

# SVMs & Duality

General Constrained Optimization Problem:

$$\min_x f_0(x)$$

$$\text{st } f_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i=1,2,\dots,m$$

$$\text{and } h_i(x) = 0, \quad i=1,2,\dots,p$$

Here  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  (i.e.  $f_i: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ )

①

Primal problem

Lagrangian:  $L: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

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

where  $\lambda_i$  is Lagrange Multiplier for  $i$ -th inequality constraint  
&  $\nu_i$  " " " "  $i$ -th equality constraint

$\lambda$  &  $\nu$  are also called dual variables

Lagrange Dual Function

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

$\lambda$  &  $\nu$  are dual feasible if  $\lambda \geq 0$  &  $g(\lambda, \nu) > -\infty$

Fact 1  $g(\lambda, \nu) \leq p^*$  for any dual feasible  $\lambda, \nu$   
(where  $p^*$  is primal optimal, i.e. optimal value of ①,  $p^* = f_0(x^*)$ )

Fact 2 If  $\exists$  dual feasible  $\lambda^*, \nu^*$  ( $\lambda^* \geq 0$ ) and primal feasible  $x^*$  st  $g(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = p^* = f_0(x^*)$  then strong duality is said to hold

Dual Problem

$$\max_{\lambda, \nu} g(\lambda, \nu)$$

$$\text{st } \lambda \geq 0 \longrightarrow (\lambda_i \geq 0, i=1,2,\dots,m)$$

Suppose strong duality holds for  $\lambda^*, \nu^*, x^*$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Then } f_0(x^*) &= g(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda^*, \nu^*) \\
&= \inf_x \left( f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i^* h_i(x) \right) \\
&\leq f_0(x^*) + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*)}_{\geq 0 \leq 0} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i^* h_i(x^*)}_{=0} \\
&\leq f_0(x^*)
\end{aligned}$$

So the above two inequalities must hold with equality

①  $x^*$  must be minimizer of  $L(x, \lambda^*, \nu^*)$

②  $\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) = 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

If  $\lambda_i^* > 0$ , then  $f_i(x^*) = 0$

If  $f_i(x^*) < 0$ , then  $\lambda_i^* = 0$

Karush Kuhn Tucker (KKT) conditions = Provide certificate of optimality when problem ① is convex

KKT Conditions for  $x^*$  and  $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$ :

$x^*$  Primal feasible:  $\begin{cases} f_i(x^*) \leq 0, & i=1, 2, \dots, m \\ h_i(x^*) = 0, & i=1, 2, \dots, p \end{cases}$

$\lambda^*$  Dual feasible:  $\lambda_i^* \geq 0, i=1, 2, \dots, m$

Complementary Slackness:  $\lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) = 0, i=1, 2, \dots, m$

$\rightarrow x^* = \text{argmin } L(x, \lambda^*, \nu^*)$

$\rightarrow \nabla_x f_0(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \nabla_x f_i(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i^* \nabla_x h_i(x^*) = 0$

# SVM Problem

$$\min_{w, w_0} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2$$

$$\text{st } y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \geq 1, \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N$$

$$\left[ 1 - y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \right] \leq 0 \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N$$

$\hookrightarrow f_i(w)$

Lagrangian

$$L(w, w_0, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i (1 - y_i (w^T x_i + w_0))$$

$$\nabla_w L(w, w_0, \alpha) = w + \sum_{i=1}^N -\alpha_i y_i x_i = 0 \Rightarrow w = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

$$\nabla_{w_0} L(w, w_0, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^N -\alpha_i y_i = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

Dual function  $g(\alpha) = \inf_{w, w_0} L(w, w_0, \alpha)$

$$g(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i \right\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j y_j x_j \right) + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i w_0}_0$$

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

SVM Dual:

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

$$\text{such that } \alpha_i \geq 0, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, N$$

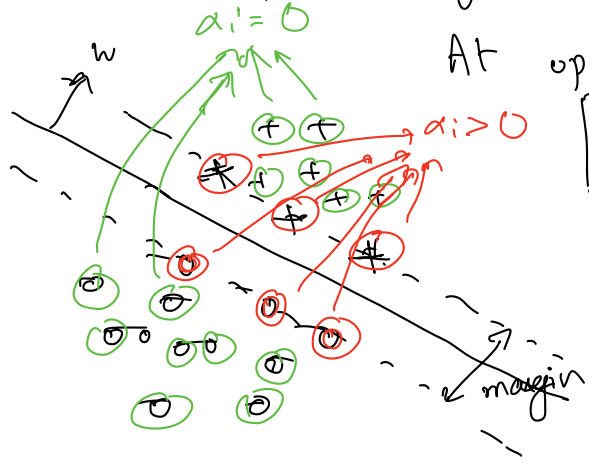
$$\& \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

Note that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i \right\|^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i \right)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j y_j x_j \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j x_i^T x_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\|z\|_2^2 = z^T z$$

# Complementary Slackness



At optimality,  $\alpha_i, w, w_0$  must satisfy

$$\alpha_i (1 - y_i (w^T x_i + w_0)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } i$$

If  $\alpha_i > 0$  then  $y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) = 1$

If  $y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) > 1$ , then  $\alpha_i = 0$

$$w = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i x_i$$

$w$  is linear combination of "support" vectors  $\alpha_i > 0$

Recall the original separable SVM formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{w, w_0} \quad & C \\ \text{st} \quad & y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \geq C \|w\| \end{aligned}$$

In order to allow non-separable data sets, relax above inequality to have a slack, i.e.,

$$y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \geq C (1 - \xi_i) \|w\|, \quad \xi_i \geq 0$$

Same as earlier, we can fix  $C \|w\| = 1$

Non-linearly separable SVM:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Primal:} \quad \min_{w, w_0, \xi} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \\ & y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N \\ & \xi_i \geq 0 \\ & \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i \leq \text{constant} \end{aligned}$$

(Non-linearly separable) SVM Primal:

$$\min_{w, w_0, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + \gamma \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i \right)$$
$$1 - \xi_i - y_i (w^T x_i + w_0) \leq 0, i=1, 2, \dots, N$$
$$\xi_i \geq 0, i=1, 2, \dots, N$$

(Non-linearly separable) SVM Dual:

$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_i \alpha_j x_i^T x_j$$
$$0 \leq \alpha_i \leq \gamma, i=1, 2, \dots, N$$
$$\sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

Exercise: Derive the above SVM Dual