

# Introduction to Machine Learning

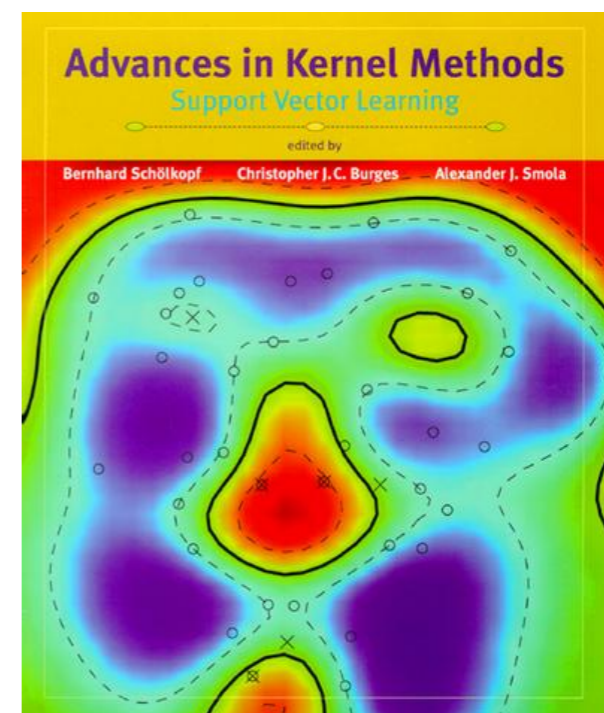
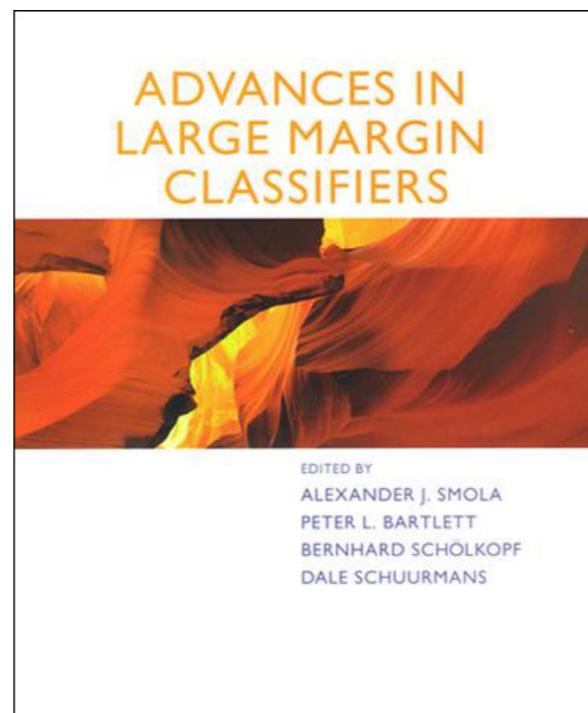
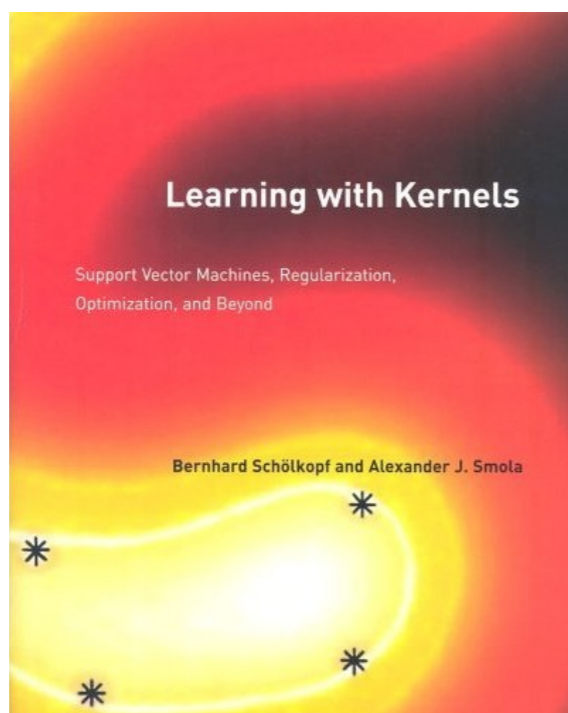
## 5. Support Vector Classification

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Carnegie Mellon University

<http://alex.smola.org/teaching/cmu2013-10-701>  
10-701

# Outline

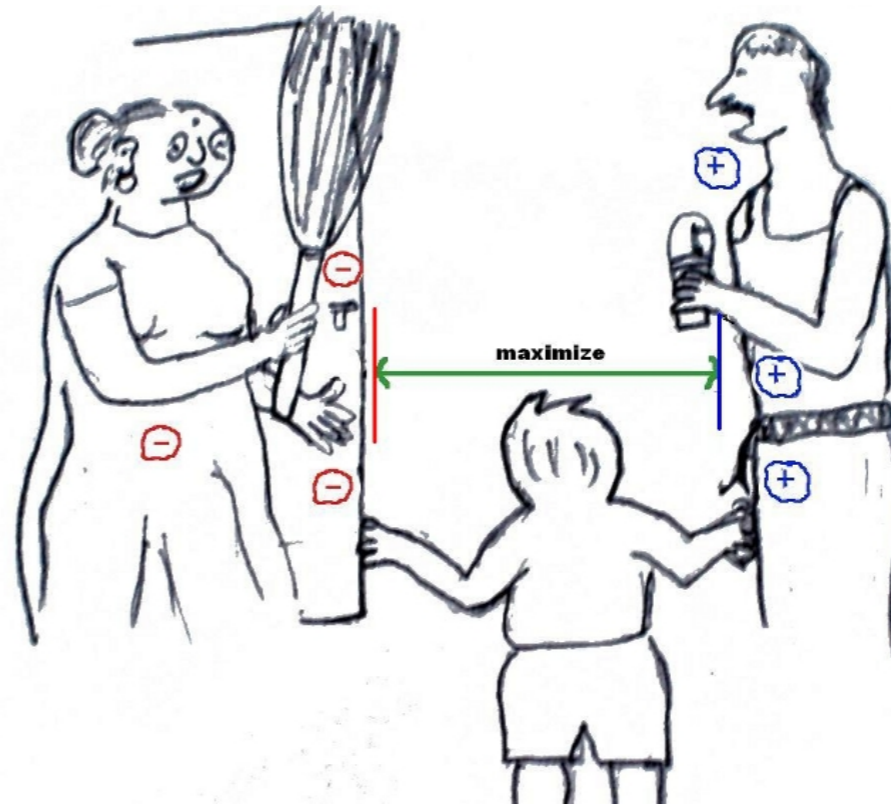
- Support Vector Classification  
Large Margin Separation, optimization problem
- Properties  
Support Vectors, kernel expansion
- Soft margin classifier  
Dual problem, robustness





MAGIC Etch A Sketch<sup>®</sup> SCREEN

Support  
Vector  
Machines



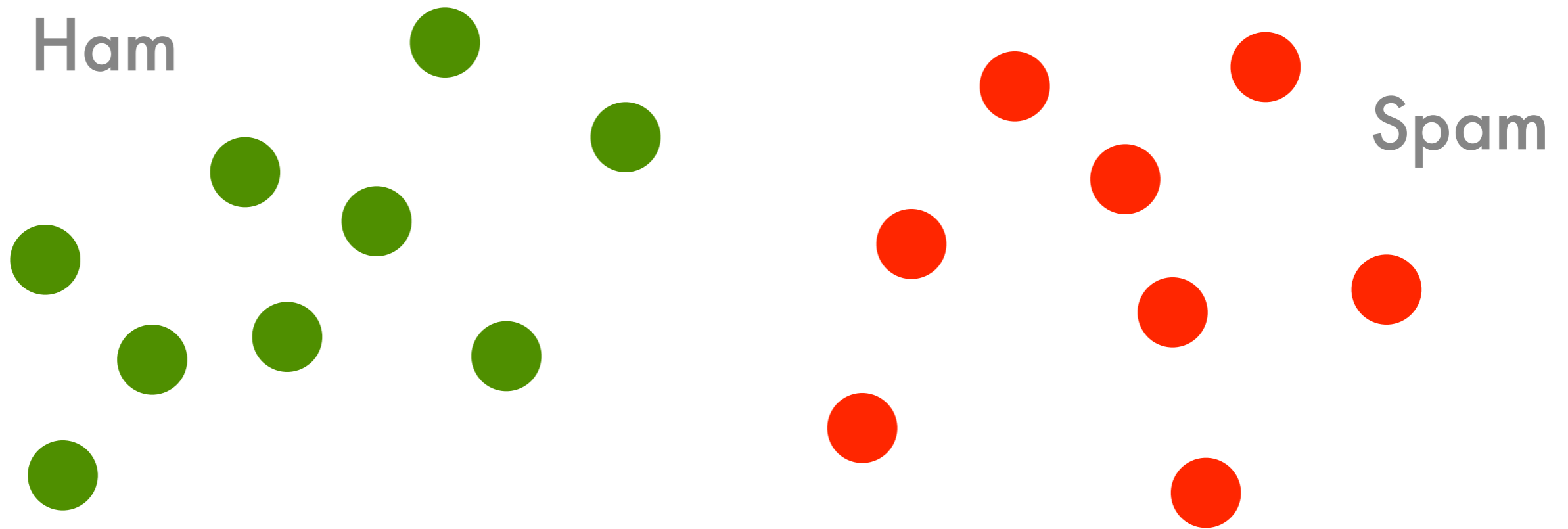
Horizontal  
Grid

OHIO ART "The World of Toys"

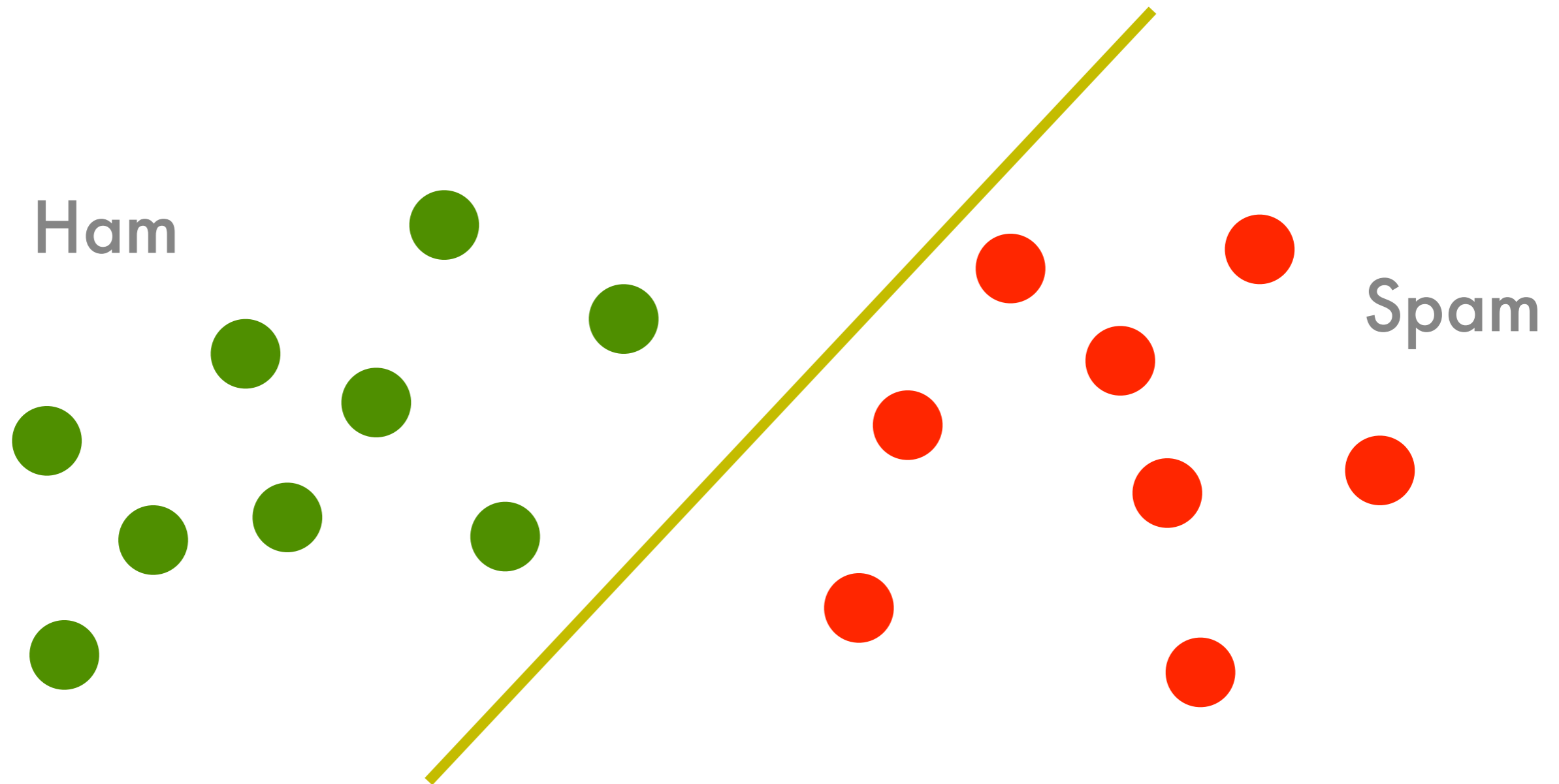
Vertical  
Grid

MAGIC SCREEN IS GLASS SET IN DURABLE PLASTIC FRAME  
USE WITH CARE

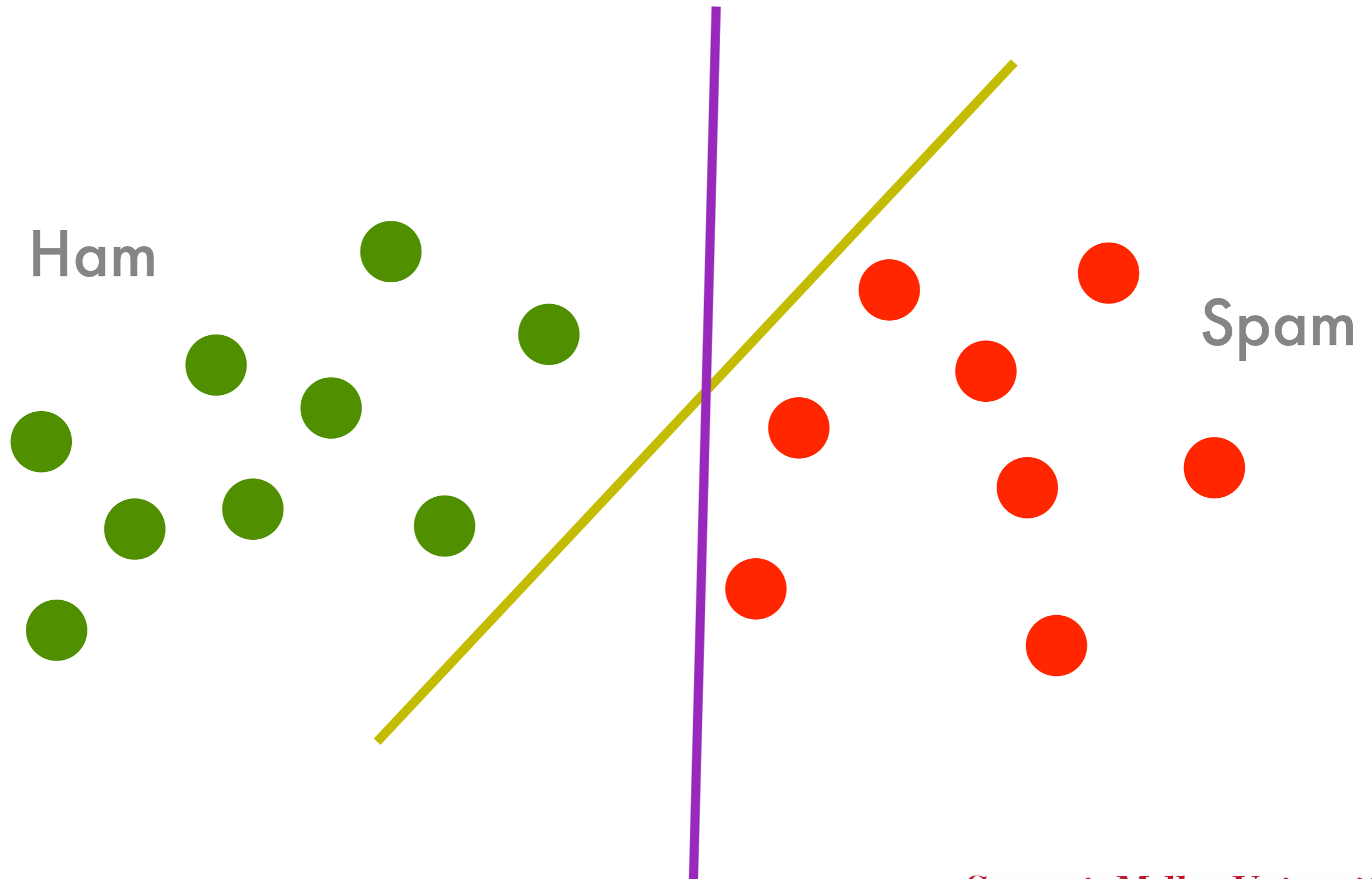
# Linear Separator



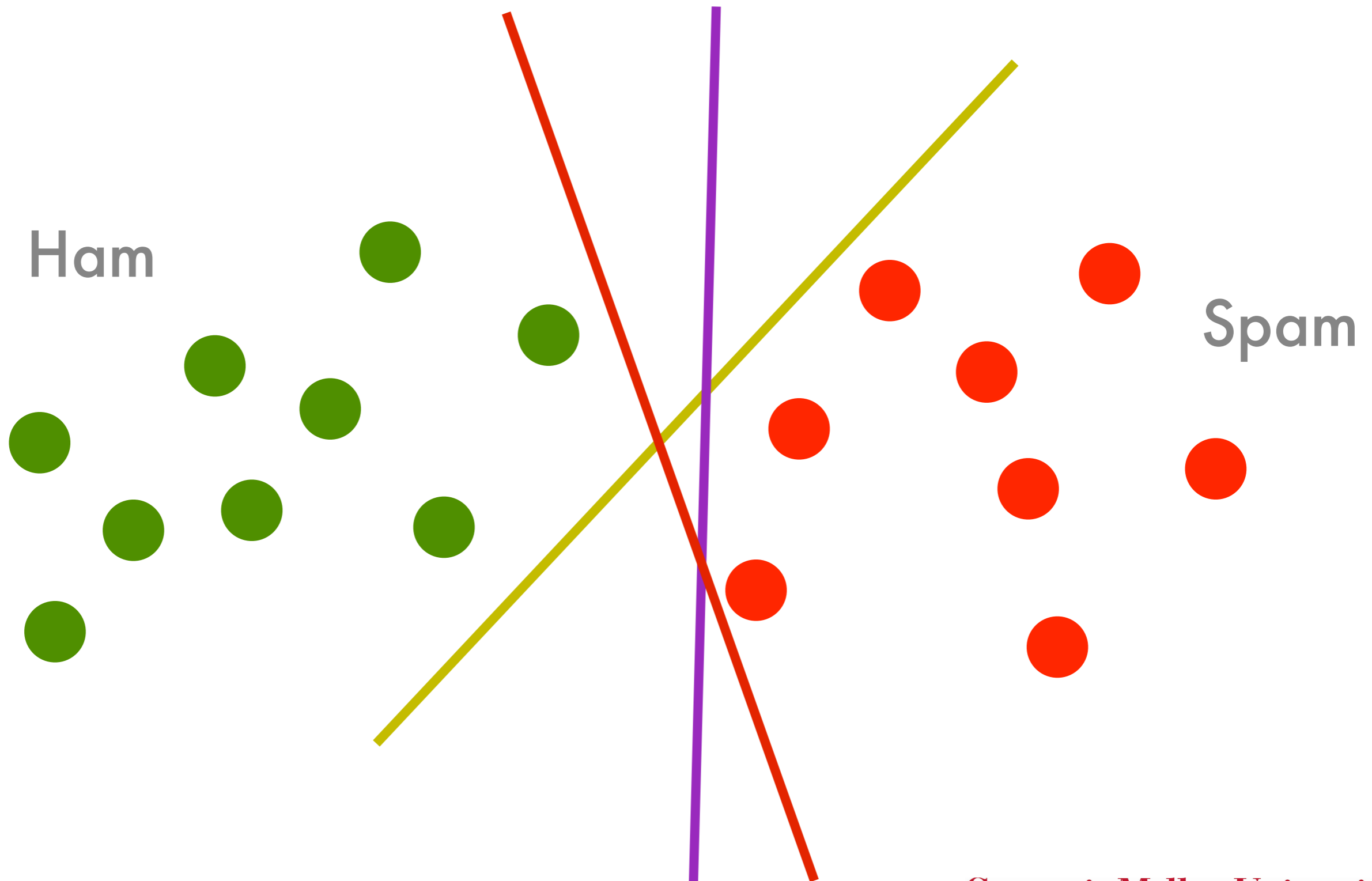
# Linear Separator



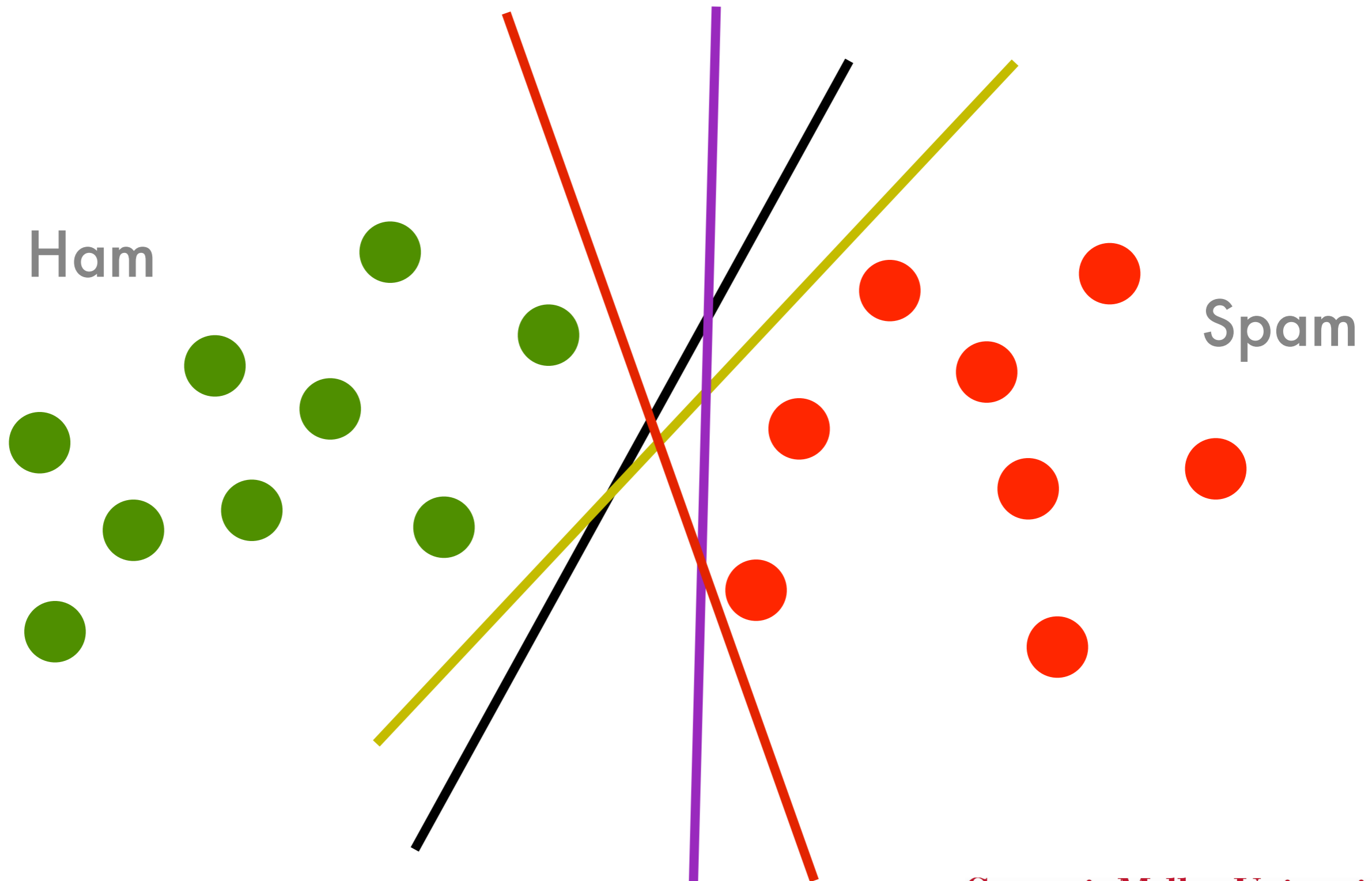
# Linear Separator



# Linear Separator

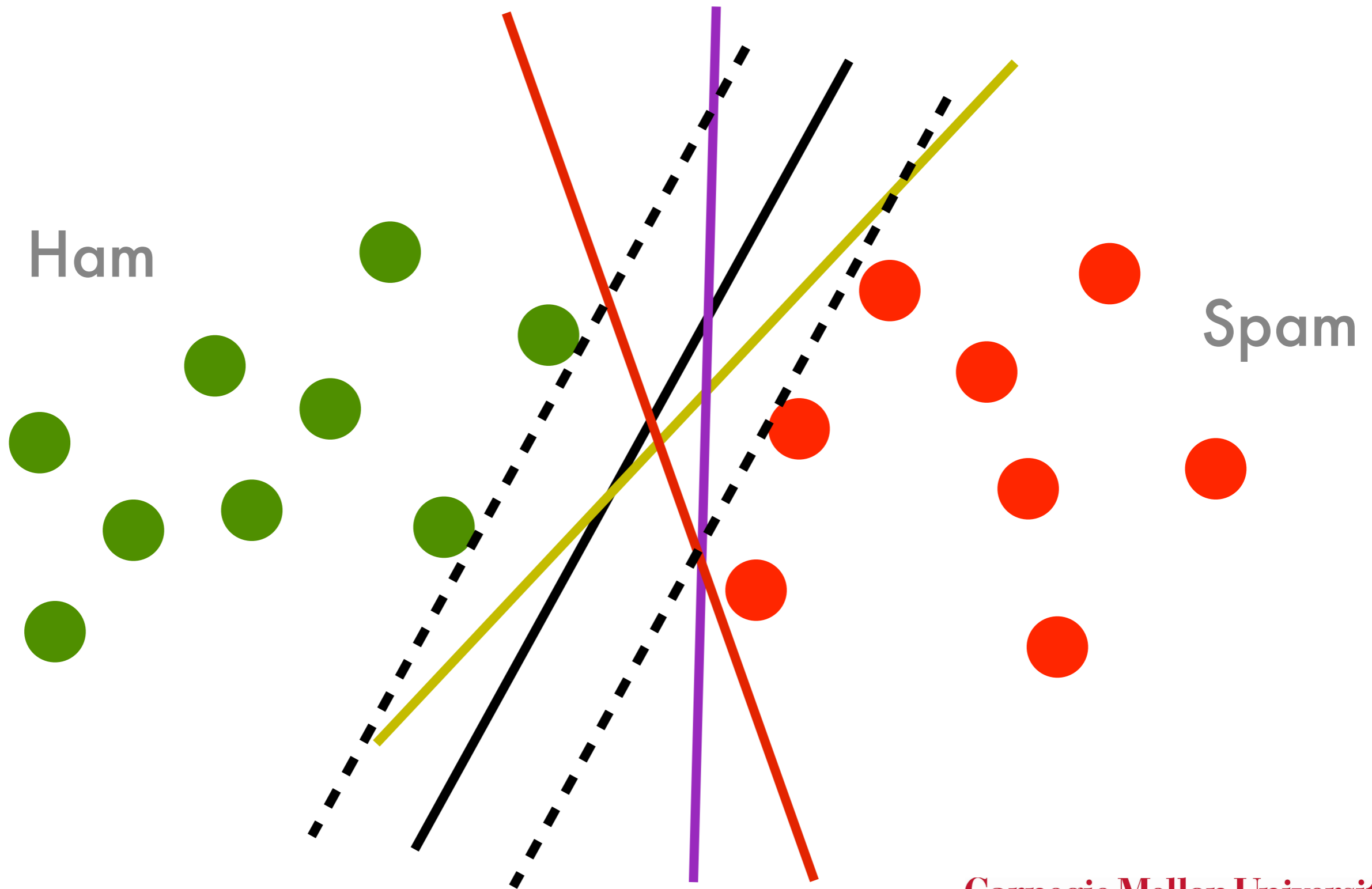


# Linear Separator

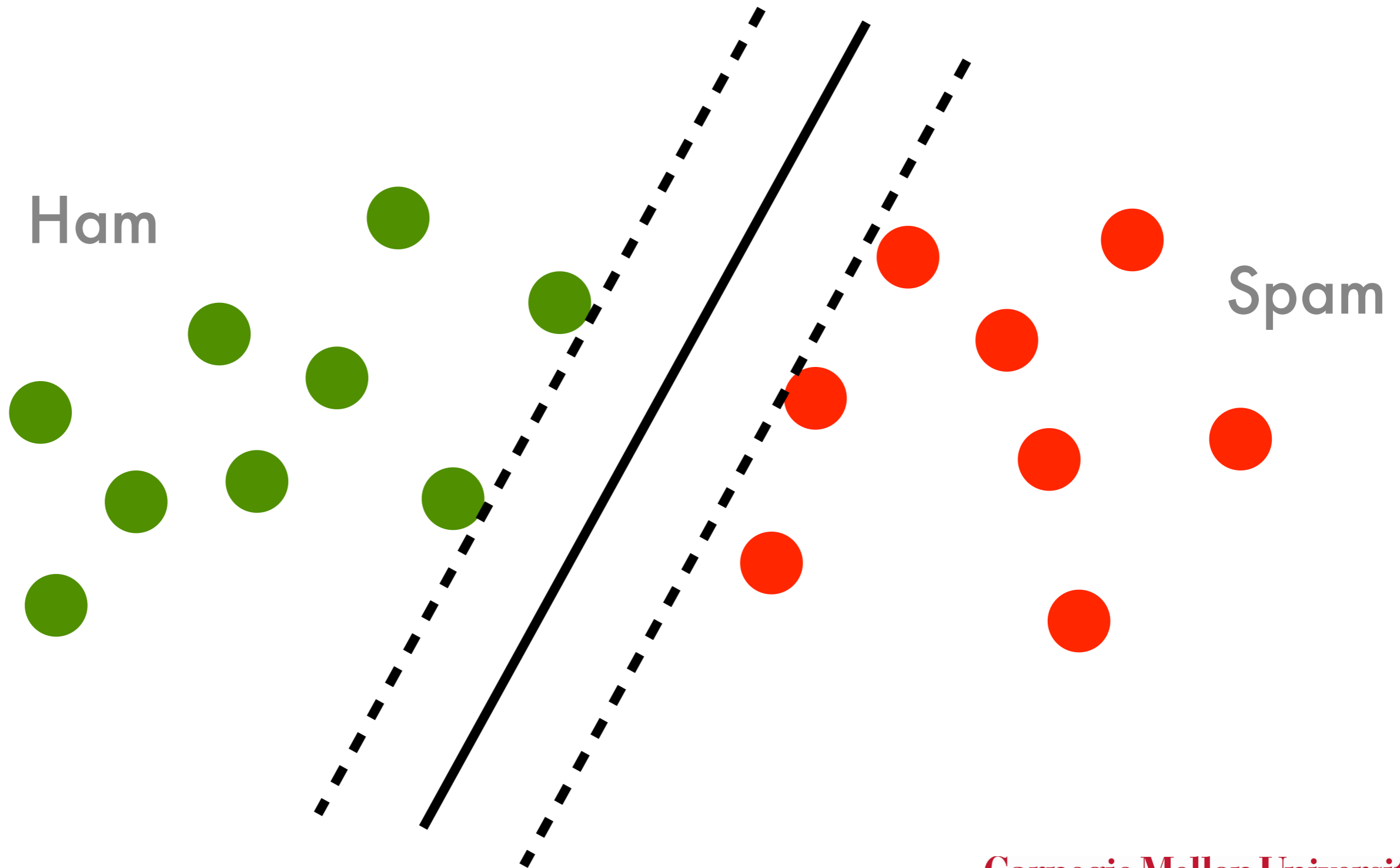




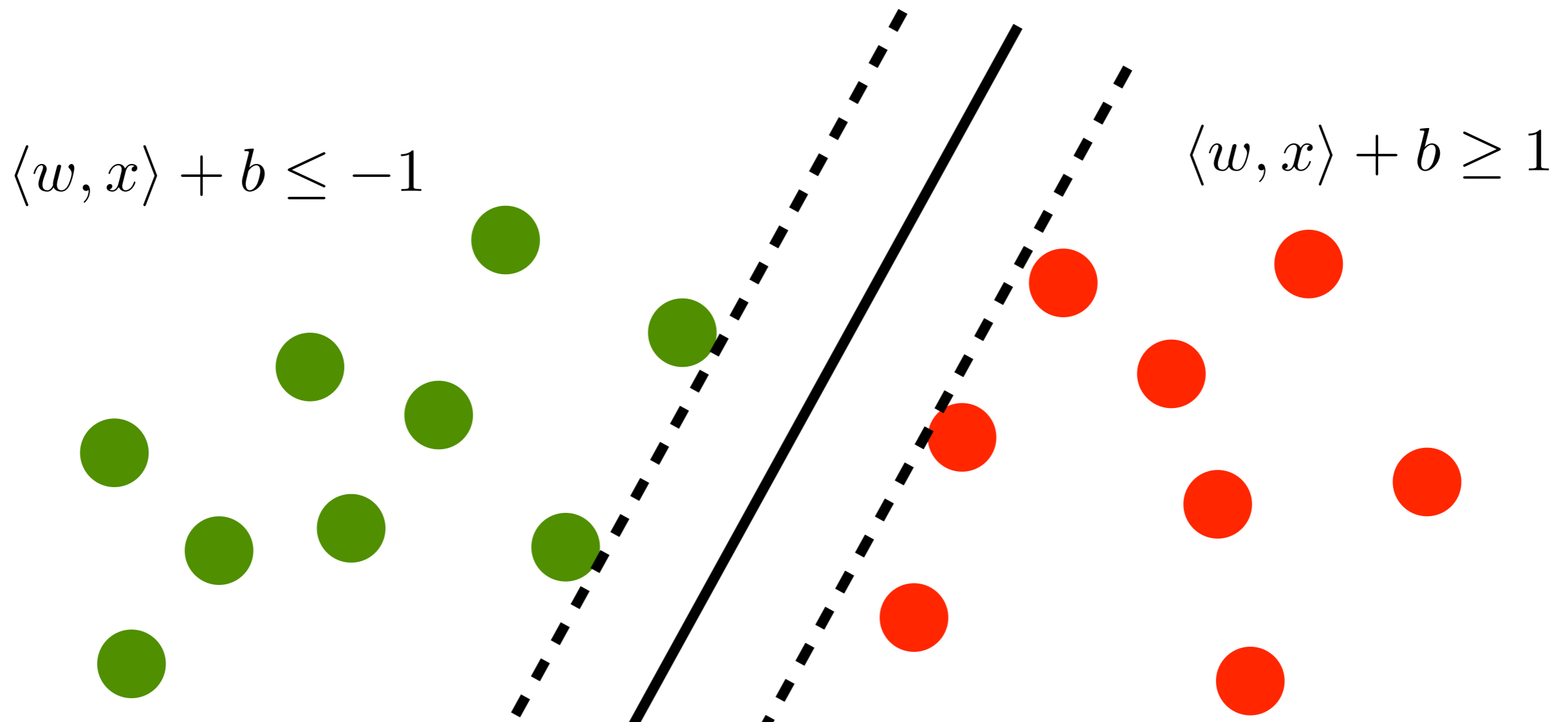
# Linear Separator



# Linear Separator



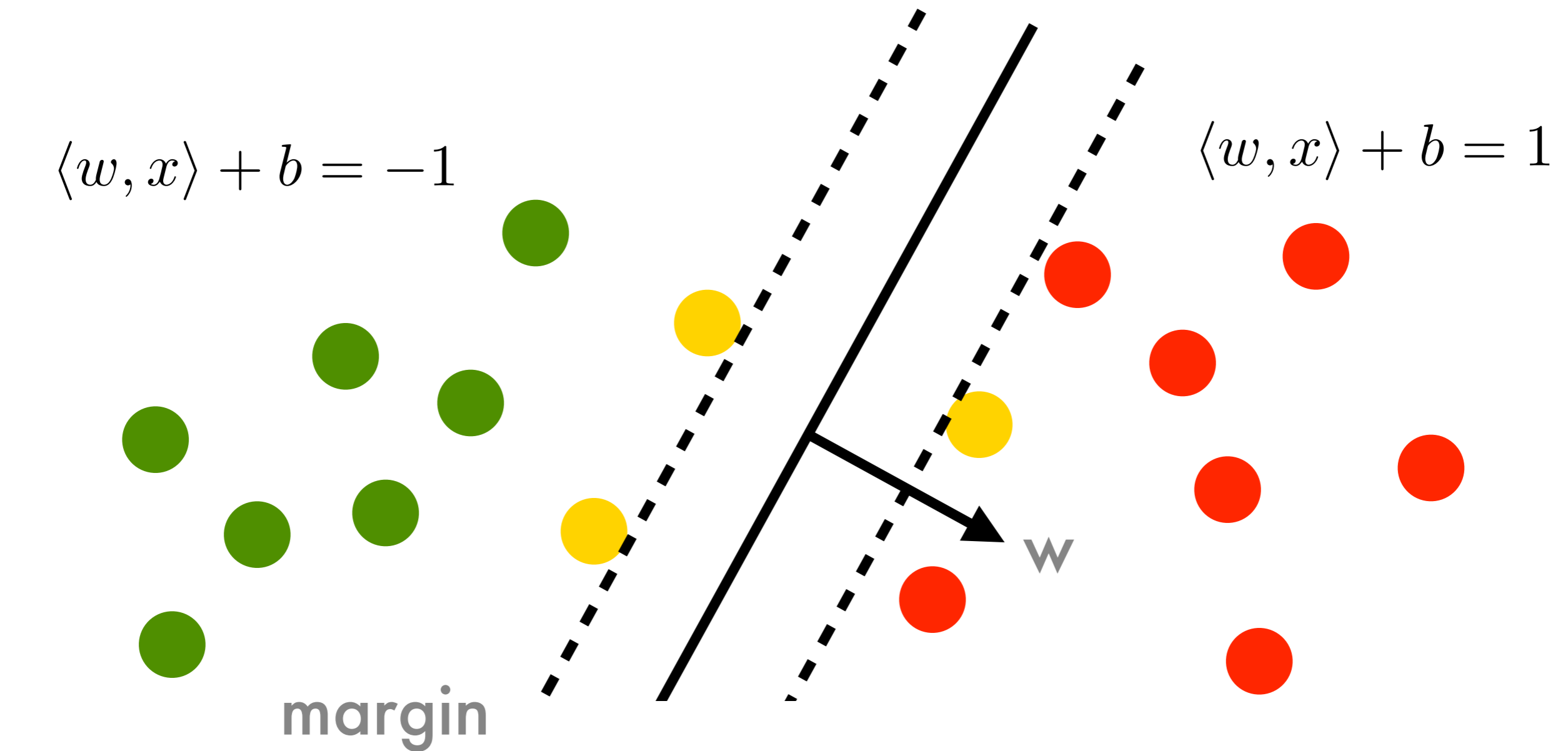
# Large Margin Classifier



linear function

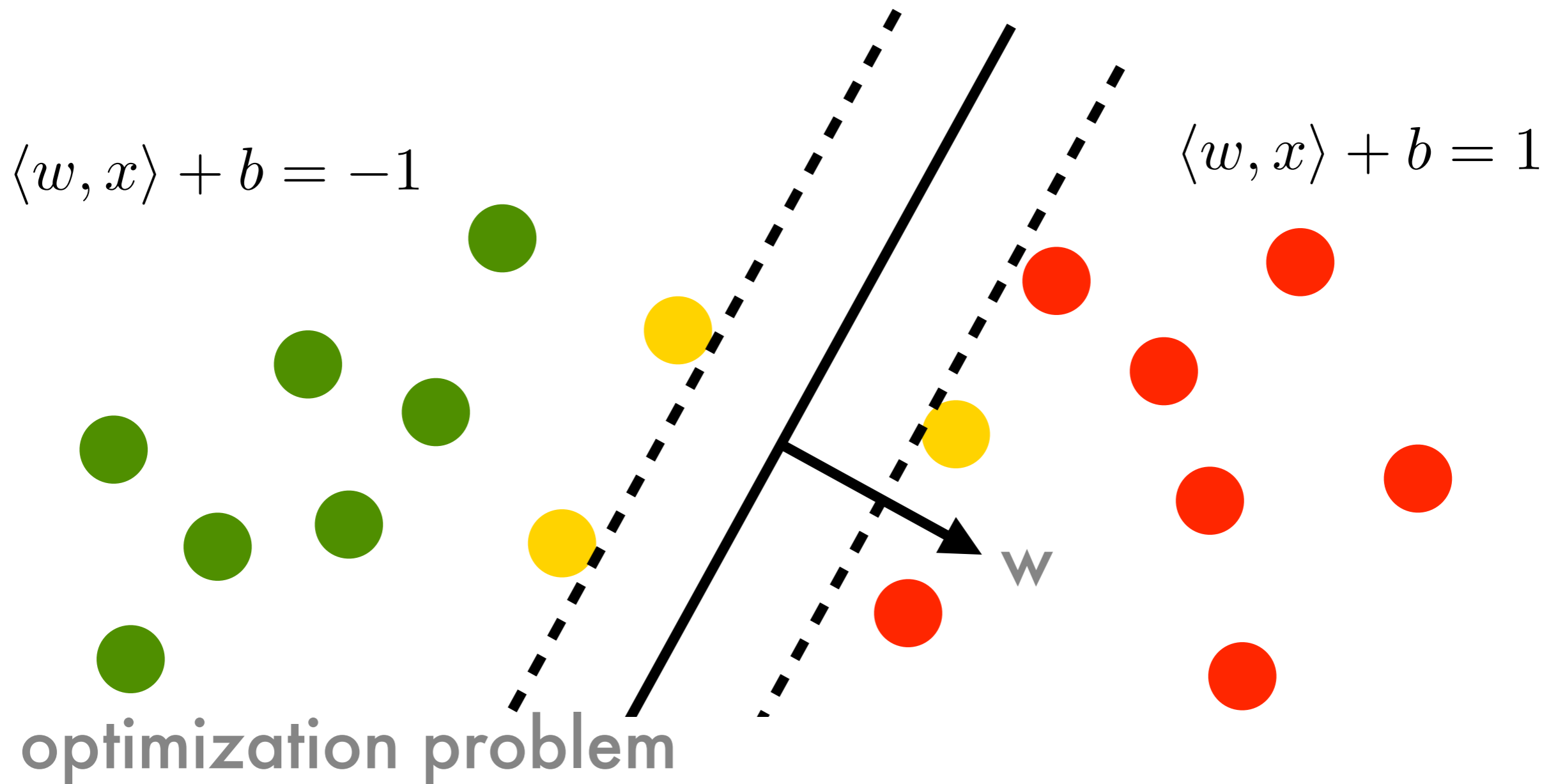
$$f(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b$$

# Large Margin Classifier



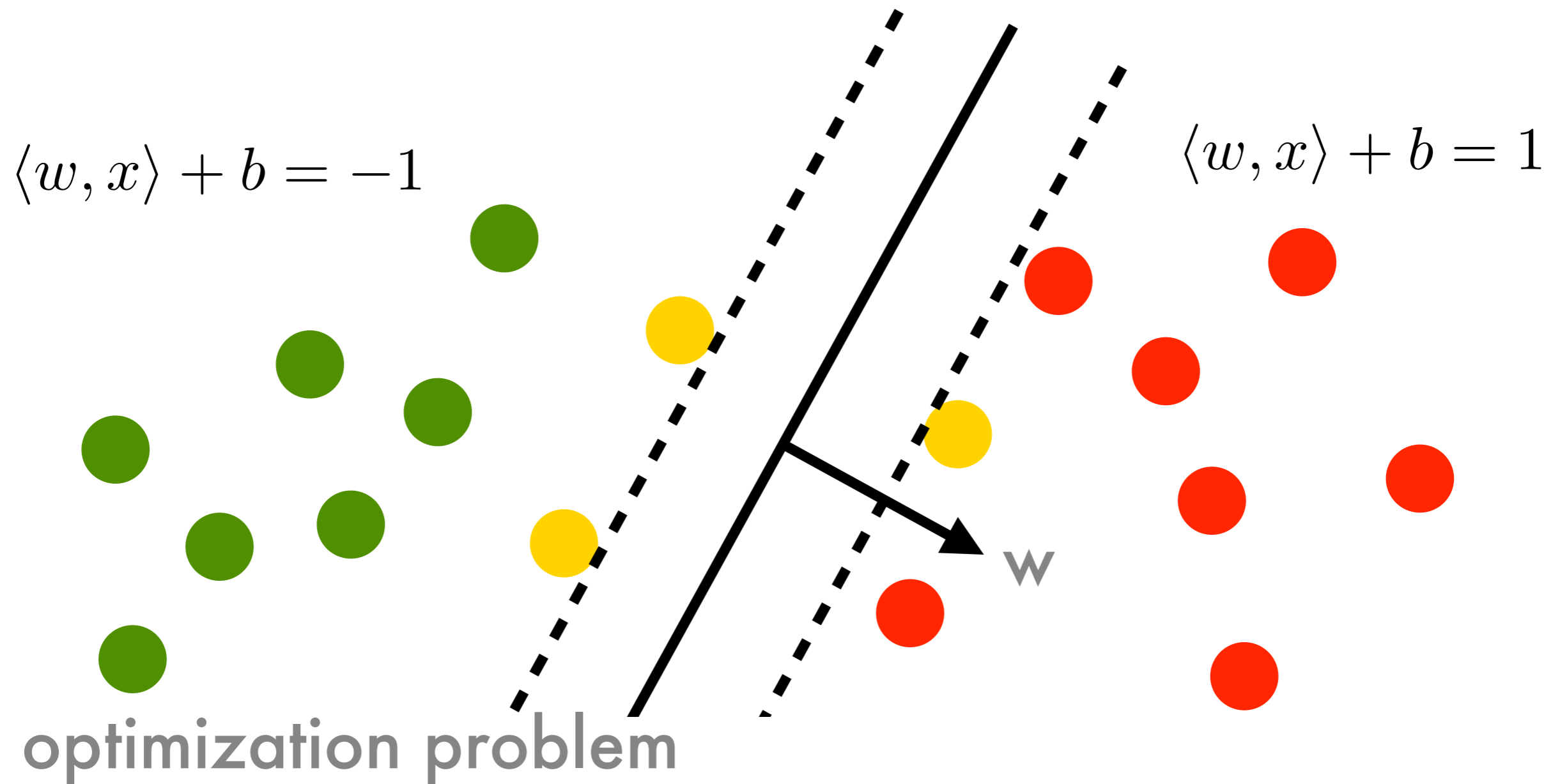
$$\frac{\langle x_+ - x_-, w \rangle}{2 \|w\|} = \frac{1}{2 \|w\|} [[\langle x_+, w \rangle + b] - [\langle x_-, w \rangle + b]] = \frac{1}{\|w\|}$$

# Large Margin Classifier



$$\text{maximize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{\|w\|} \text{ subject to } y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

# Large Margin Classifier



$$\text{minimize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

# Dual Problem

- Primal optimization problem

$$\text{minimize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \text{ subject to } y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

- Lagrange function

$$L(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 - \sum_i \alpha_i [y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] - 1]$$

constraint

Optimality in  $w, b$  is at saddle point with  $\alpha$

- Derivatives in  $w, b$  need to vanish

# Dual Problem

- **Lagrange function**

$$L(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 - \sum_i \alpha_i [y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] - 1]$$

- **Derivatives in  $w$ ,  $b$  need to vanish**

$$\partial_w L(w, b, a) = w - \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i = 0$$

$$\partial_b L(w, b, a) = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

- **Plugging terms back into  $L$  yields**

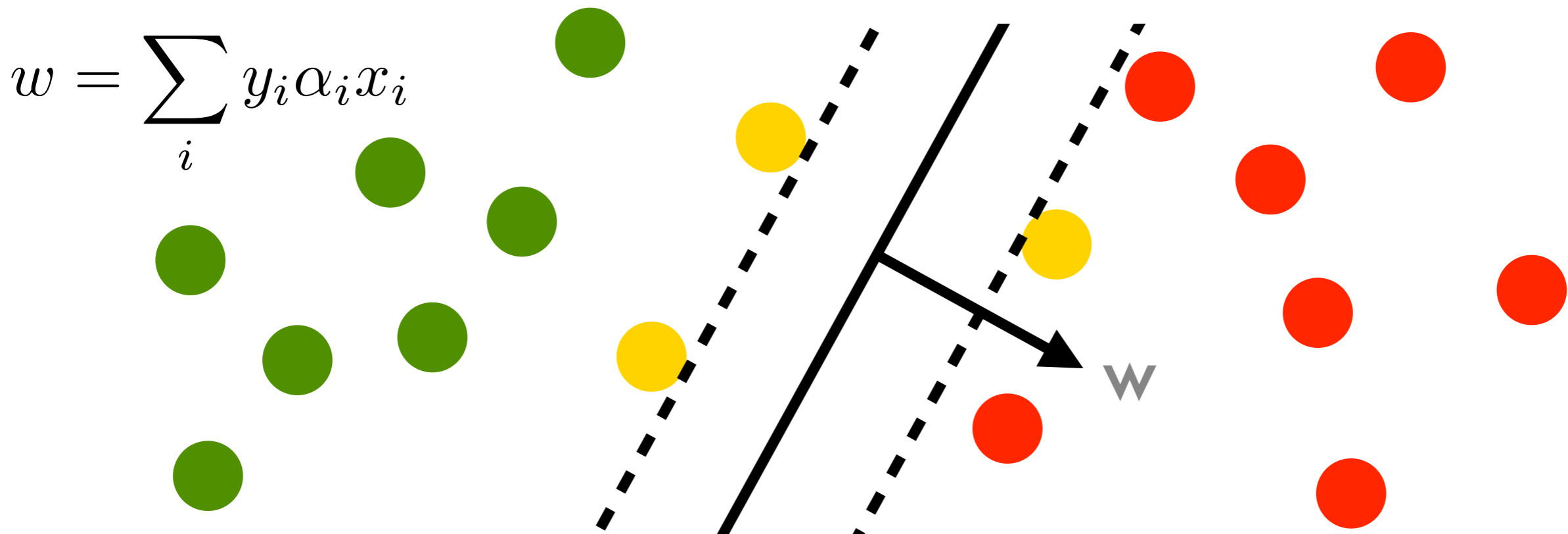
$$\underset{\alpha}{\text{maximize}} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_i \geq 0$$



# Support Vector Machines

$$\text{minimize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] \geq 1$$



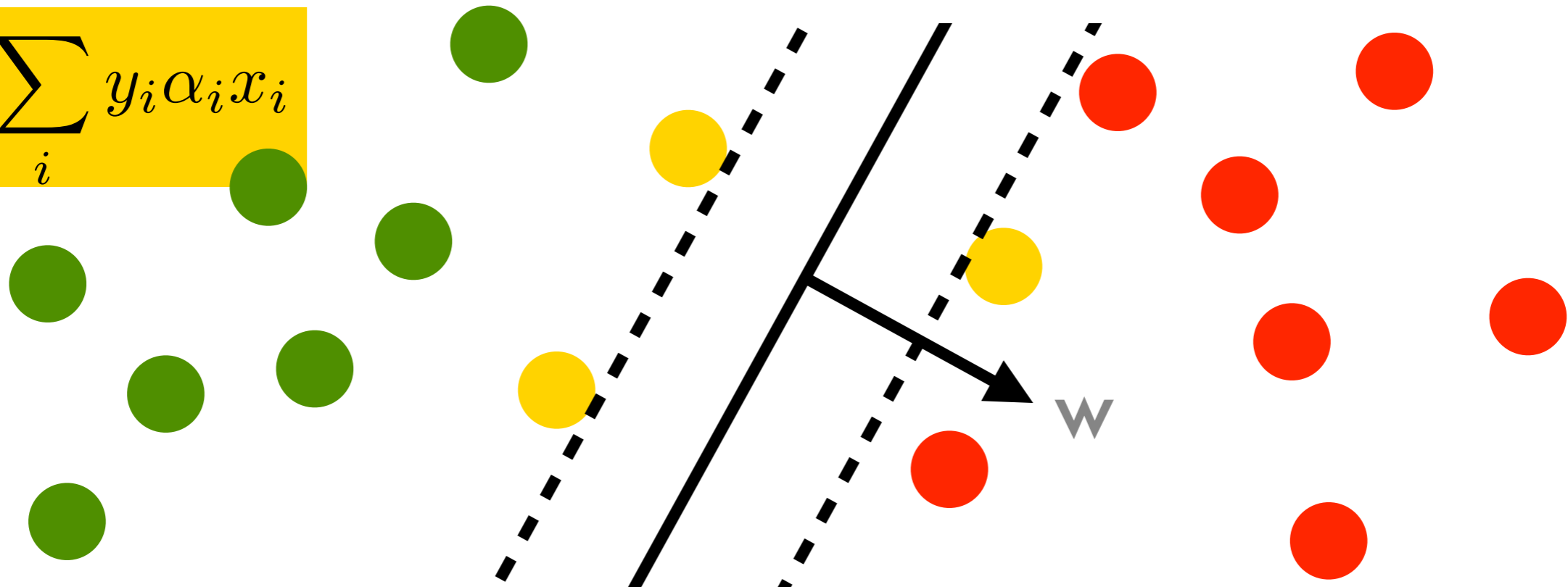
$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum \alpha_i y_i = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_i \geq 0$$

# Support Vectors

$$\text{minimize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

$$w = \sum_i y_i \alpha_i x_i$$



Karush Kuhn Tucker

Optimality condition

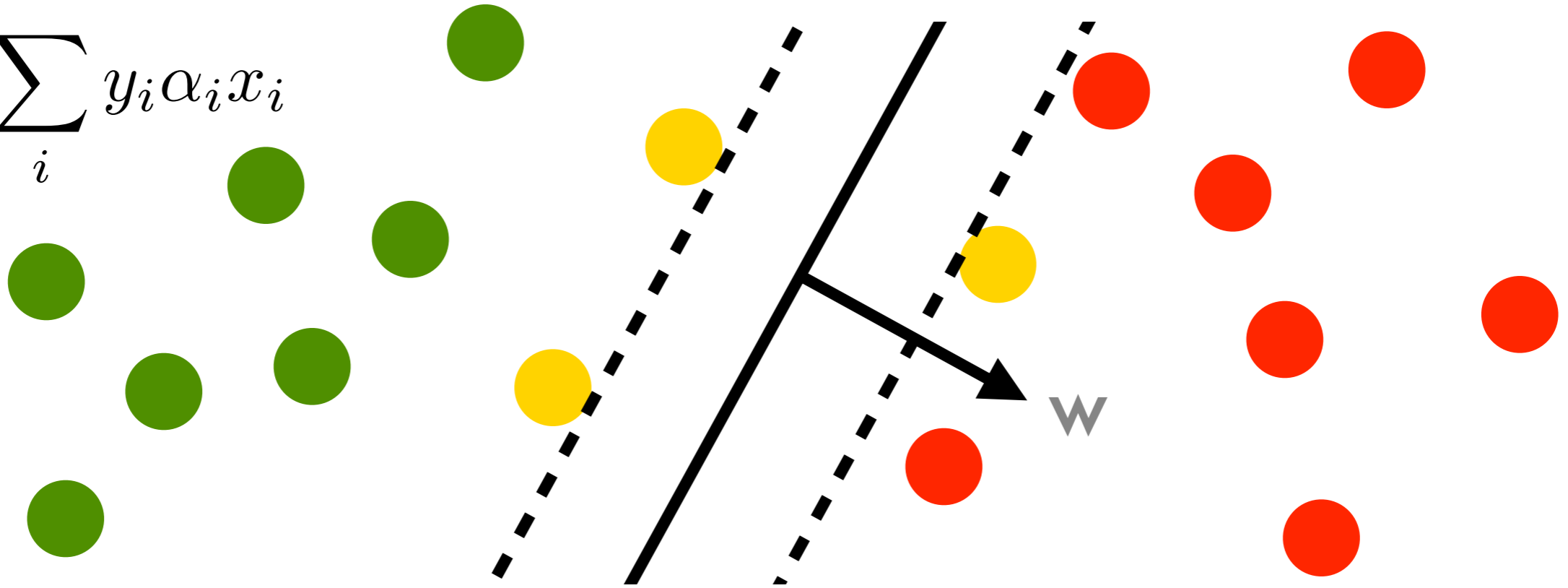
$$\alpha_i [y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] - 1] = 0$$

$$\alpha_i = 0$$

$$\alpha_i > 0 \implies y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] = 1$$

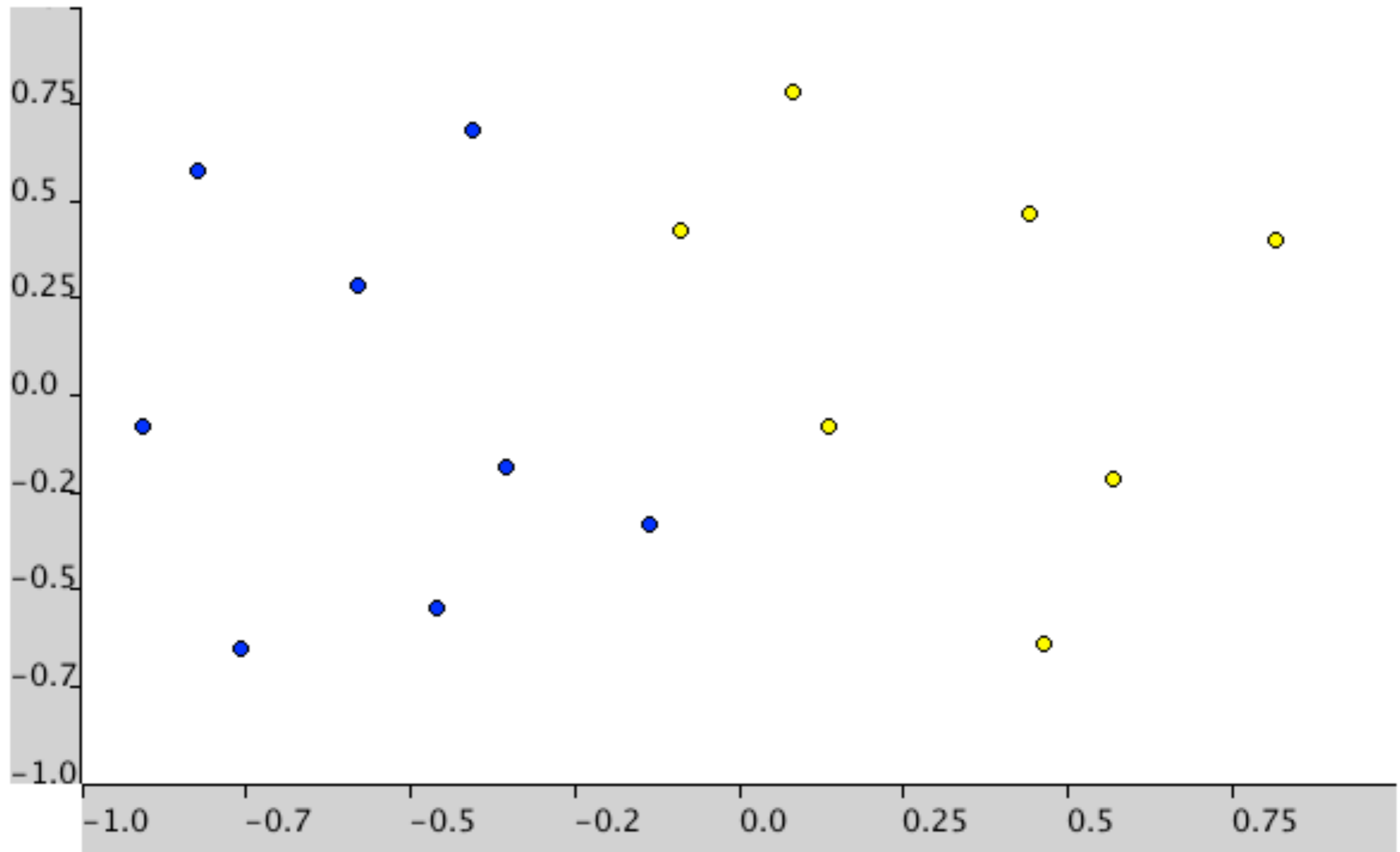
# Properties

$$w = \sum_i y_i \alpha_i x_i$$



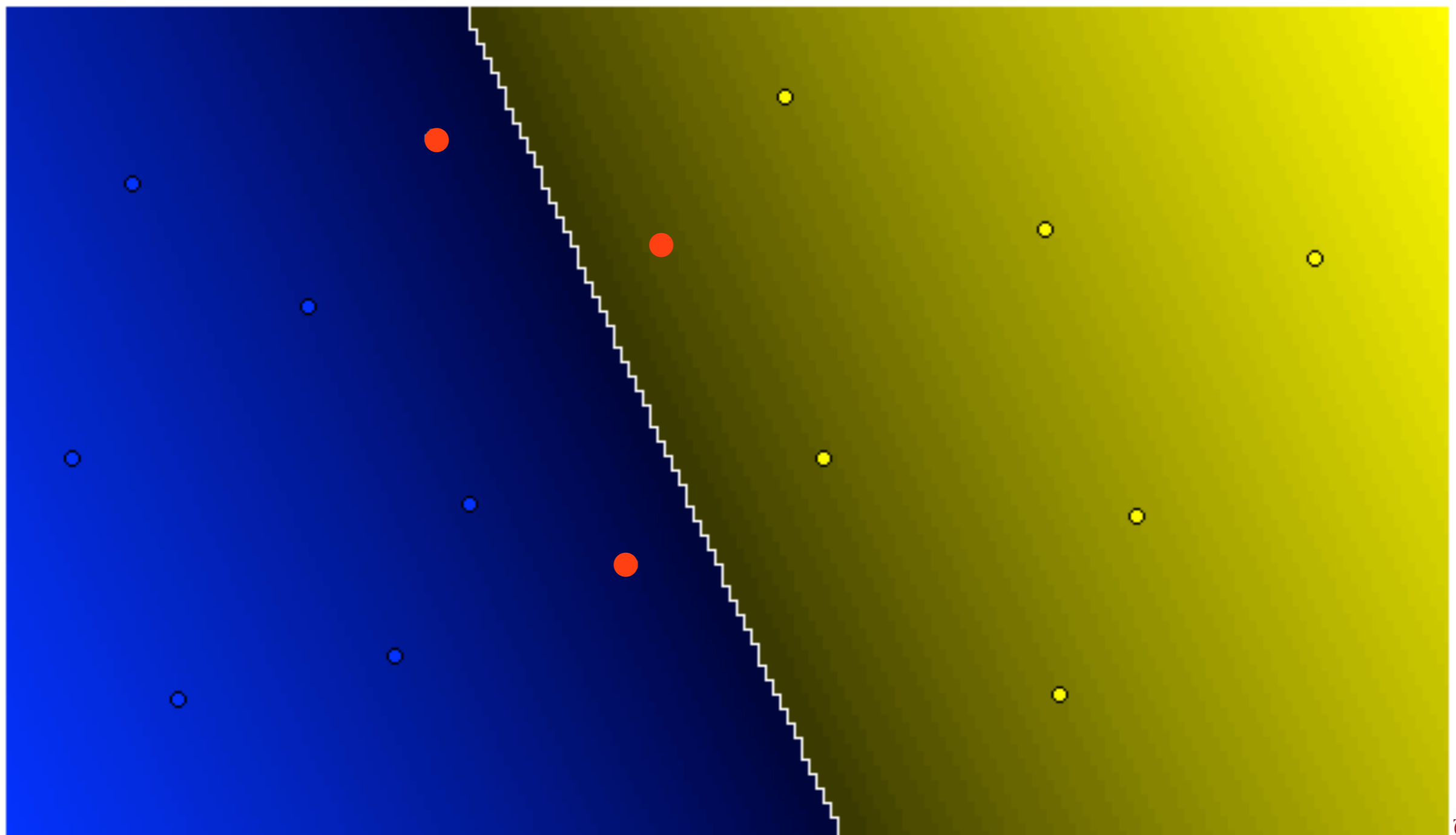
- Weight vector  $w$  as weighted linear combination of instances
- Only points on margin matter (ignore the rest and get same solution)
- Only inner products matter
  - Quadratic program
  - We can replace the inner product by a kernel
- Keeps instances away from the margin

# Example

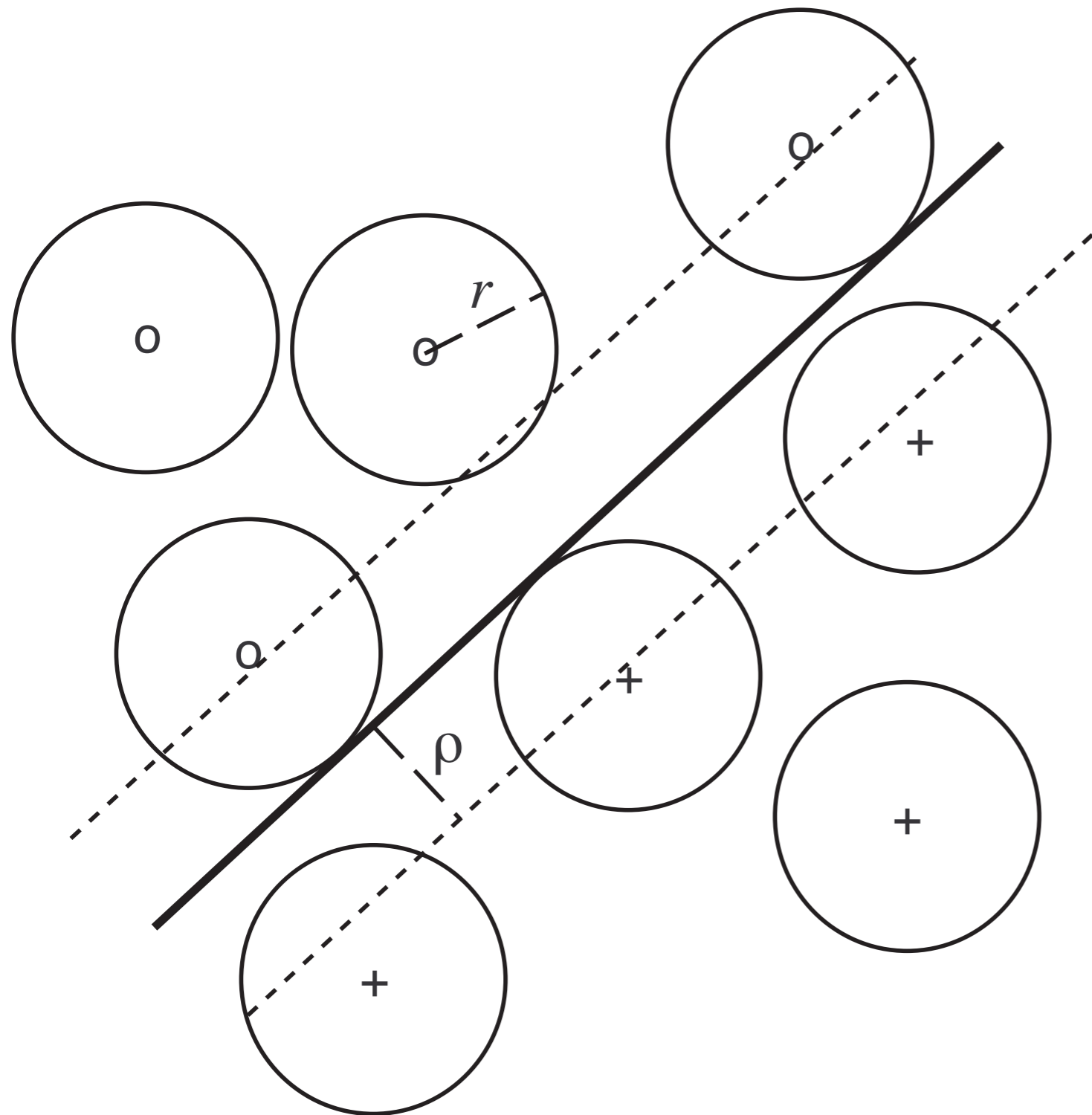


# Example

Number of Support Vectors: **3** (-ve: 2, +ve: 1) Total number of points: 15



# Why large margins?



- **Maximum robustness relative to uncertainty**
- **Symmetry breaking**
- **Independent of correctly classified instances**
- **Easy to find for easy problems**



MAGIC Etch A Sketch<sup>®</sup> SCREEN



CLASSIFIERS

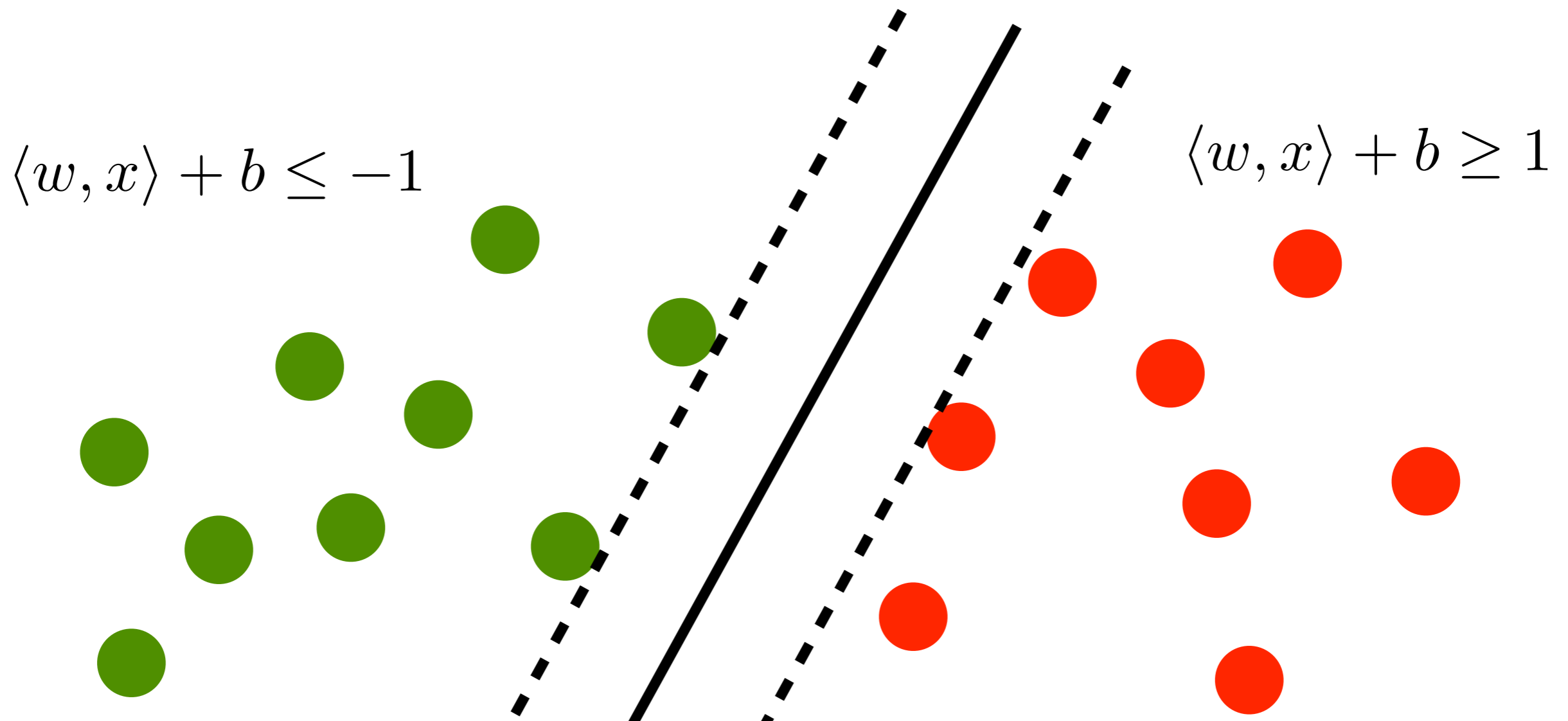
Horizontal  
Grid

OHIO ART *The World of Toys*

Mexico  
1960

MAGIC SCREEN IS GLASS SET IN DURABLE PLASTIC FRAME  
USE WITH CARE

# Large Margin Classifier

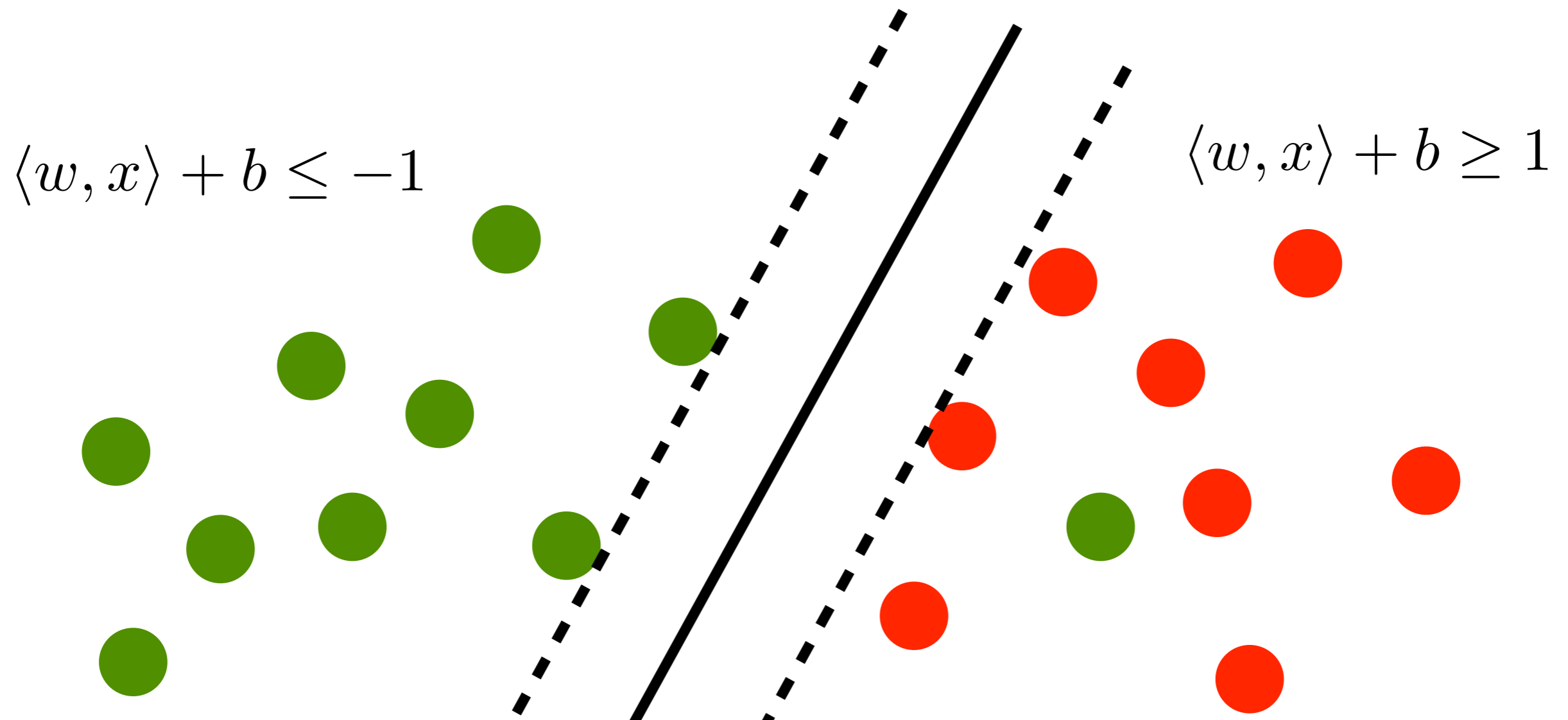


linear function

$$f(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b$$



# Large Margin Classifier

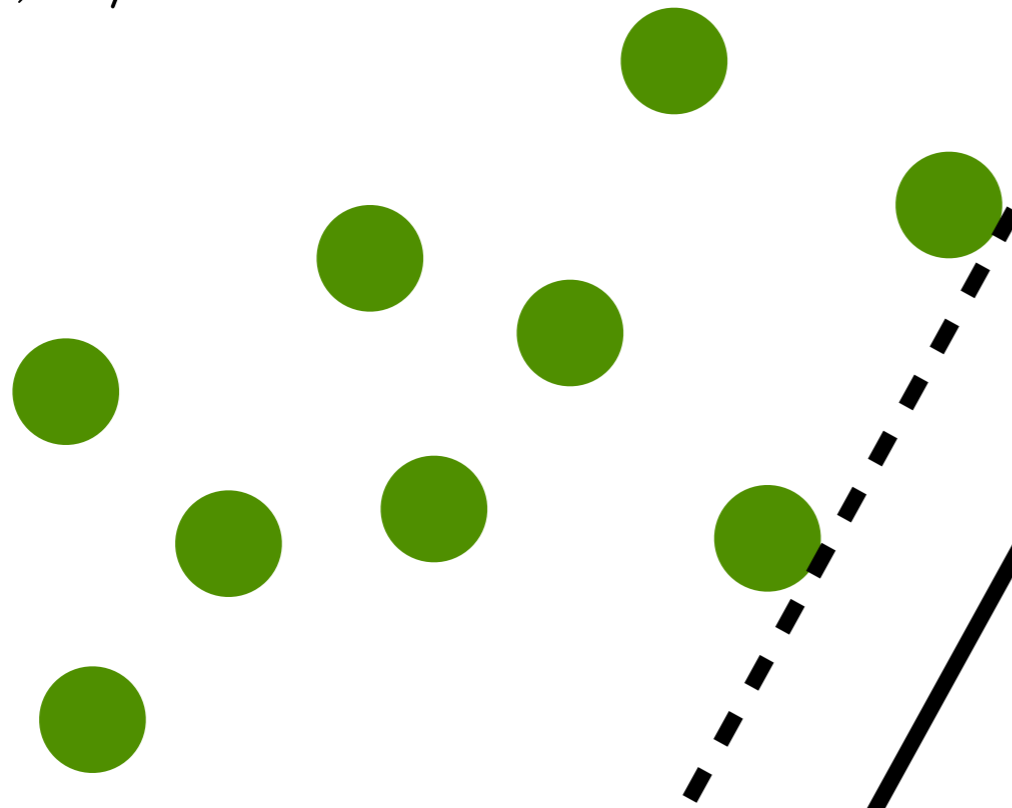


linear function

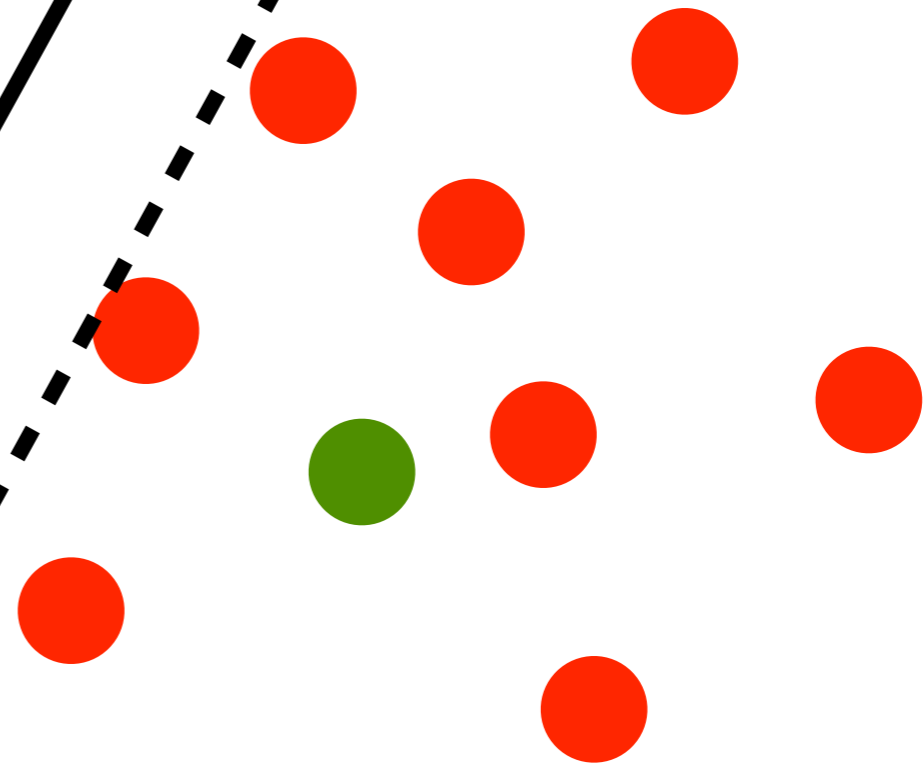
$$f(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b$$

# Large Margin Classifier

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1$$



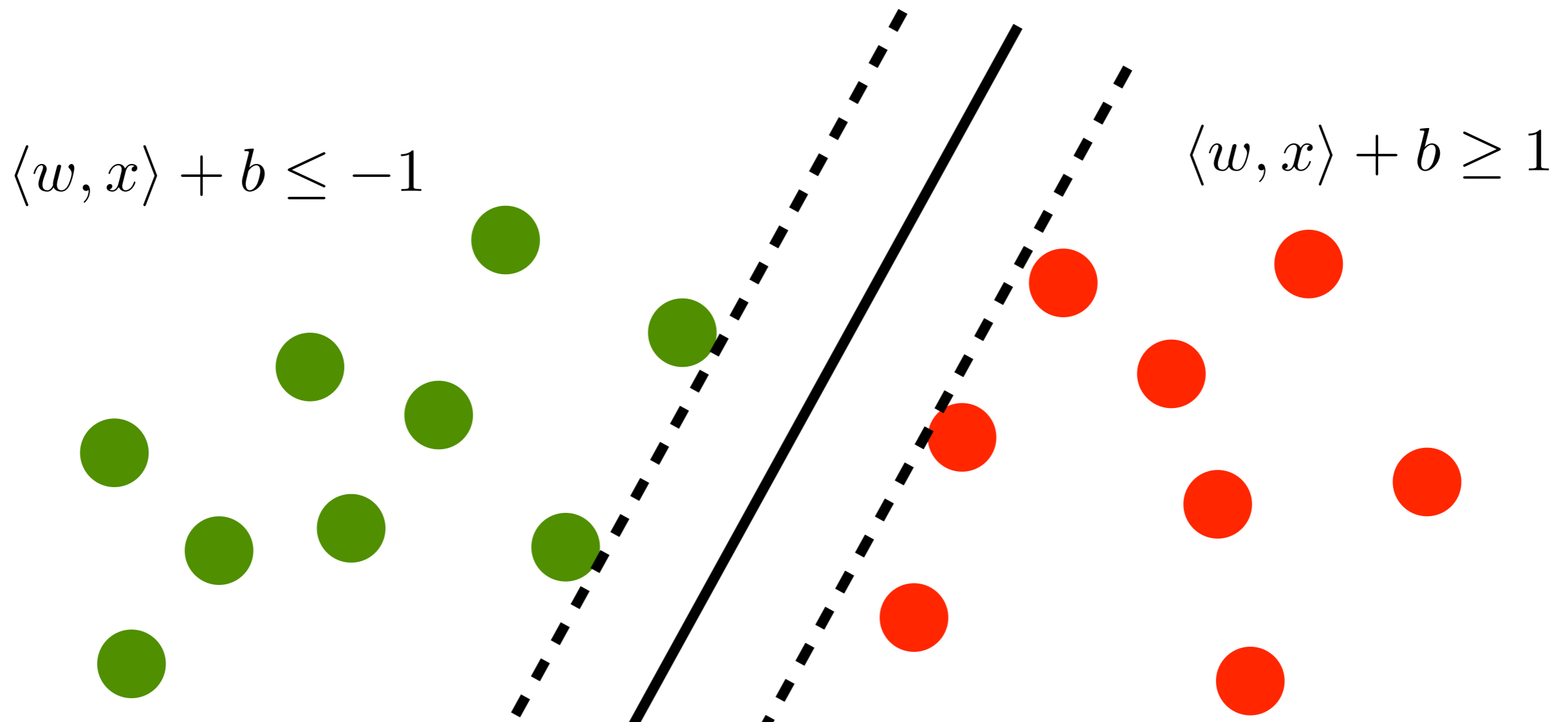
$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1$$



linear function  
 $f(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b$

linear separator  
is impossible

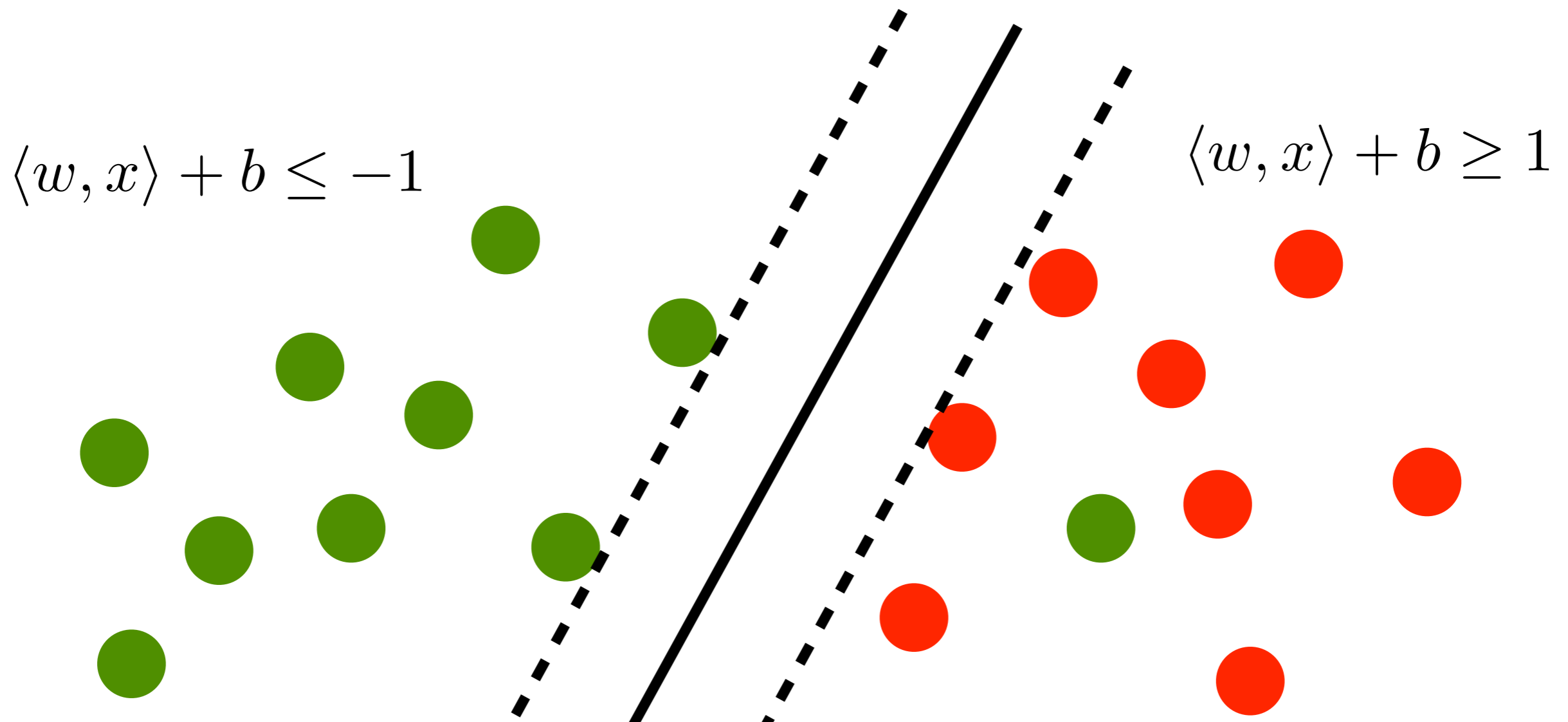
# Large Margin Classifier



Theorem (Minsky & Papert)

Finding the minimum error separating hyperplane is NP hard

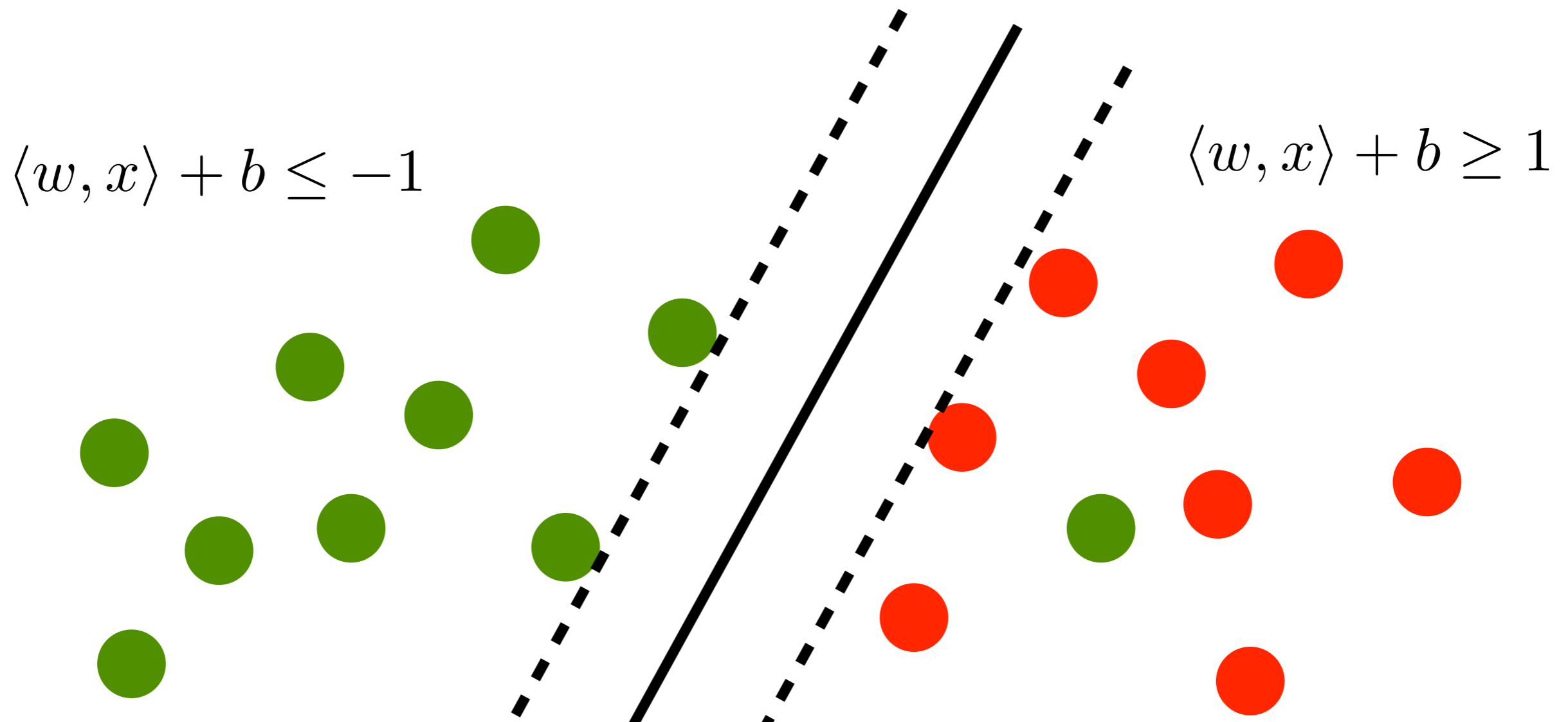
# Large Margin Classifier



Theorem (Minsky & Papert)

Finding the minimum error separating hyperplane is NP hard

# Large Margin Classifier



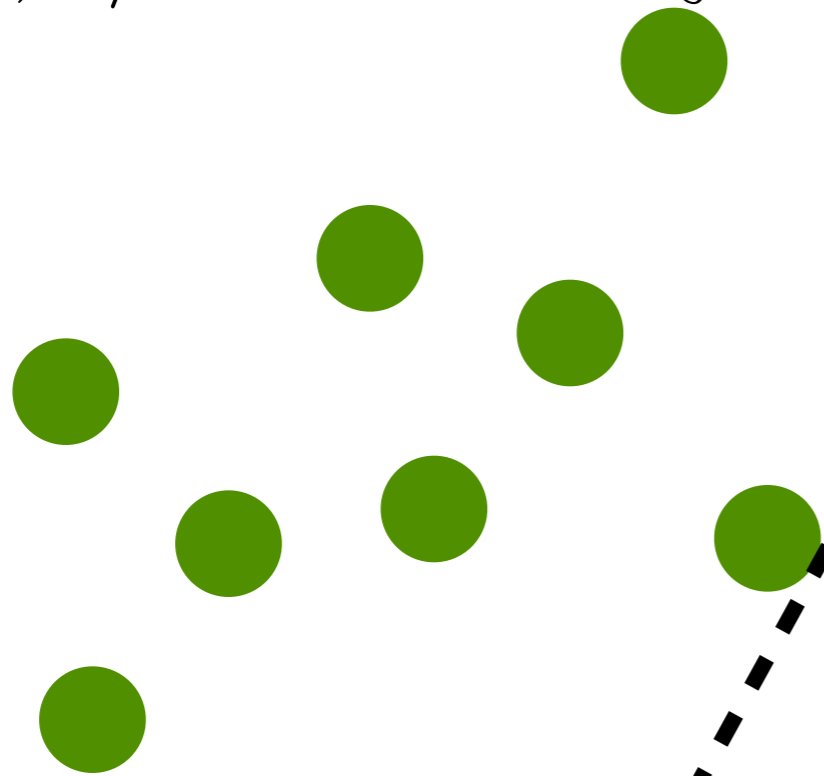
**minimum error separator  
is impossible**

Theorem (Minsky & Papert)

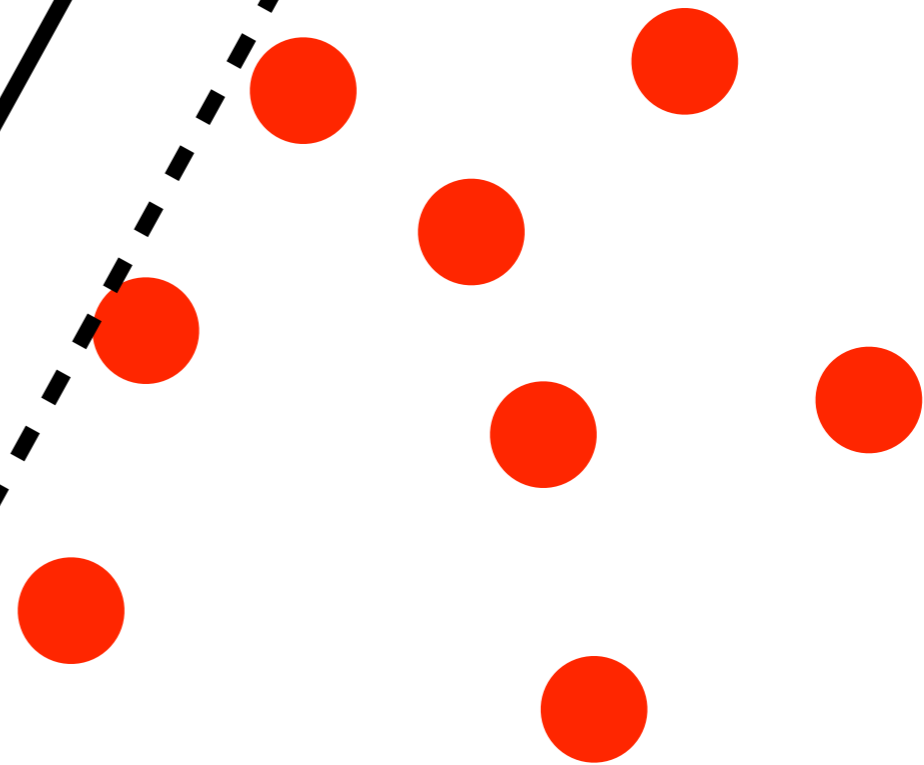
Finding the minimum error separating hyperplane is NP hard

# Adding slack variables

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$



$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$



Convex optimization problem

# Adding slack variables

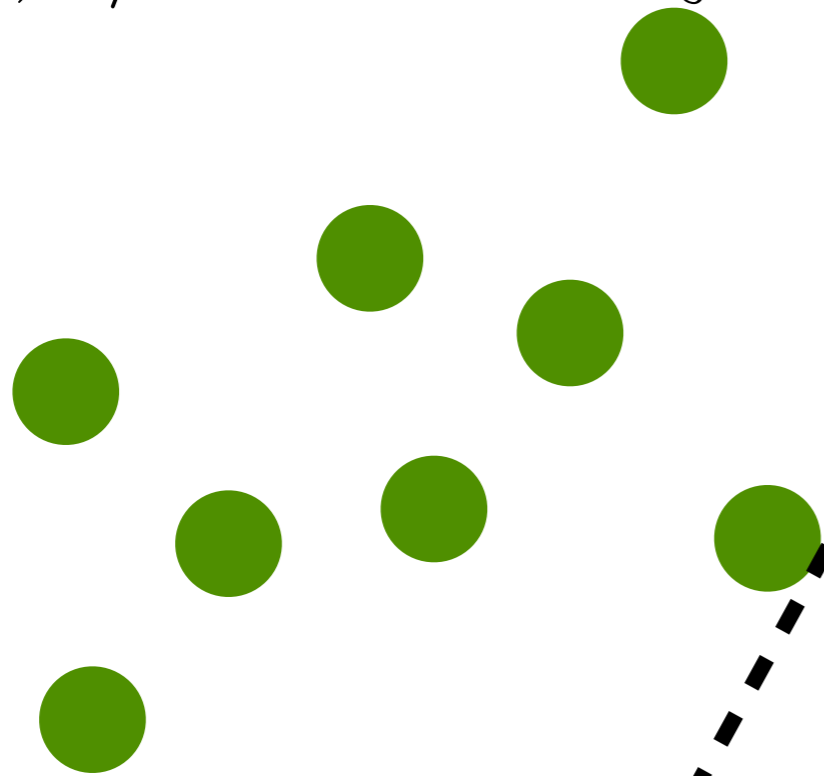
$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$

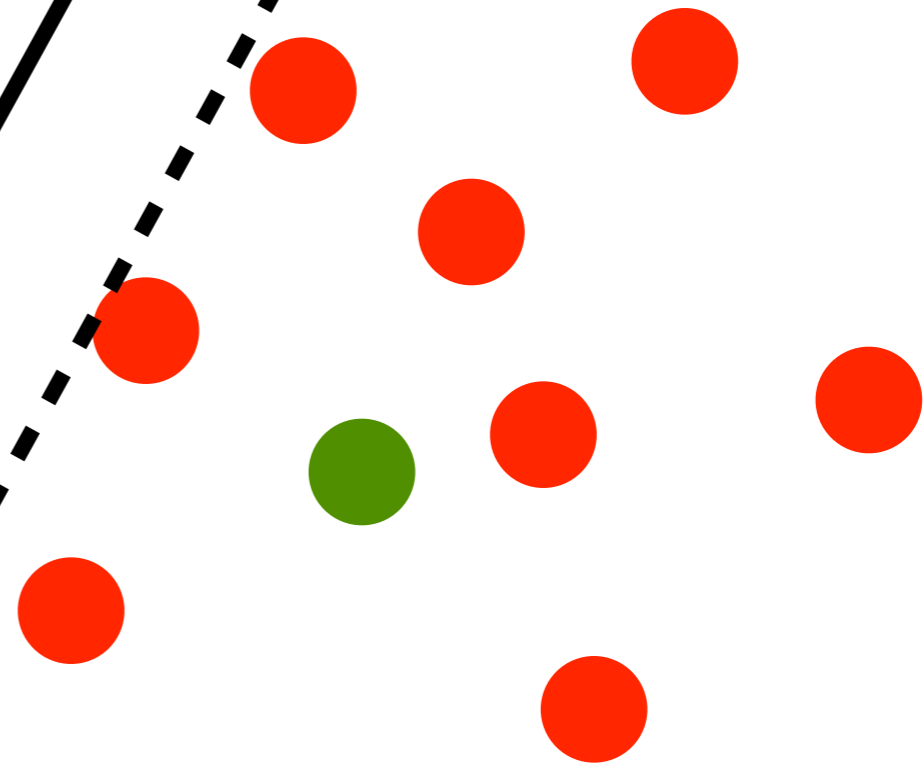
Convex optimization problem

# Adding slack variables

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$



$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$



Convex optimization problem

minimize amount  
of slack



# Intermezzo

## Convex Programs for Dummies

- **Primal optimization problem**

$$\underset{x}{\text{minimize}} f(x) \text{ subject to } c_i(x) \leq 0$$

- **Lagrange function**

$$L(x, \alpha) = f(x) + \sum_i \alpha_i c_i(x)$$

- **First order optimality conditions in  $x$**

$$\partial_x L(x, \alpha) = \partial_x f(x) + \sum_i \alpha_i \partial_x c_i(x) = 0$$

- **Solve for  $x$  and plug it back into  $L$**

$$\underset{\alpha}{\text{maximize}} L(x(\alpha), \alpha)$$

**(keep explicit constraints)**

# Adding slack variables

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$

Convex optimization problem

# Adding slack variables

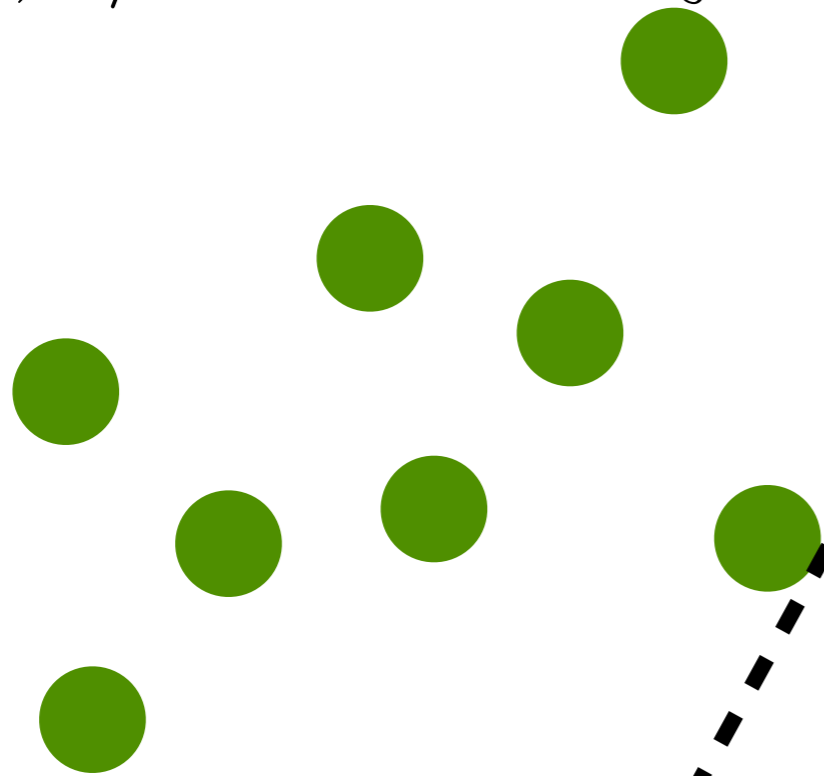
$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$

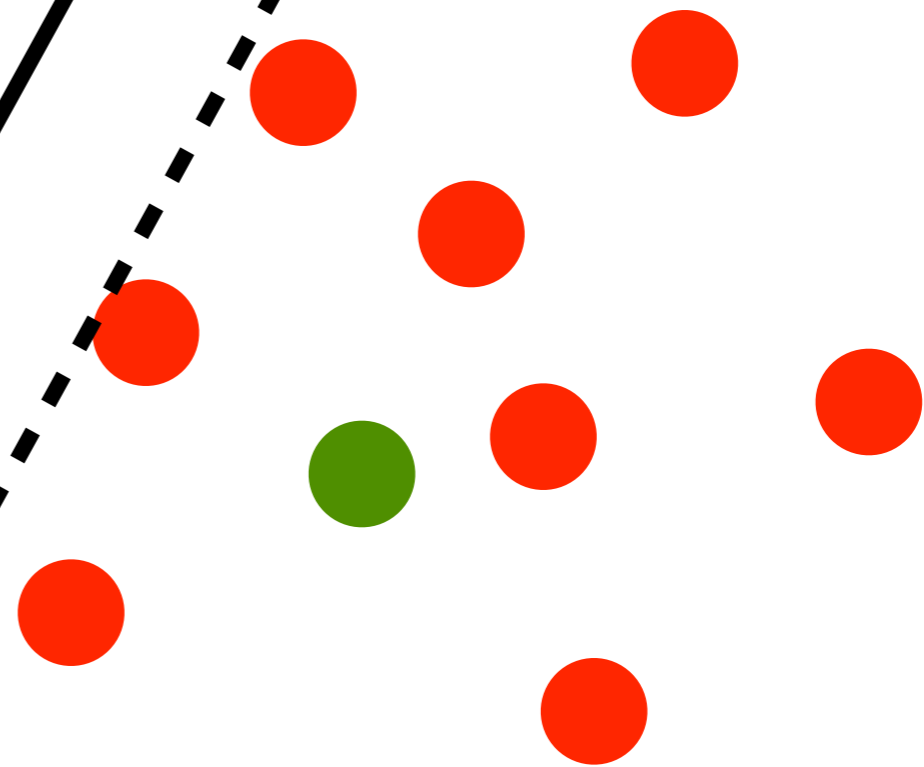
Convex optimization problem

# Adding slack variables

$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \leq -1 + \xi$$



$$\langle w, x \rangle + b \geq 1 - \xi$$



Convex optimization problem

minimize amount  
of slack

# Adding slack variables

- **Hard margin problem**

$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 \quad \text{subject to } y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

- **With slack variables**

$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

$$\text{subject to } y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1 - \xi_i \text{ and } \xi_i \geq 0$$

**Problem is always feasible. Proof:**

$w = 0$  and  $b = 0$  and  $\xi_i = 1$  (also yields upper bound)

# Dual Problem

- Primal optimization problem

$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to  $y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1 - \xi_i$  and  $\xi_i \geq 0$

- Lagrange function

$$L(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i - \sum_i \alpha_i [y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] + \xi_i - 1] - \sum_i \eta_i \xi_i$$

Optimality in  $w, b, \xi$  is at saddle point with  $\alpha, \eta$

- Derivatives in  $w, b, \xi$  need to vanish

# Dual Problem

- **Lagrange function**

$$L(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i - \sum_i \alpha_i [y_i [\langle x_i, w \rangle + b] + \xi_i - 1] - \sum_i \eta_i \xi_i$$

- **Derivatives in  $w$ ,  $b$  need to vanish**

$$\partial_w L(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \eta) = w - \sum_i \alpha_i y_i x_i = 0$$

$$\partial_b L(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \eta) = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$$

$$\partial_{\xi_i} L(w, b, \xi, \alpha, \eta) = C - \alpha_i - \eta_i = 0$$

- **Plugging terms back into  $L$  yields**

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_i \in [0, C]$$

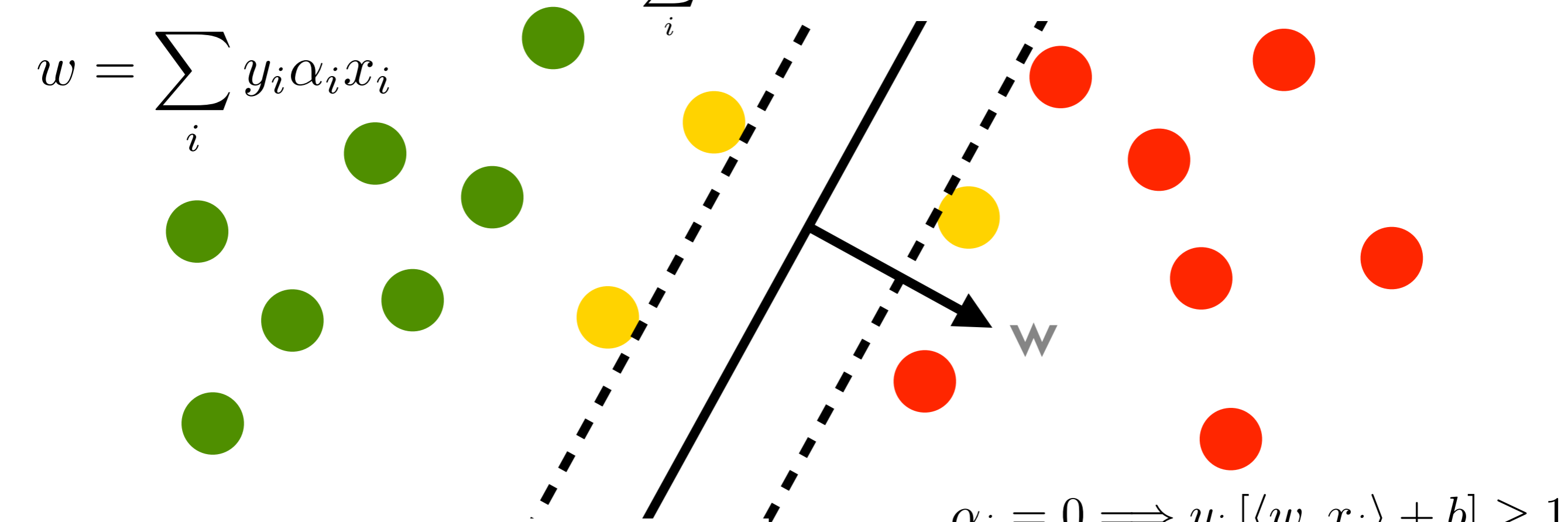
bound  
influence

# Karush Kuhn Tucker Conditions

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_i \in [0, C]$$

$$w = \sum_i y_i \alpha_i x_i$$



$$\alpha_i [y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] + \xi_i - 1] = 0$$

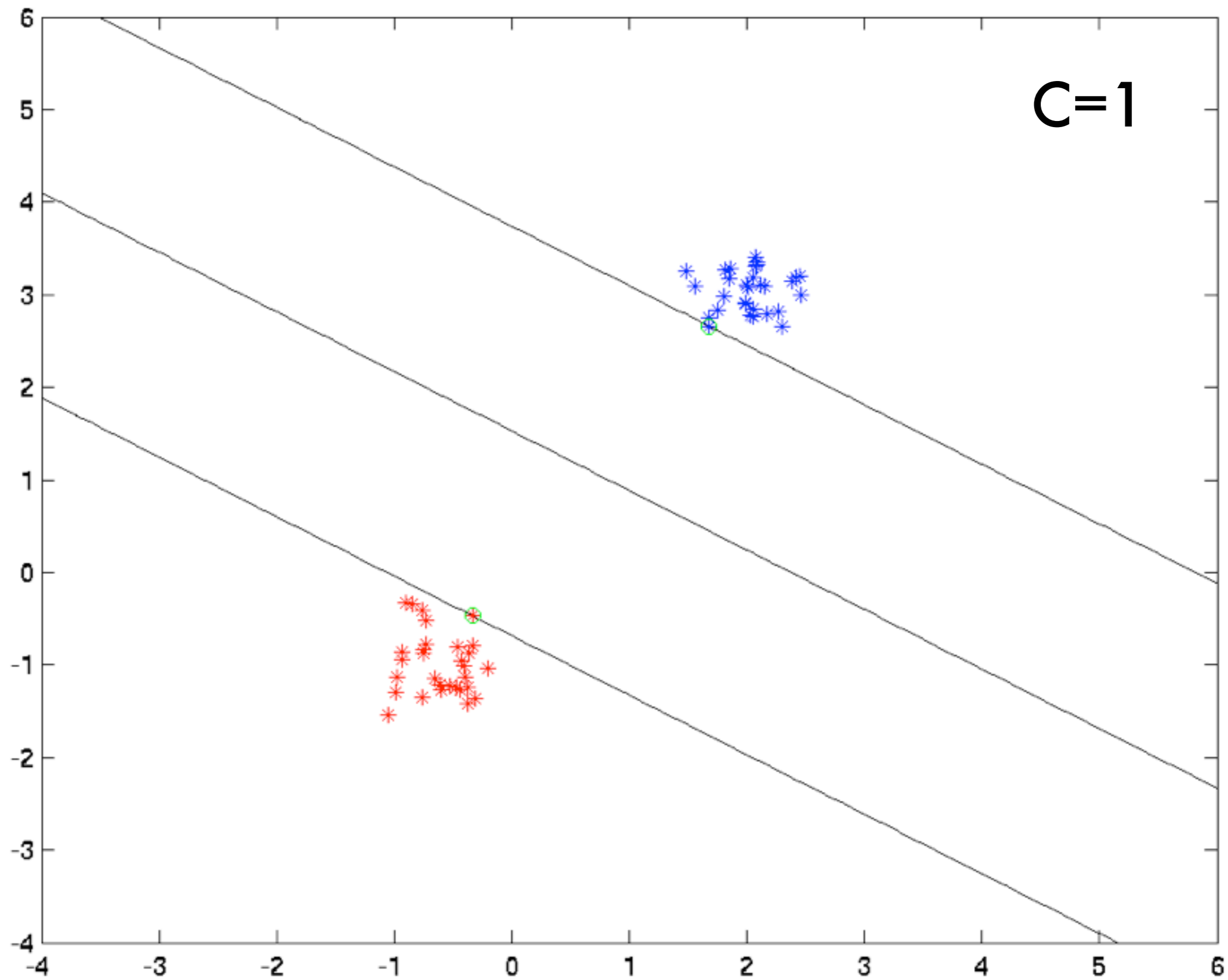
$$\eta_i \xi_i = 0$$

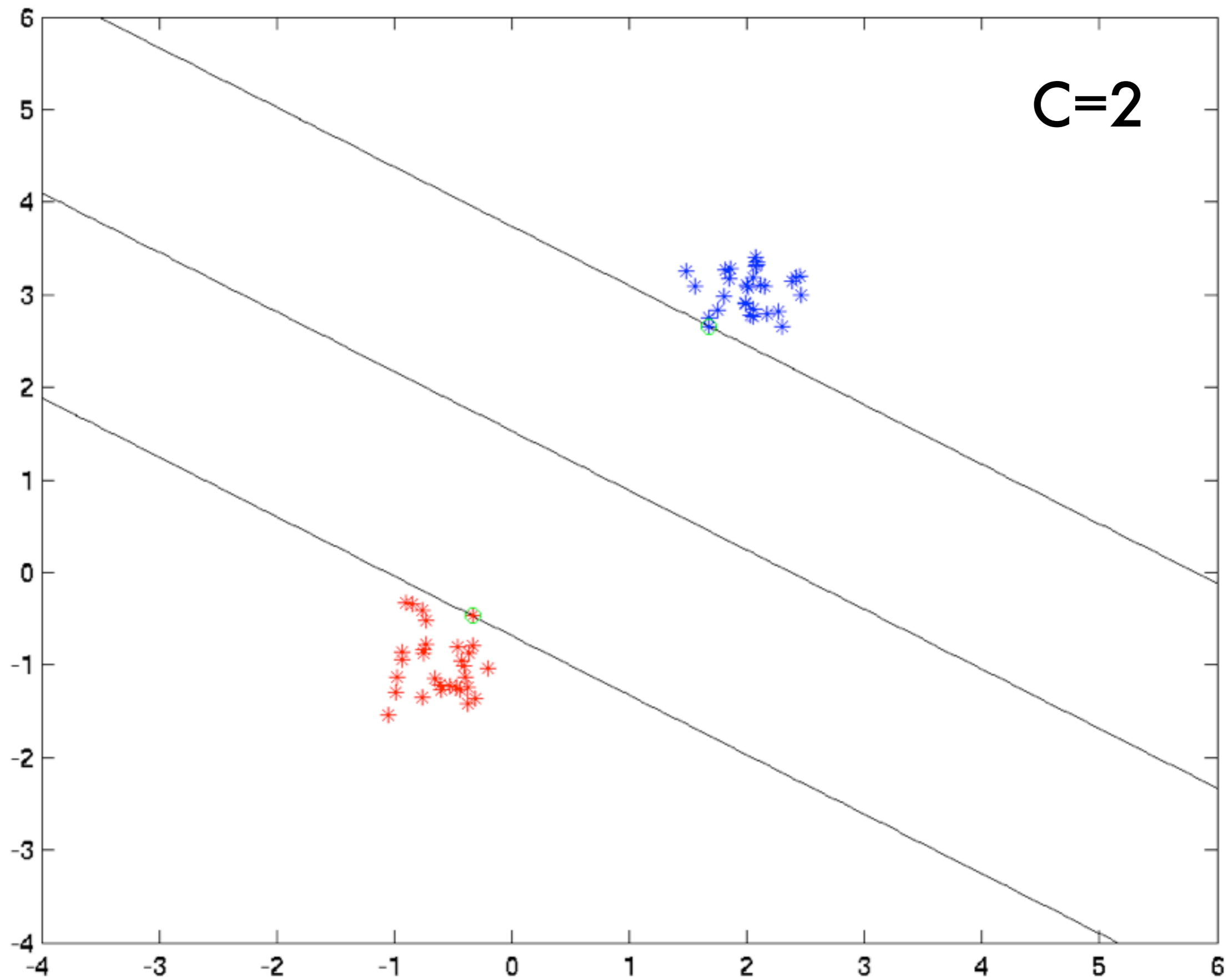
$$\alpha_i = 0 \implies y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1$$

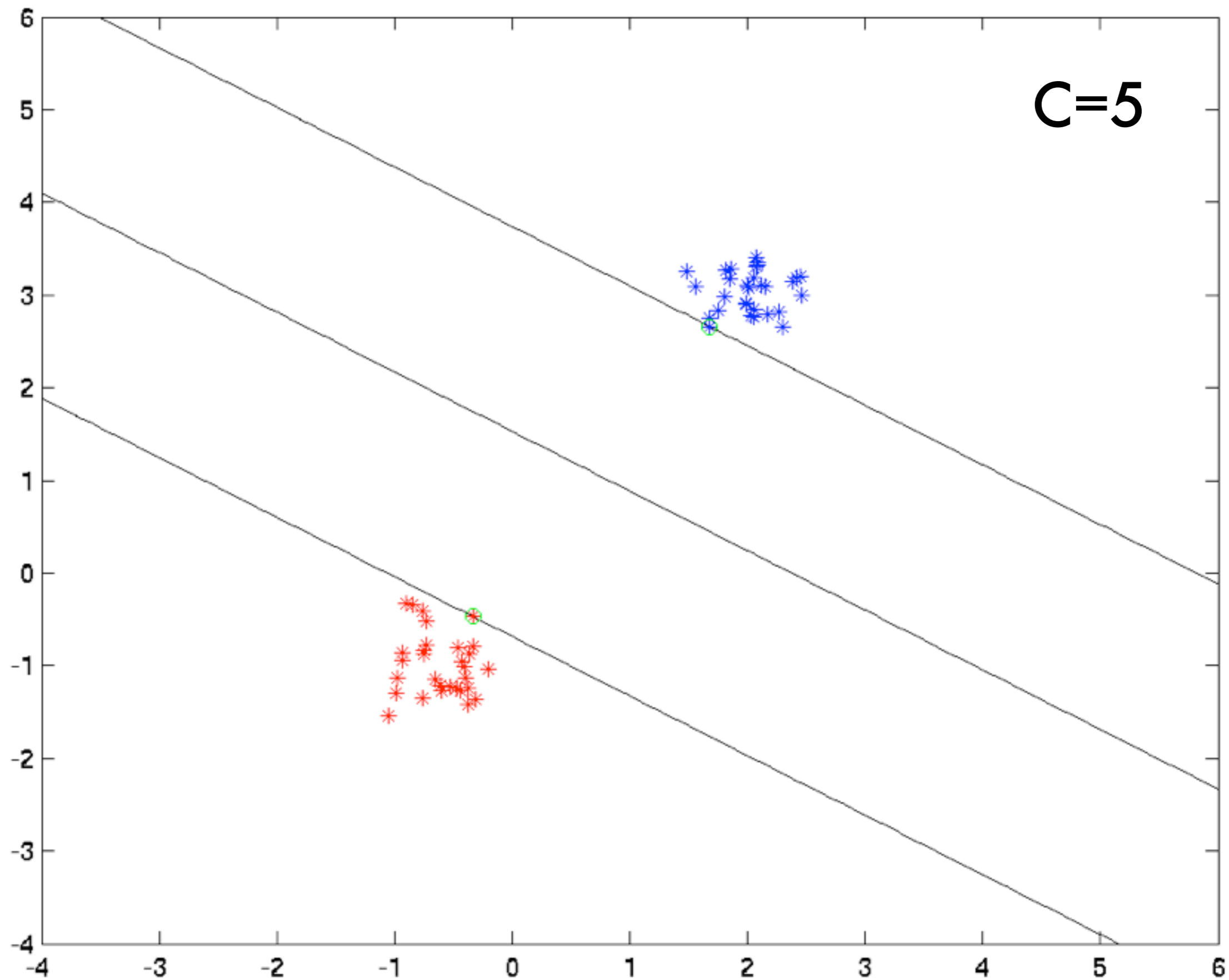
$$0 < \alpha_i < C \implies y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] = 1$$

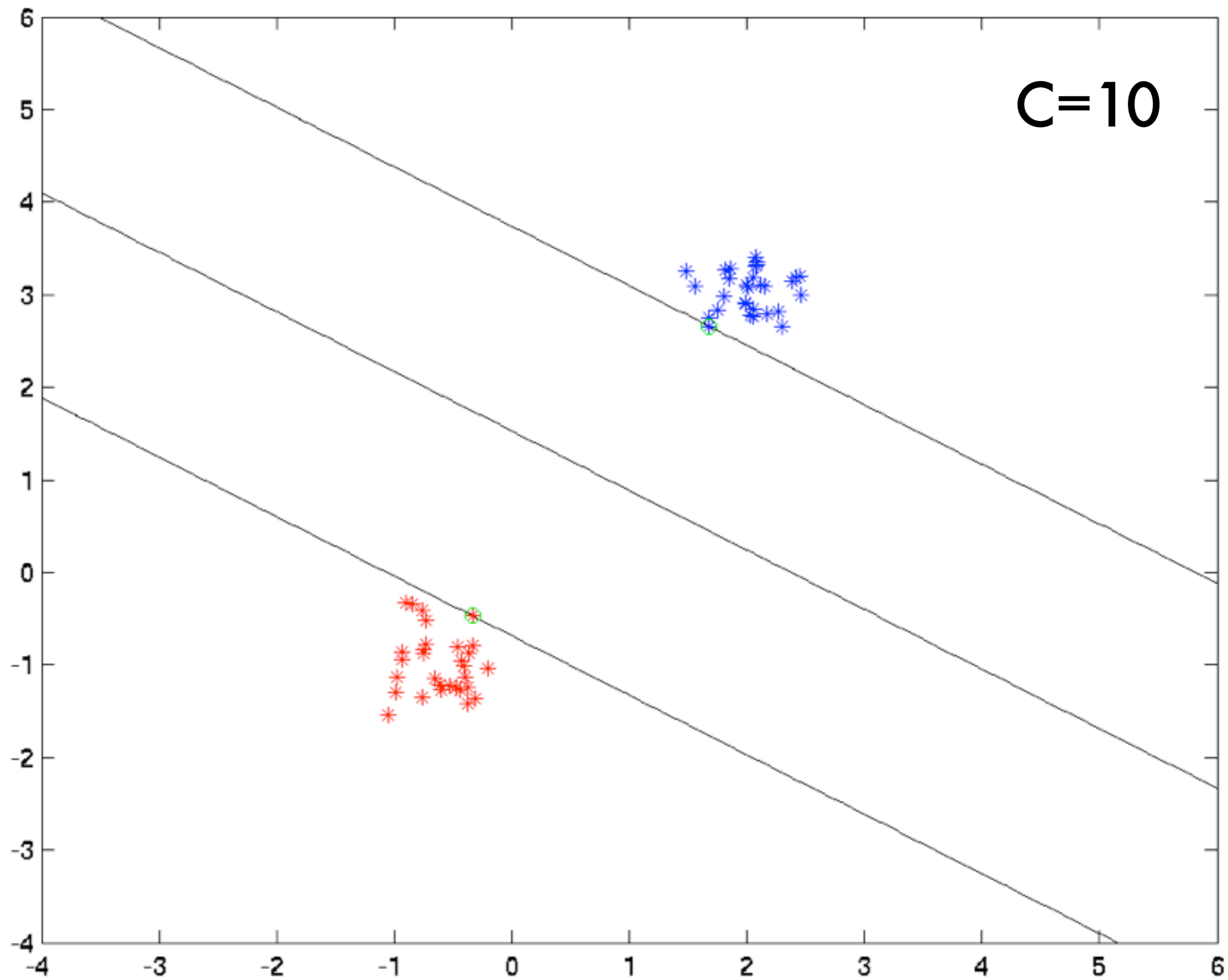
$$\alpha_i = C \implies y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \leq 1$$

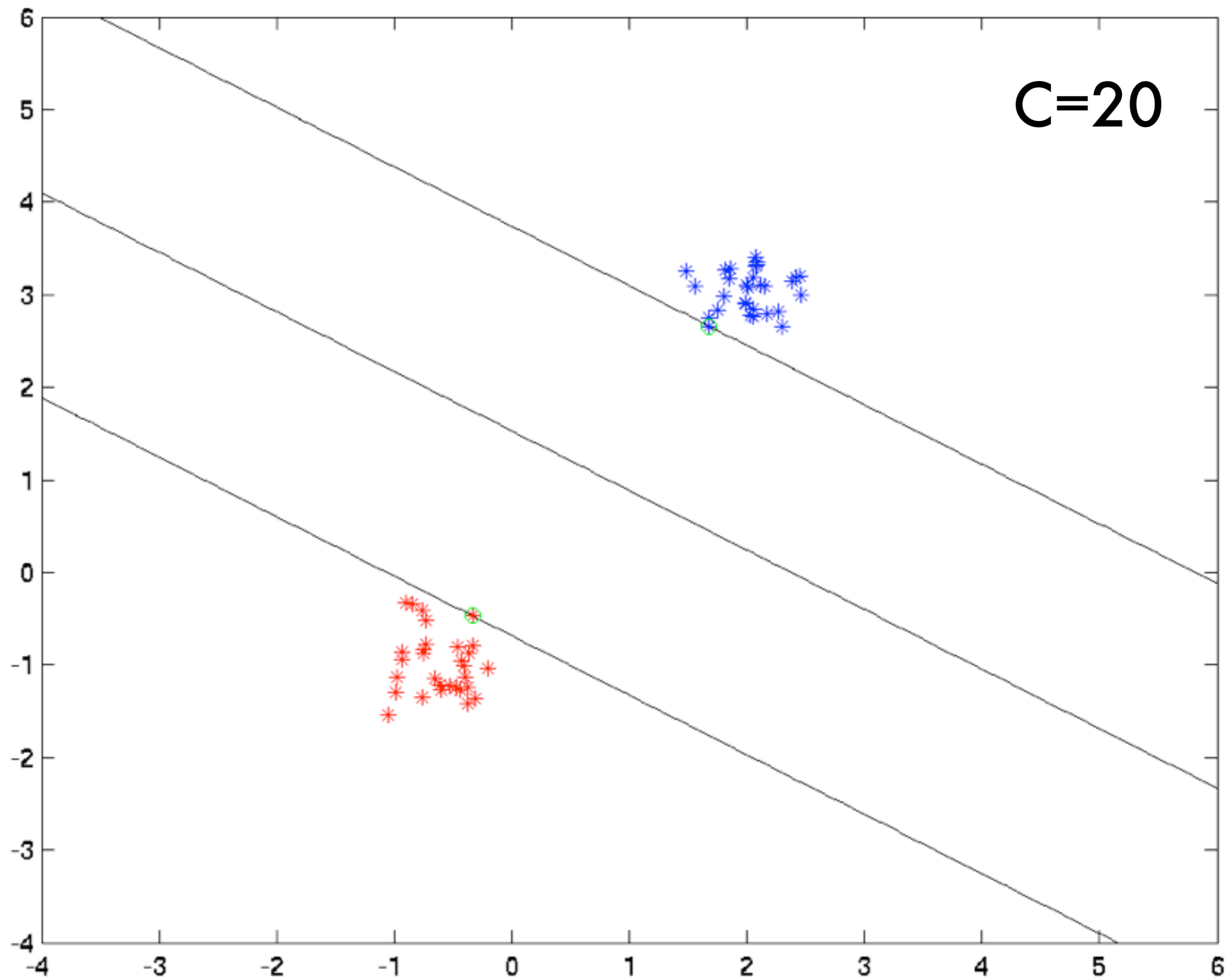


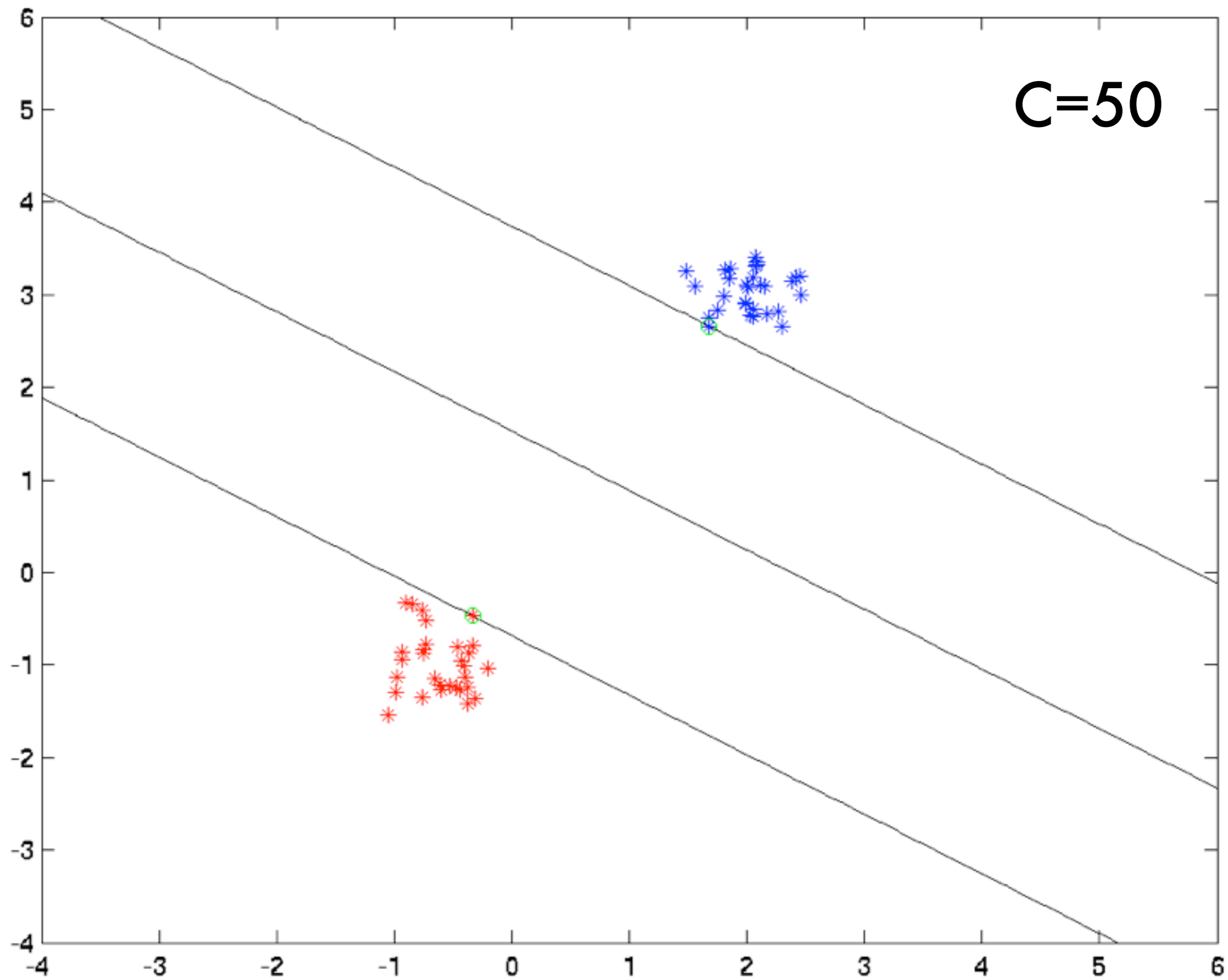


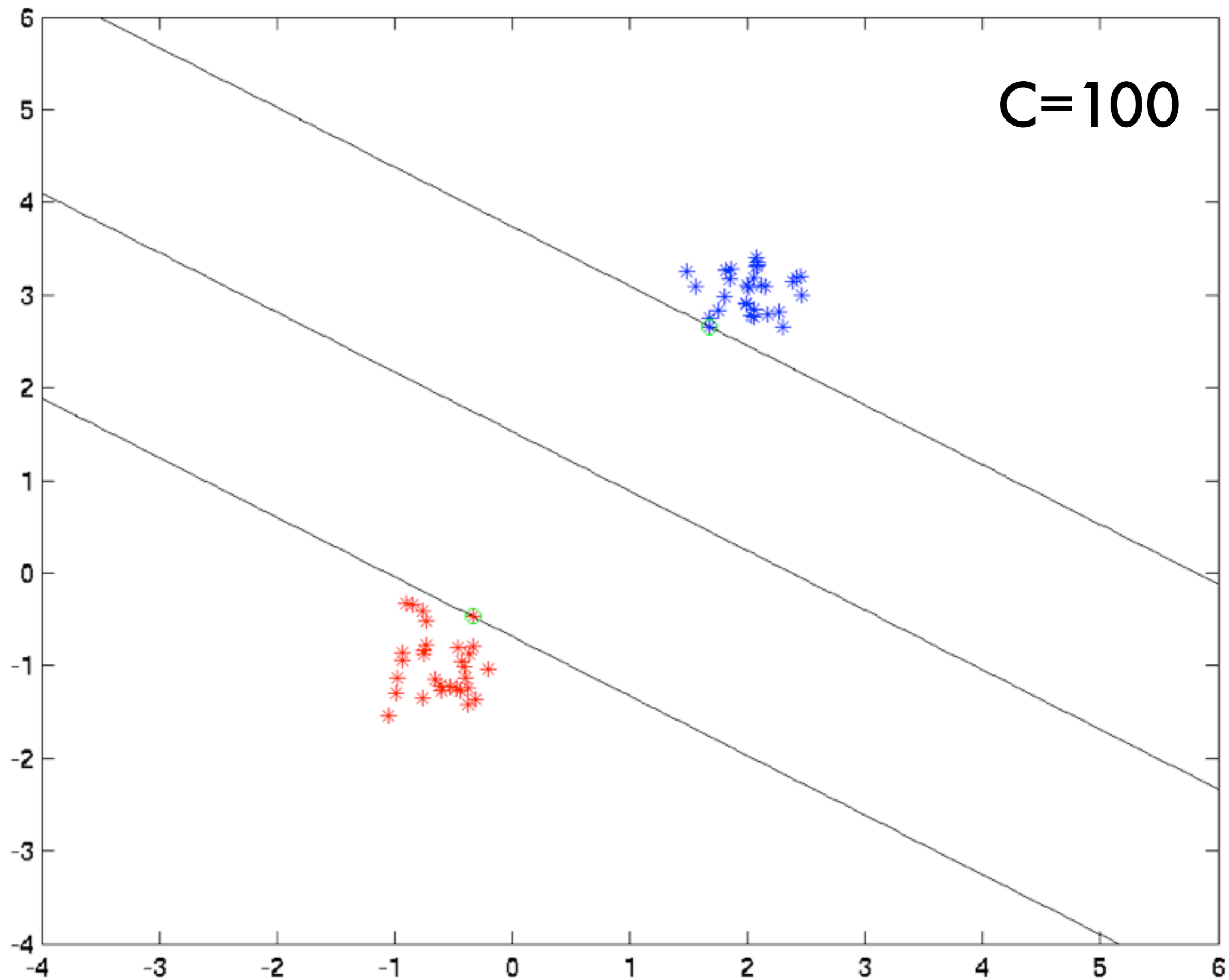


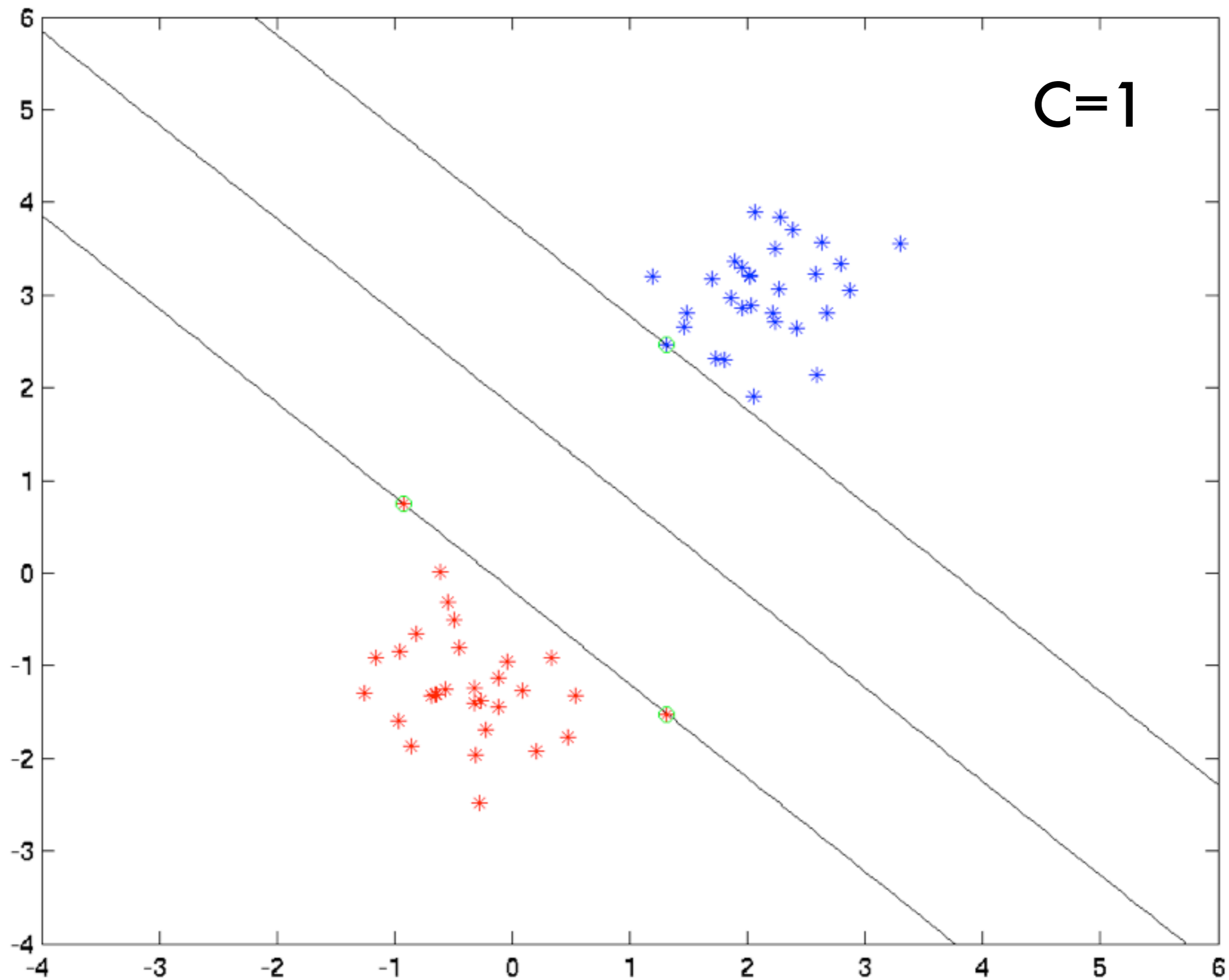




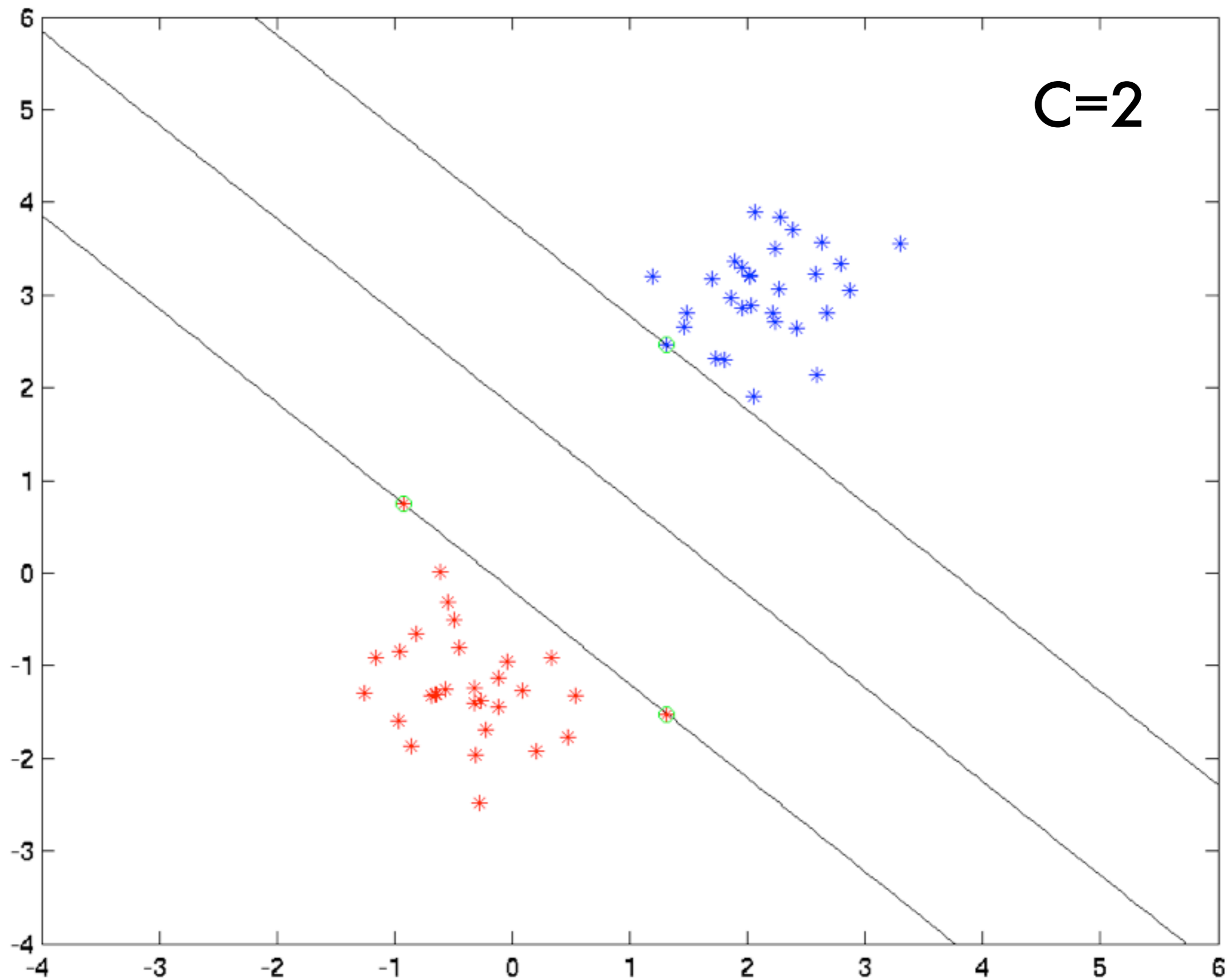


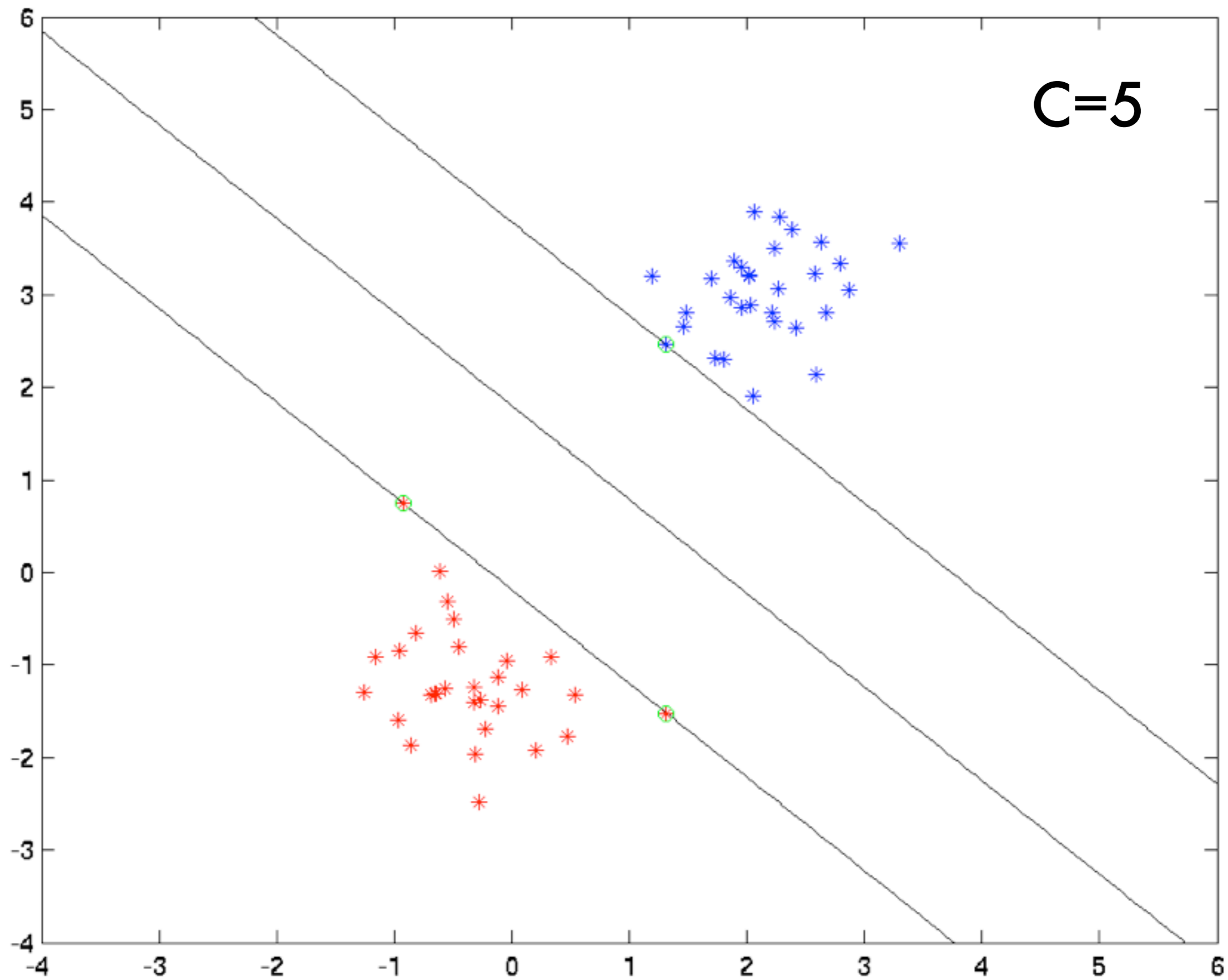


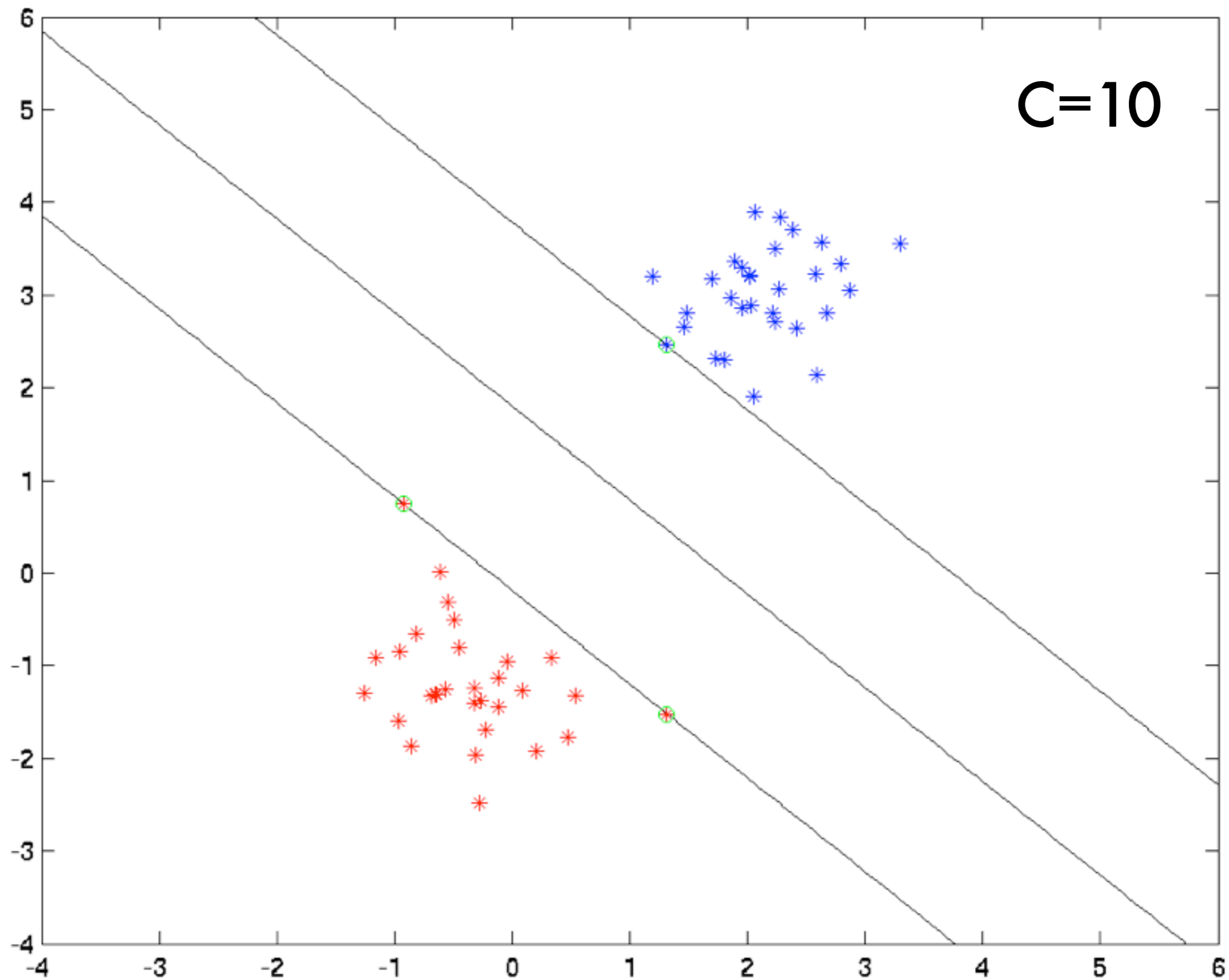


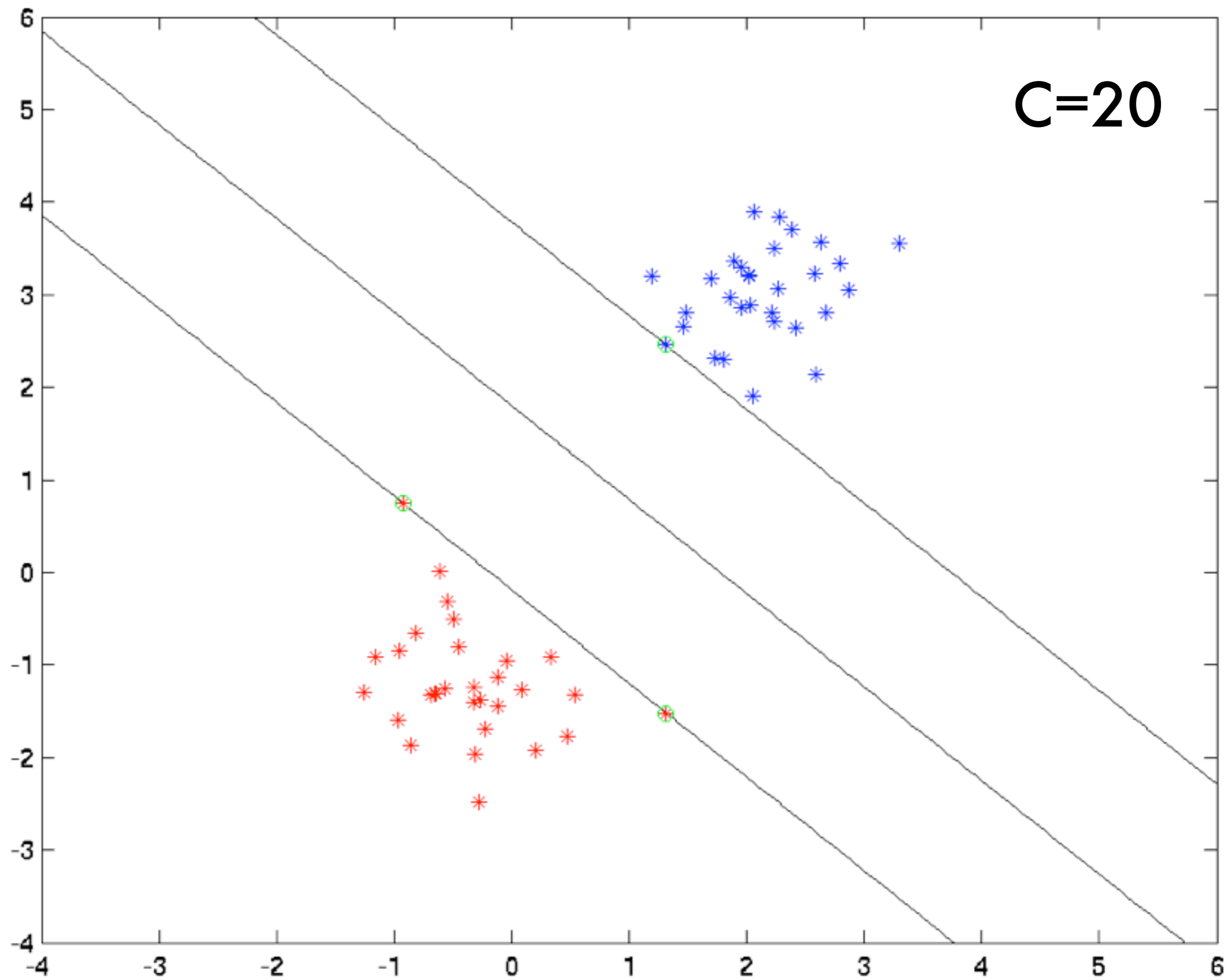


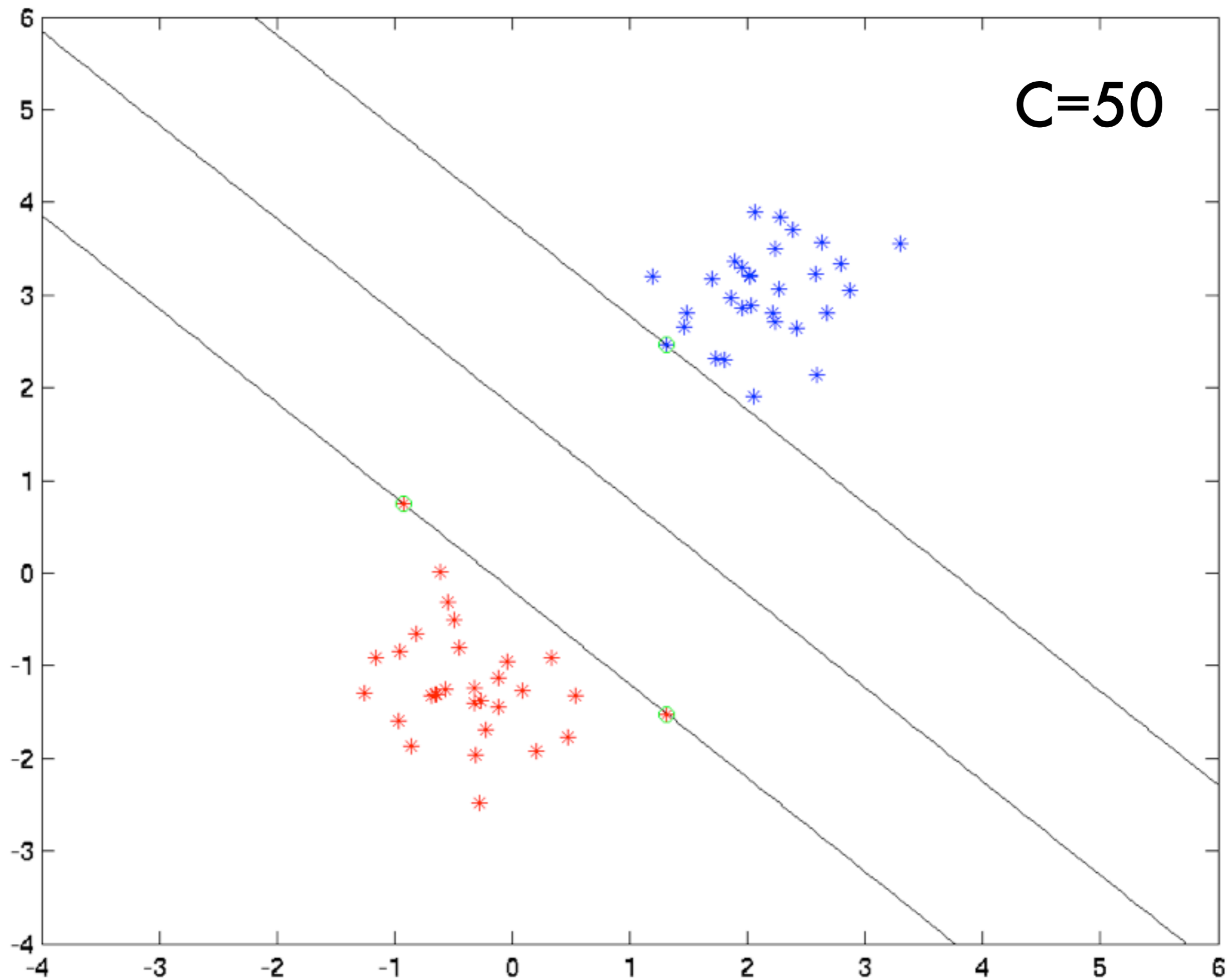


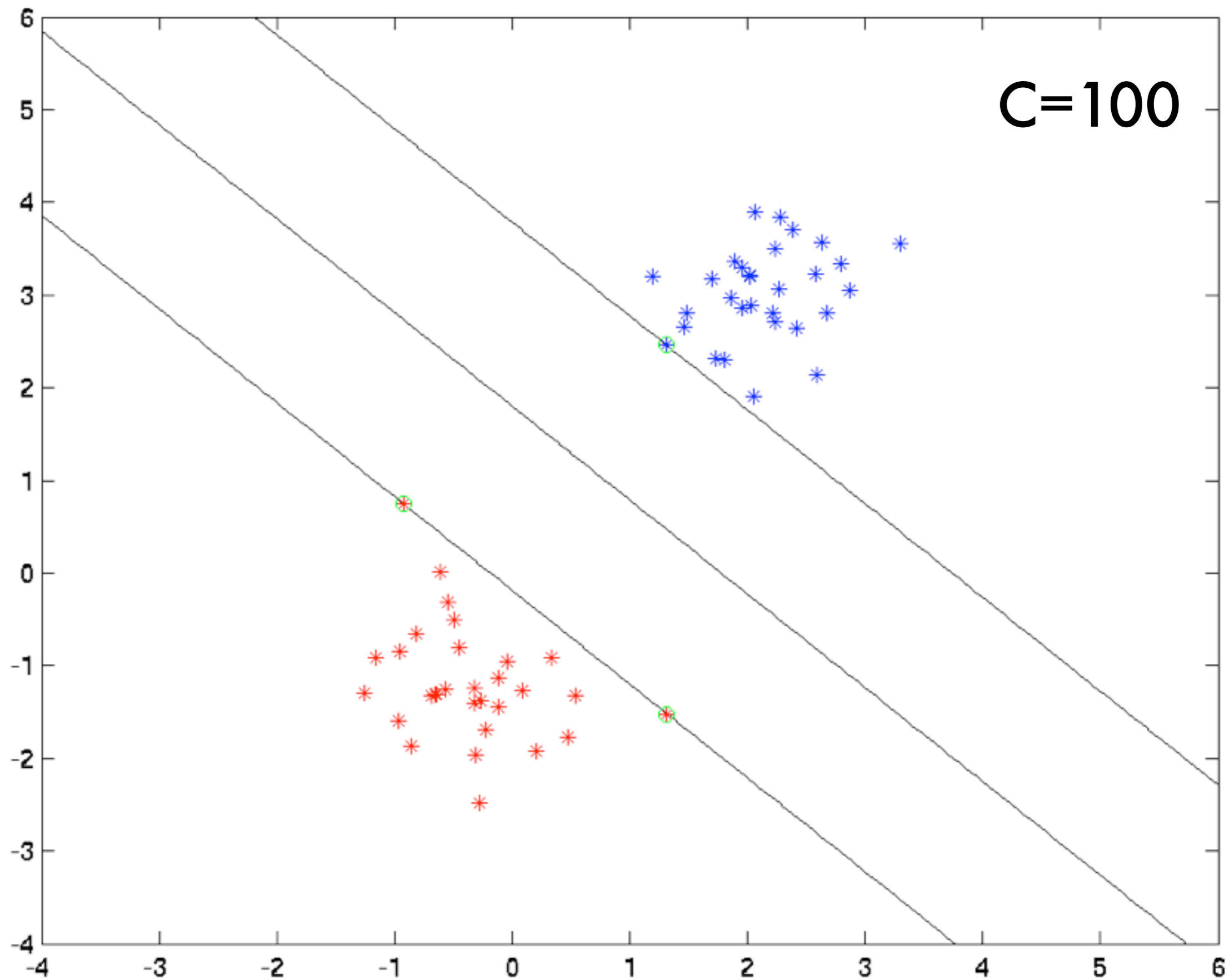


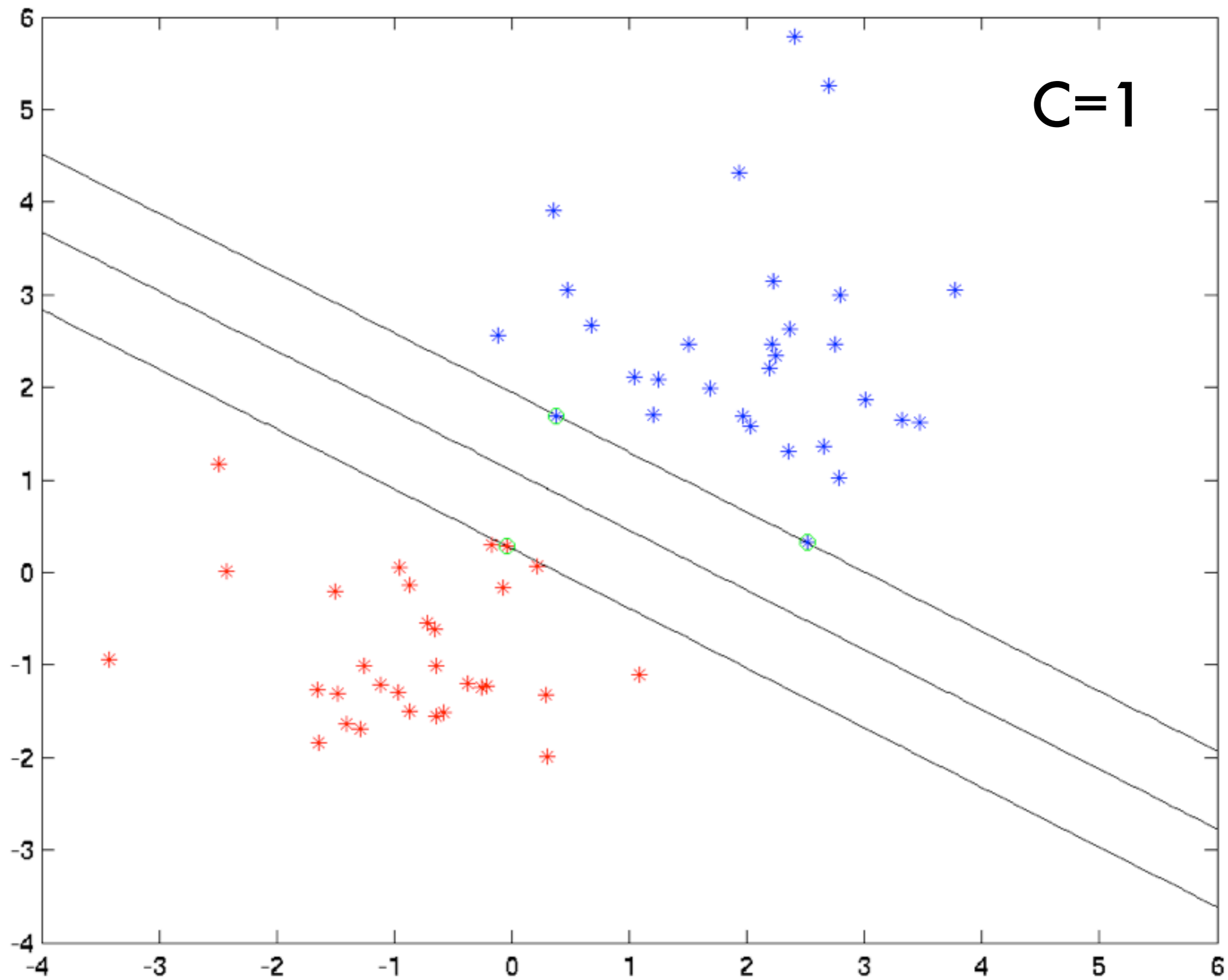


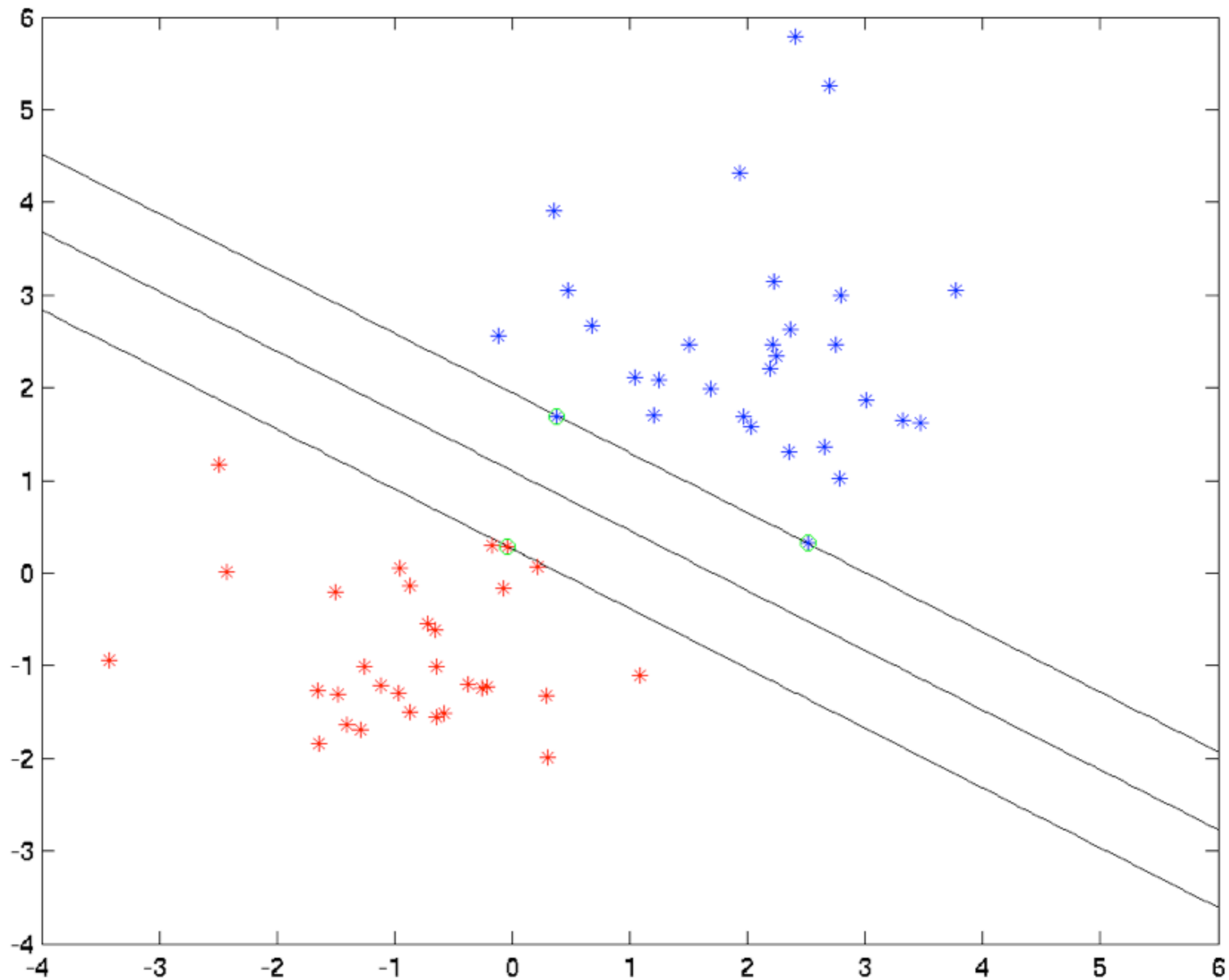




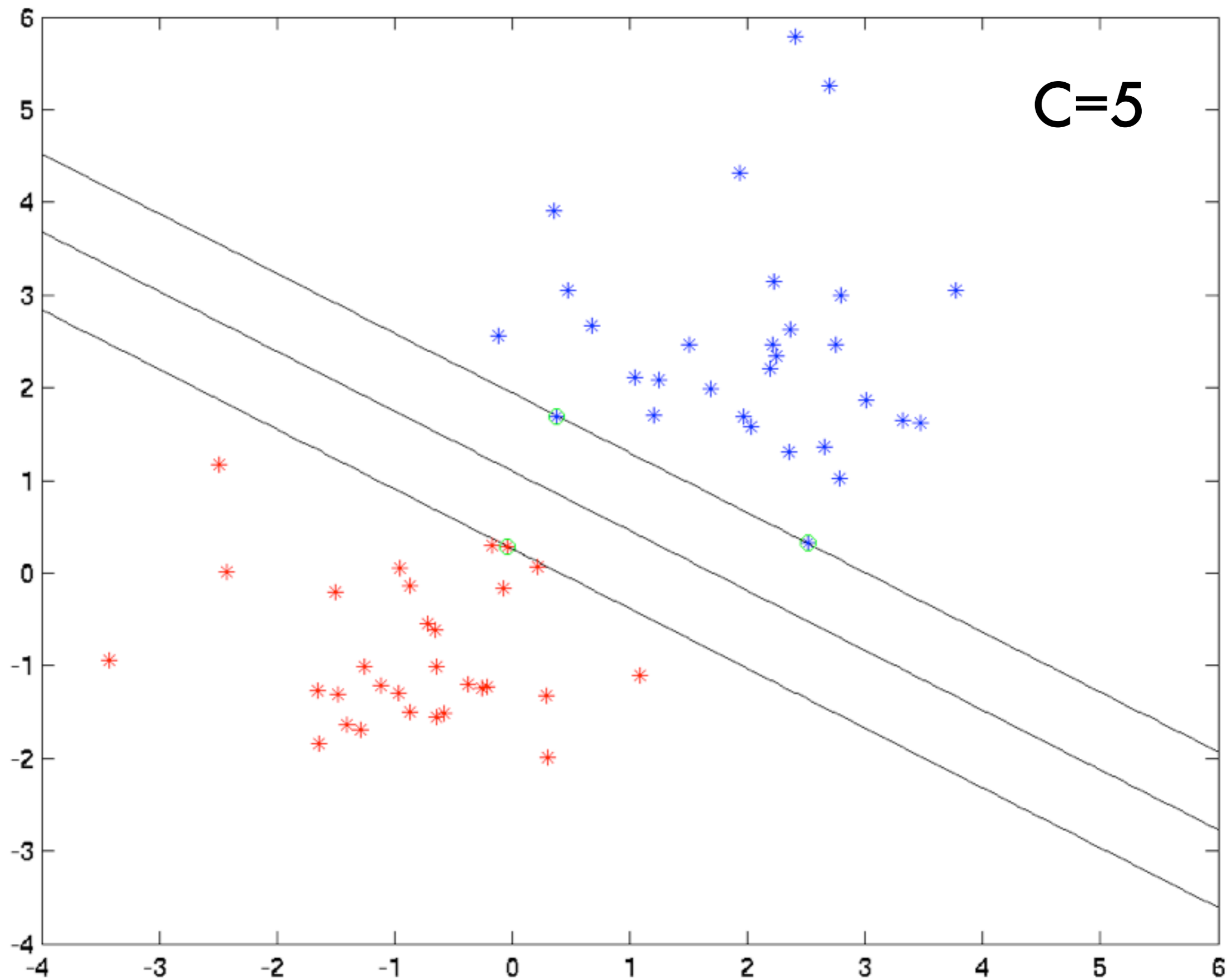


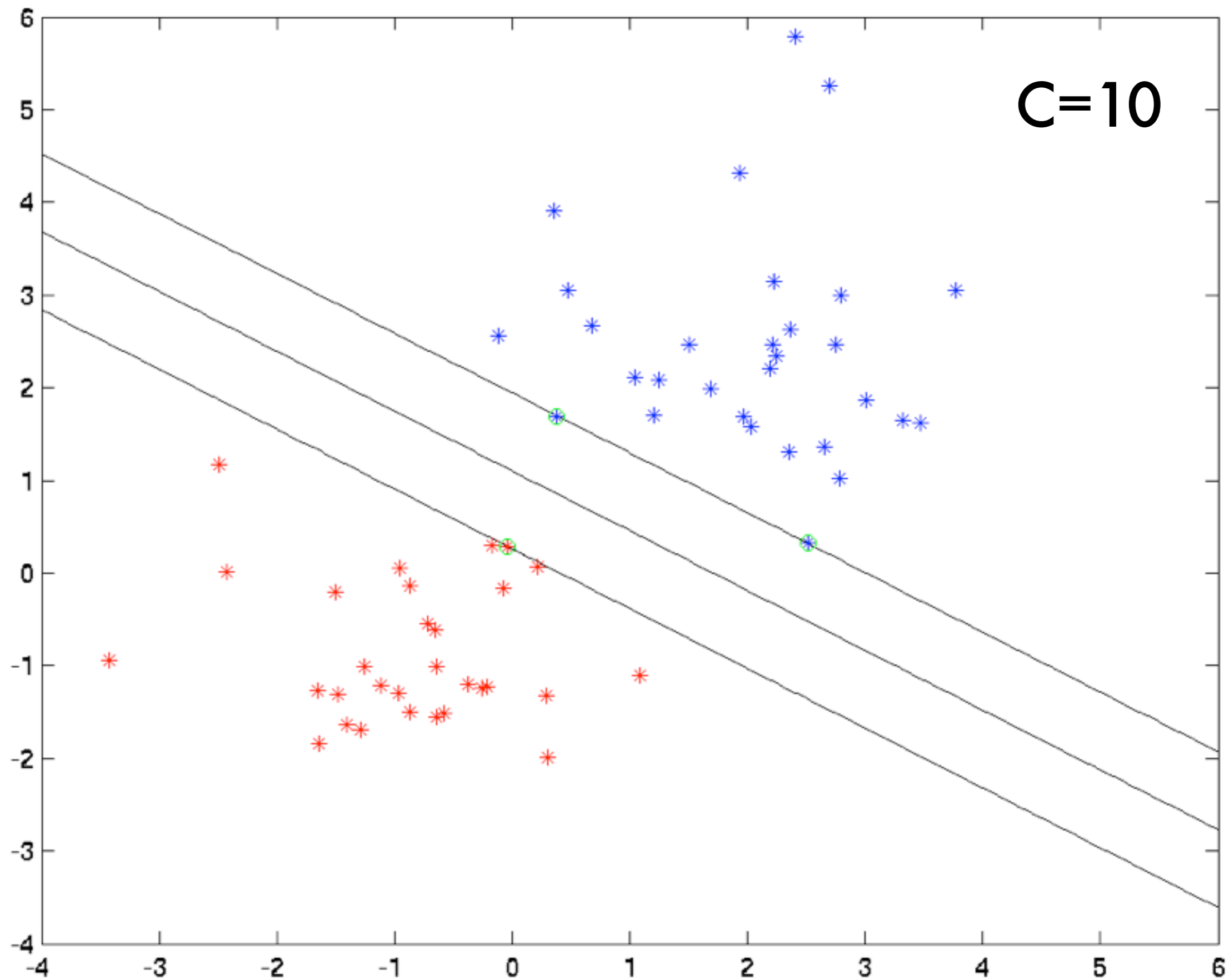


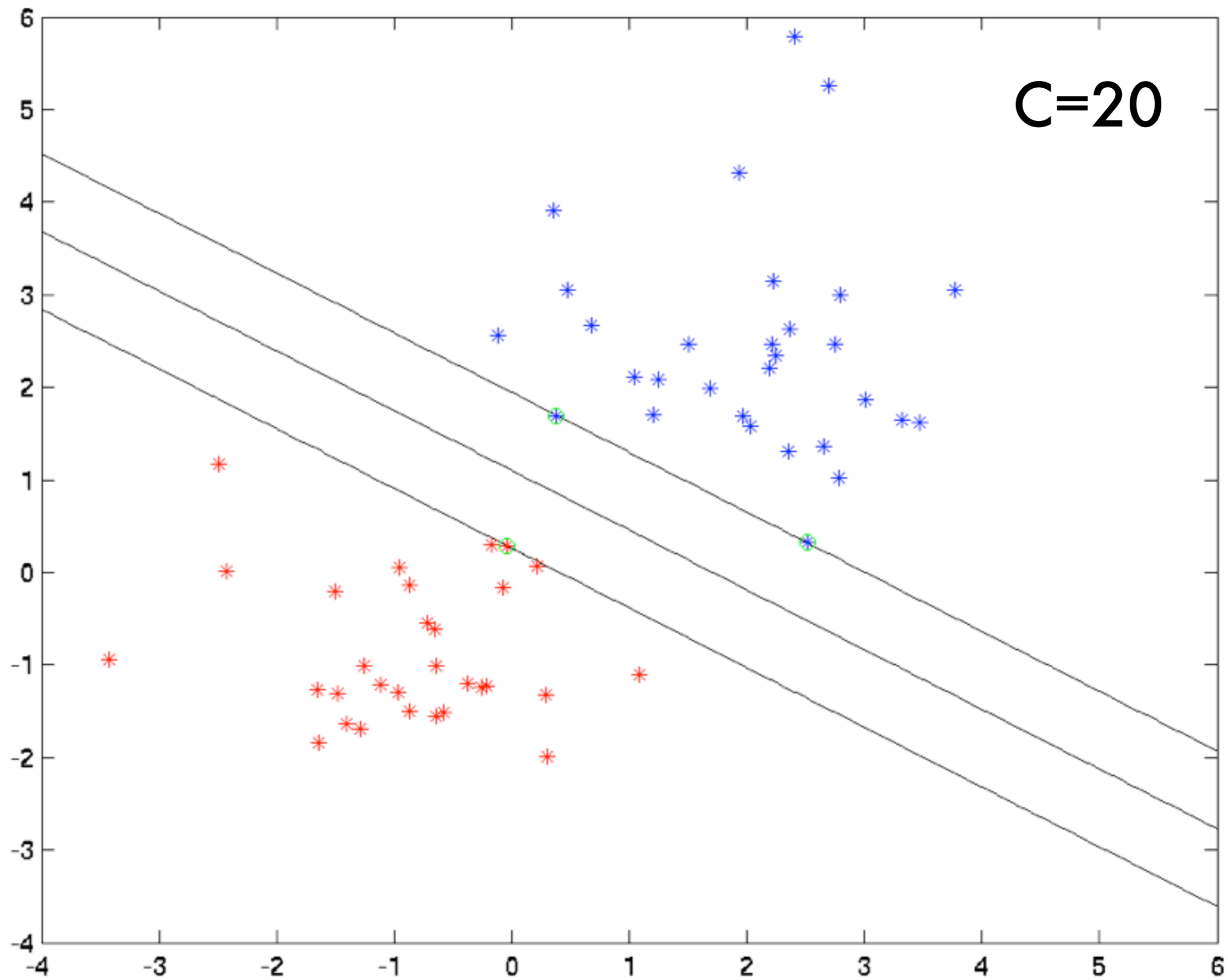


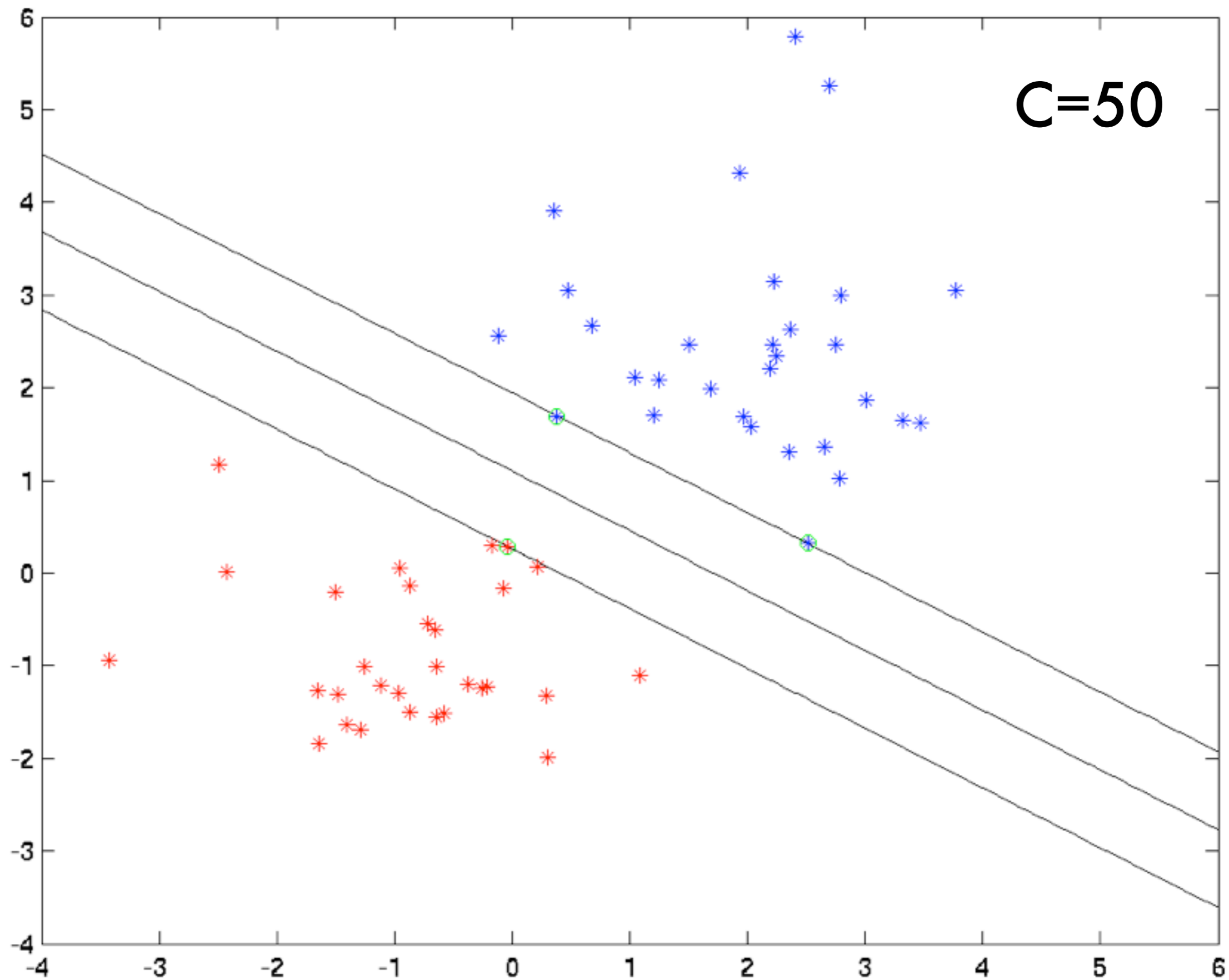


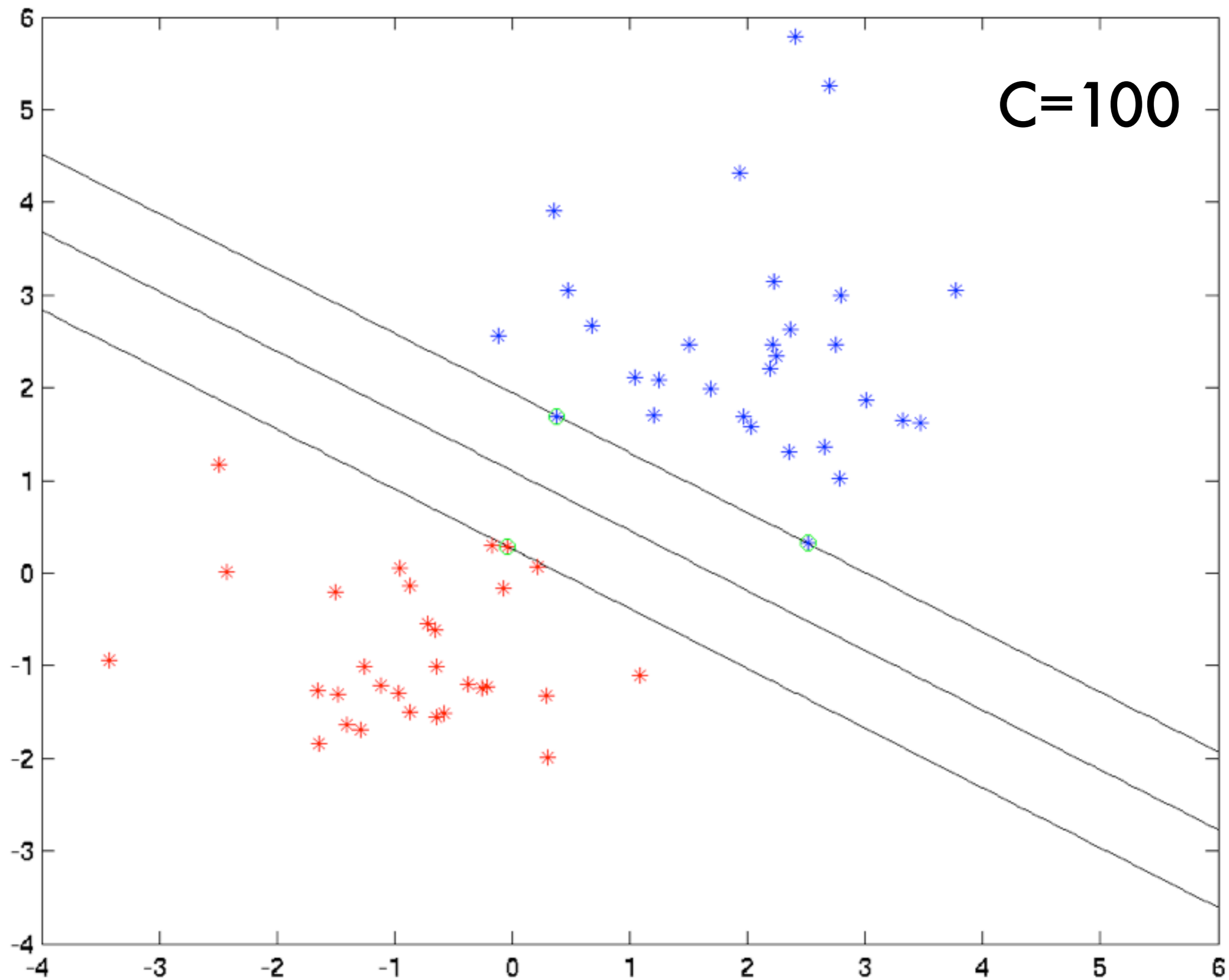


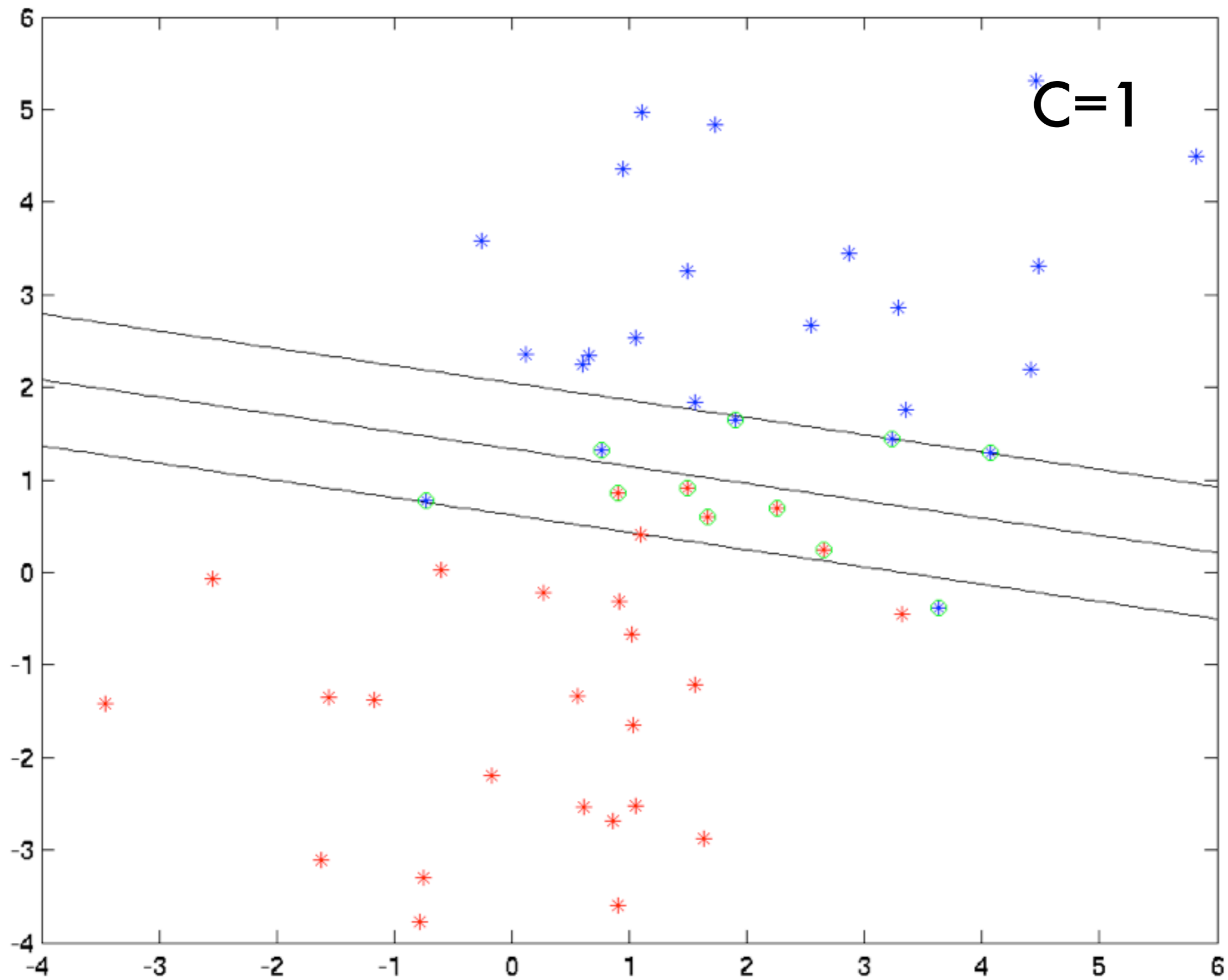


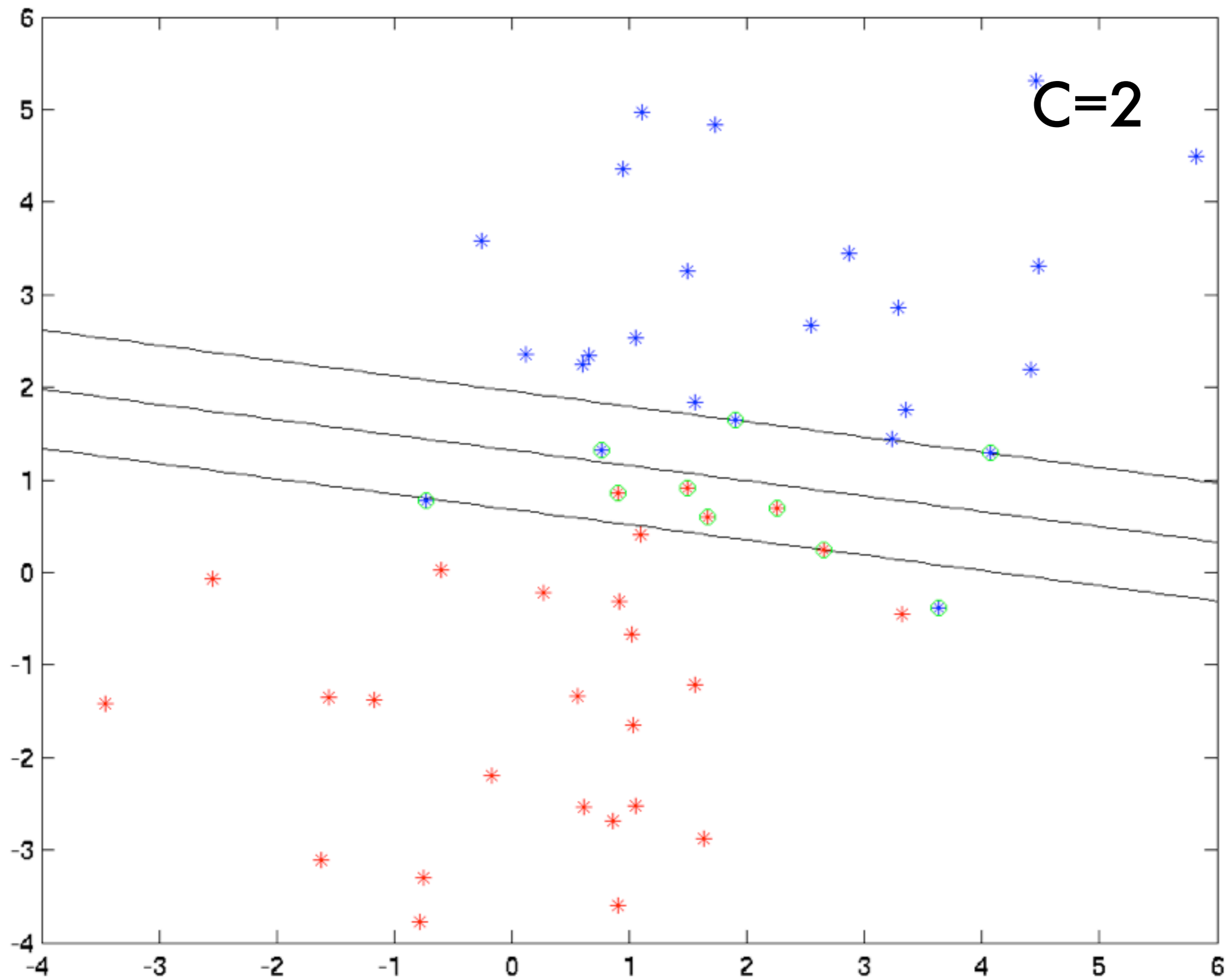


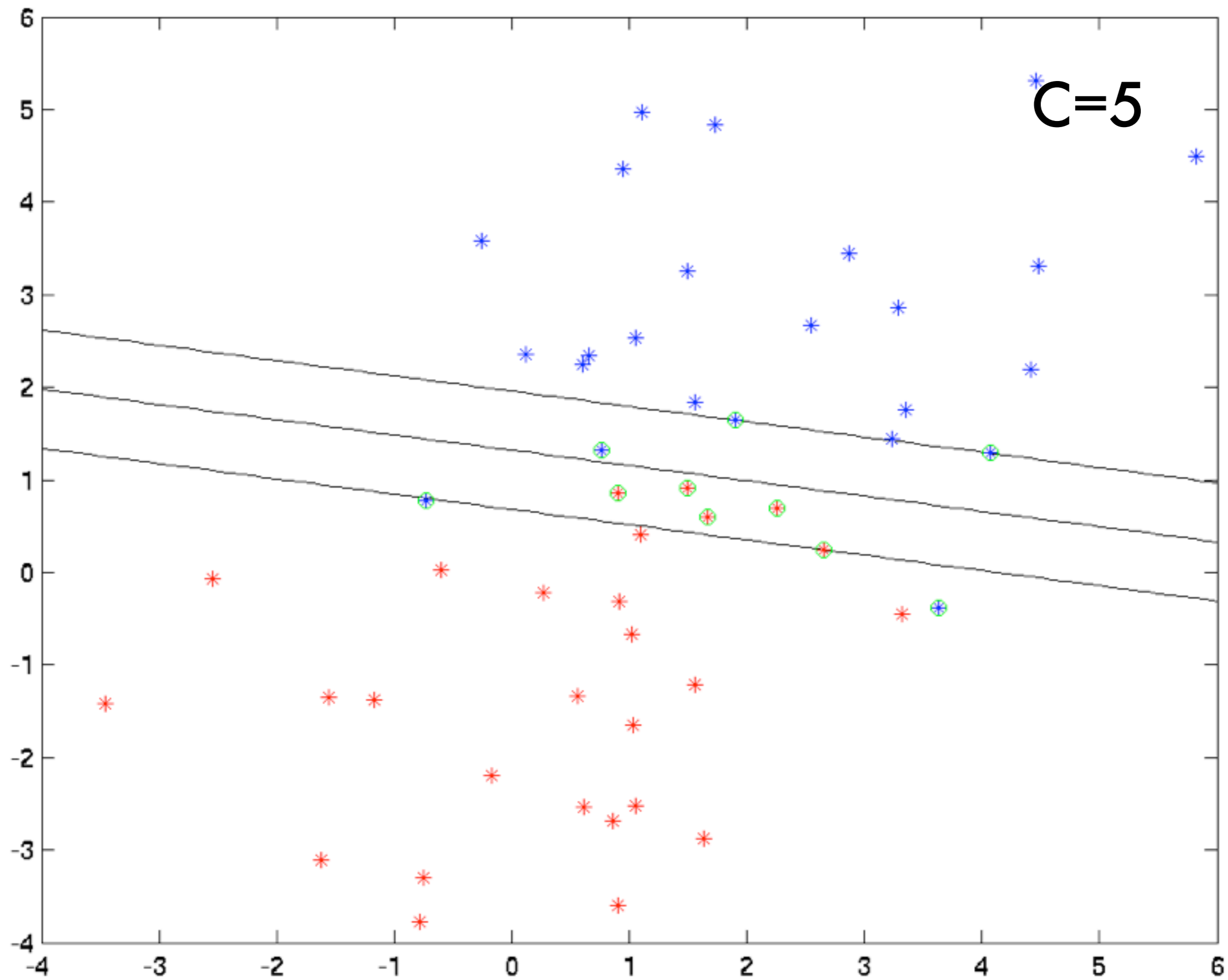




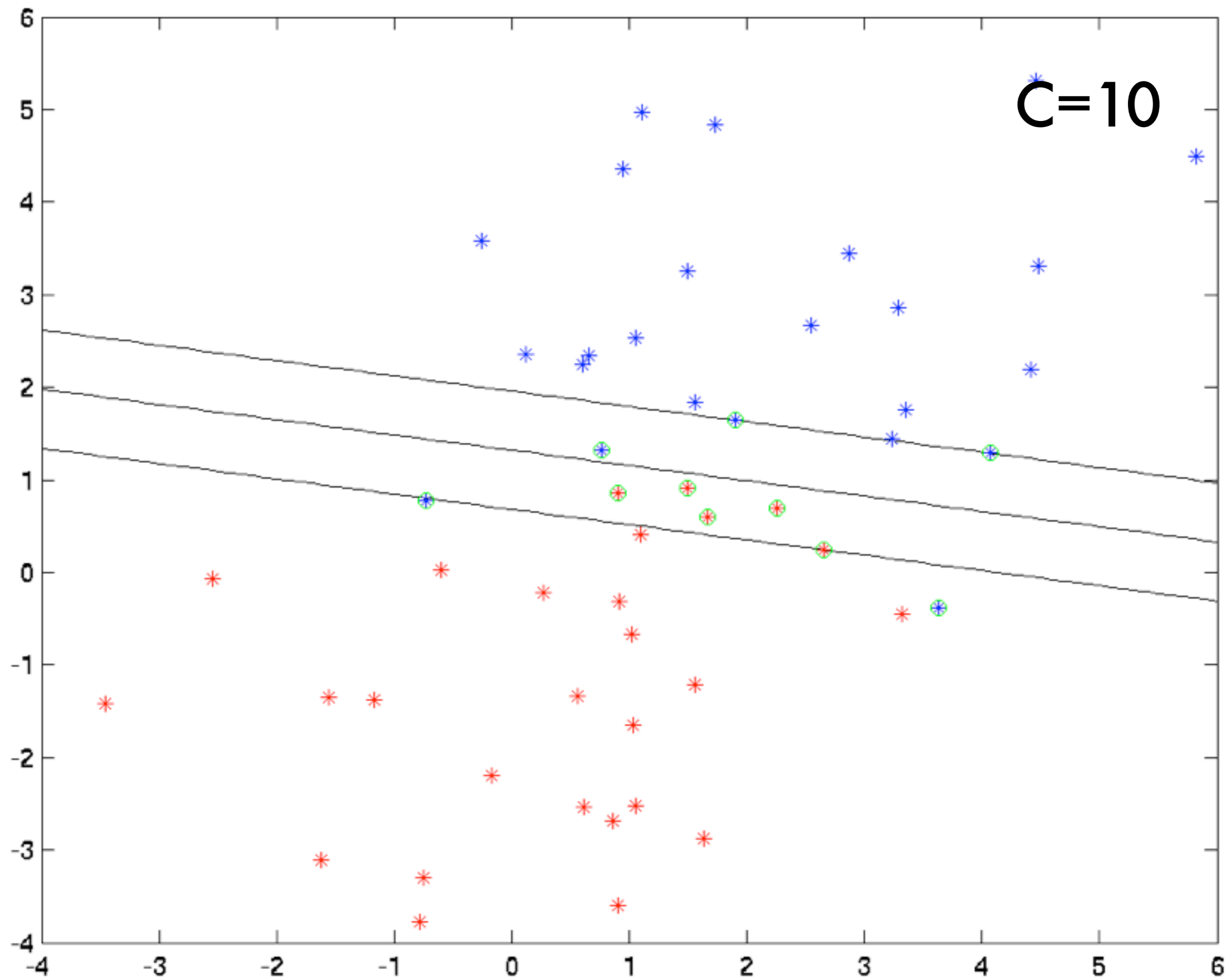


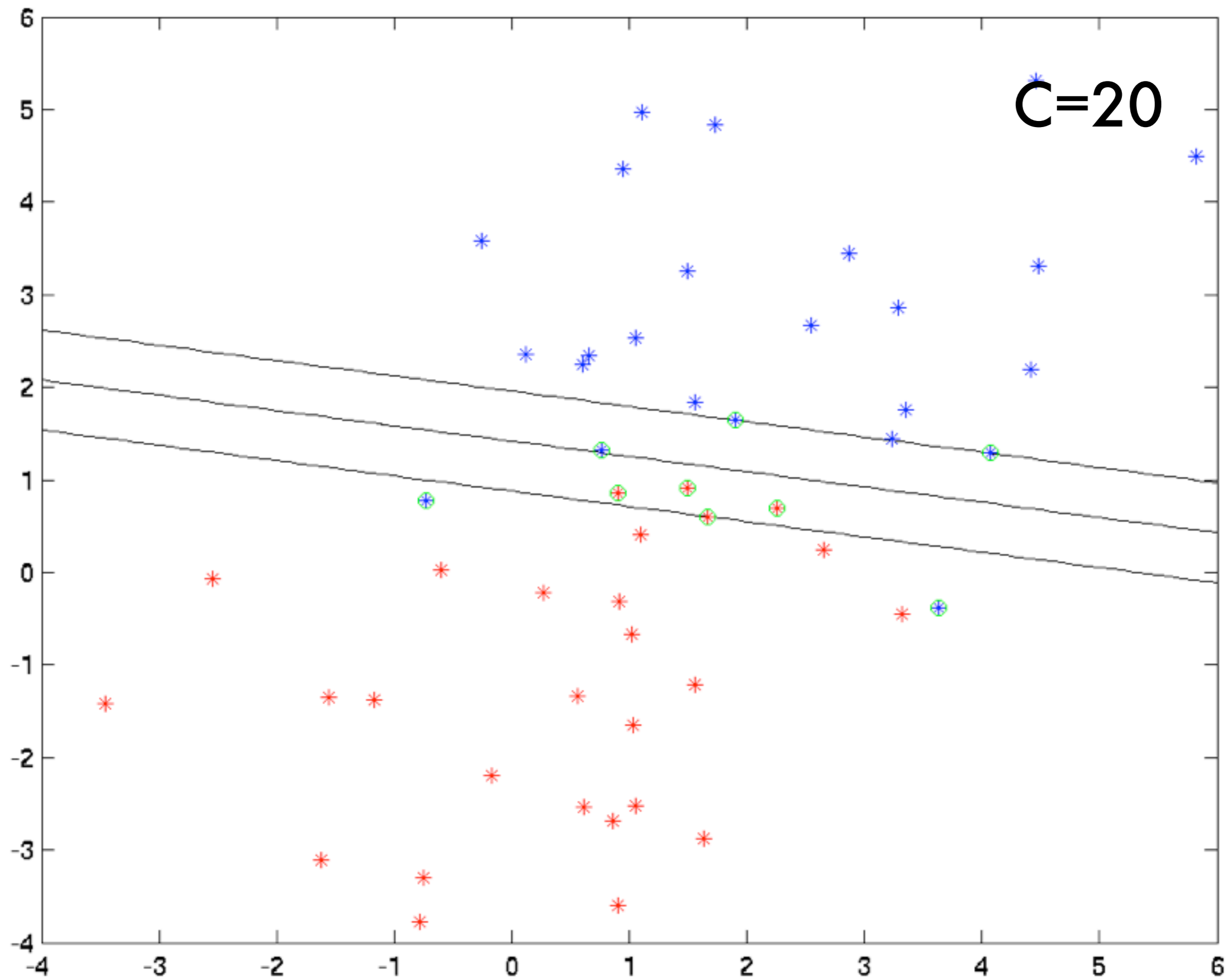


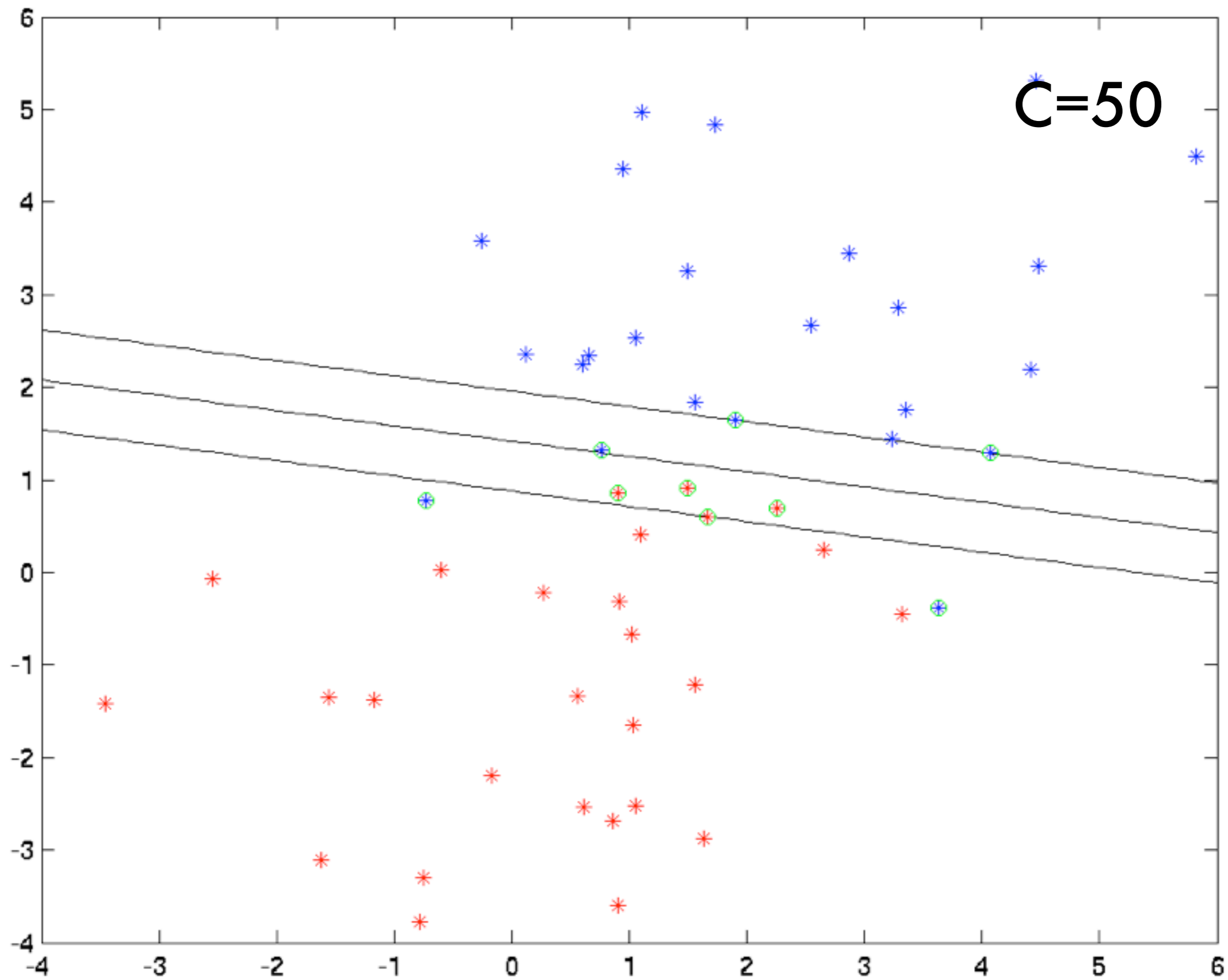


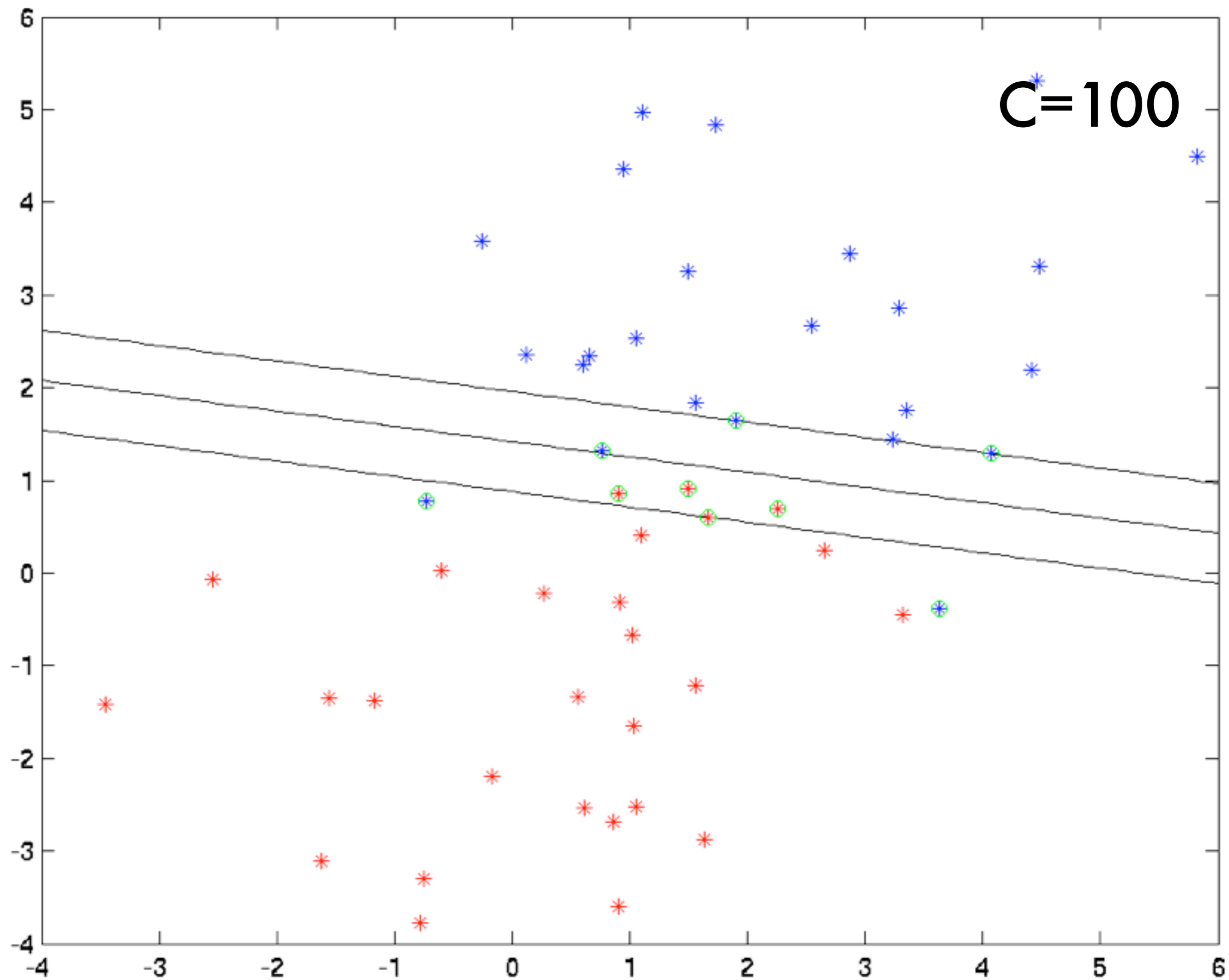












# Solving the optimization problem

- Dual problem

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_i \in [0, C]$$

- If problem is small enough (1000s of variables) we can use off-the-shelf solver (CVXOPT, CPLEX, OOQP, LOQO)
- For larger problem use fact that only SVs matter and solve in blocks (active set method).



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Nonlinear  
Separation

Horizontal  
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# The Kernel Trick

- **Linear soft margin problem**

$$\text{minimize}_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to  $y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1 - \xi_i$  and  $\xi_i \geq 0$

- **Dual problem**

$$\text{maximize}_{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \langle x_i, x_j \rangle + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

subject to  $\sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$  and  $\alpha_i \in [0, C]$

- **Support vector expansion**

$$f(x) = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i \langle x_i, x \rangle + b$$

# The Kernel Trick

- **Linear soft margin problem**

$$\underset{w, b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to  $y_i [\langle w, \phi(x_i) \rangle + b] \geq 1 - \xi_i$  and  $\xi_i \geq 0$

- **Dual problem**

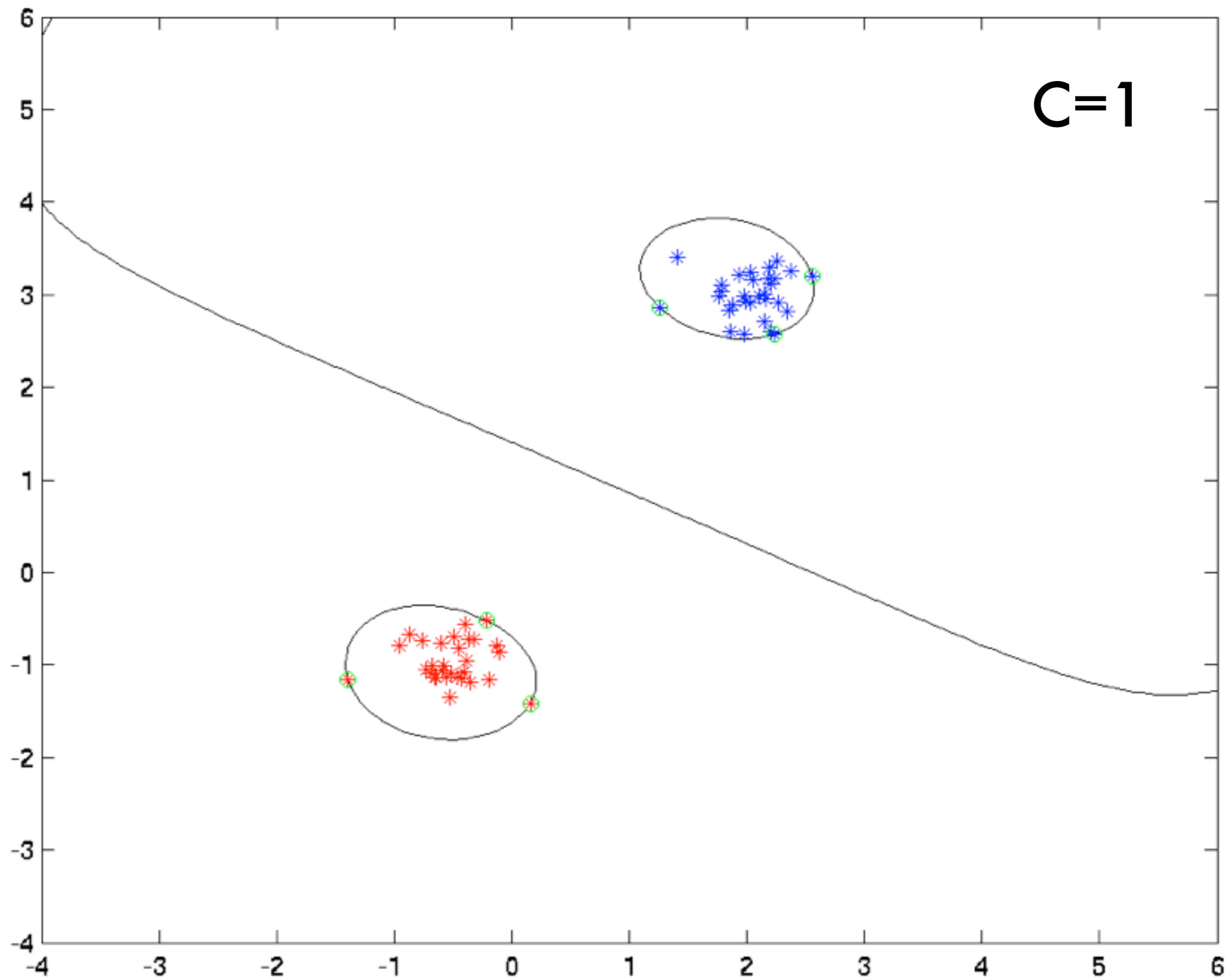
$$\underset{\alpha}{\text{maximize}} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j k(x_i, x_j) + \sum_i \alpha_i$$

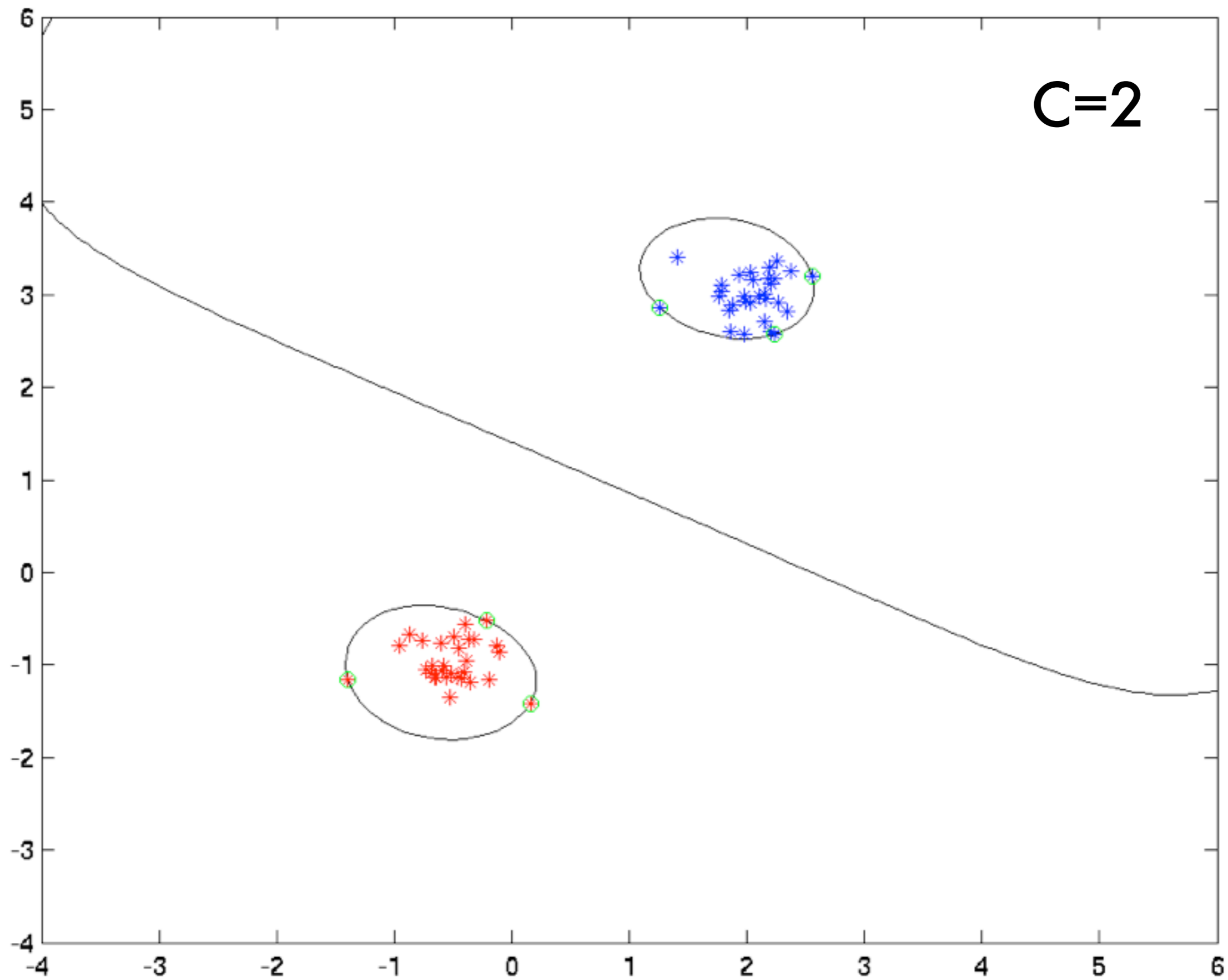
subject to  $\sum_i \alpha_i y_i = 0$  and  $\alpha_i \in [0, C]$

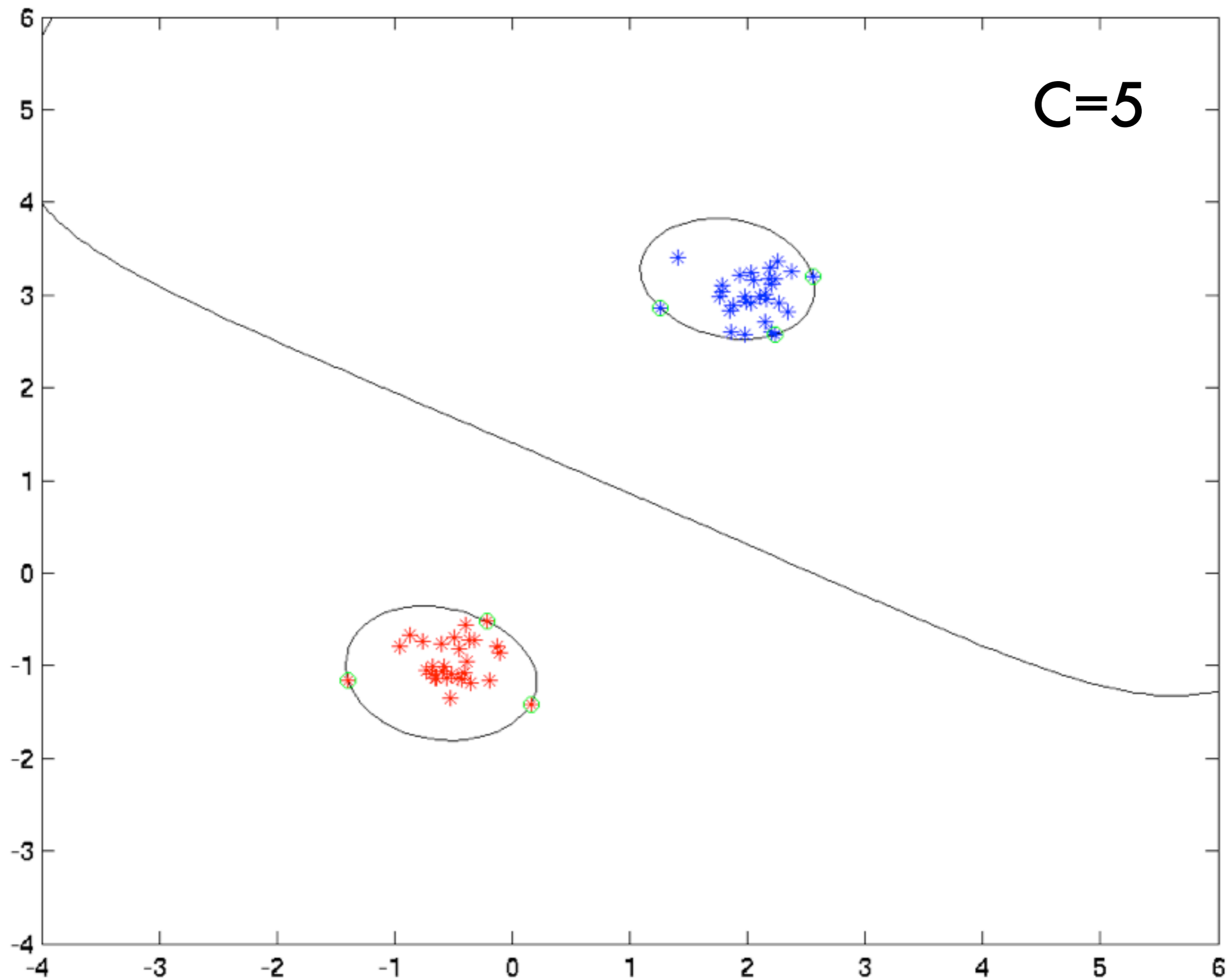
- **Support vector expansion**

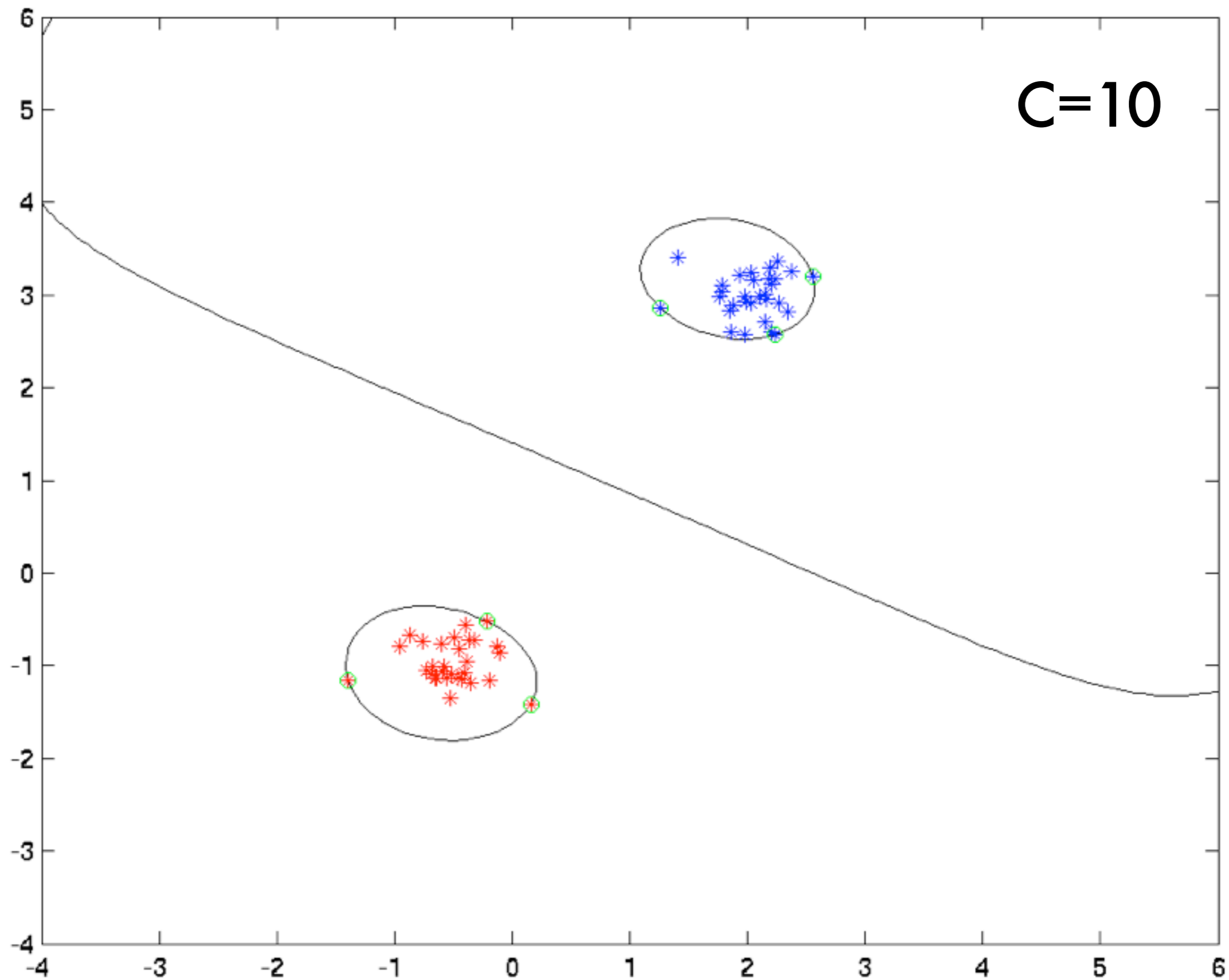
$$f(x) = \sum_i \alpha_i y_i k(x_i, x) + b$$

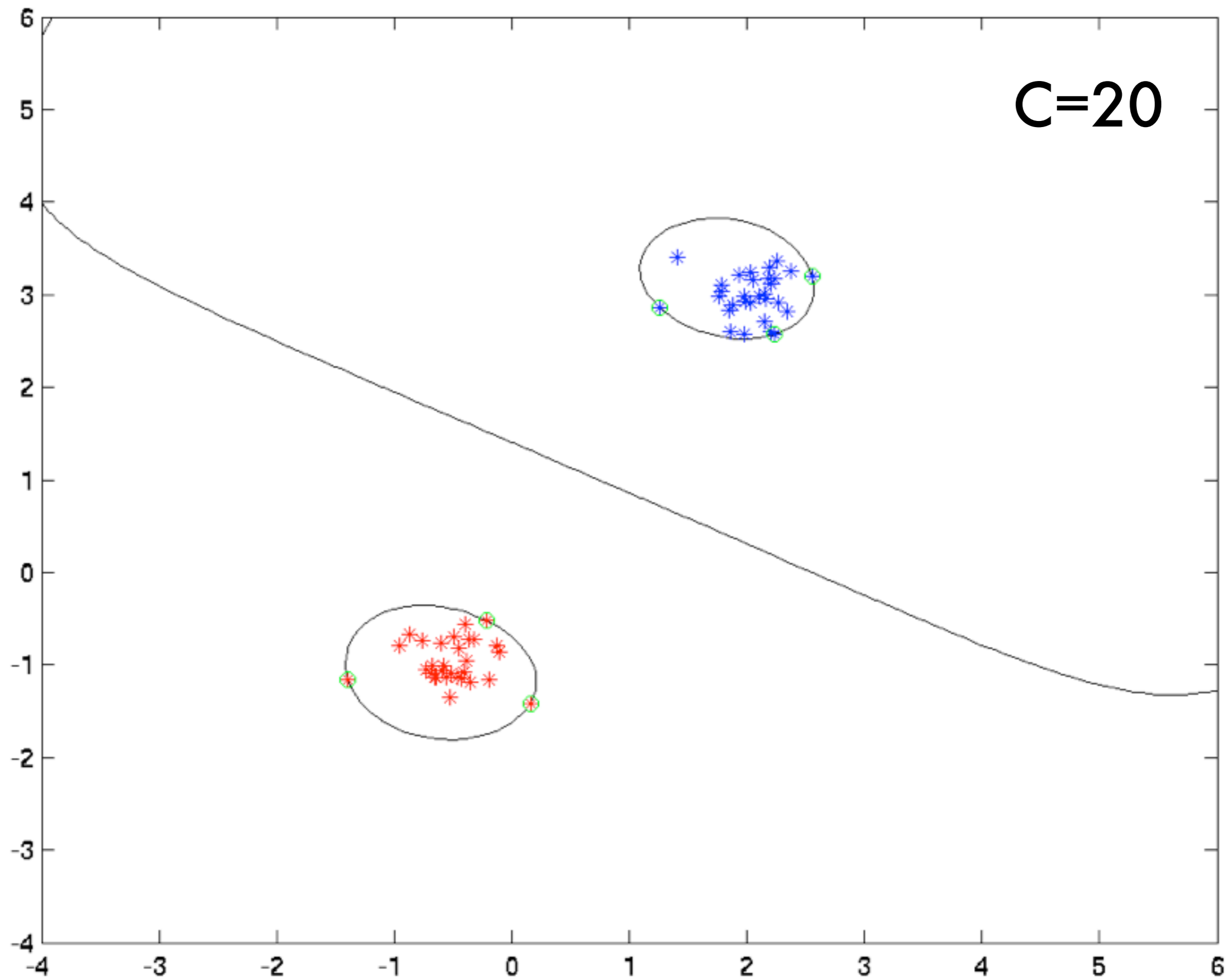


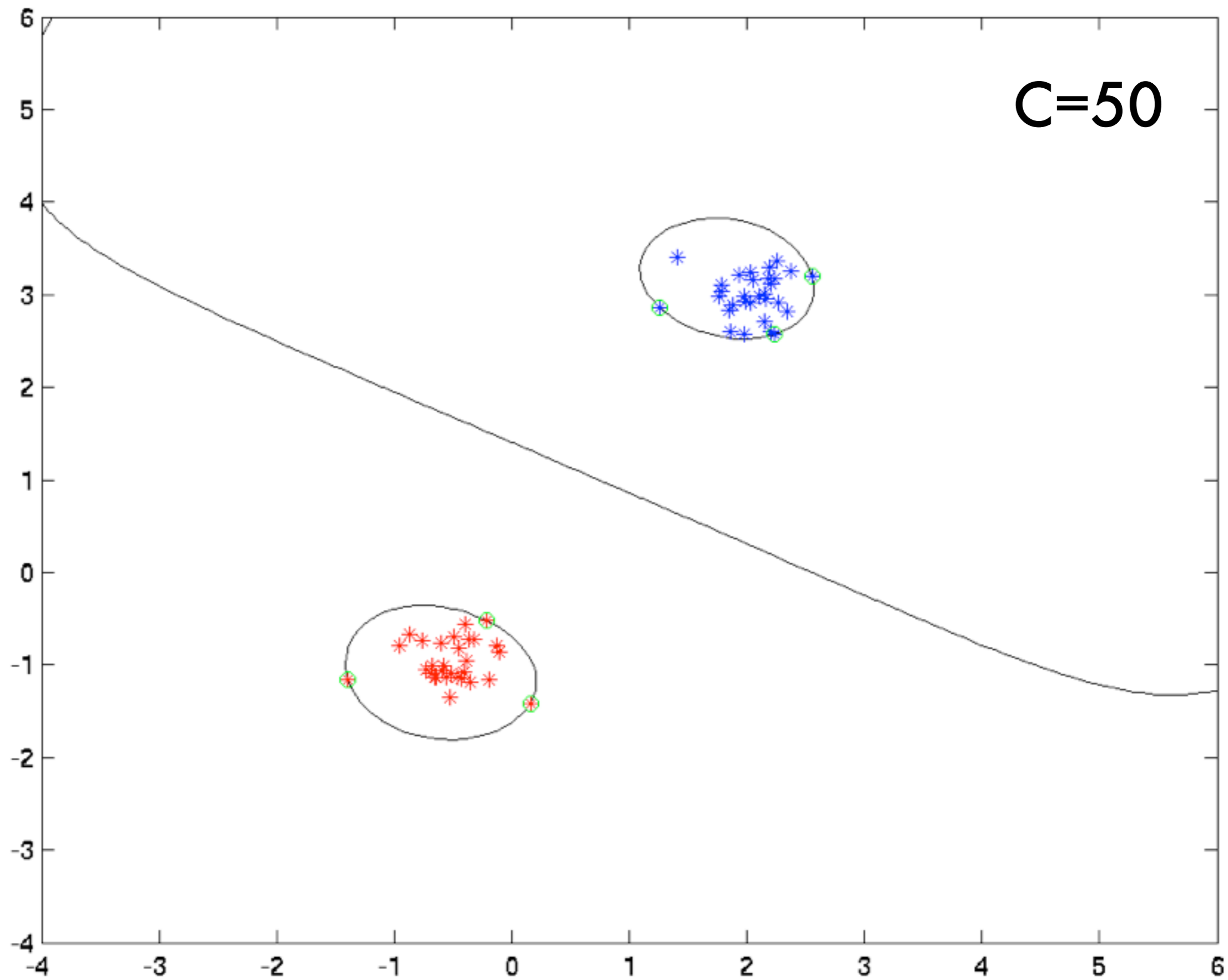


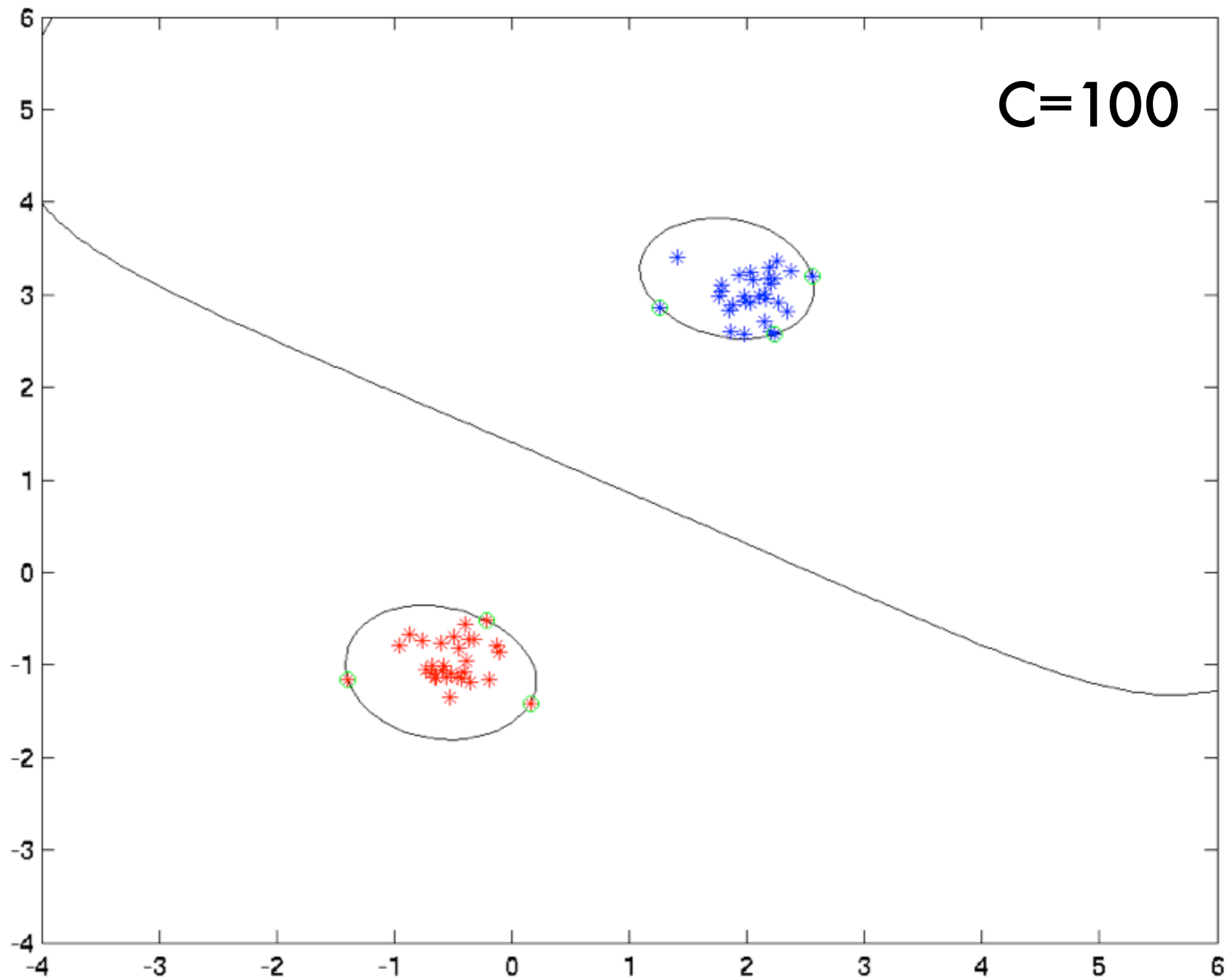


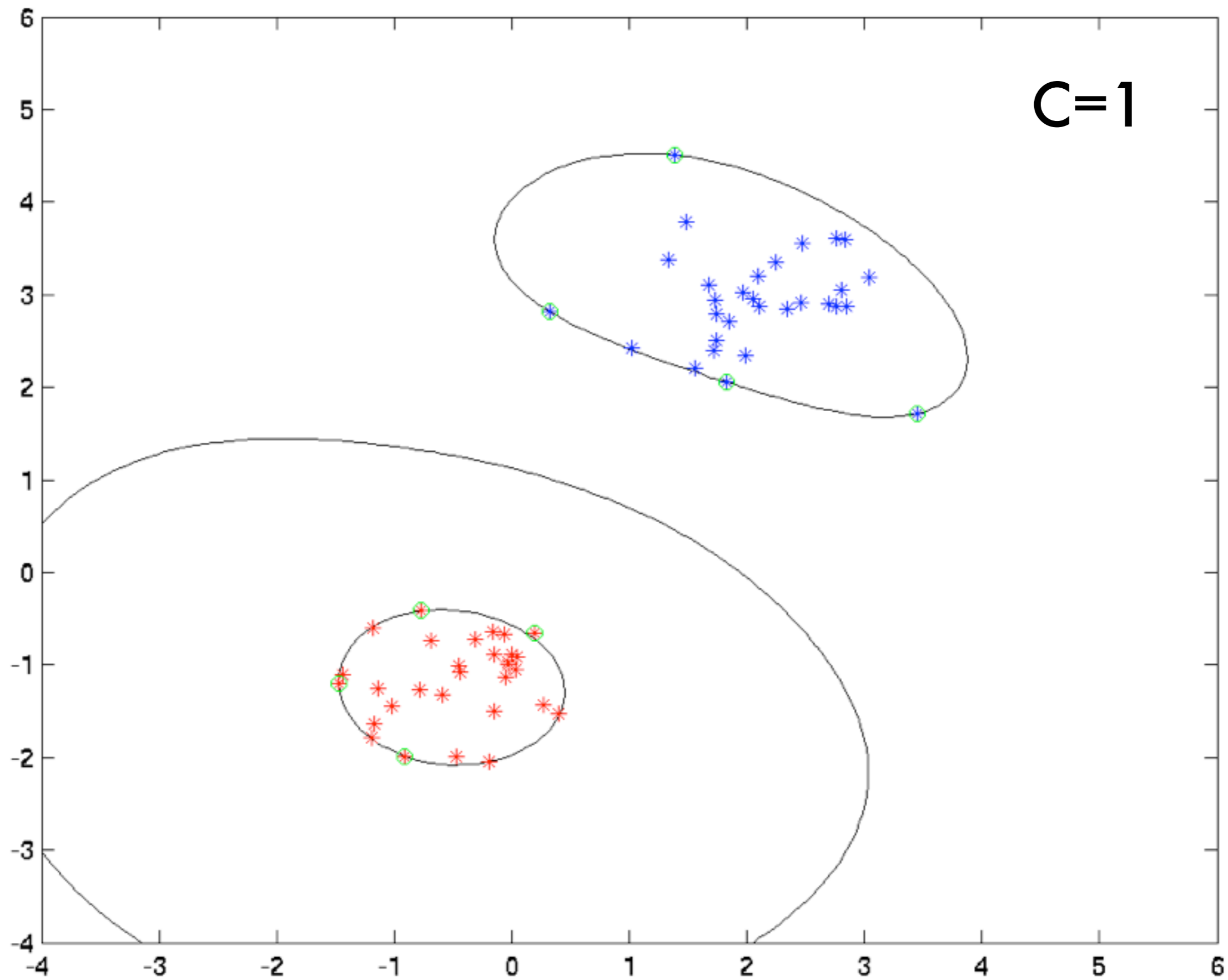




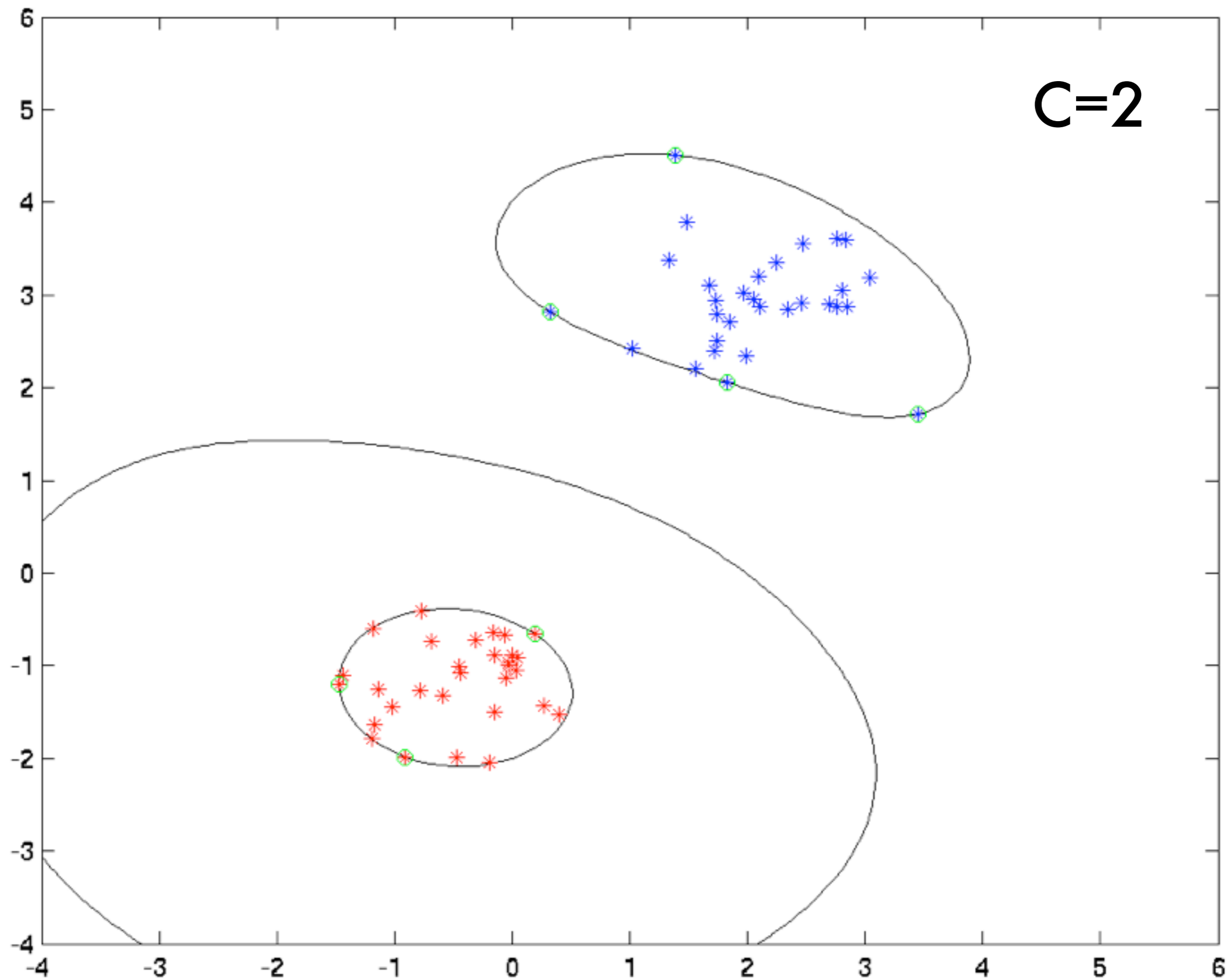


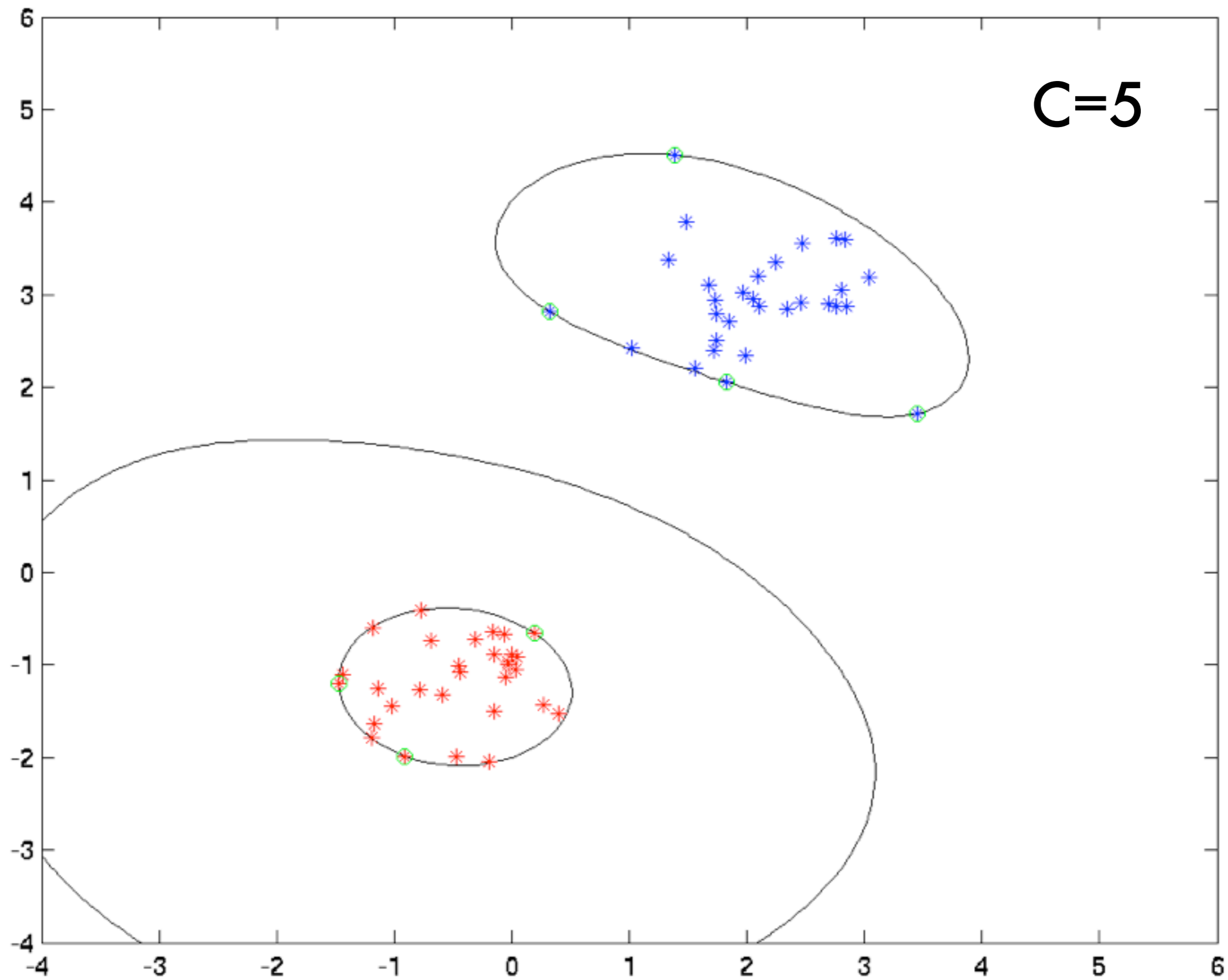


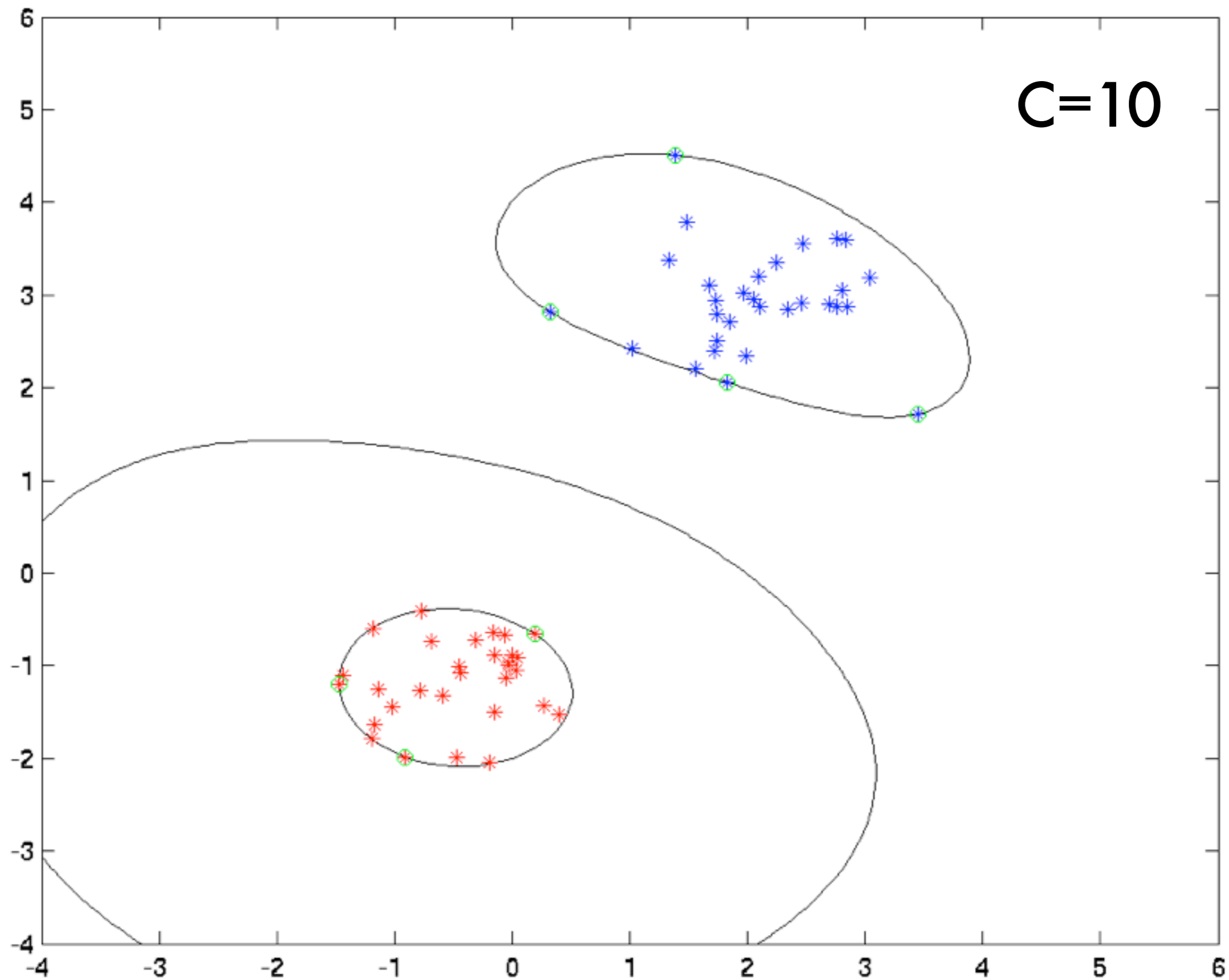


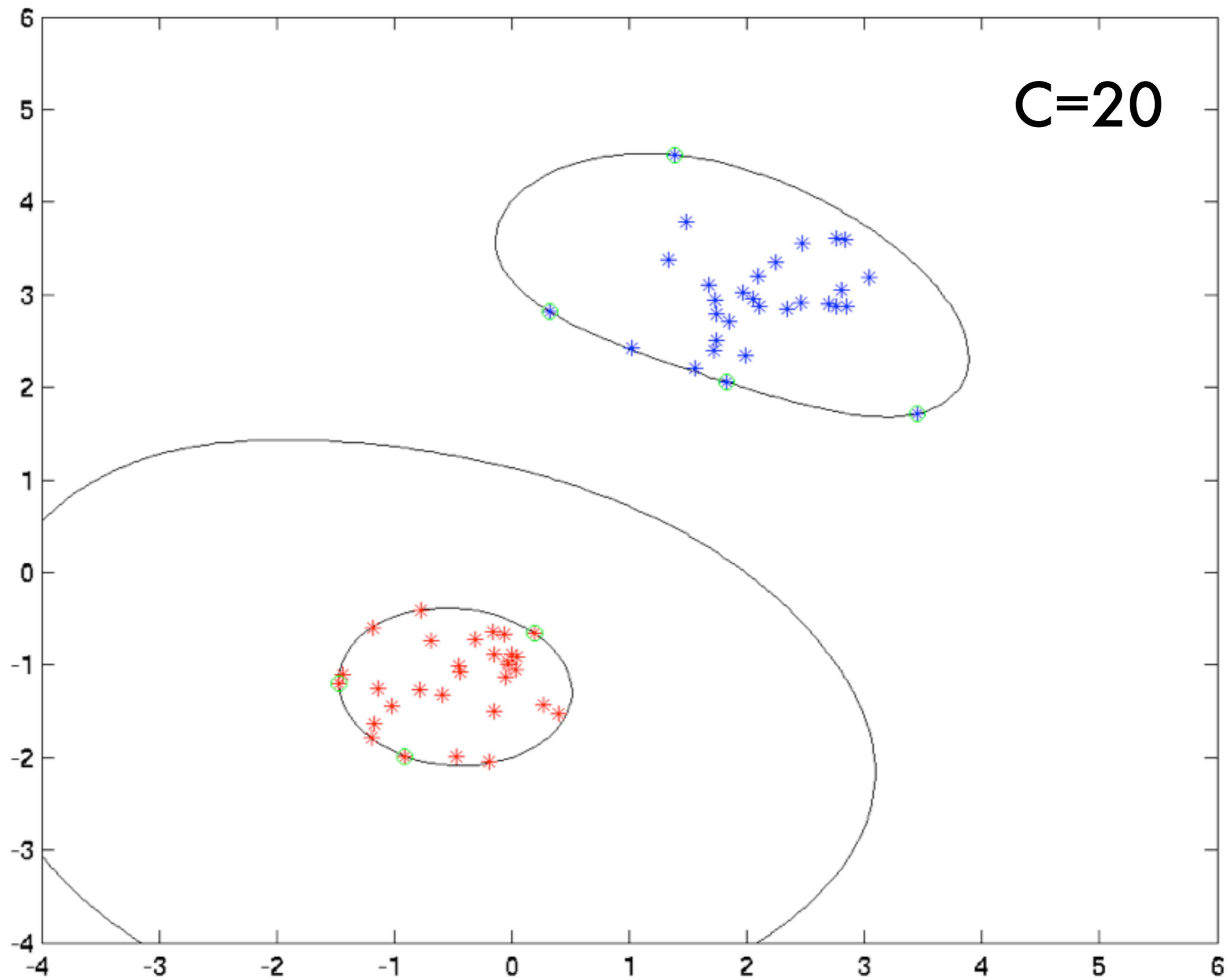


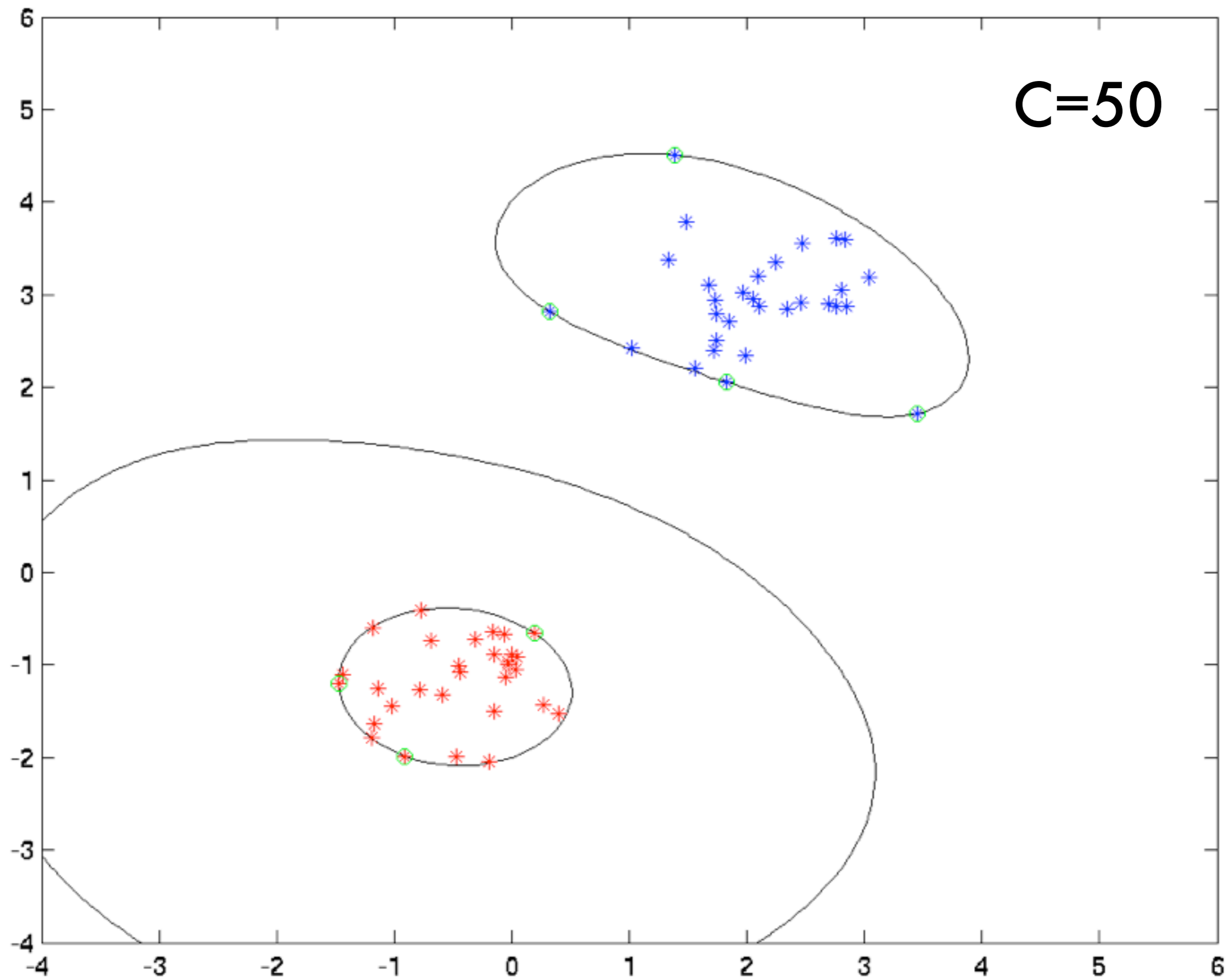


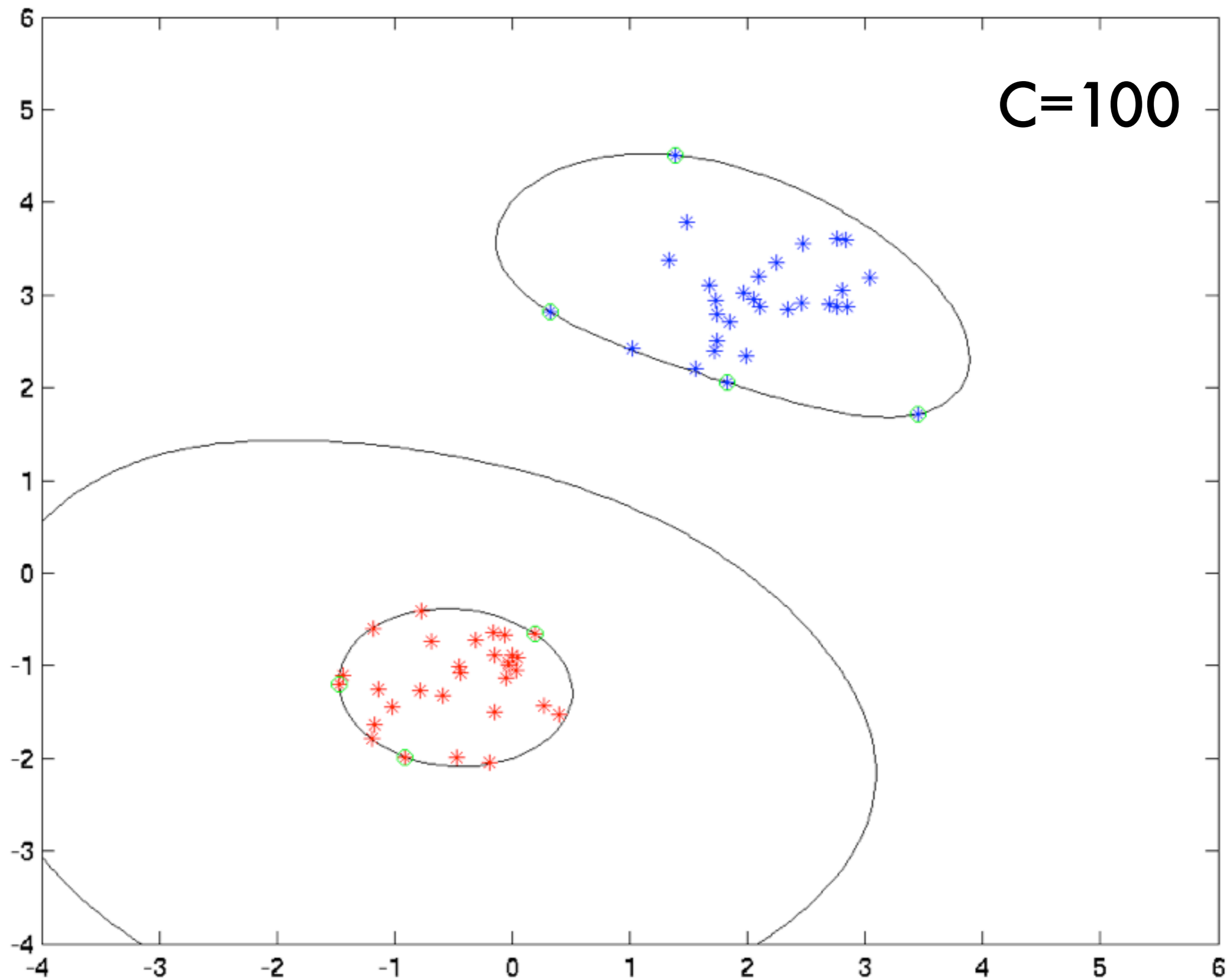


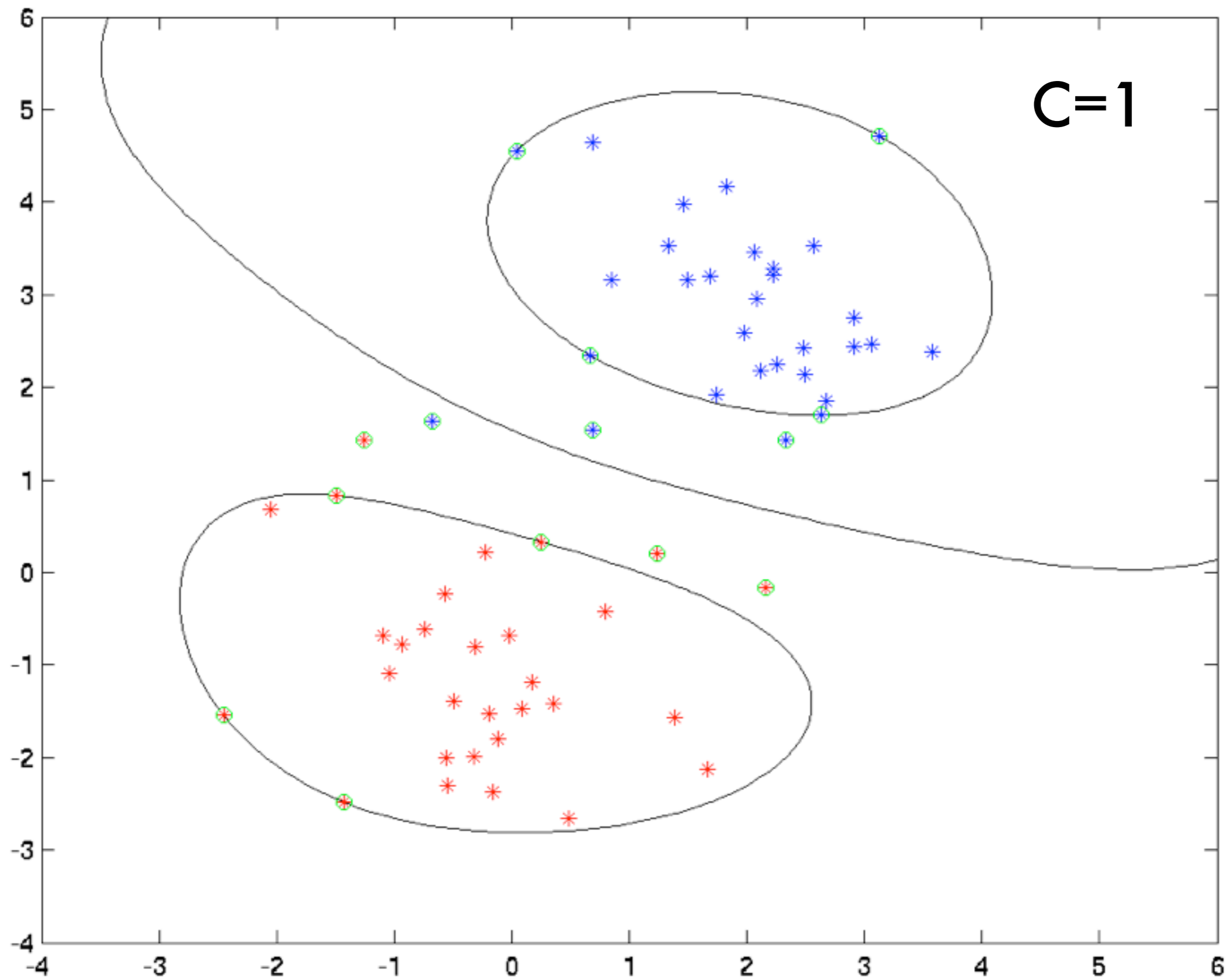


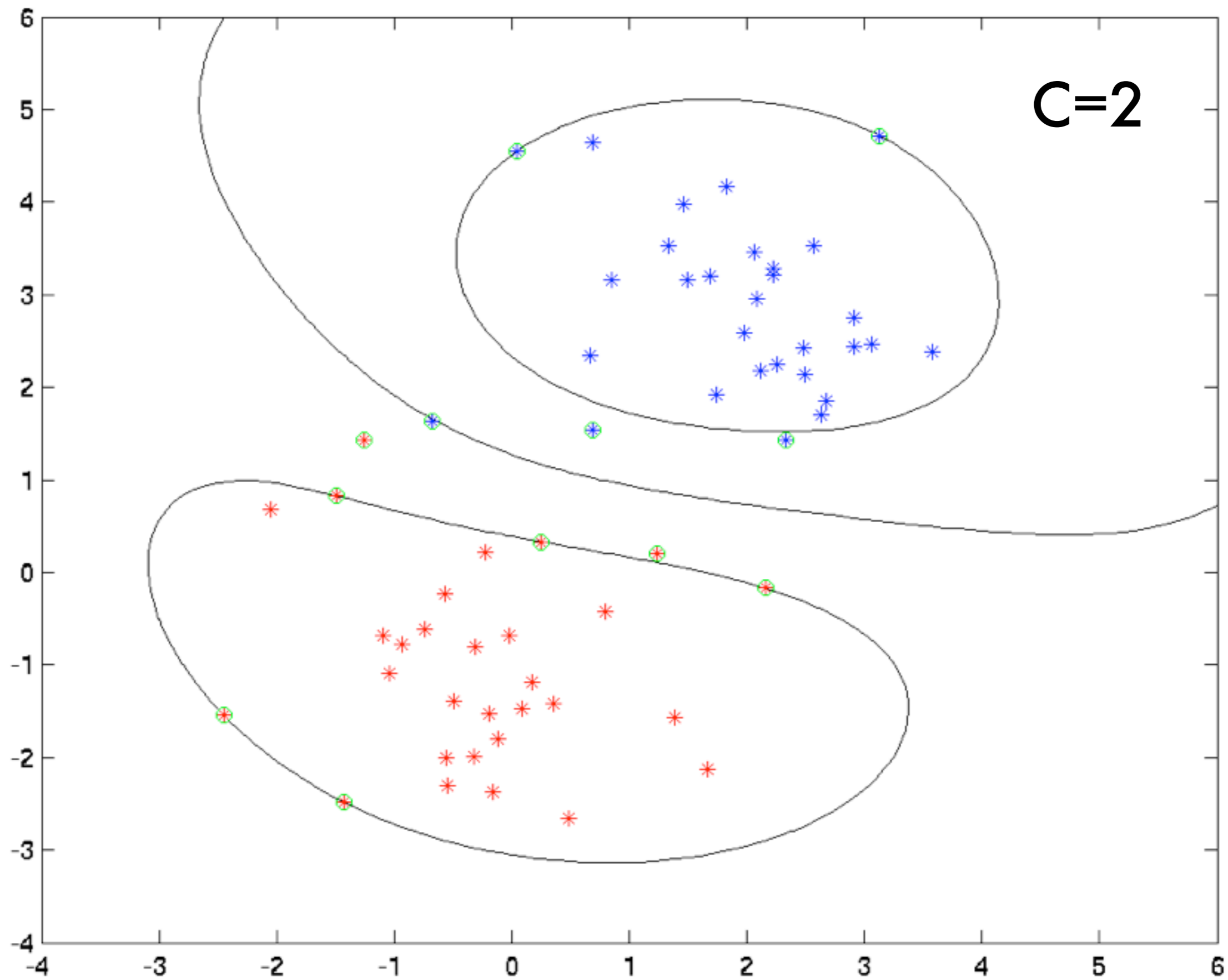




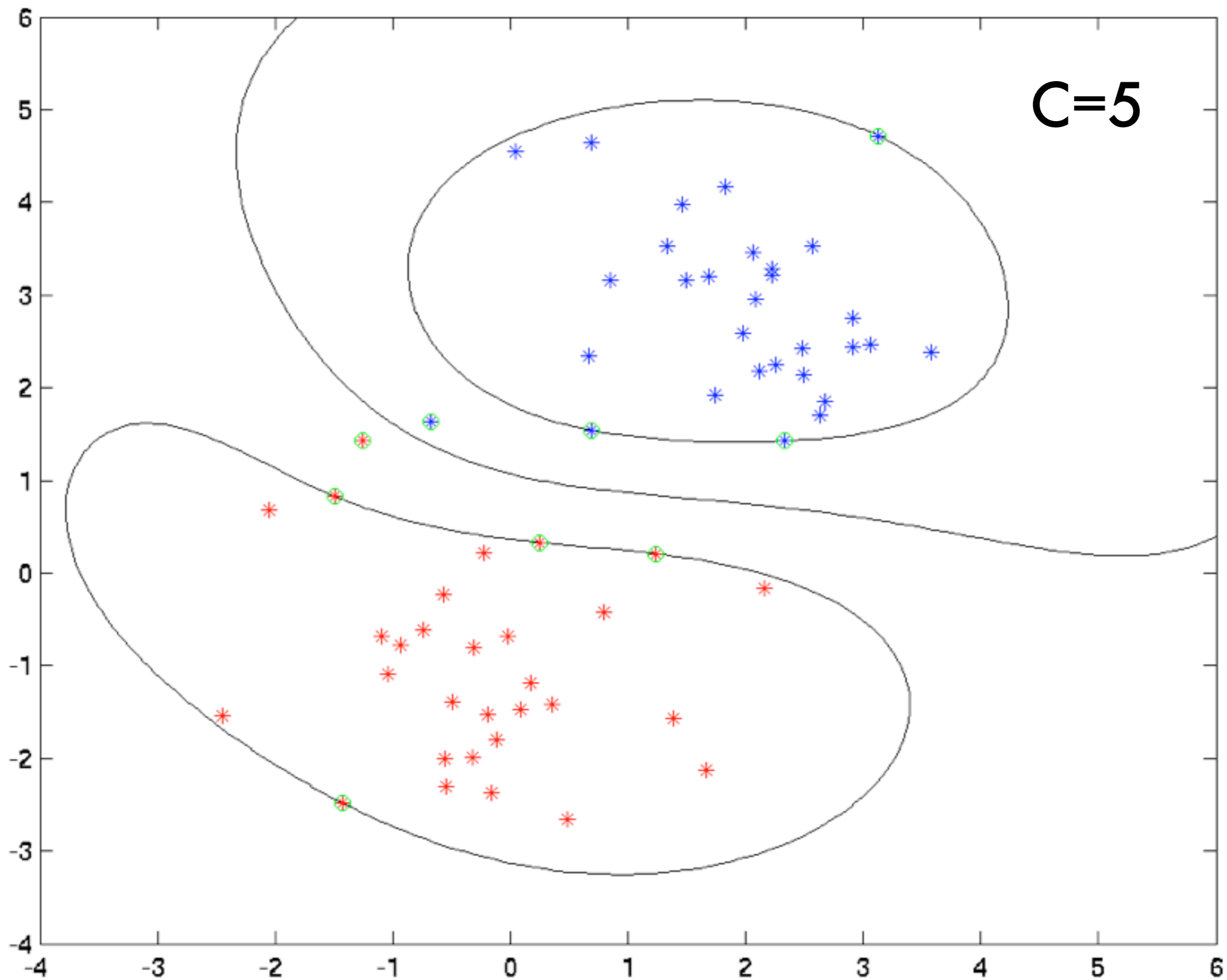


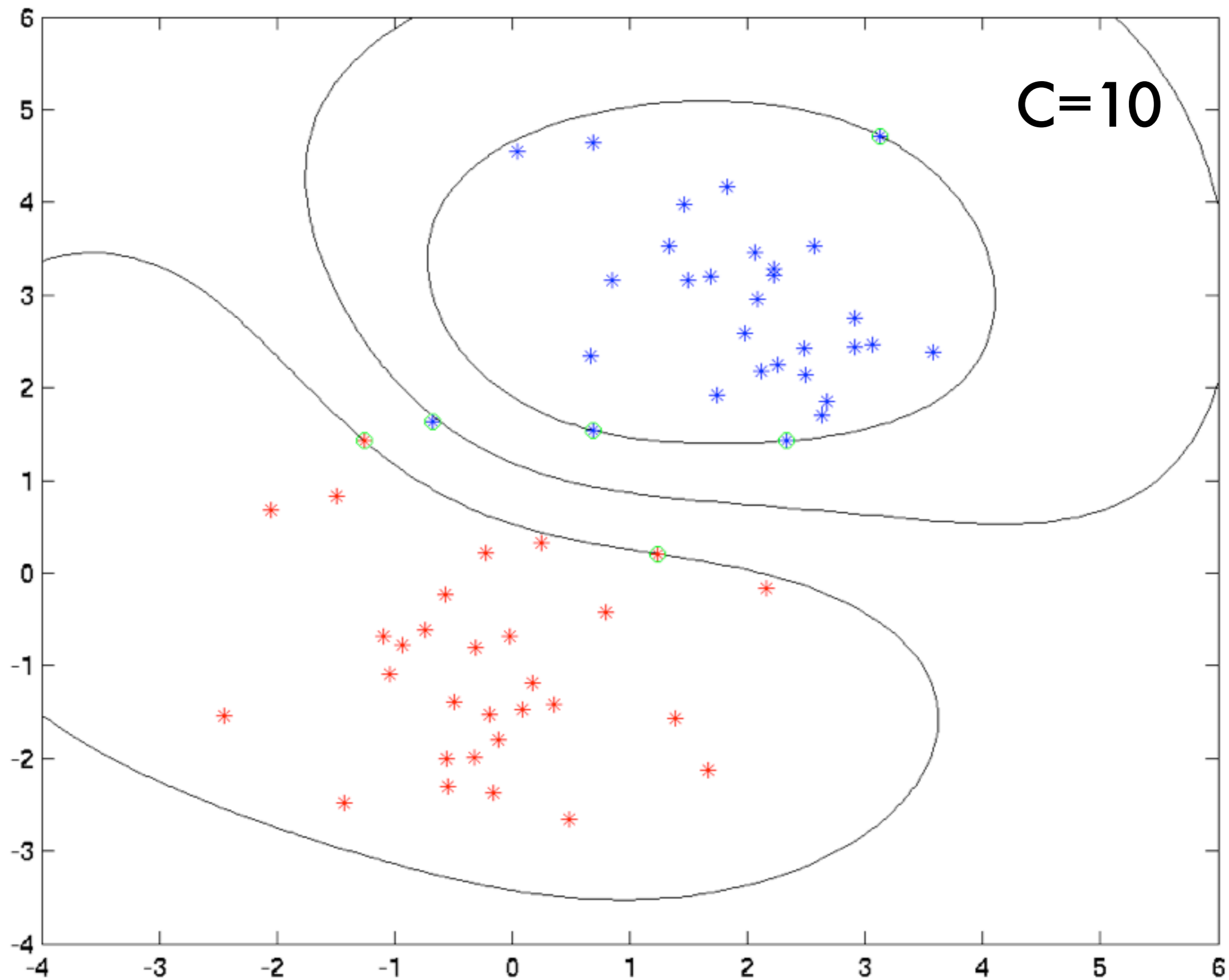


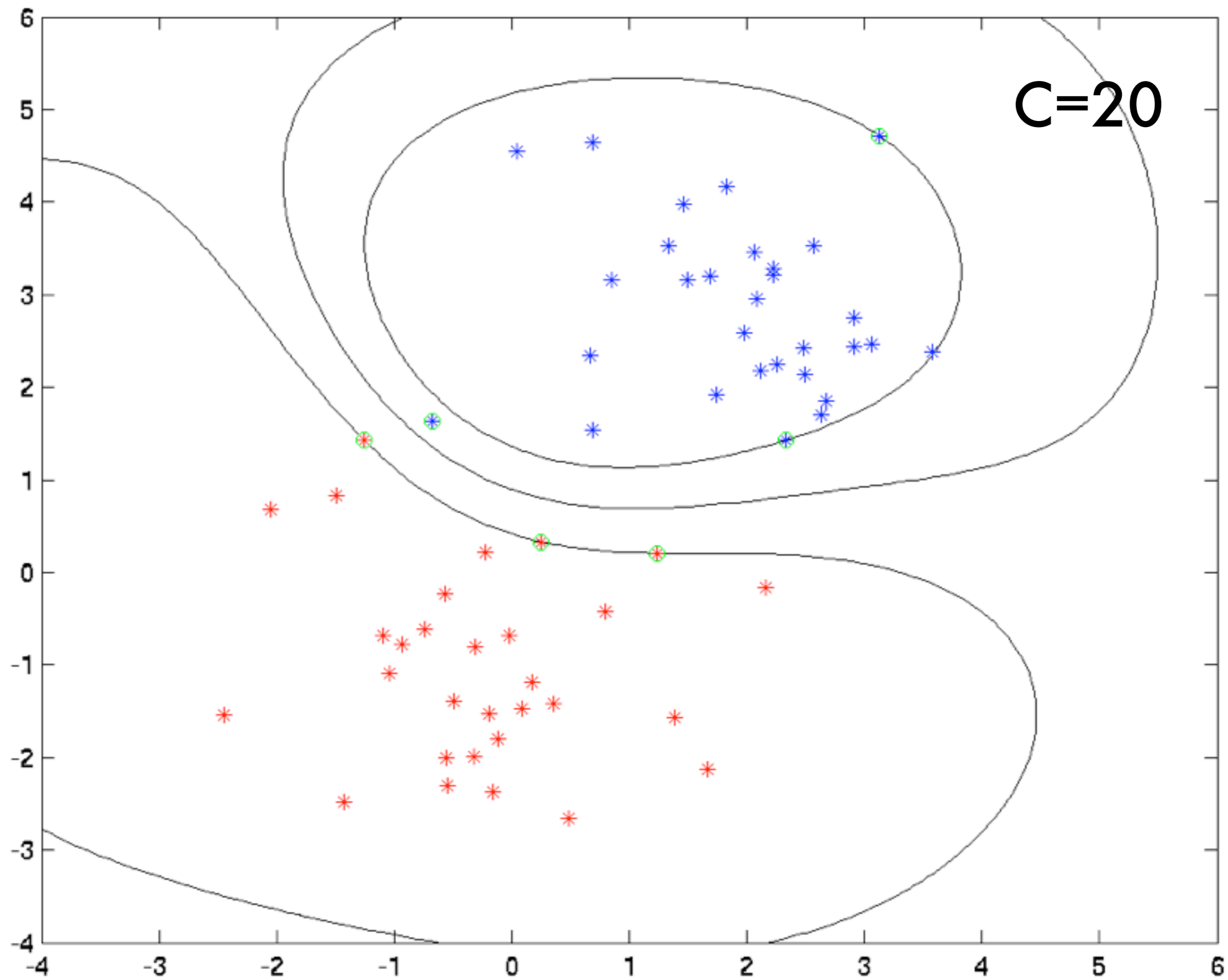


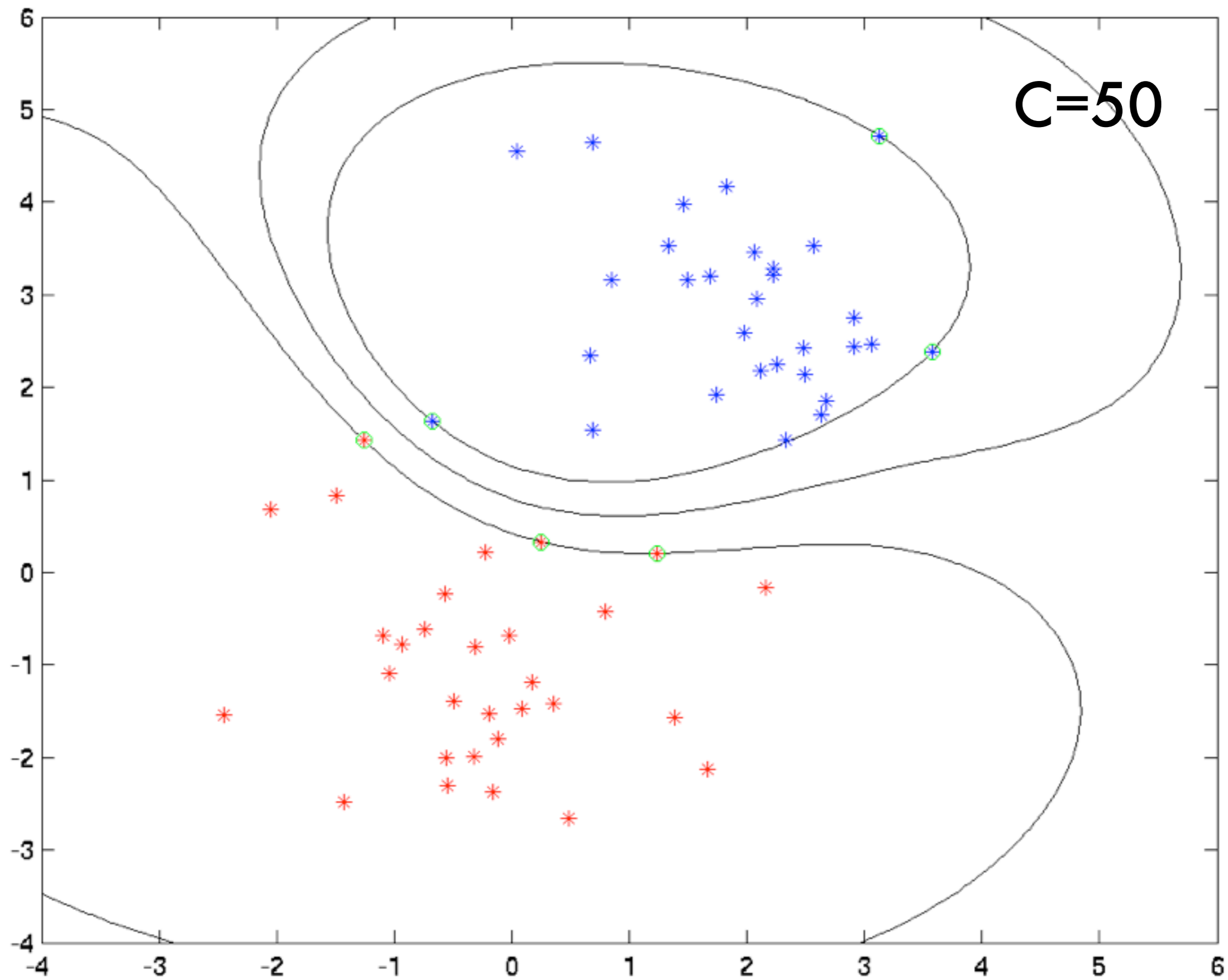


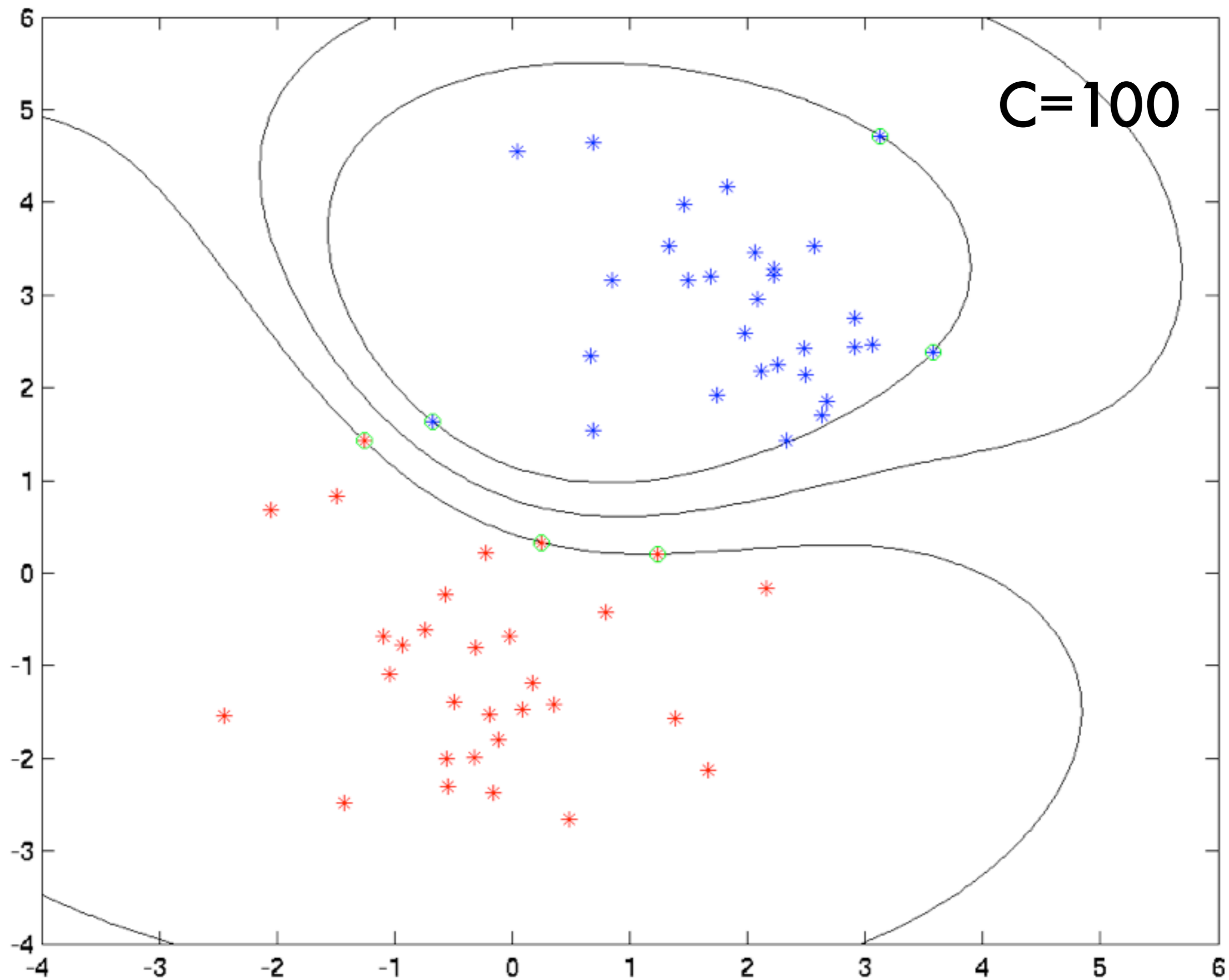


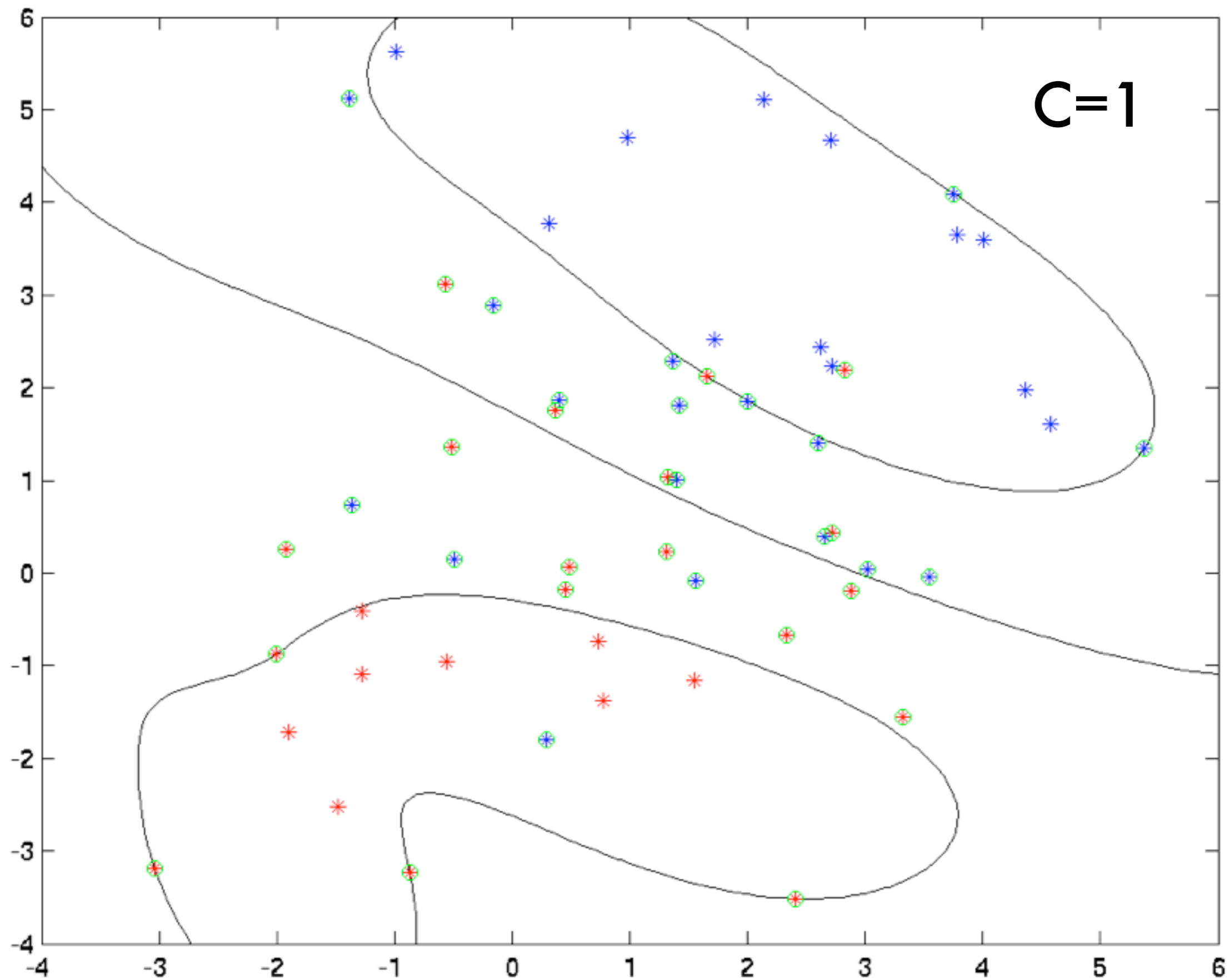


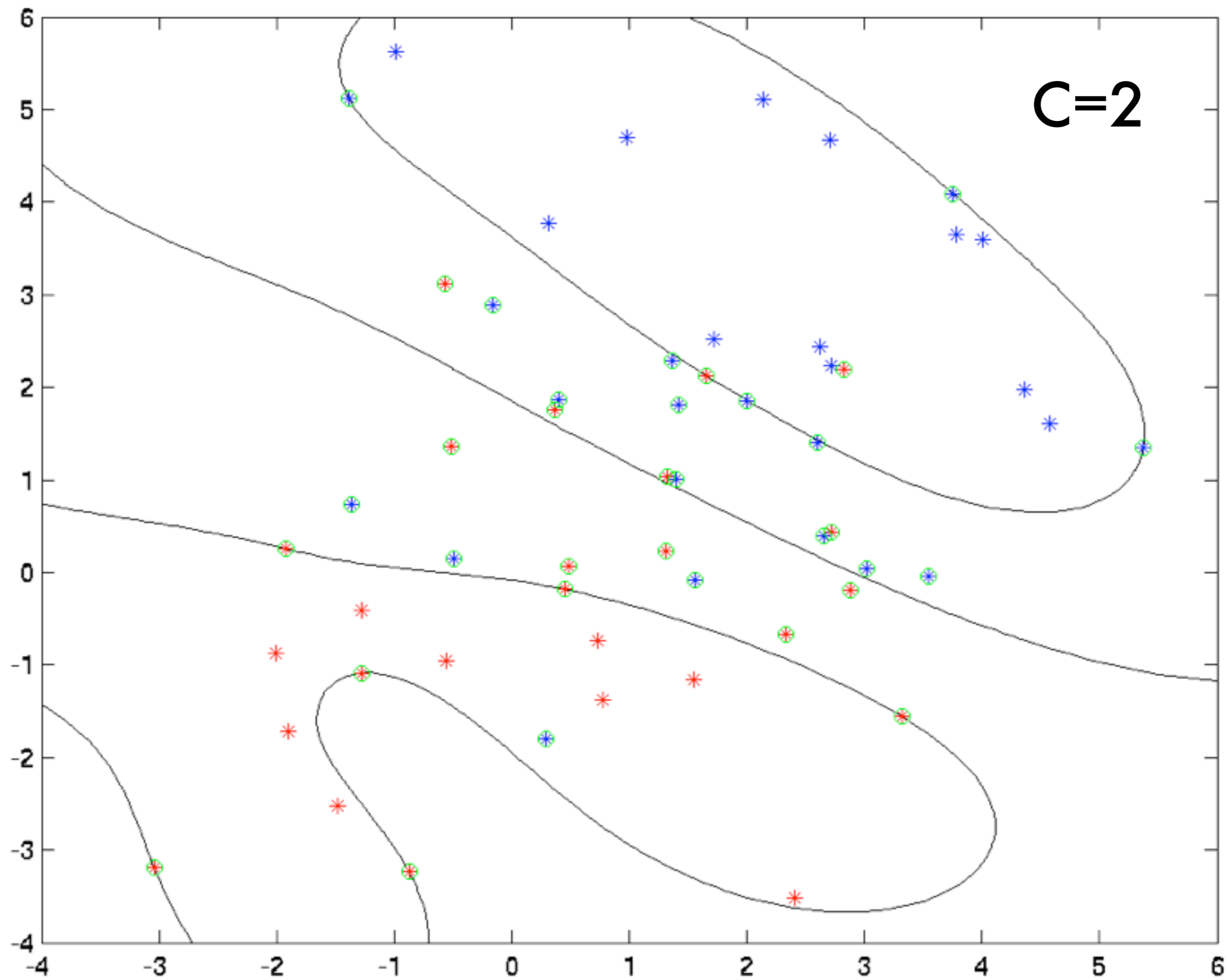


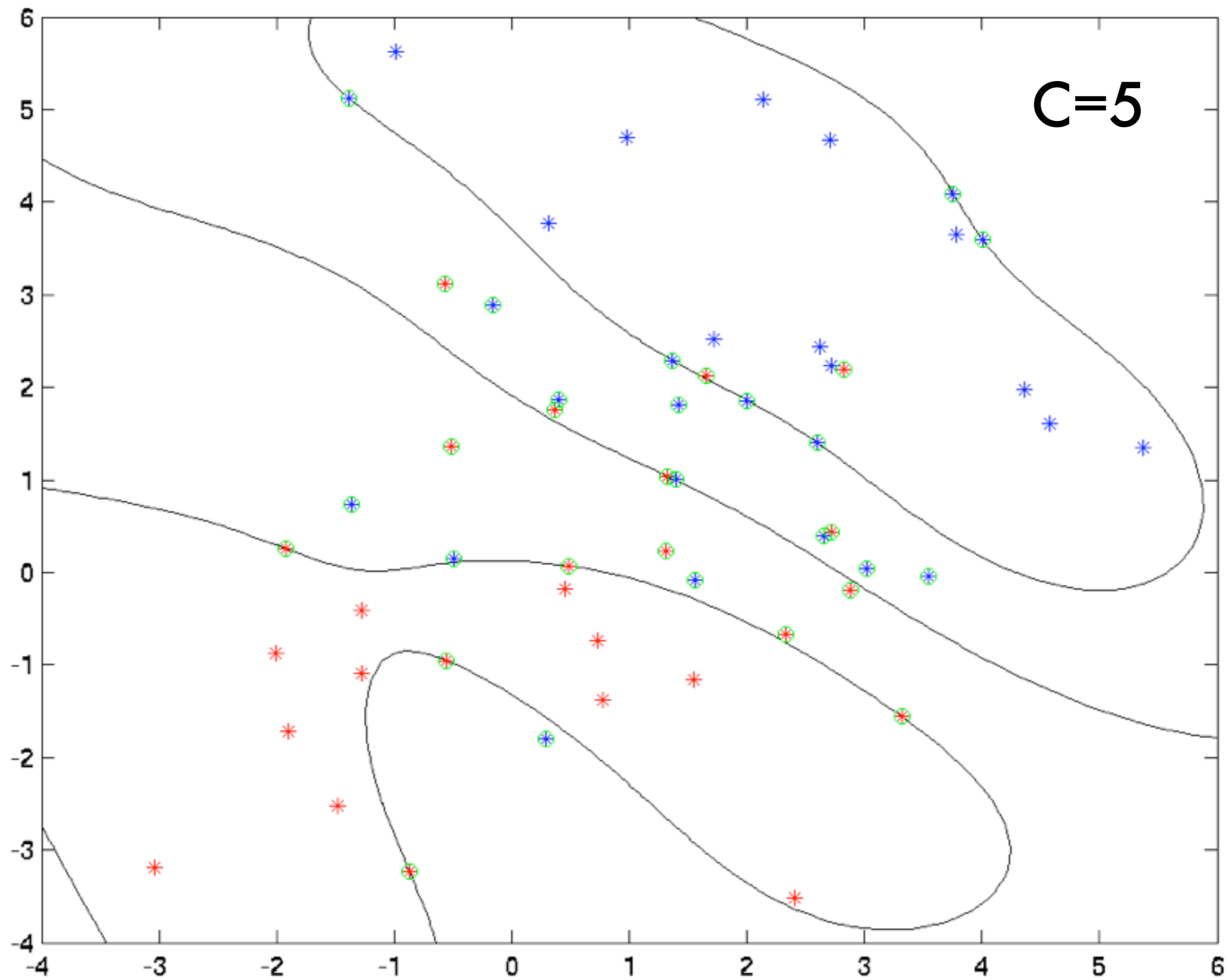




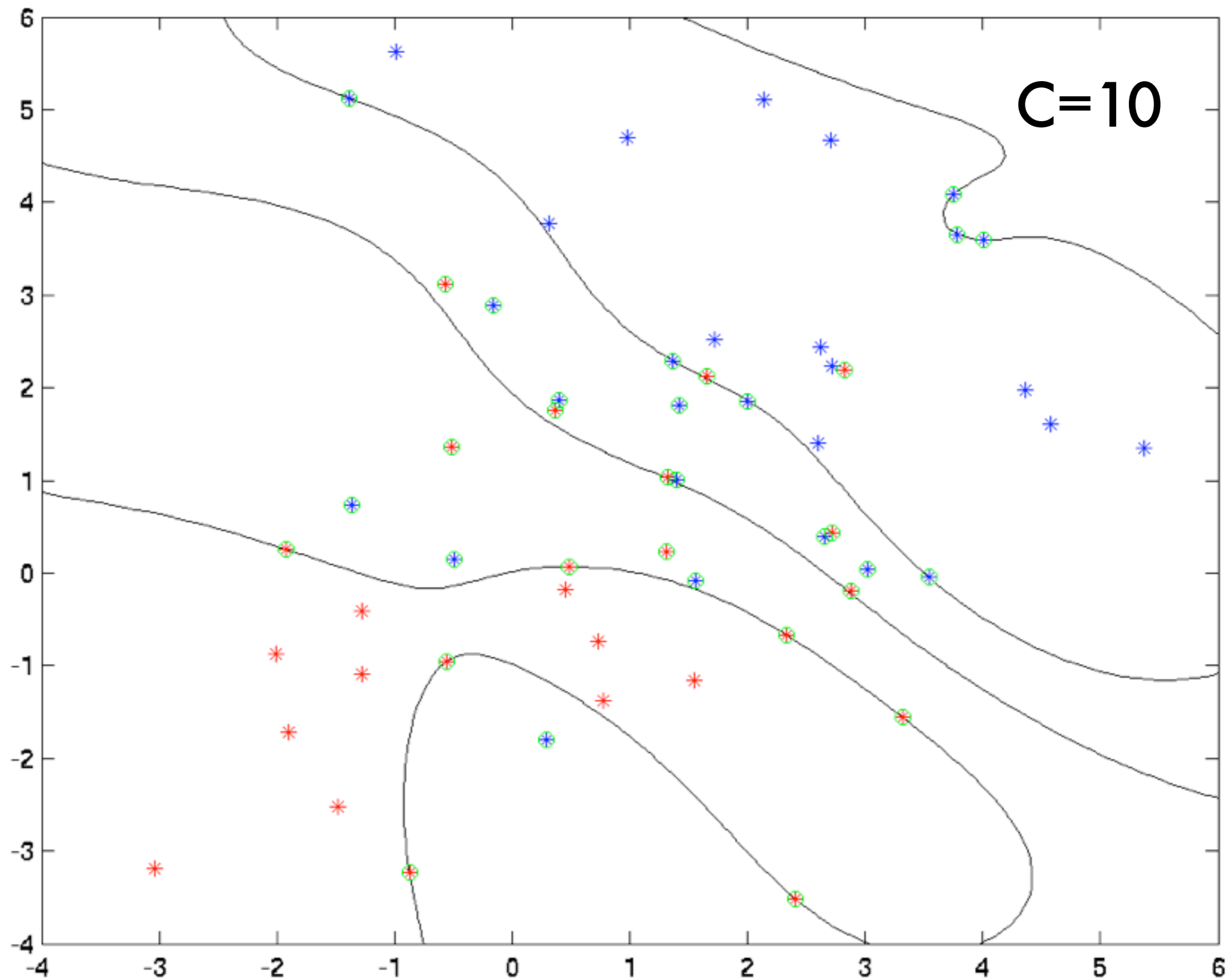


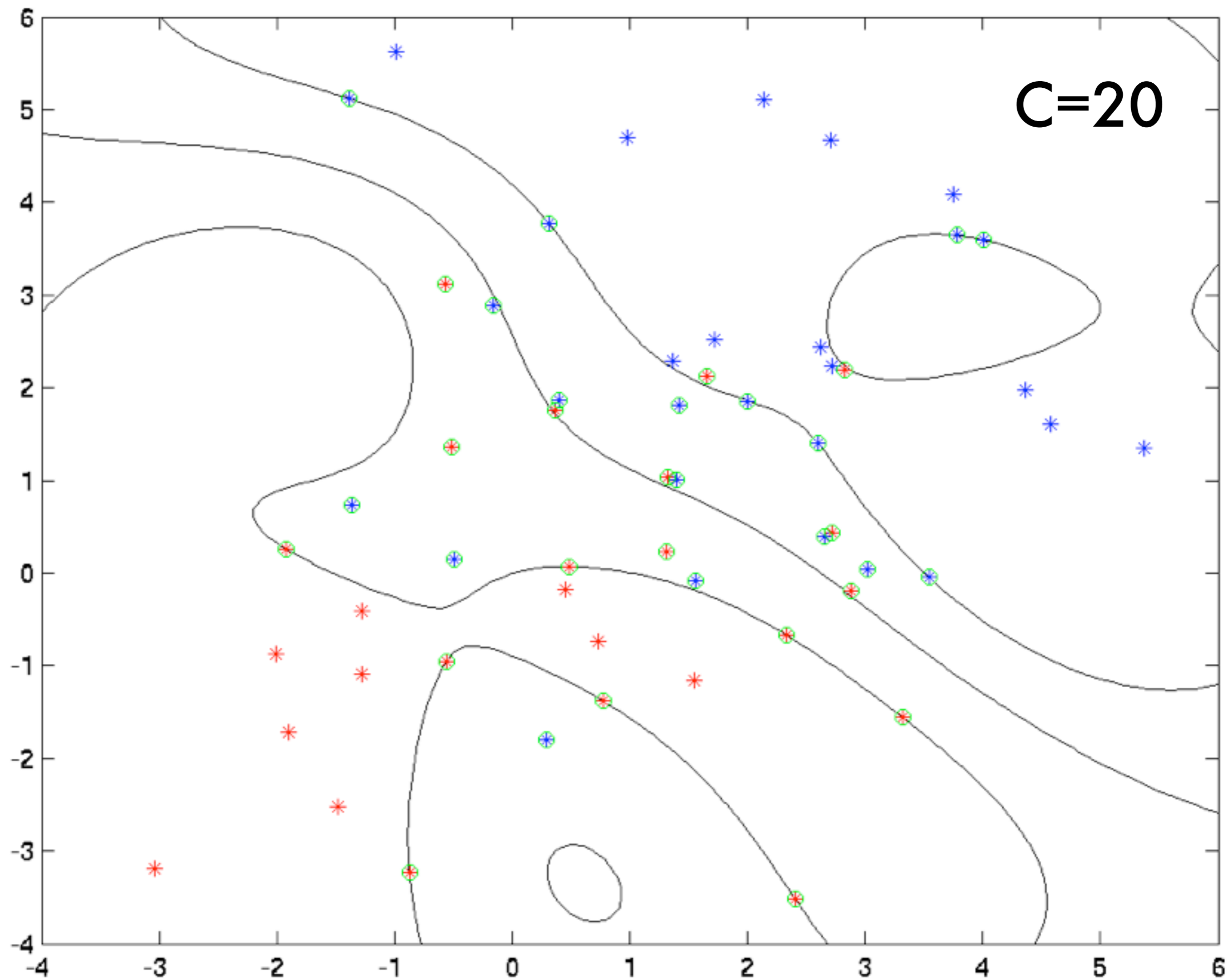


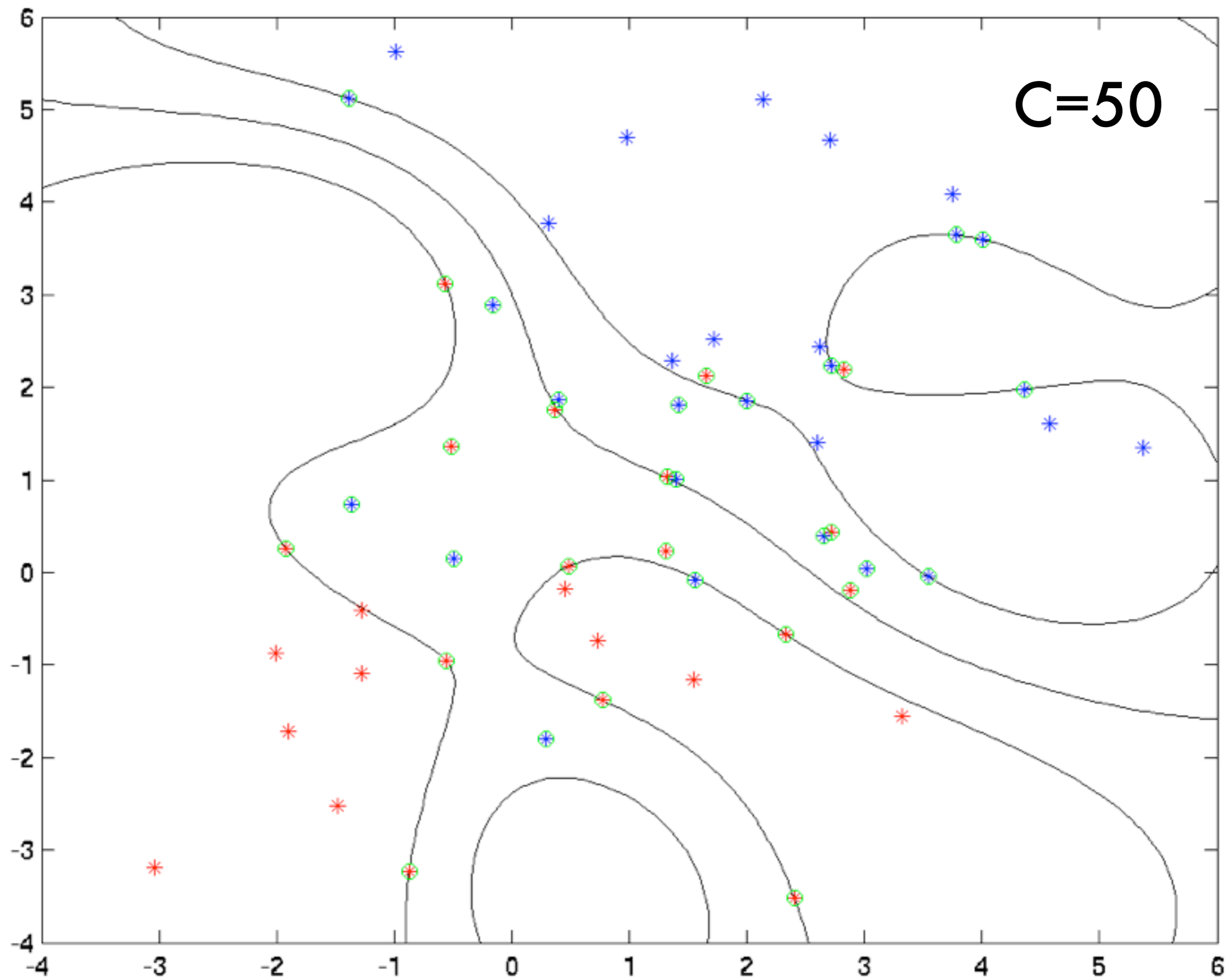


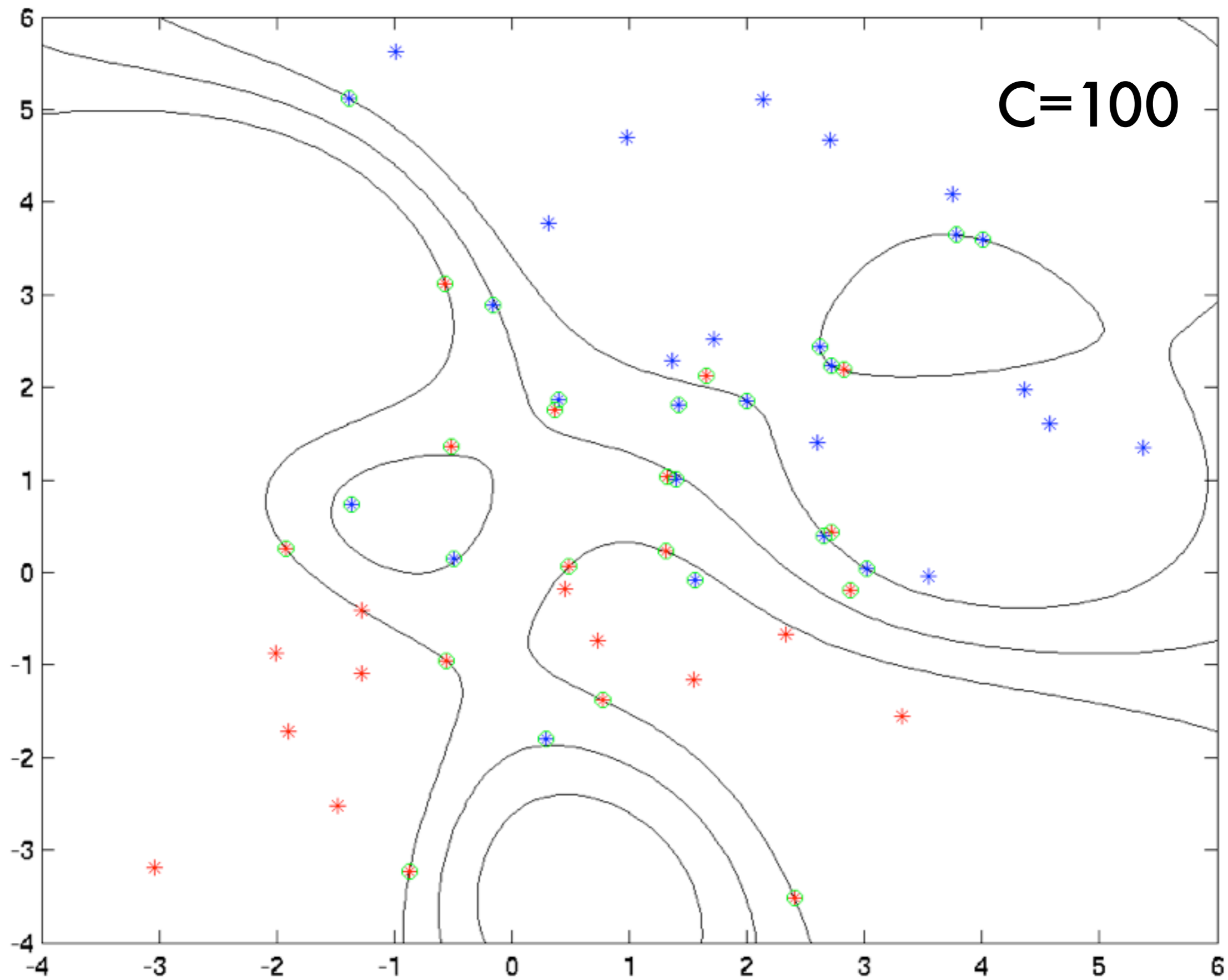




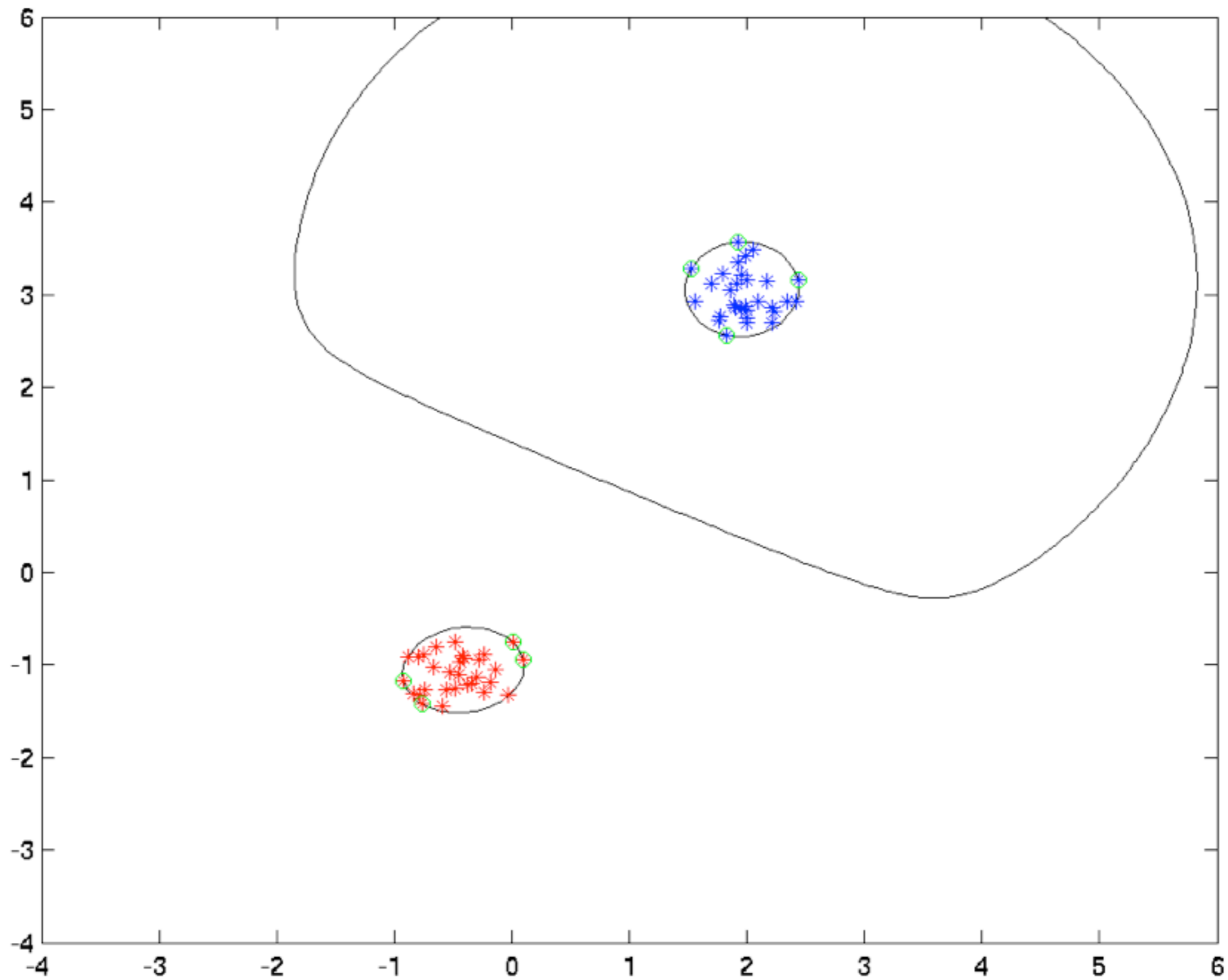


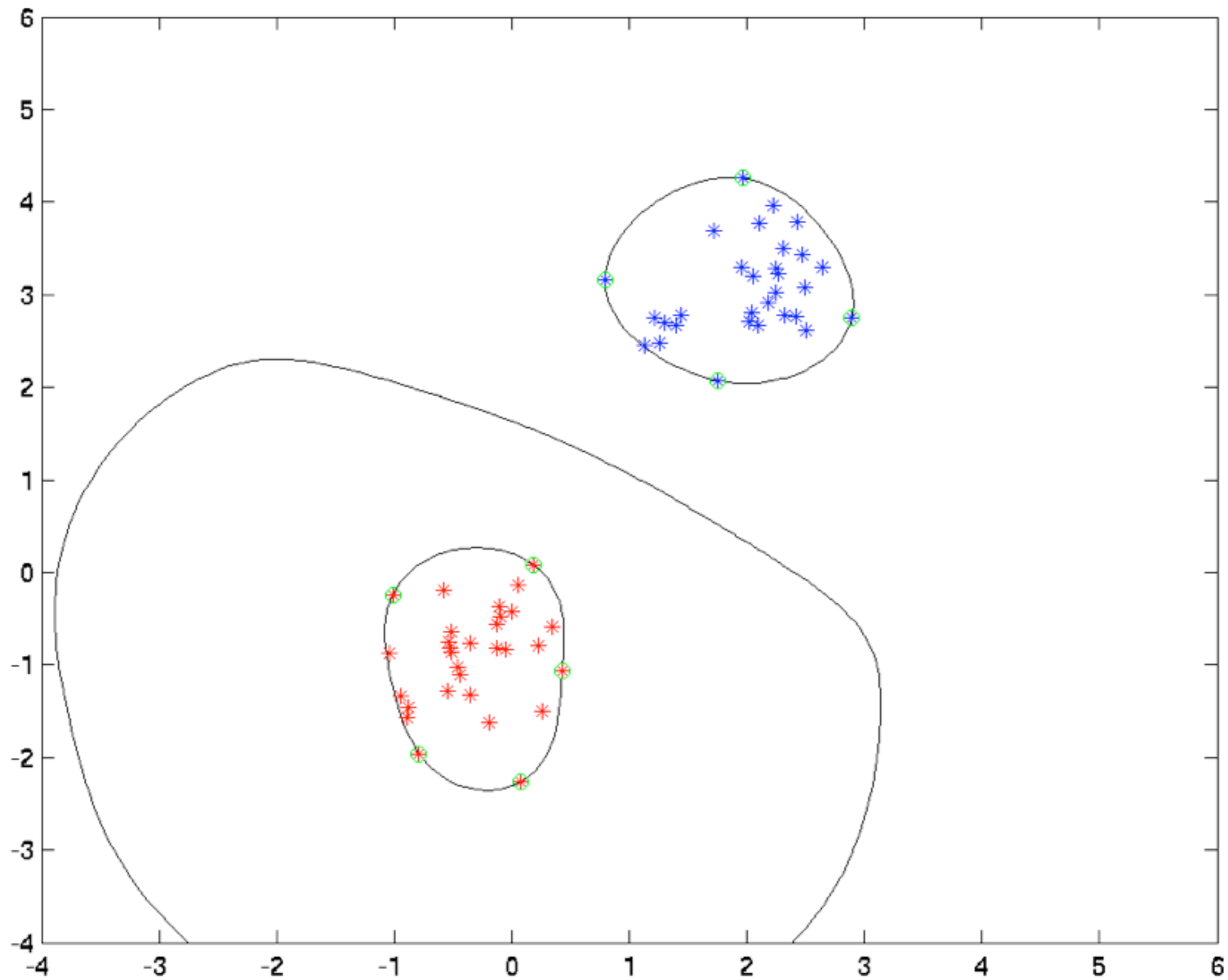


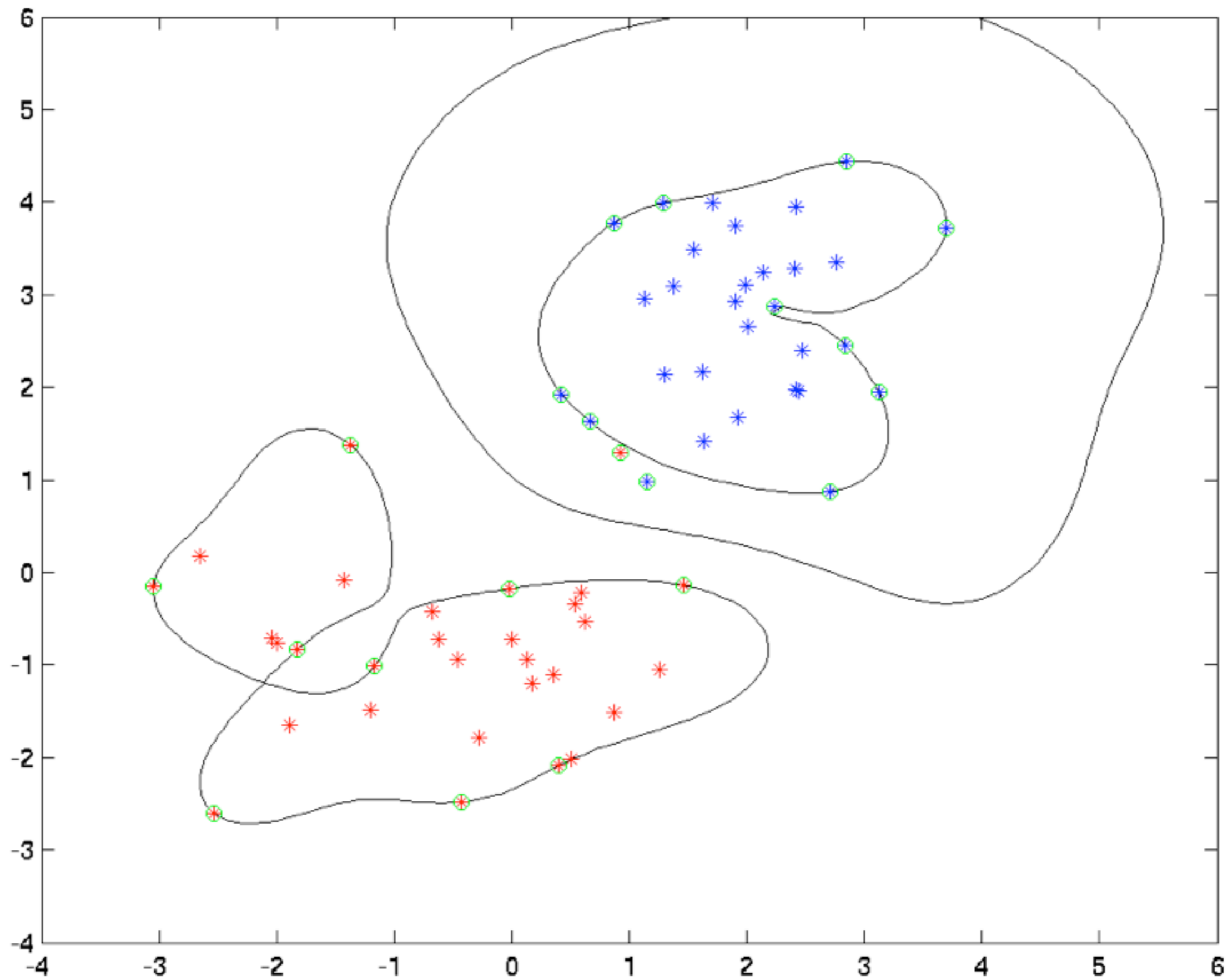




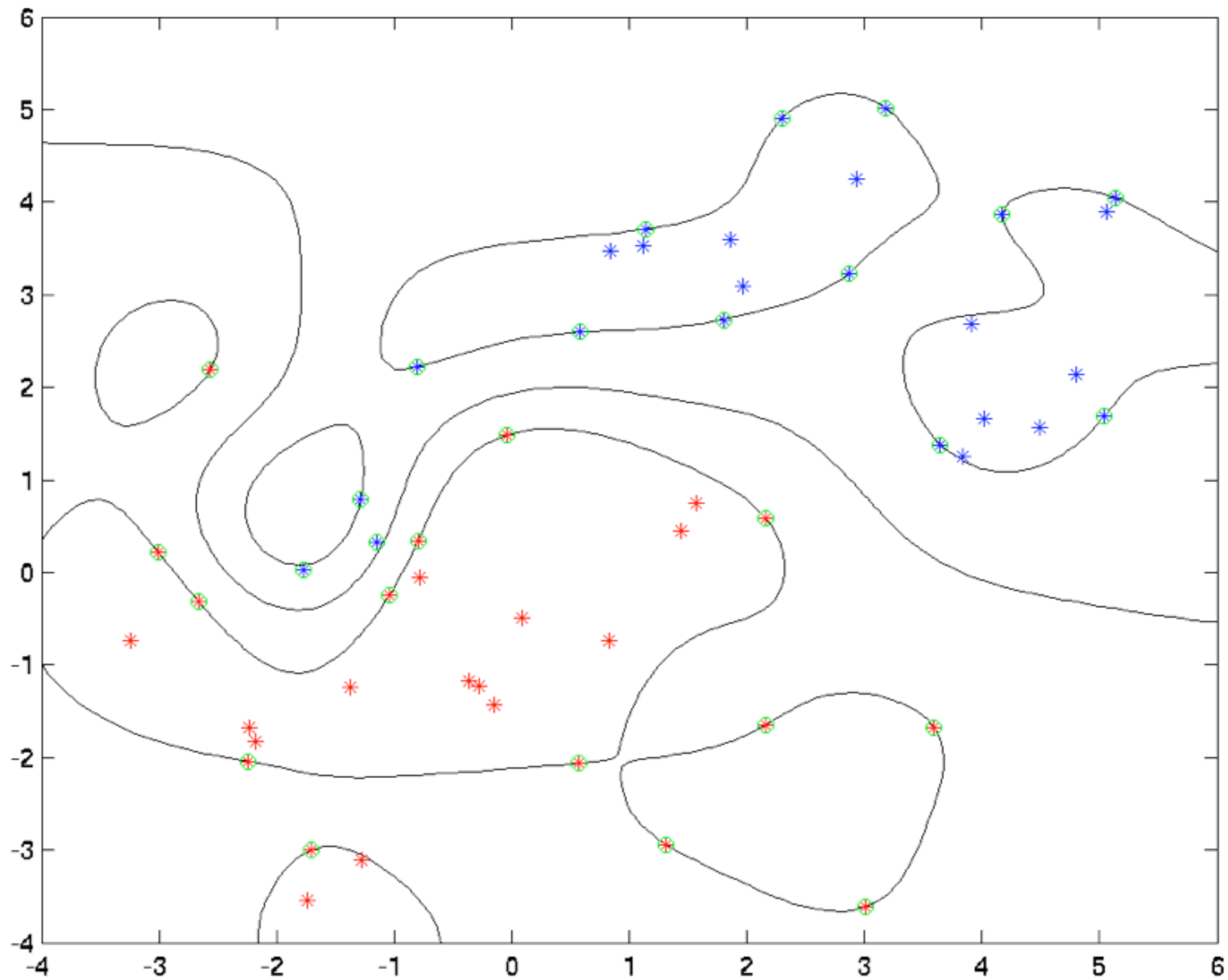
**And now with a narrower kernel**



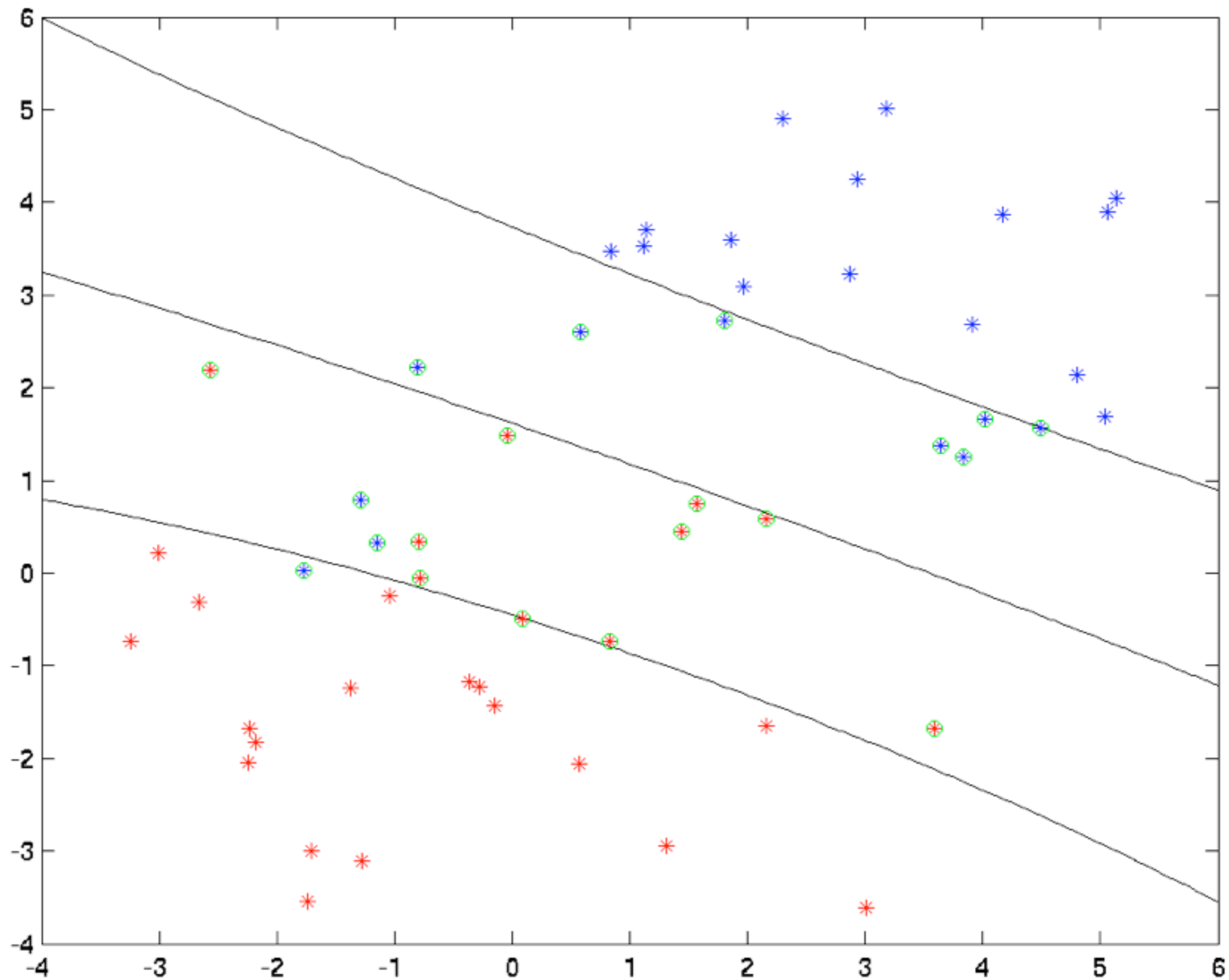




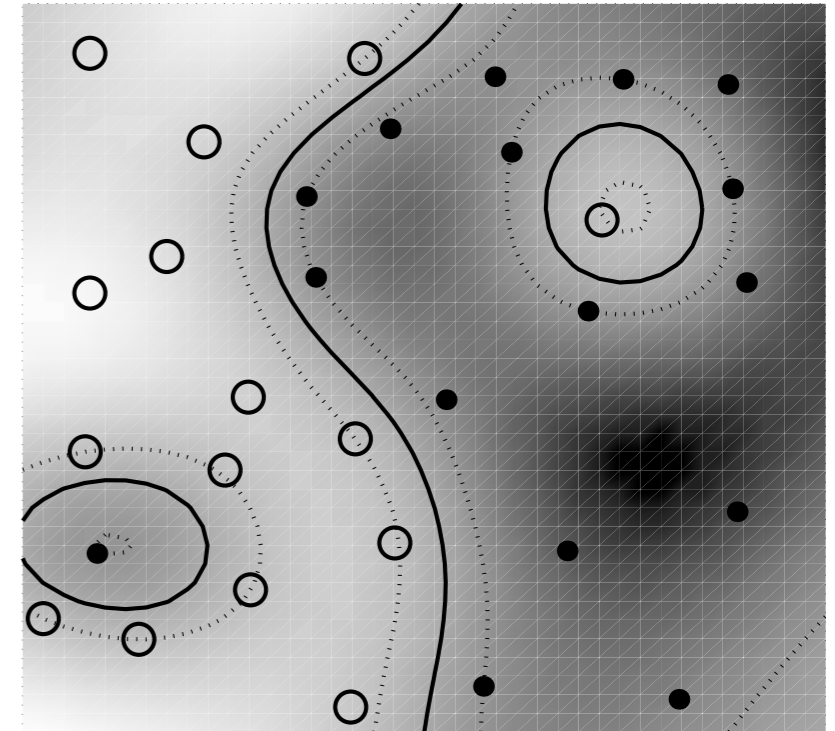
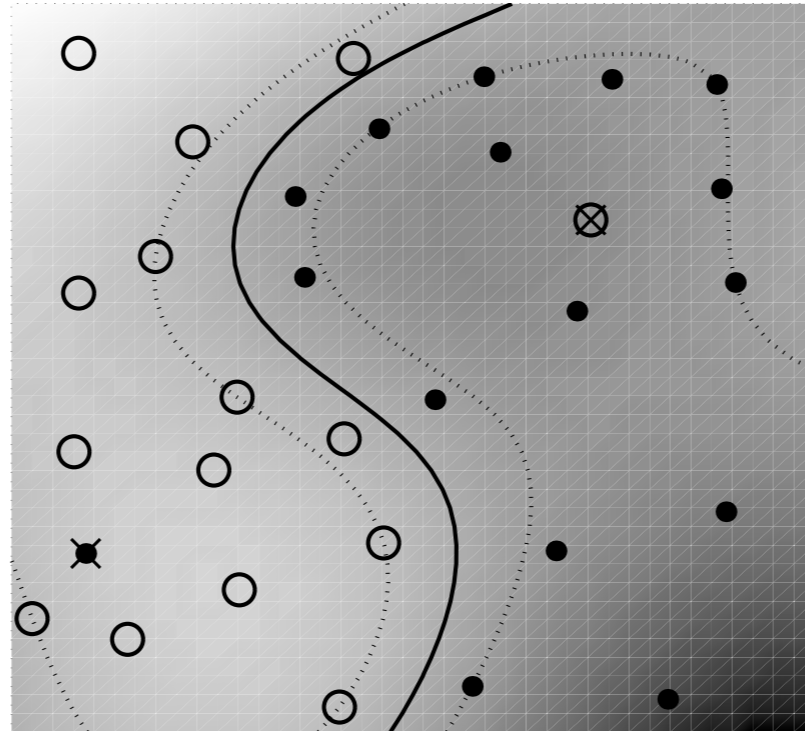
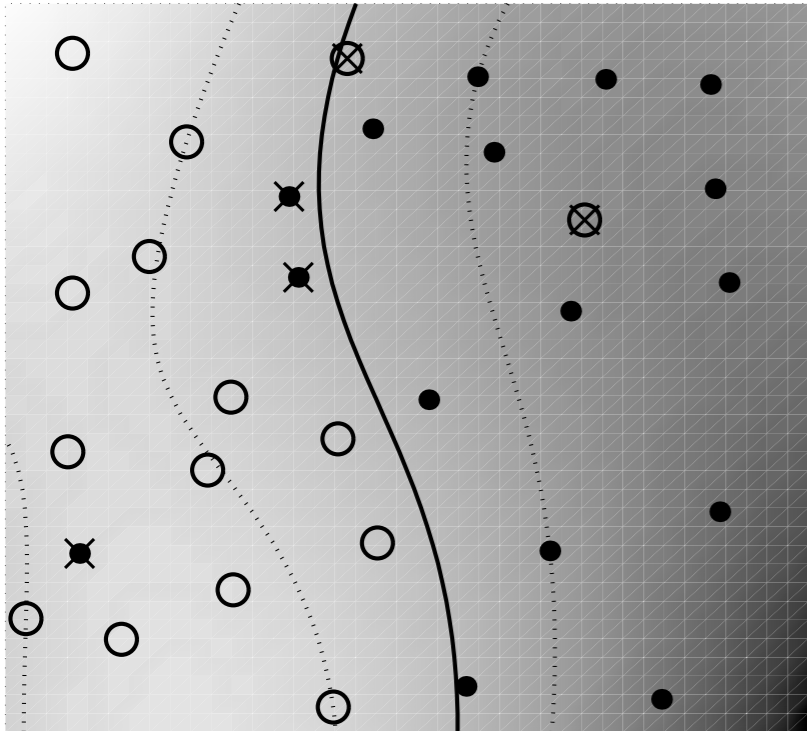




And now with a very wide kernel



# Nonlinear separation



- Increasing  $C$  allows for more nonlinearities
- Decreases number of errors
- $SV$  boundary need not be contiguous
- Kernel width adjusts function class



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# Risk and Loss

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# Loss function point of view

- **Constrained quadratic program**

$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

subject to  $y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b] \geq 1 - \xi_i$  and  $\xi_i \geq 0$

- **Risk minimization setting**

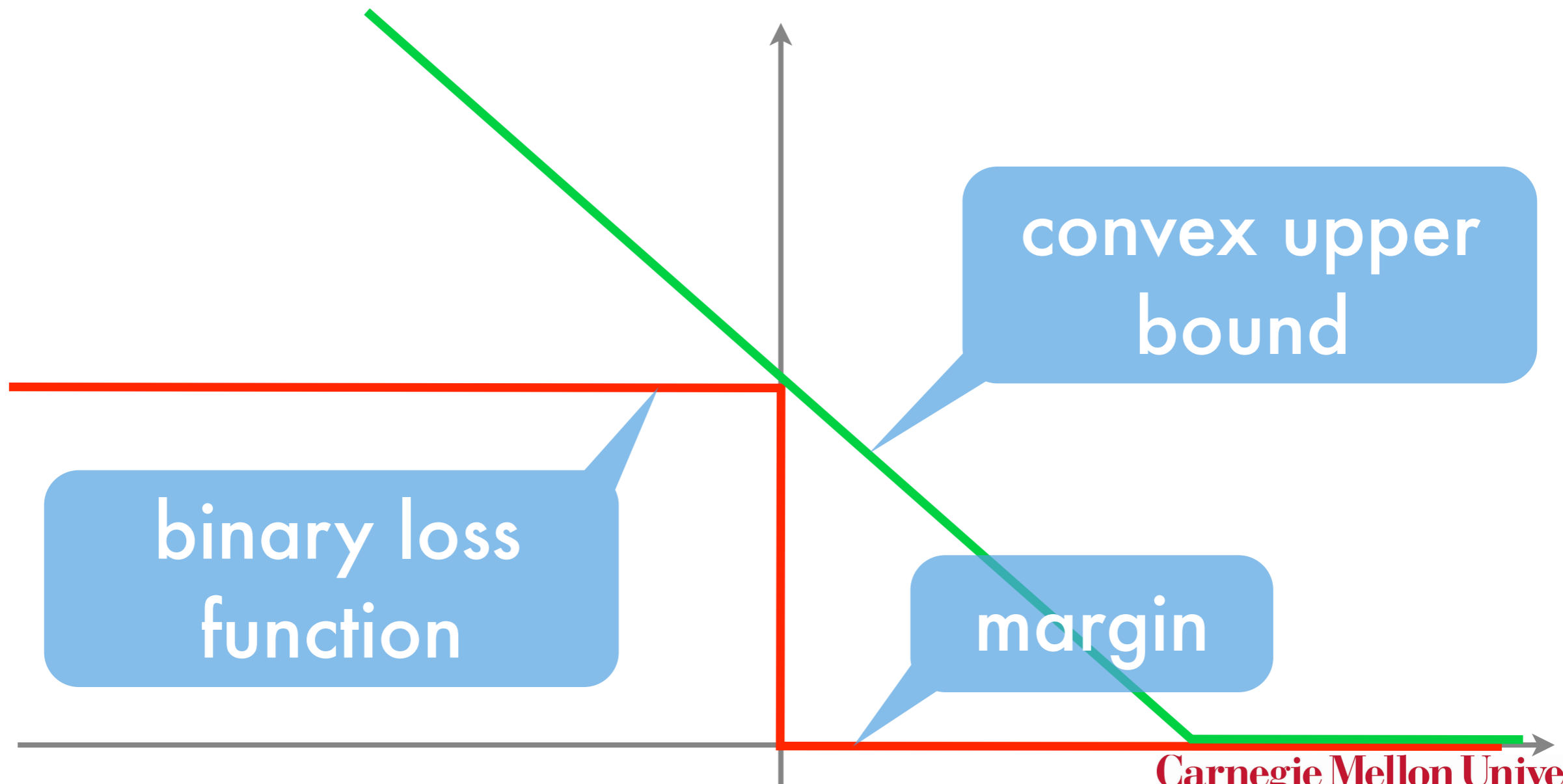
$$\underset{w,b}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \max [0, 1 - y_i [\langle w, x_i \rangle + b]]$$

empirical risk

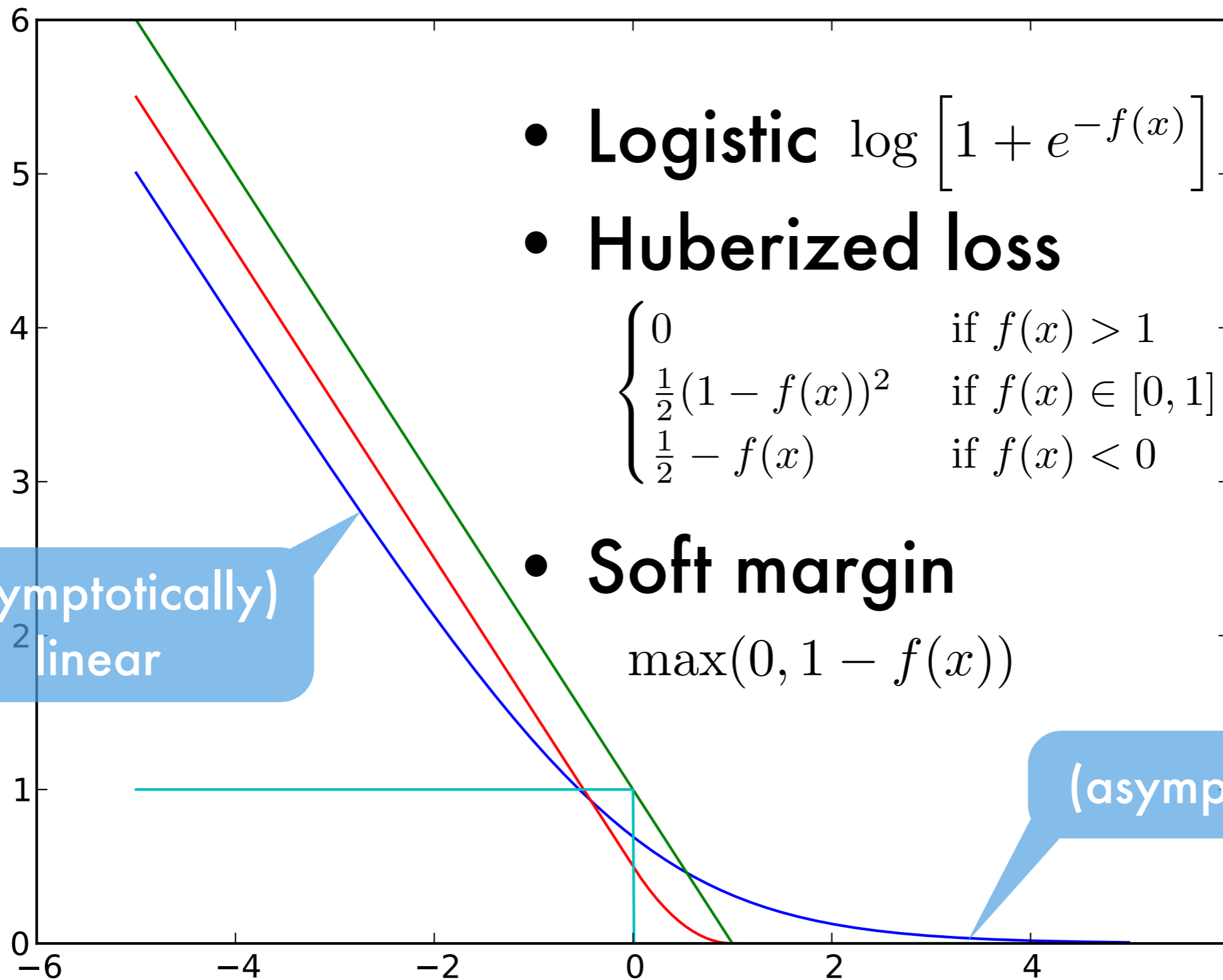
Follows from finding minimal slack variable for given  $(w,b)$  pair.

# Soft margin as proxy for binary

- **Soft margin loss**  $\max(0, 1 - yf(x))$
- **Binary loss**  $\{yf(x) < 0\}$



# More loss functions





# Risk minimization view

- Find function  $f$  minimizing classification error

$$R[f] := \mathbf{E}_{x,y \sim p(x,y)} [\{y f(x) > 0\}]$$

- Compute empirical average

$$R_{\text{emp}}[f] := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \{y_i f(x_i) > 0\}$$

- Minimization is nonconvex
- Overfitting as we minimize empirical error
- Compute convex upper bound on the loss
- Add regularization for capacity control

$$R_{\text{reg}}[f] := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \max(0, 1 - y_i f(x_i)) + \lambda \Omega[f]$$

regularization

how to control  $\lambda$

# Summary

- **Support Vector Classification**  
Large Margin Separation, optimization problem
- **Properties**  
Support Vectors, kernel expansion
- **Soft margin classifier**  
Dual problem, robustness