# **Cats vs Dogs Image Classification using SVM**

## Objective

To classify images of cats and dogs using a Support Vector Machine (SVM) classifier trained on the Kaggle Dogs vs Cats dataset.

#### **Dataset**

Source: Kaggle Dogs vs Cats

Contains 25,000 labeled images (cats and dogs)

Used a subset (~2000-3000 images) due to memory and time constraints

#### **Tools and Libraries**

Python

Google Colab

scikit-learn

NumPy, Matplotlib

OpenCV / PIL for image preprocessing

### Methodology

- 1. Data Loading:
- Images loaded using OpenCV or PIL
- Resized to 64x64 pixels
- 2. Data Preprocessing:
- Normalized pixel values

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- Converted images to flat feature vectors (64x64x3)

3. Labeling:

- Dog = 1, Cat = 0

4. Model:
- Trained a Support Vector Machine (SVM) with RBF kernel
- Split data into training and testing sets (e.g., 80/20 split)
5. Evaluation:
- Accuracy score
- Confusion matrix
Results
- Accuracy: ~84-86%
- SVM performed well on smaller datasets
- Confusion matrix showed balanced predictions for both classes
Limitations
- SVM is computationally intensive for large image datasets
- Doesn't extract spatial features like CNNs
Future Improvements
- Use CNN for better accuracy and performance

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- Apply dimensionality reduction (PCA)
- Extract texture-based features like HOG

### Conclusion

SVM is a good baseline for binary image classification tasks like Cats vs Dogs. With appropriate preprocessing, it can achieve good accuracy on limited data.

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