

## Implement a distributed consensus algorithm in SPDZ

*The goal of this exercise is to implement a distributed average consensus scheme using SPDZ.*

*You can install SPDZ following these guidelines:*

- 1) Install Ubuntu on your PC (e.g., v 20.04). Alternatively, install WSL in Windows (it is good to use the VS code extension for this).
- 2) Check the requirements:
  - a. <https://github.com/data61/MP-SPDZ#requirements>
- 3) Download the distribution of MP-SPDZ here:
  - a. <https://github.com/data61/MP-SPDZ/releases>
  - b. I downloaded the mp-spdz-0.2.8.tar.xz
  - c. Unpack the distribution in your working directory
- 4) In the terminal run:  
`Scripts/tldr.sh`
- 5) Run the tutorial (it uses two players with a input string [1 2 3 4])  
  
`./compile.py tutorial`  
`echo 1 2 3 4 > Player-Data/Input-P0-0`  
`echo 1 2 3 4 > Player-Data/Input-P1-0`  
`Scripts/mascot.sh tutorial`
- 6) Documentation with more info: <https://mp-spdz.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html>

Consider the following distributed consensus problem:

$$\min_{x_i \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^T q_i x_i$$

where  $n = 3$ , and  $x_1^0 = 100, x_2^0 = 10, x_3^0 = 30, q_1 = 2, q_2 = 4, q_3 = 1$ .

Rewrite the problem as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x_i \in \mathbb{R}} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^T q_i x_i \\ \text{subject to} \quad & x_i = \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

You can consider the  $x_i$  as local variables and  $\bar{x}$  as a global variable. You can solve the problem using the alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM). ADMM iteratively solves the following problem ( $\rho = 1$  and `iter_max = 10`):

```

for k = 0, 1, 2, ..., iter_max
    for i = 1, 2, 3
        
$$x_i^{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{x_i} (x_i^T q_i x_i + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x_i - \bar{x}^k + u_i^k\|^2)$$

    end
    
$$\bar{x}^{k+1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^{k+1}$$

    for i = 1, 2, 3
        
$$u_i^{k+1} = u_i^k + x_i^{k+1} - \bar{x}^{k+1}$$

    end
end

```

**[3 pts]** Solve the problem above in plaintext. Then,

- Report the values of each  $x_i$  and final  $\bar{x}$  in one plot.
- Analyze the computation time of each iterate of the algorithm and the overall solving time.
- Attach the code to your submission with a README file.

**[5 pts]** Consider now that the values of  $x_i$  are private and encrypted. Use MP-SPDZ to solve the problem.

**Hint:** Create your program under Source (e.g., myprogramme.mpc). The default scripts in the Scripts folder are set for 2 players only. You will have to create a new script to handle 3 players (e.g., you can start from mascot.sh and run-common.sh). Remember to run the command

`chmod +x script-name.sh`

to give permission to execute such a script.

- Show that you can obtain the same values  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}$ .
- Analyze the computation time of each iterate of the algorithm and the overall solving time. Do you see a difference compared to the previous case?
- Attach the code to your submission with a README file.

**[2 pts]** Consider now that both  $x_i$  and  $q_i$  are private and encrypted. Use MP-SPDZ to solve the problem.

- Show that you can obtain the same values  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}$ .
- Analyze the computation time of each iterate of the algorithm and the overall solving time. Do you see a difference compared to the previous case?
- Attach the code to your submission with a README file.

**Submit the report as a PDF file with only the requested explanations to answer the questions above. Also provide the code with a readme file to run it.**