

Byzantine Robust Optimization: A dual approach

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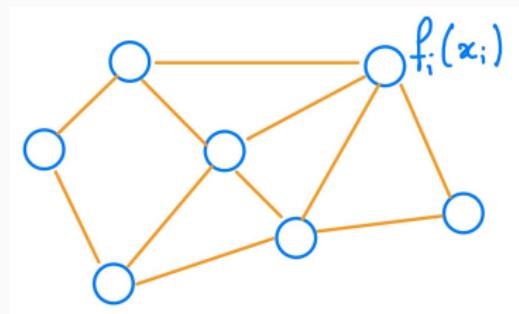


Aymeric Dieuleveut

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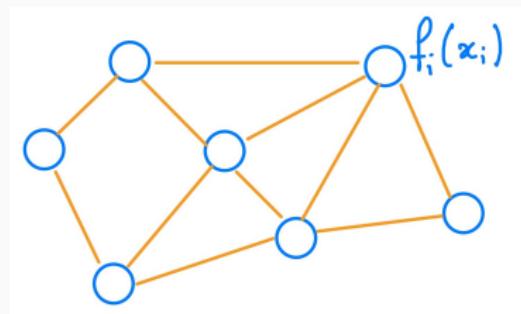
École Polytechnique

- n computing units in a network with
 - Local cost functions;
 - Local memory.



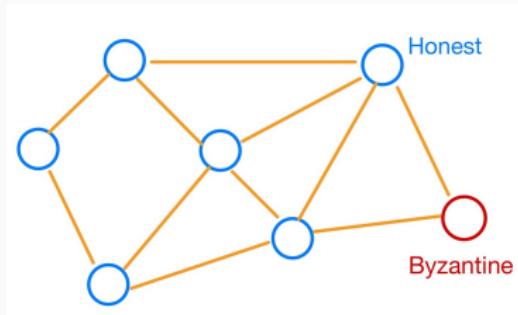
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- Cooperate to find a global solution:

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ f(x) := \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(x) \right\}.$$



Decentralized Optimization under Byzantine corruption

- n computing units in a network with
 - Local cost functions;
 - Local memory.
- Units cooperate to find a global solution:
$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left\{ f_h(x) := \sum_{i \text{ honest}} f_i(x) \right\}.$$
- Some unknown units are *Byzantine*, i.e malicious and omniscient.



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3. Each edge is an equality constraint between two neighbors:
 $C[X_1, \dots, X_n] = [X_i - X_j]_{(i \sim j)}$.

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Solved using Gradient Descent.

⇒ Duality gives practical (and efficient) decentralized algorithms.

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1. Compute a gradient,
2. Share it with neighbors,
3. **Average** messages received,
4. Actualize your parameter using it.

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⇒ lever for limiting influence of Byzantine units

Questions ?

Appendix

Gossip dual algorithm

For each units i :

Initialize $y_i^0 = 0$

1. compute $x_i^t := \nabla f_i^*(y_i^t)$,
2. share x_i^t with his neighbors,
3. actualization of y_i^t :

$$y_i^{t+1} := y_i^t - \eta \sum_{j \sim i} (x_i^t - x_j^t).$$

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