

A ML-Based Approach for Power Quality Disturbance Analysis in EV-Penetrated Distribution Network

Wanchalerm Patanacharoenwong
Panaya Sudta, PhD

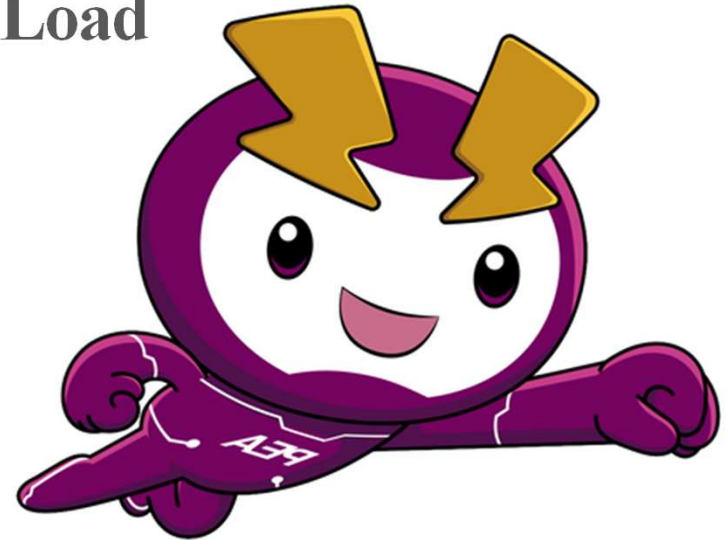
Provincial Electricity Authority: PEA N.3



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OUTLINES

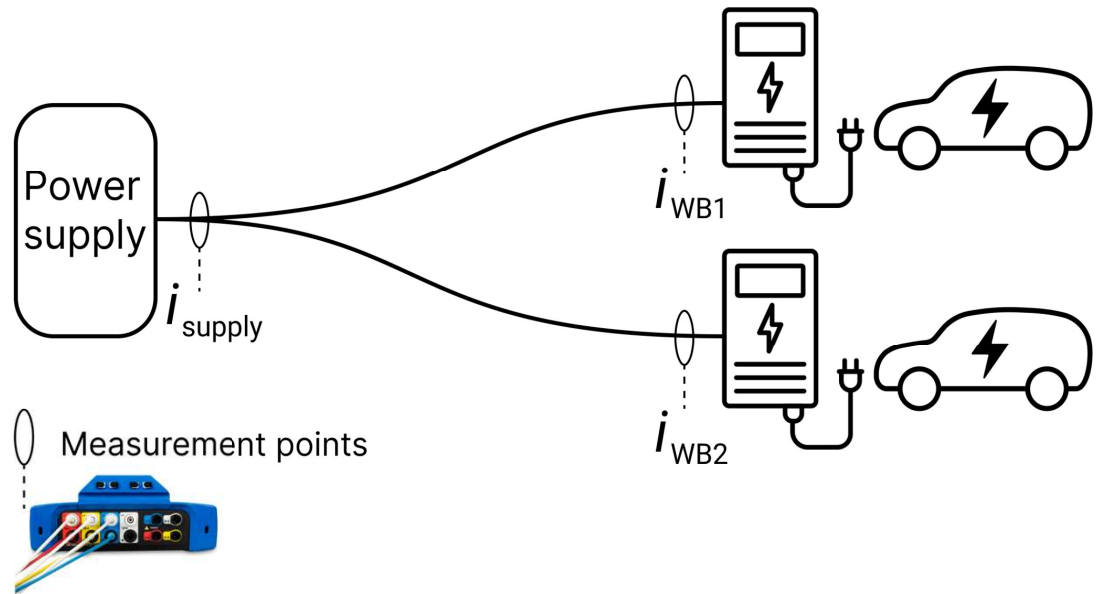
- (1) Background**
- (2) Technical Implication of EV Load**
- (3) Methodology**
- (4) KNN & SVM**
- (5) Results & Conclusions**
- (6) Future work**



Background & Expected Results

- Rise of EV adoption → higher stress on distribution grids
- EV charging = nonlinear, fluctuating loads
- Direct impact on Power Quality (PQ)

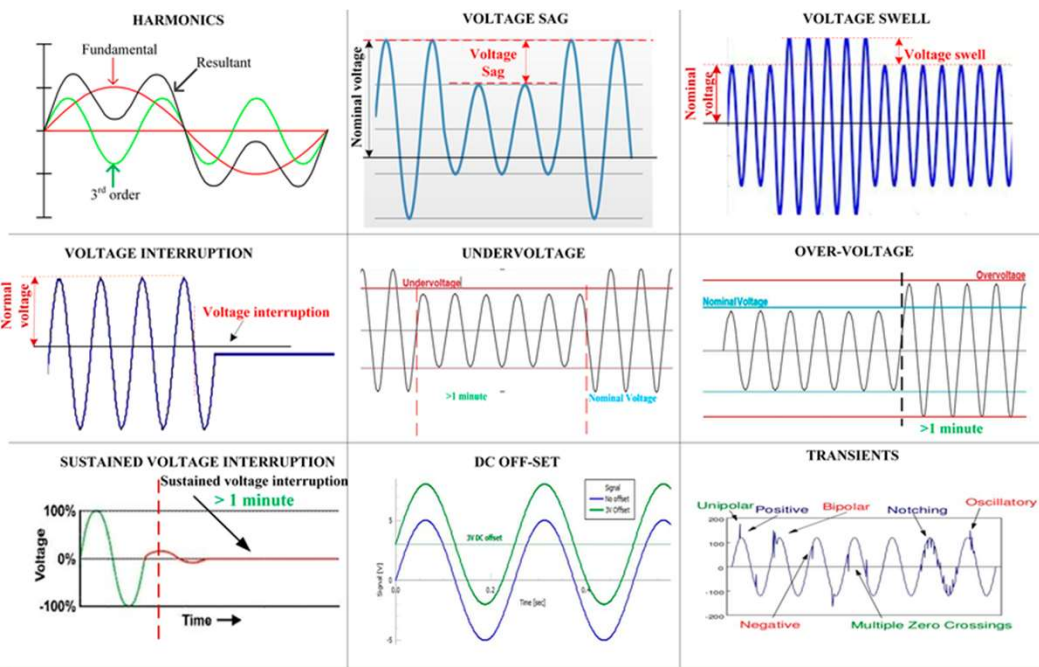
The growing integration of EV loads into distribution networks has introduced a range of power quality disturbances, including voltage sags, swells, harmonics, and flicker. These disruptions pose significant risks to grid stability and operational efficiency. This study investigates the application ML techniques for classifying PQ disturbances. Two algorithms, SVM and k-NN are evaluated for their accuracy, robustness, and reliability. Results demonstrate that while both models are effective in detecting PQ anomalies, SVM consistently delivers superior performance in terms of precision and stability, making it the more suitable choice for addressing PQ challenges in the IEEE 5-Bus system.



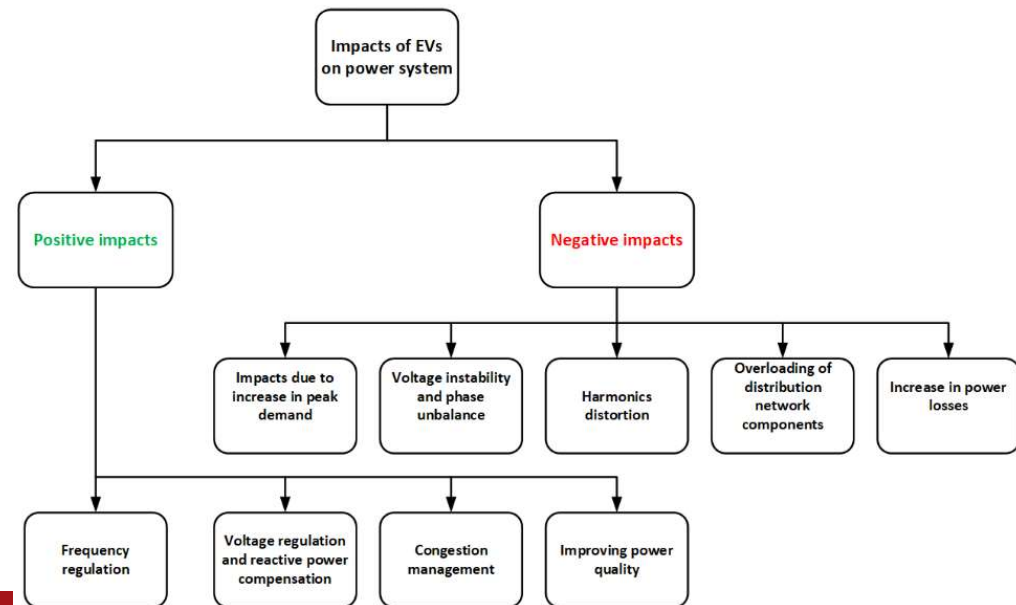
Representation of the experimental setup with measurement points.

Power Quality Challenges

- Voltage sag & swell
- Harmonics
- Flicker
- Transients
- Short-circuits & switching events

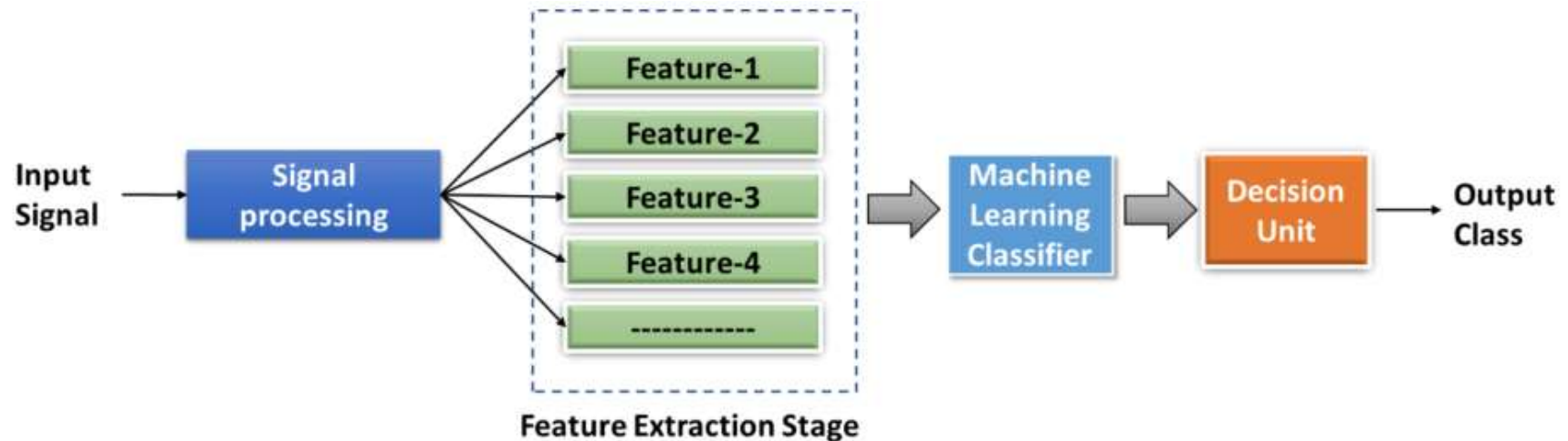


Beyond academic exploration, this research forms part of a SaaS framework designed to enhance smart grid resilience. The proposed system leverages AI models built on ML algorithms to automatically detect and issue real-time alerts when PQ disturbances arise from EV loads. This approach supports proactive grid management, enabling utilities and stakeholders to mitigate risks, maintain service quality, and improve the overall reliability of future EV-integrated power systems.



Why Machine Learning?

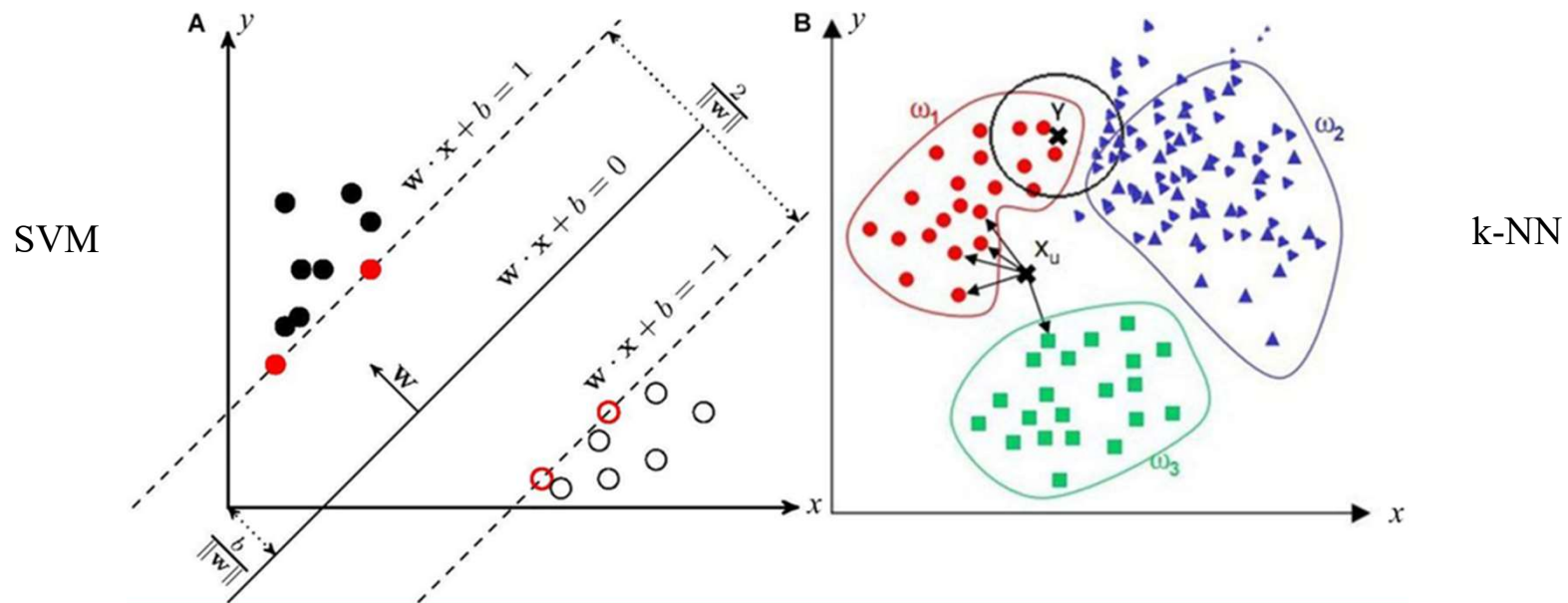
- Hardware-based fixes = reactive
- ML allows proactive PQ event detection
- Enables real-time classification and early mitigation.



With the rising penetration of EVs, electrical distribution systems are becoming increasingly complex, rendering traditional PQ management methods inadequate. Conventional approaches, such as passive filters or voltage regulators, are largely reactive in nature and lack the flexibility to cope with rapidly changing load dynamics. This has created a demand for intelligent, real-time solutions capable of monitoring, detecting, and mitigating PQ disturbances more effectively. ML offers a promising pathway, as its algorithms can process large volumes of data, identify patterns within intricate electrical signals, and accurately classify PQ disturbances according to their type and severity.

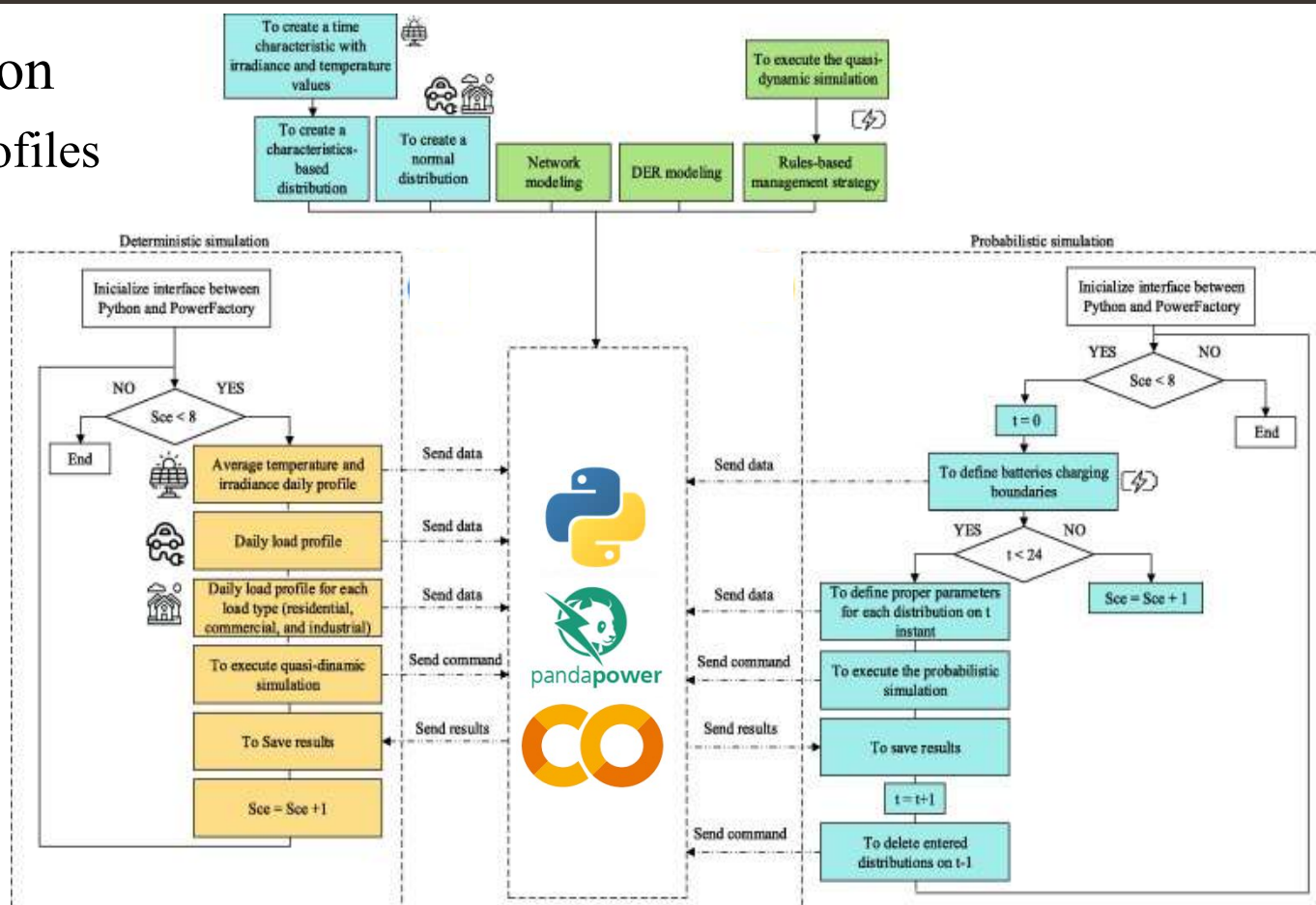
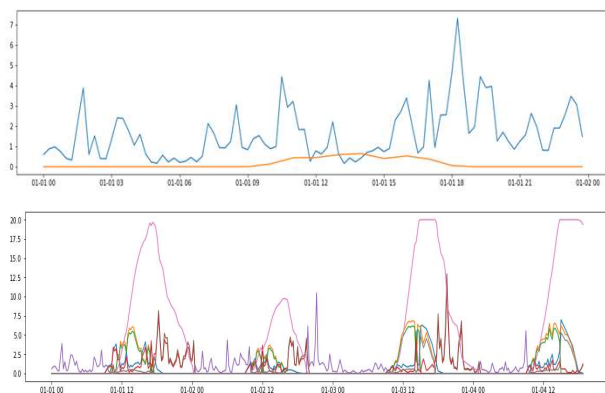
Research Objectives

- Simulate PQ disturbances in EV-integrated networks
- Build labeled dataset of PQ events
- Compare ML models: SVM vs k-NN
- Evaluate performance across metrics



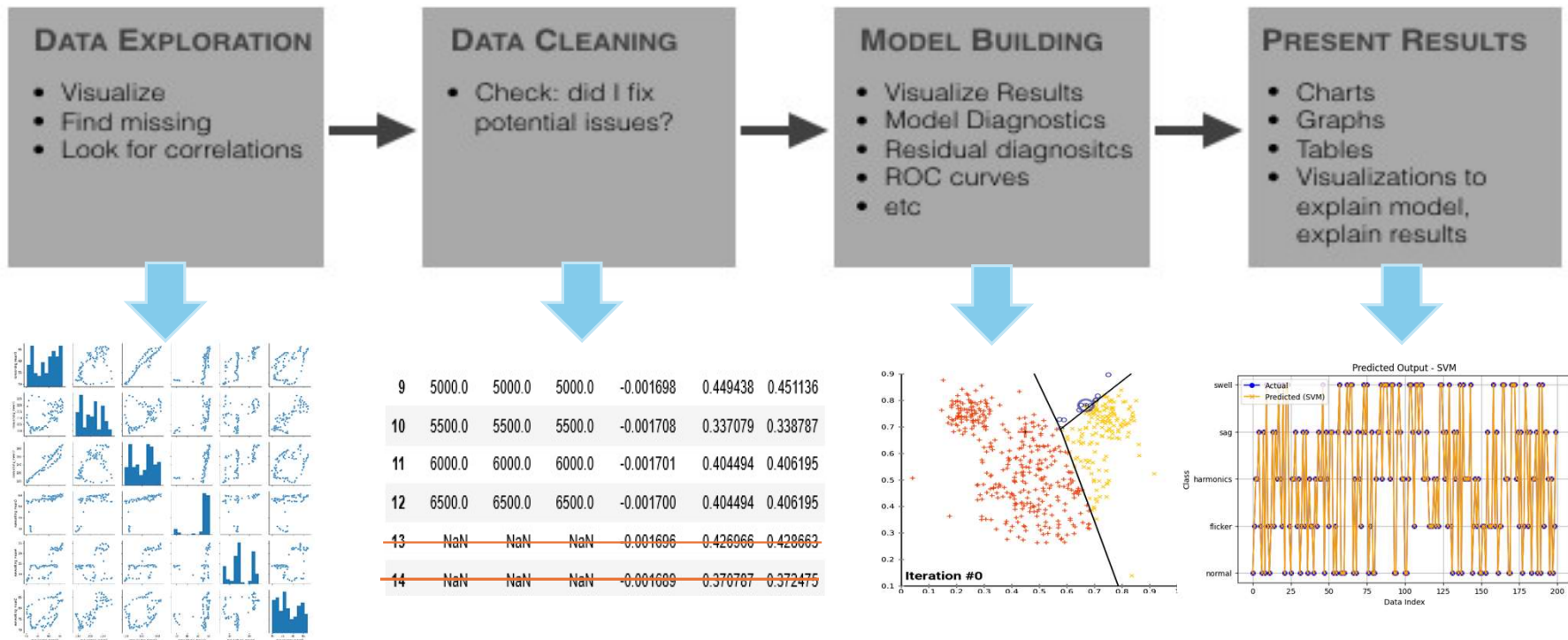
Simulation Environment

- Program Language: Python
- Injected dynamic EV load profiles
- Captured PQ under normal, transient, distorted states



Problems formulations: Data Preparation

- Features: Voltage, Current, PF, Frequency, THD, Event Duration
- Samples: ~5,000 instances. Labeled by PQ event type (sag, swell, harmonics, etc.)



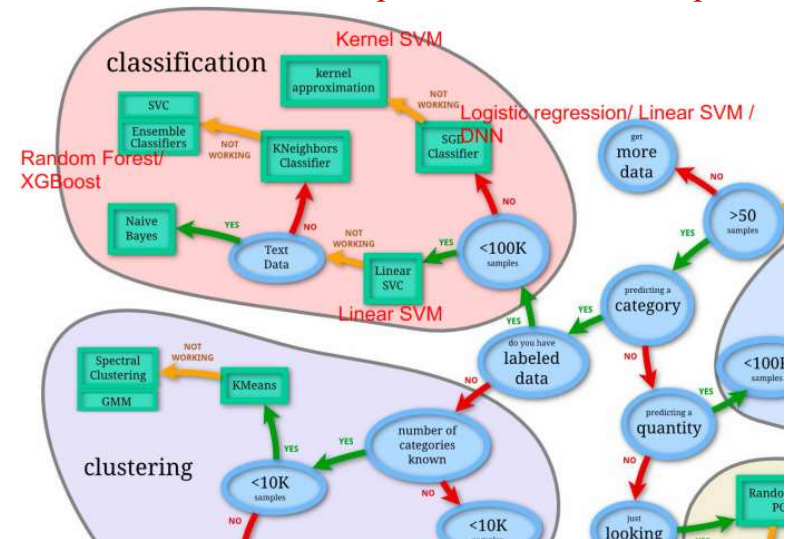
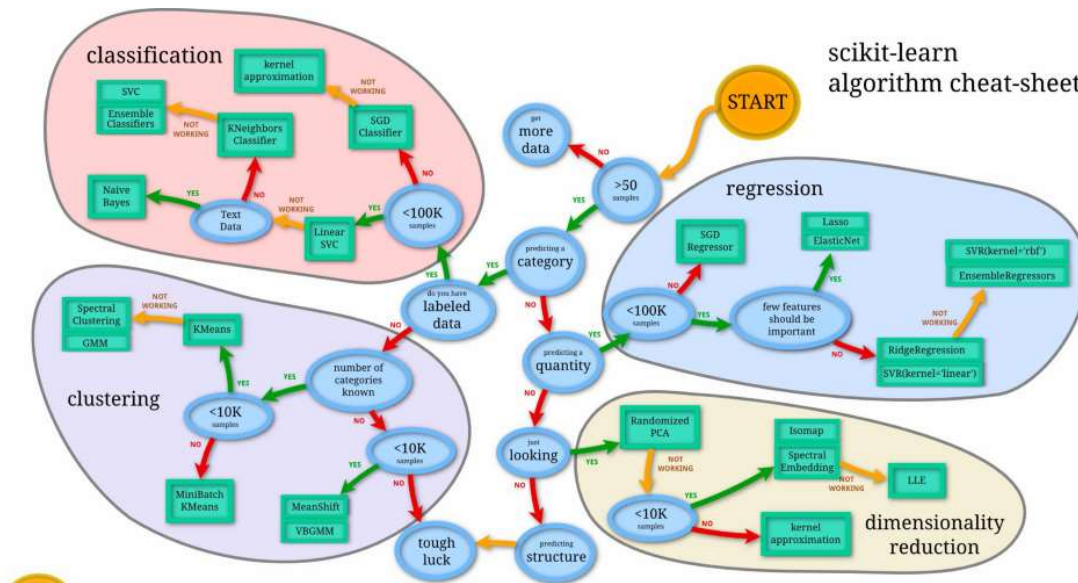
Machine Learning Algorithms

Types of machine learning

1. Supervised learning: Learn a model F from pairs of (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})
2. Unsupervised learning: Discover the hidden structure in unlabeled data \mathbf{x} (**no \mathbf{y}**)
3. Reinforcement learning: Train an agent to take appropriate actions in an environment by maximizing rewards.

scikit-learn
algorithm cheat-sheet

SVM: RBF kernel, tuned C & γ
k-NN: Euclidean distance, parameter k chosen experimentally

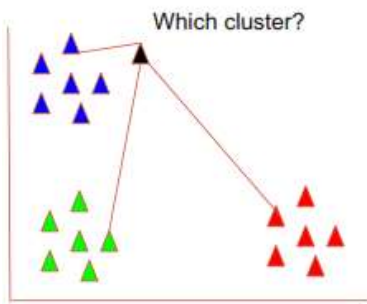


Note: treat 100k, 10k samples as a guideline.
These numbers can go bigger or smaller depending on
feature dimension and number of classes.

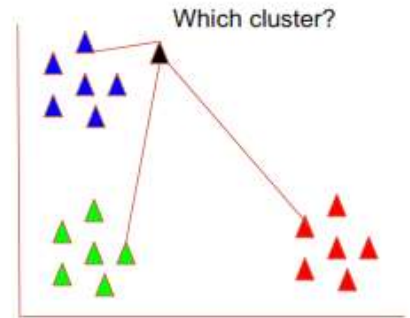
Machine Learning Algorithms

Nearest Neighbour classification

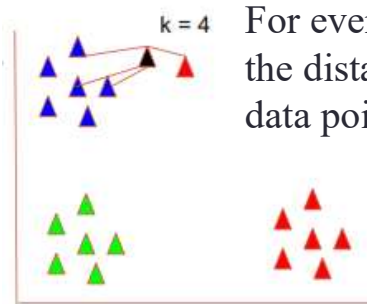
Find the closest training data, assign the same label as the training data



Given query data. For every point in the training data
Compute the distance with the query. Assign label of the smallest distance



Nearest Neighbour is susceptible to noise in the training data
Use a voting scheme instead



For every point in the training data. Compute
the distance with the query. Find the K closest
data points. Assign label by voting.

The votes can be weighted by the
inverse distance (weighted k-NN).

Distance (Similarity) Measure

$$F(X_1, X_2) = d$$

$$X_1 = [x_{1,1}, x_{1,2}, \dots, x_{1,n}]$$

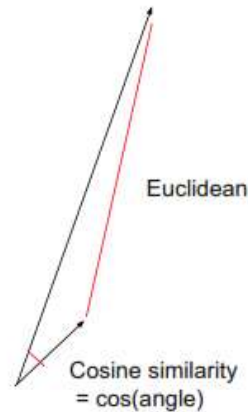
$$X_2 = [x_{2,1}, x_{2,2}, \dots, x_{2,n}]$$

Euclidean distance

$$\sqrt{\sum_i (x_{1,i} - x_{2,i})^2}$$

Cosine similarity

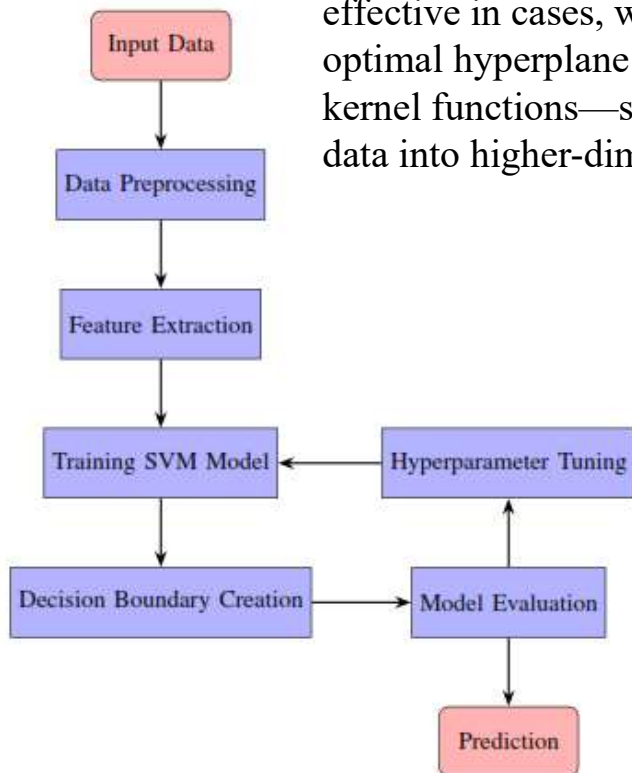
$$\frac{X_1 \cdot X_2}{|X_1| |X_2|} = \frac{\sum_i x_{1,i} x_{2,i}}{\sqrt{\sum_i x_{1,i}^2} \sqrt{\sum_i x_{2,i}^2}}$$



SVM Model Workflow

Common question: how do we ensure an 'optimal' hyperplane?

SVM are supervised machine learning algorithms widely applied in classification problems, particularly effective in cases, where data exhibit nonlinear separability. The core principle of SVM is to identify an optimal hyperplane that maximizes the margin between distinct classes within a feature space. By utilizing kernel functions—such as linear, polynomial, or radial basis function (RBF)—SVM can transform input data into higher-dimensional spaces, enabling the separation of complex, nonlinearly distributed patterns.



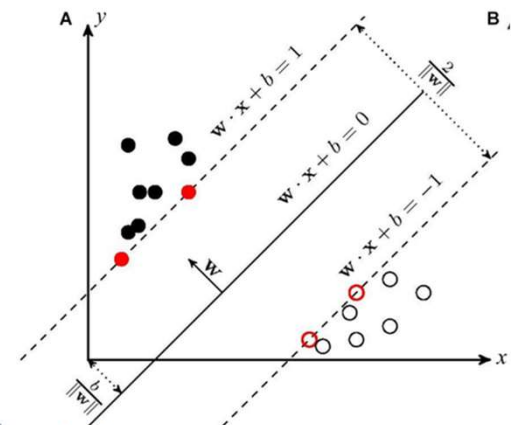
Goal: choose w such that r with

$$r = \frac{f(x, w)}{\|w\|}$$

gets maximal

But also ensure points are on correct side of decision boundary, i.e.

$$y_i f(x_i, w) - 1 \geq 0 \quad \forall i$$



SVM in PQ

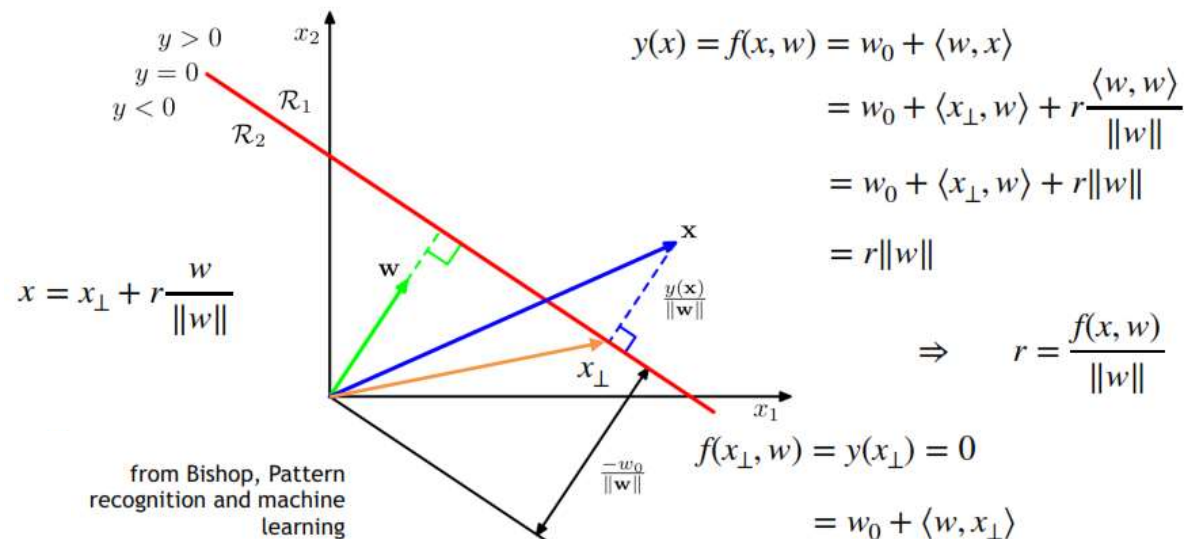
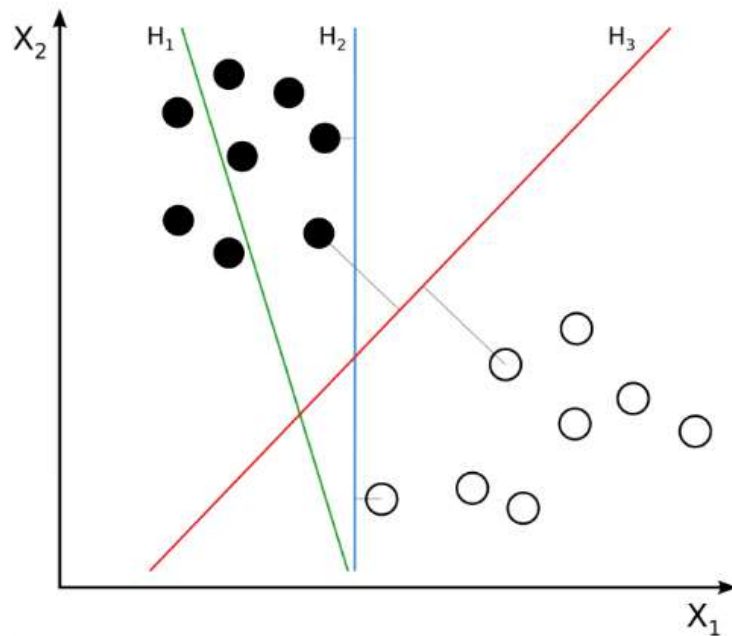
- Margin maximization principle
- Effective in nonlinear classification
- RBF kernel maps data into higher dimensions

Common question: how do we ensure an 'optimal' hyperplane?

Primal problem: $\hat{w} = \arg \min_w \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s \max(0, 1 - (YXw)_i) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|w\|^2 \right\}$

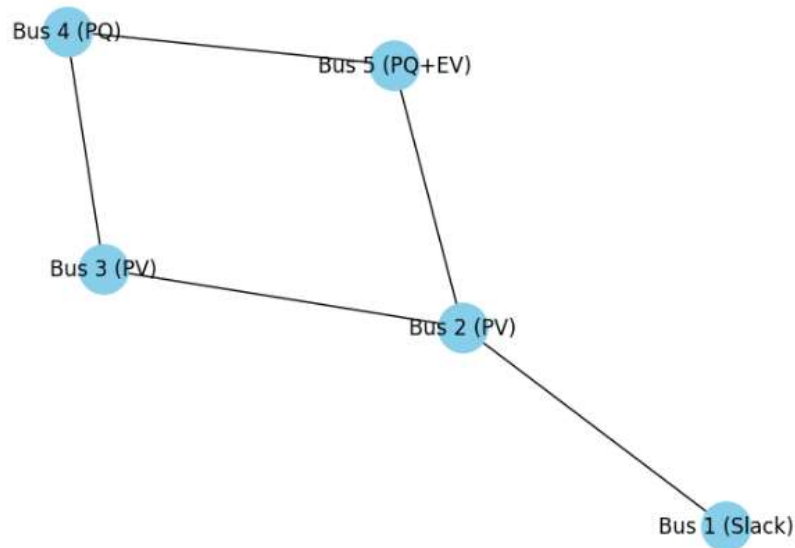
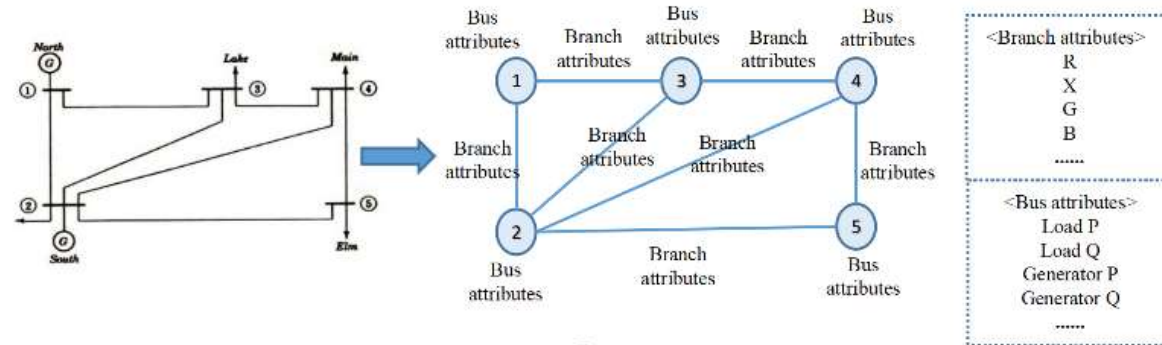
Dual problem: $\hat{\lambda} = \arg \max_{\lambda \in [0,1]^s} \left\{ \langle \lambda, 1 \rangle - \frac{1}{2\alpha} \|X^T Y \lambda\|^2 \right\}$

Connection between the two: $\hat{w} = \frac{1}{\alpha} X^T Y \hat{\lambda}$



IEEE 5-Bus Test System

- 5-bus standard distribution model
- 1 slack bus, 2 PV buses, 2 PQ buses
- 100 MVA base system
- Widely used for stability & PQ studies



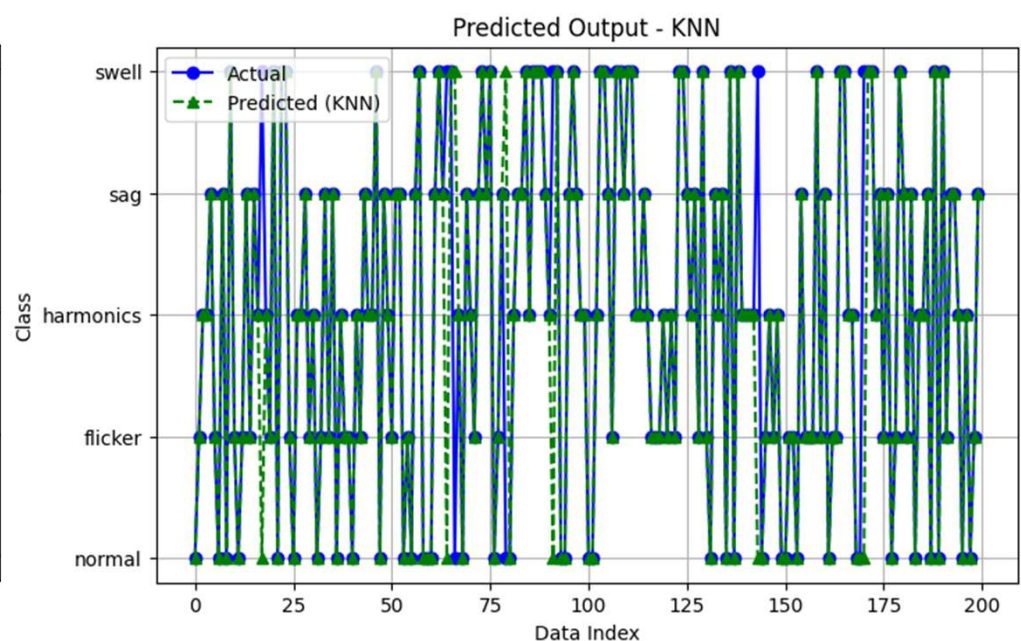
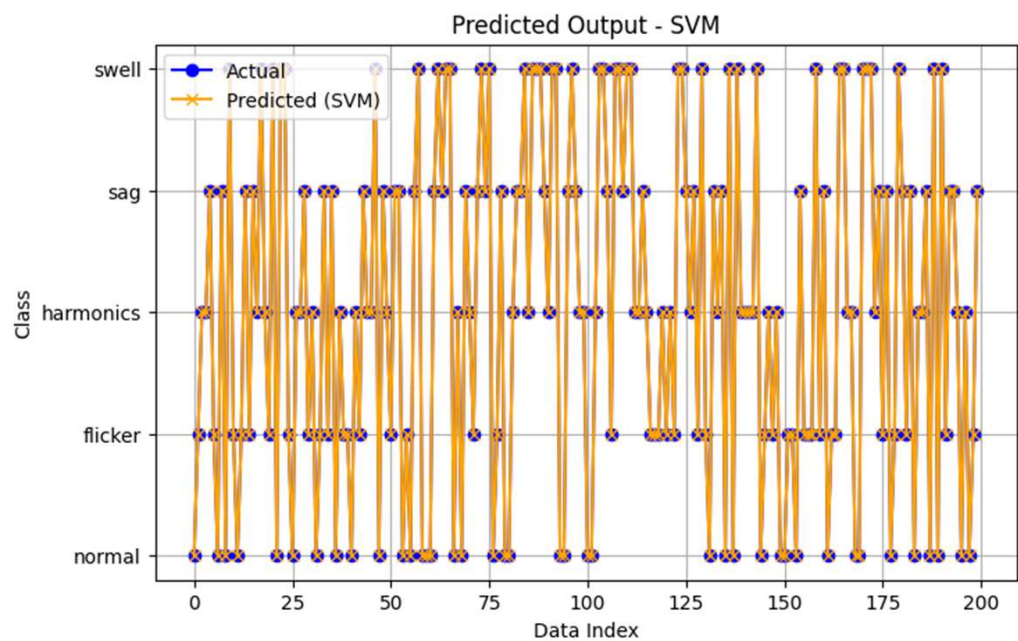
| Bus No | Bus Voltage | Generation | | Load | |
|--------|-------------|------------|------|------|------|
| | | MW | MVar | MW | MVar |
| 1 | 1.06+j0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 1.0+j0.0 | 40 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| 3 | 1.0+j0.0 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 15 |
| 4 | 1.0+j0.0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 5 |
| 5 | 1.0+j0.0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 10 |

Line Data for IEEE 5-Bus System

| Line | Line Impedance | | Line Charging |
|------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| | R per unit | X per unit | |
| 1-2 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.0+j0.03 |
| 1-3 | 0.08 | 0.24 | 0.0+j0.025 |
| 2-3 | 0.06 | 0.25 | 0.0+j0.02 |
| 2-4 | 0.06 | 0.18 | 0.0+j0.02 |
| 2-5 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.0+j0.015 |
| 3-4 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.0+j0.01 |
| 4-5 | 0.08 | 0.24 | 0.0+j0.025 |

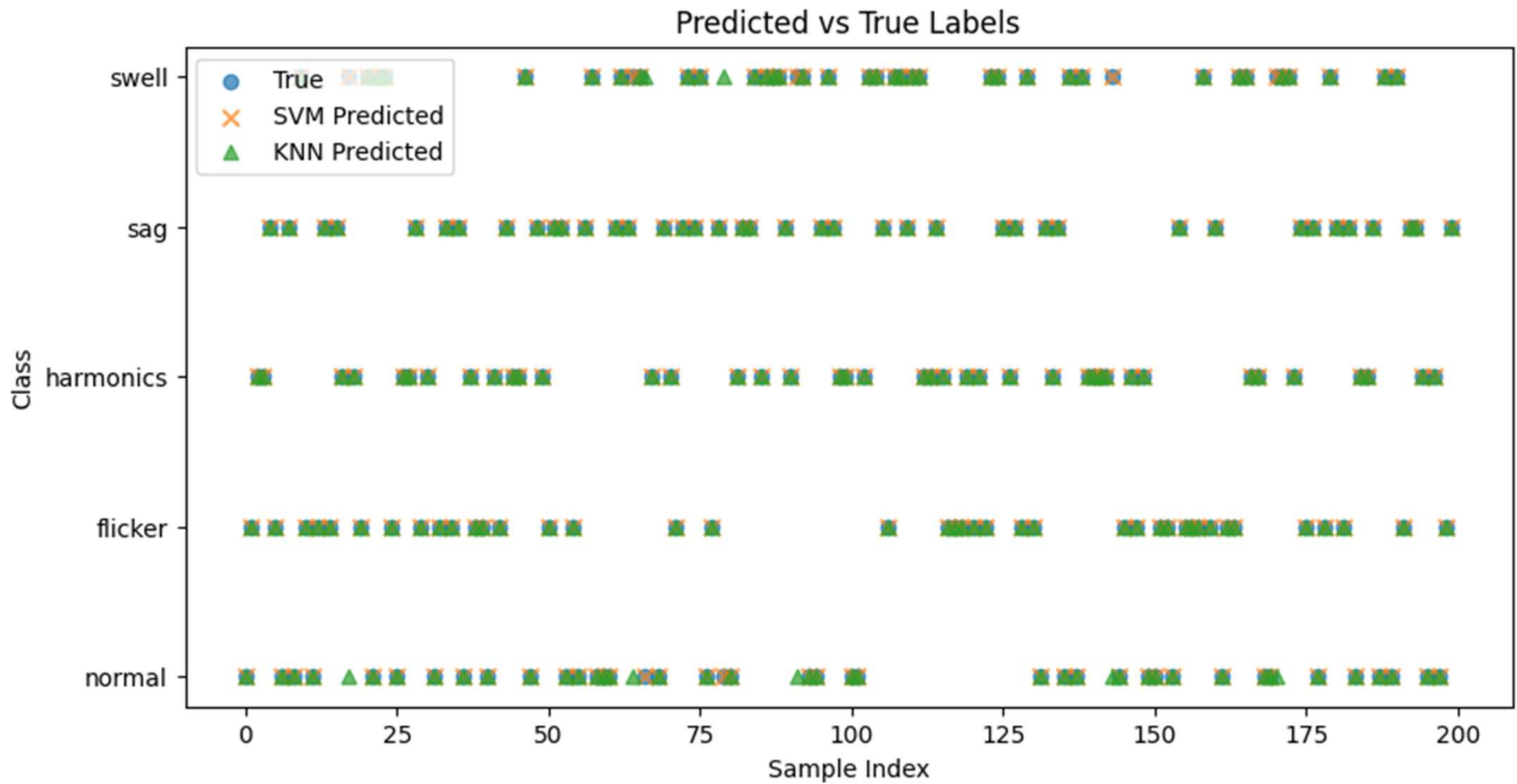
Build an IEEE-style 5-Bus Distribution Network (pandapower)

Classification Results



| | vm_ev | vm_min | vm_max | vm_mean | line_loading_max_pct | p_total_mw | q_total_mvar | system_pf | freq_hz | df_hz | thd_pct | flicker_idx | event_duration_s | label |
|---|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------------|-----------|
| 0 | 0.993962 | 0.991895 | 1.01 | 1.001171 | 62.085193 | -0.987342 | 2.839183 | 0.328461 | 50.006094 | 0.006094 | 3.729483 | 0.000000 | 0.237523 | normal |
| 1 | 0.992104 | 0.990650 | 1.01 | 1.000551 | 47.437267 | -0.731591 | 2.902105 | 0.244442 | 50.018811 | 0.018811 | 4.761080 | 0.000000 | 0.134891 | sag |
| 2 | 0.994271 | 0.992100 | 1.01 | 1.001274 | 63.620001 | -1.017433 | 2.831943 | 0.338111 | 50.002557 | 0.002557 | 3.554429 | 0.000000 | 0.199160 | swell |
| 3 | 0.993834 | 0.991809 | 1.01 | 1.001129 | 61.928643 | -0.985493 | 2.839427 | 0.327887 | 49.982939 | -0.017061 | 12.214950 | 0.000000 | 0.238890 | harmonics |
| 4 | 0.993480 | 0.991572 | 1.01 | 1.001010 | 58.563867 | -0.919306 | 2.855943 | 0.306409 | 49.996303 | -0.003697 | 3.745688 | 0.001583 | 1.244508 | flicker |

Classification Results



Results & Discussion

- Train/test split with labeled dataset
- Metrics: Accuracy (± 3),
- Precision, Recall, F1-score
- Confusion matrix (7 classes)
- SVM outperforms k-NN consistently
- Higher accuracy & precision
- More balanced performance across classes

| METRIC | SVM | KNN |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Accuracy (± 3) | 0.94 | 0.88 |
| F1 Score | 0.54 | 0.46 |
| Precision | 0.71 | 0.49 |
| Recall | 0.59 | 0.53 |
| Confusion Matrix | [[2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 1], [0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 1, 4, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]] | [[2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 0, 2, 0, 1, 0, 0], [1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]] |

The comparison of **SVM** and **KNN** for power quality classification. **SVM** delivers consistently high accuracy and balanced performance, while **KNN** achieves competitive results on imbalanced data. Overall, **SVM** is more reliable, but **KNN** offers adaptability depending on task needs.

Key Insights, Practical Applications

- SVM handles nonlinear PQ data better
- Robust to noise & high-dimensional features
- k-NN limited by sensitivity to scaling
- **Integrate into PQ monitoring systems**
- **Real-time classification at utility substations**
- **Triggers automated mitigation**
(filters, DSM, protection settings)
- EV charging stresses PQ → urgent need for ML tools
- SVM = reliable, accurate classifier for PQ events
- k-NN = simple but less robust
- Simulation-driven ML offers scalable path to grid resilience

<https://github.com/Nick-Panaya/PQSynergy.git>

Limitations & Future Work

- Small-scale test system (IEEE 5-Bus)
- Limited detail on feature extraction & sampling
- Future: real-world datasets, hybrid models, online learning

