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## GEOM-SPIDER-EM: FASTER VARIANCE REDUCED STOCHASTIC EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION FOR NONCONVEX FINITE-SUM OPTIMIZATION

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### ABSTRACT

The Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm is a key reference for inference in latent variable models; unfortunately, its computational cost is prohibitive in the large scale learning setting. In this paper, we propose an extension of the Stochastic Path-Integrated Differential EstimatoR EM (SPIDER-EM) and derive complexity bounds for this novel algorithm, designed to solve smooth nonconvex finite-sum optimization problems. We show that it reaches the same state of the art complexity bounds as SPIDER-EM; and provide conditions for a linear rate of convergence. Numerical results support our findings.

*Index Terms*— Large scale learning, Latent variable analysis, Expectation Maximization, Nonconvex stochastic optimization, Variance reduction.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Intelligent processing of large data sets and efficient learning of highdimensional models require new optimization algorithms designed to be robust to big data and complex models era (see e.g. [1–3]). This paper is concerned with stochastic optimization of a nonconvex finite-sum smooth objective function

$$\operatorname{Argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} F(\theta), \qquad F(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{L}_{i}(\theta) + \mathsf{R}(\theta) , \quad (1)$$

when  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  and F cannot be explicitly evaluated (nor its gradient). Many statistical learning problems can be cast into this framework, where n is the number of observations or examples,  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is a loss function associated to example #i (most often, a negative loglikelihood), and R is a penalty term promoting sparsity, regularity, etc. Empirical risk minimization in machine learning is a matter for (1). Intractability of  $F(\theta)$  might come from two sources. The first, referred to as *large scale learning* setting, is that the number n is very large so that the computations involving a sum over n terms should be either simply avoided or sparingly used during the run of the optimization algorithm (see e.g. [4] for an introduction to the bridge between large scale learning and stochastic approximation; see [5,6] for applications to training of deep neural networks for signal and image processing). The second is due to the presence of latent variables: for any *i*, the function  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is a (high-dimensional) integral over latent variables. Such a latent variable context is a classical statistical modeling: for example as a tool for solving inference in mixture models [7], for the definition of mixed models capturing variability

among examples [8] or for modeling hidden and/or missing variables (see e.g. applications in text modeling through latent Dirichlet allocation [9], in audio source separation [10, 11], in hyper-spectral imaging [12]).

In this contribution, we address the two levels of intractability in the case  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{i}(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\log \int_{\mathsf{Z}} h_{i}(z) \exp\left(\langle s_{i}(z), \phi(\theta) \rangle\right) \mu(\mathrm{d}z) .$$
 (2)

This setting in particular covers the case when  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{L}_i(\theta)$  is the negated log-likelihood of the observations  $(Y_1, \cdots, Y_n)$ , the pairs observation/latent variable  $\{(Y_i, Z_i), i \leq n\}$  are independent, and the distribution of the latent variable given the observation  $Y_i$ , given by  $z \mapsto h_i(z) \exp(\langle s_i(z), \phi(\theta) \rangle) \mu(dz)$  up to a multiplicative constant, is from the curved exponential family. Gaussian mixture models are typical examples, as well as mixtures of distributions from the curved exponential family. In the framework (1)-(2), a Majorize-Minimization approach through the Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm [13] is standard; unfortunately, the computational cost of the batch EM can be prohibitive in the large scale learning setting. Different strategies were proposed to address this issue [14–18]: they combine mini-batches processing, Stochastic Approximation (SA) techniques (see e.g. [19, 20]) and variance reduction methods.

The first contribution of this paper is to provide a novel algorithm, the generalized Stochastic Path-Integrated Differential EstimatoR EM (q-SPIDER-EM), which is among the variance reduced stochastic EM methods for nonconvex finite-sum optimization of the form (1)-(2); the generalizations allow a reduced computational cost without altering the convergence properties. The second contribution is the proof of complexity bounds, that is the number of parameter updates (M-step) and the number of conditional expectations evaluations (E-step), in order to reach  $\epsilon$ -approximate stationary points; these bounds are derived for a specific form of g-SPIDER-EM: we show that the complexity bounds are the same as those of SPIDER-EM, bounds which are state of the art ones and overpass all the previous ones. Linear convergence rates are proved under a Polyak-Łojasiewicz condition. Finally, numerical results support our findings and provide insights on how to implement q-SPIDER-EM in order to inherit the properties of SPIDER-EM while reducing the computational cost.

**Notations** For  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $\langle a, b \rangle$  is the scalar product, and  $\|\cdot\|$  the associated norm. For a matrix  $A, A^T$  is its transpose. For a positive integer n, set  $[n]^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $[n] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{0, \dots, n\}$ .  $\nabla f$  denotes the gradient of a differentiable function f. The minimum of a and b is denoted by  $a \wedge b$ . Finally, we use standard big O notation

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to leave out constants. For a random variable U and/or a filtration  $\mathcal{F}, \sigma(U, \mathcal{F})$  denotes the sigma algebra generated by U and  $\mathcal{F}$ .

#### 2. EM-BASED METHODS IN THE EXPECTATION SPACE

We begin by formulating the model assumptions:

**A1.**  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is a convex set.  $(\mathsf{Z}, \mathbb{Z})$  is a measurable space and  $\mu$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite positive measure on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . The functions  $\mathsf{R} : \Theta \to \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\phi : \Theta \to \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $s_i : \mathsf{Z} \to \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $h_i : \mathsf{Z} \to \mathbb{R}_+$  for all  $i \in [n]^*$  are measurable. For any  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $|\mathcal{L}_i(\theta)| < \infty$ .

For any  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $i \in [n]^*$ , define the posterior density of the latent variable  $Z_i$  given the observation  $Y_i$ :

$$z \mapsto p_i(z;\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} h_i(z) \exp\left(\langle s_i(z), \phi(\theta) \rangle + \mathcal{L}_i(\theta)\right) , \quad (3)$$

note that the dependence upon  $y_i$  follows through the index i in the above. Set

$$\bar{s}_i(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{\mathsf{Z}} s_i(z) \, p_i(z;\theta) \mu(\mathrm{d}z), \quad \bar{s}(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{s}_i(\theta) \,. \tag{4}$$

**A2.** The expectations  $\bar{s}_i(\theta)$  are well defined for all  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $i \in [n]^*$ . For any  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $\operatorname{Argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} (-\langle s, \phi(\theta) \rangle + \mathsf{R}(\theta))$  is a (non empty) singleton denoted by  $\{\mathsf{T}(s)\}$ .

EM is an iterative algorithm: given a current value  $\tau_k \in \Theta$ , the next value is  $\tau_{k+1} \leftarrow \mathsf{T} \circ \bar{s}(\tau_k)$ . It combines an expectation step which boils down to the computation of  $\bar{s}(\tau_k)$ , an expectation under  $p(\cdot; \tau_k)$ ; and a maximization step through the computation of the map T. Equivalently, by using T which maps  $\mathbb{R}^q$  to  $\Theta$ , it can be described in the *expectation space* (see [21]): given the current value  $\bar{s}^k \in \bar{s}(\Theta)$ , the next value is  $\bar{s}^{k+1} \leftarrow \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\bar{s}^k)$ . In this paper, we see EM as an iterative algorithm operating in the expectation space. In that case, the fixed points of the EM operator  $\bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}$  are the roots of the function h

$$h(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(s) - s . \tag{5}$$

EM possesses a Lyapunov function: in the parameter space, it is the objective function F where by definition of the EM sequence, it holds  $F(\tau_{k+1}) \leq F(\tau_k)$ ; in the expectation space, it is  $W \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F \circ T$ , and  $W(\bar{s}^{k+1}) \leq W(\bar{s}^k)$  holds. In order to derive complexity bounds, regularity assumptions are required on W:

**A3.** The functions  $\phi$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are continuously differentiable on  $\Theta^v$ , where  $\Theta^v$  is an open neighborhood of  $\Theta$  when  $\Theta$  is not open and  $\Theta^v \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Theta$  otherwise.  $\mathsf{T}$  is continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}^q$ . The function F is continuously differentiable on  $\Theta^v$  and for any  $\theta \in \Theta$ ,  $\nabla F(\theta) = -\nabla \phi(\theta)^T \bar{s}(\theta) + \nabla \mathbb{R}(\theta)$ . For any  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $B(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla(\phi \circ \mathsf{T})(s)$  is a symmetric  $q \times q$  matrix and there exist  $0 < v_{min} \leq v_{max} < \infty$  such that for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ , the spectrum of B(s) is in  $[v_{min}, v_{max}]$ . For any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_i$ . The function  $s \mapsto \nabla(F \circ \mathsf{T})(s) = -B(s) (\bar{s} \circ T(s) - s)$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_{\dot{W}}$ .

A3 implies that W has globally Lipschitz gradient and  $\nabla W(s) = -B(s)h(s)$  for some positive definite matrix B(s) (see e.g. [21, Lemma 2]; see also [22, Propositions 1 and 2]). Note that this implies that  $\nabla W(s^*) = 0$  iff  $h(s^*) = 0$ .

Unfortunately, in the large scale learning setting (when  $n \gg 1$ ), EM can not be easily applied since each iteration involves n conditional expectations evaluations through  $\bar{s} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \bar{s}_i$ . Incremental EM techniques have been proposed to address this issue: the most straightforward approach amounts to use a SA scheme with mean field h since. Upon noting that  $h(s) = \mathbb{E}[\bar{s}_I \circ \mathsf{T}(s)] - s$ where I is a uniform random variable (r.v.) on  $[n]^*$ , the fixed points of the EM operator  $\bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}$  are those of the SA scheme

$$\widehat{S}_{k+1} = \widehat{S}_k + \gamma_{k+1} \left( \mathsf{b}^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{k+1}} \overline{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_k) - \widehat{S}_k \right)$$
(6)

where  $\{\gamma_k, k \ge 0\}$  is a deterministic positive step size sequence, and  $\mathcal{B}_{k+1}$  is sampled from  $[n]^*$  independently from the past of the algorithm. This forms the basis of Online-EM proposed by [15] (see also [23]). Variance reduced versions were also proposed and studied: Incremental EM (i-EM) [14, 24], Stochastic EM with variance reduction (sEM-vr) [16], Fast Incremental EM [17, 22] (FIEM) and more recently, Stochastic Path-Integrated Differential Estimator EM (SPIDER-EM) [18].

As shown in [22, section 2.3], these algorithms can be seen as a combination of SA with *control variate*: upon noting that  $h(s) = h(s) + \mathbb{E}[U]$  for any r.v. U such that  $\mathbb{E}[U] = 0$ , *control variates* within SA procedures replace (6) with

$$\widehat{S}_{k+1} = \widehat{S}_k + \gamma_{k+1} \left( \mathsf{b}^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{k+1}} \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_k) + U_{k+1} - \widehat{S}_k \right)$$

for a choice of  $U_{k+1}$  such that the new algorithm has better properties (for example, in terms of complexity - see the end of Section 3).

Lastly, we remark that A1–A3 are common assumptions (see e.g. [18] and [22] and references therein).

#### 3. THE GEOM-SPIDER-EM ALGORITHM

**Data:**  $k_{\text{out}} \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ;  $\widehat{S}_{\text{init}} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ;  $\xi_t \in \mathbb{N}^*$  for  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*$ ;  $\gamma_{t,0} \ge 0, \gamma_{t,k} > 0 \text{ for } t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*, k \in [\xi_t]^*.$ **Result:** The g-SPIDER-EM sequence:  $\{\widehat{S}_{t,k}\}\$ 1  $\widehat{S}_{1,0} = \widehat{S}_{1,-1} = \widehat{S}_{\text{init}};$ 2  $S_{1,0} = \bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{1,-1}) + \mathcal{E}_1;$ for  $t = 1, \cdots, k_{\text{out}}$  do 3 for  $k = 0, ..., \xi_t - 1$  do 4 Sample a mini batch  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$  of size b from  $[n]^*$ ; 5  $\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} = \mathsf{S}_{t,k} + \mathsf{I}_{t,k} + \mathsf$ 6  $\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{S}_{t,k+1} = \mathbf{S}_{t,k} + \\ \mathbf{b}^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} \left( \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \right); \\ \widehat{S}_{t,k+1} = \widehat{S}_{t,k} + \gamma_{t,k+1} \left( \mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k} \right) \end{array}$ 7  $\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1} = \widehat{S}_{t,\xi_t} ;$ 8  $S_{t+1,0} = \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\hat{S}_{t+1,-1}) + \mathcal{E}_{t+1};$   $\widehat{S}_{t+1,0} = \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1} + \gamma_{t+1,0} \left(\mathsf{S}_{t+1,0} - \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}\right)$ 10

Algorithm 1: The g-SPIDER-EM algorithm. The  $\mathcal{E}_t$ 's are introduced as a perturbation to the computation of  $\bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\hat{S}_{t,-1})$ ; they can be null.

The algorithm generalized Stochastic Path-Integrated Differential EstimatoR Expectation Maximization (g-SPIDER-EM) described by Algorithm 1 uses a new strategy when defining the approximation of  $\bar{s} \circ T(s)$  at each iteration. It is composed of nested loops:  $k_{out}$  outer loops, each of them formed with a possibly random number of inner loops. Within the *t*th outer loop, g-SPIDER-EM mimics the identity  $\bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,k}) = \bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,k-1}) + \{\bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,k}) - \bar{s} \circ$  $T(\hat{S}_{t,k-1})\}$ . More precisely, at iteration k + 1, the approximation

 $S_{t,k+1}$  of the full sum  $\bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,k})$  is the sum of the current approximation  $S_{t,k}$  and of a Monte Carlo approximation of the difference (see Lines 5, 6, in Algorithm 1); the examples i in  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$  used in the approximation of  $\bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\hat{S}_{t,k})$  and those used for the approximation of  $\overline{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})$  are the same - which make the approximations correlated and favor a variance reduction when plugged in the SA update (Line 7).  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$  is sampled with or without replacement; even when  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$  collects independent examples sampled uniformly from  $[n]^*$ , we have  $\mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1}|\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) = \mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})$  where  $\mathcal{F}_{t,k}$  is the sigma-field collecting the randomness up to the end of the outer loop #t and inner loop #k: the approximation  $S_{t,k+1}$ of  $\overline{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k})$  is biased - a property which makes the theoretical analysis of the algorithm challenging. This approximation is reset (see Lines 2,9) at the end of an outer loop: in the "standard" SPIDER-EM,  $S_{t,0} = \bar{s} \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,-1})$  is computed, but this "refresh" can be only partial, by computing an update on a (large) batch  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{t,0}$ (size  $\tilde{b}_t$ ) of observations:  $S_{t,0} = \tilde{b}_t^{-1} \sum_{i \in \tilde{B}_{t,0}} \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\hat{S}_{t,-1})$ . Such a reset starts a so-called epoch (see Line 3). The number of inner loops  $\xi_t$  at epoch #t can be deterministic; or random, such as a uniform distribution on  $[k_{in}]^*$  or a geometric distribution, and drawn prior the run of the algorithm.

Comparing q-SPIDER-EM with SPIDER-EM [18], we notice that (*i*) the former allows a perturbation  $\mathcal{E}_t$  when initializing  $S_{t,0}$ , which is important for computational cost reduction; (ii) g-SPIDER-EM considers epochs with time-varying length  $\xi_t$  which covers situations when it is random and chosen independently of the other sources of randomness (the errors  $\mathcal{E}_t$ , the mini batches  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}$ ). Hereafter, we provide an original analysis of an g-SPIDER-EM, namely Geom-SPIDER-EM which corresponds to the case  $\xi_t \leftarrow \Xi_t, \Xi_t$  being a geometric r.v. on  $\mathbb{N}^*$  with success probability  $1 - \rho_t \in (0, 1)$ :  $\mathbb{P}(\Xi_t = k) = (1 - \rho_t)\rho_t^{k-1}$  for  $k \ge 1$  (hereafter, we will write  $\Xi_t \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1-\rho_t)$ ). Since  $\Xi_t$  is also the first success distribution in a sequence of independent Bernoulli trials, the geometric length could be replaced with: (i) at each iteration k of epoch t, sample a Bernoulli r.v. with a probability of success  $(1 - \rho_t)$ ; *(ii)* when the coin comes up head, start a new epoch (see [25,26] for similar ideas on stochastic gradient algorithms).

Let us establish complexity bounds for Geom-SPIDER-EM. We analyze a randomized terminating iteration  $\Xi^*$  [27] and discuss how to choose  $k_{\text{out}}$ , b and  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{k_{\text{out}}}$  as a function of the batch size n and an accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$  to reach  $\epsilon$ -approximate stationarity i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[\|h(\widehat{S}_{\Xi^*})\|^2] \leq \epsilon$ . To this end, we endow the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  with the sigma-fields  $\mathcal{F}_{1,0} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{E}_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{F}_{t-1,\xi_t}, \mathcal{E}_t)$  for  $t \geq 2$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_{t,k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{F}_{t,k}, \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1})$ for  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*, k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ . For a r.v.  $\Xi_t \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1 - \rho_t)$ , set  $\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t[\phi(\Xi_t)|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (1 - \rho_t) \sum_{k \geq 1} \rho_t^{k-1} \mathbb{E}[\phi(k)|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}]$  for any bounded measurable function  $\phi$ .

**Theorem 1.** Assume A1 to A3. For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ , let  $\rho_t \in (0, 1)$ and  $\Xi_t \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1 - \rho_t)$ . Run Algorithm 1 with  $\gamma_{t,k+1} = \gamma_t > 0$ ,  $\gamma_{1,0} = 0$  and  $\xi_t \leftarrow \Xi_t$  for any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $k \ge 0$ . Then, for any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \frac{v_{\min}\gamma_t}{2(1-\rho_t)}\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1})\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ & \leq \mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) - \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] + \frac{v_{\max}\gamma_t}{2(1-\rho_t)}\|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2 \\ & + \frac{v_{\max}\gamma_t\gamma_{t,0}^2}{2(1-\rho_t)}\frac{L^2}{\mathbf{b}}\|\Delta\widehat{S}_{t,0}\|^2 + \mathcal{N}_t\,\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|\Delta\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi}\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \;; \end{split}$$

where 
$$\Delta \widehat{S}_{t,\xi} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathsf{S}_{t,\xi} - \widehat{S}_{t,\xi-1}, L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i$$
, and  
 $\mathcal{N}_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\frac{\gamma_t}{2(1-\rho_t)} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_t L_{\dot{W}} - \frac{v_{\max}L^2\rho_t}{(1-\rho_t)\mathsf{b}} \gamma_t^2 \right)$ 

Theorem 1 is the key result from which our conclusions are drawn; its proof is adapted from [18, section 8] (also see [28, Theorem 10]).

Let us discuss the rate of convergence and the complexity of Geom-SPIDER-EM in the case: for any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ , the mean number of inner loops is  $(1 - \rho_t)^{-1} = k_{in}$ ,  $\gamma_{t,0} = 0$  and  $\gamma_t = \alpha/L$  for  $\alpha > 0$  satisfying

$$v_{\min} - \alpha \frac{L_{\dot{\mathrm{W}}}}{L} - \alpha^2 v_{\max} \frac{k_{\mathrm{in}}}{\mathsf{b}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{k_{\mathrm{in}}}\right) > 0 \; .$$

**Linear rate.** When  $\Xi \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1-\rho)$ , we have (see [28, Lemma 1])

$$\rho \mathbb{E}\left[D_{\Xi}\right] \le \rho \mathbb{E}\left[D_{\Xi}\right] + (1-\rho)D_0 = \mathbb{E}\left[D_{\Xi-1}\right] \tag{7}$$

for any positive sequence  $\{D_k, k \ge 0\}$ ; Theorem 1 implies

$$\overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t}\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}})\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \leq \frac{2L}{v_{\min}\alpha(k_{\mathrm{in}}-1)} \left(\mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) - \min\mathrm{W}\right) \\ + \frac{v_{\max}}{v_{\min}}\frac{k_{\mathrm{in}}}{k_{\mathrm{in}}-1}\|\mathcal{E}_{t}\|^{2}; \quad (8)$$

see [28, Corollary 11]. Hence, when  $||\mathcal{E}_t|| = 0$  and W satisfies a Polyak-Łojasiewicz condition [29], i.e.

$$\exists \tau > 0, \forall s \in \mathbb{R}^{q}, \qquad W(s) - \min W \le \tau \left\| \nabla W(s) \right\|^{2} \tag{9}$$

then (8) yields

$$\mathcal{H}_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})\|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \le \frac{2L\tau v_{\max}^2}{v_{\min}\alpha(k_{\min}-1)} \|h(\widehat{S}_{t-1,\Xi_{t-1}})\|^2 ,$$

thus establishing a linear rate of the algorithm along the path  $\{\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}, t \in [k_{out}]^*\}$  as soon as  $k_{in}$  is large enough:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\mathcal{H}_{t}\right] \leq \left(\frac{2L\tau v_{\max}^{2}}{v_{\min}\alpha(k_{\min}-1)}\right)^{t} \|h(\widehat{S}_{\min})\|^{2}.$$

Even if the Polyak-Łojasiewicz condition (9) is quite restrictive, the above discussion gives the intuition of the *lock-in* phenomenon which often happens at convergence: a linear rate of convergence is observed when the path is trapped in a neighborhood of its limiting point, which may be the consequence that locally, the Polyak-Łojasiewicz condition holds (see figure 1 in Section 4).

Complexity for  $\epsilon$ -approximate stationarity. From Theorem 1, Eq. (7) and  $\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t} = \widehat{S}_{t+1,0}$  (here  $\gamma_{t,0} = 0$  and  $\mathcal{E}_t = 0$ ), it holds

$$\frac{v_{\min}\alpha(k_{\min}-1)}{2L}\mathbb{E}\left[\mathcal{H}_{t}\right] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[W(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) - W(\widehat{S}_{t+1,0})\right] .$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{k_{\text{out}}} \sum_{t=1}^{k_{\text{out}}} \mathbb{E}\left[\mathcal{H}_t\right] \le \frac{2L\left(W(\widehat{S}_{\text{init}}) - \min W\right)}{v_{\min}\alpha(k_{\text{in}} - 1)k_{\text{out}}} \,. \tag{10}$$

Eq. (10) establishes that in order to obtain an  $\epsilon$ -approximate stationary point, it is sufficient to stop the algorithm at the end of the epoch #T, where T is sampled uniformly from  $[k_{out}]^*$  with  $k_{out} = O(L/(\epsilon \alpha k_{in}))$  - and return  $\hat{S}_{T,\Xi_T}$ . To do such, the mean number of conditional expectations evaluations is  $\mathcal{K}_{CE} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n + nk_{out} +$   $2bk_{in}k_{out}$ ; and the mean number of optimization steps is  $\mathcal{K}_{Opt} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} k_{out} + k_{in}k_{out}$ . By choosing  $k_{in} = O(\sqrt{n})$  and  $k_{in}/b = O(1)$ , we have  $\mathcal{K}_{CE} = O(n + L\sqrt{n}/(\epsilon\alpha))$  and  $\mathcal{K}_{Opt} = O(L/(\epsilon\alpha))$ . Similar randomized terminating strategies were proposed in the literature: their optimal complexity in terms of conditional expectations evaluations is  $O(\epsilon^{-2})$  for Online-EM [15],  $O(\epsilon^{-1}n)$  for i-EM [14],  $O(\epsilon^{-1}n^{2/3})$  for SEM-vr [16,17],  $O(\{\epsilon^{-1}n^{2/3}\} \land \{\epsilon^{-3/2}\sqrt{n}\})$  for FIEM [17,22] and  $O(\epsilon^{-1}\sqrt{n})$  for SPIDER-EM - see [18, section 6] for a comparison of the complexities  $\mathcal{K}_{CE}$  and  $\mathcal{K}_{opt}$  of these incremental EM algorithms. Hence, Geom-SPIDER-EM has the same complexity bounds as SPIDER-EM, and they are optimal among the class of incremental EM algorithms.

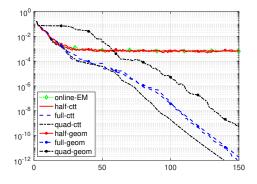
#### 4. NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION

We perform experiments on the MNIST dataset, which consists of  $n = 6 \times 10^4$  images of handwritten digits, each with 784 pixels. We pre-process the datas as detailed in [22, section 5]: 67 uninformative pixels are removed from each image, then a principal component analysis is applied to further reduce the dimension; we keep the 20 principal components of each observation. The learning problem consists in fitting a Gaussian mixture model with g = 12 components having the same covariance matrix:  $\theta$  collects the weights of the mixture, the expectations of the components (i.e. g vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{20}$ ) and a 20 × 20 covariance matrix; F is the negative normalized log-likelihood (no penalty term). All the algorithms start from  $\widehat{S}_{\text{init}} = \bar{s} \circ T(\theta_{\text{init}})$  such that  $-F(\theta_{\text{init}}) = -58.3$ , and their first two epochs are Online-EM iterations. The first epoch with a variance reduction technique is the 3rd; on Fig. 1, the plot starts at epoch #2.

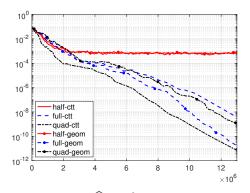
Geom-SPIDER-EM is run with a constant step size  $\gamma_{t,k} = 0.01$ (and  $\gamma_{t,0} = 0$ );  $k_{out} = 148$  epochs (which are preceded with 2 epochs of Online-EM); a mini batch size  $b = \sqrt{n}$ . Different strategies are considered for the initialization  $S_{t,0}$  and the parameter of the geometric r.v.  $\Xi_t$ . In full-geom,  $k_{\rm in}=\sqrt{n}/2$ so that the mean total number of conditional expectations evaluations per outer loop is  $2bk_{in} = n$ ; and  $\mathcal{E}_t = 0$  which means that  $S_{t,0}$  requires the computation of the full sum  $\bar{s}$  over *n* terms. In half-geom,  $k_{\rm in}$  is defined as in full-geom, but for all  $t \in$  $[k_{\text{out}}]^{\star}, \mathsf{S}_{t,0} = (2/n) \sum_{i \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{t,0}} \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,-1})$  where  $\mathcal{B}_{t,0}$  is of cardinality n/2; therefore  $\mathcal{E}_t \neq 0$ . In quad-geom, a quadratic growth is considered both for the mean of the geometric random variables:  $\mathbb{E}[\Xi_t] = \min(n, \max(20t^2, n/50))/(2b);$  and for the size of the mini batch when computing  $S_{t,0}$ :  $S_{t,0} = \tilde{b}_t^{-1} \sum_{i \in \tilde{B}_t} \bar{s}_i \circ T(\hat{S}_{t,-1})$ with  $\tilde{b}_t = \min(n, \max(20t^2, n/50))$ . The g-SPIDER-EM with a constant number of inner loops  $\xi_t = k_{in} = n/(2b)$  is also run for comparison: different strategies for  $S_{t,0}$  are considered, the same as above (it corresponds to full-ctt, half-ctt and quad-ctt on the plots). Finally, in order to illustrate the benefit of the variance reduction, a pure Online-EM is run for 150 epochs, one epoch corresponding to  $\sqrt{n}$  updates of the statistics  $\widehat{S}$ , each of them requiring a mini batch  $\mathcal{B}_{k+1}$  of size  $\sqrt{n}$  (see Eq.(6)).

The algorithms are compared through an estimation of the quantile of order 0.5 of  $||h(\hat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$  over 30 independent realizations. It is plotted versus the number of epochs t in Fig. 1 and the number of conditional expectations (CE) evaluations in Fig. 2. They are also compared through the objective function F along the path; the mean value over 30 independent paths is displayed versus the number of CE, see Fig. 3.

We first observe that Online-EM has a poor convergence rate, thus justifying the interest of variance reduction techniques as shown in Fig. 1. Having a persistent bias along iterations when defining  $S_{t,0}$ 



**Fig. 1**. Quantile 0.5 of  $||h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$  vs the number of epochs



**Fig. 2**. Quantile 0.5 of  $||h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$  vs the number of CE evaluations

i.e. considering  $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_t \neq n$  and therefore  $\mathcal{E}_t \neq 0$ , is also a bad strategy as seen in Fig. 1, 2 for half-ctt and half-geom. For the four other g-SPIDER-EM strategies, we observe a linear convergence rate in Fig. 1, 2. The best strategy, both in terms of CE evaluations and in terms of efficiency given a number of epochs, is quad-ctt: a constant and deterministic number of inner loops  $\xi_t$  combined with an increasing accuracy when computing  $S_{t,0}$ ; therefore, during the first iterations, it is better to reduce the computational cost of the algorithm by considering  $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_t \ll n$ . When  $\mathcal{E}_t = 0$  (i.e.  $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_t = n$  so the computational cost of  $S_{t,0}$  is maximal), it is possible to reduce the total CE computational cost of the algorithm by considering a random number of inner loops (see full-geom and full-ctt on Fig. 1, 2). Finally, the strategy which consists in increasing both  $\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_t$  and the number of inner loops, does not look the best one (see quad-ctt and quad-geom on Fig. 1 to Fig. 3).

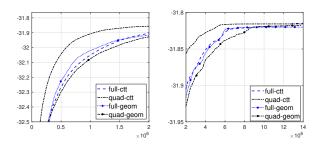


Fig. 3. (Left) -F vs CE, until 2e6. (Right) -F vs CE, after 2e6.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL, PAPER "GEOM-SPIDER-EM: FASTER VARIANCE REDUCED STOCHASTIC EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION FOR NONCONVEX FINITE-SUM OPTIMIZATION"

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#### 1. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

Let  $\{\mathcal{E}_t, t \in [k_{out}]^*\}$  and  $\{\mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}, t \in [k_{out}]^*, k \in [\xi_t - 1]\}$  be random variables defined on the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ . Define the filtrations  $\mathcal{F}_{1,0} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{E}_1), \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{F}_{t-1,\xi_t}, \mathcal{E}_t)$  for  $t \ge 2$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_{t,k+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma(\mathcal{F}_{t,k}, \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1})$  for  $t \in [k_{out}]^*, k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ .

For  $\rho_t \in (0, 1)$ , set

$$\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t[\phi(\Xi_t)|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (1-\rho_t) \sum_{k\geq 1} \rho_t^{k-1} \mathbb{E}[\phi(k)|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}] ,$$

for any measurable positive function  $\phi$ .

**A1.**  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is a convex set.  $(\mathsf{Z}, \mathcal{Z})$  is a measurable space and  $\mu$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite positive measure on  $\mathcal{Z}$ . The functions  $\mathsf{R} : \Theta \to \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\phi : \Theta \to \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $s_i : \mathsf{Z} \to \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $h_i : \mathsf{Z} \to \mathbb{R}_+$  for all  $i \in [n]^*$  are measurable. For any  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $|\mathcal{L}_i(\theta)| < \infty$ .

**A2.** The expectations  $\bar{s}_i(\theta)$  are well defined for all  $\theta \in \Theta$  and  $i \in [n]^*$ . For any  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $\operatorname{Argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} (-\langle s, \phi(\theta) \rangle + \mathsf{R}(\theta))$  is a (non empty) singleton denoted by  $\{\mathsf{T}(s)\}$ .

**A3.** The functions  $\phi$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are continuously differentiable on  $\Theta^v$ , where  $\Theta^v$  is an open neighborhood of  $\Theta$  when  $\Theta$  is not open and  $\Theta^v \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Theta$  otherwise.  $\mathsf{T}$  is continuously differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}^q$ . The function F is continuously differentiable on  $\Theta^v$  and for any  $\theta \in \Theta$ ,  $\nabla F(\theta) = -\nabla \phi(\theta)^T \bar{s}(\theta) + \nabla \mathbb{R}(\theta)$ . For any  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $B(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla(\phi \circ \mathsf{T})(s)$  is a symmetric  $q \times q$  matrix and there exist  $0 < v_{min} \leq v_{max} < \infty$  such that for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ , the spectrum of B(s) is in  $[v_{min}, v_{max}]$ . For any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_i$ . The function  $s \mapsto \nabla(F \circ \mathsf{T})(s) = -B(s) (\bar{s} \circ T(s) - s)$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_{\dot{W}}$ .

**Lemma 1.** Let  $\rho \in (0, 1)$  and  $\{D_k, k \ge 0\}$  be real numbers such that  $\sum_{k\ge 0} \rho^k |D_k| < \infty$ . Let  $\xi \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1-\rho)$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}[D_{\xi-1}] = \rho\mathbb{E}[D_{\xi}] + (1-\rho)D_0 = \mathbb{E}[D_{\xi}] + (1-\rho)(D_0 - \mathbb{E}[D_{\xi}])$ .

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*Proof.* By definition of  $\xi$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[D_{\xi}] = (1-\rho) \sum_{k\geq 1} \rho^{k-1} D_k$$
  
=  $\rho^{-1}(1-\rho) \sum_{k\geq 1} \rho^k D_k$   
=  $\rho^{-1}(1-\rho) \sum_{k\geq 0} \rho^k D_k - \rho^{-1}(1-\rho) D_0$   
=  $\rho^{-1}(1-\rho) \sum_{k\geq 1} \rho^{k-1} D_{k-1} - \rho^{-1}(1-\rho) D_0$   
=  $\rho^{-1} \mathbb{E}[D_{\xi-1}] - \rho^{-1}(1-\rho) D_0$ .

This yields  $\rho \mathbb{E}[D_{\xi}] = \mathbb{E}[D_{\xi-1}] - (1-\rho)D_0$  and concludes the proof.

**Lemma 2.** For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t]^*$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{t,k-1}$  are independent. In addition, for any  $s \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $b^{-1}\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k}} \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(s)\right] = \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(s)$ . Finally, assume that for any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_i$ . Then for any  $s, s' \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[ \|\mathbf{b}^{-1}\sum_{i\in\mathcal{B}_{t,k}} \left\{ \bar{s}_i\circ\mathsf{T}(s) - \bar{s}_i\circ\mathsf{T}(s') \right\} - \bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(s) + \bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(s') \|^2 \right] \\ \leq \frac{1}{\mathbf{b}} \left( L^2 \|s - s'\|^2 - \|\bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(s) - \bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(s')\|^2 \right) \,,$$

where  $L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i^2$ .

*Proof.* See [1, Lemma 4]; the proof holds true when  $\mathcal{B}_{t,k}$  is sampled with or without replacement.

**Proposition 3.** For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1}|\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) = \mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) ,$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] = \mathcal{E}_t \ .$$

*Proof.* Let  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ . By Lemma 2,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1}|\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] = \mathsf{S}_{t,k} + \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \ .$$

By definition of  $S_{t,0}$  and of the filtrations,  $S_{t,0} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\bar{S}_{t,-1}) = \mathcal{E}_t \in \mathcal{F}_{t,0}$ . The proof follows by induction on k.

**Proposition 4.** Assume that for any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_i$ . For any  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1}|\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right]\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\mathsf{b}}\left(L^{2}\|\widehat{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1}\|^{2} - \|\bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - \bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\|^{2}\right) \\ & \leq \frac{L^{2}}{\mathsf{b}}\gamma_{t,k}^{2}\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1}\|^{2} , \end{split}$$

where  $L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i^2$ . By convention,  $\gamma_{1,0} = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ . By Lemma 2, Proposition 3, the definition of  $S_{t,k+1}$  and of the filtration  $\mathcal{F}_{t,k}$ ,

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{S}_{t,k+1} &- \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbf{S}_{t,k+1} \middle| \mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] \\ &= \mathbf{S}_{t,k+1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - \mathsf{S}_{t,k} + \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \\ &= \mathsf{b}^{-1} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{B}_{t,k+1}} \{ \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) - \bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \} \\ &- \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k}) + \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1}) \;. \end{split}$$

We then conclude by Lemma 2 for the first inequality; and by using the definition of  $\hat{S}_{t,k}$  for the second one:

$$\widehat{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1} = \gamma_{t,k} \left( \mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1} \right)$$

except when t = 1 and k = 0, where  $\widehat{S}_{1,0} - \widehat{S}_{1,-1} = 0$ .

**Proposition 5.** Assume that for any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathbb{R}^q$  with constant  $L_i$ . For any  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*$ ,  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,k}\right] \\ & \leq \frac{L^2}{\mathsf{b}} \gamma_{t,k}^2 \|\mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1}\|^2 + \|\mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\|^2 \;, \end{split}$$

where  $L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i^2$ . By convention,  $\gamma_{1,0} = 0$ .

 $\mathit{Proof.}\,$  By definition of the conditional expectation, we have for any r.v.  $\phi(V)$ 

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|U - \phi(V)\|^2 |V] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \|U - \mathbb{E} [U|V] \|^2 |V] + \|\mathbb{E} [U|V] - \phi(V)\|^2 \right]$$

The proof follows from this equality and Propositions 3 and 4.  $\hfill \Box$ 

**Corollary 6.** Assume that for any  $i \in [n]^*$ ,  $\bar{s}_i \circ \mathsf{T}$  is globally Lipschitz with constant  $L_i$ . For any  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*$ , let  $\rho_t \in (0, 1)$  and  $\Xi_t \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1 - \rho_t)$ . For any  $t \in [k_{\text{out}}]^*$ ,

$$\begin{split} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ (\gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \rho_{t}\gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}+1}) \| \mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \bar{s} \circ \mathbf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1}) \|^{2} |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &\leq \frac{L^{2}\rho_{t}}{\mathbf{b}} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}+1}\gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}}^{2} \| \mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1} \|^{2} |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ \frac{L^{2}(1-\rho_{t})}{\mathbf{b}} \gamma_{t,1}\gamma_{t,0}^{2} \| \mathbf{S}_{t,0} - \widehat{S}_{t,-1} \|^{2} + (1-\rho_{t})\gamma_{t,1} \| \mathcal{E}_{t} \|^{2} , \end{split}$$

where  $L^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i^2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$  and  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ . From Proposition 5 and since  $\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{t,k}$  for  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$
  
$$\leq \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k-1})\|^2 + \frac{L^2}{\mathsf{b}}\gamma_{t,k}^2 \|\mathsf{S}_{t,k} - \widehat{S}_{t,k-1}\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$

Multiply by  $\gamma_{t,k+1}$  and apply with  $k = \xi_t - 1$ :

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\gamma_{t,\xi_{t}} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\xi_{t}} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_{t}-1}) \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}\left[\gamma_{t,\xi_{t}} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\xi_{t}-1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_{t}-2}) \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$

$$+ \frac{L^{2}}{\mathsf{b}} \mathbb{E}\left[\gamma_{t,\xi_{t}} \gamma_{t,\xi_{t}-1}^{2} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\xi_{t}-1} - \widehat{S}_{t,\xi_{t}-2} \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$$

This implies

$$\begin{split} & \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}) \|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ & \leq \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-2}) \|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ & + \frac{L^2}{\mathsf{b}} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \gamma_{t,\Xi_t-1}^2 \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-2} \|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \,. \end{split}$$

By Lemma 1, we have

$$\begin{split} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-2}) \|^{2} |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &= \rho_{t} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_{t}+1} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1}) \|^{2} |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ (1 - \rho_{t}) \gamma_{t,1} \| \mathsf{S}_{t,0} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,-1}) \|^{2} ; \end{split}$$

by definition of  $S_{t,0}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{t,0}$ , the last term is equal to  $(1 - \rho_t)\gamma_{t,1} \|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2$ . By Lemma 1, we have

$$\begin{split} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \gamma_{t,\Xi_{t-1}}^2 \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t-1}} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t-2}} \|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &= \rho_t \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t+1} \gamma_{t,\Xi_t}^2 \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t-1}} \|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ (1 - \rho_t) \gamma_{t,1} \gamma_{t,0}^2 \| \mathsf{S}_{t,0} - \widehat{S}_{t,-1} \|^2 \,. \end{split}$$

This concludes the proof.

**Lemma 7.** For any  $h, s, S \in \mathbb{R}^q$  and any  $q \times q$  symmetric matrix B, it holds

$$-2\langle Bh, S \rangle = -\langle BS, S \rangle - \langle Bh, h \rangle + \langle B\{h-S\}, h-S \rangle .$$

**Proposition 8.** Assume A1 to A3. For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$  and  $k \in {}^2 [\xi_t - 1]$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,k+1})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] + \frac{v_{\min}}{2}\gamma_{t,k+1}\mathbb{E}\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ & \leq \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,k})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ & + \frac{v_{\max}}{2}\gamma_{t,k+1}\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,k})\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ & - \frac{\gamma_{t,k+1}}{2}\left(v_{\min} - \gamma_{t,k+1}L_{\dot{\mathsf{W}}}\right)\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k}\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \;. \end{split}$$

*Proof.* Since W is continuously differentiable with  $L_{\dot{W}}$ -Lipschitz gradient, then for any  $s, s' \in \mathbb{R}^{q}$ ,

$$\mathbf{W}(s') - \mathbf{W}(s) \le \left\langle \nabla \mathbf{W}(s), s' - s \right\rangle + \frac{L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}}}{2} \|s' - s\|^2$$

Set  $s' = s + \gamma S$  where  $\gamma > 0$  and  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{q}$ . Since  $\nabla W(s) = -B(s)h(s)$  and B(s) is symmetric, apply Lemma 7 with  $h \leftarrow h(s)$ ,  $B \leftarrow B(s)$  and  $S = (s' - s)/\gamma$ ; this yields

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{W}(s+\gamma S) - \mathbf{W}(s) &\leq -\frac{\gamma}{2} \left\langle B(s)S, S \right\rangle - \frac{\gamma}{2} \left\langle B(s)h(s), h(s) \right\rangle \\ &+ \frac{\gamma}{2} \left\langle B(s)\{h(s)-S\}, h(s)-S \right\rangle + \frac{L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}}}{2} \gamma^2 \|S\|^2 \;. \end{split}$$

Since  $||a||^2 v_{\min} \leq \langle B(s)a, a \rangle \leq v_{\max} ||a||^2$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}^q$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{W}(s+\gamma S) - \mathbf{W}(s) &\leq -\frac{\gamma v_{\min}}{2} \|S\|^2 - \frac{\gamma v_{\min}}{2} \|h(s)\|^2 \\ &+ \frac{\gamma v_{\max}}{2} \|h(s) - S\|^2 + \frac{L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}}}{2} \gamma^2 \|S\|^2 \;. \end{split}$$

Let  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$  and  $k \in [\xi_t - 1]$ . Applying this inequality with  $s \leftarrow \widehat{S}_{t,k}, \gamma \leftarrow \gamma_{t,k+1}, S \leftarrow \mathsf{S}_{t,k+1} - \widehat{S}_{t,k}$  (which yields  $s + \gamma S = \widehat{S}_{t,k+1}$ ), and then the conditional expectation yield the result.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 9.** Assume A1 to A3. For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ 

$$\begin{split} & \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t+1,0}) - \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}) \\ & \leq -\frac{\gamma_{t+1,0}v_{\min}}{2} \|h(\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1})\|^2 + \frac{v_{\max}\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2} \|\mathcal{E}_{t+1}\|^2 \\ & -\frac{\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2} \left(v_{\min} - \gamma_{t+1,0}L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}}\right) \|\mathbf{S}_{t+1,0} - \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}\|^2 \,. \end{split}$$

*Proof.* As in the proof of Proposition 8, we write for any  $s, s' \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ,

$$\mathbf{W}(s') - \mathbf{W}(s) \le \left\langle \nabla \mathbf{W}(s), s' - s \right\rangle + \frac{L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}}}{2} \|s' - s\|^2 .$$

With Lemma 7, this yields when  $s' = s + \gamma S$  for  $\gamma > 0$  and  $S \in \mathbb{R}^q$ 

$$W(s + \gamma S) - W(s) \le -\frac{\gamma}{2} (v_{\min} - \gamma L_{\dot{W}}) \|S\|^2 - \frac{\gamma v_{\min}}{2} \|h(s)\|^2 + \frac{v_{\max}\gamma}{2} \|h(s) - S\|^2.$$

Apply this inequality with  $\gamma \leftarrow \gamma_{t+1,0}$ ,  $s \leftarrow \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}$  and  $S \leftarrow S_{t+1,0} - \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}$ . This yields  $s + \gamma S = \widehat{S}_{t+1,0}$  and

$$h(s) - S = \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}) - \mathsf{S}_{t+1,0} = -\mathcal{E}_{t+1}$$
.

**Theorem 10.** Assume A1 to A3. For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ , let  $\rho_t \in (0, 1)$ and  $\Xi_t \sim \mathcal{G}^*(1 - \rho_t)$ . Finally, choose  $\gamma_{t,k+1} = \gamma_t > 0$  for any  $k \ge 0$ . For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \frac{v_{\min}\gamma_t}{2(1-\rho_t)}\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \leq \mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) - \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}) |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ \frac{v_{\max}}{2(1-\rho_t)} \frac{L^2}{\mathbf{b}} \gamma_t \gamma_{t,0}^2 \|\mathbf{S}_{t,0} - \widehat{S}_{t,-1}\|^2 + \frac{v_{\max}}{2(1-\rho_t)} \gamma_t \|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2 \\ &- \frac{\gamma_t}{2(1-\rho_t)} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_t L_{\dot{\mathrm{W}}} - \frac{v_{\max}L^2\rho_t}{(1-\rho_t)\mathbf{b}} \gamma_t^2 \right) \cdots \\ &\times \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|\mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \,. \end{split}$$

By convention,  $\gamma_{1,0} = 0$ .

*Proof.* Apply Proposition 8 with  $k \leftarrow \xi_t - 1$  and then set  $\xi_t \leftarrow \Xi_t$ ; this yields

$$\begin{split} &\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] + \frac{v_{\min}}{2} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \| h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}) \|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &\leq \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ \frac{v_{\max}}{2} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} \| \mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \bar{s} \circ \mathbf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}) \|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &- \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \frac{\gamma_{t,\Xi_t}}{2} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_{t,\Xi_t} L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}} \right) \| \mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1} \|^2 | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \end{split}$$

Since  $\Xi_t \ge 1$  and  $\gamma_{t,k} = \gamma_t$  for any  $k \ge 1$ , we have

$$\begin{split} &\overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \mathbb{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] + \frac{v_{\min}}{2} \gamma_{t} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \| h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1}) \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &\leq \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \mathbb{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ \frac{v_{\max}}{2} \gamma_{t} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \bar{s} \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1}) \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &- \frac{\gamma_{t}}{2} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_{t} L_{\dot{\mathsf{W}}} \right) \overline{\mathbb{E}}_{t} \left[ \| \mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_{t}-1} \|^{2} | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \;. \end{split}$$

By Lemma 1, it holds

$$\begin{split} \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] &= \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ &+ (1-\rho_t) \left( \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}) | \mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] - \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) \right) \,. \end{split}$$

Furthermore, by Corollary 6 applied with  $\gamma_{t,\Xi_t} = \gamma_{t,\Xi_t+1} = \gamma_t$ 

$$\begin{split} &(1-\rho_t)\,\gamma_t\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t}-\bar{s}\circ\mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1})\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\\ &\leq \frac{L^2\rho_t}{\mathsf{b}}\gamma_t^3\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|\mathsf{S}_{t,\Xi_t}-\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\\ &+\frac{L^2(1-\rho_t)}{\mathsf{b}}\gamma_t\gamma_{t,0}^2\|\mathsf{S}_{t,0}-\widehat{S}_{t,-1}\|^2+(1-\rho_t)\gamma_t\|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2\;, \end{split}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} & \frac{v_{\min}}{2} \gamma_t \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ & \leq (1-\rho_t) \operatorname{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0}) - (1-\rho_t) \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \operatorname{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}) |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ & + \frac{v_{\max}}{2} \frac{L^2 \rho_t}{(1-\rho_t) \mathbf{b}} \gamma_t^3 \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|\mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \\ & + \frac{v_{\max}}{2} \frac{L^2}{\mathbf{b}} \gamma_t \gamma_{t,0}^2 \|\mathbf{S}_{t,0} - \widehat{S}_{t,-1}\|^2 + \frac{v_{\max}}{2} \gamma_t \|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2 \\ & - \frac{\gamma_t}{2} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_t L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}} \right) \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|\mathbf{S}_{t,\Xi_t} - \widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1}\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \;. \end{split}$$

This concludes the proof.

**Corollary 11** (of Theorem 10). Assume that for any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,  $1 - \rho_t = 1/k_{in}$  and  $\gamma_t = \alpha/L$  where  $\alpha > 0$  satisfies

$$v_{\min} - \alpha \frac{L_{\dot{\mathrm{W}}}}{L} - \alpha^2 v_{\max} \frac{k_{\mathrm{in}}}{\mathsf{b}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{k_{\mathrm{in}}}\right) > 0$$

For any  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ ,

$$\begin{split} & \left(\frac{\alpha(k_{\mathrm{in}}-1)}{L}+\gamma_{t+1,0}\right)\frac{v_{\mathrm{min}}}{2}\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\\ & \leq \mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,0})-\mathbb{E}\left[\mathrm{W}(\widehat{S}_{t+1,0})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\\ & -\frac{\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2}\left(v_{\mathrm{min}}-\gamma_{t+1,0}L_{\dot{\mathrm{W}}}\right)\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{S}_{t+1,0}-\widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\\ & +\frac{v_{\mathrm{max}}k_{\mathrm{in}}}{2}\frac{\alpha L}{\mathbf{b}}\gamma_{t,0}^2\|\mathbf{S}_{t,0}-\widehat{S}_{t,-1}\|^2\\ & +\frac{v_{\mathrm{max}}\alpha k_{\mathrm{in}}}{2L}\|\mathcal{E}_t\|^2+\frac{v_{\mathrm{max}}\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2}\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathcal{E}_{t+1}\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]\,. \end{split}$$

*Proof.* Let  $t \in [k_{out}]^*$ . By Proposition 9, since  $\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_t} = \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}$  we have

$$\begin{split} &- \mathbb{E}\left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_{t}})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \leq -\mathbb{E}\left[ \mathbf{W}(\widehat{S}_{t+1,0})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ &- \frac{\gamma_{t+1,0}v_{\min}}{2} \mathbb{E}\left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_{t}})\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ &+ \frac{v_{\max}\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2} \mathbb{E}\left[ \|\mathcal{E}_{t+1}\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \\ &- \frac{\gamma_{t+1,0}}{2} \left( v_{\min} - \gamma_{t+1,0}L_{\dot{\mathbf{W}}} \right) \mathbb{E}\left[ \|\mathsf{S}_{t+1,0} - \widehat{S}_{t+1,-1}\|^{2}|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right] \ . \end{split}$$

The previous inequality remains true when  $\mathbb{E}\left[W(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_t})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$  is replaced with  $\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[W(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$ ; and  $\mathbb{E}\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\xi_t})\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$  with  $\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t\left[\|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})\|^2|\mathcal{F}_{t,0}\right]$ . The proof follows from Theorem 10, and (see Lemma 1)

$$\overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t-1})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] \ge \rho_t \overline{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \|h(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})\|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{t,0} \right] .$$
  
We also use  $\gamma_t = \alpha/L$  and  $\rho_t/(1-\rho_t) = k_{\text{in}} - 1.$ 

$$\rho_t/(1-\rho_t) = k_{\rm in} - 1.$$

#### 2. NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION

By convention, vectors are column-vectors. For a matrix a,  $a^T$  denotes its transpose.

#### 2.1. The model

The observations  $(Y_1, \cdots, Y_n)$  are assumed i.i.d. with distribution

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \alpha_{\ell} \, \mathcal{N}_{p}(\mu_{\ell}, \Sigma)$$

where  $\alpha_{\ell} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \alpha_{\ell} = 1$ . The negative normalized loglikelihood is given by (up to an additive constant)

$$\theta \mapsto F(\theta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\frac{1}{2} \log \det(\Sigma^{-1}) -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \alpha_{\ell} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (Y_i - \mu_{\ell})^T \Sigma^{-1} (Y_i - \mu_{\ell})\right).$$

The parameter  $\theta$  collects the weights, the expectations, and the covariance matrix

$$\theta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\alpha_1, \cdots, \alpha_g, \mu_1, \cdots, \mu_g, \Sigma)$$

so that  $\theta \in \Theta$  with

$$\Theta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ \alpha_{\ell} \ge 0 \text{ for } \ell \in [g]^{\star} \text{ s.t. } \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \alpha_{\ell} = 1 \right\} \times (\mathbb{R}^{p})^{g} \times \mathcal{M}_{p}^{+};$$

 $\mathcal{M}_p^+$  denotes the set of the  $p \times p$  positive definite matrices. For all  $i \in [n]^*$ , we write

$$\begin{aligned} &-\log\sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \alpha_{\ell} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell})^{T} \Sigma^{-1}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell})\right) \\ &= -\log\sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell})^{T} \Sigma^{-1}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell}) + \log\alpha_{\ell}\right) \\ &= -\log\sum_{z=1}^{g} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \mathbf{1}_{z=\ell}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell})^{T} \Sigma^{-1}(Y_{i} - \mu_{\ell}) + \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \mathbf{1}_{z=\ell} \log\alpha_{\ell}\right) \\ &+ \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \mathbf{1}_{z=\ell} \log\alpha_{\ell} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} Y_{i}^{T} \Sigma^{-1} Y_{i} - \log\sum_{z=1}^{g} \exp\left(\sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \mathbf{1}_{z=\ell} Y_{i}^{T} \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{\ell}\right) \cdots \\ &\times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} \mathbf{1}_{z=\ell} \left\{\mu_{\ell}^{T} \Sigma^{-1} \mu_{\ell} - 2\log\alpha_{\ell}\right\}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $F(\theta)$  is of the form

$$-\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\log\int_{\mathsf{Z}}h_{i}(z)\,\exp(\langle s_{i}(z),\phi(\theta)\rangle)\,\mu(\mathrm{d} z)+\mathsf{R}(\theta)$$

by setting:  $\mu$  the counting measure on  $[g]^*, \mathsf{Z} = [g]^*, h_i(z) = 1$ ,

and

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{R}(\theta) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Trace} \left( \Sigma^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i Y_i^T \right) - \frac{1}{2} \log \det(\Sigma^{-1}), \\ \phi(\theta) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \log \alpha_1 - 0.5 \mu_1^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 \\ \\ \log \alpha_g - 0.5 \mu_g^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_g \\ \\ \\ \Sigma^{-1} \mu_g \end{bmatrix}, \quad s_i(z) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}_{z=1} \\ \\ \mathbf{1}_{z=g} \\ \mathbf{1}_{z=1} Y_i \\ \\ \\ \mathbf{1}_{z=g} Y_i \end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

Note that  $\phi(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^{g+pg}$  and  $s_i(z) \in \mathbb{R}^{g+pg}$ .

From these expressions, for any  $i \in [n]^*$  and  $\theta \in \Theta$ , the distribution  $z \mapsto p_i(z; \theta)$  is the distribution on  $[g]^*$  given by

$$p_i(\ell;\theta) = \frac{\alpha_\ell \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(Y_i - \mu_\ell)^T \Sigma^{-1}(Y_i - \mu_\ell)\right)}{\sum_{u=1}^g \alpha_u \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(Y_i - \mu_u)^T \Sigma^{-1}(Y_i - \mu_u)\right)}$$

for any  $\ell \in [g]^*$ . Therefore

$$\bar{s}_i(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} p_i(1;\theta) \\ \cdots \\ p_i(g;\theta) \\ p_i(1;\theta)Y_i \\ \cdots \\ p_i(g;\theta)Y_i \end{bmatrix}$$

For a vector  $s \in \mathbb{R}^{g+pg}$ , we write

$$s = \begin{bmatrix} s^{(1),1} \\ \cdots \\ s^{(1),g} \\ s^{(2),1} \\ \cdots \\ s^{(2),g} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $s^{(1),\ell} \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $s^{(2),\ell} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ; with these notations,  $\mathsf{T}(s) = (\alpha_1, \cdots, \alpha_g, \mu_1, \cdots, \mu_g, \Sigma)$  is defined by

$$\alpha_{\ell} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{s^{(1),\ell}}{\sum_{u=1}^{g} s^{(1),u}}$$
$$\mu_{\ell} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{s^{(2),\ell}}{s^{(1),\ell}}$$
$$\Sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i Y_i^T - \sum_{\ell=1}^{g} s^{(1),\ell} \mu_{\ell} \mu_{\ell}^T$$

#### 2.2. Additional plots

In the numerical applications, p = 20, g = 12 and  $n = 6 \times 10^4$ .

Figure 1 displays the number of conditional expectation evaluations per epoch (top) or cumulated vs the number of epoch (bottom). For quad-geom, the total number of conditional expectations (CE) evaluations is

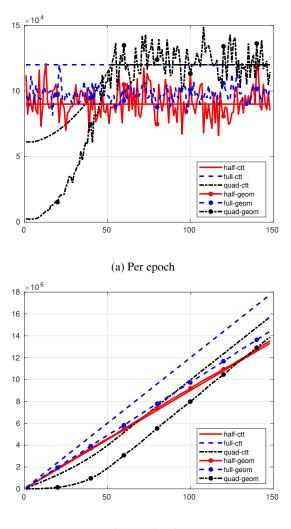
- $|(\min(n, \max(n/100, 6t^2)))|$  for the computation of  $S_t$
- and the 2b multiplied by the mean number of  $\xi_t$ .
- For full-geom, the total number of CE evaluations is
  - n for the computation of  $S_t$
  - and the 2xb multiplied by the mean number of  $\xi_t$ .

For full-ctt,

- n for the computation of  $S_t$
- and the 2xb multiplied by  $k_{in}$  which is constant over the inner loops.

For quad-ctt,

- $\lfloor (\min(n, \max(n/100, 6t^2))) \rfloor$  for the computation of  $S_t$
- and the 2xb multiplied by the mean number of  $\xi_t$ .

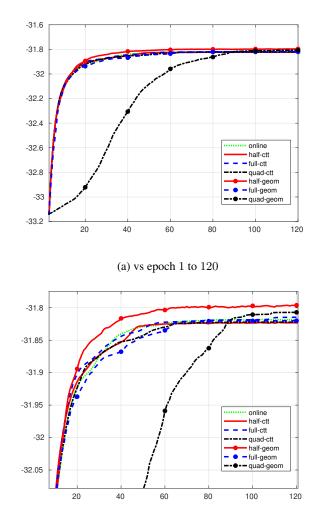


(b) cumulated

**Fig. 1**. Number of CE evaluations: per epochs (top) and cumulated (bottom).

Figure 2 displays the mean value of the normalized loglikelihood  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{L}_i \circ \mathsf{T}(\widehat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})$  vs the number of epochs t; this mean value is computed over 30 independent runs of the algorithms. Figure 3 displays the same analysis as in Figure 2 for two different strategies for the number of inner loops  $\xi_t$  (on the top,  $\xi_t$  is constant and equal to  $k_{in}$ ; on the bottom,  $\xi_t$  is a geometric distribution with expectation  $k_{in}$ ), and different strategies for the initialization  $\mathcal{E}_t$ .

Figure 4 displays the quantiles 0.25, 0.5 and 0.75 of the distribution of  $||h(\hat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$ ; the quantiles are estimated over 30 independent



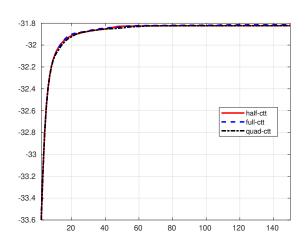
(b) the first epochs are discarded

**Fig. 2**. The mean value, computed over 30 independent runs of the algorithms, of the normalized log-likelihood  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{L}_i$ . The plot shows its value vs the number of epochs.

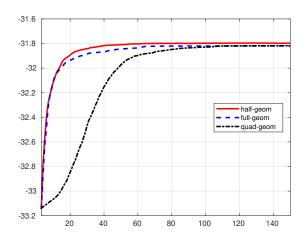
runs of the algorithm. Here the case  $\xi_t$  is constant is considered, with different strategies for the initialization  $\mathcal{E}_t$ .

Figure 5 displays the same analysis as in Figure 4, except that  $\xi_t$  is a geometric random variable with expectation  $k_{in}$ .

Figure 6 display Figure 4 and Figure 5 on the same plots. The quantiles of the distribution of  $||h(\hat{S}_t)||^2$  vs the number of epochs when  $\{\hat{S}_t, t \ge 0\}$  is obtained by online-EM.

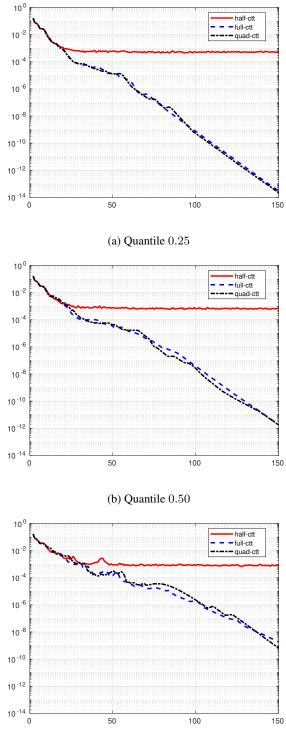


(a) Case of SPIDER-EM (fixed number of inner loop  $\xi_t = k_{in}$ )



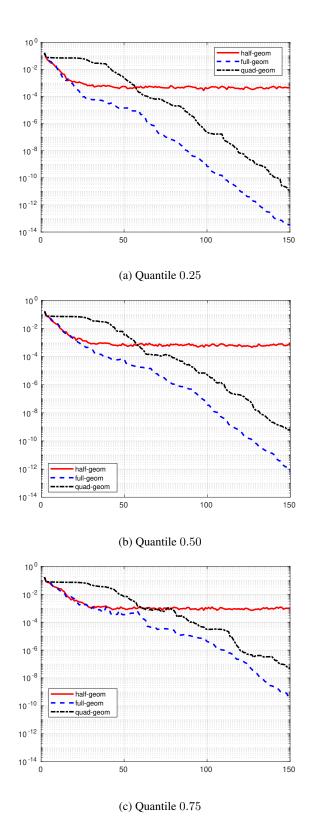
(b) Case of Geom-SPIDER-EM

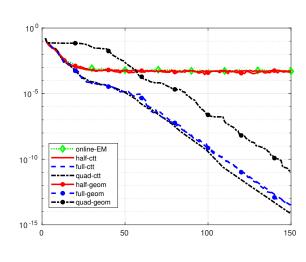
**Fig. 3**. The mean value, computed over 30 independent runs of the algorithms, of the normalized log-likelihood  $n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{L}_i$ . The plot shows the mean value vs the number of epochs, starting from epoch #2



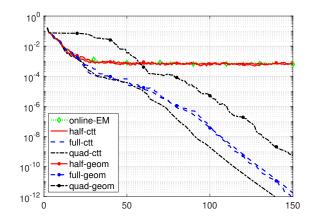
(c) Quantile 0.75

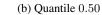
**Fig. 4.** Case SPIDER-EM. Quantiles of the distribution of  $||h(\hat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$ , estimated over 30 independent runs, vs the number of epochs t.

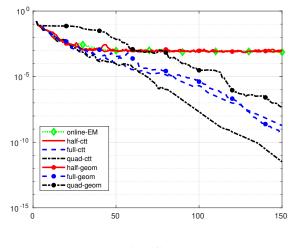




(a) Quantile 0.25







(c) Quantile 0.75

**Fig. 5.** Case Geom-SPIDER-EM. Quantiles of the distribution of  $||h(\hat{S}_{t,\Xi_t})||^2$ , estimated over 30 independent runs, vs the number of epochs t

**Fig. 6.** Comparison of Online-EM, SPIDER-EM and Geom-SPIDER-EM. Quantiles of the distribution of  $||h(\hat{S}_{t,\Xi_t}||^2$ , estimated over 30 independent runs, vs the number of epochs t.

### **3. REFERENCES**

[1] G. Fort, E. Moulines, and H.T. Wai, "A Stochastic Path-Integrated Differential EstimatoR Expectation Maximization Algorithm," in *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 34*. Curran Associates, Inc., 2020.