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# Lukang Sun

## Research Interest

My previous and ongoing research revolves around the analysis and improvement of algorithms originating from the fields of optimization, statistics, and machine learning. More specifically, I have focused on analyzing and improve sampling algorithms such as Stein Variational Gradient Descent (SVGD) and Langevin-type algorithms. Additionally, I have explored optimization algorithms, including Stochastic Gradient Descent and zeroth-order Consensus-Based Optimization methods. Nevertheless, my research interests are beyond the aforementioned areas. I aspire to broaden my research horizons by exploring more general problems that encompass intriguing physics, challenging mathematics, and possess significant practical applications.

# **EDUCATION**

# King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Thuwal, Saudi Arabia 2021–Current

# Nanjing University

M.S. in Pure Mathematics

Nanjing, China 2017–2020

- Thesis: "Harmonic functions on RCD(K,N) spaces"

## Jilin University

B.S. in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Changchun, China 2013–2017

# **PUBLICATIONS**

- [1] M. Fornasier, P. Richtárik, K. Riedl, and L. Sun, "Consensus-based optimization with truncated noise", arXiv preprint arXiv:2310.16610, 2023.
- [2] L. Sun, A. Karagulyan, and P. Richtarik, "Convergence of stein variational gradient descent under a weaker smoothness condition", in *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, PMLR, 2023, pp. 3693–3717.
- [3] L. Sun and P. Richtárik, "Improved Stein Variational Gradient Descent with Importance Weights", NeurIPS Optimal Transport and Machine Learning Workshop, 2023.
- [4] A. Tyurin, L. Sun, K. Burlachenko, and P. Richtárik, "Sharper Rates and Flexible Framework for Nonconvex SGD with Client and Data Sampling", accepted to Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR), 2023.
- [5] A. Salim, L. Sun, and P. Richtarik, "A Convergence Theory for SVGD in the Population Limit under Talagrand's Inequality T1", in *International Conference on Machine Learning*, PMLR, 2022, pp. 19139–19152.
- [6] L. Sun and P. Richtárik, "A Note on the Convergence of Mirrored Stein Variational Gradient Descent under  $(L_0, L_1)$  Smoothness Condition",  $arXiv\ preprint\ arXiv:2206.09709$ , 2022.
- [7] L. Sun, A. Salim, and P. Richtárik, "Federated Learning with a Sampling Algorithm under Isoperimetry", arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.00920, 2022.

## EXPERIENCE

#### Technical University of Munich

Visited Professor Massimo Fornasier

Munich, German June 19th 2023 –July 2nd 2023

#### Georgia Institute of Technology

Exchange student/School of Mathematics

Atlanta, US Jan 2016 –May 2016

# The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Visiting student/Mathematics department

Hong Kong, China One week, Dec 2015

## TEACHING

• Teaching Assistant at Nanjing University
Advanced Mathematics

Fall 2016

• Teaching Assistant at Nanjing University Calculus

Spring 2016

# SKILLS

- Coding Language: Latex, Matlab and Python
- Mathematical Analysis: Optimal Transport, Stochastic Calculus

# SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

• KAUST Dean's List Award

2023

# REFEREES

- Prof. Dr. Peter Richtárik (Advisor), Professor of Computer Science, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST). Address: Office 3145, Bldg 12, 4700 KAUST, Thuwal 23955-6900, Saudi Arabia. Email: peter.richtarik@kaust.edu.sa
- Prof. Dr. Massimo Fornasier, Chair of Applied Numerical Analysis, Technical University of Munich (TUM). Address: Room 5610.02.058, Boltzmannstr. 3, 85748 Garching b. München, German. Email: massimo.fornasier@ma.tum.de