

# **Learning with SGD and Random Features**

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# Supervised learning

Given  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

Learn a **non-linear** function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  e.g.  $f(x) = w^\top \phi(x)$

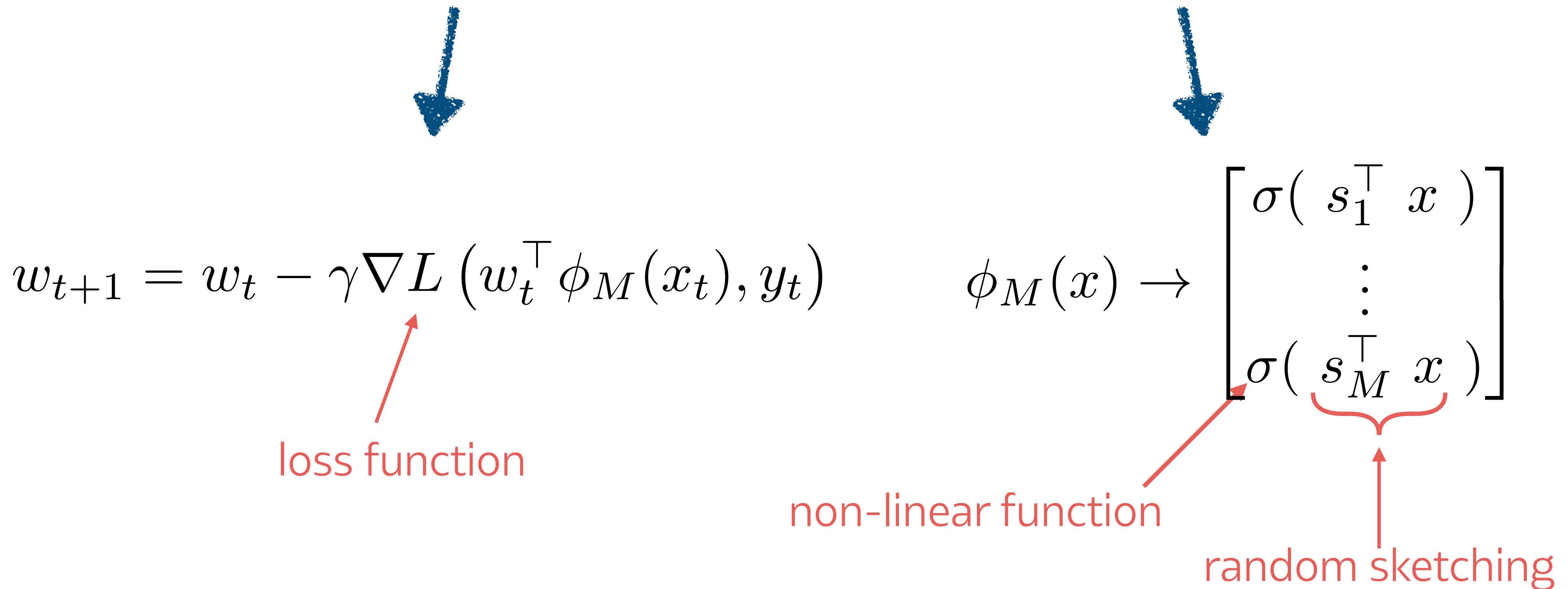
# Supervised learning

Given  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

Learn a **non-linear** function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  e.g.  $f(x) = w^\top \phi(x)$

Goal:  $f$  provably **accurate** + computationally **efficient**

# Learning with Stochastic Gradients & Random Features



# SGD-RF with Mini Batching

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \gamma \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=b(t-1)+1}^{bt} \nabla L(w_t^\top \phi_M(x_{i_t}), y_{i_t}) \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

# SGD-RF with Mini Batching

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stepsize      batchsize      n° random features      n° iterations

The diagram illustrates the SGD-RF with Mini Batching update rule. The formula is:

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \gamma \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=b(t-1)+1}^{bt} \nabla L(w_t^\top \phi_M(x_{i_t}), y_{i_t}) \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

Annotations in red explain the components:

- stepsize: points to  $\gamma$
- batchsize: points to  $b$
- n° random features: points to  $\phi_M(x_{i_t})$
- n° iterations: points to  $T$

# SGD-RF with Mini Batching

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stepsize       $\gamma \frac{1}{b}$   
batchsize       $b(t-1)+1$   
nº random features       $i_t$   
nº iterations       $T$

Complexity:

Time  $\mathcal{O}(MbT)$

Space  $\mathcal{O}(M)$

How to choose  $\gamma, b, M, T$  for optimal accuracy?

# Our main result

*Theorem(Carratino, Rudi, Rosasco 2018)*

Let  $L$  be the squared loss

$$\mathbb{E}_{x,y} L(w_t^\top \phi_M(x), y) - \inf_w \mathbb{E}_{x,y} L(w^\top \phi_\infty(x), y) \lesssim \frac{\gamma}{b} + \left( \frac{\gamma t}{M} + 1 \right) \frac{\gamma t}{n} + \frac{1}{\gamma t} + \frac{1}{M}$$

“Test error”

Optimize w.r.t  $\gamma, b, M, T$  to get the best rate

# Recipe

“Test error”  $\lesssim \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

Take  $M = \sqrt{n}$

- $b = 1$  SGD single pass

$$\implies \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

# Recipe

“Test error”  $\lesssim \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

Take  $M = \sqrt{n}$

- $b = 1$  SGD single pass
- $b = \sqrt{n}$  mini-batch single pass

$$\Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma = 1$$

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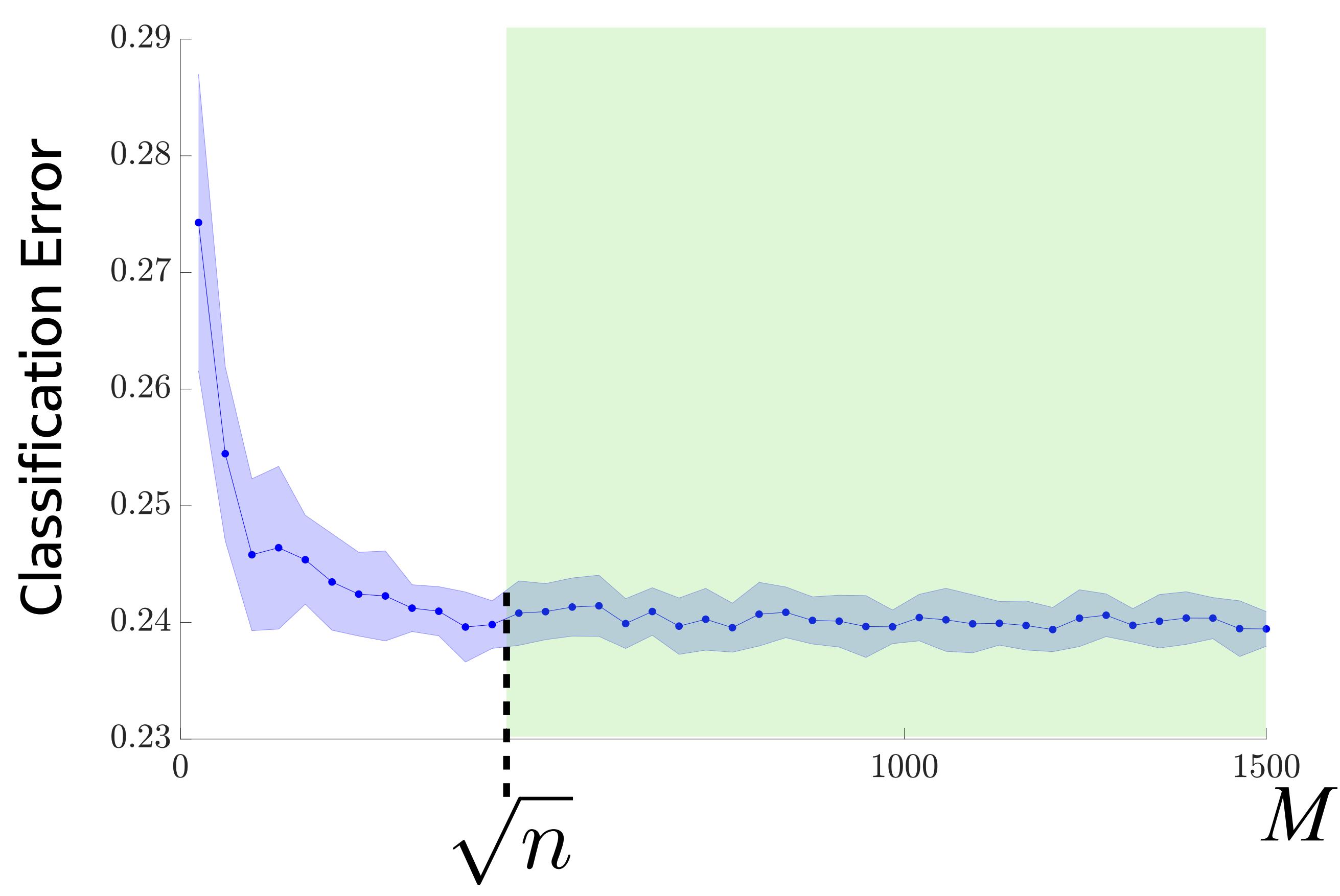
Complexity:

Time  $\mathcal{O}(n\sqrt{n})$

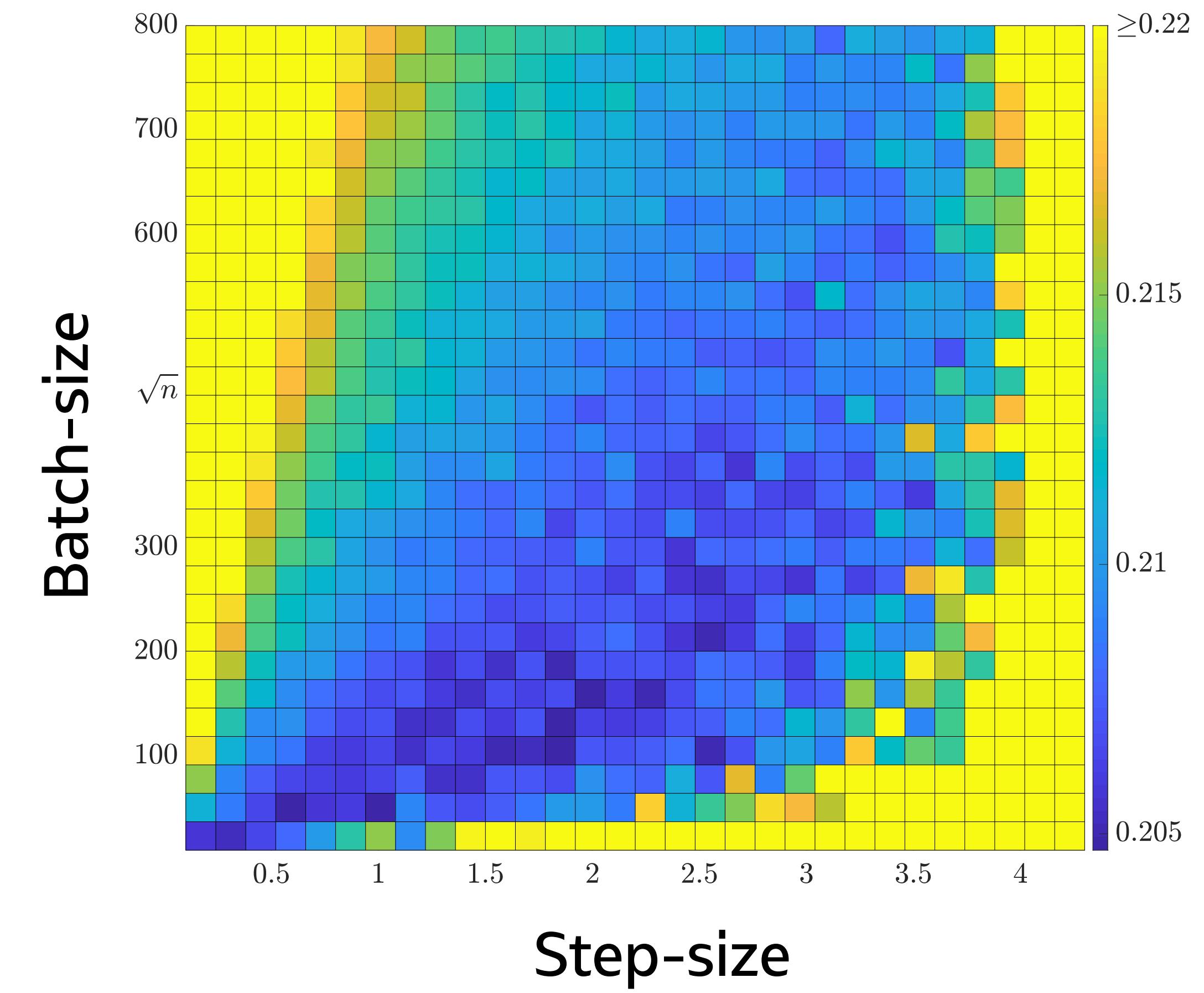
Space  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$

# Practice validates theory

SUSY dataset  $n \approx 10^6$



Classification Error



# Contribution

SGD-RF leads to optimal accuracy  
with minimum computation

- + Faster rates
- + Decreasing step-size

Poster #127