

A Simple Analysis for Exp-concave Empirical Minimization with Arbitrary Convex Regularizer

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- 1 Problem and Main Results
- 2 Comparison with Related Works
- 3 Theoretical Results
- 4 Analysis Technique
- 5 Conclusion

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- Motivated by solving the **stochastic composite optimization** problem by Empirical Minimization:

$$\mathbf{w}_* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \left[P(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{P}} [f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})] + R(\mathbf{w}) \right] \quad (1)$$

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deterministic
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- \mathcal{W} is compact and bounded convex set
- $f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})$: smooth and β -exp-concave function of \mathbf{w} for any \mathbf{z} , Lipschitz continuous over \mathcal{W} .
- No assumption on $R(\mathbf{w})$ except for convexity and boundness over \mathcal{W} .

- Study the convergence of the **empirical minimizer** of (1)

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \left[P_n(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}_i) + R(\mathbf{w}) \right] \quad (2)$$

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- Goal: to establish the fast convergence rate of the empirical minimizer in terms of $P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*)$.

Main Theorem:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \left[P_n(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}_i) + R(\mathbf{w}) \right]$$

$P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} P(\mathbf{w}) \leq O\left(\frac{d \log n + d \log(1/\delta)}{n}\right)$ with high probability $1 - \delta$, where $P(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{P}}[f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})] + R(\mathbf{w})$

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Corollary:

$F(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} F(\mathbf{w}) \leq O\left(\frac{d \log n + d \log(1/\delta)}{n}\right)$ with high probability $1 - \delta$, where $F(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{P}}[f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})]$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \left[\hat{F}_n(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z}_i) + \frac{1}{n} g(\mathbf{w}) \right]$$

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Comparison with Related Works

- The three recent studies [1, 2, 3] focus on establishing fast rates in terms of risk minimization **without a regularizer**

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} F(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}}[f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})] \quad (3)$$

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- Mehta [2] targeted on the original risk minimization as (3)
- Gonen & Shalev-Shawartz [3] focused on the risk minimization with generalized linear model:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} L(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim D} [\phi_y(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x})], \quad (5)$$

Comparison with Related Works

Difference of fast rates between our work and the related works [1, 2, 3]

Related Work	Ours
$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} F(\mathbf{w})$ [1, 2, 3]	$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} F(\mathbf{w}) + R(\mathbf{w})$
*s-convex regularizer [1]	convex regularizer
Expectation [1, 3]	High probability [2]

*s-convex: strongly convex

- Our result is **more general**.

[1]. T. Koren and K. Y. Levy. Fast rates for exp-concave empirical risk minimization.

[2]. N. A. Mehta. Fast rate with high probability in exp-concave statistical learning.

[3]. A. Gonen and S. Shalev-Shwartz. Average stability is invariant to data preconditioning. implications to exp-concave empirical risk minimization.

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Assumption 1

- \mathcal{W} is a closed and bounded convex set, i.e., there exists R such that $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2 \leq R$ for all $\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}$.

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- $R(\mathbf{w})$ is a convex function.

Theoretical Results

Recall: $P(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{P}}[f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z})] + R(\mathbf{w})$

Theorem 1

For the stochastic composite minimization problem (1), we consider the empirical minimizer $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$ by solving (2). Under Assumption 1, with probability at least $1 - \delta$, we have

$$P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*) \leq O\left(\frac{d \log n}{n} + \frac{d \log(1/\delta)}{n\sigma}\right).$$

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Remarks:

- When $R(\mathbf{w}) = 0$, directly obtain a fast rate with high probability of the empirical risk minimizer for the exp-concave risk minimization.
- Linear dependence on dimensionality d is unavoidable [4].

[4]. V. Feldman. Generalization of ERM in stochastic convex optimization: The dimension strikes back.

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Theorem 2

Under Assumption 1 (i), (ii), and that $g(\mathbf{x})$ is bounded over \mathcal{W} such that $\sup_{\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}' \in \mathcal{W}} |g(\mathbf{w}) - g(\mathbf{w}')| \leq B$, with probability at least $1 - \delta$, we have

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Remarks:

- Address the open problem raised in [1] about high probability bound for strongly regularized empirical risk minimizer.
- Extend the fast rate to any regularized empirical risk minimizer as long as the regularizer is convex.

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- Step 1: by using the **convexity** of $P(\mathbf{w})$, the **optimality condition** of $\hat{\mathbf{w}}$, and **Cauchy-Schwarz inequality**:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*) & \\ & \leq \|G(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*) - G_n(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*)\|_2 \|\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{w}_*\|_2 \\ & \quad + \|\Delta_n(\mathbf{w}_*)\|_{H^{-1}} \|\hat{\mathbf{w}} - \mathbf{w}_*\|_H \end{aligned}$$

where

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$$H = I + \frac{\sigma}{\alpha} \mathbb{E}[\nabla f(\mathbf{w}^*, \mathbf{z}) \nabla f(\mathbf{w}^*, \mathbf{z})^\top], \sigma \text{ is parameter}$$

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Local norm

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- Step 2: By using **concentration inequality** [5], **union bound** and **covering number** of \mathcal{W} , with probability at least $1 - \delta$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|G(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*) - G_n(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*)\|_2 &\leq O\left(\frac{d \log n}{n}\right) \\ &\quad + O\left(\sqrt{\frac{d(P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*))}{n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\|G(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*) - G_n(\hat{\mathbf{w}}, \mathbf{w}_*)\|_2 \leq O\left(\frac{d \log \text{Variance}}{n}\right) + O\left(\sqrt{\frac{d(P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*))}{n}}\right)$$

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[5]. S. Smale and D. X. Zhou. Learning theory estimates via integral operators and their approximations.

- Step 3: using **Young's inequality** and do some linear algebra:

$$P(\hat{\mathbf{w}}) - P(\mathbf{w}_*) \leq O\left(\frac{d \log n}{n} + \frac{d \log(1/\delta)}{n\sigma}\right).$$

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- Exploited the covering number of a finite-dimensional bounded set and a concentration inequality of random vectors.
- Induced a unified fast rate results for exp-concave empirical risk minimization without and with any convex regularizer.