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INTRO TO R PROGRAMMING R Tutorial (RSM456) – Session 3

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Website: https://tdmdal.github.io/r-intro-2024-winter/



K-Means Cluster Analysis

- A method to partition *n* observations into *k* clusters
 - such that total within-cluster sum of squares (WSS, sum of squared distance between observations to cluster centroid) is minimized
- A **cluster** refers to a collection of data points aggregated together because of certain similarities
 - Similarity based on a distance measure
- Need to set k
 - There are methods to help you decide the value of k

K-Means Cluster Analysis: A Simple Example

- Observations: 150 2-d points
- Set k = 3
 - partition each observation to one of the 3 clusters $S = \{S_1, S_2, S_3\}$
- K-means clustering algorithm finds
 3 clusters such that



Within-cluster sum of squares



K-means in R – Country Risk Exercise

- Import the country_risk.xlsx data
- Prepare the data for k-means clustering
 - Perform correlation analysis and choose features
 - Standardize the features
- Perform a K-means cluster analysis
 - Determine *k* using the "elbow" method
 - Run k-mean clustering algorithm for a chosen k (i.e., fit/learn/estimate the model)
 - Interpret/name the clusters