

KNN

KNN can be used both in regression and classification. It is a method of lazy learning. This method is based on the assumption that neighbourhoods have some similarity.

1. Form

- Regression

$$\hat{f}(x) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i \in N_{K(x)}} y_i$$

- Classification

Assign the label of the majority of K neighbours.

Note, it has a non-linear boundary.

2. Additional

- K is a tuning parameter in KNN

Higher K, boundary/fit line is smoother, bias is larger, variance is smaller.

- KNN can fail in high dimensions, because it becomes difficult to gather K observations close to target point due to the sparsity.

*Note: This problem is actually called **curse of dimensionality**. We could solve it with dimension reduction or variable selection.*

- What affects KNN?
 - K
 - How to compute distance
 - Whether the weighted strategy applies