



# *Nonlinear optimization and applications*

*MATH 689 / CSI 747*

*Instructor: I. Griva*

*Tuesday, 7:20 – 10:00 pm*

# Markowitz portfolio problem

$i = 1, \dots, n$  assets

$\xi_i$  random return from investing in asset  $i$

We assume that the returns have a discrete joint distribution with realizations  $r_{ti}$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , attained with probabilities  $p_t$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ . For example,  $p_t = 1/T$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ .

Our aim is to invest our capital in these assets in order to obtain some desirable characteristics of the total return on the investment.

$r_i = E(\xi_i) = \sum_{t=1}^T p_t r_{ti}$  average return from investing in asset  $i$

$x_i$  proportion of the capital invested in asset  $i$

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  selected portfolio

$R = x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n$  random return of portfolio  $x$

## *Markowitz portfolio problem*

Minimizing the risk  
(the standard deviation):

$$\min E(R - E(R))^2$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad E(R) = r \quad \text{desired return}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1$$

$$x_i \geq 0$$

## Markowitz portfolio problem

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  selected portfolio

$R = x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n$  random return of portfolio  $x$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & E(R - E(R))^2 \\ \text{s.t.} & E(R) = r \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & x^T \sigma x \\ \text{s.t.} & x_1 r_1 + \dots + x_n r_n = r \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$E(R) = E(x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n) = x_1 E(\xi_1) + \dots + x_n E(\xi_n) = x_1 r_1 + \dots + x_n r_n = r$$

$$E(R - E(R))^2 = E(R^2) - (E(R))^2 = E(R^2) - r^2$$

$$E(R^2) = E(x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n)^2 = E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_i \xi_i \xi_j x_j\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_i \sigma_{ij} x_j = x^T \sigma x$$

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1n} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_2^2 & \cdots & \sigma_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{n1} & \sigma_{n2} & \cdots & \sigma_n^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = E(\xi_i \xi_j)$$

# Markowitz portfolio problem

$i = 1, \dots, n$  assets

$r_i$  average return from investing in asset  $i$

$\sigma$  covariance matrix

$x_i$  proportion of the capital invested in asset  $i$

Minimizing the risk

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_i \sigma_{ij} x_j$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j=1}^n r_j x_j = r \quad \text{desired return}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1$$

$$x_i \geq 0$$

# Markowitz portfolio problem

$i = 1, \dots, n$  assets

$r_i$  average return from investing in asset  $i$

$\sigma$  covariance matrix

$x_i$  proportion of the capital invested in asset  $i$

$\mu > 0$  risk tolerance parameter

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimizing the risk} \quad & \min \mu \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_i \sigma_{ij} x_j - \sum_{j=1}^n r_j x_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Markowitz portfolio problem

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  selected portfolio

$R = x_1 \xi_1 + \dots + x_n \xi_n$  random return of portfolio  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} & \min E | R - E(R) | \\ \text{s.t. } & E(R) = r \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \min \sum_{t=1}^T p_t u_t \\ \text{s.t. } & -u_t \leq r_t - r \leq u_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i r_{ti} = r_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i r_i = r, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1, \quad x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$|R - E(R)| = U$ , another random variable with realization  $u_t, t = 1, \dots, T$

$$-U \leq R - E(R) \leq U$$

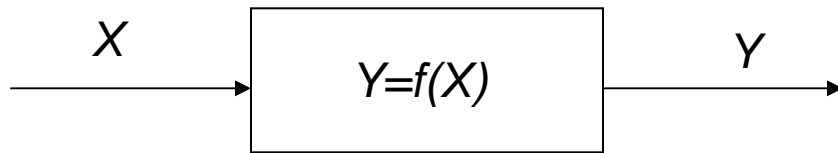
$$-u_t \leq r_t - r \leq u_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

$$p_t = 1/T, \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i r_{ti} = r_t, \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

# Support vector machine

*based on fundamentals of statistical learning theory  
(Vapnik-Chervonenkis theory)*



*Instead of identifying the unknown function (what classical statistics does), the main goal of VC theory is to imitate the unknown function.*

*The key discovery of VC theory:*

- *Two and only two factors are responsible for generalization:*
  - *One (empirical loss) defines how well the function approximates data*
  - *Another (capacity, VC dimension) defines the diversity of the set of functions from which one chooses an approximation function*
- *If VC dimension is finite, then one can achieve a good generalization. If it is not finite the generalization is impossible.*



# Support vector machine

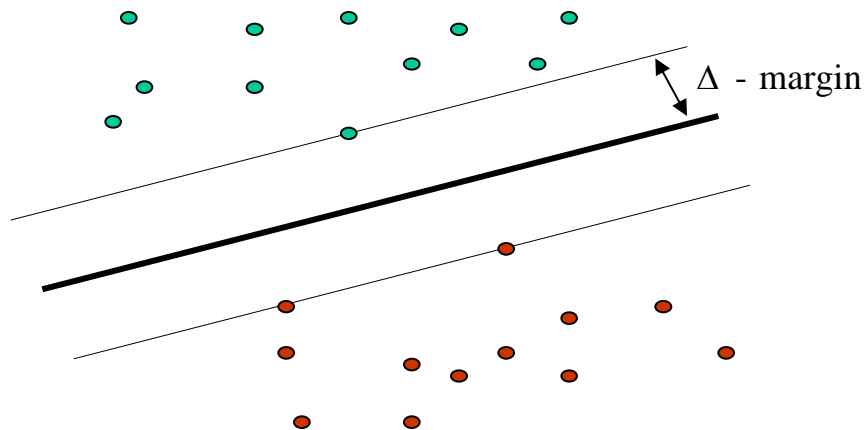
*Given a set of training data*

$$(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_l, y_l), x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n, y_i \in \{+1, -1\}$$

*find a function that can estimate*

$$y_j^* \in \{+1, -1\} \text{ given new } x_j^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

*and minimize the frequency of the future error.*

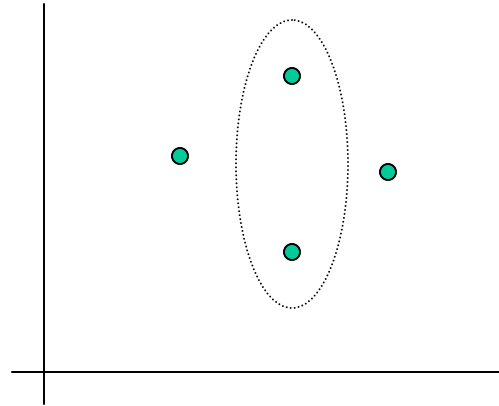
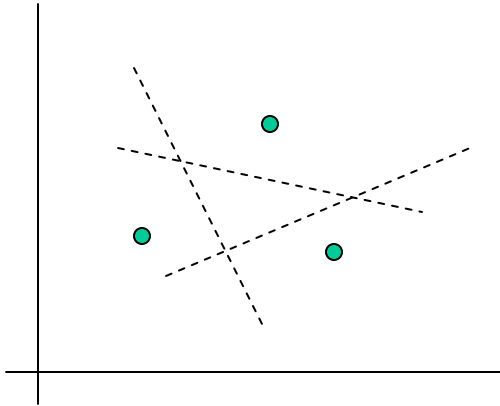


# Examples

## The VC dimension of linear indicator functions

$$I(x) = \text{sgn}(x^T w + b), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

is equal  $n + 1$

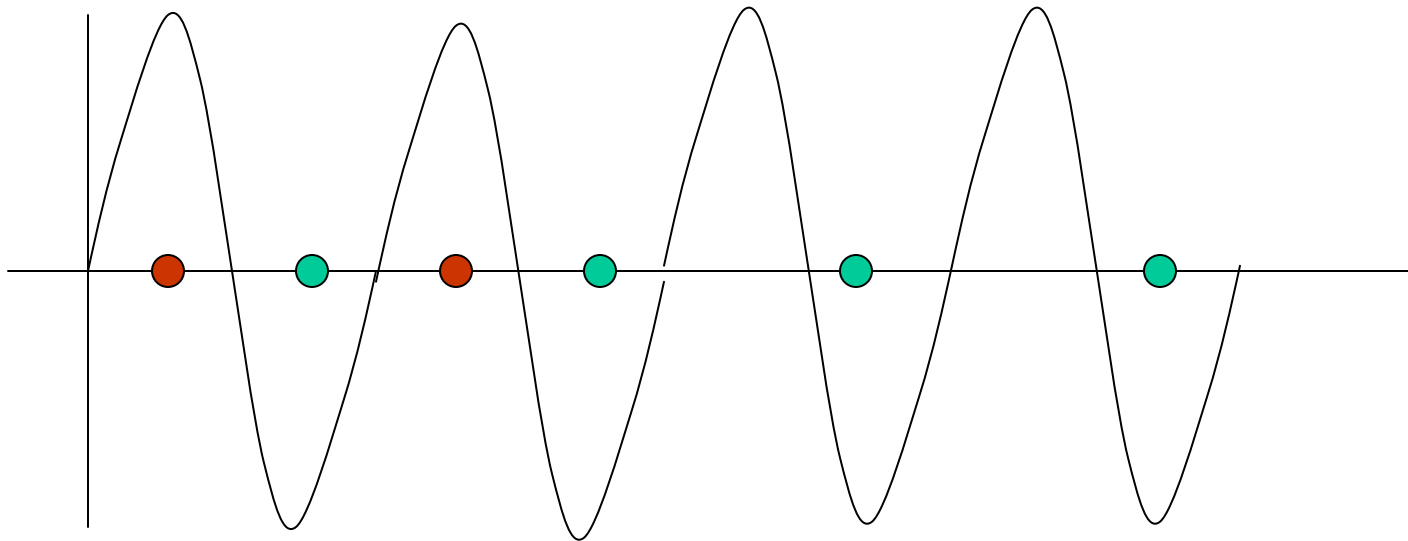


## Examples

The VC dimension of the set of functions

$$I(x) = \text{sgn}(\sin ax), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^1, w \in \mathbb{R}^1$$

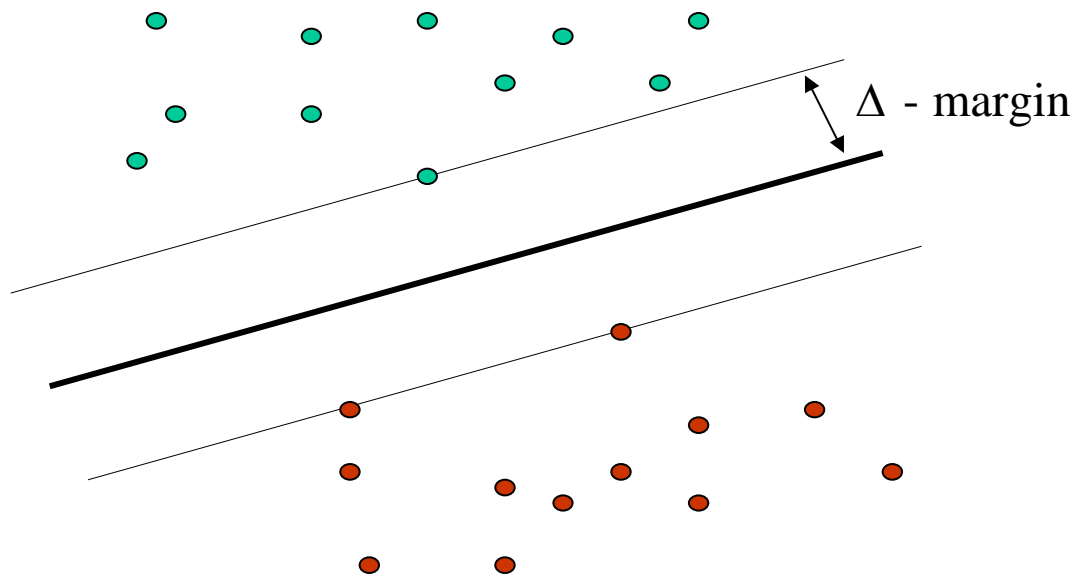
is infinity



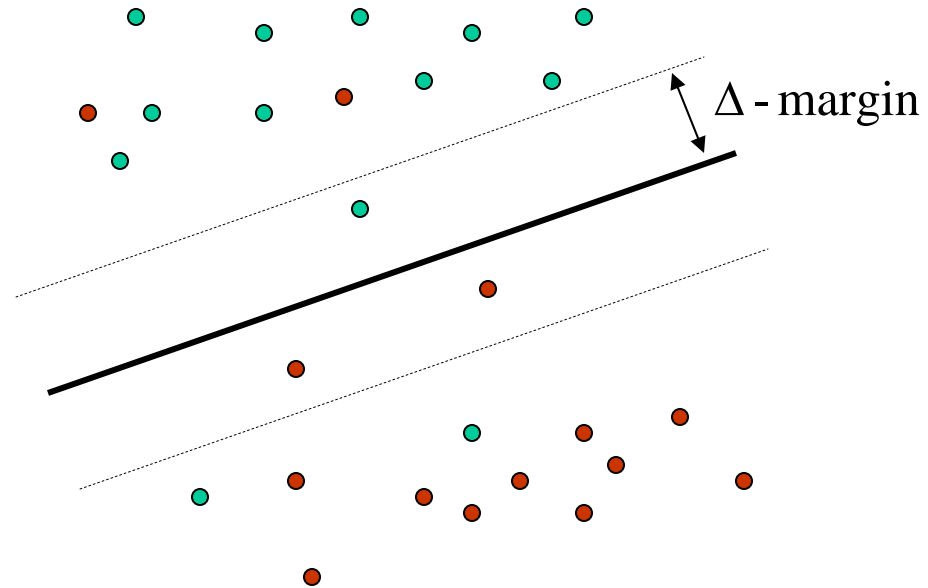
## Support vector machine

Let the vector  $x \in \Re^n$  belong to a sphere of radius  $R$ . Then the set of  $\Delta$  - margin separating hyperplanes has a VC dimension bounded as follows

$$VC_{\text{dim}} \leq \min \left\{ \frac{R^2}{\Delta^2}, n \right\} + 1$$



# *Support vector machine*



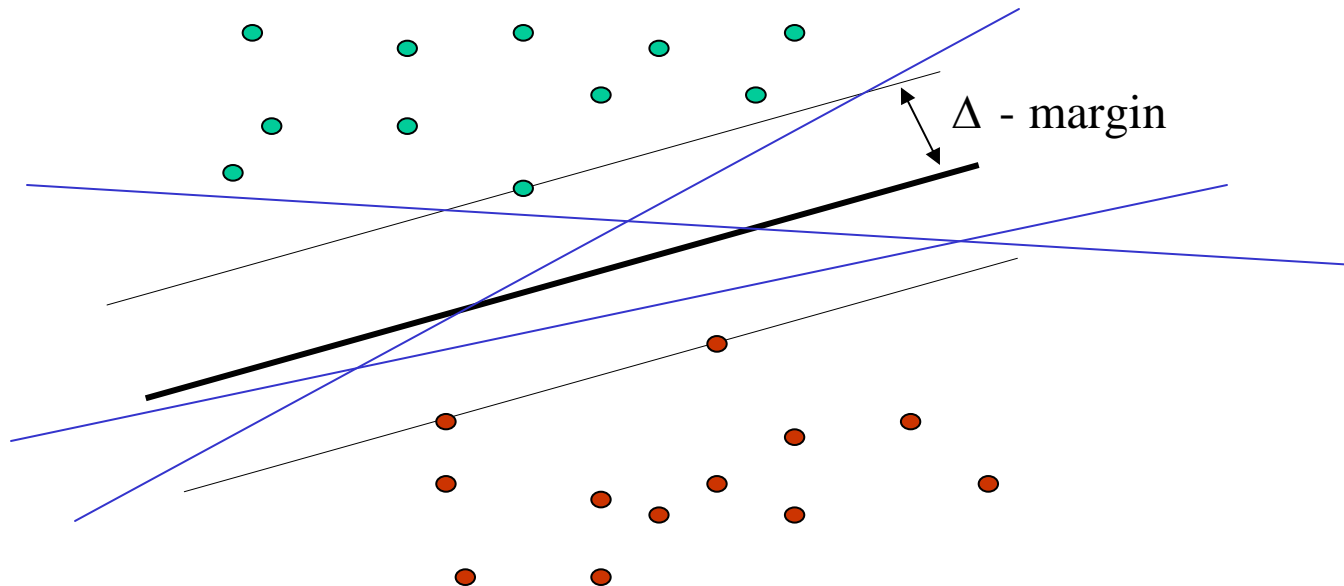
# Support vector machine

Suppose that the data

$$(y_1, x_1), \dots, (y_l, x_l) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad y \in \{+1; -1\}$$

can be separated by a hyperplane

$$(w \cdot x) - b = 0$$



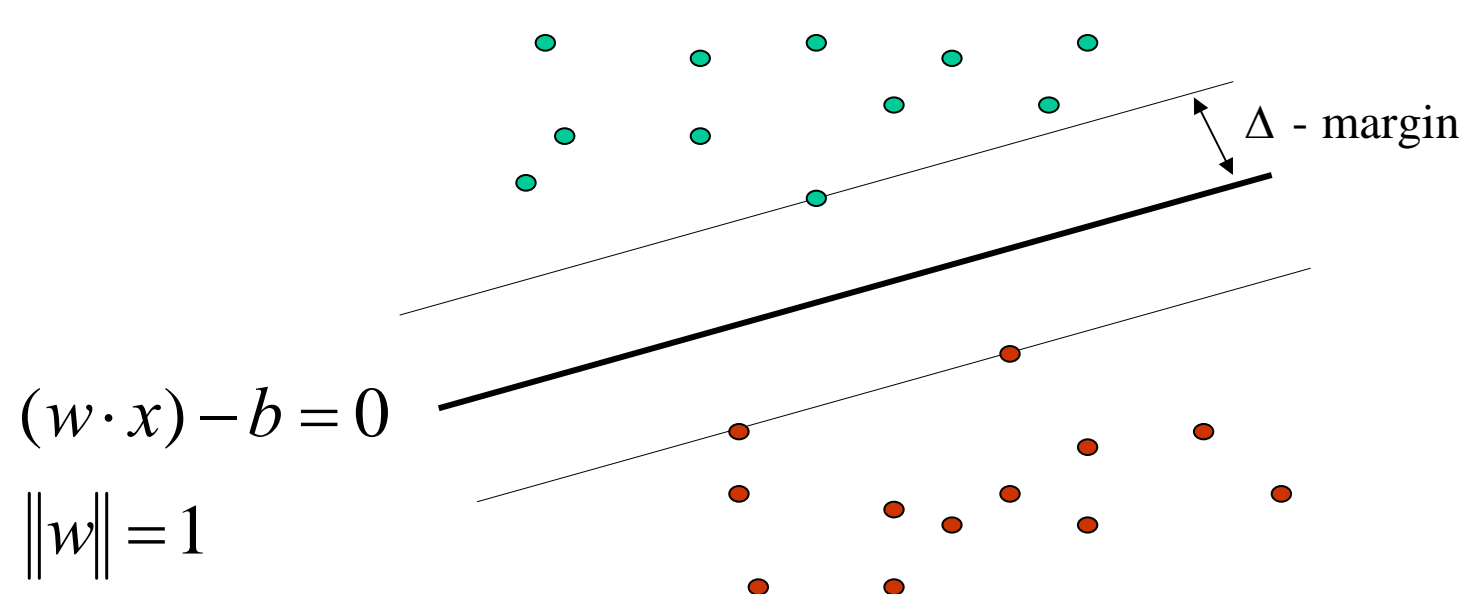
# Support vector machine

Blue dots:  $(w \cdot x_i) - b \geq 0, \quad y_i = +1$

Red dots:  $(w \cdot x_i) - b \leq 0, \quad y_i = -1$

Combined:  $y_i [(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq 0, \quad \forall i$

Variables:  $w$  and  $b$



# Support vector machine

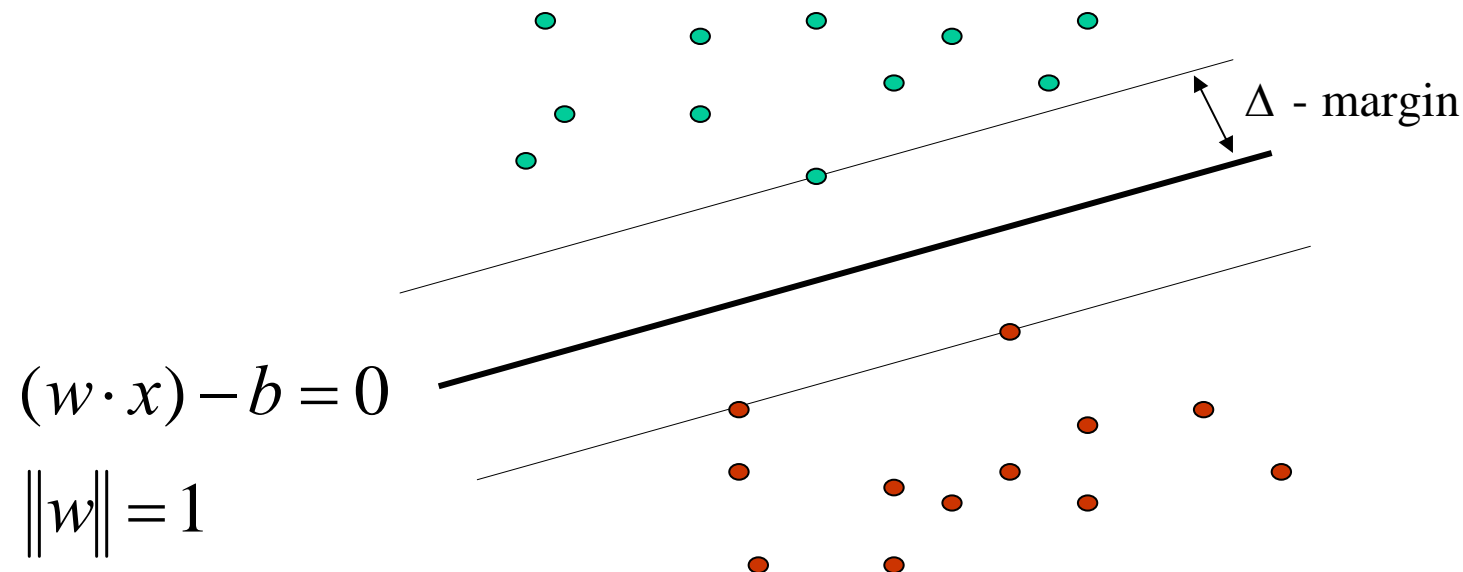
Blue dots:  $(w \cdot x_i) - b \geq +\Delta, \quad y_i = +1$

$$\Delta \geq 0$$

Red dots:  $(w \cdot x_i) - b \leq -\Delta, \quad y_i = -1$

Combined:  $y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq \Delta, \quad \forall i$

Variables:  $w$  and  $b$



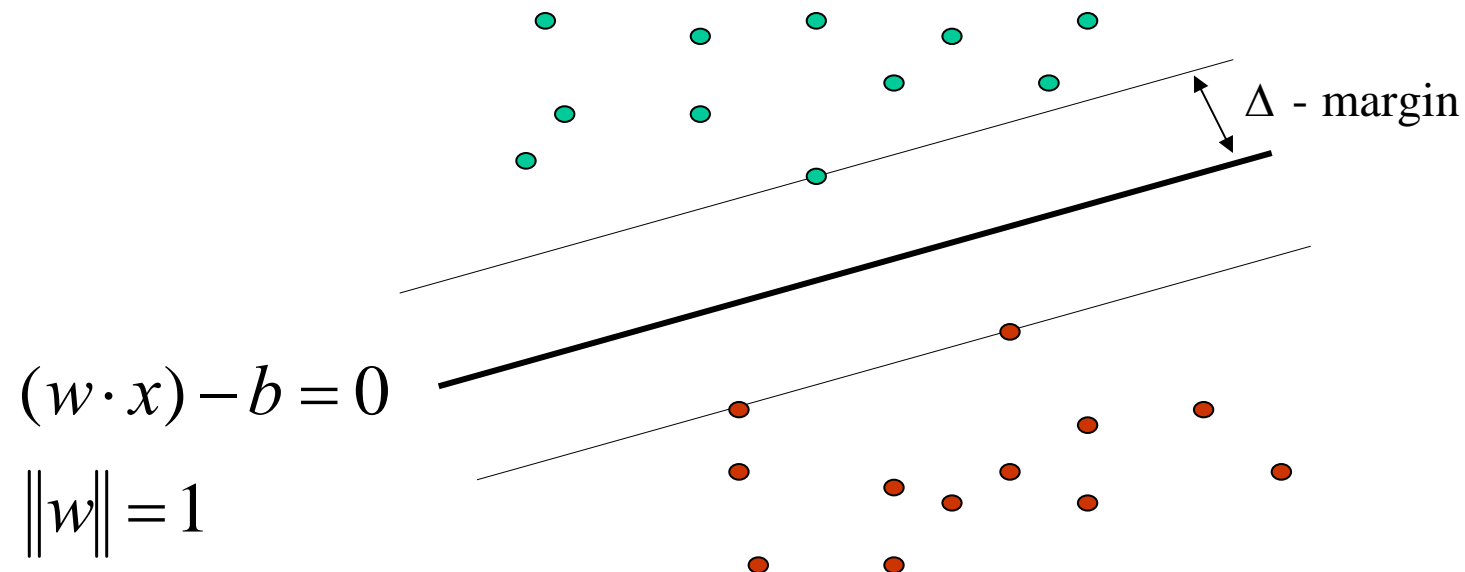


# Support vector machine

Maximize the margin:  $\max \Delta$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq \Delta, \quad \forall i$$
$$w_1^2 + \dots + w_2^2 = 1, \quad \Delta \geq 0$$

Variables:  $w$ ,  $\Delta$  and  $b$



## *Support vector machine*

$$y_i \left[ \left( \frac{w}{\Delta} \cdot x_i \right) - \frac{b}{\Delta} \right] \geq 1, \quad \forall i \quad \text{or:} \quad y_i \left[ (\bar{w} \cdot x_i) - \bar{b} \right] \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Maximize the margin:  $\min \|\bar{w}\|$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad y_i \left[ (\bar{w} \cdot x_i) - \bar{b} \right] \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Variables:  $\bar{w}$  and  $\bar{b}$

## *Support vector machine*

Maximize the margin:  $\min \|w\|^2$

$$\text{s.t. } y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Variables:  $w$  and  $b$

## *Support vector machine*

Maximize the margin:  $\min (w \cdot w)$

$$\text{s.t. } y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Variables:  $w$  and  $b$

## *Support vector machine*

Maximize the margin:  $\min 0.5(w \cdot w)$

$$\text{s.t. } y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq 1, \quad \forall i$$

Variables:  $w$  and  $b$

Non separable case:

Maximize the margin:  $\min 0.5(w \cdot w) + C \left( \sum_{i=1}^l \xi_i \right)$

$$\text{s.t. } y_i[(w \cdot x_i) - b] \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad \forall i$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0$$

Variables:  $w, b$  and  $\xi$

## *Support vector machine*

$$(y_1, x_1), \dots, (y_l, x_l) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{Primal problem} \quad \min 0.5(w \cdot w) + C \sum_{i=1}^l \xi_i$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \xi_i \geq 0$$

$$\text{Variables: } w, b \text{ and } \xi \quad y_i [(x_i \cdot w) - b] \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, l$$

$$\text{Dual problem} \quad \max \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i - 0.5 \sum_{i,j}^l \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j (x_i \cdot x_j)$$

$$\text{s.t.}$$

$$\text{Variables: } \alpha \quad \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i y_i = 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l$$

# Support vector machine

*Optimization  
problem for finding  
support vectors*

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\alpha} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i - 0.5 \sum_{i,j}^l \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \\ & \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i y_i = 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l \end{aligned}$$

## *Kernels*

Polynomial machine:

$$K(x, x_i) = [\alpha(x \cdot x_i) + \beta]^d$$

A radial basis function machine:

$$K(x, x_i) = \exp\left\{-\gamma \|x - x_i\|^2\right\}$$

# Support vector machine

*Optimization  
problem for finding  
support vectors*

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\alpha} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i - 0.5 \sum_{i,j}^l \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \\ & \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i y_i = 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l \end{aligned}$$

*Decision rules with a kernel using found  $\alpha_i^*$*

if  $\sum_{i=1}^l y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x) - b \geq 0$  then  $x$  is *blue*

if  $\sum_{i=1}^l y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x) - b < 0$  then  $x$  is *red*

$b = \sum_{i=1}^l y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x_{i_0}) - y_{i_0}$  for some  $\alpha_{i_0}^* : 0 < \alpha_{i_0}^* < C, (\alpha_{i_0}^* \neq 0, \alpha_{i_0}^* \neq C)$

if there is no such  $\alpha_{i_0}^*$ , increase  $C$  and train again



## *Support vector machine*

Positive  $\alpha_{i_0}^*$  correspond to the support vectors!!!

Only the support vectors carry important information!!!

They correspond to the active constraints of the primal problem!!!

Let  $I^* = \{i : \alpha_i > 0\}$  be the set of support vectors

## *Decision rules using only the support vectors*

if  $\sum_{i \in I^*} y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x) - b \geq 0$  then  $x$  is *blue*

if  $\sum_{i \in I^*} y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x) - b < 0$  then  $x$  is *red*

$b = \sum_{i \in I^*} y_i \alpha_i^* K(x_i, x_{i_0}) - y_{i_0}$  for some  $\alpha_{i_0}^* : 0 < \alpha_{i_0}^* < C, (\alpha_{i_0}^* \neq 0, \alpha_{i_0}^* \neq C)$

if there is no such  $\alpha_{i_0}^*$ , increase  $C$  and train again