

# SMO algorithm

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In SVM,our optimization problem(with Lagragian duality) is

$$\max_{\alpha} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=1}^m \sum_{s=1}^m \alpha_r \alpha_s y^{(r)} y^{(s)} K(x^{(r)}, x^{(s)}) + \sum_{t=1}^m \alpha_t$$

with constraints

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \alpha_i \leq C \\ \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i y^{(i)} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  is the regularization parameter, $m$  is the amount of datas.By the spirit of SMO,we're about using coordinate ascent.Suppose we optimize the objective with respect to  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ ,by the constraint,we have

$$\alpha_i y^{(i)} + \alpha_j y^{(j)} = \gamma$$

where  $\gamma$  is some constant(independent of  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ ).Set

$$W(\alpha_i, \alpha_j) = \sum_{t=1}^m \alpha_t - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=1}^m \sum_{s=1}^m \alpha_r \alpha_s y^{(r)} y^{(s)} K(x^{(r)}, x^{(s)})$$

We extract the parts that are independent of  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ ,then we have(for the sake of convenience,we let  $K(x^{(i)}, x^{(j)}) = K_{ij}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} W(\alpha_i, \alpha_j) = & \alpha_i + \alpha_j - \frac{1}{2} K_{ii} \alpha_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} K_{jj} \alpha_j^2 - K_{ij} y^{(i)} y^{(j)} \alpha_i \alpha_j \\ & - y^{(i)} \alpha_i \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{ik} - y^{(j)} \alpha_j \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{jk} \end{aligned}$$

Now we set  $\frac{\partial W}{\partial \alpha_j} = 0$  to get optimization.To cancel  $\alpha_i$ ,we utilize  $\alpha_i = y^{(i)}(\gamma - \alpha_j y^{(j)})$  and thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial W}{\partial \alpha_j} = & -(K_{ii} + K_{jj} - 2K_{ij})\alpha_j + \gamma y^{(j)} K_{ii} - \gamma y^{(j)} K_{ij} \\ & + y^{(j)} \left( \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{ik} - \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{jk} \right) + 1 - y^{(i)} y^{(j)} \\ = & 0 \end{aligned}$$

The sum in the expression is nasty, we need to rephrase it as some quantity that is easier to calculate. To achieve that, we consider the decision function

$$f(x) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b = \sum_{r=1}^m \alpha_r y^{(r)} K(x^{(i)}, x) + b$$

(recall that we have  $\mathbf{w} = \sum_{r=1}^m \alpha_r y^{(r)} x^{(r)}$  without kernel function.) so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{ik} &= f(x^{(i)}) - \alpha_i y^{(i)} K_{ii} - \alpha_j y^{(j)} K_{ij} - b \\ \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{jk} &= f(x^{(j)}) - \alpha_i y^{(i)} K_{ji} - \alpha_j y^{(j)} K_{jj} - b \end{aligned}$$

Notice that these two equations actually include  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ , one must realize that this are the parameters not yet updated, so instead, we'd rather write them as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{ik} &= f(x^{(i)}) - \alpha_i^{old} y^{(i)} K_{ii} - \alpha_j^{old} y^{(j)} K_{ij} - b \\ \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{jk} &= f(x^{(j)}) - \alpha_i^{old} y^{(i)} K_{ji} - \alpha_j^{old} y^{(j)} K_{jj} - b \end{aligned}$$

to tell them apart from the updated  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$  we're seeking for. Now substitute them into the derivative, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial W}{\partial \alpha_j} &= y^{(j)} (f(x^{(i)}) - f(x^{(j)})) - (K_{ii} + K_{jj} - 2K_{ij}) \alpha_j \\ &\quad (K_{ii} + K_{jj} - 2K_{ij}) \alpha_j^{old} + 1 - y^{(i)} y^{(j)} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Now we introduce the notation  $\eta = K_{ii} + K_{jj} - 2K_{ij}$  and  $E^{(i)} = f(x^{(i)}) - y^{(i)}$ ,  $E^{(j)} = f(x^{(j)}) - y^{(j)}$  and we have

$$\alpha_j = \alpha_j^{old} + \frac{y^{(j)} (E^{(i)} - E^{(j)})}{\eta}$$

which is the update rule for parameter  $\alpha_j$ . However, we have constraint on  $\alpha_j$  thus the updated  $\alpha_j$  should be

$$\alpha_j^{new} = clip(\alpha_j, L, H) = \begin{cases} H & \text{if } \alpha_j > H \\ \alpha_j & \text{if } L < \alpha_j < H \\ L & \text{if } \alpha_j < L \end{cases}$$

where  $L$  and  $H$  are lower bound and upper bound of  $\alpha_j$  respectively.

After updating  $\alpha_j$ , we can immediately update  $\alpha_i$  using  $\alpha_i y^{((i))} + \alpha_j y^{(j)} = \gamma$  as we have

$$\alpha_i^{new} y^{((i))} + \alpha_j^{new} y^{(j)} = \alpha_i^{old} y^{((i))} + \alpha_j^{old} y^{(j)} = \gamma$$

Therefore, we have the update rule for  $\alpha_i$

$$\alpha_i^{new} = \alpha_i^{old} + y^{(i)} y^{(j)} (\alpha_j^{old} - \alpha_j^{new})$$

Now we'll go to update rule for intersection  $b$ . If  $\alpha_i$  is support vector (i.e.  $L < \alpha_i < H$ ), by KKT condition, we must have

$$y^{(i)} (\mathbf{w}^T x^{(i)} + b) = 1$$

so we have

$$b = y^{(i)} - \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k y^{(k)} K_{ik}$$

To calculate updated  $b$ , of course we should use updated  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ , so

$$b^{new} = y^{(i)} - \alpha_i^{new} y^{(i)} K_{ii} - \alpha_j^{new} y^{(i)} K_{ij} - \sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k^{old} y^{(k)} K_{ik}$$

(Note that  $\alpha$ 's are not updated yet except  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$ ) Same as before, we have nasty sum here, still we use the trick to write

$$\sum_{k \neq i, j} \alpha_k^{old} y^{(k)} K_{ik} = f(x^{(i)}) - \alpha_i^{old} y^{(i)} K_{ii} - \alpha_j^{old} y^{(j)} K_{ij} + b^{old}$$

and thus

$$b_1^{new} = b^{old} - E^{(i)} - y^{(i)} K_{ii} (\alpha_i^{new} - \alpha_i^{old}) - y^{(j)} K_{ij} (\alpha_j^{new} - \alpha_j^{old})$$

which is the update rule for  $b$ . It is totally the same case if  $\alpha_j$  is support vector where we have

$$b_2^{new} = b^{old} - E^{(j)} - y^{(j)} K_{jj} (\alpha_j^{new} - \alpha_j^{old}) - y^{(i)} K_{ij} (\alpha_i^{new} - \alpha_i^{old})$$

If  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$  are both support vector, one can check that these two  $b^{new}$  are equal without efforts. If only one of them is support vector, then we choose the corresponding  $b^{new}$  as the updated intersection. If both  $\alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_j$  are not support vector, instead, we choose  $b^{new} = \frac{b_1^{new} + b_2^{new}}{2}$  as the new intersection.