Basics of hierarchical clustering

CLUSTER ANALYSIS IN PYTHON



Shaumik Daityari
Business Analyst



Creating a distance matrix using linkage

- method : how to calculate the proximity of clusters
- metric : distance metric
- optimal_ordering : order data points

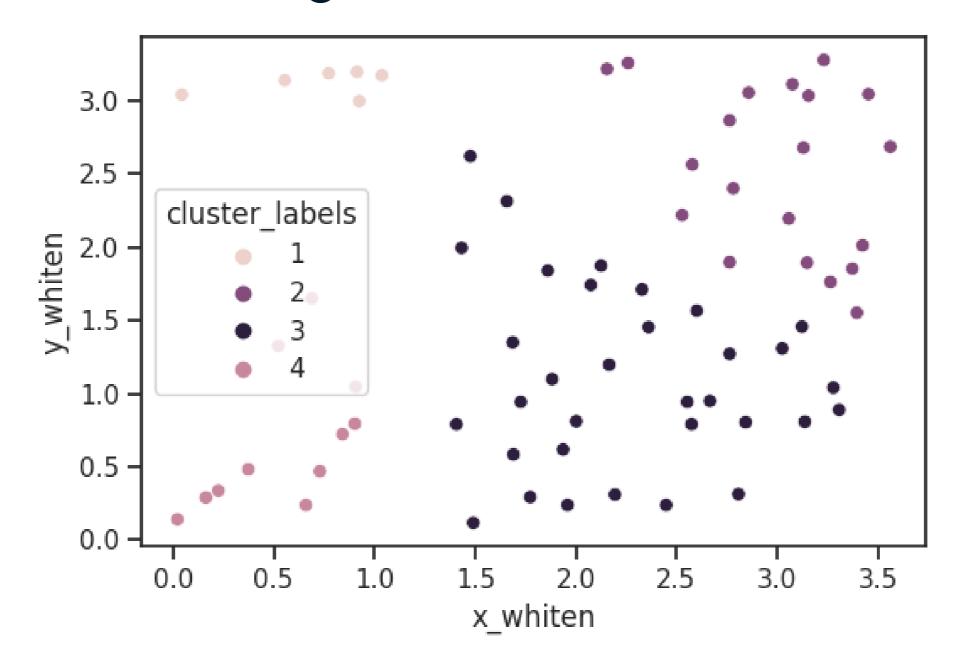
Which method should use?

- 'single': based on two closest objects
- 'complete': based on two farthest objects
- 'average': based on the arithmetic mean of all objects
- 'centroid': based on the geometric mean of all objects
- 'median': based on the median of all objects
- 'ward': based on the sum of squares

Create cluster labels with fcluster

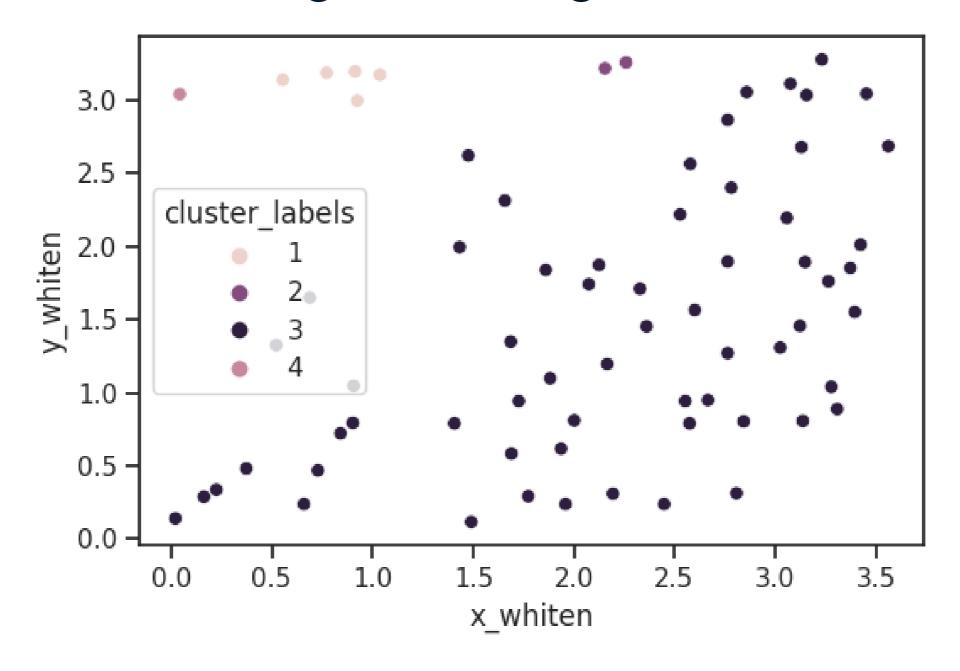
- distance_matrix : output of linkage() method
- num_clusters : number of clusters
- criterion: how to decide thresholds to form clusters

Hierarchical clustering with ward method



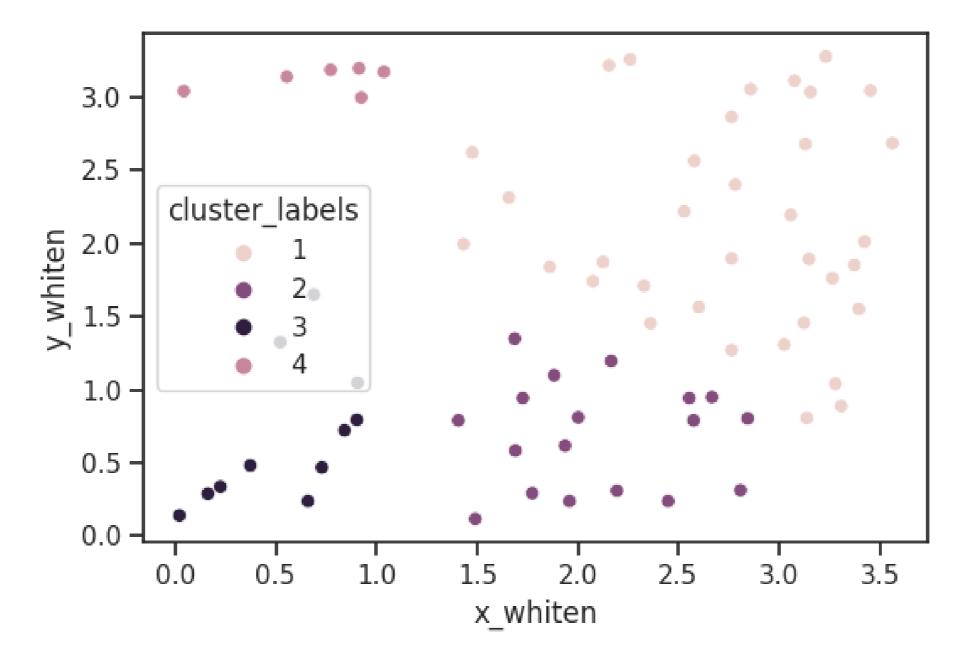


Hierarchical clustering with single method





Hierarchical clustering with complete method





Final thoughts on selecting a method

- No one right method for all
- Need to carefully understand the distribution of data

Let's try some exercises

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Visualize clusters

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Shaumik Daityari
Business Analyst



Why visualize clusters?

- Try to make sense of the clusters formed
- An additional step in validation of clusters
- Spot trends in data

An introduction to seaborn

- seaborn: a Python data visualization library based on matplotlib
- Has better, easily modifiable aesthetics than matplotlib!
- Contains functions that make data visualization tasks easy in the context of data analytics
- Use case for clustering: hue parameter for plots

Visualize clusters with matplotlib

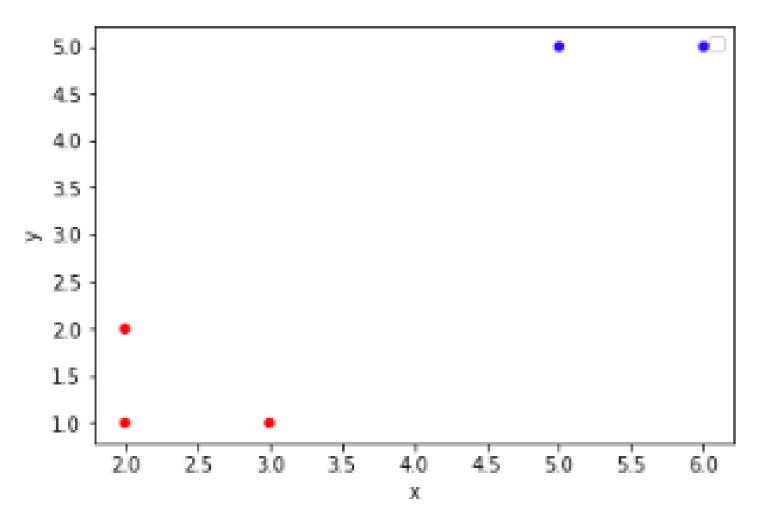
```
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
df = pd.DataFrame(\{'x': [2, 3, 5, 6, 2],
                   'y': [1, 1, 5, 5, 2],
                   'labels': ['A', 'A', 'B', 'B', 'A']})
colors = {'A':'red', 'B':'blue'}
df.plot.scatter(x='x',
                y='y',
                c=df['labels'].apply(lambda x: colors[x]))
plt.show()
```

Visualize clusters with seaborn

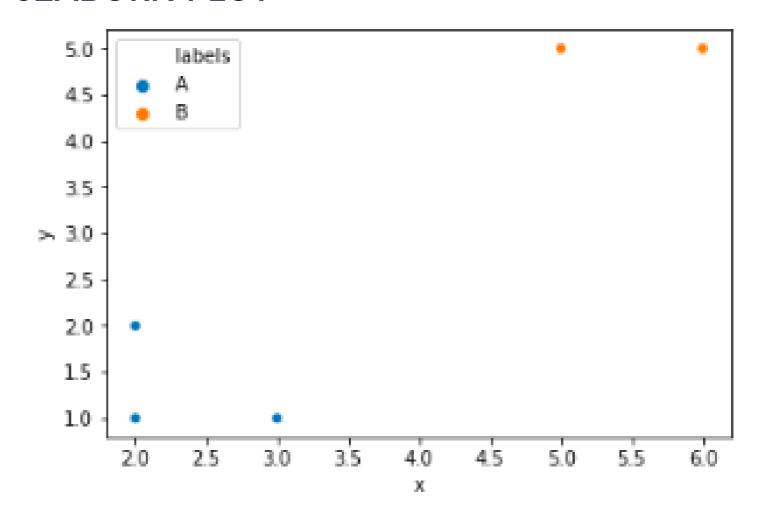
```
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
df = pd.DataFrame(\{'x': [2, 3, 5, 6, 2],
                   'y': [1, 1, 5, 5, 2],
                   'labels': ['A', 'A', 'B', 'B', 'A']})
sns.scatterplot(x='x',
                y='y',
                hue='labels',
                data=df)
plt.show()
```

Comparison of both methods of visualization

MATPLOTLIB PLOT



SEABORN PLOT



Next up: Try some visualizations

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How many clusters?

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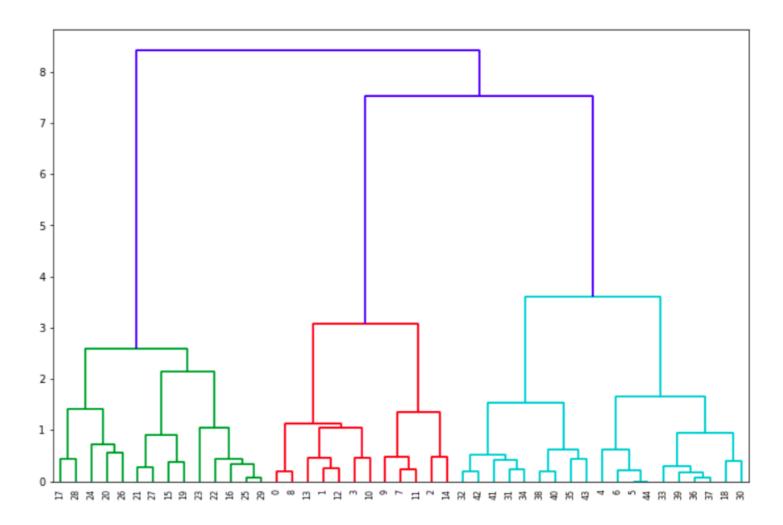


Shaumik Daityari
Business Analyst



Introduction to dendrograms

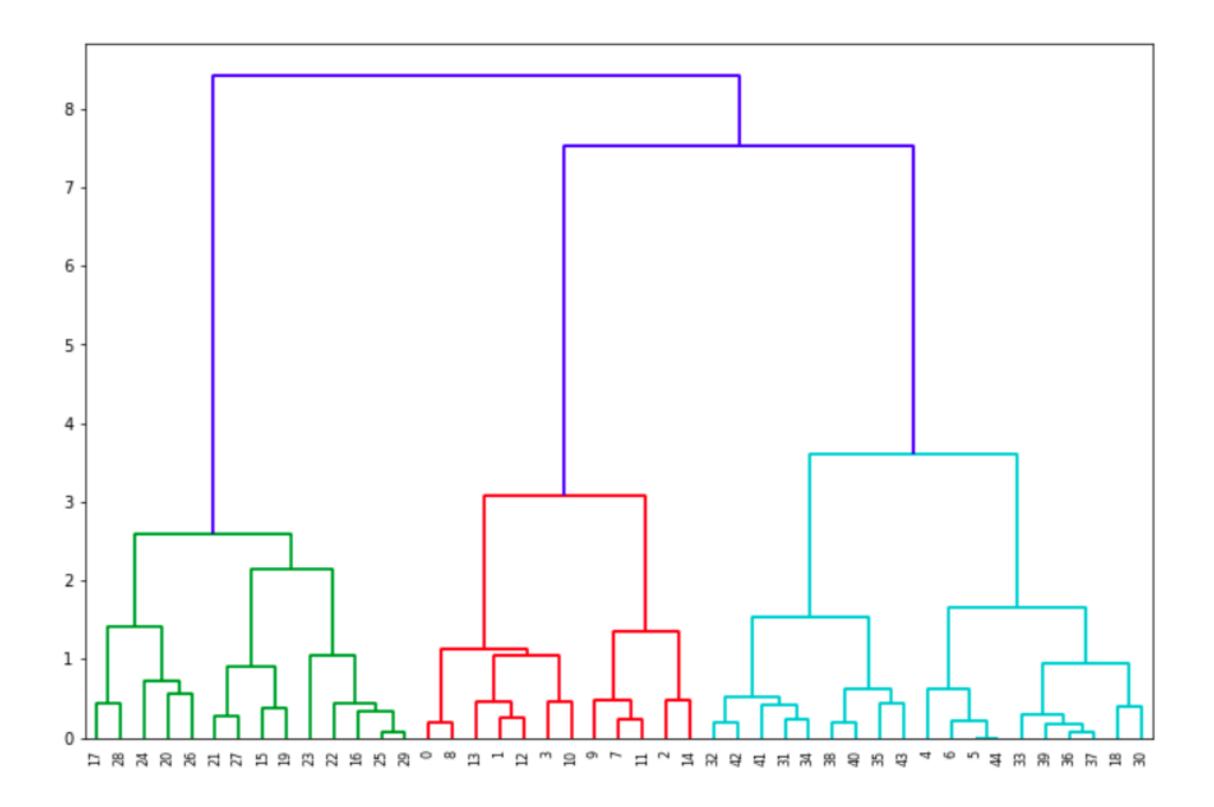
- Strategy till now decide clusters on visual inspection
- Dendrograms help in showing progressions as clusters are merged
- A dendrogram is a branching diagram that demonstrates how each cluster is composed by branching out into its child nodes

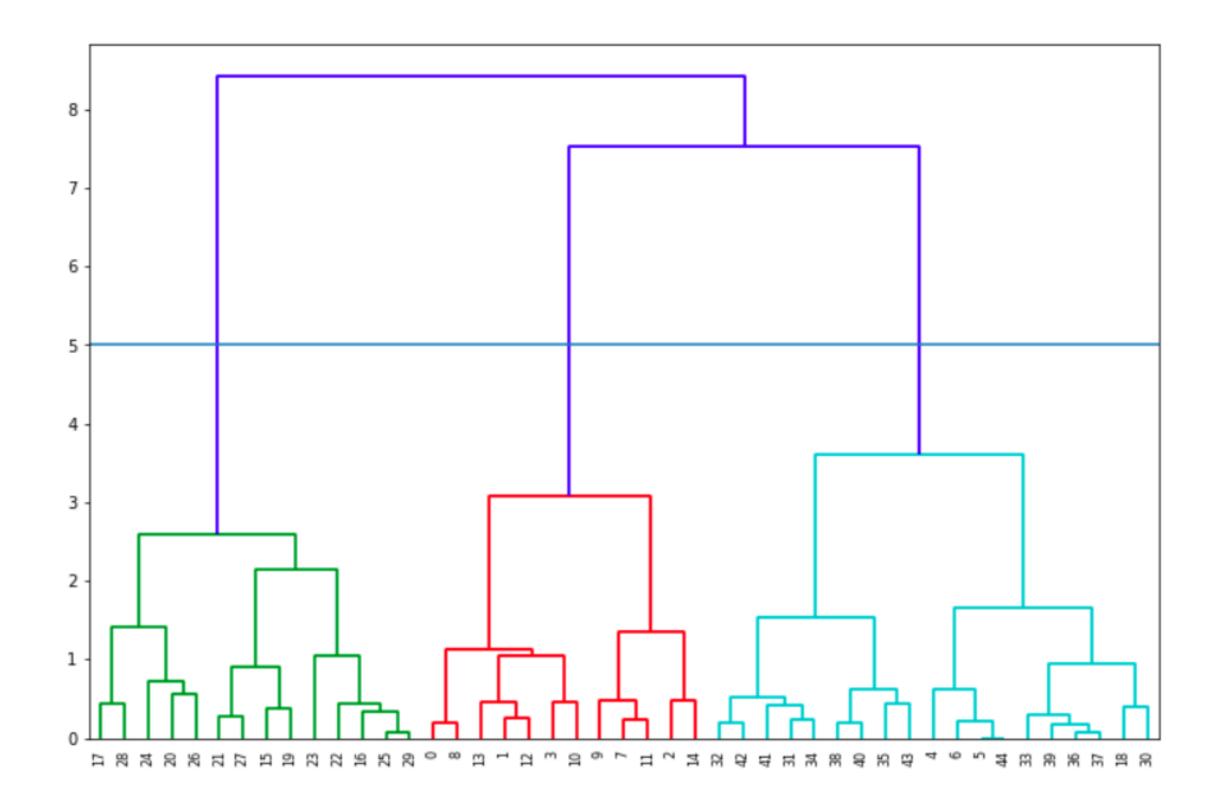


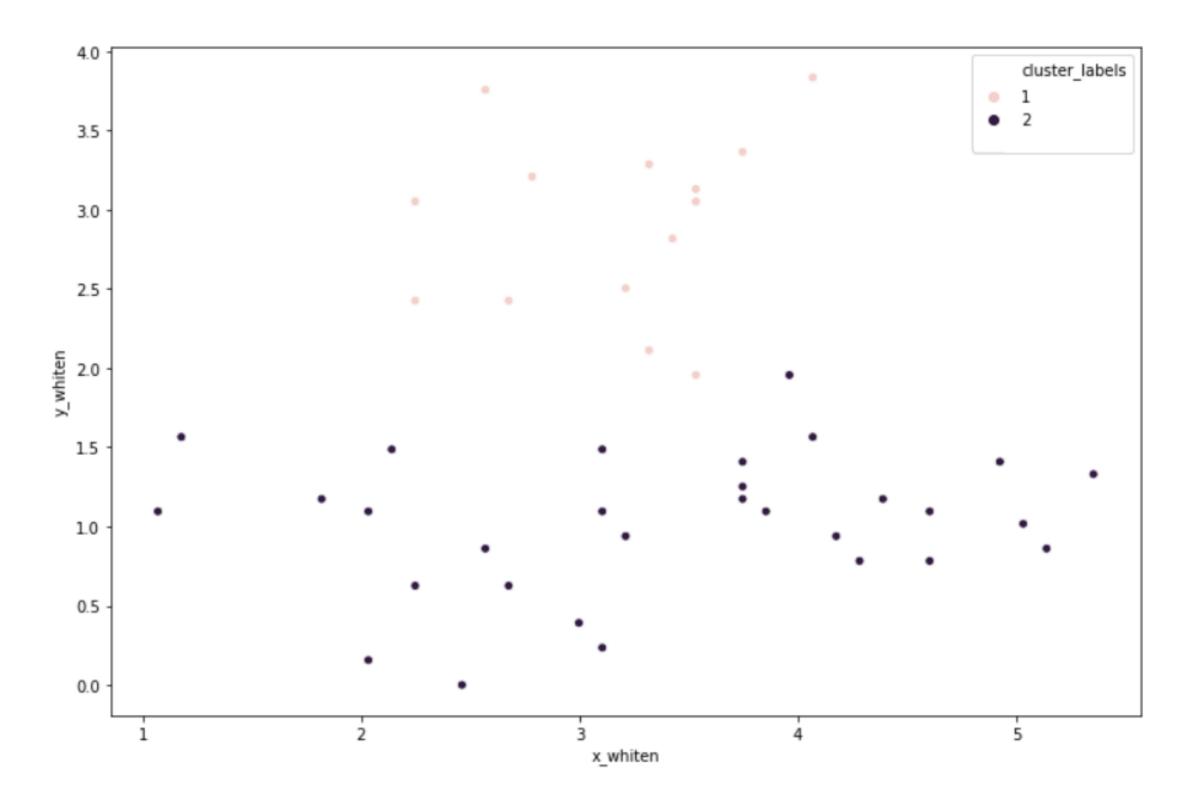
Create a dendrogram in SciPy

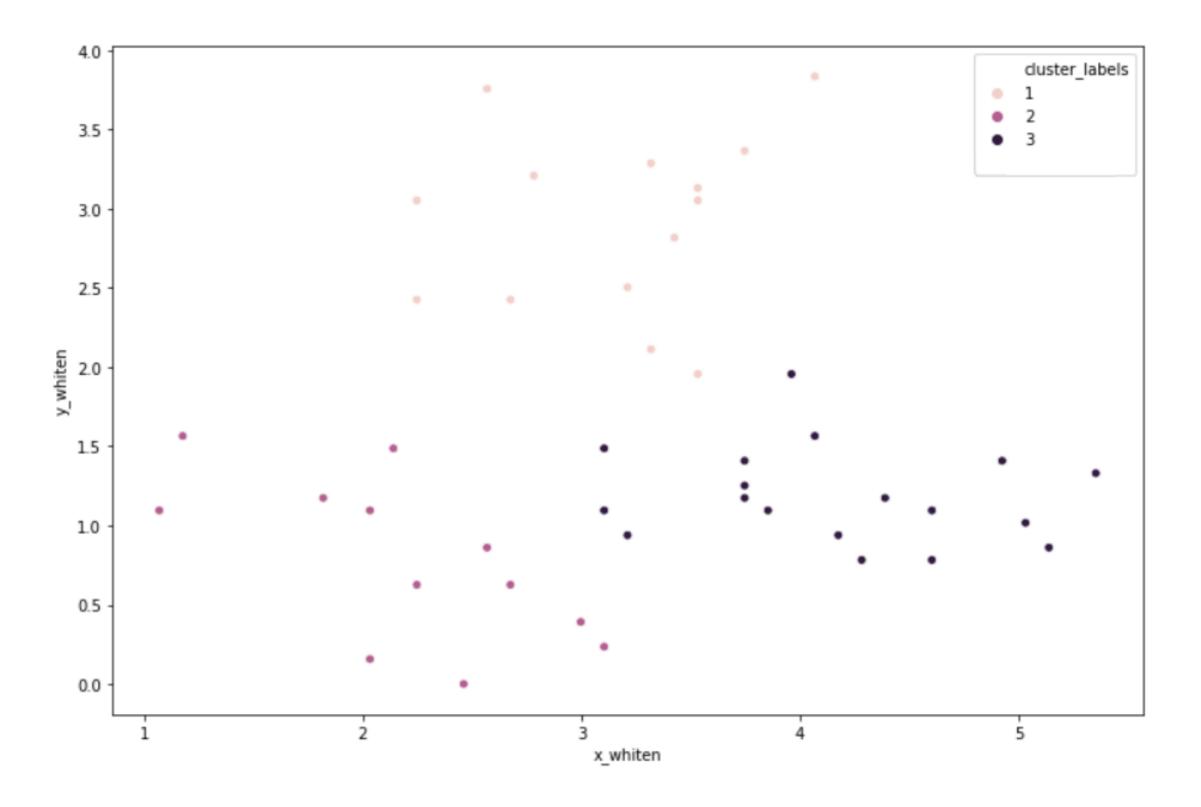
```
from scipy.cluster.hierarchy import dendrogram
```

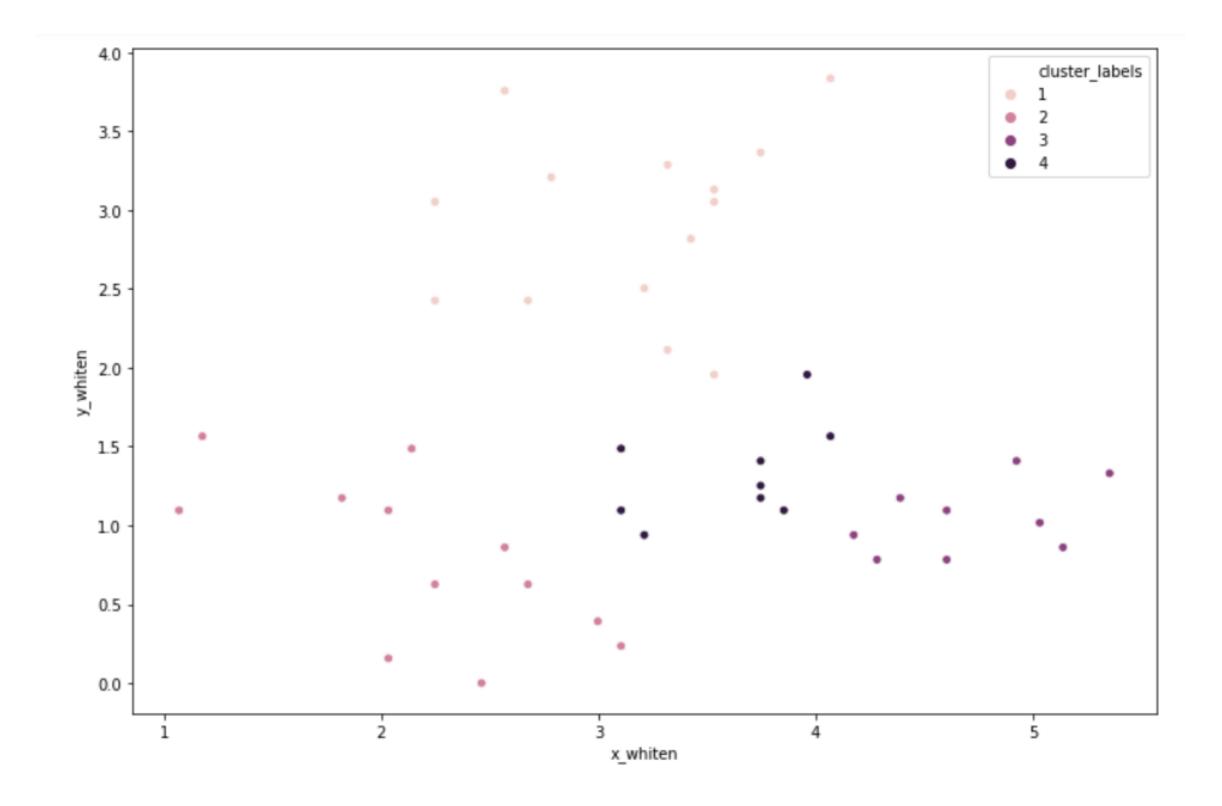












Next up - try some exercises

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Limitations of hierarchical clustering

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Business Analyst



Measuring speed in hierarchical clustering

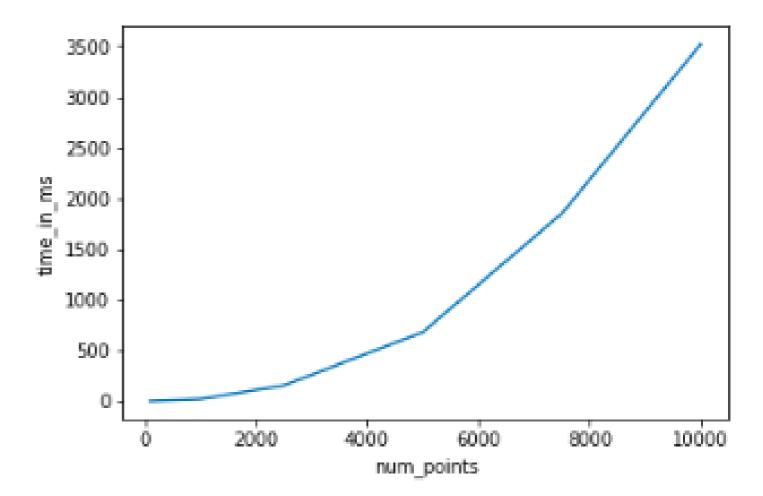
- timeit module
- Measure the speed of .linkage() method
- Use randomly generated points
- Run various iterations to extrapolate

Use of timeit module

```
1.02 ms \pm 133 \mus per loop (mean \pm std. dev. of 7 runs, 1000 loops each)
```

Comparison of runtime of linkage method

- Increasing runtime with data points
- Quadratic increase of runtime
- Not feasible for large datasets



Next up - exercises

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