

Robust Mean Estimation Against Oblivious Adversaries

Shuchen Li
CMU



Pravesh Kothari
CMU



Manolis Zampetakis
Yale

Robust statistics

Robust statistics

Huber's contamination model:

Robust statistics

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

Robust statistics

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- D : “true” distribution (*inliers*)

Robust statistics

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- D : “true” distribution (*inliers*)
- Z : arbitrarily chosen by adversary (*outliers*)

Robust statistics

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- D : “true” distribution (*inliers*)
- Z : arbitrarily chosen by adversary (*outliers*)

Goal: estimate parameters of D (mean, covariance, regressor, ...)

Robust mean estimation

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- $D = N(\mu, \Sigma)$
- Z : arbitrarily chosen by adversary

Goal: recover $\hat{\mu}$ with $\|\mu - \hat{\mu}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$

Robust mean estimation

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- $D = N(\mu, \Sigma)$
- Z : arbitrarily chosen by adversary

Goal: recover $\hat{\mu}$ with $\|\mu - \hat{\mu}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$

Fact: (information-theoretically) impossible if $\varepsilon < \left(\sqrt{\pi/2} - o(1) \right) \alpha$

[Diakonikolas-Kamath-Kane-Li-Moitra-Stewart'17]

Robust mean estimation

Huber's contamination model:

Input: $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$

- $D = N(\mu, \Sigma)$
- Z : arbitrarily chosen by adversary

Goal: recover $\hat{\mu}$ with $\|\mu - \hat{\mu}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$

Fact: (information-theoretically) impossible if $\varepsilon < \left(\sqrt{\pi/2} - o(1) \right) \alpha$ 🥲

[Diakonikolas-Kamath-Kane-Li-Moitra-Stewart'17]

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

1. $y'_1 = \dots = y'_{(1-\alpha)n} = \mu$, $y'_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y'_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

1. $y'_1 = \dots = y'_{(1-\alpha)n} = \mu$, $y'_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y'_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary
2. $y_i = y'_i + \eta_i$, the noise $\eta_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D(0)$

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

1. $y'_1 = \dots = y'_{(1-\alpha)n} = \mu$, $y'_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y'_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary
2. $y_i = y'_i + \eta_i$, the noise $\eta_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D(0)$
 - Adversary is even *oblivious* of the *noise*

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

1. $y'_1 = \dots = y'_{(1-\alpha)n} = \mu$, $y'_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y'_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary
2. $y_i = y'_i + \eta_i$, the noise $\eta_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D(0)$
 - Adversary is even *oblivious* of the *noise*

Our results: achieve *arbitrarily* high accuracy, given enough samples

Different models

Huber's contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} (1 - \alpha)D + \alpha Z$
- Adversary is *oblivious* of the inliers

Strong contamination model:

- $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D$
- $y_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary, *observing* the inliers

Our model (corruption before noise)

1. $y'_1 = \dots = y'_{(1-\alpha)n} = \mu$, $y'_{(1-\alpha)n+1}, \dots, y'_{(1-\alpha)n+\alpha n}$ added by adversary
2. $y_i = y'_i + \eta_i$, the noise $\eta_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} D(0)$
 - Adversary is even *oblivious* of the *noise*



Our results: achieve *arbitrarily* high accuracy, given enough samples

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])
2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])
2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression
 - 1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$
 - 2) Adversary observes samples, **replaces** α fraction of them

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$

2) Adversary observes samples, **replaces** α fraction of them

↪ Algo for learning max of k linear models:

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$

2) Adversary observes samples, **replaces** α fraction of them

↪ Algo for learning max of k linear models:

• $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$

2) Adversary observes samples, **replaces** α fraction of them

↪ Algo for learning max of k linear models:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$
- Adversary replace with the max

Why (algorithmic) robust statistics?

1. **Classical problem** (e.g. [Huber'64], [Tukey'75])

2. **Applications:** e.g. robust linear regression

1) Choose n i.i.d. samples $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \langle \ell^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_i$

2) Adversary observes samples, **replaces** α fraction of them

↪ Algo for learning max of k linear models:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$

- Adversary replace with the max

- Only $\sim 1/k$ fraction are uncorrupted, for $\ell^* = \ell_j^*$ for each j

Why oblivious adversaries?

Why oblivious adversaries?

1. Learning max of k linear models:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$

Why oblivious adversaries?

1. Learning max of k linear models:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$

2. Max-affine regression:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle \} + \eta_i$

Why oblivious adversaries?

1. Learning max of k linear models:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle + \eta_j \}$

2. Max-affine regression:

- $x_i \sim N(0, I_d)$, and $y_i = \max_{j \in [k]} \{ \langle \ell_j^*, x_i \rangle \} + \eta_i$

Max before noise \leftrightarrow **corruption before noise**

Formulation

Formulation

1. Corrupted means:

Formulation

1. Corrupted means:

$$\{y'_i\} = \{\underbrace{\mu, \dots, \mu}_{(1-\alpha)n}, z_1, \dots, z_{\alpha n}\}$$

Formulation

1. Corrupted means:

$$\{y'_i\} = \{\underbrace{\mu, \dots, \mu}_{(1-\alpha)n}, z_1, \dots, z_{\alpha n}\}$$

2. Add $N(0, I)$ noise:

Formulation

1. Corrupted means:

$$\{y'_i\} = \underbrace{\{\mu, \dots, \mu\}}_{(1-\alpha)n}, \{z_1, \dots, z_{\alpha n}\}$$

2. Add $N(0, I)$ noise:

$$\{y_i\} \sim \underbrace{\{N(\mu, 1), \dots, N(\mu, 1)\}}_{(1-\alpha)n}, \{N(z_1, 1), \dots, N(z_{\alpha n}, 1)\}$$

Formulation

1. Corrupted means:

$$\{y'_i\} = \underbrace{\{\mu, \dots, \mu\}}_{(1-\alpha)n}, \{z_1, \dots, z_{\alpha n}\}$$

2. Add $N(0, I)$ noise:

$$\{y_i\} \sim \underbrace{\{N(\mu, 1), \dots, N(\mu, 1)\}}_{(1-\alpha)n}, \{N(z_1, 1), \dots, N(z_{\alpha n}, 1)\}$$

d -dim: project along each axis and run 1-dim algo for ε/\sqrt{d} accuracy

Characteristic function

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

Averaging all the CFs of our input,

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

Averaging all the CFs of our input,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}] = (1 - \alpha) e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}t^2} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k - \frac{1}{2}t^2}$$

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

Averaging all the CFs of our input,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}] e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2} = (1 - \alpha) e^{it\mu} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}$$

Characteristic function

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the *characteristic function* of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

Averaging all the CFs of our input,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}] e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2} = (1 - \alpha) e^{it\mu} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}$$

Then apply Fourier transform to get frequency μ

Sparse Fourier Transform

Sparse Fourier Transform

SFT [Price-Song'16]: For *noisy 1-sparse* $x(t) = e^{itf} + g(t)$, $t \in [0, T]$, output f' that $|f - f'| \leq O(\mathcal{N}/T)$, if $\mathcal{N} = O(1)$, where

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |g(t)|^2 dt,$$

with $O(\log T)$ **samples** from $x(t)$ and in $O(\log(T)^2)$ **time**.

Sparse Fourier Transform

SFT [Price-Song'16]: For *noisy 1-sparse* $x(t) = e^{itf} + g(t)$, $t \in [0, T]$, output f' that $|f - f'| \leq O(\mathcal{N}/T)$, if $\mathcal{N} = O(1)$, where

$$\mathcal{N} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |g(t)|^2 dt,$$

with $O(\log T)$ **samples** from $x(t)$ and in $O(\log(T)^2)$ **time**.

Our Algo: Apply SFT on the empirical avg of CFs:

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n e^{ity_j} e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}$$

Analysis of the noise

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

1. Chernoff: $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot e^{T^2/2}\right)$

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

1. Chernoff: $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot e^{T^2/2}\right)$
2. $|g_2(t)| \leq \alpha$

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

1. Chernoff: $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot e^{T^2/2}\right)$

2. $|g_2(t)| \leq \alpha$

So we can only take $T = O(\sqrt{\log n})$, and $|\mu - \hat{\mu}| = O(1/\sqrt{\log n})$

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

1. Chernoff: $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot e^{T^2/2}\right)$

2. $|g_2(t)| \leq \alpha$

So we can only take $T = O(\sqrt{\log n})$, and $|\mu - \hat{\mu}| = O(1/\sqrt{\log n})$

- This gives $2^{O(\varepsilon^{-2})}$ sample/time complexity to achieve ε error

Analysis of the noise

$$g(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (e^{ity_j} - \mathbb{E}[e^{ity_j}]) e^{\frac{1}{2}t^2}}_{g_1(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha n} e^{itz_k}}_{g_2(t)}$$

1. Chernoff: $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot e^{T^2/2}\right)$

2. $|g_2(t)| \leq \alpha$

So we can only take $T = O(\sqrt{\log n})$, and $|\mu - \hat{\mu}| = O(1/\sqrt{\log n})$

- This gives $2^{O(\varepsilon^{-2})}$ sample/time complexity to achieve ε error 🤗

What if the noise is Laplace?

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \frac{e^{it\mu}}{1 + b^2t^2}$$

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \frac{e^{it\mu}}{1 + b^2t^2}$$

- $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot T^2\right)$

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \frac{e^{it\mu}}{1 + b^2t^2}$$

- $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot T^2\right)$
- Now $T = O(n^{1/4-c})$

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \frac{e^{it\mu}}{1 + b^2t^2}$$

- $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot T^2\right)$
- Now $T = O(n^{1/4-c})$
- Sample/time complexity $O((1/\varepsilon)^{4+c})$

What if the noise is Laplace?

Fact: For $X \sim \text{Laplace}(\mu, b)$, the characteristic function of X is

$$\varphi_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{itX}] = \frac{e^{it\mu}}{1 + b^2t^2}$$

- $|g_1(t)| \leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot T^2\right)$
- Now $T = O(n^{1/4-c})$
- Sample/time complexity $O((1/\varepsilon)^{4+c})$ 🤔

Back to Gaussian

Back to Gaussian

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, 1)$, the characteristic function of X^2 is

Back to Gaussian

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, 1)$, the characteristic function of X^2 is

$$\varphi_{X^2}(t) = \mathbb{E} \left[e^{itX^2} \right] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{it\mu^2}{1-2it}\right)}{(1-2it)^{1/2}}$$

Back to Gaussian

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, 1)$, the characteristic function of X^2 is

$$\varphi_{X^2}(t) = \mathbb{E} \left[e^{itX^2} \right] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{it\mu^2}{1-2it}\right)}{(1-2it)^{1/2}}$$

Substitute $\frac{t}{1-2it} \rightarrow t$,

Back to Gaussian

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, 1)$, the characteristic function of X^2 is

$$\varphi_{X^2}(t) = \mathbb{E} \left[e^{itX^2} \right] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{it\mu^2}{1-2it}\right)}{(1-2it)^{1/2}}$$

Substitute $\frac{t}{1-2it} \rightarrow t$,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left(i \frac{t}{1+2it} X^2 \right) \right] (1+2it)^{-1/2} = e^{it\mu^2}$$

Back to Gaussian

Fact: For $X \sim N(\mu, 1)$, the characteristic function of X^2 is

$$\varphi_{X^2}(t) = \mathbb{E} \left[e^{itX^2} \right] = \frac{\exp\left(\frac{it\mu^2}{1-2it}\right)}{(1-2it)^{1/2}}$$

Substitute $\frac{t}{1-2it} \rightarrow t$,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left(i \frac{t}{1+2it} X^2 \right) \right] (1+2it)^{-1/2} = e^{it\mu^2}$$

norm $\sim \exp(X^2/2)$

too large to use concentration ineqs

Summary and open questions

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Open questions:

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Open questions:

- poly sample/time for Gaussian?

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Open questions:

- poly sample/time for Gaussian?
- robust covariance estimation / linear regression in our setting?

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Open questions:

- poly sample/time for Gaussian?
- robust covariance estimation / linear regression in our setting?
- list-decodable learning in our setting?

Summary and open questions

We give the first algorithm to achieve *arbitrary* accuracy in our *oblivious* model

- **Gaussian:** sample/time $2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2)}$
- **Laplace:** sample/time $\text{poly}(d, \varepsilon^{-1})$

Open questions:

- poly sample/time for Gaussian?
- robust covariance estimation / linear regression in our setting?
- list-decodable learning in our setting?

Thank you!