

Goals for the lecture

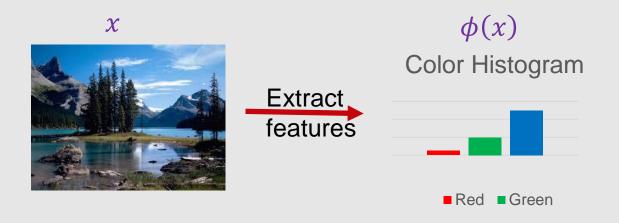


you should understand the following concepts

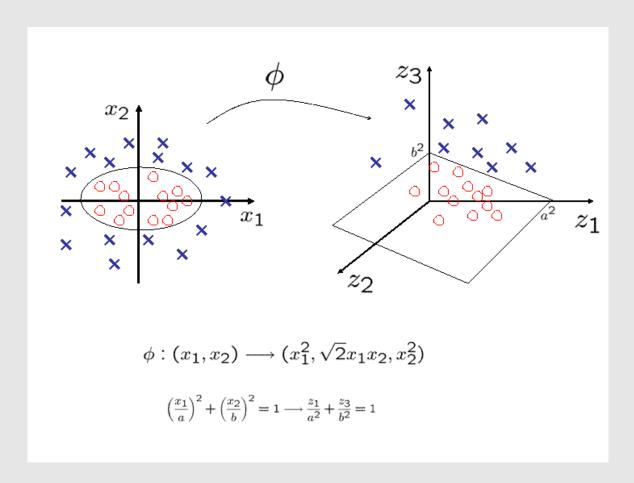
- the kernel trick
- polynomial kernel
- Gaussian/RBF kernel
- Optional: valid kernels and kernel algebra
- Optional: kernels and neural networks











Proper feature mapping can make non-linear to linear!

Recall: SVM dual form



Only depend on inner products

Reduces to dual problem:

$$\mathcal{L}(w, b, \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \alpha_{i} \alpha_{j} y_{i} y_{j} x_{i}^{T} x_{j}$$

$$\sum_{i} \alpha_{i} y_{i} = 0, \alpha_{i} \geq 0$$

• Since $w = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i$, we have $f(x) = w^T x + b = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i^T x + b$



- Using SVM on the feature space $\{\phi(x_i)\}$: only need $\phi(x_i)^T\phi(x_j)$
- Conclusion: no need to design $\phi(\cdot)$, only need to design

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

Polynomial kernels



• Fix degree *d* and constant *c*:

$$k(x, x') = (x^T x' + c)^d$$

- What are $\phi(x)$?
- Expand the expression to get $\phi(x)$

Polynomial kernels



$$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = (x_1 x_1' + x_2 x_2' + c)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2} x_1 x_2 \\ \sqrt{2c} x_1 \\ \sqrt{2c} x_2 \\ c \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1'^2 \\ x_2'^2 \\ \sqrt{2} x_1' x_2' \\ \sqrt{2c} x_1' \\ \sqrt{2c} x_2' \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Figure from Foundations of Machine Learning, by M. Mohri, A. Rostamizadeh, and A. Talwalkar



SVMs with polynomial kernels

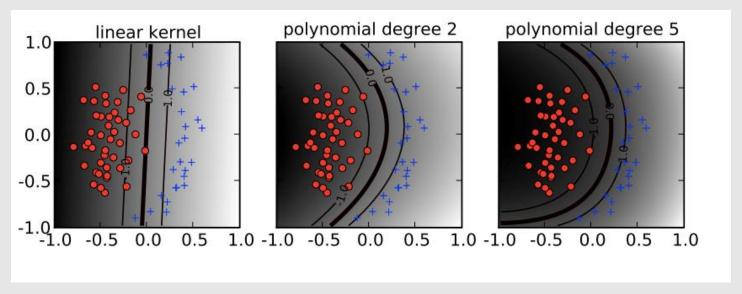


Figure from Ben-Hur & Weston, Methods in Molecular Biology 2010

Gaussian/RBF kernels



Fix bandwidth σ:

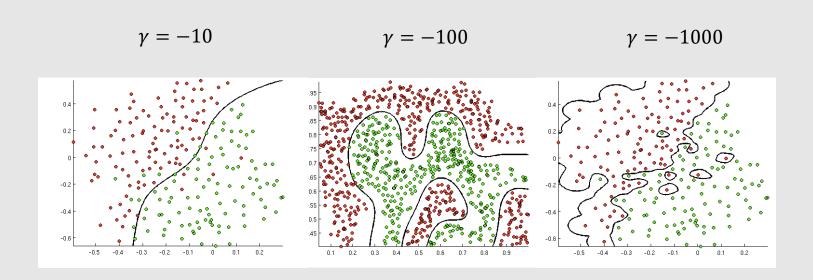
$$k(x, x') = \exp(-||x - x'||^2/2\sigma^2)$$

- Also called radial basis function (RBF) kernels
- What are $\phi(x)$? Consider the un-normalized version $k'(x,x') = \exp(x^T x'/\sigma^2)$
- Power series expansion:

$$k'(x,x') = \sum_{i}^{+\infty} \frac{(x^T x')^i}{\sigma^i i!}$$

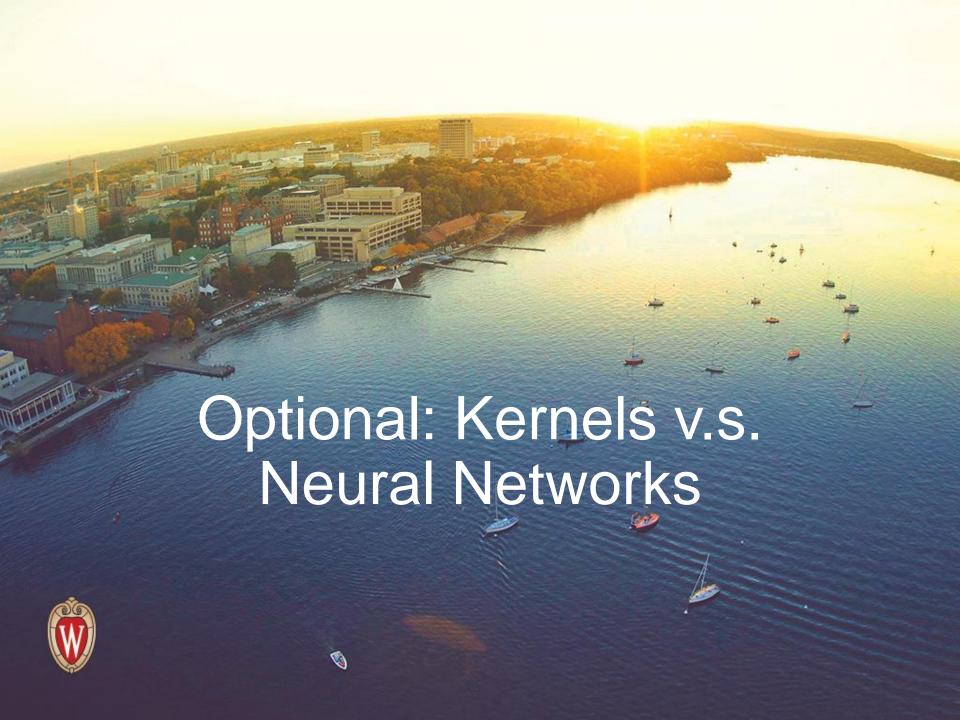


The RBF kernel illustrated

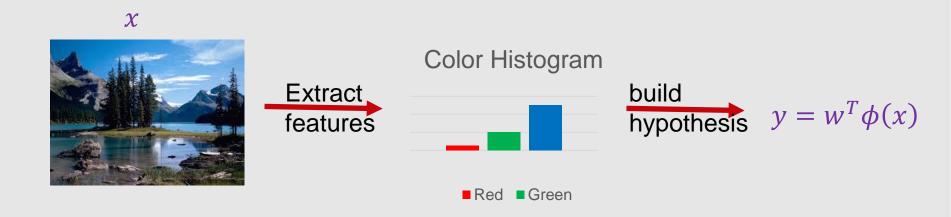


$$k(x, x') = \exp(-\gamma ||x - x'||^2)$$

Figures from openclassroom.stanford.edu (Andrew Ng)

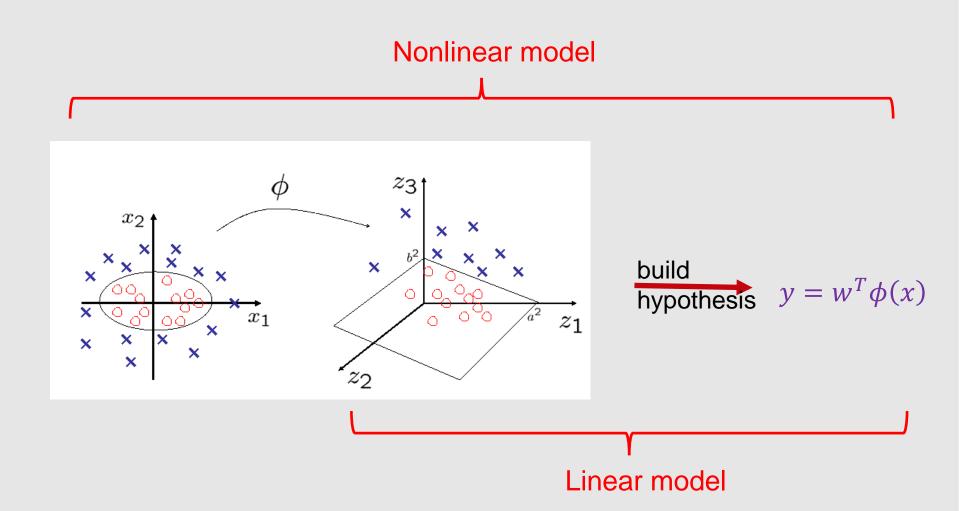






Features: part of the model





Polynomial kernels

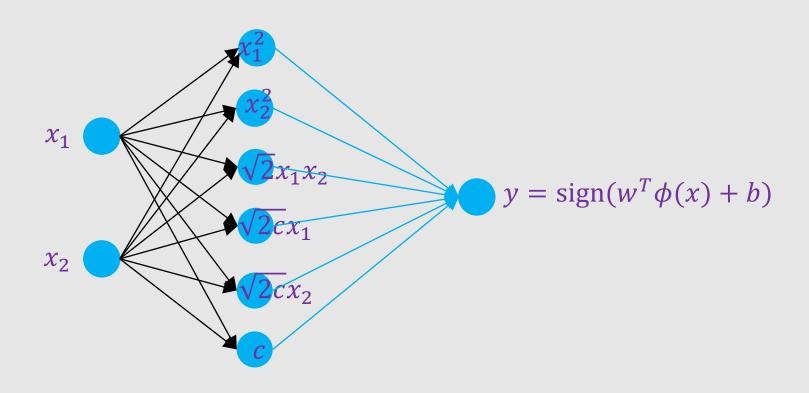


$$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = (x_1 x_1' + x_2 x_2' + c)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2} x_1 x_2 \\ \sqrt{2c} x_1 \\ \sqrt{2c} x_2 \\ c \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x'_1^2 \\ x'_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2} x'_1 x'_2 \\ \sqrt{2c} x'_1 \\ \sqrt{2c} x'_2 \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Figure from Foundations of Machine Learning, by M. Mohri, A. Rostamizadeh, and A. Talwalkar

Polynomial kernel SVM as two layer neural network





First layer is fixed. If also learn first layer, it becomes two layer neural network

Comments on SVMs



- we can find solutions that are globally optimal (maximize the margin)
 - because the learning task is framed as a convex optimization problem
 - no local minima, in contrast to multi-layer neural nets
- there are two formulations of the optimization: primal and dual
 - dual represents classifier decision in terms of support vectors
 - dual enables the use of kernel functions
- we can use a wide range of optimization methods to learn SVM
 - standard quadratic programming solvers
 - SMO [Platt, 1999]
 - linear programming solvers for some formulations
 - etc.

Comments on SVMs



- kernels provide a powerful way to
 - allow nonlinear decision boundaries
 - represent/compare complex objects such as strings and trees
 - incorporate domain knowledge into the learning task
- using the kernel trick, we can implicitly use high-dimensional mappings without explicitly computing them
- one SVM can represent only a binary classification task; multi-class problems handled using multiple SVMs and some encoding
- empirically, SVMs have shown (close to) state-of-the art accuracy for many tasks
- the kernel idea can be extended to other tasks (anomaly detection, regression, etc.)



Mercer's condition for kernels



• Theorem: k(x, x') has expansion

$$k(x, x') = \sum_{i} a_i \phi_i(x) \phi_i(x')$$

if and only if for any function c(x),

$$\int \int c(x)c(x')k(x,x')dxdx' \ge 0$$

(Omit some math conditions for k and c)

Constructing new kernels



- Kernels are closed under positive scaling, sum, product, pointwise limit, and composition with a power series $\sum_{i}^{+\infty} a_{i} k^{i}(x, x')$
- Example: $k_1(x, x'), k_2(x, x')$ are kernels, then also is

$$k(x, x') = 2k_1(x, x') + 3k_2(x, x')$$

• Example: $k_1(x, x')$ is kernel, then also is

$$k(x, x') = \exp(k_1(x, x'))$$



Kernel algebra

given a valid kernel, we can make new valid kernels using a variety of operators

kernel composition	mapping composition
$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) = k_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) + k_b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})$	$f(\mathbf{x}) = \left(f_a(\mathbf{x}), f_b(\mathbf{x})\right)$
$k(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{v}) = g \ k_a(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{v}), \ g > 0$	$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{g} f_a(\mathbf{x})$
$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) = k_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) k_b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})$	$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = f_{ai}(\mathbf{x}) f_{bj}(\mathbf{x})$
$k(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{v}) = \boldsymbol{x}^{T} A \boldsymbol{v}, A \text{ is p.s.d.}$	$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = L^{T}\mathbf{x}$, where $A = LL^{T}$
$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}) = f(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{v})k_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})$	$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})f_a(\mathbf{x})$



Some of the slides in these lectures have been adapted/borrowed from materials developed by Mark Craven, David Page, Jude Shavlik, Tom Mitchell, Nina Balcan, Elad Hazan, Tom Dietterich, and Pedro Domingos.

