

# Successive Approximation for Coded Matrix Multiplication

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# Outline

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# Speed Up Large-Scale Matrix Multiplication

## Motivation:

- **Matrices** are fundamental mathematical structures for representing data and can be **too large** to fit in memory.
- **Matrix multiplication** is a core building block for numerous scientific computing and can be **too time consuming**.

⇒ Large-scale matrix multiplication needs to be **parallelized** across multiple working nodes and/or **approximated**.

**Problem of stragglers:** Some workers compute and/or communicate too slowly, making delay into the parallel system.

**Combine coded and approximated computing:** While most efforts on coded computing to date have focused on exact recovery of the target computation, in lots of applications (gradient descent, etc.) inexact will suffice.

⇒ We can tradeoff **speed** and **accuracy**.

# Coded computing using polynomial bases

**Notations:**  $N$  workers and a master multiply  $A \in \mathcal{R}^{N_x \times N_z}$  and  $B \in \mathcal{R}^{N_z \times N_y}$ .

**Step 1/5:** Master **partitions**  $A$  and  $B$  into submatrices.

- Exp) In MatDot,  $A$  vert,  $B$  horizon,  $AB$  to sum of  $K$  outer products (e.g.,  $K = 2$ ).

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \end{bmatrix} = A_1 \times B_1 + A_2 \times B_2$$

**Step 2/5:** Master **encodes** data using poly basis:  $\{T_k(x)\}_{k=1}^K$ .

- Produce encoding polys  $A(x)$  and  $B(x)$ .
- Exp) In MatDot,  $T_k(x)$  are monomial basis (e.g.,  $K = 2$ ).

$$A(x) = A_1 + A_2 x, \quad B(x) = B_1 x + B_2$$

- Evaluate  $(A(x), B(x))$  at  $x \in \{x_n\}_{n=1}^N$ ; send  $(A(x_n), B(x_n))$  to worker  $n \in [N]$ .

# Coded computing using polynomial bases (con't)

**Step 3/5:** Worker  $n$  computes  $A(x_n)B(x_n)$ ; sends it to the master.

**Step 4/5:** Master decodes  $A(x_n)B(x_n)$  to recover  $\{C_r\}_{r=1}^R$  coeffs.

- Exp) MatDot solves Vander system of equations (e.g.,  $R = 3$ )

$$A(x)B(x) = (A_1 + A_2x)(B_1x + B_2) = C_1 + C_2x + C_3x^2$$

$$C_1 = A_1B_2, C_2 = A_1B_1 + A_2B_2, C_3 = A_2B_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A(x_{i_1})B(x_{i_1}) \\ A(x_{i_2})B(x_{i_2}) \\ A(x_{i_3})B(x_{i_3}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_{i_1} & x_{i_1}^2 \\ 1 & x_{i_2} & x_{i_2}^2 \\ 1 & x_{i_3} & x_{i_3}^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 5/5:** In some codes, master needs **post-decoding**:

- Interpolate  $A(x)B(x)$  at  $x \in \{y_k\}_{k=1}^K$ ; calculate  $AB = \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k A(y_k)B(y_k)$ .

# Benchmark: $\epsilon$ -Approximate MatDot ( $\epsilon$ AMD) [Jeong et al]

**Exp:**  $K = 3$ , use same enc polys as MatDot.

$$A(x)B(x) = (A_1 + A_2x + A_3x^2)(B_1x^2 + B_2x + B_3)$$

$$= C_1 + C_2x + C_3x^2 + C_4x^3 + C_5x^4 \rightarrow \text{remainder}$$

**Idea:** Remainder is small if evaluate  $A(x)$ ,  $B(x)$  at **small**  $x$  ( $\|A_i\|_F$ ,  $\|B_i\|_F$  bounded).

- Approximate recovery poly is  $P(x) := C_1 + C_2x + C_3x^2 \approx A(x)B(x)$  if  $x$  is small.
- The desired  $AB$  product equals  $C_3 = (A_1B_1 + A_2B_2 + A_3B_3)$
- $P(x)$  is degree-2  $\Rightarrow$  Approximate recovery threshold is  $R_1 = 3$ .
- $A(x)B(x)$  is degree-4  $\Rightarrow$  Recovery threshold is  $R = 5$ .

# Group-wise SAC, $D = 2$

**Goal:** Extend single-layer approx of  $\epsilon$ AMD by getting mid coeff to show up elsewhere.

**Idea # 1:** Carefully **re-order** the coeffs of enc polys.

$$\epsilon\text{AMD: } A(x)B(x) = (A_1 + A_2x + A_3x^2)(B_1x^2 + B_2x + B_3)$$

$$\text{G-SAC: } A(x)B(x) = (A_1 + A_2x + A_3x^2)(B_3x^2 + B_1x + B_2)$$

$$= C_1 + C_2x + C_3x^2 + C_4x^3 + C_5x^4$$

- Approximate recovery polys are  $P_r(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r C_i x^{i-1} \approx A(x)B(x)$ .
- $AB$  equals  $C_2 = A_1B_1 + A_2B_2$  plus  $C_5 = A_3B_3$ .
- $P_r(x)$  is degree- $r \Rightarrow$  Approximate recovery threshold is  $R_r = r + 1$ .
- $A(x)B(x)$  is degree-4  $\Rightarrow$  Recovery threshold is  $R = 5$ .

Group-wise SAC,  $D = 3$ 

**Goal:** Generalize to multi-group SAC in order to recover lower resolutions earlier.

**Idea # 2:** Inject **delays** amongst coeffs to eliminate interference.

$$\text{G-SAC } (D = 2): A(x)B(x) = (\boxed{A_1} + \boxed{A_2}x + \boxed{A_3}x^2) (\boxed{B_3}x^2 + \boxed{B_1}x + \boxed{B_2})$$

$$\text{G-SAC } (D = 3): A(x)B(x) = (\boxed{A_1} + \boxed{A_2}x + 0x^2 + \boxed{A_3}x^3) (\boxed{B_3}x^3 + 0x^2 + \boxed{B_2}x + \boxed{B_1})$$

$$= \overset{C_1}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}} + \overset{C_2}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}}x + \overset{C_3}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^2 + \overset{C_4}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^3 + \overset{C_5}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^4 + 0x^5 + \overset{C_7}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \blacksquare & \square \\ \hline \square & \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^6$$

- $AB$  equals  $C_1 = A_1B_1$  plus  $C_3 = A_2B_2$  plus  $C_7 = A_3B_3$ .
- $\forall r \in [5]$ , degree of  $P_r(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r C_i x^{i-1}$  is  $(r-1) \Rightarrow R_r = r$ .
- $A(x)B(x)$  is degree-6  $\Rightarrow$  Recovery threshold is  $R = 7$ .



## Prior coding schemes requiring post-decoding

In both,  $A(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K A_k T_{k-1}(x)$ ,  $B(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K B_k T_{k-1}(x)$ ;  $T_i(x)$  is not monomial.

### OrthoMatDot [Fahim et al]:

**Basis:** Orthonormal basis

$$\int_{-1}^1 T_i(x) T_j(x) w(x) dx = \mathbb{I}(i = j)$$

**Enc:** Eval  $A(x), B(x)$  at  $x \in \{T_N(x) \text{ roots}\}$

**Dec:** Invert Cheby Vander to get  $A(x)B(x)$

**Post-dec:** Gauss quad

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= \int_{-1}^1 A(x)B(x)w(x)dx \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{2}{K} A(y_k)B(y_k) \end{aligned}$$

where  $y_k \in \{K \text{ roots of } T_K(x)\}$

(+) Mitigates ill-conditioning issue.

### Lagrange [Yu et al]:

**Basis:** Lagrange basis

$$T_i(x) = \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{(x-y_j)}{(y_i-y_j)}, \text{ for } i \in [K]$$

**Enc:** Eval at arbitrary

$$x \in \mathcal{X}_{\text{Lag}}, \text{ s.t. } |\mathcal{X}_{\text{Lag}}| = N$$

$$y \in \mathcal{Y}_{\text{Lag}}, \text{ s.t. } |\mathcal{Y}_{\text{Lag}}| = K$$

**Dec:** Invert Vander to get  $A(x)B(x)$

**Post-dec:**  $y_k$  zeros-out cross terms,

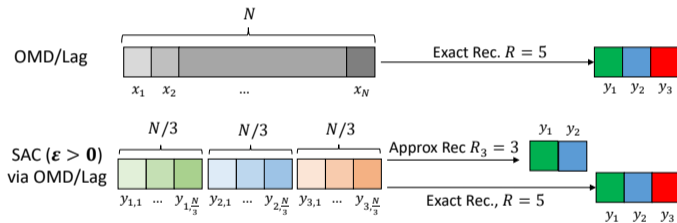
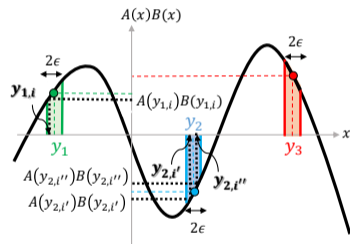
$$\sum_{k=1}^K A(y_k)B(y_k) = AB$$

(+) Extends to multi-variate polynomials and security and privacy.

# Layer-wise SAC

**Goal:** Apply SAC to codes with post-decoding, (e.g., OMD, Lag)

**Idea:** Pick  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^N$  used by enc to be  $\epsilon$ -close (a small perturbation) of  $\{y_k\}_{k=1}^K$  of dec.

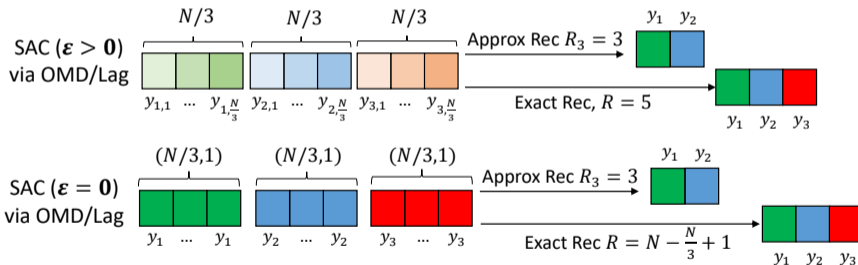


$$AB = \sum_{k=1}^3 \alpha_k A(y_k)B(y_k) \approx \beta \left( \alpha_1 \frac{A(y_{1,i})B(y_{1,i})}{1} + \alpha_2 \frac{A(y_{2,i'})B(y_{2,i'}) + A(y_{2,i''})B(y_{2,i''})}{2} \right)$$

**General:** Div workers into  $K$  splits. Avg results from each split to improve estimate.

# Layer-wise SAC: Hybridize repetition and coded computing

- Like Rep codes, workers in split  $k \in [K]$  contribute to  $A(y_k)B(y_k)$  recovery.
- Like coded computing, guarantee exact rec only when a few workers report in.
- LSAC( $\epsilon = 0$ ) slightly better estimates, but waits longer for exact recovery.



- However, compared to OMD we lose numerical benefits of Cheby Vander dec.

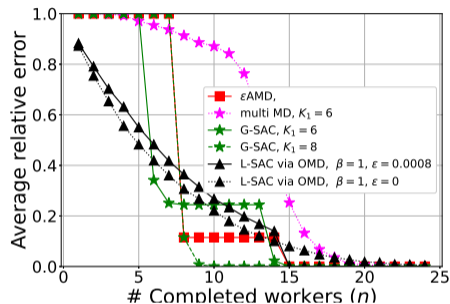
# Relative error vs. approximation threshold

## Settings:

- $N = 40, K = 8, A \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 8000}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{8000 \times 100}$ ,  
All entries  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .
- MMD: (30,6) MatDot & (10,2) MatDot.
- 2-GSAC:  $K_1 \in \{6, 8\}, x \in \{0.15e^{\frac{i2\pi n}{N}}\}_{n=1}^N$ .
- LSAC-OMD:  $\epsilon \in \{\frac{5}{10^4}, 0\}, y_{k,i} \in \mu_k^{(8), \text{cheby}} \pm \epsilon$ .

## Takeaways:

- G-SAC,  $K_1 = 8$ : similar to  $\epsilon$ AMD upto  $n = 8$ , improve as  $n \uparrow$ .
- G-SAC,  $K_1 = 6$ : early estim.  $n = 6$ , better estim.  $n \geq 14$ .
- L-SAC via OMD: contin. improv. since  $n = 1$ .
- If  $\epsilon = 0$ , slight. better estim., later exact recovery.



# Conclusion and future works







## Conclusion:

- G-SAC and L-SAC enable approximation in coded computing, extending approximate procedure of  $\epsilon$ AMD to multiple layers.
- Compared to  $\epsilon$ AMD, SAC achieves better tradeoff between approximate threshold and relative error.

## Some possible future works:

- Apply SAC to more practical applications (beyond matrix multiplication) such as training deep neural networks.
- Extend SAC to other coding schemes, such as Polynomial and Product codes.
- Study numerically stability of SAC methods and explore possible numerical stable coding schemes building on SAC.

# References

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-  H. Jeong, A. Devulapalli, V. R. Cadambe, and F. P. Calmon, “ $\epsilon$  approximate coded matrix multiplication is nearly twice as efficient as exact multiplication,” IEEE J. Sel. Areas Inf. Theory, 2021.
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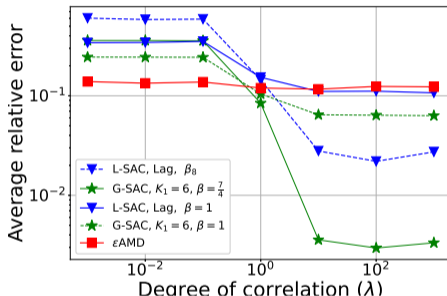
# Effect of correlation (Additional)

## Settings:

- $n = 8$ .
- LSAC-Lag:  $\epsilon = 3.33 \times 10^{-2}$ ,  
 $y_{k,i}$   $\epsilon$ -close to  $k$ .
- $A_k = \lambda A^{(0)} + A_k^{(1)}$ ,  
 $B_k = \lambda B^{(0)} + B_k^{(1)}$ ,  
 $A^{(0)}, \dots, B_k^{(1)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

## Takeaways:

- 2-GSAC and LSAC-Lag better estim. than  $\epsilon$ AMD if highly correlated ( $\lambda$  large) and parameters set optimally.



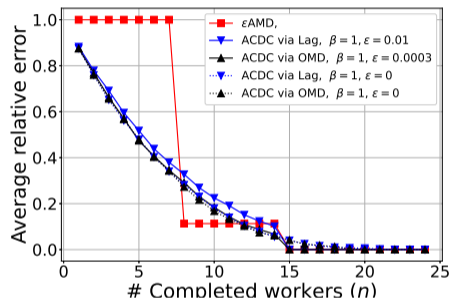
# Relative Err. vs. Approx. Threshold (Additional)

## Settings:

- $N = 24, K = 8, A, B \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1),$   
 $A, B : (6 \times 10^2, 9 \times 10^3, 6 \times 10^2).$
- LSAC-OMD:  $\epsilon \in \{3 \times 10^{-4}, 0\}, y_{k,i} \epsilon$ -close to  $\mu_k^{(8), \text{cheby}}$ .
- LSAC-Lag:  $\epsilon = 10^{-2}, \epsilon$ -close to  $k$ .
- $\epsilon$ AMD:  $x \in \{0.15e^{\frac{i2\pi n}{N}}\}_{n=1}^N$ .

## Takeaways:

- LSAC-Lag  $\epsilon > 0$ : contin improv from  $n = 1$ . Better than  $\epsilon$ AMD  $n < 8$ .
- LSAC-OMD  $\epsilon > 0$ : contin improv from  $n = 1$ . Better than  $\epsilon$ AMD  $n < 8$  or  $n > 11$ .
- If  $\epsilon = 0$ , slight. better estim., later exact recovery.





# Recalling GSAC & further developments (see papers)

$$\mathbf{G-SAC} (D = 3): A(x)B(x) = (\boxed{A_1} + \boxed{A_2}x + 0x^2 + \boxed{A_3}x^3) (\boxed{B_3}x^3 + 0x^2 + \boxed{B_2}x + \boxed{B_1})$$

$$= \overset{C_1}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}} + \overset{C_2}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x + \overset{C_3}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^2 + \overset{C_4}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^3 + \overset{C_5}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^4 + 0x^5 + \overset{C_7}{\boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array}}}x^6$$

- **Reducing interference:** For  $n = 2, 4, 5$  can approx higher-order polynomial, reducing “interference” from even higher-order terms (analogous to SINR)
- **Total error & evaluation points:** Total error = (approx. error) + (numerical precision). Selecting evaluation points complex equal-magnitude increases computation but reduces numerical errors (Ramamoorthy & Tang ISIT'21)
- **Avoid worst-case:** Randomly jointly permute the  $\{A_k\}_{k=1}^K$  and the  $\{B_k\}_{k=1}^K$  to avoid worst-case of largest-norm  $A_i B_i$  being recovered last.
- **# groups:** Extension in paper to more groups ( $> 3$ )