Slack SVMs

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University of Colorado Boulder
LECTURE 9

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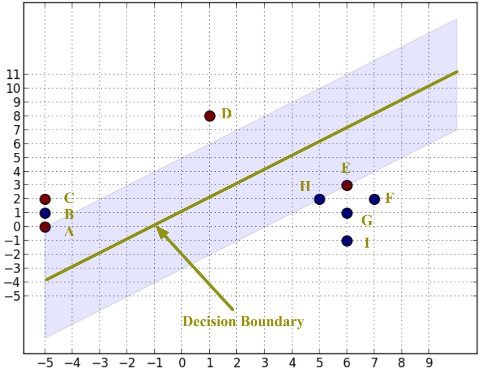
Administrivia Question

Decision function:

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}; b = -\frac{1}{4}$$



Slack Example

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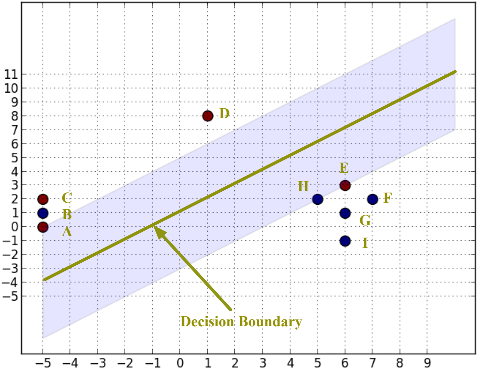
- What are the support vectors?



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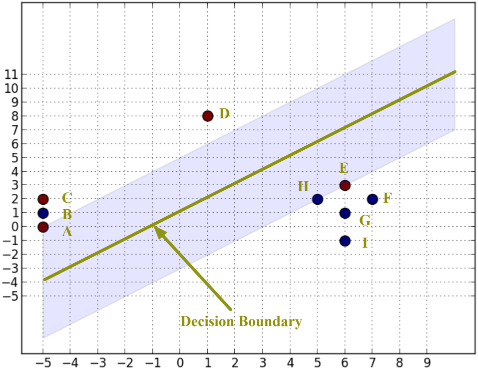

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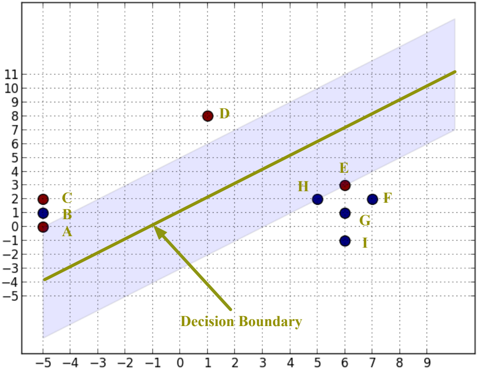

- What are the support vectors?
- Which have non-zero slack?
- Compute ξ_B, ξ_E

Computing slack

$$y_i(\vec{w}_i \cdot x_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \tag{1}$$

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Point B

$$y_B(\vec{w}_B \cdot x_B + b) = \tag{2}$$

$$-1(-0.25 \cdot -5 + 0.25 \cdot 1 - 0.25) = -1.25 \tag{3}$$

Thus, $\xi_B = 2.25$

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Point E

$$y_E(\vec{w}_E \cdot x_E + b) = \tag{4}$$

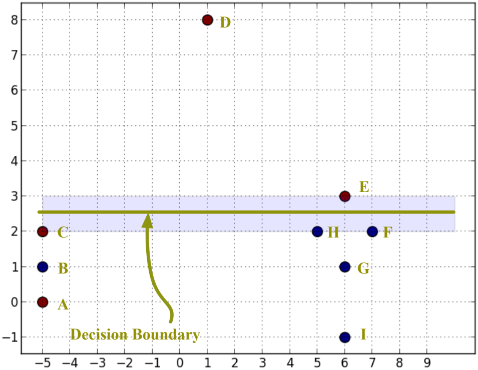
$$1(-0.25 \cdot 6 + 0.25 \cdot 3 + -0.25) = -1 \tag{5}$$

Thus, $\xi_E = 2$

Slack Example

Decision function:

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}; b = -5$$



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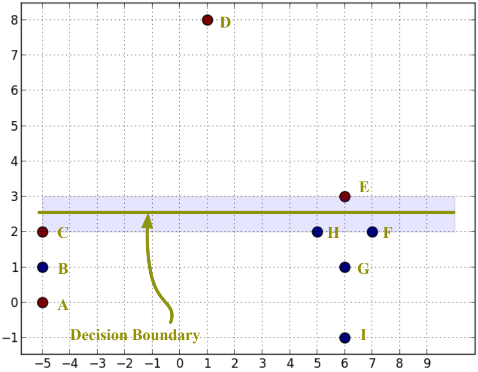

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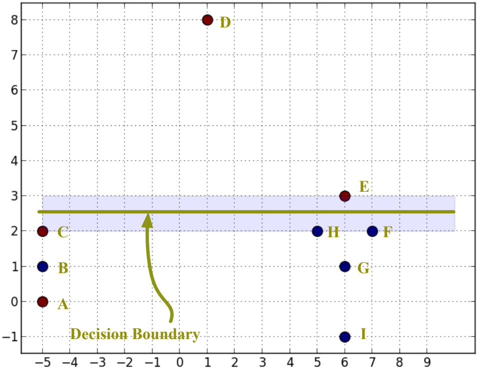

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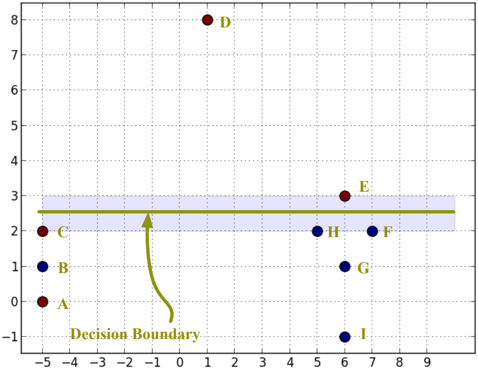

- What are the support vectors?
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- Compute ξ_A, ξ_C

Computing slack

$$y_i(\vec{w}_i \cdot x_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \tag{6}$$

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Point A

$$y_A(\vec{w}_A \cdot x_A + b) = \tag{7}$$

$$1(0 \cdot -5 + 2 \cdot 0 + -5) = -5 \tag{8}$$

Thus, $\xi_A = 6$

Computing slack

$$y_i(\vec{w}_i \cdot x_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \tag{6}$$

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Thus, $\xi_A = 6$

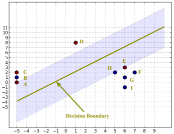
Point C

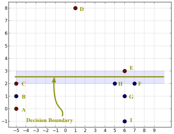
$$y_C(\vec{w}_C \cdot x_C + b) = \tag{9}$$

$$1(0 \cdot -5 + 2 \cdot 2 + -5) = -1 \tag{10}$$

Thus, $\xi_C = 2$

Which one is better?





- Which decision boundary (wide / narrow) has the better objective?

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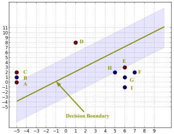
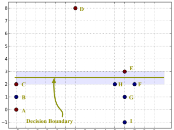
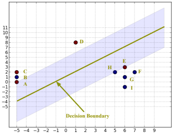




- Which decision boundary (wide / narrow) has the better objective?

$$\min_w \frac{1}{2}||w||^2 + C\sum_i \xi_i \tag{11}$$

Which one is better?



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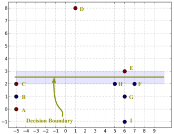
$$\sum_i \xi_i = 4.25 \tag{12}$$



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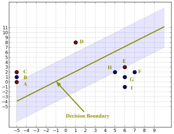

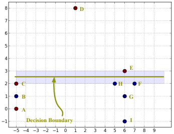

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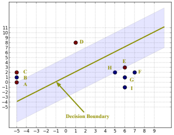

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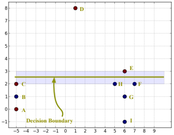

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- In this case it doesn't matter. Common C values: 1.0, $\frac{1}{m}$

Importance of C

- Need to do cross-validation to select C
- Don't trust default values
- Look at values with high ξ; are they bad data?

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- Next time: how to find w