

# Technical Report for Description-Similarity Rules

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**Proof for Theorem 1** Consider the event  $\xi$  defined by

$$\xi = \{j \in \{1, \dots, K\}, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_s - f_j| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\} \quad (1)$$

By Hoeffding's Inequality and an union bound, the probability of the complementary event  $\bar{\xi}$  can be bounded as follows

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{\xi}) &\leq \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{k=1}^{K-1} P(|\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_s - f_j| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{k=1}^{K-1} 2\exp(2n_k(\Delta_{K+1-k}/2)^2) \\ &\leq 2K^2 \exp(-\frac{n-K}{2\log K * H}) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where the last inequality comes from the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{n_k(\Delta_{K+1-k})^2}{n-K} \\ &\geq \frac{n-K}{\log(K)(K+1-H)(\Delta_{K+1-k})^{-2}} \\ &\geq \frac{n-K}{\log(K) * H} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Thus, it suffices to show that on the event  $\xi$ , the algorithm does not make any error. We prove this by induction on  $k$ . Let  $k \geq 1$ . Assume the algorithm makes no error in all previous  $k-1$  stages, that is no bad arm  $\mu_i < \theta$  has been accepted and no good arm  $\mu_i \geq \theta$  has been rejected. Note that event  $\xi$  implies that at the end of stage  $k$ , all empirical means are within  $\frac{1}{2}(\Delta_{K+1-k})^{-2}$  of the respective true means.

Let  $A_k = \{a_1, \dots, a_{K+1-k}\}$  be the set of active arms during phase  $k$ . We order the  $a_i$ 's such that  $\mu_{a_1} > \mu_{a_2} > \dots > \mu_{a_{K+1-k}}$ . Denote  $m' = m(k)$  for the number of arms that are left to find in phase  $k$ . The assumption that no error occurs in the first  $k-1$  stages implies that

$$a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{m'} \in \{1, \dots, m\} \quad (4)$$

and

$$a_{m'+1}, \dots, a_{K+1-k} \in \{m+1, \dots, K\} \quad (5)$$

If an error is made at stage  $k$ , it can be one of the following two types:

1. The algorithm accepts  $a_j$  at stage  $k$  for some  $k \geq m' + 1$
2. The algorithm rejects  $a_j$  at stage  $k$  for some  $j \leq m'$

Denote  $\sigma = \sigma_k$  for the bijection (from  $\{1, \dots, K+1-k\}$  to  $A_k$ ) such that  $\bar{\mu}_{\sigma(1), n_k} \geq \bar{\mu}_{\sigma(2), n_k} \geq \dots \geq \bar{\mu}_{\sigma(K+1-k), n_k}$ . Suppose Type 1 error occurs. Then  $a_j = \sigma(1)$  since if algorithm accepts, it must accept the empirical best arm. Furthermore we also have

$$\bar{\mu}_{a_j, n_k} - \theta \geq \theta - \bar{\mu}_{\sigma(K+1-k), n_k} \quad (6)$$

since otherwise the algorithm would rather reject arm  $\sigma(K+1-k)$ . The condition  $a_j = \sigma(1)$  and the event  $\xi$  implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_{a_j, n_k} &\geq \bar{\mu}_{a_j, n_k}, \\ \mu_{a_j} + \frac{1}{2}(\Delta_{K+1-k}) &\geq \mu_{a_1} - \frac{1}{2}(\Delta_{K+1-k}), \\ (\Delta_{K+1-k}) &\geq \mu_{a_1} - \mu_{a_j} \geq \mu_{a_1} - \theta \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We then look at the condition (16). In the event of  $\xi$ , for all  $i \leq m'$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_{a_j, n_k} &\geq \mu_{a_j} - \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)} \\ &\geq \mu_{a_{m'}} - \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)} \\ &\geq \theta - \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

On the other hand,  $\bar{\mu}_{\sigma(K+1-k), n_k} \leq \bar{\mu}_{a_{K+1-k}, n_k} \leq \bar{\mu}_{a_{K+1-k}, n_k} + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)}$ . Therefore, using those two observations and (16) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} (\mu_{a_j} + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)}) - \theta &\geq \theta - (\mu_{a_{K+1-k}} + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_{(K+1-k)}), \\ \Delta_{(K+1-k)} &\geq 2\theta - \mu_{a_j} - \mu_{a_{K+1-k}} > \theta - \mu_{a_{K+1-k}} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Thus so far we proved that if there is a Type 1 error, then

$$\Delta_{(K+1-k)} > \max(\mu_{a_1} - \theta, \theta - \mu_{a_{K+1-k}}) \quad (10)$$

But at stage  $k$ , only  $k-1$  arms have been accepted or rejected, thus  $\Delta_{(K+1-k)} \leq \max(\mu_{a_1} - \theta, \theta - \mu_{a_{K+1-k}})$ . By contradiction, we conclude that Type 1 error does not occur.

Suppose Type 2 error occurs. The reasoning is symmetric to Type 1. This completes the induction and consequently the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

**Proof for Theorem 2** Consider the events  $\xi_d$  for each pre-trained MAB defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\xi_{d_1} &= \{j \in \{1, \dots, K\}, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_{s,d_1} - f_{j,d_1}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\} \\ \xi_{d_2} &= \{j \in \{1, \dots, K\}, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_{s,d_2} - f_{j,d_2}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\} \\ &\dots \\ \xi_{d_{|D|}} &= \{j \in \{1, \dots, K\}, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_{s,d_{|D|}} - f_{j,d_{|D|}}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\}\end{aligned}\tag{11}$$

Also, consider the event  $\xi$  defined by

$$\xi = \{j \in \{1, \dots, K\}, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_s - f_j| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\}\tag{12}$$

where  $f_j$  is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}f_j &= \frac{\sum_{sim_j \in t, A' \in D} \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{D}' > * p(t, A')}{\sum_{sim_j \in t, A' \in D} \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{D}' >} \\ &= \frac{\sum_d \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{d} > * p(t, d)}{\sum_d \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{d} >} \\ &= \frac{\sum_d \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{d} > * f_{j,d}}{\sum_d \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{d} >}\end{aligned}\tag{13}$$

Setting  $w_d = \cos < \vec{D}, \vec{d} >$ , we can rewrite (26) as:

$$\begin{aligned}\xi &= \{1 \leq j \leq K, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} \frac{\sum_d w_d * X_{s,d}}{\sum_{d \in D} w_d} - \frac{\sum_d w_d * f_{j,d}}{\sum_{d \in D} w_d}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{K+1-k}\} \\ &= \{1 \leq j \leq K, |\frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} \sum_d w_d * X_{s,d} - \sum_d w_d * f_{j,d}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \in D} w_d \Delta_{K+1-k}\}\end{aligned}\tag{14}$$

Suppose (25) is true. Using the absolute value inequality, for any  $1 \leq j \leq K$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} \sum_d w_d * X_{s,d} - \sum_d w_d * f_{j,d} \right| \\
&= \left| \sum_d \left( \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} w_d * X_{s,d} - w_d * f_{j,d} \right) \right| \\
&\leq \sum_d w_d * \left| \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{s=1}^{n_k} X_{s,d} - f_{j,d} \right| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \in D} w_d \Delta_{K+1-k}
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

This means when  $\xi_{d_1} \cap \dots \cap \xi_{d_{|D|}}$  is true,  $\xi$  has to hold true regardless of  $w_d$ . Its contrapositive implies that when  $\bar{\xi}$  is true,  $\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}}$  has to hold true regardless of  $w_d$ . By full probability law, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}}) &= P(\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}} | \xi) * P(\xi) + \\
&\quad P(\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}} | \bar{\xi}) * P(\bar{\xi}) \\
&\geq P(\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}} | \bar{\xi}) * P(\bar{\xi}) = P(\bar{\xi})
\end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

In algorithm 2, for each  $MAB_i \in \{MAB_1, \dots, MAB_n\}$  we have

$$P(\bar{\xi}_d) \leq 2K^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\frac{n}{a} - K}{2\log K * H(i)}\right) \tag{17}$$

By union bound, we come to the conclusion that

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\bar{\xi}) &\leq P(\bar{\xi}_{d_1} \cup \dots \cup \bar{\xi}_{d_{|D|}}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^a 2K^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\frac{n}{a} - K}{2\log K * H(i)}\right) \\
&\leq 2aK^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\frac{n}{a} - K}{2\log K * H(a)}\right)
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Thus, it suffices to show that, by probability of  $2aK^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\frac{n}{a} - K}{2\log K * H(a)}\right)$ , the algorithm does not make any error.  $\square$