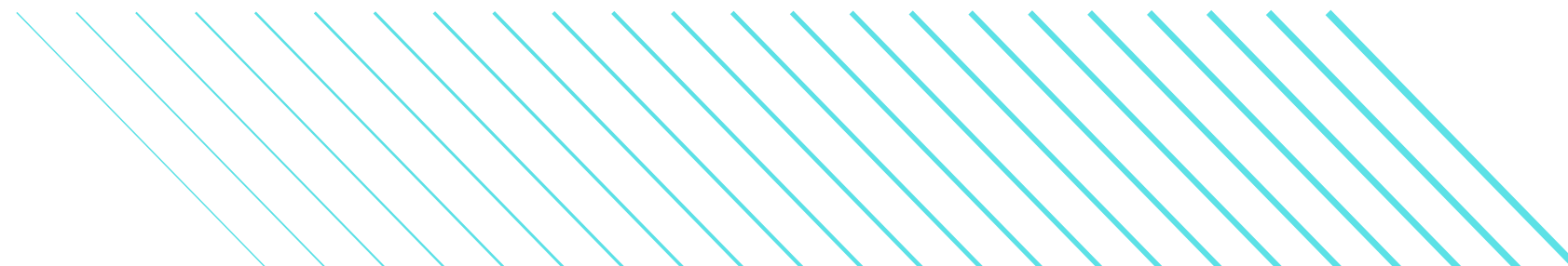
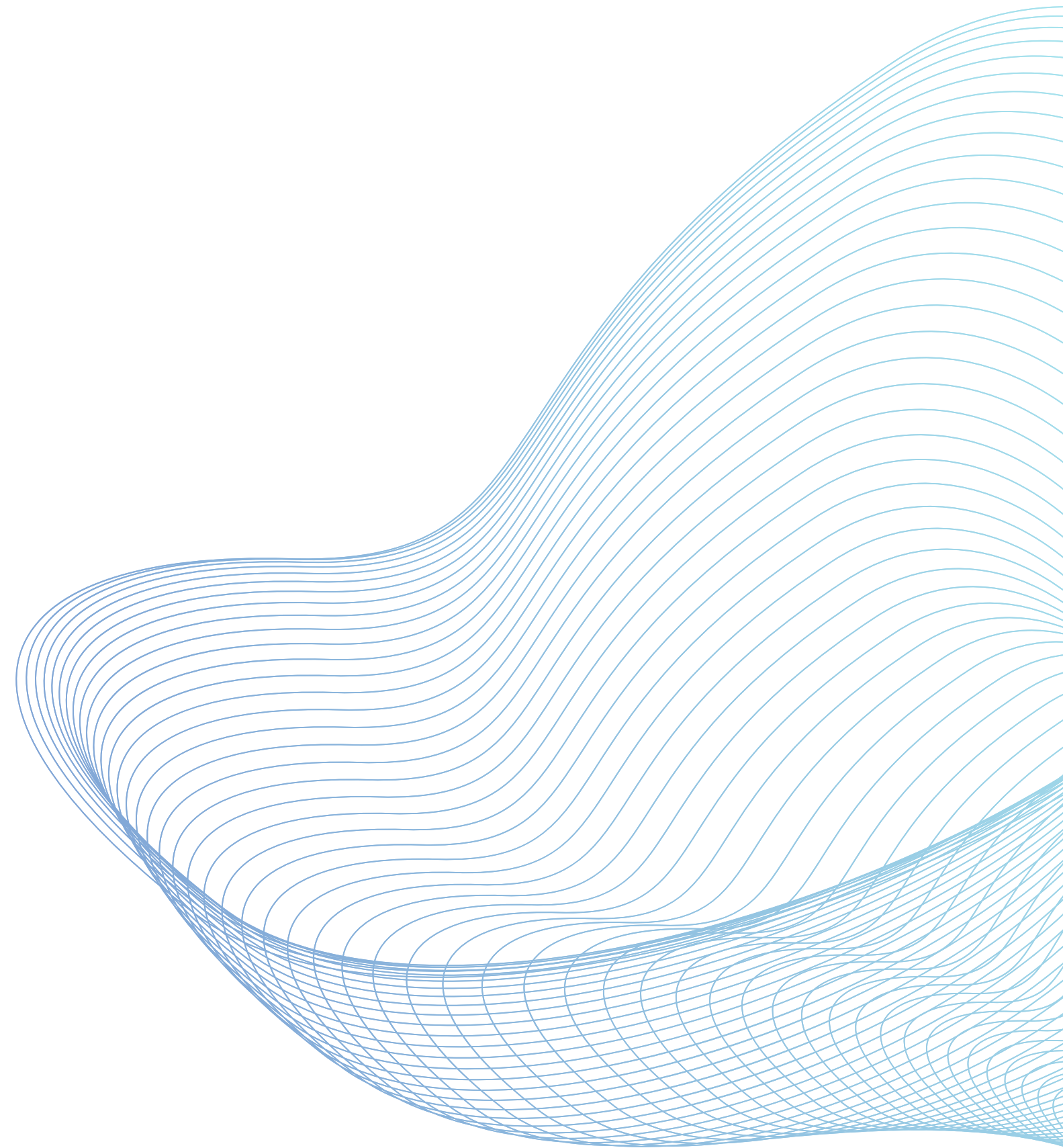


# **SOFT MARGIN SVM** **AND REGULARIZATION**



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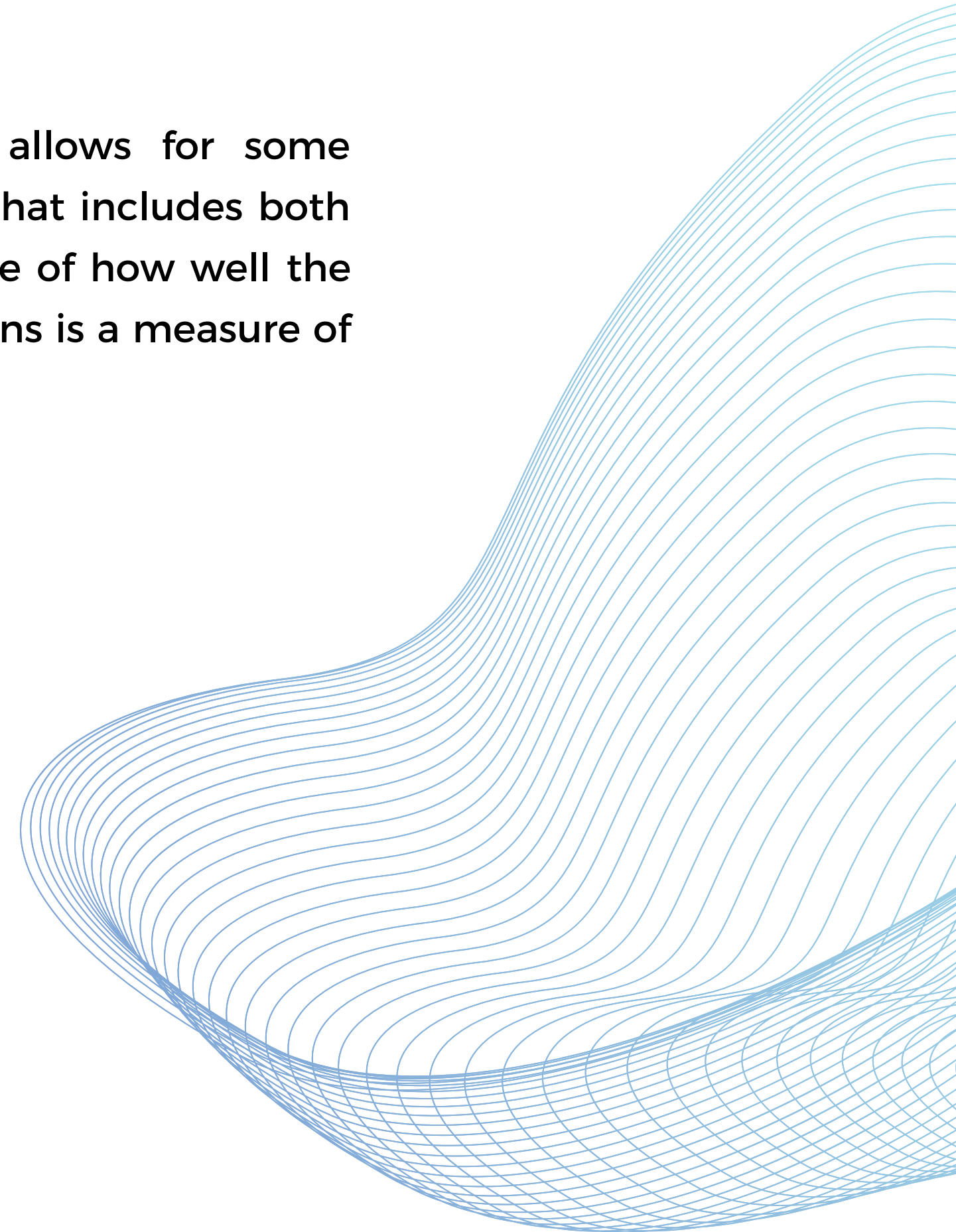
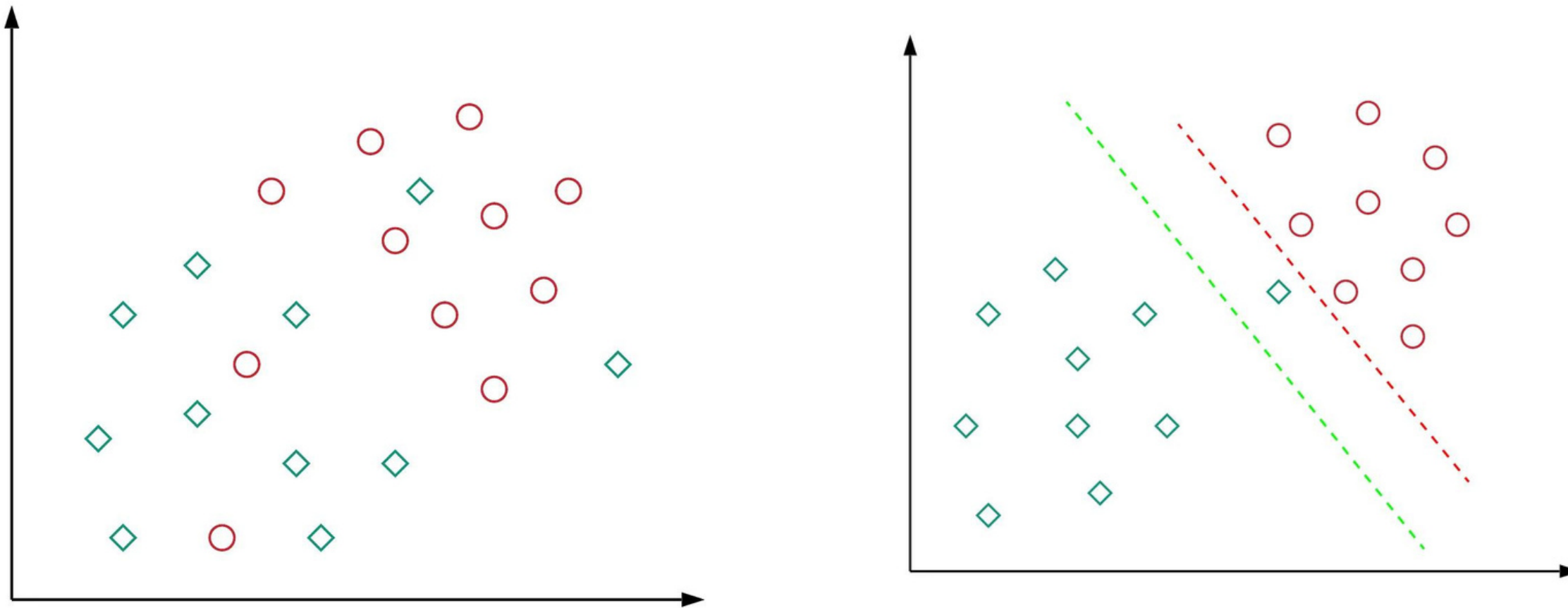
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# 1. Introduction to soft margin SVM and its role in handling non-linearly separable data

Soft margin SVM is a type of support vector machine (SVM) that allows for some misclassifications. Soft margin SVM works by minimizing a cost function that includes both the margin and the number of misclassifications. The margin is a measure of how well the data is separated by the decision boundary. The number of misclassifications is a measure of how well the model predicts the labels of the data.





We would aim to minimize the following objective:

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 + C(\# \text{ of mistakes})$$

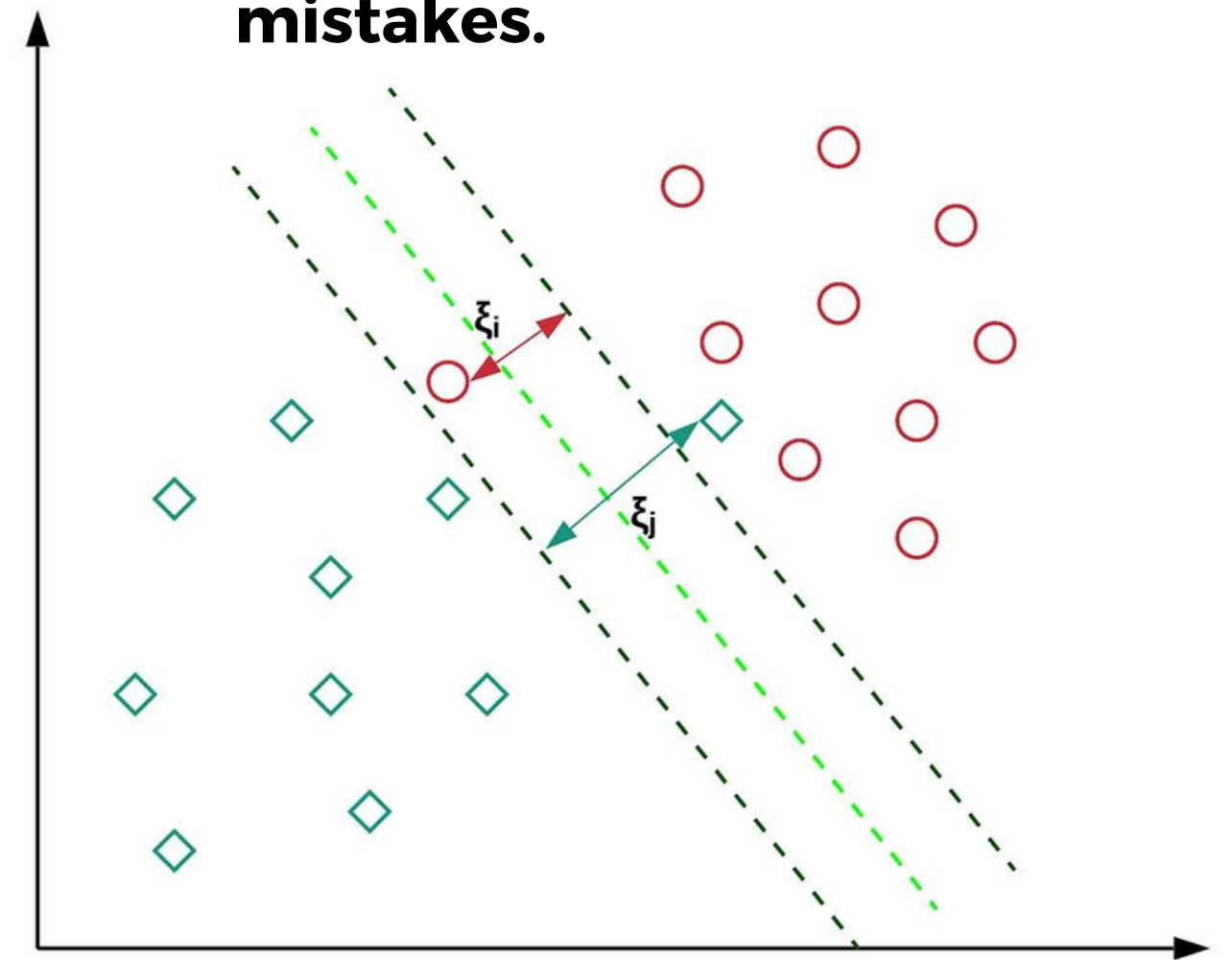
Here,  $C$  is a hyperparameter that decides the trade-off between maximizing the margin and minimizing the mistakes.

Confidence score

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

Our objective is to minimize the following function:

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i + \sum_i \lambda_i (y_i(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}_i + b) - 1 + \xi_i)$$



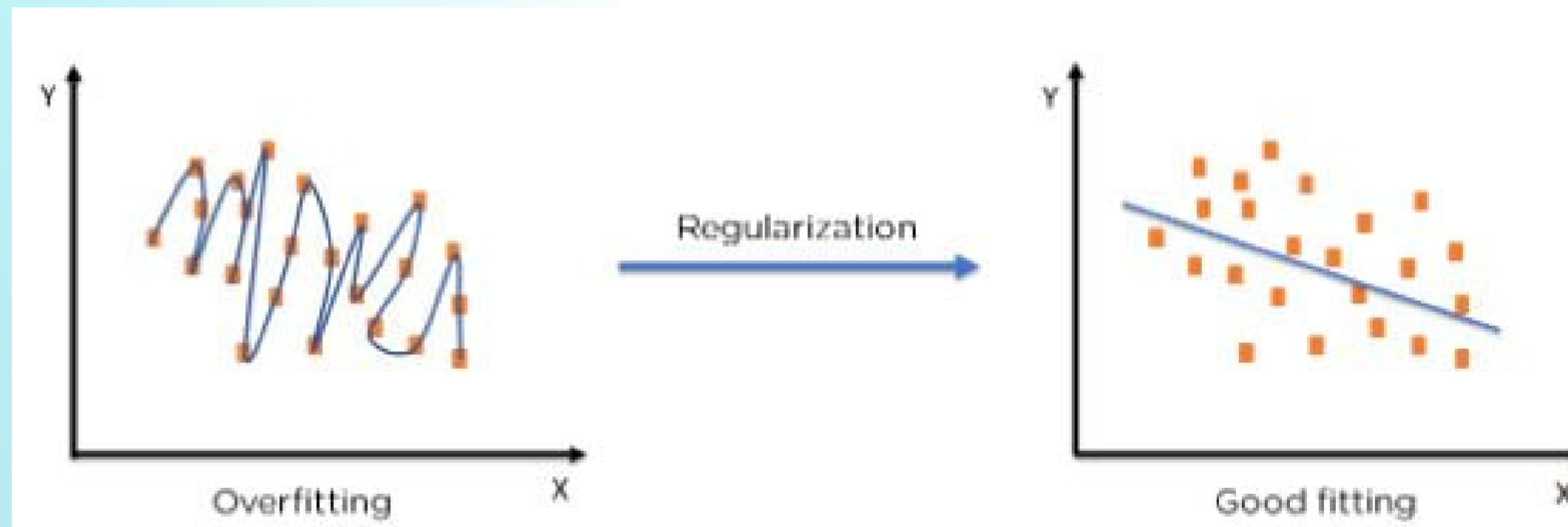
- $w$  is the weight vector
- $b$  is the bias term
- $C$  is a hyperparameter that controls the trade-off between the margin and the number of misclassifications
- $\lambda$  is a hyperparameter that controls the regularization of the model
- $y_i$  is the label of the  $i$ th data point
- $x_i$  is the features of the  $i$ th data point

## 2. Understanding the concept of regularization in SVM

### What is Regularization?

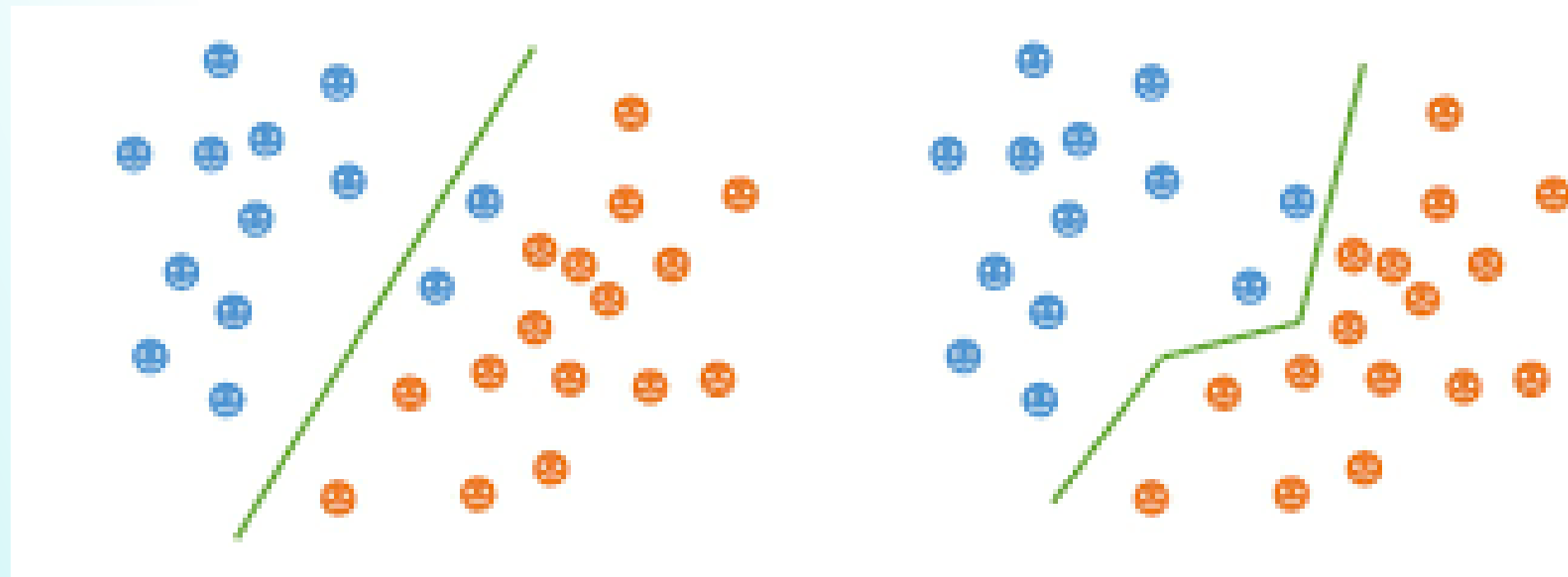
Regularization is a technique used to reduce errors by fitting the function appropriately on the given training set and avoiding overfitting.

Using Regularization, we can fit our machine learning model appropriately on a given test set and hence reduce the errors in it.



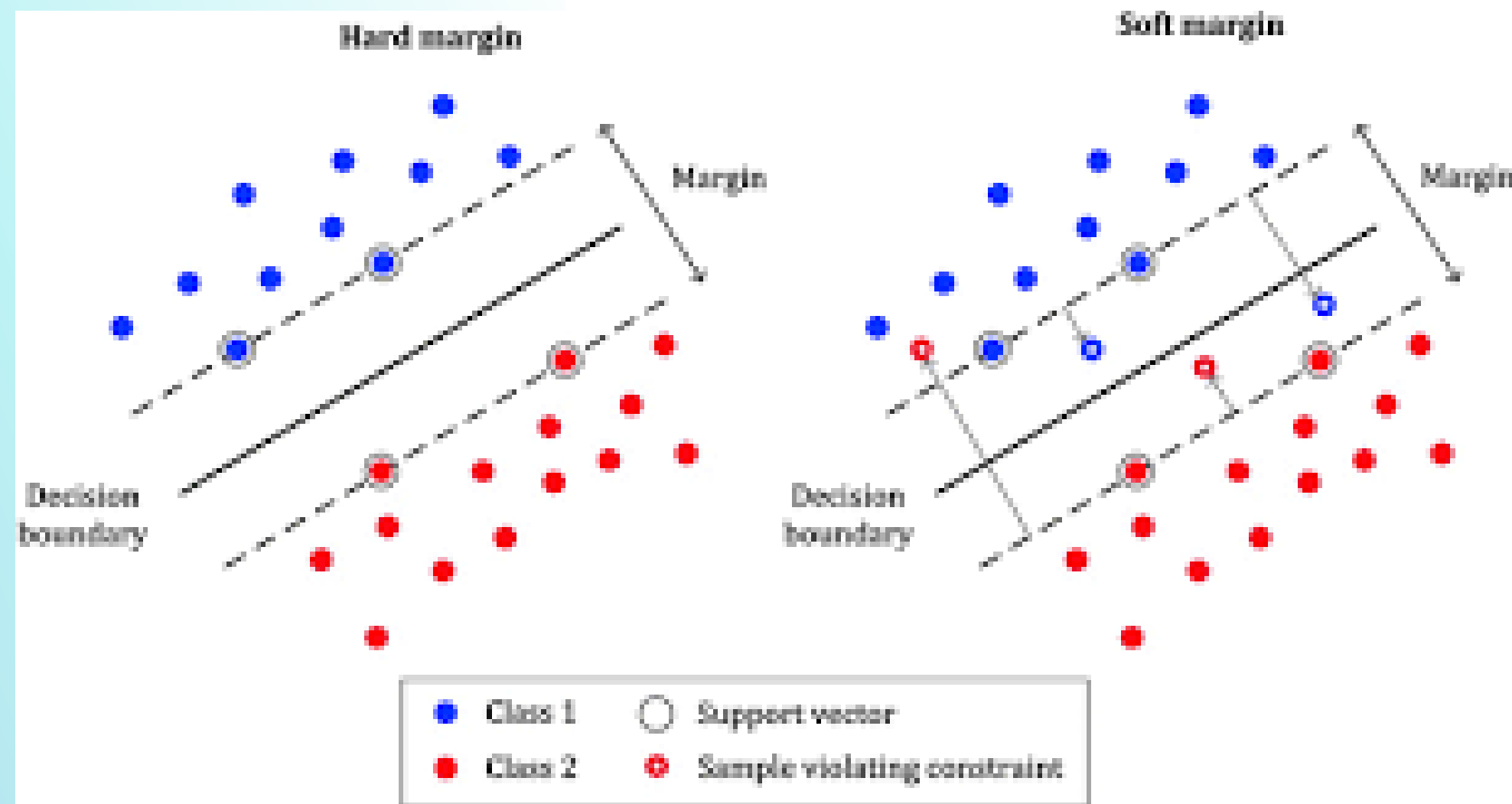
## Regularization in SVM

In Support Vector Machines (SVMs): Regularization is a technique used to prevent overfitting and improve the generalization performance of the model.



## Purpose of Regularization in SVM

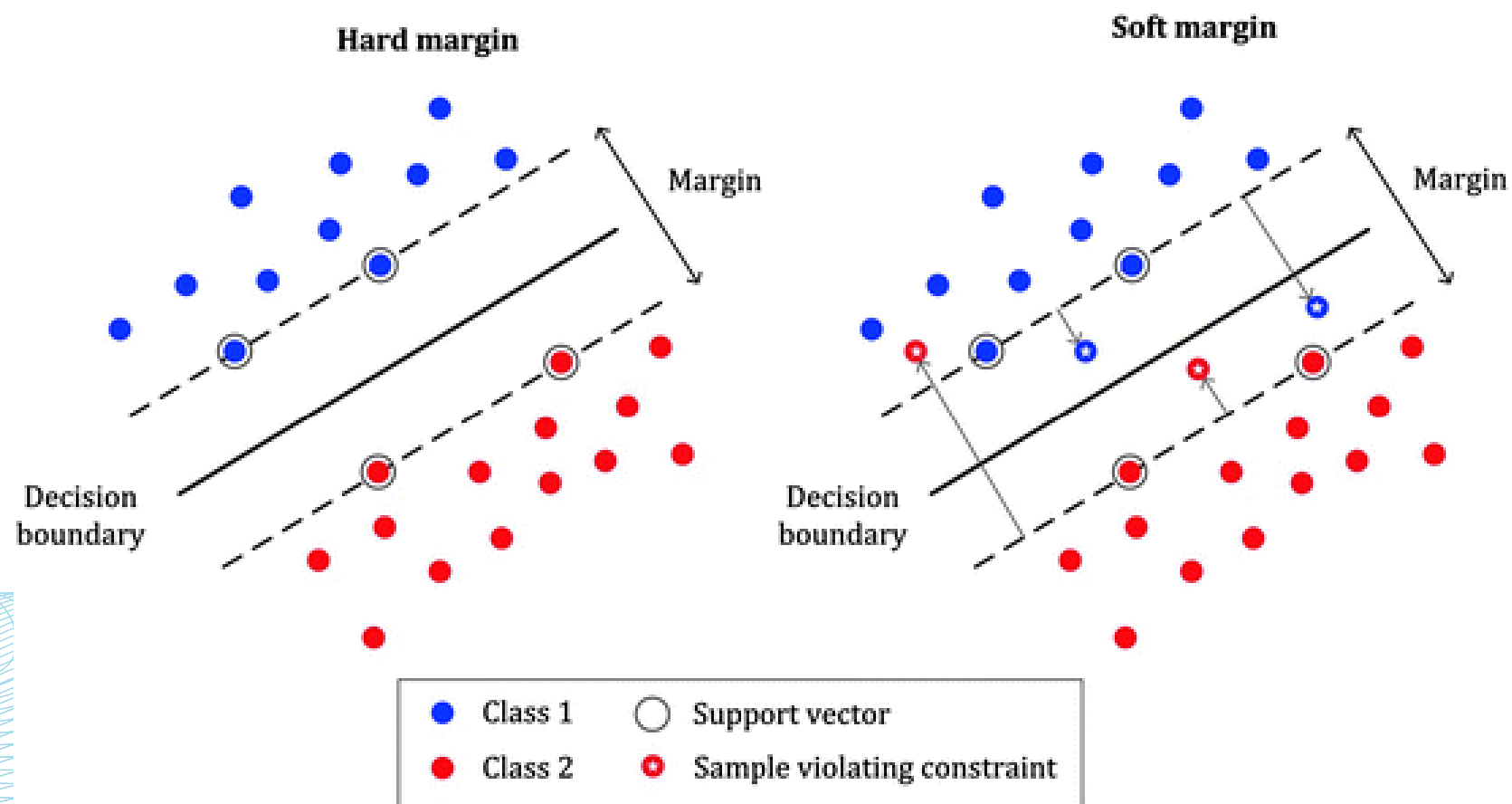
The regularization parameter ( $c$ ) serves as a degree of importance that is given to misclassifications. SVM pose a quadratic optimization problem that looks for maximizing the margin between both classes and minimizing the amount of misclassifications.





### 3. Trade-offs

The trade-off between maximizing the margin and minimizing the classification error in SVM (Support Vector Machine) is controlled by the parameter C. This parameter determines the balance between achieving a larger margin and allowing misclassification errors in the training data.



#### Larger Margin :

- **Advantage :**
  - Robustness to outlier
  - Better Generalization
  - Increased Tolerance for Misclassification
- **Disadvantage :**
  - Reduce Training Accuracy
  - Sensitivity to Class Imbalance

#### Smaller Margin :

- **Advantage :**
  - High Training Accuracy
  - Potentially better on Balanced Dataset
- **Disadvantage :**
  - Sensitivity to Noise
  - Higher Risk of Overfitting

## **4. Discussing the impact of regularization parameter (C)**

### **Small C Value**

**When the regularization parameter, C, is small, the SVM algorithm places more emphasis on achieving a wider margin rather than minimizing misclassifications. The result is a more flexible and tolerant model. C allows more misclassifications on the training set. The algorithm prioritizes finding a more significant margin and will sacrifice correctly classifying a few data points.**

### **Larger C value**

**A larger C places more importance on minimizing misclassifications, leading to a narrower margin model that becomes more sensitive to individual data points and tries to classify them correctly resulting in a more complex decision boundary that adapts closely to the training data. C value is useful when the cost of misclassification is high, and the goal is to reduce training errors even if it means sacrificing some margin width.**

## Here are the key impacts of the regularization parameter C

### Misclassification

The value of C determines the penalty associated with misclassification:

- A larger C value imposes a higher penalty, leading the SVM model to prioritize reducing misclassifications.
- A smaller C value allows more misclassifications and focuses on achieving a wider margin.

### Model complexity

The value of C influences the complexity of the SVM model:

- A larger C value allows for more complex decision boundaries with potentially more support vectors.
- A smaller C value leads to simpler models with fewer support vectors.

## overfitting and underfitting

- **overfitting is often a result of a high model complexity or a large value of the regularization parameter  $C$ . The model may have high accuracy on the training set but performs poorly on new, unseen data.**
- **Underfitting results in a decision boundary that is overly generalized and has a wider margin. The model may have low accuracy on both the training set and new data**

## Impact on margin width

**The regularization parameter  $C$  directly affects the width of the margin in SVM:**


- **A smaller  $C$  value emphasizes a wider margin, allowing more tolerance for misclassifications.**
- **A larger  $C$  value leads to a narrower margin, prioritizing accurate classification at the cost of margin width**





# CONCLUSION

The regularization parameter  $C$  in SVM allows control over the trade-off between maximizing the margin and minimizing classification errors. Selecting an appropriate  $C$  value depends on the specific problem and the relative importance of achieving a wider margin versus minimizing misclassifications.



**THAN YOU !**

