

Supervision Assignments in MLBI
Easter Term 2019
Set 2

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1. (*SVMs*)

Assume that the set $S = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^m \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{-1, 1\}$ of binary examples is strictly linearly separable by a line going through the origin, that is, there exists $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that the linear function $f(x) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ has the property that $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) > 0$ for every $i = 1, \dots, m$. In this case, a linear separable SVM computes the parameters \mathbf{w} by solving the optimisation problem:

$$P1: \quad \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} : y_i \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i \geq 1, i = 1, \dots, m \right\}. \quad (1)$$

- (a) Show that the vector \mathbf{w} solving problem P1 has the form $\mathbf{w} = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$ where c_1, \dots, c_m are some nonnegative coefficients.
- (b) Show that the coefficients c_1, \dots, c_m in the above formula solve the optimization problem

$$P2: \quad \max \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m c_i c_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j + \sum_{i=1}^m c_i : c_j \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, m \right\}. \quad (2)$$

- (c) Argue that, if $(\hat{c}_1, \dots, \hat{c}_m)$ solves problem P2 and $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ solves problem P1, then $\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \hat{\mathbf{w}} = \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{c}_i$.