

Efficient Online Learning for Dynamic Environments

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Outline

1 Introduction

- Online Learning
- Regret

2 Learning in Dynamic Environments

- Adaptive Regret
- Dynamic Regret

3 Our Work

- Efficient Algorithms for Adaptive Regret
- From Adaptive Regret to Dynamic Regret

4 Conclusion

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What Happens in an Internet Minute?



And Future Growth is Staggering



<http://www.dailyinfographic.com/what-happens-in-an-internet-minute-infographic>

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Conclusion

Online Learning [Shalev-Shwartz, 2011]

Online learning is the process of answering a sequence of questions given (maybe partial) knowledge of answers to previous questions and possibly additional information.

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Online Learning

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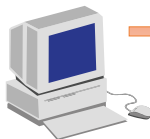
4: **end for**

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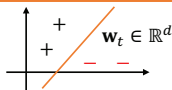
Online Learning

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
- 2: Learner picks a decision $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$
 Adversary chooses a function $f_t(\cdot)$
- 4: **end for**



Learner

A classifier



An example $(\mathbf{x}_t, y_t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \{\pm 1\}$

A loss $f_t(\mathbf{w}) = \max(1 - y_t \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_t, 0)$



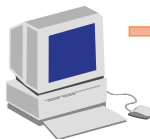
Adversary

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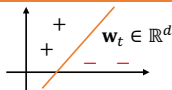
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Cumulative Loss

$$\text{Cumulative Loss} = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

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Regret

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Regret

$$\text{Regret} = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w})$$

Regret

Cumulative Loss

$$\text{Cumulative Loss} = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

Regret

$$\text{Regret} = \underbrace{\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)}_{\text{Cumulative Loss of Online Learner}} - \underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w})}_{\text{Minimal Loss of Offline Learner}}$$

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Hannan Consistent

$$\limsup_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \left(\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) \right) = 0, \text{ with probability } 1$$

Regret

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Regret

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Hannan Consistent

$$\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) = o(T), \text{ with probability } 1$$

Types of Online Learning

- Perceptron [Rosenblatt, 1958]
 - Online Classification
- Prediction with Expert Advice [Littlestone and Warmuth, 1994]
 - There are K experts in $\mathcal{W}$
 - As a meta-algorithm to combine different methods
- Online Convex Optimization [Zinkevich, 2003]
 - $f_1(\cdot), \dots, f_T(\cdot)$ are convex
 - Online Classification, e.g., Online SVM
 - Online Regression, e.g., Online Least Squares

Online Gradient Descent (OGD)

■ Algorithm

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
- 2: Learner picks a decision $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$
 Adversary chooses a function $f_t(\cdot)$
- 3: Learner suffers loss $f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$ and
$$\mathbf{w}_{t+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{w}_t - \eta_t \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t))$$
- 4: **end for**

■ The Projection Operator

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{x}\|_2$$

Theoretical Guarantee

■ Convex Functions [Zinkevich, 2003]

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}) \geq f_t(\mathbf{w}') + \langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}'), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}' \rangle, \forall \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}' \in \mathcal{W}$$

- Online Gradient Descent with $\eta_t = 1/\sqrt{t}$

$$\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq \frac{D^2}{2} \sqrt{T} + \left(\sqrt{T} - \frac{1}{2} \right) G^2 = O(\sqrt{T})$$

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■ Strongly Convex Functions [Hazan et al., 2007]

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}) \geq f_t(\mathbf{w}') + \langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}'), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}' \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}'\|^2, \forall \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}' \in \mathcal{W}$$

- Online Gradient Descent with $\eta_t = 1/(\lambda t)$

$$\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq \frac{G^2}{2\lambda} (1 + \log T) = O(\log T)$$

- E.g., Online SVM [Shalev-Shwartz et al., 2007]

Exponentially Concave Functions

Definition

A function $f(\cdot) : \mathcal{W} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is α -exp-concave if $\exp(-\alpha f(\cdot))$ is concave over $\mathcal{W}$.

- For twice differentiable functions

$$\alpha \nabla f(\mathbf{w}) [\nabla f(\mathbf{w})]^\top \preceq \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{w}), \forall \mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}.$$

- Examples

- Logistic Loss for Classification

$$f(\mathbf{w}) = \log \left(1 + \exp(-y \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w}) \right)$$

- Square Loss for Regression

$$f(\mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w} - y)^2$$

- Negative Logarithm Loss for Portfolio Management

$$f(\mathbf{w}) = -\log(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w})$$

Online Newton Step (ONS)

■ Algorithm [Hazan et al., 2007]

1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**

2:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{w}_{t+1} &= \Pi_{\mathcal{W}}^{A_t} \left[\mathbf{w}_t - \frac{1}{\beta} \mathbf{A}_t^{-1} \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) \right] \\ &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}'_{t+1})^\top \mathbf{A}_t (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}'_{t+1})\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{A}_{t-1} + \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) [\nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)]^\top, \quad \mathbf{w}'_{t+1} = \mathbf{w}_t - \frac{1}{\beta} \mathbf{A}_t^{-1} \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

3: **end for**

■ Regret

$$\sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq 5 \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + GD \right) d \log T = O(d \log T)$$

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The Challenge

Regret $\rightarrow$ Static Regret

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Regret} &= \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_*)\end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{w}_* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w})$

- One of the decision is reasonably good during T rounds

The Challenge

Regret $\rightarrow$ Static Regret

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- One of the decision is reasonably good during T rounds

Dynamic Environments

Different decisions will be good in different periods

- Recommendation: the interests of a user could change
- Stock market: the best stock changes over time

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Adaptive Regret

■ Adaptive Regret

[Hazan and Seshadhri, 2007, Daniely et al., 2015]

$$R(T, \tau) = \max_{[s, s+\tau-1] \subseteq [T]} \left(\sum_{t=s}^{s+\tau-1} f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=s}^{s+\tau-1} f_t(\mathbf{w}) \right)$$

- Minimize the static regret over all intervals of length τ

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- Minimize the static regret over all intervals of length τ

$$f_1(\cdot), f_2(\cdot), \dots, f_\tau(\cdot), f_{\tau+1}(\cdot), \dots, f_s(\cdot), f_{s+1}(\cdot), \dots, f_{s+\tau-1}(\cdot), f_{s+\tau}(\cdot), \dots$$

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- Minimize the static regret over all intervals of length τ

$$\underbrace{\sum_{t=2}^{\tau+1} f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=2}^{\tau+1} f_t(\mathbf{w})}_{f_1(\cdot), \underbrace{f_2(\cdot), \dots, f_\tau(\cdot), f_{\tau+1}(\cdot)}_{\text{highlighted}}, \dots, f_s(\cdot), f_{s+1}(\cdot), \dots, f_{s+\tau-1}(\cdot), f_{s+\tau}(\cdot), \dots}$$

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- Minimize the static regret over all intervals of length τ

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Adaptive Algorithms

■ Following the Leading History

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
- 2: Submit $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$ and observes $f_t(\cdot)$

7: **end for**

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- 2: Submit $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$ and observes $f_t(\cdot)$
- 3: Initialize an expert E^t by running $\text{OGD}(f_t, \dots)$
 Add E^t to the set of experts $\mathcal{S}_{t+1} = \mathcal{S}_t \cup \{E^t\}$

7: **end for**

■ Experts

$$E^1 = \text{OGD}(f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_t, \dots)$$

$$E^2 = \text{OGD}(f_2, f_3, \dots, f_t, \dots)$$

$$E^3 = \text{OGD}(f_3, \dots, f_t, \dots)$$

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$$E^t = \text{OGD}(f_t, \dots)$$

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7: **end for**

■ Online Gradient Descent (OGD)

$$\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i = \Pi_{\mathcal{W}} \left(\mathbf{w}_t^i - \eta_t \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t^i) \right), \forall E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}$$

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- 4: Get the prediction $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i$ for each expert $E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}$
- 5: Predict $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}$ by combining $\{\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i | E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}\}$
- 7: **end for**

■ Prediction with Expert Advice

● Exponential Weighting

$$\mathbf{w}_{t+1} = \sum_{E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}} p_{t+1}^i \mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i$$

$$p_{t+1}^i = p_t^i e^{-\alpha f_t(\mathbf{w}_t^i)}$$

Adaptive Algorithms

■ Following the Leading History

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
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 Add E^t to the set of experts $\mathcal{S}_{t+1} = \mathcal{S}_t \cup \{E^t\}$
- 4: Get the prediction $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i$ for each expert $E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}$
- 5: Predict $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}$ by combining $\{\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i | E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}\}$
- 6: Prune the set of experts $\mathcal{S}_{t+1}$
- 7: **end for**

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$$E^1 = \text{OGD}(f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_t, \dots)$$

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...

$$E^t = \text{OGD}(f_t, \dots)$$

Theoretical Guarantee

- Convex Functions [Jun et al., 2017]

$$R(T, \tau) = O\left(\sqrt{\tau \log T}\right)$$

- Strongly Convex Functions [Zhang et al., 2018]

$$R(T, \tau) = O(\log \tau \log T)$$

- Exponentially Concave Functions [Hazan and Seshadhri, 2007]

$$R(T, \tau) = O(d \log \tau \log T)$$

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Dynamic Regret

■ Static Regret

$$\text{Regret} = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_*)$$

where $\mathbf{w}_* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w})$

■ General Dynamic Regret

$$R(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{u}_t)$$

where $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T \in \mathcal{W}$

Dynamic Regret

■ Static Regret

$$\text{Regret} = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_*)$$

where $\mathbf{w}_* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w})$

■ General Dynamic Regret

$$R(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{u}_t)$$

where $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T \in \mathcal{W}$

■ Worst-case Dynamic Regret

$$R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t^*)$$

where $\mathbf{w}_t^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} f_t(\mathbf{w})$

Worst-case Dynamic Regret

■ The Challenge

Sublinear Dynamic Regret is **Impossible** in General!

Worst-case Dynamic Regret

■ The Challenge

Sublinear Dynamic Regret is **Impossible** in General!

■ Assumptions

- Functional Variation [Besbes et al., 2015]

$$V_T := \sum_{t=2}^T \|f_t(\cdot) - f_{t-1}(\cdot)\|_\infty = \sum_{t=2}^T \max_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} |f_t(\mathbf{w}) - f_{t-1}(\mathbf{w})|$$

- Path-length [Mokhtari et al., 2016]

$$P_T^* := \sum_{t=2}^T \|\mathbf{w}_t^* - \mathbf{w}_{t-1}^*\|$$

- Squared Path-length [Zhang et al., 2017]

$$S_T^* := \sum_{t=2}^T \|\mathbf{w}_t^* - \mathbf{w}_{t-1}^*\|^2$$

A Representative Result

■ Functional Variation [Besbes et al., 2015]

- Restarted online gradient descent

$$R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) \leq \begin{cases} O\left(T^{2/3} V_T^{1/3}\right), & \text{Convex Functions} \\ O\left(\log T \sqrt{TV_T}\right), & \text{Strongly Convex Functions} \end{cases}$$

■ Advantage

- Dynamic regret is sublinear if V_T is sublinear

■ Limitations

- The algorithm needs to know an upper bound of V_T
- It cannot be used in practice

Outline

1

Introduction

- Online Learning
- Regret

2

Learning in Dynamic Environments

- Adaptive Regret
- Dynamic Regret

3

Our Work

- Efficient Algorithms for Adaptive Regret
- From Adaptive Regret to Dynamic Regret

4

Conclusion

Our Recent Work I

■ Regret

- 1 Yuanyu Wan, Nan Wei, and **Lijun Zhang**. Efficient Adaptive Online Learning via Frequent Directions. In *Proceedings of the 27th International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2018.
- 2 **Lijun Zhang**, Tianbao Yang, Rong Jin, Yichi Xiao, and Zhi-Hua Zhou. Online Stochastic Linear Optimization under One-bit Feedback. In *Proceedings of the 33rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2016.
- 3 **Lijun Zhang**, Tianbao Yang, Rong Jin, and Zhi-Hua Zhou. Online Bandit Learning for a Special Class of Non-convex Losses. In *Proceedings of the 29th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2015.
- 4 **Lijun Zhang**, Jinfeng Yi, Rong Jin, Ming Lin, and Xiaofei He. Online Kernel Learning with a Near Optimal Sparsity Bound. In *Proceedings of the 30th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2013.
- 5 **Lijun Zhang**, Rong Jin, Chun Chen, Jiajun Bu, and Xiaofei He. Efficient Online Learning for Large-Scale Sparse Kernel Logistic Regression. In *Proceedings of the 26th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2012.

Our Recent Work II

■ Adaptive Regret

- 1 **Lijun Zhang**, Tianbao Yang, Rong Jin, and Zhi-Hua Zhou. Dynamic Regret of Strongly Adaptive Methods. In *Proceedings of the 35th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2018.
- 2 Guanghui Wang, Dakuan Zhao, and **Lijun Zhang**. Minimizing Adaptive Regret with One Gradient per Iteration. In *Proceedings of the 27th International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)*, 2018.

■ Dynamic Regret

- 1 **Lijun Zhang**, Tianbao Yang, Jinfeng Yi, Rong Jin, and Zhi-Hua Zhou. Improved Dynamic Regret for Non-degenerate Functions. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 30 (NIPS)*, 2017.
- 2 Tianbao Yang, **Lijun Zhang**, Rong Jin, and Jinfeng Yi. Tracking Slowly Moving Clairvoyant: Optimal Dynamic Regret of Online Learning with True and Noisy Gradient. In *Proceedings of the 33rd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2016.

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Adaptive Algorithms

■ Following the Leading History

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
- 2: Submit $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$ and observes $f_t(\cdot)$
- 3: Initialize an expert E^t by running $\text{OGD}(f_t, \dots)$
Add E^t to the set of experts $\mathcal{S}_{t+1} = \mathcal{S}_t \cup \{E^t\}$
- 4: **Get the prediction $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i$ for each expert $E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}$**
- 5: Predict $\mathbf{w}_{t+1}$ by combining $\{\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i | E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}\}$
- 6: Prune the set of experts $\mathcal{S}_{t+1}$
- 7: **end for**

■ Online Gradient Descent (OGD)

$$\mathbf{w}_{t+1}^i = \Pi_{\mathcal{W}} \left(\mathbf{w}_t^i - \eta_t \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t^i) \right), \forall E^i \in \mathcal{S}_{t+1}$$

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■ Computational Cost per Iteration

$|\mathcal{S}_{t+1}|$ gradient evaluations of $f_t(\cdot)$

where $|\mathcal{S}_{t+1}| = O(\log t)$

Gradient Evaluations

■ Nuclear-norm Regularized Losses

$$f_t(W) = \ell_t(W) + \lambda \|W\|_*$$

where $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

- Low-rank matrix regression
- Low-rank matrix approximation
- Low-rank multiclass classification

Gradient evaluations are **expensive** when m and n are large

■ Mini-batch Losses

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \ell(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_t^i, y_t^i)$$

Gradient evaluations are **expensive** when k is large

Online Learning with Surrogate Loss

■ Following the Leading History [Wang et al., 2018]

- 1: **for** $t = 1, 2, \dots, T$ **do**
- 2: Submit $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{W}$ and observes $f_t(\cdot)$
- 3: **Construct a surrogate loss** $\ell_t(\cdot)$ **from** $\nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$
- 4: Initialize an expert E^t by running $\text{OGD}(\ell_t, \dots)$
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■ Experts

$$E^1 = \text{OGD}(\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \dots, \ell_t, \dots)$$

$$E^2 = \text{OGD}(\ell_2, \ell_3, \dots, \ell_t, \dots)$$

...

$$E^t = \text{OGD}(\ell_t, \dots)$$

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■ Computational Cost per Iteration

1 gradient evaluation of $f_t(\cdot)$

Convex Functions

■ First-order Condition

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq -\langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t \rangle$$

Convex Functions

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$$\ell_t(\mathbf{w}) = \langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t \rangle$$

which is convex

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■ Properties

- Gradient evaluation is easy

$$\nabla \ell_t(\mathbf{w}_t^i) = \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t)$$

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■ Adaptive Regret

$$R(T, \tau) = O\left(\sqrt{\tau \log T}\right)$$

Strongly Convex Functions

■ First-order Condition

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq -\langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t\|^2$$

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$$R(T, \tau) = O(\log \tau \log T)$$

Exponentially Concave Functions

■ First-order Condition [Hazan et al., 2007]

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - f_t(\mathbf{w}) \leq -\langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t \rangle - \frac{\beta}{2} (\langle \nabla f_t(\mathbf{w}_t), \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_t \rangle)^2$$

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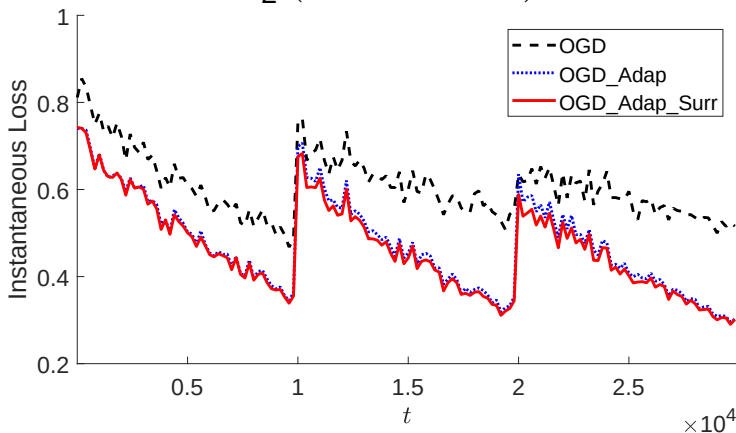
■ Adaptive Regret

$$R(T, \tau) = O(d \log \tau \log T)$$

Experiments

■ Nuclear-norm Regularized Matrix Regression

$$f_t(W) = \frac{1}{2} \left(y_t - \text{trace}(W^\top X_t) \right)^2 + b \|W\|_*$$

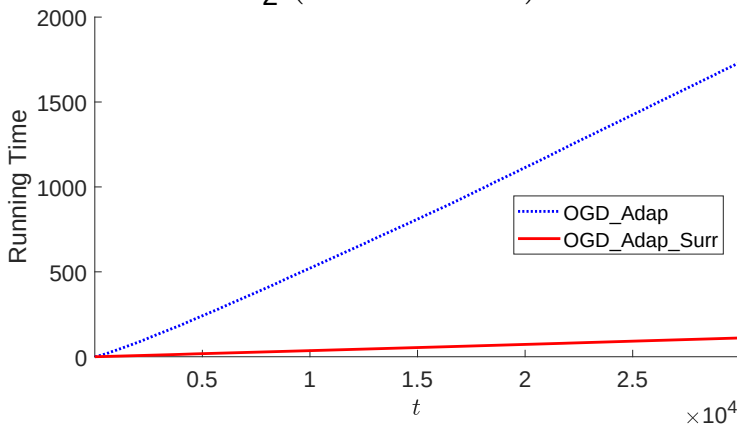


● $y_t = \text{trace}(W_*^\top X_t) + \epsilon_t$, where W_* changes twice

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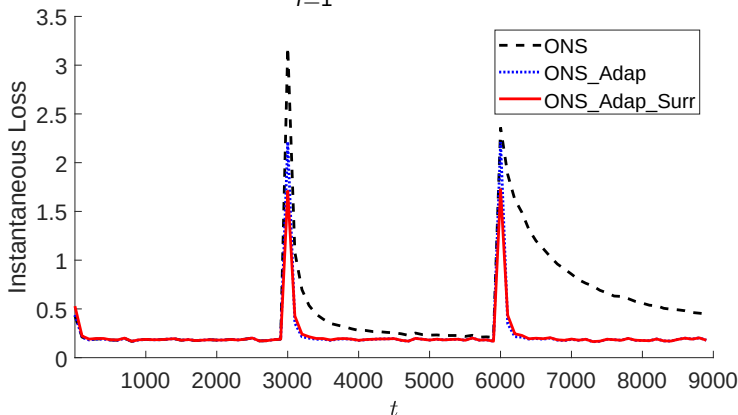


- $y_t = \text{trace}(W_*^\top X_t) + \epsilon_t$, where W_* changes twice

Experiments

■ Mini-batch Logistic Regression

$$f_t(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \log \left(1 + \exp \left(-y_t^i \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_t^i \right) \right)$$

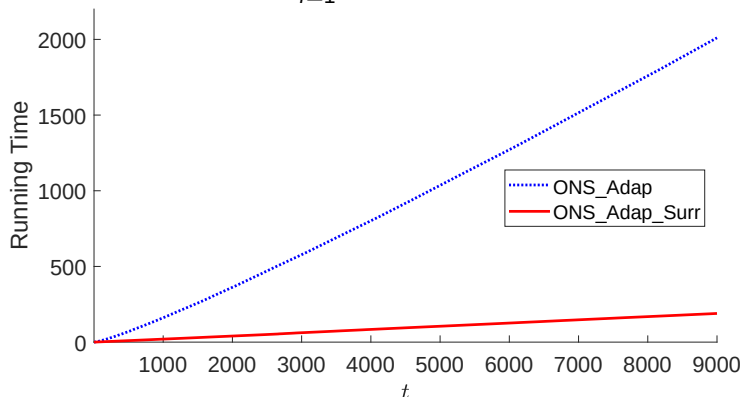


- the IJCNN01 dataset, where labels are flipped twice

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Adaptive Regret versus Dynamic Regret

■ Adaptive Regret

$$R(T, \tau) = \max_{[s, s+\tau-1] \subseteq [T]} \left(\sum_{t=s}^{s+\tau-1} f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} \sum_{t=s}^{s+\tau-1} f_t(\mathbf{w}) \right)$$

● Well-studied

■ Worst-case Dynamic Regret

$$R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t^*) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} f_t(\mathbf{w})$$

where $\mathbf{w}_t^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} f_t(\mathbf{w})$

● Partially addressed

[Hall and Willett, 2013, Jadbabaie et al., 2015,
Mokhtari et al., 2016, Yang et al., 2016, Zhang et al., 2017]

From Adaptive Regret to Dynamic Regret

Theorem [Zhang et al., 2018]

- Let $\mathcal{I}_1 = [s_1, q_1], \mathcal{I}_2 = [s_2, q_2], \dots, \mathcal{I}_k = [s_k, q_k]$ be a partition of $[1, T]$.
- Define the local functional variation of the i -th interval as

$$V_T(i) = \sum_{t=s_i+1}^{q_i} \max_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{W}} |f_t(\mathbf{w}) - f_{t-1}(\mathbf{w})|$$

We have

$$R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) \leq \min_{\mathcal{I}_1, \dots, \mathcal{I}_k} \sum_{i=1}^k (R(T, |\mathcal{I}_i|) + 2|\mathcal{I}_i| \cdot V_T(i))$$

From Adaptive Regret to Dynamic Regret

Theorem [Zhang et al., 2018]

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We have

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Corollary

$$R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) \leq \min_{1 \leq \tau \leq T} \left(\frac{R(T, \tau)T}{\tau} + 2\tau V_T \right)$$

Dynamic Regret of Adaptive Algorithms

■ Convex Functions

$$R(T, \tau) = O\left(\sqrt{\tau \log T}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = O\left(\max\left\{\sqrt{T \log T}, T^{2/3} V_T^{1/3} \log^{1/3} T\right\}\right)$$

- Lower bound is $O(T^{2/3} V_T^{1/3})$ [Besbes et al., 2015]

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■ Strongly Convex Functions

$$R(T, \tau) = O(\log \tau \log T)$$

$$\Rightarrow R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = O\left(\max\left\{\log T, \sqrt{TV_T \log T}\right\}\right)$$

● Lower bound is $O(\sqrt{TV_T})$ [Besbes et al., 2015]

Dynamic Regret of Adaptive Algorithms

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■ Strongly Convex Functions

$$R(T, \tau) = O(\log \tau \log T)$$

$$\Rightarrow R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = O\left(\max\left\{\log T, \sqrt{TV_T \log T}\right\}\right)$$

● Lower bound is $O(\sqrt{TV_T})$ [Besbes et al., 2015]

■ Exponentially Concave Functions

$$R(T, \tau) = O(d \log \tau \log T)$$

$$\Rightarrow R(\mathbf{w}_1^*, \dots, \mathbf{w}_T^*) = O\left(d \cdot \max\left\{\log T, \sqrt{TV_T \log T}\right\}\right)$$

Our Contributions

- 1 Adaptive algorithms can be directly **leveraged** to minimize the dynamic regret.
- 2 The dynamic regrets are established **without** prior knowledge of the functional variation.
 - The results of [Besbes et al., 2015] needs to known an upper bound of V_T
- 3 This is the **first** time that exponential concavity is utilized in dynamic regret.

Outline

1

Introduction

- Online Learning
- Regret

2

Learning in Dynamic Environments

- Adaptive Regret
- Dynamic Regret

3

Our Work

- Efficient Algorithms for Adaptive Regret
- From Adaptive Regret to Dynamic Regret

4

Conclusion

Conclusion and Future Work

Conclusion

- A brief introduction to adaptive regret and dynamic regret
- Efficient algorithms for adaptive regret
- From adaptive regret to dynamic regret

Future Work

- Adaptive regret that doesnot depend on T
- General dynamic regret

$$R(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T) = \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{w}_t) - \sum_{t=1}^T f_t(\mathbf{u}_t)$$

for **any** sequence $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_T \in \mathcal{W}$

- Without convexity

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Thanks!



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