

Profs. Nicolas Flammarion and Martin Jaggi Machine Learning - CS-433 - IC 18.01.2024 from 15h15 to 18h15 in STCC

Duration: 180 minutes

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# Student One

SCIPER: 111111

Do not turn the page before the start of the exam. This document is double-sided, has 20 pages, the last ones are possibly blank. Do not unstaple.

- This is a closed book exam. No electronic devices of any kind.
- Place on your desk: your student ID, writing utensils, one double-sided A4 page cheat sheet if you have one; place all other personal items below your desk.
- You each have a different exam.
- This exam has many questions. We do not expect you to solve all of them even for the best grade
- Only answers in this booklet count. No extra loose answer sheets. You can use the last two pages as scrap paper.
- For the **multiple choice** questions, we give :
  - +2 points if your answer is correct,
    - 0 points for incorrect or no answer
- For the **true/false** questions, we give :
  - +1.5 points if your answer is correct,
    - 0 points for incorrect or no answer
- Use a black or dark blue ballpen and clearly erase with correction fluid if necessary.
- If a question turns out to be wrong or ambiguous, we may decide to nullify it.

Respectez les consignes suiva	ntes   Observe this guidelines   Beachten Sie bitt	e die unten stehenden Richtlinien
choisir une réponse   select an answer Antwort auswählen	ne PAS choisir une réponse   NOT select an answer NICHT Antwort auswählen	Corriger une réponse   Correct an answer Antwort korrigieren
ce qu'il ne f	aut ${f PAS}$ faire $\mid$ what should ${f NOT}$ be done $\mid$ was man ${f N}$	IICHT tun sollte

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# First part: multiple choice questions

For each question, mark the box corresponding to the correct answer. Each question has **exactly one** correct answer.

# Linear regression / Loss functions

Figure 1 below shows the three different datasets (A, B, C) and the same linear model used to predict each of these datasets.

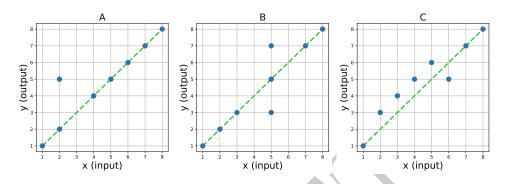


Figure 1: 3 Datasets (A, B, C), and a linear model represented by the dashed line (from  $\mathbb{R}^1$  to  $\mathbb{R}^1$ )

Question 1 Choose the correct ordering with respect to MSE (Mean Squared Error) loss

	$MSE_{B}$		A CCT		MOD
	$MSE_{R}$	>	MOE 4	>	MSEC

$$\square$$
 MSE<sub>B</sub> > MSE<sub>C</sub> > MSE<sub>A</sub>

$$\square$$
 MSE<sub>A</sub> > MSE<sub>C</sub> > MSE<sub>B</sub>

$$\square$$
 MSE<sub>C</sub> > MSE<sub>B</sub> > MSE<sub>A</sub>

$$\square$$
 MSE<sub>A</sub> > MSE<sub>B</sub> > MSE<sub>C</sub>

$$\square$$
 MSE<sub>C</sub> > MSE<sub>A</sub> > MSE<sub>B</sub>

Question 2 Choose the correct ordering with respect to MAE (Mean Absolute Error) loss

$$\square$$
 MAE<sub>A</sub> > MAE<sub>C</sub> > MAE<sub>B</sub>

$$\square$$
 MAE<sub>B</sub> > MAE<sub>C</sub> > MAE<sub>A</sub>

$$\square$$
 MAE<sub>C</sub> > MAE<sub>A</sub> > MAE<sub>B</sub>

$$\square$$
 MAE<sub>B</sub> > MAE<sub>A</sub> > MAE<sub>C</sub>

$$\square$$
 MAE<sub>C</sub> > MAE<sub>B</sub> > MAE<sub>A</sub>

# Log-likelihood

Question 3 Let us assume that our data is generated by the model  $y_n = \mathbf{x}_n^{\top} \mathbf{w}_{\text{true}} + \varepsilon_n$ , where  $\varepsilon_n$  follows a random distribution such that  $p(y_n | \mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{w}_{\text{true}}) = \frac{1}{2b} e^{-\frac{1}{b}|y_n - \mathbf{x}_n^{\top} \mathbf{w}_{\text{true}}|}$ , and b is a fixed parameter. We would like to maximize log-likelihood to find a good estimate of  $\mathbf{w}_{\text{true}}$ . Which of the following formulations is **NOT** equivalent to MLE?

$\sum_{n=1}^{N}  y_n - \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} $
$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{b}  y_n - \mathbf{x}_n^\top \mathbf{w} $
$\sum_{n=1}^{N} p(y_n \mathbf{x}_n,\mathbf{w})$
$\log(p(\mathbf{y} \mathbf{x},\mathbf{w}))$

# Optimization

Question 4 We are using Gradient Descent to find the 1-dimensional global minimum  $w^*$  by optimizing the loss function  $\mathcal{L}(w)$  at iteration t.  $\mathcal{L}(w)$  is strictly convex, so it has a unique minimum. If  $w^t > w^*$ , what is true about the gradient of the loss function,  $\nabla \mathcal{L}(w^t)$ , and the next iteration of the parameter  $w^{t+1}$ ?

<	$w^t$
<	$w^t$
>	$w^t$
>	$w^t$

# Logistic Regression

Question 5 Which of the following statements is true about the logistic regression model?

Logistic regression gives a max-margin classifier
By minimizing negative log-likelihood, we can obtain a closed-form solution for logistic regression
In logistic regression, we calculate the weights $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = (\mathbf{X}^{\top}\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{\top}\mathbf{y}$ , and then fit responses as $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sigma(\mathbf{X}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$
 If we run Gradient Descent to solve a logistic regression task on linearly separable data, the weights will not converge

#### k-NN

**Question 6** Recall the bound on the 1-NN generalization error for  $(X,Y) \sim \mathcal{D}$  over  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} = [0,1]^d \times \{0,1\}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}_{S_{\text{train}}}\left[L\left(f_{S_{\text{train}}}\right)\right] \leq 2L(f_{\star}) + 4c\sqrt{d}N^{-\frac{1}{d+1}},$$

where  $f_{S_{\text{train}}}$  is the 1-NN classifier with the train dataset  $S_{\text{train}}$ ,  $f_{\star}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{1}_{\eta(\mathbf{x}) \geq \frac{1}{2}}$  is the Bayes optimal classifier and  $\eta(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 \mid X = x)$  is a c-Lipschitz function.

Now, assume that the same setting is verified but X is now distributed over  $[0,1]^d \cap L$  where L is a p-dimensional plane inside  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with p < d. How does the number of samples N need to scale in terms of p or d to guarantee that the worst-case error does not exceed a fixed  $\varepsilon$  with 1-NN classifier?

N	$\propto$	n
V	$\sim$	$\nu$

$$\bigcap N \propto d$$

$$N \propto 2^p$$

$$N \propto 2^d$$

## K-means clustering

Question 7 Consider K-means with a modification to the loss seen in class such that each data point  $\mathbf{x}_n$  is now weighted according to function w with weight  $w(\mathbf{x}_n) \geq 0$ . The optimization problem becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\mu}} \ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \sum_{k=1}^{K} z_{nk} \|\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k\|_2^2 \\ & \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{\mu}_k \in \mathbb{R}^D, \ z_{nk} \in \{0, 1\}, \sum_{k=1}^{K} z_{nk} = 1, \\ & \text{where } \mathbf{z}_n = [z_{n1}, z_{n2}, \dots, z_{nK}]^\top, \mathbf{z} = [\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \dots, \mathbf{z}_N]^\top, \boldsymbol{\mu} = [\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_K]^\top \end{aligned}$$

Following the same strategy as for K-means, the new iterative updates become

$$\square z_{nk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = \arg\min_{j} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \|\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j\|_2^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\mu}_k = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N z_{nk} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \mathbf{x}_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N z_{nk}}$$

$$\square z_{nk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = \arg\min_{j} \|\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j\|_2^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\mu}_k = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{N} z_{nk} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \mathbf{x}_n}{\sum_{n=1}^{N} z_{nk} w(\mathbf{x}_n)}$$

## GMM & K-means

#### Question 8

Four simulated datasets are illustrated in Figure 2. As you can see, we have 3 distinct clusters in each dataset. We are interested in applying either K-means clustering or a Gaussian mixture model (GMM) for recovering the correct clustering (meaning that the clustering algorithm correctly assigns each data point to its true underlying cluster). Assuming sufficient initializations, which of the following statements is correct?

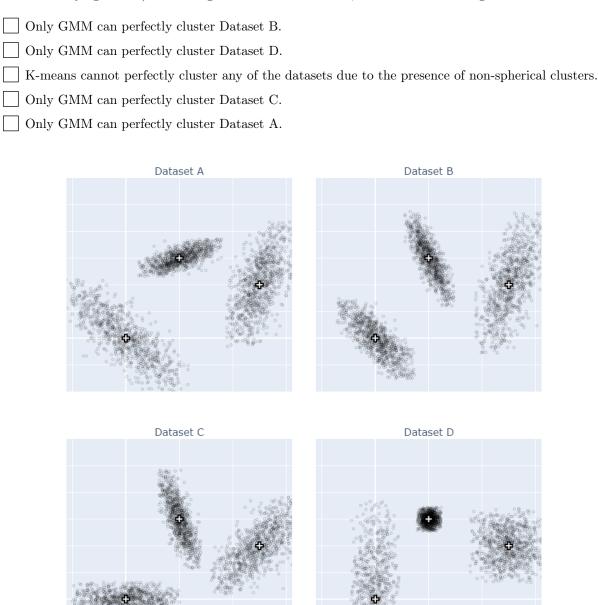


Figure 2: 4 simulated datasets. The center of each cluster is marked with a +.

## Neural Networks & Deep Learning

**Question 9** Consider an alternative attention mechanism where the attention weights  $p_{i,j}$  forming **P** and the outputs **Z** are given by:

$$p_{i,j} = \frac{\text{ReLU}(\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_j^\top)}{\sum_{t=1}^{T_{in}} \text{ReLU}(\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_t^\top)}$$
$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{PV}$$

Here all vectors are row vectors like in the transformer lecture. Ignore cases where the denominator for  $p_{i,j}$  is zero (assume that never happens). Which of the following statements best captures the difference compared to standard attention with  $\mathbf{P} = \operatorname{softmax}(\frac{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{\top}}{\sqrt{D_k}})$ ?

$\square$ The alternative mechanism has a different big- $\mathcal O$ computational complexity
The alternative mechanism does not compute proper, i.e. based on a valid probability distribution, weighted averages of the value tokens
The alternative mechanism has <b>P</b> that is invariant to a rescaling $\mathbf{Q} \mapsto \alpha \mathbf{Q}$ for constant $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$
The alternative mechanism is non-linear unlike standard attention
The alternative mechanism explicitly accounts for the order of the inputs and therefore shouldn't require positional embeddings unlike standard attention
None of the other statements are correct
Matrix Factorization Question 10 Given matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ with eigenvectors $(1,2,1)^{\top}$ and $(1,1,0)^{\top}$ , both with eigenvalue 4,
and $trace(A) = 2$ . What is the determinant of A?
and $trace(A) = 2$ . What is the determinant of $A$ ?

## **Bias-Variance Decomposition**

Question 11 Consider data consisting of input-output pairs (x,y) coming from an unknown distribution  $\mathcal{D}$ , where the input  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  follows an unknown distribution  $\mathcal{D}_x$  and the output  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  is generated as  $y = f(x) + \varepsilon g(x)$ . The functions  $f, g : \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$  are unknown, and the random error term  $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{D}_\varepsilon$  is independent of the input and has mean 0 and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Given a training set S sampled from  $\mathcal{D}$ , let  $h_S : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$  be the predictor learned by our ML algorithm. Let  $L(h_S) = \mathbb{E}_{\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{D}_\varepsilon} \left[ \left( f(x_0) + \varepsilon g(x_0) - h_S(x_0) \right)^2 \right]$  be the error at some fixed point  $x_0$ . Which of the following answers gives the **correct** expression for the expected error  $\mathbb{E}_{S \sim \mathcal{D}}[L(h_S)] = \mathbb{E}_{S \sim \mathcal{D}, \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{D}_\varepsilon} \left[ \left( f(x_0) + \varepsilon g(x_0) - h_S(x_0) \right)^2 \right]$ ?

## **Transformers**

**Question 12** Considering a sequence of n tokens, the computational complexity of the masked attention mechanism in BERT language models is:

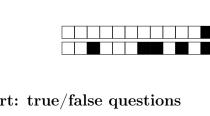
 $\bigcup \mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ 

 $\square \mathcal{O}(n)$ 

 $\square \mathcal{O}(n^{1/2})$ 

 $\bigcup \mathcal{O}(n^2)$ 

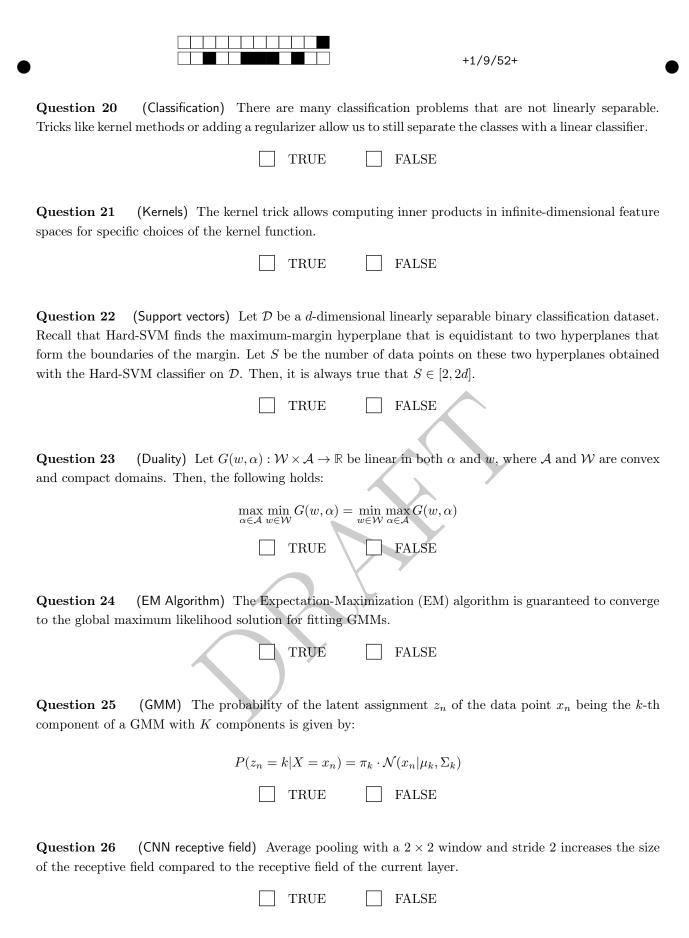




## Second part: true/false questions

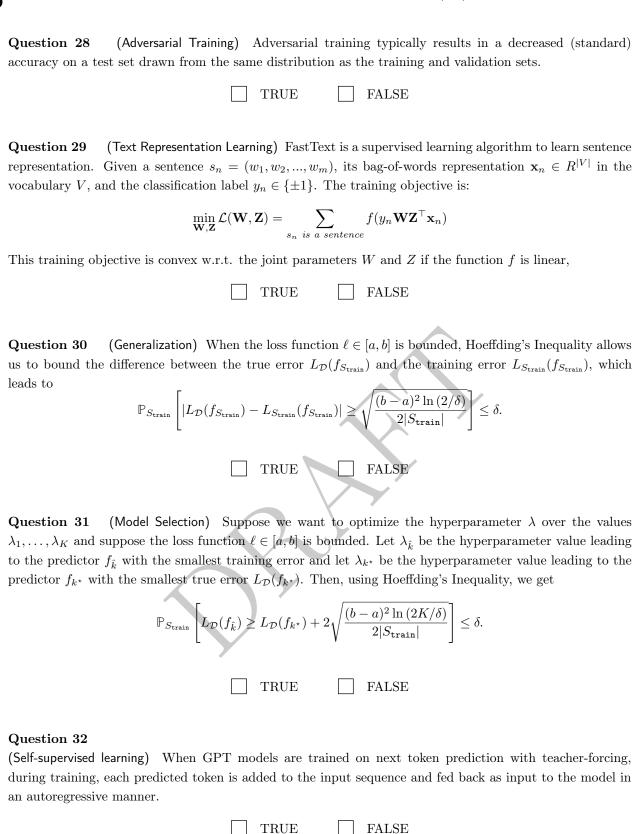
For each question, mark the box (without erasing) TRUE if the statement is always true and the box

FALSE if it is **not always true** (i.e., it is sometimes false). Question 13 (Linear regression) For linear regression with no regularization, scaling the features (e.g. as in data normalization) does not change the model's performance, assuming that we can efficiently compute the optimum model in both cases, i.e. numerical stability/efficiency of finding the optimum model is not a concern. TRUE FALSE Question 14 (Linear regression) For linear regression with no regularization, centering the features (as in data normalization) does not change the model's performance, assuming that we can efficiently compute the optimum model in both cases, i.e. numerical stability/efficiency of finding the optimum model is not a concern. FALSE TRUE (Feature expansion) Unnecessary polynomial expansion of input features can lead to un-Question 15 derfitting. (Ridge regression) Ridge regression can help mitigate the impact of ill-conditioned data Question 16 matrices during training, but it does not make the solution sparse. It consists of minimizing the following loss function:  $\sum_{n=1}^{N} (y_n - \mathbf{x}_n^{\top} \mathbf{w})^2 + \lambda ||\mathbf{w}||_2^2$ FALSE (Gradient Descent) When training a Deep Neural Network, it is better to use classical Question 17 gradient descent rather than stochastic gradient descent with mini-batches to optimize the parameters of the network. TRUE FALSE (Optimization) The Mean Absolute Error (MAE) loss function is more robust to outliers Question 18 in the training dataset than the Mean Squared Error (MSE) loss function. TRUE FALSE Question 19 (Logistic regression) One step of SGD for Logistic Regression will result in a change to the parameters only if the current example is incorrectly classified. TRUE FALSE



Question 27 (Transformer) The computational complexity of a forward pass through a standard, single-headed, encoder-only transformer of depth L, embedding dimension D, sequence length S and using a batch size of N is:  $\mathcal{O}(NLSD^2)$ 

TRUE FALSE



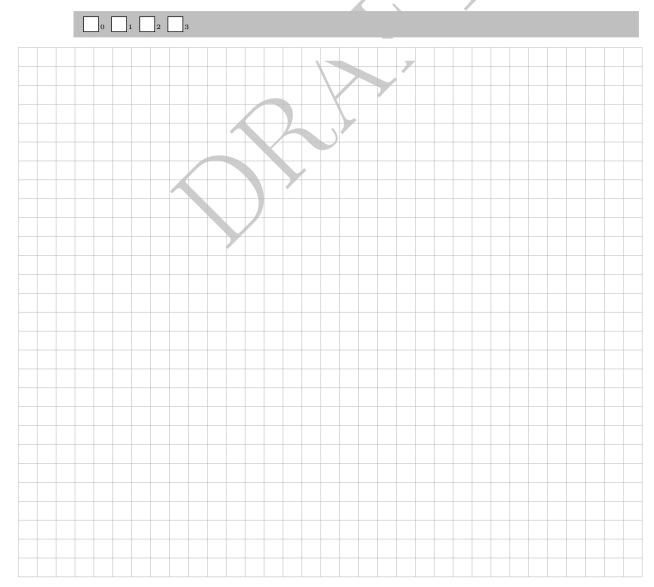
# Third part, open questions

Answer in the space provided! Your answer must be justified with all steps. Leave the check-boxes empty, they are used for the grading.

## 1 Neural networks

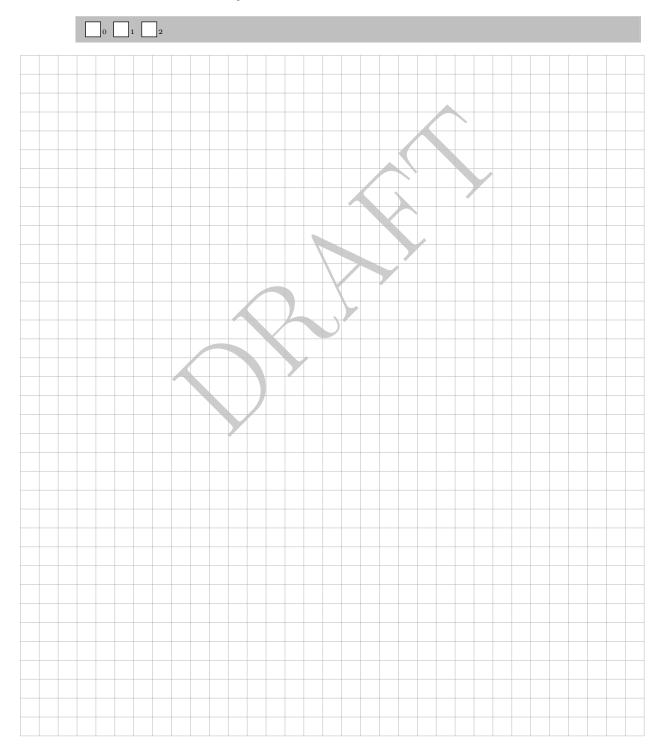
Question 33: (3 points.) Let's denote the input to the network as  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , network parameters as  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , and let's define some additional variables  $\gamma, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . Consider a two-layer network  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{v}^{\top} \phi(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x})$  where  $\phi(z_i) = (z_i - \gamma_i)/\beta_i$  which can be seen as using batch normalization with fixed batch statistics  $\gamma_i$  and  $\beta_i$  instead of a standard activation function. Assume that we are using the squared loss  $\ell(\mathbf{x}, y) = (f(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$ . Answer the following questions with a proper derivation or a counter-example:

- (a) Is the network f an affine (i.e., linear with a bias term) function of the input  $\mathbf{x}$ ?
- (b) Is the loss  $\ell$  convex with respect to parameter **W**?
- (c) Let's define  $\gamma$  as the vector whose every coordinate equals the average of the pre-activation values  $\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i} \mathbf{w}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$ . Does this change the answer to question (a)? Does this change the answer to question (b)?



Question 34: (2 points.) The GeLU activation function (popular for transformer architectures) is usually implemented as  $\phi(z) = z\sigma(cz)$  where  $z \in \mathbb{R}, \ c \approx 1.702$ , and  $\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$ .

- (a) Write down the derivative  $\frac{d\phi(z)}{dz}$  and simplify the resulting expression.
- (b) What is the value of  $\frac{d\phi(z)}{dz}$  when  $z \to -\infty$  and  $z \to \infty$ ? Show intermediate calculations of the limits.
- (c) Discuss the relationship between the derivatives of GeLU and ReLU. For which inputs z they are similar and for which z they differ?



# 2 GMMs with weights

We consider a modification of the Gaussian Mixture Model seen in class where each data point  $\mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is now weighted according to function w with weight  $w(\mathbf{x}_n) \geq 0$ . As in the lectures we use Expectation-Maximization and are interested in deriving the updates to optimize this new objective.

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \sum_{n=1}^{N} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \log \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \, \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n \, | \, \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)$$
Where
$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_K, \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_K, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_K),$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k = 1, \pi_k \geq 0, \text{ and}$$

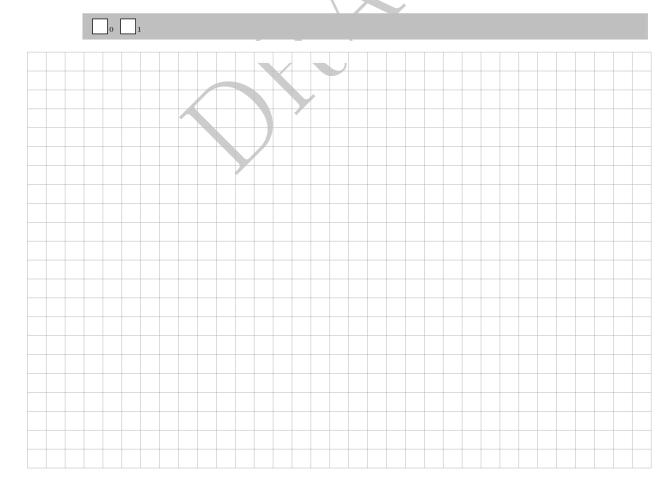
$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} \, | \, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \det(\boldsymbol{\Sigma})^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$

We have derived the E-step for you, serving as a lower bound to  $\mathcal{L}(\theta)$ . Below, you will find the maximization problem of the M-step, which you must solve to obtain the new parameter updates.

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \underset{\boldsymbol{\theta}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ \sum_{n=1}^{N} w(\mathbf{x}_n) \sum_{k=1}^{K} q_{kn}^{(t)} \left[ \log \pi_k + \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \right]$$

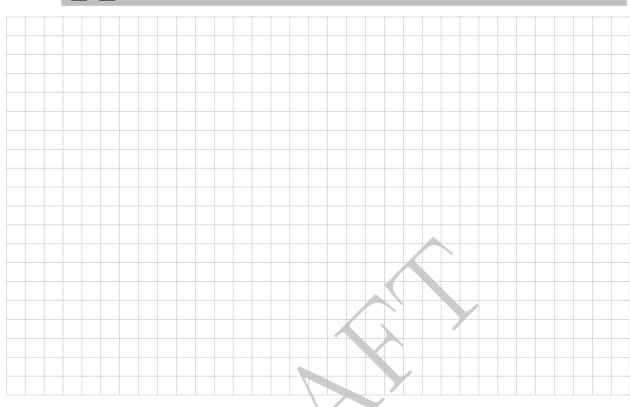
Where  $q_{kn}^{(t)} = \frac{\pi_k^{(t)} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k^{(t)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{(t)})}{\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{(t)} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k^{(t)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{(t)})}$ . For simplicity you can assume that d=1 (in that case  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \sigma^2$ ).

Question 35: (1 point.) Derive  $\mu_k^{(t+1)}$ .

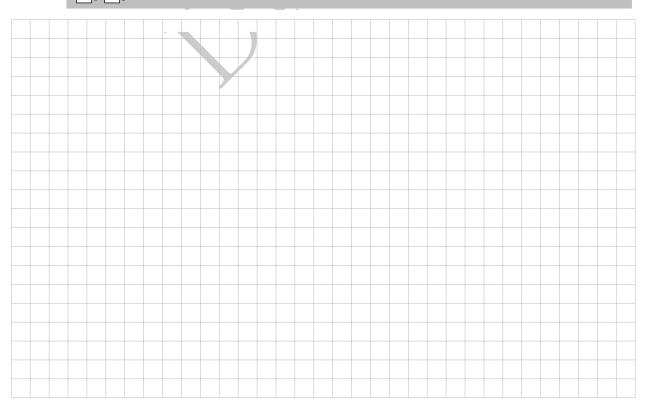


**Question 36:** (1 point.) Derive  $\Sigma_k^{(t+1)}$ .

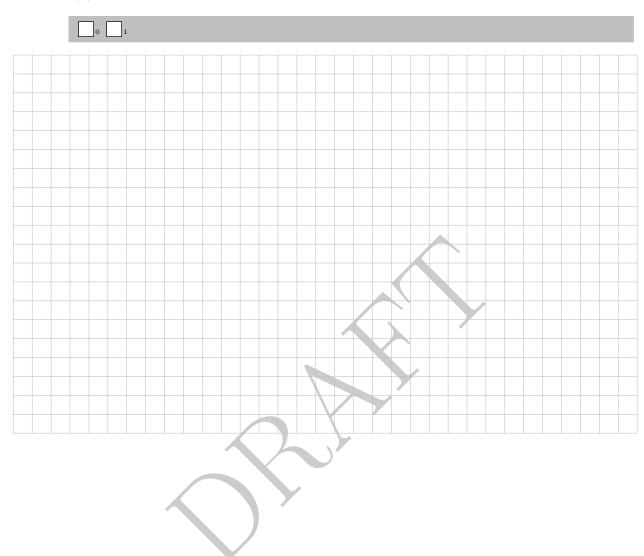
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Question 37: (1 point.) Derive  $\pi_k^{(t+1)}$ 



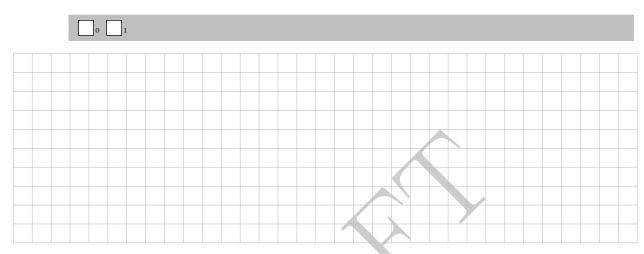
Question 38: (1 point.) If w was an integer function (i.e.  $w(\mathbf{x}_n) \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ ), can the weighted objective be solved using only a routine for solving the unweighted objective and a data preprocessing method? Justify your answer.



## 3 Diffusion Models

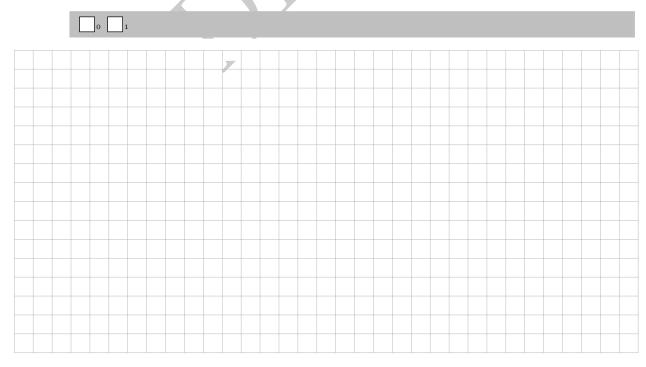
You are given the Markov chain associated with a diffusion model  $\{X_0, X_1, \ldots, X_T\}$  with  $X_0 \sim p_{\text{data}}$  and  $p_{\text{data}} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  the distribution of the data. The forward transition, which is the conditional distribution such that  $X_{t+1} \sim p(\cdot|X_t)$ , is chosen to be Gaussian with density  $p(x_{t+1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t+1}; \alpha x_t, (1-\alpha^2)\mathbb{I}_d)$  and  $\alpha > 0$ .

Question 39: (1 point.) Given this choice of the forward transition, what is the distribution of  $X_T$  when  $T \to \infty$ ? (answer only, no derivation is required)



To create a generative model, we want to sample from the backward process using ancestral sampling and approximating the backward transition with a Taylor expansion such that  $p(x_t|x_{t+1}) \approx \mathcal{N}(x_t; (2-\alpha)x_{t+1} + (1-\alpha^2)\nabla \log p(x_{t+1}), (1-\alpha^2)\mathbb{I}_d)$ .

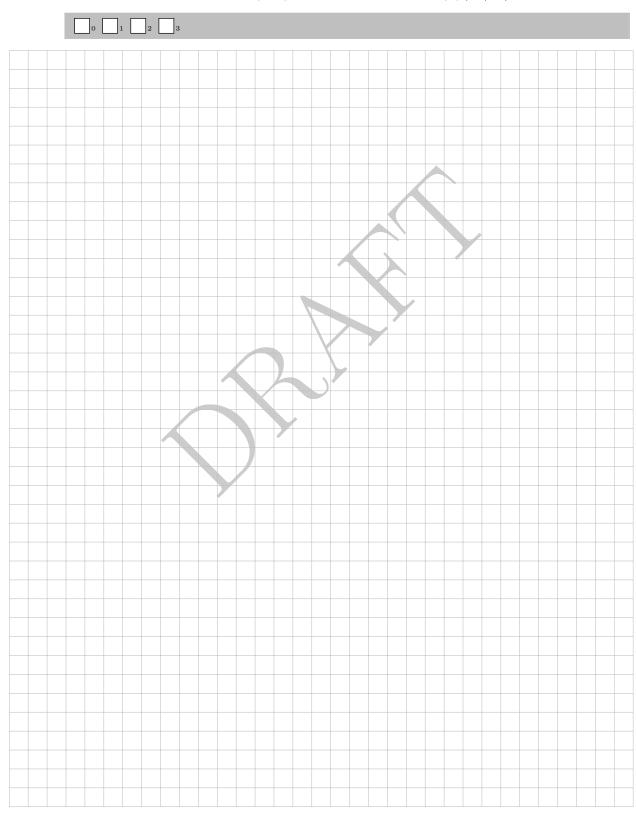
**Question 40:** (1 point.) Explain in words why the approximate backward transition in the given form still cannot be computed exactly.



We approximate the score  $\nabla \log p(x_t)$  using a Neural network  $s_{\theta}(x_t)$  with parameters  $\theta$  and solving the following regression problem:

$$\theta^* = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{X_t} \left[ \| \nabla \log p(X_t) - s_{\theta}(X_t) \|^2 \right]$$
 (L)

Question 41: (3 points.) Show how the denoising score matching loss in the above equation (L) can be rewritten in a tractable form that only requires the conditional density  $p(X_t|X_0)$ :



Given our Gaussian choice for the forward transition, we know that the density at each time step t conditioned on the initial point is also Gaussian  $p(x_t|x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_t; \alpha^t x_0, (1-\alpha^{2t})\mathbb{I}_d)$  and therefore  $X_t = \alpha^t X_0 + \sqrt{1-\alpha^{2t}}\xi_t$  with  $\xi_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbb{I}_d)$ .

Question 42: (1 point.) Explain why the score matching loss can be interpreted as learning to predict the added noise from the noised data, remember that  $\nabla \log p(x_t|x_0) = -\frac{(x_t - \alpha^t x_0)}{(1 - \alpha^{2t})}$ .

