Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

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Data sets are often complex, with multiple variables to consider

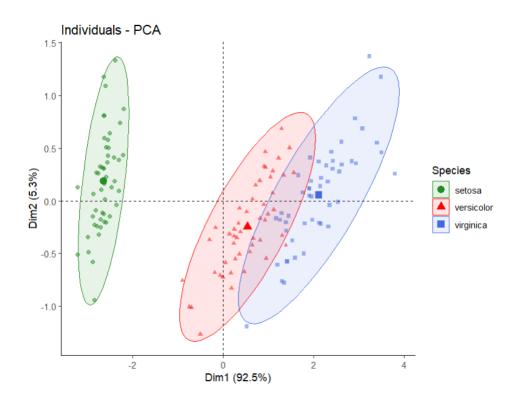
Making multiple comparisons between all these variables can reach a point of impossibility!

What if there was a way to reduce this complexity, and look at

overall patterns in the data?

This is what a PCA does

PCAs transform data by means of "dimension reductions"



Let's have a look at the Iris dataset

```
head(iris data)
 sepal_length sepal_width petal_length petal_width species
                             0.2 setosa
                      1.4
      5.1 3.5
                  1.4 0.2 setosa
      4.9 3.0
                  1.3
     4.7 3.2
                          0.2 setosa
     4.6 3.1
                  1.5 0.2 setosa
                  1.4 0.2 setosa
     5.0 3.6
           3.9
                    1.7
                          0.4 setosa
      5.4
```

We have three species and four morphological measurements



After removing the non-numeric column (species), and checking for NA values, we can run a PCA on the data frame:

PC1 accounts for 73% of the variation in the data, and PC2 accounts for 23%

Let's look at the loadings:

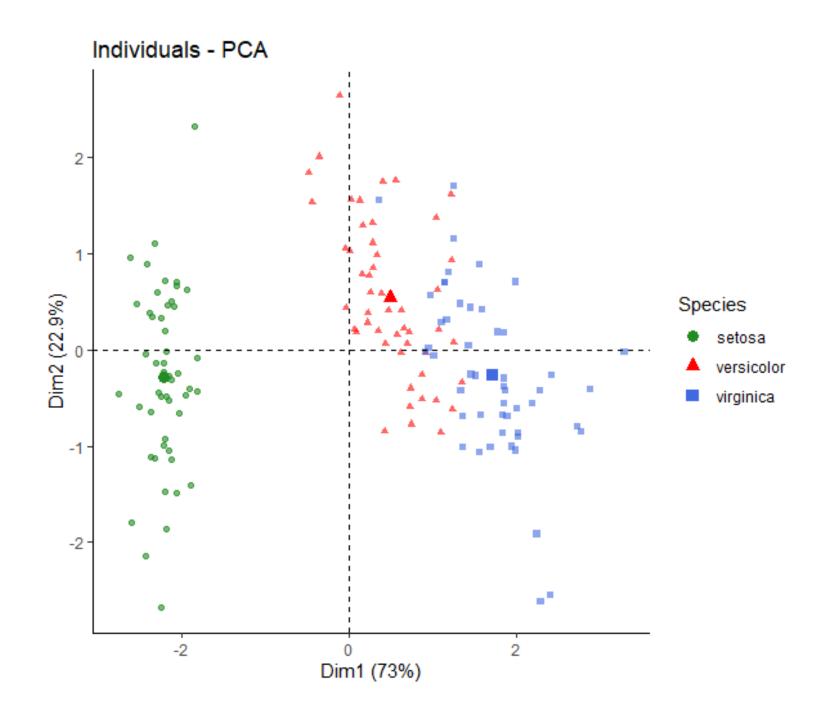
```
pca_loadings_iris = pca iris$rotation %>%
                                                  PC2
as.data.frame() %>% dplyr::select(c(PC1, PC2))
> pca loadings iris
                    PC1
                               PC2
sepal length 0.5210659 -0.37741762
sepal width -0.2693474 -0.92329566
petal length 0.5804131 -0.02449161
petal width 0.5648565 -0.06694199
```

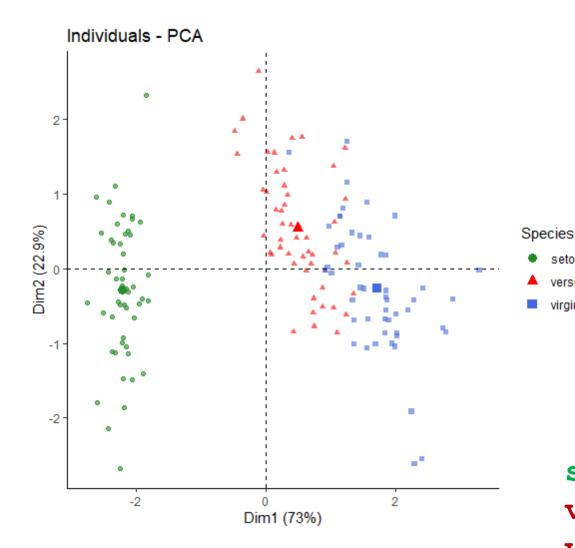
Sepal length, petal length, and petal width all increase along the + side of the PC1 axis, while sepal width increases on the – side of the PC1 axis

Plot using ggplot:

```
factoextra::fviz_pca_ind(pca_iris, geom = "point",
col.ind = iris_data$species,
palette = c("forestgreen", "red", "royalblue"),
legend.title = "Species", alpha.ind = 0.6) +
scale_shape_manual(values=c(19, 17, 15)) +
theme_classic()
```

We're specifying three colours and shape values for each of the three Iris species, and we'll use the fviz_pca_ind() function in the factoextra package





```
> pca_loadings_iris

PC1 PC2

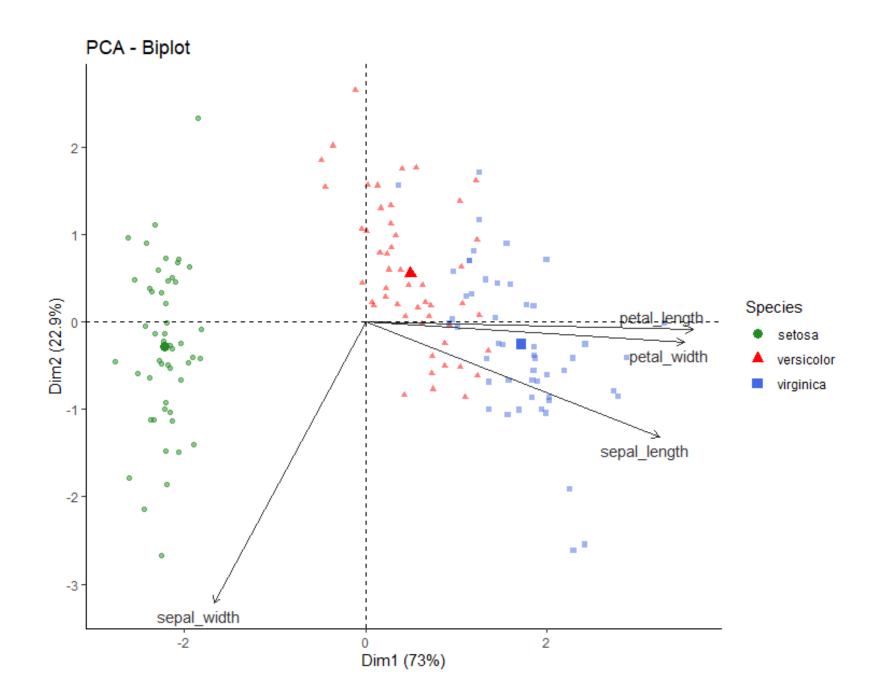
sepal_length 0.5210659 -0.37741762

sepal_width -0.2693474 -0.92329566

petal_length 0.5804131 -0.02449161

petal_width 0.5648565 -0.06694199
```

setosa has larger sepal widths than versicolor and virginica, but versicolor and viriginica have larger sepal lengths, and petal lengths and widths than setosa



The rgl package offers 3D plots to explore your data

