

## Lecture 9

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The primary reference for this material is Log-Concave Sampling: Metropolis-Hastings Algorithms are Fast (**JMLR**).

*Aside:* Of independent interest, check out [Postdoc Tames Decades Old Geometry Problem](#) regarding the KLS Conjecture for some work by Yuansi Chen, one of the authors of the main reference, when he was a postdoc.)

## Recap

The problem is that we want to sample from a distribution ( $\nu$ ) on the Euclidean space ( $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) but cannot easily access  $\nu$  directly. We can start from any Markov chain ( $P$ ) - doesn't have to have anything to do with  $\nu$  - and then we force it to be reversible by applying the Metropolis-Hastings filter (i.e. the accept/reject step).

Then, we want to analyze the convergence of this new MC ( $\tilde{P}$ ). By assuming our target distribution ( $\nu$ ) has some nice properties - cardinally, that it is  $\alpha$ -strongly log-concave ( $\alpha$ -SLC) - we can infer the (dimensionless) isoperimetry constant ( $\psi = \Omega(\sqrt{\alpha})$ ).

By defining a ball ( $\mathcal{R}_s$ ), centered at the mode of the target distribution, with radius a function of the *effective radius of the distribution* ( $\sqrt{n/\alpha}$ ) and a volume-preserving function ( $r(s)$ ), we can demonstrate that for sufficiently small steps within the ball (i.e.  $\leq \Delta_s$ ), the new MC satisfies the *one-step overlap* property.

Having demonstrated that  $\tilde{P}$  abides by the one-step overlap property, we may bound the *s-conductance* ( $\phi_s$ ) as a function of the isoperimetry constant and, in turn, bound the mixing time ( $\tau(\cdot)$ ) in Total Variational (TV) distance. Figure 1. restates the above in a procedural fashion.

## Today's Goal

Having established the general procedure for generating  $\tilde{P}$  such that it converges to within TV distance  $\varepsilon$  of the target distribution  $\nu$  in a number of iterations on the order of  $\tau(\varepsilon)$ , today we will make this procedure concrete by discussing how to appropriately set the threshold  $\Delta_s$  and the warm-start parameter  $M$ .

We'll do this for two random walks ( $P \rightarrow \tilde{P}$ ): Today is Brownian motion (Gaussian Walk)  $\rightarrow$  Metropolis Random Walk (MRW); and next time is Unadjusted Langevin Algorithm (ULA)  $\rightarrow$  Metropolis-Adjusted Langevin Algorithm (MALA).

Want to sample from  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

1. Start from any Markov chain  $P$
2. Apply Metropolis-Hastings filter to get  $\tilde{P}$  reversible with respect to  $\nu$
3. Assume  $\nu$  is  $\alpha$ -SLC  $\Rightarrow$  isoperimetric with  $\psi = \Omega(\sqrt{\alpha})$ . Let (the ball)  $\mathcal{R}_s$  be defined as:

$$\mathcal{R}_s = \mathbb{B}\left(x^*, r(s)\sqrt{\frac{n}{\alpha}}\right) \implies \nu(\mathcal{R}_s) \geq 1 - s$$

4. Show  $\tilde{P}$  satisfies one-step overlap property:

$$x, y \in \mathcal{R}_s, \|x - y\|_2 \leq \Delta_s \implies \text{TV}(\tilde{P}_x, \tilde{P}_y) \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

*NB: The value of the rhs fraction is not important so long as we can bound away from 1.*

**one-step overlap**  $\Rightarrow \tilde{P}$  has  $s$ -conductance:

$$\phi_s \geq \min\left\{\frac{1}{16}, \frac{\sqrt{\alpha}\Delta_s}{128}\right\} = \Omega(\sqrt{\alpha}\Delta_s)$$

**lower bound on  $s$ -conductance**  $\Rightarrow$  mixing time in TV distance: *NB:  $\text{TV}(\rho_k, \nu) \leq \epsilon$*

$$\tau(\epsilon) = \frac{2}{\phi_s^2} \log \frac{2M}{\epsilon} = O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha\Delta_s^2} \log \frac{2M}{\epsilon}\right)$$

where  $s = \frac{\epsilon}{2M}$  and  $M = M_\nu^\infty(\rho_0)$  is warm-start

Figure 1: Recap

## Metropolis Random Walk (MRW)

### Brownian Motion (Gaussian walk)

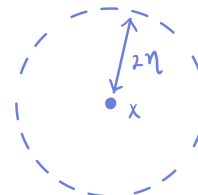
For  $P = \text{Brownian Motion (Gaussian walk)}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with step size  $\eta > 0$ , the **random walk** is defined by

$$x' = x + \sqrt{2\eta}Z, \quad Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I) \text{ independent}$$

and the corresponding **Markov chain** by

$$\mathcal{P}_x = \mathcal{N}(x, 2\eta I)$$

$$\mathcal{P}_x(y) = \frac{1}{(4\pi\eta)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{\|x-y\|^2}{4\eta}}$$



This is **symmetric** in that

$$\mathcal{P}_x(y) = \mathcal{P}_y(x)$$

with **stationary distribution** = Lebesgue measure.

*NB: We get the following section by adding the Metropolis-Hastings filter for  $\nu$*

### Metropolis Random Walk (MRW)

For  $\tilde{P} = \text{Metropolis Random Walk (MRW)}$

#### Random Walk + Metropolis-Hastings filter

1. from  $x$ , draw  $y = x + \sqrt{2\eta}Z$ ,  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  independent
2. compute acceptance probability

$$a_x(y) = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\nu(y) \cdot \cancel{\mathcal{P}_y(x)}}{\nu(x) \cdot \cancel{\mathcal{P}_x(y)}} \right\}$$

$$= \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\nu(y)}{\nu(x)} \right\}$$

3. move to

$$x' = \begin{cases} y & \text{w.p. } a_x(y) \\ x & \text{w.p. } 1 - a_x(y) \end{cases}$$

Applying the above procedure results in a Markov chain  $\tilde{P}$  such that

$$\tilde{P}_x(y) = a_x(y) \cdot P_x(y) + A(x) \cdot \delta_x(y)$$

$$\text{where } A(x) = 1 - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a_x(y) \cdot P_x(y) dy.$$

This MC is **reversible** with respect to  $\nu$  ( $\Rightarrow$  stationary distribution is  $\nu$ ). It is also **zero-order**, meaning it only depends on  $\nu$  (up to a constant) and does *not* depend on the gradient.

## Analysis

Let  $P$  and  $\tilde{P}$  be defined as the MCs corresponding to Brownian motion and MRW, respectively. Leveraging the fact that TV is a metric (and therefore satisfies the triangle inequality), we can observe the following bound:

$$\text{TV}(\tilde{P}_x, \tilde{P}_y) \leq \underbrace{\text{TV}(\tilde{P}_x, P_x)}_{\textcircled{1}} + \underbrace{\text{TV}(P_x, P_y)}_{\textcircled{2}} + \underbrace{\text{TV}(P_y, \tilde{P}_y)}_{\textcircled{3}}$$

Plan:

- for  $\textcircled{1}$  and  $\textcircled{3}$ : bound acceptance probability of Metropolis-Hastings filter
- for  $\textcircled{2}$ : bound via KL-divergence

## Kullback-Leibler (KL) Divergence

Let  $\rho$  and  $\nu$  be probability distributions on  $\mathcal{X}$ . The **Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence** of  $\rho$  with respect to  $\nu$  is

$$H_\nu(\rho) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \rho(x) \log \frac{\rho(x)}{\nu(x)} dx$$

Also known as **relative entropy**, KL-divergence is a relative form of **Shannon entropy**

$$H(\rho) = - \int_{\mathcal{X}} \rho(x) \log \rho(x) dx.$$

It's **non-negative** in that  $H_\nu(\rho) \geq 0$ , and  $H_\nu(\rho) = 0$  if and only if  $\rho = \nu$ . And is **not a metric** as it is not symmetric and does not satisfy the triangle inequality.

A useful property based on KL-divergence is **Pinsker's inequality**:

$$\text{TV}(\rho, \nu) \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} H_\nu(\rho)}$$

**Lemma.** If  $\rho = \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \Sigma)$  and  $\nu = \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma)$ , then

$$H_\nu(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2)$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \log \frac{\rho(x)}{\nu(x)} &= -\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu_1) - \frac{1}{2} \log \det(2\pi\Sigma) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu_2) + \frac{1}{2} \log \det(2\pi\Sigma) \\ &= x^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2) - \frac{1}{2} \mu_1^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_2^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2 \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} H_\nu(\rho) &= \mathbb{E}_\rho \left[ \log \frac{\rho(x)}{\nu(x)} \right] \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_\rho [X]^\top}_{\mu_1} \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2) - \frac{1}{2} \mu_1^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_2^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mu_1^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 - \mu_1^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu_2^\top \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2) \end{aligned}$$

□

## One-step overlap of Brownian motion

Let  $P$  = Brownian motion with step size  $\eta$  such that

$$P_x = \mathcal{N}(x, 2\eta I)$$

**Lemma.** If  $\|x - y\|_2 \leq \sqrt{2\eta}$ , then

$$\text{TV}(P_x, P_y) \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

*Proof.* By Pinsker's inequality:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{TV}(P_x, P_y) &\leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} H_{P_y}(P_x)} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (x-y)^\top \left( \frac{1}{2\eta} I \right) (x-y)} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{\|x-y\|_2^2}{8\eta}} \\
&= \frac{\|x-y\|_2}{2\sqrt{2\eta}} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

### Strong log-concavity and log-smoothness

Let  $\nu \propto e^{-f}$  be a probability distribution on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; and recall that  $\nu$  is  $\alpha$ -**strongly log-concave** if  $f$  is  $\alpha$ -strongly convex:

$$\nabla^2 f(x) \succeq \alpha I$$

and that  $\nu$  is  $L$ -**log-smooth** if  $f$  is  $L$ -smooth:

$$\nabla^2 f(x) \preceq LI$$

Pulling these notions together, if  $\nu$  is  $\alpha$ -SLC and  $L$ -log-smooth, then the **condition number** is

$$\kappa = \frac{L}{\alpha}.$$

*NB: By construction  $\kappa \leq 1$*

### Bounding acceptance probability of MRW

Let  $P$  = Brownian motion with step size  $\eta$

$$\tilde{P} = \text{MRW} = P + \text{Metropolist-Hastings for } \nu$$

**Lemma.** Assume  $\nu$  is  $\alpha$ -SLC and  $L$ -log-smooth on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If

$$x \in \mathcal{R}_s = \mathbb{B} \left( x^*, r(s) \sqrt{\frac{n}{\alpha}} \right)$$

where

$$r(s) = 2 + 2 \max \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{1}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \left( \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{1}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}$$

and

$$\eta \leq \frac{\alpha}{10^5 n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2},$$

then

$$\text{TV} \left( \tilde{P}_x, P_x \right) \leq \frac{1}{8}.$$

*Proof.* Recall

$$\tilde{P}_x(y) = a_x(y) \cdot P_x(y) + A(x) \cdot \delta_x(y)$$

where

$$A(x) = 1 - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a_x(y) \cdot P_x(y) dy.$$

The TV distance is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{TV} \left( \tilde{P}_x, P_x \right) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\tilde{P}_x(y) - P_x(y)| dy \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( A(x) + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (1 - a_x(y)) P_x(y) dy}_{= 1 - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a_x(y) P_x(y) dy} \right) \\ &= 1 - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} a_x(y) P_x(y) dy \\ &= A(x) \\ &= A(x) \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim P_x} [a_x(Y)] \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim P_x} \left[ \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\nu(Y)}{\nu(x)} \right\} \right] \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim P_x} \left[ \min \left\{ 1, e^{f(x) - f(Y)} \right\} \right] \end{aligned}$$

By Markov inequality,  $\forall 0 < t \leq 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[ \min \left\{ 1, e^{f(x)-f(Y)} \right\} \right] &\geq t \cdot \mathbb{P} \left( \min \left\{ 1, e^{f(x)-f(Y)} \right\} \geq t \right) \\ &\geq t \cdot \mathbb{P} \left( e^{f(x)-f(Y)} \geq t \right) \\ &= t \cdot \mathbb{P} (f(x) - f(Y) \geq \log t)\end{aligned}$$

We will prove high-probability bound on  $f(x) - f(Y)$  (NB:  $x$  fixed,  $Y \sim P_x$ , which means  $Y = x + \sqrt{2\eta}Z$ ).

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) - f(Y) &\geq \nabla f(Y)^\top (x - Y) \quad \text{because } f \text{ is convex} \\ &= \nabla f(x)^\top (x - Y) - (\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(Y))^\top (x - Y) \\ \textcircled{*} &\geq \nabla f(x)^\top (x - Y) - L \|x - Y\|^2 \quad \text{since } f \text{ is } L\text{-smooth}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{NB: } f \text{ } L\text{-smooth} &\iff \nabla^2 f(x) \preceq L \cdot I \\ &\iff \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|_2 \leq L \cdot \|x - y\|_2 \\ &\iff (\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y))^\top (x - y) \leq L \cdot \|x - y\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

$Y \sim P_x$  which means  $Y = x + \sqrt{2\eta}Z$ ,  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

$$(\textcircled{*} \implies) \quad f(x) - f(y) \geq \underbrace{\sqrt{2\eta} \left( -\nabla f(x)^\top Z \right)}_{\textcircled{I}} - L \cdot 2\eta \cdot \underbrace{\|Z\|^2}_{\textcircled{II}}$$

• for  $\textcircled{I}$ :  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$-\nabla f(x)^\top Z \sim \mathcal{N} \left( 0, \|\nabla f(x)\|^2 \right) \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^1$$

since  $x \in \mathbb{R}_s = \mathbb{B} \left( x^*, r(s) \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} \right)$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies \|\nabla f(x)\| &= \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(x^*)\| \text{ since } \nabla f(x^*) = 0 \\ &\leq L \cdot \|x - x^*\| \text{ by smoothness} \\ &\leq L \cdot r(s) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} \equiv \mathcal{D}_s\end{aligned}$$

by tail bound for 1-dimensional Gaussian,

$$\mathbb{P} \left( -\nabla f(x)^\top Z \geq -2\mathcal{D}_s \sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \right) \geq 1 - \varepsilon \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0$$



- for ⑪:  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$

$$\|Z\|_2^2 = Z_1^2 + \dots + Z_n^2 \sim \mathcal{X}^2 \text{ distribution with } n \text{ degrees of freedom}$$

sub-exponential random variable  $\implies$  tail bound

$$\mathbb{E} [\|Z\|^2] = n$$

$\implies$  concentration around  $n$ .

□

### Tail bound for $\mathcal{X}^2$ random variable

**Lemma.** Let  $W (= \|Z\|^2)$  be a  $\mathcal{X}^2$ -random variable with  $n$  degrees of freedom. For all  $\varepsilon > 0$ :

$$\mathbb{P}(W \leq n\beta_\varepsilon) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$$

where  $\beta_\varepsilon = 1 + 2\sqrt{\log(1/\varepsilon) + 2\log(1/\varepsilon)}$ .

- (highDimStats) Draft of chapter 2 available [here](#).

### Bounding acceptance probability of MRW (continued)

*Proof.* From above,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - f(Y) &\geq \sqrt{2\eta} \left( -\nabla f(x)^\top Z \right) - 2\eta \cdot L \cdot \|Z\|_2^2 \\ \textcircled{*} &\geq -2\sqrt{2\eta} \cdot L \cdot r(s) \sqrt{\frac{n}{\alpha}} \cdot \sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \\ &\quad - 2\eta \cdot L \cdot n \cdot \beta_\varepsilon \\ \text{want} &\geq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \\ &= -\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\textcircled{*}$  happens with probability  $\geq 1 - \varepsilon - \varepsilon = 1 - 2\varepsilon$ . This happens if

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \eta \leq \frac{\eta^2 \cdot \alpha}{32n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2 \cdot \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \\ \eta \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4n \cdot L \cdot \beta_\varepsilon} \end{array} \right\} \textcircled{*}$$

then  $f(x) - f(Y) \geq -\varepsilon$  with probability  $\geq 1 - 2\varepsilon$ , so that with  $t = e^{-\varepsilon}$  (NB:  $\log t = -\varepsilon$ )

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left[ \min \left\{ 1, e^{f(x)-f(Y)} \right\} \right] &\geq t \cdot \mathbb{P}(f(x) - f(Y) \geq \log t) \\
&= e^{-\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbb{P}(f(x) - f(Y) \geq -\varepsilon) \\
&\geq e^{-\varepsilon} \cdot (1 - 2\varepsilon) \\
&\geq (1 - \varepsilon) \cdot (1 - 2\varepsilon) \\
&\geq (1 - 3\varepsilon) \\
\text{want} &= \frac{7}{8} \iff \varepsilon = \frac{1}{24}
\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{TV}(\tilde{P}_x, P_x) &= 1 - \mathbb{E} \left[ \min \left\{ 1, e^{f(x)-f(Y)} \right\} \right] \\
&\leq 1 - \frac{7}{8} \\
&= \frac{1}{8} \quad \text{which is what we want}
\end{aligned}$$

For  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{24}$ :

$$\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} = \log 24 \approx 3.2 < 4$$

$$\beta_\varepsilon = 1 + 2\sqrt{\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}} + 2\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} = 10.9 < 11$$

so

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{lcl} \eta & \leq & \frac{1}{1056n \cdot L} \\ \eta & \leq & \frac{\alpha}{10^5 n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2} \end{array} \leq \frac{\frac{\varepsilon}{4n \cdot L \cdot \beta_\varepsilon}}{\frac{\varepsilon^2 \alpha}{32L^2 \cdot r(s)^2 \cdot n \cdot \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}}} \right\} \text{ which is } \textcircled{*}.$$

□

## One-step overlap of MRW

Assume  $\nu \propto e^{-f}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\alpha$ -SLC and  $L$ -smooth. Combining with the step above, we get the following:

**Lemma.** *Let the step size be*

$$\eta \leq \frac{\alpha}{10^5 n \cdot L \cdot r(s)^2}.$$

*If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}_s$  and  $\|x - y\|_2 \leq \sqrt{2\eta}$ , then*

$$\text{TV}(\tilde{P}_x, \tilde{P}_y) \leq \frac{3}{4}.$$

*Proof.* By the previous two lemmas, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{TV}\left(\tilde{P}_x, P_x\right) &\leq \frac{1}{8} \\ \mathrm{TV}\left(P_x, P_y\right) &\leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathrm{TV}\left(\tilde{P}_y, P_y\right) &\leq \frac{1}{8}\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{TV}\left(\tilde{P}_x, \tilde{P}_y\right) &\leq \mathrm{TV}\left(\tilde{P}_x, P_x\right) + \mathrm{TV}\left(P_x, P_y\right) + \mathrm{TV}\left(P_y, \tilde{P}_y\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} \\ &= \frac{3}{4}.\end{aligned}$$

□

*NB: We can choose  $\eta = \frac{c \cdot \alpha}{n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2} = \Theta\left(\frac{\alpha}{n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2}\right)$  for small enough constant  $c$  ( $\leq 10^{-5}$ ).*

Then we can choose the distance threshold  $\Delta_s$  in the one-step overlap property to be

$$\Delta_s = \sqrt{2\eta} = \Theta\left(\frac{\sqrt{\alpha}}{\sqrt{n} \cdot L \cdot r(s)}\right),$$

and can now plug this in to our mixing time bound.

## Mixing time of MRW

**Theorem.** Choose step size

$$\eta = \Theta\left(\frac{\alpha}{n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2}\right)$$

Starting from  $\rho_0$  with  $M = M_\nu^\infty < \infty$ , the mixing time of MRW is

$$\begin{aligned}\tau(\varepsilon) &= O\left(\frac{1}{\alpha \cdot \Delta_s^2} \cdot \log \frac{2m}{\varepsilon}\right) \\ &= O\left(\frac{n \cdot L^2 \cdot r(s)^2}{\alpha^2} \cdot \log \frac{2m}{\varepsilon}\right) \\ &= O\left(n \cdot k^2 \cdot r(s)^2 \cdot \log \frac{2m}{\varepsilon}\right)\end{aligned}$$

where  $k = \frac{L}{\alpha}$  is condition number, and  $s = \frac{\varepsilon}{2m}$ .

## Warm start

Now let us derive a bound on the warmness parameter  $M = M_\nu^\infty(\rho_0)$ . Assume  $\nu \propto e^{-f}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\alpha$ -SLC and  $L$ -smooth. Let  $\rho_0 = \mathcal{N}(x^*, \frac{1}{L}I)$  where  $x^* = \text{mode of } \nu = \text{minimizer of } f$ .

**Lemma.**

$$M_\nu^\infty(\rho_0) \leq \kappa^{n/2}$$

*NB: Also with approximate mode  $x^*$ , see (JMLR)/Sec. 3.2.1]*

*Proof.* By strong convexity and smoothness, for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we have

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2 \leq f(x) - f(x^*) \leq \frac{L}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2$$

Then we can bound the normalizing constant for  $\nu$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-f(x)} dx &\leq e^{-f(x^*)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2} dx \\ &= e^{-f(x^*)} \cdot \left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right)^{n/2} \end{aligned}$$

Then we can also bound the density of  $\nu$ :

$$\nu(x) = \frac{e^{-f(x)}}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-f(x)} dx} \geq \frac{\cancel{e^{-f(x^*)}} \cdot e^{-\frac{L}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2}}{\cancel{e^{-f(x^*)}} \cdot \left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right)^{n/2}}$$

Then we can bound the ratio of the densities:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\rho(x)}{\nu(x)} &= \frac{e^{-\frac{L}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2}}{\left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right)^{n/2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\nu(x)} \\ &\leq \frac{\cancel{e^{-\frac{L}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2}}}{\left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right)^{n/2}} \cdot \frac{\left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right)^{n/2}}{\cancel{e^{-\frac{L}{2} \|x - x^*\|^2}}} \\ &= \left(\frac{L}{\alpha}\right)^{n/2} \\ &= \kappa^{n/2}. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$M_\nu^\infty(\rho_0) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left| \frac{\rho(x)}{\nu(x)} - 1 \right| \leq \kappa^{n/2} - 1 \leq \kappa^{n/2}$$

□

Now with  $M = k^{n/2}$ , we can bound (ignoring constants):

$$s = \frac{\varepsilon}{2M} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2k^{n/2}}$$

$$\implies \log \frac{2m}{\varepsilon} = \log \frac{1}{s} \sim \frac{n}{2} \log k + \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \sim n \log \left( \frac{k}{\varepsilon^{1/n}} \right)$$

And

$$r(s) = 2 + 2 \max \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{1}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \left( \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{1}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}$$

$$\sim \left( \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{1}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\sim \sqrt{\log \left( \frac{k}{\varepsilon^{1/n}} \right)}$$

Then the mixing time bound becomes:

$$\tau(\varepsilon) = O \left( n \cdot k^2 \cdot r(s)^2 \cdot \log \frac{2m}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

$$= O \left( n^2 \cdot k^2 \cdot \log^2 \left( \frac{k}{\varepsilon^{1/n}} \right) \right).$$

## Recap for MRW

To sample from  $\nu \propto e^{-f}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which is  $\alpha$ -SLC and  $L$ -smooth

### MRW algorithm

1. Start from  $x_0 \sim \rho_0 = \mathcal{N}(x^*, \frac{1}{L}I)$
2. Set step size  $\eta = c \frac{\alpha}{nL^2 \log(\kappa/\varepsilon^{1/n})} = \tilde{O} \left( \frac{\alpha}{nL^2} \right)$  (for small enough  $c$ )
3. For  $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ :
  - Draw  $y_k = x_k + \sqrt{2\eta}z_k, z_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  independent
  - Set  $x_{k+1} = y_k$  with prob.  $\min \{1, e^{f(x_k) - f(y_k)}\}$ , else  $x_{k+1} = x_k$

**Guarantee:**  $x_k \sim \rho_k$  satisfies  $\text{TV}(\rho_k, \nu) \leq \varepsilon$  for

$$k \geq c' n^2 \kappa^2 \log^2 \left( \frac{\kappa}{\varepsilon^{1/n}} \right) = \tilde{O}(n^2 \kappa^2)$$

for some constant  $c'$ .