

Recall the generalised Markovian description of Langevin dynamics:

$$\dot{x} = -M \cdot \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} + kT \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \cdot M + \sqrt{2kT} \cdot W(t)$$

$$\tilde{M} \tilde{M}^* = (M + M^*)/2$$

where $M(x)$ is the mobility tensor

$$M = \Gamma^{-1} \leftarrow \text{friction tensor}$$

$$D = (kT) M \leftarrow \text{diffusion tensor}$$

Remember that the spurious drift depends on the stochastic integral convention.

As a particular (important) example, consider Brownian dynamics for a collection of colloidal particles suspended in a fluid.

Denote $q \equiv \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N\}$ the positions (configuration) of the particles, and $V(q)$ the interaction potential (effective).

Under additivity assumptions, mobility/friction is the Oseen tensor from hydrodynamics:

$$M_{ij} = \frac{1}{6\pi\eta a} \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4} \frac{a}{r_{ij}} \left(1 + \frac{\vec{r}_{ij} \otimes \vec{r}_{ij}}{r_{ij}^2} \right), i \neq j \\ 1 & i = j \end{cases}$$

↑
particle indexes

Our previous analysis of drift suggests that numerical methods can avoid the evaluation of $\nabla_q \cdot M(q)$

by using a Backward Euler method for the anti-Ito or "isothermal" SODE:

$$\dot{q} = -M \cdot \nabla_q V + \sqrt{2kT} \square \tilde{M} \cdot W(t)$$

To avoid an implicit method, we can use an explicit predictor-corrector method

BAD IDEA!

Explicit
"Backward"
Euler

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{q}_i = q_i(t) + \left[M(\nabla_q V) \Delta t + \sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} \tilde{M} \cdot W \right]_t \\ \uparrow \\ \text{predictor} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{NOT CONSISTENT} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} q_i(t+\Delta t) = q_i(t) + \Delta t M(\nabla_q V) + \sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} \tilde{M}(\tilde{q}) \cdot \tilde{W} \end{array} \right.$$

In the Fixman algorithm one can evaluate the term $M \nabla_q V$ at midpoint to improve the deterministic order of accuracy to second-order, though the formal order of accuracy (weak sense) remains one.

How to construct \tilde{M} from M ?

All that matters at this stage is that

$$\tilde{M} \tilde{M}^* = M$$

- ① $\tilde{M} = \tilde{M}^* = M^{1/2}$ (matrix square root)
- ② $\tilde{M} =$ lower triangular square (Cholesky factorization)
- ③ $\tilde{M} =$ non-square (physics?)

So far we proposed the algorithm based on "Backward Euler", which we can condense to leading order as:

$$q(t+\Delta t) = q^{n+1} = q^n + M(q^n) \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial q^n} \Delta t +$$

$$\sqrt{2\Delta t} (kT) \cdot \tilde{M} \left[q^n + \sqrt{2\Delta t} (kT) \tilde{M}(q^n) \cdot \tilde{W}^n \right] \cdot \tilde{W}^n$$

We already checked that this is correct in one dimension, but how about the multivariable case?

Let's check the drift due to the multiplicative noise explicitly:

"Spurious" drift:

$$\Delta q_k = \sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kl}}{\partial q_i} \sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} (\tilde{M} \tilde{W})_{ij} \tilde{W}_e$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\langle \Delta q_k \rangle}{2\Delta t(kT)} = \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kl}}{\partial q_i} \tilde{M}_{ij} \langle \tilde{W}_j \tilde{W}_e \rangle =$$

$$= \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kl}}{\partial q_i} \tilde{M}_{ij} \delta_{je} = \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kj}}{\partial q_i} \tilde{M}_{ij}$$

What we want to get is

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial q} \cdot M \right)_k = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} M_{ik}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} M_{ik} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} (\tilde{M}_{ij} \tilde{M}_{kj}) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{ij}}{\partial q_i} \tilde{M}_{kj} + \tilde{M}_{ij} \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kj}}{\partial q_i} \right]$$
$$\tilde{M}_{ij} \quad \frac{\partial \tilde{M}_{kj}}{\partial q_i}$$

Compare this to previous

Except for a single variable, this does not seem to match.

So our "backward explicit Euler" algorithm is actually not consistent.

Do NOT use it!

Instead, rewrite the Langevin equation

$$\dot{q} = -M \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial q} + \sqrt{2kT} \cdot M \cdot N \cdot W(t)$$

where $NN^* = M^{-1} = \Gamma \leftarrow \text{symmetric}$

This is equivalent to what we wrote before since all that matters is the noise covariance (think FPE):

$$(MN)(MN)^* = MNN^*M^* = M$$

At first glance this requires both M and M^{-1} , which complicates things.

Fixman proposed the following
mid-point explicit predictor-corrector alg:

$$\tilde{q}^{n+1} = q^n + M(q^n) \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial q^n} \Delta t + \sqrt{2\Delta t(hT)} M^n \cdot N \cdot W^n$$

$$q^{n+1/2} = (q^n + \tilde{q}^{n+1}) / 2 \quad (\text{mid point})$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q^{n+1} \\ q^n \end{array} \right. = q^n + M(q^{n+1/2}) \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial q^{n+1/2}} \Delta t + \sqrt{2\Delta t(hT)} \cdot M(q^{n+1/2}) \cdot \underbrace{N \cdot W^n}_{\text{same as predictor!}}$$

Is this algorithm now consistent?

To leading order, we are doing

$$q_i^{n+1} = q_i^n + M(q^n) \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i^n} \Delta t +$$

$$\sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} \cdot M \left[q_i^n + \sqrt{\frac{\Delta t(kT)}{2}} M(q^n) \cdot N(q^n) \cdot \tilde{W}^n \right]$$

Now the extra drift is $N(q^n) \cdot \tilde{W}^n$

$$\Delta q_k = \sqrt{2\Delta t(kT)} \frac{\partial M_{kl}}{\partial q_i} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\Delta t(kT)}{2}} (M N \tilde{W})_i (N \tilde{W})_l$$

$$= \Delta t(kT) \frac{\partial M_{kl}}{\partial q_i} M_{ij} N_{jm} \tilde{W}_m N_{ln} \tilde{W}_n$$

$$\frac{\langle \Delta q_k \rangle}{(kT) \Delta t} = \frac{\partial M_{kl}}{\partial q_i} M_{ij} \underbrace{(NN^*)}_{jl} =$$

$$= \frac{\partial M_{kl}}{\partial q_i} M_{ij} (M^{-1})_{jl} = \frac{\partial M_{kl}}{\partial q_i} (\delta_{il})$$

$$= \frac{\partial M_{ki}}{\partial q_i} = \frac{\partial M_{ik}}{\partial q_i} = \left(\frac{\partial \cdot M}{\partial q} \right)_k$$

So indeed the extra drift is

$kT \left(\frac{\partial \cdot M}{\partial q} \right)$ as it should be.

but maybe there are other ways also...

Recall that for additive noise (no x dependence in stochastic term) or for Langevin dynamics with extra drift terms, and the "mobility" matrix M is rather simple:

$$H = \frac{m u^2}{2} + V(q) = \frac{p^2}{2m} + V(q)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial H}{\partial z} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial V / \partial q \\ \frac{p}{m} = u \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } z = (q, p)$$

reversible
Hamiltonian

$\partial H / \partial z$

$$\dot{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q} \\ \dot{p} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial V / \partial q \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

skew-adjoint Liouville operator

$$- \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \partial V / \partial q \\ u \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \frac{\partial H}{\partial z}$$

"irreversible"

self-adjoint friction operator

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{2kT\gamma} \end{bmatrix} W(t)$$

fluctuations

$$\tilde{M}, \text{ with } \tilde{M} \tilde{M}^* = M$$

Recall the FPE for Langevin dynamics:

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = -\mathcal{L}P = -(\mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2 + \mathcal{L}_3 + \mathcal{L}_4)P$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}_1 = \frac{p}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \quad (\text{advection}) \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{or streaming} \\ \mathcal{L}_2 = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial q} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \quad (\text{constant force acceleration}) \\ \mathcal{L}_3 = -\frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} P \quad (\text{constant friction}) \\ \mathcal{L}_4 = -\gamma kT \frac{\partial^2}{\partial p^2} \quad (\text{noise}) \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \text{In general} \\ \gamma \equiv \gamma(q) \end{array}$$

Recall that for Hamiltonian dynamics (MD) we desired symplectic integrators and constructed them using operator splitting and the Trotter factorization

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\Delta t) &= e^{-\mathcal{L}\Delta t} P(0) \\
 &\approx e^{-\mathcal{L}_\alpha \Delta t / 2} e^{-\mathcal{L}_\beta \Delta t} e^{-\mathcal{L}_\alpha \Delta t / 2} P(0)
 \end{aligned}$$

Strang splitting

\nwarrow
 \uparrow
 most expensive
 in middle?

where

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_\alpha + \mathcal{L}_\beta$$

For this to work as written the two pieces \mathcal{L}_α and \mathcal{L}_β should ideally be exactly solvable so that $e^{-\mathcal{L}_\alpha \Delta t}$ and $e^{-\mathcal{L}_\beta \Delta t}$ are exact.

This suggests the splitting

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_\alpha = \mathcal{L}_1 & (\text{streaming advection}) \\ \mathcal{L}_\beta = \mathcal{L}_2 + \mathcal{L}_3 + \mathcal{L}_4 & (\text{Ornstein-Uhlenbeck momentum update}) \end{cases}$$

We already showed how to do this.

Explicitly:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q^{n+1} = q^n + \frac{p^n}{m} \Delta t \quad (\text{this is } \gamma \Delta t) \\ p^{n+1} = p^n e^{-\alpha \Delta t} + \frac{m}{\gamma} F(q^n) (1 - e^{-\alpha \Delta t}) \\ \quad + \sqrt{m k T (1 - e^{-2\alpha \Delta t})} \cdot \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \\ \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{random} \end{array} \right.$$

where $\alpha = \gamma/m$

normal variate

This is the so-called quasi-symplectic
Stochastic Verlet algorithm.

Another option is to do the splitting

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}_\alpha = \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2 \quad (\text{Hamiltonian dynamics}) \\ \mathcal{L}_\beta = \mathcal{L}_3 + \mathcal{L}_4 \quad (\text{irreversible dynamics}) \end{array} \right.$$

use any second-order symplectic integrator

use previous formula with $F \equiv 0$

Both splittings give quasi-symplectic integrators (Jacobian not unity but constant), but it seems there is no common agreement on which one is "best".