

# Bayesian parameter estimation using Multilevel and multi-index Monte Carlo

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# Outline

- 1 Multilevel Monte Carlo sampling
- 2 Bayesian inference problem
- 3 Our Bayesian inference problem
- 4 Approximate coupling
- 5 Particle Markov chain Monte Carlo
- 6 Particle Markov chain Multilevel Monte Carlo
- 7 Sequential Monte Carlo<sup>2</sup>
- 8 Sequential Multilevel Monte Carlo<sup>2</sup>
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# Orientation

**Aim:** Approximate posterior expectations of the state path and static parameters associated to an S(P)DE which must be finitely approximated.

**Solution:** Apply an approximate coupling strategy so that multi-index Monte Carlo (MIMC) methods can be used within a particle MCMC [B02, AR08, ADH10] and SMC<sup>2</sup> [CJP13].

- MLMC ( $d = 1$ ) [H00, G08] and MIMC ( $d > 1$ ) [HNT15] methods *reduce cost to* mean-squared error =  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$ ;
- Recently this methodology has been applied to *inference*, mostly in cases where target **can be evaluated** up to a normalizing constant [HSS13, DKST15, HTL16, BJLTZ17].
- Here we can only **simulate a non-negative unbiased estimator** (utanc); using PMCMC we are able to sample consistently from an **approximate coupling** of successive targets [JKLZ18.i, JKLZ18.ii], and this is extended to the sequential context via SMC<sup>2</sup> [JLX19].

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## Example: expectation for SDE [G08]

Estimation of expectation of solution of intractable stochastic differential equation (SDE).

$$dX = f(X)dt + \sigma(X)dW, \quad X_0 = x_0.$$

**Aim:** estimate  $\mathbb{E}(g(X_T))$ .

We need to

- (1) Approximate, e.g. by Euler-Maruyama method with resolution  $h$ :

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + hf(X_n) + \sqrt{h}\sigma(X_n)\xi_n, \quad \xi_n \sim N(0, 1).$$

- (2) Sample  $\{X_{N_T}^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^N$ ,  $N_T = T/h$ .

# Multilevel Monte Carlo (MLMC)

**Aim:** Approximate  $\eta_\infty(g) := \mathbb{E}_{\eta_\infty}(g)$  for  $g : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- Single level estimator:  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N g(U_L^{(i)})$ ,  $U_L^{(i)} \sim \eta_L$  i.i.d.

**Cost** to achieve  $\text{MSE} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$  is  $C = \text{Cost}(U_L^{(i)}) \times \varepsilon^{-2}$ .

- Multilevel estimator\*:  $\sum_{l=0}^L \frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \{g(U_l^{(i)}) - g(U_{l-1}^{(i)})\}$ ,  
 $(U_l, U_{l-1})^{(i)} \sim \bar{\eta}^l$  i.i.d. such that  $\int \bar{\eta}^l du_{l-1,l} = \eta_{l,l-1}$  for  
 $l = 0, \dots, L$ . (\* $g(U_{-1}^{(i)}) := 0$ )

**Cost** is  $C_{\text{ML}} = \sum_{l=0}^L C_l N_l$ , where  $C_l$  is the cost to obtain a sample from  $\bar{\eta}^l$ .

- Fix bias by choosing  $L$ . **Minimize cost**  $C_{\text{ML}}(\{N_l\}_{l=0}^L)$  for **fixed variance**  $= \sum_{l=0}^L V_l/N_l$ ,  $\Rightarrow N_l \propto \sqrt{V_l/C_l}$ .
- Example: Milstein solution of SDE for  $\text{MSE} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2)$

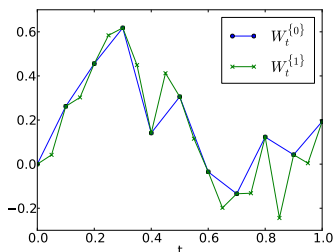
$$C = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-3}) \quad \text{vs.} \quad C_{\text{ML}} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2}).$$

# Illustration of pairwise coupling

Pairwise coupling of trajectories of an SDE:

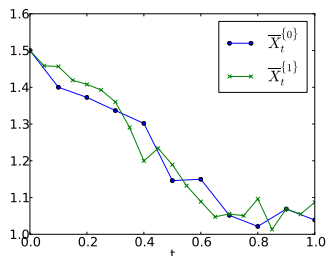
$$X_{n+1}^1 = X_n^1 + hf(X_n^1) + \sqrt{h}\sigma(X_n^1)\xi_n, \quad \xi_n \sim N(0, 1), \quad n = 0, \dots, N_1$$

$$X_{n+1}^0 = X_n^0 + (2h)f(X_n^0) + \sqrt{h}\sigma(X_n^0)(\xi_{2n} + \xi_{2n+1}), \quad n = 0, \dots, N_1/2.$$



(a) Wiener process

$$W_n^1 = \sqrt{h} \sum_{i=0}^n \xi_n, \quad W_n^0 = W_{2n}^1.$$



(b) Stochastic process driven by Wiener process.

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# Bayesian inference is about approximating integrals

Suppose we know how to evaluate  $\gamma(x)$  for  $x \in X$ .

Let

$$\eta(dx) = \frac{\gamma(x)dx}{\int_X \gamma(x)dx},$$

and  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and suppose we want to estimate

$$\eta(\varphi) := \int_X \varphi(x)\eta(dx).$$

$X$  may be quite high dimension, e.g.  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with  $d = 100$  easily, or even 1000, 10000, etc...

# Monte Carlo

If we could obtain i.i.d. samples  $x^i \sim \eta$ , then we could use

$$\eta(\varphi) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi(x^i).$$

Convergence rate (of MSE) is  $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$ , independently of  $d$ .

Unfortunately we cannot get i.i.d. samples.

# Importance sampling and ratio estimators

Suppose we can get i.i.d. samples  $x^i \sim \nu$  where  $0 < G(x) := \frac{\gamma(x)}{\nu(x)} < C$ .

Then we can use the self-normalized importance sampling estimator

$$\eta(\varphi) \approx \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N G(x^i) \varphi(x^i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N G(x^i)}.$$

The rate will still be  $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$ , but typically with a constant  $\mathcal{O}(e^d)$ , depending on  $\mathbb{E}(G(x) - \mathbb{E}G(x))^2$ .

We may as well use quadrature.

# Markov chain Monte Carlo

Suppose we can construct a Markov chain  $K$ , that is an operator with the property  $K : \mathcal{B}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(X)$  and  $K^* : \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$ , where  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  are bounded measurable functions and  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  are probability measures, and such that

$$(\eta K)(dx) = \int_X \eta(dx') K(x', dx) = \eta(dx),$$

and for all  $A \subset X$ ,  $x, x' \in X$ ,

$$\int_A K(x, dz) \leq \int_A K(x', dz).$$



# Markov chain Monte Carlo

Then we can run the Markov chain to collect samples,  $x^0 \in X$  and  $x^i \sim K(x^{i-1}, \cdot) = K^i(x^0, \cdot)$  and use these for Monte Carlo

$$\eta(\varphi) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=N_b+1}^{N_b+N} \varphi(x^i).$$

Again Monte Carlo provides rate  $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$ , but now under quite general conditions one may achieve polynomial constant  $\mathcal{O}(d)$ .

# Example: Metropolis-Hastings

Let  $Q$  denote a Markov kernel on  $X$ .

- 1 Let  $x^0 \in X$ .
- 2 Sample  $x^* \sim Q(x^i, \cdot)$ .
- 3 Set  $x^{i+1} = x^*$  with probability:

$$\min \left\{ 1, \frac{\gamma(x^*)Q(x^*, x^i)}{\gamma(x^i)Q(x^i, x^*)} \right\},$$

otherwise  $x^{i+1} = x^i$ .

- 4 Set  $i = i + 1$  and return to the start of (2).

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# Parameter inference

Estimate the posterior expectation of a function  $\varphi$  of the joint path  $X_{1:T}$  and *parameters*  $\theta$ , of an intractable S(P)DE

$$dX = f_{\theta}(X)dt + \sigma_{\theta}(X)dW, \quad X_0 \sim \mu_{\theta},$$

given noisy partial observations

$$Y_n \sim g_{\theta}(X_n, \cdot), \quad n = 1, \dots, T.$$

**Aim:** estimate  $\mathbb{E}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:T})|y_{1:T}]$ , where  $y_{1:T} := \{y_1, \dots, y_T\}$ .

The hidden process  $\{X_n\}$  is a Markov chain.

Discretize with resolution  $h$  and denote the transition kernel  $F_{\theta,h}(x_{p-1}, dx_p)$  – this can be *simulated from*, but its density cannot be *evaluated*.

# Return to ML (SDE, for simplicity)

The joint measure (suppressing fixed  $y_p$  in notation) is

$$\Pi_h(d\theta, d\mathbf{x}_{0:n}) \propto \Pi(d\theta)\mu_\theta(d\mathbf{x}_0) \prod_{p=1}^n g_\theta(x_p, y_p) F_{\theta,h}(x_{p-1}, d\mathbf{x}_p),$$

For  $+\infty > h_0 > \dots > h_L > 0$ , we would like to compute

$$\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_L}}[\varphi(\theta, \mathbf{X}_{0:n})] = \sum_{l=0}^L \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_l}}[\varphi(\theta, \mathbf{X}_{0:n})] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_{l-1}}}[\varphi(\theta, \mathbf{X}_{0:n})] \right\}$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_{-1}}}[\cdot] := 0$ .

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# Approximate coupling

Consider a single pair  $\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_h}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})]$ ,  $h < h'$ .

Let  $z = (x, x')$  and let  $Q_{\theta, h, h'}(z, d\bar{z})$  be a coupling of  $(F_{\theta, h}(x, d\bar{x}), F_{\theta, h'}(x', d\bar{x}'))$ .

Let  $G_{p, \theta}(z) = \max\{g_{\theta}(x, y_p), g_{\theta}(x', y_p)\}$ .

We will sample from the joint coarse/fine filter

$$\Pi_{h, h'}(d\theta, dz_{0:n}) \propto \Pi(d\theta) \nu_{\theta}(dz_0) \prod_{p=1}^n G_{p, \theta}(z_p) Q_{\theta, h, h'}(z_{p-1}, dz_p),$$

where  $\nu_{\theta}$  is the initial coupling

$$\nu_{\theta}(d(x, x')) = \mu_{\theta}(dx) \delta_x(dx').$$

# Change of measure

We have

$$\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_h}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X'_{0:n})] = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})H_{1,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[H_{1,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]} - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X'_{0:n})H_{2,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[H_{2,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}$$

where

$$H_{1,\theta}(\theta, z_{0:n}) = \prod_{p=1}^n \frac{g_\theta(x_p, y_p)}{G_{p,\theta}(z_p)}$$

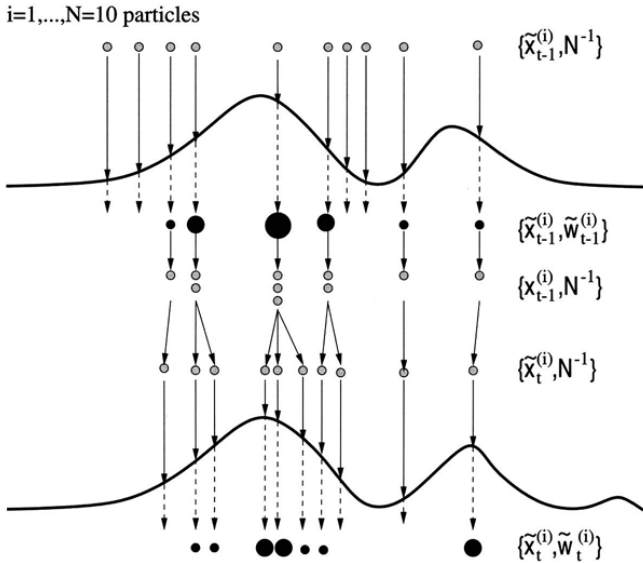
$$H_{2,\theta}(\theta, z_{0:n}) = \prod_{p=1}^n \frac{g_\theta(x'_p, y_p)}{G_{p,\theta}(z_p)}.$$



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# Sequential Importance Resampling [DDG01]



# Particle filter, for fixed $\theta$

Let  $M \geq 1$  and  $\theta$  be fixed, and introduce  $a_{0:n-1}^{1:M} \in \{1, \dots, M\}^{Mn}$ .  
The bootstrap particle filter [Del04] approximates

$$\Pi_{h,h'}(dz_{0:n}|\theta) \propto \nu_{\theta}(dz_0) \prod_{p=1}^n G_{p,\theta}(z_p) Q_{\theta,h,h'}(z_{p-1}, dz_p)$$

by sampling from

$$P(a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, dz_{0:n}^{1:M}|\theta) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^M \nu_{\theta}(dz_0^i) \right) \prod_{p=1}^n \prod_{i=1}^M \left( \frac{G_{p-1,\theta}(z_{p-1}^{a_{p-1}^i})}{\sum_{j=1}^M G_{p-1,\theta}(z_{p-1}^j)} Q_{\theta,h,h'}(z_{p-1}^{a_{p-1}^i}, dz_p^i) \right),$$

where  $G_{0,\theta} := 1$ ,

i.e.  $z_{p-1}^{a_{p-1}^i}$  is resampled with the probability  $\frac{G_{p-1,\theta}(z_{p-1}^{a_{p-1}^i})}{\sum_{j=1}^M G_{p-1,\theta}(z_{p-1}^j)}$ .

# Particle marginal MH (PMMH) [ADH10]

Draw  $J$  with probability proportional to  $G_{n,\theta}(z_n^j)$  for  $j = 1, \dots, M$ .  
 Let  $\hat{z}_n = z_n^j$ , and trace its ancestral lineage

$$\hat{z}_{n-1} = z_{n-1}^{a_{n-1}^j}, \quad \hat{z}_{n-2} = z_{n-2}^{a_{n-2}^{a_{n-1}^j}}, \quad \text{and so on.}$$

Define  $p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n}|\theta) = \prod_{p=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M G_{p,\theta}(z_p^j) \right)$ . Denote  
 $U = (a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, z_{0:n}^{1:M}, \theta)$ .

Run a MH chain on *the extended state space*  $\{U^i\}$  targeting  
 $\propto P(a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, z_{0:n}^{1:M}|\theta) p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n}|\theta) \Pi(d\theta)$ . Draw  $J \sim P(J|U^i)$  and  
 construct  $\hat{z}_{0:n}^j$  as above. The target has the property [ADH10]

$$P(U, J) = P((U, J) \setminus (\hat{z}_{0:n}, \theta) | \hat{z}_{0:n}, \theta) \Pi_{h,h'}(\hat{z}_{0:n}, \theta).$$

# Particle marginal MH (PMMH) [ADH10]

- 1 Sample  $\theta^0 \sim \pi(d\theta)$  and  $(a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, z_{0:n}^{1:M})$  from particle filter  $P(a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, dz_{0:n}^{1:M} | \theta^0)$ , and store  $p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n} | \theta^0)$ .
- 2 Select a path  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}^0$ : draw  $z_n^j$  with probability proportional to  $G_{n,\theta^0}(z_n^j)$ , let  $\widehat{z}_n^0 = z_n^j$ , and trace back its ancestral lineage

$$\widehat{z}_{n-1}^0 = z_{n-1}^{a_{n-1}^j}, \quad \widehat{z}_{n-2}^0 = z_{n-2}^{a_{n-2}^{a_{n-1}^j}}, \quad \text{and so on; Set } i = 1.$$

- 3 Sample  $\theta^* | \theta^{i-1}$  according to  $R(d\theta^* | \theta^{i-1}) = r(\theta^* | \theta^{i-1})d\theta^*$ , then sample from particle filter  $P(a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, dz_{0:n}^{1:M} | \theta^*)$ . Select one path  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}^*$  as above.
- 4 Set  $\theta^i = \theta^*$ ,  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}^i = \widehat{z}_{0:n}^*$  with probability:

$$\min \left\{ 1, \frac{p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n} | \theta^*)}{p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n} | \theta^{i-1})} \frac{\pi(\theta^*) r(\theta^{i-1} | \theta^*)}{\pi(\theta^{i-1}) r(\theta^* | \theta^{i-1})} \right\}$$

otherwise  $\theta^i = \theta^{i-1}$ ,  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}^i = \widehat{z}_{0:n}^{i-1}$ .

- 5 Set  $i = i + 1$  and return to the start of 3.

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# PMMH increment estimator

$$\frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi(\theta^i, \widehat{X}_{0:n}^i) H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)} - \frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi(\theta^i, \widehat{X}_{0:n}^i) H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}.$$

$$\xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty}$$

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n}) H_{1,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[H_{1,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]} - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X'_{0:n}) H_{2,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}{\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h,h'}}[H_{2,\theta}(\theta, Z_{0:n})]}$$

=

$$\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_h}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h'}}[\varphi(\theta, X'_{0:n})]$$

# Multilevel estimator

$$E_l^{N_l}(\varphi) = \frac{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \varphi(\theta^i, \widehat{X}_{0:n}^i) H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)} - \frac{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \varphi(\theta^i, \widehat{X}_{0:n}^i) H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \widehat{Z}_{0:n}^i)}$$

is a consistent estimator of  $(E_0 := \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_0}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})])$

$$E_l(\varphi) := \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_l}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_{l-1}}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})].$$

$\Rightarrow \sum_{l=0}^L E_l^{N_l}(\varphi)$  is a consistent estimator of  $\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_L}}[\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})]$ .



# Multilevel estimator error analysis

Consider

$$\sum_{l=0}^L \bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi), \quad \bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi) = E_l^{N_l}(\varphi) - E_l(\varphi).$$

One must bound

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{l=0}^L \bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi)\right)^2\right] = \sum_{l=0}^L \left( \mathbb{E}[\bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi)^2] + \mathbb{E}[\bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi)] \sum_{q \neq l=0}^L \mathbb{E}[\bar{E}_q^{N_q}(\varphi)] \right).$$

# Assumptions

**(A1)**  $\forall y \in \mathsf{T}, \exists C > 0$  such that  $\forall x \in \mathsf{S}, \theta \in \Theta,$

$$C \leq g_\theta(x, y) \leq C^{-1}.$$

And  $\forall y \in \mathsf{T}, g_\theta(x, y)$  is globally Lipschitz on  $\mathsf{S} \times \Theta.$

**(A2)**  $\forall 0 \leq k \leq n, \exists \beta > 0$  such that  $\forall$   
 $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_b(\Theta \times \mathsf{S}^{k+1}) \cap \text{Lip}(\Theta \times \mathsf{S}^{k+1}) \exists C > 0$

$$\int_{\Theta \times \mathsf{S}^{2k+2}} |\varphi(\theta, x_{0:k}) - \varphi(\theta, x'_{0:k})|^2 \Pi(d\theta) \nu_\theta(dz_0) \prod_{\rho=1}^k Q_{\theta, h, h'}(z_{\rho-1}, dz_\rho) \leq C(h')^\beta.$$

**(A3)**  $\forall n > 0, \exists \xi \in (0, 1)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathsf{W})$  s.t.  $\forall w \in \mathsf{W},$   
 $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_b(\mathsf{W}) \cap \text{Lip}(\mathsf{W}), h, h',$  the PMMH kernel  $K$  satisfies:

$$\int_{\mathsf{W}} \varphi(w') K(w, dw') \geq \xi \int_{\mathsf{W}} \varphi(w') \nu(dw').$$

$K$  is  $\eta$ -reversible, where  $\eta$  is the joint on the extended space.

# Main result

## Theorem (JKLZ18)

Assume (A1-3). Then  $\forall n > 0, \exists \beta > 0$  such that  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{B}_b(\Theta \times \mathbb{S}^{n+1}) \cap \text{Lip}(\Theta \times \mathbb{S}^{n+1}) \exists C > 0$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi)^2] \leq \frac{Ch_l^\beta}{N_l}, \quad \mathbb{E}[\bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi)] \leq \frac{Ch_l^{\beta/2}}{N_l},$$

and  $\beta$  is from (A2).

**(A4)**  $\exists \gamma, \alpha, C > 0$ , such that the cost to simulate  $E_i^{N_i}$  is controlled by  $C(E_i^{N_i}) \leq CN_i h_i^{-\gamma}$ , and the bias is controlled by

$$|\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_L}}(\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})) - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_0}(\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n}))| \leq Ch_L^\alpha.$$

### Corollary

*Assume (A1-4).  $\forall n > 0$  and  $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_b(\Theta \times \mathbf{S}^{n+1}) \cap \text{Lip}(\Theta \times \mathbf{S}^{n+1}) \exists C > 0$  such that  $\forall \epsilon > 0$  one can choose  $(L, \{N_l\}_{l=0}^L)$  so*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left| \sum_{l=0}^L E_l^{N_l}(\varphi) - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_0}(\varphi(\theta, X_{0:n})) \right|^2 \right] \leq C\epsilon^2,$$

*with a total cost (per time step)*

$$\text{COST} \leq C \begin{cases} \epsilon^{-2}, & \text{if } \beta > \gamma, \\ \epsilon^{-2} |\log(\epsilon)|^2, & \text{if } \beta = \gamma, \\ \epsilon^{-(2 + \frac{\gamma - \beta}{\alpha})}, & \text{if } \beta < \gamma. \end{cases}$$

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# SMC samplers

- Let  $U_n = [u_0, \dots, u_n] \in \mathbf{U}_n$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Consider target distributions  $\eta_n \propto \kappa_n$  on  $\mathbf{U}_n$ .
- Interlace sequential importance resampling (selection) along the sequence, and **mutation by MCMC kernels**.
- This enables sampling sequentially with complexity  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  per sample<sup>1</sup>.
  - Initialize i.i.d.  $U_0^i \sim \eta_0, i = 1, \dots, N$ , and  $u_1^i \sim q(U_0^i, \cdot)$ . For  $n = 1, \dots$
  - Resample  $\{\hat{U}_n^i\}_{i=1}^N$  according to the weights  $\{w_n^i\}_{i=1}^N$ ,  $w_n^i = G_n^i / \sum_{j=1}^N G_n^j$ ,  $G_0 = 1$ , and  $G_n^i = \kappa_n(U_n^i) / [\kappa_{n-1}(U_{n-1}^i) q_n(U_{n-1}^i, u_n^i)]$ .
  - Draw  $U_{n+1}^i \sim M_{n+1}(\hat{U}_n^i, \cdot)$ , where

$$M_{n+1}(U_n, dU'_{n+1}) = K_n(U_n, dU'_n) \otimes q_{n+1}(U'_n, du'_{n+1})$$

is an MCMC kernel such that  $\eta_n K_n = \eta_n$ .

<sup>1</sup>In principle, under suitable assumptions [BCJ14]

# Sequential Monte Carlo<sup>2</sup> (SMC<sup>2</sup>)

- Define  $U_n = (\theta, a_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, z_{0:n}^{1:M})$ , and recall the PMMH target  $P_n(U_n, J)$ , which has the joint posterior as its marginal on  $(\theta, \widehat{z}_{0:n})$ , where  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}$  is the ancestral path of the particle with index  $J \sim \{G_{n,\theta}(z_n^j) / \sum_{i=1}^M G_{n,\theta}(z_n^i)\}$  at time  $n$ .
- Consider the PMMH marginal  $P_n(U_n)$ , which has as its marginal the posterior on  $\theta$ .
- SMC<sup>2</sup>**: Run an SMC sampler with  $N$  samples  $\{U_n^k\}_{k=1}^N$  targeting  $P_n(U_n)$ , using PMMH marginal kernels (without sampling  $J$ ) as the mutations.
- When we wish to estimate expectations  $\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{n,h,h'}}(f(\theta, Z_{0:n}))$ , we extend to  $P_n(U_n, J) = P_n(J|U_n)P_n(U_n)$ :
- For each  $k = 1, \dots, N$ :
  - Sample  $J^k \sim \{G_{n,\theta^k}(z_n^{j,k}) / \sum_{i=1}^M G_{n,\theta^k}(z_n^{i,k})\}$ .
  - Construct the ancestral lineage  $\widehat{z}_{0:n}^k$  (as before).
  - Estimate  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N f(\theta^k, \widehat{z}_{0:n}^k)$ .

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# SMLMC<sup>2</sup>

- For each  $l = 0, \dots, L$ :
- Run SMC<sup>2</sup> on  $P_{l,n}(U_{l,n})$ , then at a given time  $n$  (additional  $l$  index suppressed):
- For each  $k = 1, \dots, N_l$ :
  - Sample  $J^k \sim \{G_{n,\theta^k}(z_n^{j,k}) / \sum_{i=1}^M G_{n,\theta^k}(z_n^{i,k})\}$ .
  - Construct the ancestral lineage  $\hat{z}_{0:n}^k$  (as before).
  - Estimate

$$E_l^{N_l}(\varphi) = \frac{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \varphi(\theta^i, \hat{x}_{0:n}^i) H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \hat{z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} H_{1,\theta}(\theta^i, \hat{z}_{0:n}^i)} - \frac{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \varphi(\theta^i, \hat{x}_{0:n}^i) H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \hat{z}_{0:n}^i)}{\frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} H_{2,\theta}(\theta^i, \hat{z}_{0:n}^i)}$$

- Construct the resulting MLMC estimator  $\sum_{l=0}^L E_l^{N_l}(\varphi)$ .
- We obtained a theorem (for MIMC) under very strong assumptions.
- Numerical results indicate the method works under weaker assumptions.

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# Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process

$$\begin{aligned}dX_t &= \theta(\mu - X_t)dt + \sigma dW_t, & X_0 &= x_0, \\ Y_k | X_{\delta k} &\sim \mathcal{N}(X_{\delta k}, \tau^2), \\ \theta &\sim \mathcal{G}(1, 1), \\ \sigma &\sim \mathcal{G}(1, 0.5).\end{aligned}$$

- $\mathcal{N}(m, \tau^2)$  denotes the Normal with mean  $m$  and variance  $\tau^2$ .
- $\mathcal{G}(a, b)$  denotes the Gamma with shape  $a$  and scale  $b$ .
- $x_0 = 0$ ,  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\delta = 0.5$ , and  $\tau^2 = 0.2$ .
- 100 observations simulated with  $\theta = 1$  and  $\sigma = 0.5$ .

# Langevin SDE

$$dX_t = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \log \pi(X_t) dt + \sigma dW_t, \quad X_0 = x_0$$

$$Y_k | X_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2 \exp X_k),$$

$$\theta \sim \mathcal{G}(1, 1),$$

$$\sigma \sim \mathcal{G}(1, 0.5).$$

- $\pi(x)$  denotes the probability density function of a Student's  $t$ -distribution with  $\theta$  degrees of freedom.
- $x_0 = 0$ .
- 1,000 observations simulated with  $\theta = 10$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ , and  $\tau^2 = 1$ .

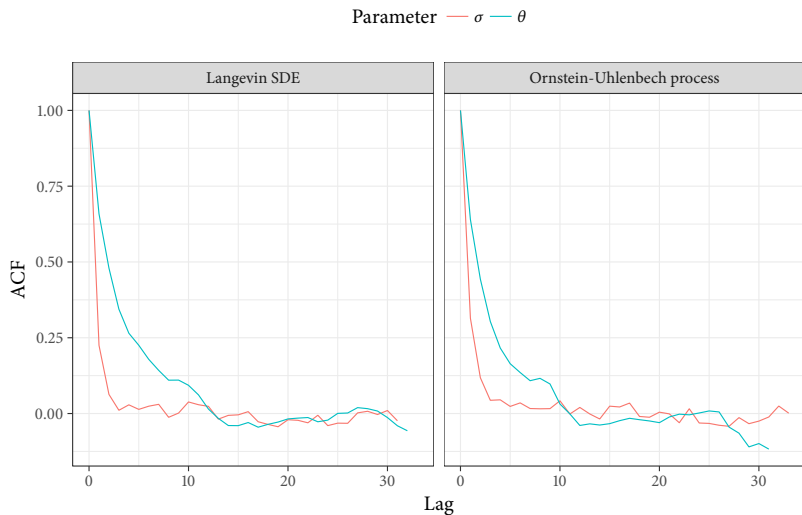


Figure: Autocorrelation of a typical PMCMC chain.

Algorithm ● ML-PMCMC ● PMCMC

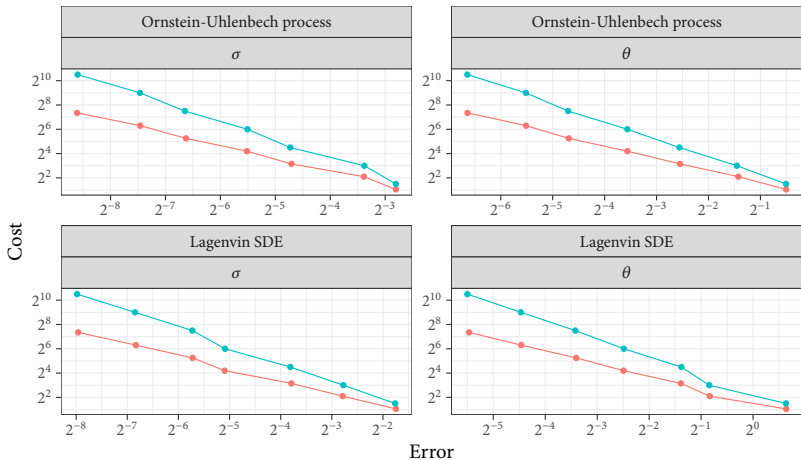


Figure: Cost vs. MSE for the 2 parameters for each of the 2 SDEs.

Model	Parameter	ML-PMCMC	PMCMC
OU	$\theta$	-1.022	-1.463
	$\sigma$	-1.065	-1.522
Langevin	$\theta$	-1.060	-1.508
	$\sigma$	-1.023	-1.481

**Table:** Estimated rates of convergence of MSE with respect to cost for various parameters, fitted to the curves.

# Outline

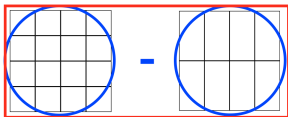
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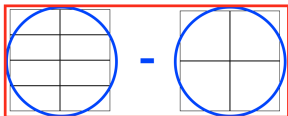
# Multi-index Monte Carlo (MIMC) idea

- If spatio-temporal approximation dimension  $d > 1$ , then MIMC is preferable to MLMC [HNT15].  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^d$
- $\Delta_j \mathbb{E}_\alpha(\varphi(\mathbf{u})) = \mathbb{E}_\alpha(\varphi_\alpha(\mathbf{u})) - \mathbb{E}_{\alpha - \mathbf{e}_j}(\varphi_{\alpha - \mathbf{e}_j}(\mathbf{u}))$ ,  
 $\Delta = \Delta_d \cdots \Delta_1$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(\varphi(\mathbf{u})) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^d} \Delta \mathbb{E}_\alpha(\varphi_\alpha(\mathbf{u})) \approx \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{I}} \Delta \mathbb{E}_\alpha(\varphi_\alpha(\mathbf{u}))$$




-



# MIMC estimator

- Construct an empirical estimator of  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{I}} \Delta \mathbb{E}_{\alpha}(\varphi_{\alpha}(u))$ .
- **Key:** for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}$ , obtain  $N_{\alpha}$  i.i.d. samples from a suitably coupled target  $(U_{\alpha}(k_{\alpha}), U_{\alpha}(k_{\alpha}-1), \dots, U_{\alpha}(1))^{(i)} \sim \bar{\eta}^{\alpha}$  such that  $\int \bar{\eta}^{\alpha} du_{\alpha(1)} \cdots du_{\alpha(l-1)} du_{\alpha(l+1)} \cdots du_{\alpha(k_{\alpha})} = \eta_{\alpha(l)}$  for  $l = 0, \dots, L$ , where  $k_{\alpha} \leq 2^d$ .
- Similar to MLMC, one finds optimal  $N_{\alpha} \propto \sqrt{V_{\alpha}/C_{\alpha}}$ .
- **Optimal index set**<sup>2</sup>  $\mathcal{I}$  consists of superlevel sets of  $P_{\alpha} = B_{\alpha}/\sqrt{V_{\alpha}C_{\alpha}}$ , where  $B_{\alpha}$  is bias associated to increment  $\alpha$ .
- Canonical complexity  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2})$  can be obtained independent of dimension  $d$  for optimal index sets.
- For tensor product index sets an additional (dimension-dependent) constraint on the rates is required or else the cost is dominated by the single highest resolution sample.

<sup>2</sup>In the sense that any set with smaller work has larger bias. 

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# Summary

- New approximate coupling strategy can be used to apply MLMC to PMCMC for static parameter estimation [JKLZ18.i].
- Same strategy can be employed for multi-index MCMC [JKLZ18.ii].
- Recently extended to MISMC<sup>2</sup> [JLX19.s].
- Exciting prospects of looking at
  - MIMC versions with appropriate index sets;
  - Other versions of  $MIMC \cap SMC$ ;
  - Links/comparisons with other methods, in cases where they are applicable
  - other practical enhancements.
- PhD and postdocs wanted – please inquire !
- **AIMS Foundations of Data Science now accepting papers !**

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# Thank you



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