Support Vector Machines (SVMs)

Hard-margin SVM (Primal)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w},b} \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } y^{(i)}(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} + b) \geq 1, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

Hard-margin SVM (Lagrangian Dual)

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y^{(i)} y^{(j)} \mathbf{x}^{(i)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(j)}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \alpha_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i y^{(i)} = 0$$

- Instead of minimizing the primal, we can maximize the dual problem
- For the SVM, these two problems give the same answer (i.e. the minimum of one is the maximum of the other)
- *Definition*: **support vectors** are those points $x^{(i)}$ for which $\alpha^{(i)} \neq 0$

METHOD OF LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS

Method of Lagrange Multipliers

Method of Lagrange Multipliers (case w/inequalities)

Goal: $\min f(\vec{x})$ s.t. $g(\vec{x}) \leq c$

① Construct Lagrangian

$$L(\vec{x}, \lambda) = f(\vec{x}) - \lambda(g(\vec{x}) - c)$$

② Solve

$$\min_{\vec{x}} \max_{\lambda} L(\vec{x}, \lambda)$$

$$\nabla L(\vec{x}, \lambda) = 0 \quad \text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0, \; g(\vec{x}) \leq c$$

Equivalent to solving:

$$\nabla f(\vec{x}) = \lambda \nabla g(\vec{x}) \quad \text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0, \quad g(\vec{x}) \leq c$$

SVM DUAL

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SVM EXTENSIONS

Soft-Margin SVM

Hard-margin SVM (Primal)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w},b} \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$
$$\text{s.t. } y^{(i)}(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} + b) \geq 1, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

Soft-margin SVM (Primal)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w},b} \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + C\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} e_i\right)$$
$$\text{s.t. } y^{(i)}(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} + b) \geq 1 - e_i, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$
$$e_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

- **Question**: If the dataset is not linearly separable, can we still use an SVM?
- **Answer**: Not the hard-margin version. It will never find a feasible solution.

In the soft-margin version, we add "**slack variables**" that **allow some points to violate** the large-margin constraints.

The constant C dictates **how large** we should allow the slack variables to be

Soft-Margin SVM

Hard-margin SVM (Primal)

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Hard-margin SVM (Lagrangian Dual)

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y^{(i)} y^{(j)} \mathbf{x}^{(i)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(j)}$$

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$$\text{s.t. } 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i y^{(i)} = 0$$

We can also work with the dual of the soft-margin SVM

Multiclass SVMs

The SVM is **inherently** a **binary** classification method, but can be extended to handle K-class classification in many ways.

1. ***one-vs-rest*:**
   - build K binary classifiers
   - train the k^{th} classifier to predict whether an instance has label k or something else
   - predict the class with largest score
2. ***one-vs-one*:**
   - build (K choose 2) binary classifiers
   - train one classifier for distinguishing between each pair of labels
   - predict the class with the most "votes" from any given classifier

Learning Objectives

Support Vector Machines

You should be able to…

1. Motivate the learning of a decision boundary with large margin
2. Compare the decision boundary learned by SVM with that of Perceptron
3. Distinguish unconstrained and constrained optimization
4. Compare linear and quadratic mathematical programs
5. Derive the hard-margin SVM primal formulation
6. Derive the Lagrangian dual for a hard-margin SVM
7. Describe the mathematical properties of support vectors and provide an intuitive explanation of their role
8. Draw a picture of the weight vector, bias, decision boundary, training examples, support vectors, and margin of an SVM
9. Employ slack variables to obtain the soft-margin SVM
10. Implement an SVM learner using a black-box quadratic programming (QP) solver

KERNELS

Kernels: Motivation

- Motivation #1: Inefficient Features
  - Non-linearly separable data requires **high dimensional** representation
  - Might be **prohibitively expensive** to compute or store
- Motivation #2: Memory-based Methods
  - k-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) for facial recognition allows a **distance metric** between images -- no need to worry about linearity restriction at all

Φ

Kernel Methods

- **Key idea:**
  1. Rewrite the algorithm so that we only work with **dot products** $x^T z$ of feature vectors
  2. Replace the **dot products** $x^T z$ with a **kernel function** $k(x, z)$

- The kernel k(x,z) can be **any** legal definition of a dot product:

  $$k(x, z) = \varphi(x)^T \varphi(z) \text{ for any function } \varphi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^D$$

  So we only compute the φ dot product **implicitly**

- This **"kernel trick"** can be applied to many algorithms:
  - classification: perceptron, SVM, …
  - regression: ridge regression, …
  - clustering: k-means, …

SVM: Kernel Trick

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$$\text{s.t. } y^{(i)}(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{x}^{(i)} + b) \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

- Suppose we do some feature engineering
- Our feature function is ϕ
- We apply ϕ to each input vector $\mathbf{x}$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w},b} \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } y^{(i)}(\mathbf{w}^T\phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}\right) + b) \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Hard-margin SVM (Lagrangian Dual)

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i\alpha_j y^{(i)}y^{(j)}\mathbf{x}^{(i)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(j)}$$

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SVM: Kernel Trick

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$$\text{s.t. } \alpha_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i y^{(i)} = 0$$

We could replace the dot product of the two feature vectors in the transformed space with a function k(x,z)
where $k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}\right) \cdot \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(j)}\right)$

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  - clustering: k-means, …

Kernel Methods

Q: These are just non-linear features, right?

A: Yes, but…

Q: Can't we just compute the feature transformation φ explicitly?

A: That depends…

Q: So, why all the hype about the kernel trick?

A: Because the **explicit features** might either be **prohibitively expensive** to compute or **infinite length** vectors

Example: Polynomial Kernel

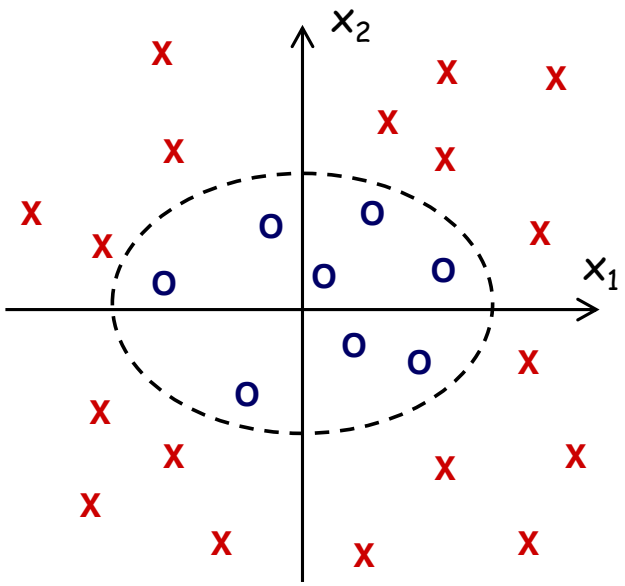
For n=2, d=2, the kernel $K(x, z) = (x \cdot z)^d$ corresponds to

$$\phi: R^2 \to R^3, (x_1, x_2) \to \Phi(x) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2)$$

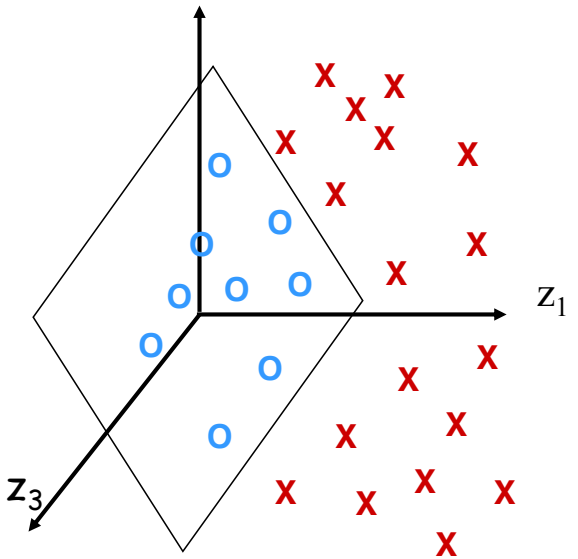
$$\phi(x) \cdot \phi(z) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2) \cdot (z_1^2, z_2^2, \sqrt{2}z_1z_2)$$

$$= (x_1z_1 + x_2z_2)^2 = (x \cdot z)^2 = K(x, z)$$

Original space



Φ-space

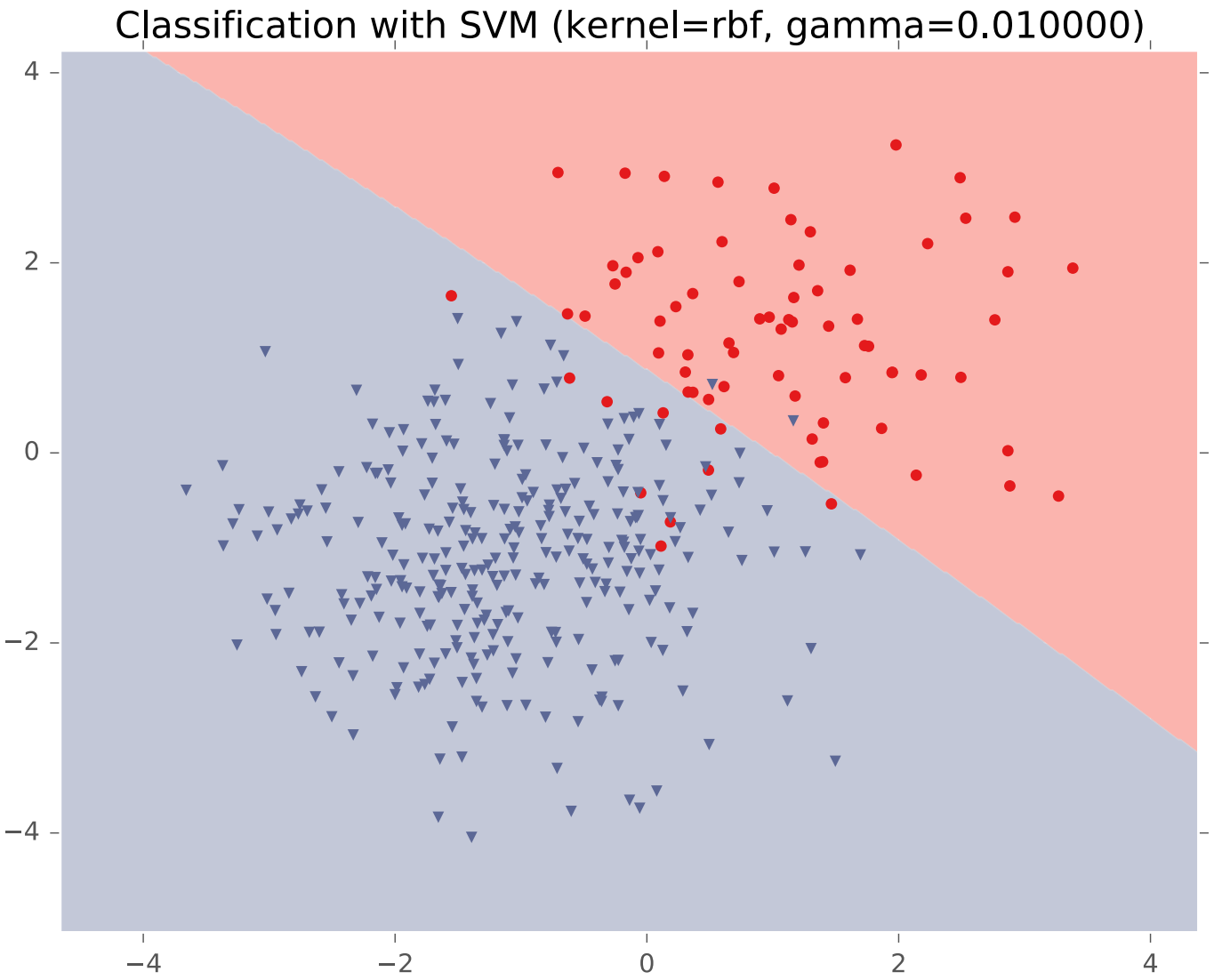


Slide from Nina Balcan

Kernel Examples

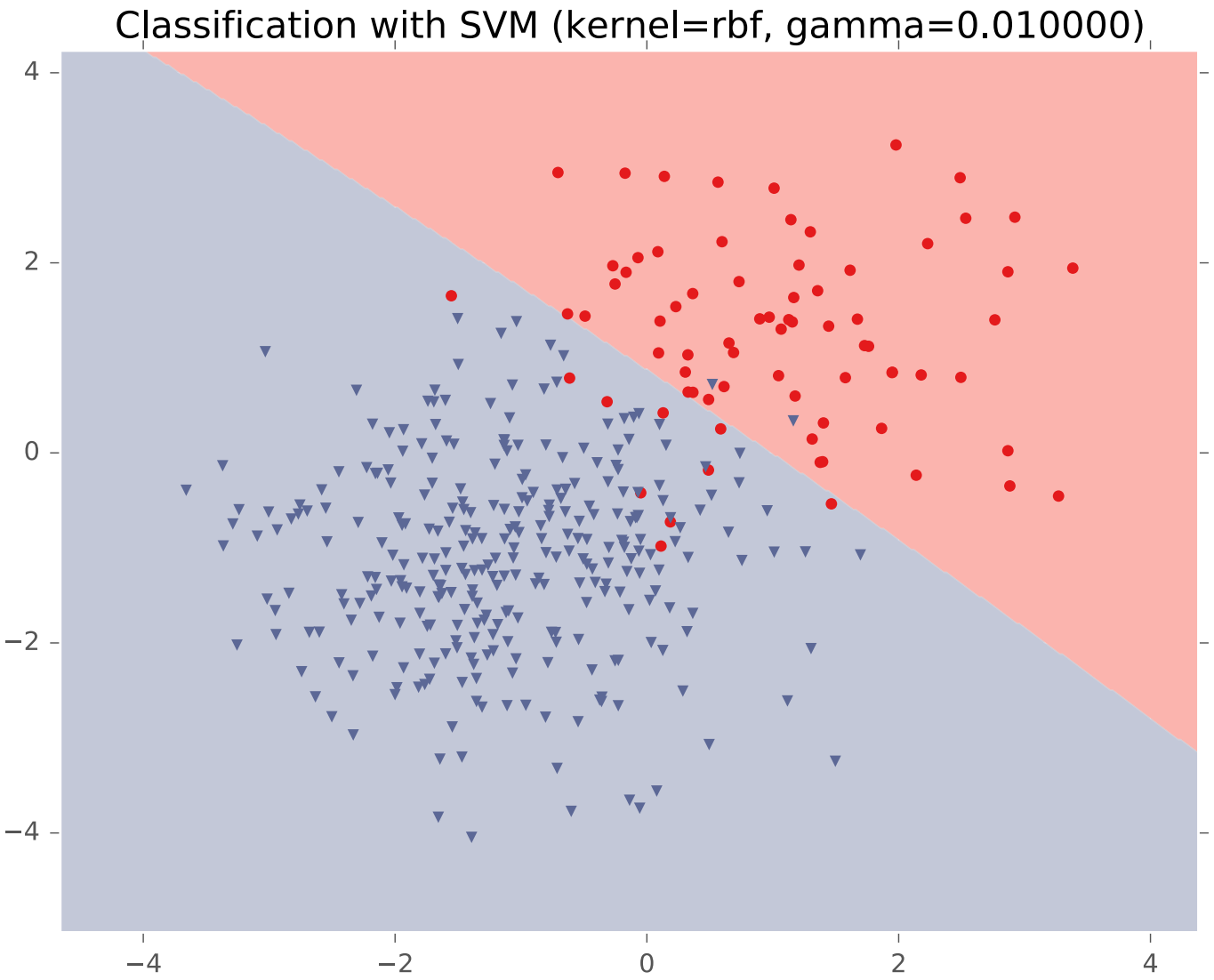
Name	Kernel Function (implicit dot product)	Feature Space (explicit dot product)
Linear	$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{z}$	Same as original input space
Polynomial (v1)	$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{z})^d$	All polynomials **of** degree d
Polynomial (v2)	$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{z} + 1)^d$	All polynomials **up to** degree d
Gaussian	$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \exp(-\frcolor{\|\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|\|_2^2}{2\sigma^2})$	Infinite dimensional space
Hyperbolic Tangent (Sigmoid) Kernel	$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \tanh(\alpha\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{z} + c)$	(With SVM, this is equivalent to a 2-layer neural network)

RBF Kernel Example



RBF Kernel: $K(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \exp(-\gamma||\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mathbf{x}^{(j)}||_2^2)$

RBF Kernel Example



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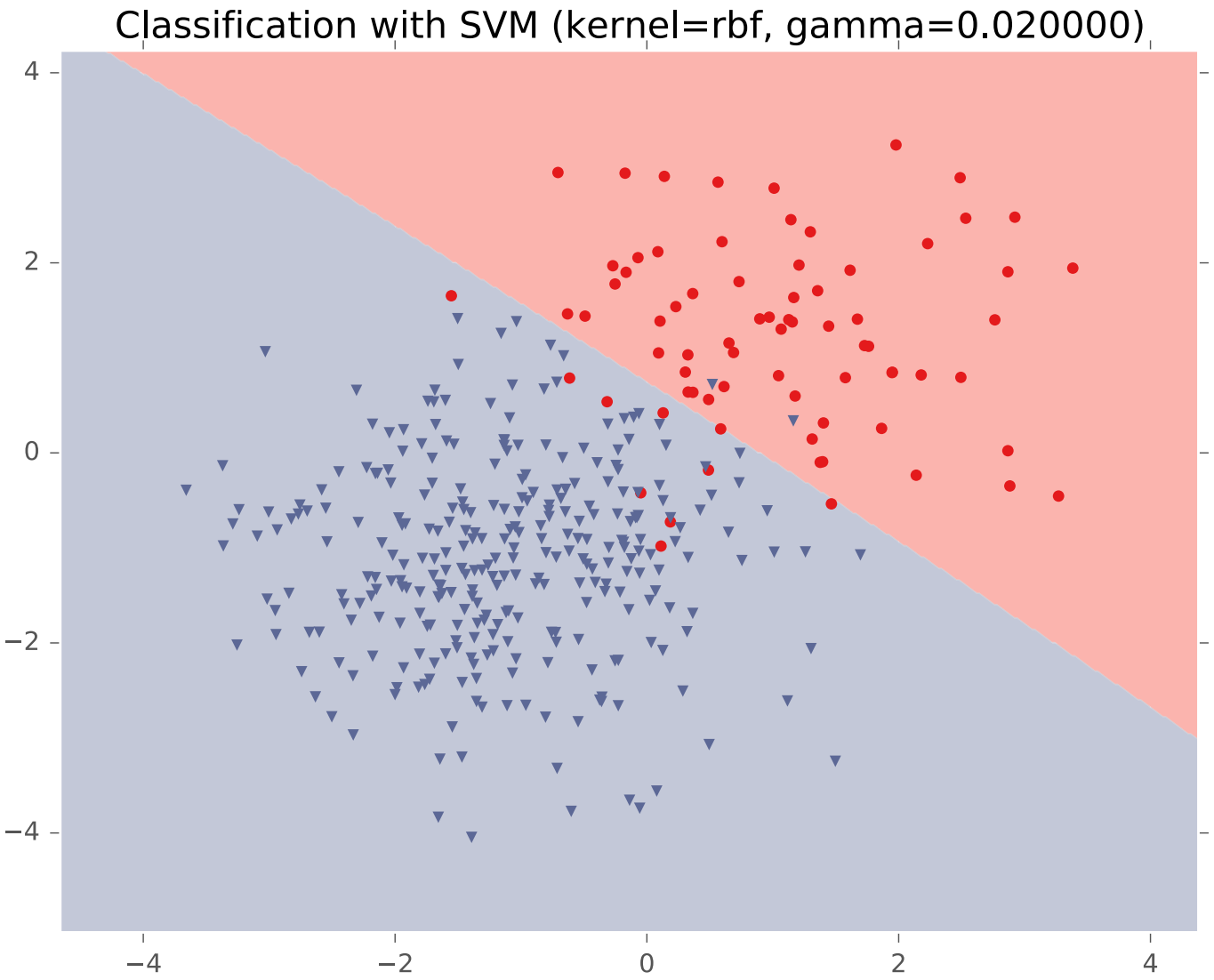

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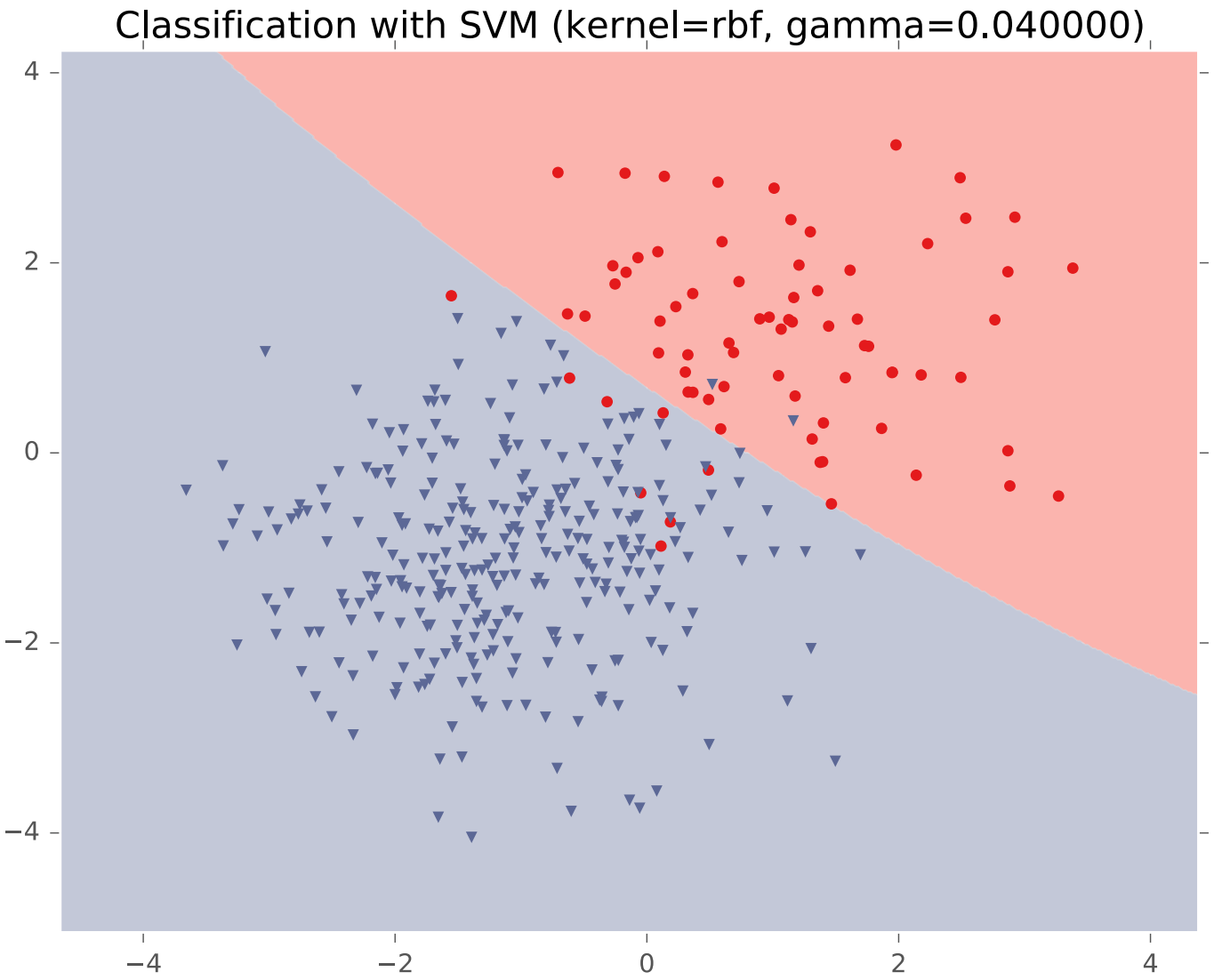

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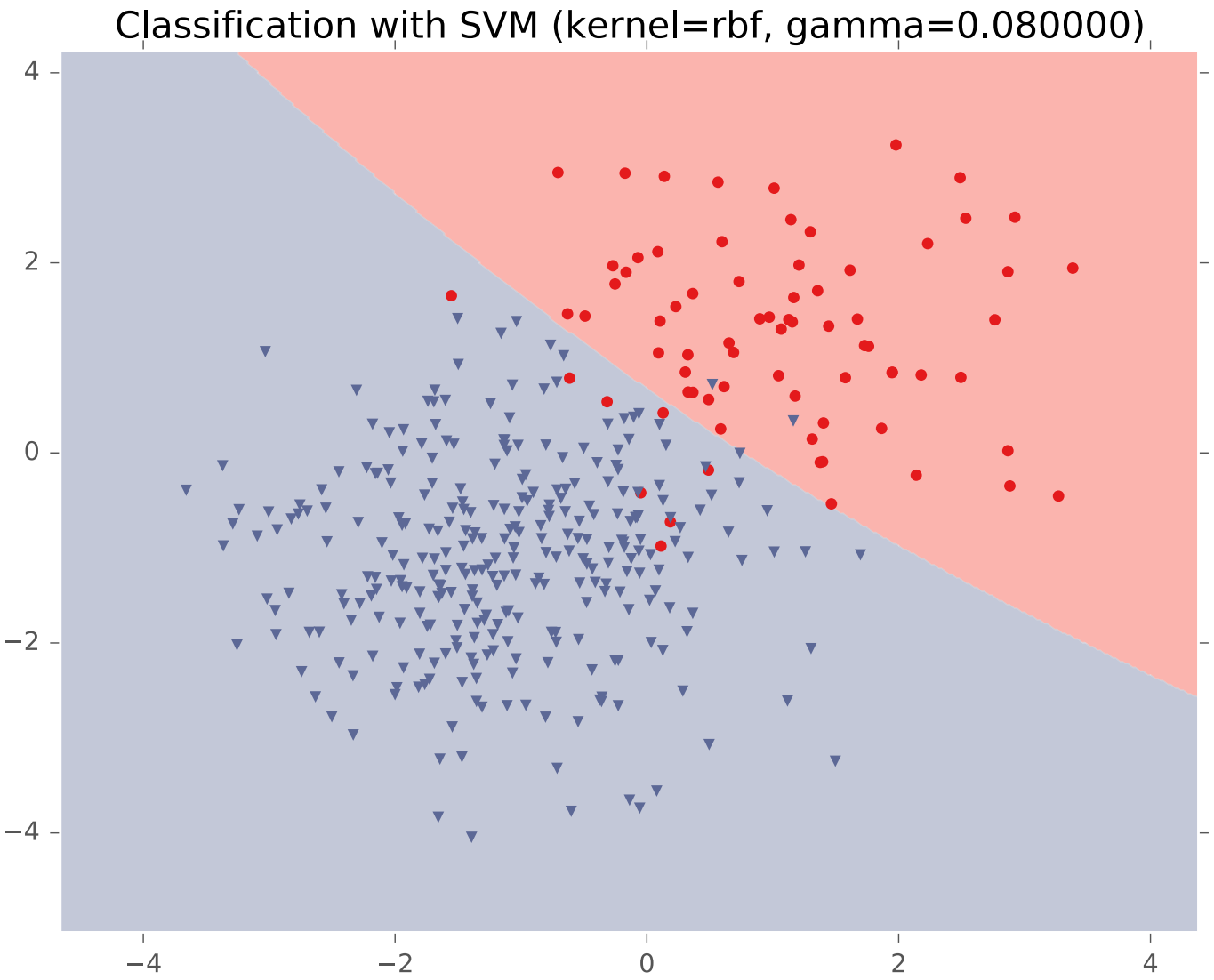

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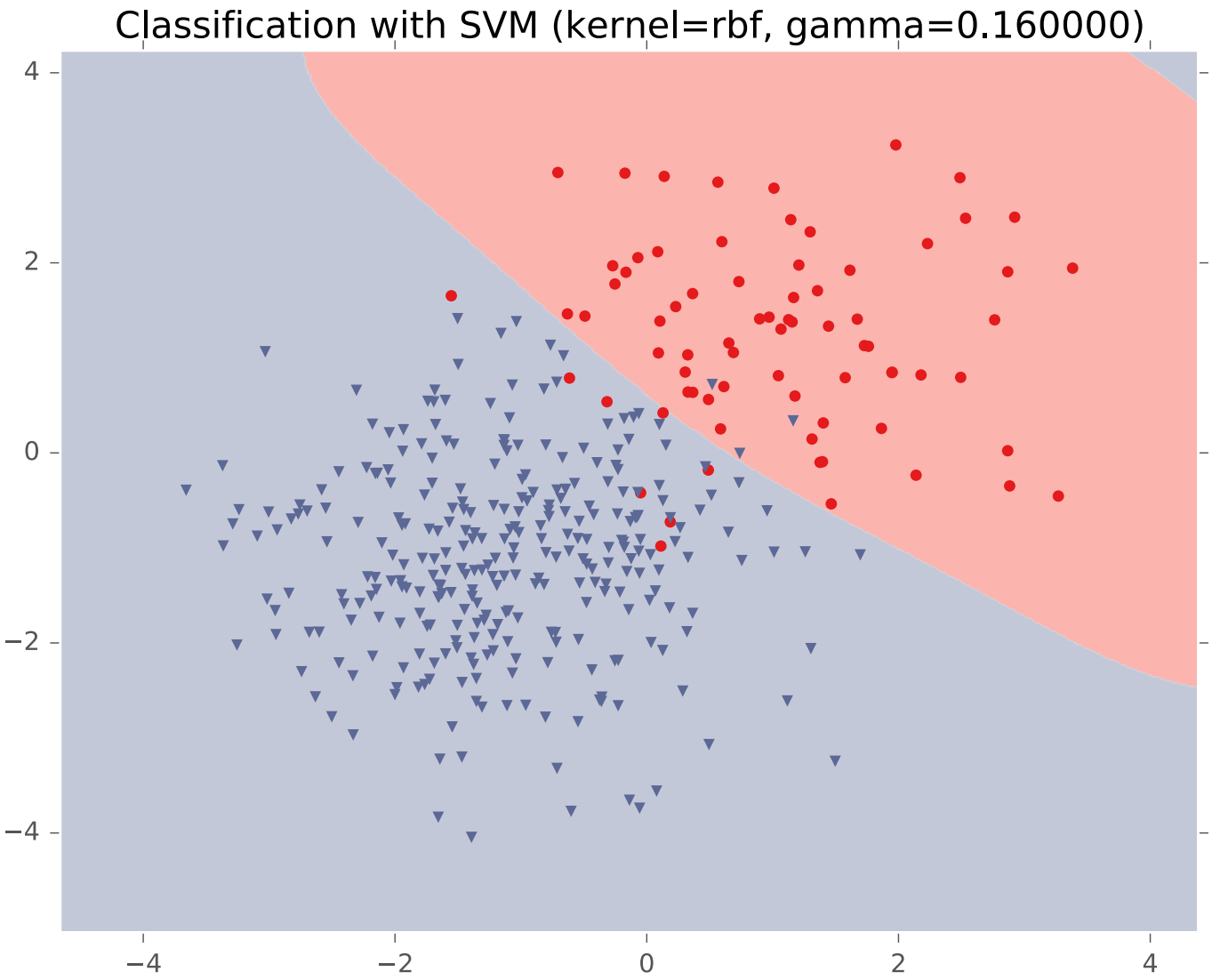

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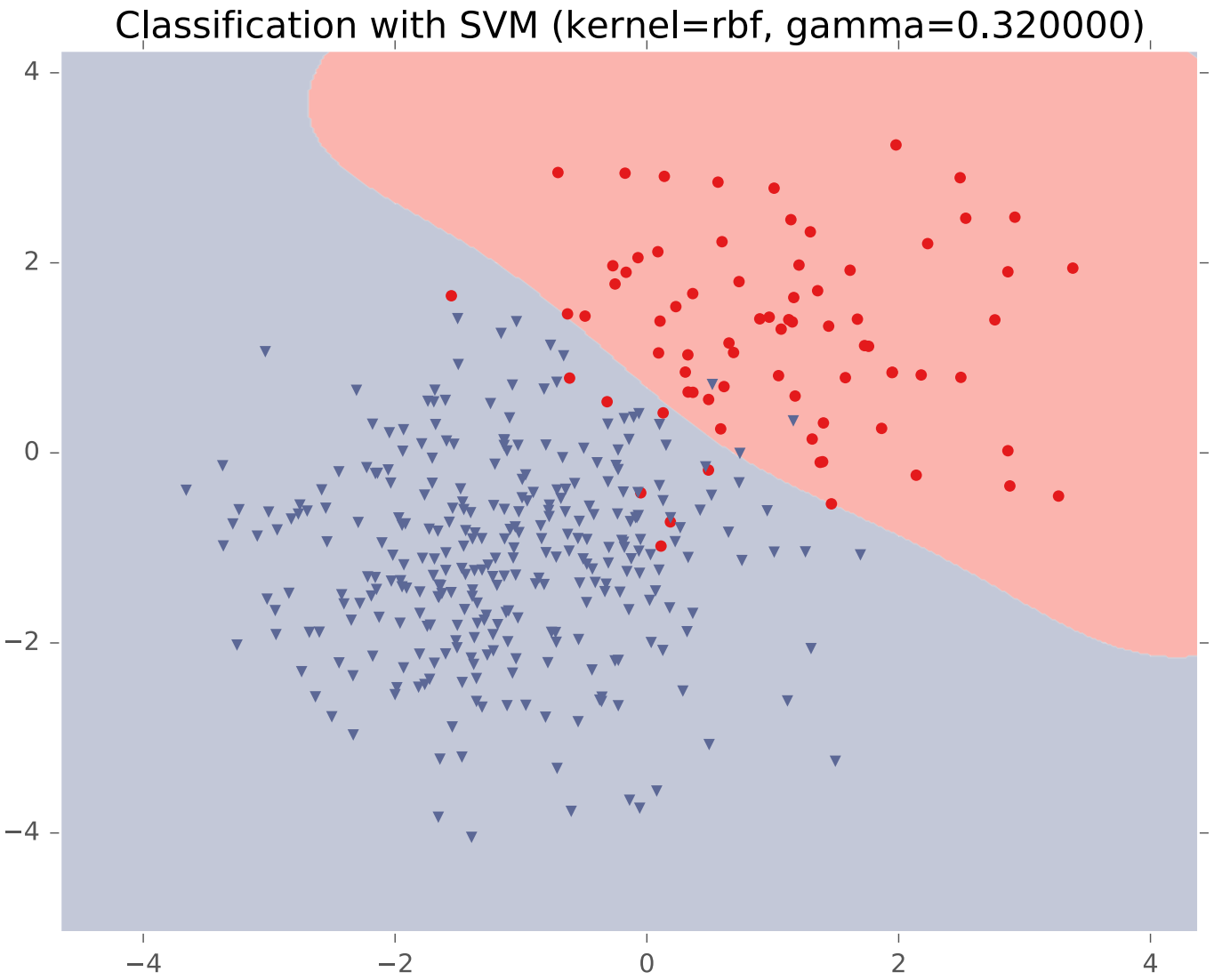

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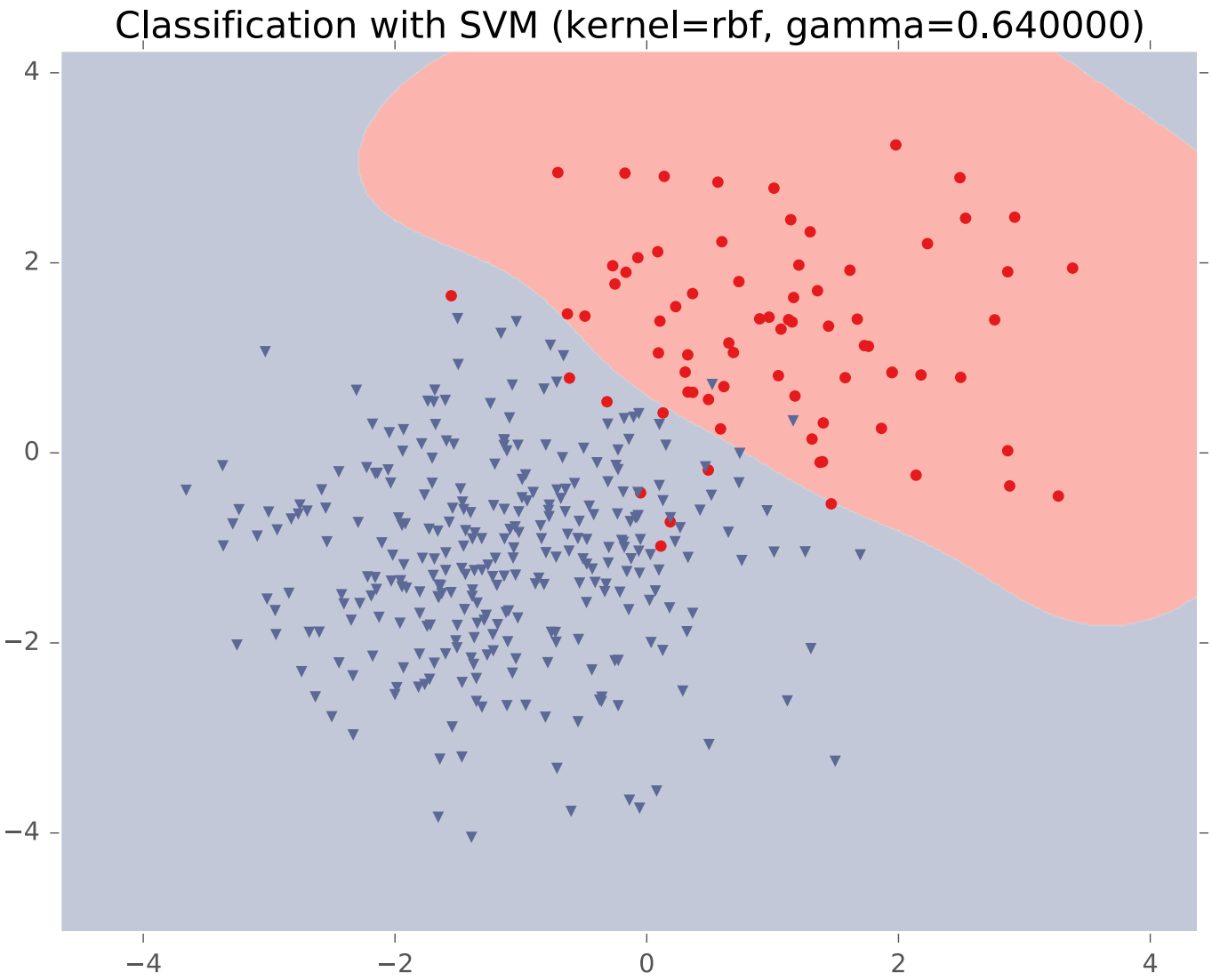

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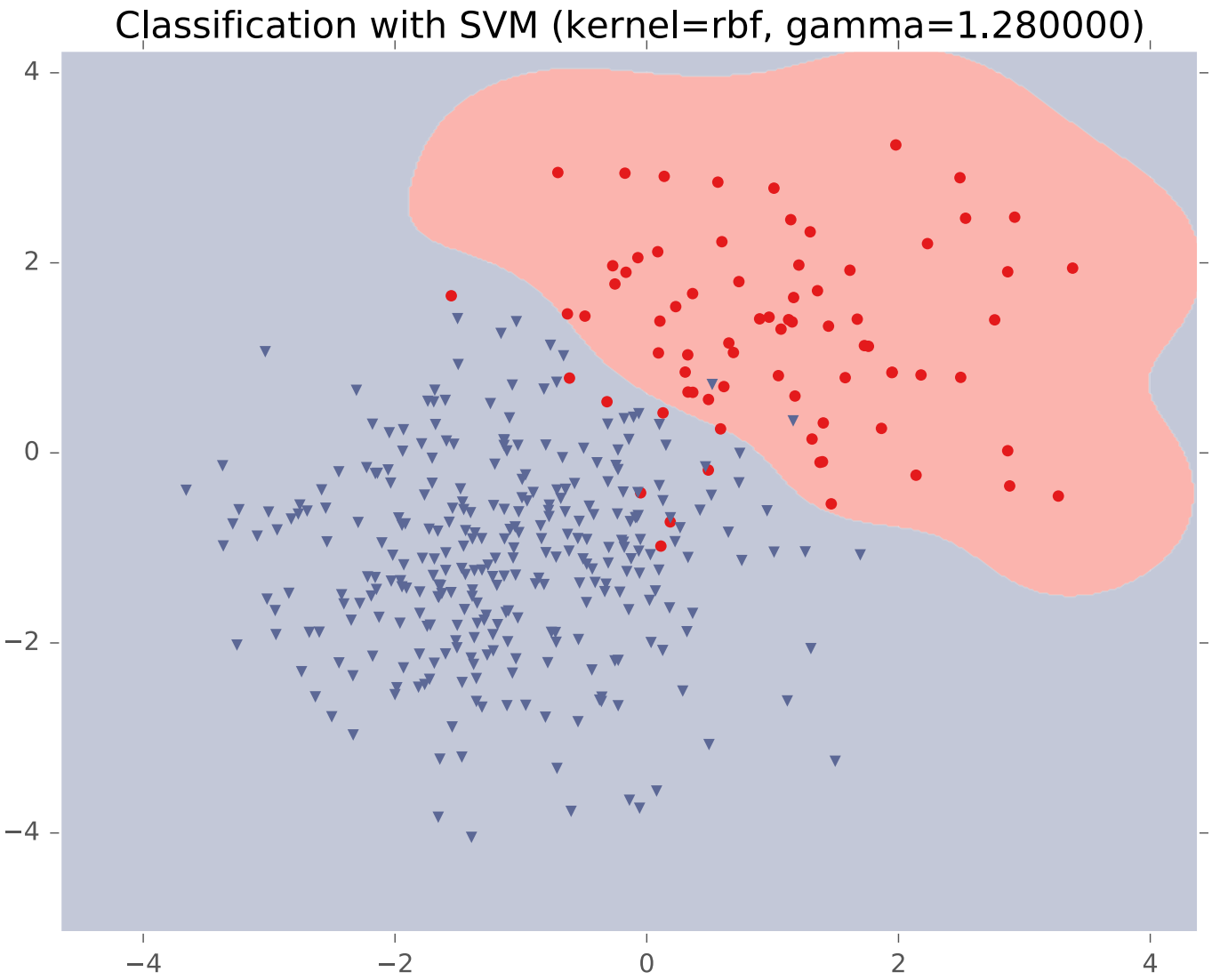

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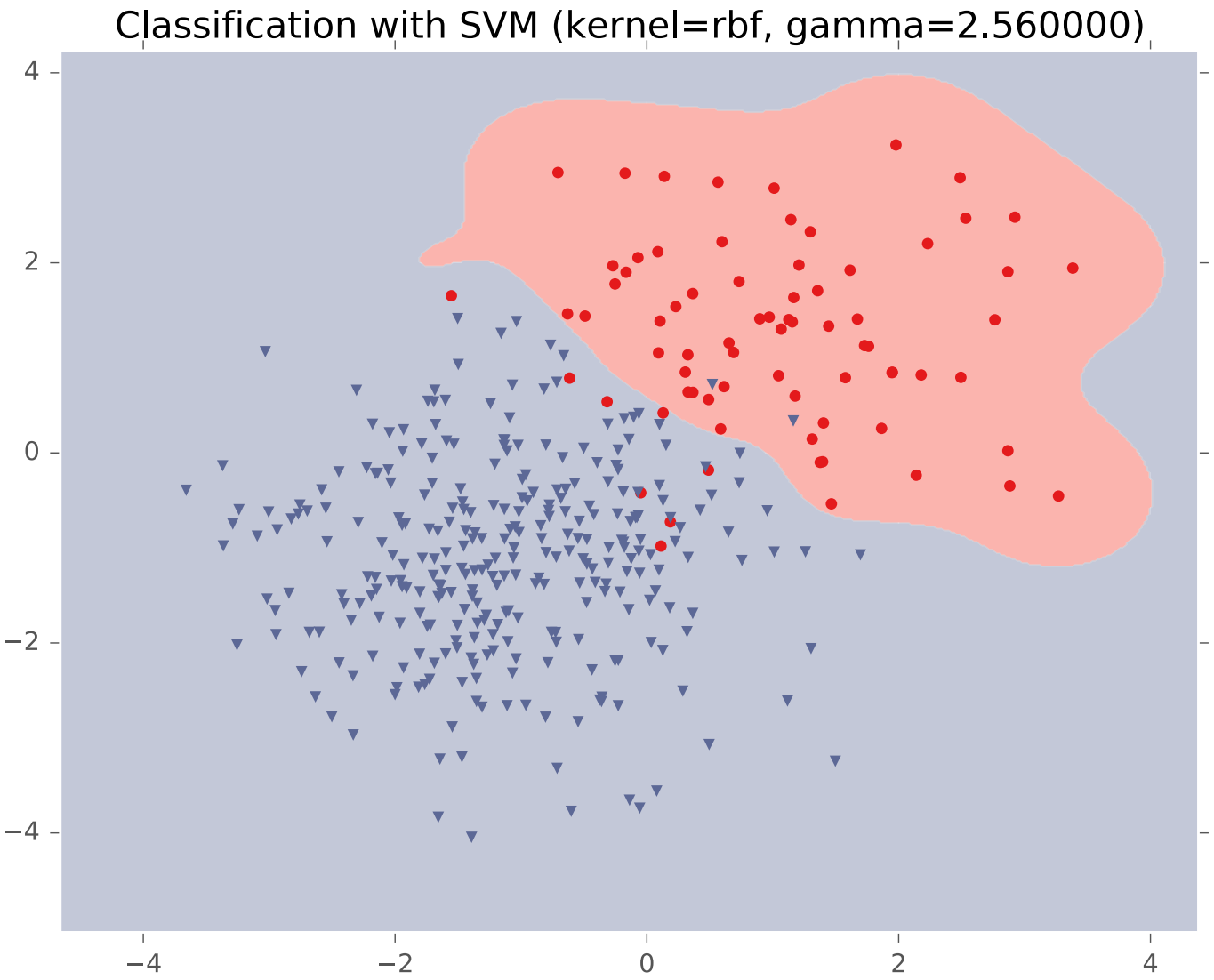

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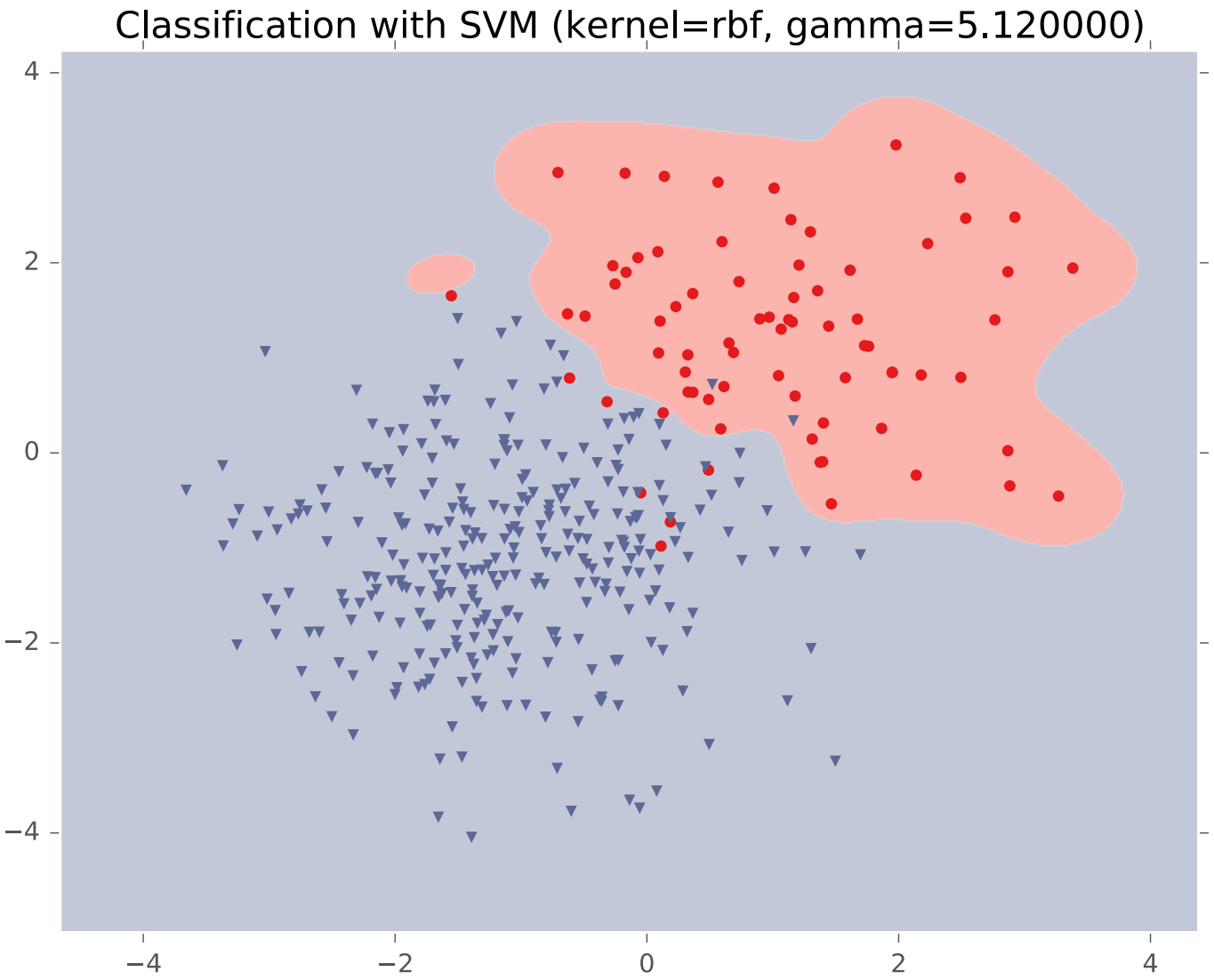

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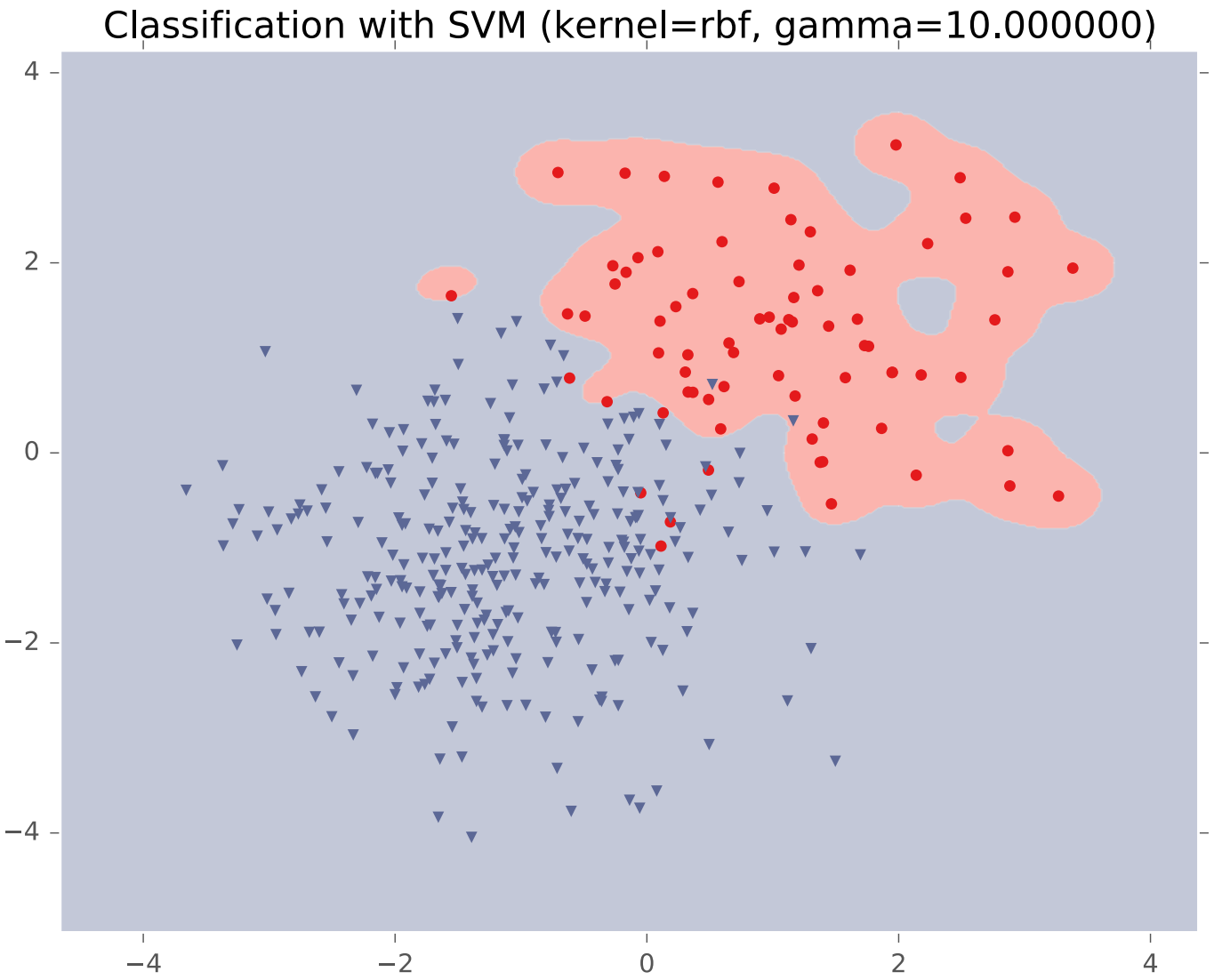

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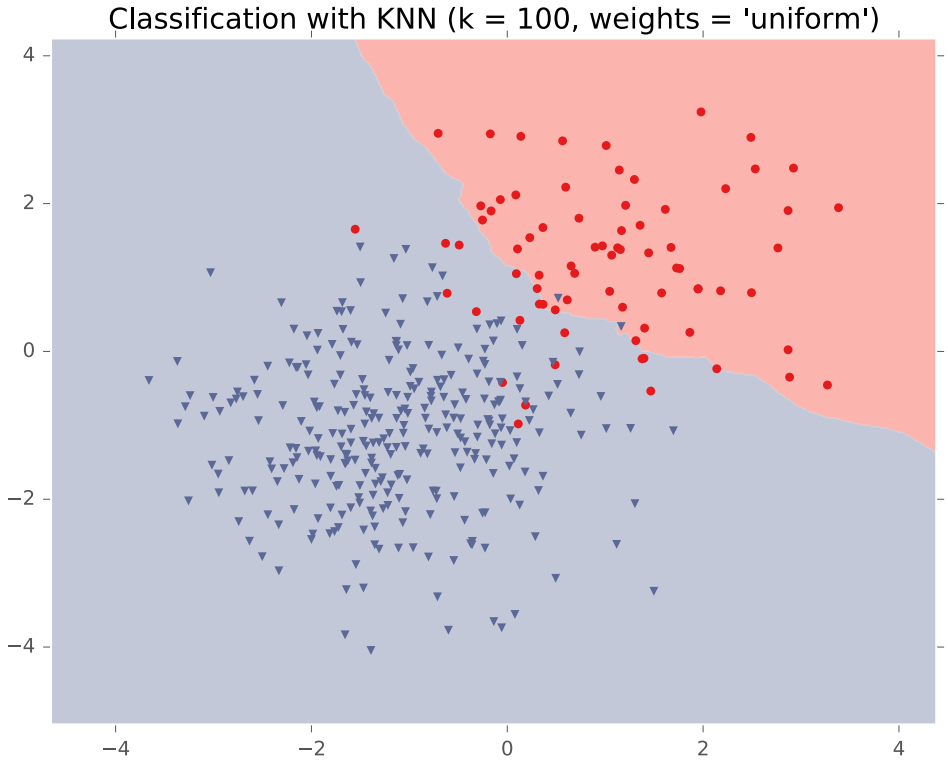
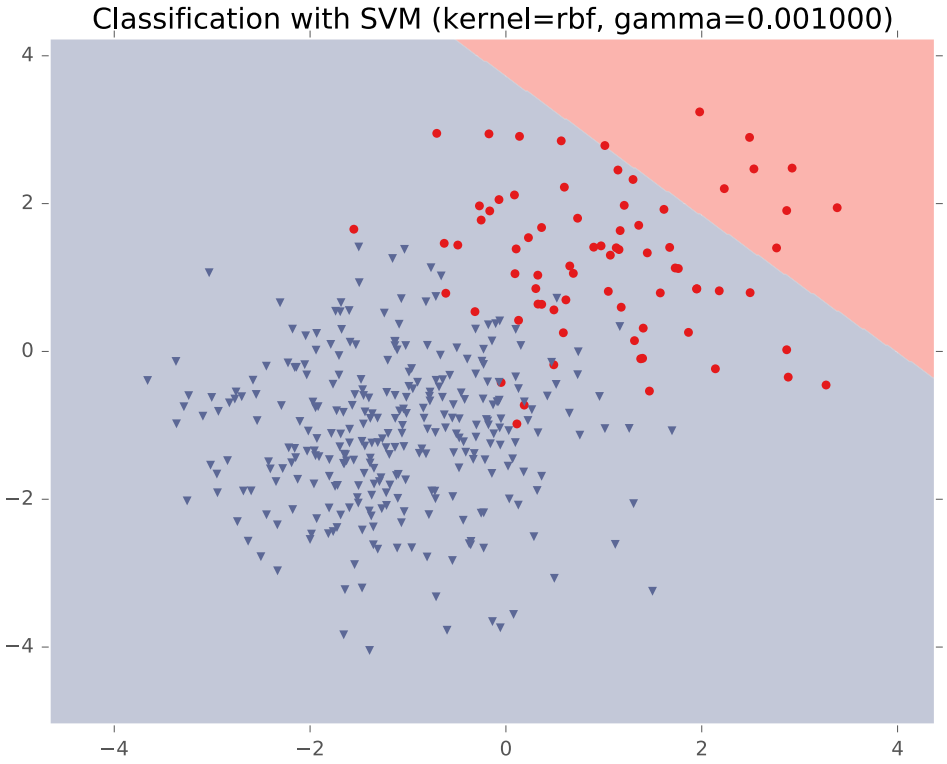
RBF Kernel Example

KNN vs. SVM





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RBF Kernel Example

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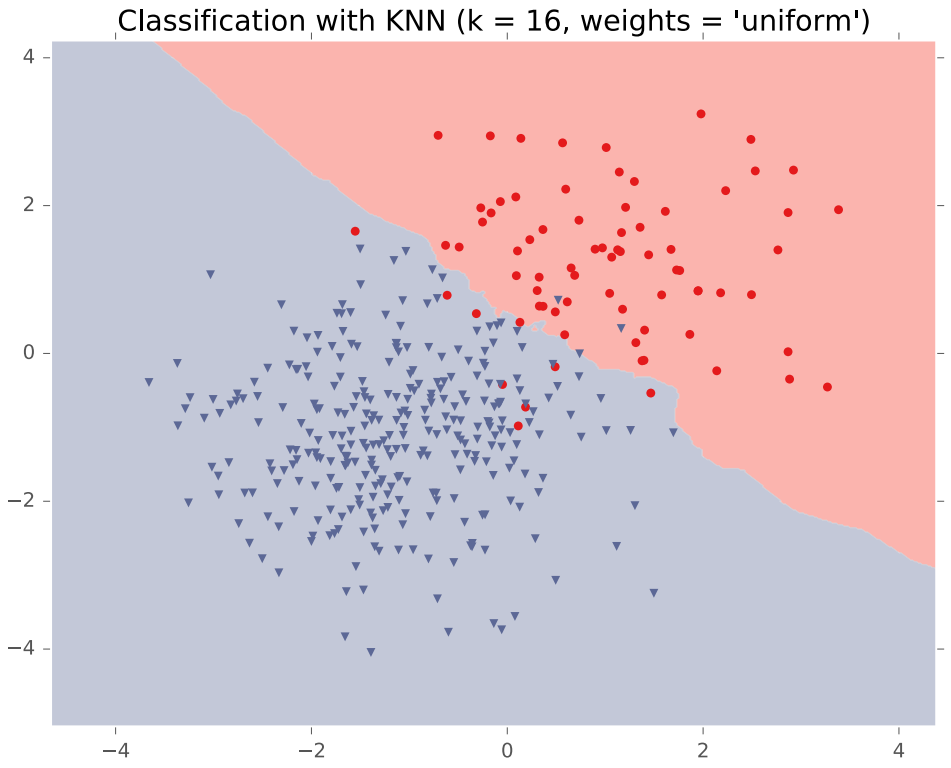

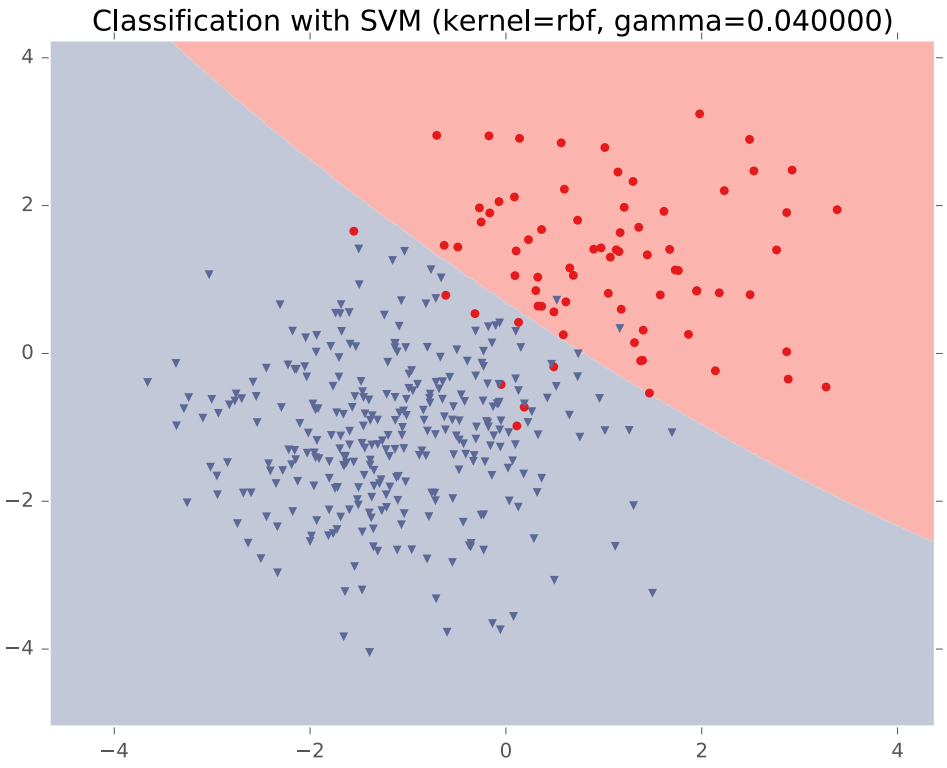

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RBF Kernel Example

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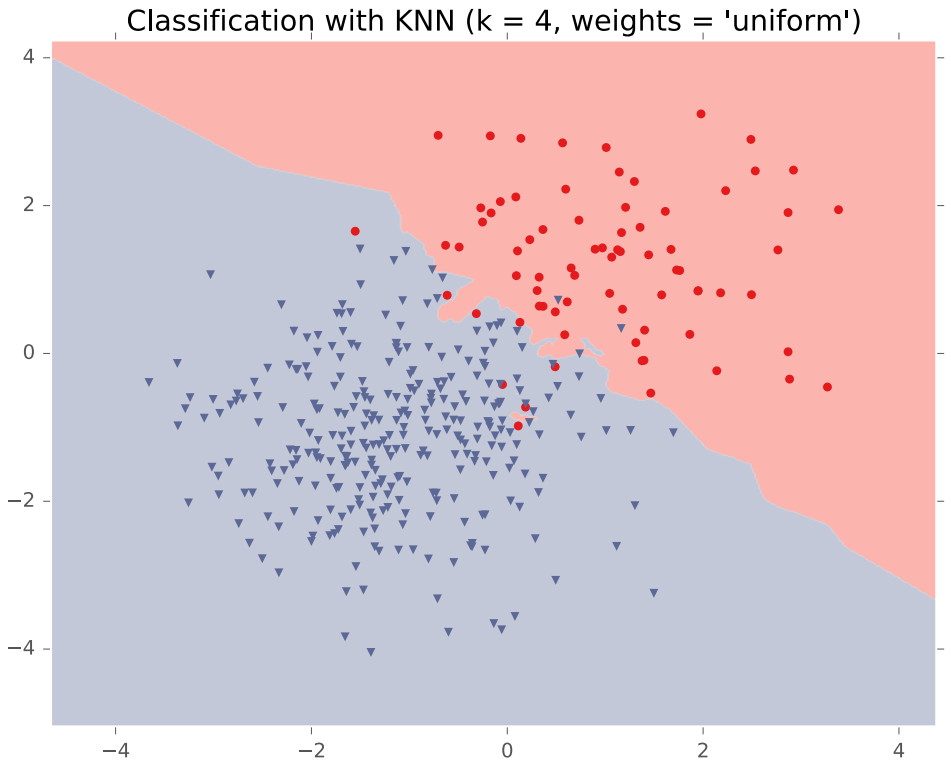

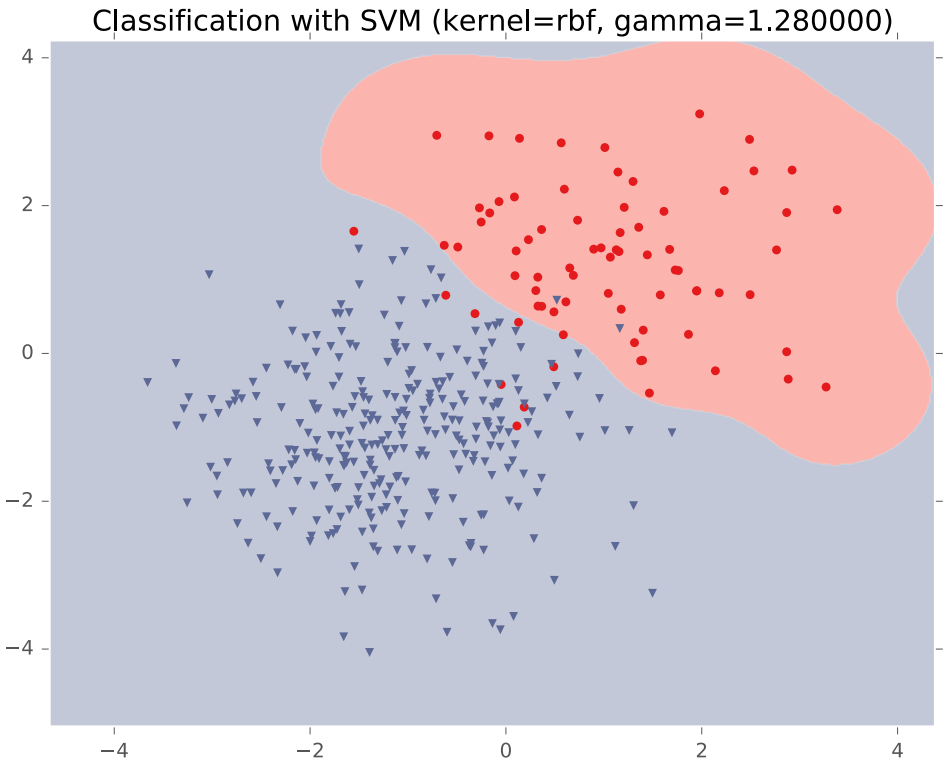

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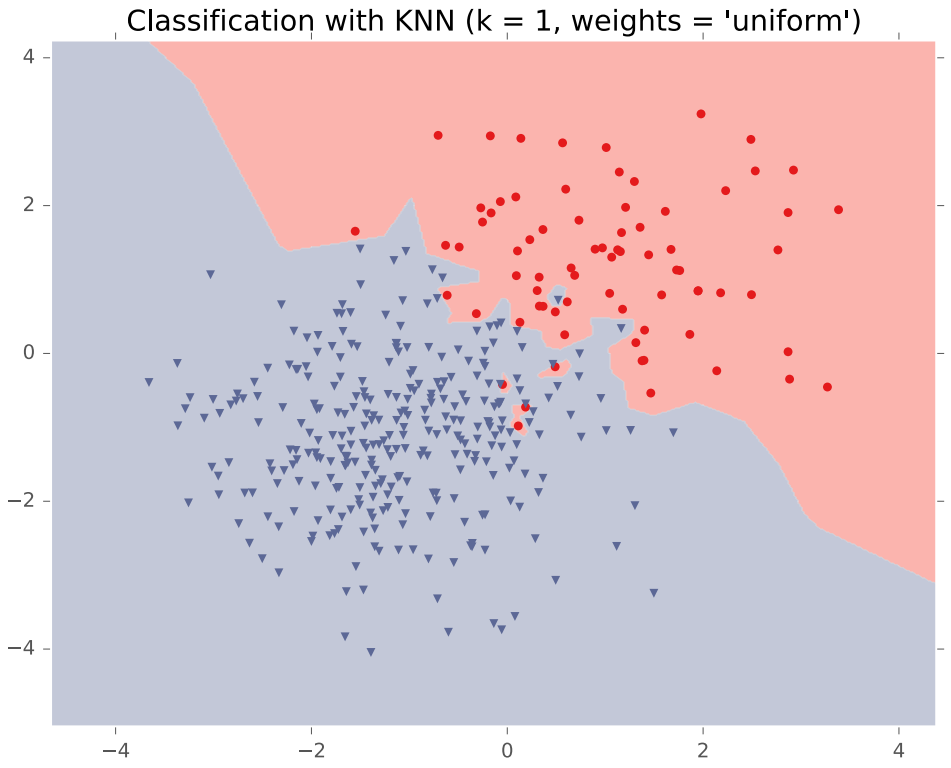
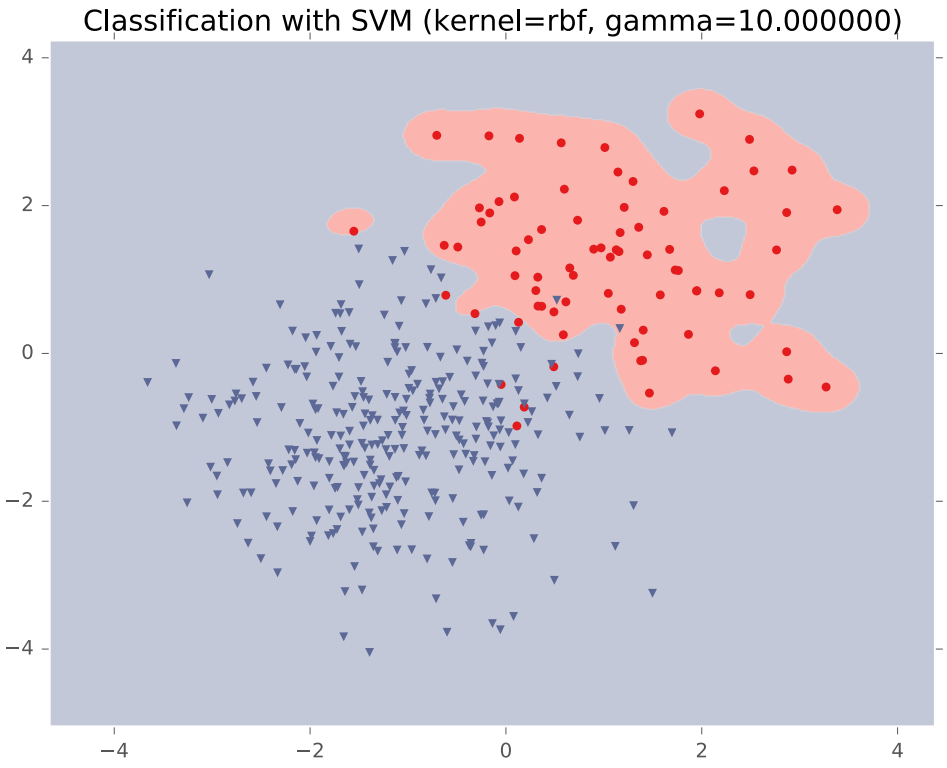
RBF Kernel Example

KNN vs. SVM





RBF Kernel: $K(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \exp(-\gamma||\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mathbf{x}^{(j)}||_2^2)$

Φ

Kernel Methods

- **Key idea:**
  1. Rewrite the algorithm so that we only work with **dot products** $x^T z$ of feature vectors
  2. Replace the **dot products** $x^T z$ with a **kernel function** $k(x, z)$

- The kernel k(x,z) can be **any** legal definition of a dot product:

  $$k(x, z) = \varphi(x)^T \varphi(z) \text{ for any function } \varphi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^D$$

  So we only compute the φ dot product **implicitly**

- This **"kernel trick"** can be applied to many algorithms:
  - classification: perceptron, SVM, …
  - regression: ridge regression, …
  - clustering: k-means, …

SVM + Kernels: Takeaways

- Maximizing the margin of a linear separator is a **good training criteria**
- Support Vector Machines (SVMs) learn a **max-margin linear classifier**
- The SVM optimization problem can be solved with **black-box Quadratic Programming (QP) solvers**
- Learned decision boundary is defined by its **support vectors**
- Kernel methods allow us to work in a transformed feature space **without explicitly representing that space**
- The **kernel-trick** can be applied to **SVMs**, as well as many other algorithms

Learning Objectives

Kernels

You should be able to…

1. Employ the kernel trick in common learning algorithms
2. Explain why the use of a kernel produces only an implicit representation of the transformed feature space
3. Use the "kernel trick" to obtain a computational complexity advantage over explicit feature transformation
4. Sketch the decision boundaries of a linear classifier with an RBF kernel