

A Variance Reduced Expectation Maximization algorithm for finite-sum optimization

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In this talk

Motivated by the Large scale Learning setting,

- Design a novel algorithm for the optimization problem:

$$\text{find } s_\star \in \mathbb{R}^q \text{ s.t. } \quad \mathbf{h}(s_\star) = 0$$

- Adapted to the finite sum setting (large number of examples n)

$$\text{when } \quad \mathbf{h}(s) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{h}_i(s)$$

- Stochastic optimization: it combines
 - the Stochastic Approximation method Robbins and Monro (1951); Benveniste et al. (1990)

$$\widehat{S}_{n+1} = \widehat{S}_n + \gamma_{n+1} H_{n+1} \quad H_{n+1} \approx \mathbf{h}(\widehat{S}_n)$$

- a variance reduction technique

I. Motivation: Expectation Maximization for inference in latent variable models (large scale learning)

Reminder 1: latent variable models

- The observations $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$
- A parametric statistical model indexed by $\theta \in \Theta$
- Some latent or hidden variables $Z = (Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$
- A *complete data* vector: (Y, Z) , make easier or more general the definition of the observations

Example 1: Mixture models

$$Y_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \sum_{g=1}^G \omega_g f_g(y_i; \theta_g) d\mu_i \quad \theta = (\theta_{1:G}, \omega_{1:G})$$

Or equivalently

$$Z_i \sim \omega_{\bullet} \quad Y_i | (Z_i = g) \sim f_g(y_i; \theta_g) d\mu_i$$

Example 2: Mixed Effect models

Random effects $Z_{\bullet} \rightarrow$ non explicit expression of the likelihood of the observations

Reminder 2: The (standard) EM algorithm to optimize the likelihood

- ▶ The objective function:
 - The likelihood, non explicit

$$\theta \mapsto \log p(Y_{1:n}; \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(Y_i; \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log \int \underbrace{\bar{p}(Y_i, \mathbf{z}_i; \theta)}_{\text{complete data likel.}} \, d\nu(\mathbf{z}_i)$$

- ▶ EM solves the optimization problem by iterating
 - the Expectation-step:

$$Q(\theta, \theta^t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\log \bar{p}(Y_i, \mathbf{Z}_i; \theta) | Y_{1:n}, \theta^t]$$

the latent variables are *imputed* with their best approximation at time $\#t$

- The Maximization step:

$$\theta^{t+1} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta \in \theta^t} Q(\theta, \theta^t)$$

Reminder 3: The curved exponential family

- Pbm: computation of the *function*

$$\theta \mapsto Q(\theta, \theta^t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} [\log \bar{p}(Y_i, \mathbf{Z}_i; \theta) | Y_{1:n}, \theta^t]$$

- Realistic when

$$\log \bar{p}(Y_i, \mathbf{Z}_i; \theta) = \psi(\theta) + \langle s_i(\mathbf{Z}_i), \phi(\theta) \rangle$$

In that case,

$$Q(\theta, \theta^t) = \psi(\theta) + \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\mathbb{E} [s_i(\mathbf{Z}_i) | Y_{1:n}, \theta^t]}_{\bar{s}_i(\theta^t)}, \phi(\theta) \right\rangle$$

and the two steps of EM are

- E-step: compute $\sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_i(\theta^t)$
- M-step: update

$$\theta^{t+1} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \psi(\theta) + \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_i(\theta^t), \phi(\theta) \right\rangle$$

Optimization problem: finite sum setting, for curved exponential families

In this talk

- Solve on $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ the **minimization** problem

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \int_{\mathcal{Z}} p_i(z_i; \theta) d\mu(z_i) + \tilde{R}(\theta), \quad p_i(z_i; \theta) > 0$$

- In the curved exponential family:

$$-\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \int_{\mathcal{Z}} h_i(z_i) \exp(\langle s_i(z_i), \phi(\theta) \rangle - \psi(\theta)) d\mu(z_i) + \tilde{R}(\theta)$$

- Via EM-based methods

Intractable EM Dempster, Laird, Rubin (1977)

Objective function:

$$-\sum_{i=1}^n \log \int_{\mathcal{Z}} p_i(z_i; \theta) d\mu(z_i) + \bar{R}(\theta), \quad p_i(z_i; \theta) = h_i(z_i) \exp(\langle s_i(z_i), \phi(\theta) \rangle - \psi(\theta))$$

- **EM algorithm:** Repeat for $t = 0, \dots$

$$\text{E-step} \quad \bar{s}(\theta_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_i(\theta_t) \quad \text{where } \bar{s}_i(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{\mathcal{Z}} s_i(z_i) \frac{p_i(z_i; \theta)}{\int p_i(u; \theta) d\mu(u)} d\mu(z_i)$$

$$\text{M-step} \quad \theta_{t+1} = T(\bar{s}(\theta_t))$$

where

$$T(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} (R(\theta) - \langle s, \phi(\theta) \rangle)$$

E-step

→ sum over n expectations → Large computational cost of each EM iteration, when n is large

→ in some cases, the expectations \bar{s}_i 's are intractable

We consider the case when the M-step (computation of T) is explicit

EM in the expectation space

- EM: an algorithm in the *expectation space*

$$\theta_{t+1} = T \circ \bar{s}(\theta_t) = T \circ \underbrace{\bar{s} \circ T}_{\bar{s}_1} \circ \bar{s} \dots \bar{s} \circ \underbrace{T \circ \bar{s}}_{\bar{s}_n}(\theta_0)$$

$$S_{t+1} = \bar{s} \circ T(S_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_i \circ T(S_t)$$

- EM designed to find the roots of

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}(s) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\bar{s}_i \circ T(s) - s}_{\mathbf{h}_i(s)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}_I(s)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{h}_I(s) + V] \quad \mathbb{E}[V] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $I \sim \mathcal{U}(\{1, \dots, n\})$ and V is a *control variate* i.e. r.v. correlated with \mathbf{h}_I and centered.

A Lyapunov function

- EM designed to solve on $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} F(\theta), \quad F(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} R(\theta) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \int_{\mathcal{Z}} p_i(z; \theta) d\mu(z)$$

- For exact EM: F is a Lyapunov function

$$F(\theta_{t+1}) \leq F(\theta_t)$$

- EM in the expectation space:

$$W \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F \circ T$$

it holds (under regularity conditions)

$$\nabla W(s) = -B(s) \mathbf{h}(s) \quad \mathbf{h}(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{\mathbf{s}}_i \circ T(s) - s)$$

↔ An algorithm designed to find the roots of \mathbf{h} is among the **stochastic preconditioned gradient** algorithms, with preconditioning matrix $B^{-1}(s)$.

II. Algorithm and Convergence analysis

Variance reduced incremental algorithms (in the EM context $h_i = \bar{s}_i \circ T(s) - s$)

solve on \mathbb{R}^q : $h(s) = 0$ with $h(s) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n h_i(s) = \mathbb{E}[h_I(s)]$

$$\hat{S}_{t+1} = \hat{S}_t + \gamma_{t+1} \left(\frac{1}{b} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t+1}} h_i(\hat{S}_t) + V_{t+1} \right)$$

where \mathcal{B}_{t+1} is a mini-batch of examples of size $b \ll n$.

- **Online-EM** (Neal and Hinton, 1998; Cappé and Moulines, 2009). **NO variance reduction** ($V_{t+1} = 0$).
- **sEM-vr: Stochastic EM with Variance Reduction** Chen et al, 2018
- **FIEM: Fast Incremental EM** Karimi et al, 2019; Fort et al, 2021
- **SPIDER-EM** Fort, Moulines, Wai - NeurIPS 2020: **Stochastic Path Integrated Differential Estimator EM**

$$V_{t+1} = \sum_{\ell=0}^t \left\{ \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_\ell} h_i(\hat{S}_{\ell-1}) - \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{\ell+1}} h_i(\hat{S}_{\ell-1}) \right\}$$

SPIDER-EM (Stochastic Path Integrated Differential Estimator Expectation Maximization)

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1:  $\widehat{S}_{1,0} = \widehat{S}_{1,-1} = \widehat{S}_{\text{init}} \quad V_{1,0} = 0 \quad \mathcal{B}_{1,0} = \{1, \dots, n\}$ 
2: for  $t = 1, \dots, k_{\text{out}}$  do
3:   for  $k = 0, \dots, \xi_t - 1$  do
4:     Sample a mini batch  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$  of size  $b$  from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ 
5:      $V_{t,k+1} = V_{t,k} + \left( b^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k}} h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) - b^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \right)$ 
6:      $\widehat{S}_{t,k+1} = \widehat{S}_{t,k} + \gamma_{t,k+1} \left( b^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) + V_{t,k+1} \right)$ 
7:   end for
8:    $\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1} = \widehat{S}_{t,\xi_t}$ 
9:    $V_{t+1,0} = 0 \quad \mathcal{B}_{t+1,0} = \{1, \dots, n\}$ 
10:   $\widehat{S}_{t+1,0} = \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1} + \gamma_{t+1,0} \left( n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n h_i(\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}) + V_{t+1,0} \right)$ 
11: end for

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- k_{out} outer loops, the outer $\#t$ is of length ξ_t
- The **control variate** is refreshed at each *outer loop* $\#t$ (see Line 9)
- A **full scan** of the examples at each *outer loop* (see Line 9).

Extensions

- The **length of the outer loop** is a Geometric random variable with expectation ξ_t . Fort, Moulines, Wai - ICASSP 2021
- **Avoid the full scan** of the examples when starting each outer loop \rightarrow reduction of the computational cost. Fort, Moulines, Wai - ICASSP 2021
- **An approximation of h_i** Fort, Moulines - SSP 2021

$$h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) = h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) + \eta_{t,k+1}$$

for example: in EM, $h_i(s) = \bar{s}_i \circ T(s) - s$ and \bar{s}_i is an expectation w.r.t. the a posteriori distribution of the latent variables \rightarrow Monte Carlo approximation.

- A Proximal operator for **constrained optimization** Fort, Moulines - SSP 2021

$$\widehat{S}_{t,k+1} = \text{Prox}_{B(\widehat{S}_k), \gamma_{t,k+1}} g \left(\widehat{S}_{t,k} + \gamma_{t,k+1} \left(\mathbf{b}^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) + V_{t,k+1} \right) \right)$$

for example: find the roots of h in a compact set.

Assumptions

- 1 There exists a continuously differentiable function $W : \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\nabla W(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -B(s) \mathbf{h}(s) \quad \mathbf{h}(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{h}_i(s)$$

where $B(s)$ is a $q \times q$ positive definite matrix.

In addition, ∇W is globally Lipschitz with constant L_W ,

and there exist $0 < v_{\min} \leq v_{\max}$ such that the spectrum of $B(s)$ is in $[v_{\min}, v_{\max}]$.

- 2 For any $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, the function h_i is globally Lipschitz with constant L_i .

Convergence in expectation, explicit h_i 's

Under the previous assumptions:

(Fort, Moulines, Wai, NeurIPS 2020)

Set $L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i^2$. Fix $k_{\text{out}}, k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}_*$. Choose $\alpha \in (0, v_{\min}/\mu_*(k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b}))$ with

$$\mu_*(k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} v_{\max} \frac{\sqrt{k_{\text{in}}}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{b}}} + \frac{L_{\text{W}}}{2L}.$$

Run the algorithm with $\xi_t = k_{\text{in}}$ and $\gamma_{t,k} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \alpha/L$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{h} \left(\widehat{S}_{\tau, \xi-1} \right)\|^2 \right] \\ & \leq \left(\frac{1}{k_{\text{in}}} + \frac{\alpha^2}{\mathbf{b}} \right) \frac{1}{k_{\text{out}}} \frac{2L}{\alpha \{v_{\min} - \alpha \mu_*(k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b})\}} \left(\mathbb{E} \left[W(\widehat{S}_{\text{init}}) \right] - \min W \right) \end{aligned}$$

where (τ, ξ) is a uniform r.v. on $\{1, \dots, k_{\text{out}}\} \times \{0, \dots, k_{\text{in}} - 1\}$ indep of $\{\widehat{S}_{t,k}\}$.

Complexity for ϵ -approximate stationarity

From this **explicit** expression of an upper bound for

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{h}(\widehat{S}_{\tau, \xi-1})\|^2 \right]$$

- in the non convex setting
- with a random stopping rule
- as a function of $k_{\text{out}}, k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b}, n$ and the learning rate γ ($= \gamma_{t,k}$ for any $t, k > 0$)

To reach ϵ -stationarity, the complexity of SPIDER-EM

With: $k_{\text{in}} = \mathbf{b} = O(\sqrt{n})$, $k_{\text{out}} = O(1/(\epsilon k_{\text{in}}))$

Nbr of optimization steps: $O(1/\epsilon)$

Nbr of \bar{s}_i 's evaluations: $\mathcal{K} = O(\sqrt{n} \epsilon^{-1}) \rightarrow \text{state of the art !}$

Algorithm	Complexity \mathcal{K}
Online-EM	ϵ^{-2}
iEM	$n \epsilon^{-1}$
sEM-vr	$n^{2/3} \epsilon^{-1}$
FIEM	$n^{2/3} \epsilon^{-1} \wedge \sqrt{n} \epsilon^{-3/2}$

Sketch of proof

Inside an outer loop $\#t$, then sum along the inner loops $k = 0$ to $k = k_{\text{in}} - 1$; then sum along the outer loops $t = 1$ to $t = k_{\text{out}}$.

- W is Gradient-Lipschitz, and its gradient is a linear function of h

$$\begin{aligned} W(\widehat{S}_{t,k+1}) - W(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) &\leq \langle \nabla W(\widehat{S}_{t,k}), \widehat{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k} \rangle + \frac{L\dot{W}}{2} \|\widehat{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k}\|^2 \\ &\leq -\gamma_{t,k+1} v_{\min} \|H_{t,k+1}\|^2 + \gamma_{t,k+1} \left(\beta^2 v_{\max} + \gamma_{t,k+1} \frac{L\dot{W}}{2} \right) \|H_{t,k+1}\|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\gamma_{t,k+1}}{\beta^2} v_{\max} \|H_{t,k+1} - h(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^2 \quad \forall \beta > 0; \text{choice: } \beta^2 \propto \gamma_{t,k+1} \end{aligned}$$

- **Biased** field; full scan when refreshing \rightarrow cancel the bias

$$\mathbb{E}[H_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}] = h(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) + H_{t,k} - h(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \quad \mathbb{E}[H_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}] = 0.$$

- L^2 -error of the field

$$\mathbb{E}[\|H_{t,k+1} - h(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}] = \mathbb{E}[\|H_{t,k+1} - \mathbb{E}[H_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}]\|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}] + \mathbb{E}\left[\underbrace{\| \mathbb{E}[H_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}] - h(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) \|^2}_{H_{t,k} - h(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$

- Variance: **specific form of $H_{t,k+1}$** \rightarrow difference of h_i 's

$$H_{t,k+1} - \mathbb{E}[H_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}] = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} \{h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\}$$

$$\text{use: } \|h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\|^2 \leq L_i^2 \|\widehat{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1}\|^2 = L_i^2 \gamma_{t,k}^2 \|H_{t,k}\|^2$$

Assumptions (case: Monte Carlo approximation of h_i 's)

In the case

$$h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) = \int \mathcal{H}(z) p_i(z; \widehat{S}_{t,k}) d\mu(z) \approx \frac{1}{m_{t,k+1}} \sum_{r=1}^{m_{t,k+1}} \mathcal{H}(Z_r^{i,t,k})$$

error

$$\eta_{t,k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_\bullet} \left(\frac{1}{m_{t,k+1}} \sum_{r=1}^{m_{t,k+1}} \mathcal{H}(Z_r^{i,t,k}) - h_i(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) \right)$$

- ③ (bias) there exists $C_b \geq 0$ s.t. for any t, k , with probability one

$$\|\mathbb{E}[\eta_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}]\| \leq \frac{C_b}{m_{t,k+1}}$$

- ④ (variance) there exists C_v s.t. for any t, k with probability one

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\eta_{t,k+1} - \mathbb{E}[\eta_{t,k+1} | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}]\|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,k}] \leq \frac{C_v}{M_{t,k+1}}$$

Examples. i.i.d. case: $C_b = 0$; i.i.d. and MCMC cases: $M_{t,k+1} = b m_{t,k+1}$

Convergence in expectation (i.i.d. case)

Fort, Moulines – SSP 2021; i.i.d. case and MCMC case

Choose $\xi_t = k_{\text{in}}$ and $\gamma_{t,k} = \gamma$ where

$$\gamma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{v_{\min}}{L_{\dot{W}} + 2Lv_{\max}\sqrt{k_{\text{in}}}/\sqrt{\mathbf{b}}}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma v_{\min} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\|\widehat{S}_{\tau,\xi} - \widehat{S}_{\tau,\xi-1}\|^2}{\gamma^2} \right] &\leq \frac{1}{k_{\text{out}}(1+k_{\text{in}})} \left(W(\widehat{S}_{\text{init}}) - \min W \right) \\ &\quad + C_1 \frac{v_{\max}}{L} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_{\text{in}}\mathbf{b}}} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{k_{\text{in}} - \xi}{m_{\tau,\xi+1}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

where (τ, ξ) is a uniform r.v. on $\{1, \dots, k_{\text{out}}\} \times \{0, \dots, k_{\text{in}}\}$ indep of $\{\widehat{S}_{t,k}\}$.

From

$$\widehat{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k} = \gamma_{t,k+1} H_{t,k+1} \neq \gamma_{t,k+1} \mathbf{h}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}),$$

a control is then obtained on $\mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{h}(\widehat{S}_{\tau,\xi})\|^2 \right]$

Complexity for ϵ -approximate stationarity

From this **explicit** expression of an upper bound for

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\|\mathbf{h}(\widehat{S}_{\tau, \xi-1})\|^2 \right]$$

- in the non convex setting
- with a random stopping rule
- as a function of $k_{\text{out}}, k_{\text{in}}, \mathbf{b}, n$ and the learning rate γ
- with a Monte Carlo approximation of the h_i 's

To reach ϵ -stationarity, the complexity of Perturbed-SPIDER-EM

With: $k_{\text{in}} = \mathbf{b} = O(\sqrt{n})$, $k_{\text{out}} = O(1/(\epsilon k_{\text{in}}))$, $m_{t,k} = \epsilon^{-1}$

Nbr of optimization steps: $O(1/\epsilon)$

Nbr of \bar{s}_i 's evaluations: $\mathcal{K} = O(\sqrt{n} \epsilon^{-1}) \rightarrow$ same as SPIDER-EM

Nbr of Monte Carlo draws: $O(\sqrt{n}/\epsilon^2)$

III. Numerical illustrations

SPIDER-EM: state-of-the-art among the incremental EM algorithms

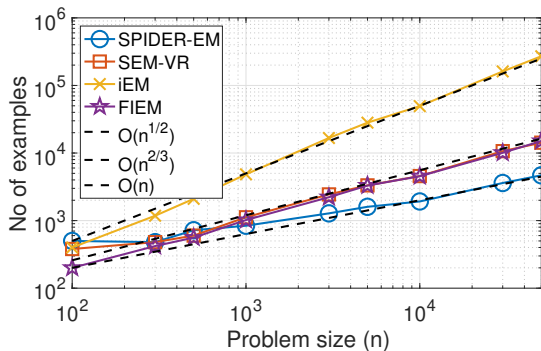


Figure: Nbr of processed examples required to reach convergence, as a function of the problem size n .

Estimation of the parameters (1/2)

Case: inference in a mixture of Gaussian distributions (from the MNIST data set). Gaussian mixture models in \mathbb{R}^{20} ; $G = 12$ components with the same cov matrix; $n = 6 \cdot 10^4$ examples

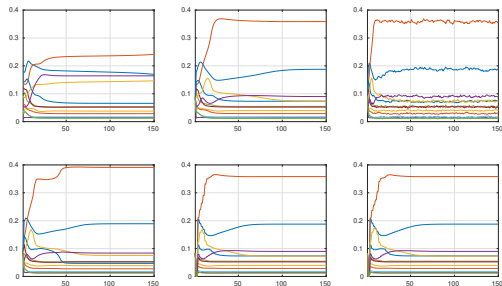


Figure: Evolution of the $L = 12$ iterates $\alpha_k = (\alpha_{k,1}, \dots, \alpha_{k,L})$ as a function of the number of epochs, for EM, iEM and Online EM on the top from left to right; FIEM, sEM-vr and SPIDER-EM on the bottom from left to right.

Estimation of the parameters (2/2)

Case: inference in a mixture of Gaussian distributions (from the MNIST data set). Gaussian mixture models in \mathbb{R}^{20} ; $G = 12$ components with the same cov matrix; $n = 6 \cdot 10^4$ examples

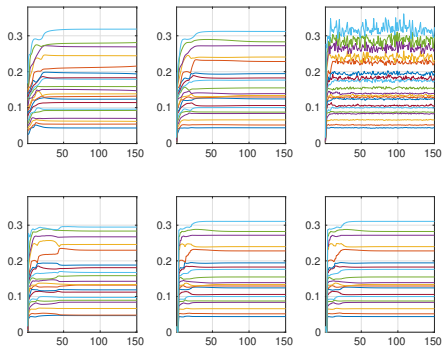


Figure: Evolution of the $p = 20$ eigenvalues of the iterates Σ_k as a function of the number of epochs, for EM, iEM and Online EM on the top from left to right; FIEM, sEM-vr and SPIDER-EM on the bottom from left to right.

Evolution of the objective function

Case: inference in a mixture of Gaussian distributions (from the MNIST data set). Gaussian mixture models in \mathbb{R}^{20} ; $G = 12$ components with the same cov matrix; $n = 6 \cdot 10^4$ examples

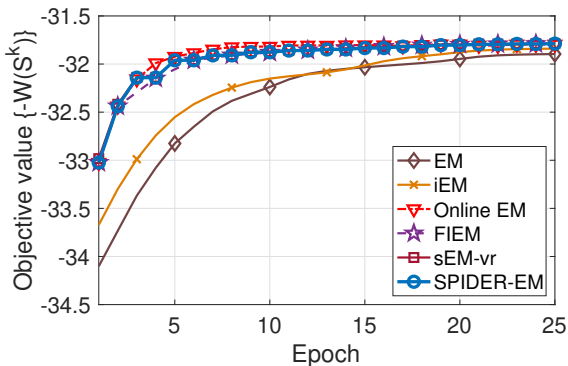


Figure: Evolution of the objective function $-W(\hat{S}_k)$ vs the number of epochs.

Deterministic or geometric length of the outer loops? Full scan when refreshing ? (1/2)

Case: inference in a mixture of Gaussian distributions (from the MNIST data set). Gaussian mixture models in \mathbb{R}^{20} ; $G = 12$ components with the same cov matrix; $n = 6 \cdot 10^4$ examples

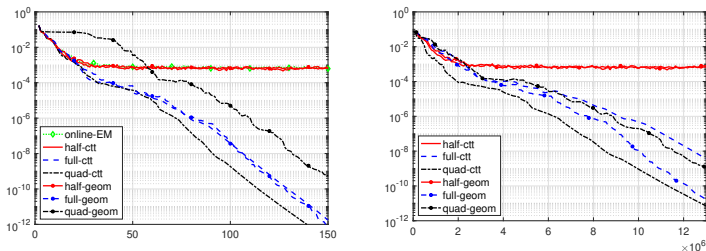


Figure: Quantile of order 0.5 of $\|h(\widehat{S}_t, \xi_t)\|^2$ vs the number of epochs (left) and vs the number of \bar{s}_i 's evaluations (right)

Length of each outer loop: either constant (ctt) $\xi_t = k_{\text{in}}$, or a geometric r.v. (geom) with expectation k_{in}

When refreshing the control variate: use the full data set (full), or the half data set (half) or a quadratically increasing nbr of examples (quad).

Deterministic or geometric length of the inner loops? Full scan when refreshing ? (2/2)

Case: inference in a mixture of Gaussian distributions (from the MNIST data set). Gaussian mixture models in \mathbb{R}^{20} ; $G = 12$ components with the same cov matrix; $n = 6 \cdot 10^4$ examples

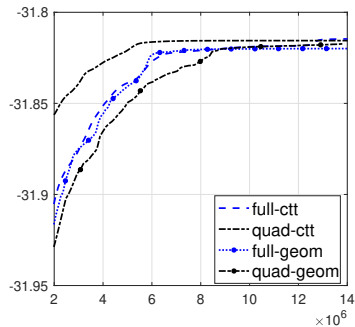
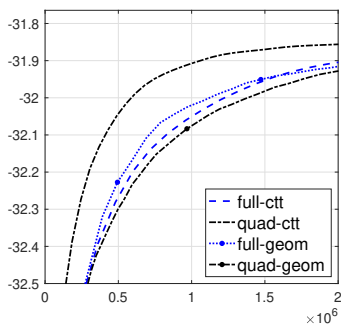


Figure: Evolution of the normalized log-likelihood vs the number of \bar{s}_i 's evaluations until $2e6$ (left) and after (right).

Monte Carlo approximations: benefit of variance reduction

Case: Ridge-penalized inference in a logistic regression model (from the MNIST data set). An individual regression vector $Z_i \in \mathbb{R}^{1+50}$ assumed i.i.d. $\mathcal{N}_{51}(\theta, 0.1 I)$. $n = 24\,989$, 2 classes.

$$\Delta_{t,k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|\widehat{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k}\|^2 / \gamma_{t,k+1}^2$$

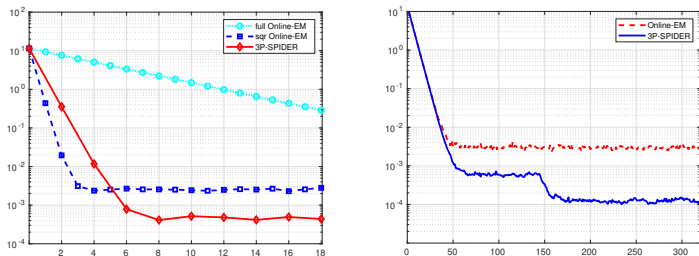


Figure: [left] Monte Carlo estimation of $\mathbb{E}[\Delta_{t,k+1}]$ vs the number of epochs. Comparison of (Perturbed-Proximal-Preconditioned) 3P-SPIDER-EM and Online-EM when $b = n$ (case full) and $b = 10\sqrt{n}$ (case sqr). Monte Carlo approximations with $m_{t,k} = 2\sqrt{n}$. [right] Quantiles 0.75 of $\Delta_{t,k}$ vs the number of epochs, for Online-EM and 3P-SPIDER-EM. For 3P-SPIDER-EM $m_{t,k} = 2\sqrt{n}$ for $t \leq 9$ and $m_{t,k} = 10\sqrt{n}$ for $t \geq 10$.

Monte Carlo approximations: number of points in the Monte Carlo sum

Case: Ridge-penalized inference in a logistic regression model (from the MNIST data set). An individual predictor vector $Z_i \in \mathbb{R}^{1+50}$ assumed i.i.d. $\mathcal{N}_d(\theta, 0.1 I)$. $n = 24\,989$, 2 classes.

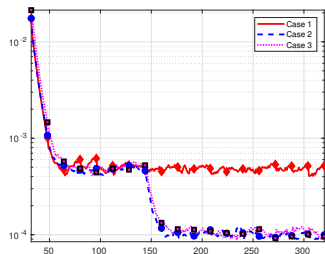


Figure: Monte Carlo estimation of $\mathbb{E}[\Delta_{t,k+1}]$ vs the number of epochs. (Perturbed-Proximal-Preconditioned) SPIDER-EM applied with $\gamma_{t,k} = 0.1$ and $m_{t,k} = 2\sqrt{n}$ in Case 1; and with $\gamma_{t,k} = 0.1$ and $m_{t,k} = 2\sqrt{n}$ for $t \leq 10$ and $m_{t,k} = 10\sqrt{n}$ for $t \geq 11$ on Case 2 and Case 3. Case 2 and Case 3 differ in the choice of $\gamma_{t,0}$

IV. Bibliography

Results of this talk

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