

KNN Imputation

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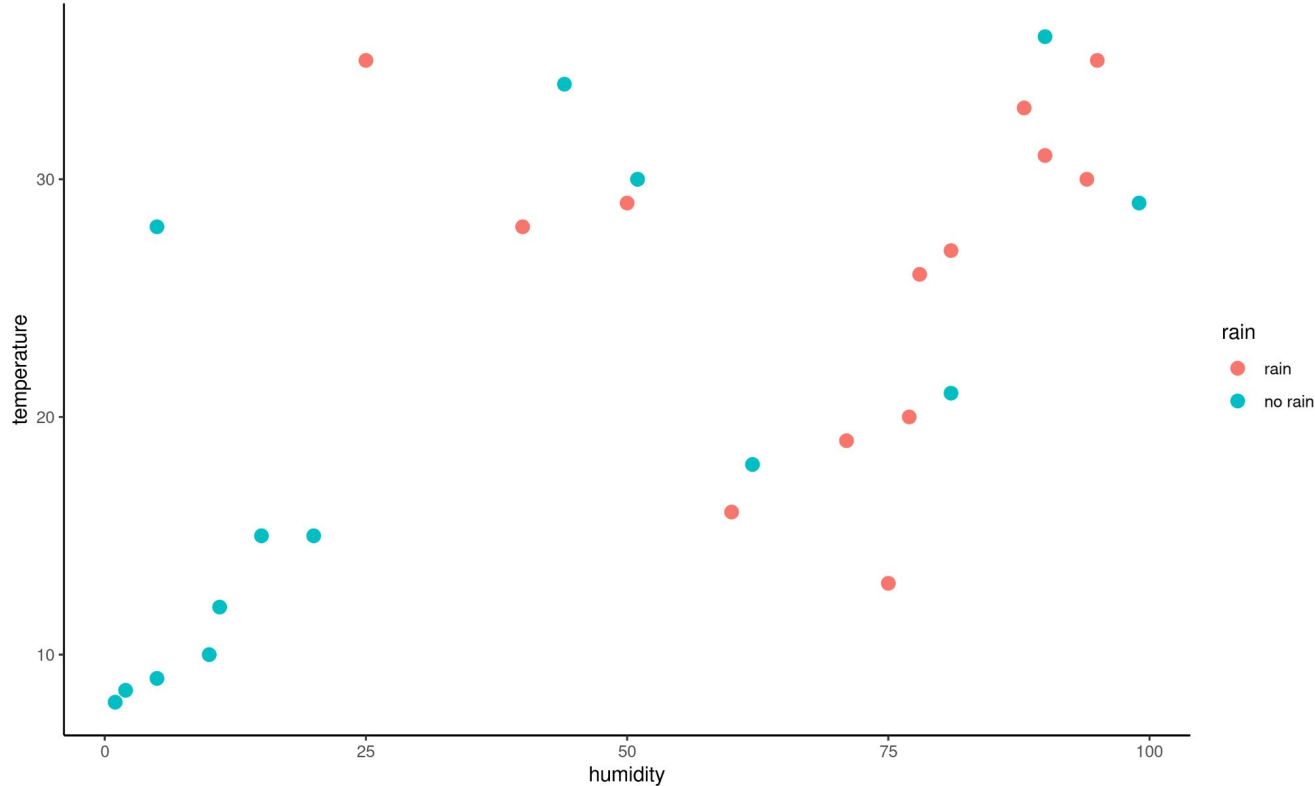
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OscarGenomics

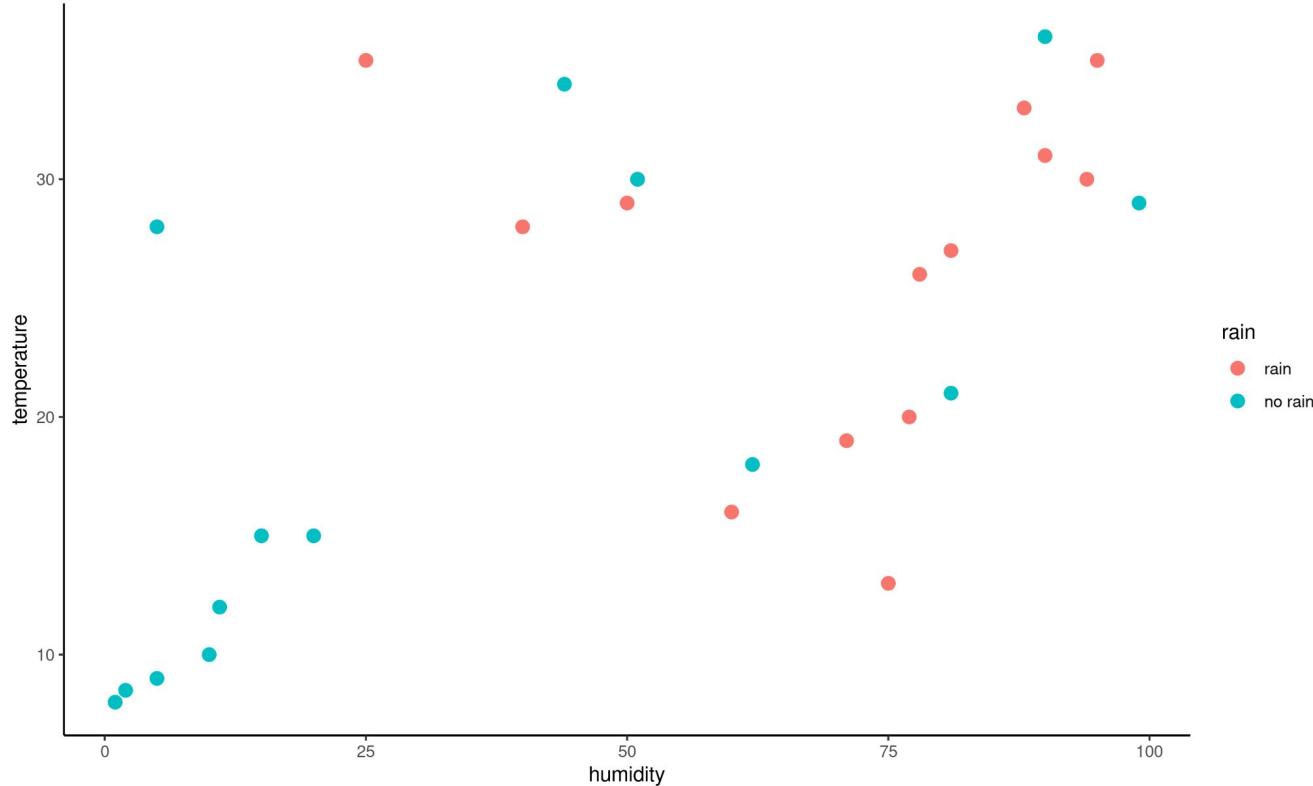


One-minute **k-nearest neighbors (KNN)**!



1. We collect data on temperature, humidity and rain, for a number of days
2. New day: will it rain?

k-nearest neighbors (KNN): a bit of math



1. the values for humidity and temperature define the new datapoint in input
2. measure the Euclidean distance (Pythagoras theorem inside!) with all other points
3. find the closest point (neighbor) to our new point
4. assign to the new point the label (colour) of this nearest neighbor ($k=1$)

One-minute **k-nearest neighbors (KNN)**!

If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck.

$$Pr(Y = j | X = x_0)$$

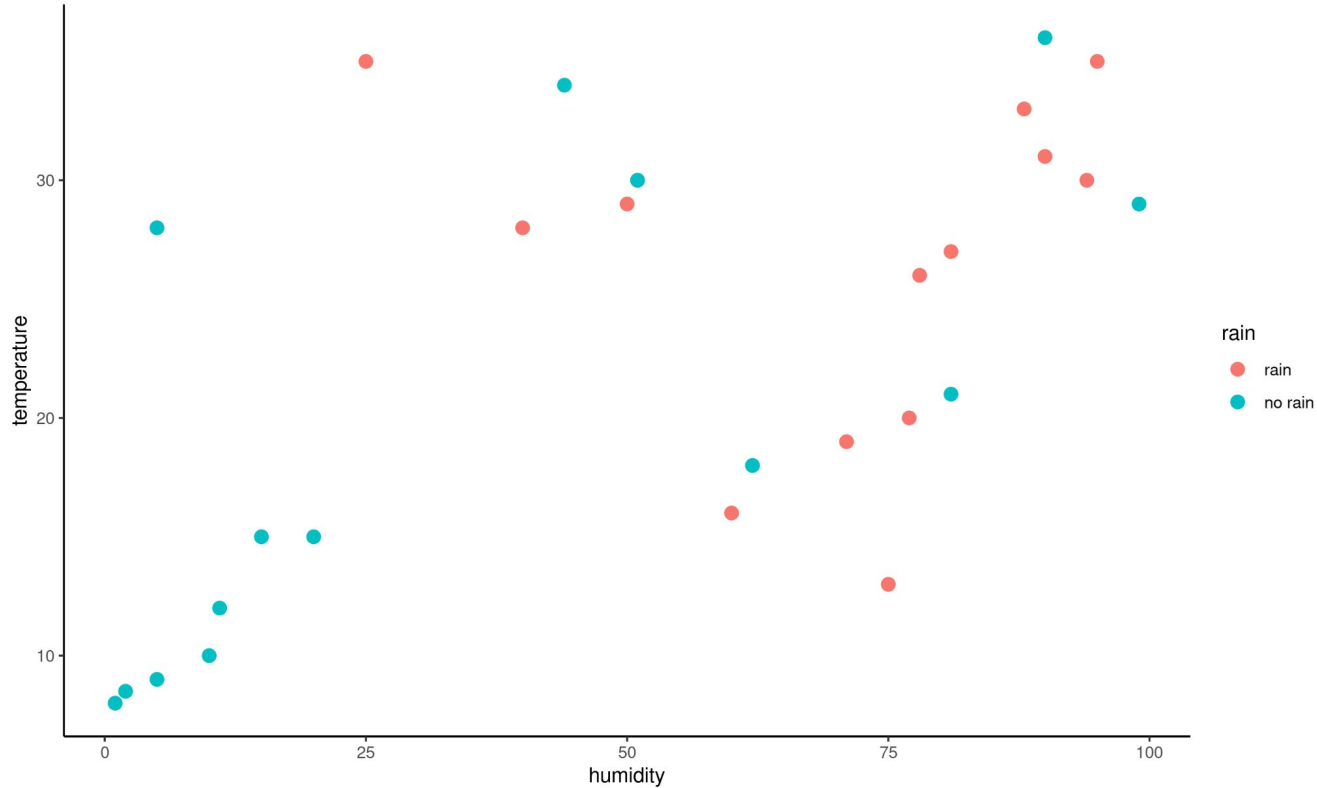


KNN: more than 3-D

- We saw a simple example with few datapoints and only 2 dimensions
- When we have (typically) many dimensions (e.g. many SNPs) and many datapoints (e.g. many samples) we need the machine to do it! (and we can no longer visualize it)

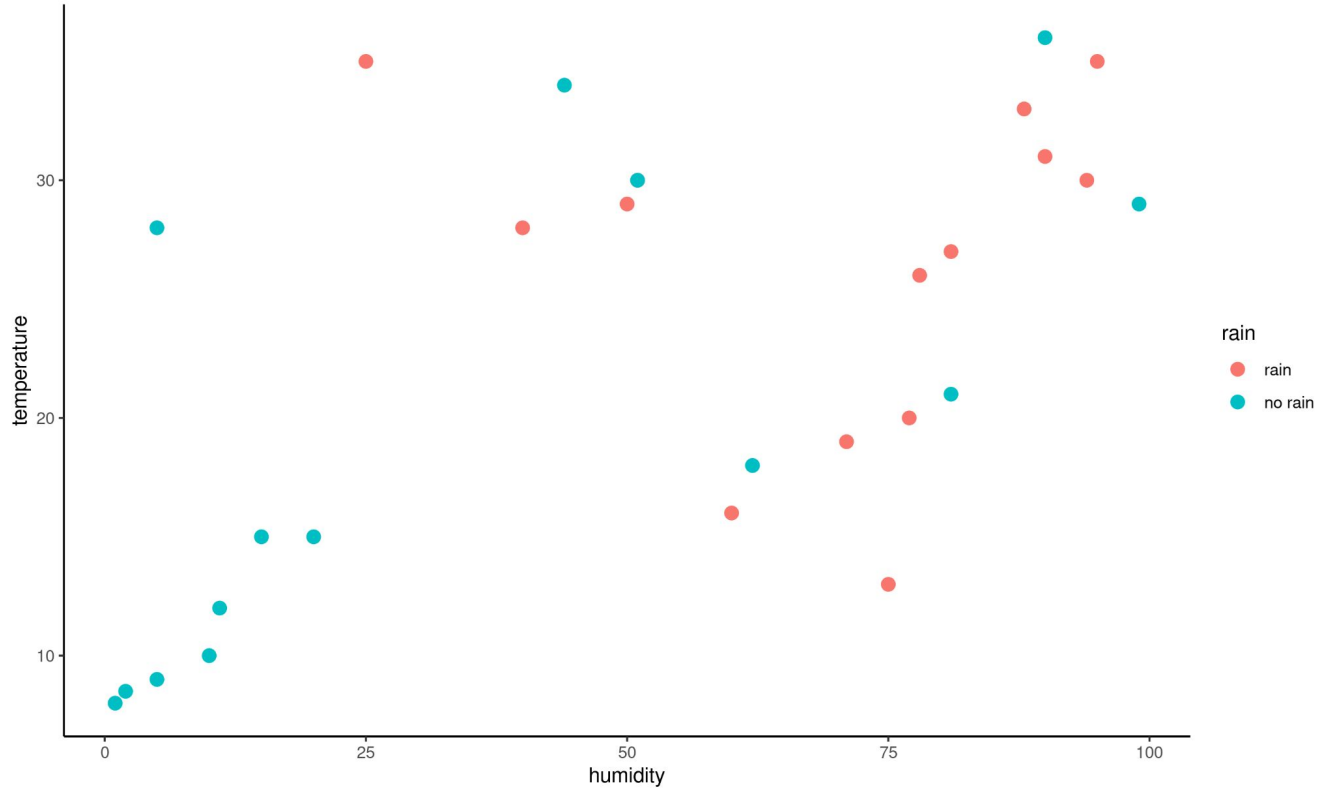


KNN: K?



- K-neighborhood → majority!

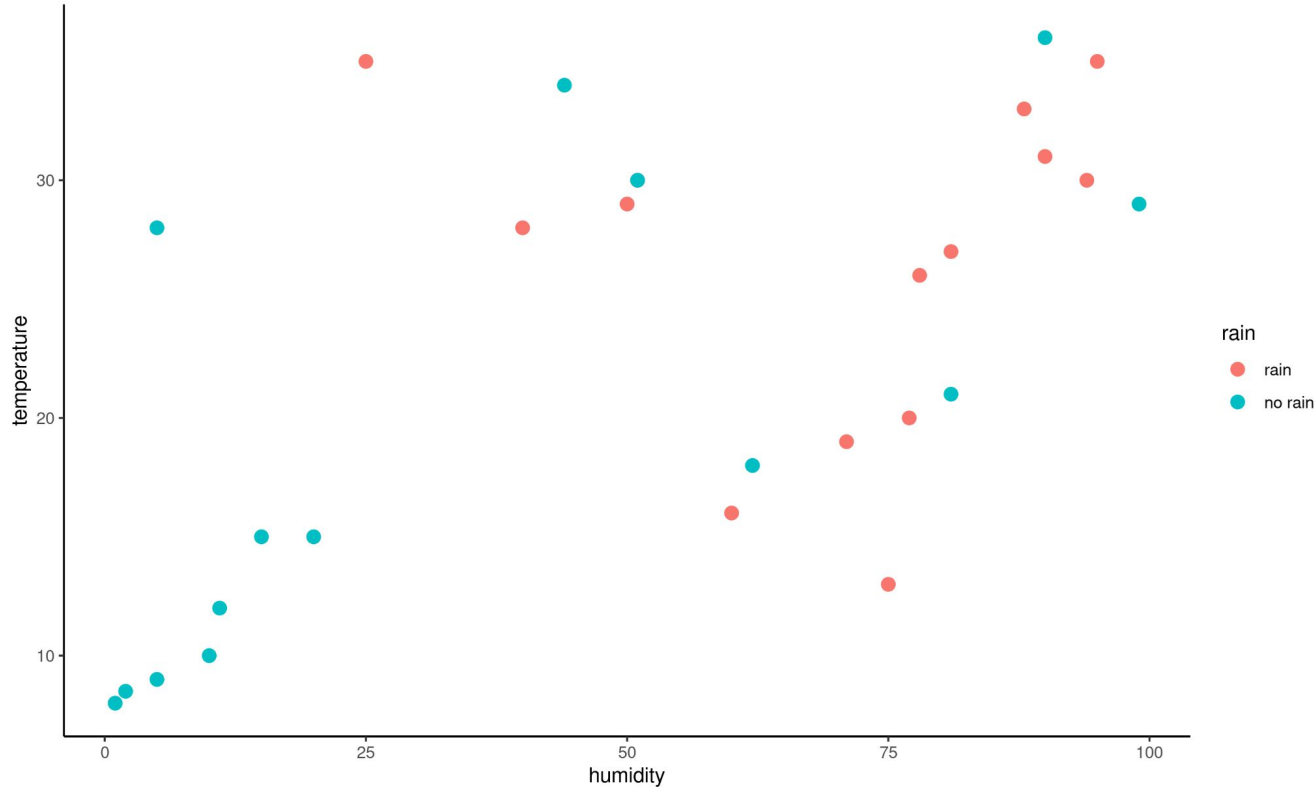
KNN: K?



- K-neighborhood → majority!
- majority?



KNN: Euclidean distance?



- similarity \leftrightarrow dissimilarity
- $[0, +\infty]$
- many possible distance metrics (Hamming, Chebyshev, Jaccard etc.) \rightarrow see [here](#)

KNN: a few things to tweak

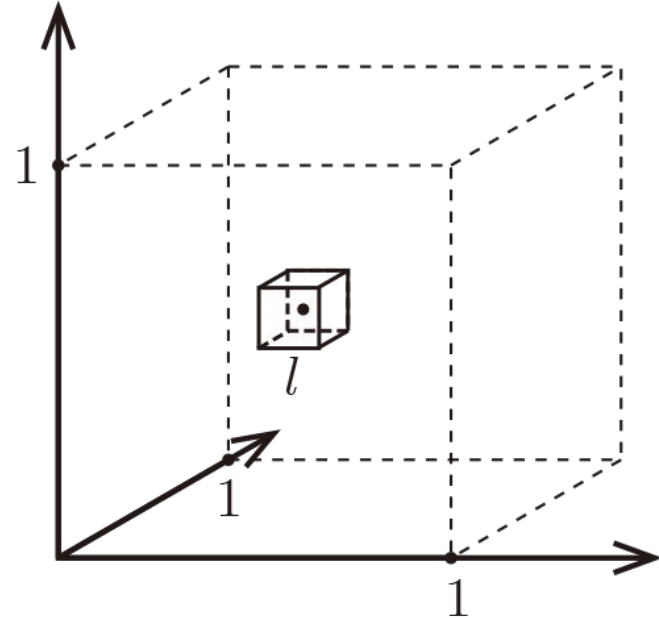
- size of neighborhood (K)
- type of distance
- type of assignment metric (majority, average, weighted metrics, etc.)



The curse of dimensionality

✓ KNN assumes that **similar (close) points share similar labels/target**

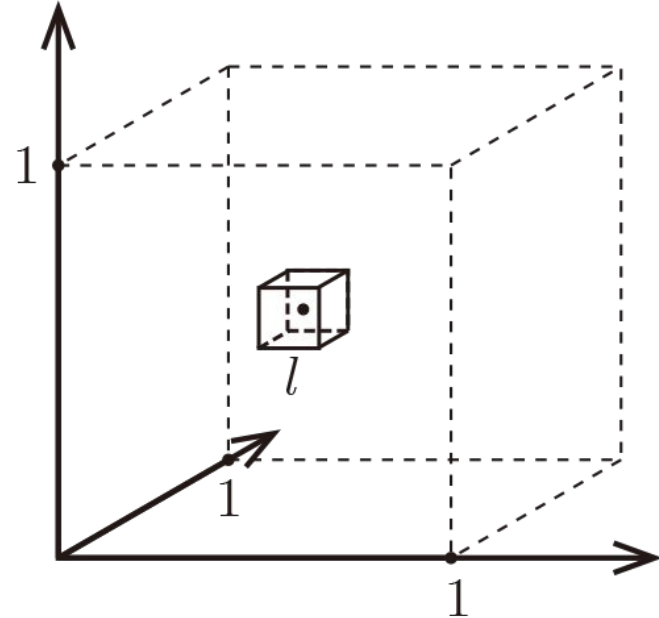
! unfortunately, in high dimensional spaces points tend to never be close together



From: https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2018fa/lectures/lecturenote02_knn.html

The curse of dimensionality

- increasing the number of dimensions (parameters) of the problem increases and complicates the identification of k neighbors which are close enough to the data point to be classified/predicted



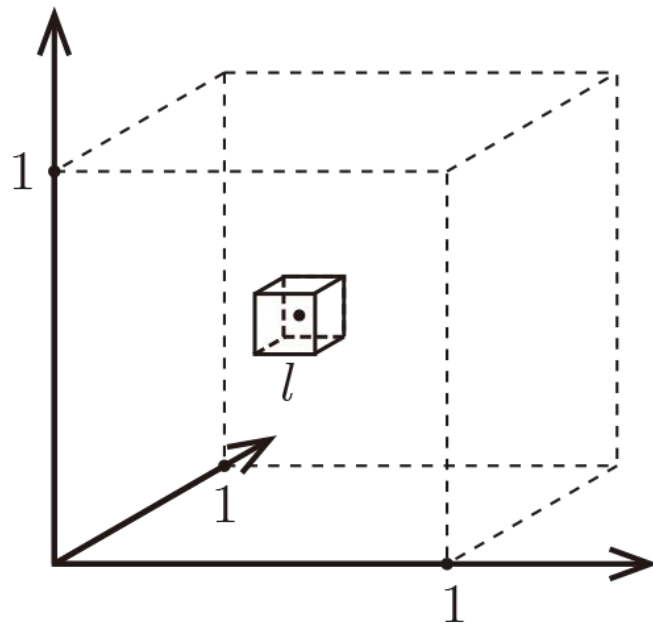
From: https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2018fa/lectures/lecturenote02_kNN.html

The curse of dimensionality

$$l = \left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^{1/d}$$

- l : side of the hypercube that include the k neighbours
- n : sample size
- d : n. of dimensions

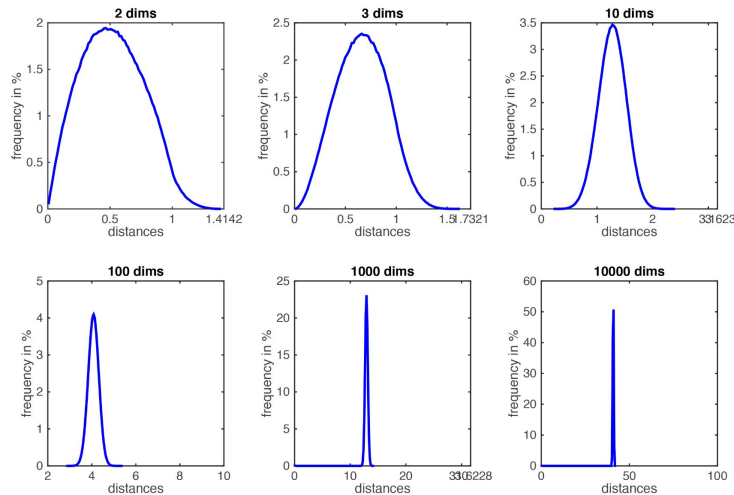
- with n constant (data size), the hypercube in which the k neighbors lie gets bigger as d increases



The curse of dimensionality



distributions of all pairwise distances in the neighbourhood between randomly drawn points within d -dimensional unit hypercubes: as the number of dimensions d grows, all distances concentrate within a very small range (*“the night where all cows are black”*)



From: https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2018fa/lectures/lecturenote02_kNN.html

KNN: as lazy as it gets

- KNN is a **lazy algorithm**: each time new datapoints are added (e.g. to be predicted) pairwise distances with all existing datapoints (over all dimensions) must be calculated
- ! calculations are slow
- However:
 - ✨ when new data are available, there's no need to retrain the model (no parameters to estimate or fine-tune) → excellent for applications where data are added incrementally (e.g. on-line learning, update predictions)



What about **imputation**?

- Ok, we learnt about KNN, but imputation?
- The **imputation of missing SNP genotypes** is a type of prediction (slightly “*sui generis*”), where non-missing values can be considered as training observations and missing values as the test observations
- KNNI is a more advanced imputation method compared to mean/median imputation
- ⚠ Yet, more specialised method for genomic data have been developed



Why KNN imputation?

Mol Breeding (2016)36:69
DOI 10.1007/s11032-016-0490-y



CrossMark



Marker imputation efficiency for genotyping-by-sequencing data in rice (*Oryza sativa*) and alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*)

Nelson Nazzicari • Filippo Biscarini •
Paolo Cozzi • E. Charles Brummer •
Paolo Annicchiarico



Not only genotypes



J. Dairy Sci. 105:5124–5140
<https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2021-20158>

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Integrating heterogeneous across-country data for proxy-based random forest prediction of enteric methane in dairy cattle

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NEXT LECTURE

Genotype imputation with KNN: a demonstration (R code)

