

Below is a **step-by-step, scenario-style illustration** of how **AgACI** operates, without relying on an actual image. Imagine a **table** of “experts” and their interval predictions, and then how the aggregator merges them at each time step.

A Fictional Day-by-Day Example (ASCII/Step-by-Step Style)

Suppose we have **3 experts**, each corresponding to a **different** γ_k ($\gamma_1 = 0.01$, $\gamma_2 = 0.03$, $\gamma_3 = 0.07$). We have a time series $\{x_t, y_t\}$ for $t = 1, 2, \dots$. Each day t :

1. **Each Expert (i.e., each γ_k)** runs ACI.
 - They have *their own* adapted $\alpha_{t,k}$.
 - They produce *their own* prediction interval $\hat{C}_{t,k} = [\hat{b}_{t,k}^{(\ell)}, \hat{b}_{t,k}^{(u)}]$.
2. **We Observe y_t** after the intervals are formed.
3. **We Compute a Loss** (pinball or similar) for each expert k to see how well their interval performed (did it miss? was it too large, etc.).
4. **We Combine** these intervals by weighting each expert’s lower/upper bound using an online “expert aggregator.”

ASCII Representation

Let’s imagine a *table* at each day t :

Day t	Expert $k=1$ ($\gamma=0.01$)	Expert $k=2$ ($\gamma=0.03$)	Expert $k=3$ ($\gamma=0.07$)	Aggregator (Combined)

Lower	$L_{\{t,1\}}$	$L_{\{t,2\}}$	$L_{\{t,3\}}$	Weighted average of $L_{\{t,k\}}$
Upper	$U_{\{t,1\}}$	$U_{\{t,2\}}$	$U_{\{t,3\}}$	Weighted average of $U_{\{t,k\}}$
(We see y_t , compute losses, update weights, produce final $[L, U]$)				

More Detail:

1. **Before day t :**
 - Each expert k has a *running* coverage error record that yields a current $\alpha_{t,k}$.
 - They produce the day’s interval $\hat{C}_{t,k} = [\hat{b}_{t,k}^{(\ell)}, \hat{b}_{t,k}^{(u)}]$.
2. **Day t Observes y_t :**
 - Suppose the aggregator sees these intervals:
 - Expert 1: $\hat{C}_{t,1} = [2.5, 6.0]$
 - Expert 2: $\hat{C}_{t,2} = [1.2, 8.1]$
 - Expert 3: $\hat{C}_{t,3} = [3.4, 4.9]$
 - Then the actual label is $y_t = 5.5$.
 - Some intervals might be infinite if a certain γ_k had $\alpha_{t,k} < 0$. In that case, say Expert 3 gives an upper bound of ∞ , we clamp it to some large M .
3. **Loss Calculation:**
 - Each expert gets a pinball loss for its lower bound + upper bound w.r.t. y_t .
 - For example, if Expert 3’s upper was only 4.9, but the true label is 5.5, Expert 3 missed coverage on the upper side → incurring a *large* pinball loss for the upper bound.
4. **Weights Update:**

- The aggregator keeps track of each expert's cumulative performance from previous days.
- If an expert's interval is "just right" (not too big, not missing coverage), it receives a smaller loss → the aggregator will *increase* that expert's weight.
- If an expert is frequently infinite or missing coverage, the aggregator *decreases* that expert's weight.

5. Aggregated Bounds:

- Let's say the aggregator's new weights for each expert's **lower** side are

$$\omega_{t,1}^{(\ell)} = 0.2, \omega_{t,2}^{(\ell)} = 0.5, \omega_{t,3}^{(\ell)} = 0.3.$$

- Then the aggregator's final **lower** bound is

$$\tilde{b}_t^{(\ell)} = \frac{0.2 \times 2.5 + 0.5 \times 1.2 + 0.3 \times 3.4}{0.2 + 0.5 + 0.3} \approx 2.0.$$

- Similarly for the upper side with different weights.
- So day t 's final aggregator interval might be $\tilde{C}_t = [2.0, 6.7]$, a weighted average of the three experts' bounds.

6. Day $t + 1$:

- Each expert γ_k now updates $\alpha_{t+1,k}$ based on whether it personally missed coverage at day t .
- The aggregator also updates each $\omega_{t+1,k}^{(\ell,u)}$ (or uses a standard formula for online weighting) based on how each bound performed.
- Next day, we do it all again.

2. Summary of the Process

At each day t :

1. **Multiple ACIs:** We run K different ACI procedures, each with a different γ_k .
2. **Each Expert's Interval:** We gather $\hat{C}_{t,k}$.
3. **Clamping** if infinite: If an expert's interval is infinite, we clamp it to a max size M .
4. **Pinball Loss:** The aggregator checks how each bound did on day t .
5. **Weights:** The aggregator updates each expert's weighting for lower vs. upper bounds.
6. **Aggregate:** A final interval emerges as a weighted average of lower and upper bounds from all experts.

Hence, you get a single final "aggregated" interval at each time t , pulling from whichever γ_k is performing well, in a smoother way than picking a single best γ_k or flipping among them.