

## An Introduction to Optimization with Application to Machine Learning

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1

## Motivation: Machine Learning

▶ Linear Regression

$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \|w^T x_i + b - y_i\|^2$$

▶ SVM

$$\begin{aligned} &\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i \\ &\text{subject to} \quad y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1 - \varepsilon_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ &\quad \quad \quad \varepsilon_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

▶ PGDM metric learning

$$\begin{aligned} &\underset{P}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in S} \|x_i - x_j\|_P \\ &\text{subject to} \quad \sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in D} \|x_i - x_j\|_P \geq 1 \\ &\quad \quad \quad P \succcurlyeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Optimization Problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(x) \\ & \text{subject to} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $x \in R^n$  is the variable to find
- ▶  $f_0: R^n \rightarrow R$  is called the objective (cost or utility) function
- ▶  $f_i: R^n \rightarrow R, i = 1, \dots, m$  are the inequality constraints (defines a set)
- ▶  $h_i: R^n \rightarrow R, i = 1, \dots, p$  are the equality constraints (defines a set)
- ▶ Solution:  $p^* = \inf\{f_0(x) \mid f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m, h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p\}$
- ▶ Constrained vs. unconstrained problems: whether you have the constraints or not.
- ▶ A feasible point  $x$  is optimal if  $f_0(x) = p^*$ ;  $X_{OPT}$  is the set of optimal points.

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3

## Feasibility

- ▶ An optimization problem is feasible
  - ▶ if  $x \in \text{dom } f_0$  (implicit constraints) and it satisfies all the (explicit) constraints  $f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m$  &  $h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p$ .
- ▶ For infeasible problems, we say  $p^* = +\infty$

- ▶ Feasibility problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{find} && x \\ & \text{subject to} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Equivalent to the following optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && 0 \\ & \text{subject to} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

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4

## Locally Optimal Points

- ▶ For the following problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(x) \\ & \text{s.t.} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $x$  is locally optimum if there is an  $R > 0$  such that  $x$  is optimal for the following problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{z}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(z) \\ & \text{s.t.} && f_i(z) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(z) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \\ & && \|z - x\|_2 \leq R \end{aligned}$$

## Regularization

- ▶ A form of limiting the feasible search space of an optimization problem
- ▶ Can be considered as the prior information that the solution is located in the neighborhood of point  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(x) && \rightarrow && \underset{z}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(z) \\ & \text{s.t.} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m && && \text{s.t.} && f_i(z) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p && && && h_i(z) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \\ & && && && && \|z - x\|_p \leq R \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Leads to sparse solution for  $x=0$  and small  $p$
- ▶ I will get back to this.

## Convexity

- ▶ An optimization problem is convex if
  - ▶  $f_0: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a convex function
  - ▶ Constrains  $f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m$  &  $h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p$  are convex sets.
  - ▶  $f_0: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f_i: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, m, h_i: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, p$  can be linear or nonlinear
- ▶ Importance
  - ▶ Any local optimum is a global optimum
  - ▶ Local optimality can be verified. No general tractable global optimum test
  - ▶ So, for convex problems, it is easy to check if a point is a global optimum.
- ▶ Feasible set of a convex optimization problem is convex.
- ▶ Convex set and convex function??

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7

## Affine and Convex Sets

- ▶ Affine sets: the line through any two disjoint points
  - ▶  $x = \theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2, \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}$
  - ▶ Or equivalently, solution set of linear equation  $\{x | Ax = b\}$
- ▶ Line segment: line segment between two points
  - ▶  $x = \theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 1$
- ▶ Convex Sets: a set that contains the line segment of any two points of the set
  - ▶  $x_1, x_2 \in S, 0 \leq \theta \leq 1 \Rightarrow \theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2 \in S$



Convex



Non-convex



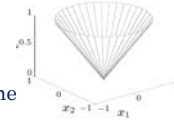
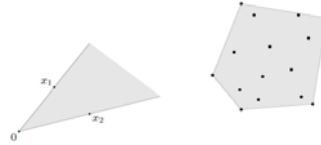
Non-Convex

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8

## Convex Sets (examples)

- ▶ Convex hull of set  $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ : Set of all convex combinations of points in S
  - ▶  $\{x | \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i x_i, \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i = 1, \theta_i \geq 0\}$
- ▶ Conic combination of two points
  - ▶  $x = \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2, \quad 0 \leq \theta_1, \theta_2$
- ▶ Convex cone of set S: a set that contains all conic combinations of points in S
- ▶ Hyperplanes ( $a^T x + b = 0$ , linear equality)
- ▶ Halfspaces ( $a^T x + b \leq 0$ , linear inequality)
- ▶ Euclidean balls and Ellipsoids:  $\{x | (x - x_c)^T P^{-1} (x - x_c) \leq 1\}$  ( $P \in \mathcal{S}_{++}^n$ , i.e. P is positive-definite P)
- ▶ Norm ball:  $\{x | \|x - x_c\| \leq r\}$
- ▶ Norm cone:  $C = \{(x, t) | \|x\| \leq t\} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ 
  - ▶ Euclidean norm cone ( $\|x\|_2$ ) is called second order cone



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9

## Operations that preserve convexity

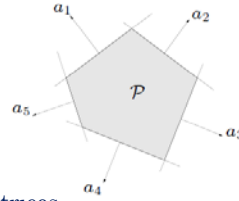
- ▶ Intersection of convex sets
- ▶ The image of a convex set under affine (linear) function
  - ▶  $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m: F(x) = Ax + b$
  - ▶ scaling ( $aS$ ), translation ( $S+a$ ), projection
- ▶ Perspective function
  - ▶  $F: \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n: F(x, t) = x/t, \quad \text{dom}(F) = \{(x, t) | t > 0\}$
  - ▶ Image and inverse image of convex sets under perspective are convex
- ▶ Linear-fractional functions:
  - ▶  $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m: F(x, t) = \frac{Ax+b}{c^T x + d}, \quad \text{dom}(F) = \{x | c^T x + d > 0\}$
  - ▶ Image and inverse image of convex sets under linear-fractional functions are convex

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10

## Convexity preserving operations (cont.)

- ▶ Intersection of convex sets is convex.
- ▶ Polyhedra is convex
  - ▶ Intersection of finite number of halfspaces and hyperplanes
- ▶ Positive semidefinite (PSD) cone: Set of all PSD matrices is convex
  - ▶ Intersection of infinite number of halfspaces and hyperspaces passing through origin  
 $(\bigcap_{z \neq 0} \{X \in \mathcal{S}^n \mid z^T X z \geq 0\})$
  - ▶ We denote it by  $\mathcal{S}_+^n$



## Generalized Inequalities

- ▶ Definition: A cone  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a proper cone if
  - ▶  $K$  is convex
  - ▶  $K$  is closed
  - ▶  $K$  is solid: it has nonempty interior
  - ▶  $K$  is pointed: it contains no line
- ▶ Generalized inequalities: defined by a proper cone  $K$ , is a partial ordering
 
$$x \preceq_K y \Leftrightarrow y - x \in K$$

$$x \prec_K y \Leftrightarrow y - x \in \text{int } K \text{ (interior of } K)$$
- ▶ Examples
  - ▶ Componentwise inequality:
 
$$x \prec_{\mathbb{R}_+^n} y \Leftrightarrow y_i \geq x_i$$
  - ▶ Matrix inequality
 
$$X \prec_{\mathcal{S}_+^n} Y \Leftrightarrow Y - X \text{ is PSD}$$

## Dual Cones

- ▶ Dual cone of a cone  $K$ :  $K^* = \{y \mid y^T x \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in K\}$ 
  - $x \preceq_K y \iff y - x \in K$
  - $x \prec_K y \iff y - x \in \text{int } K$  (interior of  $K$ )

- ▶ Examples

- ▶  $K = R_+^n$ :  $K^* = R_+^n$
- ▶  $K = S_+^n$ :  $K^* = S_+^n$ , ( $\text{tr}(XY) \geq 0$ )
- ▶  $K = \{(x, t) \mid \|x\|_2 \leq t\}$ :  $K^* = \{(x, t) \mid \|x\|_2 \leq t\}$
- ▶  $K = \{(x, t) \mid \|x\|_1 \leq t\}$ :  $K^* = \{(x, t) \mid \|x\|_\infty \leq t\}$

## Convex Functions

- ▶ Definition: function  $f(x): \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if the graph of the function lies between the line segment joining any two points of the graph.



- ▶ Formally:  $f(x): \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if  $\text{dom}(f)$  is convex and
 
$$f(\theta x + (1 - \theta)y) \leq \theta f(x) + (1 - \theta)f(y)$$

- ▶ Examples in  $\mathbb{R}$ :

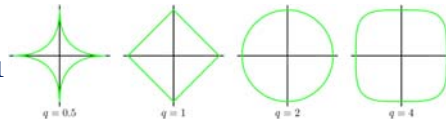
- ▶ affine, exponential, powers ( $x^\alpha, \alpha \leq 0$  or  $\alpha \geq 1$ ), power of absolute value ( $|x|^\alpha, \alpha \geq 1$ )

- ▶ Example on  $\mathbb{R}^n$

- ▶ Norm  $\|x\|_\alpha = (\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^\alpha)^{1/\alpha}, \alpha \geq 1$

- ▶ Example on  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$

- ▶ Affine function  $\text{tr}(A^T X) + b = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} X_{ij} + b$



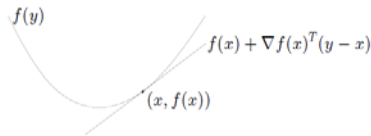
## Convex Functions (verification tricks)

- ▶  $f(x): \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if and only if the following function of one variable is convex in  $t$  for any  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$  &  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$g(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}: g(t) = f(x + tv), \text{dom}(g) = \{t \mid x + tv \in \text{dom}(f)\}$$

- ▶ First order condition: Differentiable  $f$  with convex domain is convex if and only if

$$f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T (y - x)$$



- ▶ Second order condition: twice differentiable function  $f$  with convex domain is convex if and only if

$$\nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \text{dom}(f)$$

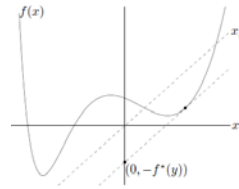
- ▶ Example: quadratic function  $1/2x^T P x + q^T x + r$  is convex if  $P$  is PSD

## Operations that preserve convexity:

- ▶ Nonnegative weighted sum
  - ▶  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f_i(x)$  is convex if  $f_i(x), i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  are convex
  - ▶ Jensen's inequality:  $f(\mathbb{E}(x)) \leq \mathbb{E}f(x)$
- ▶ Composition with affine function
  - ▶  $f(Ax + b)$  is convex if  $f(x)$  is convex
  - ▶ Examples:  $f(x) = -\sum_{i=1}^n \log(b_i - a_i^T x)$
- ▶ Minimization
  - ▶  $g(x) = \min_{y \in C} f(x, y)$  is convex if  $f(x, y)$  is convex in  $(x, y)$  and  $C$  is a convex set
  - ▶ Examples:  $\text{dist}(x, S) = \min_{y \in S} \|x - y\|$  is convex if  $S$  is convex
- ▶ Perspective  $g(x, t) = t f\left(\frac{x}{t}\right), t > 0$ 
  - ▶ Example:  $g(x, t) = \frac{x^T x}{t}, t > 0$
- ▶ Pointwise maximum and supremum
  - ▶ Piecewise linear function:  $f(x) = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} a_i^T x + b_i$
  - ▶  $g(x) = \sup_{y \in A} f(x, y)$  is convex if  $f(x, y)$  is convex in  $x$  for each  $y \in A$
  - ▶ Example: max eigenvalue of a symmetric function  $\lambda_{\max}(X) = \sup_{\|y\|=1} y^T X y$



## Conjugate function:



- ▶ The conjugate function of  $f$  is defined as
 
$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \text{dom}(f)} (y^T x - f(x))$$
- ▶ The conjugate function of  $f^*$  is the max cap between the linear function  $y^T x$  and  $f(x)$ . For differentiable functions, this occurs at a point  $x$  where  $y = \nabla f(x)$
- ▶  $f^*$  is convex even if  $f$  is not. Because it is a pointwise supremum of a family of affine functions
- ▶ Also known as Legendre-Fenchel Transformation or Fenchel Transformation
- ▶ Examples
  - ▶  $f(x) = -\log(x) \rightarrow f^*(y) = -1 - \log(-y), y < 0$
  - ▶  $f(x) = \exp(x) \rightarrow f^*(y) = y \log(y) - y, y > 0$
  - ▶  $f(x) = x \log(x) \rightarrow f^*(y) = \exp(y-1), y \neq 0$
  - ▶  $f(x) = 1/x \rightarrow f^*(y) = -2(-y)^{1/2}, y \leq 0$

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17

## Slack variables

- ▶ Converting inequality constraints to equality constraints
 
$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ll} \underset{x, b_i}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) + b_i = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & b_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{array}$$
- ▶ Introducing equality constraints
 
$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(A_0 x + b_0) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(A_i x + b_i) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ll} \underset{x, b_i}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(y_0) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(y_i) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & A_i x + b_i = y_i \quad i = 0, \dots, m \end{array}$$
- ▶ Converting an infeasible problem to feasible by relaxing the constraints
 
$$\begin{array}{ll} \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ll} \underset{x, b_i}{\text{minimize}} & f_0(x) + C \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) - b_i \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & b_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{array}$$

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18

## Duality

- ▶ The following optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && f_0(x) \\ & \text{subject to} && f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Can be written in the Lagrangian form

$$L(x, \lambda, \nu) = f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x)$$

- ▶  $\lambda_i, i = 1, \dots, m$  are called the Lagrange multipliers associated with the inequalities and  $\nu_i, i = 1, \dots, p$  are called the Lagrange multipliers associated with the equalities. They are also called the dual variables.

- ▶ The Lagrange dual function is defined as

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda, \nu) = \inf_x f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x)$$

- ▶  $g(\lambda, \nu)$  is the lower bound for the optimal value of original problem
  - ▶  $g(\lambda, \nu) \leq P^*$

## The dual problem

- ▶ The following optimization problem is called the dual problem (original problem is called primal)

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\lambda, \nu}{\text{maximize}} && g(\lambda, \nu) \\ & \text{subject to} && \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Finds the best lower bound on  $p^*$

- ▶ A convex optimization problem with optimal value denoted by  $d^*$
- ▶  $L(\lambda, \nu)$  is concave since it is pointwise infimum of a family of affine functions

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda, \nu) = \inf_x f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x)$$

- ▶ This automatically gives a procedure to optimize the non-convex problems.

## Solving dual problems

- ▶ Solve the dual problem which is convex
- ▶ Question: how good it is?
  - ▶ The duality gap  $p^* - d^*$  is a measure of how good it is
  - ▶ Not usually easy to show that the gap is small
- ▶ Strong duality  $p^* - d^* = 0$ 
  - ▶ Usually (but not always) holds for convex problems
  - ▶ Non-convex problem can have strong duality as well so you can get lucky if you use the dual
- ▶ If the strong duality holds and  $x, \lambda, v$  are optimal, then they must satisfy the following conditions, called KKT conditions
  - ▶ Primal constraints:  $f_i(x) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m$
  - ▶ Dual constraints:  $\lambda_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, m$
  - ▶ Complementary slackness:  $\lambda_i f_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m$
  - ▶ Gradient of Lagrangian vanishes:  $\nabla f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p v_i \nabla h_i(x)$

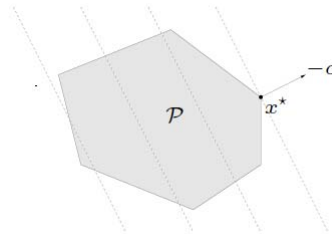
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21

## Linear Program (LP)

- ▶ Convex problem with affine objective and constraints functions

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && c^T x + d \\ & \text{s.t.} && Gx \leq h \\ & && Ax = b \end{aligned}$$



- ▶ Feasible set is a polyhedron
- ▶ linprog command in MATLAB

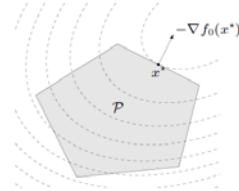
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22

## Quadratic Program (QP)

- ▶ Convex problem with quadratic convex objective and affine constraints functions (P is PSD)

$$\begin{aligned} \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \quad & 1/2x^T Px + q^T x + r \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & Gx \leq h \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$



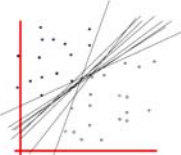
- ▶ Minimizes a convex quadratic over a polyhedron
- ▶ Quadprog command in matlab

## SVM: a QP Example

- ▶ Many linear classifiers separating two separable set of examples

- ▶ Pick the one with maximum margin

$$\begin{aligned} \underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad & \|w\|^2 \\ \text{subject to} \quad & y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$



- ▶ If the examples are not separable, the feasible set of this problem is empty (infeasible problem)
- ▶ Utilizing slack variables to relax the constraints and make a feasible problem

$$\begin{aligned} \underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad & \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i \\ \text{subject to} \quad & y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1 - \varepsilon_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ & \varepsilon_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

## SVM: dual formulation

- Define the Lagrangian:

$$L(w, b, \lambda, \nu) = \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i - \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i (y_i(w^T x_i + b) - 1 + \varepsilon_i) - \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i \varepsilon_i$$

- Finding  $L(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_{w, b} L(w, b, \lambda, \nu)$

$$\frac{\partial L(w, b, \lambda, \nu)}{\partial w} = 0 \rightarrow w = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

$$\frac{\partial L(w, b, \lambda, \nu)}{\partial b} = 0 \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial L(w, b, \lambda, \nu)}{\partial \varepsilon_i} = 0 \rightarrow \alpha_i = C - \mu_i$$

- KKT conditions: 1)  $\alpha_i \geq 0$ , 2)  $y_i(w^T x_i + b) - 1 + \varepsilon_i \geq 0$ , 3)  $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i (y_i(w^T x_i + b) - 1 + \varepsilon_i) = 0$ , 4)  $\mu_i \geq 0$ , 5)  $\varepsilon_i \geq 0$ , 6)  $\mu_i \varepsilon_i = 0$

## SVM: dual formulation

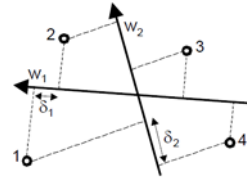
- Using these results, we obtain the dual problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\lambda, \nu}{\text{maximize}} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - 1/2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i x_j \\ & \text{subject to} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \end{aligned}$$

- Useful form for using the kernel trick

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\lambda, \nu}{\text{maximize}} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - 1/2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C \end{aligned}$$

## SVM^Rank: a QP Example



- ▶ Ranking problem:
  - ▶  $n$  queries  $q_i, i = 1, \dots, n$
  - ▶ for query  $q_i$ , a list of items  $d_j^i, j = 1, \dots, m_i$  (feature vector) with their respect relevancy  $r_j^i, j = 1, \dots, m_i$  to the query.
  - ▶ Assume also that  $r_j^i$  are discrete  $[1..k]$
- ▶ Objective: obtain a linear classifier that respects ordering information
  - ▶ Suppose  $W$  is such a classifier
  - ▶ Construct a set on pair of examples  $S = \{(x, z) | x = d_j^i, z = d_k^i, r_k^i - r_j^i = 1\}$
  - ▶ Find  $W$  that maximizes the margin between each two items

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{w, b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{r_i - r_j = 1} \varepsilon_{ij} \\ & \text{subject to} \quad w^T(x_j - x_i) \geq 1 - \varepsilon_{ij}, \quad (x_i, x_j) \in S \\ & \quad \quad \quad \varepsilon_{ij} \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

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27

## Multi-Task Learning

- ▶ Problem setup
  - ▶  $T$  classification problems, each with different set of training examples.
  - ▶ Task  $t$  has  $n_t$  training examples  $(x_i^t, y_i^t), i = 1, \dots, n_t$
  - ▶ Feature vector of all task are in the same space
  - ▶ Tasks are related (digits recognition, medical domains, etc)
- ▶ Objective: to learn linear classifiers  $w^t, t = 1, \dots, T$  for tasks by considering that the tasks are similar
- ▶ Solution: assume all tasks are similar to a central unknown task  $\mu$ 

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{w, b, \mu}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{t=1}^T \|w^t\|^2 + \sum_{t=1}^T \|w^t - \mu\|^2 + C \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^{n_t} \varepsilon_i^t \\ & \text{subject to} \quad y_i (w^{tT} x_i^t + b^t) \geq 1 - \varepsilon_i^t, \quad i = 1, \dots, n_t, t = 1, \dots, T \\ & \quad \quad \quad \varepsilon_i^t \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, n_t, t = 1, \dots, T \end{aligned}$$
- ▶ How to write the dual of this problem? (Next lecture)

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28

## Quadratically Constrained QP (QCQP)

- ▶ Convex problem with quadratic convex objective and constraints functions ( $P_i$  are SDP)

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && 1/2x^T P_0 x + q_0^T x + r_0 \\ & \text{s.t.} && 1/2x^T P_i x + q_i^T x + r_i \leq 0 \\ & && Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Objective and constraints are convex quadratic
- ▶ Can be solved with standard toolbox

## Semidefinite Programming

- ▶ Convex problem with quadratic convex objective and constraints functions

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && c^T x + d \\ & \text{s.t.} && x_1 P_1 + \dots + x_n P_n + Q \preceq 0 \text{ (Linear Matrix Inequality)} \\ & && Gx \preceq b \text{ (General inequalities)} \\ & && Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Or

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} && \text{tr}(CX) \\ & \text{s.t.} && \text{tr}(A_i X) = b_i \\ & && X \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ If  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  and  $Q$  are all diagonal, the SDP programming reduces to linear programming
- ▶ SeDuMi is a good tool to model this type of problems

## Local and Global Consistency SSL

- ▶ Local and global Consistency, minimize

$$Q(F) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^N W_{ij} \left\| \frac{F_i}{\sqrt{D_{ii}}} - \frac{F_j}{\sqrt{D_{jj}}} \right\|^2}_{\text{Smoothness}} + \underbrace{\mu \sum_{i=1}^N \|F_i - Y_i\|^2}_{\text{Fitting}}$$

- ▶ Question: convex or non-convex?

$$Q(F) = F D^{-\frac{1}{2}} L D^{-\frac{1}{2}} F + \underbrace{\mu \sum_{i=1}^N \|F_i - Y_i\|^2}_{\text{Fitting}}$$

- ▶ How to solve such problems? (Next lecture)

## PGDM metric learning

- ▶ PGDM metric learning

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{P}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in S} \|x_i - x_j\|_P \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in D} \|x_i - x_j\|_P \geq 1 \\ & \quad \quad \quad P \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Question: convex or non-convex?
- ▶ How should we solve such problems? (next lecture)



## LMNN metric learning

- ▶ LMNN metric learning

$$\underset{A}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(x_i, x_j) \in S} \|x_i - x_j\|_p$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|x_i - x_k\|_p - \|x_i - x_j\|_p \geq 1, (x_i, x_j, x_k) \in R$$

$$P \geq 0$$

- ▶ in  $(x_i, x_j, x_k) \in R$ ,  $(x_i, x_j)$  are of the same class and neighbor according to Euclidean distance.  $(x_i, x_k)$  are from two different classes.
- ▶ Question: convex or non-convex?
- ▶ How should we solve such problems? (next lecture)