

CS331-Exam-Lukang-Sun

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p1. since

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} - \log(t) = \frac{1}{t^2} > 0,$$

so $-\log(t)$ is convex on $(0, +\infty)$.

$$\prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{\alpha_i} = e^{\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \log(x_i)} \leq e^{\log(\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i,$$

the first inequality uses the concavity of $\log(t)$ and the increasing property of e^t .

p2. since the log-convexity property of f , we know

$$\log f(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2) \leq \alpha \log f(x_1) + \beta \log f(x_2),$$

where $\alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0, \alpha + \beta = 1$. This is equivalent to

$$f(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2) \leq f^\alpha(x_1) f^\beta(x_2). \quad (1)$$

Using Young inequality, the RHS of (1) is bounded by $\alpha f(x_1) + \beta f(x_2)$ ($p = \frac{1}{\alpha}, q = \frac{1}{\beta}$ in this case), so finally proved

$$f(\alpha x_1 + \beta x_2) \leq \alpha f(x_1) + \beta f(x_2).$$

p3. convex since

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} &= \sum_{i=0}^{2020} e^{ix} \\ \left(\frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} \right)' &= \sum_{i=0}^{2020} i e^{ix} \\ \left(\frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} \right)'' &= \sum_{i=0}^{2020} i^2 e^{ix} \\ (\log(g(t)))'' &= \frac{g''g - g'^2}{g^2} \end{aligned}$$

so we only need to verify

$$\left(\frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} \right)'' \frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} \geq \left(\frac{e^{2021x} - 1}{e^x - 1} \right)'^2$$

. if we expand both side and compare the coefficient in front of $e^{(i+j)x} + e^{(j+i)x}$, we find that LHS is $i^2 + j^2$, RHS is $2ij$ which is smaller than $i^2 + j^2$ by Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, so we proved the LHS is bigger than RHS, that means f is convex.

p4. (i) \mapsto (ii) since $g := \frac{1}{2}\|x\|_L - f(x)$ is convex, so we have

$$g(y) + \langle \nabla g(y), x - y \rangle \leq g(x),$$

that is

$$1/2\|y\|_L - f(y) + \langle Ly - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \leq 1/2\|x\|_L - f(x),$$

which is

$$f(x) \leq f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + 1/2\|x\|_L - 1/2\|y\|_L - \langle Ly, x - y \rangle = f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + 1/2\|x - y\|_L.$$

(ii) \mapsto (iii) by (ii), we also have

$$f(y) \leq f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), y - x \rangle + 1/2\|x - y\|_L$$

by summing the last one and (ii), we get (iii).

(iii) \mapsto (ii) let $z = y + t(x - y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(y) + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(y + t(x - y)), x - y \rangle dt \\ &= f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \int_0^1 \langle \nabla f(z) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle dt \\ &\stackrel{(iii)}{\leq} f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \int_0^1 t\|x - y\|_L dt \\ &= f(y) + \langle \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + 1/2\|x - y\|_L. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) \mapsto (i) let $z = \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y$, then by (ii) we have

$$f(x) \leq f(z) + (1 - \lambda)\langle \nabla f(z), x - y \rangle + (1 - \lambda)^2/2\|x - y\|_L^2 \quad (2)$$

$$f(y) \leq f(z) + \lambda\langle \nabla f(z), y - x \rangle + \lambda^2/2\|x - y\|_L^2 \quad (3)$$

(2) times λ plus (3) times $1 - \lambda$, we get

$$\lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y) \leq f(z) + \lambda(1 - \lambda)/2\|x - y\|_L^2 \quad (4)$$

since

$$\|z\|_L^2 - \lambda\|x\|_L^2 - (1 - \lambda)\|y\|_L^2 = -\lambda(1 - \lambda)(\|x\|_L^2 + \|y\|_L^2 - 2\langle x, y \rangle) = -\lambda(1 - \lambda)\|x - y\|_L^2,$$

(4) is equivalent to $g(z) \leq \lambda g(x) + (1 - \lambda)g(y)$.

p5. let $\phi(y) = f(y) - \langle \nabla f(x), y \rangle$, x is fixed, then we know ϕ is convex so x is the minimum point (convex+linear function is also convex) and we can easily verify that ϕ satisfies (iii) of problem 4, so (ii) is also satisfied, then

$$\phi(x) \leq \phi(y - L^{-1}\nabla\phi(y)) \leq \phi(y) - 1/2\|\nabla\phi(y)\|_{L^{-1}}^2,$$

that is

$$f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), y - x \rangle + 1/2\|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|_{L^{-1}}^2 \leq f(y),$$

by changing the position of x, y in the above inequality and take summation of the two inequalities, we finally get

$$\|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|_{L^{-1}}^2 \leq \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle.$$

p6. let $s = ty + (1 - t)z$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle s, x \rangle - f(x) &\leq t(\langle y, x \rangle - f(x)) + (1 - t)(\langle z, x \rangle - f(x)) \\ &\leq \sup_x (t(\langle y, x \rangle - f(x)) + (1 - t)(\langle z, x \rangle - f(x))) \\ &\leq \sup_x t(\langle y, x \rangle - f(x)) + \sup_x (1 - t)(\langle z, x \rangle - f(x)) = tf^*(y) + (1 - t)f^*(z) \end{aligned}$$

then LHS takes supremum, we have $f^*(s) \leq tf^*(y) + (1 - t)f^*(z)$, which proves the convexity.

p7. by assumption, we have

$$\langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \leq \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \|x - y\| \leq L \|x - y\|^2$$

then we know f is L -smoothness(see problem 4), so we have

$$2D_f(x, y) \leq L \|x - y\|_2^2$$

Also we have

$$-\langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \leq \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\| \|x - y\| \leq L \|x - y\|^2$$

, so $-f(x)$ is L -smoothness, so we have

$$-2D_f(x, y) = 2D_{-f}(x, y) \leq L \|x - y\|_L^2$$

. So we always have

$$2|D_f(x, y)| \leq 2\|x - y\|^2.$$

p8. for example let $d = n = \lceil \frac{\max_i L_i}{L} \rceil$ and $f_i(x) = \frac{L_i}{2} x_i^2$, then each f_i is convex and L_i -smooth. f is $\frac{\max_i L_i}{n}$ -smooth, $\frac{\max_i L_i}{n} = \frac{\max_i L_i}{\lceil \frac{\max_i L_i}{L} \rceil} \leq L$, so f is also L -smooth(since L is bigger than the real smoothness constant.)

p9.

$$E \left[\|x^k - x^*\|^2 \right] \leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|x^0 - x^*\|^2 + \frac{2\gamma\sigma_*^2}{\mu}, \quad (5)$$

we want the first term and the second term both less than $\epsilon/2$, so $\gamma = \frac{\epsilon\mu}{4\sigma_*^2}$, $k = \frac{1}{\gamma\mu} \log(\frac{2\|x_0 - x^*\|^2}{\epsilon})$, the expected computation complexity is

$$k \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{c_i p_i + 1}{n} = \frac{4\sigma_*^2}{\epsilon\mu^2} \log\left(\frac{2\|x_0 - x^*\|^2}{\epsilon}\right) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{c_i p_i + 1}{n},$$

which is equivalent to minimize

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i p_i + 1 \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\|\nabla f_i(x_*)\|^2}{p_i} \right),$$

since we don't know the optimal point x_* , so we should make assumption on $\|\nabla f(x_*)\|^2$, the proper assumption is make them all equal, so under this assumption, we want to minimize $\sum_{i=1}^n c_i p_i + 1$, $p_i = 1$ for $i = \arg\max_j c_j$, $p_i = 0$ otherwise (assume each c_i not equal), but this is not an unbiased estimator, thereasonable one is let p_i propotional to $(\frac{1}{c_i})^k$, for some integer n , for example $k = 10$, then

$$p_i = \frac{c_i^{-10}}{\sum_{i=1}^n c_i^{-10}}.$$

p10. (i)

Theorem 1. assume f is L -smoothness and μ -convex, then

$$E[\|x^k - x^*\|^2] \leq (1 - \mu\gamma) \|x^0 - x^*\|^2$$

where $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{(1/\tau(\max_s 1/q_s - 1) + 1)L}$

Proof. let $r^k = x^k - x^*$, $g^k = C(\nabla f(x^k))$, then by lemma 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\|r^{k+1}\|^2 \mid x^k \right] &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma D_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 E \left[\|g^k - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \mid x^k \right] \\ &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma D_f(x^k, x^*) + 2\gamma^2 A D_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 C \\ &= (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma(1 - \gamma A) D_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 C \\ &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 + \gamma^2 C, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

unrolling the recurrence, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\|r^k\|^2 \right] &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|r^0\|^2 + \gamma^2 C \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (1 - \gamma\mu)^i \\ &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|r^0\|^2 + \frac{\gamma C}{\mu} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

□

Lemma 1. Assume f is L -smooth,

$$G^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E} \left[\|C(\nabla f(x)) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \mid x \right] \leq 2AD_f(x^k + C, x^*)$$

where $A = (1/\tau(\max_s 1/q_s - 1) + 1)L$, $C = 0$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[C(x)] \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{i=1}^{\tau} \mathbb{E}[C_{st}(x)] &= x \\ \mathbb{E}[\|C(x)\|^2] &= 1/\tau^2 \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} \mathbb{E}[\|C_{st}\|^2] + 1/\tau^2 \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E}[C_{si}C_{sj}] \\ &= 1/\tau^2 \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} \sum_d 1/q_s x_s^2 + (\tau - 1)/\tau \|x\|^2 \\ &\leq (1/\tau(\max_s 1/q_s - 1) + 1) \|x\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

so define $w = 1/\tau(\max_s 1/q_s - 1)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} G(x, x_*) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E} [\|C(\nabla f(x)) - \nabla f(x_*)\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|C(\nabla f(x))\|^2] \\ &\leq (\omega + 1) \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x_*)\|^2 \\ &\leq 2(\omega + 1)LD_f(x, x_*) \end{aligned}$$

□

(ii) what do you mean the batch size of RCD, do you mean

$$g^k = 1/\tau \sum_{\tau \text{ times}} \mathcal{C}_{S^k} (\nabla f(x^k)) \quad (8)$$

if this is the case, then the new one is better, since for each C_{st} it only require computing one coordiante, while general RCD require $|S_k|$ coordiates. The stepsizes are the same.

p11.

Lemma 2. We have AC-inequality

$$\mathbb{E}[\|g^k - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2] \leq 2AD_f(x^k, x^*) + C_k,$$

where $A = (2w + 1)L$, $C_k = 2w\|\nabla f(x^*) - h^k\|^2 = 2w\|h^k\|^2$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
E \left[\|g^k - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \right] &= E \left[\|g^k - \nabla f(x)\|^2 \right] + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \\
&\leq \omega \|\nabla f(x) - h^k\|^2 + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \\
&= \omega \|\nabla f(x^k) - \nabla f(x^*) + \nabla f(x^*) - h^k\|^2 + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \\
&\stackrel{(35)}{\leq} 2\omega \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 + 2\omega \|\nabla f(x^*) - h^k\|^2 \\
&\quad + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \\
&= (2\omega + 1) \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 + 2\omega \|\nabla f(x^*) - h^k\|^2 \\
&\leq 2(2\omega + 1)LD_f(x, x^*) + 2\omega \|\nabla f(x^*) - h^k\|^2
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

□

Theorem 2. Assume f is L -smooth, μ -convex, then we have

$$\mathbb{E}[\|x^k - x^*\|^k] \leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|x^0 - x^*\|^2 + \tilde{C}_k$$

where $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{(2w+1)L}$, $\tilde{C}_k = 2w \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (1 - \gamma\mu)^i \|h_{k-1-i}\|^2$

Proof. define $r^k = x^k - x^*$, then by lemma 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
E \left[\|r^{k+1}\|^2 \mid x^k \right] &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma D_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 E \left[\|g^k - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \mid x^k \right] \\
&\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma D_f(x^k, x^*) + 2\gamma^2 AD_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 C_k \\
&= (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 - 2\gamma(1 - \gamma A)D_f(x^k, x^*) + \gamma^2 C_k \\
&\leq (1 - \gamma\mu) \|r^k\|^2 + \gamma^2 C_k,
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

unrolling the recurrence, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
E \left[\|r^k\|^2 \right] &\leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|r^0\|^2 + \gamma^2 \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} C_{k-1-i} (1 - \gamma\mu)^i \\
&\leq (1 - \gamma\mu)^k \|r^0\|^2 + \frac{\gamma \tilde{C}_k}{\mu}
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

where $\tilde{C}_k = 2w \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (1 - \gamma\mu)^i \|h_{k-1-i}\|^2$

□

p12.

Lemma 3. Assume f_i, f are L_i, L smooth. Let

$$a_i(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)$$

and

$$\bar{a}(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(x, y) = \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)$$

Then

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{1}{np_i} a_i(x, y) - \bar{a}(x, y) \right\|^2 \right] \leq (\max_i \frac{L_i^2}{np_i} + L^2) \|x - y\|^2$$

Lemma 4. Suppose that lemma 3 holds. Let

$$\sigma(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|x - y\|^2.$$

The L -SVRG-NS gradient estimator is unbiased, and for each $\beta > 0$ satisfies the recursions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\|g^k\|^2 \right] &\leq \underbrace{\alpha}_{B_1} \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] + \underbrace{1}_{B_2} \mathbb{E} \left[\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \right] \\ \mathbb{E} [\sigma^{k+1}] &\leq \underbrace{(1-p)(1+\gamma\beta+\gamma^2\alpha)}_{\tilde{B}_1} \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] + \underbrace{(1-p)(\gamma\beta^{-1}+\gamma^2)}_{\tilde{B}_2} \mathbb{E} \left[\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max_i \frac{L_i^2}{p_i} + L^2$ and $\sigma^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(x^k, y^k) = \|x^k - y^k\|^2$.

Proof.

$$a_i(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)$$

and $\bar{a} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(x, y) = \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)$, then by variance decomposition we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\|g^k - \nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k \right] + \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{\nabla f_i(x^k)}{np_i} - \frac{\nabla f_i(y^k)}{np_i} + \nabla f(y^k) - \nabla f(x^k) \right\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k \right] + \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{1}{np_i} a_i(x^k, y^k) - \bar{a}(x^k, y^k) \right\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k \right] + \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \\ &\leq (\max_i \frac{L_i^2}{np_i} + L^2) \sigma^k + \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [\sigma^{k+1} \mid x^{k+1}, x^k, y^k] &= \mathbb{E} [\|x^{k+1} - y^{k+1}\|^2 \mid x^{k+1}, x^k, y^k] \\ &= (p) \|x^{k+1} - x^{k+1}\|^2 + (1-p) \|x^{k+1} - y^k\|^2 \\ &= (1-p) \|x^{k+1} - x^k + x^k - y^k\|^2 \\ &= (1-p) \|x^{k+1} - x^k\|^2 + 2(1-p) \langle x^{k+1} - x^k, x^k - y^k \rangle + (1-p) \|x^k - y^k\|^2 \\ &= (1-p)\gamma^2 \|g^k\|^2 + 2(1-p) \langle x^{k+1} - x^k, x^k - y^k \rangle + (1-p)\sigma^k \\ &= (1-p)\gamma^2 \|g^k\|^2 + 2(1-p)\gamma \langle -g^k, x^k - y^k \rangle + (1-p)\sigma^k \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Now taking conditional expectation again, but this time conditioning on x^k and y^k only, and applying the inequality

$$\langle u, v \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2\beta} \|u\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|v\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [\sigma^{k+1} \mid x^{k+1}, x^k, y^k] \mid x^k, y^k] &\leq (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k] + 2(1-p)\gamma \underbrace{\langle g^k \mid x^k, y^k \rangle}_{\nabla f(x^k)} \cdot (y^k - x^k) \\ &\quad + (1-p)\sigma^k \\ &\leq (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k] + 2(1-p)\gamma \left(\frac{1}{2\beta} \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|x^k - y^k\|^2 \right) \\ &\quad + (1-p)\sigma^k \\ &= (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k] + \frac{(1-p)\gamma}{\beta} \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta)\sigma^k. \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

For simplicity, in what follows we denote $\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max_i \frac{L_i^2}{p_i} + L^2$. Applying expectation one more time, and using the more elaborate tower property of expectation (335), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} [\sigma^{k+1}] &= \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [\sigma^{k+1} \mid x^{k+1}, x^k, y^k] \mid x^k, y^k] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[(1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k] + \frac{(1-p)\gamma}{\beta} \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta)\sigma^k \right] \\
&= (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, y^k]] + \frac{(1-p)\gamma}{\beta} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta) \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] \\
&= (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\alpha\sigma^k + \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + \frac{(1-p)\gamma}{\beta} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta) \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] \\
&= (1-p)\gamma^2 \alpha \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] + (1-p)\gamma^2 \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + \frac{(1-p)\gamma}{\beta} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta) \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] \\
&= (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta+\gamma^2\alpha) \mathbb{E} [\sigma^k] + (1-p)(\gamma\beta^{-1}+\gamma^2) \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2].
\end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 1.

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \geq \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} \frac{1-p}{p} \alpha(c+1)}$$

then

$$\tilde{B}_1 \leq 1 - \frac{p}{4}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{B}_1 &= (1-p)(1+\gamma\beta+\gamma^2\alpha) \\
&= (1-p)(1+\gamma^2\alpha(c+1)) \\
&= 1-p+\gamma^2\alpha(c+1)(1-p) \\
&\leq 1-p+\frac{3p}{4} \\
&= 1-\frac{p}{4}.
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3. Let f_i, f are L_i, L -smooth and . Choose constant stepsize γ satisfying

$$0 < \gamma \leq \frac{1}{L(B_2 + \theta\tilde{B}_2)}$$

where $\theta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{B_1}{1-\tilde{B}_1}$. Then for any $K \geq 1$, SGD-CTRL can output a random point x (chosen as one of the points x^0, x^1, \dots, x^{K-1} at random with certain probabilities) satisfying

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x)\|^2] \leq L(C + \theta\tilde{C})\gamma + \frac{2 \left(1 + L(A + \theta\tilde{A})\gamma^2\right)^K}{\gamma K} \Delta^0$$

where $\Delta^0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(x^0) - f^{\inf} + \frac{1}{2}L\theta\sigma^0\gamma^2$, all the constants are from lemma 4.

Proof. Since f is L -smooth, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x^{k+1}) - f^{\inf} &\leq f(x^k) - f^{\inf} + \langle \nabla f(x^k), x^{k+1} - x^k \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|x^{k+1} - x^k\|^2 \\
&= f(x^k) - f^{\inf} - \gamma \langle \nabla f(x^k), g^k \rangle + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \|g^k\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

By applying expectation to both sides and subsequently using unbiasedness of g^k and the bound lemma 4 on the second moment of the stochastic gradient, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& E [f(x^{k+1}) - f^{\inf} \mid x^k, \xi^k] \\
& \leq f(x^k) - f^{\inf} - \gamma \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} E [\|g^k\|^2 \mid x^k, \xi^k] \\
& \leq f(x^k) - f^{\inf} - \gamma \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 \\
& \quad + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \left[2A(f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) + B_1\sigma^k + B_2 \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + C \right] \\
& = (1 + LA\gamma^2) (f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) + \frac{LB_1\gamma^2}{2} \sigma^k \\
& \quad - \left(\gamma - \frac{LB_2\gamma^2}{2} \right) \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Choose any $M > 0$ and define

$$\Delta^{k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(x^{k+1}) - f^{\inf} + M\gamma^2\sigma^{k+1}$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned}
E [\Delta^{k+1} \mid x^k, \xi^k] & \leq \underbrace{\left(1 + LA\gamma^2 + 2M\tilde{A}\gamma^2 \right)}_{=a} (f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) + \left(\frac{LB_1}{2} + M\tilde{B}_1 \right) \gamma^2 \sigma^k \\
& \quad - \underbrace{\left(\gamma - \frac{LB_2\gamma^2}{2} - M\tilde{B}_2\gamma^2 \right)}_{=b} \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \underbrace{\left(\frac{LC\gamma^2}{2} + M\tilde{C}\gamma^2 \right)}_{=c} \left[f(x^k) - f^{\inf} + \frac{\frac{LB_1}{2} + M\tilde{B}_1}{a} \gamma^2 \sigma^k \right] - b \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + c
\end{aligned}$$

,

where

$$\begin{aligned}
a & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1 + LA\gamma^2 + 2M\tilde{A}\gamma^2 \\
b & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \gamma - \frac{LB_2\gamma^2}{2} - M\tilde{B}_2\gamma^2 \\
c & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2} + M\tilde{C}\gamma^2.
\end{aligned}$$

In order to turn the last inequality into a recursion which has Δ^k on the right hand side, we need to make sure that

$$\frac{\frac{LB_1}{2} + M\tilde{B}_1}{a} \leq M.$$

Fortunately, it is easy to see (prove this!) that we can make sure this holds by an appropriate choice of M . In particular, the last inequality holds if we choose

$$M \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{LB_1}{2(1 - \tilde{B}_1)} = \frac{L\theta}{2}$$

With this choice of M , we can obtain the recursion

$$E [\Delta^{k+1} \mid x^k, \xi^k] \leq a\Delta^k - b \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + c.$$

By applying expectation to both sides of this, and using the tower property of expectation, we get the recursion

$$\begin{aligned}
E [\Delta^{k+1}] & = E [E [\Delta^{k+1} \mid x^k, \xi^k]] \\
& \leq aE [\Delta^k] - bE [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] + c.
\end{aligned}$$

We now apply Lemma 120 from lecturn to recursion with $X_k = E [\Delta^k]$ and $Y_k = bE [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2]$. If we set $x = x^k$ with probability p_k (where p_k is as in Lemma 120), which means that $Y = Y_k$ with

probability p_k , we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} bE[\|\nabla f(x)\|^2] &= E[Y] \\ &\leq \frac{a^K}{S_K}\Delta^0 + c \\ &\leq \frac{a^K}{K}\Delta^0 + c \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows since $a \geq 1$, which implies that $S_K \geq K$. We now evaluate the expressions for b and c in (317). First,

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \gamma - \frac{LB_2\gamma^2}{2} - M\tilde{B}_2\gamma^2 \\ &= \gamma - \frac{\gamma}{2} (LB_2\gamma + L\theta\tilde{B}_2\gamma) \\ &\geq \frac{\gamma}{2} \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality holds by setting

$$\gamma \leq \frac{1}{L(B_2 + \theta\tilde{B}_2)}$$

Moreover,

$$c = \frac{LC}{2}\gamma^2 + M\tilde{C}\gamma^2 = \frac{L}{2}(C + \theta\tilde{C})\gamma^2.$$

We obtain the results. \square

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Lemma 5. $g(x) = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{C}_i(\nabla f_i(x))$, assume $\mathbb{E}[\|g(x) - \nabla f(x)\|^2] \leq C$, f is L -smooth, then

$$E[\|g(x)\|^2] \leq 2A(f(x) - f^{\inf}) + B\|\nabla f(x)\|^2 + C, \quad (14)$$

where $A = L, B = 0$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\|g(x)\|^2] &= \mathbb{E}[\|g(x) - \nabla f(x)\|^2] + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\|^2 \\ &\leq 2L(f(x) - f^{\inf}) + C \end{aligned}$$

\square

Lemma 6. Assume the conditions in lemma 5 hold true. Choose constant stepsize γ satisfying $0 < \gamma \leq \frac{1}{LB}$. Then for any $K \geq 1$, the iterates $\{x^k\}$ of SGD satisfy

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k r^k + \frac{w_{K-1}}{\gamma} \delta^K \leq \frac{w_{-1}}{\gamma} \delta^0 + \frac{LC}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k \gamma.$$

where $r^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2]$, $w_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{w_{-1}}{(1+LA\gamma^2)^{k+1}}$ for $w_{-1} > 0$ arbitrary, and $\delta^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}[f(x^k)] - f^{\inf}$.

Proof. We start with the L -smoothness of f , which implies

$$\begin{aligned} f(x^{k+1}) &\leq f(x^k) + \langle \nabla f(x^k), x^{k+1} - x^k \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|x^{k+1} - x^k\|^2 \\ &= f(x^k) - \gamma \langle \nabla f(x^k), g(x^k) \rangle + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \|g(x^k)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Applying the (ABC) Assumption. Taking expectation conditional on x^k , and using lemma 5, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [f(x^{k+1}) | x^k] &= f(x^k) - \gamma \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|g(x^k)\|^2] \\ &\stackrel{(\text{ABC})}{\leq} f(x^k) - \gamma \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + \frac{L\gamma^2}{2} \left(2A(f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) + B\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + C \right) \\ &= f(x^k) - \gamma \left(1 - \frac{LB\gamma}{2} \right) \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 + LA\gamma^2 (f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) + \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting f^{\inf} from both sides gives $\mathbb{E} [f(x^{k+1}) | x^k] - f^{\inf} \leq (1 + LA\gamma^2) (f(x^k) - f^{\inf}) - \gamma \left(1 - \frac{LB\gamma}{2} \right) \|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2 - \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2}$ taking expectation again, using the tower property and rearranging, we get $\mathbb{E} [f(x^{k+1}) - f^{\inf}] + \gamma \left(1 - \frac{LB\gamma}{2} \right) \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] \leq (1 + LA\gamma^2) \mathbb{E} [f(x^k) - f^{\inf}] + \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2}$. Letting $\delta^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E} [f(x^k) - f^{\inf}]$ and $r^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2]$, we can rewrite the last inequality as

$$\gamma \left(1 - \frac{LB\gamma}{2} \right) r^k \leq (1 + LA\gamma^2) \delta^k - \delta^{k+1} + \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2}$$

Our choice of stepsize guarantees that $1 - \frac{LB\gamma}{2} \geq \frac{1}{2}$. As such,

$$\frac{\gamma}{2} r^k \leq (1 + LA\gamma^2) \delta^k - \delta^{k+1} + \frac{LC\gamma^2}{2} \quad (15)$$

for $k \geq 0$. We now define an exponentially decaying weighting sequence $w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_K$. We are interested in the weighting sequence solely as a proof technique, and it does not show up in the final bounds. Fix $w_{-1} > 0$ and define

$$w_k = \frac{w_{k-1}}{1 + LA\gamma^2} \quad \text{for all } k \geq 0$$

Multiplying recursion (15) by $\frac{w_k}{\gamma}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} w_k r^k &\leq \frac{w_k (1 + LA\gamma^2)}{\gamma} \delta^k - \frac{w_k}{\gamma} \delta^{k+1} + \frac{LC\gamma w_k}{2} \\ &= \frac{w_{k-1}}{\gamma} \delta^k - \frac{w_k}{\gamma} \delta^{k+1} + \frac{LC\gamma w_k}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Summing up both sides for $k = 0, 1, \dots, K-1$, and noticing that many terms telescope, we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k r^k \leq \frac{w_{-1}}{\gamma} \delta^0 - \frac{w_{K-1}}{\gamma} \delta^K + \frac{LC\gamma}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k.$$

Rearranging we get the lemma's statement. \square

Theorem 4. Assume the assumption of lemma 5 holds, then

$$\min_{0 \leq k \leq K-1} \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(x^k)\|^2] \leq LC\gamma + \frac{2(1 + LA\gamma^2)^K}{\gamma K} \delta^0$$

where $\delta^0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(x^0) - f^{\inf}$.

Proof. We start with Lemma 6, which says that

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k r^k \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k r^k + \frac{w_{k-1}}{\gamma} \delta^K \stackrel{(271)}{\leq} \frac{w_{-1}}{\gamma} \delta^0 + \frac{LC}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k \gamma$$

Let $W_K \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k$. Dividing both sides by W_K , we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \min_{0 \leq k \leq K-1} r^k \leq \frac{1}{2W_K} \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k r^k \leq \frac{w_{-1}}{W_K} \frac{\delta^0}{\gamma} + \frac{LC\gamma}{2}.$$

Note that

$$W_K = \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} w_k \geq \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \min_{0 \leq i \leq K-1} w_i = Kw_{K-1} = \frac{Kw_{-1}}{(1+LA\gamma^2)^K}.$$

Using this in (272) yields

$$\frac{1}{2} \min_{0 \leq k \leq K-1} r^k \leq \frac{(1+LA\gamma^2)^K}{\gamma K} \delta^0 + \frac{LC\gamma}{2}.$$

Multiplying both sides by 2 yields the theorem's claim. □