

# Bayesian static parameter estimation using Multilevel Monte Carlo

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multilevel Monte Carlo sampling
- 3 Bayesian inference problem
- 4 Approximate coupling
- 5 Particle Markov chain Monte Carlo
- 6 Particle Markov chain Multilevel Monte Carlo
- 7 Numerical simulations
- 8 Summary

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# Orientation

**Aim:** Approximate posterior expectations of the state path and static parameters associated to a discretely observed diffusion, which must be finitely approximated.

**Solution:** Apply an approximate coupling strategy so that the multilevel Monte Carlo (MLMC) method can be used within a particle marginal Metropolis-Hastings (PMMH) algorithm [ADH10].

- MLMC methods *reduce cost to error* =  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$  [G08];
- 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 it **cannot**, but using PMMH we are able to sample consistently from an **approximate coupling** of successive targets [JKLZ18].

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

# Single level Monte Carlo

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

Monte Carlo approach

- Discretize the space  $\Rightarrow$  *approximate* distribution  $\eta_L$ .
- Sample  $U_L^{(i)} \sim \eta_L$  i.i.d., and approximate

$$\eta_L(g) := \mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}(g) \approx \hat{Y}_L^{N_L} := \frac{1}{N_L} \sum_{i=1}^{N_L} g(U_L^{(i)}).$$

- Mean square error (MSE)  $\mathbb{E}\{\hat{Y}_L^{N_L} - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_\infty}[g(U)]\}^2$  splits into

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{E}\{\hat{Y}_L^{N_L} - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}[g(U)]\}^2}_{\text{variance}=\mathcal{O}(N_L^{-1})} + \underbrace{\{\mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}[g(U)] - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_\infty}[g(U)]\}^2}_{\text{bias}}$$

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

# Multilevel Monte Carlo I

Introduce a **hierarchy** of discretization levels  $\{\eta_l\}_{l=1}^L$  and define  $Y_l = \{\mathbb{E}_{\eta_l}[g(U)] - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_{l-1}}[g(U)]\}$ , with  $\mathbb{E}_{\eta_{-1}}[\cdot] := 0$ .  
Observe the telescopic sum

$$\mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}[g(U)] = \sum_{l=0}^L Y_l.$$

Each term can be unbiasedly approximated by

$$Y_l^{N_l} = \frac{1}{N_l} \sum_{i=1}^{N_l} \{g(U_l^{(i)}) - g(U_{l-1}^{(i)})\}$$

where  $g(U_{-1}^{(i)}) := 0$ .



# Multilevel Monte Carlo II

Multilevel Monte Carlo approach:

- Sample i.i.d.  $(U_l, U_{l-1})^{(i)} \sim \bar{\eta}^l$ , such that  $\int \bar{\eta}^l du_{l-1,l} = \eta_{l,l-1}$ , and approximate

$$\eta_L(g) \approx \hat{Y}_{L,\text{Multi}} := \sum_{l=0}^L Y_l^{N_l}.$$

- Mean square error (MSE) given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\{\hat{Y}_{L,\text{Multi}} - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_\infty}[g(U)]\}^2 = \\ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\{\hat{Y}_{L,\text{Multi}} - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}[g(U)]\}^2}_{\text{variance} = \sum_{l=0}^L V_l/N_l} + \underbrace{\{\mathbb{E}_{\eta_L}[g(U)] - \mathbb{E}_{\eta_\infty}[g(U)]\}^2}_{\text{bias}}. \end{aligned}$$

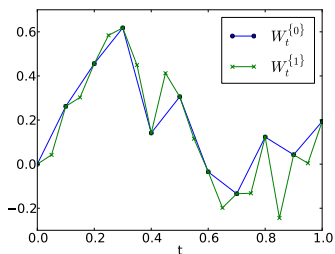
- Fix bias by choosing  $L$ . **Minimize cost**  $C = \sum_{l=0}^L C_l N_l$  as a function of  $\{N_l\}_{l=0}^L$  for **fixed variance**  $\Rightarrow N_l \propto \sqrt{V_l/C_l}$ .

# Illustration of pairwise coupling

Pairwise coupling of trajectories of an SDE:

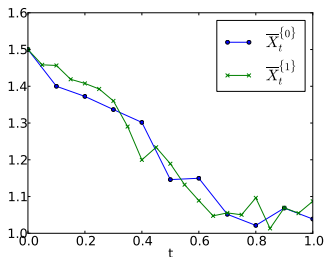
$$X_{n+1}^1 = X_n^1 + hf(X_n^1) + \sqrt{h}\sigma(X_n^1)\xi_n, \quad \xi_n \sim N(0, 1), \quad n = 0, \dots, N_1$$

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



(a) Wiener process

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



(b) Stochastic process driven by Wiener process.

# Multilevel vs. Single level

Assume  $h_l = 2^{-l}$  and there are  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta > \zeta$  such that

- (i) weak error  $|\mathbb{E}[g(U_l) - g(U)]| = \mathcal{O}(h_l^\alpha)$ .
- (ii) strong error  $\mathbb{E}|g(U_l) - g(U)|^2 = \mathcal{O}(h_l^\beta) \Rightarrow V_l = \mathcal{O}(h_l^\beta)$ ,
- (iii) computational cost for a realization of  $g(U_l) - g(U_{l-1})$ ,  
 $C_l \propto h_l^{-\zeta}$ .

Both cases require  $h_L^\alpha = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) \Rightarrow L \propto |\log \varepsilon|$ .

- **Single level cost**  $C = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-\zeta/\alpha-2})$  : cost per sample is  $C_L \propto \varepsilon^{-\zeta/\alpha}$ , and fixed  $V \propto \varepsilon^2 \Rightarrow N_L \propto \varepsilon^{-2}$ .
- **Multilevel cost**  $C_{\text{ML}} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2})$  :  $N_l \propto \varepsilon^{-2} K_L h_l^{(\beta+\zeta)/2}$ , so  $V \propto \varepsilon^2$  and  $C \propto \varepsilon^{-2} K_L^2$  for  $K_L = \sum_{l=0}^L h_l^{(\beta-\zeta)/2} = \mathcal{O}(1)$  [G08, CGST14].
- Example: Milstein solution of SDE

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

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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 SDE

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

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  $h$ , denote transition kernel

$F_{\theta,h}(x_{p-1}, dx_p)$  – can be *simulated from*, but its density cannot be *evaluated*.

# Return to ML

The joint measure 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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# Particle filter, for fixed $\theta$

Let  $M \geq 1$  and  $\theta$  be fixed, and introduce  $a_{0:n-1} \in \{1, \dots, M\}^n$ .  
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

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

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

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

# Unbiased estimator, for fixed $\theta$

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

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

Define  $p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n}|\theta) = \prod_{p=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M G_{p,\theta}(z_p^j) \right)$ , let  $\mathbb{E}$  denote expectation w.r.t.  $(A_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, Z_{0:n}^{1:M}, J)$ , and note that [Del04]

$$\mathbb{E} [\varphi(\widehat{z}_{0:n}) p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n}|\theta)] = \int_{Z^{n+1}} \varphi(z_{0:n}) \nu_\theta(dz_0) \prod_{p=1}^n G_{p,\theta}(z_p) Q_{\theta,h,h'}(z_{p-1}, dz_p).$$

Therefore, one can run a MH chain  $\{\theta^i, \widehat{z}_{0:n}(\theta^i)\}$  targeting  $\propto p_{h,h'}^M(y_{0:n}|\theta) \Pi(d\theta)$ , and it is consistent with respect to  $\Pi_{h,h'}(dz_{0:n}, d\theta)$  [B03, AR08, ADH10].

# 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  $P(da_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, dz_{0:n}^{1:M} | \theta^0)$ , 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  $P(da_{0:n-1}^{1:M}, dz_{0:n}^{1:M} | \theta^*)$ . 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.

# PMMH increment estimator

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

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

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

=

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

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# Multilevel estimator

Consider

$$\sum_{l=0}^L \bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi), \quad \bar{E}_l^{N_l}(\varphi) = E_l^{N_l}(\varphi) - E_l(\varphi), \quad (1)$$

where

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

is a consistent estimator of  $E_l(\varphi) := \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_l}}[\varphi(\theta)] - \mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_{l-1}}}[\varphi(\theta)]$ .

$\Rightarrow$  (1) is a consistent estimator of  $\mathbb{E}_{\Pi_{h_L}}[\varphi(\theta)]$ .

One must bound

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



# 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)** Suppose that  $\forall n > 0, \exists \xi \in (0, 1)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathsf{W})$  such that for each  $w \in \mathsf{W}, \varphi \in \mathcal{B}_b(\mathsf{W}) \cap \text{Lip}(\mathsf{W}), h, h':$

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

$K$  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*

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

**(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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# 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

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

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

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

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

- $\pi(x)$  denote 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  $\tau^2 = 1$ .

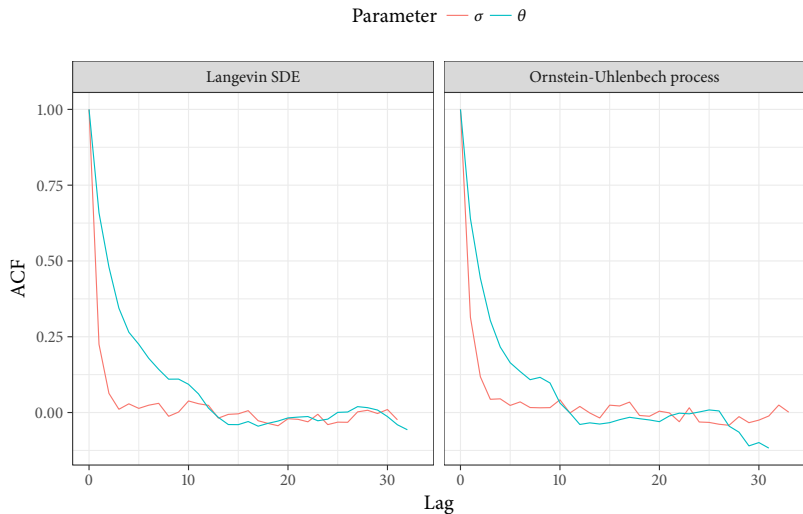


Figure: Autocorrelation of a typical PMCMC chain.

Algorithm ● ML-PMCMC ● PMCMC

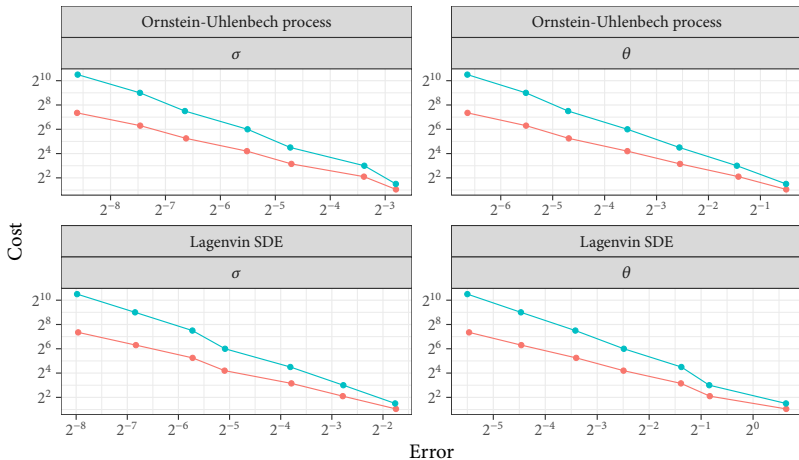


Figure: Cost vs. MSE for the 2 parameters for each of the 2 SDEs.



| 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.

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- 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].
- In progress: MISMC<sup>2</sup> [JLX18.s]
- PhD and postdocs wanted – please inquire !

# References

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# Thank you