

(B) "Online gradient descent on the squared loss"

$$\ell(y, \hat{y}) = (y - \hat{y})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{y}} \ell(y, \hat{y}) = 2(\hat{y} - y)$$

$$\nabla_w \ell(y, \langle w, x \rangle) = 2(\langle w, x \rangle - y)x$$

$$(w_0 = 0)$$

$$w_t = w_{t-1} - \eta_t \nabla_w \ell(y_t, \langle w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle)$$

$$= w_{t-1} - 2\eta_t (\langle w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle - y_t) x_t$$

~~Realizable~~

Realizable case: (w/o noise)

$$y_t = \langle w^*, x_t \rangle \quad \forall t$$

$$\text{Then } w_t = w_{t-1} - 2\eta_t (\langle w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle - \langle w^*, x_t \rangle) x_t$$

$$\|w^* - w_t\|^2 = \|w^* - w_{t-1} + 2\eta_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle x_t\|^2$$

$$= \|w^* - w_{t-1}\|^2 - 4\eta_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2$$

$$+ 4\eta_t^2 \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2 \|x_t\|^2$$

(\*)

This is really good if we set  $\eta_t = \eta$   $\forall t$

(Racko is saying "everytime we make a big mistake, we learn about  $w^*$ ")

Because

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Regret} &= \sum_t (y_t - \langle w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle)^2 \\ &= \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2 \end{aligned}$$

looks similar to rhs of (\*)!

Telescope (\*)

Regret!

$$0 \leq \|w^* - w_T\|^2 = \|w^* - w_0\|^2$$

$$- 4\eta \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2$$

$$+ 4\eta^2 \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2 \|x_t\|^2$$

$$\text{Regret} = \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{4\eta} \|w^* - w_0\|^2 + \eta \left( \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2 \right) \left( \sum_t \|x_t\|^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Suppose } \|x_t\|^2 \leq R^2$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{4\eta} \|w^* - w_0\|^2 + \eta R^2 \left( \sum_t \langle w^* - w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle^2 \right)$$

$$\text{Require } \eta \leq \frac{1}{2R^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Regret} \leq \frac{1}{2\eta} \|w^* - w_0\|^2 = R^2 \|w^* - w_0\|^2$$

With noise:

$$y_t = \langle w^*, x_t \rangle + \xi_t$$

Independent mean-zero noise  
(or M.D. Sequence)  
~~for all~~

$$\begin{aligned} w_t &= w_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_w \ell(y_t, \langle w_{t-1}, x_t \rangle) \\ &= w_{t-1} - 2\eta (\langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle - \xi_t) x_t \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_t - w^*\|^2 &= \|w_{t-1} - 2\eta (\langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle - \xi_t) x_t - w^*\|^2 \\ &= \|w_{t-1} - w^*\|^2 - 4\eta (\langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle - \xi_t) \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle \\ &\quad + 4\eta^2 (\langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle - \xi_t)^2 \|x_t\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Telescope

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \|w_T - w^*\|^2 &= \|w_0 - w^*\|^2 \\ &\quad - 4\eta \sum_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle^2 \\ &\quad + 4\eta \sum_t \xi_t \langle x_t, w_{t-1} - w^* \rangle \\ &\quad + 4\eta^2 \sum_t (\langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle - \xi_t)^2 \|x_t\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Take expectation  $\mathbb{E} \xi_t = 0$

expected  
~~prob~~ regret

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \mathbb{E} \|w_0 - w^*\|^2 - 4\eta \mathbb{E} \sum_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle^2 \\ &\quad + 0 + 4\eta^2 \mathbb{E} \sum_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle^2 \|x_t\|^2 \\ &\quad + 4\eta^2 \sum_t \mathbb{E} \xi_t^2 \|x_t\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $\eta < \frac{1}{4R^2}$

$$\begin{aligned} 2\eta \mathbb{E} \sum_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle^2 &\leq \|w_0 - w^*\|^2 + 4\eta^2 \sum_t \mathbb{E} \xi_t^2 \\ &\quad + 4\eta^2 \sum_t \mathbb{E} \xi_t^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \sum_t \langle w_{t-1} - w^*, x_t \rangle^2 &\leq \frac{1}{2\eta} \|w_0 - w^*\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2\eta R^2 \sum_t \mathbb{E} \xi_t^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\lesssim \|w_0 - w^*\| R \sqrt{\sum_t \xi_t^2}$$

for optimal choice of  $\eta$   
ie " $O(\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}})$  regret rate"

Next

includes

# Online Convex Optimization

Suppose  $F(x)$  is  $\lambda$ -strongly convex

Then  $\forall y, x$

$$F(x) - F(y) \leq \langle \nabla F(x), x - y \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x - y\|^2$$

$$F(y) \geq F(x) + \langle \nabla F(x), y - x \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y - x\|^2$$

$$F(y) - F(x) - \langle \nabla F(x), y - x \rangle \geq \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y - x\|^2$$

$F(x)$   $\lambda$ -s.c. (quadratic lower bound on  $F$ )

$$F_t(x) = F_{t-1}(x) + \ell_t(x)$$

Let  $x_t = \arg\min_x F_t(x)$  linear  $\langle g_t, x \rangle$

$$\nabla F_t(x_{t-1}) = g_t$$

$$\text{Regret} = \sum_{t=1} \ell_t(x_{t-1}) - \sum_{t=1} \ell_t(x^*)$$

↑  
oracle

$\Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{t=1} \langle g_t, x_{t-1} \rangle - \sum_{t=1} \langle g_t, x^* \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{t=1} \langle g_t, x_{t-1} - x^* \rangle$$

$$F_t(x) = F_{t-1}(x) + \langle g_t, x \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{s=1}^t \langle g_s, x \rangle + \lambda \|x\|^2 / 2$$

$$\nabla F_t(x) \rightarrow \sum_{s=1}^t g_s + \lambda x = 0$$

$F_t(x)$