

# Asynchronous SGD

December 16, 2024

## Abstract

TBA.

## 1 Previous algorithm

### 1.1 Assumptions

**Assumption 1.** Local functions  $f_i$  are differentiable and  $L$ -smooth for some positive constant  $L$ , namely,

$$\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

**Assumption 2.** Stochastic gradients  $g_i(x) = \nabla f_i(x, \xi)$  are unbiased estimators of  $\nabla f_i(x)$ , *i.e.*,

$$\mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim \mathcal{D}_i} [\nabla f_i(x, \xi)] = \nabla f_i(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

and have bounded variance  $\sigma^2 \geq 0$ , namely,

$$\mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim \mathcal{D}_i} [\|\nabla f_i(x, \xi) - \nabla f_i(x)\|^2] \leq \sigma^2, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

Next, we also assume that the bounded function heterogeneity assumption holds since in general case it is not possible to derive any convergence guarantees for asynchronous algorithms.

**Assumption 3.** Local gradients  $\nabla f_i(x)$  satisfy bounded heterogeneity condition for some  $\zeta^2 \geq 0$ , *i.e.*,

$$\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f(x)\|^2 \leq \zeta^2, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

## 1.2 Notations

**Definition 0.** Corresponding delays:  $\tau_t, \tilde{\tau}_t \geq 0$ , then

$$\pi_t := t - \tau_t, \quad \alpha_t := t - \tilde{\tau}_t.$$

**Definition 1.** Let  $\{\tau_t\}_{t=0}^{T-1}$  be the delays of all applied gradients.

The average and maximum delays are defined as follows:

$$\tau_{\text{avg}} := \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}_{T+1}|} \left( \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \tau_t + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}_{T+1} \setminus \mathcal{R}_T} T - j \right), \quad \tau_{\text{max}} := \max \left\{ \max_{0 \leq t < T} \tau_t, \max_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}_{T+1} \setminus \mathcal{R}_T} T - j \right\}.$$

**Definition 2.** The maximum number of active jobs or concurrency is defined as

$$\tau_C := \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |\mathcal{A}_{t+1} \setminus \mathcal{R}_t|.$$

**Definition 3.**

$$\tilde{x}_0 = x_0, \quad \tilde{x}_{t+1} = \begin{cases} \tilde{x}_t - \gamma \nabla f(x_t) & \text{if } t+1 \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}, \\ x_{t+1} & \text{if } t+1 = 0 \pmod{\tau}. \end{cases}$$

where  $\tau = \Theta(\frac{1}{L\gamma})$ .

### 1.3 Pure Asynchronous SGD

#### 1.3.1 Algorithm

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**Algorithm 1** Pure Asynchronous SGD

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**Input:** initial point  $x_0$ , stepsize  $\gamma$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}_0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ ,  
set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}_0 = \emptyset$   
1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T - 1$  **do**  
2:   once worker  $i_t$  finishes a job  $(i_t, \pi_t) \in \mathcal{A}_{t+1}$  (computing  $g_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})$ ), it sends  $g_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})$  to the server  
3:   server updates the current model  $x_{t+1} = x_t - \gamma g_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}_{t+1} = \mathcal{R}_t \cup \{(i_t, \pi_t)\}$   
4:   server assigns worker  $i_t$  to compute a gradient  $g_{i_t}(x_{t+1})$   
5:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}_{t+2} = \mathcal{A}_{t+1} \cup \{(i_t, t + 1)\}$   
6: **end for**

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#### 1.3.2 Lemmas

For  $r(t) \leq m < r(t) + \tau$  ( $r(t) = k\tau$ ), Denote

$$A := \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2],$$

$$B := \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2],$$

Virtual and real iterates:

$$x_t = x_{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} g_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j})$$

$$\tilde{x}_t = x_{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \nabla f(x_j)$$

$$\Delta_t^m := \sum_{j=r(t)}^m (\nabla f(x_j) - g_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}))$$

Then we have some useful lemmas below:

**Lemma 1.**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^m\|^2] &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_j) \right\|^2 \right] + \tau \sigma^2 \\ &\leq 2\tau^2 \zeta^2 + 2L^2 \tau \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{\pi_j}\|^2] + \tau \sigma^2\end{aligned}$$

(Here's sth. wrong. I didn't consider about  $r(t)$ . However, it doesn't affect the final result.)

**Lemma 2.**

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - \tilde{x}_t\|^2] &= \gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} g_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_j) \right\|^2 \right] \\ &= \gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^{t-1}\|^2] \\ &\leq 2\gamma^2 \tau^2 \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^2 \tau \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{\pi_j}\|^2] + \gamma^2 \tau \sigma^2 T \\ &\leq 2\gamma^2 \tau^2 \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^2 \tau^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2] + \gamma^2 \tau \sigma^2 T\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.** If  $20\gamma L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau C} \leq 1$ , recall that  $\pi_t = t - \tau_t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2] \\ &= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} g_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) \right\|^2 \right] \\ &\leq \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) \right\|^2 \right] + \gamma^2 (t - \pi_t) \sigma^2 \\ &\leq 3\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} (\nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_{\pi_j})) \right\|^2 \right] + 3\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} (\nabla f(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_j)) \right\|^2 \right] + 3\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f(x_j) \right\|^2 \right] + \tau_t \gamma^2 \sigma^2 \\ &\leq 3\gamma^2 L^2 \tau_t \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_{\pi_j} - x_j\|^2] + 3\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} (\nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_{\pi_j})) \right\|^2 \right] + 3\gamma^2 \tau_t \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \|\nabla f(x_j)\|^2 + \tau_t \gamma^2 \sigma^2.\end{aligned}$$

Then, we sum it up from 0 to  $T - 1$ . By  $20\gamma L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C} \leq 1$ , we can get

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_{\pi_t} - x_t\|^2] &\leq 3\gamma^2 L^2 \tau_{\max} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_{\pi_j} - x_j\|^2] + 3\gamma^2 \tau_{\max} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_j)\|^2] \\
&\quad + 3\gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_{\pi_j}) \right\|^2 \right] + \tau_{\text{avg}} T \gamma^2 \sigma^2 \\
&\leq 3\gamma^2 L^2 \tau_{\max} \tau_C \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_{\pi_t} - x_t\|^2] + 3\gamma^2 \tau_{\max} \tau_C \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\
&\quad + 3\gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f_{i_j}(x_j) - \nabla f(x_j) \right\|^2 \right] + \tau_{\text{avg}} T \gamma^2 \sigma^2 \\
&\leq \frac{3}{400} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_{\pi_t} - x_t\|^2] + \frac{3}{400L^2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\
&\quad + 3\gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_{\pi_j}) \right\|^2 \right] + \tau_{\text{avg}} T \gamma^2 \sigma^2,
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $\tau_{sum}^t$  represent the sum of the delays of all tasks at the end of round  $t - 1$ , and  $\tau_C^t$  represent the maximum delay of the task active at the end of round  $t - 1$ .

Then  $\tau_{sum}^t \leq \tau_{sum}^{t-1} + \tau_C^t \Rightarrow \tau_{sum} \leq \sum \tau_C^t \Rightarrow \tau_{avg} \leq 2\tau_C$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2] &\leq \frac{1}{132L^2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{2\tau_{\text{avg}}}{20L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C}} T \gamma \sigma^2 \\
&\quad + \frac{100\gamma^2}{33} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=\pi_t}^{t-1} \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - \nabla f(x_{\pi_j}) \right\|^2 \right] \\
&\leq \frac{1}{132L^2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{\gamma}{5L} T \sigma^2 + \frac{\zeta^2 T}{132L^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 4.** If  $20\gamma L\tau \leq 1$  and  $20\gamma L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C} \leq 1$ , by Lemma 2 and Lemma 3,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - \tilde{x}_t\|^2] &\leq 2\gamma^2 \tau^2 \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^2 \tau^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2] + \gamma^2 \tau \sigma^2 T \\
&\leq \frac{\zeta^2 T}{200L^2} + \frac{1}{200} A + \frac{\gamma}{L} T \sigma^2 \\
&\leq \frac{\zeta^2 T}{200L^2} + \frac{1}{200} \left( \frac{1}{132L^2} B + \frac{\zeta^2 T}{132L^2} + \frac{\gamma T \sigma^2}{5L} \right) + \frac{\gamma}{L} T \sigma^2 \\
&\leq \frac{\zeta^2 T}{100L^2} + \frac{1}{20000L^2} B + \frac{2\gamma}{L} T \sigma^2
\end{aligned}$$

### 1.3.3 Analysis

**Proposition 1.** Let Assumptions 1,2 and 3 hold. Let the stepsize  $\gamma$  satisfy inequalities

$$20L\gamma\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau C} \leq 1, \quad 6L\gamma \leq 1$$

Let  $\tau = \lfloor \frac{1}{20L\gamma} \rfloor$ . Then the iterates of Algorithm 2 satisfy

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\hat{x}_t)\|^2] \leq \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{F_0}{\gamma T} + L\gamma\sigma^2 + \zeta^2 \right),$$

where  $\hat{x}_t$  is chosen uniformly at random from  $\{x_0, \dots, x_{T-1}\}$  and  $F_0 := f(x_0) - f^*$ .

Moreover, if we tune the stepsize, then the iterates of pure asynchronous SGD satisfy

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\hat{x}_t)\|^2] \leq \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{LF_0\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau C}}{T} + \left( \frac{LF_0\sigma^2}{T} \right)^{1/2} + \zeta^2 \right)$$

**Proof.** First, we consider a descent inequality for the virtual iterates  $\tilde{x}_t$ :

$$\tilde{x}_0 = x_0, \quad \tilde{x}_{t+1} = \begin{cases} \tilde{x}_t - \gamma \nabla f(x_t) & \text{if } t+1 \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}, \\ x_{t+1} & \text{if } t+1 = 0 \pmod{\tau}. \end{cases}$$

**Iterations without restart** ( $t+1 \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_{t+1})] &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \gamma \mathbb{E} [\langle \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t), \nabla f(x_t) \rangle] + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t) - \nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L^2\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\tilde{x}_t - x_t\|^2] + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{3} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L^2\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\tilde{x}_t - x_t\|^2]. \end{aligned}$$

**Iterations with restart** ( $t+1 = 0 \pmod{\tau}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}_{t+1} &= x_{t+1} = x_t - \gamma g_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t}) \\ &= \tilde{x}_t + (x_t - \tilde{x}_t) - \gamma \nabla f(x_t) + (\gamma \nabla f(x_t) - \gamma g_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})) \\ &= \tilde{x}_t - \gamma \nabla f(x_t) + \underbrace{\gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^t \nabla f(x_j) - g_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j})}_{=\Delta_t^t}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_{t+1})] &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \gamma \mathbb{E} [\langle \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t), \nabla f(x_t) - \Delta_t^t \rangle] + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t) - \Delta_t^t\|^2] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \gamma \mathbb{E} [\langle \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t), \nabla f(x_t) \rangle] + \gamma \mathbb{E} [\langle \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t), \Delta_t^t \rangle] + L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t) - \nabla f(x_t)\|^2] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{160L} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] + 40L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] + L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{3} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L^2\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\tilde{x}_t - x_t\|^2] + \frac{1}{160L} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] \\ &\quad + 41L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] \end{aligned}$$

Thus, let

$$\xi_t = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } t+1 \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}, \\ 0, & \text{if } t+1 = 0 \pmod{\tau}. \end{cases}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[f(\tilde{x}_{t+1})] &\leq \mathbb{E}[f(\tilde{x}_t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{3} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L^2\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E}[\|\tilde{x}_t - x_t\|^2] \\ &\quad + \left( \frac{1}{160L} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] + 41L\gamma^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] \right) \xi_t, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Below we estimate the two terms associated with  $\xi_t$ .

**First term:** the gradient at moment  $t$  is bounded by the previous  $\tau$  round:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{L} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] &= \frac{1}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t) - \nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] + \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{2L}{\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\tilde{x}_t - \tilde{x}_{t-j}\|^2] + \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{2L\gamma^2}{\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{l=t-j}^{t-1} \nabla f(x_l) \right\|^2 \right] + \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq 2L\gamma^2 \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \sum_{l=t-j}^{t-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x_l)\|^2] + \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq 2L\gamma^2 \tau \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x_{t-j})\|^2] + \frac{2}{L\tau} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma}{10} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x_{t-j})\|^2] + 80\gamma \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_{t-j})\|^2] \end{aligned}$$

By  $\frac{1}{40} \leq L\gamma\tau \leq \frac{1}{20}(\tau = \lfloor \frac{1}{20L\gamma} \rfloor)$ , we can get: (Just add up those terms  $t = k\tau$  here.)

$$\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \frac{1}{160L} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] \xi_t \leq \frac{\gamma}{1600} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2]$$

**Second term:** By Lemma 1 and Lemma 3,

$$\begin{aligned}
L\gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} \|\Delta_t^t\|^2 \xi_t &\leq 2L\gamma^2 \tau \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^3 \tau \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{\pi_j}\|^2] \xi_t + L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T \\
&\leq 2L\gamma^2 \tau \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^3 \tau A + L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T \\
&\leq 2L\gamma^2 \tau \zeta^2 T + 2\gamma^2 L^3 \tau \left( \frac{1}{132L^2} B + \frac{\zeta^2 T}{132L^2} + \frac{\gamma T \sigma^2}{5L} \right) + L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T \\
&\leq 3L\gamma^2 \tau \zeta^2 T + \frac{1}{66} \gamma^2 L \tau B + 2L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T
\end{aligned}$$

Plug the two terms back and sum it up from 0 to  $T-1$ , and by Lemma 4,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} [f(\tilde{x}_T) - f(\tilde{x}_0)] &\leq -\frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{3} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2] + \frac{L^2 \gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\tilde{x}_t - x_t\|^2] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{160L} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \xi_t \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] + 41L\gamma^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \xi_t \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^t\|^2] \\
&\leq -\frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] - \frac{\gamma}{3} B \\
&\quad + \frac{L^2 \gamma}{2} \left( \frac{\zeta^2 T}{100L^2} + \frac{1}{20000L^2} B + \frac{2\gamma}{L} T \sigma^2 \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{\gamma}{1600} B + \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)\|^2] \\
&\quad + 124L\gamma^2 \tau \zeta^2 T + \gamma^2 L \tau B + 82L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T \\
&\leq -\frac{\gamma}{4} B + 7\gamma T \zeta^2 + 83L\gamma^2 \sigma^2 T
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $F_0 := f(x_0) - f^*$ , the final rate

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\hat{x}_t)\|^2] \leq \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{F_0}{\gamma T} + L\gamma \sigma^2 + \zeta^2 \right).$$

Since  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{L\sqrt{\tau_{\max} \tau_C}}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\hat{x}_t)\|^2] &\leq \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{F_0}{T} \sqrt{L\tau_{\max} \tau_C} + L\sigma^2 \left( \frac{F_0}{L\sigma^2 T} \right)^{1/2} + \zeta^2 \right) \\
&= \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{LF_0 \sqrt{\tau_{\max} \tau_C}}{T} + \left( \frac{LF_0 \sigma^2}{T} \right)^{1/2} + \zeta^2 \right)
\end{aligned}$$



## 2 Our algorithm

### 2.1 Pure

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**Algorithm 2** AlgoA

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**Input:** initial point  $x_0$ ,  $\{h_i^0\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $h^0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h_i^0$ , stepsize  $\gamma, \alpha$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}_0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ , set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}_0 = \emptyset$ ,

- 1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T-1$  **do**
- 2:   worker  $i_t$  finishes a job  $(i_t, \pi_t) \in \mathcal{A}_{t+1}$  (compute  $\tilde{g}_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})$  and send  $\hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t$  to server)
- 3:    $\hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t = \mathcal{C}_{i_t}^t(\tilde{g}_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t}) - h_{i_t}^t)$
- 4:    $h_{i_t}^{t+1} = h_{i_t}^t + \alpha \hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t$
- 5:   server updates the current model  $x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma(h^t + \hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t)$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}_{t+1} = \mathcal{R}_t \cup \{(i_t, \pi_t)\}$
- 6:   //  $g_{i_t}^t = h^t + \hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t$
- 7:   //  $\mathbb{E}[g_{i_t}^t] = h^t + \nabla f_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t}) - h_{i_t}^t$        $h^t = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i h_i^t$        $\nabla f(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \nabla f_i(x)$
- 8:    $h^{t+1} = h^t + \frac{\alpha}{n} \hat{\Delta}_{i_t}^t$
- 9:   server assigns worker  $i_t$  to compute a gradient  $\tilde{g}_{i_t}(x_{t+1})$
- 10:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}_{t+2} = \mathcal{A}_{t+1} \cup \{(i_t, t+1)\}$
- 11: **end for**

---

**Zhize:** add our analysis

We consider a descent inequality for the virtual iterates  $\tilde{x}_t$ :

$$\tilde{x}_0 = x_0, \quad \tilde{x}_{t+1} = \begin{cases} \tilde{x}_t - \gamma \nabla f(x_t) & \text{if } t+1 \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}, \\ x_{t+1} & \text{if } t+1 = 0 \pmod{\tau}. \end{cases}$$

For  $r(t) \leq m < r(t) + \tau$  ( $r(t) = k\tau$ ), Denote

$$\begin{aligned} A &:= \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2], \\ B &:= \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2], \\ [\sigma_t^m]^2 &:= \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - h_{i_j}^j \right\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Virtual and real iterates:

$$\begin{aligned} x_t &= x_{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} g_{i_j}^j \\ \tilde{x}_t &= x_{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \nabla f(x_j) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_t^m := \sum_{j=r(t)}^m (\nabla f(x_j) - g_{i_j}^j)$$

$$\mathbb{E}_t[g_{i_t}^t] = \nabla f_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t}) + h^t - h_{i_t}^t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \|\nabla f_{i_{t+1}}(x_{\pi_{t+1}}) - h_{i_{t+1}}^{t+1}\|^2 \right] &\leq \left[ 1 - 2\alpha + \frac{(1-\alpha)^2}{\beta} + \alpha^2(1+\omega) \right] \|\nabla f_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t}) - h_{i_t}^t\|^2 \\ &\quad + (1+\beta) \|\nabla f_{i_{t+1}}(x_{\pi_{t+1}}) - \nabla f_{i_t}(x_{\pi_t})\|^2 + \alpha^2(1+\omega)\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^m\|^2] &\leq 4\mathbb{E} [\phi_t^m(x_{r(t)})] + 4L^2\tau \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{\pi_j}\|^2] + 8L^2\tau \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{r(t)}\|^2] \\ &\quad + \omega \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \|\nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - h_{i_j}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} [\|x_j - x_{r(t)}\|^2] &= \gamma^2 \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{l=r(t)}^{j-1} g_{i_l}^l \right\|^2 \right] \\ &\leq 2\gamma^2 \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{l=r(t)}^{j-1} (g_{i_l}^l - \nabla f(x_l)) \right\|^2 \right] + 2\gamma^2 \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{l=r(t)}^{j-1} \nabla f(x_l) \right\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

## 2.2 Random

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### Algorithm 3 AlgoA

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**Input:** initial point  $x^0$ ,  $\{h_i^0\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $h^0 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h_i^0$ , stepsize  $\gamma, \alpha$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}^0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ , set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}^0 = \emptyset$ ,

- 1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T-1$  **do**
- 2:   worker  $i^t$  finishes a job  $(i^t, \pi^t) \in \mathcal{A}^{t+1}$  (compute  $g_{i^t}^t(x^{\pi^t})$  and send  $\widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t$  to server)
- 3:    $\widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t = \mathcal{C}_{i^t}^t(g_{i^t}^t(x^{\pi^t}) - h_{i^t}^t)$
- 4:    $h_{i^t}^{t+1} = h_{i^t}^t + \alpha \widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t$
- 5:   server updates the current model  $x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma(h^t + \widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t)$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}^{t+1} = \mathcal{R}^t \cup \{(i^t, \pi^t)\}$
- 6:   //  $\widetilde{g}_{i^t}^t(x^{\pi^t}) = h^t + \widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t$
- 7:   //  $h^t = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i h_i^t$      $\nabla f(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \nabla f_i(x)$
- 8:    $h^{t+1} = h^t + \frac{\alpha}{n} \widehat{\Delta}_{i^t}^t$
- 9:   server assigns worker  $k^{t+1} \sim \text{Uni}[1, \dots, n]$  to compute a gradient  $g_{k^{t+1}}(x^{t+1})$
- 10:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}^{t+2} = \mathcal{A}^{t+1} \cup \{(k^{t+1}, t+1)\}$
- 11: **end for**

---

**Zhize:** add our analysis

We consider a descent inequality for the virtual iterates  $\widetilde{y}^t$ :

$$\widetilde{y}^1 = y^1, \quad \widetilde{y}^{t+1} = \begin{cases} \widetilde{y}^t - \gamma(h^t + \nabla f(x^t) - h_{k^t}^t) & \text{if } t \neq 0 \pmod{\tau}, \\ y^{t+1} & \text{if } t = 0 \pmod{\tau}. \end{cases}$$

For  $r(t) \leq m < r(t) + \tau$  ( $r(t) = k\tau$ ), Denote

$$\begin{aligned} A &:= \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|x_t - x_{\pi_t}\|^2], \\ B &:= \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x_t)\|^2], \\ [\sigma_t^m]^2 &:= \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \nabla f_{i_j}(x_{\pi_j}) - h_{i_j}^j \right\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Virtual and real iterates ( $l := \pi^{-1}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} x^t &= x^{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \widetilde{g}_{i_j}^j(x^{\pi_j}) \\ y^t &= y^{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \widetilde{g}_{k^j}^j(x^j) \\ \widetilde{y}^t &= y^{r(t)} - \gamma \sum_{j=r(t)}^{t-1} \nabla f(x^j) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta_t^m = \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \nabla f(x^j) - h_{kj}^{lj} - \mathcal{C}_{kj}^{lj} (g_{kj}^{lj}(x^j) - h_{kj}^{lj})$$

**Lemma D.1'**

$$x^t - y^t = \gamma \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}^t \setminus \mathcal{R}^t} \tilde{g}_i^{lj}(x^j)$$

**Lemma D.2'**

$$\mathbb{E} [\|y^t - x^t\|^2] = \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}^t \setminus \mathcal{R}^t} \tilde{g}_i^{lj}(x^j) \right\|^2 \right]$$

**Lemma D.3'**

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|\Delta_t^m\|^2] \\ = & \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{j=r(t)}^m \nabla f(x^j) - h_{kj}^{lj} - \mathcal{C}_{kj}^{lj} (g_{kj}^{lj}(x^j) - h_{kj}^{lj}) \right\|^2 \right] \\ \leq & \end{aligned}$$

## 2.3 Pure (SAGA)

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### Algorithm 4 AlgoA

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**Input:** initial point  $\{x^0 = w_i^0\}_{i=1}^n$ , stepsize  $\gamma$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}^0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ ,  
set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}^0 = \emptyset$ ,

- 1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T - 1$  **do**
- 2:   worker  $i^t$  finishes a job  $(i^t, \pi^t) \in \mathcal{A}^{t+1}$  (compute  $\nabla f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t})$  and send it to server)
- 3:    $\tilde{g}_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t}) = \nabla f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t}) - \nabla f_{i^t}(w_{i^t}^t) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \nabla f_p(w_p^t)$
- 4:   server updates the current model  $x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma \tilde{g}_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t})$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}^{t+1} = \mathcal{R}^t \cup \{(i^t, \pi^t)\}$
- 5:   server assigns worker  $i^t$  to compute  $\nabla f_{i^t}(x^{t+1})$
- 6:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}^{t+2} = \mathcal{A}^{t+1} \cup \{(k^{t+1}, t + 1)\}$
- 7:    $w_i^{t+1} = \begin{cases} x^{\pi^t}, & i = i^t \\ w_i^t, & i \neq i^t \end{cases}$
- 8: **end for**

---

**Zhize:** add our analysis

Virtual and real iterates ( $l := \pi^{-1}$ , where  $\pi(\cdot) \neq 0$ ):

$$x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma \tilde{g}_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t})$$

$$y_{t+1} = y_t - \gamma \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}_{t+1} \setminus \mathcal{A}_t} \tilde{g}_i(x^j) \stackrel{t \geq 0}{=} y_t - \gamma \tilde{g}_{k^t}(x^t)$$

$$\tilde{g}_i(x^0) = \nabla f_i(x^0) - \nabla f_i(x^0) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \nabla f_p(x^0) = \nabla f(x^0)$$

(used to complete the definition during the proof below)

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|y^t - x^t\|^2] \\ &= \gamma^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}^t \setminus \mathcal{R}^t} \tilde{g}_i(x^j) \right\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

## 2.4 Pure (revised SAGA)

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### Algorithm 5 AlgoA

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**Input:** initial point  $\{x^0 = w_i^0\}_{i=1}^n$ , stepsize  $\gamma$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}^0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ ,  
set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}^0 = \emptyset$ ,  
1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T - 1$  **do**  
2:   worker  $i^t$  finishes a job  $(i^t, \pi^t) \in \mathcal{A}^{t+1}$  (compute  $\nabla f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t})$  and send it to server)  
3:    $w_i^t = \begin{cases} x^{\pi^t}, & i = i^t \\ w_i^{t-1}, & i \neq i^t \end{cases}$   
4:    $g^t = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \nabla f_p(w_p^t)$   
5:   server updates the current model  $x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma g^t$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}^{t+1} = \mathcal{R}^t \cup \{(i^t, \pi^t)\}$   
6:   server assigns worker  $i^t$  to compute  $\nabla f_{i^t}(x^{t+1})$   
7:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}^{t+2} = \mathcal{A}^{t+1} \cup \{(i^t, t+1)\}$   
8: **end for**

---

**Zhize:** add our analysis

$$A^t =: \|x^{t+1} - x^t\|^2 \quad (2.1)$$

$$\tilde{A}^t =: \|x^{\pi^t} - x^t\|^2 \quad (2.2)$$

$$B^t =: \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \|w_p^t - x^t\|^2 \quad (2.3)$$

$$R^t =: f(x^t) + cB^t, \quad c = n\gamma L^2 \quad (2.4)$$

$$F^0 =: f(x^0) - f(x^*) \quad (2.5)$$

**Lemma 1.**

$$f(x^{t+1}) \leq f(x^t) - \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2 - \left( \frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2} \right) A^t + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|g^t - \nabla f(x^t)\|^2 \quad (2.6)$$

**Lemma 2.**

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|g^t - \nabla f(x^t)\|^2 \right] \leq L^2 \mathbb{E} [B^t] \quad (2.7)$$

*Proof.*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|g^t - \nabla f(x^t)\|^2] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \nabla f_p(w_p^t) - \nabla f(x^t) \right\|^2 \right] \quad (2.8)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f_p(w_p^t) - \nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.9)$$

$$\leq \frac{L^2}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\|w_p^t - x^t\|^2] \quad (2.10)$$

□

**Lemma 3.**  $\forall \beta > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} [B^{t+1}] \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) (1 + \beta) \mathbb{E} [B^t] + \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E} [\tilde{A}^{t+1}] + \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta}\right) \mathbb{E} [A^t] \quad (2.11)$$

*Proof.*

$$\mathbb{E} [B^{t+1}] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\|w_p^{t+1} - x^{t+1}\|^2] \quad (2.12)$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \tilde{A}^{t+1} \right] + \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\|w_p^t - x^{t+1}\|^2] \quad (2.13)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \tilde{A}^{t+1} \right] + \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[ \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta}\right) A^t + (1 + \beta) \|w_p^t - x^t\|^2 \right] \quad (2.14)$$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) (1 + \beta) \mathbb{E} [B^t] + \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta}\right) \mathbb{E} [A^t] + \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E} [\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \quad (2.15)$$

□

**Lemma 4.**

$$\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \leq \tau_{\max} \tau_C \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [A^t] \quad (2.16)$$

*Proof.*

$$\sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \leq \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \tau_{\max} \sum_{l=\pi^{t+1}}^t \mathbb{E} [\|x^{l+1} - x^l\|^2] \quad (2.17)$$

$$\leq \tau_{\max} \tau_C \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E} [A^t] \quad (2.18)$$

□

**Lemma 5.** If  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{4L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C} + n^2}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[R^T] \leq \mathbb{E}[R^0] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.19)$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 1 & Lemma 2 & Lemma 3, and let  $\beta = \frac{1}{2n}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}[R^{t+1}] = \mathbb{E}[f(x^{t+1}) + cB^{t+1}] \quad (2.20)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[f(x^t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] - \left(\frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2}\right) \mathbb{E}[A^t] + \frac{\gamma L^2}{2} \mathbb{E}[B^t] + \mathbb{E}[cB^{t+1}] \quad (2.21)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[f(x^t)] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] + \left(\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)(1 + \beta)c + \frac{\gamma L^2}{2}\right) \mathbb{E}[B^t] \quad (2.22)$$

$$+ \left(\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)\left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta}\right)c - \left(\frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right) \mathbb{E}[A^t] + \frac{c}{n} \mathbb{E}[\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \quad (2.23)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[R^t] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.24)$$

$$+ \left(2n^2\gamma L^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right) \mathbb{E}[A^t] + \gamma L^2 \mathbb{E}[\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \quad (2.25)$$

By adding summation & lemma 4, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[R^T] \leq \mathbb{E}[R^0] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.26)$$

$$+ \left(2n^2\gamma L^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right) \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[A^t] + \gamma L^2 \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\tilde{A}^{t+1}] \quad (2.27)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[R^0] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.28)$$

$$+ \left(2n^2\gamma L^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2\gamma} - \frac{L}{2}\right) + \gamma L^2 \tau_{\max} \tau_C\right) \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[A^t] \quad (2.29)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}[R^0] - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2] \quad (2.30)$$

□

**Theorem 1.** If  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{4L\sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C} + n^2}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(\hat{x})\|^2] \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{F^0 L \sqrt{\tau_{\max}\tau_C} + n^2}{T}\right) \quad (2.31)$$

where  $\hat{x}$  randomly chosen from  $\{x^t\}_{t=0}^{T-1}$  with probability  $\frac{1}{T}$  for  $x^t$ .



*Proof.* By Lemma 5,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|\nabla f(x^t)\|^2 \right] \leq \frac{2F^0}{\gamma T} \quad (2.32)$$

$$\leq \frac{8F^0 L \sqrt{\tau_{\max} \tau_C + n^2}}{T} \quad (2.33)$$

$$\leq \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{F^0 L \sqrt{\tau_{\max} \tau_C + n^2}}{T} \right) \quad (2.34)$$

□

## 2.5 Pure (revised SAGA & PAGE)

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### Algorithm 6 AlgoA

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**Input:** initial point  $\{x^0 = w_i^0\}_{i=1}^n$ , stepsize  $\gamma$ , set of assigned jobs  $\mathcal{A}^0 = \emptyset$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^1 = \{(i, 0) : i \in [n]\}$ ,  
set of received jobs  $\mathcal{R}^0 = \emptyset$ ,

- 1: **for**  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T - 1$  **do**
- 2:   worker  $i^t$  finishes a job  $(i^t, \pi^t) \in \mathcal{A}^{t+1}$
- 3:    $w_i^t = \begin{cases} x^{\pi^t}, & i = i^t \\ w_i^{t-1}, & i \neq i^t \end{cases}$
- 4:    $g_{i^t}^{\pi^t} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b} \sum_{j \in I} \tilde{\nabla}_j f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t}), & \text{with probability } p_t \\ g_{i^t}^{\pi^t} + \frac{1}{b'} \sum_{j \in I'} \left( \tilde{\nabla}_j f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^t}) - \tilde{\nabla}_j f_{i^t}(x^{\pi^{\pi^t}}) \right), & \text{with probability } 1 - p_t \end{cases}$
- 5:    $g_i^{\pi^t} = g_i^{\pi^{t-1}}, i \neq i^t$
- 6:   server updates the current model  $x^{t+1} = x^t - \gamma \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n g_p^{\pi^t}$  and the set  $\mathcal{R}^{t+1} = \mathcal{R}^t \cup \{(i^t, \pi^t)\}$
- 7:   server assigns worker  $i^t$  to compute  $\nabla f_{i^t}(x^{t+1})$
- 8:   server updates the set  $\mathcal{A}^{t+2} = \mathcal{A}^{t+1} \cup \{(i^t, t+1)\}$
- 9: **end for**

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**Zhize:** add our analysis