



# Enhancing Digital Twins with Privacy-Aware EO-ML Methods

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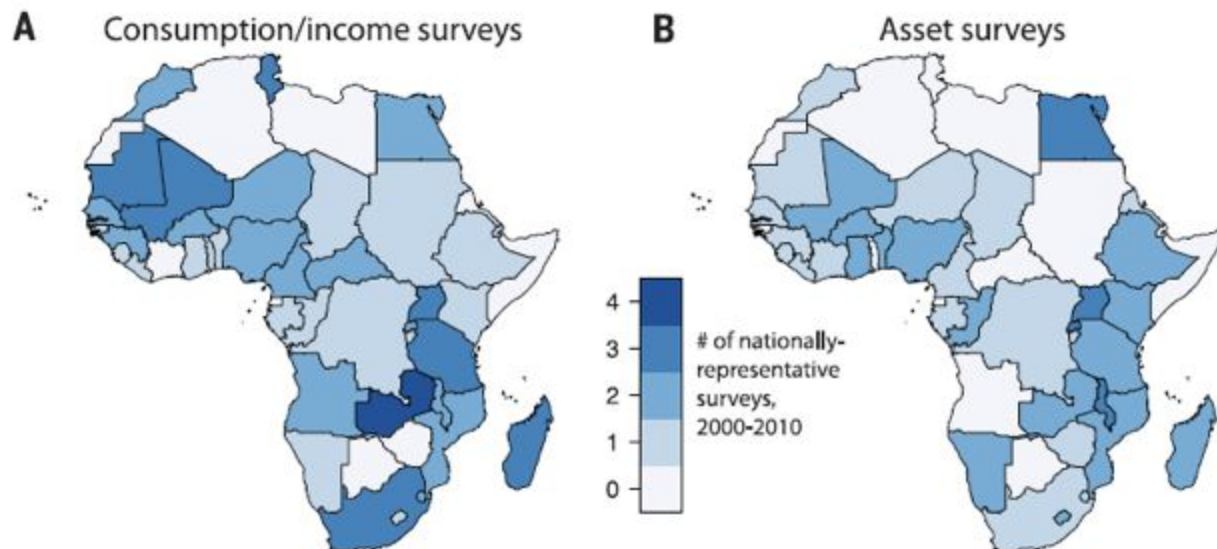


# The AI and Global Development Lab

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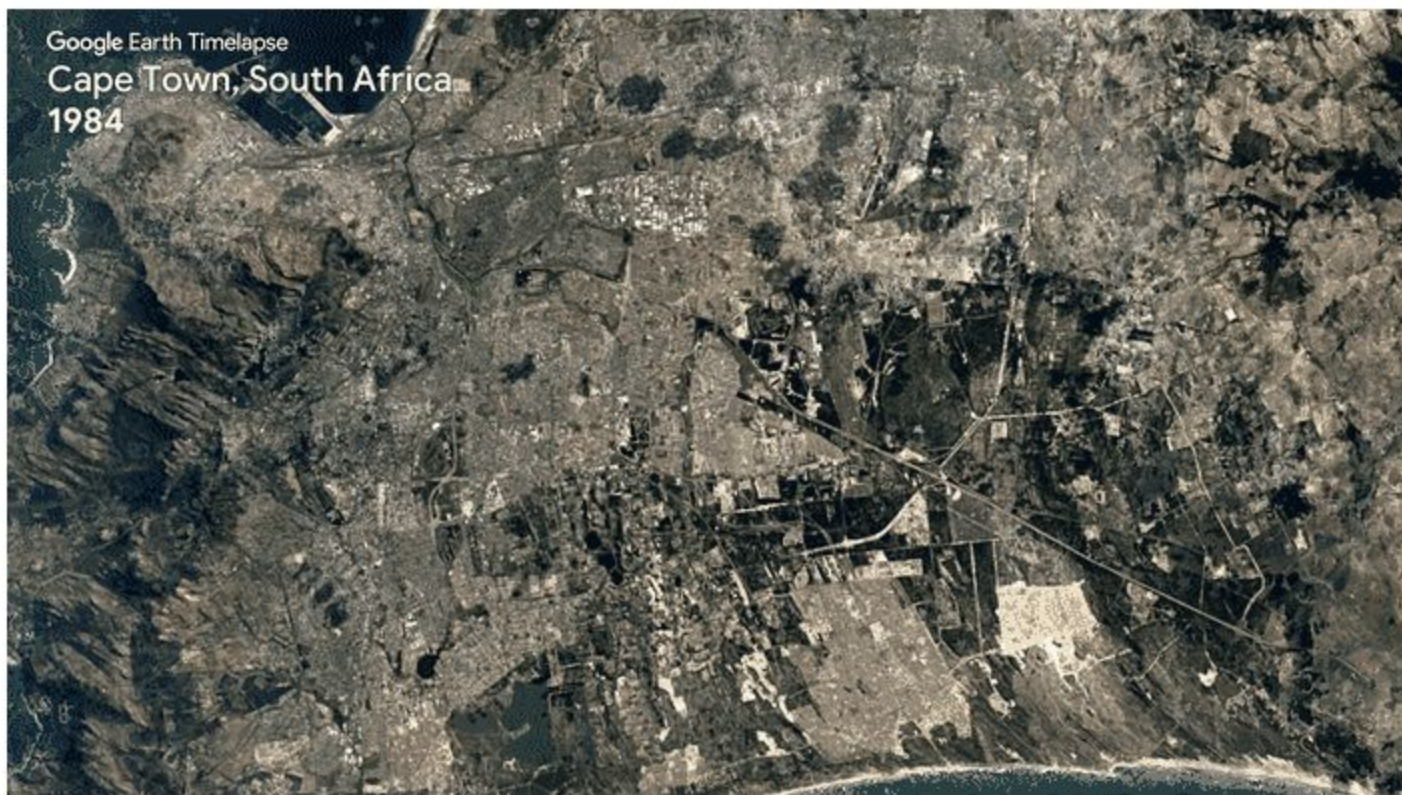
# Digital Twins in the Global South

Because of a lack of high-frequency human-development data across time and space, scholarship on poverty is limited.

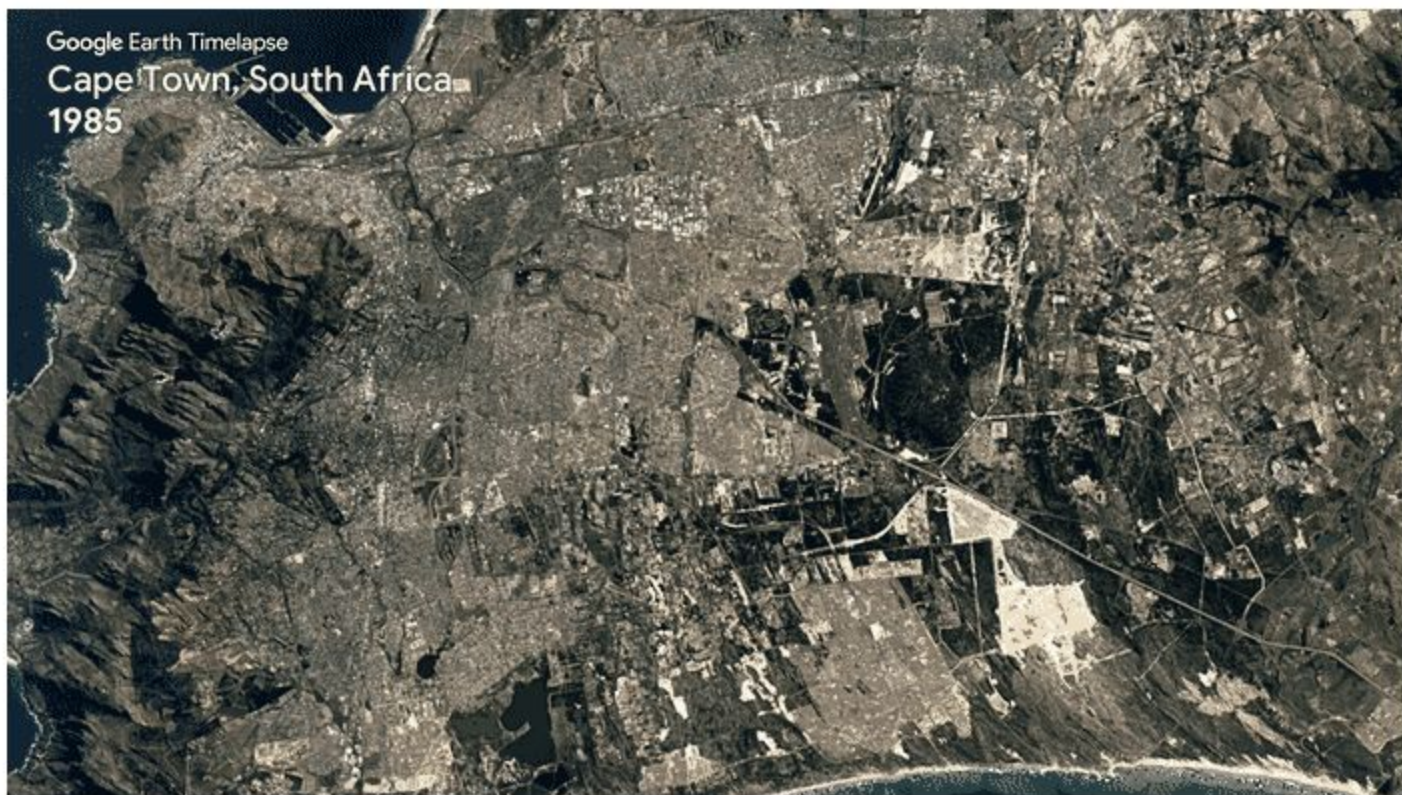


Source: Jean et al 2016



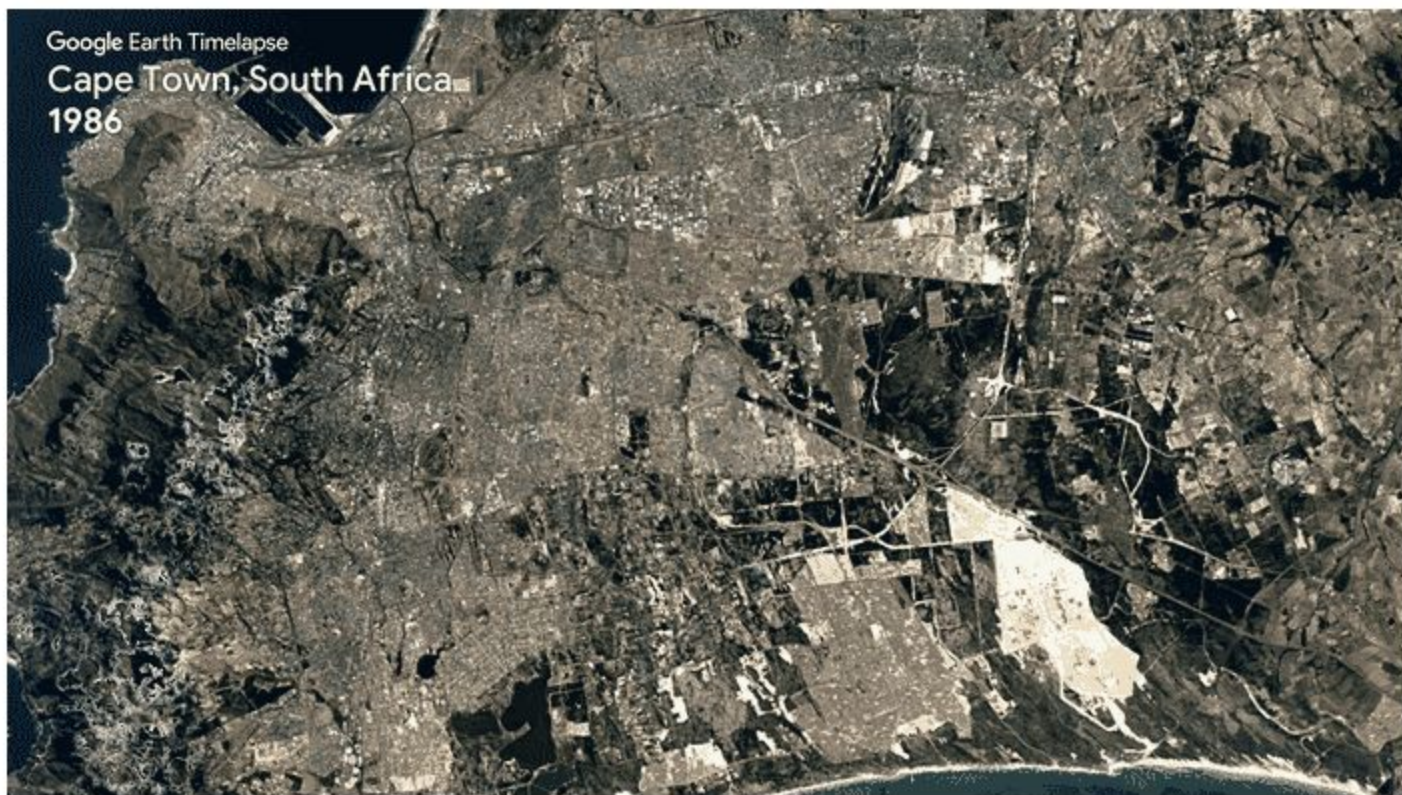


Source: Google Earth Timelapse (Google, Landsat, Copernicus)

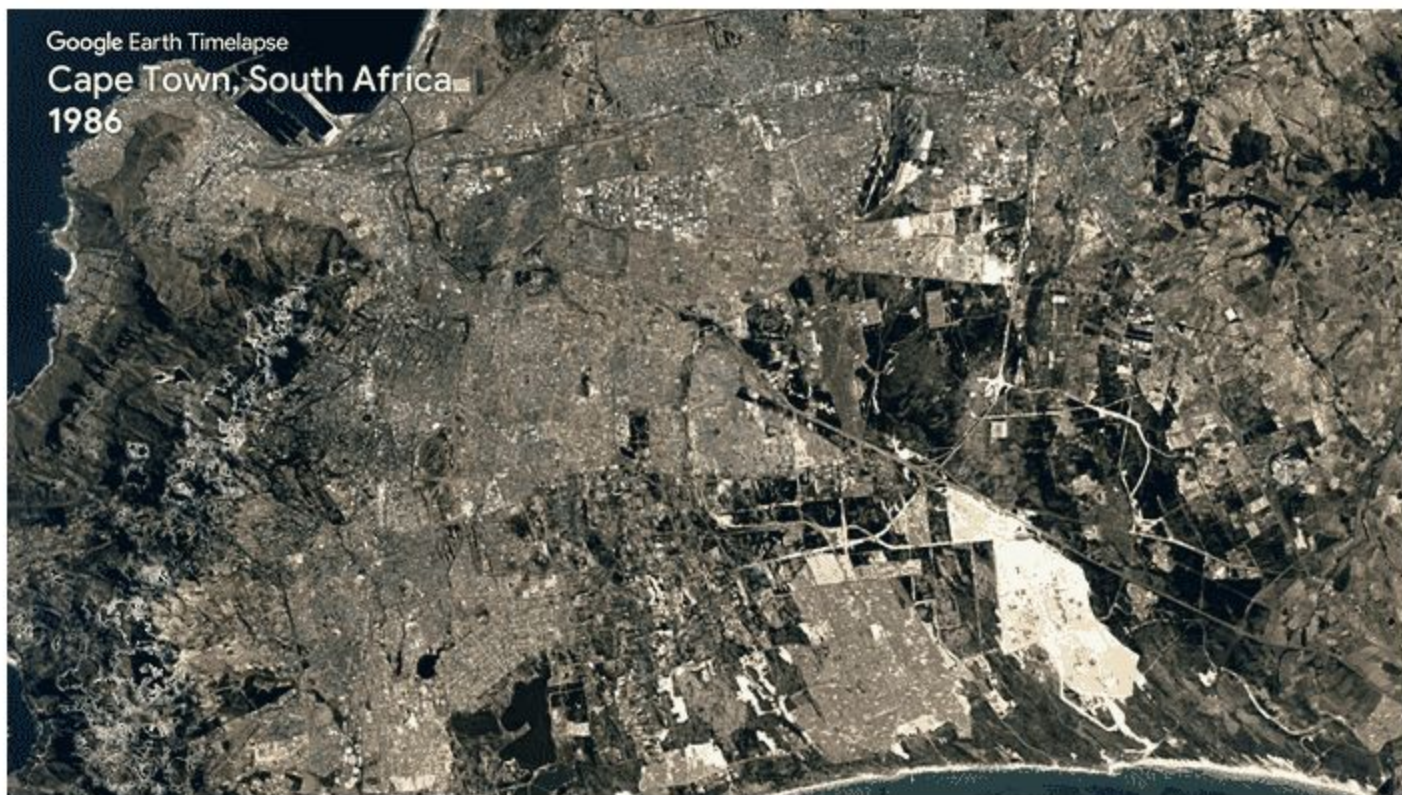


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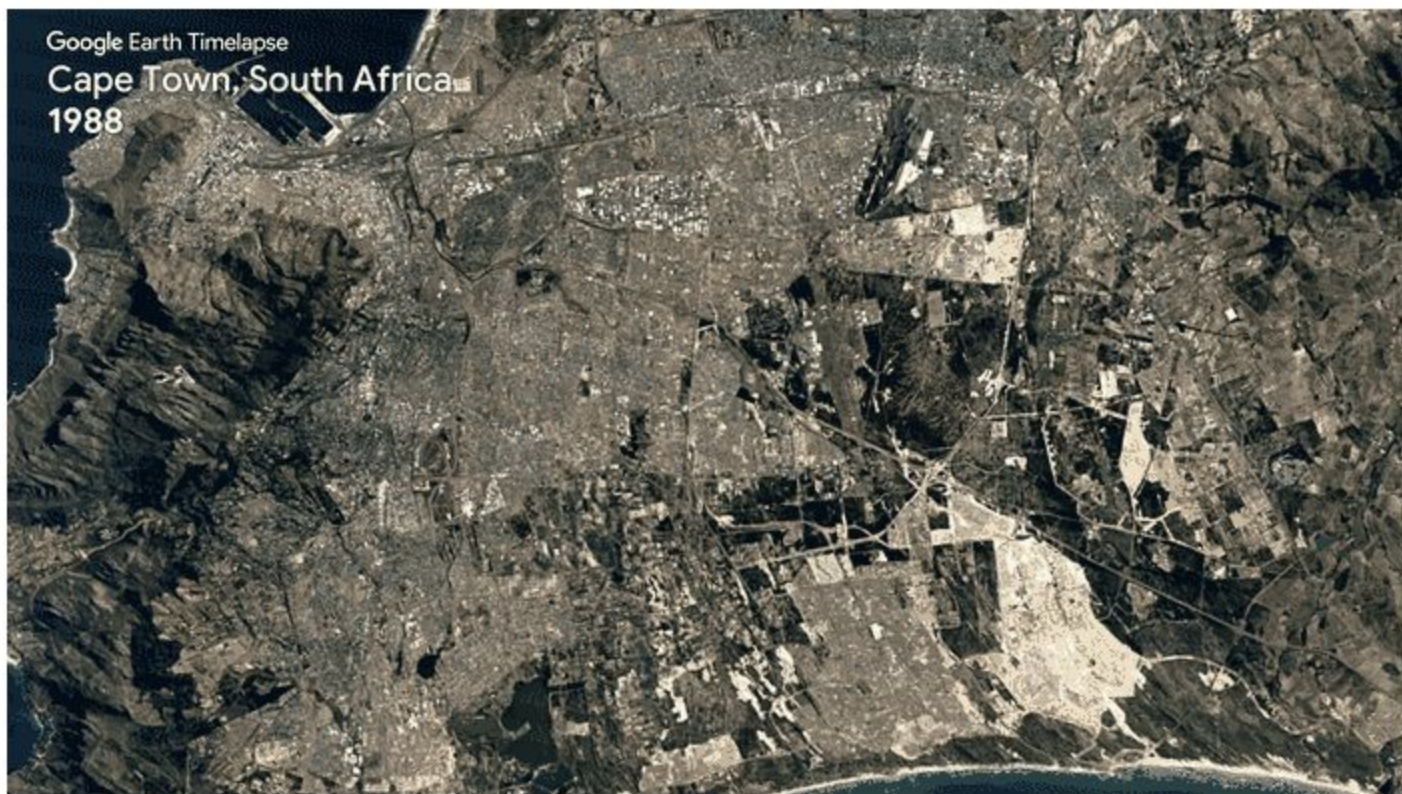


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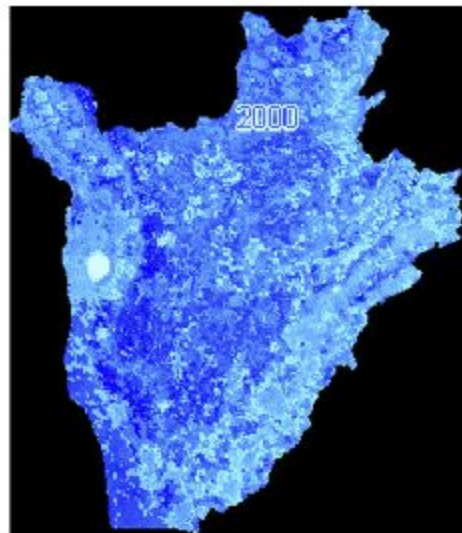
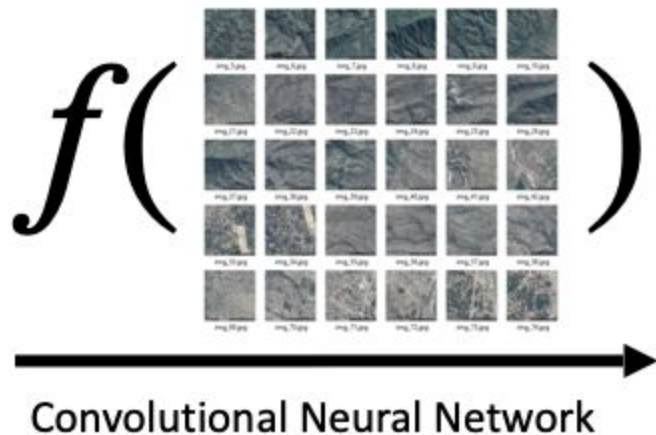




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# Constructing an Algorithm for Poverty Measurement



# Our Data Product: A Continent-Wide Map of Poverty

Without our data



...

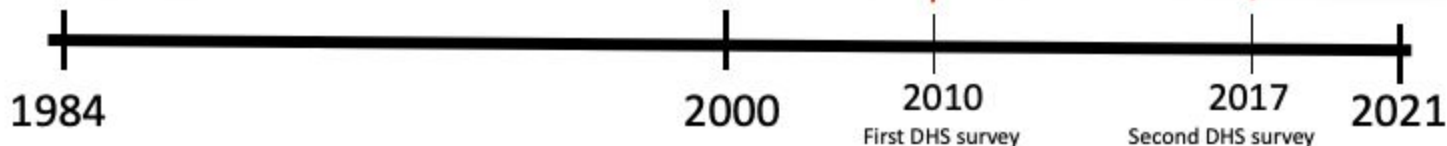


With our data

$f(\text{grid}) \rightarrow$



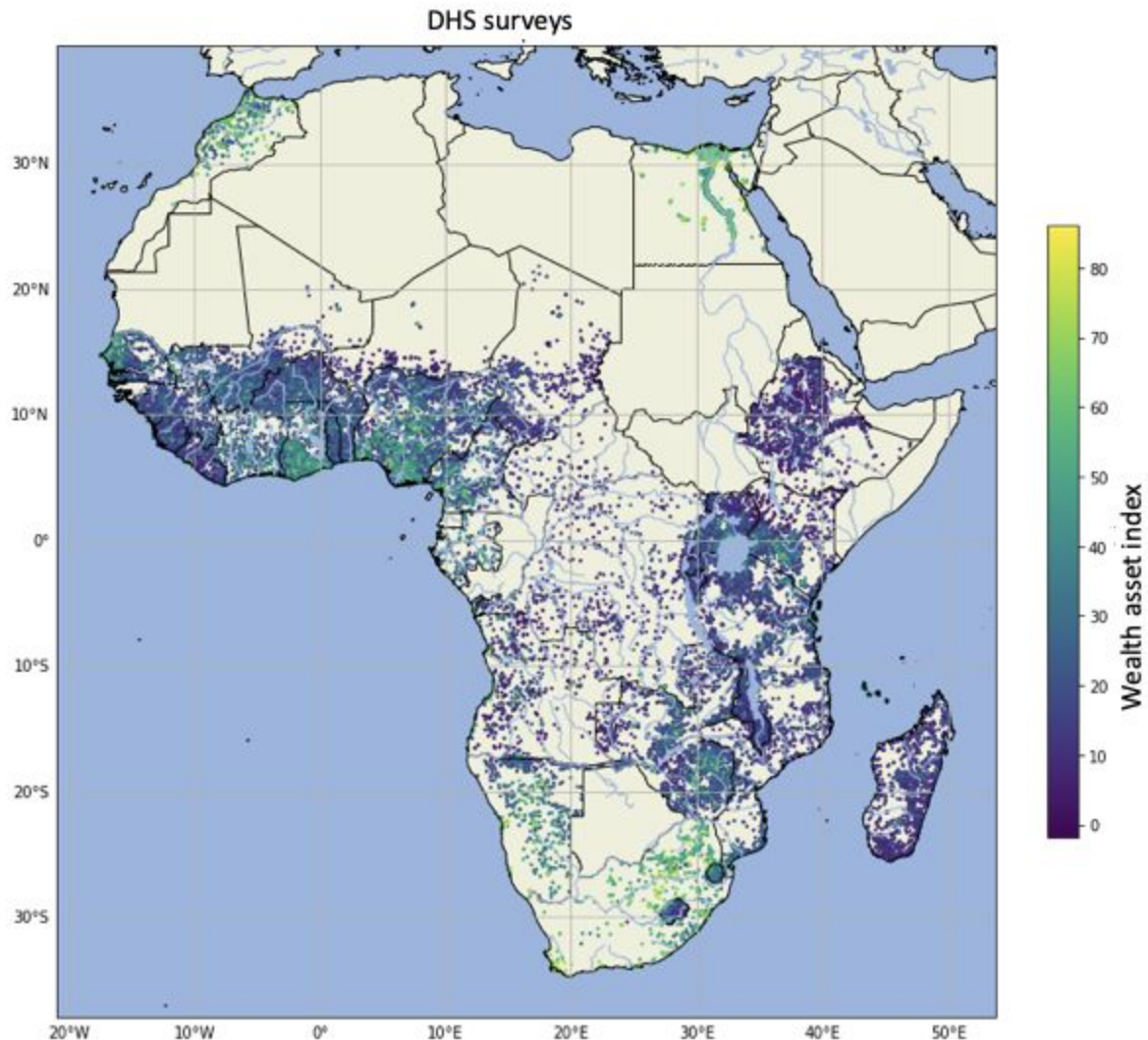
...





# Ground “truth”

- International wealth index (material assets)
- $\approx 57\,000$  DHS survey units (“clusters”)
- From 36 countries
- 1984-2024
- Units: clusters consisting of about 200-300 households



## But... Noise Is Added For Privacy



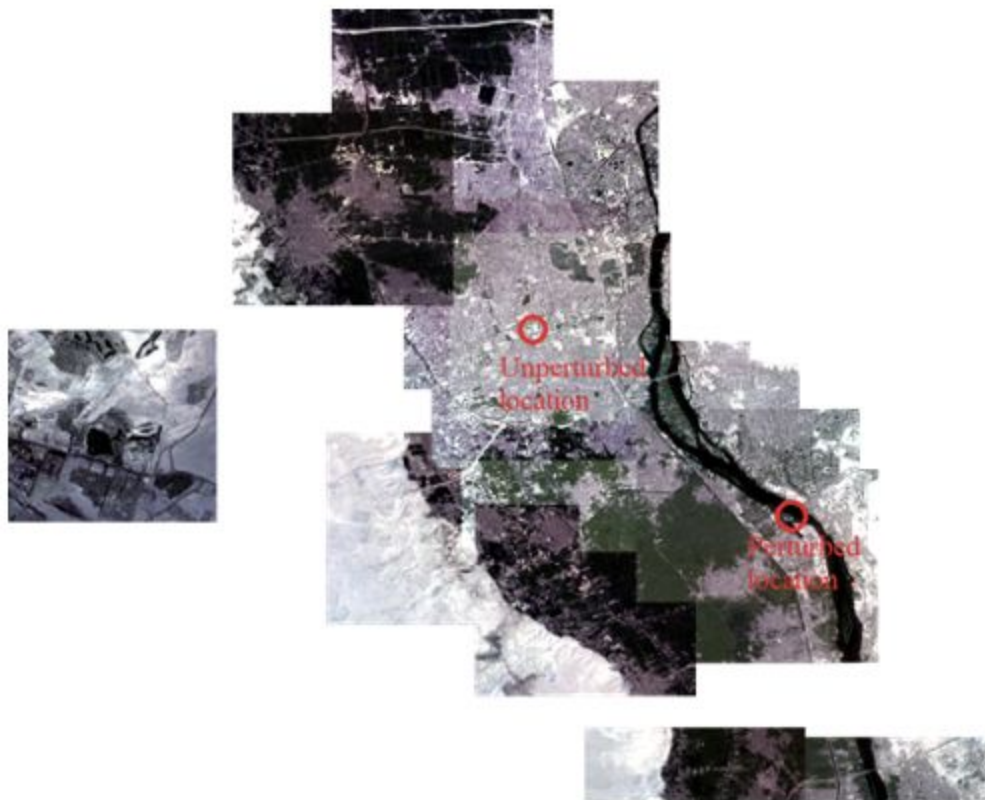
- Households
- Cluster center
- Displaced location (released coordinates)



# Multiple Imputation: Not Twins— But Icosuplets

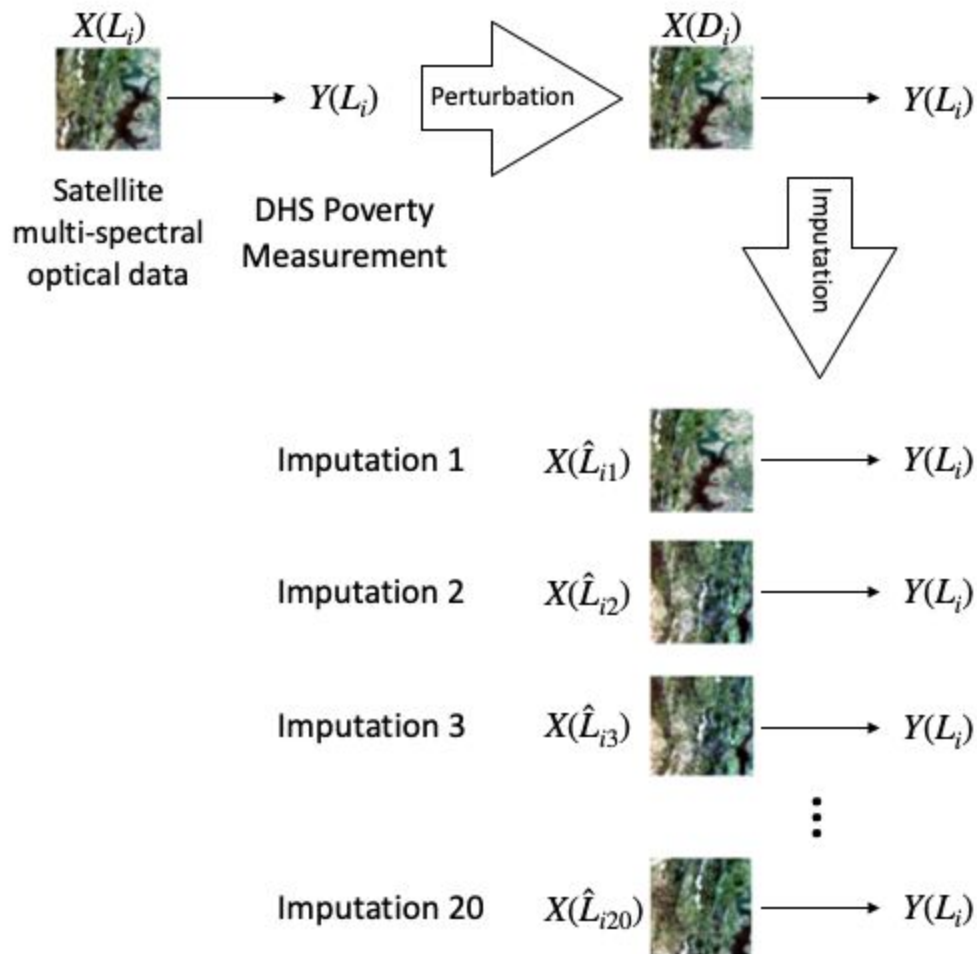


# Multiple Imputation: Not Twins— But Icosuplets

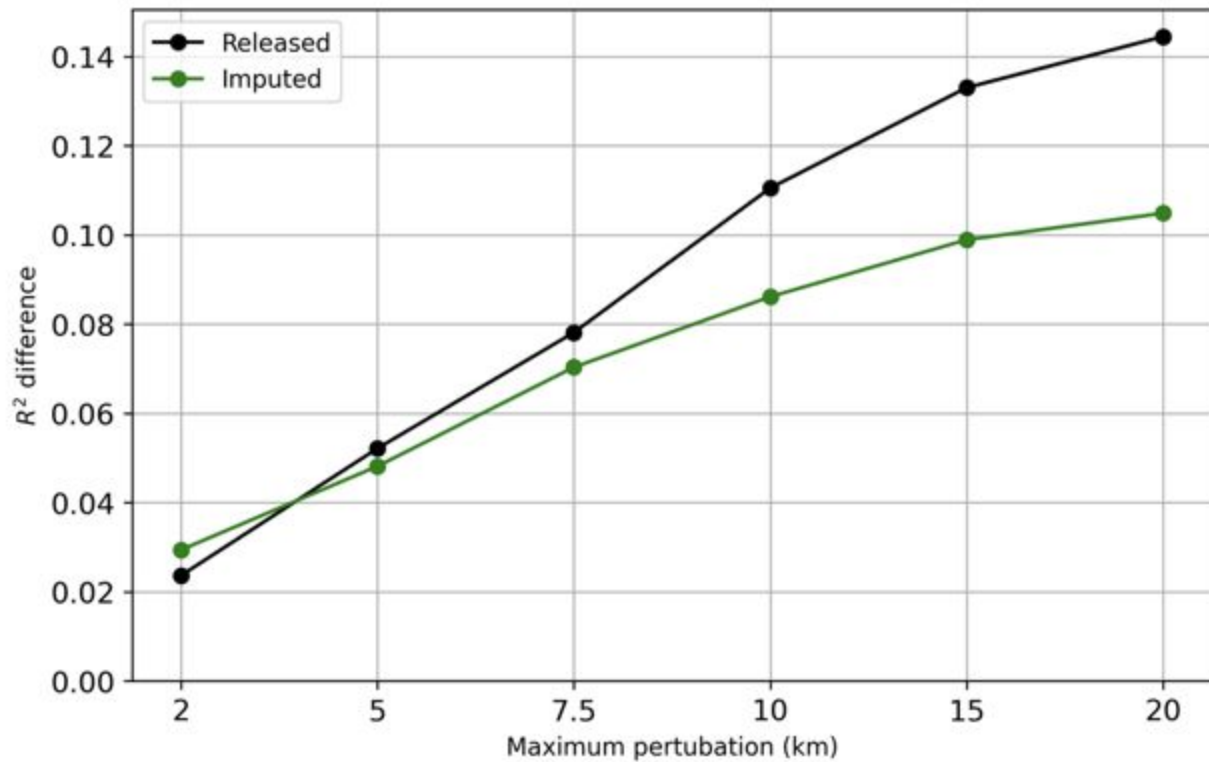




# Multiple Imputation: Not Twins— But Icosuplets



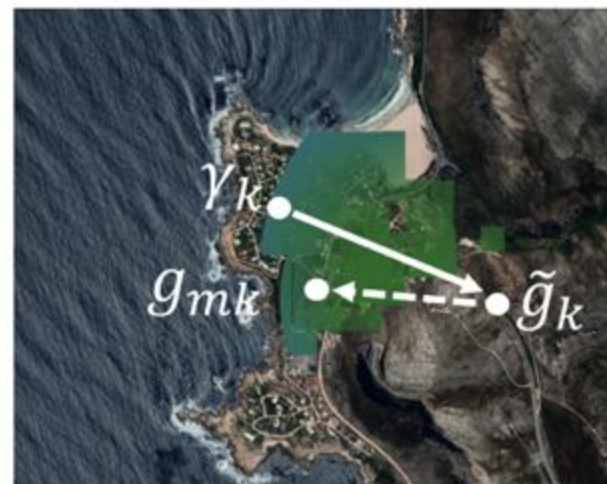
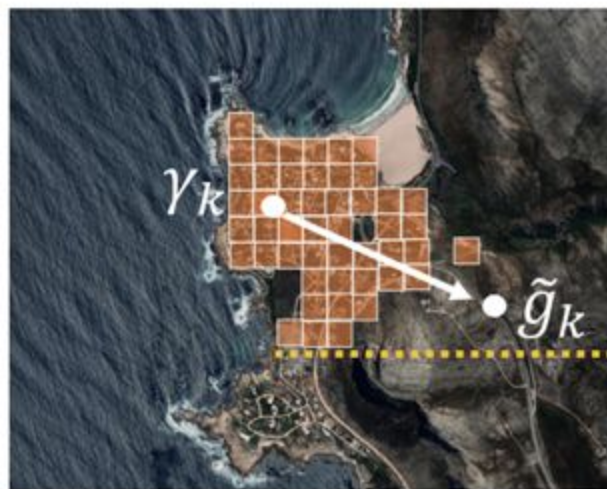
# Preliminary Results





# Correcting For Privacy Using Multiple Imputation?

- What is being imputed?
  - True location  $L$  of each cluster  $i$
- Known: Perturbed location  $D_i$  and perturbation distribution  $\Pr(D_i | L_i)$
- Imputation: Given a prior  $\pi(L_i)$ , sample from posterior  $\pi(L_i | D_i) \propto \pi(D_i) \Pr(D_i | L_i)$
- Train and test model using the satellite images at the imputed locations  $\hat{L}_i$ .



$$\frac{\overbrace{\pi(\gamma_k)}^{\text{Prior}} \overbrace{p(\tilde{g}_k | \gamma_k)}^{\text{Likelihood}}}{p(\tilde{g}_k)} = \overbrace{\pi(\gamma_k | \tilde{g}_k)}^{\text{Posterior}}$$

### Legend

■ ■ ■ ■ Administrative boundary

■ ■ ■ ■ Human Settlement

● Likelihood of location

■ ■ ■ ■ Probability of location



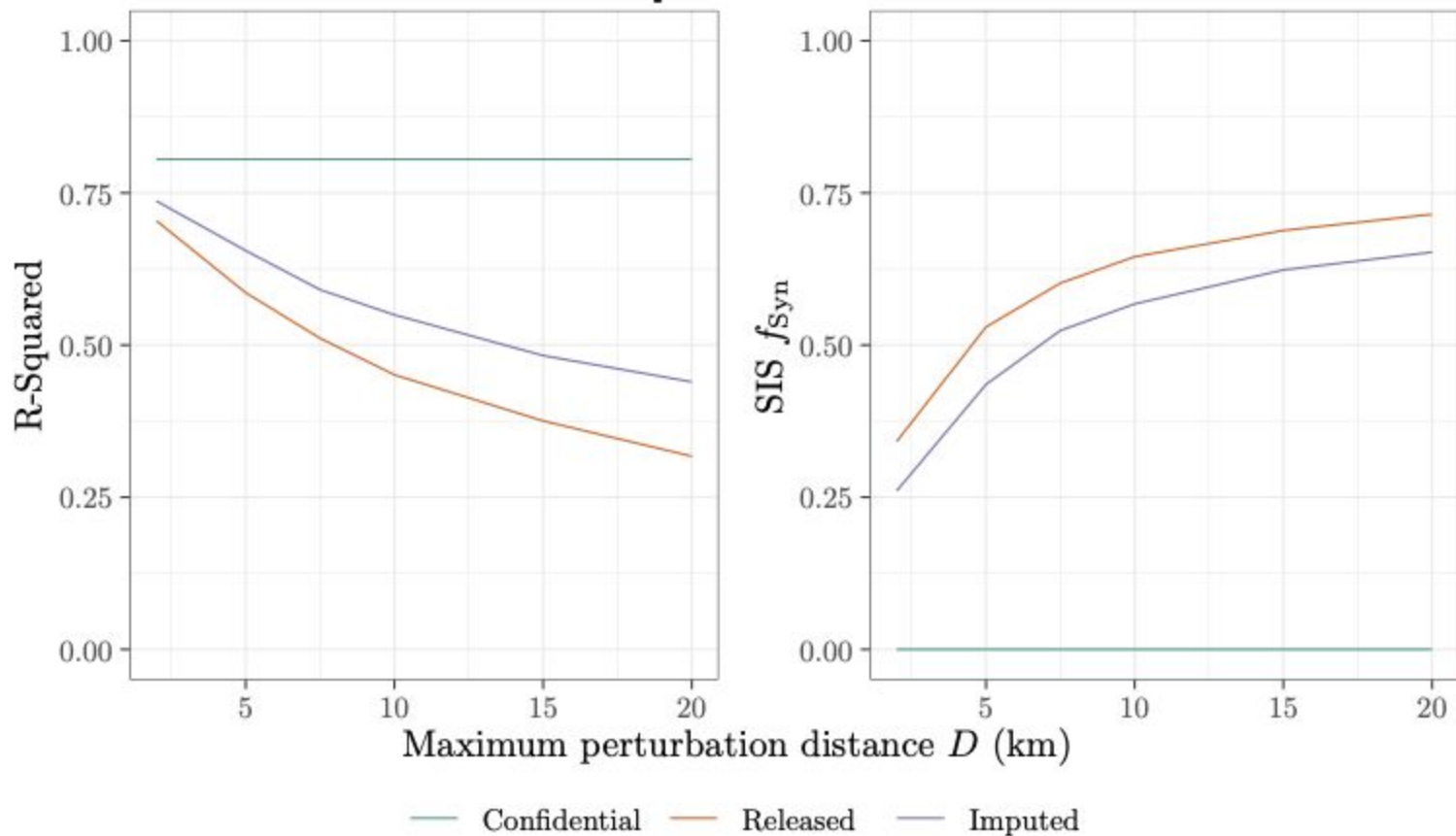
# Can We Trust the Imputed Data?

- **Ideal (A)**: Evaluate a fitted model  $\mathcal{A}$  on the confidential dataset  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- **Pragmatic (B)**: Evaluate  $\mathcal{A}$  on a 'synthetic' dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{Syn}}$ .
- What can **(B)** tell us about **(A)**, specifically with respect to R-squared:  
 $R^2 = 1 - \text{RSS}/\text{TSS}$ ?

- With some simple algebra,  $R^2 = R_{\text{Syn}}^2 + (1 - R_{\text{Syn}}^2)f_{\text{Syn}}$ , where

$$f_{\text{Syn}} = \frac{\text{RSS}_{\text{Syn}}/\text{RSS} - \text{TSS}_{\text{Syn}}/\text{TSS}}{\text{RSS}_{\text{Syn}}/\text{RSS}}$$

# Can We Trust the Imputed Data?



## Can We Trust the Imputed Data?

Yes, at least for a lower bound on the true performance

- We have  $RSS_{\text{Syn}} = RSS + [1 - 2\hat{\beta}_{r,\delta}] \sum_i \delta_i^2$

where  $\hat{\beta}_{r,\delta}$  is the regression coefficient when regressing the benchmark residuals  $r_i$  on the difference of residuals  $\delta_i = r_i - r_i^{\text{Syn}}$ .

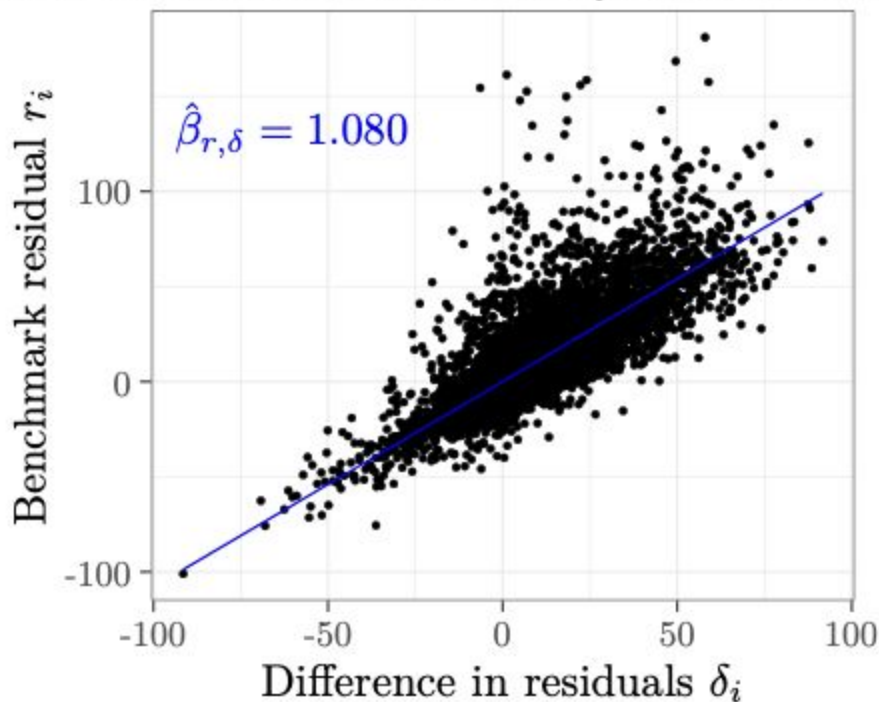
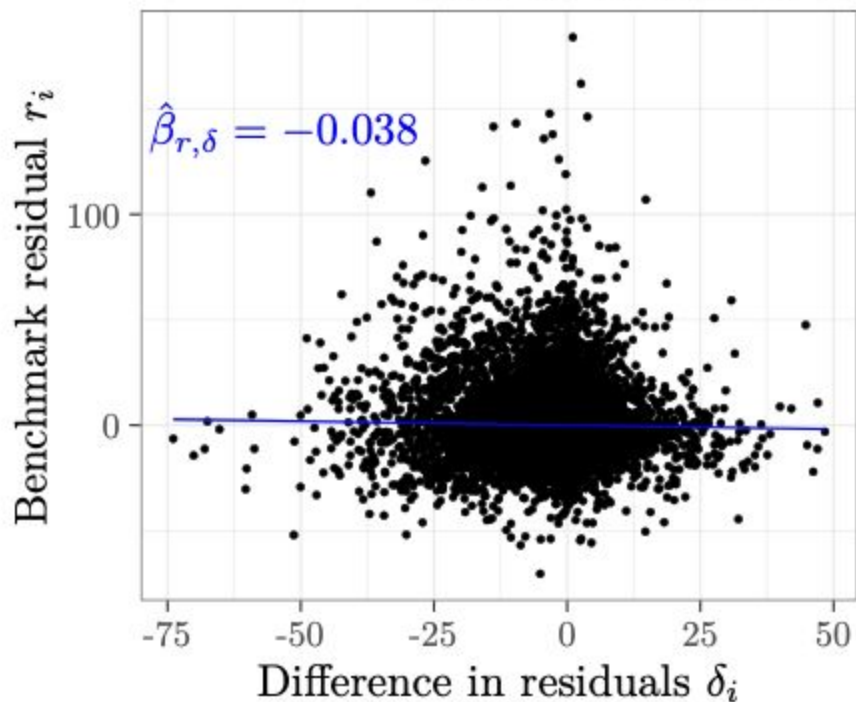
- Then  $R^2 \geq R_{\text{Syn}}^2$  if and only if  $\hat{\beta}_{r,\delta} \leq 0.5$  (assuming  $TSS = TSS_{\text{Syn}}$ ).

- I.e.  $R_{\text{Syn}}^2$  is a lower bound as long as  $\delta_i$  is not informative of  $r_i$ .

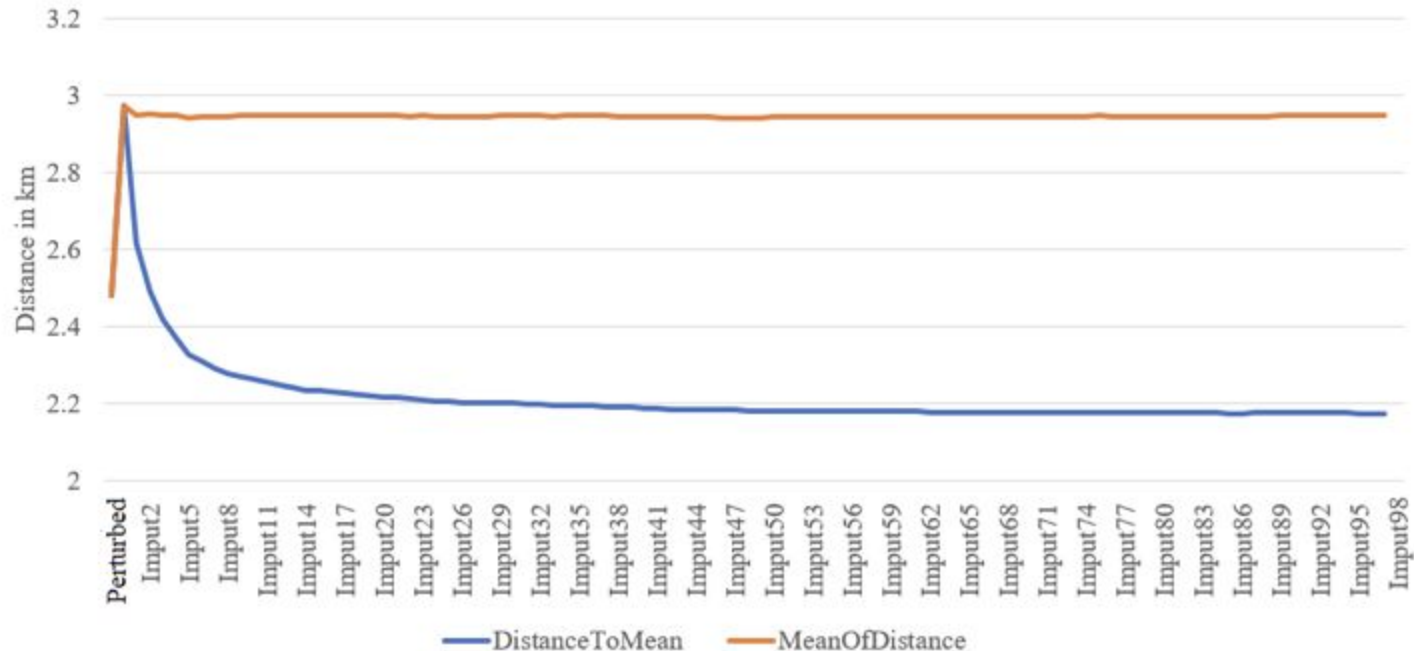


# Can We Trust the Imputed Data?

Yes, at least for a lower bound on the true performance



# Compare MI average distance with distance to average of MI



## Comparing 5 DL models

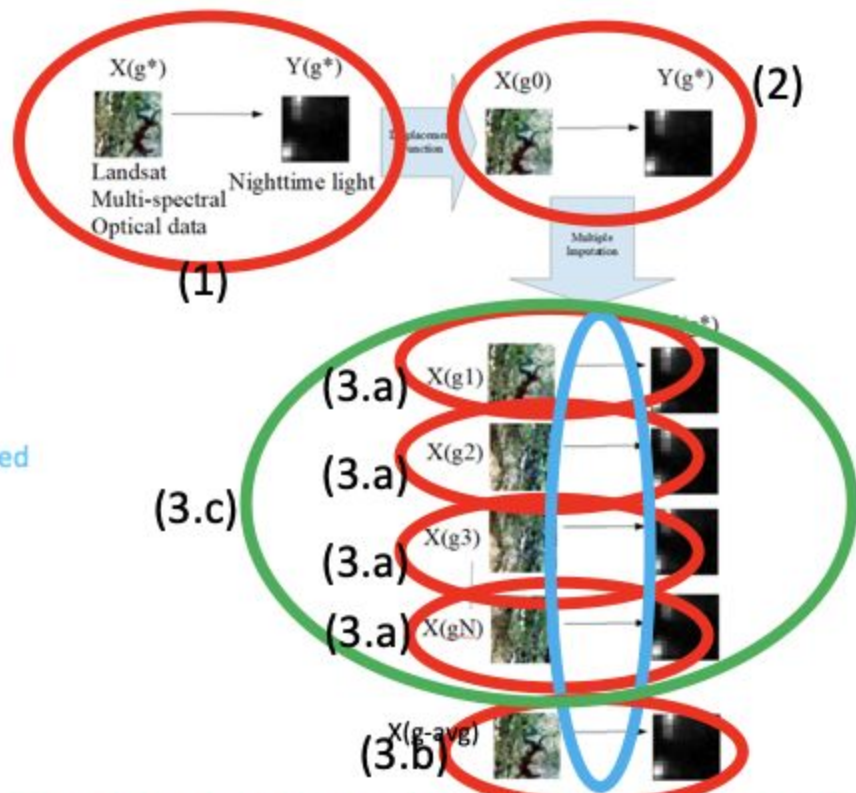
(1) DL trained on **confidential data**

(2) DL on **released data**

(3.a) DL on **each imputation** and then taking **average**

(3.b) DL on **the average location of the imputed data**

(3.c) DL on **all imputed data collectively**



*Which one predicts most accurately, and which one least?  
When measuring accuracy against what benchmark?*



Evaluating the 5 DL models on five different test datasets

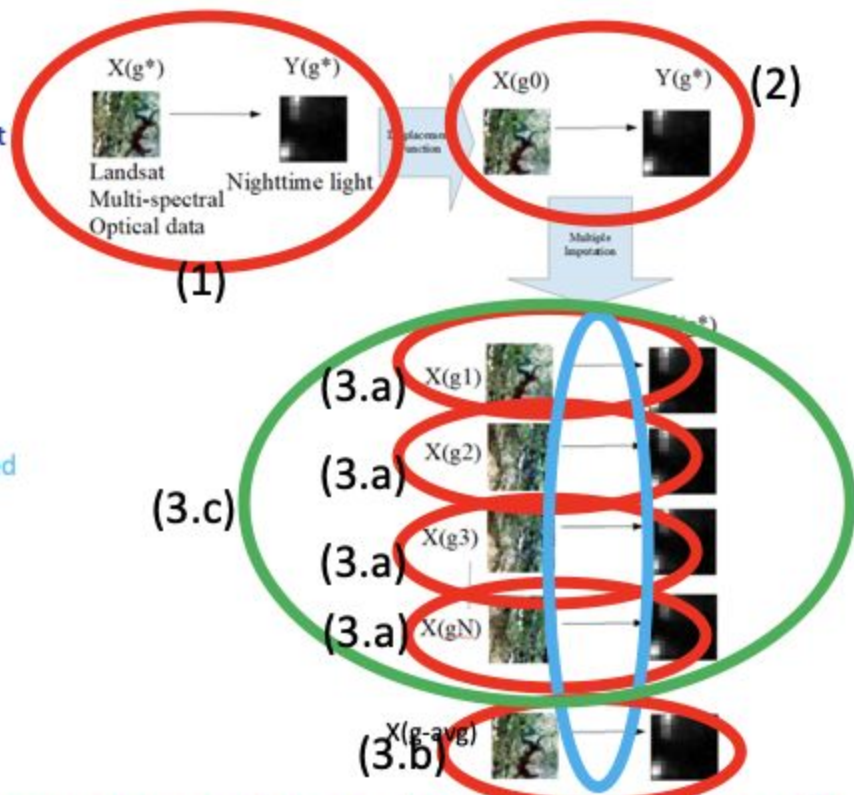
(1) Test on **confidential data**

(2) Test on **released data**

(3.a) Test on **each imputation and then taking average**

(3.b) Test on **the average location of the imputed data**

(3.c) Test on **all imputed data collectively**



*Which one predicts most accurately, and which one least?  
When measuring accuracy against what benchmark?*

Evaluating the 5 DL models on five different test datasets

(1) Test on confidential data

(2) Test on released data

(3.a) Test on each imputation and then taking average

(3.b) Test on the average location of the imputed data

(3.c) Test on all imputed data collectively

(4) Test on a single imputed data

			Test dataset(s) $\mathcal{D}^{\text{Te}}$					
			Single					Multiple
			(1)	(2)	(4)	(3b)	(3c)	(3a)
Training dataset(s) $\mathcal{D}^{\text{Tr}}$	Single	(1)	0.77	0.56	0.58	0.62	0.58	0.69
		(2)	0.69	0.64	0.62	0.64	0.62	0.66
		(4)	0.70	0.64	0.64	0.66	0.63	0.68
		(3b)	0.72	0.63	0.62	0.67	0.63	0.68
		(3c)						
	Multiple w/ diff. seeds	(3a)	0.73	0.67	0.69	0.69	0.63	0.69
		(1)	0.81	0.59	0.61	0.66	0.57	0.70
		(2)	0.70	0.65	0.63	0.66	0.59	0.66
		(4)	0.72	0.66	0.66	0.68	0.62	0.68
		(3b)	0.74	0.65	0.65	0.69	0.62	0.69
		(3c)						

*Which one predicts most accurately, and which one least?  
When measuring accuracy against what benchmark?*

# International Wealth Index (IWI)

With TV = 12.73

Without TV = 4.12

Does the household own or have a:

- TV: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
- Refrigerator: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown
- Phone: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown
- Bike: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown
- Car: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown
- Cheap utensils (<\$50): ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
- Expensive utensil (>\$300): ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown
- Electricity: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

What is the quality of the...

- Main source drinking water?: ☒ Low ☐ Middle ☐ High ☐ Unknown
- Toilet facility usually used?: ☒ Low ☐ Middle ☐ High ☐ Unknown
- Main floor material?: ☒ Low ☐ Middle ☐ High ☐ Unknown
- Nr. of rooms used for sleeping: ☒ One ☐ Two ☐ Three+ ☐ Unknown

The household's IWI score is: 12.73

