

Appendix A

Consider the Thompson samples $\theta_{i,t}$, $i = 1, \dots, N$ for any round indexed by t . The samples for stationary optimal arm 1 and stationary suboptimal arm i are denoted by $\theta_{1,t}$ and $\theta_{i,t}$ respectively. Let $M_i(t)$ denote the event

$$M_i(t) : \begin{cases} \theta_{j,t} \leq \kappa_j, j \notin \{1, 2, i\}, \text{ and} \\ \kappa_2 < \theta_{2,t} \leq \mu_2, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where we choose thresholds such that $\kappa_2 > \eta$. Consider the probability of the event where suboptimal arm i is selected under the filtration \mathcal{F}_{t-1} and the Thompson sample $\theta_{i,t}$ such that E_i^θ is true, i.e., $\Pr(i(t) = i | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1})$. We have that arm i is a part of the optimal solution only if arm 1 is below the threshold κ_1 , all other stationary arms are below their respective thresholds κ_j , $j \notin \{1, 2, i\}$, and the stationary optimal arm 2 is above κ_2 (in which case at least some of the optimal solutions are supported by arms i and 2). Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(i(t) = i | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) &\leq \Pr(i(t) = i, \theta_{1,t} < \kappa_1, M_i(t) | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \\ &= (1 - p_{i,t}) \Pr(M_i(t) | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where the second step follows from the independence of events conditional on the filtration \mathcal{F}_{t-1} .

Next, we bound the probability of selecting arm 1. We observe that, conditioned on $M_i(t)$ and E_i^θ , arm 1 forms a part of the optimal solution at time t along with arm 2. Further, the probability mass assigned to arm 1 is $(\theta_{2,t} - \eta) / (\theta_{2,t} - \theta_{1,t})$. For any Thompson samples such that $\theta_2 > \kappa_2$ and $\theta_1 > \kappa_1$, the probability mass assigned to arm 1 is at least $(\kappa_2 - \eta) / (\kappa_2 - \kappa_1) = \epsilon_{1,i}$. Consequently, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(i(t) = 1 | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) &\geq \Pr(i(t) = 1, M_i(t) | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \\ &= \Pr(M_i(t) | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \cdot \Pr(i(t) = 1 | M_i(t), E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \\ &\geq \epsilon_{1,i} \cdot p_{i,t} \cdot \Pr(M_i(t) | E_i^\theta(t), \mathcal{F}_{t-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Combining (2) and (3) we get the desired result.

Appendix B

Similar to the approach in [Agrawal and Goyal, 2013], we bound the number of plays of any suboptimal arm in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[k_i(T)] &= \sum_{t=1}^T \Pr(i(t) = i) \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T \Pr(i(t) = i, E_i^\mu(t), E_i^\theta(t)) \\ &\quad + \sum_{t=1}^T \Pr(i(t) = i, E_i^\mu(t), \overline{E_i^\theta(t)}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{t=1}^T \Pr(i(t) = i, \overline{E_i^\mu(t)}) \end{aligned}$$

The last two terms of this expression are upper bounded by (17) and (16) respectively. Then, following the approach in [Agrawal and Goyal, 2013], we bound the first term of the expression above using Lemma 1, where we exploit the fact that the number of plays of arm i are a linear function of the number of plays of arm 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^T \Pr(i(t) = i, E_i^\mu(t), E_i^\theta(t)) &= \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\Pr(i(t) = i, E_i^\mu(t), E_i^\theta(t) | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1 - p_{i,t}}{\epsilon_{1,i} \cdot p_{i,t}} \Pr(i(t) = 1, E_i^\mu(t), E_i^\theta(t) | \mathcal{F}_{t-1}) \right] \\ &= \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1 - p_{i,t}}{\epsilon_{1,i} \cdot p_{i,t}} I(i(t) = 1, E_i^\mu(t), E_i^\theta(t)) \right] \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_{1,i} \cdot p_{i,\tau_k+1}} - 1 \right) \sum_{t=\tau_k+1}^{\tau_{k+1}} I(i(t) = 1) \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon_{1,i} \cdot p_{i,\tau_k+1}} - 1 \right], \end{aligned}$$

where I is the indicator function, and we have used the fact that $\epsilon_{1,i}$ is independent of the history of plays. From (18), we have an upper bound on $\mathbb{E}(\frac{1}{p_{i,\tau_j+1}})$. By collecting the upper bounds from (16), (17), and (18), we directly obtain Lemma 2.

