

Neural Networks and Learning Systems  
TBMI 26, 2017

Lecture 2  
Supervised learning –  
Linear classification

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Gartner Hype Cycle 2016



What is the hype about?

Autonomous driving



Speech recognition



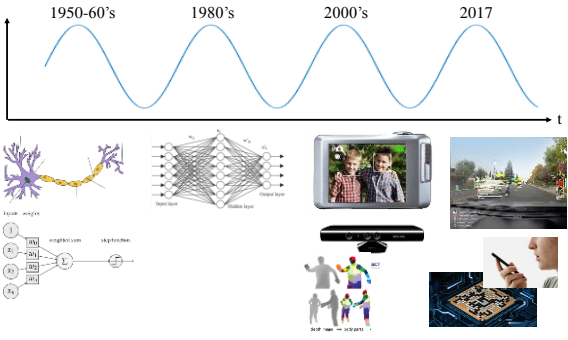
Automatic image tagging



AlphaGo



A history of hypes



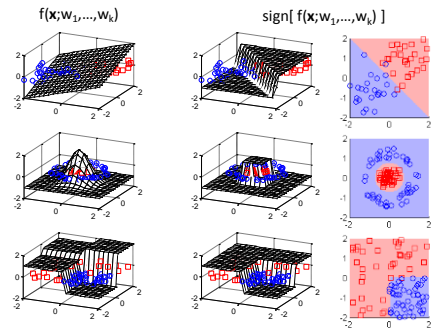
## Recap - Supervised learning

- **Task:** Learn to predict/classify new data from labeled examples.
- **Input:** Training data examples  $\{\mathbf{x}_i, y_i\}$   $i=1\dots N$ , where  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a feature vector and  $y_i$  is a class label in the set  $\Omega$ . Today we'll assume two classes:  $\Omega = \{-1, 1\}$
- **Output:** A function  $\text{sign}[f(\mathbf{x}; w_1, \dots, w_k)] \rightarrow \Omega$

Find a function  $f$  and adjust the parameters  $w_1, \dots, w_k$  so that new feature vectors are classified correctly. Generalization!

5

## The function $f(\mathbf{x}; w_1, \dots, w_k)$



6

## Advantages of a parametric function $f(\mathbf{x}; w_1, \dots, w_k)$

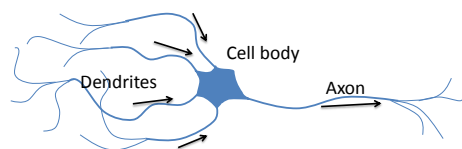
- Only stores a few parameters ( $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_n$ ) instead of all the training samples, as in k-NN.
- Fast to evaluate on which side of the line a new sample is on, for example  $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0$  or  $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} > 0$  for a linear function.

7

## How does the brain take decisions?

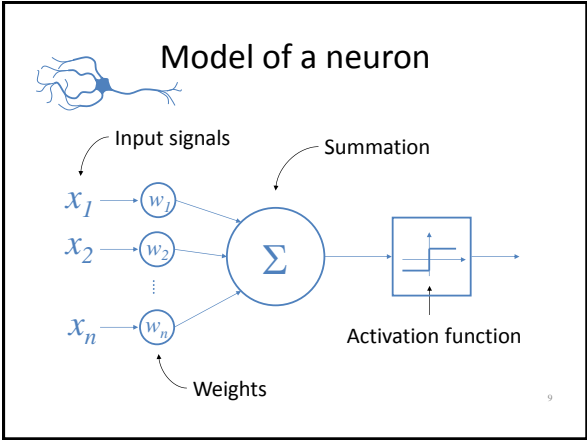
(on the low level!)

- Basic unit: the neuron



- The human brain has approximately 100 billion ( $10^{11}$ ) neurons.
- Each neuron connected to about 7000 other neurons.
- Approx.  $10^{14}$  -  $10^{15}$  synapses (connections).

8



### The Perceptron

(McCulloch & Pitts 1943, Rosenblatt 1962)

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n; w_0, \dots, w_n) = \sigma\left(w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i\right) = \sigma(w_0 + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$

Extra reading on the history of the perceptron:  
<http://www.csulb.edu/~cwallis/artificial/History.htm>

10

### Notational simplification: Bias weight

Add a constant 1 to the feature vector so that we don't have to treat  $w_0$  separately.

Instead of  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T$ , we have  $\mathbf{x} = [1, x_1, \dots, x_n]^T$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n; w_0, \dots, w_n) = \sigma\left(\sum_{i=0}^n w_i x_i\right) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$

11

### Geometry of linear classifiers

$f = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 = 0$

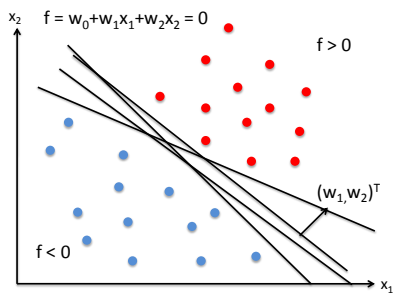
$f > 0$

$f < 0$

$(w_1, w_2)^T$

12

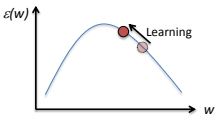
Which linear classifier to choose?



13

Find the best separator – optimization!

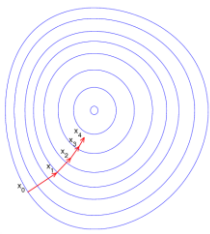
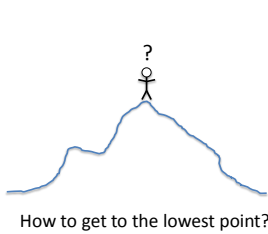
- Min/max of a cost function  $\varepsilon(w_0, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  with the weights  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_n$  as parameters.



- Ways to optimize:
  - Algebraic: Set derivative  $\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial w_i} = 0$  and solve.
  - Iterative numeric: Follow the gradient direction until minimum/maximum of  $\varepsilon$  is reached.
  - Brute force: Try many values systematically and choose the best.

14

Gradient descent/ascent



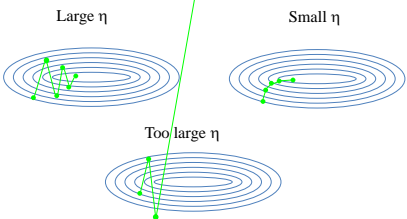
$$\nabla \varepsilon = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial w_1} \\ \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial w_2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{w}^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^{(t)} \pm \eta \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \Big|_{\mathbf{w}^{(t)}}$$

15

Gradient descent

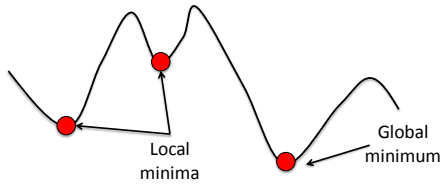
Choosing the step length



16

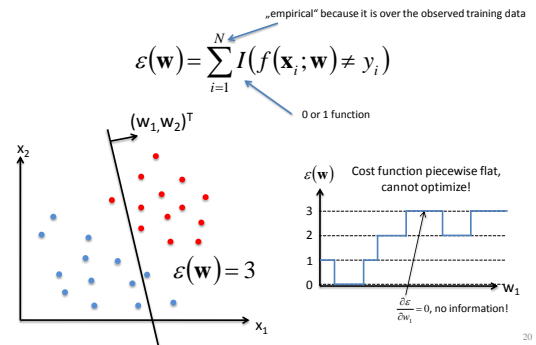
### Local optima

- Gradient search is not guaranteed to find the global minimum/maximum.
- With a sufficiently small step length, the closest local optimum will be found.



18

### 0-1 loss function / empirical risk



20

### Many different cost functions $\varepsilon(\mathbf{w})$

- 0-1 loss function / empirical risk
- Square error  $\rightarrow$  Neural networks
- Maximum margin  $\rightarrow$  Support Vector Machines

21

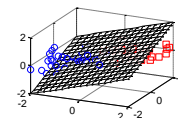
### Square error cost

Minimize the following cost function

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i - y_i)^2$$

$N = \#$  training samples

$y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$  depending on the class of training sample  $i$



22

Minimization algorithm

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i - y_i)^2$$
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i - y_i) \mathbf{x}_i \quad \leftarrow \text{Exercise!}$$

Gradient descent:

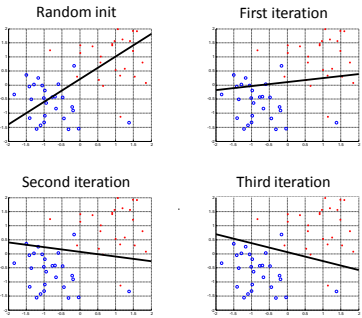
$$\mathbf{w}_{t+1} = \mathbf{w}_t - \eta \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{w}_t - \eta \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{w}_t^T \mathbf{x}_i - y_i) \mathbf{x}_i \quad (\text{Eq.1})$$

Algorithm:

- 1. Start with a random  $\mathbf{w}$
- 2. Iterate Eq. 1 until convergence

23

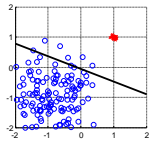
Example



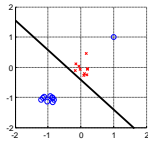
24

More examples

Unevenly distributed training data



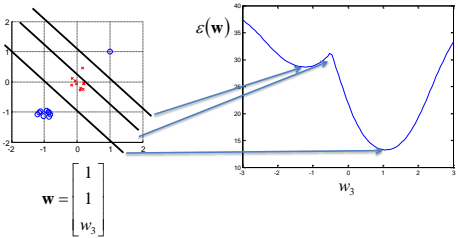
Outlier



$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i - y_i)^2$$

25

Example of local minima

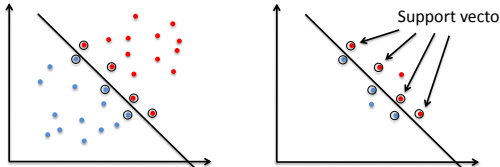


$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

26

### Support Vector Machines (SVM)

Idea!

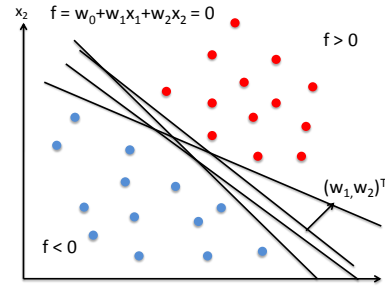


Optimal separation line remains the same, feature points close to the class limits are more important!

These are called *support vectors*!

27

### Which linear classifier to choose?



$f = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 = 0$

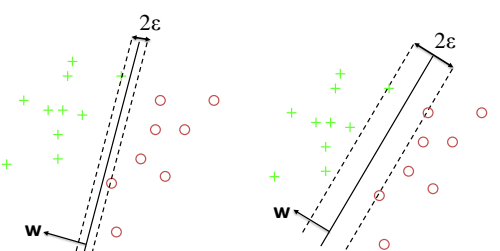
$f > 0$

$f < 0$

$(w_1, w_2)^T$

28

### SVM – Maximum margin

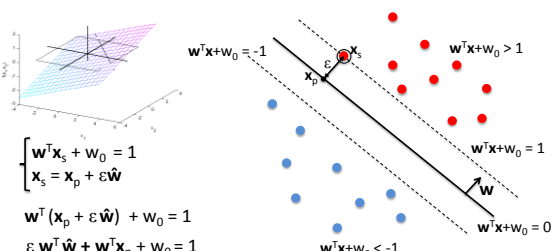


Choose  $\mathbf{w}$  that gives maximum margin  $\epsilon$ !

29

### SVM – Cost function

Scaling of  $\mathbf{w}$  is free – Pick arbitrary sample  $\mathbf{x}_s$  as support vector and choose scaling so that  $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_s + w_0 = 1$ !



$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_s + w_0 = 1$

$\mathbf{x}_s = \mathbf{x}_p + \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{w}}$

$\mathbf{w}^T (\mathbf{x}_p + \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{w}}) + w_0 = 1$

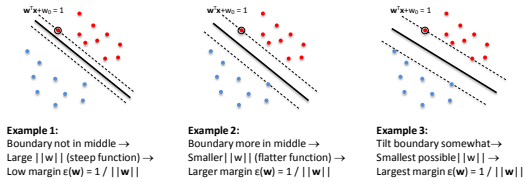
$\epsilon \underbrace{\mathbf{w}^T \hat{\mathbf{w}} + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_p + w_0}_{= 0} = 1$

$\|\mathbf{w}\| \hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \hat{\mathbf{w}} = \|\mathbf{w}\|$

For the chosen support vector,  $\epsilon(\mathbf{w}) = 1 / \|\mathbf{w}\|$

30

SVM cost function examples



Choosing another training sample as reference support vector can give an even larger margin!

31

SVM – Cost function, cont.

Maximizing  $\varepsilon = 1 / \|\mathbf{w}\|$  is the same as minimizing  $\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$ !

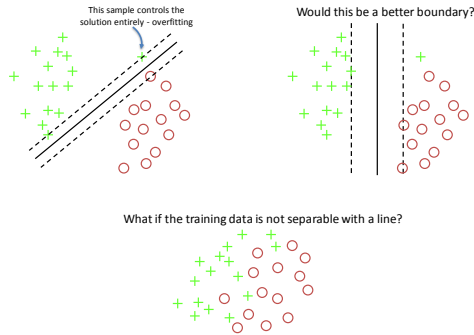
$$\min \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$
$$\text{subject to } y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) \geq 1$$

No training samples must reside in the margin region!

Optimization procedure outside the scope of this course...

32

SVM – Soft margin



33

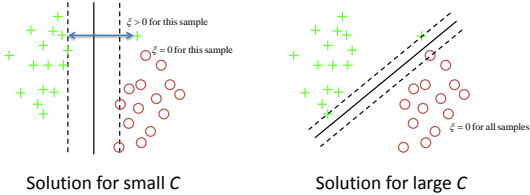
SVM – Soft margin, cont.

$$\min \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum \xi_i$$

user-defined trade-off parameter

$$\text{subject to } y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) \geq 1 - \xi_i$$

slack variable



34



### SVM – Choosing C

Solve the optimization problem with different C's and choose the solution with highest accuracy according to cross-validation procedure.

$$C = 2^{-5}, 2^{-3}, \dots, 2^{15}$$

Training data	Training data	Test data
Training data	Test data	Training data
Test data	Training data	Training data

Practical guide:  
<http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/papers/guide/guide.pdf>

35

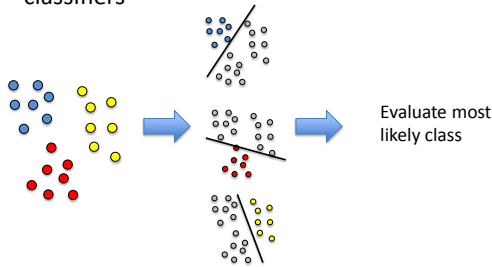
### Summary – Linear classifiers

- **Different cost functions give different algorithms**
- **Square error cost**
  - Sensitive to outliers and training data distribution when when applied as in this lecture.
  - Improvements possible (lecture 3).
  - Local minima.
- **Support Vector Machines (maximum margin cost)**
  - By many considered as the state-of-the-art classifier.
  - Non-linear extension possible (lecture 7).
  - Many software packages exist on the internet.
  - No local minima.
- **Fisher Linear Discriminant (Lecture 6)**
  - Simple to implement, very useful as a first classifier to try

36

### What about more than 2 classes?

- Common solution: Combine several binary classifiers



37