

# Support Vector Machines I

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**COMPCSI 361**

Instructor: Thomas Lacombe

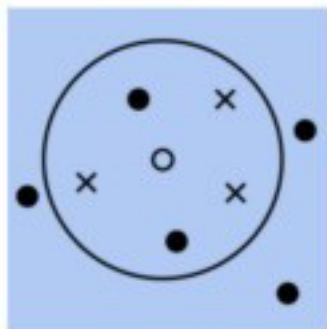
Based on slides from Meng-Fen Chiang

**WEEK 9**

# RECAP: Machine Learning Systems

- Instance-based Learning

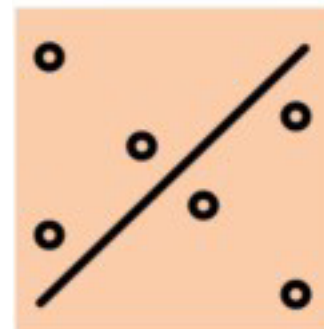
- Compare new data points to known data points
- Non-parametric approaches
- Memory-based approaches
- Prediction can be expensive



use the entire dataset as a model (e.g., k-NN)

- Model-based Learning

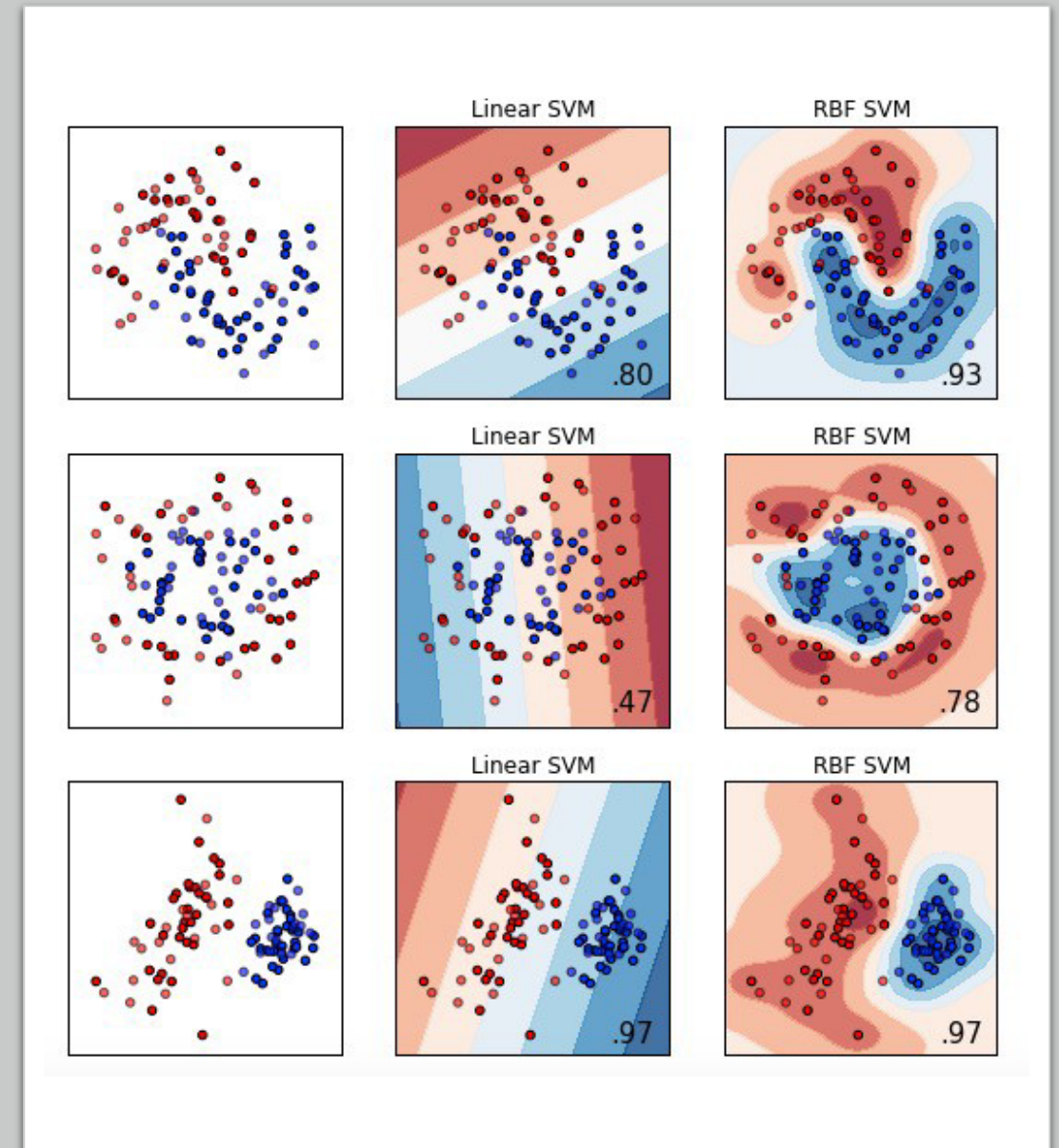
- Detect a pattern in the training data
- Build a predictive model
- Prediction is extremely fast



use the training data to create a model that has parameters learned from the training datasets (e.g., SVM)

# OUTLINE

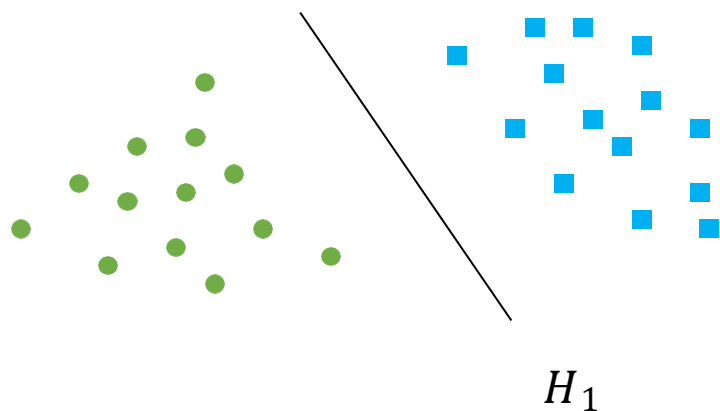
- Data Characteristics
  - Linearly Separable Data
  - Non-Linearly separable Data
- SVM (9.1,9.2,9.3)
  - Linearly Separable: Hard-margin SVMs
  - Non-Linearly Separable: Soft-margin SVMs
  - Non-Linearly Separable: Kernelized SVMs
- Summary



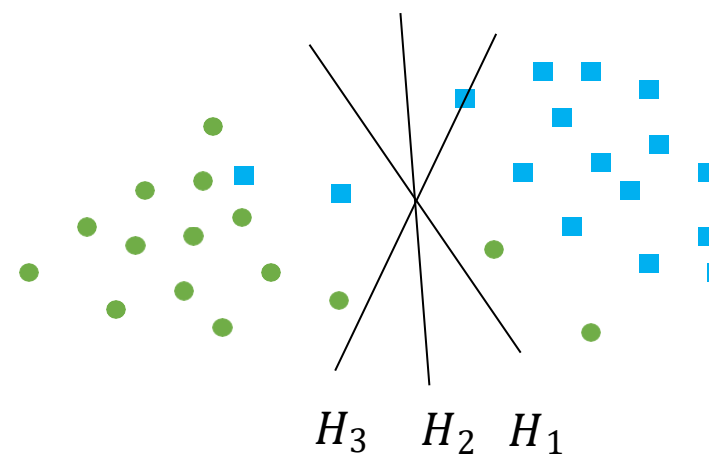
# Data Characteristics

- A classification method for both **linear** and **nonlinear** data

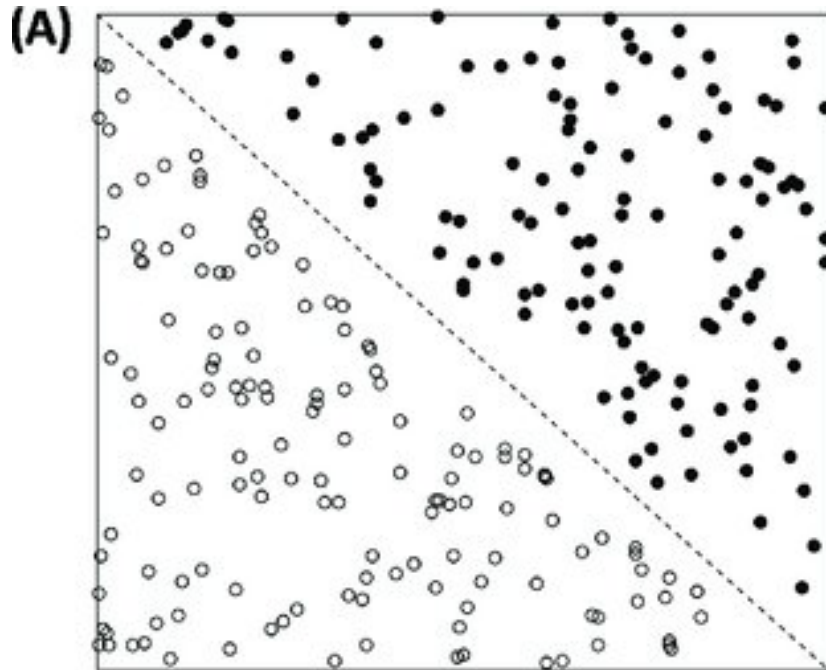
Linearly Separable Data



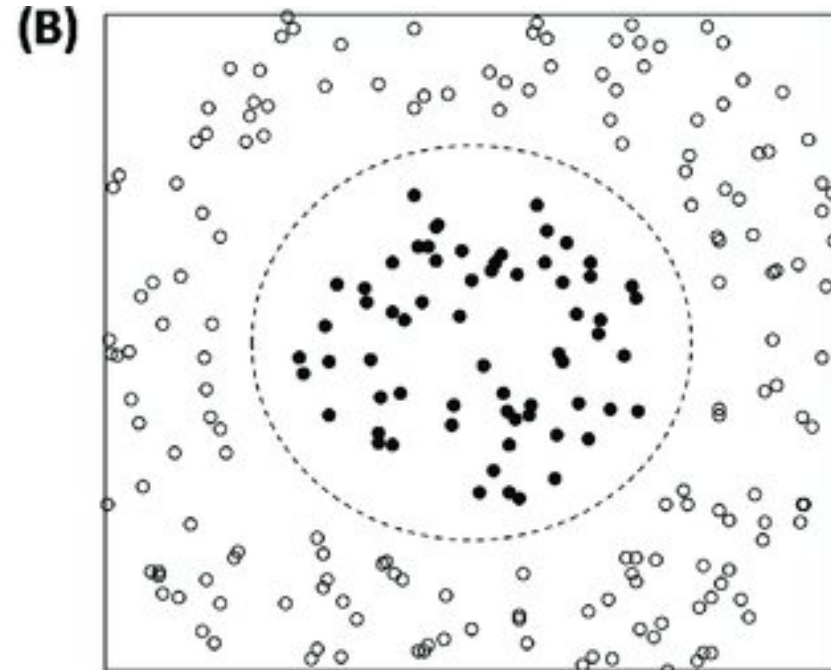
Non-Linearly Separable Data



# Data Characteristics



**Linearly Separable Data**

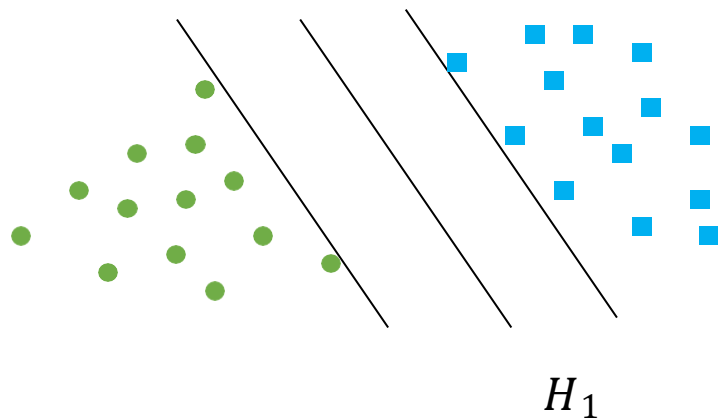


**Non-Linearly Separable Data**

# Types of Support Vector Machines (SVMs)

- SVM selects the maximum margin linear classifier

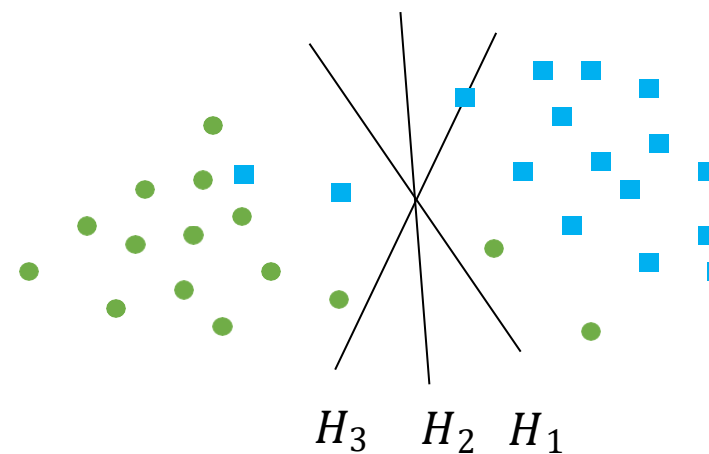
**Linear SVMs: Hard-margin SVMs**



- SVM selects the maximum margin linear classifier with partial misclassifications allowed

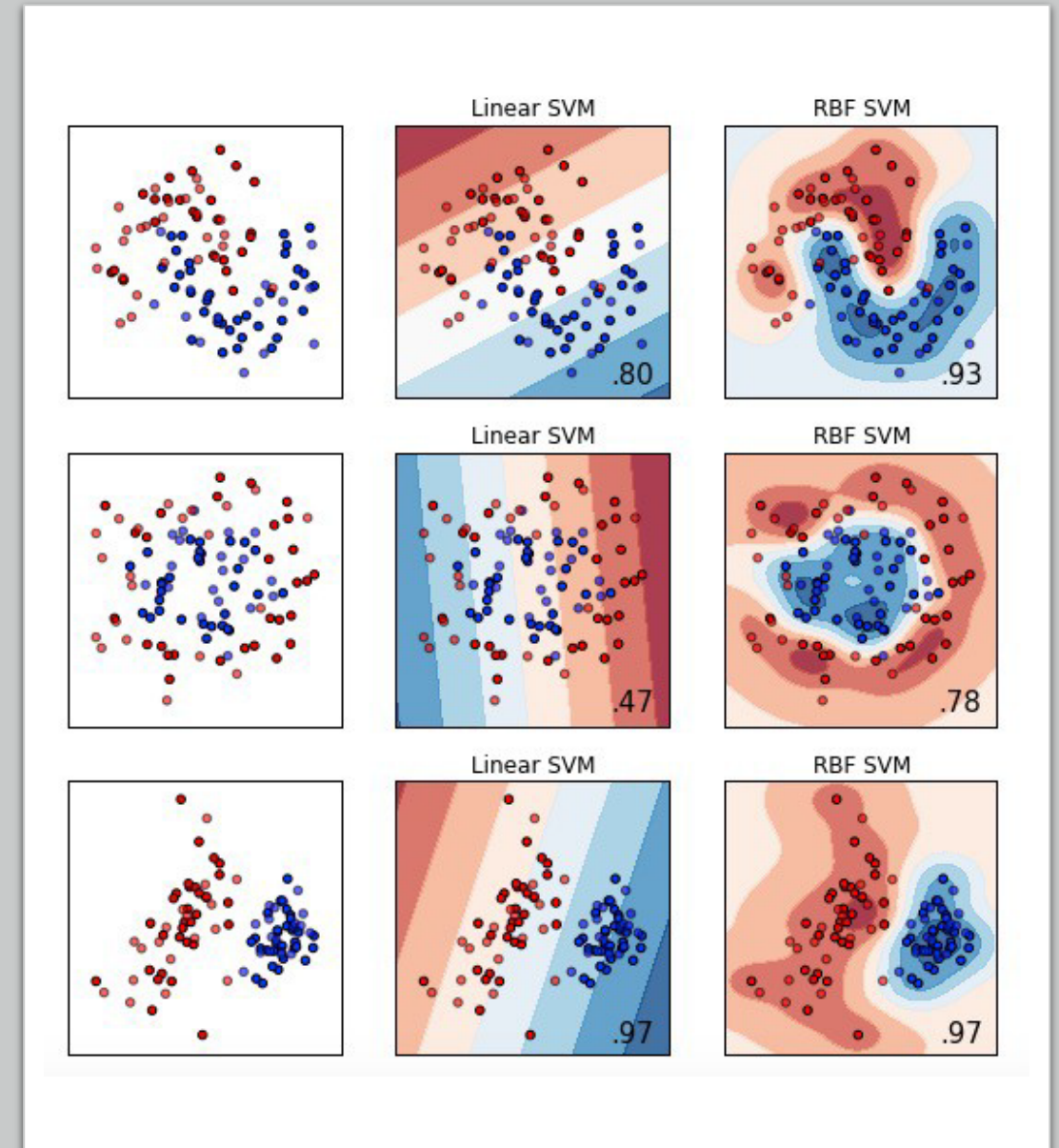
**Linear SVMs: Soft-margin SVMs**

**Non-Linear SVMs: Kernelized SVMs**



# OUTLINE

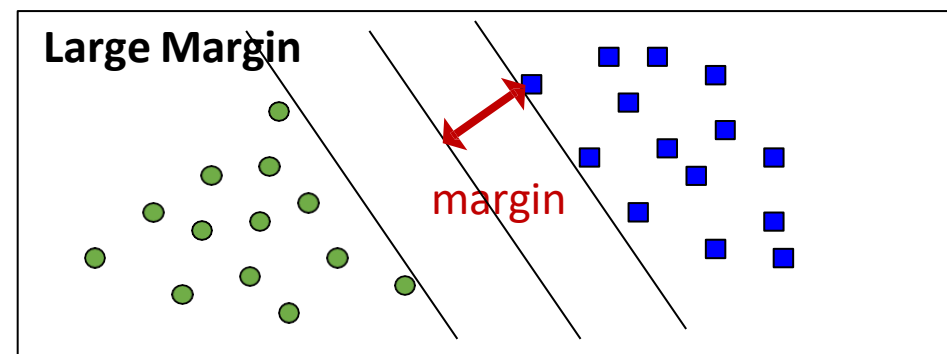
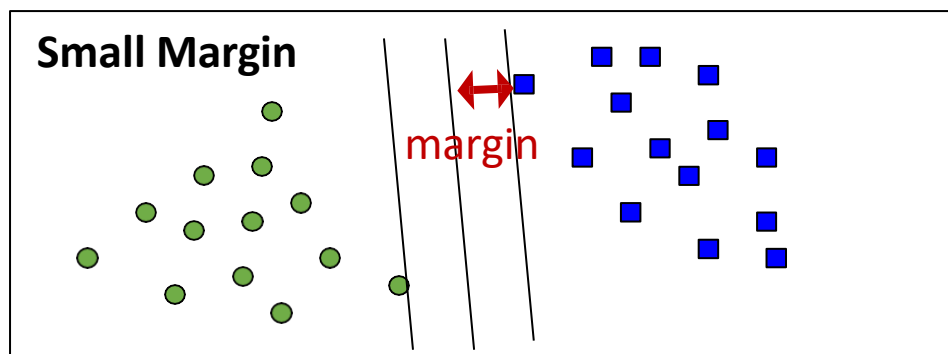
- Data Characteristics
  - Linearly Separable Data
  - Non-Linearly separable Data
- SVM
  - Linearly Separable Data: Hard-margin SVMs (9.1)
  - Non-Linearly Separable Data: Soft-margin SVMs (9.2)
  - Non-Linearly Separable Data: Kernelized SVMs (9.3)
- Summary





# Problem Definition: Margin Maximization

- Given a set of linearly separable training data  $S = ((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n))$ ,  $y_i \in \{+1, -1\}$
- We want to find a linear decision boundary (hyperplane) to separate the 2 classes.
- There is an infinite number of lines (hyperplanes) separating the two classes!

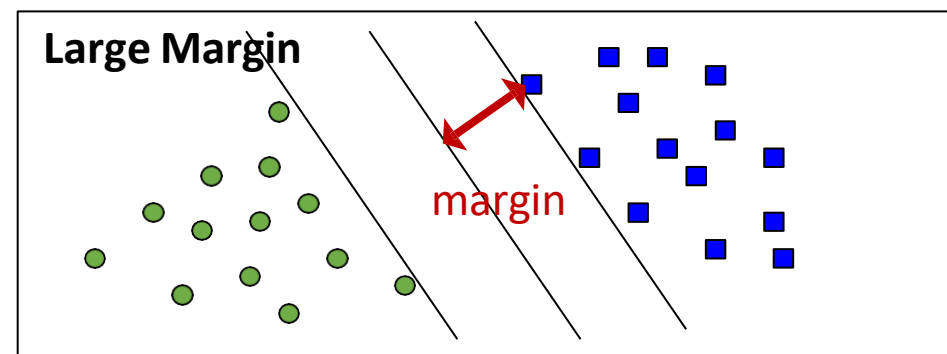
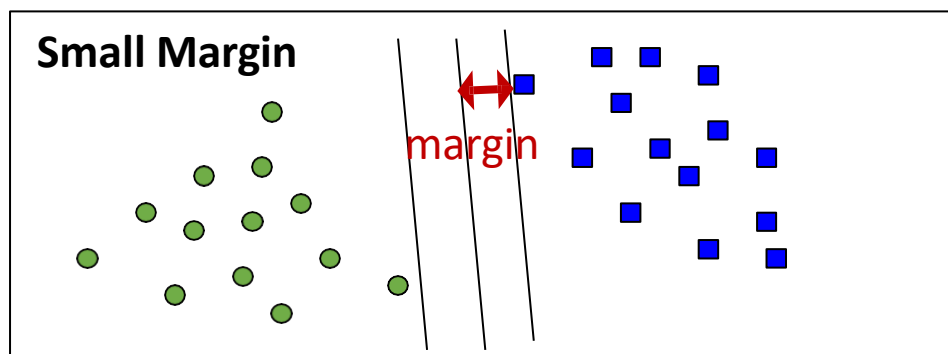


- Goal: The **hard-margin** SVM algorithm aims to find a linear classifier that **maximizes** ( $\gamma$ ) the margin on  $S$ .



# Why Margin Maximization?

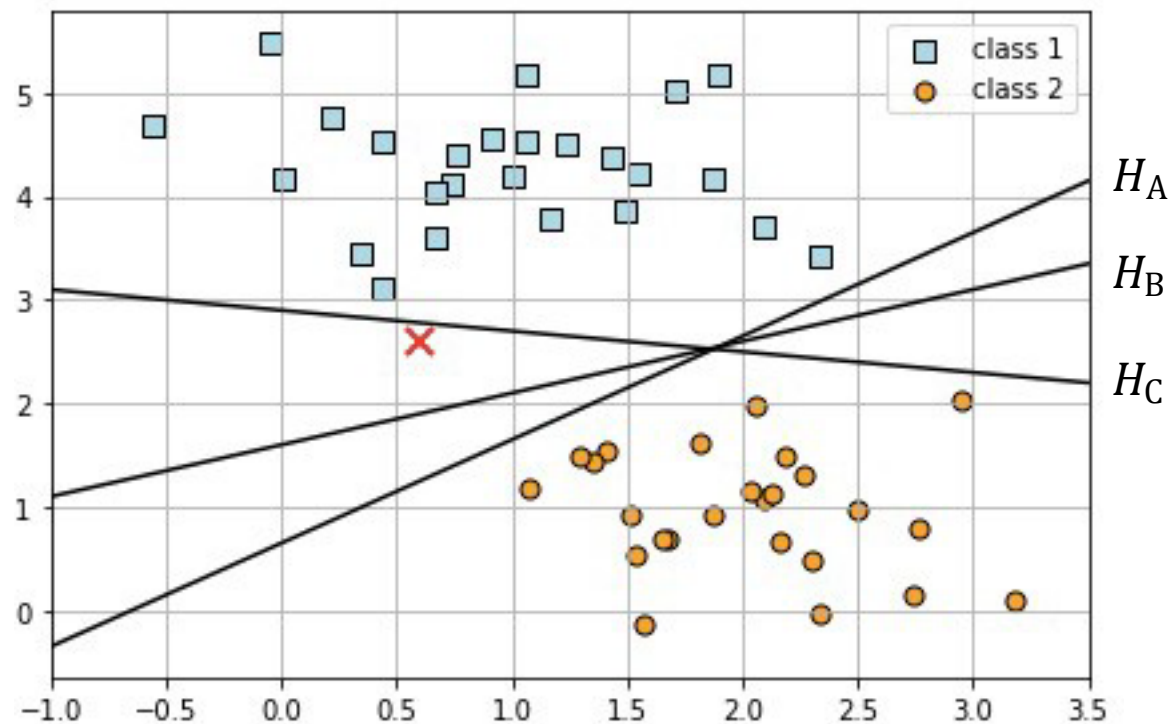
- Any linear classifier that separates  $S$  correctly will have margin  $\gamma > 0$
- We want to find the best one (the one that minimizes classification error on unseen data)
- Assumption: the hyperplane with the largest margin will generalise best on unseen data
- SVM searches for the hyperplane with the largest margin, i.e., Maximum Marginal Hyperplane (MMH)



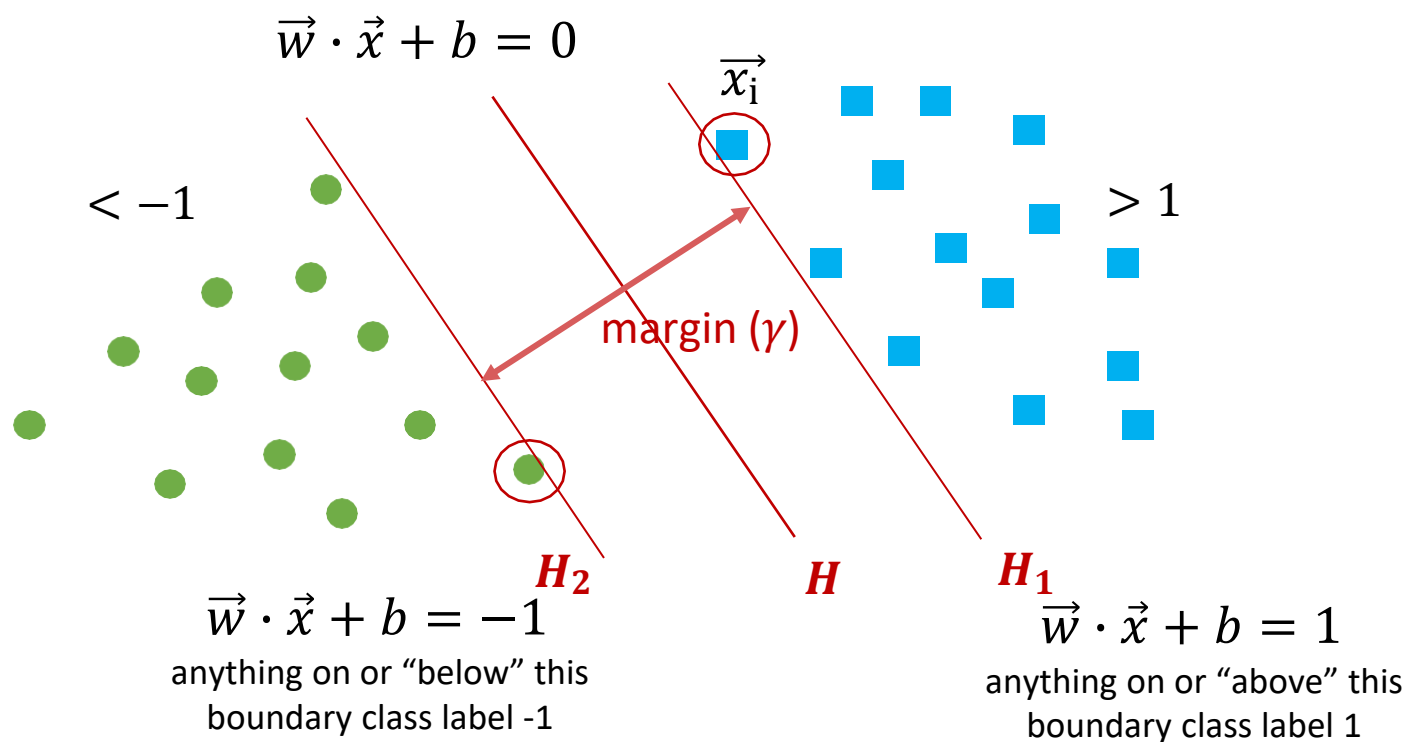
# Example: Generalization Performance

We want a classifier which:

- Works well on training data
- Works well on the unseen Data



# Margin Maximization Hyperplane (MMH)



Decision rule: 
$$f(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} +1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \geq +1 \\ -1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \leq -1 \end{cases}$$

- Distance of closet data  $\vec{x}_i$  from the hyperplane  $H$  
$$\frac{|\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b|}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

- $$\frac{|\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b|}{\|\vec{w}\|} = \frac{y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b)}{\|\vec{w}\|} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

- Margin: 
$$\gamma = \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

- Maximize  $\gamma$  is equivalent to minimize  $\|\vec{w}\|$

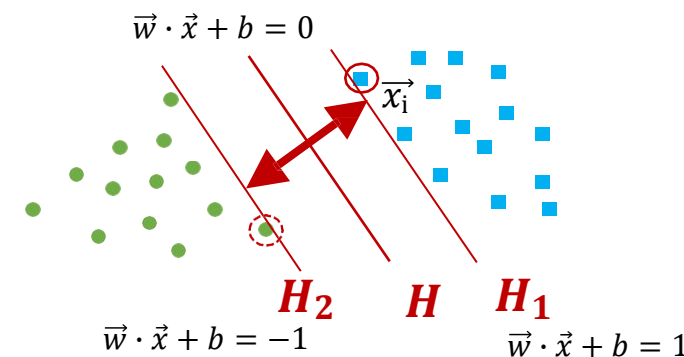
$$\min_{w,b} \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2}$$

s.t.  $y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) \geq 1$

(discrimination boundary is respected) 11

# Margin Maximization Hyperplane (MMH)

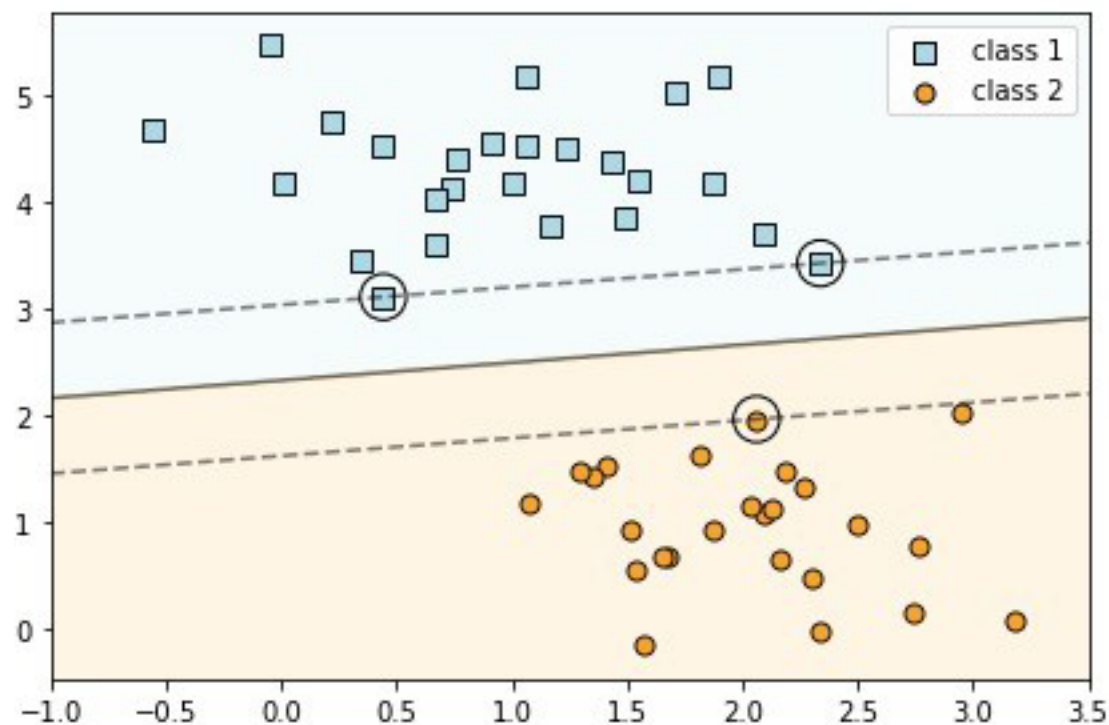
- A **separating hyperplane ( $H$ )** can be formally defined as  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b = 0$ 
  - $\vec{w} = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$  is a weight vector and  $b$  a scalar (bias)
- For 2-D it can be written as:  $w_1 \cdot x_{i,1} + w_2 \cdot x_{i,2} + b = 0$
- The hyperplanes defining the sides of the margin:
  - $H_1: w_1 \cdot x_{i,1} + w_2 \cdot x_{i,2} + b = 0 \geq 1$ , for  $y_i = +1$ , and
  - $H_2: w_1 \cdot x_{i,1} + w_2 \cdot x_{i,2} + b = 0 \leq -1$ , for  $y_i = -1$
- Any training tuples that fall on margins  $H_1$  or  $H_2$  (i.e., the hyperplanes defining the margin) are **support vectors**



# Example: Support Vectors

## Three Support Vectors:

1.  $[0.44359863 \ 3.11530945]$
2.  $[2.33812285 \ 3.43116792]$
3.  $[2.06156753 \ 1.96918596]$



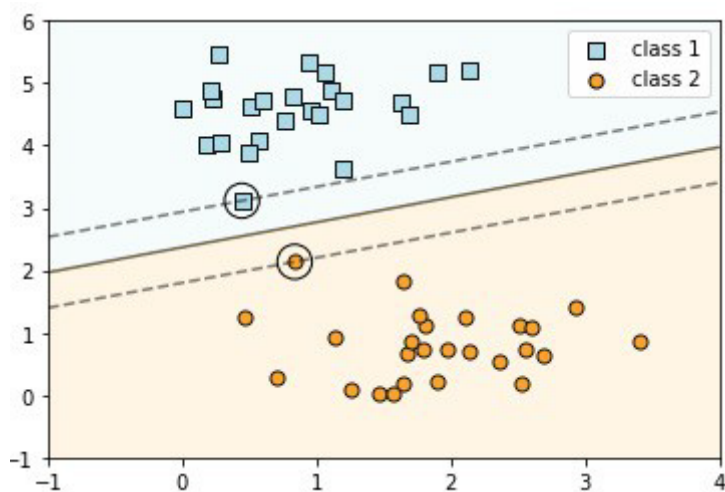
# Margin Maximization Hyperplane (MMH)

Linear model:  $f(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} +1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \geq +1 \\ -1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \leq -1 \end{cases}$

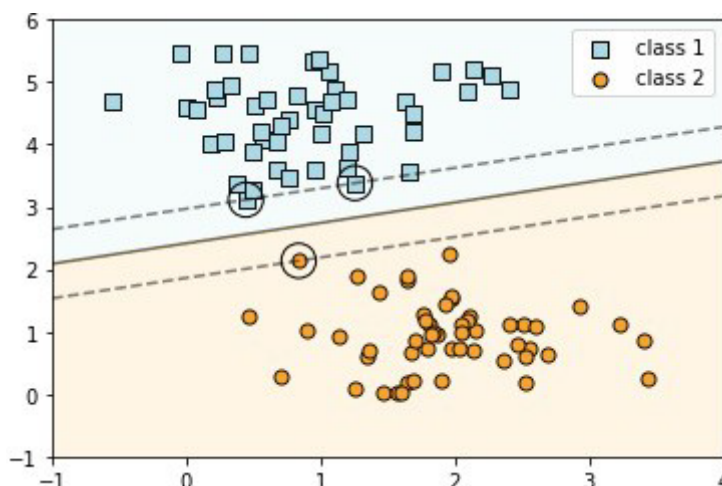
1. **Training Stage:** Learning the model is equivalent to determining the values of  $\vec{w}$  and  $b$ 
    - How to find  $\vec{w}$  and  $b$  from training data  $S$ ?
  2. **Testing Stage:** Once  $\vec{w}$  and  $b$  are found, given a test data  $(\vec{x})$ , use  $f(\cdot)$  to determine the class label
- Decision boundary depends only on support vectors
    - If we have data set with same **support vectors**, decision boundary will not change

# Example: Support Vector Matters

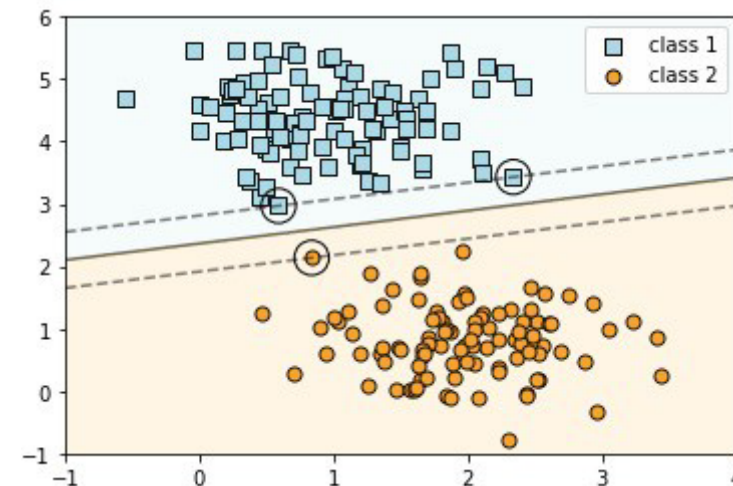
- Only the positions of the support vectors matter to decision boundary
- Other points further from the margin which are on the correct side do not modify the decision boundaries



$N=50$



$N=100$



$N=200$



# Training Stage

- Objective is to maximize:  $\gamma = \frac{2}{\|\vec{w}\|}$
- Equivalently, the objective is to minimize :  $\min_{w,b} \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2}$
- Subject to the following constraints:

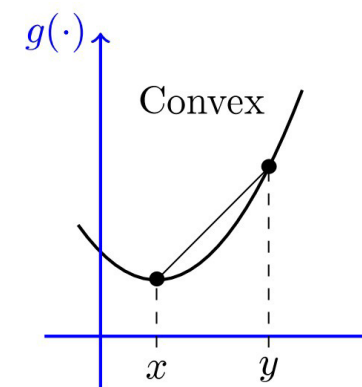
$$y_i = \begin{cases} +1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b \geq +1 \\ -1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b \leq -1 \end{cases}$$

- Or  $y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) \geq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$   
→ m inequality constraints

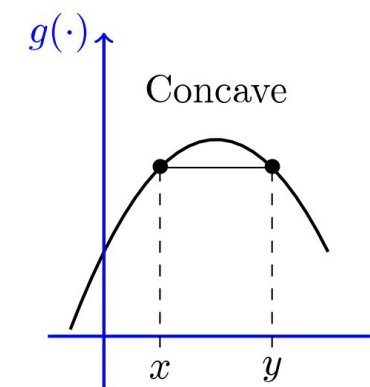
This becomes a **constrained (convex) quadratic optimization** problem:

- Quadratic objective function with linear constraints → Quadratic Programming (QP)

minimization

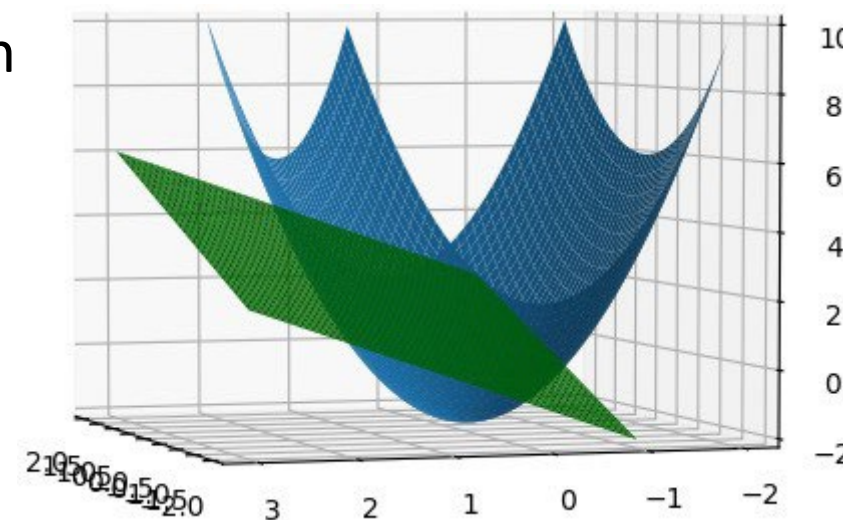


maximization



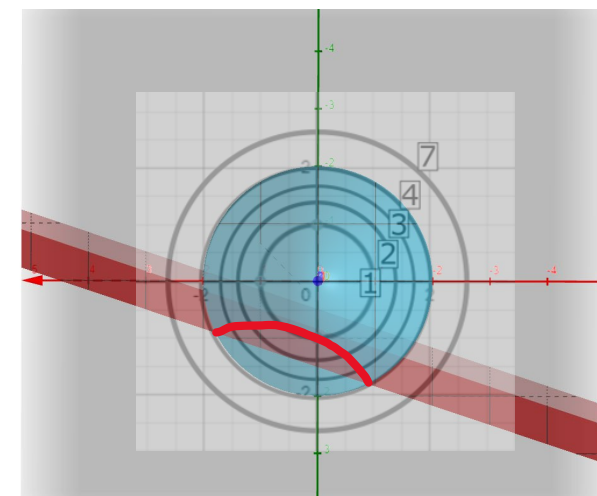
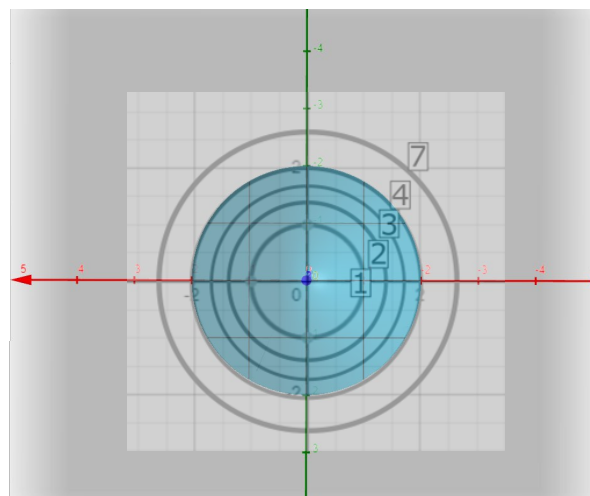
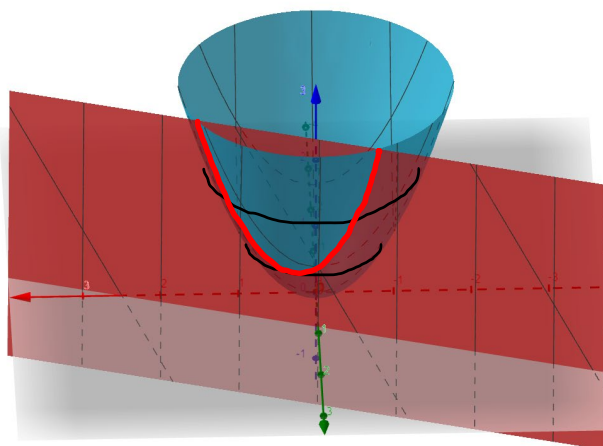
# Quadratic Programming (QP)

- QP is a well-studied solution algorithm
- Lagrange Multipliers and Constrained Optimization
  - Finding the **local minima** and **maxima** of a differentiable function subject to equality or inequality constraints
  - The **point** at which the function and constraint touch each other is the solution to the optimization problem



# Lagrange Multipliers and Constrained Optimization

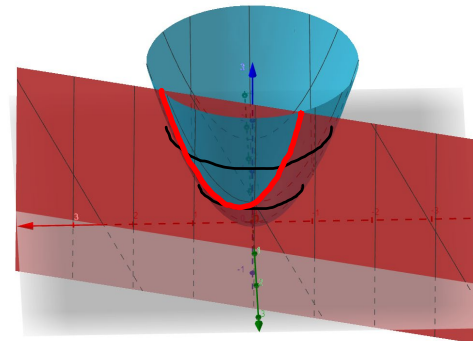
- Optimization function:  $f = x_1^2 + x_2^2$
- Subject to the constraint:  $g = 2x + 6y = c$ , with  $c = 5$



- At the minimum of  $f$  s.t. the constraint:  $\nabla f = \alpha \nabla g$
- Finding the minimum is then equivalent to solving:  $\nabla f - \alpha \nabla g = 0$

# Lagrange Multipliers and Constrained Optimization

- Optimization function:  $f = x_1^2 + y^2$
- Subject to the constraint:  $g = 2x + 6y - 5$
- Lagrange function (Lagrangian multiplier  $\alpha$ ):
  - $\mathcal{L}(x,y,\lambda) = f(x,y) - \alpha g(x,y)$   
 $= x_1^2 + y^2 - \alpha(2x + 6y - 5)$
  - Solution for the constrained problem is obtained by solving for the points where the partial derivatives of  $\mathcal{L}$  are zero:
    - $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{dx} = 2x - 2\alpha = 0$
    - $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{dy} = 2y - 6\alpha = 0$
    - $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\alpha} = -2x - 2y + 5 = 0$



# Training Stage: Duality

- SVM **primal problem** form:

$$\min_{w,b} \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2} \quad \text{s.t. } y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) \geq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

- We can convert it to the **dual problem** of SVM by introducing Lagrange multipliers ( $\alpha_i$ )

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2} - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) - 1], \quad \alpha_i > 0$$

- Solving the primal problem is equivalent to solving the dual problem:

$$\min_{w,b} \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2} \equiv \max_{\alpha} \min_{w,b} \mathcal{L}(\vec{w}, b, \alpha)$$

# Training Stage: Duality

- SVM **primal problem** form:

$$\min_{w,b} \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2} \quad \text{s.t. } y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) \geq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

- We can convert it to the **dual problem** of SVM by introducing Lagrange multipliers ( $\alpha_i$ )
  - Set the derivatives of SVM Lagrangian function w.r.t.  $\vec{w}$  and  $b$  to be zero:

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{w}, b, \alpha) = \frac{\|\vec{w}\|}{2} - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) - 1], \quad \alpha_i > 0$$

- $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\vec{w}} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{w} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \vec{x}_i$
- $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{db} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$

- Substituting them in the Lagrangian function  $\mathcal{L}$ , we obtain the final dual optimization function:

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}_j$$

# Training Stage: Solving the Dual Problem

- Dual Problem Optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\alpha} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \vec{x}_i \vec{x}_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha_i \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

- This can be solved efficiently using numerical optimization
  - $\alpha_i > 0$  for **support vectors**  $\vec{x}_i$  that lie on the margin  $H_1$  and  $H_2$
  - $\alpha_i = 0$  for other training points
- Thus, the solution for  $\vec{w}$  corresponding to the maximal margin classifier can be written as a linear combination of just the **support vectors**:

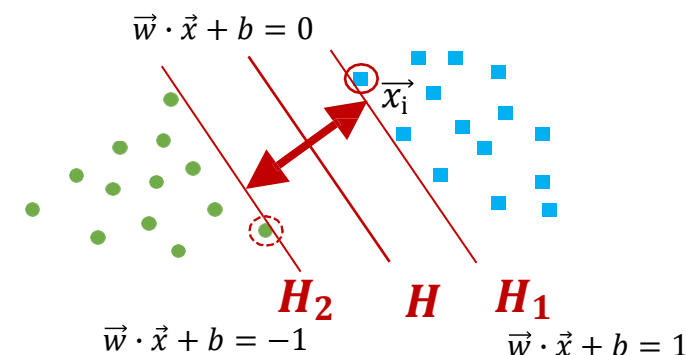
$$\vec{w} = \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i \vec{x}_i$$



# Training Stage: Solving the Dual Problem

- For support vectors, we have  $y_i - (\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b) = 0$ 
  - Blue support vector ( $y_i = +1$ )
  - Green support vector ( $y_i = -1$ )
- Thus, the solution for  $b$  from any of the support vectors

$$b = \frac{1}{|SV|} \sum_{x_i \in SV} y_i - (\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i)$$



# Testing Stage

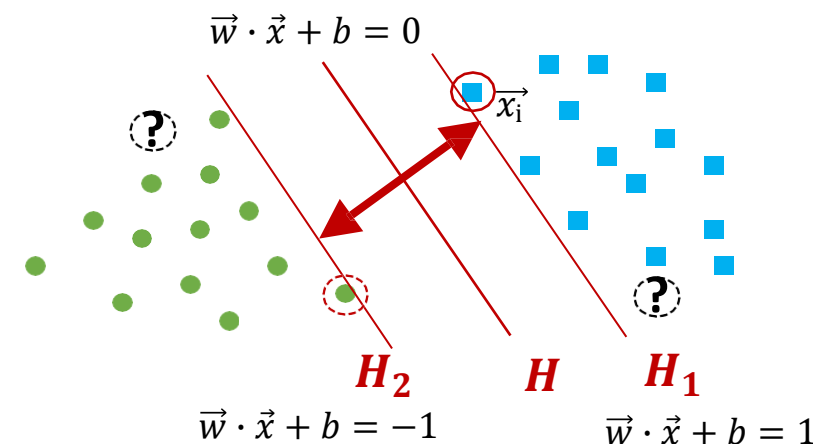
- Given a new data point  $\vec{x}$ , we use the learned SVM classifier ( $\vec{w}$  and  $b$ ) to derive the class label as follow:

$$f(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} +1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \geq 0 \\ -1, & \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

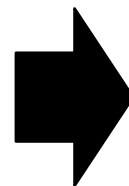
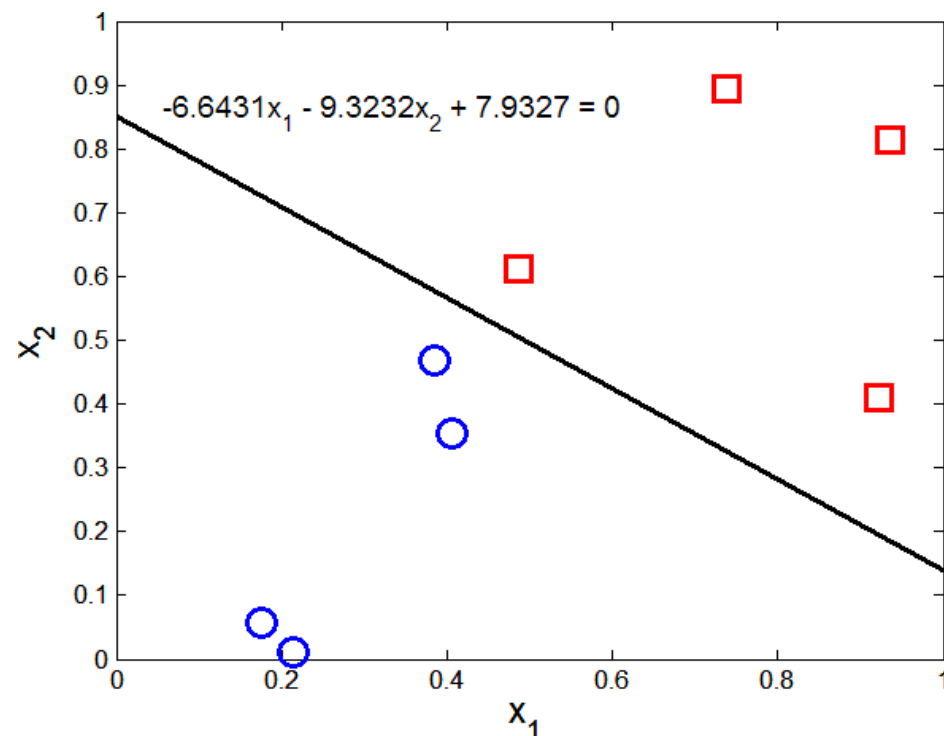
(Primal Form)

$$= \begin{cases} +1, & \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i (\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}) + b > 0 \\ -1, & \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i (\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}) + b < 0 \end{cases}$$

(Dual Form)



# Example: Training Stage



$X_1$	$X_2$	$y$	$\alpha_i$
0.3858	0.4687	1	65.5261
0.4871	0.611	-1	65.5261
0.9218	0.4103	-1	0
0.7382	0.8936	-1	0
0.1763	0.0579	1	0
0.4057	0.3529	1	0
0.9355	0.8132	-1	0
0.2146	0.0099	1	0

**Support  
Vectors**

# Example: Testing Stage

- Given a new data point  $\vec{x} = [0.5, 0.9]$ , what is the class label of  $\vec{x}$  using the trained SVM?

**Support Vectors**

$X''$	$X_{\#}$	$y$	$\alpha_i$
0.3858	0.4687	1	65.5261
0.4871	0.611	-1	65.5261
0.9218	0.4103	-1	0
0.7382	0.8936	-1	0
0.1763	0.0579	1	0
0.4057	0.3529	1	0
0.9355	0.8132	-1	0
0.2146	0.0099	1	0

$$f(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} +1, & \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i (\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}) + b > 0 \\ -1, & \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i (\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}) + b < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{sign} \left( \sum_{x_i \in SV} \alpha_i y_i (\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}) + b \right) \\ &= \text{sign} \left( 65.5261 \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0.3858 \\ 0.4687 \end{bmatrix}^T [0.5, 0.9] + 65.5261 \cdot (-1) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0.4871 \\ 0.611 \end{bmatrix}^T [0.5, 0.9] \right) \end{aligned}$$

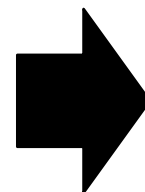
# Quiz: Linear SVM

- Question: Suppose we want to build a hard-margin SVM classifier for two-class classification in one dimension space ( $d = 1, x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ) contains three sample points:
  - point  $x_1 = 3$  with label  $y_1 = 1$
  - point  $x_2 = 1$  with label  $y_2 = 1$
  - point  $x_3 = -1$  with label  $y_3 = -1$

What are the values of  $\vec{w}$  and  $\vec{b}$  given by our hard-margin SVM?

- Solve the optimization problem for  $w$  and  $b$  with the following constraints

$$\min_{w, b} \frac{w^2}{2} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} w * x_1 + b \geq 1 \\ w * x_2 + b \geq 1 \\ w * x_3 + b \leq -1 \end{cases}$$



A:  $w = 1, b = 1$

B:  $w = 1, b = 0$

C:  $w = 0, b = 1$

D:  $w = \infty, b = 0$

# Advantages v.s. Disadvantages

## Advantages

- SVMs depends on relatively few support vectors
  - SVMs are very compact models, and take up very little memory
  - SVMs work well with high-dimensional data, even with more dimensions than samples ( $d > |S|$ )
- Once the model is trained, the prediction phase is very fast

## Disadvantages

- For large numbers of training samples, the computational cost can be prohibitive
- The results do not have a direct probabilistic interpretation

# Jupyter Notebook

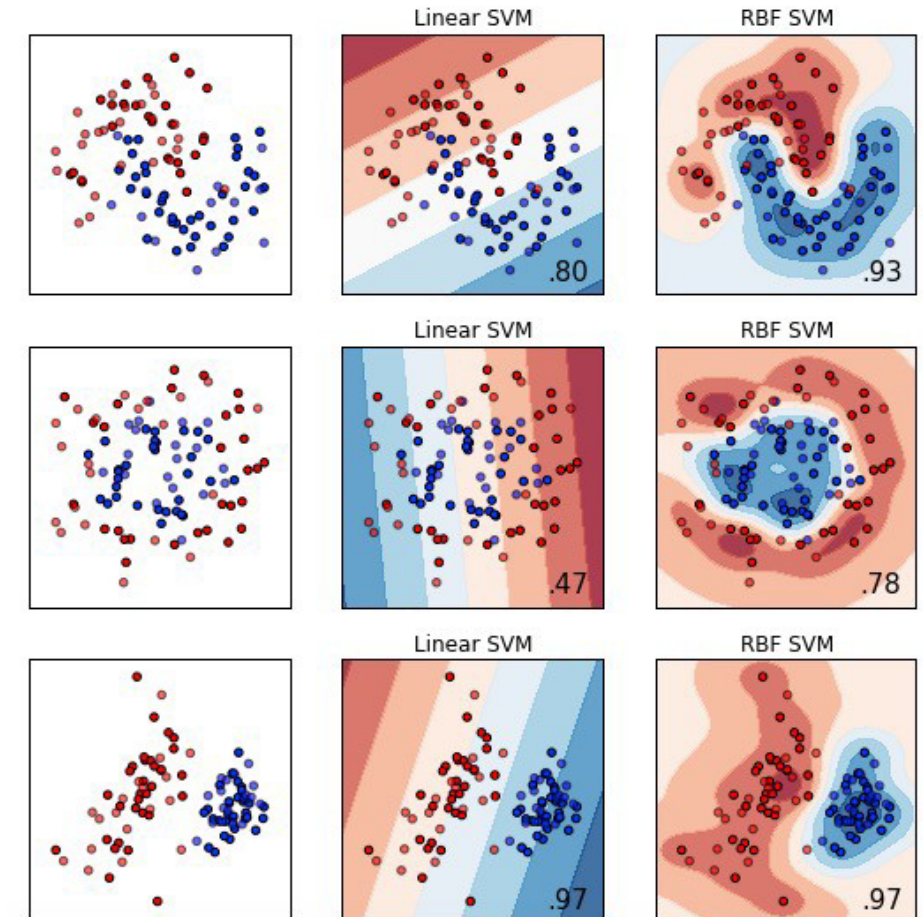
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Hard-margin SVM Coding Example



# SUMMARY

- Data Characteristics
  - Linearly Separable Data
  - Non-Linearly separable Data
- Linearly Separable Data: Hard-margin SVMs
  - Margin Maximization Hyperplane (MMH)
  - Primal Form Optimization
  - Duality Form Optimization
  - Training Phase
  - Testing Phase
  - Advantages v.s. Disadvantages



# Resources

- SVM Website: <http://www.kernel-machines.org/>
- Representative Implementation
  - **LIBSVM**: an efficient implementation of SVM, multi-class classifications, nu-SVM, one-class SVM, including also various interfaces with java, python, etc.
  - **SVM-light**: simpler but performance is not better than LIBSVM, support only binary classification and only in C
  - **SVM-torch**: another recent implementation also written in C
  - **Scikit-Learn**: a set of supervised learning methods used for classification, regression and outliers detection. [\[link\]](#)

# Resources (Contd.)

- Book Chapters: Christopher Bishop, “Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning” ([PDF](#))
  - Sec 7.1.1-7.1.2
  - Sec 4.1.1
  - Sec 6.1, 6.2
  - Appendix E
- Literatures
  - C.J.C. Burges, Chris J.C. Burges "A Tutorial on Support Vector Machines for Pattern Recognition." Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 1998