

Correction for Exercise #0.

[Thanks to Marin Billu !]

- The answer is no.
- Even my extension for Proof #2 was too quick.

Indeed, I wrote $E[X|G_j]$ and thus I implicitly assumed $X \in L^1$ (a minimal requirement for the existence of a conditional expectation, unless $X \geq 0$, but as I will need $X - E[X|G_j]$ I don't want to run into a $+\infty - (+\infty)$ trouble).

- So, assume $X \in L^1$. Then my extension finally works and yields

$$(*) \quad \ln E[e^{s(X - E[X|G_j])} | G_j] \leq \frac{s^2}{8} (b-a)^2$$

All is fine here, as $X - E[X|G_j]$ is actually bounded, thus there is no surprise that $e^{s(X - E[X|G_j])}$ is integrable:

$$X \in L^1 \text{ implies } G \in L^1 \quad \text{since } |X - G| \leq \max\{|a|, |b|\}$$

$$\text{thus } X - E[X|G_j] = \underbrace{(X - G)}_{\in [a,b]} - \underbrace{E[(X - G) | G_j]}_{\in [a,b]} \text{ is bounded.}$$

- If we really want the $E[X|G_j]$ term outside of the $\ln E[\cdot | G_j]$ in (*), we need to ensure that

$$E[e^{s(X - E[X|G_j])} | G_j] = E[e^{sX} | G_j] e^{-s E[X|G_j]}$$

In the first place, we need to ensure that $E[e^{sX} | G_j]$ is finitely valued (as the two other terms are). We are led to assume that $e^{sX} \in L^1$.

We then get: $(**) \quad \ln E[e^{sX} | G_j] \leq s E[X|G_j] + \frac{s^2}{8} (b-a)^2$

- What about Proof #3?

We want to get (*) under the assumptions
 $X \in \mathbb{L}^2$ and $a \leq X - G \leq b$

We consider $H = \{ \mathbb{E}[e^{s(X - \mathbb{E}[X|G])} | G] > e^{\frac{s^2}{8}(b-a)^2} \} \in \mathcal{G}$

If $\mathbb{P}(H) > 0$, then (iii)

$$\mathbb{E}_H[e^{s(X - \mathbb{E}[X|G])}] > e^{\frac{s^2}{8}(b-a)^2}$$

but the question is whether Hoeffding's lemma in its unconditional form ensured that $\mathbb{E}_H[e^{s(X - \mathbb{E}[X|G])}] \leq e^{\frac{s^2}{8}(b-a)^2}$ so that we have a contradiction

It is the case: apply Hoeffding's lemma in its unconditional form to $X' = X - G \in [a, b]$ and \mathbb{P}_H . We again heavily use $X \in \mathbb{L}^2$ thus $G \in \mathbb{L}^2$ to get

$$X' - \mathbb{E}[X' | G] = X - \mathbb{E}[X | G]$$

and all is fine!

Again, to get (**) from (*) we require $e^{sX} \in \mathbb{L}^1$, under which (**) immediately follows from (*)

Solution for Exercise #1.

$$a, b \geq 0: \min\{a, b\} \leq \sqrt{ab}$$

$$\bullet \quad \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] \leq \min\left\{T, \frac{8 \ln T}{\Delta_i^2} + 2\right\} \leq \sqrt{T \left(\frac{8 \ln T}{\Delta_i^2} + 2\right)}$$

thus

$$\bar{R}_T = \sum_{i: \Delta_i > 0} \Delta_i \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] \leq \sum_{i: \Delta_i > 0} \sqrt{T(8 \ln T + 2 \Delta_i^2)} \leq O(K \sqrt{T \ln T})$$

Or a more direct approach:

$$\bar{R}_T = \sum_{i: \Delta_i > \sqrt{\frac{8 \ln T}{T}}} \underbrace{\left(2 + \frac{8 \ln T}{\Delta_i^2}\right) \Delta_i}_{< 2 + \sqrt{8 \ln T}} + \sum_{\substack{i: \Delta_i \leq \sqrt{\frac{8 \ln T}{T}} \\ \text{and } \Delta_i > 0}} \underbrace{\Delta_i T}_{< \sqrt{8 \ln T}} \leq K(2 + \sqrt{8 \ln T}) = O(K \sqrt{T \ln T})$$

- Where did we fail? We used that $\forall i, \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] \leq T$
but in fact, a stronger statement holds:
$$\sum_i \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] = T$$

- The smarter approach is:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{R}_T &= \sum_{i: \Delta_i > 0} \Delta_i \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] \\ &\leq \sum_{i: \Delta_i > 0} \Delta_i \min\left\{\mathbb{E}[N_i(T)], \frac{8 \ln T}{\Delta_i^2} + 2\right\} && \text{by the Proposition} \\ &\leq \sum_{i: \Delta_i > 0} \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[N_i(T)] \left(\frac{8 \ln T}{\Delta_i^2} + 2\right)} && \min\{a, b\} \leq \sqrt{ab} \\ &\leq \sqrt{8 \ln T + 2} \sum_{i=1, \dots, K} \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[N_i(T)]} \\ &\leq \sqrt{8 \ln T + 2} \sqrt{K \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^K \mathbb{E}[N_i(T)]}_{= T}} && \sqrt{\cdot} \text{ is concave: for } u_1, \dots, u_K \geq 0, \\ &= \sqrt{KT(8 \ln T + 2)} && \frac{1}{K} \sum_j \sqrt{u_j} \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{K} \sum_j u_j} \end{aligned}$$