
Appendix

Xi Chen
Machine Learning Department
Carnegie Mellon University
xichen@cs.cmu.edu

Qihang Lin Javier Peña
Tepper School of Business
Carnegie Mellon University
{qihangl, jfp}@andrew.cmu.edu

1 Proof of Convergence Rate of ORDA

Theorem 1. *For ORDA, if we require $c \geq 0$ and $c > 0$ when $\mu = 0$, then for any $t \geq 0$:*

$$\phi(x_{t+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \theta_t \nu_t \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \frac{\theta_t \nu_t}{2} \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\widehat{z}_t = \frac{\theta_t \mu}{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2} y_t + \frac{(1 - \theta_t) \mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2}{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2} z_t, \quad (2)$$

is a convex combination of y_t and z_t and $\widehat{z}_t = z_t$ when $\mu = 0$. Taking the expectation on both sides of Eq.(1):

$$\mathbb{E} \phi(x_{t+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \theta_t \nu_t \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + (\sigma^2 + M^2) \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i}. \quad (3)$$

We first state a basic property for Bregman distance functions in the following Proposition. This proposition generalizes Lemma 1 in [4] by extending one distance function to a sequence of functions.

Proposition 1. *Given any proper lsc convex function $\psi(x)$ and a sequence of $\{z_i\}_{i=0}^t$ with each $z_i \in \mathcal{X}$, if $z_+ = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ \psi(x) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(x, z_i) \right\}$, where $\{\eta_i \geq 0\}_{i=0}^t$ is a sequence of parameters, then $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$:*

$$\psi(x) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(x, z_i) \geq \psi(z_+) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(z_+, z_i) + \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \right) V(x, z_+). \quad (4)$$

Proof of Proposition 1. For a Bregman distance function $V(x, y)$, let $\nabla_1 V(x, y)$ denote the gradient of $V(\cdot, y)$ at the point x . It is easy to show that:

$$V(x, y) \equiv V(z, y) + \langle \nabla_1 V(z, y), x - z \rangle + V(x, z), \quad \forall x, y, z \in \mathcal{X},$$

which further implies that:

$$\sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(x, z_i) = \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(z_+, z_i) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \langle \nabla_1 V(z_+, z_i), x - z_+ \rangle + \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \right) V(x, z_+). \quad (5)$$

Since z_+ is the minimizer of the convex function $\psi(x) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(x, z_i)$, it is known that there exists a subgradient g of ψ at z_+ ($g \in \partial \psi(z_+)$) such that:

$$\langle g + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \nabla_1 V(z_+, z), x - z_+ \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{X}. \quad (6)$$

Using the above two relations and the definition of subgradient ($\psi(x) \geq \psi(z_+) + \langle g, x - z_+ \rangle$) for all $x \in \mathcal{X}$, we conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} & \psi(x) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(x, z_i) \\ \geq & \psi(z_+) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(z_+, z_i) + \langle g + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \nabla_1 V(z_+, z_i), x - z_+ \rangle + \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \right) V(x, z_+) \\ \geq & \psi(z_+) + \sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i V(z_+, z_i) + \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \eta_i \right) V(x, z_+). \end{aligned}$$

□

To better present the proof of Theorem 1, we denote $G(y_t, \xi_t)$ by $G(y_t)$ and define:

$$\Delta_t := G(y_t) - f'(y_t) = G(y_t, \xi_t) - f'(y_t) \quad (7)$$

We first show some basic properties Δ_t . Let $\xi_{[t]}$ denote the collection of *i.i.d.* random vectors $\{\xi_i\}_{i=0}^t$. Since both random vectors y_t and z_t are functions of $\xi_{[t-1]}$ and are independent of $\{\xi_i\}_{i=t}^N$, we have that for any $t \geq 1$ and any α, β

$$\mathbb{E} \Delta_t = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} [\mathbb{E}_{\xi_t} (\Delta_t | \xi_{[t-1]})] = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} 0 = 0; \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbb{E} \|\Delta_t\|_*^2 = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} [\mathbb{E}_{\xi_t} (\|\Delta_t\|_*^2 | \xi_{[t-1]})] \leq \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} \sigma^2 = \sigma^2; \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbb{E} \langle \alpha y_t + \beta z_t, \Delta_t \rangle = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} [\langle \alpha y_t + \beta z_t, \mathbb{E}_{\xi_t} \Delta_t \rangle | \xi_{[t-1]}] = \mathbb{E}_{\xi_{[t-1]}} [\langle \alpha y_t + \beta z_t, 0 \rangle | \xi_{[t-1]}] = 0, \quad (10)$$

Proof of Theorem 1. With our choice of $\theta_t, \nu_t, \gamma_t$, it is easy to show (see [5]) that:

$$\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{1}{\nu_i} = \frac{1}{\theta_t \nu_t}, \quad \frac{1 - \theta_t}{\theta_t \nu_t} = \frac{1}{\theta_{t-1} \nu_{t-1}}, \quad \theta_t \leq \nu_t. \quad (11)$$

We further define $\frac{1}{\theta_{-1} \nu_{-1}} = 0$. We first bound the objective value $\phi(x_{t+1})$ by:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(x_{t+1}) &= f(x_{t+1}) + h(x_{t+1}) \leq f(y_t) + \langle x_{t+1} - y_t, f'(y_t) \rangle \\ &\quad + \frac{L}{2} \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|^2 + M \|x_{t+1} - y_t\| + h(x_{t+1}) \\ &\leq \underbrace{f(y_t) + \langle x_{t+1} - y_t, G(y_t) \rangle + \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} \right) V(x_{t+1}, y_t) + h(x_{t+1})}_{C_1} \\ &\quad - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L \right) \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|^2 - \langle x_{t+1} - y_t, \Delta_t \rangle + M \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|}_{C_2} \quad (12) \end{aligned}$$

We bound the terms C_1 and C_2 respectively. Let \hat{x}_{t+1} be the convex combination of x_t and z_{t+1} :

$$\hat{x}_{t+1} = (1 - \theta_t) x_t + \theta_t z_{t+1}.$$

Then we have $\hat{x}_{t+1} - y_t = \theta_t (z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t)$, where

$$\hat{z}_t = \frac{\theta_t \mu}{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2} y_t + \frac{(1 - \theta_t) \mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2}{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2} z_t,$$

which is a convex combination of y_t and z_t . By the fact that x_{t+1} is the minimizer of C_1 and utilizing the relationship $V(x_{t+1}, y_t) \leq \frac{\tau \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|^2}{2}$ and $\hat{x}_{t+1} - y_t = \theta_t(z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t)$:

$$C_1 \leq f(y_t) + \langle \hat{x}_{t+1} - y_t, f'(y_t) \rangle + \theta_t \langle z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t, \Delta_t \rangle + \left(\frac{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2}{2} \right) \|z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t\|^2 + h(\hat{x}_{t+1}). \quad (13)$$

By the convexity of $\|\cdot\|^2$ and the fact that $\frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|^2 \leq V(x, y)$ for any $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$\left(\frac{\mu + \gamma_t \theta_t^2}{2} \right) \|z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t\|^2 \leq \theta_t \mu V(z_{t+1}, y_t) + ((1 - \theta_t)\mu + \theta_t^2 \gamma_t) V(z_{t+1}, z_t). \quad (14)$$

We plug Eq.(14) back into RHS of Eq.(13) and substitute \hat{x}_{t+1} with $(1 - \theta_t)x_t + \theta_t z_{t+1}$. By the convexity of $h(\cdot)$:

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &\leq (1 - \theta_t) (f(y_t) + \langle x_t - y_t, f'(y_t) \rangle) + h(x_t) \\ &\quad + \theta_t \left(f(y_t) + \langle z_{t+1} - y_t, G(y_t) \rangle + h(z_{t+1}) + \underbrace{\mu V(z_{t+1}, y_t) + \left(\frac{(1 - \theta_t)\mu}{\theta_t} + \gamma_t \theta_t \right) V(z_{t+1}, z_t)}_{C_3} \right) \\ &\quad + \theta_t \langle z_{t+1} - \hat{z}_t, \Delta_t \rangle + \theta_t \langle y_t - z_{t+1}, \Delta_t \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \theta_t) \phi(x_t) + C_3 + \theta_t \langle y_t - \hat{z}_t, \Delta_t \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Now we bound C_3 using Proposition 1. Utilizing the first equality in Eq. (11), we can re-write z_t as

$$z_t = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ \tilde{\psi}_t(x) + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{\mu}{\nu_i} V(x, y_i) + \gamma_t V(x, x_0) \right\},$$

where

$$\tilde{\psi}_t(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{f(y_i) + \langle x - y_i, G(y_i) \rangle + h(x)}{\nu_i}.$$

Furthermore, we define $\psi_t(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{f(y_i) + \langle x - y_i, G(y_i) \rangle + h(x) + \mu V(x, y_i)}{\nu_i}$ and apply Proposition 1 with $x = z_{t+1}$:

$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{\mu}{\nu_i} + \gamma_t \right) V(z_{t+1}, z_t) \leq \left(\tilde{\psi}_t(z_{t+1}) + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{\mu}{\nu_i} V(z_{t+1}, y_i) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) \right) \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &- \left(\tilde{\psi}_t(z_t) + \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{\mu}{\nu_i} V(z_t, y_i) + \gamma_t V(z_t, x_0) \right) \\ &= \psi_t(z_{t+1}) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) - \psi_t(z_t) - \gamma_t V(z_t, x_0) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

We can bound the last term in C_3 by Eq.(17). In particular, according to Eq.(11):

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{(1 - \theta_t)\mu}{\theta_t} + \gamma_t \theta_t \right) V(z_{t+1}, z_t) &\leq \nu_t \left(\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \frac{\mu}{\nu_i} + \gamma_t \right) V(z_{t+1}, z_t) \\ &\leq \nu_t (\psi_t(z_{t+1}) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) - \psi_t(z_t) - \gamma_t V(z_t, x_0)). \end{aligned}$$

With the above inequality, we immediately obtain an upper bound for C_3 . Therefore, by the definition of $\psi_t(\cdot)$, we bound the term C_1 by:

$$C_1 \leq (1 - \theta_t) \phi(x_t) + \theta_t \nu_t (\psi_{t+1}(z_{t+1}) - \psi_t(z_t) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) - \gamma_t V(z_t, x_0)) + \theta_t \langle y_t - \hat{z}_t, \Delta_t \rangle. \quad (18)$$

To bound C_2 , since the parameter $c > 0$ whenever $\mu = 0$, we always have $\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L > 0$. Using a simple inequality: $-\frac{\alpha}{2} \kappa^2 + \beta \kappa \leq \frac{\beta^2}{2\alpha}$ ($\alpha > 0$), with $\alpha = \frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L$, $\beta = \|\Delta_t\|_* + M$ and $\kappa = \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|$, we have:

$$C_2 \leq -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L \right) \|x_{t+1} - y_t\|^2 + \|x_{t+1} - y_t\| (\|\Delta_t\|_* + M) \leq \frac{(\|\Delta_t\|_* + M)^2}{2 \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_t^2} + \frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L \right)}. \quad (19)$$

By summing up the upper bound for C_1 in Eq.(18) and the bound for C_2 in Eq.(19), we obtain an upper bound for $\phi(x_{t+1})$ according to Eq.(12). Utilizing the second relation in Eq. (11), we build up the following recursive inequality:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\phi(x_{t+1})}{\theta_t \nu_t} &\leq \frac{\phi(x_t)}{\theta_{t-1} \nu_{t-1}} + (\psi_{t+1}(z_{t+1}) - \psi_t(z_t) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) - \gamma_t V(z_t, x)) \\
&\quad + \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_t} + \frac{\theta_t \gamma_t}{\tau} - \theta_t L\right) \nu_t} + \frac{\langle y_t - \widehat{z}_t, \Delta_t \rangle}{\nu_t} \leq \dots \\
&\leq \frac{\phi(x_0)}{\theta_{-1} \nu_{-1}} + \psi_{t+1}(z_{t+1}) - \psi_0(z_0) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) - \gamma_t V(z_t, x) \\
&\quad + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle y_i - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i} \\
&= \psi_{t+1}(z_{t+1}) + \gamma_t V(z_{t+1}, x_0) + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle y_i - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}, \tag{20}
\end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is obtained by the fact that $\frac{1}{\theta_{-1} \nu_{-1}} = 0$, $V(z_0, x_0) = 0$, $\psi_0(z_0) = 0$. Using the fact that $z_{t+1} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \{\psi_{t+1}(x) + \gamma_{t+1} V(x, x_0)\}$ and $\gamma_t \leq \gamma_{t+1}$, Eq.(20) further implies that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\phi(x_{t+1})}{\theta_t \nu_t} &\leq \psi_{t+1}(x^*) + \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle y_i - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{f(y_i) + \langle x^* - y_i, f'(y_i) \rangle + h(x^*) + \mu V(x^*, y_i)}{\nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle x^* - y_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i} \\
&\quad + \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle y_i - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i} \\
&\leq \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\phi(x^*)}{\nu_i} + \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2}{2\left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right) \nu_i} + \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}. \tag{21}
\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying by $\theta_t \nu_t$ on both sides of Eq.(21), we obtain the result in Eq.(1). From the properties of Δ_i in Eq.(8)–(10), we conclude that for all i , $\mathbb{E}\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}(\|\Delta_i\|_* + M)^2 \leq 2\sigma^2 + 2M^2$. By taking the expectation on both sides of Eq.(1) and using the aforementioned properties for Δ_i , we obtain the result in Eq.(3). \square

Corollary 1. For convex $f(x)$ with $\tilde{\mu} = 0$ (or equivalently $\mu = 0$), by setting $c = \frac{\sqrt{\tau}(\sigma+M)}{2\sqrt{V(x^*, x_0)}}$ and $\Gamma = L$, we obtain:

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{8(\sigma + M)\sqrt{\tau V(x^*, x_0)}}{\sqrt{N}}. \tag{22}$$

Proof. When $\mu = 0$, the expected gap in the objective function in Eq.(3) for the last iterate becomes:

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \theta_N \nu_N \gamma_{N+1} V(x^*, x_0) + (\sigma^2 + M^2) \theta_N \nu_N \sum_{t=0}^N \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L\right) \theta_t \nu_t} \tag{23}$$

With choice of $\theta_N = \frac{2}{N+2}$, $\nu_N = \frac{2}{N+1}$ and $\gamma_{N+1} = c(N+2)^{3/2} + \tau L$, the first term in Eq.(23) is bounded by:

$$\theta_N \nu_N \gamma_{N+1} V(x^*, x_0) \leq \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{8c V(x^*, x_0)}{\sqrt{N}} \tag{24}$$

Similarly, the second term in Eq.(23) can be bounded by:

$$(\sigma^2 + M^2) \theta_N \nu_N \sum_{t=0}^N \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\gamma_t}{\tau} - L\right) \theta_t \nu_t} \leq \frac{2\tau(\sigma + M)^2}{c\sqrt{N}} \tag{25}$$

By summing the above two inequalities, we obtain that:

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{8c V(x^*, x_0)}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{2\tau(\sigma + M)^2}{c\sqrt{N}} \quad (26)$$

We minimize the RHS of Eq.(26) with respect to c and obtain the convergence rate result in Corollary 1 and the corresponding optimal $c = \frac{\sqrt{\tau}(\sigma+M)}{2\sqrt{V(x^*, x_0)}}$. \square

Corollary 2. For strongly convex $f(x)$ with $\tilde{\mu} > 0$, we set $c = 0$ and $\Gamma = L$ and obtain that:

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{4\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu N}. \quad (27)$$

Proof. When $\mu > 0$, we set $c = 0$ and $\gamma_t \equiv \tau L$ and then Eq.(3) becomes:

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \theta_N \nu_N \tau LV(x^*, x_0) + \frac{\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu} \theta_N \nu_N \sum_{t=0}^N \frac{\theta_t}{\nu_t} \leq \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{4\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu N}. \quad (28)$$

This gives the result in Eq.(27) in Corollary 1. \square

2 High Probability Bounds for ORDA

Theorem 2. We assume that (1) $\mathbb{E}(\exp\{\|G(x, \xi) - f'(x)\|_*^2 / \sigma^2\}) \leq \exp\{1\}$, $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$ (i.e., “light-tail” assumption) and (2) there exists a constant D such that $\|x^* - \hat{z}_t\| \leq D$ for all t . By setting $\Gamma = L$ in ORDA, for any iteration t and $\delta \in (0, 1)$, we have, with probability at least $1 - \delta$:

$$\phi(x_{t+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \epsilon(t, \delta) \quad (29)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon(t, \delta) &= \theta_t \nu_t \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{M^2}{\eta_i \nu_i} + \theta_t \left[\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\sigma^2}{\eta_i} + \frac{8\sigma^2 \ln(2/\delta)}{(\frac{\mu + \gamma_0}{\tau} - L)} + 16\sigma^2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\ln(2/\delta)}{\eta_i^2}} \right] \\ &\quad + \sqrt{3 \ln \frac{2}{\delta}} \theta_t \nu_t D \sigma \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{1}{\nu_i^2} \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

where $\eta_i = \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau \theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i \gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L \right)$.

For convex $f(x)$ with $\tilde{\mu} = 0$, by setting $c = \frac{\sqrt{\tau}(\sigma+M)}{2\sqrt{V(x^*, x_0)}}$ and $\Gamma = L$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon(N, \delta) &= \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{24\sqrt{\tau V(x^*, x_0)(\sigma + M)}}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{16 \ln(2/\delta) \sqrt{\tau V(x^*, x_0)} \sigma}{N} \\ &\quad + \frac{16\sigma \sqrt{\ln(2/\delta) \ln(N+3)} V(x^*, x_0)}{N} + \frac{2\sqrt{\ln(2/\delta)} D \sigma}{\sqrt{N}}. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

For convex $f(x)$ with $\tilde{\mu} > 0$ (or equivalently $\mu > 0$), by setting $c = 0$ and $\Gamma = L$, we have

$$\epsilon(N, \delta) = \frac{4\tau LV(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{16\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2) \ln(N+2)}{\mu N} + \frac{48\sigma^2 \ln(2/\delta)}{\mu N} + \frac{2\sqrt{\ln(2/\delta)} D \sigma}{\sqrt{N}}. \quad (32)$$

We prove Theorem 2 using the following two lemmas.

Lemma 1 (Lemma 6 in [2]). Let ξ_0, ξ_1, \dots be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables and $\varphi_i = \varphi_i(\xi_{[i]})$ be deterministic Borel functions of $\xi_{[i]}$ such that:

$$1. \mathbb{E}(\varphi_i | \xi_{[i-1]}) = 0;$$

2. There exists a positive deterministic sequence $\{\sigma_i\}$: $\mathbb{E}(\exp\{\varphi_i^2/\sigma_i^2\}|\xi_{[i-1]}) \leq \exp\{1\}$.

Then for any $\delta \in (0, 1)$, $\text{Prob}\left(\sum_{i=0}^t \varphi_i \geq \sqrt{3 \ln(1/\delta)} (\sum_{i=0}^t \sigma_i^2)^{1/2}\right) \leq \delta$.

Lemma 2 (Lemma 5 in [1]). *Under the assumptions in Theorem 2, for any positive and nondecreasing sequence η_i , we have*

$$\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i} \geq \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\mathbb{E}\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i} + \max\left\{\frac{8\sigma^2 \ln(1/\delta)}{\eta_0}, 16\sigma^2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\ln(1/\delta)}{\eta_i^2}}\right\}$$

holds with probability at most $\delta \in (0, 1)$.

We note that although Lemma 5 in [1] assumes that $\eta_i = \eta\sqrt{i+1}$, its proof and conclusion remain valid for any positive nondecreasing sequence $\{\eta_i\}$.

Proof of Theorem 2. To simplify notations, let $\eta_i = \left(\frac{\mu}{\tau\theta_i} + \frac{\theta_i\gamma_i}{\tau} - \theta_i L\right)$. For both convex and strongly convex $f(x)$, according to our setting of parameters, it is easy to verify that $\{\eta_i\}$ is a positive monotonically increasing sequence. According to Theorem 1:

$$\phi(x_{t+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \underbrace{\theta_t \nu_t \gamma_{t+1} V(x^*, x_0) + \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{M^2}{\eta_i \nu_i}}_{C_1} + \underbrace{\theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i \nu_i}}_{C_2} + \underbrace{\theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}}_{C_3},$$

Firstly, we analyze the last term C_3 using Lemma 1. Let $\varphi_i(\xi_{[i]}) := \frac{\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}$ and hence $C_3 = \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \varphi_i$. It is easy to verify that $\mathbb{E}(\varphi_i|\xi_{[i-1]}) = 0$ and there exists a sequence $\sigma_i = \frac{D\sigma}{\nu_i}$ such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\exp\{\varphi_i^2/\sigma_i^2\}|\xi_{[i-1]}) &\equiv \mathbb{E}\left(\exp\left\{\left(\frac{\langle x^* - \widehat{z}_i, \Delta_i \rangle}{\nu_i}\right)^2 / \frac{D^2\sigma^2}{\nu_i^2}\right\}\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}\left(\exp\left\{\frac{\|x^* - \widehat{z}_i\|^2 \|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{D^2\sigma^2}\right\}\right) \leq \exp\{1\}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality holds because $\|x^* - \widehat{z}_i\| \leq D$ and our ‘‘light-tail’’ assumption. By Lemma 1, we conclude that for any $\delta \in (0, 1)$,

$$\Pr\left(C_3 \geq \underbrace{\sqrt{3 \ln \frac{2}{\delta}} \theta_t \nu_t D \sigma \left(\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{1}{\nu_i^2}\right)^{1/2}}_{D_3}\right) \leq \frac{\delta}{2}. \quad (33)$$

Secondly, we bound the term C_2 using Lemma 2. Since ν_i is decreasing in i , we have

$$C_2 = \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i \nu_i} \leq \theta_t \nu_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i \nu_t} = \theta_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i}. \quad (34)$$

Since η_i is increasing in i when $\Gamma = L$, we can directly apply Lemma 2 as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &\Pr\left(C_2 \geq \theta_t \underbrace{\left[\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\sigma^2}{\eta_i} + \frac{8\sigma^2 \ln(2/\delta)}{(\frac{\mu+\gamma_0}{\tau} - L)} + 16\sigma^2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\ln(2/\delta)}{\eta_i^2}}\right]}_{D_2}\right) \\ &\leq \Pr\left(\theta_t \sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i} \geq \theta_t \left[\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\mathbb{E}\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\eta_i} + \max\left\{\frac{8\sigma^2 \ln(2/\delta)}{(\frac{\mu+\gamma_0}{\tau} - L)}, 16\sigma^2 \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^t \frac{\ln(2/\delta)}{\eta_i^2}}\right\}\right]\right) \\ &\leq \frac{\delta}{2} \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality is from Eq. (34), $a + b \geq \max\{a, b\}$ and the fact $\mathbb{E}\|\Delta_i\|_*^2 \leq \sigma^2 \ln\left(\mathbb{E}\exp\left(\frac{\|\Delta_i\|_*^2}{\sigma^2}\right)\right) \leq \sigma^2 \ln(e) = \sigma^2$ and the second inequality is due to Lemma 2.

Combining Eq.(35) and Eq. (33), by the union bound:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(\phi(x_{t+1}) - \phi(x^*) \geq C_1 + D_2 + D_3) &\leq \Pr(C_1 + C_2 + C_3 \geq C_1 + D_2 + D_3) \\ &\leq \Pr(C_2 \geq D_2) + \Pr(C_3 \geq D_3) \leq \frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{\delta}{2} = \delta, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

we immediately obtain Eq.(30). The bounds in Eq. (31) and Eq. (32) can be derived by plugging all the parameters into Eq. (30). □

3 Proof of Convergence Rate for Multi-stage ORDA

Theorem 3. *If we run multi-stage ORDA for K stages with $K = \log \frac{\mathcal{V}_0}{\epsilon}$ for any given ϵ , we have $\mathbb{E}(\phi(\tilde{x}_K)) - \phi(x^*) \leq \epsilon$ and the total number of iterations is upper bounded by:*

$$N = \sum_{k=1}^K N_k \leq 4\sqrt{\frac{L}{\mu}} \log \frac{\mathcal{V}_0}{\epsilon} + \frac{1024(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu\epsilon}. \quad (36)$$

To prove theorem 3, we first state a corollary of Theorem 1.

Corollary 3. *For strongly convex $f(x)$, by setting $c = 0$ and $\Gamma = \Lambda + L$ in ORDA, we obtain that:*

$$\mathbb{E}\phi(x_{N+1}) - \phi(x^*) \leq \frac{4\tau(\Lambda + L)V(x^*, x_0)}{N^2} + \frac{(N + 3)(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\Lambda}. \quad (37)$$

The proof technique follows the proof in [3]. The main idea is to show that $\mathbb{E}(\phi(\tilde{x}_k)) - \phi(x^*) \leq \mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}$, where \tilde{x}_k is the solution from the k -th stage.

Proof. We show by induction that

$$\mathbb{E}(\phi(\tilde{x}_k)) - \phi(x^*) \leq \mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}. \quad (38)$$

By the definition of \mathcal{V}_0 ($\mathcal{V}_0 > \phi(\tilde{x}_0) - \phi(x^*)$), this inequality holds for $k = 0$.

Assuming Eq.(38) holds for the $(k - 1)$ -th stage, by the strong convexity of $f(x)$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[V(x^*, \tilde{x}_{k-1})] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\tau}{2}\|\tilde{x}_{k-1} - x^*\|^2\right] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\tau}{\mu}(\phi(\tilde{x}_{k-1}) - \phi(x^*))\right] \leq \frac{\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-(k-1)}}{\mu}$$

According to Corollary 3 and the setting of N_k and Γ_k , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\phi(\tilde{x}_k) - \phi(x^*)] &\leq \frac{4\tau(\Lambda_k + L)\mathbb{E}V(x^*, \tilde{x}_{k-1})}{N_k^2} + \frac{(N_k + 3)(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\Lambda_k} \\ &\leq \frac{4\tau L\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-(k-1)}}{\mu N_k^2} + \frac{4\tau\Lambda_k\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-(k-1)}}{\mu N_k^2} + \frac{4N_k(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\Lambda_k} \\ &\leq \frac{4\tau L\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-(k-1)}}{\mu N_k^2} + \frac{8\sqrt{(\sigma^2 + M^2)\tau}\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-(k-1)}}{\sqrt{\mu N_k}} \\ &\leq \frac{\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}}{2} + \frac{\mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}}{2} = \mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we prove that $\mathbb{E}[\phi(\tilde{x}_k) - \phi(x^*)] \leq \mathcal{V}_0 2^{-k}$ for $k \geq 1$.

After running K stages of multi-stage ORDA with $K = \log_2\left(\frac{\mathcal{V}_0}{\epsilon}\right)$, we have $\mathbb{E}[\phi(\tilde{x}_k) - \phi(x^*)] \leq \mathcal{V}_0 2^{-K} = \epsilon$. The total number of iterations from these K stages is upper bounded by:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{k=1}^K N_k &\leq \sum_{k=1}^K \max \left\{ 4\sqrt{\frac{\tau L}{\mu}}, \frac{2^{k+9}\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu\mathcal{V}_0} \right\} \\
&\leq \sum_{k=1}^K \left[4\sqrt{\frac{\tau L}{\mu}} + \frac{2^{k+9}\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu\mathcal{V}_0} \right] \\
&= 4\sqrt{\frac{\tau L}{\mu}}K + \frac{1024\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)(2^K - 1)}{\mu\mathcal{V}_0} \\
&\leq 4\sqrt{\frac{\tau L}{\mu}} \log_2\left(\frac{\mathcal{V}_0}{\epsilon}\right) + \frac{1024\tau(\sigma^2 + M^2)}{\mu\epsilon}
\end{aligned}$$

□

References

- [1] J. Duchi, P. L. Bartlett, and M. Wainwright. Randomized smoothing for stochastic optimization. arXiv:1103.4296v1, 2011.
- [2] G. Lan. An optimal method for stochastic composite optimization. *Mathematical Programming*, 2010.
- [3] G. Lan and S. Ghadimi. Optimal stochastic approximation algorithms for strongly convex stochastic composite optimization, part ii: shrinking procedures and optimal algorithms. Technical report, University of Florida, 2010.
- [4] G. Lan, Z. Lu, and R. D. C. Monteiro. Primal-dual first-order methods with $o(1/\epsilon)$ iteration-complexity for cone programming. *Mathematical Programming*, 2009.
- [5] P. Tseng. On accelerated proximal gradient methods for convex-concave optimization. *SIAM Journal on Optimization (Submitted)*, 2008.