



# SVM KERNELS (CONT.)

**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**  
School of Information Studies

# KERNEL FUNCTIONS

SVM algorithm maximizes the margin between the two separating hyperplanes by finding the maximum of the function:

$$W(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^l \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)$$

Subject to the constraints:

$$\sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i y_i = 0, \quad \alpha_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, l$$

# SVM: KERNEL FUNCTIONS

Linear kernel:  $K(X_i, X_j) = X_i \cdot X_j$  (cosine similarity)

Higher rank kernels: Instead of computing on the transformed data tuples, it is mathematically equivalent to instead applying a kernel function  $K(X_i, X_j)$  to the original data, i.e.,  $K(X_i, X_j) = \Phi(X_i) \cdot \Phi(X_j)$

Typical kernel functions:

Polynomial kernel of degree  $h$  :  $K(X_i, X_j) = (X_i \cdot X_j + 1)^h$

Gaussian radial basis function kernel :  $K(X_i, X_j) = e^{-\|X_i - X_j\|^2 / 2\sigma^2}$

Sigmoid kernel :  $K(X_i, X_j) = \tanh(\kappa X_i \cdot X_j - \delta)$