

Support Vector Machines

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MACHINE LEARNING DEPARTMENT



Support Vector Machines

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b > 0$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b < 0$$

Linearly separable case

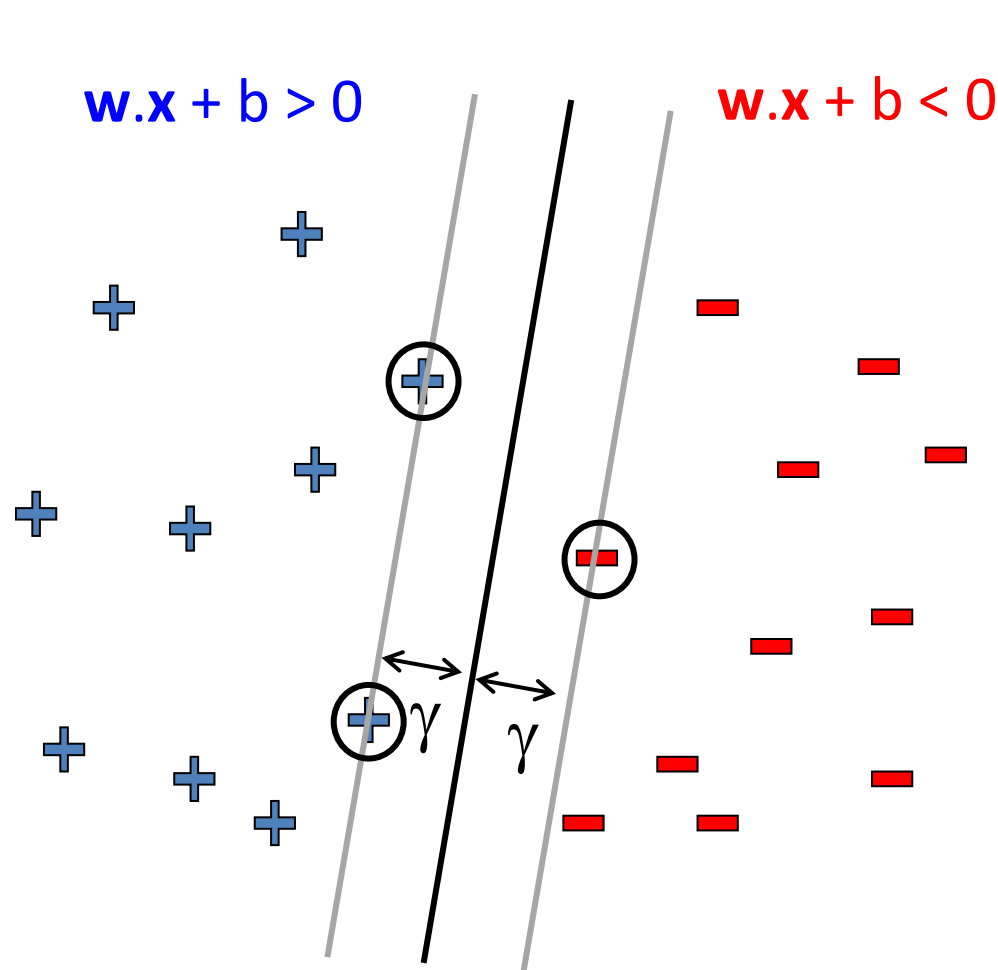
$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w}$$

$$\text{s.t. } (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j \geq 1 \quad \forall j$$

Solve efficiently by quadratic programming (QP)

- Well-studied solution algorithms

Support Vectors



Linear hyperplane defined by
“support vectors”

$$j: (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) \gamma_j = 1$$

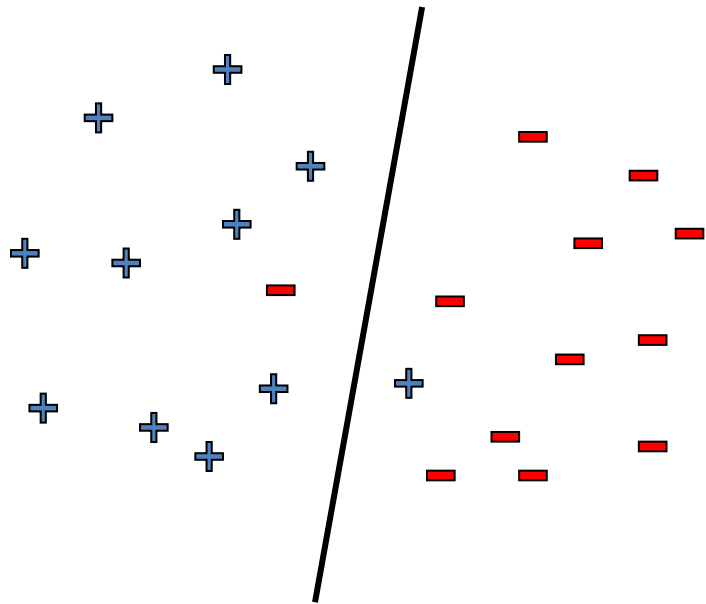
Moving other points a little doesn't
effect the decision boundary

only need to store the support
vectors to predict labels of new
points

How many support vectors in
linearly separable case?

$$\leq m+1$$

What if data is not linearly separable?



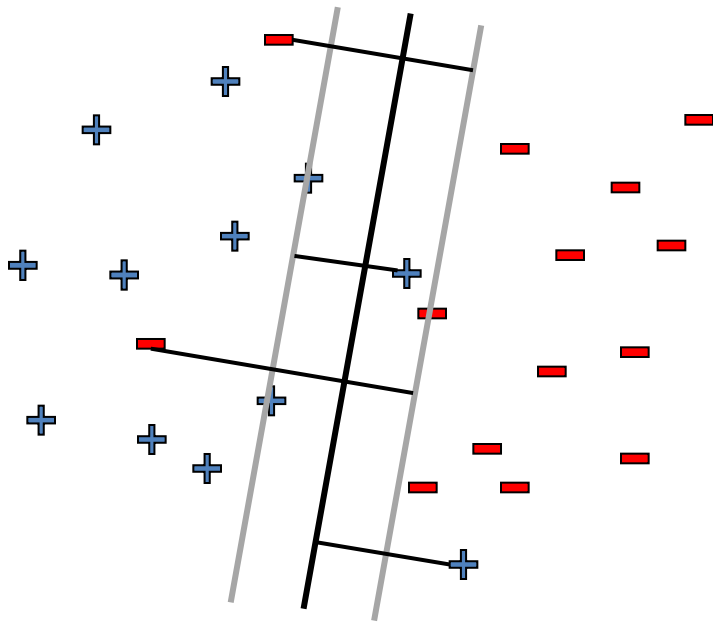
Use features of features
of features of features....

$$x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \dots, \exp(x_1)$$

But run risk of overfitting!

What if data is still not linearly separable?

Allow “error” in classification



Soft margin approach

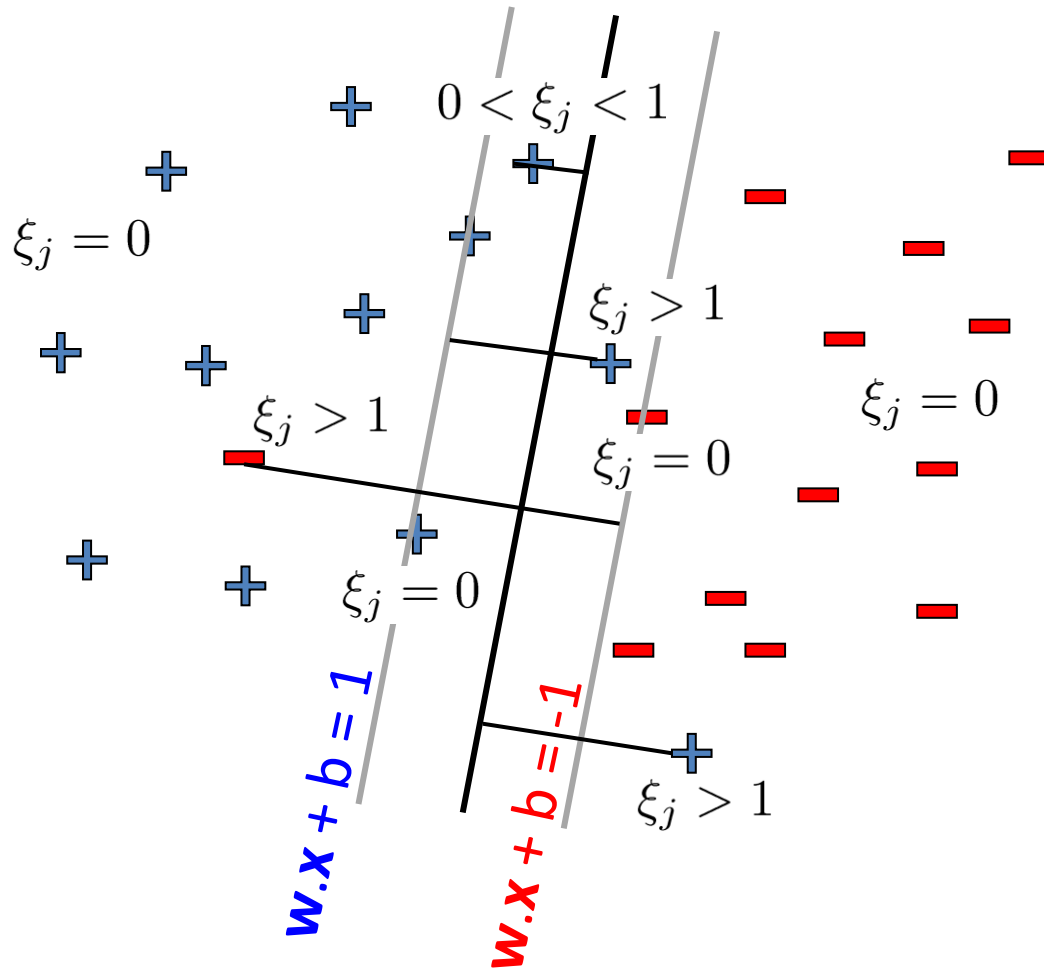
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \quad & \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w} + C \sum_j \xi_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j \geq 1 - \xi_j \quad \forall j \\ & \xi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \end{aligned}$$

ξ_j - “slack” variables
= (>1 if x_j misclassified)
pay linear penalty if mistake

C - tradeoff parameter (chosen by cross-validation)

Still QP 😊

Soft-margin SVM



Soften the constraints:

$$(w \cdot x_j + b) y_j \geq 1 - \xi_j \quad \forall j$$

$$\xi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j$$

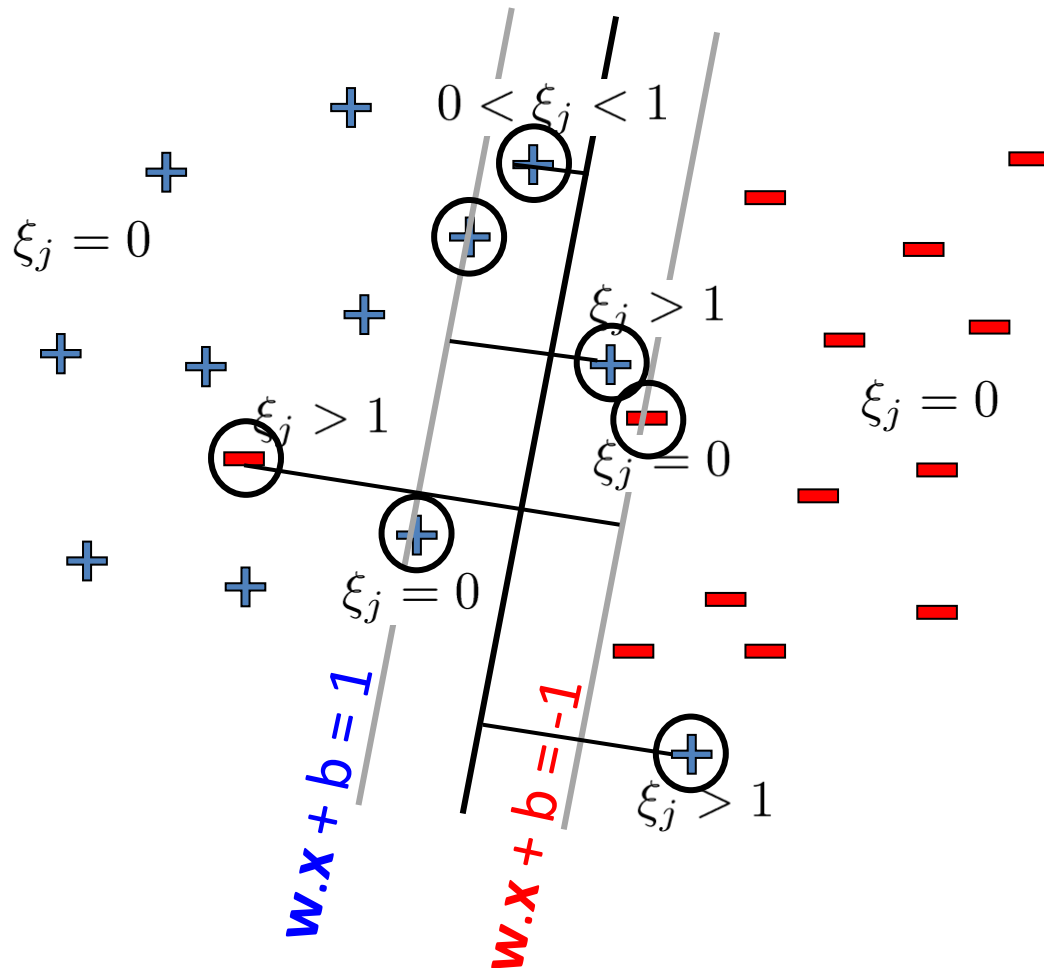
Penalty for misclassifying:

$$C \xi_j$$

How do we recover hard margin SVM?

Set $C = \infty$

Support Vectors



Soften the constraints:

$$(w \cdot x_j + b) y_j \geq 1 - \xi_j \quad \forall j$$

$$\xi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j$$

Penalty for misclassifying:

$$C \xi_j$$

How do we recover hard margin SVM?

Set $C = \infty$

Slack variables – Hinge loss

Complexity penalization

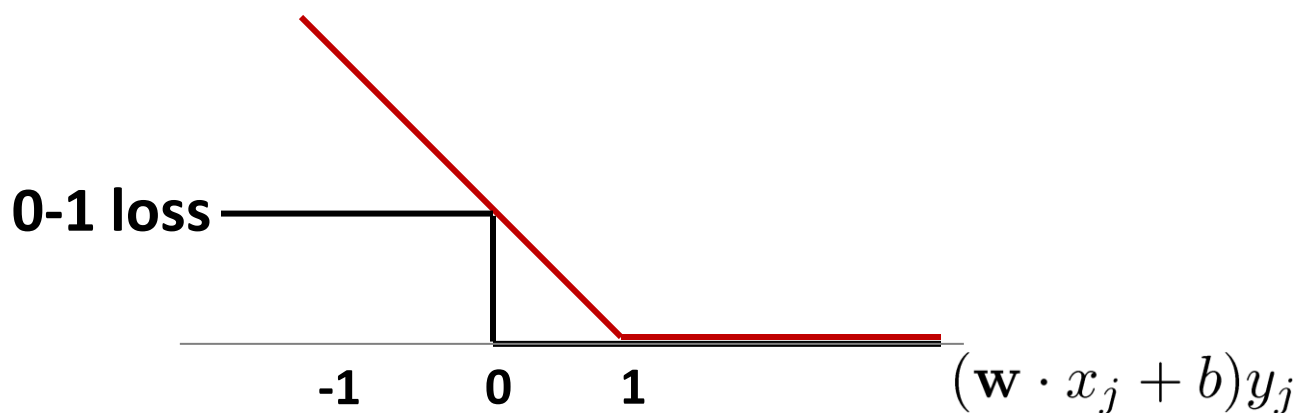
$$\xi_j = \text{loss}(f(x_j), y_j)$$

$$f(x_j) = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b)$$

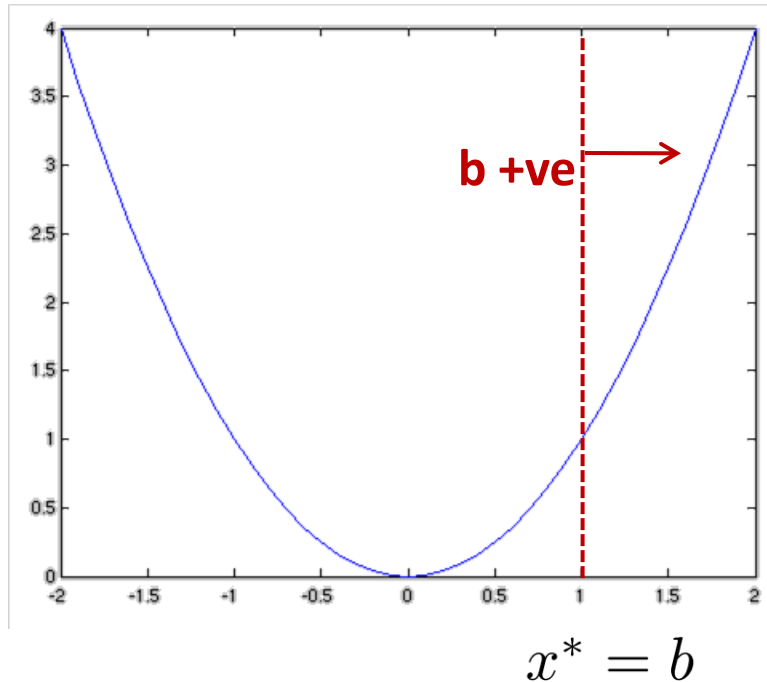
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \quad & \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w} + C \sum_j \xi_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j \geq 1 - \xi_j \quad \forall j \\ & \xi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \end{aligned}$$

$$\xi_j = (1 - (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j)_+$$

Hinge loss



Constrained Optimization



Primal problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & x^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x \geq b \end{aligned}$$

Moving the constraint to objective function
Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} L(x, \alpha) &= x^2 - \alpha(x - b) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Dual problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\alpha} \quad & d(\alpha) \longrightarrow \min_x L(x, \alpha) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\alpha = 0$ constraint is ineffective

$\alpha > 0$ constraint is effective

Dual SVM – linearly separable case

- Primal problem: minimize _{\mathbf{w}, b} $\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w}$
 $(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j \geq 1, \quad \forall j$

\mathbf{w} - weights on features

- Dual problem:

$$L(\mathbf{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w} - \sum_j \alpha_j \left[(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j - 1 \right]$$
$$\alpha_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j$$

α - weights on training pts

Dual SVM – linearly separable case

- Dual problem:

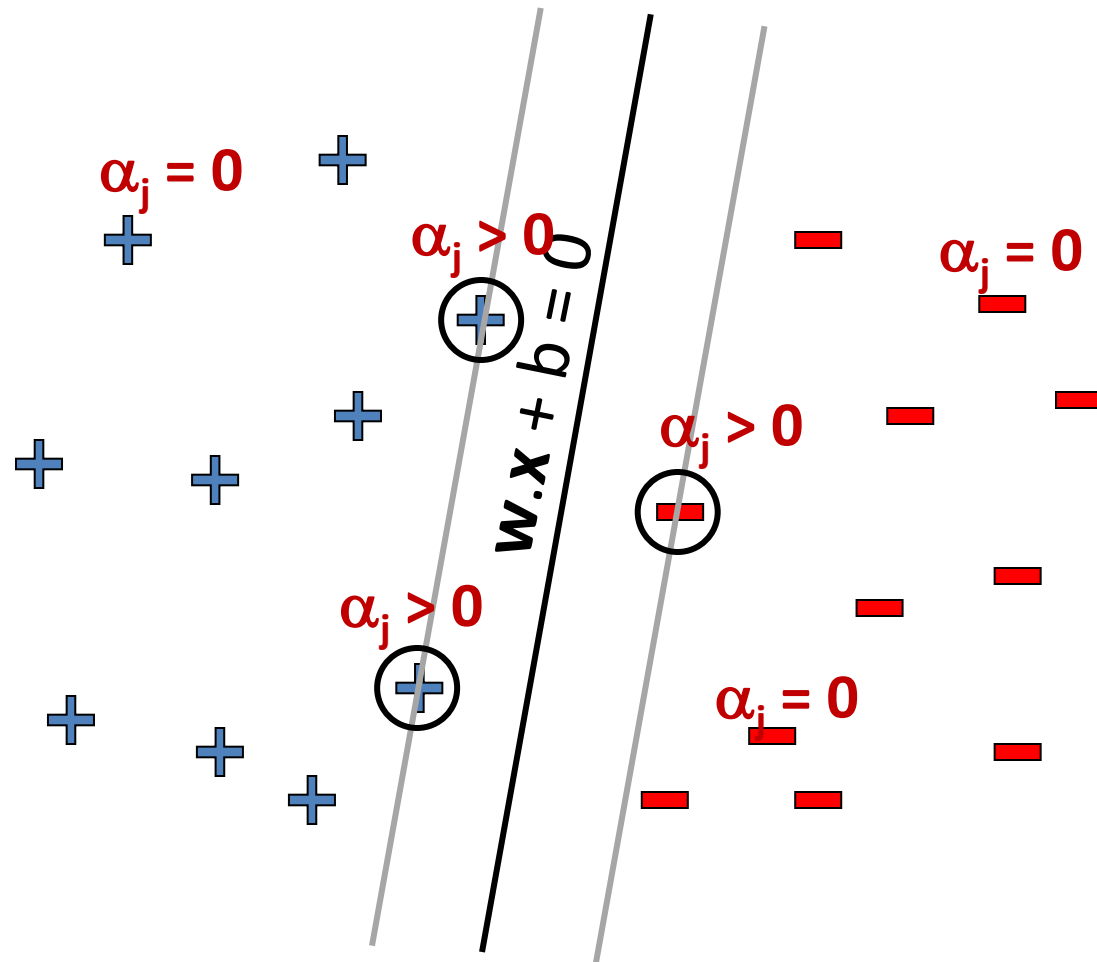
$$\max_{\alpha} \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} L(\mathbf{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w} - \sum_j \alpha_j \left[(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j - 1 \right]$$
$$\alpha_j \geq 0, \forall j$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{w} = \sum_j \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_j \alpha_j y_j = 0$$

If we can solve for α s (dual problem), then we have a solution for \mathbf{w}, b (primal problem)

Dual SVM Interpretation: Sparsity



$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_j \alpha_j y_j \mathbf{x}_j$$

Only few α_j s can be non-zero : where constraint is tight

$$(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j = 1$$

Support vectors – training points j whose α_j s are non-zero

Dual SVM – linearly separable case

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} \quad \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$\alpha_i \geq 0$$

Dual problem is also QP

Solution gives α_j s \longrightarrow

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$$

$$b = y_k - \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_k$$

for any k where $\alpha_k > 0$

Use support vectors to compute b

Dual SVM – non-separable case

- Primal problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize}_{\mathbf{w}, b} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w} + C \sum_j \xi_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b) y_j \geq 1 - \xi_j, \quad \forall j \\ & \xi_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \alpha_j \\ \mu_j \end{array}$$

**Lagrange
Multipliers**

- Dual problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\alpha, \mu} \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \quad & L(\mathbf{w}, b, \alpha, \mu) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \\ & \mu_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \end{aligned}$$

Dual SVM – non-separable case

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} \quad \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$C \geq \alpha_i \geq 0$$

comes from $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu} = 0$

Intuition:

Earlier - If constraint violated, $\alpha_i \rightarrow \infty$

Now - If constraint violated, $\alpha_i \leq C$

Dual problem is also QP

Solution gives α_j \longrightarrow

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$$

$$b = y_k - \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_k$$

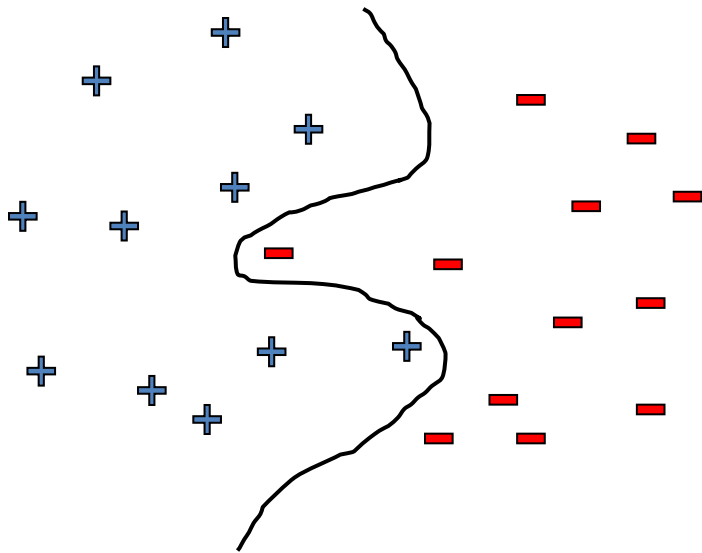
for any k where $C > \alpha_k > 0$

So why solve the dual SVM?

- There are some quadratic programming algorithms that can solve the dual faster than the primal, (specially in high dimensions $m \gg n$)
- But, more importantly, the “**kernel trick**”!!!

What if data is not linearly separable?

Use features of features
of features of features....



$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \dots, \exp(x_1))$$

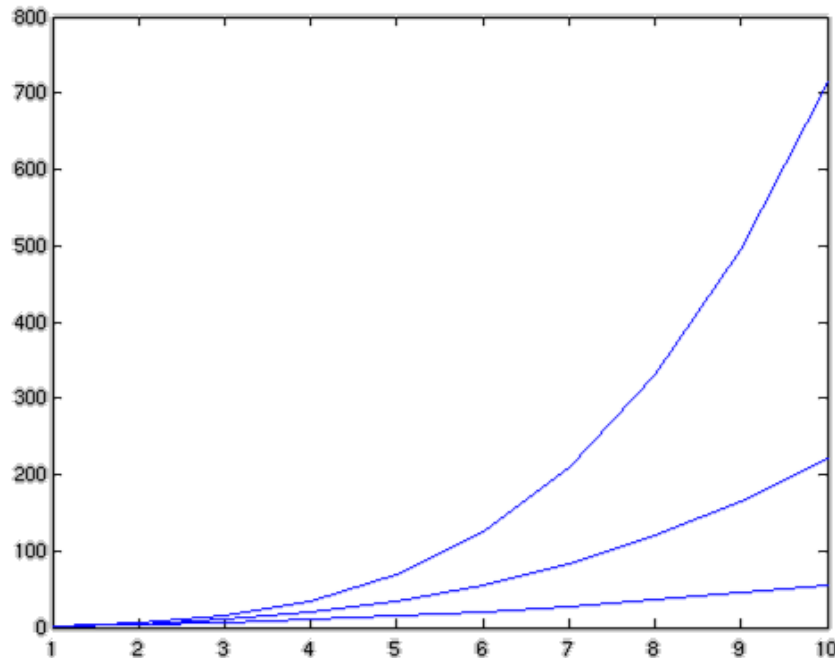
Feature space becomes really large very quickly!

Higher Order Polynomials

m – input features

d – degree of polynomial

$$\text{num. terms} = \binom{d + m - 1}{d} = \frac{(d + m - 1)!}{d!(m - 1)!} \sim m^d$$



grows fast!

$d = 6, m = 100$

about 1.6 billion terms

Dual formulation only depends on dot-products, not on w !

$$\begin{aligned} \text{maximize}_{\alpha} \quad & \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \underbrace{\mathbf{x}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j} \\ & \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \\ & C \geq \alpha_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \text{maximize}_{\alpha} \quad & \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \underbrace{K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)} \\ & K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j) \\ & \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \\ & C \geq \alpha_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Phi(\mathbf{x})$ – High-dimensional feature space, but never need it explicitly as long as we can compute the dot product fast using some Kernel K

Dot Product of Polynomials

$\Phi(\mathbf{x})$ = polynomials of degree exactly d

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d=1 \quad \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{z}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 z_1 + x_2 z_2 = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d=2 \quad \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{z}) &= \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \\ x_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} z_1^2 \\ \sqrt{2}z_1z_2 \\ z_2^2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1^2 z_1^2 + x_2^2 z_2^2 + 2x_1 x_2 z_1 z_2 \\ &= (x_1 z_1 + x_2 z_2)^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z})^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$d \quad \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{z}) = K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z})^d$$

Finally: The Kernel Trick!

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} \quad \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$$

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$C \geq \alpha_i \geq 0$$

- Never represent features explicitly
 - Compute dot products in closed form
- Constant-time high-dimensional dot-products for many classes of features
- Very interesting theory – Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Spaces
 - Not covered in detail in 10701/15781, more in 10702

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$b = y_k - \mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

for any k where $C > \alpha_k > 0$

Common Kernels

- Polynomials of degree d

$$K(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})^d$$

- Polynomials of degree up to d

$$K(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + 1)^d$$

- Gaussian/Radial kernels (polynomials of all orders – recall series expansion of \exp)

$$K(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- Sigmoid

$$K(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \tanh(\eta \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \nu)$$

Overfitting

- Huge feature space with kernels, what about overfitting???
- Maximizing margin leads to sparse set of support vectors
- Some interesting theory says that SVMs search for simple hypothesis with large margin
- Often robust to overfitting

What about classification time?

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$b = y_k - \mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

for any k where $C > \alpha_k > 0$

- For a new input \mathbf{x} , if we need to represent $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$, we are in trouble!
- Recall classifier: $\text{sign}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b)$
- Using kernels we are cool!

$$K(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \Phi(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{v})$$

SVMs with Kernels

- Choose a set of features and kernel function
- Solve dual problem to obtain support vectors α_i
- At classification time, compute:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$b = y_k - \sum_i \alpha_i y_i K(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

for any k where $C > \alpha_k > 0$

Classify as

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b)$$

SVMs vs. Kernel Regression

SVMs

$$\text{sign}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b)$$

or

$$\text{sign}\left(\sum_i \alpha_i y_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) + b\right)$$

Kernel Regression

$$\text{sign}\left(\frac{\sum_i y_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i)}{\sum_j K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_j)}\right)$$

Differences:

- SVMs:
 - Learn weights α_i (and bandwidth)
 - Often sparse solution
- KR:
 - Fixed “weights”, learn bandwidth
 - Solution may not be sparse
 - Much simpler to implement

SVMs vs. Logistic Regression

	SVMs	Logistic Regression
Loss function	Hinge loss	Log-loss
High dimensional features with kernels	Yes!	Yes!

Kernels in Logistic Regression

$$P(Y = 1 \mid x, \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\mathbf{w} \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b)}}$$

- Define weights in terms of features:

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_i \alpha_i \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y = 1 \mid x, \mathbf{w}) &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\sum_i \alpha_i \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + b)}} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\sum_i \alpha_i K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) + b)}} \end{aligned}$$

- Derive simple gradient descent rule on α_i

SVMs vs. Logistic Regression

	SVMs	Logistic Regression
Loss function	Hinge loss	Log-loss
High dimensional features with kernels	Yes!	Yes!
Solution sparse	Often yes!	Almost always no!
Semantics of output	“Margin”	Real probabilities

What you need to know...

- Dual SVM formulation
 - How it's derived
- The kernel trick
- Common kernels
- Differences between SVMs and kernel regression
- Differences between SVMs and logistic regression
- Kernelized logistic regression

Announcements - Midterm

- When: Wednesday, 10/20
- Where: In Class
- What: You, your pencil, your textbook, your notes, course slides, ~~your calculator~~, your good mood :)
- What NOT: No computers, iphones, or anything else that has an internet connection.
- Material: Everything from the beginning of the semester, until, and including SVMs and the Kernel trick

Midterm Review

- What is ML? loss functions
- Bayes optimal rules (classification, regression)
- Parametric approaches
 - Learning distributions: MLE, MAP
 - Classification: Naïve Bayes, Logistic Regression
 - Regression: Linear
- Non-parametric approaches
 - Density estimation: Histogram, Kernel density estimation
 - Classification: kNN, Decision Trees
 - Regression: Kernel regression
- Model Selection, Overfitting, Bias-variance tradeoff, estimating the generalization error
- Boosting, SVM