



- Used for exploratory data analysis
 - visualize the variation present in a dataset with many variables
 - particularly helpful in the case of "wide" datasets, where you have many variables for each sample
- With many variables are present,
 - not easy to plot the data in its raw format,
 - difficult sense of trends present
- PCA allows you to see the overall "shape" of the data
 - identify which samples are similar to one another/which are different
 - work out which variables make one group different from another
- PCA is a type of linear transformation on a given data set
 - has values for a certain number of variables (coordinates) for a certain amount of spaces.
- Transform a set of x correlated variables over y samples to a set of p uncorrelated principal components over the same samples









