

# Practical Sheet 2: $k$ -Nearest Neighbours

APL 405 - 2023W (Machine Learning for Mechanics)

**[20 marks] Predicting beam state with  $k$ -NN:** Consider a synthetic binary classification problem (two classes) with a given training dataset having  $N = 10$  (statistically independent) observations of 2-dimensional input variables  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1 \ x_2]^T$  and one categorical output  $y$ , representing either *Damaged* or *Undamaged* state of linearly behaving elastic beam.  $x_1$  represents the Young's modulus and  $x_2$  represents the Poisson's ratio.

$i$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
1	$175.25 \times 10^6$	0.12	Damaged
2	$206 \times 10^6$	0.10	Undamaged
3	$165 \times 10^6$	0.11	Damaged
4	$175.25 \times 10^6$	0.11	Undamaged
5	$175.10 \times 10^6$	0.09	Undamaged
6	$195.75 \times 10^6$	0.10	Damaged

1. Normalize the inputs (using min-max scaler) to have them in a similar range.
2. Write a function to calculate the Euclidean distance between two vectors. Using a test input  $\mathbf{x}^* = [195.75 \times 10^6, \ 0.11]^T$ , compute the Euclidean distance between each training data point  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and the test data point. Print the result in tabular fashion.
3. Output the  $k$ -NN prediction  $\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}^*)$  for case (a)  $k = 1$  (one neighbour), and case (b)  $k = 3$  (three neighbours).
4. Repeat step (2) for the test input  $\mathbf{x}^* = [185.50 \times 10^6, \ 0.11]^T$ . What beam state prediction do you get for the two cases?
5. Repeat step (2) for the test input  $\mathbf{x}^* = [190.63 \times 10^6, \ 0.11]^T$ . What beam state prediction do you get for the two cases?
6. Plot the decision boundaries of the two  $k$ -NN classifiers. (**Hint:**see this link)