

Support Vector Clustering

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Gatsby tea talk

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Overview

Support Vector Clustering

Asa Ben-Hur, David Horn, Hava T. Siegelmann, Vladimir Vapnik
Journal of Machine Learning Research, 2001.

- Main algorithm based on

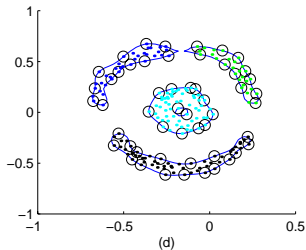
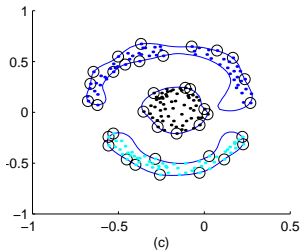
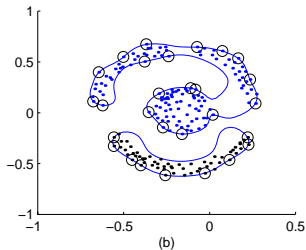
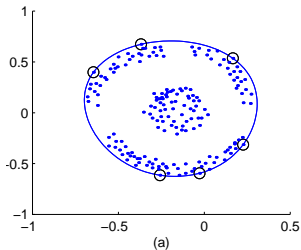
Support vector domain description
David M.J Tax, Robert P.W Duin
Pattern Recognition Letters, 1999.

- **Goal:** Divide $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$ into disjoint groups.

- **Idea:**

- 1 Map x_i to $\phi(x_i)$ (RKHS).
- 2 Find the minimal enclosing sphere in RKHS.
- 3 Sphere in RKHS = non-linear contours in the original space.
- 4 Interpret the contours as the cluster boundaries.

Example



■ (a),..., (d): From high to low Gaussian widths.

Support Vector Clustering (SVC)

Given $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^N$, find the smallest enclosing sphere of radius R . $a \in \mathcal{H}$ (RKHS).

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{R,a} R^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq R^2. \end{aligned}$$

Soft constraints with slack variables ξ_j :

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{R,a,\{\xi_j\}_j} R^2 + C \sum_{j=1}^N \xi_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq R^2 + \xi_j, \\ & \xi_j \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

- Convex problem. One optimum.

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Solving SVC

With dual variables $\{\beta_j\}_j$ and $\{\mu_j\}_j$, Lagrangian is

$$L = R^2 + C \sum_{j=1}^N \xi_j - \sum_{j=1}^N \underbrace{(R^2 + \xi_j - \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2)}_{\geq 0} \beta_j - \sum_{j=1}^N \underbrace{\xi_j}_{\geq 0} \mu_j.$$

Setting $\frac{\partial L}{\partial R} = 0$, $\frac{\partial L}{\partial a} = 0$, $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi_j} = 0$ leads to stationarity conditions

- 1 $1 = \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j$
- 2 $a = \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j \phi(x_j)$, linear combination of the mapped training points
- 3 $\beta_j = C - \mu_j$

KKT complementarity conditions (necessary for optimality)

- 1 $(R^2 + \xi_j - \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2) \beta_j = 0$
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Analysis of Support Vectors ($\beta_j > 0$)

A: Constraints

$$1 \quad \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \leq R^2 + \xi_j$$

$$2 \quad \xi_j, \beta_j, \mu_j \geq 0$$

B: Complementarity conditions

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- Consider $0 < \beta_j < C$. C3 $\Rightarrow \mu_j > 0$. B2 $\Rightarrow \xi_j = 0$. B1 $\Rightarrow \|\phi(x_j) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = R^2$. $\phi(x_j)$ lies on the sphere surface. Call x_j a “support vector” (SV).
 - Call x_i with $\xi_i > 0$ a “bounded support vector” (BSV). $\xi_i > 0$ means $\phi(x_i)$ lies outside the sphere by A1. B2 $\Rightarrow \mu_j = 0$. C3 $\Rightarrow \beta_j = C$.
 - So, low C limits the influence of a BSV on the sphere.

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Dual Problem

- Substituting the stationarity conditions into L gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\{\beta_j\}_j} \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j k(x_j, x_j) - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_i \beta_j k(x_i, x_j) \\ \text{s.t. } & \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j = 1, \\ & 0 \leq \beta_j \leq C \end{aligned}$$

- μ_j dropped. $\beta_j = C - \mu_j$ replaced by $0 \leq \beta_j \leq C$.
- $\{\beta_j\}_j$ used to form $a = \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j \phi(x_j)$ (sphere center).

Sphere Enclosure

- A point y is inside the sphere if

$$f(y) := \|\phi(y) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R,$$

where radius $R := \|\phi(x_i) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ and x_i is a SV i.e., $\beta_i < C$.

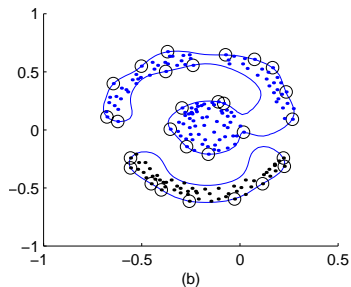
- $f(y)$ is used for cluster assignment.
- Easy to compute $f(y)$:

$$f(y) = \sqrt{k(y, y) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j k(x_j, y) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_i \beta_j k(x_i, x_j)}.$$

- Contour in data space:

$$\{y \mid \|\phi(y) - a\|_{\mathcal{H}} = R\}.$$

Cluster Assignment



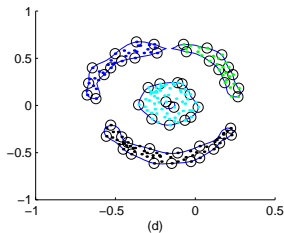
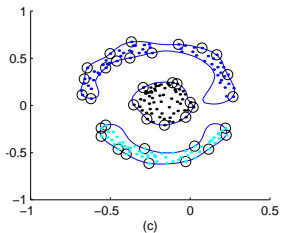
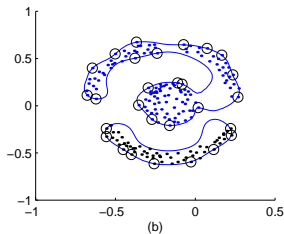
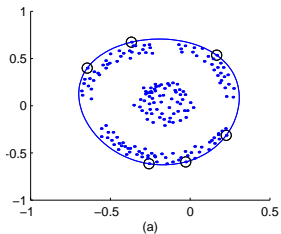
- Given two points from different clusters, any path that connects them must exit from the sphere.

- Define an adjacency matrix $A \in \{0, 1\}^{N \times N}$:

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if for all } y \text{ on the line segment connecting } x_i, x_j, f(y) \leq R \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Clusters := connected components of the graph induced by A .
- Implemented by sampling a number of points.
- BSVs can be treated as outliers, or assigned to closest cluster.

Example

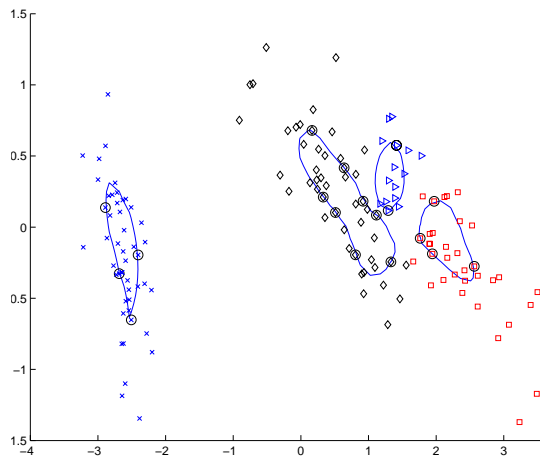


■ $k(x, y) = \exp(-q\|x - y\|^2)$

■ (a): $q = 1$. (b): $q = 20$. (c): $q = 24$. (d): $q = 48$.

■ Increasing q (decreasing width): boundary fits more tightly

Iris Data



- Iris classification data. 3 classes. 4 dimensions.
- Project to first two principal components.

References I