

# ATLAS IMPLEMENTATION: USER GUIDE

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## 1. ATLAS OVERVIEW

The ATLAS algorithm was created by Miles Crosskey and Mauro Maggioni in the publication [1]. The overview below closely following sections 2 and 3 of [1], and for more details it is recommended to review those sections.

The ATLAS algorithm takes as input a simulator for a Markovian stochastic system whose dynamics are assumed to be concentrated near a low-dimensional manifold. The algorithm constructs the manifold from a sampling of points and approximate global dynamics from the local dynamics at patches of the manifold. The output is a reduced simulator in lower

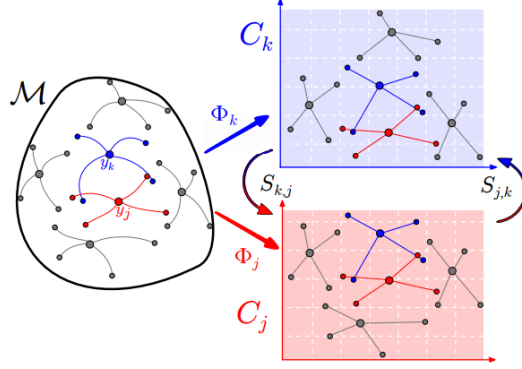


FIGURE 1. Learning the ATLAS: larger circles are net points, smaller circles are path endpoints [1]

dimensions with a coarser time scale and which approximates long term statistics of the original simulator.

The input stochastic system of interest  $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  assumed to have state space in  $\mathbb{R}^D$  but concentrate near a manifold (the *effective state space*)  $\mathcal{M}$  of dimension  $d \ll D$ . The main inputs for the algorithm are the simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  for  $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ , a sampling of the manifold  $\mathcal{M}$ , the effective state space dimension  $d$ , and spatial granularity parameter  $\delta$ .

The algorithm has three main steps:

- (i) **Net Construction:** Find set of points  $\Gamma = \{y_k\}$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  which are well-distributed on  $\mathcal{M}$  and which are at least  $\delta$  away from each other
- (ii) **Learning the ATLAS** (Figure 1):
  - (a) For each  $y_k$ , learn mapping  $\Phi_k$  from neighborhood of  $y_k$  to local coordinate chart  $C_k \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ . The mapping  $\Phi_k$  is learned via the Landmark Multi-Dimensional Scaling Algorithm (LMDS)
  - (b) Learn pairwise *transition maps* for changing coordinates between overlapping charts
- (iii) **Learning the Simulator**
  - (a) For each  $y_k$ , run ensemble of paths from  $y_k$ , map paths to coordinate chart  $C_k \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
  - (b) Use mapped paths to learn a constant-coefficient SDE on the chart in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and use transition maps to stitch together the SDEs

**1.1. Net Construction.** A  $\delta$ -net is a set of points  $\{y_k\}_{n \in \Gamma} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  such that with  $d(y_i, y_j) > \delta$  for each  $i, j$  and such that for each  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  there exists  $y \in \{y_k\}_{n \in \Gamma}$  such that  $d(x, y) < 2\delta$ . Two net points  $y_i, y_j$  are connected neighbors if  $d(y_i, y_j) < 2\delta$ , and we denote this by  $i \sim j$ .

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Many algorithms exist for constructing covering nets in this fashion, though a simple brute force algorithm for finding the net is downsampling a sufficiently dense sampling of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Hence, construction of the  $\delta$ -net does assume the ability to sample  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**1.2. Learning the coordinate charts.** Given net point  $y_k$ , a mapping  $\Phi_k$  is constructed from  $y_k$  and the connected neighbors  $\{y_j\}_{j \sim k}$  to  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The chart  $C_k$  is the image of the mapping  $\Phi_k(B_{2\delta}(y_k)) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ . For ATLAS, the  $\Phi_k$  map is from the Landmark Multidimensional Scaling algorithm (LMDS) [2]. This is an extension of the Multidimensional scaling algorithm (MDS) [3].

Given  $y_k$  in the  $\delta$ -net, the landmark points  $\mathcal{A}_k \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  for  $y_k$  should be roughly  $\delta$  away from  $y_k$  and well-spread in  $d$  directions. The landmarks are obtained from taking  $m \geq d$  paths from the original simulator started at  $y_k$ . Then, all neighboring landmark points are collected in  $L_k = \bigcup_{j \sim k} \mathcal{A}_j$ , and the chart  $C_k$  is the image of  $B_{2\delta}(y_k)$  under LMDS applied with landmarks  $L$ .

**1.3. Learning the Simulators.** For each  $y_k$ , the associated SDE for  $C_k$ , is learned from running  $p$  sample paths from the original simulator  $S$  up to time  $t_0$  (on the order of  $\delta$ ). Each chart  $C_k$  has an associated simulator modeling an Ito diffusion SDE with constant coefficients:

$$(1) \quad d\bar{X}_t = \bar{b}_k dt + \bar{\sigma}_k dW_t \quad \bar{b}_k \in \mathbb{R}^d, \bar{\sigma}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

The solution to (1) is a Gaussian with mean  $\bar{b}_k t_0$ , covariance  $\bar{\sigma}_k \bar{\sigma}_k^T t_0$ . Thus,  $b_k$  and  $\sigma_k$  are estimated by taking sample mean  $\bar{b}_k$  and covariance  $\bar{\sigma}_k$  of the endpoints of the  $p$  paths simulated.

After iterating through all net points  $y_k$ , the simulators  $(\hat{S}_k)_{k \in \gamma}$  with parameters  $(\bar{b}_k, \bar{\sigma}_k)_{k \in \Gamma}$  are obtained.

**1.4. Learning the Transition Maps and Simulating the SDE.** In order to combine the above simulators, transition maps are needed between different charts, in particular near landmarks which overlap, which are denoted as  $L_{k,j} = A_k \cup A_j$  for  $k \sim j$ . The transition map  $T_{k,j}$  from  $C_k$  to  $C_j$  is defined as  $X^\dagger Y$ , namely the solution to the least squares minimization  $\|XT - Y\|_2$ , where  $X = \Phi_k(L_{k,j})$  and  $Y = \Phi_j(L_{k,j})$ . For  $x \in C_k$ , coordinates are changed through the transition

$$S_{k,j}(x) = (x - \mu_{k,j})T_{k,j} + \mu_{j,k},$$

where  $\mu_{k,j}$  is the mean vector of  $X$  and  $\mu_{j,k}$  is the mean vector of  $Y$ .

Finally, the simulations are extended to a global SDE which advances in time by the following steps:

- 
- Given simulation at time  $t$ , at  $x \in \mathbb{C}_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
  - Find closest coordinate chart  $C_{i'}$  to  $x$
  - Compute a forward Euler step for simulator  $\hat{S}_i$  :

$$x \leftarrow x + \hat{S}_i \bar{b}_{i'} + \eta \hat{S}_i \bar{\sigma}_{i'} \sqrt{\delta t} \quad \eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$$

## 2. ATLAS IMPLEMENTATION

The ATLAS algorithm assumes an input stochastic ODE simulator  $S$  which can be started at a given initial condition and run for a given period of time. The simulator coded (`simulator.m`) uses the Euler-Maruyama method to simulate the SDE

$$dX_t = f(x)dt + dW_t, \quad X(0) = X_0,$$

where the function  $f(x)$  can be specified by the user. To implement this simulator in ATLAS, we wrote a function for the simulator to be run by  $S(X_0, m, T)$ , which simulates  $m$  paths starting at  $X(0) = X_0$  for time  $T$  and stores the endpoints of these paths.

TO DO: Adjust section based on current code

The ATLAS code is organized around the main construction steps outlined in the algorithm (see Figure 1):

- Constructing the  $\delta$ -net  $\{y_k\}_{n=1}^N$  (`delta_net.m`)
- Creating landmarks  $\mathcal{A}$  for each  $y_k$  in the  $\delta$ -net and finding neighbors (`construction.m`)
- Constructing charts  $C_k$  for each  $y_k$  in the  $\delta$ -net (`construction.m`)
- Learning the simulator associated to each chart  $C_k$  (`construct_local_sde()` in `construction.m`)
- Constructing a timestep function for the new approximate simulator (function `learned_simulator_step.m`)

The  $\delta$ -net construction follows a simple brute force method: given an initial dense sampling of  $\mathcal{M}$ , downsample until the  $\delta$ -net coarseness and covering requirement are met. The  $\delta$ -net is stored an array  $net = [y_1 \ y_2 \ \dots \ y_k]$ , and a graph is created, where two net points are neighbors if  $d(y_i, y_j) < 2\delta$ . The edges are stored in `edges` and the neighbors in an array `neighbors` where each row is the length of the maximum degree, and row  $i$  has first  $\text{degree}(i)$  entries as the neighbors of  $y_i$ , with zeros for the rest of the row.

All landmarks are stored in a three-dimensional array `L` where `L(:, :, n)` lists all landmarks associated to the net point  $y_k$ . The paths sample paths  $\{x_{n,l}\}_{l=1}^p$  associated to  $y_n$  are similarly stored in `X(:, :, n)` where `X` is a three dimensional array storing sample paths from the net points.

For constructing charts, LMDS and MDS are implemented following the algorithm outlined in [2] and outlined in the ATLAS description earlier.

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**input** : Simulator  $\mathcal{S}$ , Manifold sampling  $\{x_j\}$ , distance  $\rho$

**output**: Reduced Simulator  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}$

$\{y_k\}_{k \in \Gamma} = \delta - \text{net}(\{x_j\});$

**for**  $k \in \Gamma$  **do**

*Create landmarks for LMDS around  $y_k$ ;*

$\{a_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^m = \mathcal{S}(y_k, m, t_0);$

$A_k = y_k \cup \{a_{k,l}\};$

**end**

*Create charts and local simulators;*

**for**  $k \in \Gamma$  **do**

*Simulate paths for creating local simulator;*

$\{x_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^p = \mathcal{S}(y_k, p, t_0);$

*Compute charts and chart centers;*

$L_k = \bigcup_{i \sim k} A_i;$

$[L'_k, \{x'_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^p] = \text{LMDS}(L_k, \{x_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^p);$

$\{\mathcal{S}.c_{k,j}\} = \bigcup_{j \sim k} \{y'_j\} \text{ in } L'_k;$

*Center chart  $C_k$  and compute diffusion, drift;*

$C_k = C_k - c_{k,k};$

$\hat{\mathcal{S}}.\bar{b}_k = \sum_l x'_{k,l}/pt_0;$

$\hat{\mathcal{S}}.\bar{\sigma}_k = (\text{Cov}(x'_{k,l})/t_0)^2;$

*Compute transition maps  $T$  between charts;*

**for**  $j \sim k, j < k$  **do**

$L_{k,j} = A_k \cup A_j;$

$L'_{k,j} = L_{k,j}$  in chart  $C_k$  coordinates;

$L'_{j,k} = L_{j,k}$  in chart  $C_j$  coordinates;

$\hat{\mathcal{S}}.\mu_{k,j} = \mathbb{E}[L'_{k,j}];$

$\hat{\mathcal{S}}.\mu_{j,k} = \mathbb{E}[L'_{j,k}];$

$\hat{\mathcal{S}}.T_{k,j} = (L'_{k,j} - \mu_{k,j})^\dagger (L'_{j,k} - \mu_{j,k})^\dagger;$

**end**

**end**

**Algorithm 1:** Pseudocode for construction of the ATLAS, closely following [1] and implemented in `construction.m` function

Further, the notation in 1 uses  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}.b_k$ ,  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}.\sigma_k$ , and  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}.c_k$ , to denote the drift vectors, diffusion coefficients and chart centers for chart  $C_k$ . Following this notation, we store these variables in a struct array *newS* where *newS*(*n*).*b* denotes the drift vector for chart  $y_k$ , and likewise for the other properties.

2.1. **Examples.** TO DO: Use language for a User Guide, instead of a report

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$$(2) \quad dX_t = -\nabla V(x)dt + dW_t$$

with potential

$$V(x) = 16x^2(x-1)^2 + \frac{1}{6}\cos(100\pi x),$$

also tested in [1].

A great visual example for the ATLAS algorithm is to apply to potential-driven problems, and to reconstruct potentials by the effective potentials obtained from the ATLAS algorithm. For 1D problems, *LMDS* is trivial and undoing it just requires multiplying by  $\pm 1$ . Then, the effective potential in a neighborhood of net point  $y_k$  is found by undoing MDS for  $b_k$  associated to the simulator for chart  $C_k$  (equation (1)) and then integrating. Unfortunately, a 1D problem is an extremely special case and in general we cannot construct the inverse for  $\Phi_k$ .

**2.1.1. Two-Well Rough Potential.** This example is a simple test case to see if the ATLAS algorithm can take a system with microscale interactions and output a homogenized system with dynamics approximating macroscale interactions of the original. The high-frequency component in  $V(x)$  from (2) emulate such microscale interactions, and homogenization from ATLAS should ideally return a system with smooth potential  $U(x) = 16x^2(x-1)^2$ .

Following [1], the implementation for equation (2) has  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $dt = 0.00005$  for the original simulator. The initial  $\delta$ -net was created from subsampling points from the set of linear spaced points with distance 0.01 in  $[-.3, 1.3]$ .

As shown in our Figure 2 (comparable to Figure 13 in [1]), the effective potential  $\hat{V}(x)$  from ATLAS is a homogenized version of the rough potential  $V(x)$ . The ATLAS simulator obtained in this example has timestep roughly 100 times the original, so long simulations from the ATLAS will run about 100 times faster than the original simulator.

## REFERENCES

- [1] M. Crosskey and M. Maggioni. Atlas: a geometric approach to learning high-dimensional stochastic systems near manifolds. *Multiscale Modeling & Simulation*, 15(1):110–156, 2017.
- [2] V. De Silva and J. B. Tenenbaum. Sparse multidimensional scaling using landmark points. Technical report, Technical report, Stanford University, 2004.
- [3] W. S. Torgerson. Multidimensional scaling: I. theory and method. *Psychometrika*, 17(4):401–419, Dec 1952.

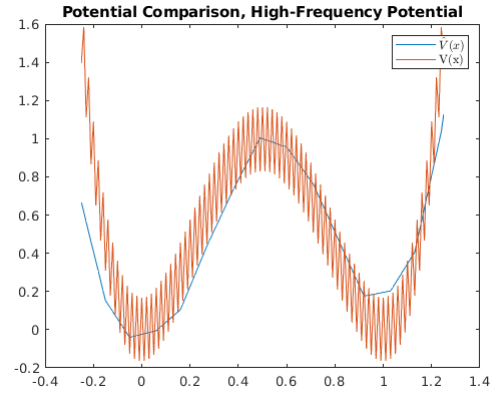


FIGURE 2. Effective potential  $\hat{V}(x)$  from ATLAS plotted against true potential  $V(x) = U(x) + \frac{1}{6} \cos(100\pi x)$