

# Discrete Inference and Learning

## Lecture 4

MVA

2020 – 2021

<http://thoth.inrialpes.fr/~alahari/disinflern>

Slides based on material from Nikos Komodakis, M. Pawan Kumar

# Outline

- Previous classes
  - Graph cuts, Belief propagation and variants
  - (Inference)
- Today
  - Quick recap of the course
  - Learning parameters

Before moving on...

# Project suggestions (also sent by email)

- Implement BP on trees, then graph, extend to TRW, compare
- Implement graph cut + extension (Ishikawa, other multi-label) or variation of implementation + small application
- Complex application of graph cut, requiring modelling (e.g., sequence of images)
- Geometric scene labelling with graph cuts
- Joint modelling of two labelling problems (e.g., segmentation + detection)
- Implement fast primal-dual algorithm + evaluate
- Implement deformable parts model for object detection
- ...
  
- Or your own (but check with us first)
- **Select projects before 25<sup>th</sup> January and email us**  
**[karteek.alahari@inria.fr](mailto:karteek.alahari@inria.fr), [guillaume.charpiat@inria.fr](mailto:guillaume.charpiat@inria.fr)**

# Projects

- **Choose projects before 25/1 (Monday!)**
- Presentations on 31/3
  - In English or French
  - 15min, including questions
- Report due on 30/3

# Recap

- What inference algorithm would you use for
  - a graph with only chains
    - 2-label problem ?
    - Multi-label problem ?
  - Tree structured graph
    - 2 label problem ?
    - Multi-label problem ?

# Recap

- Basics: problem formulation
  - Energy Function
  - MAP Estimation
  - Computing min-marginals
  - Reparameterization
- Solutions
  - Belief Propagation and related methods [Lecture 3]
  - Graph cuts [Lecture 2]

# Outline

- Recap of the course
- Learning parameters



# Conditional Random Fields (CRFs)

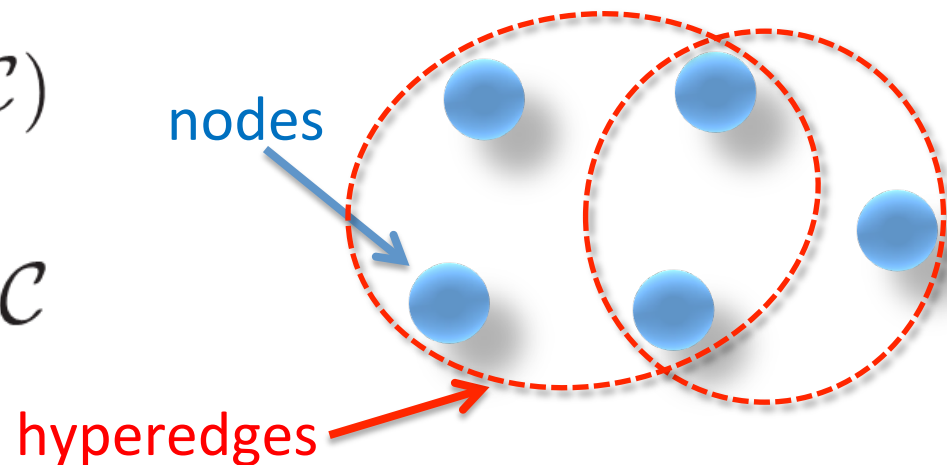
- Ubiquitous in computer vision
  - segmentation                      stereo matching
  - optical flow                      image restoration
  - image completion              object detection/localization
  - ...
- and beyond
  - medical imaging, computer graphics, digital communications, physics...
- Really powerful formulation

# Conditional Random Fields (CRFs)

- Key task: inference/optimization for CRFs/MRFs
- Extensive research for more than 20 years
- Lots of progress
- Many state-of-the-art methods:
  - Graph-cut based algorithms
  - Message-passing methods
  - LP relaxations
  - Dual Decomposition
  - ....

# MAP inference for CRFs/MRFs

- Hypergraph  $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{C})$ 
  - Nodes  $\mathcal{V}$
  - Hyperedges/cliques  $\mathcal{C}$



- High-order MRF energy minimization problem

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{H}) \equiv \min_{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{q \in \mathcal{V}} \underbrace{U_q(x_q)} + \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \underbrace{H_c(\mathbf{x}_c)}$$

unary potential  
(one per node)

high-order potential  
(one per clique)

# CRF training

- But how do we choose the CRF potentials?
- Through training
  - Parameterize potentials by  $\mathbf{w}$
  - Use training data to learn correct  $\mathbf{w}$
- Characteristic example of structured output learning [Taskar], [Tsochantaridis, Joachims]
- Equally, if not more, important than MAP inference
  - Better optimize correct energy (even approximately)
  - Than optimize wrong energy exactly

# Outline

- Supervised Learning
- Probabilistic Methods
- Loss-based Methods
- Results

# Image Classification



Is this an urban or rural area?

Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, +1\}$

# Image Classification



Is this scan healthy or unhealthy?

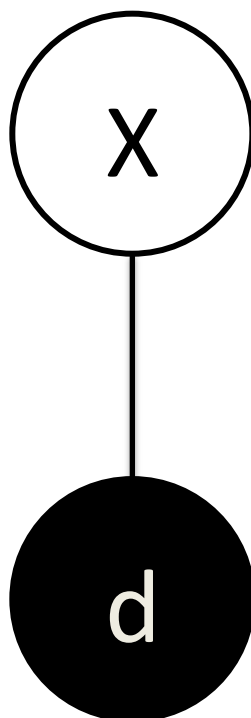
Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, +1\}$

# Image Classification

Labeling  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$

Label set  $\mathbf{L} = \{-1, +1\}$





# Image Classification



Which city is this?

Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$

# Image Classification



What type of tumor does this scan contain?

Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$

# Object Detection

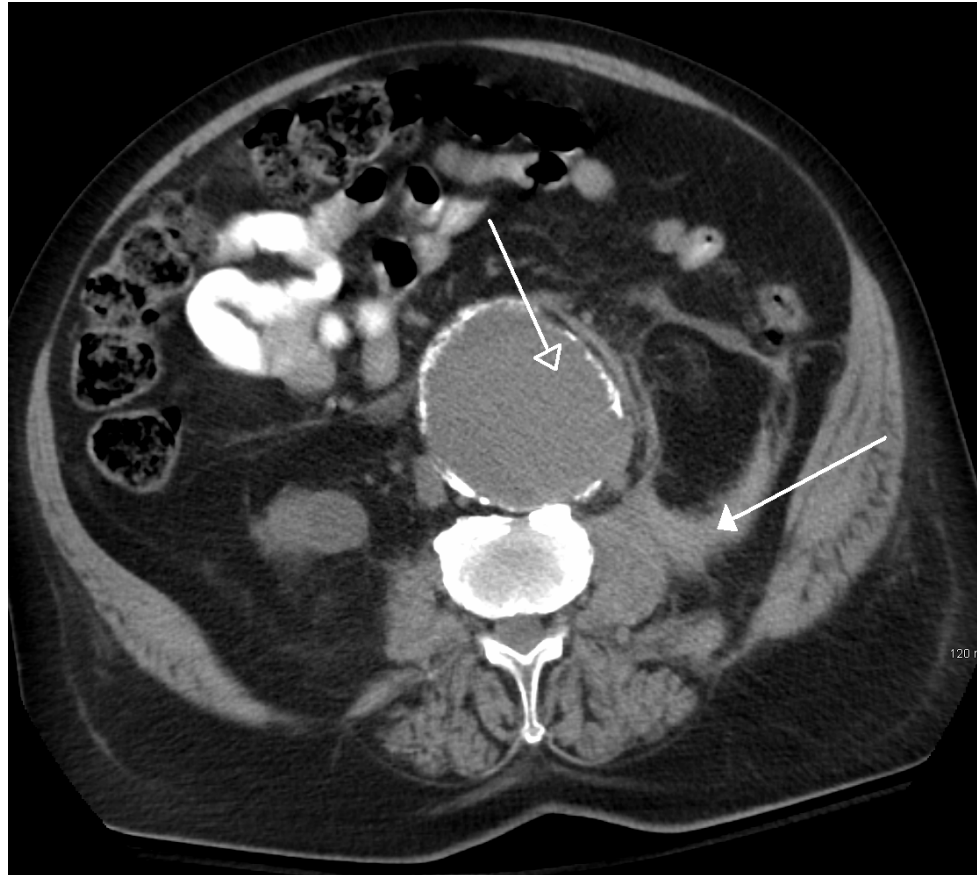


Where is the object in the image?

Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{\text{Pixels}\}$

# Object Detection



Where is the rupture in the scan?

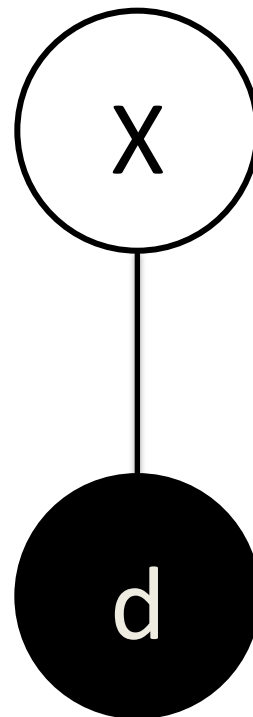
Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{\text{Pixels}\}$

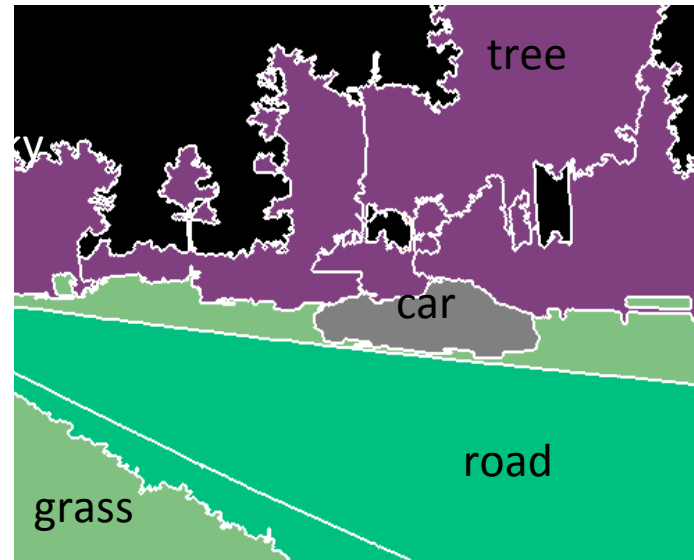
# Object Detection

Labeling  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$

Label set  $\mathbf{L} = \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$



# Segmentation

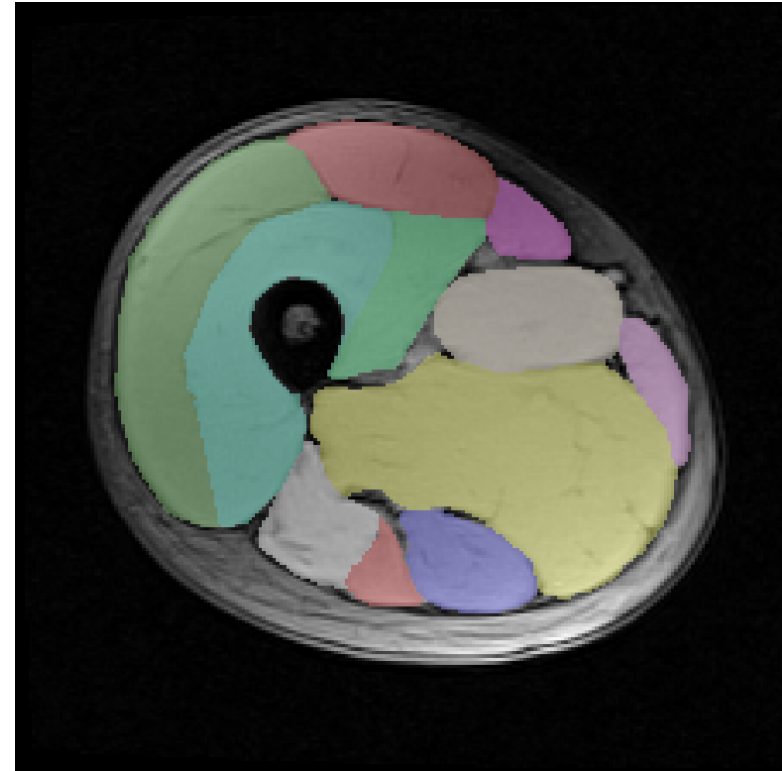
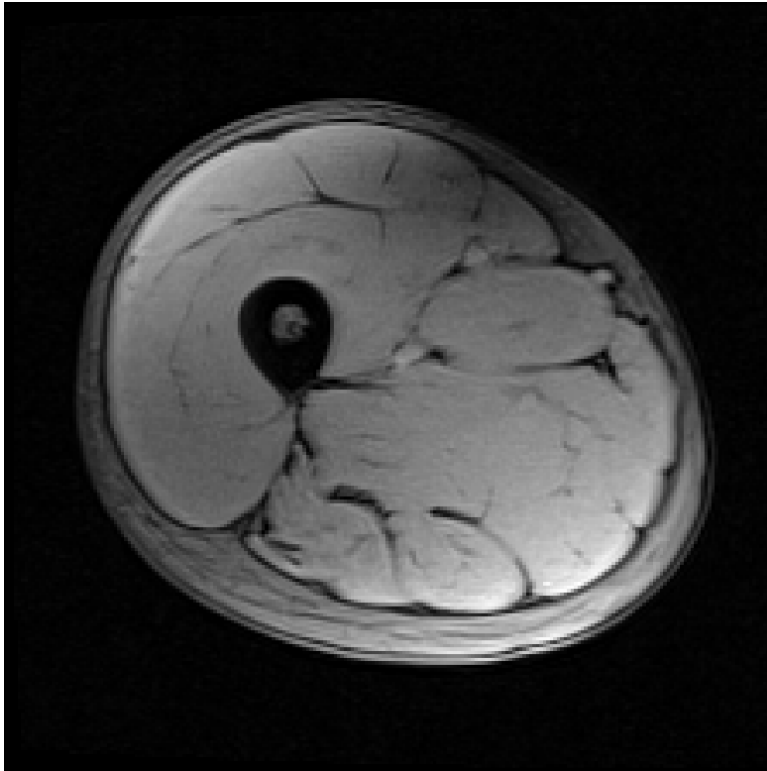


What is the semantic class of each pixel?

Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{1, 2, \dots, h\}^{|\text{Pixels}|}$

# Segmentation



What is the muscle group of each pixel?

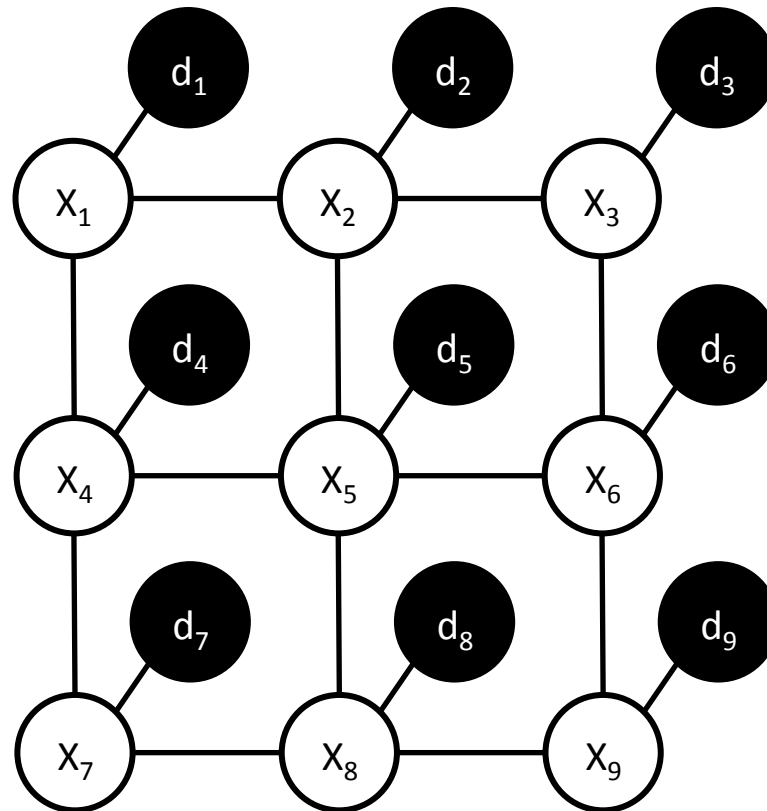
Input:  $\mathbf{d}$

Output:  $\mathbf{x} \in \{1, 2, \dots, h\}^{|\text{Pixels}|}$

# Segmentation

Labeling  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$

Label set  $\mathbf{L} = \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$

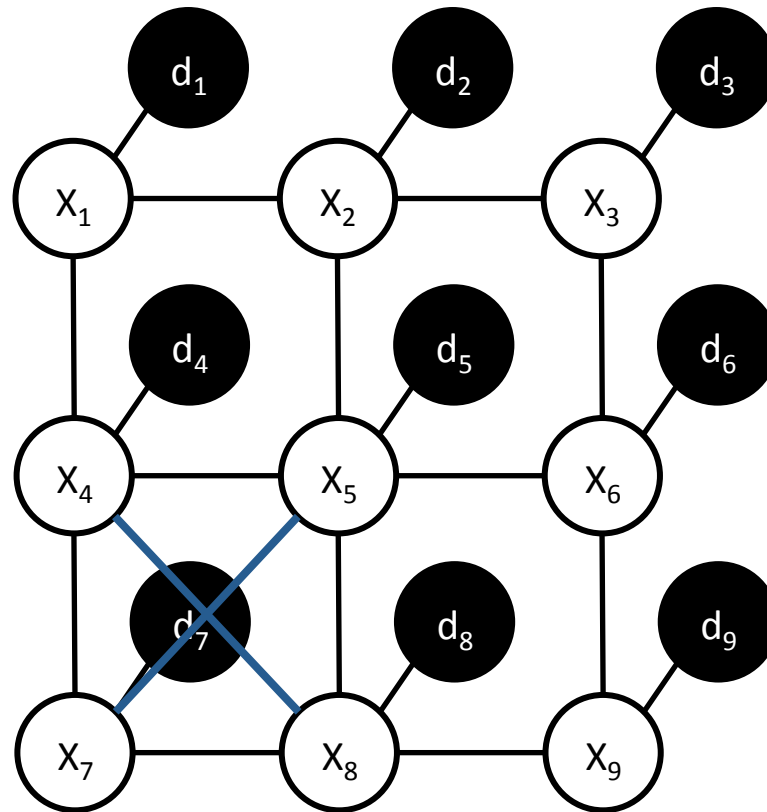




# Segmentation

Labeling  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$

Label set  $\mathbf{L} = \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$

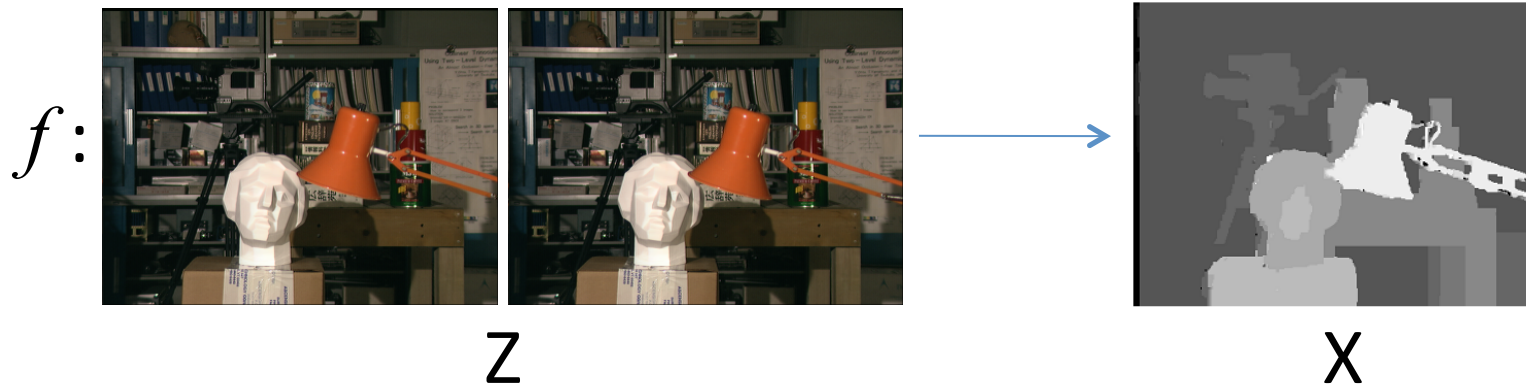


# CRF training

- Stereo matching:
  - Z: left, right image
  - X: disparity map

**Goal of training:**  
estimate proper

**w**



$$f = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{h})$$

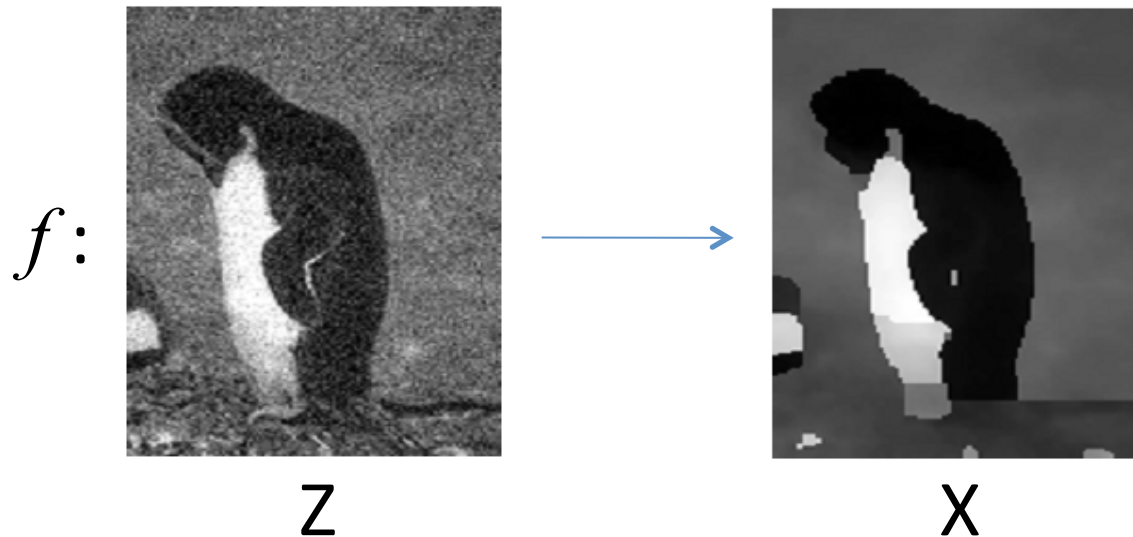
parameterized  
by **w**

# CRF training

- Denoising:
  - Z: noisy input image
  - X: denoised output image

**Goal of training:**  
estimate proper

**w**



$$f = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{h})$$

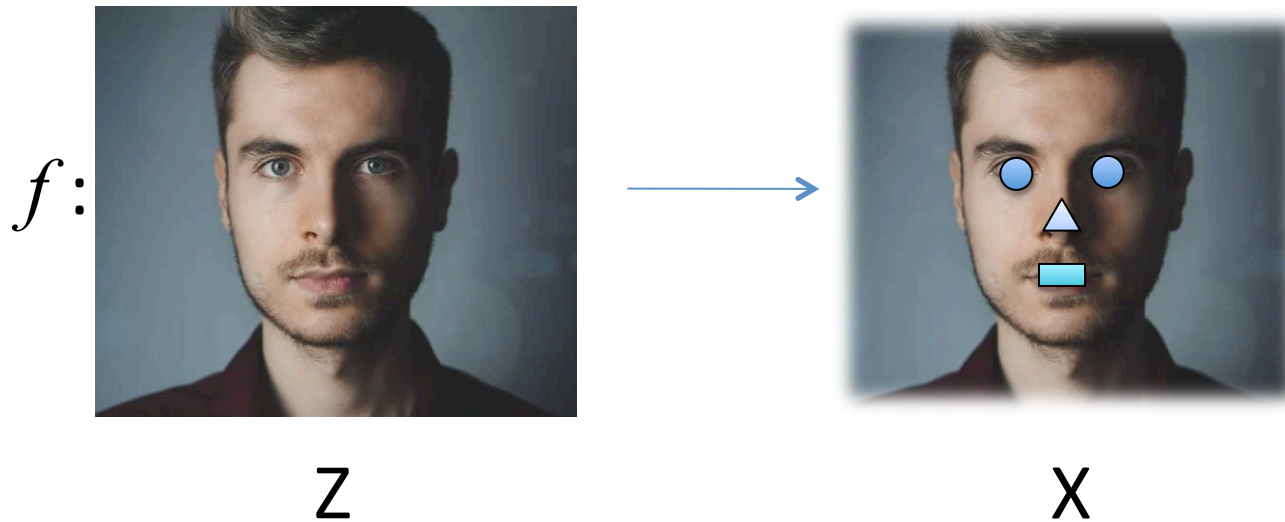
parameterized  
by **w**

# CRF training

- Object detection:
  - Z: input image
  - X: position of object parts

**Goal of training:**  
estimate proper

**w**



$$f = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{h})$$

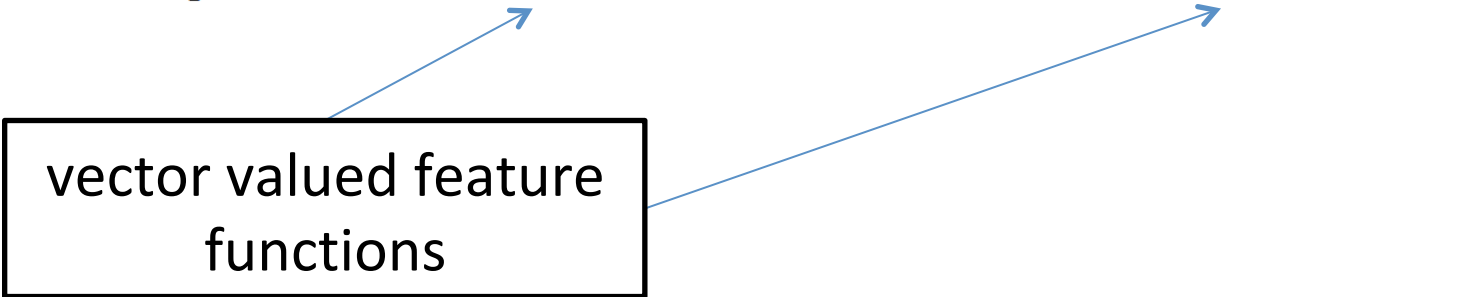
parameterized  
by **w**

# CRF training (some further notation)

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}^k, \mathbf{h}^k) = \sum_p u_p^k(x_p) + \sum_c h_c^k(\mathbf{x}_c)$$

$$u_p^k(x_p) = \mathbf{w}^T g_p(x_p, \mathbf{z}^k), \quad h_c^k(\mathbf{x}_c) = \mathbf{w}^T g_c(\mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{z}^k)$$

vector valued feature  
functions



$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) = \mathbf{w}^T \left( \sum_p g_p(x_p, \mathbf{z}^k) + \sum_c g_c(\mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{z}^k) \right) = \mathbf{w}^T g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k)$$

# Learning formulations

# Risk minimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_{k=1}^K \Delta(\mathbf{x}^k, \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k) \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)$$

$K$  training samples  $\{(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k)\}_{k=1}^K$

# Regularized Risk minimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K \Delta(\mathbf{x}^k, \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k)$$

↓

$$R(\mathbf{w}) = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2, \|\mathbf{w}\|_1, \text{ etc.}$$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)$



# Regularized Risk minimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

Replace  $\Delta(\cdot)$  with easier to handle upper bound  $L_G$   
(e.g., convex w.r.t.  $\mathbf{w}$ )

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K \Delta(\mathbf{x}^k, \hat{\mathbf{x}}^k)$$

# Choice 1: Hinge loss

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

- Upper bounds  $\Delta(\cdot)$
- Leads to **max-margin learning**

# Max-margin learning

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

energy of  
ground truth

any other  
energy

desired  
margin

slack

# Max-margin learning

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

energy of  
ground truth

any other  
energy

desired  
margin

slack

# Max-margin learning

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

energy of  
ground truth

any other  
energy

desired  
margin

slack

# Max-margin learning

CONSTRAINED

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$



or equivalently

UNCONSTRAINED

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_k \xi_k$$

$$\xi_k = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

# Choice 2: logistic loss

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \log \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}}_{\text{partition function}}$$

- Can be shown to lead to **maximum likelihood learning**

# Max-margin vs Maximum-likelihood

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))}_{\text{max-margin}}$$
$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \log \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}}_{\text{maximum likelihood}}$$



# Max-margin vs Maximum-likelihood

max-margin

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}_{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)} + \underbrace{\max_{\mathbf{x}} (-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))}_{\text{max-margin}}$$

↕

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \underbrace{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}_{\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)} + \underbrace{\log \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}}_{\text{soft-max}}$$

maximum likelihood

Solving the learning  
formulations

# Maximum-likelihood learning

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{\mu}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \log \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}}_{\text{partition function}}$$

- Differentiable & convex
- Global optimum via gradient descent, for example


# Maximum-likelihood learning

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{\mu}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \log \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}$$

gradient  $\longrightarrow \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{w} + \sum_k \left( g(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k) - \sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k) \right)$

Recall that:  $\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) = \mathbf{w}^T g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k)$




# Maximum-likelihood learning

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{\mu}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) + \log \sum_{\mathbf{x}} e^{-\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k)}$$

gradient  $\longrightarrow \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{w} + \sum_k \left( g(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k) - \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k)} \right)$



- Requires MRF probabilistic inference
- **NP-hard** (exponentially many  $\mathbf{x}$ ): approximation via loopy-BP ?

# Max-margin learning (UNCONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

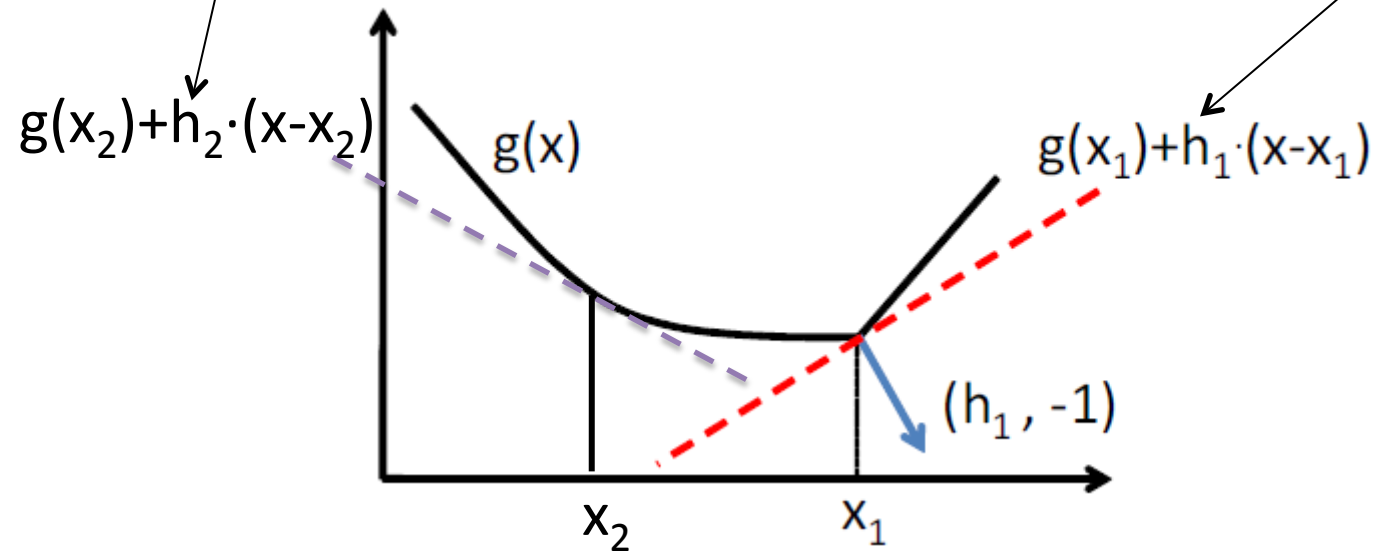
$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

- Convex but non-differentiable
- Global optimum via **subgradient method**

# Subgradient

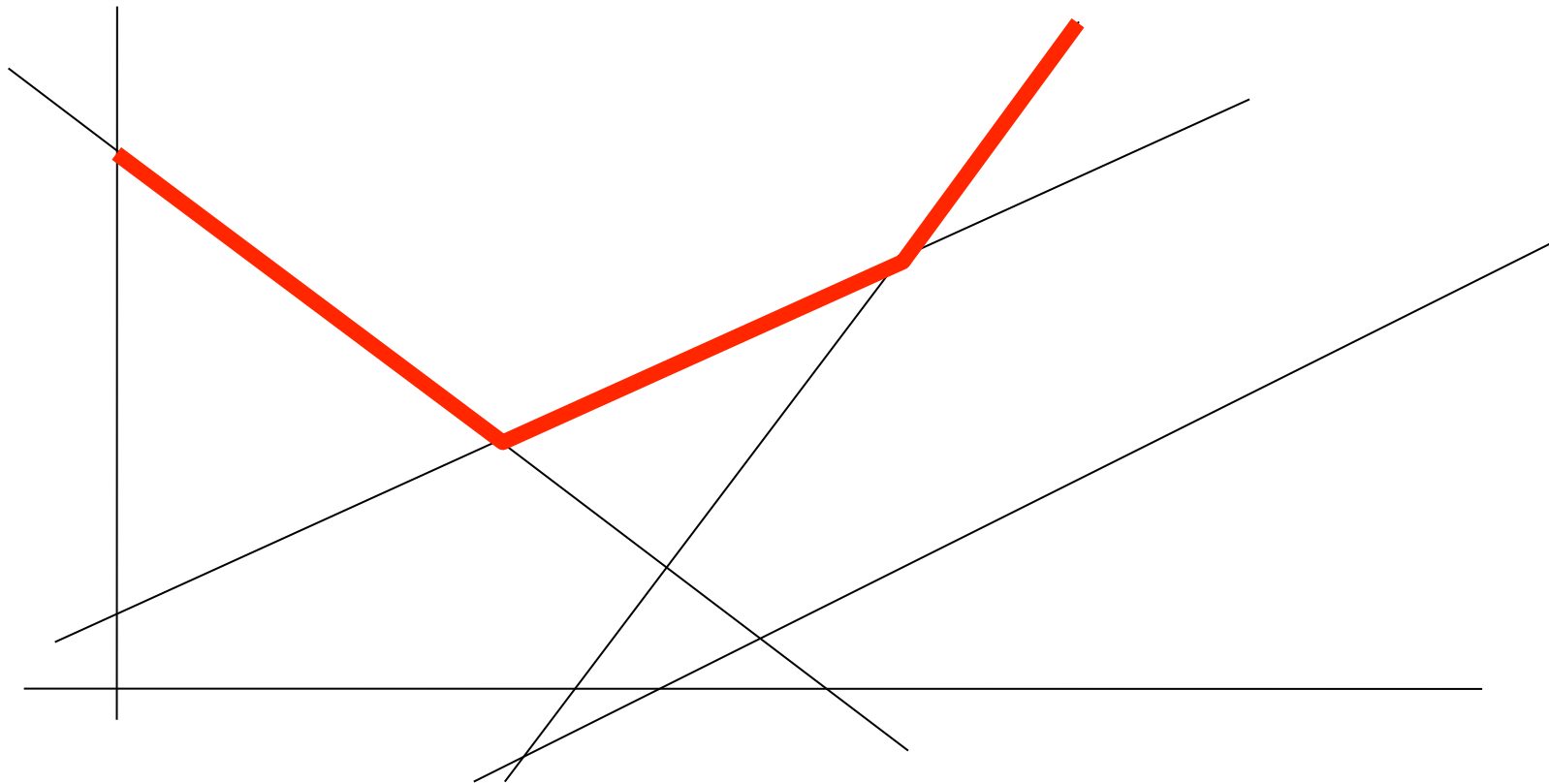
subgradient at  $x_2 =$  gradient at  $x_2$

subgradient at  $x_1$



# Subgradient

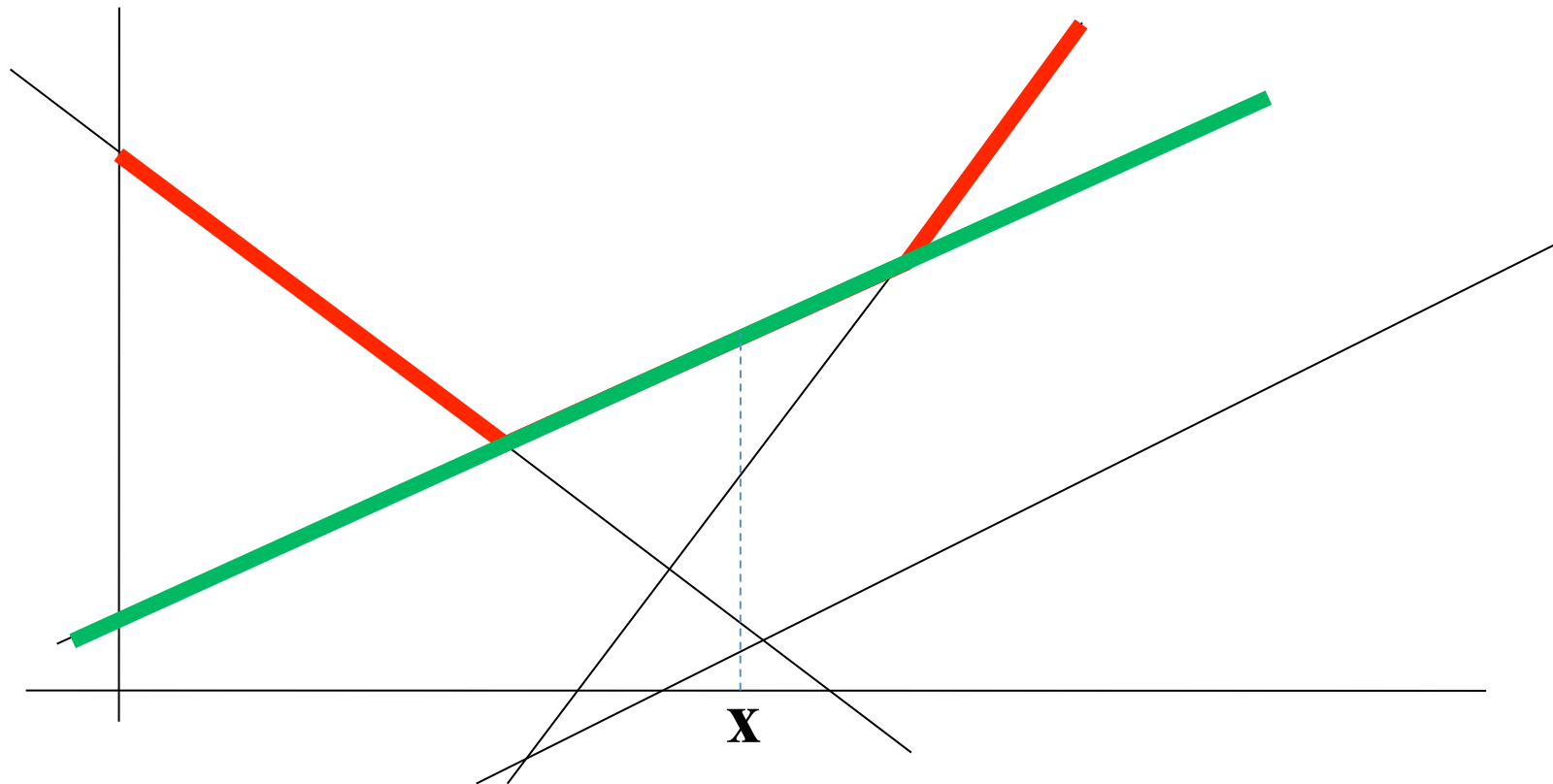
**Lemma.** Let  $f(\cdot) = \max_{m=1,\dots,M} f_m(\cdot)$ , with  $f_m(\cdot)$  convex and differentiable. A subgradient of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{y}$  is given by  $\nabla f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ , where  $\hat{m}$  is any index for which  $f(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ .





# Subgradient

**Lemma.** Let  $f(\cdot) = \max_{m=1,\dots,M} f_m(\cdot)$ , with  $f_m(\cdot)$  convex and differentiable. A subgradient of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{y}$  is given by  $\nabla f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ , where  $\hat{m}$  is any index for which  $f(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ .



# Subgradient

**Lemma.** Let  $f(\cdot) = \max_{m=1,\dots,M} f_m(\cdot)$ , with  $f_m(\cdot)$  convex and differentiable. A subgradient of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{y}$  is given by  $\nabla f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ , where  $\hat{m}$  is any index for which  $f(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\hat{m}}(\mathbf{y})$ .

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

$\downarrow$

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) = \mathbf{w}^T g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^k)$$

subgradient of  $L_G = g(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k) - g(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \mathbf{z}^k)$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

# Max-margin learning (UNCONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

## Subgradient algorithm

### Repeat

1. compute global minimizers  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k$  at current  $\mathbf{w}$
2. compute **total subgradient** at current  $\mathbf{w}$
3. update  $\mathbf{w}$  by taking a step in the negative total subgradient direction

**until convergence**

$$\text{total subgr.} = \text{subgradient}_{\mathbf{w}} [R(\mathbf{w})] + \sum_k (g(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k) - g(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \mathbf{z}^k))$$

# Max-margin learning (UNCONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^K L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w})$$

$$L_G(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k; \mathbf{w}) = \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

## Stochastic subgradient algorithm

### Repeat

1. pick  $k$  at random
2. compute global minimizer  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k$  at current  $\mathbf{w}$
3. compute **partial subgradient** at current  $\mathbf{w}$
4. update  $\mathbf{w}$  by taking a step in the negative partial subgradient direction

until convergence

MRF-MAP estimation per iteration  
(unfortunately NP-hard)

$$\text{partial subgradient} = \text{subgradient}_{\mathbf{w}} [R(\mathbf{w})] + g(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{z}^k) - g(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \mathbf{z}^k)$$

# Max-margin learning (CONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} R(\mathbf{w}) + \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

# Max-margin learning (CONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{\mu}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$



linear in  $\mathbf{w}$

- Quadratic program (great!)
- But exponentially many constraints (not so great)

# Max-margin learning (CONSTRAINED)

- What if we use only a small number of constraints?
  - Resulting QP can be solved
  - But solution may be infeasible
- **Constraint generation** to the rescue
  - only few constraints **active** at optimal solution !!  
(variables much fewer than constraints)
  - Given the active constraints, rest can be ignored
  - Then let us try to find them!

# Constraint generation

1. Start with some constraints
2. Solve QP
3. Check if solution is feasible w.r.t. to **all** constraints
4. If yes, we are done!
5. If not, pick a violated constraint and add it to the current set of constraints. Repeat from step 2.  
(optionally, we can also remove inactive constraints)



# Constraint generation

- **Key issue:** we must always be able to find a violated constraint if one exists

- Recall the constraints for max-margin learning

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

- To find violated constraint, we therefore need to compute:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} (\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k))$$

(just like subgradient method!)

# Constraint generation

1. Initialize set of constraints  $C$  to empty
2. Solve QP using current constraints  $C$  and obtain new  $(\mathbf{w}, \xi)$
3. Compute global minimizers  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k$  at current  $\mathbf{w}$
4. For each  $k$ , if the following constraint is violated then add it to set  $C$ :  
$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^k, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$
5. If no new constraint was added then terminate. Otherwise go to step 2.

MRF-MAP estimation per sample  
(unfortunately NP-hard)

# Max-margin learning (CONSTRAINED)

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{\mu}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + \sum_k \xi_k$$

subject to the constraints:

$$\text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}^k; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) \leq \text{MRF}_G(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}^k) - \Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k) + \xi_k$$

- Alternatively, we can solve above QP in the **dual domain**
- dual variables  $\leftrightarrow$  primal constraints
- Too many variables, but most of them zero at optimal solution
- Use a **working-set** method (essentially dual to constraint generation)