

# Correction to “Exploiting Channel Memory for Joint Estimation and Scheduling in Downlink Networks - a Whittles Indexability Analysis”

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In the above paper [1], in Proposition 2, case (iii), it was argued that since reward functions  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  are convex with inequality orders reversed at the ends of the support space:  $\pi \in [0, 1]$ , they must intersect only once. In general, however, we may carefully construct pairs of convex functions such as  $(x^2, x^2 - \sin(x))$  that intersect multiple times.

In this addendum, we address this and make rigorous the proof of Proposition 2, case (iii) for a certain class of scheduling system parameters and conjecture that the uniqueness of intersection holds for general cases as well.

## I. PRELIMINARIES

The reward functions in the Whittle’s indexability framework are recalled from [1] first. Total reward upon ‘idle’ action in current slot and optimal actions in future slots is given by,

$$V_\omega^0(\pi) = \omega + \beta V_\omega(Q(\pi)).$$

Total reward upon ‘transmit’ action in current slot and optimal actions in future slots is given by,

$$V_\omega^1(\pi) = R(\pi) + \beta[\pi V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi)V_\omega(r)],$$

where, recall from [1] that,  $Q(\pi) = \pi(p - r) + r$  is the belief-evolution function;  $R(\pi)$  is the immediate reward;  $p, r$  are Markov channel parameters;  $\omega$  is the subsidy for idle decision and  $\beta$  is the discount factor.

## II. ASSUMPTIONS

We consider a class of scheduling system parameters that satisfy the following assumptions.

1. The channels are positively correlated, i.e.,  $p_i > r_i$  for each user  $i$  in the original multi-user scheduling problem. For ease of exposition, we drop the subscript  $i$  in the following.
2. Immediate reward  $R(\pi)$  has the following structural properties. For any  $\pi_1, \pi_2$  such that  $0 \leq \pi_1 < \pi_2 \leq 1$ ,
  - a.  $R(\pi_2) > R(\pi_1)$ , i.e.,  $R(\pi)$  strictly increases in  $\pi$ .
  - b.  $R(\pi_2) - R(\pi_1) > \beta(R(Q(\pi_2)) - R(Q(\pi_1)))$ . This is *contraction mapping* with  $Q(\pi) = (p - r)\pi + r$  being the contraction or contractor on metric space  $\pi \in [0, 1]$ , with distance measure  $d(\pi_2, \pi_1) = |R(\pi_2) - R(\pi_1)|$ .

### Comments on the Assumptions:

We now discuss the implications and prevalence of scheduling systems that satisfy Assumption 1-2.

Assumption 1: This covers a large class of fading channels where channel condition can be expected to evolve in a smooth fashion across time-slots. Assumption 2a: Note that from Lemma 1(a) in [1],  $R(\pi)$  is already proven to be an increasing function of  $\pi$ . We have added the strict monotonicity in this assumption. This is also intuitive and expected to cover a large class of estimator - rate adapter pairs, as any increase in belief,  $\pi$ , can be expected to translate to a non-zero increase in the immediate reward. Assumption 2b:  $R(\pi)$  is established to be convex in Lemma 1(a) in [1]. Recall that  $\pi^0$  denotes the steady state probability of being in state  $h$ . Thus for  $0 \leq \pi^0 < \pi_1 < \pi_2 \leq 1$ , it is directly shown that  $R(\pi_1) - R(\pi_2) > \beta(R(Q(\pi_1)) - R(Q(\pi_2)))$ , since  $\pi_1 - \pi_2 > Q(\pi_1) - Q(\pi_2)$ ,  $\pi_2 > Q(\pi_2)$ ,  $\pi_1 > Q(\pi_1)$ . The assumption covers the remaining pairs of  $(\pi_1, \pi_2)$ , thereby imposing a contraction mapping on a measure of  $R(\pi)$ .

### Existence of Estimator - Rate Adapter Pairs:

We will now demonstrate that there exists estimator - rate adapter pairs that satisfy Assumption 2b. We proceed to construct one such estimator - rate adapter pair. Note from Lemma 1 in [1] that,  $R(\pi)$  is a point-wise maximum over a family of linear functions, each of which represent the immediate reward of a unique estimator-rate adapter pair. Construct an cumulative estimator - rate adapter pair  $U_c(\pi)$  such that

$$U_c(\pi) = \begin{cases} u_0(\pi), & \text{if } \pi \in [0, \pi^0]. \\ u^*(\pi), & \text{if } \pi \in (\pi^0, 1]. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\pi^0$  is the steady state probability of channel being in high-state.  $u_0(\pi)$  is a unique estimator - rate adapter pair that is linear and monotonically increasing in  $\pi$ . This could be chosen with an objective such as: maximize immediate reward for  $\pi$  close to 0. Further,  $u^*(\pi)$  is the *optimal* estimator - rate adapter pair at  $\pi$ . Now consider the following 3 cases for the pair  $(\pi_1, \pi_2)$ .

- Case 1.  $0 \leq \pi_1 < \pi_2 \leq \pi^0$ : Since  $U_c(\pi) = u_0(\pi)$  in this range of  $\pi$ , we have  $U_c(\pi)$  is linear and strictly increasing in  $\pi$  within which contraction mapping in Assumption 2b strictly holds.
- Case 2.  $0 \leq \pi_1 \leq \pi^0 < \pi_2$ : It is easily shown that  $Q(\pi_1) \in [\pi_1, \pi^0]$  and  $Q(\pi_2) \in (\pi^0, \pi_2]$ . Along with the fact that  $R(\pi)$  is strictly increasing in  $\pi$ , ontraction mapping in Assumption 2b is established.
- Case 3.  $0 \leq \pi^0 \leq \pi_1 < \pi_2 \leq 1$ : As noted within Assumption 2b, the contraction mapping readily holds for this case using Lemma 1a in [1].

This demonstrates the existence of estimator - rate adapter pairs that satisfy Assumption 2b.

We now proceed with the proof.

### III. CLAIM

Reward functions  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  intersect at most once in the region  $\pi \in [0, 1]$  under Assumptions 1 and 2.

#### Proof Approach:

We prove the claim by contradiction. Suppose there are multiple intersections, denoted as  $\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n$  with  $0 \leq \pi_1 < \pi_2 < \dots < \pi_n \leq 1$  and  $n \geq 3$ , we prove the Claim by considering the following four exhaustive cases based on steady state probability,  $\pi^0$ . Note that if there are more than one intersections, there must be at least three intersections since the relationship of  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  is reversed at the end points 0 and 1 as established in Proposition 2 in [1].

- Case 1: The value of  $\pi^0$  is less than all intersections, i.e.,  $0 \leq \pi^0 < \pi_1$ .
- Case 2: The value of  $\pi_1 \leq \pi^0 < \pi_n$ , and  $\pi^0$  is within active region, i.e.,  $V_\omega^1(\pi^0) > V_\omega^0(\pi^0)$  if  $\pi^0 \notin \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\}$ ;  $V_\omega^1(\pi^0) = V_\omega^0(\pi^0)$  if  $\pi^0 \in \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\}$
- Case 3: The value of  $\pi_1 \leq \pi^0 < \pi_n$ , and  $\pi^0$  is within idle region, i.e.,  $V_\omega^1(\pi^0) < V_\omega^0(\pi^0)$  if  $\pi^0 \notin \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\}$ ;  $V_\omega^1(\pi^0) = V_\omega^0(\pi^0)$  if  $\pi^0 \in \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n\}$
- Case 4: The value of  $\pi^0$  is greater than all intersections, i.e.,  $\pi^0 \geq \pi_n$ .

First, we establish the following structural property of reward functions.

#### Lemma 1.

$$\begin{aligned} V_\omega(\pi_a) &\geq V_\omega(\pi_b) \quad \forall \pi_a > \pi_b \\ V_\omega^1(\pi_a) &> V_\omega^1(\pi_b) \quad \forall \pi_a > \pi_b \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Similar to the proof of Proposition 1 in [1], we let  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(\pi)$  be the optimal reward function at time  $t$  for  $M$ -stage finite horizon problem. Similarly, let  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t}^1(\pi)$  (or  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t}^0(\pi)$ ) be the reward function upon transmit (or idle) and then optimal decisions for the  $M$ -stage finite horizon problem, and let  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t}^1(\pi)$  be the corresponding reward at time  $t$ .

Then at time  $M$ , the Lemma holds since  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,M}(\pi_a) = R(\pi_a) > R(\pi_b) = \tilde{V}_{\omega,M}(\pi_b)$ . Similarly,  $\hat{V}_{\omega,M}^1(\pi_a) = R(\pi_a) > R(\pi_b) = \hat{V}_{\omega,M}^1(\pi_b)$ . Here  $R(\pi_a) > R(\pi_b)$  follows from Assumption 2a.

Suppose at time  $t$ ,  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(\pi_a) \geq \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(\pi_b)$  and  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t}^1(\pi_a) > \hat{V}_{\omega,t}^1(\pi_b)$ .

Then at time  $t-1$ , we have  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t-1}(\pi) = \max\{\hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^0(\pi), \hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^1(\pi)\}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^0(\pi) &= \omega + \beta \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(p\pi + (1-\pi)r) \\ \hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^1(\pi) &= R(\pi) + \beta \cdot [\pi \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(p) + (1-\pi) \hat{V}_{\omega,t}(r)] \\ &= R(\pi) + \beta \cdot [\pi [\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(p) - \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(r)] + \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(r)] \end{aligned}$$

Note that since  $(p-r)\pi$  increases with  $\pi$  and  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(\pi)$  increases with  $\pi$  (induction), we have  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^0(\pi)$  increases with  $\pi$ .

Since  $R(\pi)$  strictly increases with  $\pi$  (from Assumption 2a) and  $\pi[\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(p) - \tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(r)]$  increases with  $\pi$  (induction), we have  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t-1}^1(\pi)$  strictly increases with  $\pi$ .

Therefore  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t-1}(\pi)$  increases with  $\pi$  as maximum of two increasing functions of  $\pi$ . Using induction on  $\hat{V}_{\omega,t}^1(\pi)$  and  $\tilde{V}_{\omega,t}(\pi)$ , the lemma is thus established.  $\square$

Recall from proof of Proposition 1 in [1], the following relation between  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  at extremes of belief values:

$$\begin{aligned} V_\omega^0(0) &> V_\omega^1(0) \\ V_\omega^0(1) &< V_\omega^1(1) \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Thus, with  $\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n$  indicating the multiple intersections, we have

$$\begin{aligned} V_\omega^0(\pi) &> V_\omega^1(\pi), \forall \pi \in [0, \pi_1) \\ V_\omega^0(\pi) &< V_\omega^1(\pi), \forall \pi \in (\pi_n, 1]. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

#### IV. CASE 1

In this case, all the intersections of  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  are greater than  $\pi^0$ . We then have  $\pi^0 < \pi_1 < \pi_2 < \dots$ . Note that at the first intersection  $\pi_1$  we have  $V_\omega^0(\pi) = V_\omega^1(\pi)$  and

$$V_\omega^0(\pi_1) = \omega + \beta\omega + \beta^2\omega + \dots = \frac{\omega}{1-\beta} \quad (4)$$

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_1) = R(\pi_1) + \beta \cdot [\pi_1 V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi_1)V_\omega(r)], \quad (5)$$

where the expression of  $V_\omega^0(\pi_1)$  holds because if it is optimal to stay idle at  $\pi_1$  at one slot, then it will be optimal to stay idle forever since  $Q^k(\pi_1) < \pi_1$  and from (3) it is also in idle region for  $k \geq 1$ .

At the second intersection  $\pi_2$ , we discuss the following two sub-cases.

(Case 1.1).  $Q(\pi_2)$  is within idle region. Then we have  $V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = V_\omega^1(\pi_2)$  and

$$V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = \frac{\omega}{1-\beta}, \quad (6)$$

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_2) = R(\pi_2) + \beta \cdot [\pi_2 V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi_2)V_\omega(r)]. \quad (7)$$

where the expression of  $V_\omega^0(\pi_2)$  holds because if  $Q(\pi_2)$  is in idle region, then  $Q^k(\pi_2)$  is also in idle region for  $k \geq 0$ .

From (4) and (6) we have  $V_\omega^0(\pi_1) = V_\omega^0(\pi_2)$ . Since both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are at the intersection of  $V_\omega^0(\pi)$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$ , we have  $V_\omega^0(\pi_1) = V_\omega^1(\pi_1)$  and  $V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = V_\omega^1(\pi_2)$ . We hence have  $V_\omega^1(\pi_1) = V_\omega^1(\pi_2)$ . This contradicts the result of Lemma 1 that  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  strictly increases with  $\pi$ . Thus this case is not feasible.

(Case 1.2.)  $Q(\pi_2)$  is within active region. Then there must exist another  $\pi_3$  such that  $Q(\pi_3)$  is within the active region as well and  $\pi_1 < \pi_3 < \pi_2$ . Therefore

$$V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = \omega + \beta \cdot V_\omega^1(Q(\pi_2)) \quad (8)$$

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_2) = R(\pi_2) + \beta \cdot [\pi_2 V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi_2)V_\omega(r)], \quad (9)$$

with  $V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = V_\omega^1(\pi_2)$ . Also, at  $\pi_3$  we have

$$V_\omega^0(\pi_3) = \omega + \beta \cdot V_\omega^1(Q(\pi_3)) \quad (10)$$

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_3) = R(\pi_3) + \beta \cdot [\pi_3 V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi_3)V_\omega(r)], \quad (11)$$

with  $V_\omega^0(\pi_3) < V_\omega^1(\pi_3)$  since  $\pi_3$  is in active region. From (9) and (11)

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_2) - V_\omega^1(\pi_3) = R(\pi_2) - R(\pi_3) + \beta[(\pi_2 - \pi_3)(V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r))]. \quad (12)$$

Also from (8) and (10) we have

$$\begin{aligned} V_\omega^0(\pi_2) - V_\omega^0(\pi_3) &= \beta V_\omega^1(Q(\pi_2)) - \beta V_\omega^1(Q(\pi_3)) \\ &= \beta[R(Q(\pi_2)) - R(Q(\pi_3))] + \beta[Q(\pi_2) - Q(\pi_3)][V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)], \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Since  $\pi_2 - \pi_3 > Q(\pi_2) - Q(\pi_3) = (p-r)(\pi_2 - \pi_3)$  and  $R(\pi_2) - R(\pi_3) > R(Q(\pi_2)) - R(Q(\pi_3))$ , from (12) and (13) we have  $V_\omega^1(\pi_2) - V_\omega^1(\pi_3) > V_\omega^0(\pi_2) - V_\omega^0(\pi_3)$ . Therefore  $V_\omega^1(\pi_3) - V_\omega^0(\pi_3) < V_\omega^1(\pi_2) - V_\omega^0(\pi_2) = 0$ . Thus  $V_\omega^1(\pi_3) < V_\omega^0(\pi_3)$ . This contradicts the fact that  $\pi_3$  belongs to the active region. Thus this case is not feasible.

#### V. CASE 2

Suppose  $\pi^0$  is within active region and  $\pi_k \leq \pi^0 < \pi_{k+1}$  for some  $1 \leq k < n$  where  $V_\omega^1(\pi^0) > V_\omega^0(\pi^0)$ . Next consider  $\tilde{\pi}$  such that  $\pi_{k+1} < \tilde{\pi} < \pi_{k+2}$ , i.e.,  $\tilde{\pi}$  is in the immediate idle interval greater than  $\pi^0$ . Note that  $\exists \tilde{\pi}$  such that  $\pi^0 < Q(\tilde{\pi}) < \pi_{k+1}$ . Thus  $Q(\tilde{\pi})$  is in active region. We hence have

$$V_\omega^1(\tilde{\pi}) = R(\tilde{\pi}) + \beta \cdot [\tilde{\pi} V_\omega(p) + (1 - \tilde{\pi})V_\omega(r)] \quad (14)$$

$$V_\omega^0(\tilde{\pi}) = \omega + \beta[R(Q(\tilde{\pi})) + \beta[Q(\tilde{\pi})V_\omega(p) + (1 - Q(\tilde{\pi}))V_\omega(r)]] \quad (15)$$

We present the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.**

$$\begin{aligned} & \beta\tilde{\pi}[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)] - \beta^2[Q(\tilde{\pi}) \cdot [V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)]] \\ & \leq \beta\pi^0[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)] - \beta^2\pi^0[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)]. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Rearranging terms we have

$$\beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)][\tilde{\pi} - \pi^0] \geq \beta^2[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)][Q(\tilde{\pi}) - \pi^0],$$

which holds since  $V_\omega(p) \geq V_\omega(r)$  and  $\tilde{\pi} > Q(\tilde{\pi})$ . □

From (14) and (15) we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & V_\omega^1(\tilde{\pi}) - V_\omega^0(\tilde{\pi}) \\ & = R(\tilde{\pi}) + \beta \cdot [\tilde{\pi}V_\omega(p) + (1 - \tilde{\pi})V_\omega(r)] \\ & \quad - \left[ \omega + \beta[R(Q(\tilde{\pi})) + \beta \cdot [R(Q(\tilde{\pi}))V_\omega(p) + (1 - R(Q(\tilde{\pi}))V_\omega(r))]] \right] \\ & = R(\tilde{\pi}) - \beta R(Q(\tilde{\pi})) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\tilde{\pi} - \beta Q(\tilde{\pi})) + \beta V_\omega(r) - \omega - \beta^2 V_\omega(r) \\ & > R(\tilde{\pi}) - \beta R(\tilde{\pi}) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\tilde{\pi} - \beta Q(\tilde{\pi})) + \beta V_\omega(r) - \omega - \beta^2 V_\omega(r) \\ & > R(\pi^0) - \beta R(\pi^0) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\pi^0 - \beta Q(\pi^0)) + \beta V_\omega(r) - \omega - \beta^2 V_\omega(r) \\ & = R(\pi^0) + \beta[\pi^0 V_\omega(p) - (1 - \pi^0)V_\omega(r)] - \left[ \omega + \beta[R(\pi^0) + \beta[\pi^0 V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi^0)V_\omega(r)]] \right] \\ & = V_\omega^1(\pi^0) - V_\omega^0(\pi^0) \\ & \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality holds since  $Q(\tilde{\pi}) < \tilde{\pi}$  and hence  $R(Q(\tilde{\pi})) < R(\tilde{\pi})$  from Lemma 1. The second inequality holds because  $\tilde{\pi} > \pi^0$  and hence  $R(\tilde{\pi}) > R(\pi^0)$  and  $\tilde{\pi} - \beta Q(\tilde{\pi}) > \pi^0 - \beta Q(\pi^0)$ . The last inequality holds because  $\pi^0$  is within the active region. In fact, if  $\pi^0 > \pi_k$ , we have  $V_\omega^1(\tilde{\pi}) - V_\omega^0(\tilde{\pi}) > 0$  and if  $\pi^0 = \pi_k$ , we have  $V_\omega^1(\tilde{\pi}) - V_\omega^0(\tilde{\pi}) = 0$ . The above expressions contradict with the assumption that  $\tilde{\pi}$  is strictly within idle region, i.e.,  $V_\omega^1(\tilde{\pi}) < V_\omega^0(\tilde{\pi})$ . This contradiction makes this case infeasible.

**VI. CASE 3**

Suppose  $\pi_k \leq \pi^0 < \pi_{k+1}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , and  $\pi^0$  is within idle region. Note that for all belief values  $\pi$  in the interval  $[\pi_k, \pi_{k+1}]$ , we have

$$V_\omega^0(\pi) = \omega + \beta\omega + \beta^2\omega + \dots = \frac{\omega}{1 - \beta}, \quad (16)$$

since  $Q^k(\pi)$  is in idle region.

In contrast, from Lemma 1,  $V_\omega^1(\pi)$  strictly increases in that region. We hence have  $V_\omega^1(\pi_{k+1}) > V_\omega^1(\pi_k)$ . Note that at  $\pi_k$  and  $\pi_{k+1}$ , we have  $V_\omega^0(\pi_k) = V_\omega^1(\pi_{k+1})$  and  $V_\omega^1(\pi_k) = V_\omega^0(\pi_k)$ . Therefore  $V_\omega^1(\pi_{k+1}) = V_\omega^1(\pi_k)$ , which contradicts  $V_\omega^1(\pi_{k+1}) > V_\omega^1(\pi_k)$ . This contraction makes this case infeasible.

**VII. CASE 4**

We suppose  $\pi^0$  is to the right of all intersections, i.e.,  $\pi^0 \geq \pi_n > \pi_{n-1} > \dots$ . Therefore we have

$$V_\omega^0(\pi_n) = \omega + \beta[R(\pi_n) + \beta[Q(\pi_n)V_\omega(p) + (1 - Q(\pi_n))V_\omega(r)]] \quad (17)$$

$$V_\omega^1(\pi_n) = R(\pi_n) + \beta \cdot [\pi_n V_\omega(p) + (1 - \pi_n)V_\omega(r)], \quad (18)$$

where 17 holds since  $Q(\pi_n) > \pi_n$  and from (3) it is in active region. Since  $V_\omega^0(\pi_n) = V_\omega^1(\pi_n)$ , we have

$$\omega = R(\pi_n) - \beta R(Q(\pi_n)) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n)) + \beta(1 - \beta)V_\omega(r) \quad (19)$$

Consider  $\hat{\pi} \in (\pi_{n-2}, \pi_{n-1})$ , i.e.,  $\hat{\pi}$  is in an active region. We have

$$\begin{aligned} V_\omega^1(\hat{\pi}) & = R(\hat{\pi}) + \beta \cdot [\hat{\pi}V_\omega(p) + (1 - \hat{\pi})V_\omega(r)], \\ V_\omega^0(\hat{\pi}) & = \omega + \beta V_\omega(Q(\hat{\pi})) \\ & \geq \omega + \beta[R(Q(\hat{\pi})) + \beta[Q(\hat{\pi})V_\omega(p) + (1 - Q(\hat{\pi}))V_\omega(r)]] \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is because the reward obtained by idle followed by optimal decisions is better than the reward obtained by idle followed by an active decision.

Since  $V_\omega^1(\hat{\pi}) > V_\omega^0(\hat{\pi})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega &< R(\hat{\pi}) - \beta R(Q(\hat{\pi})) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\hat{\pi} - \beta Q(\hat{\pi})) + \beta(1 - \beta)V_\omega(r) \\
&< R(\hat{\pi}) - \beta R(Q(\hat{\pi})) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n)) + \beta(1 - \beta)V_\omega(r) \\
&< R(\pi_n) - \beta R(Q(\pi_n)) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n)) + \beta(1 - \beta)V_\omega(r)
\end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

where the second inequality comes from

$$\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n) > \hat{\pi} - \beta Q(\hat{\pi}), \tag{21}$$

since, with  $\pi_n > \hat{\pi}$ ,

$$[\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n)] - [\hat{\pi} - \beta Q(\hat{\pi})] = (1 - (p - r))(\pi_n - \hat{\pi}) > 0.$$

The last inequality in (20) uses Assumption 2b:  $R(\pi_n) - R(\hat{\pi}) > \beta R(Q(\pi_n)) - \beta R(Q(\hat{\pi}))$ . Considering (20), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega &< R(\pi_n) - \beta R(Q(\pi_n)) + \beta[V_\omega(p) - V_\omega(r)](\pi_n - \beta Q(\pi_n)) + \beta(1 - \beta)V_\omega(r) \\
&= \omega
\end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from (19). Thus we have the contradiction  $\omega > \omega$ , making this case infeasible.

#### VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are thankful to D. Manjunath at IIT Bombay and Aditya Gopalan at IISc Bangalore for their feedback on the original results which resulted in this rigorous treatment.

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