

## The Problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} P(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f_i(x) \right) + \psi(x), \quad (1)$$

where  $f \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f_i(x)$ ,  $f_i$  are smooth and convex,  $\lambda_i > 0$  are weights, and  $\psi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is closed and convex.

## Sampling

**Sampling:** A random set valued mapping  $S$  with values being subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . A sampling is uniquely defined by assigning probabilities to all  $2^n$  subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $\tau \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}[|S|]$  be the expected size of  $S$ , and define

$$p_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Prob}(i \in S), \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}.$$

A sampling is called **proper** if  $p_i > 0$  for all  $i$ . For  $C \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ , let

$$p_C \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Prob}(S = C).$$

**Bias-correcting random vector:** vector  $\theta_S = (\theta_S^1, \dots, \theta_S^n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with the property

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{Diag}(\theta_S) \mathbf{I}_S e] = e, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \mathbb{E}[\theta_S^i 1_{i \in S}] = 1, \quad \forall i, \quad (2)$$

where

- $e$ :  $n \times 1$  vector of all ones
- $\mathbf{I}$ :  $n \times n$  identity matrix
- $\mathbf{I}_S$ :  $n \times n$  matrix with ones in places  $(i, i)$  for  $i \in S$
- $1_{i \in S}$ : indicator random variable of the event  $i \in S$ , i.e.,  $1_{i \in S} = 1$  if  $i \in S$  and  $1_{i \in S} = 0$  if  $i \notin S$

## Algorithm

**Prox operator:**  $\text{prox}_\alpha^{\psi}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arg \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2\alpha} \|x - y\|^2 + \psi(y) \right\}$

**Gradient matrix:**  $\mathbf{G}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\nabla f_1(x), \dots, \nabla f_n(x)] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$

**Algorithm 1: SAGA with Arbitrary Sampling (SAGA-AS)**

*Initialize:*  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathbf{J}^0 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$

*Parameters:* arbitrary sampling  $S$ , bias-correcting random vector

$\theta_S$ , stepsize  $\alpha > 0$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

  Sample fresh  $S_k \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$

$\mathbf{J}^{k+1} = \mathbf{J}^k + (\mathbf{G}(x^k) - \mathbf{J}^k) \mathbf{I}_{S_k}$

$g^k = \mathbf{J}^k \lambda + (\mathbf{G}(x^k) - \mathbf{J}^k) \text{Diag}(\theta_{S_k}) \mathbf{I}_{S_k} \lambda$

$x^{k+1} = \text{prox}_\alpha^{\psi}(x^k - \alpha g^k)$

**end**

## Smooth Case ( $\psi \equiv 0$ )

**Assumptions:**

- $f_i$  is convex and  $L_i$ -smooth,
- $f$  is  $\mu$ -strongly convex and  $L$ -smooth
- There exist constants  $\mathcal{A}_i \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq \mathcal{B} \leq 1$  such that for any matrix  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$

$$\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{M} \text{Diag}(\theta_S) \mathbf{I}_S \lambda\|^2] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i^2 \|\mathbf{M}_i\|^2 + \mathcal{B} \|\mathbf{M} \lambda\|^2$$

**Lyapunov function:**

$$\Psi^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|x^k - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i^2 \|\mathbf{J}_i^k - \nabla f_i(x^*)\|^2,$$

where  $\sigma_i = \frac{1}{4(1+\mathcal{B})L_i \mathcal{A}_i p_i \lambda_i}$  and  $x^*$  is a solution of (1).

## Convergence Result ( $\mathbb{E}[\Psi^k] \leq \epsilon \cdot \mathbb{E}[\Psi^0]$ )

**$\mu$  is known:**  $\alpha = \min_i \left\{ \frac{p_i}{\mu + 4(1+\mathcal{B})L_i \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i}, \frac{\mathcal{B}^{-1}}{2(1+\mathcal{B})L} \right\}$

$$k \geq \max_i \left\{ \frac{1}{p_i} + \frac{4(1+\mathcal{B})L_i \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i}{\mu}, \frac{2\mathcal{B}(1+\frac{1}{\mathcal{B}})L}{\mu} \right\} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

**$\mu$  is unknown:**  $\alpha = \min_i \left\{ \frac{p_i}{8(1+\mathcal{B})L_i \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i}, \frac{\mathcal{B}^{-1}}{2(1+\mathcal{B})L} \right\}$

$$k \geq \max_i \left\{ \frac{2}{p_i}, \frac{8(1+\mathcal{B})L_i \mathcal{A}_i \lambda_i}{\mu}, \frac{2\mathcal{B}(1+\frac{1}{\mathcal{B}})L}{\mu} \right\} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

## Interface For Sampling

- Proper sampling:  $\mathcal{A}_i = \beta_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{C \subseteq [n]: i \in C} p_C |C| \theta_C^i$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = 0$ .
- $\tau$ -nice sampling ( $\theta_S^i = \frac{1}{p_i}$ ):  $\mathcal{A}_i = \frac{n}{\tau} \cdot \frac{n-\tau}{n-1}$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = \frac{n(\tau-1)}{\tau(n-1)}$ .
- Independent sampling ( $\theta_S^i = \frac{1}{p_i}$ ):  $\mathcal{A}_i = \frac{1}{p_i} - 1$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = 1$ .

## Optimal Bias-Correcting Random Vector

Let  $\Theta(S)$  be the collection of all bias-correcting random vectors associated with sampling  $S$ , i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}[\theta_S \mathbf{I}_S e] = e$ . Let  $\mathbb{E}^i[\cdot] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}[\cdot | i \in S]$ .

## Lemma

Let  $S$  be a proper sampling. Then

- $\min_{\theta \in \Theta(S)} \beta_i = \frac{1}{\sum_{C: i \in C} p_C |C|} = \frac{1}{p_i \mathbb{E}^i[1/|S|]}$   
for all  $i$ , and the minimum is obtained at  $\theta \in \Theta(S)$  given by  $\theta_C^i = \frac{1}{|C| \sum_{C: i \in C} p_C |C|} = \frac{1}{p_i |C| \mathbb{E}^i[1/|S|]}$   
for all  $C: i \in C$ ;
- Moreover,  $\frac{1}{\mathbb{E}^i[1/|S|]} \leq \mathbb{E}^i[|S|]$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

## Importance Sampling

Let  $\tau \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{E}[|S|]$  be the expected minibatch size, and  $\bar{L} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i \in [n]} L_i \lambda_i$ . Consider the **independent sampling** with  $\theta_S^i = 1/p_i$ . Let

$$q_i = \frac{(\mu + 8\bar{L} \lambda_i) \tau}{\sum_{i \in [n]} (\mu + 8\bar{L} \lambda_i)}.$$

By choosing  $\min\{q_i, 1\} \leq p_i \leq 1$  such that  $\sum_{i \in [n]} p_i = \tau$ , the iteration complexity becomes:

$$\max \left\{ \frac{n}{\tau} + \frac{8\bar{L}}{\mu\tau}, \frac{4L}{\mu} \right\} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right). \quad (3)$$

**Linear speedup:** When  $\tau \leq \frac{n\mu + 8\bar{L}}{4L}$ , (3) becomes

$$\left( \frac{n}{\tau} + \frac{8\bar{L}}{\mu\tau} \right) \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right),$$

which yields linear speedup with respect to  $\tau$ . When  $\tau \geq \frac{n\mu + 8\bar{L}}{4L}$ , (3) becomes

$$\frac{4L}{\mu} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

## Nonsmooth Case (strongly convex)

**Assumptions:**

- $f_i(x) = \phi_i(\mathbf{A}_i^\top x)$
- $\phi$  is  $1/\gamma$ -smooth and convex
- $\psi_i$  is  $\mu$ -strongly convex
- Choose  $\theta_S^i = 1/p_i$
- Let  $v_i$  satisfy the **ESO inequality**:

$$\mathbb{E}_S \left[ \left\| \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{A}_i v_i \right\|^2 \right] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n p_i v_i \|h_i\|^2.$$

**Lyapunov function:**

$$\Psi^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|x^k - x^*\|^2 + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \frac{v_i}{p_i} \lambda_i^2 \|\alpha_i^k - \nabla \phi_i(\mathbf{A}_i^\top x^*)\|^2.$$

## Convergence Result ( $\mathbb{E}[\Psi^k] \leq \epsilon \cdot \mathbb{E}[\Psi^0]$ )

**$\mu$  is known:**  $\sigma_i = 2\gamma/3v_i \lambda_i$ ,  $\alpha = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \frac{p_i}{\mu + 3v_i \lambda_i / \gamma}$

$$k \geq \max_i \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{p_i} + \frac{3v_i \lambda_i}{p_i \mu \gamma} \right\} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

**$\mu$  is unknown:**  $\sigma_i = \gamma/(1 + \alpha \mu) v_i \lambda_i$ ,  $\alpha = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \frac{p_i \gamma}{4v_i \lambda_i}$

$$k \geq \max_i \left\{ 1 + \frac{4v_i \lambda_i}{p_i \mu \gamma}, \frac{2}{p_i} \right\} \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

## Nonsmooth Case (non-strongly convex)

**Assumptions:**

- $f_i(x) = \phi_i(\mathbf{A}_i^\top x)$
- $\phi$  is  $1/\gamma$ -smooth and convex
- $\theta_S^i = 1/p_i$
- **ESO inequality**
- Nullspace consistency: For any  $x^*, y^* \in \mathcal{X}^*$  we have  $\mathbf{A}_i^\top x^* = \mathbf{A}_i^\top y^*$ ,  $\forall i \in [n]$ ,

where  $\mathcal{X}^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \arg \min \{P(x) : x \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$ .

- Quadratic functional growth condition: there is a constant  $\mu > 0$  such that

$$P(x^k) - P^* \geq \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^k - [x^k]^*\|^2, \quad w.p.1, \quad \forall k \geq 1,$$

where  $[x]^* = \arg \min \{\|x - y\| : y \in \mathcal{X}^*\}$ , for the sequence  $\{x^k\}$  produced by the Algorithm.

**Lyapunov function:**

$$\Psi^k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|x^k - [x^k]^*\|^2 + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \frac{v_i}{p_i} \lambda_i^2 \|\alpha_i^k - \nabla \phi_i(\mathbf{A}_i^\top x^*)\|^2,$$

where  $\sigma_i = \gamma/2v_i \lambda_i$ .

## Convergence Result ( $\mathbb{E}[\Psi^k] \leq \epsilon \cdot \mathbb{E}[\Psi^0]$ )

**$\mu$  is known:**  $\alpha = \min \left\{ \frac{2}{3} \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \frac{p_i}{\mu + 4v_i \lambda_i / \gamma}, \frac{1}{3L} \right\}$

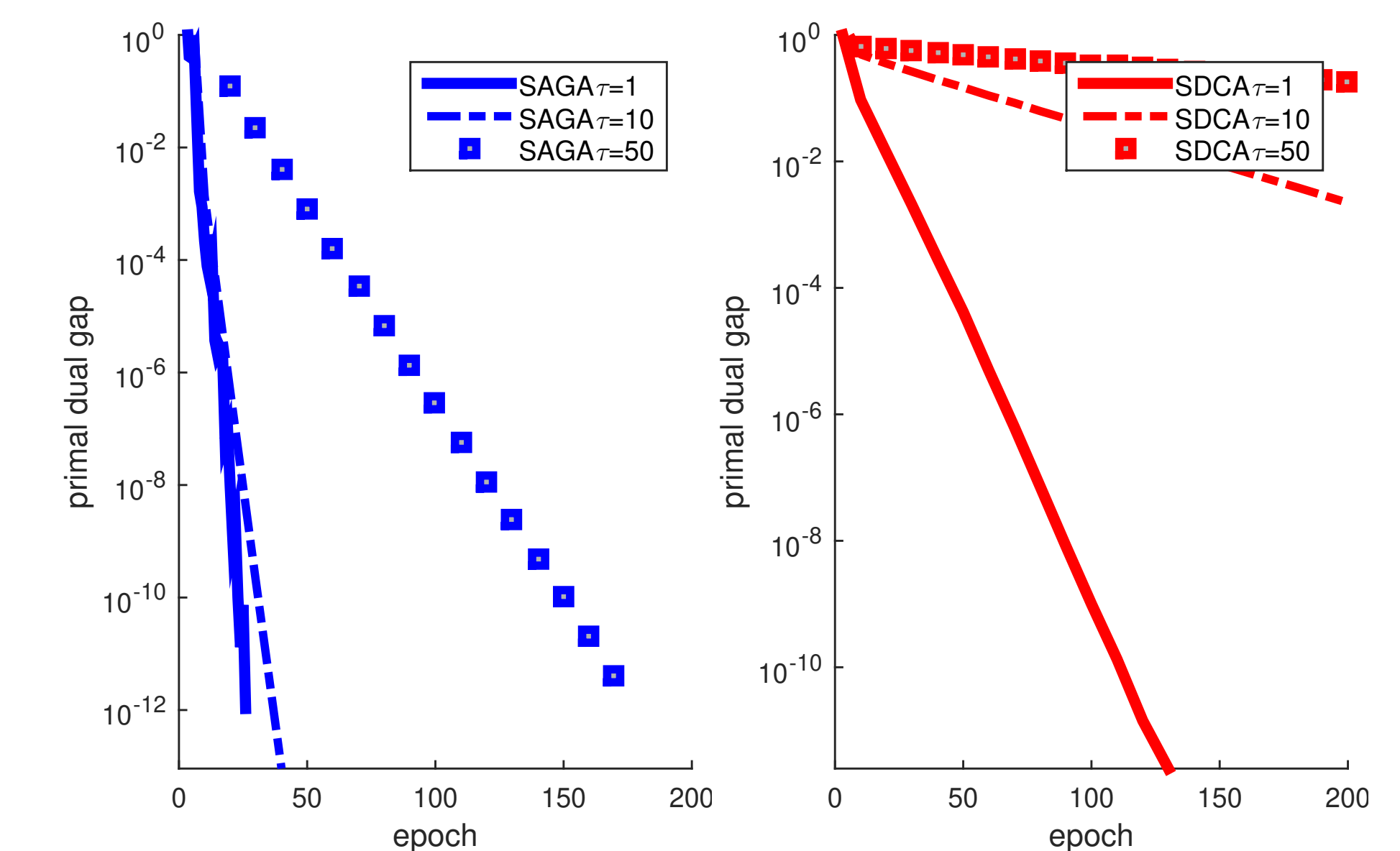
$$k \geq \left( 2 + \max \left\{ \frac{6L}{\mu}, 3 \max_i \left( \frac{1}{p_i} + \frac{4v_i \lambda_i}{p_i \mu \gamma} \right) \right\} \right) \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

**$\mu$  is unknown:**  $\alpha = \min \left\{ \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \frac{p_i}{12v_i \lambda_i / \gamma}, \frac{1}{3L} \right\}$

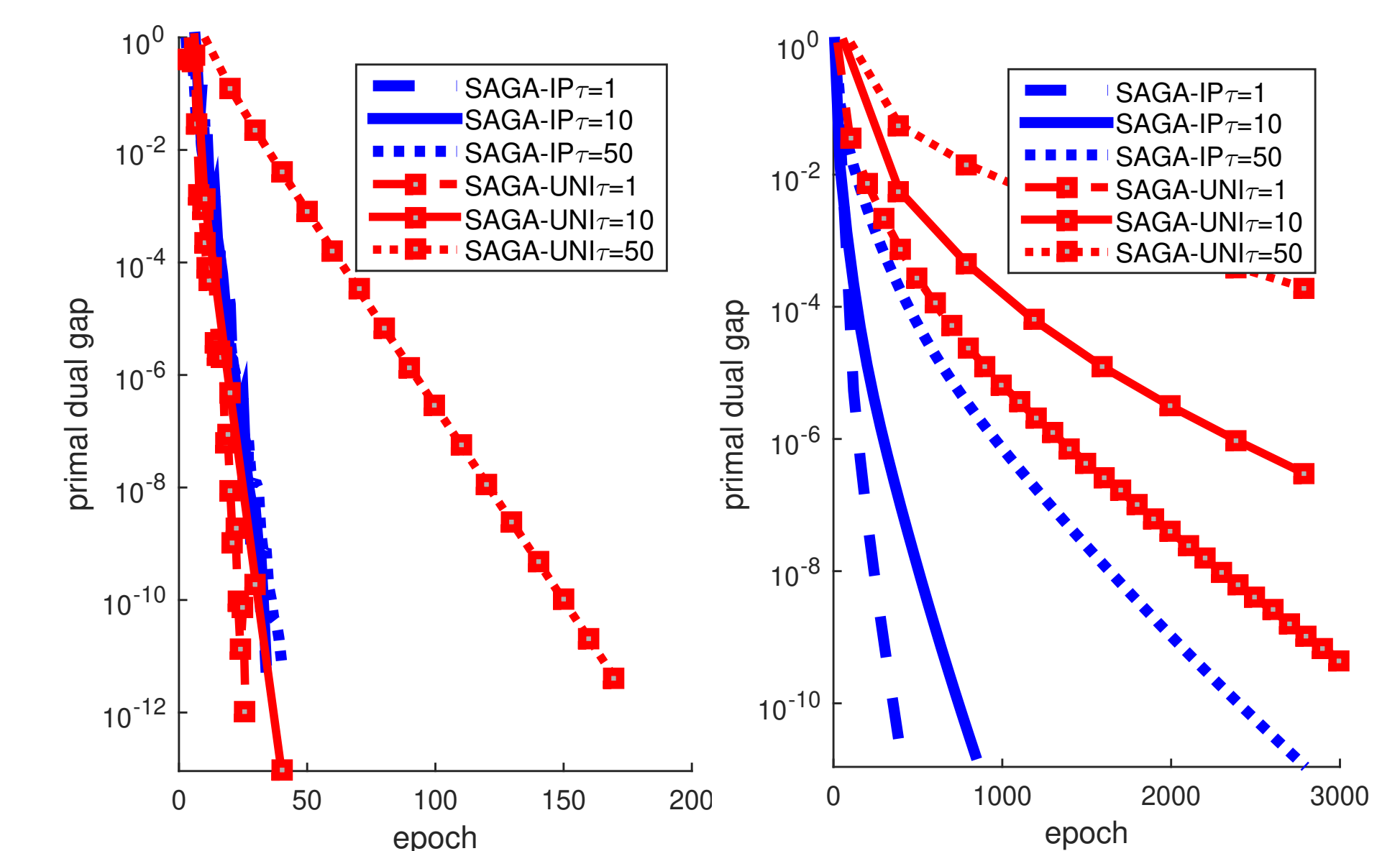
$$k \geq \left( 2 + \max \left\{ \frac{6L}{\mu}, \max_i \left\{ \frac{24v_i \lambda_i}{\mu p_i \gamma}, \frac{2}{p_i} \right\} \right\} \right) \log \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right).$$

## Numerical Results

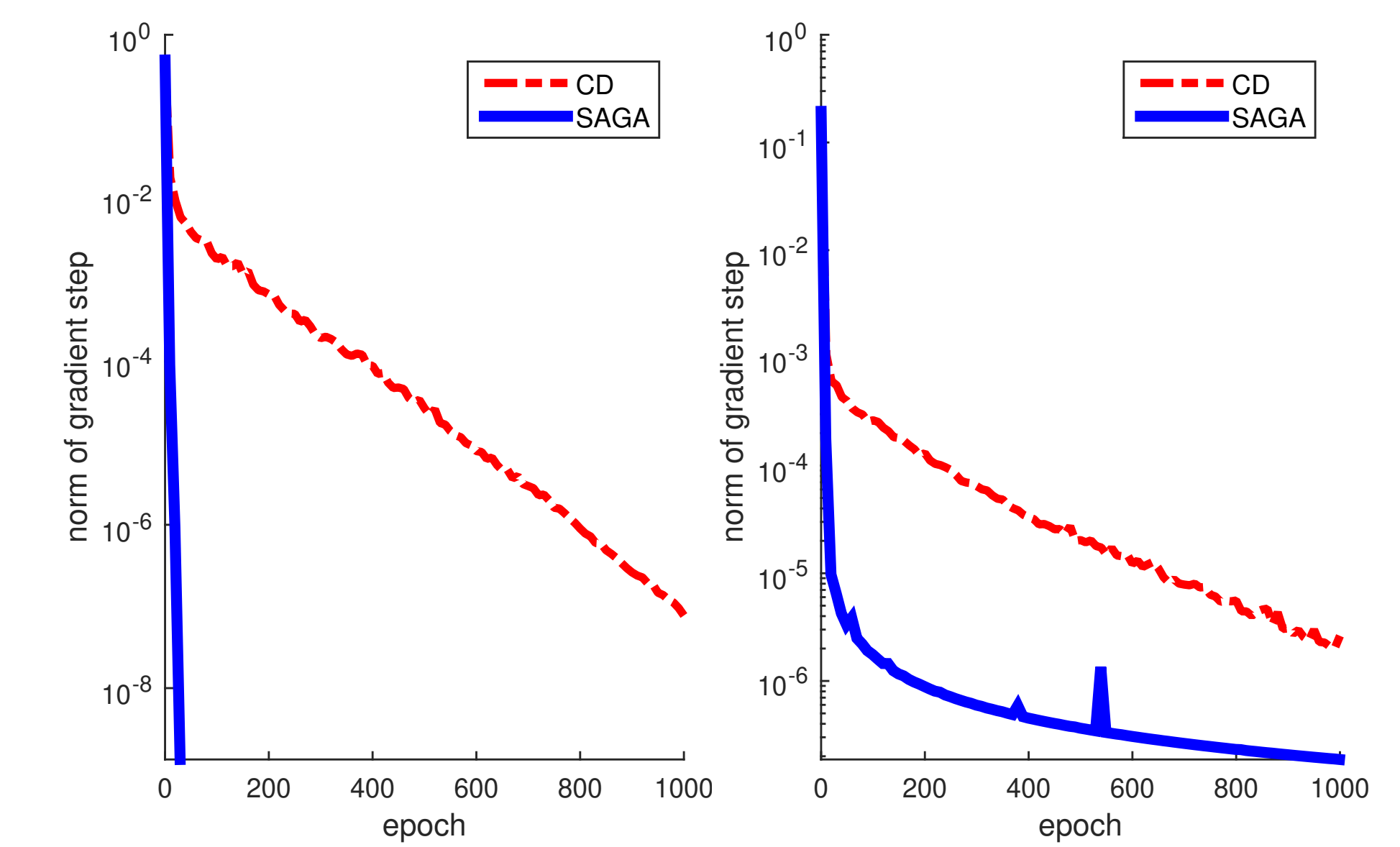
1. mini-batch SAGA versus mini-batch SDCA [1, 2]



2. Importance sampling versus uniform sampling



3. SAGA versus CD



## References

- [1] Shai Shalev-Shwartz and Tong Zhang. Stochastic dual coordinate ascent methods for regularized loss. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 14(1):567–599, 2013.
- [2] Zheng Qu, Peter Richtárik, and Tong Zhang. Quartz: Randomized dual coordinate ascent with arbitrary sampling. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 28*, pages 865–873. Curran Associates, Inc., 2015.
- [3] R. M. Gower, P. Richtárik, and F. Bach. Stochastic quasi-gradient methods: Variance reduction via Jacobian sketching. *arXiv Preprint arXiv: 1805.02632*, 2018.
- [4] Aaron Defazio, Francis Bach, and Simon Lacoste-Julien. SAGA: A fast incremental gradient method with support for non-strongly convex composite objectives. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 27*, 2014.