

# Problem 1 (20 points)

## Problem Description

As a lecture activity, you performed support vector classification on a linearly separable dataset by solving the quadratic programming optimization problem to create a large margin classifier.

Now, you will use a similar approach to create a soft margin classifier on a dataset that is not cleanly separable.

Fill out the notebook as instructed, making the requested plots and printing necessary values.

*You are welcome to use any of the code provided in the lecture activities.*

Summary of deliverables:

Functions (described later):

- `soft_margin_svm(X,y,C)`

Results:

- Print the values of  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$ , and  $b$  for the  $C=0.05$  case

Plots:

- Plot the data with the optimized margin and decision boundary for the case  $C=0.05$
- Make 4 such plots for the requested  $C$  values

Discussion:

- Respond to the prompt asked at the end of the notebook

Imports and Utility Functions:

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from matplotlib.colors import ListedColormap

from cvxopt import matrix, solvers
solvers.options['show_progress'] = False

def plot_boundary(x, y, w1, w2, b, e=0.1):
    x1min, x1max = min(x[:,0]), max(x[:,0])
    x2min, x2max = min(x[:,1]), max(x[:,1])

    xb = np.linspace(x1min,x1max)
    y_0 = 1/w2*(-b-w1*xb)
    y_1 = 1/w2*(1-b-w1*xb)
    y_m1 = 1/w2*(-1-b-w1*xb)
```

```

cmap = ListedColormap(["purple", "orange"])

plt.scatter(x[:,0], x[:,1], c=y, cmap=cmap)
plt.plot(xb, y_0, '-', c='blue')
plt.plot(xb, y_1, '-', c='green')
plt.plot(xb, y_m1, '-', c='green')
plt.xlabel('$x_1$')
plt.ylabel('$x_2$')
plt.axis((x1min-e, x1max+e, x2min-e, x2max+e))

```

## Load data

Data is loaded as follows:

- X: input features, Nx2 array
- y: output class, length N array

```

data = np.load("data/w4-hw1-data.npy")
X = data[:, 0:2]
y = data[:, 2]

```

## Soft Margin SVM Optimization Problem

For soft-margin SVM, we introduce N slack variables  $\xi_i$  (one for each point), and reformulate the optimization problem as:

$$\min_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to:  $y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i; \xi_i \geq 0$

To put this into a form compatible with `cvxopt`, we will need to assemble large matrices as described in the next section.

## Soft Margin SVM function

Define a function `soft_margin_svm(X, y, C)` with inputs:

- X: (Nx2) array of input features
- y: Length N array of output classes, -1 or 1
- C: Regularization parameter

In this function, do the following steps:

1. Create the P, q, G, and h arrays for this problem (each comprised of multiple sub-matrices you need to combine into one)
  - P: (3+N) x (3+N)

- Upper left: Identity matrix, but with 0 instead of 1 for the bias (third) row/column
- Upper right (3xN): Zeros
- Lower left (Nx3): Zeros
- Lower right: (NxN): Zeros
- **q**: (3+N) x (1)
  - Top (3x1): Vector of zeros
  - Bottom (Nx1): Vector filled with 'C'
- **G**: (N+N) x (N+3):
  - Upper left (Nx3): Negative y multiplied element-wise by [x1, x2, 1]
  - Upper right (NxN): Negative identity matrix
  - Lower left (Nx3): Zeros
  - Lower right (NxN): Negative identity matrix
- **h**: (N+N) x (1)
  - Top: Vector of -1
  - Bottom: Vector of zeros

You can use `np.block()` to combine multiple submatrices into one.

1. Convert each of these into `cvxopt` matrices (Provided)
2. Solve the problem using `cvxopt.solvers.qp` (Provided)
3. Extract the `w1`, `w2`, and `b` values from the solution, and return them (Provided)

```
def soft_margin_svm(X, y, C):
    N = np.shape(X)[0]

    # YOUR CODE GOES HERE
    # Define P, q, G, h
    P = np.zeros((N+3,N+3))
    P[:2,:2] = np.eye(2)

    q = np.zeros(N+3)
    q[3:] = C

    G = np.zeros((N+N,N+3))
    G[:N,:2] = -y[:,None]*X
    G[:N,2] = -y
    G[:N,3:] = -np.eye(N)
    G[N:,:N] = -np.eye(N)
    G[N:,3:] = -np.eye(N)

    h = np.zeros(N+N).reshape(-1,1)
    h[:N] = -1

    z = solvers.qp(matrix(P),matrix(q),matrix(G),matrix(h))
    w1 = z['x'][0]
    w2 = z['x'][1]
```

```
b = z['x'][2]

return w1, w2, b
```

## Demo: $C = 0.05$

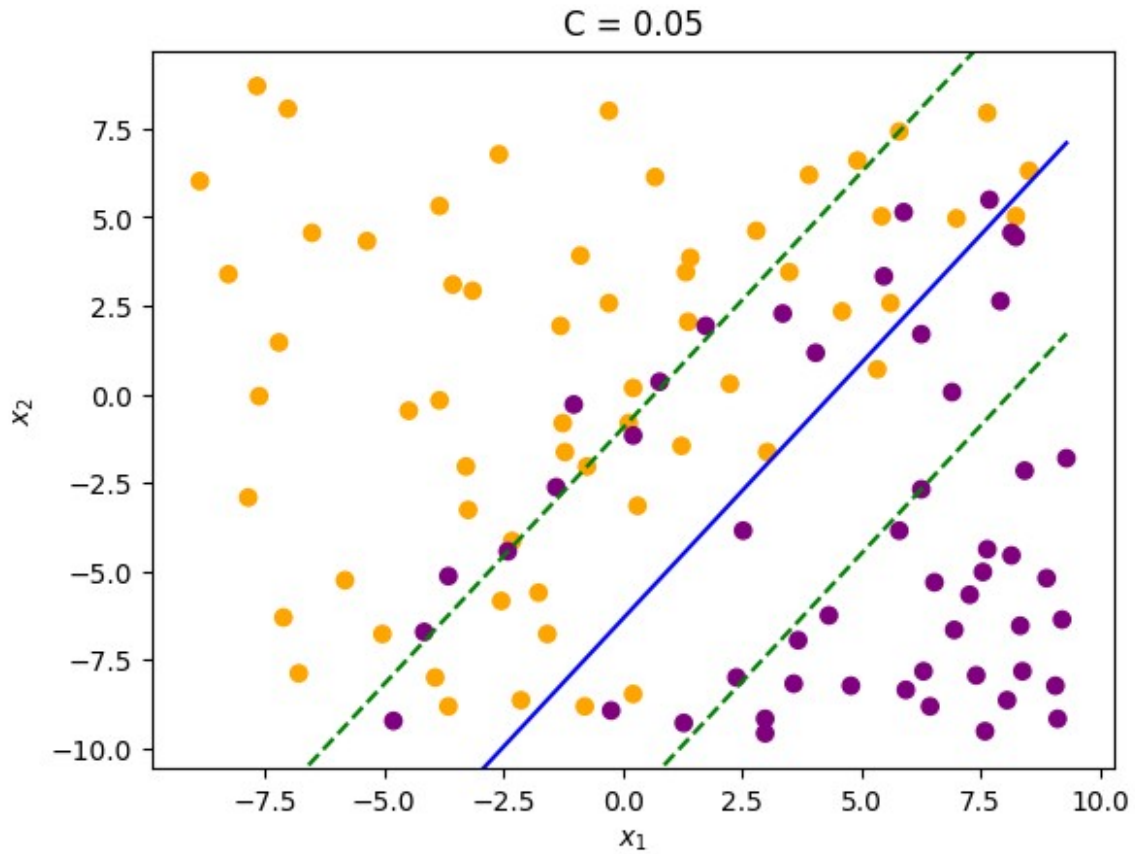
Run the cell below to create the plot for the  $N = 0.05$  case

```
C = 0.05
w1, w2, b = soft_margin_svm(X, y, C)
print(f"\nSolution\n-----\nw1: {w1:8.4f}\nw2: {w2:8.4f}\n b: {b:8.4f}")

plt.figure()
plot_boundary(X, y, w1, w2, b, e=1)
plt.title(f"C = {C}")
plt.show()
```

Solution

```
-----
w1:  -0.2685
w2:   0.1857
b:   1.1785
```



## Varying C

Now loop over the C values [1e-5, 1e-3, 1e-2, 1] and generate soft margin decision boundary plots like the one above for each case.

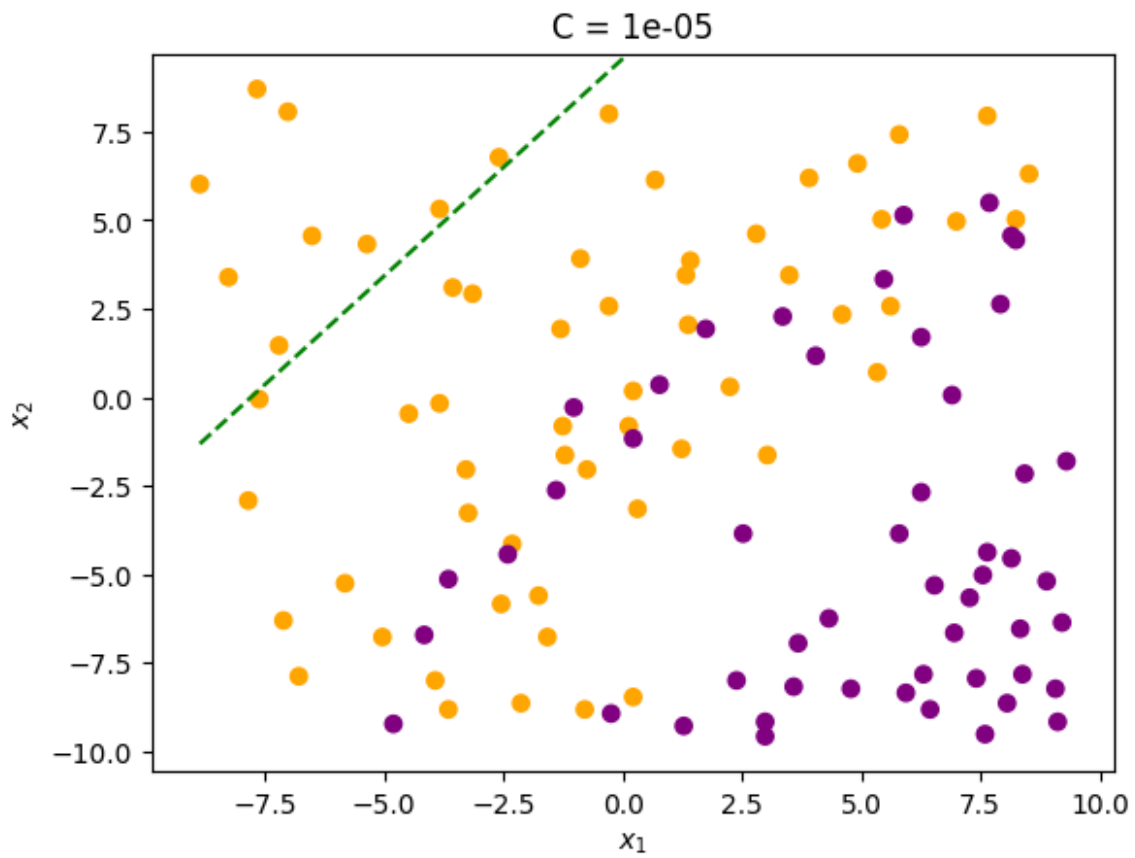
```
# YOUR CODE GOES HERE
# loop over different values of C [1e-5, 1e-3, 1e-2, 1] and plot the
# decision boundary
C_values = [1e-5, 1e-3, 1e-2, 1]
for C in C_values:
    w1, w2, b = soft_margin_svm(X, y, C)
    print(f"\nSolution\n-----\nw1: {w1:8.4f}\nw2: {w2:8.4f}\nb: {b:8.4f}")
    plt.figure()
    plot_boundary(X, y, w1, w2, b, e=1)
    plt.title(f"C = {C}")
    plt.show()
```

Solution

-----

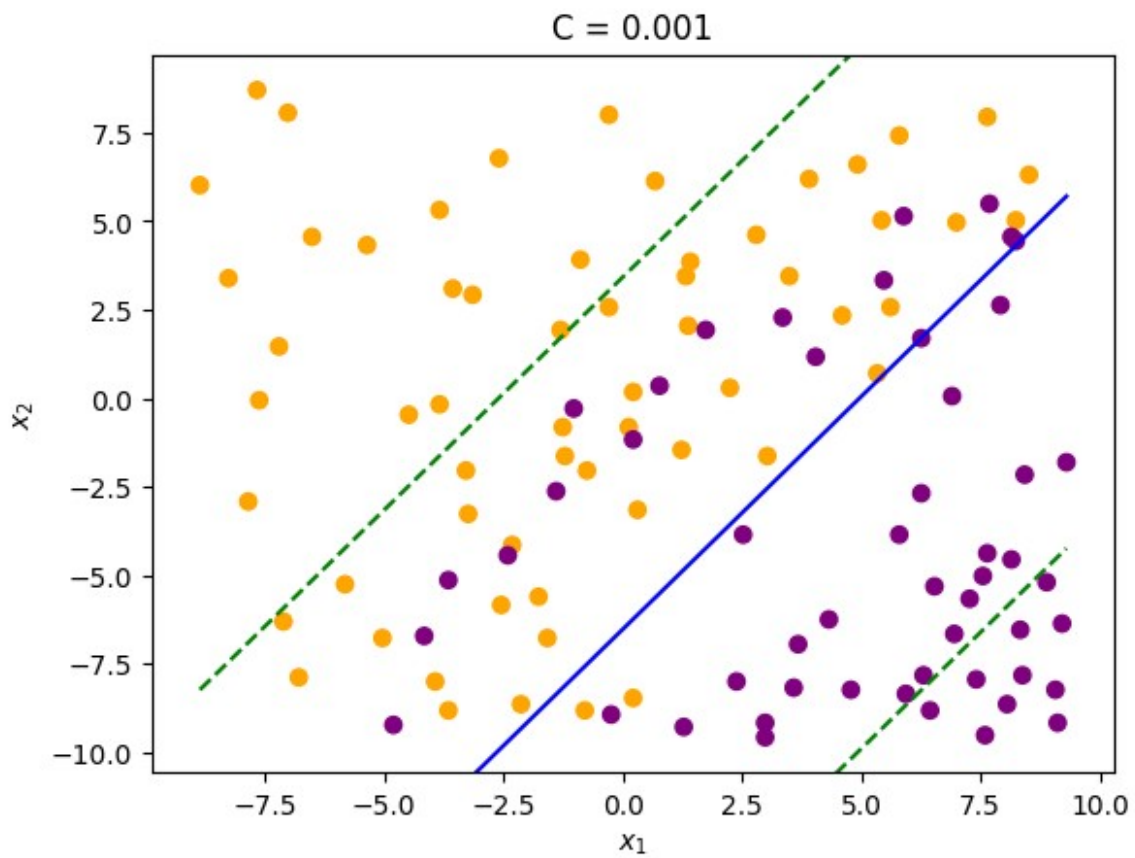
w1: -0.0025

w2: 0.0020  
b: 0.9808



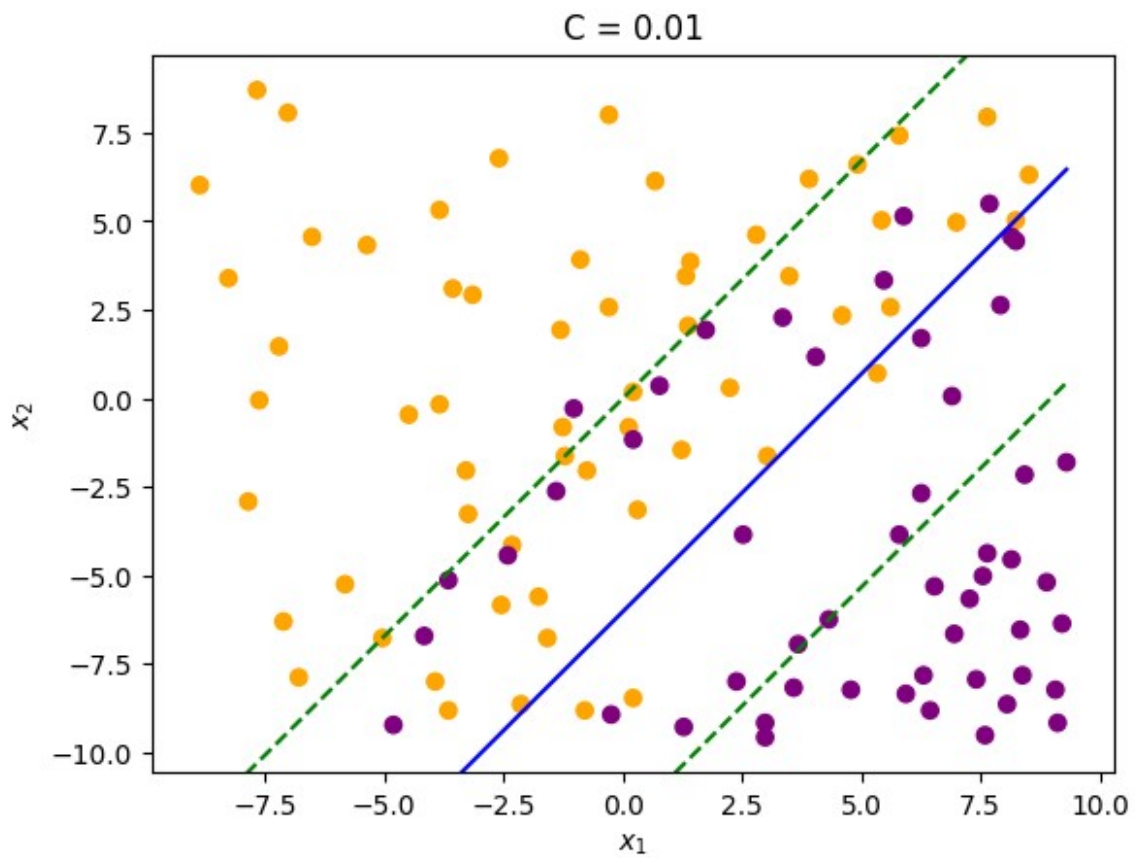
Solution

-----  
w1: -0.1323  
w2: 0.1006  
b: 0.6563



Solution

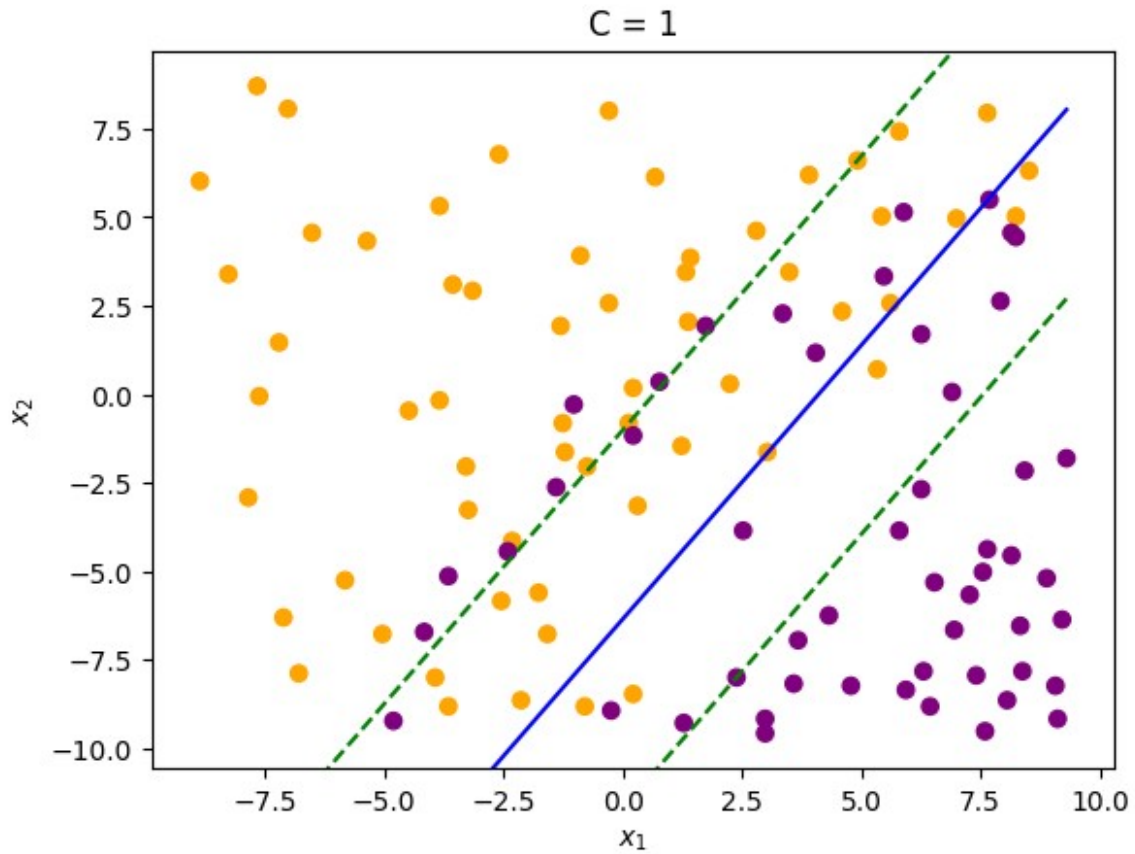
-----  
w1: -0.2231  
w2: 0.1661  
b: 1.0017



Solution

-----  
w1: -0.2899  
w2: 0.1873  
b: 1.1899





## Discussion

Please write a sentence or two discussing what happens to the decision boundary and margin as you vary  $C$ , and try to provide some rationale for why.

As the  $C$  value varies, the decision boundary and margin also change. In the above case, with a smaller  $C$  value, the decision boundary becomes less accurate and the margins between support vectors also get larger. With a larger  $C$  value, the decision boundary becomes more accurate and the margins get smaller between support vectors. The above observation is due to higher  $C$  values allowing a more complex decision boundary but can lead to overfitting and misclassifications. Lower  $C$  values lead to larger margins and better generalization to unseen data but may result in underfitting.