

Uncertainty quantification of numerical errors in geometric integration via random time steps

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Outline

- 1 Geometric numerical integration
- 2 Stochastic methods for ODEs
 - Additive noise method
 - Random time steps
- 3 Geometric stochastic numerical integration
- 4 Bayesian inverse problems
- 5 Numerical experiments
 - Convergence
 - Geometric properties
 - Bayesian inverse problems

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Notation

Autonomous dynamical system, function $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ and the ODE

$$y' = f(y), \quad y(0) = y_0.$$

Flow of the equation $\varphi_t: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ such that

$$y(t) = \varphi_t(y_0).$$

One-step method: numerical flow Ψ_h such that

$$y_{n+1} = \Psi_h(y_n).$$

Runge-Kutta methods: flow implicitly defined by

$$K_i = y_n + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} f(K_j),$$

$$\Psi_h(y_n) = y_n + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i f(K_i).$$

Geometric numerical integration

Goal

Develop numerical methods that preserve geometric properties of certain dynamical systems.

First integral of motion $I: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$I(\varphi_t(y_0)) = I(y_0), \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Example: quadratic first integral, given $S \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$, $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$I(y) = y^\top S y + v^\top y,$$

conserved by all Gauss collocation methods (e.g., **implicit midpoint**, ...).

Theorem (Polynomial first integrals)

No Runge-Kutta method can conserve all polynomial first integrals of degree $\text{Deg}(I) \geq 3$.

Geometric numerical integration

Goal

Develop numerical methods that preserve geometric properties of certain dynamical systems.

Hamiltonian systems: Given $Q: \mathbb{R}^{2d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, define

$$y'(t) = J^{-1} \nabla Q(y), \quad y(0) = y_0$$
$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad I \text{ identity in } \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

The flow φ_t is **symplectic**

$$\varphi'_t(y)^\top J \varphi'_t(y) = J \implies \text{Conservation of volumes}$$

Symplectic numerical methods

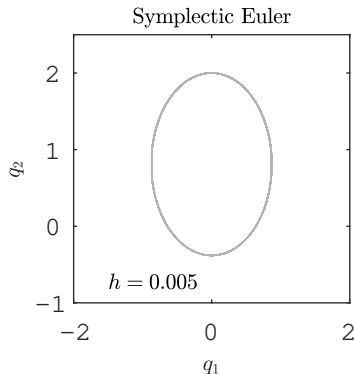
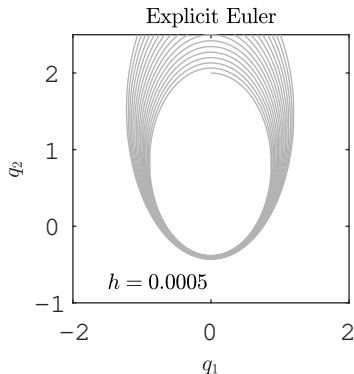
$$\Psi'_h(y)^\top J \Psi'_h(y) = J$$

Geometric numerical integration

Example

Two-body problem (planetary orbits), $y = (p, q)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^4$

$$Q(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}(p_1^2 + p_2^2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_1^2 + q_2^2}}$$

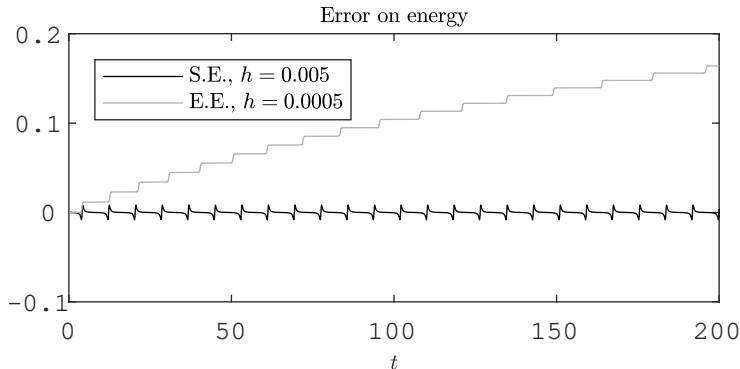


Geometric numerical integration

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$$Q(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}(p_1^2 + p_2^2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_1^2 + q_2^2}}$$



Geometric numerical integration

Given Hamiltonian $Q(p, q)$.

Symplectic Euler method – order 1

$$p_{n+1} = p_n - hQ_q(p_{n+1}, q_n),$$

$$q_{n+1} = q_n + hQ_p(p_{n+1}, q_n).$$

Störmer-Verlet scheme – order 2

$$p_{n+1/2} = p_n - \frac{h}{2}Q_q(p_{n+1/2}, q_n),$$

$$q_{n+1} = q_n + \frac{h}{2}(Q_p(p_{n+1/2}, q_n) + Q_p(p_{n+1/2}, q_{n+1})),$$

$$p_{n+1} = p_n - \frac{h}{2}Q_q(p_{n+1/2}, q_{n+1}).$$

Geometric numerical integration

Given **separable** Hamiltonian $Q(p, q) = Q_1(p) + Q_2(q)$.

Symplectic Euler method – order 1, explicit

$$\begin{aligned}p_{n+1} &= p_n - hQ'_2(q_n), \\q_{n+1} &= q_n + hQ'_1(p_{n+1}).\end{aligned}$$

Störmer-Verlet scheme – order 2, explicit

$$\begin{aligned}p_{n+1/2} &= p_n - \frac{h}{2}Q'_2(q_n), \\q_{n+1} &= q_n + hQ'_1(p_{n+1/2}), \\p_{n+1} &= p_n - \frac{h}{2}Q'_2(q_{n+1}).\end{aligned}$$

Several examples of separable Hamiltonians (**Two-body problem**, ...)

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Stochastic methods for ODEs

Probabilistic / Bayesian methods for ODEs: fix a prior on $y(t)$ (Gaussian process), update with evaluations of $f(y)$ [Kersting and Hennig, 2016]

Stochastic / Randomised methods for ODEs: random perturbation of deterministic numerical solutions \rightarrow sampling [Conrad et al., 2016]

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Additive noise method [Conrad et al., 2016]

Stochastic process $\{Y_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$ with recurrence

$$Y_{n+1} = \underbrace{\Psi_h(Y_n)}_{\text{deterministic}} + \underbrace{\xi_n(h)}_{\text{random}}.$$

Main assumption: $\{\xi_n\}_{n=0,1,\dots}$ iid such that for $p > 1$ and $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$

$$\mathbb{E} \xi_n(h) = 0, \quad \mathbb{E} \xi_n(h) \xi_n(h)^T = Q h^{2p+1}.$$

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Properties

If Ψ_h is of order q and for $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ smooth

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Properties

If Ψ_h is of order q and for $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ smooth

- Strong convergence: $\mathbb{E} \|y(hn) - Y_n\| \leq Ch^{\min\{p,q\}},$

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- Strong convergence: $\mathbb{E} \|y(hn) - Y_n\| \leq Ch^{\min\{p,q\}},$
- Weak convergence: $|\Phi(y(hn)) - \mathbb{E} \Phi(Y_n)| \leq Ch^{\min\{2p,q\}},$

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Properties

If Ψ_h is of order q and for $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ smooth

- Strong convergence: $\mathbb{E} \|y(hn) - Y_n\| \leq Ch^{\min\{p,q\}},$
- Weak convergence: $|\Phi(y(hn)) - \mathbb{E} \Phi(Y_n)| \leq Ch^{\min\{2p,q\}},$
- Good qualitative behavior in Bayesian inverse problems.

Additive noise method [Conrad et al., 2016]

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Issues

- Robustness: $\Psi_h(Y_{n-1}) > 0 \not\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(Y_n < 0) = 0,$

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Issues

- Robustness: $\Psi_h(Y_{n-1}) > 0 \not\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(Y_n < 0) = 0$,
- Geometric properties are not conserved from Ψ_h . For example if $I(y) = y^T S y$ and $I(\Psi_h(y_0)) = I(y_0)$

$$I(Y_1) = I(y_0) + 2\xi_0(h)^T S \Psi_h(y_0) + \xi_0(h)^T S \xi_0(h).$$

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

Intrinsic noise: Random time-stepping Runge-Kutta (RTS-RK)

$$Y_{n+1} = \Psi_{H_n}(Y_n),$$

Main assumption: $\{H_n\}_{n=0,1,\dots}$ iid such that for $h, C > 0$ and $p > 1$

$$H_n > 0 \text{ a.s.}, \quad \mathbb{E} H_n = h, \quad \text{Var } H_n = Ch^{2p}.$$

Example: $H_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{U}(h - h^p, h + h^p)$.

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

Theorem (Weak convergence)

There exists $C > 0$ independent of h such that for all smooth functions $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$|\mathbb{E} \Phi(Y_k) - \Phi(y(kh))| \leq Ch^{\min\{2p-1, q\}},$$

for all $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

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for all $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

Idea of the proof

- Taylor expansion of Φ and Ψ_h ,
- Bound the one-step error considering the distance between the generators of φ_h and Ψ_{H_0} ,
- Consider the distance between φ_h , Ψ_h and Ψ_{H_0} ,
- Propagate in time (Markov property) to obtain a global estimate.

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

Theorem (Mean square convergence)

There exists $C > 0$ independent of h such that

$$\left(\mathbb{E}\|Y_k - y(t_k)\|^2\right)^{1/2} \leq Ch^{\min\{p-1/2, q\}},$$

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Idea of the proof

- Bound the one-step error (triangular inequality),
- Analyse the impact of discretisation and randomisation separately.
- Propagate in time to obtain a global estimate.

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

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Consequences

- Reasonable choice $p = q + 1/2$
- $\mathbb{E}\|Y_k - y(t_k)\| \leq Ch^{\min\{p-1/2, q\}}$ (strong order)

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

Theorem (Monte Carlo estimators)

For $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ smooth, Monte Carlo estimators $\hat{Z} = M^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(Y_N^{(i)})$ of $Z = \Phi(Y_N)$ satisfy

$$\text{MSE}(\hat{Z}) \leq C \left(h^{2 \min\{2p-1, q\}} + \frac{h^{2 \min\{p-1/2, q\}}}{M} \right),$$

where C is a positive constant independent of h and M and

$$\text{MSE}(\hat{Z}) = \mathbb{E} (\hat{Z} - \Phi(y(t_N)))^2.$$

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Idea of the proof

Use the “bias-variance” decomposition of the MSE and apply weak and mean-square convergence results.

Random time steps [Abdulle and Garegnani, 2018]

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$$\text{MSE}(\hat{Z}) = \mathbb{E} (\hat{Z} - \Phi(y(t_N)))^2.$$

Consequence

For reasonable choice $p = q + 1/2$, $\text{MSE}(\hat{Z})$ converges independently of M with h (quality of the estimation independent of the number of paths)

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Conservation of first integrals – Additive noise

Recall: $Y_{n+1} = \Psi_h(Y_n) + \xi_n(h)$, with $\mathbb{E} \xi_n(h) \xi_n(h)^\top = h^{2p+1} Q$

Linear first integrals: $I(y) = v^\top y$ such that $I(\Psi_h(Y_1)) = I(y_0)$. Then

$$I(Y_1) = v^\top (y_0 + \xi_0(h)) \implies \mathbb{E} I(Y_1) = I(y_0) \text{ iff } \mathbb{E} \xi_0(h) = 0.$$

Quadratic first integrals: $I(y) = y^\top S y$ such that $I(\Psi_h(Y_1)) = I(y_0)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} I(Y_1) &= I(y_0) + 2\xi_0(h)^\top S \Psi_h(y_0) + \xi_0(h)^\top S \xi_0(h), \\ \implies \mathbb{E} I(Y_1) &= I(y_0) + Q : S h^{2p+1}, \quad (\text{with } \mathbb{E} \xi_0(h) = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Quadratic first integrals are not conserved on average!

Conservation of first integrals – Random time steps

Theorem (Conservation of polynomial invariants)

If the Runge-Kutta scheme defined by Ψ_h conserves an invariant $I(y)$ for an ODE, then the RTS-RK method conserves $I(y)$ for the same ODE.

Proof

If $I(\Psi_h(y)) = I(y)$ for any h , then $I(\Psi_{H_0}(y)) = I(y)$ for any value that H_0 can assume.

Symplecticity – Random time steps

Theorem

If the flow Ψ_h of the deterministic integrator is symplectic, then the flow of the RTS-RK method is symplectic.

Idea of the proof

Adaptive time steps **ruin symplectic properties** if not carefully selected. Nonetheless, if the time steps are chosen **independently of the solution**, the flow is symplectic.

Symplecticity – Random time steps

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Idea of the proof

Adaptive time steps **ruin symplectic properties** if not carefully selected. Nonetheless, if the time steps are chosen **independently of the solution**, the flow is symplectic.

Remark

The symplecticity of the flow **is not enough** to guarantee good approximation of the Hamiltonian for long time spans.

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Bayesian inverse problems

Goal

Given $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $f_\vartheta: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ and the ODE

$$y' = f_\vartheta(y), \quad y(0) = y_{0,\vartheta} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

retrieve the true value ϑ^* from observations of $y(t)$, $t > 0$.

Bayesian inverse problems

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$$y' = f_\vartheta(y), \quad y(0) = y_{0,\vartheta} \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

retrieve the true value ϑ^* from observations of $y(t)$, $t > 0$.

Bayesian setting: fix prior $\pi_{\text{prior}}(\vartheta)$, consider $\mathcal{G}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ and the observation model

$$\mathcal{Y} = \underbrace{\mathcal{G}(\vartheta^*)}_{\text{forward}} + \underbrace{\eta}_{\text{noise}}, \quad \varepsilon \sim \pi_{\text{noise}},$$

then the **posterior distribution (density)** is

$$\pi(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \propto \pi_{\text{prior}}(\vartheta) \pi_{\text{noise}}(\mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{G}(\vartheta)).$$

Bayesian inverse problems

Obtaining a **sample** $\{\vartheta^{(i)}\}_{i=0}^N$ from $\pi(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y})$.

Algorithm: Metropolis-Hastings.

Given $\vartheta^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, proposal $q: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$;

Compute $\pi(\vartheta^{(0)} \mid \mathcal{Y})$;

for $i = 0, \dots, N$ **do**

 Draw $\bar{\vartheta}$ from $q(\vartheta^{(i)}, \cdot)$;

 Set $\vartheta^{(i+1)} = \bar{\vartheta}$ with probability

$$\alpha(\vartheta^{(i)}, \bar{\vartheta}) = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\pi(\bar{\vartheta} \mid \mathcal{Y})q(\vartheta^{(i)}, \bar{\vartheta})}{\pi(\vartheta^{(i)} \mid \mathcal{Y})q(\bar{\vartheta}, \vartheta^{(i)})} \right\}$$

 otherwise set $\vartheta^{(i+1)} = \vartheta^{(i)}$;

end

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end

Bayesian inverse problems

The posterior $\pi(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y})$ is not computable, approximate with

$$\pi^h(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \propto \pi_{\text{prior}}(\vartheta) \pi_{\text{noise}}(\mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{G}^h(\vartheta)).$$

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Properties

If Ψ_h is of order q

- $d_{\text{Hell}}(\pi^h, \pi) \rightarrow 0$ for $h \rightarrow 0$ with rate q [Stuart, 2010]
- fast MH iterations for explicit Ψ_h (and h coarse)
- explores complex posterior distributions

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Issue

- π^h concentrated around values “far” from ϑ^* \rightarrow non-predictive posterior

Bayesian inverse problems

The posterior $\pi(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y})$ is not computable, approximate with

$$\pi^{h,\text{RTS}}(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \propto \pi_{\text{prior}}(\vartheta) \mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{H}} \pi_{\text{noise}}(\mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{G}^{\mathbf{H}}(\vartheta)),$$

where $\mathbf{H} = (H_0, H_1, \dots)$.

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Properties

If $\Psi_h \rightarrow \varphi_h$ for $h \rightarrow 0$

- $d_{\text{Hell}}(\pi^{h,\text{RTS}}, \pi) \rightarrow 0$ for $h \rightarrow 0$ (it can be shown)
- “correct” the non-predictive behaviour of deterministic approximations
- explores complex posterior distributions

Bayesian inverse problems

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$$\pi^{h,\text{RTS}}(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \propto \pi_{\text{prior}}(\vartheta) \mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{H}} \pi_{\text{noise}}(\mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{G}^{\mathbf{H}}(\vartheta)),$$

where $\mathbf{H} = (H_0, H_1, \dots)$.

Issues

- Approximation of $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{H}} \pi_{\text{noise}}(\mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{G}^{\mathbf{H}}(\vartheta))$ is required
- Employ pseudo-marginal MH \rightarrow slow mixing for small noise
- Employ noisy pseudo-marginal MH \rightarrow inexact posterior distributions

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Numerical experiments – Convergence

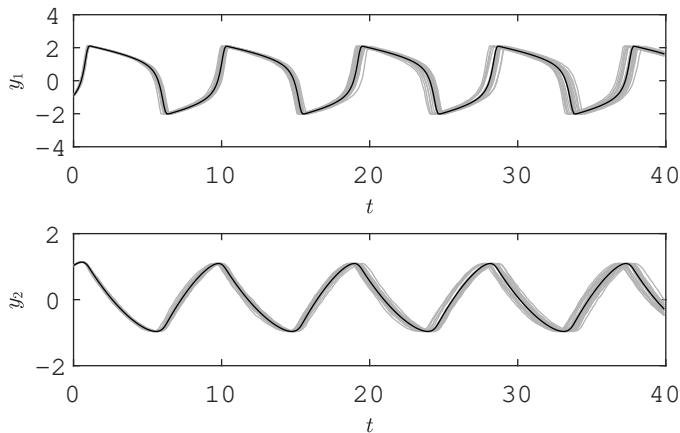
Consider FitzHug-Nagumo equation (model for neuron activity)

$$\begin{aligned}y_1' &= c\left(y_1 - \frac{y_1^3}{3} + y_2\right), & y_1(0) &= -1, \\y_2' &= -\frac{1}{c}(y_1 - a + by_2), & y_2(0) &= 1, \\a &= 0.2, \quad b = 0.2 \quad c = 3.\end{aligned}$$

We verify numerically the results of **convergence**.

Numerical experiments – Convergence

Solution with Explicit Euler ($h = 0.1$, $T = 40$)



black – deterministic solution, grey – realizations of RTS-RK

Numerical experiments – Convergence

Method	Heun				RK4			
q	2				4			
p	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
$\min\{q, p - 1/2\}$	1	1.5	2	2	3	3.5	4	4
M.S. order	1.02	1.54	2.01	2.01	3.01	3.56	4.02	4.01

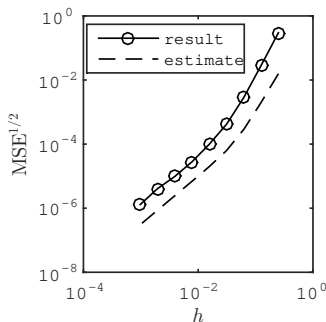
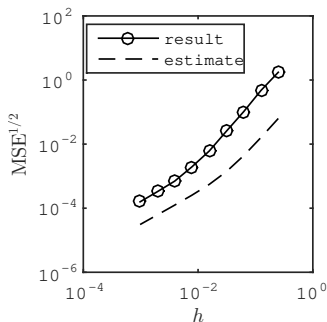
Numerical experiments – Convergence

Method	Heun				RK4			
q	2				4			
p	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
$\min\{q, p - 1/2\}$	1	1.5	2	2	3	3.5	4	4
M.S. order	1.02	1.54	2.01	2.01	3.01	3.56	4.02	4.01

Method	Heun			RK4			
q	2			4			
p	1	1.5	2	1.5	2	3	4
$\min\{q, 2p - 1\}$	1	2	2	2	3	4	4
Weak order ($\Phi = \ \cdot\ ^{1/2}$)	0.98	2.06	2.12	1.96	3.01	3.97	4.08

Numerical experiments – Convergence

Convergence of Monte Carlo estimators, **sub-optimal** case.



Left: Heun method ($q = 2$) with $p = 1.5$, $M = 10^3$.

Right: RK4 method ($q = 4$) with $p = 2$, $M = 10^4$.

Recall: Convergence

$$\text{MSE}(\hat{Z}) \leq C \left(h^{2 \min\{2p-1, q\}} + \frac{h^{2 \min\{p-1/2, q\}}}{M} \right)$$

Numerical experiments – Geometric properties

Consider the perturbed Kepler equation (model for two-body problem)

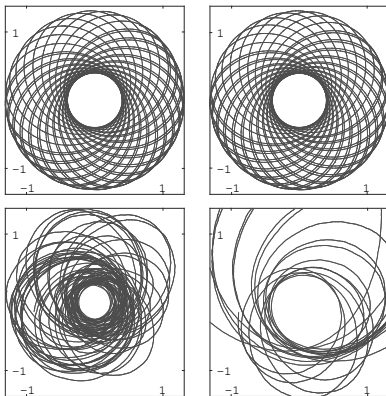
$$\begin{aligned}q_1' &= p_1, & p_1' &= -\frac{q_1}{\|q\|^3} - \frac{\delta q_1}{\|q\|^5}, \\q_2' &= p_2, & p_2' &= -\frac{q_2}{\|q\|^3} - \frac{\delta q_2}{\|q\|^5}.\end{aligned}$$

The **angular momentum** is conserved (quadratic first integral)

$$I(p, q) = q_1 p_2 - q_2 p_1$$

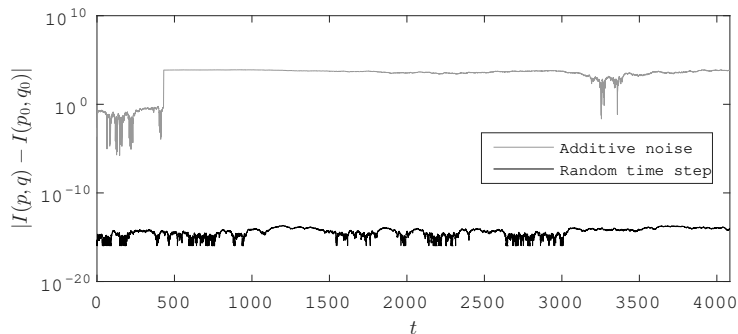
→ employ a Gauss method (implicit midpoint rule).

Numerical experiments – Geometric properties



RTS-RK (first row), Additive noise (second row). Time $0 \leq t \leq 200$ and $200 \leq t \leq 400$ (left and right)

Numerical experiments – Geometric properties



Conservation of the **angular momentum** (quadratic first integral)

Numerical experiments – Geometric properties

Consider the harmonic oscillator, Hamiltonian system with energy

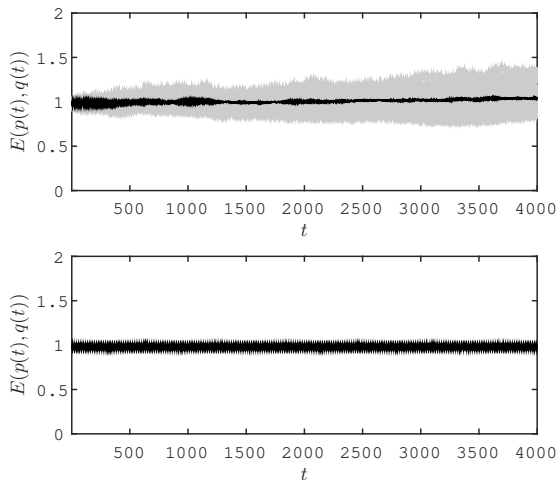
$$E(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 + q^2).$$

Then the ODE reads for $y = (p, q)^\top$

$$y' = J^{-1} \nabla E(y), \quad y(0) = y_0,$$

Energy is separable \rightarrow employ Störmer-Verlet (or symplectic Euler).

Numerical experiments – Geometric properties



Energy evolution in time for RTS-RK (top, mean energy in black) and for deterministic Störmer-Verlet (bottom).

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems

Consider again the FitzHug-Nagumo model

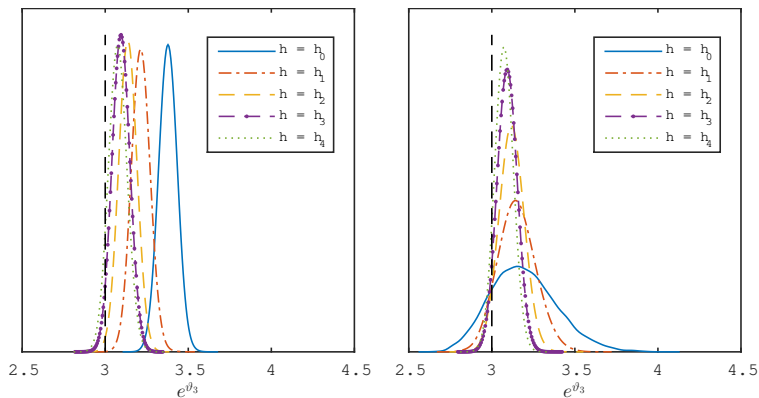
$$\begin{aligned}y_1' &= c\left(y_1 - \frac{y_1^3}{3} + y_2\right), & y_1(0) &= -1, \\y_2' &= -\frac{1}{c}(y_1 - a + by_2), & y_2(0) &= 1,\end{aligned}$$

with $\vartheta = (a, b, c)^\top$ unknown.

Goal

Find $\pi(\vartheta \mid \mathcal{Y})$ from observations \mathcal{Y} of y (zero-mean Gaussian noise η , variance $\Sigma_\eta = (0.05)^2 I$).

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems



Marginal posterior distribution over $\vartheta_3 = c$ (truth $c^* = 3$), left **explicit Euler** (deterministic) right **RTS-RK** with explicit Euler. For both figures, $h_i = 0.1 \cdot 2^{-i}$.

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems

Consider the Hénon-Heiles system (motion of a star around a galactic center), Hamiltonian with **energy**

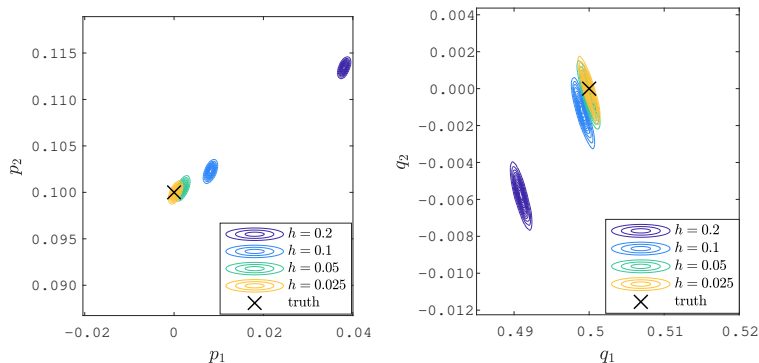
$$E(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}\|p\|^2 + \frac{1}{2}\|q\|^2 + q_1^2 q_2 - \frac{1}{3}q_2^3.$$

Chaotic problem for certain levels of energy.

Goal

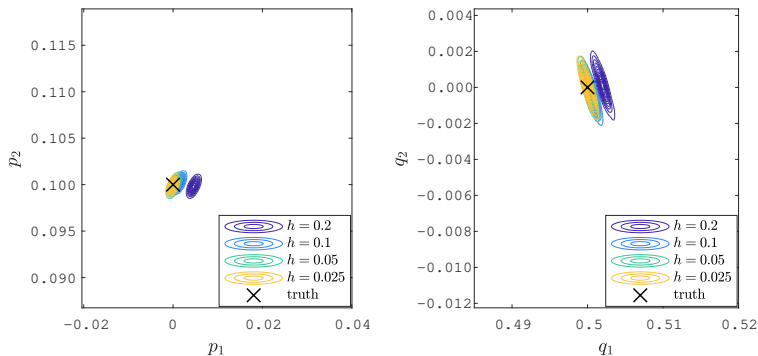
Find posterior $\pi((p_0, q_0) \mid \mathcal{Y})$ over the initial condition from a single observation of $(p(10), q(10))$

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems



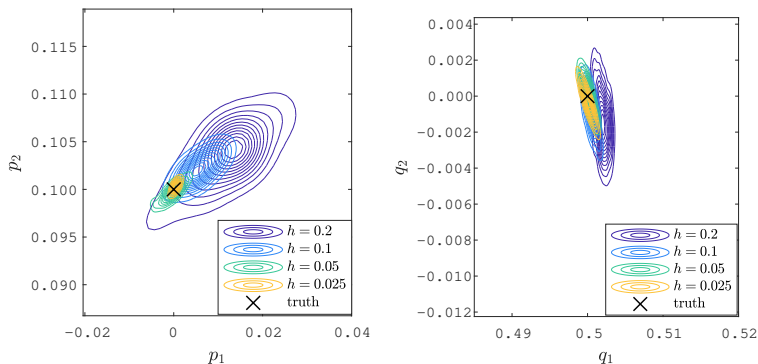
Posterior distributions given by **deterministic Heun method**.

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems



Posterior distributions given by [deterministic Störmer-Verlet method](#).

Numerical experiments – Bayesian inverse problems



Posterior distributions given by **RTS-RK Störmer-Verlet** method.

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