Instance-based Learning

Machine Learning – 10701/15781
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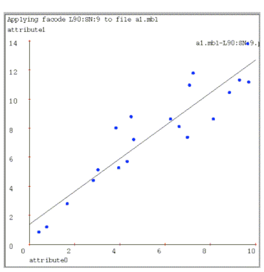
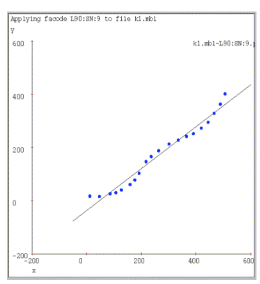
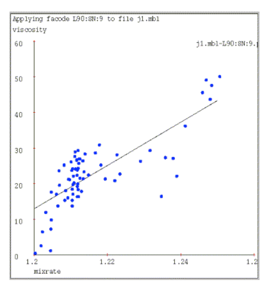
February 19th, 2007

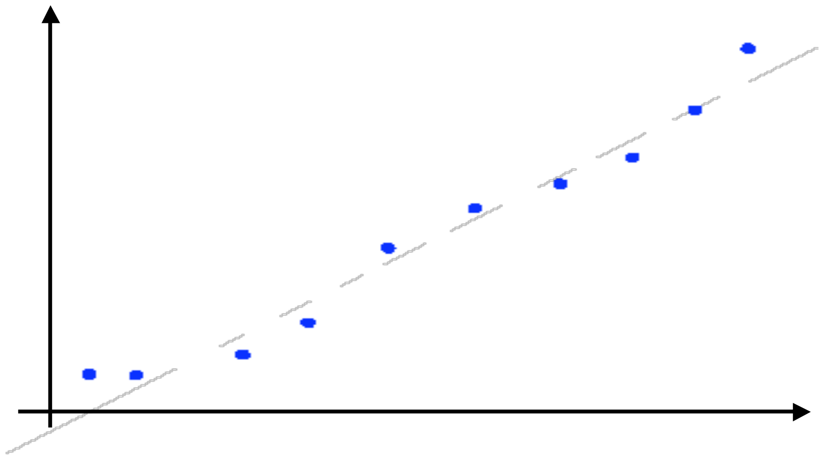
Why not just use Linear Regression?



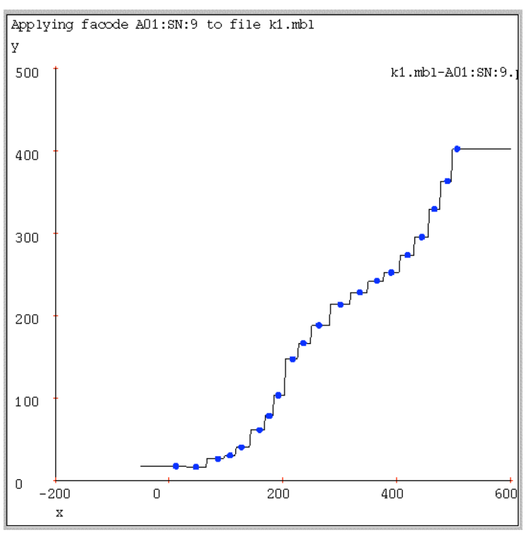




Using data to predict new data



Nearest neighbor



Univariate 1-Nearest Neighbor

Given datapoints (x_1,y_1) (x_2,y_2)..(x_N,y_N),where we assume $y_i=f(x_i)$ for some unknown function f.

Given query point x_q, your job is to predict $\hat{y} \approx f(x_q)$

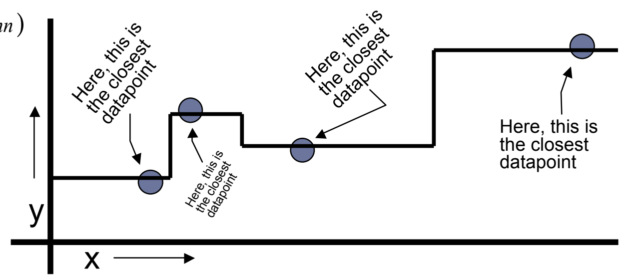
Nearest Neighbor:

1. Find the closest x_i in our set of datapoints

$$i(nn) = \underset{i}{\operatorname{argmin}} |x_i - x_q|$$

2. Predict $\hat{y} = y_{i(nn)}$

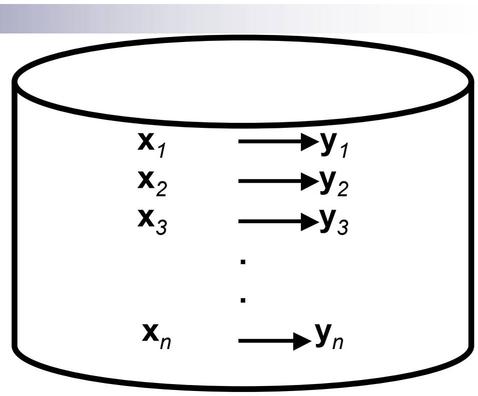
Here's a dataset with one input, one output and four datapoints.



1-Nearest Neighbor is an example of….
Instance-based learning

A function approximator that has been around since about 1910.

To make a prediction, search database for similar datapoints, and fit with the local points.



Four things make a memory based learner:

- A distance metric
- How many nearby neighbors to look at?
- A weighting function (optional)
- How to fit with the local points?

1-Nearest Neighbor

Four things make a memory based learner:

1. *A distance metric*
   Euclidian (and many more)
2. *How many nearby neighbors to look at?*
   One
3. *A weighting function (optional)*
   Unused
4. *How to fit with the local points?*
   Just predict the same output as the nearest neighbor.

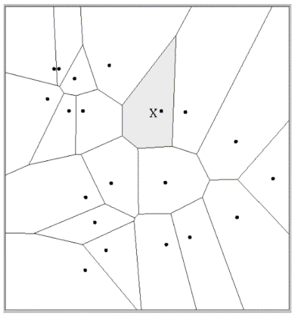
Multivariate 1-NN examples

Regression

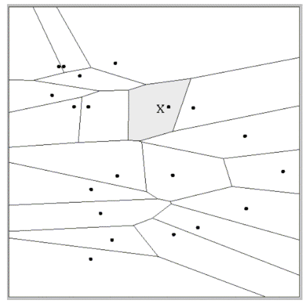
Classification

Multivariate distance metrics

Suppose the input vectors $x_1, x_2, \ldots x_n$ are two dimensional:
$\mathbf{x}_1 = (x_{11}, x_{12})$, $\mathbf{x}_2 = (x_{21}, x_{22})$, $\ldots \mathbf{x}_N = (x_{N1}, x_{N2})$.
One can draw the nearest-neighbor regions in input space.



$Dist(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j) = (x_{i1} - x_{j1})^2 + (x_{i2} - x_{j2})^2$



$Dist(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j) = (x_{i1} - x_{j1})^2 + (3x_{i2} - 3x_{j2})^2$

The relative scalings in the distance metric affect region shapes

Euclidean distance metric

$$D(\mathrm{x},\mathrm{x}') = \sqrt{\sum_i \sigma_i^2 (x_i - x'_i)^2}$$

Or equivalently,

$$D(\mathrm{x},\mathrm{x}') = \sqrt{(\mathrm{x}-\mathrm{x}')^T \sum (\mathrm{x}-\mathrm{x}')}$$

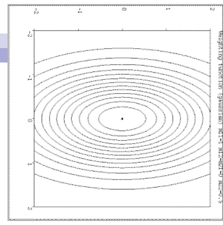
where

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_N^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

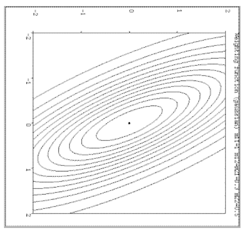
Other Metrics…

- Mahalanobis, Rank-based, Correlation-based,…

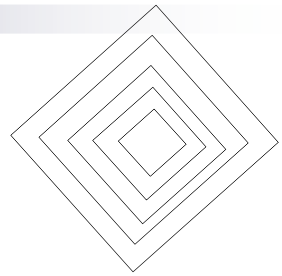
Notable distance metrics (and their level sets)



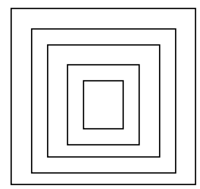
Scaled Euclidian (L_2)



Mahalanobis (here, Σ on the previous slide is not necessarily diagonal, but is symmetric



L_1 norm (absolute)



$L\infty$ *(max) norm*

Consistency of 1-NN

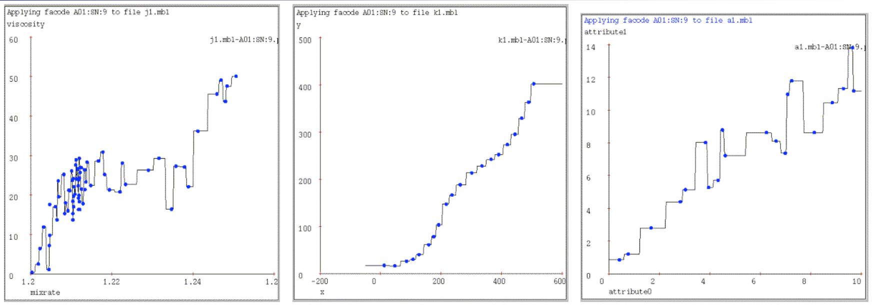
- Consider an estimator f_n trained on *n* examples
  - e.g., 1-NN, neural nets, regression,...
- Estimator is *consistent* if true error goes to zero as amount of data increases
  - e.g., for no noise data, consistent if:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} MSE(f_n) = 0$$

- Regression is not consistent!
  - Representation bias
- **1-NN is consistent** (under some mild fineprint)

What about variance???

1-NN overfits?

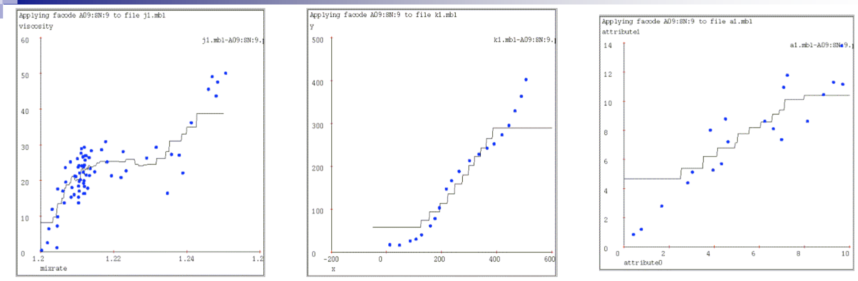


k-Nearest Neighbor

Four things make a memory based learner:

1. *A distance metric*
   Euclidian (and many more)
2. *How many nearby neighbors to look at?*
   k
1. *A weighting function (optional)*
   Unused
2. *How to fit with the local points?*
   Just predict the average output among the k nearest neighbors.

k-Nearest Neighbor (here k=9)



K-nearest neighbor for function fitting smoothes away noise, but there are clear deficiencies.

What can we do about all the discontinuities that k-NN gives us?

Weighted k-NNs

- Neighbors are not all the same

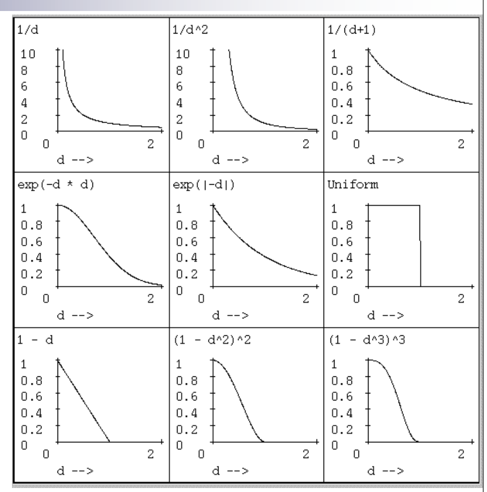
Kernel regression

Four things make a memory based learner:

1. *A distance metric*
   Euclidian (and many more)
2. *How many nearby neighbors to look at?*
   All of them
3. *A weighting function (optional)*
   $w_i = \exp(-D(x_i, query)^2 / K_w^2)$
   Nearby points to the query are weighted strongly, far points weakly. The K_W parameter is the **Kernel Width**. Very important.
4. *How to fit with the local points?*
   Predict the weighted average of the outputs:
   predict = $\Sigma w_i y_i / \Sigma w_i$

Weighting functions

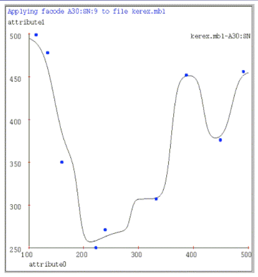
$w_i = \exp(-D(x_i, query)^2 / K_w^2)$



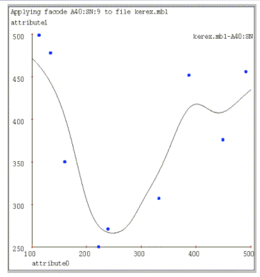
(Our examples use Gaussian)

Typically optimize K_w using gradient descent

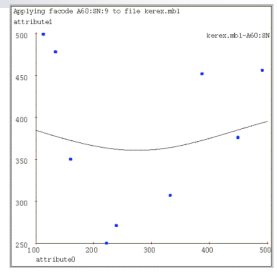
Kernel regression predictions



K_W=10



K_W=20

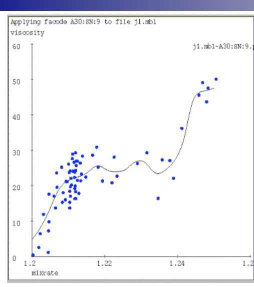


K_W=80

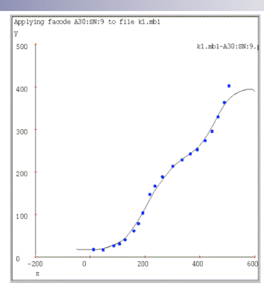
Increasing the kernel width K_w means further away points get an opportunity to influence you.

As $K_w \rightarrow \infty$, the prediction tends to the global average.

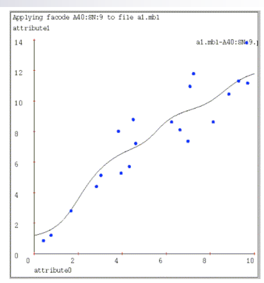
Kernel regression on our test cases



KW=1/32 of x-axis width.



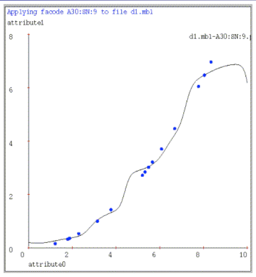
KW=1/32 of x-axis width.



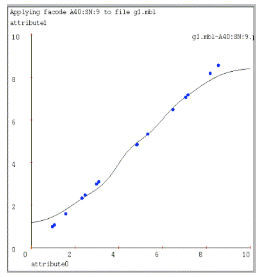
KW=1/16 axis width.

Choosing a good K_w is important. Not just for Kernel Regression, but for all the locally weighted learners we're about to see.

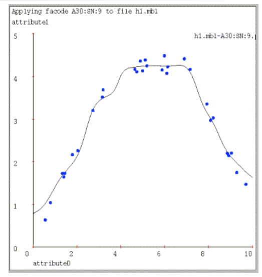
Kernel regression can look bad



KW = Best.



KW = Best.



KW = Best.

Time to try something more powerful…

Locally weighted regression

Kernel regression:

Take a very very conservative function approximator called AVERAGING. Locally weight it.

Locally weighted regression:

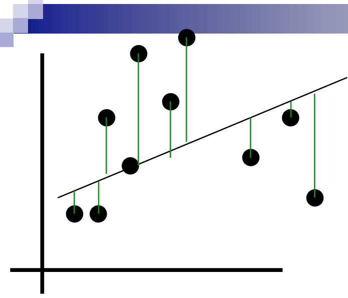
Take a conservative function approximator called LINEAR REGRESSION. Locally weight it.

Locally weighted regression

- **Four things make a memory based learner:**
- *A distance metric*
  Any
- *How many nearby neighbors to look at?*
  All of them
- *A weighting function (optional)*
  Kernels
  - ***wi = exp(-D(xi, query)² / Kw²)***
- *How to fit with the local points?*
  General weighted regression:

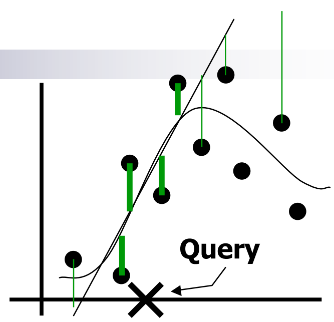
$$\hat{a} = \underset{\hat{a}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{k=1}^{N} w_k^2 \left(y_k - \hat{a}^T x_k \right)^2$$

How LWR works



Linear regression
- Same parameters for all queries

$$\hat{a} = \left(X^T X\right)^{-1} X^T Y$$



Locally weighted regression
- Solve weighted linear regression for each query

$$\hat{a} = \left(WX^T WX\right)^{-1} WX^T WY$$

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & w_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Another view of LWR

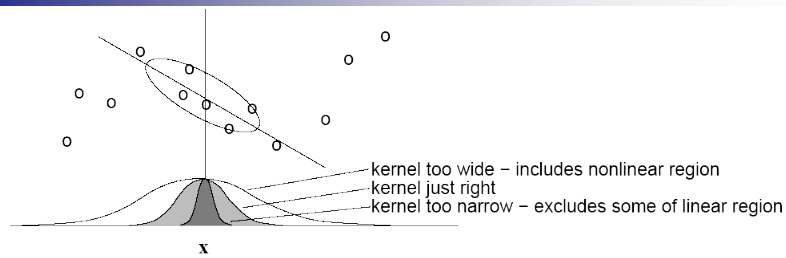
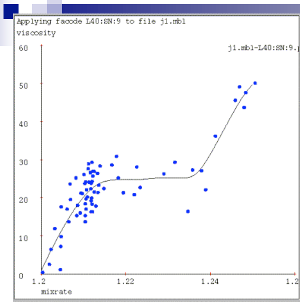
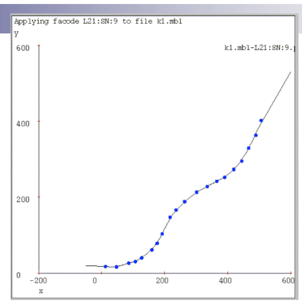


Image from Cohn, D.A., Ghahramani, Z., and Jordan, M.I. (1996), "Active Learning with Statistical Models", JAIR Volume 4, pages 129-145.

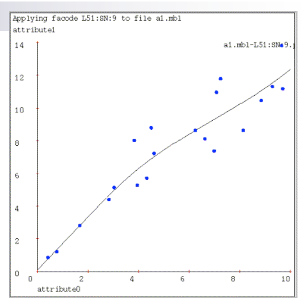
LWR on our test cases



KW = 1/16 of x-axis width.

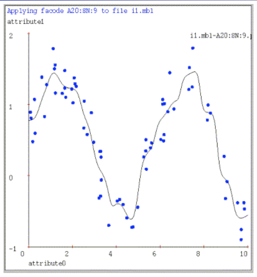


KW = 1/32 of x-axis width.



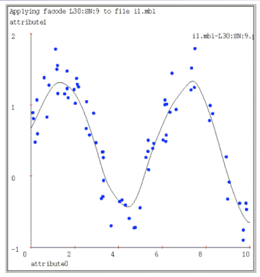
KW = 1/8 of x-axis width.

Locally weighted polynomial regression



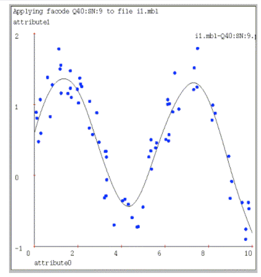
Kernel Regression
Kernel width K_W at optimal level.

KW = 1/100 x-axis



LW Linear Regression
Kernel width K_W at optimal level.

KW = 1/40 x-axis



LW Quadratic Regression
Kernel width K_W at optimal level.

KW = 1/15 x-axis

Local quadratic regression is easy: just add quadratic terms to the WXTWX matrix. As the regression degree increases, the kernel width can increase without introducing bias.

Curse of dimensionality for instance-based learning

- Must store and retreve all data!
  - Most real work done during testing
  - For every test sample, must search through all dataset – very slow!
  - We'll see fast methods for dealing with large datasets
- Instance-based learning often poor with noisy or irrelevant features

Curse of the irrelevant feature

What you need to know about instance-based learning

- k-NN
  - Simplest learning algorithm
  - With sufficient data, very hard to beat "strawman" approach
  - Picking k?
- Kernel regression
  - Set k to n (number of data points) and optimize weights by gradient descent
  - Smoother than k-NN
- Locally weighted regression
  - Generalizes kernel regression, not just local average
- Curse of dimensionality
  - Must remember (very large) dataset for prediction
  - Irrelevant features often killers for instance-based approaches

Acknowledgment

- This lecture contains some material from Andrew Moore's excellent collection of ML tutorials:
  - http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~awm/tutorials

Support Vector Machines

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Carlos Guestrin
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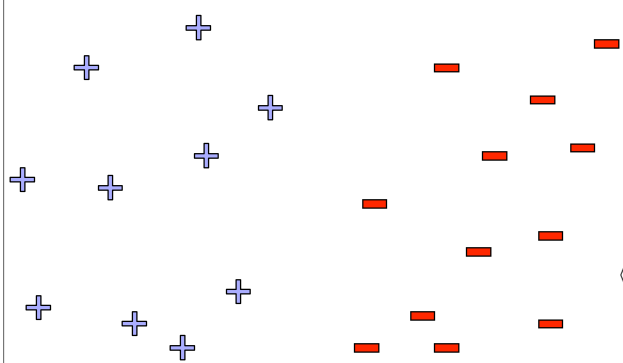
Linear classifiers – Which line is better?



Data:

$$\left\langle x_1^{(1)}, \ldots, x_1^{(m)}, y_1 \right\rangle$$
$$\vdots$$
$$\left\langle x_n^{(1)}, \ldots, x_n^{(m)}, y_n \right\rangle$$

Example i:

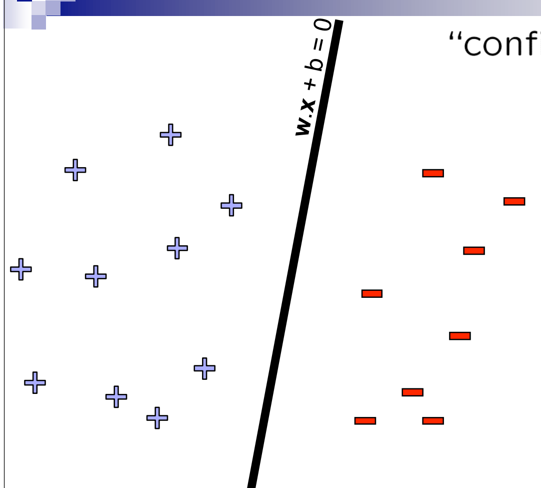
$\left\langle x_i^{(1)}, \ldots, x_i^{(m)} \right\rangle$ — m features

$y_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ — class

w.x = $\sum_j w^{(j)} x^{(j)}$

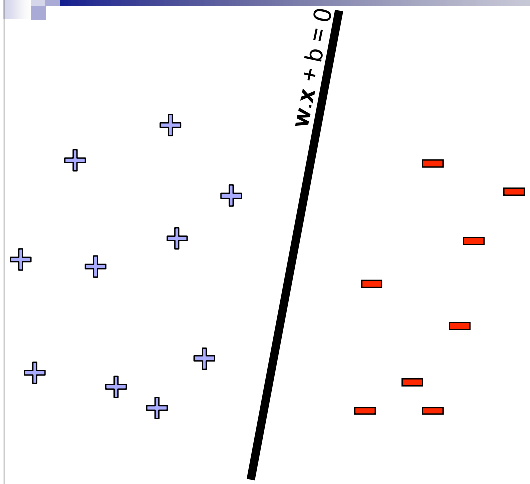
Pick the one with the largest margin!

"confidence" $= \left(\mathbf{w}.\mathbf{x}_j + b\right) y_j$

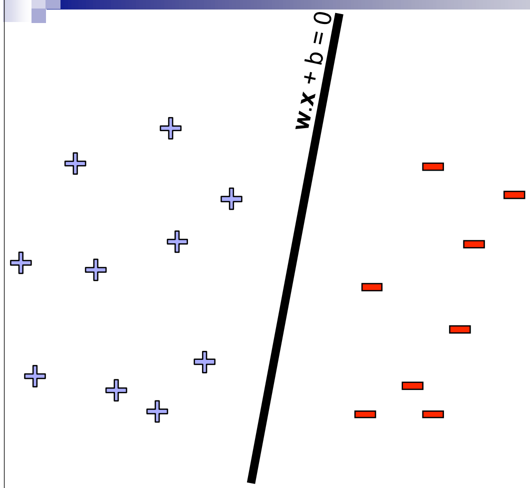


w.x = $\sum_j w^{(j)} x^{(j)}$

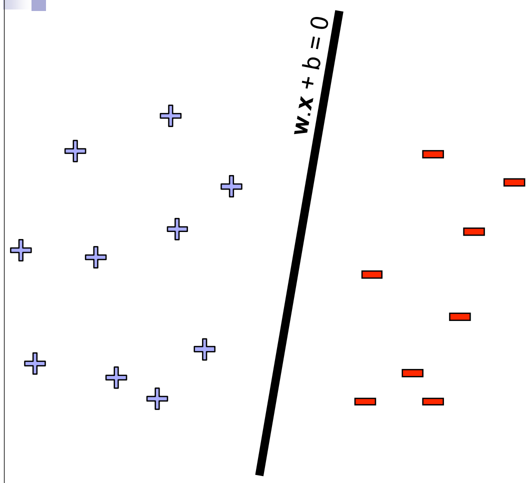
Maximize the margin



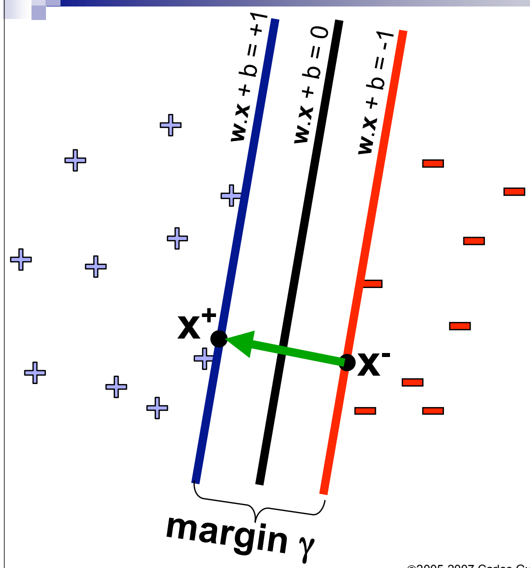
But there are a many planes…



Review: Normal to a plane

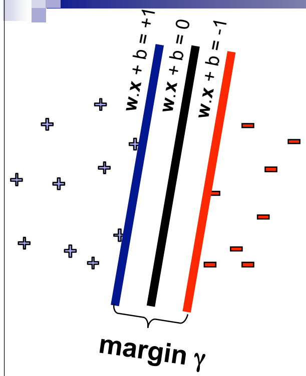


Normalized margin – Canonical hyperplanes



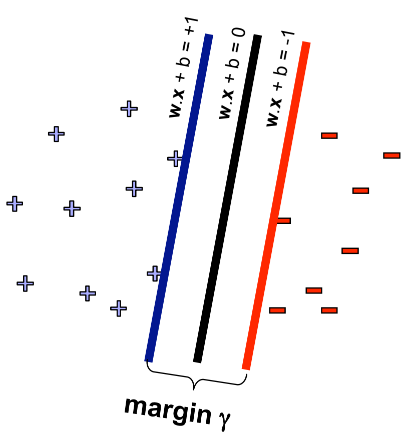
$$\gamma = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{w}.\mathbf{w}}}$$

Margin maximization using canonical hyperplanes



$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{w}} \quad \mathbf{w}.\mathbf{w}$$
$$\left(\mathbf{w}.\mathbf{x}_j + b\right) y_j \geq 1, \;\; \forall j \in \text{Dataset}$$

Support vector machines (SVMs)



$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{w}} \quad \mathbf{w}.\mathbf{w}$$
$$\left(\mathbf{w}.\mathbf{x}_j + b\right) y_j \geq 1, \;\; \forall j$$

- Solve efficiently by quadratic programming (QP)
  - Well-studied solution algorithms
- Hyperplane defined by support vectors