

# Machine Learning Algorithms (CS260) Cheat Sheet

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## Notations

Term	Notation
Scalars	$a, b, c, \dots$
Vectors	$\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}, \dots$
Matrices	$\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}, \dots$
Inner Product	$\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \sum_i w_i x_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}; \langle \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{X} \rangle = \text{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{X})$
* $\text{tr}(\mathbf{A})$	trace of matrix $\mathbf{A}$ , $\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii}$
norm	$\ \cdot\ , \ \mathbf{x}\ _2 = \sqrt{\sum_i x_i^2}$
$[a]_+$	$\max(a, 0)$
Set	$\mathcal{H}$
Domain Set / Input Space	An arbitrary set $\mathcal{X}$ , usually vector of features, $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ .
Instance	$x \in \mathcal{X}$
Label Set / Target Space	$\mathcal{Y}$ , usually $\{0, 1\}$ or $\{-1, +1\}$
Target / Label	$y \in \mathcal{Y}$
Instance-Label Pair	$(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$
Training data	$S = ((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_m, y_m)) \in (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^n$ , a <b>finite</b> sequence of pairs in $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$
Hypothesis	$h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ (prediction rule / learner's output / classifier / function / predictor)
Data Generation Model	$f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}, y_i = f(x_i)$
Probability Distribution	$\mathcal{D}$ , over $\mathcal{X}$ , learner don't know
Probability	$\mathbb{P}(\cdot)$
Expectation	$\mathbb{E}[\cdot]$
Indicator Function	$\mathbb{1}(\epsilon) = 1$ if $\epsilon$ is true, otherwise $= 0$
Learning Goal	Find a hypothesis $h$ from $\mathcal{H}$ with (mostly) correct predictions on future <b>unseen</b> examples
Correct Classifier	$f$
Accuracy	$\epsilon$
Confidence	$\delta$
Sample size	Sample complexity: $m_{\mathcal{H}}$ , lower bound of learnability
inf	Infimum, $\approx$ lower bound
sup	Supremum, $\approx$ upper bound
exp	Exponential, $\text{exp}(x) = e^x$

## Learnability Theorems Overview

For binary classification, where  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, +1\}$ , error of  $h$  with respect to  $f$  is (PAC):

$$L_{\mathcal{D}, f}(h) = \mathbb{P}_{x \sim \mathcal{D}}[h(x) \neq f(x)] \\ = \mathcal{D}(\{x \in \mathcal{X} : h(x) \neq f(x)\})$$

That of agnostic PAC:

$$L_{\mathcal{D}, f}(h) = \mathbb{P}_{(x, y) \sim \mathcal{D}}[h(x) \neq y] \\ = \mathcal{D}(\{(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} : h(x) \neq y\})$$

Important background knowledge include:

- i.i.d.** - Independently Identically Distributed, Each  $x_i$  is sampled independently according to  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- Empirical Risk** -  $L_S(h) = \frac{|\{i \in [m] : h(x_i) \neq y_i\}|}{m}$  ( $m$  is the training set size), finding a predictor  $h$  that minimizes ER is called ERM (Empirical Risk Minimization).

Theorem	assumption	statement (of prob $\geq (1 - \delta)$ )
PAC Learnable	$\mathcal{D} \sim \mathcal{X}; \mathcal{H}$ ; Realizability; $m \geq m(\epsilon, \delta)$ ; ERM	$L_{\mathcal{D}, f}(A(S)) \leq \epsilon$
Agnostic PAC Learnable	$\mathcal{D} \sim \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ ; the rest the same	$L_{\mathcal{D}}(A(S)) \leq \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + \epsilon$
Uniform Convergence	$S$ is $\epsilon$ -representative; $m \geq m_{\mathcal{H}}^{UC}(\epsilon, \delta)$ the rest the same	$L_{\mathcal{D}}(A(S)) \leq \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + \epsilon$
Nonuniform Learnability	Major change is in expression of prior knowledge; $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\epsilon, \delta, h)$	$L_{\mathcal{D}}(A(S)) \leq \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + \epsilon$

## Formula

- $(1 - \epsilon)^m \approx e^{-\epsilon m}, (1 - x) \leq e^{-x}$
- (Union Bound)  $\mathcal{D}(A \cup B) \leq \mathcal{D}(A) + \mathcal{D}(B)$
- PAC & agnostic PAC:  $m_{\mathcal{H}}(\epsilon, \delta) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log(\frac{|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta})$
- $\forall$  finite  $\mathcal{H}$  is agnostically PAC learnable with:  $m_{\mathcal{H}}(\epsilon, \delta) \leq \lceil \frac{2}{\epsilon^2} \log(\frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}) \rceil$
- $m_{\mathcal{H}}(\epsilon, \delta) \leq m_{\mathcal{H}}^{UC}(\epsilon/2, \delta)$ ; **every**  $\mathcal{H}$  with uniform convergence property is agnostic PAC learnable.
- $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{UC}(\epsilon, \delta) \leq \lceil \frac{\log(2|\mathcal{H}|/\delta)}{2\epsilon^2} \rceil$
- $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\epsilon, \delta, h) \leq \frac{-\log(w(h)) + \log(2/\delta)}{2\epsilon^2}$  where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the class of all computable functions, not PAC learnable but NU learnable, MDL.
- In SRM settings,  $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\epsilon, \delta, h)$  is upper-bounded by  $\min_{n: h \in \mathcal{H}_n} C^{\frac{d_n - \log(w(h)) + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}}$ .
- Validation set  $V$  and  $\ell \in [0, 1]$ ,  $|L_V(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\log(2/\delta)}{2m_v}}, 2|\mathcal{H}|$  if optimized  $\hat{h}$ .
- For a finite class  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}) \leq \log_2(|\mathcal{H}|)$
- $\sqrt{a^2 - b^2} \leq \sqrt{(a+b)^2} = a+b$

## Realizability Assumption

There exists  $h^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $L_{(\mathcal{D}, f)}(h^*) = 0$ . It implies that, with probability of 1 over random sample  $S$ ,  $L_S(h^*) = 0$ .

## No Free Lunch Theorem

Fix  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2)$ .  $\forall$  learner  $A$  and training set size  $m$ ,  $\exists \mathcal{D}, f$  such that:

$$\mathbb{P}(L_{\mathcal{D}, f}(A(S)) \geq \epsilon) \geq \delta$$

not better than a random guess at 1/2

## $\epsilon$ - representative sample

A training set  $S$  is  $\epsilon$  - representative when it holds that:

$$\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, |L_S(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)| \leq \epsilon$$

## Hints on Proofs

1. PAC: Consider the bad hypothesis class  $\mathcal{H}_B$  and misleading samples  $M$ .
2. Uniform Convergence:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \\ L_{\mathcal{D}}(h_S) &\leq L_S(h_S) + \epsilon^* \\ &\leq L_S(h) + \epsilon^* \\ &\leq L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + \epsilon^* + \epsilon^* \end{aligned}$$

3. Finite class sample complexity upper bound: same with prove that  $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{UC}(\epsilon, \delta) \leq \lceil \frac{\log(2|\mathcal{H}|/\delta)}{2\epsilon^2} \rceil$ , and then use the Hoeffding's inequality to bound  $\mathcal{D}^m(\dots > \epsilon) \leq 2\exp(-2m\epsilon^2)$ ; Union bound and that's it.
4. Proof of  $|L_V(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)|$ : use Hoeffding's Inequality.
5. Kraft's Inequality: consider generating an expression as flipping coins or other random process, then  $\mathbb{P}(\sigma) = \frac{1}{2^{|\sigma|}}$
6. Minimum Description Length (MDL) bound proof: Make  $\delta_h = w(h) \cdot \delta$  for each  $h$ ; Apply Hoeffding to show that for each  $h$ ,  $\mathcal{D}^m(\{S : L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) > L_S(h) + \sqrt{\frac{\log(2/\delta_h)}{2m}}\}) \leq \delta_h$ ; apply union bound to get altogether they are  $\sum \delta_h \leq \delta$ .

## Hoeffding's Inequality

Let  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$  be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables that satisfies:

1.  $\forall i, \mathbb{E}[\theta_i] = \mu$
2.  $\forall i, \mathbb{P}[a \leq \theta_i \leq b] = 1$

Then  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i - \mu > \epsilon\right] \leq 2 \exp(-2m\epsilon^2/(b-a)^2)$$

where  $\exp(x) = e^x$ .

## Markov's Inequality

$$\mathbb{P}[Z \geq a] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[Z]}{a}$$

specifically, when  $a \in (0, 1)$  and  $Z \sim [0, 1]$ , assume that  $\mathbb{E}[Z] = \mu$ , we have:

$$\mathbb{P}[Z > a] \geq \frac{\mu - a}{1 - a} \geq \mu - a$$

## k-fold cross validation

- divide the training dataset into k folds, use one fold as validation set, the rest for training
- a method of selecting the best parameters before going testing
- use the average of all the selections of  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ 's error to be the estimated error of a parameter set

## Error Decomposition

$$L_{\mathcal{D}}(h_S) = \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + (L_{\mathcal{D}}(h_S) - \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h))$$

1. The approximation error:  $\epsilon_{app} = \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)$ 
  - bring in by restriction of  $\mathcal{H}$
  - independent from  $S$
  - decreases with complexity of  $\mathcal{H}$  (denoted by size or VCdim)
2. The estimation error:  $\epsilon_{est} = L_{\mathcal{D}}(h_S) - \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)$ 
  - Result of  $L_S$  being only an estimation of  $L_{\mathcal{D}}$
  - Decreases with the size of  $S$
  - Might increase with the complexity of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

## VC Dimension

$\mathcal{H}$  **Shatters**  $C$  means that all possible value of a given set  $C$  could be explained by a hypothesis from class  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $|\mathcal{H}_C| \leq 2^{|C|}$ , where  $|\mathcal{H}_C|$  is the restriction of  $\mathcal{H}$  to  $C$ .

$$VCdim(\mathcal{H}) = \sup\{|C| : \mathcal{H} \text{ shatters } C\}$$

## Bias-Variance Decomposition for Regression

Given that  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathcal{D}$ , regression loss-function  $\ell(h, (\mathbf{x}, y)) = (h(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2$ .

The expected loss is:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[\ell(h, (\mathbf{x}, y))] \\ &= \int \int (h(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2 p(\mathbf{x}, y) d\mathbf{x} dy \\ &= \int (h(\mathbf{x}) - h^*(\mathbf{x}))^2 p(\mathbf{x}, y) d\mathbf{x} \\ &\quad + \int \int (h^*(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2 p(\mathbf{x}, y) d\mathbf{x} dy \end{aligned}$$

The expectation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_S[L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)] &= \mathbb{E}_S[\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[\ell(h, (\mathbf{x}, y))]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_S\left[\int (h_S(\mathbf{x}) - h^*(\mathbf{x}))^2 p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}\right] \\ &\quad + \int \int (h^*(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2 p(\mathbf{x}, y) d\mathbf{x} dy \end{aligned}$$

where  $\int \int (h^*(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2 p(\mathbf{x}, y) d\mathbf{x} dy$  is the noise and:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_S\left[\int (h_S(\mathbf{x}) - h^*(\mathbf{x}))^2 p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}\right] \\ &= \int (\mathbb{E}_S[h_S] - h^*(\mathbf{x}))^2 p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &\quad + \int \mathbb{E}_S[(h_S(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{E}_S[h_S(\mathbf{x})])^2] p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

where the first part is *bias*<sup>2</sup> and the second part is the *variance*.

## Growth Function

The growth function of  $\tau_{\mathcal{H}}(m)$  is defined as:

$$\tau_{\mathcal{H}}(m) = \max_{C \subset \mathcal{X}, |C|=m} |\mathcal{H}_C|$$

$\tau_{\mathcal{H}}(m)$  the number of different functions from a set  $C$  of size  $m$  to  $0, 1$  that can be obtained by restricting  $\mathcal{H}$  to  $C$ .

If  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}) = d$  then for any  $m \leq d$  we have  $\tau_{\mathcal{H}}(m) = 2^m$ ,  $\mathcal{H}$  induces all possible functions from  $C$  to  $0, 1$ .

### Sauer-Shelah-Perles-Vapnik-Chervonenkis Lemma

Given  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}) \leq d \leq \infty$ , then for all  $C \subset \mathcal{X}$  s.t.  $|C| = m > d + 1$ , we have:

$$|\mathcal{H}_C| \leq \left(\frac{em}{d}\right)^d$$

### Fundamental Theorem of Learning

$\mathcal{H}$  is a class of binary classifiers with  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}) = d$ . Then there are absolute constants  $C_1$  and  $V_2$  such that the sample complexity of PAC learning  $\mathcal{H}$  is:

$$C_1 \frac{d + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon} \leq m_{\mathcal{H}}(\epsilon, \delta) \leq C_2 \frac{d \log(2/\epsilon) + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon}$$

And this sample complexity is achieved using ERM rule.

### Prior Knowledge

Described as hypothesis class  $\mathcal{H}$  in PAC learning and uniform learning. However there are other ways of expressing it, such as bias to shorter expressions. Generally, bias could be denoted as a weight  $w(h)$  assigned to each hypothesis in a **countable** hypothesis class  $\mathcal{H}$ . The weight reflects prior knowledge on the importance of each  $h$ .

$$\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} w(h) \leq 1$$

An example is the description length.

### Description Length

- Description language is denoted by  $d(h)$
- The term **prefix-free** means that  $\forall h \neq h', d(h)$  is not a prefix of  $d(h')$ ; could always be achieved by including "end-of-word" symbol.
- Let  $|h|$  be the length of  $d(h)$
- Then, set  $w(h) = 2^{-|h|}$
- $\sum_h w(h) \leq 1$  according to **Kraft's inequality**.

### Kraft's Inequality

If  $S \subset \{0, 1\}^*$  is a prefix-free set of strings, then:

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S} \frac{1}{2^{|\sigma|}} \leq 1$$

### Minimum Description Length (MDL) bound

Let  $w : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be such that  $\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} w(h) \leq 1$ . Then with prob  $\geq 1 - \delta$  over  $S \sim \mathcal{D}^m$  we have:

$$\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) \leq L_S(h) + \sqrt{\frac{-\log(w(h)) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}}$$

Compared with VC bound:

$$\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) \leq L_S(h) + \sqrt{\frac{VCdim(\mathcal{H}) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}}$$

Minimizing VC bound: ERM rule; Minimizing MDL bound: MDL rule.

### Minimum Description Length (MDL) Guarantee

For every  $h \in \mathcal{H}$ , w.p.  $\geq 1 - \delta$  over  $S \sim \mathcal{D}^m$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\mathcal{D}}(MDL(S)) &\leq L_S(h) + \sqrt{\frac{-\log(w(h)) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}} \\ &\leq L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) + 2\sqrt{\frac{-\log(w(h)) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}} \end{aligned}$$

Note that VC dim could be infinite.

### Condition of NU Learnable

A class  $\mathcal{H} \subset \{0, 1\}^{\mathcal{X}}$  is non-uniform learnable **if and only if** it is a **countable** union of **PAC learnable hypothesis classes**.

### Structural Risk Minimization (SRM)

$$\begin{aligned} SRM(S) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{h \in \mathcal{H}} [L_S(h) \\ + \min_{n: h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \sqrt{C \frac{d_n - \log(w(n)) + \log(1/\delta)}{m}}] \end{aligned}$$

where  $w(n) = w(\mathcal{H}_n)$

### The Cost of Weaker Prior Knowledge

Suppose:  $\mathcal{H} = \cup_n \mathcal{H}_n$ , where  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}_n) = n$ .

- If, for some  $h^* \in \mathcal{H}_n$  has  $L_{\mathcal{D}}(h^*) = 0$ , we can apply ERM so the sample complexity is  $C \frac{n + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}$
- Without the prior knowledge, sample complexity will be  $C \frac{n + \log(\pi^2 n^2 / 6) + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}$

### Condition of NU Learnable: Proof

Assume that  $\mathcal{H}$  is non-uniform learnable with sample complexity  $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}$

- For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $\mathcal{H}_n = \{h \in \mathcal{H} : m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{7}, h) \leq n\}$ , then clearly  $\mathcal{H} = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{H}_n$
- For every  $\mathcal{D}$  s.t.  $\exists h \in \mathcal{H}_n$  with  $L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) = 0$ , we have that  $\mathcal{D}^n(\{S : L_{\mathcal{D}}(S(S)) \leq \frac{1}{8}\}) \geq \frac{6}{7}$
- The fundamental theorem of statistical learning implies that each  $\mathcal{H}_n$  has finite VC dimension  $d_n$ , each of them is agnostic PAC learnable.
- Choose a proper weight so that  $\sum_n w(n) \leq 1$  and apply it to  $w(n) = w(\mathcal{H}_n)$ . One example is  $w(n) = \frac{6}{\pi^3 n^2}$  since sum up from 1 to  $\infty$  it adds up to 1.
- Choose  $\delta_n = \delta \cdot w(n)$  and  $\epsilon_n = \sqrt{C \frac{d_n + \log(1/\delta_n)}{m}}$ .
- By the fundamental theorem, for every  $n$ ,  $\mathcal{D}^m(\{S : \exists h \in \mathcal{H}_n, L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) > L_S(h) + \epsilon_n\}) \leq \delta_n$ .
- Apply union bound,  $\mathcal{D}^m(\{S : \exists n, h \in \mathcal{H}_n, L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) > L_S(h) + \epsilon_n\}) \leq \sum_n \delta_n \leq \delta$ .

### SRM Guarantee Proof

By NUL, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\mathcal{D}}(SRM(S)) &\leq L_S(SRM(S)) \\ &+ \min_{n: h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \sqrt{\frac{-\log(w(SRM(S))) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}} \end{aligned}$$

By the optimality of SRM, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{above right hand side} \\ &\leq L_S(h) + \min_{n: h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \sqrt{\frac{-\log(w(h)) + \log(2/\delta)}{2m}} \end{aligned}$$

**Claim:** For any infinite domain set  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathcal{H} = \{0, 1\}^{\mathcal{X}}$  is not a countable union of classes of finite VC-dimension, hence such  $\mathcal{H}$  are **not** non-uniformly learnable.

## Sample Midterm Conclusion

### 1. PAC learnable problem

- PAC learnable  $\rightarrow$  ERM Algorithm, specify a loss function and describe it using math language
- Describe the occasions of making mistakes, using math language; in other word, describe the misleading data that leads to *bad hypothesis class*, why and how. Union Bound infers that we need to find  $(1 - \epsilon/2)^m \leq \delta/2$ , for we have 2 bounds to decide.
- Let a margin be the distribution of  $\mathbb{P}[\cdot] = \epsilon$ , falling into that region means that single data point's error will be no more than  $\epsilon$ ; then use something like  $\mathbb{P}[\text{no misled}] = (1 - \epsilon)^m \leq e^{-\epsilon m} \leq \delta$  to get the bound of  $m$  by  $\epsilon, \delta$ .

### 2. VC Dimension Steps to prove VC Dimension:

- Form a sample set  $C$
- Prove that  $C$  could be shattered by  $\mathcal{H}$
- Prove that adding another sample point then  $\mathcal{H}$  could no longer shatter  $C'$

In this problem we need to form the set  $C$  and prove that for all the possibilities of  $C$  it will have corresponding hypothesis in  $\mathcal{H}$ . In this specific case where it is a hypothesis class of axis aligned rectangles in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , I suggest forming a dataset  $C$  where points are in pairs, located on the axis, paired like  $(-a, a)$ . To illustrate shattering, we could specify a rectangle using  $a$  and  $d$ , denoting it by assigning the range to each of its dimension. For example,  $h = \text{rect}((-2a, 2a), (-2a, 2a), \dots)$  and to exclude 1 positive point from the set,  $(-2a, 2a) \rightarrow (-a/2, 2a)$ , to exclude 2 we do  $(-a/2, a/2)$ . So we could make any number from 0 to  $2d$  using those combinations. But if there's an additional point added, it must have  $\cos\langle e, x \rangle \neq 0$  with one of the axis's base vectors. From slicing the triangle on a certain plane we know why it doesn't work.

Basically, it tests your ability of formally describing the proof in  $n$ -d space.

### 3. Uniform Convergence

- Prove the uniform convergence accuracy, given a replacement of Hoeffding's inequality: the **Bernstein's Inequality**.

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\left|\sum_{i=1}^m (\theta_i - \mu)\right| > \epsilon\right] \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^2/2}{\sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{E}[X_i^2] + M\epsilon/3}\right) \quad (1)$$

where for i.i.d.  $\theta_1 \dots \theta_m$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\theta_i] = \mu$  and  $|\theta_i| \leq M$ . To prove it:

- Set the value of the right hand side of the inequation (1) to be  $\delta$ .
  - $a \log(b) = \log(a^b)$ ,  $-\log(\delta/2) = \log(2/\delta)$
  - For  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ,  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ , then we get  $\epsilon$ .
  - Triangular Inequality,  $\sqrt{a^2 - b^2} \leq a + b$ , holds that probability is always  $1 - \delta$  and that the  $\mathbb{P}$  part could be omitted, so it is proved.
- Prove the upper bound of empirical risk. (w.p.  $1 - \delta$ )

- We have that:  $\theta_i = \mathbb{1}(h(x_i) = y)$ ,  $|\theta_i| \leq 1 = M$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[x_i^2] = \mathbb{E}[x_i] = L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)$ ;  $\frac{1}{m} \sum_i \theta_i = L_S(h)$ .
- According to part (a),  $\mathbb{P}[|L_S(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)| \geq \epsilon'] \leq \delta'$ , where coming from the right hand side of (a) conclusion,  $\epsilon' = \frac{2M \log(2/\delta)}{3m} + \sqrt{\frac{2\mathbb{E}[\theta_i^2] \log(2/\delta)}{m}} = \frac{2 \log(2/\delta)}{3m} + \sqrt{\frac{2L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) \log(2/\delta)}{m}}$
- With Prob  $\geq \frac{\delta'}{2}$ , we get the lower bound of  $|L_S(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)|$  and conclude that  $\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \mathcal{D}^m(\{\cdot\}) \leq \delta$ , applying **union bound** we'll get the result.  $(\frac{2 \log(2/\delta)}{3m} + \sqrt{\frac{2L_{\mathcal{D}}(h) \log(2/\delta)}{m}})$  is the upper bound of  $|L_S(h) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)|$ . It holds uniformly on  $\mathcal{H}$  w.p. at least  $1 - |\mathcal{H}| \frac{\delta'}{2}$ , set  $\delta = |\mathcal{H}| \frac{\delta'}{2}$ . Bridge  $L_{\mathcal{D}}(\widehat{h}_S) \rightarrow L_S(\widehat{h}_S) \rightarrow L_S(h^*) \rightarrow L_{\mathcal{D}}(h^*)$ , 2 times diff, thus proved;  $C_1 = \frac{5\sqrt{2}}{2}, C_2 = \frac{13+2\sqrt{6}}{3}$  to be specific.)

(c) Use (b), and make  $L_{\mathcal{D}}(\widehat{h}_S) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h^*) \leq \epsilon$

### 4. Validation and model selection

Clarification:  $h^* \in \text{argmin}_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L_{\mathcal{D}}(h)$  is contained in  $\mathcal{H}_j$ , while at the same time it could belong to multiple classes.

- ERM rule on  $\mathcal{H}_j$ ,  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}_j) = d_j$ , according to the **VC bound** (mentioned in MDL),  $\epsilon' = \sqrt{C \frac{d_j + \log(2/\delta)}{(1-\alpha)^m}}$  and  $L_{\mathcal{D}}(\widehat{h}_j) \leq L_S(\widehat{h}_j) + \epsilon' \leq L_S(\widehat{h}^*) + \epsilon' \leq L_{\mathcal{D}}(h^*) + 2\epsilon'$ . ( $2/\delta$ : because  $1 - \delta/2$ )
- Note that  $\widehat{h}_S \text{ERM of } \{\widehat{h}_1 \dots \widehat{h}_k\}$   $|h_V - h_D|$  (denoted as  $L_D(\widehat{h})$  and  $L_D(\widehat{h}_j)$  in this question) upper bound, given  $\delta/2$ , and that  $|\mathcal{H}| = k$ , result in  $\sqrt{\frac{\log(4k/\delta)}{2\alpha m}}$  (twice to be the answer of (b)). Similar with (a) but use  $L_D(\widehat{h}) \rightarrow L_V(\widehat{h}) \rightarrow L_V(\widehat{h}_j) \rightarrow L_D(\widehat{h}_j)$ . (According to **the fundamental theorem of learning**, agnostic PAC / UC sample complexity  $\in [C_1 \frac{d + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}, C_2 \frac{d + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}]$ , PAC sample complexity  $\in [C_1 \frac{d + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon}, C_2 \frac{d \log(1/\epsilon) + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon}]$ .)
- Known  $L_D(\widehat{h}_j) - L_{\mathcal{D}}(h^*)$  and  $L_D(\widehat{h}) - L_D(\widehat{h}_j)$ , using union bound,  $a + b = c$ .

### 5. Nonuniform learnability

- Assign weight to  $\delta_i$ ,  $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \epsilon, \delta$ , let  $m \geq m_{\mathcal{H}_n}^{UC}(\epsilon, w(n(h))\delta)$ , since  $w$  add up to 1, w.p.  $\geq 1 - \delta$  over  $S \sim \mathcal{D}^m$ ,  $\forall h' \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $L_D(h') \leq L_S(h') + \epsilon_n(h')(m, w(n(h'))\delta)$ . (Holds particular for SRM, A(S).) By definition of SRM  $L_D(A(S)) \leq \min_{h'} [L_S(h') + \epsilon_n(h')(m, w(n(h'))\delta)] \leq L_S(h) + \epsilon_n(h)(m, w(n(h))\delta)$ . If  $m \geq m_{\mathcal{H}_n}(h)(\epsilon/2, w(n(h))\delta)$ , then clearly  $\epsilon_n(h)(m, w(n(h))\delta) \leq \epsilon/2$ . Each  $\mathcal{H}_n$  is UC so w.p.  $\geq 1 - \delta$ ,  $L_S(h) \leq L_D(h) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ , proved by using  $L_D(\widehat{h}) \rightarrow L_V(\widehat{h}) \rightarrow L_V(\widehat{h}_j) \rightarrow L_D(\widehat{h}_j)$ .
- The cost of weaker prior knowledge. Make  $VCdim(\mathcal{H}_n) = n$  and then apply  $w$  to  $\delta$ . The version in textbook uses that  $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\epsilon, \delta, h)$  is bounded by  $m_{\mathcal{H}_n}^{UC}(\frac{\epsilon}{2}, w(n)\delta)$ , and conclude that  $m_{\mathcal{H}}^{NUL}(\epsilon, \delta, h) - m_{\mathcal{H}_n}^{UC}(\frac{\epsilon}{2}, w(n)\delta) \leq 4C \frac{2 \log(2n)}{\epsilon^2}$ , where  $m_{\mathcal{H}_n}^{UC}(\epsilon, \delta) = C \frac{n + \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}$ .