

# EECS 545: Machine Learning

## Lecture 10. Kernel methods: Kernelizing Support Vector Machines

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02/14/2020



Last update: 02/17/2020

# Overview

- Support Vector Machine (SVM)
- Dual optimization
  - General recipe for constrained optimization
  - hard-margin SVM
  - soft-margin SVM

# Maximum Margin Classifier

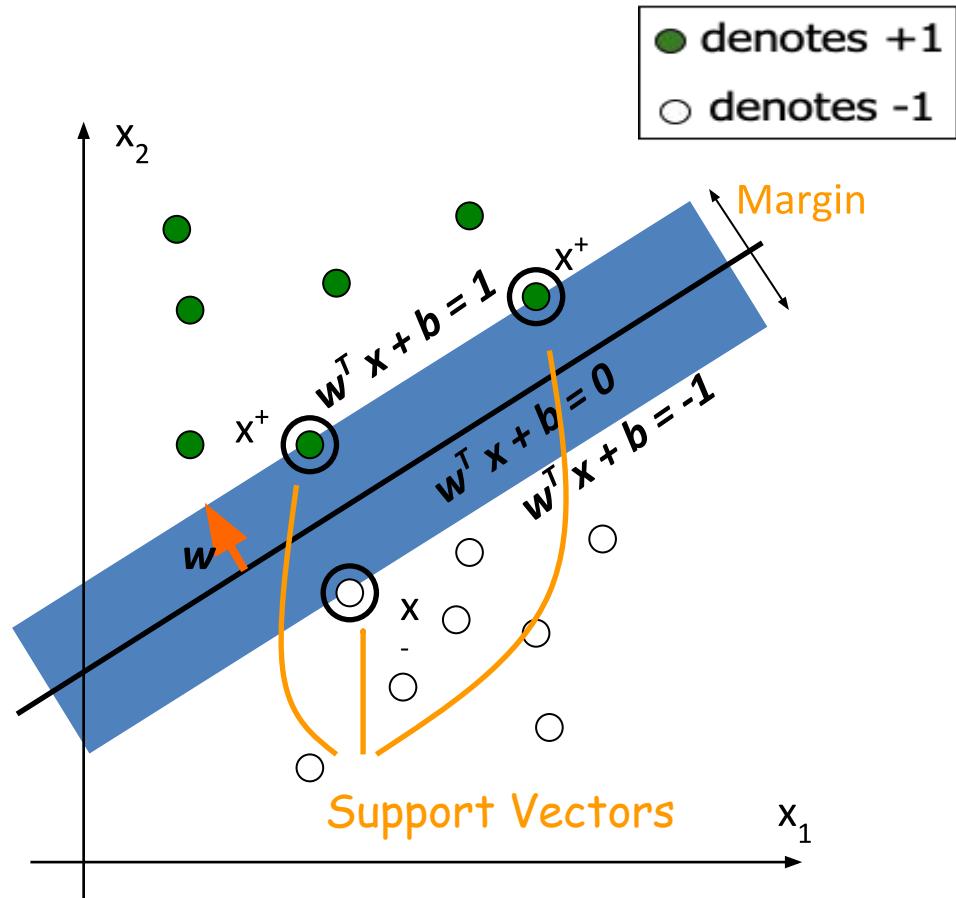
- Optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

subject to

For  $y^{(n)} = 1, \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \geq 1$

For  $y^{(n)} = -1, \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \leq -1$



# Dual optimization

- So far, we have considered primal optimization which requires a direct access to the feature vectors  $\phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)})$
- It is also possible to “kernelize” SVM
  - This formulation is called “Dual” formulation.
  - In this case, you can use any kernel function (such as polynomial, RBF, etc.)

With dual variables  $a^{(n)}$ , we have the following relations  
(without proofs)

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}\right)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}) + b = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}\right) + b$$

# Kernelizing SVM: back to hard-margin case

- Optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

subject to  $y^{(n)} \left( \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \right) \geq 1, n = 1, \dots, N.$

- This is a constrained optimization problem.
  - We solve this using Lagrange multipliers (convex optimization)
  - Solving dual optimization problem naturally leads to kernalization

# Solving Constrained Optimization: General Overview and Recipe

# Constrained Optimization

- General **constrained problem** has the form:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad f(\mathbf{x})$$

subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, i = 1, \dots, p$$

- If  $\mathbf{x}$  satisfies all the constraints,  $\mathbf{x}$  is called feasible.

# Lagrangian Formulation

- The **Lagrangian function** is

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(\mathbf{x})$$

- Here,  $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = [\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m]$  ( $\lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i$ ) and  $\boldsymbol{\nu} = [\nu_1, \dots, \nu_p]$  are called Lagrange multipliers (or dual variables)

- This leads to **primal optimization problem** (see next slide):

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \max_{\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}: \lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\nu})$$

- Difficult to solve directly!

# Primal and Feasibility

- Primal optimization problem:

$$p^* = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \max_{\nu, \lambda: \lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu)$$

– where

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(\mathbf{x})$$

- Notice that:

$$\mathcal{L}_p(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{\nu, \lambda: \lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) = \begin{cases} f(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \text{ is feasible} \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Lagrange Dual

- Dual optimization problem:

$$\max_{\nu, \lambda: \lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu)$$

- We can also write as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\lambda, \nu} \min_{\mathbf{x}} && \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) \\ & \text{subject to} && \lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i \end{aligned}$$

# Weak Duality

- Claim: 
$$\begin{aligned} d^* &= \max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) \\ &\leq \min_{\mathbf{x}} \max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) \\ &= p^* \end{aligned}$$
- Difference between  $p^*$  and  $d^*$  is called duality gap.

# Weak Duality

- Proof:

Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  be feasible. Then for any  $\lambda, \nu$  with  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \lambda, \nu) = f(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) + \sum_i \lambda_i g_i(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) + \sum_i \nu_i h_i(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \leq f(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})$$

Thus,  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) \leq \mathcal{L}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \lambda, \nu) \leq f(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}).$   
for any  $\lambda, \nu$  with  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ , any feasible  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$

Then,

$$d^* = \max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu) \leq f(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \text{ for any feasible } \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$$

Finally,

$$d^* = \max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu) \leq \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}: \text{feasible}} f(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = p^*$$

# Strong Duality

- If  $p^* = d^*$ , we say strong duality holds.
- What are the conditions for strong duality?
  - does not hold in general
  - holds for convex problems (under mild conditions)
  - conditions that guarantee strong duality in convex problems are called constraint qualification.
- Two well-known conditions
  - Slater's constraint qualification
  - Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) condition

# Conditions for strong duality: Slater's constraint qualification

- Strong duality holds for a convex problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad f(\mathbf{x})$$

subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, i = 1, \dots, p$$

(where  $f, g_i$  are convex, and  $h_i$  are affine)

- If it is strictly feasible, i.e.,

$$\exists \mathbf{x} : \quad g_i(\mathbf{x}) < 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, p$$

Slater's condition is a sufficient condition for strong duality to hold for a convex problem

# Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) condition

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, p \quad (2)$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda_i^* \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda_i^* g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (5)$$

– The last condition is called complementary slackness.

# Conditions for strong duality: KKT Conditions

- Assume  $f, g_i, h_i$  are differentiable
- If the original problem is **convex** (where  $f, g_i$  are convex, *and*  $h_i$  are affine) and  $\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*, \nu^*$  satisfy the KKT conditions, then
  - $\mathbf{x}^*$  is primal optimal
  - $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$  is dual optimal, and
  - the duality gap is zero (i.e., strong duality holds)

# Proof for sufficiency

- From (2) and (3),  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is primal feasible.
- From (4),  $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$  is dual feasible.
- $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu)$  is a convex differentiable function. Thus, from (1),  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a minimizer of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu)$ .
- Then,
$$\begin{aligned} d_0 &\triangleq \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda^*, \nu^*) \\ &= \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*, \nu^*) \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_i \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_i \nu_i h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}^*) \end{aligned}$$
- Then,

$$d_0 \triangleq \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda^*, \nu^*) \leq \underbrace{\max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu)}_{\text{same proof as in weak duality}} \leq \underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{x}: \text{feasible}} f(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{strong duality}} \leq f(\mathbf{x}^*) = d_0$$

- Then,

$$\boxed{\max_{\lambda, \nu: \lambda_i \geq 0} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu) = \min_{\mathbf{x}: \text{feasible}} f(\mathbf{x})} = d_0$$

which proves that the strong duality holds (i.e., duality gap is zero). 19

# KKT conditions: Conclusion

- If a constrained optimization if differentiable and has convex objective function and constraint sets, then the KKT conditions are **(necessary and) sufficient conditions for strong duality** (zero duality gap).
- Thus, the KKT conditions can be used to solve such problems.

# Recap: General Recipe

- Given an original optimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad f(\mathbf{x})$$

subject to  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$

$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, i = 1, \dots, p$

- Solve dual optimization with Lagrangian function:

$$\max_{\lambda, \nu} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i g_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(\mathbf{x})$$

subject to  $\lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i$

- Alternatively, solve the dual optimization with Lagrange dual:

$$\max_{\lambda, \nu} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu)$$

where  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(\lambda, \nu) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \nu)$

subject to  $\lambda_i \geq 0, \forall i$

# Recap: KKT Optimality condition

- Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) condition:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, i = 1, \dots, p$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\lambda_i^* \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\lambda_i^* g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m$$

- The last condition is called complementary slackness, and guarantees the strong duality for convex optimization

# Applying Constrained Optimization Techniques for solving SVM

# Kernelizing SVM: back to hard-margin case

- Optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

$$\text{subject to } y^{(n)} (\mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b) \geq 1, n = 1, \dots, N.$$

- This is a constrained optimization problem.
  - We solve this using Lagrange multipliers (convex optimization)

# Back to hard-margin SVM

- Use Lagrange multipliers to enforce constraints while optimizing

$$L(\mathbf{w}, b, a) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} \left\{ 1 - y^{(n)} \left( \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \right) \right\}$$

- Here,  $a^{(n)} \geq 0$  is the Lagrange multiplier (or dual variable) for each constraint

$$y^{(n)} \left( \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \right) \geq 1 \quad n = 1, \dots, N.$$

# Lagrangian and Lagrange Dual

- Optimizing the Lagrangian :

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}} \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} L(\mathbf{w}, b, \mathbf{a}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} \left\{ 1 - y^{(n)} \left( \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b \right) \right\}$$

subject to  $a^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$

- We first minimize with respect to  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $b$ , and get  
Lagrange dual  $\max_{\mathbf{a}} \tilde{L}(\mathbf{a})$

where  $\tilde{L}(\mathbf{a}) = \min_{\mathbf{w}, b} L(\mathbf{w}, b, \mathbf{a})$

subject to  $a^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$

# Maximize the Margin

- Set the derivatives of  $L(\mathbf{w}, b, \mathbf{a})$  to zero, to get

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}\right) \quad 0 = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)}$$

- Substitute in, to eliminate  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $b$ ,

$$\max_a \tilde{L}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^N a^{(n)} a^{(m)} y^{(n)} y^{(m)} \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}\right)^T \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{(m)}\right)$$

subject to  $a^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$

# Dual Representation (with kernel)

- Define a kernel  $k(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(m)}) = \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)})^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(m)})$
- This gives, to maximize

$$\max_{\mathbf{a}} \tilde{L}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^N a^{(n)} a^{(m)} y^{(n)} y^{(m)} k(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(m)})$$

subject to  $a^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$

- Once we have  $\mathbf{a}$ , we don't need  $\mathbf{w}$ . Predict new values using:

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}) + b = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b$$

# Recovering b

- For any support vector  $\mathbf{x}^{(n)} : y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = 1$
- Replacing with  $h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}) + b = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + b$   
 $y^{(n)} \left( \sum_{m \in S} a^{(m)} y^{(m)} k(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(m)}) + b \right) = 1$   
↑  
(index) set of support vectors
- Multiply  $y^{(n)}$ , and sum over n:

$$b = \frac{1}{N_S} \sum_{n \in S} \left( y^{(n)} - \sum_{m \in S} a^{(m)} y^{(m)} k(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(m)}) \right)$$

# Support Vectors

- The KKT conditions are:
$$\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} L(\mathbf{w}, b, \mathbf{a}) = 0$$
$$\nabla_b L(\mathbf{w}, b, \mathbf{a}) = 0$$
$$a^{(n)} \geq 0$$
$$1 - y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \leq 0$$
$$a^{(n)} \left\{ 1 - y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \right\} = 0$$
- The last condition means:
  - either or  $a^{(n)} = 0$  or  $y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = 1$ .
- That is, only the support vectors matter!
  - To predict  $h(\mathbf{x})$ , sum only over support vectors

# Soft SVM

- Maximize the margin, and also penalize for the slack variables

$$C \sum_{n=1}^N \xi_n + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

- The support vectors are now those with

$$y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = 1 - \xi^{(n)}$$

# Formulation of soft-margin SVM

- Primal optimization
  - Optimization w.r.t.  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\xi^{(n)}$ 's:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}, b, \xi} C \sum_{n=1}^N \xi_n + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

subject to  $y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \geq 1 - \xi^{(n)}, \forall n$

$$\xi^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$$

# Dual formulation of soft-margin SVM

- Lagrangian

$$L(\mathbf{w}, b, \xi, a, \mu) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{n=1}^N \xi^{(n)} + \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} \left\{ 1 - y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) - \xi^{(n)} \right\} + \sum_{n=1}^N \mu^{(n)} (-\xi^{(n)})$$

– where  $a^{(n)} \geq 0$ ,  $\mu^{(n)} \geq 0$ ,  $\xi^{(n)} \geq 0, \forall n$

- KKT conditions for the constraints

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \begin{aligned} 1 - y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) - \xi^{(n)} &\leq 0 \\ -\xi^{(n)} &\leq 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Primal variables satisfy the inequality constraints} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \begin{aligned} a^{(n)} &\geq 0 \\ \mu^{(n)} &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Dual variables (for above inequalities) are feasible} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \begin{aligned} a^{(n)} (1 - y^{(n)} h(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) - \xi^{(n)}) &= 0 \\ \mu^{(n)} \xi^{(n)} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Complementary slackness condition} \end{aligned}$$

# Dual formulation of soft-margin SVM

- Taking derivatives

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w} = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)})$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi_n} = 0 \Rightarrow a^{(n)} = C - \mu^{(n)}$$

# Dual formulation of soft-margin SVM

- Dual optimization (via Lagrange dual)

$$\min_{\mathbf{a}} \tilde{L}(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^N a^{(n)} a^{(m)} y^{(n)} y^{(m)} k(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(m)})$$

subject to       $0 \leq a^{(n)} \leq C$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N a^{(n)} y^{(n)} = 0$$

- Solve quadratic problem (convex optimization)

# SVM: practical issues

# Support Vector Machine: Algorithm

1. Choose a kernel function
2. Choose a value for  $C$
3. Solve the optimization problem (many software packages available) – primal or dual
4. Construct the discriminant function from the support vectors

# Some Issues

- Linear kernels work fairly well, but can be suboptimal.
- Choice of (nonlinear) kernels
  - Gaussian or polynomial kernel is default
  - If the simple kernels are ineffective, more elaborate kernels are needed
  - Domain experts can give assistance in formulating appropriate similarity measures
- Choice of kernel parameters
  - E.g., Gaussian kernel:  $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{z}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$ 
    - $\sigma$  is the distance between neighboring points whose labels will likely affect the prediction of the query point.
  - In the absence of reliable criteria, applications rely on the use of a validation set or cross-validation to set such parameters.

# Summary: Support Vector Machine

- Max Margin Classifier
  - Better generalization ability & less over-fitting
  - Solved by convex optimization techniques
- The Kernel Trick
  - Map data points to higher dimensional space in order to make them linearly separable.
  - Since only dot product is used, we do not need to represent the mapping explicitly.

# Additional Resource

- Kernel Methods
  - <http://www.kernel-machines.org/>
- Convex Optimization
  - <http://www.stanford.edu/~boyd/cvxbook/>
  - <http://www.stanford.edu/class/ee364a/>
  - see Chapter 5 (and earlier chapters)

# SVM Implementation

- LIBSVM
  - <http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvm/>
  - One of the most popular generic SVM solver (supports nonlinear kernels)
- Liblinear
  - <http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/liblinear/>
  - One of the fastest linear SVM solver (linear kernel)
- SVMlight
  - [http://www.cs.cornell.edu/people/tj/svm\\_light/](http://www.cs.cornell.edu/people/tj/svm_light/)
  - Structured outputs, various objective measure (e.g., F1, ROC area), Ranking, etc.

# SVM demo code

- <http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/28302-svm-demo>
- <http://www.alivelearn.net/?p=912>

# Change logs

Updates: 2/17/2020

- For the SVM optimization definition (e.g., p.3 and later on), changed from “ $\arg \min$ ” to “ $\min$ ”
- For the proof of strong duality from KKT conditions (p. 19) “ $\min f(\mathbf{x})$ ” is changed “ $\min f(\mathbf{x})$  subject to  $\mathbf{x}$ : feasible”