# 529 A Missing lemmas for the proof of Theorem 3.1

Lemma A.1 (Daniely and Vardi [15]). For every predicate  $P : \{0,1\}^k \to \{0,1\}$  and  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$ , there is a DNF formula  $\psi$  over  $\{0,1\}^{kn}$  with at most  $2^k$  terms, such that for every hyperedge S we

have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = \psi(\mathbf{z}^S)$ . Moreover, each term in  $\psi$  is a conjunction of positive literals.

<sup>533</sup> *Proof.* The following proof is from Daniely and Vardi [15], and we give it here for completeness.

We denote by  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^k$  the set of satisfying assignments of *P*. Note that the size of  $\mathcal{B}$  is at most  $2^k$ . Consider the following DNF formula over  $\{0, 1\}^{kn}$ :

$$\psi(\mathbf{z}) = \bigvee_{\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}} \bigwedge_{j \in [k]} \bigwedge_{\{l: x_l \neq b_j\}} z_{j,l}$$

536 For a hyperedge  $S = (i_1, \ldots, i_k)$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \psi(\mathbf{z}^{S}) &= 1 \iff \exists \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B} \; \forall j \in [k] \; \forall x_{l} \neq b_{j}, \; z_{j,l}^{S} = 1 \\ \iff \exists \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B} \; \forall j \in [k] \; \forall x_{l} \neq b_{j}, \; i_{j} \neq l \\ \iff \exists \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B} \; \forall j \in [k], \; x_{i_{j}} = b_{j} \\ \iff \exists \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}, \; \mathbf{x}_{S} = \mathbf{b} \\ \iff P(\mathbf{x}_{S}) = 1 \\ \iff P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S}) = 1 \; . \end{split}$$

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Lemma A.2. Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$ . There exists an affine layer with at most  $2^k$  outputs, weights bounded by a constant and bias terms bounded by  $n \log(n)$  (for a sufficiently large n), such that given an input  $\mathbf{z}^S \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$  for some hyperedge S, it satisfies the following: For S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$  all outputs are at most -1, and for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  there exists an output greater or equal to 2.

*Proof.* By Lemma A.1, there exists a DNF formula  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}$  over  $\{0, 1\}^{kn}$  with at most  $2^k$  terms, such that  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S)$ . Thus, if  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$  then all terms in  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}$  are not satisfied for the input  $\mathbf{z}^S$ , and if  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  then there is at least one term in  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}$  which is satisfied for the input  $\mathbf{z}^S$ . Therefore, it suffices to construct an affine layer such that for an input  $\mathbf{z}^S$ , the *j*-th output will be at most -1 if the *j*-th term of  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}$  is not satisfied, and at least 2 otherwise. Each term  $C_j$  in  $\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}$  is a conjunction of positive literals. Let  $I_j \subseteq [kn]$  be the indices of these literals. The *j*-th output of the affine layer will be

$$\left(\sum_{l\in I_j} 3z_l^S\right) - 3|I_j| + 2.$$

Note that if the conjunction  $C_j$  holds, then this expression is exactly  $3|I_j| - 3|I_j| + 2 = 2$ , and otherwise it is at most  $3(|I_j| - 1) - 3|I_j| + 2 = -1$ . Finally, note that all weights are bounded by 3 and all bias terms are bounded by  $n \log(n)$  (for large enough n).

Lemma A.3. Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . There exists a depth-2 neural network  $N_1$  with input dimension kn, 2kn hidden neurons, at most  $2^k$  output neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (for a sufficiently large n), which satisfies the following. We denote the set of output neurons of  $N_1$  by  $\mathcal{E}_1$ . Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  be such that  $\Psi(\mathbf{z}') = \mathbf{z}^S$  for some hyperedge S, and assume that for every  $i \in [kn]$  we have  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ . Then, for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$  the inputs to all neurons  $\mathcal{E}_1$  are at most -1, and for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_1$  with input at least 2. Moreover, only the second layer of  $N_1$  depends on  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Proof. First, we construct a depth-2 neural network  $N_{\Psi} : \mathbb{R}^{kn} \to [0,1]^{kn}$  with a single layer of nonlinearity, such that for every  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  with  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$  for every  $i \in [kn]$ , we have  $N_{\Psi}(\mathbf{z}') = \Psi(\mathbf{z}')$ . The network  $N_{\Psi}$  has 2kn hidden neurons, and computes  $N_{\Psi}(\mathbf{z}') = (f(z'_1), \ldots, f(z'_{kn}))$ , where  $f : \mathbb{R} \to [0, 1]$  is such that

$$f(t) = n^2 \cdot \left( [t-c]_+ - \left[ t - \left( c + \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \right]_+ \right) \,.$$

Note that if  $t \le c$  then f(t) = 0, if  $t \ge c + \frac{1}{n^2}$  then f(t) = 1, and if  $c < t < c + \frac{1}{n^2}$  then  $f(t) \in (0, 1)$ . Also, note that all weights and bias terms can be bounded by  $n^2$  (for large enough n). Moreover, the network  $N_{\Psi}$  does not depend on x.

Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  such that  $\Psi(\mathbf{z}') = \mathbf{z}^S$  for some hyperedge S, and assume that for every  $i \in [kn]$  we have  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ . For such  $\mathbf{z}'$ , we have  $N_{\Psi}(\mathbf{z}') = \Psi(\mathbf{z}') = \mathbf{z}^S$ . Hence, it suffices to show that we can construct an affine layer with at most  $2^k$  outputs, weights bounded by a constant and bias terms bounded by  $n^3$ , such that given an input  $\mathbf{z}^S$  it satisfies the following: For S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$ all outputs are at most -1, and for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  there exists an output greater or equal to 2. We construct such an affine layer in Lemma A.2.

**Lemma A.4.** There exists an affine layer with 2k + n outputs, weights bounded by a constant and bias terms bounded by  $n \log(n)$  (for a sufficiently large n), such that given an input  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$ , if it is an encoding of a hyperedge then all outputs are at most -1, and otherwise there exists an output greater or equal to 2.

*Proof.* Note that  $z \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$  is not an encoding of a hyperedge iff at least one of the following holds:

578 1. At least one of the k size-n slices in z contains 0 more than once.

579 2. At least one of the k size-n slices in z does not contain 0.

 $_{580}$  3. There are two size-*n* slices in **z** that encode the same index.

We define the outputs of our affine layer as follows. First, we have k outputs that correspond to (1). In order to check whether slice  $i \in [k]$  contains 0 more than once, the output will be  $3n - 4 - (\sum_{j \in [n]} 3z_{i,j})$ . Second, we have k outputs that correspond to (2): in order to check whether slice  $i \in [k]$  does not contain 0, the output will be  $(\sum_{j \in [n]} 3z_{i,j}) - 3n + 2$ . Finally, we have n outputs that correspond to (3): in order to check whether there are two slices that encode the same index  $j \in [n]$ , the output will be  $3k - 4 - (\sum_{i \in [k]} 3z_{i,j})$ . Note that all weights are bounded by 3 and all bias terms are bounded by  $n \log(n)$  for large enought n.

Lemma A.5. There exists a depth-2 neural network  $N_2$  with input dimension kn, at most 2kn hidden neurons, 2k + n output neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (for a sufficiently large n), which satisfies the following. We denote the set of output neurons of  $N_2$  by  $\mathcal{E}_2$ . Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  be such that for every  $i \in [kn]$  we have  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ . If  $\Psi(\mathbf{z}')$  is an encoding of a hyperedge then the inputs to all neurons  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are at most -1, and otherwise there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_2$  with input at least 2.

Proof. Let  $N_{\Psi} : \mathbb{R}^{kn} \to [0,1]^{kn}$  be the depth-2 neural network from the proof of Lemma A.3, with a single layer of non-linearity with 2kn hidden neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^2$ , such that for every  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  with  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$  for every  $i \in [kn]$ , we have  $N_{\Psi}(\mathbf{z}') = \Psi(\mathbf{z}')$ .

Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  be such that for every  $i \in [kn]$  we have  $z'_i \notin (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ . For such  $\mathbf{z}'$  we have  $N_{\Psi}(\mathbf{z}') = \Psi(\mathbf{z}')$ . Hence, it suffices to show that we can construct an affine layer with 2k + n outputs, weights bounded by a constant and bias terms bounded by  $n^3$ , such that given an input  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$ , if it is an encoding of a hyperedge then all outputs are at most -1, and otherwise there exists an output greater or equal to 2. We construct such an affine layer in Lemma A.4.

Lemma A.6. There exists a depth-2 neural network  $N_3$  with input dimension kn, at most  $n \log(n)$ hidden neurons,  $kn \le n \log(n)$  output neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (for a sufficiently large n), which satisfies the following. We denote the set of output neurons of  $N_3$  by  $\mathcal{E}_3$ . Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$ . If there exists  $i \in [kn]$  such that  $z'_i \in (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$  then there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_3$  with input at least 2. If for all  $i \in [kn]$  we have  $z'_i \notin (c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2})$  then the inputs to all neurons in  $\mathcal{E}_3$ are at most -1.

Proof. It suffices to construct a univariate depth-2 network  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  with one non-linear layer and a constant number of hidden neurons, such that for every input  $z'_i \in (c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$  we have  $f(z'_i) = 2$ , and for every  $z'_i \notin (c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2})$  we have  $f(z'_i) = -1$ .

We construct *f* as follows: 611

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$$f(z'_i) = (3n^2) \left( \left[ z'_i - \left( c - \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \right]_+ - [z'_i - c]_+ \right) - (3n^2) \left( \left[ z'_i - \left( c + \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \right]_+ - \left[ z'_i - \left( c + \frac{2}{n^2} \right) \right]_+ \right) - 1.$$

Note that all weights and bias terms are bounded by  $n^3$  (for large enough n). 612

**Lemma A.7.** Let  $q = \operatorname{poly}(n)$  and  $r = \operatorname{poly}(n)$ . Then, there exists  $\tau = \frac{1}{\operatorname{poly}(n)}$  such that for a sufficiently large n, with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  a vector  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_r)$  satisfies  $\|\boldsymbol{\xi}\| \leq \frac{1}{q}$ . 613 614 615

*Proof.* Let  $\tau = \frac{1}{q\sqrt{2rn}}$ . Every component  $\xi_i$  in  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$  has the distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2)$ . By a standard tail bound of the Gaussian distribution, we have for every  $i \in [r]$  and  $t \geq 0$  that  $\Pr[\xi_i \geq t] \leq 1$ 616 617  $2\exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\tau^2}\right)$  . Hence, for  $t=\frac{1}{q\sqrt{r}},$  we get 618

$$\Pr\left[\xi_i \ge \frac{1}{q\sqrt{r}}\right] \le 2\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\tau^2 q^2 r}\right) = 2\exp\left(-\frac{2rnq^2}{2q^2 r}\right) = 2\exp\left(-n\right) \ .$$

By the union bound, with probability at least  $1 - r \cdot 2e^{-n}$ , we have 619

$$\|\boldsymbol{\xi}\|^2 \le r \cdot \frac{1}{rq^2} = \frac{1}{q^2}$$
.

Thus, for a sufficiently large n, with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  we have  $\|\boldsymbol{\xi}\| \leq \frac{1}{q}$ . 620

**Lemma A.8.** If S is pseudorandom then with probability at least  $\frac{39}{40}$  (over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and the *i.i.d.* inputs  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \sim \mathcal{D}$ ) the examples  $(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_1, \tilde{y}_1), \dots, (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}, \tilde{y}_{m(n)+n^3})$  returned by the oracle are 621 622 realized by  $\hat{N}$ . 623

*Proof.* By our choice of  $\tau$ , with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$ , we have  $|\xi_j| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and for every  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$  with  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\| \leq 2n$  the inputs to the neurons  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_3$  in the computation 624 625  $\hat{N}(\tilde{z})$  satisfy Properties (P1) through (P3). We first show that with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  all 626 examples  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}$  satisfy  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\| \leq 2n$ . Hence, with probability at least  $1 - \frac{2}{n}$ , Properties (P1) 627 through (P3) hold for the computations  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)$  for all  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ . 628

Note that  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2$  has the Chi-squared distribution. Since  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i$  is of dimension  $n^2$ , a concentration bound 629 by Laurent and Massart [31, Lemma 1] implies that for all t > 0 we have 630

$$\Pr\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2 - n^2 \ge 2n\sqrt{t} + 2t\right] \le e^{-t}.$$

Plugging-in 
$$t = \frac{n^2}{4}$$
, we get  

$$\Pr\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2 \ge 4n^2\right] = \Pr\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2 - n^2 \ge 3n^2\right]$$

$$\leq \Pr\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2 - n^2 \ge \frac{3n^2}{2}\right]$$

$$= \Pr\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\|^2 - n^2 \ge 2n\sqrt{\frac{n^2}{4}} + 2 \cdot \frac{n^2}{4}\right]$$

$$\leq \exp\left(-\frac{n^2}{4}\right).$$

632 Thus, we have  $\Pr[\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\| \ge 2n] \le \exp\left(-\frac{n^2}{4}\right)$ . By the union bound, with probability at least

$$1 - (m(n) + n^3) \exp\left(-\frac{n^2}{4}\right) \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n}$$

(for a sufficiently large n), all examples  $(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i, \tilde{y}_i)$  satisfy  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i\| \leq 2n$ .

Thus, we showed that with probability at least  $1 - \frac{2}{n} \ge \frac{39}{40}$  (for a sufficiently large n), we have  $|\xi_j| \le \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and Properties (P1) through (P3) hold for the computations  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)$ for all  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ . It remains to show that if these properties hold, then the examples  $(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_1, \tilde{y}_1), \ldots, (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}, \tilde{y}_{m(n)+n^3})$  are realized by  $\hat{N}$ .

Let  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ . For brevity, we denote  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} = \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i$ ,  $\tilde{y} = \tilde{y}_i$ , and  $\mathbf{z}' = \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{[kn]}$ . Since  $|\xi_j| \le \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and all incoming weights to the output neuron in  $\tilde{N}$  are -1, then in  $\hat{N}$  all incoming weights to the output neuron are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and the bias term in the output neuron, denoted by  $\hat{b}$ , is in  $\left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ . Consider the following cases:

• If  $\Psi(\mathbf{z}')$  is not an encoding of a hyperedge then  $\tilde{y} = 0$ , and  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  satisfies: 642 1. If  $\mathbf{z}'$  does not have components in  $(c, c + \frac{1}{n})$ , then there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_2$  with 643 output at least  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (P2)). 644 2. If z' has a component in  $(c, c + \frac{1}{n})$ , then there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_3$  with output at least 645  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (P3)). 646 In both cases, since all incoming weights to the output neuron in N are in  $\left|-\frac{11}{10},-\frac{9}{10}\right|$ , 647 and  $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to the output neuron (including the bias term) is at most 648  $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its output is 0. 649 • If  $\Psi(\mathbf{z}')$  is an encoding of a hyperedge S, then by the definition of the examples oracle we 650 have  $S = S_i$ . Hence: 651 - If z' does not have components in  $\left(c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2}\right)$ , then: 652 \* If  $y_i = 0$  then the oracle sets  $\tilde{y} = \hat{b}$ . Since S is pseudorandom, we have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) =$ 653  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}) = y_i = 0$ . Hence, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  the inputs to all neurons in 654  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2, \mathcal{E}_3$  are at most  $-\frac{1}{2}$  (by Properties (P1), (P2) and (P3)), and thus their outputs 655 are 0. Therefore,  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \hat{b}$ . 656 \* If  $y_i = 1$  then the oracle sets  $\tilde{y} = 0$ . Since S is pseudorandom, we have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) =$ 657  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}) = y_i = 1$ . Hence, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_1$ 658 with output at least  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (P1)). Since all incoming weights to the output 659 neuron in  $\hat{N}$  are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and  $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to output neuron (including the bias term) is at most  $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its output is 0. 660 661 - If  $\mathbf{z}'$  has a component in  $(c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ , then  $\tilde{y} = 0$ . Also, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  there 662 exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_3$  with output at least  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (P3)). Since all incoming 663 weights to the output neuron in  $\hat{N}$  are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and  $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to output neuron (including the bias term) is at most  $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its 664 665 output is 0. 666 - If z' does not have components in the interval  $(c, c + \frac{1}{n^2})$ , but has a component in the 667 interval  $\left(c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2}\right)$ , then: 668 \* If  $y_i = 1$  the oracle sets  $\tilde{y} = 0$ . Since S is pseudorandom, we have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) =$ 669  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}) = y_i = 1$ . Hence, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_1$ 670 with output at least  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (P1)). Since all incoming weights to the output 671 neuron in  $\hat{N}$  are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and  $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to output neuron (including the bias term) is at most  $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its output is 0. 672 673 \* If  $y_i = 0$  the oracle sets  $\tilde{y} = [\hat{b} - \hat{N}_3(\tilde{z})]_+$ . Since S is pseudorandom, we have 674  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}) = y_i = 0$ . Therefore, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$  all neurons in 675  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2$  have output 0 (by Properties (P1) and (P2)), and hence their contribution to 676 the output of  $\hat{N}$  is 0. Thus, by the definition of  $\hat{N}_3$ , we have  $\hat{N}(\tilde{z}) = [\hat{b} - \hat{N}_3(\tilde{z})]_+$ . 677 678

**Lemma A.9.** If S is pseudorandom, then for a sufficiently large n, with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$  we have

$$\ell_I(h') \le \frac{2}{n} \; .$$

*Proof.* By Lemma A.8, if S is pseudorandom then with probability at least  $\frac{39}{40}$  (over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and the i.i.d. inputs  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \sim \mathcal{D}$ ) the examples  $(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_1, \tilde{y}_1), \ldots, (\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)}, \tilde{y}_{m(n)})$  returned by the oracle 681 682 are realized by  $\hat{N}$ . Recall that the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  is such that with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  (over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim$ 683  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$ , the i.i.d. inputs  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \sim \mathcal{D}$ , and possibly its internal randomness), given a size-m(n)684 dataset labeled by  $\hat{N}$ , it returns a hypothesis h such that  $\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\sim\mathcal{D}}\left[(h(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})-\hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}))^2\right] \leq \frac{1}{n}$ . Hence, with 685 probability at least  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{40}$  the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  returns such a good hypothesis h, given m(n) examples labeled by our examples oracle. Indeed, note that  $\mathcal{L}$  can return a bad hypothesis only if the random 686 687 choices are either bad for  $\mathcal{L}$  (when used with realizable examples) or bad for the realizability of the 688 examples returned by our oracle. By the definition of h' and the construction of  $\hat{N}$ , if h has small 689 error then h' also has small error, namely, 690

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\sim\mathcal{D}}\left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \right] \le \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\sim\mathcal{D}}\left[ (h(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \right] \le \frac{1}{n} \,.$$

Let  $\hat{\ell}_I(h') = \frac{1}{|I|} \sum_{i \in I} (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i))^2$ . Recall that by our choice of  $\tau$  we have  $\Pr[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}] \leq \frac{1}{n}$ . Since,  $(h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \in [0, \hat{b}^2]$  for all  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$ , by Hoeffding's inequality, we have for a sufficiently large n that

$$\Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right] = \Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\left|\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] + \Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\left|\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{2n^{3}}{n^{2}(11/10)^{4}}\right) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} \\ \leq \frac{1}{40} \cdot$$

694 Moreover, by Lemma A.8,

$$\Pr\left[\ell_I(h') \neq \hat{\ell}_I(h')\right] \le \Pr\left[\exists i \in I \text{ s.t. } \tilde{y}_i \neq \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i)\right] \le \frac{1}{40}$$

Overall, by the union bound we have with probability at least  $1 - (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{40}) > \frac{2}{3}$  for sufficiently large *n* that:

697 • 
$$\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}} \hat{\ell}_{I}(h') = \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}))^{2} \right] \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

698

• 
$$\left| \hat{\ell}_I(h') - \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{S}_I} \hat{\ell}_I(h') \right| \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

699

• 
$$\ell_I(h') - \hat{\ell}_I(h') = 0.$$

<sup>700</sup> Combining the above, we get that if S is pseudorandom, then with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$  we have

$$\ell_{I}(h') = \left(\ell_{I}(h') - \hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right) + \left(\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right) + \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') \le 0 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n} = \frac{2}{n}.$$

701

**Lemma A.10.** Let  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$  be a random vector whose components are drawn i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution, which takes the value 0 with probability  $\frac{1}{n}$ . Then, for a sufficiently large n, the vector  $\mathbf{z}$  is an encoding of a hyperedge with probability at least  $\frac{1}{\log(n)}$ . <sup>705</sup> *Proof.* The vector  $\mathbf{z}$  represents a hyperedge iff in each of the k size-n slices in  $\mathbf{z}$  there is exactly one <sup>706</sup> 0-bit and each two of the k slices in  $\mathbf{z}$  encode different indices. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr\left[\mathbf{z} \text{ represents a hyperedge}\right] &= n \cdot (n-1) \cdot \ldots \cdot (n-k+1) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^k \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^{nk-k} \\ &\geq \left(\frac{n-k}{n}\right)^k \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^{k(n-1)} \\ &= \left(1-\frac{k}{n}\right)^k \left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)^{k(n-1)} .\end{aligned}$$

Since for every  $x \in (0,1)$  we have  $e^{-x} < 1 - \frac{x}{2}$ , then for a sufficiently large n the above is at least

$$\exp\left(-\frac{2k^2}{n}\right) \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{2k(n-1)}{n}\right) \ge \exp\left(-1\right) \cdot \exp\left(-2k\right) \ge \frac{1}{\log(n)} .$$

708

**Lemma A.11.** Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  be the vector returned by the oracle. We have

$$\Pr\left[\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}\right] \ge \frac{1}{2\log(n)}$$

710 *Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{z}' = \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{[kn]}$ . We have

$$\Pr\left[\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \notin \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}\right] \leq \Pr\left[\exists j \in [kn] \text{ s.t. } z'_j \in \left(c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2}\right)\right] + \Pr\left[\Psi(\mathbf{z}') \text{ does not represent a hyperedge}\right] .$$
(1)

We now bound the terms in the above RHS. First, since  $\mathbf{z}'$  has the Gaussian distribution, then its components are drawn i.i.d. from a density function bounded by  $\frac{1}{2\pi}$ . Hence, for a sufficiently large *n* we have

$$\Pr\left[\exists j \in [kn] \text{ s.t. } z'_j \in \left(c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2}\right)\right] \le kn \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{3}{n^2} = \frac{3k}{2\pi n} \le \frac{\log(n)}{n} .$$
(2)

Let  $\mathbf{z} = \Psi(\mathbf{z}')$ . Note that  $\mathbf{z}$  is a random vector whose components are drawn i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution, where the probability to get 0 is  $\frac{1}{n}$ . By Lemma A.10,  $\mathbf{z}$  is an encoding of a hyperedge with probability at least  $\frac{1}{\log(n)}$ . Combining it with Eq. (1) and (2), we get for a sufficiently large nthat

$$\Pr\left[\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \notin \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}\right] \le \frac{\log(n)}{n} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\log(n)}\right) \le 1 - \frac{1}{2\log(n)} ,$$

718 as required.

<sup>719</sup> **Lemma A.12.** If S is random, then for a sufficiently large n with probability larger than  $\frac{2}{3}$  we have

$$\ell_I(h') > \frac{2}{n} \; .$$

Proof. Let  $\tilde{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  be such that  $\tilde{z} \in \tilde{Z}$  iff  $\tilde{z}_{[kn]}$  does not have components in the interval  $(c - \frac{1}{n^2}, c + \frac{2}{n^2})$ , and  $\Psi(\tilde{z}_{[kn]}) = \mathbf{z}^S$  for a hyperedge S. If S is random, then by the definition of our examples oracle, for every  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$  such that  $\tilde{z}_i \in \tilde{Z}$ , we have  $\tilde{y}_i = \hat{b}$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\tilde{y}_i = 0$  otherwise. Also, by the definition of the oracle,  $\tilde{y}_i$  is independent of  $S_i$  and independent of the choice of the vector  $\tilde{z}_i$  that corresponds to  $\mathbf{z}^{S_i}$ . If  $\hat{b} \geq \frac{9}{10}$  then for a sufficiently large n the

hypothesis h' satisfies for each random example  $(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i, \tilde{y}_i) \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}_I$  the following

$$\begin{split} \Pr_{\left(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \tilde{y}_{i}\right)} \left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \tilde{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \frac{1}{5} \right] \\ &\geq \Pr_{\left(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \tilde{y}_{i}\right)} \left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \tilde{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \frac{1}{5} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \cdot \Pr_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \\ &\geq \Pr_{\left(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \tilde{y}_{i}\right)} \left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \tilde{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \left(\frac{\hat{b}}{2}\right)^{2} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \cdot \Pr_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i}} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{i} \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \,. \end{split}$$

In Lemma A.11, we show that  $\Pr_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i} \left[ \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i \in \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \right] \ge \frac{1}{2 \log(n)}$ . Hence,

$$\Pr_{(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i, \tilde{y}_i)} \left[ (h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \tilde{y}_i)^2 \ge \frac{1}{5} \right] \ge \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2\log(n)} \ge \frac{1}{4\log(n)}$$

727 Thus, if  $\hat{b} \geq \frac{9}{10}$  then we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_I}\left[\ell_I(h')\right] \ge \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{4\log(n)} = \frac{1}{20\log(n)}$$

728 Therefore, for large n we have

$$\Pr\left[\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_I}\left[\ell_I(h')\right] \ge \frac{1}{20\log(n)}\right] \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n} \ge \frac{7}{8}.$$

Since,  $(h'(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{y})^2 \in [0, \hat{b}^2]$  for all  $\tilde{z}, \tilde{y}$  returned by the examples oracle, and the examples  $\tilde{z}_i$  for  $i \in I$  are i.i.d., then by Hoeffding's inequality, we have for a sufficiently large n that

$$\Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right] = \Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ + \Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{2n^{3}}{n^{2}(11/10)^{4}}\right) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} \\ \leq \frac{1}{8}.$$

Hence, for large enough n, with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{4} > \frac{2}{3}$  we have both  $\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{S}_I} \left[ \ell_I(h') \right] \geq \frac{1}{20 \log(n)}$  and  $\left| \ell_I(h') - \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{S}_I} \left| \ell_I(h') \right| \leq \frac{1}{n}$ , and thus

$$\ell_I(h') \ge \frac{1}{20\log(n)} - \frac{1}{n} > \frac{2}{n}$$
.

# 734 **B Proof of Corollary 3.1**

733

By the proof of Theorem 3.1, under Assumption 2.1, there is no poly(d)-time algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_s$  that satisfies the following: Let  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be *B*-bounded parameters of a depth-3 network  $N_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $\tau, \epsilon > 0$ . Assume that  $p, B, 1/\epsilon, 1/\tau \leq poly(d)$ , and that the widths of the hidden layers in  $\mathcal{N}_{\theta}$  are *d* (i.e., the weight matrices are square). Let  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and let  $\hat{\theta} = \theta + \boldsymbol{\xi}$ . Then, with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{1000}$ , given access to an examples oracle for  $\mathcal{N}_{\hat{\theta}}$ , the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_s$  returns a hypothesis *h* with  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}} \left[ (h(\mathbf{x}) - N_{\hat{\theta}})^2 \right] \leq \epsilon$ .

Note that in the above, the requirements from  $\mathcal{L}_s$  are somewhat weaker than in our original definition of learning with smoothed parameters. Indeed, we assume that the widths of the hidden layers are d and the required success probability is only  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{1000}$  (rather than  $\frac{3}{4}$ ). We now explain why the hardness result holds already under these conditions: • Note that if we change the assumption on the learning algorithm in proof of Theorem 3.1 such that it succeeds with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{1000}$  (rather than  $\frac{3}{4}$ ), then in the case where S is pseudorandom we get that the algorithm A returns 1 with probability at least  $1 - (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{1000} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{40})$  (see the proof of Lemma A.9), which is still greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Also, the analysis of the case where S is random does not change, and thus in this case Areturns 0 with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Consequently, we still get distinguishing advantage greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

• Regarding the requirement on the widths, we note that in the proof of Theorem 3.1 the 752 layers satisfy the following. The input dimension is  $d = n^2$ , the width of the first hidden 753 layer is at most  $3n\log(n) \leq d$ , and the width of the second hidden layer is at most 754  $\log(n) + 2n + n\log(n) \le d$  (all bounds are for a sufficiently large d). In order to get a 755 network where all layers are of width d, we add new neurons to the hidden layers, with 756 incoming weights 0, outgoing weights 0, and bias terms -1. Then, for an appropriate choice 757 of  $\tau = 1/\text{poly}(n)$ , even in the perturbed network the outputs of these new neurons will 758 be 0 w.h.p. for every input  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}$ , and thus they will not affect the network's 759 output. Thus, using the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we conclude that the 760 hardness results holds already for network with square weight matrices. 761

Suppose that there exists an efficient algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_p$  that learns in the standard PAC framework depth-3 neural networks where the minimal singular value of each weight matrix is lower bounded by 1/q(d)for any polynomial q(d). We will use  $\mathcal{L}_p$  to obtain an efficient algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_s$  that learns depth-3 networks with smoothed parameters as described above, and thus reach a contradiction.

Let  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be *B*-bounded parameters of a depth-3 network  $N_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $\tau, \epsilon > 0$ . Assume 766 that  $p, B, 1/\epsilon, 1/\tau \leq \text{poly}(d)$ , and that the widths of the hidden layers in  $\mathcal{N}_{\theta}$  are d. For random 767  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\xi}$ , the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_s$  has access to examples labeled by  $N_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}$ . Using Lemma B.1 below with  $t = \frac{\tau}{d}$  and the union bound over the two weight matrices in  $N_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ , we get that with probability at least  $1 - \frac{2\cdot 2\cdot 35}{\sqrt{d}} \ge 1 - \frac{1}{1000}$  (for large enough d), the minimal singular values of all 768 769 770 weight matrices in  $\hat{\theta}$  are at least  $\frac{\tau}{d} \geq \frac{1}{q(d)}$  for some sufficiently large polynomial q(d). Our algorithm 771  $\mathcal{L}_s$  will simply run  $\mathcal{L}_p$ . Given that the minimal singular values of the weight matrices are at least  $\frac{1}{q(d)}$ , 772 the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_p$  runs in time  $\operatorname{poly}(d)$  and returns with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  a hypothesis h with 773  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}}\left[(h(\mathbf{x}) - N_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(\mathbf{x}))^2\right] \leq \epsilon$ . Overall, the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}_s$  runs in poly(d) time, and with probability at 774 least  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{1000}$  (over both  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$  and the internal randomness) returns a hypothesis h with loss at most  $\epsilon$ . 775 **Lemma B.1** (Sankar et al. [35], Theorem 3.3). Let W be an arbitrary square matrix in  $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ , and let  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  be a random matrix, where each entry is drawn i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2)$  for some  $\tau > 0$ . 776

*Let* 
$$\sigma_d$$
 *be the minimal singular value of the matrix*  $W + P$ . Then, for every  $t > 0$  we have

Let 
$$\sigma_d$$
 be the minimal singular value of the matrix  $w + P$ . Then, for every  $t > 0$  we have

$$\Pr_{P}\left[\sigma_{d} \leq t\right] \leq 2.35 \cdot \frac{t\sqrt{d}}{\tau}$$

### 779 C Proof of Theorem 3.2

The proof follows similar ideas to the proof of Theorem 3.1. The main difference is that we need to handle here a smoothed discrete input distribution rather than the standard Gaussian distribution.

For a sufficiently large n, let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a distribution on  $\{0,1\}^{n^2}$ , where each component is drawn i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution which takes the value 0 with probability  $\frac{1}{n}$ . Assume that there is a 782 783 poly(n)-time algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  that learns depth-3 neural networks with at most  $n^2$  hidden neurons and 784 parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$ , with smoothed parameters and inputs, under the distribution 785  $\mathcal{D}$ , with  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{n}$  and  $\tau, \omega = 1/\operatorname{poly}(n)$  that we will specify later. Let  $m(n) \leq \operatorname{poly}(n)$  be the sample complexity of  $\mathcal{L}$ , namely,  $\mathcal{L}$  uses a sample of size at most m(n) and returns with probability at least 786 787  $\frac{3}{4}$  a hypothesis h with  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}\sim\hat{\mathcal{D}}}\left[\left(h(\mathbf{z})-N_{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}(\mathbf{z})\right)^{2}\right] \leq \epsilon = \frac{1}{n}$ . Note that  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$  is the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  after 788 smoothing with parameter  $\omega$ , and the vector  $\hat{\theta}$  is the parameters of the target network after smoothing 789 with parameter  $\tau$ . Let s > 1 be a constant such that  $n^s \ge m(n) + n^3$  for every sufficiently large n. 790 By Assumption 2.1, there exists a constant k and a predicate  $P: \{0,1\}^k \to \{0,1\}$ , such that  $\mathcal{F}_{P,n,n^s}$ 791

<sup>792</sup> is  $\frac{1}{3}$ -PRG. We will show an efficient algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  with distinguishing advantage greater than  $\frac{1}{3}$  and <sup>793</sup> thus reach a contradiction.

Throughout this proof, we will use some notations from the proof of Theorem 3.1. We repeat it here for convenience. For a hyperedge  $S = (i_1, \ldots, i_k)$  we denote by  $\mathbf{z}^S \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$  the following encoding of S: the vector  $\mathbf{z}^S$  is a concatenation of k vectors in  $\{0, 1\}^n$ , such that the j-th vector has 0 in the  $i_j$ -th coordinate and 1 elsewhere. Thus,  $\mathbf{z}^S$  consists of k size-n slices, each encoding a member of S. For  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{kn}$ ,  $i \in [k]$  and  $j \in [n]$ , we denote  $z_{i,j} = z_{(i-1)n+j}$ . That is,  $z_{i,j}$  is the j-th component in the i-th slice in  $\mathbf{z}$ . For  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , let  $P_{\mathbf{x}} : \{0, 1\}^{kn} \to \{0, 1\}$  be such that for every hyperedge S we have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = P(\mathbf{x}_S)$ . For  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  we denote  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{[kn]} = (\tilde{z}_1, \ldots, \tilde{z}_{kn})$ , namely, the first kn components of  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$  (assuming  $n^2 \ge kn$ ).

### 802 C.1 Defining the target network for $\mathcal{L}$

Since our goal is to use the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  for breaking PRGs, in this subsection we define a neural network  $\tilde{N} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \to \mathbb{R}$  that we will later use as a target network for  $\mathcal{L}$ . The network  $\tilde{N}$  contains the subnetworks  $N_1, N_2$  that we define below.

Let  $N_1$  be a depth-1 neural network (i.e., one layer, with activations in the output neurons) with input 806 dimension kn, at most  $\log(n)$  output neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (all bounds 807 are for a sufficiently large n), which satisfies the following. We denote the set of output neurons of  $N_1$  by  $\mathcal{E}_1$ . Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$  be an input to  $N_1$  such that  $\mathbf{z}' = \mathbf{z}^S$  for some hyperedge S. Thus, even 808 809 though  $N_1$  takes inputs in  $\mathbb{R}^{kn}$ , we consider now its behavior for an input  $\mathbf{z}'$  with discrete components in  $\{0, 1\}$ . Fix some  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . Then, for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$  the inputs to all output neurons  $\mathcal{E}_1$ 810 811 are at most -1, and for S with  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_1$  with input at least 2. Recall 812 that our definition of a neuron's input includes the addition of the bias term. The construction of the 813 network  $N_1$  is given in Lemma A.2. Note that the network  $N_1$  depends on x. Let  $N'_1 : \mathbb{R}^{kn} \to \mathbb{R}$ 814 be a depth-2 neural network with no activation function in the output neuron, obtained from  $N_1$  by 815 summing the outputs from all neurons  $\mathcal{E}_1$ . 816

Let  $N_2$  be a depth-1 neural network (i.e., one layer, with activations in the output neurons) with 817 input dimension kn, at most 2n output neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (for a 818 sufficiently large n), which satisfies the following. We denote the set of output neurons of  $N_2$  by  $\mathcal{E}_2$ . 819 Let  $\mathbf{z}' \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$  be an input to  $N_2$  (note that it has components only in  $\{0,1\}$ ). If  $\mathbf{z}'$  is an encoding 820 of a hyperedge then the inputs to all output neurons  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are at most -1, and otherwise there exists 821 a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_2$  with input at least 2. The construction of the network  $N_2$  is given in Lemma A.4. 822 Let  $N'_2: \mathbb{R}^{kn} \to \mathbb{R}$  be a depth-2 neural network with no activation function in the output neuron, 823 obtained from  $N_2$  by summing the outputs from all neurons  $\mathcal{E}_2$ . 824

Let  $N': \mathbb{R}^{kn} \to \mathbb{R}$  be a depth-2 network obtained from  $N'_1, N'_2$  as follows. For  $\mathbf{z}' \in \mathbb{R}^{kn}$  we have  $N'(\mathbf{z}') = [1 - N'_1(\mathbf{z}') - N'_2(\mathbf{z}')]_+$ . The network N' has at most  $n^2$  neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (all bounds are for a sufficiently large n). Finally, let  $\tilde{N}: \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \to \mathbb{R}$  be a depth-2 neural network such that  $\tilde{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = N'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_{[kn]})$ .

### C.2 Defining the noise magnitudes $\tau, \omega$ and analyzing the perturbed network under perturbed inputs

In order to use the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  w.r.t. some neural network with parameters  $\theta$  and a certain input 831 distribution, we need to implement an examples oracle, such that the examples are drawn from a 832 smoothed input distribution, and labeled according to a neural network with parameters  $\theta + \xi$ , where  $\xi$ 833 is a random perturbation. Specifically, we use  $\mathcal{L}$  with an examples oracle where the input distribution 834  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{D}$  by smoothing, and the labels correspond to a network  $\hat{N}: \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \to \mathbb{R}$  obtained 835 from  $\tilde{N}$  (w.r.t. an appropriate  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$  in the construction of  $N_1$ ) by adding a small perturbation 836 to the parameters. The smoothing magnitudes  $\omega, \tau$  of the inputs and the network's parameters 837 (respectively) are such that the following hold. 838

We first choose the parameter  $\tau = 1/\operatorname{poly}(n)$  as follows. Let  $f_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \to \mathbb{R}$  be any depth-2 neural network parameterized by  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^r$  for some r > 0 with at most  $n^2$  neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by  $n^3$  (note that r is polynomial in n). Then,  $\tau$  is such that with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_r)$ , we have  $|\xi_i| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $i \in [r]$ , and the network  $f_{\theta+\boldsymbol{\xi}}$  is such that

for every input  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  with  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\| \le n$  and every neuron we have: Let a, b be the inputs to the neuron 843 in the computations  $f_{\theta}(\tilde{z})$  and  $f_{\theta+\xi}(\tilde{z})$  (respectively), then  $|a-b| \leq \frac{1}{4}$ . Thus,  $\tau$  is sufficiently small, 844 such that w.h.p. adding i.i.d. noise  $\mathcal{N}(0,\tau^2)$  to each parameter does not change the inputs to the 845 neurons by more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Note that such an inverse-polynomial  $\tau$  exists, since when the network size, 846 parameter magnitudes, and input size are bounded by some poly(n), then the input to each neuron 847 in  $f_{\theta}(\tilde{z})$  is poly(n)-Lipschitz as a function of  $\theta$ , and thus it suffices to choose  $\tau$  that implies with 848 probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  that  $\|\boldsymbol{\xi}\| \leq \frac{1}{q(n)}$  for a sufficiently large polynomial q(n) (see Lemma A.7 849 for details). 850

Next, we choose the parameter  $\omega = 1/\operatorname{poly}(n)$  as follows. Let  $f_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \to \mathbb{R}$  be any depth-2 neural network parameterized by  $\theta$  with at most  $n^2$  neurons, and parameter magnitudes bounded by 851 852  $n^3 + \frac{1}{10}$ . Then,  $\omega$  is such that for every  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{n^2}$ , with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  over 853  $\zeta \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  the following holds for every neuron in the  $f_{\theta}$ : Let a, b be the inputs to the neuron in the computations  $f_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})$  and  $f_{\theta}(\mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\zeta})$  (respectively), then  $|a - b| \leq \frac{1}{4}$ . Thus,  $\omega$  is sufficiently 854 855 small, such that w.h.p. adding noise  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  to the input z does not change the inputs to the 856 neurons by more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Note that such an inverse-polynomial  $\omega$  exists, since when the network size 857 and parameter magnitudes are bounded by some poly(n), then the input to each neuron in  $f_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})$  is 858 poly(n)-Lipschitz as a function of  $\mathbf{z}$ , and thus it suffices to choose  $\omega$  that implies with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  that  $\|\boldsymbol{\zeta}\| \le \frac{1}{q(n)}$  for a sufficiently large polynomial q(n) (see Lemma A.7 for 859 860 details). 861

Let  $\hat{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be the parameters of the network  $\tilde{N}$ . Recall that the parameters vector  $\hat{\theta}$  is the 862 concatenation of all weight matrices and bias terms. Let  $\hat{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be the parameters of  $\hat{N}$ , namely, 863  $\hat{\theta} = \tilde{\theta} + \xi$  where  $\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2 I_p)$ . By our choice of  $\tau$  and the construction of the networks 864  $N_1, N_2$ , with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  over  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ , for every  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0, 1\}^{n^2}$  the following holds: Let  $\boldsymbol{\zeta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  and let  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}$ . Then with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  over  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$  the 865 866 differences between inputs to all neurons in the computations  $\hat{N}(\hat{z})$  and  $\tilde{N}(z)$  are at most  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Indeed, 867 w.h.p. for all  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0,1\}^{n^2}$  the computations  $\tilde{N}(\mathbf{z})$  and  $\hat{N}(\mathbf{z})$  are roughly similar (up to change of 868 1/4 in the input to each neuron), and w.h.p. the computations  $\hat{N}(\mathbf{z})$  and  $\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}})$  are roughly similar 869 (up to change of 1/4 in the input to each neuron). Thus, with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$  over  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ , the 870 network  $\hat{N}$  is such that for every  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0,1\}^{n^2}$ , we have with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$  over 871  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$  that the computation  $\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}})$  satisfies the following properties, where  $\mathbf{z}' := \mathbf{z}_{[kn]}$ : 872

- (Q1) If  $\mathbf{z}' = \mathbf{z}^S$  for some hyperedge *S*, then the inputs to  $\mathcal{E}_1$  satisfy:
- 874 875
- If  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 1$  there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_1$  with input at least  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

• If  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = 0$  the inputs to all neurons in  $\mathcal{E}_1$  are at most  $-\frac{1}{2}$ .

- (Q2) The inputs to  $\mathcal{E}_2$  satisfy:
- 877 878
- If  $\mathbf{z}'$  is an encoding of a hyperedge then the inputs to all neurons  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are at most  $-\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Otherwise, there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_2$  with input at least  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

#### 879 C.3 Stating the algorithm A

Given a sequence  $(S_1, y_1), \ldots, (S_{n^s}, y_{n^s})$ , where  $S_1, \ldots, S_{n^s}$  are i.i.d. random hyperedges, the algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  needs to distinguish whether  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \ldots, y_{n^s})$  is random or that  $\mathbf{y} = (P(\mathbf{x}_{S_1}), \ldots, P(\mathbf{x}_{S_{n^s}})) = (P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_1}), \ldots, P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_{n^s}}))$  for a random  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . Let  $\mathcal{S} = ((\mathbf{z}^{S_1}, y_1), \ldots, (\mathbf{z}^{S_{n^s}}, y_{n^s}))$ .

We use the efficient algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  in order to obtain distinguishing advantage greater than  $\frac{1}{3}$  as follows. 884 Let  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$  be a random perturbation, and let  $\hat{N}$  be the perturbed network as defined above, w.r.t. the 885 unknown  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$ . Note that given a perturbation  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ , only the weights in the second layer of the 886 subnetwork  $N_1$  in  $\hat{N}$  are unknown, since all other parameters do not depend on x. The algorithm 887  $\mathcal{A}$  runs  $\mathcal{L}$  with the following examples oracle. In the *i*-th call, the oracle first draws  $\mathbf{z}' \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$ 888 such that each component is drawn i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution which takes the value 0 889 with probability  $\frac{1}{n}$ . If z' is an encoding of a hyperedge then the oracle replaces z' with  $z^{S_i}$ . Let 890  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0,1\}^{n^2}$  be such that  $\mathbf{z}_{[kn]} = \mathbf{z}'$ , and the other  $n^2 - kn$  components of  $\mathbf{z}$  are drawn i.i.d. from 891

a Bernoulli distribution which takes the value 0 with probability  $\frac{1}{n}$ . Note that the vector  $\mathbf{z}$  has the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$ , since replacing an encoding of a random hyperedge by an encoding of another random hyperedge does not change the distribution of  $\mathbf{z}'$ . Let  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}$ , where  $\boldsymbol{\zeta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$ . Note that  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$  has the distribution  $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$ . Let  $\hat{b} \in \mathbb{R}$  be the bias term of the output neuron of  $\hat{N}$ . The oracle returns  $(\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{y})$ , where the labels  $\hat{y}$  are chosen as follows:

• If  $\mathbf{z}'$  is not an encoding of a hyperedge, then  $\hat{y} = 0$ .

- If  $\mathbf{z}'$  is an encoding of a hyperedge:
- 899 If  $y_i = 0$  we set  $\hat{y} = \hat{b}$ .

900 – If 
$$y_i = 1$$
 we set  $\hat{y} = 0$ .

Let h be the hypothesis returned by  $\mathcal{L}$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{L}$  uses at most m(n) examples, and hence  $\mathcal{S}$ 901 contains at least  $n^3$  examples that  $\mathcal{L}$  cannot view. We denote the indices of these examples by 902  $I = \{m(n) + 1, \dots, m(n) + n^3\}$ , and the examples by  $S_I = \{(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}, y_i)\}_{i \in I}$ . By  $n^3$  additional calls to the oracle, the algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  obtains the examples  $\hat{S}_I = \{(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i, \hat{y}_i)\}_{i \in I}$  that correspond to  $S_I$ . 903 904 Let h' be a hypothesis such that for all  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  we have  $h'(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \max\{0, \min\{\hat{b}, h(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})\}\}$ , thus, 905 for  $\hat{b} \ge 0$  the hypothesis h' is obtained from h by clipping the output to the interval  $[0, \hat{b}]$ . Let  $\ell_I(h') = \frac{1}{|I|} \sum_{i \in I} (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \hat{y}_i)^2$ . Now, if  $\ell_I(h') \le \frac{2}{n}$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  returns 1, and otherwise it returns 0. 906 907 We remark that the decision of our algorithm is based on h' (rather than h) since we need the outputs 908 to be bounded, in order to allow using Hoeffding's inequality in our analysis, which we discuss in the 909 910 next subsection.

#### 911 C.4 Analyzing the algorithm A

Note that the algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  runs in poly(n) time. We now show that if  $\mathcal{S}$  is pseudorandom then  $\mathcal{A}$ returns 1 with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$ , and if  $\mathcal{S}$  is random then  $\mathcal{A}$  returns 1 with probability less than  $\frac{1}{3}$ . To that end, we use similar arguments to the proof of Theorem 3.1.

In Lemma C.1, we show that if S is pseudorandom then with probability at least  $\frac{39}{40}$  (over  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$  ~ 915  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  for all  $i \in [m(n)]$  the examples  $(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_1, \hat{y}_1), \dots, (\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)}, \hat{y}_{m(n)})$ 916 returned by the oracle are realized by  $\hat{N}$ . Recall that the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  is such that with probability at 917 least  $\frac{3}{4}$  (over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$ ), the i.i.d. inputs  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i \sim \hat{\mathcal{D}}$ , and possibly its internal randomness), given a 918 size-m(n) dataset labeled by  $\hat{N}$ , it returns a hypothesis h such that  $\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{z}}\sim\hat{\mathcal{D}}} \left| (h(\hat{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \right| \leq \frac{1}{n}$ . 919 Hence, with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{40}$  the algorithm  $\mathcal{L}$  returns such a good hypothesis h, given m(n) examples labeled by our examples oracle. Indeed, note that  $\mathcal{L}$  can return a bad hypothesis only if the 920 921 random choices are either bad for  $\mathcal{L}$  (when used with realizable examples) or bad for the realizability 922 of the examples returned by our oracle. By the definition of h' and the construction of  $\hat{N}$ , if h has 923 924 small error then h' also has small error, namely,

$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{z}}\sim\hat{\mathcal{D}}}\left[(h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}})-\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}))^2\right] \leq \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\sim\hat{\mathcal{D}}}\left[(h(\hat{\mathbf{z}})-\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}))^2\right] \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

Let  $\hat{\ell}_I(h') = \frac{1}{|I|} \sum_{i \in I} (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i))^2$ . Recall that by our choice of  $\tau$  we have  $\Pr[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}] \le \frac{1}{n}$ . Since,  $(h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \in [0, \hat{b}^2]$  for all  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$ , by Hoeffding's inequality, we have for a sufficiently large n that

$$\begin{split} \Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right] &= \Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ &+ \Pr\left[\left|\hat{\ell}_{I}(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\hat{\ell}_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ &\leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{2n^{3}}{n^{2}(11/10)^{4}}\right) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{40} \,. \end{split}$$

928 Moreover, by Lemma C.1,

$$\Pr\left[\ell_I(h') \neq \hat{\ell}_I(h')\right] \leq \Pr\left[\exists i \in I \text{ s.t. } \hat{y}_i \neq \hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i)\right] \leq \frac{1}{40}.$$

Overall, by the union bound we have with probability at least  $1 - (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{40}) > \frac{2}{3}$  for sufficiently large *n* that:

931

• 
$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{S}_I} \hat{\ell}_I(h') = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{z}} \sim \hat{\mathcal{D}}} \left[ (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}) - \hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}))^2 \right] \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

932 • 
$$\left|\hat{\ell}_I(h') - \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_I}\hat{\ell}_I(h')\right| \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

933

• 
$$\ell_I(h') - \hat{\ell}_I(h') = 0.$$

<sup>934</sup> Combining the above, we get that if S is pseudorandom, then with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$  we have

$$\ell_I(h') = \left(\ell_I(h') - \hat{\ell}_I(h')\right) + \left(\hat{\ell}_I(h') - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_I} \hat{\ell}_I(h')\right) + \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_I} \hat{\ell}_I(h') \le 0 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n} = \frac{2}{n}.$$

We now consider the case where S is random. For an example  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i = \mathbf{z}_i + \zeta_i$  returned by the oracle, we denote  $\mathbf{z}'_i = (\mathbf{z}_i)_{[kn]} \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$ . Thus,  $\mathbf{z}'_i$  is the input that the oracle used before adding the  $n^2 - kn$  additional components and adding noise  $\zeta_i$ . Let  $Z' \subseteq \{0,1\}^{kn}$  be such that  $\mathbf{z}' \in Z'$  iff  $\mathbf{z}' = \mathbf{z}^S$  for some hyperedge S. If S is random, then by the definition of our examples oracle, for every  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$  such that  $\mathbf{z}'_i \in Z'$ , we have  $\hat{y}_i = \hat{b}$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\hat{y}_i = 0$  otherwise. Also, by the definition of the oracle,  $\hat{y}_i$  is independent of  $S_i$ , independent of the  $n^2 - kn$  additional components that where added, and independent of the noise  $\zeta_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  that corresponds to  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i$ .

943 If  $\hat{b} \geq \frac{9}{10}$  then for a sufficiently large *n* the hypothesis *h'* satisfies for each random example 944  $(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i, \hat{y}_i) \in \hat{S}_I$  the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr_{(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \hat{y}_{i})} \left[ (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \hat{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \frac{1}{5} \right] \\ &\geq \Pr_{(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \hat{y}_{i})} \left[ (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \hat{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \frac{1}{5} \mid \mathbf{z}_{i}' \in \mathcal{Z}' \right] \cdot \Pr\left[\mathbf{z}_{i}' \in \mathcal{Z}'\right] \\ &\geq \Pr_{(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}, \hat{y}_{i})} \left[ (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{i}) - \hat{y}_{i})^{2} \geq \left(\frac{\hat{b}}{2}\right)^{2} \mid \mathbf{z}_{i}' \in \mathcal{Z}' \right] \cdot \Pr\left[\mathbf{z}_{i}' \in \mathcal{Z}'\right] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr\left[\mathbf{z}_{i}' \in \mathcal{Z}'\right] . \end{aligned}$$

In Lemma A.10, we show that for a sufficiently large n we have  $\Pr[\mathbf{z}'_i \in \mathcal{Z}'] \geq \frac{1}{\log(n)}$ . Hence,

$$\Pr_{(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i, \hat{y}_i)} \left[ (h'(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i) - \hat{y}_i)^2 \ge \frac{1}{5} \right] \ge \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\log(n)} \ge \frac{1}{2\log(n)}$$

946 Thus, if  $\hat{b} \geq \frac{9}{10}$  then we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}\left[\ell_{I}(h')\right] \geq \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2\log(n)} = \frac{1}{10\log(n)} \,.$$

947 Therefore, for large n we have

$$\Pr\left[\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_I}\left[\ell_I(h')\right] \ge \frac{1}{10\log(n)}\right] \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n} \ge \frac{7}{8}.$$

Since,  $(h'(\hat{z}) - \hat{y})^2 \in [0, \hat{b}^2]$  for all  $\hat{z}, \hat{y}$  returned by the examples oracle, and the examples  $\hat{z}_i$  for  $i \in I$  are i.i.d., then by Hoeffding's inequality, we have for a sufficiently large n that

$$\Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right] = \Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} \leq \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ + \Pr\left[\left|\ell_{I}(h') - \underset{\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{I}}{\mathbb{E}}\,\ell_{I}(h')\right| \geq \frac{1}{n}\right|\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \cdot \Pr\left[\hat{b} > \frac{11}{10}\right] \\ \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{2n^{3}}{n^{2}(11/10)^{4}}\right) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} \\ \leq \frac{1}{8} \cdot$$

Hence, for large enough n, with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{4} > \frac{2}{3}$  we have both  $\mathbb{E}_{\hat{S}_I} \left[ \ell_I(h') \right] \ge \frac{1}{10 \log(n)}$  and  $\left| \ell_I(h') - \mathbb{E}_{\hat{S}_I} \ell_I(h') \right| \le \frac{1}{n}$ , and thus

$$\ell_I(h') \ge \frac{1}{10\log(n)} - \frac{1}{n} > \frac{2}{n}$$

Overall, if S is pseudorandom then with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$  the algorithm A returns 1, and if *S* is random then with probability greater than  $\frac{2}{3}$  the algorithm A returns 0. Thus, the distinguishing advantage is greater than  $\frac{1}{3}$ . This concludes the proof of the theorem. It remains to prove the deffered lemma on the realizability of the examples returned by the examples oracle:

**Lemma C.1.** If S is pseudorandom then with probability at least  $\frac{39}{40}$  over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  for  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ , the examples  $(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_1, \hat{y}_1), \dots, (\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}, \hat{y}_{m(n)+n^3})$  returned by the oracle are realized by  $\hat{N}$ .

Proof. By our choice of  $\tau$  and  $\omega$  and the construction of  $N_1, N_2$ , with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$ over  $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau^2 I_p)$ , we have  $|\xi_j| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and for every  $\mathbf{z} \in \{0,1\}^{n^2}$  the following holds: Let  $\boldsymbol{\zeta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \omega^2 I_{n^2})$  and let  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}$ . Then with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-n/2)$ over  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$  the inputs to the neurons  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2$  in the computation  $\hat{\mathcal{N}}(\hat{\mathbf{z}})$  satisfy Properties (Q1) and (Q2). Hence, with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{n} - (m(n) + n^3) \exp(-n/2) \geq 1 - \frac{2}{n}$  (for a sufficiently large n),  $|\xi_j| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and Properties (Q1) and (Q2) hold for the computations  $\hat{\mathcal{N}}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i)$  for all  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ . It remains to show that if  $|\xi_j| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$  and Properties (Q1) and (Q2) hold, then the examples  $(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_1, \hat{y}_1), \ldots, (\hat{\mathbf{z}}_{m(n)+n^3}, \hat{y}_{m(n)+n^3})$  are realized by  $\hat{\mathcal{N}}$ .

Let  $i \in [m(n) + n^3]$ . We denote  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i = \mathbf{z}_i + \boldsymbol{\zeta}_i$ , namely, the *i*-th example returned by the oracle was obtained by adding noise  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}_i$  to  $\mathbf{z}_i \in \{0,1\}^{n^2}$ . We also denote  $\mathbf{z}'_i = (\mathbf{z}_i)_{[kn]} \in \{0,1\}^{kn}$ . Since  $|\boldsymbol{\xi}_j| \leq \frac{1}{10}$  for all  $j \in [p]$ , and all incoming weights to the output neuron in  $\tilde{N}$  are -1, then in  $\hat{N}$  all incoming weights to the output neuron are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and the bias term in the output neuron, denoted by  $\hat{b}$ , is in  $\left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ . Consider the following cases:

- If  $\mathbf{z}'_i$  is not an encoding of a hyperedge then  $\hat{y}_i = 0$ . Moreover, in the computation  $N(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i)$ , there exists a neuron in  $\mathcal{E}_2$  with output at least  $\frac{3}{2}$  (by Property (Q2)). Since all incoming weights to the output neuron in  $\hat{N}$  are in  $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and  $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to the output neuron (including the bias term) is at most  $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its output is 0.
- If  $\mathbf{z}'$  is an encoding of a hyperedge S, then by the definition of the examples oracle we have 978  $S = S_i$ . Hence:
- 979 If  $y_i = 0$  then the oracle sets  $\hat{y}_i = \hat{b}$ . Since S is pseudorandom, we have  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^S) = P_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{S_i}) = y_i = 0$ . Hence, in the computation  $\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i)$  the inputs to all neurons in  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2$ 981 are at most  $-\frac{1}{2}$  (by Properties (Q1) and (Q2)), and thus their outputs are 0. Therefore,  $\hat{N}(\hat{\mathbf{z}}_i) = \hat{b}$ .

$P(z^{S_i}) = u = 1$ Hence in the computation $\hat{N}(\hat{z})$ there exists a neuron in $\mathcal{E}$	$S^{S}) =$
$f_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{z}^{-}) = g_i = 1$ . Hence, in the computation $N(\mathbf{z}_i)$ there exists a neuron in $C_1$	with
output at least $\frac{3}{2}$ (by Property (Q1)). Since all incoming weights to the output needed.	euron
in $\hat{N}$ are in $\left[-\frac{11}{10}, -\frac{9}{10}\right]$ , and $\hat{b} \in \left[\frac{9}{10}, \frac{11}{10}\right]$ , then the input to output neuron (inclusion)	uding
the bias term) is at most $\frac{11}{10} - \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} < 0$ , and thus its output is 0.	