

# Supplement to Semi-Supervised Partial Label Learning via Confidence-Rated Margin Maximization

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## 1 Derivation of Eq.(10)

By setting the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}, \Xi, \alpha)$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\Xi$  to zero, we can get the following KKT conditions:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \xi_{il}} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i = \frac{\lambda}{p} f_{il} & 1 \leq i \leq p \\ \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i = \frac{\mu}{u} f_{il} & p+1 \leq i \leq p+u \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}_r} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}_r = \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \left( \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i - \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \right) \mathbf{x}_i$$

By plugging the first KKT condition into Eq.(9), all the slack variables are counteracted, and the Lagrangian becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}, \Xi, \alpha) &= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i (\mathbf{w}^T \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i, y_r) - \mathbf{w}^T \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i, y_l) - \delta_{l,r} + 1) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2}_{S1} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \mathbf{w}^T \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i, y_r)}_{S2} \\ &\quad - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \mathbf{w}^T \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i, y_l)}_{S3} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i (1 - \delta_{l,r})}_{S4} \end{aligned}$$

Afterwards, by plugging the second KKT condition into the above equation, we can get:

$$\begin{aligned} S1 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^q \|\mathbf{w}_l\|_2^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
S2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \left( \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j - \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j \right) \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{r=1}^q \left( \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j - \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j \right) \sum_{l=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \\
S3 &= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \\
S4 &= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \delta_{l,r} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{l=1}^q \frac{\lambda}{p} f_{il} + \sum_{i=p+1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \frac{\mu}{u} f_{il} - \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \delta_{l,r} \\
&= - \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \delta_{l,r} + \lambda + \mu
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
S2 - S3 &= \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \right) \\
&= - \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right)
\end{aligned}$$

By rearranging the above equations, the dual problem, i.e.  $\max_{\alpha} \min_{\mathbf{w}, \Xi} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}, \Xi, \alpha)$ , can be equivalently formulated as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\min_{\alpha} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{j=1}^{p+u} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{p+u} \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \delta_{l,r} \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha_{lr}^i \geq 0, \quad (1 \leq i \leq p+u, 1 \leq l, r \leq q)
\end{aligned}$$

## 2 Derivation of Eq.(12)

Without loss of generality, by fixing the values of other Lagrangian multipliers in  $\alpha$ , the  $i$ -th sub-QP problem can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\min_{\alpha^i} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \\
& + \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) + \sum_{l=1}^q \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i \delta_{l,r} \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & \alpha_{lr}^i \geq 0, \quad (1 \leq l, r \leq q)
\end{aligned}$$

By introducing  $\mathbf{M}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^i - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^i \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{lr}^j - \sum_{r=1}^q \alpha_{rl}^j \right) \\ &= (\mathbf{M}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i) - \mathbf{N}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i))^T (\mathbf{M}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^j) - \mathbf{N}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^j)) \\ &= (\mathbf{C}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i))^T (\mathbf{C}\text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^j)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, Eq.(12) can be formulated as

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i} & \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_i \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i)^T \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{C} \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i) + \left( \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{C} \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^j) + \text{vec}(\mathbf{I}_{q \times q}) \right)^T \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^i) \\ \text{s.t.} & \alpha_{lr}^i \geq 0, \quad (1 \leq l, r \leq q) \end{aligned}$$