



Institut de Mathématiques de Toulouse, INSA Toulouse

# Linear methods for classification

Data Mining  
October 2022

Béatrice Laurent - Philippe Besse - Olivier Roustant

# Outline

---

- Introduction to supervised classification
- Logistic regression
- ROC curves
- Support Vector Machine

# Introduction to supervised classification

- We now consider **supervised classification problems**. We have a training data set with  $n$  observation points (or objects)  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and their class (or label)  $Y_i$ .
- Suppose that  $\mathbf{d}^n$  corresponds to the observation of a  $n$ -sample  $\mathbf{D}^n = \{(\mathbf{X}_1, Y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{X}_n, Y_n)\}$  with joint unknown distribution  $P$  on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ .
- A *classification rule* is a measurable function  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  that associates the output  $f(\mathbf{x})$  to the input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- In order to quantify the quality of the prevision, we introduce a loss function.

## Definition

A measurable function  $\ell : \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a *loss function* if  $\ell(y, y) = 0$  and  $\ell(y, y') > 0$  for  $y \neq y'$ .

- **For classification** :  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a finite set. We define  $\ell(y, y') = \mathbb{1}_{y \neq y'}$ .
- We consider the expectation of this loss, this leads to the definition of the *risk* :

### Definition

Given a loss function  $\ell$ , the *risk* - or *generalisation error* - of a prediction rule  $f$  is defined by

$$R_P(f) = \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{X}, Y) \sim P}[\ell(Y, f(\mathbf{X}))].$$

- It is important to note that, in the above definition,  $(\mathbf{X}, Y)$  is independent of the training sample  $\mathbf{D}^n$  that was used to build the prediction rule  $f$ .

- Let  $\mathcal{F}$  denote the set of all possible prediction rules. We say that  $f^*$  is an optimal rule if  $R_P(f^*) = \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} R_P(f)$ .
- A natural question arises : is it possible to build optimal rules ?
- We define the Bayes rule, which is an optimal rule for classification.

### Definition

We call *Bayes rule* any measurable function  $f^*$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  such that for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(Y = f^*(\mathbf{x}) | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbb{P}(Y = y | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$ .

### THEOREM

— If  $f^*$  is a Bayes rule, then  $R_P(f^*) = \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} R_P(f)$ .

- The definition of a Bayes rule depends on the knowledge of the distribution  $P$  of  $(\mathbf{X}, Y)$ .
- In practice, we have a training sample  $\mathbf{D}^n = \{(\mathbf{X}_1, Y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{X}_n, Y_n)\}$  with joint unknown distribution  $P$ , and we construct a classification rule.
- The aim is to find a “good” classification rule, in the sense that its risk is close to the optimal risk of a Bayes rule.

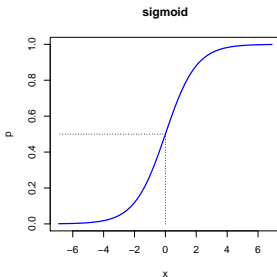
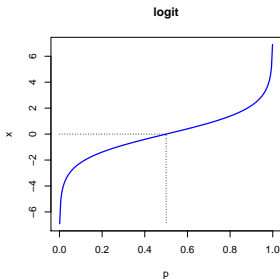
# Generalized linear models

- Logistic regression
  - Definitions
  - Estimation of the parameters
  - Application
  - Multiclass classification

# Logistic regression model

The idea for logistic regression is to use a linear model for probabilities, thanks to a **one-to-one mapping** (“link” function) from  $[0, 1]$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . The most used is the **logit** function and its inverse, the **sigmoid** function :

	$[0, 1]$		$\mathbb{R}$	
<b>logit</b> :	$\pi$	$\rightarrow$	$\ln\left(\frac{\pi}{1-\pi}\right)$	
	$\frac{\exp(x)}{1+\exp(x)}$	$\leftarrow$	$x$	<b>: sigmoid</b>





# Logistic Regression model

- We assume that  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^p$ .
- One of the most popular model for binary classification when  $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$  is the **logistic regression model**, for which it is assumed that for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  and for some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(Y = 1/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}{1 + \exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}$$
$$1 - \pi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(Y = 0/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{x} \rangle)},$$

- The quantity  $odds(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\pi(\mathbf{x})}{1-\pi(\mathbf{x})}$  is called the odds for  $\mathbf{x}$ .  
For example, if  $\pi(\mathbf{x}) = 0.8$ , then  $odd(\mathbf{x}) = 4$  which means that the chance of success ( $Y = 1$ ) when  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$  is 4 against 1.
- The odds ratio between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is  $OR(\mathbf{x}, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = odds(\mathbf{x})/odds(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$ .

- Setting

$$g(\pi) = \text{logit}(\pi) = \ln \left( \frac{\pi}{1 - \pi} \right),$$

the **logistic regression model** corresponds to

$$\text{logit}(\pi(\mathbf{x})) = \ln(\text{odds}(\mathbf{x})) = \langle \boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle.$$

- This is a linear model for the logarithm of the odds.
- $g$  is called the **logit** “link” function.
- Other link functions can be considered such as :
  - The **probit** function  $g(\pi) = F^{-1}(\pi)$  where  $F$  is the distribution function of the standard normal distribution.
  - The **log-log** function  $g(\pi) = \ln(-\ln(1 - \pi))$ .

## Estimation of the parameters

- Given a n-sample  $\mathbf{D}^n = \{(\mathbf{X}_1, Y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{X}_n, Y_n)\}$ , we can estimate the parameter  $\beta$  by maximizing the conditional likelihood of  $\underline{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  given  $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$ .
- Since the distribution of  $Y$  given  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$  is a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\pi_\beta(\mathbf{x})$ , the conditional likelihood is

$$L(Y_1, \dots, Y_n, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \pi_\beta(\mathbf{X}_i)^{Y_i} (1 - \pi_\beta(\mathbf{X}_i))^{1-Y_i}$$

$$L(\underline{Y}, \beta) = \prod_{i, Y_i=1} \frac{\exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle)}{1 + \exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle)} \prod_{i, Y_i=0} \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\langle \beta, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle)}.$$

## Estimation of the parameters

- Unlike the linear model, there is no explicit expression for the maximum likelihood estimator  $\hat{\beta}$ .
- It can be shown that computing  $\hat{\beta}$  is a convex optimization problem.
- We compute the gradient of the log-likelihood, also called **the score function**  $S(\underline{Y}, \beta)$  and use a **Newton-Raphson algorithm** to approximate  $\hat{\beta}$  satisfying  $S(\underline{Y}, \hat{\beta}) = 0$ .
- Variable selection is also possible by maximizing the penalized likelihood (AIC, BIC, LASSO ..).

- We can then predict the probabilities :

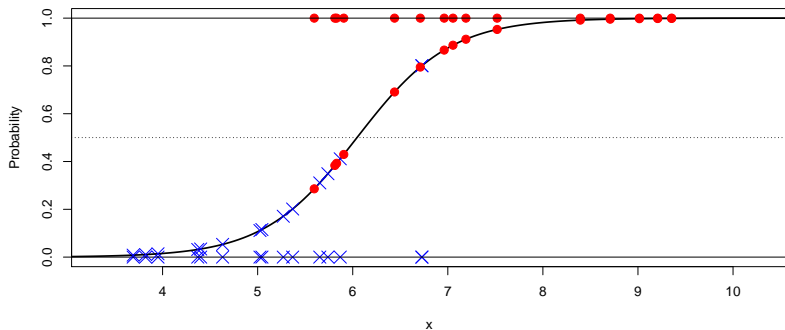
$$\hat{\mathbb{P}}(Y = 1/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \pi_{\hat{\beta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(\langle \hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}{1 + \exp(\langle \hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{P}}(Y = 0/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = 1 - \pi_{\hat{\beta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\langle \hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}.$$

- We then compute the logistic regression classifier : we set  $\hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}) = 1$  if  $\hat{\mathbb{P}}(Y = 1/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \geq \hat{\mathbb{P}}(Y = 0/\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$  which is equivalent to  $\langle \hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \geq 0$ . Hence,

$$\hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{1}_{\langle \hat{\beta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \geq 0}.$$

## Illustration in 1D



**FIGURE** – Logistic regression for a dataset composed of 2 groups of size 15, sampled from Normal distributions, centered at 5 and 7, with variance 1.

# Application

- We use the logistic regression model to predict the exceedance of the threshold 150 for the variable O3obs.
- Only with the variable MOCAGE :

```
> logistic=glm(depseuil ~ MOCAGE,  
data=ozone,family=binomial(link = "logit"))  
> summary(logistic)
```

Coefficients	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-5.596493	0.389841	-14.36	<2e-16 ***
MOCAGE	0.028659	0.002528	11.34	<2e-16 ***

# Application

- We compute the predicted values :

```
> pihat=logistic$fitted.values  
> Yhat=(pihat>0.5)  
> table(depseuil,Yhat)
```

$Y \setminus \hat{Y}$	0	1
0	830	33
1	152	26

- The misclassification error is 17.7%. There are many false negative .
- The model tends to underestimate the threshold overflow : only 15% of the overflows have been predicted.
- We try to improve the model by considering more variables.



# Application

- We consider the variables JOUR, MOCAGE, TEMPE, RMH2O, NO2, NO

```
> logistic2=glm(depseuil ~ MOCAGE+TEMPE+RMH2O+NO2+NO+JOUR,  
data=ozone,family=binomial(link = "logit"))  
> summary(logistic2)
```

Coefficients	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	-14.840457	1.116901	-13.287	< 2e-16 ***
MOCAGE	0.026924	0.004045	6.655	2.82e-11 ***
TEMPE	0.309566	0.029529	10.483	< 2e-16 ***
RMH2O	138.430723	28.548702	4.849	1.24e-06 ***
NO2	-0.210011	0.102607	-2.047	0.0407 *
NO	0.742302	0.552606	1.343	0.1792
JOUR1	0.159047	0.235654	0.675	0.4997

# Application

- We compute the predicted values :

```
> pihat=logistic2$fitted.values  
> Yhat=(pihat>0.5)  
> table(depseuil,Yhat)
```

$Y \setminus \hat{Y}$	0	1
0	829	34
1	88	90

- The misclassification error is 11.7%.
- We have improved the results, but there are still many false negative : only 50% of the overflows have been predicted.

# Multinomial or polytomic regression

- We consider here the case where the response variable  $Y$  has  $M$  non ordered levels  $u_1, \dots, u_M$ .
- We set  $\pi_m(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(Y = u_m | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$  for  $m = 1, \dots, M$ .

$$\sum_{m=1}^M \pi_m(\mathbf{x}) = 1.$$

- We choose a reference in the levels, we assume that this is the first level  $u_1$ .
- The **multinomial regression model** is defined by

$$\log \left( \frac{\pi_m(\mathbf{x})}{\pi_1(\mathbf{x})} \right) = \langle \beta^{(m)}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \quad \forall m = 2, \dots, M.$$

- This is equivalent to

$$\pi_m(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(\langle \beta^{(m)}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}{1 + \sum_{m'=2}^M \exp(\langle \beta^{(m')}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)}$$

which generalizes the logistic regression model (where  $u_1 = 0$  and  $u_2 = 1$ ).

- In order to estimate the parameters  $\beta^{(m)}$ , we maximize the likelihood :

$$L(\underline{Y}, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \prod_{m=1}^M \pi_m(\mathbf{x}_i)^{\mathbb{1}_{Y_i=u_m}}.$$

# Outline

- Logistic regression
  - Definitions
  - Estimation of the parameters
  - Application
  - Multiclass classification
- ROC curves
- Support Vector Machine

## Two-classes problem : ROC curve

### Motivation

For two classes  $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$ , the optimal Bayes rule is :

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1 | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) > \frac{1}{2} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} \text{ belongs to class 1}$$

This gives a symmetric role to classes 0 and 1, which is often not desirable (health context, for instance).

The idea is to parameterize the decision by a new **threshold parameter  $s$**  :

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1 | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) > s \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} \text{ belongs to class 1}$$

$s$  should be chosen according to policy decision, typically a tradeoff between the rate of true positive and false positive.

# Two-classes problem : ROC curve

## Motivation

By analogy with the first and second kind errors for testing procedures, we introduce

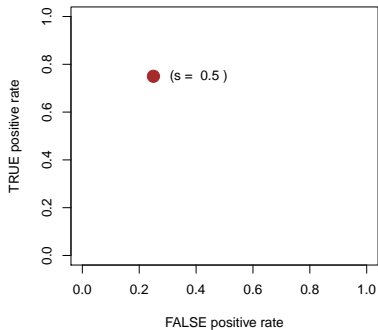
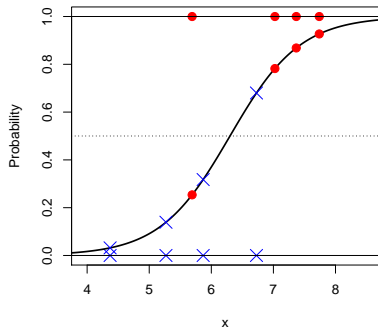
- The False Positive Rate :

$$FPR = \frac{\#\{i, \hat{Y}_i = 1, Y_i = 0\}}{\#\{i, Y_i = 0\}}.$$

- The True Positive Rate :

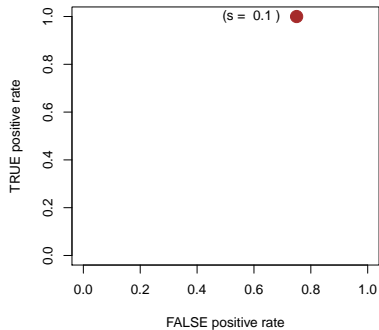
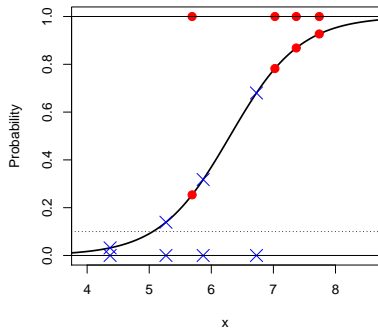
$$TPR = \frac{\#\{i, \hat{Y}_i = 1, Y_i = 1\}}{\#\{i, Y_i = 1\}}.$$

# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D

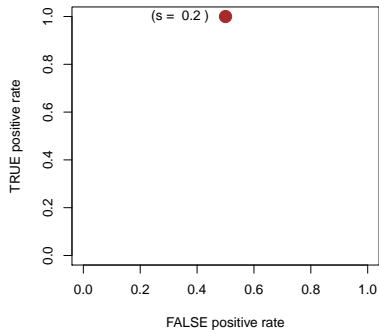
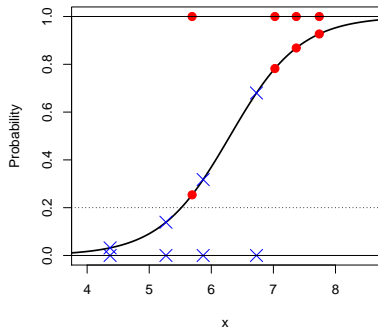




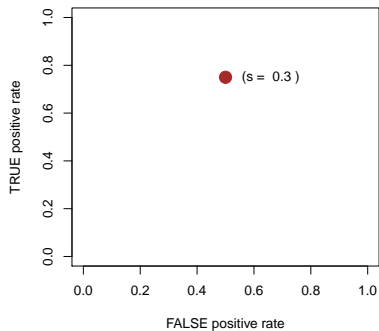
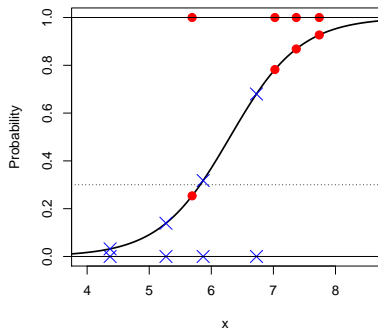
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



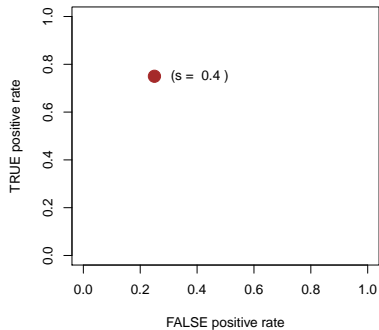
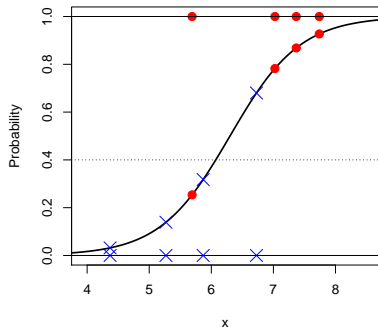
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



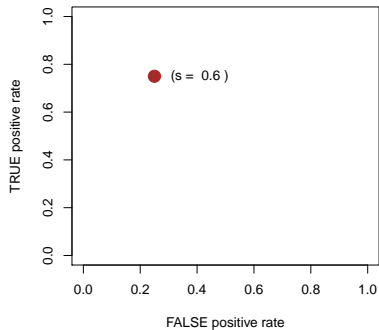
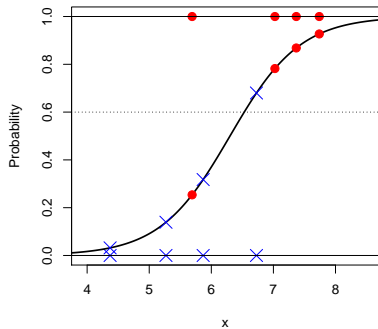
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



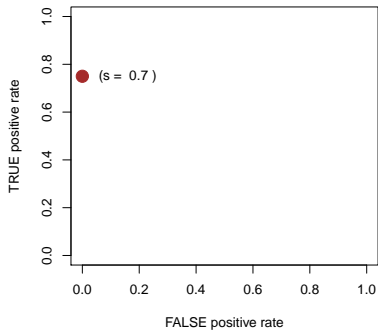
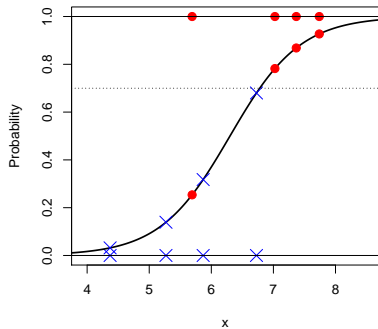
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



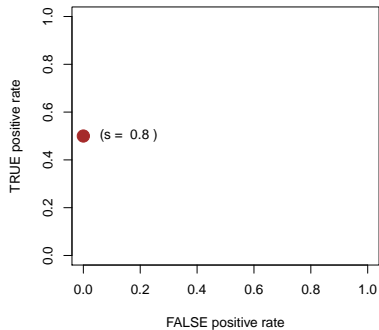
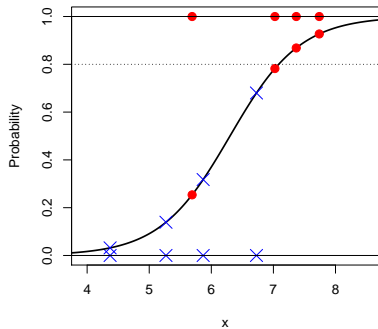
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



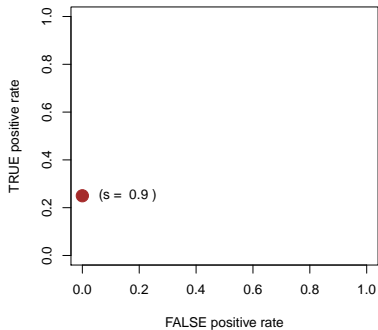
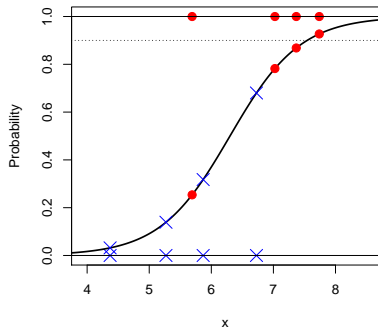
# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D

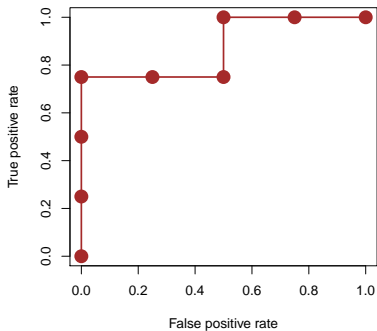
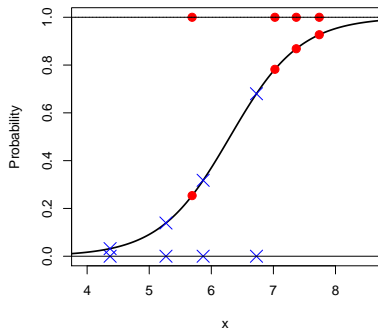


# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D





# ROC curve - Illustration in 1D



# ROC curve - Definition

## Definitions from the contingency table

**Prediction** : if  $\hat{\pi}_i > s$ ,  $\hat{Y}_i = 1$  else  $\hat{Y}_i = 0$

Prediction	Observation		Total
	$Y_i = 1$	$Y_i = 0$	
$\hat{Y}_i = 1$	$n_{11}(s)$	$n_{10}(s)$	$n_{1+}(s)$
$\hat{Y}_i = 0$	$n_{01}(s)$	$n_{00}(s)$	$n_{0+}(s)$
Total	$n_{+1}$	$n_{+0}$	$n$

- True positive rate :  $TPR(s) = \frac{n_{11}(s)}{n_{+1}}$  (sensitivity, recall)
- False positive rate :  $FPR(s) = \frac{n_{10}(s)}{n_{+0}}$

The **ROC curve** plots  $TPR(s)$  versus  $FPR(s)$  for all values of  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

# Usage of ROC curve to select classifiers

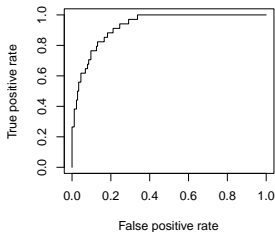


FIGURE – Ozone : ROC curve for logistic regression.

The ROC curve should be computed on a test sample.

The "ideal" ROC curve corresponds to  $FPR=0$  and  $TPR = 1$  (no error of classification).

The **AUC : Area Under the Curve** can be a criterion to choose among several classification rules.

# Outline

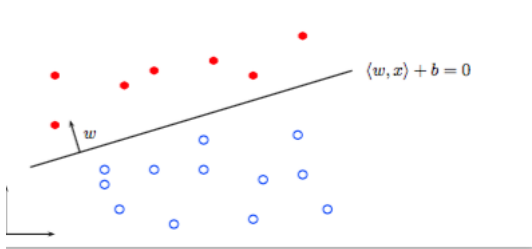
- Support Vector Machines.
  - Linear SVM in the separable case
  - Linear SVM in the non separable case
  - Non linear SVM and kernels
  - Conclusion

# Linear Support Vector Machine

## Definition

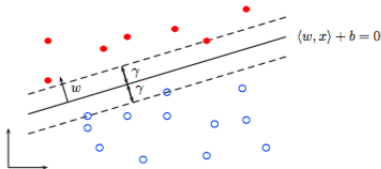
The training set  $d_1^n = (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$  is called **linearly separable** if there exists  $(w, b)$  such that for all  $i$ ,  
 $y_i = 1$  if  $\langle w, x_i \rangle + b > 0$ ,  $y_i = -1$  if  $\langle w, x_i \rangle + b < 0$ ,  
which means that  $\forall i \ y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) > 0$ .

The equation  $\langle w, x \rangle + b = 0$  defines a separating hyperplane with orthogonal vector  $w$ .



- The function  $f_{w,b}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\langle w,x \rangle + b \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\langle w,x \rangle + b < 0}$  defines a possible linear classification rule.
- The problem is that there exists an infinity of separating hyperplanes, and therefore an infinity of classification rules.
- Which one should we choose? The response is given by Vapnik (1999).

- The classification rule with the best generalization properties corresponds to the separating hyperplane maximizing the margin  $\gamma$  between the two classes on the training set.



- If we consider two entries of the training set, that are on the border defining the margin, and that we call  $x_1$  and  $x_{-1}$  with respective outputs 1 and  $-1$ , the separating hyperplane is located at the half-distance between  $x_1$  and  $x_{-1}$ .

- The margin is therefore equal to the half of the distance between  $x_1$  and  $x_{-1}$  projected onto the normal vector of the separating hyperplane :

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\langle w, x_1 - x_{-1} \rangle}{\|w\|}.$$

### Definition

The hyperplane  $\langle w, x \rangle + b = 0$  is **canonical** with respect to the set of vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  if

$$\min_{i=1\dots k} |\langle w, x_i \rangle + b| = 1.$$



- The separating hyperplane has the canonical form relatively to the vectors  $\{x_1, x_{-1}\}$  if it is defined by  $(w, b)$  where  $\langle w, x_1 \rangle + b = 1$  and  $\langle w, x_{-1} \rangle + b = -1$ . In this case, we have  $\langle w, x_1 - x_{-1} \rangle = 2$ , hence

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\|w\|}.$$

- Finding the separating hyperplane with maximal margin consists in finding  $(w, b)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|w\|^2 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}\|w\|^2 \text{ is minimal} \\ &\text{under the constraint} \\ &y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \geq 1 \text{ for all } i. \end{aligned}$$

This leads to a convex optimization problem with linear constraints, hence there exists a unique global minimizer.

**The primal problem** to solve is :

$$\text{Minimizing } \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \text{ s. t. } y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \geq 1 \quad \forall i.$$

**Lagrangian**  $L(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) - 1).$

## Dual Function :

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w}(w, b, \alpha) = w - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i x_i = 0 \Leftrightarrow w = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b}(w, b, \alpha) = -\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\theta(\alpha) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

The corresponding **dual problem** is :

Maximizing

$$\theta(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle$$

under the constraint  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$  and  $\alpha_i \geq 0 \forall i$ .

The solution  $\alpha^*$  of the dual problem can be obtained with classical optimization softwares.

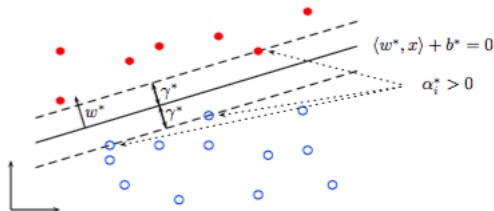
Remark : The solution does not depend on the dimension  $d$ , but depends on the sample size  $n$ , hence it is interesting to notice that when  $\mathcal{X}$  is high dimensional, linear SVM do not suffer from the curse of dimensionality. For big data sets,  $n$  is very large, it is preferable to solve the primal problem.

# Supports Vectors

- For our optimization problem, the **Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions** are
  - $\alpha_i^* \geq 0 \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n.$
  - $y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) \geq 1 \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n.$
  - $\alpha_i^* (y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) - 1) = 0 \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n.$   
(complementary condition)
- Only the  $\alpha_i^* > 0$  are involved in the resolution of the optimization problem.
- If the number of values  $\alpha_i^* > 0$  is small, the solution of the dual problem is called **sparse**.

## Definition

The  $x_i$  such that  $\alpha_i^* > 0$  are called the **support vectors**. They are located on the border defining the maximal margin namely  $y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) = 1$  (c.f. complementary KKT condition).



We finally obtain the following classification rule :

$$\hat{f}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\langle w^*, x \rangle + b^* \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\langle w^*, x \rangle + b^* < 0},$$

with

- $w^* = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i^* x_i y_i,$
- $b^* = -\frac{1}{2} \{ \min_{y_i=1} \langle w^*, x_i \rangle + \min_{y_i=-1} \langle w^*, x_i \rangle \}.$

The maximal margin equals  $\gamma^* = \frac{1}{\|w^*\|} = (\sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha_i^*)^2)^{-1/2}.$

The  $\alpha_i^*$  that do not correspond to support vectors (sv) are equal to 0, and therefore

$$\hat{f}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\sum_{x_i \text{ sv}} y_i \alpha_i^* \langle x_i, x \rangle + b^* \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\sum_{x_i \text{ sv}} y_i \alpha_i^* \langle x_i, x \rangle + b^* < 0}.$$

## Linear SVM in the non separable case

- The previous method cannot be applied when the training set is not linearly separable. Moreover, the method is very sensitive to outliers.
- In the general case, we allow some points to be in the margin and even on the wrong side of the margin.
- We introduce the slack variable  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  and the constraint  $y_i(\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \geq 1$  becomes

$$y_i(\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \text{ with } \xi_i \geq 0.$$

- If  $\xi_i \in [0, 1]$  the point is well classified but in the region defined by the margin.
  - If  $\xi_i > 1$  the point is misclassified.
- The margin is called **flexible margin**.



# Optimization problem with relaxed constraints

- In order to avoid too large margins, we penalize large values for the slack variable  $\xi_i$ .
- The **primal optimization problem** is formalized as follows :

Minimize with respect to  $(w, b, \xi)$       $\frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$   
such that

$$y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad \forall i$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0$$

## Remarks :

- $C > 0$  is a tuning parameter of the SVM algorithm. It will determine the tolerance to misclassifications.
- If  $C$  increases, the number of misclassified points decreases, and if  $C$  decreases, the number of misclassified points increases.  $C$  is generally calibrated by cross-validation.
- One can also minimize  $\frac{1}{2}\|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^k$ ,  $k = 2, 3, \dots$ , we still have a **convex optimization problem**.  
The choice  $\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\xi_i > 1}$  (number of errors) instead of  $\sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i^k$  would lead to a non convex optimization problem.

The **Lagrangian** of this problem is :

$$\begin{aligned} L(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \beta) = & \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i (C - \alpha_i - \beta_i) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i (\langle w, x_i \rangle + b), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\alpha_i \geq 0$  and  $\beta_i \geq 0$ .

The cancellation of the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w}(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$ ,  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial b}(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  and  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi_i}(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  leads to the following dual problem.

**Dual problem :**

Maximizing  $\theta(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle$

s. t.  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$  and  $0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \forall i$ .

**Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions :**

- $0 \leq \alpha_i^* \leq C \forall i = 1 \dots n$ .
- $y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) \geq 1 - \xi_i^* \forall i = 1 \dots n$ .
- $\alpha_i^* (y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) + \xi_i^* - 1) = 0 \forall i = 1 \dots n$ .
- $\xi_i^* (\alpha_i^* - C) = 0$ .

# Supports vectors

We have the complementary Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions :

$$\alpha_i^* (y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) + \xi_i^* - 1) = 0 \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n,$$
$$\xi_i^* (\alpha_i^* - C) = 0$$

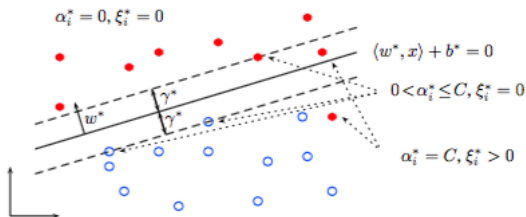
## Definition

The points  $x_i$  such that  $\alpha_i^* > 0$  are the **support vectors**.

We have two types of support vectors :

- The support vectors for which the slack variables are equal to 0. They are located on the border of the region defining the margin.
- The support vectors for which the slack variables are not equal to 0 :  $\xi_i^* > 0$  and in this case  $\alpha_i^* = C$ .

For the vectors that are not support vectors, we have  $\alpha_i^* = 0$  and  $\xi_i^* = 0$ .



The classification rule is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{f}(x) &= \mathbb{1}_{\langle w^*, x \rangle + b^* \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\langle w^*, x \rangle + b^* < 0}, \\ &= \text{sign}(\langle w^*, x \rangle + b^*)\end{aligned}$$

with

- $w^* = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i^* x_i y_i$ ,
- $b^*$  such that  $y_i (\langle w^*, x_i \rangle + b^*) = 1 \ \forall x_i, \ 0 < \alpha_i^* < C$ .

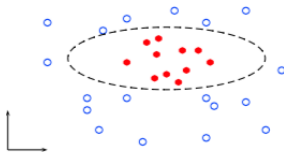
The maximal margin equals  $\gamma^* = \frac{1}{\|w^*\|} = (\sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha_i^*)^2)^{-1/2}$ .

The  $\alpha_i^*$  that do not correspond to support vectors are equal to 0, hence

$$\hat{f}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\sum_{x_i \text{ sv}} y_i \alpha_i^* \langle x_i, x \rangle + b^* \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\sum_{x_i \text{ sc}} y_i \alpha_i^* \langle x_i, x \rangle + b^* < 0}.$$

## Non linear SVM and kernels

A training set is rarely linearly separable and linear SVM are not appropriate in this case.



- The solution is to enlarge the feature space and send the entries in an Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , with high or possibly infinite dimension, via a function  $\phi$ , and to apply a linear SVM procedure on the new training set  $\{(\phi(x_i), y_i), i = 1 \dots n\}$ . The space  $\mathcal{H}$  is called the **feature space**. This idea is due to Boser, Guyon, Vapnik (1992).
- In the previous example, setting  $\phi(x) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1, x_2)$ , the training set becomes linearly separable in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .



# The kernel trick

- A natural question arises : how can we choose  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\phi$  ? In fact, we do not choose  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\phi$  but a *kernel* .
- The classification rule is

$$\hat{f}(x) = \mathbb{1}_{\sum y_i \alpha_i^* \langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x) \rangle + b^* \geq 0} - \mathbb{1}_{\sum y_i \alpha_i^* \langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x) \rangle + b^* < 0},$$

where the  $\alpha_i^*$ 's are the solutions of the dual problem in the feature space  $\mathcal{H}$  :

- Maximizing  $\theta(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x_j) \rangle$   
s. t.  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$  and  $0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \ \forall i$ .
- It is important to notice that the final classification rule in the feature space depends on  $\phi$  only through scalar products of the form  $\langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x) \rangle$  or  $\langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x_j) \rangle$ .

- The only knowledge of the function  $k$  defined by  $k(x, x') = \langle \phi(x), \phi(x') \rangle$  allows to define the SVM in the feature space  $\mathcal{H}$  and to derive a classification rule in the space  $\mathcal{X}$ . The explicit computation of  $\phi$  is not required.

### Definition

A function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $k(x, x') = \langle \phi(x), \phi(x') \rangle$  for a given function  $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is called a **kernel**.

- A kernel is generally more easy to compute than the function  $\phi$  that returns values in a high dimensional space. For example, for  $x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\phi(x) = (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$ , and  $k(x, x') = \langle x, x' \rangle^2$ .
- Let us now give a property to ensure that a function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defines a kernel.

## PROPOSITION

—**Mercer condition** If the function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous, symmetric, and if for all finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$ , the matrix  $(k(x_i, x_j))_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  is positive definite :

$$\forall c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}, \sum_{i,j=1}^n c_i c_j k(x_i, x_j) \geq 0,$$

then, there exists an Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and a function  $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that  $k(x, x') = \langle \phi(x), \phi(x') \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ . The space  $\mathcal{H}$  is called the **Reproducing kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)** associated to  $k$ .

We have :

- ① For all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $k(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}$  where  $k(x, \cdot) : y \mapsto k(x, y)$ .
- ② **Reproducing property** :

$$h(x) = \langle h, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{X} \text{ and } h \in \mathcal{H}.$$

- Let us give some examples. The Mercer condition is often hard to verify but we know some classical examples of kernels that can be used.
- We assume that  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ .
  - **$p$  degree polynomial kernel** :  $k(x, x') = (1 + \langle x, x' \rangle)^p$
  - **Gaussian kernel (RBF)** :  $k(x, x') = e^{-\frac{\|x-x'\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}$   
 $\phi$  returns values in a infinite dimensional space.
  - **Laplacian kernel** :  $k(x, x') = e^{-\frac{\|x-x'\|}{\sigma}}$ .
  - **Sigmoid kernel** :  $k(x, x') = \tanh(\kappa \langle x, x' \rangle + \theta)$  (this kernel is not positive definite).

- We have seen some examples of kernels. One can construct new kernels by aggregating several kernels.
- For example let  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  be two kernels and  $f$  a function  $\mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d'}$ ,  $B$  a positive definite matrix,  $P$  a polynomial with positive coefficients and  $\lambda > 0$ .  
The functions defined by  $k(x, x') = k_1(x, x') + k_2(x, x')$ ,  $\lambda k_1(x, x')$ ,  $k_1(x, x')k_2(x, x')$ ,  $f(x)f(x')$ ,  $k_1(\phi(x), \phi(x'))$ ,  $x^T B x'$ ,  $P(k_1(x, x'))$ , or  $e^{k_1(x, x')}$  are still kernels.
- We have presented examples of kernels for the case where  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  but a very interesting property is that kernels can be defined for very general input spaces, such as **sets, trees, graphs, texts, DNA sequences ...**

# Conclusion

- Using kernels allows to delinearize classification algorithms by mapping  $\mathcal{X}$  in the RKHS  $\mathcal{H}$  with the map  $x \mapsto k(x, \cdot)$ . It provides nonlinear algorithms with almost the same computational properties as linear ones.
- SVM have nice theoretical properties, cf. Vapnik's theory for empirical risk minimization.
- The use of RKHS allows to apply to any set  $\mathcal{X}$  (such as set of graphs, texts, DNA sequences ..) algorithms that are defined for vectors as soon as we can define a kernel  $k(x, y)$  corresponding to some measure of similarity between two objects of  $\mathcal{X}$ .

# Conclusion

- Important issues concern the choice of the kernel, and of the tuning parameters to define the SVM procedure.
- Note that SVM can also be used for multi-class classification problems for example, one can build a SVM classifier for each pair of classes and predict the class for a new point by a majority vote.
- Kernels are also used for regression as mentioned above or for non supervised classification (kernel PCA).

# References

- Cristianini N. and Shawe-Taylor J. (2000) *An introduction to Support Vector Machines* Cambridge University Press.
- Giraud C. (2015) *Introduction to High-Dimensional Statistics* Vol. 139 of Monographs on Statistics and Applied Probability. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.
- Hastie, T. and Tibshirani, R. and Friedman, J. (2009), *The elements of statistical learning : data mining, inference, and prediction*, Springer.
- McCullagh P. and Nelder J.A. (1989) *Generalized Linear Models*. 2nd edition. Chapman et Hall.
- Vapnik V. (1999) *Statistical Learning Theory*.