

# Making SGD Parameter-Free

Presented by Qilin Ye

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# §0 Stochastic Gradient Descent

... the same old SGD:

$$x_{t+1} := x_t - \eta \nabla F(x_t)$$

where  $F$  is convex & differentiable.

Non-differentiable? Use unbiased **subgradients**:  $x_{t+1} := x_t - \eta g_t$ .<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>A subgradient of  $f$  satisfies  $f(z) \geq f(x) + g^T(z - x)$  for all  $z$ .

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## §0 Stochastic Gradient Descent... Problems?

Apparently, choosing the correct learning rate is not a trivial job.

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- (2) Distance between starting point and optimum matters.
- (3) The rate of convergence is affected by scaling.
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# §0 Parameter-Free Optimizations and Regrets

We aim to design **parameter-free** algorithms that “automatically” tune the learning rate.

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# §0 Notations and Problem Setup

- (1) Let  $\mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be convex closed and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be convex.
- (2) Let  $x^*$  a minimum of  $f$ , assuming existence.
- (3) Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be an oracle that is a subgradient of  $f$  in expectation:  
 $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{O}(x) \mid x] \in \partial f(x)$ .
- (4) Denote the iterates by  $x_0, x_1(\eta), x_2(\eta), \dots$  and (sub)gradients  $g_0, g_1(\eta), g_2(\eta), \dots$ . Define  $\bar{x}(\eta) := T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta)$ .
- (5) Distance to optimum and running maximum distance:

$$d_t(\eta) := \|x_t(\eta) - x^*\| \quad \bar{d}_t(\eta) := \max_{i \leq t} d_i(\eta).$$

- (6) Distance to  $x_0$  and running max distance:  $r_t(\eta), \bar{r}_t(\eta)$ .
- (7) Oracle error & running squared norms of oracles:

$$\Delta_i := g_i - \nabla f(x_i(\eta)) \quad G_t(\eta) := \sum_{i < t} \|g_i(\eta)\|^2.$$

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## Fact 1

If all  $\|g_i\|$ 's are uniformly bounded by  $L > 0$ , then setting  $\eta$  to be the fixed point of

$$\eta \mapsto \frac{\|x_0 - x^*\|}{(\sum_{i < T} \|g_i(\eta)\|^2)^{1/2}} = \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{G_T(\eta)}}$$

satisfies the optimal error bound for the average iterate after  $T$  iterations:

$$f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{d_0 \sqrt{G_T(\eta)}}{T} = O(d_0 L T^{-1/2}).$$

**Fact 2: SoTA w/out Knowing  $d_0 = \|x_0 - x^*\|$  a priori**

... gains an additional logarithmic factor:

$$O\left(d_0 \sqrt{\log(1 + T d_0^2 \epsilon^{-2})} / T + \epsilon / T\right).$$

# §0 What Did This Paper Do?

- (1) For any prescribed  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , this paper provides a  $1 - \delta$  probability optimality gap with an additional log factor:

$$O\left((d_0 T^{-1/2} + \epsilon T^{-1}) \cdot \log^2(\delta^{-1} \log(d_0 T \epsilon^{-1}))\right)$$

- (2) Strong localization guarantee: the average iterate (as well as other intermediate outputs)  $\bar{x}$  satisfies  $\|\bar{x} - x^*\| = O(\|x_0 - x^*\|)$ .
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# §1 High-Level Idea: Using Proxy for $d_0$

In SGD, the output iterates  $x_t(\eta)$  should ideally converge to  $x^*$  (recall the **optimal bound** with knowledge of  $x^*$ )

$$\Rightarrow \frac{r_t(\eta)}{\sqrt{G_T(\eta)}} \text{ converges to } \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{G_T(\eta)}}.$$

Instead of computing the uncomputable fixed point, we resort to approximating the fixed point of

$$\eta \mapsto \frac{\bar{r}_T(\eta)}{\sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta) + \beta}}. \quad (\text{FP1})$$

(Why  $\bar{r}_T$  instead of  $r_T$ ?)

# §1 Proposition 1

Assuming we have found the  $\eta$  satisfying (FP1), and with probability 1 our oracle  $\mathcal{O}(x) = \nabla f(x)$  (i.e. *true gradient*):

## Proposition 1

If  $\alpha > 1, \beta = 0$ , then the average iterate  $\bar{x} := T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta)$  satisfies

$$\|\bar{x} - x^*\| \leq \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \|x_0 - x^*\| = \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} d_0$$

and

$$f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{\alpha^{3/2}}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0 \sqrt{G_T(\eta)}}{T} \sim \frac{d_0 \sqrt{G_T(\eta)}}{T}.$$

*(This is the optimal regret bound!)*

# §1 Limitations of Proposition 1?

The mapping  $\varphi : \eta \mapsto \bar{r}_T(\eta) / \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta) + \beta}$  may not be continuous...  
 $\Rightarrow$  a fixed point may not exist!

Workaround: find a small interval where  $\eta \mapsto \varphi(\eta) - \eta$  changes sign...  
 $\Rightarrow$  Bisection!

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# §1 Limitations of Proposition 1 (continued)?

Also, what if the exact gradient assumption is removed?

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## §2 The Algorithm (exact gradient version)

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**Algorithm 1:** Parameter-free SGD step size tuning (exact gradient version)<sup>2</sup>

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- 1 **Inputs:** initial learning rate  $\eta_\epsilon > 0$ , total gradient budget  $B \in \mathbb{N}$ , damping parameters  $\{\alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)}\}$ .
  - 2 **for**  $k = 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots$  **do**
  - 3     **if**  $k > B/4$  **then return**  $x_0$  (??)      $\triangleright$  edge case, bad  $B$ ; make it larger!
  - 4      $T_k \leftarrow \lfloor B/(2k) \rfloor$       $\triangleright$  dynamically adjust SGD complexity based on  $k$
  - 5      $\eta_0 \leftarrow \text{RootFindingBisection}(\eta_\epsilon, 2^{2^k} \eta_\epsilon; T_k, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})$
  - 6     **if** Bisection says  $k$  is OK (??) **then return**  $T_k^{-1} \sum_{i < T_k} x_i(\eta_0)$
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<sup>2</sup>(??) to be explained later.

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**Algorithm 2:** Parameter-free SGD step size tuning (exact gradient version)<sup>2</sup>

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**Algorithm 3:** Parameter-free SGD step size tuning (exact gradient version)<sup>2</sup>

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**Algorithm 4:** Parameter-free SGD step size tuning (exact gradient version)<sup>2</sup>

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## §2 Two Lemmas & Termination Guarantees

### Lemma 1

With appropriate parameters, under exact gradient setting,

$$\eta \leq \varphi(\eta) \Rightarrow \bar{d}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{\alpha + 1}{\alpha - 1} \cdot d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{r}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} d_0.$$

*Proof.* First notice that  $d_{i+1}^2 = \|x_i - \eta g_i - x^*\|^2 = d_i^2 - 2\eta \langle g_i, x_i - x^* \rangle + \eta^2 \|g_i\|^2$ . Then, by (sub)gradient and convexity of  $f$ , we also have  $\langle g_i, x_i - x^* \rangle \geq f(x_i) - f(x^*) \geq 0$ . Summation over all  $i < t$  gives  $d_t^2 \leq d_0^2 + \eta^2 G_t$ . The remainder of the proof are pure algebraic manipulations and are likely not ideal for presentation.

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## Lemma 2

With appropriate parameters, under exact gradient setting, if the following holds, then  $\eta > \varphi(\eta)$ :

$$\eta > \eta_{\max} := \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{\alpha\|g_0\|^2 + \beta}}.$$

*Proof.* If  $\eta > \eta_{\max}$  but  $\eta \leq \varphi(\eta)$ , using  $\|g_0\|^2 \leq \sum \|g_i\|^2 = G_T(\eta)$  we obtain

$$\frac{\bar{r}_T(\eta)}{\sqrt{\alpha\|g_0\|^2 + \beta}} \geq \frac{\bar{r}_T(\eta)}{\sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta) + \beta}} = \varphi(\eta) \geq \eta > \eta_{\max} = \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{\alpha\|g_0\|^2 + \beta}},$$

contradicting the previous lemma.

## §2 Termination Guarantees

**Upshot:** if  $k$  is such that  $2^{2^k} \eta_\epsilon > \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{\alpha \|g_0\|^2 + \beta}}$ , then

$$\eta \mapsto \varphi(\eta) - \eta$$

changes sign on  $[\eta_\epsilon, 2^{2^k} \eta_\epsilon]$ . Time for bisection!

## §2 The Algorithm – RootFindingBisection

1 **Function** RootFindingBisection( $\eta_{\text{low}}, \eta_{\text{high}}; T, \alpha, \beta$ ):

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2   define  $\varphi$  by  $\varphi(\eta) = \bar{r}_T(\eta) / \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta)} + \beta$            ▷ bisection target
3   if  $\eta_{\text{high}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$  then return  $\infty$            ▷  $\eta_{\text{high}}$  too low, need to increase
4   if  $\eta_{\text{low}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$  then return  $\eta_{\text{low}}$            ▷  $\eta_{\text{low}}$  is sufficient (if small)
5   while  $\eta_{\text{high}} > 2\eta_{\text{low}}$  do
6     ▷ loop invariant:  $\eta_{\text{low}} < \eta_{\text{high}}, \eta_{\text{low}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}}), \eta_{\text{high}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$ 
7      $\eta_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow \sqrt{\eta_{\text{low}}\eta_{\text{high}}}$ 
8     if  $\eta_{\text{mid}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{mid}})$  then  $\eta_{\text{low}} \leftarrow \eta_{\text{mid}}$  else  $\eta_{\text{high}} \leftarrow \eta_{\text{mid}}$ 
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8   if  $\bar{r}_T(\eta_{\text{high}}) \leq \bar{r}_T(\eta_{\text{low}}) \cdot \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}}) / \eta_{\text{high}}$  then return  $\eta_{\text{high}}$ 
9   else return  $\eta_{\text{low}}$ 
```

---

## §2 The Algorithm – RootFindingBisection

---

```
1 Function RootFindingBisection( $\eta_{\text{low}}, \eta_{\text{high}}; T, \alpha, \beta$ ):
2   define  $\varphi$  by  $\varphi(\eta) = \bar{r}_T(\eta) / \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta) + \beta}$             $\triangleright$  bisection target
3   if  $\eta_{\text{high}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$  then return  $\infty$             $\triangleright \eta_{\text{high}}$  too low, need to increase
4   if  $\eta_{\text{low}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$  then return  $\eta_{\text{low}}$             $\triangleright \eta_{\text{low}}$  is sufficient (if small)
5   while  $\eta_{\text{high}} > 2\eta_{\text{low}}$  do
6      $\eta_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow \sqrt{\eta_{\text{low}}\eta_{\text{high}}}$ 
7     if  $\eta_{\text{mid}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{mid}})$  then  $\eta_{\text{low}} \leftarrow \eta_{\text{mid}}$  else  $\eta_{\text{high}} \leftarrow \eta_{\text{mid}}$ 
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9   else return  $\eta_{\text{low}}$ 
```

---

## §2 Properties of RootFindingBisection

- (1) Each iteration halves  $\log(\eta_{\text{high}}/\eta_{\text{low}})$   
 $\Rightarrow$  number of iterations is  $\log \log(\eta_{\text{high}}/\eta_{\text{low}})$ .  
Consequently, by **Lemma 2**, when our algorithm terminates,  
 $k \leq 2 \log \log^+(\eta_{\text{max}}/\eta_{\epsilon})$ .
- (2) Approximates the (possibly non-existent) root  $\eta = \varphi(\eta)$  up to a factor of 2, even when root is non-existent. If the returned interval is  $[\eta_{\text{low}}^*, \eta_{\text{high}}^*]$  then

$$\frac{\bar{r}_T(\eta_0)}{2\sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_{\text{high}}^*) + \beta}} \leq \eta_0 \leq \frac{\bar{r}_T(\eta_{\text{low}}^*)}{\sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_0) + \beta}}$$

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## §2 Proposition 2 (RootFindingBisection)

### Proposition 2

Let  $\eta_0 = \text{RootFindingBisection}(\eta_{\text{low}}, \eta_{\text{high}}; T, \alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\alpha > 1, \beta > 0, T \in \mathbb{N}$ , and each  $\eta > 0$ . Assume  $\eta_{\text{high}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$ . Let  $\bar{x} = T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta_0)$  be the average iterate. Under exact gradient setting:

(1) if  $\eta_{\text{low}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$  then for some  $\eta' \in [\eta_0, 2\eta_0]$ ,

$$\|\bar{x} - x_0\| \leq \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0 \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta') + \beta}}{T};$$

(2) if  $\eta_{\text{low}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$ , then  $\eta_0 = \eta_{\text{low}}$ , and

$$\|\bar{x} - x_0\| \leq \eta_0 \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_0) + \beta} \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{d_0 \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_0) + \beta} + \eta_0 G_T(\eta_0)}{T}.$$

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## §2 Main Theorem (exact gradient)

### Theorem: (exact gradient version)

Let  $\alpha^{(k)} = 3, \beta^{(k)} = 0, n_\epsilon > 0, B \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . With a total gradient budget of  $B$ , under exact gradient setting our algorithm will tune the learning rate to some  $\eta \geq \eta_\epsilon$ . Using the average  $\bar{x}$  of

$$T \geq \max \left( 1, \frac{B}{12 \log \log^+ (\|x_0 - x^*\| / (\eta_\epsilon \|g_0\|))} \right)$$

iterates, one of the following holds.

(1)  $\eta > \eta_\epsilon$ , and

$$\|\bar{x} - x^*\| \leq 4\|x_0 - x^*\|, \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \sqrt{27} \cdot \frac{\|x_0 - x^*\| \sqrt{G_T(\eta')}}{T},$$

(2) or  $\eta = \eta_\epsilon$ , and

$$\|\bar{x} - x^*\| \leq \eta_\epsilon \sqrt{3G_T(\eta_\epsilon)}, \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{2\eta_\epsilon G_T(\eta_\epsilon)}{T}.$$

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## §3 Moving Forward — Defining “Good Events”

- (1) Key observation: when  $\mathcal{O}$  outputs exact gradients,  $g_i(\eta) \equiv \nabla f(x_i(\eta))$ .
- (2) This means that under exact gradient setting,

$$\sum_{i < T} \langle \Delta_i(\eta), x_i(\eta) - x^* \rangle = 0.$$

- (3) Generalize above into “approximately:” for  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\alpha, \beta, \eta > 0$ , define the “**good events**” to be

$$\mathfrak{E}(\eta) = \mathfrak{E}(\eta; T, \alpha, \beta) := \bigcap_{t \leq T} \left\{ \sum_{i < t} \langle \Delta_i(\eta), x_i(\eta) - x^* \rangle \geq -\frac{1}{4} \max(\bar{d}_t(\eta), \eta\sqrt{\beta}) \sqrt{\alpha G_t(\eta) + \beta} \right\}.$$

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# What Was That Mess?

## Lemma 1 (exact gradient version)

With appropriate parameters, under exact gradient setting,

$$\eta \leq \varphi(\eta) \Rightarrow \bar{d}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{\alpha + 1}{\alpha - 1} \cdot d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{r}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} d_0.$$

becomes ...

## Lemma 1 (stochastic version)

With appropriate parameters, under  $\mathfrak{E}(\eta; T, \alpha, \beta)$ , i.e., the “good event” setting, if  $\eta \leq \varphi(\eta)$ , then

$$\bar{d}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{3\alpha + 2}{\alpha + 2} d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{r}_T(\eta) \leq \frac{4\alpha}{\alpha - 2} d_0.$$

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## Proposition 2 (exact gradient version)

Let  $\eta_0 = \text{RootFindingBisection}(\eta_{\text{low}}, \eta_{\text{high}}; T, \alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\alpha > 1, \beta > 0, T \in \mathbb{N}$ , and each  $\eta > 0$ . Assume  $\eta_{\text{high}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$ . Let  $\bar{x} = T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta_0)$  be the average iterate. Under exact gradient setting:

(1) if  $\eta_{\text{low}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$  then for some  $\eta' \in [\eta_0, 2\eta_0]$ ,

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(2) if  $\eta_{\text{low}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$ , then  $\eta_0 = \eta_{\text{low}}$ , and

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## Proposition 2 (stochastic version)

Let  $\eta_0 = \text{RootFindingBisection}(\eta_{\text{low}}, \eta_{\text{high}}; T, \alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\alpha > 2, \beta > 0, T \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\eta_{\text{high}} = 2^{2^k} \eta_{\text{low}}$  for some  $k$ . Assume  $\eta_{\text{high}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{high}})$ . Let  $\bar{x} = T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta_0)$  be the average iterate. Assume the “good events”  $\bigcap_{j=0}^{2^k} \mathfrak{G}(2^j \eta_{\text{low}}; T, \alpha, \beta)$  all hold.

(1) If  $\eta_{\text{low}} \leq \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$ , then for some  $\eta' \in [\eta_0, 2\eta_0]$ ,

$$\|\bar{x} - x_0\| \leq \frac{4\alpha}{\alpha - 2} d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{9\alpha - 2}{2(\alpha - 2)} \cdot \frac{d_0 \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta') + \beta}}{T};$$

(2) If  $\eta_{\text{low}} > \varphi(\eta_{\text{low}})$  and in addition  $\mathfrak{G}(\eta_{\text{low}}; T, \alpha, \beta)$  holds, then  $\eta_0 = \eta_{\text{low}}$ , and

$$\|\bar{x} - x_0\| \leq \eta_{\text{low}} \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_{\text{low}}) + \beta} \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{5}{4} \frac{d_0 \sqrt{\alpha G_T(\eta_{\text{low}}) + \beta} + \eta_{\text{low}} (\alpha G_T(\eta_{\text{low}} + \beta))}{T}.$$

# What Was That Mess?

## Lemma 2 (exact gradient version)

With appropriate parameters, under exact gradient setting, if the following holds, then  $\eta > \varphi(\eta)$ :

$$\eta > \eta_{\max} := \frac{2\alpha}{\alpha - 1} \cdot \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{\alpha\|g_0\|^2 + \beta}}.$$

Consequently, when our algorithm terminates,  $k \leq 2 \log \log^+(\eta_{\max}/\eta\epsilon)$ .

becomes...

## Lemma 2 (stochastic version)

With appropriate parameters, if “good event”  $\mathfrak{E}(\eta; T, \alpha, \beta)$  holds, then if the following implies  $\eta > \varphi(\eta)$ :

$$\eta > \eta_{\max} := \frac{4\alpha}{\alpha - 2} \cdot \frac{d_0}{\sqrt{\alpha\|g_0\|^2 + \beta}}.$$

Consequently, if  $\bigcap_{k=2,4,8,\dots} \mathfrak{E}(2^{2^k} \eta\epsilon; T_k, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})$  holds, when our algorithm terminates,  $k \leq 2 \log \log^+(\eta_{\max}/\eta\epsilon)$ .

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## §3 “Good Events” Are Likely

For the remainder of the analysis, just like **Fact 1**, we assume the gradient oracle is uniformly bounded by  $L > 0$ .

### Lemma 3: “good events” are likely

Let  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\eta > 0$ ,  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  be given. Define  $C = \log(60\delta^{-1} \log^2(6T))$ .

If  $\alpha \geq 1024C$  and  $\beta \geq 1024C^2L^2$  then  $\mathbb{P}(\mathfrak{E}(\eta; T, \alpha, \beta)) \geq 1 - \delta$ .

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## §3 “Good Events” Are Likely

### Proposition 3

Let budget  $B$ , initial step size  $\eta_\epsilon > 0$ , and failure probability  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  be given. Let

$\alpha^{(k)} = 1024C_k$  and  $\beta^{(k)} = 1024C_k^2L^2$ , where  $C_k = 2k + \log(60\delta^{-1}\log^2(6B))$ .

Then,  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{k=2,4,8,\dots} \bigcap_{j=0,1,\dots,2^k} \mathfrak{E}(2^j n_\epsilon; B, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})) \geq 1 - \delta$ .

*Proof.* Notice that  $C_k = \log(60 \log^2(6B)/(2^{-2k}\delta))$  so by the previous lemma, with  $T = B$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha^{(k)}$ ,  $\beta = \beta^{(k)}$ , and failure probability  $2^{-2k}\delta$ , for any  $\eta$ ,

$$1 - \mathbb{P}(\mathfrak{E}(\eta; B, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})) \leq 2^{-2k}\delta.$$

By union bound

$$1 - \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j=0}^{2^k} \mathfrak{E}(2^j \eta_\epsilon; B, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})\right) \leq (2^k + 1)2^{-2k}\delta \leq 2^{-(k-1)}\delta$$

and finally

$$1 - \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{k=2,4,8,\dots} \bigcap_{j=0}^{2^k} \mathfrak{E}(2^j \eta_\epsilon; B, \alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)})\right) \leq \sum_{k \geq 1} 2^{-k}\delta = \delta.$$

## §3 Main Theorem (stochastic)

### Theorem: (stochastic version)

For any failure probability  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , budget  $B \in \mathbb{N}$ , starting point  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and initial step size  $\eta_\epsilon > 0$ , with  $\{\alpha^{(k)}, \beta^{(k)}\}$  specified as in the previous proposition, the algorithm (i) makes  $\leq B$  gradient queries, (ii) fine-tunes the step size to  $\eta \geq \eta_\epsilon$ , and (iii) returns  $\bar{x} = T^{-1} \sum_{i < T} x_i(\eta) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Define  $C = -\log \delta + \log \log^+(B\|x^* - x_0\|/(\eta_\epsilon L))$ . Then, for some  $\eta' \in [\eta, 2\eta]$ , the event  $\{(1) \text{ and } ((2) \text{ or } (3))\}$  happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$ .

$$T \geq \max \left( 1, \frac{B}{8 \log \log^+(\|x_0 - x^*\|/(\eta_\epsilon L))} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\|\bar{x} - x^*\| \leq 6\|x_0 - x^*\| \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) = O\left(\frac{\|x_0 - x^*\| \sqrt{CG_T(\eta') + C^2 L^2}}{T}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$\|\bar{x} - x^*\| = O\left(\eta_\epsilon \sqrt{CG_T(\eta_\epsilon) + C^2 L^2}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad f(\bar{x}) - f(x^*) = O\left(\frac{\eta_\epsilon (CG_T(\eta_\epsilon) + C^2 L^2)}{T}\right) \quad (3)$$



Yair Carmon and Oliver Hinder. “Making SGD Parameter-Free”. In: (2022). [arXiv: 2205.02160](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.02160) [math.OA].