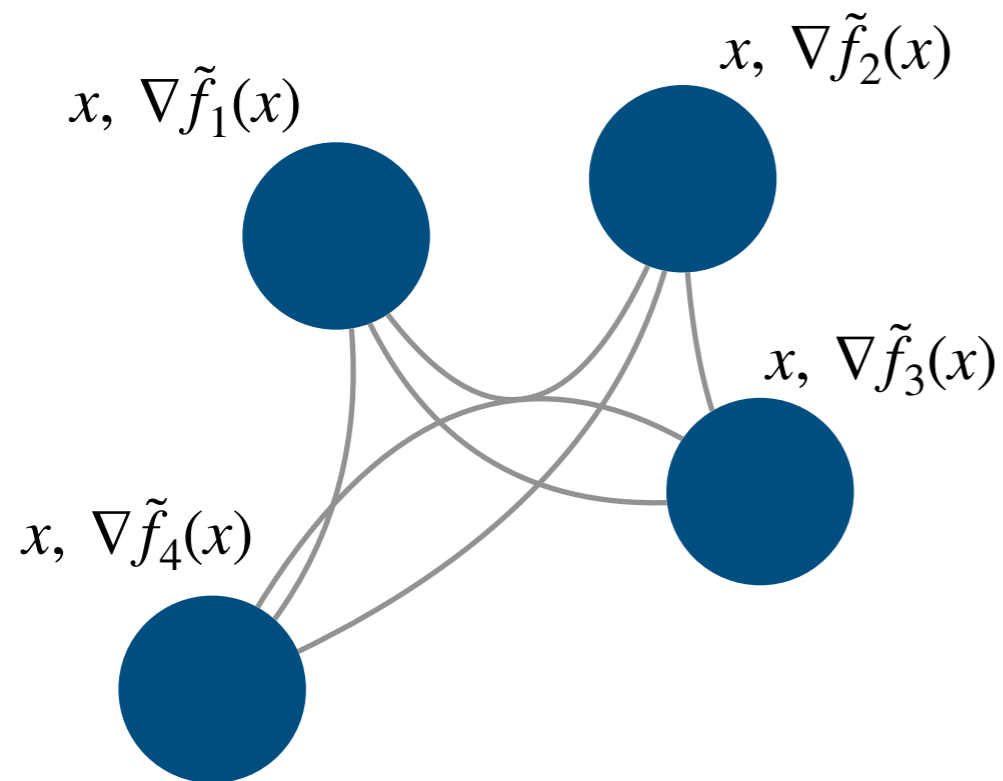


Stochastic Gradient Push for Distributed Deep Learning

Mido Assran, Nicolas Loizou, Nicolas Ballas, Mike Rabbat

Data Parallel Training



parallel Stochastic Gradient Descent

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} - \gamma^{(k)} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla \tilde{f}_i(x) \right)$$

inter-node average

$$x^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x^{(k)} - \gamma^{(k)} \nabla \tilde{f}_i(x))$$

Data Parallel Training

Existing Approaches

1. **Parallel SGD** (*AllReduce gradient aggregation, all nodes*)

Data Parallel Training

Existing Approaches

1. Parallel SGD (*AllReduce gradient aggregation, all nodes*)

Blocks all nodes



Data Parallel Training

Existing Approaches

1. **Parallel SGD** (*AllReduce gradient aggregation, all nodes*)
2. **D-PSGD** (*PushPull parameter aggregation, neighboring nodes*)
3. **AD-PSGD** (*PushPull parameter aggregation, pairs of nodes*)



Blocks all nodes



1. Goyal et al., "Accurate, large minibatch sgd: training imagenet in 1 hour," preprint arXiv:1706.02677, 2017.
2. Lian et al., "Can decentralized algorithms outperform centralized algorithms? a case study for decentralized parallel stochastic gradient descent," NeurIPS, 2017.
3. Lian et al., "Asynchronous decentralized parallel stochastic gradient descent," ICML, 2018.

Data Parallel Training

Existing Approaches

1. **Parallel SGD** (*AllReduce gradient aggregation, all nodes*) 
 2. **D-PSGD** (*PushPull parameter aggregation, neighboring nodes*)
 3. **AD-PSGD** (*PushPull parameter aggregation, pairs of nodes*)
- Blocks subsets of nodes and requires deadlock avoidance** 

1. Goyal et al., "Accurate, large minibatch sgd: training imagenet in 1 hour," preprint arXiv:1706.02677, 2017.
2. Lian et al., "Can decentralized algorithms outperform centralized algorithms? a case study for decentralized parallel stochastic gradient descent," NeurIPS, 2017.
3. Lian et al., "Asynchronous decentralized parallel stochastic gradient descent," ICML, 2018.

Data Parallel Training

Existing Approaches

1. Parallel SGD (*AllReduce gradient aggregation, all nodes*)
 2. D-PSGD (*PushPull parameter aggregation, neighboring nodes*)
 3. AD-PSGD (*PushPull parameter aggregation, pairs of nodes*)
- Blocks subsets of nodes and requires deadlock avoidance**

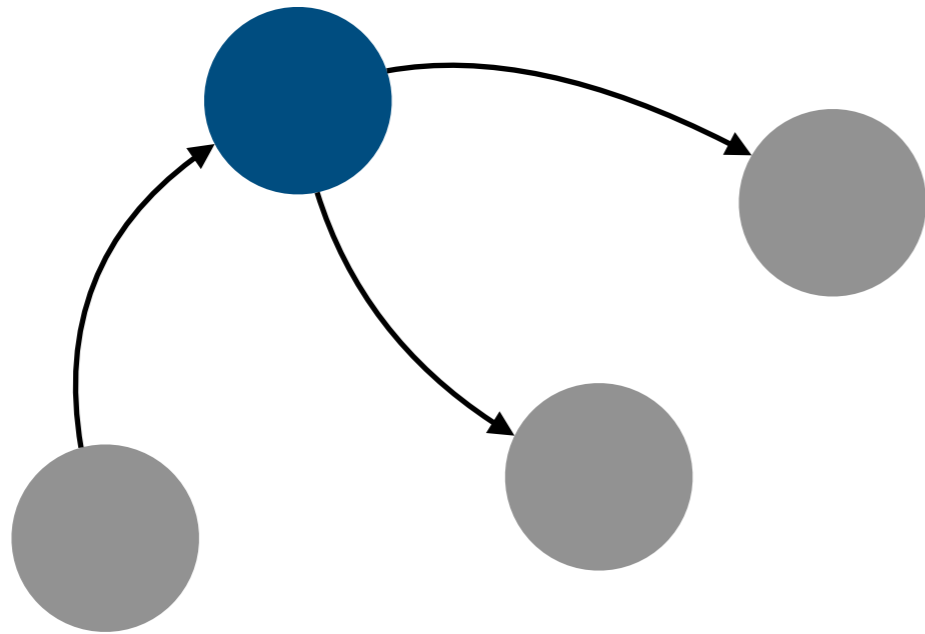
Blocks all nodes

Proposed Approach

Stochastic Gradient Push (*PushSum parameter aggregation*)

nonblocking, no deadlock avoidance required

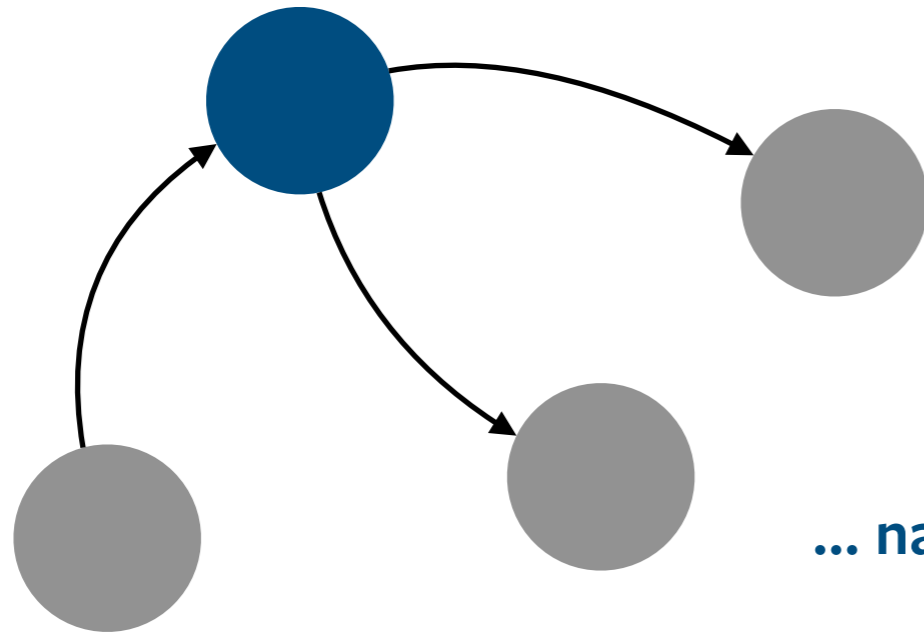
Stochastic Gradient Push



Enables optimization over directed and time-varying graphs

1. Nedic, A. and Olshevsky, A. "Stochastic gradient-push for strongly convex functions on time-varying directed graphs," *IEEE Trans. Automatic Control*, 2016.

Stochastic Gradient Push

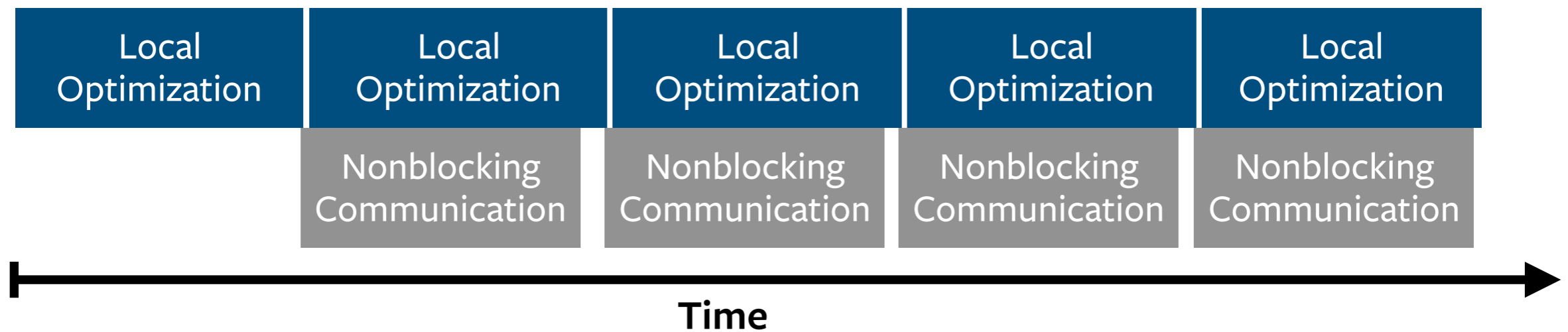


Enables optimization over directed and time-varying graphs

... naturally enables asynchronous implementations

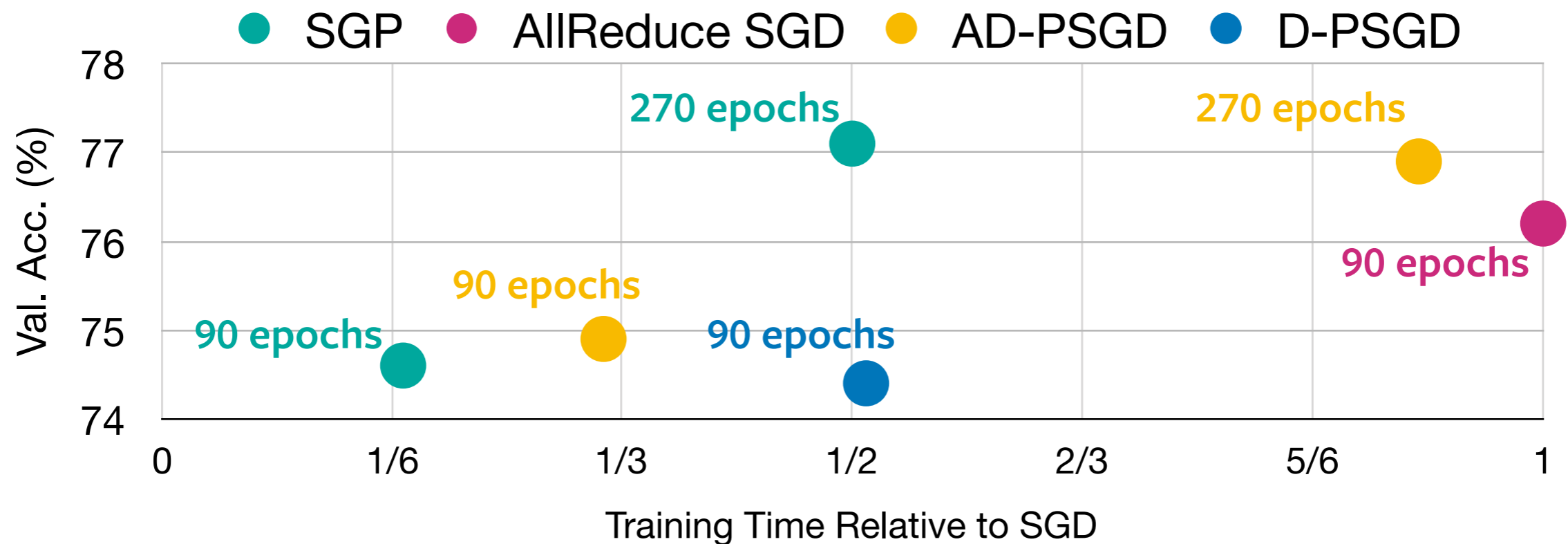
1. Nedic, A. and Olshevsky, A. "Stochastic gradient-push for strongly convex functions on time-varying directed graphs," *IEEE Trans. Automatic Control*, 2016.

Stochastic Gradient Push



Distributed Stochastic Optimization

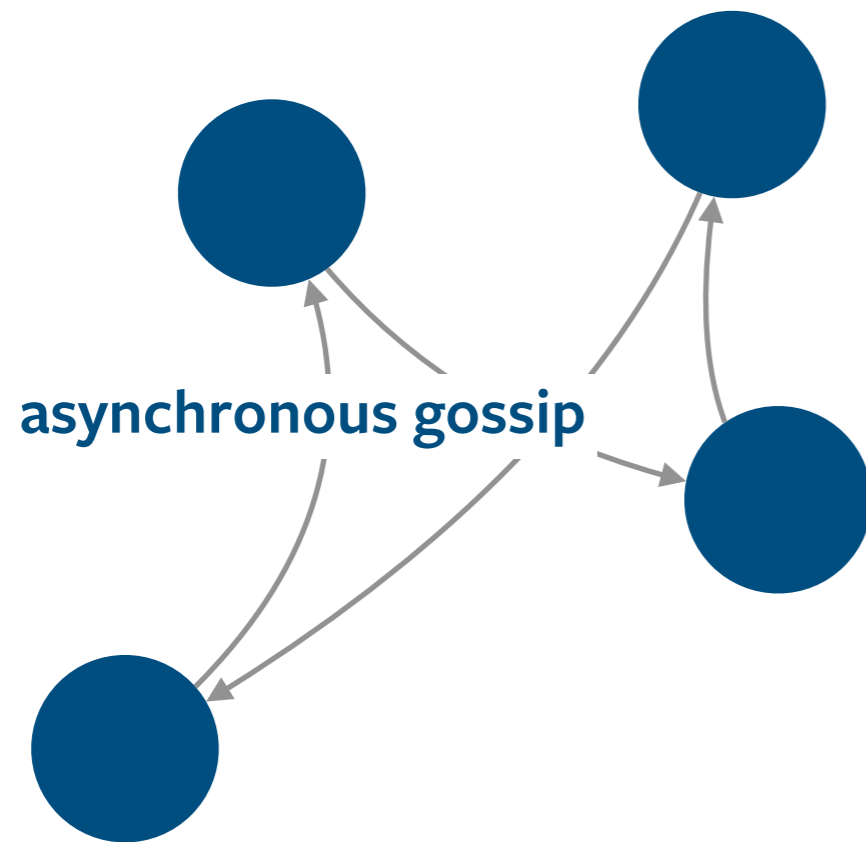
ImageNet, ResNet 50



32 nodes (256 GPUs) interconnected via 10 Gbps Ethernet

Stochastic Gradient Push

Data Parallelism

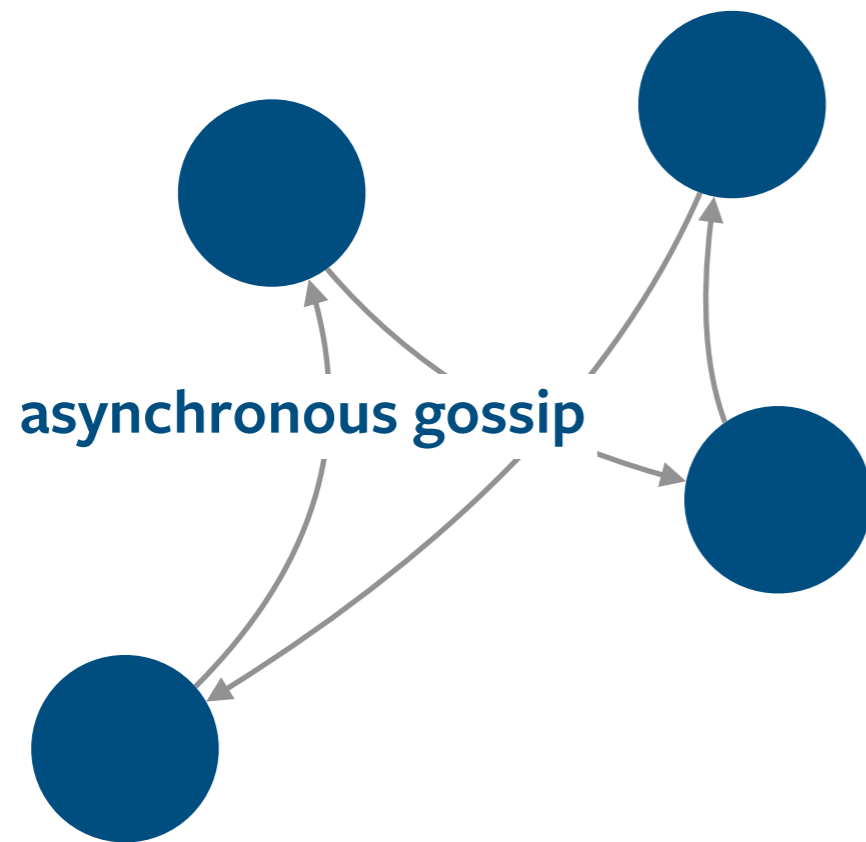


Algorithm features:

- * nonblocking communication

Stochastic Gradient Push

Data Parallelism



Algorithm features:

- * nonblocking communication
- * convergence guarantees for smooth non-convex functions with arbitrary (bounded) message staleness

paper: arxiv.org/pdf/1811.10792.pdf

code: github.com/facebookresearch/stochastic_gradient_push

poster: Pacific Ballroom #183