

EVALUATION  
**ONLINE LEARNING**  
LINKS WITH OPTIMIZATION AND GAMES  
UNIVERSITÉ PARIS–SACLAY



SPARSE BANDITS

Let  $1 \leq s \leq d$  be integers. Consider the multi-armed bandit problem ( $\mathcal{X} = \Delta_d$ ) and assume that each payoff vector from sequence  $(u_t)_{t \geq 0}$  has at most  $s$  nonzero components.

- If payoff vectors are assumed to be in  $[-1, 0]^d$ , [KP16, Theorem 11] establish a regret bound of order  $\sqrt{T s \log(d/s)}$ .
- If payoff vectors are assumed to be in  $[0, 1]^d$ , [BCL18, Theorem 1] establish a regret bound of order  $\sqrt{T s \log d}$

*Rewrite the statements and proofs of those results<sup>1</sup> using the notation and tools from the course.*



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<sup>1</sup>Papers are available at

- <https://www.jmlr.org/papers/volume17/15-503/15-503.pdf>
- <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1711.01037.pdf>

## REFERENCES

- [BCL18] Sébastien Bubeck, Michael Cohen, and Yuanzhi Li. Sparsity, variance and curvature in multi-armed bandits. In *Algorithmic Learning Theory*, pages 111–127. PMLR, 2018.
- [KP16] Joon Kwon and Vianney Perchet. Gains and losses are fundamentally different in regret minimization: The sparse case. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 17(229):1–32, 2016.