

# Mixed Integer Programming for Modelling Fairness Constraints

Elisabeta Iulia Dima, Amaya Nogales Gómez  
 Laboratoire I3S, UMR 7271  
 Université Côte d'Azur, France

## Introduction

- Morality of Machine Learning models in **real** datasets.
- *Support Vector Machine* (SVM) and Quadratic Programs (QP).
- Mixed Integer Programming (MIP) is NP-complete.
- Equal Opportunity constraints turn QP into MIP problem with quadratic constraints (QCQP).

## Methods

### The MIP optimization problem

- Extraction label  $\alpha_i \in \{0, 1\}$
- True label  $y_i \in \{-1, +1\}$
- Protected class label  $g_i \in \{0, 1\}$  (i.e., age, gender, race)
- Number of unprotected and protected individuals  $\#N$  resp.,  $\#P$
- Indicator function  $\mathbf{1}(u)$
- Sign function  $\mathbf{sign}(x)$

$$\min_{w, b, \alpha, \zeta, z} \beta \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i + (1 - \beta) \left( \frac{w^T w}{2} + \frac{C}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \zeta_i \right) \quad (2)$$

subject to

$$\left| \frac{1}{\#P} \sum_{i \in P} (1 - \alpha_i) \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{sign}(w^T x_i + b) = +1) - \frac{1}{\#N} \sum_{i \in N} (1 - \alpha_i) \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{sign}(w^T x_i + b) = +1) \right| \leq \Delta \quad \forall i = \overline{1, n} \quad (3)$$

$$y_i(w^T x_i + b) \geq 1 - \zeta_i \quad \forall i = \overline{1, n} \quad (4)$$

$$\alpha_i \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i = \overline{1, n} \quad (5)$$

$$w \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (6)$$

$$b \in \mathbb{R} \quad (7)$$

## Fairness

Here, the selected branch of Fairness is **Equal Opportunity**, i.e. *The probability of getting a positive outcome  $\hat{y}_i$  is independent of protected class label  $g_i$  and conditional on the true label  $y_i$  being positive, for a relatively small deviation  $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

$$\begin{aligned} & |\mathbb{P}(\hat{y}_i = 1 | g_i = 0, y_i = 1) - \\ & \mathbb{P}(\hat{y}_i = 1 | g_i = 1, y_i = 1)| \leq \Delta, \\ & \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

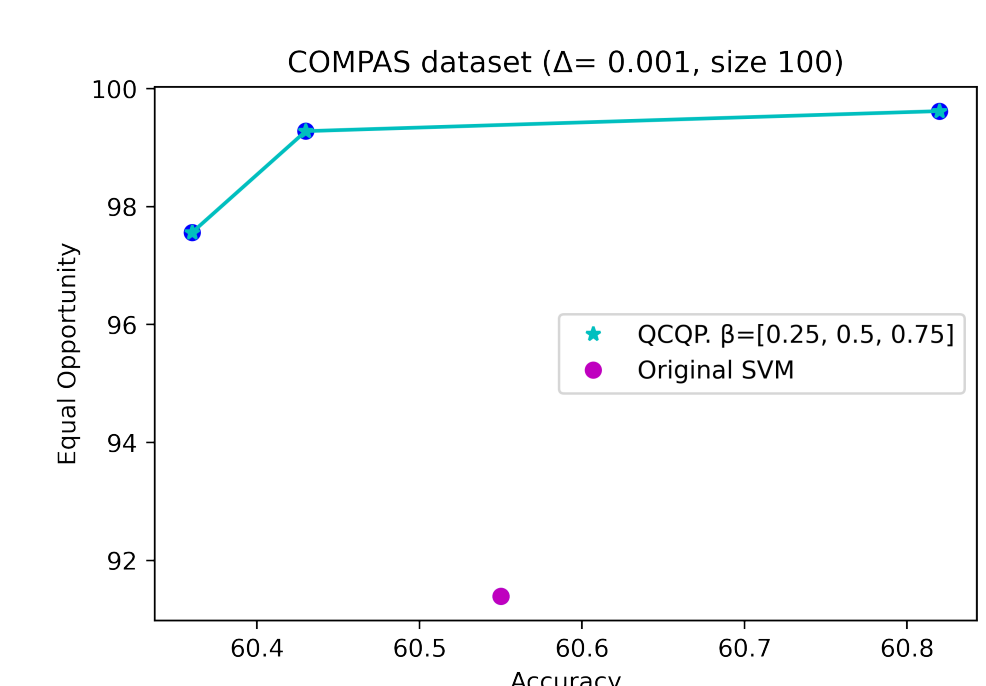
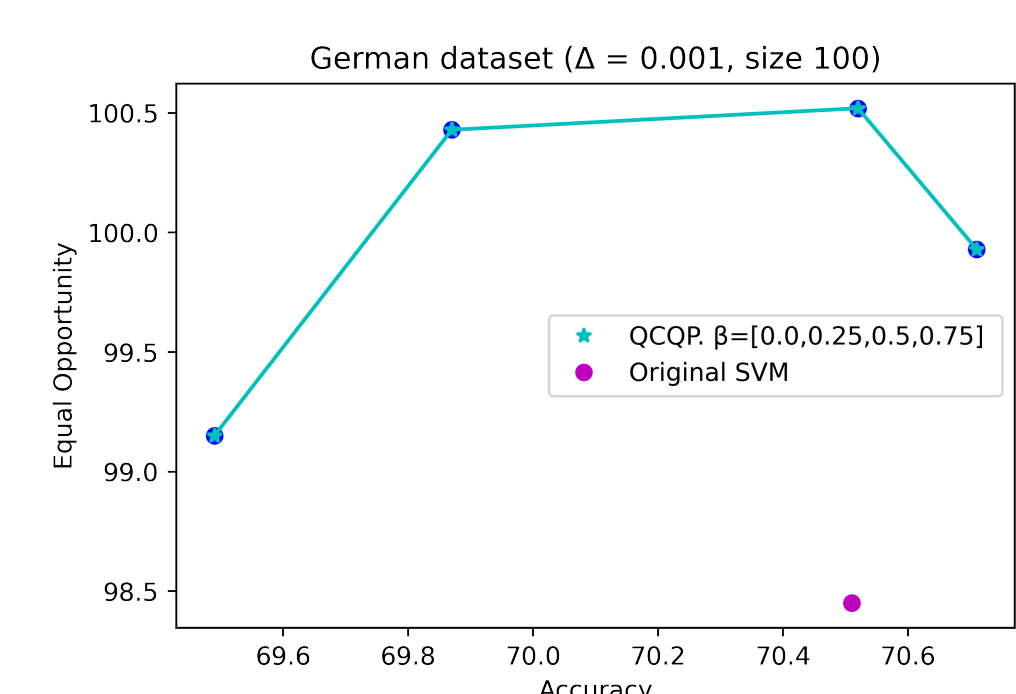
$$g_i, \hat{y}_i, y_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Delta \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

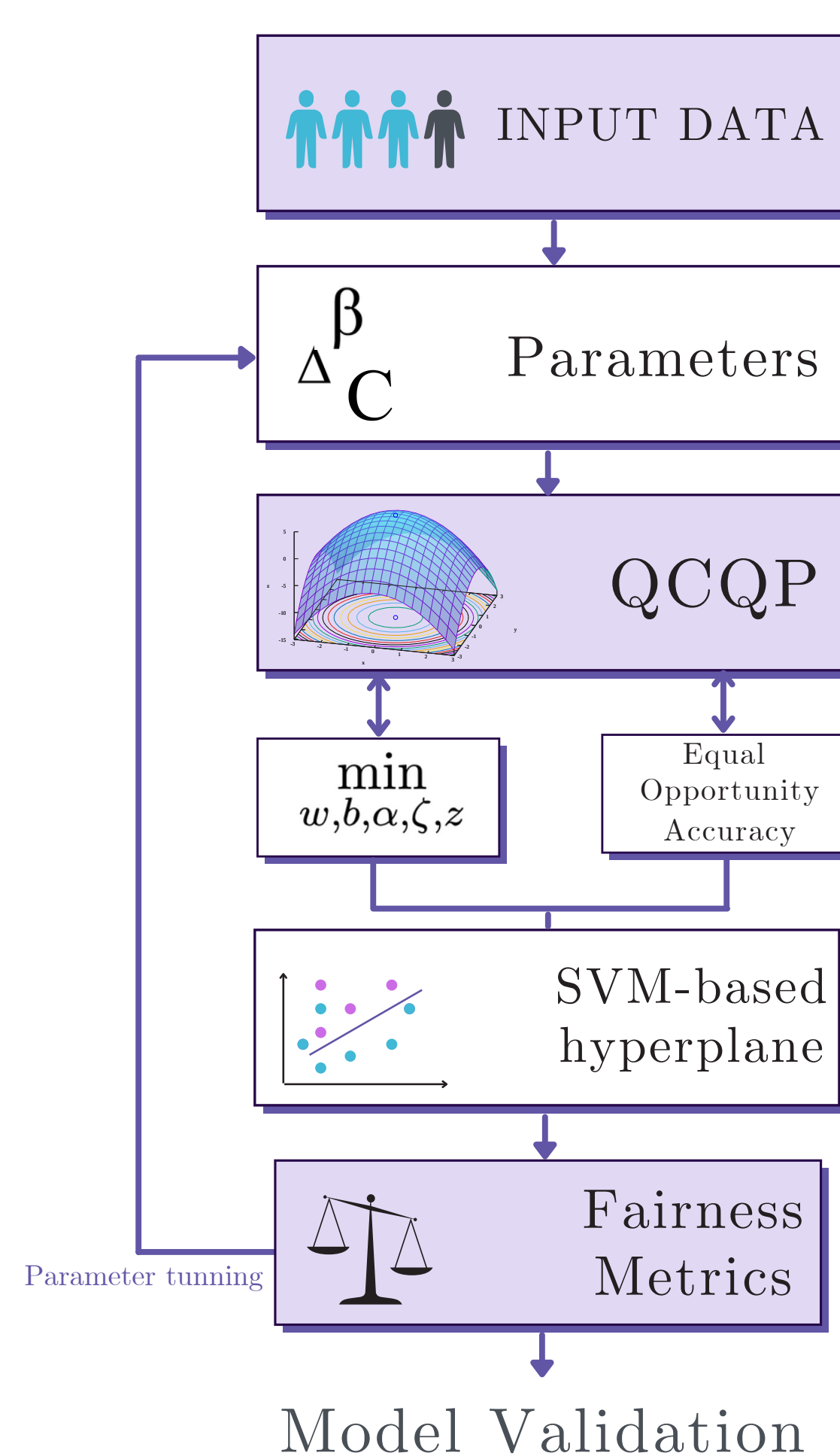
## Conclusions

- We propose a novel QCQP formulation to build an SVM-type classifier including fairness constraints.
- Our results show an improvement in fairness without important loss in accuracy.
- The trade-off between time and training sample size is due to the constructed quadratic matrix. The trade between Accuracy and Equal Opportunity is eventually gentle.
- Generally, minimising extraction determines that no individual is extracted from the dataset, instead, hyperplane is skewed.
- QCQP problem can also be used to achieve Equal Treatment.

## Metrics visualization



## Implementation and Results



| Training size | QCQP     |                   | Original SVM |                   |
|---------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|               | Accuracy | Equal Opportunity | Accuracy     | Equal Opportunity |
| 100           | 70.51    | 100.52            | 69.87        | 98.45             |
| 500           | 72.24    | 98.25             | 73.12        | 94.66             |

Table 1. German dataset.

| Training size | QCQP     |                   | Original SVM |                   |
|---------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
|               | Accuracy | Equal Opportunity | Accuracy     | Equal Opportunity |
| 100           | 60.82    | 99.28             | 60.55        | 91.39             |
| 500           | 64.57    | 79.69             | 64.74        | 79.81             |

Table 2. COMPAS dataset.

Tables 1 and 2: QCQP-SVM metrics(left) vs. original SVM(right)  $\beta = 0.5$ , time limit 10m. For size 100:  $\Delta = 0.001$ , for size 500:  $\Delta = 0.05$ .

## References

- [1] M. Olfat and A. Aswani. Spectral algorithms for computing fair support vector machines. PMLR, 2018.
- [2] IBM ILOG Cplex. *International Business Machines Corporation*, 46(53):157, 2009.