

# Support Vector Machines

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## 15 Support Vector Machine

### 15.1 MARGIN AND HARD-SVM

**Claim 1.** The distance between the hyperplane  $\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b = 0$  and the point  $\vec{x}$  is

$$\frac{|\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b|}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

**Definition 1. (Hard -SVM rule).**

$$\arg \max_{(\vec{w}, b): \|\vec{w}\|=1} \min_{i \in [m]} |\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b| \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \forall i, y_i(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b) > 0$$

We can change it into

$$\min_{\vec{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \forall i, y_i \langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b \geq 1.$$

If we add one dimension into sample space, we can use this rule

$$\min_{\vec{w}} \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \forall i, y_i \langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle \geq 1.$$

The regularizing  $b$  usually does not make a significant difference to the sample complexity.

#### 15.1.1 GENERALIZATION BOUNDS FOR SVM

**Definition 2. (Loss function).** Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{\vec{w} : \|\vec{w}\|_2 \leq B\}$ ,  $Z = \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$  be the examples domain. Then, the loss function:  $l : \mathcal{H} \times Z \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is

$$l(\vec{w}, (\vec{x}, y)) = \phi(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle, y) \quad (1)$$

1. Hinge-loss function:  $\phi(a, y) = \max\{0, 1 - ya\}$ ;
2. Absolute loss function:  $\phi(a, y) = |a - y|$ .

**Theorem 1.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a distribution over  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$  such that w.p.1 we have  $\|\vec{x}\|_2 \leq R$ . Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{\vec{w} : \|\vec{w}\|_2 \leq B\}$  and let  $l : \mathcal{H} \times Z \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a loss function of the form  $\phi(a, y)$  and it's a  $\rho$ -Lipschitz function and  $\max_{a \in [-BR, BR]} |\phi(a, y)| \leq c$ , so

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \forall \vec{w} \in \mathcal{H}, L_{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{w}) \leq L_S(\vec{w}) + \frac{2\rho BR}{\sqrt{m}} + c\sqrt{\frac{2\ln(2/\delta)}{m}} \right\} \geq 1 - \delta$$

(Chapter 26)

**Theorem 2.** In Hard-SVM, we assume that  $\exists \vec{w}^*$  with  $\mathbb{P}_{(\vec{x}, y) \sim \mathcal{D}}[y \langle \vec{w}^*, \vec{x} \rangle \geq 1] = 1$  and  $\mathbb{P}\{\|\vec{x}\|_2 \leq R\} = 1$ . Let the SVM rule's output is  $\vec{w}_S$ .

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ L_{\mathcal{D}}^{0-1}(\vec{w}_S) \leq L_{\mathcal{D}}^{\text{ramp}}(\vec{w}_S) \leq \frac{2R\|\vec{w}^*\|_2}{\sqrt{m}} + \sqrt{\frac{2\ln(2/\delta)}{m}} \right\} \geq 1 - \delta$$

The preceding theorem depends on  $\|\vec{w}^*\|_2$ , which is unknown. In the following we derive a bound that depends on the norm of the output of SVM.

**Theorem 3.**

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ L_{\mathcal{D}}^{0-1}(\vec{w}_S) \leq \frac{4R\|\vec{w}_S\|_2}{\sqrt{m}} + \sqrt{\frac{\ln(4\log_2\|\vec{w}_S\|_2/\delta)}{m}} \right\} \geq 1 - \delta \quad (2)$$

The proof is similar to the SRM.

*Proof.* For  $i \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , let  $B_i = 2^i$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_i = \{\vec{w} : \|\vec{w}\|_2 \leq B_i\}$ , and let  $\delta_i = \frac{\delta}{2^{i^2}}$ , then we have

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \forall \vec{w} \in \mathcal{H}_i, L_{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{w}) \leq L_S(\vec{w}) + \frac{2B_i R}{\sqrt{m}} + c\sqrt{\frac{2\ln(2/\delta_i)}{m}} \right\} \geq 1 - \delta_i$$

Applying the union bound and using  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta_i \leq \delta$ , so the union event happens with probability of at least  $1 - \delta$ .  $\forall \vec{w}$ , we let  $\vec{w} \in \mathcal{H}_{\lceil \log_2(\|\vec{w}\|_2) \rceil}$ . Then  $B_i \leq 2\|\vec{w}\|_2$  and  $\frac{2}{\delta} = \frac{(2i)^2}{\delta} \leq \frac{(4\log_2(\|\vec{w}\|_2))^2}{\delta}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a distribution over  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$  such that w.p.1 we have  $\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \leq R$ . Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{\vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\vec{w}\|_1 \leq B\}$  and let  $l : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a loss function of the form  $\phi(a, y)$  and it's a  $\rho$ -Lipschitz function and  $\max_{a \in [-BR, BR]} |\phi(a, y)| \leq c$ , so

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \forall \vec{w} \in \mathcal{H}, L_{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{w}) \leq L_S(\vec{w}) + 2\rho BR \sqrt{\frac{2\log(2d)}{m}} + c\sqrt{\frac{2\ln(2/\delta)}{m}} \right\} \geq 1 - \delta$$

(Also following Chapter 26).

## 15.2 SOFT-SVM AND NORM REGULARIZATION

**Definition 3. (Soft-SVM).**

$$\min_{\vec{w}, b, \xi} \left( \lambda \|\vec{w}\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_i \right) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \forall i, y_i(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle) + b \geq 1 - \xi_i \text{ and } \xi_i \geq 0$$

Recall the definition of the hinge loss:

$$l^{\text{hinge}}((\vec{w}, b), (\vec{x}, y)) = \max\{0, 1 - y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b)\}$$

Then, the Soft-SVM rule changes into:

$$\min_{\vec{w}, b} \left( \lambda \|\vec{w}\|_2^2 + L_S^{\text{hinge}}((\vec{w}, b)) \right)$$

If considering Soft-SVM for learning a homogenous halfspace, it's convenient to optimize

$$\min_{\vec{w}} \left( \lambda \|\vec{w}\|_2^2 + L_S^{\text{hinge}}(\vec{w}) \right), \quad L_S^{\text{hinge}}(\vec{w}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \max\{0, 1 - y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle)\}$$

### 15.2.1 The Sample Complexity of Soft-SVM

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{x} : \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \rho\}$ . Then  $L_S^{hinge}(\mathbf{w})$  is  $\|\mathbf{x}\|$  - Lipschitz.*

$$\mathbb{E}_{S \sim \mathcal{D}^m} [L_D^{0-1}(A(S))] \leq \mathbb{E}_{S \sim \mathcal{D}^m} [L_D^{hinge}(A(S))] \leq L_D^{hinge}(\mathbf{u}) + \lambda \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \frac{2\rho^2}{\lambda m} \leq L_D^{hinge}(\mathbf{u}) + \sqrt{\frac{8\rho^2 B^2}{m}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{S \sim \mathcal{D}^m} [L_D^{0-1}(A(S))] \leq \min_{\mathbf{w} : \|\mathbf{w}\| \leq B} L_D^{hinge}(\mathbf{u}) + \sqrt{\frac{8\rho^2 B^2}{m}}$$

### 15.2.2 The Ramp Loss

$$l^{ramp}(\mathbf{w}, (\mathbf{x}, y)) = \min \{1, l^{hinge}(\mathbf{w}, (\mathbf{x}, y))\}$$

## 15.3 IMPLEMENTING SOFT-SVM USING SGD

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**Algorithm 1** SGD for Solving Soft-SVM

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**Require:** T

**Ensure:**  $\vec{\theta}^{(1)} = \vec{0}$

**for**  $t = 1, \dots, T$  **do**

    Let  $\vec{w}^{(t)} = \frac{1}{\lambda t} \vec{\theta}^{(t)}$

    Uniformly choose  $i$  at random from  $[m]$ :

$\vec{\theta}^{(t+1)} += (y_i \langle \vec{w}^{(t)}, \vec{x}_i \rangle \leq 1) ? y_i \vec{x}_i : 0$

**end for.**

**return**  $\vec{w} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \vec{w}^{(t)}$

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## 15.4 Revisit SVM

### 15.4.1 The optimal problem of hard-SVM

1. Original:

$$\max_{\vec{w}, b} \min_{(\vec{x}, y) \in S} \frac{|\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b|}{\|\vec{w}\|}, \quad s.t. \forall y(\vec{x}, y) \in S, y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b) > 0$$

2. Equal Problem1:

$$\max_{\vec{w}, b : \|\vec{w}\|=1} \min_{(\vec{x}, y) \in S} |\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b|, \quad s.t. \forall (\vec{x}, y) \in S, y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b) > 0$$

3. Equal Problem2:

$$\max_{\vec{w}, b : \|\vec{w}\|=1} \min_{(\vec{x}, y) \in S} y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b),$$

4. Equal Problem3:

$$\min_{\vec{w}, b} \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2, \quad s.t. \forall (\vec{x}, y) \in S, y(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x} \rangle + b) > 1$$

5. Lagrangian Problem:

$$\min_{\vec{w}, b} \max_{\vec{\alpha} \succeq \vec{0}} \left( L(\vec{w}, b, \vec{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i [y_i(\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b) - 1] \right)$$

### 15.4.2 Support Vector

In hard-SVM, we can guarantee that (KKT conditions.):

1.  $\forall i, \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i [y_i (\langle \vec{w}^*, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b^*) - 1] = 0$
2.  $\nabla_{\vec{w}} L(\vec{w}^*) = \vec{w}^* - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i \vec{x}_i = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{w} = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i \vec{x}_i$
3.  $\nabla_b L(b^*) = - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i = 0$

For  $\alpha_i$  is 0 when  $x_i$  isn't on the bound hyperplane, so we call bound points support vector, and  $\vec{w}$  is in the support vectors's linear spaces.

### 15.4.3 Analysis Hard-SVM Problem

$$\begin{aligned}
& \min_{\vec{w}, b} \max_{\vec{\alpha} \geq \vec{0}} \left( L(\vec{w}, b, \vec{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i [y_i (\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b) - 1] \right) \\
& \geq \max_{\vec{\alpha} \geq \vec{0}} \min_{\vec{w}, b} \left( L(\vec{w}, b, \vec{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i [y_i (\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b) - 1] \right) \\
& = \max_{\vec{\alpha} \geq \vec{0}} \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle \vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j \rangle \\
& = \max_{\vec{\alpha} \geq \vec{0}} \langle \vec{\alpha}, \vec{1} \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\alpha}^T D_y^T X^T X D_y \vec{\alpha}, \quad s.t. \forall i \in [m], \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{\alpha} &= (D_y^T X^T X D_y)^{-1} \vec{1} \\
\vec{w} &= X D_y \vec{\alpha} \\
b &= y_i - \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j y_j \langle \vec{x}_j, \vec{x}_i \rangle \\
\|\vec{w}\|^2 &= \|X D_y \vec{\alpha}\|^2 = \vec{1}^T (D_y^T X^T X D_y)^{-1} \vec{1} = \|\vec{\alpha}\|_1
\end{aligned}$$

### 15.4.4 Analysis Soft-SVM Problem

$$\min_{\vec{w}, b, \vec{\xi}} \max_{\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}} \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_i - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i \{y_i (\langle \vec{w}, \vec{x}_i \rangle + b) + \xi_i - 1\} - \sum_{i=1}^m \beta_i \xi_i$$

The dual problem can also be changed into

$$\max_{\vec{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle \vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j \rangle, \quad s.t. 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \wedge \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y_i = 0, i \in [m]$$

which is almost analogue to Hard-SVM.

## 15.5 Margin Theorem