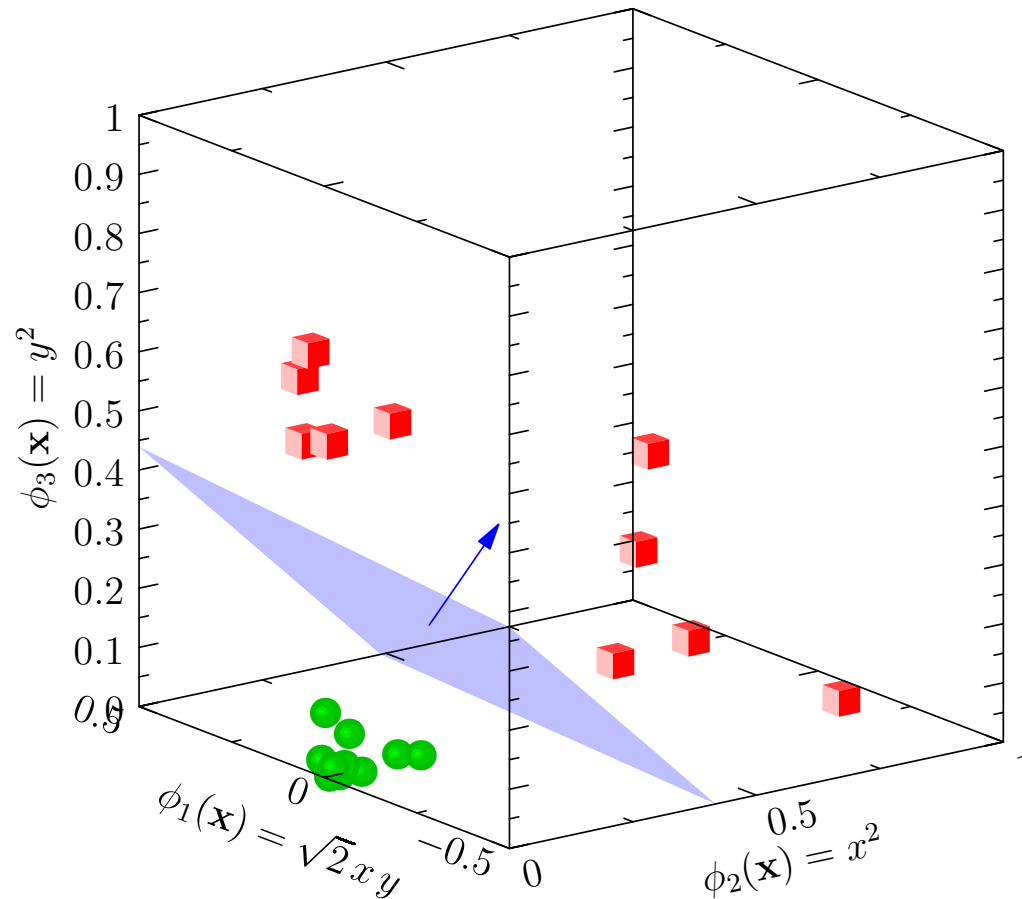


# Advanced Machine Learning

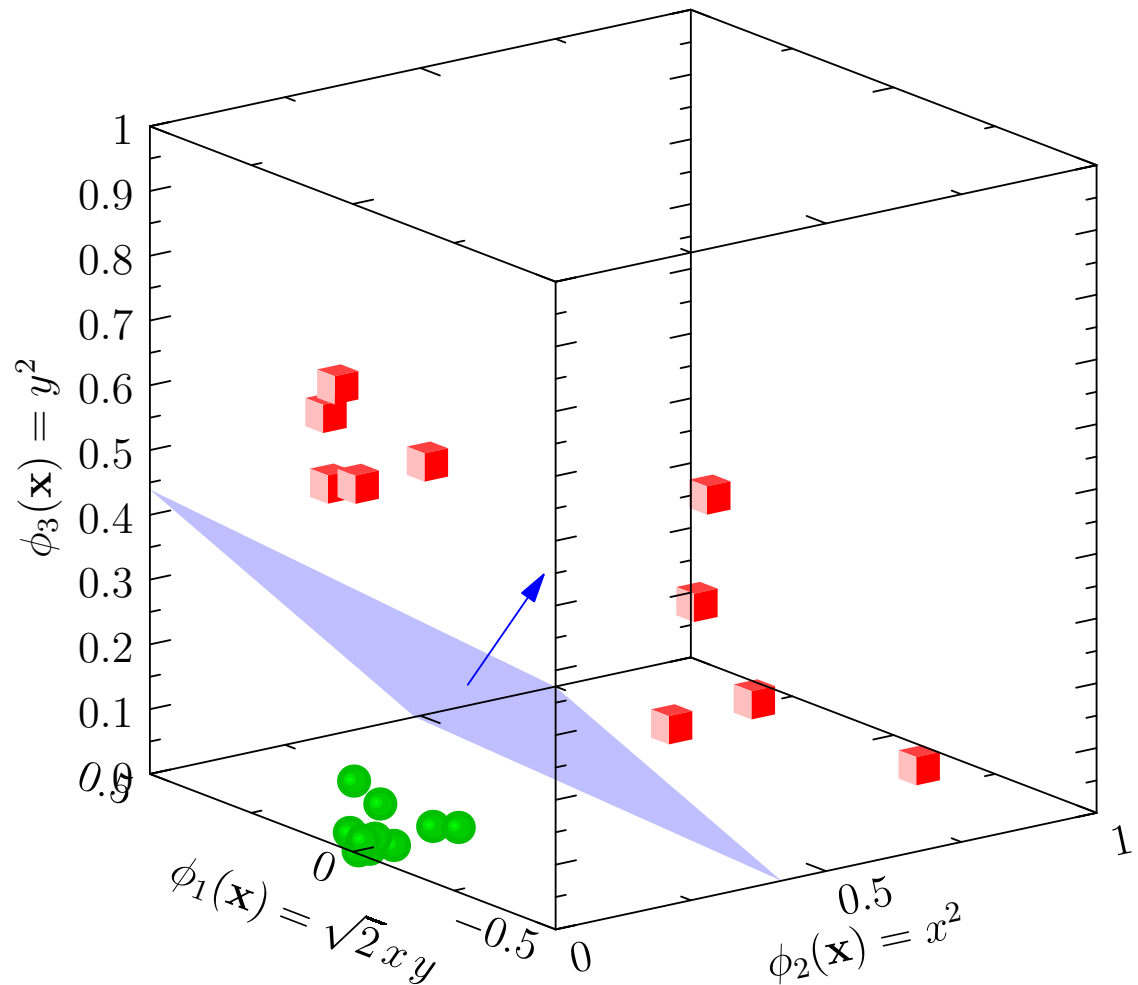
## *Kernel Trick*



*The Kernel Trick, SVMs, Regression*

# Outline

1. **The Kernel Trick**
2. Positive  
Semi-Definite  
Kernels
3. Kernel Properties
4. Beyond  
Classification



# SVM Kernels

- SVM Kernels are functions of two variables that can be factorised

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \phi(\mathbf{x}), \phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle = \sum_i \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) \phi_i(\mathbf{y})$$

- where  $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = (\phi_1(\mathbf{x}), \phi_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots)^\top$  and  $\phi_i(\mathbf{x})$  are real valued functions of  $\mathbf{x}$
- $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  will be positive semi-definite (because it is an inner-product)
- Furthermore, any positive semi-definite function will factorise
- This factorisation is not always obvious (we return to this later)

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# Dual Form

- Recall that the dual problem for an SVM is

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l=1}^m \alpha_k \alpha_l y_k y_l \langle \phi(\mathbf{x}_k), \phi(\mathbf{x}_l) \rangle$$

- subject to  $\sum_{k=1}^m y_k \alpha_k = 0$  and  $0 \leq \alpha_k (\leq C)$
- But since  $K(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}_l) = \langle \phi(\mathbf{x}_k), \phi(\mathbf{x}_l) \rangle$  the dual problem becomes

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- This is the **kernel trick**—we never have to compute  $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ !

# Classifying New Data

- Having trained the SVM we now have to use it
- Given a new input  $\mathbf{x}$  we decide on the class

$$y = \text{sgn}(\langle \mathbf{w}, \phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle - b) \quad \text{but} \quad \mathbf{w} = \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k y_k \phi(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

- In the dual representation this becomes

$$\text{sgn} \left( \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k y_k K(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}) - b \right)$$

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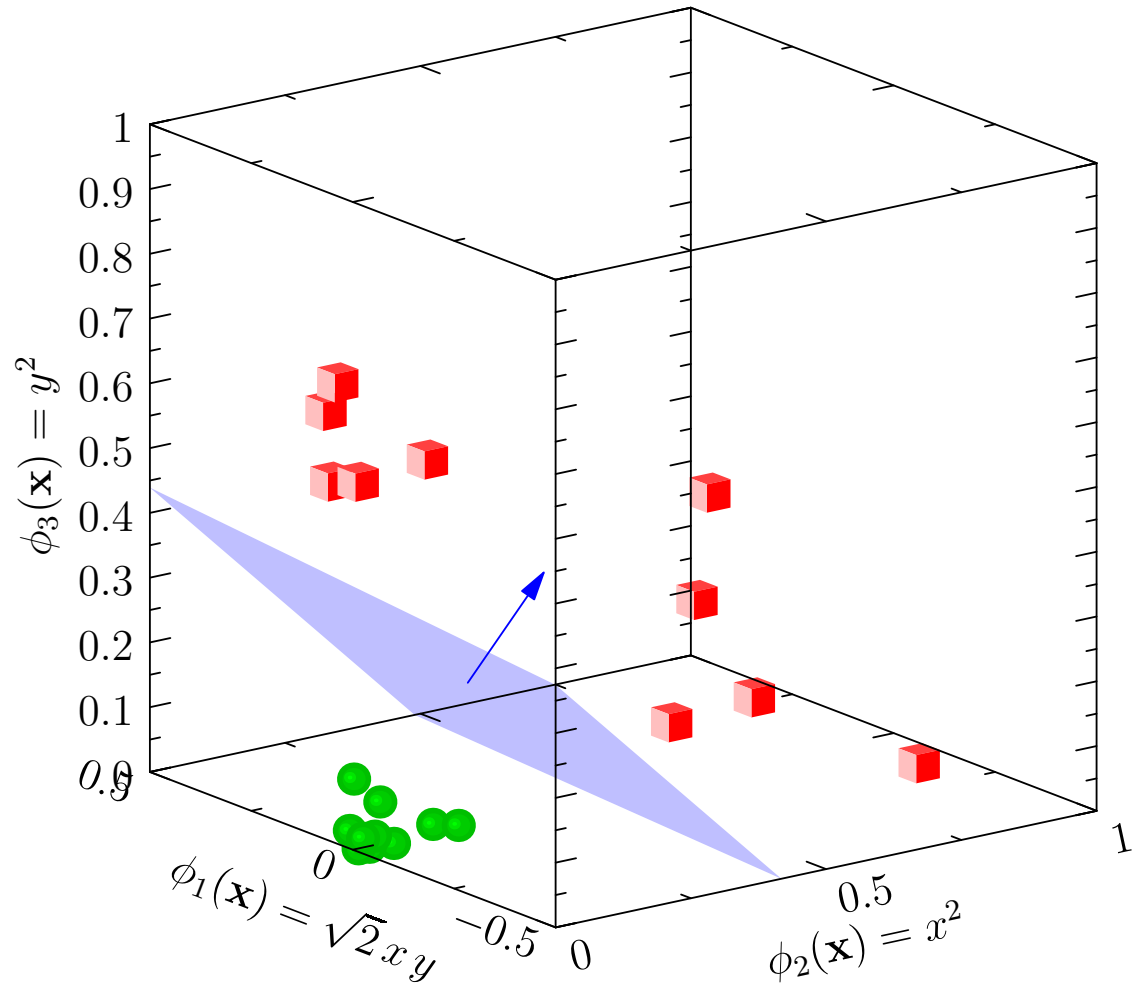
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# Recap on Eigen Systems

- Recall for a symmetric  $(n \times n)$  matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  an eigenvector,  $\mathbf{v}$

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$

- There are  $n$  independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}^{(i)}$  with real eigenvalues  $\lambda^{(i)}$
- The eigenvectors are orthogonal so that  $\mathbf{v}^{(i)\top}\mathbf{v}^{(j)} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$
- Forming a matrix of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{V} = (\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{(n)})$  the matrix satisfies

$$\mathbf{V}^\top\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}^\top = \mathbf{I}$$

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# Eigen Decomposition

- From the eigenvalue equation  $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}^{(k)} = \lambda^{(k)}\mathbf{v}^{(k)}$

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

- Multiplying on the right by  $\mathbf{V}^\top$  we get

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Or

$$M_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda^{(k)} v_i^{(k)} v_j^{(k)}$$

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$$u_i^{(k)} = \sqrt{\lambda^{(k)}} v_i^{(k)}$$



# Eigenfunctions

- By analogy for a symmetric function of two variables we can define an *eigenfunction*

$$\int K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \psi(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} = \lambda \psi(\mathbf{x})$$

- In general there will be a denumerable set of eigenfunctions  $\psi^{(k)}(\mathbf{x})$  where

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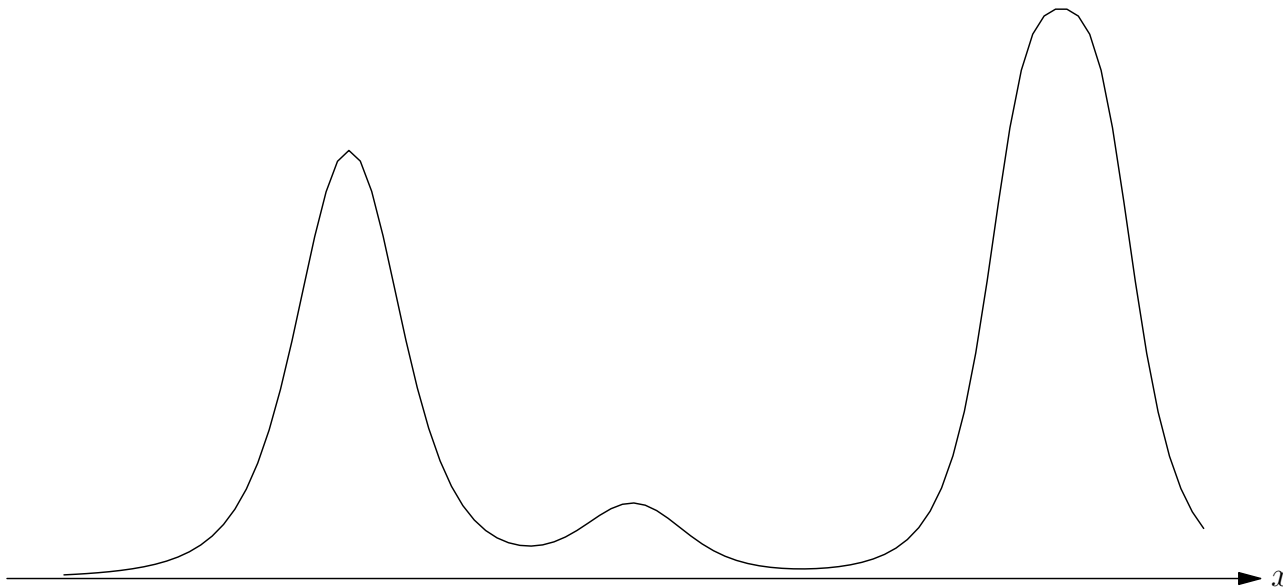
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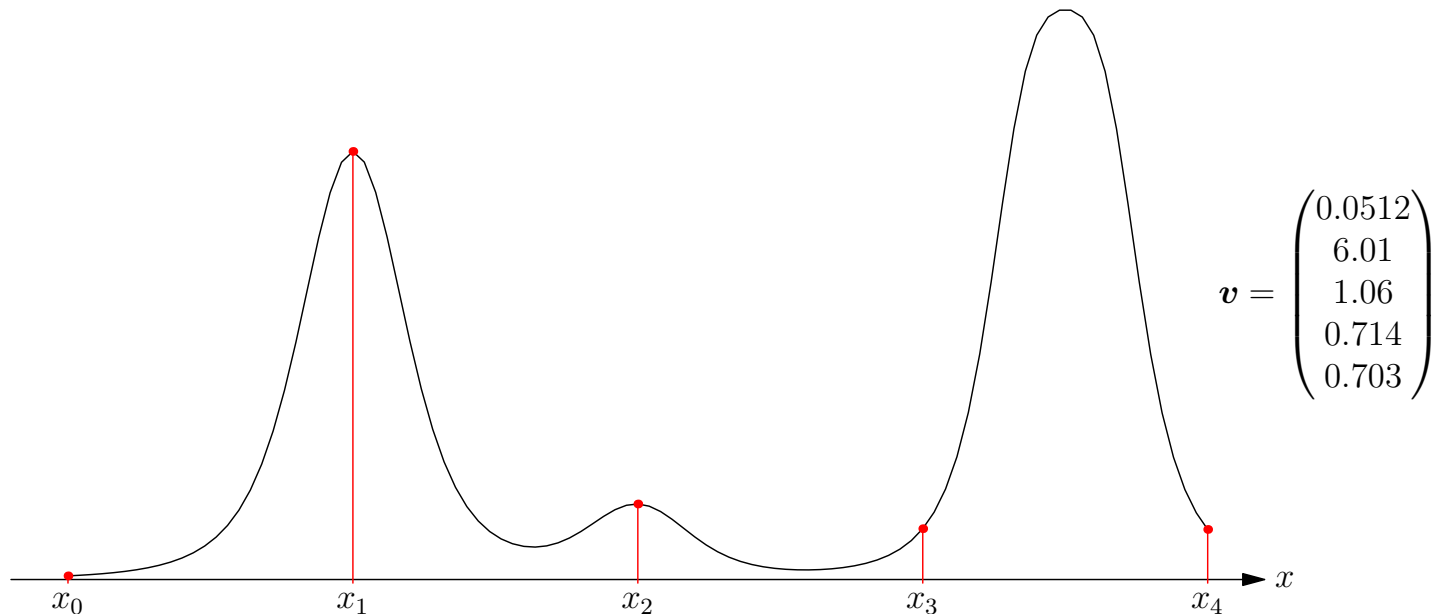
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- In the limit where the number of sample points goes to infinity the vector more closely approximates a function
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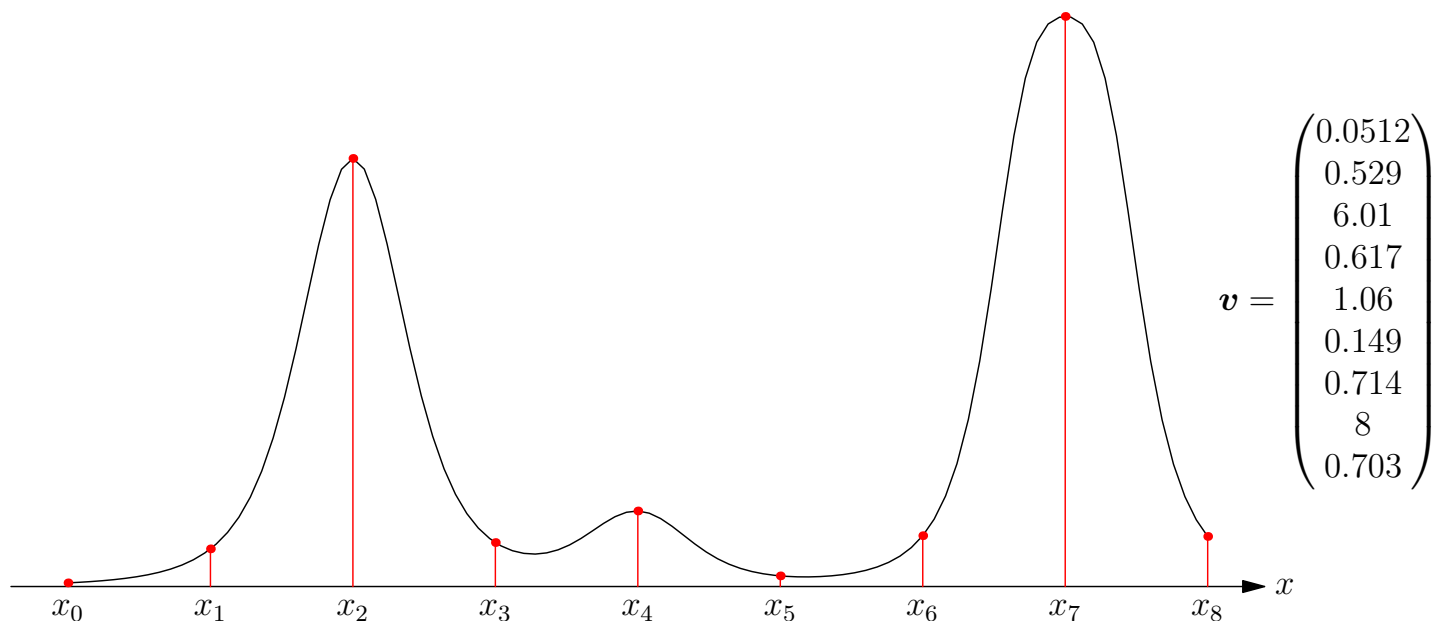
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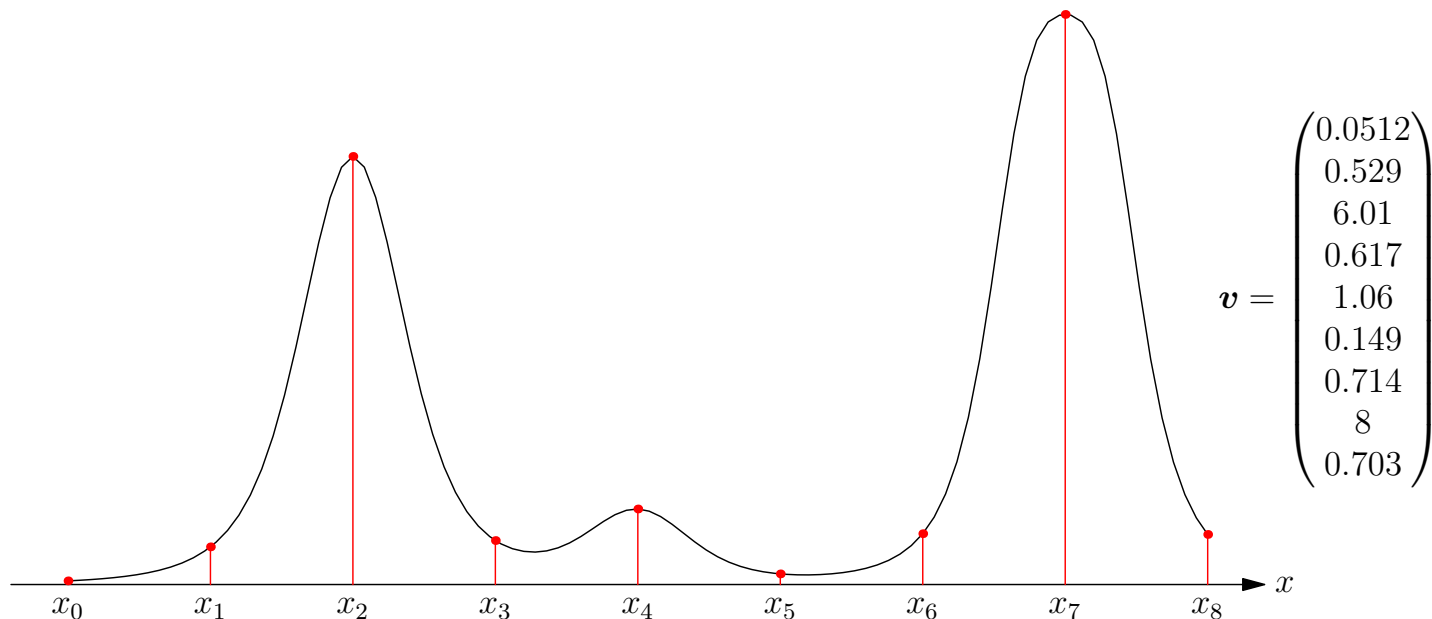
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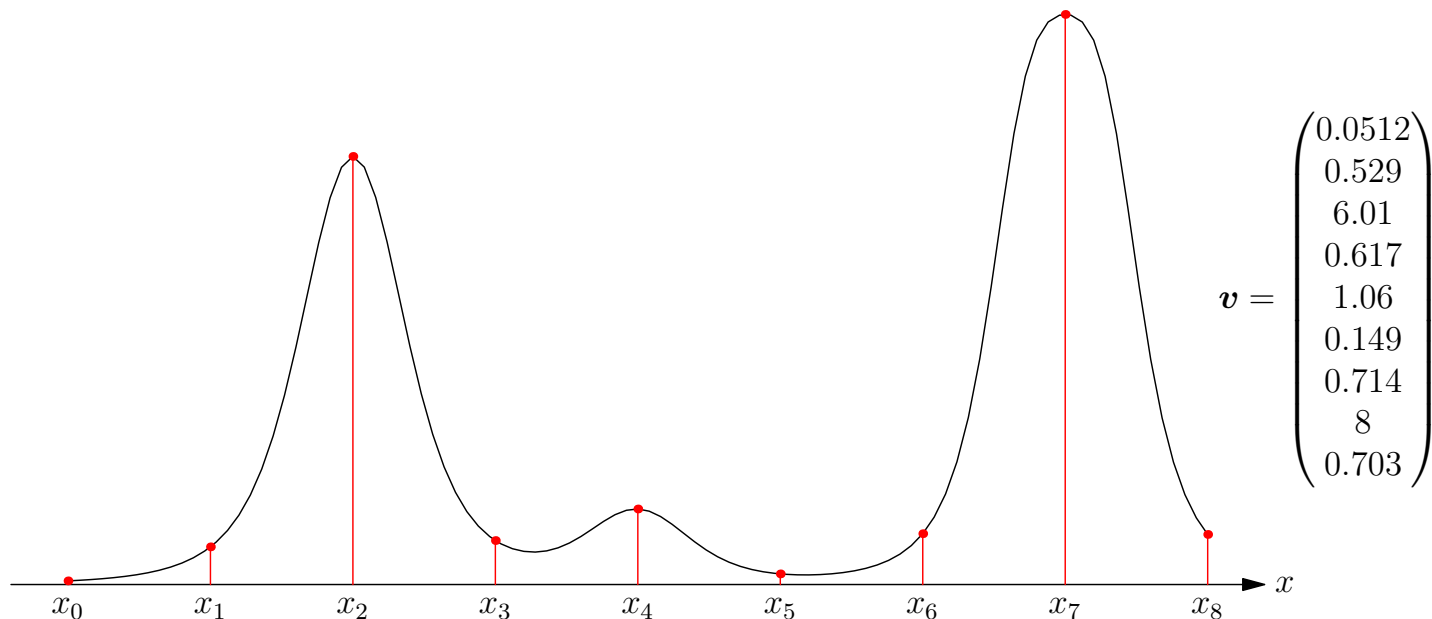
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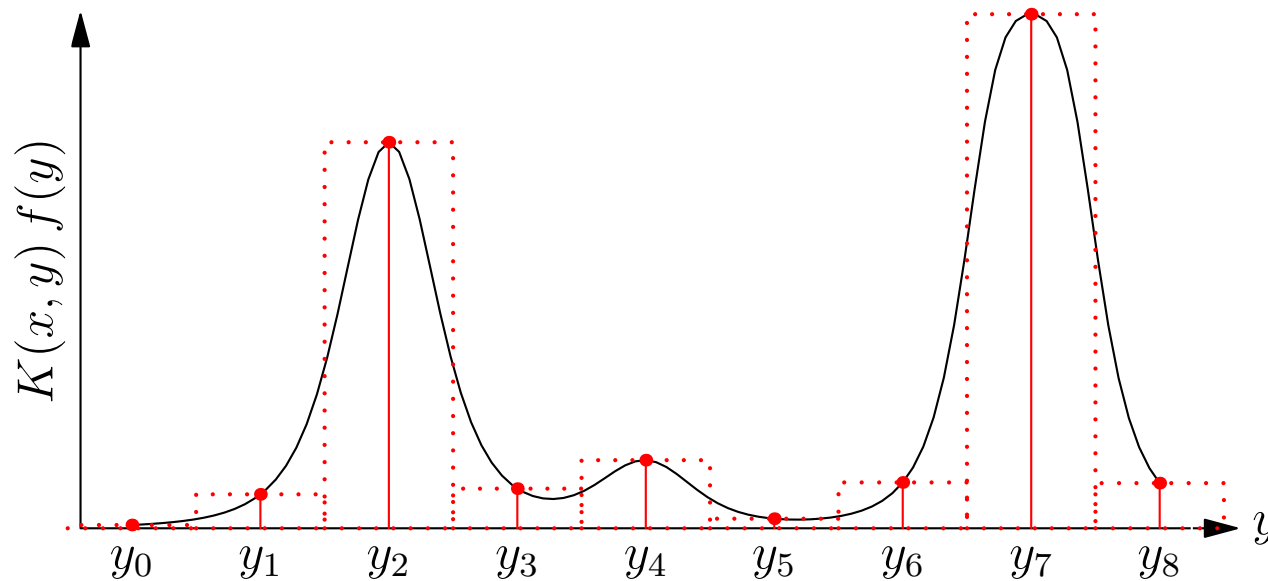
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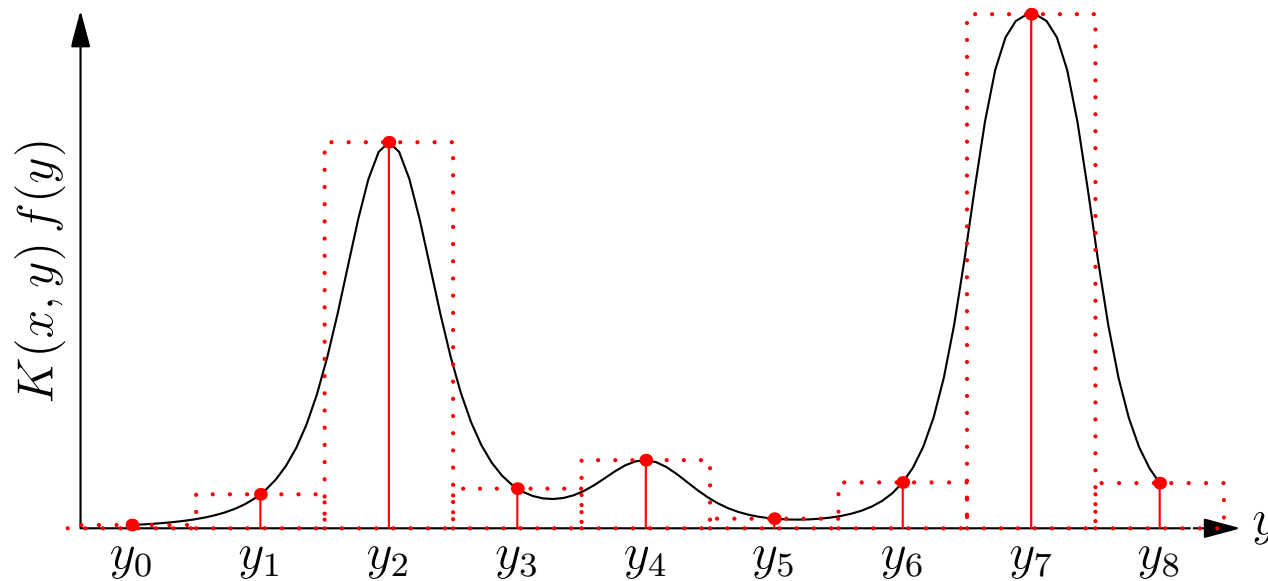


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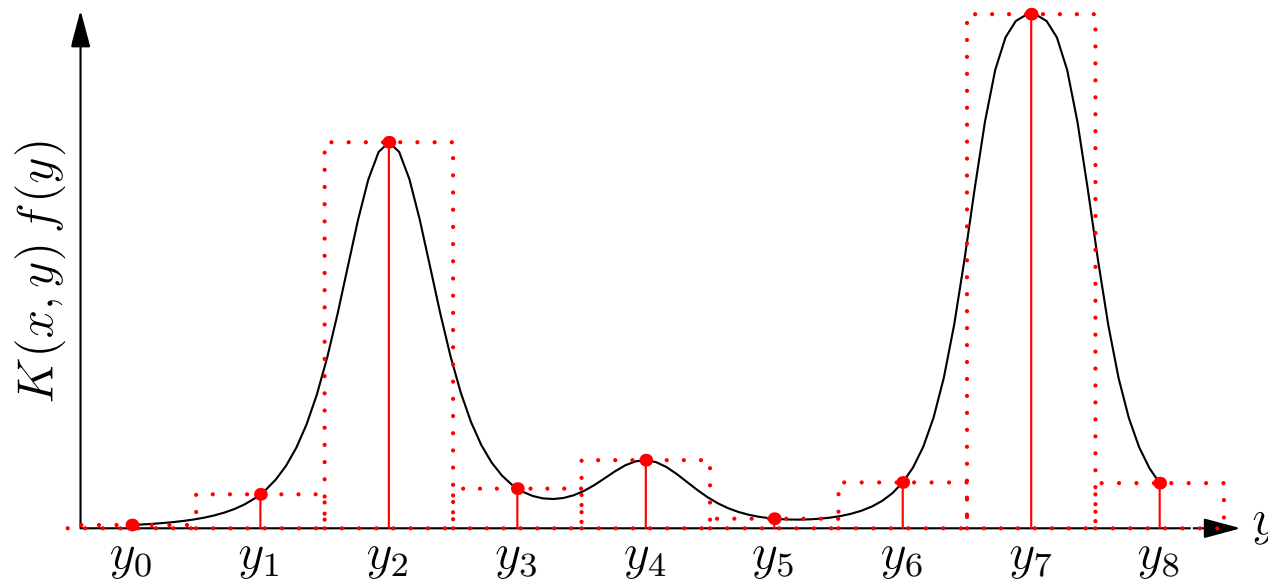


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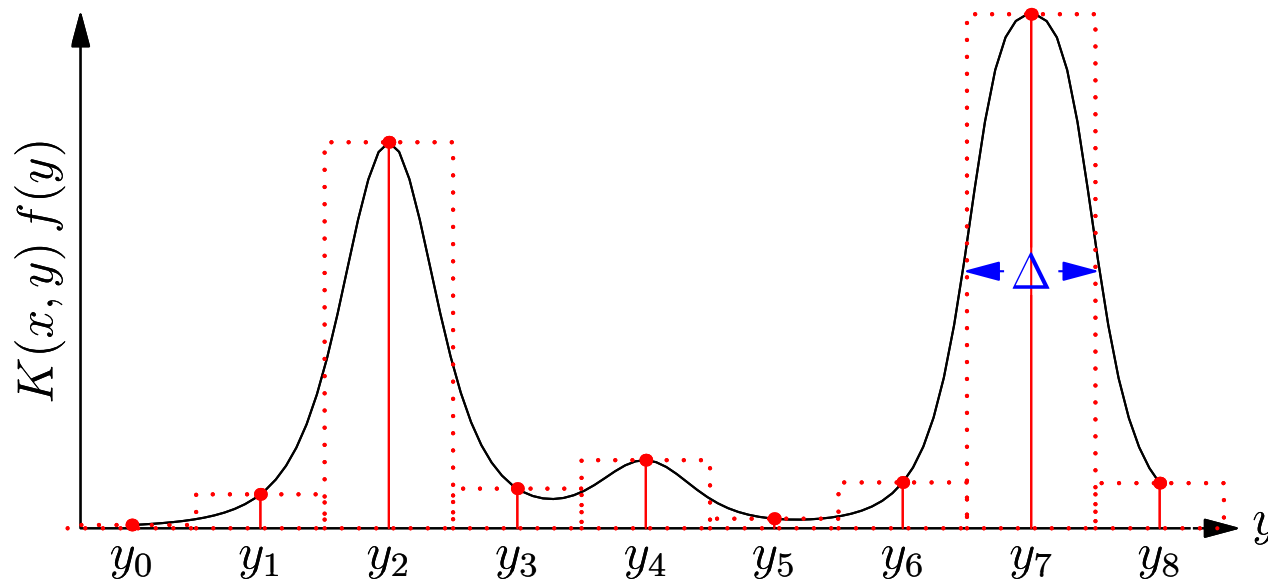


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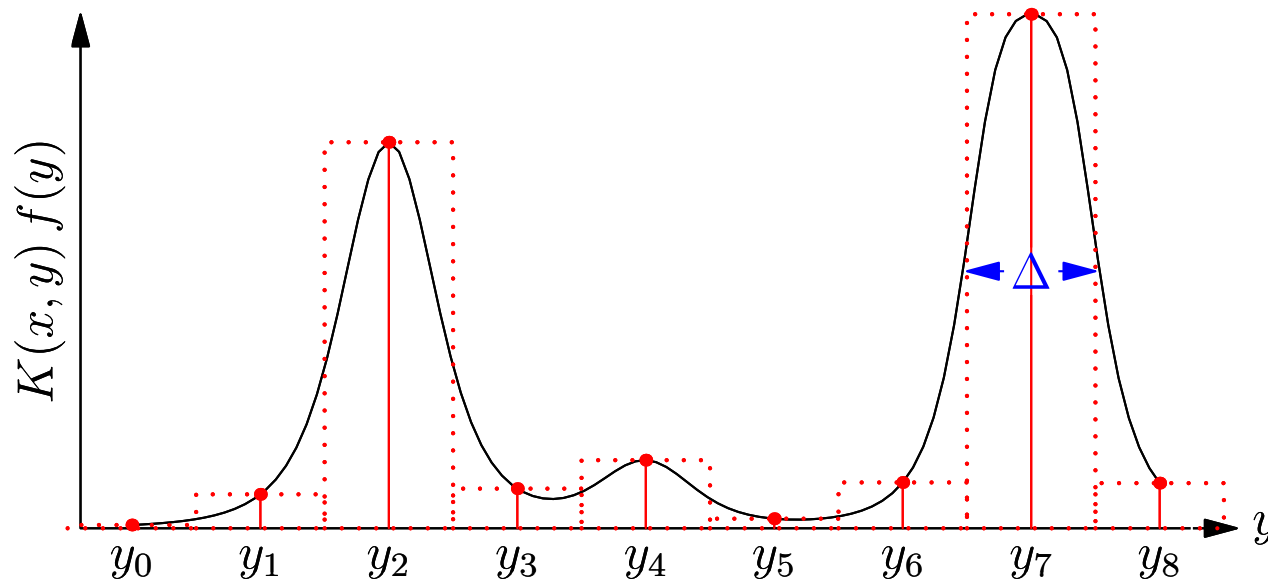


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- If we use a kernel that isn’t positive semi-definite then the Hessian of the dual objective function will not be negative semi-definite and there will be a maximum where  $\alpha$  diverges

# SVM Kernels

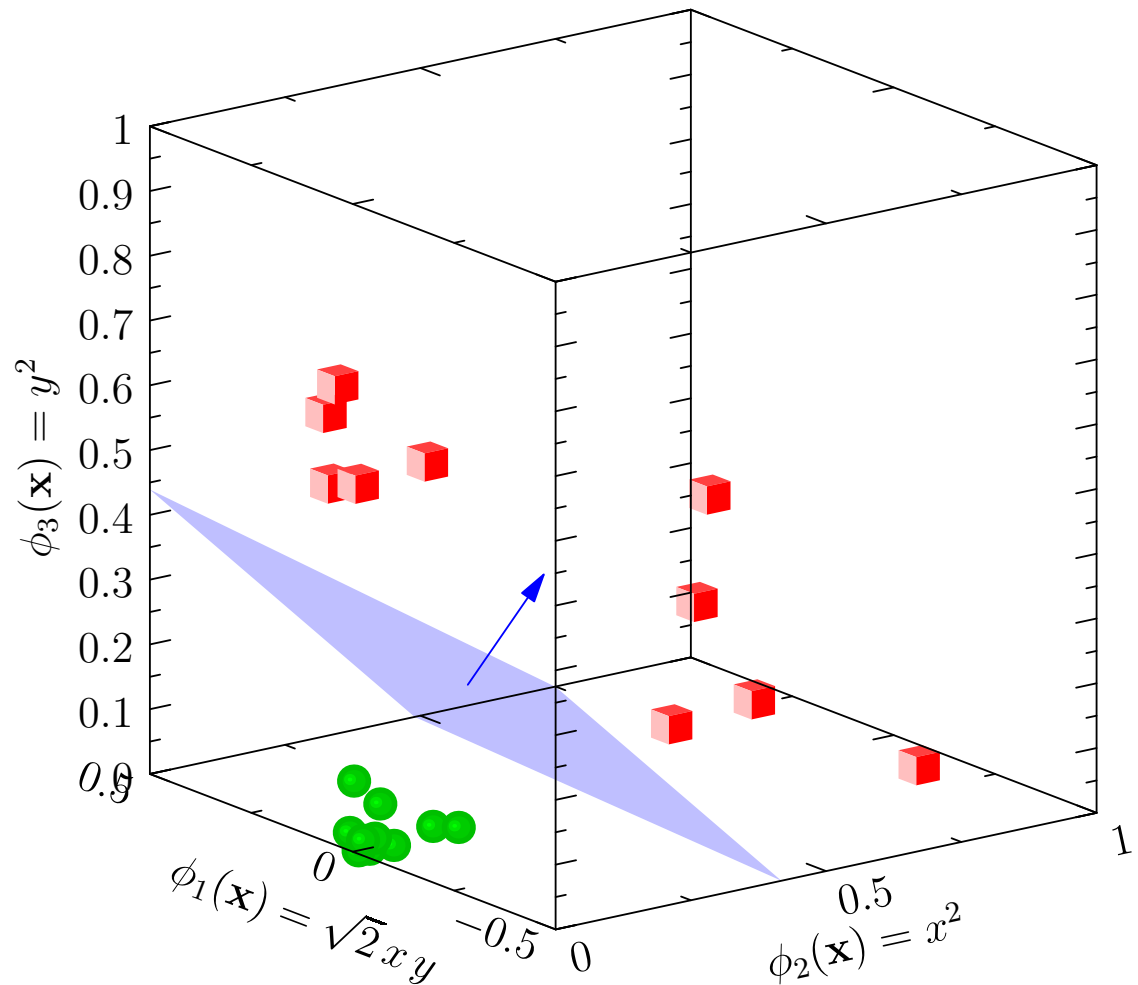
- If we define  $\phi^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{\lambda^{(k)}}\psi^{(k)}(\mathbf{x})$  then

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_k \lambda^{(k)} \psi^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) \psi^{(k)}(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_k \phi^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) \phi^{(k)}(\mathbf{y})$$

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# Outline

1. The Kernel Trick
2. Positive Semi-Definite Kernels
3. **Kernel Properties**
4. Beyond Classification



# Positive Semi-Definite Kernels

- Kernels (or matrices) that have eigenvalues  $\lambda^{(k)} \geq 0$  are called positive semi-definite
- (If the eigenvalues are strictly positive  $\lambda^{(k)} > 0$  the kernels or matrices are called positive definite)
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- We can construct SVM kernels from other kernels
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- If  $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is a valid kernel so is  $K^n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  (by induction)
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- Now  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  is a valid kernel because it is an inner product of functions  $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$
- For  $\gamma > 0$  we have  $2\gamma \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} \succeq 0$
- Thus  $\exp(2\gamma \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y}) \succeq 0$
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# Spectrum Kernel

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- This is known as a  $p$ -spectrum
- A  $p$ -spectrum kernel counts the number of common substrings

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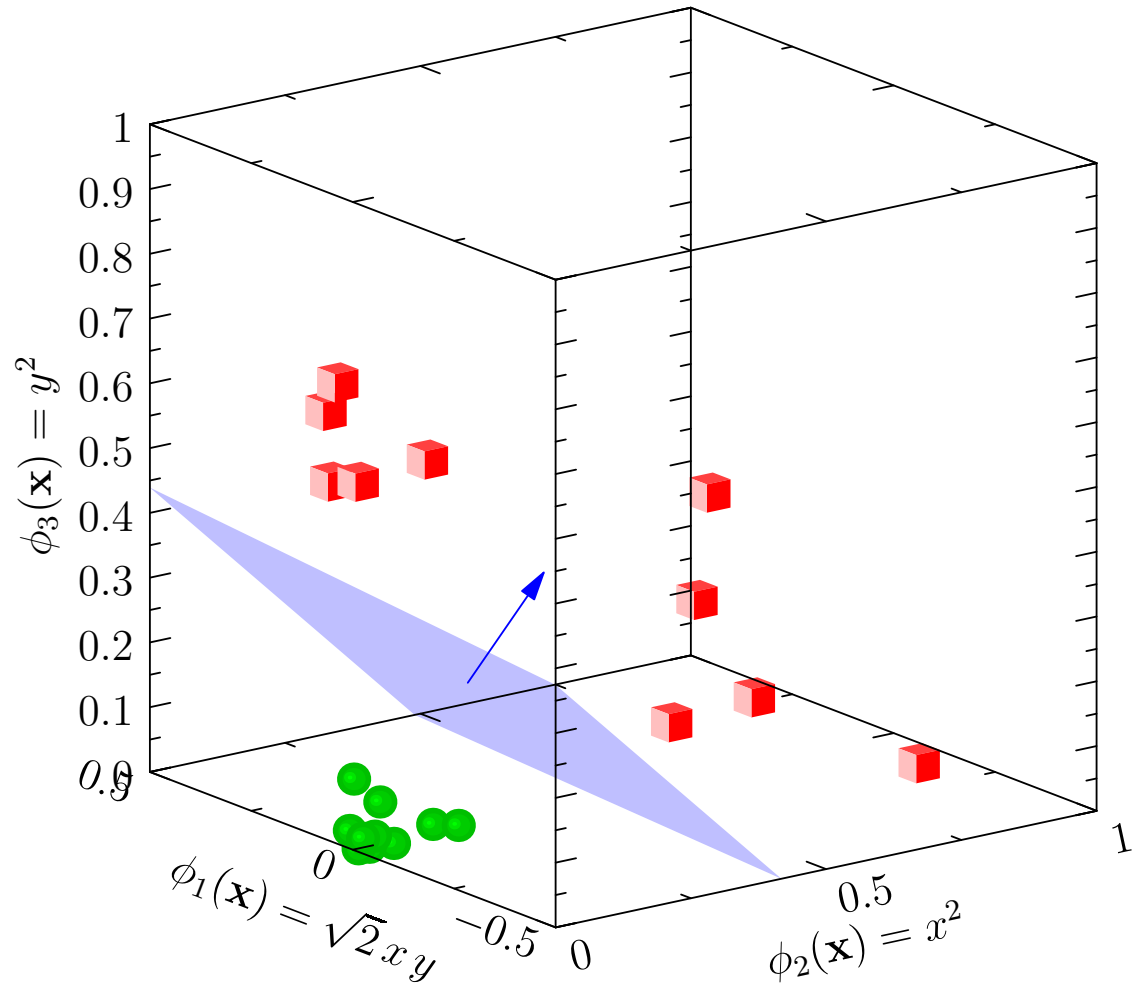


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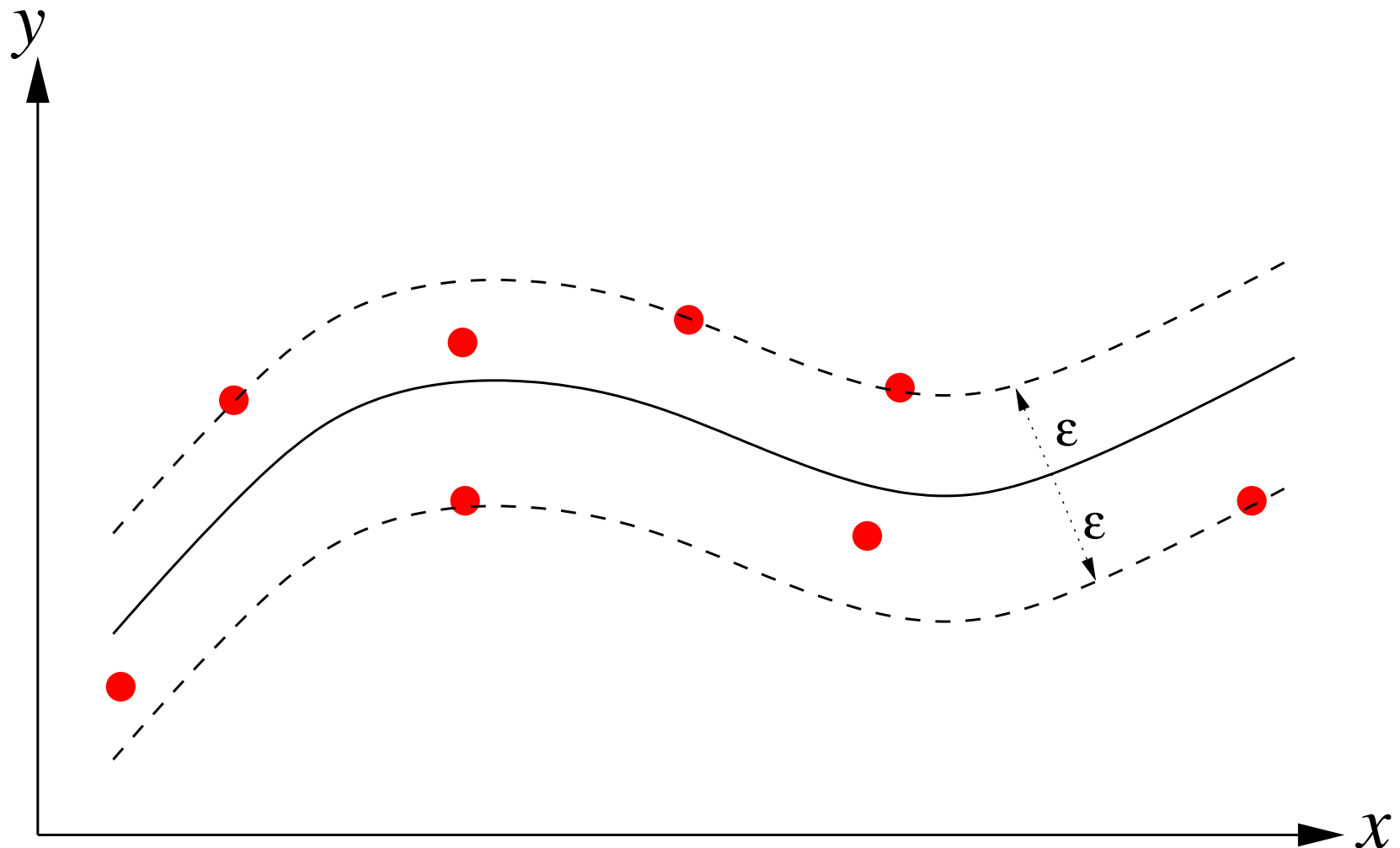
# Outline

1. The Kernel Trick
2. Positive Semi-Definite Kernels
3. Kernel Properties
4. **Beyond Classification**



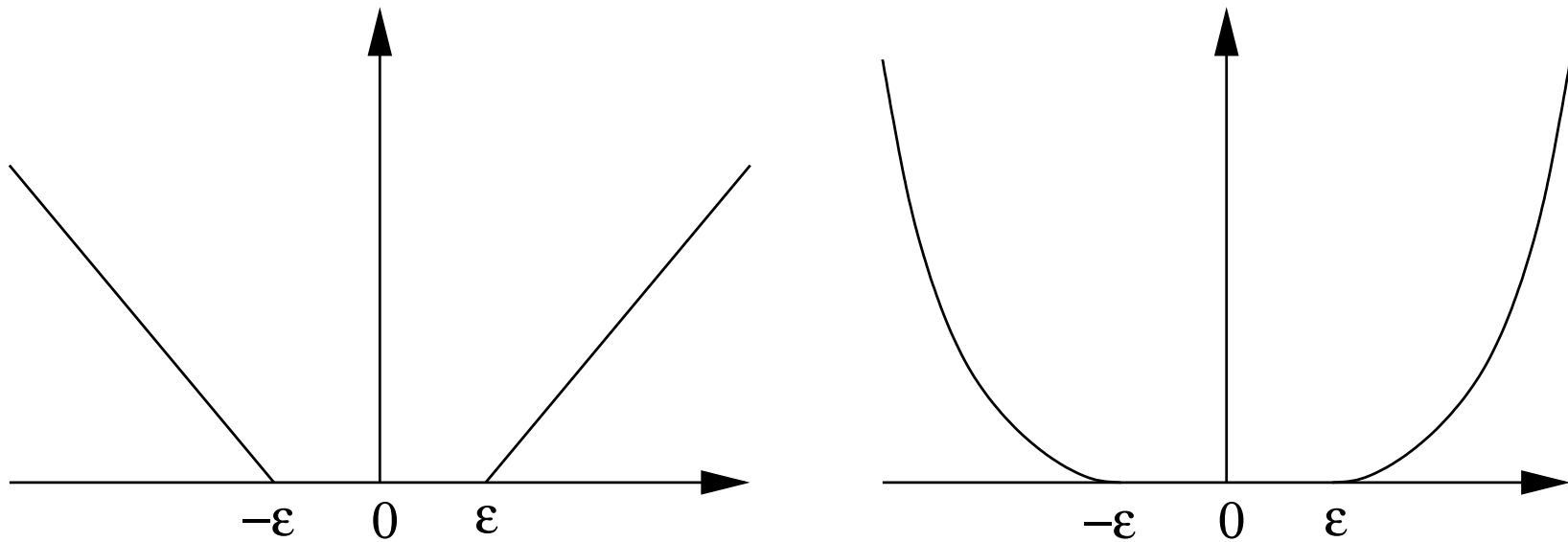
# Regression with Margins

- SVMs can be modified to perform regression



# Error Functions

- Can introduce slack variables with different errors



- This can be transformed to a quadratic programming problem

# Ridge Regression Using Kernels

- We can also solve regression problems without using margins
- To solve a regression problem once again the problem is set up as a quadratic programming problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \phi(\mathbf{x}_i))^2$$

- the  $\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$  is a regularisation term
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