# Supplementary Material: Asynchronous Stochastic Gradient Descent with Delay Compensation

## A. Theorem 3.1 and Its Proof

## Theorem 3.1:

Assume the loss function is  $L_1$ -Lipschitz. If  $\lambda \in [0,1]$  make the following inequality holds,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k^3(x, \mathbf{w}_t)} \ge 2 \left[ C_{ij} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k(x, \mathbf{w}_t)} \right)^2 + C'_{ij} L_1^2 |\epsilon_t| \right],\tag{1}$$

where  $C_{ij} = \frac{1}{1+\lambda} \left(\frac{u_i u_j \beta}{l_i l_j \sqrt{\alpha}}\right)^2$ ,  $C'_{ij} = \frac{1}{(1+\lambda)\alpha(l_i l_j)^2}$ , and the model converges to the optimal model, then the MSE of  $\lambda G(\mathbf{w}_t)$  is smaller than the MSE of  $G(\mathbf{w}_t)$  in approximating Hessian  $H(\mathbf{w}_t)$ .

## **Proof:**

For simplicity, we abbreviate  $\mathbb{E}_{(Y|x,w^*)}$  as  $\mathbb{E}$ ,  $G_t$  as  $G(\mathbf{w}_t)$  and  $H_t$  as  $H(\mathbf{w}_t)$ . First, we calculate the MSE of  $G_t$ ,  $\lambda G_t$  to approximate  $H_t$  for each element of  $G_t$ . We denote the element in the *i*-th row and *j*-th column of  $G(w_t)$  as  $G_{ij}^t$  and  $H(w_t)$  as  $H_{ij}(t)$ .

The MSE of  $G_{ij}^t$ :

$$\mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^{t} - \mathbb{E}H_{ij}^{t})^{2} = \mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^{t} - \mathbb{E}G_{ij}^{t})^{2} + (\mathbb{E}H_{ij}^{t} - \mathbb{E}G_{ij}^{t})^{2} = \mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^{t})^{2} - (\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^{t})^{2} + \epsilon_{t}^{2}$$
(2)

The MSE of  $\lambda g_{ij}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}(\lambda G_{ij}^t - \mathbb{E}H_{ij}^t)^2 = \lambda^2 \mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t - \mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2 + (\mathbb{E}H_{ij}^t - \lambda \mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2$$
$$= \lambda^2 \mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t)^2 - \lambda^2 (\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2 + (1 - \lambda)^2 (\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2 + \epsilon_t^2 + 2(\lambda - 1)\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t \epsilon_t$$
(3)

The condition for  $\mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t - \mathbb{E}H_{ij}^t)^2 \geq \mathbb{E}(\lambda G_{ij}^t - \mathbb{E}H_{ij}^t)^2$  is

$$(1 - \lambda^2) (\mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t)^2 - (\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2) \ge 2(1 - \lambda) (\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2 + 2(\lambda - 1)\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t \epsilon_t$$
(4)

Inequality (4) is equivalent to

$$(1+\lambda)\mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t)^2 \ge 2[(\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2 - \mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t\epsilon_t]$$
(5)

Next we calculate  $\mathbb{E}(G_{ij}^t)^2$ , and  $(\mathbb{E}G_{ij}^t)^2$  which appear in Eqn.(5). For simplicity, we denote  $\sigma_k(x, \mathbf{w}_t)$  as  $\sigma_k$ , and  $I_{[Y=k]}$ 

as  $z_k$ . Then we can get:

$$\mathbb{E}(g_{ij})^2 = \mathbb{E}_{(Y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \log P(Y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)\right)^2 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial w_j} \log P(Y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)\right)^2 \tag{6}$$

$$\geq \mathbb{E}_{(Y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{K} \left( -\frac{z_k}{\sigma_k} \right) \right) \ (l_i l_j)^2 \\ = \alpha \left( l_i l_j \right)^2 \left( \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k^3(x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \right)$$
(7)

$$(\mathbb{E}h_{ij})^{2} = \left(\mathbb{E}_{(Y|x,\mathbf{w}^{*})} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\partial \sigma_{k}}{\partial w_{i}} \left(-\frac{z_{k}}{\sigma_{k}}\right) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\partial \sigma_{k}}{\partial w_{j}} \left(-\frac{z_{k}}{\sigma_{k}}\right)\right)^{2}$$
$$\leq \beta^{2} (u_{i}u_{j})^{2} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_{k}(x,\mathbf{w}_{t})}\right)^{2}.$$
(8)

By substituting Ineq.(7) and Ineq.(8) into Ineq.(5), a sufficient condition for Ineq.(5) to be satisfied is  $\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k^3(x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \ge 2\left[C_{ij}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k(x,\mathbf{w}_t)}\right)^2 + C'_{ij}L_1^2|\epsilon_t|\right]$  because  $G_{ij}^t \le L_1^2$ .  $\Box$ 

# **B.** Corollary 3.2 and Its Proof

**Corollary 3.2:** A sufficient condition for inequality (1) is  $\lambda \in [0,1]$  and  $\exists k_0 \in [K]$  such that  $\sigma_{k_0} \in$  $\left[1 - \frac{K - 1}{2(C_{ij}K^2 + C'_{ij}L_1^2\epsilon_i)}, 1\right].$ 

**Proof:** 

Denote  $\Delta = \frac{K-1}{2C_{ij}K^2}$  and  $F(\sigma_1, ..., \sigma_K) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k^3(x, \mathbf{w}_t)} - 2C_{ij} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{\sigma_k(x, \mathbf{w}_t)}\right)^2 - 2C'_{ij}L_1^2 |\epsilon_t|$ . If  $\exists k_1 \in [K]$  such that  $\sigma_{k_1} \in [1 - \Delta, 1]$ , we have for  $k \neq k_1 \sigma_k \in [0, \Delta]$ . Therefore

$$F(\sigma_1, ..., \sigma_K) \ge \frac{1}{(\sigma_{k_1})^3} + \frac{K-1}{\Delta^3} - 2C_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{k_1}} + \frac{K-1}{\Delta}\right)^2 - 2C'_{ij}L_1^2|\epsilon_t|$$
(9)

$$\geq \frac{K-1}{\Delta^3} - 2C_{ij} \left( \left( \frac{K-1}{\Delta} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{k_1}^2} + \frac{2(K-1)}{\sigma_{k_1}\Delta} \right) - 2C'_{ij}L_1^2 |\epsilon_t|$$
(10)

$$\geq \frac{K-1}{\Delta^{3}} - 2C_{ij} \left( \frac{(K-1)^{2}}{\Delta^{2}} + \frac{2K-1}{\sigma_{k_{1}}\Delta} \right) - 2C_{ij}^{'}L_{1}^{2}|\epsilon_{t}|$$
(11)

$$= \frac{1}{\Delta} \left( \frac{K-1}{\Delta^2} - 2C_{ij} \left( \frac{(K-1)^2}{\Delta} + \frac{2K-1}{\sigma_{k_1}} \right) \right) - 2C'_{ij}L_1^2 |\epsilon_t|$$
(12)

$$\geq \frac{1}{\Delta} \left( \frac{K-1}{\Delta^2} - 2C_{ij} \left( \frac{(K-1)^2 + 2K - 1}{\Delta} \right) \right) - 2C'_{ij} L_1^2 |\epsilon_t|$$
(13)

$$\geq \frac{1}{\Delta^2} \left( \frac{K-1}{\Delta} - 2C_{ij}K^2 - 2C'_{ij}L_1^2 |\epsilon_t| \right)$$
(14)

$$=0$$
 (15)

where Ineq.(11) and (13) is established since  $\sigma_{k_1} > \Delta$ ; and Eqn.(15) is established by putting  $\Delta = \frac{K-1}{2(C_{ij}K^2 + C'_{ij}L_1^2|\epsilon_l|)}$  in Eqn.(14).

# C. Uniform upper bound of MSE

**Lemma C.1** Assume the loss function is  $L_1$ -Lipschitz, and the diagonalization error of Hessian is upper bounded by  $\epsilon_D$ , *i.e.*,  $||Diag(H(\mathbf{w}_t)) - H(\mathbf{w}_t)|| \le \epsilon_D$ , <sup>1</sup> then we have, for  $\forall t$ ,

$$mse^{t}(Diag(\lambda G)) \le 4\lambda^{2}V_{1} + 4(1-\lambda)^{2}L_{1}^{4} + 4\epsilon_{t}^{2} + 4\epsilon_{D},$$
(16)

where  $V_1$  is the upper bound of the variance of  $G(\mathbf{w}_t)$ .

**Proof:** 

$$mse^{t}(Diag(\lambda G))$$
 (17)

 $\leq \mathbb{E} \| Diag(\lambda G(w_t)) - H(w_t) \|^2$ (18)

$$\leq 4\mathbb{E} \|Diag(\lambda G(w_t)) - \mathbb{E}(Diag(\lambda G(w_t)))\|^2 + 4\|\mathbb{E}(Diag(\lambda G(w_t))) - \mathbb{E}(Diag(G(w_t)))\|^2$$
(19)

$$+ 4 \|\mathbb{E}(Diag(G(w_t))) - \mathbb{E}(Diag(H(w_t)))\|^2 + 4 \|\mathbb{E}(Diag(H(w_t))) - \mathbb{E}H(w_t)\|^2$$
(20)

$$\leq 4\lambda^2 V_1 + 4(1-\lambda)^2 L_1^4 + 4\epsilon_t^2 + 4\epsilon_D \tag{21}$$

# D. Convergence Rate for DC-ASGD: Convex Case

DC-ASGD is a general method to compensate delay in ASGD. We first show the convergence rate for convex loss function. If the loss function f(w) is convex about w, we can add a regularization term  $\frac{\rho}{2} ||w||^2$  to make the objective function  $F(w) + \frac{\rho}{2} ||w||^2$  strongly convex. Thus, we assume that the objective function is  $\mu$ -strongly convex.

**Theorem 4.1: (Strongly Convex)** If f(w) is  $L_2$ -smooth and  $\mu$ -strongly convex about w,  $\nabla f(w)$  is  $L_3$ -smooth about w and the expectation of the  $\|\cdot\|_2^2$  norm of the delay compensated gradient is upper bounded by a constant G. By setting the learning rate  $\eta_t = \frac{1}{\mu t}$ , DC-ASGD has convergence rate as

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*) \le \frac{2L_2^2 G^2}{t\mu^4} \left(1 + 4\tau C_\lambda\right) + \frac{2G^2 L_2^2 \theta \sqrt{\tau}}{\mu^4 t \sqrt{t}} + \frac{L^3 L_2^3 \tau^2 G^3}{\mu^6 t^2},$$

where  $\theta = \frac{2HKLG}{\mu} \sqrt{\frac{L_2}{\mu} (1 + \frac{\tau GL_3}{\mu L_2})}$  and  $C_{\lambda} = (1 - \lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D$ , and the expectation is taking with respect to the random sampling of DC-ASGD and  $\mathbb{E}_{(u|x,w^*)}$ .

#### **Proof:**

We denote  $g^{dc}(w_t) = g(w_t) + \lambda g(w_t) \odot g(w_t) \odot (w_{t+\tau} - w_t)$ ,  $g^h(w_t) = g(w_t) + H_{i_t}(w_t)(w_{t+\tau} - w_t)$  and  $\nabla F^h(w_t) = \nabla F(w_t) + \mathbb{E}_{i_t}H_{i_t}(w_t)(w_{t+\tau} - w_t)$ . Obviously, we have  $\mathbb{E}g^h(w_t) = \nabla F^h(w_t)$ . By the smoothness condition, we have

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w^*) \tag{22}$$

$$\leq F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*) - \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), w_{t+\tau+1} - w_{t+\tau} \rangle + \frac{L_2}{2} \|w_{t+\tau+1} - w_{t+\tau}\|^2$$
(23)

$$\leq F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^{*}) - \eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), g^{dc}(w_{t}) \rangle + \frac{L_{2} \eta_{t+\tau}^{2} G^{2}}{2}$$
(24)

$$= F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*) - \eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) \rangle + \eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^h(w_t) \rangle$$
(25)

$$+\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \mathbb{E}g^h(w_t) - g^{dc}(w_t) \rangle + \frac{L_2 \eta_{t+\tau}^2 G^2}{2}$$

$$\tag{26}$$

Since f(w) is  $L_2$ -smooth and  $\mu$  strongly convex, we have

$$-\langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) \rangle \le -\mu^2 \|w_{t+\tau} - w^*\|^2 \le -\frac{2\mu^2}{L_2} (F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)).$$
(27)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>(LeCun, 1987) demonstrated that the diagonal approximation to Hessian for neural networks is an efficient method with no much drop on accuracy

For the term  $\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^h(w_t) \rangle$ , we have

$$\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^h(w_t) \rangle$$
(28)

$$\leq \eta_{t+\tau} \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau})\| \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^{h}(w_{t})\|$$
(29)

$$\leq \eta_{t+\tau} G \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^h(w_t)\|$$
(30)

By the smoothness condition for  $\nabla F(w)$ , we have

$$\|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^{h}(w_{t})\| \le \frac{L_{3}}{2} \|w_{t+\tau} - w_{t}\|^{2} \le \frac{L_{3}\tau G^{2}}{2} \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \eta_{t+j}^{2}$$
(31)

Let  $\eta_t = \frac{L_2}{\mu^2 t}$ , we can get  $\sum_{j=1}^{\tau} \eta_{t+j}^2 \leq \frac{L_2^2}{\mu^4} \cdot \frac{\tau}{t(t+\tau)} \leq \frac{2L_2^2 \tau}{\mu^4(t+\tau)^2}$ . For the term  $\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \mathbb{E}g^h(w_t) - g^{dc}(w_t) \rangle$ , we have

$$\langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \mathbb{E}(g^h(w_t) - g^{dc}(w_t)) \rangle$$

$$\leq \|\nabla F(w_t) - \mathcal{E}(w_t) - \mathcal{E}(w_t)$$

$$\leq G^{2} \tau \sum_{j=0}^{\tau-1} \eta_{t+j} (\|\mathbb{E}(\lambda g(w_{t}) \odot g(w_{t}) - g(w_{t}) \odot g(w_{t})\| + \|g(w_{t}) \odot g(w_{t}) - Diag(H(w_{t}))\| + \|Diag(H(w_{t})) - H(w_{t})\|)$$
(55)

$$\leq \frac{2G^2 L_2 \tau}{(t+\tau)\mu^2} (C_\lambda + \epsilon_t),\tag{35}$$

where  $C_{\lambda} = (1 - \lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D$ .

Using Lemma F.1,  $\epsilon_t \leq \theta \sqrt{\frac{1}{t}} \leq \theta \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{t+\tau}}$ . Putting inequality 27 and 31 in inequality 26, we have

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w^*) \le \left(1 - \frac{2}{t+\tau}\right) \left(\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*)\right) + \frac{L_3 L_2^3 \tau^2 G^3}{\mu^6 (t+\tau)^3}$$
(36)

$$+\frac{2G^2L_2^2\tau}{\mu^4(t+\tau)^2}\left(C_\lambda + \theta\sqrt{\frac{\tau}{t+\tau}}\right) + \frac{L_2^2G^2}{2(t+\tau)^2\mu^4}$$
(37)

(34)

We can get

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*) \le \frac{2L_2^2 G^2}{t\mu^4} \left(1 + 4\tau C_\lambda\right) + \frac{2G^2 L_2^2 \theta \sqrt{\tau}}{\mu^4 t \sqrt{t}} + \frac{L^3 L_2^3 \tau^2 G^3}{\mu^6 t^2}.$$
(38)

by induction.  $\Box$ 

#### **Discussion:**

(1). Following the above proof steps and using  $\|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F(w_t)\| \le L_2 \|w_{t+\tau} - w_t\|$ , we can get the convergence rate of ASGD is

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*) \le \frac{2L_2^2 G^2}{t\mu^4} \left(1 + 4\tau L_2\right).$$
(39)

Compared the convergence rate of DC-ASGD with ASGD, the extra term  $\frac{2G^2L_2^2\theta\sqrt{\tau}}{\mu^4 t\sqrt{t}} + \frac{L^3L_2^3\tau^2G^3}{\mu^6 t^2}$  converge to zero faster than  $\frac{2L_2^2G^2}{t\mu^4}(1+4\tau C_{\lambda})$  in terms of the order of t. Thus, when t is large, the extra term has smaller value. We assume that t is large and the term can be neglected. Then the condition for DC-ASGD outperforming ASGD is  $L_2 > C_{\lambda}$ .

## E. Convergence Rate for DC-ASGD: Nonconvex Case

Theorem 5.1: (Nonconvex Case) Assume that Assumptions 1-4 hold. Set the learning rate

$$\eta_t = \sqrt{\frac{2(F(w_1) - F(w^*))}{bTV^2L_2}},\tag{40}$$

where b is the mini-batch size, and V is the upper bound of the variance of the delay-compensated gradient. If  $T \ge \max\{\mathcal{O}(1/r^4), 2D_0bL_2/V^2\}$  and delay  $\tau$  is upper-bounded as below,

$$\tau \le \min\left\{\frac{L_2 V}{C_\lambda} \sqrt{\frac{L_2 T}{2D_0 b}}, \frac{V}{C_\lambda} \sqrt{\frac{L_2 T}{2D_0 b}}, \frac{T V}{\tilde{C}} \sqrt{\frac{L_2}{bD_0}}, \frac{V L_2 T}{4\tilde{C}} \sqrt{\frac{T L_2}{2D_0 b}}\right\}.$$
(41)

then DC-ASGD has the following ergodic convergence rate,

$$\min_{t=\{1,\cdots,T\}} \mathbb{E}(\|\nabla F(\boldsymbol{w}_t)\|^2) \le V \sqrt{\frac{2D_0 L_2}{bT}},\tag{42}$$

where the expectation is taken with respect to the random sampling in SGD and the data distribution  $P(Y|x, w^*)$ .

#### **Proof:**

We denote  $g_m(w_t) + \lambda g_m(w_t) \odot g_m(w_t) \odot (w_{t+\tau} - w_t)$  as  $g_m^{dc}(w_t)$  where  $m \in \{1, \dots, b\}$  is the index of instances in the minibatch. From the proof the Theorem 1 in ASGD (Lian et al., 2015), we can get

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w_{t+\tau}) \tag{43}$$

$$\leq \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), w_{t+\tau} - w_t \rangle + \frac{L_2}{2} \| w_{t+\tau+1} - w_{t+\tau} \|^2$$
(44)

$$\leq -\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \sum_{m=1}^{b} \mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \rangle + \frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2 L_2}{2} \mathbb{E}\left( \left\| \sum_{m=1}^{b} g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2 \right)$$

$$\tag{45}$$

$$\leq -\frac{b\eta_{t+\tau}}{2} \left( \left\| \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) \right\|^2 + \left\| \sum_{m=1}^b \mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2 - \left\| \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \sum_{m=1}^b \mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2 \right) + \frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2 L_2}{2} \mathbb{E} \left( \left\| \sum_{m=1}^b g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2 \right)$$

$$(46)$$

For the term  $T_1 = \left\| \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \sum_{m=1}^{b} \mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2$ , by using the smooth condition of g, we have

$$T_{1} = \left\| \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \sum_{m=1}^{b} \mathbb{E}g_{m}^{dc}(w_{t}) \right\|^{2}$$
(47)

$$\leq \left\|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F^{h}(w_{t}) + \nabla F^{h}(w_{t}) - \sum_{m=1}^{b} \mathbb{E}g_{m}^{dc}(w_{t})\right\|^{2}$$

$$\tag{48}$$

$$\leq 2 \left\| \frac{L_3}{2} \| w_{t+\tau} - w_t \|^2 \right\|^2 + 2 \left\| \nabla F^h(w_t) - \sum_{m=1}^b \mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2$$
(49)

$$\leq (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2(((1 - \lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2)) \|w_{t+\tau} - w_t\|^2$$
(50)

Thus by following the proof of ASGD, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(T_1) \le 4(L_3^2 \pi^2 / 4 + ((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2) \left( b\tau \eta_{t+\tau}^2 V^2 + \tau^2 \eta_{t+\tau}^2 \left\| b\mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t) \right\|^2 \right).$$
(51)

For the term  $T_2 = \mathbb{E}\left(\left\|\sum_{m=1}^{b} g_m^{dc}(w_t)\right\|^2\right)$ , it has  $\mathbb{E}(T_2) \le bV^2 + \left\|b\mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t)\right\|^2.$ (52) By putting Ineq.(51) and Ineq.(52) in Ineq.(46), we can get

$$\mathbb{E}(F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w_{t+\tau})) = F(w_{t+\tau}) \qquad (53)$$

$$\leq -\frac{b\eta_{t+\tau}}{2} \mathbb{E} \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau})\|^2 + \left(\frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2 L_2}{2} - \frac{\eta_{t+\tau}}{2b}\right) \mathbb{E} \left(\left\|b\mathbb{E}g_m^{dc}(w_t)\right\|^2\right)$$

$$+\left(\frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2 b L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2/2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2)b^2 \tau \eta_{t+\tau}^3\right)V^2$$
(54)

$$+(L_{3}^{2}\pi^{2}/2+2((1-\lambda)L_{1}^{2}+\epsilon_{D})^{2}+\epsilon_{t}^{2})b\tau^{2}\eta_{t+\tau}^{3}\mathbb{E}\left(\left\|b\mathbb{E}g_{m}^{dc}(w_{t})\right\|^{2}\right)$$
(55)

Summarizing the Ineq.(55) from t = 1 to  $t + \tau = T$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{T+1}) - F(w_1) \tag{56}$$

$$\leq -\frac{b}{2}\sum_{t=1}^{I}\eta_{t}\mathbb{E}\|\nabla F(w_{t})\|^{2} + \sum_{t=1}^{I}\left(\frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^{2}bL_{2}}{2} + (L_{3}^{2}\pi^{2}/2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_{1}^{2} + \epsilon_{D})^{2} + \epsilon_{t}^{2})b^{2}\tau\eta_{t+\tau}^{3}\right)V^{2}$$
(57)

$$+\sum_{t=1}^{T} \left( \frac{\eta_t^2 L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2) b\tau^2 \eta_t^3 - \frac{\eta_t}{2b} \right) \mathbb{E} \left\| b \mathbb{E} g_m^{dc}(w_{\max\{t-\tau,1\}}) \right\|^2.$$
(58)

By Lemma F.1 and under our assumptions, we have when  $t > T_0$ ,  $w_t$  will goes into a strongly convex neighbourhood of some local optimal  $w_{loc}$ . Thus,  $\epsilon_t \le \epsilon_{nc} + \theta \sqrt{1/(t-T_0)}$ , when  $t > T_0$  and  $\epsilon_t < \max_{s \in 1, \dots, T_0} \epsilon_s$  when  $t < T_0$ .

Let 
$$\eta_t = \sqrt{\frac{2(F(w_1) - F(w^*)}{bTV^2L_2}}$$
. It follows that  

$$\sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\eta_t L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2)b\tau^2\eta_t^2 \qquad (59)$$

$$\leq \sum_{t=1}^T \left\{ \frac{\eta_t L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau^2\eta_t^2 \right\} + 2b\tau^2\eta_t^2 (4T_0 \max_{s \in 1, \dots, T_0} (\epsilon_s)^2 + 4\theta^2 \log(T - T_0)) \qquad (60)$$

We ignore the  $\log(T - T_0)$  term and regards  $\tilde{C}^2 = 4T_0 \max_{s \in 1, \dots, T_0} (\epsilon_s)^2 + 4\theta^2 \log(T - T_0)$  as a constant, which yields

$$\sum_{t=1}^{T} \frac{\eta_t L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + \epsilon_t^2)b\tau^2 \eta_t^2$$
(61)

$$\leq \sum_{t=1}^{T} \left\{ \frac{\eta_t L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau^2 \eta_t^2 \right\} + 2\tau^2 \eta_t^2 b\tilde{C}^2$$
(62)

 $\eta_t$  should be set to make

$$\sum_{t=1}^{T} \left( \frac{\eta_t^2 L_2}{2} + (L_3^2 \pi^2 / 2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau^2 \eta_t^3 + \frac{2\tau^2 \eta_t^3 b\tilde{C}^2}{T} - \frac{\eta_t}{2b} \right) \le 0.$$
(63)

Then we can get

$$\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbb{E}\|\nabla F(w_t)\|^2 \tag{64}$$

$$\leq \frac{2(F(w_1) - F(w^*) + Tb(\eta_t^2 L_2 + 2(L_3^2 \pi^2/2 + 2((1 - \lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau\eta_t^3)V^2 + \frac{\eta_t^3 \tilde{C}^2 4b\tau}{T}V^2}{bT\eta_t}$$
(65)

$$\leq \frac{2(F(w_1) - F(w^*))}{bT\eta_t} + (\eta_t L_2 + 2(L_3^2\pi^2/2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau\eta_t^2)V^2 + \frac{\eta_t^2 \tilde{C}^2 4b\tau V^2}{T}$$
(66)

(67)

We set  $\eta_t$  to make

$$(2(L_3^2\pi^2/2 + 2((1-\lambda)L_1^2 + \epsilon_D)^2 + 2\epsilon_{nc}^2)b\tau\eta_t^2) + \frac{\eta_t^2\tilde{C}^24b\tau}{T} \le \eta_t L_2$$
(68)

Thus let  $\eta_t = \sqrt{\frac{2(F(w_1) - F(w^*)}{bTV^2L_2}}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbb{E} \|\nabla F(w_t)\|^2 \le V \sqrt{\frac{2D_0 L_2}{bT}}.$$
(69)

And we can get the condition for T by putting  $\eta$  in ineq.63 and ineq.68, we can get that

$$\tau \le \min\left\{\frac{L_2 V}{C_\lambda} \sqrt{\frac{L_2 T}{2D_0 b}}, \frac{V}{C_\lambda} \sqrt{\frac{L_2 T}{2D_0 b}}, \frac{T V}{\tilde{C}} \sqrt{\frac{L_2}{bD_0}}, \frac{V L_2 T}{4\tilde{C}} \sqrt{\frac{T L_2}{2D_0 b}}\right\}.$$
(70)

# **F.** Decreasing rate of the approximation error $\epsilon_t$

Since  $\epsilon_t$  is contained the proof of the convergence rate for DC-ASGD, in this section we will introduce a lemma which describes the approximation error  $\epsilon_t$  the for both convex and nonconvex cases.

**Lemma F.1** Assume that the true label y is generated according to the distribution  $\mathbb{P}(Y = k|x, w^*) = \sigma_k(x, w^*)$  and  $f(x, y, w) = -\sum_{k=1}^{K} (I_{[y=k]} \log \sigma_k(x; w))$ . If we assume that the loss function is  $\mu$ -strongly convex about w. We denote  $w_t$  is the output of DC-ASGD by using the outerproduct approximation of Hessian, we have

$$\epsilon_t = \left| \mathbb{E}_{(x,y|w^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial w^2} f(x,y,w_t) - \mathbb{E}_{(x,y|w^*)} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial w} f(x,y,w_t) \right) \otimes \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial w} f(x,y,w_t) \right) \right| \le \theta \sqrt{\frac{1}{t}},$$

where  $\theta = \frac{2HKLVL_2}{\mu^2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\mu} (1 + \frac{L_2 + \lambda L_1^2}{L_2} \tau)}.$ 

If we assume that the loss function is  $\mu$ -strongly convex in a neighborhood of each local optimal  $d(\mathbf{w}_{loc}, r)$ ,  $\left|\frac{\partial^2 \mathbb{P}(Y=k|x,\mathbf{w})}{\partial^2 \mathbf{w}} \times \frac{1}{P(Y=k|x,w)}\right| \leq H, \forall k, x, w, each \sigma_k(\mathbf{w}) \text{ is } L\text{-Lipschitz continuous about } \mathbf{w}.$  We denote  $\mathbf{w}_t$  is the output of DC-ASGD by using the outerproduct approximation of Hessian, we have

$$\epsilon_t = \left| \mathbb{E}_{(x,y|\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}^2} f(x,y,\mathbf{w}_t) - \mathbb{E}_{(x,y|\mathbf{w}^*)} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} f(x,y,\mathbf{w}_t) \right) \otimes \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} f(x,y,\mathbf{w}_t) \right) \right| \le \theta \sqrt{\frac{1}{t - T_0}} + \epsilon_{nc}.$$

where  $t > T_0 \ge \mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{r^8})$ .

**Proof:** 

$$\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}^2} f(x,Y,\mathbf{w}_t) = -\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}^2} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K (I_{[y=k]} \log \sigma_k(x;\mathbf{w}_t)) \right) \\
= -\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}^2} \log \left( \prod_{k=1}^K \sigma_k(x,\mathbf{w}_t)^{I_{[y=k]}} \right) \\
= -\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}^2} \log \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t) \\
= -\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \omega^2} \frac{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} + \mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \frac{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \right)^2 \\
= -\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \omega^2} \frac{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} + \mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \log \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t) \right)^2 .$$
(71)

Since  $\mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \omega^2} \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} = 0$  by the two equivalent methods to calculating fisher information matrix (Friedman et al., 2001), we have

$$\left| \mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\omega^2} \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \right| = \left| \mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}^*)} \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\omega^2} \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} - \mathbb{E}_{(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \frac{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\omega^2} \mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(y|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \right|$$

$$= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\omega^2} \mathbb{P}(Y=k|X=x,\mathbf{w}_t) \times \frac{\mathbb{P}(Y=k|x,\mathbf{w}^*) - \mathbb{P}(Y=k|x,\mathbf{w}_t)}{\mathbb{P}(Y=k|x,\mathbf{w}_t)} \right|$$
(72)

$$\leq H \cdot \sum_{k=1} |\mathbb{P}(Y = k | x, \mathbf{w}^*) - \mathbb{P}(Y = k | x, \mathbf{w}_t)|$$
  
$$\leq HKL \|\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_{loc}\| + HK \max_{k=1, \cdots, K} |\mathbb{P}(Y = k | x, \mathbf{w}_{loc}) - \mathbb{P}(Y = k | x, \mathbf{w}^*)|$$
(73)

$$\leq HKL \|\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_{loc}\| + \epsilon_{nc}. \tag{74}$$

For strongly convex objective functions,  $\epsilon_{nc} = 0$  and  $w_{loc} = w^*$ . The only thing we need is to prove the convergence of DC-ASGD without using the information of  $\epsilon_t$  like before. By the smoothness condition, we have

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w^*) \tag{75}$$

$$\leq F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*) - \eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \mathbb{E}g^{dc}(w_t) \rangle + \frac{L_2 \eta_{t+\tau}^2 V^2}{2}$$

$$\tag{76}$$

$$= F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*) - \eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) \rangle$$
(77)

$$+\eta_{t+\tau} \langle \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}), \nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \mathbb{E}g^{dc}(w_t) \rangle + \frac{L_2 \eta_{t+\tau}^2 V^2}{2}$$
(78)

$$\leq (1 - \frac{2\eta_{t+\tau}\mu^2}{L_2})(F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)) + \eta_{t+\tau} \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau})\| \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \mathbb{E}g^{dc}(w_t)\| + \frac{L_2\eta_{t+\tau}^2 V^2}{2}$$
(79)

$$\leq (1 - \frac{2\eta_{t+\tau}\mu^2}{L_2})(F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)) + \eta_{t+\tau}V \cdot (L_2 + \lambda L_1^2) \|w_{t+\tau} - w_t\| + \frac{L_2\eta_{t+\tau}^2V^2}{2}$$
(80)

$$\leq (1 - \frac{2\eta_{t+\tau}\mu^2}{L_2})(F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)) + \eta_{t+\tau}V \cdot (L_2 + \lambda L_1^2) \|\sum_{j=1}^{\tau} \eta_{t+\tau-j}g^{dc}(w_t)\| + \frac{L_2\eta_{t+\tau}^2V^2}{2}$$
(81)

Taking expectation to the above inequality, we can get

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau+1}) - F(w^*) \leq (1 - \frac{2\eta_{t+\tau}\mu^2}{L_2})(\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)) + \frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2(L_2 + \lambda L_1^2)V^2\tau}{2} + \frac{L_2\eta_{t+\tau}^2V^2}{2}$$
(82)

$$\leq (1 - \frac{2\eta_{t+\tau}\mu^2}{L_2})(\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+\tau}) - F(w^*)) + \frac{\eta_{t+\tau}^2 V^2 L_2}{2} (1 + \frac{L_2 + \lambda L_1^2}{L_2}\tau).$$
(83)

Let  $\eta_t = \frac{L_2}{\mu^2 t}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_{t+1}) - F(w^*) \le \left(1 - \frac{2}{t}\right) \left(\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*)\right) + \frac{V^2 L_2^2}{2\mu^4 t^2} \left(1 + \frac{L_2 + \lambda L_1^2}{L_2}\tau\right).$$
(84)

We can get

$$\mathbb{E}F(w_t) - F(w^*) \le \frac{2L_2^2 V^2}{t\mu^4} \left( 1 + \frac{L_2 + \lambda L_1^2}{L_2} \tau \right).$$
(85)

by induction. Then we can get

$$\|w_t - w^*\|^2 \le \frac{4L_2^2 V^2}{t\mu^5} \left(1 + \frac{L_2 + \lambda L_1^2}{L_2} \tau\right).$$
(86)

By putting Ineq.86 into Ineq.73, we can get the result in the theorem.

For nonconvex case, if  $\mathbf{w}_t \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{w}_{loc}, r)$ , we have  $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_{loc}) \leq \frac{1}{\mu} \mathbb{E} \nabla F(\mathbf{w}_t)$  under the assumptions. Next we will prove that, for nonconvex loss function  $f(x, y, \mathbf{w}_t)$ , DC-ASGD has ergodic convergence rate.  $\min_{t=1,\dots,T} \mathbb{E} \| \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}_t} F(x, y, \mathbf{w}_t) \|^2 = \mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{T})$ , where the expectation is taking with respect to the stochastic sampling.



Figure 1. Error rates of the global model with Different  $\lambda_0$  w.r.t. number of effective passes on CIFAR-10

Compared with the proof of ASGD (Lian et al., 2015), DC-ASGD with Hessian approximation has

$$T_1 = \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \mathbb{E}g^{dc}(w_t)\|^2$$
(87)

$$= \|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F(w_t) - \lambda \mathbb{E}g(w_t) \odot g(w_t) \cdot (w_{t+\tau} - w_t)\|^2$$
(88)

$$\leq 2\|\nabla F(w_{t+\tau}) - \nabla F(w_t)\|^2 + 2\|\lambda \mathbb{E}g(w_t) \odot g(w_t) \cdot (w_{t+\tau} - w_t)\|^2$$
(89)

$$\leq 2(L_2^2 + \lambda^2 L_1^4) \|w_{t+\tau} - w_t\|^2, \tag{90}$$

since  $L_1$  is the upper bound of  $\nabla f(w)$  and  $L_2$  is the smooth coefficient of f(w). Suppose that  $\eta = \sqrt{\frac{2D_0}{bTV^2L_2}}$  and  $\tau$  is upper bounded as Theorem 5.1,

$$\min_{t=1,\cdots,T} \mathbb{E} \|\nabla F(w_t)\|^2 \le \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \|\nabla F(w_t)\|^2 \le \mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{T^{1/2}}).$$
(91)

Referring to a recent work of Lee *et.al* (Lee et al., 2016), GD with a random initialization and sufficiently small constant step size converges to a local minimizer almost surely under the assumptions in Theorem 1.2. Thus, the assumption that F(w) is  $\mu$ -strongly convex in the *r*-neighborhood of arbitrary local minimum  $w_{loc}$  is easily to be satisfied with probability one. By the  $L_1$ -Lipschitz assumption, we have  $P(Y = k | x, w_t) - P(Y = k | x, w_{loc}) \leq L_1 ||w_t - w_{loc}||$ . By the  $L_2$ -smooth assumption, we have  $L_2 ||w_t - w_{loc}||^2 \geq \langle \nabla F(w_t), w_t - w_{loc} \rangle$ . Thus for  $w_t \in \mathcal{B}(w_{loc}, r)$ , we have  $||\nabla F(w_t)|| \leq L_2 ||w_t - w_{loc}|| \leq L_2 r$ . By the continuously twice differential assumption, we can assume that  $||\nabla F(w_t)|| \leq L_2 ||w_t - w_{loc}|| \leq L_2 r$  for  $w_t \in \mathcal{B}(w_{loc}, r)$  and  $||\nabla F(w_t)|| \leq L_2 ||w_t - w_{loc}|| > L_2 r$  for  $w_t \notin \mathcal{B}(w_{loc}, r)$  without loss of generality <sup>2</sup>. Therefore  $\min_{t=1,\cdots,T} \mathbb{E} ||\nabla F(w_t)||^2 \leq L_2^2 r^2$  is a sufficient condition for  $\mathbb{E} ||w_T - w_{loc}|| \leq r$ .

$$\min_{t=1,\cdots,T_0} \mathbb{E} \|\nabla F(w_t)\|^2 \le \mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{T_0^{1/2}}) \le r^2.$$
(92)

We have  $T_0 \geq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{r^4}\right)$ .

Thus we have finished the proof for nonconvex case.

## G. Experimental Results on the Influence of $\lambda$

In this section, we show how the parameter  $\lambda$  affect our DC-ASGD algorithm. We compare the performance of respectively sequential SGD, ASGD and DC-ASGD-a with different value of initial  $\lambda_0^3$ . The results are given in Figure 1. This experiment reflects to the discussion in Section 5, too large value of this parameter ( $\lambda_0 > 2$  in this setting) will introduce large variance and lead to a wrong gradient direction, meanwhile too small will make the compensation influence nearly disappear. As  $\lambda$  decreasing, DC-ASGD will gradually degrade to ASGD. A proper  $\lambda$  will lead to significant better accuracy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We can choose r small enough to make it satisfied.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>We also compare different  $\lambda_0$  for DC-ASGD-c and the results are very similar to DC-ASGD-a.

# H. Large Mini-batch Synchronous SGD with Delay-Compensated Gradient

In this section, we discuss how delay-compensated gradient can be used in synchronous SGD. The effective mini-batch size in SSGD is usually enlarged M times comparing with sequential SGD. A learning rate scaling trick is commonly used to overcome the influence of large mini-batch size in SSGD (Goyal et al., 2017): when the mini-batch size is multiplied by M, multiply the learning rate by M. For sequential mini-batch SGD with learning rate  $\eta$  we have:

$$\mathbf{w}_{t+M} = \mathbf{w}_t - \eta \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} g(\mathbf{w}_{t+j}, z_{t+j}),$$
(93)

where  $z_{t+j}$  is the t + j-th minibatch.

On the other hand, taking one step with M times large mini-batch size and learning rate  $\hat{\eta} = M\eta$  in synchronous SGD yields:

$$\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1} = \mathbf{w}_t - \hat{\eta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j),$$
(94)

where  $z_t^j$  is the *t*-th minibatch on local machine *j*.

Assume that  $z_{t+j} = z_t^j$ . The assumption  $g(\mathbf{w}_{t+j}, z_{t+j}) \approx g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j)$  was made in synchronous SGD(Goyal et al., 2017). However, it often may not hold.

If we denote  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j = \mathbf{w}_t - \hat{\eta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i < j} g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^i)$ , we can unfold the summation in Eq.94 to

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^{j+1} = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j - \hat{\eta} \frac{1}{M} g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j), j < M,$$
(95)

then we have  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1} = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^M$ . We propose to use Eq.(5) in the main paper to compensate this assumption and apply delay-compensated gradient to update Eq.95 with:

$$g(\mathbf{w}_{t+j}, z_{t+j}) \approx \tilde{g}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j, z_t^j) := g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j) + \lambda g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j) \odot g(\mathbf{w}_t, z_t^j) \odot (\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j - \mathbf{w}_t) \Big),$$
(96)

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^{j+1} = \tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j - \hat{\eta} \frac{1}{M} \tilde{g}(\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j, z_t^j), j < M.$$
(97)

Please note that we redefine the previous  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^{j+1}$  in Eq.97. For j > 1, we need to design an order to make  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j \approx \mathbf{w}_{t+j}$ . Choosing  $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j$  according to the increasing order of  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_{t+1}^j - \mathbf{w}_t\|^2$  can be used since the smaller distance with  $\mathbf{w}_t$  will induce more accurate approximation by using Taylor expansion.

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