

# Project 79: mi-SPSVM

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## 1 Problem

In Multiple Instance Learning (MIL), data is grouped into bags. The standard assumption:

- Bag is positive  $\Leftrightarrow$  contains at least one positive instance
- Bag is negative  $\Leftrightarrow$  all instances are negative

Goal: find hyperplane  $H(v, \gamma) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : v^T x = \gamma\}$  separating bags.

**Notation:**  $m, k$  = number of positive/negative bags;  $J_i^+, J_i^-$  = index sets of instances in bag  $i$ ;  $J^+, J^-$  = current sets treated as positive/negative.

## 2 Theoretical Background

### 2.1 SVM and the Margin

For SVM, the margin between classes equals  $2/\|v\|$ . To maximize margin, we minimize  $\|v\|^2$ :

$$\min_{v, \gamma, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|v\|^2 + C \sum_j \xi_j \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \xi_j \geq 1 - y_j(v^T x_j - \gamma), \quad \xi_j \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

The hyperplanes  $H^+ : v^T x = \gamma + 1$  and  $H^- : v^T x = \gamma - 1$  are supporting hyperplanes.

### 2.2 From SVM to PSVM

Proximal SVM modifies standard SVM:

- Regularization:  $\|v\|^2 \rightarrow \|(v, \gamma)\|^2$  (includes  $\gamma$ )
- Loss:  $L_1$  (hinge)  $\rightarrow L_2$  (squared)
- Constraints: inequality  $\rightarrow$  equality

The name “semi-proximal” means:  $L_2$  loss with equality for  $J^+$ , but  $L_1$  loss with inequality for  $J^-$ .

### 2.3 Quadratic Programming

Standard QP form:

$$\min_z \frac{1}{2} z^T P z + q^T z \quad \text{s.t.} \quad Gz \leq h \quad (2)$$

The matrix  $P$  (Hessian) must be symmetric positive semi-definite (PSD). For mi-SPSVM,  $P$  comes from the regularization term  $\|(v, \gamma)\|^2$  plus the  $L_2$  loss contribution from  $J^+$ .

### 3 Algorithm

#### 3.1 Optimization Problem

For  $C = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{v, \gamma, \xi} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} v \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} \right\|^2 + \frac{C}{2} \sum_{j \in J^+} \xi_j^2 + C \sum_{j \in J^-} \xi_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \xi_j = 1 - (v^T x_j - \gamma), \quad j \in J^+ \\ & \xi_j \geq 1 + (v^T x_j - \gamma), \quad j \in J^- \\ & \xi_j \geq 0, \quad j \in J^- \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

#### 3.2 QP Formulation

Variables:  $z = [v; \gamma; \xi^-] \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1+|J^-|}$

For  $J^+$ : substitute  $\xi_j = 1 - v^T x_j + \gamma$  into objective. With  $A = [X^+, -\mathbf{1}]$ :

$$\text{Hessian: } P = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n+1} + C \cdot A^T A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

For  $J^-$ : constraints  $v^T x_j - \gamma - \xi_j \leq -1$  and  $-\xi_j \leq 0$  form  $Gz \leq h$ .

#### 3.3 Steps

**Step 0:**  $J^+ \leftarrow$  all instances from positive bags,  $J^- \leftarrow$  all from negative.

**Step 1:** Solve QP  $\rightarrow$  get  $(v, \gamma)$ .

**Step 2:** For each positive bag  $i$ , find witness:  $j_i^* = \arg \max_{j \in J_i^+ \cap J^+} (v^T x_j - \gamma)$ .

Compute  $\bar{J} = \{j \in J^+ \setminus J^*: v^T x_j - \gamma \leq -1\}$ . If  $\bar{J} = \emptyset$ , stop.

**Step 3:**  $J^+ \leftarrow J^+ \setminus \bar{J}$ ,  $J^- \leftarrow J^- \cup \bar{J}$ .

**Step 4:** Go to Step 1.

#### 3.4 Convergence

The MIL problem is non-convex. This heuristic alternates between a convex QP (Step 1) and label updates (Step 3), finding a local optimum.

Algorithm terminates in finite iterations:

- Note: MIL is non-convex. This heuristic alternates QP (Step 1) and label updates (Step 2-3) to find a local optimum.
- $|J^+|$  decreases by at least 1 each iteration (when  $\bar{J} \neq \emptyset$ )
- $|J^+| \geq m$  (each bag keeps its witness)
- No cycles: removed instances never return

## 4 Results

**Dataset:** 35 instances, 7 bags (3 positive, 4 negative), 2 features.

**Output:** Converged at iteration 0.

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} -0.00856 \\ 0.00350 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma = -0.6074 \quad (5)$$

**Training Correctness:**

	Bag 1	Bag 2	Bag 3	Bag 4	Bag 5	Bag 6	Bag 7
Pred	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	-1	-1
True	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	-1	-1

**Accuracy = 100%**

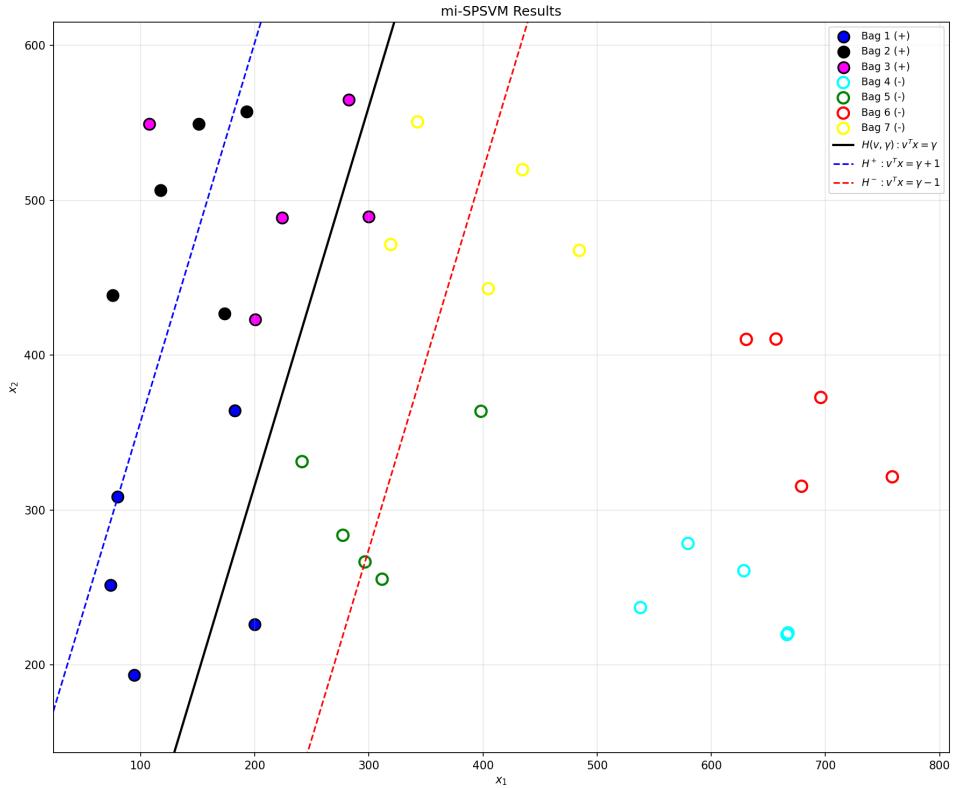


Figure 1: Filled = positive bags, unfilled = negative.  $H$  (black),  $H^+$  (blue),  $H^-$  (red).

Prediction uses max-aggregation: bag is positive if  $\max_j(v^T x_j - \gamma) > 0$ .