

# IEEE MAG 1: Introduction

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- Distributed consensus-based gradient methods for convex problems.
- Static graphs (the topology of the computational graph is static during execution).

## • A standard problem:

Minimizing the Average of the Sum of Functions:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{p} \sum_{i=1}^p f_i(x) \quad f_i(x): \text{loss associated w/ a data point } x$$

Data points:  $\{(z_i, y_i), i=1, \dots, p\}$   $(z_i, y_i)$  is an instance of  $x$   
 $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$  feature vector

$y_i \in \mathbb{R}$  is the corresponding label  $\{+1, -1\}$ ,  $\{0, 1\}$ , etc.

Non-linear classification problem: Minimizing the problem:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left( \underbrace{c \rho(x)}_{\text{greek } \rho} + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{i=1}^p \underbrace{l(x; z_i, y_i)}_{\text{latin } l} \right)$$

$p = \text{number of data points}$

$c > 0$ : regularization parameter

$x$ : input vector

$\rho(x)$ : regularizing function, strongly convex

$l(x; z_i, y_i)$ : loss function, usually convex, sometimes non-differentiable

↳ Logistic Regression Loss, Hinge Loss, etc.

$$\underline{f_i(x)} = c \rho(x) + l(x; z_i, y_i) \text{ associated w/ data point } (z_i, y_i)$$

## • For datasets with few data points $p$ ,

↳ Use iterative gradient method:

$$x^{k+1} = x^k - \frac{\alpha_k}{p} \sum_{i=1}^p \nabla \underline{f_i(x^k)}$$

↳ Converges if  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k^2 < \infty$