

Computers and Operations Research

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Abstract

We propose and analyze a new Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm that generates a uniform sample over full and non-full dimensional polytopes. This algorithm, termed "Matrix Hit and Run" (MHAR), is a modification of the Hit and Run framework. For the regime $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$, MHAR has a lower asymptotic cost per sample in terms of soft-O notation (\mathcal{O}^*) than do existing sampling algorithms after a *warm start*. MHAR is designed to take advantage of matrix multiplication routines that require less computational and memory resources. Our tests show this implementation to be substantially faster than the *hitandrun* R package, especially for higher dimensions. Finally, we provide a python library based on Pytorch and a Colab notebook with the implementation ready for deployment in architectures with GPU or just CPU.

Sampling Polytopes Graphics Processing Unit Hit and Run Random Walk MCMC.

1 Introduction

Random sampling of convex bodies is employed in disciplines such as operations re-
search, statistics, probability, and physics. Among random-sampling approaches, Markov
Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) is the fastest, most accurate, and easiest to use [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dw
MCMC is often implemented using polytope sampling algorithms, which are used in vol-
ume estimation [Lawrence(1991)] [Lee and Vempala(2018)] [Emiris and Fisikopoulos(2014)],
convex optimization [Vempala and Bertsimas(2004)] [Ma et al.(2019)Ma, Chen, Jin, Flammarion, and J
contingency tables [Kannan and Narayanan(2013)], mixed integer programming [Huang and Mehrotra(2
linear programming [Feldman et al.(2005)Feldman, Wainwright, and Karger], hard-disk
modeling [Kapfer and Krauth(2013)], and decision analysis [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef,
[Montiel and Bickel(2013a)] [Montiel and Bickel(2013b)].

12 Sampling methods start by defining a Markov chain whose stationary distribution
13 converges to a desired target distribution. Then they draw a predetermined number of
14 samples. These methods have two sources of computational complexity: *mixing-time*,
15 which is the number of samples needed to lose the “dependency” between each draw;
16 and *cost per iteration*, which is the number of operations required to obtain a single
17 sample. Sampling algorithms aim for efficient mixing-times, so that they can produce
18 independent samples without dropping (also called “burning”) too many of them, and
19 a low cost per iteration in order to draw samples fast [Geyer and Charles(1992)].

20 1.1 History and relevance of MCMC

21 The use of Monte Carlo methods has surged in the last 50 years, due to the availability of
22 modern computers. However, there are records of experiments leading to a Monte Carlo
23 simulation method as early as 1901 when Mario Lazzarini approximate π by manually
24 repeating Buffon’s needle experiment 3,408 times. During the first half of the 20th
25 century the use of Monte Carlo had a frequentist approach, since the Bayesian approach
26 was viewed as unfavorable due to philosophical and computational considerations. With
27 the advent of MCMC together with more powerful computers, Bayesian Monte Carlo
28 methods saw an increase in use, having its first application published in 1993 with the
29 “the bootstrap filter” [Gordon et al.(1993)Gordon, Salmond, and M.].

30 Recently, numerous applications in operations research have used MCMC to comple-
31 ment diverse optimization models. For example, the characterization of a joint probabil-
32 ity distribution under partial information is perhaps not unique [Montiel and Bickel(2013b)].
33 Hence, if we need the joint probabilities to value a real option [Montiel and Bickel(2012)],
34 or to optimize the net gain of an oil field [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)], we have to under-
35 stand the space to which the joint distribution belongs. Another example is the incom-
36 plete specification of a multi-attribute utility function in decision analysis. Here, the
37 problem is to understand the range of preferences of the decision maker to provide rec-
38 ommendations [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus], [Montiel and Bicke]

39 In cooperative game theory [Cid and Montiel(2019)], MCMC can be used to create an
 40 approximate objective function to optimize the negotiation strategy for a coalition of
 41 players.

42 1.2 The blueprint

43 This work presents an algorithm we call Matrix Hit and Run (MHAR) for sampling
 44 full and non-full dimensional polytopes. MHAR enhances the Hit-and-Run (HAR)
 45 algorithm proposed in [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)]. We use the standard definition of a
 46 generic polytope $\Delta := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | Ax \leq b\}$, where $(A, b) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$, n is the number
 47 of elements of x , $m = m_E + m_I$ is the number of restrictions, m_E is the number of
 48 equality constraints, and m_I is the number of inequality constraints.

49 The contribution of this work is six-fold:

- 50 • First, we introduce Matrix Hit-and-Run (**MHAR**).
- 51 • Second, we show that the cost per sample of the MHAR depends entirely on
 52 m, n, z , and ω , where m, n are as described in the definition of Δ , ω represents a
 53 matrix multiplication coefficient as described in Table 1, and z is a padding hyper-
 54 parameter specified by the user. After proper pre-processing and a warm start,
 55 the algorithm has a cost per sample of $\mathcal{O}^*(\min(m_I^{\omega-2}n^4, m_I n^{\omega+1}))$ for the full
 56 dimensional scenario, and of $\mathcal{O}^*(\min(n^{\omega+2}, m_I n^{\omega+1}))$ for the non-full dimensional
 57 one.
- 58 • Third, we demonstrate that MHAR has lower cost per sample than HAR if the
 59 hyper-parameter z is bigger than $\max(n, m)$. This is achieved by switching possi-
 60 bly isolated *walks* into a padded matrix that allows us to share operations between
 61 walks.
- 62 • Fourth, we show that after proper pre-processing and a warm start, MHAR has
 63 a lower asymptotic cost per sample for the regime $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$ than does any of the
 64 published sampling algorithms [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu].

- Fifth, we provide code for MHAR as a python library based on the Pytorch framework. It is ready for use in CPU or CPU-GPU architectures (as found in Colab, AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud). All MHAR experiments were conducted using Colab notebooks with an Nvidia P100 GPU. The code is available in https://github.com/uumami/mhar_pytorch.
- Sixth, we present the results of experiments to assess the performance of MHAR against the *hitandrun* package used in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus]. MHAR was found to be substantially faster in almost all scenarios, especially in high dimensions. Furthermore, we ran simulations to empirically test the convergence in distribution of our implementation, with favorable results. Finally we present insights over the padding hyper-parameter z obtained via computational tests.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. §2 revises definitions and some basic matrix-to-matrix operations. §3 revisits the cost per iteration and cost per sample of HAR. §4 provides a computational complexity analysis of MHAR. §5 compares MHAR against other algorithms developed for full dimensional scenarios. §6 contains a back-to-back comparison of our implementation against the “*hitandrun*” library used in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus], and a numerical analysis of the padding parameter z . §7 presents our conclusions and identifies future work.

For clarity and simplicity, HAR will refer to the algorithm presented in [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)], which extends [Smith(1996)] for non-full dimensional polytopes. For ease of comparison, we use “soft-O” notation \mathcal{O}^* , which suppresses $\log(n)$ factors and other parameters like error bounds [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu], [Lee and Vempala(2018)], [Lovász(1999)]. In order to allow comparison with other algorithms, we assume that the polytope sampled by HAR and MHAR has received proper pre-processing, which means the polytope is in near isotropic position as defined in [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Lee], [Lee and Vempala(2018)], [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus].

93 Additionally all algorithms are compared from a *warm start*. We use $f \ll g$ notation to
 94 define a relation where $f \in \mathcal{O}(g)$. Finally, we assume the existence of a random stream
 95 of bits that allow us to generate a random number in $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

96 2 Preliminaries

97 This section formalizes the notation and provides a brief overview of computational
 98 complexity in matrix-to-matrix operations.

99 2.1 Polytopes

We start by defining a polytope, which is the n -dimensional generalization of a polyhedron, as the intersection of half-spaces. Formally, a polytope is characterized by a set of m_E linear equality constraints and m_I linear inequality constraints in a Euclidean space (\mathbb{R}^n):

$$\Delta^I = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A^I x \leq b^I, A^I \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I \times n}, b^I \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I}\}, \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta^E = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A^E x = b^E, A^E \in \mathbb{R}^{m_E \times n}, b^E \in \mathbb{R}^{m_E}\}, \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta = \Delta^I \cap \Delta^E, \quad (3)$$

100 where Equations (1) and (2) are defined by the inequalities and equalities, respectively.
 101 The third equation defines the polytope of interest, and it is the intersection of the
 102 two previous sets. Since Δ is the intersection of convex sets, then by construction it
 103 is also convex. For simplicity we assume all polytopes to be bounded, non-empty, and
 104 characterized with no redundant constraints.

105 2.2 Matrix multiplication

106 We adopt common notation used in matrix multiplication. ω represents the matrix
 107 multiplication coefficient - which characterizes the number of operations required to

108 multiply two $n \times n$ matrices. The complexity for such multiplication is of the order
 109 $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega)$. The lowest complexity for matrix multiplication algorithms is conjectured to
 110 be $\Omega(n^2)$ [Umans(2006)]. Table 1 shows the theoretical bounds for many well-known
 multiplication algorithms.

Table 1: Asymptotic complexity of matrix multiplication algorithms

Matrix Multiplication Algorithms	
Algorithm	Complexity
Naive	$\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
Strassen-Schonhaeg	$\mathcal{O}(n^{2.807})$
Coppersmith-Winograd	$\mathcal{O}(n^{2.376})$
Legall	$\mathcal{O}(n^{2.373})$

111

In general, [Knight(1995)] showed that the number of operations needed to multiply two matrices with dimensions $m \times n$ and $n \times p$ is of $\mathcal{O}(d_1 d_2 d_3^{\omega-2})$, where $d_3 = \min\{m, n, p\}$ and $\{d_1, d_2\} = \{m, n, p\} - \{d_3\}$. The special case of matrix-vector multiplication $d_3 = 1$ yields a bound of $\mathcal{O}(mn)$. The smallest published ω is 2.373 legall_{in}.

It is possible to define a function μ that represents the matrix multiplication order of complexity for matrices $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_3}$ as

$$\mu_{A,B} = \begin{cases} n_1^{\omega-2} n_2 n_3 & \text{if } \min\{n_1, n_2, n_3\} = n_1, \\ n_1 n_2^{\omega-2} n_3 & \text{if } \min\{n_1, n_2, n_3\} = n_2, \\ n_1 n_2 n_3^{\omega-2} & \text{if } \min\{n_1, n_2, n_3\} = n_3. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

112 Thus we can express the complexity of the operation AB as $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A,B})$.

113 In practice, only the Naive and Strassen's algorithms are used because the constants
 114 hidden in the Big O notation are usually significantly big for large enough matrices
 115 to take advantage of. Moreover, many multiplication algorithms are impractical due
 116 to numerical instabilities [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu]. For-
 117 tunately, there have recently been fast and numerically stable implementations of the
 118 Strassen algorithm using GPUs ([Li et al.(2011)Li, Ranka, and Sahni], [Press et al.(2007)Press, Teukolsk

[Huang et al.(1993)Huang, Yu, and van de Geijn]).

3 HAR

This section explains the HAR algorithm and calculates its cost per iteration and mixing time for non-full dimensional polytopes, as defined in [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)].

3.1 Overview

HAR can be described as follows. A *walk* is initialized in a strict inner point of the polytope. At any iteration, a random direction is generated via independent normal variates. The random direction, along with the current point, generates a line set L , and its intersection with the polytope generates a line segment. The sampler selects a random point in L and repeats the process. After a warm start, HAR for full-dimensional convex bodies has a cost per iteration $\mathcal{O}(m_I n)$ and a cost per sample of $\mathcal{O}^*(m_I n^4)$ [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu].

In general, the non-deterministic mixing time of HAR is of $\mathcal{O}^*(n^2 \gamma_\kappa)$, where γ_κ is defined as

$$\gamma_\kappa = \inf_{R_{in}, R_{out} > 0} \left\{ \frac{R_{out}}{R_{in}} \mid \mathcal{B}(x, R_{in}) \subseteq \Delta \subseteq \mathcal{B}(y, R_{out}) \text{ for some } x, y \in \Delta \right\},$$

where R_{in} and R_{out} are the radii of an inscribed and circumscribed ball of the polytope Δ , respectively, and $\mathcal{B}(q, R)$ is the ball of radius R containing the point q . In essence, γ_κ is the coefficient generated by the biggest inscribed ball and the smallest circumscribed ball of the polytope. That the mixing time depends on these parameters means that elongated polytopes are harder to sample. Implementations of HAR for convex bodies are typically analyzed after pre-processing and invoking a warm start, meaning that the body in question is brought to a near isotropic position in $\mathcal{O}^*(\sqrt{n})$, allowing the mixing time to be expressed as $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3)$ [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu], [Lee and Vempala(2017)], [Lee and Vempala(2018)], [Lovász and Simonovits(1993)], [Lovász(1999)]

142 and [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus]. For ease of
 143 comparison with the literature, the remainder of the paper assumes that the polytope
 144 has received proper pre-processing.

145 A HAR sampler must compute the starting point and find the line segment L
 146 at each iteration. Additionally, a thinning factor (also called "burning rate") $\varphi(n)$
 147 must be included to achieve a fair almost uniform distribution over the studied space
 148 [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus]. This means that
 149 after a warm start, the algorithm needs to drop $\varphi(n)$ sampled points for each desired
 150 i.i.d. observation. This thinning factor is known as the mixing-time, which is $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3)$
 151 in the case of polytopes (see [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu],
 152 [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus], [Lovász(1999)]).

153 The HAR pseudocode proposed in [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)] for full and non-full
 154 dimensional polytopes is presented in Algorithm 1. It samples a collection \mathcal{X} of T
 155 uncorrelated points inside Δ . We know the complexity of HAR for full dimensional
 156 polytopes, to find the cost per iteration and cost per sample of HAR for non-full di-
 157 mensional polytopes will require analyzing the complexity of calculating the projection
 158 matrix.

159 3.2 Projection matrix

160 The projection matrix P_{Δ^E} is computed from the equality matrix A^E . Then, P_{Δ^E} allows
 161 any vector to be projected to the null space of A^E . In our case, the random direction
 162 vector h lives in a full dimensional space, which means that if $m_E > 0$, h needs to be
 163 projected so that the line set L lives in the same space as Δ . The projection operation
 164 $P_{\Delta^E}h = d$ yields $A^Ed = 0$. Then, $A^E(x + d) = b^E$ [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)]. (This
 165 step is omitted if $m_E = 0$.)

166 The projection matrix is defined as

$$P_{\Delta^E} = I - A'^E(A^EA'^E)^{-1}A^E. \quad (5)$$

Algorithm 1: HAR pseudocode

Result: \mathcal{X}

Initialization;

$t \leftarrow 0$ (Sample point counter);

$j \leftarrow 0$ (Iteration counter);

$\mathcal{X} = \emptyset$;

Set the total sample size T ;

Set a thinning factor $\varphi(n)$;

Find a strictly inner point of the polytope Δ and label it $x_{t=0,j=0}$;

if ($m_E > 0$) **then**

 | Compute the projection matrix P_{Δ^E}

end

while $t < T$ **do**

 | **Generate** the direction vector $h \in \mathbb{R}^n$;

 | **if** ($m_E = 0$) **then**

 | $d = h$

 | **else**

 | $d = P_{\Delta^E} h$

 | **end**

 | **Find** the line set $L := \{x | x = x_{t,j} + \theta d, x \in \Delta \ \& \ \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}$;

 | $j \leftarrow j + 1$;

 | **Generate** a point uniformly distributed in $L \cap \Delta$ and label it $x_{t,j+1}$;

 | **if** $j == \varphi(n)$ **then**

 | $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X} \cup x_{t,j}$;

 | $t \leftarrow t + 1$;

 | $j \leftarrow 0$;

 | **end**

end

167 **Lemma 3.1.** *If $m_E < n$, then the complexity of calculating P_{Δ^E} is $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2} n^2)$.*

168 *Proof.* Computing P_{Δ^E} is done in three matrix multiplications, one matrix-to-matrix
169 subtraction, and one matrix inversion operation over $(A^E A'^E)$. The number of opera-
170 tions needed to calculate the inverse matrix depends on the algorithm used for matrix
171 multiplication [Cormen et al.(2009)Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest, and Stein]. The order
172 of number of operations for computing P_{Δ^E} is the sum of the following:

- 173 1. Obtain $(A^E A'^E)$ in $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A^E, A'^E}) = \mathcal{O}(\mu(m_E, n, m_E)) = \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-1} n)$ operations.
- 174 2. Find the inverse $(A^E A'^E)^{-1}$ in $\mathcal{O}(m_E^\omega)$, since $(A^E A'^E)^{-1}$ has dimension $m_E \times m_E$.

- 175 3. Multiply $A'^E(A^E A'^E)^{-1}$ in $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A'^E, (A^E A'^E)^{-1}}) = \mathcal{O}(\mu(n, m_E, m_E)) = \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-1}n)$.
- 176 4. Calculate $A'^E(A^E A'^E)^{-1}A^E$ in $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A'^E(A^E A'^E)^{-1}, A^E}) = \mathcal{O}(\mu(n, m_E, n)) = \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$.
- 177 5. Subtract $I - A'^E(A^E A'^E)^{-1}A^E$ in $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$.

178 These sum to $2 \times \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-1}n) + \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2) + \mathcal{O}(n^2)$. Hence the complexity
 179 of calculating P_{Δ^E} is $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A'^E(A^E A'^E)^{-1}, A^E}) = \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$. \square

180 For simplicity, we will denote the complexity of computing P_{Δ^E} as $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{P_{\Delta^E}})$.

181 3.3 Non-full dimensional HAR

182 We proceed to calculate the cost per sample of HAR for $m_E > 0$. We start by computing
 183 the cost per iteration in Lemma 3.2.

184 **Lemma 3.2.** *The cost per iteration of HAR for $0 \leq m_E$ is $\mathcal{O}(\max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2}n^2\})$.*

185 *Proof.* As seen in Algorithm 1, the only difference between the full and non-full dimen-
 186 sional cases is the projection step $P_{\Delta^E}h = d$. Then, the cost per iteration is defined by
 187 the larger of the original cost per iteration $\mathcal{O}(m_I n)$ of HAR for $m_E = 0$, and the extra
 188 cost induced by the projection when $m_E > 0$.

189 Because P_{Δ^E} has dimension $n \times n$ and h is an $n \times 1$ vector, $\mu_{P_{\Delta^E}, h} = n^2$ and
 190 the complexity is $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$. By Lemma 3.1, finding P_{Δ^E} has an asymptotic complex-
 191 ity of $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$. Therefore, the cost of projecting h at each iteration is $\mathcal{O}(n^2) +$
 192 $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2) = \mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$, since $m_E > 0$. Therefore, the cost per iteration for $m_E > 0$
 193 is $\mathcal{O}(\max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2}n^2\})$. If $m_E = 0$, then the coefficient $\max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2}n^2\}$ equals
 194 $\max\{m_I n, 0\} = m_I n$ and the cost per sample is $\mathcal{O}^*(\max\{m_I n, 0\}) = \mathcal{O}^*(m_I n)$. \square

195 Having calculated the cost per iteration of HAR, we can proceed to Theorem 3.3.

196 **Theorem 3.3.** *The cost per sample of HAR for $0 \leq m_E$ is $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3 \max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2}n^2\})$
 197 after proper pre-processing and a warm start.*

198 *Proof.* According to [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu], the cost
 199 per sample of a sampling algorithm is its mixing time complexity multiplied by its cost
 200 per iteration. By Lemma 3.2, the cost per iteration is $\mathcal{O}(\max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2} n^2\})$. More-
 201 over, [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus] states that
 202 the mixing time, after a warm start, of HAR is $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3)$. Therefore, the cost per sample
 203 is $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3 \max\{m_I n, m_E^{\omega-2} n^2\})$.

204 Recall that if $m_E = 0$ the *cost per sample* is $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3 \max\{m_I n, 0\}) = \mathcal{O}^*(m_I n^4)$ that
 205 is the special case of HAR for full dimensional polytopes. \square

206 4 Matrix Hit-and-Run (MHAR)

207 This section details our new algorithm, Matrix Hit-And-Run (**MHAR**). MHAR has
 208 a lower cost per sample than does HAR. Furthermore, making z simultaneous walks
 209 with MHAR requires fewer operations than does running z HAR walks in parallel. The
 210 "padding" hyper-parameter z allows the concatenation of multiple directions d and
 211 samples x to form matrices D and \mathcal{X} , respectively. Each column of these matrices
 212 represents a walk over the polytope. This modification permits the use of efficient
 213 matrix-to-matrix operations to simultaneously project many directions d and find their
 214 respective line segments.

215 4.1 MHAR preliminaries

216 MHAR explores the polytope using simultaneous walks by drawing multiple directions d
 217 from the n -dimensional hypersphere. Each independent walk has the same mixing-time
 218 as with HAR, but a lower cost per iteration. Instead of running separate threads, we
 219 "batch" the walks by "padding" vector x and d with z columns, creating the matrices
 220 $X = (x^1 | \dots | x^k | \dots | x^z)$ and $D = (d^1 | \dots | d^k | \dots | d^z)$. Super index k denotes the k th
 221 walk represented by the k th column in the padded matrix. The algorithm then adapts
 222 the steps in HAR to keep track of each independent walk and recast the operations as

223 matrix-to-matrix. The algorithm is tailored for exploiting cutting-edge matrix routines
 224 that exploit the architectures of machines like GPUs, cache memories, and multiple
 225 cores.

226 The main difference with HAR when running z instances on multiple independent
 227 cores (z -HAR) is the estimation of $D = (d^1 | \dots | d^k | \dots | d^z)$ and the line segments L^k
 228 in a simultaneous fashion for all z -walks. In both, z -HAR and MHAR, each walk is
 229 oblivious of the others after a warm start, which guarantee a constant mixing-time
 230 among all z -walks [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)] [Lovász and Vempala(2006)].

231 Algorithm 2 presents the pseudocode for MHAR.

232 4.2 Starting point

233 In general, the cost of finding the starting point is excluded from the complexity analysis
 234 because it is independent of the mixing-time. However, we present it here for complete-
 235 ness even though the literature assumes a warm start in determining cost per sample
 236 ([Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu], [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, E
 237 [Lee and Vempala(2018)]).

238 MHAR needs to be initialized by a point in the relative interior of the polytope. We
 239 suggest Chebyshev’s center of the polytope, which is the center of the largest inscribed
 240 ball. For polytopes, Chebyshev’s center can be formulated as a linear optimization
 241 problem and solved using standard methods.

242 Chebyshev’s center is presented in Model (6).

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n, r \in \mathbb{R}} r, \\
 & s.t \quad A^E x = b^E, \\
 & (a_i^I)^T x + r \|a_i^I\|_2 \leq b_i^I, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m_I,
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

243 where a_i^I and b_i^I represent the i th row of matrix A^I and i th entry from vector b^I ,
 244 respectively. Model (6) has the original m restrictions plus one additional variable r .

Algorithm 2: MHAR pseudocode

Result: \mathcal{X}

Initialization;

$t \leftarrow 0$ (Sample point counter);

$j \leftarrow 0$ (Iteration counter);

$z \leftarrow \max\{m_I, n\} + 1$;

$\mathcal{X} = \emptyset$;

Set the total sample size T ;

Set a thinning factor $\varphi(n)$;

Find a strictly inner point of the polytope Δ and label it $x_{t,j}$;

Set $x_{t,j}^k = x_{t,j}$, $\forall k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$;

Initialize $X_{t,j} = (x_{t,j}^1 | \dots | x_{t,j}^k | \dots | x_{t,j}^z) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times z}$;

if ($m_E > 0$) **then**

\perp Compute the projection matrix P_{Δ^E}

while $t < T$ **do**

Generate $H = (h^1 | \dots | h^k | \dots | h^z) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times z}$, the direction matrix;

if ($m_E = 0$) **then**

\perp $D = H$;

else

\perp $D = P_{\Delta^E} H = (d^1 | \dots | d^k | \dots | d^z)$;

Find the line sets $\left\{ L^k := \{x | x = x_{t,j}^k + \theta^k d^k, x \in \Delta \ \& \ \theta^k \in \mathbb{R}\} \right\}_{k=1}^z$;

$j \leftarrow j + 1$;

Generate a point uniformly distributed in each L^k and label it $x_{t,j}^k$ in $X_{t,j}$;

if $j == \varphi(n)$ **then**

\perp $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X} \cup \{x_{t,j}^1, \dots, x_{t,j}^z\}$;

\perp $t \leftarrow t + z$;

\perp $j \leftarrow 0$;

245 Hence, the size of the problem has m constraints and $n + 1$ variables. Then, calculating
246 the $\|\cdot\|_2$ coefficients takes $\mathcal{O}(mn)$. Thus, it can be formulated and solved in $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega)$
247 using Vaidya's algorithm [Vaidya(1989)] for linear optimization. After solving Model
248 (6), we use x as the starting point $x_{t=0,j=0}$ for all walks and draw independent walking
249 directions. The matrix $X_{t,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times z}$ introduced in Algorithm 2 is the algorithmic version
250 of X , and it summarizes the state of all walks, where each k th column represents the
251 current point of walk k at iteration $\{t, j\}$. Formally we say $X_{t,j} = (x_{t,j}^1 | \dots | x_{t,j}^k | \dots | x_{t,j}^z)$
252 where $x_{t,j}^k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1} \ \forall k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$.

4.3 Generating D

Because the target distribution of HAR and MHAR is uniform, we follow the procedure established in [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)] and [Lovász(1999)] that uses the Margsalia method [Marsaglia(1972)] to generate a random vector h from the hypersphere by generating n i.i.d. samples from a standard normal distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. However, instead of generating a single direction vector $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we create matrices $H, D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times z}$, where each element of the matrix corresponds to an independent execution of the Box-Muller method [Chay et al.(1975)Chay, Fardo, and Mazumdar] bounded by $\mathcal{O}(nz)$. If the polytope is full dimensional, $H = D$ and no projection operation is needed. Otherwise, the projection matrix P_{Δ^E} is calculated as in §3, and Lemma 3.1 bounds the number of operations as $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$.

Matrices H and D can be visualized as

$$H = (h^1 | \dots | h^k | \dots | h^z), \quad h^k \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \forall k \in \{1, \dots, z\}, \quad (7)$$

$$D = P_{\Delta^E} H = (d^1 | \dots | d^k | \dots | d^z), \quad d^k \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \forall k \in \{1, \dots, z\}. \quad (8)$$

Each column h^k can be projected by the operation $D = P_{\Delta^E} H$. Hence, each column of D satisfies the restrictions in Δ^E and serves as a direction d for an arbitrary walk k . In principle, z can be any number in \mathbb{N} , where $z = 1$ is the special case that recovers the original HAR.

Lemma 4.1. *The complexity of generating matrix D in MHAR given P_{Δ^E} and $\max\{m_I, n\} \leq z$ is $\mathcal{O}(nz)$ if $m_E = 0$, and $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$ if $m_E > 0$.*

Proof. Generating H has complexity $\mathcal{O}(nz)$ using the Box-Muller method. If $m_E = 0$, then $D = H$, implying a total asymptotic cost $\mathcal{O}(nz)$. If $m_E > 0$, then $D = P_{\Delta^E} H$, whose cost $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{P_{\Delta^E}, H}) = \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$ given by $\max\{m_I, n\} \leq z$, needs to be included. $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$ bounds $\mathcal{O}(nz)$. Therefore, the total cost of computing D for $m_E > 0$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$. \square

Lemma 4.1 shows that if $m_E > 0$, the cost of generating new directions d does not

276 scale as if had used z parallel HARs. In the HAR case, the operations required would
 277 have been carried out in $\mathcal{O}(z\mu_{P_{\Delta E, h}}) = \mathcal{O}(zn^2)$, averaging $\mathcal{O}(\frac{zn^2}{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n^2)$ per direction.
 278 In contrast, MHAR is $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$, averaging $\mathcal{O}(\frac{n^{\omega-1}z}{z}) = \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1})$ per direction. When
 279 $m_E = 0$, the number of operations for both cases is the same.

280 4.4 Finding the line sets

281 Given matrices X and D , we now obtain the line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$:

$$\left\{L^k := \{x | x = x^k + \theta^k d^k, x \in \Delta, \text{ and } \theta^k \in \mathbb{R}\}\right\}_{k=1}^z. \quad (9)$$

282 Each θ^k characterizes the line set for column x^k . The "padded" column-wise repre-
 283 sentation of restrictions Δ^I is

$$A^I X = \begin{pmatrix} a_1^I x^1 & \dots & a_1^I x^k \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m_I}^I x^1 & \dots & a_{m_I}^I x^k \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} b_1^I \\ \vdots \\ b_{m_I}^I \end{pmatrix} = b^I, \quad (10)$$

where each element from the left matrix must be less than or equal to the corresponding element (row-wise) in vector b^I . The restrictions for an arbitrary x^k can be rewritten row-wise so that the left side and right side are scalars:

$$a_i^I x^k \leq b_i^I, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m_I\}. \quad (11)$$

Then, each θ^k s must satisfy

$$(a_i^I x^k + \theta^k a_i^I d^k) < b_i^I, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m_I\}. \quad (12)$$

Rearranging the terms obtains restrictions for each walk k , where each θ^k must be

bounded by its respective set of lambdas $\{\lambda_i^k\}_{i=1}^{m_I}$, as follows:

$$\theta^k < \lambda_i^k = \frac{b_i^I - a_i^I x^k}{a_i^I d^k}, \quad \text{if } a_i^I d^k > 0, \quad (13)$$

$$\theta^k > \lambda_i^k = \frac{b_i^I - a_i^I x^k}{a_i^I d^k}, \quad \text{if } a_i^I d^k < 0. \quad (14)$$

Hence, a walk's boundaries are represented by

$$\lambda_{min}^k = \max \{\lambda_i^k \mid a_i^I d^k < 0\}, \quad (15)$$

$$\lambda_{max}^k = \min \{\lambda_i^k \mid a_i^I d^k > 0\}. \quad (16)$$

284 These lambdas can be used to construct the intervals $\Lambda^k = (\lambda_{min}^k, \lambda_{max}^k)$, $k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$.
 285 By construction, if $\theta^k \in \Lambda^k$ and $x^k \in \Delta$, then $x^k + \theta^k d^k \in L^k$, since $A^I(x^k + \theta^k d^k) \leq b^I$
 286 and $A^E(x^k + \theta^k d^k) = b^E$. The line segment can be found simply by evaluating $\{\Lambda^k\}_{k=1}^z$,
 287 because x^k and D were computed previously. We can now state Lemma 4.2.

288 **Lemma 4.2.** *The complexity of generating all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$ in MHAR given D ,
 289 X , and $\max\{m_I, n\} \leq z$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$ if $n \leq m_I$, and by $\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2} n z)$
 290 otherwise.*

291 *Proof.* All Λ^k s can be obtained as follows:

- 292 1. Obtain matrix $A^I X$ in $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A^I, X})$. This is done in $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$ if $n \leq m_I$, and in
 293 $\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2} n z)$ otherwise.
- 294 2. Compute $B^I - A^I X$, where $B_I = (b^I | \dots | b^I) \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I \times z}$, which takes $\mathcal{O}(m_I z)$ opera-
 295 tions.
- 296 3. Calculate $A^I D$, which is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A^I, D})$, which is done in $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$ if $n \leq$
 297 m_I , and in $\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2} n z)$ otherwise.
- 298 4. Divide $\frac{B^I - A^I X}{A^I D}$ (entry-wise) to obtain all λ_i^k . All the necessary point-wise opera-
 299 tions for this calculation have a combined order of $\mathcal{O}(m_I z)$.

300 5. For each $k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$, find which coefficients $a_i^I d^k$ are positive or negative, which
 301 takes $\mathcal{O}(m_I z)$.

302 6. For each $k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$, find the intervals $\lambda_{\min}^k = \max \{\lambda_i^k \mid a_i^I d^k < 0\}$ and
 303 $\lambda_{\max}^k = \min \{\lambda_i^k \mid a_i^I d^k > 0\}$, which can be done in $\mathcal{O}(m_I z)$.

304 This procedure constructs all the intervals $\Lambda^k = (\lambda_{\min}^k, \lambda_{\max}^k)$. The complexity of
 305 this operation is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(\mu_{A^I, X}) = \mathcal{O}(\mu_{A^I, D})$. Hence, the complexity of finding
 306 all line sets is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$ if $n \leq m_I$, and by $\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2} n z)$ otherwise. \square

307 Lemma 4.2 bounds the complexity of finding the line sets at any iteration of MHAR.
 308 This leaves only analyzing the cost of choosing a new sample.

309 4.5 Choosing samples

310 The following lemma bounds the complexity of choosing a new $X_{t,j+1}$ or $X_{t+z,0}$ given
 311 $\Lambda^k \forall k \in \{1, \dots, z\}$. The new samples will be padded to create the matrix $X_{t,j+1} =$
 312 $(x_{t,j+1}^1 \mid \dots \mid x_{t,j+1}^k)$ to be used in the next iteration.

313 **Lemma 4.3.** *Sampling z new points given $\{\Lambda^k\}_{k=1}^z$ has complexity $\mathcal{O}(zn)$.*

314 *Proof.* Selecting a random $\theta^k \in \Lambda^k$ takes $\mathcal{O}(1)$. Sampling a new point $x_{t,j+1}^k = x_{t,j}^k + \theta^k d_{t,j}^k$
 315 has complexity $\mathcal{O}(n)$ because it requires n scalar multiplications and n sums. Then,
 316 sampling all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ points is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(zn)$. \square

317 Having concluded the complexity analysis for each step of the loop, we next calculate
 318 the cost per iteration and proceed to measure the cost per sample.

319 4.6 Iteration and sampling costs of MHAR

320 The asymptotic behavior of each operation that comprises the main loop of MHAR when
 321 $\max\{n, m_I\} \leq z$ is presented in Table 2. The cost of finding the starting point is ex-
 322 cluded ([Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu], [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valken-

323

Table 2: Asymptotic cost per sample of MHAR at each step

MHAR complexity at each step, $(n, m) < z$				
Operation	$m_E = 0,$ $n \leq m_I.$	$m_E = 0,$ $n > m_I.$	$m_E > 0,$ $n \leq m_I.$	$m_E > 0,$ $n > m_I.$
1. Projection matrix	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$
2. Generating D	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$
3. Finding $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$	$\mathcal{O}(m_In^{\omega-2}z)$	$\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2}nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(m_In^{\omega-2}z)$	$\mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2}nz)$
4. Sampling all $x_{t,j+1}^k$	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$	$\mathcal{O}(nz)$

324 The following lemmas will help bound the cost per iteration of MHAR. Lemmas 4.4
 325 and 4.5 establish the full dimensional case for $(n \leq m_I)$ and $(n > m_I)$, respectively.
 326 Lemmas 4.8 and 4.9 do likewise in the non-full dimensional case for $(n \leq m_I)$ and
 327 $(n > m_I)$, respectively.

Figure 1 summarizes these results as follows.

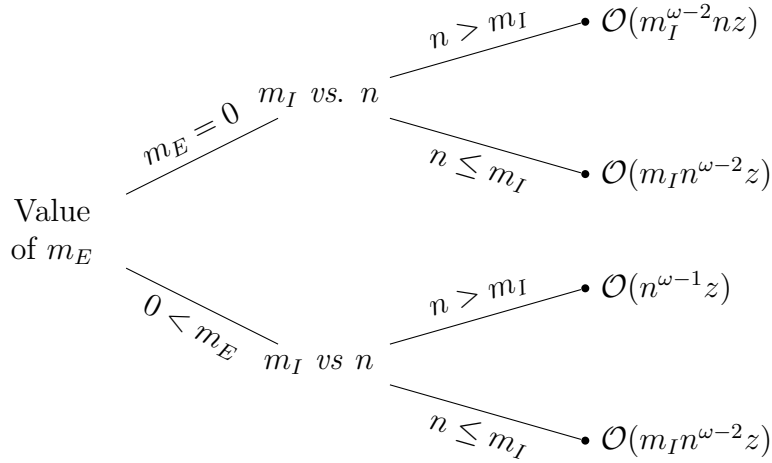


Figure 1: Asymptotic behavior of the cost per iteration of MHAR.

328

329 **Lemma 4.4.** Assume $m_E = 0$, $\max\{n, m\} < z$, and $n \leq m_I$. Then, the cost per
 330 iteration of MHAR is $\mathcal{O}(m_In^{\omega-2}z)$, which is the number of operations needed for finding
 331 all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$.

332 *Proof.* First we enumerate the cost of each step of the iteration for $m_E = 0$ and $n \leq m_I$
 333 if $\max\{n, m\} < z$:

- 334 1. By Lemma 3.1, generating P_{Δ^E} is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(1)$.
- 335 2. By Lemma 4.1, generating D is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(nz)$.
- 336 3. By Lemma 4.2, generating $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$ for $n \leq m_I$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$.
- 337 4. By Lemma 4.3, generating all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(zn)$.

338 By hypothesis, $0 < n \leq m_I$. Then, $nz \leq m_I z < m_I n^{\omega-2} z$, because $\omega \in (2, 3]$.
 339 Therefore, $\mathcal{O}(1) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(nz) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z)$, where the first term is the complexity of
 340 finding the projection matrix (omitted for $m_E = 0$), the second one bounds generating
 341 D and sampling new points, and the third one is the asymptotic cost of finding all line
 342 sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$. \square

343 **Lemma 4.5.** Assume $m_E = 0$, $\max\{n, m\} < z$, and $n > m_I$. Then, the cost per
 344 iteration of MHAR is $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2} z)$, which is the number of operations needed for finding
 345 all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$.

346 *Proof.* As in the proof of Lemma 4.4, the complexity of the projection matrix, gener-
 347 ating D , and sampling all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ points is the same, given by $m_E = 0$ and $n > m_I$.
 348 Hence, the only change is provided by Lemma 4.2, in which the cost of finding all line
 349 sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$ for $n > m_I$ is $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2} z)$. By hypothesis, $0 < m_I$ and $\max\{n, m\} < z$,
 350 thus $nz < nm_I^{\omega-2} z$. Therefore, $\mathcal{O}(1) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(nz) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2} z)$, where the third term is
 351 the cost of finding all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$. \square

352 **Corollary 4.6.** Assume $m_E = 0$ and $\max\{n, m\} < z$. Then, the cost per iteration of
 353 MHAR is bounded by the cost of finding all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$.

354 *Proof.* The proof follows from Lemmas 4.4 and 4.5. \square

355 We proceed to finding the cost per iteration for the non-full dimensional case $m_E > 0$.

356 **Lemma 4.7.** Assume $m_E < n$ and $(m, n) < z$. Then, the cost of calculating the
 357 projection matrix P_{Δ^E} is bounded by the cost of generating D .

358 *Proof.* By hypothesis $m_E < n$, implying that $m_E^{\omega-2}n^2 < n^{\omega-2}n^2 = n^\omega$. Because $n < z$,
 359 $n^\omega = n^{\omega-1}n < n^{\omega-1}z$. Combining both inequalities yields $m_E^{\omega-2}n^2 < n^\omega < n^{\omega-1}z$.
 360 Therefore, $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$, where the first term is the complexity of computing
 361 P_{Δ^E} (by Lemma 3.1), and the second term is the complexity of projecting H in order
 362 to obtain D (by Lemma 4.1). \square

363 **Lemma 4.8.** Assume $m_E > 0$, $\max\{n, m\} < z$, and $n \leq m_I$. Then, the cost per
 364 iteration of MHAR is $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2}z)$, which is the number of operations needed for finding
 365 all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$.

366 *Proof.* First, we enumerate the cost of each step of the iteration for $m_E > 0$, $n \leq m_I$,
 367 and $\max\{n, m\} < z$:

- 368 1. By Lemma 3.1, generating P_{Δ^E} is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2)$.
- 369 2. By Lemma 4.1, generating D is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$.
- 370 3. By Lemma 4.2, generating $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$ for $n \leq m_I$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2}z)$.
- 371 4. By Lemma 4.3, generating all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(zn)$.

372 Using Lemma 4.7, the Big-O term for finding P_{Δ^E} (step 1) is bounded by the term
 373 of generating D (step 2). Because $n < m_I$, $n^{\omega-1}z = n^{\omega-2}nz < n^{\omega-2}m_Iz$. Therefore,
 374 $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2}z)$, which are the respective costs of steps 1, 2,
 375 and 3. Furthermore, $nz \leq n^{\omega-2}m_Iz$, implying that step 4 is also bounded by step 3 in
 376 terms of complexity. This implies that all the operations above are bounded by the term
 377 $\mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2}z)$, which is the asymptotic complexity of finding all line sets $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$. \square

378 **Lemma 4.9.** Assume $m_E > 0$, $\max\{n, m\} < z$, and $n > m_I$. Then, the cost per itera-
 379 tion of MHAR is $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2}z)$, which is the number of operations needed for generating
 380 D .

381 *Proof.* As in the proof of Lemma 4.8, the cost of the projection matrix, generating D ,
 382 and sampling all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ points is the same, given by $m_E > 0$ and $n > m_I$. Hence,
 383 the only change is provided by Lemma 4.2, in which the cost of finding all line sets
 384 $\{L^k\}_{k=1}^z$ for $n > m_I$ is $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2}z)$.

385 By Lemma 4.7, the Big-O term for finding $P_{\Delta E}$ is bounded by the term of gen-
 386 erating D . Because $n > m_I$, $m_I^{\omega-2}nz < n^{\omega-2}nz = n^{\omega-1}z$. Therefore, $\mathcal{O}(m_E^{\omega-2}n^2) \subseteq$
 387 $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2}z) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1}z)$, which are the respective costs of the projection matrix, find-
 388 ing all line sets, and generating D . Furthermore, $nz \leq n^{\omega-2}nz = n^{\omega-1}z$, implying that
 389 the cost of sampling all new $x_{t,j+1}^k$ is also bounded by the cost of generating D . This
 390 implies that all the operations above are bounded by $\mathcal{O}(nm_I^{\omega-2}z)$. \square

391 We can now proceed to the main results of the paper, given in Theorem 4.10.

392 **Theorem 4.10.** *If $\max\{n, m\} < z$, then after proper pre-processing and a warm start,*
 393 *the cost per sample of MHAR is*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{O}^*(m_I n^{\omega+1}), & \text{if } m_E = 0 \text{ and } n \leq m_I \\ \mathcal{O}^*(n^{\omega+2}), & \text{if } m_E = 0 \text{ and } n > m_I \\ \mathcal{O}^*(m_I n^{\omega+1}), & \text{if } m_E > 0 \text{ and } n \leq m_I \\ \mathcal{O}^*(m_I^{\omega-2} n^4), & \text{if } m_E > 0 \text{ and } n > m_I. \end{array} \right. \quad (17)$$

394 *Proof.* Lemmas 4.4, 4.5, 4.8, and 4.9 gave the cost per iteration of MHAR for all four
 395 cases:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z), & \text{if } m_E = 0 \text{ and } n \leq m_I \\ \mathcal{O}(n^{\omega-1} z), & \text{if } m_E = 0 \text{ and } n > m_I \\ \mathcal{O}(m_I n^{\omega-2} z), & \text{if } m_E > 0 \text{ and } n \leq m_I \\ \mathcal{O}(m_I^{\omega-2} n z), & \text{if } m_E > 0 \text{ and } n > m_I. \end{array} \right. \quad (18)$$

396 It was stated that each walk from the "padding" is independent about the other

ones after a warm-start. Then, each individual walk has a mixing time of $\mathcal{O}^*(n^3)$. Then it suffices to apply the rule for Big-O products between the cost per iteration and the mixing time, and divide the coefficient by the padding parameter z , which is the number of points obtained at each iteration. Hence, multiplying each case in Equation (18) by $\frac{n^3}{z}$ obtains the desired result. \square

Figure 2 graphically depicts the results of the theorem.

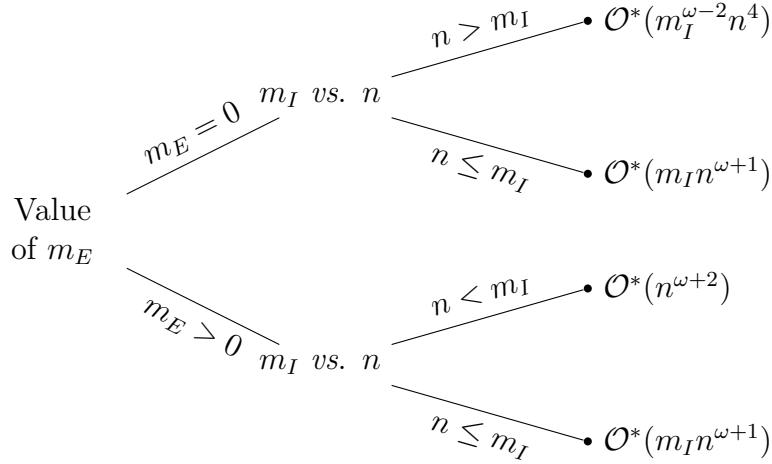


Figure 2: Asymptotic behavior of the cost per sample of MHAR after a warm start.

402

403 Theorem 4.10 characterizes the cost per sample of MHAR for all parameter values.
 404 The theorem shows that MHAR is always at least as efficient as HAR, and more efficient
 405 for $\omega \in (2, 3)$. Intuitively this is caused by “padding,” which permits matrix-to-matrix
 406 multiplications instead of isolated matrix-to-vector operations when finding the line
 407 sets L or the directions D . Furthermore, this approach allows efficient cache usage and
 408 state-of-the-art GPU matrix multiplication algorithms.

409 5 MHAR Complexity Benchmarks

410 This section benchmarks the asymptotic behavior of MHAR against that for seven state-
 411 of-the-art algorithms. Some of these algorithms cover additional convex figures, like

spheres or cones. However, we restrict our focus on polytopes because they are the target of MHAR. For in-depth analysis of each algorithm, see [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, We prioritize the full-dimensional case ($m = m_I, m_E = 0$) because few algorithms are designed for the non-full dimensional scenario and their analysis is outside our scope. Table 3 is adapted from [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright, and Yu] and includes the notation established in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus] and [Montiel and Bickel(2013a)]. The authors of RHCM [Lee and Vempala(2018)], John’s walk [Gustafson and Narayanan(2018)], Vaidya walk, and John walk omitted $m < n$, which is also outside of our scope. Note that John’s walk and John walk are different algorithms.

In §4 we showed that the MHAR has lower cost per sample than the HAR for efficient matrix multiplication algorithms. Furthermore, because the Ball walk [Lovász and Simonovits(1993)] has the same cost per sample as HAR, we can derive the next corollary.

Corollary 5.1. *The cost per sample of MHAR is as low as the cost per sample of the Ball walk, after a warm start, if $\max\{n, m\} < z$. And strictly lower if efficient matrix-to-matrix algorithms are used ($\omega \in (2, 3)$).*

Proof. This follows from comparing Theorem 4.10 against the complexity of the Ball walk. \square

The following lemma shows that MHAR has a lower cost per sample than does John’s walk.

Lemma 5.2. *For $\max\{n, m\} < z$, and $n < m$, MHAR has a lower cost per sample than does John’s walk after proper pre-processing, warm start, and ignoring the logarithmic and error terms.*

Proof. Given proper pre-processing, $n \ll m$, and $\max\{n, m\} < z$, then MHAR’s cost per sample is $\mathcal{O}^*(mn^{\omega+1})$, and that for John’s walk is $\mathcal{O}(mn^{11} + n^{15})$. Note that $mn^{\omega+1} \in \mathcal{O}(mn^{11} + n^{15})$. Therefore, when ignoring the logarithmic and error terms, MHAR has a lower cost per sample. \square

Table 3: Asymptotic behavior of random walks

Random walks behaviour			
Walk	Mixing time	Cost per iteration	Cost per sample
MHAR with $n > m$	n^3	$m^{\omega-2}nz$	$m^{\omega-2}n^4$
MHAR with $n \leq m$	n^3	$mn^{\omega-2}z$	$mn^{\omega+1}$
Ball walk	n^3	mn	mn^4
HAR	n^3	mn	mn^4
Dikin walk with $n \leq m$	mn	$mn^{\omega-1}$	m^2n^{ω}
RHCM with $n \leq m$	$mn^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$mn^{\omega-1}$	$m^2n^{\omega-\frac{1}{3}}$
John's walk with $n \leq m$	n^7	$mn^4 + n^8$	$mn^{11} + n^{15}$
Vaidya walk with $n \leq m$	$m^{\frac{1}{2}}n^{\frac{3}{2}}$	$mn^{\omega-1}$	$m^{1.5}n^{\omega+\frac{1}{2}}$
John walk with $n \leq m$	$n^{\frac{5}{2}}\log^4(\frac{2m}{n})$	$mn^{\omega-1}\log^2(m)$	$mn^{\omega+\frac{3}{2}}$

The table contains the upper bounds on the cost per sample (after a warm start) for various random walk algorithms applied to polytopes. In the case of MHAR, $\max\{n, m\} < z$ is assumed. For simplicity, we ignore the logarithmic terms in the cost per sample. We also avoid giving bounds in terms of the condition number of the set for MHAR, Ball walk, and HAR, because this condition number is bounded by n after proper pre-processing.

439 In the regime of $n \ll m$, the overall upper bound complexity for the cost per sample
440 is represented by John walk \ll Vaidya walk \ll Dikin walk [Chen et al.(2018)Chen, Dwivedi, Wainwright,
441 We now show that for $n \ll m$, MHAR has a lower cost per sample than does John
442 walk.

443 **Lemma 5.3.** *For $\max\{n, m\} < z$ and the regime $n \ll m$, MHAR has a lower cost per*
444 *sample than does the John walk after proper pre-processing, warm start, and ignoring*
445 *logarithmic and error terms.*

446 *Proof.* From proper pre-processing, $n \ll m$, and $\max\{n, m\} < z$, MHAR's cost per
447 sample is $\mathcal{O}^*(mn^{\omega+1})$ and that for John walk is $\mathcal{O}(mn^{\omega+\frac{3}{2}})$. Note that $mn^{\omega+1} \in$
448 $\mathcal{O}(mn^{\omega+\frac{3}{2}})$. Therefore when ignoring the logarithmic and error terms, MHAR has

449 a lower cost per sample. □

450 **Corollary 5.4.** *For $\max\{n, m\} < z$ and the regime $n \ll m$, then $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{John Walk}$*
 451 *$\ll \text{Vaidya walk} \ll \text{Dikin walk}$ after proper pre-processing, warm start, and ignoring*
 452 *logarithmic and error terms.*

453 *Proof.* This follows from Lemma 5.3. □

454 We proceed to compare MHAR and RHMC for the regime $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$.

455 **Lemma 5.5.** *For $\max\{n, m\} < z$ and $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$, then $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{RHMC}$ after proper*
 456 *pre-processing, warm start and ignoring logarithmic and error terms.*

457 *Proof.* From proper pre-processing, $n \ll m$, and $n, m < z$, MHAR's cost per sample
 458 is $\mathcal{O}^*(mn^{\omega+1})$, and RHMC's is $\mathcal{O}(m^2n^{\omega-\frac{1}{3}})$. Note that $mn^{\omega+1} \in \mathcal{O}(m^2n^{\omega-\frac{1}{3}})$, because
 459 $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$. Therefore, when ignoring the logarithmic and error terms, MHAR has a
 460 lower cost per sample. □

461 From corollaries 5.1 and 5.2, $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{Ball walk}$ and $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{HAR}$, regardless of
 462 the regime between m and n . And $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{John's Walk}$ for the regime $n \leq m$. From
 463 corollary 5.4, $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{John Walk} \ll \text{Vaidya walk} \ll \text{Dikin walk}$ if $n < m$. Finally,
 464 by Lemma 5.5, if $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$, then $\text{MHAR} \ll \text{RHMC}$.

465 Then, if $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$ we have an analytic guarantee that MHAR has a lower cost
 466 per sample than all of the other algorithms in Table 3. Moreover, empirical tests show
 467 that MHAR is faster than all of the other algorithms in Table 3 for regimes other than
 468 $n^{1+\frac{1}{3}} \ll m$.

469 6 MHAR Empirical Test

470 This section details a series of experiments to compare MHAR against the *hitandrun* li-
 471 brary used by [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus]. We
 472 compare the running times in simplexes and hypercubes of different dimensions and for

473 various values of the padding hyper-parameter z . We also test the robustness of MHAR
 474 by conducting empirical analyses similar to those in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk
 475 MHAR experiments were run in a Colab Notebook equipped with an Nvidia P100 GPU,
 476 and a processor Intel[®] Xeon[®] CPU running at 2.00 GHz, and 14 GB of RAM. Due
 477 to its apparent incompatibility with the Colab Notebook, the *hitandrun* experiments
 478 were run in a <device> equipped with an Intel[®] Core[™] i7-7700HQ CPU running at
 479 2.80 GHz and 32 GBs of RAM. All experiments used 64 bits of precision.

We formally define the n -simplex and the n -hypercube as

$$n\text{-simplex} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \sum x_i = 1, x \geq 0\}, \quad (19)$$

$$n\text{-hypercube} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x \in [-1, 1]^n\}. \quad (20)$$

480 **6.1 The Code**

481 The MHAR code was developed using python, and the Pytorch library was chosen
 482 because of its flexibility, power, and popularity [Paszke et al.(2019)]. Pytorch also
 483 works in a CPU without need of a GPU, although the latter is more suitable for large
 484 samples in high dimensions. The MHAR experiments were performed without observing
 485 any numerical instabilities, and the maximum error found for the inversion matrix was
 486 on the order $1e-16$, which is robust enough for most applications. Operations such
 487 as matrix inversion, random number generation, matrix-to-matrix multiplication, and
 488 point-wise operations were carried out in the GPU. The only operations that needed to
 489 be carried out in the CPU were reading the constraints and saving the samples to disk.

490 For the rest of this section, the acronyms MHAR and HAR refer to the actual
 491 implementations and not the abstract algorithms. The code is available in [https:](https://github.com/uumami/mhar_pytorch)
 492 [//github.com/uumami/mhar_pytorch](https://github.com/uumami/mhar_pytorch).

6.2 The padding

The padding hyper-parameter z determines the number of simultaneous walks the algorithm performs. We generated 10 MHAR runs for each dimension (5, 25, 50, 100, 500, 1000) and each padding value (z) on simplexes and hypercubes. At each run we calculated the average samples per second as follows:

$$\text{Avg. Samples per Second} = \frac{\text{Total Samples}}{\text{Time}} = \frac{z \times \varphi \times T}{\text{Time}}.$$

For example, z might equal 100, the thinning parameter φ might equal 30,000, and the number of iterations T might equal 1, which would yield 3,000,000 samples. If the experiment took 1,000 seconds, the average samples per second would be 3,000.

Figures 3 and 4 show box-plots for the experiments in dimensions 5 and 1000 for the simplex and the hypercube, respectively. The box-plots for the the simplex and the hypercube in dimensions 25, 50, 100 and 500 can be found in Figures 6 and 7 in A.

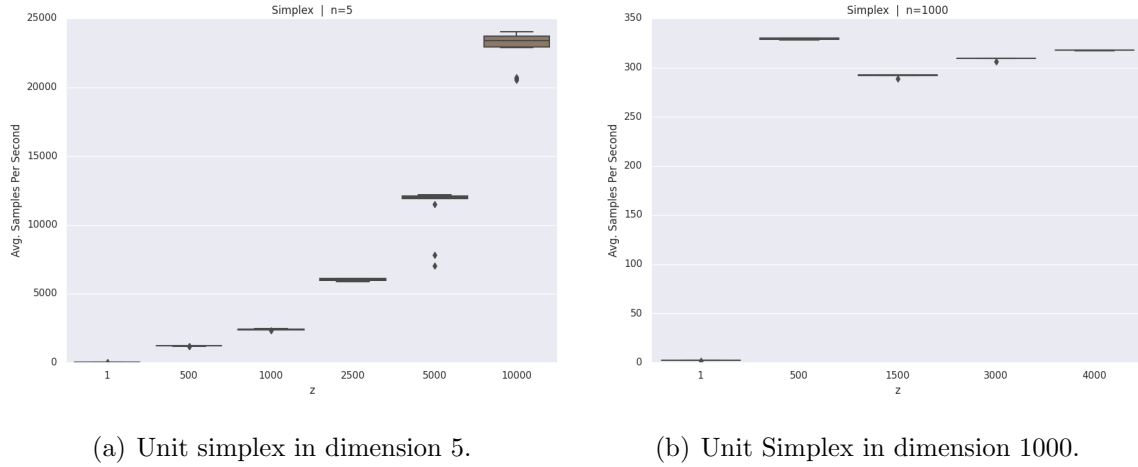


Figure 3: Box-plots for simplexes comparing padding behavior . In the y-axis the average samples per second are in thousands for different values of the padding parameter z .

The box in the box-plots show the 25%, 50%, and 75% percentiles. The diamonds mark outliers, and the upper and lower limits mark the maximum and minimum values without considering outliers. For small values of z , larger padding yielded more average

507 samples per second. However, for some dimensions in the simplex and the hypercube,
 508 there was a value of z for which efficiency was lower. We conjecture that at some point
 large values of z could cause memory contention in the GPU.

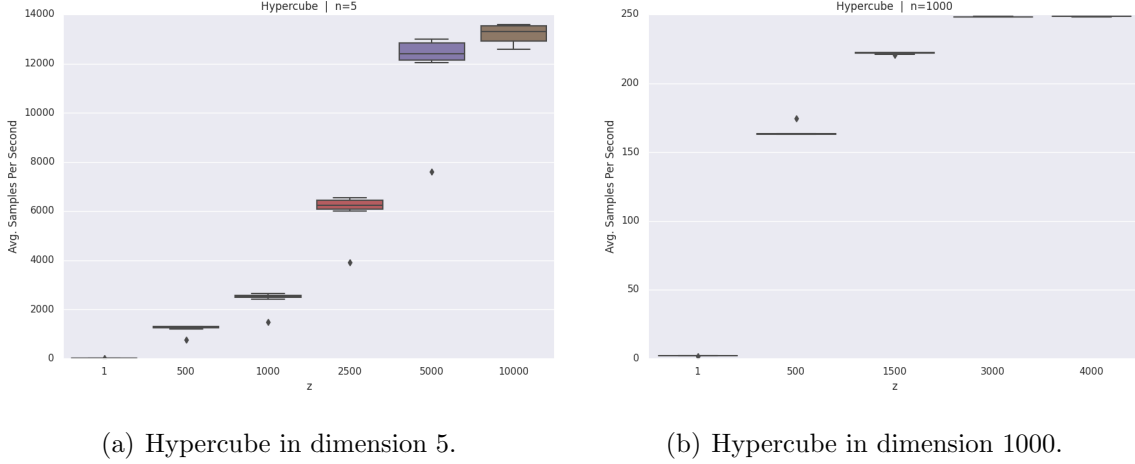


Figure 4: Box-plots for hypercubes comparing padding behavior. In the y-axis the average samples per second are in thousands for different values of the padding parameter z .

509

510 6.3 Performance Test MHAR vs HAR

511 To compare MHAR and HAR we generated 10 simulations for different dimensions, and
 512 two types of polytopes (simplex and hypercubes). For the simplex we tested dimensions:
 513 5, 25, 50, 100, and 250, and for the hypercube we tested dimensions: 5, 25, 50, 100, 500,
 514 and 1000. The *hitandrun* routines for sampling the simplex exhibited an extreme drop
 515 in performance at dimensions higher than 100 and memory contention at dimensions
 516 higher than 300.

517 For *hitandrun*, the total number of samples equals number of iterations times the
 518 thinning parameter. Because *hitandrun* does not make use of the GPU, the times
 519 are dependent on the CPU. Before running a given combination of convex body and
 520 dimension in MHAR, we selected the padding hyper-parameter z^* that had the highest
 521 average sampled points per second according to our padding experiments. So the z^*

can differ by dimension. We used $\varphi = 30,000$ and $T = 1$. Table 4 summarizes the results.

Table 4: Performance of MHAR versus HAR for the optimal value of z^*

Figure	n	z	Performance ratio (MHAR mean / HAR mean)	Avg. Samples Per Second			
				MHAR mean	HAR mean	MHAR Std. Dev.	HAR Std. Dev.
Hypercube	5	10,000	14.18	13,206,089.93	931,368.92	376,068.96	57,727.69
Hypercube	25	5,000	29.05	10,839,474.35	373,127.77	1,236,619.81	77,786.96
Hypercube	50	2,500	21.85	5,151,516.81	235,742.22	612,241.73	20,636.30
Hypercube	100	4,000	116.77	4,363,525.70	37,367.93	10,619.65	1,486.54
Hypercube	500	4,000	95.21	621,554.24	6,528.56	782.70	157.76
Hypercube	1,000	4,000	248.32	248,513.69	1,000.79	182.97	18.15
Simplex	5	10,000	23.14	22,878,783.33	988,580.92	1,258,481.83	126,254.73
Simplex	25	10,000	1,343.58	24,338,761.06	18,114.90	168,300.75	409.27
Simplex	50	10,000	12,630.89	13,425,900.57	1,062.94	16,403.51	17.33
Simplex	100	3,000	128,348.67	7,255,837.08	56.53	135,616.62	0.88
Simplex	250	4,000	2,551,224.17	2,656,449.22	1.04	4,440.59	0.00

523

Table 4 shows substantial performance gains for MHAR. For the simplex, the gains were greater at higher dimensions. The performance ratio (average samples per second for MHAR divided by that for HAR) was 23 for $n = 5$ and 2.5 million for $n = 250$. For the hypercube, performance gain for MHAR was also greater at higher dimensions. Nevertheless, the performance ratio was 14 for $n = 5$ and 248 for $n = 1,000$.

In order to test the limits of our implementation, we conducted an additional set of experiments for lower and higher dimensions and different padding parameters. We present these results in B.

6.4 Independence Test

To assess the convergence of MHAR to a uniform distribution, we conducted Friedman-Rafsky two-sample Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) test [Friedman and Rafsky(1979)], as was done in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus]. The test compares an obtained sample S (MHAR) with a sample U from the target distribution. The test defines an MST for S and U by counting the number of within- and across-sample edges to assess if both samples come from the same distribution. The statistic from the tests yields a z -value for the null hypothesis: “Both samples are drawn from the same distribution.” Authors in [Tervonen et al.(2013)Tervonen, Valkenhoef, Basturk, and Postmus] establish a threshold of $-1.64 \leq z$ -value to accept the null hypothesis.

542 A uniform sample U can quickly be drawn from the hypercube or the simplex
543 [Rubin(1981)] using known statistical methods. We generated 10 simulations in sim-
544 plexes and hypercubes in dimensions: 5, 15, 25, and 50, for a total of 80 simulations.
545 We used a single padding parameter (z) of 1000; and a "burning rate" (φ) of $(n-1)^3$ for
546 the simplex, and n^3 for the hypercube. Each simulation draw a total of 5000 samples
547 that were compared to an independently generated sample U each time.

548 Figure 5 shows the results from the experiments. The red dashed line represents
549 the threshold of $-1.64 \leq z\text{-value}$. All simulations where above the expected threshold
550 with the exception of one single experiment for the simplex in dimension 25. This
551 experiments suggests that MHAR mixes fast from any starting point, supporting the
uniform sample hypothesis.

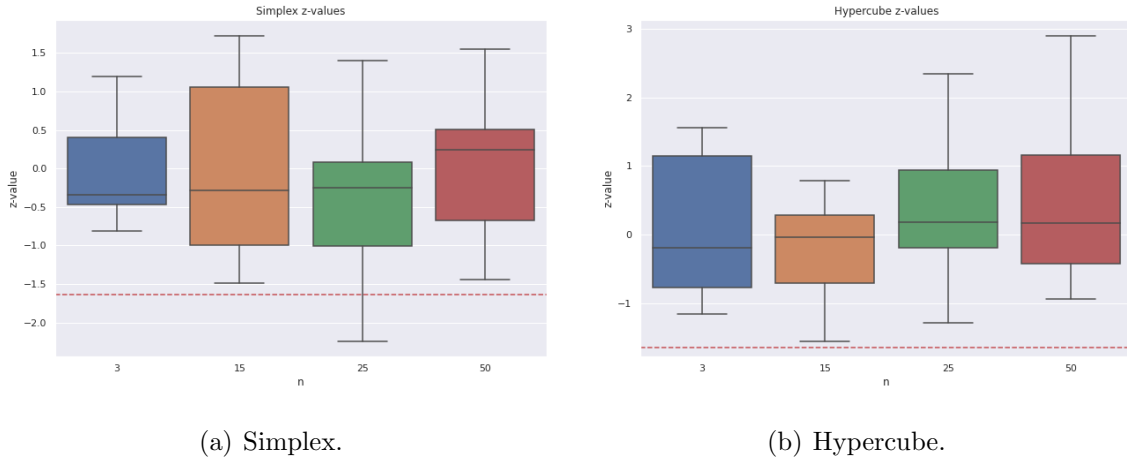


Figure 5: Friedman-Rafsky two-sample MST tests.

553 7 Conclusions

554 MHAR showed sustainable performance improvements over HAR while having a robust
555 uniform sampling. We hope that this technical advances move the scientific commu-
556 nity towards simulation approaches to complement the already established analytical
557 solutions. Our contribution was in creating the MHAR, analyzing its asymptotic be-

havior in terms of complexity and convergence, alongside a robust and easy to use implementation ready for deployment, including the cloud. Our implementation is substantially faster than existing libraries, especially for bigger dimensions. Additionally, we showed the versatility that Deep Learning frameworks, like Pytorch, can bring to support research.

We would like to emphasize the relevance of this work as a cornerstone to exploratory-optimization algorithms. The speedups we present in high dimensions makes it possible for many new practical applications to become a normal trend, expanding the range of solutions that engineering can provide. In particular, our previous work in Decision Analysis, Optimization, Game Theory, and Ambiguity Optimization will be significantly improved with this tool, and we think that many practitioners and researchers will be benefit as well.

Our implementation could be extended to multiple GPUs, possibly distributed. This will allow us to sample even larger polytopes using cloud architectures. Given the speed up results, a bounding approach for more general convex figures alongside accept-and-reject methods is worth exploring, especially for volume calculations.

Acknowledgments

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682 A Additional Optimal Padding Experiments

683 Here we present the results for different padding parameters using 10 MHAR runs for
 684 each dimension (25, 50, 100, 500) on simplexes and hypercubes. Figure 6 shows the
 box-plots for simplexes while Figure 7 shows the box-plots for hypercubes.

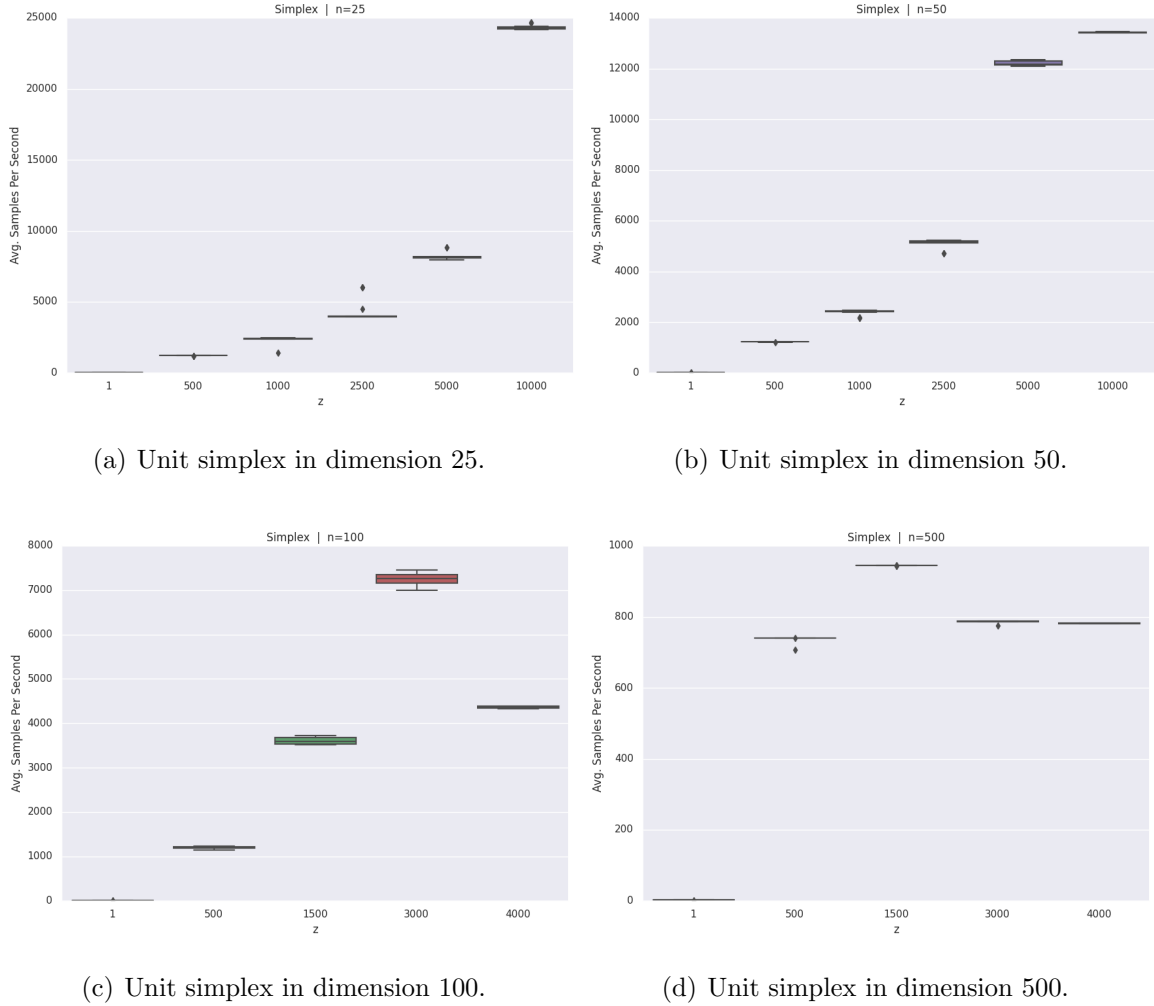


Figure 6: Box-plots for simplexes comparing padding behavior. In the y-axis the average samples per second are in thousands for different values of the padding parameter z .

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686 The box in the boxplots show the 25%, 50%, and 75% percentiles. The diamonds
 687 mark outliers, and the upper and lower limits mark the maximum and minimum values
 688 without considering outliers.

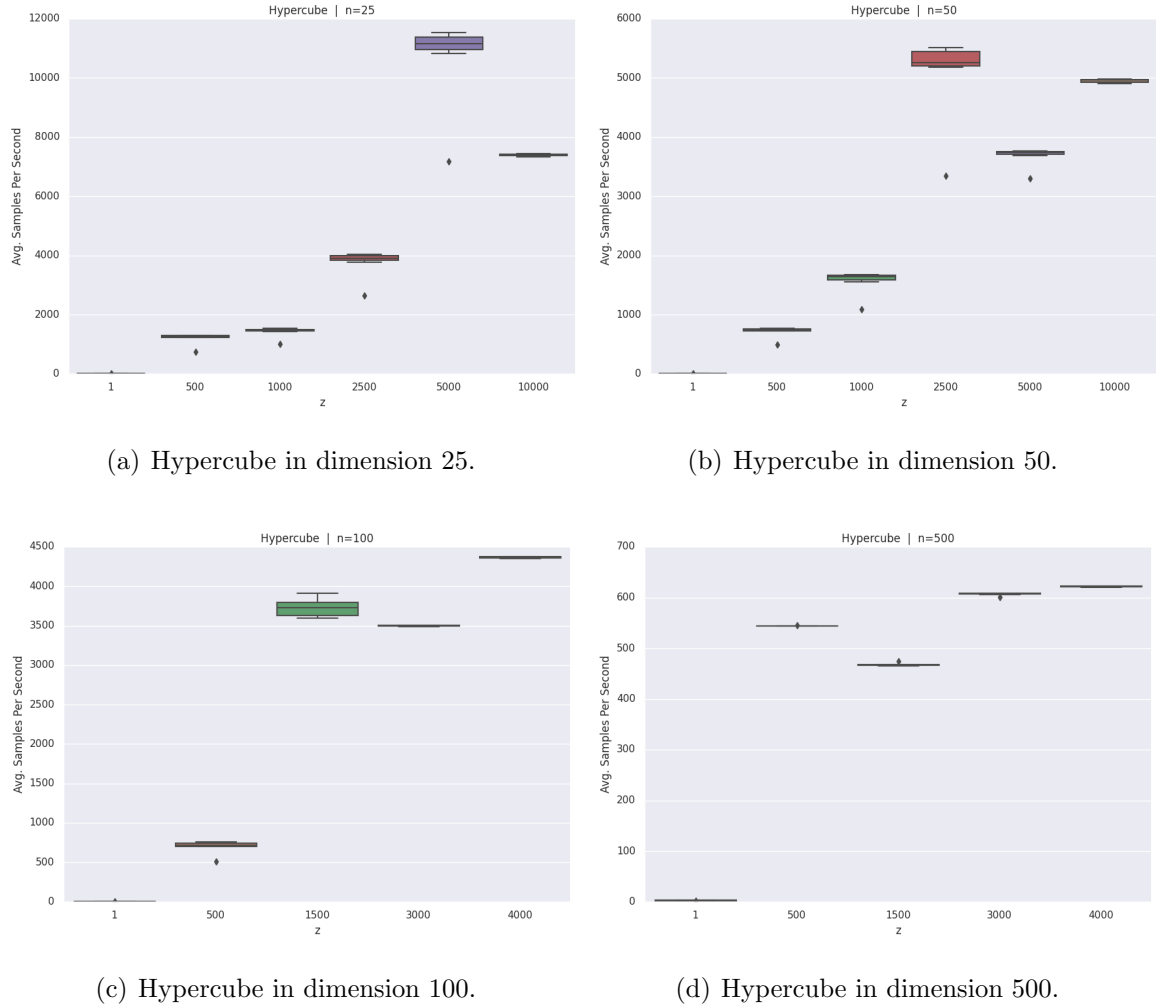


Figure 7: Box-plots for hypercube comparing padding behavior. In the y-axis the average samples per second are in thousands for different values of the padding parameter z .

B Additional Performance Experiments

Here we present some additional experiments of the fitness of the MHAR. Table 5 reports the running times and the average sampled points per second for the best values of z for each combination of figure and dimension. For each combination, we conducted the experiment 10 times. Table 5 shows that average samples per second is lower for higher dimensions, due to the curse of dimensionality. However, the performance of MHAR is outstanding.

Table 5: Samples Per Second of the MHAR.

Figure	n	z	Total Samples	Avg. Samples Per Second		Running Time (seconds)	
				Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.
Hypercube	3	10,000	300,000,000	25,357,073.87	675,444.40	11.84	0.32
Hypercube	5	10,000	300,000,000	13,206,089.93	376,068.96	22.73	0.66
Hypercube	15	10,000	300,000,000	25,344,794.68	655,021.48	11.84	0.31
Hypercube	25	5,000	150,000,000	10,839,474.35	1,236,619.81	14.07	2.28
Hypercube	50	2,500	75,000,000	5,151,516.81	612,241.73	14.83	2.54
Hypercube	100	4,000	120,000,000	4,363,525.70	10,619.65	27.50	0.07
Hypercube	250	3,000	90,000,000	1,219,419.53	8,630.27	73.81	0.53
Hypercube	500	4,000	120,000,000	621,554.24	782.70	193.06	0.24
Hypercube	1,000	4,000	120,000,000	248,513.69	182.97	482.87	0.36
Hypercube	2,500	1,500	15,000,000	50,808.74	15.02	295.22	0.09
Hypercube	5,000	1,000	10,000,000	16,161.69	5.92	618.75	0.23
Simplex	3	10,000	300,000,000	19,795,014.21	2,628,558.29	15.38	1.81
Simplex	5	10,000	300,000,000	22,878,783.33	1,258,481.83	13.15	0.77
Simplex	15	10,000	300,000,000	24,269,548.32	302,854.48	12.36	0.16
Simplex	25	10,000	300,000,000	24,338,761.06	168,300.75	12.33	0.08
Simplex	50	10,000	300,000,000	13,425,900.57	16,403.51	22.34	0.03
Simplex	100	3,000	90,000,000	7,255,837.08	135,616.62	12.41	0.23
Simplex	250	4,000	120,000,000	2,656,449.22	4,440.59	45.17	0.08
Simplex	500	1,500	45,000,000	944,784.52	583.24	47.63	0.03
Simplex	1,000	500	15,000,000	329,315.49	556.62	45.55	0.08
Simplex	2,500	500	5,000,000	77,312.01	3,045.62	64.78	2.86
Simplex	5,000	1,000	10,000,000	22,437.63	62.27	445.68	1.25

Note: The table contains the performance statistics obtained during the MHAR experiments for the best possible value of z we could find.