

Appendix

In Appendix A, we provide proofs for all the theorems, lemmas, and propositions stated in the main body. In Appendix B, we provide additional experiments supporting our claims.

A Proofs

Lemma A.1. (Fenchel Young inequality) *For any convex function $f(\cdot)$, let $f^*(\cdot)$ denote its Fenchel dual. Then, we have*

$$f(x) + f^*(y) \geq x^T y. \quad (11)$$

Specifically, we use the following two instances of Fenchel-Young extensively:

1. For $f(x) = \frac{\|x\|_2^2}{2\beta}$, we have $f^*(y) = \frac{\beta}{2} \|y\|_2^2$ for any constant $\beta > 0$. Thus, we obtain

$$x^T y \leq \frac{1}{2\beta} \|x\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|y\|_2^2.$$

2. For $f(x) = \frac{x^T M x}{2}$, we have $f^*(y) = \frac{y^T M^{-1} y}{2}$ for any positive definite matrix M . Thus, we have

$$x^T y \leq \frac{x^T M x}{2} + \frac{y^T M^{-1} y}{2}.$$

A.1 Proof of Lemma 3.1

We begin with Lemma 3.3 of [2], which gives

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x_k - x^*\|_2^2 - \alpha_k [F_{x_k}(x_{k+1}; S_k) - F_{x_k}(x^*; S_k)] - \frac{1}{2} \|x_{k+1} - x_k\|_2^2. \quad (12)$$

Now, let $g_k := \nabla F(x_k; S_k)$ and define $\xi_k := g_k - \nabla f(x_k)$. Using convexity of $F_{x_k}(\cdot; S_k)$, we have $F_{x_k}(x_{k+1}; S_k) \geq F_{x_k}(x_k; S_k) + \langle g_k, x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle$ and thus

$$\begin{aligned} F(x^*; S_k) - F_{x_k}(x_{k+1}; S_k) &\leq F_{x_k}(x^*; S_k) - F(x_k; S_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle \xi_k, x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the definition of error $e_k := [F_{x_k}(x^*; S_k) - f(x^*)] - [F(x_k; S_k) - f(x_k)]$ and using the fact that f is L -smooth, we get

$$F(x^*; S_k) - F_{x_k}(x_{k+1}; S_k) \leq f(x^*) - f(x_{k+1}) + \frac{L}{2} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 + e_k + \langle \xi_k, x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle.$$

Substituting in (12) and rearranging,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) &\leq \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} [\|x_k - x^*\|_2^2 - \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2] - \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 \\ &\quad + e_k + \langle \xi_k, x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle + \frac{L}{2} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Using Fenchel-Young's inequality on $\langle \xi_k, x_k - x_{k+1} \rangle$,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_{k+1}) - f(x^*) &\leq \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} [\|x_k - x^*\|_2^2 - \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2] - \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 \\ &\quad + e_k + \frac{1}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 + \frac{L + \eta_k}{2} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\alpha_k} [\|x_k - x^*\|_2^2 - \|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2] + e_k + \frac{1}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

A.2 Proof of Theorem 1

Summing Lemma 3.1 we get,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^k [f(x_{i+1}) - f(x^*)] &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=2}^k \left(\frac{1}{\alpha_i} - \frac{1}{\alpha_{i-1}} \right) \|x_i - x^*\|_2^2 - \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2}{2\alpha_{k+1}} \\ &\quad + \frac{\|x_1 - x^*\|_2^2}{2\alpha_1} + \sum_{i=1}^k e_i + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{2\eta_i} \|\nabla F(x_i; S_i) - \nabla f(x_i)\|_2^2 \\ &\leq \frac{R^2}{2\alpha_k} + \sum_{i=1}^k e_i + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{2\eta_i} \|\nabla F(x_i; S_i) - \nabla f(x_i)\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

After taking expectations and using the facts $\mathbb{E}[e_k] \leq 0$, $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{L+\eta_k}$, we get the stated result.

A.3 Proof of Proposition 1

Using shorthands as in Lemma 3.1 and assuming $f(x^*) = 0$, Lemma 3.1 implies:

$$\frac{1}{2}D_{k+1}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \alpha f(x_{k+1}) + \alpha e_k + \frac{\alpha}{2\eta} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \frac{\alpha\lambda}{2}D_{k+1}^2 + \alpha e_k + \frac{\alpha}{2\eta} \|\xi_k\|_2^2,$$

where the second inequality follows from using strong convexity on the objective to get the bound $f(x_{k+1}) \geq \frac{\lambda}{2}D_{k+1}^2$. We rearrange and take expectations on both sides to obtain

$$\mathbb{E}[D_{k+1}^2] \leq \underbrace{\frac{1}{\alpha\lambda + 1}}_{\leq \exp(-\alpha\lambda/2)} \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{\alpha\sigma_2^2}{\eta m}\right)}_{\leq \exp(\frac{\alpha\sigma_2^2}{\eta m})} \mathbb{E}[D_k^2] \leq \exp\left(\frac{-\lambda}{2(L+\eta)} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{\eta(L+\eta)m}\right) \mathbb{E}[D_k^2],$$

where $\mathbb{E}[\|\xi_k\|_2^2] \leq \frac{\sigma_2^2}{m} \mathbb{E}[D_k^2]$ by Assumption A2. Using $2 \max\{L, \eta\} > L + \eta > \eta$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[D_{k+1}^2] \leq \exp\left(\frac{-\lambda}{4 \max\{L, \eta\}} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{\eta^2 m}\right) \mathbb{E}[D_k^2].$$

A.4 Proof of Theorem 2

WLOG let $f(x^*) = 0$. We define $D_k := \text{dist}(x_k, \mathcal{X}^*)$ and $\xi_k := \nabla F(x_k; S_k) - \nabla f(x_k)$ and $\lambda_k := \min(2\alpha_k, f(x_k) / \|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2)$. We begin with equation eq. (13) and apply Lemma A.1

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}D_{k+1}^2 &\leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 + \alpha_k [f(x^*) - f(x_{k+1})] - \frac{1}{2} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 + \alpha_k e_k \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha_k}{\eta_k^2} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 + \frac{\alpha_k(L + \eta_k)}{2} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{2}(L + \eta_k)^{-1}$, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2}D_{k+1}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \alpha_k f(x_{k+1}) - \frac{1}{4} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2 + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2.$$

Observe that due to convexity and our assumption that $f(x^*) = 0$, we have $f(x_{k+1}) \geq [f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle]_+$, meaning

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}D_{k+1}^2 &\leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - (\alpha_k [f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), x_{k+1} - x_k \rangle]_+ + \frac{1}{4} \|x_k - x_{k+1}\|_2^2) + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \inf_y (\alpha_k [f(x_k) + \langle \nabla f(x_k), y - x_k \rangle]_+ + \frac{1}{4} \|x_k - y\|_2^2) + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 \\ &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - (\alpha_k [f(x_k) - \lambda_k \|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2] + \frac{\lambda_k^2}{4} \|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2) + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2 \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_k f(x_k) + \frac{\lambda_k^2}{4} \|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2 + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k} \|\xi_k\|_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

where (i) follows by $y^* = x_k - \lambda_k \nabla f(x_k)$ and (ii) comes from applying $\lambda_k \leq 2\alpha_k$.

We proceed by cases: if $\lambda_k = f(x_k)/\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2$, then $-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_k f(x_k) + \frac{\lambda_k^2}{4}\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2 = -\frac{f(x_k)^2}{4\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2}$. If $\lambda_k = 2\alpha_k$ (by using the fact that $2\alpha_k^2 \leq \alpha_k f(x_k)/\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2$), then $-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_k f(x_k) + \frac{\lambda_k^2}{4}\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2 = -\alpha_k f(x_k)/2$. In taking an upper bound of these two cases, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}D_{k+1}^2 &\leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \frac{1}{2}\lambda_k f(x_k) + \frac{\lambda_k^2}{4}\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2 + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k}\|\xi_k\|_2^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}D_k^2 - \min\left(\frac{\alpha_k f(x_k)}{2}, \frac{f(x_k)^2}{4\|\nabla f(x_k)\|_2^2}\right) + \alpha_k e_k + \frac{\alpha_k}{2\eta_k}\|\xi_k\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging, using Assumption A3, and taking conditional expectations on both sides, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E}[D_{k+1}^2 | \mathcal{F}_{k-1}] \leq D_k^2 \left[1 - \min\left(\lambda_0 \alpha_k, \frac{\lambda_1}{2}\right)\right] + 2\alpha_k \mathbb{E}[e_k | \mathcal{F}_{k-1}] + \frac{\alpha_k}{\eta_k} \mathbb{E}[\|\xi_k\|_2^2 | \mathcal{F}_{k-1}],$$

Upon taking expectations on both sides and using Assumption A2 and $\mathbb{E}[e_k] \leq 0$, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E}[D_{k+1}^2] \leq \left\{1 - \min\left(\lambda_0 \alpha_k, \frac{\lambda_1}{2}\right) + \frac{\alpha_k \sigma^2}{m\eta_k}\right\} \mathbb{E}[D_k^2].$$

Reapplying this inequality completes the proof.

B Additional Experiments

Please refer to the Experiments section in the main paper for a description of the data generation methodology.

B.1 Condition Number of A is 1

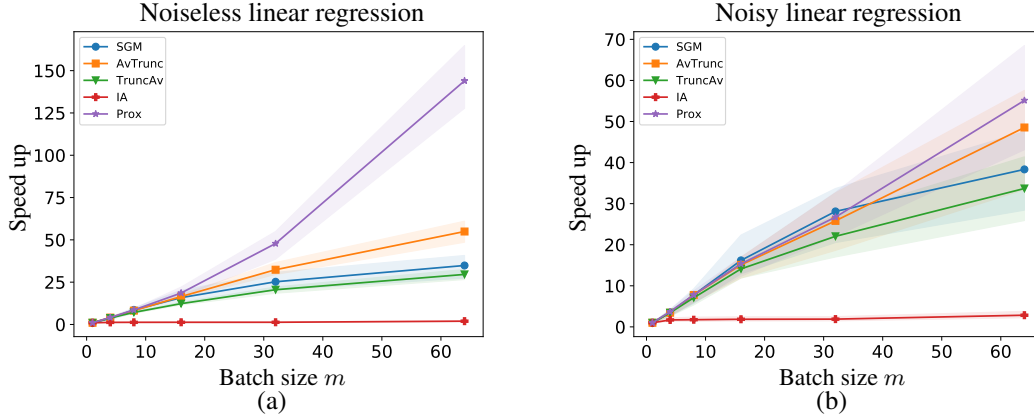


Figure 6: Speed ups with best possible stepsizes vs. batch size (noisy experiments with $\sigma = 0.5$)

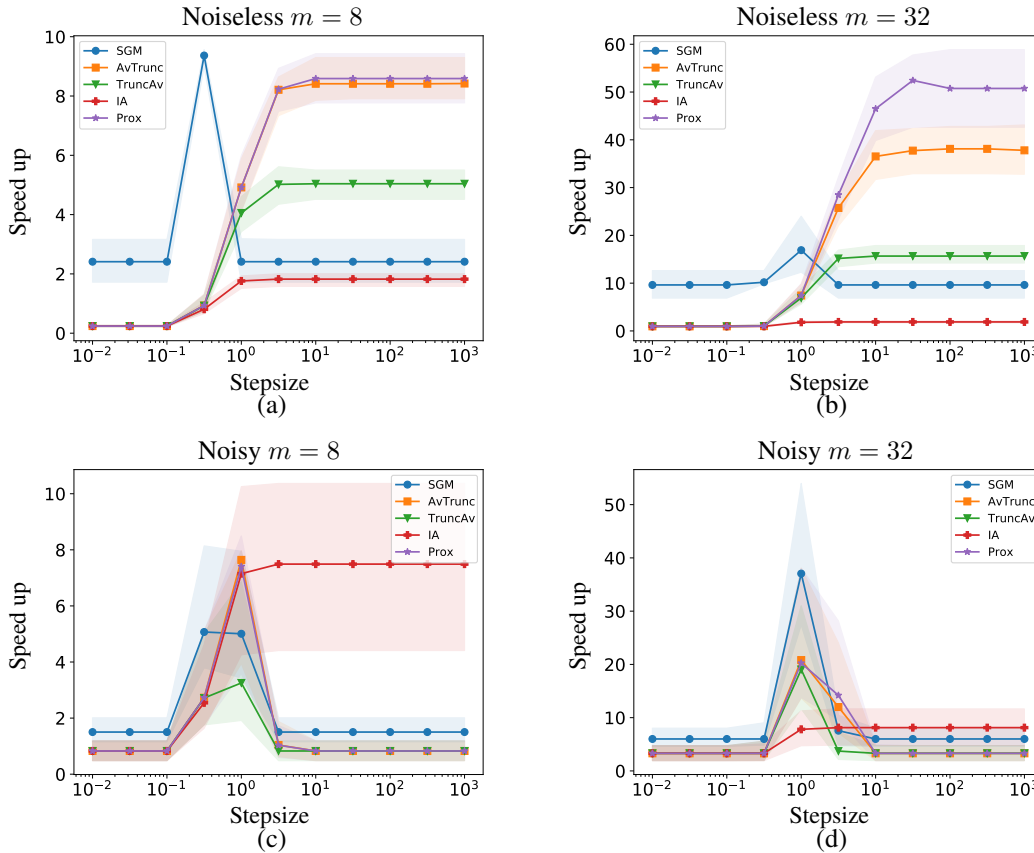


Figure 7: Speed up vs. stepsizes for l_1 regression (noisy experiments with $\sigma = 0.5$)

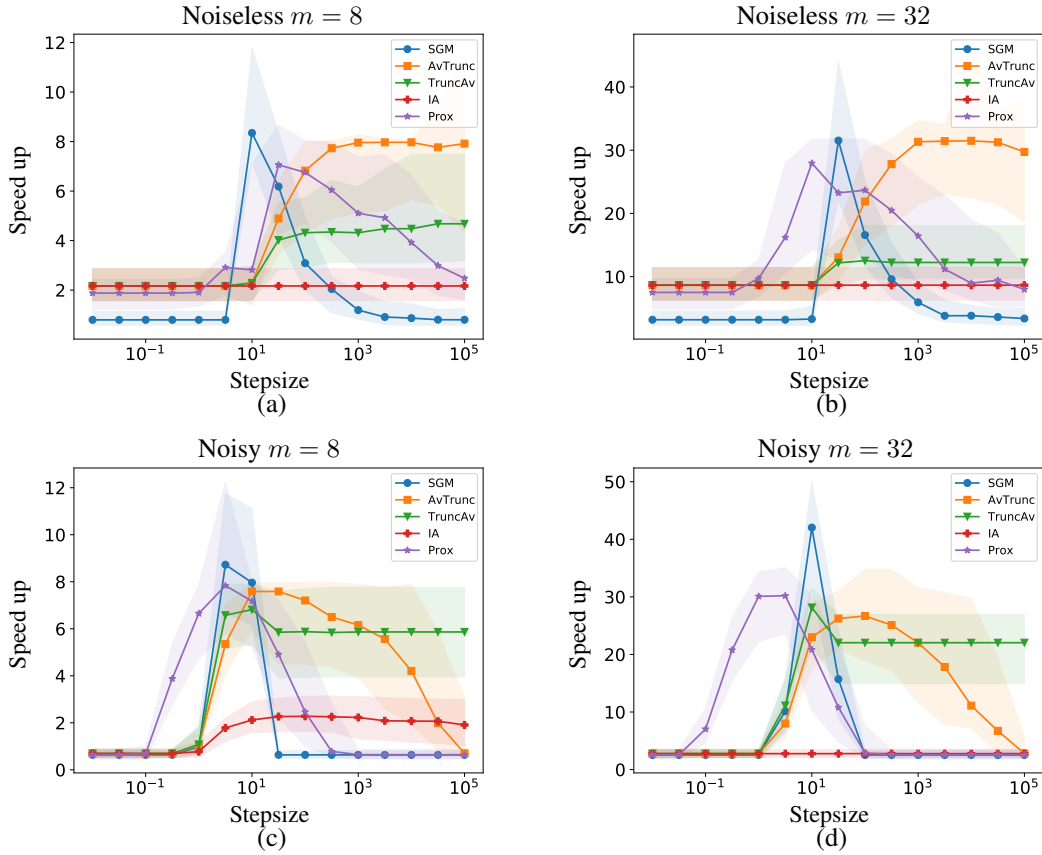


Figure 8: Speed up vs. stepsizes for logistic regression. (noisy experiments with $p = 0.01$)

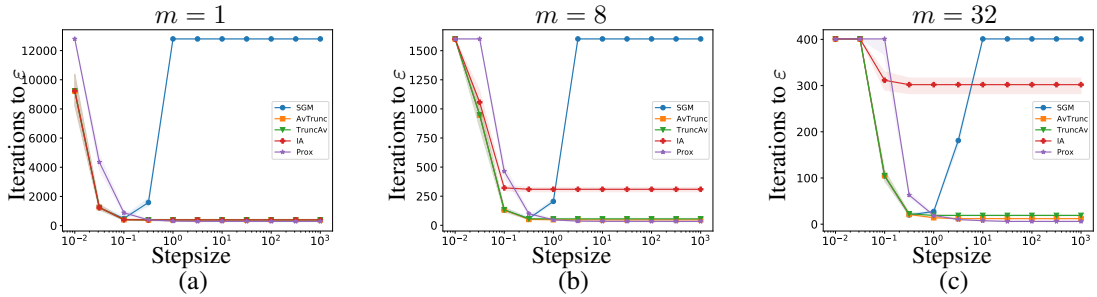


Figure 9: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for noiseless linear regression

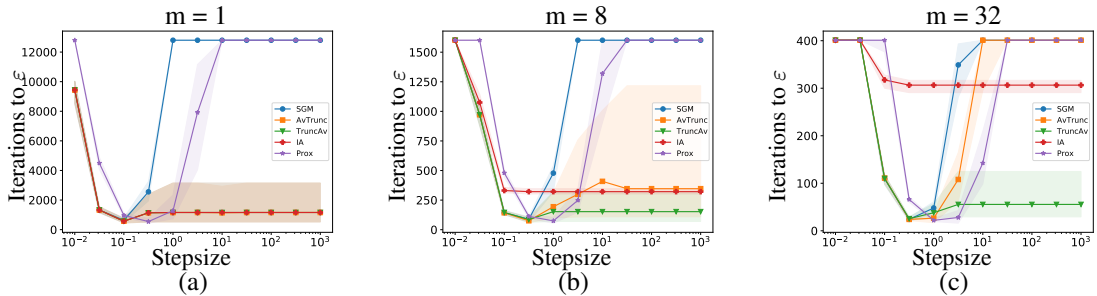


Figure 10: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for linear regression (noisy with $\sigma = 0.5$)

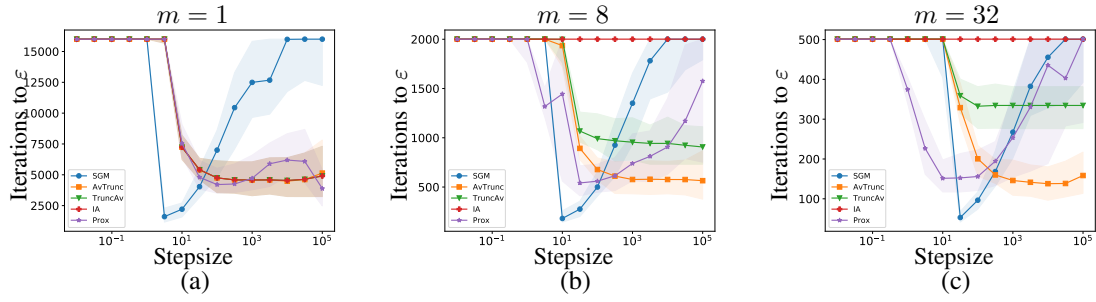


Figure 11: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for noiseless logistic regression

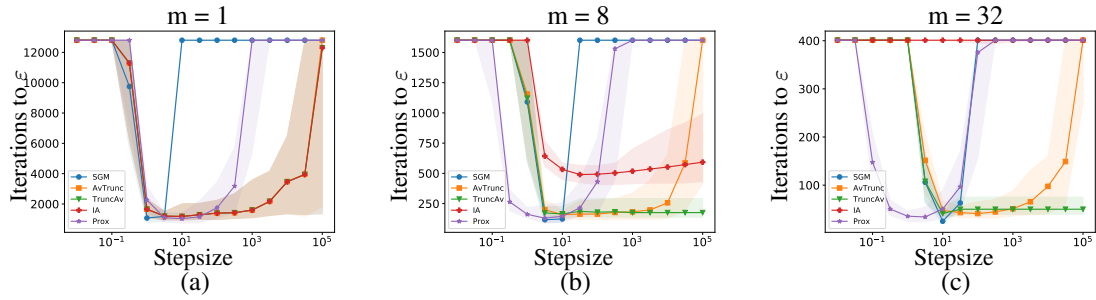


Figure 12: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for logistic regression (noisy with $p = 0.01$)

B.2 Condition Number of A is 10

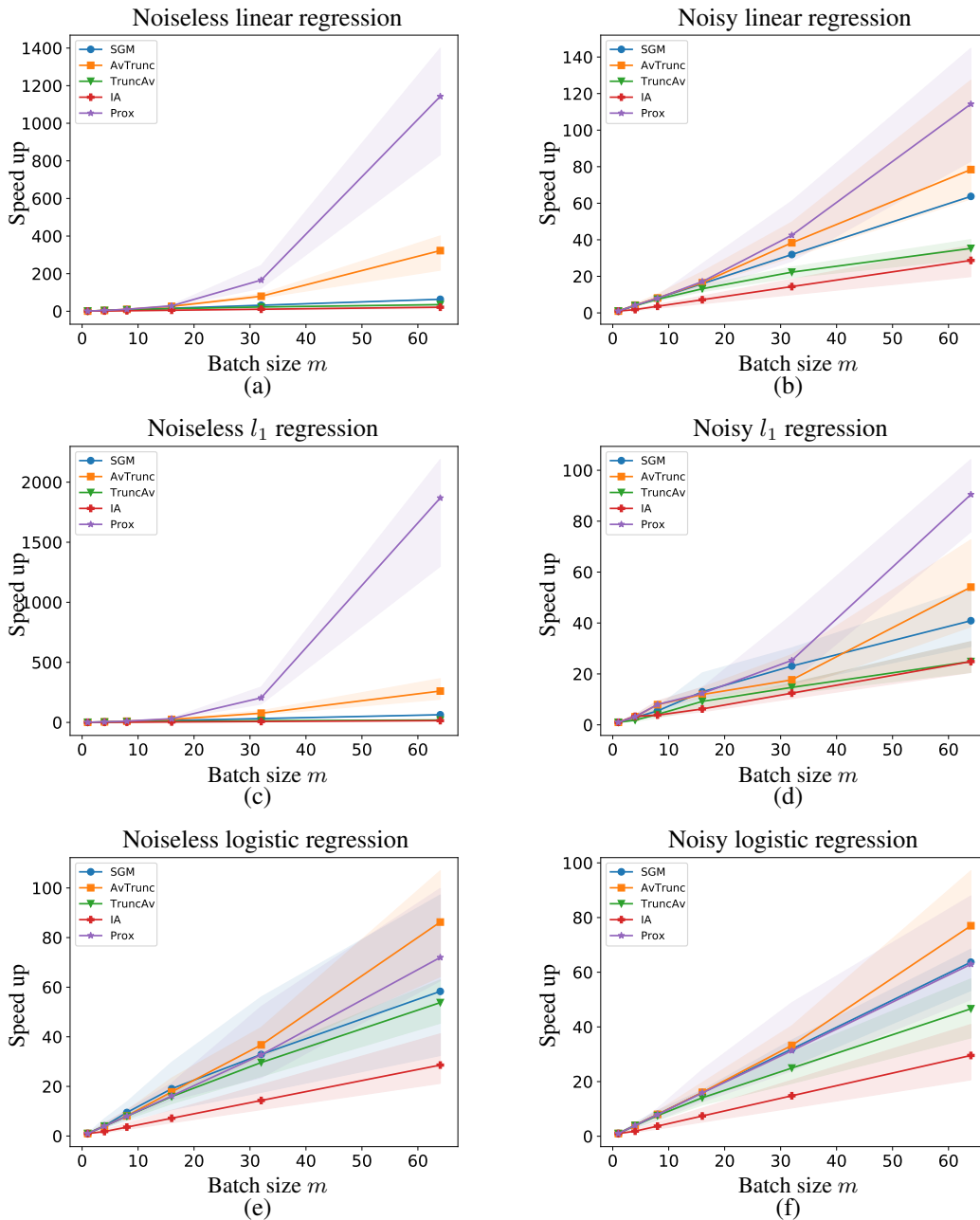


Figure 13: Speed ups with best possible stepsizes vs. batch size (noisy experiments with $\sigma = 0.5$)

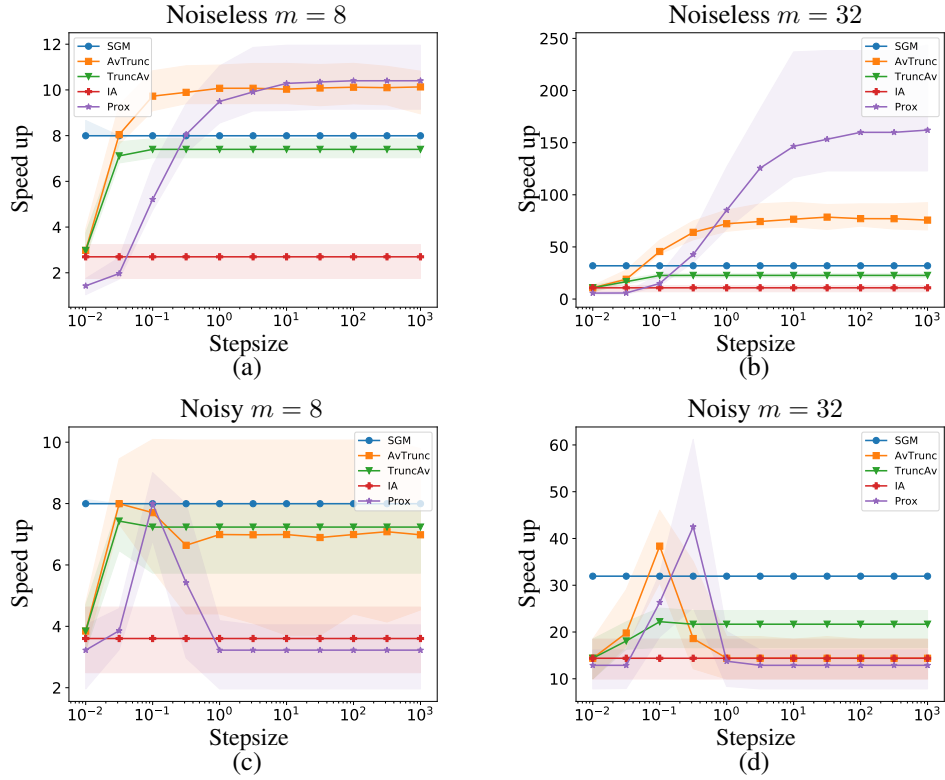


Figure 14: Speed up vs. stepsizes for linear regression

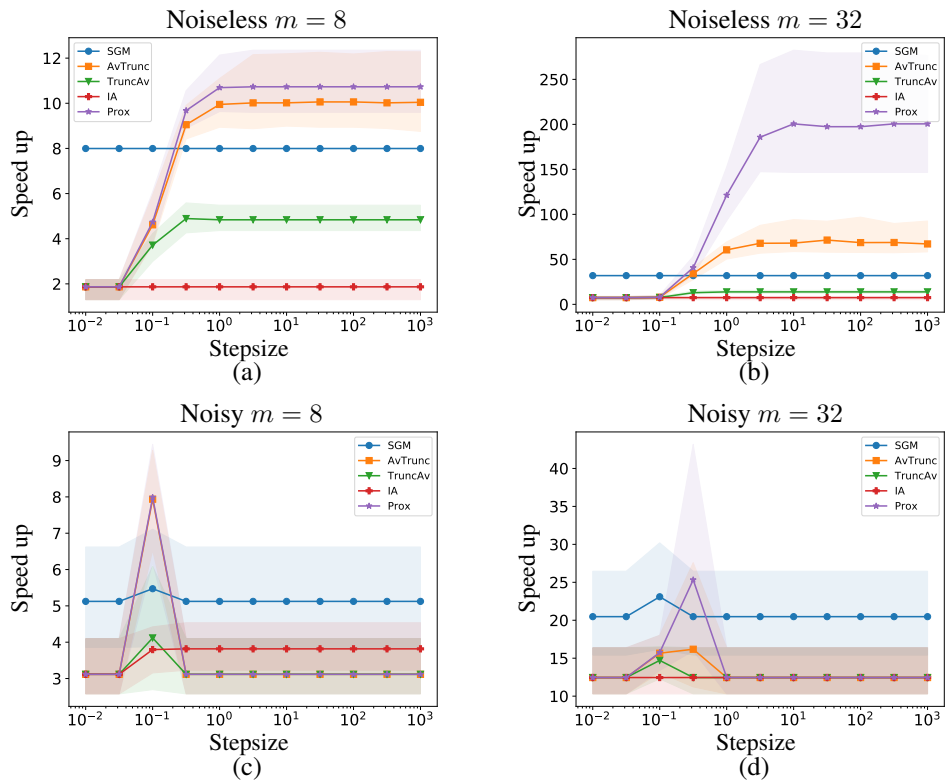


Figure 15: Speed up vs. stepsizes for l_1 regression (noisy experiments with $\sigma = 0.5$)

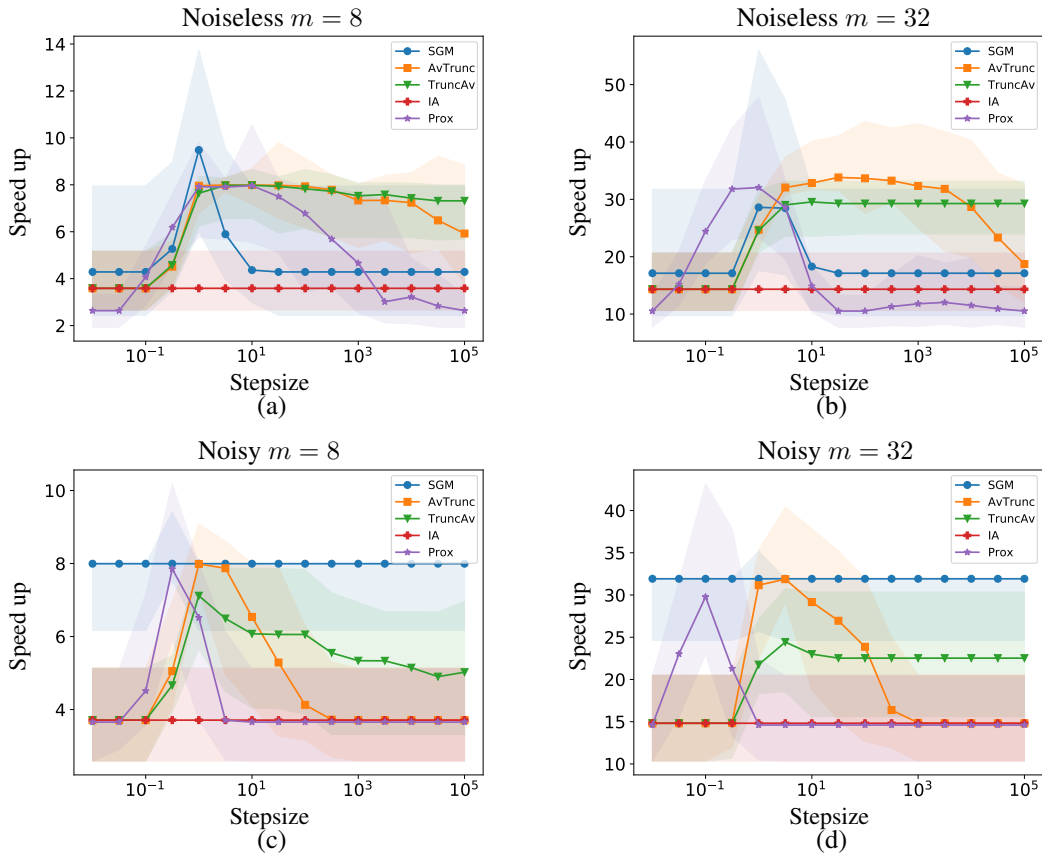


Figure 16: Speed up vs. stepsizes for logistic regression. (noisy experiments with $p = 0.01$)

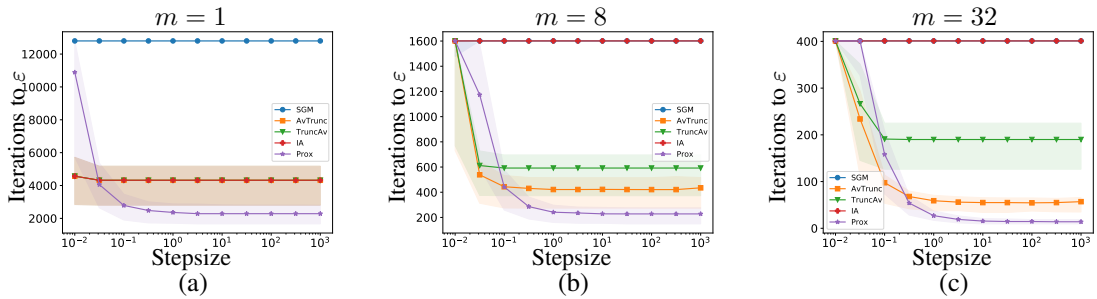


Figure 17: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for noiseless linear regression

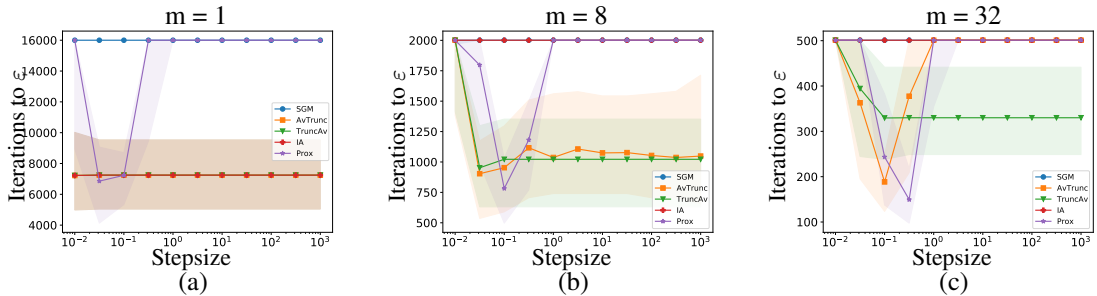


Figure 18: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for linear regression (noisy with $\sigma = 0.5$)

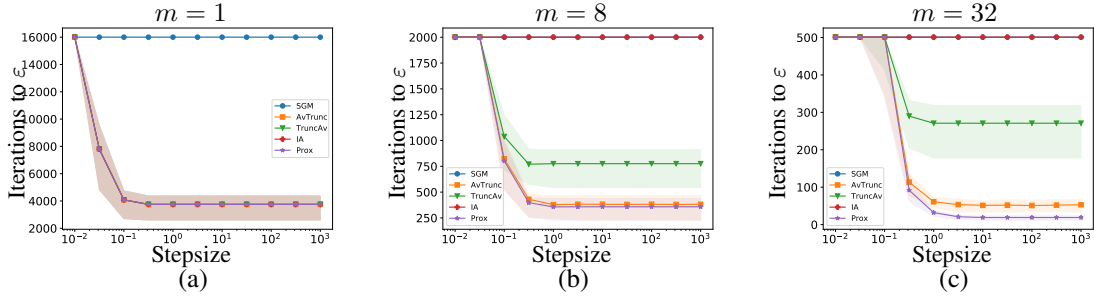


Figure 19: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for noiseless absolute regression

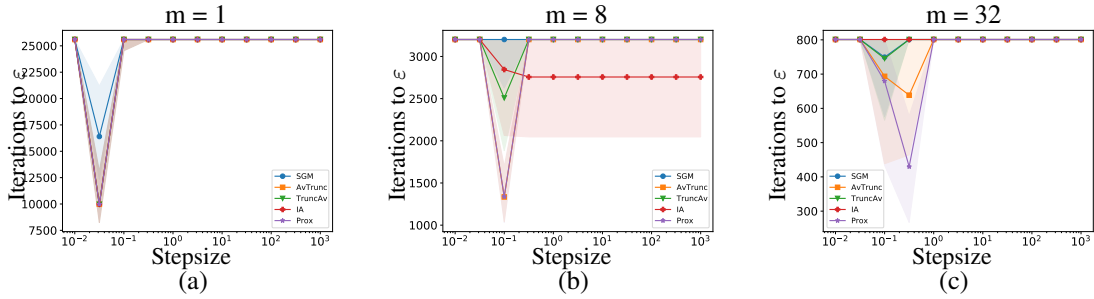


Figure 20: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for absolute regression (noisy with $\sigma = 0.5$)

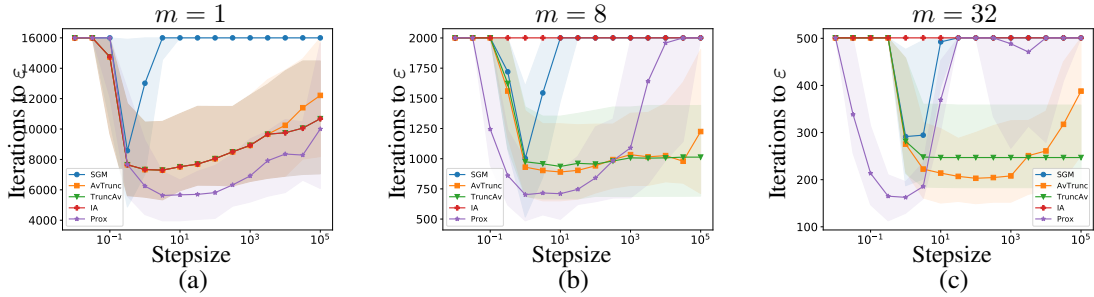


Figure 21: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for noiseless logistic regression

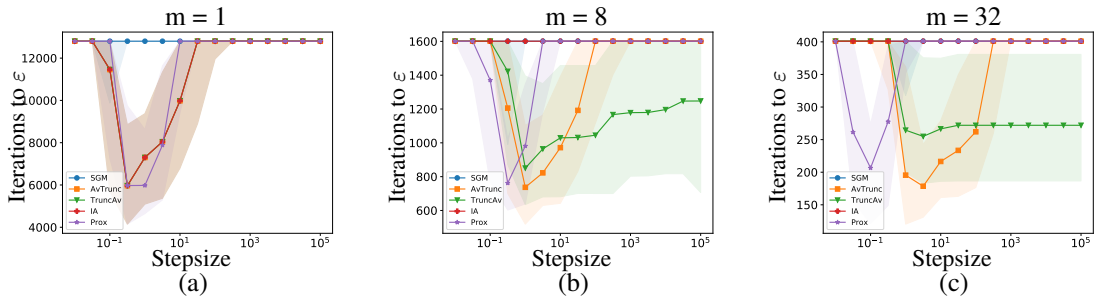


Figure 22: Time to convergence vs. stepsizes for logistic regression (noisy with $p = 0.01$)