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Machine Learning for Visual Computing
Assignment 2

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1 Assignment 2

1.1 The dual optimization problem

Tasks:

- Generate a suitable training set of linearly separable data

The training set is generated in `generateTrainingData.m`. The function `generateTrainingData(N, xRange, yRange, linear)` takes the number of sample points, the domains (defined by a lower and an upper bound) from which the x and y coordinates are sampled and a flag which indicates if the resulting data should be linearly separable. A set of random 2D coordinates is created using the MATLAB function `rand`. Linear separability is achieved by labelling the according to the condition $x_i + y_i > \bar{x} + \bar{y}$, where $\bar{x}$ and $\bar{y}$ denote the domain centers.

- Plot the input vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and visualize corresponding target values (e.g. by using color).

The resulting training data is displayed in Figure 1. Sample points with class label 1 are marked red, points with label -1 are merked green.

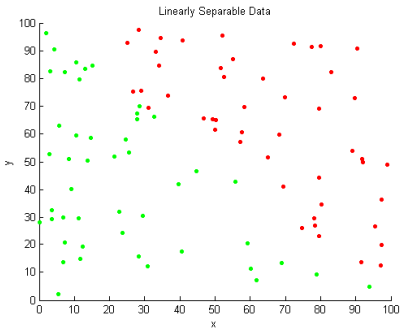


Figure 1: Linearly separable data with color-coded class labels (1=red, -1=green) for $N = 100$.

- Visualize the support vectors and plot the decision boundary.

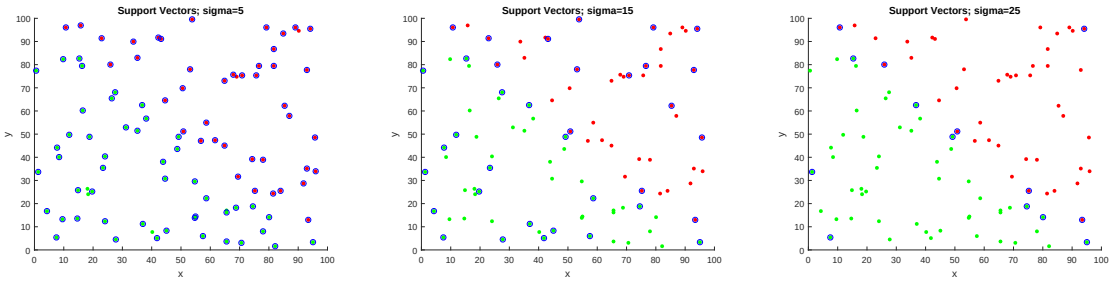
Figure 2 shows the support vectors defined by `trainSVM`.

Figure 2: Training data with support vectors marked by blue circles.

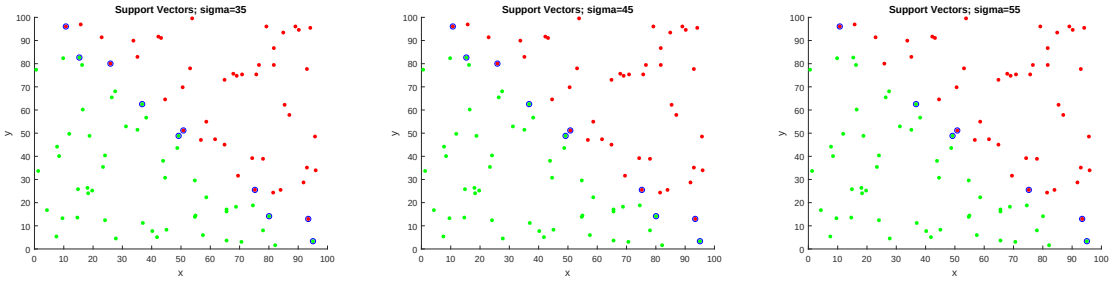
1.2 The kernel trick

Tasks:

- Try different values for σ (the RBF parameter).



(a) $\sigma = 5$ (b) $\sigma = 15$ (c) $\sigma = 25$



(d) $\sigma = 35$ (e) $\sigma = 45$ (f) $\sigma = 55$

Figure 3: Support Vectors for different values of the RBF parameter σ.

The radial basis function kernel is defined by $K(x, y) = exp(-\frac{\|x-y\|^2}{\sigma^2})$. The corresponding support vectors are shown in Figure 3 for different values of the RBF parameter σ. In the lecture notes about RBF-networks, we discussed a selection of $\sigma = 2 * avgdist$, where $avgdist$ denotes the average distance of the centers. Having distances between the data points of approximately 10 units (or slightly more), $\sigma = 25$ is then selected.

- Generate a non-linearly separable training set, plot the data, visualize the support vectors and plot the decision boundary.

Figure 4: Plot of the decision boundary in the original data space found by the perceptron (green curve) together with labelled data points.