

# Perceptrons

“FROM THE HEIGHTS OF ERROR,  
TO THE VALLEYS OF TRUTH”

*Piyush Kumar*

Advanced Computational Geometry



# Reading Material

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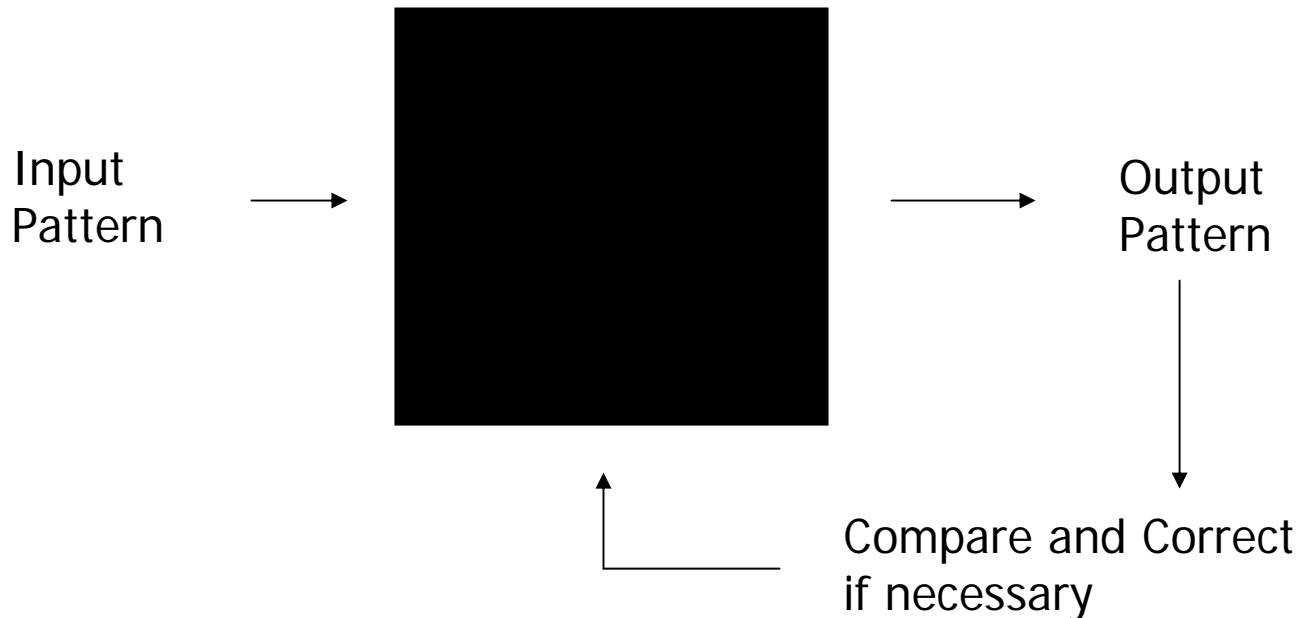
- Duda/Hart/Stork : 5.4/5.5/9.6.8
- Any neural network book (Haykin, Anderson...)
- Look at papers of related people
  - ❖ Santosh Vempala
  - ❖ A. Blum
  - ❖ J. Dunagan
  - ❖ F. Rosenblatt
  - ❖ T. Bylander



# Introduction

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- Supervised Learning





# Linear discriminant functions

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## ■ Definition

It is a function that is a linear combination of the components of  $x$

$$g(x) = w^t x + w_0 \quad (1)$$

where  $w$  is the weight vector and  $w_0$  the bias

- A two-category classifier with a discriminant function of the form (1) uses the following rule:

Decide  $\omega_1$  if  $g(x) > 0$  and  $\omega_2$  if  $g(x) < 0$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Decide  $\omega_1$  if  $w^t x > -w_0$  and  $\omega_2$  otherwise

If  $g(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x$  is assigned to either class



# LDFs

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- The equation  $g(x) = 0$  defines the **decision surface** that separates points assigned to the category  $\omega_1$  from points assigned to the category  $\omega_2$
- When  $g(x)$  is linear, the decision surface is a hyperplane



# Classification using LDFs

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- Two main approaches
  - Fischer's Linear Discriminant
    - Project data onto a line with 'good' discrimination; then classify on the real line
  - Linear Discrimination in  $d$ -dimensions
    - Classify data using suitable hyperplanes.
    - (We'll use perceptrons to construct these)

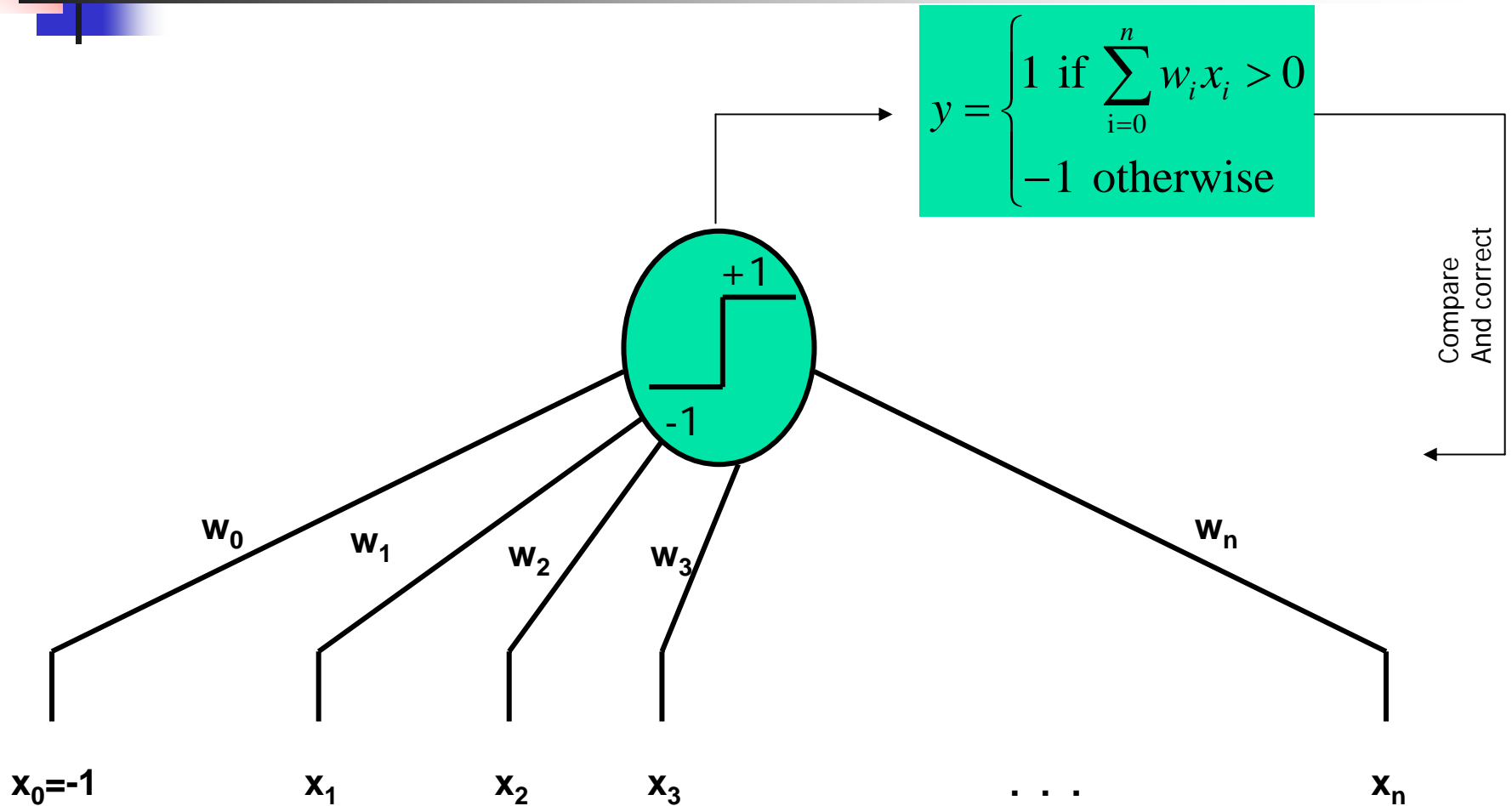


# Perceptron: The first NN

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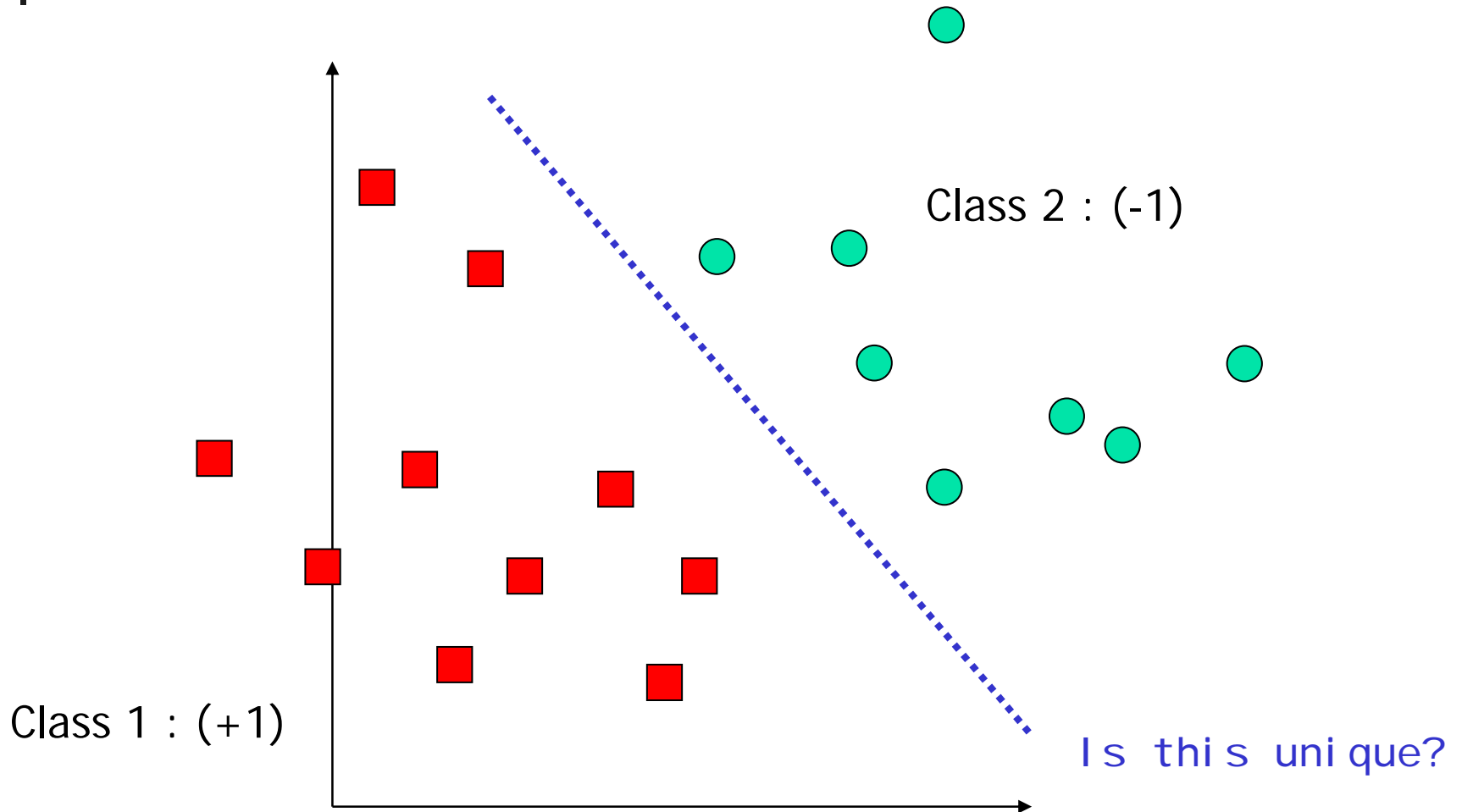
- ❖ Proposed by Frank Rosenblatt in 1956
- ❖ Neural net researchers accuse Rosenblatt of promising 'too much' 😊
- ❖ Numerous variants
- ❖ We'll cover the one that's most geometric to explain 😊
- ❖ One of the simplest Neural Network.

# Perceptrons : A Picture





# Where is the geometry?





# Assumption

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- Lets assume for this talk that the red and green points in 'feature space' are separable using a hyperplane.

Two Category Linearly separable case



# Whatz the problem?

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- Why not just take out the convex hull of one of the sets and find one of the 'right' facets?
  - ❖ Because its too much work to do in d-dimensions.
- What else can we do?
  - ❖ Linear programming == PERCEPTRONS
  - ❖ Quadratic Programming == SVMs



# Perceptrons

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- Aka Learning Half Spaces
- Can be solved in polynomial time using IP algorithms.
- Can also be solved using a *simple and elegant greedy* algorithm  
(Which I present today)



# In Math notation

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N samples :  $\{(\vec{x}_1, y_1), (\vec{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\vec{x}_n, y_n)\}$

Where  $y = +/- 1$  are labels for the data.  $\vec{x} \in \mathbf{R}^d$

Can we find a hyperplane  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} = 0$  that separates the two classes?  
(labeled by  $y$ ) i.e.

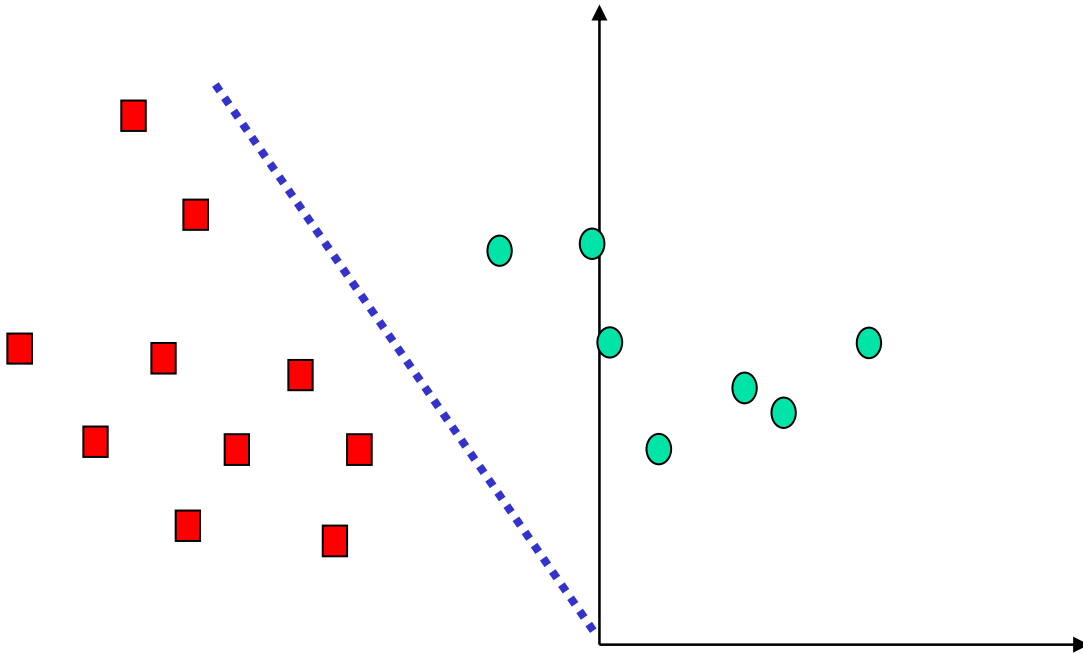
$$\vec{x}_j \cdot \vec{w} > 0 \quad : \text{ For all } j \text{ such that } y = +1$$

$$\vec{x}_j \cdot \vec{w} < 0 \quad : \text{ For all } j \text{ such that } y = -1$$

Which we will relax later!

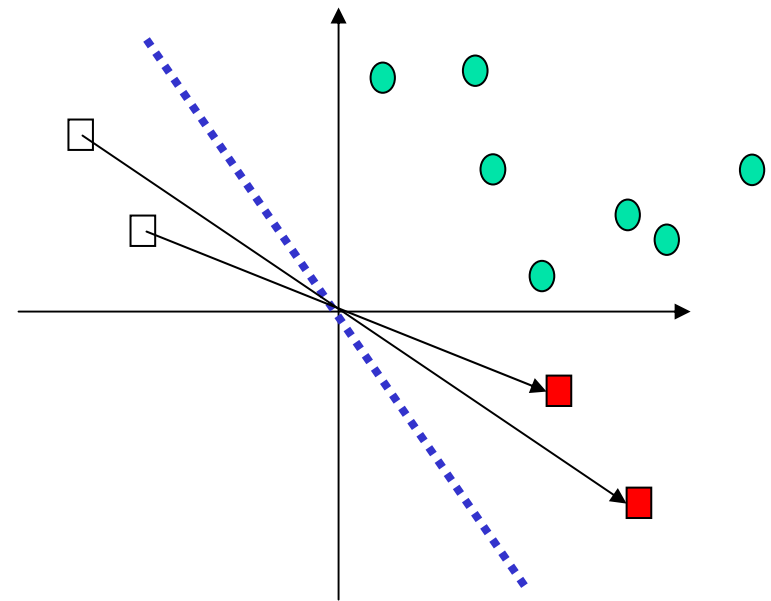
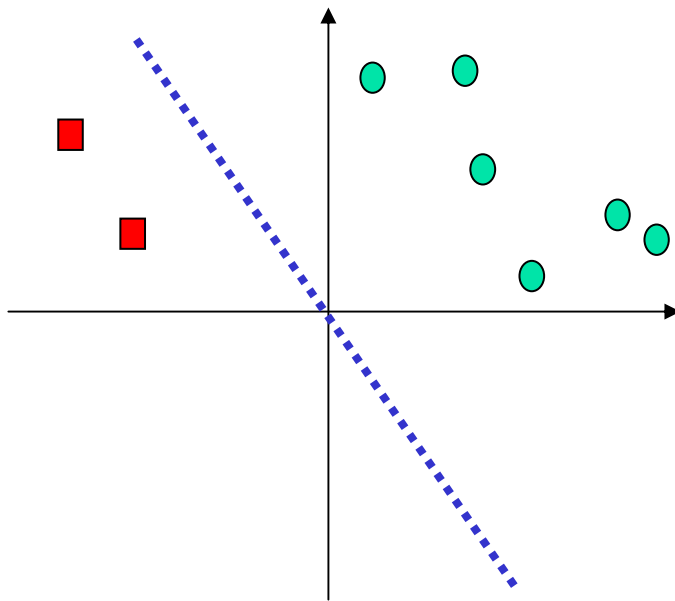
# Further assumption 1

Lets assume that the hyperplane that we are looking for passes thru the origin



# Further assumption 2

- Lets assume that we are looking for a *halfspace* that contains a set of points





# Lets Relax FA 1 now

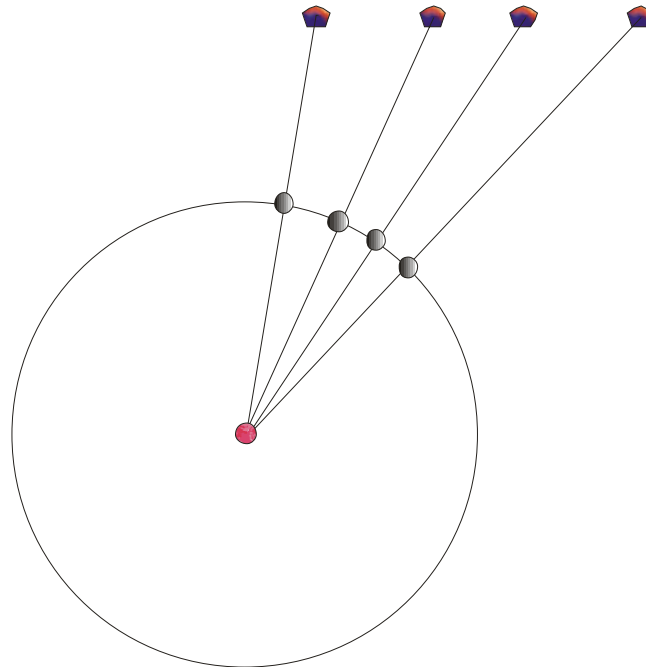
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- “Homogenize” the coordinates by adding a new coordinate to the input.
- Think of it as moving the whole red and blue points in one higher dimension
- From 2D to 3D it is just the x-y plane shifted to  $z = 1$ . This takes care of the “bias” or our assumption that the halfspace can pass thru the origin.



# Further Assumption 3

- Assume all points on a unit sphere!
- If they are not after applying transformations for FA 1 and FA 2, make them so.





# Restatement 1

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- Given: A set of points on a sphere in  $d$ -dimensions, such that all of them lie in a half-space.
- Output: Find one such halfspace
- Note: You can solve the LP feasibility problem.  
⇔ You can solve any general LP !!

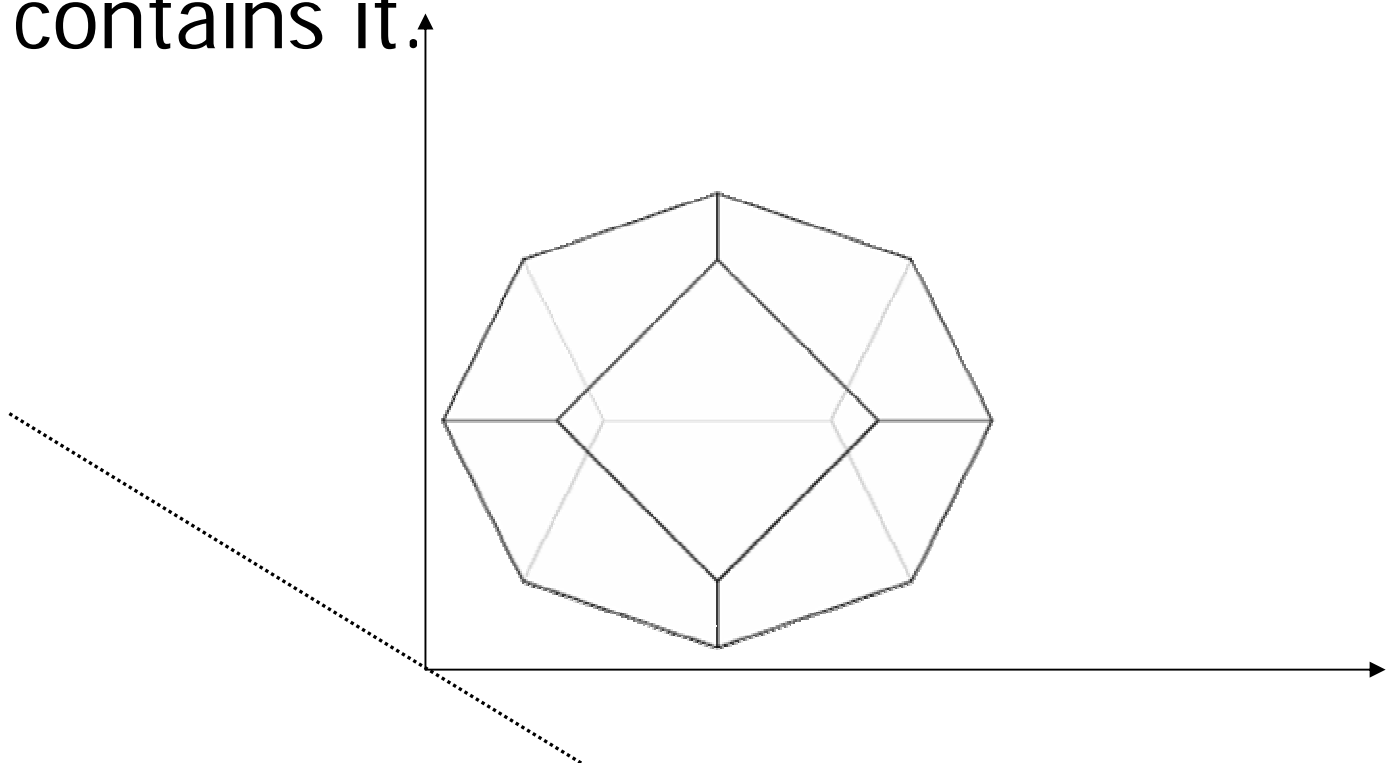
Take Estie's class if you  
Want to know why. 😊



## Restatement 2

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- Given a convex body (in V-form), find a halfspace passing thru the origin that contains it.





# Support Vector Machines

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A small break from perceptrons



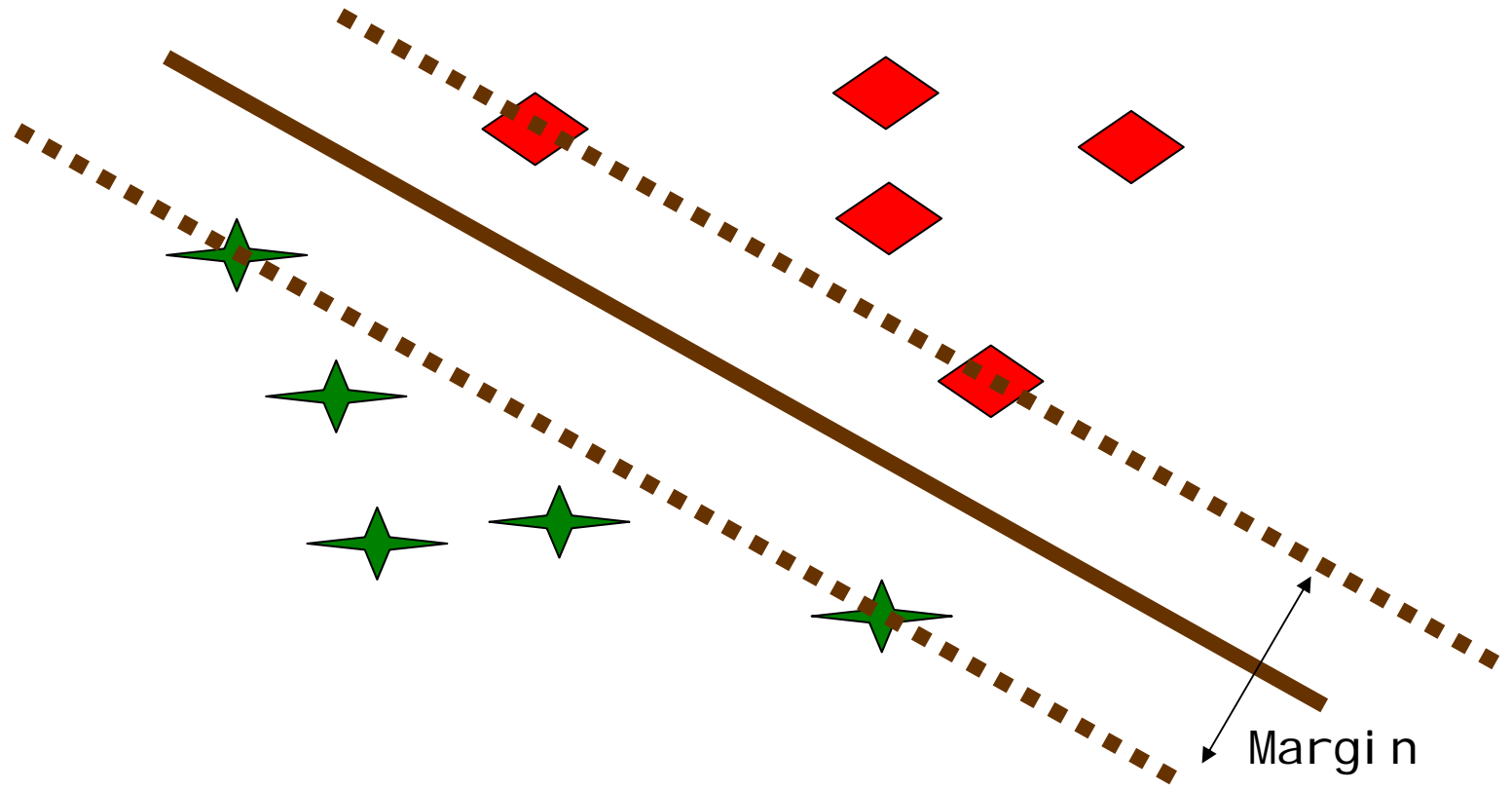
# Support Vector Machines

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- Linear Learning Machines like perceptrons.
- Map non-linearly to higher dimension to overcome the linearity constraint.
- Select between hyperplanes, Use margin as a test  
(This is what perceptrons don't do)

From learning theory, maximum margin is good

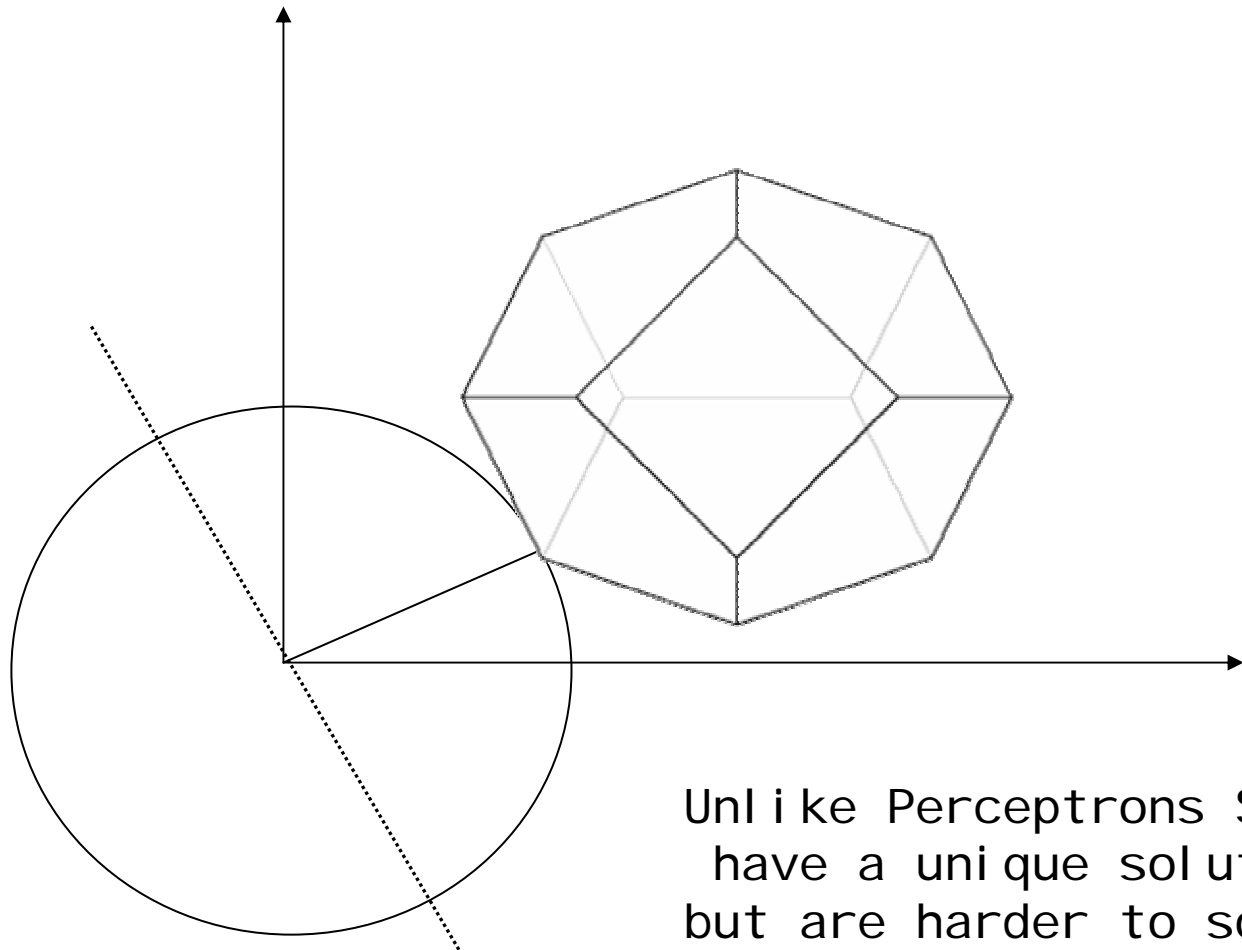
# SVMs





# Another Reformulation

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Unlike Perceptrons SVMs  
have a unique solution  
but are harder to solve.

<QP>



# Support Vector Machines

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- There are very simple algorithms to solve SVMs ( as simple as perceptrons )  
( If there is enough demand,  
I can try to cover it )  
  
( and If my job hunting lets me ;) )





# Back to perceptrons

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# Perceptrons

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- So how do we solve the LP ?
  - Simplex
  - Ellipsoid
  - IP methods
  - Perceptrons = Gradient Decent

So we could solve the classification problem using any LP method.



# Why learn Perceptrons?

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- You can write an LP solver in 5 mins !
- A very slight modification can give u a polynomial time guarantee (Using smoothed analysis)!



# Why learn Perceptrons

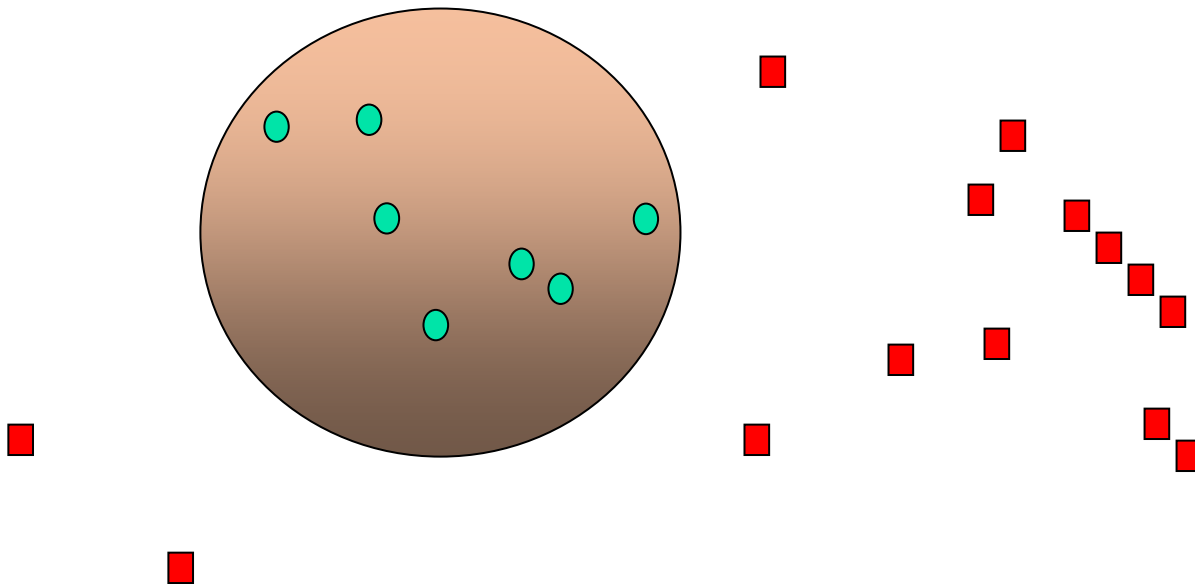
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- Multiple perceptrons clubbed together are used to learn almost anything in practice. (Idea behind multi layer neural networks)
- Perceptrons have a finite **capacity** and so cannot represent all classifications. The amount of training data required will need to be larger than the capacity. We'll talk about capacity when we introduce VC-dimension.

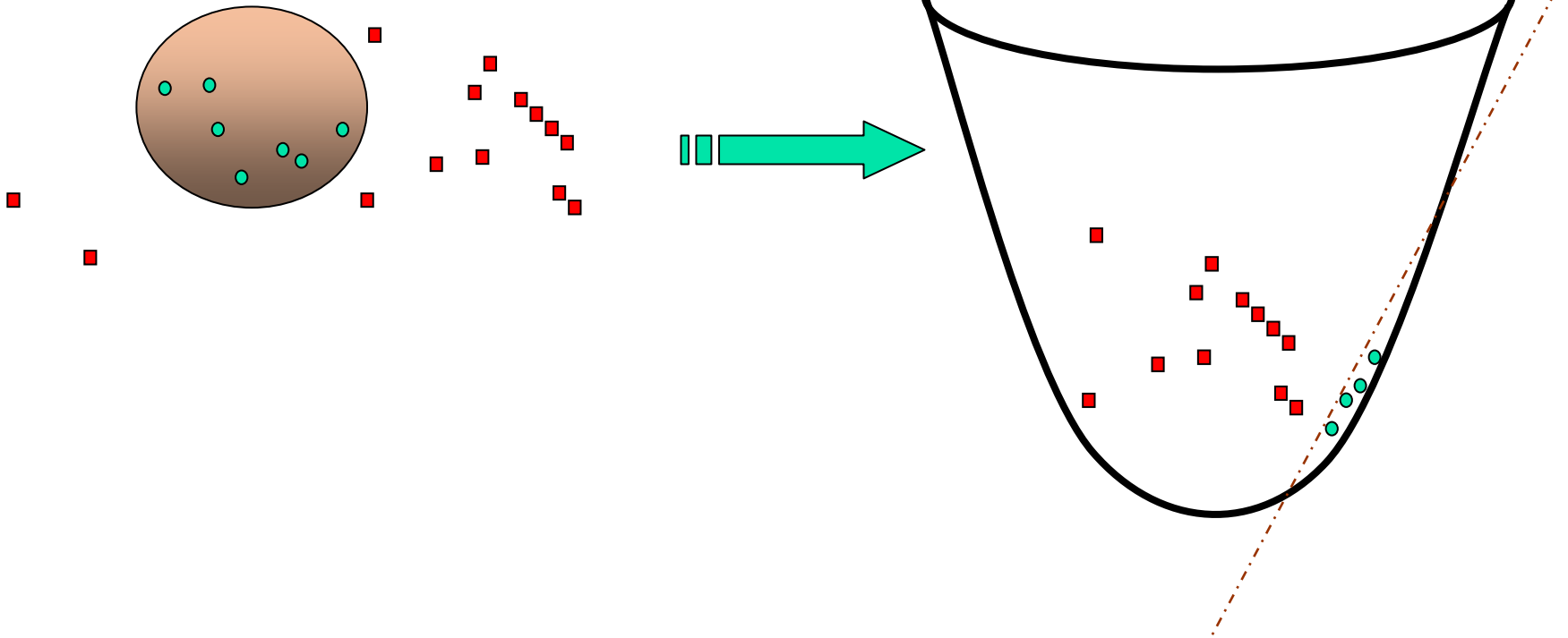
From learning theory, limited capacity is good

# Another twist : Linearization

- If the data is separable with say a sphere, how would you use a perceptron to separate it? (Ellipsoids?)



# Linearization



Lift the points to a paraboloid in one higher dimension,  
For instance if the data is in 2D,  
 $(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y, x^2+y^2)$



# The kernel Matrix

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- Another trick that ML community uses for Linearization is to use a function that redefines distances between points.
- Example :  $K(x, z) = e^{-\|x-z\|^2/2\sigma}$
- There are even papers on how to learn kernels from data !



# Perceptron Smoothed Complexity

Let  $L$  be a linear program and let  $L'$  be the same linear program under a Gaussian perturbation of variance  $\sigma^2$ , where  $\sigma^2 \leq 1/2d$ . For any  $\delta$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  either

The perceptron finds a feasible solution in  $\text{poly}(d, m, 1/\sigma, 1/\delta)$

$L'$  is infeasible or unbounded





# The Algorithm

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In one line



# The 1 Line LP Solver!

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- Start with a random vector  $w$ , and if a point is misclassified do:

$$\vec{w}_{k+1} = \vec{w}_k + \vec{x}_k$$

(until done)

*One of the most beautiful LP Solvers I've ever  
come across...*



# A better description

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```
Initialize  $w=0, i=0$   
do  $i = (i+1) \bmod n$   
if  $x_i$  is misclassified by  $w$   
then  $w = w + x_i$   
until all patterns classified  
Return  $w$ 
```

That's the entire code!

Written in 10 mins.



# An even better description

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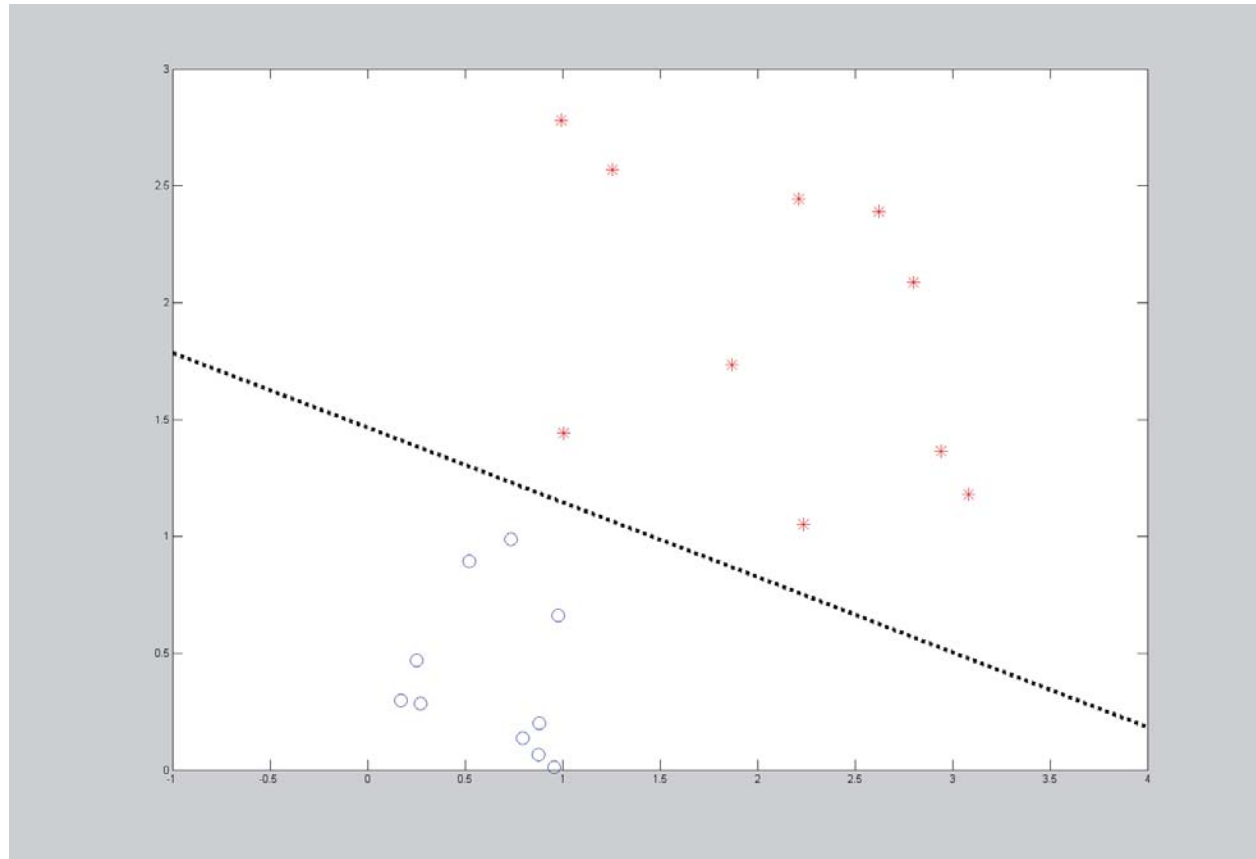
```
function w = perceptron(r, b)
r = [r (zeros(length(r), 1)+1)]; % Homogenize
b = -[b (zeros(length(b), 1)+1)]; % Homogenize and flip

data = [r; b]; % Make one pointset
s = size(data); % Size of data?
w = zeros(1, s(1, 2)); % Initialize zero vector

is_error = true;
while is_error
    is_error = false;
    for k=1:s(1, 1)
        if dot(w, data(k, :)) <= 0
            w = w+data(k, :); is_error = true;
        end
    end
end
end
```

And it can be solve any LP!

# An output





## In other words

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At each step, the algorithm picks any vector  $x$  that is misclassified, or is on the wrong side of the halfspace, and brings the normal vector  $w$  closer into agreement with that point



# Still: Why the hell does it work?

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Back to the most advanced presentation tools available on earth !

The blackboard 😊

Wait (Lemme try the whiteboard)

The Convergence Proof



# Proof

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$$\omega_{i+1} = \omega_i + \alpha_i$$

Let  $\hat{\omega}$  be an optimal solution  
such that  $\|\hat{\omega}\| = 1$ .

$$(\omega_{i+1} - \alpha \hat{\omega}) = (\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega}) + \alpha_i$$





# Proof

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$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega_{i+1} - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 &= \|\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 + \|x_i\|^2 \\ &\quad + \underbrace{2(\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega})x_i}_{2\omega_i x_i - 2\alpha \hat{\omega} x_i} \end{aligned}$$



# Proof

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$\omega_i \cdot x_i < 0$  since  $x_i$  was misclassified

$$\Rightarrow \|\omega_{i+1} - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 \leq \|\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 + 1 - 2\alpha \gamma$$

$$\text{Let } \gamma = \min_{x_i} x_i \cdot \hat{\omega}$$



# Proof

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$$\text{Let } \alpha = \frac{1}{L}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\omega_{i+1} - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 \leq \|\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 - \underline{1}$$



# Proof

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$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \|\omega_{i+k} - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 \leq \|\omega_i - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 - k$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \|\omega_0 - \alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 - k$$



# Proof

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$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \quad \kappa &\leq \|\alpha \hat{\omega}\|^2 && [\because \omega_0 = 0] \\ &\leq \alpha^2 && [\because \|\hat{\omega}\| = 1] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \end{aligned}$$



That's all folks 😊

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