

Machine Learning

Perceptron Classifier

School of Science and Engineering

https://www.zubairkhalid.org/ee514_2025.html

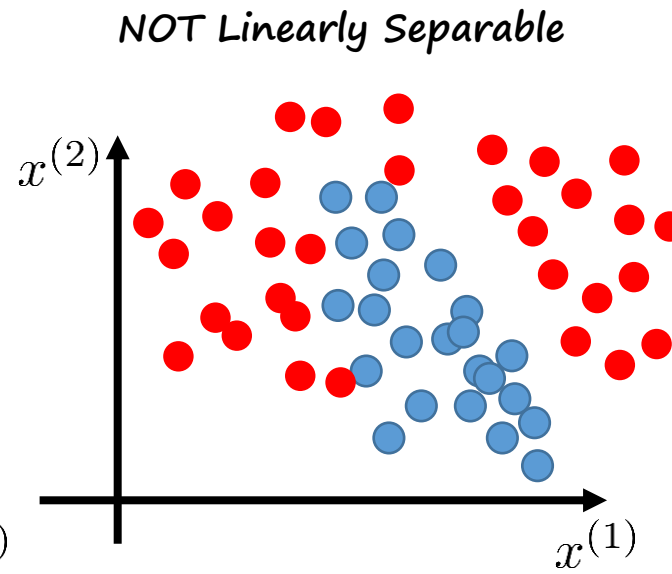
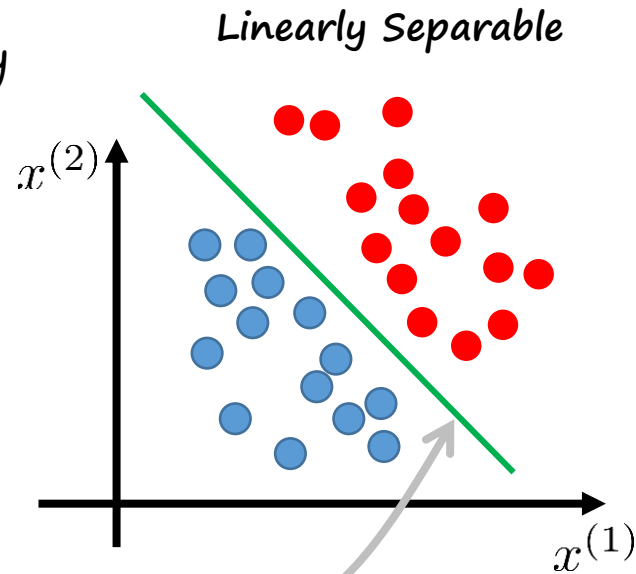
Outline

- *Perceptron and Perceptron Classifier*
- *Perceptron Learning Algorithm*
 - *Geometric Intuition*
- *Perceptron Learning Algorithm Convergence*

Linear Classifiers

Overview:

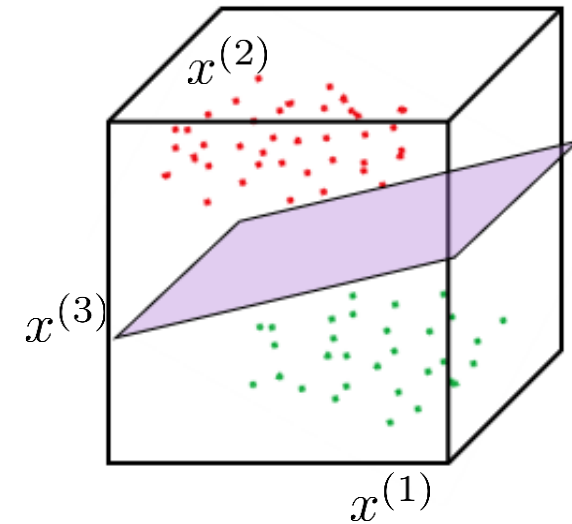
- Linear Separability



- Linear Classifiers

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \theta^T \mathbf{x} + \theta_0$$

- line in 2D, plane in 3D, hyper-plane in higher dimensions.



We have studied three classifiers:

- kNN (Instance)
- Logistic Regression (Discriminative)

More Discriminative Classifiers:

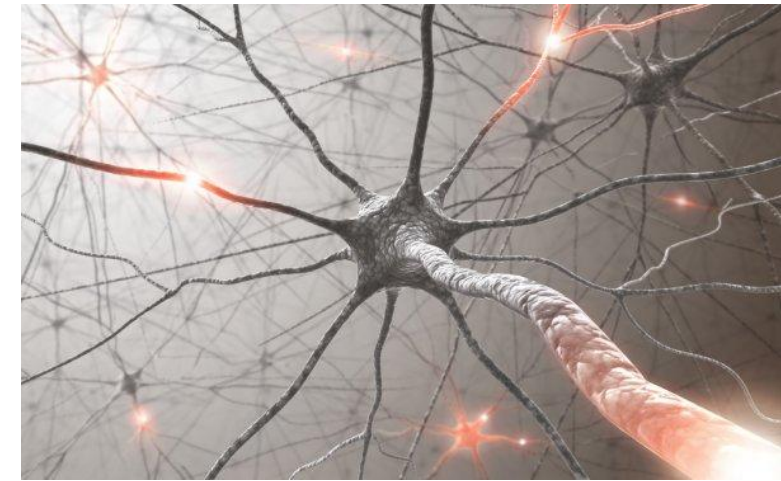
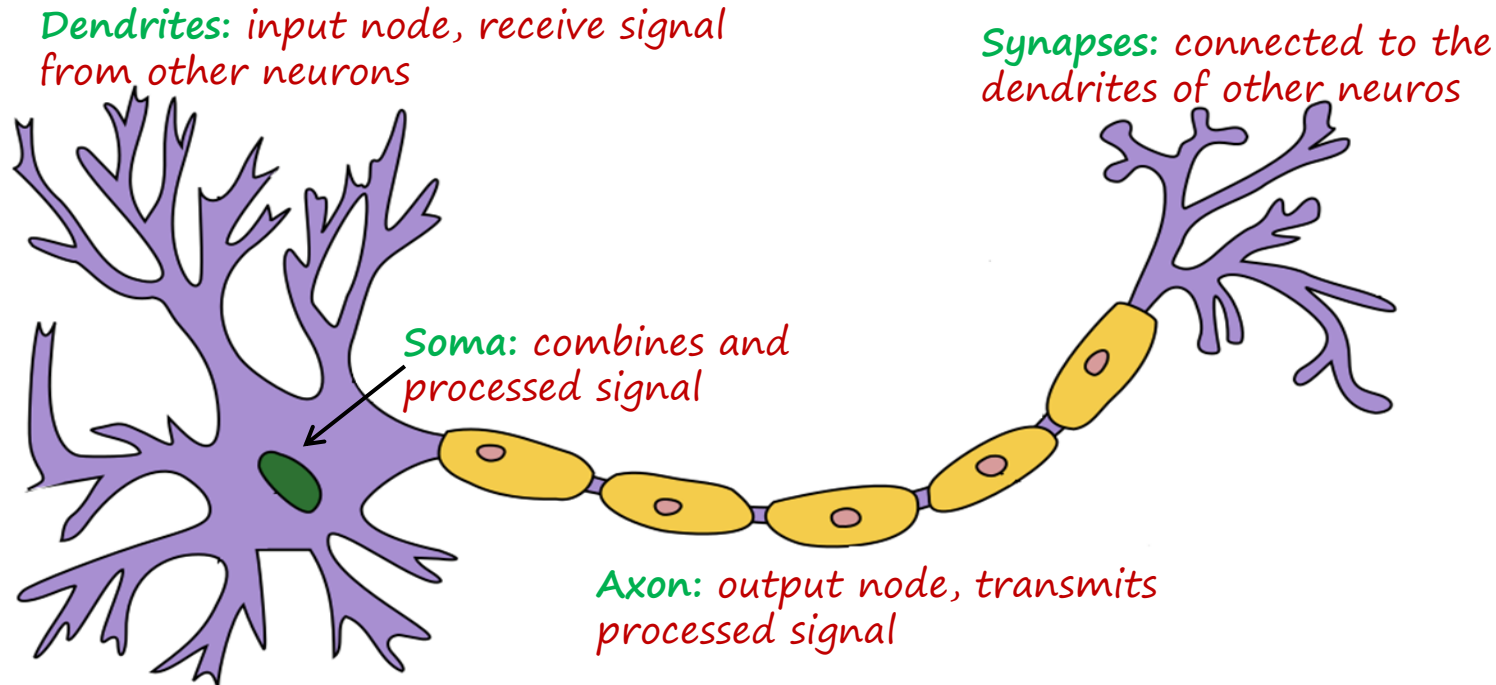
- Perceptron
- Support Vector Machines

Perceptron Classifier

McCulloch-Pitts (MP) Neuron:

- McCulloch (neuroscientist) and Pitts (logician) proposed a computational model of the biological neuron in 1943.

Biological Neuron (Simplified illustration):



- Neuron is fired or transmits the signal when it is activated by the combination of input signals.

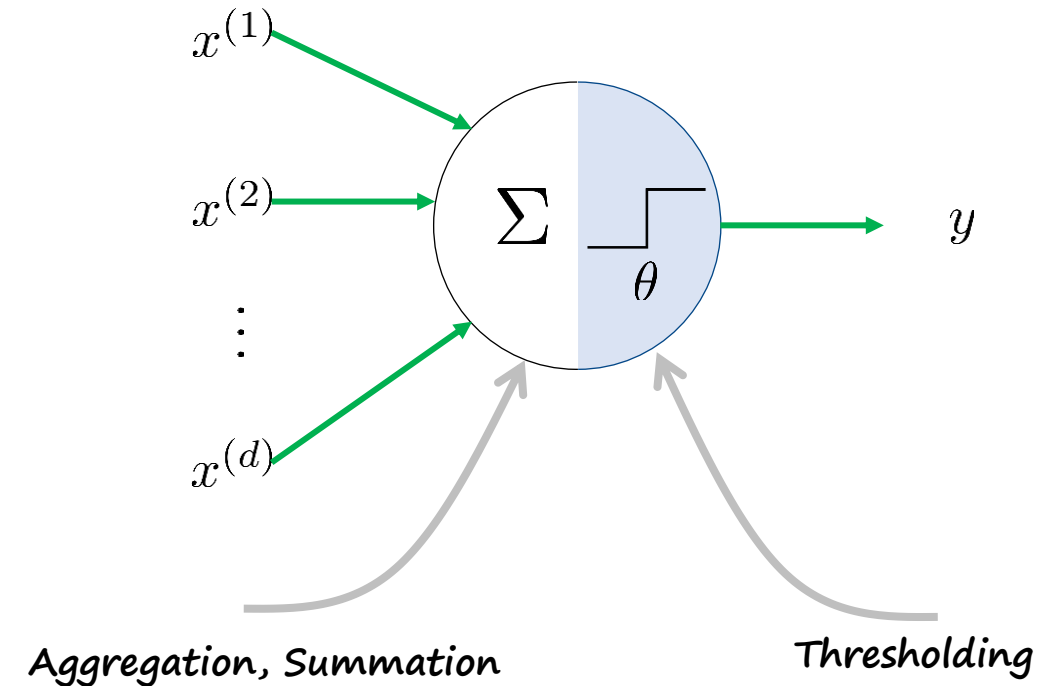
Perceptron Classifier

McCulloch-Pitts (MP) Neuron:

- d number of boolean inputs $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(d)} \in \{0, 1\}$.
- Boolean output, $y \in \{0, 1\}$.
- If sum of inputs is less than θ , the output is zero and one otherwise.
- θ is a thresholding parameter that characterizes the neuron.
- Mathematically;

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^d x^{(i)} \geq \theta \\ 0 & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^d x^{(i)} < \theta \end{cases}$$

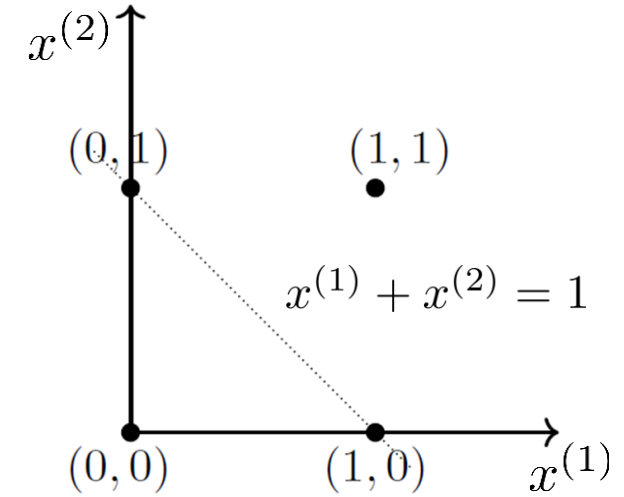
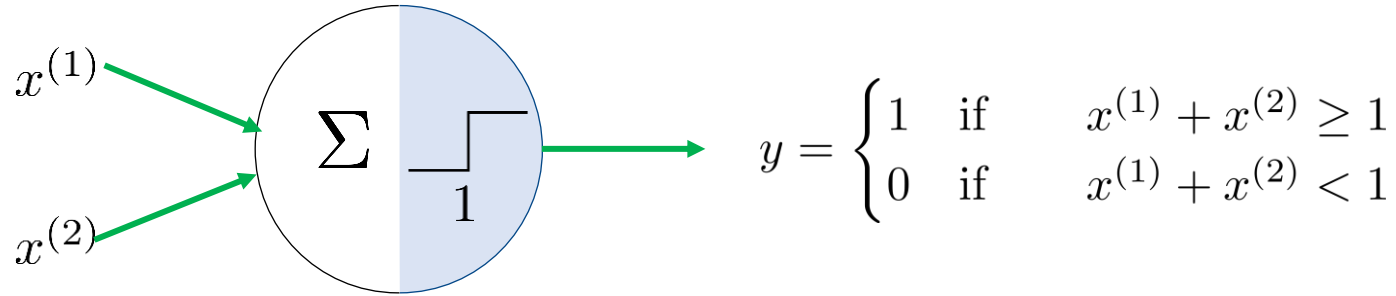
- Idea: Fire the neuron if at least θ number of inputs are active.



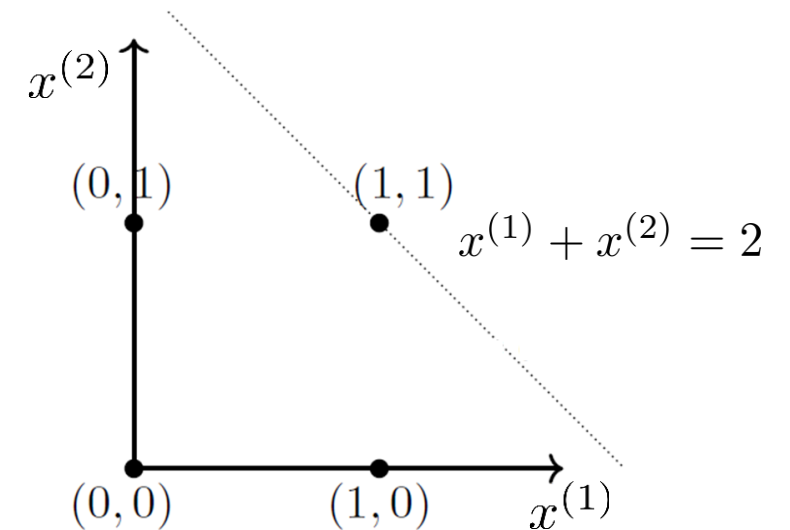
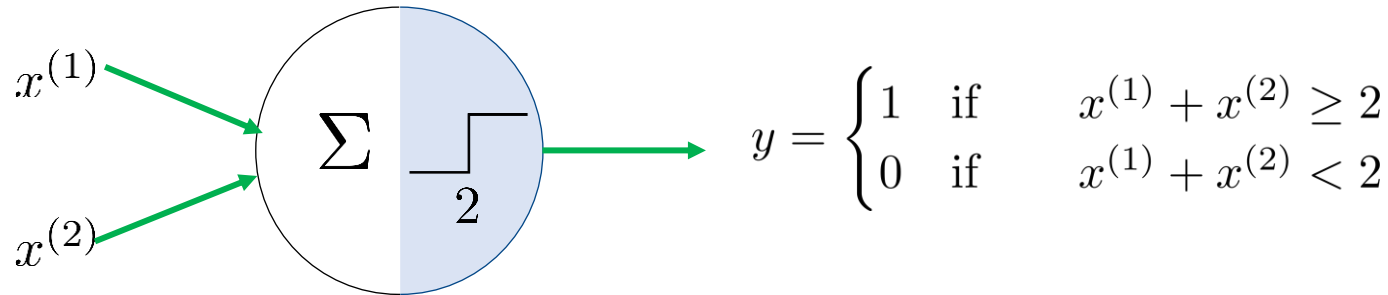
Perceptron Classifier

McCulloch-Pitts Neuron (MP) - Examples:

- OR of two inputs.



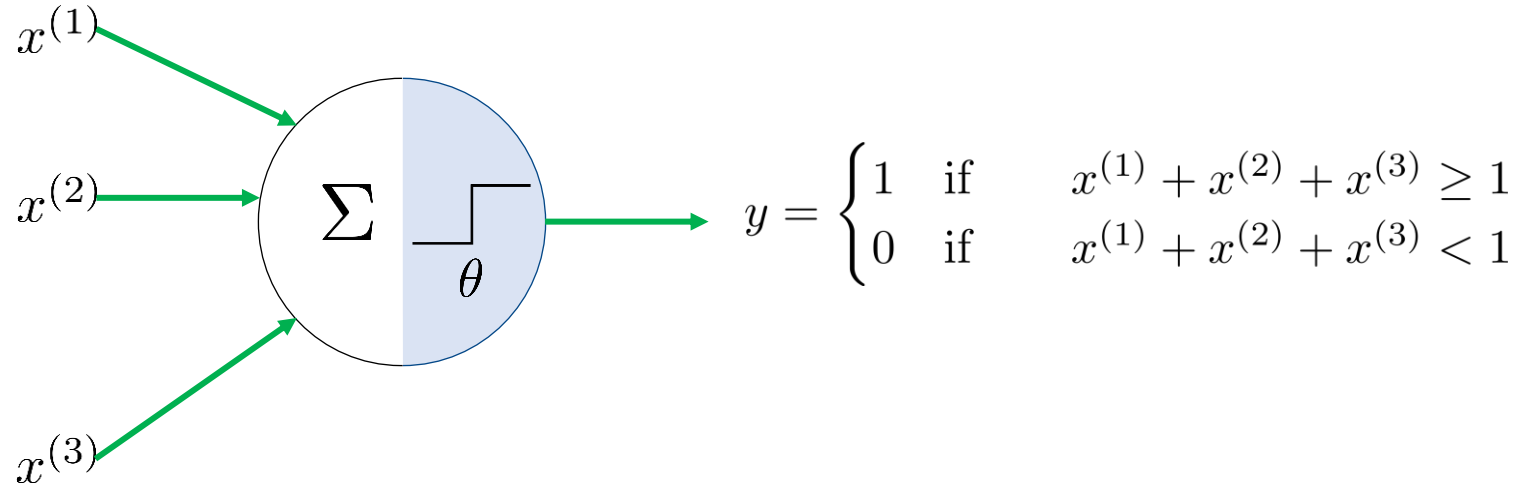
- AND of two inputs.



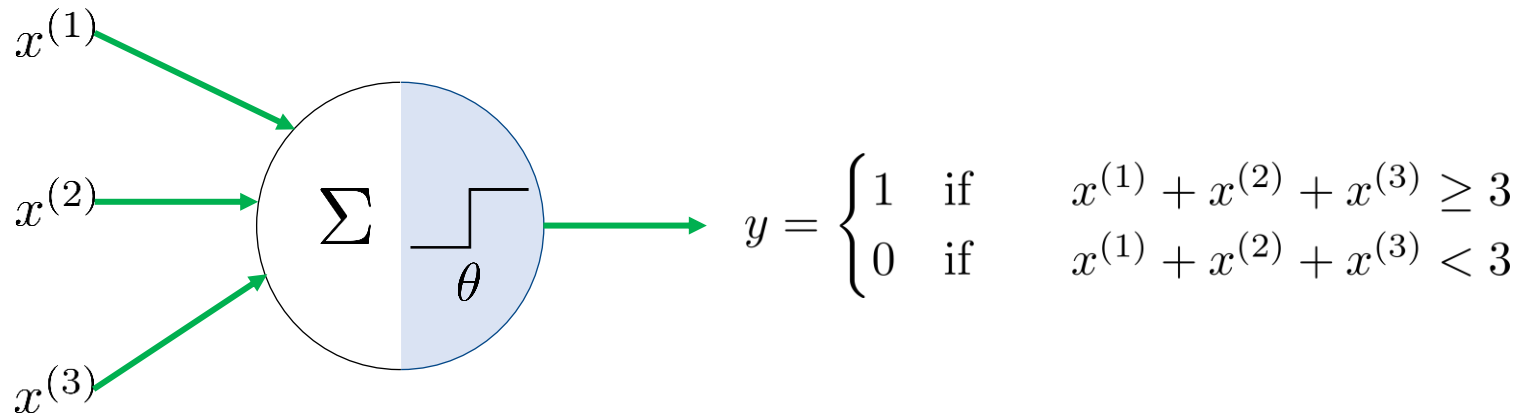
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McCulloch-Pitts Neuron (MP) - Examples:

- OR of three inputs.



- AND of three inputs.



Perceptron Classifier

McCulloch-Pitts (MP) Neuron – Limitations:

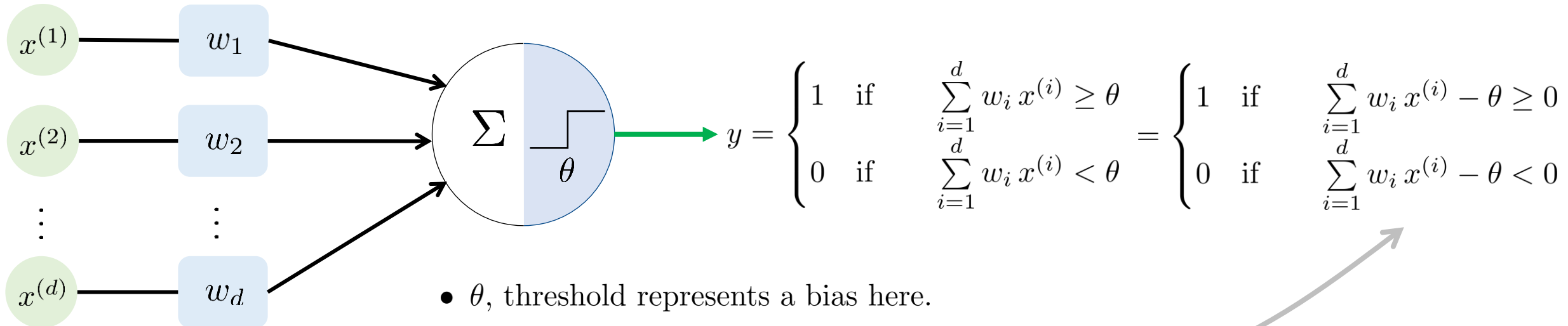
- Can classify if inputs are *linearly* separable with respect to the output.
 - How to handle the functions/mappings that are not linearly separable e.g., XOR?
- Can handle only boolean inputs.
 - Gives equal or no weightage to the inputs
 - How can we assign different weights to different inputs?
- We hand-code threshold parameter
 - Can we automate the learning process of the parameter?
- To overcome these limitations, another model, known as perception model or perceptron, was proposed by Frank Rosenblatt (1958) and analysed by Minsky and Papert (1969).
 - Inputs *real valued*, *weights* used in aggregation
 - *Learning* of weights and threshold is *possible*.



Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron:

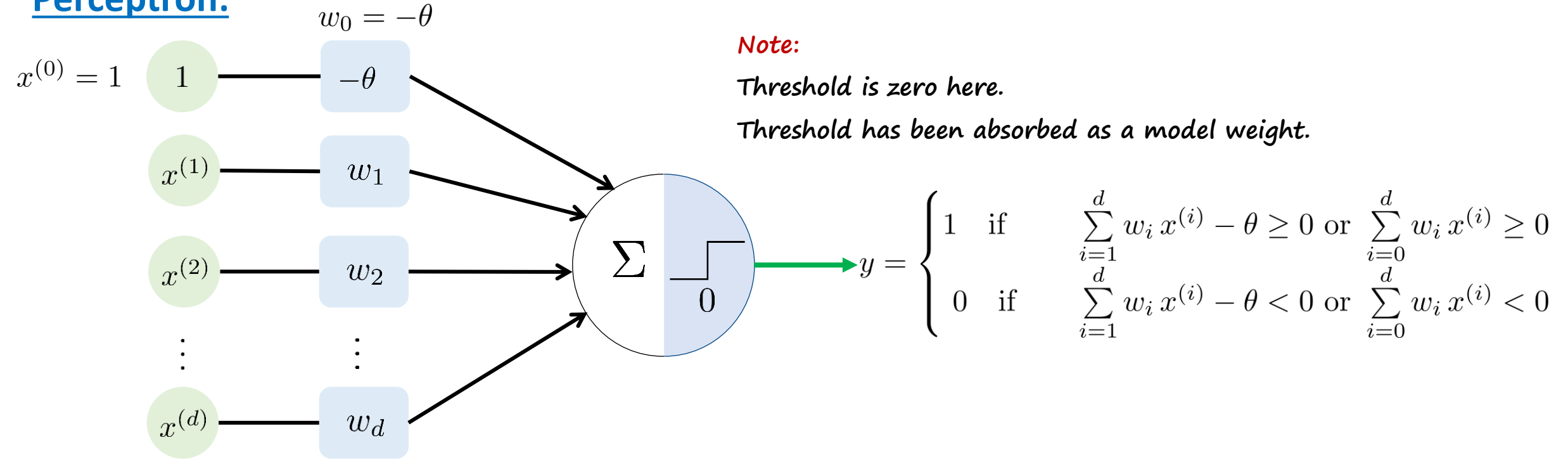
- d number of real-valued inputs $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(d)} \in \mathbf{R}$. *(Difference from MP Neuron)*
- Boolean output, $y \in \{0, 1\}$.
- If sum of inputs is less than θ , the output is zero and one otherwise.
- Threshold θ and weights w_1, w_2, \dots, w_d are model parameters. *(Difference from MP Neuron)*



- θ , threshold represents a bias here.
- θ can be considered or absorbed as a weight.
- This will make aggregation/thresholding independent of any parameters.

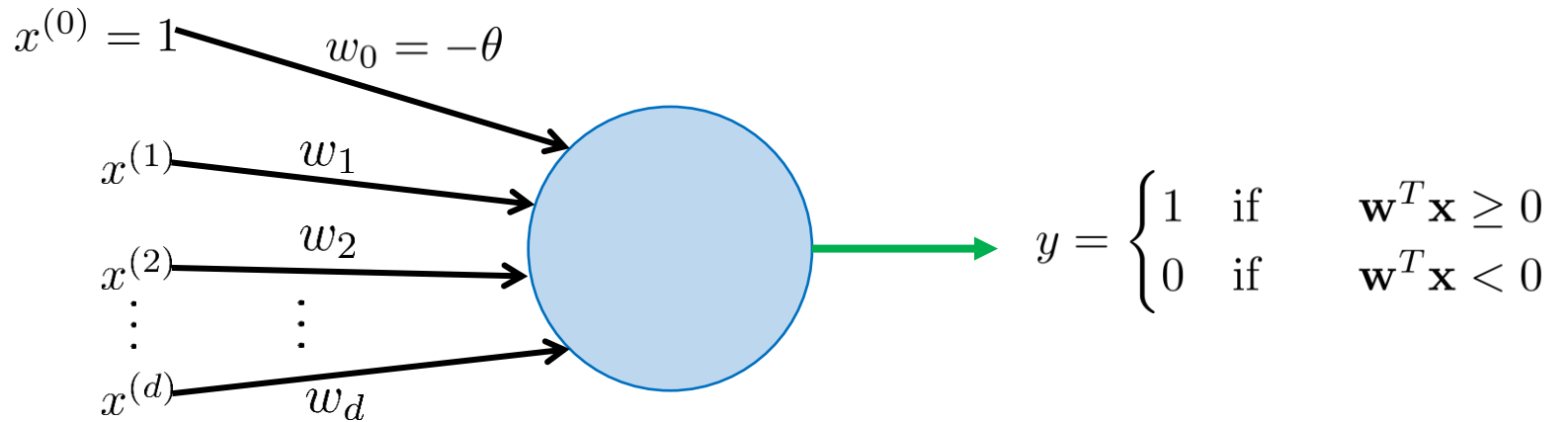
Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron:



Alternative (Compact) Representation:

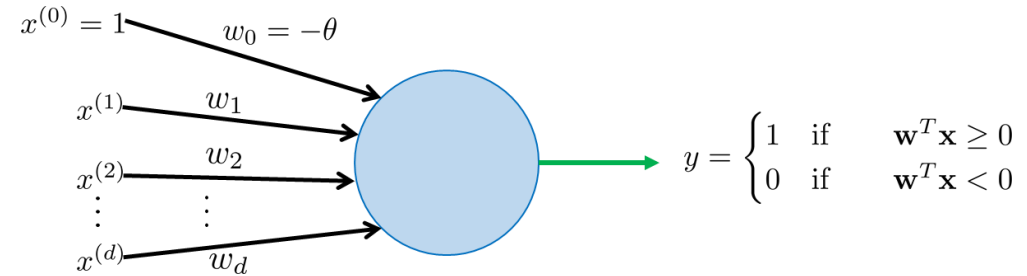
- $\mathbf{x} = [x^{(0)}, x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(d)}]$
- $\mathbf{w} = [w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d]$



Perceptron Classifier

Classification using Perceptron:

- Since $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$ represents a hyper-plane in the d -dimensional space, we can use perceptron as a binary classifier if the classes are linearly separable.
- How is this different from MP neuron?
 - Inputs are real-valued.
 - We have real-valued weights in the process of aggregation.
 - We can learn the weights.
- We have seen this before. We obtained exactly same output in logistic regression case before mapping using sigmoid. We refer to logistic regression classifier as an elementary neural network.
- We used logistic function to have differentiable loss function and squishing the output in $(-\infty, \infty)$ to $(0,1)$ giving us probabilistic view of the classifier.
- How can we learn the weights for the case of perceptron? We note here that we cannot use gradient descent.



- Remark:

If classes are labeled as 1 and -1

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0 \end{cases}$$

We often write output as

$$y = \text{sign}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$

sign(.) returns sign of the argument.

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Perceptron Classifier

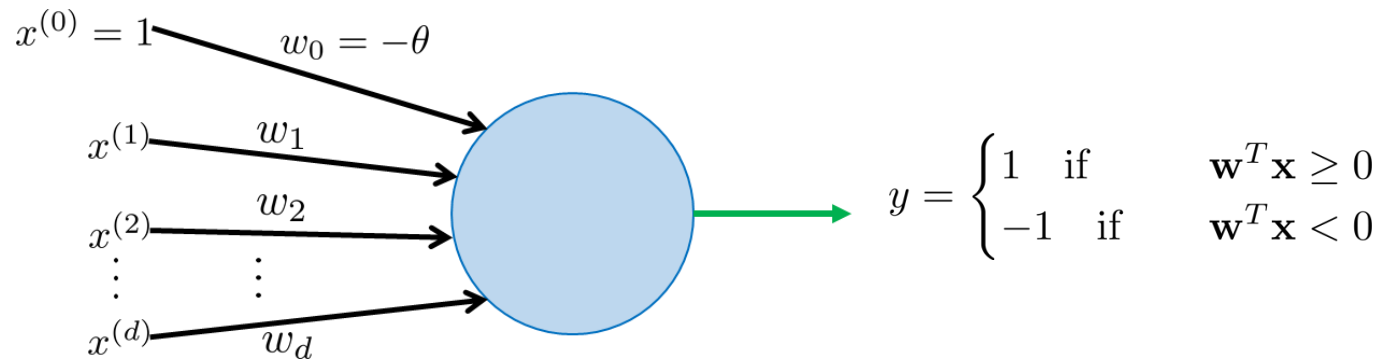
Perceptron Learning Algorithm:

- Assuming that the classes are **linearly separable**, we want to learn \mathbf{w} given the data.

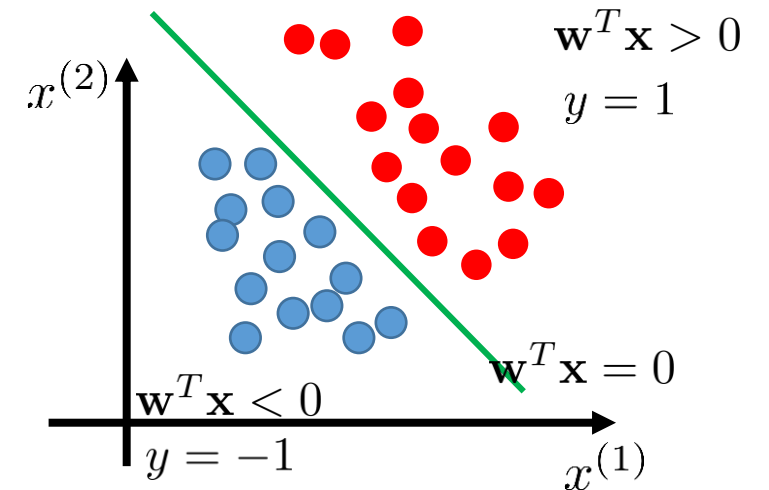
$$D = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^d \times \mathcal{Y}$$

- $\mathcal{Y} = \{0, 1\}$ (without loss of generality)
- $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$

- Classifier:



- Data: Linearly separable.



- Key idea: Learn/find a hyperplane characterized by \mathbf{w} such that
 - $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) > 0$ for every $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in D$
 - $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) > 0$ implies \mathbf{x}_i is on the correct side of hyperplane.

Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm:

Initialize $\mathbf{w} = 0$

while TRUE **do**

$m = 0$

(Count the number of misclassifications)

for $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{D}$ **do**

if $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$

(misclassification for the chosen point)

$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i$

(update weight vector: add a point if true label is 1 and subtract a point otherwise)

$m \leftarrow m + 1$

end if

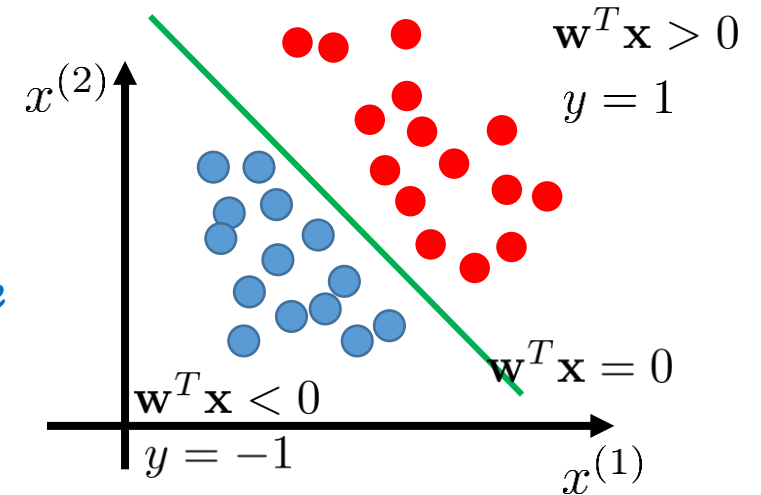
end for

if $m = 0$

break

end if

end while



Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Intuition and Interpretation:

- Visualization of $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$:

- $\mathbf{x} = [x^{(0)}, x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(d)}]$ $x^{(0)} = 1$

- $\mathbf{w} = [w_0, w_1, \dots, w_d]$

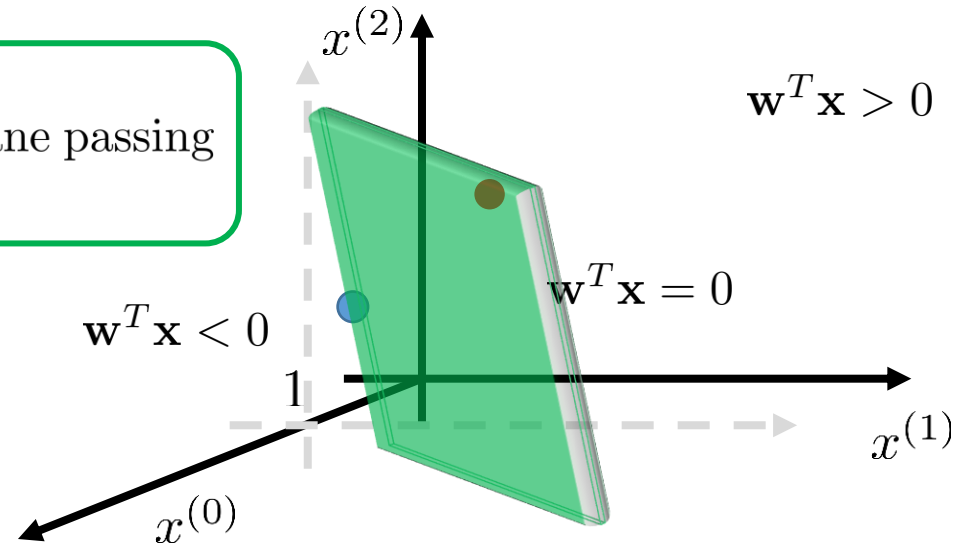
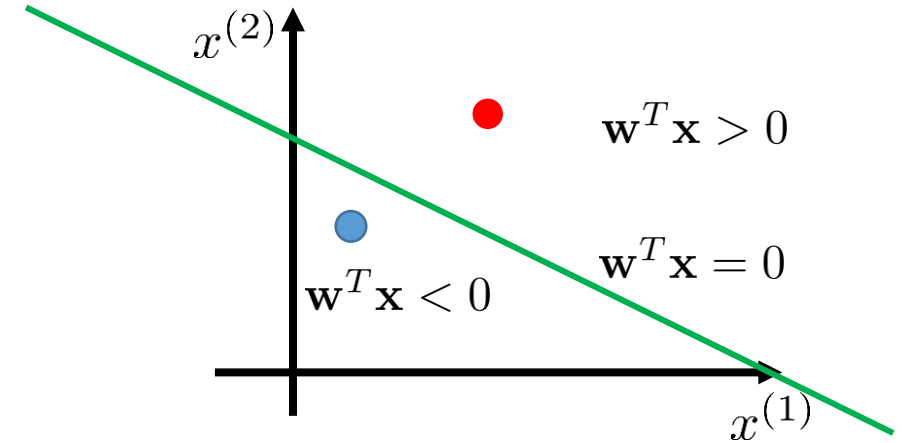
$$\sum_{i=1}^d w_i x^{(i)} = -w_0 \quad (\text{Hyperplane in } d\text{-dimensional space})$$

- Hyper-plane $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$ divides the space into two half-spaces.

- Positive Half-space $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} > 0$ • Negative Half-space $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0$

- One more interpretation:

Considering $x^{(0)}$ as a dimension, $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$ represents a hyperplane passing through origin in $d + 1$ dimensional space.



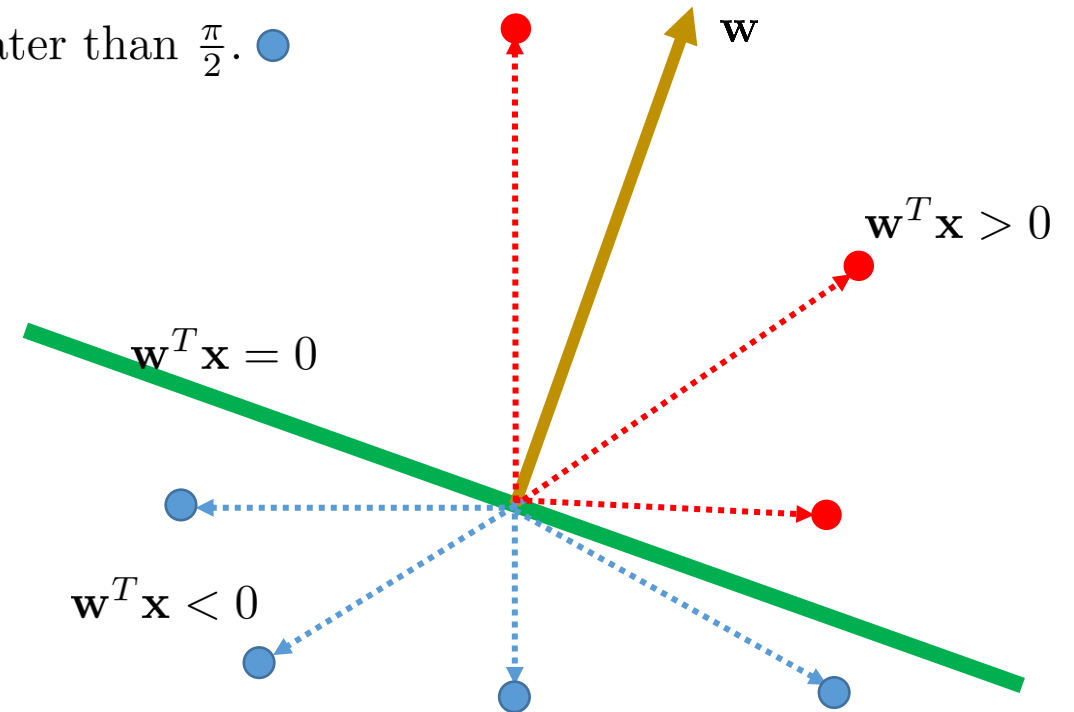
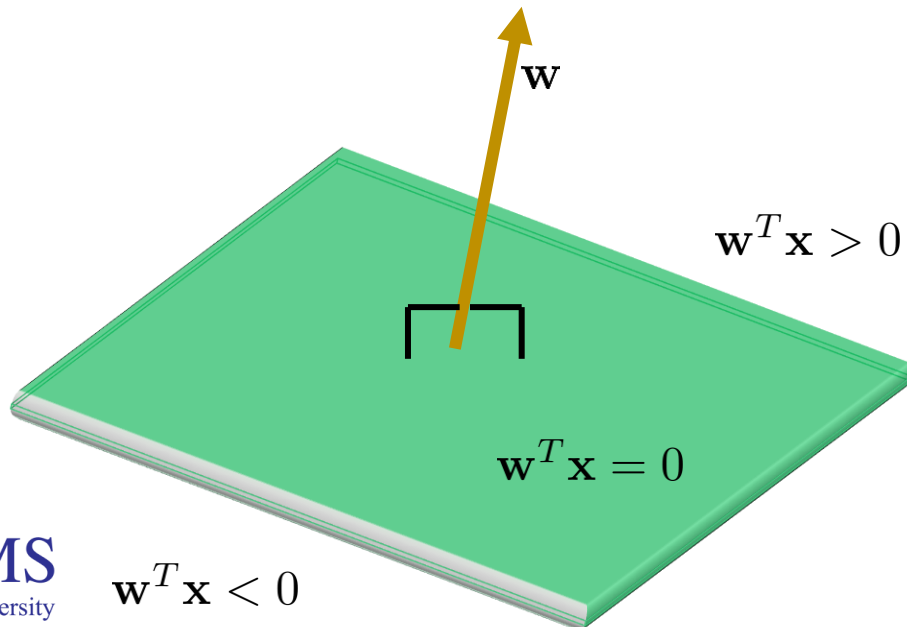
Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Intuition and Interpretation:

- For any point \mathbf{x}_i , $|\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i|$ represents the distance of \mathbf{x} from the hyper-plane.
- Since every point on the hyper-plane satisfies $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$, what is the angle, α between \mathbf{w} and any \mathbf{x} ?

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|_2 \|\mathbf{x}\|_2} \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

- For any point in the positive half-space $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} > 0$: angle is less than $\frac{\pi}{2}$. ●
- For any point in the negative half-space $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} < 0$: angle is greater than $\frac{\pi}{2}$. ●



Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Intuition and Interpretation:

- We want to learn \mathbf{w} such that $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) > 0$ for each $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{D}$.
- In other words, we require $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i > 0$ for $y_i = 1$ and $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i < 0$ for $y_i = -1$

Algorithm:

```
Initialize  $\mathbf{w} = 0$ 
while TRUE do
   $m = 0$ 
  for  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{D}$  do
    if  $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$ 
       $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i$ 
       $m \leftarrow m + 1$ 
    end if
  end for
  if  $m = 0$ 
    break
  end if
end while
```

- We make update when $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$.
- For example, consider a point $(\mathbf{x}_i, 1)$ for which we have $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i \leq 0$.
- Angle α between \mathbf{w} and \mathbf{x}_i is greater than $\pi/2$.
- But we require this angle to be less than $\pi/2$.
- Update: $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{x}_i$
- What about angle (α_{new}) between \mathbf{w}_{new} and \mathbf{x}_i ?
- Since $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{x}_i > \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$
- Since $\cos(\alpha_{\text{new}}) \propto \mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{x}_i$ and $\cos(\alpha) \propto \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$

$$\cos(\alpha_{\text{new}}) > \cos(\alpha)$$

- Consider a point $(\mathbf{x}_i, -1)$
 $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i \geq 0$.
- α less than $\pi/2$.
- Require α greater than $\pi/2$.
- Update: $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}} = \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{x}_i$
- $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{x}_i < \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i$

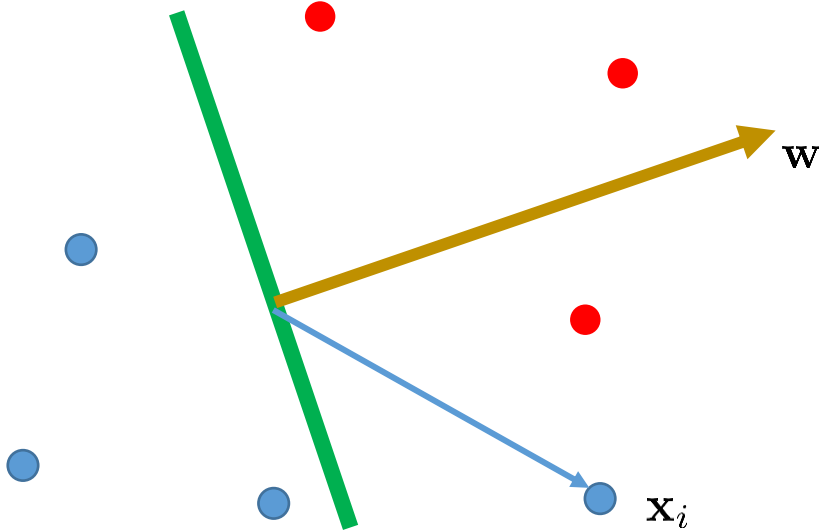
$$\cos(\alpha_{\text{new}}) < \cos(\alpha)$$

This is exactly we require!

Perceptron Classifier

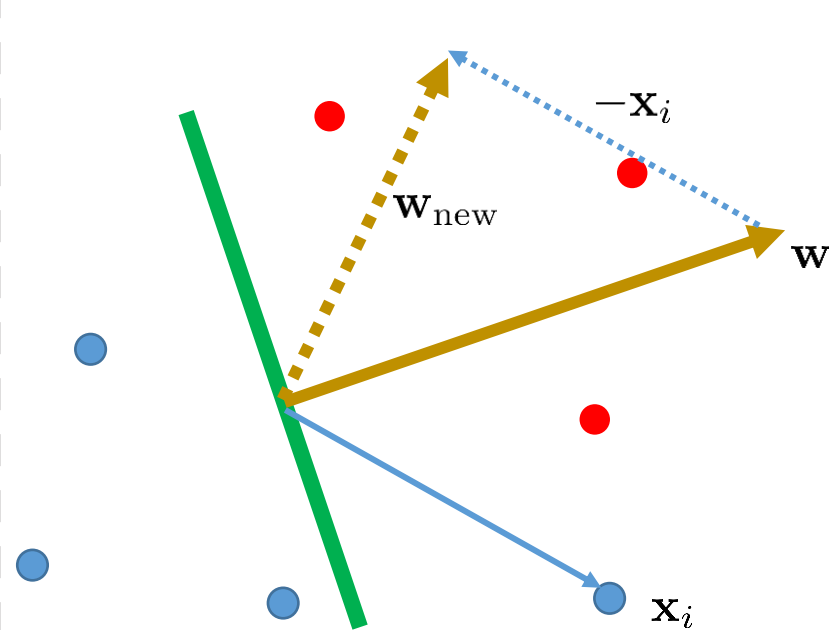
Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Intuition and Interpretation:

Randomly chosen w .

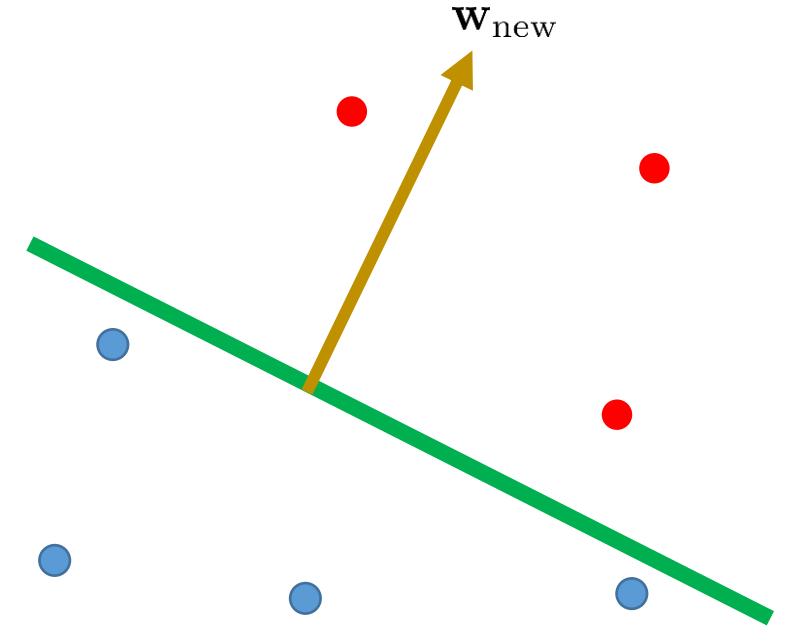


Misclassification for one point only

Update: $w_{\text{new}} = w - x_i$



Update Step



No misclassification

Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm:

Initialize $\mathbf{w} = 0$

while TRUE **do**

$m = 0$

(Count the number of misclassifications)

for $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{D}$ **do**

if $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$

(misclassification for the chosen point)

$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i$

(update weight vector: add a point if true label is 1 and subtract a point otherwise)

$m \leftarrow m + 1$

end if

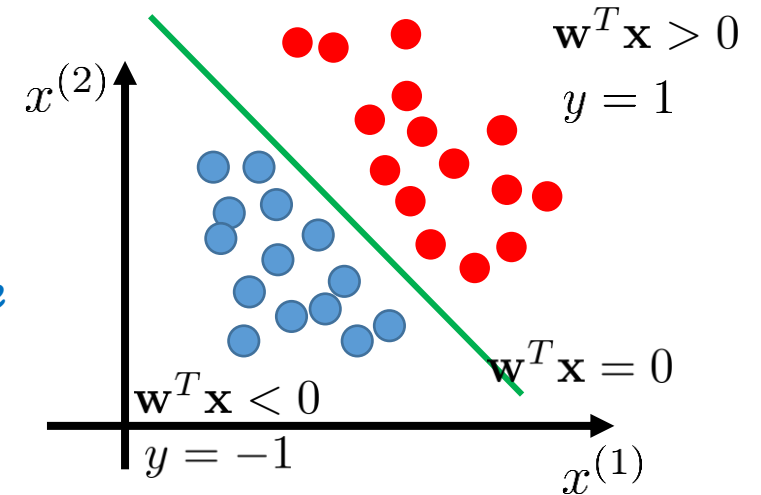
end for

if $m = 0$

break

end if

end while



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Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Proof of Convergence:

Assumptions:

- Data is linearly separable: $\exists \mathbf{w}^*$ such that $y_i(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}^*) > 0 \forall (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in D$.

- We rescale each data point and the \mathbf{w}^* such that

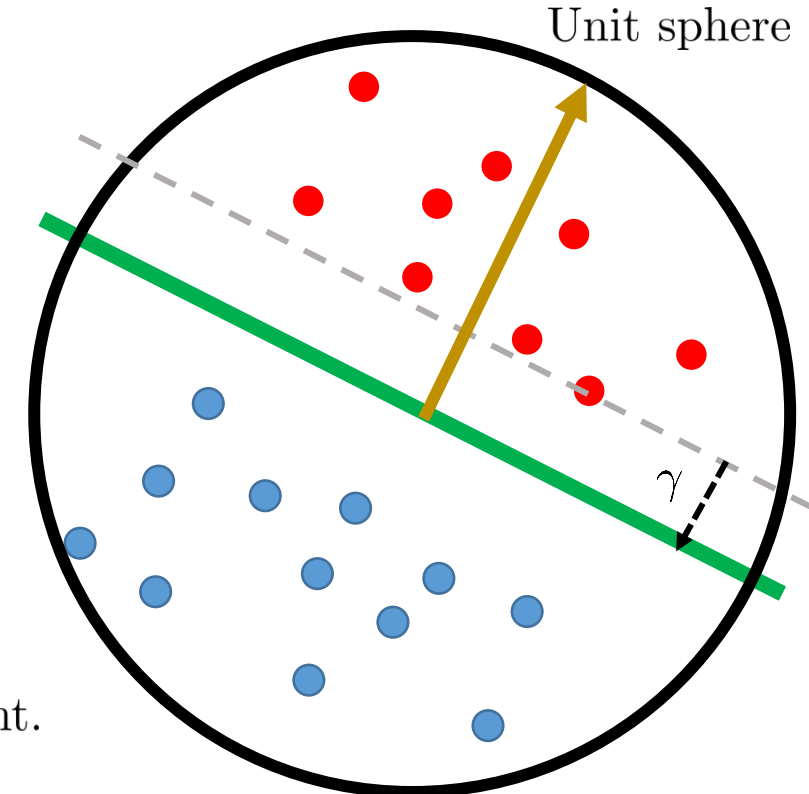
$$\|\mathbf{w}^*\| = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{x}_i\| \leq 1 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

- All inputs \mathbf{x}_i live within the unit sphere
- \mathbf{w}^* lies on the unit sphere

- We define the margin of a hyper-plane, denoted by γ , as

$$\gamma = \min_{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in D} |\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}^*|$$

- γ is the distance from the hyperplane to the closest data point.



Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Proof of Convergence:

Theorem: Under these assumptions, the perceptron algorithm makes at most $1/\gamma^2$ misclassifications.

Proof:

- In our algorithm, when $y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$, we update as: $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}} = \mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i$
- Consider the effect of an update on $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}^*$:

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}^* = (\mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i)^T \mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^* + y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}^*) \geq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^* + \gamma \quad (1)$$

The inequality follows from the fact: \mathbf{w}^* , the distance from the hyperplane defined by \mathbf{w}^* to \mathbf{x}_i must be at least γ (i.e., $y_i(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}^*) = |\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{w}^*| \geq \gamma$).

This means that for each update, $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^*$ grows by at least γ .

- Consider the effect of an update on $\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}$:

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}_{\text{new}} = (\mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i)^T (\mathbf{w} + y_i \mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + 2y_i (\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) + y_i^2 (\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + 1 \quad (2)$$

The inequality follows from the fact: $2y_i(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0$ as we had to make an update. $y_i^2(\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i) \leq 1$ as $y_i^2 = 1$ and all $\mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i \leq 1$ (because $\|\mathbf{x}_i\| \leq 1$).

This means that for each update, $\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}$ grows by at most 1.

Perceptron Classifier

Perceptron Learning Algorithm – Proof of Convergence:

Proof (continued):

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}^* \geq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^* + \gamma \quad (1) \quad \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^* \text{ grows by at least } \gamma.$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{new}}^T \mathbf{w}_{\text{new}} \leq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} + 1 \quad (2) \quad \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} \text{ grows by at most } 1.$$

After M updates, we have:

- $M\gamma \leq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^*$ *(From (1); each update increases, at least, by gamma)*
- $M\gamma \leq \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^* = |\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}^*| \leq \|\mathbf{w}\| \|\mathbf{w}^*\|$ *(By Cauchy-Schwartz inequality)*
- $M\gamma \leq \|\mathbf{w}\| \|\mathbf{w}^*\| = \|\mathbf{w}\|$ *(Unit sphere assumption)*
- $M\gamma \leq \|\mathbf{w}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}}$
- $M\gamma \leq \|\mathbf{w}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w}} \leq \sqrt{M}$
- $M\gamma \leq \sqrt{M} \Rightarrow M^2\gamma^2 \leq M \Rightarrow M \leq \frac{1}{\gamma^2}.$

Theorem is proved since the number of updates is equal to the number of misclassifications!

Perceptron Classifier

Summary:

- As can train perceptron to classify given data but cannot be used to estimate the probability of x or generate x given y , Perceptron classifier is discriminative.
- Assumes that the classes are linearly separable.
 - Does not make any assumptions about the data such as feature independence (required for Naïve Bayes).
- We can update the weights (model parameters) using one training data point, and therefore the perceptron classifier is an online learning algorithm.
- Learning Algorithm is based on the principle that it uses mistakes during learning to iteratively update the weights.
- Under certain assumptions, we showed the convergence of the learning algorithm.