

*Adaptive Langevin Algorithms  
for Canonical Sampling with  
Noisy Forces in Scale-bridging  
Molecular Dynamics*

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**Problem:** use stochastic dynamics to accurately sample a distribution with given positive smooth density

$$\rho \propto \exp(-U)$$

**in case the force  $-\nabla U$  can only be computed approximately**

Examples:

### **Multiscale models**

several flavors of hybrid **ab initio MD Methods**

**QM/MM** methods

...Many applications in **Bayesian Inference &**

**Big Data Analytics**

**What to do about the force error?**

# Methods for Gibbs sampling with a noisy gradient

- Ignore the perturbation
- Estimate the perturbation/correct for it
- SGLD (Langevin with a diminishing stepsize sequence)
- Adaptive thermostats Ad-L, Ad-NH,...

With a clean gradient:  $F(x) = -\nabla U(x)$

Brownian Dynamics

$$dx = F(x)dt + \sqrt{2}dW$$

- SDEs which can be solved to generate a path  $x(t)$
- Under typical conditions, for almost all paths,

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \tau^{-1} \int_0^\tau \varphi(x(t))dt = \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x)\rho(x)dx$$

## How to discretize?

Euler-Maruyama? Stochastic Heun?

## Euler-Maruyama Method

$$x_0 \rightarrow x_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_N, \quad Nh = \tau$$

discrete Brownian path

~~$$x_{n+1} = x_n + hF(x_n) + \sqrt{2h}R_n$$~~

$$R_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

## Leimkuhler-Matthews Method

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + hF(x_n) + \sqrt{h/2}(R_n + R_{n-1})$$

[L. & Matthews, AMRX, 2013]

[L., Matthews & Tretyakov, Proc Roy Soc A, 2014]

Theorem (*BL-CM-MT Proc Roy Soc A 2014*)

For the **L-M method**, under suitable conditions,

$$\mathbf{E}\varphi(X_x(\tau)) - \mathbf{E}\varphi(X_N) = C_0(\tau, x)h + C(\tau, x)h^2$$

$$|C_0(\tau, x)| \leq K_0(1 + |x|^\eta)e^{-\lambda_0\tau}$$

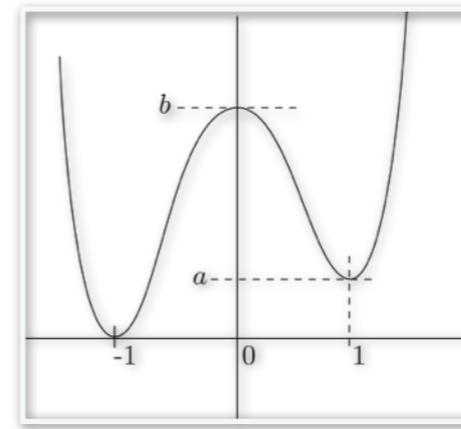
$$\lambda_0, \lambda > 0$$

$$|C(\tau, x)| \leq K(1 + |x|^\eta e^{-\lambda\tau})$$

Euler-Maruyama: Weak 1st order, also as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$

**L-M: Weak first order -> weak asymptotic second order**

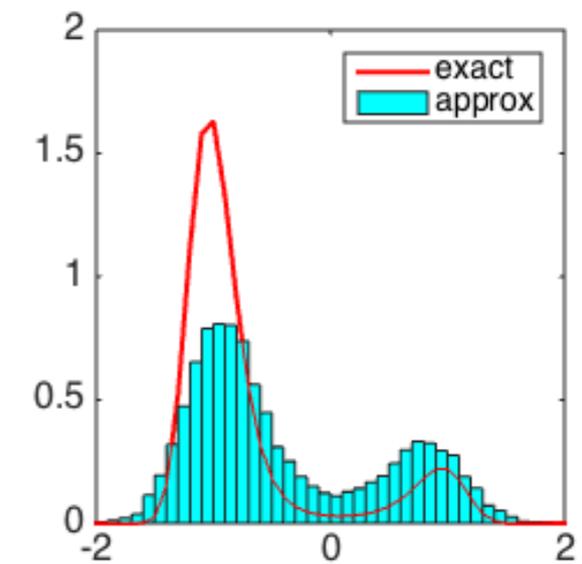
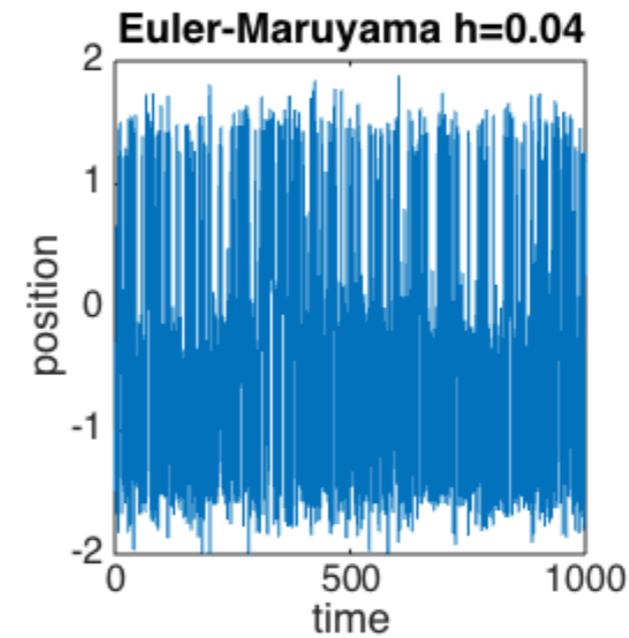
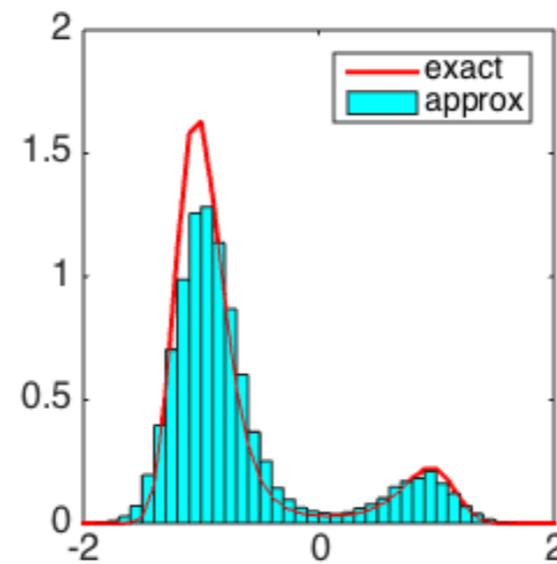
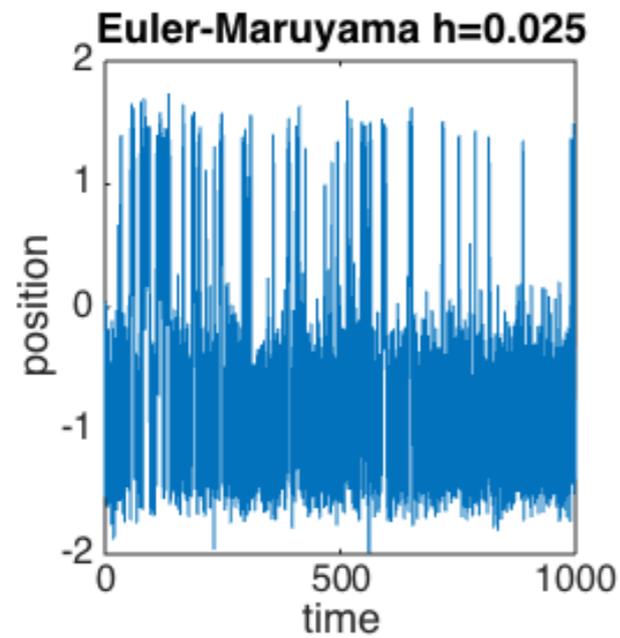
# Uneven Double Well



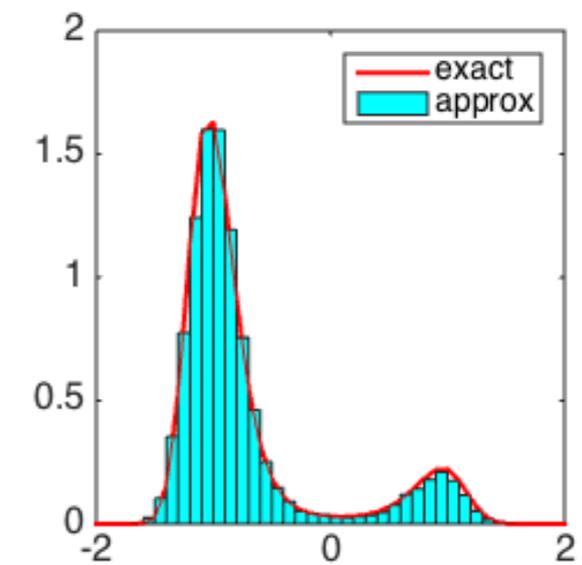
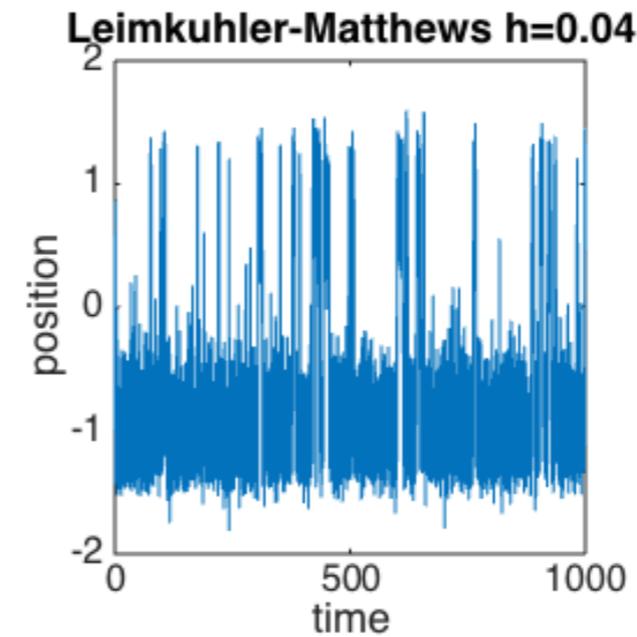
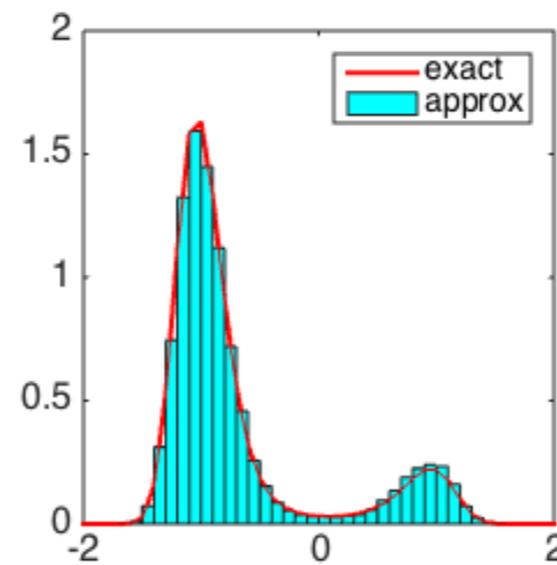
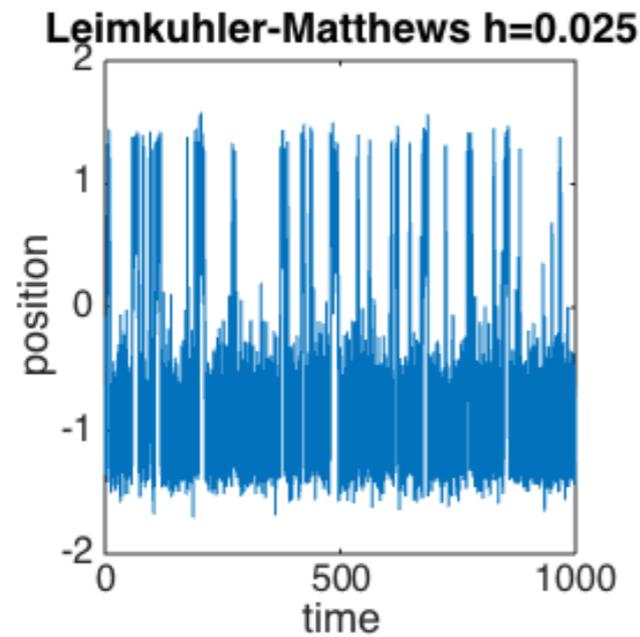
small stepsize

large stepsize

E-M

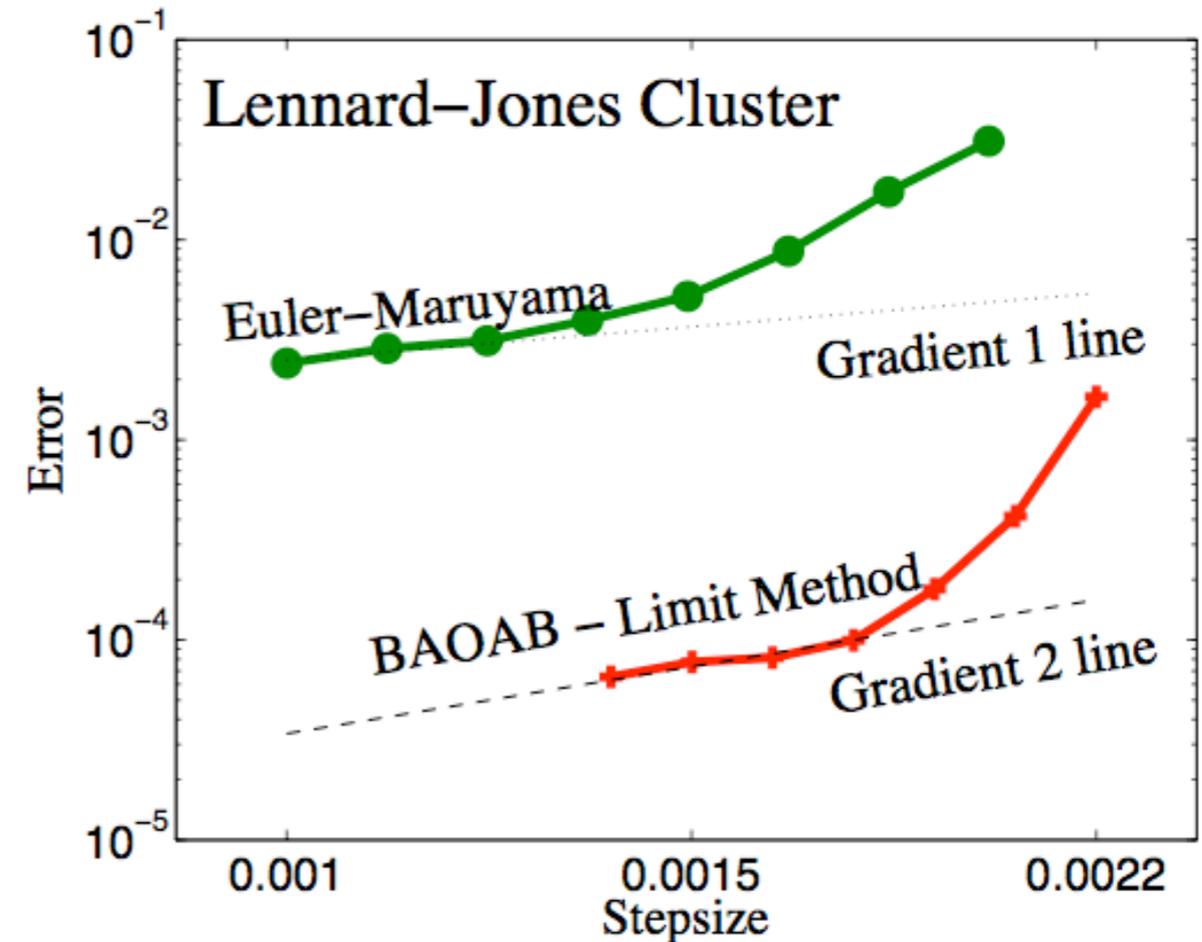
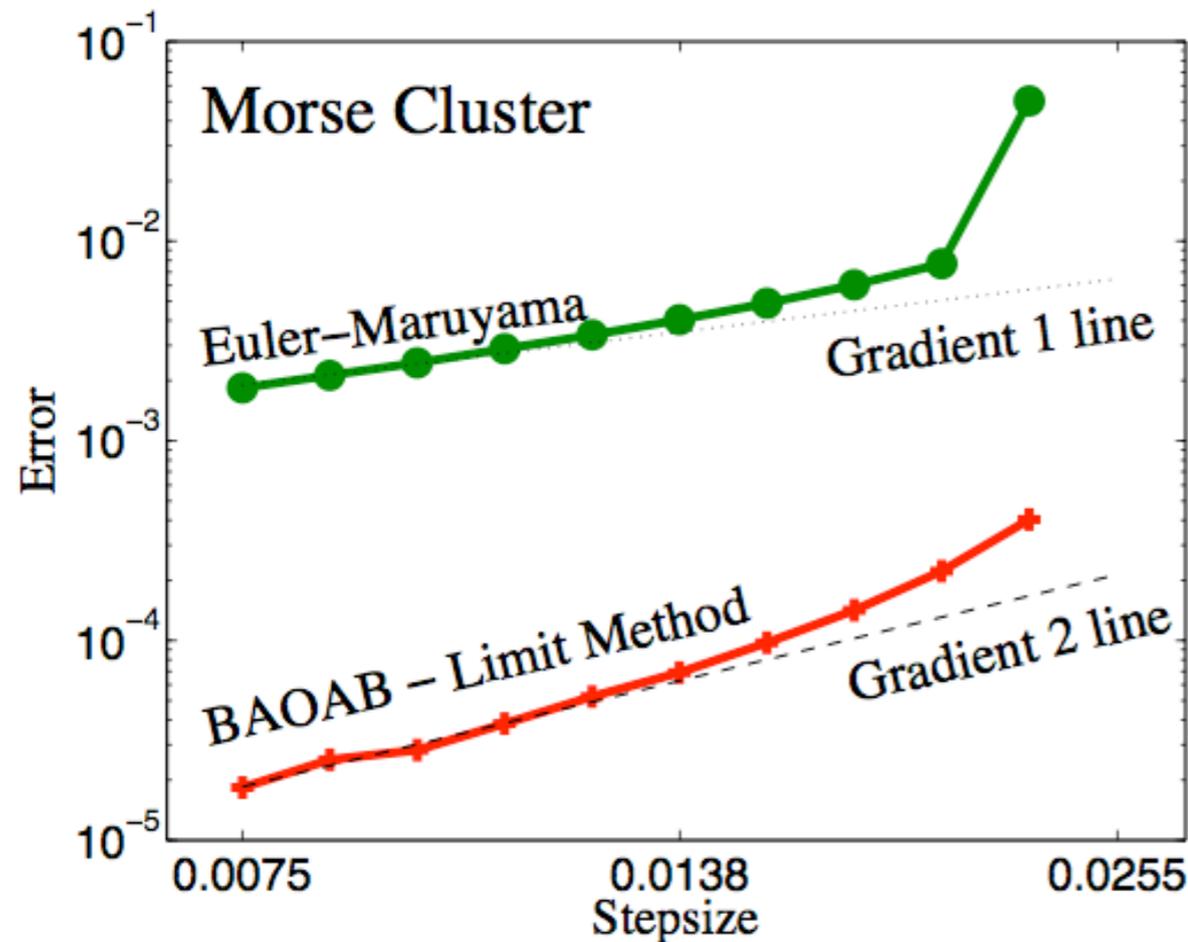
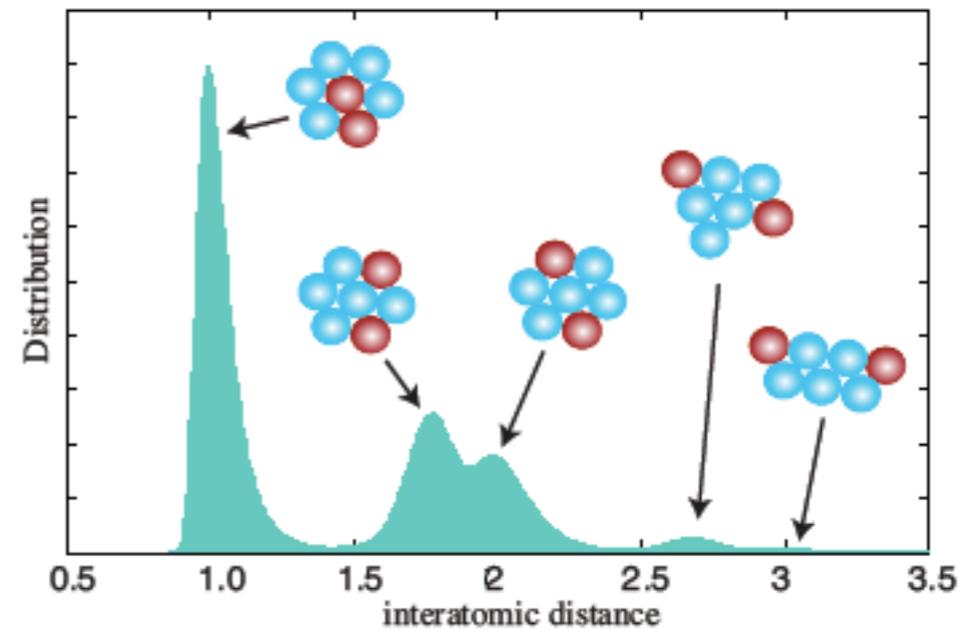


L-M



# Morse and Lennard Jones Clusters

binned radial density



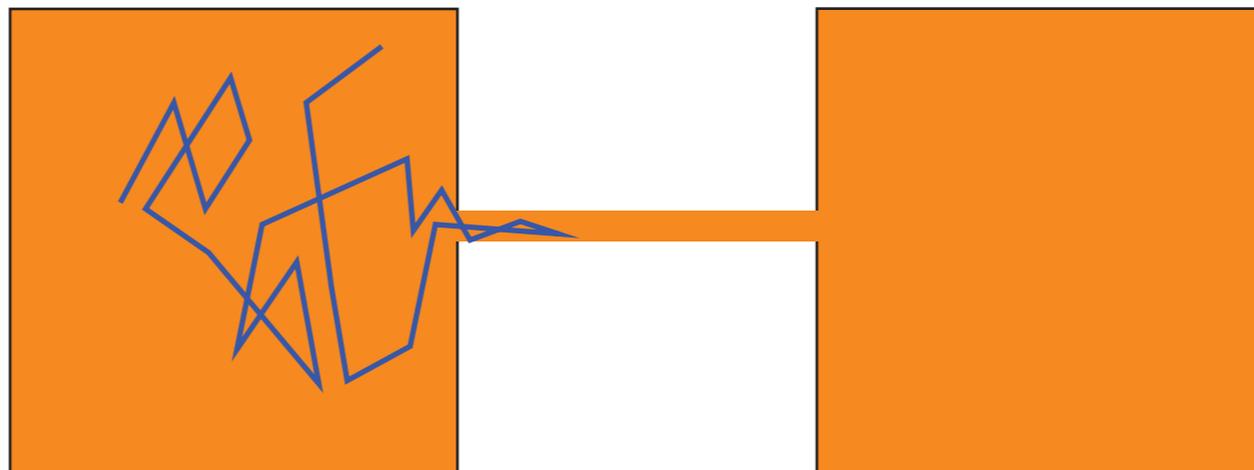
## Accuracy $\neq$ Sampling Efficiency

Most sampling calculations are performed in the **pre-converged regime** (not at infinite time).

The challenge is often **effective search in a high dimensional space riddled with entropic barriers**

Brownian (first order) dynamics is “*non-inertial*”

**Langevin** (inertial) stochastic dynamics, at low friction, **can enhance diffusion** through entropic barriers



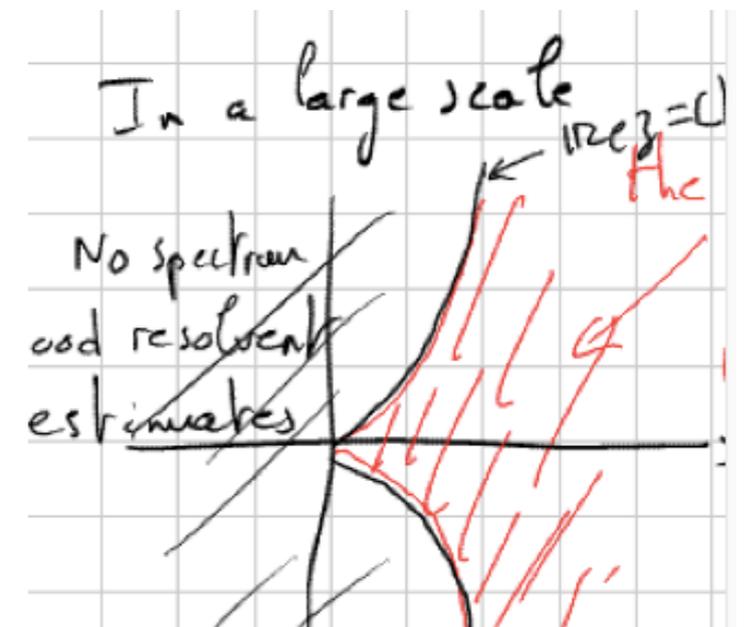
# Langevin Dynamics

$$dx = M^{-1}p dt$$

$$dp = -\nabla U dt - \gamma M^{-1}p dt + \sqrt{2\beta^{-1}\gamma} dW$$

With Periodic Boundary Conditions and smooth potential, ergodic sampling of the canonical distribution with density

$$\rho_{\text{can}} \propto e^{-\beta(p^T M^{-1}p/2 + U(q))}$$



**courtesy F.Nier**

# Splitting Methods for Langevin Dynamics

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_A + \mathcal{L}_B + \mathcal{L}_O$$

$$\mathcal{L}_A = (M^{-1}p) \cdot \nabla_x$$

$$\mathcal{L}_B = -\nabla U(x) \cdot \nabla_p$$

$$\mathcal{L}_O = -\gamma(M^{-1}p) \cdot \nabla_p + \gamma\beta^{-1}\Delta_p$$

$$e^{h\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\text{BAOAB}}} = e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_B} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_A} e^{h\mathcal{L}_O} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_A} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_B}$$

# Expansion of the invariant distribution

$$[\mathcal{L}^\dagger + h^2 \mathcal{L}_2^\dagger + \dots] e^{-\beta(H + h^2 f_2 + \dots)} = 0$$

Leading order:

$$\mathcal{L}^\dagger(\rho_{\text{can}} f_2) = \beta^{-1} \mathcal{L}_2^\dagger \rho_{\text{can}}$$

L. & Matthews, AMRX, 2013

L., Matthews, & Stoltz, IMA J. Num. Anal. 2015

- detailed treatment of all 1st and 2nd order splittings
- estimates for the operator inverse and justification of the expansion
- treatment of nonequilibrium (e.g. transport coefficients)

# Configurational Sampling

The Magic Cancellation: (BL&CM 2013)

The marginal (configurational) distribution of the **BAOAB** method has an expansion of the form

$$\bar{\rho}_h = e^{-\beta U} [1 + O(h^2/\gamma^2) + O(h^4)]$$

In the high friction limit: 4th order, and with just one force evaluation per timestep.

Weak accuracy order = 2 but for high friction, 4th order in the invariant measure.

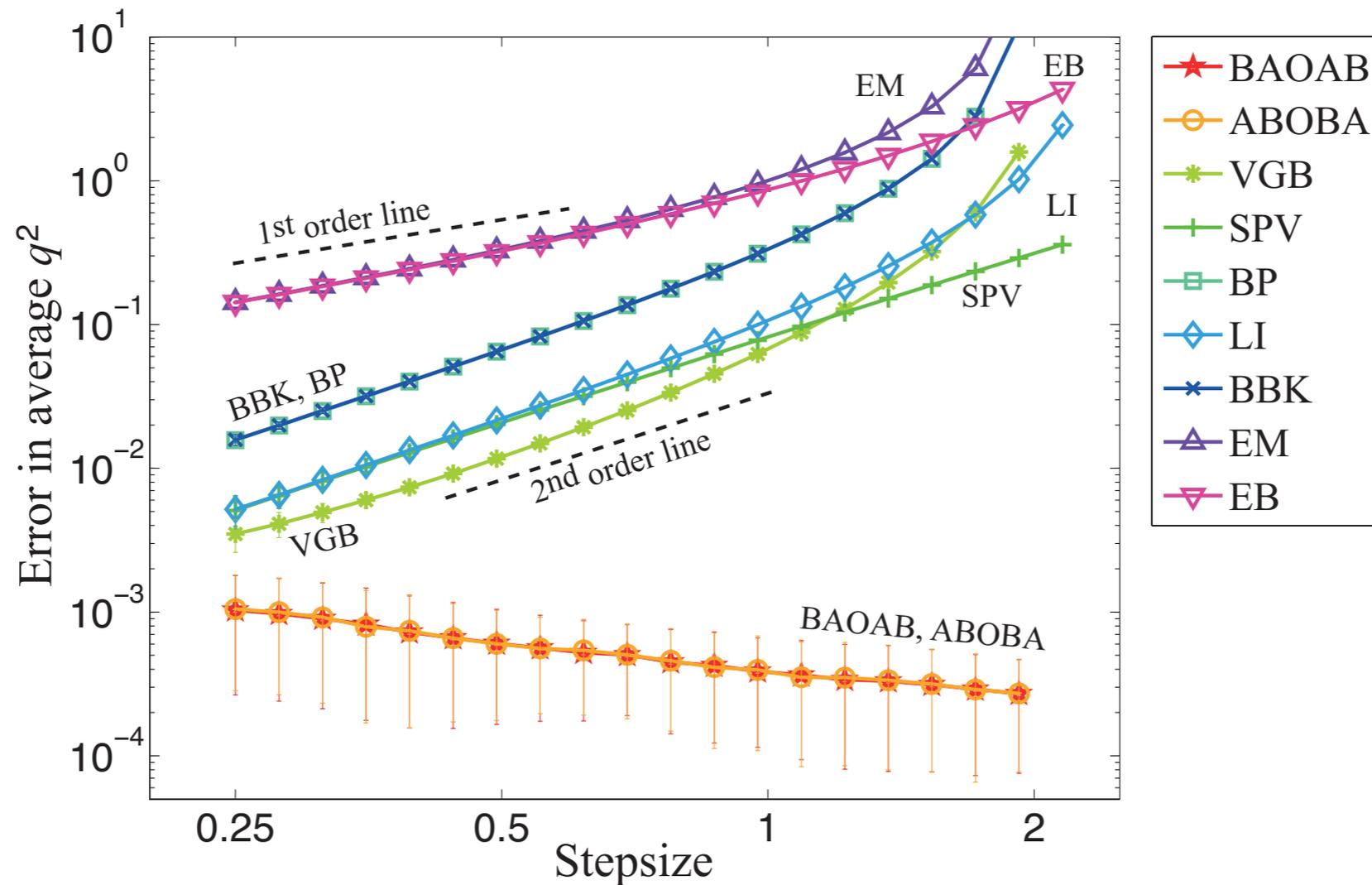
# Harmonic Oscillator Configurational Sampling

L. & Matthews, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2014

**ABOBA** and **BAOAB** are *exact* for configurations

| Scheme | $\langle q^2 \rangle$  | Scheme | $\langle q^2 \rangle$   |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| Exact  | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1}$   | SPV    | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} \left( \gamma \delta t \frac{1 - e^{-2\gamma\delta t}}{2(1 - e^{-\gamma\delta t})^2} \right)$ |
| BAOAB  | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1}$   | LI     | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} - \frac{\delta t^2}{12M\beta} + O(\delta t^4)$  |
| ABOBA  | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1}$   | VGB    | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} + \frac{\gamma^2 M - 2K}{24M\beta K} \delta t^2 + O(\delta t^4)$                              |
| BBK    | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\delta t^2 K}{4M} \right)^{-1}$ | EM     | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\delta t K}{2\gamma M} \right)^{-1}$   |
| BP     | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\delta t^2 K}{4M} \right)^{-1}$ | EB     | $K^{-1}\beta^{-1} + \frac{\delta t}{2\gamma M\beta} + O(\delta t^2)$  |

# Harmonic Oscillator Configurational Sampling



**BAOAB** and **ABOBA** both are exact for PE

*But...this is only part of the story since **BAOAB** is much better than **ABOBA** for real molecules*

# Anharmonic model problem

$$U(q) = \frac{q^2}{2} + \eta q^4$$

Asymptotic analysis of sampling error of  $\langle q^2 \rangle$

typical, e.g. **OBABO**:  $O(\delta t^2)$

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**ABOBA**:  $O(\eta \delta t^2)$

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**BAOAB**:  $\frac{9\eta^2 \delta t^2}{6\gamma^2 + 8} + O(\eta^2 \delta t^4)$

but....

**What to do about the force error?**

$$\tilde{F}(x) = -\nabla U(x) + \eta(x)$$

a sampling error... it seems natural to take

$$\eta(x) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2(x))$$

and also, at least in the first stage, to assume  $\sigma(x) \approx \sigma$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{n+1} &= x_n + hF(x_n) + h\sigma\tilde{R}_n + \sqrt{2h}R_n \\ &= x_n + hF(x_n) + \sqrt{h}\sqrt{h\sigma^2 + 2}\hat{R}_n \end{aligned}$$

Like Euler-Maruyama discretization of

$$dx = F(x)dt + \sqrt{2 + \sigma^2}hdW$$

$$dx = F(x)dt + \sqrt{2 + \sigma^2 h}dW$$

1. Stepsize-dependent dynamics (like in B.E.A.)
2. Distorts temperature
3. Easy to correct - if we know  $\sigma$
4. Computing/estimating  $\sigma$  can be difficult in practice

Options:

Monte-Carlo based approach [[Ceperley et al, 'Quantum Monte Carlo' 1999](#)]

Stochastic Gradient Langevin Dynamics [[Welling, Teh, 2011](#)]

Adaptive Thermostat [[Jones and L., 2011](#)]

# The Adaptive Property

*Jones & L. 2011*

Applying Nosé-Hoover Dynamics to a system which is driven by white noise restores the canonical distribution.

Adaptive (Automatic) Langevin

$$dx = M^{-1}p dt$$

$$dp = -\nabla U dt - \sqrt{\hbar}\sigma dW - \xi p dt + \sigma_A dW_A$$

$$d\xi = \mu^{-1} [p^T M^{-1} p - n\beta^{-1}] dt$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = e^{-\beta[p^T M^{-1} p/2 + U(x)]} \times e^{-\beta\mu(\xi - \gamma)^2/2} \quad \text{ergodic!}$$

Shift in auxiliary variable by  $\gamma = \frac{\beta(\hbar\sigma^2 + \sigma_A^2)}{2\text{Tr}(M)}$

# Discretization

[With X. Shang, 2015]

generator:  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_A + \mathcal{L}_B + \mathcal{L}_O + \mathcal{L}_D$

$$\mathcal{L}_A = (M^{-1}p) \cdot \nabla_x$$

$$\mathcal{L}_B = -\nabla U(x) \cdot \nabla_p + \frac{h\sigma^2}{2} \Delta_p$$

$$\mathcal{L}_O = -\xi p \cdot \nabla_p + \frac{\sigma_A^2}{2} \Delta_p$$

$$\mathcal{L}_D = G(p) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi}$$

define related operator by composition, e.g. **BADODAB**

$$e^{h\hat{\mathcal{L}}} = e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_B} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_A} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_D} e^{h\mathcal{L}_O} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_D} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_A} e^{\frac{h}{2}\mathcal{L}_B}$$

typically anticipate 2nd order (IM)

# Superconvergence

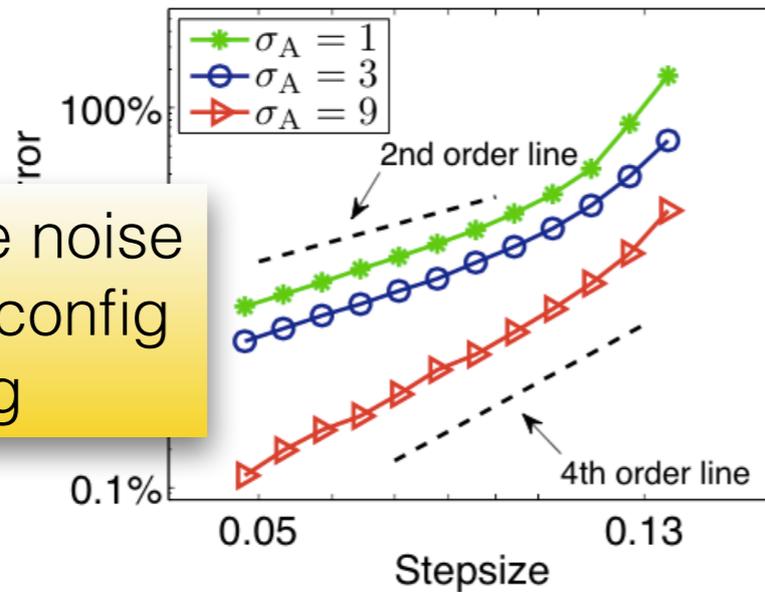
BAOAB, in the high friction limit, gives a superconvergence property for configurational quantities.

By taking large  $\gamma \propto \sigma_A^2$  and  $\mu \propto \sigma_A^2$  we can make BADODAB behave like BAOAB in the high friction limit after averaging over the auxiliary variable.

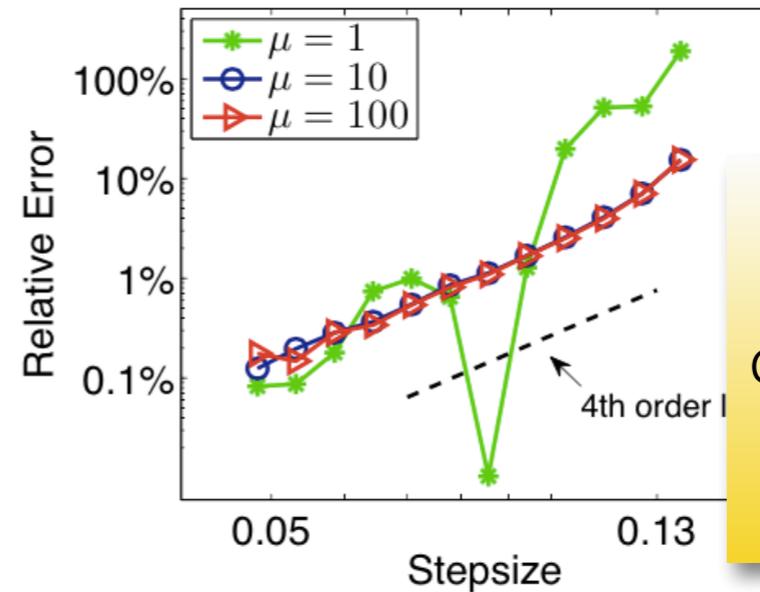
Effectively the extra driving noise implements a projection to the case of Langevin dynamics, **but large driving noise also implies large friction so restricted phase space exploration** (even if better accuracy). So caution is needed...

# 500 particles, clean gradient

## configurational temperature



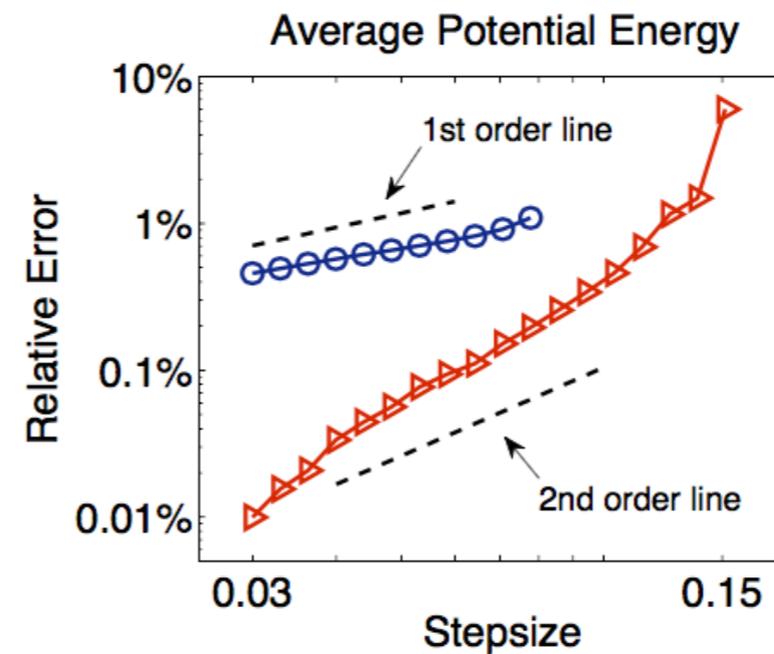
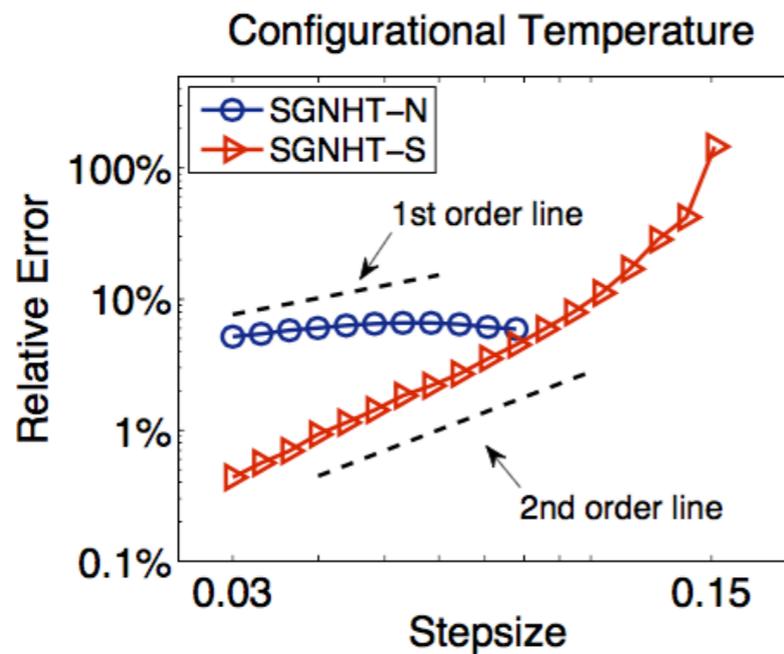
Large additive noise  
=> 4th order config  
sampling



Large thermal mass  
= more stable  
control of distribution  
(but less  
responsive)

Blue: N. Ding et al. (Google Inc.)

Vs. Red: Our method!



# Bayesian Logistic Regression

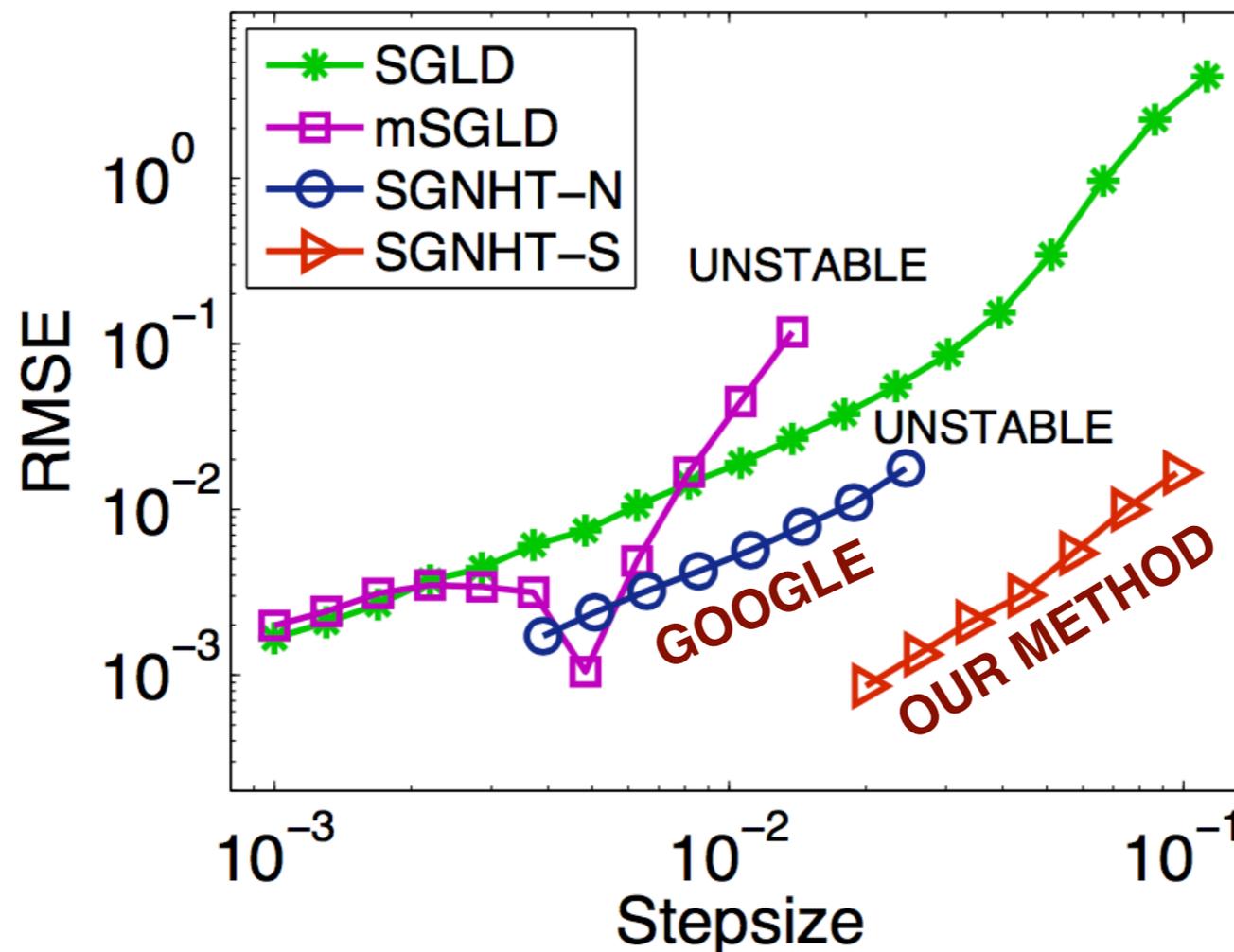
$$\pi(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}) = f(y_i \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \mathbf{x}_i) \quad f: \text{logistic function}$$

covariates e.g. age, income, ...

data e.g. voting intention

posterior parameter distribution

$$\pi(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2\right) \prod_{i=1}^N f(y_i \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \mathbf{x}_i)$$



Gaussian prior

# Covariance-Controlled Adaptive Langevin Dynamics

In the typical case, the noise may have a multivariate Gaussian distribution but with unknown (and evolving) covariance.

If we assume that we can obtain a covariance estimator then we can use this to enhance the accuracy of the SDEs.

**CCAdL=**

“Covariance Controlled Adaptive Langevin Dynamics” incorporates such a correction term together with an adaptive Langevin thermostat...

Formulation [*Shang, Zhu, L. & Storkey, NIPS, 2015*]

$$dq = M^{-1}p dt$$

$$dp = -\nabla U(q)dt + \sqrt{h}\Sigma(q)^{1/2}M^{1/2}dW - \frac{h\beta}{2}\Sigma(q)p dt \\ - \xi p dt + \sqrt{2\hat{\gamma}\beta^{-1}}M^{1/2}dW_A$$

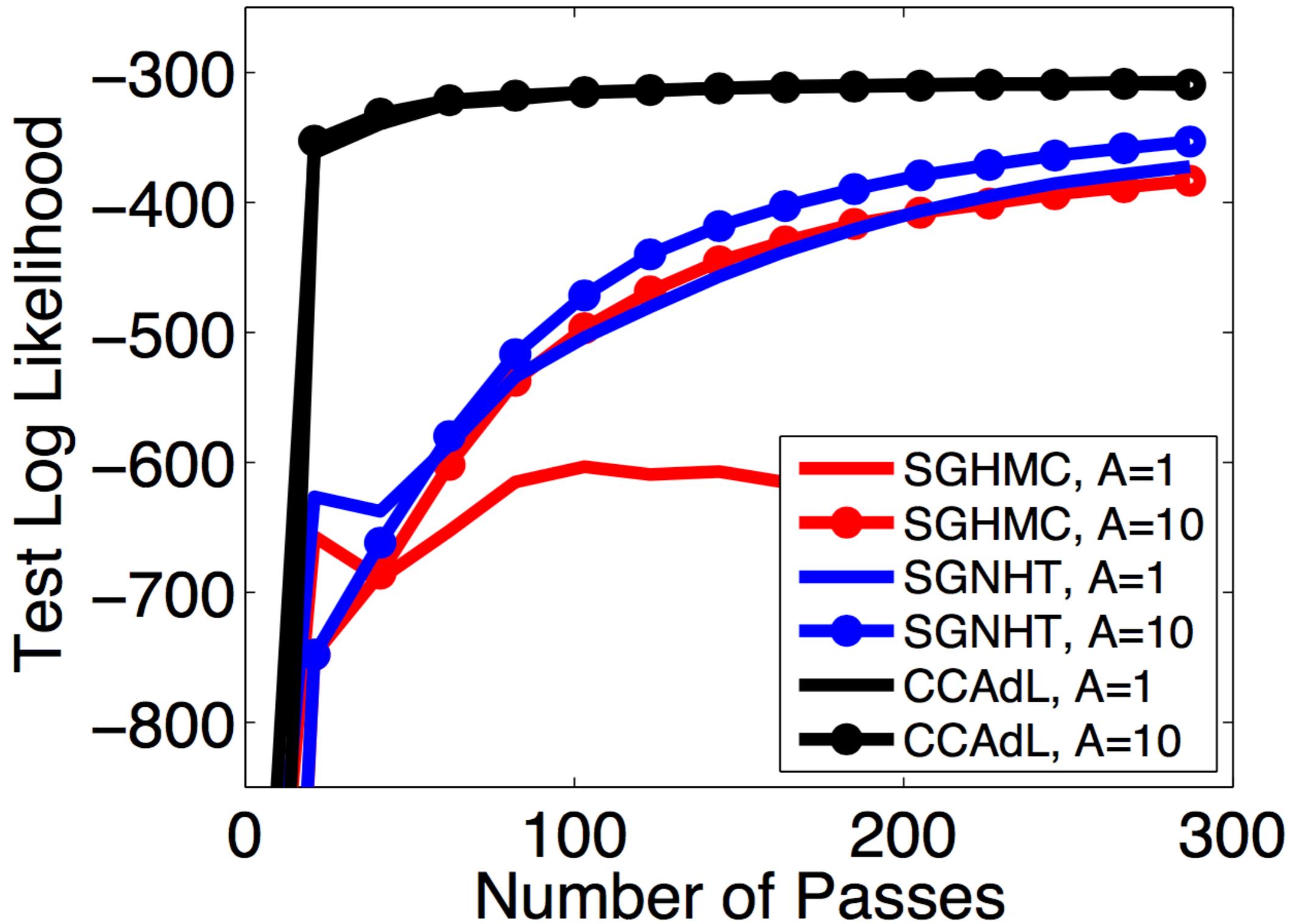
$$d\xi = \mu^{-1} [p^T M^{-1}p - N\beta^{-1}] dt$$

Invariant Distribution

$$\tilde{\rho} \propto \exp(-\beta H(q, p)) \times \exp\left(-\frac{\beta\mu}{2}(\xi - \hat{\gamma})^2\right)$$

Parameter-dependent noise dissipated by the added covariance-dependent term.

# Classification Problem



Binary classification of handwritten digits 7 and 9.

# Splittings [Courtesy Xiaocheng Shang]

$$dq = M^{-1} p dt \quad \mathbf{A}$$

$$dp = -\nabla U(q) dt + \sqrt{h} \Sigma(q)^{1/2} M^{1/2} dW - \frac{h\beta}{2} \Sigma(q) p dt \quad \mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{C}$$

$$- \xi p dt + \sqrt{2\hat{\gamma}\beta^{-1}} M^{1/2} dW_A \quad \mathbf{D}$$

$$d\xi = \mu^{-1} [p^T M^{-1} p - N\beta^{-1}] dt \quad \mathbf{E}$$

Many palindromic words in this alphabet like

**ABCDEDCBA, BACDED CAB**, etc.

But most are not 2nd order!

But **BAECDCEAB** is!

# Summary

- Theory for invariant distributions for splitting type integrators for Langevin dynamics.
- Adaptive thermostat methods allowing control of error in the invariant distribution under stochastic perturbation of the force field.
- Extensions to exploit estimates of the covariance
- Superconvergence results but also acceleration of data analytics techniques

# Ongoing work

- Application of these methods in non-equilibrium modelling
- Integrator order of accuracy (CCAdL)
- Accuracy/exploration balance in rare event modelling?
- Application to ab-initio MD (e.g. BOMD) [w. Jianfeng Lu (Duke) and Matthias Sachs (Edinburgh)]
- Treatment of coloured noise.

More Details: ***Xiaocheng's Poster!***