### Linear discrimination

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### Books

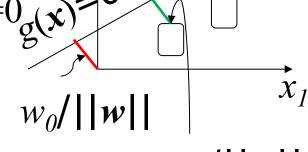
- Chapter 10 and 13 of "Introduction to Machine Learning" by Ethem Alpaydin.
- Chapter 5 of "Pattern Classification" by R.O. Duda, P. E. Hart and D. G. Stork

#### Discriminant functions

- Choose  $C_i$  if  $g_i(x) = \max_j g_j(x)$
- Linear function
  - $g_{i}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{w}_{i}, w_{i0}) = \mathbf{w}_{i}^{T}\mathbf{x} + w_{i0} = \sum_{j=1}^{d} w_{ij}x_{j} + w_{i0}$
  - Simple model, linear in form
  - O(d) storage and time of computing g(.).
- Quadratic function
  - $g_i(x|W_i, w_i, w_{i0}) = x^T W_i x + w_i^T x + w_{i0}$
  - $O(d^2)$  storage and time of computing g(.).

#### Two classes

- One discriminant function sufficient
  - $g(x)=g_1(x|w_1,w_{10})-g_2(x|w_2,w_{20})$
  - $= \mathbf{w_1}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w_{10}} \mathbf{w_2}^T \mathbf{x} \mathbf{w_{20}}$
  - $= (w_1 w_2)^{\mathrm{T}} x (w_{10} w_{20})$
  - $= \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}_0$
- If g(x) > 0 assign  $C_1$  else  $C_2$ .
- Hyper-plane dividing classes: g(x)=0
- Extend to more than 2 classes
  - Pairwise separation.
  - Only samples of the class lies in the +ve half.



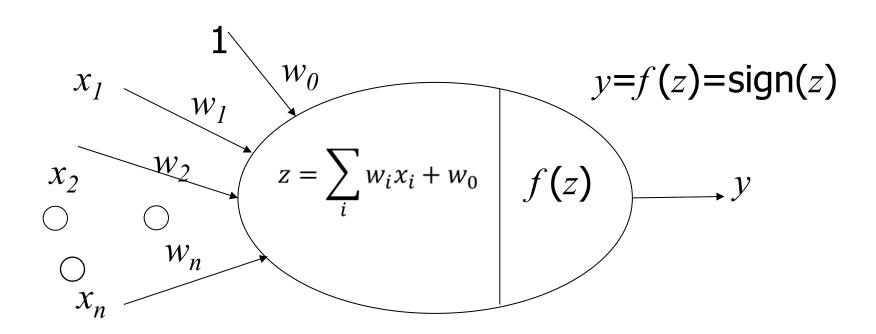
g(x) > 0

g(x) < 0

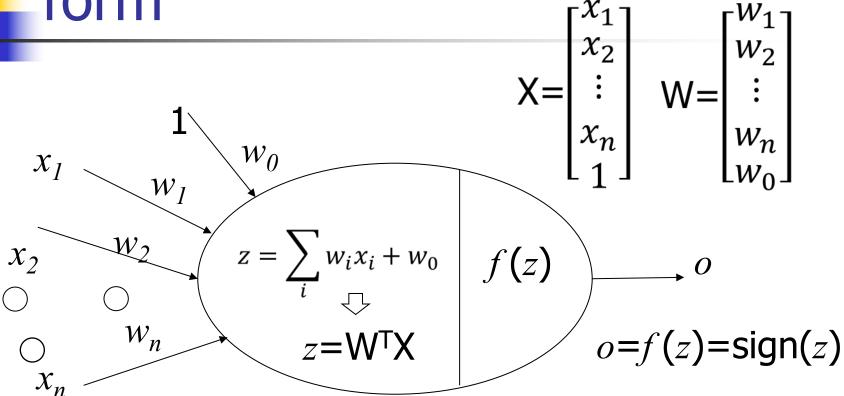


### Perceptron classifier

A linear classifier with a different perspective.



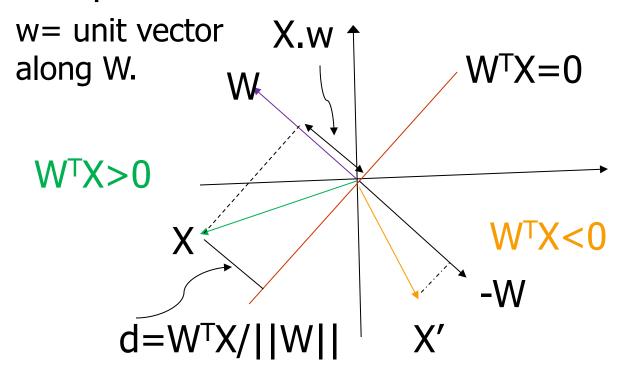
### Augmented input and linear



Given  $\{y_i, X_i\}$ , compute optimum W minimizing classification error.

### Interpretation of W<sup>T</sup>X

Consider the hyperplane  $W^TX=0$  separating two samples X and X' of classes 1 and 2.



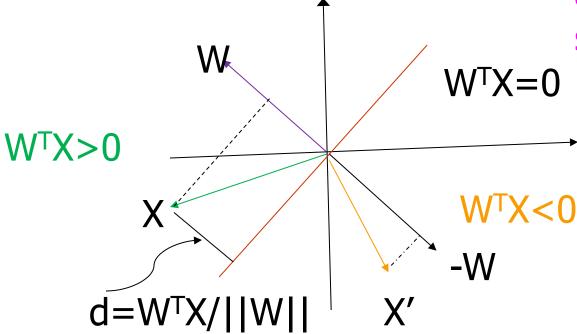
Distance of X from the hyperplane.

### Linearly separable classes

To find a hyperplane separating If a solution data points of two classes.

exists, the c

If a solution exists, the classes are called linearly separable.



Distance of X from the hyperplane.

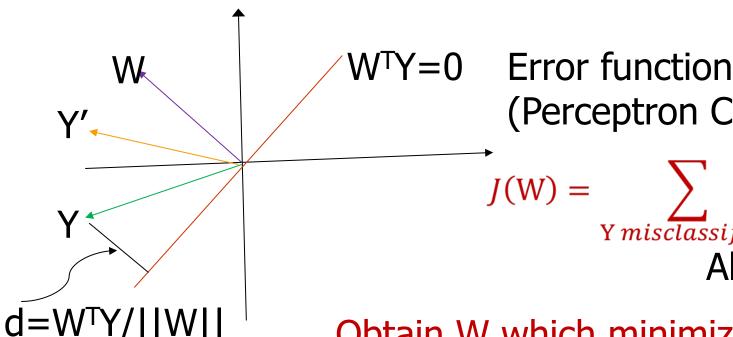
#### An error function

#### Data Normalization:

Y=X, if X in class 1 (
$$o=1$$
).  
=-X, if X in class 2 ( $o=-1$ )



For correct classification,  $W^TY > 0$ , for all Y.



(Perceptron Criterion):

$$W) = \sum_{\substack{Y \text{ misclassified} \\ Always + ve}} -W^{T}Y$$

Obtain W which minimizes J(W).



# Gradient descent method for iterative optimization

- To obtain W which minimizes J(W).
- Start with an initial vector W<sup>(0)</sup>.
- Compute the gradient vector ∇J(W<sup>(0)</sup>)
- Move closer to minimum by updating W.

### Iterative gradient descent **Optimization**

#### **Data Normalization:**

Y=X, if X in class 1 (
$$o=1$$
).  
=-X, if X in class 2 ( $o=-1$ )

$$J_{p}(W) = \sum_{Y \text{ misclassified.}} -W^{T}Y$$

#### **Iterative Optimization** using gradient descent

- 1. Start with W<sup>(0)</sup>.
- 2. Update W

$$W^{(i)} = W^{(i-1)} - \eta(i)\nabla J_{p}(W)$$
 constant.

May be taken as a

3. Continue step 2 till converges.

### Other forms of the error function

- There could be other forms of the criterion function.
  - J<sub>p</sub>(W): not continuous
  - J<sub>q</sub>(W): continuous.
    - Very smooth in boundary.
    - May get stuck there.
    - Value dominated by long Y's.

#### Gradient computation:

$$\nabla J_r(W) = \sum_{W^T Y \le b} \frac{Y(W^T Y - b)}{\|Y\|^2}$$

$$J_{q}(W) = \sum_{Y \text{ misclassified.}} (W^{T}Y)^{2}$$

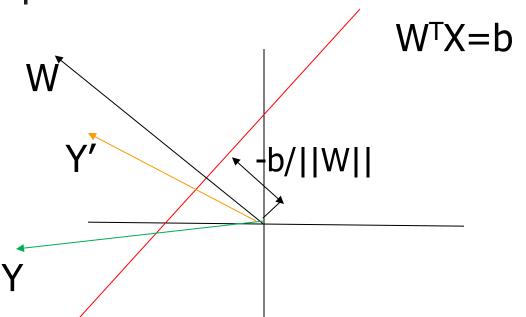
Another error function (Relaxation criterion)

$$J_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{W}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{Y \text{ misclassified} \\ \mathbf{W}^{T}\mathbf{Y} \leq \mathbf{b}}} \frac{\left(\mathbf{W}^{T}\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{b}\right)^{2}}{\|\mathbf{Y}\|^{2}}$$

Stronger linear separability



# More stringent criteria of linear separability



Linear support vector machines (SVM) maximize this margin of separation between two linearly separable data points of classes.

# 4

# The algorithm (Batch relaxation with margin)

- Initialize W to W<sup>(0)</sup>.
- Iterate till convergence
- Compute the set M of misclassified samples (with margin b), so that
  - $M = \{Y | W^T Y < = b\}$
- Compute gradient.

$$\nabla J_r(W) = \sum_{W^T Y \le b} \frac{Y(W^T Y - b)}{\|Y\|^2}$$

Update W.

$$W^{(i)} = W^{(i-1)} - \eta(i)\nabla J_r(W^{(i-1)})$$

# Single sample relaxation with margin

- Initialize W to W<sup>(0)</sup>.
- Perform the update of W by considering samples one by one in every iteration.
- Consider an i th sample Y<sub>i</sub> at k th iteration.
- If  $(W^TY_i <= b)$ • Update W.  $W^{(k)} = W^{(k-1)} + \eta(k) \frac{b - W^TY_i}{\|Y_i\|^2} Y_i$
- Stop when very little change in updates at the end of an iteration.

### Support Vector Machine (SVM)

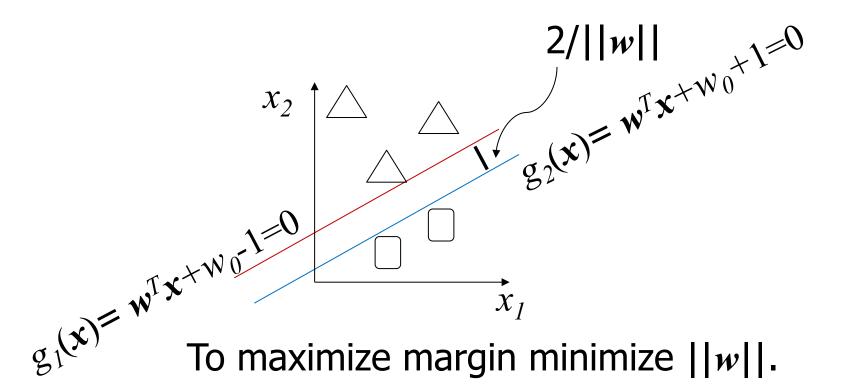
- A linear discriminant classifier.
- Uses Vapnik's principle:
  - to never solve a more complex problem as a first step before the actual problem.
    - Classification: Sufficient to compute class boundaries (where  $P(C_1|x)=P(C_2|x)$ ) without computing class distributions  $P(C_i|x)$ , etc.
    - Outlier detection: Compute boundaries separating those x having low P(x).
- After training the weight vector can be written in terms of training samples lying in class boundaries.
  - Support vectors.

### Two class problem

- $X = \{x^t, r^t\}, t = 1, 2, ... N$ 
  - $x^t$  in  $R^d$ ,  $r^t$  in  $\{+1, -1\}$ .
- To compute w and  $w_0$  such that for all t
  - $w^T x^t + w_0 > +1$  if  $r^t = +1$
  - $w^T x^t + w_0 < -1$  if  $r^t = -1$
- Rewritten as:
  - $r^t(w^Tx^t+w_0) \ge +1$  for all t
    - Note: it is harder than  $r^t(w^Tx^t+w_0) \ge 0$
    - A margin left between zones of two classes.



### Margin between classes



To minimize  $||w||^2/2$  subject to  $r^t(w^Tx^t+w_0) \ge +1$  for all t

### Optimization problem

- Constrained optimization problem
  - To minimize  $||w||^2/2$ 
    - subject to  $r^t(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{w}_0) \ge +1$  for all t
- Unconstrained problem:

Lagrange multipliers
$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{w}||^2 - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t [r^t(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) - 1]$$

$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{w}_0) + \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t$$

■ To be minimized w.r.t w and  $w_0$  and maximized w.r.t. Lagrange multipliers.

### Convex quadratic optimization problem

Unconstrained problem:

Lagrange multipliers 
$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 - \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{w}_0) + \sum_{t=1}^N \alpha^t$$
 Convex objective function and linear constraints.

- Dual problem
- To be maximized w.r.t. Lagrange multipliers (>0) subject to that gradients w.r.t w and  $w_0$  should be 0.

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \implies \mathbf{w} = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t \qquad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \implies \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = \mathbf{0}$$

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### Dual optimization problem

Primary problem:

$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{w}||^2 - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{w}_0) + \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t$$

 Dual problem derived by applying following conditions in the primary objective function.

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \implies \mathbf{w} = \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t \qquad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \implies \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

$$L_d = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^T \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t - w_0 \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t + \sum_{t} \alpha^t$$

$$L_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + \sum_{t} \alpha^t$$



### Dual optimization problem

Dual problem:

$$L_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + \sum_t \alpha^t \qquad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \implies \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

$$\alpha^t \ge 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \implies \mathbf{w} = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \implies \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

$$\alpha^t \ge 0$$

Expand w from the condition.

$$L_d = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t} \sum_{s} \alpha^t \alpha^s r^t r^s (\mathbf{x}^t)^T \mathbf{x}^s + \sum_{t} \alpha^t$$

- To maximize  $L_d$  w.r.t.  $\alpha^t$  ← Most of them
- Apply quadratic optimization technique: will be 0.
  - O(N³) time and O(N²) space complexity.

### Solution

Dual problem:

Dual problem: 
$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w} = 0 \implies w = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t x^t$$

$$L_d = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_t \sum_s \alpha^t \alpha^s r^t r^s (x^t)^T x^s + \sum_t \alpha^t \qquad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w_0} = 0 \implies \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

$$\alpha^t \ge 0$$

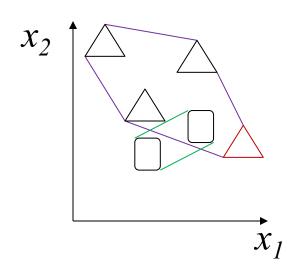
- Apply quadratic optimization technique:
  - O(N³) time and O(N²) space complexity.
- Most of  $\alpha^t$  will be zero.
- Samples with positive (non-zero)  $\alpha^t$  are support vectors.
  - Provide w as a linear combination of input samples (Condition 1).
  - $w_0$  is obtained from **any** of the support vector which lies in the boundary.
  - $r^t(w^Tx^t+w_0) = +1 \rightarrow w_0 = r^t w^Tx^t$  (For numerical stability take **avg.**).

### SVM- Testing

- Check only the sign of discriminant value.
  - Margin not enforced.
- Only support vectors decide class boundaries.
  - Other samples do not influence the classifier.

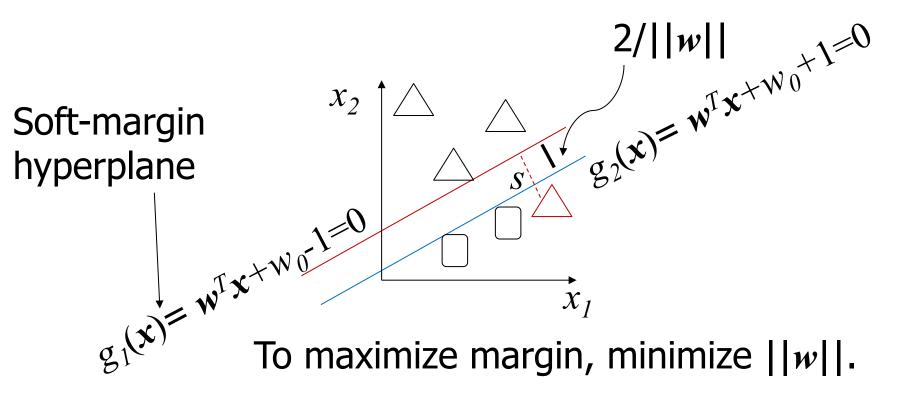
# The non-separable case: Soft margin hyperplane

Classes may not be linearly separable.



• Use of slack variable,  $\{s^t\}$ , t=1,2,...N

## Slack variable to define soft margin



To minimize  $||w||^2/2$  subject to  $r^t(w^Tx^t+w_0) \ge +1-s^t$  for all t

# Constraints with Soft margin hyperplanes

- Use of slack variable,  $\{s^t\}$ , t=1,2,...N to define constraints.
  - $r^t(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^t+\mathbf{w}_0) \geq 1 s^t$  for all t
    - $0 < s^t < 1$ ,  $x^t$  correctly classified.
  - If  $s^t \ge 1$ ,  $x^t$  misclassified.
  - $\#[s^t > 1]$ : Number of misclassified points.
  - $\#[s^t>0]$ : Number of non-separable points.
  - Soft error=  $\Sigma_t s^t$

### Optimization problem

- Add penalty term for soft error to define the objective function for minimization.
  - $L_p = ||w||^2/2 + C \Sigma_t s^t$ 
    - subject to  $r^t(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{w}_0) \geq 1 s^t$  for all t
    - C is the penalty factor.

$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{t=1}^{N} s^t - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t [r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) - 1 + s^t] - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \mu^t s^t$$

•  $\mu^t$  are the new Lagrange parameters to guarantee that  $s^t > 0$ .

### Optimization problem

Primary problem:

$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{w}||^2 + C \sum_{t=1}^{N} s^t - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t [r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t + w_0) - 1 + s^t] - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \mu^t s^t$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \implies \mathbf{w} = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \mathbf{x}^t \qquad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial \mathbf{w}_0} = 0 \implies \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial s^t} = C - \alpha^t - s^t = 0 \quad \Box \quad 0 \leq \alpha^t \leq C \text{ as } s^t > 0$$

- Dual problem:  $L_d = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_t \sum_s \alpha^t \alpha^s r^t r^s (\mathbf{x}^t)^T \mathbf{x}^s + \sum_t \alpha^t$  Subject to:  $\sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0$  and  $0 \le \alpha^t \le C$

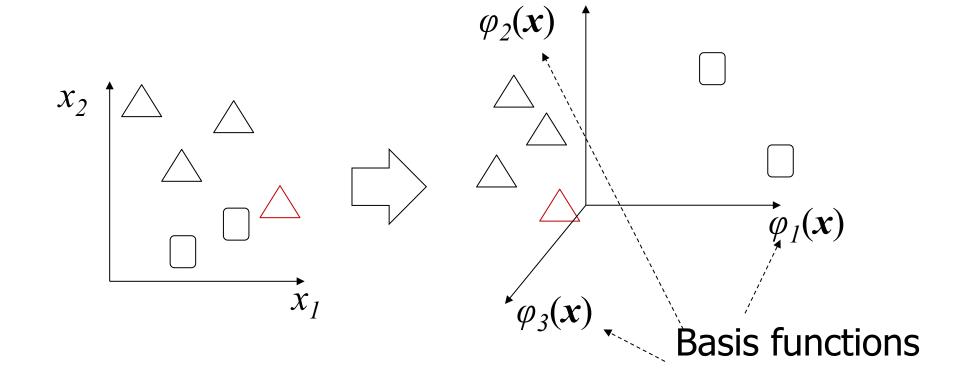
### The solution

- The same quadratic optimization technique to be used.
- The support vectors have  $\alpha^t > 0$
- Out of them whose values are less than C are used for deriving  $w_0$ .
  - $\mathbf{w}_0 = \mathbf{r}^t \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}^t$
  - Take average.



# Projecting to higher dimensional space

May make them linearly separable!



# Solving by projecting to a high-dimensional space.

- $z = \varphi(x)$ , where  $z_j = \varphi_j(x)$ , j = 1, 2, ..., k
  - $g(z) = w^T z$ 
    - Assume  $z_1$ =1 (for taking care of the constant term  $w_0$  as used previously).
  - $g(x) = \sum_{j} w_{j} \varphi_{j}(x)$
  - No guarantee that the classes are linearly separable in the space of basis functions.
  - Similar optimization problem:
    - $L_p = ||w||^2/2 + C \Sigma_t s^t$ 
      - subject to  $r^t w^T \varphi(x^t) \ge 1 s^t$  for all t
      - C is the penalty factor.

### Primal-Dual problems

- Primal problem:
- To minimize w.r.t w

$$L_p = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{t=1}^{N} s^t - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \alpha^t [r^t (\mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}^t) + w_0) - 1 + s^t] - \sum_{t=1}^{N} \mu^t s^t$$

$$\frac{\partial L_p}{\partial w} = 0 \implies w = \sum_t \alpha^t r^t \varphi(x^t) \quad \frac{\partial L_p}{\partial s^t} = C - \alpha^t - s^t = 0 \quad \sum_t \alpha^t r^t = 0$$

$$\text{Dual problem} \quad \text{Kernel function}$$

$$L_{d} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t} \sum_{s} \alpha^{t} \alpha^{s} r^{t} r^{s} (\varphi(\mathbf{x}^{t}))^{T} \varphi(\mathbf{x}^{s}) + \sum_{t} \alpha^{t}$$
• Subject to 
$$\sum_{t} \alpha^{t} r^{t} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha^{t} \leq C$$

#### Kernel machines

Discriminant function

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t \varphi(\mathbf{x}^t)^T \varphi(\mathbf{x})$$
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{t} \alpha^t r^t K(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{x})$$

A real symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix M is +ve semidefinite iff  $z^T M z \ge 0$  for any non-zero z in  $R^n$ .

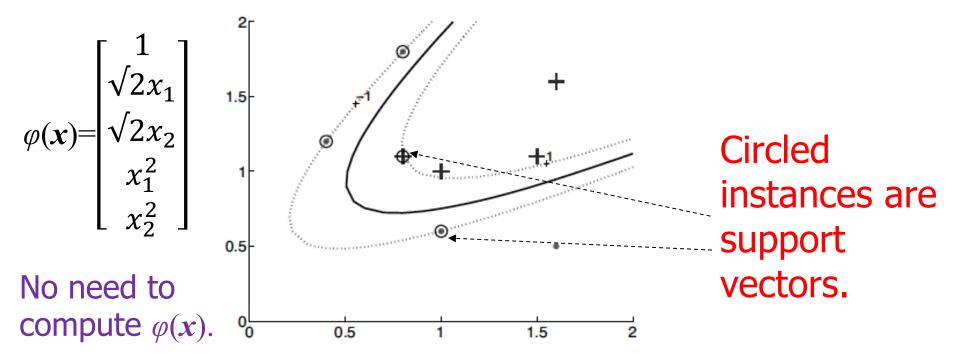
- No need to compute with basis functions and also performing dot products with z.
- Gram matrix: The matrix of kernel values **K**, where  $K_{t,s} = K(x^t, x^s)$ 
  - Should be symmetric and +ve semidefinite.
  - To be provided.

#### Vectorial kernel functions

- Polynomials of degree q
  - $K(\mathbf{x}^t,\mathbf{x})=(\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{x}^t+1)^q$
- Radial basis functions
  - $K(x^t, x) = \exp[-||x-x^t||^2/(2s^2)]$
- Mahalanobis kernel function
  - $K(x^t, x) = \exp[-(x-x^t)^T S^{-1}(x-x^t)/2]$
- Distance function based
  - $K(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{x}) = \exp[-D(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^t)/(2s^2)]$
- Sigmoidal function:  $K(x^t, x) = \tanh(2x^Tx^t+1)$

### A typical example:

- Decision Boundaries of Quadratic Kernel in 2D:
  - $K(x,y)=(x^Ty+1)^2$



Courtesy: "Introduction to Machine" Learning by Ethem Alpaydin (Chapter 13, Fig. 13.4)

### Defining kernels

- May be defined between a pair of objects flexibly.
  - without using any closed functional form.
- A few examples
  - Number of shared words of two documents.
  - Edit distance between two strings.
  - Number of shared paths between two graphs.
  - Empirical definition of a kernel matrix on training samples.
- The same principle applicable for designing SVM for classifying such objects.

### **SVM: Summary**

- SVM provides maximum margin based linear discrimination for two linearly separable classes.
  - Generalizes to non-separable classes by using slack variables.
  - Use of basis functions to map nonseparable classes to separable in a higher dimensional space.
    - Computation becomes simple and efficient with kernel functions.

### Parametric discrimination revisited

- Class densities  $P(x|C_i)$  Gaussian sharing a common cov. Matrix:  $\Sigma$ , and  $\mu_i$ :  $E(x|C_i)$ .
  - The discriminant function is linear
  - $g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w_i}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w_{i0}}$ 
    - $\mathbf{w_i} = \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu_i}$
    - $w_{i0} = -(\mu_i^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_i)/2 + \log P(C_i)$
- Two classes: Let  $P(C_1|x)=y$ , hence  $P(C_2|x)=1-y$ 
  - Choose  $C_I$  if  $y > 0.5 \Leftrightarrow y/(1-y) > 1 \Leftrightarrow \log(y/(1-y)) > 0$
  - Else Choose  $C_2$ .

logit(y) or log odds of y.

### Parametric discrimination revisited

- Two classes: Let  $P(C_1|\mathbf{x})=y$ , hence  $P(C_2|\mathbf{x})=1-y$ 
  - Choose  $C_1$  if logit(y)(=log(y/1-y))>0, else Choose  $C_2$ .
- For two normal classes sharing a common covariance matrix, the log odds linear.
- $logit(P(C_1|\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$ 
  - $w = \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 \mu_2)$
  - $w_0 = -((\mu_1 \mu_2)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 \mu_2))/2 + \log P(C_1)/P(C_2)$
- The inverse of logit is the logistic function, also called sigmoid function.
- $P(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \text{logit}^{-1}(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x} + w_0) = 1/(1 + \exp(-(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x} + w_0)))$

# 4

# Parametric two class classification using discriminant

- **Estimate parameters,**  $\Sigma$ ,  $\mu_l$ , and  $\mu_2$ .
- Compute coefficients of g(x): w, and  $w_0$ .
- During testing:
  - Calculate g(x).
  - Assign  $C_1$  if g(x)>0, else  $C_2$ .
- OR
  - Calculate  $y=1/(1+\exp(-(w^Tx+w_0)))$
  - Assign  $C_1$  if y>0.5 else  $C_2$ .

### Logistic discrimination of two classes

- Ratio of class densities modeled:  $P(x|C_1)/P(x|C_2)$
- Assume log likelihood ratio is linear
  - true for normal density functions.
- $\log(P(x|C_1)/P(x|C_2)) = w^T x + w_0'$
- ⇒ logit( $P(C_1|x)$ )=log( $P(C_1|x)/P(C_2|x)$ ) =log( $P(x|C_1)/P(x|C_2)$ ) + log( $P(C_1)/P(C_2)$ ) =  $w^Tx+w_0$  (when  $w_0=w_0'+\log(P(C_1)/P(C_2))$ )
- $y=P(C_1|x)=1/(1+\exp(-(w^Tx+w_0))$

## Learning weights of logit functions.

- Data:  $X = \{x^t, r^t\}, t=1,2,...N$ 
  - $r^t=1$  for  $C_1$ , and 0 for  $C_2$ .
- Let  $y=P(r^t=1|x) \sim \text{Bernoulli}(y)$ .
  - Directly modeling likelihood of class assignment
    - instead of likelihood of data given classes as in the parametric approach.  $\frac{N}{\prod_{t=1}^{N}} \left( t \right) r^{t} \left( t \right) = t \left( 1 r^{t} \right)$

approach.  $l(\mathbf{w}, w_0 | X) = \prod_{t=1}^{t} (y^t)^{r^t} (1 - y^t)^{(1-r^t)}$ 

■ To minimize E=-log(l) (Maximization of log likelihood)

$$E = -(\sum_{t} (r^{t} \log y^{t} + (1 - r^{t}) \log(1 - y^{t}))$$

Use gradient descent technique to iterate on weights.

$$y = 1/(1 + \exp(-a))$$

### Gradient descent technique

•  $y = sigmoid(a) \rightarrow dy/da = y.(1-y)$ 

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j} = -\sum_{t} \left( \frac{r^t}{y^t} - \frac{1 - r^t}{1 - y^t} \right) y^t (1 - y^t) x_j^t$$

$$= -\sum_{t} (r^t - y^t) x_j^t$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_0} = -\sum_{t} (r^t - y^t)$$

Update of weights at i th iteration.

$$w_j^{(i)} = w_j^{(i-1)} - \eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_i}$$

### 4

distr.

### Algorithm (Learning weights)

- 1. Assume initial  $w_0$ , and  $w_0$ .
- 2. Compute  $y=\text{sigmoid}(w^Tx+w_0)$
- 3. Compute gradients.
- 4. Update w, and  $w_0$ .
- 5. Continue steps 2 to 4 till convergence.

Extended to multi-class problem by modeling  $P(C_i|x)$  by softmax(.) function, and multinomial

$$y_i = P(C_i|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{exp(\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x} + w_{i0})}{\sum_j exp(\mathbf{w}_j^t \mathbf{x} + w_{j0})}$$

$$l(\{\boldsymbol{w_i}, w_{i0}\}|X) = \prod_{t} \prod_{i} (y_i^t)^{r_i^t}$$

### Summary

- Discriminant functions could be explained in the context of Bayesian inference.
- Could be explained by geometry.
- Weights of the function to be learned by minimizing an objective function (error due to miss-classification).
  - Gradient descent method.
  - Stochastic gradient descent.
- Linear SVM: optimally separable hyperplane.
- Logistic discrimination: regresses posterior directly from labelled data.



