

APPENDIX FOR THE PAPER “TO TALK OR TO WORK: DYNAMIC BATCH SIZES ASSISTED
TIME EFFICIENT FEDERATED LEARNING OVER FUTURE MOBILE EDGE DEVICES”

A. *Proof of Theorem 1*

We set the batch size in each communication round τ , $\tau \in \{0, 1, \dots, T/H - 1\}$ as $\lfloor \beta^\tau B_0 \rfloor$ and assume T/H is an integer. Therefore, in Alg. 1, we must have $H \sum_{\tau=0}^{T/H-1} \lfloor \beta^\tau B_0 \rfloor \geq E$, which further implies $H \sum_{\tau=0}^{T/H-1} \beta^\tau B_0 \geq E$. Through the summation formula of the geometric series, We can observe that $\beta^{T/H} \geq \frac{E(\beta-1)}{HB_0} + 1$, which yields,

$$\begin{aligned} T &\geq H \log_\beta \left(\frac{E(\beta-1)}{HB_0} + 1 \right) \\ &\stackrel{(a)}{\geq} \log_\beta \left(\frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0} + 1 \right) \\ &\geq \log_\beta \left(\frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0} \right), \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where (a) follows by $(1+x)^r \geq 1+rx$ for $x \geq -1, r \in \mathbb{R} \setminus (0, 1)$.

Under Assumption 1, we have

$$\mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^t)] \leq \mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})] + \mathbb{E} [\langle \nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1}), \bar{\mathbf{w}}^t - \bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1} \rangle] + \frac{L}{2} \mathbb{E} [\|\bar{\mathbf{w}}^t - \bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1}\|^2]. \tag{2}$$

Through the convergence analysis provided in other works, we can bound the terms in the above inequality as

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})\|^2] \\ &\leq \frac{2}{\gamma} (\mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})] - \mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^t)]) + 4\gamma^2 H^2 \delta^2 L^2 + \frac{L\gamma\sigma^2}{KB_t} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{\gamma} (\mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})] - \mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^t)]) + CH^2 + \frac{L\gamma\sigma^2}{K \lfloor B_0 \beta^{\lfloor t/H \rfloor} \rfloor} \\ &\stackrel{(a)}{\leq} \frac{2}{\gamma} (\mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})] - \mathbb{E} [f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^t)]) + CH^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2}{KB_0 \beta^{\lfloor t/H \rfloor}}, \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where we set $C = 4\gamma^2 \delta^2 L^2$, and (a) follows by $\lfloor x \rfloor > \frac{1}{2}x$ if $x > 2$. After summing the above inequality over $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, T\}$ iterations and dividing it by T , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})\|^2] \\
& \leq \frac{2}{\gamma T} (f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*) + CH^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2}{TKB_0} \left(H \sum_{\tau=1}^{T/H} \frac{1}{\beta^{\tau-1}} - 1 + \frac{1}{\beta^{T/H}} \right) \\
& \leq \frac{2}{\gamma T} (f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*) + CH^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2 H}{TKB_0} \sum_{\tau=1}^{T/H} \frac{1}{\beta^{\tau-1}} \\
& \stackrel{(a)}{\leq} \frac{2}{\gamma T} (f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*) + CH^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2 H}{TKB_0} \frac{\beta}{\beta - 1},
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where (a) follows by simplifying the sum of the proportional sequence and $\frac{1}{\beta} < 1$. Next, Substituting (1) into (4) yields

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})\|^2] \leq \frac{2(f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*)}{\gamma \log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0}} + 4\gamma^2 H^2 \delta^2 L^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2 H}{\log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0} K B_0} \cdot \frac{\beta}{\beta - 1}. \tag{5}$$

B. Proof of Corollary 1

Similar to the settings in a fixed batch size scenario, if we choose $\gamma = \frac{\sqrt{K}}{L \sqrt{\log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0}}}$, $H \leq \left(\log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} K^{-\frac{3}{4}}$, $K < (\log E)^{\frac{5}{3}}$, and substitute them into the (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})\|^2] \\
& \leq \frac{2L}{\sqrt{K \log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0}}} (f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*) + \frac{4\delta^2}{\sqrt{K \log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0}}} + \frac{\sigma^2}{K^{\frac{5}{4}} (\log_{\beta} \frac{E(\beta-1)}{B_0})^{\frac{5}{4}} B_0} \cdot \frac{\beta}{\beta - 1} \\
& = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{(K \log E)^{\frac{5}{4}}}\right) \\
& \stackrel{(a)}{=} O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}\right).
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

Since the term $\frac{1}{(K \log E)^{\frac{5}{4}}}$ is dominated by the term $\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}$, $O\left(\frac{1}{(K \log E)^{\frac{5}{4}}}\right)$ decays faster than $O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}\right)$. In this way, (a) will hold and Alg. 1 has the convergence rate of order $O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{K \log E}}\right)$.

C. Proof of Corollary 2

If we achieve the ϵ global convergence accuracy, i.e.,

$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} [\|\nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^{t-1})\|^2] \leq \epsilon$, we will have

$$\epsilon = \frac{2}{\gamma T} (f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*) + 4\gamma^2 H^2 \delta^2 L^2 + \frac{2L\gamma\sigma^2 H}{TKB_0} \frac{\beta}{\beta - 1}.$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_\epsilon &= \frac{T}{H} = \frac{2bB_0K(\beta - 1) + 2\gamma^2\sigma^2\beta HL}{B_0H\gamma K(\beta - 1)(\epsilon - 4\delta^2\gamma^2H^2L^2)} \\ &= \frac{2b}{H\gamma(\epsilon - CH^2)} + \frac{\varrho\beta}{B_0K(\epsilon - CH^2)(\beta - 1)} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$= O\left(\frac{1}{H^3}\right) + O\left(\frac{\beta}{H^2K(\beta - 1)}\right), \quad (8)$$

where we define $\varrho = 2L\gamma\sigma^2$, and $b = f(\bar{\mathbf{w}}^0) - f^*$. We have $C = 4\gamma^2\delta^2L^2$, and we further choose $\epsilon > CH^2$.

Therefore, the communication round M can be represented as $\frac{A\beta}{\beta - 1} + \chi$, where both A and χ are positive constants. Moreover, A and χ can be determined with $\frac{1}{H^2K}$ and $\frac{1}{H^3}$, respectively.