Classification and Prediction

——Support Vector Machines (SVM) ——

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Classification and Prediction

- Basic Concepts
- Issues Regarding Classification and Prediction
- Decision Tree
- Bayesian Classification
- Neural Networks
- Support Vector Machines (SVM)
- K-Nearest Neighbor
- Associative classification
- Classification Accuracy

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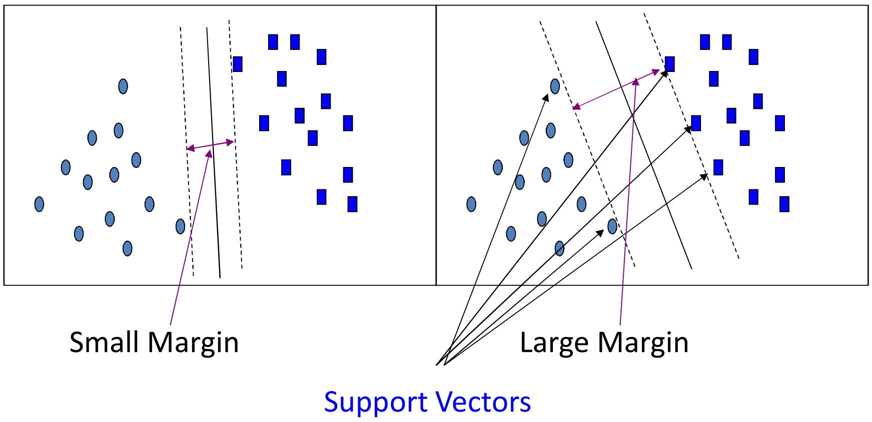
SVM—Support Vector Machines

- A new classification method for both linear and nonlinear data
- It uses a nonlinear mapping to transform the original training data into a higher dimension
- With the new dimension, it searches for the linear optimal separating hyperplane (i.e., "decision boundary")
- With an appropriate nonlinear mapping to a sufficiently high dimension, data from two classes can always be separated by a hyperplane
- SVM finds this hyperplane using support vectors ("essential" training tuples) and margins (defined by the support vectors)

SVM—History and Applications

- Vapnik and colleagues (1992)—groundwork from Vapnik & Chervonenkis' statistical learning theory in 1960s
- Features: training can be slow but accuracy is high owing to their ability to model complex nonlinear decision boundaries (margin maximization)
- Used both for classification and prediction
- Applications:
  - handwritten digit recognition, object recognition, speaker identification, benchmarking time-series prediction tests

SVM—General Philosophy



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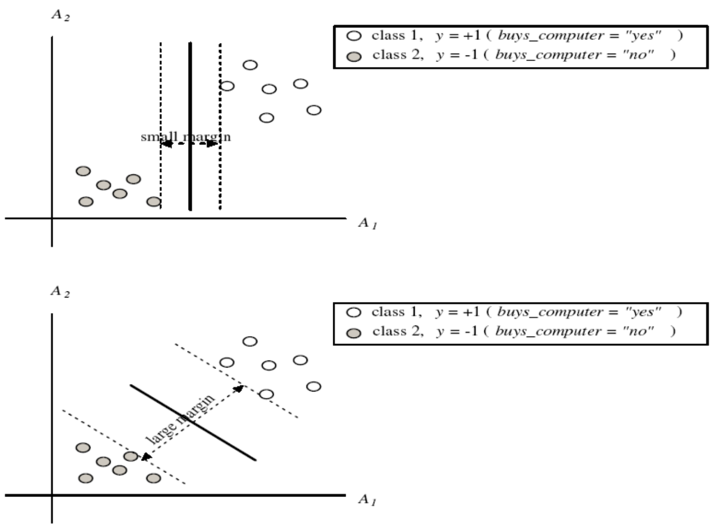
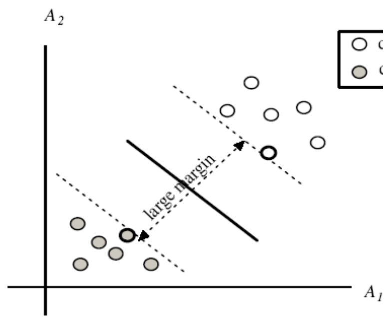
SVM—Margins and Support Vectors





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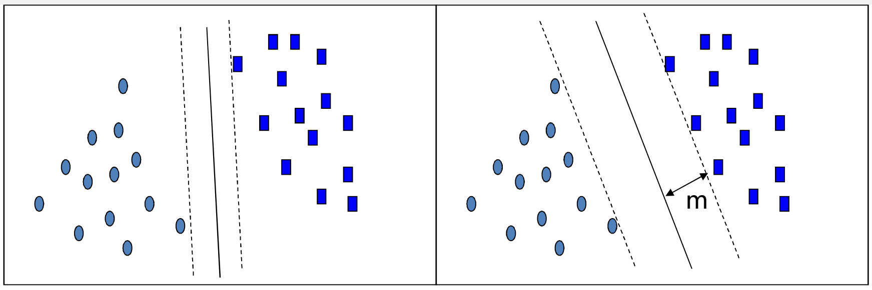
SVM—When Data Is Linearly Separable



Let data D be ($\mathbf{X}_1$, y_1), …, ($\mathbf{X}_{|D|}$, $y_{|D|}$), where $\mathbf{X}_i$ is the set of training tuples associated with the class labels y_i

There are infinite lines (hyperplanes) separating the two classes but we want to find the best one (the one that minimizes classification error on unseen data)

SVM searches for the hyperplane with the largest margin, i.e., **maximum marginal hyperplane** (MMH)

SVM—Linearly Separable

- **A separating hyperplane can be written as**

  W ● X + b = 0

  where W={w_1, w_2, …, w_n} is a weight vector and b a scalar (bias)
- **Any training tuples that fall on hyperplanes H1 or H2 (i.e., the sides defining the margin) are support vectors**
- **This becomes a constrained (convex) quadratic optimization problem: Quadratic objective function and linear constraints → Quadratic Programming (QP) → Lagrangian multipliers**
- **SVM can also be used for classifying multiple (> 2) classes and for regression analysis (with additional user parameters)**

Why Is SVM Effective on High Dimensional Data?

- The complexity of trained classifier is characterized by the # of support vectors rather than the dimensionality of the data
- The support vectors are the essential or critical training examples —they lie closest to the decision boundary (MMH)
- If all other training examples are removed and the training is repeated, the same separating hyperplane would be found
- The number of support vectors found can be used to compute an (upper) bound on the expected error rate of the SVM classifier, which is independent of the data dimensionality
- Thus, an SVM with a small number of support vectors can have good generalization, even when the dimensionality of the data is high

SVM vs. Neural Network

- SVM
  - Relatively new concept
  - Deterministic algorithm
  - Nice Generalization properties
  - Hard to learn – learned in batch mode using quadratic programming techniques
  - Using kernels can learn very complex functions
- Neural Network
  - Relatively old
  - Nondeterministic algorithm
  - Generalizes well but doesn't have strong mathematical foundation
  - Can easily be learned in incremental fashion
  - To learn complex functions—use multilayer perceptron (not that trivial)

Thanks !

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