Section 0: Pre-exam questions (5 points)

1. Honor Code: Please copy the following statement in the space provided below and sign your name. (1 point or $-\infty$)

   As a member of the UC Berkeley community, I act with honesty, integrity, and respect for others. I will follow the rules and do this exam on my own.

2. What’s your favorite thing about this semester? (4 points)
3. Normalization Layers (10 points)

Recall the pseudocode for a batchnorm layer (with learnable scale and shift) in a neural network:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Input:} & \quad \text{Values of } x \text{ over a mini-batch: } B = \{x_1, \ldots, x_m\}; \\
& \quad \text{Parameters to be learned: } \gamma, \beta \\
\text{Output:} & \quad \{y_i = \text{BN}_{\gamma, \beta}(x_i)\} \\
\mu_B & \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i \quad \text{// mini-batch mean} \\
\sigma_B^2 & \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (x_i - \mu_B)^2 \quad \text{// mini-batch variance} \\
\hat{x}_i & \leftarrow \frac{x_i - \mu_B}{\sqrt{\sigma_B^2 + \epsilon}} \quad \text{// standardize} \\
y_i & \leftarrow \gamma \hat{x}_i + \beta \equiv \text{BN}_{\gamma, \beta}(x_i) \quad \text{// scale and shift}
\end{align*}
\]

(a) (5pts) If our input data (1-dimensional) to batchnorm follows roughly the distribution on the left:

![Figure 1: Gaussian with mean $\mu = 1.5$, variance $\sigma^2 = 0.16$](image)

What does our data distribution look like after batch normalization with $\beta = 3$ and $\gamma = 1$ parameters? Draw your answer on the blank grid above, give a scale to the horizontal axis, and label $\beta$. You can assume that the batch-size is very large.

*(Note: You do not have to give a scale to the vertical axis.)*
PRINT your name and student ID:

(b) (5pts) Say our input data (now 2-dimensional) to the batchnorm layer follows a Gaussian distribution. The mean and contours (level sets) of points that are 1 and 2 stdev away from the mean are shown below. On the same graph, draw what the mean, 1-SD, and 2-SD contours would look like after batchnorm without any shifting/scaling (i.e. $\beta = 0$ and $\gamma = 1$). You can assume that the batch-size is very large.

![Diagram showing mean and contours](image)

Figure 3: Draw your answer on the grid

4. Gradients: exploding and vanishing (6 points)

For deep neural nets, vanishing gradients make it very hard to train some aspects of the network since the corresponding training updates barely change anything. Exploding gradients force the use of tiny learning rates and these tiny learning rates similarly make it hard to train.

Which of these "tricks" help with vanishing and exploding gradients?

If a trick helps with neither, don’t mark anything. If it helps primarily with vanishing gradients, just mark the column for vanishing gradients. Similarly, if it helps primarily with exploding gradients, just mark that column. If it helps with both vanishing and exploding gradients, mark both columns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Algorithmic &amp; Model Tools</th>
<th>Vanishing Gradient</th>
<th>Exploding Gradient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He Initialization (relative to Xavier Init)</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skip/Residual Connections</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batch Normalization</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Backprop through a simple RNN (18 points)

Consider the following 1D RNN with no nonlinearities, a 1D hidden state, and 1D inputs \( u_t \) at each timestep. (Note: There is only a single parameter \( w \), no bias). This RNN expresses unrolling the following recurrence relation, with hidden state \( h_t \) at unrolling step \( t \) given by:

\[
h_t = w \cdot (u_t + h_{t-1})
\]

The computational graph of unrolling the RNN for three timesteps is shown below:

\[
\begin{align*}
p &= u_1 \\
q &= w \cdot u_1 \\
r &= u_2 + q = u_2 + w \cdot u_1 \\
s &= w \cdot r = w \cdot u_2 + w^2 \cdot u_1 \\
t &= \text{ } \\
y &= \text{ }
\end{align*}
\]

(a) (4pts) Fill in the blanks for the intermediate values during the forward pass, in terms of \( w \) and the \( u_i \)'s:

\[
\begin{align*}
p &= u_1 \\
q &= w \cdot u_1 \\
r &= u_2 + q = u_2 + w \cdot u_1 \\
s &= w \cdot r = w \cdot u_2 + w^2 \cdot u_1 \\
t &= \text{ } \\
y &= \text{ }
\end{align*}
\]

(b) (4pts) Using the expression for \( y \) from the previous subpart, compute \( \frac{dy}{dw} \). 
(c) (2pts) **Fill in the blank for the missing partial derivative of** \( y \) **with respect to the nodes on the backward pass.** You may use values for \( p, q, r, s, t, y \) computed in the forward pass and downstream derivatives already computed.

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} &= w \\
\frac{\partial y}{\partial s} &= w \\
\frac{\partial y}{\partial r} &= \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \cdot w \\
\frac{\partial y}{\partial q} &= \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \cdot 1 \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\frac{\partial y}{\partial p} = \text{______________________________}
\]

(d) (8pts) **Calculate the partial derivatives along each of the three outgoing edges from the learnable** \( w \) **in Figure 4, replicated below.** (e.g., the right-most edge has a relevant partial derivative of \( t \) in terms of how much the output \( y \) is effected by a small change in \( w \) as it influences \( y \) through this edge. You need to compute the partial derivatives for the other two edges yourself.)

You can write your answers in terms of the \( p, q, r, s, t \) and the partial derivatives of \( y \) with respect to them.

**Use these three terms to find the total derivative** \( \frac{dy}{dw} \).

(HINT: You can use your answer to part (b) to check your work.)
6. **Argmax Attention (10 points)**

Recall from lecture that we can think about attention as being *queryable softmax pooling*. In this problem, we ask you to consider a hypothetical argmax version of attention where it returns exactly the value corresponding to the key that is most similar to the query, where similarity is measured using the traditional inner-product.

**(a) (6pts)** Perform argmax attention with the following keys and values:

**Keys:**

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
1 \\
2 \\
0
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
3 \\
4
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
5 \\
0 \\
0
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
0 \\
1
\end{bmatrix}
\]

**Corresponding Values:**

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
2 \\
1 \\
0
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
1 \\
4 \\
3
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
-1 \\
4
\end{bmatrix},
\begin{bmatrix}
1 \\
0 \\
-1
\end{bmatrix}
\]

using the following query:

\[
q = \begin{bmatrix}
1 \\
1 \\
2
\end{bmatrix}
\]

**What would be the output of the attention layer for this query?** Remember, to simplify calculations, use an argmax instead of softmax. For example, \(\text{softmax}([1, 3, 2])\) becomes \(\text{argmax}([1, 3, 2]) = [0, 1, 0]\).

**(b) (4pts)** Note that instead of using *softmax* we used *argmax* to generate outputs from the attention layer.

*How does this design choice affect our ability to usefully train models involving attention?*

*(Hint: think about how the gradients flow through the network in the backward pass. Can we learn to improve our queries or keys during the training process?)*
7. **CNNs** *(16 points)*

Suppose that, like in the homework, we are training a CNN to classify whether an image has a horizontal edge, a vertical edge, or no edge.

(a) *(10pts)* We are going to describe a convolutional neural net using the following pieces:

- **CONV3-F** denotes a convolutional layer with $F$ different filters, each of size $3 \times 3 \times C$, where $C$ is the depth (i.e. number of channels) of the activations from the previous layer. Padding is 1, and stride is 1.
- **POOL2** denotes a $2 \times 2$ max-pooling layer with stride 2 (pad 0)
- **FLATTEN** just turns whatever shape input tensor into a one-dimensional array with the same values in it.
- **FC-K** denotes a fully-connected layer with $K$ output neurons.

Note: All CONV3-F and FC-K layers have biases as well as weights. **Do not forget the biases when counting parameters.**

Now, we are going to use this network to do inference on a single input. **Fill in the missing entries in this table of the size of the activations at each layer, and the number of parameters at each layer. You can/should write your answer as a computation (e.g. $128 \times 128 \times 3$) in the style of the already filled-in entries of the table.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Number of Parameters</th>
<th>Dimension of Activations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Input</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$28 \times 28 \times 1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONV3-10</td>
<td></td>
<td>$28 \times 28 \times 10$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POOL2</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14 \times 14 \times 10$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONV3-10</td>
<td>$3 \times 3 \times 10 \times 10 + 10$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POOL2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLATTEN</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC-3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(b) (6pts) Consider a new architecture: CONV2-3 → ReLU → CONV2-3 → ReLU → GAP
(Global Average Pool) → FC-3. Each CONV2-3 layer has stride of 1 and padding of 1. Note that we use circular padding (i.e. wrap-around) for this task. Instead of using zeros, circular padding makes it as though the virtual column before the first column is the last column and the virtual row before the first row is the last row — treating the image as though it was on a torus.

Here, the GAP layer is an average pooling layer that computes the per-channel means over the entire input image.

You are told the behavior for an input image with a horizontal edge, \( x_1 \) and an image with a vertical edge, \( x_2 \):

\[
\begin{align*}
    x_1 &= \begin{bmatrix}
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 
    \end{bmatrix} \\
    x_2 &= \begin{bmatrix}
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 
    \end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]

Suppose we knew that the GAP output features when fed \( x_1 \) and \( x_2 \) are

\[
\begin{align*}
    g_1 &= f(x_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
    g_2 &= f(x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]

Use what you know about the invariances/equivariances of convolutional nets to compute the \( g_i \) corresponding to the following \( x_i \) images.

\[
\begin{align*}
    \cdot \ x_3 &= \begin{bmatrix}
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 
    \end{bmatrix} \\
    \cdot \ x_4 &= \begin{bmatrix}
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
        0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 
    \end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]
8. Beam Search (14 points)

Consider a simplified RNN language decoder that outputs one of two words at each timestep. The log-probabilities of each word at a given timestep are shown next to the word. A tree structure (like you saw in discussion) is used to visualize what the next set of possibilities would be assuming that we committed to earlier choices.

(a) (5pts) In exhaustive search, we look at all the possible sequences and pick the most likely one. **With exhaustive search, what is the sequence that this RNN decoder would emit?**

(b) (4pts) In greedy search, we just pick the highest probability choice at each step and commit to it. **Using greedy search, what is the sequence that this RNN decoder would emit?**

(c) (5pts) In beam search, we keep the past best \( k \) possibilities in memory and see what could come next. We then keep the best \( k \) possibilities of these in memory, and continue moving forward. **Using beam search with beam size \( k = 2 \), what sequence would this RNN decoder emit?**
9. **Machine Translation (10 points)**

Consider the following Machine Translation problem:

- You are learning an Encoder-Decoder model to translate sentences from Spanish into English.
- This Encoder-Decoder model consists of a single-layer RNN encoder and a single-layer RNN decoder.
- The first hidden state of the decoder is initialized with the last hidden state of the encoder.
- Words are converted into learned embeddings of length $H$ (hidden state size), before they are passed to the model.

![Figure 5: Translation model. The ovals with horizontal dots are learned encodings of words. The tokens $<\text{sos}>$ and $<\text{eos}>$ are “Start of Sequence” and “End of Sequence” tokens respectively. The boxes $w_1 \ldots w_5$ represent the word tokens passed into the RNN decoder at each timestep (you’ll fill in which tokens go here).](image)

(a) (4pts) Your teammate proposes stacking the encoder and decoder vertically rather than horizontally. Instead of passing the final hidden state of the encoder $h_T$ into the decoder’s first hidden state, at each timestep $t$, the encoder’s hidden state $h_t$ gets passed as an input to timestep $t$ of the decoder. **State one problem with this proposed design change.**
PRINT your name and student ID: ____________________________________________

(b) (3pts) In the example shown the correct translation is “I see a dog,” but the translation that happened to be sampled from the model incorrectly states “I saw a dog”.

What five tokens will be passed into the decoder during training for $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_5$?

(HINT: Remember, during training we have access to correct supervision for translations. Don’t forget that you also have special tokens <sos> and <eos> for the beginning and end of a sentence.)

(c) (3pts) Continuing the previous part, what five tokens would be passed into the decoder at evaluation time for $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_5$ when a translation is being generated?

(Here, you can assume that the decoder only emits a single possibility for each word.)
10. Graph Neural Networks (22 points)

(a) (8pts) For an undirected graph with no labels on edges, the function that we compute at each layer of a Graph Neural Network must respect certain properties so that the same function (with weight-sharing) can be used at different nodes in the graph. Let’s focus on a single particular “layer” \( \ell \). For a given node \( i \) in the graph, let \( s^{\ell-1}_i \) be the self-message (i.e. the state computed at the previous layer for this node) for this node from the preceeding layer, while the preceeding layer messages from the \( n_i \) neighbors of node \( i \) are denoted by \( m^{\ell-1}_{i,j} \) where \( j \) ranges from 1 to \( n_i \). We will use \( w \) with subscripts and superscripts to denote learnable scalar weights. If there’s no superscript, the weights are shared across layers. Assume that all dimensions work out.

Tell which of these are valid functions for this node’s computation of the next self-message \( s^{\ell}_i \).

For any choices that are not valid, briefly point out why.

Note: we are not asking you to judge whether these are useful or will have well behaved gradients. Validity means that they respect the invariances and equivariances that we need to be able to deploy as a GNN on an undirected graph.

• \( s^{\ell}_i = w_1 s^{\ell-1}_i + w_2 \frac{1}{n_i} \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} m^{\ell-1}_{i,j} \)

• \( s^{\ell}_i = \max(w_1 s^{\ell-1}_i, w_2 m^{\ell-1}_{i,1}, w_2 m^{\ell-1}_{i,2}, \ldots, w_2 m^{\ell-1}_{i,n_i}) \) where the max acts component-wise on the vectors.

• Assume scalar states and messages for this item. \( s^{\ell}_i = s^{\ell-1}_i \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} w_j m^{\ell-1}_{i,j} \)
PRINT your name and student ID: __________________________________________________________

[Extra page. If you want the work on this page to be graded, make sure you tell us on the problem’s main page.]
(b) (6pts) We are given the following simple graph on which we want to train a GNN. The goal is binary node classification (i.e. classifying the nodes as belonging to type 1 or 0) and we want to hold back nodes 1 and 4 to evaluate performance at the end while using the rest for training. We decide that the surrogate loss to be used for training is the average binary cross-entropy loss.

![Simple Undirected Graph]

**Figure 6: Simple Undirected Graph**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>nodes</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$y_i$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\hat{y}_i$</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>c</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: $y_i$ is the ground truth label, while $\hat{y}_i$ is the predicted probability of node $i$ belonging to class 1 after training.

Table 1 gives you relevant information about the situation.

**Please compute the training loss at the end of training.**

Remember that with $n$ training points, the formula for average binary cross-entropy loss is

\[
\frac{1}{n} \sum_x \left( y(x) \log \frac{1}{\hat{y}(x)} + (1 - y(x)) \log \left( \frac{1}{1 - \hat{y}(x)} \right) \right)
\]

where the $x$ in the sum ranges over the training points and $\hat{y}(x)$ is the network’s predicted probability that the label for point $x$ is 1.
PRINT your name and student ID: 

(c) (8pts) Suppose we decide to use the following update rule for the internal state of the nodes at layer \( \ell \).

\[
s^{\ell}_i = s^{\ell-1}_i + W_1 \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \tanh \left( W_2 m^{\ell-1}_{i,j} \right)
\]

(2)

where the \( \tanh \) nonlinearity acts element-wise.

For a given node \( i \) in the graph, let \( s^{\ell-1}_i \) be the self-message for this node from the preceeding layer, while the preceeding layer messages from the \( n_i \) neighbors of node \( i \) are denoted by \( m^{\ell-1}_{i,j} \) where \( j \) ranges from 1 to \( n_i \). We will use \( W \) with subscripts and superscripts to denote learnable weights in matrix form. If there’s no superscript, the weights are shared across layers.

- **Which of the following design patterns does this update rule have?** (Select all that apply)
  - Residual connection
  - Batch normalization
  - Attention

- **If the dimension of the state \( s \) is \( d \)-dimensional and \( W_2 \) has \( k \) rows, what are the dimensions of the matrix \( W_1 \)?**

- If we choose to use the state \( s^{\ell-1}_i \) itself as the message \( m^{\ell-1}_i \) going to all of node \( i \)'s neighbors, please write out the update rules corresponding to (2) giving \( s^\ell_i \) for the graph in Figure 6 for nodes \( i = 2 \) and \( i = 3 \) in terms of information from earlier layers. Expand out all sums.
11. Regularization and Dropout (14 points)

You saw one perspective on the implicit regularization of dropout in HW, and here, you will see another one. Recall that linear regression optimizes the following learning objective:

\[ L(w) = ||y - Xw||_2^2 \]  

(3)

One way of using dropout during SGD on the \( d \)-dimensional input features \( x_i \) involves keeping each feature at random \(~\text{i.i.d} \ Bernoulli(p)\) (and zeroing it out if not kept) and then performing a traditional SGD step. It turns out that such dropout makes our learning objective effectively become

\[ L(\tilde{w}) = E_{R \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)} \left[ ||y - (R \odot X)\tilde{w}||_2^2 \right] \]  

(4)

where \( \odot \) is the element-wise product and the random binary matrix \( R \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times d} \) is such that \( R_{i,j} \sim \text{i.i.d} \ Bernoulli(p) \). We use \( \tilde{w} \) to remind you that this is learned by dropout.

Recalling how Tikhonov-regularized (generalized ridge-regression) least-squares problems involve solving:

\[ L(w) = ||y - Xw||_2^2 + ||\Gamma w||_2^2 \]  

(5)

for some suitable matrix \( \Gamma \), it turns out we can manipulate (4) to eliminate the expectations and get:

\[ L(\tilde{w}) = ||y - pX\tilde{w}||_2^2 + p(1-p)||\tilde{\Gamma}\tilde{w}||_2^2 \]  

(6)

with \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) being a diagonal matrix whose \( j \)-th diagonal entry is the norm of the \( j \)-th column of the training matrix \( X \).

(a) (4pts) **How should we transform the \( \tilde{w} \) we learn using (6) (i.e. with dropout) to get something that looks a solution to the traditionally regularized problem (5)?**

*(Hint: This is related to how we adjust weights learned using dropout training for using them at inference time. PyTorch by default does this adjustment during training itself, but here, we are doing dropout slightly differently with no adjustments during training.)*
(b) (6pts) With the understanding that the \( \Gamma \) in (5) is an invertible matrix, change variables in (5) to make the problem look like classical ridge regression:

\[
L(\tilde{w}) = ||y - \tilde{X}\tilde{w}||^2_2 + \lambda ||\tilde{w}||^2_2
\]  

(7)

Explicitly, what is the changed data matrix \( \tilde{X} \) in terms of the original data matrix \( X \) and \( \Gamma \)?

(c) (4pts) Continuing the previous part, with the further understanding that \( \Gamma \) is a diagonal invertible matrix with the \( j \)-th diagonal entry proportional to the norm of the \( j \)-th column in \( X \), what can you say about the norms of the columns of the effective training matrix \( \tilde{X} \) and speculate briefly on the relationship between dropout and batch-normalization.
12. **Self-supervised Linear Autoencoders (14 points)**

We consider linear models consisting of two weight matrices: an encoder $W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}$ and decoder $W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$ (assume $1 < k < m$). The traditional autoencoder model learns a low-dimensional embedding of the $n$ points of training data $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ by minimizing the objective,

$$
L(W_1, W_2; X) = \frac{1}{n} \| X - W_2 W_1 X \|_F^2. 
$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)

We will assume $\sigma_1^2 > \cdots > \sigma_k^2 > \sigma_{k+1}^2 \geq 0$ are the $k+1$ largest eigenvalues of $\frac{1}{n} XX^T$. The assumption that the $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_k$ are positive and distinct ensures identifiability of the principal components.

Consider an $\ell_2$-regularized linear autoencoder where the objective is:

$$
L_\lambda(W_1, W_2; X) = \frac{1}{n} \| X - W_2 W_1 X \|_F^2 + \lambda \| W_1 \|_F^2 + \lambda \| W_2 \|_F^2. 
$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

where $\| \cdot \|_F^2$ represents the Frobenius norm squared of the matrix (i.e. sum of squares of the entries).

(a) (9pts) You want to use SGD-style training (involving the training points one at a time) and self-supervision to find $W_1$ and $W_2$ which optimize (9) by treating the problem as a neural net being trained in a supervised fashion. Briefly answer the following questions:

- **How many linear layers do you need?**
  - □ 0
  - □ 1
  - □ 2
  - □ 3

- **What is the loss function that you will be using?**
  - □ nn.L1Loss
  - □ nn.MSELoss
  - □ nn.CrossEntropyLoss

- **Which of the following would you need to optimize (9)? (Select all that are needed)**
  - □ Weight Decay
  - □ Dropout
  - □ Layer Norm
  - □ Batch Norm
  - □ SGD optimizer
  - □ Adam optimizer
(b) (5pts) Do you think that the solution to (9) when we use a small nonzero $\lambda$ has an inductive bias towards finding a $W_2$ matrix with approximately orthonormal columns? Argue why or why not?

(Hint: Think about the SVDs of $W_1 = U_1 \Sigma_1 V_1^\top$ and $W_2 = U_2 \Sigma_2 V_2^\top$. You can assume that if a $k \times m$ or $m \times k$ matrix has all $k$ of its nonzero singular values being 1, then it must have orthonormal rows or columns. Remember that the Frobenius norm squared of a matrix is just the sum of the squares of its singular values. Further think about the minimizer of $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} + \sigma^2$. Is it unique?)
PRINT your name and student ID: ____________________________________________

[Doodle page! Draw us something if you want or give us suggestions or complaints. You can also use this page to report anything suspicious that you might have noticed.

If needed, you can also use this space to work on problems. But if you want the work on this page to be graded, make sure you tell us on the problem’s main page.]