

A. Missing Proofs

Proposition 3.1. Let $\{\ell_t\}_{t=1}^T$ be a sequence of loss functions, and $\{\tilde{\ell}_t\}_{t=1}^T$ a sequence of corresponding approximation functions for which it holds that

$$\mathbb{E}[\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}] = \nabla \ell_t(a) + b_t(a),$$

for all t and $a \in \mathcal{K}$. Denote by $\{a_t\}_{t=1}^T$ the sequence of actions that a first-order algorithm \mathcal{A} outputs for $\{h_t\}_{t=1}^T$, where $h_t(a) = \ell_t(a) + a^\top (\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t))$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{R}_T(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_T)] &= \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] - \sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t(a^*) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T)] - \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E}[(a_t - a^*)^\top b_t(a_t)], \end{aligned}$$

where $a^* = \arg \min_{a \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t(a)$, and $\mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T)$ is the regret bound of algorithm \mathcal{A} applied to $\{h_t\}_{t=1}^T$.

Proof. Notice that $\nabla h_t(a_t) = \nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t)$. Thus, applying algorithm \mathcal{A} to $\{h_t\}_{t=1}^T$ yields the following guarantee:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T) &= \sum_{t=1}^T h_t(a_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T h_t(a) \\ &\leq \mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T), \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

for any fixed action $a \in \mathcal{K}$. Next, note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[h_t(a_t)] &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] + \mathbb{E}[a_t^\top (\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] + \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[a_t^\top (\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t)) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] + \mathbb{E}[a_t^\top \mathbb{E}[(\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t)) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] + \mathbb{E}[a_t^\top b_t(a_t)], \end{aligned}$$

and also that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[h_t(a)] &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a)] + \mathbb{E}[a^\top (\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a)] + \mathbb{E}[a^\top \mathbb{E}[(\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t(a_t) - \nabla \ell_t(a_t)) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a)] + \mathbb{E}[a^\top b_t(a_t)], \end{aligned}$$

for any fixed action $a \in \mathcal{K}$. Finally, taking expectation on Equation (8) and substituting $\mathbb{E}[h_t(a_t)]$, $\mathbb{E}[h_t(a)]$ as computed above yields

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{R}_T(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_T)] &= \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E}[\ell_t(a_t)] - \sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t(a) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T)] - \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E}[(a_t - a)^\top b_t(a_t)], \end{aligned}$$

for any fixed action $a \in \mathcal{K}$, and in particular for a^* . \square

Lemma A.1. Algorithm 2 generates online predictions for which it holds that:

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[(u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - u_0^\top \phi(x_t))^2 \right] \\ &- \min_{u \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{t=1}^T (u^\top \phi(x_t) - u_0^\top \phi(x_t))^2 \leq 8T^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Define an auxiliary function

$$\tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u) = (u^\top \phi(x_t) - u_0^\top \phi(x_t))^2,$$

and notice that $\mathbb{E}[\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}] = \nabla \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t)$, where \mathcal{F}_{t-1} denotes the sigma-algebra that consists of the actions u_1, \dots, u_t , and the losses $\ell_1^{\text{Sig}}, \dots, \ell_{t-1}^{\text{Sig}}$. Next, define $h_t(u)$ as in Claim 3.1:

$$h_t(u) = \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u) + u^\top (\nabla \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t) - \nabla \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t)),$$

and notice that $\nabla h_t(u_t) = \nabla \tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t)$. Thus, by Claim 3.1 we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{R}_T(\tilde{\ell}_1^{\text{Sig}}, \dots, \tilde{\ell}_T^{\text{Sig}})] &\leq \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(h_1, \dots, h_T)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{B}_T^{\mathcal{A}}(\ell_1^{\text{Sig}}, \dots, \ell_T^{\text{Sig}})] \\ &\leq 8T^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

as stated in the lemma. \square

Proposition 4.2. Let ℓ_t^{Sig} , ℓ_t^{Var} and $\tilde{\ell}_t^{\text{Var}}$ be as defined above and let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Then, Algorithm 2 generates online sequences $\{u_t\}_{t=1}^T$ and $\{v_t\}_{t=1}^T$ for which it holds that:

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T P(|u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - y_t| \geq c_t) \leq \alpha,$$

for $c_t = \sqrt{\frac{2 \max\{\beta, v_t^\top \psi(x_t)\}}{\alpha}}$ and $\beta = 16T^{-1/4}$.

Proof. Using the techniques of Section 3.2, we have that

$$\sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t^{\text{Sig}}(u_t) - \min_{\|u\| \leq 1} \sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t^{\text{Sig}}(u) \leq \frac{4T^{1/2}\alpha}{\beta},$$

and also that

$$\sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{R}[\ell_t^{\text{Var}}(v_t)] - \min_{\|v\| \leq 1} \sum_{t=1}^T \ell_t^{\text{Var}}(v) \leq \frac{16T^{1/2}\alpha^2}{\beta^2}.$$

where we used the fact that $\frac{1}{c_t^2} \leq \frac{\alpha}{2\beta}$. Equipped with the above, we can bound the quantity of interest:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T P(|u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - y_t| \geq c_t) \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} \left[1_{\{(u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - y_t)^2 \geq c_t^2\}} \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1} \right] \right] \\
 &\stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\mathbb{E} [(u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - y_t)^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1}]}{c_t^2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{c_t^2} (u_t^\top \phi(x_t) - y_t)^2 \right] \\
 &\stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \frac{1}{T} \left(\mathbb{E} \left[\min_{\|u\| \leq 1} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{1}{c_t^2} (y_t - u^\top \phi(x_t))^2 \right] + \frac{4T^{1/2}\alpha}{\beta} \right) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{T} \left(\sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{c_t^2} (y_t - u_0^\top \phi(x_t))^2 \right] + \frac{4T^{1/2}\alpha}{\beta} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{c_t^2} (y_t - u_0^\top \phi(x_t))^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_{t-1} \right] \right] + \frac{4T^{-1/2}\alpha}{\beta} \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{v_0^\top \psi(x_t)}{c_t^2} \right] + \frac{4T^{-1/2}\alpha}{\beta} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{|v_0^\top \psi(x_t) - v_t^\top \psi(x_t)|}{c_t^2} \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{v_t^\top \psi(x_t)}{c_t^2} \right] + \frac{4T^{-1/2}\alpha}{\beta} \\
 &\stackrel{(3)}{\leq} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{v_t^\top \psi(x_t)}{c_t^2} \right] + \frac{4T^{-1/2}\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{4T^{-1/4}\alpha}{\beta} \leq \alpha,
 \end{aligned}$$

where (1) follows by Markov's inequality; (2) follows by the regret bound for $\{\ell_t^{\text{Sig}}\}_{t=1}^T$; and (3) follows by the regret bound for $\{\ell_t^{\text{Var}}\}_{t=1}^T$ and the relationship between the ℓ_1 and the ℓ_2 norms. \square