

## Abstract

Distributed learning allows a group of independent data owners to collaboratively learn a model over their data sets without exposing their private data. We present a distributed learning approach that combines differential privacy with secure multi-party computation.

We explore two popular methods of differential privacy, *output perturbation* and *gradient perturbation*, and advance the state-of-the-art for both methods in the distributed learning setting. In our output perturbation method, the parties combine local models within a secure computation and then add the required differential privacy noise before revealing the model. In our gradient perturbation method, the parties aggregate their local gradients within a secure computation, adding sufficient noise to ensure privacy before the gradient updates are revealed at each iteration. For both methods, we show that the noise can be reduced in the multi-party setting by adding the noise inside the secure computation after aggregation, asymptotically improving upon the best previous results.

## Privacy-Preserving ERM in Single Party Setting

Three differential privacy mechanisms, all achieving the same lower bound on noise, which is inversely proportional to data set size.

$$D = (X, y)$$

Dataset Size:  $n$

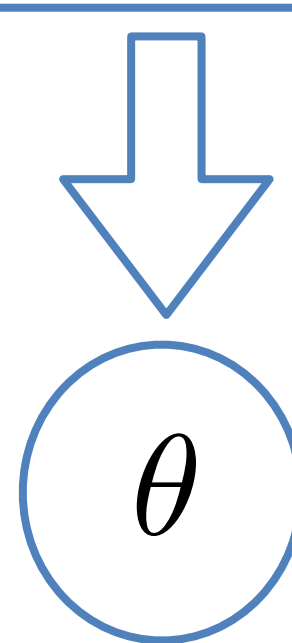
### Model Training with Gradient Descent

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\theta, X_i, y_i) + \lambda N(\theta) + \beta \left\{ \propto \frac{1}{n} \right\} \text{Objective Perturbation [2]}$$

for  $t$  in  $T$ :

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \left( \nabla J(\theta) + \beta \left\{ \propto \frac{1}{n} \right\} \right) \text{Gradient Perturbation [1]}$$

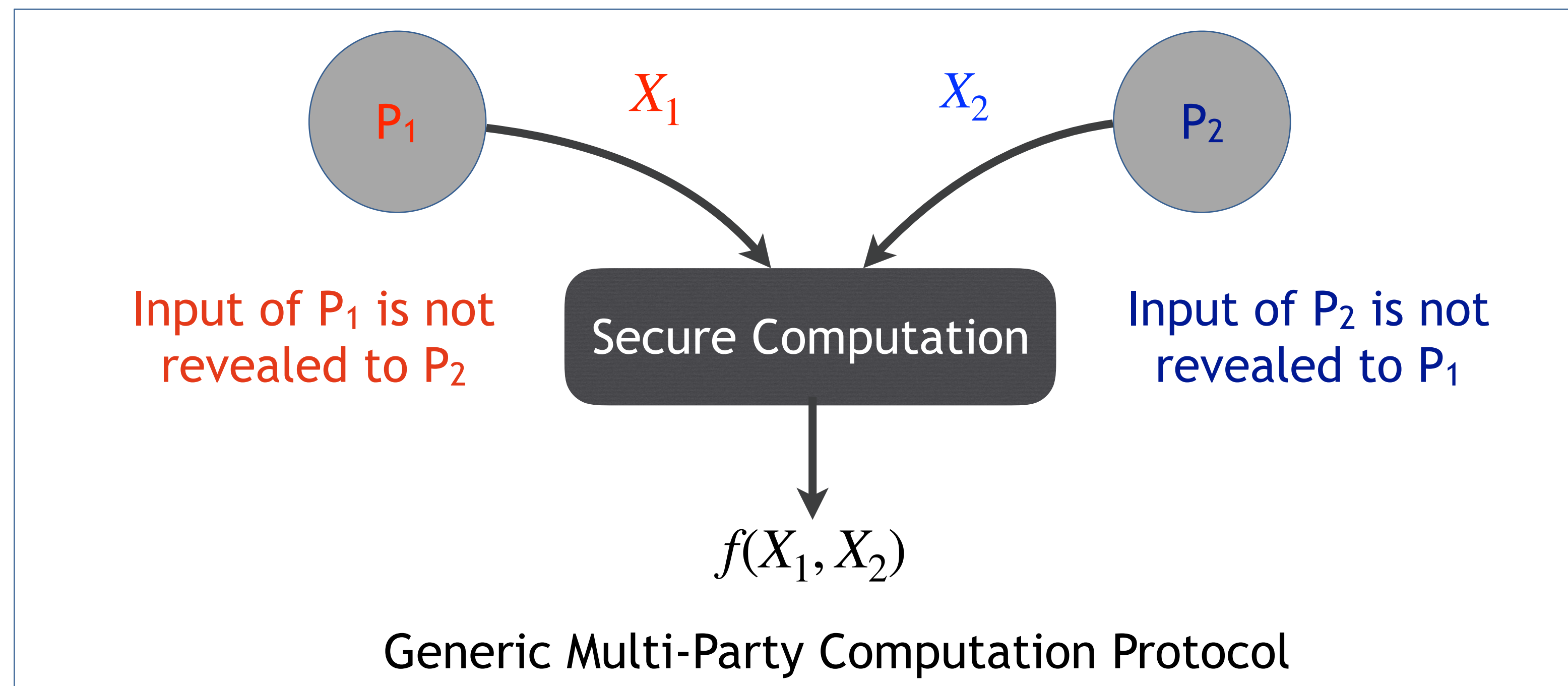
$$\text{return } \theta + \beta \left\{ \propto \frac{1}{n} \right\} \text{Output Perturbation [2]}$$



## Privacy-Preserving ERM in Multi-Party Setting

In multi-party setting, the parties wish to collaboratively learn a machine learning model over their private data sets without revealing them to each other. This can be achieved by combining multi-party computation and differential privacy. However, in the multi-party setting, Pathak et al. [3] note that the bottleneck for differential privacy comes from the party which has the smallest data set.

Several approaches exist which can improve upon this bound by either combining private local models or generating distributed noise to be added to the final model. These approaches still do not achieve the optimal lower bound on the differential privacy noise that is possible in single party setting. Our proposed approaches achieve near optimal lower bound on noise in multi-party setting.



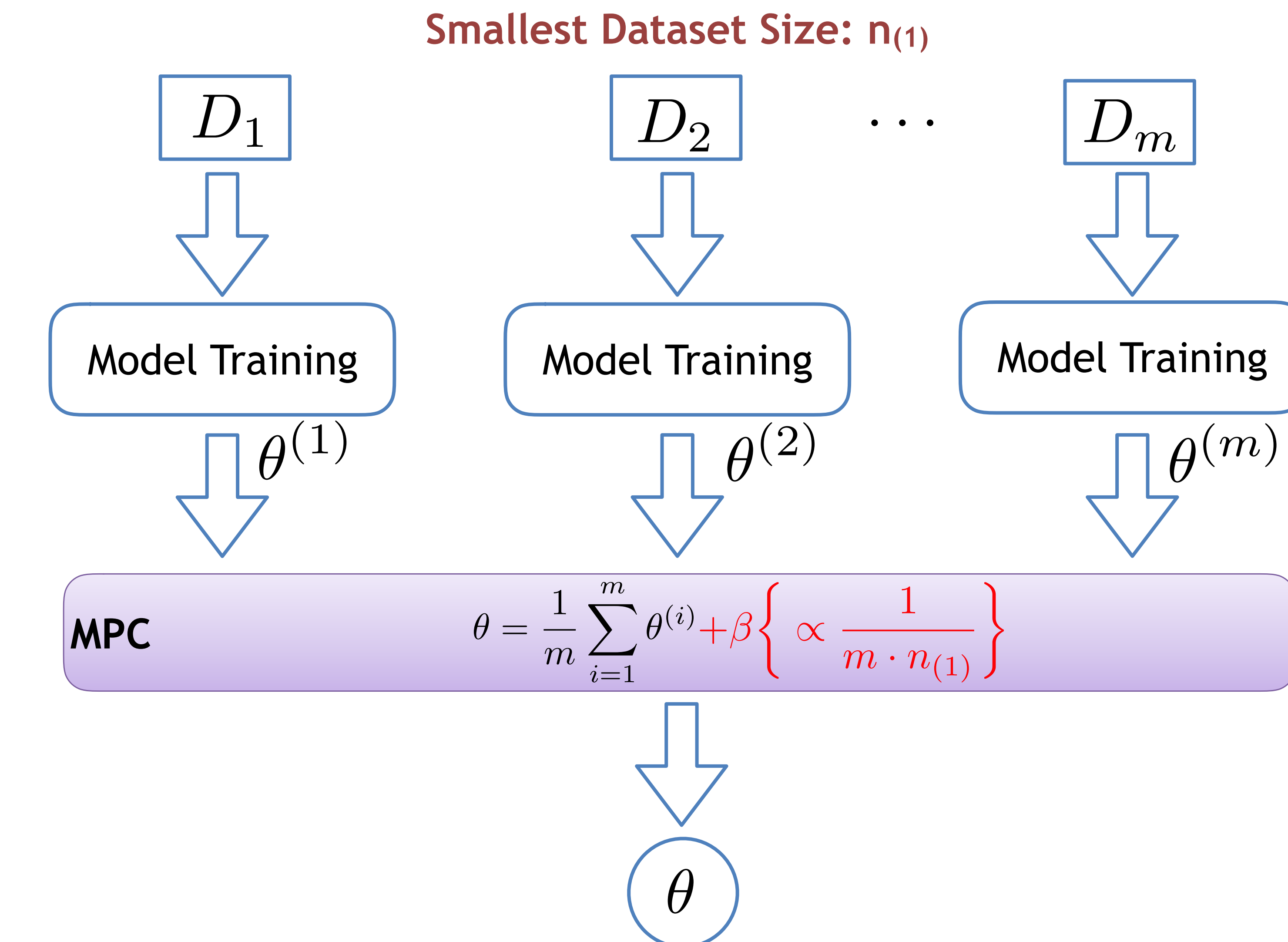
Noise Comparison with Baseline Methods

Methods	Analytical Bound	Generated Noise*
Pathak [3]	$\text{Laplace}\left(\frac{2G}{n_{(1)}\lambda\epsilon}\right)$	$1150 \times 10^{-3}$
Local Output Perturbation [2]	$\text{Laplace}\left(\frac{2G}{\sqrt{mn_{(1)}\lambda\epsilon}}\right)$	$112 \times 10^{-3}$
Local Objective Perturbation [2]	$\text{Laplace}\left(\frac{2G}{n_{(1)}\epsilon}\right)$	$11.6 \times 10^{-3}$
Local Gradient Perturbation [5]	$\text{Gaussian}\left(\frac{\sqrt{2TG}}{\sqrt{mn_{(1)}\lambda\epsilon}}\right)$	$5.63 \times 10^{-3}$
MPC Output Perturbation	$\text{Laplace}\left(\frac{2G}{mn_{(1)}\lambda\epsilon}\right)$	$12.2 \times 10^{-3}$
MPC Gradient Perturbation	$\text{Gaussian}\left(\frac{\sqrt{2TG}}{mn_{(1)}\epsilon}\right)$	$0.572 \times 10^{-3}$

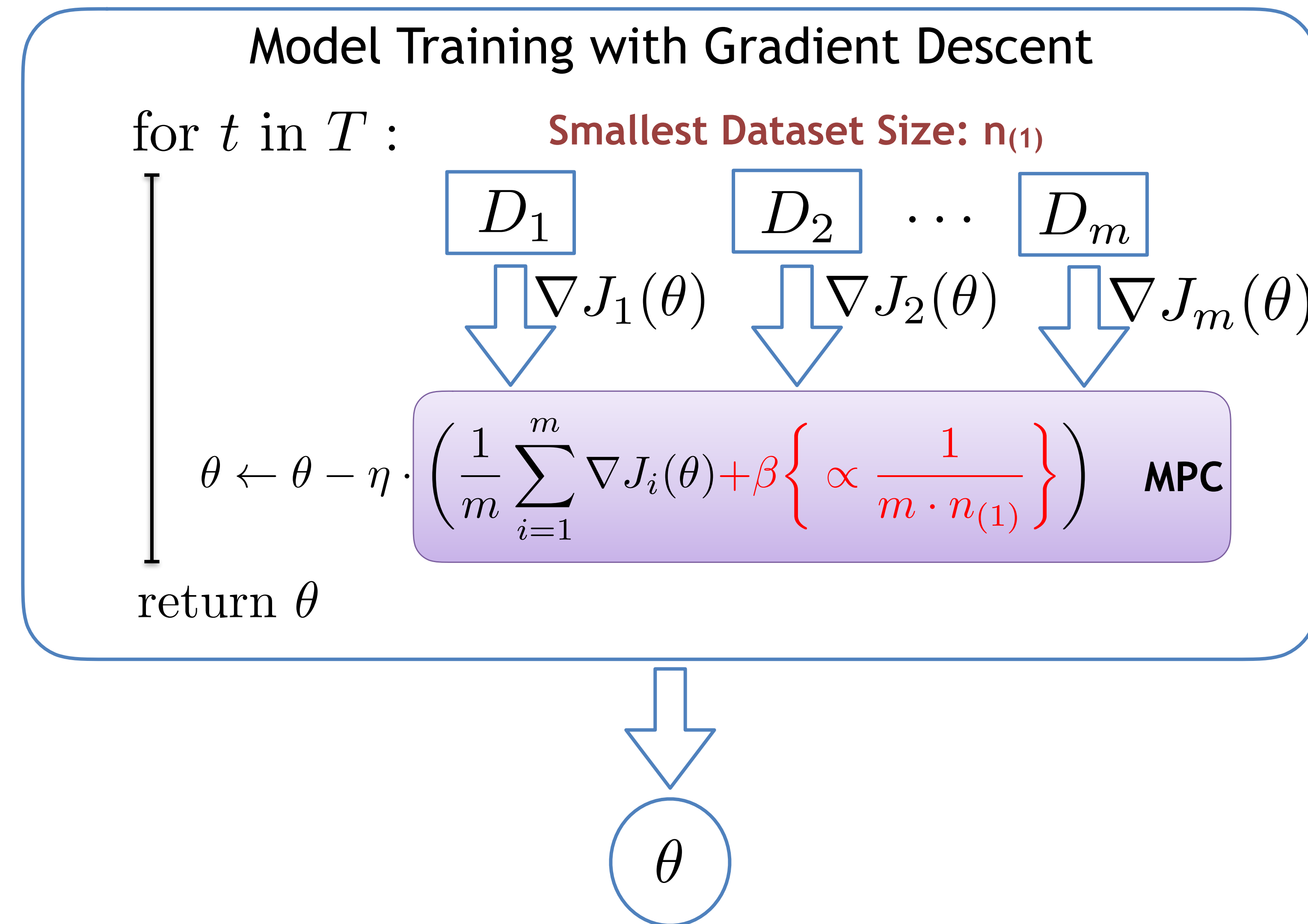
\*  $m = 100$ ,  $n_{(1)} = 500$ ,  $\lambda = 0.01$ ,  $\epsilon = 0.5$ ,  $G = 1$ ,  $T = 100$

\*Standard Deviations over 1000 samples

## Output Perturbation for Multi-Party Setting



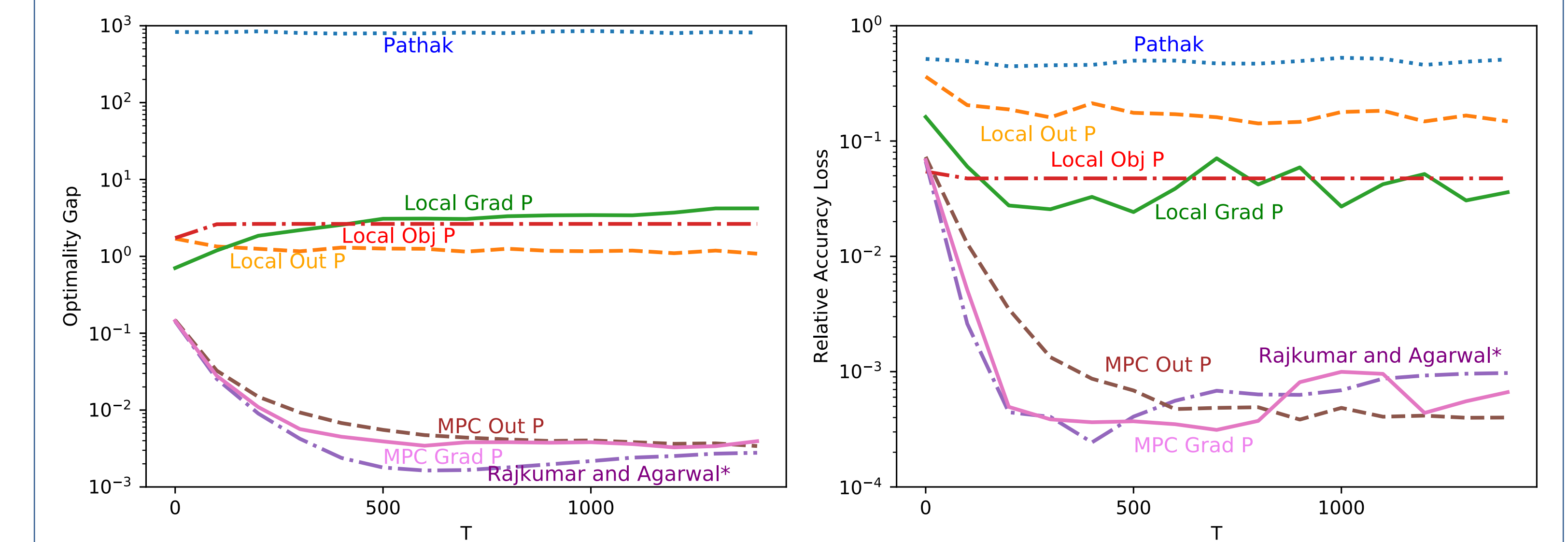
## Gradient Perturbation for Multi-Party Setting



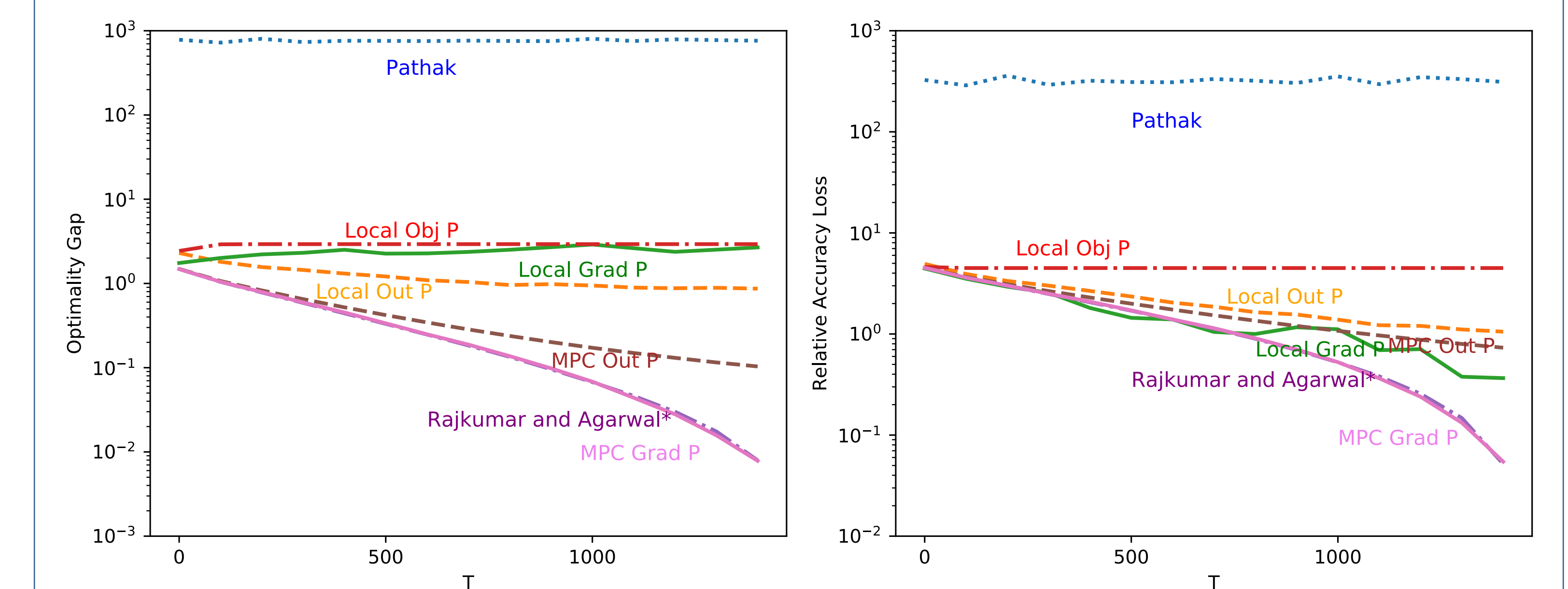
## Experimental Results

We implemented our methods on output perturbation (**MPC Out P**) and gradient perturbation (**MPC Grad P**) along with the differential private baselines of Pathak et al. [3] (**Pathak**), Rajkumar and Agarwal [4] (**Rajkumar and Agarwal**), the multi-party extensions of Chaudhuri et al. [2] for output perturbation (**Local Out P**) and objective perturbation (**Local Obj P**), and an improved implementation of Shokri and Shmatikov [5] (**Local Grad P**).

We experimented with KDDCup99 dataset for classification and KDDCup98 dataset for regression, and report the relative performance of all methods with respect to a non-private baseline. Our methods perform better than the other private baselines for the same hyper-parameter settings. It is to be noted that while all the methods consume privacy budget of 0.5 for the entire training process, the method of Rajkumar and Agarwal consumes 0.5 privacy budget per iteration of model training.



Performance Comparison on KDDCup99 Dataset for Classification ( $m = 1000$ )



Performance Comparison on KDDCup98 Dataset for Regression ( $m = 1000$ )

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## Project Details

Website: <https://oblivc.org/ppml/>  
 Code: <https://github.com/bargavj/distributedMachineLearning>

## References

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