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Assignment 6

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Exercise 2

- d.) A support vector is a vector, whose Lagrangian multipliers are non-zero. In the case of a hard-margin SVM the support vectors lie on the margin. In the case of a soft-margin SVM the support vectors can lie either on the margin, inside the margin or on the wrong side of the hyperplane.

Exercise 3

- a.) The primal problem is: minimize $_{x \in \mathbb{R}}$ $f(x) = x^4 - 10x^2 + x$ subject to $g(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3 \leq 0$. The feasible set of this problem can be computed by trying out. One can see that for $x \in [-1, 3]$, $g(x)$ stays ≤ 0 , since for $x = -2$, $g(x) = 5$ and for $x = 4$, $g(x) = 5$, too, which is both > 0 .

To solve the primal, one has to compute: $\frac{\delta f(x)}{\delta x} = 4x^3 - 20x + 1 \stackrel{!}{=} 0$. We solved this using WolframAlpha and got the following results:

- b.) The Lagrangian to this problem is:

$L(x, \alpha) = f(x) + \alpha g(x) = x^4 - 10x^2 + x + \alpha x^2 - 2\alpha x - 3\alpha$. The derivative with respect to x is: $\frac{\delta L(x, \alpha)}{\delta x} = x^3 - 20x + 1 + 2\alpha - 2\alpha = x^3 - 20x + 1$.

The dual function can be computed by: $h(\alpha) = \inf_x L(x, \alpha) = \inf_x x^4 - 10x^2 + x + \alpha x^2 - 2\alpha x - 3\alpha$. We know from the exercise that the dual function $h(\alpha)$ is optimal for $\alpha = 0.5$. Therefore we can calculate the optimal solution of the dual function:

$h(\alpha) = h(0.5) = \inf_x x^4 - 10x^2 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x - \frac{3}{2} = x^4 - \frac{19}{2}x^2 - \frac{3}{2}$. To get the value of the infimum, we have to set the derivative of $h(0.5)$ to zero:

$$\frac{\delta h(0.5)}{\delta x} = 4x^3 - 19x \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \Leftrightarrow 4x^3 = 19x \Leftrightarrow x^2 = \frac{19}{4} \Leftrightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{19}{4}}.$$