

# R Lab - Day 4

# Clustering

**MED3007 V24**

**2024.01.18**

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# Overview

## Topics for this morning

Hierarchical clustering

Heatmap

K-means clustering

Exercises, reading time

# Clustering

## Overview

A type of unsupervised learning technique

Partition the data (without labels) into subgroups, where data within the same group are similar

**Hierarchical clustering, K-means** are common techniques

Unsupervised: no true outcome labels - **make interpretation with caution**

(in the NCI60 and gene expression examples, we have true labels)

# Hierarchical clustering

## Overview

Start with **each point** in its own cluster (bottom-up)

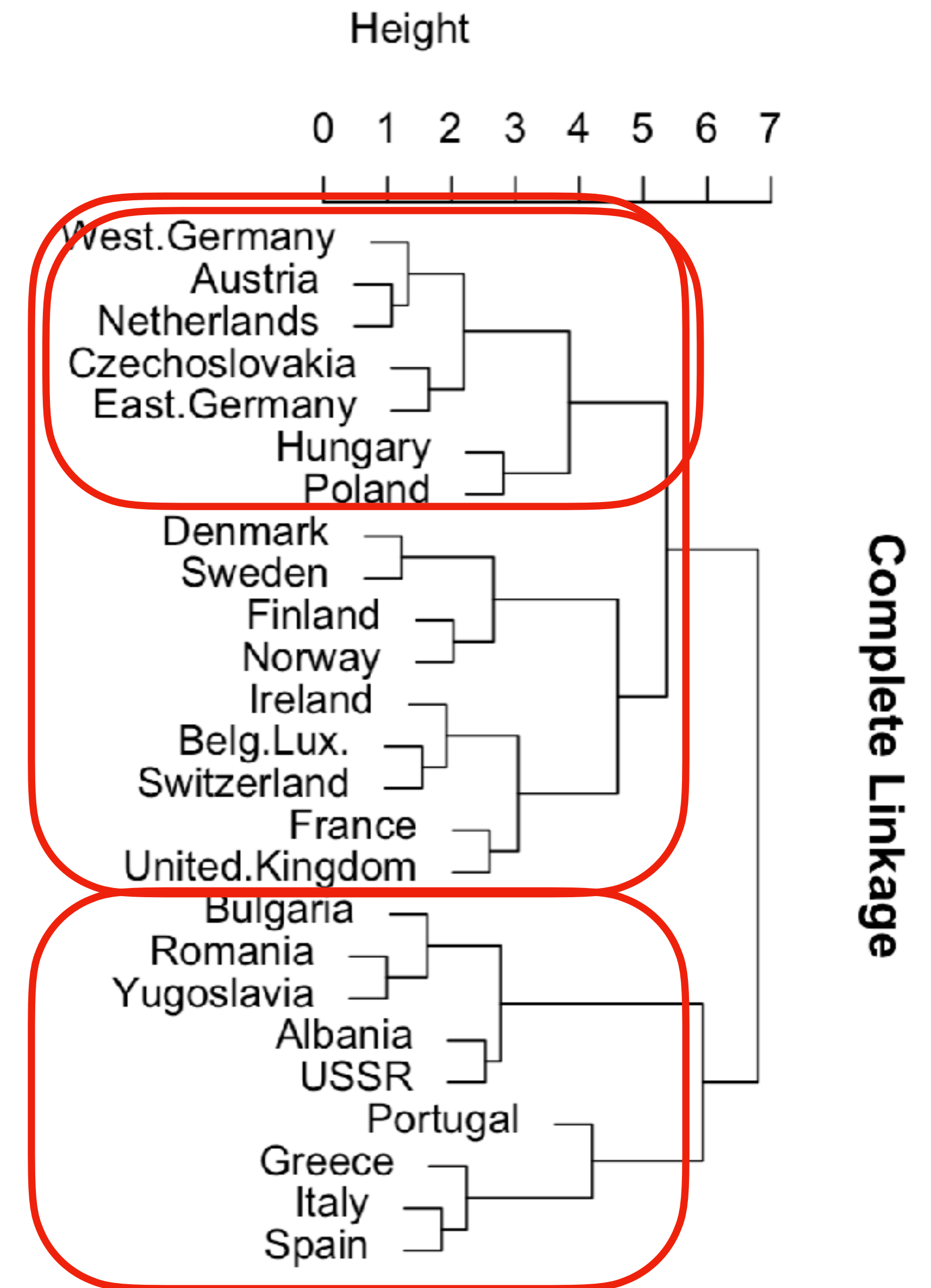
Identify the **closest two clusters** and merge them

Repeat

Ends when all points are in a **single cluster**

You do not need to explicitly ask for how many clusters  
- it computes  $n = 1 \dots N$  clusters

You decide how many clusters you'd like: 2, 3, 4? ...



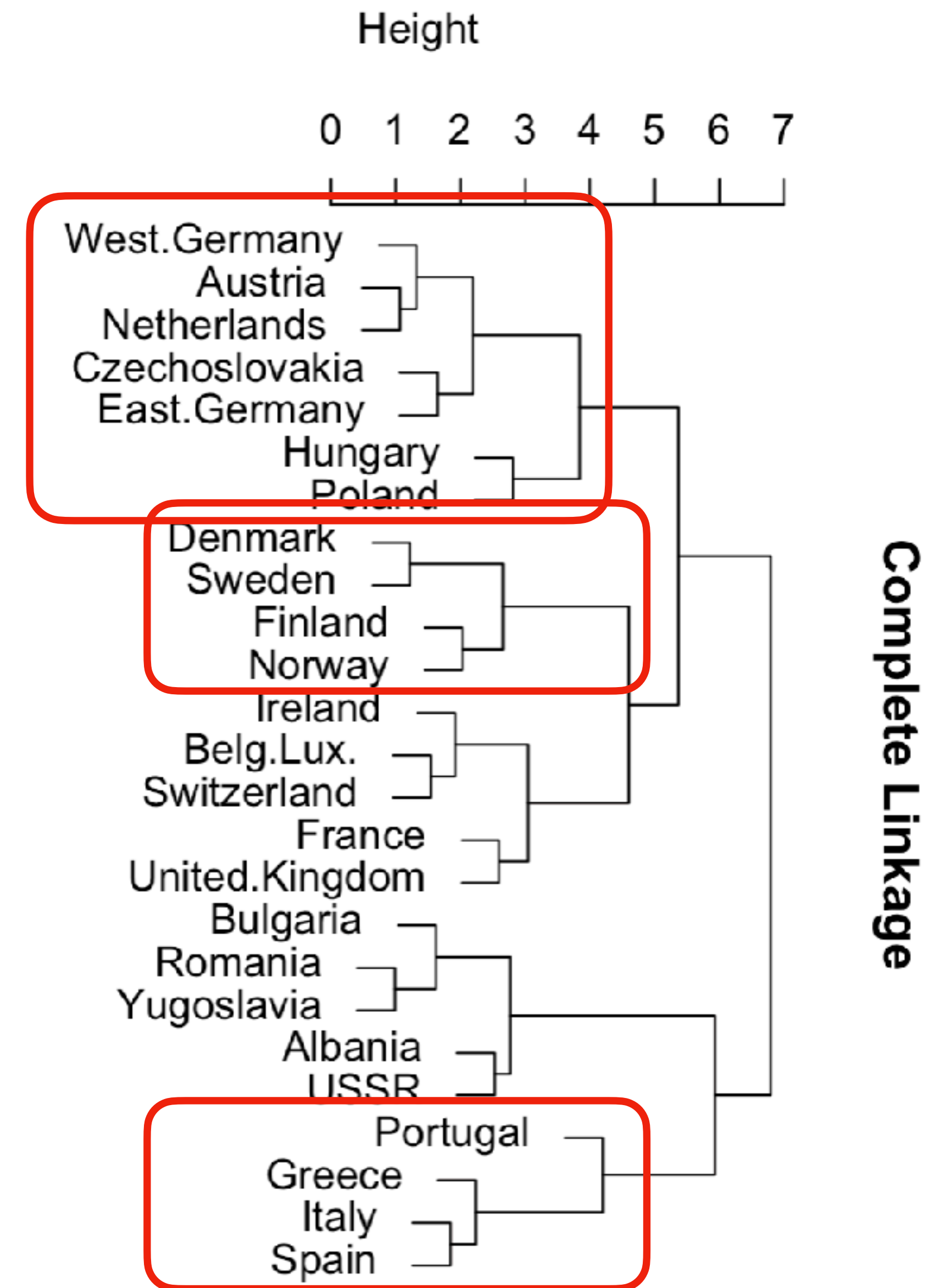
# Hierarchical clustering

## Overview

Start with **each point** in its own cluster (bottom-up)  
Identify the **closest two clusters** and merge them  
Repeat  
Ends when all points are in a **single cluster**

You do not need to explicitly ask for how many clusters  
- it computes  $n = 1 \dots N$  clusters

(Food.txt example: hierarchical clustering algorithm can identify clusters of dietary preference by geographical regions)



# Hierarchical clustering

## Linkage

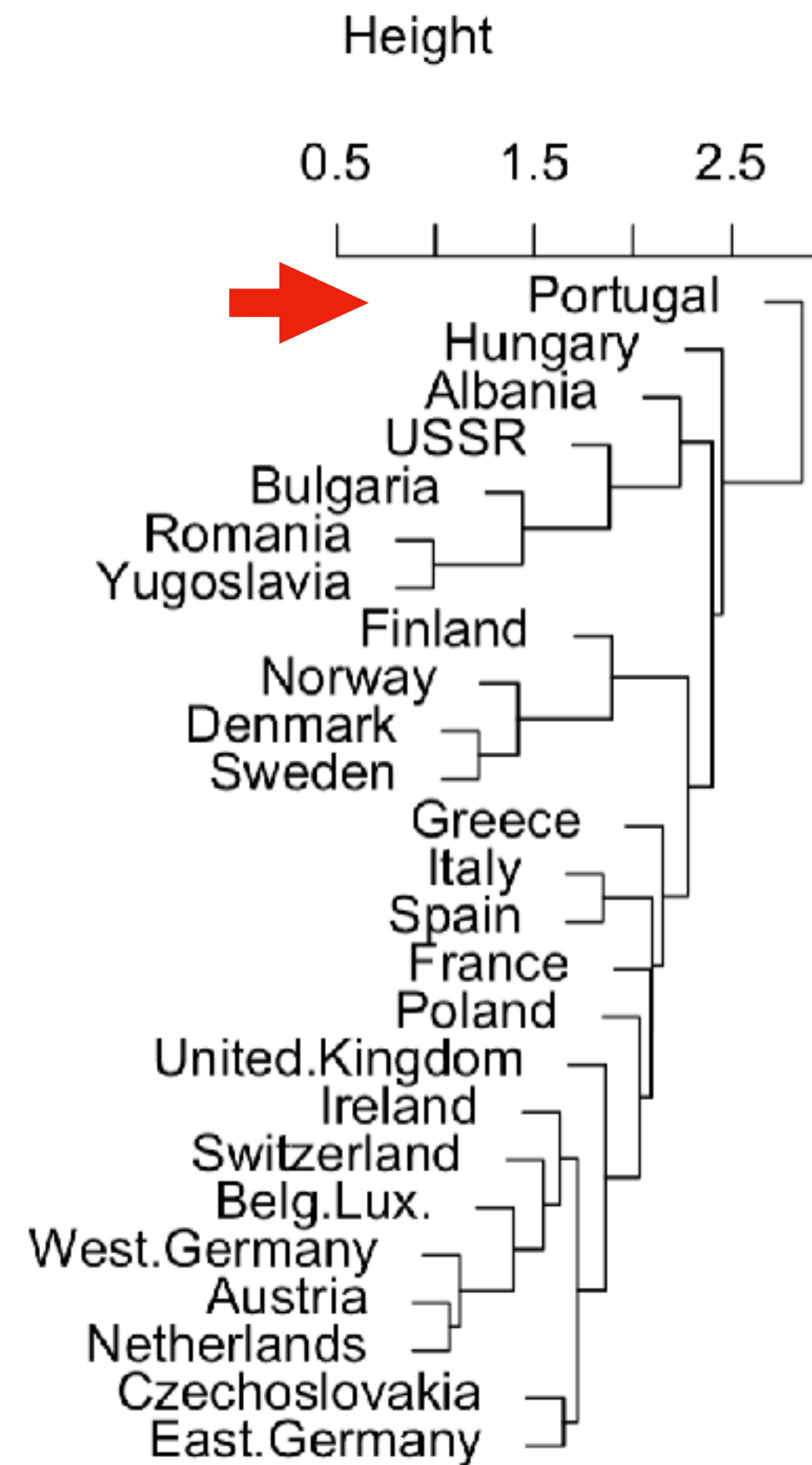
Linkage options: ways to compute the distance between clusters (rather than any two points)

Complete

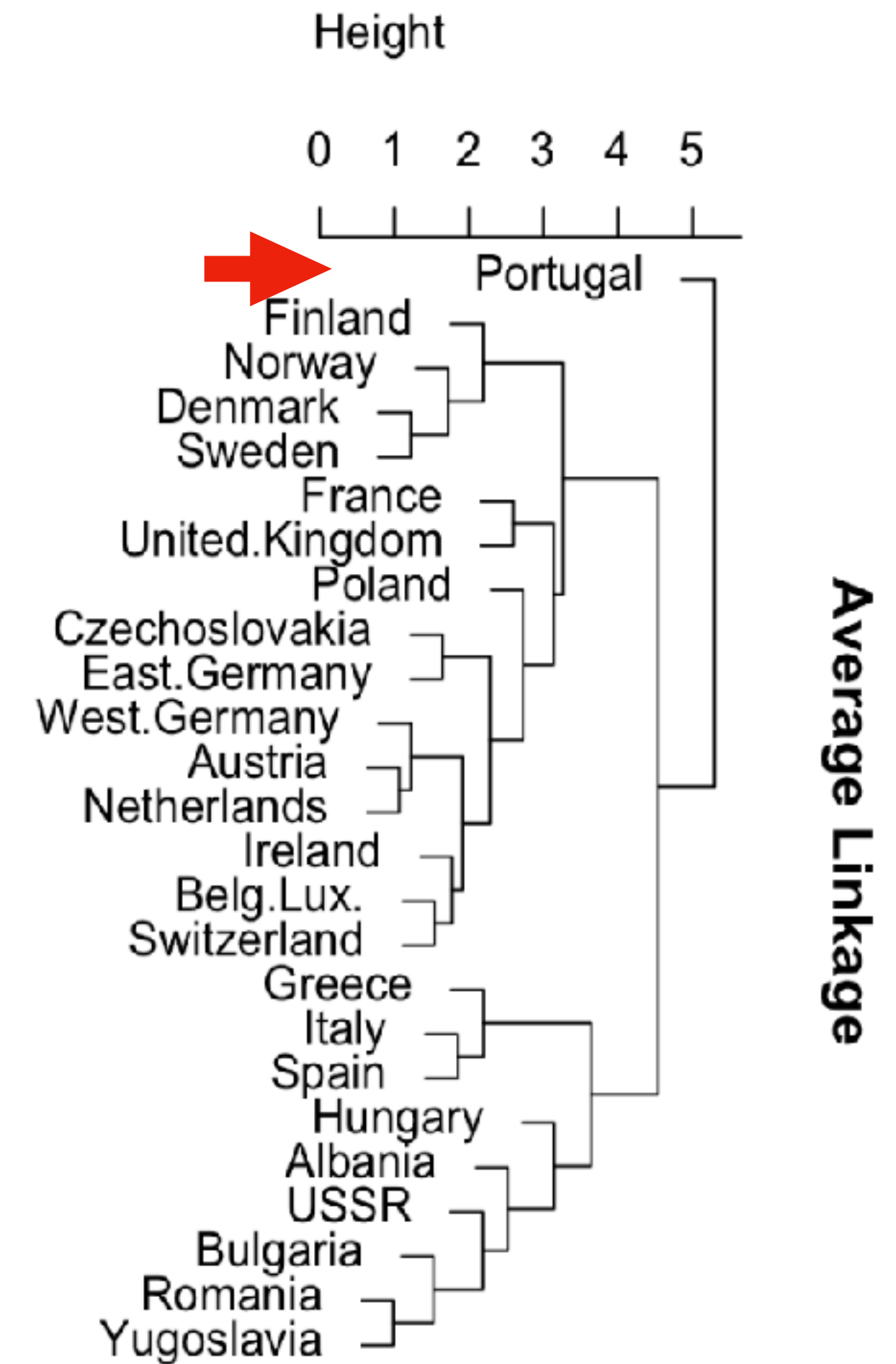
Single

Average

Each has its own pros and cons, try different ones to see which is better



Single Linkage



Average Linkage

# Hierarchical clustering

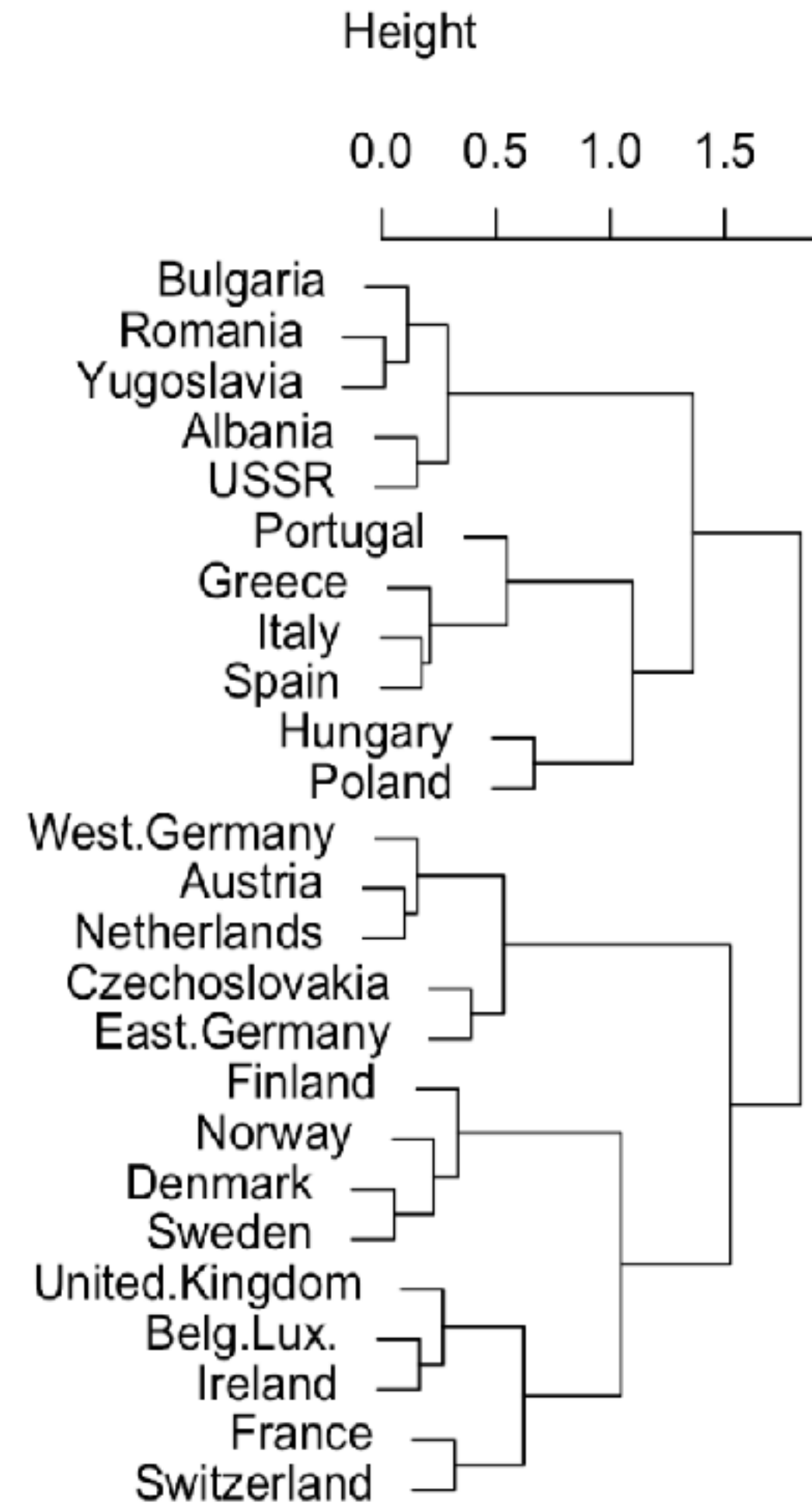
## Dissimilarity, scaling

**Dissimilarity:** how each pair of subjects differ.

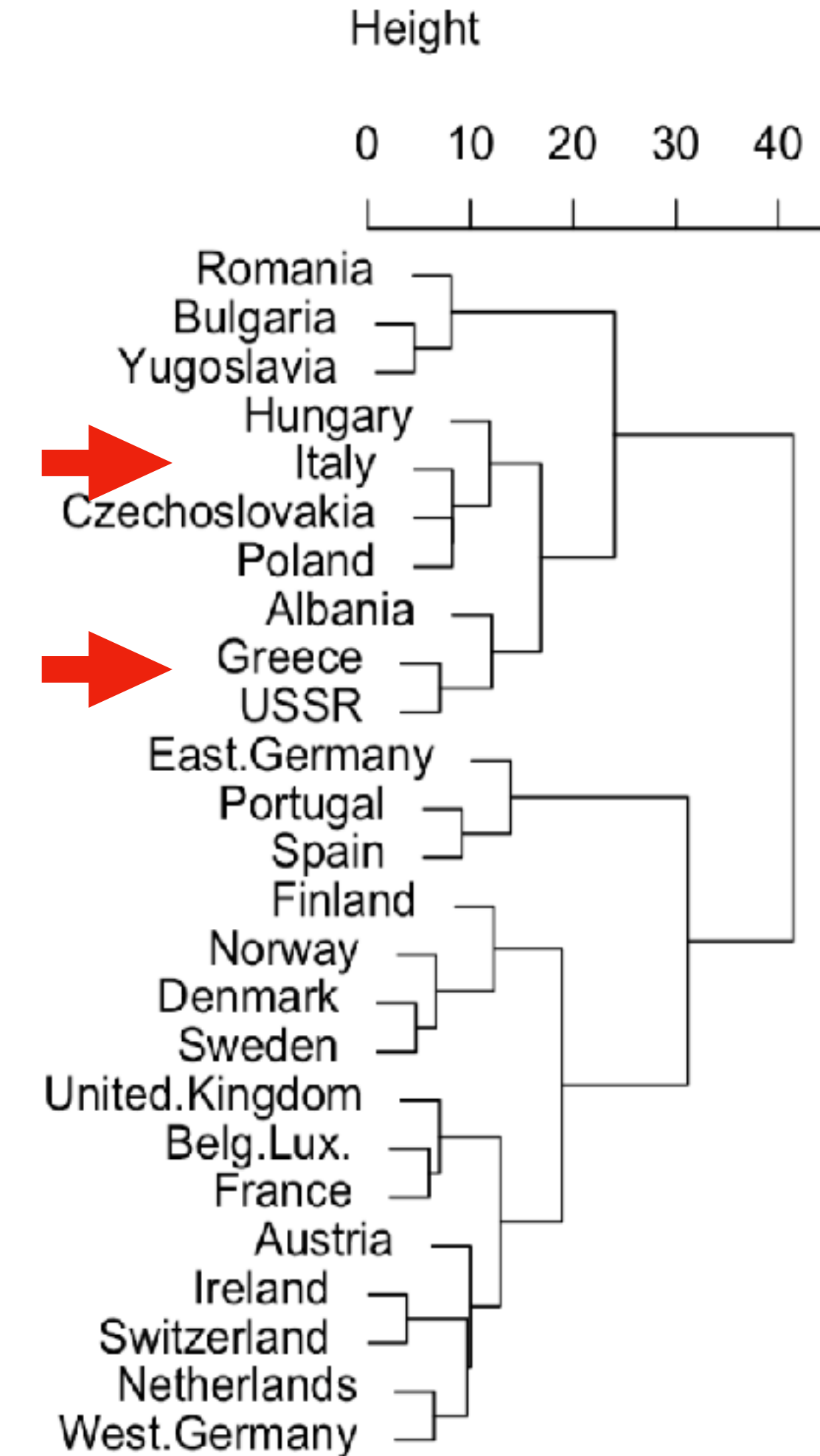
**Euclidean distance?** Correlation based distance? Or else

**Scaling:** whether we pre-process the data to have mean 0 and variance 1

Could affect the result if data columns have very different variances (like the food example)



Complete linkage with correlation-based distance



Complete linkage with unscaled features





# Heatmap

## Overview

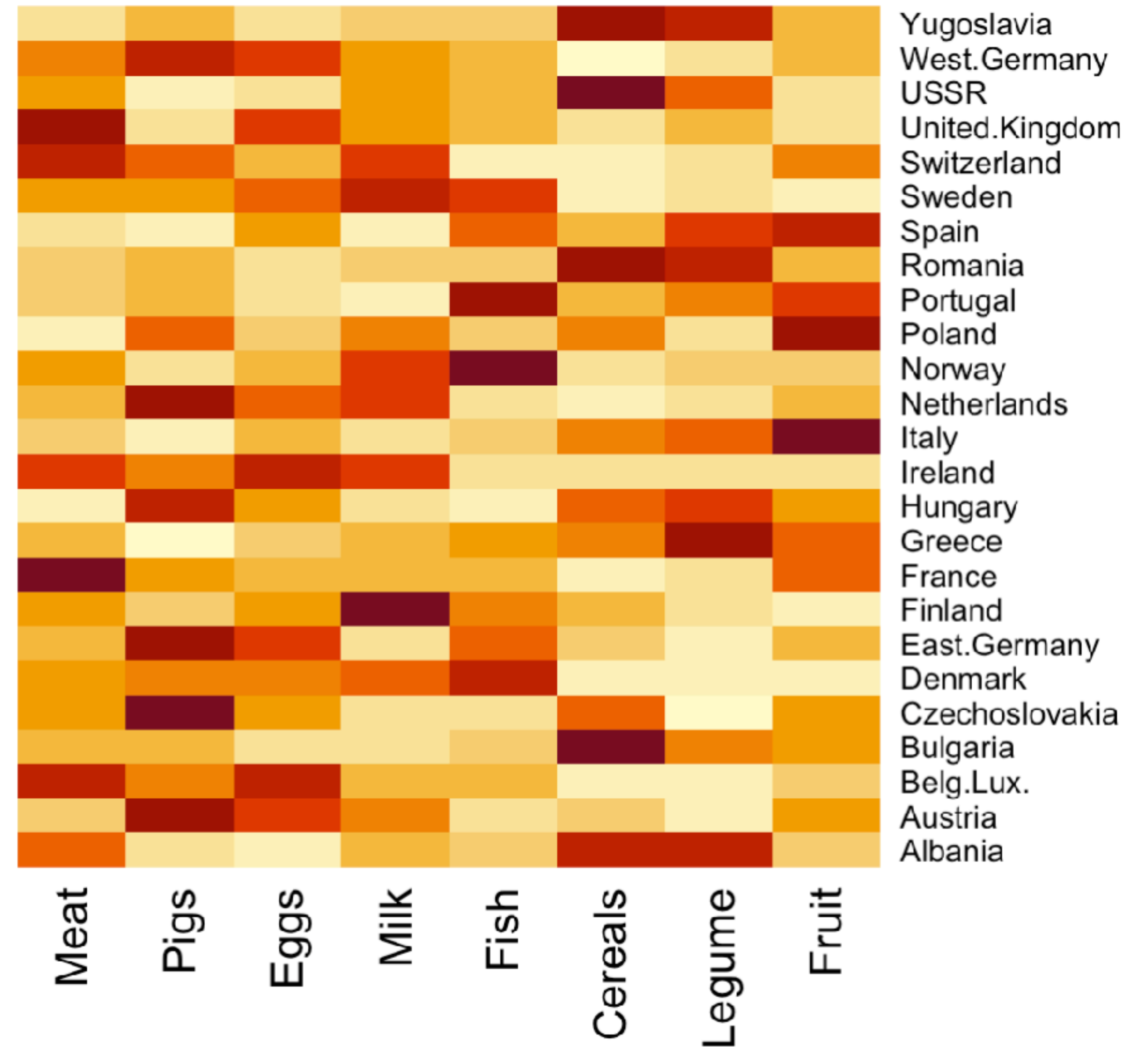
Heatmap visualizes similar values with similar shades of color

```
heatmap(data)
```

By default, this command carries out **hierarchical clustering** on both columns and rows

But you can choose to not do it (by setting some arguments). See exercise code

(Original order of column and row names)



# K-means clustering

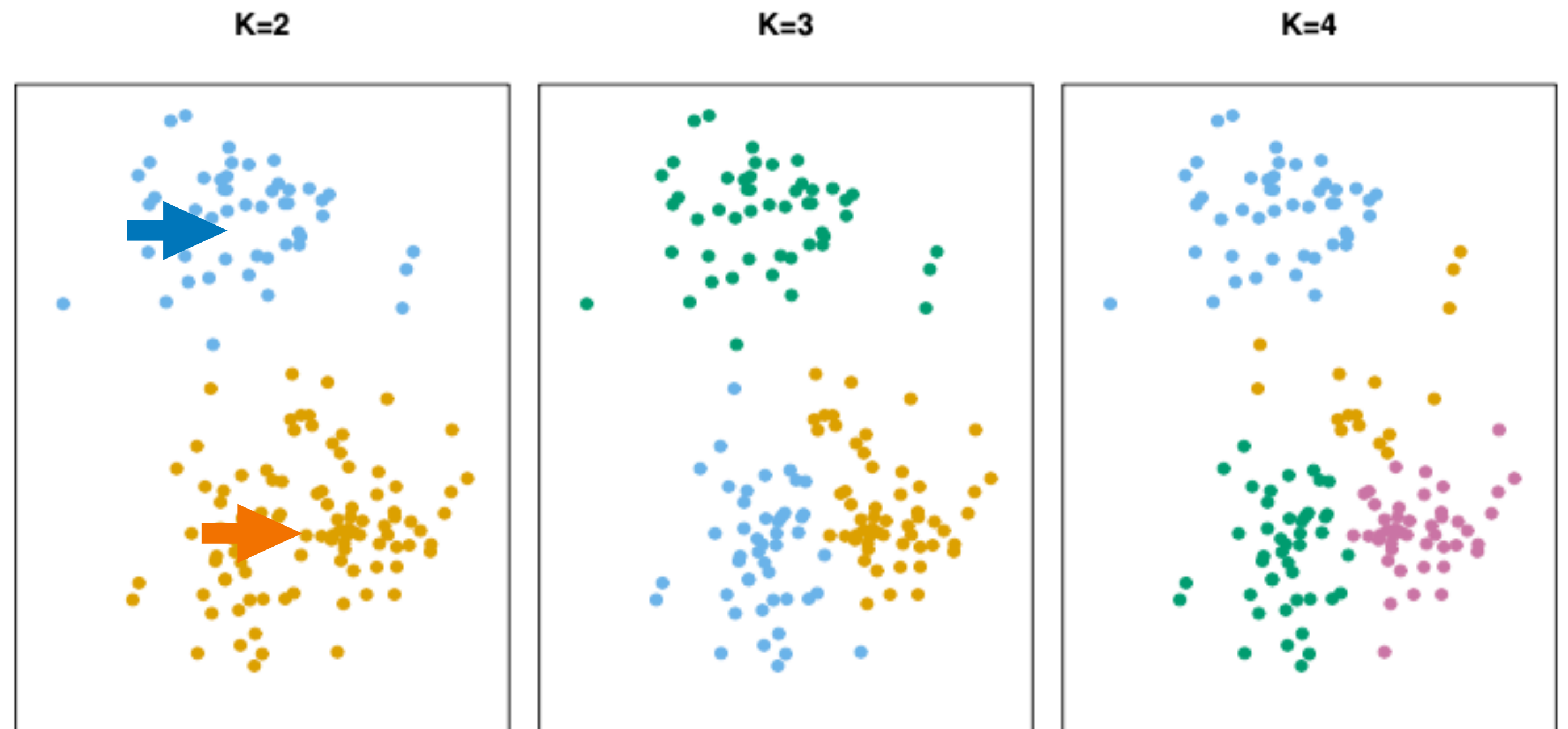
## Overview

Partitions the data in **K clusters**, each data point belongs to the cluster with the nearest mean (center, **centroid**)

Centroid can be thought of as the center of the data cloud

Need to explicitly tell the algorithm how many clusters to compute

The results from K-means can be compared with hierarchical clustering, to see if the clusters agree



(Figure 12.7 ISLR book)

# NCI 60 example

## Hierarchical clustering

64 cancer cell lines, 6830 gene expression measurements

Ignore the cancer types, as clustering is unsupervised - but we can check how well the clustering corresponds to the true label.

Goal: find out whether observations (data) cluster into distinct types of cancer

R command for hierarchical clustering:

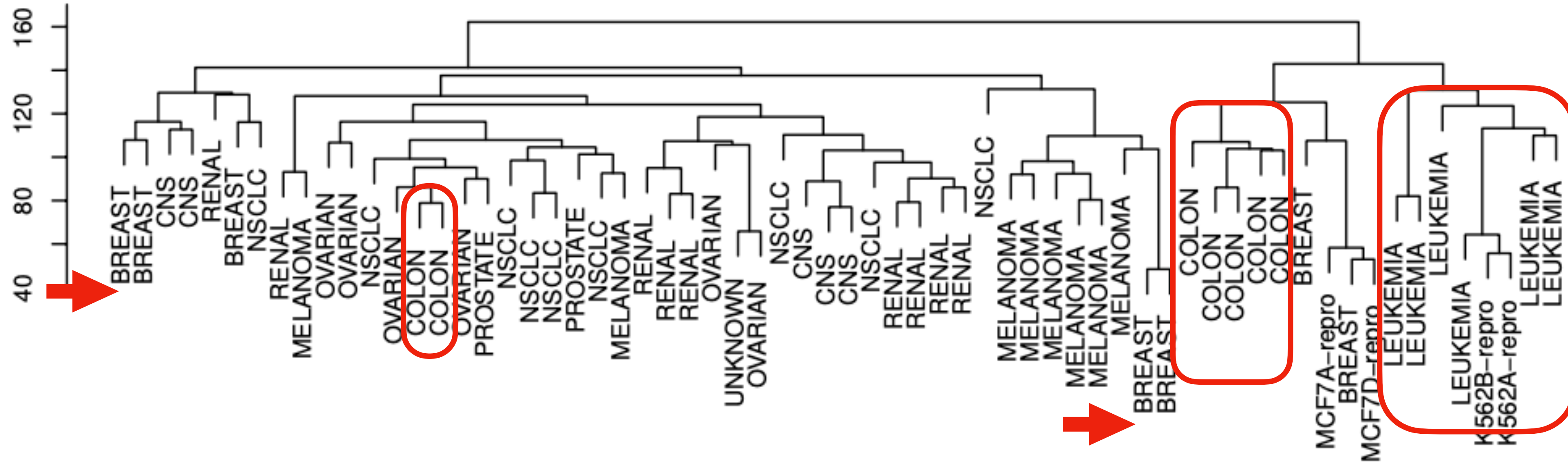
```
hclust(distance_data, method = 'which_method_to_use')
```

Can also plot results into dendrogram.

# NCI 60 example

## Hierarchical clustering

Complete Linkage



# NCI 60 example

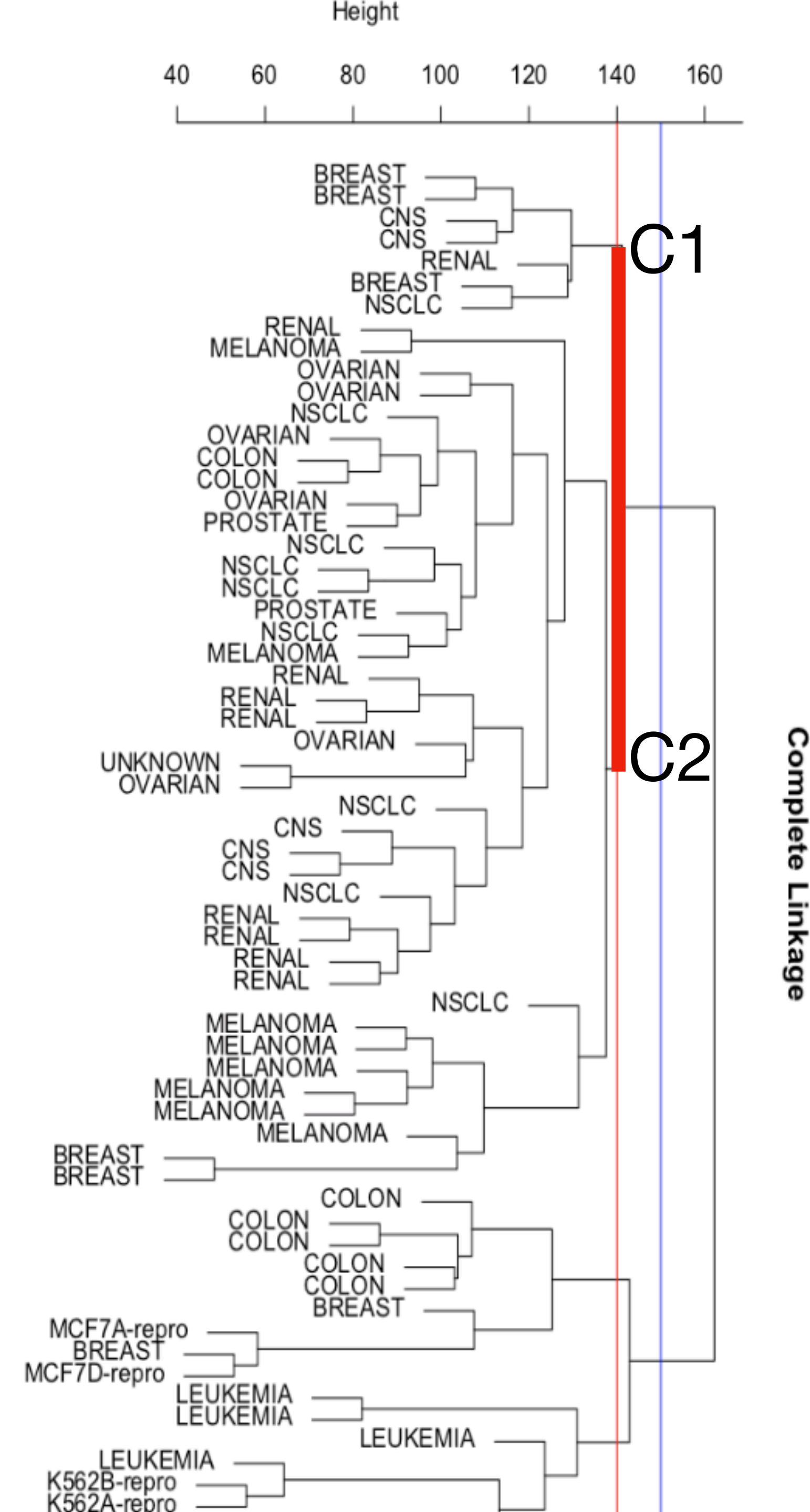
## Number of clusters

All the clusters are computed (from 64 clusters - one for each data point; to 1 cluster - all data together)

‘Height’ in the dendrogram: essentially the **distance between clusters**

e.g. C1 and C2 are merged at around 140 - distance between C1 and C2 is 140

Based on ‘height’, you can decide whether you want 2, or 4 clusters (or other numbers)



# NCI 60 example

## Number of clusters

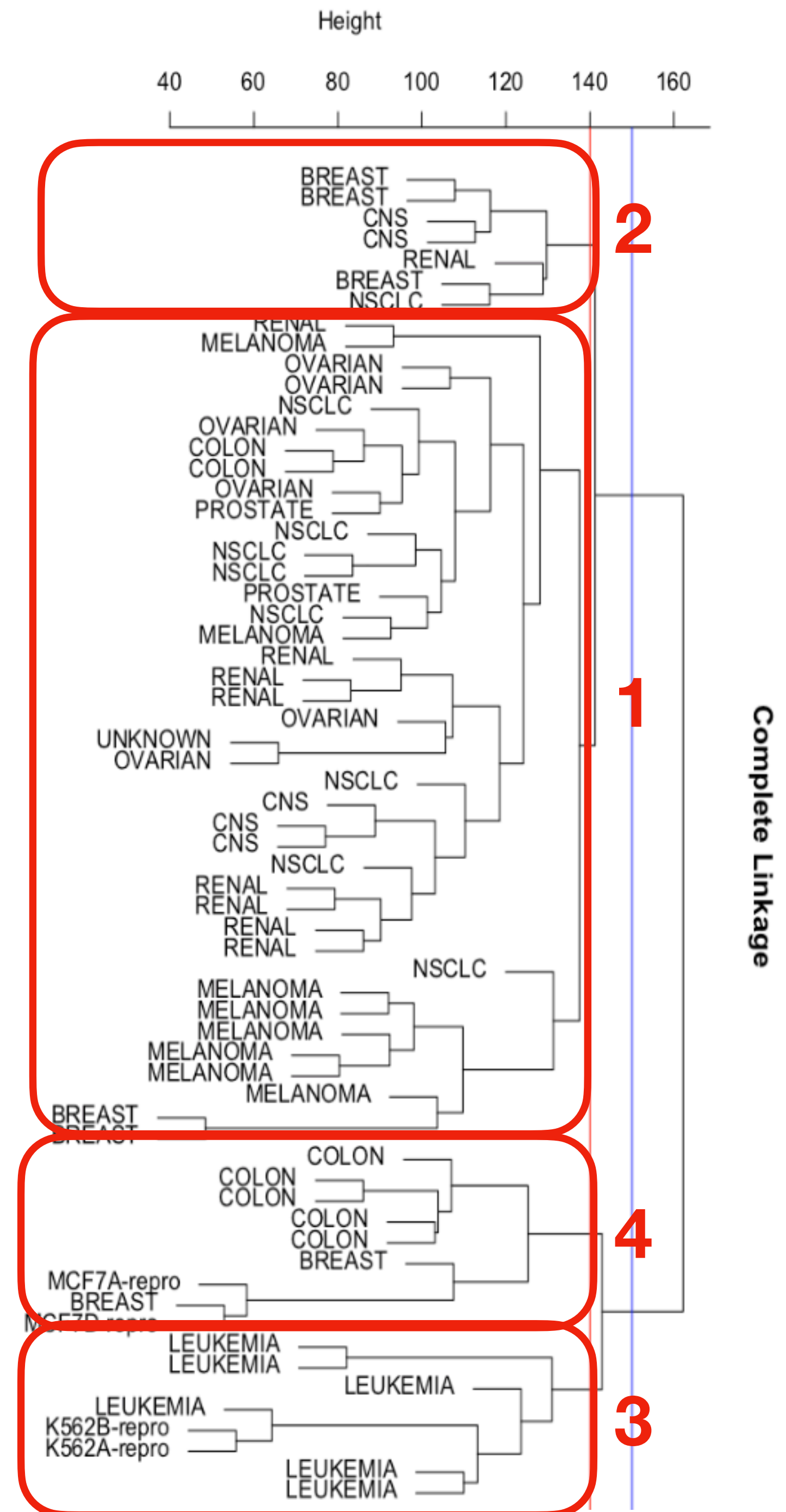
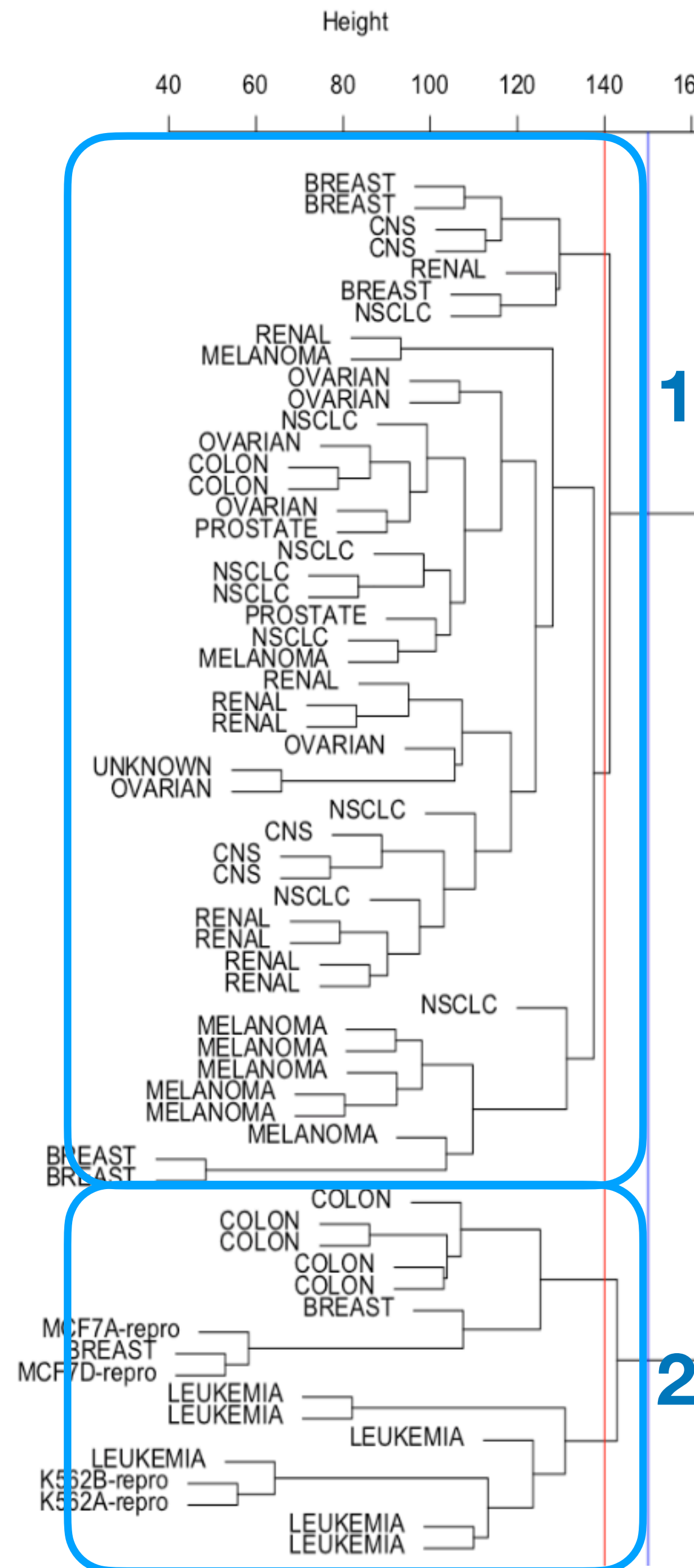
Specify how many clusters you want, and you can check which ones are further divided

```
# Compare 2 clusters and 4 clusters:
hc.clusters <- cutree(hc.complete, c(2, 4))
head(hc.clusters) # print first 6 results
```

```
2 4
V1 1 1
V2 1 1
V3 1 1
V4 1 1
V5 1 2
V6 1 2
```

```
# cross tabulation
table(hc.clusters[,"2"], hc.clusters[,"4"])
```

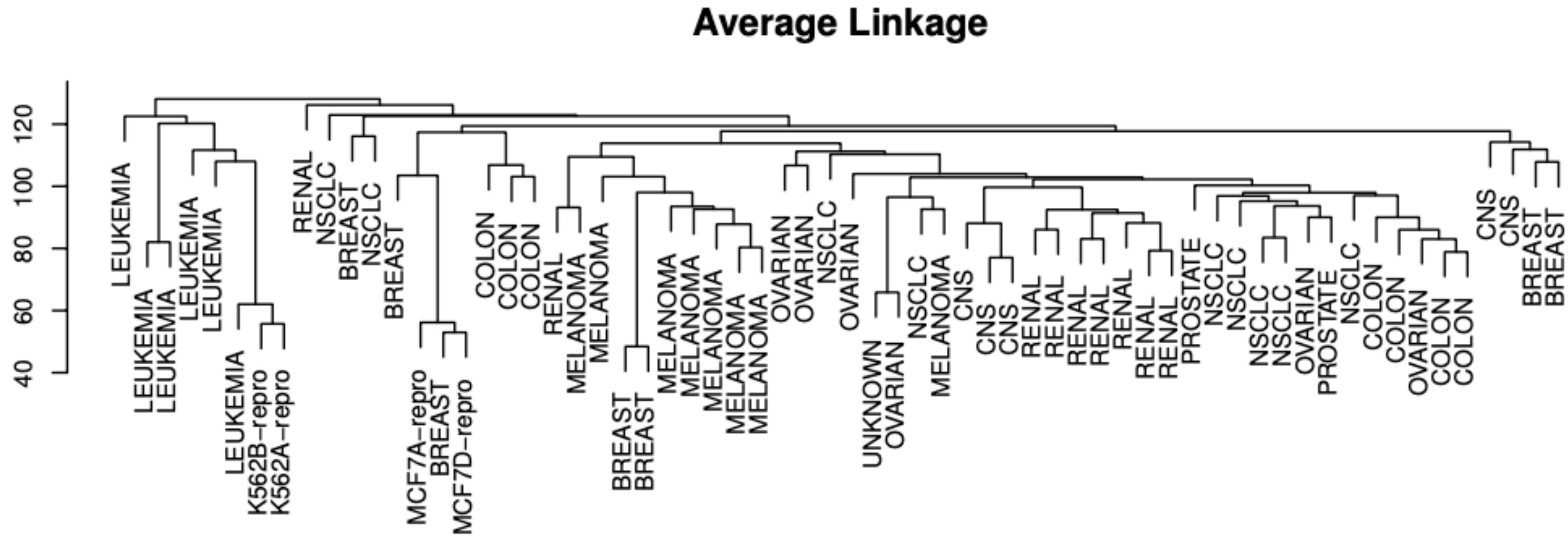
```
1 2 3 4
1 40 7 0 0
2 0 0 8 9
```



Complete Linkage

# NCI 60 example

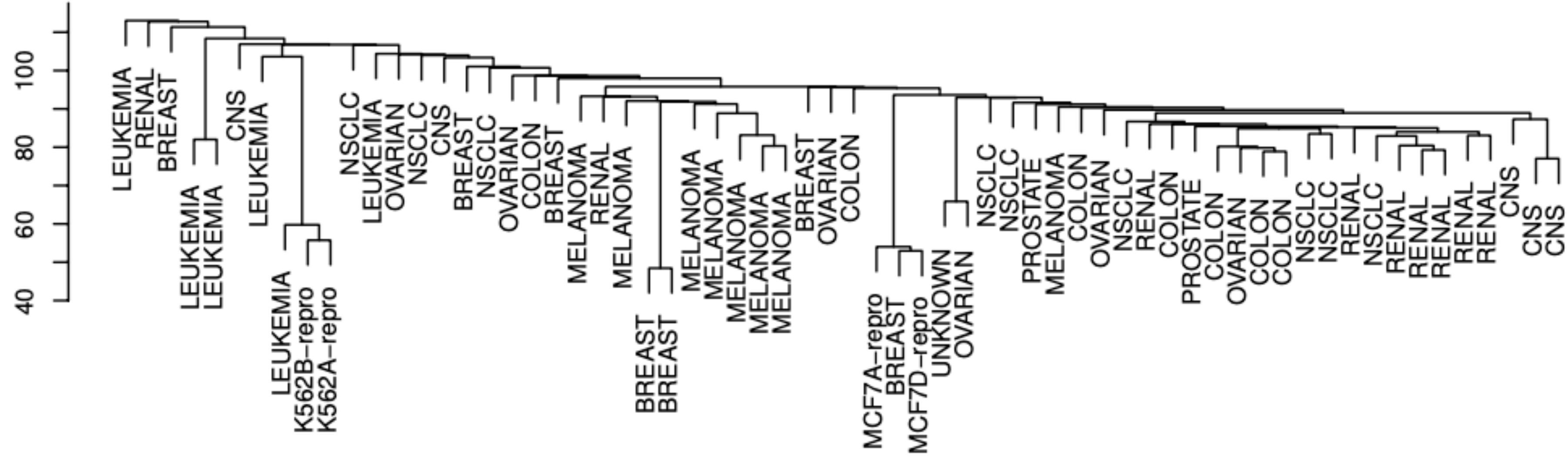
## Different options for HC



# NCI 60 example

## Different options for HC

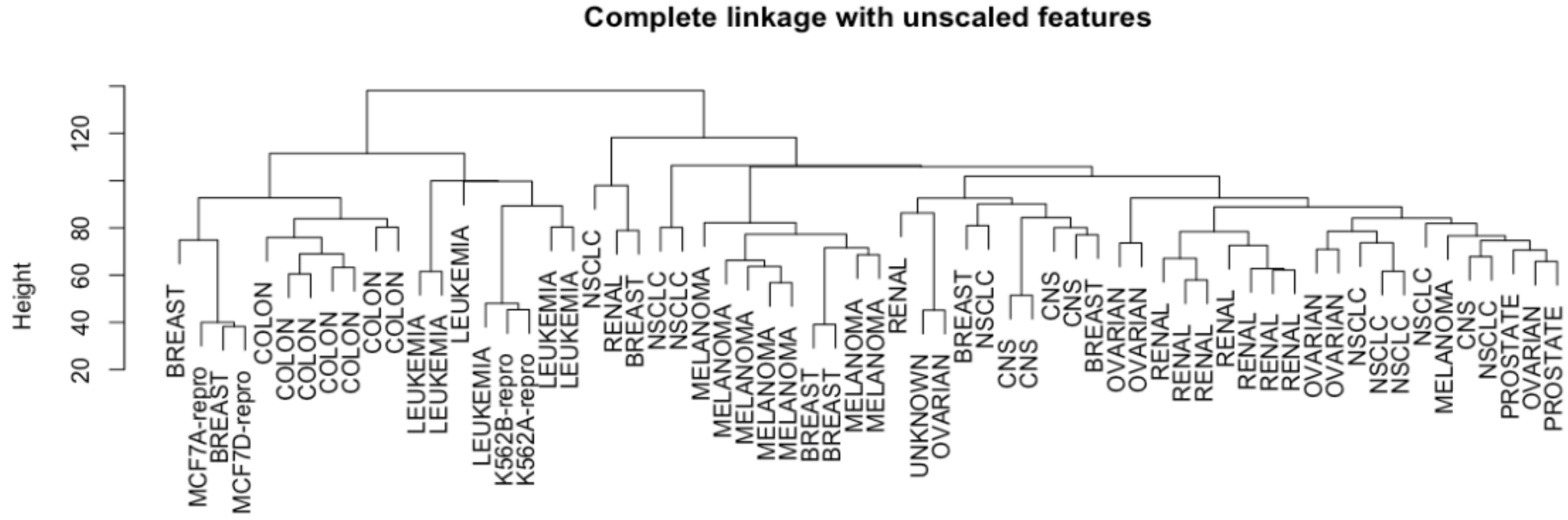
Single Linkage





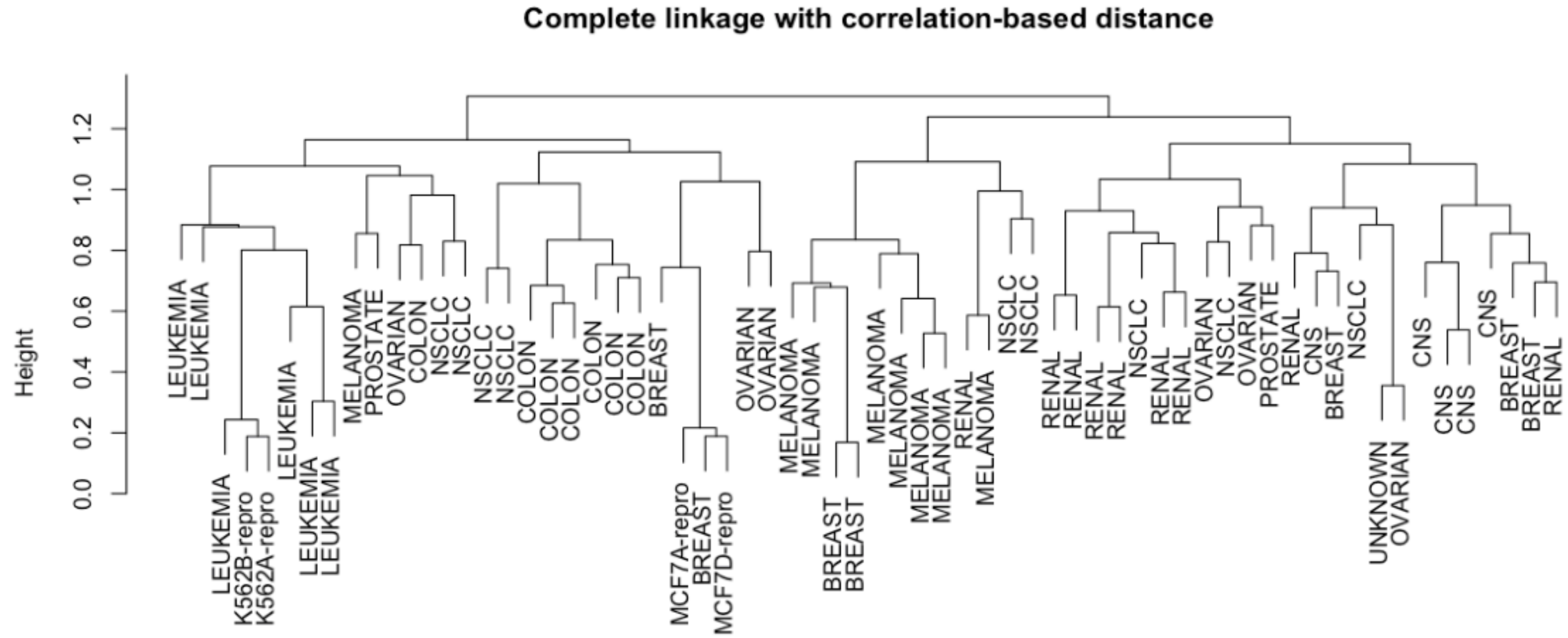
# NCI 60 example

## Different options for HC



# NCI 60 example

## Different options for HC



# NCI 60 example

## K-means clustering

For K-means, you need to specify **number of clusters**.

With different **random seeds**, the results can be slightly different

(Change the number in `set.seed()`, for example, to 3 or 20)

```
kmeans(data, number_of_cluster)
```

Note: input is not distance (as in HC)

```
set.seed(4) # set random seed
km.out4 <- kmeans(sd.data, centers = 4, nstart=20)
km.out4$cluster
```

```
V1 V2 V3 V4 V5 V6 V7 V8 V9 V10 V11 V12 V13 V14 V15 V16 V17 V18 V19
4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
V21 V22 V23 V24 V25 V26 V27 V28 V29 V30 V31 V32 V33 V34 V35 V36 V37 V38 V39
4 4 4 1 1 4 1 4 1 4 4 1 1 3 3 3 3 3
V41 V42 V43 V44 V45 V46 V47 V48 V49 V50 V51 V52 V53 V54 V55 V56 V57 V58 V59
3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2
V61 V62 V63 V64
2 2 2 2
```

64 data points (of 6830 dimensions) are grouped into 4 clusters

The assignment (1,2,3,4) do not have meaning; just to distinguish different clusters

# NCI 60 example

## Visualize clusters

To visualize the clusters (from either K-means, or HC), you might need to combine **principal components** from PCA

This is especially the case for high dimensional data

Use different colors to distinguish different clusters

Top right: color is the **true label** for cancer (unknown for a real unsupervised problem)

Bottom right: color is **cluster labels**

