## Active Learning a Convex Body in Low Dimensions

Sariel Har-Peled ${ }^{1}$ Mitchell Jones ${ }^{1}$ Saladi Rahul ${ }^{2}$
ICALP 2020, July 8-11
${ }^{1}$ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, USA
${ }^{2}$ Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India

## The problem

## Problem

Input: $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$, oracle for unknown convex body $C$.
Oracle: Separation oracle.
Goal: Compute $P \cap C$ using fewest number of oracle queries.


## The problem

## Problem

Input: $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$, oracle for unknown convex body $C$.
Oracle: Separation oracle.
Goal: Compute $P \cap C$ using fewest number of oracle queries.


## Motivation: Active learning

- Input space X
- Learner data: $x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n} \in X$ (without labels)
- Learner can query oracle for label of any $q \in X$
- Build classifier using few queries
-What queries to choose?


## Additional motivation

- Separation oracles are well-known (OR)


## Additional motivation

- Separation oracles are well-known (OR)
- Computational problems with oracle access:
- Nearest-neighbor oracles [Har-Peled et al., 2016]
- Proximity probe [Panahi et al., 2013]
- Linear queries [Ezra and Sharir, 2019]


## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification


## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification
- Algorithm:


## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification
- Algorithm:

1. Randomly sample input

## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification
- Algorithm:

1. Randomly sample input
2. Obtain labels for sample

## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification
- Algorithm:

1. Randomly sample input
2. Obtain labels for sample
3. Classify sample

## One approach: PAC learning

- Allow error in classification
- Algorithm:

1. Randomly sample input
2. Obtain labels for sample
3. Classify sample

- Size of sample?


## One approach: PAC learning

- Misclassified points = symmetric difference of learned and true classifier



## One approach: PAC learning

- Misclassified points = symmetric difference of learned and true classifier
- Halfplane $\Longrightarrow$ symmetric difference is a wedge



## One approach: PAC learning

- Misclassified points = symmetric difference of learned and true classifier
- Halfplane $\Longrightarrow$ symmetric difference is a wedge
- Wedge has finite VC dimension $\Longrightarrow$ random sample of size $\approx O\left(\varepsilon^{-1} \log \varepsilon^{-1}\right) \Longrightarrow \varepsilon n$ error



## One approach: PAC learning

- Misclassified points = symmetric difference of learned and true classifier
- Halfplane $\Longrightarrow$ symmetric difference is a wedge
- Wedge has finite VC dimension $\Longrightarrow$ random sample of size $\approx O\left(\varepsilon^{-1} \log \varepsilon^{-1}\right) \Longrightarrow$ हn error
- Scheme fails for arbitrary convex regions



## Hard vs. easy instances

- Worst case: query all points



## Hard vs. easy instances

- Worst case: query all points
- Goal: design instance sensitive algorithms



## A lower bound



- $F_{\text {in }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $F_{\text {in }} \subseteq C$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {in }} \cap P$.


## A lower bound



- $F_{\text {in }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $F_{\text {in }} \subseteq C$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {in }} \cap P$.
- $F_{\text {out }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $C \subseteq F_{\text {out }}$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {out }} \cap P$.


## A lower bound



- $F_{\text {in }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $F_{\text {in }} \subseteq C$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {in }} \cap P$.
- $F_{\text {out }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $C \subseteq F_{\text {out }}$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {out }} \cap P$.
- Separation price $\sigma(P, C)=\left|F_{\text {in }}\right|+\left|F_{\text {out }}\right|$.


## A lower bound



- $F_{\text {in }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $F_{\text {in }} \subseteq C$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {in }} \cap P$.
- $F_{\text {out }}=$ convex polygon with fewest vertices s.t. $C \subseteq F_{\text {out }}$ and $C \cap P=F_{\text {out }} \cap P$.
- Separation price $\sigma(P, C)=\left|F_{\text {in }}\right|+\left|F_{\text {out }}\right|$.


## Lemma

Any algorithm must make at least $\sigma(P, C)$ oracle queries.

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest $\#$ of pts of $P$ in convex position

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest $\#$ of pts of $P$ in convex position

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Verify in (2D) | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
|  |  |  |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Verify in (2D) | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out (2D) | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)(\ddagger)$ |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position
( $\ddagger$ ) Randomized, w.h.p

## Results

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)(\dagger)$ |
| Verify in (2D) | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out (2D) | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)(\ddagger)$ |

$(\dagger) k(P)=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position
( $\ddagger$ ) Randomized, w.h.p

## Remarks

## Our result

The greedy algorithm uses $O(k \log n)$ queries.
( $k=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position.)

## Remarks

## Our result

The greedy algorithm uses $O(k \log n)$ queries.
( $k=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position.)

- Previously known: O(klog k log n) [Kane et al., 2017, inference dimension]


## Remarks

## Our result

The greedy algorithm uses $O(k \log n)$ queries.
( $k=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position.)

- Previously known: O(klog klogn) [Kane et al., 2017, inference dimension]
- Implementation time:
$O\left(n \log ^{2} n \log \log n+T \cdot k \log n\right), T=$ query time


## Remarks

## Our result

The greedy algorithm uses $O(k \log n)$ queries.
( $k=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex position.)

- Previously known: O(klog k logn) [Kane et al., 2017, inference dimension]
- Implementation time:
$O\left(n \log ^{2} n \log \log n+T \cdot k \log n\right), T=$ query time
- P chosen UAR from $[0,1]^{2}$

$$
\Longrightarrow \mathbb{E}[k]=\Theta\left(n^{1 / 3}\right) \Longrightarrow O\left(n^{1 / 3} \log n\right)
$$

The greedy algorithm: preliminaries

- Maintain approximation $B \subseteq C$

The greedy algorithm: preliminaries

- Maintain approximation $B \subseteq C$
- Operations:


## The greedy algorithm: preliminaries

- Maintain approximation $B \subseteq C$
- Operations:

1. $\operatorname{expand}(p):$ Update $B=\operatorname{conv}(B+p)$
2. remove( $\ell^{+}$): Classify points $P \cap \ell^{+}$as outside $C$


## The greedy algorithm: preliminaries

- Maintain approximation $B \subseteq C$
- Operations:

1. $\operatorname{expand}(p):$ Update $B=\operatorname{conv}(B+p)$
2. remove $\left(\ell^{+}\right)$: Classify points $P \cap \ell^{+}$as outside $C$

- $c \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$ is a centerpoint for $P$ if for all halfspaces $\ell^{+}$: $c \in \ell^{+} \Longrightarrow\left|P \cap \ell^{+}\right| \geq|P| / 3$.



## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :
(A) $c \in C \Longrightarrow$ expand( $c$ )


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :
(A) $c \in C \Longrightarrow$ expand $(c)$
(B) $C \notin C, h$ is a separating line $\Longrightarrow$ remove $(h)$


## The greedy algorithm

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :
(A) $c \in C \Longrightarrow$ expand $(c)$
(B) $C \notin C, h$ is a separating line $\Longrightarrow$ remove $(h)$


## Animation

## Analysis

- Count visible pairs of points



## Analysis

- Count visible pairs of points
- In each iteration:



## Analysis

- Count visible pairs of points
- In each iteration:
(A) Pairs lose visibility



## Analysis

- Count visible pairs of points
- In each iteration:
(A) Pairs lose visibility
(B) Classify points



## Analysis

- Count visible pairs of points
- In each iteration:
(A) Pairs lose visibility
(B) Classify points


## Our result

The greedy algorithm uses $O(k \log n)$ queries.
( $k=$ largest \# of pts of $P$ in convex
 position.)

## Extending the algorithm to 3D

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :
(A) $c \in C \Longrightarrow$ expand $(c)$
(B) $c \notin C, h$ is a separating line $\Longrightarrow$ remove $(h)$

## Extending the algorithm to 3D

$U \subseteq P$ unclassified points. While $U \neq \varnothing$ :

1. $\ell^{+}=$halfspace tangent to $B$ maximizing $\left|\ell^{+} \cap U\right|$
2. $c=$ centerpoint of $\ell^{+} \cap U$
3. Query oracle using $c$ :
(A) $c \in C \Longrightarrow$ expand $(c)$
$(B) c \notin C, h$ is a separating plane $\Longrightarrow \operatorname{remove}(h)$

## Extending the analysis to 3D

- When $B$ is expanded, pairs of points do not lose visibility!


## Extending the analysis to 3D

- When $B$ is expanded, pairs of points do not lose visibility!
- Need to consider triples of points


## Extending the analysis to 3D

- When $B$ is expanded, pairs of points do not lose visibility!
- Need to consider triples of points
- Maintain two graphs (w.r.t B):

1. $G_{B}=(P, E),(p, q) \in E \Longleftrightarrow p q$ avoids $B$
2. Hypergraph $H_{B}=(P, \mathcal{E}),\{p, q, r\} \in \mathcal{E} \Longleftrightarrow$ triangle pqr avoids B

## Extending the analysis to 3D

- When $B$ is expanded, pairs of points do not lose visibility!
- Need to consider triples of points
- Maintain two graphs (w.r.t B):

1. $G_{B}=(P, E),(p, q) \in E \Longleftrightarrow p q$ avoids $B$
2. Hypergraph $H_{B}=(P, \mathcal{E}),\{p, q, r\} \in \mathcal{E} \Longleftrightarrow$ triangle pqr avoids B

## Our result

Greedy algorithm classifies all points using $O(k \log n)$ queries.

Conclusions

## Conclusion \& open problems

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)$ <br> $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)$ |
| Verify in | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |

## Conclusion \& open problems

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)$ <br> $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)$ |
| Verify in | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |

- Shaving log factors?


## Conclusion \& open problems

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)$ <br> $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)$ |
| Verify in | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |

- Shaving log factors?
- Near-optimal solution in 3D?


## Conclusion \& open problems

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)$ <br> $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)$ |
| Verify in | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |

- Shaving log factors?
- Near-optimal solution in 3D?
- Higher dimensions?


## Conclusion \& open problems

| Problem | Lowerbound | Upperbound |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Classify (2D) | $\sigma(P, C)$ | $O(k(P) \log n)$ <br> $O\left(\sigma(P, C) \log ^{2} n\right)$ |
| Classify (3D) | - | $O(k(P) \log n)$ |
| Verify in | $\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {in }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |
| Verify out | $\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\|$ | $O\left(\left\|F_{\text {out }}\right\| \log n\right)$ |

- Shaving log factors?
- Near-optimal solution in 3D?
- Higher dimensions?


## Thank you!

## References i

目
S．Har－Peled，N．Kumar，D．M．Mount，and B．Raichel．Space exploration via proximity search．Discrete Comput．Geom．，56（2）： 357－376， 2016.
（围 F．Panahi，A．Adler，A．F．van der Stappen，and K．Goldberg．An efficient proximity probing algorithm for metrology．Int．Conf．on Automation Science and Engineering，CASE 2013，342－349， 2013.

E－Esther Ezra and Micha Sharir．A nearly quadratic bound for point－location in hyperplane arrangements，in the linear decision tree model．Discrete Comput．Geom．，61（4）：735－755， 2019.
围 Daniel M．Kane，Shachar Lovett，Shay Moran，and Jiapeng Zhang． Active classification with comparison queries．Proc．58th Annu． IEEE Sympos．Found．Comput．Sci．（FOCS），355－366， 2017.

## References ii

D. Angluin. Queries and concept learning. Machine Learning, 2(4): 319-342, 1987.

