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# Efficient Decoding from Heterogeneous 1-Bit Compressive Measurements over Networks

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Abstract: The 1-bit compressive sensing (CS) framework is an effective method for approximating high-dimensional signals using binary measurements. However, deploying 1-bit CS in decentralized networks presents significant challenges due to the discontinuity of the sign function, susceptibility to sign flips, and the heterogeneity of network environments. Existing approaches often fail to adapt to decentralized settings, where communication with a central coordinator is prohibited, and only local, neighbor-to-neighbor interactions are feasible, driven by privacy and communication cost concerns. This paper introduces an efficient decentralized estimation approach for 1-bit CS. We reformulate the 1-bit CS problem as a penalized least squares task, which enables us to develop a generalized alternating direction method of multipliers algorithm with a simple implementation for optimization. We provide rigorous algorithmic and statistical guarantees. The proposed algorithm achieves linear convergence and, after a finite number of communications, attains a near-oracle statistical rate of convergence. Additionally, it reliably recovers the signal support under mild conditions. Extensive numerical studies demonstrate the efficacy of the proposed method.

Key words and phrases: Decentralized estimation, sufficient dimension reduction, support recovery, oracle rate, linear convergence.

#### 1. Introduction

Compressive Sensing (CS) is an effective method for approximating a high-dimensional signal from underdetermined measurements (Candes and Tao, 2005; Candes et al., 2006; Donoho, 2006). This approach maintains high accuracy even with relatively low sampling rates (Shannon, 1949). Typically, continuous infinite-precision measurements are quantized to reduce memory and transmission costs via analog-to-digital converters. An extreme form of quantization is 1-bit CS (Boufounos and Baraniuk, 2008), where each measurement is quantized to a single-bit sign. This low-cost quantization significantly simplifies hardware requirements, making 1-bit CS suitable for large-scale applications such as smart grids, multi-agent robotic systems, and wireless sensor networks.

Many practical applications, however, bring three new challenges.

1. Decentralized Systems: The cost efficiency of 1-bit CS enables large-scale deployment. For example, in wireless sensor networks, numerous inexpensive sensors improve signal measurement accuracy. These sensors are typically interconnected through a mesh network. Aggregating

all measurements at a single central node, as suggested by Maly and Palzer (2019) and Genzel and Jung (2019), may fail to fully exploit the sensor network's capabilities and incur high communication costs in decentralized networks with general topologies. The primary task in decentralized networks is to decode a global signal by distributing computing tasks across all nodes and exchanging information solely among neighbors.

- 2. Data Heterogeneity: Variations in sensor quality and potential corruptions result in different noise levels and sign-flip probabilities. Without global coordination by a central node, local nodes in decentralized systems rely heavily on local data and neighboring information to decode the signal. This heterogeneity can, hence, significantly impair estimation efficiency.
- 3. Large Dimensional Sensing Vector: Challenges arise when the signal dimension p is quite large. In CS, the signal is often sparse in Fourier or wavelet bases (Mallat, 1999; Ito and Jin, 2015). Leveraging sparsity is a natural approach to addressing the issue of underdetermined measurements. However, applying this principle in heterogeneous, decentralized systems remains an open question in the literature on

1-bit CS.

A motivating application of this work concerns a distributed network of satellites or drones engaged in remote imaging or acoustic sensing, such as sparse vegetation mapping, wildfire detection, or surveillance (Rani et al., 2018). In these settings, each node acquires compressive measurements of the scene while operating under stringent communication constraints and potentially unreliable channels, which may induce sign flips and heterogeneous noise variances. To reduce communication burden and hardware complexity, each node quantizes its measurements to a single bit, retaining only sign information. Furthermore, the system lacks a centralized controller; instead, nodes exchange limited information with neighboring units to collaboratively reconstruct the global sparse signal. This context motivates the development of decentralized 1-bit CS, where efficient communication and resilience to node failures are essential. Additional applications are provided in Appendix D of the Supplementary Material.

In 1-bit CS, measurements are noisy, nonlinearly dependent, and potentially sign-flipped. Let m denote the number of nodes in the network. The 1-bit CS framework assumes the following model at the jth node:

$$Y_j = \xi_j \operatorname{sign}(\mathbf{x}_i^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger} + \varepsilon_j), \quad j = 1, \dots, m,$$
 (1.1)

where  $Y_j$  is the 1-bit measurement,  $\xi_j$  is a random variable modeling the sign flip of  $Y_j$  with  $\mathbb{P}(\xi_j=1)=1-\mathbb{P}(\xi_j=-1)=q_j$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_j$  is a p-dimensional sensing vector,  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  is an unknown parameter of interest, and  $\varepsilon_j$  is an independent error with mean zero and variance  $\sigma_j^2$ . The sign function satisfies  $\mathrm{sign}(z)=1$  if  $z\geq 0$  and -1 otherwise. Both  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  and  $\sigma_j$  are unknown and therefore not identifiable (Knudson et al., 2016). The jth node collects measurements of size  $n_j$  from model (1.1), denoted by  $\{(\mathbf{x}_{i,j},Y_{i,j})\}_{i=1}^{n_j}$ . All measurements are assumed to be independent. However, they are not necessarily identically distributed. We merely require that the measurements within each local node follow an identical distribution. The objective of this paper is to efficiently estimate the direction of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  over a decentralized network.

For the specific case of m=1, significant efforts have addressed both the theoretical and computational challenges inherent in the aforementioned problem. These efforts encompass first-order methods (Boufounos and Baraniuk, 2008; Laska et al., 2011; Yan et al., 2012; Dai et al., 2016) and greedy algorithms (Jacques et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2016). Despite their efficacy, these algorithms are not easily adaptable to decentralized 1-bit CS.

Most advances in the literature of distributed learning focus on CS without considering nonlinear sign quantization and potential sign flips.

These methods can be roughly divided into two categories: 1) Centralized

Distributed Learning: Here, a central node plays a key role (Hector and Song, 2020, 2021; Tang et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2024; Chen and Zhu, 2023). Limited bandwidth of the central node could impair training efficiency, and its failure could disrupt the entire system. 2) Decentralized Distributed Learning: When a central node is not available or economical, decentralized distributed learning is proposed as an alternative. Chang et al. (2014) developed an inexact consensus alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM) with a linear convergence rate. Additionally, Shi et al. (2015) and Li et al. (2019) proposed decentralized (proximal) (sub-)gradient descent algorithms to avoid the Lagrangian dual. Sub-gradient variants are also considered in Wang and Li (2018), Wang et al. (2019), and Zhang et al. (2019). Liu et al. (2022); Qiao and Chen (2024) considered the robust estimation under the linear model. However, most works focus on optimization convergence rates, and the statistical guarantees for parameter estimation and support recovery remain unclear.

In this work, we aim to accelerate 1-bit CS over a decentralized network while allowing heterogeneous measurements. Our contributions are summarized as follows:

• A Least Squares Loss Function: We demonstrate that estimating the direction of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  can be achieved by minimizing the least squares (LS)

loss function under a so-called linearity condition on the sensing vector, which is satisfied by a wide range of probability distributions, including the Gaussian distribution. Compared to classical results (Huang et al., 2018), we allow a more flexible choice of the distribution of the sensing vector. The LS loss is further armed with the  $\ell_1$  penalty to encourage sparsity of the estimate.

- Decentralized Generalized ADMM: This new formulation of the loss function enables us to design a generalized ADMM algorithm over networks to cooperatively solve the reformulated  $\ell_1$ -regularized LS problem, converging linearly. Each local node needs to find a closed-form solution for each locally approximated subproblem and communicate local estimates with its neighbors. This implementation, hence, greatly reduces communication and computation costs at each local node without sacrificing estimation efficiency.
- Statistical Guarantees: We establish two key statistical guarantees: estimation accuracy and support recovery. After sufficient ADMM iterations, the estimate achieves a near-optimal statistical convergence rate  $\{s \log(N)/N\}^2$ , where s is the number of nonzero entries of  $\beta^{\dagger}$ . This rate coincides with the optimal rate  $(s/N)^{1/2}$ , assuming the true

support is known up to a logarithmic factor. The estimated support matches the true support of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  under mild conditions.

Our LS approach for 1-bit CS bears a close connection to sufficient dimension reduction (Zhu et al., 2010). The LS formulation was initially applied to the context of 1-bit CS by Huang et al. (2018). More recently, Chen and Zhu (2023) proposed a centralized distributed learning framework. In the special case where all observations are aggregated, which corresponds to the scenario where m = 1, other methods have been developed to recover  $\beta^{\dagger}$ . Notable techniques for estimating  $\beta^{\dagger}$  include inverse regression methods (Li and Duan, 1989; Li, 1991; Zhu et al., 2010), forward regression approaches (Xia, 2007), and semiparametric methods (Ma and Zhu, 2012). Our decentralized approach naturally extends these methods to the decentralized setting.

We organize the rest of the paper as follows. We develop a decentralized 1-bit CS in Section 2 and establish the accuracy of parameter estimation and support recovery in Section 3. In Section 4, we conduct extensive numerical studies to demonstrate the superior finite sample performance of our method. Section 5 concludes this article with brief discussions. All technical proofs, detailed derivations, additional simulation results, and an application to decoding EEG signals are relegated to the online Supplementary Material.

The following notation will be used repetitively in subsequent exposition. We use  $C, C_0, C_1, \ldots, c, c_0, c_1, \ldots$  to denote generic constants that may vary at each appearance. For a vector  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \ldots, v_p)^{\mathrm{T}}$ , we denote its support by  $S(\mathbf{v}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \operatorname{supp}(\mathbf{v}) = \{j \in \mathbb{N}_+ : v_j \neq 0, 1 \leq j \leq p\}$ . We further define vector norms

$$|\mathbf{v}|_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\text{supp}(\mathbf{v})|, \quad |\mathbf{v}|_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^p |v_i|, \quad |\mathbf{v}|_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left(\sum_{i=1}^p v_i^2\right)^{1/2}, \text{ and } \mathbf{v}^{\min} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \min_{i \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{v})} |v_i|.$$

For  $S \subseteq \{1, ..., p\}$  with length |S|,  $\mathbf{v}_S \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (v_i, i \in S) \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ . For a matrix  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times q}$ , we define matrix norms

$$|\mathbf{A}|_{\infty} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max_{1 \le i \le p, 1 \le j \le q} |a_{ij}|, \|\mathbf{A}\|_{\infty} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max_{1 \le i \le p} \sum_{1 \le j \le q} |a_{ij}|, \text{ and } \|\mathbf{A}\|_{\text{op}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max_{|\mathbf{v}|_2 = 1} |\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}|_2.$$

For two subsets  $S_1 \subseteq \{1, ..., p\}$ ,  $S_2 \subseteq \{1, ..., q\}$ , we let  $\mathbf{A}_{S_1 \times S_2} = (a_{ij}, i \in S_1, j \in S_2)$ . Denote the largest and the smallest singular values of  $\mathbf{A}$  by  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$  and  $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$ , respectively, and the condition number by  $\kappa(\mathbf{A})$ , which, by definition, is  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})/\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$ .

## 2. Decentralized 1-Bit Compressive Sensing over Networks

# 2.1 A least squares approach

In this subsection, we will formulate 1-bit CS as an LS problem to bypass the issues of nonlinearity, non-differentiability, and sign flips in model (1.1). We establish such a formulation by showing that the direction of the minimizer of the LS loss at the population level aligns with that of the true parameter  $\beta^{\dagger}$ .

We begin with necessary notations and assumptions. Since the sensing vectors  $\mathbf{x}_j$ 's are fully controlled by system designers, we assume these sensing vectors have zero means, and the same covariance matrices denoted as  $\Sigma$ . To ensure identifiability of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$ , we assume  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger^{\mathrm{T}}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}=1$ , and the first component of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  is positive. This assumption can be guaranteed by the well-known dithered technique (Knudson et al., 2016). In model (1.1), if the first element of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  is negative, we can simply replace  $\xi_j$  with  $-\xi_j$ .

The formulation of 1-bit CS as an LS problem critically relies on the following linearity assumption.

(A1) The *p*-dimensional mean-zero sensing vector  $\mathbf{x}_j$  satisfies linearity of expectation in the direction of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$ :  $E(\mathbf{x}_j \mid \mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger} (\mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger})$ .

The mean-zero assumption is not essential for the validity of the method,

which can be easily removed by incorporating an intercept term in the model. The linearity Assumption (A1) is generally regarded as mild and is widely employed in the literature on sufficient dimension reduction (Cook, 1998). Li (1991) demonstrated that Assumption (A1) holds when  $\mathbf{x}_j$  follows an elliptical distribution, with the normal distribution as a specific case. This normality assumption is commonly utilized in 1-bit CS. Hall and Li (1993) further established that Assumption (A1) approximately holds when the dimension of  $\mathbf{x}_j$ , p, is sufficiently large. For further discussion, see Diaconis and Freedman (1984) and Zhu and Zhu (2009). Moreover, in CS problems, the sensing vector  $\mathbf{x}_j$  is often designed by the system (Arjoune et al., 2018), thereby ensuring the validity of Assumption (A1).

Under Assumption (A1), we have a simple but useful observation that lays the basis of our work. From Theorem 2.1 of Li and Duan (1989), we note under model (1.1) and the normality of  $\mathbf{x}_j$ ,

$$\underset{\boldsymbol{\beta}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \sum_{j=1}^{m} E\left\{ (Y_j - EY_j) - \mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta} \right\}^2 = \kappa \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger},$$

for some  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ . More generally, Huang et al. (2018); Chen and Zhu (2023) have shown that

**Lemma 1.** Suppose  $(\mathbf{x}_j, Y_j)$  follows model (1.1) and  $\mathbf{x}_j$  fulfills the linearity

Assumption (A1) for j = 1, ..., m. The minimizer of

$$\sum_{j=1}^{m} E\left\{ (Y_j - EY_j) - \mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta} \right\}^2, \qquad (2.1)$$

denoted by  $\beta^*$ , is proportional to  $\beta^{\dagger}$ . The proportional constant is

$$\kappa = m^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{m} (2 - 4q_j) \operatorname{cov} \left\{ (\mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}), F_j(-\mathbf{x}_j^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}) \right\},$$

where  $F_j$  is the cumulative distribution function of  $\varepsilon_j$  in model (1.1). In particular, if  $\varepsilon_j$  follows  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_j^2)$  and  $\mathbf{x}_j$  follows  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$ , a simple application of Stein's lemma (Stein, 1981) helps quantify the constant  $\kappa$  precisely:

$$\kappa = m^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{m} (2q_j - 1) \left\{ \pi (1 + \sigma_j^2) / 2 \right\}^{-1/2}.$$

A key consequence of Lemma 1 is that  $\beta^*$  and  $\beta^{\dagger}$  share the same direction unless  $\kappa = 0$ . Moreover, while  $\beta^{\dagger}$  is not identifiable,  $\beta^*$  is. Thus, estimating  $\beta^*$  is sufficient to determine the direction of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  in model (1.1). This result is significant as it enables the recovery of the direction of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  by directly minimizing the ordinary LS loss function. This approach circumvents the issue of non-differentiability associated with the sign function in model (1.1) under the presence of noise and sign flips. In addition, Lemma 1 does

not necessitate that measurements from different nodes follow the same distribution, thereby allowing for heterogeneity.

Typically,  $\kappa \neq 0$ , enabling us to identify the direction of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  from  $\beta^{*}$ . If  $\kappa > 0$ , both the direction and sign of  $\beta^{*}$  align with those of  $\beta^{\dagger}$ . Conversely, if  $\kappa < 0$ , their directions remain the same, but their signs are inverted. According to (2.1),  $\mathbf{x}_{j}^{\mathsf{T}}\beta^{*}$  is the optimal linear predictor of  $Y_{j}$ . In this scenario, the direction of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  can be recovered using  $-\beta^{*}$ . Furthermore, the sign of  $\beta^{\dagger}$  can be determined using observations at the jth node as long as  $q_{j} > 1/2$ . In numerous applications, such as image compression and sound detection, determining the sign is often straightforward. In the worst-case scenario, where all  $q_{j}$  values are exactly 1/2, recovering  $\beta^{\dagger}$  becomes impossible since all  $\mathbf{x}_{j}$ 's and  $Y_{j}$ 's are independent.

At the sample level, with N measurements  $\{\mathbf{x}_{i,j}, Y_{i,j}\}_{i=1,j=1}^{n,m}$  in places, in the principle of sparsity, to accommodate the sparse structure of the signal  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$ , we advocate using the sparsity-encouraging  $\ell_1$ -norm penalty and consider the following penalized solution,

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \underset{\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_{i,j} - \mathbf{x}_{i,j}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta})^2 + \lambda_N |\boldsymbol{\beta}|_1.$$
 (2.2)

where  $\lambda_N > 0$  is the regularization parameter. Under the sparse structure,

the  $\ell_1$ -penalized least squares estimate could outperform the ordinary least squares estimate implied by Lemma 1. Moreover, adaptive  $\ell_1$  and non-convex penalties can be employed to mitigate the bias introduced by the  $\ell_1$  penalty, thereby enhancing the statistical convergence rate.

In order to optimize the minimization problem mentioned above, it is possible to consolidate all measurements into a single central node if allowed. However, this approach may require significant memory, storage, and communication resources when dealing with large-scale measurements and incur great privacy concerns. In the context of decentralized systems, there is a strong preference for efficient decentralized learning algorithms with communications confined to neighbors.

# 2.2 Decentralized 1-bit compressive sensing over networks

In this subsection, we introduce the consensus form of (2.2) over decentralized networks. We consider a connected network without self-loops. Denote the network where the data resides as an undirected, connected graph  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$  with  $|\mathcal{N}| = m$ , where  $\mathcal{N}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  denote the sets of nodes and edges, respectively. The connectivity of  $\mathcal{G}$  is modeled using an adjacency matrix  $\mathbf{W} \in \{0,1\}^{m \times m}$ . Let  $\mathcal{N}_j$  denote the jth node. Nodes  $\mathcal{N}_j$  and  $\mathcal{N}_k$  are connected, and communication between them is possible if and only if

 $\mathbf{W}_{jk} = 1$ . By no self-loops, we mean the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{W}$  are all zeros.

We assume the nodes can perform local computation, yet communications are restricted to their neighbor through edges in  $\mathcal{E}$  due to communications costs (Ling and Tian, 2010). Mathematically, the neighbors of node  $\mathcal{N}_j$  is defined as  $\mathcal{N}(j) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{k \colon (j,k) \in \mathcal{E}\}$ . For ease of illustration, we assume the local sample sizes are all the same, that is,  $n_j = n$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, n$ , and use  $\mathcal{D}_j \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}, Y_{i,j})\}_{i=1}^n$  to denote the subsample at node  $\mathcal{N}_j$ . Let  $\mathcal{D} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \cup_{j=1}^m \mathcal{D}_j$  be the entire sample. We can easily extend our method to the setting with varying local sample sizes.

In decentralized networks, a central coordinate node is no longer available to maintain global parameters  $\beta$ . To optimize problem (2.2) over the network, we first cast (2.2) into the consensus form:

$$\arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^p} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \left\{ \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_{i,j} - \mathbf{x}_{i,j}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)})^2 + \lambda_N |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_1 \right\}$$
s.t. 
$$\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} = \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k)}, \ \forall \ (j,k) \in \mathcal{E},$$
(2.3)

where  $\beta^{(j)}$  is an introduced local parameter copy at node  $\mathcal{N}_j$ . The penalty parameter  $\lambda_N$  is universal across the network and is utilized to regulate the sparsity of the estimated signal. In problem (2.3), the constraints ensure

that the local parameter copy at each node equals that of its neighbors. This gives rise to the term "consensus". Clearly, the solution of the problem (2.2) solves problem (2.3) and vice versa (Nedic and Ozdaglar, 2009; Shi et al., 2014; Yuan et al., 2016).

Addressing the sparse learning problem in (2.3) is challenging for two primary reasons. First, the nonsmooth nature of the objective function renders decentralized gradient or Newton-based methods impractical. Second, due to the incorporation of the  $\ell_1$  penalty, closed-form solutions for the consensus loss function are not readily obtainable.

# 2.3 Generalized ADMM

Next, we develop an efficient decentralized algorithm for solving (2.2), which guarantees *linear* convergence while limiting communications within neighbors.

By introducing pseudo-variables  $\{\mathbf{t}^{(jk)} : k \in \mathcal{N}(j)\}_{j=1}^m$ , problem (2.3) is equivalent to:

$$\underset{\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{arg min}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^p}} \quad \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_{i,j} - \mathbf{x}_{i,j}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)})^2 + \lambda_N |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_1$$
s.t. 
$$\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} = \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k)} = \mathbf{t}^{(jk)}, \ \forall \ (j,k) \in \mathcal{E}. \tag{2.4}$$

To solve the above problem, the structure of the linear constraints naturally motivates us to appeal to the popular ADMM algorithm. Let  $\mathbf{y}^{(j)} = (Y_{1,j}, \dots, Y_{n,j})^{\mathrm{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{X}^{(j)} = (\mathbf{x}_{1,j}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n,j})^{\mathrm{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ . By the classic ADMM theory (Boyd, 2010), we can construct augmented Lagrangians with a penalty parameter  $\tau > 0$  as:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\tau}(\{\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}\}, \{\mathbf{t}^{(jk)}\}, \{\mathbf{u}^{(jk)}\}, \{\mathbf{v}^{(jk)}\}) = (2n)^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^{m} |\mathbf{y}^{(j)} - \mathbf{X}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_{2}^{2} + \lambda_{N} |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_{1}^{2} + \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j)} \left( \langle \mathbf{u}^{(jk)}, \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} - \mathbf{t}^{(jk)} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{v}^{(jk)}, \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k)} - \mathbf{t}^{(jk)} \rangle + \frac{\tau}{2} |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} - \mathbf{t}^{(jk)}|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\tau}{2} |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k)} - \mathbf{t}^{(jk)}|_{2}^{2} \right),$$

where  $\{\mathbf{u}^{(jk)}: k \in \mathcal{N}(j)\}_{j=1}^m$  and  $\{\mathbf{v}^{(jk)}: k \in \mathcal{N}(j)\}_{j=1}^m$  are two sets of dual variables. Define an axillary variable  $\mathbf{p}_t^{(j)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j)} (\mathbf{u}_t^{(jk)} + \mathbf{v}_t^{(jk)})$  with  $\mathbf{p}_0^{(j)} = \mathbf{0}$ , respectively. To find the solution for the above augmented Lagrangian, we can solve (2.4) by recursively performing (2.5a) – (2.5b):

$$\mathbf{p}_{t+1}^{(j)} = \mathbf{p}_{t}^{(j)} + \tau \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j)} (\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t}^{(j)} - \boldsymbol{\beta}_{t}^{(k)}), \qquad (2.5a)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t+1}^{(j)} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}} \frac{1}{2n} \left| \mathbf{y}^{(j)} - \mathbf{X}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} \right|_{2}^{2} + \lambda_{N} |\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_{1} + \left\langle \mathbf{p}_{t+1}^{(j)}, \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} \right\rangle$$

$$+ \tau \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \left| \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)} - (\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t}^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\beta}_{t}^{(k)}) / 2 \right|_{2}^{2}. \qquad (2.5b)$$

Unfortunately, when the design matrix  $\mathbf{X}^{(j)}$  is not column-orthogonal, problem (2.5b) generally lacks a closed-form solution. As a result, multiple optimization iterations are required to obtain an approximate solution (Tao et al., 2016). This can impose significant computational demands on local nodes. To tackle this issue, we consider the generalized ADMM framework (Chang et al., 2014; Deng and Yin, 2016; Zhu, 2017; Gu et al., 2018) by upper bounding the Hessian matrix  $\mathbf{X}^{(j)^{\mathrm{T}}}\mathbf{X}^{(j)}/n$  in  $(2n)^{-1} |\mathbf{y}^{(j)} - \mathbf{X}^{(j)}\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(j)}|_2^2$  with  $\rho_j \mathbf{I}$  in (2.5b). This approach can be interpreted as a variant of the Majorization-Minimization algorithm or as a proximal step (Sun et al., 2017). This replacement yields the closed-form approximation to  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t+1}^{(j)}$ ,

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t+1}^{(j)} = \mathcal{S}_{\lambda_N \omega_j} \left[ \omega_j \left\{ \rho_j \boldsymbol{\beta}_t^{(j)} - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}^{(j)^{\mathrm{T}}} (\mathbf{X}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\beta}_t^{(j)} - \mathbf{y}^{(j)}) - \mathbf{p}_{t+1}^{(j)} \right. \right. \\ \left. + \tau \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j)} (\boldsymbol{\beta}_t^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\beta}_t^{(k)}) \right\} \right], \quad (2.5b')$$

where  $\omega_j = 1/(2\tau |\mathcal{N}(j)| + \rho_j)$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_t(\mathbf{v}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbf{v} - t\mathbf{1}_p)_+ - (-\mathbf{v} - t\mathbf{1}_p)_+$  is the coordinate-wise soft-thresholding operator, and for any vector  $\mathbf{v} = (V_1, \dots, V_p)^{\mathrm{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $(\mathbf{v})_+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\max(V_1, 0), \dots, \max(V_p, 0)\}^{\mathrm{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ . In conclusion, we summarize our proposed decentralized algorithm for solving (2.3) in Algorithm 1. The Supplementary Material details deriving Algorithm 1.

The flexibility inherent in our LS transformation and ADMM updates

facilitates the extension of our algorithm to accommodate various sparsityinducing penalties. These include the  $\ell_0$  norm penalty, the smoothly clipped absolute deviation (SCAD) penalty introduced by Fan and Li (2001), and the minimax concave penalty (MCP) developed by Zhang (2010). For a comprehensive overview of recent developments in this domain, readers are directed to Hastie et al. (2015) and the references contained therein.

# **Algorithm 1** Decentralized 1-bit Compressive Sensing.

**Input:** Data  $\{(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}, Y_{i,j})\}_{i=1,j=1}^{n,m}$ , the number of iterations T, the regularization parameter  $\lambda_N$ , the initial estimates  $\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)}$  at each node  $\mathcal{N}_j$ .

1: Set  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_0^{(j)} = \widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\text{init}}^{(j)}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_0^{(j)} = \mathbf{0}$ . 2: **for**  $t = 0, \dots, T$  **do** 

Communicate local parameter  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_t^{(j)}$  with neighboring nodes; Update  $\mathbf{p}_{t+1}^{(j)}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{t+1}^{(j)}$  with (2.5a) and (2.5b'), respectively.

5: end for

**Output:** The final estimate  $\widehat{\beta}^{(j)} = \beta_{T+1}^{(j)}$ .

#### Theoretical Results 3.

This section provides theoretical guarantees for our estimate of the estimation bound and support recovery. Denote  $\mathcal{S} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\beta}^*)$  as the support of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^*$ and let  $s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\mathcal{S}|$ . Lemma 1 ensures that  $\operatorname{supp}(\boldsymbol{\beta}^*) = \operatorname{supp}(\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger})$ . We impose the following assumptions to ensure our generalized ADMM algorithm holds a linear convergence rate and to derive the statistical properties.

(A2) The peer-to-peer network  $\mathcal{G}$  is connected and has no self-loops.

- (A3) The sensing vector  $\mathbf{x}_{i,j}$ 's are sub-Gaussian, i.e.,  $\sup_{|\boldsymbol{\theta}|_2=1} E \exp\{t(\mathbf{x}_{i,j}^T\boldsymbol{\theta})^2\} \le C$  for some constants t > 0 and C > 0.
- (A4) The dimension p over the local sample size n is  $p/n \leq \tau$  for some  $\tau \in (0,1)$ . Assume that there exists a positive constant  $c_0$ , such that  $c_0^{-1} \leq \lambda_{\min}(\Sigma) \leq \lambda_{\max}(\Sigma) \leq c_0$ .
- (A5) For each j = 1, ..., m, the initial estimate  $\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)}$  satisfies  $|\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)} \beta^*|_2 = O_p(1)$ .

Assumption (A2) is commonly employed in decentralized distributed learning frameworks, as it guarantees that no individual node or subset of nodes is isolated within the network. This facilitates the convergence of all nodes to a consensus state. Assumption (A3) puts a typical sub-Gaussian condition on the distribution of  $\mathbf{x}_{i,j}$  over the network  $\mathcal{G}$ . Assumption (A4) is standard on the population covariances, which ensures the largest and smallest eigenvalues of the local sample covariances are bounded from infinity and zero with high probability, respectively (Yaskov, 2014). Accordingly, the optimization problem is strongly convex with high probability. In Algorithm 1, the initial estimate  $\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)}$  is obtained using the measurements at each local node. Such an initial estimate satisfies Assumption (A5) under Assumptions (A3) and (A4). Assumption (A5) in fact allows an inaccurate initial estimate. In

particular, we can simply take  $\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)} = \mathbf{0}$ . Under the identifiability assumption that  $\beta^{\dagger T} \Sigma \beta^{\dagger} = 1$ , we have  $|\beta^{\dagger}|_2 \leq \lambda_{\min}^{-1}(\Sigma) \leq c_0$ . This together with Theorem 3.1 of Huang et al. (2018) yields  $|\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)} - \beta^*|_2 = O_p(1)$ .

We first demonstrate the optimization convergence properties of the proposed generalized ADMM Algorithm 1. With certain assumptions and proper choices of the step lengths  $\rho_j$ , we show that the algorithm holds a linear convergence rate in the connected network.

**Proposition 1** (Linear Convergence). Under Assumptions (A2)–(A4), by setting the step lengths  $\rho_j > \lambda_{\max}(n^{-1}\mathbf{X}^{(j)^T}\mathbf{X}^{(j)})$  for each  $j = 1, \ldots, m$ , we have  $(\sum_{j=1}^m |\boldsymbol{\beta}_{T+1}^{(j)} - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}|_2^2)^{1/2} = O_p(\gamma^T)$ , where  $\gamma \in (0,1)$ .

Proposition 1 demonstrates that the generalized ADMM Algorithm 1 solves the  $\ell_1$ -penalized surrogate least squares problem with linear convergence. The convergence factor  $\gamma$  is determined solely by the network topology **W** and the singularity properties of the covariance matrices. The choice of the step length,  $\rho_j$ , is straightforward, as it depends only on the maximum eigenvalue of the local covariance matrix. See Appendix C of the Supplementary Material for a detailed discussion on Proposition 1 and practical guidance for setting up our generalized ADMM algorithm.

Let  $\theta_{T+1}^{(j)}$  be the angle between  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{T+1}^{(j)}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$ . The following theorem presents the convergence rate of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{T+1}^{(j)}$  and  $\theta_{T+1}^{(j)}$ .

**Theorem 1.** Set  $\lambda_N = C_0(\log N/N)^{1/2}$ , where  $C_0 > 0$  is a sufficiently large constant. Under Assumptions (A1)–(A5), we have for  $\gamma \in (0,1)$ ,

$$|\beta_{T+1}^{(j)} - \beta^*|_2 = O_p \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{s \log p}{N}} + \gamma^T \right\}, \text{ and}$$

$$|\cos (\theta_{T+1}^{(j)})| = |\beta^{\dagger^T} \beta_{T+1}^{(j)}| / (|\beta^{\dagger}|_2 |\beta_{T+1}^{(j)}|_2) \ge 1 - O_p (|\beta_{T+1}^{(j)} - \beta^*|_2^2).$$

By Theorem 1, the accuracy of angle estimation is governed by the  $\ell_2$  convergence rate of the estimate. Compared to the initial estimate  $\widehat{\beta}_{\text{init}}^{(j)}$ , the convergence rate of our estimate  $\beta_{T+1}^{(j)}$  improves to  $\max\{(s \log p/N)^{1/2}, \gamma^T\}$ . The first term is from the convergence rate of  $|\widehat{\beta} - \beta^*|_2$ , where  $\widehat{\beta}$  is defined in (2.2). The second term is the optimization error resulting from the generalized ADMM Algorithm 1. By letting the number of loops sufficiently large that  $T \geq \log(s \log p/N)/\log \gamma$ , we have the convergence rate of the our decentralized estimate  $\beta_{T+1}^{(j)}$  attains the minimax optimal rate  $O\{(s \log p/N)^{1/2}\}$ . This is also the optimal rate even when all the data are pooled at a single central node (Wainwright, 2009). Furthermore, the following corollary implies that T only needs to be of constant order.

Corollary 1. Under the assumptions of Theorem 1, when  $p = O\{\exp(N/s)\}$ , we further have the number of loops  $T \ge \log(s \log p/N)/\log \gamma$  only needs to be constant order.

We provide guarantees on the support recovery of the limiting point of our decentralized estimate  $\widehat{\beta}$ .

**Theorem 2.** Assume that  $\|\mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{S}^c \times \mathcal{S}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}}^{-1}\|_{\infty} \leq 1 - \alpha$  for some constant  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , and  $s^2 \log p/N = o(1)$ . Under assumptions of Theorem 1, we have  $\operatorname{supp}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  with probability approaching one. Suppose, in addition, for a sufficiently large positive constant C,  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{*\min} \geq C \|\mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}}^{-1}\|_{\infty} (\log p/N)^{1/2}$ . Then we have  $\operatorname{supp}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}) = \mathcal{S}$  with probability approaching one.

The "beta-min" condition is widely used in the high-dimensional statistical literature and matches the oracle rate for the "beta-min" condition under the linear model (Wainwright, 2009).

#### 4. Numerical Studies

### 4.1 Experimental setup

To evaluate the finite-sample performance of our proposed method, we conduct a series of experiments. We generate a connected decentralized network comprising m nodes using an Erdős-Rényi random graph with a connection probability  $p_c$ . At each node  $\mathcal{N}_j$ , data is simulated following model (1.1). Specifically, the sensing vectors  $\mathbf{x}_{i,j}$  at node j are sampled from  $\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{\Sigma}_j)$  where  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_{j,\ell k} = \sigma^2 \rho_j^{|\ell-k|}$ , and the noise terms  $\varepsilon_{i,j}$  are drawn from  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_j^2)$  with  $\sigma_j = 1$ . The probability of sign-flips is characterized by

 $\mathbb{P}(\xi_{i,j}=1)=1-\mathbb{P}(\xi_{i,j}=-1)=q_j$ . The sparsity of the true coefficients  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^{\dagger}$  is set to s, where the indices of the nonzero entries are randomly selected, and these values are assigned to either -1 or 1 with equal probability. Unless otherwise specified, we use  $m=20,\ n=100,\ p_c=0.3,\ \sigma_j^2=1,\ p=100,\ s=10,\ \rho_j=0.1$  and  $q_j=0.9$ . Using the standard definition of the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), i.e., SNR = Var{ $E(Y\mid \mathbf{x})$ }/Var{ $Y-E(Y\mid \mathbf{x})$ }, this corresponds to a SNR = 0.869. Except for the experiments in ??, all data are generated independently and identically distributed.

At each node, the initial estimates are obtained using the  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS method on the local data. The tuning parameter  $\lambda_N$  is selected based on the Bayesian information criterion (Wang et al., 2009, BIC). Practically, broadcasting a single tuning parameter and aggregating the resultant local BIC values across the network incurs minimal communication overhead via the gossip protocol. Following the convention in Ma and Huang (2017), we set the Lagrangian parameter  $\tau = 1$ .

We compare our proposed method with the following four methods: 1) Pooled  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS (Pooled), which performs the  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS on the pooled data in a single node and serves as the benchmark; 2) Local  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS (Local), which performs the  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS on local data at each node, and serves as the worse performance benchmark; 3) Average

 $\ell_1$ -penalized LS (Avg), which obtains the estimate by averaging the local  $\ell_1$ -penalized LS, and such an averaging operation is usually completed via gossip algorithms over decentralized networks; 4) Decentralized subgradient descent (subGD) (Wang and Li, 2018), where the nodes collaboratively solve (2.3) with local subgradient descent and network communication. For all the decentralized estimates, we fixed the iteration budget to T = 500.

We employ two metrics to assess the performance of the model. The first metric is the estimation error, defined as  $(\sum_{j=1}^{m} |\beta_{T+1}^{(j)} - \beta^*|_2^2/m)^{1/2}$ . The second metric is the  $F_1$ -score, calculated as the harmonic mean of recall and precision at each node  $\mathcal{N}_j$ . Here, precision is the proportion of true nonzero components among the estimated nonzero components, and recall is the proportion of correctly identified nonzero components. The  $F_1$ -score ranges from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating superior performance. This score is widely utilized in the literature to evaluate support recovery accuracy. We report all results based on 100 independent replications to ensure stable evaluations.

### 4.2 Effect of sample size

We examine how the sample size N impacts the performance of different methods. We vary the sample size  $N \in \{1000, \dots, 6000\}$  by fixing

the number of nodes m fixed at 20 and varying the local sample size  $n \in \{50, 100, \ldots, 300\}$ . Results are summarized in Figure 1. The  $\ell_2$ -error of our proposal decreases linearly in sample size N on the log-log scale, which is in line with the theoretical results in Theorem 1. Among all the decentralized estimates, our proposal performs the best and matches the pooled estimate in terms of both metrics. Of note, our estimate yields the desirable sparse solutions and depicts superior support recovery performance. A similar plateauing behavior in support recovery—as the  $F_1$ -score approaches one with increasing sample size—has also been observed in prior work (Wainwright, 2009). The subGD method does not typically produce sparse estimates, as updates are made in proportion to the gradient of the objective function, which is often non-sparse. This accounts for its low  $F_1$ -score even when the local sample size is large.

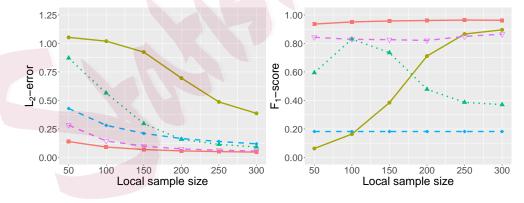


Figure 1: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (-) under different local sample sizes n with the number of nodes m fixed at 20.

# 4.3 Effect of network topology

We investigate the effect of network topology by examining the following two factors: the number of nodes m and the network sparsity  $p_c$ .

To study the effect of the number of nodes, we fix the local sample size n at 100, and vary the number of nodes m in  $\{5, 10, \ldots, 50\}$ . Our finding, summarized in Figure 2, reveals that our estimate outperforms the decentralized competitors in terms of  $\ell_2$ -errors in all settings and exhibits competitive support recovery performance. In addition, the performance of our decentralized estimate is robust to the number of nodes m, with nearly the same performance as the pooled estimate. These findings highlight the importance of leveraging information across nodes in decentralized networks to achieve superior estimation performance. The  $F_1$ -score exhibits a nonmonotonic trend: it initially increases and subsequently declines. The low  $F_1$ -score at m=5 reflects a violation of the condition  $s^2 \log p/N = o(1)$ , as stipulated in Theorem 2. The observed decline in performance arises because the generalized ADMM algorithm is not fully iterated so that the optimization error dominates compared to the statistical convergence rate  $(s \log p/N)^{1/2}$  established in Theorem 1 as N increases.

Next, we examine the impact of network sparsity by varying the probability of network connection  $p_c$  in  $\{0.3, 0.5, 0.8\}$ . A smaller probability of

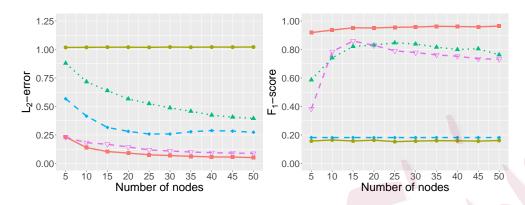


Figure 2: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (-) under different numbers of nodes with local sample size n fixed at 100.

network connection will lead to a sparser network. Our results, summarized in Figure 3, show that our proposal is resilient to network sparsity, with performance remaining similar across all settings. This is because the network sparsity only affects the convergence factor  $\gamma$ . However, the error term with  $\gamma$  diminishes at a linear rate (Proposition 1), so that it becomes negligible compared to the statistical error term.

### 4.4 Effect of heterogeneity

In this subsection, we assess the effect of covariate heterogeneity. We fix the total sample size at N=2000 and set the number of nodes to m=20, so each node contains n=100 observations. To introduce heterogeneity, each node generates covariates from one of two Gaussian designs with probabilities  $1-\pi$  and  $\pi$ : the first with  $\sigma_j^2=1$  and  $\rho=0.1$ , and the second with  $\sigma_j^2=3$ 

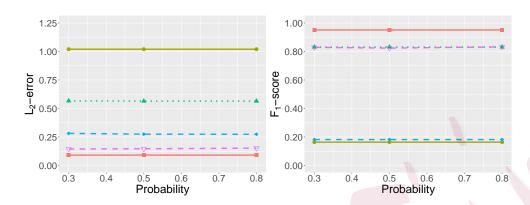


Figure 3: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (-) under different probabilities of network connection.

and  $\rho = 0.3$ . Using the standard definition of the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), these correspond to a SNR = 0.869 and 0.557, repetitively. We vary  $\pi$  over  $\{0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8\}$ . Larger values of  $\pi$  correspond to higher heterogeneity across nodes.

The resulting performance is summarized in Figure 4. As heterogeneity increases, the  $\ell_2$ -error for all methods rises modestly, and the  $F_1$ -score shows a mild decrease. Overall, the results indicate that the competing methods remain notably stable even under substantial variation in covariate distributions. This kind of robustness is in fact the main benefit from the least squares formulation adopted in our method.

# 4.5 Effect of dimension, sparsity, and probability of sign flips30

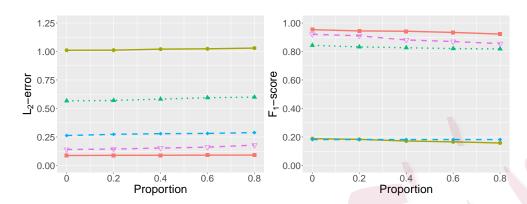


Figure 4: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (--) under different proportions of hetergenous covariates.

#### 4.5 Effect of dimension, sparsity, and probability of sign flips

We investigate the impact of the dimension of the covariate p, sparsity, and probability of sign flips on the performance of different estimation methods. Results are summarized in Figures 5 to 7. We can find that as long as the dimension, the sparsity, and the probability of sign flips are not too large, the performance of our proposed decentralized estimate is quite close to that of the pooled estimate, and our proposal outperforms the rest of the decentralized competitors greatly. Accordingly, all the conclusions from the previous subsections hold for a large range of configurations of dimension, sparsity, and probability of sign flips and apply well to many real-world applications. For moderate values of s, the condition in Theorem 2 remains valid. By the definition of the  $F_1$ -score, when the proportion of correctly

# 4.5 Effect of dimension, sparsity, and probability of sign flips31

identified support is held constant, the  $F_1$ -score increases with s, which explains the observed upward trend in our estimate's  $F_1$ -score as s grows.

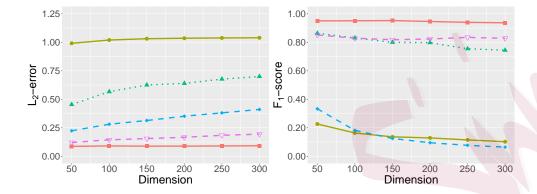


Figure 5: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (——), Local (——), Avg (——), subGD (——), and our estimates (——) under different dimensions of the covariate.

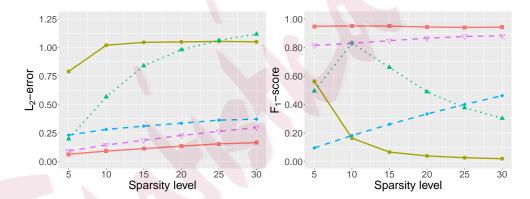


Figure 6: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (--) under different sparsity levels.

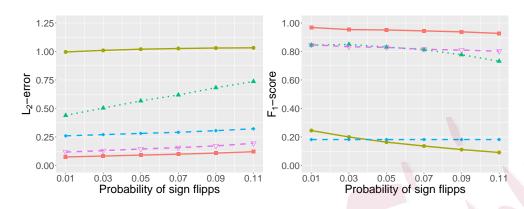


Figure 7: The  $\ell_2$ -errors (left panel) and  $F_1$ -scores (right panel) of the Pooled (-), Local (-), Avg (-), subGD (-), and our estimates (-) under different probabilities of sign flipps.

#### 5. Conclusion

We propose an efficient decentralized algorithm for 1-bit CS over decentralized networks, which converges linearly to the statistically optimal solution with a straightforward implementation. To address the nondifferentiable sign function, we introduce a novel least squares formulation for 1-bit CS. This formulation imposes mild restrictions on the distribution of sensing vectors, allowing practitioners to select their preferred sensing vectors adaptively. In scenarios where communication is limited to neighborhoods, we develop a generalized ADMM algorithm to solve the resulting novel penalized least squares problem. Our focus in this work is on the  $\ell_1$ -norm penalty. Notably, the generalized ADMM algorithm is versatile and can accommodate various advanced non-convex penalties through a simple linear approximation to

the penalty (Zou and Li, 2008). In many applications, there is interest in recovering multiple signals that share common features while retaining individual innovations. Future research may explore personalized 1-bit compressive sensing by imposing group structure penalties to address these needs. Additionally, enhancing privacy by incorporating differential privacy techniques is a promising direction. Our current sign-flips setting already offers a degree of privacy protection. A key limitation of the current study is its focus on the regime p < n. Future work may extend the methodology to high-dimensional settings by incorporating structural assumptions such as an upper bound of signal sparsity to constrain the model space (Ji et al., 2023).

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