

**CS 1675 Introduction to Machine Learning**  
**Lecture 10**

**Support vector machines**

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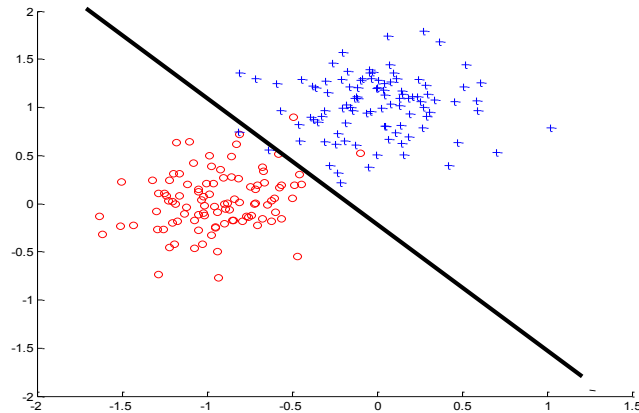
**Outline**

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- Algorithms for linear decision boundary
  - **Support vector machines**
  - Maximum margin hyperplane
  - Support vectors
  - Support vector machines
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## Linear decision boundaries

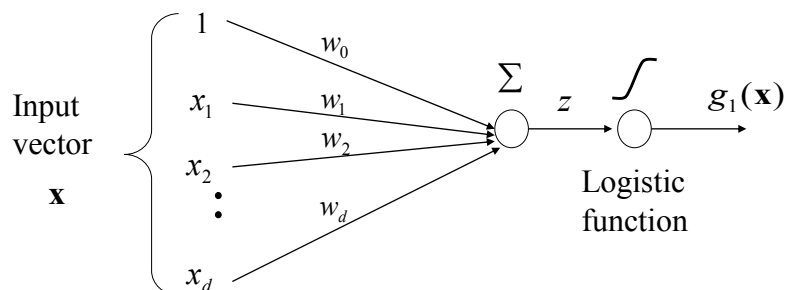
- What models define linear decision boundaries?



## Logistic regression model

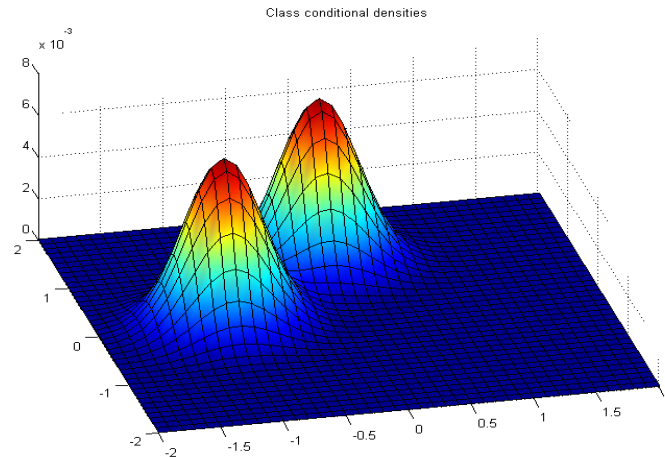
- Model for binary (2 class) classification
- Defined by discriminant functions:

$$g_1(\mathbf{x}) = 1/(1 + e^{-\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}}) \quad g_0(\mathbf{x}) = 1 - g_1(\mathbf{x}) = 1/(1 + e^{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}})$$



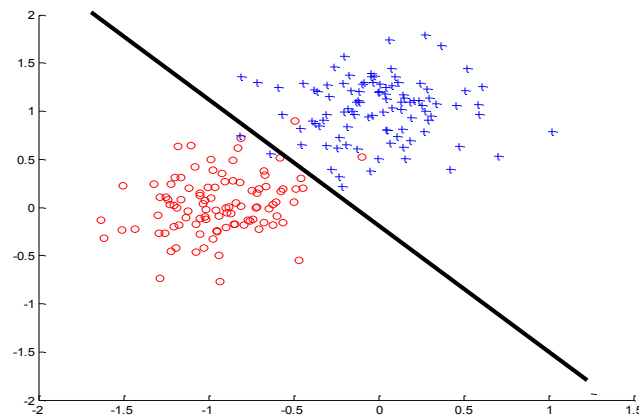
## Linear discriminant analysis (LDA)

- When covariances are the same  $\mathbf{x} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_0, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), y = 0$   
 $\mathbf{x} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), y = 1$



## Linear decision boundaries

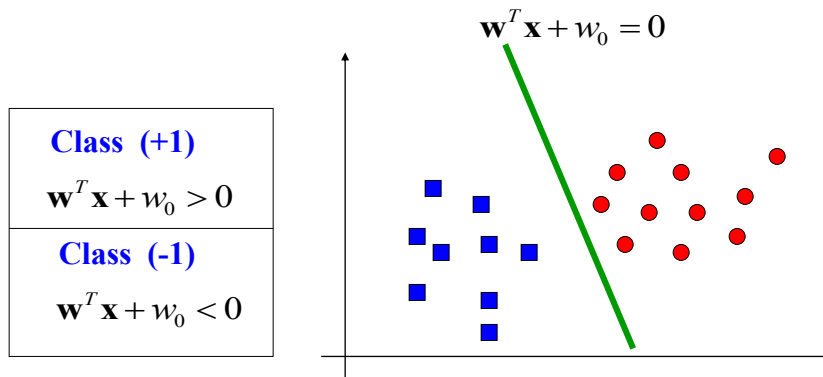
- Any other models/algorithms?



## Linearly separable classes

### Linearly separable classes:

There is a **hyperplane**  $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = 0$   
that separates training instances with no error



## Learning linearly separable sets

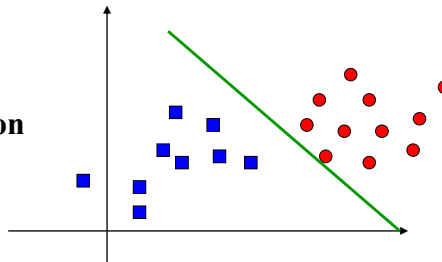
### Finding weights for linearly separable classes:

- **Linear program (LP) solution**
- It finds weights that satisfy the following constraints:

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \geq 0 \quad \text{For all } i, \text{ such that } y_i = +1$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \leq 0 \quad \text{For all } i, \text{ such that } y_i = -1$$

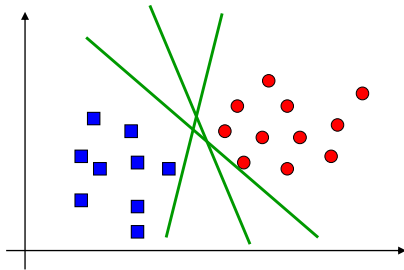
$$\text{Together: } y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) \geq 0$$



**Property:** if there is a hyperplane separating the examples, the linear program finds the solution

## Optimal separating hyperplane

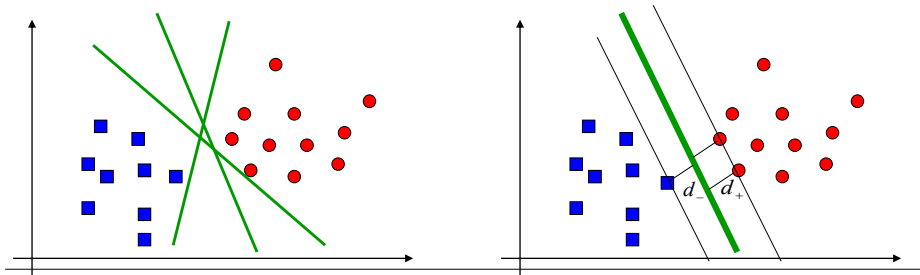
- **Problem:**
- There are multiple hyperplanes that separate the data points
- Which one to choose?



## Optimal separating hyperplane

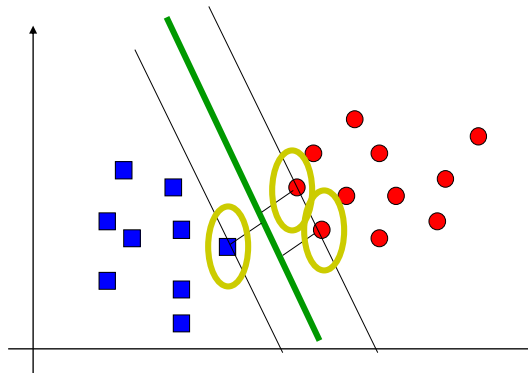
- **Problem:** multiple hyperplanes that separate the data exists
  - Which one to choose?
- **Maximum margin** choice: maximum distance of  $d_+ + d_-$ 
  - where  $d_+$  is the shortest distance of a positive example from the hyperplane (similarly  $d_-$  for negative examples)

**Note:** a margin classifier is a classifier for which we can calculate the distance of each example from the decision boundary



## Maximum margin hyperplane

- For the maximum margin hyperplane only examples on the margin matter (only these affect the distances)
- These are called **support vectors**



## Finding maximum margin hyperplanes

- **Assume** that examples in the training set are  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)$  such that  $y_i \in \{+1, -1\}$
- **Assume** that all data satisfy:

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \geq 1 \quad \text{for } y_i = +1$$

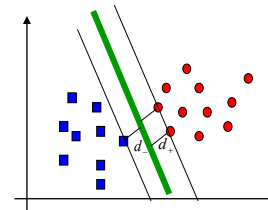
$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \leq -1 \quad \text{for } y_i = -1$$

- The inequalities can be combined as:

$$y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) - 1 \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } i$$

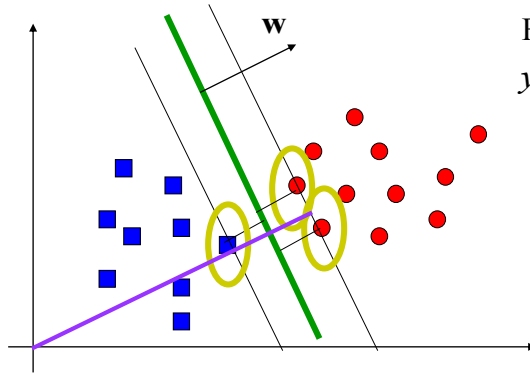
- Equalities define two hyperplanes:

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 = 1 \quad \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 = -1$$



## Finding the maximum margin hyperplane

- **Geometrical margin:**  $\rho_{\mathbf{w}, w_0}(\mathbf{x}, y) = y(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0) / \|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_2}$ 
  - measures the distance of a point  $\mathbf{x}$  from the hyperplane
  - $\mathbf{w}$  - normal to the hyperplane  $\|\cdot\|_{L_2}$  - Euclidean norm



For points satisfying:  
 $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) - 1 = 0$

The distance is  $\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_2}}$

**Width of the margin:**

$$d_+ + d_- = \frac{2}{\|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_2}}$$

## Maximum margin hyperplane

- We want to maximize  $d_+ + d_- = \frac{2}{\|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_2}}$

- We do it by **minimizing**

$$\|\mathbf{w}\|_{L_2}^2 / 2 = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} / 2$$

$\mathbf{w}, w_0$  - variables

- But we also need to enforce the constraints on points:

$$[y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0) - 1] \geq 0$$

## Maximum margin hyperplane

- **Solution:** Incorporate constraints into the optimization
- **Optimization problem** (Lagrangian)

$$J(\mathbf{w}, w_0, \alpha) = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) - 1]$$

$$\alpha_i \geq 0 \quad \text{- Lagrange multipliers}$$

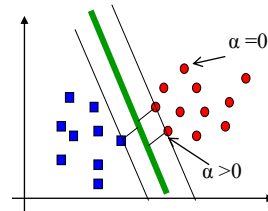
- **Minimize** with respect to  $\mathbf{w}, w_0$  (primal variables)
- **Maximize** with respect to  $\alpha$  (dual variables)

What happens to  $\alpha$ :

$$\text{if } y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) - 1 > 0 \implies \alpha_i \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{else} \implies \alpha_i > 0$$

Active constraint



## Max margin hyperplane solution

- Set derivatives to 0 (Kuhn-Tucker conditions)

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} J(\mathbf{w}, w_0, \alpha) = \mathbf{w} - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i = \bar{0}$$

$$\frac{\partial J(\mathbf{w}, w_0, \alpha)}{\partial w_0} = -\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

- Now we need to solve for Lagrange parameters (Wolfe dual)

$$J(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j) \quad \leftarrow \text{maximize}$$

Subject to constraints

$$\alpha_i \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } i, \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

- **Quadratic optimization problem:** solution  $\hat{\alpha}_i$  for all  $i$



## Maximum margin solution

- The resulting parameter vector  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$  can be expressed as:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\alpha}_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i \quad \hat{\alpha}_i \text{ is the solution of the optimization}$$

- The parameter  $w_0$  is obtained from  $\hat{\alpha}_i [y_i (\hat{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{x}_i + w_0) - 1] = 0$

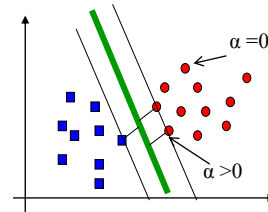
### Solution properties

- $\hat{\alpha}_i = 0$  for all points that are not on the margin

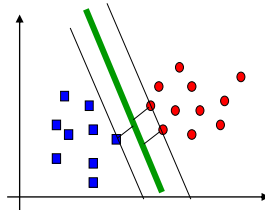
- The decision boundary:**

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0 = 0$$

The decision boundary defined by support vectors only



## Support vector machines



- The decision boundary:**

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0$$

- Classification decision:**

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign} \left[ \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0 \right]$$

## Support vector machines: solution property

- Decision boundary defined by a set of support vectors SV and their alpha values
  - Support vectors = a subset of datapoints in the training data that define the margin

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0$$

- Classification decision:

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign} \left[ \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0 \right]$$

- Note that we do not have to explicitly compute  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ 
    - This will be important for the nonlinear (kernel) case
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## Support vector machines: inner product

- Decision on a new  $\mathbf{x}$  depends on the inner product between two examples
- The decision boundary:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0$$

- Classification decision:

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign} \left[ \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0 \right]$$

- Similarly, the optimization depends on  $(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j)$

$$J(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j)$$

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## Inner product of two vectors

- The decision boundary for the SVM and its optimization depend on the inner product of two datapoints (vectors):

$$\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = ?$$

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## Inner product of two vectors

- The decision boundary for the SVM and its optimization depend on the inner product of two data points (vectors):

$$\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = (2 \quad 5 \quad 6) * \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 2 * 2 + 5 * 3 + 6 * 1 = 25$$

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## Inner product of two vectors

- The decision boundary for the SVM and its optimization depend on the inner product of two data points (vectors):

$$\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j$$

- The inner product is equal

$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}_i\| * \|\mathbf{x}_i\| \cos \theta$$

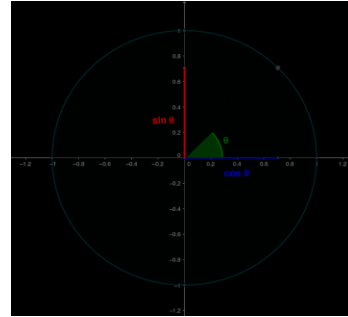
If the angle in between them is 0 then:

$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}_i\| * \|\mathbf{x}_i\|$$

If the angle between them is 90 then:

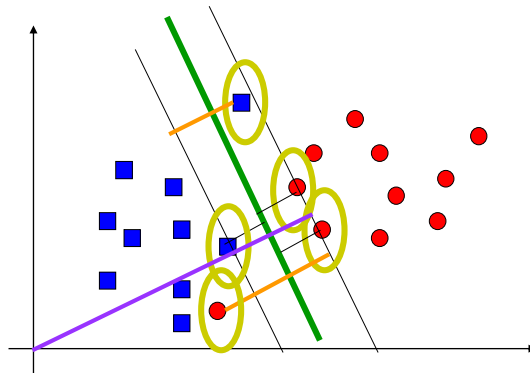
$$(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

The inner product measures how similar the two vectors are



## Extension to a linearly non-separable case

- Idea:** Allow some flexibility on crossing the separating hyperplane



## Linearly non-separable case

- Relax constraints with variables  $\xi_i \geq 0$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad \text{for} \quad y_i = +1$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \leq -1 + \xi_i \quad \text{for} \quad y_i = -1$$

- Error occurs if  $\xi_i \geq 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$  is the upper bound on the number of errors
- Introduce a penalty for the errors (**soft margin**)

$$\text{minimize} \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$$

Subject to constraints

$C$  – set by a user, larger  $C$  leads to a larger penalty for an error

## Linearly non-separable case

$$\text{minimize} \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \geq 1 - \xi_i \quad \text{for} \quad y_i = +1$$

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0 \leq -1 + \xi_i \quad \text{for} \quad y_i = -1$$

$$\xi_i \geq 0$$

- Rewrite  $\xi_i = \max[0, 1 - y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0)]$  in  $\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$

$$\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \max[0, 1 - y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + w_0)]$$

Regularization  
penalty

Hinge loss

## Linearly non-separable case

- Lagrange multiplier form (primal problem)

$$J(\mathbf{w}, w_0, \alpha) = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 / 2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i [y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0) - 1 + \xi_i] - \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i \xi_i$$

- Dual form after  $\mathbf{w}, w_0$  are expressed (  $\xi_i$  s cancel out)

$$J(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j)$$

Subject to:  $0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$  for all  $i$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$

**Solution:**  $\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\alpha}_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i$

**The difference** from the separable case:  $0 \leq \alpha_i \leq C$

The parameter  $w_0$  is obtained through KKT conditions

## Support vector machines: solution

- **The solution of the linearly non-separable case has the same properties as the linearly separable case.**
  - The decision boundary is defined only by a set of support vectors (points that are on the margin or that cross the margin)
  - The decision boundary and the optimization can be expressed in terms of the inner product in between pairs of examples

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0$$

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign} [\hat{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0] = \text{sign} \left[ \sum_{i \in SV} \hat{\alpha}_i y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}) + w_0 \right]$$

$$J(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j)$$