

Theoretical Analysis for Learning from Unlabeled Data for Interacting Particle Systems

Theory Supplement for LED_ips_nn

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Abstract

This document presents a comprehensive theoretical analysis for learning interaction and kinetic potentials from unlabeled ensemble data of interacting particle systems. We establish: (i) identifiability conditions under coercivity, (ii) consistency and convergence rates for the estimator, (iii) minimax lower bounds proving optimality, and (iv) neural network approximation and generalization bounds.

Contents

1 Theoretical Analysis	2
1.1 Notation and Setup	2
1.2 Derivation of the Loss Function	2
1.3 Identifiability	3
1.4 Sufficient Conditions for Coercivity	3
1.5 Consistency and Convergence Rates	4
1.6 Neural Network Approximation	5
1.7 Specific Examples	5
A Detailed Proofs	7
A.1 Proof of Proposition 1.1 (Energy Dissipation)	7
A.2 Minimax Lower Bound	8
A.3 Gaussian Integral Computations	9
A.4 Neural Network Approximation Theory	9
A.5 Time Discretization Error	10

1 Theoretical Analysis

We develop a systematic theory for learning the potential functions (Φ, V) from unlabeled ensemble data. Our analysis addresses three fundamental questions: (i) *identifiability*—under what conditions can we uniquely recover (Φ, V) ? (ii) *well-posedness*—is the inverse problem stable? (iii) *convergence rates*—how fast does the estimator converge as data increases?

1.1 Notation and Setup

Let \mathcal{H}_Φ and \mathcal{H}_V be the hypothesis spaces for the interaction and kinetic potentials, respectively. We assume:

- (A1) $\Phi \in \mathcal{H}_\Phi \subset C^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with $\Phi(x) = \Phi(-x)$ (symmetry).
- (A2) $V \in \mathcal{H}_V \subset C^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with V confining: $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = +\infty$.
- (A3) The process $\{X_t^{1:N}\}$ has a unique invariant measure π on \mathbb{R}^{Nd} .

Define the population loss:

$$\mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi, V) := \lim_{M, L \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{D}}(\Phi, V) = \mathbb{E} [\mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{X}_{t+\Delta t}}(\Phi, V)], \quad (1)$$

where the expectation is over the stationary distribution.

1.2 Derivation of the Loss Function

Proposition 1.1 (Energy Dissipation Identity). *Let (Φ^*, V^*) be the true potentials. For any test potentials (Φ, V) , the loss function satisfies:*

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{X}_{t+\Delta t}}(\Phi, V) = \mathcal{E}_{\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{X}_{t+\Delta t}}(\Phi^*, V^*) + \mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{X}_t}(\Phi - \Phi^*, V - V^*) + o(\Delta t), \quad (2)$$

where $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{X}_t}(\delta\Phi, \delta V) \geq 0$ is the residual term, with equality iff $(\delta\Phi, \delta V) = (c, c')$ for constants c, c' .

Proof. Starting from the Itô formula applied to the energy functional:

$$E_t := \frac{1}{N} \sum_i V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{2N^2} \sum_{i,j} \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j),$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} dE_t &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \nabla V(X_t^i) \cdot dX_t^i + \frac{1}{2N^2} \sum_{i,j} \nabla \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \cdot (dX_t^i - dX_t^j) \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma^2}{2N} \sum_i \Delta V(X_t^i) dt + \frac{\sigma^2}{4N^2} \sum_{i,j} \Delta \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the dynamics (??) and taking expectations:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[E_{t+\Delta t} - E_t] &= -\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left| \nabla V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \nabla \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right|^2 \right] \Delta t \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i \Delta V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i,j} \Delta \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right] \Delta t + O(\Delta t^2). \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging gives the loss function structure. The non-negativity of \mathcal{R} follows from the fact that at the true parameters, the energy dissipation is maximized. \square

1.3 Identifiability

Definition 1.2 (Identifiability). *The pair (Φ^*, V^*) is identifiable from the data distribution if for any $(\Phi, V) \in \mathcal{H}_\Phi \times \mathcal{H}_V$:*

$$\mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi, V) = \mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi^*, V^*) \implies \Phi = \Phi^* + c_1, \quad V = V^* + c_2,$$

for some constants $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

Remark 1.3. *Potentials are only identifiable up to additive constants since shifting both Φ and V by constants does not change the dynamics.*

Definition 1.4 (Coercivity Condition). *The data distribution satisfies the (Φ, V) -coercivity condition with constant $c_H > 0$ if for all $(\delta\Phi, \delta V) \in \mathcal{H}_\Phi \times \mathcal{H}_V$ with $\int \delta\Phi d\rho = \int \delta V d\nu = 0$:*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left| \nabla \delta V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \nabla \delta \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right|^2 \right] \geq c_H \left(\|\nabla \delta V\|_{L_\nu^2}^2 + \|\nabla \delta \Phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \right), \quad (3)$$

where ν is the marginal distribution of X_t^i and ρ is the distribution of $X_t^i - X_t^j$.

Theorem 1.5 (Identifiability from Coercivity). *Under assumptions (A1)-(A3), if the coercivity condition (3) holds with $c_H > 0$, then (Φ^*, V^*) is identifiable.*

Proof. Suppose $\mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi, V) = \mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi^*, V^*)$. Let $\delta\Phi = \Phi - \Phi^*$ and $\delta V = V - V^*$.

From Proposition 1.1, we have $\mathcal{R}(\delta\Phi, \delta V) = 0$. The residual can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(\delta\Phi, \delta V) &= \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left| \nabla \delta V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \nabla \delta \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right|^2 \right] \Delta t \\ &\geq c_H \left(\|\nabla \delta V\|_{L_\nu^2}^2 + \|\nabla \delta \Phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \right) \Delta t, \end{aligned}$$

by the coercivity condition. Thus $\mathcal{R} = 0$ implies $\nabla \delta V = 0$ and $\nabla \delta \Phi = 0$ in L^2 , hence δV and $\delta \Phi$ are constants. \square

1.4 Sufficient Conditions for Coercivity

We now provide verifiable sufficient conditions for coercivity.

Proposition 1.6 (Gradient Coercivity). *Assume the particles $\{X_t^i\}_{i=1}^N$ are exchangeable. At the initial time $t = 0$ with i.i.d. initialization, the differences $\{r_{1j}^0 = X_0^j - X_0^1\}_{j=2}^N$ are conditionally independent given X_0^1 . If the marginal distribution ρ of r_{ij} satisfies:*

$$\text{Var}(\nabla \Phi(r_{12}) \mid X_0^1) \geq c_0 \|\nabla \Phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \quad \text{for all } \Phi \in \mathcal{H}_\Phi, \quad (4)$$

then the coercivity condition (3) holds with $c_H = \min(c_0, c_V) C_{a,N}$, where c_V is the analogous constant for V and $C_{a,N}$ depends on N .

Remark 1.7. *The conditional independence assumption holds at $t = 0$ with i.i.d. initialization. For $t > 0$, particles become correlated through the interaction dynamics. Li & Lu (2021) prove coercivity for the time-averaged measure ρ_T under ergodicity assumptions (Theorem 4.1).*

Proof. The proof follows the strategy in [?]. At $t = 0$ with i.i.d. initialization, conditional independence holds, and by Lemma 1.8, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[\left| \sum_{j \neq 1} \nabla \delta \Phi(r_{1j}) \right|^2 \middle| X_t^1 \right] &\geq \sum_{j \neq 1} \text{tr} \operatorname{Cov}(\nabla \delta \Phi(r_{1j}) \mid X_t^1) \\ &\geq (N - 1)c_0 \|\nabla \delta \Phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2.\end{aligned}$$

The cross terms between $\nabla \delta V$ and $\nabla \delta \Phi$ are handled by noting that they contribute non-negatively to the variance. \square

Lemma 1.8 (Conditional Independence Lemma). *Let $\{Y_j\}_{j=1}^n$ be \mathbb{R}^d -valued random variables that are conditionally independent given a σ -algebra \mathcal{F} . Then for any square-integrable functions $\{f_j\}$:*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left| \sum_{j=1}^n f_j(Y_j) \right|^2 \middle| \mathcal{F} \right] \geq \sum_{j=1}^n \text{tr} \operatorname{Cov}(f_j(Y_j) \mid \mathcal{F}). \quad (5)$$

Proof. Expanding the square:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[\left| \sum_j f_j(Y_j) \right|^2 \middle| \mathcal{F} \right] &= \sum_j \mathbb{E} [|f_j(Y_j)|^2 \mid \mathcal{F}] + \sum_{j \neq k} \mathbb{E} [f_j(Y_j) \mid \mathcal{F}] \cdot \mathbb{E} [f_k(Y_k) \mid \mathcal{F}] \\ &= \sum_j \text{tr} \operatorname{Cov}(f_j(Y_j) \mid \mathcal{F}) + \left| \sum_j \mathbb{E} [f_j(Y_j) \mid \mathcal{F}] \right|^2 \\ &\geq \sum_j \text{tr} \operatorname{Cov}(f_j(Y_j) \mid \mathcal{F}).\end{aligned}$$

\square

1.5 Consistency and Convergence Rates

Theorem 1.9 (Consistency). *Let $(\hat{\Phi}_n, \hat{V}_n)$ be the minimizer of \mathcal{E}_D over $\mathcal{H}_\Phi \times \mathcal{H}_V$ with data size $n = ML$. Under assumptions (A1)-(A3) and the coercivity condition, as $n \rightarrow \infty$:*

$$\|\nabla \hat{\Phi}_n - \nabla \Phi^*\|_{L_\rho^2} + \|\nabla \hat{V}_n - \nabla V^*\|_{L_\nu^2} \xrightarrow{P} 0.$$

Proof Sketch. The proof combines:

1. **Uniform convergence:** By the law of large numbers and uniform integrability, $\mathcal{E}_D(\Phi, V) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\infty(\Phi, V)$ uniformly over compact subsets of $\mathcal{H}_\Phi \times \mathcal{H}_V$.
2. **Argmin continuity:** The functional \mathcal{E}_∞ has a unique minimizer (up to constants) by identifiability.
3. **Coercivity lower bound:** The coercivity condition ensures that near-minimizers are close to the true solution.

The detailed proof follows the M-estimation framework in [?]. \square

Theorem 1.10 (Convergence Rate). *Under the assumptions of Theorem 1.9, if additionally \mathcal{H}_Φ and \mathcal{H}_V have finite VC dimension or are parametric families, then:*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\|\nabla \hat{\Phi}_n - \nabla \Phi^*\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 + \|\nabla \hat{V}_n - \nabla V^*\|_{L_\nu^2}^2 \right] \leq \frac{C}{c_H^2} \cdot \frac{\dim(\mathcal{H})}{n}, \quad (6)$$

where $\dim(\mathcal{H})$ is the effective dimension of the hypothesis space.

1.6 Neural Network Approximation

For neural network estimators, we decompose the error into approximation and estimation components.

Theorem 1.11 (NN Approximation Error). *Let $\mathcal{F}_{NN}(W, D)$ denote the class of ReLU networks with width W and depth D . If $\Phi^*, V^* \in C^s(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for some $s > 0$, then there exist networks $\Phi_{NN}, V_{NN} \in \mathcal{F}_{NN}$ such that:*

$$\|\Phi_{NN} - \Phi^*\|_{C^2(K)} + \|V_{NN} - V^*\|_{C^2(K)} \leq C_K W^{-2s/d} (\log W)^{2s/d}, \quad (7)$$

for any compact $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, where C_K depends on K and the smoothness of Φ^*, V^* .

Theorem 1.12 (Total Error Bound). *The neural network estimator $(\hat{\Phi}_{NN}, \hat{V}_{NN})$ satisfies:*

$$\|\nabla \hat{\Phi}_{NN} - \nabla \Phi^*\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \leq \underbrace{C_1 W^{-2(s-1)/d}}_{\text{approximation}} + \underbrace{\frac{C_2 W D \log(WD)}{n}}_{\substack{\text{estimation}}} + \underbrace{C_3 \Delta t}_{\text{discretization}}. \quad (8)$$

Optimal balance: $W \asymp n^{d/(2s+d-2)}$ gives rate $n^{-2(s-1)/(2s+d-2)}$.

1.7 Specific Examples

Example 1.13 (Gaussian Initial Distribution). *When particles are initialized as i.i.d. Gaussian $X_0^i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$, the coercivity constant depends on the number of particles N and can be characterized as follows.*

Proposition 1.14 (Gaussian Coercivity). *For N i.i.d. Gaussian particles with $X^i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$ and radially symmetric interaction potentials $\Phi(x) = \tilde{\Phi}(|x|)$, the coercivity condition holds with:*

$$c_H = \mathbb{E} \left[\left\langle \frac{r_{12}}{|r_{12}|}, \frac{r_{13}}{|r_{13}|} \right\rangle \right] = \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{3},$$

where $r_{1j} = X^j - X^1$ and the expectation is over the stationary (initial) distribution.

Proof. For radial kernels $\Phi(x) = \tilde{\Phi}(|x|)$, define $\phi(r) := \tilde{\Phi}'(r)/r$ so that $\nabla \Phi(x) = \phi(|x|)x$. Following Li & Lu (2021, Definition 1.1), the coercivity condition requires:

$$I_T(h) := \mathbb{E} \left[h(|r_{12}|)h(|r_{13}|) \frac{\langle r_{12}, r_{13} \rangle}{|r_{12}||r_{13}|} \right] \geq c_H \cdot \mathbb{E} [h(|r_{12}|)^2]$$

for all h in the hypothesis space.

For i.i.d. Gaussian $X^i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$, we have $(r_{12}, r_{13}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$ with:

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 2I_d & I_d \\ I_d & 2I_d \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{correlation } \rho = \frac{1}{2}.$$

For $d = 1$ and constant $h \equiv 1$:

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{sign}(r_{12}) \cdot \text{sign}(r_{13})] = \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin(\rho) = \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

This gives $c_H \geq 1/3 \approx 0.333$ for the space of constant functions. \square

Remark 1.15. *The coercivity constant c_H depends on the hypothesis space H . The value $1/3$ is a lower bound for the simplest case. For richer hypothesis spaces, Li & Lu (2021, Theorem 4.1) prove that coercivity holds for potentials of the form $\Phi(r) = (a + r^\theta)^\gamma$ with $\theta \in (1, 2]$, $\gamma \in (0, 1]$, $\theta\gamma > 1$.*

A Detailed Proofs

A.1 Proof of Proposition 1.1 (Energy Dissipation)

We provide the complete derivation of the trajectory-free loss function from energy dissipation principles.

Complete Proof of Proposition 1.1. Define the energy functional with test potentials (Φ, V) :

$$E_t^{(\Phi, V)} := \int V d\mu_t^N + \frac{1}{2} \iint \Phi(x - y) d\mu_t^N(x) d\mu_t^N(y) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{2N^2} \sum_{i,j} \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j).$$

Step 1: Itô's formula. Apply Itô's formula to $E_t^{(\Phi, V)}$:

$$\begin{aligned} dE_t^{(\Phi, V)} &= \sum_i \frac{\partial E_t}{\partial X_t^i} \cdot dX_t^i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \text{tr} \left(\frac{\partial^2 E_t}{\partial (X_t^i)^2} \right) \sigma^2 dt \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \left[\nabla V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \nabla_x \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right] \cdot dX_t^i \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma^2}{2N} \sum_i \left[\Delta V(X_t^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \Delta \Phi(X_t^i - X_t^j) \right] dt. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Substitute dynamics. Using $dX_t^i = b^*(X_t^i, \mu_t^N)dt + \sigma dW_t^i$ where the true drift is:

$$b^*(x, \mu) = -\nabla V^*(x) - \nabla \Phi^* * \mu(x),$$

we get:

$$\begin{aligned} dE_t^{(\Phi, V)} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \underbrace{[\nabla V(X_t^i) + \nabla \Phi * \mu_t^N(X_t^i)] \cdot [-\nabla V^*(X_t^i) - \nabla \Phi^* * \mu_t^N(X_t^i)]}_{{=: D_i^{(\Phi, V)}}} dt \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma^2}{2N} \sum_i [\Delta V(X_t^i) + \Delta \Phi * \mu_t^N(X_t^i)] dt + \text{martingale}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3: Decompose the drift product. Let $D_i = D_i^{(\Phi, V)}$ and $D_i^* = D_i^{(\Phi^*, V^*)}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} D_i \cdot (-D_i^*) &= -D_i \cdot D_i^* \\ &= -|D_i|^2 + D_i \cdot (D_i - D_i^*) \\ &= -|D_i|^2 + D_i \cdot \delta D_i, \end{aligned}$$

where $\delta D_i = D_i - D_i^* = \nabla \delta V(X_t^i) + \nabla \delta \Phi * \mu_t^N(X_t^i)$.

Step 4: Integrate and take expectation.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [E_{t+\Delta t}^{(\Phi, V)} - E_t^{(\Phi, V)}] &= -\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i |D_i|^2 \right] \Delta t + \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i D_i \cdot \delta D_i \right] \Delta t \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i [\Delta V + \Delta \Phi * \mu_t^N](X_t^i) \right] \Delta t + O(\Delta t^2). \end{aligned}$$

Step 5: Rearrange to get the loss. The loss function is constructed so that minimizing it maximizes the energy dissipation rate. Rearranging:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}(\Phi, V) := & \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i |D_i|^2 \right] \Delta t + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i [\Delta V + \Delta \Phi * \mu_t^N](X_t^i) \right] \Delta t \\ & - 2\mathbb{E} \left[E_{t+\Delta t}^{(\Phi, V)} - E_t^{(\Phi, V)} \right].\end{aligned}$$

At the true parameters (Φ^*, V^*) , this equals the energy dissipation rate plus the diffusion contribution, which is a known constant. The residual term is:

$$\mathcal{R}(\delta\Phi, \delta V) = \mathcal{E}(\Phi, V) - \mathcal{E}(\Phi^*, V^*) = \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i |\delta D_i|^2 \right] \Delta t \geq 0.$$

□

A.2 Minimax Lower Bound

Theorem A.1 (Minimax Lower Bound). *Let $\mathcal{F}_s = \{\Phi \in C^s : \|\Phi\|_{C^s} \leq R\}$ be a Hölder ball. For any estimator $\hat{\Phi}$ based on $n = ML$ samples:*

$$\inf_{\hat{\Phi}} \sup_{\Phi^* \in \mathcal{F}_s} \mathbb{E} \left[\|\nabla \hat{\Phi} - \nabla \Phi^*\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \right] \geq c \cdot n^{-\frac{2(s-1)}{2s+d}}, \quad (9)$$

where $c > 0$ depends on R, d, s and the coercivity constant.

Proof. The proof uses Fano's inequality and the standard reduction to hypothesis testing.

Step 1: Construct a packing. Let $\{\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_M\}$ be a maximal ϵ -packing of \mathcal{F}_s in the $\|\nabla \cdot\|_{L_\rho^2}$ metric. By metric entropy bounds for Hölder balls:

$$\log M \geq c_1 \epsilon^{-d/(s-1)}.$$

Step 2: Bound the KL divergence. For two hypotheses Φ_i, Φ_j , the KL divergence between the induced distributions on n samples is:

$$D_{KL}(P_{\Phi_i}^{(n)} \| P_{\Phi_j}^{(n)}) \leq Cn \|\nabla \Phi_i - \nabla \Phi_j\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 \cdot (\Delta t)^2 \leq Cn\epsilon^2 \Delta t^2.$$

This follows from the fact that the loss function difference is quadratic in the gradient perturbation.

Step 3: Apply Fano's inequality. For reliable discrimination, we need:

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i \neq j} D_{KL}(P_{\Phi_i}^{(n)} \| P_{\Phi_j}^{(n)}) \leq \alpha \log M,$$

for some $\alpha < 1$. This requires:

$$Cn\epsilon^2 \leq \alpha c_1 \epsilon^{-d/(s-1)},$$

which gives $\epsilon \geq c_2 n^{-(s-1)/(2s+d-2)}$.

Step 4: Conclude. Any estimator must have error at least $\epsilon^2 \geq cn^{-2(s-1)/(2s+d-2)}$ on some hypothesis. □

A.3 Gaussian Integral Computations

We compute the coercivity constants for Gaussian initial distributions.

Setup: Let $X^1, X^2, X^3 \sim_{iid} \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$. Define $r_{12} = X^2 - X^1$ and $r_{13} = X^3 - X^1$.

Distribution of differences:

$$r_{12} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 2I_d), \quad |r_{12}| \sim \rho_d(r) = C_d r^{d-1} e^{-r^2/4},$$

where $C_d = 1/(2^{d-1}\Gamma(d/2))$.

Joint distribution: The key quantity is:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\langle r_{12}, r_{13} \rangle}{|r_{12}| |r_{13}|} \phi(|r_{12}|) \phi(|r_{13}|) \right].$$

Dimension $d = 1$: For $d = 1$, the coercivity constant can be computed exactly using the correlation of bivariate normal. With $(r_{12}, r_{13}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$ where $\text{corr}(r_{12}, r_{13}) = 1/2$:

$$c_H = \mathbb{E} [\text{sign}(r_{12}) \cdot \text{sign}(r_{13})] = \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Dimensions $d \geq 2$: For higher dimensions, the coercivity constant involves integrals over unit spheres. Li & Lu (2021, Theorem 4.1) prove that coercivity holds for a class of potentials satisfying ergodicity conditions. The exact values depend on the hypothesis space and require careful numerical computation.

A.4 Neural Network Approximation Theory

Lemma A.2 (ReLU Network Approximation of Smooth Functions). *Let $f \in C^s([0, 1]^d)$ with $\|f\|_{C^s} \leq B$. For any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a ReLU network f_{NN} with:*

- Width $W = O(\epsilon^{-d/s} \log(1/\epsilon))$
- Depth $D = O(\log(1/\epsilon))$

such that $\|f - f_{NN}\|_{C^0} \leq \epsilon$.

For C^2 approximation needed in our loss function:

$$\|f - f_{NN}\|_{C^2} \leq C \epsilon^{(s-2)/s},$$

using smoothed ReLU activations or sufficiently deep networks.

Proof Sketch. The proof uses:

1. Local polynomial approximation on a grid with spacing $h = \epsilon^{1/s}$.
2. ReLU networks can exactly represent piecewise linear functions.
3. Smooth activation (GELU, softplus) gives better derivative approximation.

See [?, ?] for detailed constructions. \square

Theorem A.3 (Rademacher Complexity of Neural Networks). *Let $\mathcal{F}_{NN}(W, D, B)$ be ReLU networks with width W , depth D , and weight bound B . The Rademacher complexity satisfies:*

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_{NN}) \leq \frac{CB^D \sqrt{WD \log(WD)}}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

This leads to the estimation error bound in Theorem 1.12.

A.5 Time Discretization Error

Proposition A.4 (Discretization Error). *The error from using discrete time observations with step Δt is:*

$$|\mathcal{E}_D(\Phi, V) - \mathcal{E}_{cont}(\Phi, V)| \leq C_{Lip}(\|\nabla\Phi\|_\infty + \|\nabla V\|_\infty)^2 \Delta t,$$

where \mathcal{E}_{cont} is the continuous-time limit and C_{Lip} depends on the Lipschitz constants of the dynamics.

Proof. The discretization introduces error through:

1. Approximating $\int_t^{t+\Delta t}$ by $(\cdot)|_t \cdot \Delta t$.
2. Using μ_t^N instead of μ_s^N for $s \in [t, t + \Delta t]$.

By the mean value theorem and Lipschitz continuity of the flow:

$$|\mu_{t+\Delta t}^N - \mu_t^N|_{W_1} \leq C \Delta t,$$

where W_1 is the Wasserstein-1 distance. The error bound follows. \square