Cast as a classification problem, the k-means clustering algorithm achieves a sensitivity of 0.613, a specificity of 0.997, and an F1 score of 0.758. The confusion matrix is as follows.

Essentially, *k*-means does an excellent job not classifying benign patients as malignant, but it fails to classify many of the malignant patients as such.

Appendix

The following Matlab script performs the k-means clustering.

run-kmeans.m

```
1 x = dlmread('wdbc-values.data', ',');
2 c = kmeans(x, 2);
3 dlmwrite('wdbc-clusters.data', c);
4 exit
```

The following shell script can be used to download the data, process it, run the Matlab script, and compare the clustering results with actual diagnoses.

run-all.sh

```
#!/bin/bash
DATASERVER=http://archive.ics.uci.edu
DATAPATH=ml/machine-learning-databases/breast-cancer-wisconsin
curl -o wdbc.data $DATASERVER/$DATAPATH/wdbc.data
perl -ne '@f = split/,/; print(join(",", @f[2..31]))' < wdbc.data > wdbc-values.data
perl -ne '@f = split/,/; printf("%s\n", $f[1])' < wdbc.data > wdbc-diagnoses.data
//Applications/MATLAB_R2011b.app/bin/matlab -nodisplay < run-kmeans.m
echo -e "\n\n\n=====Results====="
paste -d: wdbc-clusters.data wdbc-diagnoses.data | sort | uniq -c</pre>
```

Running the shell script on my desktop gives the following terminal output.

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To get started, type one of these: helpwin, helpdesk, or demo. For product information, visit www.mathworks.com.

>> >> >>

=====Results=====

1 1:B

130 1:M

356 2:B

82 2:M