

# Multilevel and Multi-index Monte Carlo methods for the McKean-Vlasov equation

Abdul-Lateef Haji-Ali\*    Raúl Tempone†

\*Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

†King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Saudi Arabia.

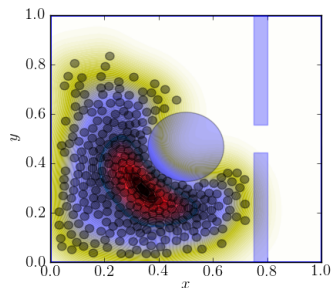
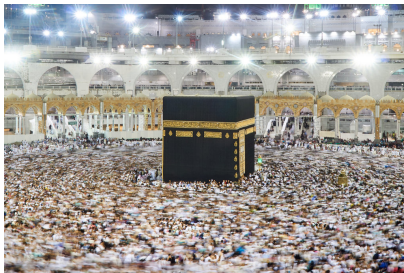
CEMRACS, Luminy, France

July 21, 2017



# Particle Systems in the Mean-field

- Particle systems are a collection of coupled, usually identical and simple, models that can be used to model complicated phenomena.
  - Molecular dynamics, Crowd simulation, Oscillators, . . .
- Certain stochastic particles systems have a mean-field limit when the number of particles increase. Such limits can be useful to understand their complicated phenomena.



## Main reference

This presentation is based on the manuscript

- "Multilevel and Multi-index Monte Carlo methods for the [McKean-Vlasov](#) equation" by A. L. Haji Ali and R. Tempone. *arXiv:1610.09934*, 2016. To appear in *Statistics and Computing*.

A [McKean-Vlasov](#) process is a stochastic process described by a SDE whose coefficients depend on the distribution of the solution itself. They relate to the Vlasov model for plasma evolution and were first studied by Henry McKean in 1966. For  $0 < t \leq T$  the process  $X(t)$  solves

$$\begin{aligned}dX(t) &= a(X(t), \mu(t))dW(t) + b(X(t), \mu(t))dt, \\ \mu(t) &= \mathcal{L}(X(t))\end{aligned}$$

and  $\mu(0)$  given. **Goal:** approximate  $E[g(X(T))]$  for some given  $g$ .

## Convergence to the mean-field

For particles  $X_{p|P}$ ,  $p = 1, \dots, P$ , (evolving in a system of size  $P$ )  
define "shadow" particles  $X_{p|\infty}$ , (evolving in a system of  $\infty$  size)

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_{p|P}(t) &= x_p^0 + \int_0^t \left( a(X_{p|P}(t)) + \frac{1}{P} \sum_{q=1}^P A(X_{p|P}(t), X_{q|P}(t)) \right) dt \\
 &\quad + \sigma W_p(t) \\
 X_{p|\infty}(t) &= x_p^0 + \int_0^t \left( a(X_{p|\infty}(t)) + \int A(X_{p|\infty}(t), y) \mu_\infty(t)(dy) \right) dt \\
 &\quad + \sigma W_p(t),
 \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mu_\infty(t)$  the marginal distribution for  $X_{p|\infty}(t)$  for any  $p$ .

**Consistency:** The initial values  $x_p^0$ ,  $p = 1, \dots, P$ , are i.i.d. from  $\mu_\infty(0)$ .

For  $t > 0$ , and all  $x$ , the pdf of the *marginal distribution*  $\mu_\infty(t)$  of the infinite size system satisfies a nonlinear Fokker Planck equation

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho_\infty(t, x) + \operatorname{div}(\rho_\infty(t, x)(a(x) + \rho_\infty(t, \cdot) * A(x, \cdot))) \\ = \sum_i \frac{\sigma_i^2}{2} \partial_i^2 \rho_\infty(t, x) \end{aligned}$$

with a given initial condition  $\rho_\infty(0, \cdot)$  and suitable b.c.

**Question:** What about the rate of weak convergence?

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X_{p|P}(T)) - g(X_{p|\infty}(T))] \lesssim \dots$$

## Kuramoto oscillator model <sup>†</sup>

For  $p = 1, 2, \dots, P$  consider equally coupled oscillators with intrinsic natural frequencies  $\vartheta_p$  that follow a system of Itô SDEs

$$dX_{p|P}(t) = \left( \vartheta_p + \frac{1}{P} \sum_{q=1}^P \sin(X_{p|P}(t) - X_{q|P}(t)) \right) dt + \sigma dW_{p|P}(t)$$

$$X_{p|P}(0) = x_{p|P}^0$$

where we are interested in

$$\text{Total order} = \left( \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \cos(X_{p|P}(T)) \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \sin(X_{p|P}(T)) \right)^2 ;$$

a real number between zero and one that measures the level of synchronization of the coupled oscillators.

---

<sup>†</sup>Y. Kuramoto, Chemical Oscillations, Waves, and Turbulence, Springer, Berlin, 1984.

## Kuramoto oscillator model <sup>†</sup>

For  $p = 1, 2, \dots, P$  consider equally coupled oscillators with intrinsic natural frequencies  $\vartheta_p$  that follow a system of Itô SDEs

$$dX_{p|P}(t) = \left( \vartheta_p + \frac{1}{P} \sum_{q=1}^P \sin(X_{p|P}(t) - X_{q|P}(t)) \right) dt + \sigma dW_{p|P}(t)$$

$$X_{p|P}(0) = x_{p|P}^0$$

where we are interested in: 
$$\phi_P = \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \cos(X_{p|P}(T)),$$

Mean-field limit:  $\phi_P \rightarrow \phi_\infty = \mathbb{E}[\cos(X_{p|\infty}(T))]$  as  $P \uparrow \infty$

$$dX_{p|\infty} = \left( \vartheta_p + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sin(X_{p|\infty}(t) - y) \mu_\infty(t, dy) \right) dt + \sigma dW_{p|P}(t)$$

---

<sup>†</sup>Y. Kuramoto, Chemical Oscillations, Waves, and Turbulence, Springer, Berlin, 1984.

# Kuramoto oscillator model<sup>†</sup>, Euler-Maruyama

For  $p = 1, 2, \dots, P$  consider equally coupled oscillators with intrinsic natural frequencies  $\vartheta_p$  that follow a system of Itô SDEs

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_{p|P}^{n|N} - X_{p|P}^{n-1|N} &= \left( \vartheta_p + \frac{1}{P} \sum_{q=1}^P \sin(X_{p|P}^{n|N} - X_{q|P}^{n|N}) \right) \frac{T}{N} + \sigma \Delta W_{p|P}^{n|N} \\
 X_{p|P}^{0|N} &= x_{p|P}^0
 \end{aligned}$$

where we are interested in: 
$$\phi_P^N = \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \cos(X_{p|P}^{N|N}),$$

Mean-field limit:  $\phi_P \rightarrow \phi_\infty = \mathbb{E}[\cos(X_{p|\infty}(T))]$  as  $P \uparrow \infty$

$$dX_{p|\infty} = \left( \vartheta_p + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sin(X_{p|\infty}(t) - y) \mu_\infty(t, dy) \right) dt + \sigma dW_{p|P}(t)$$

---

<sup>†</sup>Y. Kuramoto, Chemical Oscillations, Waves, and Turbulence, Springer, Berlin, 1984.



## Objective

Our objective is to build an estimator  $\mathcal{A} \approx \phi_\infty$  with **minimal work** where

$$P(|\mathcal{A} - \phi_\infty| \leq \text{TOL}) \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

for a given accuracy TOL and a given confidence level determined by  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ .

## Objective

Our objective is to build an estimator  $\mathcal{A} \approx \phi_\infty$  with **minimal work** where

$$P(|\mathcal{A} - \phi_\infty| \leq \text{TOL}) \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

for a given accuracy TOL and a given confidence level determined by  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ . We instead impose the following, more restrictive, two constraints:

$$\text{Bias constraint:} \quad |\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{A}] - \phi_\infty| \leq \text{TOL}/3,$$

$$\text{Statistical constraint:} \quad P(|\mathcal{A} - \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{A}]| \geq 2\text{TOL}/3)$$

# Objective

Our objective is to build an estimator  $\mathcal{A} \approx \phi_\infty$  with **minimal work** where

$$P(|\mathcal{A} - \phi_\infty| \leq \text{TOL}) \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

for a given accuracy TOL and a given confidence level determined by  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ . We instead impose the following, more restrictive, two constraints:

$$\text{Bias constraint:} \quad |\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{A}] - \phi_\infty| \leq \text{TOL}/3,$$

$$\text{Variance constraint:} \quad \text{Var}[\mathcal{A}] \leq (2\text{TOL}/3C_\epsilon)^2.$$

assuming (at least asymptotic <sup>a</sup>) normality of the estimator,  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Here,  $0 < C_\epsilon$  is such that  $\Phi(C_\epsilon) = 1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ , where  $\Phi$  is the c.d.f. of a standard normal random variable.

---

<sup>a</sup>N. Collier, A.-L. Haji-Ali, E. von Schwerin, F. Nobile, and R. Tempone. "A continuation multilevel Monte Carlo algorithm". BIT Numerical Mathematics, 55(2):399-432, (2015).

# Monte Carlo

The simplest (and most popular) estimator is the Monte Carlo estimator

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \phi_P^N(\omega_P^m).$$

For a given  $P$ ,  $N$  and  $M$  that we can choose to satisfy the error constraints and minimize the work. Here  $\omega_P^m = (\omega_p^m)_{p=1}^P$  and for each particle,  $\omega_p^m$  denotes the independent, identically distributed (i.i.d.) samples of the set of underlying random variables that are used in calculating  $X_{p|P}^{N|N}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq P$ .

## Monte Carlo work complexity

In our 1D example, we can check (at least numerically) that

**Minimize total work:**  $\text{Work}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}})$ ,

**such that:**  $\text{Bias}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}) = \left| \phi_\infty - \mathbb{E}[\phi_P^N] \right| \leq \frac{\text{TOL}}{3}$

**and:**  $\text{Var}[\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}] = \frac{\text{Var}[\phi_P^N]}{M} \leq \left( \frac{2\text{TOL}}{3C_\epsilon} \right)^2$

## Monte Carlo work complexity

In our 1D example, we can check (at least numerically) that

**Minimize total work:**  $\text{Work}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}) = \mathcal{O}(MNP^2)$

**such that:**  $\text{Bias}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}) = \mathcal{O}(N^{-1}) + \mathcal{O}(P^{-1}) \leq \frac{\text{TOL}}{3}$

**and:**  $\text{Var}[\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}] = \frac{\mathcal{O}(P^{-1})}{M} \leq \left(\frac{2\text{TOL}}{3C_\epsilon}\right)^2$

## Monte Carlo work complexity

In our 1D example, we can check (at least numerically) that

**Minimize total work:**  $\text{Work}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}) = \mathcal{O}(MNP^2)$

**such that:**  $\text{Bias}(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}) = \mathcal{O}(N^{-1}) + \mathcal{O}(P^{-1}) \leq \frac{\text{TOL}}{3}$

**and:**  $\text{Var}[\mathcal{A}_{\text{MC}}] = \frac{\mathcal{O}(P^{-1})}{M} \leq \left(\frac{2\text{TOL}}{3C_\epsilon}\right)^2$

In this case, we choose

$$P = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1}), \quad N = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1}), \quad M = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1})$$

and the total cost of a naive Monte Carlo is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$ .

**Observe:** The cost of a “single cloud” naive method with  $M = 1$  is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-5})$

Following (Heinrich, 2001) and (Giles, 2008), For a given  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ , define two hierarchies  $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^L$  and  $\{P_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^L$  satisfying  $P_{\ell-1} \leq P_\ell$  and  $N_{\ell-1} \leq N_\ell$  for all  $\ell$ .

Recall the telescopic decomposition

$$\phi_\infty \approx \mathbb{E} \left[ \phi_{P_L}^{N_L} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \phi_{P_0}^{N_0} \right] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{E} \left[ \phi_{P_\ell}^{N_\ell} - \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}} \right]$$



Following (Heinrich, 2001) and (Giles, 2008), For a given  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ , define two hierarchies  $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^L$  and  $\{P_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^L$  satisfying  $P_{\ell-1} \leq P_\ell$  and  $N_{\ell-1} \leq N_\ell$  for all  $\ell$ .

Recall the telescopic decomposition

$$\phi_\infty \approx \mathbb{E}[\phi_{P_L}^{N_L}] = \mathbb{E}[\phi_{P_0}^{N_0}] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{E}[\phi_{P_\ell}^{N_\ell} - \varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}}] = \sum_{\ell=0}^L \mathbb{E}[\Delta_\ell \phi].$$

$$\text{where } \Delta_\ell \phi = \begin{cases} \phi_{P_0}^{N_0} & \text{if } \ell = 0, \\ \phi_{P_\ell}^{N_\ell} - \varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}} & \text{if } \ell > 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, we assume that the auxiliary estimator  $\varphi$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}}] = \mathbb{E}[\phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}}]$$

Then, using Monte Carlo to approximate each level independently, the MLMC estimator can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{MLMC}} = \sum_{\ell=0}^L \frac{1}{M_{\ell}} \sum_{m=1}^{M_{\ell}} \Delta_{\ell} \phi(\omega_{P_{\ell}}^{\ell,m}).$$

where  $M_{\ell}$  is optimally chosen. **High correlation is crucial**  
(between the pairs  $(N_{\ell}, N_{\ell-1})$ ?  $(P_{\ell}, P_{\ell-1})$ ?) to ensure that

$$\text{Var}[\Delta_{\ell} \phi]$$

goes to zero sufficiently fast.

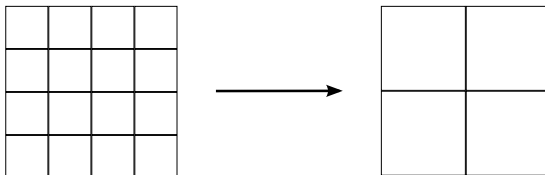
# Variance reduction

**Recall:**

$$\text{Var}[\mathcal{A}_{MC}] = \frac{1}{M_L} \text{Var}[S_L].$$

$$\text{Var}[\mathcal{A}_{MLMC}] = \frac{1}{M_0} \text{Var}[S_0] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \text{Var}[\Delta_\ell S].$$

**Main point:** MLMC reduces the variance of the deepest level using samples on coarser (**less expensive**) levels!



# Recall: MLMC optimal work complexity <sup>‡</sup> §

**Bias:**  $|\mathbb{E}[\Delta_\ell S]| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-w\ell)),$

**Variance:**  $\text{Var}[\Delta_\ell S] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-s\ell)),$

**Work:**  $\text{Work}[\Delta_\ell S] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\gamma\ell)).$

---

<sup>‡</sup>Cliffe, K.A. and Giles, M.B. and Scheichl, R. and Teckentrup, A. Computing and Visualization in Science, “Multilevel Monte Carlo methods and applications to elliptic PDEs with random coefficients” (2011).

<sup>§</sup>Giles, Acta Numerica 2015.

# Recall: MLMC optimal work complexity <sup>‡</sup> §

**Bias:**  $|\mathbb{E}[\Delta_\ell S]| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-w\ell)),$

**Variance:**  $\text{Var}[\Delta_\ell S] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-s\ell)),$

**Work:**  $\text{Work}[\Delta_\ell S] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\gamma\ell)).$

The optimal work of MLMC is

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2}) & s > \gamma \\ \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2}) (\log(\text{TOL}^{-1}))^2 & s = \gamma \\ \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2 - \frac{\gamma-s}{w}}) & s < \gamma \end{cases}$$

Recall the total cost of Monte Carlo is

$$\mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-2 - \frac{\gamma}{w}}\right)$$

---

<sup>‡</sup>Cliffe, K.A. and Giles, M.B. and Scheichl, R. and Teckentrup, A. Computing and Visualization in Science, “Multilevel Monte Carlo methods and applications to elliptic PDEs with random coefficients” (2011).

<sup>§</sup>Giles, Acta Numerica 2015.

- In the following, we look at different settings in which either  $P_\ell$  or  $N_\ell$  depends on  $\ell$  while the other parameter is constant for all  $\ell$ .
- We begin by recalling the optimal convergence rates of MLMC when applied to a generic real valued random variable,  $Y$ , for the case when there are two discretization parameters:
  - $\ell$ , that is a function of the level,
  - $\mathcal{L}$ , that is fixed for all levels.

## Corollary (Optimal MLMC complexity)

Let  $Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell}$  be an approximation of  $Y$  for every  $(\mathcal{L}, \ell) \in \mathbb{N}^2$ . Consider the MLMC estimator

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{MLMC}}(L, \mathcal{L}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^L \frac{1}{M_{\ell}} \sum_{m=1}^{M_{\ell}} (Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell} - Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell-1})$$

with  $Y_{\mathcal{L},-1} = 0$  and assume the following

1.  $|\mathbb{E}[Y - Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell}]| \lesssim \exp(-\tilde{w}\mathcal{L}) + \exp(-w\ell)$
2.  $\text{Var}[Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell} - Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell-1}] \lesssim \exp(-\tilde{c}\mathcal{L}) \exp(-s\ell)$
3.  $WY_{\mathcal{L},\ell} - Y_{\mathcal{L},\ell-1} \lesssim \exp(\tilde{\gamma}\mathcal{L}) \exp(\gamma\ell)$ .

The optimal work of MLMC in this setting is

$$W(\mathcal{A}_{\text{MLMC}}) \lesssim \begin{cases} \text{TOL}^{-(2-\tilde{c})-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{w}} & \text{if } s > \gamma, \\ \text{TOL}^{-(2-\tilde{c})-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{w}} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2 & \text{if } s = \gamma, \\ \text{TOL}^{-(2-\tilde{c})-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{w}-\frac{\gamma-s}{w}} & \text{if } s < \gamma. \end{cases}$$

## MLMC in number of time-steps, $N$

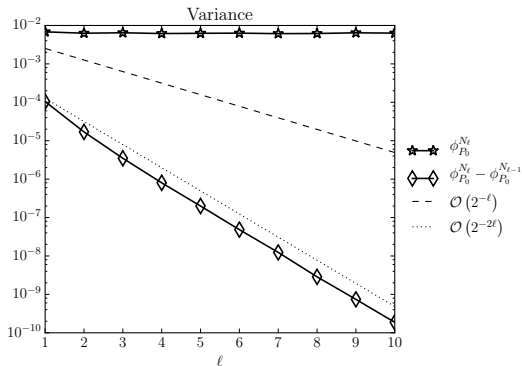
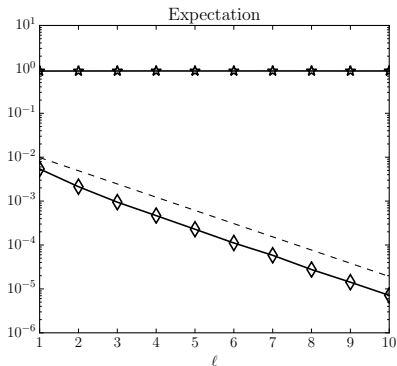
- $P_\ell = P_L$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .
- Build correlated samples by using the same Brownian paths discretized with different meshes  $2^\ell$  and  $2^{\ell-1}$  (Recall that we are using Euler-Maruyama discretization).

$$\varphi_{P_L}^{N_{\ell-1}}(\omega_{P_L}^{\ell,m}) = \phi_{P_L}^{N_{\ell-1}}(\omega_{P_L}^{\ell,m})$$



# MLMC in number of time-steps, $N$

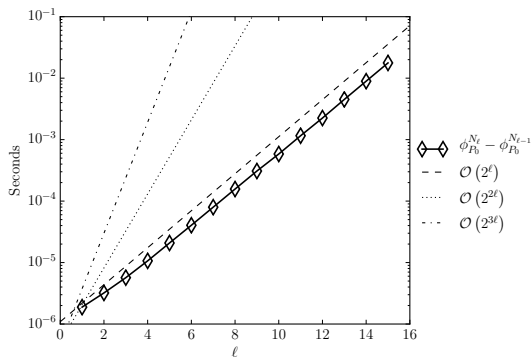
- $P_\ell = P_L$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .



Bias,  $w = 1, s = 2$

# MLMC in number of time-steps, $N$

- $P_\ell = P_L$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .



**Work,  $\gamma = 1$**

## MLMC in number of time-steps, $N$

- $P_\ell = P_L$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 2, \gamma = 1$
- Fixing  $P_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2})$ .

## MLMC in number of time-steps, $N$

- $P_\ell = P_L$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 2, \gamma = 1$
- Fixing  $P_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2})$ .
- To control bias  $\mathcal{O}(P_L^{-1})$ , choose  $P_L = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1})$ 
  - Cost per sample:  $\mathcal{O}(P_L^2 N_\ell)$
  - Variance:  $\mathcal{O}(P_L^{-1} N_\ell^{-1})$
  - **Summary:**  $\tilde{w} = 1, \tilde{c} = 1, \tilde{\gamma} = 2$

then the total cost becomes

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3}) = \mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-(2-\tilde{c})-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{w}}}\right).$$

## MLMC in number of particles, $P$

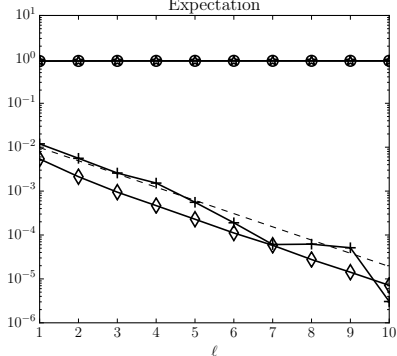
- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- Build correlated samples by sampling  $2^\ell$  and sub-sampling  $2^{\ell-1}$  particles out of them (e.g. the first  $2^{\ell-1}$ ). Use the same initial conditions, Brownian paths or any other random variables associated to a particle.

$$\varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L}(\omega_{P_\ell}^{\ell,m}) = \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L} \left( \left( \omega_p^{\ell,m} \right)_{p=1}^{P_{\ell-1}} \right)$$

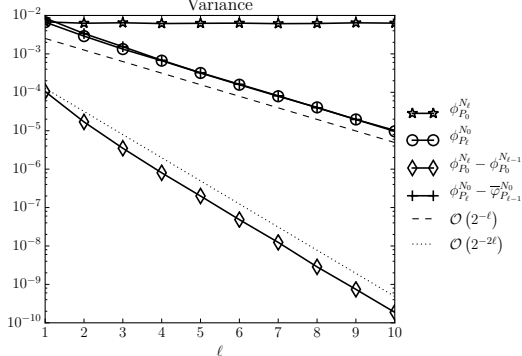
# MLMC in number of particles, $P$

•  $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .

Expectation



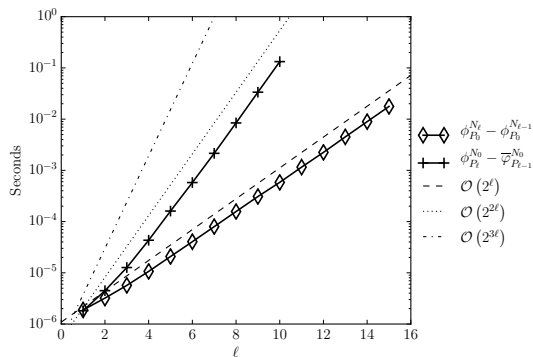
Variance



$s = w = 1$

# MLMC in number of particles, $P$

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .



Work,  $\gamma = 2$

## MLMC in number of particles, $P$

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 1, \gamma = 2$
- Fixing  $N_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$ .



## MLMC in number of particles, $P$

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 1, \gamma = 2$
- Fixing  $N_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$ .
- To control bias  $\mathcal{O}(N_L^{-1})$ , choose  $N_L = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1})$ 
  - Cost per sample:  $\mathcal{O}(N_L P_\ell)$
  - Variance:  $\mathcal{O}(P_\ell^{-1})$
  - **Summary:**  $\tilde{w} = 1, \tilde{c} = 0, \tilde{\gamma} = 1$

then the total cost becomes

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4}) = \mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-(2 + \frac{\gamma-s}{w}) - \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{w}}}\right).$$

- No advantage of MLMC over MC? **Need a more correlated estimator!**

## Summary

Method	Work complexity
Monte Carlo	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$
MLMC in $P$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$

## Reducing the variance w.r.t $P$ ; partitioning sampler

- The crucial element is how fast  $\text{Var}[\Delta\phi_\ell]$  goes to zero compared to how much it costs to compute  $\Delta\phi_\ell$ .
- Better choice of  $\varphi(\cdot)$  to reduce  $\text{Var}[\Delta_\ell\phi]$ .

## Reducing the variance w.r.t $P$ ; partitioning sampler

- The crucial element is how fast  $\text{Var}[\Delta\phi_\ell]$  goes to zero compared to how much it costs to compute  $\Delta\phi_\ell$ .
- Better choice of  $\varphi(\cdot)$  to reduce  $\text{Var}[\Delta_\ell\phi]$ .
- If  $P_{\ell-1} = P_\ell/2$ , then given a group of  $P_\ell$  particles, we can subsample *two identically-distributed, independent groups* that have  $P_{\ell-1}$  particles and average the QoI

$$\varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L}(\omega_{P_\ell}^{\ell,m}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1}^{P_{\ell-1}} \right) + \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1+P_{\ell-1}}^{P_\ell} \right) \right)$$

# MLMC in number of particles $P$ , with partitioning samplers

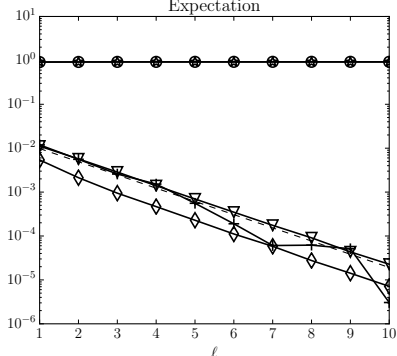
- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- Build correlated samples by sampling  $2^\ell$  and sub-sampling **two identically-distributed, independent groups** of  $2^{\ell-1}$  particles out of them. Use the same initial conditions, Brownian paths or any other random variables associated to a particle.

$$\varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L}(\omega_{P_\ell}^{\ell,m}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1}^{P_{\ell-1}} \right) + \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_L} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1+P_{\ell-1}}^{P_\ell} \right) \right)$$

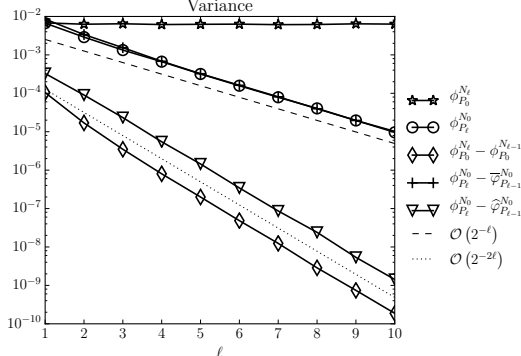
# MLMC in number of particles $P$ , with partitioning samplers

•  $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .

Expectation



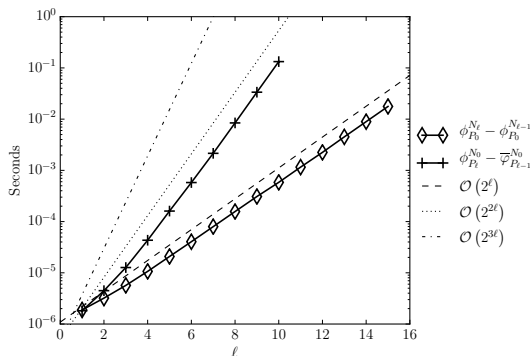
Variance



Bias,  $w = 1, s = 2$

# MLMC in number of particles $P$ , with partitioning samplers

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .



Work,  $\gamma = 2$



## MLMC in number of particles $P$ , with partitioning samplers

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 2, \gamma = 2$
- Fixing  $N_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$ .



# MLMC in number of particles $P$ , with partitioning samplers

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = N_L$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 2, \gamma = 2$
- Fixing  $N_L$ , the optimal work of **biased** MLMC is  $\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$ .
- To control bias  $\mathcal{O}(N_L^{-1})$ , choose  $N_L = \mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-1})$ 
  - Cost per sample:  $\mathcal{O}(N_L P_\ell)$
  - Variance:  $\mathcal{O}(P_\ell^{-1})$
  - **Summary:**  $\tilde{w} = 1, \tilde{c} = 0, \tilde{\gamma} = 1$

then the total cost becomes

$$\mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-3} (\log \text{TOL})^2\right) = \mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-2-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{w}}} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2\right).$$

- Can we do better?

# Summary

Method	Work complexity
Monte Carlo	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$
MLMC in $P$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $P$ , partitioning	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2)$

# MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , with partitioning samplers

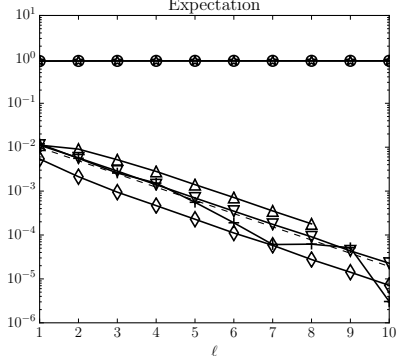
- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .
- Build correlated samples by
  - Sampling  $2^\ell$  and sub-sampling **two identically-distributed, independent groups** of  $2^{\ell-1}$  particles out of them. Use the same initial conditions, Brownian paths or any other random variables associated to a particle
  - At the same time, by using the same Brownian paths discretized with different meshes  $2^\ell$  and  $2^{\ell-1}$ .

$$\varphi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}}(\omega_{P_\ell}^{\ell,m}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1}^{P_{\ell-1}} \right) + \phi_{P_{\ell-1}}^{N_{\ell-1}} \left( (\omega_p^{\ell,m})_{p=1+P_{\ell-1}}^{P_\ell} \right) \right)$$

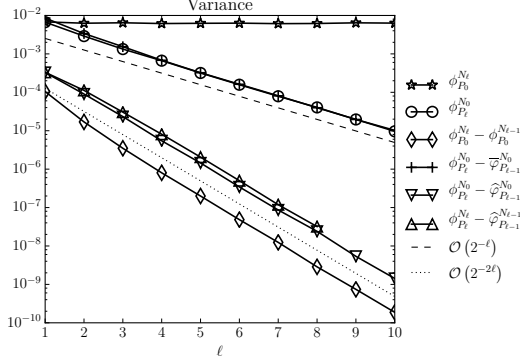
# MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , with partitioning samplers

•  $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .

Expectation



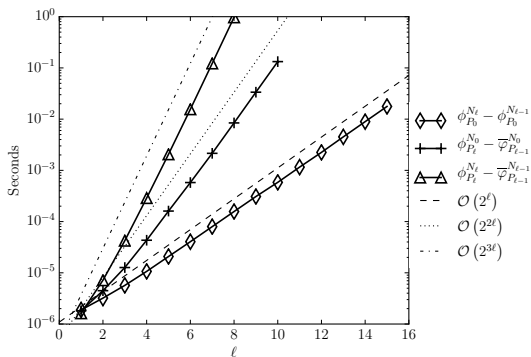
Variance



$w = 1, s = 2$

# MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , with partitioning samplers

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .



Work,  $\gamma = 3$

# MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , with partitioning samplers

- $P_\ell = 2^\ell$  and  $N_\ell = 2^\ell$ .
- **Summary:**  $w = 1, s = 2, \gamma = 3$
- The optimal work of **asymptotically unbiased** MLMC is

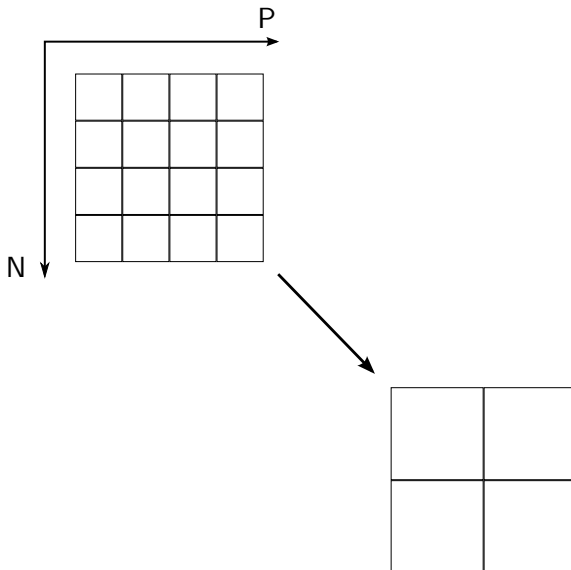
$$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3}) = \mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-(2+\frac{\gamma-s}{w})}\right).$$

- The number of particles is not helping. Can we do better?

# Summary

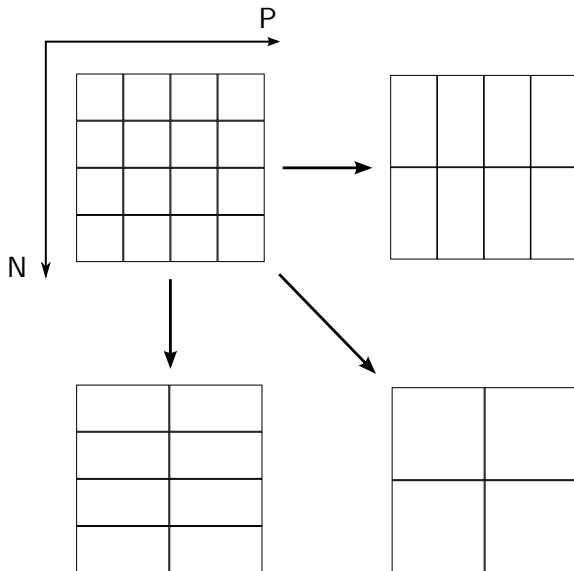
Method	Work complexity
Monte Carlo	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$
MLMC in $P$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $P$ , partitioning	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2)$
MLMC in $P$ and $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , partitioning	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$

# Variance reduction: MLMC





# Variance reduction: Further potential



# MIMC Estimator¶

For  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2$ , let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ . Define the first order mixed difference

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\alpha}\phi &= \Delta_{1,\alpha}(\Delta_{2,\alpha}\phi) \\ &= (\phi_{P_{\alpha_1}}^{N_{\alpha_2}} - \phi_{P_{\alpha_1}}^{N_{\alpha_2}-1}) - (\varphi_{P_{\alpha_1}-1}^{N_{\alpha_2}} - \varphi_{P_{\alpha_1}-1}^{N_{\alpha_2}-1}).\end{aligned}$$

---

¶A.-L. Haji-Ali, F. Nobile, and R. Tempone. “Multi-Index Monte Carlo: When Sparsity Meets Sampling”. Numerische Mathematik, 1-40, (2015)

# MIMC Estimator¶

For  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2$ , let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ . Define the first order mixed difference

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\alpha}\phi &= \Delta_{1,\alpha}(\Delta_{2,\alpha}\phi) \\ &= (\phi_{P_{\alpha_1}}^{N_{\alpha_2}} - \phi_{P_{\alpha_1}}^{N_{\alpha_2}-1}) - (\varphi_{P_{\alpha_1}-1}^{N_{\alpha_2}} - \varphi_{P_{\alpha_1}-1}^{N_{\alpha_2}-1}).\end{aligned}$$

Then the MIMC estimator can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{MIMC}} = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{I}} \frac{1}{M_{\alpha}} \sum_{m=1}^{M_{\alpha}} \Delta_{\alpha}\phi(\omega_{\alpha,m})$$

for some *properly chosen* index set  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathbb{N}^2$  and optimal number of samples  $M_{\alpha}$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}$ .

---

¶A.-L. Haji-Ali, F. Nobile, and R. Tempone. “Multi-Index Monte Carlo: When Sparsity Meets Sampling”. Numerische Mathematik, 1-40, (2015)

## MIMC optimal work complexity

**Bias:**  $|\mathbb{E}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi]| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-w_1\alpha_1 - w_2\alpha_2)),$

**Variance:**  $\text{Var}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-s_1\alpha_1 - s_2\alpha_2)),$

**Work:**  $\text{Work}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\gamma_1\alpha_1 + \gamma_2\alpha_2)).$

## MIMC optimal work complexity

**Bias:**  $|\mathbb{E}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi]| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-w_1\alpha_1 - w_2\alpha_2)),$

**Variance:**  $\text{Var}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-s_1\alpha_1 - s_2\alpha_2)),$

**Work:**  $\text{Work}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\gamma_1\alpha_1 + \gamma_2\alpha_2)).$

The optimal set  $\mathcal{I}$

$$\mathcal{I}(L) = \left\{ (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : \right. \\ \left. (2w_1 + \gamma_1 - s_1)\alpha_1 + (2w_2 + \gamma_2 - s_2)\alpha_2 \leq L \right\}$$

## MIMC optimal work complexity

**Bias:**  $|\mathbb{E}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi]| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-w_1\alpha_1 - w_2\alpha_2)),$

**Variance:**  $\text{Var}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-s_1\alpha_1 - s_2\alpha_2)),$

**Work:**  $\text{Work}[\Delta_{\alpha}\phi] = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\gamma_1\alpha_1 + \gamma_2\alpha_2)).$

The optimal set  $\mathcal{I}$

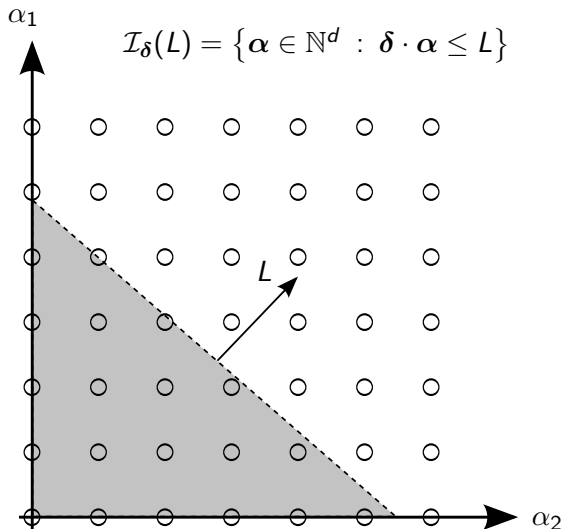
$$\mathcal{I}(L) = \left\{ (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : \right. \\ \left. (2w_1 + \gamma_1 - s_1)\alpha_1 + (2w_2 + \gamma_2 - s_2)\alpha_2 \leq L \right\}$$

Letting  $\zeta = \max\left(\frac{\gamma_1 - s_1}{2w_1}, \frac{\gamma_2 - s_2}{2w_2}\right)$ , then the optimal work of MIMC is

$$\mathcal{O}\left(\text{TOL}^{-2(1+\max(0,\zeta))} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^p\right)$$

for  $p \geq 0$ .

# Optimal choice of $\mathcal{I}$ : Total degree set



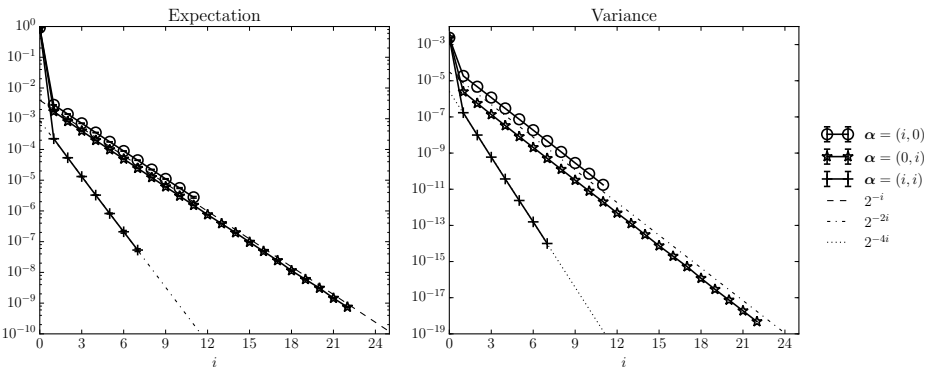
# MIMC, with partitioning samplers

- Let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ .
- Build correlated samples by
  - Sampling  $2^{\alpha_1}$  and sub-sampling **two identically-distributed, independent groups** of  $2^{\alpha_1-1}$  particles out of them.
  - At the same time, by using the same Brownian paths discretized with different meshes  $2^{\alpha_2}$  and  $2^{\alpha_2-1}$ .
  - **Use MIMC levels: Mixed differences!**



# MIMC, with partitioning samplers

- Let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ .

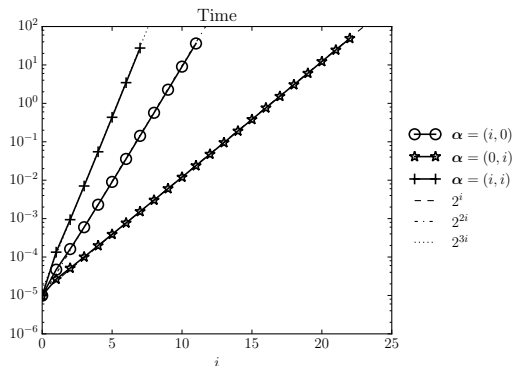


$$w_1, w_2 = 1, s_1 = s_2 = 2$$

Notice higher rates for mixed difference.

# MIMC, with partitioning samplers

- Let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ .



$$\gamma_1 = 2, \gamma_2 = 1$$

# MIMC, with partitioning samplers

- Let  $P_{\alpha_1} = 2^{\alpha_1}$  and  $N_{\alpha_2} = 2^{\alpha_2}$ .

- **Summary:**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} w_1 = w_2 = 1 \\ s_1 = s_2 = 2 \\ \gamma_1 = 2\gamma_2 = 2 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \zeta = \max \left( \frac{\gamma_1 - s_1}{2w_1}, \frac{\gamma_2 - s_2}{2w_2} \right) = 0$$

- The optimal set

$$\mathcal{I}(L) = \left\{ (\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : 2\alpha_1 + 3\alpha_2 \leq L \right\}$$

- The optimal work of the **asymptotically unbiased** MIMC is

$$\mathcal{O} \left( \text{TOL}^{-2} \log (\text{TOL}^{-1})^2 \right)$$

# Summary

Method	Work complexity
Monte Carlo	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$
MLMC in $P$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $P$ , partitioning	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2)$
MLMC in $P$ and $N$	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-4})$
MLMC in $P$ and $N$ , partitioning	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-3})$
<b>MIMC</b>	$\mathcal{O}(\text{TOL}^{-2} \log(\text{TOL}^{-1})^2)$

# Numerical Example: MIMC vs. MLMC

$$X_{p|P}^{n|N} - X_{p|P}^{n-1|N} = \left( \vartheta_p + \frac{0.4}{P} \sum_{q=1}^P \sin(X_{p|P}^{n|N} - X_{q|P}^{n|N}) \right) \frac{T}{N} + 0.4 \Delta W_{p|P}^{n|N}$$

$$X_{p|P}^{0|N} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.2)$$

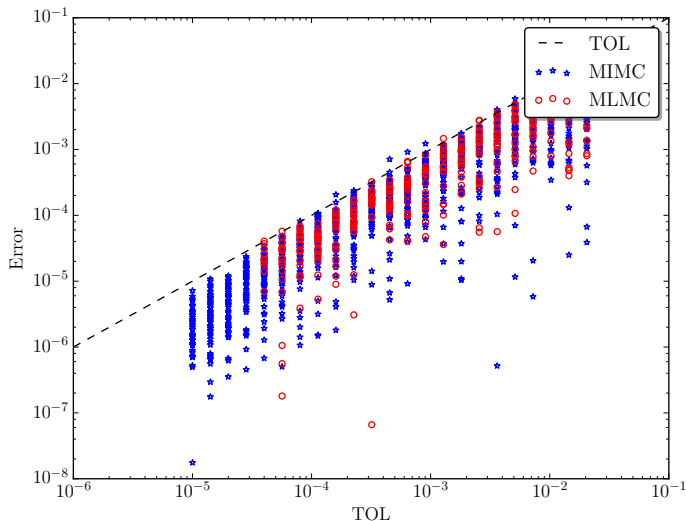
where  $\vartheta_p \sim \mathcal{U}(-0.2, 0.2)$ . The quantity of interest is

$$\phi_P^N = \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \cos(X_{p|P}^{N|N}).$$

for  $T = 1$ .

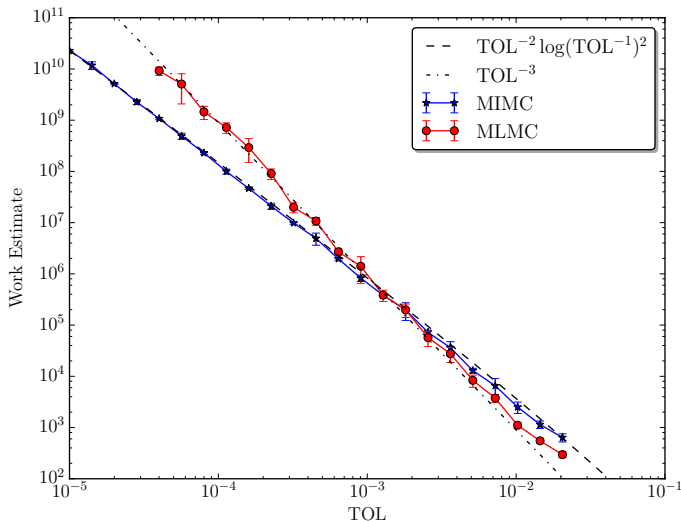
# Numerical Example: MIMC vs. MLMC

for  $T = 1$ .



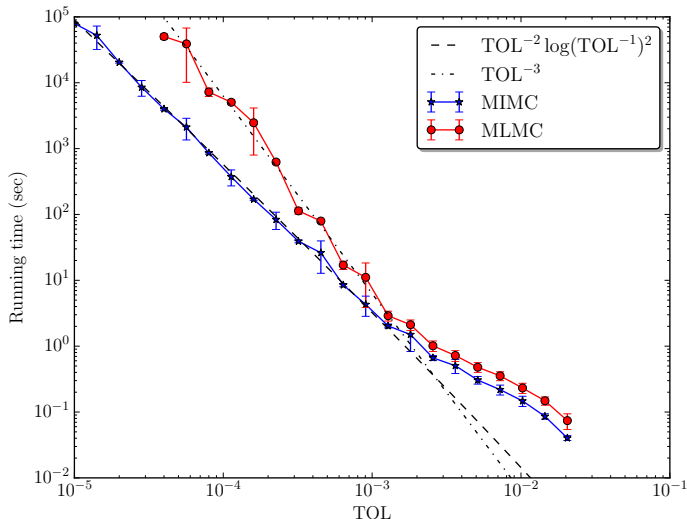
# Numerical Example: MIMC vs. MLMC

for  $T = 1$ .



# Numerical Example: MIMC vs. MLMC

for  $T = 1$ .





# Conclusions

- MLMC applied to particle systems in the mean-field limit is not trivial since the variance of the quantity of interest depends on the number of particles,  $P$ .
- The partitioning estimator achieves much better  $L^2$  convergence rate w.r.t.  $P$ .
- Considerable computational saving by using MIMC, from  $\text{TOL}^{-4}$  to  $\text{TOL}^{-2} \log^2(\text{TOL})$ .
- Other applications: higher dimension particle systems (e.g. crowd flow).
- MLMC and MIMC Theory: working on estimates on mixed differences.