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# Active Regression by Stratification

## Appendices

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**Sivan Sabato**  
Department of Computer Science  
Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, Israel

**Remi Munos**  
INRIA  
Lille, France

### A On the Derivation of Theorem 2.1

Theorem 2.1 is a useful variation of the results in Hsu and Sabato (2014). It stems from a slight change to Theorem 1 in Hsu and Sabato (2014), such that instead of requiring their ‘Condition 1’, which leads to the requirement:  $n \geq d \log(1/\delta)$ , we require a bounded condition number  $R$ , which leads to the requirement:  $n \geq cR^2 \log(c'R) \log(1/\delta)$ , similarly to the proof of Theorem 2 there. We use the slightly stronger condition  $n \geq cR^2 \log(c'n) \log(c''/\delta)$ , with  $n$  on both sides (and different constants  $c, c', c''$ ), since it is more convenient in the derivations that follow. Note that both conditions are equivalent up to constants.

### B Sampling according to $P_\phi$

Sampling  $m$  labeled examples according to  $P_\phi$  can be done by actively querying  $m$ , labels via standard rejection sampling. The algorithm is brought here for completeness.

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**Algorithm 2** Sampling according to  $P_\phi$ 

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**input** Sample size  $m$ ,  $\phi : \text{supp}_X(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[\phi(\mathbf{x})] = 1$ .

**output** A labeled sample  $S$  of size  $m$  drawn according to  $P_\phi$ .

- 1: **while**  $|S| < m$  **do**
  - 2:   Draw  $\mathbf{x}$  according to  $D_X$
  - 3:   Draw a uniform random variable  $u \sim U[0, 1]$
  - 4:   **if**  $u \leq \phi(\mathbf{x}) / \max_{\mathbf{z} \in \text{supp}_X(D)} \phi(\mathbf{z})$  **then**
  - 5:     Draw  $y$  according to  $D_{Y|\mathbf{x}}$
  - 6:      $S \leftarrow S \cup \{(\mathbf{x}/\sqrt{\phi(\mathbf{x})}, y/\sqrt{\phi(\mathbf{x})})\}$ .
  - 7:   **end if**
  - 8: **end while**
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### C Proof of Lemma 3.1

*Proof of Lemma 3.1.* Denote  $\xi := \frac{c \log(c'n) \log(1/\delta)}{n}$ . Let  $\beta \geq 0$ , and  $H_\beta = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \psi(\mathbf{x}) \leq \beta \|\mathbf{x}\|_*^2\}$ . There exists a  $\beta \geq 0$  such that the solution for Eq. (4) has the following form.

$$\phi^*(\mathbf{x}) = \max\left\{\|\mathbf{x}\|_*^2 \xi, \frac{\psi(\mathbf{x})(1 - \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{X}\|_*^2 \xi \cdot \mathbb{I}[\mathbf{X} \in H_\beta]])}{\mathbb{E}[\psi(\mathbf{X}) \cdot \mathbb{I}[\mathbf{X} \notin H_\beta]]}\right\}.$$

Therefore  $\phi^*(\mathbf{x}) \geq \psi(\mathbf{x})(1 - \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{X}\|_*^2] \cdot \xi) / \mathbb{E}[\psi(\mathbf{X})]$ . Plugging this into the definition of  $\rho$ , and using Eq. (1),

$$\rho(\phi^*) = \mathbb{E}[\psi^2(\mathbf{x}) / \phi^*(\mathbf{x})] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}^2[\psi(\mathbf{x})]}{1 - d\xi} \leq \mathbb{E}^2[\psi(\mathbf{x})] + \frac{d\xi}{1 - d\xi} \cdot \mathbb{E}^2[\psi(\mathbf{x})].$$

For  $n \geq O(d \log(d) \log(1/\delta))$ ,  $d\xi \leq 1/2$ , hence  $\frac{d\xi}{1 - d\xi} \leq 2d\xi \leq O(d \log(n) \log(1/\delta)/n)$ . Therefore  $\rho(\phi^*) \leq \mathbb{E}^2[\psi(\mathbf{x})](1 + O(d \log(n) \log(1/\delta)/n))$ . To see that  $\rho(\phi^*) \geq \mathbb{E}^2[\psi(\mathbf{x})]$ , consider Eq. (4) for  $\xi = 0$ . In this case the optimal solution is  $\phi^*(\mathbf{x}) = \psi(\mathbf{x}) / \mathbb{E}[\psi(\mathbf{x})]$ .  $\square$

## D Proof of Lemma 5.4

*Proof of Lemma 5.4.* By the definition of  $\mu_i$  and  $Q_i$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu_i &= \int_{A_i \times \mathbb{R}} \|\mathbf{X}\|_*^2 (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2 dD(\mathbf{X}, Y) \\
&= \int_{A_i \times \mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}^\top}{\|\mathbf{X}\|_*} \mathbf{w}_* - \frac{Y}{\|\mathbf{X}\|_*} \right)^2 \|\mathbf{X}\|_*^4 \cdot dD(\mathbf{X}, Y) \\
&= \Theta_i \cdot \int (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2 \cdot dQ_i(\mathbf{X}, Y) \\
&= \Theta_i \cdot \mathbb{E}_{Q_i}[(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2].
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Assume that  $\mathcal{E}$  holds. By Eq. (10), for all  $\mathbf{X} \in \text{supp}_X(Q_i)$ ,

$$(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2 \leq (|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - \mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}}| + |\mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}} - Y|)^2 \leq (|\mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}} - Y| + \Delta)^2.$$

From Eq. (12) and the definition of  $\nu_i$ , it follows that  $\mu_i \leq \nu_i$ . For the upper bound on  $\nu_i$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
(|\mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}} - Y| + \Delta)^2 &\leq (|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y| + |\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - \mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}}| + \Delta)^2 \\
&\leq (|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y| + 2\Delta)^2
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

By Jensen's inequality,  $\mathbb{E}_{Q_i}[(|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y| + 2\Delta)^2] \leq (\sqrt{\mathbb{E}_{Q_i}[(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2]} + 2\Delta)^2$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu_i &\equiv \Theta_i \cdot \mathbb{E}_{Q_i}[(|\mathbf{X}^\top \hat{\mathbf{v}} - Y| + \Delta)^2] \\
&\leq \Theta_i (\sqrt{\mathbb{E}_{Q_i}[(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{w}_* - Y)^2]} + 2\Delta)^2 \\
&= (\sqrt{\mu_i} + 2\Delta \sqrt{\Theta_i})^2.
\end{aligned}$$

□