

Correlated Noise Provably Beats Independent Noise for DP learning

ICLR 2024

Krishna Pillutla (Google Research → IIT Madras)

Presented at ***Laboratoire Jean Kuntzmann, UGA***

Joint work with Chris Choquette-Choo, Dj Dvijotham, Arun Ganesh, Thomas Steinke, Abhradeep Thakurta



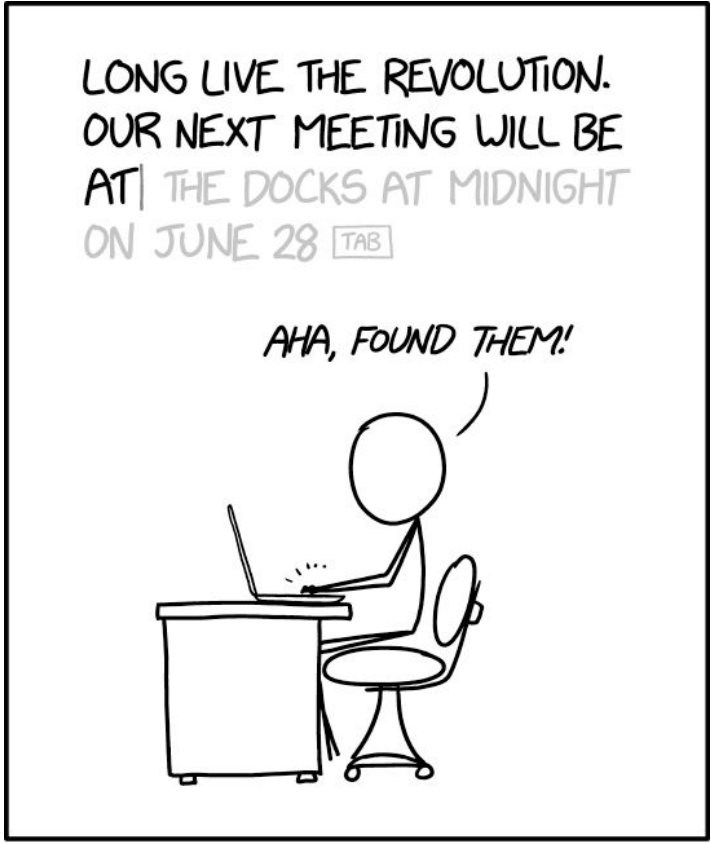
LONG LIVE THE REVOLUTION.
OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE
AT THE DOCKS AT MIDNIGHT
ON JUNE 28 TAB

AHA, FOUND THEM!

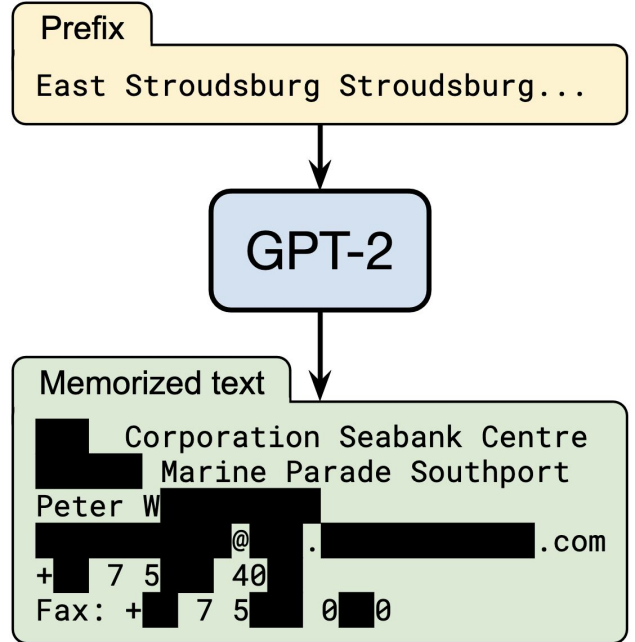


WHEN YOU TRAIN PREDICTIVE MODELS
ON INPUT FROM YOUR USERS, IT CAN
LEAK INFORMATION IN UNEXPECTED WAYS.

Models leak information about their training data

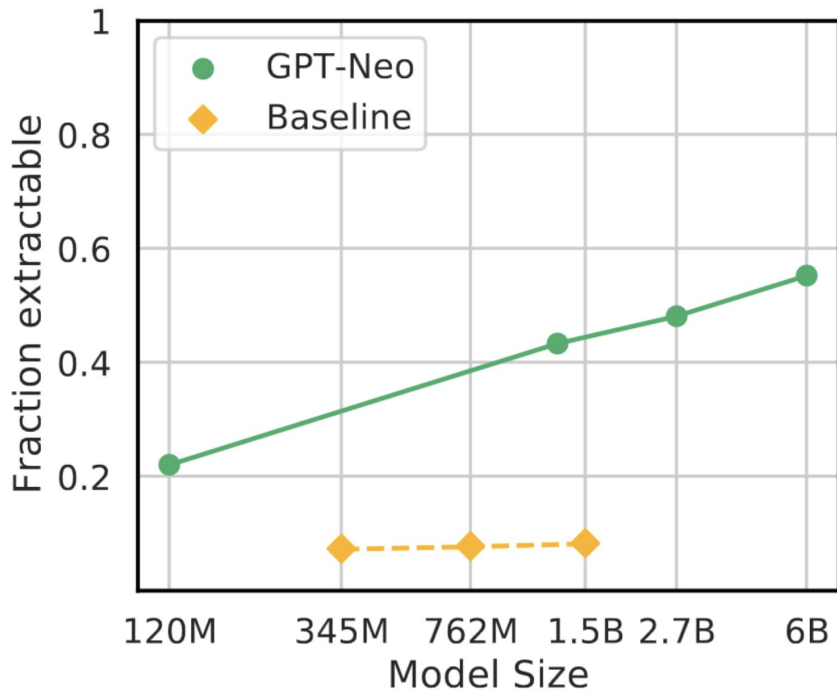


WHEN YOU TRAIN PREDICTIVE MODELS ON INPUT FROM YOUR USERS, IT CAN LEAK INFORMATION IN UNEXPECTED WAYS.

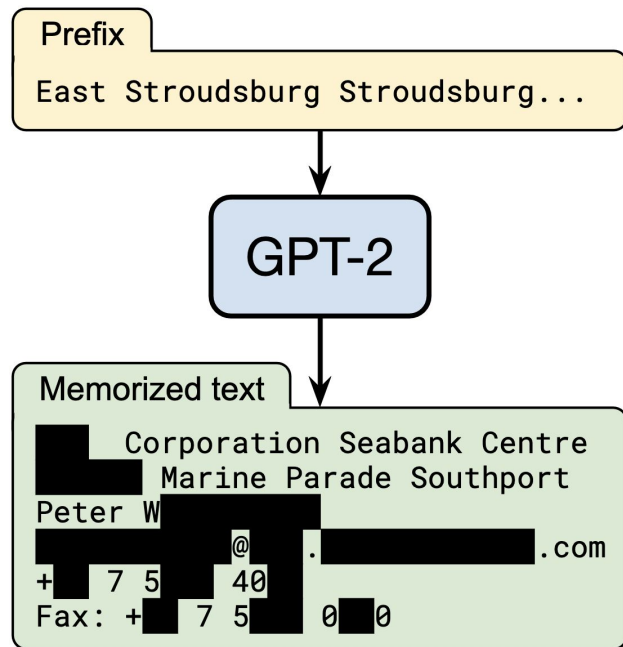


Carlini et al. (USENIX Security 2021)

Models leak information about their training data *reliably*



Carlini et al. (ICLR 2023)



Carlini et al. (USENIX Security 2021)

Diffusion Art or Digital Forgery? Investigating Data Replication in Diffusion Models

Gowthami Somepalli 🌱, Vasu Singla 🌱, Micah Goldblum 🌱, Jonas Geiping 🌱, Tom Goldstein 🌱

🌱 University of Maryland, College Park

{gowthami, vsingla, jgeiping, tomg}@cs.umd.edu

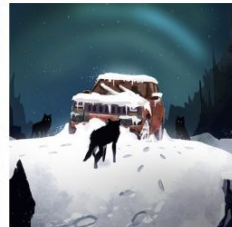
🌱 New York University

goldblum@nyu.edu

Generation



LAION-A Match



Differential privacy (DP)

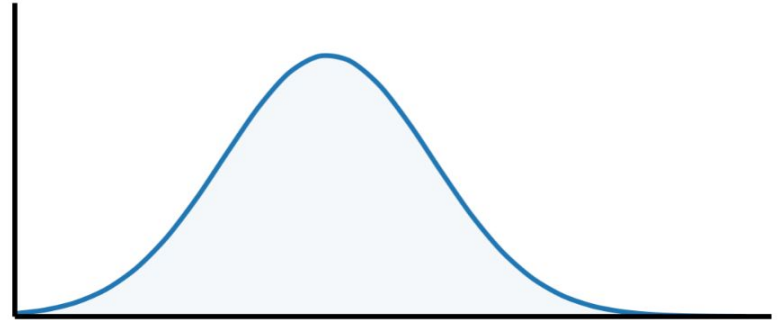
Dataset



Randomized
Algorithm



Output Distribution
(e.g. over models)

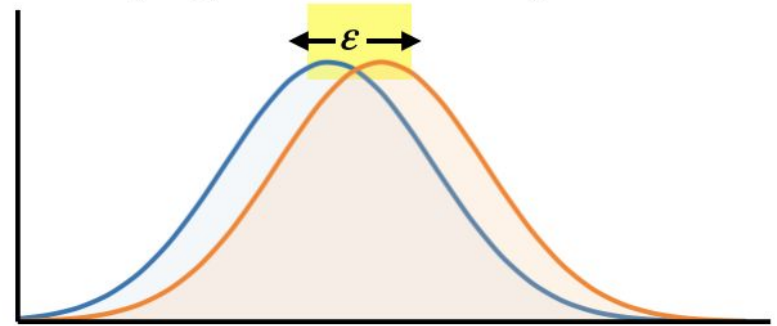


Differential privacy (DP)

Dataset

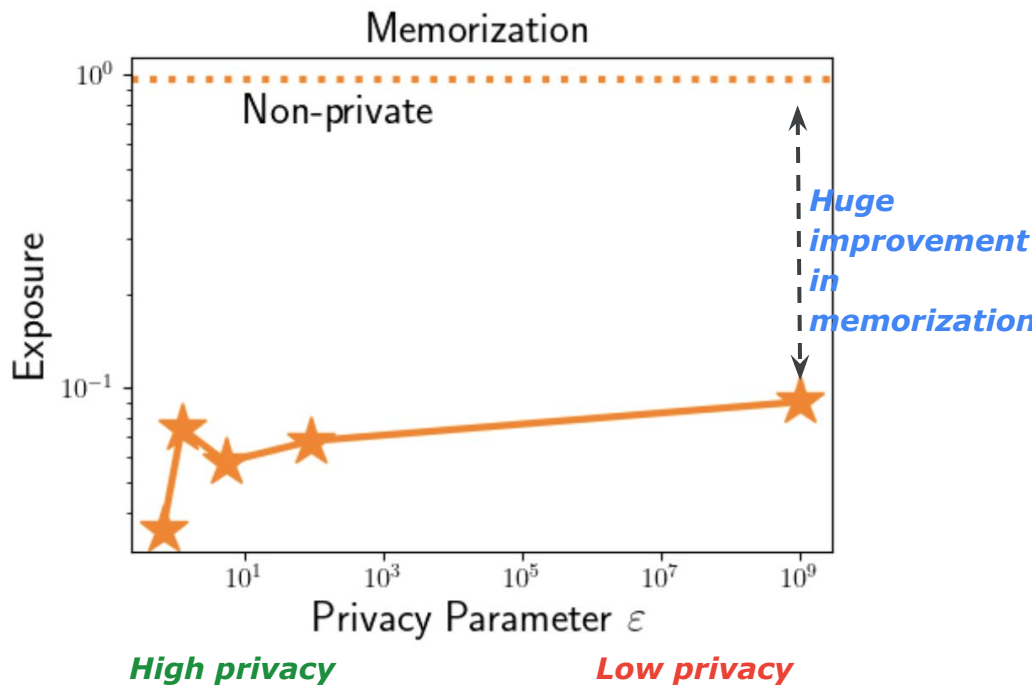
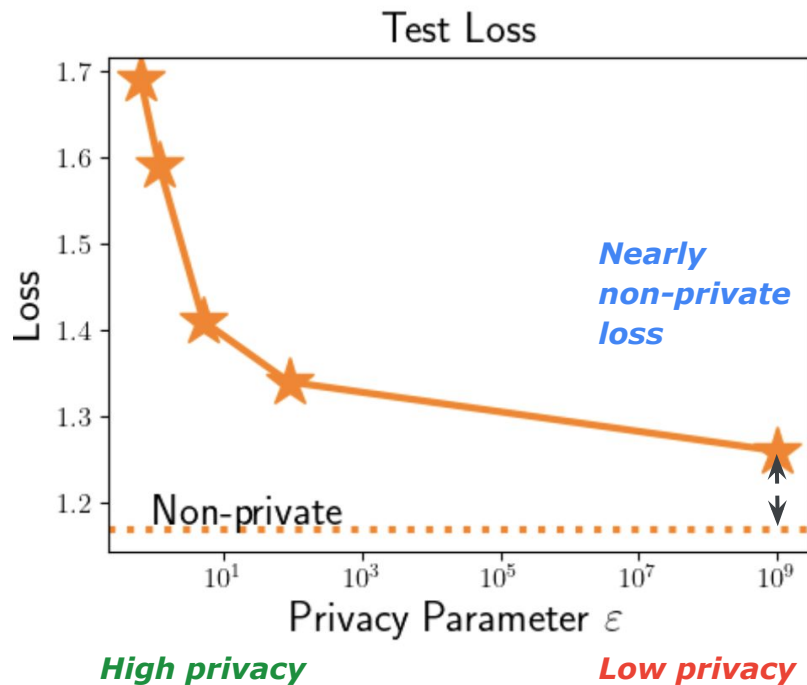


Output Distribution
(e.g. over models)



A randomized algorithm is ϵ -**differentially private** if the addition of **one user's data** does not alter its output distribution by more than ϵ

Differential privacy eliminates memorization



How do we train models with DP?

The diagram illustrates the training objective function with three callouts:

- Model parameters**: A callout pointing to the parameter θ in the minimization operator.
- Loss function**: A callout pointing to the function $f(\theta; x)$ inside the expectation.
- Data**: A callout pointing to the variable x in the expectation operator $\mathbb{E}_{x \sim P}$.

$$\min_{\theta} [F(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim P} [f(\theta; x)]]$$

DP-SGD: How do we train models with DP?

The diagram illustrates the DP-SGD update equation: $\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta (g_t + z_t)$. Three callout boxes provide context: 'Gradient clipped to $\|g_t\| \leq G$ ' points to g_t ; 'Learning rate' points to η ; and 'Independent Gaussian noise' points to z_t .

Gradient clipped to $\|g_t\| \leq G$

Independent
Gaussian noise

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta (g_t + z_t)$$

Learning rate

Recall: ρ -Zero-Concentrated DP (ρ -zCDP)

For all $0 < \alpha < \infty$, we have

$$D_{\alpha} \left(\mathcal{A} \left(\begin{array}{cc} \text{[chart]} & \text{[chart]} \\ \text{[chart]} & \text{[chart]} \end{array} \right) \parallel \mathcal{A} \left(\begin{array}{cc} \text{[chart]} & \text{[chart]} \\ \text{[chart]} & \text{[chart]} \\ + & \text{[chart]} \end{array} \right) \right) \leq \rho \alpha$$

Rényi α -divergence

DP-SGD: How do we train models with DP?

For ρ -zCDP, take
noise variance = $\frac{G^2}{2\rho}$

(G = gradient clip norm)

Independent
Gaussian noise

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta (g_t + z_t)$$

DP-FTRL: DP Training with ***Correlated*** Noise

Correlated
Gaussian noise
(z_t i.i.d. Gaussian)

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \left(g_t + \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_{t,\tau} z_{t-\tau} \right)$$

DP-FTRL: DP Training with *Correlated* Noise

For Q -zCDP, take
noise variance =

$$\frac{G^2}{2\rho} \max_t \|[B^{-1}]_{:,t}\|_2^2$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,0} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{1,0} & \beta_{1,1} & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{2,0} & \beta_{2,1} & \beta_{2,2} & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

sensitivity

Correlated
Gaussian noise
(z_t i.i.d. Gaussian)

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \left(g_t + \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_{t,\tau} z_{t-\tau} \right)$$

Production Training

"the first production neural network trained directly on user data announced with a formal DP guarantee."

- [Google AI Blog post](#), Feb 2022

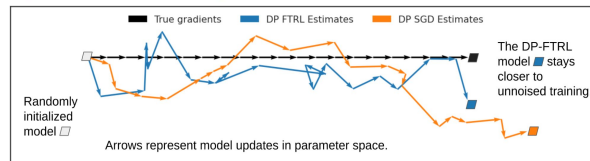
Federated Learning with Formal Differential Privacy Guarantees

Monday, February 28, 2022

Posted by Brendan McMahan and Abhradeep Thakurta, Research Scientists, Google Research

In 2017, Google introduced federated learning (FL), an approach that enables mobile devices to collaboratively train machine learning (ML) models while keeping the raw training data on each user's device, decoupling the ability to do ML from the need to store the data in the cloud. Since its introduction, Google has continued to actively engage in FL research and deployed FL to power many features in Gboard, including next word prediction, emoji suggestion and out-of-vocabulary word discovery. Federated learning is improving the "Hey Google" detection models in Assistant, suggesting replies in Google Messages, predicting text selections, and more.

While FL allows ML without raw data collection, differential privacy (DP) provides a quantifiable measure of data anonymization, and when applied to ML can address concerns about models memorizing sensitive user data. This too has been a top research priority, and has yielded one of the first production uses of DP for analytics with RAPPOR in 2014, our open-source DP library, Pipeline DP, and TensorFlow Privacy.



Data Minimization and Anonymization in Federated Learning
Along with fundamentals like transparency and consent, the [privacy principles of data minimization and anonymization](#) are important in ML applications that involve sensitive data.

Do we use independent or correlated noise?



DP-SGD

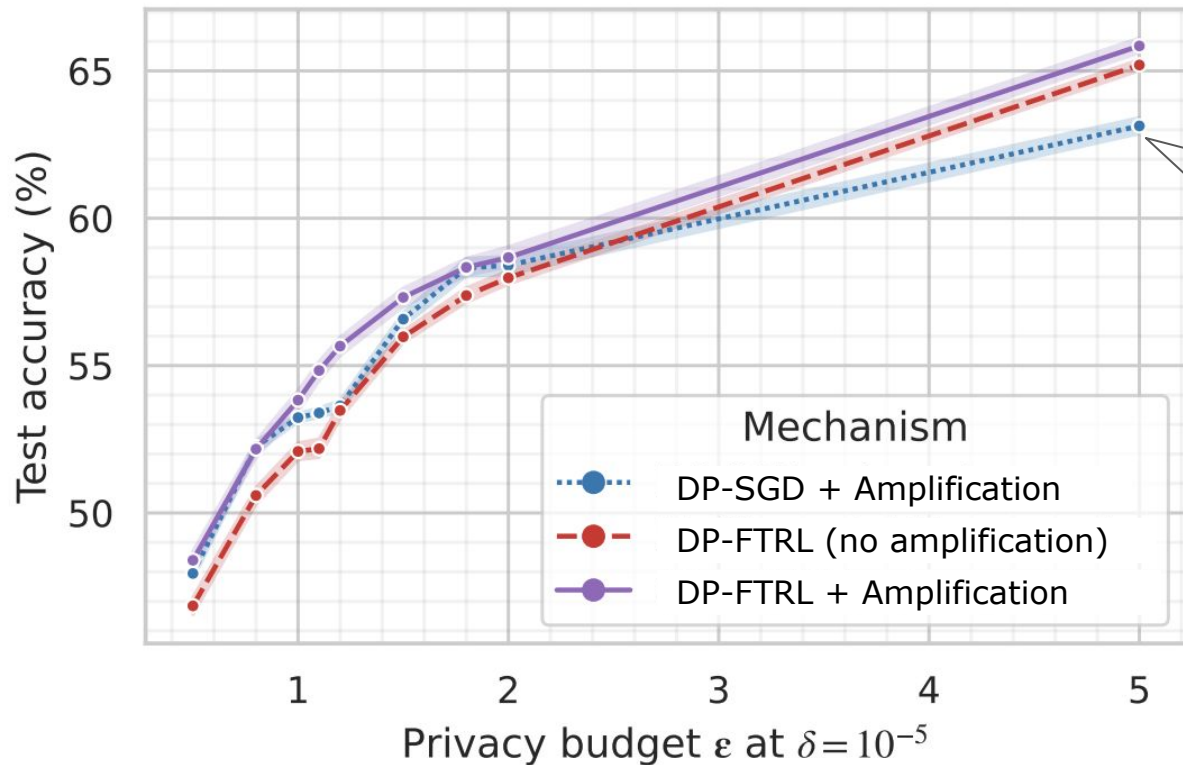


DP-FTRL

Prior work: [Choquette-Choo et al. (NeurIPS '23)]

- (Empirically) correlated noise outperforms independent noise

Experiment: DP learning with CIFAR-10



DP-FTRL (+ amplification)
uniformly beats **DP-SGD**

Our contributions

Theory

- correlated noise is **provably** better

Our contributions

What we show: For linear regression (without clipping) and learning rate $\eta < 1$, the expected final error as $T \rightarrow \infty$ scales as

Independent noise	$\Theta(d)$
Correlated noise	$\tilde{O}(d_{\text{eff}})$
Lower bound	$\Omega(d_{\text{eff}})$

Improve **dimension d** to
problem-dependent
effective dimension d_{eff}

η : learning rate
 ϱ : privacy level

Our contributions

Informal Theorem: For linear regression (without clipping) and learning rate $\eta < 1$, the expected final error as $T \rightarrow \infty$ is

Independent noise (DP-SGD without clipping)	$\Theta(d \rho^{-1} \eta)$
Correlated noise (DP-FTRL without clipping)	$\tilde{O}(d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2)$
Lower bound for any algorithm	$\Omega(d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2)$

Matches lower bound (upto polylog factors)

η : learning rate
 ρ : privacy level

Prior work: [Choquette-Choo et al. (NeurIPS '23)]

- Solve a semi-definite program (SDP) to find these correlations
- Cubic complexity $O(T^3)$ in the number of iterations T

$$\min_{X \succeq 0} \{ \text{Tr}(AX^{-1}A^\top) : \text{diag}(X) = \mathbf{1} \}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ 1 & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{T \times T}$$

Our contributions

Empirical:

- computationally much more efficient:
cubic $O(T^3)$ → linear $O(T)$

Our contributions

Empirical:

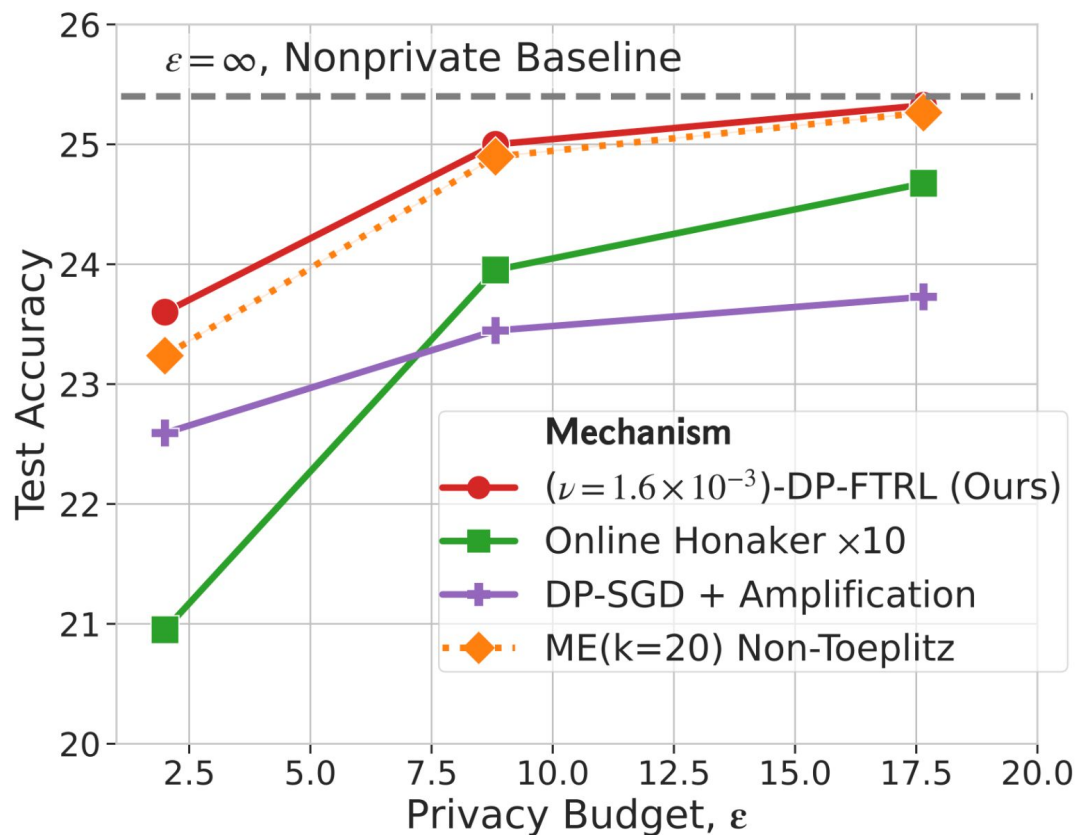
- computationally much more efficient:
cubic $O(T^3)$ \rightarrow linear $O(T)$

$$\text{Set } \beta_0 = 1, \quad \beta_\tau = -\tau^{-3/2} (1 - \nu)^\tau$$

$$\text{Update } \theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \left(g_t + \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_\tau z_{t-\tau} \right)$$

The hyper-parameter ν is tuned

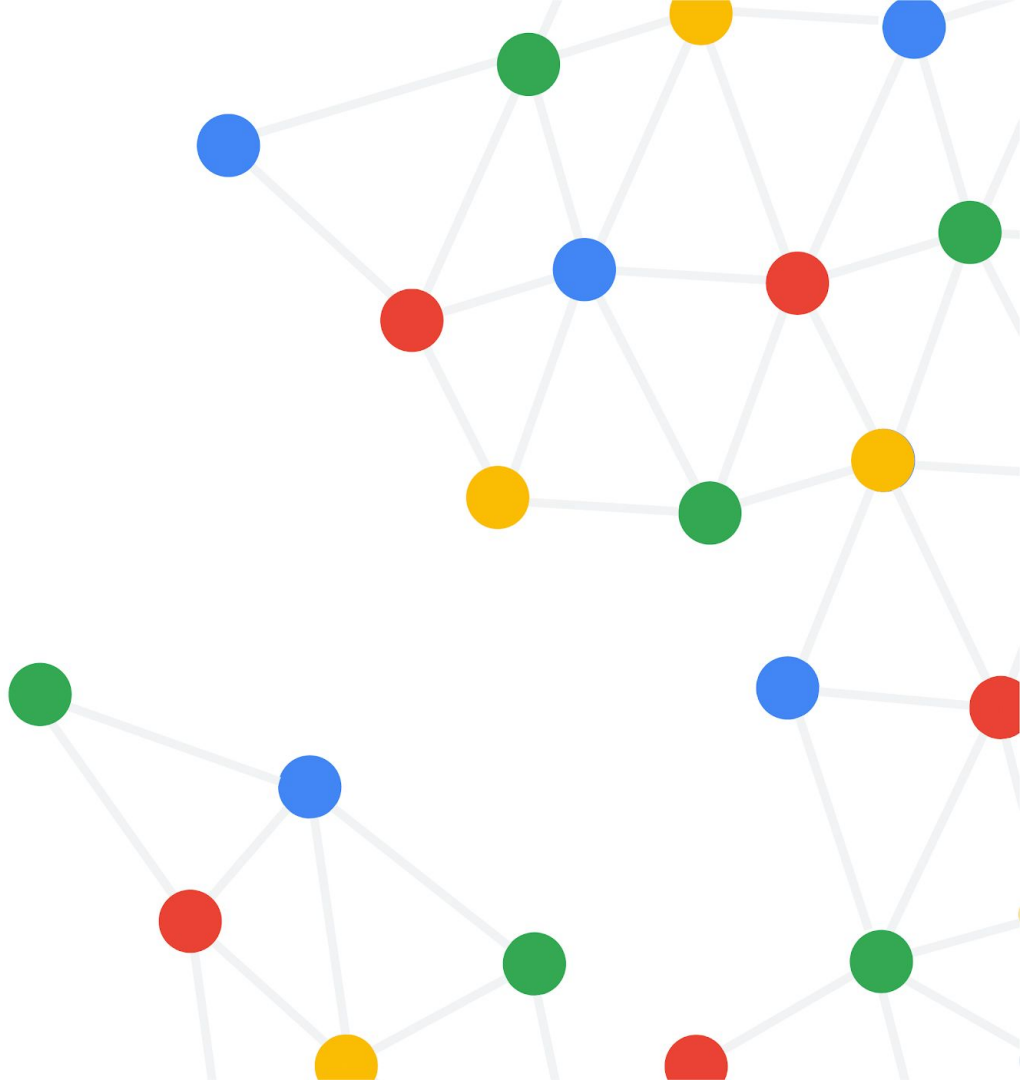
Empirical results for private deep learning



Ours
matches
SoTA!

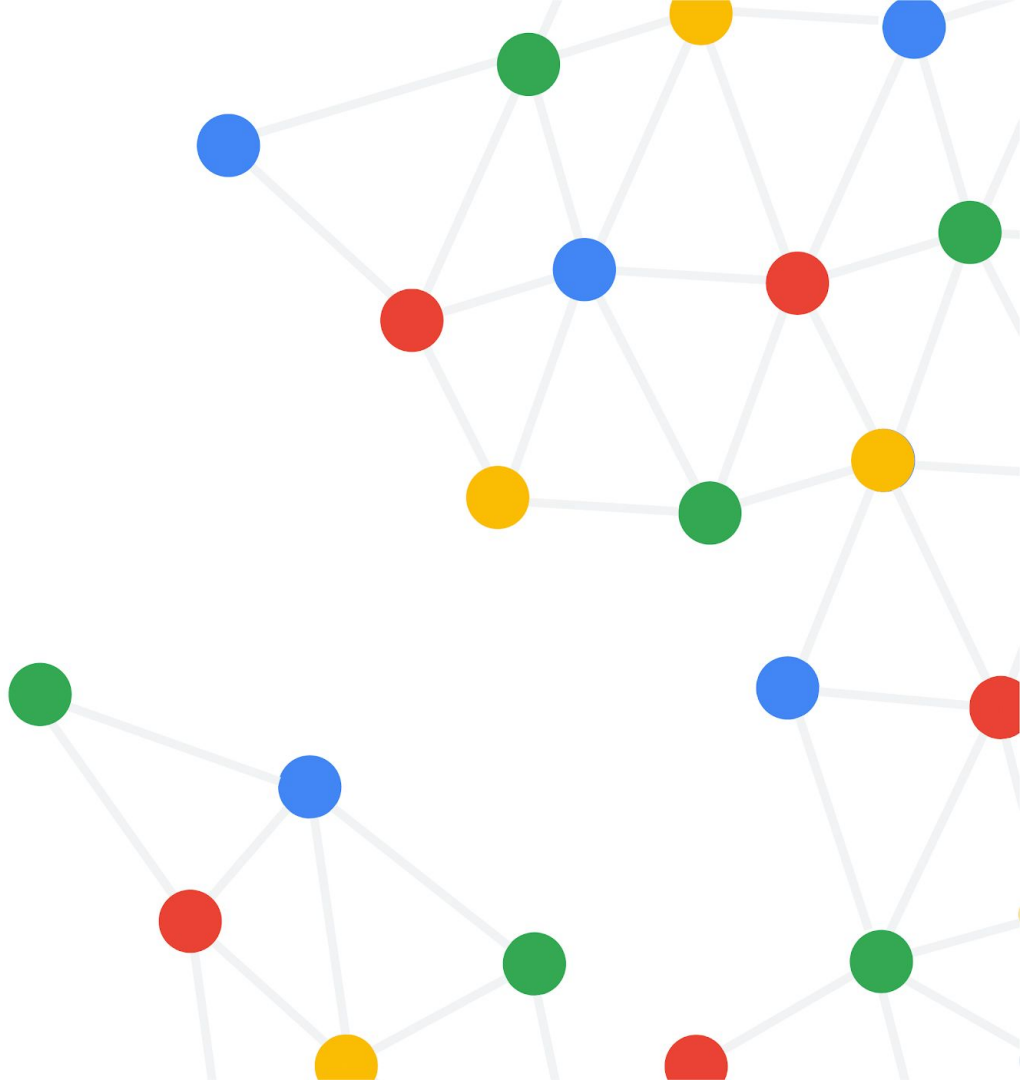
Outline

- Background
- Theoretical Results
- Empirical Results

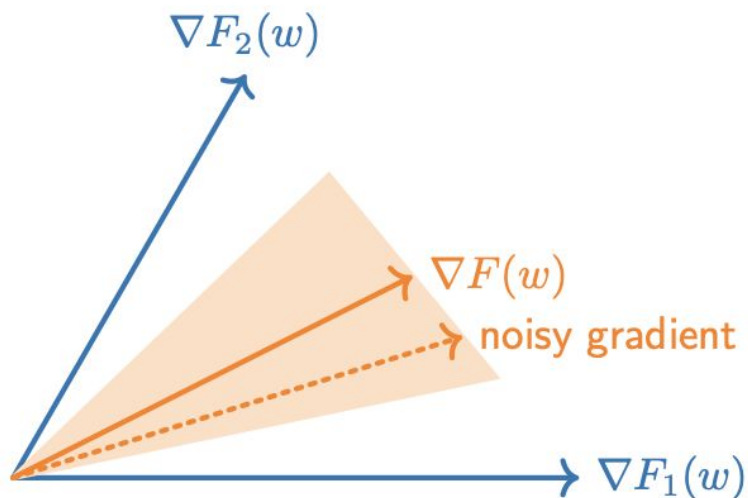


Outline

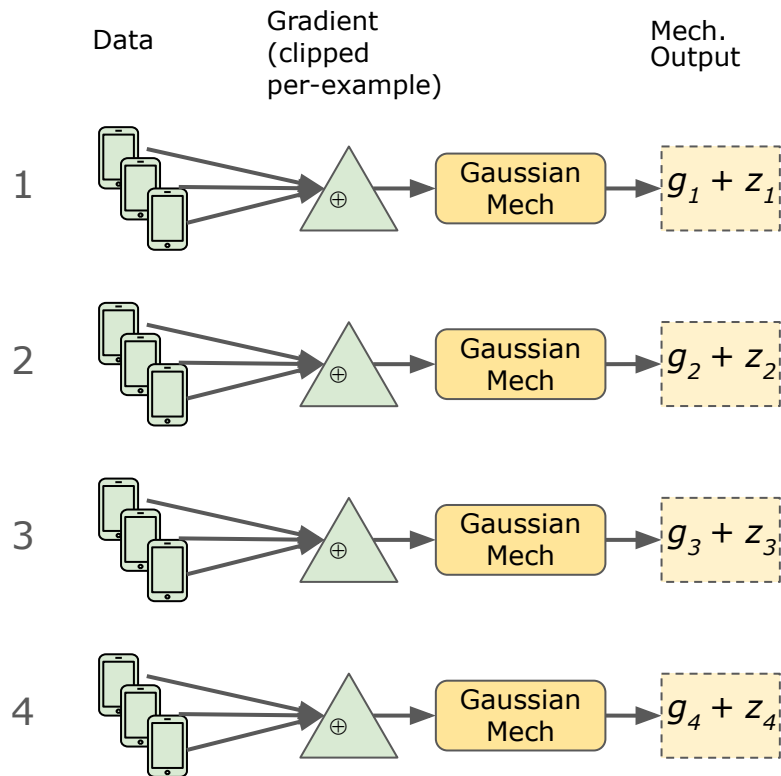
- **Background**
- Theoretical Results
- Empirical Results



DP-SGD's primitive: private mean estimation of minibatch (clipped) gradients in each iteration



DP-SGD adds independent noise in each iteration



Why DP-FTRL?

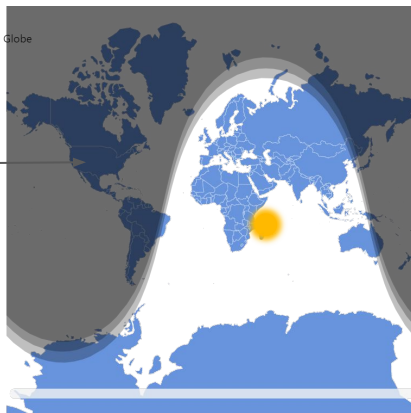
DP-SGD requires privacy amplification by random sampling for good practical performance

Why DP-FTRL?

DP-SGD requires privacy amplification by random sampling for good practical performance

(Provable) Random sampling not possible in applications such as federated learning

Charging/WiFi required for federated learning (usually at *night*)



DP-FTRL: privatize prefix sums of gradients

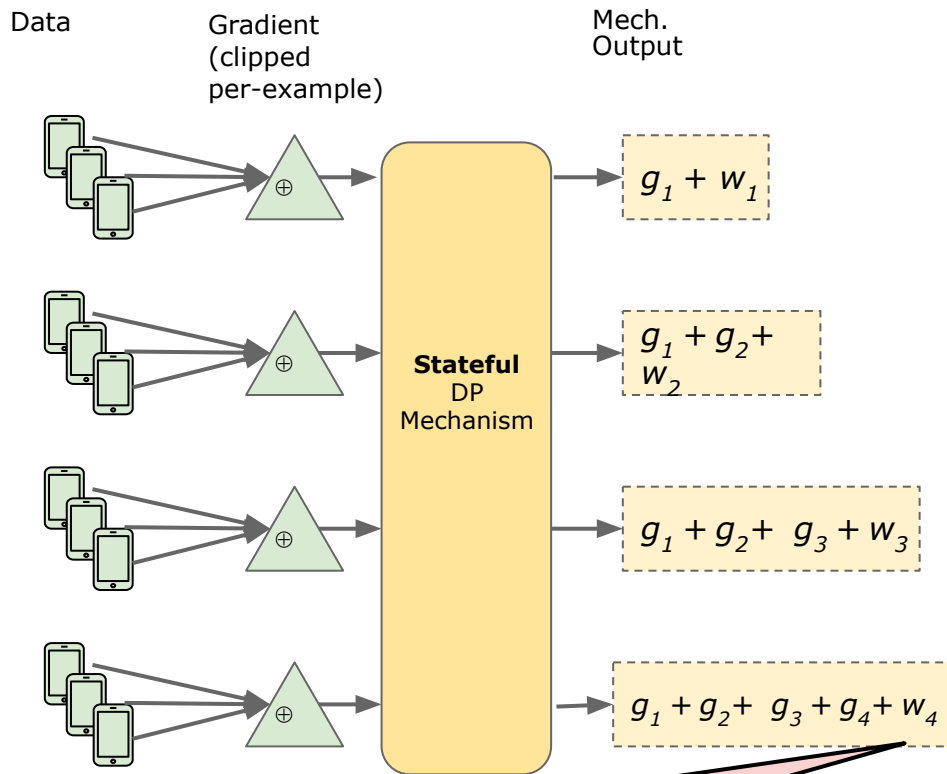
$$\theta_t - \theta_0 = - \sum_{\tau=0}^{t-1} g_{\tau}$$

SGD update (without noise)

DP-FTRL: privatize prefix sums of gradients

$$\theta_t - \theta_0 = - \sum_{\tau=0}^{t-1} g_\tau$$

SGD update (without noise)



w_t are **not** independent across rounds.

DP-FTRL: privatize prefix sums of gradients

Empirically, DP-FTRL (without amplification) is competitive with DP-SGD + amplification

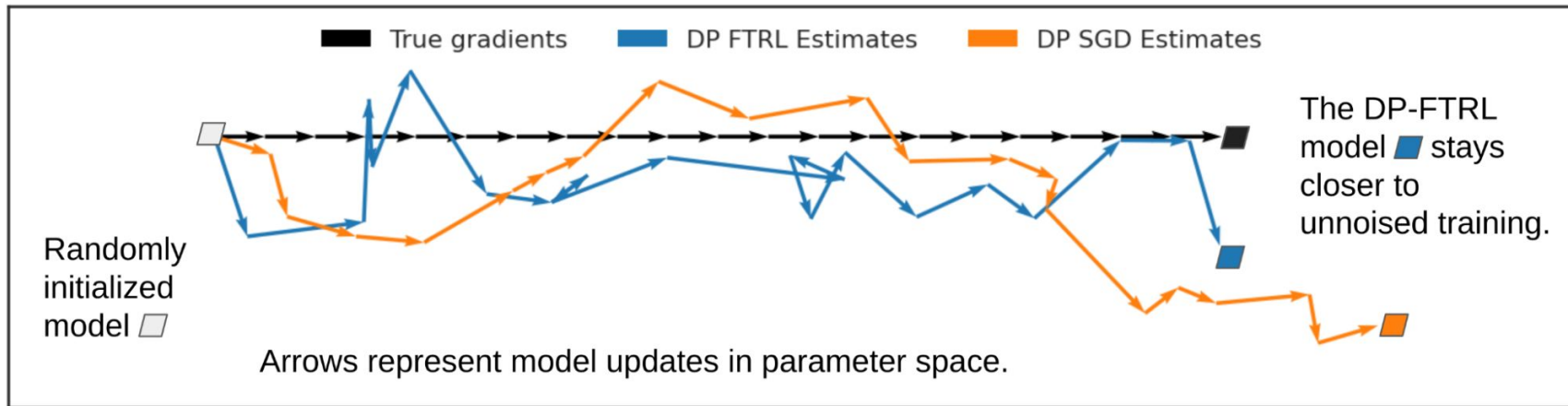


Figure: [Google AI Blog post](#)

DP-FTRL in Equations

DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

SGD update (without noise)

DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

DP-SGD update (with independent noise)

DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

Noise correlation matrix

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + B \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,0} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{1,0} & \beta_{1,1} & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{2,0} & \beta_{2,1} & \beta_{2,2} & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix}$

DP-FTRL update (with correlated noise)

DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = BB^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + B \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Noise correlation matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,0} & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{1,0} & \beta_{1,1} & 0 & \dots \\ \beta_{2,0} & \beta_{2,1} & \beta_{2,2} & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

DP-FTRL update (with correlated noise)

DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = B \left(B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Privatize $B^{-1}G$ with the Gaussian mechanism

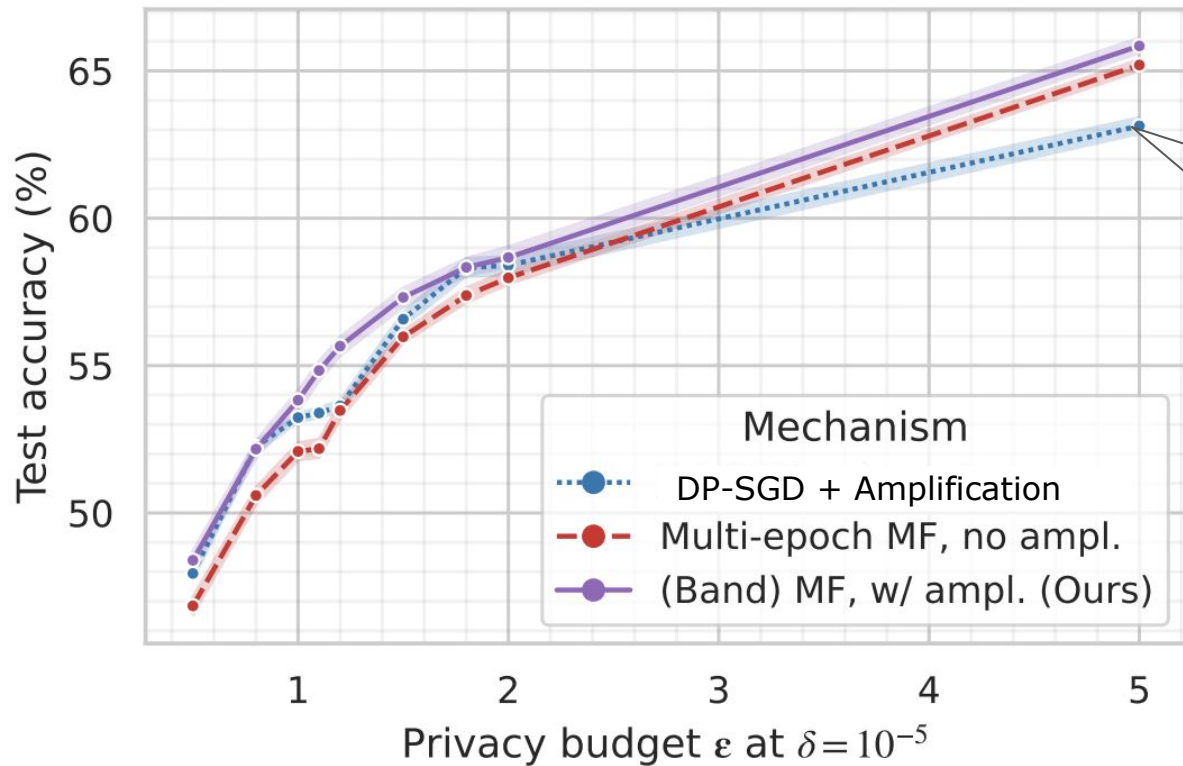
DP-FTRL: Incorporating Correlated Noise

$$-\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 - \theta_0 \\ \theta_2 - \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_t - \theta_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} = B \left(B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} z_0 \\ z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Privatize $B^{-1}G$ with the Gaussian mechanism

For ρ -zCDP, take
noise variance = $\frac{G^2}{2\rho} \max_t \|[B^{-1}]_{:,t}\|_2^2$
sensitivity

DP-FTRL vs. DP-SGD: Empirical



DP-FTRL (+ amplification)
uniformly beats **DP-SGD**

DP-FTRL vs. DP-SGD: Theory

For convex & G -Lipschitz losses

DP-SGD	$\frac{Gd^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\rho T}}$
DP-FTRL	$\frac{Gd^{1/4}}{\sqrt{\rho^2 T}}$

ρ : privacy level (zCDP)

d : dimension

T : #iterations

Kairouz, McMahan, Song, Thakkar, Thakurta, Xu. .
**Practical and Private (Deep) Learning without
Sampling or Shuffling.** ICML 2021.

Gradient Descent with Linearly Correlated Noise: Theory and Applications to Differential Privacy

Anastasia Koloskova*
EPFL, Switzerland

Ryan McKenna
Google Research

Zachary Charles
Google Research

Keith Rush
Google Research

Brendan McMahan
Google Research

Theorem 4.7 (convex). *Under Assumptions 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3, if $\gamma \leq 1/4L$ and $\tau = \tilde{\Theta}(1/\gamma L)$, then (7) produces iterates with average error $(T + 1)^{-1} \sum_{t=0}^T \mathbb{E} [f(\mathbf{x}_t) - f^*]$ upper bounded by*

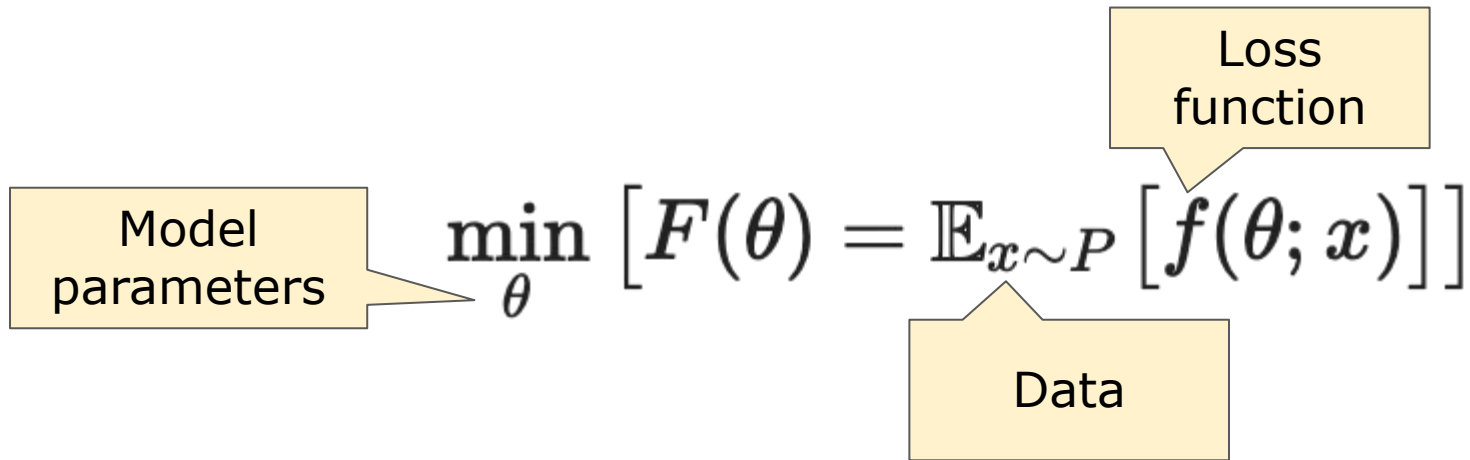
$$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{\|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^*\|^2}{\gamma T} + \frac{\sigma^2}{TL\tau} \times \left[\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{t=1}^T \|\mathbf{b}_t - \mathbf{b}_{\lfloor \frac{t}{\tau} \rfloor \tau}\|^2 + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq t \leq T \\ t=0 \pmod{\tau}}} \|\mathbf{b}_t - \mathbf{b}_{t-\tau}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{b}_{\lfloor \frac{T}{\tau} \rfloor \tau}\|^2\right]\right).$$

Improved analysis DP-FTRL

No provable gap between DP-SGD & DP-FTRL (same as previous)

Google Research

Towards a provable gap between DP-SGD & DP-FTRL



Streaming setting: Suppose we draw a fresh data point $x_t \sim P$ in each iteration t (i.e. only 1 epoch)

Toeplitz noise correlations: $\beta_{t,\tau} = \beta_\tau$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \left(g_t + \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_{t,\tau} z_{t-\tau} \right)$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{0,0} & & & & \\ \beta_{0,1} & \beta_{1,0} & & & \\ \beta_{0,2} & \beta_{1,1} & \beta_{2,0} & \cdots & \\ \vdots & & & & \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 & & & & \\ \beta_1 & \beta_0 & & & \\ \beta_2 & \beta_1 & \beta_0 & \cdots & \\ \vdots & & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

Computationally: store $O(T)$ coefficients instead of $O(T^2)$

Asymptotics: Iterates converge to a stationary distribution as $t \rightarrow \infty$

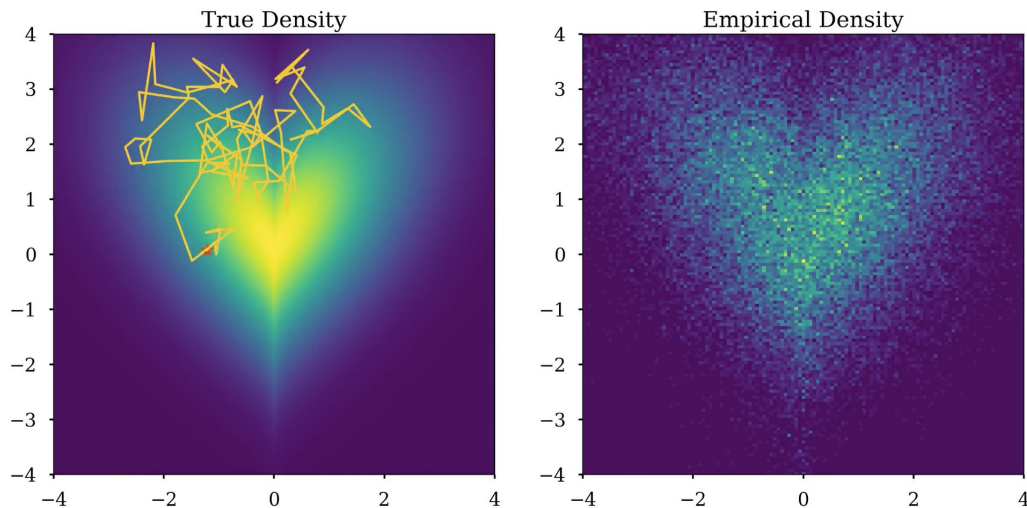


Image credit:
[Abdul Fatir Ansari](#)

Asymptotics: Iterates converge to a stationary distribution as $t \rightarrow \infty$

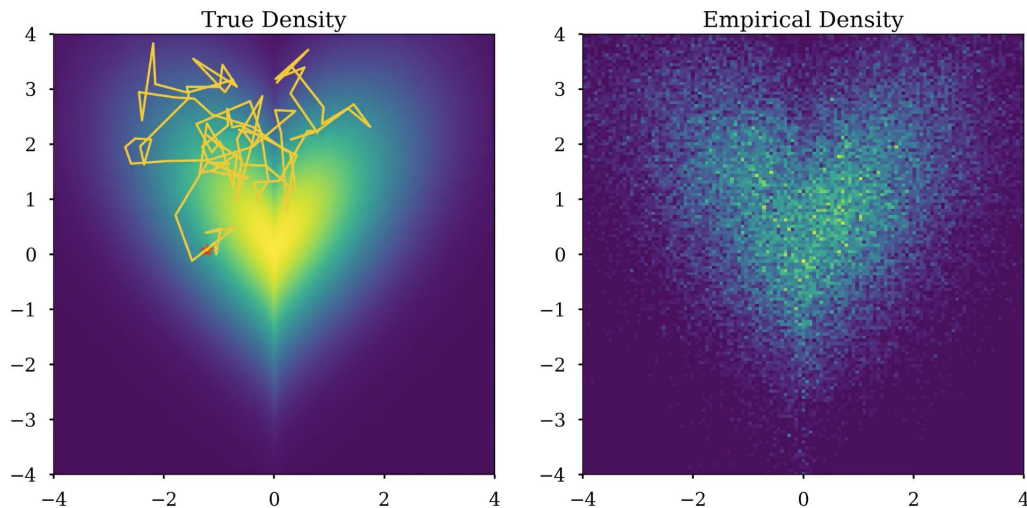
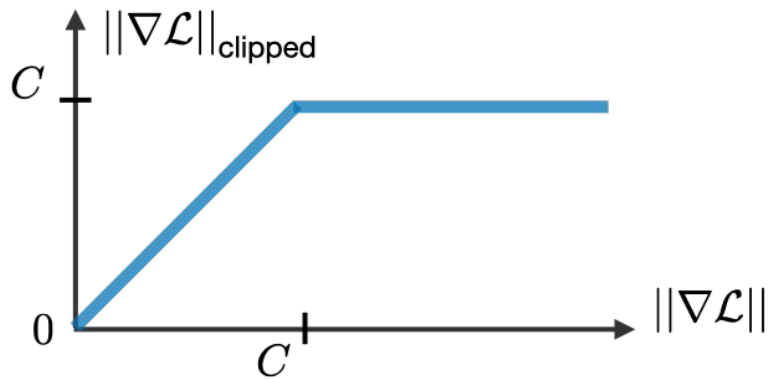


Image credit:
[Abdul Fatir Ansari](#)

**Asymptotic
error**

$$F_{\infty}(\beta) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} E[F(\theta_t) - F(\theta_{\star})]$$

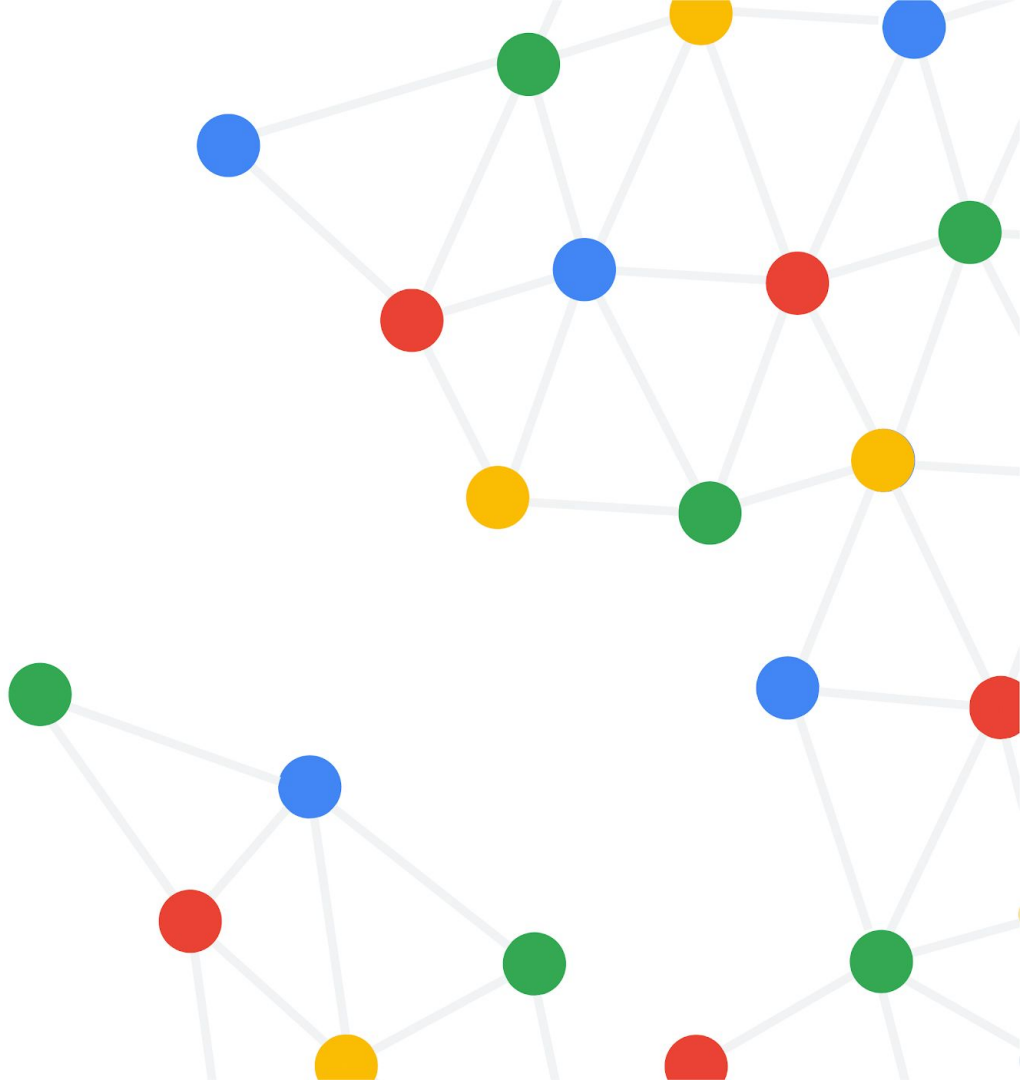
Noisy-SGD/Noisy-FTRL: DP-SGD/DP-FTRL without clipping



Lets us study the noise dynamics of the algorithms
(do not satisfy DP guarantees)

Outline

- Background
- **Theoretical Results**
- Empirical Results



Mean estimation in 1 dimension

$$\min_{\theta} [F(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim P} (\theta - x)^2]$$

Data distribution
s.t. $|x| \leq 1$

Solve with stochastic optimization problem
with DP-SGD/DP-FTRL

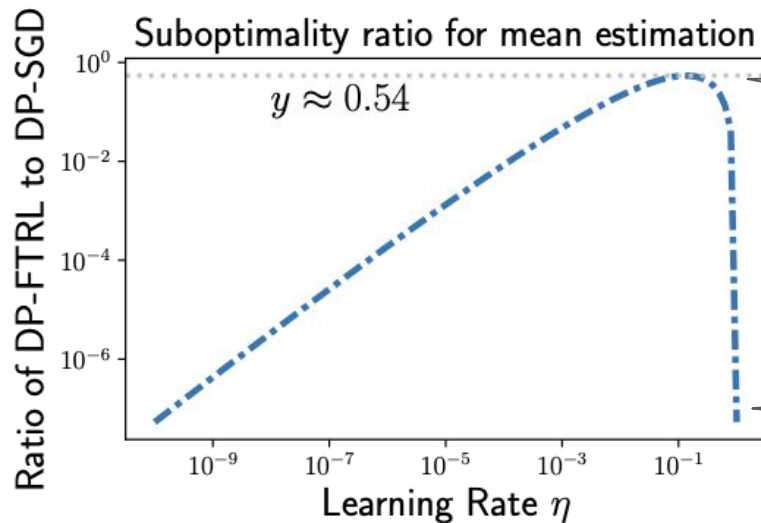
Mean estimation in 1 dimension

Informal Theorem: The asymptotic error of a ϱ -zCDP sequence is

Independent noise (DP-SGD)	$F_{\infty}(\beta^{\text{sgd}}) = \rho^{-1}\eta$
Correlated noise (DP-FTRL)	$\inf_{\beta} F_{\infty}(\beta) = F_{\infty}(\beta^{\star}) = \rho^{-1}\eta^2 \log^2 \frac{1}{\eta}$

η : learning rate

ϱ : privacy level



DP-FTRL is always better than DP-SGD

DP-FTRL is significantly better at $\eta \rightarrow 0$ or $\eta \rightarrow 1$

Closed form correlations for mean estimation

Proposition: The correlations $\beta_0^* = 1$, $\beta_t^* = -t^{-3/2}(1 - \eta)^t$ attain the optimal error

$$\inf_{\beta} F_{\infty}(\beta) = F_{\infty}(\beta^*) = \rho^{-1} \eta^2 \log^2 \frac{1}{\eta}$$

Closed form correlations for mean estimation

Proposition: The correlations $\beta_0^* = 1$, $\beta_t^* = -t^{-3/2}(1 - \eta)^t$ attain the optimal error

$$\inf_{\beta} F_{\infty}(\beta) = F_{\infty}(\beta^*) = \rho^{-1} \eta^2 \log^2 \frac{1}{\eta}$$

ν -DP-FTRL

For general problems, use $\beta_0 = 1$, $\beta_t = -t^{-3/2}(1 - \nu)^t$

and tune the parameter ν

Linear regression

$$\min_{\theta} [F(\theta) = \mathbb{E}(y - \langle \theta, x \rangle)^2]$$

where $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, H)$

H is also the
Hessian of the
objective

Linear regression

$$\min_{\theta} [F(\theta) = \mathbb{E}(y - \langle \theta, x \rangle)^2]$$

where $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, H)$

Well-specified
linear model

$$y|x \sim \mathcal{N}(x^\top \theta_*, \sigma^2)$$

Informal Theorem: The asymptotic error for linear regression with $\lambda_{\max}(H) = 1$ and $0 < \eta < 1$

Independent noise (Noisy-SGD)	=	$d \rho^{-1} \eta$
Correlated noise (v -Noisy-FTRL)	\leq	$d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2 \log^2\left(\frac{1}{\eta\mu}\right)$
Lower bound for any algorithm	\geq	$d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2$

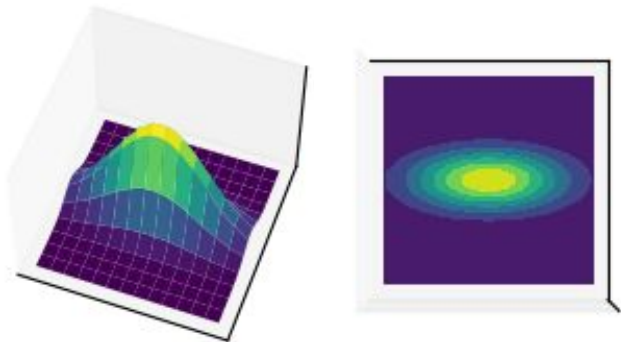
Improve **dimension d** to
problem-dependent
effective dimension d_{eff}

Effective dimension

$$d_{\text{eff}} = \text{Tr}(H) / \|H\|_2 \leq d$$

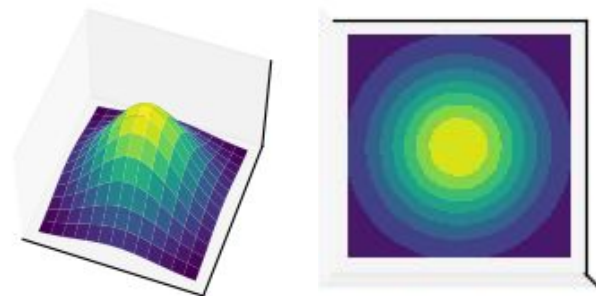
Low effective dimension

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_d = 1/d$$



High effective dimension

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_d = 1$$



Closely connected to **numerical/stable rank**

SAMPLING FROM LARGE MATRICES: AN APPROACH THROUGH GEOMETRIC FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS

MARK RUDELSON AND ROMAN VERSHYNIN

Remark 1.3 (Numerical rank). The numerical rank $r = r(A) = \|A\|_F^2 / \|A\|_2^2$ in Theorem 1.1 is a relaxation of the exact notion of rank. Indeed, one always has $r(A) \leq \text{rank}(A)$. But as opposed to the exact rank, the numerical rank is stable under small perturbations of the matrix A . In particular, the numerical rank of A tends to be low when A is close to a low rank matrix, or when A is sufficiently sparse.

$$d_{\text{eff}} = \text{srank}(H^{1/2})$$

The stable rank appears in:

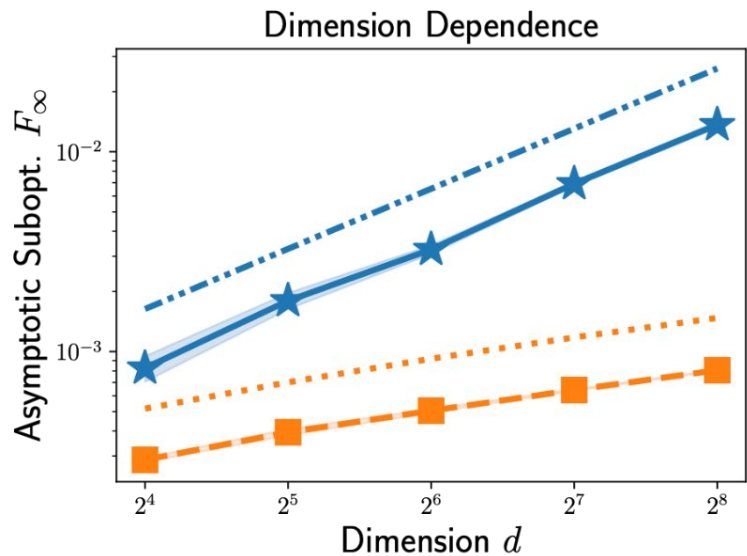
- Numerical linear algebra (e.g. randomized matrix multiplications) [Tropp (2014), Cohen-Nelson-Woodruff (2015)]
- Matrix concentration [Hsu-Kakade-Zhang (2012), Minsker (2017)]
- ...

Informal Theorem: The asymptotic error for linear regression with $\lambda_{\max}(H) = 1$ and $0 < \eta < 1$

Independent noise (Noisy-SGD)	=	$d \rho^{-1} \eta$
Correlated noise (v -Noisy-FTRL)	\leq	$d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2 \log^2\left(\frac{1}{\eta\mu}\right)$
Lower bound for any algorithm	\geq	$d_{\text{eff}} \rho^{-1} \eta^2$

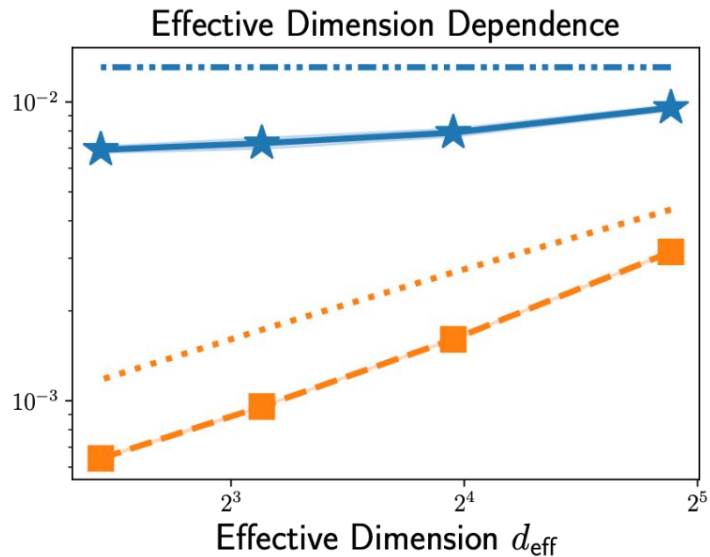
Improve **dimension d** to
problem-dependent
effective dimension d_{eff}

Linear regression: theory predicts simulations



Noisy-SGD
scales with d

Noisy-FTRL
scales with d_{eff}

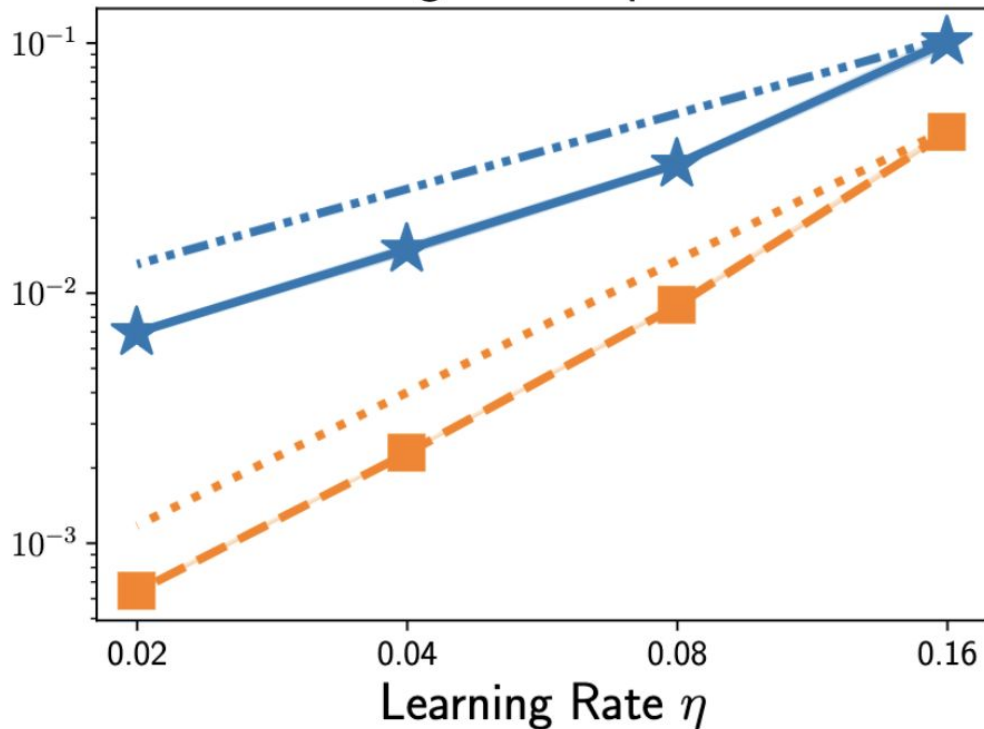


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*Improved dependence on
the learning rate η*

Learning Rate Dependence



Noisy-SGD scales as η

v-Noisy-FTRL
scales as η^2

Noisy-FTRL \gg **Noisy-SGD** at small η

Anticorrelated Noise Injection for Improved Generalization

Antonio Orvieto^{*1} Hans Kersting^{*2} Frank Proske³ Francis Bach² Aurelien Lucchi⁴

Anti-PGD [Orvieto et al. (ICML '22)] corresponds to $\beta_0=1, \beta_1=-1$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta (g_t + z_t - z_{t-1})$$

Subtract out the
previous noise

Anticorrelated Noise Injection for Improved Generalization

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$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \left(g_t + z_t - z_{t-1} \right)$$

Asymptotic error = ∞ (as sensitivity scales of $O(t)$ for t iterations)

Anti-PGD can be adapted for DP by damping: take $\beta_0=1, \beta_1=-\nu$ ($0 < \nu < 1$)

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta (g_t + z_t - \nu z_{t-1})$$

Asymptotic error = $\sqrt{dd_{\text{eff}}} \rho^{-1} \eta^{3/2}$

Geometric mean of
Noisy-SGD and
lower bound

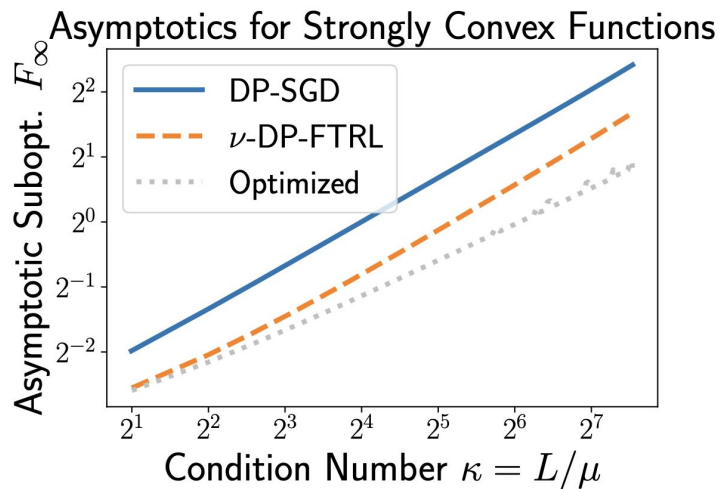
Rates with DP

<i>Independent noise</i> (DP-SGD)	$\frac{1}{\rho T} + \frac{1}{T}$
<i>Correlated noise</i> (ν -DP-FTRL)	$\frac{1}{\rho T^2} + \frac{1}{T}$

Privacy error

Extensions

- Gap between DP-FTRL & DP-SGD for general strongly convex functions



Proof sketch for Mean Estimation

Updates are not Markovian (key for all stochastic gradient proofs)

Our approach: Analysis the Fourier domain

Letting $\delta_t = \theta_t - \theta_*$, the DP-FTRL update can be written as

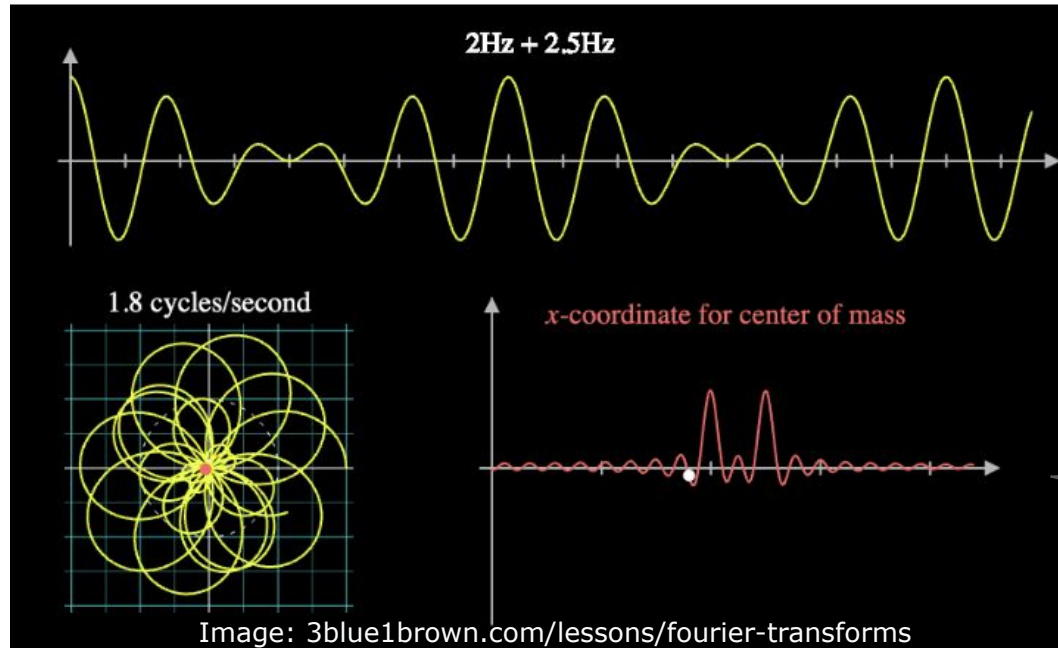
Linear
Time-Invariant
(LTI) system

$$\delta_{t+1} = (1 - \eta)\delta_t - \eta \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_{\tau} z_{t-\tau}$$

Convolution of the
noise

Fourier analysis can give the stationary variance of δ_t in terms of the **discrete-time Fourier transform** $B(\omega) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta_t e^{i\omega t}$ of the convolution weights β

Frequency



Time-domain description

Frequency-domain description

Letting $\delta_t = \theta_t - \theta_*$, the DP-FTRL update can be written as

Linear
Time-Invariant
(LTI) system

$$\delta_{t+1} = (1 - \eta)\delta_t - \eta \sum_{\tau=0}^t \beta_{\tau} z_{t-\tau}$$

Convolution of the
noise

The stationary variance of δ_t can be given as

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\delta_t^2] = \frac{\eta^2}{2\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{|B(\omega)|^2}{|1 - \eta e^{i\omega}|^2} d\omega \right) \mathbb{E}[z_t^2]$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\delta_t^2] = \frac{\eta^2}{2\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{|B(\omega)|^2}{|1 - \eta - e^{i\omega}|^2} d\omega \right) \mathbb{E}[z_t^2]$$

sensitivity

For ρ -zCDP, take

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[z_t^2] &= \frac{1}{2\rho} \max_t \|[B^{-1}]_{:,t}\|_2^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\rho} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi|B(\omega)|^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 & & & \\ \beta_1 & \beta_0 & & \\ \beta_2 & \beta_1 & \beta_0 & \cdots \\ \vdots & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\delta_t^2] = \frac{\eta^2}{2\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{|B(\omega)|^2}{|1 - \eta - e^{i\omega}|^2} d\omega \right) \mathbb{E}[z_t^2]$$

Requires $|B(\omega)|$
small

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Requires $|B(\omega)|$
large

Optimizing for $|B(\omega)|$ gives the theorem

For linear regression:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}'_{t+1} = (\mathbf{I} - \eta(\mathbf{x}_t \otimes \mathbf{x}_t))\boldsymbol{\theta}'_t + \eta \xi_t \mathbf{x}_t - \eta \sum_{\tau=0}^{\infty} \beta_{\tau} \mathbf{w}_{t-\tau}. \quad (25)$$

Multiplicative
noise

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}'_{t+1} = (\mathbf{I} - \eta(\mathbf{x}_t \otimes \mathbf{x}_t))\boldsymbol{\theta}'_t + \eta \xi_t \mathbf{x}_t - \eta \sum_{\tau=0}^{\infty} \beta_{\tau} \mathbf{w}_{t-\tau}. \quad (25)$$

Decomposition:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^{(0)} = (\mathbf{I} - \eta \mathbf{H})\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(0)} + \eta \xi_t \mathbf{x}_t - \eta \sum_{\tau=0}^{\infty} \beta_{\tau} \mathbf{w}_{t-k},$$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}^{(r)} = (\mathbf{I} - \eta \mathbf{H})\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(r)} + \eta(\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{x}_t \otimes \mathbf{x}_t)\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(r-1)} \text{ for } r > 0,$$

$$\boldsymbol{\delta}_{t+1}^{(r)} = (\mathbf{I} - \eta \mathbf{x}_t \otimes \mathbf{x}_t)\boldsymbol{\delta}_t^{(r)} + \eta(\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{x}_t \otimes \mathbf{x}_t)\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(r)}.$$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}'_t = \sum_{r=0}^m \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(r)} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_t^{(m)}.$$

Aguech, Moulines, Priouret. **On a Perturbation Approach for the Analysis of Stochastic Tracking Algorithms**. SIAM J. Control. Optim., 2000
 Bach and Moulines. **Non-Strongly-Convex Smooth Stochastic Approximation with Convergence Rate $\mathcal{O}(1/n)$** . NeurIPS 2013.

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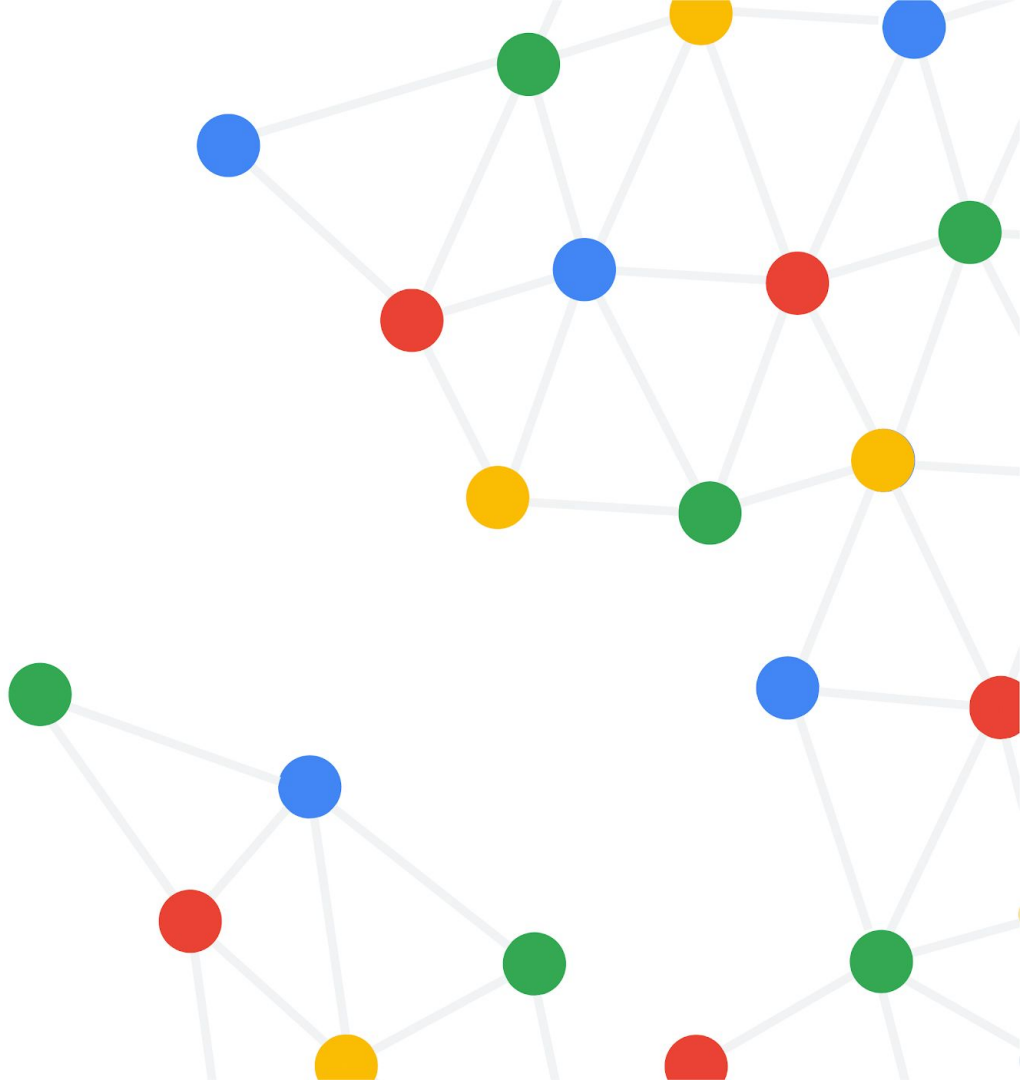
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Key idea: $\mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\delta}_0^{(m)} \otimes \boldsymbol{\delta}_0^{(m)}] \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$.

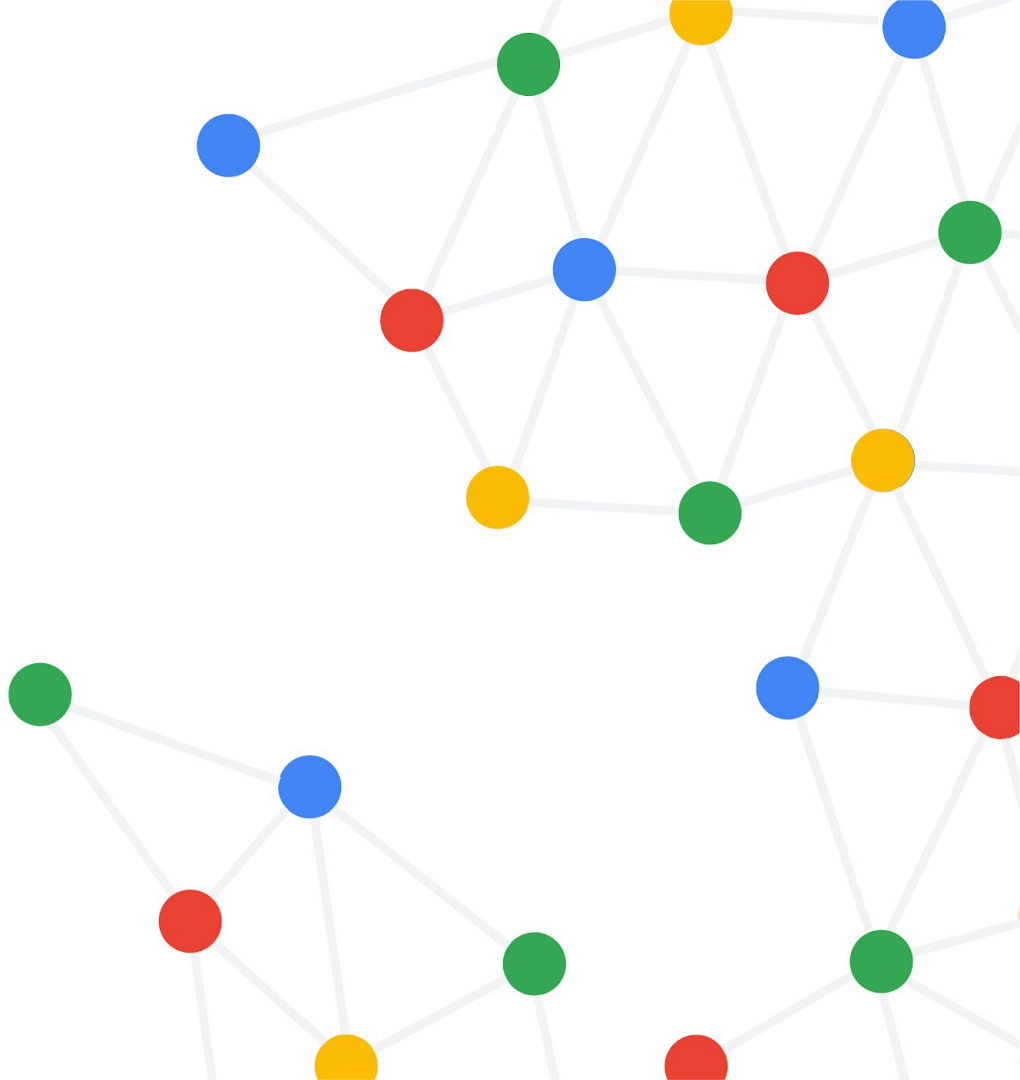
Thus, $\|\boldsymbol{\theta}'_t\| \leq \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^{(r)}\|$

Outline

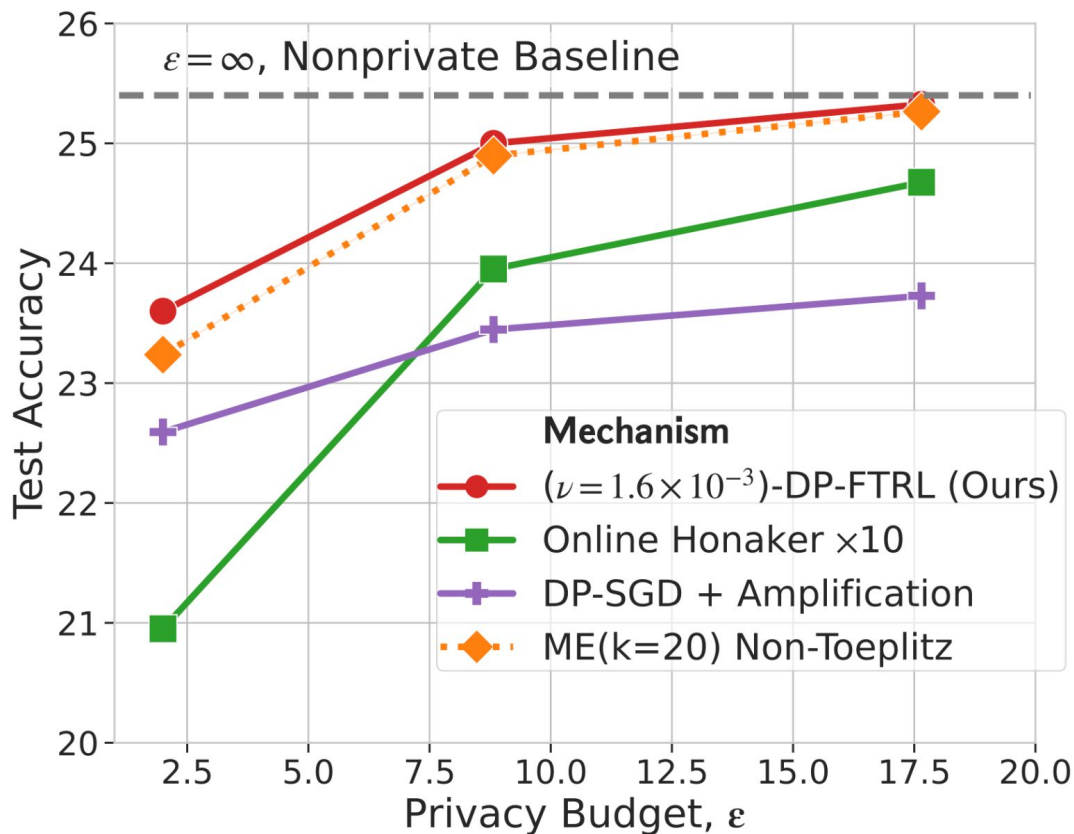
- Background
- Theoretical Results
- **Empirical Results**



Empirical Results



Language modeling with Stack Overflow



Ours
matches
SoTA!

Image classification with CIFAR-10

SoTA (requires $O(T^3)$ for the SDP)

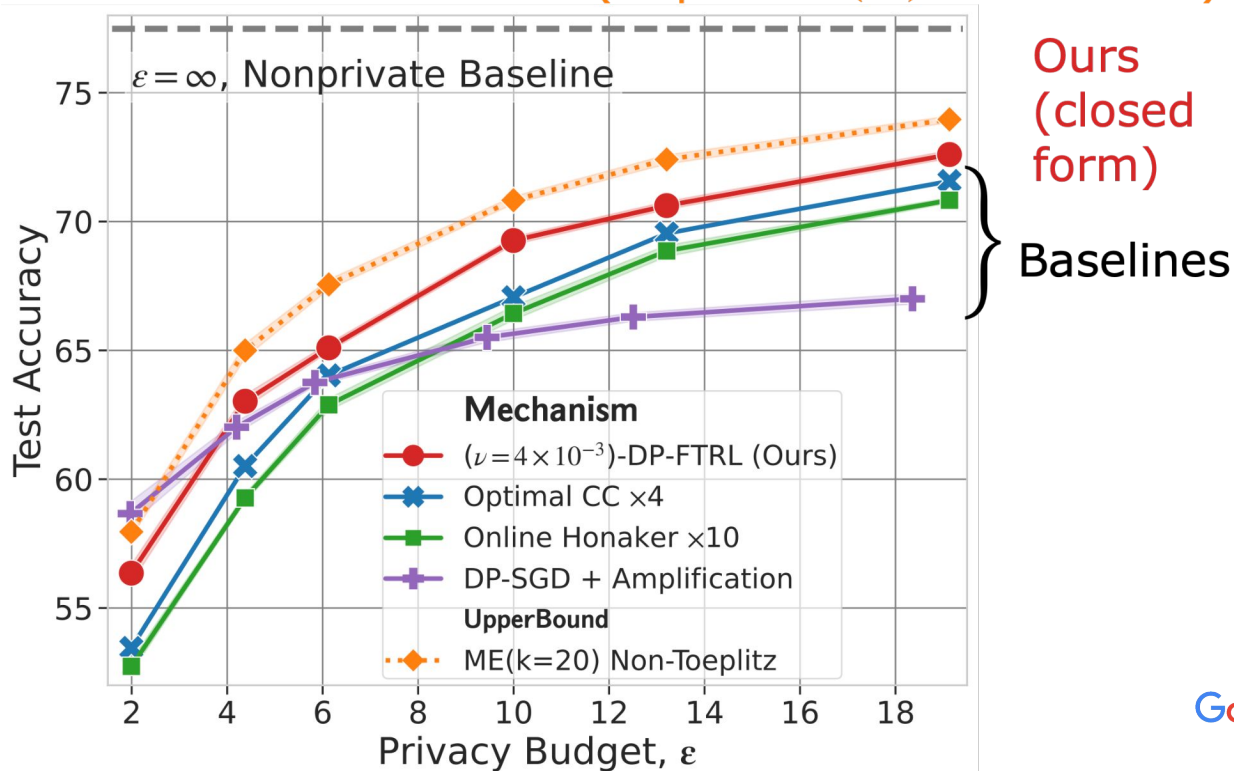
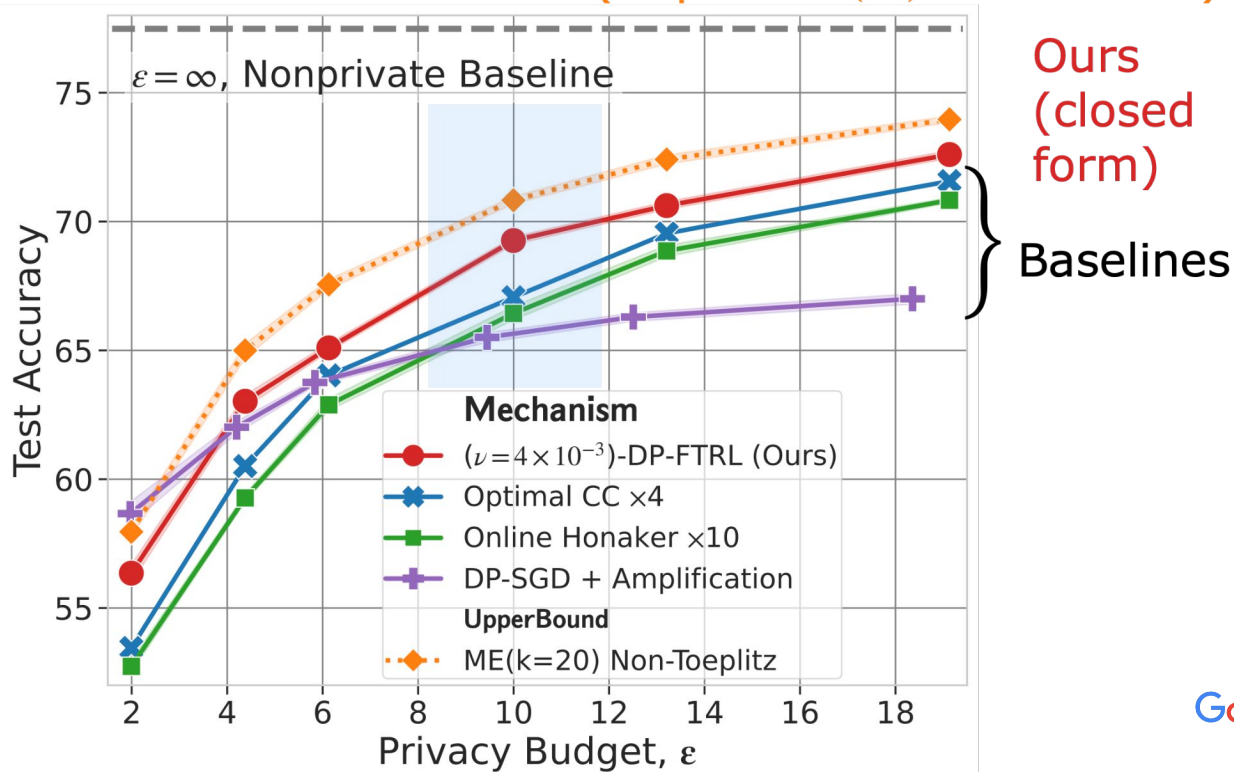


Image classification with CIFAR-10

SoTA (requires $O(T^3)$ for the SDP)



Summary

Theory

- correlated noise is **provably** better
- Depends on effective dimension instead of dimension
- Matches lower bounds

Empirical:

- computationally much more efficient than SoTA (cubic \rightarrow constant)
- nearly matches SoTA empirically

Future Work

Theory

- Averaged iterate analysis + precise finite time bounds
- Analysis for non-Toeplitz systems

Ruppert. **Efficient Estimations from a Slowly Convergent Robbins-Monro Process**. 1998

Polyak and Juditsky. **Acceleration of Stochastic Approximation by Averaging**. SIAM J Control Optim, 1992

Future Work

Algorithms

- Natively support adaptive gradient methods

Future Work

Practical:

- *Efficient approximation:*
 - Currently, running time = $O(T^2)$ for T iterations
 - “Low rank” approx: $O(k)$ runtime, $O(kd)$ memory
 - Approximation theory of rational functions

Newman. **Rational approximation to $|x|$** . Michigan Math. J. (1964)

Thank you! Questions?



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2310.06771.pdf>

Arxiv link