Lecture 18: 27 March, 2025

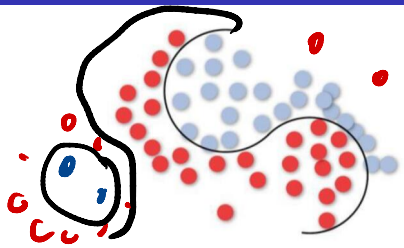
Madhavan Mukund

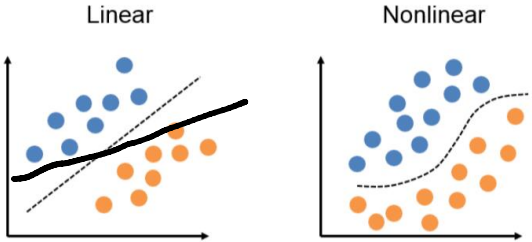
https://www.cmi.ac.in/~madhavan

Data Mining and Machine Learning
January–April 2025

A geometric view of supervised learning

- Think of data as points in space
- Find a separating curve (surface)
- Separable case
  - Each class is a connected region
  - A single curve can separate them
- Simplest case — linearly separable data
- Dual of linear regression
  - Find a line that passes close to a set of points
  - Find a line that separates the two sets of points





Perceptron algorithm

0-1 -loss

(Frank Rosenblatt, 1958)

- Each training input is (x_i, y_i), where $x_i = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \ldots, x_{i_n} \rangle$ and $y_i = +1$ or -1
- Need to find $w = \langle w_0, w_1, \ldots, w_n \rangle$
  - Recall $x_{i_0} = 1$, always

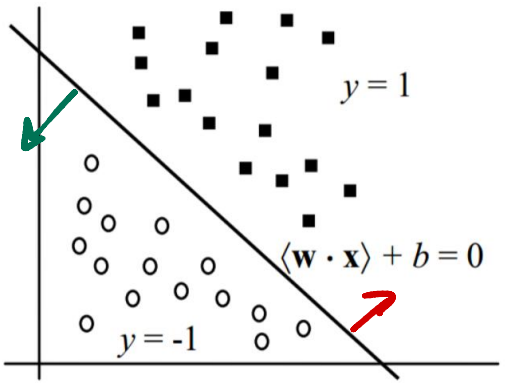
Initialize $w = \langle 0, 0, \ldots, 0 \rangle$

While there exists x_i, y_i *such that*

$y_i = +1$ *and* $w \cdot x_i < 0$, *or*

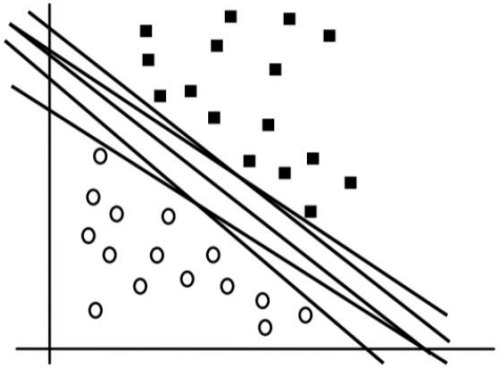
$y_i = -1$ *and* $w \cdot x_i > 0$

Update w *to* $w + x_i y_i$



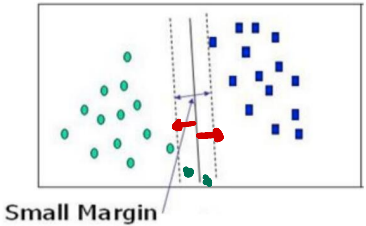
Linear separators

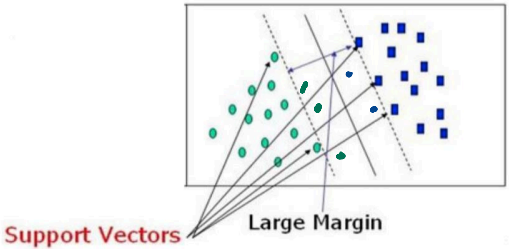
- Perceptron algorithm is a simple procedure to find a linear separator, if one exists
- Many lines are possible
  - Does the Perceptron algorithm find the best one?
  - What is a good notion of "cost" to optimize?



Margin

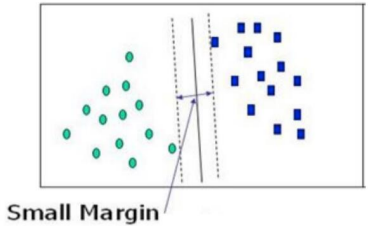
- Each separator defines a margin
  - Empty corridor separating the points
  - Separator is the centre line of the margin
- Wider margin makes for a more robust classifier
  - More gap between the classes

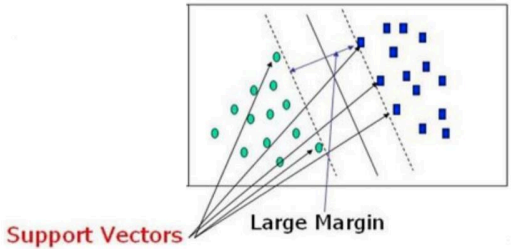




Margin

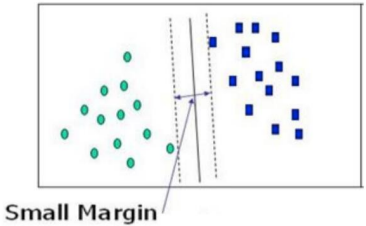
- Each separator defines a margin
  - Empty corridor separating the points
  - Separator is the centre line of the margin
- Wider margin makes for a more robust classifier
  - More gap between the classes
- Optimum classifier is one that maximizes the width of its margin

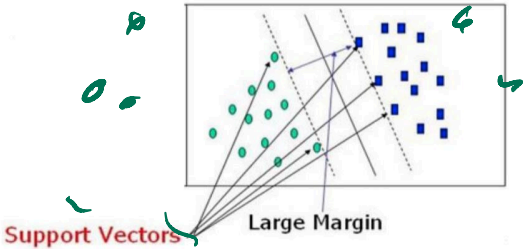




Margin

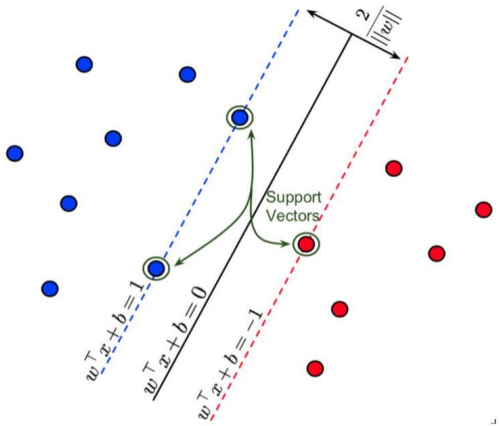
- Each separator defines a margin
  - Empty corridor separating the points
  - Separator is the centre line of the margin
- Wider margin makes for a more robust classifier
  - More gap between the classes
- Optimum classifier is one that maximizes the width of its margin
- Margin is defined by the training data points on the boundary
  - Support vectors





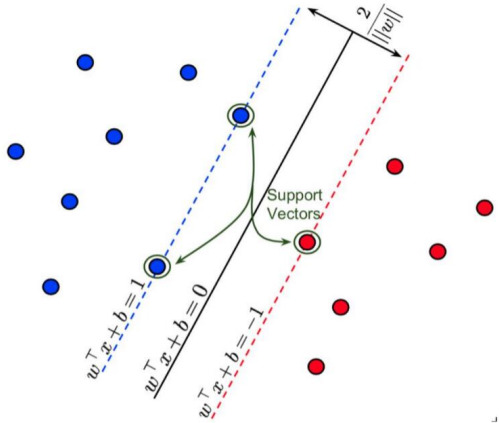
Finding a maximum margin classifier

- Recall our original linear classifier
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b > 0$, classify yes, $+1$
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b < 0$, classify no, -1



Finding a maximum margin classifier

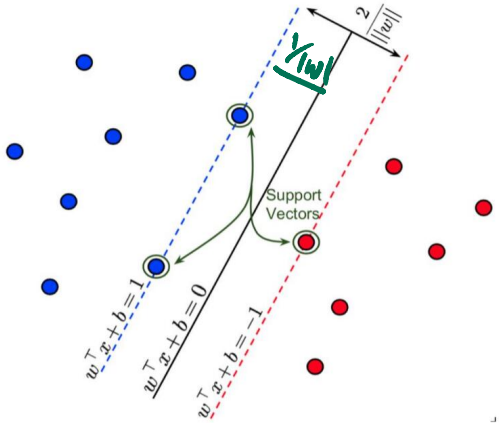
- Recall our original linear classifier
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b > 0$, classify yes, $+1$
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b < 0$, classify no, -1
- Scale margin so that separation is 1 on either side
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b > 1$, classify yes, $+1$
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b < -1$, classify no, -1



Finding a maximum margin classifier

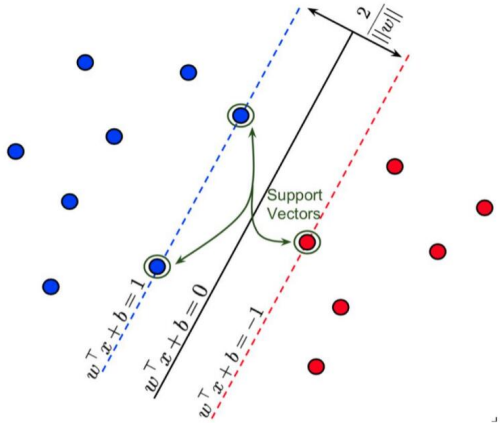
- Scale margin so that separation is 1 on either side
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b > 1$, classify yes, $+1$
  - $w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + \cdots w_nx_n + b < -1$, classify no, -1
- Using Pythagoras's theorem, perpendicular distance to nearest support vector is $\frac{1}{|w|}$, where

$$|w| = \sqrt{w_1^2 + w_2^2 + \cdots + w_n^2}$$



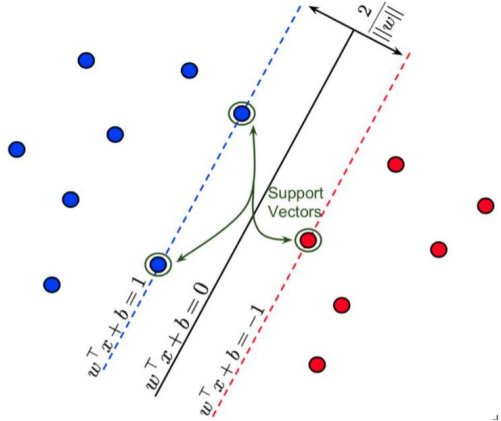
Optimization problem

- Want to maximize the overall margin $\frac{2}{|w|}$



Optimization problem

- Want to maximize the overall margin $\frac{2}{|w|}$
- Equivalently, minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$

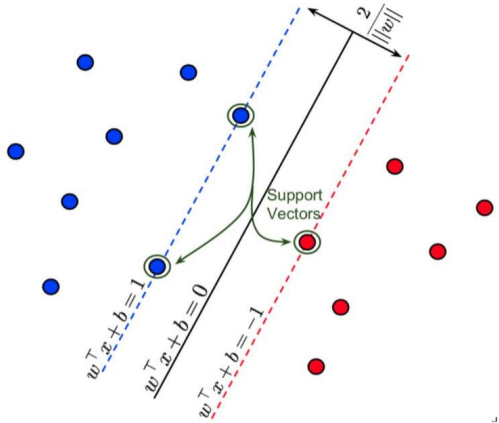


Optimization problem

- Want to maximize the overall margin $\frac{2}{|w|}$
- Equivalently, minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$
- Also, w should classify each (x_i, y_i) correctly

  $w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$

  $w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$



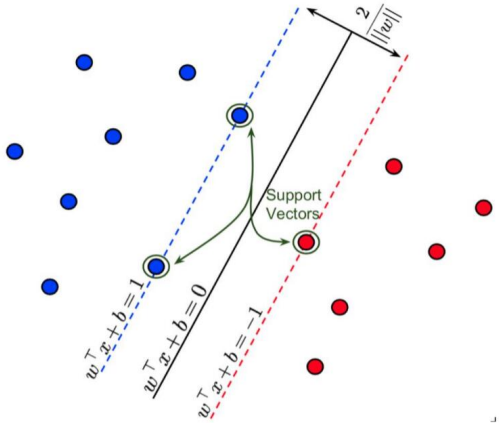
Optimization problem

Minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$

Subject to

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$



Optimization problem

Unknowns $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n, b$

x_i, y_i are known

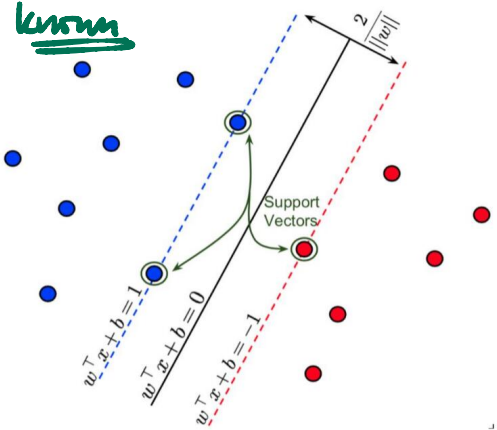
Minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$

Subject to

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$

- The constraints are linear



Optimization problem

Minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$

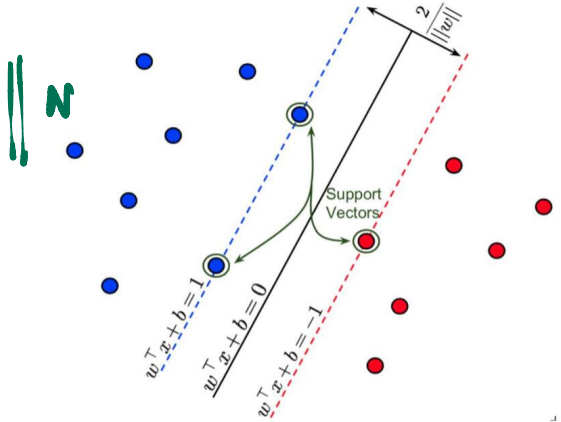
Subject to

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$

- The constraints are linear
- The objective function is not linear

  $|w| = \sqrt{w_1^2 + w_2^2 + \cdots + w_n^2}$



Optimization problem

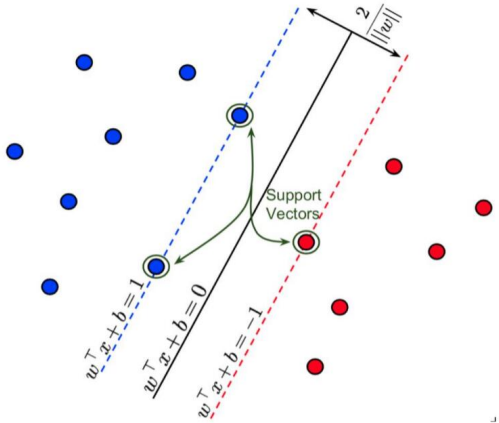
Minimize $\frac{|w|}{2}$

Subject to

$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$

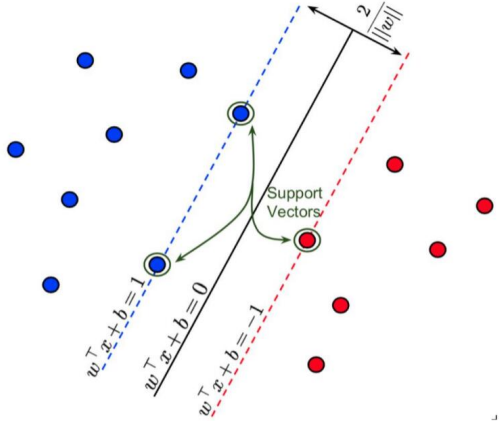
$w_1 x_1^i + w_2 x_2^i + \cdots w_n x_n^i + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$

- The constraints are linear
- The objective function is not linear
  $|w| = \sqrt{w_1^2 + w_2^2 + \cdots + w_n^2}$
- This is a quadratic optimization problem, not linear programming



Solution to optimization problem

- Rewrite as dual



Solution to optimization problem

- Rewrite as dual
- Maximize

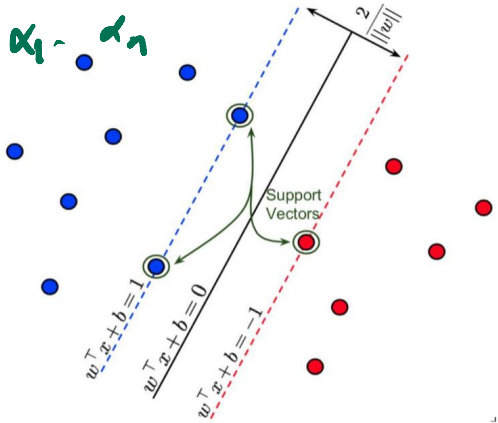
$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{N} y_i y_j \alpha_i \alpha_j \, x_i \cdot x_j$$

Subject to

$\alpha_i \geq 0, i \in 1, 2, \ldots N$

w, b have vanished

Instead $\alpha_1 \ldots \alpha_n$



Solution to optimization problem

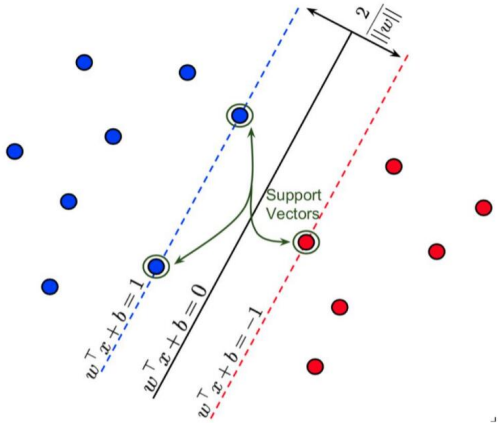
- Rewrite as dual
- Maximize

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{N} y_i y_j \alpha_i \alpha_j \; x_i \cdot x_j$$

Subject to

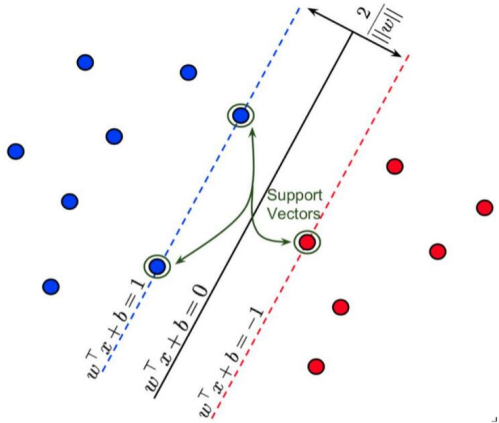
$\alpha_i \geq 0, i \in 1, 2, \ldots, N$

- Lagrange multipliers α_1, α_2, $\ldots$, α_N, one multiplier per training input



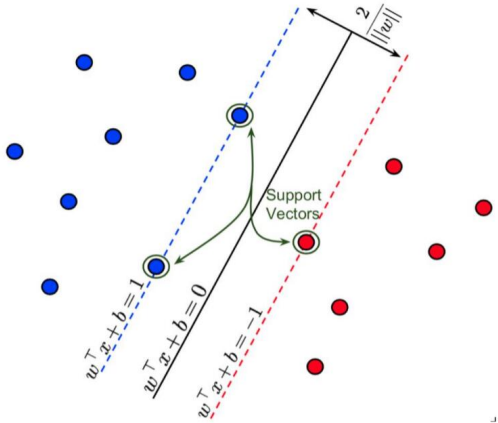
Solution to optimization problem

- Convex optimization theory
- Can be solved using computational techniques



Solution to optimization problem

- Convex optimization theory
- Can be solved using computational techniques
- Solution expressed in terms of Lagrange multipliers $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_N$
- α_i is non-zero iff x_i is a support vector



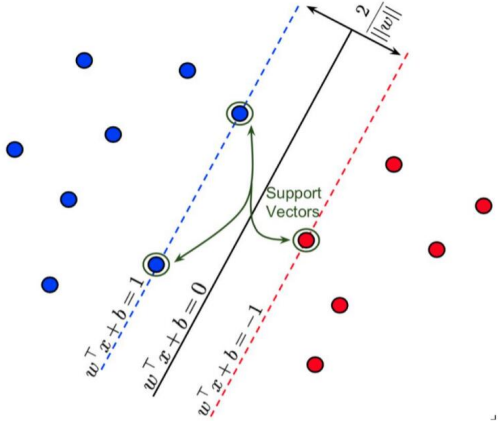
Solution to optimization problem

- Convex optimization theory
- Can be solved using computational techniques
- Solution expressed in terms of Lagrange multipliers $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_N$
- α_i is non-zero iff x_i is a support vector
- Final classifier for new input z

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

$\alpha_i = 0$ if $i \notin sv$

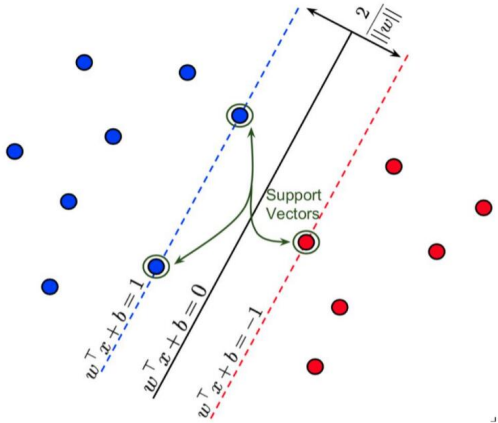
- sv is set of support vectors



Support Vector Machine (SVM)

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

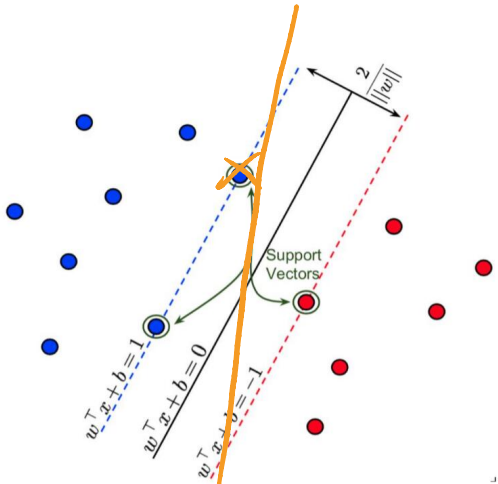
- Solution depends only on support vectors
  - If we add more training data away from support vectors, separator does not change



Support Vector Machine (SVM)

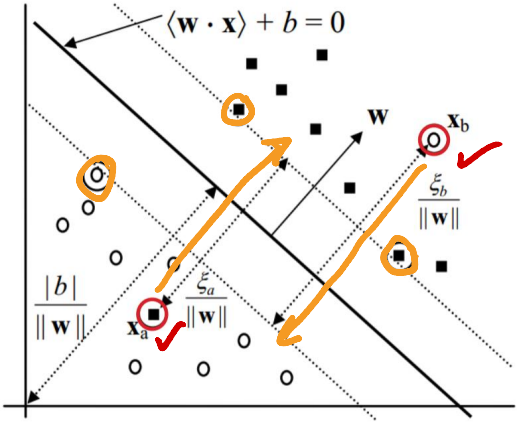
$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

- Solution depends only on support vectors
  - If we add more training data away from support vectors, separator does not change
- Solution uses dot product of support vectors with new point
  - Will be used later, in the non-linear case



The non-linear case

- Some points may lie on the wrong side of the classifier
- How do we account for these?



The non-linear case

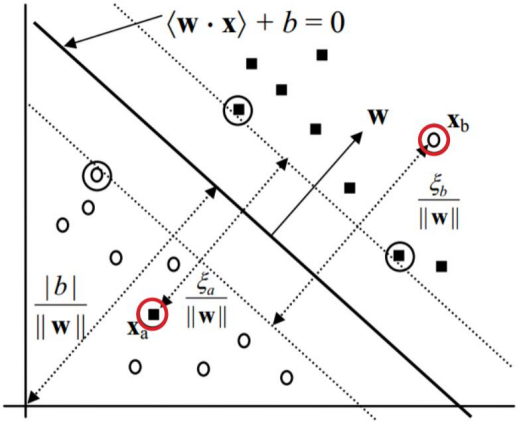
non-Separable

- Some points may lie on the wrong side of the classifier
- How do we account for these?
- Add an error term to the classifier requirement
- Instead of

  $w \cdot x + b > 1$, if $y_i = 1$
  $w \cdot x + b < -1$, if $y_i = -1$

  we have

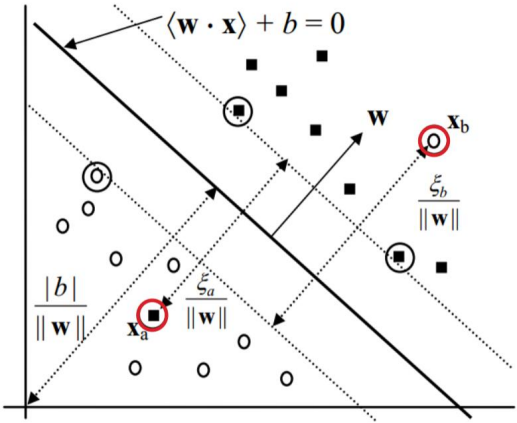
  $w \cdot x + b > 1 - \xi_i$, if $y_i = 1$
  $w \cdot x + b < -1 + \xi_i$, if $y_i = -1$



Soft margin classifier

$w \cdot x + b > 1 - \xi_i$, if $y_i = 1$
$w \cdot x + b < -1 + \xi_i$, if $y_i = -1$

- Error term always non-negative,
- If the point is correctly classified, error term is 0
- Soft margin — some points can drift across the boundary
- Need to account for the errors in the objective function
  - Minimize the need for non-zero error terms



Soft margin optimization

Minimize $\frac{|w|}{2} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \xi_i^2$ penalty for error

Subject to

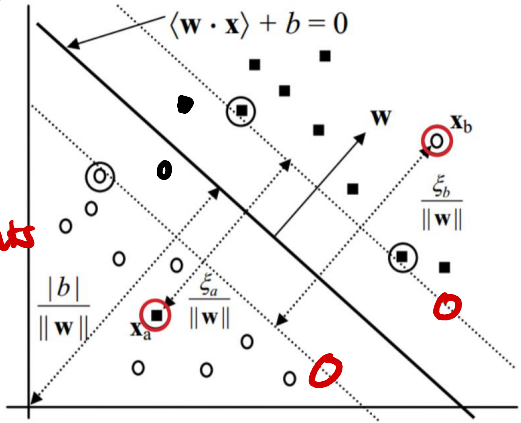
$\xi_i \geq 0$

$w \cdot x_i + b > 1 - \xi_i$, if $y_i = 1$

$w \cdot x_i + b < -1 + \xi_i$, if $y_i = -1$

Revised soft constraints

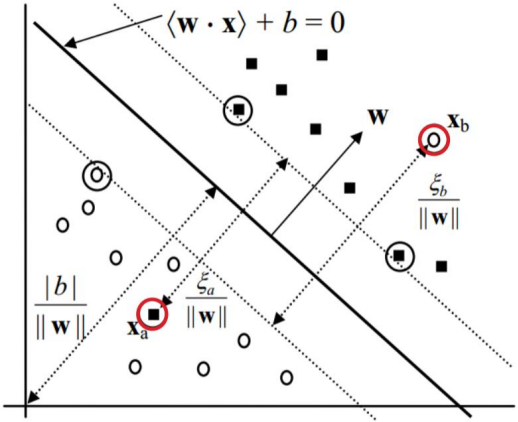
- Constraints include requirement that error terms are non-negative
- Again the objective function is quadratic



Soft margin optimization

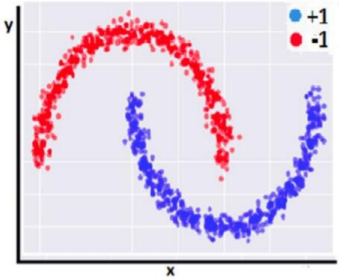
- Can again be solved using the dual
- Form of the solution turns out to be the same as the hard margin case
  - Expression in terms of Lagrange multipliers α_i
  - Only terms corresponding to support vectors are actively used

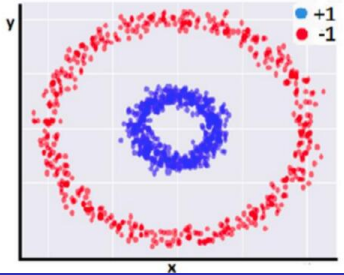
$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$



The non-linear case

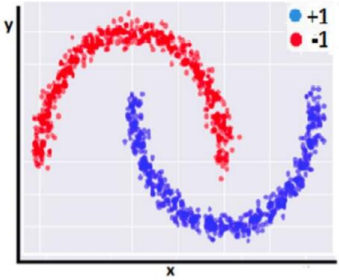
- How do we deal with datasets where the separator is a complex shape?

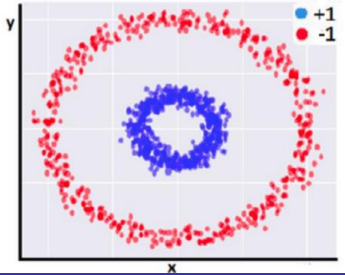




The non-linear case

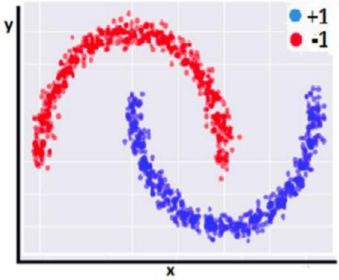
- How do we deal with datasets where the separator is a complex shape?
- Geometrically transform the data
  - Typically, add dimensions

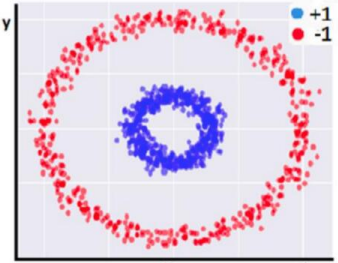




The non-linear case

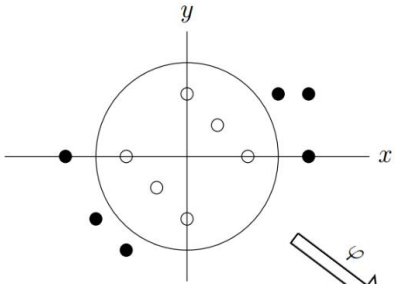
- How do we deal with datasets where the separator is a complex shape?
- Geometrically transform the data
  - Typically, add dimensions
- For instance, if we can "lift" one class, we can find a planar separator between levels





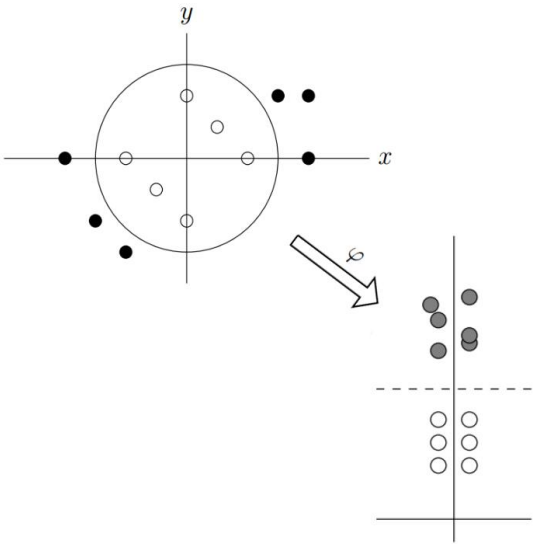
Geometric tranformation

- Consider two sets of points separated by a circle of radius 1
- Equation of circle is $x^2 + y^2 = 1$



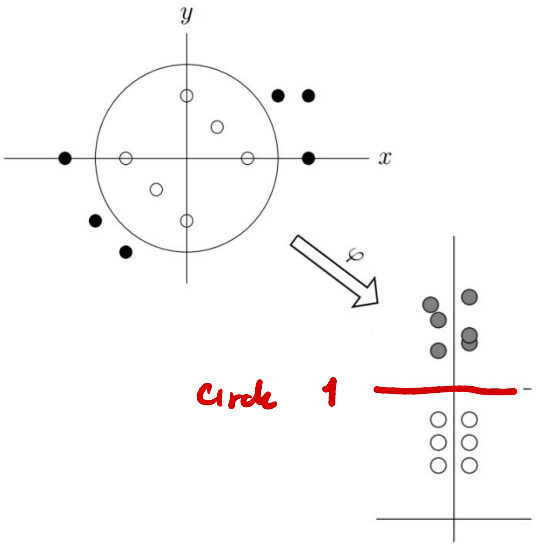
Geometric tranformation

- Consider two sets of points separated by a circle of radius 1
- Equation of circle is $x^2 + y^2 = 1$
- Points inside the circle, $x^2 + y^2 < 1$
- Points outside circle, $x^2 + y^2 > 1$



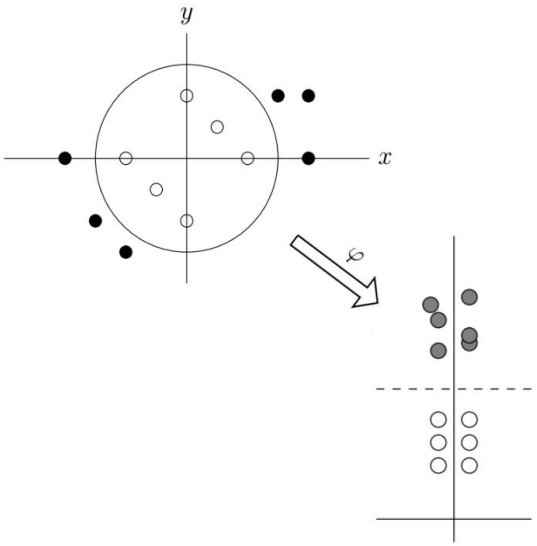
Geometric tranformation

- Consider two sets of points separated by a circle of radius 1
- Equation of circle is $x^2 + y^2 = 1$
- Points inside the circle, $x^2 + y^2 < 1$
- Points outside circle, $x^2 + y^2 > 1$
- Transformation
  $\varphi : (x, y) \mapsto (x, y, x^2 + y^2)$



Geometric tranformation

- Consider two sets of points separated by a circle of radius 1
- Equation of circle is $x^2 + y^2 = 1$
- Points inside the circle, $x^2 + y^2 < 1$
- Points outside circle, $x^2 + y^2 > 1$
- Transformation
  $$\varphi : (x, y) \mapsto (x, y, x^2 + y^2)$$
- Points inside circle lie below $z = 1$
- Point outside circle lifted above $z = 1$

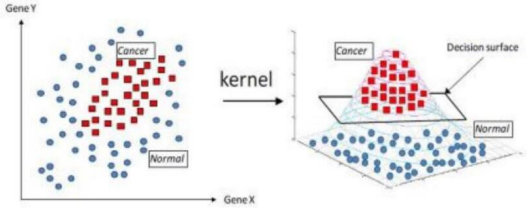


SVM after transformation

- SVM in original space

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

$\varphi \quad x \longmapsto \varphi(x)$



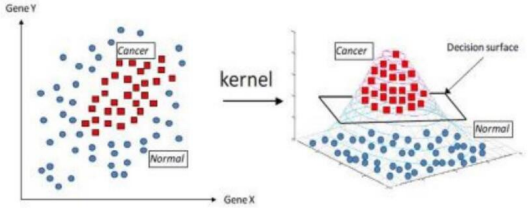
SVM after transformation

- SVM in original space

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

- After transformation

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (\varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(z)) + b\right]$$



SVM after transformation

- SVM in original space

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

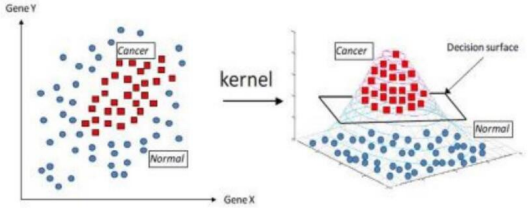
- After transformation

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (\varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(z)) + b\right]$$

- Training: maximize

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} y_i y_j \alpha_i \alpha_j \; \varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(x_j)$$

$x_i \cdot x_j$



SVM after transformation

- SVM in original space

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (x_i \cdot z) + b\right]$$

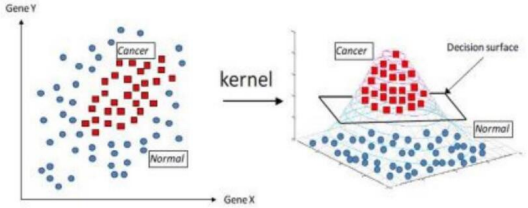
- After transformation

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (\varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(z)) + b\right]$$

- Training: maximize

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} y_i y_j \alpha_i \alpha_j \; \varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(x_j)$$

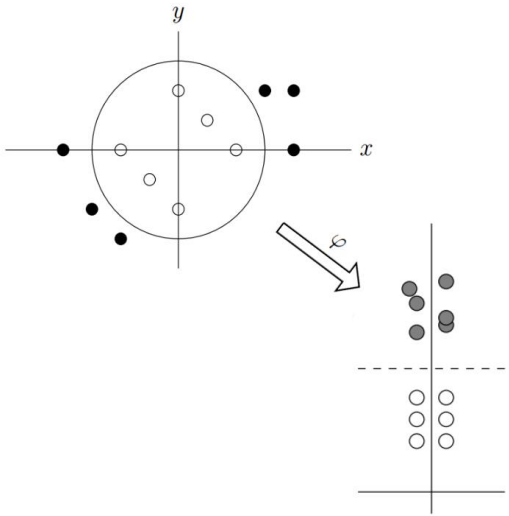
- All we need to know is how to compute dot products in transformed space



Dot products

- Consider the transformation

  $\varphi : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (1, \sqrt{2}x_1, \sqrt{2}x_2, x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$



Dot products

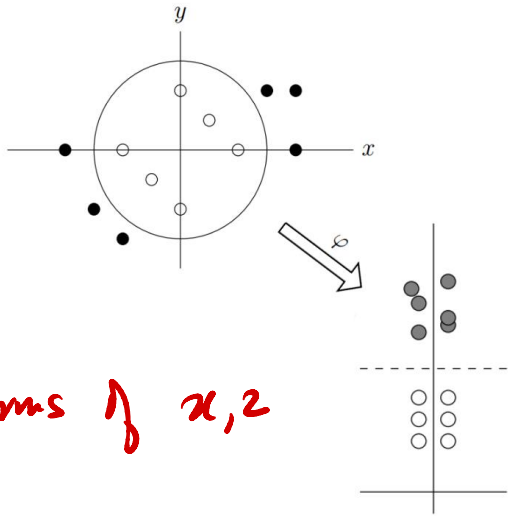
- Consider the transformation

$$\varphi : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (1, \sqrt{2}x_1, \sqrt{2}x_2, x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$$

- Dot product in transformed space

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z) &= 1 + 2x_1z_1 + 2x_2z_2 + x_1^2z_1^2 \\ &\quad + 2x_1x_2z_1z_2 + x_2^2z_2^2 \\ &= (1 + x_1z_1 + x_2z_2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z) \rightarrow$ in terms of x, z



Dot products

- Consider the transformation

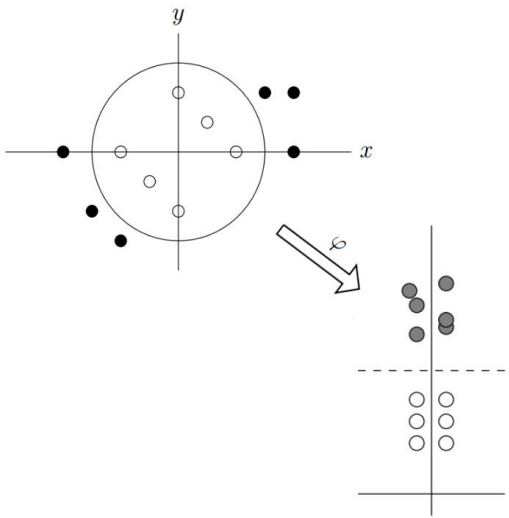
  $\varphi : (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (1, \sqrt{2}x_1, \sqrt{2}x_2, x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$

- Dot product in transformed space

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z) &= 1 + 2x_1z_1 + 2x_2z_2 + x_1^2z_1^2 \\ &\quad +2x_1x_2z_1z_2 + x_2^2z_2^2 \\ &= (1 + x_1z_1 + x_2z_2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

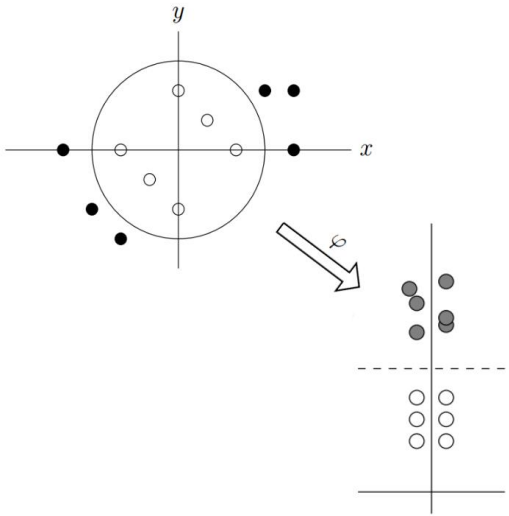
- Transformed dot product can be expressed in terms of original inputs

  $\varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z) = K(x, z) = (1 + x_1z_1 + x_2z_2)^2$



Kernels

- K is a kernel for transformation φ if $K(x, z) = \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z)$

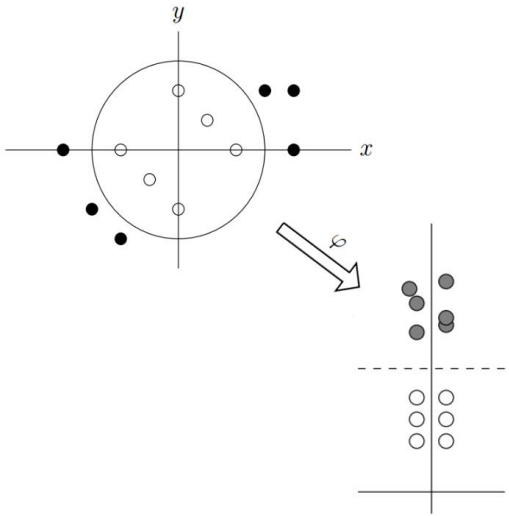


Kernels

- K is a kernel for transformation φ if $K(x, z) = \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z)$
- If we have a kernel, we don't need to explicitly compute transformed points
- All dot products can be computed implicitly using the kernel on original data points

$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i (\varphi(x_i) \cdot \varphi(z)) + b\right]$$

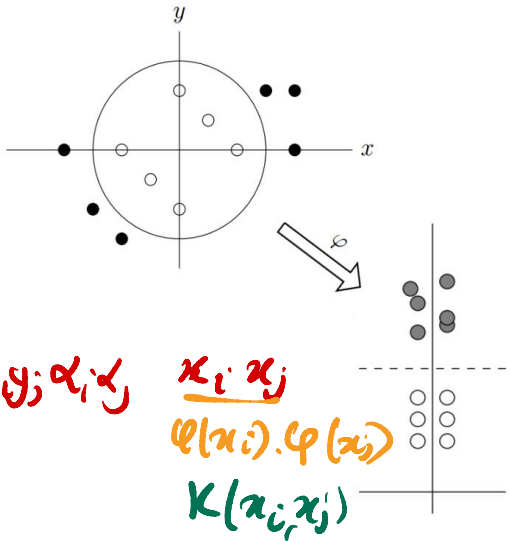
$K(x_i, z)$



Kernels

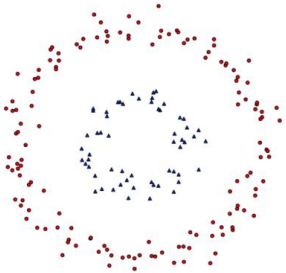
- K is a kernel for transformation φ if $K(x, z) = \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(z)$
- If we have a kernel, we don't need to explicitly compute transformed points
- All dot products can be computed implicitly using the kernel on original data points

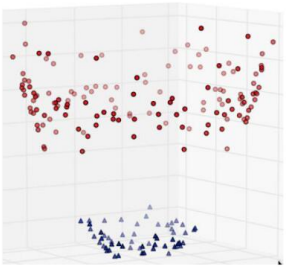
$$\text{sign}\left[\sum_{i \in sv} y_i \alpha_i K(x_i, z) + b\right]$$



Kernels

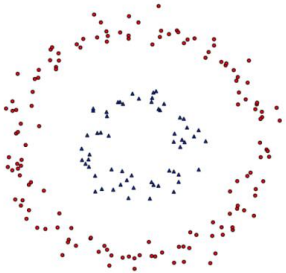
- If we know K is a kernel for some transformation φ, we can blindly use K without even knowing what φ looks like!

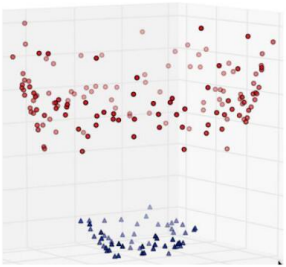




Kernels

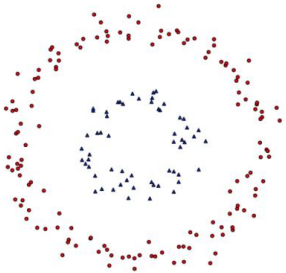
- If we know K is a kernel for some transformation φ, we can blindly use K without even knowing what φ looks like!
- When is a function a valid kernel?

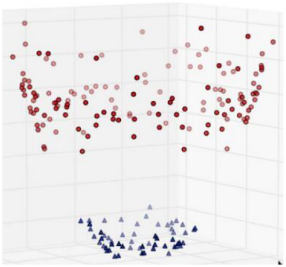




Kernels

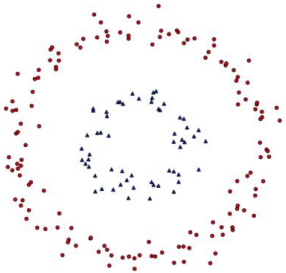
- If we know K is a kernel for some transformation φ, we can blindly use K without even knowing what φ looks like!
- When is a function a valid kernel?
- Has been studied in mathematics — Mercer's Theorem
  - Criteria are non-constructive

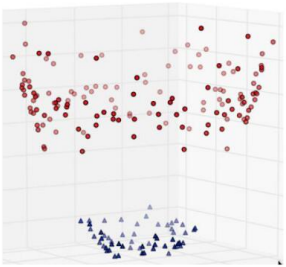




Kernels

- If we know K is a kernel for some transformation φ, we can blindly use K without even knowing what φ looks like!
- When is a function a valid kernel?
- Has been studied in mathematics — Mercer's Theorem
  - Criteria are non-constructive
- Can define sufficient conditions from linear algebra



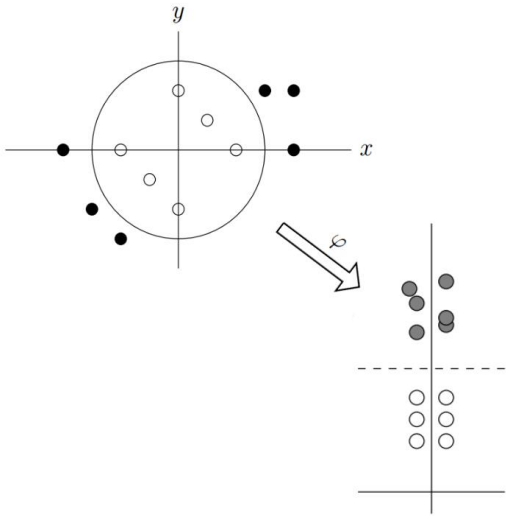


Kernels

- Kernel over training data $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_N$ can be represented as a gram matrix

$$K = \begin{array}{c} \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

- Entries are values $K(x_i, x_j)$

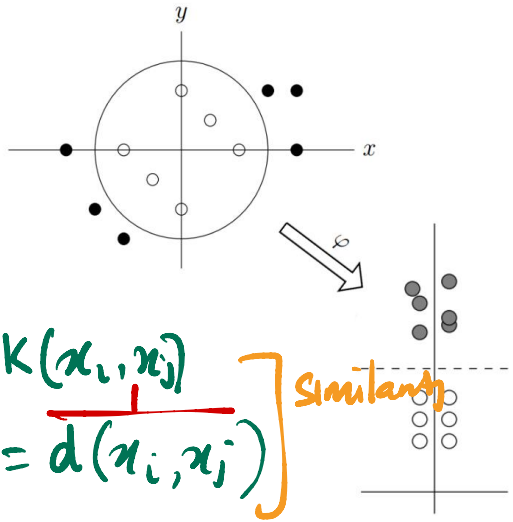


Kernels

- Kernel over training data $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_N$ can be represented as a gram matrix

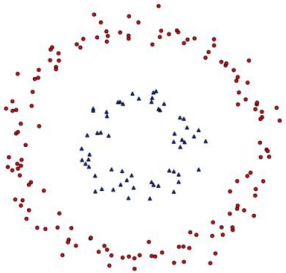
$$K = \begin{array}{c} \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_N \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

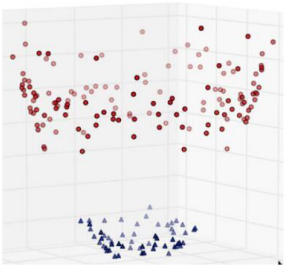
- Entries are values $K(x_i, x_j)$
- Gram matrix should be positive semi-definite for all $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_N$



Known kernels

- Fortunately, there are many known kernels

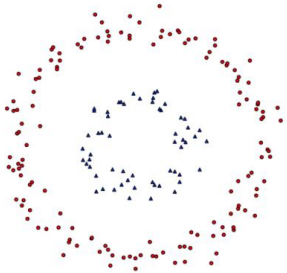


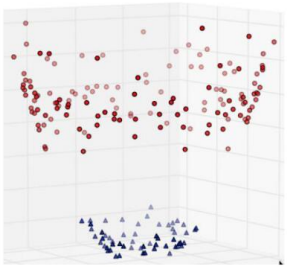


Known kernels

- Fortunately, there are many known kernels
- Polynomial kernels

$$K(x, z) = (1 + x \cdot z)^k$$



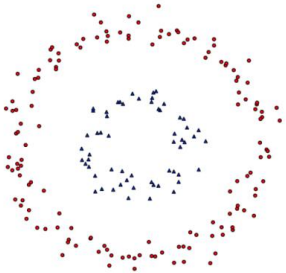


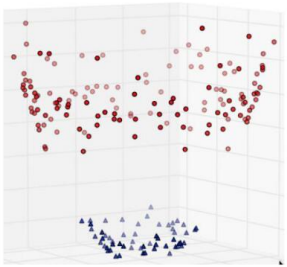
Known kernels

- Fortunately, there are many known kernels
- Polynomial kernels

$$K(x, z) = (1 + x \cdot z)^k$$

- Any $K(x, z)$ representing a similarity measure





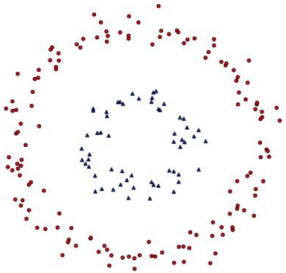
Known kernels

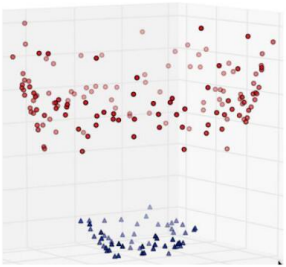
- Fortunately, there are many known kernels
- Polynomial kernels

$$K(x, z) = (1 + x \cdot z)^k$$

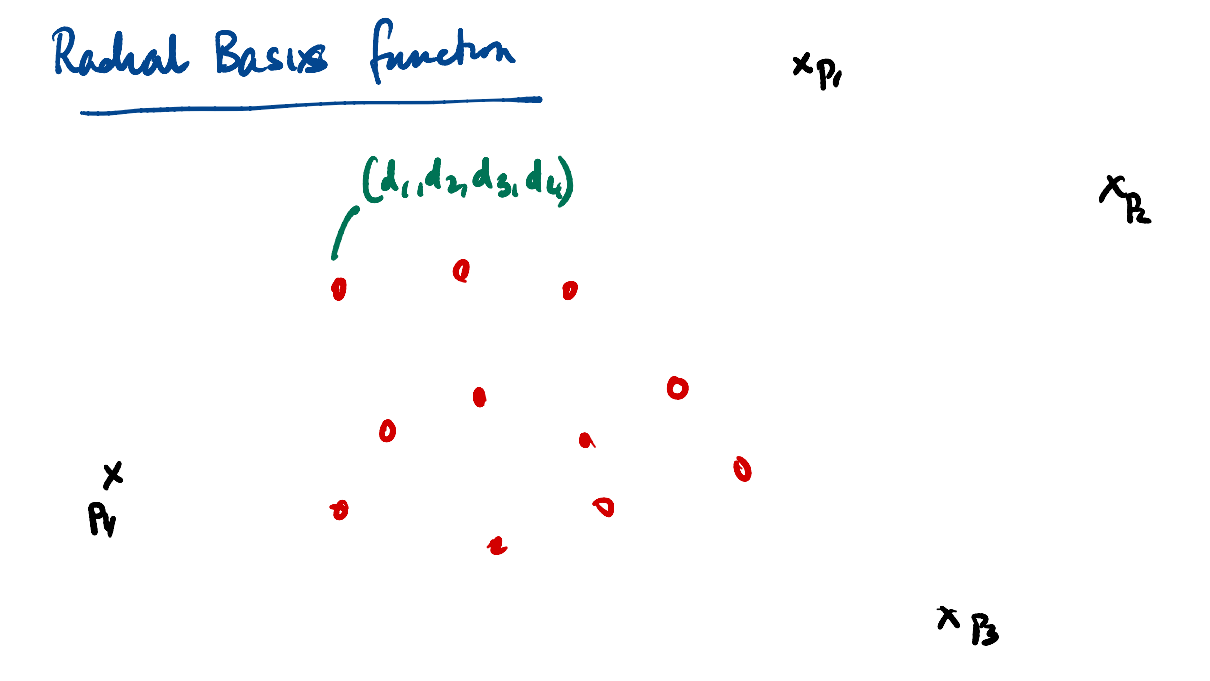
- Any $K(x, z)$ representing a similarity measure
- Gaussian radial basis function — similarity based on inverse exponential distance

$$K(x, z) = e^{-c|x-z|^2}$$





Radial Basis function



mid 1990s — 2010

SVM + Kernel was best known classifier

Investment in finding good kernels

Perceptron

$$\sum w_i x_i$$

$$w \cdot z$$