

# LECTURE 5: DUAL PROBLEMS AND KERNELS

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\* Most of the slides in this lecture are from <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~az/lectures/ml>

# Optimization

Learning an SVM has been formulated as a **constrained** optimization problem over  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\xi$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \xi_i \in \mathbb{R}^+} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \xi_i \text{ subject to } y_i (\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \text{ for } i = 1 \dots N$$

The constraint  $y_i (\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i$ , can be written more concisely as

$$y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) \geq 1 - \xi_i$$

which, together with  $\xi_i \geq 0$ , is equivalent to

$$\xi_i = \max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

Hence the learning problem is equivalent to the **unconstrained** optimization problem over  $\mathbf{w}$

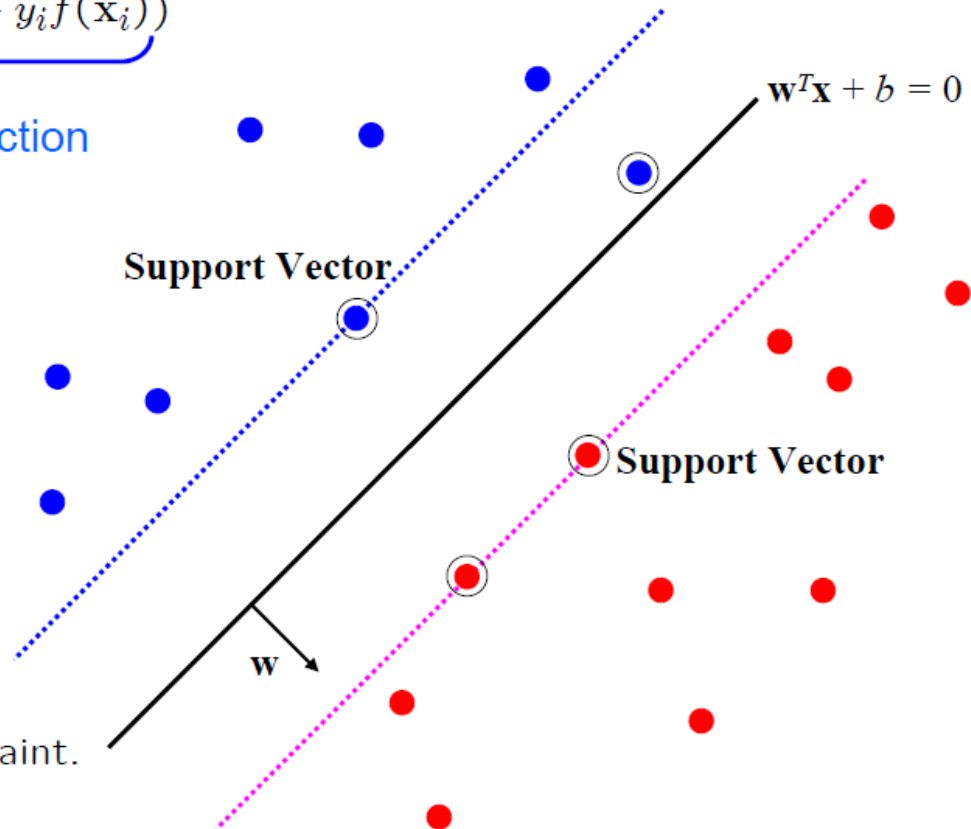
$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \underbrace{\|\mathbf{w}\|^2}_{\text{regularization}} + C \sum_i^N \underbrace{\max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))}_{\text{loss function}}$$

# Loss function

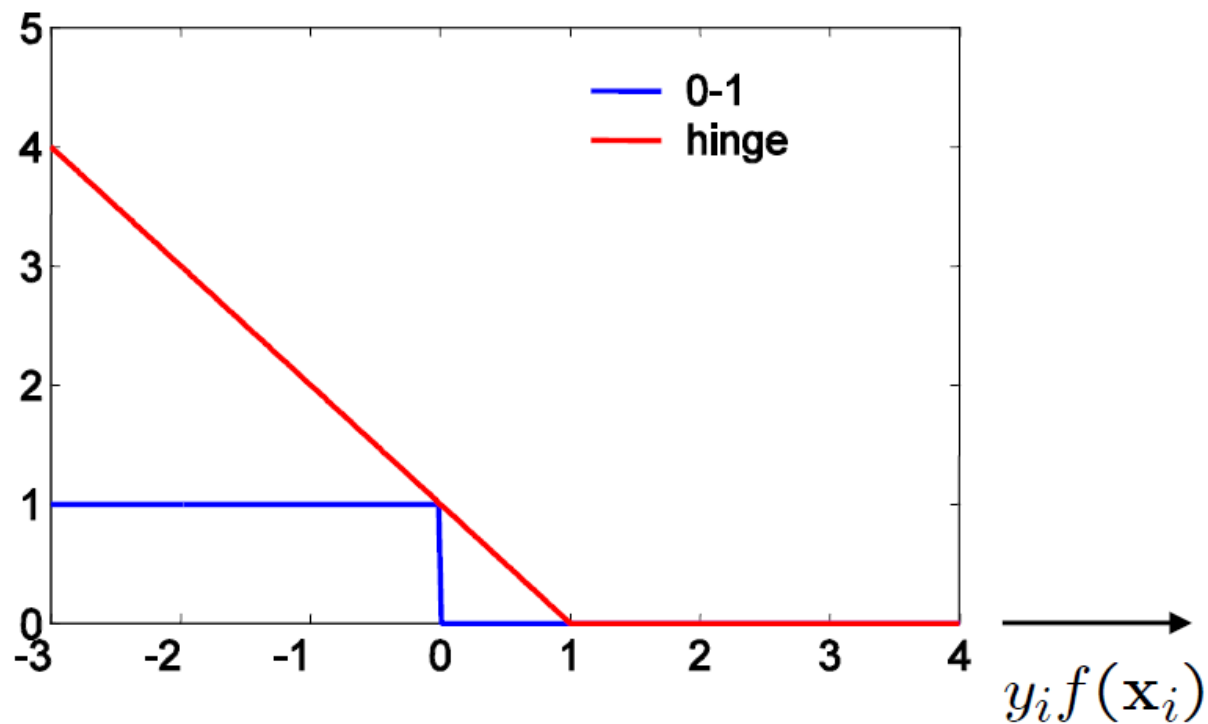
$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \underbrace{\max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))}_{\text{loss function}}$$

Points are in three categories:

1.  $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) > 1$   
Point is outside margin.  
No contribution to loss
2.  $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) = 1$   
Point is on margin.  
No contribution to loss.  
As in hard margin case.
3.  $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) < 1$   
Point violates margin constraint.  
Contributes to loss



# Loss functions



- SVM uses “hinge” loss  $\max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$
- an approximation to the 0-1 loss

# SVM – review

- We have seen that for an SVM learning a linear classifier

$$f(x) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + b$$

is formulated as solving an optimization problem over  $\mathbf{w}$  :

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

- This quadratic optimization problem is known as the **primal** problem.
- Instead, the SVM can be formulated to learn a linear classifier

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}) + b$$

by solving an optimization problem over  $\alpha_i$ .

- This is known as the **dual** problem, and we will look at the advantages of this formulation.

# PRIMAL-DUAL PROBLEM

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# Max-min inequality

$$\max_{\lambda} \min_x f(x, \lambda) \leq \min_x \max_{\lambda} f(x, \lambda)$$

$$g(\lambda) \doteq \min_x f(x, \lambda)$$

$$g(\lambda) \leq f(x, \lambda), \forall x$$

$$\max_{\lambda} g(\lambda) \leq \max_{\lambda} f(x, \lambda), \forall x$$

$$\max_{\lambda} g(\lambda) \leq \min_x \max_{\lambda} f(x, \lambda)$$

$$\sup_{x \in X} \inf_{y \in Y} f(x, y) \leq \inf_{y \in Y} \sup_{x \in X} f(x, y).$$

The reasoning goes quite straightforwardly from the definitions of sup and inf,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &\leq \sup_{x \in X} f(x, y), \forall x, y \\ \inf_{y \in Y} f(x, y) &\leq \sup_{x \in X} f(x, y) \\ \sup_{x \in X} \inf_{y \in Y} f(x, y) &\leq \sup_{x \in X} f(x, y) \\ \sup_{x \in X} \inf_{y \in Y} f(x, y) &\leq \inf_{y \in Y} \sup_{x \in X} f(x, y). \end{aligned}$$

$$\min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) \quad s.t. \quad x + y = 1$$

$$g(x, y) \doteq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) & x + y = 1 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,y} g(x, y) &= \min_{x,y} \max_{\lambda} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) + \lambda(x + y - 1) \\ &\geq \max_{\lambda} \min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) + \lambda(x + y - 1) \\ &= \max_{\lambda} (-\lambda - \lambda^2) = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$



$$\min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) \quad s.t. \quad x + y \geq 1$$

$$g(x, y) \doteq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) & x + y \geq 1 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p^* = \min_{x,y} g(x, y) &= \min_{x,y} \max_{\lambda \geq 0} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) \\ &\geq \max_{\lambda \geq 0} \min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) = d^* \\ &= \max_{\lambda \geq 0} (\lambda - \lambda^2) = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) \quad s.t. \quad x + y \geq 1$$

$$y \geq 0$$

$$g(x, y) \doteq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) & x + y \geq 1 \text{ \& } y \geq 0 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$p^* = \min_{x,y} g(x, y) = \min_{x,y} \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu \geq 0} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) - \mu(y - 1/2)$$

$$\geq \min_{x,y} \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu \geq 0} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) - \mu(y)$$

$$x = \lambda, y = \lambda + \mu$$

$$= \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu \geq 0} \left( \lambda - \lambda^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 - \mu \lambda \right)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2}, \mu = 0$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

# Duality gap

$$p^* - d^*$$

# Example

$$\min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t. } & x + y \geq 1 \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p^* &= \min_{x,y} \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu \geq 0} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) - \mu(x) \\ &\geq \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu \geq 0} \min_{x,y} \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + y^2) - \lambda(x + y - 1) - \mu(x) = d^* \end{aligned}$$

# PRIMAL-DUAL PROBLEM: GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION

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## Necessary conditions [\[ edit \]](#)

Suppose that the **objective function**  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and the constraint functions  $g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $h_j : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are **continuously differentiable** at a point  $x^*$ . If  $x^*$  is a **local optimum** and the optimization problem satisfies some regularity conditions (see below), then there exist constants  $\mu_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ) and  $\lambda_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, \ell$ ), called KKT multipliers, such that

**Stationarity**

$$\text{For maximizing } f(x): \nabla f(x^*) = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i \nabla g_i(x^*) + \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \lambda_j \nabla h_j(x^*),$$

$$\text{For minimizing } f(x): -\nabla f(x^*) = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i \nabla g_i(x^*) + \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \lambda_j \nabla h_j(x^*),$$

**Primal feasibility**

$$g_i(x^*) \leq 0, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$h_j(x^*) = 0, \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, \ell$$

**Dual feasibility**

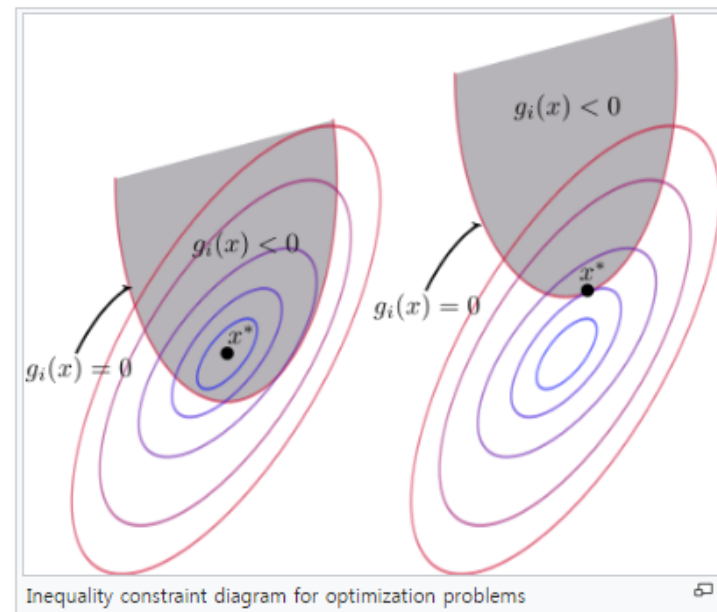
$$\mu_i \geq 0, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m$$

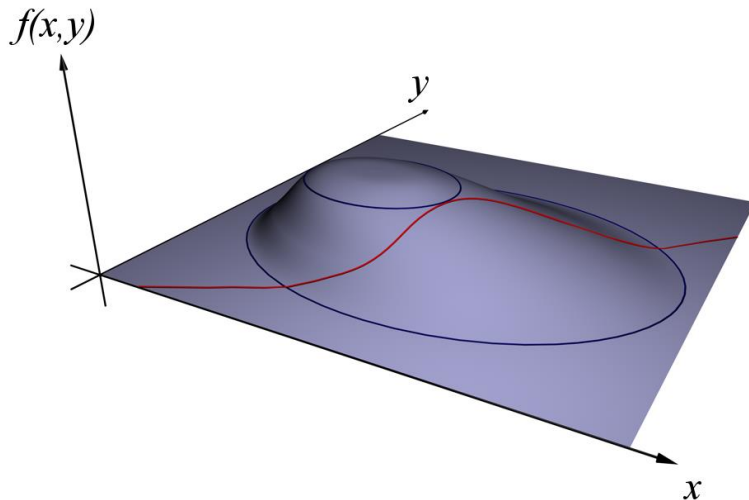
**Complementary slackness**

$$\mu_i g_i(x^*) = 0, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

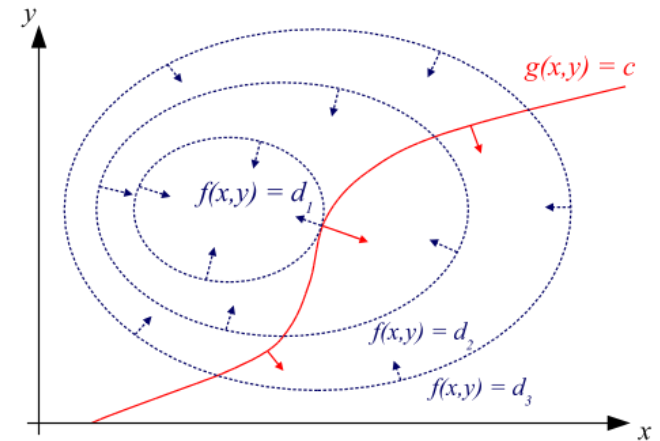
In the particular case  $m = 0$ , i.e., when there are no inequality constraints, the KKT conditions turn into the Lagrange conditions, and the KKT multipliers are called **Lagrange multipliers**.

If some of the functions are non-differentiable, **subdifferential** versions of Karush–Kuhn–Tucker (KKT) conditions are available.<sup>[5]</sup>





Find  $x$  and  $y$  to maximize  $f(x, y)$  subject to a constraint (shown in red)  $g(x, y) = c$ .



The red line shows the constraint  $g(x, y) = c$ . The blue lines are contours of  $f(x, y)$ . The point where the red line tangentially touches a blue contour is the solution. Since  $d_1 > d_2$ , the solution is a maximization of  $f(x, y)$ .

# DUAL FORM OF SVM

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# Primal Form

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{w, b, \xi_i \geq 0} & \left( \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i \right) \\ \text{s.t.} & \quad y_i (w^\top x_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ & \quad \xi_i \geq 0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, N) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \min_{w,b,\xi_i \geq 0} \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \sum_i (C\xi_i - \alpha_i(y_i(w^\top x_i + b) - 1 + \xi_i) - \beta_i\xi_i) \right) \\
& \geq \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0} \min_{w,b,\xi_i \geq 0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \sum_i (C\xi_i - \alpha_i(y_i(w^\top x_i + b) - 1 + \xi_i) - \beta_i\xi_i) \right) \\
& = \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0} \min_{w,b,\xi_i \geq 0} \left( \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \sum_i ((C - \alpha_i - \beta_i)\xi_i - \alpha_i(y_i(w^\top x_i + b) - 1)) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \downarrow \\
& w = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i \\
& C = \alpha_i + \beta_i \\
& \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& = \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0} \left( \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \right) = \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0} \left( \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i^\top x_j \right) \\
& = \max_{0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C} \left( \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i^\top x_j \right)
\end{aligned}$$

# The Representer Theorem

The [Representer Theorem](#) states that the solution  $\mathbf{w}$  can always be written as a linear combination of the training data:

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j$$

# Primal and dual formulations

$N$  is number of training points, and  $d$  is dimension of feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Primal problem: for  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

Dual problem: for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^N$

$$\max_{\alpha_i \geq 0} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{jk} \alpha_j \alpha_k y_j y_k (\mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{x}_k) \quad \text{subject to } 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \text{ for } \forall i, \text{ and } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

- Need to learn  $d$  parameters for primal, and  $N$  for dual
- If  $N \ll d$  then more efficient to solve for  $\alpha$  than  $\mathbf{w}$
- Dual form only involves  $(\mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{x}_k)$ . We will return to why this is an advantage when we look at kernels.

# Primal and dual formulations

Primal version of classifier:

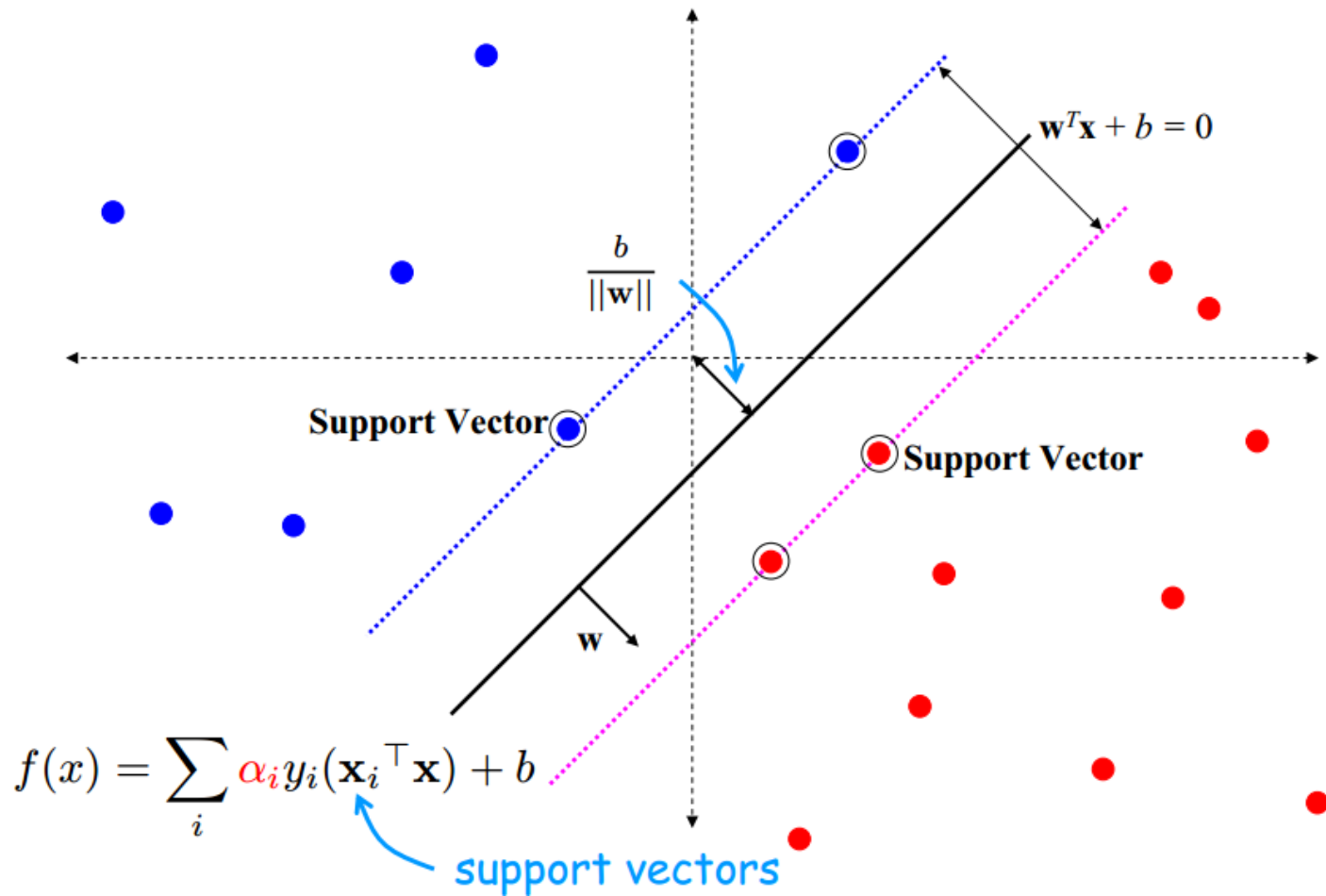
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + b$$

Dual version of classifier:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}) + b$$

At first sight the dual form appears to have the disadvantage of a K-NN classifier – it requires the training data points  $\mathbf{x}_i$ . However, many of the  $\alpha_i$ 's are zero. The ones that are non-zero define the support vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i$ .

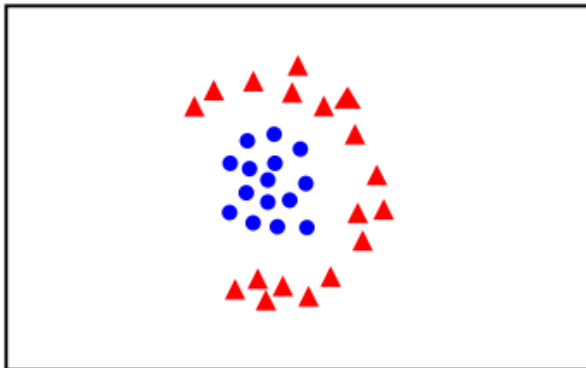
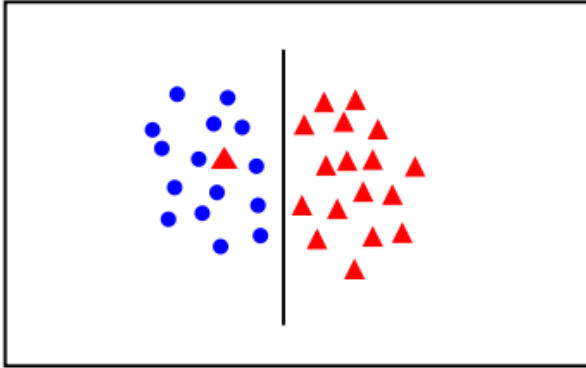
# Support Vector Machine



# KERNEL TRICK

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# Handling data that is not linearly separable



- introduce slack variables

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \xi_i \in \mathbb{R}^+} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \xi_i$$

subject to

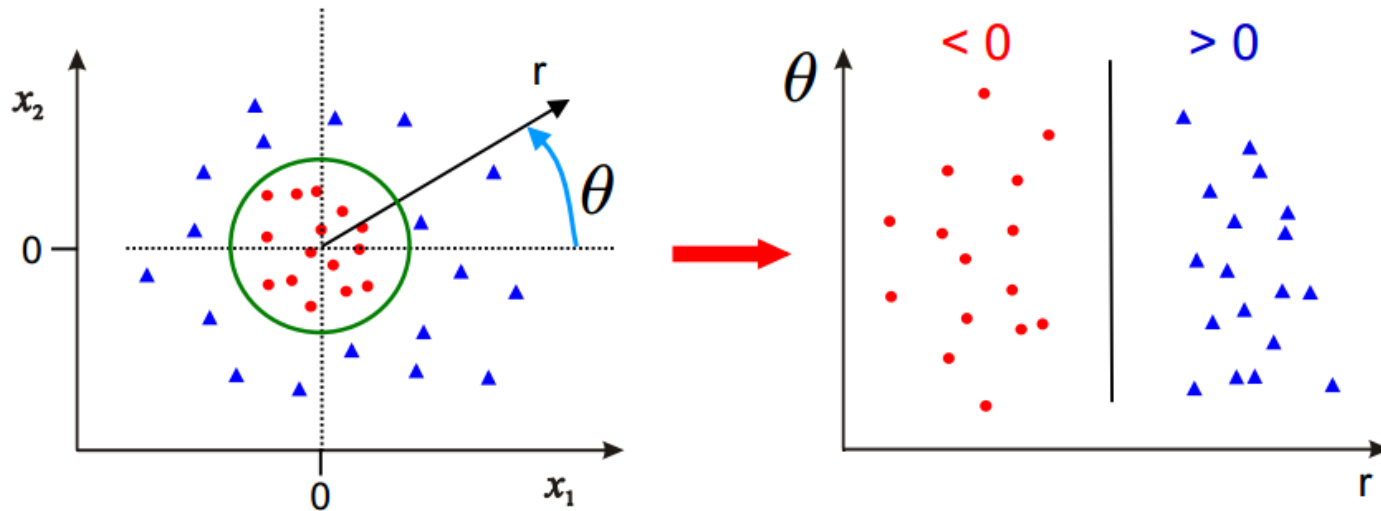
$$y_i (\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \text{ for } i = 1 \dots N$$

- linear classifier not appropriate

??



# Solution 1: use polar coordinates

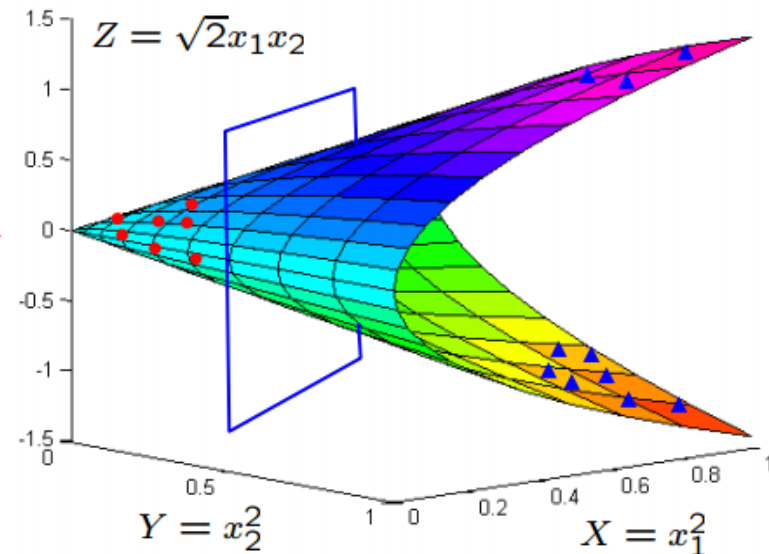
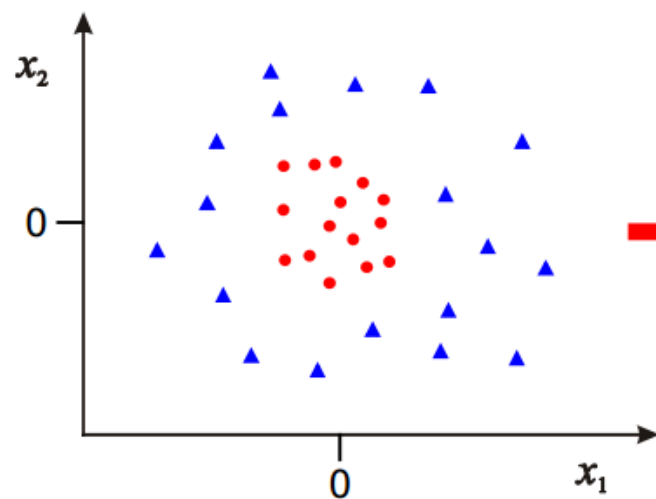


- Data **is** linearly separable in polar coordinates
- Acts non-linearly in original space

$$\Phi : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} r \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

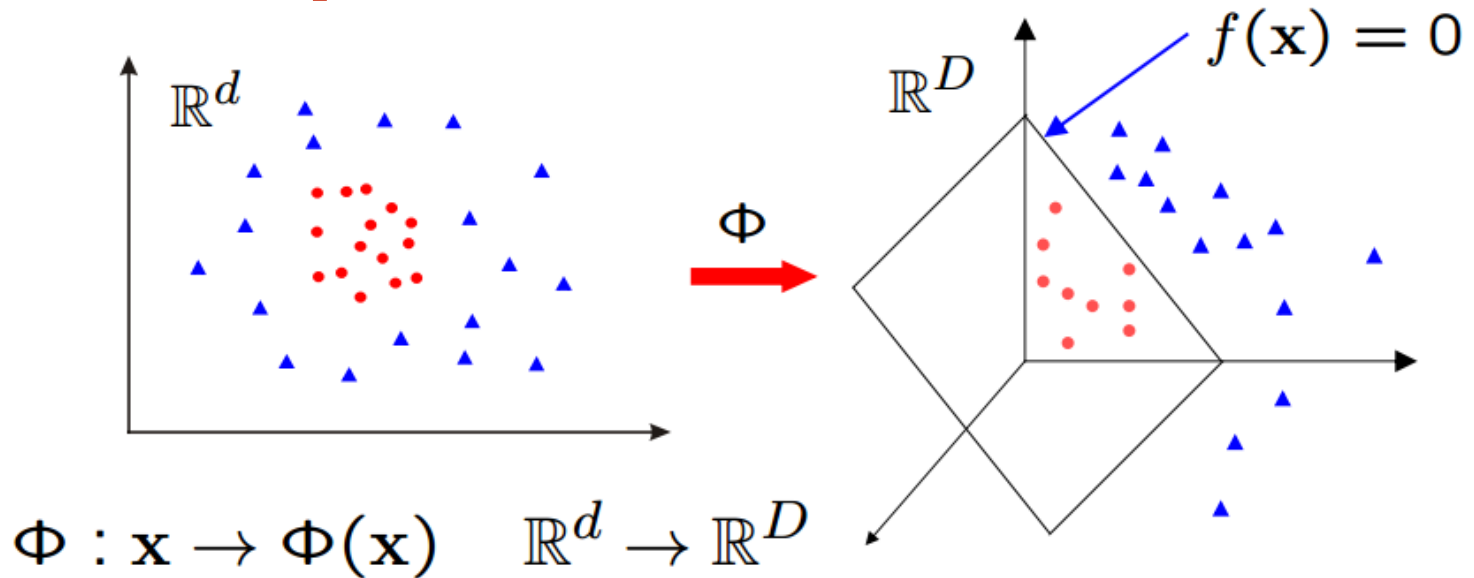
# Solution 2: map data to higher dimension

$$\Phi : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$



- Data is linearly separable in 3D
- This means that the problem can still be solved by a linear classifier

# SVM classifiers in a transformed feature space



Learn classifier linear in  $\mathbf{w}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^D$ :

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b$$

$\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  is a **feature map**

# Kernel trick visualization

*SVM* with a polynomial  
Kernel visualization

Created by:  
Udi Aharoni

# Primal Classifier in transformed feature space

Classifier, with  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ :

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b$$

Learning, for  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^D} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i^N \max(0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

- Simply map  $\mathbf{x}$  to  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  where data is separable
- Solve for  $\mathbf{w}$  in high dimensional space  $\mathbb{R}^D$
- If  $D \gg d$  then there are many more parameters to learn for  $\mathbf{w}$ . Can this be avoided?

# Dual Classifier in transformed feature space

Classifier:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x} + b$$
$$\rightarrow f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b$$

Learning:

$$\max_{\alpha_i \geq 0} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{jk} \alpha_j \alpha_k y_j y_k \mathbf{x}_j^\top \mathbf{x}_k$$
$$\rightarrow \max_{\alpha_i \geq 0} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{jk} \alpha_j \alpha_k y_j y_k \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j)^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

subject to

$$0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \text{ for } \forall i, \text{ and } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

# Dual Classifier in transformed feature space

- Note, that  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  only occurs in pairs  $\Phi(\mathbf{x}_j)^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$
- Once the scalar products are computed, only the  $N$  dimensional vector  $\alpha$  needs to be learnt; it is not necessary to learn in the  $D$  dimensional space, as it is for the primal
- Write  $k(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_i) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j)^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$ . This is known as a **Kernel**

Classifier:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}) + b$$

Learning:

$$\max_{\alpha_i \geq 0} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{jk} \alpha_j \alpha_k y_j y_k k(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

subject to

$$0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \text{ for } \forall i, \text{ and } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

# Special transformations

$$\Phi : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi(\mathbf{z}) &= (x_1^2, x_2^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2) \begin{pmatrix} z_1^2 \\ z_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2}z_1z_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= x_1^2z_1^2 + x_2^2z_2^2 + 2x_1x_2z_1z_2 \\ &= (x_1z_1 + x_2z_2)^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{z})^2 \end{aligned}$$

## Kernel Trick

- Classifier can be **learnt** and **applied** without explicitly computing  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$
- All that is required is the kernel  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{z})^2$
- Complexity of learning depends on  $N$  (typically it is  $O(N^3)$ ) not on  $D$



# Example kernels

- **Linear** kernels  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}'$
- **Polynomial** kernels  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = (1 + \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}')^d$  for any  $d > 0$ 
  - Contains all polynomials terms up to degree  $d$
- **Gaussian** kernels  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2 / 2\sigma^2)$  for  $\sigma > 0$ 
  - Infinite dimensional feature space

# Valid kernels – when can the kernel trick be used?

- Given some arbitrary function  $k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ , how do we know if it corresponds to a scalar product  $\Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$  in some space?
- Mercer kernels: if  $k(\cdot, \cdot)$  satisfies:
  - Symmetric  $k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = k(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_i)$
  - Positive definite,  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^\top \mathbf{K} \boldsymbol{\alpha} \geq 0$  for all  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , where  $\mathbf{K}$  is the  $N \times N$  Gram matrix with entries  $K_{ij} = k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ .then  $k(\cdot, \cdot)$  is a valid kernel.
- e.g.  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{z}$  is a valid kernel,  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{z}$  is not.

# Kernel Trick – Summary

- Classifiers can be learned for high dimensional features spaces, without actually having to map the points into the high dimensional space
- Data may be linearly separable in the high dimensional space, but not linearly separable in the original feature space
- Kernels can be used for an SVM because of the scalar product in the dual form, but can also be used elsewhere – they are not tied to the SVM formalism

# KERNEL SVM EXAMPLE

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# SVM classifier with Gaussian kernel

$N$  = size of training data

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}) + b$$

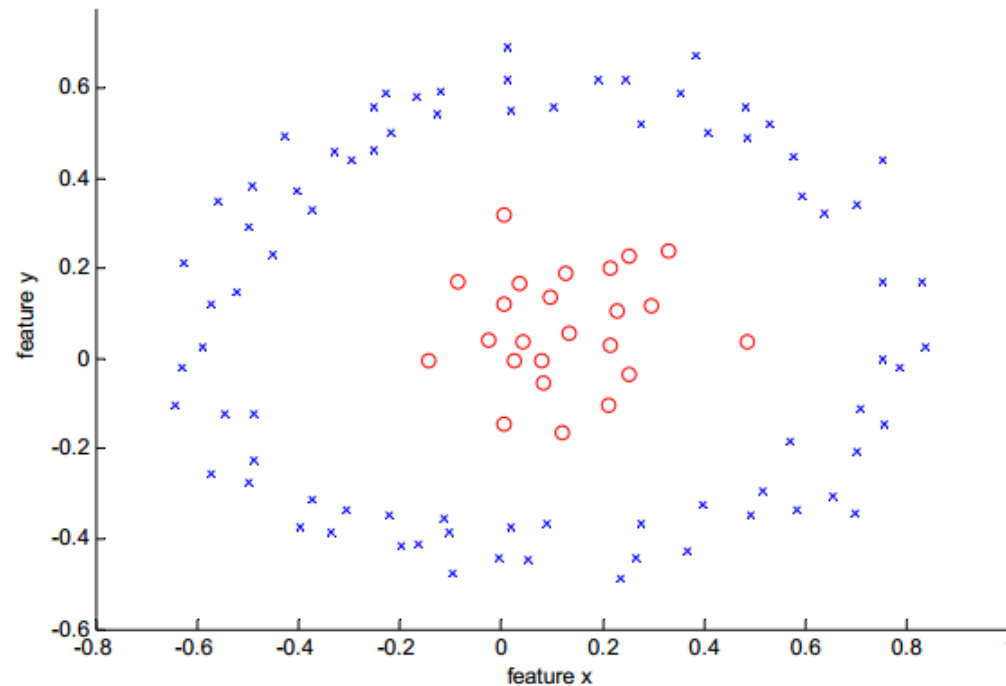
weight (may be zero)      support vector

Gaussian kernel  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2 / 2\sigma^2)$

Radial Basis Function (RBF) SVM

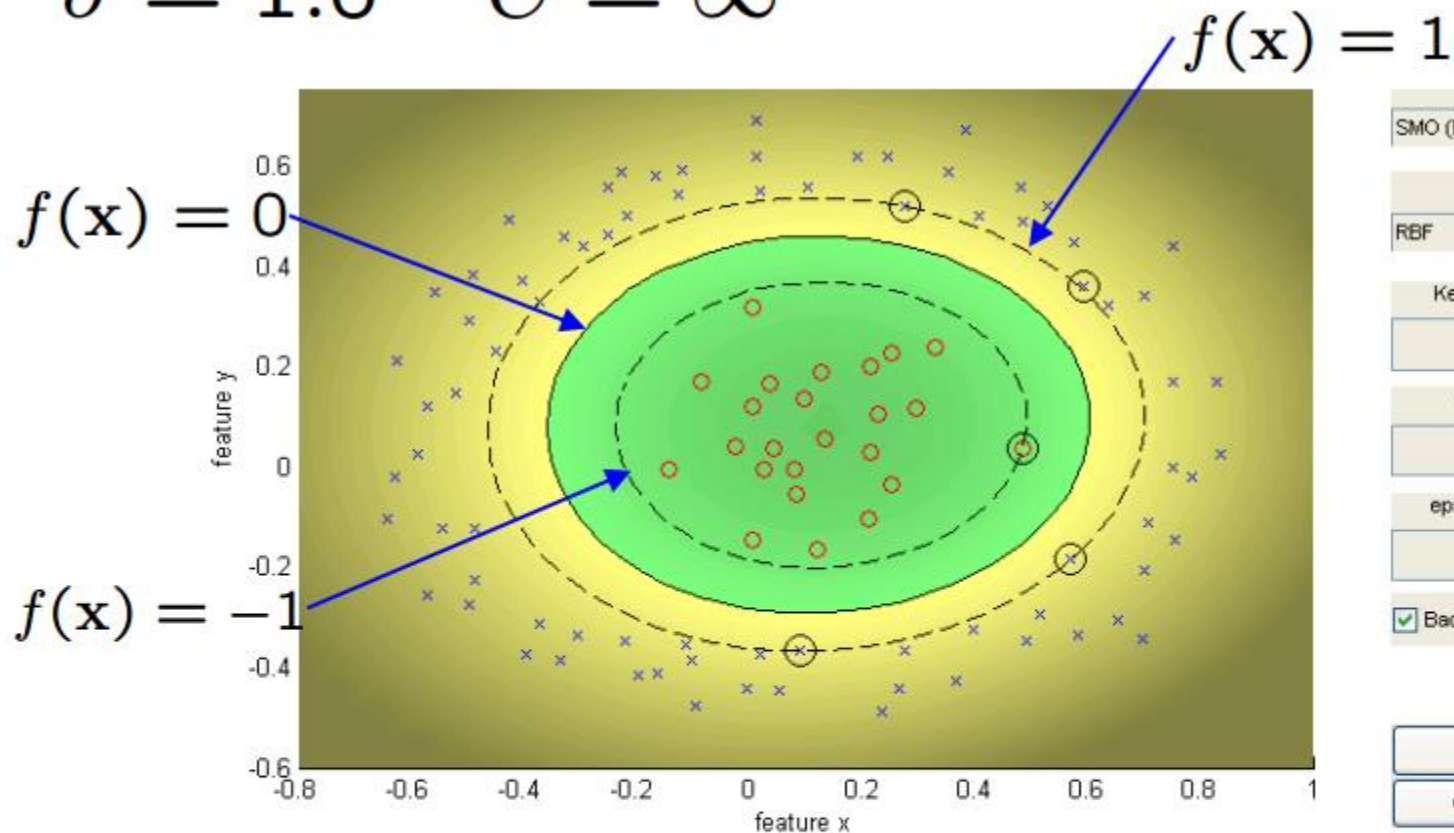
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 / 2\sigma^2) + b$$

# RBF Kernel SVM Example



- data is not linearly separable in original feature space

$$\sigma = 1.0 \quad C = \infty$$



SVM (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

1

C-constant

Inf

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

Background

Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer

Kernel: rbf (1), C: Inf

Kernel evaluations: 321750

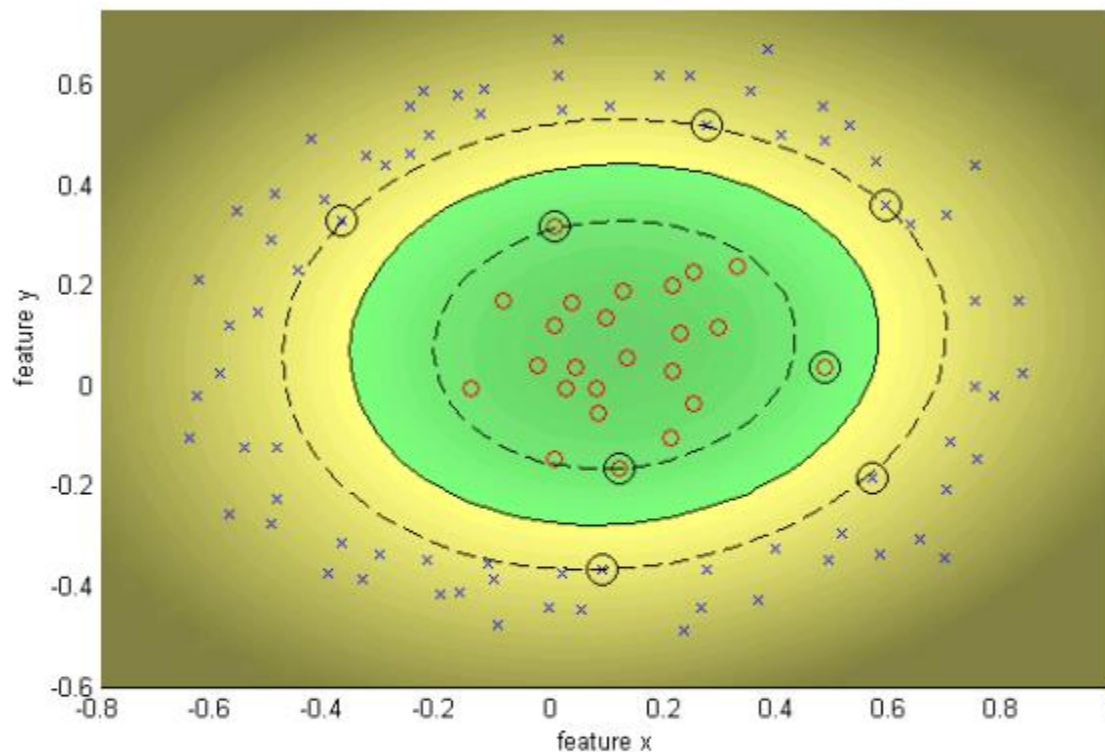
Number of Support Vectors: 5

Margin: 0.0440

Training error: 0.00%

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \exp\left(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 / 2\sigma^2\right) + b$$

$$\sigma = 1.0 \quad C = 100$$



SVM (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

1

C-constant

100

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

Background

Load data

Create data

Reset

Train SVM

Info

Close

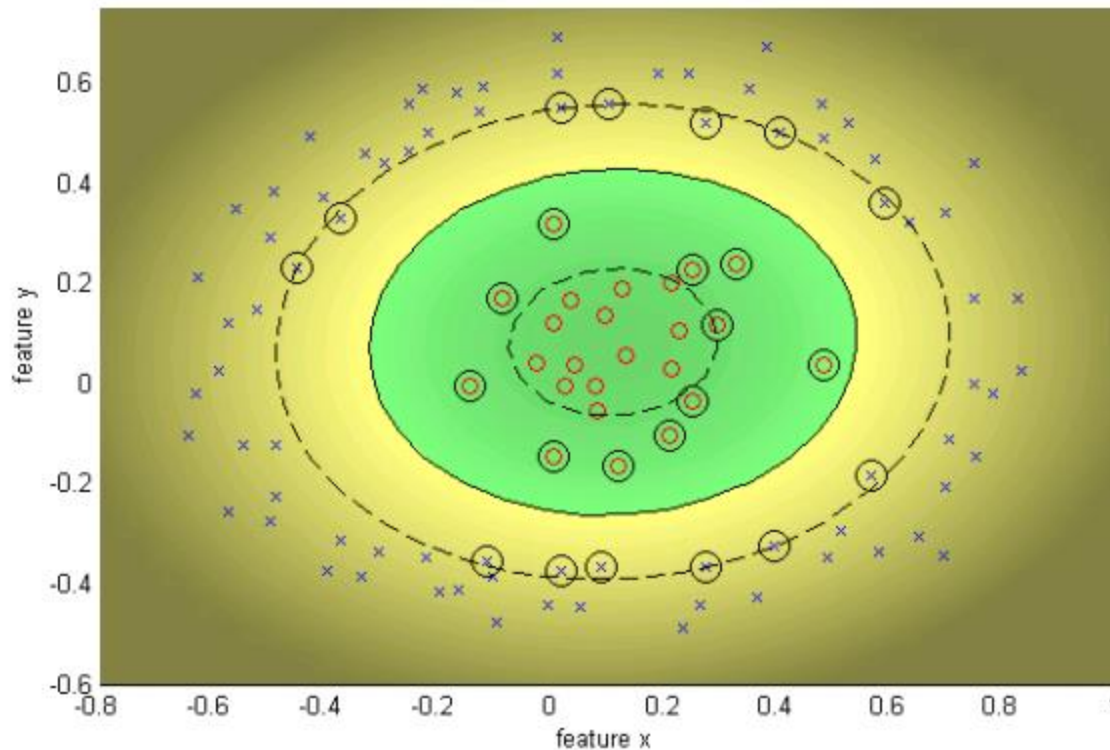
Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: rbf (1), C: 100.0000  
Kernel evaluations: 396685  
Number of Support Vectors: 8  
Margin: 0.0519  
Training error: 0.00%

Decrease C, gives wider (soft) margin



$$\sigma = 1.0 \quad C = 10$$



SVM (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

1

C-constant

10

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

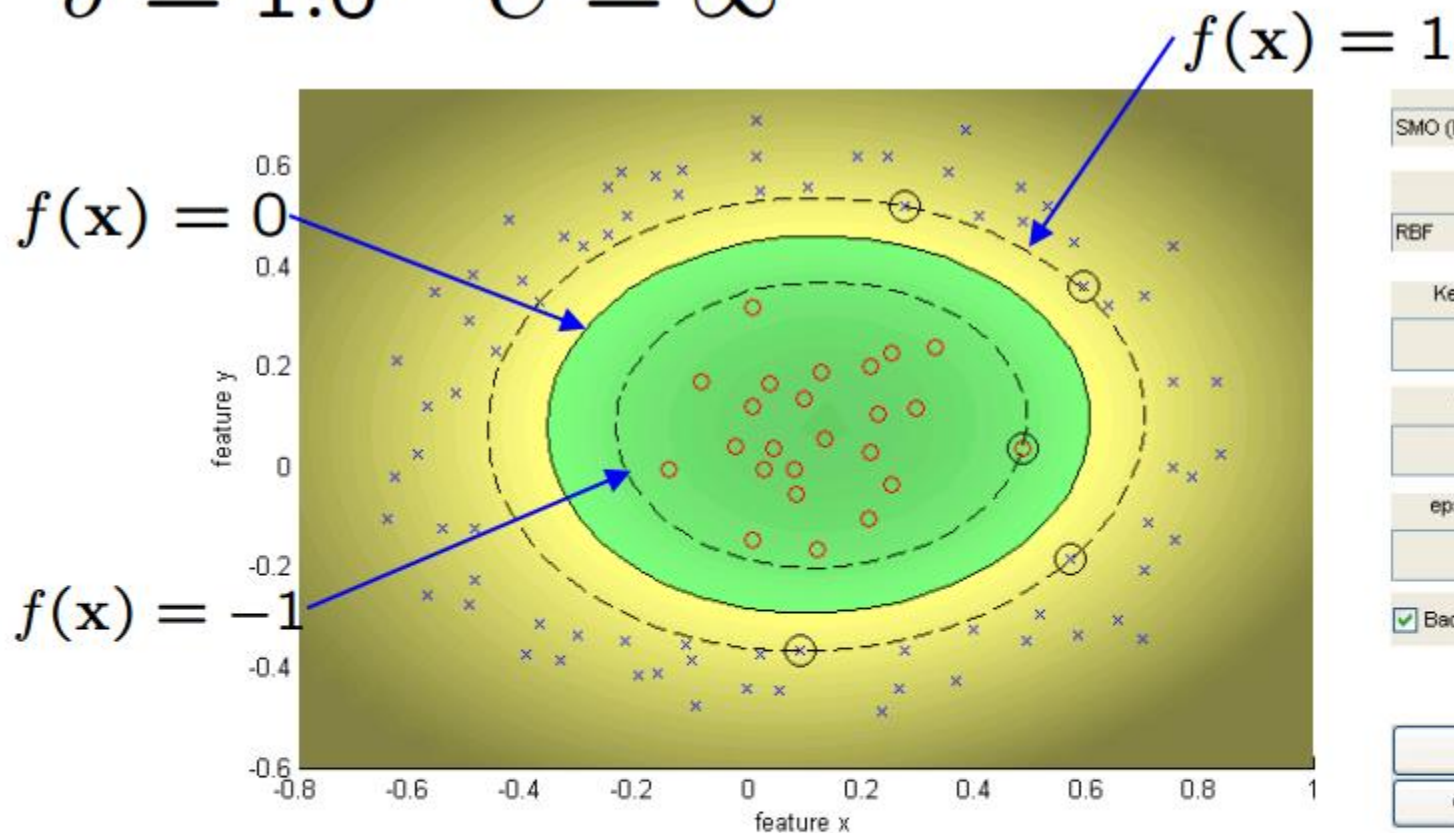
Background

Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: rbf (1), C: 10.0000  
Kernel evaluations: 46158  
Number of Support Vectors: 24  
Margin: 0.0755  
Training error: 0.00%

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 / 2\sigma^2) + b$$

$$\sigma = 1.0 \quad C = \infty$$



SVM (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

1

C-constant

Inf

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

Background

Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer

Kernel: rbf (1), C: Inf

Kernel evaluations: 321750

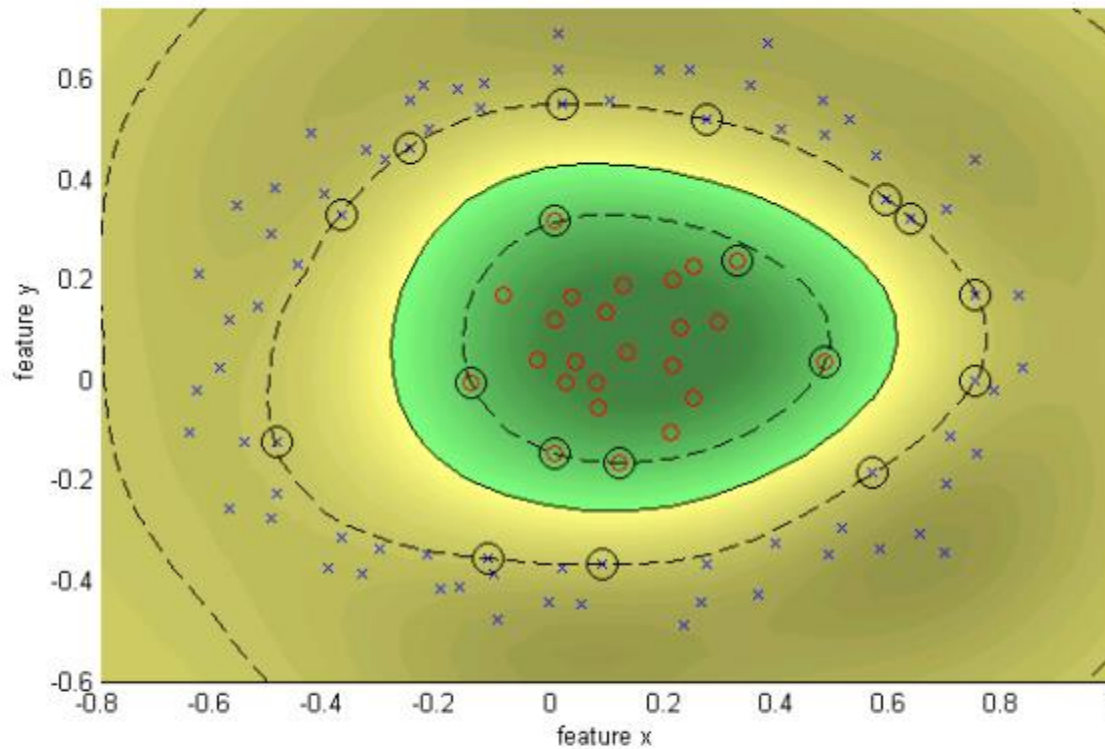
Number of Support Vectors: 5

Margin: 0.0440

Training error: 0.00%

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \exp\left(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 / 2\sigma^2\right) + b$$

$$\sigma = 0.25 \quad C = \infty$$



SMO (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

0.25

C-constant

Inf

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

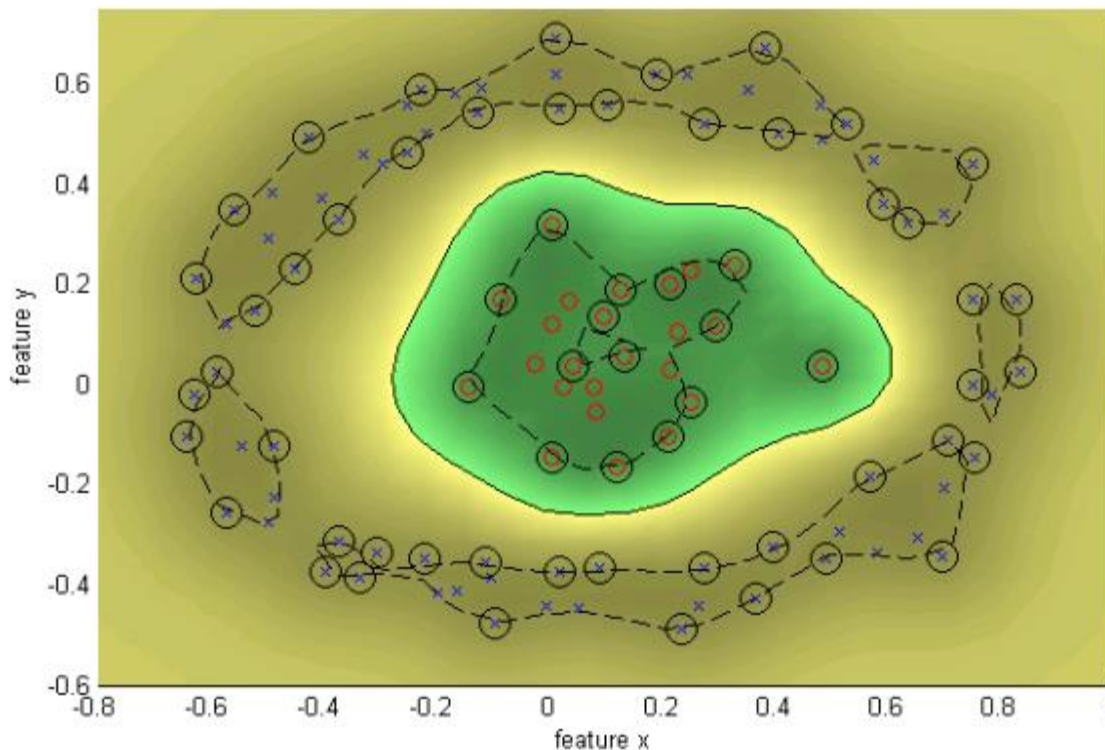
Background

Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: rbf (0.25), C: Inf  
Kernel evaluations: 42795  
Number of Support Vectors: 18  
Margin: 0.2358  
Training error: 0.00%

Decrease sigma, moves towards nearest neighbour classifier

$$\sigma = 0.1 \quad C = \infty$$



SMO (L1)

Kernel

RBF

Kernel argument

0.1

C-constant

Inf

epsilon,tolerance

1e-3,1e-3

Background

Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: rbf (0.1), C: Inf  
Kernel evaluations: 173935  
Number of Support Vectors: 62  
Margin: 0.2196  
Training error: 0.00%

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i^N \alpha_i y_i \exp \left( -\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 / 2\sigma^2 \right) + b$$

# KERNEL SVM EXAMPLE (XOR PROBLEM)

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# XOR example

- $K(x, y) = (1 + x^T y)^2$   
 $= 1 + x_1^2 y_1^2 + 2x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2 + x_2^2 y_2^2 + 2x_1 y_1 + 2x_2 y_2$   
 $= \phi^T(x) \phi(y)$

- $\phi(x) = [1 \ x_1^2 \ \sqrt{2}x_1 x_2 \ x_2^2 \ \sqrt{2}x_1 \ \sqrt{2}x_2]^T$

---

**TABLE 6.2** XOR Problem

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Input vector, $\mathbf{x}$	Desired response, $d$
$(-1, -1)$	-1
$(-1, +1)$	+1
$(+1, -1)$	+1
$(+1, +1)$	-1

---

$$\mathbf{K} = \{K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)\}_{(i,j)=1}^N \longrightarrow \mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j d_i d_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$$

$$Q(\alpha) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 - \frac{1}{2} (9\alpha_1^2 - 2\alpha_1\alpha_2 - 2\alpha_1\alpha_3 + 2\alpha_1\alpha_4 \\ + 9\alpha_2^2 + 2\alpha_2\alpha_3 - 2\alpha_2\alpha_4 + 9\alpha_3^2 - 2\alpha_3\alpha_4 + 9\alpha_4^2)$$

$$9\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 + \alpha_4 = 1$$

$$-\alpha_1 + 9\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 - \alpha_4 = 1$$

$$-\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + 9\alpha_3 - \alpha_4 = 1$$

$$\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 + 9\alpha_4 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{w}_o = \frac{1}{8} [-\varphi(\mathbf{x}_1) + \varphi(\mathbf{x}_2) + \varphi(\mathbf{x}_3) - \varphi(\mathbf{x}_4)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{8} \left[ - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ -\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ -\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Optimal hyperplane (XOR)

$$\mathbf{w}_o^T \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$



$$\left[ 0, 0, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, 0, 0 \right] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1 \\ \sqrt{2}x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

# MULTICLASS SVM

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# Multiclass SVMs

*One-versus-the-rest* approach: trains  $K$  separate SVMs, in which the  $k$ -th model  $y_k(\mathbf{x})$  is trained using the data from class  $\mathcal{C}_k$  as the positive examples and the data from the remaining  $K - 1$  classes as the negative examples.

The prediction for new input  $\mathbf{x}$  is by

$$y(\mathbf{x}) = \max_k y_k(\mathbf{x}).$$

Problems: 1) the output values  $y_k(\mathbf{x})$  for different classifiers have no appropriate scales. 2) the training sets are imbalanced.

# Multiclass SVMs

*One-versus-one* approach: is to train  $K(K - 1)/2$  different 2-class SVMs on all possible pairs of classes, and then to classify test points according to which class has the highest number of 'votes'.

Problems: it requires more training time and evaluation time.

# ONE SVM AND SVDD

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# One-class SVM

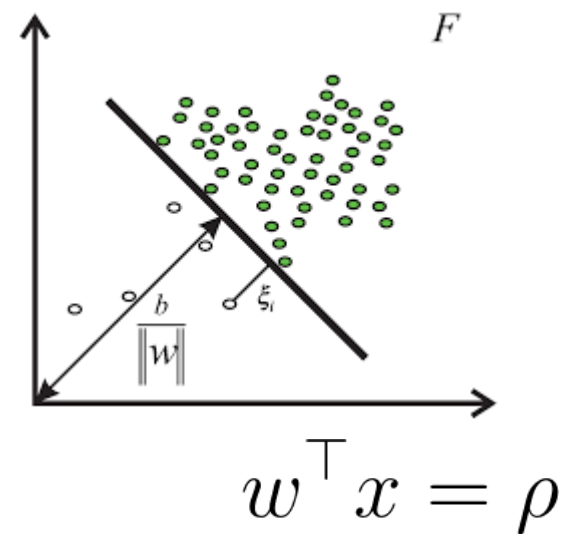
- To maximize the distance from the hyperplane to the origin

$$\text{distance} = \frac{\rho}{\|w\|}$$

$$\min_{w, \xi_i, \rho} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \frac{1}{\nu n} \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i - \rho$$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} (w \cdot \phi(x_i)) &\geq \rho - \xi_i && \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, n \\ \xi_i &\geq 0 && \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$



$$f(x) = \text{sgn}((w \cdot \phi(x_i)) - \rho) = \text{sgn}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K(x, x_i) - \rho\right)$$

# Dual form of One-Class SVM

$$\max_{0 \leq \alpha_i \leq \frac{1}{\nu l}} \left( - \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j (x_i^\top x_j) \right)$$

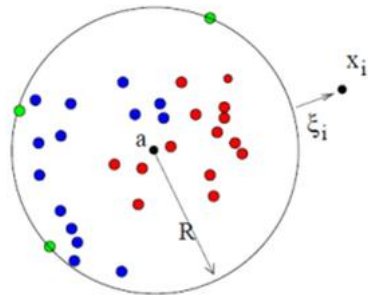
Kernel trick

$$\max_{0 \leq \alpha_i \leq \frac{1}{\nu l}} \left( - \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j k(x_i, x_j) \right)$$

# SVDD

- Support vector data description
  - A method to find the boundary around a data set

$$\min_{R, a, \xi_i \geq 0} \left( R^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i \right)$$
$$s.t. \quad \|x_i - a\|^2 \leq R + \xi_i$$
$$\xi_i \geq 0$$





# Dual form of SVDD

$$\max_{0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C} \left( \sum \alpha_i (x_i^\top x_i) - \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j (x_i^\top x_j) \right)$$



Kernel trick

$$\max_{0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C} \left( \sum \alpha_i k(x_i, x_i) - \sum_i \sum_j \alpha_i \alpha_j k(x_i, x_j) \right)$$

# SUMMARY

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# SVM parameter selection

- The effectiveness of SVM depends on the selection of kernel, the kernel's parameters, and soft margin parameter  $C$ .
- Typically, each combination of parameter choices is checked using cross validation, and the parameters with best cross-validation accuracy are picked.
- The final model, which is used for testing and for classifying new data, is then trained on the whole training set using the selected parameters.

# Choosing the Kernel Function

- Probably the most tricky part of using SVM.
- The kernel function is important because it creates the kernel matrix, which summarizes all the data
  - Many principles have been proposed (diffusion kernel, Fisher kernel, string kernel, ...)
  - In practice, a low degree polynomial kernel or RBF kernel with a reasonable width is a good initial try

# Software

- A list of SVM implementation can be found at
- <http://www.kernel-machines.org/software>
- Some implementation (such as LIBSVM) can handle multi-class classification
- SVMLight is among one of the earliest implementation of SVM
- Several Matlab toolboxes for SVM are also available

# Summary: Steps for Classification

- Select the kernel function to use
- Select the parameter of the kernel function and the value of  $C$ 
  - You can use the values suggested by the SVM software, or you can set apart a validation set to determine the values of the parameter
- Execute the training algorithm and obtain the  $\alpha_i$
- Unseen data can be classified using the  $\alpha_i$  and the support vectors

$$f(x) = \sum \alpha_i y_i k(x_i, x) + b$$

# Strengths and Weaknesses of SVM

- Strengths

- Training is relatively easy
  - No local optimal, unlike in neural networks
  - It scales relatively well to high dimensional data
  - Tradeoff between classifier complexity and error can be controlled explicitly

- Weaknesses

- Need to choose a “good” kernel function.

# Conclusions

- SVM is a useful alternative to neural networks
- Two key concepts of SVM:
  - maximize the margin and the kernel trick
- Many SVM implementations are available on the web for you to try on your data set!