Pathwise analysis for split-step methods and multiscale variable splitting in spatial stochastic kinetics



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Outline

1. Framework

The model: stochastic R & D from the bottom and up The framework: event-based mesoscopic R & D top down

2. Analysis

Assumptions and *a priori* results Split-step methods Multiscale variable splitting methods

3. Applications

Multiscale neuronal model National-scale epidemics

Summary

Brownian motion

Example: Particle diffusing in a fluid.



 $(micro) \rightarrow (stoch)$ The stochastic model is simpler but random (*error:* microscale effects in a statistical sense only).

 $(\text{stoch}) \rightarrow (\text{meso})$ Discrete space approximation (*error*: finite h > 0).

The mesoscopic stochastic model is a continuous-time Markov chain.

Chemical reactions

Example: Bimolecular reaction $X + Y \rightarrow Z$.



-Required: a model of physics in the zoomed in situation.

Chemical reactions

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-Assuming locally well-stirred, what is the probability $P(1X \text{ and } 1Y \text{ reacts in } [0, \Delta t])$ in a volume V?

Chemical reactions

(Locally) well-stirred

Example: Bimolecular reaction $X + Y \rightarrow Z$.

 $-P(1X \text{ and } 1Y \text{ reacts in } [0, \Delta t])$ in a volume V...



Well-stirred, then

- $P \propto n_X$ ("number of X-molecules")
- $P \propto n_Y$

$$\blacktriangleright$$
 $P \propto 1/V$

•
$$P \propto \Delta t$$

$$\implies P(X + Y \to Z \text{ in } [0, \Delta t]) =$$
const $\cdot n_X n_Y \Delta t / V.$

As $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ we recover again a continuous-time Markov chain.

Back to the details...

Mesoscopic well-stirred kinetics

Assuming a homogeneous probability of finding a molecule throughout the *local* volume.

-State $X \in \mathbf{Z}_{+}^{D}$, counting the number of molecules of each of D species. -Reactions are transitions between these states,

$$X \xrightarrow{w_r(X)} X - \mathbb{N}_r, \qquad \mathbb{N} \in \mathbf{Z}^{D \times R}$$
 (stoichiometric matrix)

where the propensity $w_r : \mathbf{Z}^D_+ \to \mathbf{R}_+$, r = 1...R, is the probability of reacting per unit of time.

Jump SDE formulation: $dX_t = -\mathbb{N}\mu(dt)$, (where $E[\mu_r(w_r(X); dt)] = E[w_r(X)] dt$), Poisson representation: $X_t = X_0 - \mathbb{N}\Pi(\int_0^t w(X_{s-}) ds)$, (Π_r a unit-rate Poisson process).

Back to the details...

Mesoscopic spatial kinetics

Assuming that the domain Ω has been subdivided into small enough computational cells Ω_j such that diffusion suffices to make each cell well-stirred.

- ► The state of the system is now an array X with D × K elements; D chemically active species X_{ij}, i = 1,..., D, counted separately in K cells, j = 1,..., K.
- ► This state is changed by chemical reactions occurring between the molecules in the same cell (vertically in X) and by diffusion/transport where molecules move to adjacent cells (horizontally in X).

Reactions

By assumption, each cell is well-stirred and consequently the jump SDE is valid as a description of *reactions*,

$$d\mathbb{X}_t = -\mathbb{N}\mu(dt),$$

where μ is now *R*-by-*K*; $E[\mu_{rj}]dt^{-1} =$ propensity of the *r*th reaction in the *j*th cell.

Diffusion (as an important example of transport)

A natural model of diffusion from one cell Ω_k to another cell Ω_j is

$$\mathbb{X}_{ik} \xrightarrow{q_{kji}\mathbb{X}_{ik}} \mathbb{X}_{ij},$$

where q_{kji} is non-zero only for connected cells.

For a certain array multiplication \otimes (...),

$$d\mathbb{X}_t = \mathbb{S} \otimes (-\boldsymbol{\nu}^T + \boldsymbol{\nu})(dt),$$

where S is 1-by-K of all 1's, and ν is K-by-K-by-D; $E[\nu_{kji}]dt^{-1} =$ diffusion rate of the *i*th species from cell Ω_k to cell Ω_j .

The reaction-diffusion jump SDE "RDME"

Combining reactions with diffusions we arrive at

$$d\mathbb{X}_t = -\mathbb{N}\mu(dt) + \mathbb{S} \otimes (-\nu^T + \nu)(dt).$$

-An approximation, valid when

$$\rho^2 \ll h^2 \ll \sigma^2 \tau_\Delta,$$

 ρ the molecular radius, τ_{Δ} average molecular survival time.

Outlook Event-based mesoscopic framework



Figure: Primal mesh (thin), dual mesh (blue). The nodal dofs are the # of molecules in each dual cell.

Local physics within each small voxel, *connected* through transport mechanisms (diffusion).



Motivation...

... for the effort with stating assumptions and a priori results

Scalar ODE+Euler forward,

$$y' = f(y),$$

 $y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(y_n), \quad y_n \approx y(t_n) = y(n \cdot h).$

Assume:

- 1. f is (locally) Lipschitz, $(|f(x) f(y)| \le L_Y |x y|$ whenever $|x| \lor |y| \le Y$),
- 2. a priori stability, $|y| \vee |y_n| \leq Y$

Then, straightforwardly, $e_n = |y_n - y(t_n)|$ is O(h).

Problem: assumptions and analysis are both incomplete without a verification of the 2nd assumption above.

-Additional complications in the stochastic setting (...).

Assumptions & a priori: well-stirred case

Recall: CTMC $X(t) \in \mathbf{Z}^{D}_{+}$ governed by transitions

$$X \xrightarrow{w_r(X)} X - \mathbb{N}_r, \quad r = 1...R, \quad \mathbb{N} \in \mathbf{Z}^{D \times R},$$

or, to get some ODE-feeling, " $X'(t) = -\mathbb{N}w(X)$ ".

Norm
$$||x||_I := I^T x$$
, $x \in \mathbf{Z}^D_+$, for min_i $I_i = 1$.

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Norm
$$||x||_{I} := I^{T}x, x \in \mathbf{Z}_{+}^{D}$$
, for min_{*i*} $I_{i} = 1$.
Assumptions: $x, y \in \mathbf{Z}_{+}^{D}$,
(i) $-I^{T}\mathbb{N}w(x) \le A + \alpha ||x||_{I}$,
(ii) $(-I^{T}\mathbb{N})^{2}w(x)/2 \le B + \beta_{1} ||x||_{I} + \beta_{2} ||x||_{I}^{2}$,
(iii) $|w_{r}(x) - w_{r}(y)| \le L_{r}(P) ||x - y||, r = 1, ..., R$, and $||x||_{I} \lor ||y||_{I} \le P$.

Assumptions & *a priori*: well-stirred case Results

With suitable initial data...

- $E \sup_{s \in [0,t]} \|X_s\|_{I}^{p}$ bounded, any $p \ge 1$
- if $X_0 = Y_0$ almost surely, then $E ||X_t Y_t||^2 = 0$
- if $\alpha + \beta_2(p-1) < 0$, then $E ||X_t||_I^p$ bounded as $t \to \infty$

-Can also elaborate on continuity wrt parameter perturbations (...)

Split-step method

Set-up

Split into two sets of reaction pathways

$$\mathbb{N} = \left[\mathbb{N}^{(1)} \mathbb{N}^{(2)} \right], \qquad w(x) = \left[w^{(1)}(x); w^{(2)}(x) \right],$$

where $\mathbb{N}^{(i)}$ is *D*-by-*R_i*, $i \in \{1, 2\}$, $R_1 + R_2 = R$.

Method:

$$Y_{t+h/2} = Y_t - \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}_1} \mathbb{N}_r \Pi_r \left(\int_t^{t+h/2} 2w_r(Y_{s-}) \, ds \right)$$
$$Y_{t+h} = Y_{t+h/2} - \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}_2} \mathbb{N}_r \Pi_r \left(\int_{t+h/2}^{t+h} 2w_r(Y_{s-}) \, ds \right).$$

Split-step method

Results

Assume the (Assumptions) hold for both sub-systems. Then

•
$$E \sup_{s \in [0,t]} ||Y_s||_l^p$$
 bounded, any $p \ge 1$

•
$$E ||Y_t - X_t||^2 = O(h)$$
, any finite t



Assumptions & a priori: R&D case Recall: CTMC $\mathbb{X}(t) \in \mathbf{Z}_{+}^{D \times K}$ with transitions

$$\mathbb{X}_{\cdot,k} \xrightarrow{w_{rk}(\mathbb{X}_{\cdot,k})} \mathbb{X}_{\cdot,k} - \mathbb{N}_r, \quad \mathbb{X}_{ik} \xrightarrow{q_{kji}\mathbb{X}_{ik}} \mathbb{X}_{ij},$$

k = 1...K, i = 1...D, r = 1...R. To get "PDE-feeling",

$$\mathbf{u}_t = -\mathbb{N}u(\mathbf{u}) + \underbrace{Q}_{\approx \nabla \cdot \Sigma \nabla} \mathbf{u}.$$

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Assumptions:

- ▶ on the mesh, some natural and quite weak assumptions (...)
- reactions, as before, *plus*

(iv) $w_{rk}(x) = \Omega_k u_r(\Omega_k^{-1}x)$, "density dependent"

diffusion:

(i) $(x^{p-1} \odot \Omega)^T Qx \le R_p ||x||_p^p$, $p \ge 1$, $x \in \mathbf{R}_+^K$, consistency with *p*-norm decay of diffusion

Assumptions & *a priori*: R&D case Results

Norm
$$\|\mathbb{X}\|_{I,p}^{p} \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\mathbb{X}_{\cdot,k}\|_{I}^{p} \Omega_{k}^{1-p} \quad (\approx \int_{V} \|\mathbf{u}\|_{I}^{p} dV).$$

With suitable initial data...

- only reactions: as before
- ▶ pure diffusion: $E \|X_t\|_{I,p}^p$ bounded in finite time, or even grows very slowly for $R_p \le 0$
- ▶ full R&D: $E \sup_{s \in [0,t]} ||X_s||_{I,p}^p$ bounded, any $p \ge 1$

Multiscale variable splitting

Set-up: ϵ , h

- Consider the separation of scales:
 - ▶ species are either abundant $\sim \epsilon^{-1}$, or appear in low copy numbers ~ 1 (on a per voxel basis!)
 - ► rate- and diffusion constants are either fast ~ 1, or slow € (per reaction/per species)
- \implies rescaled variable $\bar{\mathbb{X}}_t = \bar{\mathbb{X}}_{ij}(t) \sim 1.$

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$$\implies$$
 rescaled variable $\bar{\mathbb{X}}_t = \bar{\mathbb{X}}_{ij}(t) \sim 1.$

Multiscale splitting methods:

"Exact", $\bar{\mathbb{Y}}_t$ all Poisson processes driving an abundant species are replaced with mean drift terms, $\Pi(T) \approx T$

"Numerical", $\bar{\mathbb{Y}}_{t}^{(h)}$ discrete steps *h*; low copy number variables are first simulated in [t, t + h) letting abundant species be frozen at time *t*, next abundant species are integrated in [t, t + h)

Multiscale variable splitting

Results

Under the *a priori* conditions above and under similar (Assumptions) for the splitted system $\bar{\mathbb{Y}}_{t}^{(h)}$ (...), then

►
$$E \sup_{s \in [0,t]} \left\| \bar{\mathbb{Y}}_{s}^{(h)} \right\|_{I,p}^{p}$$
 bounded, any $p \ge 1$

•
$$E\|ar{\mathbb{Y}}_t^{(h)}-ar{\mathbb{Y}}_t\|^2=O(h)$$
, any finite t

-Additional conditions for this concerns the reaction topology: effectively fast reactions must not affect low copy number species (...)

Application: multiscale neuronal model



Bottom level

lon channel gating



Gating process: sodium channels.

Bottom level Ion channel gating

The gating process of ion channels can be mesoscopically described as

$$N_0 \underset{\beta_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_1}{\overset{3\alpha_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_1}{\rightleftharpoons}} N_1 \underset{2\beta_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_2}{\overset{2\alpha_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_1}{\rightleftharpoons}} N_2 \underset{3\beta_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_3}{\overset{\alpha_m(\mathbf{V}_m)N_2}{\rightleftharpoons}} N_3,$$

again a *continuous-time Markov chain*. *Output:* N_3 , the number of open gates.

For efficient model coupling we freeze the voltage dependency for a short time-step τ ("split-step" or "1st order Strang split"):

$$X_{t+\tau} = X_t - \int_t^{t+\tau} \mathbb{N}\mu(V_m(t), w(X_{s-}); ds).$$

Middle level Membrane dynamics



Cable equation circuit.

Middle level

Membrane dynamics





- Morphological information extracted using the *Trees toolbox*
- System of current-balance and cable equations is solved for each time step τ

Top level Maxwell's equations, potential form

Electric field intensity E in terms of the electric scalar potential V,

$$\mathsf{E} = -\nabla V.$$

Trans-membrane current l_m is scaled with the compartement surface area and coupled as a current source,

$$-\nabla\cdot\left(\sigma\nabla V+\varepsilon_{0}\varepsilon_{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\nabla V\right)=\frac{1}{\Omega_{c}}I_{m},$$

with conductivity σ and permittivity ε . The time dependent potential V is solved via finite element methods.

Sample simulation

Application: national-scale epidemics

- Modeling the spread of verotoxinogenic *E. coli* O157:H7 (VTEC O157:H7) in the Swedish cattle population
- Important zoonotic pathogen (animal → humans) of great public health interest, causing enteroheamorrhagic colitis (EHEC) in humans (~500 cases anually in Sweden).
- In Germany during the summer 2011, a particularly aggressive variant emerged, with 3,816 reported cases and 54 deceased.
- Infected animals show no signs of the disease!
- Cattle is a main reservoir of the bacteria, ongoing research to better understand the epidemiology of VTEC O157:H7 in the cattle population
- Mixed event-based approach:
 - Data-driven simulation using all registred cattle events 2005-2013
 - Stochastic simulation of within-herd dynamics (i.e. mesoscopic)

Data-driven

REPORTER	WHERE	ABATTOIR	DATE	EVENT	ANIMALID	BIRTHDATE
83466	83958	0	2009-10-01	2	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83958	83466	0	2009-10-01	1	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83958	83829	0	2012-03-15	2	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83829	83958	0	2012-03-15	1	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83829	83958	0	2012-03-15	4	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
54234	83829	0	2012-04-11	1	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83829	54234	0	2012-04-11	2	SE0834660433	1997-04-04
83829	83958	0	2012-04-11	5	SE0834660433	1997-04-04

Total: 18 649 921 reports and 37 221 holdings

Events

- ▶ Exit (n=1 438 506)
- Enter (n=3 479 000)
- Internal transfer (n=6 593 921)
- External transfer (n=732 292)

Events

(*Note:* Germany:Sweden, pop. density \sim 10:1, area \sim 7:9)



Epidemic model

"Locally well-stirred" (SIS_E)

Model states: **S**usceptible, Infected, in \sim 40,000 holdings and in 3 age categories {*calves*, *youngstock*, *adults*}.

Environmental infectious pressure

$$\frac{d\varphi_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha \sum_j I_{i,j}(t)}{\sum_j S_{i,j}(t) + I_{i,j}(t)} - \beta(t)\varphi_i(t)$$

Finding: $\beta = \beta(t)$ required in the Swedish climate.

State transitions at node *i* in the *j*th age category,

Rate
$$S_{i,j} \rightarrow I_{i,j} = \gamma_j \varphi_i(t) S_{i,j}(t)$$

Rate $I_{i,j} \rightarrow S_{i,j} = \frac{I_{i,j}(t)}{\delta_j}$

Sample simulation

http://user.it.uu.se/~stefane/animations/collection/siminf/ siminf_sample.gif

Summary

- Mesoscopic stochastic R & D, event-based computational framework: fairly intuitive modeling, coupling and up/down-scaling, simulation algorithms
- Terms & conditions. If used when required: accurately capturing a stochastic nonlinear phenomenon is a very hard constraint for method's development!
- ▶ Well-posedness, stability, convergence... of simple numerical methods
- Multiscale neuronal application solved in URDME (GitHub): coupling different types of models
- Epidemiological national-scale model solved in SimInf (GitHub): data-driven simulation

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Programs, Papers, and Preprints are available from my web-page. Thank you for the attention!