
Efficient Distributed Stochastic Dual Coordinate Ascent

Mingrui Liu, Jeff Hajewski

Department of Computer Science

University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA 52242

mingrui-liu@uiowa.edu, jeffery-hajewski@uiowa.edu

Abstract

The abstract paragraph should be indented ½ inch (3 picas) on both the left- and right-hand margins. Use 10 point type, with a vertical spacing (leading) of 11 points. The word **Abstract** must be centered, bold, and in point size 12. Two line spaces precede the abstract. The abstract must be limited to one paragraph. This latex file is modified from the NIPS 2016 template.

1 Introduction

In recent years, we come into the big data era. Many large-scale machine learning problems, most of which are essentially optimization problems with huge magnitude of data size, need to be tackled. Two common countermeasures to deal with this are employing stochastic optimization algorithms, and utilizing computational resources in a parallel or distributed manner[3].

In this paper, we consider a class of convex optimization problems with special structure, whose objective can be expressed as the sum of a finite sum of loss functions and a regularization function:

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d} F(w), \text{ where } P(w) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \phi(w^\top x_i, y_i) + \lambda g(w), \quad (1)$$

where $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$ denotes the weight vector, $(x_i, y_i), x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, y_i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, n$ are training data, $\lambda > 0$ is a regularization parameter, $\phi(z, y)$ is a convex function of z , and $g(w)$ is a convex function of w . We refer to the problem in (1) as Regularized Finite Sum Minimization (RFSM) problem. When $g(w) = 0$, the problem reduces to the Finite Sum Minimization (FSM) problem.

Both RFSM and FSM problems have been extensively studied in machine learning and optimization literature. When n is large, numerous stochastic optimization algorithms were proposed[2, 8, 10, 9, 5, 11, 12, 4, 13, 7, 1, 6].

2 Related Work

Are there any related work? If yes, review them and discuss their deficiencies and how your proposed work can potentially address their issues.

3 The Proposed Work

Describe your proposed work in this section.

4 Plan

Describe your plan for the project. What data you are going to use to evaluate your methods? What are the baselines that you want to compare? How will you develop your methods? A timeline with important milestones is always preferred.

Acknowledgments

Use unnumbered third level headings for the acknowledgments. All acknowledgments go at the end of the paper. Do not include acknowledgments in the anonymized submission, only in the final paper.

References

- [1] Z. Allen-Zhu. Katyusha: Accelerated variance reduction for faster sgd. *ArXiv e-prints, abs/1603.05953*, 2016.
- [2] L. Bottou. Large-scale machine learning with stochastic gradient descent. In *Proceedings of COMPSTAT'2010*, pages 177–186. Springer, 2010.
- [3] S. Boyd, N. Parikh, E. Chu, B. Peleato, and J. Eckstein. Distributed optimization and statistical learning via the alternating direction method of multipliers. *Foundations and Trends® in Machine Learning*, 3(1):1–122, 2011.
- [4] A. Defazio, F. Bach, and S. Lacoste-Julien. Saga: A fast incremental gradient method with support for non-strongly convex composite objectives. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 1646–1654, 2014.
- [5] R. Johnson and T. Zhang. Accelerating stochastic gradient descent using predictive variance reduction. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 315–323, 2013.
- [6] G. Lan and Y. Zhou. An optimal randomized incremental gradient method. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1507.02000*, 2015.
- [7] Q. Lin, Z. Lu, and L. Xiao. An accelerated proximal coordinate gradient method. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 3059–3067, 2014.
- [8] A. Nemirovski, A. Juditsky, G. Lan, and A. Shapiro. Robust stochastic approximation approach to stochastic programming. *SIAM Journal on optimization*, 19(4):1574–1609, 2009.
- [9] S. Shalev-Shwartz and T. Zhang. Accelerated mini-batch stochastic dual coordinate ascent. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 378–385, 2013.
- [10] S. Shalev-Shwartz and T. Zhang. Stochastic dual coordinate ascent methods for regularized loss minimization. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 14(Feb):567–599, 2013.
- [11] S. Shalev-Shwartz and T. Zhang. Accelerated proximal stochastic dual coordinate ascent for regularized loss minimization. In *ICML*, pages 64–72, 2014.
- [12] L. Xiao and T. Zhang. A proximal stochastic gradient method with progressive variance reduction. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, 24(4):2057–2075, 2014.
- [13] Y. Zhang and X. Lin. Stochastic primal-dual coordinate method for regularized empirical risk minimization. In *ICML*, pages 353–361, 2015.