

1 Topological stratification of continuous genetic 2 variation in large biobanks

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4 **Biobanks now contain genetic data from millions of individuals. Dimensional-**
5 **ity reduction, visualization and clustering are standard when exploring data at**
6 **these scales; while efficient and tractable methods exist for the first two, clus-**
7 **tering remains challenging because of uncertainty about sources of population**
8 **structure. In practice, clustering is commonly performed by drawing shapes**
9 **around dimensionally reduced data or assuming populations have a “type”**
10 **genome. We propose a method of clustering data with topological analysis**
11 **that is fast, easy to implement, and integrates with existing pipelines. The ap-**
12 **proach is robust to the presence of sub-populations of varying sizes and wide**
13 **ranges of population structure patterns. We use UMAP and HDBSCAN, re-**
14 **spectively methods of dimensionality reduction and density clustering, on data**
15 **from three biobanks. We illustrate how topological genetic strata can help us**
16 **understand structure within biobanks, evaluate distributions of genotypic and**

17 **phenotypic data, examine polygenic score transferability, identify potential in-**
18 **fluential alleles, and perform quality control.**

19 **Introduction**

20 Following improvements in genomic technologies, large-scale biobanks have become common-
21 place. The Global Biobank Meta-analysis Initiative (GBMI), for example, lists 23 biobanks with
22 genetic data and health records from over 2.2 million individuals[1]. The growth in sample
23 sizes has led to increased potential for scientific findings, with thousands of genetic loci impli-
24 cated with phenotypes in genome-wide association studies (GWAS), and used to predict disease
25 traits via polygenic scores (PGS). Though the growth of biobanks has fuelled discovery, pop-
26 ulation structure—the phenomenon in which allele frequencies systematically differ between
27 populations—remains a persistent confounder in GWAS and PGS (e.g. [2, 3]). Many meth-
28 ods in population genetics seek to describe and account for population structure, but the com-
29 plexity of human history and of biobank recruitment strategies preclude simple model-based
30 approaches from effectively capturing the many determinants of observed genetic variation.

31 As an alternative, dimensional reduction and visualization are commonly used to exam-
32 ine both discrete and continuous aspects of genetic variation (e.g. [4, 5]). Within the frame-
33 work of exploratory-confirmatory data analysis, visualization of complex data enables pattern-
34 recognition and the generation and testing of hypotheses[6]. Visualization alone, however, can-
35 not be used for analysis, and visualization techniques are often used as a precursor to strati-
36 fication. For example, principal component analysis (PCA) can be used to visualize data and
37 individuals within a certain area are commonly deemed to share an ancestry label. In recently
38 admixed populations (i.e., populations who derive ancestry from “source” populations who had
39 been in relative isolation), grouping based on inferred admixture proportions is also common,
40 often with the use of a reference panel as a proxy for the source populations. By definition,

41 PCA-based approaches capture only the axes of variation that explain the most variance in
42 a sample, and may not work to discern populations with no reference panel, or with com-
43 plex admixture histories, or small sample sizes[7]. Other approaches cluster based on shared
44 identity-by-descent (IBD) segments or recent genetic relatedness (e.g. [8, 9]). These approaches
45 typically capture finer scale population structure, but are analytically and computationally de-
46 manding. Self-declared variables like race and ethnicity are also sometimes used for genetic
47 stratification but are imperfect indicators of genetic ancestry and are no longer recommended as
48 proxies for it [10, 11].

49 Despite the demand, there is not an effective, fast, and tractable method for stratifying
50 biobank data based on patterns of genetic structure. In practice, researchers often manually
51 group participants into discrete ad hoc “clusters” that they perceive in low-dimensional visual-
52 izations, which they use as strata in downstream analyses regarding, e.g., heterogeneity in an-
53 cestry and allele frequencies[12], environmental exposures[4], or assessing the performance of
54 PGS[2, 13]. There are many drawbacks to such ad hoc approaches. For example, in cosmopoliti-
55 tan cohorts, there are many subgroups with distinct ancestral histories, leading researchers to
56 manually distinguish between a “majority” cluster and an “everybody else” cluster—often to be
57 discarded due to its heterogeneity[14, 15].

58 We propose a topological data analysis approach as an alternative. Rather than fitting indi-
59 viduals to a pre-defined notion of a population, a topological approach describes the network of
60 neighbourhoods between data points—here, this would be the network of genetic similarity be-
61 tween individuals. It is well-suited to describe collections of points in high-dimensional space
62 with smooth distributions but with no clear centre or “archetype”. We assume that structure
63 in high-dimensional genetic data can be represented topologically, and can be locally approx-
64 imated and reconstructed in a low-dimensional space. After reconstructing data in the low-
65 dimensional space, we identify dense clusters of data—i.e., the genetic strata. This approach is

66 unsupervised, requiring neither a number of clusters nor a reference panel, and thus fits natu-
67 rally with population genetic data, which is sparse and contains numerous sub-populations of
68 unknown and varying sizes, often without *a priori* definitions.

69 We demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach on three biobanks, showing that we can
70 consistently and effectively identify and characterize sources of population structure in each
71 cohort, and relate many key variables to this structure. We simultaneously identify structured
72 groups as small as 100 individuals and as large as 400,000 within the same cohort in a matter
73 of seconds, and describe environmental, sociodemographic, and phenotype variation across
74 groups. We use stratification to identify populations for which PCA adjustment fails within
75 a biobank (often admixed populations) and populations for which PGS transferability is poor
76 (often, but not always, populations diverged from the training population). Finally, we highlight
77 the role of topological modelling in quality control, a critical aspect of the fast-growing biobank
78 space.

79 Topological modelling, which describes data in terms of local neighbourhoods in a high-
80 dimensional space, is therefore a powerful alternative to ancestral component modelling for the
81 description of genetic variation in complex cohorts.

82 Methods

83 Our method works on genotype data, represented by a matrix of allele counts for each indi-
84 vidual and genetic variant. To reduce computational burden, we can also perform analyses on
85 genotype data previously projected to any number of principal components (PCs). We use uni-
86 form manifold approximation and projection (UMAP)[16], a dimensionality reduction method,
87 and Hierarchical Density-Based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise (HDBSCAN),
88 a clustering algorithm. HDBSCAN has been used before on population genetic data directly
89 on PC-reduced data [17, 18]. As we will see, this results in large proportions of individu-

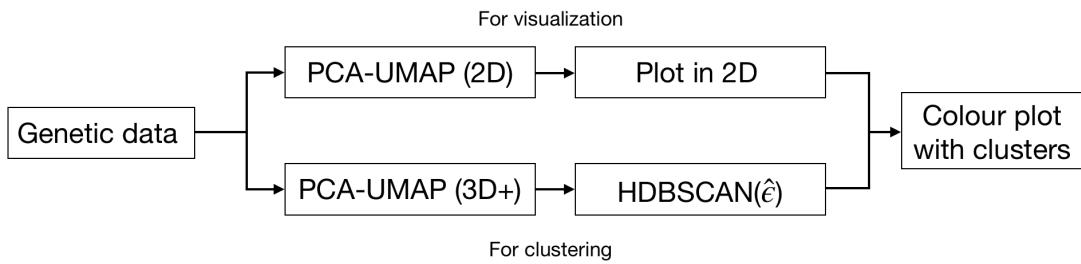


Figure 1: By using different parameters, UMAP can be optimized for clustering or visualization. Visualization requires a two-dimensional representation with the points spread out to make patterns easier to see. In contrast, clustering benefits from UMAP reduction to three or more dimensions to strike a balance between preservation of the original data topology and high point density for clustering. The 2D UMAP plots used to visualize clusterings in this work and are not the same ones used for clustering.

90 als discarded as noise. The application of UMAP leads to increased point density and facilitates clustering (Table S7), and a recent implementation of HDBSCAN by Malzer and Baum 91 (HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$),[19]) drastically reduces the number of discarded points.

93 UMAP seeks to preserve high-dimensional neighbours in the low-dimensional space[16].
94 The algorithm requires three parameter inputs: the target number of dimensions, the number
95 of nearest neighbours (used to define the size of high-dimensional neighbourhoods to approx-
96 imate), and the minimum distance between points in the low-dimensional space. We have
97 previously explored its use for visualization in 2 and 3 dimensions[4]. In this work, we will use
98 UMAP both for visualizing data and for preprocessing data for clustering. Both tasks require
99 different parameter choices (Figure 1):

- 100 1. For visualization, we reducing data to 2 dimensions and use a relatively high minimum
101 distance (0.3 to 0.5), to facilitate human perception and understanding.
- 102 2. For clustering, we reduce data to 3 or more dimensions and use a very low minimum
103 distance (near or equal to 0) to facilitate algorithmic identification of dense clumps of
104 data.

105 After reducing genetic data to 3 or more dimensions with UMAP in step 2, we use
106 HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) to extract clusters. HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) is a hierarchical density-based clustering
107 algorithm based on predecessors HDBSCAN and DBSCAN*[19]. It is motivated by situations
108 where we expect data to be in a sparsely populated space with relatively dense clusters through-
109 out. The number of clusters is not known, and the sizes of the clusters are assumed to vary. This
110 describes biobank data particularly well since they are expected to contain population structure
111 at many different scales, and it is usually difficult to specify in advance a useful number of sub-
112 groups to consider. The parameter $\hat{\epsilon}$ allows clusters to have widely varying sizes; we provide
113 more details on parameters in the Supporting Information (SI).

114 We use UMAP-assisted density-based clustering on data from three biobanks: the 1000
115 Genomes Project (1KGP), the UK biobank (UKB), and CARTaGENE (CaG). The 1KGP data
116 consists of the genotypes of 3,450 individuals sampled from 26 populations from around the
117 world; the populations were decided in advance and their sample sizes are similar, ranging from
118 104 to 183 samples[20]. The UKB is a cohort of 488,377 individuals from the United Kingdom
119 (UK) with genotypic, phenotypic, and sociodemographic data. UKB participants were recruited
120 by inviting 9 million individuals registered with the National Health Service (NHS) who lived
121 near a testing centre[21]. CaG is a cohort of residents of the Canadian province of Québec,
122 with genotype data for 29,337 participants who were recruited using registration data from the
123 Régie de l’assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ), the provincial health authority, from four
124 metropolitan areas in the province[22]. Unlike the 1KGP, CaG and the UKB do not have *a*
125 *priori* populations defined, though they collected information about ethnicity, country of birth,
126 and residential geographic distribution.

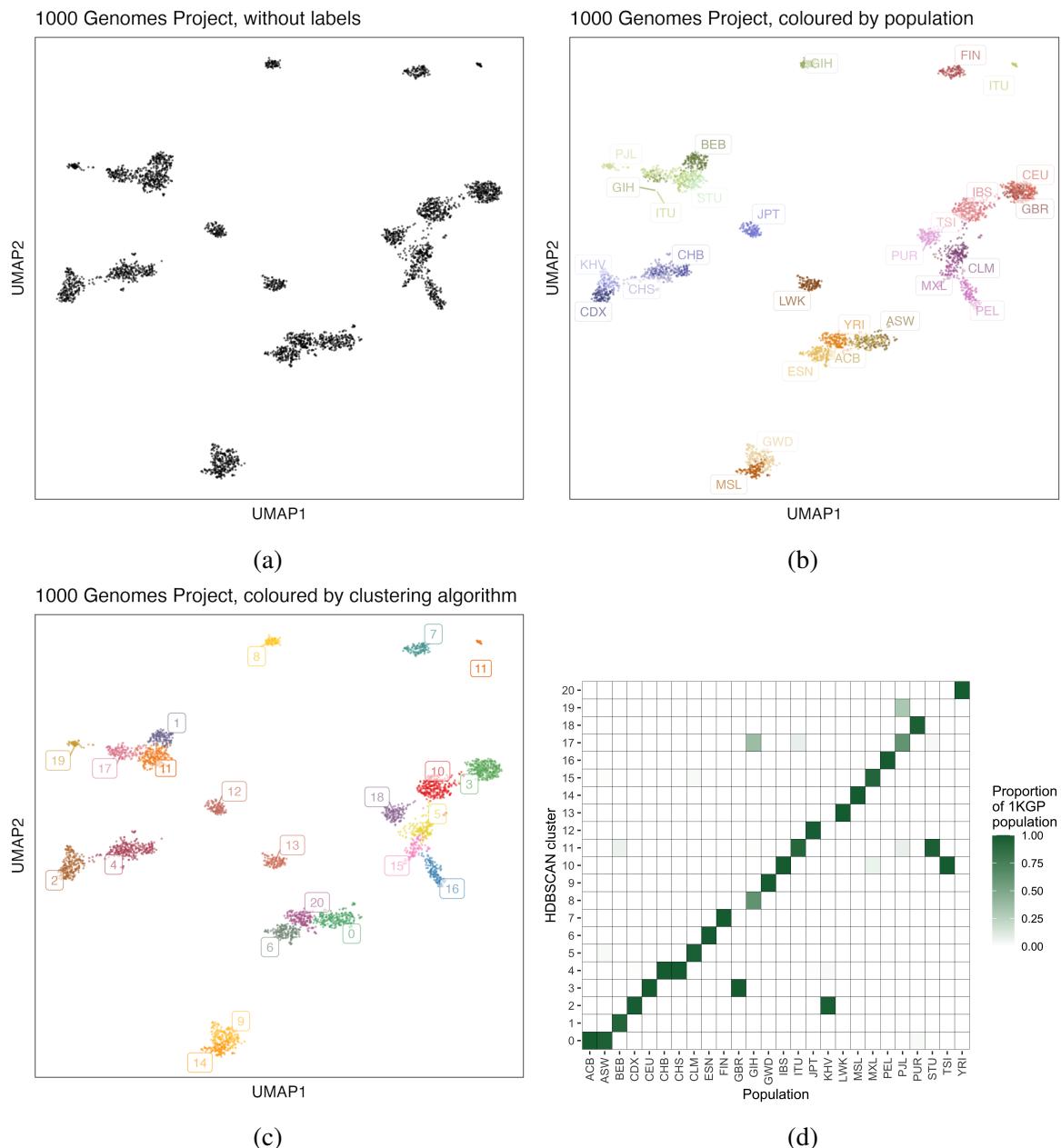


Figure 2: Clusters generated from 1KGP genotype data reflect its population sampling. (A) UMAP embedding of data without labels. (B) UMAP embedding of data, coloured by population label. (C) UMAP embedding of data, coloured by 21 clusters derived from HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) applied to a 5D UMAP embedding. (D) Proportions of each 1KGP population contained within a given cluster. Most populations fall almost entirely within a single cluster, with a few splitting into multiple clusters. Population labels are provided in Table S4.

127 **Results**

128 **Clustering captures population structure from sample design**

129 The 1KGP’s relatively balanced global sample design makes it useful for testing algorithms
130 to identify population structure. We have previously shown that UMAP results in clear visual
131 clusters from 1KGP data in two dimensions[4]. Figure 2 shows a UMAP representation of
132 the 1KGP. Figure 2a shows the data without population labels (to mimic data with unknown
133 populations), Figure 2b shows the data with corresponding population labels from the 1KGP,
134 and Figure 2c shows the data with cluster labels generated by HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) run on a 5D
135 UMAP.

136 The major source of genetic structure in 1KGP data is its sampling scheme, which selected
137 individuals from geographically diverse populations. The clusters formed by UMAP and ex-
138 tracted by HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) largely reflect this sampling strategy, with some exceptions noted
139 below. Figure 2d shows strong agreement between population label and cluster label, (see also
140 Tables S5 and S6).

141 These results are comparable to a supervised neural network approach to predict sam-
142 pled population label (e.g. Figure 3 in [23]), though our approach is unsupervised and runs
143 much more quickly: depending on implementation, deriving the principal components can
144 take 5 to 20 minutes, with the subsequent UMAP step requiring approximately 10 seconds
145 and HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) less than one second. Comparing these clusters to population labels, the
146 adjusted Rand Index (ARI) is 0.769.

147 Though there have been methods developed to generate discrete population clusters from
148 genetic data (e.g. [24]), most do not scale to hundreds of thousands of samples. To provide
149 baselines for comparison, we applied k-means clustering to 1KGP data. In one approach we
150 estimated individual-level admixture proportions assuming K populations and then applied k-

means clustering using the same K as the parameter. Using ADMIXTURE with $K = 21$ populations (to match the 21 clusters generated by HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$)), k-means clustering resulted in an ARI of 0.611, while $K = 26$ populations (to match the 26 1KGP populations) resulted in an ARI of 0.669 (see Figures S1 and S2 for visualizations, and methods for details). In another approach, we applied k-means clustering directly to the leading PCs; the best performing case was $K = 25$ on the top 20 PCs resulting in an ARI of 0.696 (Figure S3).

One benefit of the unsupervised approach is that we do not require *a priori* assumptions about the origins of structure, making it possible to capture meaningful clusters despite considerable within-cluster heterogeneity, including in admixed populations. The admixed American population clusters largely match their 1KGP labels (CLM, MXL, PEL, PUR; ARI=0.952), despite their heavily overlapping distributions in admixture proportions, illustrated in Figure 3, which is higher than any k-means based clustering (although k-means with $k=21$ was close at ARI=0.934, see Figure S2b).

Some populations are clustered together: GBR and CEU (British From England and Scotland; and Utah residents with Northern/Western European ancestry), CDX and KHV (Chinese Dai in Xishuangbanna, China; and Kinh in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam), IBS and TSI (Iberian Populations in Spain; and Toscani in Italy), ACB and ASW (African Caribbean in Barbados; and African Ancestry in SW USA). While these groups differ in their sampling and history, supervised learning methods also struggle in distinguishing most of these pairs (Figure 3A in [23]). We also note that the CDX and KHV (Cluster 2 in Figure 2b) populations are present at opposite ends of one continuous cloud of points. In other words, two groups belonging to one cluster does not mean that the groups are indistinguishable. Rather, it means that HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) could find a relatively continuous path in genetic space linking individuals sampled in one group to individuals sampled in the other.

Some South Asian populations are split into different clusters, possibly from stronger pat-

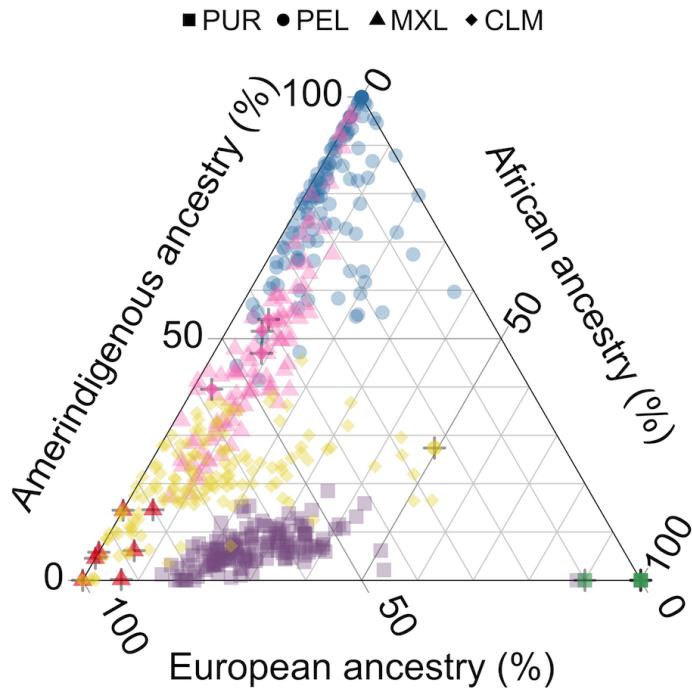


Figure 3: HDBSCAN clusters capture structure in populations with overlapping admixture proportions in the 1KGP. A ternary plot of the PUR, PEL, MXL, and CLM populations from the 1KGP with axes corresponding to global ancestry proportions estimated using ADMIXTURE ($K = 3$). Shapes indicate 1KGP label, colours indicate cluster label and match Figure 2c; bolded points with a + symbol indicate individuals who are not members of the modal cluster of their 1KGP population (full results given in Tables S5 and S6). While many individuals from these populations have similar admixture proportions, UMAP-HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) is able to extract clusters more effectively than admixture-based methods.

176 terms of relatedness within those groups[4, 25]. We note the ITU (Indian Telugu in the UK)
177 population is visibly split into two groups in 2D, while clustering carried out in 5D groups them
178 together (Cluster 11). While some clusters will tend to persist across many parametrizations of
179 UMAP and HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$), others based on more subtle patterns or in populations with more
180 continuous variation will be less stable—though discrete groupings can help us understand data,

181 the delineations are always, to a degree, arbitrary.

182 **Correlates between populations and sociodemographic, phenotypic, and** 183 **environmental variables**

184 The UK biobank (UKB) contains 488,377 genotypes from volunteers with an array of demo-
185 graphic, phenotypic, and biomedical data, with individuals' ages ranging from 40 to 69. The
186 demographic data collected for the UKB include Country of Birth (COB) and Ethnic Back-
187 ground (EB), which is selected from a nested set of pre-determined options (see Table S8).
188 Participants first select their "ethnic group" from a list (e.g. "White"; "Black or Black British"),
189 which determines the list of possible "ethnic background" values (e.g. "British"; "Caribbean").
190 The most common countries of birth in the data set are England, Scotland, Wales, and the Re-
191 public of Ireland, comprising 77.8%, 8.0%, 4.4%, and 1.0%, respectively. For EB, 88.3% of
192 participants selected "White British", with an additional 5.8% selecting "White Irish" or "Any
193 other white background". Here we primarily focus on the 28,814 individuals with other back-
194 grounds.

195 Many studies of the UKB discard non-European samples, sometimes citing concerns re-
196 lated to confounding from population structure[14]. The population structure has been deeply
197 explored, though typically focused on British or European individuals[26, 27, 28]. Because its
198 sub-populations are numerous, geographically/ancestrally diverse, and of widely varying sizes,
199 clustering the UKB data is challenging, requiring overly broad categorization (e.g. a small
200 number of continental populations [12, 17]) and/or significant computational resources. The
201 original implementation of HDBSCAN, without the $\hat{\epsilon}$ parameter, discards much of the UKB
202 data as noise and splits populations into hundreds of microclusters that are not interpretable
203 (Fig S4).

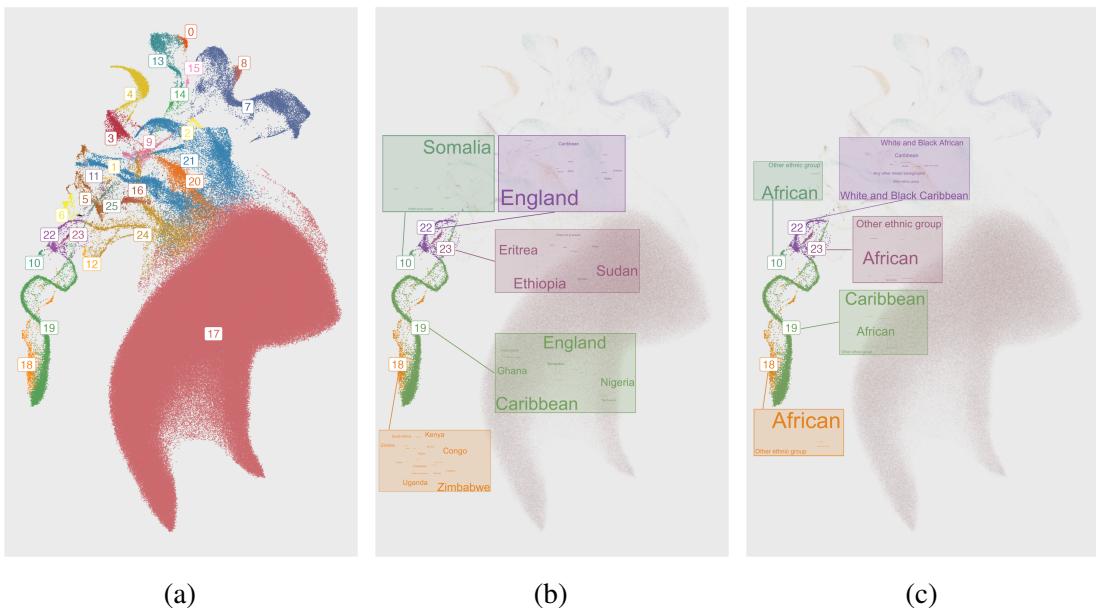


Figure 4: An example of clusters of population structure in the UKB. The clusters reflect a mixture of demographic history within the UK, the geographic origins of recent immigrants, the colonial history of the British Empire, and ongoing admixture. (a) Left: A 2D UMAP of UKB genotypes coloured by HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$). This parametrization generated 26 clusters. (b) Middle: Five clusters are highlighted with word clouds for the most common countries of birth within the cluster. (c) Right: The same five clusters are highlighted with word clouds for the most common EB within the cluster. Admixture proportions for clusters are presented in Figure S6. Detailed breakdowns of EB and country of birth are presented in Tables S9 and S10. An alternative clustering is presented in Figure S15.

204 Figure 4a shows 26 clusters generated by HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$), placing 99.99% of individuals
 205 in clusters. We generated word clouds for COB and EB, shown in Figures 4b and 4c, which
 206 allow us to illustrate sources of structure without having to impose a label to groups which may
 207 be heterogeneous. Individuals in Cluster 10, for example, are mostly born in Somalia (84%),
 208 while those in Cluster 23 are mostly born in East Africa (Ethiopia, Sudan, Eritrea; 33%, 29%,
 209 25%, respectively). Those in Cluster 18 are mostly born in sub-Saharan Africa, and 77% chose
 210 “African” as their EB, while 19% chose “Other ethnic group”. Figure S5 presents word clouds
 211 for another subset of data. Individuals in Cluster 0 are mostly born in Japan and South Korea
 212 (84% and 9%, respectively), and those in Cluster 15 are mostly born in Nepal (80%). In contrast,

213 individuals in Cluster 13 are born in a variety of East/Southeast Asian jurisdictions; the most
214 common EB was “Chinese” (70%), followed by “Other ethnic group” (16%) and “Any other
215 Asian background” (11%). Tables S9 and S10 provide breakdowns for clusters.

216 Clusters 14 and 22 both capture structure resulting from recent admixture following immi-
217 gration and colonial history, with 49% and 66% of their respective populations being born in
218 England (see also Figure S6). No single EB represents a majority in either cluster; the most
219 common EB in Cluster 14 is “Any other mixed background” (29%), while for Cluster 22 it is
220 “Mixed, White and Black Caribbean” (39%).

221 Significant proportions of majority-African-born clusters chose “Other ethnic group” as
222 their EB—a respective 24%, 19%, and 37% in Clusters 10, 18, and 2—suggesting that fil-
223 tering data based on EB would reduce both genetic and ethnic diversity in a sample. Cluster 18
224 captures individuals born in sub-Saharan Africa, while Cluster 19 consists of individuals born
225 in the Caribbean (31%), England (28%), as well as Nigeria (14%) and Ghana (12%). These re-
226 gions are historically linked to the UK; between the years 1641 and 1808, an estimated 325,311
227 Africans from the Bight of Benin, between the coasts of modern-day Ghana and Nigeria, were
228 enslaved by British ships and sent to the British Caribbean[29, 30].

229 Despite the complexity of the UKB, topological clustering identifies population structure
230 that is interpretable from historical or demographic perspectives and includes all or almost all
231 individuals. Such structure is difficult to infer from a single label such as geography or ethnicity;
232 once it is characterized, it can clarify the genetic structure of the cohort.

233 **Phenotype smoothing and modelling**

234 Epidemiological research often focuses on observed differences between groups—for exam-
235 ple, finding the mean of a phenotype or sociodemographic measure and comparing between
236 populations. Clustering is one method to define groups based on shared genetic ancestry, and

237 compare means across groups. However, clustering data featuring continuous variation patterns
238 can be sensitive to input parameters, and the size of clusters can vary across parameterizations,
239 making it challenging to identify the “right” choice of parameters to test for heterogeneity. One
240 approach to visualize heterogeneity across parameter choices is to average phenotypic mean
241 values over multiple parameterization (see Algorithm 1).

242 To avoid depending on a single parametrization for identifying patterns in phenotypic and
243 sociodemographic data, we can smooth the data over multiple clustering parametrizations (we
244 use 288, outlined in the Supporting Information) using Algorithm 1 and use the smoothed val-
245 ues. This approach has room for improvement but illustrates a proof of concept of incorporat-
246 ing multiple runs of discrete clustering to study patterns in continuous data. Such an approach
247 can be useful in modelling non-linearities in distributions of continuous data and visualize the
248 impact of covariate adjustment in the context of population structure and to identify residual
249 heterogeneity in phenotype distributions (as we present in this section) and environmental data
250 (e.g. smoking rates presented in Figure S8).

Algorithm 1 We create a smoothed value for each measure by taking the mean of cluster means for each individual. Given a set of parameters P for the clustering algorithm, each parametrization p will result in a set of clusters C_p . We use varying cluster assignments across parametrizations to smooth a measured quantity (e.g. phenotype) m for individual i .

Given a set of parametrizations P , each with a set of clusters C_p , for some measure of interest m , we calculate the regularized value μ_i for each individual i .

```
for  $p$  in  $P$  do
  for  $c$  in  $C_p$  do
    For each individual  $i$  in  $C_p$ , set the mean value  $\mu_{p,i} := \sum_i m_i / |C_p|$ 
  end for
end for
Set  $\mu_i := \frac{\sum_{p \in P} \mu_{p,i}}{|P|}$ 
```

251 We visualize these smoothed values in Figure 5 for two phenotypes: FEV1 and neutrophil
252 count. Despite having regressed out the effects of the top 40 principal components, there re-

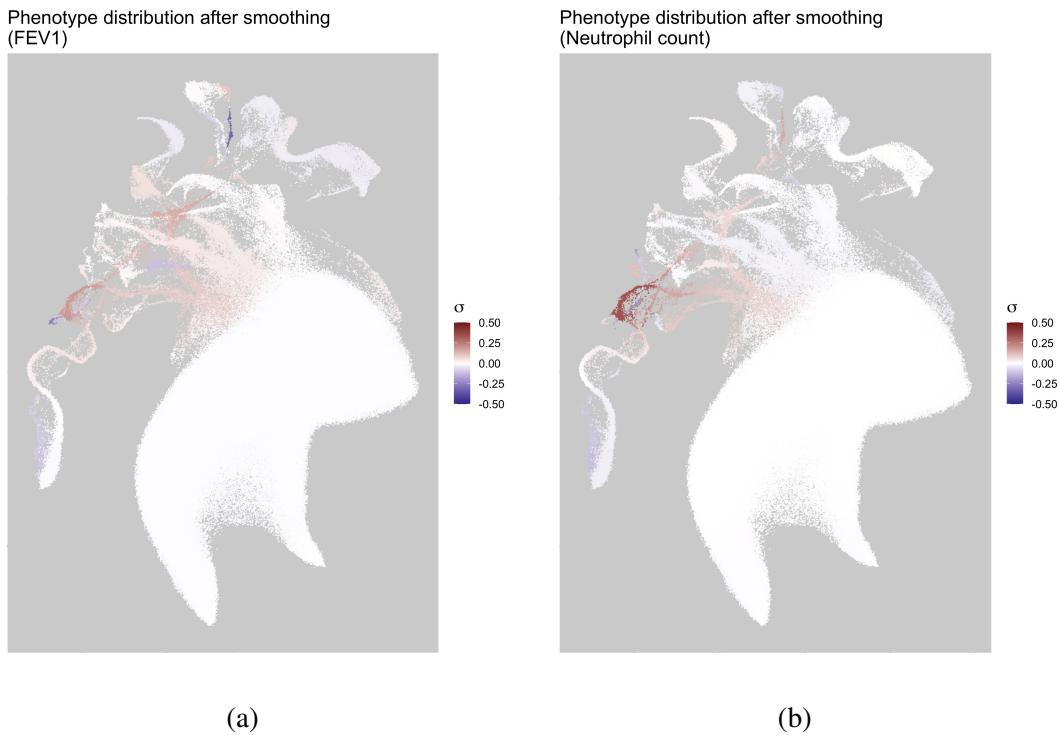


Figure 5: Smoothed phenotypic measures across multiple parametrizations of clustering. A 2D UMAP coloured by phenotype residuals after having regressed the top 40 PCs. Results were averaged by clusters, and we show averaged averages over 288 parametrizations of the clustering pipeline. The colour scale runs from -0.5σ to 0.5σ , for the standard deviation σ of each phenotype after regressing the linear effects of the top 40 PCs. We observe that the distributions of phenotypes among some groups are not centred about 0 even after PC adjustment. (a) Left: FEV1. (b) Right: Neutrophil count.

253 mains structure in the distribution of the residuals, visible at the scale of 0.5σ , where σ is
254 the standard deviation of the phenotype across the UKB. For example, the average residual
255 value is noticeably higher in individuals who fell in Cluster 22 as defined in Figure 4a. This
256 cluster is composed mostly of individuals with admixed African/European backgrounds, and al-
257 though they are intermediate in PCA space to African and European ancestry populations (Fig-
258 ure S11), their phenotype distributions are not intermediate to clusters of primarily European-
259 and African-ancestry individuals (Figure S9, Figure S10).

260 To test if smoothed cluster estimates have explanatory power for these admixed individuals,

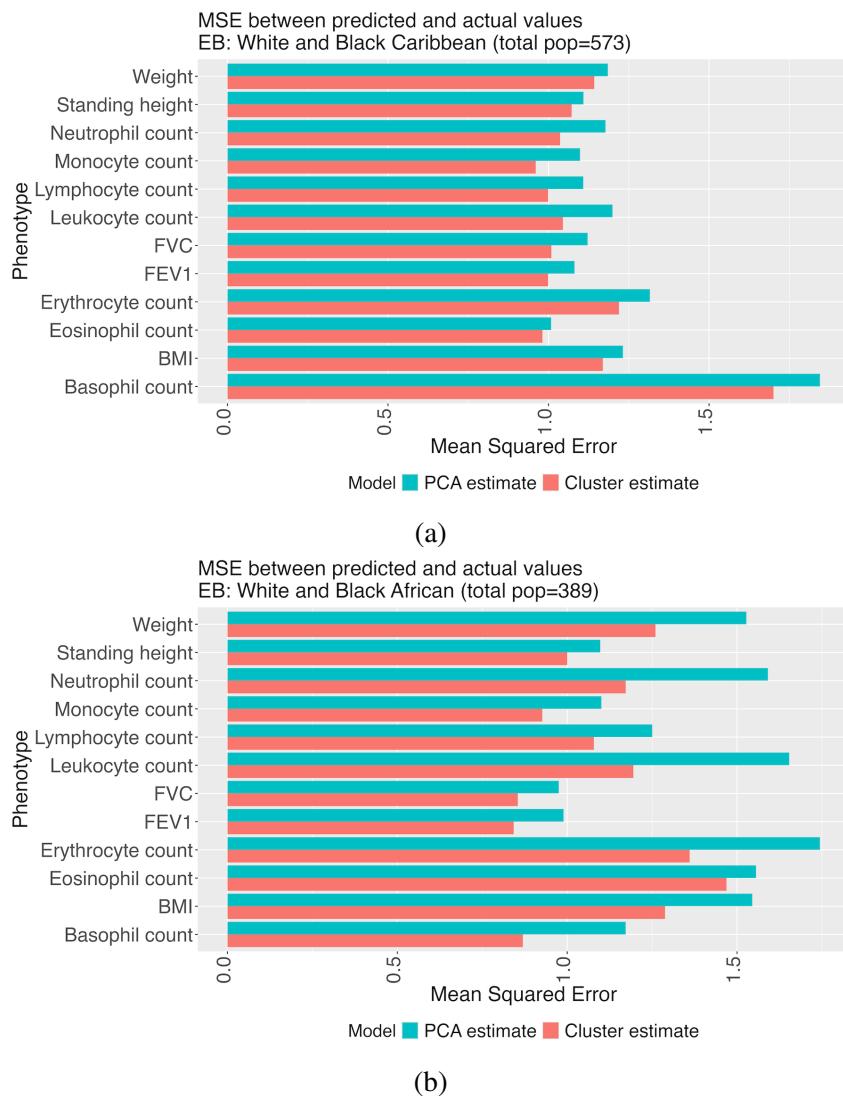


Figure 6: Cluster-based estimation can improve phenotype models. To test the explanatory value of smoothed cluster estimates generated from Algorithm 1, we carried out a five-fold cross-validation on the UKB data, compared phenotype prediction using the top 40 principal components versus estimates generated from the residual structure presented in Figure 5, and calculated the average MSE across folds.

261 we compared simple linear models for phenotype prediction using the top 40 PCs versus using
 262 the smoothed estimates made from residuals after removing the effects of the top 40 PCs. We
 263 compared the models for populations that selected “Mixed” as their EB in the UKB question-

264 naire and found that for individuals who selected “White and Black Caribbean” ($n = 573$) or
265 “White and Black African” ($n = 389$), the smoothed cluster estimates indeed outperformed the
266 PCA model, with an improved mean squared error across several phenotypes (see Figure 6; full
267 table of MSE values in Tables S11 and S12).

268 **Evaluating transferability of polygenic scores**

269 Most investigations of PGS transferability are done at a population-level using large-scale ge-
270 ographical groups (e.g. “African”, “European”, “Asian”). However, these broad populations
271 themselves exhibit population structure[31]. To illustrate the value for finer population group-
272 ings, we use our 26 cluster labels from Figure 4a, and compared the transferability of PGS
273 across them.

274 Using UKB data, we estimated effect sizes of SNPs using VIPRS[32]. As a training pop-
275 ulation, we used individuals who selected “White British” as their EB to mimic the well-
276 documented overrepresentation of European-ancestry individuals in GWAS. We estimated phe-
277 notypes for individuals and calculated the values of the fixation index (F_{ST}) between the clus-
278 ters. In Figure 7, we plot the PGS accuracy for two phenotypes—standing height and low-
279 density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL)—against the F_{ST} for each cluster relative to Cluster 17, a
280 cluster with over 400,000 individuals and with significant overlap with the training population
281 ($> 95\%$ selected “White British” as their EB). We observe for height (Figure 7a) that as the
282 F_{ST} between populations grows, the predictive value of the PGS decreases; such a decrease is
283 expected, due to factors like population-specific causal variants, gene-by-environment interac-
284 tion, differences in allele frequencies, and linkage disequilibrium between assayed SNPs and
285 causal variants[33].

286 However, we see no such relationship for LDL (Figure 7b). Cluster 18, composed mostly of
287 individuals born in sub-Saharan Africa and of whom 77% selected the EB “Black African”, has

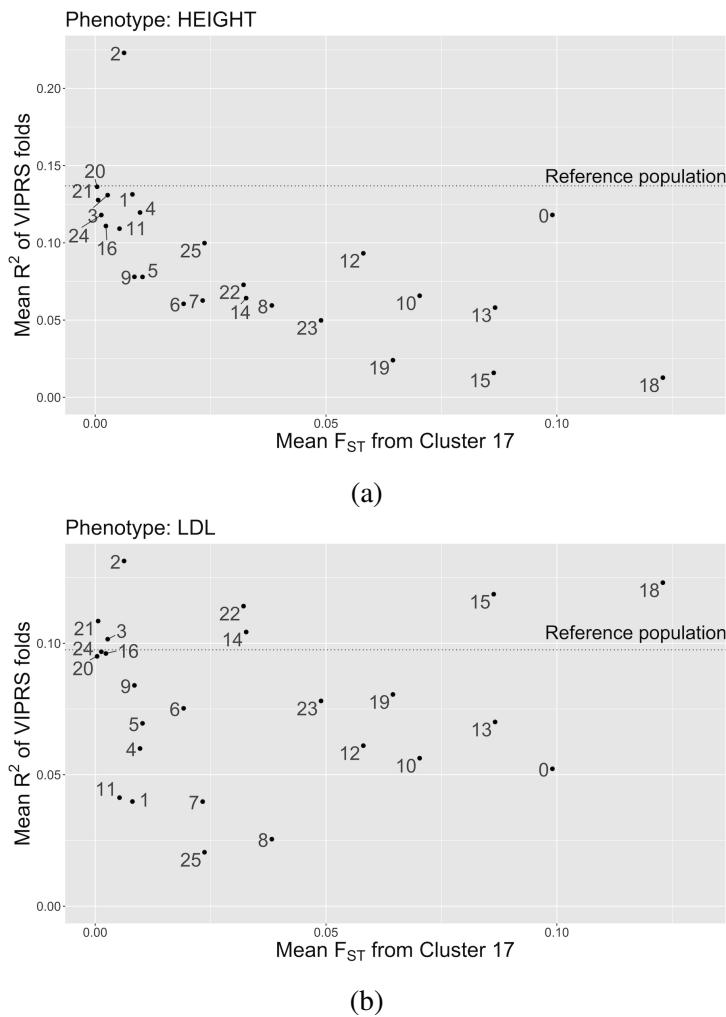


Figure 7: **PGS accuracy by F_{ST} for standing height and LDL.** A plot of the mean R^2 of a PGS against the difference in F_{ST} from the White British in the UKB. We use clusters extracted using HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$). There is a negative linear relationship between F_{ST} from the largest cluster and PGS accuracy. (a) Top: A PGS of height shows a strong decay between R^2 and F_{ST} , as expected. (b) Bottom: A PGS of LDL-cholesterol has an unclear relationship between R^2 and F_{ST} . Cluster 18 has the largest F_{ST} but one of the highest R^2 values; the cluster also has the highest frequency of the *rs7412* and *rs4420638* alleles.

288 one of the best PGS predictions despite its large F_{ST} from the training population. This may
 289 be because there are a few variants with large effect sizes; in contrast to height, LDL has been
 290 noted for its relatively low polygenicity[7]. Since F_{ST} compares genome-wide variation, the
 291 accuracy of a PGS constructed from relatively few variants with strong effects is not expected

292 to correlate as strongly with F_{ST} .

293 To test if the frequencies of certain alleles impacted the PGS estimates, we modelled the
294 R^2 from the VIPRS estimates for each cluster against minor allele frequencies (MAF) of the
295 top 100 SNPs and found the two strongest results were for *rs4420638* and *rs7412* (Tables S1
296 and S2; Figures S12 and S13, respectively). Both have their highest frequencies in Cluster 18
297 and both markers are in the apolipoprotein E (APOE) gene cluster; *rs7412* had the largest
298 overall effect size ($\hat{\beta} = -0.1812$), while *rs4420638* had the second largest effect size in the
299 opposite direction ($\hat{\beta} = 0.02813$). The *rs7412* allele has been linked to LDL[34] and was
300 found to explain significant variation in LDL in African Americans[35]. The *rs4420638* allele
301 was associated with LDL even in the presence of the *rs7412* allele in a study of Sardinian,
302 Norwegian, and Finnish individuals[36]; it was also found to affect LDL in studies of children
303 in Germany[37] and China[38].

304 The relationship between PGS accuracy and fine-scale population structure is complex and
305 will vary by phenotype. It is not immediately obvious whether a PGS will transfer when there
306 is a large degree of differentiation between the estimand and training populations. However, an
307 approach like UMAP-HDBSCAN(ϵ) can provide a detailed picture of the likely performance of
308 a PGS in various genetic subgroups.

309 **Quality control for complex multi-ethnic cohorts**

310 Generally the fine-scale structure of biobank data is not known in advance. The structure of
311 under-represented groups in particular, such as minority populations or those with complex his-
312 tories of recent migration and admixture, can also be intricate and poorly understood, at least
313 by geneticists. Individuals with uncommon combinations of ancestral, geographic, and eth-
314 nic descriptors are present in all biobanks. These combinations can be real and represent the
315 completely different nature of genetic ancestry and ethnicity; they may also represent clerical

316 errors[39]. Distinguishing the two is especially relevant when biobanks are used as sample
317 frames for deeper sequencing or for follow-up studies, and when variables like country of birth
318 and ethnicity are used as selection criteria. Using $\text{HDBSCAN}(\hat{\epsilon})$ to explore the relationship
319 between clusters membership and auxiliary variables can detect data collection errors before
320 sample selection is carried out, preventing serious methodology problems or unnecessary ex-
321 clusion of individuals.

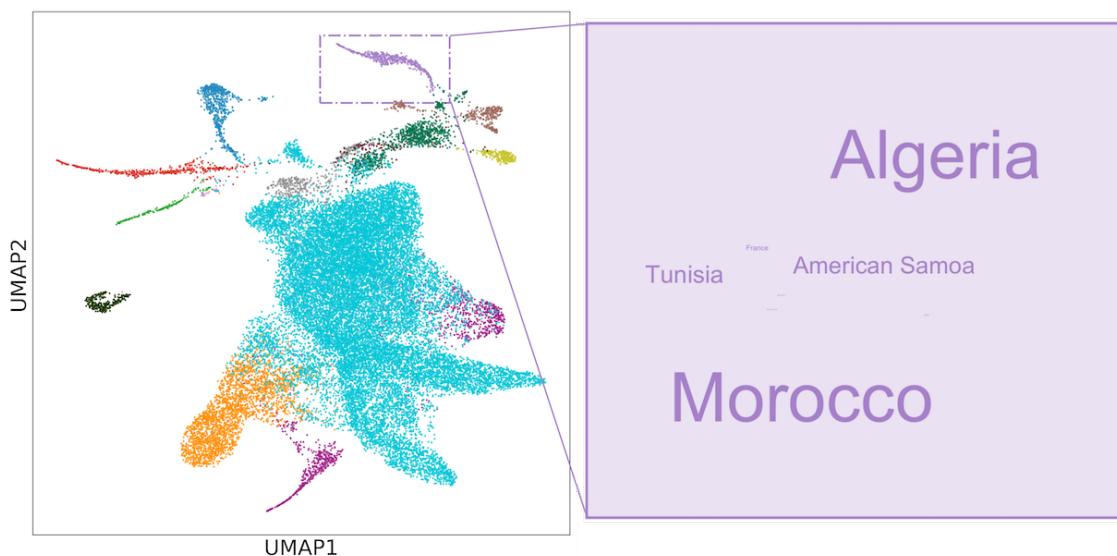


Figure 8: **Clustering can identify data collection errors.** A 2D UMAP of CARTaGENE data coloured by clusters extracted using $\text{HDBSCAN}(\hat{\epsilon})$. The highlighted cluster was found to have most of its individuals born in North Africa. A word cloud shows that a significant minority of individuals were born in American Samoa, which was found to be a coding error.

322 CARTaGENE is a biobank of residents from Quebec, Canada, that has recently genotyped
323 29,337 individuals[22]. We were interested in identifying populations of North African descent
324 for further study. In Figure 8, we identified a cluster of 446 people born largely in North Africa
325 with 51 individuals (11.4%) recorded as being born in American Samoa, an American island
326 territory in the South Pacific Ocean with fewer than 50,000 inhabitants. After researching
327 possible historical explanations (e.g. migration between American Samoa and North Africa),

328 we traced the result to a coding error from different country codes used over the course of
329 data collection; the actual birth country was corrected to Algeria. The same coding error was
330 found in other clusters, affecting 266 individuals born in 43 countries. While this error was
331 easy to discover using HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$), it is not obvious whether or how it would have been
332 identified otherwise given that it affected less than 1% of the cohort. Efficient data exploration,
333 aided by visualization and clustering, remains one of our best tools to combat the dual evils of
334 bookkeeping errors and batch effects.

335 Discussion

336 We present UMAP-HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$), a new approach to describe population structure that ap-
337 proximates the topology of high-dimensional genetic data and detects dense clusters in a low-
338 dimensional space.

339 The most commonly used approaches for fine-scale genetic community identification are
340 based on measures of recent relatedness such as identity-by-descent (IBD; see e.g. [8, 9, 40,
341 41]). An IBD-based approach in ATLAS, for example, recently identified associations between
342 genetic clusters and genetic, clinical, and environmental data [42]. The ability of IBD clustering
343 to identify fine-scale structure can be due to two effects. First, it focuses on recent relatedness
344 between individuals, which may be helpful in identifying recent demographic effects. Second,
345 because it focuses on pairwise similarity, it encourages the use of clustering methods that focus
346 on genetic neighbourhoods, i.e., on more topological approaches.

347 Despite the existence of such methods, researchers commonly rely on hand-delineation of
348 dimensionally-reduced data (e.g. [12, 2]). This is because IBD clustering is analytically de-
349 manding, and because IBD clusters focus on recent relatedness and may not reflect overall
350 genetic similarity observed in PCA or UMAP plots. The topological approach presented here
351 is meant to capture overall genetic similarity. Since it bypasses the need to perform phasing

352 and IBD calling, it requires fewer analytical tools and computational resources: starting from
353 UMAP data, clustering the UKB takes less than 60 seconds on a single core. It can model pop-
354 ulations of widely varying sizes and requires neither reference panels nor *a priori* definitions of
355 populations, but can use auxiliary data such as geographic coordinates, jurisdiction, country of
356 birth, population label, ethnicity, etc., to characterize the clusters *a posteriori* and learn about
357 their history or origins.

358 A recent publication suggested moving entirely away from stratification based on genetic
359 clusters [7]. Instead, they argued in favour of individual-level measures. They cite three issues
360 with clusters: (i) clustering algorithms fail to capture populations without reference panels,
361 such as those that are relatively small or recently admixed; (ii) clusters ignore inter-individual
362 variation; and (iii) clustering results change based on algorithms and reference panels. We
363 believe that these criticisms are valid for the type of archetype-based stratification considered
364 in [7]: if an individual fell within a certain PCA distance of one of nine pre-defined population
365 centroids, they were considered a member of a cluster; otherwise, their ancestry was considered
366 unknown.

367 We believe that the first two objections can be resolved by topological approaches. In the
368 UKB, 91% of participants were placed into clusters in [7]. In contrast, across 604 runs with
369 varying parameters, the median percentage of individuals placed in a cluster was 99.99% (Fig-
370 ure S14), with the three worst-performing runs of UMAP-HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) respectively assigning
371 99.11%, 99.69%, and 99.86% of individuals in the UKB to a cluster. The clusters reflect groups
372 that have shared genetic and geographic histories, including for relatively small and recently
373 admixed groups which were often excluded based on prior approaches [7, 15]. We achieved
374 similar results with CaG and 1KGP data, suggesting that our approach is robust to details of
375 biobank composition.

376 Applications

377 Understanding the population structure of a biobank is a necessary precursor to many analy-
378 ses. In the 1KGP, the source of its structure is largely the sampling scheme, which is reflected
379 in Figure 2—the populations were deliberately sampled from multiple locations around the
380 world with similar sample sizes. The sources of population structure of the UKB, on the other
381 hand, reflect a complex history of migrations at different geographic and time scales, includ-
382 ing isolation by distance within the UK and recent immigration and admixture. The structure
383 of a typical biobank is more similar to the UKB than the 1KGP, as the recruitment methodol-
384 ogy is often based on residence within a jurisdiction. Examples include municipal (ATLAS in
385 Los Angeles[42], BioMe in New York City[43]), regional (CARTaGENE in Quebec[22]) and
386 national (Million Veterans Project (MVP),[44], CANPATH[45]) biobanks. Leveraging these
387 diverse cohorts can improve variant discovery[46, 47].

388 Though population labels like ethnicity can be useful, individuals may identify as “Other”
389 or “Unknown”, leading to incomplete data. In the MVP, missing data were imputed using a
390 support vector machine trained on race/ethnicity data to harmonize genetic data with labels for
391 an ethnicity-specific GWAS[48]. A similar supervised approach with random forests was used
392 by gnomAD[18]. Rather than assigning ethnicities to individuals, we constructed clusters from
393 genetic data and investigated the distributions of auxiliary variables within clusters, including
394 missing values. We found word clouds to be well-suited for describing data without imposing a
395 reductive label.

396 The goal of genetic stratification is in no way to replace self-declared variables in contexts
397 where they are relevant. In fact, genetic stratification revealed interesting trends in self-declared
398 variables. For example, in Cluster 17 of Figure 4a, 97.6% of individuals were born in Britain
399 and Ireland and 99.5% chose an ethnic group label; in contrast, 18.9% of those in Cluster 18
400 (mostly born in sub-Saharan Africa) and 36.5% in Cluster 23 (mostly born in the Horn of Africa)

401 chose “Other”, highlighting differential completeness of questionnaire data. UKB strata with
402 “mixed” ethnic backgrounds as their mode featured multiple ethnic background labels, likely
403 reflecting both the fact that (genetically) admixed individuals may have a diversity of ethnic
404 backgrounds, and the fact that individuals with both mixed genetic and cultural heritage may
405 have to choose among potentially inadequate labels (see, e.g., discussion in [15]). The presence
406 or absence of a label in data collection can critically influence how people identify: between
407 the 2011 National Household Survey and the 2016 Census in Canada, there was a 53.6% drop
408 in people who identified as “Jewish” simply because the label was not provided as an example
409 ethnicity in the 2016 questionnaire[49].

410 **Considerations**

411 Unlike archetype-based methods, HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) identifies groups that can be created by link-
412 ing nearby individuals—it is possible to have a long chain containing many individuals who are
413 each closely related to those near them within a cluster but not to those at the distant end. In
414 this way, admixed populations can form a single cluster even though individuals within cluster
415 can differ as much as individuals from the different ancestral “source” populations. In a sense,
416 HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) identifies groups of individuals whose distribution in genetic space suggests a
417 common sampling or demographic history, rather than genetic similarity. For this reason, topo-
418 logical stratification may be less conducive to reification of clusters and the notion that popu-
419 lation labels reflect a true underlying “type”. However, given the weaponization of population
420 genetics research in the past[50], it is worth emphasizing limitations common to all clustering
421 approaches.

422 No single label is an individual’s “true” ancestry, race, or ethnicity, as these are com-
423 plex, multifactorial population descriptors[15, 51]. Thus clustering does not have a well-
424 defined ground truth [52], and clusters are most useful as “helpful constructs that support

425 clarification”[53]. With real genetic data, there is no “correct” number of populations[54]
426 and discrete groupings provide a flattened view of a high-dimensional landscape[15, 55]. The
427 clusters generated are sensitive to the input samples, since the demographic composition of a
428 biobank will impact the clustering, and they are also affected by the parameters at the filter-
429 ing, dimensionality reduction, and clustering steps. This is a reflection of the data, as genetic
430 data are not composed of “natural types”. These clusters can be useful in understanding how
431 genetics relates to health and the environment, but variation in phenotypes across genetic clus-
432 ters does not imply a genetic cause, as differences in environment or systemic discrimination
433 are also expected to produce such variation[56]. Each identified cluster is also heterogeneous.
434 The UK biobank clusters of majority sub-Saharan-born individuals, for example, encompass
435 considerable genetic substructure[57]. Different choices of metrics for clustering (i.e., genetic
436 relatedness vs. IBD) can emphasize different types of structure. There are no true clusters.

437 Ultimately, however, many useful analyses require some definition of “populations”. For
438 example, an allele frequency can only be calculated and reported within a population. Data
439 exploration and quality control often require investigating relevant subsets of the data to decide
440 whether they reflect technical artefacts or meaningful subgroups. To date there has not been a
441 method of stratification that is tractable, easy to implement, robust to the presence of many pop-
442 ulations of many sizes, and that captures all or almost all individuals with complex population
443 histories. We believe our topological approach satisfies these important needs. Looking for-
444 ward, we expect that topological approaches underlying UMAP and HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) also present
445 a promising avenue to move towards a more continuous description of genetic variation in com-
446 plex cohorts.

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455 Materials and Methods

456 Our code is available at <https://github.com/diazale/topstrat>. We have pro-
457 vided command line tools to run Python implementations of UMAP and HDBSCAN(ϵ). We
458 used three datasets for this analysis: the 1000 Genomes project (1KGP), the UK biobank
459 (UKB), and CARTaGENE (CaG).

460 For the 1KGP we used 3,450 genotypes using Affy 6.0 genotyping[20]. We generated
461 the principal components using a Python script and have made the top PCs available in the
462 repository to demonstrate the code. We used the genotype file

463 ALL.wgs.nhgri_coriell_affy_6.20140825.genotypes_has_ped.vcf.gz
464 and population labels
465 affy_samples.20141118.panel 20131219.populations.tsv,
466 available at <http://ftp.1000genomes.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/ftp/release/20130502/>
467 supporting/hd_genotype_chip/. We generated admixture proportions using AD-
468 MIXTURE 1.3.0[58] from 45,197 SNPs. Using 32GB of RAM and 32 cores, this took 10,554
469 seconds to run with $K = 21$ populations and 40,719 seconds to run with $K = 26$ populations.

470 For the UKB, we limited our analyses to the 488,377 individuals with genotype data. We

471 used the UKB’s top 40 pre-computed PCs (Data-Field 22009), blood cell counts (Data-Fields
472 30000, 30010, 30120, 30130, 30140, 30150, 30160), lung function measures (Data-Fields 3062,
473 3063), age (Data-Field 21003), sex (Data-Field 31), standing height (Data-Field 50), weight
474 (Data-Field 21002), BMI (Data-Field 21001), smoking status (Data-Field 20116), country of
475 birth (Data-Fields 1647, 20115), and ethnic group/background (Data-Field 21000). Ethnic
476 group/background is a hierarchical item in which participants are prompted to select from a
477 pre-populated list of options for Ethnic Group (e.g. “White”) and, if available, a secondary
478 option for Ethnic Background (e.g. “British”). Phenotypes used in analyses were normal-
479 ized with respect to variables *sex*, *age*, and *age*². Access to the UKB can be granted at
480 <https://www.ukbiobank.ac.uk/scientists-3/genetic-data/>.

481 For CARTaGENE, we used 29,337 individuals with genotype data. We generated the
482 PCs using PLINK[59] after filtering for linkage disequilibrium and HLA (chromosome 6,
483 25000000–33500000). The options used were:

484 • indep-pairwise 1000 50 0.1 (PLINK2)
485 • maf 0.05
486 • mind 0.1
487 • geno 0.1
488 • hwe 1e-6.

489 We used the Python implementations of UMAP[16] (0.3.6) and HDBSCAN (0.8.24), inte-
490 grating the updates from Malzer and Baum[19]. To calculate PGS, we used VIPRS[32].

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634 Supporting Information (SI)

635 For visualization, we reduce our data to 2D via UMAP and set a relatively high minimum dis-
636 tance (MD ; usually between 0.3 and 0.5); this enables us to view fine-scale patterns of structure.
637 We find satisfactory results with the number of neighbours (NN) varying from 15 to 50; higher
638 values will require more computational resources, but they increase the connectivity between
639 points in the data, as discussed in [60]. For clustering, we set a low value of minimum distance
640 (equal to or close to 0) and reduce the number of dimensions to at least 3—in our analyses, we
641 used 3, 4, and 5 dimensions. The low minimum distance encourages dimensionally-reduced
642 data to form dense clusters, while keeping the dimensionality at ≥ 3 preserves the complexities
643 of data that can be lost because of artificial tearing in the drop from 3 to 2 dimensions. The
644 number of neighbours will vary depending on what is a reasonable expectation for the data.
645 For the 1KGP data, which consists of geographically diverse samples of roughly similar size,
646 50 neighbours capture the structure well. For biobank data, it is common for structure to arise
647 from a handful of individuals; we found 10 to 25 neighbours to work best. Lower neighbour-
648 hood values (e.g. $NN = 5$) will create smaller clusters, but can also highlight highly-localized
649 structure within larger populations. 2D visualizations can give intuition as to the presence and
650 sizes of clusters. If pre-processing the data with PCA, more PCs tend to reveal finer-scale struc-
651 ture (see e.g. the relationship with geographical coordinates in Figures S17 and S18 in [4]). For
652 the 1KGP clusters in Figure 2 we used the top 16 PCs; for the UKB in Figure 4a and CaG in
653 Figure 8 we used the top 25.

654 In parametrizing HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$), the parameter $\hat{\epsilon}$ defines a threshold at which clusters are
655 merged or split. We find values of $\hat{\epsilon}$ ranging from 0.3 to 0.5 to be effective at ensuring all or
656 almost all individuals are clustered while still identifying fine-scale structure. The minimum
657 number of points (MP) should not be significantly higher than the number of neighbours used
658 in the associated UMAP. If MP is high and NN is low, it can result in a large number of points

659 being classified as noise since the UMAP data will tend to form small clusters; e.g. a UMAP
660 parametrized with $NN = 10$ and $\text{HDBSCAN}(\hat{\epsilon})$ with $MP = 100$ may return poor results.

661 Changing parameters will result in different clusters being generated. Given the low com-
662 putational costs of UMAP and $\text{HDBSCAN}(\hat{\epsilon})$, we recommend running a grid search for vi-
663 sualization and exploratory analysis. Clusters can then be characterized using auxiliary data,
664 such as country of birth, geographical location, population label, self-identification, etc. We
665 selected the clustering for the UKB for its suitability for comparing PGS results by F_{ST} from
666 the training population. For CaG, we selected one of the clustering runs that generated a cluster
667 of individuals with North African ancestry.

668 We calculated pairwise F_{ST} for UKB clusters using PLINK[59]. We calculated admixture
669 proportions using ADMIXTURE 1.3.0[58]. For computational reasons, for the UKB we cal-
670 culated admixture proportions on individuals not falling into Cluster 17 (the largest cluster,
671 containing around 400,000 individuals) in Figure 4a.

672 Visualizations and statistical analyses were done in R (3.5.3)[61]. We used ggplot2[62] for
673 graphics and ggwordcloud for word clouds, and stargazer[63] to generate tables.

674 For phenotype smoothing, we removed the effects of the top 40 PCs using linear regression,
675 working with the residuals. For phenotype p and individuals $i = 1 \dots I$, we use the model:

$$y_{p,i} = \beta_{p,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{40} \beta_{p,j} PC_{j,i} + \epsilon_{p,i}, \epsilon_{p,i} \sim N(0, \sigma_p^2)$$

676 We visualize the data in Figure 5 with the values $e_{p,i} = y_{p,i} - (\hat{\beta}_{p,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{40} \hat{\beta}_{p,j} PC_{j,i})$
677 For UKB figures we varied the number of input PCs (5 … 40) into UMAP as well as the
678 UMAP parameters (setting the number of neighbours to 5 or 10, the minimum distance to 0 or
679 0.01, and the dimensionality to 3 or 5) and set the $\text{HDBSCAN}(\hat{\epsilon})$ parameters to 25 minimum
680 points and $\hat{\epsilon}$ to 0.5. This resulted in $36 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 288$ unique runs of parameters. To test the
681 robustness of the clustering (shown in Figure S14), we re-ran a subset of the parametrizations

682 for a total of 604 runs.

683 **SI Figures**

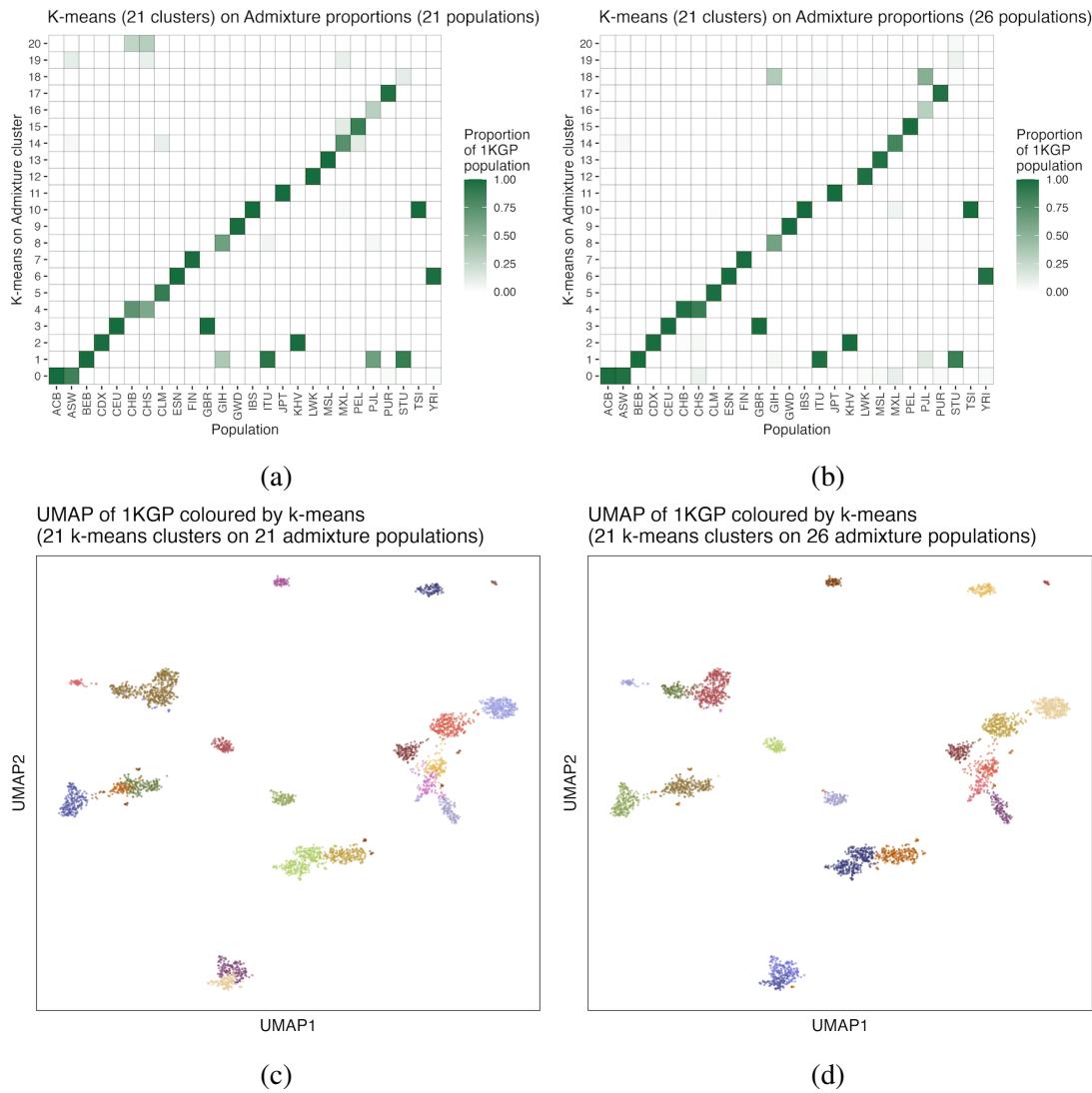


Figure S1: Clustering 1KGP data using ADMIXTURE 1.3.0. **(a)** Generating 21 clusters using k-means clustering on admixture proportions ($K = 21$ populations specified). The adjusted Rand Index compared to population labels is 0.611. **(b)** Generating 21 clusters using k-means clustering on admixture proportions ($K = 26$ populations specified). The adjusted Rand Index compared to population labels is 0.661. Using density clustering gives an adjusted Rand Index of 0.769. **(c)** UMAP of the 1KGP coloured by k-means clustering of admixture proportions (21 clusters on $K = 21$ admixture populations). **(c)** UMAP of the 1KGP coloured by k-means clustering of admixture proportions (21 clusters on $K = 26$ admixture populations).

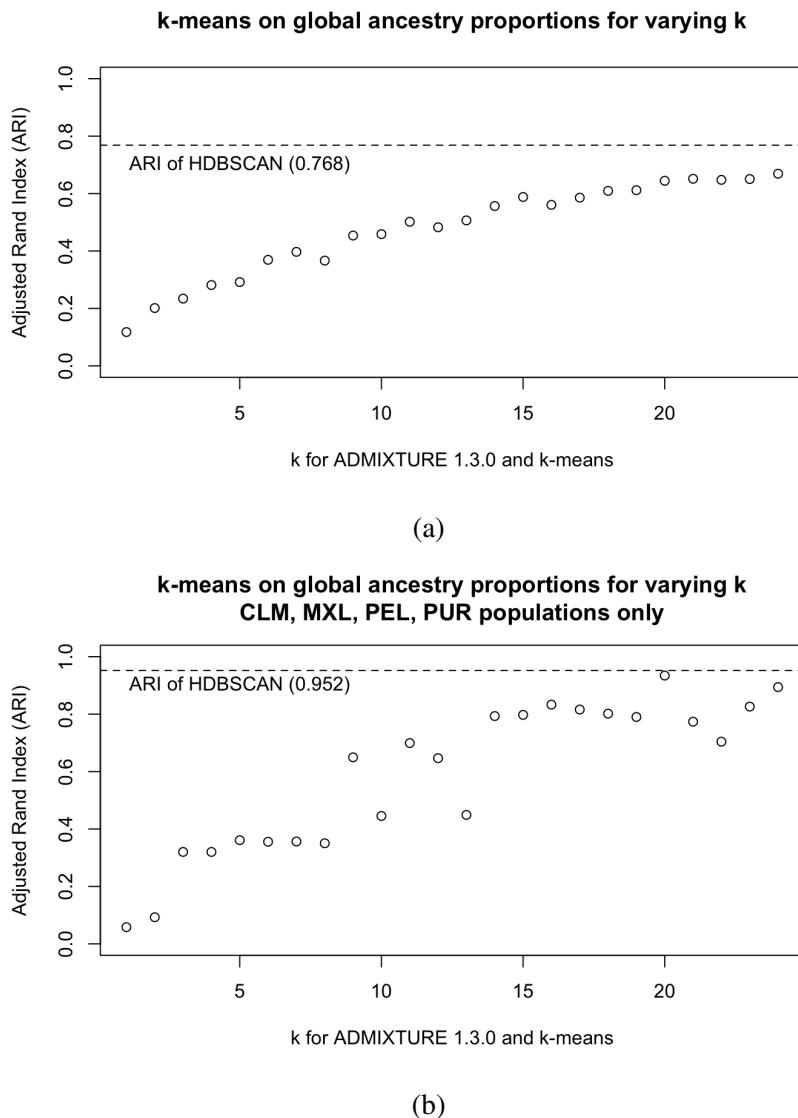
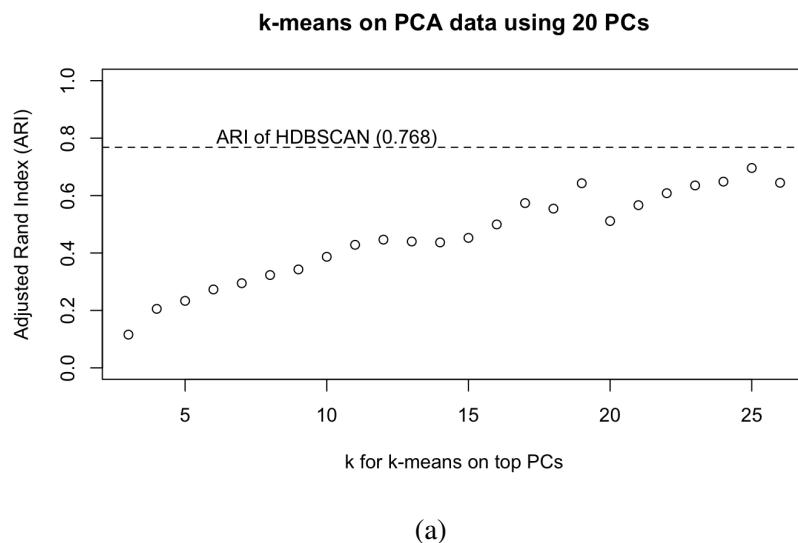


Figure S2: Adjusted Rand Indices (ARI) comparing hard clustering of global ancestry estimates. We generated ancestry proportions from 1KGP individuals assuming $k = \{3, \dots, 26\}$ source populations, and then ran k-means on the individual-level proportions, assuming a corresponding value of k clusters (e.g. for ADMIXTURE with $k = 10$ we also ran k-means assuming 10 clusters). We use 1KGP population labels as ground truth, and the ARI of HDBSCAN illustrated in Figure 2b is presented for comparison. An ARI closer to 1 is considered closer to ground truth. **Top:** ARI for all 1KGP populations. **Bottom:** ARI for the CLM, MXL, PEL, PUR populations.



(a)

Figure S3: Adjusted Rand Indices (ARI) comparing k-means clustering of the top 20 PCs of the 1KGP data. We applied k-means clustering assuming $k = 3 \dots 26$. We use 1KGP population labels as ground truth, and the ARI of HDBSCAN illustrated in Figure 2b is presented for comparison. An ARI closer to 1 is considered closer to ground truth. We also applied k-means clustering to the top 5, 10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 PCs but the results were similar. We illustrate 20 PCs specifically because it provided the highest ARI (0.696 at $k = 25$).

<i>Dependent variable:</i>	
	R2
MAF	0.401*** (0.100)
Constant	0.018 (0.016)
Observations	26
R ²	0.402
Adjusted R ²	0.378
Residual Std. Error	0.025 (df = 24)
F Statistic	16.163*** (df = 1; 24)

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table S1: Linear regression model between minor allele frequency (MAF) of *rs4420638* within each cluster from Figure 4a and the R^2 of a PGS for LDL generated by VIPRS using the clusters from Figure 4a. The plot of the regression is present in Figure S12.

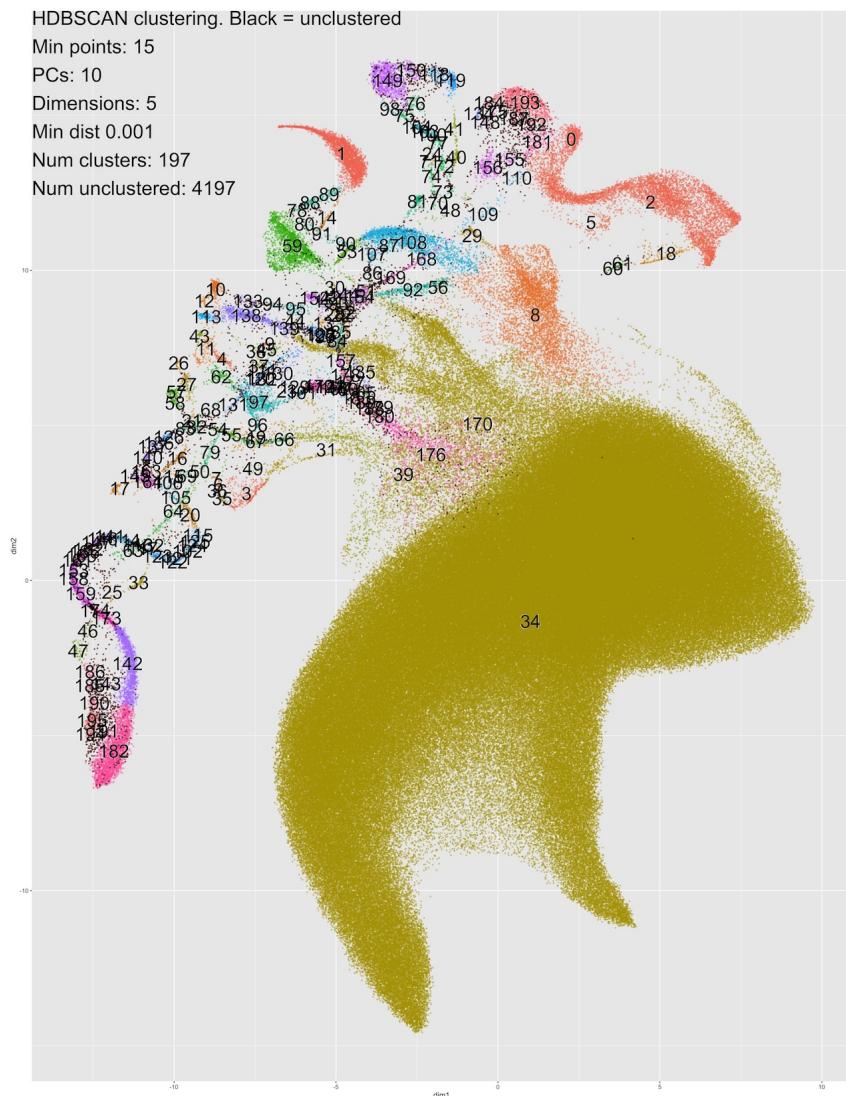


Figure S4: An example of a clustering of the UKB data using HDBSCAN rather than HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$). The algorithm fails to adequately cluster many of the sub-populations, categorizing 4,197 individuals as noise and generated almost 200 micro-clusters.

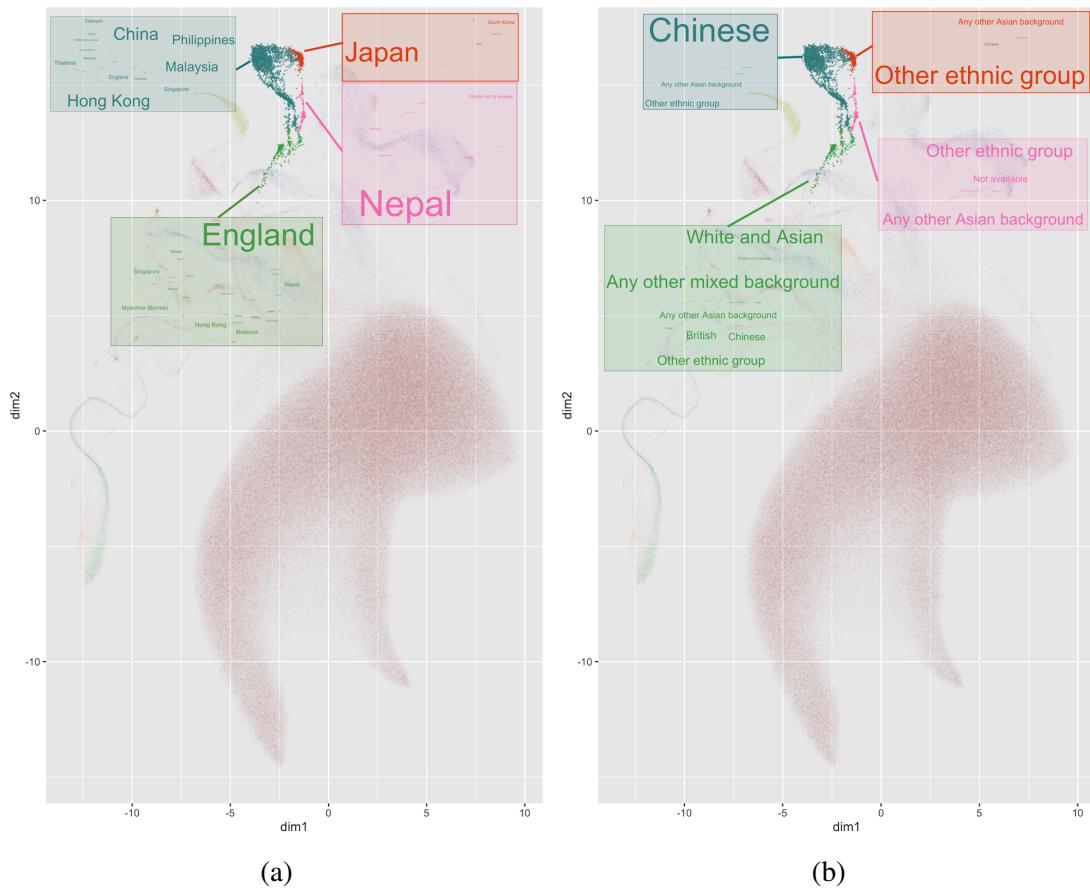


Figure S5: Word clouds generated from four clusters in the UKB from Figure 4. (a) Left: Word clouds of the most common countries of birth within each cluster. Most individuals in the orange cluster (Cluster 0) were born in Japan, and most in the pink cluster (Cluster 15) were born in Nepal. (b) Right: Word clouds for the most common EB. The most common in the blue cluster (Cluster 13) was “Chinese”, while those in the green cluster (Cluster 14) select a variety, including “White British”, “Chinese”, “Mixed”, or “Other”. Detailed breakdowns are available in Tables S9 and S10.

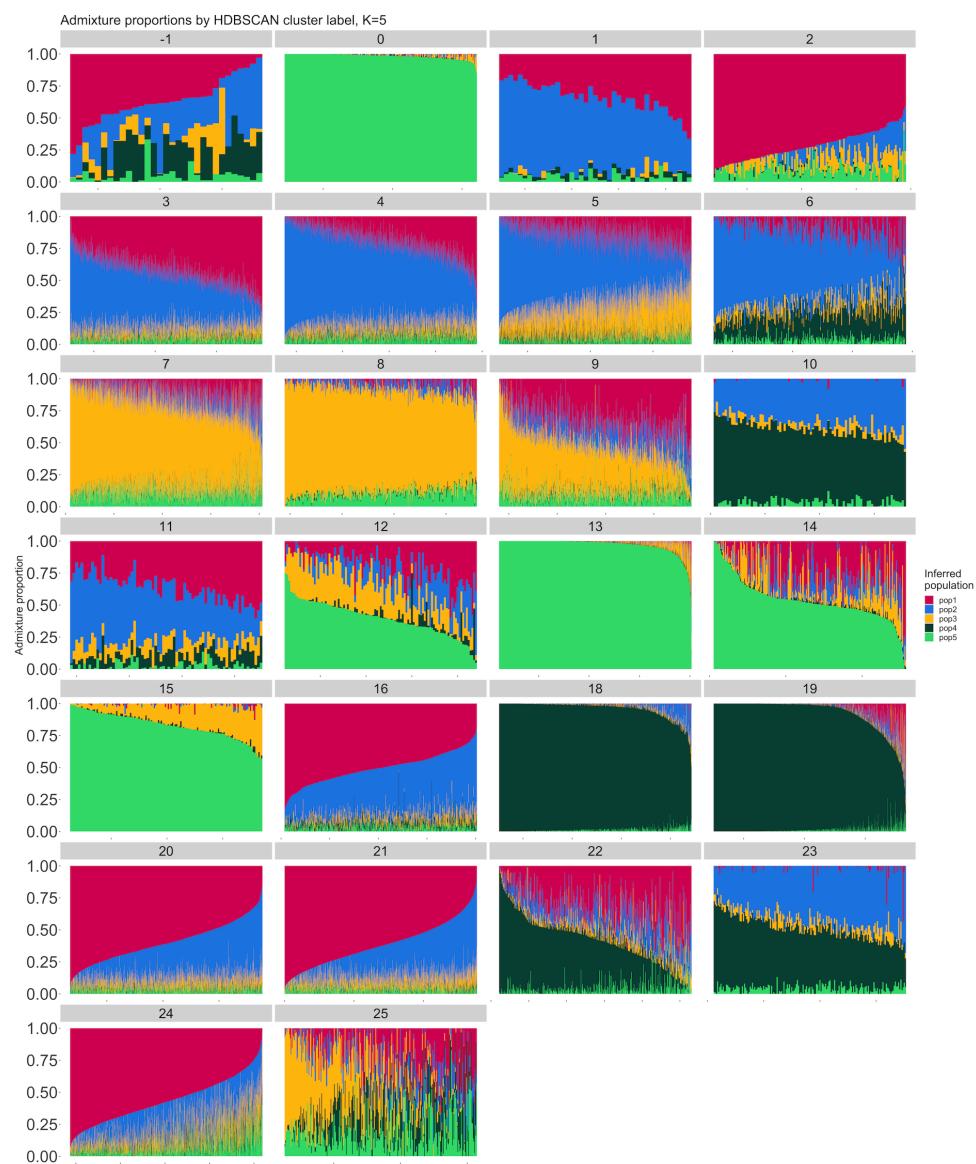


Figure S6: Admixture proportions for $K = 5$ populations on each of the clusters in Figure 4. Cluster 17 ($n > 400,000$) was excluded for computational reasons. Individuals not assigned to a cluster are labelled as -1 .

Phenotype distribution after smoothing (FEV1)

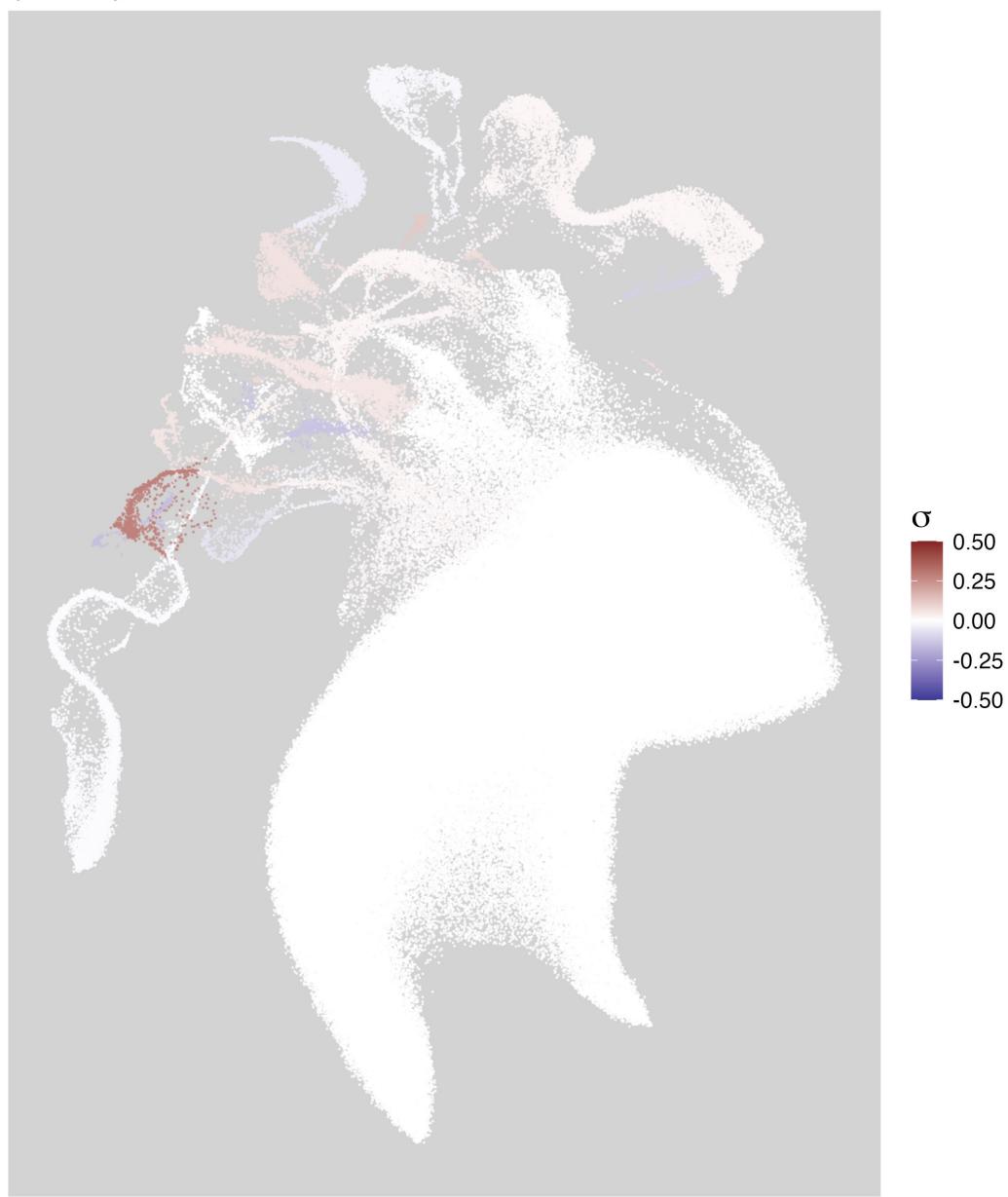


Figure S7: FEV1 values averaged by a single run of clustering rather than smoothed over multiple runs of clustering. Patterns that appear in Figure 5 are obscured because, e.g., smaller clusters may have been merged into larger ones in this particular set of parameters.

Distribution after smoothing
(Proportion of daily smokers)

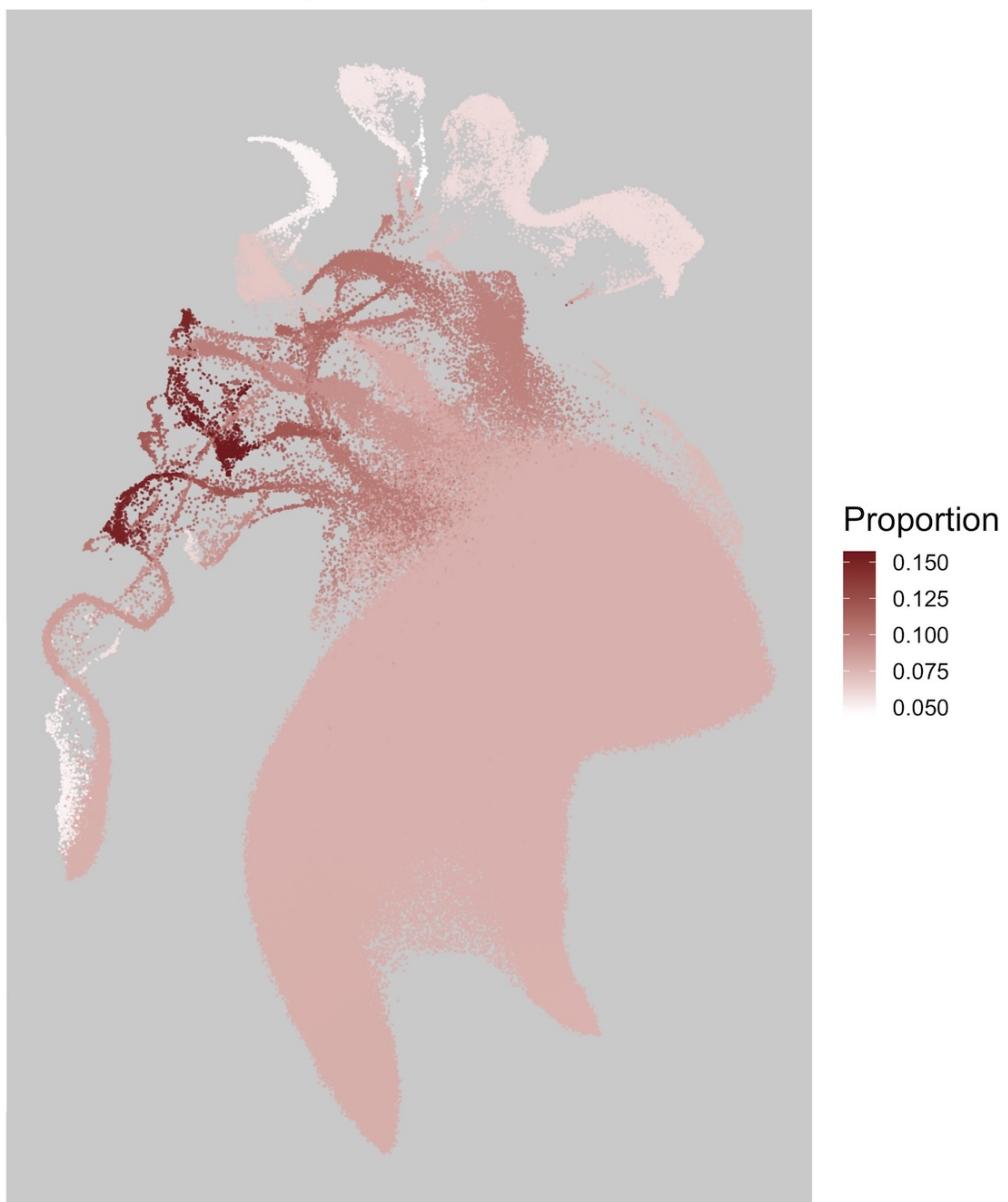


Figure S8: Proportion of daily smokers, smoothed using Algorithm 1.

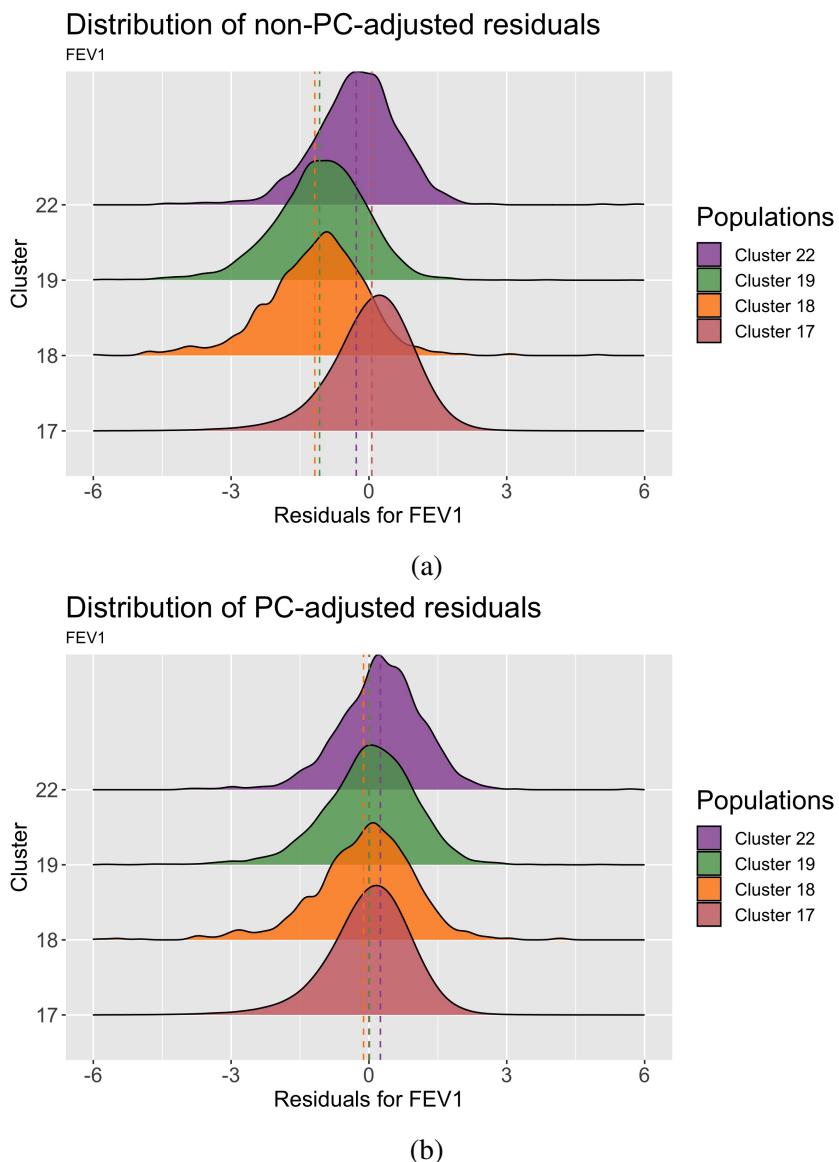


Figure S9: Distributions of FEV1 adjusted for age and sex stratified by cluster. Vertical dotted lines represent the mean of the distribution. Cluster labels and colours match those in Figure 4a. Cluster 17 is mostly European-born individuals, Cluster 18 is mostly sub-Saharan African born individuals, Cluster 19 is mostly individuals born in England, the Caribbean, Ghana, and Nigeria, and Cluster 22 is mostly individuals born in England who chose the EB “White and Black Caribbean” or “White and Black African”. (a) Top: Distribution of FEV1 by cluster without adjusting for population structure. (b) Bottom: Distribution of FEV1 by cluster after having adjusted for the top 40 principal components.

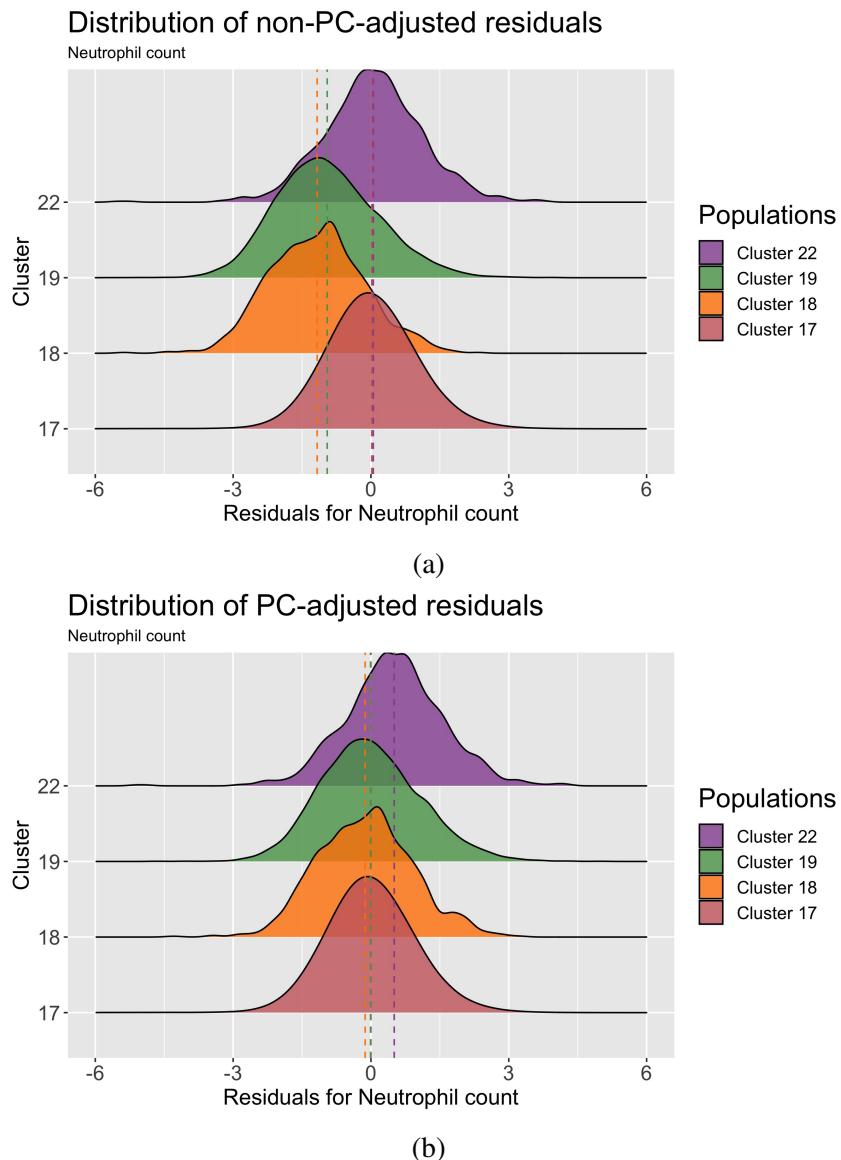


Figure S10: Distributions of neutrophil count adjusted for age and sex stratified by cluster. Vertical dotted lines represent the mean of the distribution. Cluster labels and colours match those in Figure 4a. Cluster 17 is mostly European-born individuals, Cluster 18 is mostly sub-Saharan African born individuals, Cluster 19 is mostly individuals born in England, the Caribbean, Ghana, and Nigeria, and Cluster 22 is mostly individuals born in England who chose the EB “White and Black Caribbean” or “White and Black African”. (a) Top: Distribution of neutrophil count by cluster without adjusting for population structure. (b) Bottom: Distribution of neutrophil count by cluster after having adjusted for the top 40 principal components.

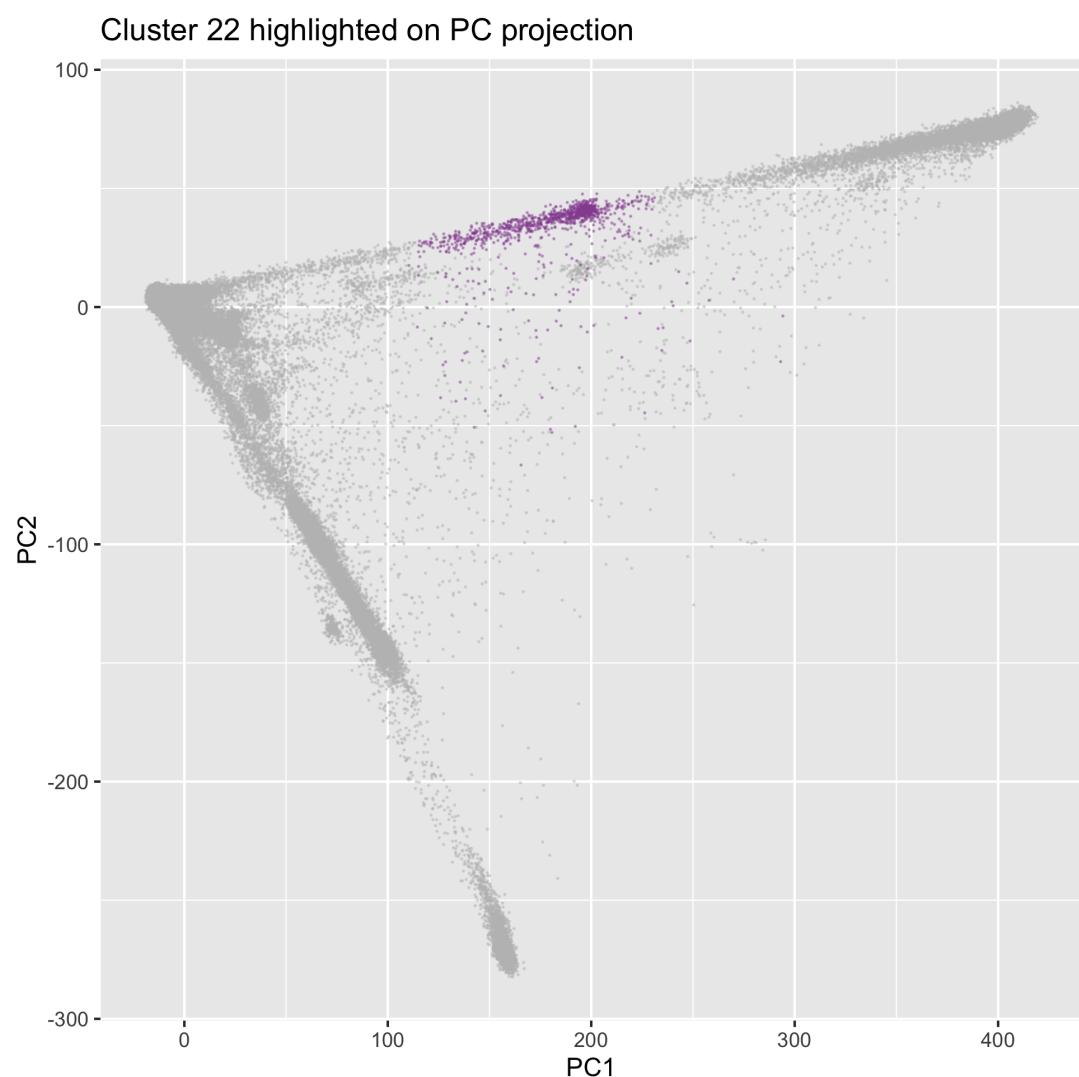


Figure S11: Cluster 22 from Figure 4a highlighted coloured in on a plot of PC1 and PC2.

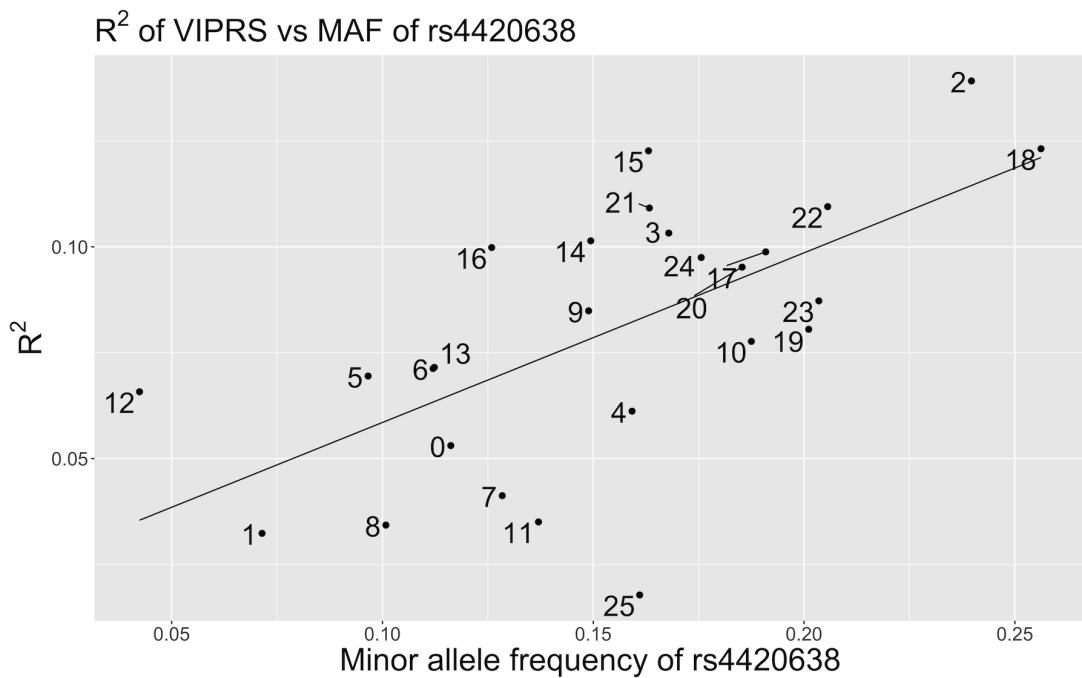


Figure S12: Regression line of the R^2 of a PGS generated by VIPRS versus the minor allele frequency $rs4420638$, labelled by clusters from Figure 4a. The regression summary is presented in Table S1.

<i>Dependent variable:</i>	
	R^2
MAF	0.609*** (0.202)
Constant	0.041*** (0.014)
<hr/>	
Observations	26
R^2	0.275
Adjusted R^2	0.245
Residual Std. Error	0.027 (df = 24)
F Statistic	9.126*** (df = 1; 24)
<hr/>	
<i>Note:</i>	* $p < 0.1$; ** $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.01$

Table S2: Linear regression model between minor allele frequency (MAF) of $rs7412$ within each cluster from Figure 4a and the R^2 of a PGS for LDL generated by VIPRS using the clusters from Figure 4a. The plot of the regression is present in Figure S13.

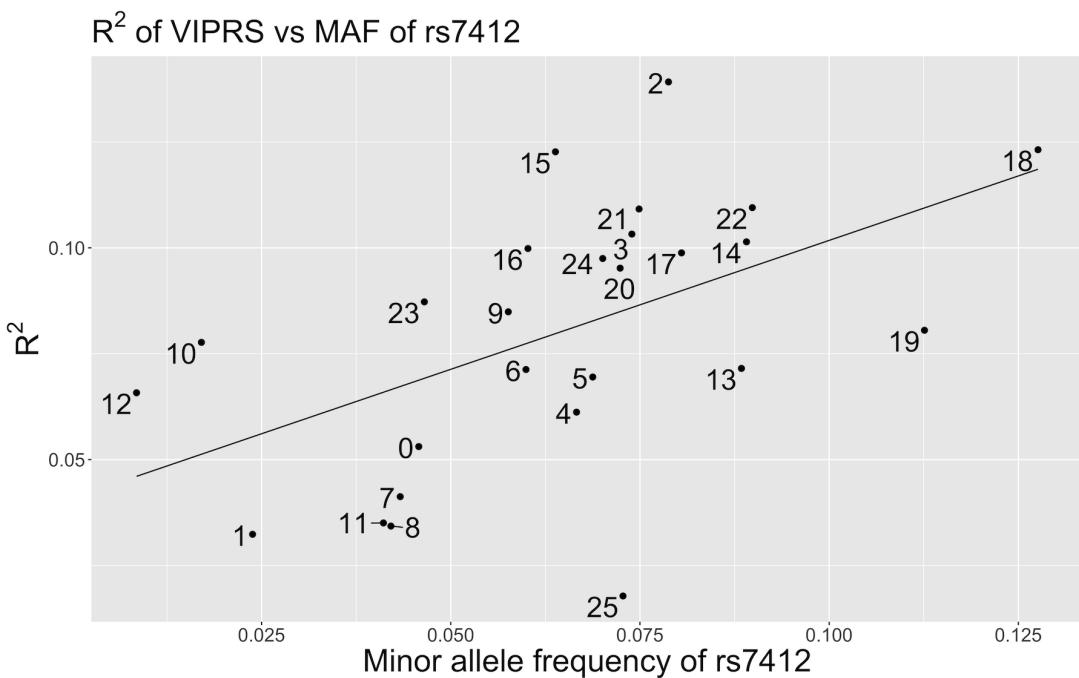


Figure S13: Regression line of the R^2 of a PGS generated by VIPRS versus the minor allele frequency $rs7412$, labelled by clusters from Figure 4a. The regression summary is presented in Table S2.

Number PCs	Unclustered individuals
2	8970
3	19701
4	61938
5	11423
6	92124
7	99824
8	65442
9	113299

Table S3: HDBSCAN run on PCA data alone classifies many individuals as noise. Minimum points were set to 5, $\hat{\epsilon} = 0.5$

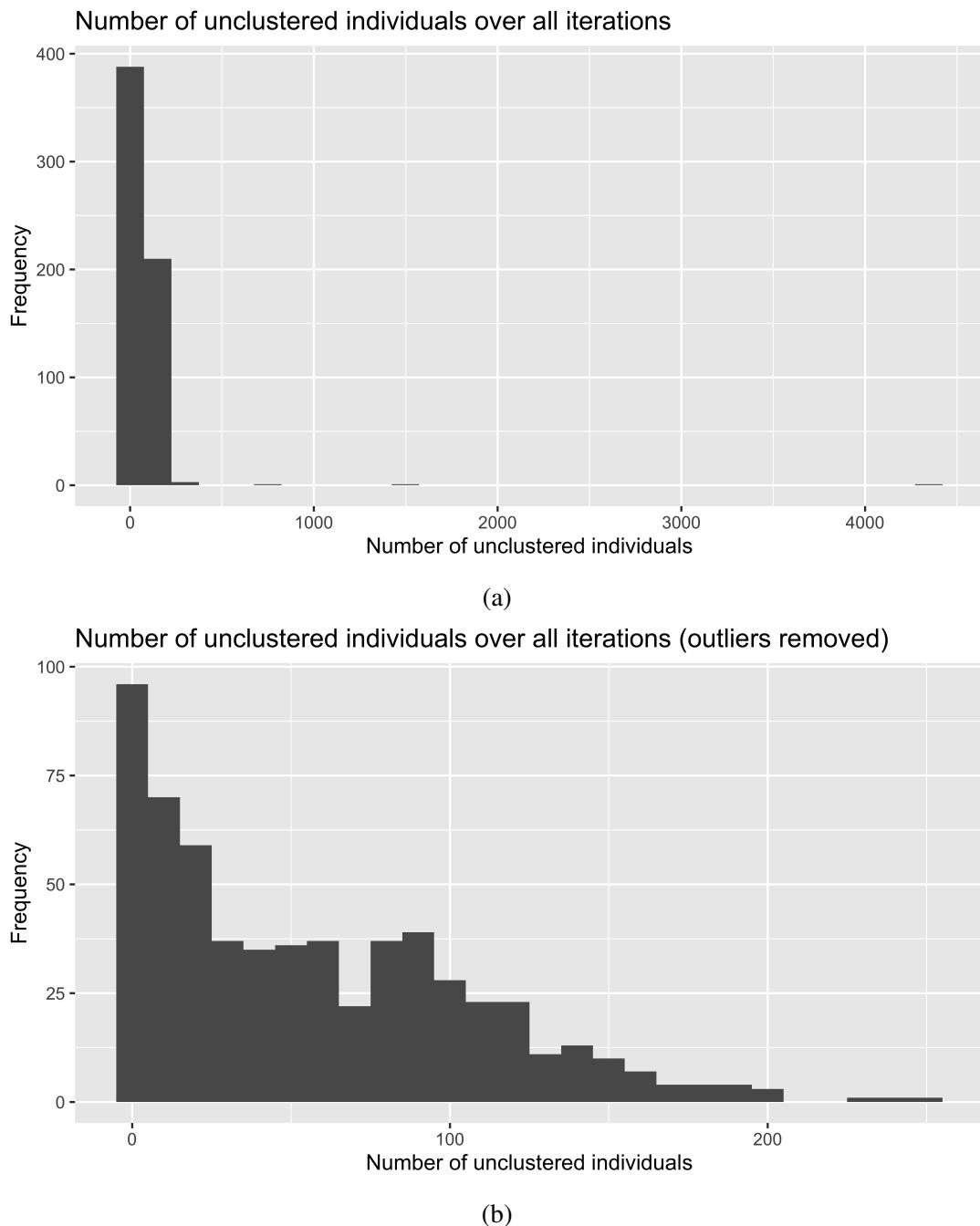


Figure S14: For 604 runs of UMAP-HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) on the UKB, we count the number of individuals not assigned to a cluster. (a) Top: Across all 604 runs. (b) Bottom: To improve the scale of the figure, we remove 3 outlier runs in which 684, 1, 535, and 4,346 individuals were not assigned to a cluster.

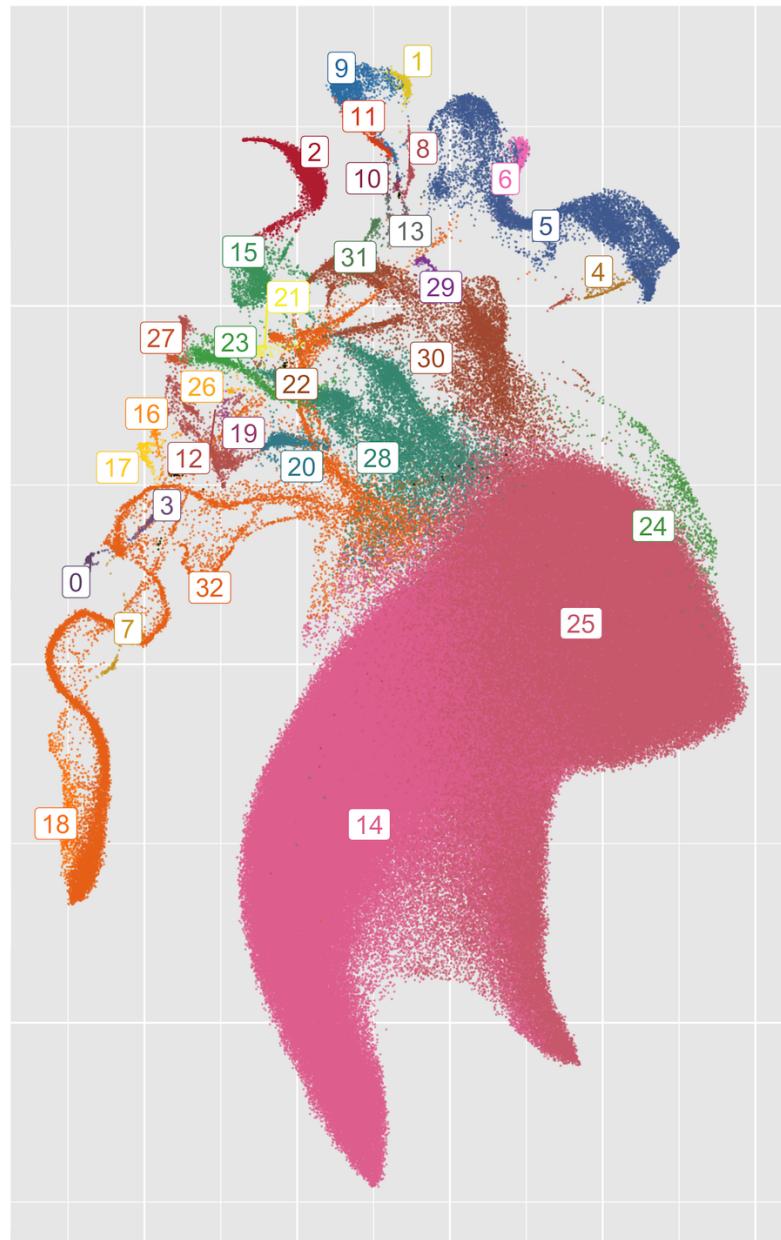


Figure S15: An alternative clustering of UKB data. Compared to Figure 4a, the largest cluster (Cluster 17 in that figure) has been split into three smaller clusters (Clusters 14, 24, 25 in this figure). Other clusters have been split or merged, while some remain the same between runs.

Abbreviation	Population name
ACB	African Caribbean in Barbados
ASW	African Ancestry in SW USA
BEB	Bengali in Bangladesh
CDX	Chinese Dai in Xishuangbanna, China
CEU	Utah residents with Northern/Western European ancestry
CHB	Han Chinese in Beijing, China
CHS	Han Chinese South
CLM	Colombian in Medellín, Colombia
ESN	Esan in Nigeria
FIN	Finnish in Finland
GBR	British From England and Scotland
GWD	Gambian in Western Division – Mandinka
GIH	Gujarati Indians in Houston, Texas, USA
IBS	Iberian Populations in Spain
ITU	Indian Telugu in the UK
JPT	Japanese in Tokyo, Japan
KHV	Kinh in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
LWK	Luhya in Webuye, Kenya
MSL	Mende in Sierra Leone
MXL	Mexican Ancestry in Los Angeles, CA, USA
PEL	Peruvian in Lima, Peru
PJL	Punjabi in Lahore, Pakistan
PUR	Puerto Rican in Puerto Rico
STU	Sri Lankan Tamil in the UK
TSI	Toscani in Italy
YRI	Yoruba in Ibadan, Nigeria

Table S4: Names and abbreviations of 1KGP populations.

1KGP population	Cluster label	1KGP in cluster	Total in 1KGP	Proportion in cluster
ACB	0	122	122	1.000000
ASW	0	103	107	0.9626168
ASW	5	3	107	0.0280374
ASW	15	1	107	0.0093458
BEB	1	133	143	0.9300699
BEB	11	10	143	0.0699301
CDX	2	104	105	0.9904762
CDX	4	1	105	0.0095238
CEU	3	183	183	1.000000
CHB	4	105	105	1.000000
CHS	4	171	171	1.000000
CLM	5	142	146	0.9726027
CLM	15	4	146	0.0273973
ESN	6	172	172	1.000000
FIN	7	104	104	1.000000
GBR	3	105	105	1.000000
GIH	8	69	111	0.6216216
GIH	17	41	111	0.3693694
GIH	11	1	111	0.0090090
GWD	9	179	180	0.9944444
GWD	14	1	180	0.0055556
IBS	10	162	162	1.000000
ITU	11	109	118	0.9237288
ITU	17	9	118	0.0762712
JPT	12	104	105	0.9904762
JPT	4	1	105	0.0095238
KHV	2	118	121	0.9752066
KHV	4	3	121	0.0247934
LWK	13	110	110	1.000000
MSL	14	122	122	1.000000
MXL	15	97	104	0.9326923
MXL	10	7	104	0.0673077
PEL	16	128	129	0.9922481
PEL	5	1	129	0.0077519
PJL	17	95	155	0.6129032
PJL	19	48	155	0.3096774
PJL	11	12	155	0.0774194
PUR	18	145	149	0.9731544
PUR	0	4	149	0.0268456
STU	11	124	128	0.9687500
STU	17	4	128	0.0312500
TSI	10	111	111	1.000000
YRI	20	181	182	0.9945055
YRI	6	1	182	0.0054945

Table S5: Cluster assignments for each 1KGP population, showing how many individuals from each population ended up in each cluster.

Cluster	1KGP population	1KGP population in cluster	Proportion
0	ACB	122	0.5327511
0	ASW	103	0.4497817
0	PUR	4	0.0174672
1	BEB	133	1.0000000
2	CDX	104	0.4684685
2	KHV	118	0.5315315
3	CEU	183	0.6354167
3	GBR	105	0.3645833
4	CDX	1	0.0035587
4	CHB	105	0.3736655
4	CHS	171	0.6085409
4	JPT	1	0.0035587
4	KHV	3	0.0106762
5	ASW	3	0.0205479
5	CLM	142	0.9726027
5	PEL	1	0.0068493
6	ESN	172	0.9942197
6	YRI	1	0.0057803
7	FIN	104	1.0000000
8	GIH	69	1.0000000
9	GWD	179	1.0000000
10	IBS	162	0.5785714
10	MXL	7	0.0250000
10	TSI	111	0.3964286
11	BEB	10	0.0390625
11	GIH	1	0.0039062
11	ITU	109	0.4257812
11	PJL	12	0.0468750
11	STU	124	0.4843750
12	JPT	104	1.0000000
13	LWK	110	1.0000000
14	GWD	1	0.0081301
14	MSL	122	0.9918699
15	ASW	1	0.0098039
15	CLM	4	0.0392157
15	MXL	97	0.9509804
16	PEL	128	1.0000000
17	GIH	41	0.2751678
17	ITU	9	0.0604027
17	PJL	95	0.6375839
17	STU	4	0.0268456
18	PUR	145	1.0000000
19	PJL	48	1.0000000
20	YRI	181	1.0000000

Table S6: Composition of each cluster broken down by 1KGP population.

Min. points	$\hat{\epsilon}$	Number PCs	Number unclustered	Min. points	$\hat{\epsilon}$	Number PCs	Number unclustered
5	0	2	218613	10	0	2	273869
5	0	3	317131	10	0	3	14369
5	0	4	384120	10	0	4	16778
5	0	5	11423	10	0	5	63767
5	0	6	92124	10	0	6	52090
5	0	7	99824	10	0	7	52906
5	0	8	65442	10	0	8	45236
5	0	9	113299	10	0	9	66286
5	0.3	2	14217	10	0.3	2	11900
5	0.3	3	30645	10	0.3	3	14369
5	0.3	4	183491	10	0.3	4	16778
5	0.3	5	11423	10	0.3	5	63767
5	0.3	6	92124	10	0.3	6	52090
5	0.3	7	99824	10	0.3	7	52906
5	0.3	8	65442	10	0.3	8	45236
5	0.3	9	113299	10	0.3	9	66286
5	0.5	2	8970	10	0.5	2	8972
5	0.5	3	19701	10	0.5	3	14369
5	0.5	4	61938	10	0.5	4	16778
5	0.5	5	11423	10	0.5	5	63767
5	0.5	6	92124	10	0.5	6	52090
5	0.5	7	99824	10	0.5	7	52906
5	0.5	8	65442	10	0.5	8	45236
5	0.5	9	113299	10	0.5	9	66286

Table S7: HDBSCAN($\hat{\epsilon}$) carried out on the top PCs of the UKB for varying values of the minimum number of points, $\hat{\epsilon}$, and the number of input PCs. Regardless of parameters, HDBSCAN is unable to cluster many individuals in the UKB without UMAP as an intermediate step.

Ethnic group	Ethnic background
White	British
White	Irish
White	Any other white background
Mixed	White and Black Caribbean
Mixed	White and Black African
Mixed	White and Asian
Mixed	Any other mixed background
Asian or Asian British	Indian
Asian or Asian British	Pakistani
Asian or Asian British	Bangladeshi
Asian or Asian British	Any other Asian background
Black or Black British	Caribbean
Black or Black British	African
Black or Black British	Any other Black background
Chinese	
Other ethnic group	
Do not know	
Prefer not to answer	

Table S8: Possible values for ethnic background in the UKB (Data-Field 21000). Participants are first asked “What is your ethnic group?” and then asked “What is your ethnic background?” For “Chinese”, there is no second question. Participants may also select “Prefer not to answer” for the second question; it is possible to have ethnic background recorded as ethnic group (e.g. just “White” or “Mixed”). Excluding “Do not know”, “Prefer not to answer”, and “Not available”, there were 20 unique values of ethnic background.

Cluster	COB	Count	Proportion	Cluster	COB	Count	Proportion
n/a	England	<20	0.51	12	Peru	35	0.29
n/a	Morocco	<20	<0.1	12	Ecuador	24	0.20
n/a	Sudan	<20	<0.1	12	Mexico	21	0.17
n/a	Libya	<20	<0.1	12	Bolivia	<20	<0.2
n/a	Wales	<20	<0.1	12	Colombia	<20	<0.2
0	Japan	242	0.84	13	Hong Kong	459	0.22
0	South Korea	26	0.09	13	China	373	0.18
1	Italy	35	0.83	13	Philippines	321	0.16
1	England	<20	<0.2	13	Malaysia	314	0.15
2	Finland	136	0.92	14	England	194	0.49
3	England	1707	0.82	14	Myanmar (Burma)	24	0.06
4	England	2418	0.76	14	Hong Kong	23	0.06
4	Scotland	181	0.06	15	Nepal	123	0.80
4	USA	170	0.05	15	Prefer not to answer	<20	<0.1
5	Iran	502	0.31	16	Spain	330	0.39
5	Iraq	303	0.19	16	Portugal	282	0.33
5	England	169	0.10	16	England	56	0.07
5	Cyprus	163	0.10	17	England	355844	0.82
5	Turkey	135	0.08	17	Scotland	37490	0.09
6	Egypt	72	0.22	18	Zimbabwe	258	0.26
6	Algeria	70	0.21	18	Congo	144	0.14
6	Morocco	66	0.20	18	Uganda	126	0.13
6	Libya	37	0.11	18	Kenya	111	0.11
7	India	3019	0.33	18	Zambia	56	0.06
7	Pakistan	1344	0.15	18	South Africa	53	0.05
7	Kenya	1067	0.12	19	Caribbean	2268	0.31
7	England	743	0.08	19	England	2077	0.28
7	Sri Lanka	644	0.07	19	Nigeria	1017	0.14
8	India	140	0.33	19	Ghana	867	0.12
8	Kenya	124	0.29	20	England	3528	0.87
8	Uganda	81	0.19	21	England	8338	0.54
8	England	31	0.07	21	Germany	970	0.06
8	Tanzania	24	0.06	21	Scotland	938	0.06
9	England	553	0.60	22	England	697	0.66
9	India	190	0.21	22	Caribbean	79	0.08
10	Somalia	76	0.84	23	Ethiopia	57	0.33
10	Prefer not to answer	<20	<0.1	23	Sudan	50	0.29
11	England	50	0.58	23	Eritrea	44	0.25
11	Wales	<20	<0.2	24	England	3178	0.62
11	France	<20	<0.1	25	England	74	0.21
11	Egypt	<20	<0.1	25	South Africa	69	0.20
				25	Mauritius	63	0.18
				25	Caribbean	36	0.10

Table S9: Frequency of country of birth by cluster for Figure 4a. Proportion refers to the proportion within the cluster. Categories with proportion below 0.05 are not listed.

Cluster	EB	Count	Proportion	Cluster	EB	Count	Proportion
n/a	Mixed, White and Black African	<20	<0.3	12	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	90	0.74
n/a	Mixed, Any other mixed background	<20	<0.2	12	Mixed, Any other mixed background	<20	<0.2
n/a	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	<20	<0.2	12	White, Any other white background	<20	<0.2
n/a	White, British	<20	<0.2	13	Chinese, Chinese	1454	0.70
n/a	White, Any other white background	<20	<0.1	13	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	323	0.16
n/a	Black or Black British, African	<20	<0.1	13	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	232	0.11
0	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	220	0.76	14	Mixed, Any other mixed background	114	0.29
0	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	54	0.19	14	Mixed, White and Asian	93	0.23
1	White, Any other white background	39	0.93	14	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	61	0.15
2	White, Any other white background	145	0.98	14	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	44	0.11
3	White, British	1585	0.76	14	Chinese, Chinese	31	0.08
3	White, Any other white background	407	0.20	14	White, British	31	0.08
4	White, British	1880	0.59	15	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	63	0.41
4	White, Any other white background	993	0.31	15	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	63	0.41
4	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	239	0.08	15	Not Available	22	0.14
5	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	751	0.46	16	White, Any other white background	753	0.89
5	White, Any other white background	435	0.27	16	White, British	53	0.06
5	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	229	0.14	17	White, British	412206	0.95
5	White, British	103	0.06	18	Black or Black British, African	773	0.77
6	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	223	0.68	18	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	190	0.19
6	White, Any other white background	47	0.14	19	Black or Black British, Caribbean	4143	0.56
6	Mixed, White and Black African	<20	<0.1	19	Black or Black British, African	2225	0.30
7	Asian or Asian British, Indian	5177	0.57	19	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	602	0.08
7	Asian or Asian British, Pakistani	1726	0.19	20	White, British	3778	0.93
7	Asian or Asian British, Any other Asian background	1049	0.12	20	White, Any other white background	221	0.05
7	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	498	0.06	21	White, British	7848	0.51
8	Asian or Asian British, Indian	419	0.99	21	White, Any other white background	7020	0.45
9	Mixed, White and Asian	432	0.47	22	Mixed, White and Black Caribbean	408	0.39
9	White, British	141	0.15	22	Mixed, White and Black African	254	0.24
9	Asian or Asian British, Indian	84	0.09	22	Mixed, Any other mixed background	111	0.11
9	Mixed, Any other mixed background	76	0.08	22	Black or Black British, Caribbean	106	0.10
9	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	53	0.06	22	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	69	0.07
10	Black or Black British, African	67	0.74	23	Black or Black British, African	95	0.54
10	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	22	0.24	23	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	64	0.37
11	Mixed, Any other mixed background	30	0.35	24	White, British	3416	0.67
11	White, British	20	0.23	24	White, Any other white background	646	0.13
11	White, Any other white background	<20	<0.2	24	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	285	0.06
11	Mixed, White and Asian	<20	<0.2	25	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	100	0.29
11	Other ethnic group, Other ethnic group	<20	<0.2	25	Mixed, Any other mixed background	83	0.24
				25	Mixed, White and Black African	24	0.07
				25	Black or Black British, Caribbean	23	0.07

Table S10: Frequency of selected EB by cluster for Figure 4a. Proportions refer to the proportion within the cluster. Categories with proportions below 0.05 are not listed.

phenotype	model	Any other mixed background	Any other white background	British	Chinese	Irish	Other ethnic group	Pakistani	White and Asian
Basophil count	CLS	0.874 (n=194)	0.835 (n=3058)	1 (n=83497)	0.511 (n=291)	1.148 (n=2471)	1.101 (n=837)	1.126 (n=337)	0.726 (n=156)
Basophil count	PCA	0.942 (n=194)	0.836 (n=3058)	0.999 (n=83497)	0.524 (n=291)	1.151 (n=2471)	1.114 (n=837)	1.163 (n=337)	0.763 (n=156)
BMI	CLS	1.183 (n=198)	1.051 (n=3150)	0.984 (n=85947)	0.649 (n=299)	0.959 (n=2541)	1.096 (n=858)	0.936 (n=344)	1.056 (n=160)
BMI	PCA	1.219 (n=198)	1.044 (n=3150)	0.981 (n=85947)	0.657 (n=299)	0.961 (n=2541)	0.991 (n=858)	0.946 (n=344)	1.159 (n=160)
Eosinophil count	CLS	1.3 (n=194)	0.917 (n=3058)	0.974 (n=83497)	1.171 (n=291)	1.041 (n=2471)	1.292 (n=837)	1.661 (n=337)	1.354 (n=156)
Eosinophil count	PCA	1.384 (n=194)	0.918 (n=3058)	0.973 (n=83497)	1.207 (n=291)	1.044 (n=2471)	1.268 (n=837)	1.721 (n=337)	1.451 (n=156)
Erythrocyte count	CLS	1.092 (n=195)	0.993 (n=3063)	0.965 (n=83645)	1.441 (n=291)	0.989 (n=2477)	1.251 (n=839)	1.366 (n=337)	1.069 (n=156)
Erythrocyte count	PCA	1.157 (n=195)	0.99 (n=3063)	0.961 (n=83645)	1.449 (n=291)	0.992 (n=2477)	1.23 (n=839)	1.409 (n=337)	1.147 (n=156)
FEV1	CLS	0.863 (n=181)	0.867 (n=2896)	0.918 (n=78597)	0.861 (n=280)	0.978 (n=2308)	1.18 (n=786)	1.264 (n=311)	0.903 (n=148)
FEV1	PCA	0.82 (n=181)	0.844 (n=2896)	0.913 (n=78597)	0.886 (n=280)	0.98 (n=2308)	0.961 (n=786)	1.275 (n=311)	0.882 (n=148)
FVC	CLS	0.924 (n=181)	0.852 (n=2896)	0.899 (n=78597)	0.937 (n=280)	0.948 (n=2308)	1.288 (n=786)	1.39 (n=311)	0.886 (n=148)
FVC	PCA	0.866 (n=181)	0.82 (n=2896)	0.893 (n=78597)	0.957 (n=280)	0.951 (n=2308)	1.074 (n=786)	1.406 (n=311)	0.861 (n=148)
Leukocyte count	CLS	1.012 (n=195)	0.977 (n=3063)	0.987 (n=83644)	0.939 (n=291)	1.021 (n=2477)	1.134 (n=839)	0.861 (n=337)	0.971 (n=156)
Leukocyte count	PCA	1.067 (n=195)	0.973 (n=3063)	0.985 (n=83644)	0.982 (n=291)	1.026 (n=2477)	1.06 (n=839)	0.888 (n=337)	1.024 (n=156)
Lymphocyte count	CLS	1.01 (n=194)	0.946 (n=3058)	0.99 (n=83497)	0.841 (n=291)	0.987 (n=2471)	1.046 (n=837)	0.925 (n=337)	0.972 (n=156)
Lymphocyte count	PCA	1.039 (n=194)	0.944 (n=3058)	0.988 (n=83497)	0.889 (n=291)	0.99 (n=2471)	1.025 (n=837)	0.952 (n=337)	1.032 (n=156)
Monocyte count	CLS	1.508 (n=194)	0.935 (n=3058)	0.99 (n=83497)	0.733 (n=291)	1.071 (n=2471)	1.027 (n=837)	1.079 (n=337)	1.178 (n=156)
Monocyte count	PCA	1.632 (n=194)	0.936 (n=3058)	0.989 (n=83497)	0.757 (n=291)	1.076 (n=2471)	1.007 (n=837)	1.13 (n=337)	1.215 (n=156)
Neutrophil count	CLS	1.127 (n=194)	0.966 (n=3058)	0.977 (n=83497)	0.974 (n=291)	1.03 (n=2471)	1.192 (n=837)	0.886 (n=337)	0.941 (n=156)
Neutrophil count	PCA	1.174 (n=194)	0.961 (n=3058)	0.976 (n=83497)	1.018 (n=291)	1.033 (n=2471)	1.09 (n=837)	0.916 (n=337)	0.994 (n=156)
Standing height	CLS	1.027 (n=199)	1.061 (n=3154)	0.967 (n=86037)	0.799 (n=299)	0.936 (n=2544)	1.058 (n=859)	0.888 (n=344)	0.873 (n=160)
Standing height	PCA	0.993 (n=199)	0.96 (n=3154)	0.953 (n=86037)	0.815 (n=299)	0.932 (n=2544)	0.914 (n=859)	0.905 (n=344)	0.896 (n=160)
Weight	CLS	1.181 (n=198)	1.032 (n=3151)	0.978 (n=85979)	0.673 (n=299)	0.97 (n=2543)	1.208 (n=859)	0.913 (n=344)	1.039 (n=160)
Weight	PCA	1.193 (n=198)	1.019 (n=3151)	0.976 (n=85979)	0.686 (n=299)	0.972 (n=2543)	1.001 (n=859)	0.921 (n=344)	1.137 (n=160)

Table S11: Comparing two phenotype models split by EB. One model (PCA) uses the top 40 PCs to estimate phenotypes, while the other (CLS) uses a cluster-smoothed phenotype estimate from Algorithm 1 in addition to the top 40 PCs. Values in the table are the average mean squared error with the average number of testing samples in a five-fold cross validation.

phenotype	model	African	Any other Asian background	Bangladeshi	Caribbean	Indian	White	White and Black African	White and Black Caribbean
Basophil count	CLS	1.107 (n=607)	0.739 (n=335)	0.529 (n=41)	0.96 (n=813)	0.922 (n=1094)	1.351 (n=106)	0.87 (n=78)	1.701 (n=115)
Basophil count	PCA	1.105 (n=607)	0.753 (n=335)	0.668 (n=41)	0.971 (n=813)	0.928 (n=1094)	1.741 (n=106)	1.172 (n=78)	1.846 (n=115)
BMI	CLS	1.052 (n=630)	0.801 (n=344)	2.398 (n=43)	1.214 (n=849)	0.878 (n=1112)	1.285 (n=108)	1.288 (n=80)	1.169 (n=118)
BMI	PCA	1.06 (n=630)	0.811 (n=344)	0.942 (n=43)	1.22 (n=849)	0.882 (n=1112)	1.476 (n=108)	1.545 (n=80)	1.232 (n=118)
Eosinophil count	CLS	1.365 (n=607)	1.756 (n=335)	1.936 (n=41)	1.106 (n=813)	1.61 (n=1094)	0.94 (n=106)	1.469 (n=78)	0.981 (n=115)
Eosinophil count	PCA	1.388 (n=607)	1.792 (n=335)	2.479 (n=41)	1.116 (n=813)	1.626 (n=1094)	1.156 (n=106)	1.556 (n=78)	1.008 (n=115)
Erythrocyte count	CLS	1.506 (n=608)	1.214 (n=337)	1.243 (n=42)	1.523 (n=816)	1.355 (n=1097)	1.099 (n=106)	1.361 (n=78)	1.219 (n=115)
Erythrocyte count	PCA	1.517 (n=608)	1.23 (n=337)	1.654 (n=42)	1.546 (n=816)	1.354 (n=1097)	1.511 (n=106)	1.744 (n=78)	1.316 (n=115)
FEV1	CLS	1.212 (n=577)	1.232 (n=315)		0.964 (n=775)	1.027 (n=1053)	1.274 (n=96)	0.843 (n=73)	0.999 (n=109)
FEV1	PCA	1.176 (n=577)	1.155 (n=315)		0.968 (n=775)	1.007 (n=1053)	1.515 (n=96)	0.989 (n=73)	1.081 (n=109)
FVC	CLS	1.416 (n=577)	1.414 (n=315)		1.138 (n=775)	1.174 (n=1053)	1.071 (n=96)	0.855 (n=73)	1.009 (n=109)
FVC	PCA	1.384 (n=577)	1.305 (n=315)		1.147 (n=775)	1.154 (n=1053)	1.355 (n=96)	0.975 (n=73)	1.122 (n=109)
Leukocyte count	CLS	0.912 (n=608)	0.938 (n=337)	0.86 (n=42)	1.192 (n=816)	0.854 (n=1097)	1.034 (n=106)	1.195 (n=78)	1.045 (n=115)
Leukocyte count	PCA	0.902 (n=608)	0.939 (n=337)	1.199 (n=42)	1.19 (n=816)	0.865 (n=1097)	1.233 (n=106)	1.654 (n=78)	1.199 (n=115)
Lymphocyte count	CLS	0.932 (n=607)	1.09 (n=335)	0.908 (n=41)	1.082 (n=813)	1.032 (n=1094)	0.945 (n=106)	1.079 (n=78)	0.999 (n=115)
Lymphocyte count	PCA	0.944 (n=607)	1.084 (n=335)	1.298 (n=41)	1.094 (n=813)	1.047 (n=1094)	1.026 (n=106)	1.251 (n=78)	1.108 (n=115)
Monocyte count	CLS	0.913 (n=607)	1.178 (n=335)	1.205 (n=41)	1.011 (n=813)	0.951 (n=1094)	1.122 (n=106)	0.927 (n=78)	0.96 (n=115)
Monocyte count	PCA	0.916 (n=607)	1.195 (n=335)	1.512 (n=41)	1.018 (n=813)	0.963 (n=1094)	1.383 (n=106)	1.101 (n=78)	1.099 (n=115)
Neutrophil count	CLS	1.007 (n=607)	0.945 (n=335)	0.893 (n=41)	1.3 (n=813)	0.861 (n=1094)	1 (n=106)	1.172 (n=78)	1.036 (n=115)
Neutrophil count	PCA	0.995 (n=607)	0.962 (n=335)	1.284 (n=41)	1.298 (n=813)	0.868 (n=1094)	1.202 (n=106)	1.591 (n=78)	1.178 (n=115)
Standing height	CLS	0.975 (n=631)	0.937 (n=345)	0.772 (n=44)	0.955 (n=850)	0.959 (n=1114)	1.05 (n=108)	1 (n=80)	1.072 (n=119)
Standing height	PCA	0.978 (n=631)	0.926 (n=345)	1.08 (n=44)	0.96 (n=850)	0.931 (n=1114)	1.119 (n=108)	1.097 (n=80)	1.109 (n=119)
Weight	CLS	1.15 (n=630)	0.874 (n=347)	0.799 (n=43)	1.23 (n=851)	0.919 (n=1135)	1.261 (n=108)	1.26 (n=80)	1.142 (n=119)
Weight	PCA	1.15 (n=630)	0.859 (n=347)	0.956 (n=43)	1.237 (n=851)	0.911 (n=1135)	1.411 (n=108)	1.527 (n=80)	1.185 (n=119)

Table S12: Comparing two phenotype models split by EB. One model (PCA) uses the top 40 PCs to estimate phenotypes, while the other (CLS) uses a cluster-smoothed phenotype estimate from Algorithm 1 in addition to the top 40 PCs. Values in the table are the average mean squared error with the average number of testing samples in a five-fold cross validation.