## Part II

# Mathematics of Machine Learning 

Year
2023
2022
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2020

## Paper 1, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) What does it mean for a set $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d}$ to be convex?
(b) What does it mean for a function $f: C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be strictly convex? Show that any minimiser of $f$ must be unique.
(c) Define the projection $\pi_{C}(x)$ of a point $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ onto a closed convex set $C$. Briefly explain why this is unique. [Standard results about convex functions may be used without proof, and you need not show that $\pi_{C}(x)$ always exists.]
(d) Prove that $\pi \in C$ is the projection of $x$ onto a closed convex set $C$ if

$$
(x-\pi)^{T}(z-\pi) \leqslant 0 \quad \text { for all } z \in C .
$$

(e) Let $C$ be a closed convex set given by

$$
C:=\left\{\binom{v}{s} \in \mathbb{R}^{p} \times \mathbb{R}:\|v\|_{2} \leqslant s\right\} .
$$

Using part (d) or otherwise, show that if $(u, t) \in \mathbb{R}^{p} \times \mathbb{R}$ satisfy $\|u\|_{2} \geqslant|t|$ then

$$
\pi_{C}\left(\binom{u}{t}\right)=\frac{1}{2}\left(1+\frac{t}{\|u\|_{2}}\right)\binom{u}{\|u\|_{2}} .
$$

What is $\pi_{C}\left(\binom{u}{t}\right)$ when $\|u\|_{2} \leqslant-t$ ?
(f) Let $C$ be as in (e) and let $\left(X_{i}, Y_{i}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{p+1} \times \mathbb{R}$ for $i=1, \ldots, n$ be data formed of input-output pairs. Write down the projected gradient descent procedure for finding the empirical risk minimiser with squared error loss over the hypothesis class $\mathcal{H}=\left\{h: h(x)=\beta^{T} x\right.$, where $\left.\beta \in C\right\}$, giving explicit forms for any gradients or projections involved.

## Paper 2, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a hypothesis class of functions $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{-1,1\}$ with $|\mathcal{H}|>2$ and $\mathcal{X}=\mathbb{R}^{p}$. Define the shattering coefficient $s(\mathcal{H}, n)$ and the $V C$ dimension $\operatorname{VC}(\mathcal{H})$ of $\mathcal{H}$.
(b) Explain why if $\mathcal{H}_{1}, \mathcal{H}_{2}$ are hypothesis classes as above, then $s\left(\mathcal{H}_{1} \cup \mathcal{H}_{2}, n\right) \leqslant$ $s\left(\mathcal{H}_{1}, n\right)+s\left(\mathcal{H}_{2}, n\right)$.

Let us use the notation that, for a class $\mathcal{F}$ of functions $f: \mathbb{R}^{p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we write

$$
\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}}:=\{h: h(x)=\operatorname{sgn} \circ f(x), \text { where } f \in \mathcal{F}\}
$$

for the class of functions derived through composition with the sgn function.
(c) Now let $\mathcal{F}_{1}:=\left\{f: f(x)=x^{T} \beta\right.$, where $\left.\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{p}\right\}$. Stating any results from the course you need, show that

$$
s\left(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}_{1}}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{p} .
$$

(d) Next for a class $\mathcal{G}$ of functions $g: \mathbb{R}^{p} \rightarrow\{-1,1\}$, define for some fixed $m \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$
\mathcal{F}_{2}:=\left\{f: f(x)=\sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_{j} g_{j}(x), \text { where } g_{j} \in \mathcal{G}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{m}\right\}
$$

Show that if $|\mathcal{G}|<\infty$,

$$
s\left(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}_{2}}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{m}|\mathcal{G}|^{m} .
$$

Show furthermore that even if $|\mathcal{G}|=\infty$, we have

$$
s\left(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}_{2}}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{m} s(\mathcal{G}, n)^{m} .
$$

[Hint: Fix $x_{1: n} \in \mathcal{X}^{n}$ and consider $\mathcal{G}^{\prime}$ with $\left|\mathcal{G}^{\prime}\right| \leqslant s(\mathcal{G}, n)$ and $\mathcal{G}^{\prime}\left(x_{1: n}\right)=\mathcal{G}\left(x_{1: n}\right)$.]
(e) Finally let $\mathcal{F}_{3}$ be the class of functions $f: \mathbb{R}^{p} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by a neural network with a single hidden layer of $m$ nodes and activation function given by sgn. Show that

$$
s\left(\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{F}_{3}}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{(p+1) m} .
$$

## Paper 4, Section II

## 30J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) Let $\left(X_{1}, Y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(X_{n}, Y_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ be input-output pairs with $n \geqslant 4$. Describe the optimisation problem that a regression tree algorithm using a squared error loss splitting criterion would take to find the first split point.
(b) Assuming that the inputs are sorted so that $X_{1}<\cdots<X_{n}$, show that the above may be solved in $O(n)$ computational operations.
(c) Now write down the squared error loss empirical risk minimiser $\hat{f}_{m}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ over $\mathcal{F}:\{x \mapsto \alpha+x \beta: \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \beta \in \mathbb{R}\}$, when trained only on data $\left(X_{1}, Y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(X_{m}, Y_{m}\right)$ for $m \geqslant 2$. [You need not derive it.]
(d) Denote by $\hat{g}_{m}: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ the equivalent of $\hat{f}_{m}$ in part (c) when instead training only on $\left(X_{m+1}, Y_{m+1}\right), \ldots,\left(X_{n}, Y_{n}\right)$ for $m \leqslant n-2$. Show carefully how minimising

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(Y_{i}-\hat{f}_{m}\left(X_{i}\right)\right)^{2}+\sum_{i=m+1}^{n}\left(Y_{i}-\hat{g}_{m}\left(X_{i}\right)\right)^{2}
$$

over $m=2, \ldots, n-2$ may be performed in $O(n)$ computations.

## Paper 1, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) Let $\mathcal{F}$ be a family of functions $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ with $|\mathcal{F}| \geqslant 2$.

Define the shattering coefficient $s(\mathcal{F}, n)$ and the $V C$ dimension $\operatorname{VC}(\mathcal{F})$ of $\mathcal{F}$.
State the Sauer-Shelah lemma.
(b) (i) Let

$$
\mathcal{A}_{1}=\left\{\bigcup_{k=1}^{m}\left[a_{k}, b_{k}\right]: a_{k}, b_{k} \in \mathbb{R} \text { for } k=1, \ldots, m\right\} .
$$

Show that $\mathcal{F}_{1}:=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{A}: A \in \mathcal{A}_{1}\right\}$ satisfies $\operatorname{VC}\left(\mathcal{F}_{1}\right)=m+1$.
(ii) Let $\mathcal{F}_{2}$ be a class of functions from $\mathbb{R}^{p}$ to $\{0,1\}$ given by

$$
\mathcal{F}_{2}:=\left\{x \mapsto \mathbf{1}_{(0, \infty)}\left(\mu+x^{T} \beta\right): \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{p}, \mu \in \mathbb{R}\right\}
$$

Stating any result from the course you need, give an upper bound on $\mathrm{VC}\left(\mathcal{F}_{2}\right)$.
(c) (i) Let $\mathcal{G}$ be a family of functions $g: \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ with $|\mathcal{G}| \geqslant 2$ and define $\mathcal{H}$ to be the set of functions $h: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ for which $h(x, z)=f(x) g(z)$ for some $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $g \in \mathcal{G}$. Show that $s(\mathcal{H}, n) \leqslant s(\mathcal{F}, n) s(\mathcal{G}, n)$.
(ii) Now let $\mathcal{G}$ be a family of functions $g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ with $|\mathcal{G}| \geqslant 2$ and define $\mathcal{H}$ to be the set of functions $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ for which $h(x)=f(x) g(x)$ for some $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $g \in \mathcal{G}$. Show that $s(\mathcal{H}, n) \leqslant s(\mathcal{F}, n) s(\mathcal{G}, n)$.
(d) (i) Let

$$
\mathcal{A}_{3}=\left\{\prod_{j=1}^{p}\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^{m}\left[a_{j k}, b_{j k}\right]\right): a_{j k}, b_{j k} \in \mathbb{R} \text { for } j=1, \ldots, p, k=1, \ldots, m\right\} .
$$

Show that $\mathcal{F}_{3}:=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{A}: A \in \mathcal{A}_{3}\right\}$ satisfies $s\left(\mathcal{F}_{3}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{(m+1) p}$.
(ii) For $m \geqslant 3$, let $\mathcal{A}_{4}$ be the set of all convex polygons in $\mathbb{R}^{2}$ with $m$ sides, and set $\mathcal{F}_{4}:=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{A}: A \in \mathcal{A}_{4}\right\}$. Show that $s\left(\mathcal{F}_{4}, n\right) \leqslant(n+1)^{3 m}$.

## Paper 2, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a)What does it mean for a function $f: \mathcal{Z}_{1} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{Z}_{n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to have the bounded differences property with constants $L_{1}, \ldots, L_{n}$ ?

State the bounded differences inequality.
(b) Let $\mathcal{X}$ and $\mathcal{Y}$ be input and output spaces respectively. Let $H$ be a machine learning algorithm taking as its argument a dataset $D \in(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^{n}$ to output a hypothesis $H_{D}: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For $D=\left(x_{i}, y_{i}\right)_{i=1}^{n} \in(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^{n}$ and $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$, for all $i=1, \ldots, n$ we write

$$
D_{i}(x, y):=\left(\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{i-1}, y_{i-1}\right),(x, y),\left(x_{i+1}, y_{i+1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{n}, y_{n}\right)\right)
$$

Let $\ell: \mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow[0, M]$ be a bounded loss function. Suppose $H$ has the following property: there exists $\beta \geqslant 0$ such that for all $i=1, \ldots, n$ and for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$, we have

$$
\sup _{(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}}\left|\ell\left(H_{D_{i}(x, y)}(\tilde{x}), \tilde{y}\right)-\ell\left(H_{D}(\tilde{x}), \tilde{y}\right)\right| \leqslant \beta .
$$

Let $(X, Y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ be a random input-output pair. Show that $F:(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^{n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$
F\left(\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{n}, y_{n}\right)\right)=\mathbb{E} \ell\left(H_{D}(X), Y\right)-\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell\left(H_{D}\left(x_{i}\right), y_{i}\right)
$$

satisfies a bounded differences property with constants all equal to $2 \beta+M / n$. [In the expectation above, the $\left(x_{i}, y_{i}\right)$ are considered deterministic.]
(c) Now suppose $D=\left(X_{i}, Y_{i}\right)_{i=1}^{n} \in(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^{n}$ is a collection of i.i.d. inputoutput pairs independent of, and each having the same distribution as, $(X, Y)$. Show that $\mathbb{E} F(D) \leqslant \beta$. [Hint: Find an alternative expression for $\mathbb{E} \ell\left(H_{D}(X), Y\right)$ as a sum of expectations with the ith term involving $H_{D_{i}(X, Y)}$.]
(d) Hence conclude that, given $0<\delta \leqslant 1$,

$$
\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell\left(H_{D}\left(X_{i}\right), Y_{i}\right)+\beta+(2 n \beta+M) \sqrt{\frac{\log (1 / \delta)}{2 n}} \geqslant \mathbb{E} \ell\left(H_{D}(X), Y\right)
$$

with probability at least $1-\delta$.

## Paper 4, Section II

## 30J Mathematics of Machine Learning

Throughout this question, you may assume that the optimum is achieved in any relevant optimisation problems, so for instance in part (a) you may assume $\hat{f}$ is welldefined.

Suppose $\left(X_{1}, Y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(X_{n}, Y_{n}\right) \in \mathcal{X} \times\{-1,1\}$ are i.i.d. input-output pairs. Let $\mathcal{B}$ be a set of classifiers $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{-1,1\}$ such that $h \in \mathcal{B} \Rightarrow-h \in \mathcal{B}$.
(a) Write down the Adaboost algorithm using $\mathcal{B}$ as the base set of classifiers with tuning parameter $M$, which produces $\hat{f}: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the form $\hat{f}=\sum_{m=1}^{M} \hat{\beta}_{m} \hat{h}_{m}$ where $\hat{\beta}_{m} \geqslant 0$ and $\hat{h}_{m} \in \mathcal{B}$ for $m=1, \ldots, M$. [You need not derive explicit expressions for $\hat{\beta}_{m}$ or $\hat{h}_{m}$.]
(b) For a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d}$, what is meant by the convex hull, conv $S$ ? What does it mean for a vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ to be a convex combination of vectors $v_{1}, \ldots, v_{m} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ ? State a result relating convex hulls and convex combinations.
(c) Let $\phi$ denote the exponential loss. What is meant by the $\phi$-risk $R_{\phi}(f)$ of $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ? What is the corresponding empirical $\phi$-risk $\hat{R}_{\phi}(f)$ ? Let $x_{1: n} \in \mathcal{X}^{n}$. What is meant by the empirical Rademacher complexity $\hat{\mathcal{R}}\left(\mathcal{B}\left(x_{1: n}\right)\right)$ ?
(d) Consider a modification of the Adaboost algorithm where, if at any iteration $m \leqslant M$ we have $\sum_{k=1}^{m} \hat{\beta}_{k}>1$, we terminate the algorithm and output $\hat{f}:=\sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \hat{\beta}_{k} \hat{h}_{k}$, or the zero function if $m=1$; otherwise we output $\hat{f}=\sum_{k=1}^{M} \hat{\beta}_{k} \hat{h}_{k}$ as usual. Let $r_{\mathcal{B}}=\sup _{x_{1: n} \in \mathcal{X}^{n}} \hat{\mathcal{R}}\left(\mathcal{B}\left(x_{1: n}\right)\right)$. Show that

$$
\mathbb{E} R_{\phi}(\hat{f}) \leqslant \mathbb{E} \hat{R}_{\phi}(\hat{f})+2 \exp (1) r_{\mathcal{B}}
$$

[Hint: Introduce

$$
\mathcal{H}:=\left\{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \beta_{m} h_{m}: \sum_{m=1}^{M} \beta_{m} \leqslant 1, \beta_{m} \geqslant 0, h_{m} \in \mathcal{B} \text { for } m=1, \ldots, M\right\} .
$$

You may use any results from the course without proof, but should state or name any result you use.]

## Paper 1, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

Let $\mathcal{H}$ be a family of functions $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ with $|\mathcal{H}| \geqslant 2$. Define the shattering coefficient $s(\mathcal{H}, n)$ and the $V C$ dimension $\operatorname{VC}(\mathcal{H})$ of $\mathcal{H}$.

Briefly explain why if $\mathcal{H}^{\prime} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ and $\left|\mathcal{H}^{\prime}\right| \geqslant 2$, then $\operatorname{VC}\left(\mathcal{H}^{\prime}\right) \leqslant \mathrm{VC}(\mathcal{H})$.
Prove that if $\mathcal{F}$ is a vector space of functions $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $\mathcal{F}^{\prime} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ and we define

$$
\mathcal{H}=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{\{u: f(u) \leqslant 0\}}: f \in \mathcal{F}^{\prime}\right\},
$$

then $\mathrm{VC}(\mathcal{H}) \leqslant \operatorname{dim}(\mathcal{F})$.
Let $\mathcal{A}=\left\{\left\{x:\|x-c\|_{2}^{2} \leqslant r^{2}\right\}: c \in \mathbb{R}^{d}, r \in[0, \infty)\right\}$ be the set of all spheres in $\mathbb{R}^{d}$. Suppose $\mathcal{H}=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{A}: A \in \mathcal{A}\right\}$. Show that

$$
\mathrm{VC}(\mathcal{H}) \leqslant d+2 .
$$

[Hint: Consider the class of functions $\mathcal{F}^{\prime}=\left\{f_{c, r}: c \in \mathbb{R}^{d}, r \in[0, \infty)\right\}$, where

$$
\left.f_{c, r}(x)=\|x\|_{2}^{2}-2 c^{T} x+\|c\|_{2}^{2}-r^{2} .\right]
$$

## Paper 2, Section II

## 31J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) What is meant by the subdifferential $\partial f(x)$ of a convex function $f: \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ at $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$ ? Write down the subdifferential $\partial f(x)$ of the function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x)=\gamma|x|$, where $\gamma>0$.

Show that $x$ minimises $f$ if and only if $0 \in \partial f(x)$.
What does it mean for a function $f: \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be strictly convex? Show that any minimiser of a strictly convex function must be unique.
(b) Suppose we have input-output pairs $\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{n}, y_{n}\right) \in\{-1,1\}^{p} \times\{-1,1\}$ with $p \geqslant 2$. Consider the objective function

$$
f(\beta)=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp \left(-y_{i} x_{i}^{T} \beta\right)+\gamma\|\beta\|_{1},
$$

where $\beta=\left(\beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{p}\right)^{T}$ and $\gamma>0$. Assume that $\left(y_{i}\right)_{i=1}^{n} \neq\left(x_{i 1}\right)_{i=1}^{n}$. Fix $\beta_{2}, \ldots, \beta_{p}$ and define

$$
\kappa_{1}=\sum_{\substack{1 \leqslant i \leqslant n: \\ x_{i 1} \neq y_{i}}} \exp \left(-y_{i} \eta_{i}\right) \quad \text { and } \quad \kappa_{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp \left(-y_{i} \eta_{i}\right)
$$

where $\eta_{i}=\sum_{j=2}^{p} x_{i j} \beta_{j}$ for $i=1, \ldots, n$. Show that if $\left|2 \kappa_{1}-\kappa_{2}\right| \leqslant \gamma$, then

$$
\operatorname{argmin}_{\beta_{1} \in \mathbb{R}} f\left(\beta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \ldots, \beta_{p}\right)=0
$$

[You may use any results from the course without proof, other than those whose proof is asked for directly.]

## Paper 4, Section II

## 30J Mathematics of Machine Learning

Let $D=\left(x_{i}, y_{i}\right)_{i=1}^{n}$ be a dataset of $n$ input-output pairs lying in $\mathbb{R}^{p} \times[-M, M]$ for $M \in \mathbb{R}$. Describe the random-forest algorithm as applied to $D$ using decision trees $\left(\hat{T}^{(b)}\right)_{b=1}^{B}$ to produce a fitted regression function $f_{\mathrm{rf}}$. [You need not explain in detail the construction of decision trees, but should describe any modifications specific to the random-forest algorithm.]

Briefly explain why for each $x \in \mathbb{R}^{p}$ and $b=1, \ldots, B$, we have $\hat{T}^{(b)}(x) \in[-M, M]$.
State the bounded-differences inequality.
Treating $D$ as deterministic, show that with probability at least $1-\delta$,

$$
\sup _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{p}}\left|f_{\mathrm{rf}}(x)-\mu(x)\right| \leqslant M \sqrt{\frac{2 \log (1 / \delta)}{B}}+\mathbb{E}\left(\sup _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{p}}\left|f_{\mathrm{rf}}(x)-\mu(x)\right|\right)
$$

where $\mu(x):=\mathbb{E} f_{\mathrm{rf}}(x)$.
[Hint: Treat each $\hat{T}^{(b)}$ as a random variable taking values in an appropriate space $\mathcal{Z}$ (of functions), and consider a function $G$ satisfying

$$
\left.G\left(\hat{T}^{(1)}, \ldots, \hat{T}^{(B)}\right)=\sup _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{p}}\left|f_{\mathrm{rf}}(x)-\mu(x)\right| \cdot\right]
$$

## Paper 2, Section II

## 30J Mathematics of Machine Learning

(a) Let $\mathcal{F}$ be a family of functions $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$. What does it mean for $x_{1: n} \in \mathcal{X}^{n}$ to be shattered by $\mathcal{F}$ ? Define the shattering coefficient $s(\mathcal{F}, n)$ and the $V C$ dimension $\mathrm{VC}(\mathcal{F})$ of $\mathcal{F}$.

Let

$$
\mathcal{A}=\left\{\prod_{j=1}^{d}\left(-\infty, a_{j}\right]: a_{1}, \ldots, a_{d} \in \mathbb{R}\right\}
$$

and set $\mathcal{F}=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{A}: A \in \mathcal{A}\right\}$. Compute $\operatorname{VC}(\mathcal{F})$.
(b) State the Sauer-Shelah lemma.
(c) Let $\mathcal{F}_{1}, \ldots, \mathcal{F}_{r}$ be families of functions $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow\{0,1\}$ with finite VC dimension $v \geqslant 1$. Now suppose $x_{1: n}$ is shattered by $\cup_{k=1}^{r} \mathcal{F}_{k}$. Show that

$$
2^{n} \leqslant r(n+1)^{v}
$$

Conclude that for $v \geqslant 3$,

$$
\mathrm{VC}\left(\cup_{k=1}^{r} \mathcal{F}_{k}\right) \leqslant 4 v \log _{2}(2 v)+2 \log _{2}(r) .
$$

[You may use without proof the fact that if $x \leqslant \alpha+\beta \log _{2}(x+1)$ with $\alpha>0$ and $\beta \geqslant 3$, then $x \leqslant 4 \beta \log _{2}(2 \beta)+2 \alpha$ for $x \geqslant 1$.]
(d) Now let $\mathcal{B}$ be the collection of subsets of $\mathbb{R}^{p}$ of the form of a product $\prod_{j=1}^{p} A_{j}$ of intervals $A_{j}$, where exactly $d \in\{1, \ldots, p\}$ of the $A_{j}$ are of the form $\left(-\infty, a_{j}\right]$ for $a_{j} \in \mathbb{R}$ and the remaining $p-d$ intervals are $\mathbb{R}$. Set $\mathcal{G}=\left\{\mathbf{1}_{B}: B \in \mathcal{B}\right\}$. Show that when $d \geqslant 3$,

$$
\mathrm{VC}(\mathcal{G}) \leqslant 2 d\left[2 \log _{2}(2 d)+\log _{2}(p)\right] .
$$

## Paper 4, Section II

## 30J Mathematics of Machine Learning

Suppose we have input-output pairs $\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(x_{n}, y_{n}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{p} \times\{-1,1\}$. Consider the empirical risk minimisation problem with hypothesis class

$$
\mathcal{H}=\left\{x \mapsto x^{T} \beta: \beta \in C\right\},
$$

where $C$ is a non-empty closed convex subset of $\mathbb{R}^{p}$, and logistic loss

$$
\ell(h(x), y)=\log _{2}\left(1+e^{-y h(x)}\right),
$$

for $h \in \mathcal{H}$ and $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{p} \times\{-1,1\}$.
(i) Show that the objective function $f$ of the optimisation problem is convex.
(ii) Let $\pi_{C}(x)$ denote the projection of $x$ onto $C$. Describe the procedure of stochastic gradient descent (SGD) for minimisation of $f$ above, giving explicit forms for any gradients used in the algorithm.
(iii) Suppose $\hat{\beta}$ minimises $f(\beta)$ over $\beta \in C$. Suppose $\max _{i=1, \ldots, n}\left\|x_{i}\right\|_{2} \leqslant M$ and $\sup _{\beta \in C}\|\beta\|_{2} \leqslant R$. Prove that the output $\bar{\beta}$ of $k$ iterations of the SGD algorithm with some fixed step size $\eta$ (which you should specify), satisfies

$$
\mathbb{E} f(\bar{\beta})-f(\hat{\beta}) \leqslant \frac{2 M R}{\log (2) \sqrt{k}} .
$$

(iv) Now suppose that the step size at iteration $s$ is $\eta_{s}>0$ for each $s=1, \ldots, k$. Show that, writing $\beta_{s}$ for the sth iterate of SGD, we have

$$
\mathbb{E} f(\tilde{\beta})-f(\hat{\beta}) \leqslant \frac{A_{2} M^{2}}{2 A_{1}\{\log (2)\}^{2}}+\frac{2 R^{2}}{A_{1}},
$$

where

$$
\tilde{\beta}=\frac{1}{A_{1}} \sum_{s=1}^{k} \eta_{s} \beta_{s}, \quad A_{1}=\sum_{s=1}^{k} \eta_{s} \quad \text { and } \quad A_{2}=\sum_{s=1}^{k} \eta_{s}^{2} .
$$

[You may use standard properties of convex functions and projections onto closed convex sets without proof provided you state them.]

