

Федеральное государственное автономное образовательное учреждение
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КОМПРЕССИЯ КАШИНА ДЛЯ РАСПРЕДЕЛЁННОГО ОБУЧЕНИЯ

(магистерская диссертация)

Студент:
Шульгин Егор Владимирович



(подпись студента)

Научный руководитель:
Гасников Александр Владимирович,
д-р физ.-мат. наук, доц.



(подпись научного руководителя)

Консультант (при наличии):

(подпись консультанта)

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Аннотация

Данная магистерская диссертация основана на статье «Uncertainty Principle for Communication Compression in Distributed and Federated Learning and the Search for an Optimal Compressor» [35] за авторством Мера Сафаряна, Егора Шульгина и Питера Рихтарика.

Для снижения высоких затрат на связь при распределенном и федеративном обучении, стали очень популярными различные схемы сжатия векторов, такие как квантизация и разрежение. При разработке метода сжатия необходимо передавать как можно меньше битов для минимизации затрат на рандом коммуникации, и в то же время вносимое искажение («дисперсия») в передаваемые сообщения должно быть как можно меньше для минимизации неблагоприятного эффекта сжатия на общее количество раундов коммуникации. Однако интуитивно эти две цели принципиально противоречат друг другу: чем большее сжатие мы допускаем, тем более искаженными становятся сообщения. Мы формализуем эту интуицию и доказываем принцип неопределенности для рандомизированных операторов сжатия, таким образом количественно оценивая это ограничение математически и показывая асимптотически точные нижние границы того, что может быть достигнуто с помощью сжатия коммуникации. Это мотивирует нас поставить задачу по поиску оптимального оператора сжатия. Делая первый шаг в этом направлении, мы рассматриваем метод несмешенного сжатия, основанный на векторном представлении Кашина, который мы называем сжатием Кашина. В отличие от всех ранее предложенных механизмов сжатия, компрессия Кашина имеет не зависящую от размерности оценку дисперсии.

Abstract

This master's thesis is based on paper «Uncertainty Principle for Communication Compression in Distributed and Federated Learning and the Search for an Optimal Compressor» [35] by Mher Safaryan, Egor Shulgin, Peter Richtarik.

In order to mitigate the high communication cost in distributed and federated learning, various vector compression schemes, such as quantization, sparsification and dithering, have become very popular. In designing a compression method, one aims to communicate as few bits as possible, which minimizes the cost per communication round, while at the same time attempting to impart as little distortion (variance) to the communicated messages as possible, which minimizes the adverse effect of the compression on the overall number of communication rounds. However, intuitively, these two goals are fundamentally in conflict: the more compression we allow, the more distorted the messages become. We formalize this intuition and prove an *uncertainty principle* for randomized compression operators, thus quantifying this limitation mathematically, and *effectively providing asymptotically tight lower bounds on what might be achievable with communication compression*. Motivated by these developments, we call for the search for the optimal compression operator. In an attempt to take a first step in this direction, we consider an unbiased compression method inspired by the Kashin representation of vectors, which we call *Kashin compression (KC)*. In contrast to all previously proposed compression mechanisms, KC enjoys a *dimension independent* variance bound for which we derive an explicit formula even in the regime when only a few bits need to be communicate per each vector entry.

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