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# Distributed and Private Stochastic EM Methods via Quantized and Compressed MCMC

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## Abstract

1 To be completed

## 2 1 Notations

3 We minimize the negated log incomplete data likelihood

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \bar{L}(\theta) := L(\theta) + r(\theta) \quad \text{with} \quad L(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i(\theta) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ -\log g(y_i; \theta) \} , \quad (1)$$

4 Here,  $n$  denotes the number of worker in the decentralized and federated settings.

5 Consider a curved exponential family

$$f(z_i, y_i; \theta) = h(z_i, y_i) \exp(\langle S(z_i, y_i) | \phi(\theta) \rangle - \psi(\theta)) , \quad (2)$$

6 Then EM reads

$$\bar{s}_i(\theta) := \int_{\mathcal{Z}} S(z_i, y_i) p(z_i | y_i; \theta) \mu(dz_i) , \quad (3)$$

7 and the  $M$ -step is given by

$$\bar{\theta}(\bar{s}(\theta)) := \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \Theta} \{ R(\vartheta) + \psi(\vartheta) - \langle \bar{s}(\theta) | \phi(\vartheta) \rangle \} . \quad (4)$$

8 In the case where the expectations are intractable, then (3) becomes:

$$\tilde{S}^{(k+1)} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{S}_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{M_k} \sum_{m=1}^{M_k} S(z_{i,m}^{(k)}, y_i) , \quad (5)$$

## 9 2 Algorithms

10 For computational purposes and privacy enhanced matter, I have chosen to study and develop the  
 11 second algorithms that I proposed in my last week’s report. In that algorithm, one does not compute  
 12 a periodic averaging of the local models (this would requires performing as many M-steps as there  
 13 are workers). Rather, workers compute local statistics and send them to the central server for a  
 14 periodic averaging of those vectors and the latter computes one M-step to update the global model.

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### Algorithm 1 FL-SAEM with Periodic Statistics Averaging

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1: Input: TO COMPLETE
2: Init:  $\theta_0 \in \Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ , as the global model and  $\bar{\theta}_0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_0$ .
3: for  $r = 1$  to  $R$  do
4:   for parallel for device  $i \in D^r$  do
5:     Set  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(0,r)} = \hat{\theta}^{(r)}$ .
6:     Draw M samples  $z_{i,m}^{(r)}$  under model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r)}$ 
7:     Compute the surrogate sufficient statistics  $\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)}$ 
8:     Workers send local statistics  $\tilde{S}_i^{(k+1)}$  to server.
9:   end for
10:  Server computes global model using the aggregated statistics:

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$$\hat{\theta}^{(r+1)} = \bar{\theta}(\tilde{S}^{(r+1)})$$

where  $\tilde{S}^{(r+1)} = (\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)}, i \in D_r)$  and send global model back to the devices.

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11: end for

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### 15 2.1 Challenges with Algorithm 4

16 While Algorithm 4 is a distributed variant of the SAEM, it is neither (a) private nor (b)  
 17 communication-efficient.

18 **Privacy:** Indeed, we remark that broadcasting the vector of statistics are a potential breach to the  
 19 data observations as their expression is related  $y$  and the latent data  $z$ . With a simple knowledge of  
 20 the model used, the data could be retrieved if one extracts those statistics.

21 **Communication bottlenecks:** Also regarding (b), the broadcast of  $n$  vector of statistics  $S(y_i, z_i)$   
 22 can be cumbersome when the size of the latent space and the parameter space of the model are huge.

### 23 2.2 Algorithmic solutions

24 **Line 6 – Quantization:** The first step is to quantize the gradient in the Stochastic Langevin Dynam-  
 25 ics step used in our sampling scheme Line 6 of Algorithm 4. Inspired by [Alistarh et al., 2017], we  
 26 use an extension of the QSGD algorithm for our latent samples. Define the quantization operator as  
 27 follows:

$$C_j^{(\ell)}(g, \xi_j) = \|v\| \cdot \text{sign}(g_j) \cdot (\lfloor \ell |g_j| / \|v\| \rfloor + \mathbf{1} \{ \xi_j \leq \ell |g_j| / \|v\| - \lfloor \ell |g_j| / \|v\| \rfloor \}) / \ell \quad (6)$$

28 where  $\ell$  is the level of quantization and  $j \in [d]$  denotes the dimension of the gradient.

29 Hence, for the sampling step, Line 6, we use the modified SGLD below, to be compliant with the  
 30 privacy of our method.

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**Algorithm 2** Langevin Dynamics with Quantization for worker  $i$ 


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- 1: **Input:** Current local model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r)}$  for worker  $i \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$ .
- 2: Draw  $M$  samples  $\{z_i^{(r,m)}\}_{m=1}^M$  from the posterior distribution  $p(z_i|y_i; \hat{\theta}_i^{(k)})$  via Langevin diffusion with a quantized gradient:
- 3: **for**  $k = 1$  to  $K$  **do**
- 4:   Compute the quantized gradient of  $\nabla \log p(z_i|y_i; \hat{\theta}_i^{(k)})$ :

$$g_i(k, m) = C_j^{(\ell)} \left( \nabla_j f_{\theta_t}(z_i^{(k-1,m)}), \xi_j^{(k)} \right) \quad (7)$$

where  $\xi_j^{(k)}$  is a realization of a uniform random variable.

- 5:   Sample the latent data using the following chain:

$$z_i^{(k,m)} = z_i^{(k-1,m)} + \frac{\gamma_k}{2} g_i(k, m) + \sqrt{\gamma_k} B_k, \quad (8)$$

where  $B_t$  denotes the Brownian motion and  $m \in [M]$  denotes the MC sample.

- 6: **end for**
  - 7: Assign  $\{z_i^{(r,m)}\}_{m=1}^M \leftarrow \{z_i^{(K,m)}\}_{m=1}^M$ .
  - 8: **Output:** latent data  $z_{i,m}^{(k)}$  under model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(t,k)}$
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- 31 **Line 6 – Compression MCMC output:** We use the notorious **Top- $k$**  operator that we define as
- 32  $\mathcal{C}(x)_i = x_i$ , if  $i \in \mathcal{S}$ ;  $\mathcal{C}(x)_i = 0$  otherwise and where  $\mathcal{S}$  is defined as the size- $k$  set of  $i \in [p]$ .
- 33 Recall that after Line 6 we compute the local statistics  $\tilde{S}_i^{(k+1)}$  using the output latent variables from
- 34 Algorithm 2. We now use those statistics and compress them using Algorithm 3 as follows:

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**Algorithm 3** Sparsified Statistics with **Top- $k$** 


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- 1: **Input:** Current local statistics  $\tilde{S}_i^{(k+1)}$  for worker  $i \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$ . Sparsification level  $k$ .
- 2: Apply **Top- $k$** :

$$\ddot{S}_i^{(k+1)} = \mathcal{C} \left( \tilde{S}_i^{(k+1)} \right) \quad (9)$$

- 3: **Output:** Compressed local statistics for worker  $i$  denoted  $\ddot{S}_i^{(k+1)}$ .
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### 3 FL and Distributed Algorithmic Contributions

Final method:

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**Algorithm 4** Quantized and Compressed FL-SAEM with Periodic Statistics Averaging

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1: **Input:** Compression operator  $\mathcal{C}(\cdot)$ , number of rounds  $R$ , initial parameter  $\theta_0$ .  
2: **for**  $r = 1$  to  $R$  **do**  
3:   **for** parallel for device  $i \in D^r$  **do**  
4:     Set  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(0,r)} = \hat{\theta}^{(r)}$ . {Initialize each worker with current global model}  
5:     Draw  $M$  samples  $z_{i,m}^{(r)}$  under model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r)}$  via Quantized LD: {Local Quantized MCMC step}  
6:     **for**  $k = 1$  to  $K$  **do**  
7:       Compute the quantized gradient of  $\nabla \log p(z_i|y_i; \hat{\theta}_i^{(k)})$ :  
$$g_i(k, m) = \mathcal{C}_j^{(\ell)} \left( \nabla_j f_{\theta_t}(z_i^{(k-1,m)}), \xi_j^{(k)} \right) \quad \text{where} \quad \xi_j^{(k)} \sim \mathcal{U}_{[a,b]}$$
  
8:       Sample the latent data using the following chain:  
$$z_i^{(k,m)} = z_i^{(k-1,m)} + \frac{\gamma_k}{2} g_i(k, m) + \sqrt{\gamma_k} \mathbf{B}_k,$$
  
      where  $\mathbf{B}_t$  denotes the Brownian motion and  $m \in [M]$  denotes the MC sample.  
9:     **end for**  
10:     Assign  $\{z_i^{(r,m)}\}_{m=1}^M \leftarrow \{z_i^{(K,m)}\}_{m=1}^M$ .  
11:     Compute  $\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)}$  and its **Top- $k$**  variant  $\check{S}_i^{(r+1)} = \mathcal{C}(\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)})$ . {Compressed local statistics}  
12:     Worker send local statistics  $\check{S}_i^{(r+1)}$  to server. {Single round of communication}  
13:   **end for**  
14:   Server computes **global model**: {(Global) M-Step using aggregated statistics}  
$$\hat{\theta}^{(r+1)} = \bar{\theta}(\check{S}^{(r+1)})$$
  
      where  $\check{S}^{(r+1)} = (\check{S}_i^{(r+1)}, i \in D_r)$  and send global model back to the devices.  
15: **end for**

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37 We can also consider the plain distributed version of the sEM which does not tackle any privacy or  
38 communication bottlenecks. It goes as follows:

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**Algorithm 5** Distributed SAEM with Periodic Locals Models Averaging

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1: **Input:** Compression operator  $\mathcal{C}(\cdot)$ , number of rounds  $R$ , initial parameter  $\theta_0$ .  
2: **for**  $r = 1$  to  $R$  **do**  
3:   **for** parallel for device  $i \in D^r$  **do**  
4:     Set  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r)} = \hat{\theta}^{(r)}$ . {Initialize each worker with current global model}  
5:     Draw  $M$  samples  $z_{i,m}^{(r+1)}$  under model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r)}$  via MCMC: {Local MCMC step}  
6:     Compute the local statistics  $\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)} = S(z_{i,m}^{(r+1)})$ . {Local statistics}  
7:     Worker computes **local model**: {(Local) M-Step using local statistics}  
$$\hat{\theta}_i^{(r+1)} = \bar{\theta}(\tilde{S}_i^{(r+1)})$$
  
8:     Worker sends local model  $\hat{\theta}_i^{(r+1)}$  to server.  
9:   **end for**  
10:   Server computes **global model** by periodic averaging {Local model averaging}  
$$\hat{\theta}^{(r+1)} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\theta}_i^{(r+1)}$$
  
11: **end for**

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## 40 **5 Numerical Experiments**

### 41 **5.1 Nonlinear Mixed Models under Distributed Settings**

42 Compare SAEM, MCEM, dist-SAEM and maybe one distributed Gradient Descent as baseline

43 Same for Private settings with Sketched SGD or another good baseline

### 44 **5.2 Probabilistic Latent Dirichlet Allocation**

## 45 **References**

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