

CSC 665: Homework 1

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Please complete the following set of exercises **on your own**. The homework is due **on Oct 1, 12:30pm, on Gradescope**. You are free to cite existing theorems from the textbook and course notes.

Problem 1

For a random variable Z with mean $\mathbb{E}Z = 0$, we call Z is v -subgaussian, if

$$\psi_Z(t) = \ln \mathbb{E}e^{tZ} \leq \frac{vt^2}{2}.$$

Show the following:

1. If Z has Gaussian distribution $N(0, \sigma^2)$, then Z is σ^2 -subgaussian.
2. If Z take values within interval $[a, b]$, then Z is $\frac{(b-a)^2}{4}$ -subgaussian.
3. If Z_1, \dots, Z_n are independent, and each Z_i is v_i subgaussian, then $\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i$ is $\sum_{i=1}^n v_i$ -subgaussian.
4. If Z is v -subgaussian, then

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{t^2}{2v}\right\}.$$

Solution

1. We first show that when Z is standard Gaussian $N(0, 1)$, Z is 1-subgaussian. To see this, note that

$$\mathbb{E}e^{tZ} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2} + tx} dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-t)^2}{2}} dx \cdot e^{\frac{t^2}{2}} = e^{\frac{t^2}{2}},$$

where the last inequality uses the fact that $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-t)^2}{2}\right\}$ is the probability density function of distribution $N(t, 1)$. Now suppose Z has distribution $N(0, \sigma^2)$, then Z can be written as σZ_0 , where Z_0 has distribution $N(0, 1)$. This implies that

$$\mathbb{E}e^{tZ} = \mathbb{E}e^{(t\sigma)Z_0} = \exp\left\{\frac{\sigma^2 t^2}{2}\right\},$$

implying that Z is σ^2 -subgaussian.

2. This follows directly from Lemma 2 of “concentration of measure (1)” note and the definition of subgaussianity.

3. By the method of moment generating function and the independence of Z_i 's, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}e^{tZ} = \mathbb{E}e^{t\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i} = \mathbb{E}\prod_{i=1}^n e^{tZ_i} = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}e^{tZ_i} \leq \prod_{i=1}^n e^{\frac{v_i t^2}{2}} = e^{\frac{vt^2}{2}}.$$

4. We first show that $\mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{t^2}{2v}\right\}$. This is because for any $s > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) = \mathbb{P}(e^{sZ} \geq e^{st}) \leq e^{-st} \mathbb{E}e^{sZ} \leq e^{-st + \frac{v^2 s^2}{2}}.$$

As the choice of s is arbitrary, taking $s = \frac{t}{v^2}$, we have that

$$\mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) \leq e^{-\frac{t^2}{2v^2}}.$$

Symmetrically, $\mathbb{P}(Z \leq t) \leq e^{-\frac{t^2}{2v^2}}$. Therefore,

$$\mathbb{P}(|Z| \geq t) \leq \mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) + \mathbb{P}(Z \leq t) \leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{t^2}{2v}\right\}.$$

Problem 2

In this exercise we give an alternative proof of the Chernoff bound for Bernoulli random variables: suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are iid and from Bernoulli(p), define $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, then,

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) \leq \exp\{-n \text{kl}(q, p)\}, q \geq p, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \leq q) \leq \exp\{-n \text{kl}(q, p)\}, q \leq p. \quad (2)$$

1. Show that

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) = \sum_{m: m \geq nq} \binom{n}{m} p^m (1-p)^{n-m}.$$

2. Use the elementary inequality that $\binom{n}{m} q^m (1-q)^{n-m} \leq 1$, show that for $m \geq nq$,

$$\binom{n}{m} p^m (1-p)^{n-m} \leq \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)}.$$

3. Use the above two items to conclude that $\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) \leq (n+1) \exp\{-n \text{kl}(q, p)\}$.

4. Note that compared to Equation 1, the above bound is has an additional factor of n on the right hand side. Use the elementary inequality $\sum_{m \geq nq} \binom{n}{m} q^m (1-q)^{n-m} \leq 1$ as a starting point, along with insights you gained from items 1 and 2 to show Equation (1).

5. Repeat the proof for the lower tail bound (Equation (2)).

Solution

1. This simply follows from the observation that

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) = \sum_{m \geq nq} \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} = m)$$

and that \bar{X} has distribution $B(n, p)$.

2. Let $F(r, m) = \binom{n}{m} r^m (1-r)^{n-m}$. Observe that

$$\frac{F(p, m)}{F(q, m)} = \frac{\binom{n}{m} p^m (1-p)^{n-m}}{\binom{n}{m} q^m (1-q)^{n-m}} = \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^m \cdot \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n-m}.$$

Now, for $m \geq nq$, as $p \leq q$, we have

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^m \leq \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq}.$$

Similary, as $1-p \geq 1-q$ and $n-m \leq n(1-q)$, we have

$$\left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n-m} \leq \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)}.$$

This implies that

$$\frac{F(p, m)}{F(q, m)} \leq \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)}.$$

Item 2 follows as $F(q, m) \leq 1$.

3. Note that

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) = \sum_{m: m \geq nq} F(p, m) \leq \sum_{m: m \geq nq} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)}.$$

Now, as each summand in the right hand side are the same, and there are at most $(n+1)$ terms, we get that

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) \leq (n+1) \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)} = (n+1) e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)}.$$

4. From item 2 we know that for all $m \geq nq$,

$$\frac{F(p, m)}{F(q, m)} \leq e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)}.$$

Now,

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq q) = \sum_{m: m \geq nq} F(p, m) \leq \left(\sum_{m: m \geq nq} F(q, m) \right) \cdot e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)} \leq e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)}.$$

where the last inequality uses the fact that $\sum_{m: m \geq nq} F(q, m) \leq 1$.

5. For $q \leq p$, by the exact same reasoning, we can show that for $m \leq nq$,

$$\frac{F(p, m)}{F(q, m)} \leq \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{nq} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-q}\right)^{n(1-q)} = e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)}.$$

Now,

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \leq q) = \sum_{m: m \leq nq} F(p, m) \leq \left(\sum_{m: m \leq nq} F(q, m) \right) \cdot e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)} \leq e^{-n \text{kl}(q, p)}.$$

where the last inequality uses the fact that $\sum_{m: m \leq nq} F(q, m) \leq 1$.

Problem 3

In this exercise we will use basic concentration inequalities to show that, we can find exponentially many points on the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^d that are far away from each other. Specifically, consider n random vectors X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n in \mathbb{R}^d , where for each i , $X_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}}(Z_{i,1}, \dots, Z_{i,d})$. Here $\{Z_{i,j}\}_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, j \in \{1, \dots, d\}}$'s are all independent and identically distributed, and $Z_{i,j}$ takes value 1 with probability 1/2, and takes value -1 with probability 1/2.

1. Check that all X_i 's has unit length, i.e. $\|X_i\|_2 = 1$.
2. Use Hoeffding's Inequality to show that for any fixed pair $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $i \neq j$,

$$\mathbb{P}(|\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| \geq \frac{1}{2}) \leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{d}{8}\right\}.$$

3. Suppose $n = \exp\left\{\frac{d}{32}\right\}$. Show that with nonzero probability, for all pairs $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $i \neq j$, the angle between X_i and X_j is in $[\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}]$.

Solution

- 1.

$$\|X_i\|^2 = \sum_{l=1}^d \left(\frac{Z_{i,l}}{\sqrt{d}}\right)^2 = \sum_{l=1}^d \frac{1}{d} = 1,$$

where the penultimate equality uses the fact that $Z_{i,j}^2 = 1$ with probability 1.

2. Note that

$$\langle X_i, X_j \rangle = \sum_{l=1}^d \frac{Z_{i,l} Z_{j,l}}{d}.$$

Now, consider $Y_l = Z_{i,l} Z_{j,l}$, are all $Z_{i,l}$'s are independent, Y_l 's are also independent. In addition, Y_l is from the Rademacher distribution (take value ± 1 with equal probability). Taking $a = -1$, $b = +1$, $\mu = 0$ and $n = d$ in Hoeffding's inequality (Theorem 1 in "concentration of measure (1)" note), we get

$$\mathbb{P}(|\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| \geq \frac{1}{2}) = \mathbb{P}(|\bar{Y} - \mu| \geq \frac{1}{2}) \leq 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{2d(\frac{1}{2})^2}{(1+1)^2}\right\} = 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{d}{8}\right\}.$$

3. Consider all pairs of (i, j) such that $1 \leq i < j \leq n$. There are $\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ such pairs. By a union bound, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists i \neq j, |\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| \geq \frac{1}{2}) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \mathbb{P}(|\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| \geq \frac{1}{2}) \leq \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \cdot 2 \exp\left\{-\frac{d}{8}\right\} < 1.$$

where the last inequality is by the choice of $n = e^{\frac{d}{16}}$. This implies that the complement event, that is, for all $i \neq j$, $|\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| < \frac{1}{2}$, happens with nonzero probability. Observe that as all X_i 's are unit vectors, $|\langle X_i, X_j \rangle| < \frac{1}{2}$ is equivalent to the angle between X_i and X_j is in $(\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3})$. This proves item 3.

Problem 4

Suppose D is a distribution over $[0, 1] \times \{-1, +1\}$ such that D_X , the marginal of D over $\mathcal{X} = [0, 1]$, is uniform. In addition,

$$P(Y = +1|x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ 1 & x > \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases}$$

i.e. the distribution is separable by a threshold classifier with threshold $\frac{1}{2}$. Suppose training examples $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$ are drawn iid from D . Now consider the following classifier \hat{h} :

$$\hat{h}(x) = \begin{cases} Y_i & x = X_i \text{ for some } i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \\ -1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(For simplicity, assume that all X_i 's are distinct, which also happens with probability 1.)

1. Calculate $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S)$.
2. Calculate $\text{err}(\hat{h}, D)$. What is the value of $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S) - \text{err}(\hat{h}, D)$?
3. It may be tempting to use following argument to argue the concentration of $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S)$ to $\text{err}(\hat{h}, D)$. Define random variables $Z_i = \mathbf{1}(\hat{h}(X_i) \neq Y_i)$ for all i in $\{1, \dots, n\}$, therefore, Hoeffding's inequality, with probability $1 - \delta$,

$$|\text{err}(\hat{h}, S) - \text{err}(\hat{h}, D)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\ln \frac{1}{\delta}}{2n}}.$$

Does this contradict the results we got from item 2? Why?

Solution

1. Note that for all training examples X_i, Y_i , by the definition of \hat{h} , $\hat{h}(X_i) = Y_i$.

Therefore, by the definition of empirical error,

$$\text{err}(\hat{h}, S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}(\hat{h}(X_i) \neq Y_i) = 0.$$

2. Suppose that we are given a training set $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$. Now, when a new example (X, Y) is drawn, define event $E = \{X \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}\}$. By union bound,

$$\mathbb{P}(E) = \mathbb{P}(X \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(X = x_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n 0 = 0,$$

where the penultimate equality uses the fact that D_X is uniform over $[0, 1]$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{err}(\hat{h}) &= \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\hat{h}(X) \neq Y) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{\hat{h}(X) \neq Y\} \cap E) + \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{\hat{h}(X) \neq Y\} \cap \bar{E}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{\hat{h}(X) \neq Y\} \cap E) + \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{Y = +1\} \cap \bar{E}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{\hat{h}(X) \neq Y\} \cap E) + \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(Y = +1) - \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{Y = +1\} \cap E) \end{aligned}$$

where in the first and third equality we use the additivity of probability: for events A and E , $\mathbb{P}(A) = \mathbb{P}(A \cap E) + \mathbb{P}(A \cap \bar{E})$; the second equality uses the fact that when E happens, $\hat{h}(X) = -1$ by the definition of \hat{h} .

Now, observe that both $\mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{\hat{h}(X) \neq Y\} \cap E)$ and $\mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(\{Y = +1\} \cap E)$ are at least 0 and at most $\mathbb{P}(E) = 0$, this implies that both terms are identically 0. Therefore,

$$\text{err}(\hat{h}) = \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(Y = +1) = \mathbb{P}_{(X,Y) \sim D}(X > \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

3. We cannot directly apply Hoeffding's inequality to argue about the concentration of empirical error to generalization error. Consider random variables Z_i 's defined in the problem statement. although $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i$ is correct, we don't have $\mathbb{E}Z_i = \text{err}(\hat{h}, D)$. To see this, note Z_i 's are in fact identically zero, so that $\mathbb{E}Z_i = 0$; on the other hand, as obtained in item 2, $\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) = \frac{1}{2}$. Recall that to use Hoeffding's inequality to argue about error concentration, we need to choose a classifier h *before* seeing the training examples.

Problem 5

In this exercise, we will unify the analysis of $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$ -style sample complexity for the realizable case and the $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ -style sample complexity for the agnostic case, by revisiting the empirical risk minimization algorithm. Suppose \mathcal{H} is a finite hypothesis class, D is a distribution over labeled examples, and S is a training set of size m drawn iid from D . Denote by $\nu^* = \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \text{err}(h, D)$ as the optimal generalization error, and \hat{h} the output of the empirical risk minimization algorithm.

1. Use Chernoff bound for Bernoulli random variables, show that for a fixed classifier h , with probability $1 - \delta$,

$$\text{kl}(\text{err}(h, S), \text{err}(h, D)) \leq \frac{\ln \frac{2}{\delta}}{m}.$$

2. Use the above reasoning to conclude that with probability $1 - \delta$, for all classifiers h in \mathcal{H} ,

$$|\text{err}(h, S) - \text{err}(h, D)| \leq \sqrt{2 \max(\text{err}(h, S), \text{err}(h, D)) \frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}}.$$

(Hint: you can use the fact that $\text{kl}(q, p) \geq \frac{(q-p)^2}{2 \max(p, q)}$.)

3. Show that with probability $1 - \delta$, for all classifiers h in \mathcal{H} ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{err}(h, S) &\leq \text{err}(h, D) + \sqrt{\text{err}(h, D) \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}} + \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}, \\ \text{err}(h, D) &\leq \text{err}(h, S) + \sqrt{\text{err}(h, S) \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}} + \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}. \end{aligned}$$

(Hint: you can use the elementary fact that for $A, B, C > 0$, $A \leq B + C\sqrt{A}$ implies $A \leq B + C^2 + C\sqrt{B}$.)

4. Show that with probability $1 - \delta$, \hat{h} , the training error minimizer over \mathcal{H} , satisfies that

$$\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) \leq \nu^* + 6\sqrt{\frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m} \nu^*} + 8\frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}.$$

(Hint: you may find the following elementary facts useful: for $A, B > 0$, $\sqrt{AB} \leq A + B$, $\sqrt{A+B} \leq \sqrt{A} + \sqrt{B}$. If you get other constants on the right hand side, no worries - you will still get full credit.)

5. Conclude that:

- (a) There exists a function m_A such that $m_A(\epsilon, \delta) = O(\frac{\ln |\mathcal{H}| + \ln \frac{1}{\delta}}{\epsilon^2})$, when $m \geq m_A(\epsilon, \delta)$, for all distributions D , $\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) \leq \nu^* + \epsilon$ with probability $1 - \delta$.
- (b) There exists a function m_R such that $m_R(\epsilon, \delta) = O(\frac{\ln |\mathcal{H}| + \ln \frac{1}{\delta}}{\epsilon})$, when $m \geq m_R(\epsilon, \delta)$, for all distributions D such that $\nu^* = 0$, $\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) \leq \epsilon$ with probability $1 - \delta$.

Solution

1. By taking $\epsilon = \frac{\ln \frac{2}{\delta}}{m}$, it suffices to show that for a set of m iid Bernoulli random variables X_i 's, each with mean p ,

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{kl}(\bar{p}, p) > \epsilon) \leq 2e^{-m\epsilon}.$$

It can be checked by taking derivatives that $f(q) = \text{kl}(q, p)$ is monotonically decreasing in $(0, p)$, and is monotonically increasing in $(p, 1)$. This motivates the following two definitions for $\epsilon > 0$: define $\text{kl}_+^{-1}(p, \epsilon)$ as the unique value q such that $q > p$ and $\text{kl}(q, p) = \epsilon$; $\text{kl}_-^{-1}(p, \epsilon)$ as the unique value q such that $q < p$ and $\text{kl}(q, p) = \epsilon$. Therefore, we have the following equivalence on events:

$$\{\text{kl}(\bar{p}, p) > \epsilon\} = \{\bar{p} > \text{kl}_+^{-1}(p, \epsilon)\} \cup \{\bar{p} < \text{kl}_-^{-1}(p, \epsilon)\}.$$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\bar{p} > \text{kl}_+^{-1}(p, \epsilon)) &\leq e^{-m \text{kl}(\text{kl}_+^{-1}(p, \epsilon), p)} = e^{-m\epsilon}, \\ \mathbb{P}(\bar{p} < \text{kl}_-^{-1}(p, \epsilon)) &\leq e^{-m \text{kl}(\text{kl}_-^{-1}(p, \epsilon), p)} = e^{-m\epsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

The item follows from union bound.

2. Fix a classifier h in \mathcal{H} . By the fact that $\text{kl}(q, p) \geq \frac{(q-p)^2}{2 \max(p, q)}$, along with item 1, we have that with probability $1 - \delta/|\mathcal{H}|$,

$$\frac{(\text{err}(h, S) - \text{err}(h, D))}{2 \max(\text{err}(h, S), \text{err}(h, D))} \leq \frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}.$$

The item simply follows from algebra (moving the max term to the right hand side and taking square roots on both sides), along with union bound over all h in \mathcal{H} .

3. We only prove the first inequality as the proof of the second one is identical. Consider two cases: (1) $\text{err}(h, S) \leq \text{err}(h, D)$. In this case, the inequality holds trivially. (2) $\text{err}(h, S) > \text{err}(h, D)$. In this case, $\max(\text{err}(h, S), \text{err}(h, D)) = \text{err}(h, S)$. Now by the equation in item 2, we have

$$\text{err}(h, S) \leq \text{err}(h, D) + \sqrt{\text{err}(h, S) \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}}.$$

In this case, the inequality follows by the elementary fact, with $A = \text{err}(h, S)$, $B = \text{err}(h, D)$, $C = \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}}$.

4. Denote by $G = \frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}$. First, we have:

$$\text{err}(h^*, S) \leq \text{err}(h^*, D) + \sqrt{\text{err}(h^*, D)G} + G = \nu^* + \sqrt{\nu^*G} + G.$$

Now, by optimality of \hat{h} , we have $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S) \leq \text{err}(h^*, S)$, therefore $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S)$ has the same upper bound. Now use the second inequality in item 3, we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) &\leq \text{err}(\hat{h}, S) + \sqrt{\text{err}(\hat{h}, S)G} + G \\
&\leq \nu^* + \sqrt{\nu^*G} + G + \sqrt{(\nu^* + \sqrt{\nu^*G} + G)G} + G \\
&\leq \nu^* + \sqrt{\nu^*G} + 2G + \sqrt{2(\nu^*G + G^2)} \\
&\leq \nu^* + (1 + \sqrt{2})\sqrt{\nu^*G} + (2 + \sqrt{2})G \\
&\leq \nu^* + 6\sqrt{\nu^*G} + 4G.
\end{aligned}$$

where the second inequality is by plugging in the upper bound on $\text{err}(\hat{h}, S)$; the third inequality is from the fact that $\nu^* + \sqrt{\nu^*G} + G \leq 2(\nu^* + G)$; the fourth inequality uses the simple fact that $\sqrt{2(\nu^*G + G^2)} \leq \sqrt{2\nu^*G} + \sqrt{2}G$; the fourth inequality is from simple algebra. Item 4 follows from the definition of G .

5. For the first item, observe that by item 4 and the fact that $\nu^* \leq 1$, we have that with probability $1 - \delta$,

$$\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) \leq \nu^* + 6\sqrt{\frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}} + 8\frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}.$$

Now, consider $m_1(\epsilon, \delta)$ (resp. $m_2(\epsilon, \delta)$) be the solution of m such that $6\sqrt{\frac{2 \ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ (resp. $8\frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$). Note that $m_1(\epsilon, \delta) = O(\frac{\ln |\mathcal{H}| + \ln \frac{1}{\delta}}{\epsilon^2})$ and $m_2(\epsilon, \delta) = O(\frac{\ln |\mathcal{H}| + \ln \frac{1}{\delta}}{\epsilon^2})$. Now define $m_A(\epsilon, \delta) = m_1(\epsilon, \delta) + m_2(\epsilon, \delta)$; we have that ERM would satisfy (ϵ, δ) -PAC guarantee if $m \geq m_A(\epsilon, \delta)$.

For the second item, observe that by item 4 and the fact that $\nu^* = 0$, we have that with probability $1 - \delta$,

$$\text{err}(\hat{h}, D) \leq 8\frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{m}.$$

Therefore, taking $m_R(\epsilon, \delta) = 8\frac{\ln \frac{2|\mathcal{H}|}{\delta}}{\epsilon}$, ERM would satisfy (ϵ, δ) -PAC guarantee if $m \geq m_R(\epsilon, \delta)$.