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# Sidestepping Intractable Inference with Structured Ensemble Cascades

## Supplementary Materials

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### A Video Clips

Included in the supplemental archive is a sample of test results `testset_samples.mp4`:

- The cyan lines indicate the best of the top  $K = 4$  hypotheses for the ensemble; the red lines indicate the best of top  $K = 4$  hypotheses for the single frame SC model.
- The point clouds show the top 150 unfiltered locations for each limb according to the ensemble model.
- The video illustrates the significant *qualitative* increase in accuracy of the ensemble over single-frame methods, eliminating the “jitter” due to the lack of smoothing.

### B Proof of Theorem 1

We prove the theorem by applying the following result from [1]:

**Theorem 1** (Bartlett and Mendelson, 2002). *Consider a loss function  $\mathcal{L}$  and a dominating cost function  $\phi$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(y, x) \leq \phi(y, x)$ . Let  $F : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathcal{A}$  be a class of functions. Then for any integer  $n$  and any  $0 < \delta < 1$ , with probability  $1 - \delta$  over samples of length  $n$ , every  $f$  in  $F$  satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E}\mathcal{L}(Y, f(X)) \leq \hat{\mathbb{E}}_n \phi(Y, f(X)) + R_n(\tilde{\phi} \circ F) + \sqrt{\frac{8 \ln(2/\delta)}{n}}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\tilde{\phi} \circ F$  is a centered composition of  $\phi$  with  $f \in F$ ,  $\tilde{\phi} \circ f = \phi(y, f(X)) - \phi(y, 0)$ .

Furthermore, there are absolute constants  $c$  and  $C$  such that for every class  $F$  and every integer  $n$ ,

$$cR_n(F) \leq G_n(F) \leq C \ln n R_n(F). \quad (2)$$

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $F : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be a class of functions that is the direct sum of real-valued classes  $F_1, \dots, F_m$ . Then, for every integer  $n$  and every sample  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$ ,

$$\hat{G}_n(\tilde{\phi} \circ F) \leq 2L \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{G}_n(F_i). \quad (3)$$

Let  $F = \{x \mapsto \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}(x, \cdot) \mid \|\mathbf{w}\|_2 \leq B, \|\mathbf{f}(x, \cdot)\|_2 \leq 1\}$ . Then,

$$\hat{G}_n(F) \leq \frac{2B}{\sqrt{n}}. \quad (4)$$

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<sup>1</sup>These authors have contributed equally.

Proving the theorem reduces to analyzing the Lipschitz constant of the dominating cost function,

$$\phi(y, \theta_x) = r_\gamma \left( \frac{1}{P} \sum_p \theta_p(x, y) - t_p(x, \alpha) \right).$$

Let  $\phi_p(y, \theta_p) = \theta_p(x, y) - t_p(x, \alpha)$ . If we let  $\theta_x^p$  be a  $m$ -dimensional vector whose elements correspond to the scores of every possible clique assignment given  $\theta_p$ , then we can rewrite  $\phi_p$  as the following:

$$\phi_p(y, \theta_x^p) = \langle y, \theta_x^p \rangle - t(x, \alpha),$$

where we consider  $y$  to be a binary  $m$ -dimensional vector that selects the active clique assignments in the output  $y$ . We now make use of the following lemma from [2]:

**Lemma 1** (Weiss & Taskar, 2010). *Let  $\theta_x$  be a vector of clique assignment scores. Let  $g(\theta_x) = \langle y, \theta_x \rangle - t(x, \alpha)$ . Then  $g(u) - g(v) \leq \sqrt{2\ell} \|u - v\|_2$ .*

**Lemma 2.**  *$\phi(y, \cdot)$  is Lipschitz with constant  $\sqrt{2\ell}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 1, we see that  $\phi_p$  is Lipschitz with constant  $\sqrt{2\ell}$ . Since  $\phi$  is simply the average of  $P$  such functions, the Lipschitz of  $\phi$  must be  $\sqrt{2\ell}$  as well.  $\square$

Finally, to prove the theorem, we note that the loss function  $\mathcal{L}(\theta, \langle X, Y \rangle, \alpha)$  can be represented as a function in  $\mathbb{R}^{mP}$  space by concatenating the clique scoring vectors of each of the  $P$  individual sub-models. Substituting  $mP$  for the dimensionality of the loss function ( $m$  in Theorem 1) yields the desired result.

## References

- [1] P. L. Bartlett and S. Mendelson. Rademacher and Gaussian complexities: Risk bounds and structural results. *JMLR*, 3:463–482, 2002.
- [2] D. Weiss and B. Taskar. Structured prediction cascades. In *Proc. AISTATS*, 2010.