

We start with the SDE in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ :

$$dX_t = f(X_t)dt + g dW_t$$

Here  $g$  is an  $N \times N$  invertible matrix. Let

$$\phi(y) = y + f(y)h.$$

Assuming that  $f$  is Lipschitz we see that  $\phi$  is invertible for sufficiently small  $h$ ; this follows from

$$D\phi(y) = I + Df(y)h.$$

Discretizing the SDE in time, we obtain

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + f(X_n)h + gh^{1/2}Z_{n+1}.$$

Here  $Z_{n+1}$  is a sequence of independent multivariate Gaussians, each with mean vector 0 and covariance matrix equal to the identity matrix  $I$ . Hence  $X_{n+1}$  given  $X_n = y$  has multivariate Gaussian density with mean vector  $\phi(y)$  and covariance matrix  $hgg^T$ . Now moving from sample paths to densities, we have

$$\tilde{p}(x, t_{n+1}) = \int_{y \in \mathbb{R}^N} G(x - \phi(y); hgg^T) \tilde{p}(y, t_n) dy.$$

Let

$$G(w; hgg^T) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi h)^N |g|^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2h} w^T (gg^T)^{-1} w \right).$$

Now we let  $z = \phi(y)$  so that  $dz = D\phi(y) dy$ . Then

$$\tilde{p}(x, t_{n+1}) = \int_{z \in \mathbb{R}^N} G(x - z; hgg^T) \underbrace{\tilde{p}(\phi^{-1}(z), t_n) \det[D\phi(\phi^{-1}(z))]^{-1}}_{\psi_n(z)} dz.$$

Let  $\{q_m\}$  be a set of collocation points, and let  $K$  be a kernel function. We expand:

$$\tilde{p}(y, t_n) = \sum_m \alpha_m^n K(\phi(y) - q_m) \det[D\phi(y)]$$

Then

$$\tilde{p}(x, t_{n+1}) = \sum_m \alpha_m^n \int_{z \in \mathbb{R}^N} G(x - z; hgg^T) K(z - q_m) dz.$$

The point of all this manipulation is to obtain a convolution on the right-hand side. Now take the Fourier transform of both sides to obtain

$$\hat{\tilde{p}}(k, t_{n+1}) = \sum_m \alpha_m^n \hat{G}(k, hgg^T) \hat{K}(k) e^{-2\pi i q_m k}.$$

The point is that for a suitable choice of kernel  $K$ , we should be able to compute  $\widehat{K}$  by hand. We can of course compute  $\widehat{G}$  by hand. Hence the entire right-hand side can be determined without any numerical approximation.

Of course, we then use the inverse Fourier transform to compute

$$\widetilde{p}(x, t_{n+1}) = \int_{k \in \mathbb{R}^N} e^{2\pi i k x} \widehat{\widetilde{p}}(k, t_{n+1}) dk.$$

Next, we use the collocation relationship to solve for  $\alpha_m^{n+1}$ :

$$\widetilde{p}(x, t_{n+1}) = \sum_m \alpha_m^{n+1} K(\phi(x) - q_m) \det[D\phi(x)]$$

Namely, by requiring this equation to hold at  $m$  distinct points  $x$ , we obtain a system of  $m$  equations in  $m$  unknowns. We can write this as a matrix-vector system and then solve for  $\alpha^{n+1}$ .