

Recovery of w, b , (in particular $f(x)$) from dual solution:Primal:

$$\min_{w, b, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|_H^2 + c \sum_i \xi_i$$

s.t.

$$y_i (\langle w, \phi_{x_i} \rangle - b) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad \xi_i \geq 0$$

Intermediate:

$$\min_{\alpha, b, \xi}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \alpha^T Q \alpha + c \mathbf{1}^T \xi$$

s.t.

$$Q \alpha - b y \geq \mathbf{1} - \xi, \quad \xi \geq 0$$

Dual:

$$\textcircled{\text{II}} \left. \begin{array}{l} Q \alpha = Q \lambda, \quad c \mathbf{1} = \lambda + \beta, \quad \lambda^T y = 0 \\ \lambda_i (1 - \xi_i - Q \alpha + b y)_i = 0, \quad \beta_i \xi_i = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{KKT} \\ \text{conds.}$$

$$\max_{\lambda} \mathbf{1}^T \lambda - \frac{1}{2} \lambda^T Q \lambda$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq c \mathbf{1}, \quad y^T \lambda = 0.$$

Now by solving the dual one gets λ . In case Q is pd (e.g. always true with a Gaussian kernel), we have $\alpha = \lambda$. Hence by $\textcircled{\text{I}}$, w can be got easily.

To get b :

$$\text{Take any } \lambda_i \in (0, c) \rightarrow \text{then } \beta_i \neq 0 \Rightarrow \xi_i = 0 \\ \rightarrow \text{then } 1 - \xi_i - (Q \alpha)_i + b y_i = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow b = \frac{(Q \alpha)_i - 1}{y_i}$$

But what if $\nexists \lambda_i \in (0, c)$??

In such a case look at $\lambda_i = c$ for all i for them $\xi_i = 1 - (Qx)_i + by_i \geq 0$

Let S_+ be set of all $\lambda_i = c$ & $y_i = 1$ for them $\rightarrow b \geq (Qx)_i - 1$

Let S_- be set of all $\lambda_i = c$ & $y_i = -1$ for them $\rightarrow b \leq 1 - (Qx)_i$

\therefore we can select any b satisfying:

$$\max_{i \in S_+} (Qx)_i - 1 \leq b \leq \min_{i \in S_-} 1 - (Qx)_i$$

Now in case Q is singular, α need not be λ . However since KKT are necessary & sufficient in this case, it is OK if we take any $\alpha, \lambda, b, \xi, \beta$ satisfying $\textcircled{\text{II}}$. In particular we can always choose $\alpha = \lambda$!

Now, we can do better: in fact suppose we choose α such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\alpha} \quad & \|\alpha\|_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Q\alpha = Q\lambda \end{aligned} \quad \xrightarrow{\lambda \text{ of optimality}}$$

then we can compute $f(x)$ using as less no. of training datapoints as possible. Hence from computational view-point, this is better. One can also solve $\min_{\alpha} \|\alpha\|_0$ which is convex relaxation of the above!