

High Dimensional Data Sharing: Multi-Task Learning with Theoretical Guarantee *

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Abstract. We consider the problem of multi-task learning in high dimension. In particular, we introduce an estimator and investigate its statistical and computational properties for the problem of multiple connected linear regressions known as Data Sharing. The between-tasks connections are captured by a cross-tasks *common parameter* which gets refined by per-task *individual parameters*. Any convex function, e.g., norm, can characterize the structure of both common and individual parameters. We delineate the sample complexity of our estimator and provide high probability non-asymptotic bound for estimation error of all parameters under a geometric condition. We show that the recovery of the common parameter benefits from *all* of the pooled samples. We propose an iterative estimation algorithm with a geometric convergence rate and supplement our theoretical analysis with experiments on synthetic data. Overall, we present a first through statistical and computational analysis of inference in the data sharing model.

Key words. multi-task learning, superposition models, high-dimensional statistics, convergence rate analysis

AMS subject classifications. 62F10, 62J05, 90C25

1. Introduction. Over the past two decades, major advances have been made in estimating structured parameters, e.g., sparse, low-rank, etc., in high-dimensional small sample problems [13, 19, 20]. Such estimators consider a suitable (semi) parametric model of the response: $y = \phi(\mathbf{x}, \beta^*) + w$ based on n samples $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ and the parameter of interest, $\beta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$. The unique aspect of such high-dimensional regime of $n \ll p$ is that the structure of β^* makes the estimation possible for large enough samples $n = m$ known as the sample complexity [11, 12, 39]. While the earlier developments in such high-dimensional estimation problems had focused on parametric linear models, the results have been widely extended to non-linear models, e.g., generalized linear models [3, 30], broad families of semi-parametric and single-index models [9, 36], non-convex models [7, 24], etc.

In several real world problems, the assumption that one global model parameter β_0^* is suitable for the entire population is unrealistic. We consider the more general setting where the population consists of sub-populations (groups) which are similar in many aspects but have unique differences. For example, in the context of anti-cancer drug sensitivity prediction where the goal is to predict responses of different tumor cells to a drug, using the same prediction model across cancer types (groups) ignores the unique properties of each cancer and leads to an uninterpretable global model. Alternatively, in such a setting, one can assume a separate model for each group g as $y = \phi(\mathbf{x}, \beta_g^*) + w$ based on a group specific parameter β_g^* . Such a modeling choice fails to leverage the similarities across the sub-populations, and can only be estimated when sufficient number of samples are available for each

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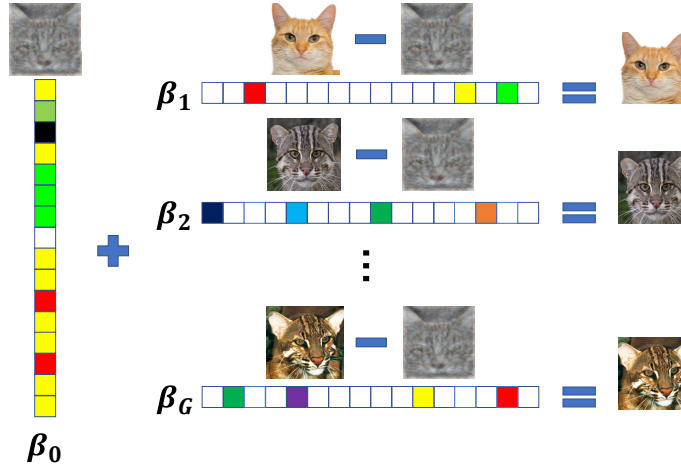


Figure 1: A conceptual illustration of data sharing model for learning representation of cat species. The common parameter β_0 captures a *generic cat* which consists of shared features among all cats.

group which is not the case in several problems, e.g., anti-cancer drug sensitivity prediction [5, 23].

The middle ground model for such a scenario is the *superposition* of common and individual parameters $\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*$ which has been of recent interest [22, 27, 43]. Such a collection of *coupled* superposition models is known by multiple names in the statistical machine learning community. It is a form of multi-task learning [25, 45] when we consider regression in each group as a task. It is also called data sharing [21] since information contained in different groups is shared through the common parameter β_0^* . And finally, it has been called data enrichment [1, 2, 16] because we enrich our data set with pooling multiple samples from different but related sources.

Following the successful application of such a modeling scheme in recent years [18, 21, 32, 33], we consider the below *data sharing* (DS) model:

$$(1.1) \quad y_{gi} = \phi(\mathbf{x}_{gi}, (\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*)) + w_{gi}, \quad g \in \{1, \dots, G\},$$

where g and i index the group and samples respectively. The DS model (1.1) assumes that there is a *common* parameter β_0^* shared between all groups which models similarities between all samples. And there are *individual* per-group parameters β_g^* s each characterize the deviation of group g , Figure 1.

The setting. Our goal is to design an estimation procedure which consistently recovers all parameters of DS (1.1) fast and with small number of samples. We specifically focus on the high-dimensional small sample regime where the number of samples n_g for each group is much smaller than the ambient dimensionality, i.e., $\forall g : n_g \ll p$. Similar to all other high-dimensional models, we assume that the parameters β_g are structured, i.e., for suitable convex functions f_g 's, $f_g(\beta_g)$ is small. For example, when the structure is sparsity, f_g s are l_1 -norms. Further, for the technical analysis and proofs, we focus on the case of linear models, i.e., $\phi(\mathbf{x}, \beta) = \mathbf{x}^T \beta$. The results seamlessly extend to more general non-linear models, e.g., generalized linear models, broad families of semi-parametric and single-index models, non-convex models, etc., using existing results, i.e., how models like LASSO have been extended to these settings [26, 29, 34, 35, 44].

1.1. Related Work. In the context of *Multi-Task Learning* (MTL), similar models have been proposed which have the general form of $y_{gi} = \mathbf{x}_{gi}^T(\beta_{1g}^* + \beta_{2g}^*) + w_{gi}$ where $\mathbf{B}_1 = [\beta_{11}, \dots, \beta_{1G}]$ and $\mathbf{B}_2 = [\beta_{21}, \dots, \beta_{2G}]$ are two parameter matrices [45]. To capture the relation between tasks, different types of constraints are assumed for parameter matrices. For example, [17] assumes \mathbf{B}_1 and \mathbf{B}_2 are sparse and low rank respectively. In this parameter matrix decomposition framework for MLT, the most related work to ours is the Dirty Statistical Model (DSM) proposed in [25] where authors regularize the regression with $\|\mathbf{B}_1\|_{1,\infty}$ and $\|\mathbf{B}_2\|_{1,1}$ where norms are i, j -norms on rows, \mathbf{b} , of matrices, i.e., $\|\mathbf{B}\|_{i,j} = \|(\|\mathbf{b}_1\|_j, \dots, \|\mathbf{b}_p\|_j)\|_i$ and the norms are defined as $\|\mathbf{b}\|_i = \left(\sum_{g=1}^G |b_g|^i\right)^{1/i}$ and $\|\mathbf{b}\|_\infty = \max_{g \in G} |b_g|$.

If in our DS model we pick all structure inducing functions f_g to be l_1 -norm, the resulting model is very similar to the DSM where $\|\mathbf{B}_1\|_{1,\infty}$ induces similarity between tasks and $\|\mathbf{B}_2\|_{1,1}$ models their discrepancies. On the other hand, the degree of freedom of DSM model is higher than DS because $\|\mathbf{B}_1\|_{1,\infty}$ regularizer enforces shared support of β_{1g}^* s, i.e., $\text{supp}(\beta_{1i}^*) = \text{supp}(\beta_{1j}^*)$ but allows $\beta_{1i}^* \neq \beta_{1j}^*$ while in DS we have a single common parameter β_0^* . So one would expect that DS estimators should have smaller sample complexity compared to their DSM counterparts and our analysis confirm that our estimator is more data efficient than DSM estimator of [25], Table 1. Mainly, DSM requires every task i to have large enough samples to learn its own common parameters β_i but since DS shares the common parameter it only requires the *total dataset over all tasks* to be sufficiently large.

The linear DS model where β_g 's are sparse has recently gained attention because of its application in wide range of domains such as personalized medicine [18], sentiment analysis, banking strategy [21], single cell data analysis [33], road safety [32], and disease subtype analysis [18]. More generally, in any high-dimensional problem where the population consists of groups, data sharing framework has the potential to boost the prediction accuracy and results in a more interpretable set of parameters.

Motivation. In spite of the recent surge in applying data sharing framework to different domains, limited advances have been made in understanding the statistical and computational properties of suitable estimators for the DS model (1.1). In fact, non-asymptotic statistical properties, including sample complexity and statistical rates of convergence, of regularized estimators for the data sharing model is still an open question [21, 32]. To the best of our knowledge, the only theoretical guarantee for data sharing is provided in [33] where authors prove sparsistency of their proposed method under the irrepresentability condition of the design matrix for recovering *supports* of common and individual parameters. Existing support recovery guarantees [33], sample complexity and l_2 consistency results [25] of related MTL models are restricted to sparsity and l_1 -norm, while our estimator and *norm consistency* analysis work for *any* structure induced by arbitrary convex functions f_g . Moreover, no computational results, such as rates of convergence of the estimation procedures exist in the literature.

1.2. Notation and Preliminaries. We denote sets by curly \mathcal{V} , matrices by bold capital \mathbf{V} , random variables by capital V , and vectors by small bold \mathbf{v} letters. We take $[G] = \{1, \dots, G\}$ and $[G_+] = [G] \cup \{0\}$. Throughout the manuscript c_i and C_i denote positive absolute constants. Given G groups and n_g samples in each as $\{\{\mathbf{x}_{gi}, y_{gi}\}_{i=1}^{n_g}\}_{g=1}^G$, we can form the per group design matrix $\mathbf{X}_g \in \mathbb{R}^{n_g \times p}$ and output vector $\mathbf{y}_g \in \mathbb{R}^{n_g}$. The total number of samples is $n = \sum_{g=1}^G n_g$ and the data sharing model takes the following vector form:

$$(1.2) \quad \mathbf{y}_g = \mathbf{X}_g(\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*) + \mathbf{w}_g, \quad \forall g \in [G]$$

where each row of \mathbf{X}_g is \mathbf{x}_{gi}^T and $\mathbf{w}_g^T = (w_{g1}, \dots, w_{gn_g})$ is the noise vector. It is useful for indexing to consider the common parameter as the zeroth group and define $n_0 \triangleq n$ and $\mathbf{X}_0 \triangleq [\mathbf{X}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{X}_G^T]^T$.

Sub-Gaussian random variable and vector. A random variable V is sub-Gaussian if its moments satisfies $\forall p \geq 1 : (\mathbb{E}|V|^p)^{1/p} \leq K_2 \sqrt{p}$. The minimum value of K_2 is called the sub-Gaussian norm of V , denoted by $\|V\|_{\psi_2}$ [41]. A random vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is sub-Gaussian if the one-dimensional marginals $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle$ are sub-Gaussian random variables for all $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^p$. The sub-Gaussian norm of \mathbf{v} is defined [41] as $\|\mathbf{v}\|_{\psi_2} = \sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{S}^{p-1}} \|\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle\|_{\psi_2}$. For any set $\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ the Gaussian width of the set \mathcal{V} is defined as $\omega(\mathcal{V}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{g}} [\sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{V}} \langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{u} \rangle]$ [42], where the expectation is over $\mathbf{g} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_{p \times p})$, a vector of independent zero-mean unit-variance Gaussian. The marginal tail function is defined as $Q_\xi(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbb{P}(|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u} \rangle| > \xi)$ for a fixed vector \mathbf{u} , random vector \mathbf{x} and constant $\xi > 0$.

1.3. Our Contributions. We propose the following Data Shared (DS) estimator $\hat{\beta}$ for recovering the structured parameters where the structure is induced by *convex* functions $f_g(\cdot)$:

$$(1.3) \quad \hat{\beta} = (\hat{\beta}_0^T, \dots, \hat{\beta}_G^T) \in \underset{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_G}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \|\mathbf{y}_g - \mathbf{X}_g(\beta_0 + \beta_g)\|_2^2, \text{ s.t. } \forall g \in [G_+] : f_g(\beta_g) \leq f_g(\beta_g^*).$$

We present several statistical and computational results for the DS estimator (1.3):

- The DS estimator (1.3) succeeds if a geometric condition that we call *DAta SHaring Incoherence condition* (DASHIN) is satisfied, Figure 2b. Compared to other known geometric conditions in the literature such as structural coherence [22] and stable recovery conditions [27], DASHIN is a considerably weaker condition, Figure 2a.
- Assuming DASHIN holds, we establish a high probability non-asymptotic bound on the weighted sum of parameter-wise estimation error, $\delta_g = \hat{\beta}_g - \beta_g^*$ as:

$$(1.4) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \leq \gamma O \left(\frac{\max_{g \in [G]} \omega(\mathcal{C}_g \cap \mathbb{S}^{p-1})}{\sqrt{n}} \right),$$

where $n_0 \triangleq n$ is the total number of samples, $\gamma \triangleq \max_{g \in [G]} \frac{n}{n_g}$ is the *sample condition number*, and \mathcal{C}_g is the error cone corresponding to β_g^* exactly defined in section 2. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first statistical estimation guarantee for the data sharing.

- We also establish the sample complexity of the DS estimator for all parameters as $\forall g \in [G_+] : n_g = O(\omega(\mathcal{C}_g \cap \mathbb{S}^{p-1}))^2$. We emphasize that our result proves that the recovery of the common parameter β_0 by DS estimator (1.3) benefits from *all* of the n pooled samples.
- We present an efficient projected block gradient descent algorithm DASHER, to solve DE's objective (1.3) which converges geometrically to the statistical error bound of (1.4). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first rigorous computational result for the high-dimensional data-shared regression.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: First, we characterize the error set of our estimator and provide a deterministic error bound in section 2. Then in section 3, we discuss the restricted eigenvalue condition and calculate the sample complexity required for the recovery of the true parameters by our estimator under DASHIN condition. We close the statistical analysis in section 4 by providing non-asymptotic high probability error bound for parameter recovery. We delineate our geometrically convergent algorithm, DASHER in section 5 and finally supplement our work with experiments on synthetic data in section 6.

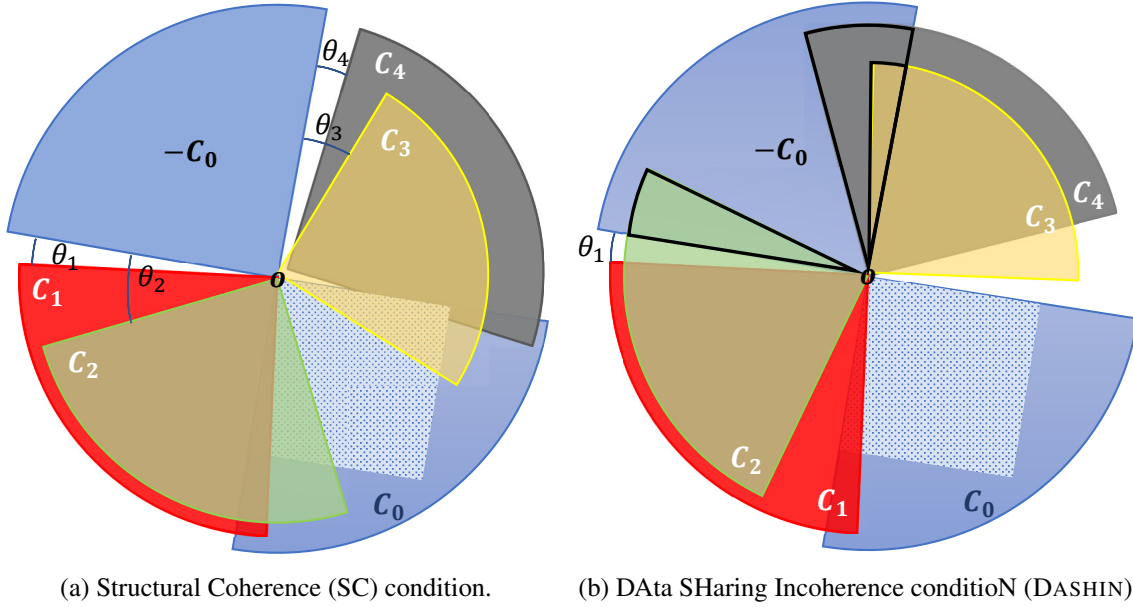


Figure 2: Comparison of geometric recovery condition for superposition models known as Structural Coherence (SC) [22] and our DASHIN recovery condition for data sharing model which is a system of coupled superposition models (1.2). For each parameter $\beta_g^* \in [G]$, $\mathcal{E}_g = \{\delta_g | f_g(\beta_g^* + \delta_g) \leq f_g(\beta_g^*)\}$ is the error set and $\mathcal{C}_g = \text{Cone}(\mathcal{E}_g)$ is the error cone. For all i, j , SC requires $-\mathcal{C}_i \cap \mathcal{C}_j = \{0\}$. In panel (a) we only show this condition for $i = 0$, i.e., $-\mathcal{C}_0 \cap \mathcal{C}_j = \{0\}$ where all $\theta_j > 0$. DASHIN on the other hand only needs one of the $\mathcal{C}_g, g \in [G]$, does not intersect with the inverse of the common parameter error cone $-\mathcal{C}_0$. In panel (b) $-\mathcal{C}_0 \cap \mathcal{C}_1 = \{0\}$ is enough for recovering all parameters.

2. The Data Shared Estimator. A compact form of our proposed DS estimator (1.3) is:

$$(2.1) \quad \hat{\beta} \in \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta\|_2^2, \quad \text{s.t. } \forall g \in [G_+] : f_g(\beta_g) \leq f_g(\beta_g^*),$$

where $\mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{y}_G^T)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n, \beta = (\beta_0^T, \dots, \beta_G^T)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{(G+1)p}$ and

$$(2.2) \quad \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 & \mathbf{X}_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \mathbf{X}_2 & 0 & \mathbf{X}_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{X}_G & 0 & \dots & \dots & \mathbf{X}_G \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (G+1)p}.$$

Example 2.1. (l_1 -norm) When all parameters β_g s are s_g -sparse, i.e., $|\operatorname{supp}(\beta_g^*)| = s_g$ by using l_1 -norm as the sparsity inducing function, our DS estimator of (2.1) becomes:

$$(2.3) \quad \hat{\beta} \in \underset{\beta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta\|_2^2, \quad \text{s.t. } \forall g \in [G_+] : \|\beta_g\|_1 \leq \|\beta_g^*\|_1.$$

We call **Example 2.1** *sparse DS estimator* and use it as the running example throughout the paper to illustrate outcomes of our analysis.

Consider the group-wise estimation error $\delta_g = \hat{\beta}_g - \beta_g^*$. Since $\hat{\beta}_g = \beta_g^* + \delta_g$ is a feasible point of (2.1), the error vector δ_g will belong to the following restricted error set:

$$(2.4) \quad \mathcal{E}_g = \{ \delta_g | f_g(\beta_g^* + \delta_g) \leq f_g(\beta_g^*) \}, \quad g \in [G_+].$$

We denote the cone of the error set as $\mathcal{C}_g \triangleq \text{Cone}(\mathcal{E}_g)$ and the spherical cap corresponding to it as $\mathcal{A}_g \triangleq \mathcal{C}_g \cap \mathbb{S}^{p-1}$. Consider the set $\mathcal{C} = \{ \delta = (\delta_0^T, \dots, \delta_G^T)^T | \delta_g \in \mathcal{C}_g \}$, following two subsets of \mathcal{C} play key roles in our analysis:

$$(2.5) \quad \mathcal{H} \triangleq \left\{ \delta \in \mathcal{C} \mid \sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \|\delta_g\|_2 = 1 \right\}, \quad \bar{\mathcal{H}} \triangleq \left\{ \delta \in \mathcal{C} \mid \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 = 1 \right\}.$$

Starting from the optimality of $\hat{\beta} = \beta^* + \delta$ as $\frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\hat{\beta}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\beta^*\|_2^2$, we have: $\frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\delta\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{n} 2\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\delta$ where $\mathbf{w} = [\mathbf{w}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{w}_G^T]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the vector of all noises. Using this basic inequality, we can establish the following deterministic error bound.

Theorem 2.2. For the DS estimator (2.1), assume there exist $0 < \kappa \leq \inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}\|_2^2$. Then, for the sample condition number $\gamma = \max_{g \in [G]} \frac{n}{n_g}$, the following deterministic upper bounds holds:

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \leq \frac{2\gamma \sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \bar{\mathcal{H}}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}}{n\kappa}.$$

Proof. We lower bound the LHS and upper bound the RHS of the optimality inequality $\frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\delta\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{n} 2\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\delta$ using the definition of the sets \mathcal{H} and $\bar{\mathcal{H}}$ respectively. Starting with the lower bound using the definition of set \mathcal{H} (2.5) we have:

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\delta\|_2^2 &\geq \frac{1}{n} \inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}\|_2^2 \left(\sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \|\delta_g\|_2 \right)^2 \geq \kappa \left(\sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \|\delta_g\|_2 \right)^2 \\ &\geq \kappa \left(\min_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \right)^2 \left(\sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \right)^2 = \kappa \left(\min_{g \in [G]} \frac{n_g}{n} \right) \left(\sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

where $0 < \kappa \leq \frac{1}{n} \inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}\|_2^2$ is known as Restricted Eigenvalue (RE) condition. The upper bound factorizes as:

$$(2.7) \quad \frac{2}{n} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\delta \leq \frac{2}{n} \sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \bar{\mathcal{H}}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\mathbf{u} \left(\sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \right), \quad \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}$$

Putting together inequalities (2.6) and (2.7) completes the proof. ■

Remark 2.3. Consider the setting where $n_g = \Theta(\frac{n}{G})$ so that each group has approximately $\frac{1}{G}$ fraction of the samples. Then, $\gamma = \Theta(G)$ and hence

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=0}^G \|\delta_g\|_2 \leq O(G^{1/2}) \frac{\sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \bar{\mathcal{H}}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}}{n}.$$

3. Restricted Eigenvalue Condition. The main assumption of [Theorem 2.2](#) is known as Restricted Eigenvalue (RE) condition in the literature of high-dimensional statistics [4, 31, 37]: $\inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}\|_2^2 \geq \kappa > 0$. The RE condition posits that the minimum eigenvalues of the matrix $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$ in directions restricted to \mathcal{H} is strictly positive. In this section, we show that for the design matrix \mathbf{X} defined in (2.2), the RE condition holds with high probability under a suitable geometric condition we call *Data SHaring Incoherence condition* (DASHIN) and for enough number of samples. We precisely characterize total and per-group sample complexities required for successful parameter recovery. For the analysis, similar to existing work [22, 28, 40], we assume the design matrix to be isotropic sub-Gaussian.¹

Definition 3.1. We assume \mathbf{x}_{gi} are i.i.d. random vectors from a non-degenerate zero-mean, isotropic sub-Gaussian distribution. In other words, $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}] = 0$, $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}] = \mathbf{I}_{p \times p}$, and $\|\mathbf{x}\|_{\psi_2} \leq k_x$. As a consequence, $\exists \alpha > 0$ such that $\forall \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{S}^{p-1}$ we have $\mathbb{E}|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u} \rangle| \geq \alpha$. Further, we assume noise \mathbf{w}_{gi} are i.i.d. zero-mean, unit-variance sub-Gaussian with $\|\mathbf{w}_{gi}\|_{\psi_2} \leq k_w$.

3.1. Geometric Condition for Recovery. Unlike standard high-dimensional statistical estimation, for RE condition to be true, parameters of superposition models need to satisfy geometric conditions which limits the interaction of the error cones of parameters with each other to make sure that recovery is possible. In this section, we elaborate our sufficient geometric condition for recovery and compare it with state-of-the-art condition for recovery of superposition models.

To intuitively illustrate the necessity of such a geometric condition, consider the simplest superposition model i.e., $\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*$. Without any restriction on interactions of error cones, any estimates such that $\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_g = \beta_0^* + \beta_g^*$ are valid ones. To avoid such trivial solutions two error cones need to satisfy $\delta_g \neq -\delta_0$. In general, the RE condition of individual superposition models can be established under the so-called Structural Coherence (SC) condition [22, 27] which is the generalization of this idea for superposition of multiple parameters as $\sum_{g=0}^G \beta_g^*$.

Definition 3.2 (Structural Coherence (SC) [22, 27]). Consider a superposition model of the form $y = \mathbf{x}^T \sum_{g=0}^G \beta_g^* + w$. The SC condition requires that $\forall \delta_g \in \mathcal{C}_g, \exists \lambda$ s.t. $\|\sum_{g=0}^G \delta_g\|_2 \geq \lambda \sum_{g=0}^G \|\delta_g\|_2$, and leads to the RE condition $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|\mathbf{X} \sum_{g=1}^G \delta_g\|_2 \geq \kappa \sum_{g=1}^G \|\delta_g\|_2$.

Remark 3.3. Note that the SC condition is satisfied if none of the individual error cones \mathcal{C}_g intersect with the inverted error cone $-\mathcal{C}_0$ [22, 40], i.e., $\forall g, \theta_g > 0$ in [Figure 2a](#) where

$$\cos(\theta_g) = \sup_{\delta_0 \in \mathcal{C}_0, \delta_g \in \mathcal{C}_g} -\langle \delta_0 / \|\delta_0\|_2, \delta_g / \|\delta_g\|_2 \rangle.$$

Next, we introduce DASHIN, a considerably weaker geometric condition compared to SC which leads to recovery of all parameters in the data sharing model.

Definition 3.4 (Data SHaring Incoherence condition (DASHIN)). There exists a non-empty set $\mathcal{I} \subseteq [G]$ of groups where for some scalars $0 < \bar{\rho} \leq 1$ and $\lambda_{\min} > 0$ the following holds:

1. $\sum_{g \in \mathcal{I}} n_g \geq \lceil \bar{\rho} n \rceil$.
2. $\forall g \in \mathcal{I}, \forall \delta_g \in \mathcal{C}_g$, and $\delta_0 \in \mathcal{C}_0$: $\|\delta_g + \delta_0\|_2 \geq \lambda_{\min} (\|\delta_0\|_2 + \|\delta_g\|_2)$

Observe that $0 < \lambda_{\min}, \bar{\rho} \leq 1$ by definition.

¹Extension to an-isotropic sub-Gaussian case is straightforward by techniques developed in [4, 38].

Remark 3.5. DASHIN is a refinement of SC for the specific problem of data sharing, i.e., system of coupled superposition model each with two components. DASHIN holds even if only one of the \mathcal{C}_g s does not intersect with $-\mathcal{C}_0$. More specifically, DASHIN holds if $\exists g, \theta_g > 0$ in Figure 2b which allows $-\mathcal{C}_0$ to intersect with an arbitrarily large fraction of the \mathcal{C}_g cones and as the number of intersections increases, our final error bound becomes looser.

3.2. Sample Complexity. An alternative to our DS estimator (1.3) may be based on G isolated superposition model $\mathbf{y}_g = \mathbf{X}_g(\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*) + \mathbf{w}_g$ each with two components. Now, if SC holds for at least one of the superposition models, i.e., $\exists g, -\mathcal{C}_0 \cap \mathcal{C}_g = \{0\}$, one can recover $\hat{\beta}_0$ and plug it in to the remaining $G - 1$ superposition estimators to estimate the corresponding $\hat{\beta}_g$ s. We call such an estimator, *plugin superposition* estimator for which it seems that DASHIN has no advantage over SC. But the disadvantage of plugin superposition estimator is that it fails to utilize the true coupling structure in the data sharing model, where β_0^* is involved in all groups. In fact, below we show that the plugin superposition estimator under SC condition leads to a pessimistic sample complexity for β_0^* recovery.

Proposition 3.6. Assume observations distributed as defined in Definition 3.1 and pair-wise SC conditions are satisfied. Consider each superposition model (1.2) in isolation; to recover the common parameter β_0^* plugin superposition requires at least one group i to have $n_i = O(\max(\omega^2(\mathcal{A}_0), \omega^2(\mathcal{A}_i)))$. To recover the rest of individual parameters, it needs $\forall g \neq i : n_g = O(\omega^2(\mathcal{A}_g))$ samples.

In other words, by separate analysis of superposition estimators at least one problem needs to have sufficient samples for recovering the common parameter β_0 and therefore the common parameter recovery does not benefit from the pooled n samples. But given the nature of coupling in the data sharing model, we hope to be able to get a better sample complexity specifically for the common parameter β_0 . Using DASHIN and the small ball method [28], a tool from empirical process theory in the following theorem, we get a better sample complexity required for satisfying the RE condition:

Theorem 3.7. Let \mathbf{x}_{gi} s be random vectors defined in Definition 3.1. Assume DASHIN condition of Definition 3.4 holds for error cones \mathcal{C}_g s and $\psi_{\mathcal{I}} = \min\{1/2, \lambda_{\min}\bar{\rho}/3\}$. Then, for all $\delta \in \mathcal{H}$, when we have enough number of samples as $\forall g \in [G_+] : n_g \geq m_g = O(k_x^6 \alpha^{-6} \psi_{\mathcal{I}}^{-2} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)^2)$, with probability at least $1 - e^{-n\kappa_{\min}/4}$ we have:

$$\inf_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|\mathbf{X}\delta\|_2 \geq \frac{\kappa_{\min}}{2}$$

where $\kappa_{\min} = \min_{g \in [G_+]} C\psi_{\mathcal{I}} \frac{\alpha^3}{k_x^2} - \frac{2c_g k_x \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)}{\sqrt{n_g}}$.

Remark 3.8. Note that $\kappa = \frac{\kappa_{\min}^2}{4}$ is the lower bound of the RE condition of Theorem 2.2, i.e., $0 < \kappa \leq \inf_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u}\|_2^2$ and is determined by the group with the worst individual RE condition.

Example 3.9. (l_1 -norm) The Gaussian width of the spherical cap of a p -dimensional s -sparse vector is $\omega(\mathcal{A}) = \Theta(\sqrt{s \log p})$ [4, 42]. Therefore, the number of samples per group and total required for satisfaction of the RE condition in the sparse DS estimator Example 2.1 is $\forall g \in [G] : n_g \geq m_g = \Theta(s_g \log p)$. Table 1 compares sample complexities of the sparse DS estimator with three baselines: plugin superposition estimator of Proposition 3.6, G Independent LASSO (GI-LASSO), and Jalali's Dirty Statistical Model (DSM) [25]. Note that GI-LASSO does not recover the common parameter and DSM needs all groups have same number of samples.

	GI-LASSO	Dirty Stat. Model	Plugin Superposition	Sparse DS
n_g	$s_{0g} \log p$	$G \max_{g \in [G]} s_{0g} \log(p)$	$\exists i \in [G] : \max(s_0, s_i) \log p$ $\forall g \neq i : s_g \log p$	$s_g \log p$

Table 1: Comparison of the order of per group number of samples (sample complexities) of various methods for recovering sparse DS parameters. Let $s_{0g} = |\text{support}(\beta_0^* + \beta_g^*)|$ be the superimposed support where $s_0, s_g \leq \max(s_0, s_g) \leq s_{0g}$.

3.3. Proof of Theorem 3.7.

Let's simplify the LHS of the RE condition:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2 &= \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} |\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g \rangle|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\stackrel{\text{(Lyapunov's inequality)}}{\geq} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} |\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g \rangle| \\
&\geq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \xi \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g \rangle| \geq \xi \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \xi_g \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g} \rangle| \geq \xi_g),
\end{aligned}$$

where to avoid cluttering we denoted $\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g} = \boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_g$ and $\xi_g = \xi \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}\|_2 > 0$. Now we add and subtract the corresponding per-group marginal tail function, $Q_{\xi_g}(\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}) = \mathbb{P}(|\langle \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g} \rangle| > \xi_g)$ and take inf:

$$\begin{aligned}
\inf_{\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2 &\geq \inf_{\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{g=1}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \xi_g Q_{2\xi_g}(\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}) - \sup_{\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{g=1}^G \xi_g \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} [Q_{2\xi_g}(\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}) - \mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g} \rangle| \geq \xi_g)] \\
&= t_1(\mathbf{X}) - t_2(\mathbf{X})
\end{aligned}
\tag{3.1}$$

For the ease of exposition we consider the LHS of (3.1) as the difference of two terms, i.e., $t_1(\mathbf{X}) - t_2(\mathbf{X})$ and in the followings we lower bound the first term t_1 and upper bound the second term t_2 .

3.3.1. Lower Bounding the First Term. Our main result is the following lemma which uses the DASHIN condition of the Definition 3.4 and provides a lower bound for the first term $t_1(\mathbf{X})$:

Lemma 3.10. Suppose DASHIN holds. Let $\psi_{\mathcal{I}} = \frac{\lambda_{\min} \bar{\rho}}{3}$. For any $\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}$, we have:

$$\sum_{g=1}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \xi_g Q_{2\xi_g}(\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}) \geq \psi_{\mathcal{I}} \xi \frac{(\alpha - 2\xi)^2}{4ck_x^2} \sum_{g=0}^n \frac{n_g}{n} \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2,
\tag{3.2}$$

Lemma 3.10 implies that $t_1(\mathbf{X})$ is lower bounded by the same RHS bound of (3.2).

3.3.2. Upper Bounding the Second Term. First we show $t_2(\mathbf{X})$ satisfies the bounded difference property defined in Section 3.2. of [8], i.e., by changing each of \mathbf{x}_{gi} the value of $t_2(\mathbf{X})$ at most change by one. We rewrite t_2 as $t_2(\mathbf{X}) = \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} g_\delta(\mathbf{X})$ where $g_\delta(\mathbf{X})$ is the argument of sup in (3.1). Now we denote the design matrix resulted from replacement of k th sample from j th group \mathbf{x}_{jk} with another sample \mathbf{x}'_{jk} by \mathbf{X}'_{jk} . Then our goal is to show $\forall j \in [G], k \in [n_j], \sup_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}'_{jk}} |t_2(\mathbf{X}) - t_2(\mathbf{X}'_{jk})| \leq c_i$ for some constant c_i . Note that for bounded functions $f, g : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have $|\sup_{\mathcal{X}} f - \sup_{\mathcal{X}} g| \leq \sup_{\mathcal{X}} |f - g|$. Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sup_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}'_{jk}} |t_2(\mathbf{X}) - t_2(\mathbf{X}'_{jk})| &\leq \sup_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}'_{jk}} \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} |g(\mathbf{X}) - g(\mathbf{X}'_{jk})| \\
&\leq \sup_{\mathbf{x}_{jk}, \mathbf{x}'_{jk}} \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{\xi_j}{n} |\mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}'_{jk}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0j} \rangle| \geq \xi_j) - \mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}_{jk}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0j} \rangle| \geq \xi_j)| \\
&\leq \sup_j \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{\xi_j}{n} = \frac{\xi}{n} \sup_j \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0 + \boldsymbol{\delta}_j\|_2 \\
&\leq \frac{\xi}{n} \sup_j \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0\|_2 + \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_j\|_2 \\
(\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}) &\leq \xi \left(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n_j} \right) \leq \frac{2\xi}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

Note that for $\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathcal{H}$ we have $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0\|_2 + \frac{n_g}{n} \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2 \leq 1$ which results in $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}_0\|_2 \leq 1$ and $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2 \leq \frac{n}{n_g}$ which justifies the last inequality. Now, we can invoke the bounded difference inequality from Theorem 6.2 of [8] which says that with probability at least $1 - e^{-\tau^2/2}$ we have: $t_2(\mathbf{X}) \leq \mathbb{E}t_2(\mathbf{X}) + \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}}$. Having this concentration bound, it is enough to bound the expectation of $t_2(\mathbf{X})$ using the following lemma:

Lemma 3.11. *For the random vector \mathbf{x} of Definition 3.1, we have the following bound:*

$$\frac{2}{n} \mathbb{E} \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{g=1}^G \xi_g \sum_{i=1}^{n_g} [Q_{2\xi_g}(\boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g}) - \mathbb{1}(|\langle \mathbf{x}_{gi}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_{0g} \rangle| \geq \xi_g)] \leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} c_g k \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_g\|_2$$

3.3.3. Continuing the Proof of Theorem 3.7. Define $q \triangleq \frac{(\alpha - 2\xi)^2}{4ck^2}$. Putting back bounds of $t_1(\mathbf{X})$ and $t_2(\mathbf{X})$ together from Lemmas 3.10 and 3.11, with probability at least $1 - e^{-\frac{\tau^2}{2}}$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
285 \quad \inf_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|\mathbf{X}\delta\|_2 &\leq \sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \psi_{\mathcal{I}} \xi \|\delta_g\|_2 q - \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} k_x c_g \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) \|\delta_g\|_2 - \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}} \\
286 \quad &= n^{-1} \sum_{g=0}^G n_g \|\delta_g\|_2 (\psi_{\mathcal{I}} \xi q - 2c_g k_x \frac{\omega(\mathcal{A}_g)}{\sqrt{n_g}}) - \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}} \\
287 \quad (\kappa_g = \psi_{\mathcal{I}} \xi q - \frac{2c_g k_x \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)}{\sqrt{n_g}}) &= \sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \|\delta_g\|_2 \kappa_g - \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}} \\
288 \quad &\geq \kappa_{\min} \sum_{g=0}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \|\delta_g\|_2 - \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}} \\
289 \quad (\delta \in \mathcal{H}) &= \kappa_{\min} - \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{n}}
\end{aligned}$$

290 where $\kappa_{\min} = \min_{g \in [G]} \kappa_g$. To conclude the proof, take $\tau = \sqrt{n} \kappa_{\min} / 2$.

291 To satisfy the RE condition all κ_g s should be bounded away from zero. To this end we need the
 292 following sample complexities $\forall g \in [G_+] : \left(\frac{2c_g k}{\psi_{\mathcal{I}} \xi q} \right)^2 \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)^2 \leq n_g$ where by taking $\xi = \frac{\alpha}{6}$ simplifies
 293 to: $\forall g \in [G_+] : O(k^6 \psi_{\mathcal{I}}^{-2} \alpha^{-6} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)^2) \leq n_g$ ■

294 **4. General Error Bound.** In this section, we present our main statistical result which is a
 295 non-asymptotic high probability upper bound for the estimation error of the common and individual
 296 parameters.

297 **Theorem 4.1.** For \mathbf{x}_{gi} and w_{gi} described in [Definition 3.1](#) when we have enough number of
 298 samples $\forall g \in [G_+] : n_g > m_g$ which lead to $\kappa > 0$, the following general error bound holds for
 299 estimator (2.1) with probability at least $1 - \sigma \exp(-\min[\nu \min_{g \in [G]} n_g - \log(G+1), \tau^2])$:

$$300 \quad (4.1) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \leq C \gamma \frac{\max_{g \in [G_+]} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)} + \tau}{\kappa_{\min}^2 \sqrt{n}}$$

301 where $\gamma = \max_{g \in [G]} n/n_g$, $\tau > 0$, and σ, ν , and C are constants.

302 **Corollary 4.2.** From [Theorem 4.1](#) one can immediately entail the error bound for estimation of
 303 the common and individual parameters as follows:

$$304 \quad \forall g \in [G_+] : \quad \|\delta_g\|_2 = O\left(\gamma \frac{\max_{g \in [G_+]} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)}}{\sqrt{n_g}}\right)$$

305 **Example 4.3.** For the balanced sample condition number $\gamma = \Theta(G)$ discussed in [Remark 2.3](#) we
 306 have the following error bound for all parameters:

$$307 \quad (4.2) \quad \forall g \in [G_+] : \quad \|\delta_g\|_2 = O\left(G^{3/2} \frac{\max_{g \in [G_+]} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)}}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

308 where the upper bound of error scales as $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ for all parameters.

309 **Example 4.4. (l_1 -norm)** For the sparse DS estimator of [Example 2.1](#), results of [Theorems 3.7](#)
 310 and [4.1](#) translates to the following: For enough number of samples as $\forall g \in [G_+] : n_g \geq m_g =$
 311 $O(s_g \log p)$, the upper bound of error simplifies to:

$$312 \quad (4.3) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 = O\left(\gamma \sqrt{\frac{(\max_{g \in [G_+]} s_g) \log p}{n}}\right),$$

313 Therefore, individual errors are bounded as $\|\delta_g\|_2 = O(\gamma \sqrt{(\max_{g \in [G]} s_g) \log p / n_g})$ which is slightly
 314 worse than $O(\sqrt{s_g \log p / n_g})$, the well-known error bound for recovering an s_g -sparse vector from n_g
 315 observations using LASSO or similar estimators [[4](#), [6](#), [10](#), [14](#), [15](#)].

316 **4.1. Proof of Theorem 4.1.** To avoid cluttering the notation, we rename the vector of all noises
 317 as $\mathbf{w}_0 \triangleq \mathbf{w}$. First, we massage the deterministic upper bound of [Theorem 2.2](#) as follows:

$$318 \quad \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X} \delta = \sum_{g=0}^G \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \mathbf{w}_g, \delta_g \rangle = \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2 \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \frac{\delta_g}{\|\delta_g\|_2} \rangle \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2$$

319 Assume $q_g = \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \frac{\delta_g}{\|\delta_g\|_2} \rangle \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2$ and $p_g = \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g\|_2$. Then the above term is the inner
 320 product of two vectors $\mathbf{p} = (p_0, \dots, p_G)$ and $\mathbf{q} = (q_0, \dots, q_G)$ for which we have:

$$321 \quad \sup_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{q} = \sup_{\|\mathbf{p}\|_1=1} \mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{q} \leq \|\mathbf{q}\|_\infty = \max_{g \in [G_+]} q_g,$$

322 where the inequality holds because of the definition of the dual norm. Now we can go back to the
 323 original form:

$$324 \quad (4.4) \quad \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X} \delta \leq \max_{g \in [G]} \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \frac{\delta_g}{\|\delta_g\|_2} \rangle \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2$$

$$325 \quad \leq \max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2 \sup_{\mathbf{u}_g \in \mathcal{C}_g \cap \mathbb{S}^{p-1}} \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \mathbf{u}_g \rangle$$

$$326$$

327 To avoid cluttering we define a random quantity $h_g(\mathbf{w}_g, \mathbf{X}_g) \triangleq \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2 \sup_{\mathbf{u}_g \in \mathcal{A}_g} \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \mathbf{u}_g \rangle$
 328 and a corresponding constant $e_g(\tau) \triangleq c_g \sqrt{(2k_w^2 + 1)k_x^2 n_g} \left(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)} + \tau \right)$. Then from
 329 [\(4.4\)](#), we have:

$$330 \quad \mathbb{P} \left(\sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X} \delta > \max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} e_g(\tau) \right) \leq \mathbb{P} \left(\max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} h_g(\mathbf{w}_g, \mathbf{X}_g) > \max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} e_g(\tau) \right)$$

$$331 \quad (\text{Union Bound}) \leq \sum_{g=0}^G \mathbb{P} \left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} h_g(\mathbf{w}_g, \mathbf{X}_g) > \max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} e_g(\tau) \right)$$

$$332 \quad \leq \sum_{g=0}^G \mathbb{P} (h_g(\mathbf{w}_g, \mathbf{X}_g) > e_g(\tau))$$

$$333 \quad \leq (G+1) \max_{g \in [G_+]} \mathbb{P} (h_g(\mathbf{w}_g, \mathbf{X}_g) > e_g(\tau))$$

$$334 \quad \leq \sigma \exp \left(- \min \left[\nu \min_{g \in [G]} n_g - \log(G+1), \tau^2 \right] \right)$$

Algorithm 5.1 DASHER

```

1: input:  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}$ , learning rates  $(\mu_0, \dots, \mu_G)$ , initialization  $\beta^{(1)} = \mathbf{0}$ 
2: output:  $\hat{\beta}$ 
3: for  $t = 1$  to  $T$  do
4:   for  $g=1$  to  $G$  do
5:      $\beta_g^{(t+1)} = \Pi_{\Omega_{f_g}} \left( \beta_g^{(t)} + \mu_g \mathbf{X}_g^T \left( \mathbf{y}_g - \mathbf{X}_g \left( \beta_0^{(t)} + \beta_g^{(t)} \right) \right) \right)$ 
6:   end for
7:    $\beta_0^{(t+1)} = \Pi_{\Omega_{f_0}} \left( \beta_0^{(t)} + \mu_0 \mathbf{X}_0^T \left( \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}_0 \beta_0^{(t)} - \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 \beta_1^{(t)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{X}_G \beta_G^{(t)} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right)$ 
8: end for

```

335 where the last inequality is the result of the following lemma:

336 **Lemma 4.5.** For \mathbf{x}_{gi} and ω_{gi} defined in [Definition 3.1](#) and $\tau > 0$, with probability at least
337 $1 - \frac{\sigma_g}{(G+1)} \exp(-\min[\nu n_g - \log(G+1), \tau^2])$ we have:

$$338 \quad \|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2 \sup_{\mathbf{u}_g \in \mathcal{A}_g} \langle \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2}, \mathbf{u}_g \rangle \leq c_g \sqrt{(2k_w^2 + 1)k_x^2 n_g} \left(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)} + \tau \right),$$

339 where σ_g, ν and c_g are constants.

340 The proof completes by replacing $\max_{g \in [G]} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g}} e_g(\tau)$ as the upper bound of $\sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{X} \delta$ and
341 $\kappa_{\min}^2/4$ as the lower bound of κ (from [Theorem 3.7](#)) both into the bound of [Theorem 2.2](#). ■

342 **5. Estimation Algorithm.** We propose *DAta SHarER* (DASHER) a projected block gradient
343 descent algorithm, [Algorithm 5.1](#), where $\Pi_{\Omega_{f_g}}$ is the Euclidean projection onto the set $\Omega_{f_g}(d_g) =$
344 $\{f_g(\beta) \leq d_g\}$ where $d_g = f_g(\beta_g^*)$ and is dropped to avoid cluttering.

345 To analysis convergence properties of DASHER, we should upper bound the error of each iteration.
346 Let's $\delta^{(t)} = \beta^{(t)} - \beta^*$ be the error of iteration t of DASHER, i.e., the distance from the true parameter
347 (not the optimization minimum, $\hat{\beta}$). We show that $\|\delta^{(t)}\|_2$ decreases exponentially fast in t to the
348 statistical error $\|\delta\|_2 = \|\hat{\beta} - \beta^*\|_2$. We first start with the required definitions for our analysis.

349 **Definition 5.1.** We define the following positive constants as functions of step sizes $\mu_g > 0$:

$$350 \quad \forall g \in [G_+] : \rho_g(\mu_g) = \sup_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{B}_g} \mathbf{v}^T (\mathbf{I}_g - \mu_g \mathbf{X}_g^T \mathbf{X}_g) \mathbf{u},$$

$$351 \quad \eta_g(\mu_g) = \mu_g \sup_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{B}_g} \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{X}_g^T \frac{\mathbf{w}_g}{\|\mathbf{w}_g\|_2},$$

$$352 \quad \forall g \in [G] : \phi_g(\mu_g) = \mu_g \sup_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{B}_g, \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{B}_0} -\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{X}_g^T \mathbf{X}_g \mathbf{u},$$

353 where $\mathcal{B}_g = \mathcal{C}_g \cap \mathbb{B}^p$ is the intersection of the error cone and the unit ball.

354 In the following theorem, we establish a deterministic bound on iteration errors $\|\delta_g^{(t)}\|_2$ which depends
355 on constants defined in [Definition 5.1](#) where to simplify the notation we drop μ_g arguments.

356 **Theorem 5.2.** For *Algorithm 5.1* initialized by $\beta^{(1)} = \mathbf{0}$, we have the following deterministic
 357 bound for the error at iteration $t + 1$:

$$358 \quad (5.1) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g^{(t+1)}\|_2 \leq \rho^t \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\beta_g^*\|_2 + \frac{1-\rho^t}{1-\rho} \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \eta_g \|\omega_g\|_2,$$

$$359 \quad \text{where } \rho \triangleq \max \left(\rho_0 + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g, \max_{g \in [G]} \left[\rho_g + \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g} \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_g}} \phi_g \right] \right).$$

360 *Proof.* First using the following lemma, we establish a recursive relation between errors of consec-
 361 utive iterations which leads to a bound for the t th iteration.

362 **Lemma 5.3.** We have the following recursive dependency between the error of $t + 1$ th iteration
 363 and t th iteration of DASHER:

$$364 \quad \|\delta_g^{(t+1)}\|_2 \leq \left(\rho_g(\mu_g) \|\delta_g^{(t)}\|_2 + \xi_g(\mu_g) \|\omega_g\|_2 + \phi_g(\mu_g) \|\delta_0^{(t)}\|_2 \right)$$

$$365 \quad \|\delta_0^{(t+1)}\|_2 \leq \left(\rho_0(\mu_0) \|\delta_0^{(t)}\|_2 + \xi_0(\mu_0) \|\omega_0\|_2 + \mu_0 \sum_{g=1}^G \frac{\phi_g(\mu_g)}{\mu_g} \|\delta_g^{(t)}\|_2 \right)$$

366 By recursively applying results of **Lemma 5.3**, we get the following deterministic bound which depends
 367 on constants defined in **Definition 5.1**:

$$368 \quad b_{t+1} = \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g^{(t+1)}\|_2 \leq \left(\rho_0 + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g \right) \|\delta_0^{(t)}\|_2 + \sum_{g=1}^G \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \rho_g + \mu_0 \frac{\phi_g}{\mu_g} \right) \|\delta_g^{(t)}\|_2 + \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

$$369 \quad \leq \rho \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g^{(t)}\|_2 + \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

370 where $\rho = \max \left(\rho_0 + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g, \max_{g \in [G]} \left[\rho_g + \sqrt{\frac{n}{n_g} \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_g}} \phi_g \right] \right)$. We have:

$$371 \quad b_{t+1} \leq \rho b_t + \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

$$372 \quad \leq \rho^2 b_{t-1} + (\rho + 1) \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

$$373 \quad \leq \rho^t b_1 + \left(\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \rho^i \right) \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

$$374 \quad = \rho^t \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\beta_g^1 - \beta_g^*\|_2 + \left(\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \rho^i \right) \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2$$

$$375 \quad (5.2) \quad (\beta^1 = 0) \leq \rho^t \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\beta_g^*\|_2 + \frac{1-\rho^t}{1-\rho} \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \xi_g \|\omega_g\|_2 \quad \blacksquare$$

$$376$$

The RHS of (5.2) consists of two terms. If we keep $\rho < 1$, the first term approaches zero fast, and the second term determines the bound. In the following, we show that for specific choices of step sizes μ_g s we can keep $\rho < 1$ with high probability and the second term can be upper bounded using the analysis of section 4. More specifically, the first term corresponds to the optimization error which shrinks in every iteration while the second term is of the same order of the upper bound of the statistical error characterized in Theorem 4.1.

One way for having $\rho < 1$ is to keep all arguments of $\max(\dots)$ defining ρ strictly below 1. To this end, we first establish high probability upper bound for ρ_g , η_g , and ϕ_g (in the subsection SM1.2) and then show that with enough number of samples and proper step sizes μ_g , ρ can be kept strictly below one with high probability. The high probability bounds for constants in Definition 5.1 and the deterministic bound of Theorem 5.2 leads to the following theorem which shows that for enough number of samples, of the same order as the statistical sample complexity of Theorem 3.7, we can keep ρ below one and have geometric convergence.

Theorem 5.4. *Let $\tau = \sqrt{\log(G+1)}/\zeta + \epsilon$ for $\epsilon, \zeta > 0$. For the step sizes of:*

$$\mu_0 = \frac{\min_{g \in [G]} h_g(\tau)^{-2}}{4n}, \forall g \in [G] : \mu_g = \frac{h_g(\tau)^{-1}}{2\sqrt{nn_g}}$$

where $h_g(\tau) = \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \omega(\mathcal{A}_0) + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}}\right)$ and sample complexities of $\forall g \in [G_+] : n_g \geq C_g(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \tau)^2$, with probability at least $1 - \sigma \exp(-\min(\nu \min_{g \in [G]} n_g - \log(G+1), \zeta \epsilon^2))$ updates of Algorithm 5.1 obey the following:

$$\sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g^{(t+1)}\|_2 \leq r(\tau)^t \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\beta_g^*\|_2 + \frac{C(G+1)\sqrt{(2k_w^2+1)k_x^2}}{\sqrt{n}(1-r(\tau))} \left(\max_{g \in [G_+]} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \tau \right)$$

where $r(\tau) < 1$ is a constant depending on τ defined in (SM1.1) and ν, ζ , and σ are constants.

Corollary 5.5. *For enough number of samples, iterations of DS algorithm with step sizes $\mu_0 = \Theta(\frac{1}{n})$ and $\mu_g = \Theta(\frac{1}{\sqrt{nn_g}})$ geometrically converges to the following with high probability:*

$$(5.3) \quad \sum_{g=0}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \|\delta_g^\infty\|_2 \leq c \frac{\max_{g \in [G_+]} \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \sqrt{\log(G+1)}/\zeta + \theta}{\sqrt{n}(1-r(\tau))}$$

where $c = C(G+1)\sqrt{(2k_w^2+1)k_x^2}$.

It is instructive to compare RHS of (5.3) with that of Theorem 4.1: κ_{\min} defined in Theorem 3.7 corresponds to $(1-r(\tau))$ and the extra $G+1$ factor corresponds to the sample condition number $\gamma = \max_{g \in [G]} \frac{n}{n_g}$. Therefore, Corollary 5.5 shows that with the number of samples in the order of sample complexity determined in Theorem 3.7 DASHER converges to the statistical error bound determined in Theorem 4.1.

5.1. Proof Sketch of Theorem 5.4. We want to determine $r(\tau) < 1$ such that $\rho < r(\tau)$ with high probability. Here, we provide a proof sketch using the below probabilistic bounds on constants of Definition 5.1 while ignoring detailed computation of subsequent probabilities in finding $r(\tau)$. The full probabilistic proof is provided in subsection SM1.2. First we need the following lemma to upper bound constants of Definition 5.1:

Lemma 5.6. Consider $a_g \geq 1$ the following upper bounds hold:

$$\rho_g \left(\frac{1}{a_g n_g} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{a_g} \right) + \sqrt{2} c_g \frac{2\omega_g + \tau}{a_g \sqrt{n_g}} \right], \quad \text{w.p. at least } 1 - 2 \exp(-\gamma_g(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \tau)^2)$$

$$\eta_g \left(\frac{1}{a_g n_g} \right) \leq \frac{c_g k_x(\omega_g + \tau)}{a_g n_g}, \quad \text{w.p. at least } 1 - \pi_g \exp(-\tau^2)$$

$$\phi_g \left(\frac{1}{a_g n_g} \right) \leq \frac{1}{a_g} \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} \right), \quad \text{w.p. at least } 1 - 2 \exp(-\gamma_g(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \tau)^2)$$

where $\omega_g = \omega(\mathcal{A}_g)$ and $\omega_{0g} = \omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \omega(\mathcal{A}_0)$.

To keep $\rho < 1$ in the deterministic bound of [Theorem 5.2](#) with the step sizes $\mu_g = \frac{1}{n_g a_g}$ we need to find the number of samples which satisfy the following conditions:

- Condition 1: $\rho_0(\mu_0) + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g(\mu_g) < 1$
- Condition 2: $\forall g \in [G] : \rho_g(\mu_g) + \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_g} \phi_g(\mu_g) < 1$

where according to the step sizes determine in the Theorem $a_0 \triangleq (4n \max_{g \in [G]} (1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}})^2)^{-1}$ and $a_g \triangleq (2\sqrt{n/n_g} (1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}}))^{-1}$. Condition 1 requires $\rho_0 + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g$ to be strictly below 1 which is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0(\mu_0) + \sum_{g=1}^G \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \phi_g(\mu_g) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{a_0} \right) + \sqrt{2} c_0 \frac{2\omega_0 + \tau}{a_0 \sqrt{n}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{g=1}^G \frac{2}{a_g} \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} \right) \\ (\text{Substitute } a_g) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{a_0} \right) + \sqrt{2} c_0 \frac{2\omega_0 + \tau}{a_0 \sqrt{n}} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{g=1}^G \frac{n_g}{n} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(2 - \frac{1}{a_0} \right) + \sqrt{2} c_0 \frac{2\omega_0 + \tau}{a_0 \sqrt{n}} \right] < 1 \end{aligned}$$

So Condition 1 reduces to $n > 8c_0^2(\omega(\mathcal{A}_0) + \tau)^2$.

Secondly in Condition 2, we want to bound all of $\rho_g + \mu_0 \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \frac{\phi_g}{\mu_g}$ terms for $\mu_g = \frac{1}{a_g n_g}$ by 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_g(\mu_g) + \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_g} \phi_g(\mu_g) &= \rho_g \left(\frac{1}{n_g a_g} \right) + \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \frac{a_g}{a_0} \phi_g \left(\frac{1}{n_g a_g} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{a_g} \right) + \sqrt{2} c_g \frac{2\omega_g + \tau}{a_g \sqrt{n_g}} \right] + \frac{2}{a_0} \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} \right) \\ &\leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Condition 2 becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{2} c_g \frac{2\omega_g + \tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} &\leq 1 + a_g - \sqrt{\frac{n_g}{n}} \frac{2a_g}{a_0} \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} \right) \\ (\text{Substitute } a_g) &= 1 + a_g - \frac{4}{a_0} \left(1 + c_{0g} \frac{\omega_{0g} + 2\tau}{\sqrt{n_g}} \right)^2 \\ (\text{Substitute } a_0) &\leq 1 + a_g \end{aligned}$$

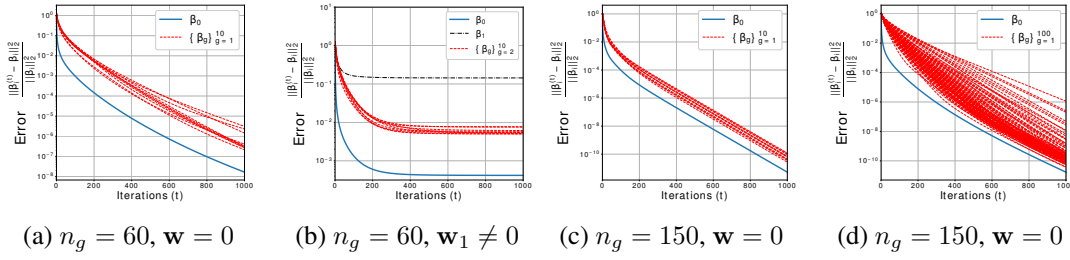


Figure 3: In (a), (b), and (c) experiments $p = 100$, $G = 10$, $\forall g \in [G] : s_g = 10$, and $s_0 = p$. For (d) $p = 1000$, $G = 100$, $\forall g \in [G] : s_g = 10$, and $s_0 = 100$. (a) Noiseless fast convergence. (b) Noise on the first group does not impact other groups as much. (c) Increasing sample size improves rate of convergence. (d) DASHER converges fast even with a large number of groups $G = 100$.

435 So the sample complexity should be $\sqrt{n_g} > \frac{\sqrt{2}c_g(2\omega_g+2\tau)}{1+a_g}$ and since $a_g > 1$, the final per group sample
 436 complexity should be $n_g > 8c_g(\omega(\mathcal{A}_g) + \tau)^2$. ■

437 **6. Experiments on Synthetic Data.** We considered sparsity based simulations with varying
 438 G and sparsity levels. In our first set of simulations, we set $p = 100$, $G = 10$ and sparsity of the
 439 individual parameters to be $s = 10$. We generated a dense β_0 with $\|\beta_0\| = p$ and did not impose any
 440 constraint. Iterates $\{\beta_g^{(t)}\}_{g=1}^G$ are obtained by projection onto the ℓ_1 ball $\|\beta_g\|_1$. Nonzero entries of β_g
 441 are generated with $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and nonzero supports are picked uniformly at random. Inspired from our
 442 theoretical step size choices, in all experiments, we used simplified learning rates of $\frac{1}{n}$ for β_0 and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{nn_g}}$
 443 for $\beta_g, g \in [G]$. Observe that, cones of the individual parameters intersect with that of β_0 hence this
 444 setup actually violates DASHIN (which requires an arbitrarily small constant fraction of groups to be
 445 non-intersecting). Our intuition is that the individual parameters are mostly incoherent with each other
 446 and the existence of a nonzero perturbation over β_g 's that keeps all measurements intact is unlikely.
 447 Remarkably, experimental results still show successful learning of all parameters from small amount
 448 of samples. We picked $n_g = 60$ for each group. Hence, in total, we have $11p = 1100$ unknowns,
 449 $200 = G \times 10 + 100$ degrees of freedom and $G \times 60 = 600$ samples. In all figures, we study the
 450 normalized squared error $\frac{\|\beta_g^{(t)} - \beta_g\|_2^2}{\|\beta_g\|_2^2}$ and average 10 independent realization for each curve. **Figure 3a**
 451 shows the estimation performance as a function of iteration number t . While each group might behave
 452 slightly different, we do observe that all parameters are linear converging to ground truth.

453 In **Figure 3b**, we test the noise robustness of our algorithm. We add a $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ noise to the $n_1 = 60$
 454 measurements of the first group *only*. The other groups are left untouched. While all parameters suffer
 455 nonzero estimation error, we observe that, the global parameter β_0 and noise-free groups $\{\beta_g\}_{g=2}^G$ have
 456 substantially less estimation error. This implies that noise in one group mostly affects itself rather than
 457 the global estimation. In **Figure 3c**, we increased the sample size to $n_g = 150$ per group. We observe
 458 that, in comparison to **Figure 3a**, rate of convergence receives a boost from the additional samples as
 459 predicted by our theory.

460 Finally, **Figure 3d** considers a very high-dimensional problem where $p = 1000$, $G = 100$, individual
 461 parameters are 10 sparse, β_0 is 100 sparse and $n_g = 150$. The total degrees of freedom is 1100, number
 462 of unknowns are 101000 and total number of datapoints are $150 \times 100 = 15000$. While individual

parameters have substantial variation in terms of convergence rate, at the end of 1000 iteration, all parameters have relative reconstruction error below 10^{-6} .

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