

# Machine Learning Background Test

Problem 1: Let  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{X}_{ij} * \mathbf{Y}_{ij}$ . Show that  $\text{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y}) = \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \rangle$ , where  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  is the *trace* operator, based on which we can immediately get  $\frac{\partial \text{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y})}{\partial \mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{Y}$  and  $\frac{\partial \text{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Y})}{\partial \mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{X}$ .

Problem 2: Given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} (m > n)$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , also we define for  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\|\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 = \mathbf{z}_1^2 + \mathbf{z}_2^2 + \dots + \mathbf{z}_m^2$ , please find the best  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to minimize  $\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2$  (closed solution is expected). This is so called *Least Squares* problem.

Problem 3: Please utilize *gradient descent* idea to write a program to minimize  $\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2$ , where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 2}$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^4$  can be randomly generated in MATLAB or Python. Also, please compare the result with closed solution obtained in Problem 2.

Problem 4: Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , please show that if we have  $[\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{\Lambda}, \mathbf{V}] = \text{svd}(\mathbf{X})$ , then  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$  (*svd* is short for *Singular Value Decomposition*).

Problem 5: Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a matrix. Which of the following statements are equivalent to “ $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible”? If you think the statement is equivalent, please denote with “T”, or a counterexample is expected, **NO** proof is needed.

- The columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- The rows of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly independent
- $\text{trace}(\mathbf{A}) \neq 0$
- $\|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 > 0$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$
- $\det(\mathbf{A}) \neq 0$