

# Support Vector Machines

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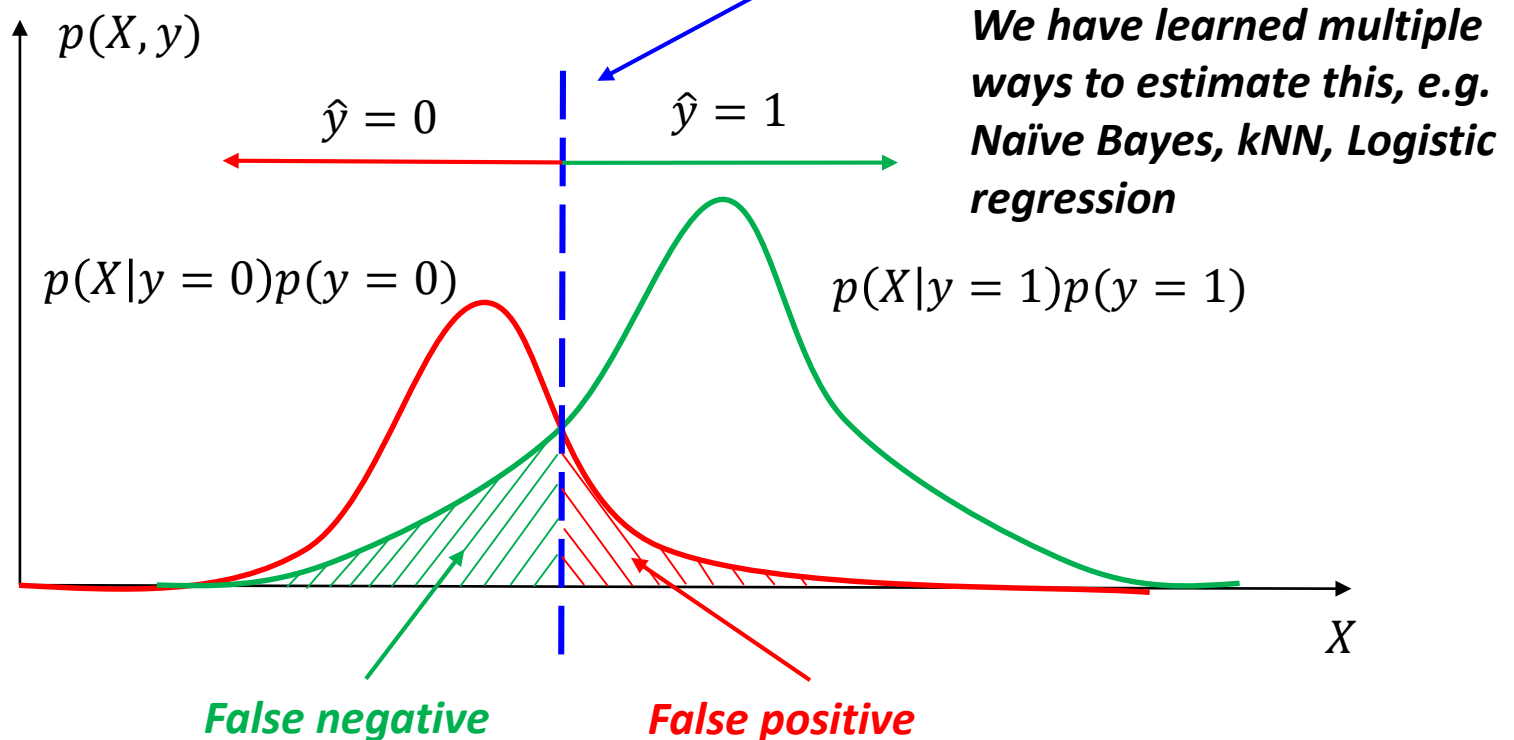
# Today's lecture

- Support vector machines
  - Max margin classifier
  - Derivation of linear SVM
    - Binary and multi-class cases
  - Different types of losses in discriminative models
  - Kernel method
    - Non-linear SVM
  - Popular implementations

# Review: Bayes risk minimization

- Risk – assign instance to a wrong class

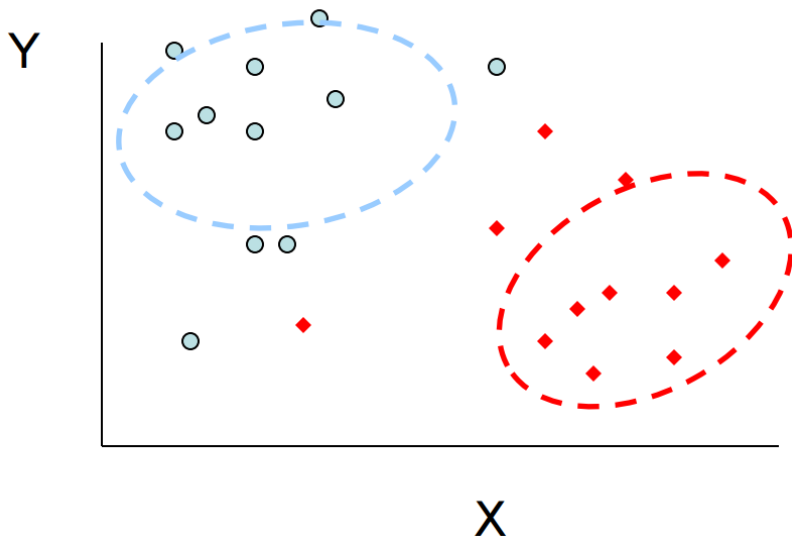
$$-y^* = \operatorname{argmax}_y P(y|X) \quad \text{*Optimal Bayes decision boundary}$$



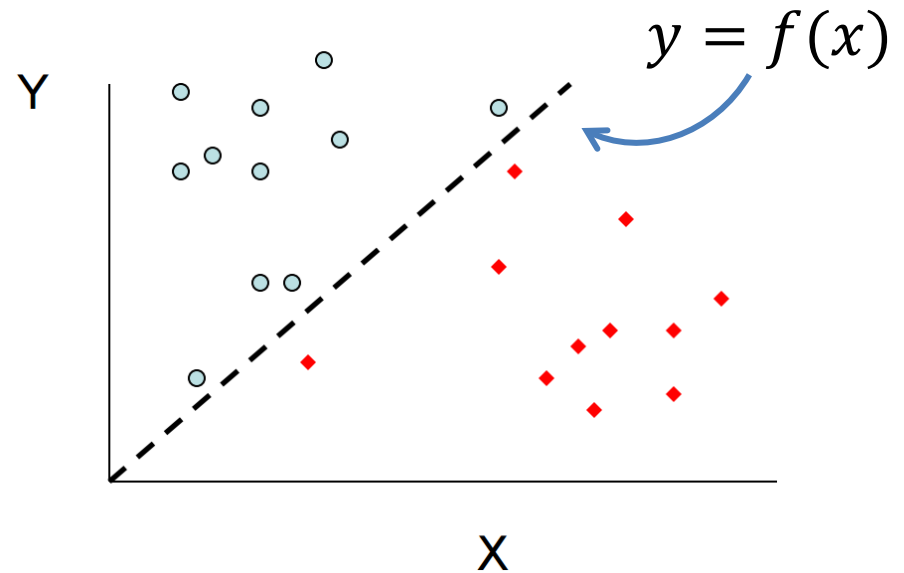
# Discriminative v.s. generative models

All instances are considered for probability density estimation

Generative model



Discriminative model



More attention will be put onto the boundary points

# Logistic regression for classification

- Decision boundary for binary case

$$- \hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1, & p(y = 1|X) > 0.5 \\ 0, & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

i.f.f. 
$$p(y = 1|X) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T X)} > 0.5$$

i.f.f. 
$$\exp(-w^T X) < 1$$

i.f.f. 
$$w^T X > 0$$

$$- \hat{y} = \begin{cases} 1, & w^T x > 0 \\ 0, & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

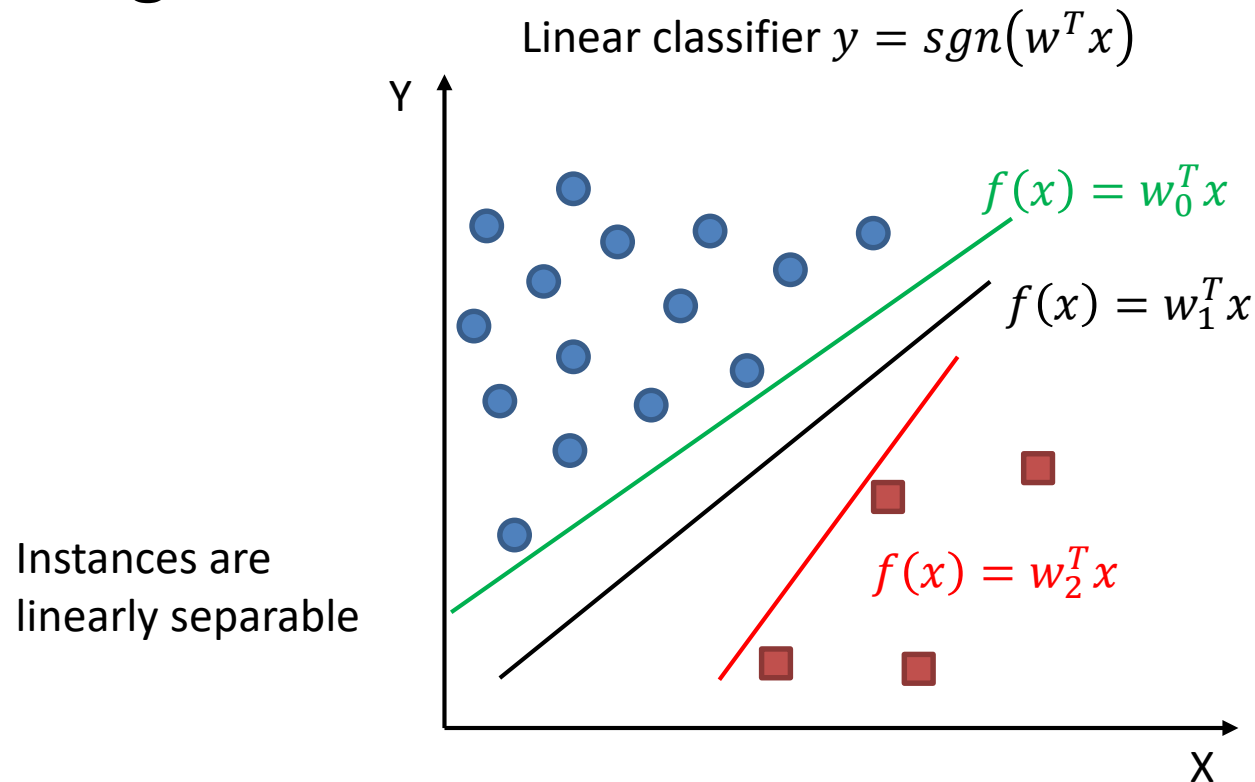


**A linear model!**

How about directly  
estimating this?

# Which linear classifier do we prefer?

- Choose the one with maximum separation margin



# Parameterize the margin

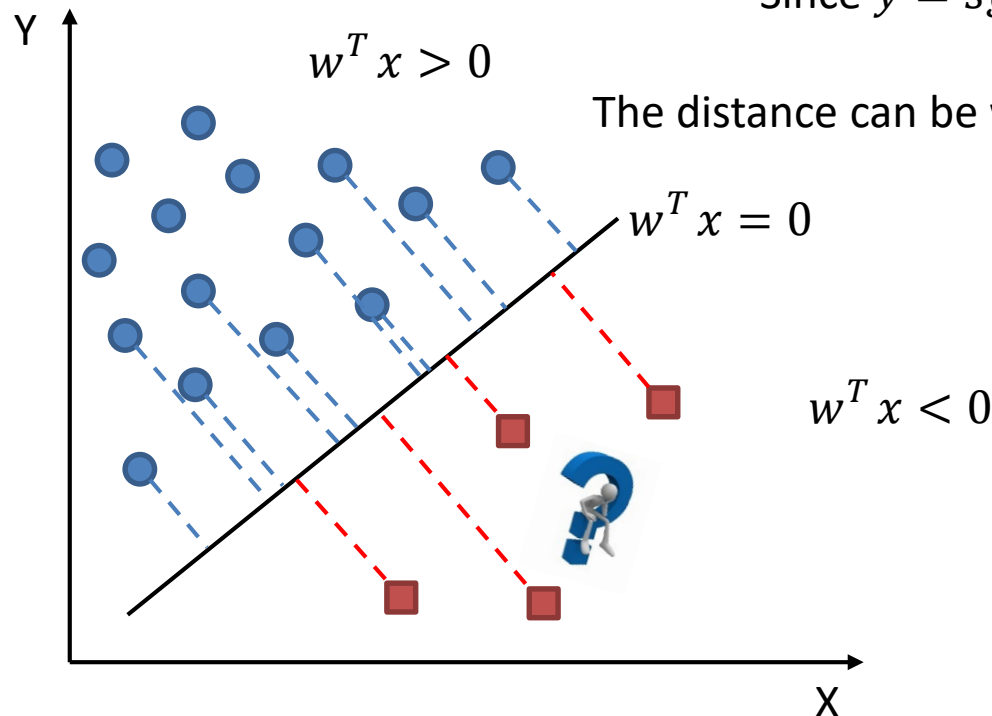


Distance from a point to a line  $\frac{|w^T x|}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$

- Margin =  $\min_i \frac{y_i w^T x_i}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$

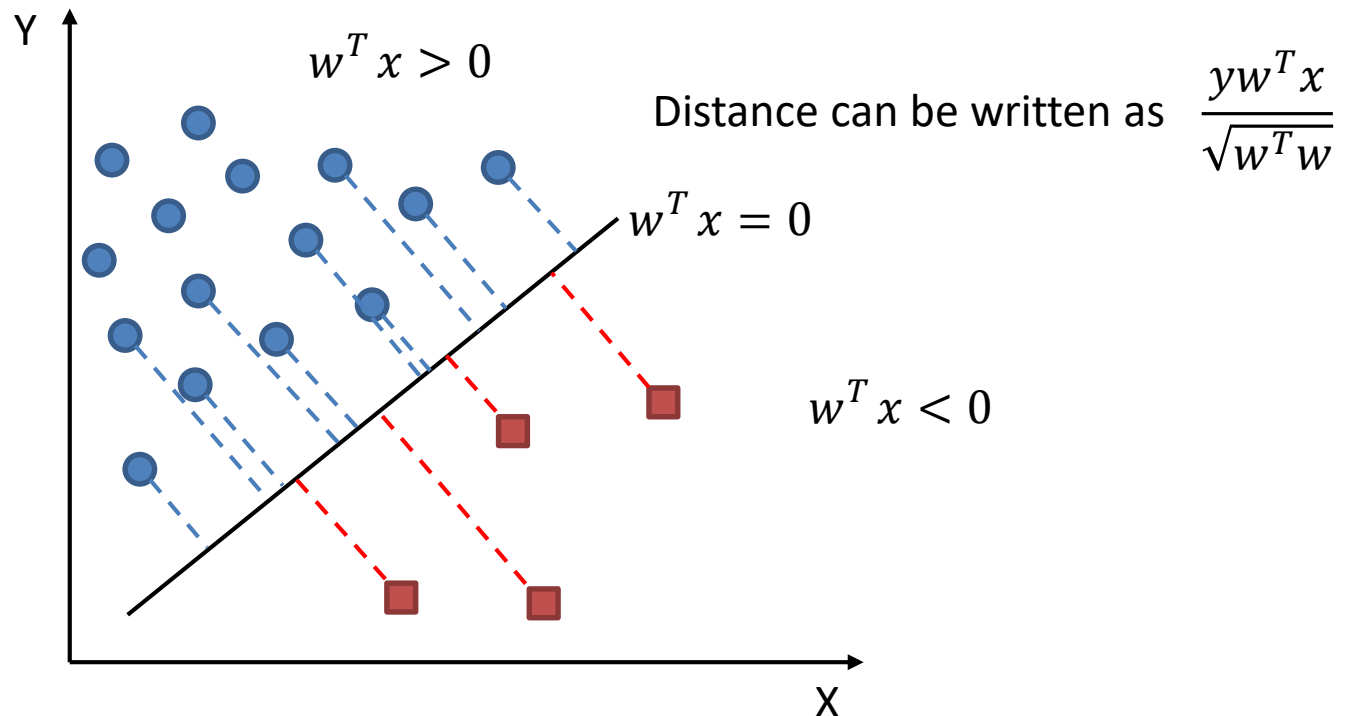
Since  $y = \text{sgn}(w^T x)$

The distance can be written as  $\frac{y w^T x}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$



# Max margin classifier

- $w^* = \operatorname{argmax}_w \min_i \frac{y_i w^T x_i}{\sqrt{w^T w}} \quad s.t. \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 0$





# Max margin classifier

- $\operatorname{argmax}_w \min_i \frac{y_i w^T x_i}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$  is difficult to be optimized in general
  - Insight:  $\frac{y_i w^T x_i}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$  is invariant to scaling of  $w$
  - Define  $y_i w^T x_i = 1$  for the point that is closest to the surface
  - Then,  $\forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1$

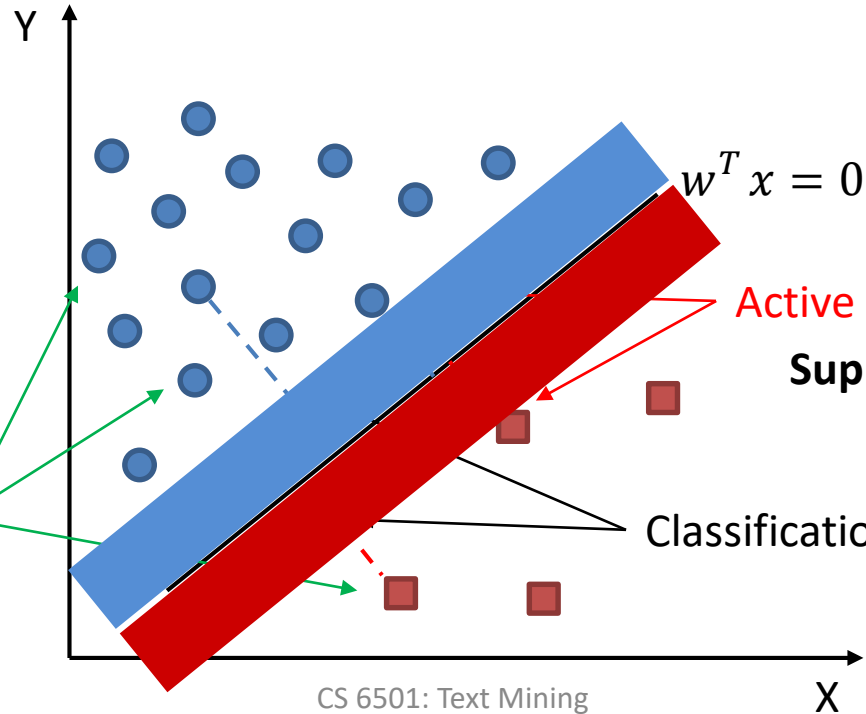
# Max margin classifier

$$\operatorname{argmin}_w \frac{1}{\sqrt{w^T w}}$$



Quadratic programming!  
Easy to solve!

$$s. t. \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1$$



$w^T x = 0$  That's why it is called Support Vector Machines

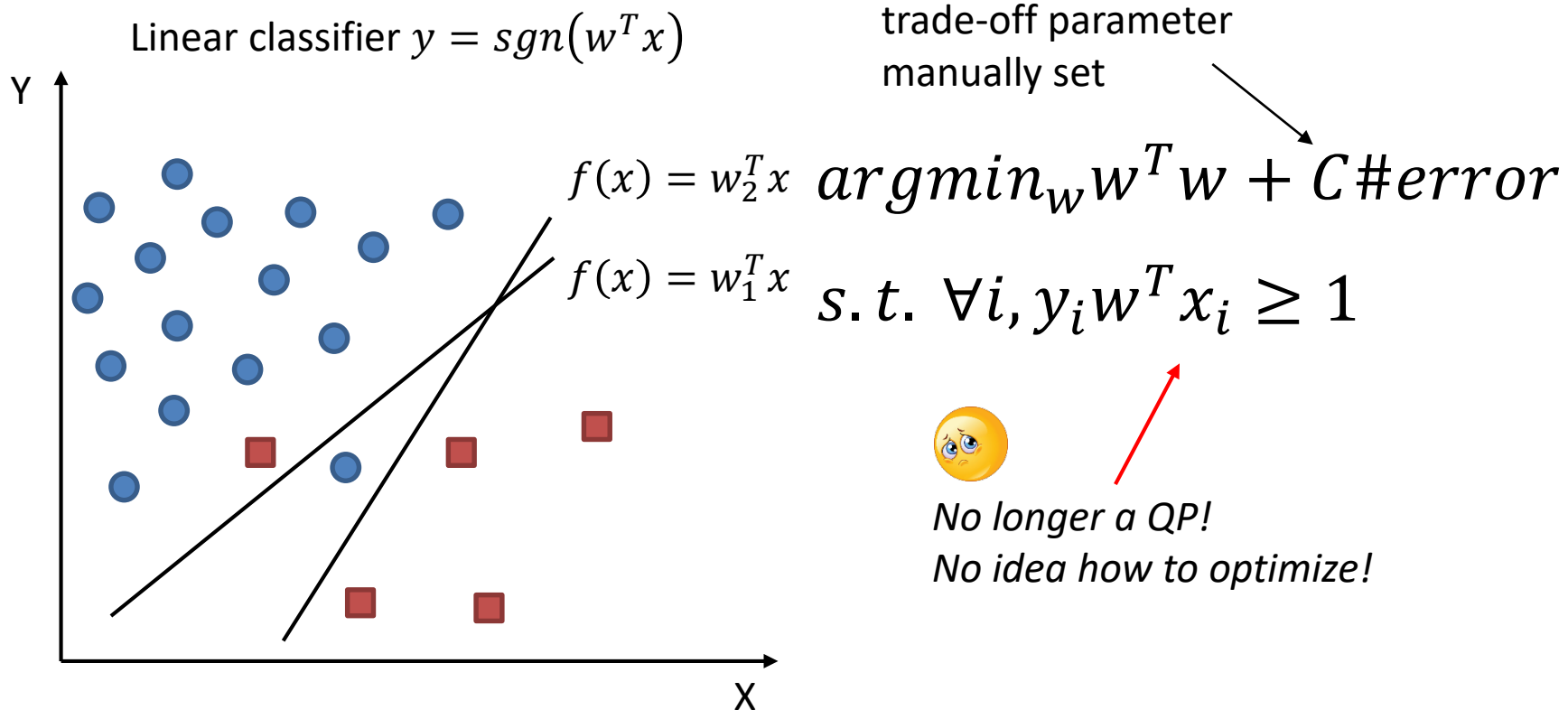
Active constraints  
Support vectors

No contribution in deciding the decision boundary  
Inactive constraints

Classification confidence  $\min_i y_i w^T x_i$

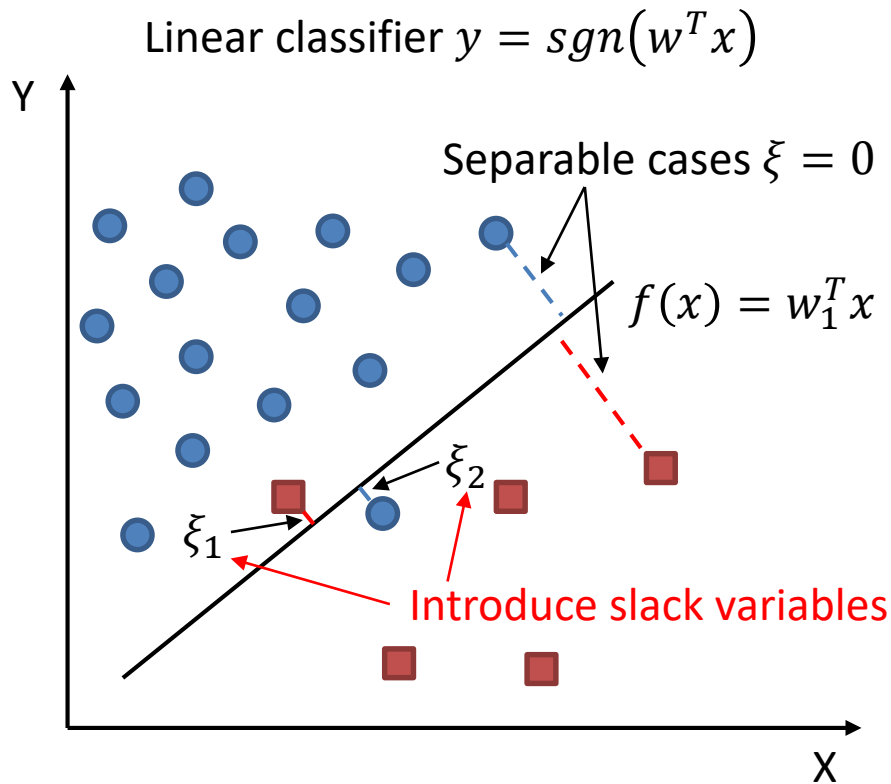
# What if the instances are not linearly separable?

- Maximize the margin while minimizing the number of errors made by the classifier?



# Soft-margin SVM

- Relax the constraints and penalize the misclassification error



$$\text{argmin}_{w, \xi} w^T w + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

$$\text{s. t. } \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1 - \xi_i$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0$$



Still a QP!  
Easy to optimize!

# What kind of loss is SVM optimizing?

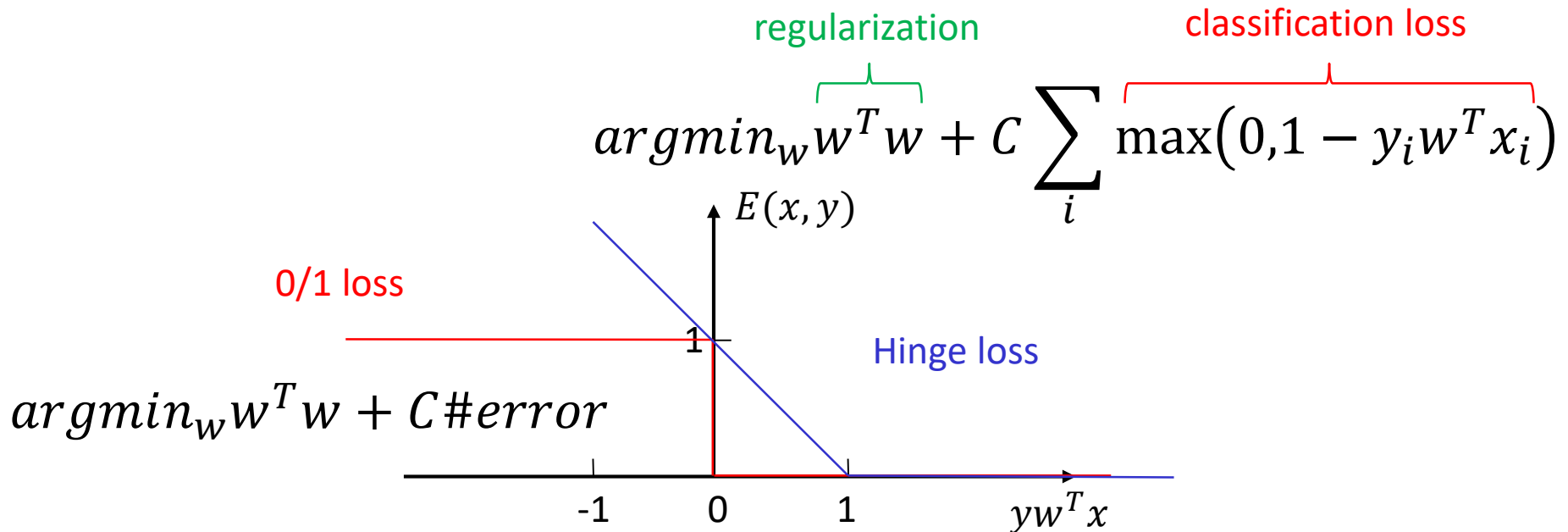
$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_{w, \xi} w^T w + C \sum_i \xi_i \\ \text{s.t. } \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ \xi_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\operatorname{argmin}_w w^T w + C \sum_i \underline{\max(0, 1 - y_i w^T x_i)}$$

# What kind of error is SVM optimizing?

- Hinge loss



# Think about logistic regression

- Optimized by maximum a posterior estimator

$$- \operatorname{argmax}_w \sum_x \log p_w(y|x) - \frac{w^T w}{2\sigma^2} \quad \text{Note: } y = \{-1, +1\}$$

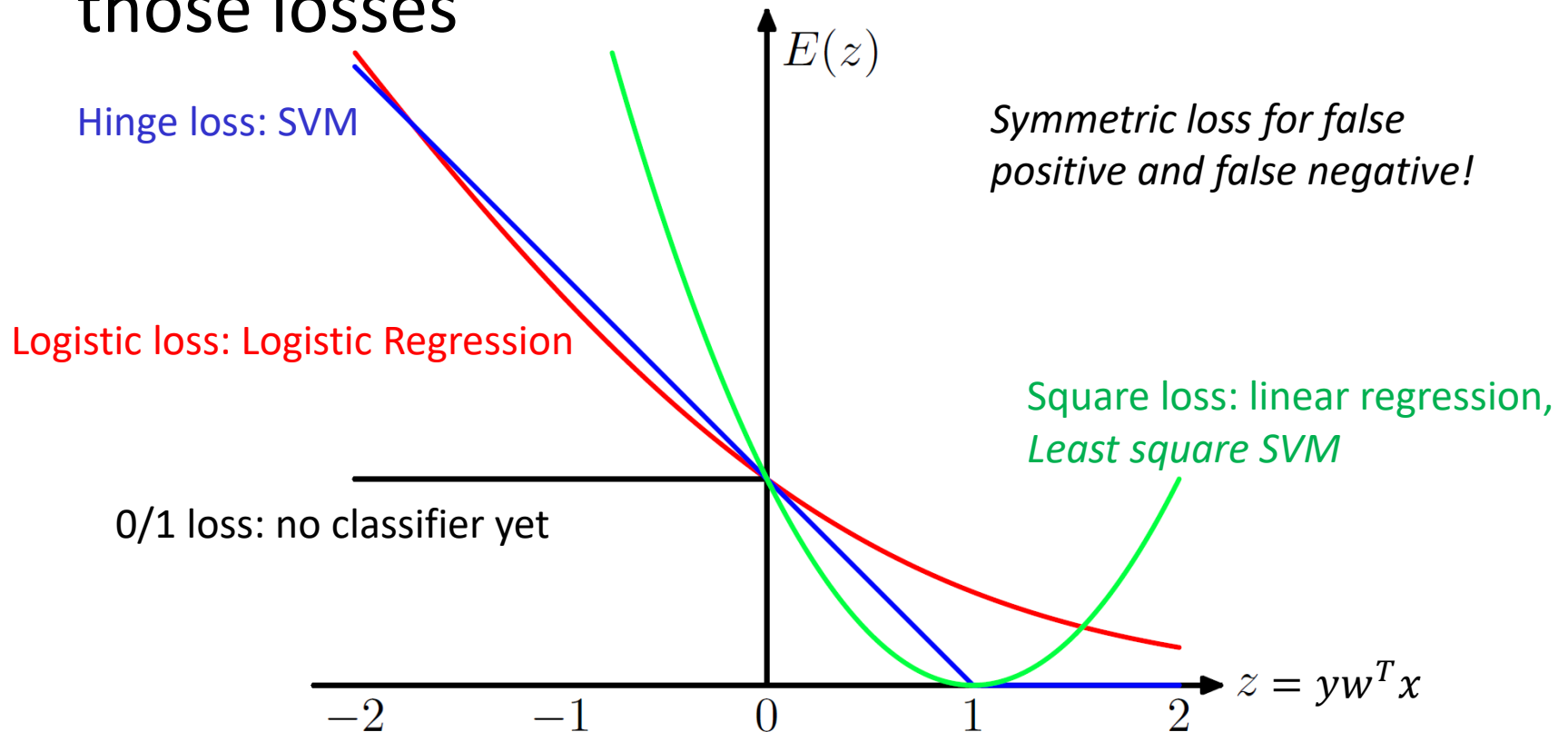
➔  $\operatorname{argmin}_w w^T w - C \sum_x \log p_w(y|x)$  Note:  $C = 2\sigma^2$

$p_w(y|x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-yw^T x)}$

➔  $\operatorname{argmin}_w \underbrace{w^T w}_{\text{Regularization}} + C \sum_x \underbrace{\log(1 + \exp(-yw^T x))}_{\text{Logistic loss}}$

# Different types of classification loss

- Discriminative classifiers aim at optimizing those losses

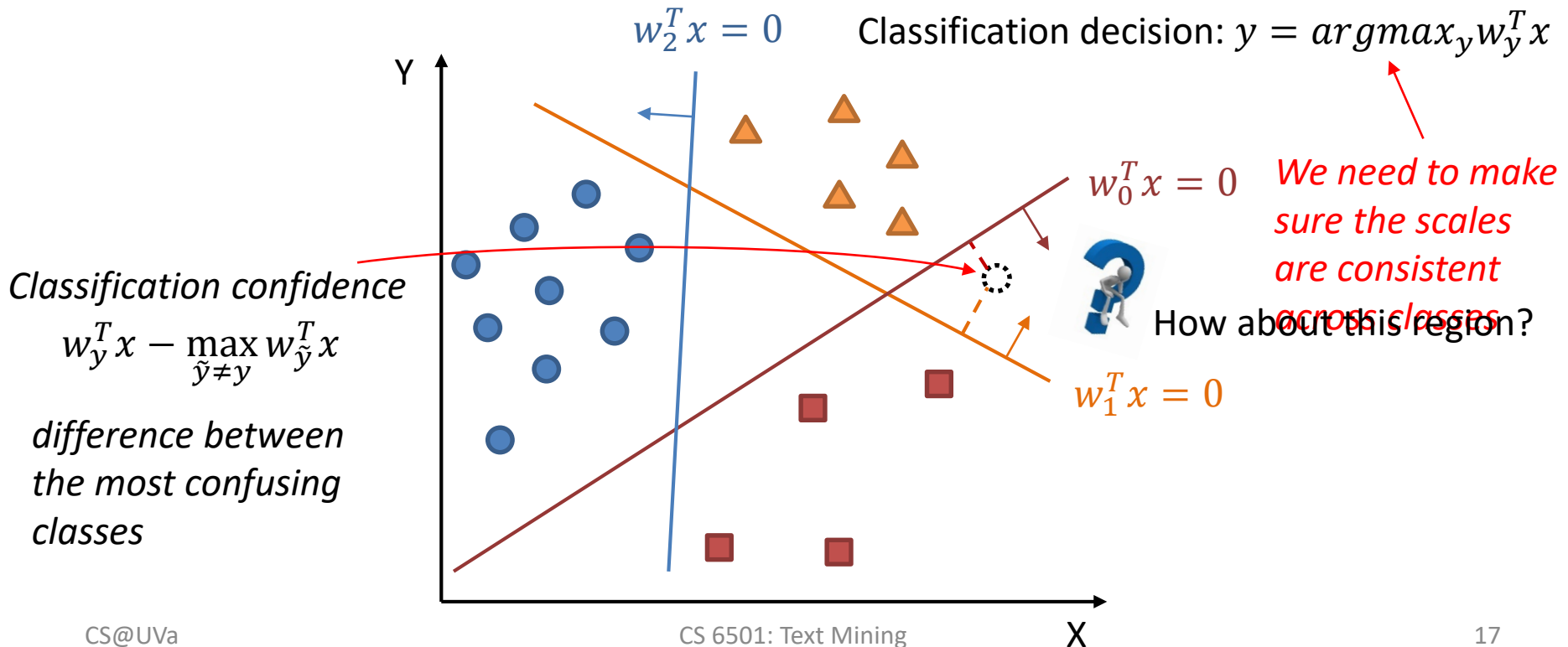


Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning, p337



# What about multi-class classification?

- One v.s. All
  - Simultaneously learn a set of classifiers



# What about multi-class classification?

- One v.s. All
  - Simultaneously learn a set of classifiers

For binary classification, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_w w^T w + C \sum_i \xi_i \\ \text{s. t. } \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ \xi_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

*Generalize it!*

# What about multi-class classification?

- One v.s. All
  - Simultaneously learn a set of classifiers

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_w \quad & \sum_y w_y^T w_y + C \sum_i \sum_{y \neq y_i} \xi_i^y \\ \text{s.t. } \forall i, y \neq y_i, \quad & w_{y_i}^T x_i \geq w_y^T x_i + 1 - \xi_i^y \\ & \xi_i^y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

*Scale the margin by the rest classes*

# Parameter estimation

- A constrained optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_w w^T w + C \sum_i \xi_i \\ \text{s. t. } \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ \xi_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Can be directly optimized with gradient-based method

- *Chapelle, Olivier. "Training a support vector machine in the primal." Neural Computation 19.5 (2007): 1155-1178.*

$$\operatorname{argmin}_w w^T w + C \sum_i \max(0, 1 - y_i w^T x_i)$$

piece-wise linear

# Dual form of SVM

*Just to simplify the follow-up derivations*

- A constrained optimization problem

Primal

$$\operatorname{argmin}_w \frac{w^T w}{2} + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

Lagrangian multipliers

$$s. t. \quad \forall i, y_i w^T x_i \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad \alpha_i$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0 \quad \beta_i$$

Lagrangian dual

$$L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{w^T w}{2} + \sum_i (C \xi_i - \alpha_i (y_i w^T x_i - 1 + \xi_i) - \beta_i \xi_i)$$

$$s. t. \quad \forall i, \alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0$$

# Dual form of SVM

- Lagrangian dual

$$L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{w^T w}{2} + \sum_i (C \xi_i - \alpha_i (y_i w^T x_i - 1 + \xi_i) - \beta_i \xi_i)$$

$$s. t. \forall i, \alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0$$

Lemma

$$\max_{\alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0} L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta) = \begin{cases} \inf f(w, \xi) & \text{if } (w, \xi) \text{ is feasible} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*We need to maximize  $L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta)$  with respect to  $(\alpha, \beta)$  so as to minimize  $f(w, \xi)$  with respect to  $(w, \xi)$*

# Dual form of SVM

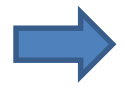
- Lagrangian dual

$$L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{w^T w}{2} + \sum_i (C \xi_i - \alpha_i (y_i w^T x_i - 1 + \xi_i) - \beta_i \xi_i)$$

$$s.t. \forall i, \alpha_i \geq 0, \beta_i \geq 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta)}{\partial w} = w - \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

Set it to zero



$$w = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

take them back to dual form

$$\frac{\partial L(w, \xi, \alpha, \beta)}{\partial \xi_i} = C - \alpha_i - \beta_i$$



$$\alpha_i + \beta_i = C$$

# Dual form of SVM

- Lagrangian dual

$$L(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i \right)^T \left( \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i \right) - \sum_i \left( \alpha_i \left( y_i \left( \sum_j \alpha_j y_j x_j \right)^T x_i - 1 \right) \right)$$

*s. t.*  $\forall i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$




# Dual form of SVM

- Lagrangian dual

$$L(\alpha) = \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i^T x_j$$

In dual form, we need to maximize it!

$$s. t. \forall i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$$

QP again!   
Easy to optimize!

Complementary slackness

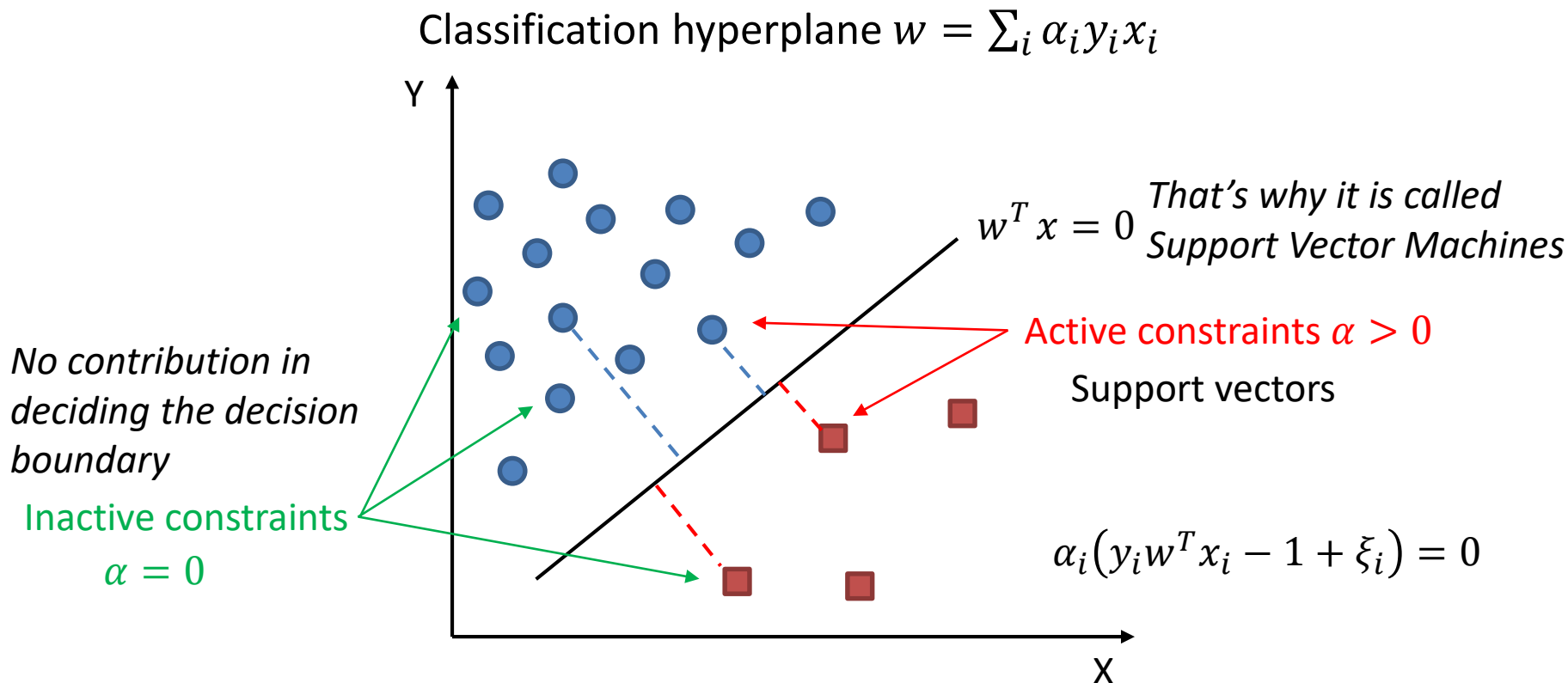
$$\text{In the optimal solution: } \alpha_i (y_i w^T x_i - 1 + \xi_i) = 0$$

which means  $\alpha_i = 0$  if the constraint is satisfied (correct classification)

$\alpha_i > 0$  if the constraint is not satisfied (misclassification)

# Sparsity in dual SVM

- Only a few  $\alpha$ s can be non-zero

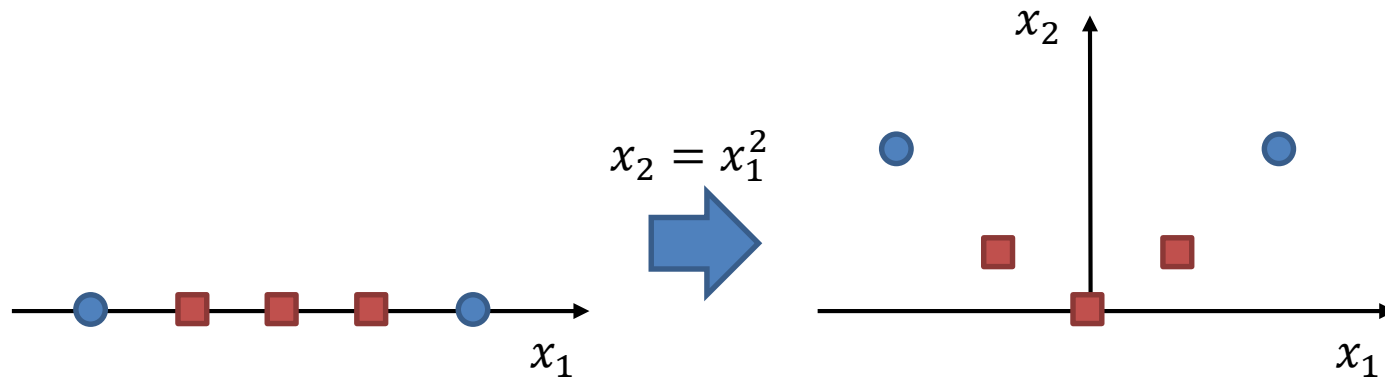


# Why dual form SVM?

- Primal SVM v.s. dual SVM
  - Primal: QP in feature space
  - Dual: QP in instance space
  - If we have a lot more features than training instances, dual optimization will be more efficient
  - More importantly, the kernel trick!

# Non-linearly separable cases

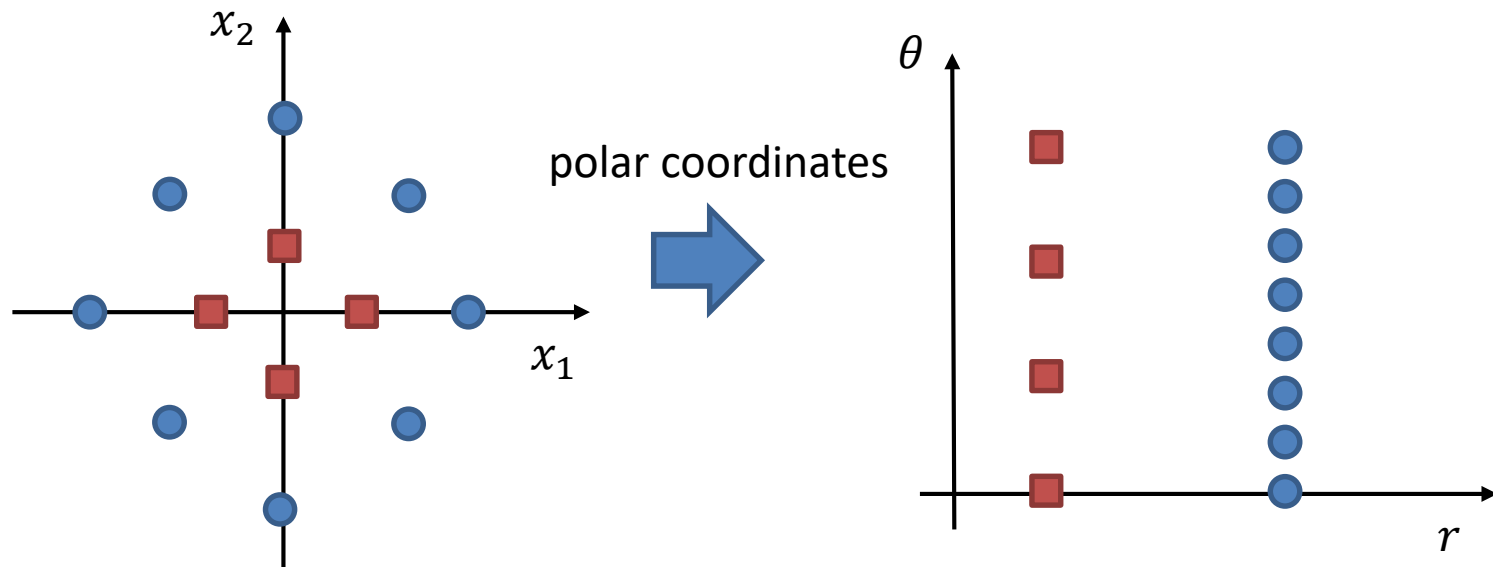
- Non-linear mapping to linearly separable case



Polynomial mapping

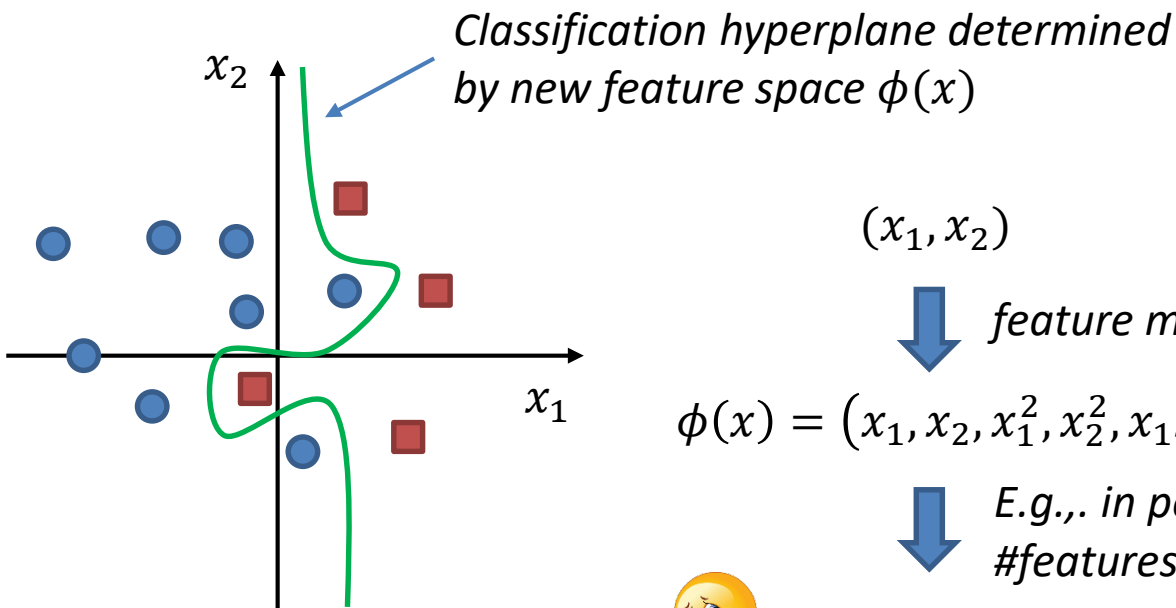
# Non-linearly separable cases

- Non-linear mapping to linearly separable case



# Non-linearly separable cases

- Explore new features
  - Use features of features of features....



$(x_1, x_2)$



*feature mapping  $\phi(x)$*

$$\phi(x) = (x_1, x_2, x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, \dots, \exp(x_1x_2))$$



*E.g., in polynomial mapping:  
#features  $\sim O(V^d)$*



Feature space explodes very quickly!

# Rethink about dual form SVM

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \boxed{x_i^T x_j}$$

$$s. t. \forall i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$$



*What we need is only the inner product between instances!*

Take order 2 polynomial as an example:

$$\phi(x, y) = (x^2, y^2, \sqrt{2}xy)$$

If we take the feature mapping first and then compute the inner product:

$$\phi(x_a, y_a)^T \phi(x_b, y_b) = x_a^2 x_b^2 + y_a^2 y_b^2 + 2x_a x_b y_a y_b$$

If we compute the inner product first:

$$[(x_a, y_a)^T (x_b, y_b)]^2 = x_a^2 x_b^2 + y_a^2 y_b^2 + 2x_a x_b y_a y_b$$

*No need to take feature mapping at all!*

# Rethink about dual form SVM

- Kernel SVM

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)$$

s. t.  $\forall i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$

– Kernel function

$$K(x_i, x_j) = \phi(x_i)^T \phi(x_j)$$

*$\phi(x)$  is some high dimensional feature mapping, but never needed to be explicitly defined*



# Rethink about dual form SVM

- Kernel SVM

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_i \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)$$

$$s. t. \forall i, 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$$

- Decision boundary

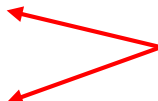
- $f(x) = \underline{w}^T \phi(x)$

*We still don't need this explicit feature mapping!*

*Similarity between a testing case and support vectors!*

# How to construct a kernel

- Sufficient and necessary condition for  $K(x, y)$  to be valid kernel
  - Symmetric
  - Semi-positive definite

 *Just like the requirement for a distance metric*
- Operations that preserve kernel properties
  - $K^*(x, y) = cK(x, y)$ , where  $c > 0$
  - $K^*(x, y) = K_1(x, y) + K_2(x, y)$
  - $K^*(x, y) = \exp(K(x, y))$
  - $K^*(x, y) = K_1(x, y)K_2(x, y)$

# Common kernels

- Polynomials of degree up to  $d$ 
  - $K(x, y) = (x^T y + 1)^d$
- Radial basis function kernel/Gaussian kernel
  - $K(x, y) = \exp\left(-\frac{(x-y)^T(x-y)}{2\sigma^2}\right)$
  - Polynomials of all orders – recall series expansion

# Special kernels for text data

- String kernel

- $x$  and  $y$  are two text sequences

*N-gram kernel  
(length  $n$  substrings)*

- $K(x, y) = \sum_n \sum_{u \in A^n} \sum_{i: u=x[i]} \sum_{j: u=y[j]} 1$

- where  $A$  is a finite alphabet of symbols

All character sequence of length  $n$

All occurrences of sequence  $u$  in  $y$

All occurrences of sequence  $u$  in  $x$

*Insight of string kernel:*

*Counting the overlapping of all subsequences  
with length up to  $n$  in  $x$  and  $y$*

*Lodhi, Huma, et al. "Text classification using string kernels." The Journal of Machine Learning Research 2 (2002): 419-444.*

# Special kernels for text data

- String kernel v.s. Ngram kernel v.s. word kernel

Category	Kernel	Length	F1		Precision		Recall	
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
earn	SSK	3	0.925	0.036	0.981	0.030	0.878	0.057
		4	0.932	0.029	0.992	0.013	0.888	0.052
		5	0.936	0.036	0.992	0.013	0.888	0.067
		6	0.936	0.033	0.992	0.013	0.888	0.060
		7	0.940	0.035	0.992	0.013	0.900	0.064
		8	0.934	0.033	0.992	0.010	0.885	0.058
		10	0.927	0.032	0.997	0.009	0.868	0.054
		12	0.931	0.036	0.981	0.025	0.888	0.058
		14	0.936	0.027	0.959	0.033	0.915	0.041
		NGK	3	0.919	0.035	0.974	0.036	0.873
	4		0.943	0.030	0.992	0.013	0.900	0.055
	5		<b>0.944</b>	0.026	0.992	0.013	0.903	0.051
	6		0.943	0.030	0.992	0.013	0.900	0.055
	7		0.940	0.035	0.992	0.013	0.895	0.064
	8		0.940	0.045	0.992	0.013	0.895	0.063
	10		0.932	0.032	0.990	0.015	0.885	0.053
	12		0.917	0.033	0.975	0.024	0.868	0.053
	14		0.923	0.034	0.973	0.033	0.880	0.055
	WK			0.925	0.033	0.989	0.014	0.867

SVM classification performance on Reuters categories

# Special kernels for text data

- Tree kernel

Similar?

Barack Obama is the president of the United States.

Elon Musk is the CEO of Tesla Motors.

```
(ROOT
  (S
    (NP (NNP ) (NNP ))
    (VP (VBZ )
      (NP
        (NP (DT ) (NN ))
        (PP (IN )
          (NP (DT ) (NNP )) (NNPS ))))
      (. .)))
```

```
(ROOT
  (S
    (NP (NNP ) (NNP ))
    (VP (VBZ )
      (NP
        (NP (DT ) (NN ))
        (PP (IN )
          (NP (NNP )) (NNPS ))))
      (. .)))
```

Almost identical in their dependency parsing tree!

# Special kernels for text data

- Tree kernel

$$- K(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_1 = r_2 \\ 1 + K(x[r_1], y[r_2]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Can be relaxed to allow subsequent computation under unlatching nodes*

*Search through all the sub-trees starting from root node  $r$*

*Culotta, Aron, and Jeffrey Sorensen. "Dependency tree kernels for relation extraction." Proceedings of the ACL. P423-429, 2004.*

# Special kernels for text data

- Tree kernel

*Can be relaxed to allow subsequent computation under unlatching nodes*

$$- K(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_1 = r_2 \\ 1 + K(x[r_1], y[r_2]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Search through all the sub-trees starting from root node  $r$*

- $K_0$  = sparse kernel
- $K_1$  = contiguous kernel
- $K_2$  = bag-of-words kernel
- $K_3$  =  $K_0 + K_2$
- $K_4$  =  $K_1 + K_2$

	Avg. Prec.	Avg. Rec.	Avg. F1
$K_1$	69.6	25.3	36.8
$K_2$	47.0	10.0	14.2
$K_3$	68.9	24.3	35.5
$K_4$	<b>70.3</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>38.0</b>

Relation classification performance



# Popular implementations

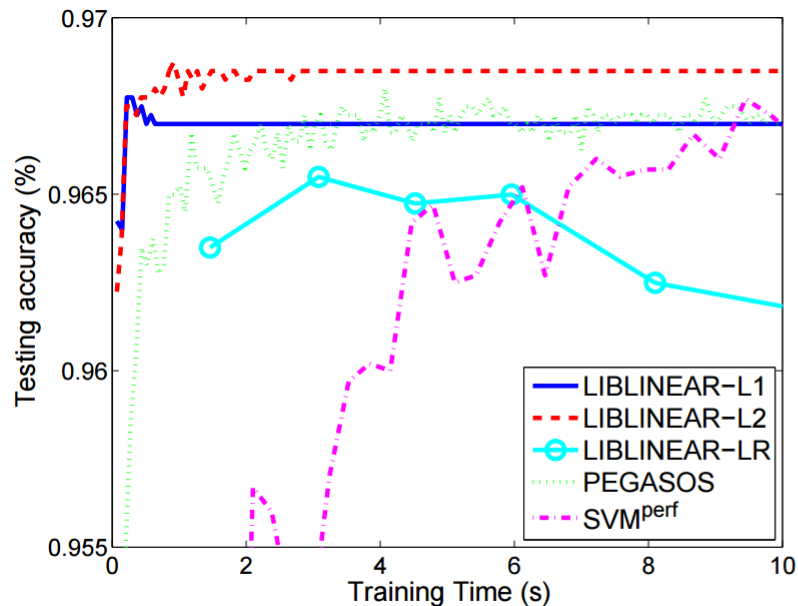
- General SVM
  - **SVM<sup>light</sup>** (<http://svmlight.joachims.org>)
  - libSVM  
(<http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvm>)
  - SVM classification and regression
  - Various types of kernels

# Popular implementations

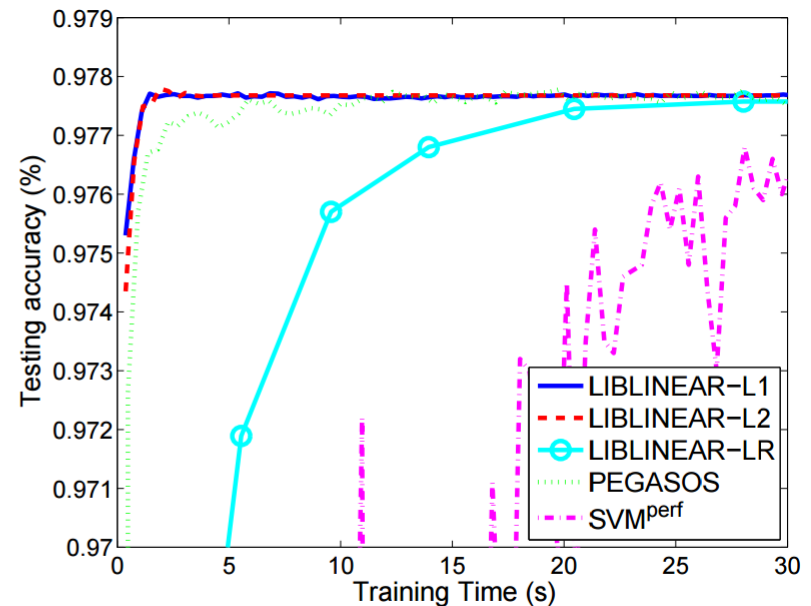
- Linear SVM
  - LIBLINEAR  
(<http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/liblinear>)
  - Just for linear kernel SVM (also logistic regression)
  - Efficient optimization by dual coordinate descent

# Popular implementations

- LIBLINEAR v.s. general SVM



(a) news20,  $l$ : 19,996,  $n$ : 1,355,191, #nz: 9,097,916



(b) rcv1,  $l$ : 677,399,  $n$ : 47,236, #nz: 156,436,656

Fan, Rong-En, et al. "LIBLINEAR: A library for large linear classification." *The Journal of Machine Learning Research* 9 (2008): 1871-1874.

# What you should know

- The idea of max margin
- Support vector machines
  - Linearly separable v.s. non-separable cases
  - Slack variable and dual form
  - Kernel method
    - Different types of kernels
  - Popular implementations of SVM

# Today's reading

- Introduction to Information Retrieval
  - Chapter 15: Support vector machines and machine learning on documents
  - Chapter 14: Vector space classification
    - 14.4 Linear versus nonlinear classifiers
    - 14.5 Classification with more than two classes