

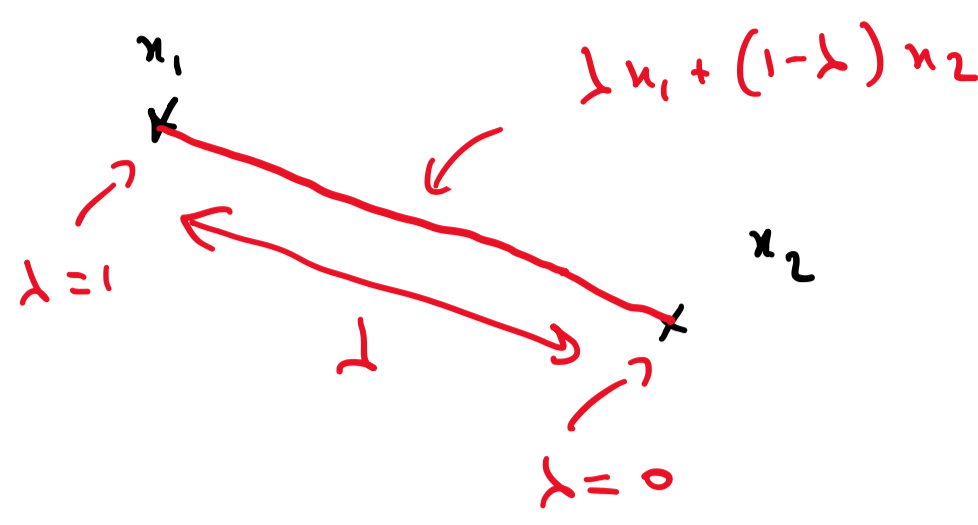
How do we prove that XOR is not linearly separable?

↳ here, we use convexity

Convexity

A set S is convex if any line segment connecting points in S lies entirely within S .

$$x_1, x_2 \in S \Rightarrow \lambda x_1 + (1-\lambda)x_2 \in S \quad \forall 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$$



$x_1, \dots, x_N \in S$, all weighted averages (i.e., convex combinations) also lie within the set S .

$$\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_N x_N \in S \quad \text{for } \lambda_i > 0 \text{ \& } \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i = 1$$

Proof by induction:

$$N=2 \quad \sum_{i=1}^2 \lambda_i = 1, \quad \lambda_1 = 1 - \lambda_2$$

By definition $\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 = \lambda_1 x_1 + (1-\lambda_1)x_2 \in S$

Let's assume that the property holds for $N-1$

Let's prove it holds for N

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i x_i = \lambda_N x_N + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \lambda_i x_i = \lambda_N x_N + (1-\lambda_N) \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_N} x_i$$

$\in S$
divide each term of the sum by $1-\lambda_N$
goal: Show that this is also in S

• Show that $\forall i \in 1 \dots N-1, \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_N} > 0$

True because $\lambda_i > 0$ and $1-\lambda_N > 0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_N} = \frac{1}{1-\lambda_N} \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \lambda_i = \frac{1}{1-\lambda_N} (1-\lambda_N) = 1$$

$\sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i = 1$
 $= \lambda_N + \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \lambda_i$

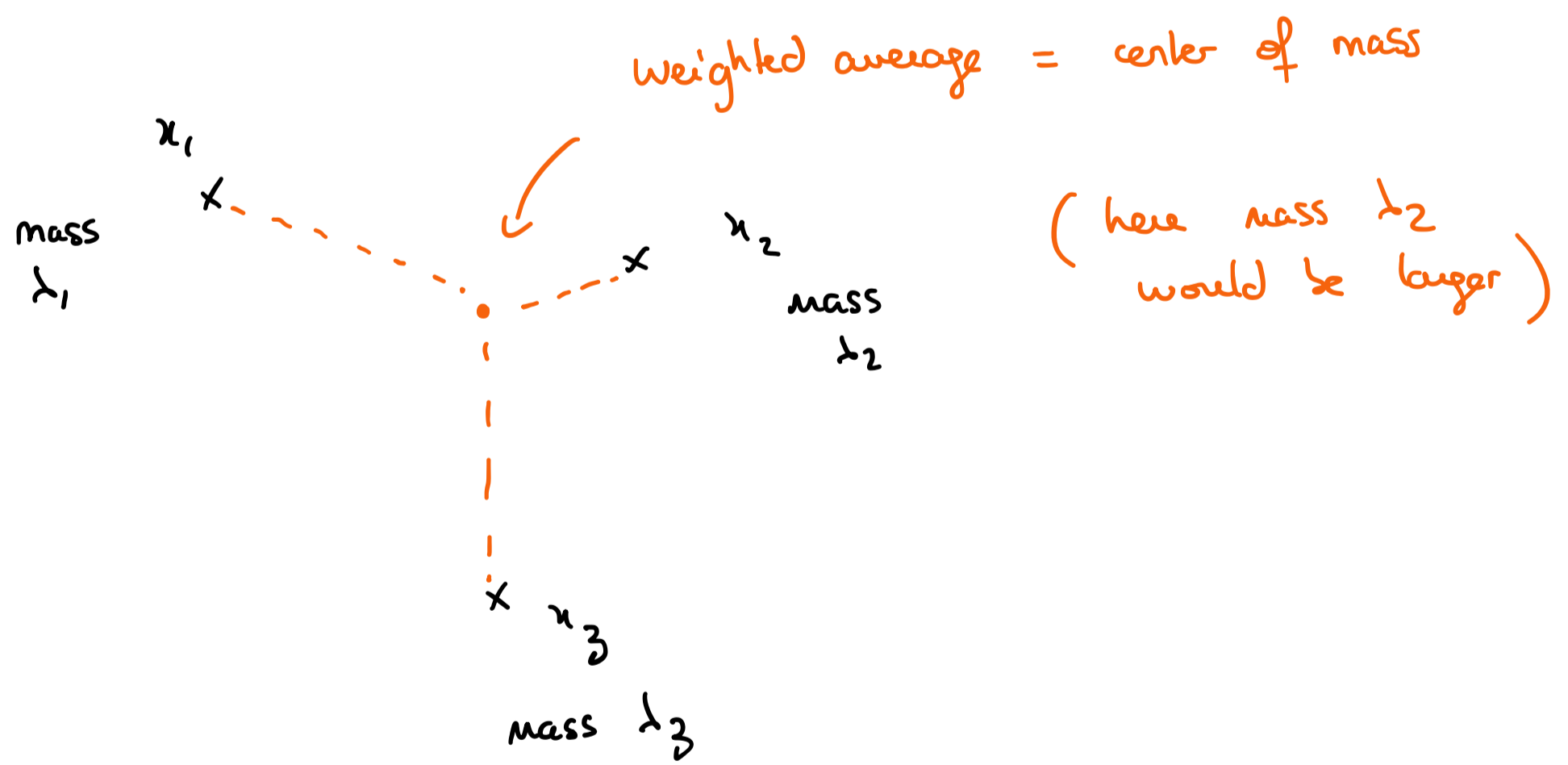
We can deduce that $\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_N} x_i \in S$

We have:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i x_i = \lambda_N x_N + \underbrace{(1-\lambda_N)}_{\lambda'} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_N} x_i}_{\in S}$$

$\lambda_N + \lambda' = \lambda_N + 1 - \lambda_N = 1 \in S$

By induction, we conclude the property holds for $N > 2$



In binary classification, 2 sets are always convex:

- in data/input space: both positive and negative regions are convex.
- in weight space: feasible region is convex.

XOR is not linearly separable:

