

UE23CS352A: MACHINE LEARNING

Week 6: SVM

Project Title- SVM Implimentation

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Date-11/10/2025

Analysis Questions

. Moons Dataset Questions (2 questions):

1. Inferences about the Linear Kernel's performance.

Based on the metrics and visualizations, the Linear Kernel shows several key characteristics:

- Lower accuracy compared to RBF and Polynomial kernels because the Moons dataset is inherently non-linear
- Straight-line decision boundary that cannot capture the curved, interlocking moon shapes effectively
- Higher misclassification rate in the overlapping regions where the two moons intersect
- Limited flexibility - Linear kernels are designed for linearly separable data, making them unsuitable for this complex geometric pattern
- The linear boundary essentially tries to draw a straight line through curved data, resulting in many points being misclassified

2. Comparison between RBF and Polynomial kernel decision boundaries.

Comparing the decision boundaries:

- RBF (Radial Basis Function) Kernel typically performs better and captures the moon shapes more naturally because:
 - Creates smooth, circular/curved boundaries that follow the data distribution
 - Better handles the non-linear, curved nature of the interlocking moons
 - More flexible in creating complex decision boundaries

- Generally provides higher accuracy and better generalization
- Polynomial Kernel may show:
 - More rigid, polynomial-shaped boundaries
 - Potentially more complex but less smooth decision boundaries
 - May be more prone to overfitting depending on the degree parameter
 - Can create curved boundaries but may not be as naturally suited to the circular moon patterns as RBF

Conclusion: The RBF kernel typically captures the shape of the Moons data more naturally due to its ability to create smooth, curved boundaries that better match the circular/curved nature of the half-moon patterns.

. Banknote Dataset Questions (2 questions):

1. Which kernel was most effective for this dataset?
 - Linear excels here:
 - Real-world financial data often has linear relationships between features
 - Simpler decision boundaries are sufficient for this type of classification
 - Better generalization to new banknote samples
 - Faster training and prediction times
2. Why might the Polynomial kernel have underperformed here?

Data Distribution Mismatch:

- Banknote data is more **linearly separable** and doesn't require complex polynomial curves
- Polynomial kernels are designed for data with **polynomial relationships**, which may not exist in this financial dataset
- The **variance vs skewness** features likely have simpler relationships than polynomial functions

- Overfitting Issues:

- Polynomial kernels can **overfit** to training data when the underlying pattern is simpler

- Creates unnecessarily **complex decision boundaries** for linearly separable data
- **Higher degree polynomials** may capture noise rather than genuine patterns

- **Feature Characteristics:**

- Financial features (variance, skewness) typically have **linear or simple non-linear relationships**
- Unlike the curved moon shapes, banknote features don't require polynomial transformations
- **Simpler kernels** (linear/RBF) are more appropriate for this data type

- **Computational Complexity:**

- Polynomial kernels add **unnecessary complexity** without performance benefits
- May lead to **poor generalization** on new banknote samples

. Hard vs. Soft Margin Questions (4 questions):

1. Which margin (soft or hard) is wider?

The Soft Margin ($C=0.1$) produces a wider margin compared to the Hard Margin ($C=100$).

- Soft Margin ($C=0.1$):

- Creates a wider decision boundary with more space between the classes
- More tolerant of data points that fall within or cross the margin
- Prioritizes generalization over perfect classification of training data
- The margin bands are visibly wider in the visualization

- Hard Margin ($C=100$):

- Creates a narrower decision boundary that fits tightly around the data
- Less tolerant of misclassifications, trying to classify every point correctly
- Prioritizes training accuracy over generalization
- The margin bands appear much narrower or almost non-existent

2. Why does the soft margin model allow "mistakes"?

The Soft Margin SVM ($C=0.1$) allows some points inside the margin or on the wrong side because:

- **Primary Goal - Generalization:** The model prioritizes **better performance on unseen data** rather than perfect training accuracy
- **Noise Tolerance:** It recognizes that some data points might be **outliers or noise** and shouldn't dictate the entire decision boundary
- **Bias-Variance Tradeoff:** It accepts some **bias (training errors)** to reduce **variance (overfitting)**
- **Regularization Effect:** The low C value acts as **regularization**, preventing the model from becoming too complex
- **Real-world Robustness:** In practice, data often contains noise, and perfect separation may not be achievable or desirable

2. Which model is more likely to be overfitting and why?

The Hard Margin ($C=100$) is more likely to overfit to the training data.

Reasons for Hard Margin Overfitting:

- **High Sensitivity to Outliers:** Tries to classify every single training point correctly, including potential outliers
- **Complex Decision Boundaries:** Creates overly complex boundaries to accommodate all training points
- **Poor Generalization:** May perform well on training data but poorly on new, unseen data
- **Memorization vs Learning:** Tends to memorize training patterns rather than learn generalizable patterns

Soft Margin Advantages:

- **Better Generalization:** More likely to perform well on new data
- **Noise Resistance:** Less affected by outliers and noisy data points
- **Simpler Model:** Creates simpler, more robust decision boundaries

4. Which model would you trust more for new data and why?

For new, unseen data points, I would trust the Soft Margin ($C=0.1$) model more.

Reasons for Trusting Soft Margin:

- **Better Generalization:** Designed to perform well on unseen data rather than just training data
- **Noise Robustness:** Less likely to be misled by outliers in the training set
- **Stable Predictions:** More consistent performance across different datasets
- **Realistic Assumptions:** Acknowledges that perfect separation may not always be possible

. Moons Dataset (3 screenshots):

1. Classification Report for SVM with LINEAR Kernel with SRN

SVM with LINEAR Kernel PES2UG23CS394				
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.85	0.89	0.87	75
1	0.89	0.84	0.86	75
accuracy			0.87	150
macro avg	0.87	0.87	0.87	150
weighted avg	0.87	0.87	0.87	150

2. Classification Report for SVM with RBF Kernel with SRN

SVM with RBF Kernel PES2UG23CS394					
	precision	recall	f1-score	support	
0	0.95	1.00	0.97	75	
1	1.00	0.95	0.97	75	
accuracy			0.97	150	
macro avg	0.97	0.97	0.97	150	
weighted avg	0.97	0.97	0.97	150	

3. Classification Report for SVM with POLY Kernel with SRN

SVM with POLY Kernel PES2UG23CS394					
	precision	recall	f1-score	support	
0	0.85	0.95	0.89	75	
1	0.94	0.83	0.88	75	
accuracy			0.89	150	
macro avg	0.89	0.89	0.89	150	
weighted avg	0.89	0.89	0.89	150	

· Banknote Dataset (3 screenshots):

4. Classification Report for SVM with LINEAR Kernel

SVM with LINEAR Kernel PES2UG23CS394

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Forged	0.90	0.88	0.89	229
Genuine	0.86	0.88	0.87	183
accuracy			0.88	412
macro avg	0.88	0.88	0.88	412
weighted avg	0.88	0.88	0.88	412

5. Classification Report for SVM with RBF Kernel

SVM with RBF Kernel PES2UG23CS394

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Forged	0.96	0.91	0.94	229
Genuine	0.90	0.96	0.93	183
accuracy			0.93	412
macro avg	0.93	0.93	0.93	412
weighted avg	0.93	0.93	0.93	412

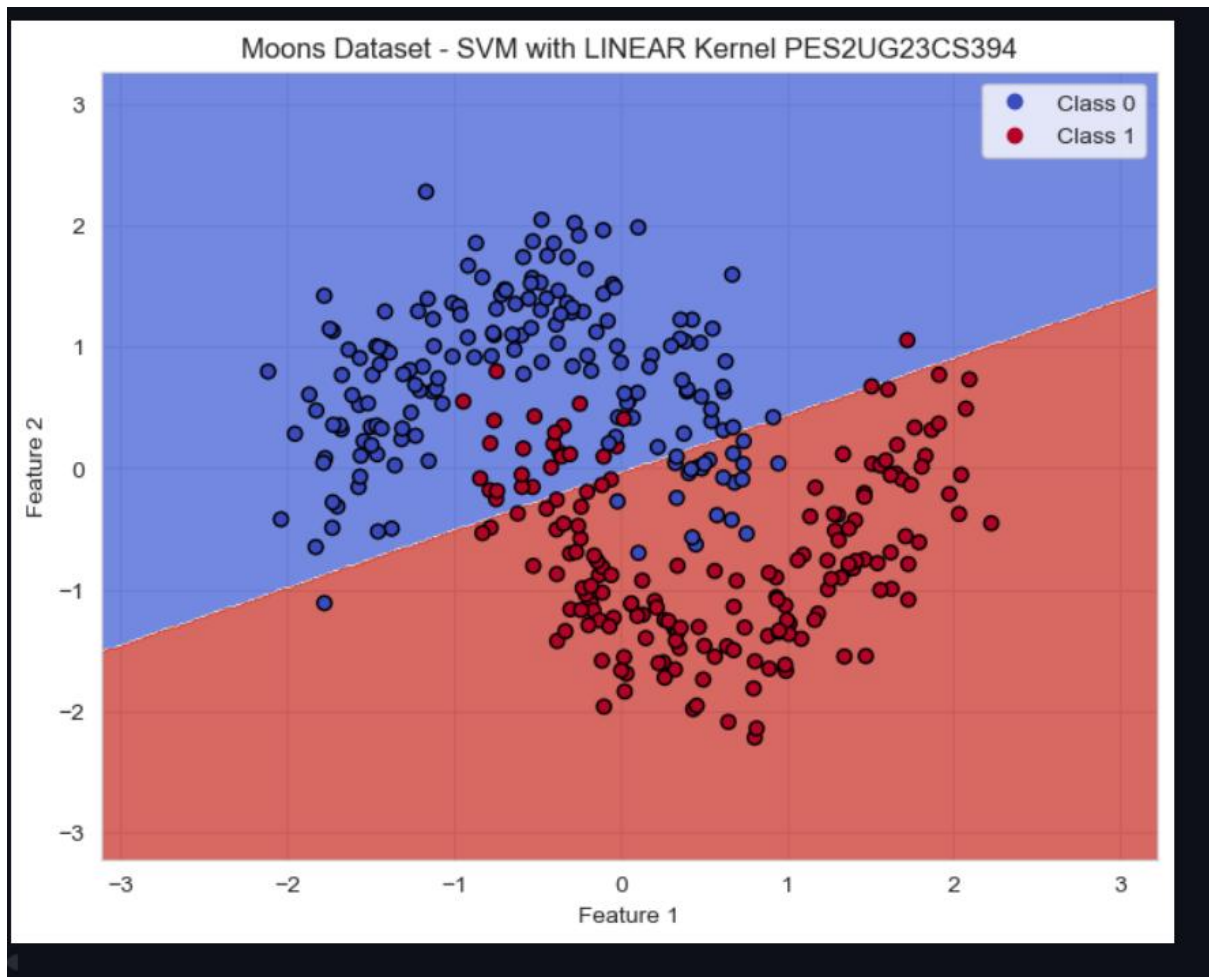
6. Classification Report for SVM with POLY Kernel

SVM with POLY Kernel PES2UG23CS394				
	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Forged	0.82	0.91	0.87	229
Genuine	0.87	0.75	0.81	183
accuracy			0.84	412
macro avg	0.85	0.83	0.84	412
weighted avg	0.85	0.84	0.84	412

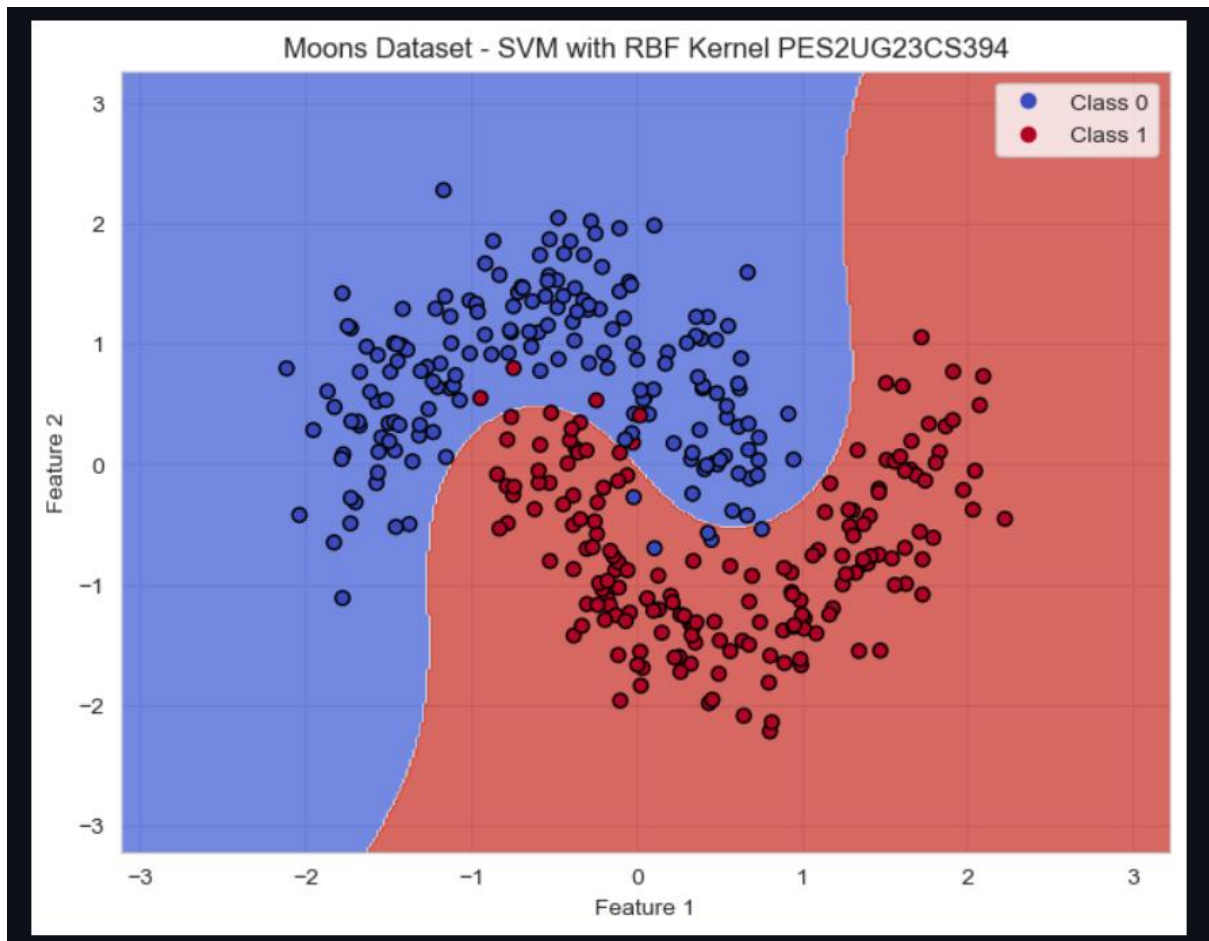
. Decision Boundary Visualizations (8 Screenshots): Capture the plot for each model's decision boundary.

Moons Dataset (3 plots):

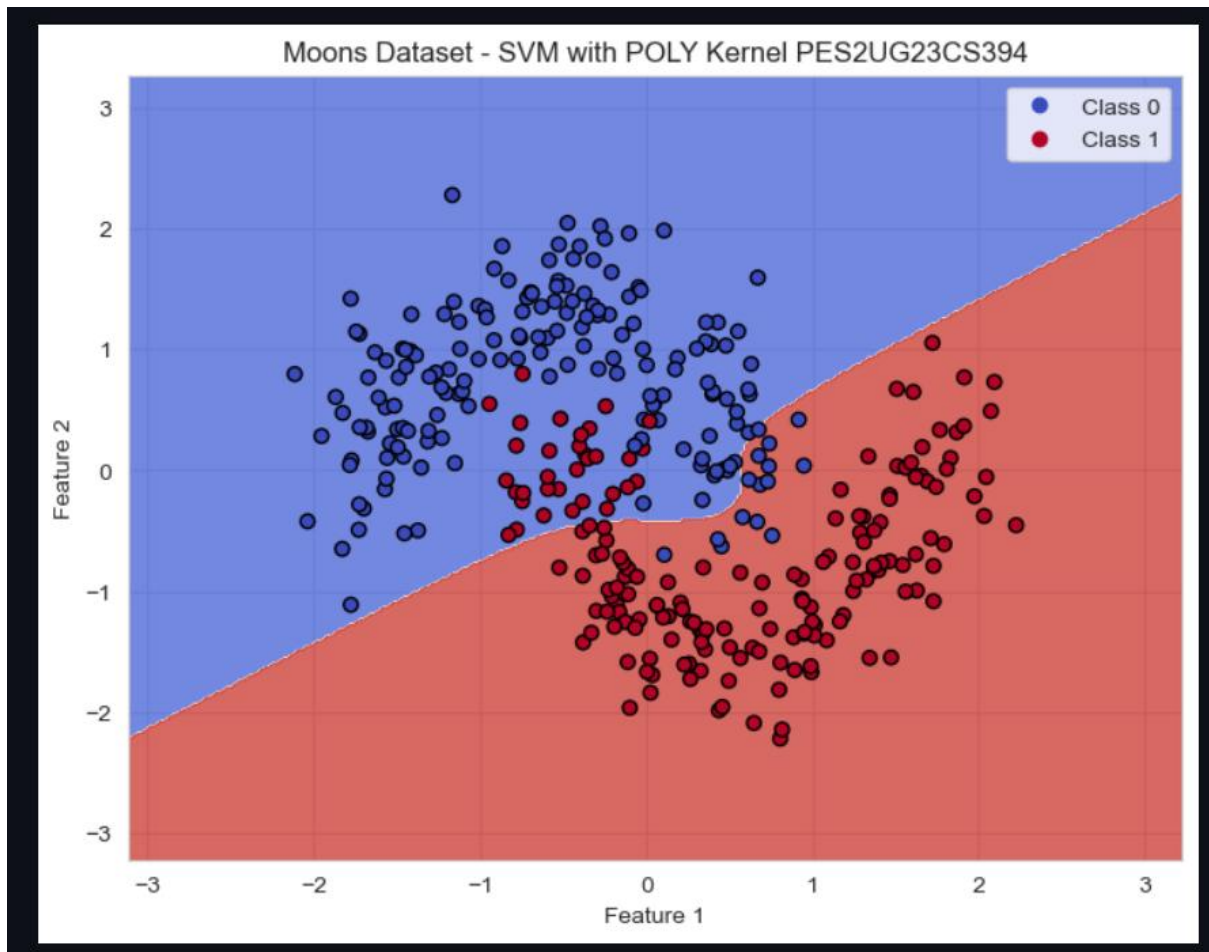
7. Moons Dataset - SVM with LINEAR Kernel



8. Moons Dataset - SVM with RBF Kernel

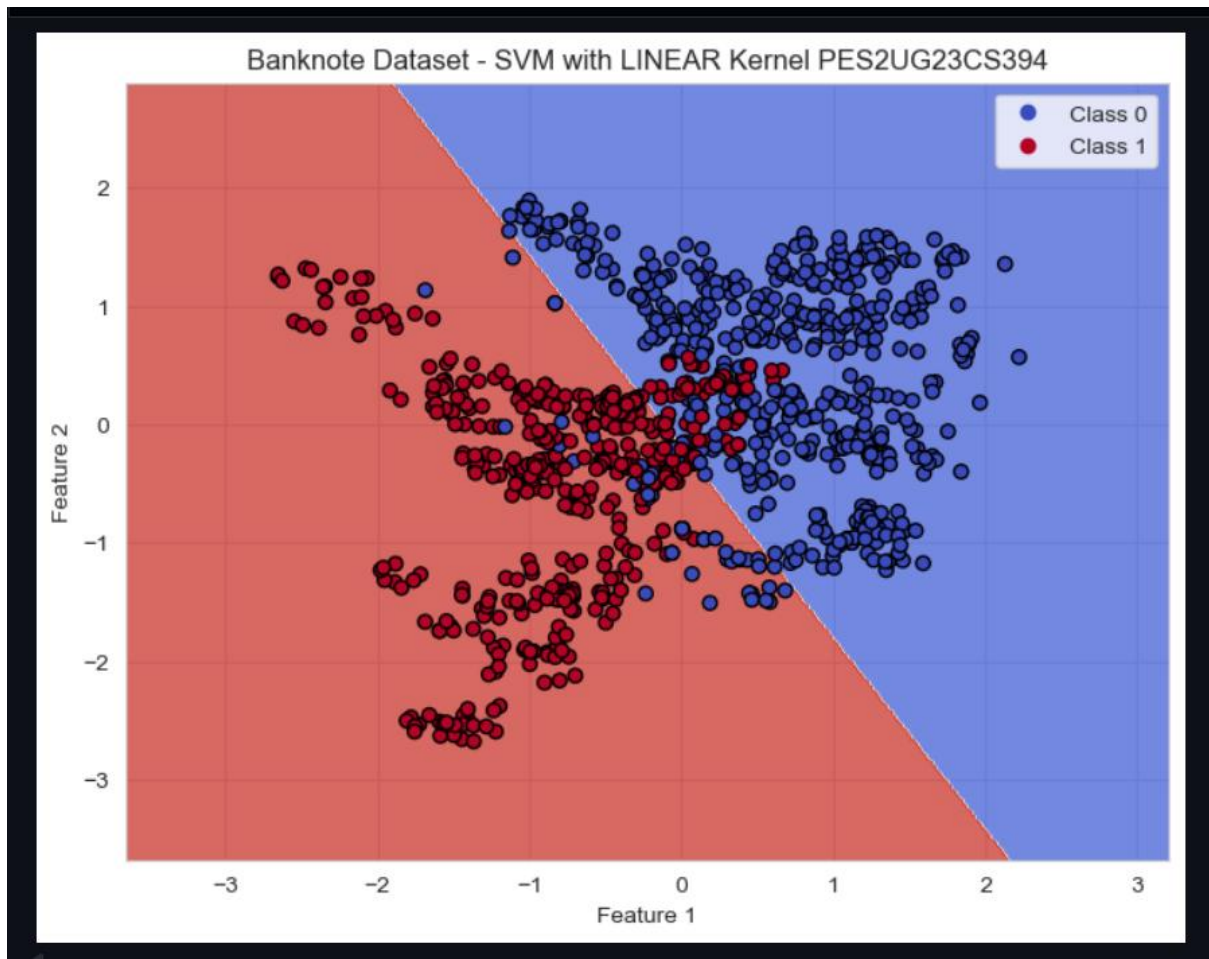


9. Moons Dataset - SVM with POLY Kernel

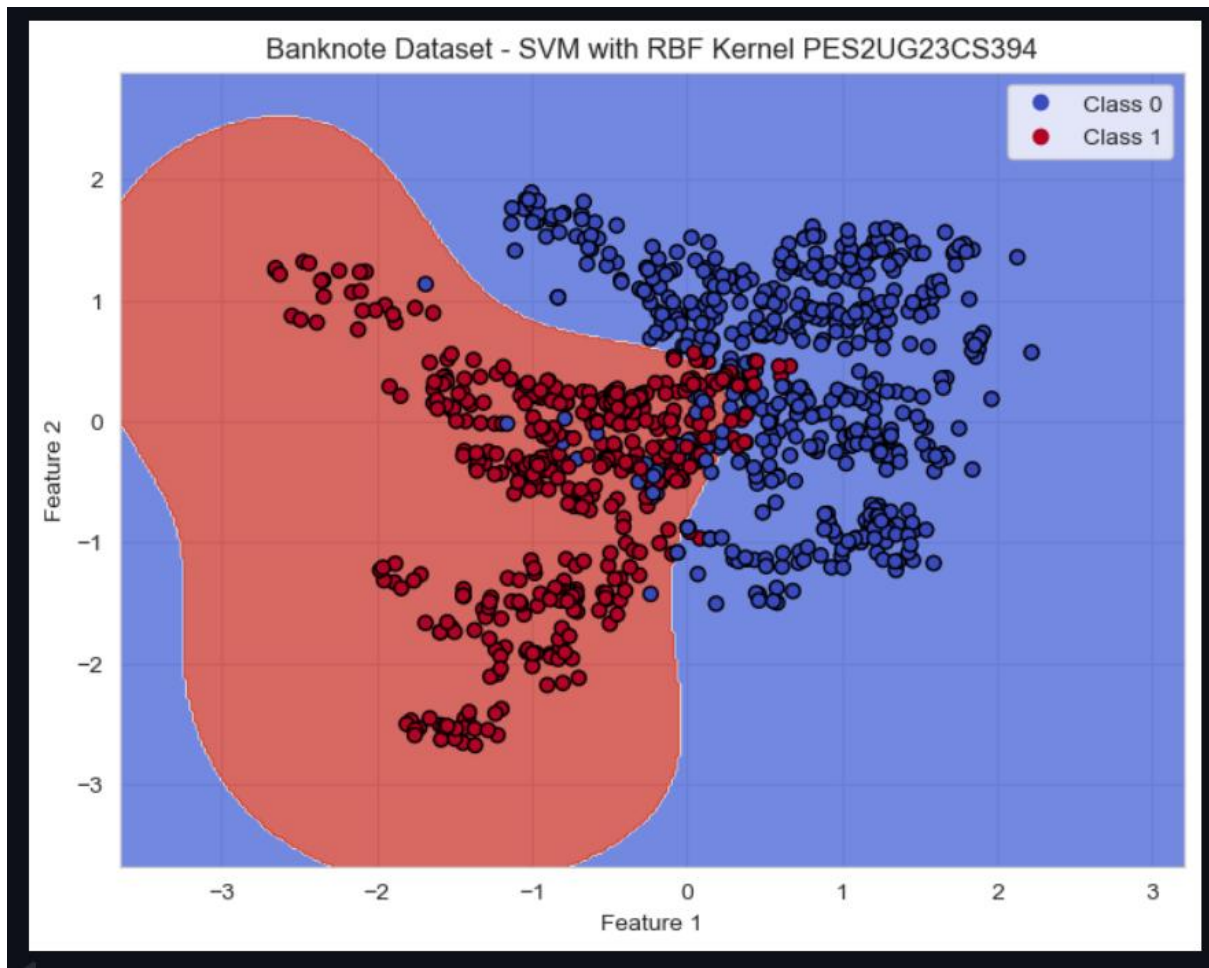


. Banknote Dataset (3 plots):

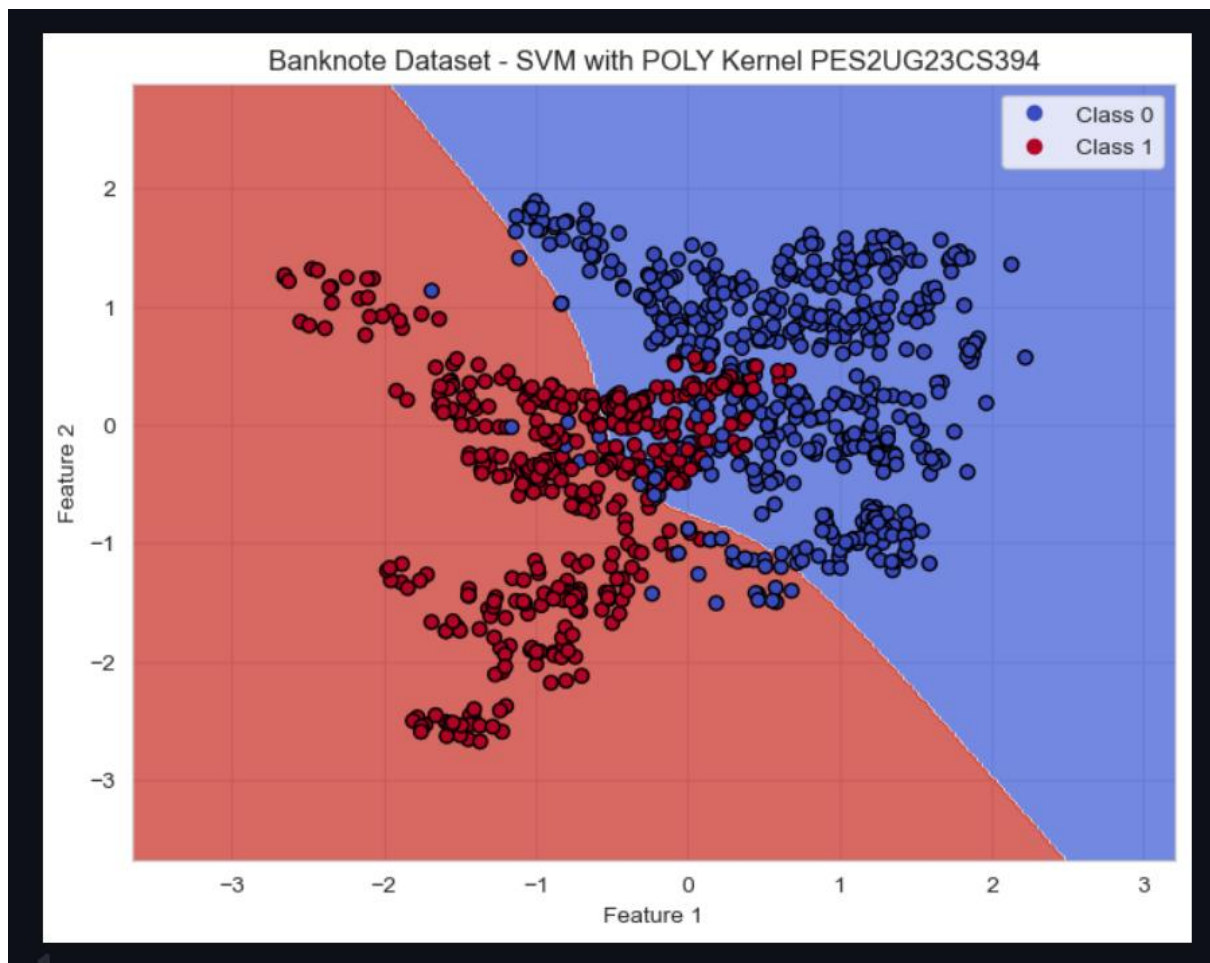
10. Banknote Dataset - SVM with LINEAR Kernel



11. Banknote Dataset - SVM with RBF Kernel

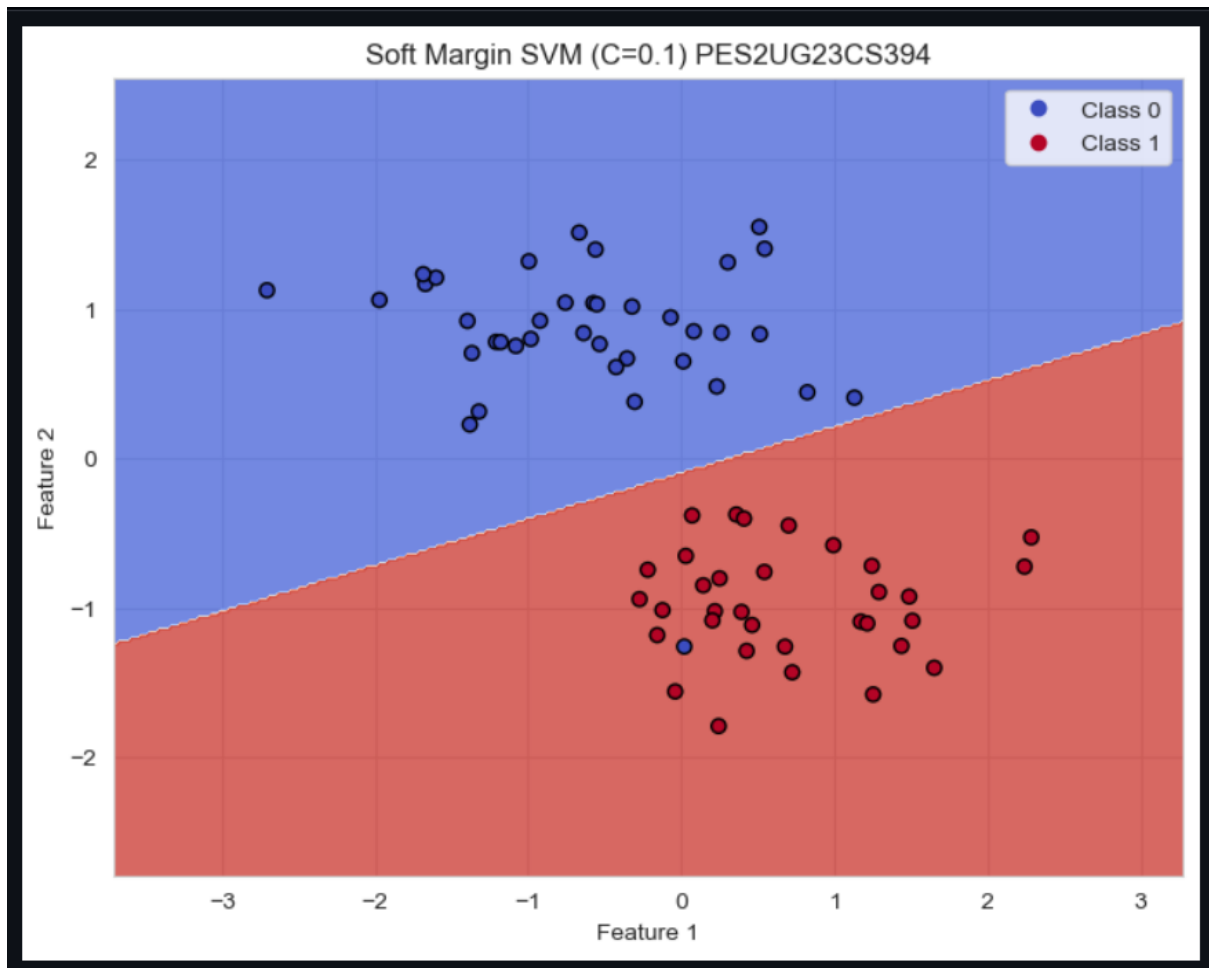


12. Banknote Dataset - SVM with POLY Kernel



· Margin Analysis (2 plots):

13. Soft Margin SVM ($C=0.1$)



14. Hard Margin SVM (C=100)

