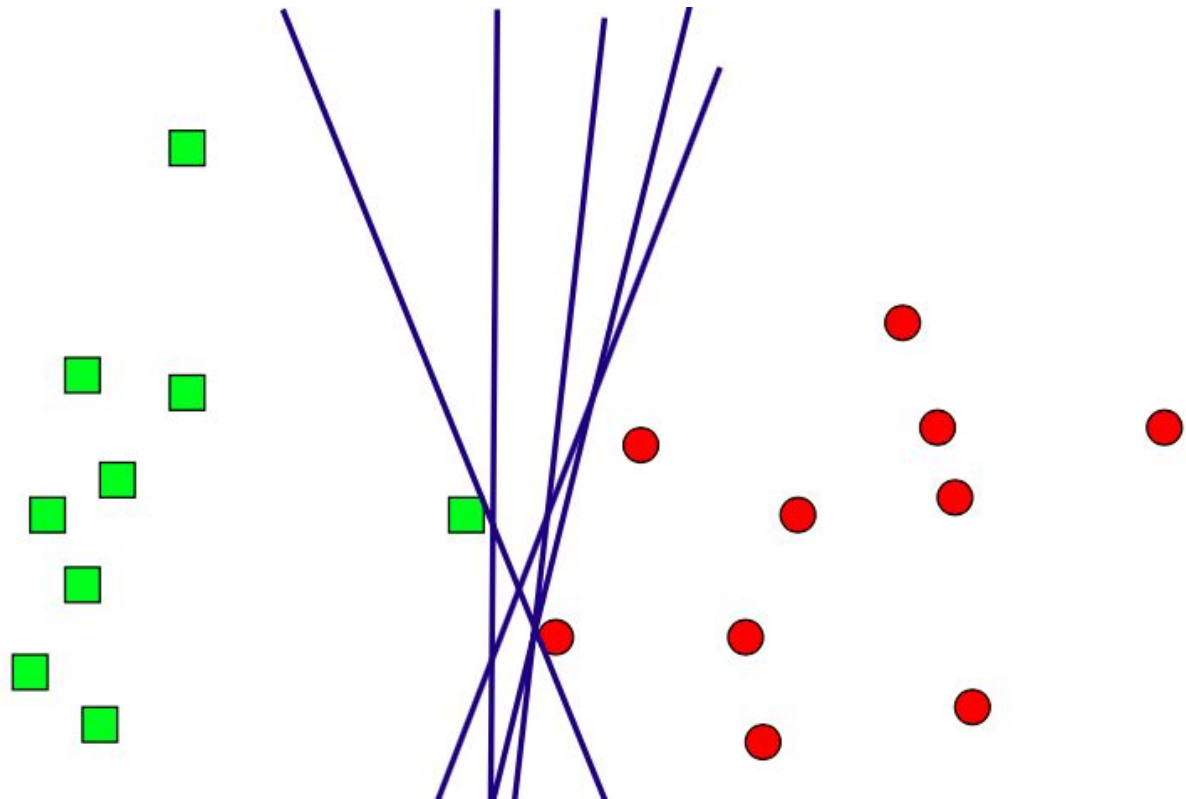


SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINES

Many slides courtesy of Marios Savvides

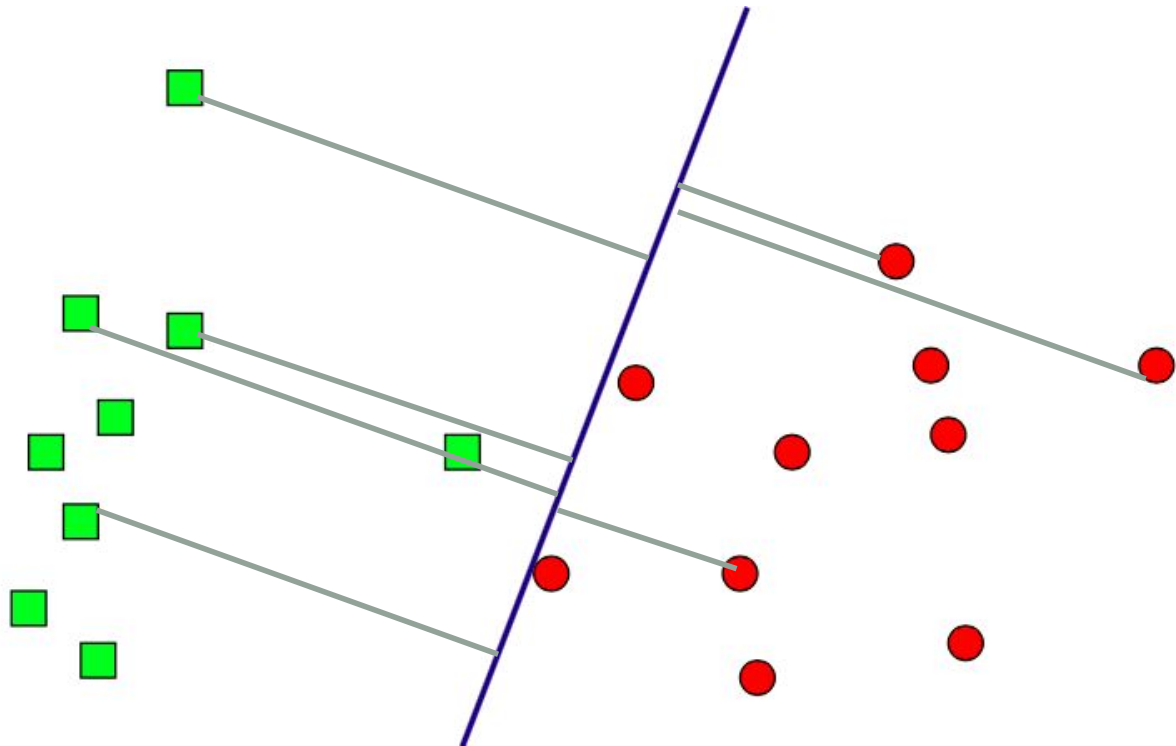
Linear classification problem

- Find a line that separates two classes
- Many solutions exist!
- Which one is the best?

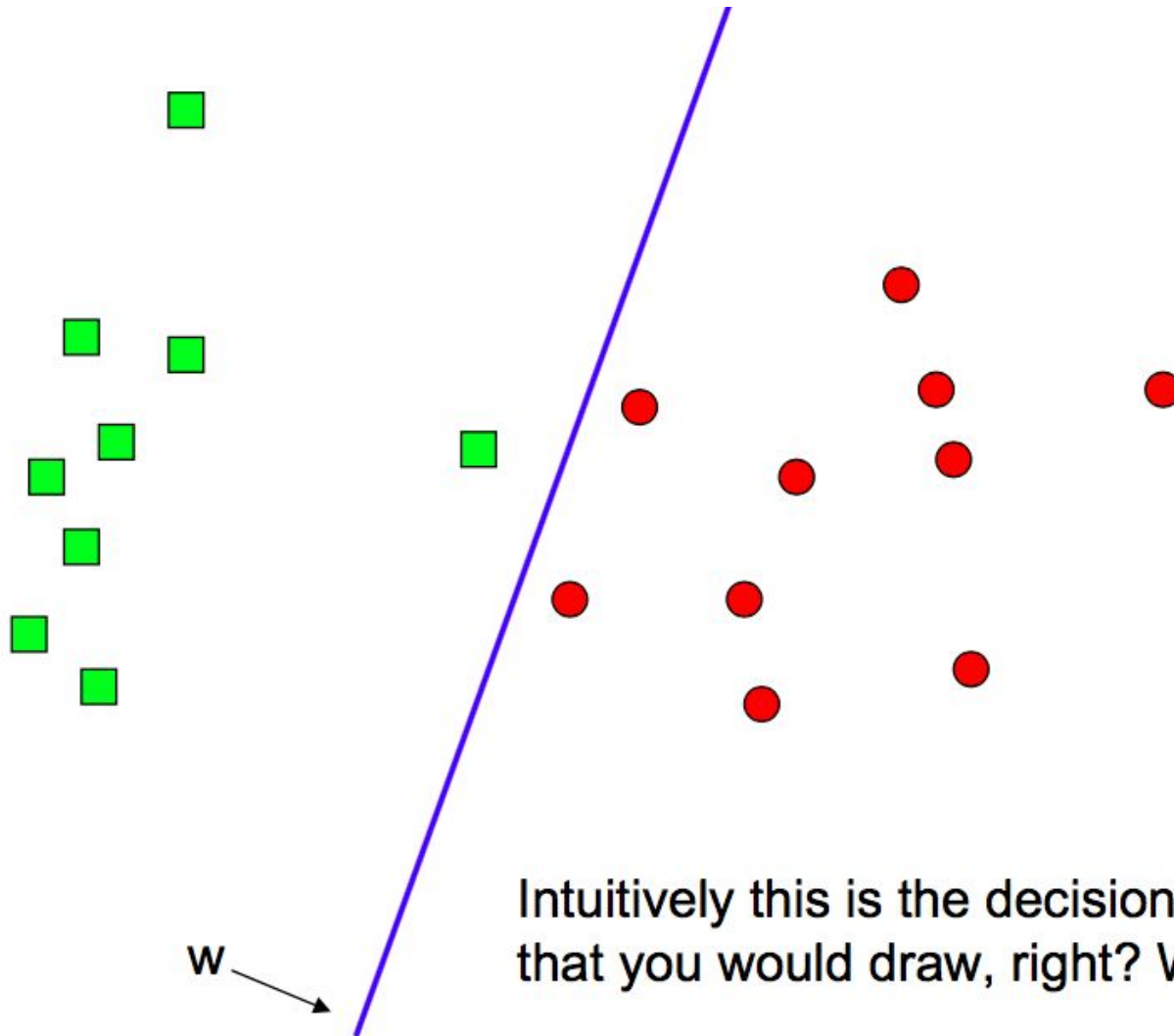


Logistic Regression

- Minimizes sum of L2 distance (square error) between all points to the line
- Also have probabilistic interpretation (assume noise is Gaussian)



Support vectors

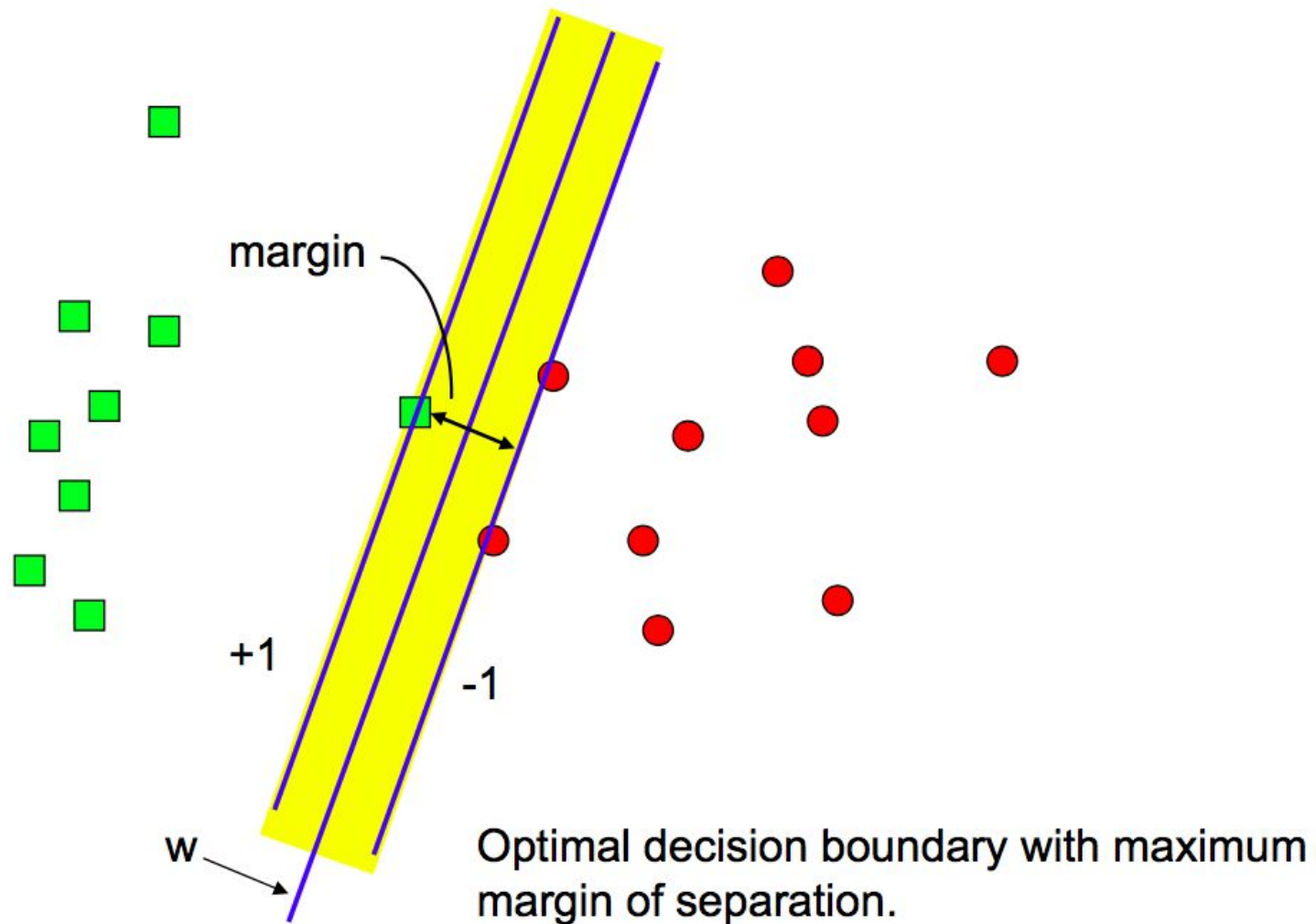


Intuitively this is the decision boundary that you would draw, right? Why?

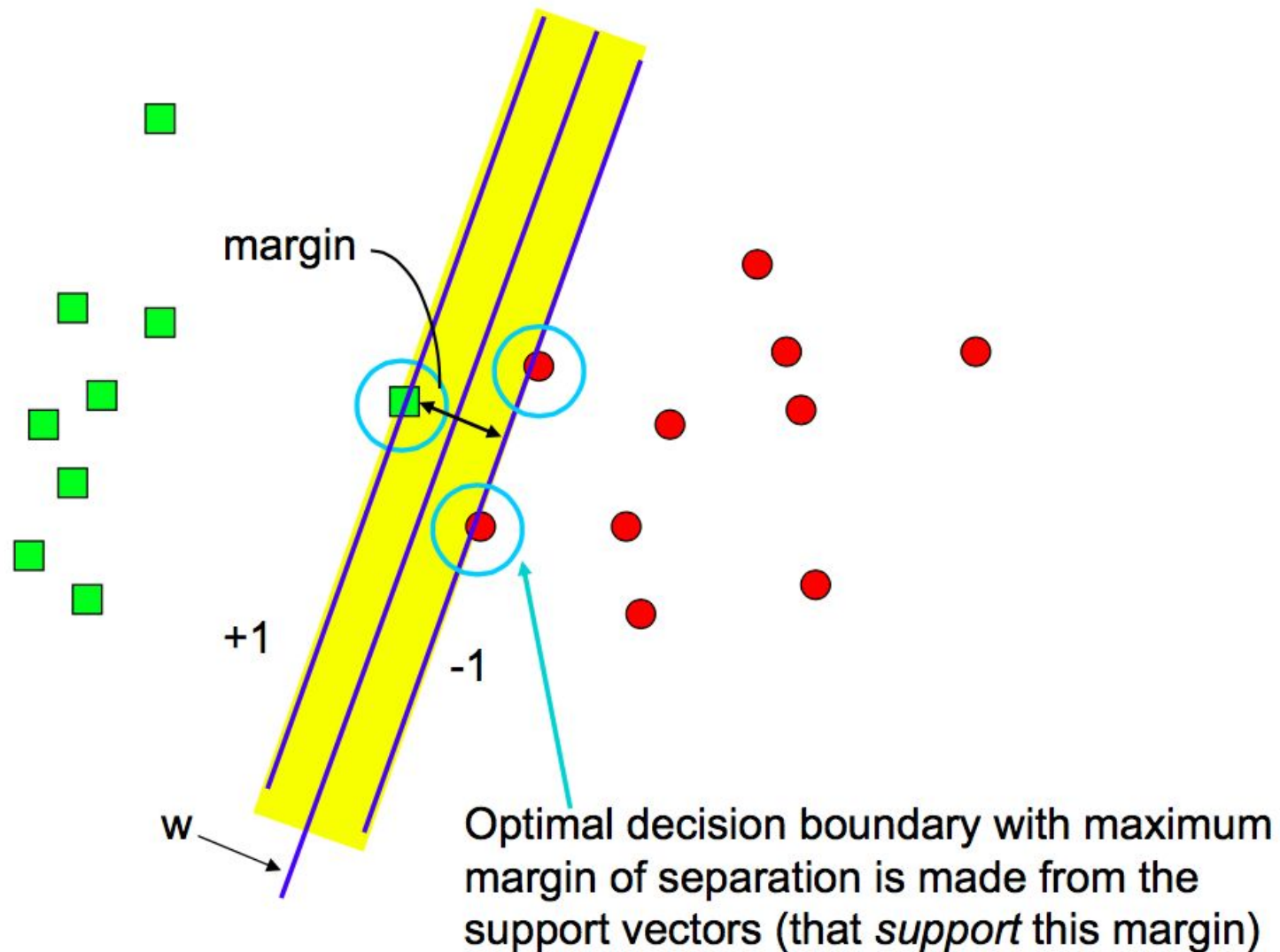
Support Vector Machines (SVM)

- Goal: improve generalization!
 - Care more about reducing classifier variance than reducing classifier bias
- How?
- Find the decision boundary that gives the most “slack” in classification
 - Don’t care about easy cases, care about borderline cases!
 - Focus on the margin
 - Maximize the “margin of error” between two classes

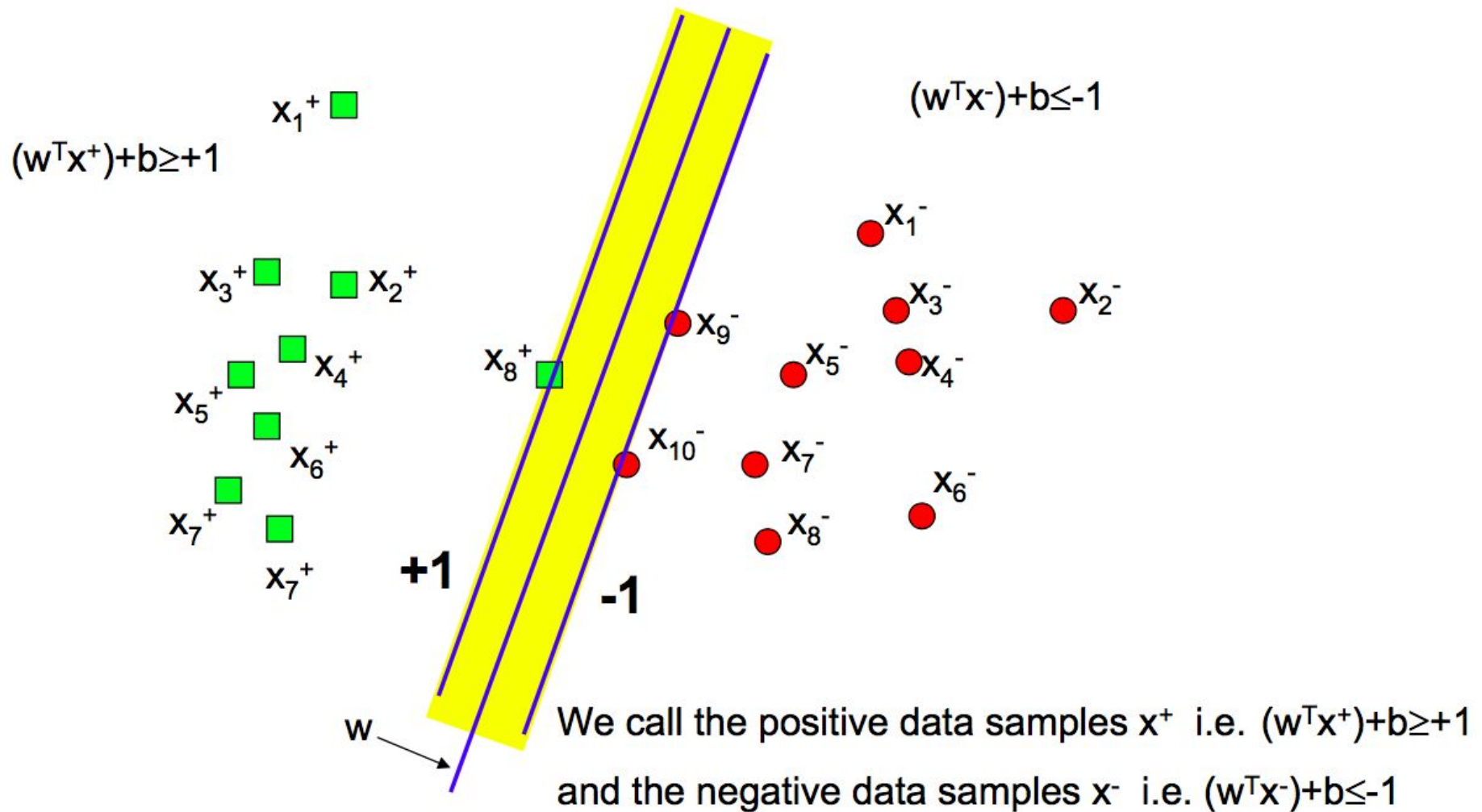
Support Vectors



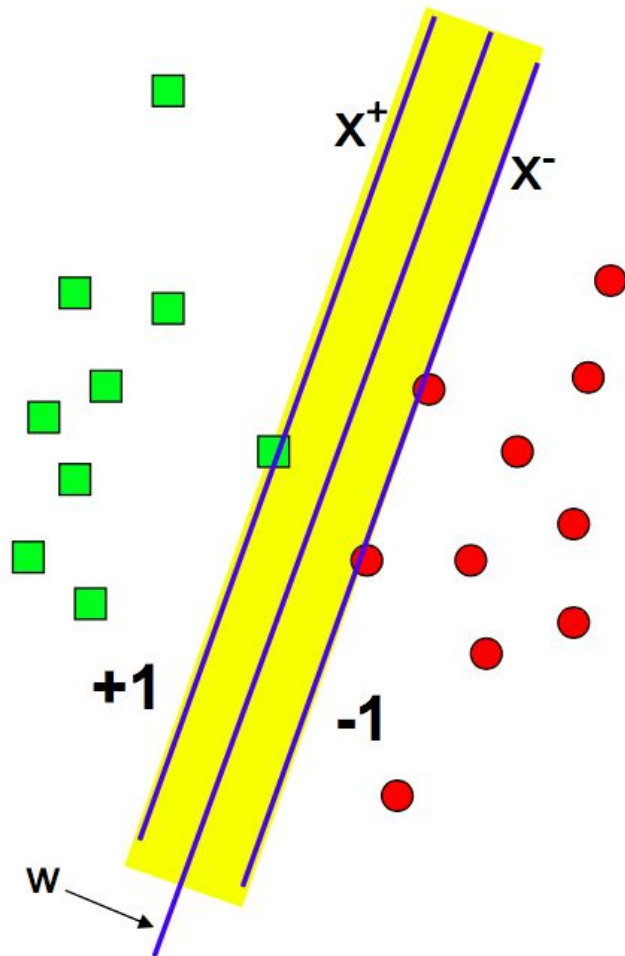
Support Vectors



Support Vectors



Support Vectors



Let x^+ denote a positive point with functional margin of 1 and x^- denote a negative point respectively.

This implies:

$$w^T x^+ + b = +1$$

$$w^T x^- + b = -1$$

The functional margin of the resulting classifier m is

$$m = \left(\left\langle \frac{w}{\|w\|}, x^+ \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{w}{\|w\|}, x^- \right\rangle \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\|w\|} \left(\langle w, x^+ \rangle - \langle w, x^- \rangle \right)$$

$$= \frac{2}{\|w\|}$$

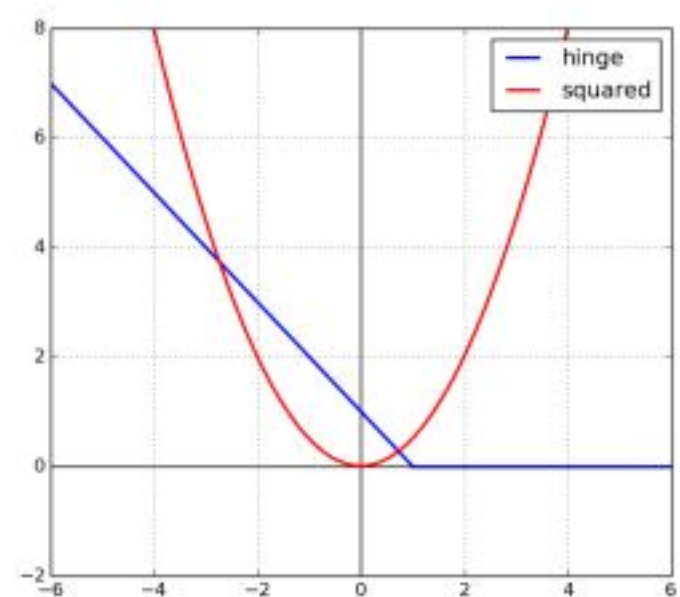
$\langle \rangle$ denotes dot product

SVM objective function

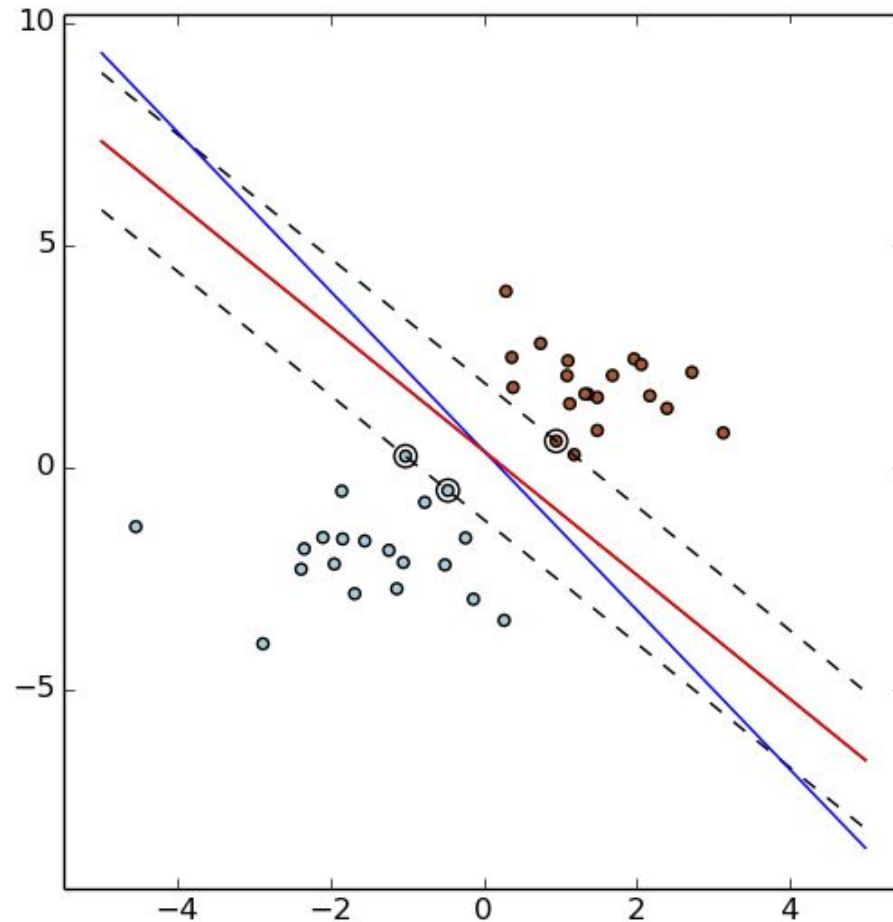
- Minimize $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$
- Subject to
 - $y_i(\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle + b) = y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$
- $y_i = \{+1, -1\}$ depending on the binary class
 - Positive class must fall on the positive side of the boundary
 - Negative class must fall on the negative side
- Convex optimization (No local minimas)
- Can be solved by Quadratic Programming (QP)

Notes on the Losses

- Linear regression optimizes for the L2 loss (**squared loss**)
 - Squared distance of data points to boundary $(x - h(x))^2$
- SVM optimize for the **hinge loss**
 - $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$
 - Or $0 \geq 1 - y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b)$
 - We don't want this inequality to be broken so our effective loss is
 - $\max(0, 1 - y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b))$

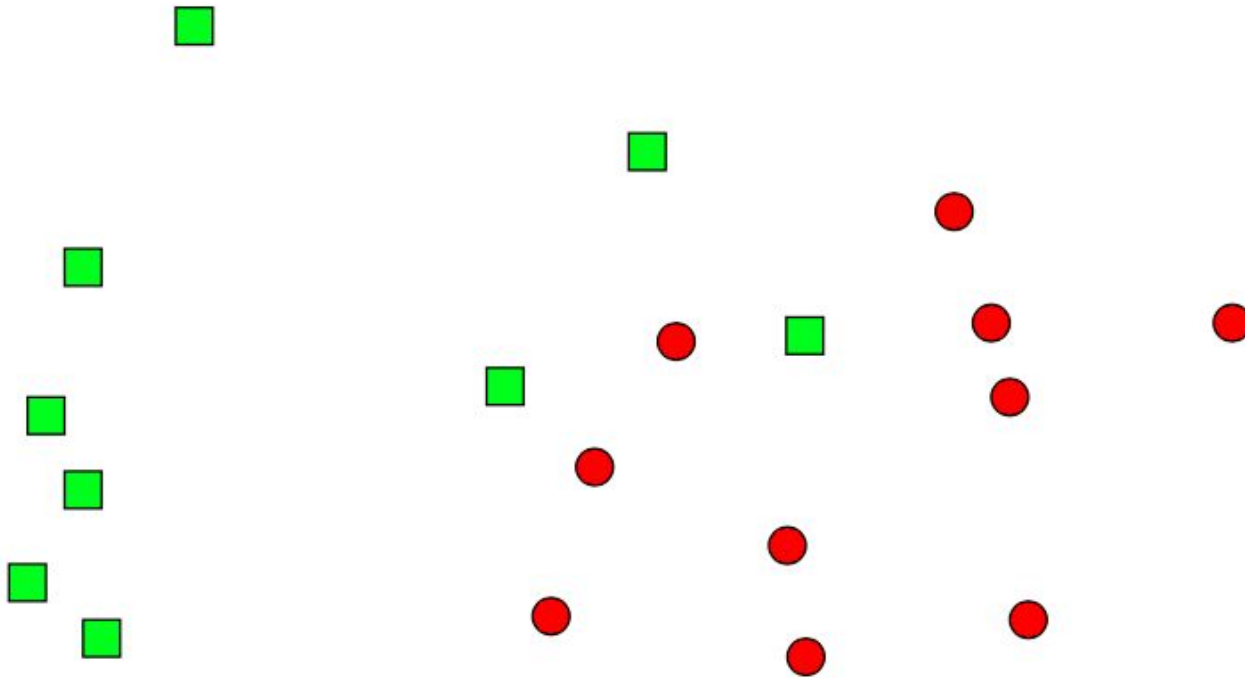


L2 vs hinge loss



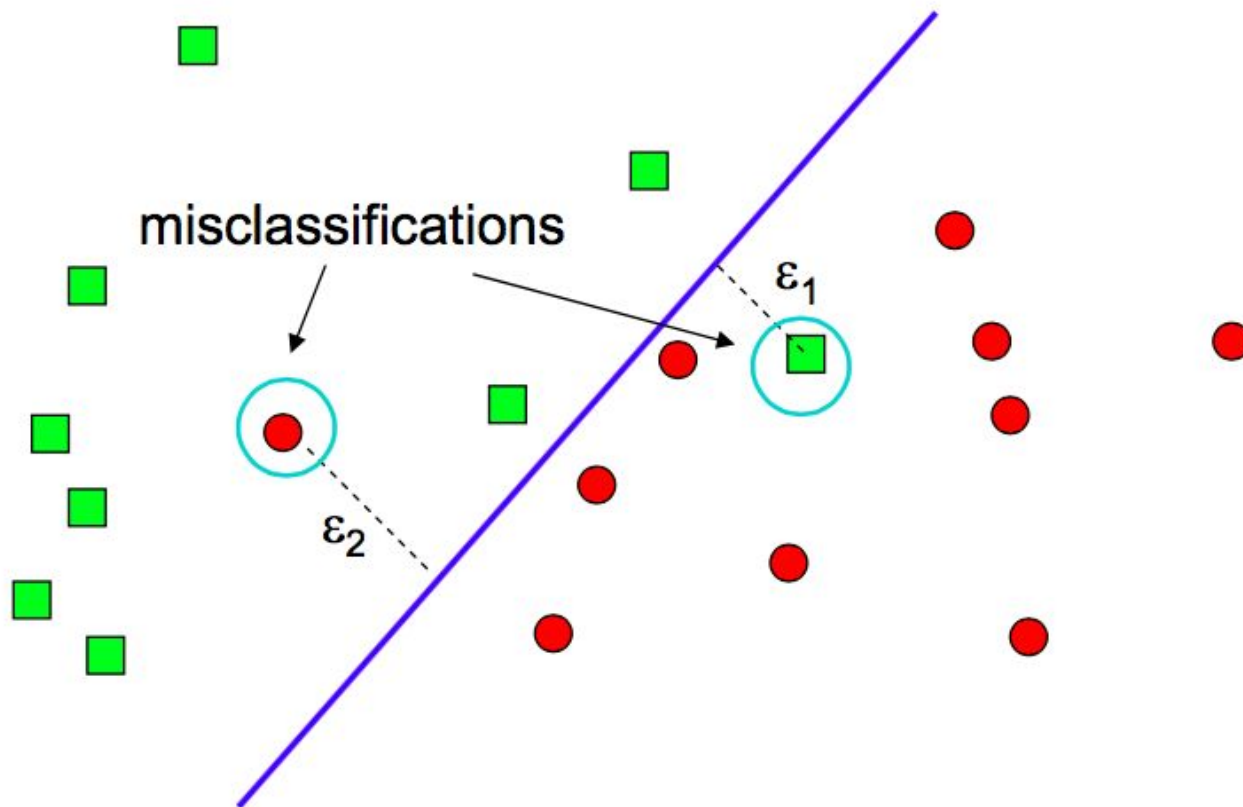
Linearly non-separable

- What happens when you cannot separate the two classes with a linear boundary



Introducing an error term ε

- Aim for a hyperplane that tries to maximize the margin while minimize total error $\sum \varepsilon_i$



Slack variables

- We call these error terms “Slack variables”
- Give SVM some slack so that the SVM can do its job.

SVM objective function

- Minimize $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$
- Subject to
 - $y_i(\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle + b) = y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b) \geq 1$
- $y_i = \{+1, -1\}$ depending on the binary class
 - Positive class must fall on the positive side of the boundary
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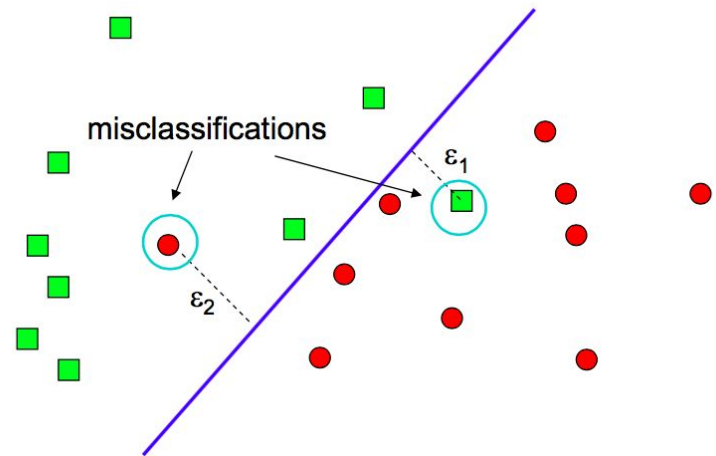
SVM objective with slack

- Minimize $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + \sum \varepsilon_i / C$
- Subject to C is a weight parameter, how much we care about slack

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b \geq 1 - \varepsilon_i \quad \text{for } +ve \text{ class}$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + b \leq -1 + \varepsilon_i \quad \text{for } -ve \text{ class}$$

$$\varepsilon_i > 0 \quad \forall i$$

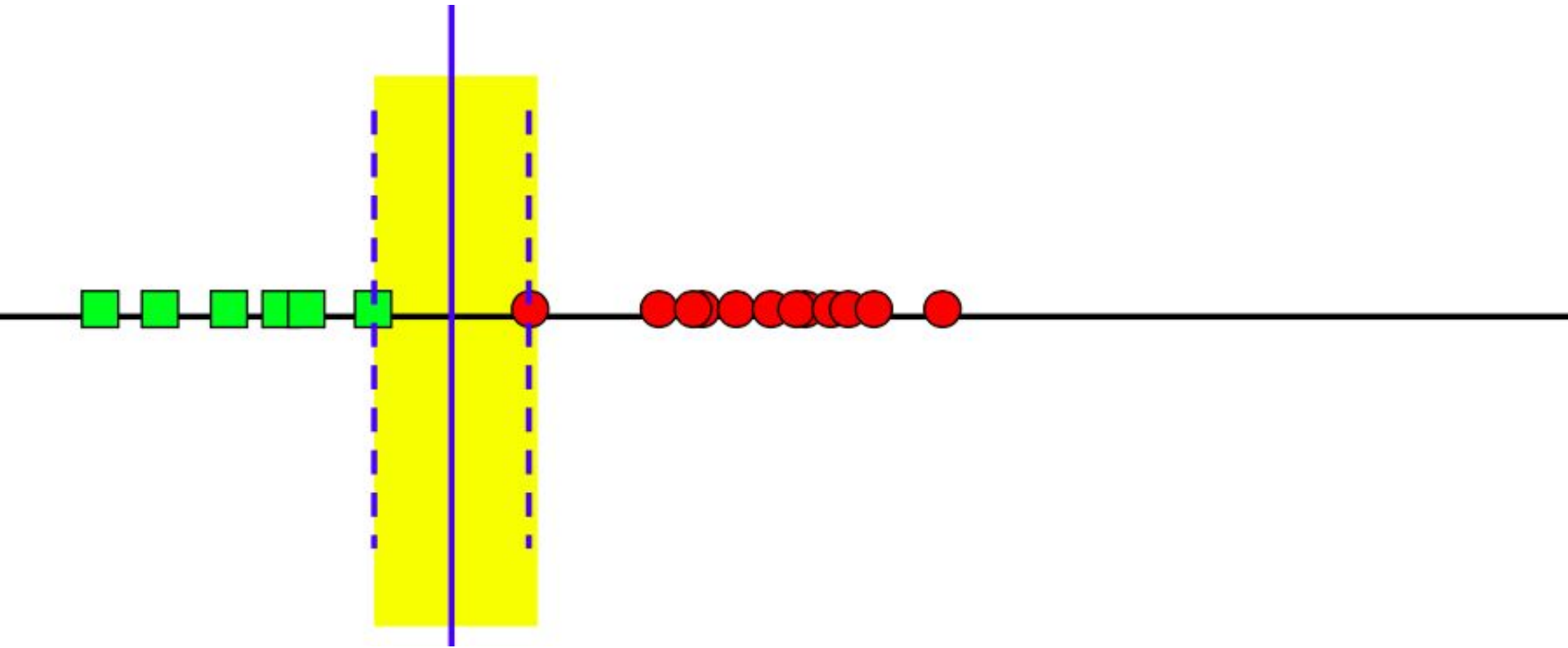


Notes about slacks

- Even if the problem has linear separability we might want some slack still.
 - Missed label points near the boundaries, noise in the data set etc.
 - In this case, we trade-off classifier bias for classifier variance.
- A form of regularization!

Linear SVMs

- Easy



Example SVMs

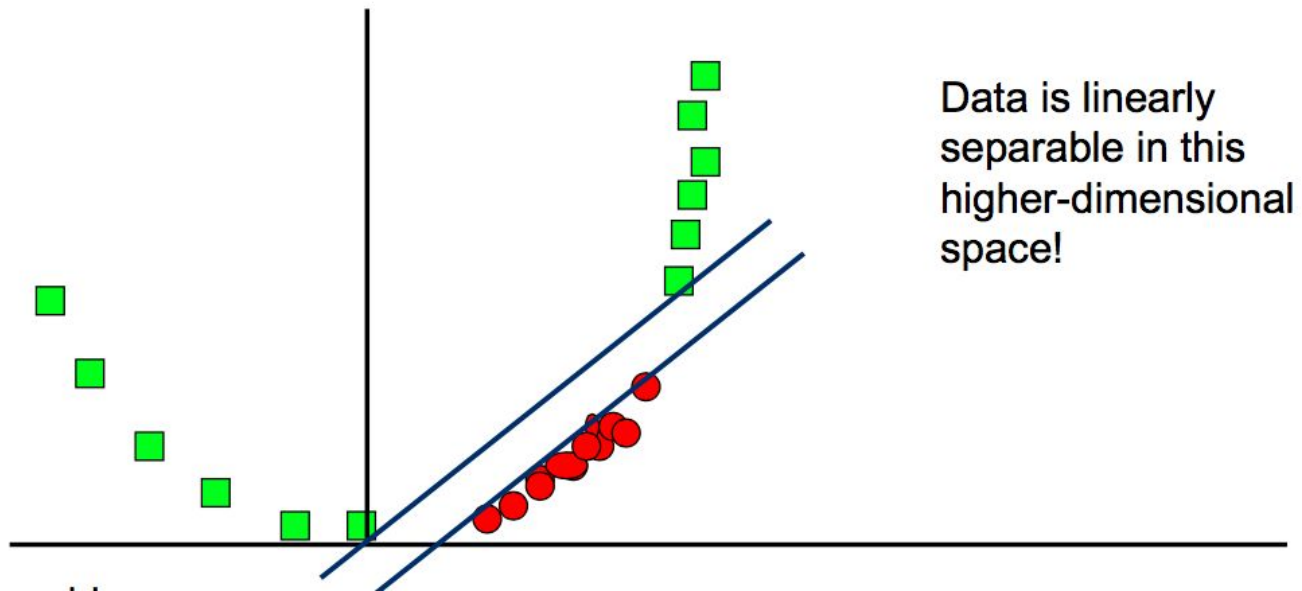
- ???????



Adding features (non-linear transformation)

- Remember we add non-linear features to linear regression to do non-linear fitting
- Consider as a non-linear transformation to higher dimensional space

$$F(x) \rightarrow (x, x^2)$$



Mapping functions

$$\phi: X \rightarrow F$$

- A mapping function that maps to higher dimensional space

Kernel function

- We define the inner product in the mapped space as a kernel function $K(x,y)$

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle$$

- Kernel of $x \rightarrow (x, x^2)$
 - $xy + x^2y^2$
- Kernel of $x \rightarrow (x, x^2, x^3)$
 - $xy + x^2y^2 + x^3y$

SVM and kernels

Instead of mapping input to high dimensions, we can use kernel to save computation in SVMs.

Example kernels:

Linear

Polynomial (degree 2,3,4...)

Radial basis functions (RBF)

Radial Basis Kernels

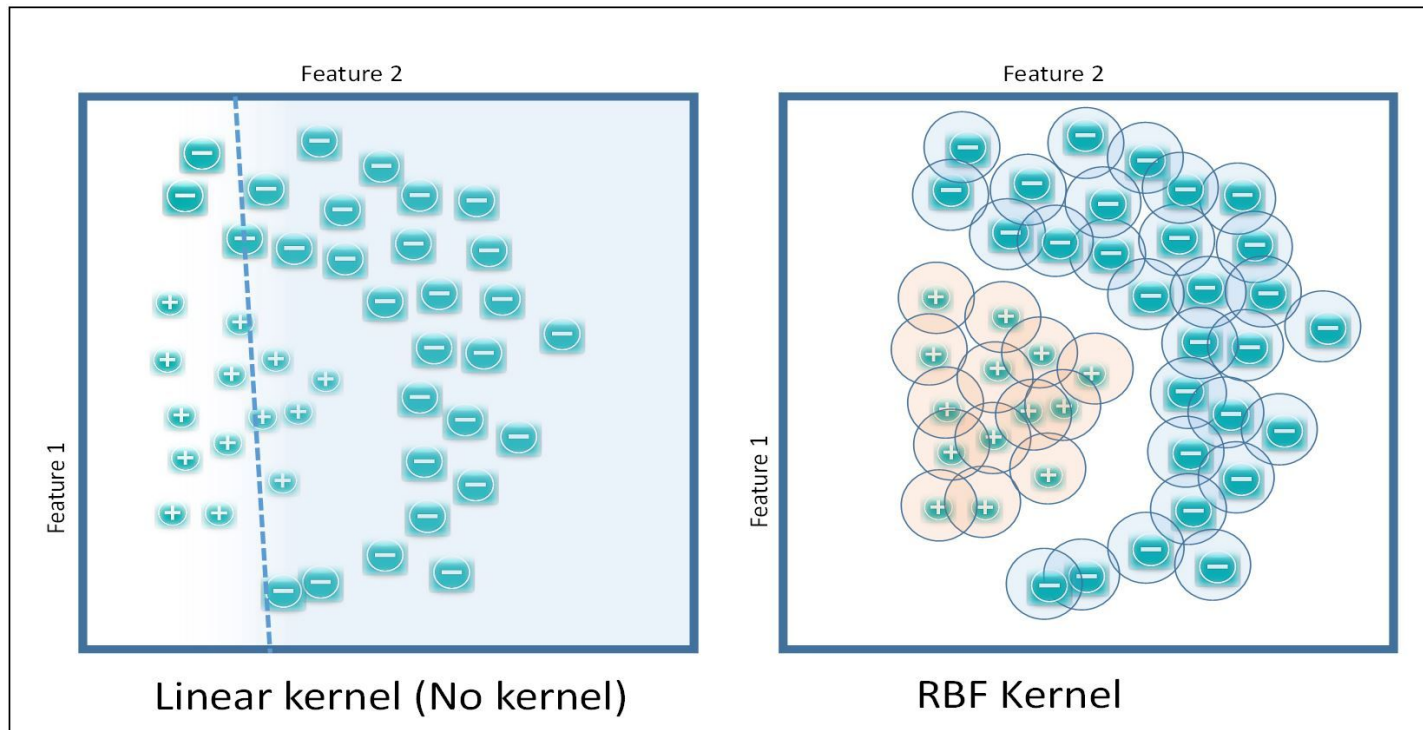
- Most powerful general purpose kernel

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- Pretty much a Gaussian with mean \mathbf{x}' and variance σ^2
 - Variance is a parameter to select
- This kernel comes from a space that has **infinite dimensions**

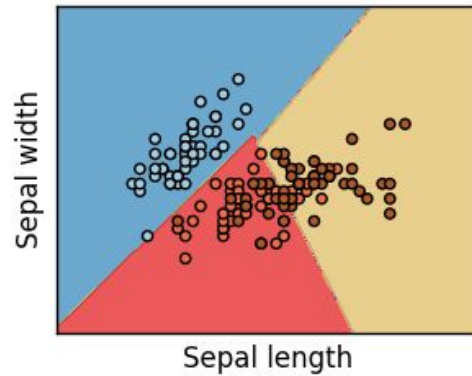
RBF kernels

- Think of RBF as putting Gaussians onto the support vectors

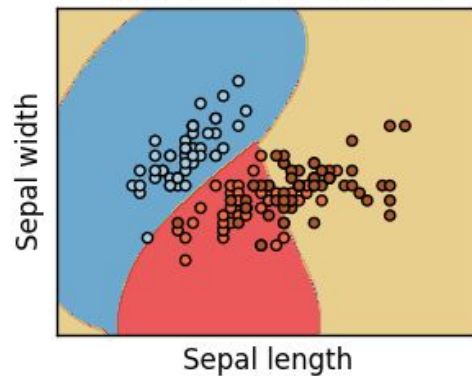


SVM examples

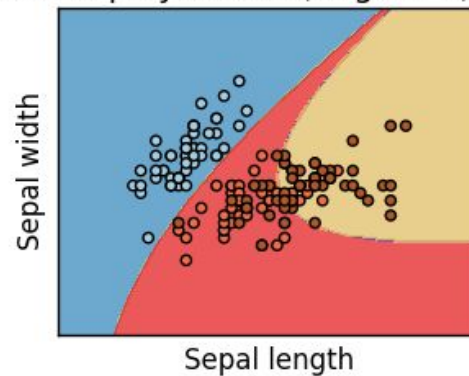
SVC with linear kernel



SVC with RBF kernel

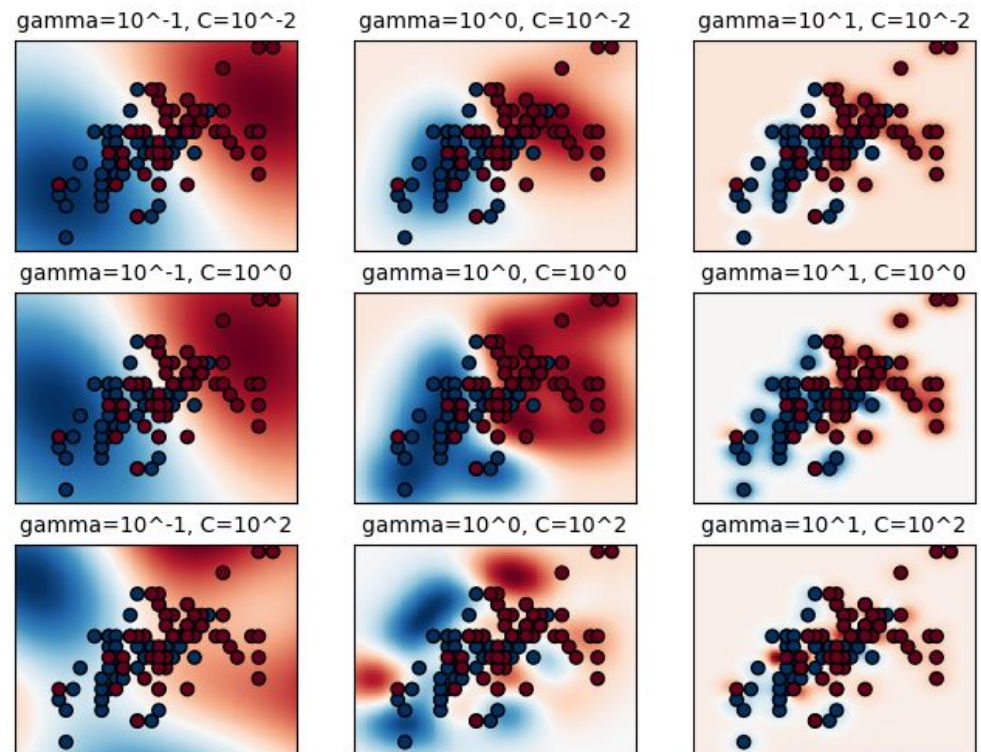


SVC with polynomial (degree 3) kernel



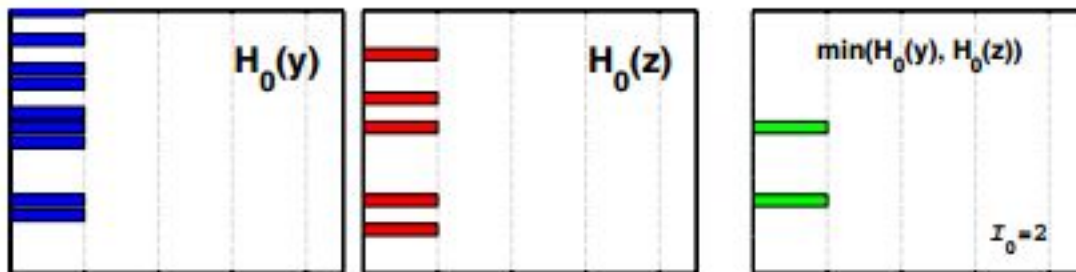
RBF SVM and sci-kit learn

- Gamma is the inverse of the variance
- C is the inverse slack variable weight



Histogram intersection kernels

- Given input features which are histograms
 - Histogram of first data $H_0(y)$. Histogram of second data $H_1(z)$
- The Kernel that counts the intersection of the histograms is a valid kernel.
 - E.g. Sum of $\min(H_0(y), H_1(z))$ for all histogram bins
- (One of the most used kernels in computer vision)

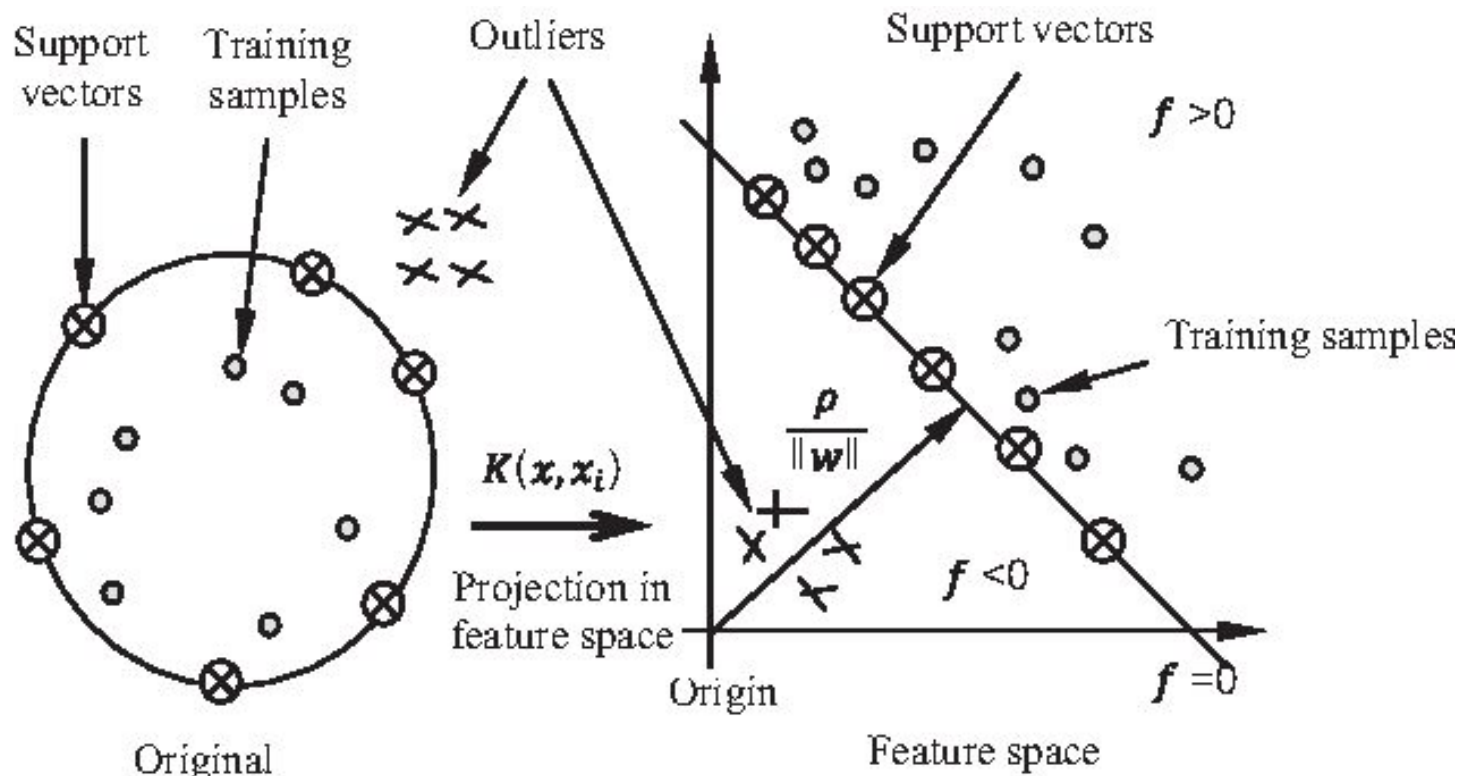


One class SVMs

- Sometimes it is easy to get positive examples but hard to acquire all possible negative examples
 - Email spam filter
 - We kind of know what a good email looks like. And we have lots of examples
 - Hard to model what a spam is. Spammer can change the format and evade detection.
- Solution: train on just the positive class
 - Model what that class looks like
 - Anything that deviates too much from it is considered negative examples

How?

- Separates the data from the “origin” (in mapped space)
- Maximize the distance between data points and the origin



Summary

- SVMs
 - Max margin
 - Slack
 - Kernel (inner product of higher space)
 - RBF kernels
 - One class SVM

