

# EXTRA CHANCE IN MONTE CARLO

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New Perspectives in Markov Chain Monte Carlo  
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## INTRODUCTION & MOTIVATION

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## Markov chain Monte Carlo methods

Family of methods for the simulation of stochastic processes.

**How to:** given  $\Pi$  (up to  $\propto$ ), Metropolis-Hasting generates a Markov chain  $\{X_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  for which  $\Pi$  is stationary.

**Problem:** correlation (the samples are not independent).

**Solution:** dynamics (gHMC) and, moreover, persistence (xHMC).



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Introduction & Motivation

gHMC & xHMC

Quantity & Quality

Case of Study & Benchmark

Epi & Logue



- Given  $\Pi$  (up to  $\infty$ ), we define the potential energy

$$V(q) = -\log(\Pi(q))$$

- We consider the (fictional) Hamiltonian

$$H(q, p) = \frac{1}{2}p^T M^{-1}p + V(q)$$

- Instead of sampling  $\Pi(q) = \exp(-V(q))$  in state-space  $q \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we sample

$$\Pi(q, p) = \exp(-H(q, p)) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}p^T M^{-1}p\right) \cdot \exp(-V(q))$$

in phase-space  $(q, p) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ .

**Note:**  $q$  and  $p$  are independently distributed,  $p \sim N(0, M)$ .



- Dynamics described by

$$H(q, p) = \frac{1}{2} p^T M^{-1} p + V(q)$$

- Motions characterized by

$$\dot{q} = M^{-1} p, \quad \dot{p} = -\nabla V$$

- Can be hard to integrate

$$(q(\tau), p(\tau)) = \mathbf{L}_\tau(q_0, p_0)$$

↪ numerical integrators

- Challenge: conservation laws

↪ energy, symplecticity (volume)

## Verlet / Leapfrog integrator

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$$p_{1/2} = p_0 + \frac{h}{2} f(q_0)$$

$$q_1 = q_0 + h p_{1/2}$$

$$p_1 = p_{1/2} + \frac{h}{2} f(q_1)$$

---

where  $f = -\nabla V$

$$\mathbf{L}_\tau \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{L}_{s,h}$$

GHMC & xHMC

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# GENERALIZED HYBRID/HAMILTONIAN MONTE CARLO

```
01  $p_0 = 0$ 
02  $\xi_0 = (q_0, p_0)$ 
03 for  $n = 0$  to  $N - 1$  do
04    $\xi_n^0 = \mathbf{R}\xi_n$ 
05    $\xi_n^1 = \mathbf{L}\xi_n^0$ 
06    $\Sigma = \min(1, \Pi(\xi_n^1)/\Pi(\xi_n^0))$ 
07   if  $u_n \leq \Sigma$  then
08      $\xi_{n+1} = \xi_n^1$ 
09   else
10      $\xi_{n+1} = \mathbf{F}\xi_n^0$ 
11   end_if
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Step 0: preparation

- Space extension

$$q \implies \xi = (q, p)$$

- Hamiltonian dynamics

$$H(\xi) = \frac{1}{2}p^T M^{-1}p + V(q)$$

- Maxwell-Boltzmann distr.

$$\Pi(\xi) \propto \exp(-H(\xi))$$

- Start the loop

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Step 1: momentum refreshment

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{R}\xi &= \mathbf{R}_\psi(q, p) := (q, p') \\ p' &:= \cos \psi \cdot p + \sin \psi \cdot z \\ z &\sim N(0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi \in [0, \pi/2] \rightsquigarrow \sin \psi \in [0, 1]$

Note: if  $\sin \psi = 1$  then

$$p' = p(\mathbf{R}\xi) \sim N(0, 1)$$

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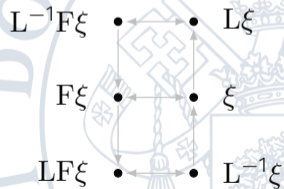
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Step 2: integrate & flip

$$\mathbf{L}: (q_0, p_0) \xrightarrow{L_{s,h}} (q_1, p_1)$$

$$\mathbf{F}: (q, p) \mapsto (q, -p)$$





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Step 3: accept/reject

$$\xi_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{L}\xi_n & \text{w. prob } \Sigma \\ \mathbf{F}\xi_n & \text{w. prob } 1 - \Sigma \end{cases}$$

by drawing  $u_n \sim U([0, 1])$

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Step 4: throw momentum away



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Finale: genHMC algorithm



**Goal:** improve acceptance rate (and chain quality).

**Problem:** rejections are costly.

**Question:** can we salvage them?



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**Idea:** generate an integration chain and choose (according to the dynamics)

$K \geq 1$  total chances  
 $K - 1 \geq 0$  extra chances



 J. Sohl-Dickstein, M. Mudigonda & M.R. DeWeese  
*Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Without Detailed Balance.*  
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**Question:** can we salvage them?

$$\xi_{n+1} = \begin{cases} L^1 \xi_n & \text{with probability } \pi_{L^1}(\xi_n) \\ L^2 \xi_n & \text{with probability } \pi_{L^2}(\xi_n) \\ \vdots & \\ L^K \xi_n & \text{with probability } \pi_{L^K}(\xi_n) \\ F \xi_n & \text{with probability } \pi_F(\xi_n) \end{cases}$$

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## Definition (Cumulative Transition Probabilities [Campos & Sanz-Serna, 2015])

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma^a(\xi) &:= \min \left\{ 1, \max_{b < a} \frac{\Pi(\text{FL}^b \xi)}{\Pi(\xi)} \right\} \\ \pi_{L^{a+1}}(\xi) &:= \Sigma^{a+1}(\xi) - \Sigma^a(\xi) \\ \pi_F(\xi) &:= 1 - \Sigma^K\end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (Detailed Balance [Campos & Sanz-Serna, 2015])

*The associated transition kernel satisfies detailed balance.*

Proof.

Thanks to reversibility and volume preservation, establish  $\Pi(\xi) \cdot \pi_{L^a}(\xi) = \Pi(\text{FL}^a \xi) \cdot \pi_{L^a}(\text{FL}^a \xi)$ . Then, go for the definition detailed balance.  $\square$

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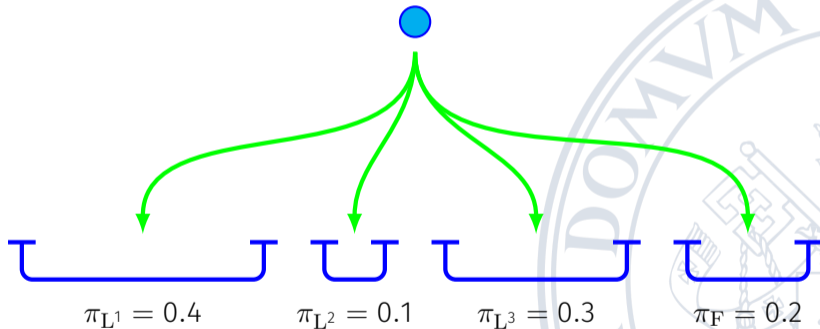
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$u = 0.6$



$\pi_{L^1} = 0.4$



$\pi_{L^2} = 0.1$

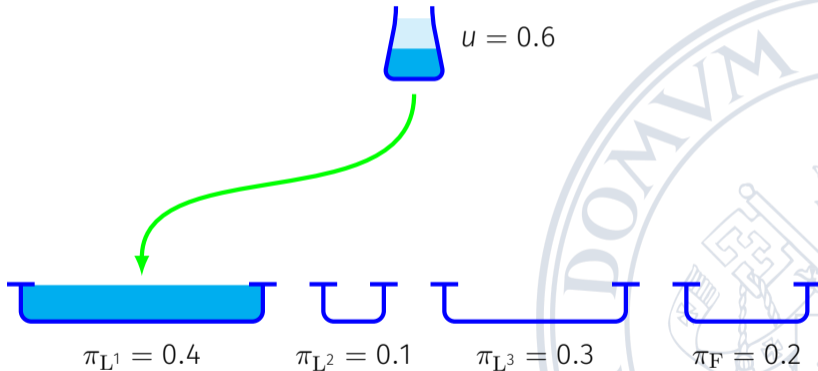


$\pi_{L^3} = 0.3$



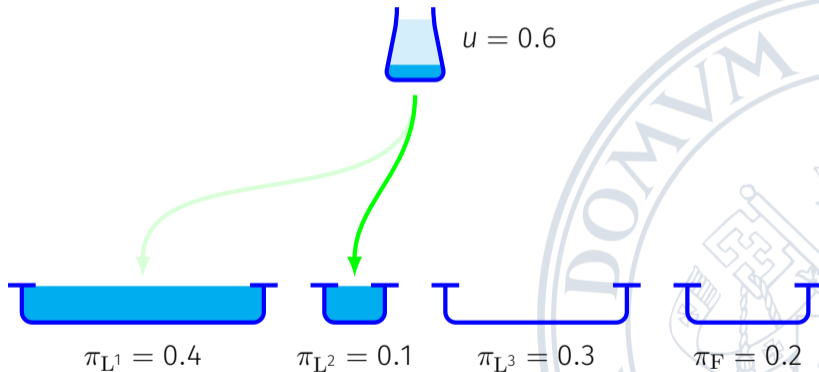
$\pi_F = 0.2$

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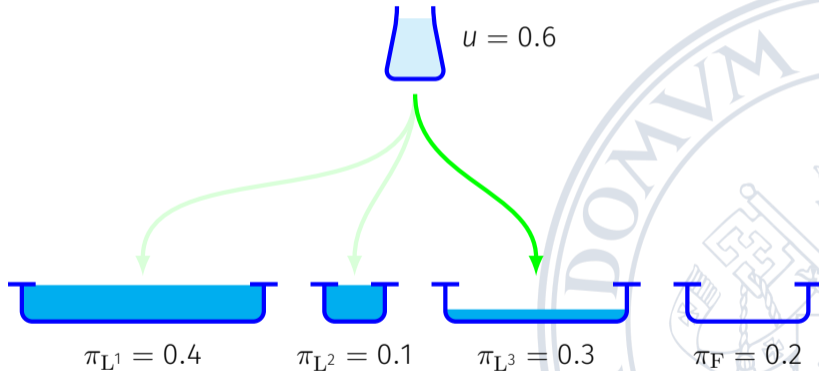




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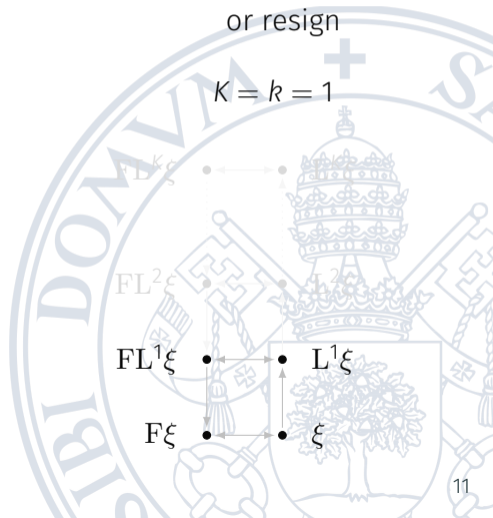


# THE xHMC ALGORITHM

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04    $\xi_n^0 = \mathbf{R}\xi_n$ 
05    $\Sigma = k = 0$ 
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07      $k = k + 1$ 
08      $\xi_n^k = \mathbf{L}\xi_n^{k-1}$ 
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10   while  $u_n > \Sigma$  and  $k < K$ 
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genHMC: succeed  
or resign

$K = k = 1$



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xHMC: persist

$K \geq k \geq 1$

$\text{FL}^k \xi \longleftrightarrow \text{L}^k \xi$

$\text{FL}^2 \xi \longleftrightarrow \text{L}^2 \xi$

$\text{FL}^1 \xi \longleftrightarrow \text{L}^1 \xi$

$\text{F}\xi \longleftrightarrow \xi$

## QUANTITY & QUALITY

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## EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE (ESS)

How to quantitatively determine the meaningful data of an MC?

$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m$  MC  $\sim \Pi$

$$\mu_m^X \rightarrow \mu$$

$$\sqrt{m}(\mu_m^X - \mu) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\mu = \int g(x)\Pi(x) dx$$

$$\mu_r^Z = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{k=1}^r g(Z_k)$$

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$$\frac{\sigma^2}{m} \approx \frac{s^2}{n}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$n \approx m \frac{s^2}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\sigma^2 \approx ?_i$$

$$s^2 \approx \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (g(X_i) - \mu_m^X)^2 =: \gamma_{m,0}^X$$

## EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE (ESS)

How to quantitatively determine the meaningful data of an MC?

$$\begin{array}{|l} X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m \text{ MC} \sim \Pi \\ \mu_m^X \rightarrow \mu \\ \sqrt{m}(\mu_m^X - \mu) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma^2) \end{array} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} \mu = \int g(x)\Pi(x) dx \\ \mu_r^Z = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{k=1}^r g(Z_k) \end{array} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n \text{ i.i.d.} \sim \Pi \\ \mu_n^Y \rightarrow \mu \\ \sqrt{n}(\mu_n^Y - \mu) \rightarrow N(0, s^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Theorem (Kipnis & Varadhan, 1986)

*For a stationary, irreducible, reversible Markov chain*

$$m \text{ var } \mu_m^X \rightarrow \sigma^2 := \sum_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \gamma_k, \quad \gamma_k := \text{cov}(g(X_i), g(X_{i+k})) .$$

*If  $\sigma^2$  is finite, then*

$$\sqrt{m}(\mu_m^X - \mu) \rightarrow N(0, \sigma^2)$$

## EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE (ESS)

- Direct approaches to compute  $\gamma_k$  give bad results.
- Alternative, define  $\Gamma_k := \gamma_{2k} + \gamma_{2k+1}$

Theorem (Geyer, 1992)

$\Gamma_k = \Gamma(k)$  is strictly positive, strictly decreasing and strictly convex.

- Approximate  $\gamma_k \approx \gamma_{m,k}^X := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m-k} (g(X_i) - \mu_m^X)(g(X_{i+k}) - \mu_m^X)$
- and  $\Gamma_k \approx \Gamma_{m,k}^X := \gamma_{m,2k}^X + \gamma_{m,2k+1}^X$
- Modify  $\Gamma_{m,k}^X$  such that theorem is “satisfied”.
- Then  $\sigma^2 \approx -\gamma_{m,0}^X + 2 \sum \Gamma_{m,k}^X$ .



C.J. Geyer

*Practical Markov Chain Monte Carlo.*  
Statistical Science 7 (1992).

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## CASE OF STUDY & BENCHMARK

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Linear alkanes are chemical compounds of the form



The conformation of the molecule is characterized by the positions of the Carbon atoms.

 E. Cancès, F. Legoll & G. Stoltz

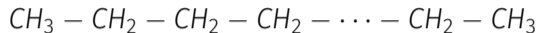
*Theoretical and numerical comparison of some sampling methods for molecular dynamics.*

ESAIM: M2AN **41** (2007).

It is assumed they behave according to the potential

$$V(q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} V_2(d_{i,i+1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} V_3(\theta_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} V_4(\phi_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} \sum_{j=i+3}^n V_{LJ}(d_{i,j})$$

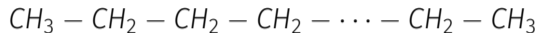
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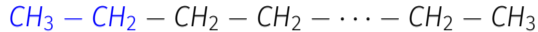


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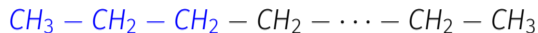
where

$$V_2(d) = \frac{1}{2}k_0(d - d_0)^2$$

covalent bond potential between two consecutive Carbon atoms

- $d$ , distance between the atoms
- $k_0, d_0$ , system parameters

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where

$$V_3(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \kappa_0 (\theta - \theta_0)^2$$

three-body interaction potential

- $\theta$ , bending angle between three consecutive atoms
- $\kappa_0, \theta_0$ , system parameters

Linear alkanes are chemical compounds of the form



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$$V(q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} V_2(d_{i,i+1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} V_3(\theta_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} V_4(\phi_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} \sum_{j=i+3}^n V_{LJ}(d_{i,j})$$

where

$$V_4(\phi) = c_1(1 - x) + 2c_2(1 - x^2) + c_3(1 + 3x - 4x^3)$$

four-body interaction potential

- $\phi = \arccos(x)$ , dihedral angle between four consecutive atoms
- $c_1, c_2, c_3$ , system parameters

Linear alkanes are chemical compounds of the form



It is assumed they behave according to the potential

$$V(q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} V_2(d_{i,i+1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} V_3(\theta_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} V_4(\phi_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} \sum_{j=i+3}^n V_{LJ}(d_{i,j})$$

where

$$V_{LJ}(d) = 4\epsilon \left( \left( \frac{\sigma}{d} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{d} \right)^6 \right)$$

Lennard-Jones potential of two Carbon atoms connected by three or more covalent bonds

- $d$ , distance between the atoms
- $\epsilon, \sigma$ , system parameters

# SIMULATIONS

- alkane = 9 carbons (i.e. 6 diedra)
- $K = 0$ , 3 (extra chances)
- $\sin \psi = 0.10, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1$
- $L\Delta t = 0.12, 0.24, 0.36, 0.48, 0.60, 0.72$
- $\Delta t = 0.012, 0.020, 0.024, 0.030$
- chains per setting = 10

total chains = 1800 (several GiB)

- cost =  $10^6$  force evaluations
- ESS measures:
  - 1st diedra,  $g(x) = \mathbf{1}_{[-1.75, 1.75]}(x)$

92.6707	9240	3368	3632
77.0985	8853	3782	3965
65.3370	7431	3401	3518
92.9657	5.8980	0.9573	0.1426
80.2533	15.9591	3.2026	0.4637
71.6308	21.9310	5.3675	0.8597
92.5993	8943	3436	3504
77.1728	8822	4160	4096
65.2272	8421	4352	4146
92.8594	6.0066	0.9512	0.1486
80.0717	16.0101	3.3024	0.4854
71.4885	22.0166	5.4070	0.8759
92.5784	9952	4689	4510
77.2683	10530	5278	5117
65.3837	9445	4997	4745
92.9053	5.9769	0.9382	0.1476
79.9234	16.1746	3.2781	0.4934
71.2970	22.0998	5.5346	0.8526
92.5878	8169	4135	3961
77.2775	9736	5410	5231
65.5464	8982	5168	4937
92.8834	5.9911	0.9473	0.1382
79.8834	16.0888	3.2885	0.4854



## RESULTS: ACCEPTANCE RATIO

$\Delta t$	$K = 0$	$K = 3$				
		$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$\sum a_k$
0.012	93%	93%	6%	1%	0%	100%
0.016	86%	87%	11%	2%	0%	100%
0.020	77%	80%	16%	3%	1%	100%
0.024	65%	71%	22%	6%	1%	100%

Acceptance rates (rounded) for  $\sin \psi = 1$ ,  $L\Delta t = 0.48$  and different values of  $\Delta t$  and  $K$ ,  $K = 0$  (standard HMC) and  $K = 3$  (three extra chances). The column labelled  $a_k$  gives the acceptance rate at the  $(k + 1)$ -try.

Conclusion: extra chance increases acceptance ratio

Question: worth? (tricky, shorter chain lengths)

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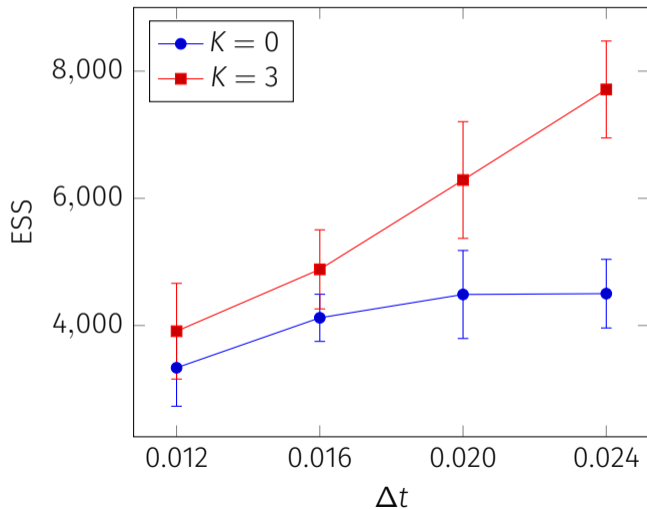
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# RESULTS: EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE VS. INTEGRATION TIME STEP

$$L\Delta t = 0.48, \sin \psi = 1$$

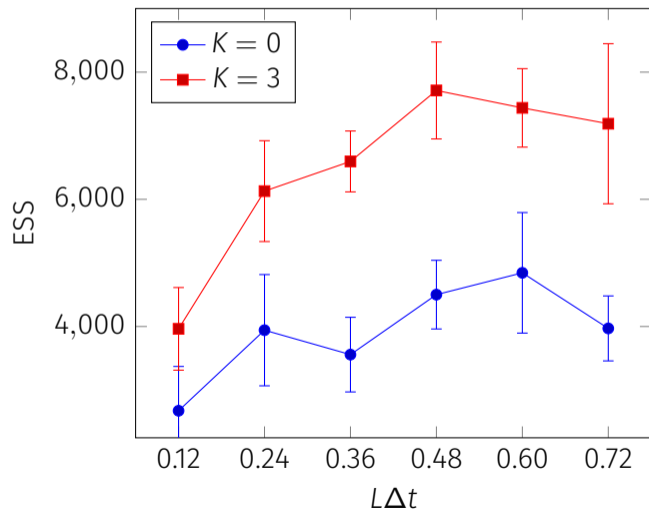


ESS as a function of ITS

- fixed ITI
- full mom. refresh

# RESULTS: EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE VS. INTEGRATION TIME INTEGRATION

$\Delta t = 0.024, \sin \psi = 1$

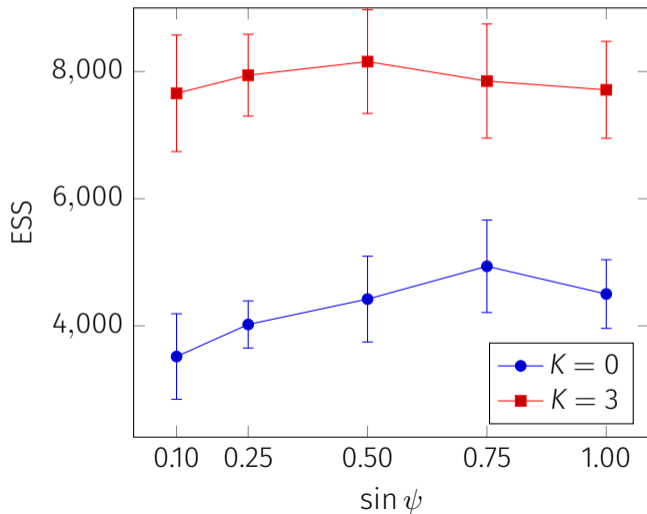


ESS as a function of ITI

- fixed ITS
- full momentum refreshment

# RESULTS: EFFECTIVE SAMPLE SIZE VS. MOMENTUM REFRESHMENT

$\Delta t = 0.024, L\Delta t = 0.48$



ESS as a function of refreshment

- fixed ITS
- fixed ITI

EPI & LOGUE

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### Conclusions:

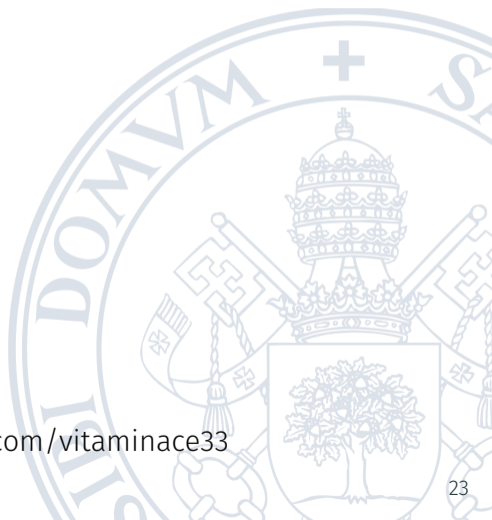
- clever (uses dynamics)
- applicable (detailed balance)
- easily implementable (simple back-recurrence)
- worth (quality chains)





### Outlook:

- integration (cheap & tailored)

### Extra:

- Matlab/Octave code available at <http://github.com/vitaminace33>



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*Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Without Detailed Balance.*  
Proc. Int. Conf. Mach. Learn. **31** (2014).



QUESTIONS?

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