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# MoESD: Unveil Speculative Decoding's Potential for Accelerating Sparse MoE

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39<sup>th</sup> Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2025)

# Introduction

- Speculative decoding (SD) is a lossless method for LLM acceleration
  - Using small draft models to **generate** tokens rapidly
  - Using the original large model (target model) to **verify** them
- However, it has been believed less effective for MoE
  - For *Mixtral 8x7B Instruct-v0.1* (**MoE**): **1.5x** speedup
  - For *Llama / Vicuna* (**dense models**): **~3x** speedup
  - (Source from [Eagle paper](#))
- What we want to exhibit in this work:
  - Is it possible that SD is also effective for MoE? (Surprisingly yes or even better!)
  - How to evaluate SD more comprehensively?

# Formulation of SD and Introduction of Target Efficiency

$$T_{SD} = R \times (T_{propose} + T_{verify} + T_{reject}) = R \times (\gamma \cdot T_D(B, 1) + T_T(B, \gamma) + T_{reject})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Speedup} = \frac{T_{AR}}{T_{SD}} &= \frac{S \cdot T_T(B, 1)}{R \cdot (\gamma \cdot T_D(B, 1) + T_T(B, \gamma) + T_{reject})} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{S}{R}} \cdot \frac{1}{\gamma \cdot \frac{T_D(B, 1)}{T_T(B, 1)} + \boxed{\frac{T_T(B, \gamma)}{T_T(B, 1)}} + \frac{T_{reject}}{T_T(B, 1)}} \end{aligned}$$

reciprocal

- Besides **acceptance rate**, **target efficiency** is also a critical factor
- When target efficiency **gets low**:
  - Compute-boundness.
  - The extra memory loads.
- $R$ : # rounds of speculation for sequence with given length
- $\gamma$ : # draft tokens per speculation
- $T_{T/D}(b, s)$ : the time for once forwarding of the target / draft model,  $b$  for batch size and  $s$  for the number of tokens to process.

# Specialization to MoE

$$N = \sum_i \mathbb{E}[X_i] = \sum_i Pr(X_i) = E \cdot Pr(X)$$

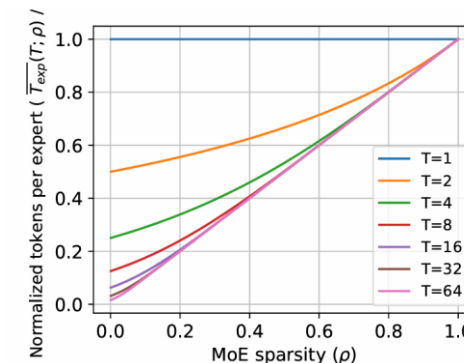
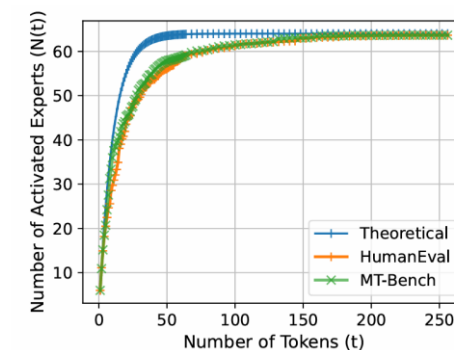
$$Pr(X) = 1 - Pr(\text{None of the } t \text{ tokens activates the expert}) = 1 - \left(\frac{E - K}{E}\right)^t$$

$$N(t) = E \cdot \left(1 - \left(\frac{E - K}{E}\right)^t\right)$$

$$N(T_{thres}) = E \cdot \left(1 - (1 - \rho)^{T_{thres}}\right) \geq \tau E \Rightarrow T_{thres} = \lceil \log_{(1-\rho)}(1 - \tau) \rceil$$

$$\overline{T_{exp}}(t; \rho) = \frac{t \cdot K}{N} = \frac{t \cdot (\rho E)}{E \cdot \left(1 - (1 - \rho)^t\right)} = \frac{\rho t}{1 - (1 - \rho)^t}$$

- Revisiting factors that impact target efficiency
  - Extra memory loads:  $t > N(T_{thres})$
  - Compute-boundness:  $\overline{T_{exp}}(t; \rho)$ , better than dense model!
  - Conclusion: in moderate batch size, SD would be **more effective** for **sparser MoEs**.



# Modeling Method

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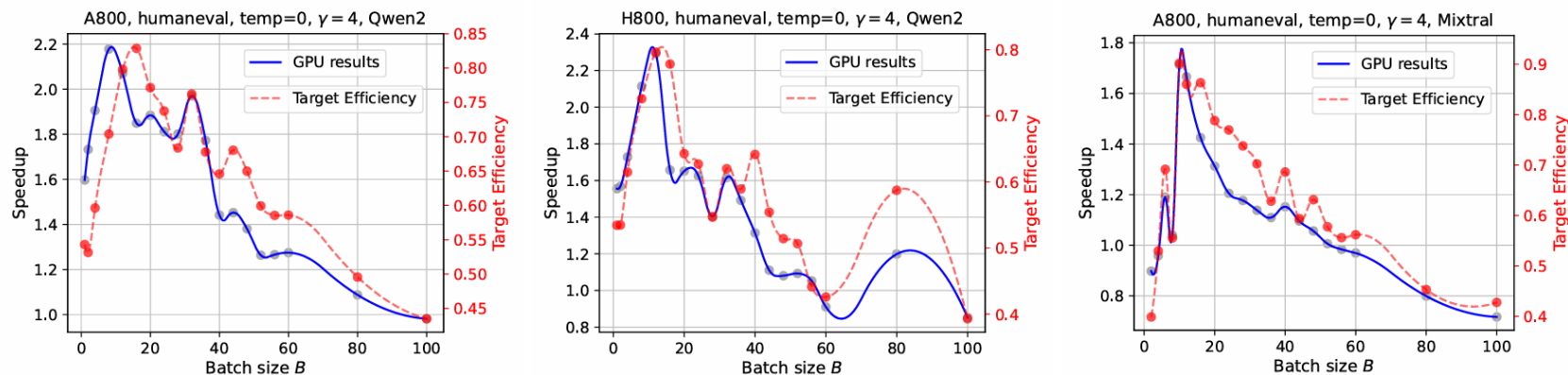
## Algorithm 1 The Modeling of SD Speedup and Corresponding Fitting Method

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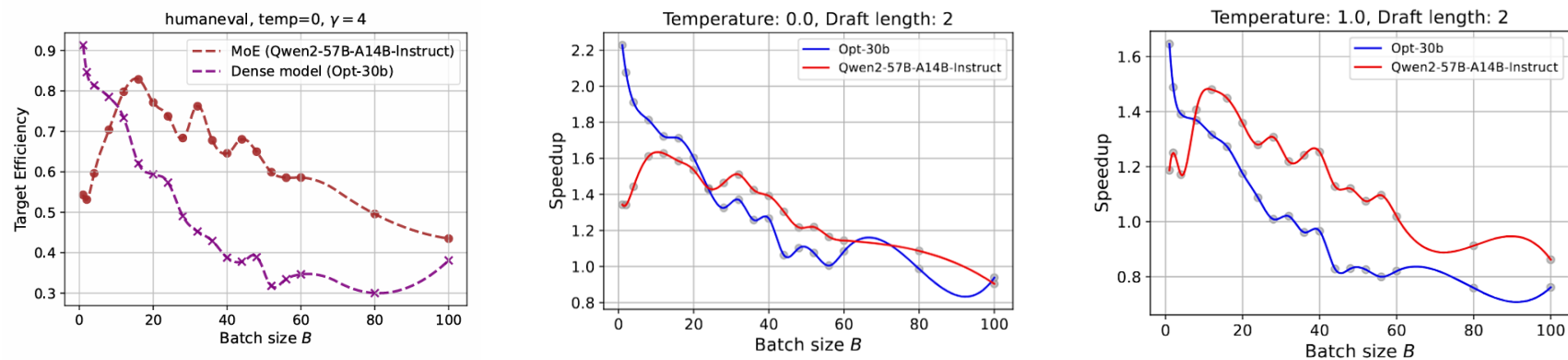
- 1: **Measurement Input:** A total of  $m$  measurements denoted as  $\mathbf{M}$ . Each  $\mathbf{M}_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  contains the attributes including batch size  $B$ , draft length  $\gamma$ , number of activated experts per token  $K$ , total number of experts  $E$ , the ratio of accepted token counts to the maximal possible accepted tokens  $\sigma$ , *Speedup* for the actual speedup achieved.
  - 2: **Output:** The optimal fitting parameter  $params^*$ .
  - 3: **def ComputeSpeedup**( $params, B, \gamma, K, E, \sigma$ ):
    - 4:    $bias, k_1, k_2, k_3, draft\_bias, draft\_k, reject\_bias, reject\_k, \lambda, s = params$  ▷ Unpack parameters
    - 5:    $N_{ar} = E \cdot (1 - ((E - K)/E)^B), T_{ar} = B \cdot K/N_{ar}$  ▷ Compute AR forward time
    - 6:    $ar\_time = bias + k_1 \cdot G(B; \lambda RP, s) + k_2 \cdot N_{ar} + k_3 \cdot G(T_{ar}; \lambda RP, s)$
    - 7:    $N_{sd} = E \cdot (1 - ((E - K)/E)^{B\gamma}), T_{sd} = B \cdot \gamma \cdot K/N_{sd}$  ▷ Compute SD forward time
    - 8:    $verify\_time = bias + k_1 \cdot G(B\gamma; \lambda RP, s) + k_2 \cdot N_{sd} + k_3 \cdot G(T_{sd}; \lambda RP, s)$
    - 9:    $draft\_time = draft\_bias + draft\_k \cdot G(B; \lambda RP, s)$  ▷ Compute draft model forward time
    - 10:    $reject\_time = reject\_bias + reject\_k \cdot B$  ▷ Compute rejection sampling time
    - 11:    $Speedup = \sigma \cdot (\gamma + 1) \cdot \frac{ar\_time}{draft\_time + ar\_time + verify\_time + reject\_time}$  ▷ Compute the speedup as formalized in Eq. 4
    - 12:   return *Speedup*
  - 13:  $params^* = \underset{params}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \text{ComputeSpeedup}(params, \mathbf{M}_i.B, \mathbf{M}_i.\gamma, \mathbf{M}_i.K, \mathbf{M}_i.E, \mathbf{M}_i.\sigma) - \mathbf{M}_i.Speedup \right)^2$ 
    - ▷ Decide the optimal  $params^*$  by fitting the model to the measured inputs using the least squares criterion.
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# Experiment Results

- The effectiveness of target efficiency

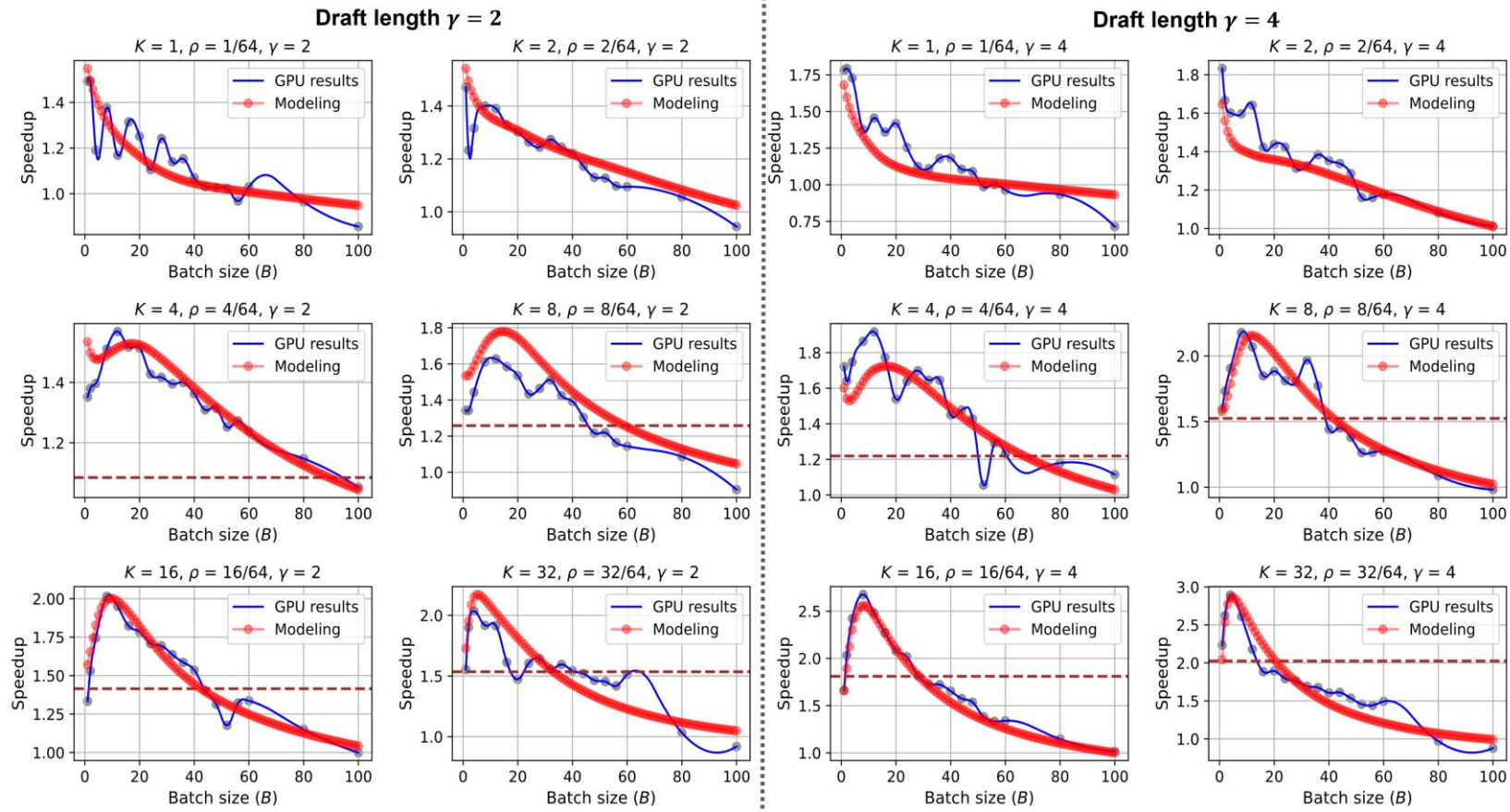


- MoE v.s. dense models



# Experiment Results

- Validation of the modeling method





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# Thank you!

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