

Errata for “Concentration inequalities: a nonasymptotic
theory of independence”
by Stéphane Boucheron, Gábor Lugosi, and Pascal Massart
Oxford University Press, 2013

November 17, 2015

- page 7, l. 15. replace “to the sub-Gaussian tail bound” by “the sub-Gaussian tail bound”. (Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin)
- page 30, line 4 in the proof of Theorem 2.3: $\frac{e^{-t}}{t}$ should be e^{-t} . (Pointed out by Kengo Kato and Songfeng Zheng.)
- page 30, line 7 in the proof of Theorem 2.3: e^{-t} should be e^{-t}/t . (Pointed out by Songfeng Zheng.)
- page 41, l. 6. replace “and indeed, W is an isoperimetry from \mathbb{R}^D into $L_{2,d}$.” by “and indeed, in expectation, W is an isoperimetry from \mathbb{R}^D into $L_{2,d}$.” (Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 42, third displayed equation should read:

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \sup_{\alpha \in T} \left| \sum_{i=1}^d (W_i(\alpha)^2 - 1) \right| \geq \sqrt{8vdt} + 4vt \right\} \leq 2Ne^{-t} \leq n^2 e^{-t} .$$

(there is an unnecessary square in the sum. Pointed out by Sohail Bahmani.)

- page 42, in the fourth displayed equation

$$8v \left(\sqrt{d \log \frac{n}{\sqrt{\delta}}} \right)$$

should be replaced by

$$8v \left(\sqrt{d \log \frac{n}{\sqrt{\delta}}} \right) + 8v \log \frac{n}{\sqrt{\delta}}$$

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, Sasha Rakhlin, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 42, in the fifth and sixth displayed equations

$$\sqrt{\frac{8v \log(n/\sqrt{\delta})}{d}}$$

should be replaced by

$$8v \sqrt{\frac{\log(n/\sqrt{\delta})}{d}}$$

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 49, Exercise 2.18, line 5: the lower bound for n is e^{1+e^2} rather than e^3 . (Pointed out by Sohail Bahmani.)
- page 54, line -3: replace the displayed fomula by

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^n \inf_{Z_i} \mathbf{E} \left[(Z - Z_i)^2 \right] ,$$

(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)

- page 67, line 10: on the right-hand side of the displayed equation, the square should be outside of the parentheses. It should read

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (Z - Z_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left((f(X) - f(\bar{X}^{(i)}))^2 \right)$$

(Pointed out by Laci Györfi and Sasha Rakhlin.)

- page 104, line 7, end of proof of Theorem 4.20: the right-hand side of the display should be $h(a, p)$ instead of $h(p, a)$.
- page 104: the left-hand side inequality in Theorem 4.21 (i.e., $a \leq h(a, (1-a)/N)$) is not true. The correct form of Birgé’s inequality is

$$h\left(a, \frac{1-a}{N}\right) \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N D(\mathbf{P}_i \| \mathbf{P}_o)$$

(pointed out by Sergio Verdú).

- page 132, line 13: replace D by Δ . Thus, it should read “the condition $d \geq \kappa(\Delta + \log(2/\delta))\epsilon^{-2}$ is satisfied”
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 179, line -8: replace $\frac{\phi(\lambda)}{\mathbb{E}e^{\lambda Z}}$ by $\frac{\phi(\lambda)}{\lambda^2 \mathbb{E}e^{\lambda Z}}$

- page 179, line -7: replace $v\phi(\lambda)$ by $\frac{v\phi(\lambda)}{\lambda^2}$
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 191, line -6: replace $f(x) - f_i(x^{(i)}) \leq 1$ by $0 \leq f(x) - f_i(x^{(i)}) \leq 1$
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 217, line 5: replace $f_{A(x)=d(x,A)}$ by $f_A(x) = d(x, A)$
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 258: in equation (8.8) replace $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1}$ by $\sum_{i=1}^{k-1}$
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 284, last display before Theorem 9.17: the denominator should be $2c(p)p(1-p)$ instead of $2c(p)/(p(1-p))$. (Pointed out by Santosh Kumar.)
- page 284, display of Theorem 9.17: the denominator should be $c(p)p(1-p)$ instead of $c(p)/(p(1-p))$
- page 285, last display: all three occurrences of $c(p)/(p(1-p))$ in the denominators should be replaced by $c(p)p(1-p)$.
- page 286, first line: $c(p)/(p(1-p)) \leq 1/2$ should be replaced by $c(p)p(1-p) \leq 1/2$.
- page 291, lines 3-4: “minimal volume among those with a given surface area” should be replaced by “minimal surface area among those with a given volume”
(Pointed out by Sasha Rakhlin.)
- page 301, last line: a factor of p is missing from the left-hand side of the display; it should be $pI^P(A)$.
- page 303, line -3: $\epsilon_{i,j}$ should be $\epsilon_{1,j}$.
- page 324, statement of Theorem 11.6: “let $\phi_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a Lipschitz function” should be “let $\phi_i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a 1-Lipschitz function”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng).
- page 324, line 15: replace $(\alpha_i x_i, \dots, \alpha_n x_n)$ by $(\alpha_1 x_1, \dots, \alpha_n x_n)$.
- page 328, statement of Theorem 11.8: on the right hand side of the display “ $8\mathbf{E}Z$ ” should be replaced by “ $8\mathbf{E} \sup_{s \in \mathcal{T}} |\sum_{i=1}^n X_{i,s}|$ ”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng).
- page 332, line 1: “ $Z_j < s$ for all $j < k$ ” should be “ $Z_j < t$ for all $j < k$ ”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)
- page 334, statement of Theorem 11.17: “ $Z = \sup_{s \in \mathcal{T}} \sum_{i=1}^n X_{i,s}$ ” should be replaced by “ $Z = \sup_{s \in \mathcal{T}} |\sum_{i=1}^n X_{i,s}|$ ”. The right-hand side in the upper bound should be

$$\sigma^2 + 16\sqrt{\mathbf{E}M}\mathbf{E}Z + 2 \times 18^2 \mathbf{E}M.$$

- page 338, Exercise 11.11, line 3: “denote a Lipschitz function” should be “denote a 1-Lipschitz function”.
- page 343, line -9: the right-hand side of the displayed equation should be

$$\frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda} \left(\Sigma^2 (e^\lambda - 1) + \lambda \sigma^2 \right)$$

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 344, statement of Theorem 12.3: replace “ $e^{-t/4}$ ” by “ $e^{1-t/4}$ ” on the right-hand side of both the second and third displayed equations.
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 345, line 2: replace “ $e^{-\gamma t}$ ” by “ $e^{1-\gamma t}$ ” on the right-hand side of the displayed equation.
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 345, line -8: “ $W' = \sup_{s \in \mathcal{T}} (X_{i,s} - X'_{i,s})^2$ ” should be replaced by $W' = \sup_{s \in \mathcal{T}} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_{i,s} - X'_{i,s})^2$.
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 346, last line: the displayed equation should be

$$\mathbf{P} \left\{ Z \geq \mathbf{E}Z + 7\sqrt{t\Sigma^2} + 3t \right\} \leq 5e^{-t/4}.$$

- page 367, line 12: “ $\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} f(x)e^{-a\|x\|^2} = 0$ and $X = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$ ” should be replaced by “ $\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} F(x)e^{-a\|x\|^2} = 0$ and $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ ”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng and Sasha Rakhlin.)

- page 375, line -14: “ $\sum_{j=1}^d (u^T g_{i,j})^2 = 1$ ” should be replaced by “ $\sum_{j=1}^d (u^T g_{i,j})^2 \leq 1$ ”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 381, line -1: “ $16\epsilon_*$ ” should be “ $20\epsilon_*$ ”.

- page 382, line -1: “ $16\epsilon_*$ ” should be “ $20\epsilon_*$ ”.

- page 383, first display, second line: “ $\dots (2+16\epsilon_*) \leq 12\epsilon_*$ ” should be “ $\dots (2+20\epsilon_*) \leq 15\epsilon_*$ ”

- page 383, line 15: “ $d \geq 20(16^2 d \epsilon_*^2 + \log(2/\delta)) \epsilon^{-2}$ ” should be replaced by “ $d \geq 20(20^2 d \epsilon_*^2 + \log(2/\delta)) \epsilon^{-2}$ ”

- page 384, line -12: replace “ $Z = d \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}} \|W(\alpha)\|$ ” by “ $Z = \sqrt{d} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}} \|W(\alpha)\|$ ”
(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 388, line -7: replace $4\psi(r)$ by $6\psi(r)$ on the right-hand side of the displayed equation.
(Pointed out by Kevin Jamieson.)

- page 394, line 8: Let r_* be the nonnegative solution of $\sqrt{nr^2} = \phi(\rho(r))$. (The equation is missing the = sign.)

(Pointed out by Kevin Jamieson.)

- page 402, in the hint to Exercise 13.13, the set $\{(x, t) : f(x) \leq t < f'(x) \wedge f'(x) \leq t < f(x)\}$ should be defined as $\{(x, t) : f(x) \leq t < f'(x) \vee f'(x) \leq t < f(x)\}$. Also, replace “Theorem 13.6” by “Lemma 13.6”

(Pointed out by Fabian Gieringer.)

- page 414, last line: “ $Y_2 = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ ” should be “ $Y_2 = (X_2, \dots, X_n)$ ”

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 432, lines 3-4: replace “The lemma follows by taking $\phi(x) = x^{q/\alpha}$ and applying Theorem 14.6 with $f(z) = z^\alpha$ ” by “The lemma follows by taking $\Phi(x) = x^{q/\alpha}$ and applying Theorem 14.6 with $\eta(z) = z^\alpha$ ”

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 433, line 8: replace $q \in [k + 1, k + 2)$ by $q \in [k, k + 1)$

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 435, line -4: replace the displayed equation

$$\|(Z - \mathbb{E}Z)_+\| \leq \sqrt{2\|V^+\|_1} \leq \sqrt{2\kappa_q \|V^+\|_{1 \vee q/2}}$$

by

$$\|(Z - \mathbb{E}Z)_+\| \leq \sqrt{\|V^+\|_1} \leq \sqrt{2\kappa_q \|V^+\|_{1 \vee q/2} (1 - 1/q)}$$

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 444, line -4: “Lemma 11.17” should be “Theorem 11.17”

(Pointed out by Kengo Kato, Lam Pham, and Songfeng Zheng.)

- page 461, line 9: The authors of “Inequalities” are G.H. Hardy, J.E. Littlewood, and G. Pólya (pointed out by Yuval Peres).