## A. Preliminaries

## A.1. Summary of Key Notations

Data Partitions $T_{k}=\left\{\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}, Z_{t}\right)\right\}_{t=m+n_{1}+\cdots+n_{k-1}+1}^{t=m+n_{1}+\cdots+n_{k}}(1 \leq k \leq K)$ is the online data collected in $k$-th iteration of size $n_{k}=2^{k-1}$. $n=n_{1}+\cdots+n_{K}, \alpha=2 m / 3 n$. We define $n_{0}=0$. $T_{0}=\left\{\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}, Z_{t}\right)\right\}_{t=1}^{t=m}$ is the logged data and is partitioned into $K+1$ parts $T_{0}^{(0)}, \cdots, T_{0}^{(K)}$ of sizes $m_{0}=m / 3, m_{1}=\alpha n_{1}, m_{2}=\alpha n_{2}, \cdots, m_{K}=\alpha n_{K}$. $S_{k}=T_{0}^{(k)} \cup T_{k}$.
Recall that $\tilde{S}_{k}$ and $\tilde{T}_{k}$ contain inferred labels while $S_{k}$ and $T_{k}$ are sets of examples with original labels. The algorithm only observes $\tilde{S}_{k}$ and $\tilde{T}_{k}$.
For $(X, Z) \in T_{k}(0 \leq k \leq K), Q_{k}(X)=\operatorname{Pr}(Z=1 \mid X)$.
Disagreement Regions The candidate set $V_{k}$ and its disagreement region $D_{k}$ are defined in Algorithm 1. $\hat{h}_{k}=$ $\arg \min _{h \in V_{k}} l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right) . \nu=l\left(h^{\star}\right)$.
$B(h, r):=\left\{h^{\prime} \in \mathcal{H} \mid \rho\left(h, h^{\prime}\right) \leq r\right\}, \operatorname{DIS}(V):=\left\{x \in \mathcal{X} \mid \exists h_{1} \neq h_{2} \in V\right.$ s.t. $\left.h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} . \quad S(A, \alpha)=$ $\bigcup_{A^{\prime} \subseteq A}\left(A^{\prime} \cap\left\{x: Q_{0}(x) \leq \inf _{x \in A^{\prime}} Q_{0}(x)+\frac{1}{\alpha}\right\}\right) . \tilde{\theta}\left(r_{0}, \alpha\right)=\sup _{r>r_{0}} \frac{1}{r} \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}\left(B\left(h^{\star}, r\right)\right), \alpha\right)\right)$.
$\operatorname{DIS}_{0}=\mathcal{X}$. For $k=1, \ldots, K, \epsilon_{k}=\gamma_{2} \sup _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{k-1}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{k}\right)}{m_{k-1} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k-1}}+\gamma_{2} \sqrt{\sup _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{k-1}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{k}\right)}{m_{k-1} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k-1}} l\left(h^{\star}\right)}, \operatorname{DIS}_{k}=$ $\operatorname{DIS}\left(B\left(h^{\star}, 2 \nu+\epsilon_{k}\right)\right)$.

Other Notations $\quad \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)=\operatorname{Pr}\left(h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right), \rho_{S}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{|S|} \sum_{X \in S} \mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\}$.
For $k \geq 0, \sigma(k, \delta)=\sup _{x \in D_{k}} \frac{\log (|\mathcal{H}| / \delta)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k}}, \delta_{k}=\frac{\delta}{(k+1)(k+2)} . \xi_{k}=\inf _{x \in D_{k}} Q_{0}(x) . \zeta=\sup _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{1}} \frac{1}{\alpha Q_{0}(x)+1}$.

## A.2. Elementary Facts

Proposition 4. Suppose $a, c \geq 0, b \in \mathbb{R}$. If $a \leq b+\sqrt{c a}$, then $a \leq 2 b+c$.

Proof. Since $a \leq b+\sqrt{c a}, \sqrt{a} \leq \frac{\sqrt{c}+\sqrt{c+4 b}}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{c+c+4 b}{2}}=\sqrt{c+2 b}$ where the second inequality follows from the Root-Mean Square-Arithmetic Mean inequality. Thus, $a \leq 2 b+c$.

## A.3. Facts on Disagreement Regions and Candidate Sets

Lemma 5. For any $k=0, \ldots, K$, any $x \in \mathcal{X}$, any $h_{1}, h_{2} \in V_{k}, \frac{1\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \leq \sup _{x^{\prime}} \frac{1\left\{x^{\prime} \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(x^{\prime}\right)+n_{k}}$.
Proof. The $k=0$ case is obvious since $D_{0}=\mathcal{X}$ and $n_{0}=0$.
For $k>0$, since $\operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k}\right)=D_{k}, \mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \leq \mathbb{1}\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}$, and thus $\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \leq \frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}$.
For any $x$, if $Q_{0}(x) \leq \xi_{k}+1 / \alpha$, then $Q_{k}(x)=1$, so $\frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}=\frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k}} \leq \sup _{x^{\prime}} \frac{1\left\{x^{\prime} \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(x^{\prime}\right)+n_{k}}$.
If $Q_{0}(x)>\xi_{k}+1 / \alpha$, then $Q_{k}(x)=0$, so $\frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}=\frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)} \leq \frac{1\left\{x \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} \xi_{k}+n_{k}} \leq \sup _{x^{\prime}} \frac{1\left\{x^{\prime} \in D_{k}\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(x^{\prime}\right)+n_{k}}$ where the first inequality follows from the fact that $Q_{0}(x)>\xi_{k}+1 / \alpha$ implies $m_{k} Q_{0}(x)>m_{k} \xi_{k}+n_{k}$
Lemma 6. For any $k=0, \ldots, K$, if $h_{1}, h_{2} \in V_{k}$, then $l\left(h_{1}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, S_{k}\right)=l\left(h_{1}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)$.
Proof. For any $\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}, Z_{t}\right) \in S_{t}$ that $Z_{t}=1$, if $X_{t} \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k}\right)$, then $Y_{t}=\tilde{Y}_{t}$, so $\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq Y_{t}\right\}-\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq Y_{t}\right\}=$ $\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq \tilde{Y}_{t}\right\}-\underset{\tilde{Y}}{1}\left\{h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq \tilde{Y}_{t}\right\}$. If $X_{t} \notin \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k}\right)$, then $h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right)=h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right)$, so $\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq Y_{t}\right\}-\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq\right.$ $\left.Y_{t}\right\}=\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq \tilde{Y}_{t}\right\}-\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq \tilde{Y}_{t}\right\}=0$.

The following lemma is immediate from definition.
Lemma 7. For any $r \geq 2 \nu$, any $\alpha \geq 1, \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}\left(B\left(h^{\star}, r\right)\right), \alpha\right)\right) \leq r \tilde{\theta}(r, \alpha)$.

## A.4. Facts on Multiple Importance Sampling Estimators

We recall that $\left\{\left(X_{t}, Y_{t}\right)\right\}_{t=1}^{n_{0}+n}$ is an i.i.d. sequence. Moreover, the following fact is immediate by our construction that $S_{0}, \cdots, S_{K}$ are disjoint and that $Q_{k}$ is determined by $S_{0}, \cdots, S_{k-1}$.
Fact 8. For any $0 \leq k \leq K$, conditioned on $Q_{k}$, examples in $S_{k}$ are independent, and examples in $T_{k}$ are i.i.d.. Besides, for any $0<k \leq K, Q_{k}, T_{0}^{(k)}, \ldots, T_{0}^{(K)}$ are independent.

Unless otherwise specified, all probabilities and expectations are over the random draw of all random variables (including $\left.S_{0}, \cdots, S_{K}, Q_{1}, \cdots, Q_{K}\right)$.
The following lemma shows multiple importance estimators are unbiased.
Lemma 9. For any $h \in \mathcal{H}$, any $0 \leq k \leq K, \mathbb{E}\left[l\left(h, S_{k}\right)\right]=l(h)$.
The above lemma is immediate from the following lemma.
Lemma 10. For any $h \in \mathcal{H}$, any $0 \leq k \leq K, \mathbb{E}\left[l\left(h, S_{k}\right) \mid Q_{k}\right]=l(h)$.
Proof. The $k=0$ case is obvious since $S_{0}=T_{0}^{(0)}$ is an i.i.d. sequence and $l\left(h, S_{k}\right)$ reduces to a standard importance sampling estimator. We only show proof for $k>0$.
Recall that $S_{k}=T_{0}^{(k)} \cup T_{k}$, and that $T_{0}^{(k)}$ and $T_{k}$ are two i.i.d. sequences conditioned $Q_{k}$. We denote the conditional distributions of $T_{0}^{(k)}$ and $T_{k}$ given $Q_{k}$ by $P_{0}$ and $P_{k}$ respectively. We have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}\left[l\left(h, S_{k}\right) \mid Q_{k}\right] & =\mathbb{E}\left[\left.\sum_{(X, Y, Z) \in T_{0}^{(k)}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+\mathbb{E}\left[\left.\sum_{(X, Y, Z) \in T_{k}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& =m_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+n_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second equality follows since $T_{0}^{(k)}$ and $T_{k}$ are two i.i.d. sequences given $Q_{k}$ with sizes $m_{k}$ and $n_{k}$ respectively. Now,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] & =\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, X, Q_{k}\right] \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& =\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Q_{0}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, X, Q_{k}\right] \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& =\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Q_{0}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second equality uses the definition $\operatorname{Pr}_{P_{0}}(Z \mid X)=Q_{0}(X)$ and the fact that $T_{0}^{(k)}$ and $Q_{k}$ are independent.
Similarly, we have $\mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{1\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]=\mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{1\{h(X) \neq Y\} Q_{k}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]$.
Therefore,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+n_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& \quad=m_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Q_{0}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+n_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} Q_{k}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& \quad=\mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\} \frac{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
& \quad=\mathbb{E}_{D}[\mathbb{1}\{h(X) \neq Y\}]=l(h)
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second equality uses the fact that distribution of $(X, Y)$ according to $P_{0}$ is the same as that according to $P_{k}$, and the third equality follows by algebra and Fact 8 that $Q_{k}$ is independent with $T_{0}^{(k)}$.

The following lemma will be used to upper-bound the variance of the multiple importance sampling estimator.
Lemma 11. For any $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$, any $0 \leq k \leq K$,

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\left.\sum_{(X, Y, Z) \in S_{k}}\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}\right)^{2} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \leq \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} .
$$

Proof. We only show proof for $k>0$. The $k=0$ case can be proved similarly.
We denote the conditional distributions of $T_{0}^{(k)}$ and $T_{k}$ given $Q_{k}$ by $P_{0}$ and $P_{k}$ respectively. Now, similar to the proof of Lemma 10, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}\left[\left.\sum_{(X, Y, Z) \in S_{k}}\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}\right)^{2} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
= & \sum_{(X, Y, Z) \in S_{k}} \mathbb{E}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Z}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
= & m_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Z}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+n_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Z}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
= & m_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Q_{0}(X)}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right]+n_{k} \mathbb{E}_{P_{k}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} Q_{k}(X)}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
= & \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} \frac{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}{\left(m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)\right)^{2}} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
= & \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\left.\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)} \right\rvert\, Q_{k}\right] \\
\leq & \mathbb{E}_{P_{0}}\left[\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(X) \neq h_{2}(X)\right\} \mid Q_{k}\right] \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \\
= & \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## B. Deviation Bounds

In this section, we demonstrate deviation bounds for our error estimators on $S_{k}$. Again, unless otherwise specified, all probabilities and expectations in this section are over the random draw of all random variables, that is, $S_{0}, \cdots, S_{K}$, $Q_{1}, \cdots, Q_{K}$.
We use following Bernstein-style concentration bound:
Fact 12. Suppose $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ are independent random variables. For any $i=1, \ldots, n,\left|X_{i}\right| \leq 1, \mathbb{E} X_{i}=0, \mathbb{E} X_{i}^{2} \leq \sigma_{i}^{2}$. Then with probability at least $1-\delta$,

$$
\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_{i}\right| \leq \frac{2}{3} \log \frac{2}{\delta}+\sqrt{2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i}^{2} \log \frac{2}{\delta}}
$$

Theorem 13. For any $k=0, \ldots, K$, any $\delta>0$, with probability at least $1-\delta$, for all $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$, the following statement holds:
$\left|\left(l\left(h_{1}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, S_{k}\right)\right)-\left(l\left(h_{1}\right)-l\left(h_{2}\right)\right)\right| \leq 2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \frac{2 \log \frac{4|\mathcal{Y}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}}{y}+\sqrt{2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)}$.

Proof. We show proof for $k>0$. The $k=0$ case can be proved similarly. When $k>0$, it suffices to show that for any $k=1, \ldots, K, \delta>0$, conditioned on $Q_{k}$, with probability at least $1-\delta,(4)$ holds for all $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$.
For any $k=1, \ldots, K$, for any fixed $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$, define $A:=\sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}$. Let $N:=\left|S_{k}\right|, U_{t}:=$ $\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq Y_{t}\right\} Z_{t}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(X_{t}\right)+n_{k} Q_{k}\left(X_{t}\right)}-\frac{1\left\{h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq Y_{t}\right\} Z_{t}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(X_{t}\right)+n_{k} Q_{k}\left(X_{t}\right)}, V_{t}:=\left(U_{t}-\mathbb{E}\left[U_{t} \mid Q_{k}\right]\right) / 2 A$.
Now, conditioned on $Q_{k},\left\{V_{t}\right\}_{t=1}^{N}$ is an independent sequence by Fact $8 .\left|V_{t}\right| \leq 1$, and $\mathbb{E}\left[V_{t} \mid Q_{k}\right]=0$. Besides, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{t=1}^{N} \mathbb{E}\left[V_{t}^{2} \mid Q_{k}\right] & \leq \frac{1}{4 A^{2}} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \mathbb{E}\left[U_{t}^{2} \mid Q_{k}\right] \\
& \leq \frac{1}{4 A^{2}} \sum_{t=1}^{N} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right)\right\} Z_{t}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(X_{t}\right)+n_{k} Q_{k}\left(X_{t}\right)}\right)^{2} \\
& \leq \frac{\rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)}{4 A}
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second inequality follows from $\left|U_{t}\right| \leq \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right)\right\} Z_{t}}{m_{k} Q_{0}\left(X_{t}\right)+n_{k} Q_{k}\left(X_{t}\right)}$, and the third inequality follows from Lemma 11. Applying Bernstein's inequality (Fact 12) to $\left\{V_{t}\right\}$, conditioned on $Q_{k}$, we have with probability at least $1-\delta$,

$$
\left|\sum_{t=1}^{m} V_{t}\right| \leq \frac{2}{3} \log \frac{2}{\delta}+\sqrt{\frac{\rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)}{2 A} \log \frac{2}{\delta}}
$$

Note that $\sum_{t=1}^{m} U_{t}=l\left(h_{1}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, S_{k}\right)$, and $\sum_{t=1}^{m} \mathbb{E}\left[U_{t} \mid Q_{k}\right]=l\left(h_{1}\right)-l\left(h_{2}\right)$ by Lemma 10, so $\sum_{t=1}^{m} V_{t}=$ $\frac{1}{2 A}\left(l\left(h_{1}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{1}\right)+l\left(h_{2}\right)\right)$. (4) follows by algebra and a union bound over $\mathcal{H}$.
Theorem 14. For any $k=0, \ldots, K$, any $\delta>0$, with probability at least $1-\delta$, for all $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$, the following statements hold simultaneously:

$$
\begin{align*}
\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) & \leq 2 \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{10}{3} \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}  \tag{5}\\
\rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) & \leq 2 \rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{7}{6} \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \tag{6}
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. Let $N=\left|S_{k}\right|$. Note that for any $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}, \rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{N} \sum_{t} \mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}\left(X_{t}\right) \neq h_{2}\left(X_{t}\right)\right\}$, which is the empirical average of an i.i.d. sequence. By Fact 12 and a union bound over $\mathcal{H}$, with probability at least $1-\delta$,

$$
\left|\rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)-\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)\right| \leq \frac{2}{3 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}+\sqrt{\frac{2 \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)}{N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}} .
$$

On this event, by Proposition 4, $\rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) \leq 2 \rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{4}{3 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}+\frac{2}{N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta} \leq 2 \rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{10}{3 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}$. Moreover,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right) & \leq \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{2}{3 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}+\sqrt{\frac{2 \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)}{N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}} \\
& \leq \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{2}{3 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}+\frac{1}{2}\left(2 \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{1}{N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}\right) \\
& \leq 2 \rho\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)+\frac{7}{6 N} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second inequality uses the fact that $\forall a, b>0, \sqrt{a b} \leq \frac{a+b}{2}$.
The result follows by noting that $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}, N=\left|S_{k}\right|=m_{k}+n_{k} \geq m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)$.

Corollary 15. There are universal constants $\gamma_{0}, \gamma_{1}>0$ such that for any $k=0, \ldots, K$, any $\delta>0$, with probability at least $1-\delta$, for all $h, h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$, the following statements hold simultaneously:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\left(l\left(h_{1}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h_{2}, S_{k}\right)\right)-\left(l\left(h_{1}\right)-l\left(h_{2}\right)\right)\right| \leq \gamma_{0} \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{2 \delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}+\gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h_{1}(x) \neq h_{2}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{2 \delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \rho_{S}\left(h_{1}, h_{2}\right)} ; \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq 2\left(l\left(h, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} l\left(h^{\star}\right)} . \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. Let event $E$ be the event that (4) and (6) holds for all $h_{1}, h_{2} \in \mathcal{H}$ with confidence $1-\frac{\delta}{2}$ respectively. Assume $E$ happens (whose probability is at least $1-\delta$ ).
(7) is immediate from (4) and (6).

For the proof of (8), apply (4) to $h$ and $h^{\star}$, we get
$l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq l\left(h, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)+2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \frac{2 \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{3}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}+\sqrt{2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \rho\left(h, h^{\star}\right)}$.

By triangle inequality, $\rho\left(h, h^{\star}\right)=\operatorname{Pr}_{D}\left(h(X) \neq h^{\star}(X)\right) \leq \operatorname{Pr}_{D}(h(X) \neq Y)+\operatorname{Pr}_{D}\left(h^{\star}(X) \neq Y\right)=l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)+2 l\left(h^{\star}\right)$. Therefore, we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq & l\left(h, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)+2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \frac{2 \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{3}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \\
& +\sqrt{2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\left.\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}\left(l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)+2 l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)} \\
\leq & l\left(h, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)+\sqrt{2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}\left(l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)} \\
& +2 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \frac{2 \log \frac{4|\mathcal{Y}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}}{}+\sqrt{4 \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h(x) \neq h^{\star}(x)\right\} \log \frac{4 \mid \mathcal{H |}}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}} l\left(h^{\star}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where the second inequality uses $\sqrt{a+b} \leq \sqrt{a}+\sqrt{b}$ for $a, b \geq 0$.
(8) follows by applying Proposition 4 to $l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)$.

## C. Technical Lemmas

For any $0 \leq k \leq K$ and $\delta>0$, define event $\mathcal{E}_{k, \delta}$ to be the event that the conclusions of Theorem 13 and Theorem 14 hold for $k$ with confidence $1-\delta / 2$ respectively. We have $\operatorname{Pr}\left(\mathcal{E}_{k, \delta}\right) \geq 1-\delta$, and that $\mathcal{E}_{k, \delta}$ implies inequalities (4) to (8).

We first present a lemma which can be used to guarantee that $h^{\star}$ stays in candidate sets with high probability by induction..
Lemma 16. For any $k=0, \ldots K$, any $\delta>0$. On event $\mathcal{E}_{k, \delta}$, if $h^{\star} \in V_{k}$ then,

$$
l\left(h^{\star}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right) \leq l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)+\gamma_{0} \sigma(k, \delta)+\gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sigma(k, \delta) \rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)}
$$

Proof.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& l\left(h^{\star}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right) \\
= & l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, S_{k}\right) \\
\leq & \gamma_{0} \sup _{x} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h^{\star}(x) \neq \hat{h}_{k}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)}+\gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sup _{x} \frac{\mathbb{1}\left\{h^{\star}(x) \neq \hat{h}_{k}(x)\right\} \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k} Q_{k}(x)} \rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)} \\
\leq & \gamma_{0} \sigma(k, \delta)+\sqrt{\gamma_{0} \sigma(k, \delta) \rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h\right)} .
\end{aligned}
$$

The equality follows from Lemma 6. The first inequality follows from (7) of Corollary 15 and that $l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq l\left(\hat{h}_{k}\right)$. The last inequality follows from Lemma 5 and that $\rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)=\rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)$.

Next, we present two lemmas to bound the probability mass of the disagreement region of candidate sets.
Lemma 17. For any $k=0, \ldots, K$, any $\delta>0$, let $V_{k+1}(\delta):=\left\{h \in V_{k} \mid l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right) \leq l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)+\gamma_{0} \sigma(k, \delta)+\right.$ $\left.\gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sigma(k, \delta) \rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h\right)}\right\}$. Then there is an absolute constant $\gamma_{2}>1$ such that for any $0, \ldots, K$, any $\delta>0$, on event $\mathcal{E}_{k, \delta}$, if $h^{\star} \in V_{k}$, then for all $h \in V_{k+1}(\delta)$,

$$
l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq \gamma_{2} \sigma(k, \delta)+\gamma_{2} \sqrt{\sigma(k, \delta) l\left(h^{\star}\right)}
$$

Proof. For any $h \in V_{k+1}(\delta)$, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \\
& \leq 2\left(l\left(h, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \\
&=2\left(l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \\
&=2\left(l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)+l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \\
& \leq 2\left(l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)-l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \\
& \leq\left(2 \gamma_{0}+\gamma_{1}\right) \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+2 \gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(h, \hat{h}_{k}\right)}+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \\
& \leq\left(2 \gamma_{0}+\gamma_{1}\right) \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+2 \gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)\left(\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h, h^{\star}\right)+\rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h_{k}}, h^{\star}\right)\right)}+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)} \tag{9}
\end{align*}
$$

where the first inequality follows from (8) of Corollary 15 and Lemma 5, the first equality follows from Lemma 6, the third inequality follows from the definition of $V_{k}(\delta)$, and the last inequality follows from $\rho_{\tilde{S}_{k}}\left(h, \hat{h}_{k}\right)=\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h, \hat{h}_{k}\right) \leq$ $\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h, h^{\star}\right)+\rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h_{k}}, h^{\star}\right)$.
As for $\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h, h^{\star}\right)$, we have $\rho_{S_{k}}\left(h, h^{\star}\right) \leq 2 \rho\left(h, h^{\star}\right)+\frac{16}{3} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right) \leq 2\left(l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)+4 l\left(h^{\star}\right)+\frac{16}{3} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right)$ where the first inequality follows from (5) of Theorem 14 and Lemma 5, and the second inequality follows from the triangle inequality.

For $\rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\rho_{S_{k}}\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right) & \leq 2 \rho\left(\hat{h}_{k}, h^{\star}\right)+\frac{16}{3} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right) \\
& \leq 2\left(l\left(\hat{h}_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)+2 l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)+\frac{16}{3} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right) \\
& \leq 2\left(2\left(l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, S_{k}\right)-l\left(h^{\star}, S_{k}\right)\right)+\gamma_{1} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right)+\gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)}+2 l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)+\frac{16}{3} \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right) \\
& \leq\left(2 \gamma_{1}+\frac{16}{3}\right) \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right)+2 \gamma_{1} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{2}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)}+4 l\left(h^{\star}\right) \\
& \leq\left(4+\gamma_{1}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)+\left(3 \gamma_{1}+\frac{16}{3}\right) \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where the first inequality follows from (5) of Theorem 14 and Lemma 5, the second follows from the triangle inequality, the third follows from (8) of Theorem 15 and Lemma 5, the fourth follows from the definition of $\hat{h}_{k}$, the last follows from the fact that $2 \sqrt{a b} \leq a+b$ for $a, b \geq 0$.
Continuing (9) and using the fact that $\sqrt{a+b} \leq \sqrt{a}+\sqrt{b}$ for $a, b \geq 0$, we have:
$l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right) \leq\left(2 \gamma_{0}+\gamma_{1}+2 \gamma_{0} \sqrt{3 \gamma_{1}+\frac{32}{3}}\right) \sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right)+\left(2 \gamma_{0} \sqrt{8+\gamma_{1}}+\gamma_{1}\right) \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right) l\left(h^{\star}\right)}+2 \sqrt{2} \gamma_{0} \sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \frac{\delta}{8}\right)\left(l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)}$.

The result follows by applying Proposition 4 to $l(h)-l\left(h^{\star}\right)$.
Lemma 18. On event $\bigcap_{k=0}^{K-1} \mathcal{E}_{k, \delta_{k} / 2}$, for any $k=0, \ldots K, D_{k} \subseteq D I S_{k}$.

Proof. Recall that $\delta_{k}=\frac{\delta}{(k+1)(k+2)}$. On event $\bigcap_{k=0}^{K-1} \mathcal{E}_{k, \delta_{k} / 2}, h^{\star} \in V_{k}$ for all $0 \leq k \leq K$ by Lemma 16 and induction.
The $k=0$ case is obvious since $D_{0}=\operatorname{DIS}_{0}=\mathcal{X}$. Now, suppose $0 \leq k<K$, and $D_{k} \subseteq \operatorname{DIS}_{k}$. We have

$$
\begin{aligned}
D_{k+1} & \subseteq \operatorname{DIS}\left(\left\{h: l(h) \leq \nu+\gamma_{2}\left(\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right)+\sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right) \nu}\right)\right\}\right) \\
& \subseteq \operatorname{DIS}\left(B\left(h^{\star}, 2 \nu+\gamma_{2}\left(\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right)+\sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right) \nu}\right)\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where the first line follows from Lemma 17 and the definition of $D_{k}$, and the second line follows from triangle inequality that $\operatorname{Pr}\left(h(X) \neq h^{\star}(X)\right) \leq l(h)+l\left(h^{\star}\right)\left(\right.$ recall $\left.\nu=l\left(h^{\star}\right)\right)$.
To prove $D_{k+1} \subseteq \operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}$ it suffices to show $\gamma_{2}\left(\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right)+\sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right) \nu}\right) \leq \epsilon_{k+1}$.
Note that $\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right)=\sup _{x \in D_{k}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{k}\right)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k}} \leq \sup _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{k}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{k}\right)}{m_{k} Q_{0}(x)+n_{k}}$ since $D_{k} \subseteq \operatorname{DIS}_{k}$. Consequently, $\gamma_{2}\left(\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right)+\sqrt{\sigma\left(k, \delta_{k} / 2\right) \nu}\right) \leq \epsilon_{k+1}$.

## D. Proof of Consistency

Proof. (of Theorem 1) Define event $\mathcal{E}^{(0)}:=\bigcap_{k=0}^{K} \mathcal{E}_{k, \delta_{k} / 2}$. By a union bound, $\operatorname{Pr}\left(\mathcal{E}^{(0)}\right) \geq 1-\delta$. On event $\mathcal{E}^{(0)}$, by induction and Lemma 16, for all $k=0, \ldots, K, h^{\star} \in V_{k}$. Observe that $\hat{h}=\hat{h}_{K} \in V_{K+1}\left(\delta_{K} / 2\right)$. Applying Lemma 17 to $\hat{h}$, we have

$$
l(\hat{h}) \leq l\left(h^{\star}\right)+\gamma_{2}\left(\sup _{x \in D_{K}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{K}\right)}{m_{K} Q_{0}(x)+n_{K}}+\sqrt{\sup _{x \in D_{K}} \frac{\log \left(2|\mathcal{H}| / \delta_{K}\right)}{m_{K} Q_{0}(x)+n_{K}} l\left(h^{\star}\right)}\right) .
$$

The result follows by noting that $\sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1\left\{x \in D_{K}\right\}}{m_{K} Q_{0}(x)+n_{K}} \leq \sup _{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1\left\{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{K}\right\}}{m_{K} Q_{0}(x)+n_{K}}$ by Lemma 18.

## E. Proof of Label Complexity

Proof. (of Theorem 3) Recall that $\xi_{k}=\inf _{x \in D_{k}} Q_{0}(x)$ and $\zeta=\sup _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}_{1}} \frac{1}{\alpha Q_{0}(x)+1}$.
Define event $\mathcal{E}^{(0)}:=\bigcap_{k=0}^{K} \mathcal{E}_{k, \delta_{k} / 2}$. On this event, by induction and Lemma 16 , for all $k=0, \ldots, K, h^{\star} \in V_{k}$, and consequently by Lemma $18, D_{k} \subseteq$ DIS $_{k}$.
For any $k=0, \ldots K-1$, let the number of label queries at iteration $k$ to be $U_{k}:=\sum_{t=n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k}+1}^{n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k+1}} Z_{t} \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in D_{k+1}\right\}$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
Z_{t} \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in D_{k+1}\right\} & =\mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in D_{k+1} \wedge Q_{0}\left(X_{t}\right) \leq \inf _{x \in D_{k+1}} Q_{0}(x)+\frac{1}{\alpha}\right\} \\
& \leq \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in S\left(D_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right\} \\
& \leq \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus, $U_{k} \leq \sum_{t=n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k}+1}^{n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k+1}} \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right\}$, where the RHS is a sum of i.i.d. $\operatorname{Bernoulli}\left(\operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right)\right)$ random variables, so a Bernstein inequality implies that on an event $\mathcal{E}^{(1, k)}$ of probability at least $1-\delta_{k} / 2$, $\sum_{t=n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k}+1}^{n_{0}+\cdots+n_{k+1}} \mathbb{1}\left\{X_{t} \in S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right\} \leq 2 n_{k+1} \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right)+2 \log \frac{4}{\delta_{k}}$.
Therefore, it suffices to show that on event $\mathcal{E}^{(2)}:=\cap_{k=0}^{K}\left(\mathcal{E}^{(1, k)} \cap \mathcal{E}_{k, \delta_{k} / 2}\right)$, for some absolute constant $c_{1}$,

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{K-1} n_{k+1} \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right) \leq c_{1} \tilde{\theta}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{K}, \alpha\right)\left(n \nu+\zeta \log n \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}| \log n}{\delta}+\log n \sqrt{n \nu \zeta \log \frac{|\mathcal{H}| \log n}{\delta}}\right) .
$$

Now, on event $\mathcal{E}^{(2)}$, for any $k<K, \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right)=\operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}\left(B\left(h^{\star}, 2 \nu+\epsilon_{k+1}\right)\right), \alpha\right)\right) \leq\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{k+1}\right) \tilde{\theta}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{k+1}, \alpha\right)$ where the last inequality follows from Lemma 7 .
Therefore,

$$
\left.\begin{array}{l}
\sum_{k=0}^{K-1} n_{k+1} \operatorname{Pr}\left(S\left(\operatorname{DIS}_{k+1}, \alpha\right)\right) \\
\quad \leq n_{1}+\sum_{k=1}^{K-1} n_{k+1}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{k+1}\right) \tilde{\theta}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{k+1}, \alpha\right) \\
\leq 1+\tilde{\theta}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{K}, \alpha\right)\left(2 n \nu+\sum_{k=1}^{K-1} n_{k+1} \epsilon_{k+1}\right) \\
\quad \leq 1+\tilde{\theta}\left(2 \nu+\epsilon_{K}, \alpha\right)\left(2 n \nu+2 \gamma_{2} \sum_{k=1}^{K-1}\left(\left.\sup _{x \in \operatorname{Dis}_{1}} \frac{\log \frac{\mid \mathcal{H |}}{\delta_{k} \mid 2}}{\left(\alpha Q_{0}(x)+1\right)}+\sqrt{n_{k} \nu \sup _{x \in \operatorname{Dis}}^{1}} \right\rvert\, \frac{\log \frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta_{k} \mid 2}}{\left(\alpha Q_{0}(x)+1\right)}\right)\right.
\end{array}\right)
$$

## F. Experiment Details

## F.1. Implementation

All algorithms considered require empirical risk minimization. Instead of optimizing $0-1$ loss which is known to be computationally hard, we approximate it by optimizing a squared loss. We use the online gradient descent method in (Karampatziakis \& Langford, 2011) for optimizing importance weighted loss functions.
For IDBAL, recall that in Algorithm 1, we need to find the empirical risk minimizer $\hat{h}_{k} \leftarrow \arg \min _{h \in V_{k}} l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)$, update the candidate set $V_{k+1} \leftarrow\left\{h \in V_{k} \mid l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right) \leq l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)+\Delta_{k}\left(h, \hat{h}_{k}\right)\right\}$, and check whether $x \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k+1}\right)$.

Table 5: Dataset information.

| Dataset | \# of examples | \# of features |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| synthetic | 6000 | 30 |
| letter (U vs P) | 1616 | 16 |
| skin | 245057 | 3 |
| magic | 19020 | 10 |
| covtype | 581012 | 54 |
| mushrooms | 8124 | 112 |
| phishing | 11055 | 68 |
| splice | 3175 | 60 |
| svmguide1 | 4000 | 4 |
| a5a | 6414 | 123 |
| cod-rna | 59535 | 8 |
| german | 1000 | 24 |

In our experiment, we approximately implement this following Vowpal Wabbit (vw). More specifically,

1. Instead of optimizing $0-1$ loss which is known to be computationally hard, we use a surrogate loss $l\left(y, y^{\prime}\right)=\left(y-y^{\prime}\right)^{2}$.
2. We do not explicitly maintain the candidate set $V_{k+1}$.
3. To solve the optimization problem $\min _{h \in V_{k}} l\left(h, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)=\sum_{(X, \tilde{Y}, Z) \in \tilde{S}_{k}} \frac{1\{h(X) \neq \tilde{Y}\} Z}{m_{k} Q_{0}(X)+n_{k} Q_{k}(X)}$, we ignore the constraint $h \in V_{k}$, and use online gradient descent with stepsize $\sqrt{\frac{\eta}{t+\eta}}$ where $\eta$ is a parameter. The start point for gradient descent is set as $\hat{h}_{k-1}$ the ERM in the last iteration, and the step index $t$ is shared across all iterations (i.e. we do not reset $t$ to 1 in each iteration).
4. To approximately check whether $x \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k+1}\right)$, when the hypothesis space $\mathcal{H}$ is linear classifiers, let $w_{k}$ be the normal vector for current ERM $\hat{h}_{k}$, and $a$ be current stepsize. We claim $x \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k+1}\right)$ if $\frac{\left|2 w_{k}^{\top} x\right|}{a x^{\top} x} \leq \sqrt{\frac{C \cdot l\left(\hat{h}_{k}, \tilde{S}_{k}\right)}{m_{k} \xi_{k}+n_{k}}}+$ $\frac{C \log \left(m_{k}+n_{k}\right)}{m_{k} \xi_{k}+n_{k}}$ (recall $\left|\tilde{S}_{k}\right|=m_{k}+n_{k}$ and $\xi_{k}=\inf _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k}\right)} Q_{0}(x)$ ) where $C$ is a parameter that captures the model capacity. See (Karampatziakis \& Langford, 2011) for the rationale of this approximate disagreement test.
5. $\xi_{k}=\inf _{x \in \operatorname{DIS}\left(V_{k}\right)} Q_{0}(x)$ can be approximately estimated with a set of unlabeled samples. This estimate is always an upper bound of the true value of $\xi_{k}$.

DBALw and DBALwm can be implemented similarly.

## G. Additional Experiment Results

In this section, we present a table of dataset information and plots of test error curves for each algorithm under each policy and dataset.

We remark that the high error bars in test error curves are largely due to the inherent randomness of training sets since in practice active learning is sensitive to the order of training examples. Similar phenomenon can be observed in previous work (Huang et al., 2015).


Figure 1: Test error vs. number of labels under the Identical policy


Figure 2: Test error vs. number of labels under the Uniform policy


Figure 3: Test error vs. number of labels under the Uncertainty policy


Figure 4: Test error vs. number of labels under the Certainty policy

