

## A Proofs of Section 3

### A.1 Proof of Theorem 1

To prove the correctness and sample complexity of Algorithm R1, we need to prove Lemma A.2, which describes the set  $G_r$  that the TEST returns. This proof uses the following multiplicative forms of the Chernoff bounds (proved as in Theorems 4.4 and 4.5 of [12]).

**Lemma A.1** (Chernoff Bounds). *If  $X$  is the average of  $n$  independent random variables taking values in  $\{0, 1\}$ , then*

$$\Pr[X \leq (1 - s) \mathbb{E}[X]] \leq \exp\left(-\frac{s^2 \mathbb{E}[X]n}{2}\right), \quad (1)$$

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + s) \mathbb{E}[X]] \leq \exp\left(-\frac{s^2 \mathbb{E}[X]n}{3}\right), \quad (2)$$

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + s) \mathbb{E}[X]] \leq \exp\left(-\frac{s \mathbb{E}[X]n}{3}\right), \quad (3)$$

where the latter inequality holds for  $s \geq 1$  and the first two hold for  $s \in (0, 1)$ .

**Lemma A.2.**  $\text{TEST}(f^{(r)}, k, \epsilon', \delta')$  is such that the following two properties hold, each with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ , for all  $i \in [k]$  and for a given round  $r \in [t]$ .

(a) If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \epsilon'$ , then  $i \notin G_r$ .

(b) If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{2}$ , then  $i \in G_r$ .

*Proof of Lemma A.2.* For this proof we assume that the number of samples  $|T_i|$  for each  $i \in [k]$  must be at least  $\frac{32}{\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right)$ . For a given round  $r \in [t]$ :

(a) Assume  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \epsilon'$  for some  $i \in [k]$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[i \in G_r] \\ &= \Pr\left[\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{3}{4}\epsilon'\right] \\ &< \Pr\left[\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})\right] \\ &\stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})|T_i|\right) \\ &< \exp\left(-\frac{1}{32}\epsilon'|T_i|\right) \\ &\leq \exp\left(-\frac{1}{32}\epsilon' \frac{32}{\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right) \\ &\leq \frac{\delta'}{k}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by union bound,  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \epsilon' \Rightarrow i \notin G_r$  holds for all  $i \in [k]$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ .

(b) Assume  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{2}$  for some  $i \in [k]$ . We consider two cases and we apply the Chernoff bounds with  $s = \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}$ . Note that if  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) = 0$  then  $\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) = 0$  and the property holds. So we only need to consider  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \neq 0$ . First, we need to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{3\epsilon'}{4} \geq (1 + s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{3\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \geq 1 + \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{\epsilon'}{2\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \geq 1, \end{aligned}$$

which is true.

*Case 1.* If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{\epsilon'}{4}$ , which implies  $s < 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Pr \left[ i \notin G_r \right] \\
&= \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{3}{4}\epsilon' \right] \\
&\leq \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \geq (1+s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right] \\
&\stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \right)^2 \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) |T_i| \right) \\
&= \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'^2}{48\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} |T_i| \right) \\
&\leq \exp \left( -\frac{1}{48} 2\epsilon' \frac{24}{\epsilon'} \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta'} \right) \right) \\
&\leq \frac{\delta'}{k}.
\end{aligned}$$

*Case 2.* If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{4}$ , which implies  $s \geq 1$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Pr \left[ i \notin G_r \right] \\
&= \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{3}{4}\epsilon' \right] \\
&\leq \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \geq (1+s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right] \\
&\stackrel{(3)}{\leq} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{3} \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) |T_i| \right) \\
&= \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'}{3} |T_i| \right) \\
&\leq \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'}{3} \frac{3}{\epsilon'} \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta'} \right) \right) \\
&\leq \frac{\delta'}{k}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, by union bound,  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{2} \Rightarrow i \in G_r$  holds for all  $i \in [k]$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* First, we prove that Algorithm R1 indeed learns a good classifier, meaning that for every player  $i \in [k]$  the returned classifier  $f_{R1}$  has error  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f_{R1}) \leq \epsilon$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .

Let  $e_i^{(r)}$  denote the number of rounds, up until and including round  $r$ , that  $i$  did not pass the TEST. More formally,  $e_i^{(r)} = |\{r' \mid r' \in [r] \text{ and } i \notin G_{r'}\}|$ .

**Claim 1.** *With probability at least  $1 - \frac{2\delta}{3}$ ,  $e_i^{(t)} < 0.4t \forall i \in [k]$ .*

From Lemma A.2(a) and union bound, with probability at least  $1 - t\delta' = 1 - \frac{\delta}{3}$ , the number of functions that have error more than  $\epsilon'$  on  $D_i$  is the same as the number of rounds that  $i$  did not pass the TEST, for all  $i \in [k]$ . So, if the claim holds, with probability at least  $1 - (\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3})\delta = 1 - \delta$ , less than  $0.4t$  functions have error more than  $\epsilon'$  on  $D_i$ , for all  $i \in [k]$ . Equivalently, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , more than  $0.6t$  functions have error at most  $\epsilon'$  on  $D_i$ , for all  $i \in [k]$ . As a result, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the error of the majority of the functions is  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f_{R1}) \leq \frac{0.6}{0.1}\epsilon' = \epsilon$  for all  $i \in [k]$ .

Let us now prove the claim.

*Proof of Claim 1.* Recall that  $\Phi^{(r)} = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i^{(r)}$  is the potential function in round  $r$ . By linearity of expectation, the following holds for the error on the mixture of distributions:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{err}_{\bar{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^{(r)}) &= \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i \notin G_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

From the VC theorem, it holds that, since  $f^{(r)} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}(S^{(r)})$  and  $|S^{(r)}| = m_{\epsilon'/16, \delta'}$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ ,  $\text{err}_{\bar{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{16}$ . From Lemma A.2(b), with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ ,  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \geq \frac{\epsilon'}{2}$  for all

$i \notin G_r$ . So with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta'$  the two hold simultaneously. Combining these inequalities with (4), we get that with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta'$ ,  $\frac{\epsilon'}{16} \geq \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \frac{\epsilon'}{2} \right) \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i \notin G_r} w_i^{(r-1)} \leq \frac{1}{8} \Phi^{(r-1)}$ .

Since only the weights of players  $i \notin G_r$  are doubled, it holds that for a given round  $r$

$$\Phi^{(r)} \leq \Phi^{(r-1)} + \sum_{i \notin G_r} w_i^{(r-1)} \leq \frac{9}{8} \Phi^{(r-1)}.$$

Therefore with probability at least  $1 - 2t\delta' = 1 - \frac{2\delta}{3}$ , the inequality holds for all rounds, by union bound. By induction:

$$\Phi^{(t)} \leq \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^t \Phi^{(0)} = \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^t k$$

Also, for every  $i \in [k]$  it holds that  $w_i^{(t)} = 2^{e_i^{(t)}}$ , as each weight is only doubled every time  $i$  does not pass the TEST. Since the potential function is the sum of all weights, the following inequality is true.

$$\begin{aligned} w_i^{(t)} &\leq \Phi^{(t)} \\ \Rightarrow 2^{e_i^{(t)}} &\leq \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^t k \\ \Rightarrow e_i^{(t)} &\leq t \log \left( \frac{9}{8} \right) + \log(k) \\ \Rightarrow e_i^{(t)} &\leq 0.17t + 0.2t < 0.4t \end{aligned}$$

So with probability at least  $1 - \frac{2\delta}{3}$ ,  $e_i^{(t)} < 0.4t \forall i \in [k]$ . ■

As for the total number of samples, it is the sum of TEST's samples and the  $m_{\epsilon'/16, \delta'}$  samples for each round. Since TEST is called  $t = 5\lceil \log(k) \rceil$  times and each time requests  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'} \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta'} \right)\right)$  samples from each of the  $k$  players, the total number of samples that it requests is  $O\left(\log(k) \frac{k}{\epsilon'} \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta'} \right)\right)$ . Substituting  $\epsilon' = \epsilon/6$  and  $\delta' = \delta/(3t) = \delta/(15\lceil \log(k) \rceil)$ , this yields

$$O\left(\frac{\log(k)}{\epsilon} k \ln \left( \frac{k \log(k)}{\delta} \right)\right) = O\left(\frac{\log(k)}{\epsilon} k \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta} \right)\right)$$

samples in total.

In addition, the sum of the  $m_{\epsilon'/16, \delta'}$  samples drawn in each round to learn the classifier for the mixture for  $t = 5\lceil \log(k) \rceil$  rounds is  $O\left(\frac{\log(k)}{\epsilon'} \left( d \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon'} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{1}{\delta'} \right) \right)\right)$ . Again, substituting  $\epsilon'$  and  $\delta'$ , we get:

$$O\left(\frac{\log(k)}{\epsilon} \left( d \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{\log(k)}{\delta} \right) \right)\right)$$

samples in total.

Hence, the overall bound is:

$$O\left(\frac{\log(k)}{\epsilon} \left( d \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right) + k \ln \left( \frac{k}{\delta} \right) \right)\right)$$

□

## A.2 Proof of Lemma 2.1

*Proof of Lemma 2.1.* For this proof, we assume that the number of samples  $|T_i|$  for each  $i \in [k]$  must be at least  $\frac{148}{\epsilon'} = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)$ . For given  $r \in [t]$  and  $i \in [k]$ :

(a) Assume  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \epsilon'$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} &\Pr \left[ i \in G_r \right] \\ &= \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{3}{4}\epsilon' \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&< \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right] \\
&\stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{4} \right)^2 \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) |T_i| \right) \\
&< \exp \left( -\frac{1}{32} \epsilon' |T_i| \right) \\
&\leq \exp \left( -\frac{1}{32} \epsilon' \frac{148}{\epsilon'} \right) \\
&< 0.01.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \epsilon' \Rightarrow i \notin G_r$  holds with probability at least 0.99.

(b) Assume  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{2}$ . We consider two cases and we apply the Chernoff bounds with  $s = \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}$ .

Note that if  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) = 0$  then  $\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) = 0$  and the property holds. So we only need to consider  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \neq 0$ . First, we need to prove that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{3\epsilon'}{4} &\geq (1+s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \\
\Leftrightarrow \frac{3\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} &\geq 1 + \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \\
\Leftrightarrow \frac{\epsilon'}{2\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} &\geq 1,
\end{aligned}$$

which is true.

*Case 1.* If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{\epsilon'}{4}$ , which implies  $s < 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Pr \left[ i \notin G_r \right] \\
&= \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{3}{4}\epsilon' \right] \\
&\leq \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \geq (1+s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right] \\
&\stackrel{(2)}{\leq} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \right)^2 \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) |T_i| \right) \\
&= \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'^2}{48\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} |T_i| \right) \\
&\leq \exp \left( -\frac{1}{48} 2\epsilon' \frac{148}{\epsilon'} \right) \\
&< 0.01.
\end{aligned}$$

*Case 2.* If  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{4}$ , which implies  $s \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Pr \left[ i \notin G_r \right] \\
&= \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) > \frac{3}{4}\epsilon' \right] \\
&\leq \Pr \left[ \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \geq (1+s)\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right] \\
&\stackrel{(3)}{\leq} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{3} \frac{\epsilon'}{4\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) |T_i| \right) \\
&= \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'}{12} |T_i| \right) \\
&\leq \exp \left( -\frac{\epsilon'}{12} \frac{148}{\epsilon'} \right) \\
&< 0.01.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \leq \frac{\epsilon'}{2} \Rightarrow i \in G_r$  holds with probability at least 0.99.

□

## B Algorithms and proofs of Section 4

### B.1 Algorithm NR1

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**Algorithm NR1**


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1: Initialization:  $\forall i \in [k] \ w_i^{(0)} := 1; \alpha' := \alpha/35; t := 2\lceil \ln(k)/\alpha'^3 \rceil; \epsilon' := \epsilon/60; \delta' := \delta/(4t);$ 
2: for  $r = 1, \dots, t$  do
3:    $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} D_i \right)$ , where  $\Phi^{(r-1)} := \sum_{i=1}^k w_i^{(r-1)}$ ;
4:   Draw a sample set  $S^{(r)}$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left( d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \right)\right)$  from  $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$ ;
5:    $f^{(r)} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}(S^{(r)})$ ;
6:   for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  do
7:     Draw a sample set  $T_i$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right)$  from  $D_i$ ;
8:      $s_i^{(r)} \leftarrow \min\left(\frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})\alpha'^2}{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)})+3\epsilon'}, \alpha'\right)$ 
9:     Update:  $w_i^{(r)} \leftarrow w_i^{(r-1)}(1 + s_i^{(r)})$ 
10:  end for
11: end for
12:
13: return  $f_{\text{NR1}} = \text{maj}(\{f^{(r)}\}_{r=1}^t)$ ;

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The algorithms of this section share many useful properties. We will first prove some of these properties and then prove each one of the Theorems 3, 4, 5, and 6.

**Corollary** (of Lemma A.1). *If  $X$  is the average of  $n$  independent random variables taking values in  $\{0, 1\}$ , then:*

$$\Pr[X \leq (1 - \alpha) \mathbb{E}[X] - \epsilon] \leq \exp(-\alpha\epsilon n) \quad \forall \alpha, \epsilon \in (0, 1) \quad (5)$$

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + \alpha) \mathbb{E}[X] + \epsilon] \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha\epsilon n}{3}\right) \quad \forall \alpha, \epsilon \in (0, 1) \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* We first prove inequality (5). Note that if  $\mathbb{E}[X] \leq \epsilon$  then the inequality is trivially true so we only need to consider  $\mathbb{E}[X] > \epsilon$ . Let  $s = \alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{\mathbb{E}[X]}$ . Notice that  $s^2 \geq \frac{2\alpha\epsilon}{\mathbb{E}[X]}$ . Thus, by inequality (1),

$$\Pr[X \leq (1 - \alpha) \mathbb{E}[X] - \epsilon] \leq \exp(-s^2 \mathbb{E}[X] n / 2) \leq \exp(-\alpha\epsilon n).$$

Next we prove inequality (6). Again let  $s = \alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{\mathbb{E}[X]}$ . If  $s < 1$  then by inequality (2),

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + \alpha) \mathbb{E}[X] + \epsilon] \leq \exp(-s^2 \mathbb{E}[X] n / 3) \leq \exp(-2\alpha\epsilon n / 3).$$

If  $s \geq 1$  then by inequality (3),

$$\Pr[X \geq (1 + \alpha) \mathbb{E}[X] + \epsilon] \leq \exp(-s \mathbb{E}[X] n / 3) \leq \exp(-\epsilon n / 3) \leq \exp(-\alpha\epsilon n / 3).$$

□

Lemma B.1 proves that the error of the classifier  $f^{(r)}$  of each round on the weighted mixture of distributions is low. It holds due to a known extension of the VC Theorem and Chernoff bounds, but we prove it here for our parameters for completeness.

**Lemma B.1.** *With probability at least  $1 - \delta/2$ , for all rounds  $r \in [t]$ :*

$$(a) \quad (1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon' \leq (1 + 7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'.$$

$$(b) \quad \text{err}_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^{(r)}) \leq (1 + \alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'.$$

*Proof.* Let  $S^{(r)}$  be a set of samples of size  $C \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left( d \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon'} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{1}{\delta'} \right) \right)$  drawn from  $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$ , where  $C$  is a constant. We will prove that for large enough constant  $C$  the two statements hold simultaneously for all rounds, each with probability at least  $1 - t\delta'$ . It suffices to prove that each statement in each round holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ . For a given round  $r$ :

- (a) By  $f^*$ 's definition it holds that  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f^*) \leq \text{OPT} + \epsilon' \forall i \in [k]$ , so it must also hold that  $\text{err}_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^*) \leq \text{OPT} + \epsilon'$ , since  $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$  is a weighted average of the distributions. From the Corollary it holds that  $\Pr[\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^*) \geq (1 + \alpha') \text{err}_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^*) + \epsilon'] \leq \exp(-\alpha'\epsilon'|S^{(r)}|/3) \leq \delta'$  and since  $\alpha' \leq 1$ , it is easy to see that with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ ,

$$\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^*) \leq (1 + \alpha')\text{OPT} + 3\epsilon' \quad (7)$$

Since  $f^{(r)}$  is the error minimizing classifier for the sample  $S^{(r)}$ , it holds that  $\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) \leq \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^*) + \epsilon'$ . Therefore,

$$(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon' \leq (1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^*) + 7\epsilon' \stackrel{(7)}{\leq} (1 + 7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'.$$

- (b) We prove the second statement for all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , using Theorem 5.7 from [1]. The theorem states that for every  $h \in \mathcal{H}$ , it holds that  $\text{err}_D(h) \leq (1 + \gamma) \text{err}_S(h) + \beta$  with probability at least  $1 - 4\Pi_{\mathcal{H}}(2m) \exp\left(\frac{-\gamma\beta m}{4(\gamma+1)}\right)$ , where  $S$  is a sample of size  $m$  drawn from a distribution  $D$  on  $\mathcal{X} \times \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\gamma > 2\beta$ , and  $\Pi_{\mathcal{H}}(n) = \max\{|\mathcal{H}_S| : S \subseteq \mathcal{X} \text{ and } |S| = n\}$  is the growth function of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

We apply Theorem 5.7 for  $\gamma = \alpha'$ ,  $\beta = \epsilon'$ ,  $D = \tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$ ,  $S = S^{(r)}$ ,  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{F}$ . Since the VC-dimension of  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $d$ , from [[1], Theorem 3.7] it holds that  $\Pi_{\mathcal{F}}(2m) \leq \left(\frac{2em}{d}\right)^d$ . In our setting, the theorem states that, given round  $r$ , for every  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , it holds that  $\text{err}_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f) \leq (1 + \alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f) + \epsilon'$  with probability at least  $1 - 4\left(\frac{2em}{d}\right)^d \exp\left(\frac{-\alpha'\epsilon'm}{4(\alpha'+1)}\right)$ . It remains to prove that, for large enough  $C$ ,  $m = C \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left( d \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon'} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{1}{\delta'} \right) \right)$  samples suffice to guarantee that  $4\left(\frac{2em}{d}\right)^d \exp\left(\frac{-\alpha'\epsilon'm}{4(\alpha'+1)}\right) \leq \delta'$  so that the statement holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ . It suffices to prove that for the given  $m$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(4) + d \ln(2e) + d \ln\left(\frac{m}{d}\right) - \frac{\alpha'\epsilon'm}{8} &\leq -\ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \\ \Leftrightarrow \ln(4) + d \ln(2e) + d \ln\left(\frac{m}{d}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) &\leq \frac{C}{8} d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \frac{C}{8} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right). \end{aligned}$$

We consider two cases:

- i. If  $d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) \geq \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)$ , then  $\frac{m}{d} \leq \frac{2C}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) < \frac{C}{\epsilon'^2} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)$ . So to prove the statement, it suffices to prove that

$$\ln(4) + d \ln(2e) + d \left( \ln(C) + 2 \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \leq \frac{C}{8} d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \frac{C}{8} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right).$$

The latter inequality holds for large enough  $C$ .

- ii. If  $d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) \leq \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)$ , then  $\frac{m}{d} \leq \frac{2C}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d} < \frac{C}{\epsilon'^2} \frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d}$ . So to prove the statement, it suffices to prove that

$$\ln(4) + d \ln(2e) + d \left( \ln(C) + 2 \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d}\right) \right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \leq \frac{C}{8} d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \frac{C}{8} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right).$$

If we prove that  $d \ln \left( \frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d} \right) \leq \ln(1/\delta')$ , then the inequality holds for large enough  $C$ . Indeed, it holds that  $\ln \left( \frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d} \right) / \frac{\ln(1/\delta')}{d} \leq \frac{1}{e}$ , since  $\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \{\ln(x)/x\} = \frac{1}{e}$ .

Thus the second statement holds too with probability at least  $1 - \delta'$ .

□

Lemmas B.2 and B.3 give us two inequalities that are useful for all the proofs of Section 4.

**Lemma B.2.** *Let  $L_r = \{i \in [k] \mid |err_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - err_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \leq \alpha' \cdot err_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'\}$ . With probability  $1 - \delta/2$ , it holds that*

$$\sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \leq [(1 + 3\alpha') err_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)} \leq [(1 + 7\alpha') OPT + 19\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)}.$$

*Proof.* By linearity of expectation,

$$\begin{aligned} err_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^{(r)}) &= \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{(1 + \alpha') \Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) - \frac{\epsilon'}{1 + \alpha'}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \leq [(1 + \alpha') err_{\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)}$ . By Lemma B.1(b), it follows that with probability  $1 - \delta/2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} err_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) &\leq [(1 + \alpha')(1 + \alpha') err_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + (1 + \alpha')\epsilon' + \epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)} \\ &\leq [(1 + 3\alpha') err_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)} \\ &\stackrel{\text{Lemma B.1(a)}}{\leq} [(1 + 7\alpha') OPT + 19\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma B.3.** *For all  $i \in [k]$  it holds that*

$$\sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{\ln(\Phi^{(t)})}{1 - \alpha'/2}.$$

*Proof.* In every round  $r$ ,  $w_i^{(r)} = w_i^{(r-1)}(1 + s_i^{(r)})$ . Therefore for any  $i \in [k]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} w_i^{(t)} &= \prod_{r=1}^t (1 + s_i^{(r)}) \\ &\geq \prod_{r=1}^t \exp(s_i^{(r)} - (s_i^{(r)})^2/2) \\ &\stackrel{s_i^{(r)} \leq \alpha'}{\geq} \exp \left( (1 - \alpha'/2) \sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the second to last inequality holds since  $(1 + x) \geq \exp(x - x^2/2)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . The inequality follows since  $w_i^{(t)} \leq \Phi^{(t)}$  for all  $i \in [k]$ . □

We will now give the proof of Theorem 3.

*Proof of Theorem 3.* By the Corollary, for a given round  $r$  and player  $i$ ,

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq 2 \exp(-\alpha' \epsilon' |T_i|/3).$$

If  $|T_i| = \frac{3}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right)$ , the inequality

$$|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \leq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon' \quad (8)$$

holds with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta'/k$ . By union bound, it follows that (8) holds for every  $i$  and every  $r$  with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta't = 1 - \delta/2$ .

With probability at least  $1 - \delta$  inequality (8) and the inequality of Lemma B.2 hold for all rounds and players. We restrict the rest of the proof to this event. It holds that,

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^{(r)} &= \Phi^{(r-1)} + \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \cdot s_i^{(r)} \right) \\ &\leq \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\alpha'^2}{(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \\ &\stackrel{L_r=[k]}{\leq} \Phi^{(r-1)} \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha'^2}{(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} [(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'] \right) \\ &= \Phi^{(r-1)}(1 + \alpha'^2) \end{aligned}$$

By induction,  $\Phi^{(t)} \leq \Phi^{(0)}(1 + \alpha'^2)^t = k(1 + \alpha'^2)^t \leq k \exp(t\alpha'^2)$ . From Lemma B.3 and  $t = 2\lceil \ln(k)/\alpha'^3 \rceil$ , it follows that

$$\sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{\ln(k) + t\alpha'^2}{1 - \alpha'/2} \leq \frac{1 + \alpha'}{1 - \alpha'/2} t\alpha'^2. \quad (9)$$

Let  $G_i$  be the set of rounds  $r$  such that  $s_i^{(r)} < \alpha'$ . We consider these to be the “good” classifiers. Because of (9), we have  $|[t] \setminus G_i| \leq \frac{1}{\alpha'} \sum_{r \in [t] \setminus G_i} \alpha' \leq \frac{1}{\alpha'} \sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{1+\alpha'}{1-\alpha'/2} \alpha' t$ . For the classifiers of the rounds  $r \in G_i$ , it holds that

$$\sum_{r \in G_i} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})\alpha'^2}{(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} = \sum_{r \in G_i} s_i^{(r)} \leq \sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \stackrel{(9)}{\leq} \frac{1 + \alpha'}{1 - \alpha'/2} \alpha'^2 t.$$

Thus,  $\sum_{r \in G_i} \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \stackrel{B.1(a)}{\leq} t \frac{1+\alpha'}{1-\alpha'/2} [(1 + 7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon']$ . From inequality (8), it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \alpha') \sum_{r \in G_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) - |G_i|\epsilon' &\leq t \frac{1 + \alpha'}{1 - \alpha'/2} [(1 + 7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'] \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{r \in G_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) &\leq t \frac{1 + \alpha'}{(1 - \alpha'/2)(1 - \alpha')} [(1 + 7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'] + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{r \in G_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) &\leq [(1 + 12\alpha')\text{OPT} + 25\epsilon']t, \end{aligned}$$

which holds for  $\alpha' < 1/12$ .

For each example  $e$  that is a mistake for  $f_{\text{NR1}}$ , it must be a mistake for at least  $t/2 - |[t] \setminus G_i|$  members of  $G_i$ . Thus the fraction of error of  $f_{\text{NR1}}$  is at most

$$\frac{\sum_{r \in G_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}{t/2 - |[t] \setminus G_i|} \leq \frac{(1 + 12\alpha')\text{OPT} + 25\epsilon'}{1/2 - (1 + \alpha')\alpha'/(1 - \alpha'/2)} \leq (2 + 35\alpha')\text{OPT} + 60\epsilon'.$$

Having set  $\alpha' = \alpha/35$  and  $\epsilon' = \epsilon/60$  we get that  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR1}}) \leq (2 + \alpha)\text{OPT} + \epsilon$ .

As for the total number of samples, it is the sum of  $O(\frac{k}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln(k/\delta'))$  and  $O(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} (d \ln(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}) + \ln(\frac{1}{\delta'})))$  samples for each round. Because there are  $O(\ln(k)/\alpha'^3)$  rounds, the total number of samples is

$$O\left(\frac{\ln(k)}{\alpha'^4\epsilon'} \left(k \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right) + d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\right)\right) = O\left(\frac{\ln(k)}{\alpha^4\epsilon} \left(k \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta}\right) + d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)\right).$$

□

## B.2 Algorithm NR2

*Proof of Theorem 4.* By the Corollary, for a given round  $r$  and player  $i$ ,

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq 2 \exp(-\alpha' \epsilon' |T_i|/3).$$

If  $|T_i| = \frac{6}{\epsilon'\alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\alpha'}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'\alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'}\right)\right)$ , then

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq \alpha'^2. \quad (10)$$

Assuming that the inequality of Lemma B.2 holds, which is true with probability  $1 - \delta/2$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r)} \mid \Phi^{(r-1)}] \\ & \leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\alpha'^2}{(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} \sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) + \sum_{i \notin L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} s_i^{(r-1)} \right) \mid \Phi^{(r-1)} \right] \\ & \leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\alpha'^2}{(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} [(1 + 3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)} + \alpha' \sum_{i \notin L_r} w_i^{(r-1)} \mid \Phi^{(r-1)} \right] \\ & \stackrel{(10)}{\leq} \Phi^{(r-1)} (1 + \alpha'^2 + \alpha'^3) \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of expectation,  $\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r)}] \leq \mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r-1)}] (1 + \alpha'^2 + \alpha'^3)$ . So by induction and the fact that  $\Phi^{(0)} = k$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(t)}] \leq k \exp(t\alpha'^2(1 + \alpha'))$ . Markov's inequality states that  $\Pr[\Phi^{(t)} \geq \frac{\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(t)}]}{\delta/4}] \leq \delta/4$ . So with overall probability  $1 - \delta/4 - \delta/2 = 1 - 3\delta/4$  it holds that  $\Phi^{(t)} \leq \frac{4k}{\delta} \exp(t\alpha'^2(1 + \alpha'))$ .

From Lemma B.3 and  $t = 2 \lceil \ln(4k/\delta)/\alpha'^3 \rceil$ , it follows that

$$\sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{\ln(4k/\delta) + t\alpha'^2(1 + \alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} \leq \frac{(1 + 2\alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} t\alpha'^2. \quad (11)$$

For  $G_i = \{r \in [t] \mid s_i^{(r)} < \alpha'\}$ , we have  $|[t] \setminus G_i| \leq \frac{1+2\alpha'}{1-\alpha'/2} \alpha' t$  because of (11).

Let  $R_i = \{r \in [t] \mid |\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \leq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'\}$ . For the classifiers of the rounds  $r \in G_i \cap R_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{r \in G_i \cap R_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) &\leq \sum_{r \in G_i \cap R_i} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})}{1 - \alpha'} + \frac{|G_i \cap R_i| \epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\
&\leq \sum_{r \in G_i \cap R_i} \frac{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{\alpha'^2} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \alpha'^2}{(1 - \alpha')[(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon']} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\
&= \sum_{r \in G_i \cap R_i} \frac{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{(1 - \alpha') \alpha'^2} s_i^{(r)} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\
&\stackrel{(11)}{\leq} \frac{(1 + 7\alpha') \text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'}{(1 - \alpha') \alpha'^2} \frac{(1 + 2\alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} t \alpha'^2 + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\
&\leq [(1 + 15\alpha') \text{OPT} + 25\epsilon'] t
\end{aligned}$$

which holds for  $\alpha' < 1/15$ .

We will now bound  $|[t] \setminus R_i|$ . For every round  $r$ , let  $m^{(r)}$  be the indicator random variable of the set  $[t] \setminus R_i$  and let  $y^{(r)} = \alpha'^2$ . It holds that for all rounds  $r$ ,  $|m^{(r)} - y^{(r)}| \leq 1$  and  $m^{(r)}, y^{(r)} \geq 0$ . In addition, from inequality (10) it follows that  $\mathbb{E}[m^{(r)} - y^{(r)} \mid \sum_{r' < r} m^{(r')}, \sum_{r' < r} y^{(r')}] = \alpha'^2 - \alpha'^2 \leq 0$ .

Using [[9], Lemma 10], with  $\varepsilon = 1/2$  and  $A = \alpha'^2$ , we get that

$$\Pr \left[ \sum_{r=1}^t m^{(r)} \geq 2\alpha'^2 t + 2\alpha'^2 t \right] \leq \exp(-\alpha'^2 t/2) \leq \delta/4k.$$

So  $|[t] \setminus R_i| = \sum_{r=1}^t m^{(r)} \leq 4\alpha'^2 t$  for all  $i$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta/4$ , by union bound.

For each example  $e$  that is a mistake for  $f_{\text{NR2}}$ , it must be a mistake for at least  $t/2 - |[t] \setminus (G_i \cap R_i)|$  members of  $G_i \cap R_i$ . Thus, with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the fraction of error of  $f_{\text{NR2}}$  is at most

$$\frac{\sum_{r \in G_i \cap R_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}{t/2 - |[t] \setminus (G_i \cap R_i)|} \leq \frac{(1 + 15\alpha') \text{OPT} + 25\epsilon'}{t/2 - 4\alpha'^2 t - (1 + \alpha') \alpha' t / (1 - \alpha'/2)} \leq (2 + 40\alpha') \text{OPT} + 64\epsilon'.$$

Having set  $\alpha' = \alpha/40$  and  $\epsilon' = \epsilon/64$  we get that  $\text{err}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR2}}) \leq (2 + \alpha) \text{OPT} + \epsilon$ .

As for the total number of samples, it is the sum of  $O(\frac{k}{\alpha' \epsilon'} \ln(1/\alpha'))$  samples and  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha' \epsilon'} \left(d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)\right)\right)$  samples for each round. Because there are  $O(\ln(k/\delta)/\alpha'^3)$  rounds, the total number of samples is

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha^4 \epsilon} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta}\right) \left(k \ln\left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) + d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)\right)\right).$$

□

### B.3 Algorithm NR1-AVG

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**Algorithm NR1-AVG**


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1: Initialization:  $\forall i \in [k] \ w_i^{(0)} := 1; \alpha' := \alpha/12; t := 2\lceil \ln(k)/(\epsilon'\alpha'^2) \rceil; \epsilon' := \epsilon/25; \delta' := \delta/(4t);$ 
2: for  $r = 1, \dots, t$  do
3:    $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} D_i \right)$ , where  $\Phi^{(r-1)} := \sum_{i=1}^k w_i^{(r-1)}$ ;
4:   Draw a sample set  $S^{(r)}$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left( d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right) \right)\right)$  from  $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$ ;
5:    $f^{(r)} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}(S^{(r)})$ ;
6:   for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  do
7:     Draw a sample set  $T_i$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right)$  from  $D_i$ ;
8:      $s_i^{(r)} \leftarrow \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})\epsilon'\alpha'}{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)})+3\epsilon'}$ 
9:     Update:  $w_i^{(r)} \leftarrow w_i^{(r-1)}(1 + s_i^{(r)})$ 
10:  end for
11: end for
12:
13: return  $f_{\text{NR1-AVG}}$ , where  $f_{\text{NR1-AVG}}(x) \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \{f^{(r)}(x)\}_{r=1}^t$ ;

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*Proof of Theorem 5.* The expected error of the returned classifier  $f_{\text{NR1-AVG}}$  on player  $i$ 's distribution is  $\overline{\text{err}}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR1-AVG}}) = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{r=1}^t \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})$ . We will prove that with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ,  $\overline{\text{err}}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR1-AVG}}) \leq (1 + \alpha)\text{OPT} + \epsilon$  for all  $i \in [k]$ .

By the Corollary, for a given round  $r$  and player  $i$ ,

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq 2 \exp(-\alpha'\epsilon'|T_i|/3).$$

If  $|T_i| = \frac{3}{\epsilon'\alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'\alpha'} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta'}\right)\right)$ , the inequality holds with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta'/k$ . By union bound, it follows that it holds for every  $i$  and every  $r$  with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta't = 1 - \delta/2$ .

With probability at least  $1 - \delta$  the previous inequality as well as the inequality of Lemma B.2 hold for all rounds and players. We restrict the rest of the proof to this event.

It holds that,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi^{(r)} &= \Phi^{(r-1)} + \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} s_i^{(r)} \right) \\
&\leq \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\epsilon'\alpha'}{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)})+3\epsilon'} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) \\
&\stackrel{L_r=[k]}{\leq} \Phi^{(r-1)} \left( 1 + \frac{\epsilon'\alpha'}{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)})+3\epsilon'} [(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)})+3\epsilon'] \right) \\
&\leq \Phi^{(r-1)}(1 + \epsilon'\alpha')
\end{aligned}$$

By induction,  $\Phi^{(t)} \leq k \exp(t\epsilon'\alpha')$ . From Lemma B.3 and since  $t = 2\lceil \ln(k)/(\epsilon'\alpha'^2) \rceil$ , it follows that

$$\sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{\ln(k) + t\epsilon'\alpha'}{1 - \alpha'/2} \leq \frac{1 + \alpha'}{1 - \alpha'/2} t\epsilon'\alpha'. \quad (12)$$

Therefore, the total error is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{r=1}^t \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) &\leq \sum_{r=1}^t \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})}{1-\alpha'} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1-\alpha'} \\
&\leq \sum_{r=1}^t \frac{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{\epsilon'\alpha'} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})\epsilon'\alpha'}{(1-\alpha')[(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon']} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1-\alpha'} \\
&= \sum_{r=1}^t \frac{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{(1-\alpha')\epsilon'\alpha'} s_i^{(r)} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1-\alpha'} \\
&\stackrel{(12)}{\leq} \frac{(1+7\alpha')\text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'}{(1-\alpha')\epsilon'\alpha'} \frac{(1+\alpha')}{1-\alpha'/2} t\epsilon'\alpha' + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1-\alpha'} \\
&\leq [(1+12\alpha')\text{OPT} + 25\epsilon']t \\
&= [(1+\alpha)\text{OPT} + \epsilon]t,
\end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality holds for  $\alpha' < 1/12$  and we have set  $\alpha' = \alpha/12$  and  $\epsilon' = \epsilon/25$ .

As for the total number of samples, it is the sum of  $O(\frac{k}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln(k/\delta'))$  samples and  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left(d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)\right)\right)$  samples for each round. Because there are  $O(\ln(k)/(\epsilon'\alpha'^2))$  rounds, the total number of samples is

$$O\left(\frac{\ln(k)}{\alpha^3\epsilon^2} \left(k \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta}\right) + d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)\right).$$

□

## B.4 Algorithm NR2-AVG

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### Algorithm NR2-AVG

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1: Initialization:  $\forall i \in [k]$   $w_i^{(0)} := 1$ ;  $\alpha' := \alpha/15$ ;  $t := 2\lceil \ln(4k/\delta)/(\epsilon'\alpha'^2) \rceil$ ;  $\epsilon' := \epsilon/29$ ;  $\delta' := \delta/(4t)$ ;
2: for  $r = 1, \dots, t$  do
3:    $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\Phi^{(r-1)}} \sum_{i=1}^k \left(w_i^{(r-1)} D_i\right)$ , where  $\Phi^{(r-1)} := \sum_{i=1}^k w_i^{(r-1)}$ ;
4:   Draw a sample set  $S^{(r)}$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left(d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)\right)\right)$  from  $\tilde{D}^{(r-1)}$ ;
5:    $f^{(r)} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}(S^{(r)})$ ;
6:   for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  do
7:     Draw a sample set  $T_i$  of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right)\right)$  from  $D_i$ ;
8:      $s_i^{(r)} \leftarrow \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})\epsilon'\alpha'}{(1+3\alpha')\text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}$ 
9:     Update:  $w_i^{(r)} \leftarrow w_i^{(r-1)}(1 + s_i^{(r)})$ 
10:  end for
11: end for
12:
13: return  $f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}$ , where  $f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}(x) \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \{f^{(r)}(x)\}_{r=1}^t$ ;

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*Proof of Theorem 6.* The expected error of the returned classifier  $f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}$  on player  $i$ 's distribution is  $\overline{\text{err}}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}) = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{r=1}^t \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})$ . We will prove that with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ,  $\overline{\text{err}}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}) \leq (1 + \alpha)\text{OPT} + \epsilon$  for all  $i \in [k]$ .

By the Corollary, for a given round  $r$  and player  $i$ ,

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq 2 \exp(-\alpha'\epsilon'|T_i|/3).$$

If  $|T_i| = \frac{3}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \ln \left( \frac{2}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \right) \stackrel{\alpha' \geq 2\epsilon'}{\leq} O \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \ln \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon'} \right) \right)$ , then

$$\Pr[|\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \geq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'] \leq \epsilon' \alpha'. \quad (13)$$

Assuming that the inequality of Lemma B.2 holds, which is true with probability  $1 - \delta/2$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r)} \mid \Phi^{(r-1)}] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\epsilon' \alpha'}{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} \sum_{i \in L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} \text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \right) + \sum_{i \notin L_r} \left( w_i^{(r-1)} s_i^{(r-1)} \right) \middle| \Phi^{(r-1)} \right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \Phi^{(r-1)} + \frac{\epsilon' \alpha'}{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'} [(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'] \Phi^{(r-1)} + \alpha' \sum_{i \notin L_r} w_i^{(r-1)} \middle| \Phi^{(r-1)} \right] \\ &\stackrel{(13)}{\leq} \Phi^{(r-1)} (1 + \epsilon' \alpha' + \epsilon' \alpha'^2) \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of expectation,  $\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r)}] \leq \mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(r-1)}] (1 + \epsilon' \alpha' + \epsilon' \alpha'^2)$ . So by induction,  $\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(t)}] \leq k \exp(t\epsilon' \alpha' (1 + \alpha'))$ . Markov's inequality states that  $\Pr[\Phi^{(t)} \geq \frac{\mathbb{E}[\Phi^{(t)}]}{\delta/4}] \leq \delta/4$ . So with probability  $1 - \delta/4 - \delta/2 = 1 - 3\delta/4$  it holds that  $\Phi^{(t)} \leq \frac{4k}{\delta} \exp(t\epsilon' \alpha' (1 + \alpha'))$ .

From Lemma B.3 and  $t = 2 \lceil \ln(4k/\delta) / (\epsilon' \alpha'^2) \rceil$ , it follows that

$$\sum_{r=1}^t s_i^{(r)} \leq \frac{\ln(4k/\delta) + t\epsilon' \alpha' (1 + \alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} \leq \frac{(1 + 2\alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} t\epsilon' \alpha'. \quad (14)$$

Let  $R_i = \{r \in [t] \mid |\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) - \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})| \leq \alpha' \cdot \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \epsilon'\}$ . For the classifiers of the rounds  $r \in R_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r \in R_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) &\leq \sum_{r \in R_i} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)})}{1 - \alpha'} + \frac{|R_i| \epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\ &\leq \sum_{r \in R_i} \frac{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{\epsilon' \alpha'} \frac{\text{err}_{T_i}(f^{(r)}) \epsilon' \alpha'}{(1 - \alpha') [(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon']} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\ &= \sum_{r \in R_i} \frac{(1 + 3\alpha') \text{err}_{S^{(r)}}(f^{(r)}) + 3\epsilon'}{(1 - \alpha') \epsilon' \alpha'} s_i^{(r)} + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\ &\stackrel{(14)}{\leq} \frac{(1 + 7\alpha') \text{OPT} + 19\epsilon'}{(1 - \alpha') \epsilon' \alpha'} \frac{(1 + 2\alpha')}{1 - \alpha'/2} t\epsilon' \alpha' + \frac{t\epsilon'}{1 - \alpha'} \\ &\leq [(1 + 15\alpha') \text{OPT} + 25\epsilon'] t \end{aligned}$$

which holds for  $\alpha' < 1/15$ .

We will now bound  $|[t] \setminus R_i|$ . For every round  $r$ , let  $m^{(r)}$  be the indicator random variable of the set  $[t] \setminus R_i$  and let  $y^{(r)} = \epsilon' \alpha'$ . It holds that for all rounds  $r$ ,  $|m^{(r)} - y^{(r)}| \leq 1$  and  $m^{(r)}, y^{(r)} \geq 0$ . In addition, from inequality (13) it follows that  $\mathbb{E}[m^{(r)} - y^{(r)} \mid \sum_{r' < r} m^{(r')}, \sum_{r' < r} y^{(r')}] = \epsilon' \alpha' - \epsilon' \alpha' \leq 0$ .

Using [[9], Lemma 10], with  $\varepsilon = 1/2$  and  $A = \epsilon' \alpha'$ , we get that

$$\Pr \left[ \sum_{r=1}^t m^{(r)} \geq 2\epsilon' \alpha' t + 2\epsilon' \alpha' t \right] \leq \exp(-\epsilon' \alpha' t/2) \leq \delta/4k.$$

So  $|[t] \setminus R_i| = \sum_{r=1}^t m^{(r)} \leq 4\epsilon' \alpha' t$  for all  $i$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta/4$ .

Thus, for the expected error it holds that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{r=1}^t \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}{t} &= \frac{\sum_{r \in R_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)}) + \sum_{r \notin R_i} \text{err}_{D_i}(f^{(r)})}{t} \\ &\leq (1 + 15\alpha')\text{OPT} + 25\epsilon' + 4\epsilon'\alpha' \leq (1 + 15\alpha')\text{OPT} + 29\epsilon'. \end{aligned}$$

Having set  $\alpha' = \alpha/15$  and  $\epsilon' = \epsilon/29$  we get that  $\overline{\text{err}}_{D_i}(f_{\text{NR2-AVG}}) \leq (1 + \alpha)\text{OPT} + \epsilon$  with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ .

As for the total number of samples, it is the sum of  $O(\frac{k}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \ln(1/\epsilon'))$  samples and  $O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha'\epsilon'} \left(d \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon'}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta'}\right)\right)\right)$  samples for each round. Because there are  $O(\ln(k/\delta)/\epsilon'\alpha'^2)$  rounds, the total number of samples is

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha^3\epsilon^2} \ln\left(\frac{k}{\delta}\right) \left((d+k) \ln\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)\right)\right).$$

□

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