



Cornell University

# Linear Classifiers and Perceptrons

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Reading: Mitchell Chapter 4.4-4.4.2 & Chapter 7.5  
Cristianini/Shawe-Taylor Chapter 2-2.1.1



- Linear classification rules
- Perceptron learning algorithm
- Mistake-bound model
- Perceptron mistake bound



	viagra	learning	the	dating	nigeria	<i>spam?</i>	
$\vec{x}_1 = ($	1	0	1	0	0	$)$	$y_1 = -1$
$\vec{x}_2 = ($	0	1	1	0	0	$)$	$y_2 = +1$
$\vec{x}_3 = ($	0	0	0	0	1	$)$	$y_3 = -1$

- Instance Space X:
  - Feature vector of word occurrences => binary features
  - N features (N typically > 50000)
- Target Concept c:
  - Spam (-1) / Ham (+1)



- Hypotheses of the form

- unbiased:  $h_{\vec{w}}(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & w_1x_1 + \dots + w_Nx_N > 0 \\ -1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

- biased:  $h_{\vec{w},b}(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & w_1x_1 + \dots + w_Nx_N + b > 0 \\ -1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

- Parameter vector  $w$ , scalar  $b$

- Hypothesis space  $H$

- $H_{unbiased} = \{h_{\vec{w}} : \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^N\}$

- $H_{biased} = \{h_{\vec{w},b} : \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^N, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$

- Notation

- $w_1x_1 + \dots + w_Nx_N = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}$  and  $sign(a) = \begin{cases} 1 & a > 0 \\ -1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

- $h_{\vec{w}}(\vec{x}) = sign(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x})$

- $h_{\vec{w},b}(\vec{x}) = sign(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b)$



- Input:  $S = ((\vec{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\vec{x}_n, y_n))$ ,  $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$
- Algorithm:
  - $\vec{w}_0 = \vec{0}$ ,  $k = 0$
  - FOR  $i=1$  TO  $n$ 
    - \* IF  $y_i(\vec{w}_k \cdot \vec{x}_i) \leq 0$  ### makes mistake
      - $\vec{w}_{k+1} = \vec{w}_k + y_i \vec{x}_i$
      - $k = k + 1$
    - \* ENDIF
  - ENDFOR
- Output:  $\vec{w}_k$



# Cornell University Margin of a Linear Classifier

**Definition:** For a linear classifier  $h_w$ , the margin  $\delta$  of an example  $(\vec{x}, y)$  with  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and  $y \in \{-1, +1\}$  is  $\delta = y(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x})$ .

**Definition:** The margin is called geometric margin, if  $\|\vec{w}\| = 1$ . Otherwise, functional margin.

**Definition:** The (hard) margin of an unbiased linear classifier  $h_{\vec{w}}$  on a sample  $S$  is  $\delta = \min_{(\vec{x}, y) \in S} y(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x})$ .

**Definition:** The (hard) margin of an unbiased linear classifier  $h_{\vec{w}}$  on a task  $P(X, Y)$  is

$$\delta = \inf_{S \sim P(X, Y)} \min_{(\vec{x}, y) \in S} y(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x}).$$



Theorem: For any sequence of training examples  $S = ((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n))$  with

$$R = \max \|x_i\|,$$

if there exists a weight vector  $w_{\text{opt}}$  with  $\|w_{\text{opt}}\| = 1$  and

$$y_i (w_{\text{opt}} \cdot x_i) \geq \delta$$

for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then the Perceptron makes at most

$$R^2 / \delta^2$$

errors.



Input:  $S = ((\vec{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\vec{x}_n, y_n))$ ,  $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$ ,  
 $I \in [1, 2, \dots]$

Algorithm:

- $\vec{w}_0 = \vec{0}$ ,  $k = 0$
  - repeat
    - FOR  $i=1$  TO  $n$ 
      - \* IF  $y_i(\vec{w}_k \cdot \vec{x}_i) \leq 0$  ### makes mistake
        - $\vec{w}_{k+1} = \vec{w}_k + y_i \vec{x}_i$
        - $k = k + 1$
      - \* ENDIF
– ENDFOR
- until  $I$  iterations reached





# Example: Reuters Text Classification

