



# Machine learning: lecture 6

Tommi S. Jaakkola

MIT CSAIL

*tommi@csail.mit.edu*



# Topics

- Regularization
  - prior, penalties, MAP estimation
  - the effect of regularization, generalization
  - regularization and discrimination
- Discriminative classification
  - criterion, margin
  - support vector machine



## MAP estimation, regularization

- Consider again a simple 2-d logistic regression model

$$P(y = 1|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = g(w_0 + w_1x_1 + w_2x_2)$$

- Before seeing any data we may prefer some values of the parameters over others (e.g., small over large values).



## MAP estimation, regularization

- Consider again a simple 2-d logistic regression model

$$P(y = 1 | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = g(w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2)$$

- Before seeing any data we may prefer some values of the parameters over others (e.g., small over large values).
- We can express this preference through a prior distribution over the parameters (here omitting  $w_0$ )

$$p(w_1, w_2; \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2) \right\}$$

where  $\sigma^2$  determines how tightly around zero we want to constrain the values of  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ .



## MAP estimation, regularization

- Consider again a simple 2-d logistic regression model

$$P(y = 1|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = g(w_0 + w_1x_1 + w_2x_2)$$

- Before seeing any data we may prefer some values of the parameters over others (e.g., small over large values).
- We can express this preference through a prior distribution over the parameters (here omitting  $w_0$ )

$$p(w_1, w_2; \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2)\right\}$$

- To combine the prior with the available data we find the MAP (maximum a posteriori) parameter estimates:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{MAP} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) \right] p(w_1, w_2; \sigma^2)$$



## MAP estimation, regularization

- The estimation criterion is now given by a *penalized log-likelihood* (cf. log-posterior):

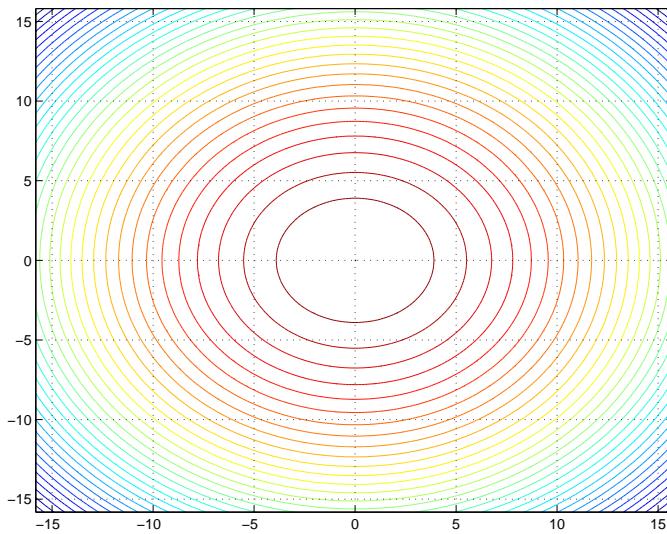
$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) + \log p(w_1, w_2; \sigma^2) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}\end{aligned}$$

- We'd like to understand how the solution changes as a function of the prior variance  $\sigma^2$  (or more generally with different priors)

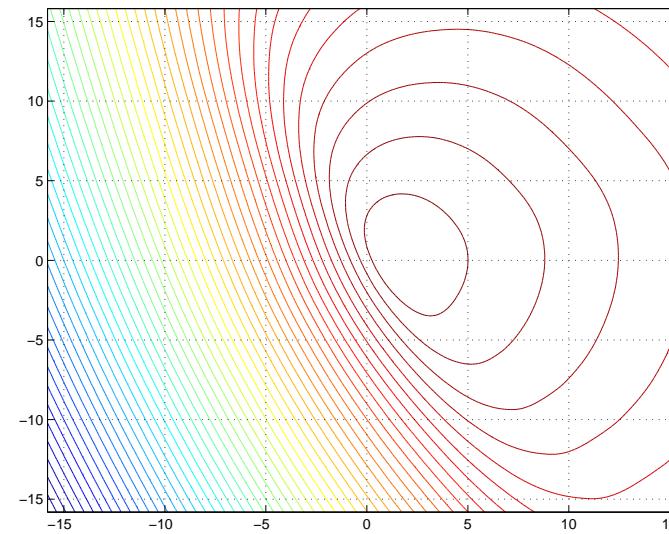
# The effect of regularization

- Let's first understand graphically how the addition of the prior changes the solution

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w})}_{\text{log-likelihood}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2)}_{\text{log-prior}} + \text{const.}$$



log-prior

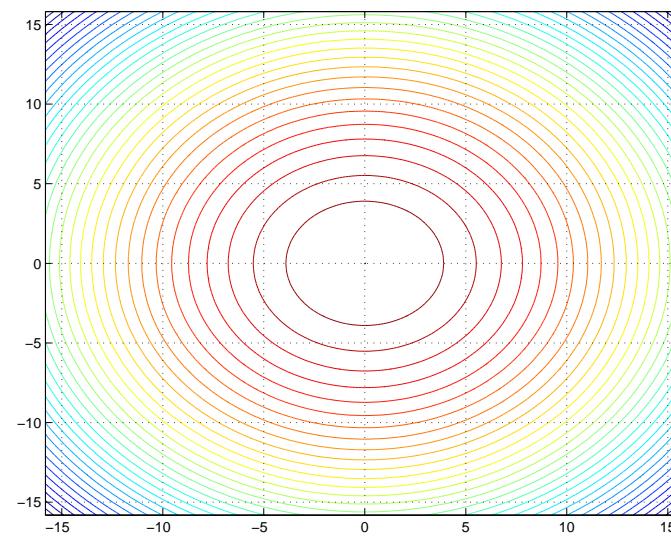


log-likelihood

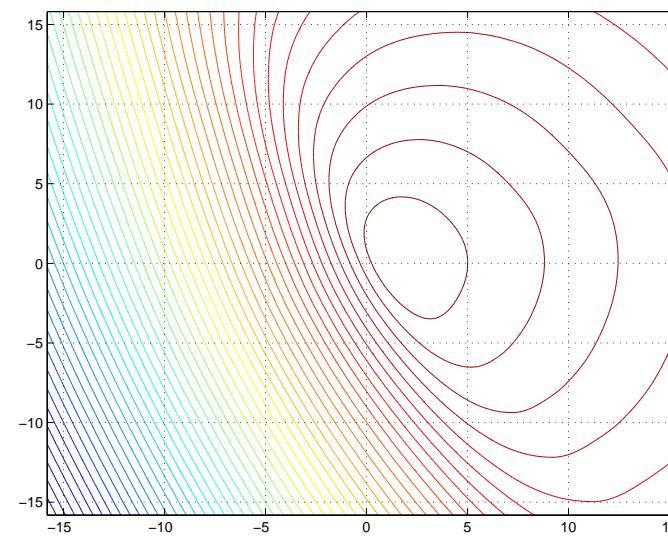
# The effect of regularization

- Let's first understand graphically how the addition of the prior changes the solution

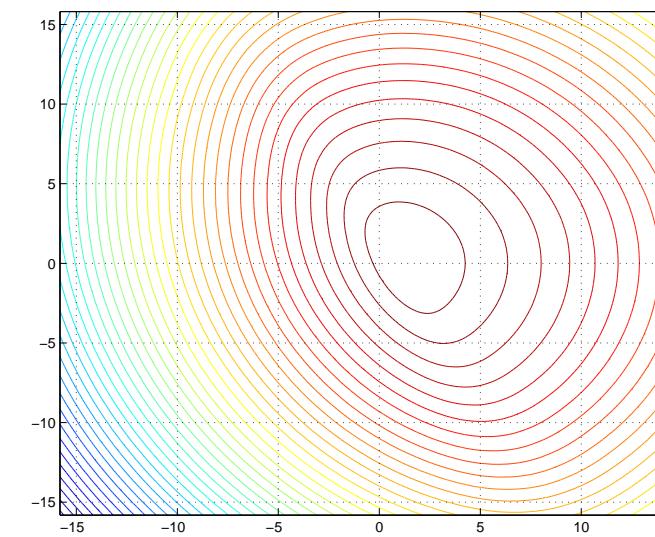
$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w})}_{\text{log-likelihood}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2)}_{\text{log-prior}} + \text{const.}$$



log-prior



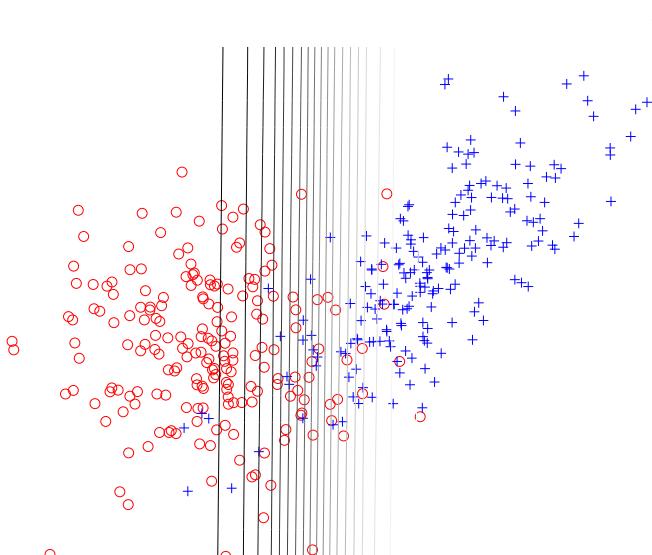
log-likelihood



log-posterior

# The effect of regularization cont'd

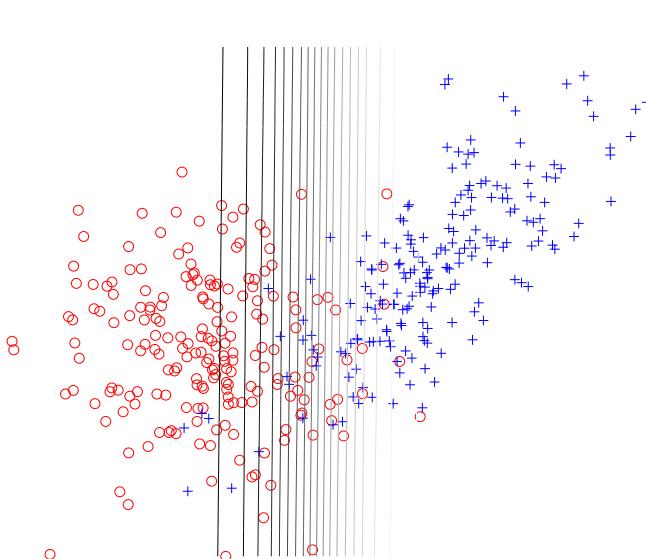
$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$



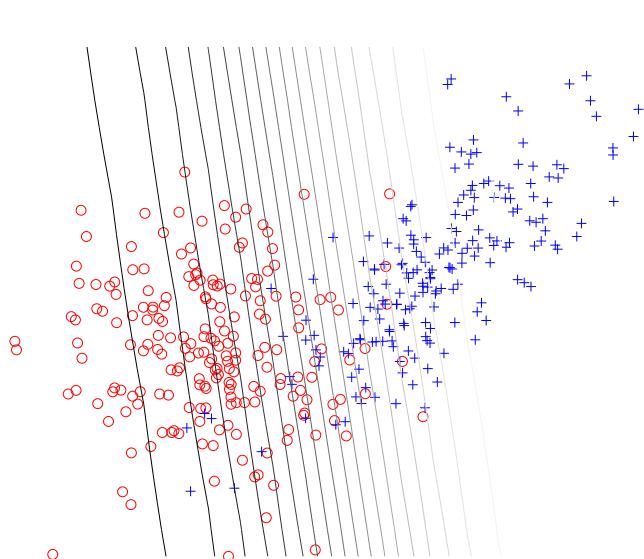
$$\sigma^2 = \infty$$

# The effect of regularization cont'd

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$



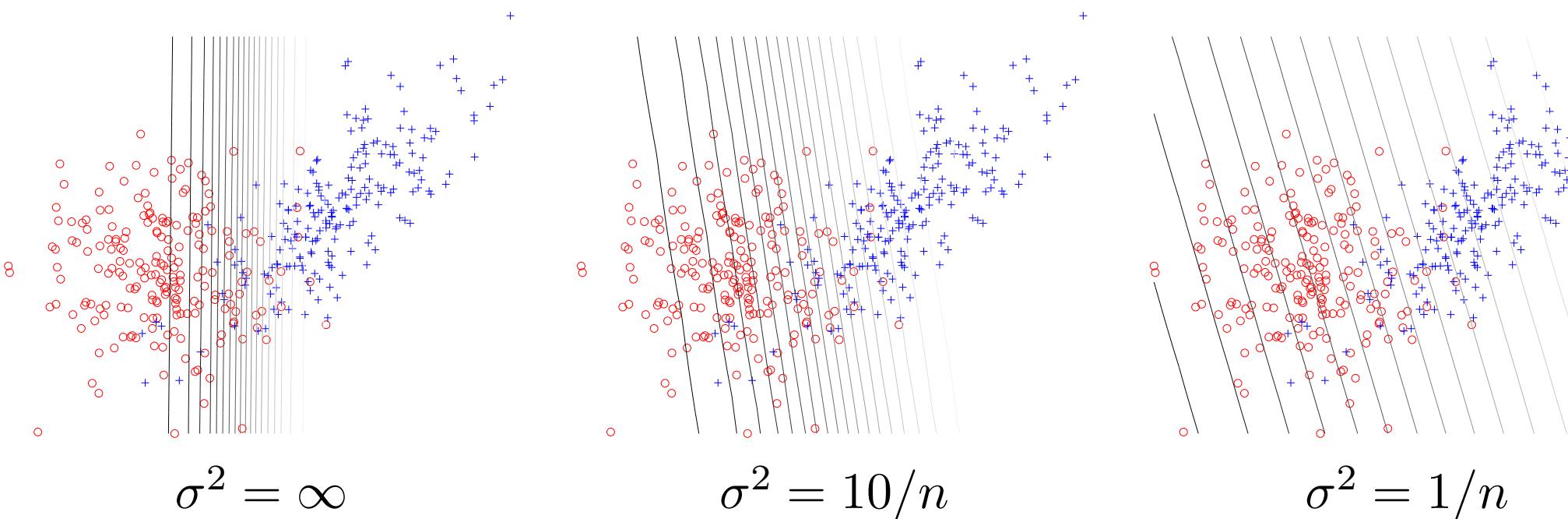
$$\sigma^2 = \infty$$



$$\sigma^2 = 10/n$$

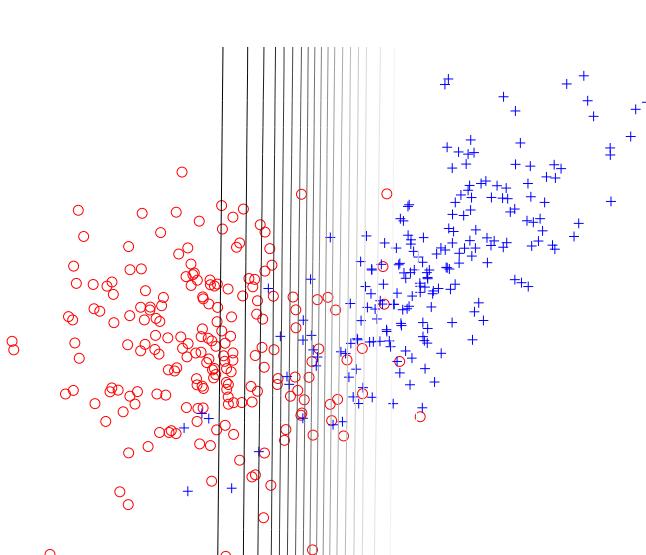
# The effect of regularization cont'd

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$



# The effect of regularization cont'd

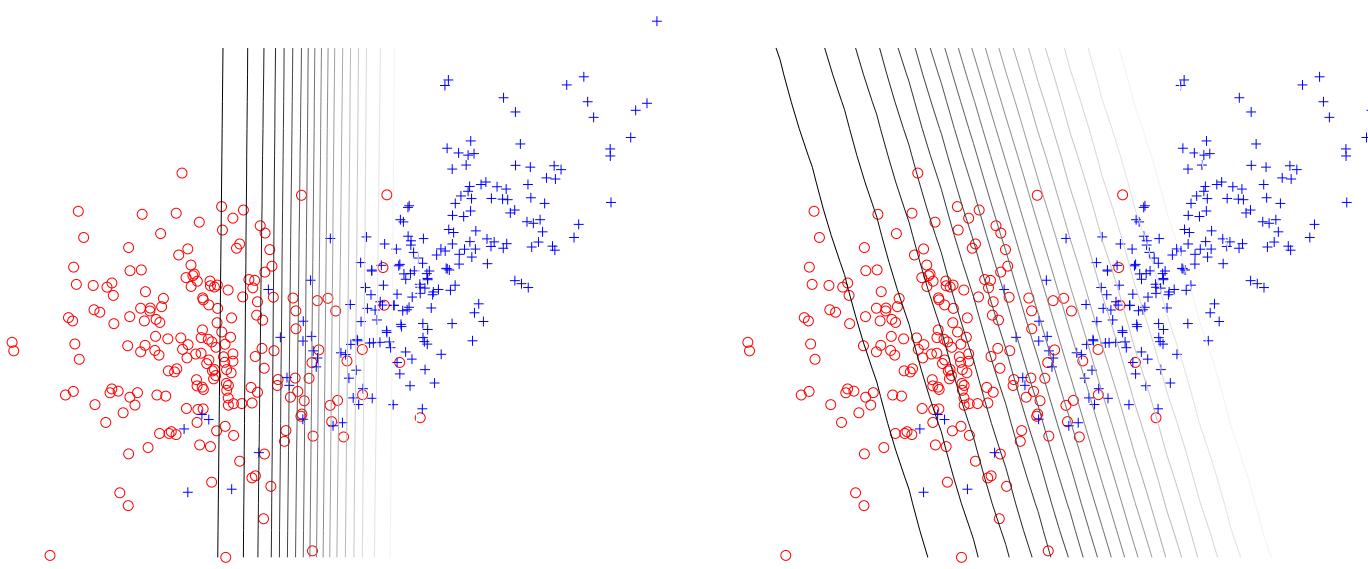
$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} w_1^2 + \text{const.}$$



$$\sigma^2 = \infty$$

# The effect of regularization cont'd

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} w_1^2 + \text{const.}$$

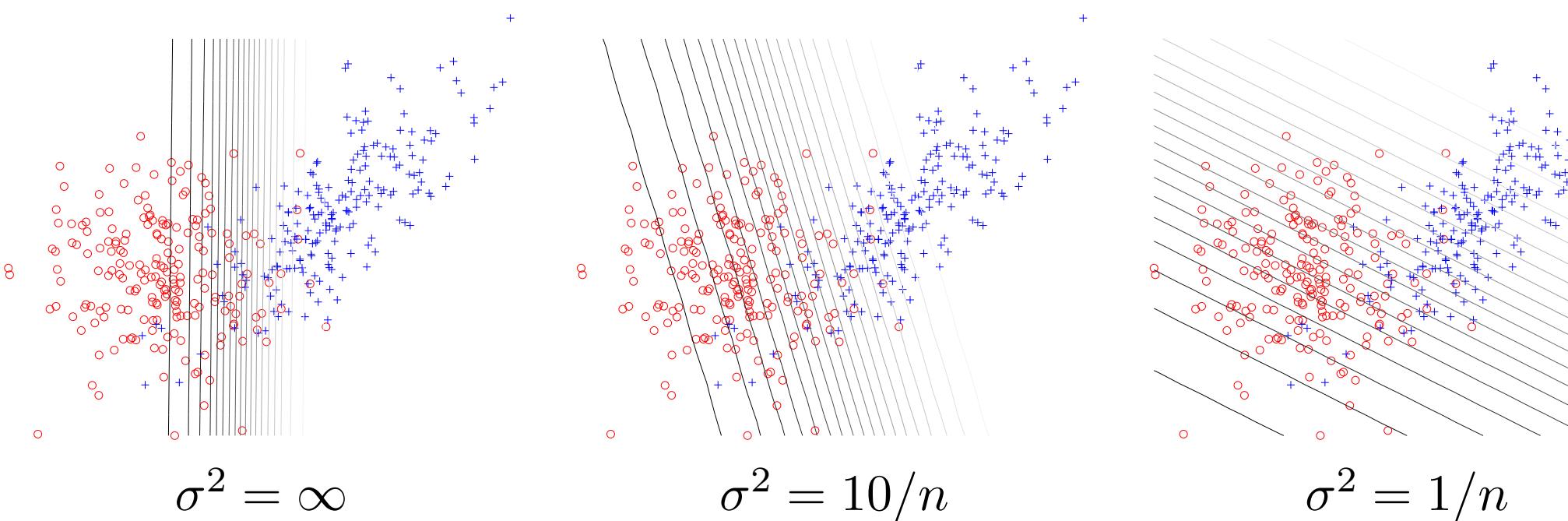


$$\sigma^2 = \infty$$

$$\sigma^2 = 10/n$$

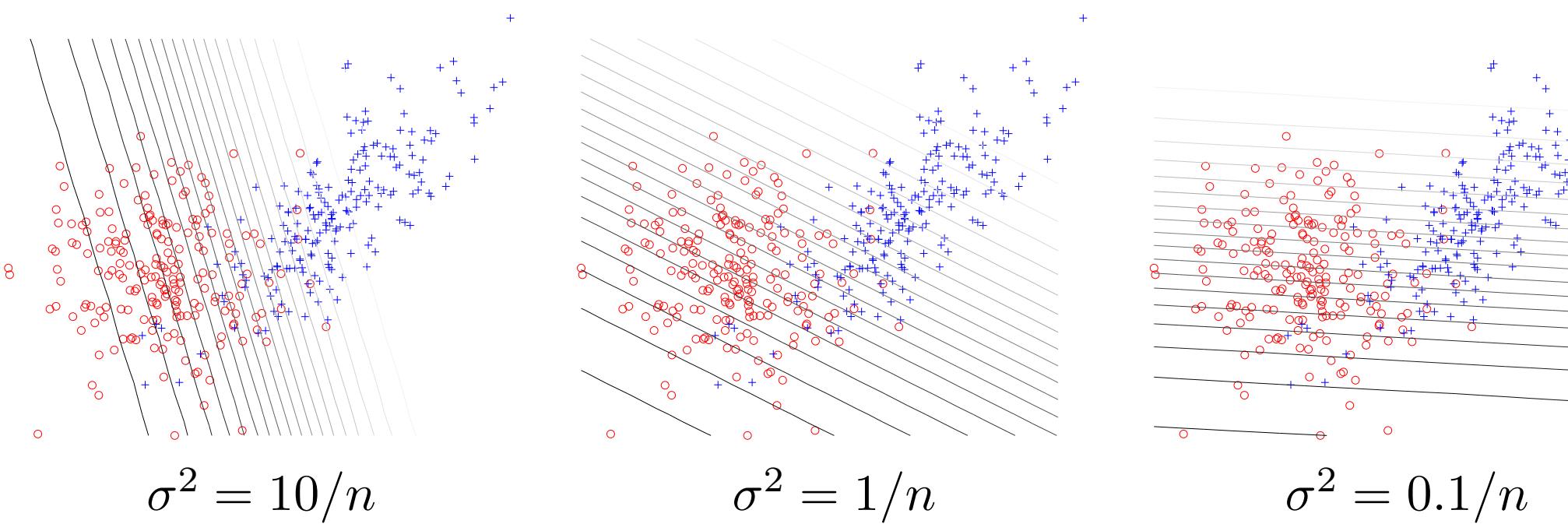
# The effect of regularization cont'd

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} w_1^2 + \text{const.}$$



# The effect of regularization cont'd

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} w_1^2 + \text{const.}$$





## The effect of regularization: train/test

- (Scaled) penalized log-likelihood criterion

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{1}{n2\sigma^2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$



## The effect of regularization: train/test

- (Scaled) penalized log-likelihood criterion

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{c}{2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$

where  $c = 1/n\sigma^2$ ; increasing  $c$  results in stronger regularization.



## The effect of regularization: train/test

- (Scaled) penalized log-likelihood criterion

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{c}{2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$

where  $c = 1/n\sigma^2$ ; increasing  $c$  results in stronger regularization.

- Resulting average log-likelihoods

$$\text{training log-lik.} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_{MAP})$$

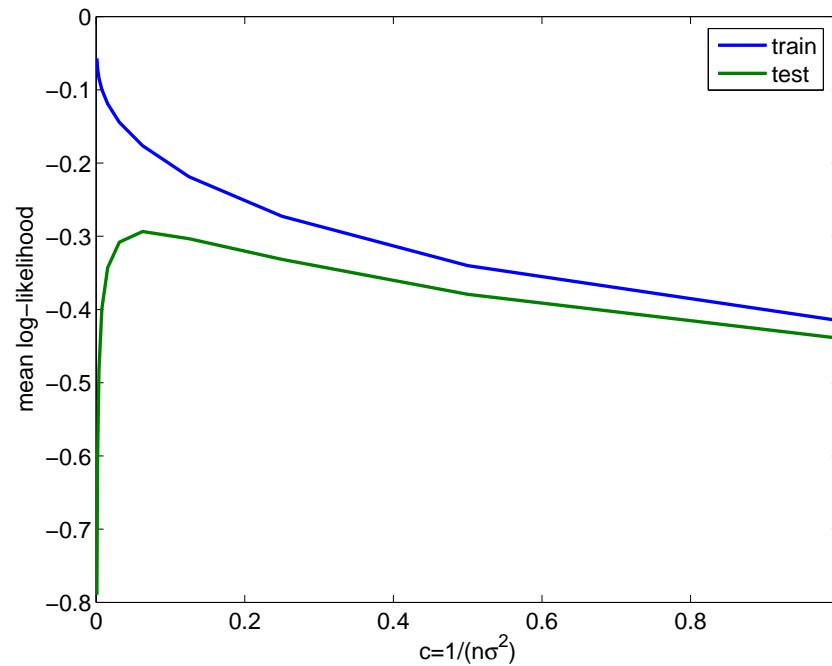
$$\text{test log-lik.} = E_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim P} \{ \log P(y | \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_{MAP}) \}$$

# The effect of regularization: train/test

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{c}{2} (w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$

$$\text{training log-lik.} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_{MAP})$$

$$\text{test log-lik.} = E_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim P} \{ \log P(y | \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_{MAP}) \}$$

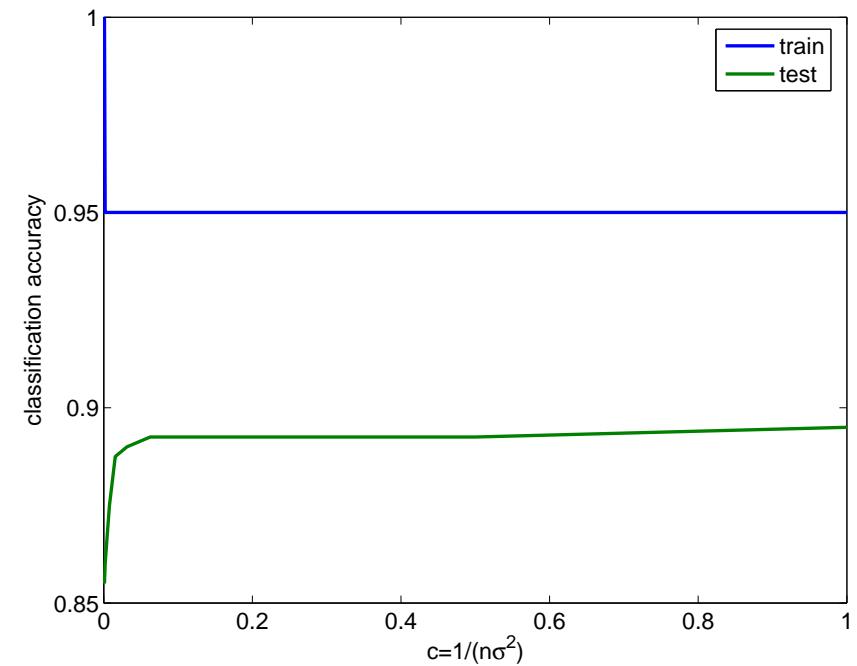
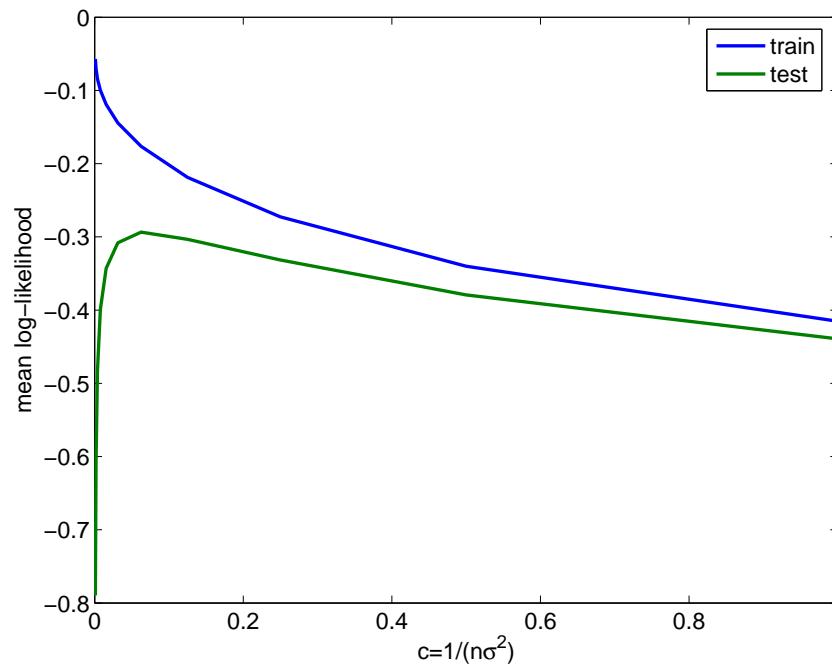


# Likelihood, regularization, and discrimination

- Regularization by penalizing  $\|\mathbf{w}_1\|^2 = w_1^2 + w_2^2$  in

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{c}{2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$

does not *directly* limit the logistic regression model as a classifier. For example:





# Likelihood, regularization, and discrimination

- Regularization by penalizing  $\|\mathbf{w}_1\|^2 = w_1^2 + w_2^2$  in

$$\tilde{l}(D; \mathbf{w})/n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{w}) - \frac{c}{2}(w_1^2 + w_2^2) + \text{const.}$$

does not *directly* limit the logistic regression model as a classifier.

- Classification decisions only depend on the sign of the *discriminant function*

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{w}_1 = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^T \mathbf{w}_1$$

where  $\mathbf{w}_1 = [w_1, w_2]^T$  and  $\mathbf{x}_0$  is chosen such that  $w_0 = \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{w}_1$ . Limiting  $\|\mathbf{w}_1\|^2 = w_1^2 + w_2^2$  does not reduce the possible signs.



# Topics

- Regularization
  - prior, penalties, MAP estimation
  - the effect of regularization, generalization
  - regularization and discrimination
- Discriminative classification
  - criterion, margin
  - support vector machine



## Discriminative classification

- Consider again a binary classification task with  $y = \pm 1$  labels (not 0/1 as before) and linear discriminant functions

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{w}_1$$

parameterized by  $w_0$  and  $\mathbf{w}_1 = [w_1, \dots, w_d]^T$ .

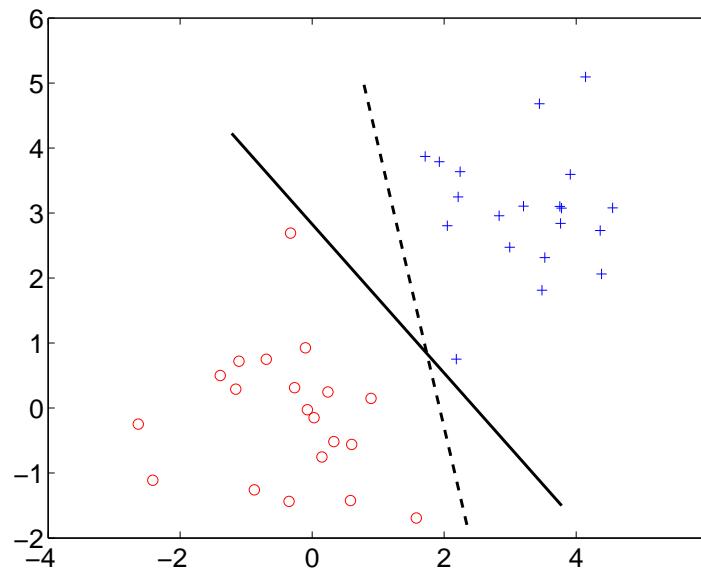
- The predicted label is simply given by the sign of the discriminant function  $\hat{y} = \text{sign}(f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}))$
- We are only interested in getting the labels correct; no probabilities are associated with the predictions

# Discriminative classification

- When the training set  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}$  is *linearly separable* we can find parameters  $\mathbf{w}$  such that

$$y_i[w_0 + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}_1] > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

i.e., the sign of the discriminant function agrees with the label

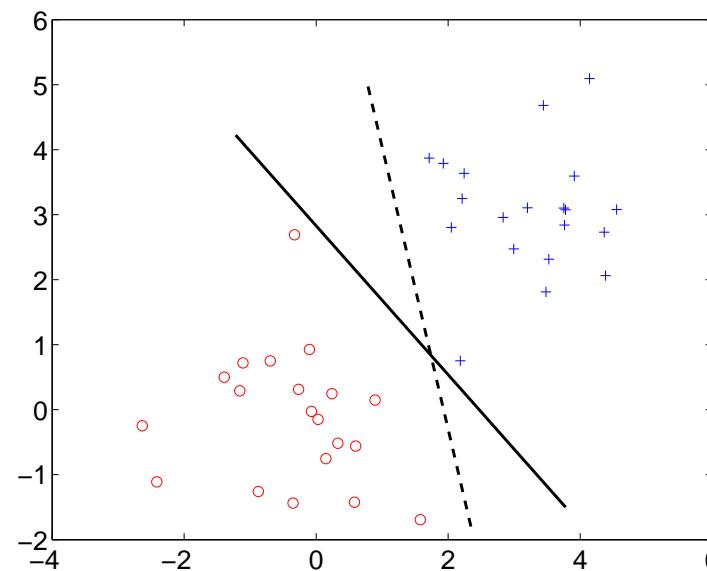


(there are many possible solutions)

# Discriminative classification

- Perhaps we can find a better discriminant boundary by requiring that the training examples are separated with a fixed “margin”:

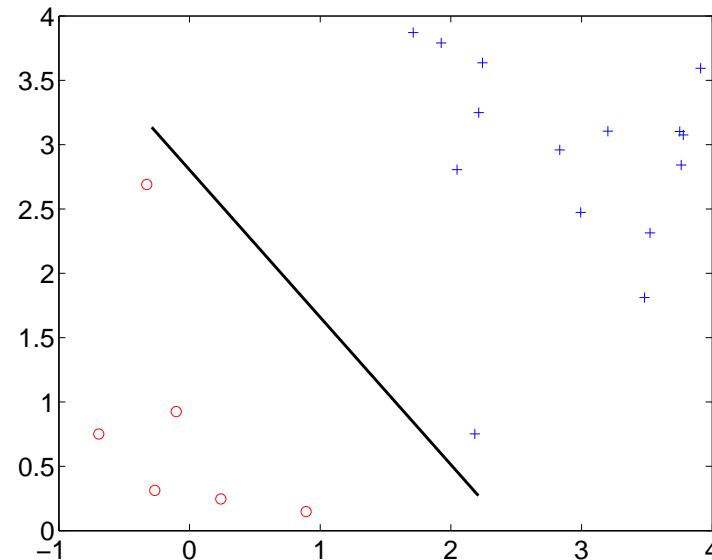
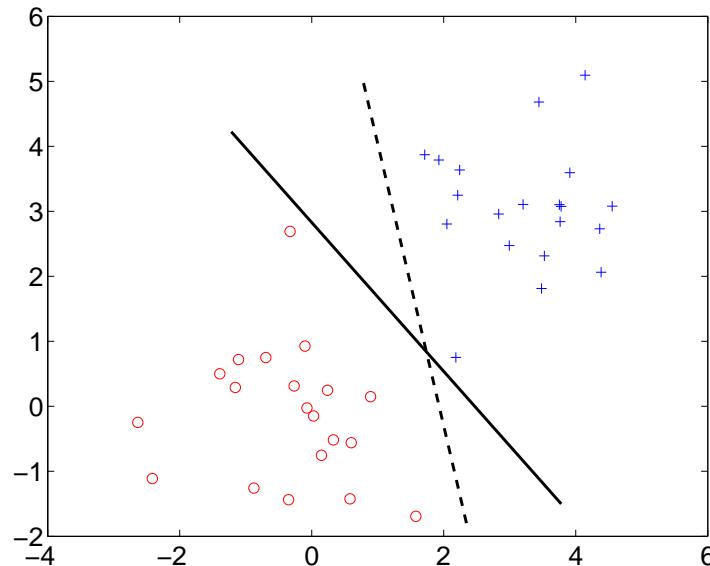
$$y_i[w_0 + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}_1] - 1 \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$



# Discriminative classification

- Perhaps we can find a better discriminant boundary by requiring that the training examples are separated with a fixed “margin”:

$$y_i[w_0 + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}_1] - 1 \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$



The problem is the same as before. The notion of “margin” used here depends on the scale of  $\|\mathbf{w}_1\|$



## Margin and regularization

- We get a more meaningful (geometric) notion of margin by regularizing the problem:

$$\text{minimize} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}_1\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d w_i^2$$

subject to

$$y_i[w_0 + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}_1] - 1 \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

- What can we say about the solution?

# Margin and regularization

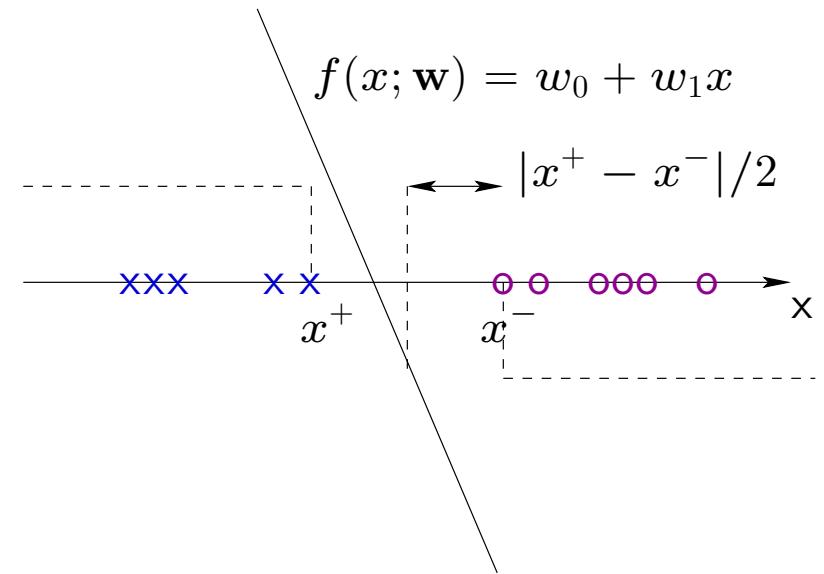
- One dimensional example:  $f(x; \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1x$

Relevant constraints:

$$1[w_0 + w_1x^+] - 1 \geq 0$$

$$-1[w_0 + w_1x^-] - 1 \geq 0$$

Maximum separation would be at the mid point with a margin  $|x^+ - x^-|/2$ .



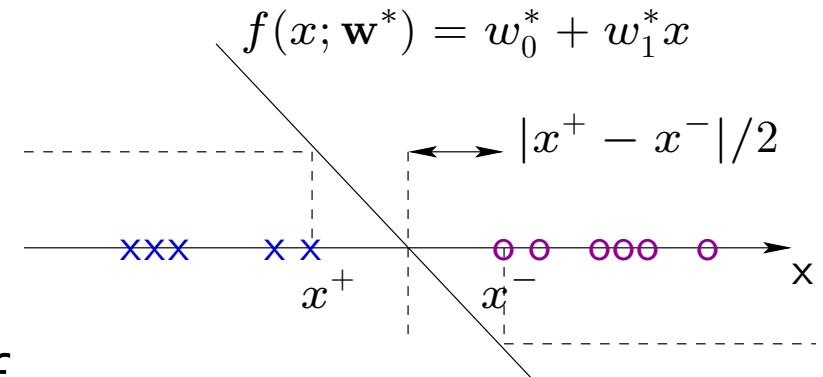
# Margin and regularization

- One dimensional example:  $f(x; \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1 x$

Relevant constraints:

$$1[w_0 + w_1 x^+] - 1 \geq 0$$

$$-1[w_0 + w_1 x^-] - 1 \geq 0$$



At the mid point the value of the margin is  $|x^+ - x^-|/2$ .

- We can find the maximum margin solution by minimizing the slope  $|w_1|$  while satisfying the classification constraints
- The resulting margin is directly tied to the minimizing slope (slope = 1/margin):  $|w_1^*| = 2/|x^+ - x^-|$

# Support vector machine

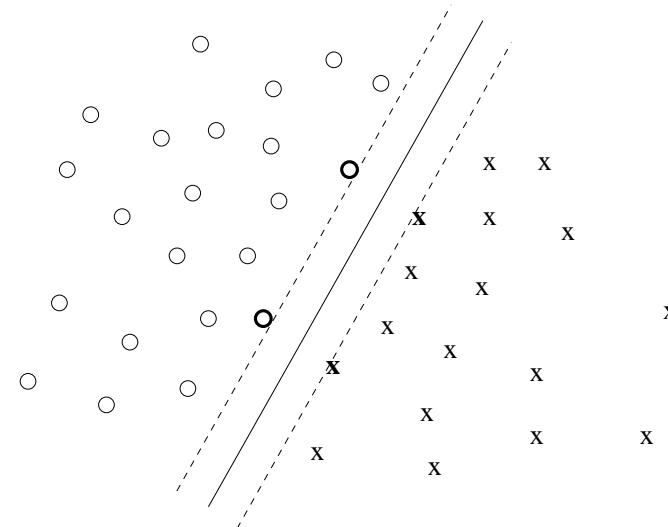
- We minimize the regularization penalty

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}_1\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d w_i^2$$

subject to the classification constraints

$$y_i [w_0 + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}_1] - 1 \geq 0$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .



- Analogously to the one dimensional case, the “slope” is related to the geometric margin:  $\|\mathbf{w}_1^*\| = 1/\text{margin}$ .
- The solution is again defined only on the basis of a subset of examples or “support vectors”