^2$ , Rahele Gouvis-Echraghi MD  $^1$ , Yacine Laoudi MD  $^1$ , Layde Roufai MD  $^1$ , Isabelle Momas PharmD, PhD  $^3$ , Isabella Annesi Maesano MD, PhD, DSc  $^4$ 

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2013.11.037

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**Phases Introduction** 

#### **Phase One**

ISAAC Manual (pdf)

Coding and Data
Transfer Manual (pdf)

Centre Report (pdf)

Centres and Principal Collaborators

Phase One Field Work Guide

Guidelines For Translation of Questionnaires

Instructions For Use of the Video

Questionnaire

Phase One Results

Phase One Individual
Data

Phase One Study Group

**Phase Two** 

**Phase Three** 

**Phase Four** 

.....

You are here: Home > Phases > Phase One> Individual data

#### **ISAAC Phase One Individual Data**

Select a Region, Country and Centre from the list boxes to view the data. To select multiple centres, use the shift or ctrl keys or select 'all' to select centres in a region or country. The data is presented in a zip file containing a csv file for each centre. Please see the Coding and Data Transfer Manual for detailed information concerning the how the data is presented within these files. To ensure the privacy of the participants, the date of the has been replaced with age in months in the data. Centre for which we have not yet recieved permission to display data have been greyed out in selection boxes below.

Alternatively, ISAAC datasets have now been deposited in an openly accessible data archive. Individual- and centre-level data and documentation from ISAAC Phases One, Two and Three are now accessible at the following webpage:

http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/catalogue?sn=8131.

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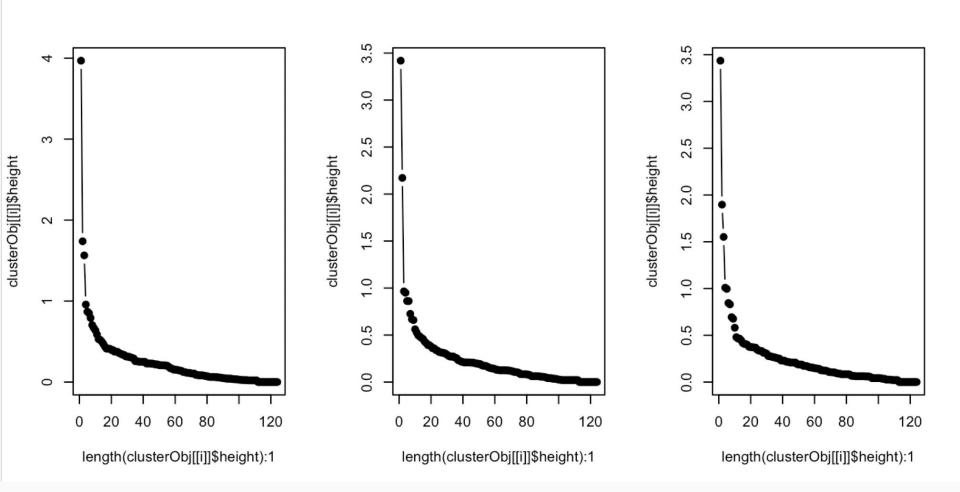
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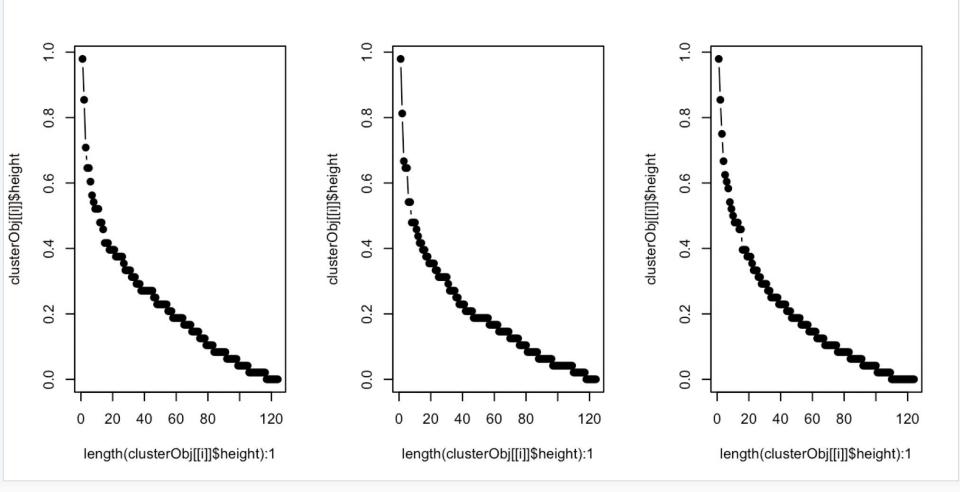
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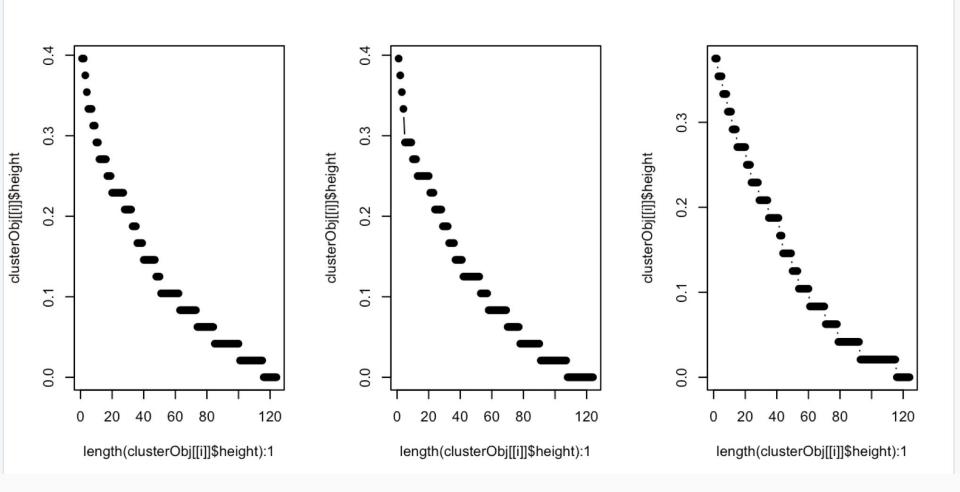
7.5.1	Questionnaire				
1.	Has your breathing ever been like this?: at any time in your life? if YES,: in the last year? if YES,: one or more times a month?	YES YES YES		NO NO NO	
2.	Has your breathing been like the girl's in the video f		ng exercise		
	at any time in your life? if YES,: in the last year? if YES,: one or more times a month?	YES YES YES		NO NO NO	
3.	Have you been woken like this at night?: at any time in your life? if YES,: in the last year? if YES,: one or more times a month?	YES YES YES		NO NO NO	
4.	Have you been woken like this at night?: at any time in your life? if YES,: in the last year? if YES,: one or more times a month?	YES YES YES		NO NO NO	
5.	Has your breathing been like this?: at any time in your life? if YES,: in the last year? if YES,: one or more times a month?	YES YES YES		NO NO NO	

### Data Analysis

- Using the hclust() function in R, we created a distance matrix using the gower distance metric
  - Gower allows for a mixture of categorical and continuous data
- Used three linkages: ward, complete, single
- Bootstrapping
  - Useful for testing stability (how similar are scree plots in next slide for each of the samples of 125 individuals)







### Interpretation

- 4 clusters seem to work best (using the "elbow method" visual check of the scree plot)
  - o Past this point of four clusters, there are diminishing returns in terms of cluster robustness

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