

CS 412 Introduction to Machine Learning

# Support Vector Machine

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Slides credit: Xinhua Zhang

# Support Vector Machine (SVM)

- Discriminant-based: No need to estimate densities first
- Define the discriminant in terms of support vectors
- Convex optimization problems with a unique solution

# Hyperplane that correctly separates

$$\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x}^t, r^t\}_t \text{ where } r^t = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \mathbf{x}^t \in C_1 \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathbf{x}^t \in C_2 \end{cases}$$

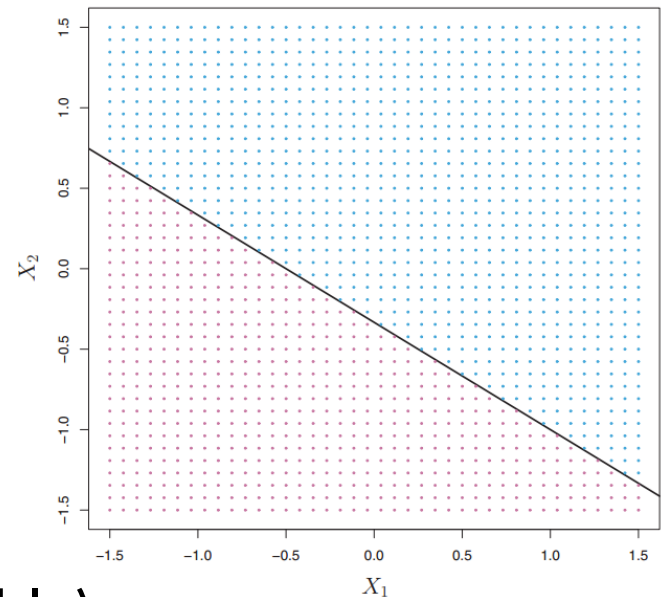
find  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $w_0$  such that

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0 \geq 0 \text{ for } r^t = +1$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0 \leq 0 \text{ for } r^t = -1$$

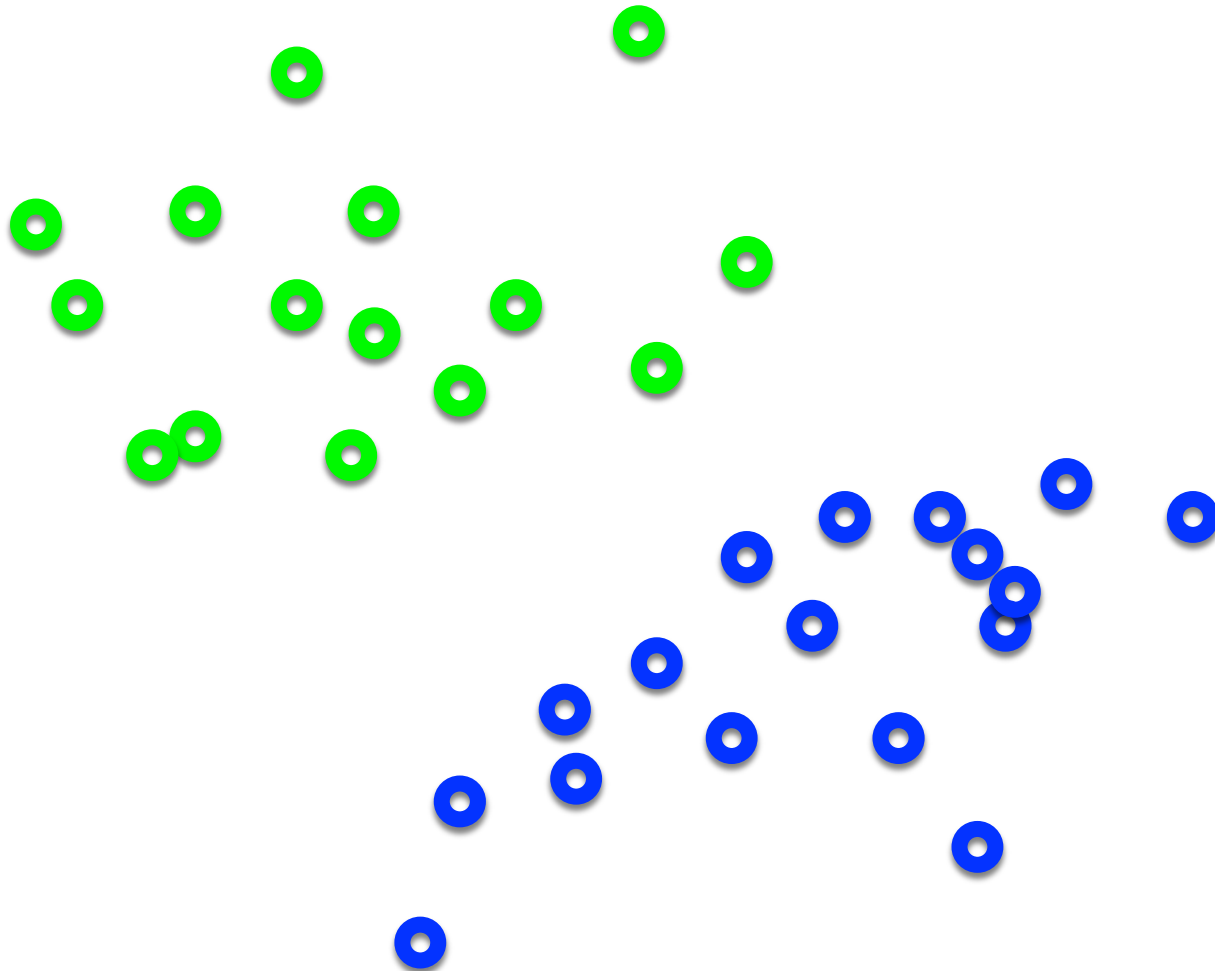
which can be rewritten as

$$r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq 0$$

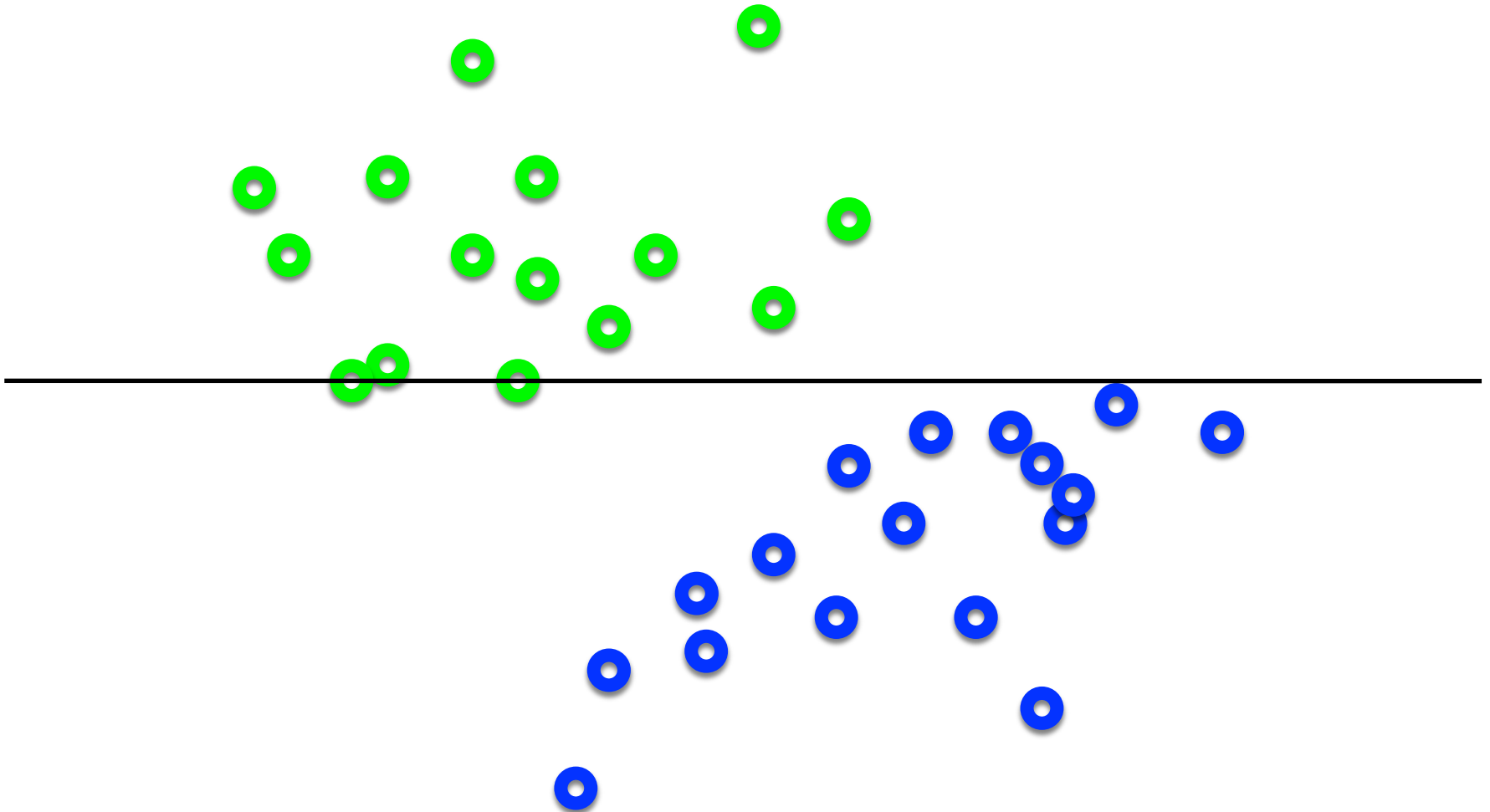


- Usually no solutions (not linearly separable)
- But...assume there is a solution, then what?

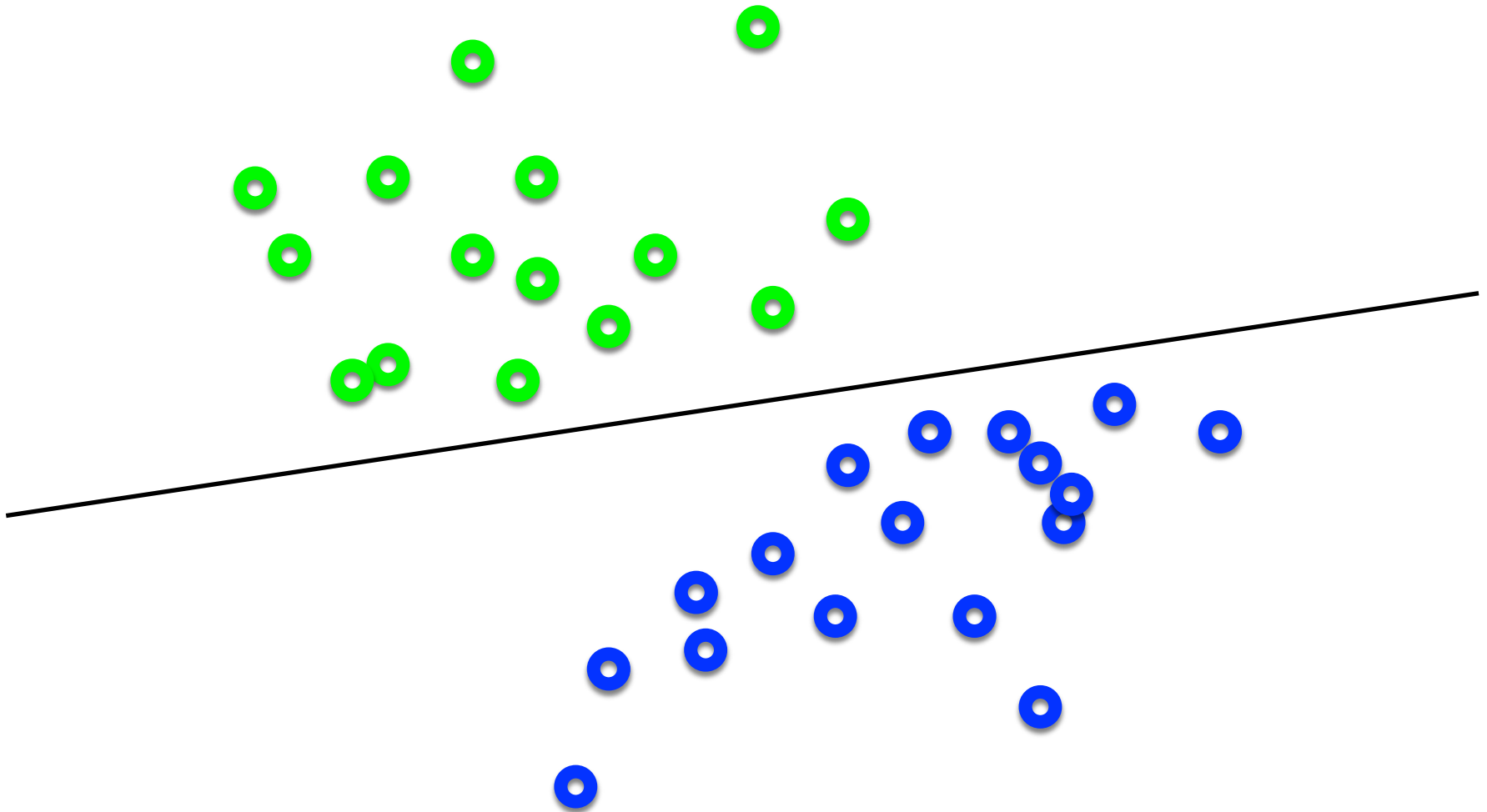
What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



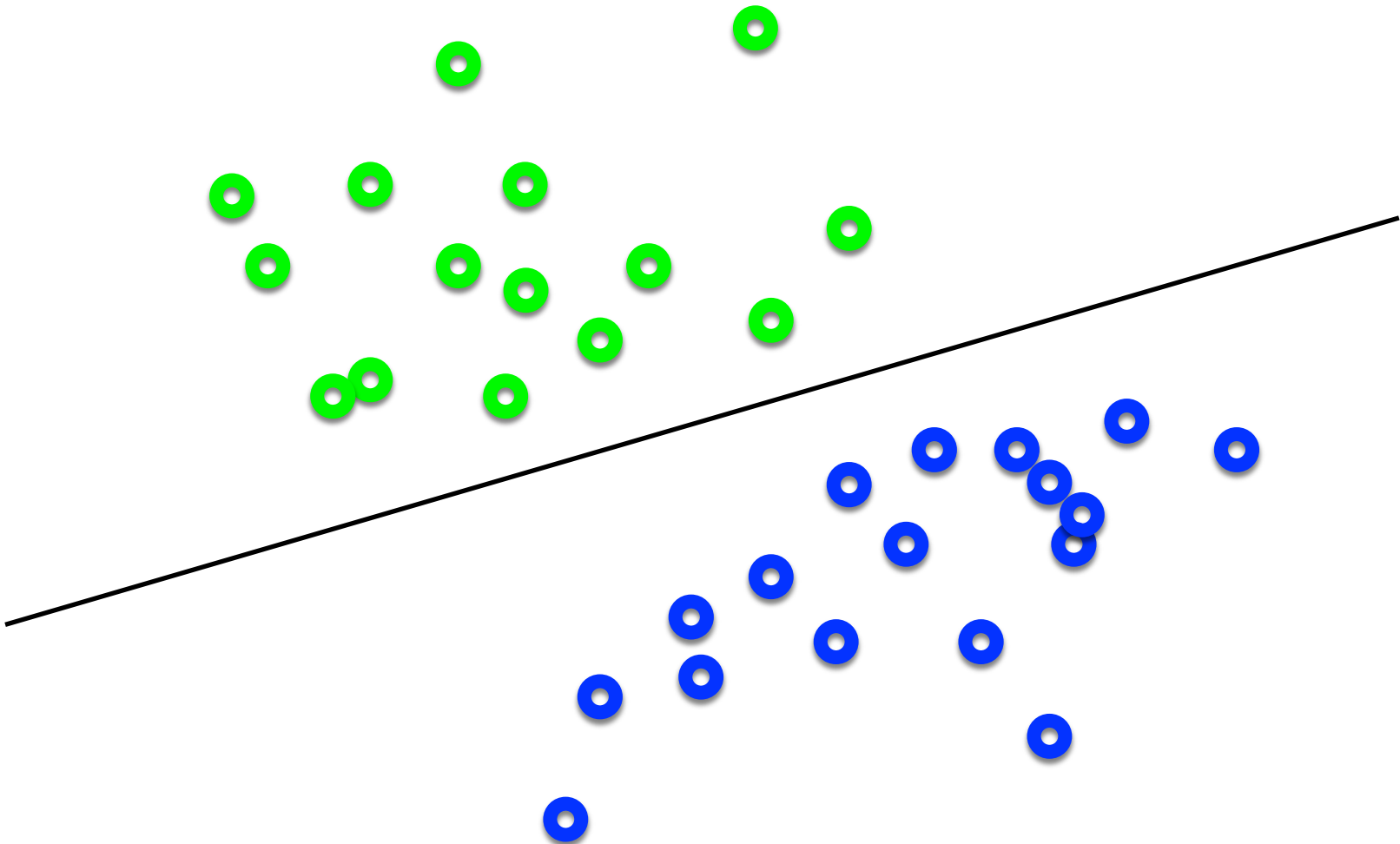
What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



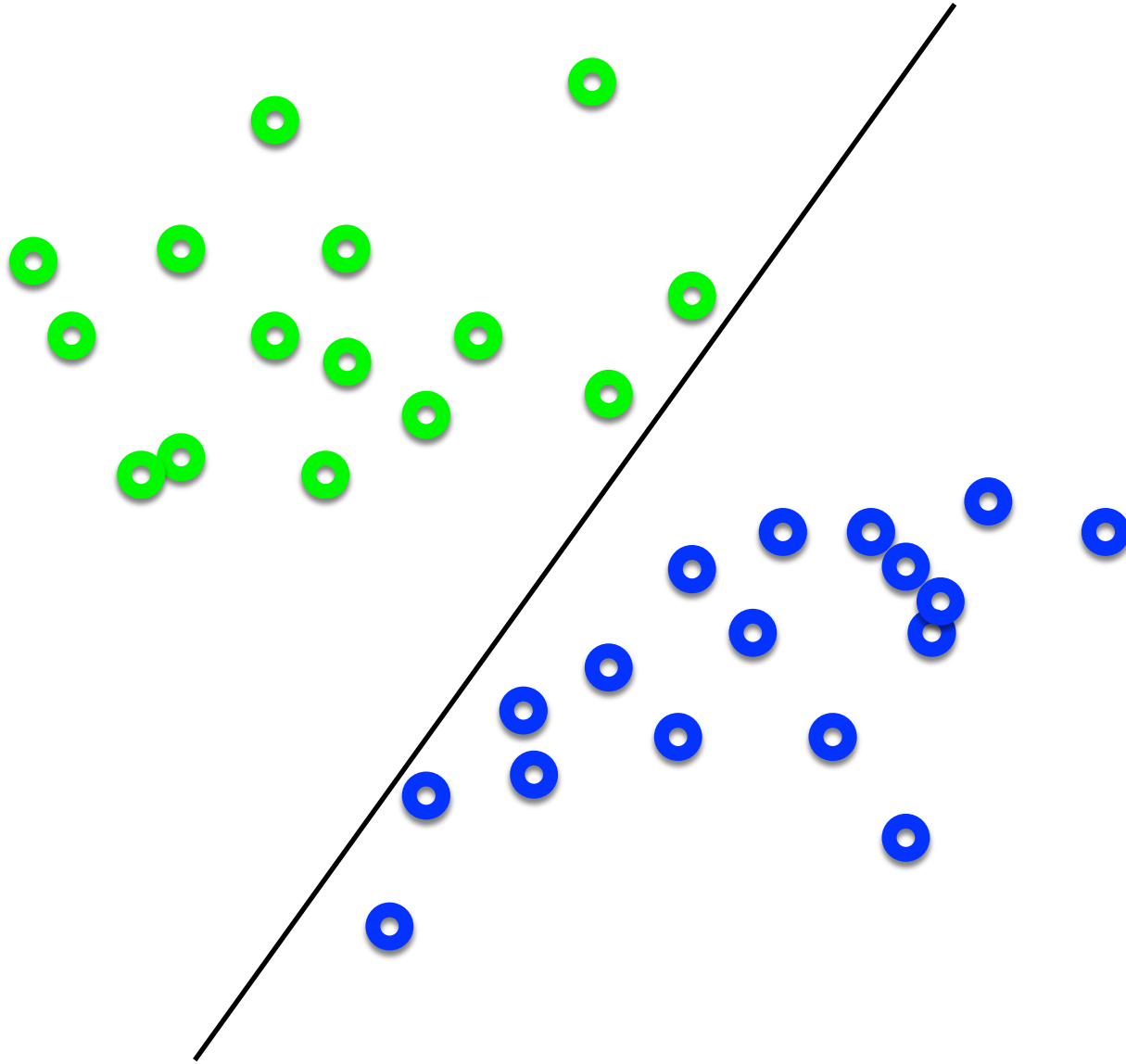
What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?

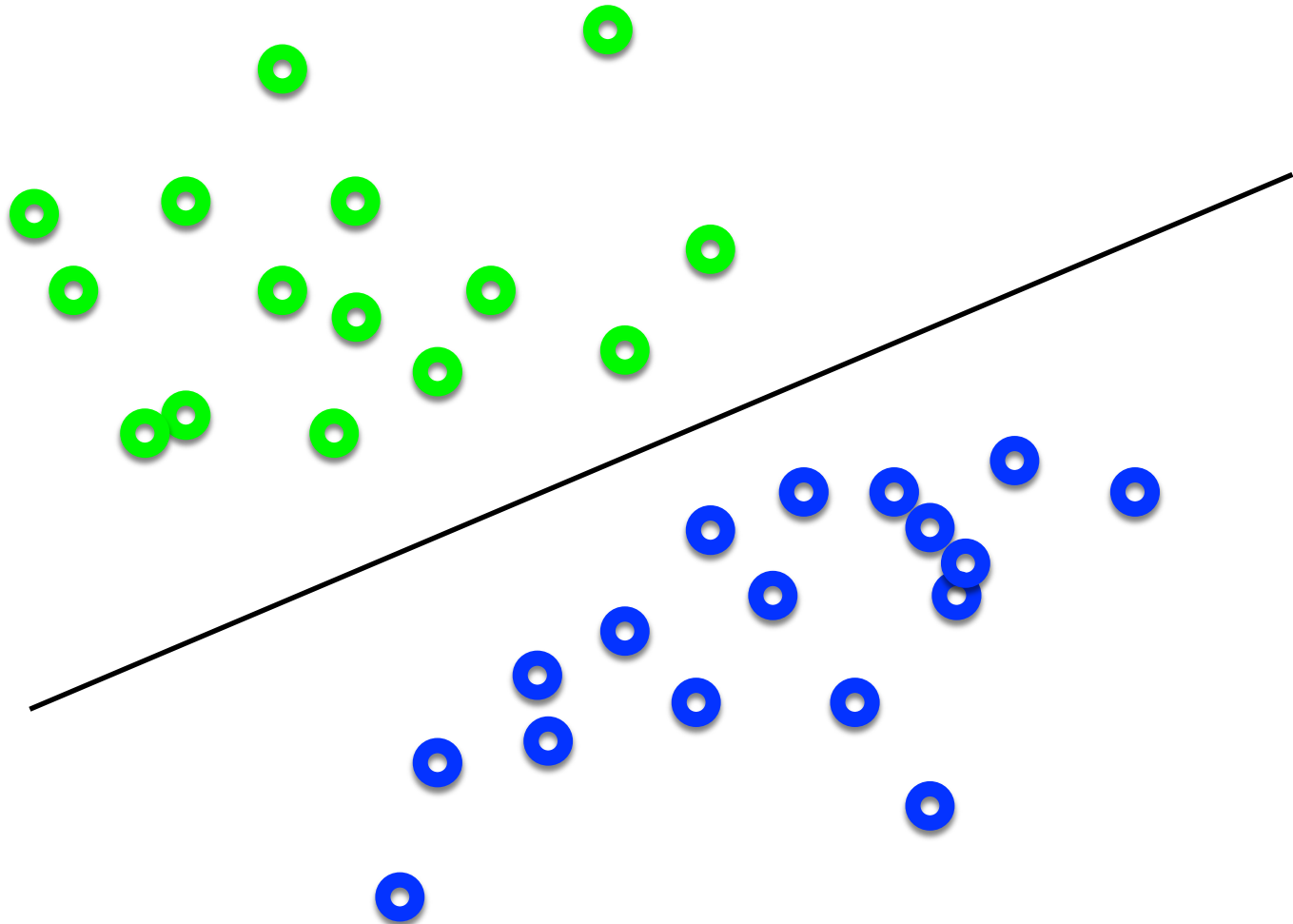


What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



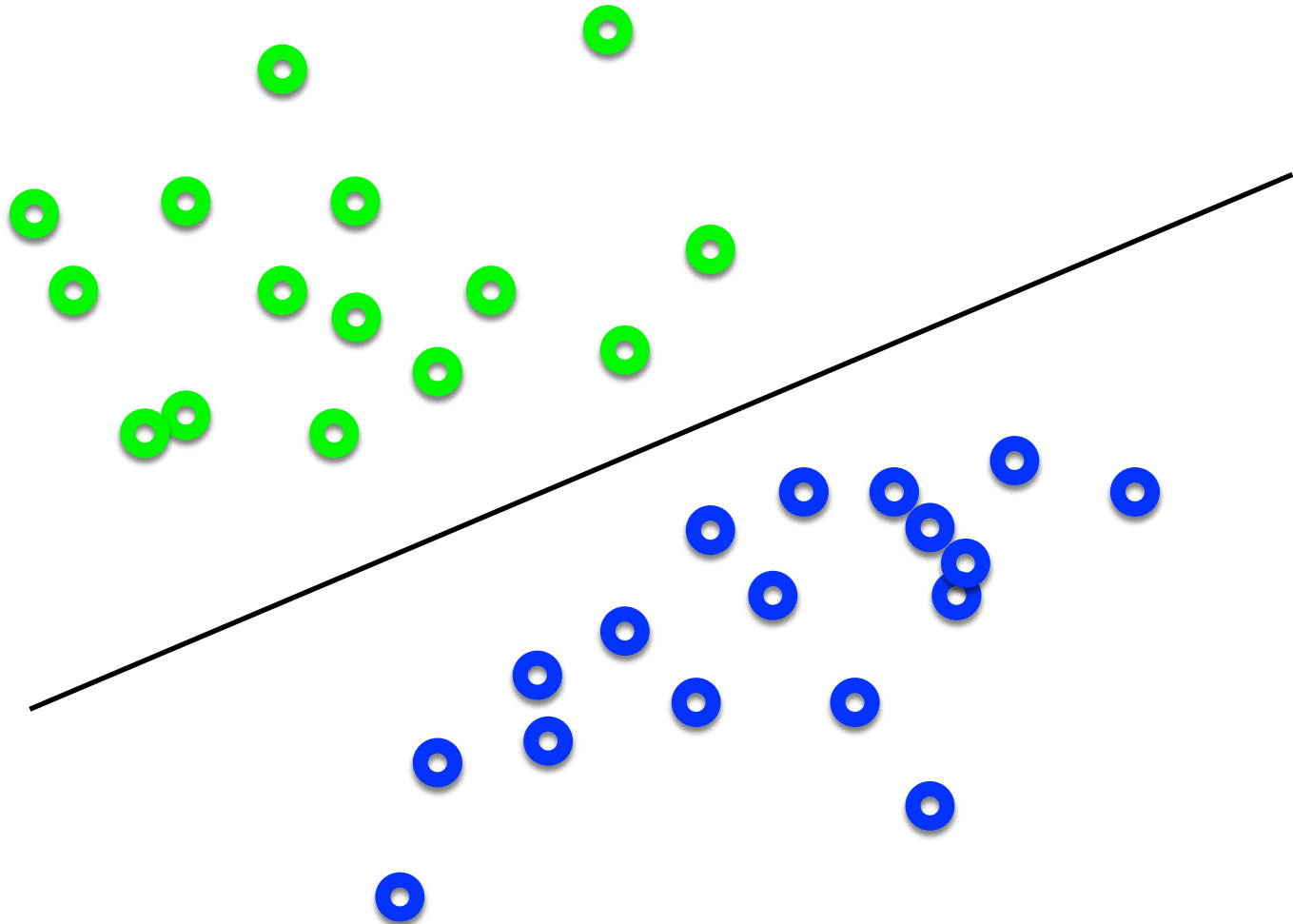


What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



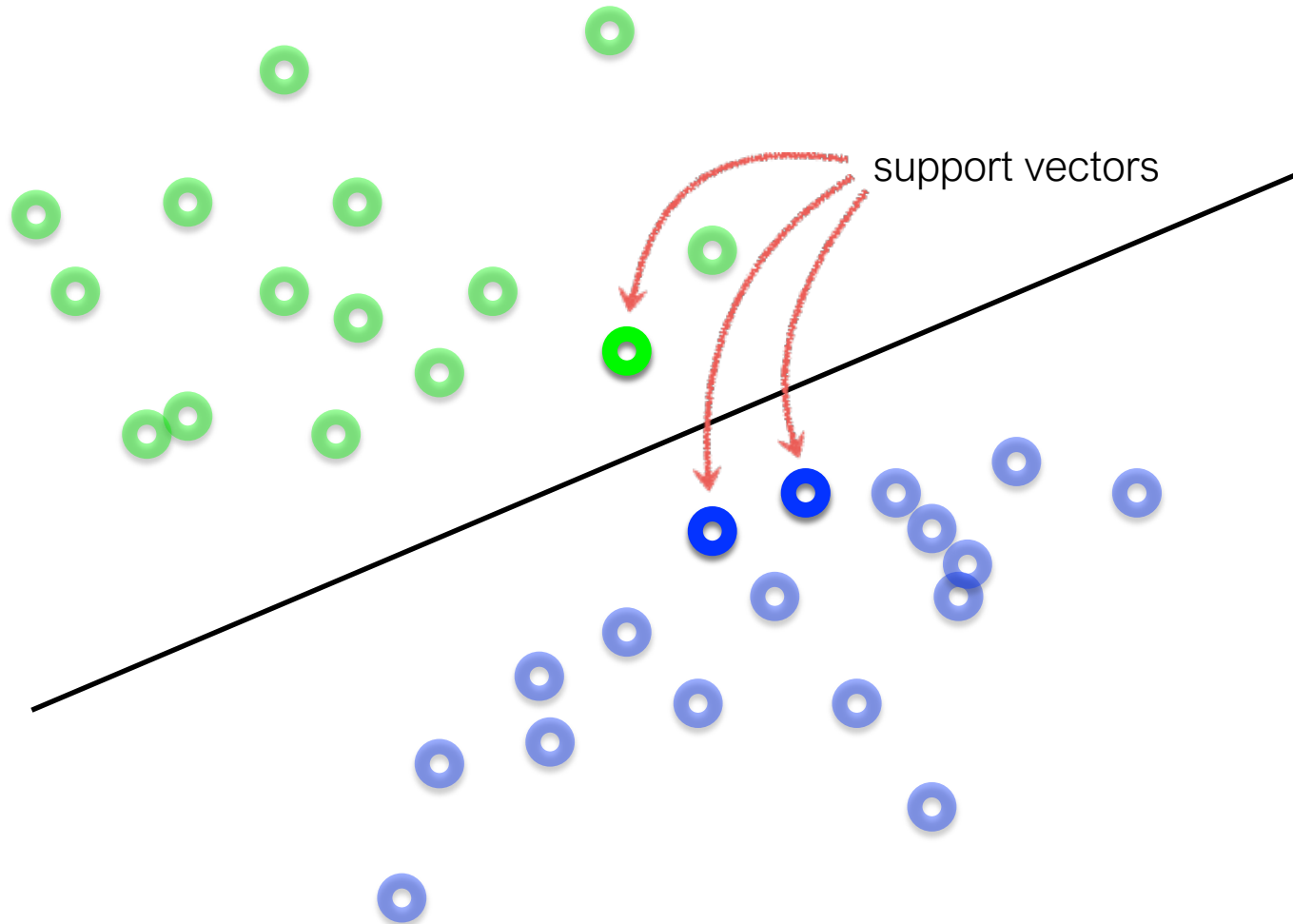
**Intuitively**, the line that the one that represents the largest separation, or margin, between the two classes

What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



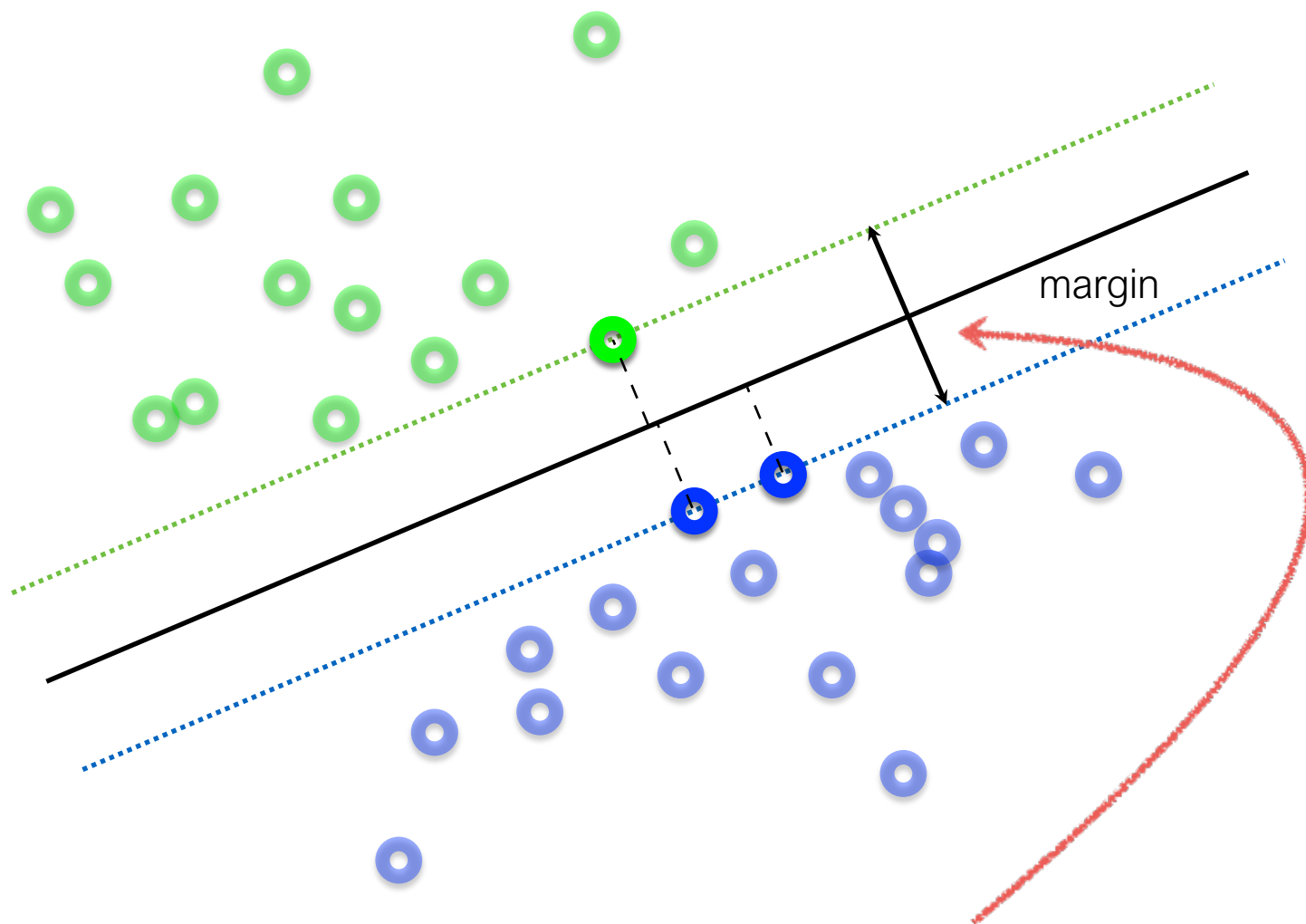
**Maximum Margin solution:** most stable to perturbations of data

What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



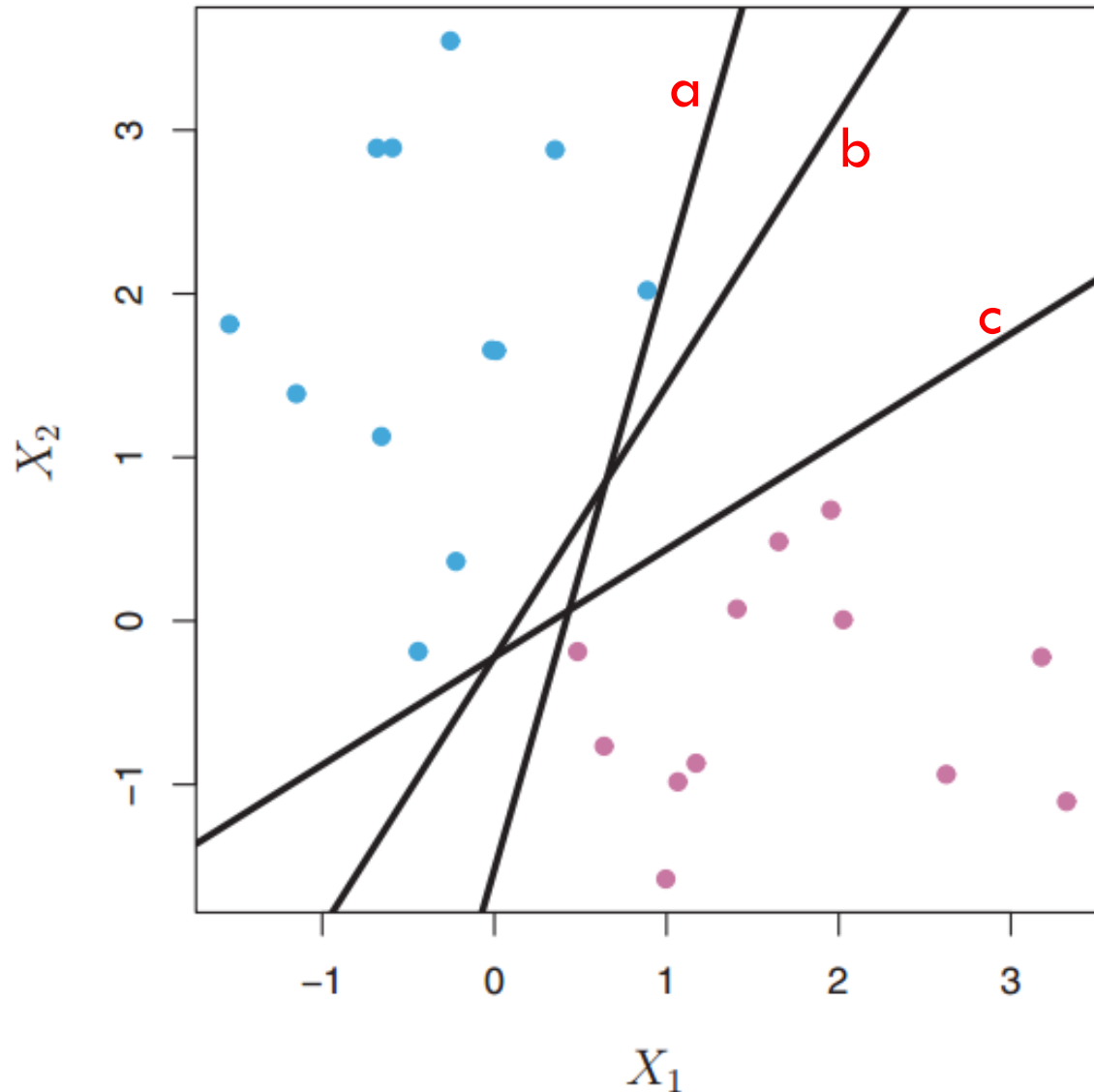
Want a hyperplane that represents the largest separation, or margin, between the two classes

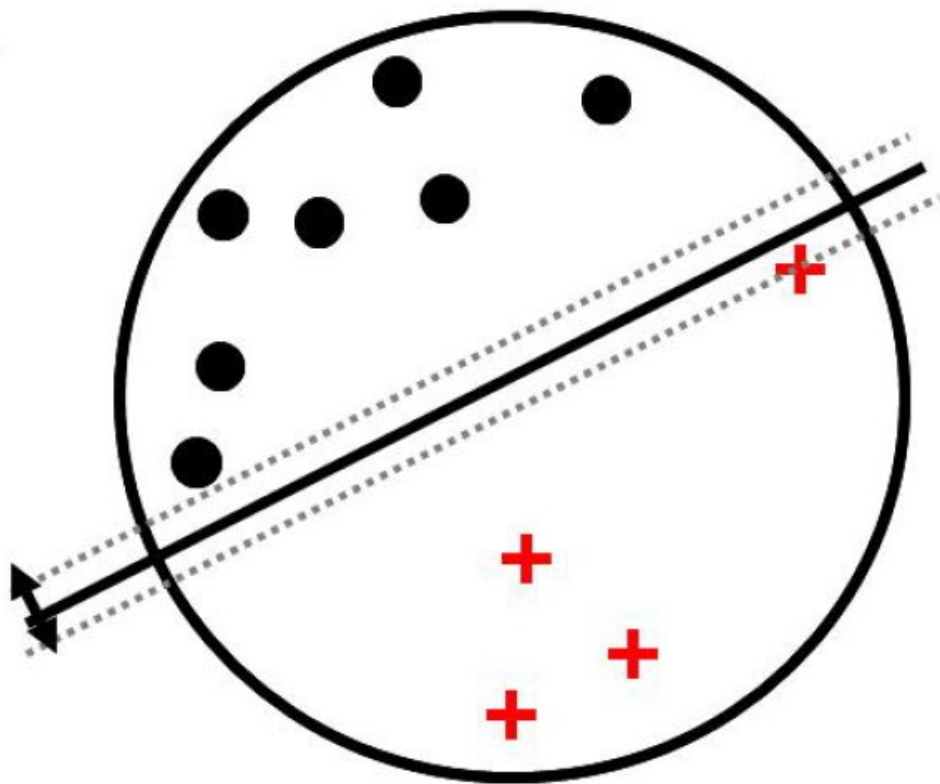
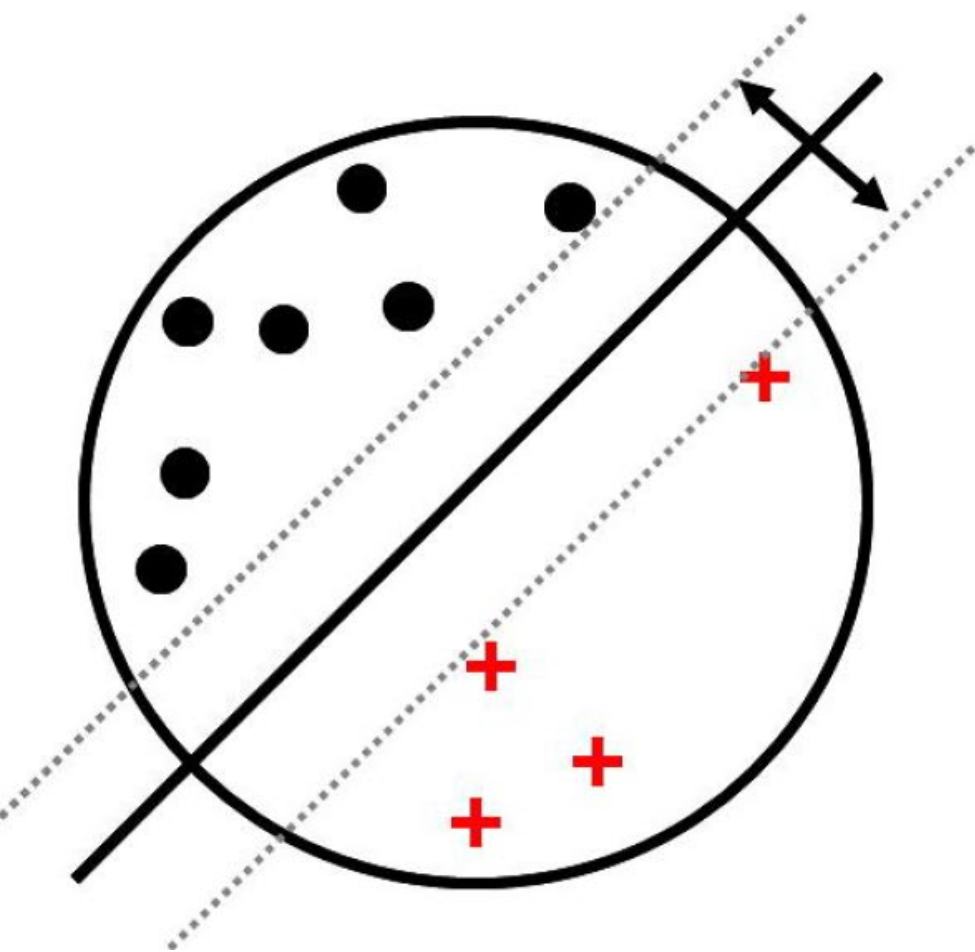
Find hyperplane  $\mathbf{w}$  such that ...



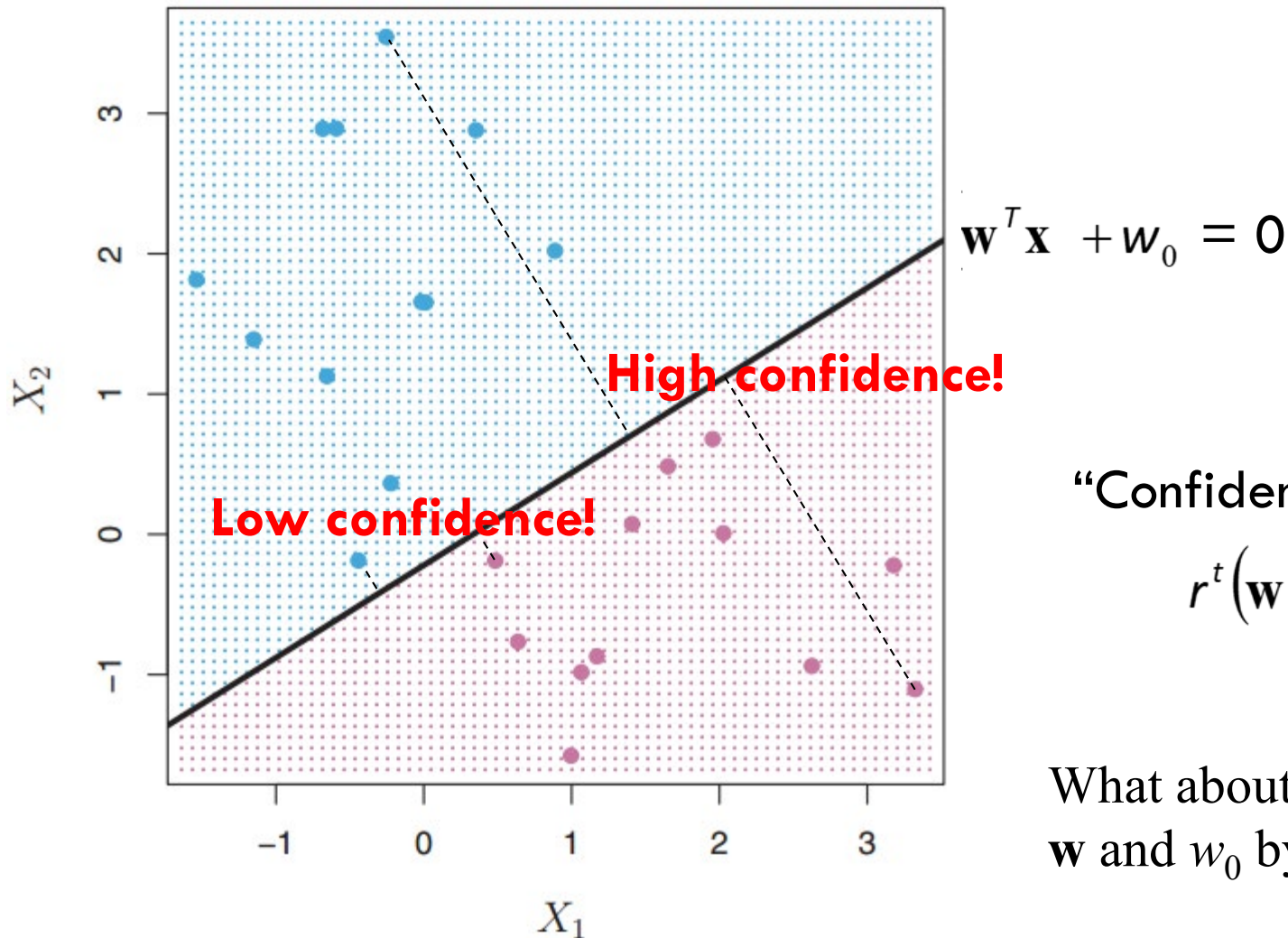
the gap between parallel hyperplanes is maximized

# Linear classifiers: Which hyperplane is best?





# “Confidence” of Predictions



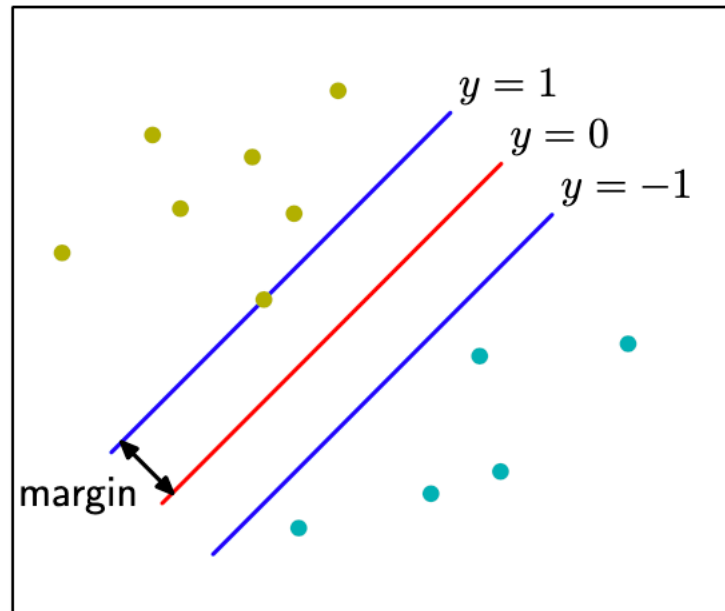
“Confidence” =

$$r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0)$$

What about multiplying  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $w_0$  by 2 or 100?

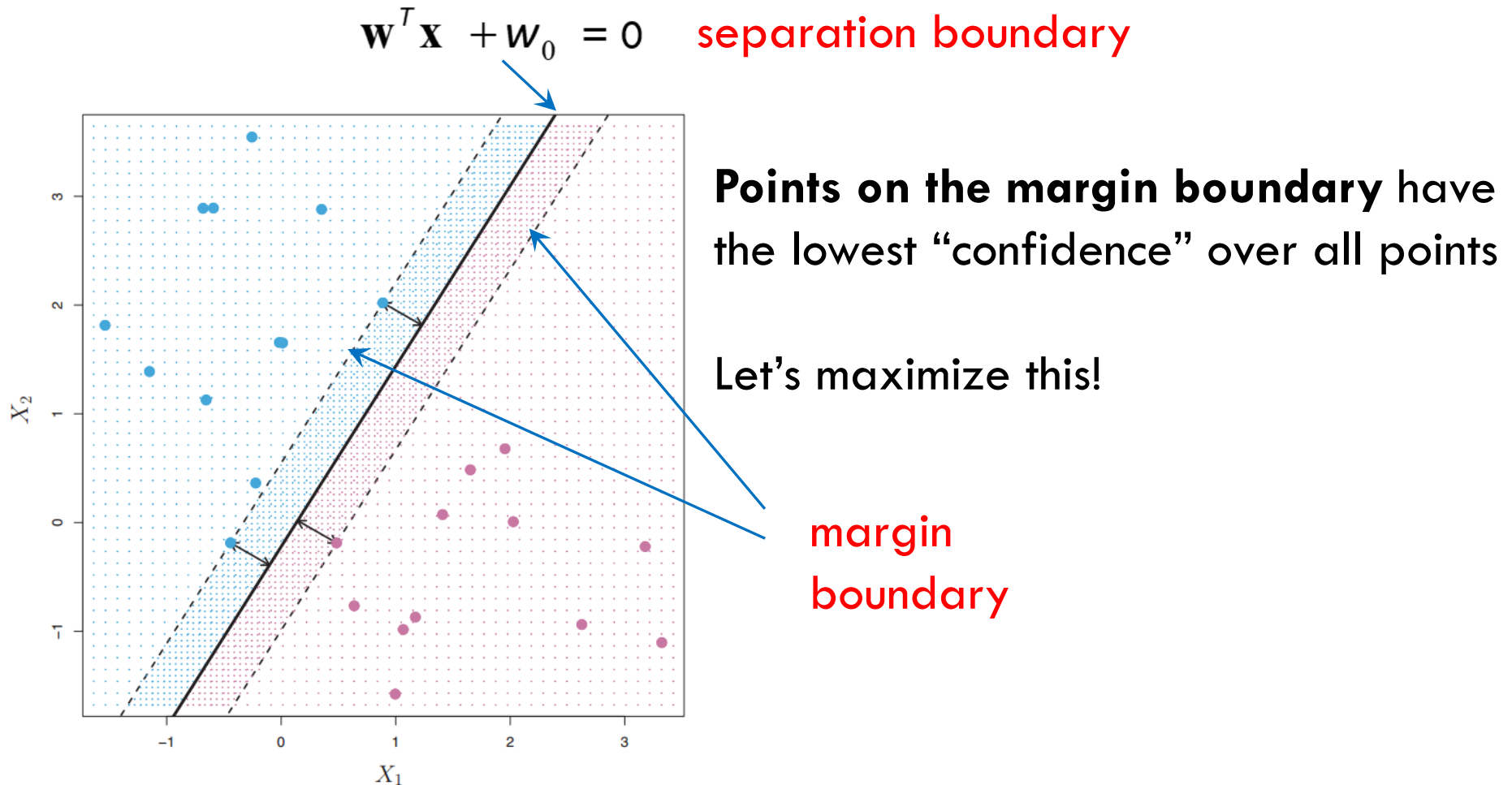
# Margin

- Perpendicular distance between boundary and the closest data point

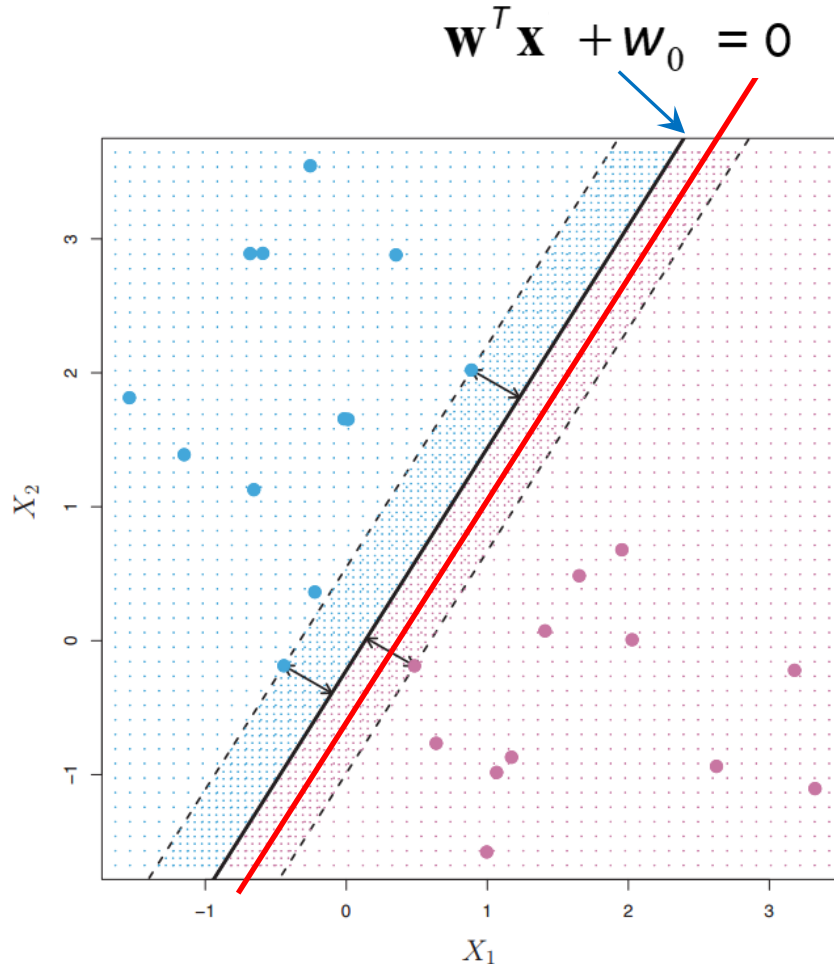




# Pick the one with the largest margin!



# Pick the one with the largest margin!



**Points on the margin boundary** have the lowest “confidence” over all points

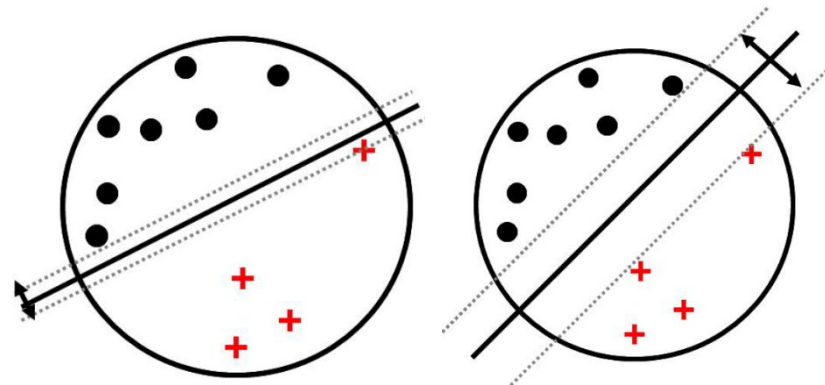
Let's maximize this!

Naturally, we want the margin to be the same for pos and neg

# Hard margin SVM (linearly separable)

- Maximize the distance from the discriminant to the closest instances on either side
- Distance of  $x^t$  to the hyperplane is  $\frac{r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0)}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$
- Margin of the dataset  $\min_t \frac{r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0)}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$
- Find the  $(w, w_0)$  hyperplane that **maximizes** the margin

$$\max_{w, w_0} \min_t \frac{r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0)}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$



# Hard margin SVM (linearly separable)

- Find the  $(w, w_0)$  hyperplane that maximizes the margin

$$\max_{w, w_0} \min_t \frac{r^t (w^T x^t + w_0)}{\|w\|} = \max_{w, w_0} \frac{\min_t r^t (w^T x^t + w_0)}{\|w\|}$$

- Key idea: restrict the search on  $(w, w_0)$  to those such that

$$\min_t r^t (w^T x^t + w_0) = 1$$

find  $w$  and  $w_0$  such that

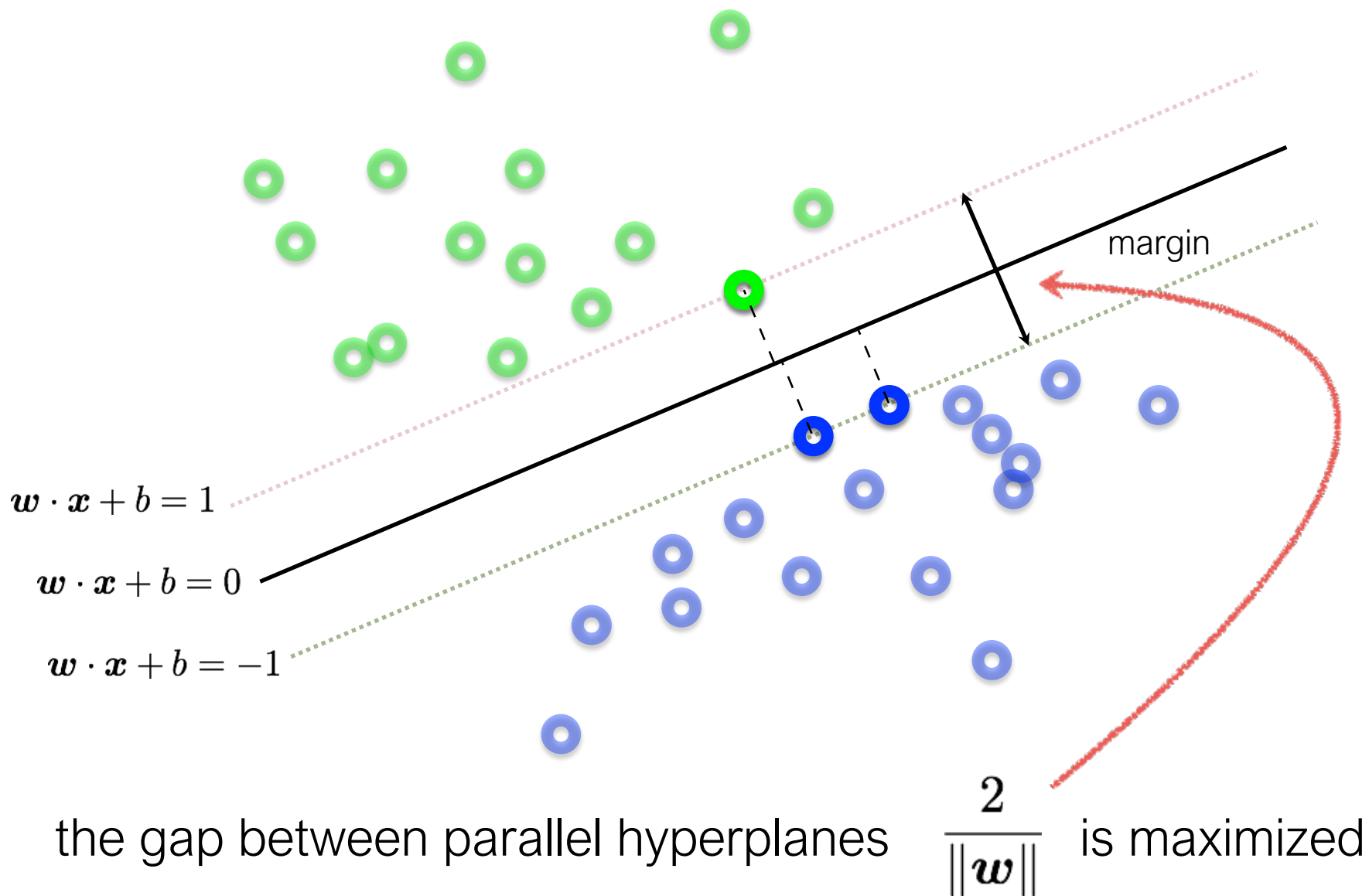
$$w^T x^t + w_0 \geq +1 \text{ for } r^t = +1$$

$$w^T x^t + w_0 \leq -1 \text{ for } r^t = -1$$

- Eventually,  $\max_{w, w_0} \frac{1}{\|w\|} \iff \min_{w, w_0} \|w\|$

- subject to the constraints in red box

Find hyperplane  $\mathbf{w}$  such that ...



# Hard margin SVM (linearly separable)

- Key idea: restrict the search on  $(w, w_0)$  to those such that

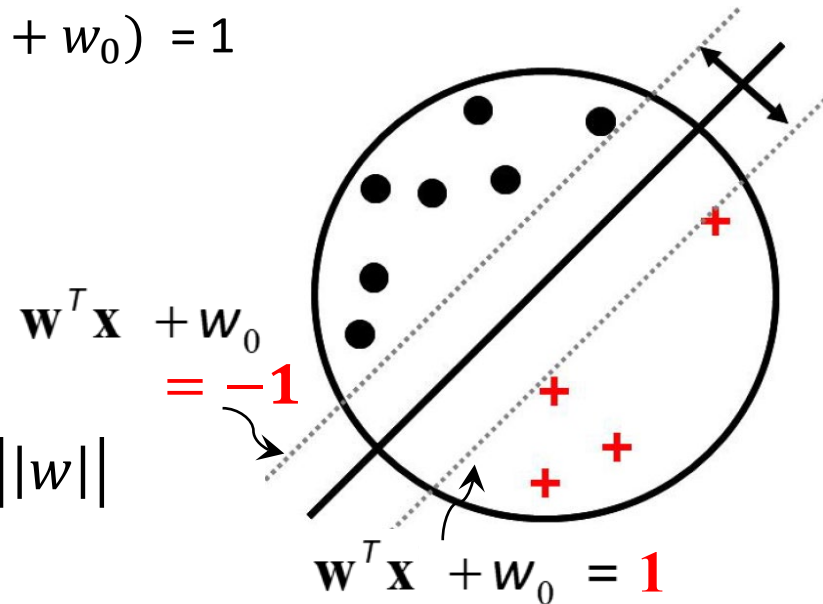
$$\min_t r^t(w^T x^t + w_0) = 1$$

- Eventually,  $\max_{w, w_0} \frac{1}{\|w\|} \iff \min_{w, w_0} \|w\|$

- Putting together

$$\min_{w, w_0} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \text{ subject to } \boxed{r^t(w^T x^t + w_0) \geq +1, \forall t}$$

- At the optimal,  $\min_t r^t(w^T x^t + w_0)$  will be exactly 1, not  $> 1$



# Margin and support vectors

- **Margin  $\rho$**

$$\min_t \frac{r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0)}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$

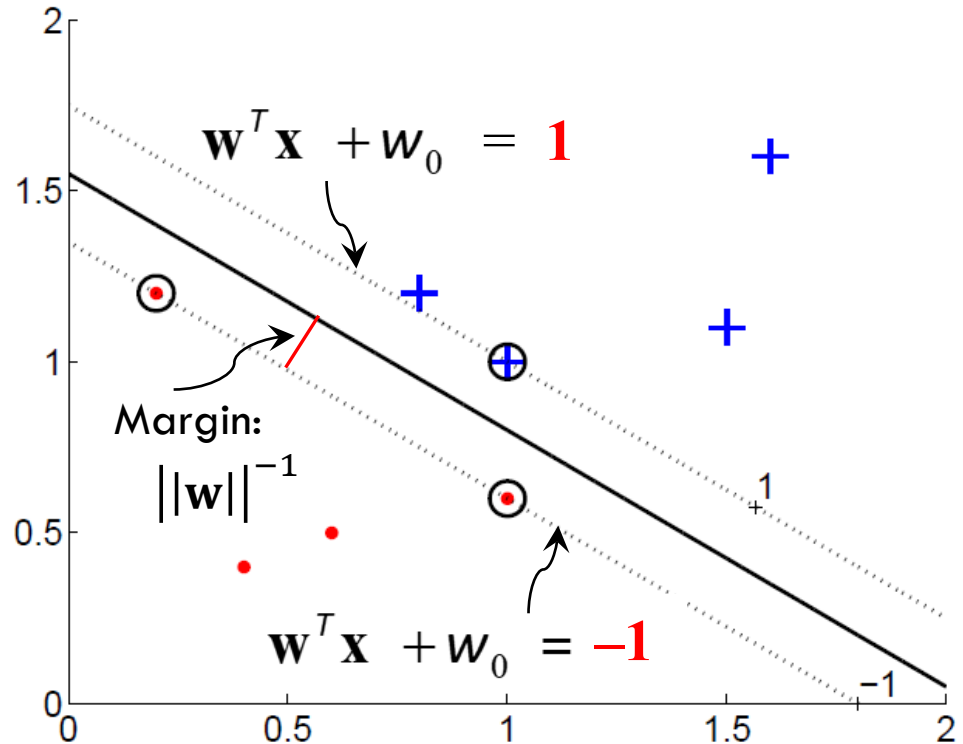
- **Marginal hyperplanes**

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = -1$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = 1$$

- **Separating hyperplane**

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = 0$$



- **Support vectors:** points lying on the **marginal hyperplanes**

- All the examples  $t$  with  $r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) = 1$
- NO change of solution if: remove all other points and retrain support vectors

# Learning

$$\min_{w, w_0} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \text{ subject to } r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq +1, \forall t$$

- Convex optimization: global optimum!
- Quadratic programming: a bunch of packages available
  - ▣ CVXOPT, CVXPY, Gurobi, MOSEK, quadprog ...

```
cvxopt.solvers.qp(P, q [ , G, h [ , A, b [ , solver [ , initvals ] ] ] ) 
```

Solves the pair of primal and dual convex quadratic programs

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & (1/2)x^T P x + q^T x \\ \text{subject to} & Gx \preceq h \\ & Ax = b \end{array}$$

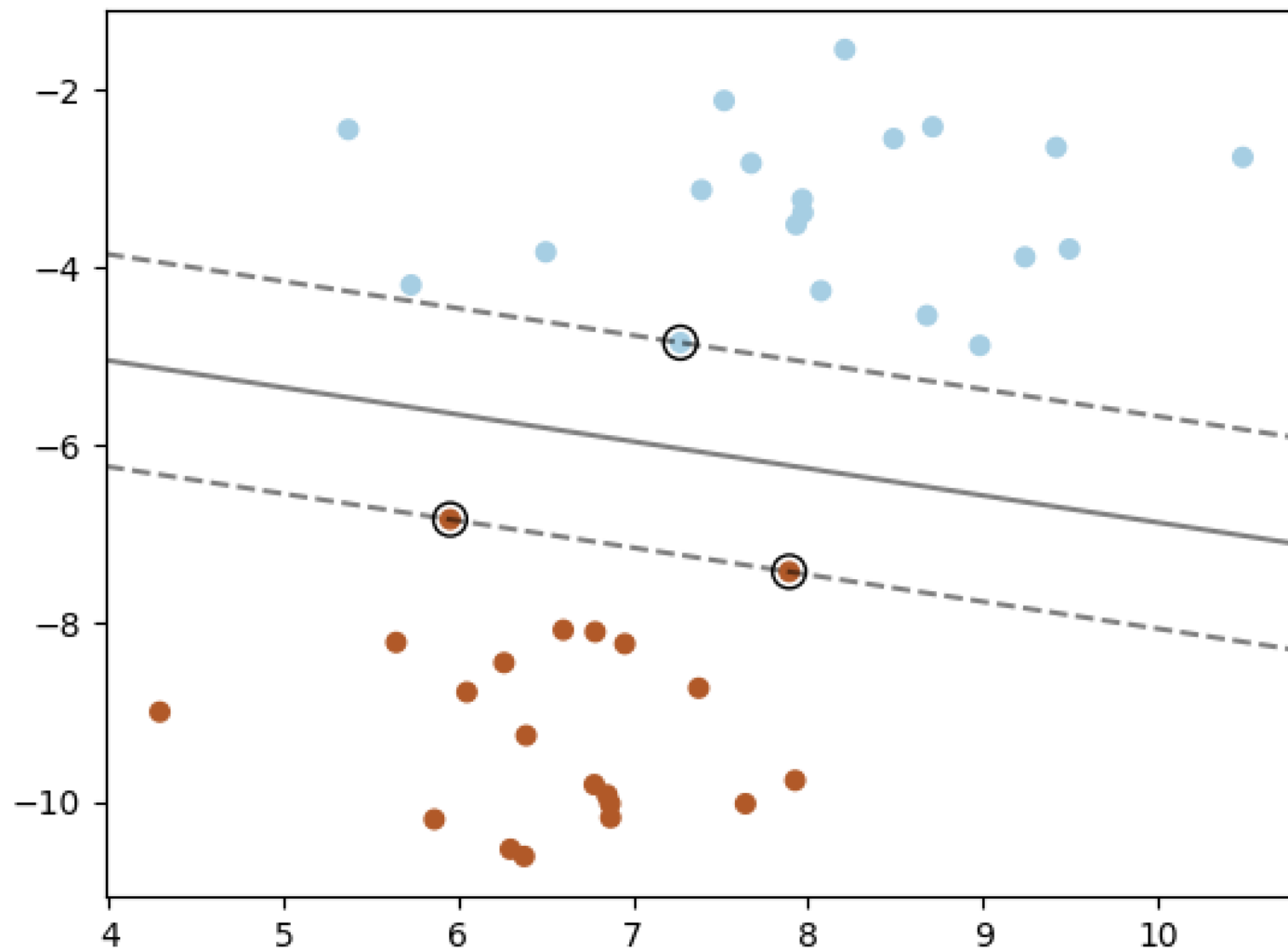


# SVM in scikit-learn

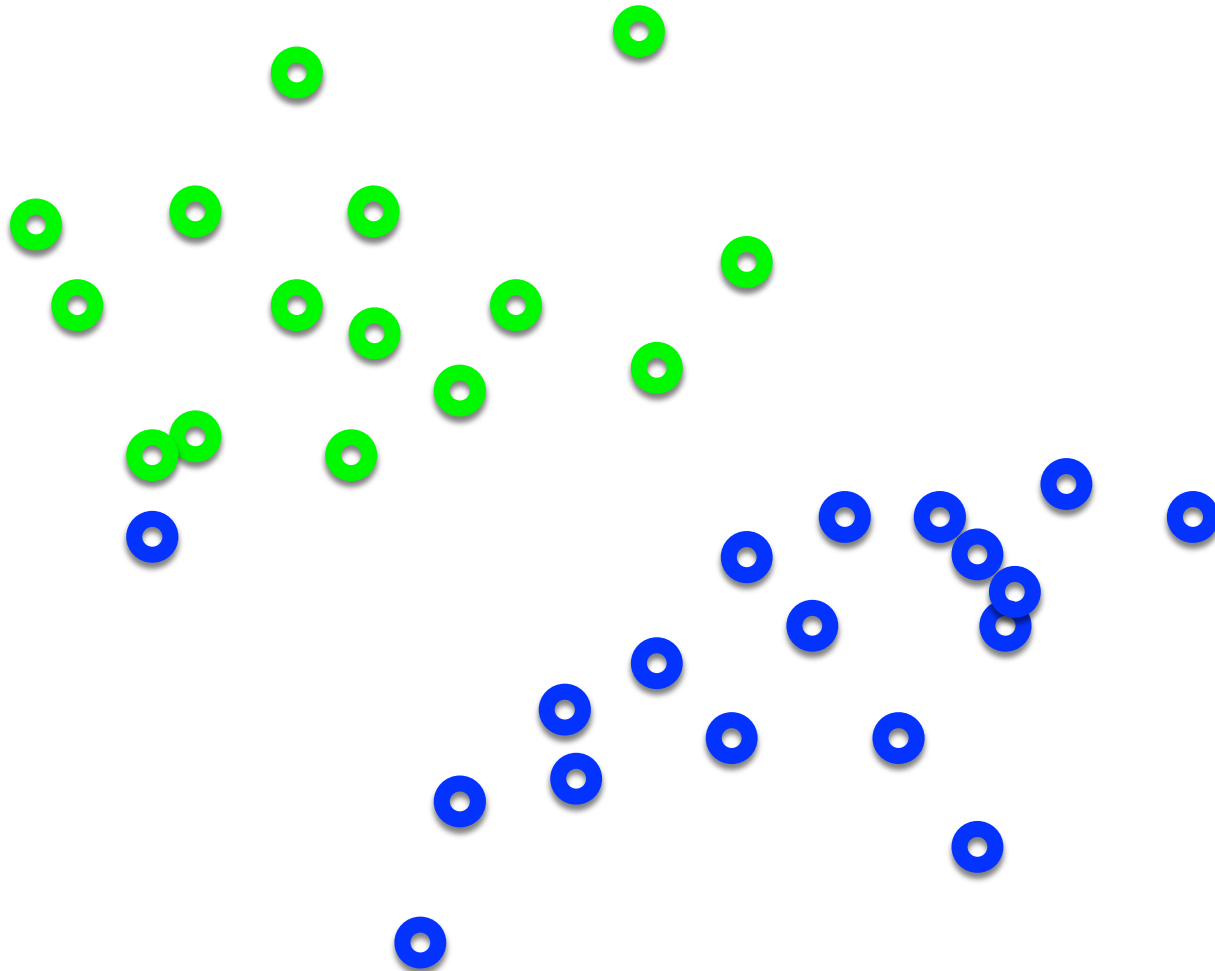
```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from sklearn import svm
from sklearn.datasets import make_blobs

# we create 40 separable points
X, y = make_blobs(n_samples=40, centers=2, random_state=6)

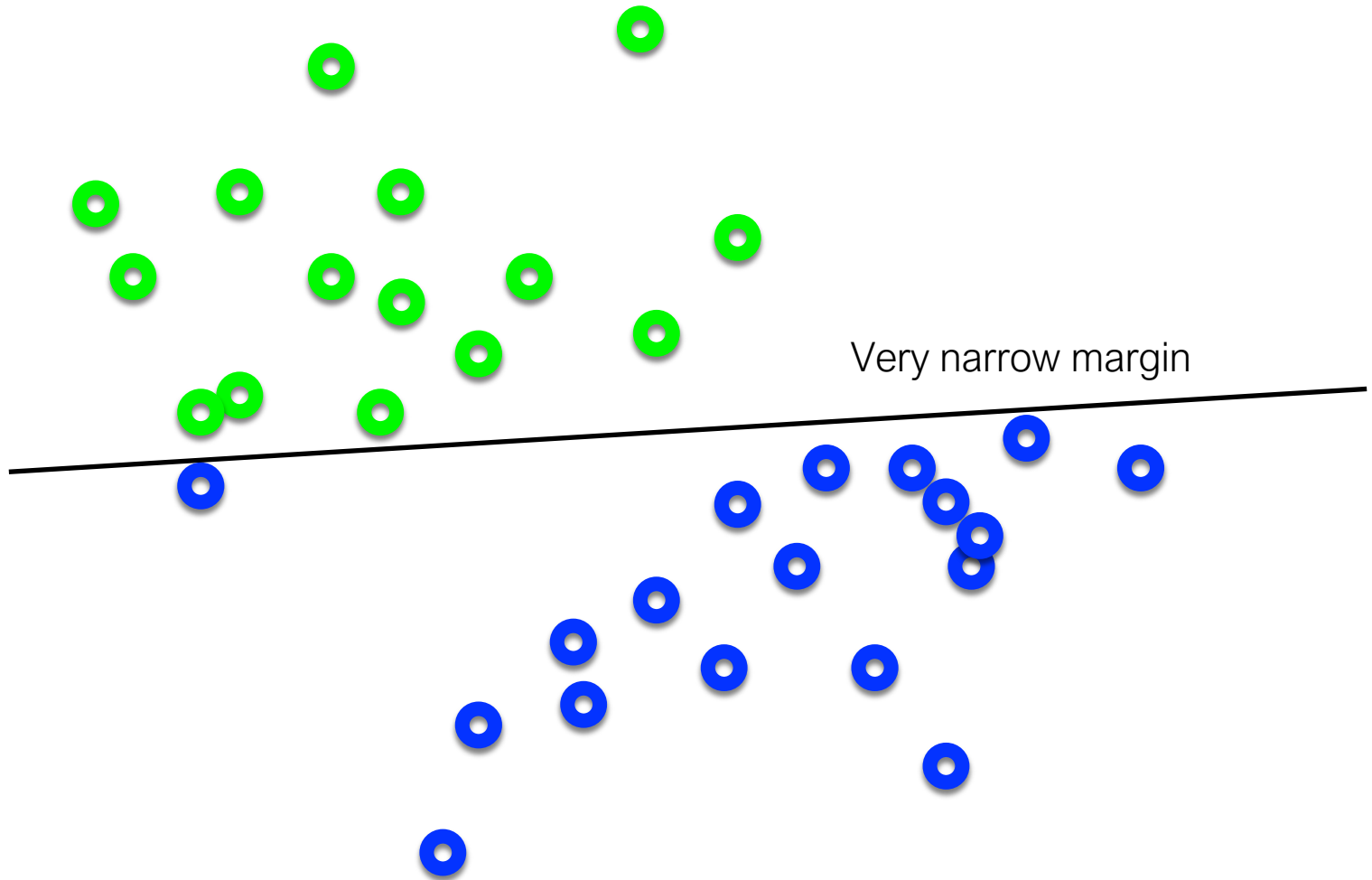
# fit the model, don't regularize for illustration purposes
clf = svm.SVC(kernel='linear')
clf.fit(X, y)
```



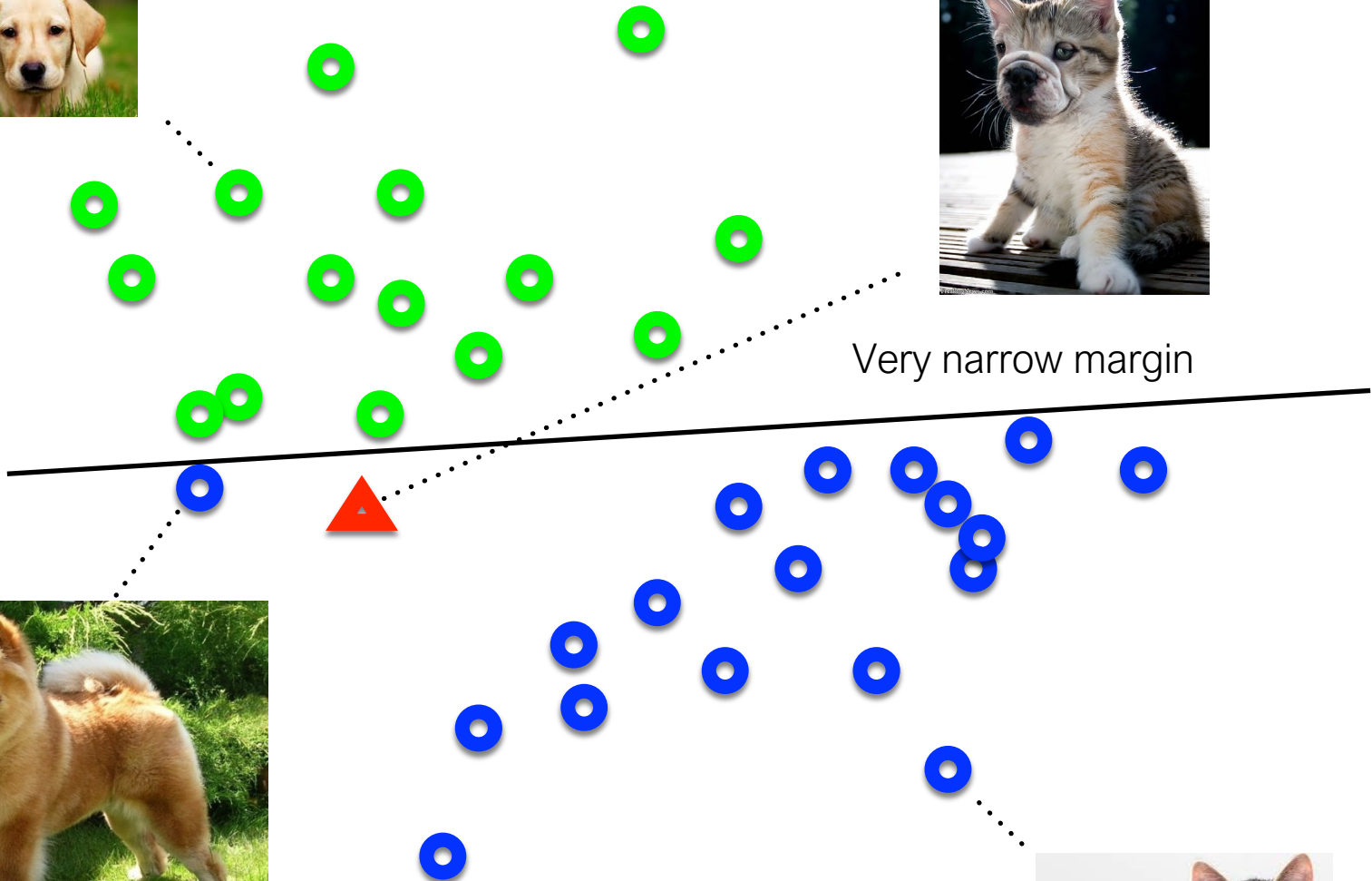
What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



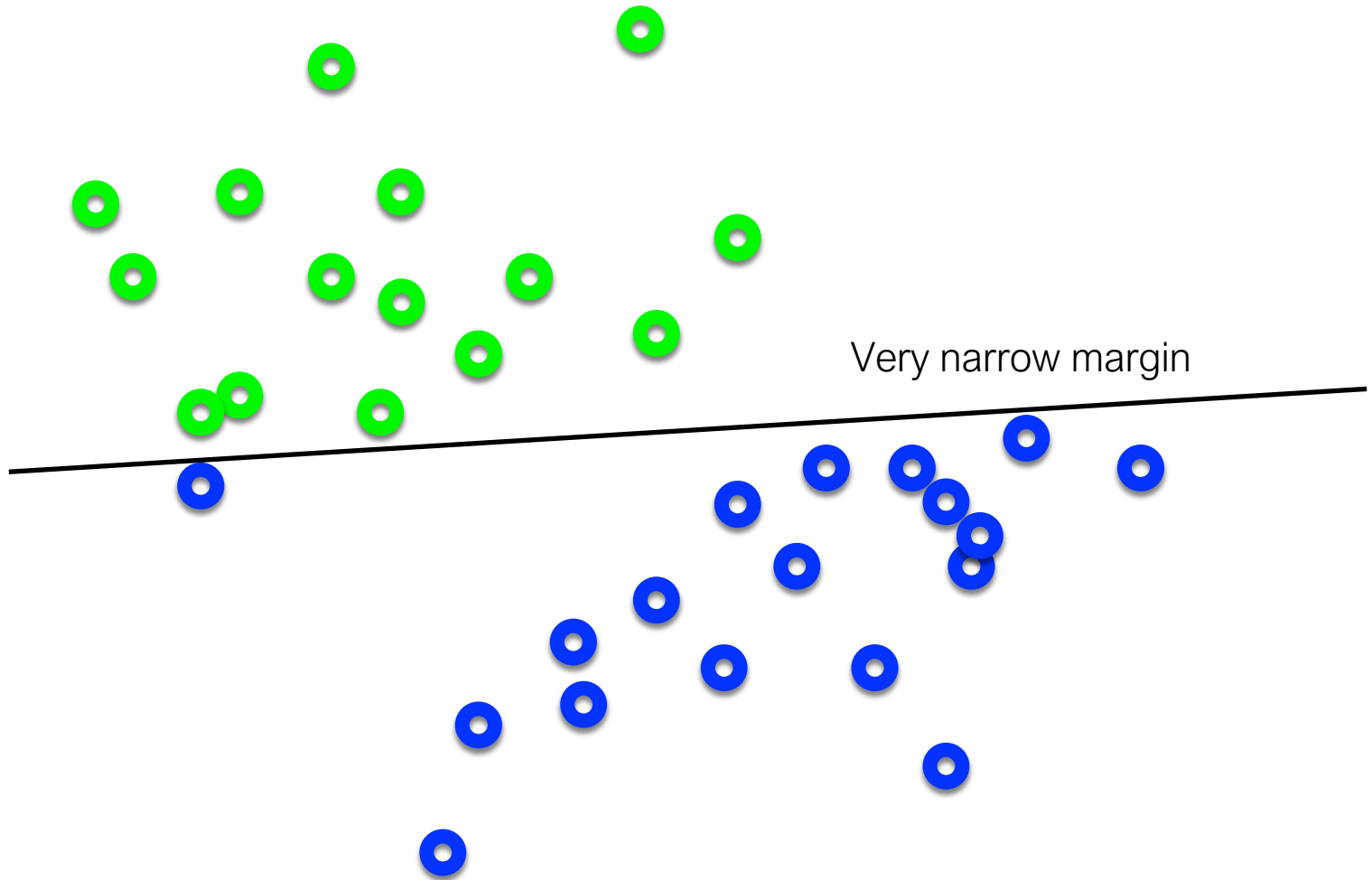
What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



# Separating cats and dogs

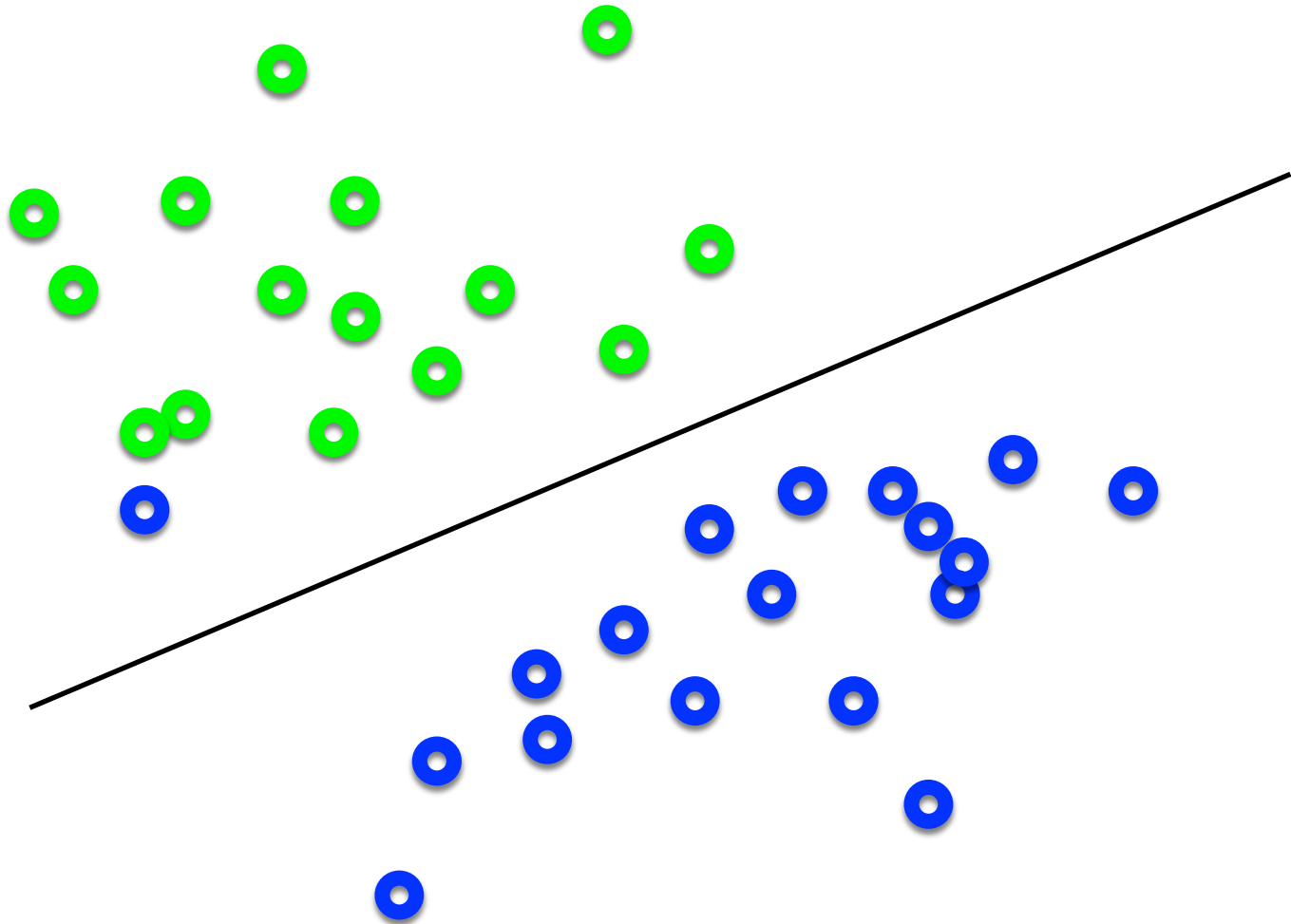


What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



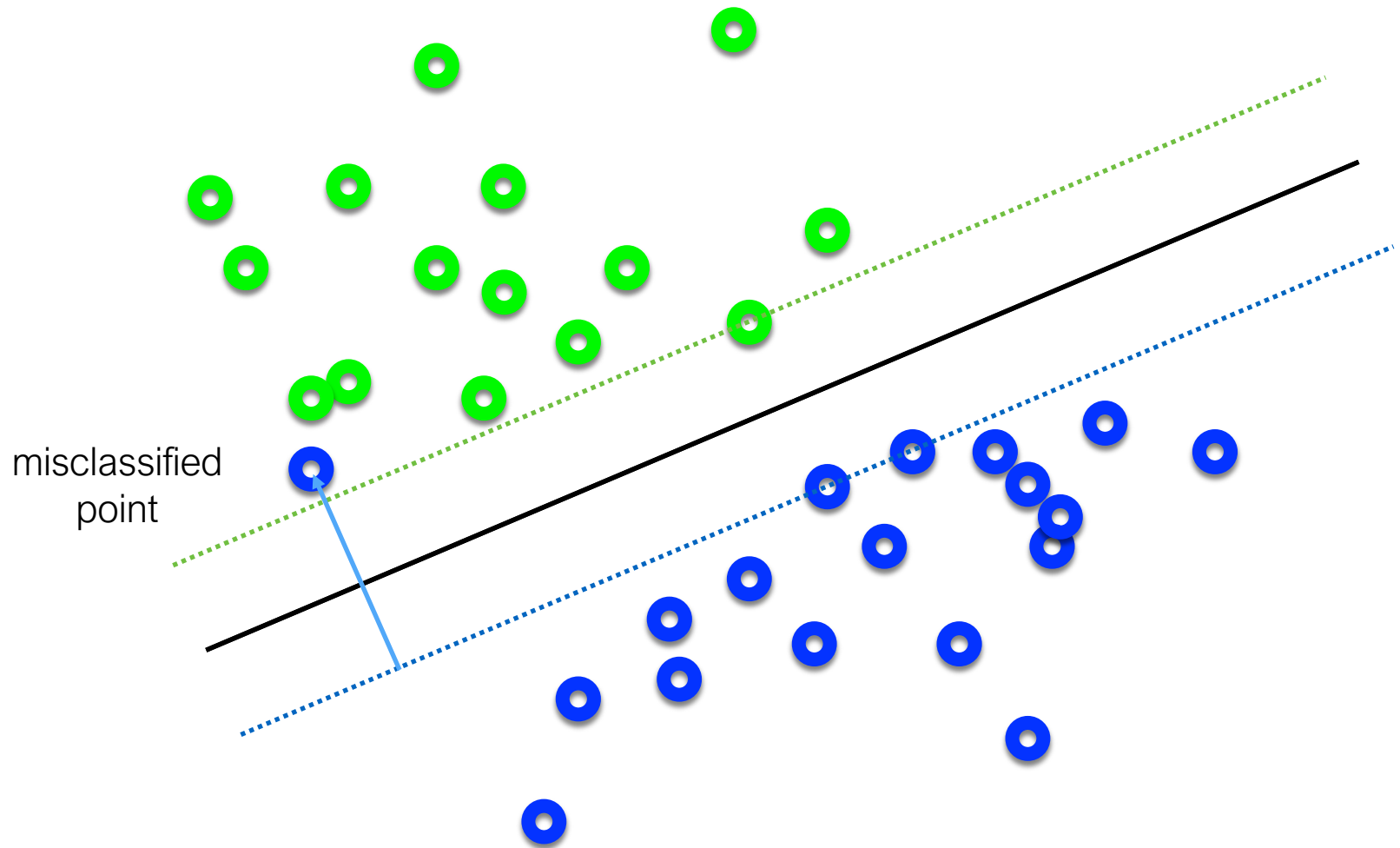
**Intuitively**, we should allow for some misclassification if we can get more robust classification

What's the best  $\mathbf{w}$ ?



Trade-off between the MARGIN and the MISTAKES  
(might be a better solution)

Adding slack variables to relax the hard constraint  $\xi_i \geq 0$





# 'soft' margin

objective

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\xi}} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to

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

# 'soft' margin

objective

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, \xi} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to

$$y_i(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, N$

The slack variable allows for mistakes,  
as long as the inverse margin is minimized.

# 'soft' margin

objective

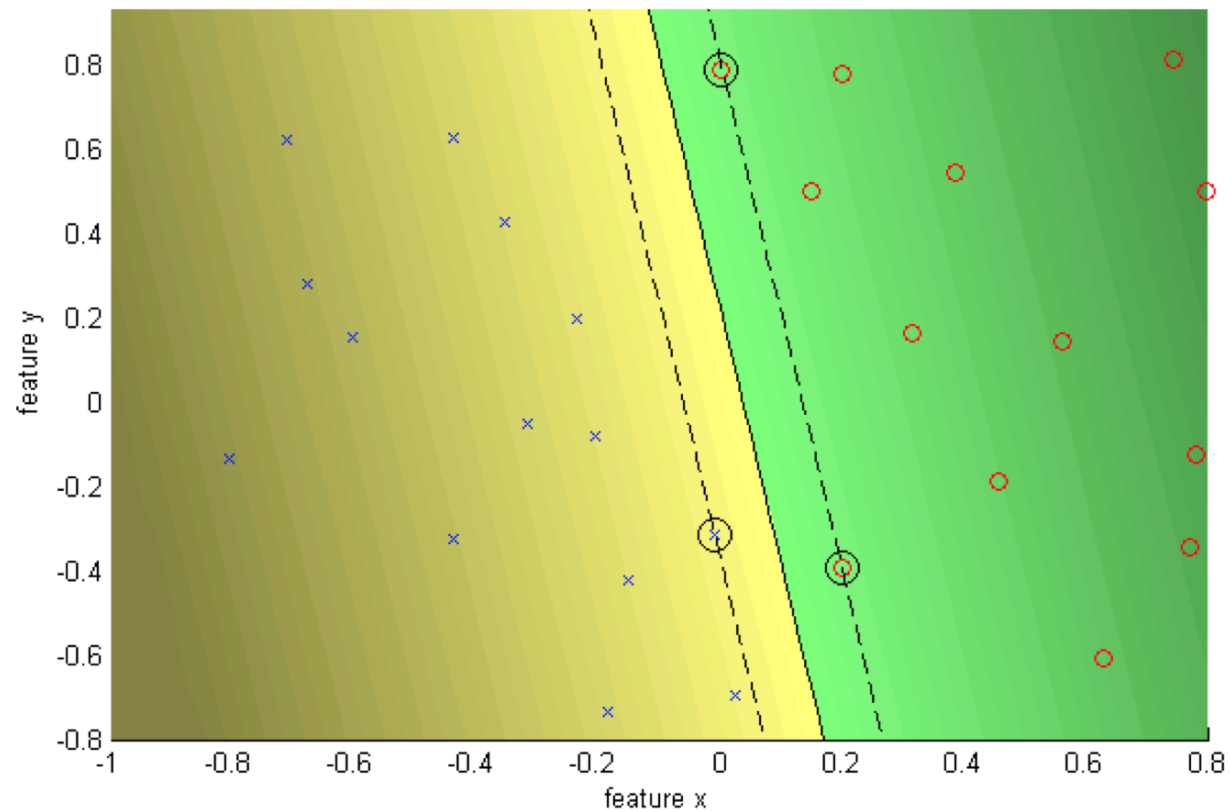
$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\xi}} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to

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

- Every constraint can be satisfied if slack is large
- C is a regularization parameter
  - Small C: ignore constraints (larger margin)
  - Big C: constraints (small margin)
- Still QP problem (unique solution)

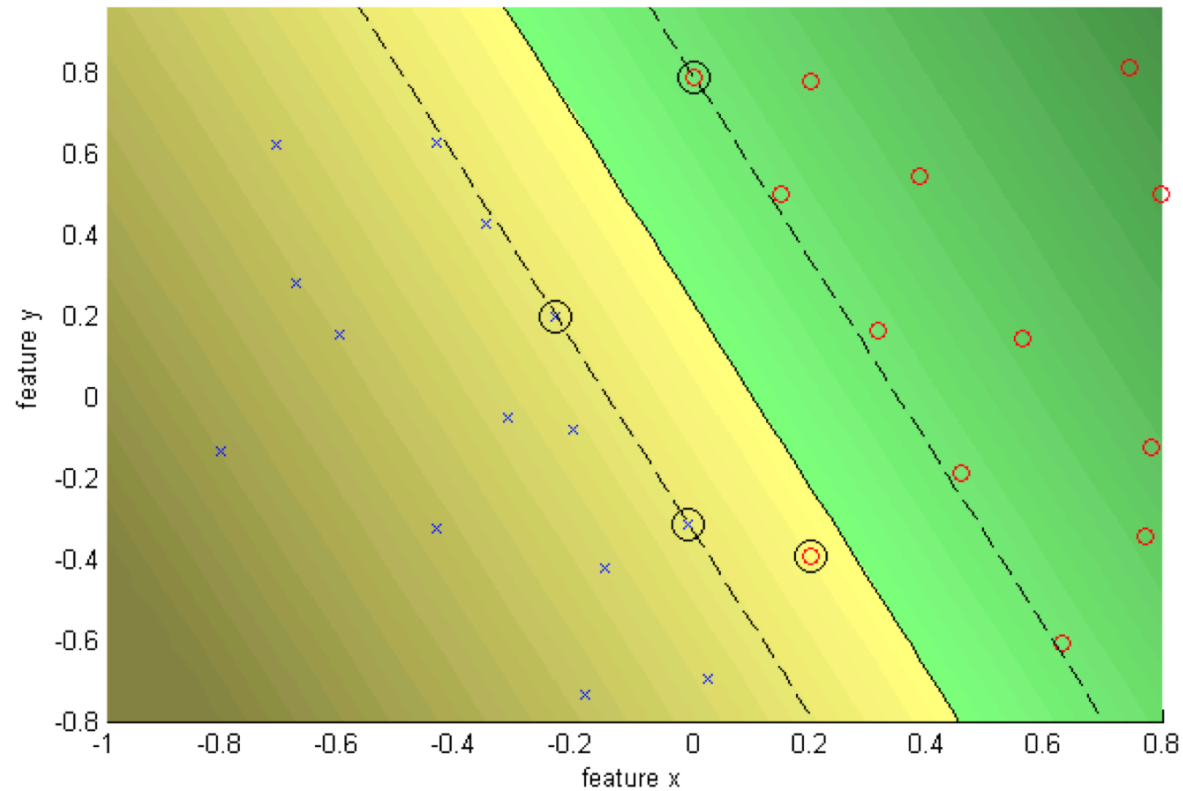
$C = \text{Infinity}$  hard margin



Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: linear (-), C: Inf  
Kernel evaluations: 971  
Number of Support Vectors: 3  
Margin: 0.0966  
Training error: 0.00%

$C = 10$  soft margin



Comment Window

SVM (L1) by Sequential Minimal Optimizer  
Kernel: linear (-), C: 10.0000  
Kernel evaluations: 2645  
Number of Support Vectors: 4  
Margin: 0.2265  
Training error: 3.70%

# Soft Margin Hyperplane

- Linear separable:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \text{ subject to } r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq +1, \forall t$$

- Not linearly separable

- Add slack variable

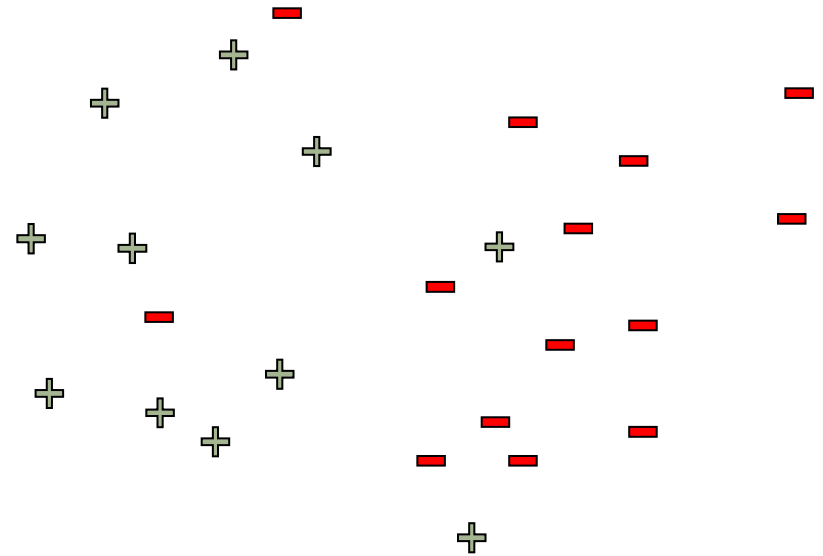
$$r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq 1 - \xi^t$$

- Soft error  $\sum_t \xi^t$

- New (primal) objective is

$$\min_{w, w_0, \{\xi^t\}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + c \sum_t \xi^t \text{ subject to } r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq 1 - \xi^t, \quad \xi^t \geq 0$$

trade off between loss and regularization



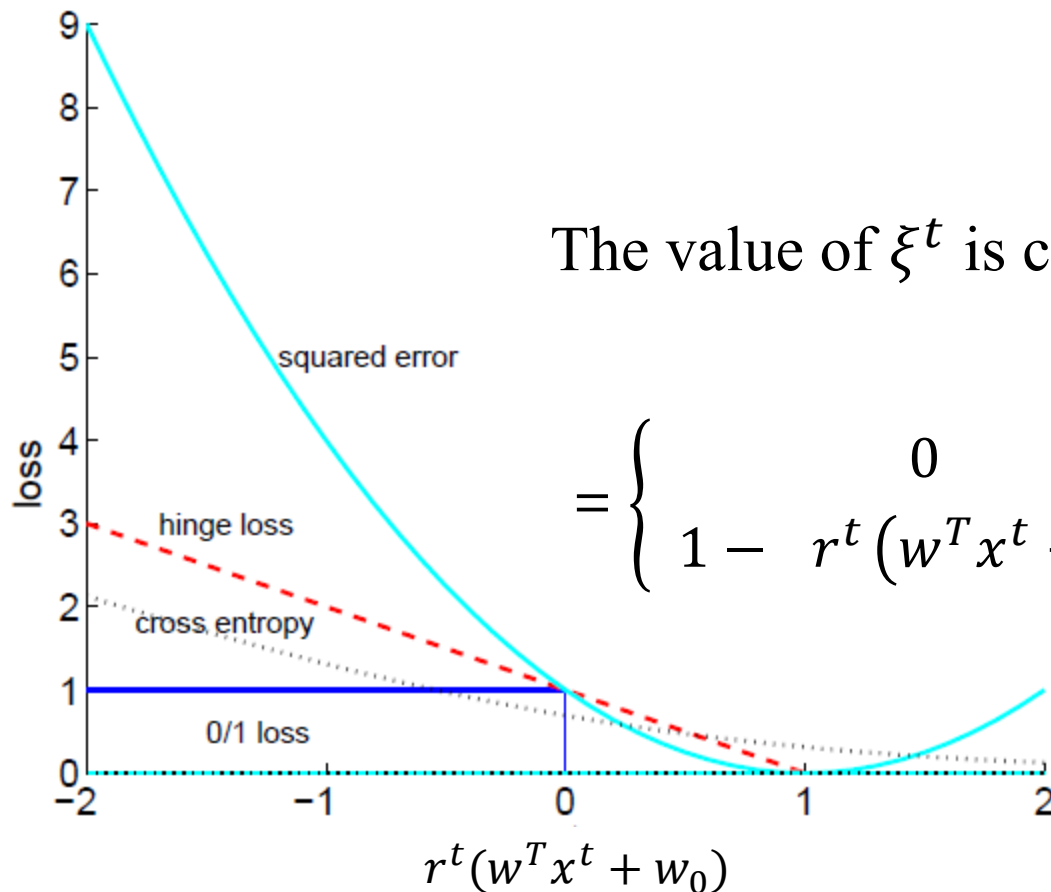
# Hinge Loss

$$\min_{w, w_0, \{\xi^t\}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + c \sum_t \xi^t \quad \text{subject to} \quad r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq 1 - \xi^t$$

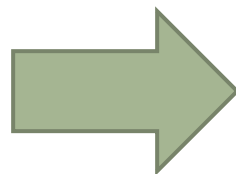
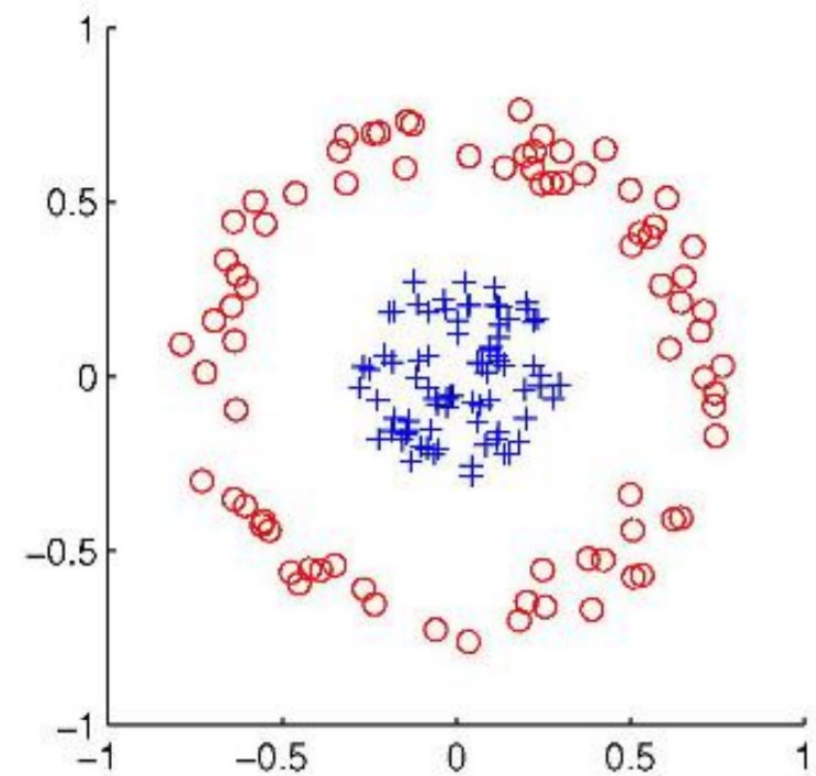
$$\xi^t \geq 0$$

The value of  $\xi^t$  is called **hinge loss**:

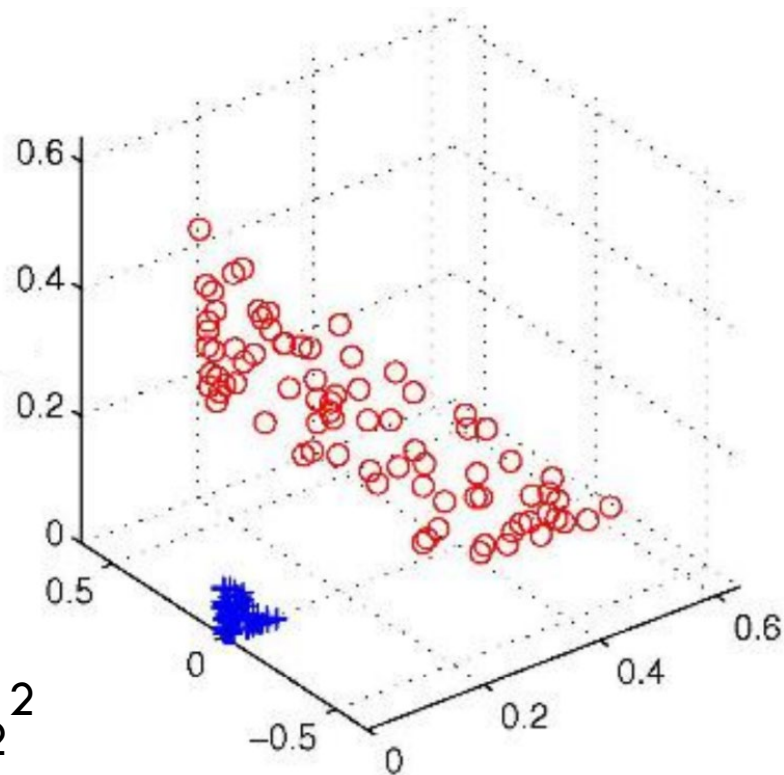
$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r^t(w^T x^t + w_0) \geq 1 \\ 1 - r^t(w^T x^t + w_0) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# What if the data is not linearly separable?



$$\begin{aligned} &x_1^2 \\ &x_2^2 \\ &x_1^2 + x_2^2 \end{aligned}$$





# Solving the optimization

Introduce Lagrange multipliers with one multiplier  $\alpha^t$  for each constraint

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \text{ subject to } r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) \geq +1, \forall t$$

Lagrange  
function

$$\begin{aligned} L_p &= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t [r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) - 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) + \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w} = \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

# Solving the optimization

$$L_d = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}) - \mathbf{w}^T \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t - w_0 \sum_t \alpha^t r^t + \sum_t \alpha^t$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}) + \sum_t \alpha^t$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_t \sum_s \alpha^t \alpha^s r^t r^s (\mathbf{x}^t)^T \mathbf{x}^s + \sum_t \alpha^t$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0 \text{ and } \alpha^t \geq 0, \forall t$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t$$

Sparsity:

- Most  $\alpha^t$  are 0, and
- Only a small number have  $\alpha^t > 0$  (they are the **support vectors**)

# Kernel Trick

- Preprocess input  $\mathbf{x}$  by basis functions

$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$g(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{z}$$

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

- The SVM solution

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{z}^t = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}^t)$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \boxed{\boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}^t)^T \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x})}$$

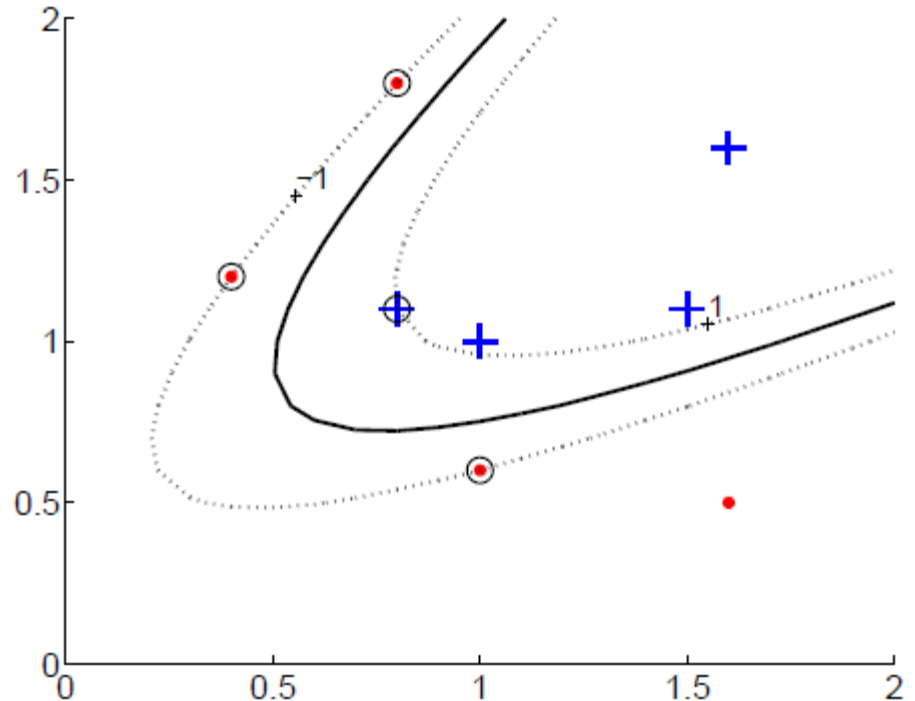
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \boxed{K(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{x})}$$

# Vectorial Kernels

- Polynomials of degree  $q$ :

$$K(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}^t + 1)^q$$

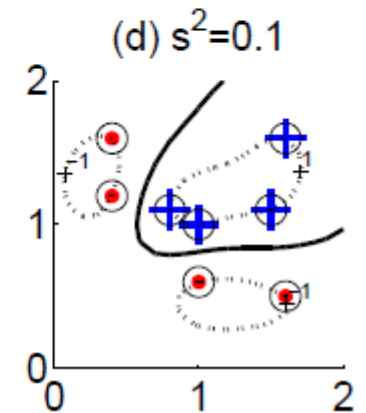
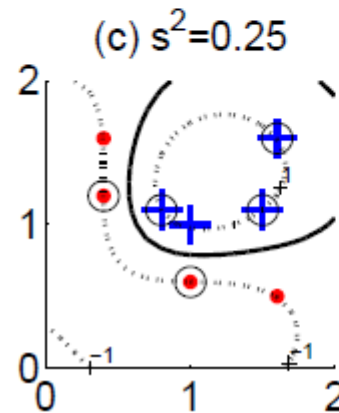
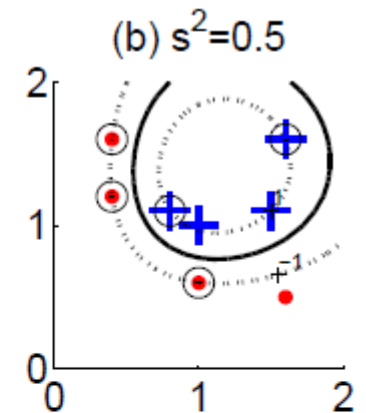
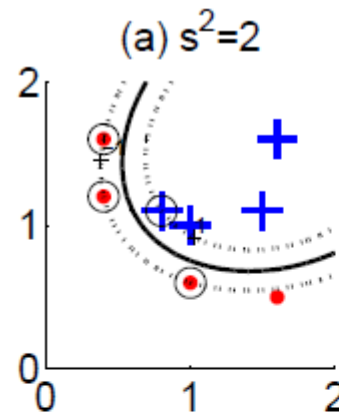
$$\begin{aligned} K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= (\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} + 1)^2 \\ &= (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + 1)^2 \\ &= 1 + 2x_1 y_1 + 2x_2 y_2 + 2x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2 + x_1^2 y_1^2 + x_2^2 y_2^2 \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}) &= [1, \sqrt{2}x_1, \sqrt{2}x_2, \sqrt{2}x_1 x_2, x_1^2, x_2^2]^T \end{aligned}$$



# Vectorial Kernels

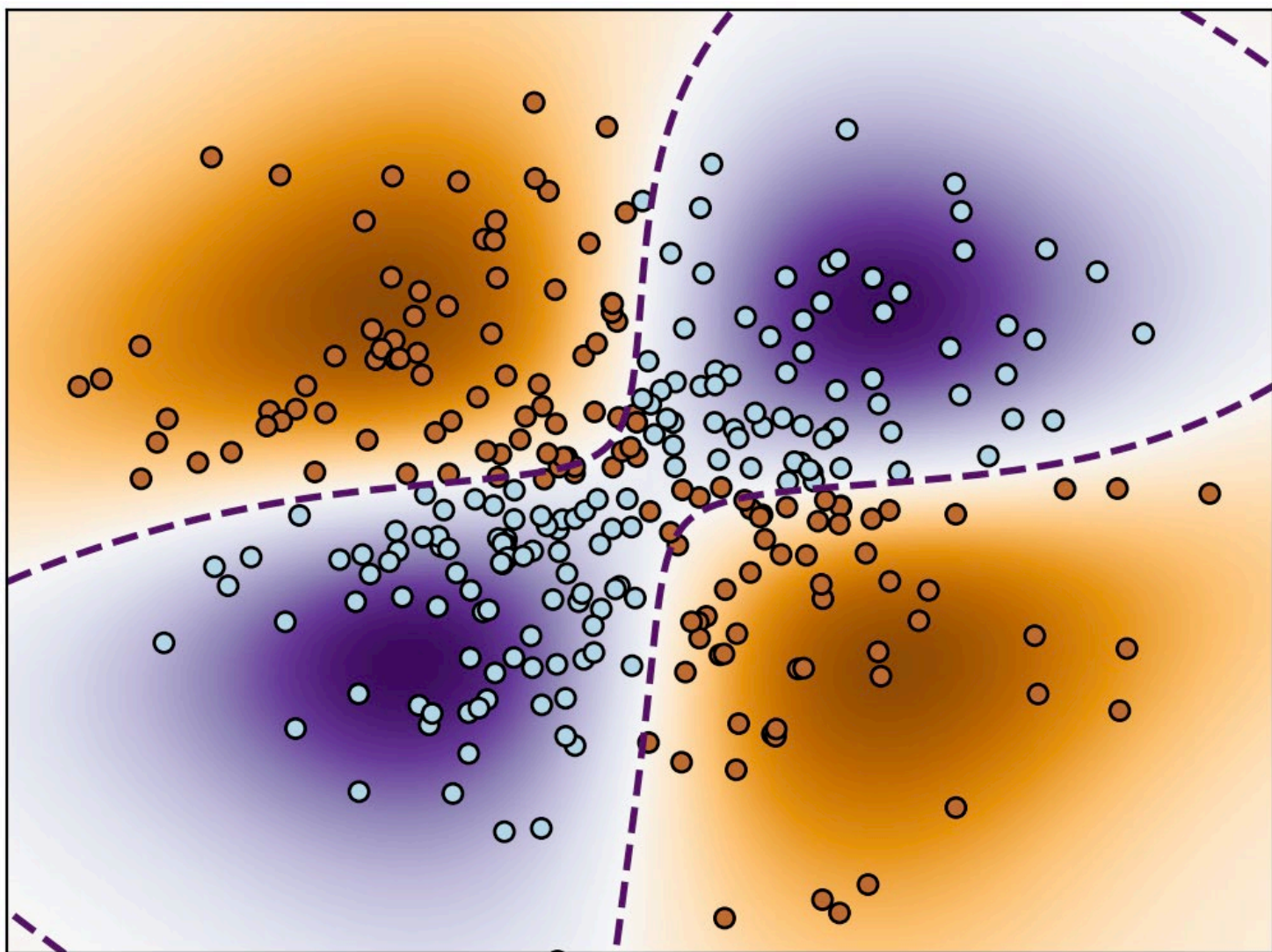
- Radial-basis functions:

$$K(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{x}) = \exp\left[-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}^t - \mathbf{x}\|^2}{2s^2}\right]$$



```
np.random.seed(0)
X = np.random.randn(300, 2)
Y = np.logical_xor(X[:, 0] > 0, X[:, 1] > 0)

# fit the model
clf = svm.NuSVC(gamma='auto')
clf.fit(X, Y)
```



# Support Vector Machine Summary

- Margin-based classification
- Slack variables and hinge loss
- Sparse (depends on only some of the data)
- Losses: 0/1 vs. Hinge vs. Log loss (logistic reg.)
- Nonlinear boundary through nonlinear kernels