

# Automatic Polynomial Expansions

# What?

- ▶ vw can build polynomial decision surfaces:

$$x \mapsto 2 \cdot \mathbf{1}[x_1x_2 - 3x_1x_4x_5 + 7x_2x_4x_9 \geq 0] - 1.$$

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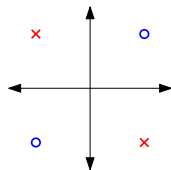
- ▶ Just add `--stage_poly` to your command line.

# Why?

- ▶ Polynomial features facilitate many problems (e.g., see kaggle forums).

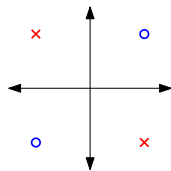
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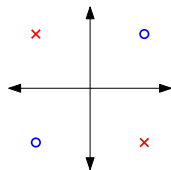
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- ▶ `--stage_poly` vs. `--ksvm`: different bias.

# Does it work?

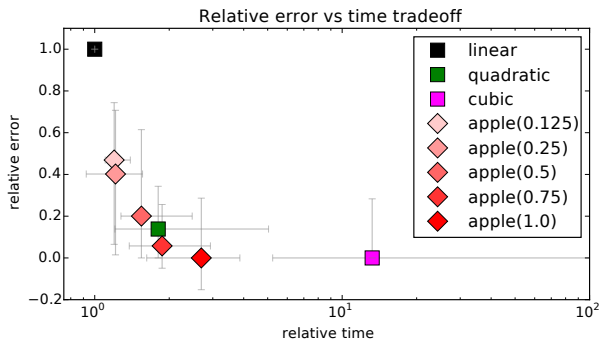
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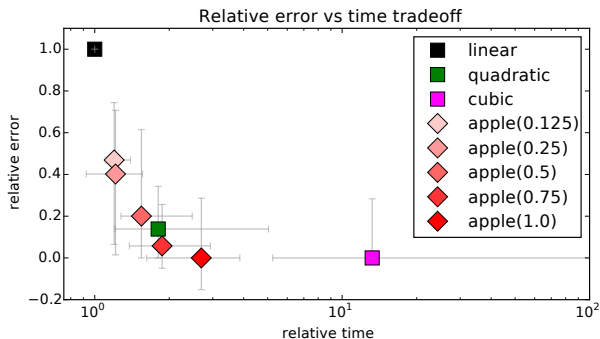
Practice.



# Does it work?

Theory. Loss minimization guarantee.

Practice.



More Info. NIPS 2014:

Scalable Nonlinear Learning with Adaptive Polynomial Expansions. Alekh Agarwal, Alina Beygelzimer, Daniel Hsu, John Langford, Matus Telgarsky.

# Usage

`--stage_poly`

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`--sched_exponent arg1`

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`--batch_sz arg2`

# Usage

`--stage_poly`

`--sched_exponent arg1`

`--batch_sz arg2`

`--batch_sz_no_doubling`

- ▶ Different types of features.

# Hacking

- ▶ Different types of features.
- ▶ Different support search.



More info @ github wiki & NIPS paper.

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Go forth and `--stage_poly`

