

# Improving Efficiency in Parameter Estimation Using the Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Algorithm

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University of Bergen

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# Outline

## 1 Introduction

- Inverse Problem – IP
- Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methods
- Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Algorithm

## 2 Problem Definition

- The Random Sampling of Momentum
- Constant step–Size

## 3 Improving The HMC algorithm

- Suppress The random Walk
- Use Adaptive step–size in HD (SVHMC)

## 4 Simulation And Results

- How to Evaluate the HMC algorithm
- Comparing The improved HMC Algorithm



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# Well-posedness

**Hadamard postulates:** Given the operator  $A : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ . The problem of solving for  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , given the data  $d \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$A(x) = d + \delta$$

is **well-posed** if:

- 1 **Existence:** for each  $d$ ,  $\exists x$ , s.t  $A(x) = d$
- 2 **uniqueness:** if  $A(x^{(1)}) = A(x^{(2)}) \Rightarrow x^{(1)} = x^{(2)}$ .
- 3 **stability:**  $A^{-1}$  is continuous.

Otherwise it is **ill-posed**.



# Deterministic Approach to Solve IP

- 1 **Least Square** Estimate Find the best model that minimize the missfit, i.e. norm of the **residual**  $d - A(x)$ .

$$x_{LS} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{M}} \|d - A(x)\|^2.$$

If the problem is ill-posed, **LS** produces large and unreasonable models.

- 2 **Regularization Methods** impose stability on an ill-posed problem by incorporating prior information.

Tikhonov regularization:

$$x_{\alpha} = \arg \min_{m \in \mathcal{M}} \|d - A(x)\|^2 + \alpha \|P(x)\|^2, \quad \alpha > 0.$$

The **penalty functional**  $P$  express the prior information.





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# Statistical Approach to Solve IP

Why statistical inversion?

- 1 The general theory obtained when using a probabilistic point view.
  - Limited number of data.
  - Experimental uncertainties.
- 2 We can add Prior information.

How statistical inversion?

- 1 We deal with  $x$ ,  $d$ , and  $\delta$  as random variables.
- 2 Express the solution as probability distribution.
- 3 Asking question such as "what is  $Pr(x_2 \leq 30)$ " is not a problem.



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# Bayes' Theorem—Bayesian Inversion

- 1 The **prior pdf**  $\pi(x)$  express the knowledge about  $x$  prior the data  $d$ .
- 2  $L(d|x)$  is the **likelihood** of the data  $d$  assuming the model is known.  
**Bayes' theorem** update the prior belief by the **posterior pdf**

$$\pi(x|d) = \frac{L(d|x) \pi(x)}{\int_{\mathcal{M}} L(d|x) \pi(x) dx}.$$



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# Derived Parameter

## 1 Expectation: posterior summary statistics

$$E(x) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} x \pi(x|d) dx$$

- 2 The integrals could be intractable, even for low dimensions.
- 3 An attractive methodology is Monte Carlo rendering

$$E(x) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x^{(i)}$$

where  $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$  are models generated from  
 $p(x) \approx \pi(x|d)$



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# MCMC Algorithms

MCMC algorithms are based on Markov chains, which generate samples whose distribution approximate a given target distribution. such as  $\pi(x|d)$ .

- 1 For MCMC algorithm to be effective, the sample must be uncorrelated and independent
- 2 Classical MCMC algorithms
  - Gibbs Sampler algorithm
  - Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
- 3 Drawbacks of the classical MCMC algorithms
  - require huge number of samples
  - the samples usually highly correlated
  - Inefficient in high dimensions
  - Random walk algorithm



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# The Hamiltonian

Suppose we wish to sample from the distribution  $\pi(x)$ .

- 1 Augment each parameter  $x_i$  by momentum variable  $p_i$ , then the **Hamiltonian**  $\mathcal{H}(x, p)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}(x, p) &= V(x) + T(p) && \text{where} \\ V(x) &= -\log \pi(x) && \text{Potential energy} \\ T(p) &= \frac{1}{2} p^T p && \text{Kinetic energy}\end{aligned}$$

- 2 Define the extended target density by

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(x, p) &= \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-\mathcal{H}(x, p)) \\ &= \pi(x) \mathcal{N}(p; 0, I) && \text{sparated density}\end{aligned}$$



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# How HMC Work

- The dynamics of the system represented by  $(x, p)$  can be describe by Hamiltonian equations

$$\frac{dx}{d\tau} = + \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p} = p$$
$$\frac{dp}{d\tau} = - \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial x} = -\nabla V(x)$$

- The **gradient** of  $V(x)$  determines how the momentum  $p$  changes.
- The momentum variable determines where state  $x$  goes, this state changes through the time  $\tau$ .
- The **Hamiltonian Dynamics** is time-reversible, volume and total energy preserving.



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# Implementing HMC Algorithm

- In practice the dynamics is simulated using **leapfrog** scheme.

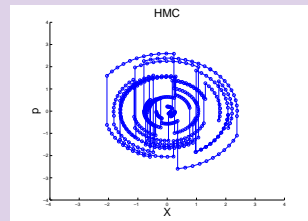
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- In each iteration we make  $L$  leapfrog steps.
- Take  $(x_{L+1}, p_{L+1})$  as proposal point.
- The proposal is accepted every time if the simulation almost exactly.

## (x,p) Trajectory



A typical trajectories generated by HMC algorithm with 10 leapfrog steps and  $\epsilon = 0.23$  from 128-D Gaussian



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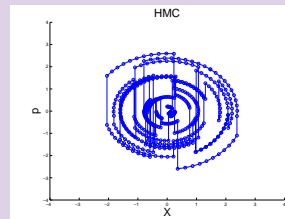
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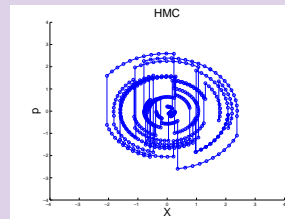
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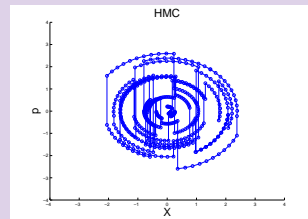
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# The Algorithm

## Gibbs Sampling Stage

### Algorithm

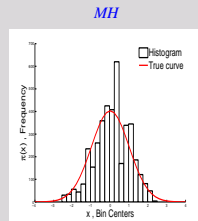
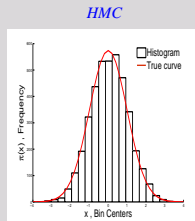
```

Initialize  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $N-1$ 
    Sample  $\mathbf{u} \sim U_{[0,1]}$  and  $\mathbf{p}^* \sim N(0, \mathbf{I})$ 
     $\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{p}^* + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(\mathbf{x}_0)$ 
    For  $l = 1$  to  $L$ 
         $\mathbf{p}_1 = \mathbf{p}_{l-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(\mathbf{x}_1)$ 
         $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_{l-1} + \epsilon \mathbf{p}_{l-1}$ 
         $\mathbf{p}_l = \mathbf{p}_{l-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(\mathbf{x}_1)$ 
    end For
     $dH = H(\mathbf{x}_L, \mathbf{p}_L) - H(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{p}^*)$ 
    if  $u < r = \min\{1, \exp(-dH)\}$ 
         $(\mathbf{x}^{(i+1)}, \mathbf{p}^{(i+1)}) = (\mathbf{x}_L, \mathbf{p}_L)$ 
    else
         $(\mathbf{x}^{(i+1)}, \mathbf{p}^{(i+1)}) = (\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{p}^{(i)})$ 
    end if
end for
return  $\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N-1)}]$ 

```

## Simulation of HD Stage

### Example



The contour plots of the 2D correlated Gaussian distribution.

## Accept Reject Stage



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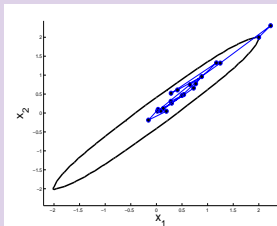
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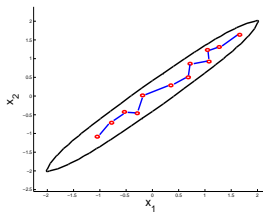
# Random Walk on the Momentum

Remember: drawing the momentum variable  $p$  in HMC according to the Gibbs sampler, which is random walks algorithm.

## Illustration



(a) HMC walker



(b) desirable walker



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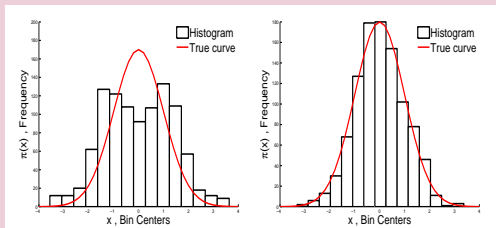


# Constant step-Size

## constant and Adaptive $\epsilon$

- How to choose  $\epsilon$  and  $L$ .
- Constant  $\epsilon$  leads to extra computational costs.
- Adaptive step-size reduce the simulation error.

## Compare



constant  $\epsilon = 0.1$ ,  $L = 30$     Adaptive  $\epsilon$ ,  $L = 30$   
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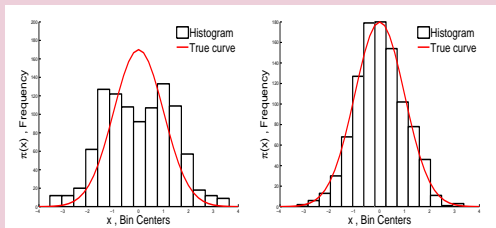


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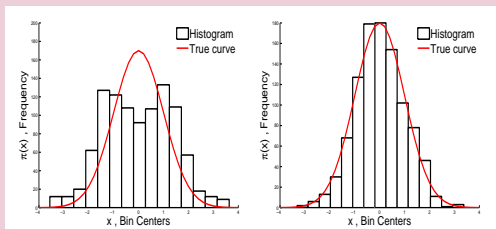


# Constant step-Size

## constant and Adaptive $\epsilon$

- How to choose  $\epsilon$  and  $L$ .
- Constant  $\epsilon$  leads to extra computational costs.
- **Adaptive step-size reduce the simulation error.**

## Compare



constant  $\epsilon = 0.1$ ,  $L = 30$  Adaptive  $\epsilon$ ,  $L = 30$   
 The effect of using the adaptive step-size on the  
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# Applying over-relaxation on $p$ (OHMC)

## Ordered over-relaxation

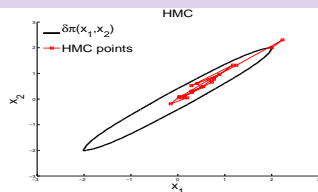
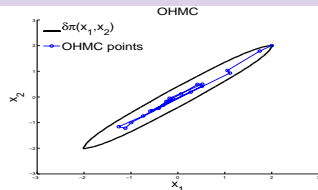
To over-relax  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni p \sim \mathcal{N}(p; 0I)$

For  $i = 1 : n$

- Generated  $K$  values from  $\mathcal{N}(q_i | \{q_j\}_{j \neq i})$ .
- Order these  $K$  values and the odd value  $p_i$ .  
 $q_i^{(0)} \leq \dots \leq q_i^{(r)} = p_i \leq \dots \leq q_i^{(K)}$
- Set  $p'_i = q_i^{(K-r)}$ .

End for

## Example



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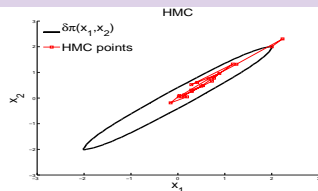
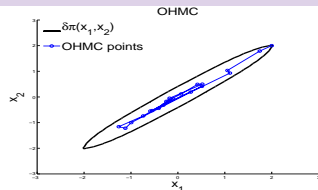
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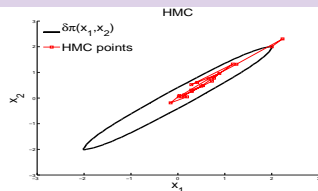
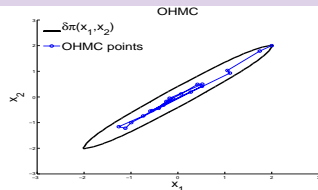
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# Adaptive Step-size

## Adaptive Störmer-Verlet

Simulate the dynamics with adaptive Störmer-Verlet scheme instead of the leapfrog scheme

For  $l = 1 : L - \text{steps}$

$$x_{l+\frac{1}{2}} = x_l + \frac{\epsilon}{2\rho_l} p_{l+\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$p_{l+\frac{1}{2}} = p_l - \frac{\epsilon}{2\rho_l} \nabla V(x_l),$$

$$\rho_{l+1} + \rho_l = 2U(x_{l+\frac{1}{2}}, p_{l+\frac{1}{2}}),$$

$$p_{l+1} = p_{l+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{\epsilon}{2\rho_{l+1}} \nabla V(x_{l+1}),$$

$$x_{l+1} = x_{l+\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\epsilon}{2\rho_{n+1}} p_{l+\frac{1}{2}}.$$

End For



# Adaptive Step-size

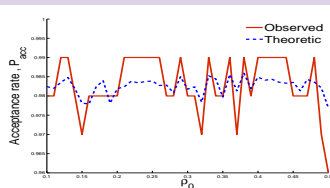
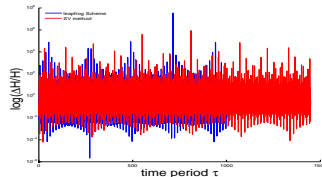
## Adaptive Störmer–Verlet

- Adaptive  $\epsilon$  reduces  $\Delta H$ .
- The  $\epsilon$  depend on

$$U(x, p) = \sqrt{\|\nabla V(x)\|^2 + p^T [\nabla^2 V(x)]^2 p}$$

- The accepted rate agree with theory

## Example





# Summary

combine these  
to give  
(OSVHMC)

## Algorithm-proposal change

```

Initialize  $x^{(0)}$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $N-1$ 
  Sample  $u \sim U_{[0,1]}$  and  $p^* \sim N(0, I)$ 
   $x_0 = x^{(i)}$  and  $p_0 = p^* + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(x_0)$ 
  For  $l = 1$  to  $L$ 
     $p_l = p_{l-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(x_l)$ 
     $x_l = x_{l-1} + \epsilon p_{l-1}$ 
     $p_l = p_{l-1} - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \nabla V(x_l)$ 
  end For
   $dH = H(x_L, p_L) - H(x^{(i)}, p^*)$ 
  if  $u < r = \min\{1, \exp(-dH)\}$ 
     $(x^{(i+1)}, p^{(i+1)}) = (x_L, p_L)$ 
  else
     $(x^{(i+1)}, p^{(i+1)}) = (x^{(i)}, p^{(i)})$ 
  end if
end for
return  $x = [x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N-1)}]$ 

```

replace leapfrog  
by adaptive  
Stormer-Verlet  
(SVHMC)

over-relax the  
Gibbs sampling  
(OHMC)



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# The Evaluating Criteria

Suppose we have a chain  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$  generated by any MCMC algorithm.

## 1 Degree of correlation criteria

- Autocorrelation function  $\rho(l) = \frac{\text{Cov}(x_i, x_{i+l})}{\text{Var}(x_i)}$ .
- Integrated autocorrelation time  $\tau_{int} = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \rho(t)$ .
- Number effective samples  $N_{eff} = N / (2\tau_{int})$ .

## 2 Spectral analysis criteria

- compute  $\hat{P}_j = [\hat{X}(x)^* \hat{X}(x)]$ , then estimate  $\lambda$ ,  $P(0)$  and  $\sigma^2$  from the template  $P(x) = P_0 \frac{(x/2)^2}{(x^2/2)^2 + 1}$ .
- The sample mean variance  $\sigma_x^2 \approx \frac{1}{N} P(x=0)$ .
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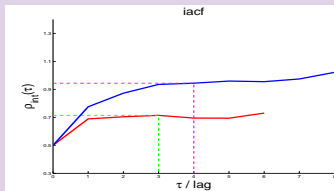
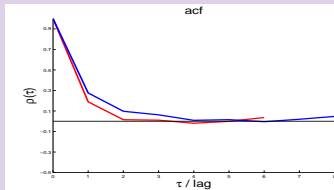
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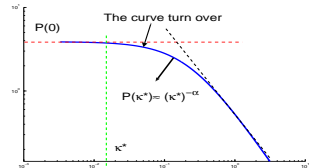
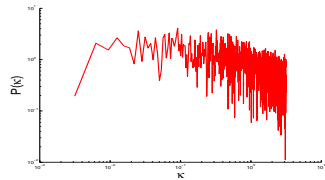


# Evaluating criteria/Geometric Illustration

## Degree of correlation



## Spectral analysis



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# Comparing OHMC vs HMC

## Gaussian Target

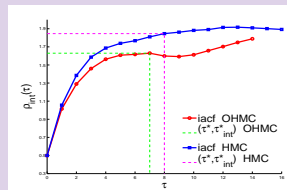
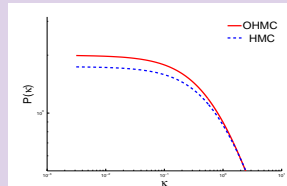
$$\pi(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} x^T \Sigma^{-1} x \right)$$

$$\Sigma = I$$

## Results (n=64, N=2000)

	OHMC	HMC	Ideal
Accept. Rate	0.99	0.99	1
$P(0)$	3.10	3.56	1
$\kappa^*$	0.99	0.81	
cpu time/sec	561.22	557.38	
$E$	0.32	0.28	1
$r$	0.001	0.002	< 0.01
$\tau_{int}$	1.63	1.85	0.5
$N_{eff}$	614	542	2000

## Geometric Illustration

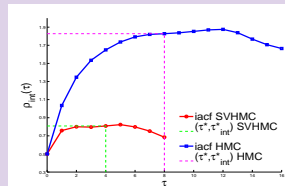
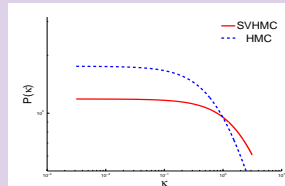


# Comparing SVHMC vs HMC

## Numerical Results (n=128 N=2000)

	SVHMC	HMC	Ideal
Accept. Rate	0.92	0.98	1
$P(0)$	2.11	3.13	1
$\kappa^*$	3.27	1.15	
cpu time/sec	1568.01	1117.78	
$E$	0.47	0.32	1
$r$	0.001	0.002	< 0.01
$\tau_{int}$	0.86	1.80	0.5
$N_{eff}$	1167	554	2000

## Geometric Illustration

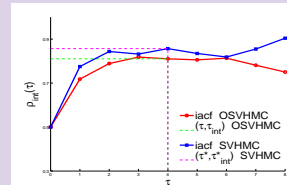
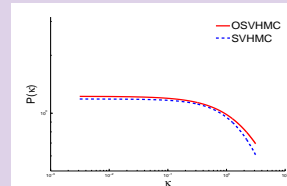


# Comparing OSVHMC vs SVHMC

## Numerical Results (n=64, N=2000)

	OSVHMC	SVHMC	Ideal
Accept. Rate	0.92	0.94	1
$P(0)$	1.90	2.26	1
$\kappa^*$	4.89	3.14	
cpu time/sec	639.58	669.40	
$E$	0.53	0.44	1
$r$	0.0009	0.0011	< 0.01
$\tau_{int}$	0.71	0.94	0.5
$N_{eff}$	1400	1059	2000

## Geometric Illustration





# Summary and Conclusion

- 1 OHMC algorithm improves the number of the effective sample by factor of  $\sim 12\%$ .

$$\frac{E_{SVHMC}}{E_{HMC}} \approx 1.2$$

- 2 SVHMC algorithm outperform the classical HMC algorithm by having  $\sim 50\%$  more effective sample

$$\frac{N_{eff}}{N_{eff}} \approx 0.5$$

- 3 Finally, the hybrid OSVHMC (relaxing the momentum and using Adaptive  $\epsilon$ ) outperform the SVHMC.



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# Finally

*Thank You*

