

# 000 MPCACHE: MPC-FRIENDLY KV CACHE EVICTION 001 FOR EFFICIENT PRIVATE LLM INFERENCE 002 003 004

005 **Anonymous authors**

006 Paper under double-blind review

## 007 008 ABSTRACT 009

011 Private LLM inference based on multi-party computation (MPC) offers  
012 cryptographically-secure protection for both user prompt and proprietary model  
013 weights. However, it suffers from large latency overhead for long input sequences.  
014 While key-value (KV) cache eviction algorithms have been proposed to reduce  
015 the computation and memory cost for plaintext inference, they are not designed  
016 for MPC and may even introduce more overhead. In this paper, we propose an ac-  
017 curate and MPC-friendly KV cache eviction framework, dubbed MPCache. MP-  
018 Cache is built on the observation that historical tokens in a long sequence may  
019 have different effects on the downstream decoding. Hence, MPCache combines  
020 a look-once static eviction algorithm to discard unimportant tokens and a query-  
021 aware dynamic selection algorithm to further choose a small subset of tokens for  
022 attention computation. As existing dynamic selection algorithms incur too much  
023 latency, we propose a series of optimizations to drastically reduce the KV cache  
024 selection overhead, including MPC-friendly similarity approximation, hierarchi-  
025 cal KV cache clustering, and layer-wise index sharing strategy. With extensive  
026 experiments, we demonstrate that MPCache consistently outperforms prior-art  
027 KV cache eviction baselines across different LLM generation tasks and achieves  
028  $1.8 \sim 2.01 \times$  and  $3.39 \sim 8.37 \times$  decoding latency and communication reduction  
029 on different sequence lengths, respectively. Our anonymous code repository can  
030 be found [here](#).

## 031 1 INTRODUCTION 032

033 Large language models (LLMs) have recently demonstrated remarkable ability in a wide range of  
034 applications such as document summarization (Huang et al., 2021; Narayan et al., 2018; Zhang  
035 et al., 2024a), question answering (Kočiský et al., 2018; Dasigi et al., 2021; Yang et al., 2018), and  
036 dialogue systems (Thoppilan et al., 2022; Chiang et al., 2023; Taori et al., 2023). However, LLM-  
037 based machine learning as a service (MLaaS) on the cloud has raised serious privacy concerns as  
038 the users are required to upload their prompts to the cloud, which may contain sensitive personal  
039 information. Meanwhile, the service provider is unwilling to offload the trained model to the user  
040 to protect the proprietary model weights. Secure multi-party computation (MPC)-based private  
041 inference has been proposed to address the privacy concerns (Goldreich, 1998; Mohassel & Rindal,  
042 2018; Huang et al., 2022; Rathee et al., 2020; Gupta et al., 2023). MPC enables the users and  
043 the cloud to conduct the LLM inference jointly, but nothing else can be derived beyond the final  
044 inference results.

045 However, MPC-based LLM inference faces serious efficiency challenges, especially for long input  
046 sequences. We profile the decoding efficiency of GPT-2 with the Secretflow framework (Ma et al.,  
047 2023) using recent 2-party computation (2PC) (Lu et al., 2023) and 3-party computation (3PC)  
048 protocols (Dong et al., 2023). As can be observed in Figure 1(a) and (b), *attention dominates the*  
049 *latency and communication for both 2PC and 3PC protocols. Moreover, Softmax accounts for the*  
050 *majority of the overall cost, especially with an increasing sequence length.*

051 To reduce the cost of private LLM inference, previous works focus on developing more efficient  
052 MPC protocols (Lu et al., 2023; Dong et al., 2023; Pang et al., 2023; Hou et al., 2023), replacing  
053 non-linear activation functions with more MPC-friendly operators (Liu & Liu, 2023; Li et al., 2022;  
Zeng et al., 2023), or directly modifying the model architecture (Rathee et al., 2024). However,

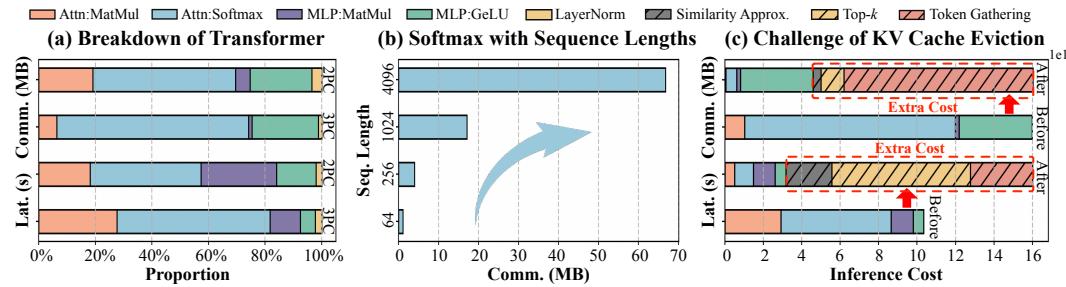


Figure 1: (a) Breakdown of decoding latency and communication for one token generation with a sequence length of 512. Attention dominates the latency and communication for both 3PC and 2PC protocols. (b) The cost of Softmax scales with the sequence length. (c) Inference cost before and after KV cache eviction. Blocks in slash indicate the extra overhead introduced by eviction.

they still incur significant overhead or require expensive finetuning or re-training, and cannot be directly applied to LLMs. Another line of works leverages key-value (KV) cache eviction to reduce the number of tokens involved in the attention computation (Zhang et al., 2024d; Ge et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024c; Zhao et al., 2024; Zhang et al., 2024c; Fu et al., 2024). Although they have demonstrated significant memory and computation reduction for plaintext LLM inference without the need of finetuning, they are not MPC-friendly. As shown in Figure 1(c), directly applying an existing KV cache eviction algorithm (Liu et al., 2024b) incurs even more communication and latency overhead over the baseline model since it introduces expensive operators in MPC, including top- $k$  selection, token gathering, etc, as elaborated in Section 3. Therefore, there is an urgent need for an MPC-friendly KV cache eviction algorithm to improve the efficiency of private LLM inference without fine-tuning.

To overcome the heavy overhead of attention computation, we make the following observations that motivate our MPCache: 1) the LLM attention maps are overall sparse for long input prompts, motivating us to perform static eviction and directly prune the KV cache of unimportant tokens; 2) the attention maps show token-wise locality (Liu et al., 2023), motivating us to build an efficient hierarchical clustering algorithm for dynamic selection of the KV cache; 3) the attention maps of adjacent layers show similar patterns, motivating us to share the KV cache selection for adjacent layers to further improve efficiency. Our contributions can be summarized as follows:

- We observe the cost of MPC-based LLM inference mainly comes from attention computation and propose MPCache, an MPC-efficient KV cache eviction framework to reduce the LLM inference latency and communication.
- We identify the challenges when applying KV cache eviction in MPC. To tackle the problems, MPCache combines look-once static KV cache eviction and query-aware dynamic selection with a series of optimizations, including MPC-friendly similarity approximation, hierarchical KV cache clustering, and a layer-wise index sharing strategy.
- With extensive experiments, we demonstrate the performance of MPCache consistently exceeds the prior-art KV cache eviction algorithms across different generation tasks and achieves upto 2.01 $\times$  and 8.37 $\times$  decoding latency and communication, respectively.

## 2 PROBLEM FORMULATION AND BACKGROUND

### 2.1 PROBLEM FORMULATION

Generative LLM inference can be divided into prefill and generation stages (refer to Appendix A). We formally describe the generation process with KV cache eviction in Algorithm 1. The KV cache eviction policy, denoted as  $\mathcal{P}$ , aims to minimize the attention computation by only preserving a subset of tokens, which typically involves three steps: 1)  $\mathcal{P}$  first computes the similarity between the query and key cache of previous tokens (line # 1); 2)  $\mathcal{P}$  then ranks the previous tokens based on the similarity score and applies the top- $k$  algorithm to determine the indices of relevant tokens (line # 2); 3) the KV cache is then retrieved based on the indices, denoted as token gathering (line # 3),

**Algorithm 1:** Problem formulation of KV cache eviction for one layer

---

**Input :** Query, key, and value cache  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times 1 \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times T \times d}$ , and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times T \times d}$ , where  $T, H, d$  denote the sequence length, number of heads, and embedding dimension.

**Output:** Sparse attention output  $\mathbf{O} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times 1 \times d}$ .

```

1 sim = SimApprox(q, K);                                ▷ Similarity approximation
2 indices = topk(sim, k = k);                          ▷ Top-k selection
3 K' = K.gather[indices], V' = V.gather[indices];    ▷ Token gathering based on indices
4 O = Softmax(q · K'^T / √d) · V';                  ▷ Sparse attention
5 return O.

```

---

Table 1: Qualitative comparison with prior works.

Representative Work	Method	Similarity Approximation	Top-k Selection	Token Gathering	Layer-wise Optimization	MPC Efficiency	Model Performance
Li et al. [2022]	Non-linear Replacement	-	-	-	-	Fine-tuning Required	Not Applied to LLM
Xiao et al. [2023]	Fixed-pattern	-	-	Token-wise	-	High	Low
Li et al. [2024]	Static	Accumulated Attention Score	Once during Prefill	Token-wise	-	High	Low
Liu et al. [2024b]	Dynamic	Token-wise Cosine Similarity	Token-wise per Step	Token-wise	-	Low	High
MPCache (ours)	Static+Dynamic	Hierarchical Clustering, Cluster-wise Similarity	Parallelized, Cluster-wise per Step	Cluster-wise	Adjacent Layer Sharing	High	High

followed by sparse attention computation with the selected KV cache (line # 4). To compute the similarity in line # 1, existing works have used accumulated attention score of the historical tokens (Liu et al., 2024c; Zhang et al., 2024d; Zhao et al., 2024; Yang et al., 2024; Zhang et al., 2024c) or cosine similarity (Liu et al., 2024b; Xiao et al., 2024). KV cache eviction reduces the attention computation complexity from  $\mathcal{O}(Td)$  to  $\mathcal{O}(kd)$ , where  $T, d$  denote the sequence length and embedding dimension, respectively, and  $k \ll T$ . However, it introduces MPC-unfriendly operations, including similarity approximation, top- $k$  selection, and token gathering, hindering its benefits in MPC-based LLM inference. Hence, the goal of our paper can be summarized as follows:

**“How can we design an MPC-friendly KV cache eviction algorithm  $\mathcal{P}^*$  to minimize MPC-based LLM inference latency without sacrificing LLM performance?”**

## 2.2 BACKGROUND

**Related works.** There has been a surge in improving the efficiency of private LLM inference. Existing works focus on the protocol optimization (Pang et al., 2023; Dong et al., 2023; Lu et al., 2023; Hou et al., 2023) or directly replace non-linear functions with MPC-friendly operators (Liu & Liu, 2023; Li et al., 2022; Zeng et al., 2023; Mishra et al., 2020; Dhyani et al., 2023). However, they either still incur large overhead for long input sequences or require expensive re-training. KV cache eviction has been widely explored for plaintext inference and can be classified into 3 categories: 1) *fixed-pattern algorithms* like Xiao et al. (2023) and Beltagy et al. (2020) always keep the tokens at the same position across generation steps, lacking flexibility for different LLMs and contexts; 2) *static algorithms* like Zhang et al. (2024d); Zhao et al. (2024); Zhang et al. (2024c); Li et al. (2024); Ge et al. (2023) discard tokens based on the accumulated attention scores of historical tokens, which are efficient as the KV cache eviction is usually only conducted once but suffer from large performance degradation when the compression ratio is high; 3) *dynamic algorithms* like Xiao et al. (2024); Tang et al. (2024b); Liu et al. (2024b) compute the similarity between the query and keys for each generation step, which is more accurate but requires repetitive selection at each generation step. Different from prior works in Table 1, MPCache is a training-free framework that combines static and dynamic algorithms, and leverages hierarchical clustering with a series of MPC-friendly optimizations, achieving high efficiency and performance simultaneously. We leave a detailed review of existing works in Appendix A.

**MPC preliminaries.** MPC (Goldreich, 1998) is a cryptographic technique recently developed and leveraged to enable LLM inference while protecting the privacy of both data and model. In an MPC framework, to protect a certain tensor, it is often split into multiple secret shares and distributed across different parties involved in the computation (Lu et al., 2023; Dong et al., 2023; Mohassel & Rindal, 2018). Dedicated protocols have been developed to support LLMs’ linear and non-linear

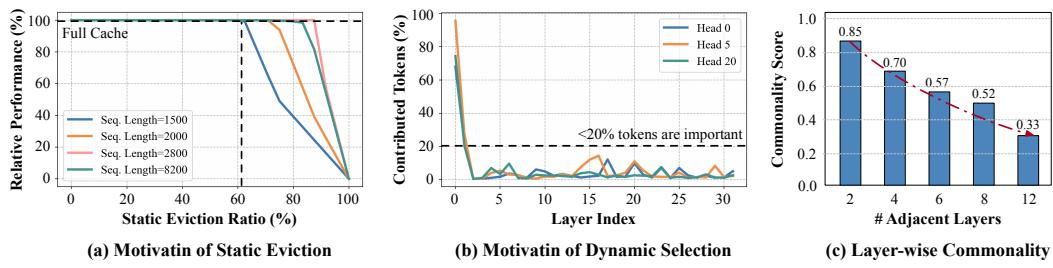


Figure 3: Motivating inspirations of MPCache. (a) Statically evicting almost 60% tokens during the prefill stage still maintains the performance; (b) less than 20% tokens contribute to token decoding; (c) layer-wise top- $k$  commonality among different numbers of adjacent layers.

operations [Lu et al., 2023; Pang et al., 2023; Dong et al., 2023]. In this work, we adopt an *honest-but-curious* threat model and apply MPCache to both 2PC and 3PC protocols, which involve 2 parties and 3 parties in the computation, respectively. We refer interested readers to Appendix B, where the threat model and 2PC/3PC protocols are more clearly explained. Following [Li et al. (2022); Zeng et al. (2023)], MPCache is built upon existing cryptographic primitives and focuses on optimizing the LLM inference algorithm. The security can hence be guaranteed.

### 3 MOTIVATIONS AND CHALLENGES

In this section, we discuss the key observations that motivate MPCache.

**Observation 1: the attention map of a long input sequence is usually sparse, and the KV cache of historical tokens demonstrates different impacts over the downstream decoding.** We show the attention map of different heads and layers of LLaMA-2-7B in Figure 2 and leave visualizations of larger attention maps in Appendix C. From Figure 2, we can classify different tokens into three categories: 1) important to all tokens (IA in red box): the attention scores remain high for the entire column, e.g., 0th and 1st columns in Figure 2(a), indicating these tokens are important for the generation of all downstream tokens and hence, need to be always preserved; 2) un-important to all tokens (UIA in blue box): the attention scores remain low for the entire column, e.g., 2nd and 3rd columns in Figure 2(a), indicating these tokens can be discarded without impacting the downstream decoding; 3) important to certain tokens (IC in orange box): the attention scores vary for different tokens, e.g., 4th and 5th columns in Figure 2(a), indicating these tokens impact a subset of downstream tokens, and hence, cannot be directly pruned.

We verify the observation on LLaMA-2-7B with different input sequence lengths. As shown in Figure 3(a), almost 60% tokens can be statically evicted while preserving the LLM performance. While further pruning the remaining KV cache starts to degrade the LLM performance, as shown in Figure 3(b), in each decoding step, only less than 20% of the remaining tokens contribute to the decoding. **The above observation motivates us to statically evict the KV cache of UIA tokens and dynamically select a subset of IC tokens in each decoding step.**

**Observation 2: dynamic KV cache selection incurs non-negligible overhead in MPC.** While dynamic KV cache selection reduces the attention computation cost, it incurs non-negligible overhead due to MPC-unfriendly operations. In Figure 1(c), we show the extra overhead when 5% tokens are dynamically selected. The MPC-unfriendly operations mainly include:

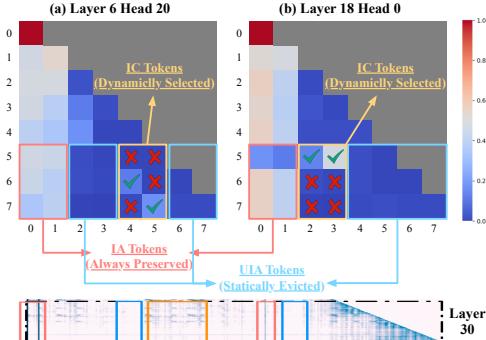


Figure 2: (Upper) token types in attention maps where ✓ means the token is selected and ✗ means the token is not selected. (Lower) three types can be observed in the attention map with more tokens.

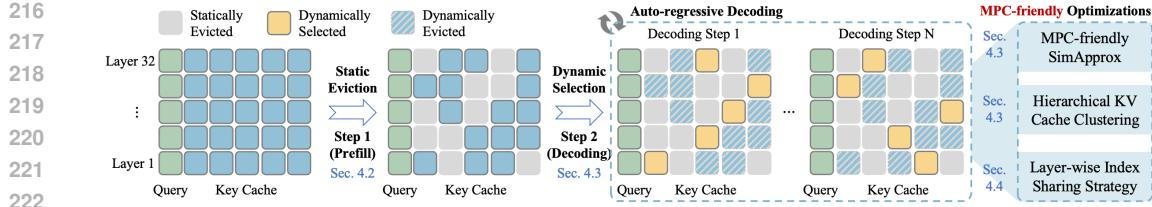


Figure 4: Overview of our proposed MPCache.

- Similarity computation (Algorithm 1 line # 1): cosine similarity is widely used for similarity measurement, which requires computing the multiplication between the current query with the key cache of all previous tokens;
- Top- $k$  selection (Algorithm 1 line # 2): to compute the indices of relevant tokens, top- $k$  is usually inevitable (Zhang et al., 2024d; Ge et al., 2023; Zhao et al., 2024; Yang et al., 2024). Unlike plaintext inference, top- $k$  selection in MPC involves frequent comparison protocol, which incurs high latency and communication cost (Rathee et al., 2020).
- Token gathering (Algorithm 1 line # 3): after the top- $k$  selection, the KV cache of selected tokens is gathered based on the indices. Unlike plaintext inference, such gathering protocol in MPC is much more inefficient since both KV cache and indices are ciphertexts. Therefore, as described in Algorithm 2 each index is first converted to a one-hot vector and then multiplied with the KV cache, requiring repetitively invoking MPC-unfriendly comparison protocols.

Inspired by token-wise locality (Liu et al., 2023; Zhu et al., 2023), *our key insight is to group the adjacent tokens into clusters*, which can reduce the complexity of dynamic selection in proportion to the cluster size. However, this introduces extra questions on how to measure the similarity between a cluster and the current query, how to build the cluster, etc, which is discussed in Section 4.3.

**Observation 3: adjacent layers share similar top- $k$  ranking of KV cache, providing an extra opportunity for efficiency optimization.** Due to the residual, we hypothesize adjacent layers may share a similar top- $k$  ranking of the KV cache. To verify the assumption, we define commonality score to measure the ratio of common top- $k$  indices of  $m$  adjacent layers as below:

$$\frac{1}{k(L-m)} \sum_{l=1}^{L-m} \left| \bigcap_{i=l}^{l+m} \mathbf{idx}_i[:k] \right|, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{idx}_i[:k]$  denotes the set of top- $k$  indices for  $i$ -th layer,  $L$  is the number of layers, and  $|\cdot|$  counts the number of elements in a set. As shown in Figure 3(c), adjacent layers demonstrate a high similarity of top- $k$  indices, which indicates the query tends to focus on the KV cache of the similar tokens. The similarity score reduces when  $m$  is large, which motivates us to share the indices of selected tokens among adjacent layers to trade off efficiency and performance.

## 4 MPCACHE: AN MPC-FRIENDLY PRIVATE LLM INFERENCE FRAMEWORK

### 4.1 OVERVIEW OF MPCACHE

**Framework.** Driven by the observations, we propose an MPC-friendly KV cache eviction framework, dubbed MPCache. The overview is shown in Figure 4, and it consists of two steps: 1) look-once static eviction during the prefill stage to discard the UIA tokens (Section 4.2); 2) query-aware dynamic selection during the decoding stage to choose only a small subset of the remaining IC tokens for sparse attention (Section 4.3). A series of MPC-friendly optimizations are proposed to reduce the overhead of dynamic selection. The pseudocode is shown in Algorithm 3 in Appendix D.

**Symbol definition.** For clarity, we summarize the symbols used in this section. We define  $L$  as the number of layers,  $H$  as the number of attention heads,  $T$  as the number of tokens,  $d$  as the embedding dimension,  $s$  as the cluster size, and  $C$  as the number of clusters.

### 4.2 STEP 1: LOOK-ONCE STATIC KV CACHE EVICTION ALGORITHM

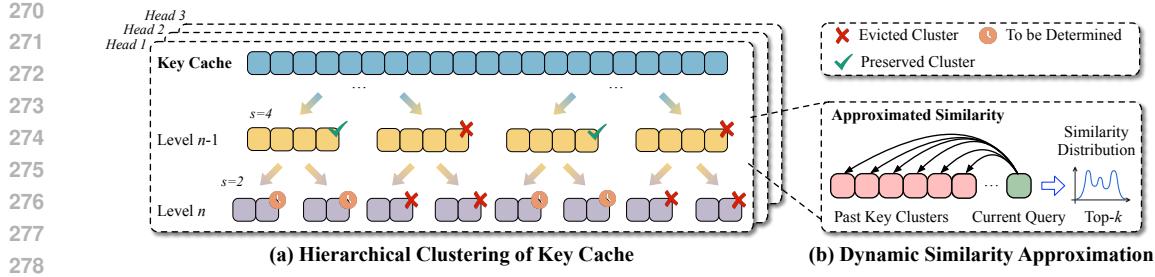


Figure 6: Hierarchical and dynamic KV cache clustering and selection procedure.

To prune the KV cache of UIA tokens as observed in Section 3, we use static eviction during the prefill stage. To measure the token importance and identify UIA tokens, we compute the attention map and then, accumulate the attention scores for each token. Similar to Zhang et al. (2024d); Liu et al. (2024c); Li et al. (2024), we find it is sufficient to only sum up the scores of the last 20% tokens in the prompt. Then, we rank the accumulated attention scores to select the top- $\gamma$  KV cache with the highest scores and discard the rest UIA tokens.

*Protocol complexity analysis.* Compared to the baseline computation of the prefill stage, static eviction only involves accumulating the attention scores, which are local without any communication, and a top- $\gamma$  selection. Because the static eviction is performed only once, the cost of top- $\gamma$  selection can be amortized by the entire generation process, and hence, becomes negligible. Meanwhile, with UIA tokens pruned, the efficiency of the dynamic selection process can be improved for each generation step. Hence, the static eviction algorithm helps to improve the overall efficiency.

#### 4.3 STEP 2: MPC-FRIENDLY DYNAMIC KV CACHE SELECTION ALGORITHM

To reduce the overhead of dynamic token selection as shown in Figure 1(c), we propose to group the KV cache of adjacent tokens into clusters as shown in Figure 5. The most important question is “*how to aggregate the information of a cluster and measure the importance of each cluster accurately and efficiently?*”

**MPC-friendly similarity approximation with clustering.** A naive method for similarity approximation is to compute the average of the key cache within a cluster and directly compute the cosine similarity with the average. However, as shown in Figure 7, the naive approach incurs large performance degradation. *Our intuition is the approximation should preserve the impact of important tokens as much as possible.* Hence, we use the maximum dot product between the query and the key cache cluster. Specifically, given a query  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$ , a key cache cluster of  $s$  tokens  $\mathbf{K}_c \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times d}$ , the similarity can be designed as

$$\text{SimApprox}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{K}_c) = \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_i \leq \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_i, \quad (2)$$

where we obtain the upper bound of similarity. We further have

$$\max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_i = \begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_i \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{k}_i & \text{if } \mathbf{q}_i \geq 0, \\ \mathbf{q}_i \min_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{k}_i & \text{if } \mathbf{q}_i < 0. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Define  $\mathbf{r}^{\max}$  and  $\mathbf{r}^{\min}$ , where  $\mathbf{r}_i^{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{k}_i$  and  $\mathbf{r}_i^{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{k}_i$ . Then, we have

$$\text{SimApprox}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{K}_c) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \max_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}_c} \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{k}_i = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \max(\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\max}, \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}). \quad (4)$$

1.0				
0.4	0.6			
0.5	0.3	0.2		
0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	
0.25	0.15	0.05	0.15	0.4
$\sum$				
0.45	0.55	0.15	0.45	0.4
Statically Evicted				

Figure 5: The illustration of static eviction.

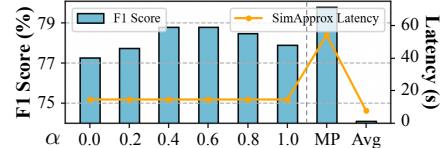
Figure 7: Comparison among maximum dot product (MP), average, and our method with different  $\alpha$ 's on TriviaQA.

Table 2: The complexity analysis of token gathering protocol where  $k_1 = 0.25T$ ,  $k_2 = 0.25C$ .

	Bit Width	# Comparison	Lat.	Comm.	Example Lat.	Example Comm.
Baseline Protocol MPCache (ours)	$\log T$ $\log C$	$T$ $C$	$\mathcal{O}(T \log T)$ $\mathcal{O}(C \log C)$	$\mathcal{O}(k_1 T \log T)$ $\mathcal{O}(k_2 C \log C)$	4.780s 0.065s	416.0MB 1.125MB
Improvement	$\frac{\log T}{\log C} \times$	$\frac{T}{C} \times$	$\frac{T \log T}{C \log C} \times$	$\frac{k_1 T \log T}{k_2 C \log C} \times$	73.5×	369.8×

*Protocol complexity analysis.* During the decoding stage,  $\mathbf{r}_i^{\max}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_i^{\min}$  of each cluster only need to be computed once. Hence, the computation cost can be amortized and become negligible. However, for each generation step, we still need to compute  $\mathcal{O}(LCd)$  multiplications, i.e.,  $\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\max}$  and  $\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}$ , as well as  $\mathcal{O}(LCd)$  max operations in Equation (4), which still incur non-negligible overhead.

**Linearization and Reordering.** To avoid the MPC-unfriendly max operation in Equation (4), we further propose to approximate the similarity score as below:

$$\text{SimApprox}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{K}_c) \approx \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \alpha \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\max} + (1 - \alpha) \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}, \quad (5)$$

where  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  is a hyperparameter. As can be observed, when  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\max}$  is always selected while  $\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}$  is always selected when  $\alpha = 0$ . After the linearization, there is an opportunity to further reduce the multiplications by reordering the computation as

$$\sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \alpha \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\max} + (1 - \alpha) \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{r}_i^{\min} = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \mathbf{q}_i \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{r}_i^{\max} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}). \quad (6)$$

$\alpha \mathbf{r}_i^{\max}$  and  $(1 - \alpha) \mathbf{r}_i^{\min}$  are first added up without introducing extra communication, and the multiplication with  $\mathbf{q}_i$  is reduced by  $2\times$ . Compared with the maximum dot product in Figure 7, our method significantly reduces the cost while maintaining the performance. We empirically choose  $\alpha = 0.6$ , and leave more discussions to Appendix F and a theoretical analysis to Appendix G.

*Protocol complexity analysis.* MPCache reduces the number of max operations from  $\mathcal{O}(LCd)$  to 0 and reduce the multiplication complexity by  $2\times$ . Clustering also benefits the token gathering protocol: 1) the number of comparisons in one-hot vector conversion is reduced by  $\frac{T}{C} \times$ ; 2) the bit width of one-hot vector is reduced by  $\frac{\log T}{\log C} \times$ . Table 2 shows an example of selecting top-25% tokens with  $T = 1024$ ,  $C = 64$ , and can be observed that the overhead is drastically reduced.

**Hierarchical KV cache clustering.** Another question is “*how to build the KV cache cluster?*” Since larger cluster sizes have higher selection efficiency at the cost of worse performance, our key insight is to trade off the selection overhead and model performance. Inspired by hierarchical reinforcement learning (Xu et al., 2023), we propose to cluster the KV cache of adjacent tokens with a hierarchical structure as shown in Figure 9 that conducts coarse-grained (with larger cluster size) to fine-grained (with smaller cluster size) selection. Generally, we divide the KV cache into  $n$  levels and progressively select the clusters level by level from the coarse-grained one. Then, at the fine-grained level, we only need to select from the remaining clusters, thereby reducing the selection complexity. Hierarchical structure, including the cluster size and selection ratios at different levels, can influence the performance-efficiency trade-off, which is discussed in Section 5.4.

#### 4.4 LAYER-WISE INDEX SHARING FOR FURTHER EFFICIENCY OPTIMIZATION

To leverage the observation that adjacent layers share similar top- $k$  ranking of KV cache, we propose a layer-wise index sharing strategy that enables adjacent layers to share the same selected token indices to further reduce the cost of dynamic selection. Since two adjacent layers show the highest commonality score in Figure 3(c), we choose to share the indices between two adjacent layers. In Figure 8, we observe the first two layers have a low commonality score while other layers have higher scores due to the residual, so we do not apply sharing to the first two layers. Layer-wise index sharing effectively reduces the extra overhead introduced by dynamic selection. We discuss how the number of adjacent layers affects the trade-off in Section 5.4.

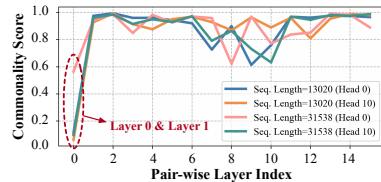


Figure 8: Commonality score between two adjacent layers on LLaMA-2-7B.

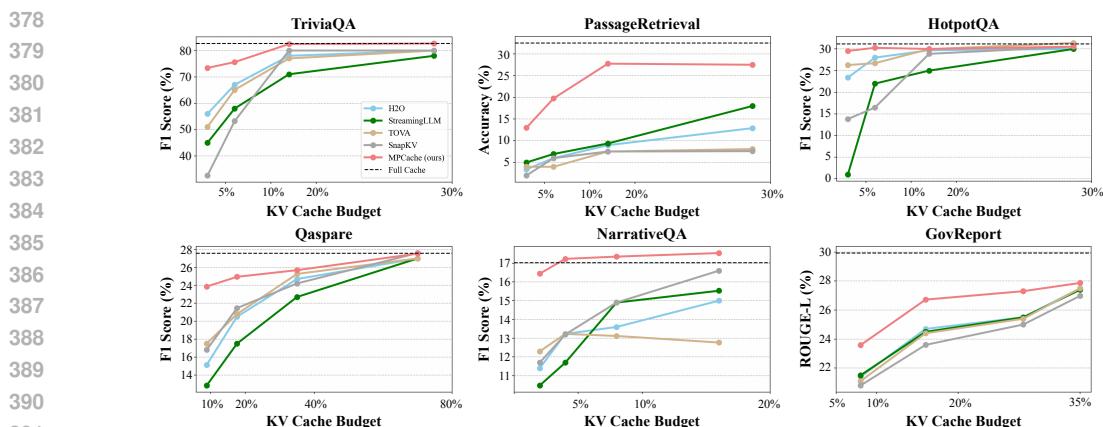


Figure 9: Comparison with fixed-pattern and static KV cache eviction baselines.

## 5 EMPIRICAL EVALUATION

### 5.1 EXPERIMENTAL SETUPS

**Models and datasets.** Our experiments are based on LongChat-7B-V1.5-32K (Li et al., 2023) on LongBench (Bai et al., 2023)<sup>1</sup>, HotpotQA (Yang et al., 2018), NarrativeQA (Kočiský et al., 2018), Qasper (Dasigi et al., 2021), GovReport (Huang et al., 2021), TriviaQA (Joshi et al., 2017), and PassageRetrieval (Bai et al., 2023). We also apply our method to LLaMA-2-7B/13B (Touvron et al., 2023) on 5-shot XSUM (Narayan et al., 2018) and LLaMA-3-8B-Instruct (Dubey et al., 2024) on LongBench. To save GPU memory when processing long-context tasks, we leverage FlashAttention (Dao et al., 2022) during the prefill stage.

**Baselines.** For comparison, we choose prior-art static and dynamic KV cache eviction baselines, including H2O (Zhang et al., 2024d), StreamingLLM (Xiao et al., 2023), TOVA (Oren et al., 2024), SnapKV (Li et al., 2024), InfLLM (Xiao et al., 2024), and LongCache (Liu et al., 2024b). Detailed descriptions of the baselines and our setups can be found in Appendix F

**Experimental environment.** For performance evaluation, our experiments are conducted based on LongBench on an NVIDIA A100 80GB GPU. For efficiency evaluation, our experiments are based on Secretflow (SPU (Ma et al., 2023) V0.9.1) and follow the protocols of PUMA (Dong et al., 2023)<sup>2</sup>. We optimize the top- $k$  protocol in Secretflow with computation parallelization. The latency is evaluated under the LAN setup (Rathee et al., 2020). We evaluate the efficiency using GPT-2 and LLaMA-2, and since securely evaluating a full-size 7B model in SPU exceeds our hardware resources, we set a smaller hidden dimension of 1024 in our evaluation.

### 5.2 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

In Figure 9 and Table 4, we comprehensively compare MPCache with prior-art KV cache eviction methods and make the following observations:

- 1) comparison with fixed-pattern and static algorithms.** MPCache consistently outperforms prior-art methods, including H2O, StreamingLLM, TOVA, and SnapKV across different datasets. These methods statically discard the tokens while MPCache dynamically selects a subset of tokens based on the current queries. MPCache shows decent scalability to different KV cache budgets. For example, on HotPotQA and NarrativeQA, MPCache achieves comparable performance as full cache, even only  $\sim 5\%$  KV cache preserved;
- 2) comparison with dynamic algorithms.** MPCache achieves comparable and even better performance compared with InfLLM and LongCache. For example, on NarrativeQA, MPCache achieves  $1.32\times$  and  $2.39\times$  latency reduction with a higher F1 score compared with InfLLM and LongCache, respectively;
- 3) scalability of MPCache.** We extend our method to LLaMA-2-13B in Figure 3 and LLaMA-3-8B-Instruct in Table 5, demonstrating the superior performance of MPCache.

<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/THUDM/LongBench>

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/secretflow/spu>

Table 4: Comparison with dynamic eviction baselines on different datasets and budgets. “(a $\times$ )” means MPCache achieves a $\times$  efficiency improvement compared with baselines.

Dataset	Cache Budget	InFLM		LongCache		MPCache (ours)	
		Perf. (%) $\uparrow$	Lat. (s) $\downarrow$	Perf. (%) $\uparrow$	Lat. (s) $\downarrow$	Perf. (%) $\uparrow$	Lat. (s) $\downarrow$
HotpotQA	Full	31.16	75.52	31.16	75.52	31.16	75.52
	5%	28.20	51.64 (1.30 $\times$ )	24.31	89.46 (2.24 $\times$ )	30.27	39.85
	10%	29.01	68.04 (1.28 $\times$ )	24.69	123.1 (2.30 $\times$ )	30.05	53.32
TriviaQA	Full	82.67	75.52	82.67	75.52	82.67	75.52
	5%	75.65	51.64 (1.38 $\times$ )	59.85	89.46 (2.39 $\times$ )	75.61	37.37
	10%	82.75	68.04 (1.34 $\times$ )	60.56	123.1 (2.43 $\times$ )	82.45	50.75
NarrativeQA	Full	17.02	75.52	17.02	75.52	17.02	75.52
	5%	12.80	47.74 (1.32 $\times$ )	14.65	86.42 (2.39 $\times$ )	17.23	36.13
	10%	13.74	63.49 (1.28 $\times$ )	15.69	121.4 (2.45 $\times$ )	17.35	49.46
PassageRetrieval	Full	32.50	75.52	32.50	75.52	32.50	75.52
	5%	6.161	51.64 (1.15 $\times$ )	21.42	89.46 (1.99 $\times$ )	19.75	44.82
	10%	8.872	68.04 (1.16 $\times$ )	24.92	123.1 (2.10 $\times$ )	27.75	58.47
Qasper	Full	27.58	75.52	27.58	75.52	27.58	75.52
	8%	20.53	64.52 (1.45 $\times$ )	24.53	136.9 (3.08 $\times$ )	23.86	44.39
	16%	23.90	72.84 (1.33 $\times$ )	26.07	225.9 (4.12 $\times$ )	24.95	54.77

Table 5: Extension to LLaMA-3-8B-Instruct on with an average KV cache size of 2048.

Method	Qasper (F1 Score)	MultiFieldQA (F1 Score)	HotpotQA (F1 Score)	2WikiMultihopQA (F1 Score)	MuSique (F1 Score)	TriviaQA (F1 Score)	TREC	SAMSum (Rouge-L)
Full Cache	29.75	41.12	45.55	35.87	22.35	90.56	73.0	41.88
SnapKV	25.78	38.13	40.12	32.01	16.86	83.22	70.0	31.75
H2O	26.85	39.54	44.30	32.92	21.09	90.56	53.0	41.84
MPCache (ours)	29.45	40.30	44.32	35.91	22.66	90.43	73.0	42.42

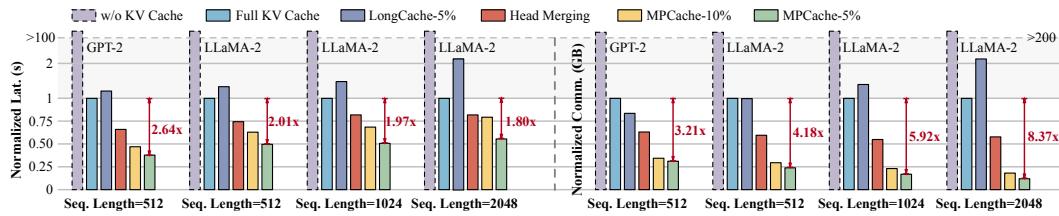


Figure 10: Evaluation on per-token generation latency and communication.

### 5.3 INFERENCE EFFICIENCY EVALUATION

In Figure 10, we benchmark the generation efficiency with different sequence lengths ranging from 512 to 2048. We compare MPCache with model without KV cache, with full KV cache, LongCache, and head merging (Rathee et al., 2024; Bian et al., 2021). From the results, we make the following observations: 1) KV cache is crucial for private LLM inference since it avoids re-computation of the KV cache of the previous tokens. As shown in the purple bar, the overhead increases by hundreds of times compared with using the KV cache; 2) compared with full KV cache on LLaMA-2, MPCache achieves  $1.59 \sim 2.01\times$ ,  $1.46 \sim 1.97\times$ , and  $1.26 \sim 1.8\times$  latency reduction and  $3.39 \sim 4.18\times$ ,  $4.33 \sim 5.92\times$ , and  $5.51 \sim 8.37\times$  communication reduction with different sequence lengths, respectively; 3) compared with LongCache which dynamically selects tokens without static eviction and clustering on LLaMA-2, MPCache even achieves  $3.85\times$  and  $19.47\times$  latency and communication reduction, respectively. We further discuss the 2PC protocol (Lu et al., 2023) in Section 5.4.

### 5.4 ABLATION STUDY OF MPCACHE

**Effectiveness of different optimizations.** In Figure 11, we demonstrate the effectiveness of our proposed optimizations by adding them step by step on LLaMA-2-7B with a sequence length of 1024 and static eviction ratio of 75%. We make the following observations: 1) directly applying

Table 3: Comparison of LLMs with different parameter scales on XSUM.

Budget	10%		5%	
	Scale	7B $\uparrow$	13B $\uparrow$	7B $\uparrow$
Full Cache	11.90	13.60	11.90	13.60
H2O	10.50	13.24	4.886	9.081
MPCache (ours)	11.10	13.44	10.08	13.08

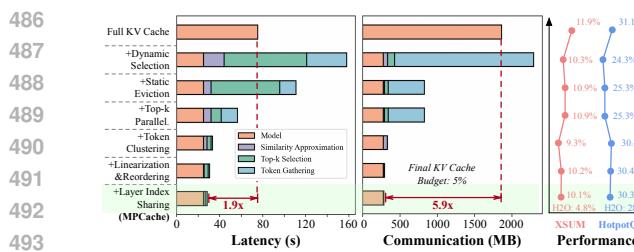


Figure 11: Step-by-step ablation study of MPCache.

Level 1 Coarse-grained	Level 2 Fine-grained	F1 Score (%)	Comm. (MB)
s32(0.9)	s16(0.22)	29.6	163.5
s32(0.7)	s16(0.28)	30.1	144.0
s32(0.5)	s16(0.40)	30.2	140.2
s32(0.3)	s16(0.67)	29.2	108.8
s64(0.9)	s16(0.22)	29.5	158.1
s64(0.7)	s16(0.28)	29.3	110.1
s64(0.5)	s16(0.40)	29.1	104.9
s64(0.3)	s16(0.67)	29.0	69.12

Table 6: Different hierarchical structures with a dynamic selection ratio of 20%.

dynamic selection, e.g., LongCache to private LLM inference does not provide the expected efficiency improvement and even increases both latency and communication; 2) after static eviction, latency and communication of dynamic selection are reduced by  $1.42\times$  and  $2.76\times$ , respectively. 3) our MPC-friendly optimizations, including clustering, linearization, reordering, and layer index sharing further reduce the extra overhead introduced by dynamic selection without sacrificing the model performance; 4) MPCache eventually achieves  $1.9\times$  and  $5.9\times$  latency and communication reduction, respectively, and achieves better performance compared with H2O.

**Effect of hierarchical structure.** To trade off the model performance and dynamic selection overhead, we evaluate different hierarchical structures on HotpotQA. Specifically, we choose different cluster sizes  $s$  and selection ratios at different levels (e.g.,  $s32(0.7)$  means selecting 70% clusters with  $s = 32$ ). From Figure 6, we make the following conclusions: 1) when the gap between two levels increases or the coarse-grained selection ratio decreases, the overhead becomes lower and the performance exhibits a downward trend; 2) appropriate coarse-grained selection may help improve the performance, e.g., the ratio changes from 90% to 50% with  $s = 32$ ;

**Effect of the number of adjacent layers for layer index sharing.** In response to Section 3, we evaluate the trade-off between the number of adjacent layers for layer-wise index sharing and model performance on HotpotQA in Figure 12. As observed, when the number of adjacent layers increases, the latency is reduced at the cost of the performance degradation.

**Discussion on 2PC protocol.** We evaluate the 2PC efficiency in Figure 13. It is observed that MPCache achieves  $1.63\times$  and  $1.79\times$  latency and communication reduction compared with the full cache, and  $2.58\times$  and  $2.48\times$  latency and communication reduction compared with LongCache. Since the multiplication communication in 2PC is larger than in 3PC, the cost of similarity approximation becomes higher. We can use random projection (Johnson et al., 1986) to reduce the multiplication dimensionality, and we leave the research as our future work.

**Additional results.** We present more experimental results, including the effect of  $\alpha$ , the necessity of KV cache, and the comparison with average-based similarity approximation in Appendix F.

## 6 CONCLUSION

In this work, we propose an MPC-friendly KV cache eviction framework dubbed MPCache, that enables accurate and efficient private LLM inference. MPCache is a two-step framework combining static eviction and dynamic selection. To reduce the heavy overhead of dynamic selection, we propose a series of MPC-friendly optimizations. Extensive evaluations demonstrate that MPCache consistently outperforms prior-art KV cache eviction baselines across different generation tasks and significantly reduces both latency and communication.

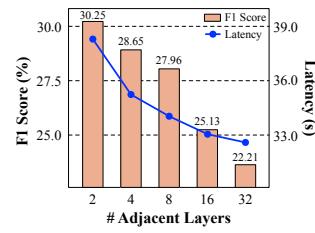


Figure 12: Effect of # adjacent layers.

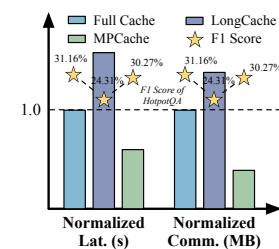


Figure 13: Extension to 2PC protocol.

540 REFERENCES  
541

- 542 Muhammad Adnan, Akhil Arunkumar, Gaurav Jain, Prashant Nair, Ilya Soloveychik, and Pu-  
543 rushotham Kamath. Keyformer: Kv cache reduction through key tokens selection for efficient  
544 generative inference. *Proceedings of Machine Learning and Systems*, 6:114–127, 2024.
- 545 Joshua Ainslie, James Lee-Thorp, Michiel de Jong, Yury Zemlyanskiy, Federico Lebrón, and Sumit  
546 Sanghai. Gqa: Training generalized multi-query transformer models from multi-head check-  
547 points. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.13245*, 2023.
- 548 Yushi Bai, Xin Lv, Jiajie Zhang, Hongchang Lyu, Jiankai Tang, Zhidian Huang, Zhengxiao Du,  
549 Xiao Liu, Aohan Zeng, Lei Hou, et al. Longbench: A bilingual, multitask benchmark for long  
550 context understanding. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2308.14508*, 2023.
- 551 Iz Beltagy, Matthew E Peters, and Arman Cohan. Longformer: The long-document transformer.  
552 *arXiv preprint arXiv:2004.05150*, 2020.
- 553 Yuchen Bian, Jiaji Huang, Xingyu Cai, Jiahong Yuan, and Kenneth Church. On attention redun-  
554 dancy: A comprehensive study. In *Proceedings of the 2021 conference of the north american  
555 chapter of the association for computational linguistics: human language technologies*, pp. 930–  
556 945, 2021.
- 557 Yonatan Bisk, Rowan Zellers, Jianfeng Gao, Yejin Choi, et al. Piqa: Reasoning about physical com-  
558 monsense in natural language. In *Proceedings of the AAAI conference on artificial intelligence*,  
559 volume 34, pp. 7432–7439, 2020.
- 560 Wei-Lin Chiang, Zhuohan Li, Zi Lin, Ying Sheng, Zhanghao Wu, Hao Zhang, Lianmin Zheng,  
561 Siyuan Zhuang, Yonghao Zhuang, Joseph E Gonzalez, et al. Vicuna: An open-source chatbot  
562 impressing gpt-4 with 90%\* chatgpt quality, march 2023. URL <https://lmsys.org/blog/2023-03-30-vicuna>, 3(5), 2023.
- 563 Minsu Cho, Ameya Joshi, Brandon Reagen, Siddharth Garg, and Chinmay Hegde. Selective network  
564 linearization for efficient private inference. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp.  
565 3947–3961. PMLR, 2022.
- 566 Krzysztof Choromanski, Valerii Likhoshesterov, David Dohan, Xingyou Song, Andreea Gane, Tamas  
567 Sarlos, Peter Hawkins, Jared Davis, Afroz Mohiuddin, Lukasz Kaiser, et al. Rethinking attention  
568 with performers. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2009.14794*, 2020.
- 569 Tri Dao. Flashattention-2: Faster attention with better parallelism and work partitioning. *arXiv  
570 preprint arXiv:2307.08691*, 2023.
- 571 Tri Dao, Dan Fu, Stefano Ermon, Atri Rudra, and Christopher Ré. Flashattention: Fast and memory-  
572 efficient exact attention with io-awareness. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*,  
573 35:16344–16359, 2022.
- 574 Pradeep Dasigi, Kyle Lo, Iz Beltagy, Arman Cohan, Noah A Smith, and Matt Gardner. A dataset  
575 of information-seeking questions and answers anchored in research papers. *arXiv preprint  
576 arXiv:2105.03011*, 2021.
- 577 Alessio Devoto, Yu Zhao, Simone Scardapane, and Pasquale Minervini. A simple and effective  $l_2$   
578 norm-based strategy for kv cache compression. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.11430*, 2024.
- 579 Naren Dhyani, Jianqiao Mo, Minsu Cho, Ameya Joshi, Siddharth Garg, Brandon Reagen, and  
580 Chinmay Hegde. Privit: Vision transformers for fast private inference. *arXiv preprint  
581 arXiv:2310.04604*, 2023.
- 582 Ye Dong, Wen-jie Lu, Yancheng Zheng, Haoqi Wu, Derun Zhao, Jin Tan, Zhicong Huang, Cheng  
583 Hong, Tao Wei, and Wenguang Cheng. Puma: Secure inference of llama-7b in five minutes. *arXiv  
584 preprint arXiv:2307.12533*, 2023.
- 585 Abhimanyu Dubey, Abhinav Jauhri, Abhinav Pandey, Abhishek Kadian, Ahmad Al-Dahle, Aiesha  
586 Letman, Akhil Mathur, Alan Schelten, Amy Yang, Angela Fan, et al. The llama 3 herd of models.  
587 *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.21783*, 2024.

- 594 Qichen Fu, Minsik Cho, Thomas Merth, Sachin Mehta, Mohammad Rastegari, and Mahyar Najibi.  
 595 Lazyllm: Dynamic token pruning for efficient long context llm inference, 2024. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.14057>.  
 596
- 597 Suyu Ge, Yunan Zhang, Liyuan Liu, Minjia Zhang, Jiawei Han, and Jianfeng Gao. Model tells  
 598 you what to discard: Adaptive kv cache compression for llms. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2310.01801*,  
 599 2023.
- 600 Oded Goldreich. Secure multi-party computation. *Manuscript. Preliminary version*, 78(110):1–108,  
 601 1998.
- 602
- 603 Kanav Gupta, Neha Jawalkar, Ananta Mukherjee, Nishanth Chandran, Divya Gupta, Ashish Panwar,  
 604 and Rahul Sharma. Sigma: Secure gpt inference with function secret sharing. *Cryptology ePrint  
 605 Archive*, 2023.
- 606
- 607 Yefei He, Luoming Zhang, Weijia Wu, Jing Liu, Hong Zhou, and Bohan Zhuang. Zipcache:  
 608 Accurate and efficient kv cache quantization with salient token identification. *arXiv preprint  
 609 arXiv:2405.14256*, 2024.
- 610
- 611 Coleman Hooper, Sehoon Kim, Hiva Mohammadzadeh, Michael W Mahoney, Yakun Sophia Shao,  
 612 Kurt Keutzer, and Amir Gholami. Kvquant: Towards 10 million context length llm inference with  
 613 kv cache quantization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.18079*, 2024.
- 614
- 615 Xiaoyang Hou, Jian Liu, Jingyu Li, Yuhan Li, Wen-jie Lu, Cheng Hong, and Kui Ren. Ciphergpt:  
 616 Secure two-party gpt inference. *Cryptology ePrint Archive*, 2023.
- 617
- 618 Luyang Huang, Shuyang Cao, Nikolaus Parulian, Heng Ji, and Lu Wang. Efficient attentions for  
 619 long document summarization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.02112*, 2021.
- 620
- 621 Zhicong Huang, Wen-jie Lu, Cheng Hong, and Jiansheng Ding. Cheetah: Lean and fast secure  
 622 {Two-Party} deep neural network inference. In *31st USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX  
 623 Security 22)*, pp. 809–826, 2022.
- 624
- 625 William B Johnson, Joram Lindenstrauss, and Gideon Schechtman. Extensions of lipschitz maps  
 626 into banach spaces. *Israel Journal of Mathematics*, 54(2):129–138, 1986.
- 627
- 628 Mandar Joshi, Eunsol Choi, Daniel S Weld, and Luke Zettlemoyer. Triviaqa: A large scale distantly  
 629 supervised challenge dataset for reading comprehension. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1705.03551*, 2017.
- 630
- 631 Hao Kang, Qingru Zhang, Souvik Kundu, Geonhwa Jeong, Zaoxing Liu, Tushar Krishna, and Tuo  
 632 Zhao. Gear: An efficient kv cache compression recipefor near-lossless generative inference of  
 633 llm. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.05527*, 2024.
- 634
- 635 Nikita Kitaev, Łukasz Kaiser, and Anselm Levskaya. Reformer: The efficient transformer. *arXiv  
 636 preprint arXiv:2001.04451*, 2020.
- 637
- 638 James T Klosowski, Martin Held, Joseph SB Mitchell, Henry Sowizral, and Karel Zikan. Efficient  
 639 collision detection using bounding volume hierarchies of k-dops. *IEEE transactions on Visual-  
 640 ization and Computer Graphics*, 4(1):21–36, 1998.
- 641
- 642 Tomáš Kočiský, Jonathan Schwarz, Phil Blunsom, Chris Dyer, Karl Moritz Hermann, Gábor Melis,  
 643 and Edward Grefenstette. The narrativeqa reading comprehension challenge. *Transactions of the  
 644 Association for Computational Linguistics*, 6:317–328, 2018.
- 645
- 646 Souvik Kundu, Shunlin Lu, Yuke Zhang, Jacqueline Liu, and Peter A Beerel. Learning to linearize  
 647 deep neural networks for secure and efficient private inference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2301.09254*,  
 648 2023.
- 649
- 650 Woosuk Kwon, Zhuohan Li, Siyuan Zhuang, Ying Sheng, Lianmin Zheng, Cody Hao Yu, Joseph  
 651 Gonzalez, Hao Zhang, and Ion Stoica. Efficient memory management for large language model  
 652 serving with pagedattention. In *Proceedings of the 29th Symposium on Operating Systems Prin-  
 653 ciples*, pp. 611–626, 2023.

- 648 Dacheng Li, Rulin Shao, Hongyi Wang, Han Guo, Eric P Xing, and Hao Zhang. Mpcformer: fast,  
 649 performant and private transformer inference with mpc. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.01452*, 2022.  
 650
- 651 Dacheng Li, Rulin Shao, Anze Xie, Ying Sheng, Lianmin Zheng, Joseph Gonzalez, Ion Stoica,  
 652 Xuezhe Ma, and Hao Zhang. How long can context length of open-source llms truly promise? In  
 653 *NeurIPS 2023 Workshop on Instruction Tuning and Instruction Following*, 2023.
- 654 Fabing Li, Yuanhao Zhai, Shuangyu Cai, and Mingyu Gao. Seesaw: Compensating for nonlinear  
 655 reduction with linear computations for private inference. In *Forty-first International Conference  
 656 on Machine Learning*.
- 657
- 658 Yuhong Li, Yingbing Huang, Bowen Yang, Bharat Venkitesh, Acyr Locatelli, Hanchen Ye, Tianle  
 659 Cai, Patrick Lewis, and Deming Chen. Snapkv: Llm knows what you are looking for before  
 660 generation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2404.14469*, 2024.
- 661
- 662 Yehuda Lindell and Benny Pinkas. A proof of security of yao’s protocol for two-party computation.  
 663 *Journal of cryptology*, 22:161–188, 2009.
- 664
- 665 Di Liu, Meng Chen, Baotong Lu, Huiqiang Jiang, Zhenhua Han, Qianxi Zhang, Qi Chen, Chen-  
 666 gruidong Zhang, Bailu Ding, Kai Zhang, et al. Retrievalattention: Accelerating long-context llm  
 667 inference via vector retrieval. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2409.10516*, 2024a.
- 668
- 669 Xiaoran Liu, Qipeng Guo, Yuerong Song, Zhigeng Liu, Kai Lv, Hang Yan, Linlin Li, Qun Liu, and  
 670 Xipeng Qiu. Farewell to length extrapolation, a training-free infinite context with finite attention  
 671 scope. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.15176*, 2024b.
- 672
- 673 Xuanqi Liu and Zhuotao Liu. Llms can understand encrypted prompt: Towards privacy-computing  
 friendly transformers. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.18396*, 2023.
- 674
- 675 Yuhan Liu, Hanchen Li, Kuntai Du, Jiayi Yao, Yihua Cheng, Yuyang Huang, Shan Lu, Michael  
 676 Maire, Henry Hoffmann, Ari Holtzman, et al. Cachegen: Fast context loading for language  
 677 model applications. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2310.07240*, 2023.
- 678
- 679 Zichang Liu, Aditya Desai, Fangshuo Liao, Weitao Wang, Victor Xie, Zhaozhuo Xu, Anastasios  
 680 Kyriolidis, and Anshumali Shrivastava. Scissorhands: Exploiting the persistence of importance  
 681 hypothesis for llm kv cache compression at test time. *Advances in Neural Information Processing  
 Systems*, 36, 2024c.
- 682
- 683 Zirui Liu, Jiayi Yuan, Hongye Jin, Shaochen Zhong, Zhaozhuo Xu, Vladimir Braverman, Beidi  
 684 Chen, and Xia Hu. Kivi: A tuning-free asymmetric 2bit quantization for kv cache. *arXiv preprint  
 arXiv:2402.02750*, 2024d.
- 685
- 686 Wen-jie Lu, Zhicong Huang, Zhen Gu, Jingyu Li, Jian Liu, Cheng Hong, Kui Ren, Tao Wei, and  
 687 WenGuang Chen. Bumblebee: Secure two-party inference framework for large transformers.  
 688 *Cryptology ePrint Archive*, 2023.
- 689
- 690 Shi Luohe, Zhang Hongyi, Yao Yao, Li Zuchao, and Zhao Hai. Keep the cost down: A review on  
 691 methods to optimize llm’s kv-cache consumption. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.18003*, 2024.
- 692
- 693 Junming Ma, Yancheng Zheng, Jun Feng, Derun Zhao, Haoqi Wu, Wenjing Fang, Jin Tan, Chaofan  
 694 Yu, Benyu Zhang, and Lei Wang. SecretFlow-SPU: A performant and User-Friendly frame-  
 695 work for Privacy-Preserving machine learning. In *2023 USENIX Annual Technical Conference  
 (USENIX ATC 23)*. USENIX Association, July 2023.
- 696
- 697 Pratyush Mishra, Ryan Lehmkuhl, Akshayaram Srinivasan, Wenting Zheng, and Raluca Ada Popa.  
 698 Delphi: A cryptographic inference system for neural networks. In *Proceedings of the 2020 Work-  
 shop on Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning in Practice*, pp. 27–30, 2020.
- 699
- 700 Payman Mohassel and Peter Rindal. Aby3: A mixed protocol framework for machine learning. In  
 701 *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM SIGSAC conference on computer and communications security*, pp.  
 35–52, 2018.

- 702 Shashi Narayan, Shay B Cohen, and Mirella Lapata. Don't give me the details, just the sum-  
 703 mary! topic-aware convolutional neural networks for extreme summarization. *arXiv preprint*  
 704 *arXiv:1808.08745*, 2018.
- 705 Matan Oren, Michael Hassid, Yossi Adi, and Roy Schwartz. Transformers are multi-state rnns.  
 706 *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.06104*, 2024.
- 708 M Ott. fairseq: A fast, extensible toolkit for sequence modeling. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1904.01038*,  
 709 2019.
- 710 Qi Pang, Jinhao Zhu, Helen Möllering, Wenting Zheng, and Thomas Schneider. Bolt: Privacy-  
 711 preserving, accurate and efficient inference for transformers. *Cryptology ePrint Archive*, 2023.
- 713 Alec Radford, Jeffrey Wu, Rewon Child, David Luan, Dario Amodei, Ilya Sutskever, et al. Language  
 714 models are unsupervised multitask learners. *OpenAI blog*, 1(8):9, 2019.
- 716 Deevashwer Rathee, Mayank Rathee, Nishant Kumar, Nishanth Chandran, Divya Gupta, Aseem  
 717 Rastogi, and Rahul Sharma. Cryptflow2: Practical 2-party secure inference. In *Proceedings of*  
 718 *the 2020 ACM SIGSAC Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, pp. 325–342,  
 719 2020.
- 720 Deevashwer Rathee, Dacheng Li, Ion Stoica, Hao Zhang, and Raluca Popa. Mpc-minimized secure  
 721 llm inference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2408.03561*, 2024.
- 723 Jay Shah, Ganesh Bikshandi, Ying Zhang, Vijay Thakkar, Pradeep Ramani, and Tri Dao.  
 724 Flashattention-3: Fast and accurate attention with asynchrony and low-precision. *arXiv preprint*  
 725 *arXiv:2407.08608*, 2024.
- 726 Hanlin Tang, Yang Lin, Jing Lin, Qingsen Han, Shikuan Hong, Yiwu Yao, and Gongyi Wang.  
 727 Razorattention: Efficient kv cache compression through retrieval heads. *arXiv preprint*  
 728 *arXiv:2407.15891*, 2024a.
- 730 Jiaming Tang, Yilong Zhao, Kan Zhu, Guangxuan Xiao, Baris Kasikci, and Song Han. Quest:  
 731 Query-aware sparsity for efficient long-context llm inference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.10774*,  
 732 2024b.
- 733 Rohan Taori, Ishaan Gulrajani, Tianyi Zhang, Yann Dubois, Xuechen Li, Carlos Guestrin, Percy  
 734 Liang, and Tatsunori B Hashimoto. Stanford alpaca: an instruction-following llama model (2023).  
 735 *URL https://github.com/tatsu-lab/stanford\_alpaca*, 1(9), 2023.
- 736 Romal Thoppilan, Daniel De Freitas, Jamie Hall, Noam Shazeer, Apoorv Kulshreshtha, Heng-Tze  
 737 Cheng, Alicia Jin, Taylor Bos, Leslie Baker, Yu Du, et al. Lamda: Language models for dialog  
 738 applications. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2201.08239*, 2022.
- 740 Hugo Touvron, Louis Martin, Kevin Stone, Peter Albert, Amjad Almahairi, Yasmine Babaei, Niko-  
 741 lay Bashlykov, Soumya Batra, Prajjwal Bhargava, Shruti Bhosale, et al. Llama 2: Open founda-  
 742 tion and fine-tuned chat models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.09288*, 2023.
- 743 Zhongwei Wan, Ziang Wu, Che Liu, Jinfa Huang, Zhihong Zhu, Peng Jin, Longyue Wang, and  
 744 Li Yuan. Look-m: Look-once optimization in kv cache for efficient multimodal long-context  
 745 inference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.18139*, 2024.
- 747 Hanrui Wang, Zhekai Zhang, and Song Han. Spatten: Efficient sparse attention architecture with  
 748 cascade token and head pruning. In *2021 IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance*  
 749 *Computer Architecture (HPCA)*, pp. 97–110. IEEE, 2021.
- 750 Zihao Wang and Shaoduo Gan. Squeezeattention: 2d management of kv-cache in llm inference via  
 751 layer-wise optimal budget. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2404.04793*, 2024.
- 753 Chaojun Xiao, Pengle Zhang, Xu Han, Guangxuan Xiao, Yankai Lin, Zhengyan Zhang, Zhiyuan  
 754 Liu, Song Han, and Maosong Sun. Inflm: Unveiling the intrinsic capacity of llms for under-  
 755 standing extremely long sequences with training-free memory. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.04617*,  
 2024.

- 756     Guangxuan Xiao, Yuandong Tian, Beidi Chen, Song Han, and Mike Lewis. Efficient streaming  
 757     language models with attention sinks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.17453*, 2023.  
 758
- 759     Zhiwei Xu, Yunpeng Bai, Bin Zhang, Dapeng Li, and Guoliang Fan. Haven: Hierarchical coopera-  
 760     tive multi-agent reinforcement learning with dual coordination mechanism. In *Proceedings of the*  
 761     *AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, volume 37, pp. 11735–11743, 2023.
- 762     Dongjie Yang, XiaoDong Han, Yan Gao, Yao Hu, Shilin Zhang, and Hai Zhao. Pyramidinfer: Pyra-  
 763     mid kv cache compression for high-throughput llm inference. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2405.12532*,  
 764     2024.
- 765     Zhilin Yang, Peng Qi, Saizheng Zhang, Yoshua Bengio, William W Cohen, Ruslan Salakhutdinov,  
 766     and Christopher D Manning. Hotpotqa: A dataset for diverse, explainable multi-hop question  
 767     answering. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1809.09600*, 2018.
- 768
- 769     Yao Yao, Zuchao Li, and Hai Zhao. Sirllm: Streaming infinite retentive llm. *arXiv preprint*  
 770     *arXiv:2405.12528*, 2024.
- 771
- 772     Wenxuan Zeng, Meng Li, Wenjie Xiong, Tong Tong, Wen-jie Lu, Jin Tan, Runsheng Wang, and  
 773     Ru Huang. Mpcvit: Searching for accurate and efficient mpc-friendly vision transformer with  
 774     heterogeneous attention. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer*  
 775     *Vision*, pp. 5052–5063, 2023.
- 776     Tianyi Zhang, Faisal Ladhak, Esin Durmus, Percy Liang, Kathleen McKeown, and Tatsunori B  
 777     Hashimoto. Benchmarking large language models for news summarization. *Transactions of the*  
 778     *Association for Computational Linguistics*, 12:39–57, 2024a.
- 779
- 780     Tianyi Zhang, Jonah Yi, Zhaozhuo Xu, and Anshumali Shrivastava. Kv cache is 1 bit per  
 781     channel: Efficient large language model inference with coupled quantization. *arXiv preprint*  
 782     *arXiv:2405.03917*, 2024b.
- 783
- 784     Yancheng Zhang, Mengxin Zheng, Yuzhang Shang, Xun Chen, and Qian Lou. Heprune: Fast pri-  
 785     vate training of deep neural networks with encrypted data pruning. In *The Thirty-eighth Annual*  
 786     *Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems*.
- 787
- 788     Yichi Zhang, Bofei Gao, Tianyu Liu, Keming Lu, Wayne Xiong, Yue Dong, Baobao Chang, Junjie  
 789     Hu, Wen Xiao, et al. Pyramidkv: Dynamic kv cache compression based on pyramidal information  
 790     funneling. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.02069*, 2024c.
- 791
- 792     Zhenyu Zhang, Ying Sheng, Tianyi Zhou, Tianlong Chen, Lianmin Zheng, Ruisi Cai, Zhao Song,  
 793     Yuandong Tian, Christopher Ré, Clark Barrett, et al. H2o: Heavy-hitter oracle for efficient gen-  
 794     erative inference of large language models. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*,  
 795     36, 2024d.
- 796
- 797     Youpeng Zhao, Di Wu, and Jun Wang. Alisa: Accelerating large language model inference via  
 798     sparsity-aware kv caching. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.17312*, 2024.
- 799
- 800     Fei Zheng, Chaochao Chen, Zhongxuan Han, and Xiaolin Zheng. Permllm: Private inference of  
 801     large language models within 3 seconds under wan. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2405.18744*, 2024.
- 802
- 803
- 804
- 805
- 806
- 807
- 808
- 809     Lei Zhu, Xinjiang Wang, Zhanghan Ke, Wayne Zhang, and Rynson WH Lau. Biformer: Vision  
 810     transformer with bi-level routing attention. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF conference on com-*  
 811     *puter vision and pattern recognition*, pp. 10323–10333, 2023.