

# Adaptive Multilevel Monte Carlo Simulation of Stochastic Ordinary Differential Equations

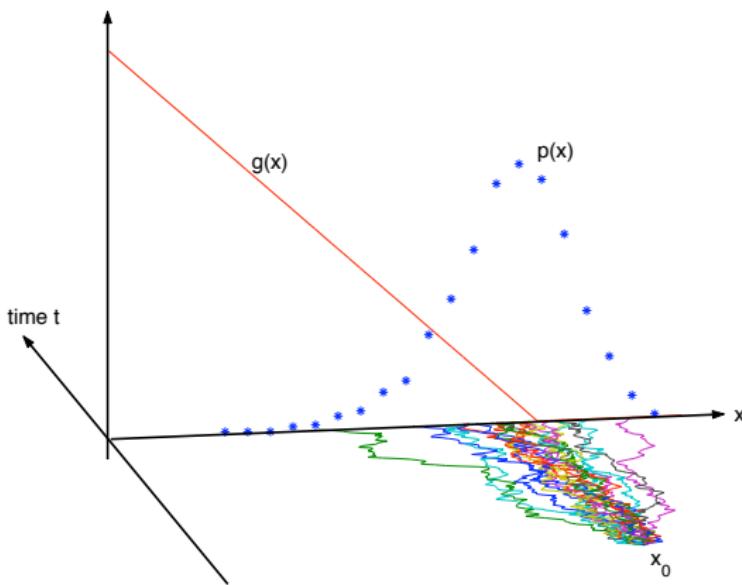
H. Hoel<sup>1</sup>    E. von Schwerin<sup>2</sup>    A. Szepessy<sup>1</sup>    R. Tempone<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Numerical Analysis (CSC),  
Royal Institute of Technology

<sup>2</sup>Division of Applied Mathematics and Computational Science,  
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

BIRS Meeting, Stochastic Multiscale Methods, Banff,  
2011-04-01

# Weak approximation of SDE



# Outline

- 1 Formulation of SDE approximation
- 2 Single level Monte Carlo
- 3 Multilevel Monte Carlo
- 4 Adaptive multilevel Monte Carlo

# Problem formulation

For the Ito SDE

$$dX_t = a(X_t, t) dt + \sum_{k=1}^K b^k(X_t, t) dW_t^k, \quad 0 < t < T, \quad (1)$$

$$X_0 = x_0, \quad (2)$$

and  $g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , approximate  $E[g(X_T)]$  to a given accuracy  $TOL$ .

$W_t$  is a K-dimensional Wiener process.

# Euler Maruyama Method

- ① Forward Euler (Euler Maruyama) scheme

$$\bar{X}_{n+1} = \bar{X}_n + a(\bar{X}_n, t_n) \Delta t_n + \sum_{k=1}^K b^k(\bar{X}_n, t_n) \Delta W_n^k \quad (3)$$

gives approximate realisations  $\bar{X}_T(\omega)$  on a grid

$$t_0 = 0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = T.$$

$$\Delta t_n = t_{n+1} - t_n, \Delta W_n^k = W_{n+1}^k - W_n^k$$

- ② Monte Carlo estimate

$$E[g(X_T)] \approx \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t))}{M} \quad (4)$$

# The error contributions

Total error:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| E[g(X_T)] - \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t))}{M} \right| \\
 & \leq \left| E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)] \right| + \left| E[g(\bar{X}_T)] - \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t))}{M} \right| \\
 & \leq TOL_T + TOL_S = TOL
 \end{aligned}$$

Requirement for the time discretization error:

$$|E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)]| \leq TOL_T$$

Requirement for the statistical error:

$$\left| E[g(\bar{X}_T)] - \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t))}{M} \right| \leq TOL_S$$

# Error Control and Complexity

Weak convergence for smooth drift and diffusion:

$$|E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T(\cdot; \Delta t))]| = O(\Delta t).$$

$\Delta t \propto TOL$  needed for  $|E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)]| \leq O(TOL_T)$ .

By the Central Limit Theorem, as  $M \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\sqrt{M} \left( \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t)) - E[g(\bar{X}_T)]}{M} \right) \xrightarrow{D} N\left(0, \sqrt{\text{Var}[g(\bar{X}_T)]}\right).$$

$M \propto \frac{1}{TOL^2}$  needed for sufficient probability that

$$\left| E[g(\bar{X}_T)] - \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{g(\bar{X}_T(\omega_i; \Delta t))}{M} \right| \leq O(TOL_S).$$

Computational complexity =  $M \frac{T}{\Delta t} \propto 1/TOL^3$ .

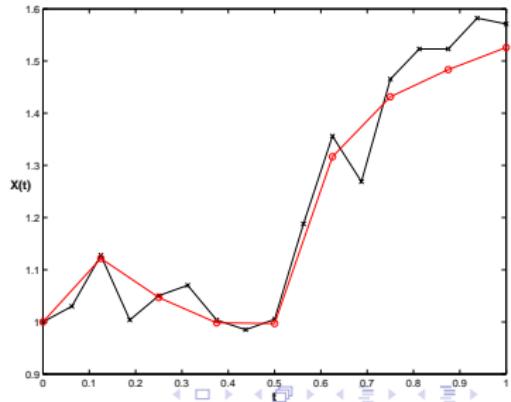
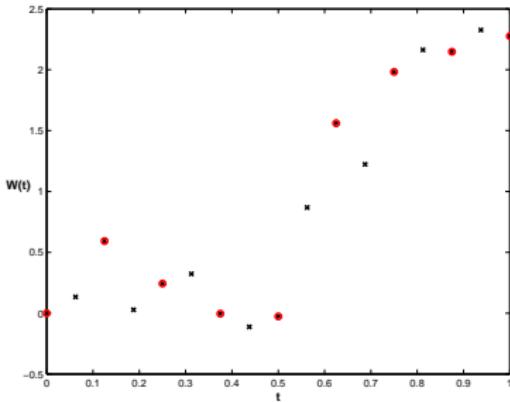
# Variance reduction

Control variate:  $E[Z]$  unkown,  $E[Y]$  known,  
 $E[Z] = E[Z - Y] + E[Y] \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M (Z(\omega_i) - Y(\omega_i)) + E[Y]$

Use  $g(\bar{X}_T(\cdot; \Delta t))$  and  $g(\bar{X}_T(\cdot; 2\Delta t))$  for  $Y$  and  $Z$

Order 1/2 strong convergence of  $X_T$ . Assume e.g. uniform Lipschitz  $g$ . Then

$$\text{Var}(g(X_T(\cdot; \Delta t)) - g(X_T(\cdot; 2\Delta t))) = O(\Delta t)$$



# Giles' multilevel idea 2006

On a hierarchy of uniform grids  $\Delta t_\ell = \Delta t_0 / 2^\ell$ ,  $\ell = 0, \dots, L$ , let  $g_\ell = g(\bar{X}_T(\cdot; \Delta t_\ell))$ .

**Step 1** Write the telescopic sum

$$E[g_L] = E[g_0] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L E[g_\ell - g_{\ell-1}].$$

**Step 2** Now use  $L + 1$  batches, each with  $M_\ell$  independent realizations,  $\ell = 0, \dots, L$  to create the estimator

$$A(M_0) = \sum_{i_0=1}^{M_0} \frac{g_0(\omega_{i_0})}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i_\ell=1}^{M_\ell} \frac{(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega_{i_\ell})}{M_\ell}.$$

## Giles' multilevel idea 2006

With  $\text{Var}(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1}) = O(\Delta t_\ell) = O(\Delta t_0/2^\ell)$  choose  $M_\ell = M_0/2^\ell$  so that

$$\text{Var}(A) = \frac{\text{Var}(g_0)}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{\text{Var}(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})}{M_\ell} = \frac{O(1)}{M_0}(1 + \Delta t_0 L)$$

To achieve  $\text{Var}(A) = O(TOL^2)$  take

$$M_0 \propto (TOL^{-2}(1 + \Delta t_0 L))$$

giving the total work to achieve accuracy  $TOL$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Work} &= \sum_{\ell=0}^L \frac{M_\ell}{\Delta t_\ell} = O\left((1 + L)\frac{M_0}{\Delta t_0}\right) \\ &= O\left(\left(\log_2(\Delta t_0/TOL) TOL^{-1}\right)^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

# Adaptivity

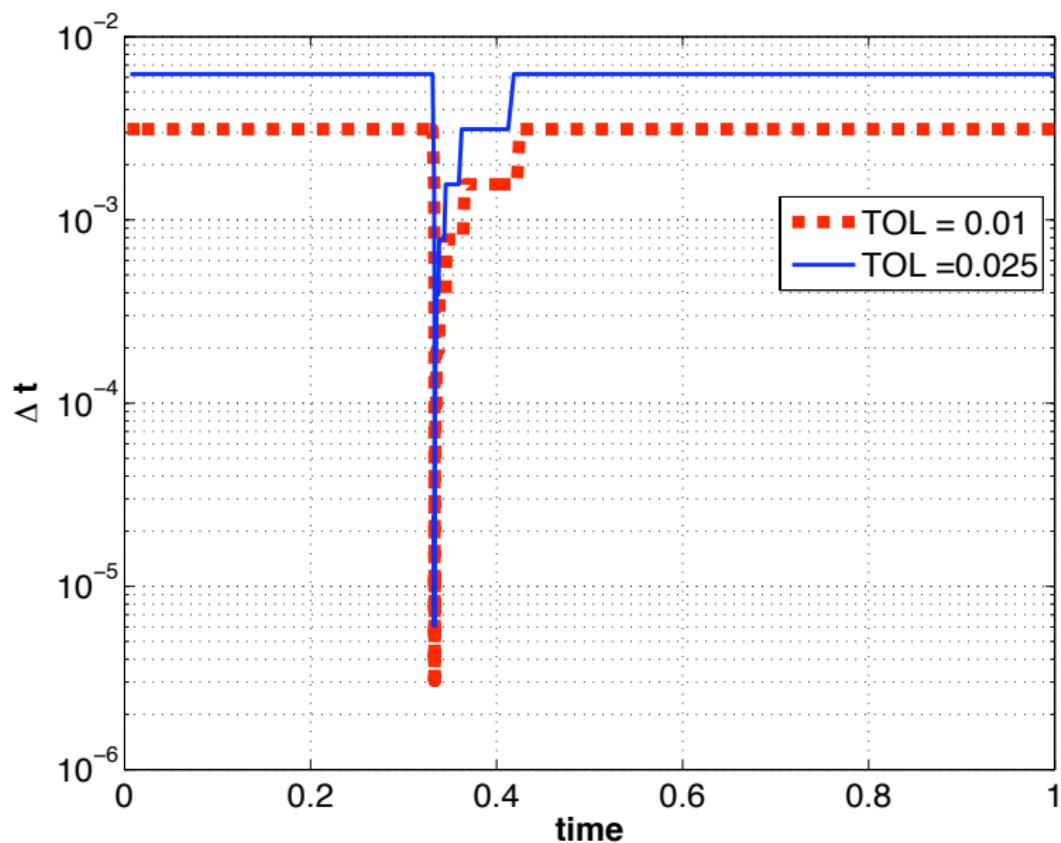
Given  $TOL_T$ , use adaptive refinements to generate grids  $t_0 = 0 < t_1(\omega) < \dots < t_N = T$  to create realizations  $\bar{X}_T(\omega; \Delta t(\omega))$ .

**Why?** Non-smooth  $a(X_s, s)$  or  $b(X_s, s)$  can decrease convergence rates.

**How?** Adaptive refinements start from a coarse initial grid, and

- (1) computes solution and error indicators  $r_n$  for each time step  $n$ ,
- (2) as long as  $\max_n r_n \geq C_S \frac{TOL_T}{E[N]}$ ,
- (3) refine all time steps s.t.  $r_n \geq C_R \frac{TOL_T}{E[N]}$ , refine sampling by Brownian bridges, and go to (1)

Multilevel: Grid hierarchy defined by  $TOL_{T,\ell} = TOL_{T,L} 2^{L-\ell}$ .



# Time discretization, weak approximation of SDE

**A priori [Talay and Tubaro 90],**

$$E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)] \simeq \int_0^T E[\Delta t(s)\Psi(X_s, s)]ds = \mathcal{O}(\Delta t_{max}).$$

**A posteriori SDE error density [STZ01],  
[MSTZ06],[MSTZ08]**

$$E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)] \simeq \int_0^T E[\Delta t(s)\rho(\bar{X}_s, s)]ds$$

**Two adaptive strategies**

- $\Delta t$  stochastic  $\Rightarrow$  error density  $\rho$ ,
- $\Delta t$  deterministic  $\Rightarrow$  error density  $E[\rho]$ .

# A posteriori SDE error density

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[g(X_T) - g(\bar{X}_T)] &= E \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \tilde{\rho}(t_n, \omega) (\Delta t_n)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad + \mathcal{O} \left( \left( \frac{TOL}{\rho_{low}(TOL)} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{\rho_{up}(TOL)}{\rho_{low}(TOL)} \right)^\epsilon \right) E \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (\Delta t_n)^2 \right], \tag{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

The error density  $\rho = \frac{1}{2} \partial_t a \cdot \varphi + \dots$  is based on computable adjoints, i.e.  $\bar{X}_{n+1} = \hat{A}(\bar{X}_n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varphi_n &= \partial_x \hat{A}(\bar{X}_n) \varphi_{n+1}, \\
 \varphi_T &= \partial_x g(\bar{X}_T), \\
 \varphi'_n &= \dots \\
 \varphi''_n &= \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

# Bounds for the error density

For technical reasons we impose

$$\rho_{low}(TOL) \leq |\rho| \leq \rho_{up}(TOL)$$

for instance to ensure that  $\Delta t_{\max}(TOL) \rightarrow 0$  as  $TOL \rightarrow 0$ .

This in turn implies the a.s. convergence of the error density,

$$\rho \rightarrow \hat{\rho},$$

as  $TOL \rightarrow 0$ .

# Idea adaptive multilevel algorithm

Given tolerance  $TOL_T$ ,  $TOL_S$ , initial grid  $\Delta t$ ,  $M_0$  and  
 $L = O(-\log_2(TOL))$

- ① Set  $M_\ell = 2^{-\ell} M_0$ .

## Idea adaptive multilevel algorithm

Given tolerance  $TOL_T$ ,  $TOL_S$ , initial grid  $\Delta t$ ,  $M_0$  and  
 $L = O(-\log_2(TOL))$

- ① Set  $M_\ell = 2^{-\ell} M_0$ .
- ② Compute  $M_0$  realizations of  $g_0(\omega)$  on **adaptive** grids.  
Compute  $M_\ell$  realizations of  $(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega)$  by successively halving the tolerance from  $TOL_{T,0}$  to  $TOL_{T,\ell-1}$  and  $TOL_{T,\ell}$  on **adaptive** grids s.t.  $E[g(X_T) - g_\ell] \leq TOL_T 2^{L-\ell}$ .

# Idea adaptive multilevel algorithm

Given tolerance  $TOL_T$ ,  $TOL_S$ , initial grid  $\Delta t$ ,  $M_0$  and  $L = O(-\log_2(TOL))$

- ① Set  $M_\ell = 2^{-\ell} M_0$ .
- ② Compute  $M_0$  realizations of  $g_0(\omega)$  on **adaptive** grids.  
Compute  $M_\ell$  realizations of  $(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega)$  by successively halving the tolerance from  $TOL_{T,0}$  to  $TOL_{T,\ell-1}$  and  $TOL_{T,\ell}$  on **adaptive** grids s.t.  $E[g(X_T) - g_\ell] \leq TOL_T 2^{L-\ell}$ .
- ③ Compute  $A(M_0) = \sum_{i_0=1}^{M_0} \frac{g_0(\omega_{i_0})}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i_\ell=1}^{M_\ell} \frac{(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega_{i_\ell})}{M_\ell}$ .  
and its “sample variance”  

$$V(A(M_0)) := \frac{V_{M_0}(g_0)}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{V_{M_\ell}(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})}{M_\ell}.$$

# Idea adaptive multilevel algorithm

Given tolerance  $TOL_T$ ,  $TOL_S$ , initial grid  $\Delta t$ ,  $M_0$  and  $L = O(-\log_2(TOL))$

- ① Set  $M_\ell = 2^{-\ell} M_0$ .
- ② Compute  $M_0$  realizations of  $g_0(\omega)$  on **adaptive** grids.  
Compute  $M_\ell$  realizations of  $(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega)$  by successively halving the tolerance from  $TOL_{T,0}$  to  $TOL_{T,\ell-1}$  and  $TOL_{T,\ell}$  on **adaptive** grids s.t.  $E[g(X_T) - g_\ell] \leq TOL_T 2^{L-\ell}$ .
- ③ Compute  $A(M_0) = \sum_{i_0=1}^{M_0} \frac{g_0(\omega_{i_0})}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i_\ell=1}^{M_\ell} \frac{(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})(\omega_{i_\ell})}{M_\ell}$ .  
and its “sample variance”  

$$V(A(M_0)) := \frac{V_{M_0}(g_0)}{M_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{V_{M_\ell}(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1})}{M_\ell}.$$
- ④ If  $V(A(M_0)) > \frac{TOL_S^2}{C_C}$ , statistical error is too large: Set  $M_0 = 2M_0$  and go to (1).

# Drift singularity

Consider for a constant  $\alpha \in (0, T)$ , the SDE

$$dX_t = \begin{cases} X_t dW_t, & t \in [0, \alpha] \\ \frac{X_t}{2\sqrt{t-\alpha}} dt + X_t dW_t, & t \in (\alpha, T] \end{cases}$$

$$X_0 = 1,$$

with the unique solution

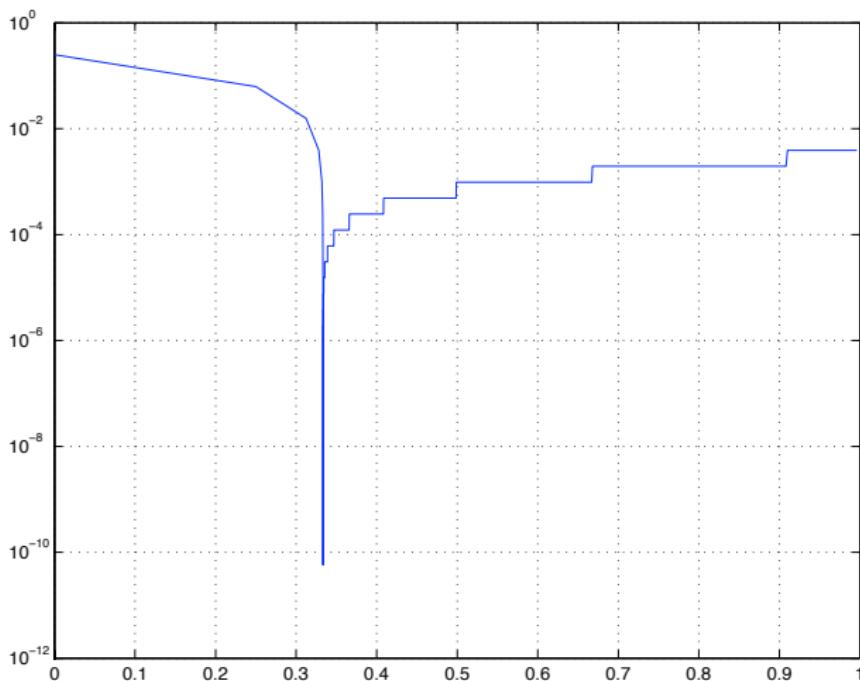
$$X_t = \begin{cases} \exp(W_t - t/2), & t \in [0, \alpha] \\ \exp(W_t - t/2) \exp(\sqrt{t-\alpha}), & t \in (\alpha, T]. \end{cases}$$

**Goal:** Approximate  $E[X_T] = \exp(\sqrt{T-\alpha})$  with  $T = 1$  and  $\alpha = T/3$ .

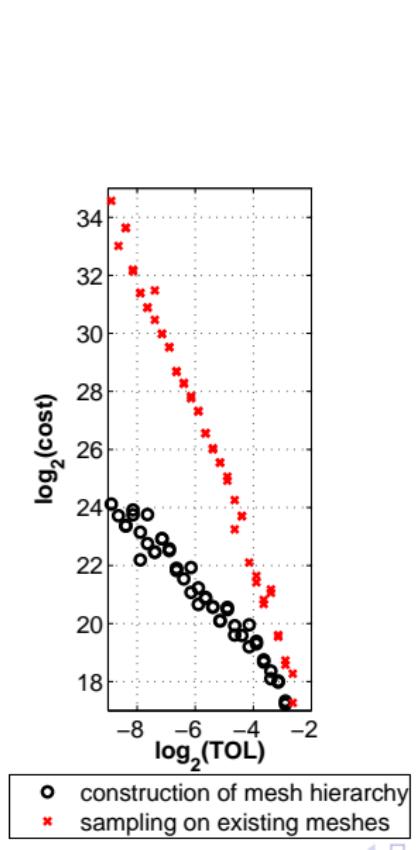
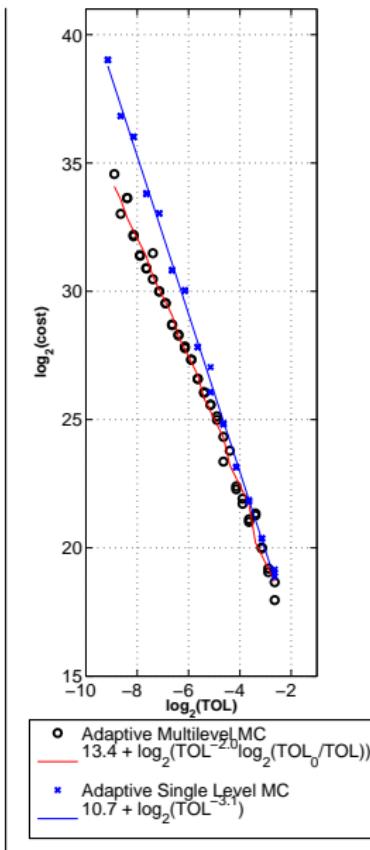
# Drift singularity adaptive strategy

- Drift singularity at a deterministic time
- Grid generation phase – use sample averaged error indicators to generate the grid hierarchy
- Production phase – control statistical error by performing multilevel simulations on the existing grid hierarchy

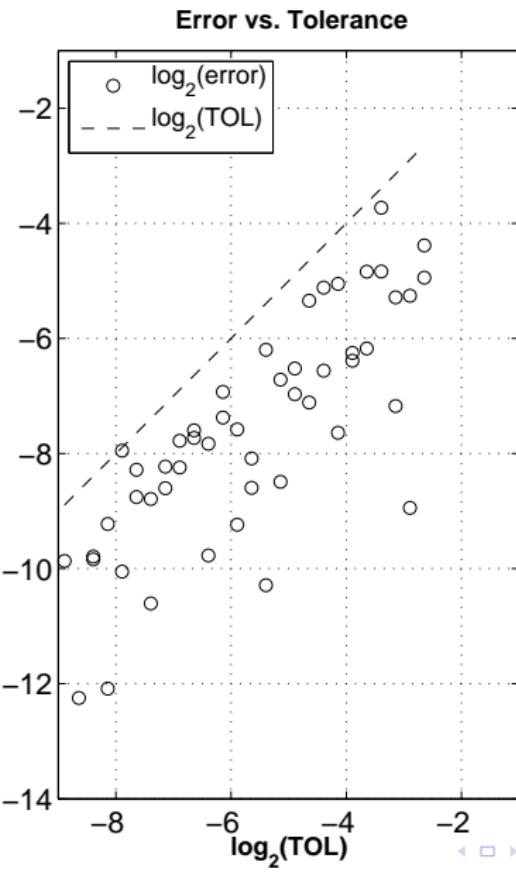
# Experimental Complexity: Adapted time step size



# Experimental Complexity: Drift Singularity



# Experimental Complexity: Drift Singularity



# Stopped diffusion:

Example Stopped diffusion:

$$dX_t = \begin{cases} \frac{11X_t}{36} dt + \frac{X_t}{6} dW_t, & \text{for } t \in [0, 2] \text{ and } X_t \in (-\infty, 2) \\ 0 & (\text{Stopped!}), \quad \text{if } X_t = 2, \end{cases}$$

$$X_0 = 1.6,$$

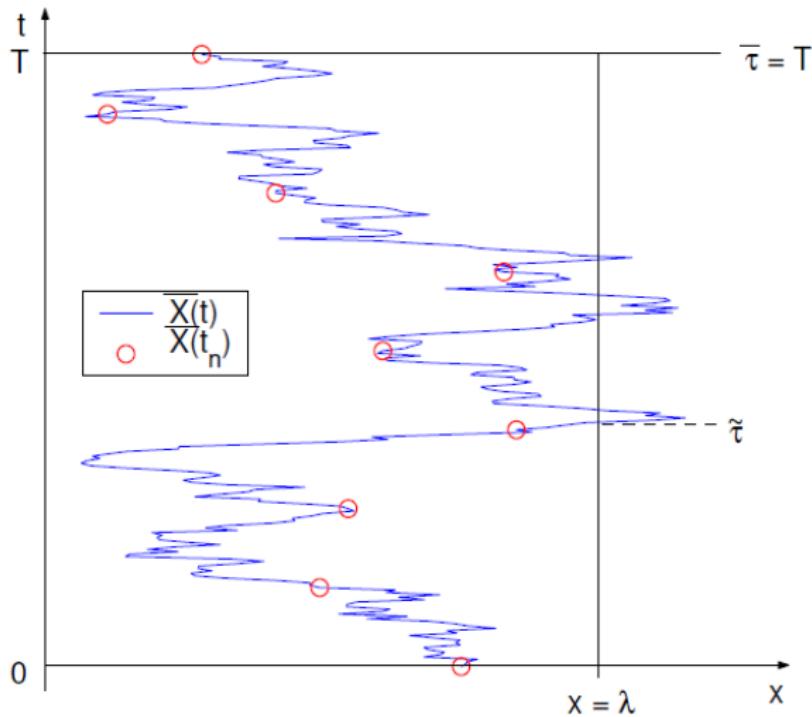
$$g(x, t) = x^3 e^{-t}$$

compute

$$E[g(X_\tau, \tau)] \quad \tau \text{ stopping time}$$

- Weak convergence uniform grid:  $O(1/\sqrt{N})$ .
- Adaptive grid:  $O(1/N)$ .

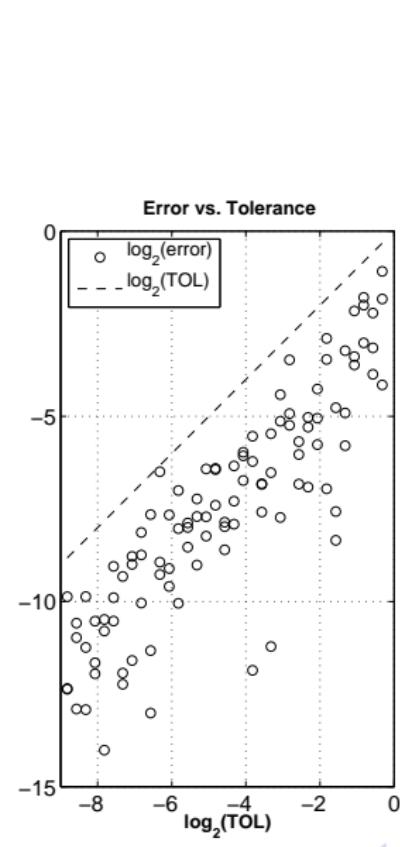
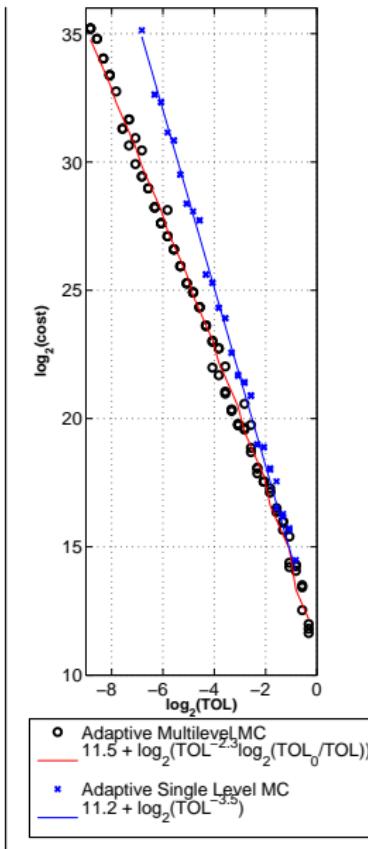
# Hitting error



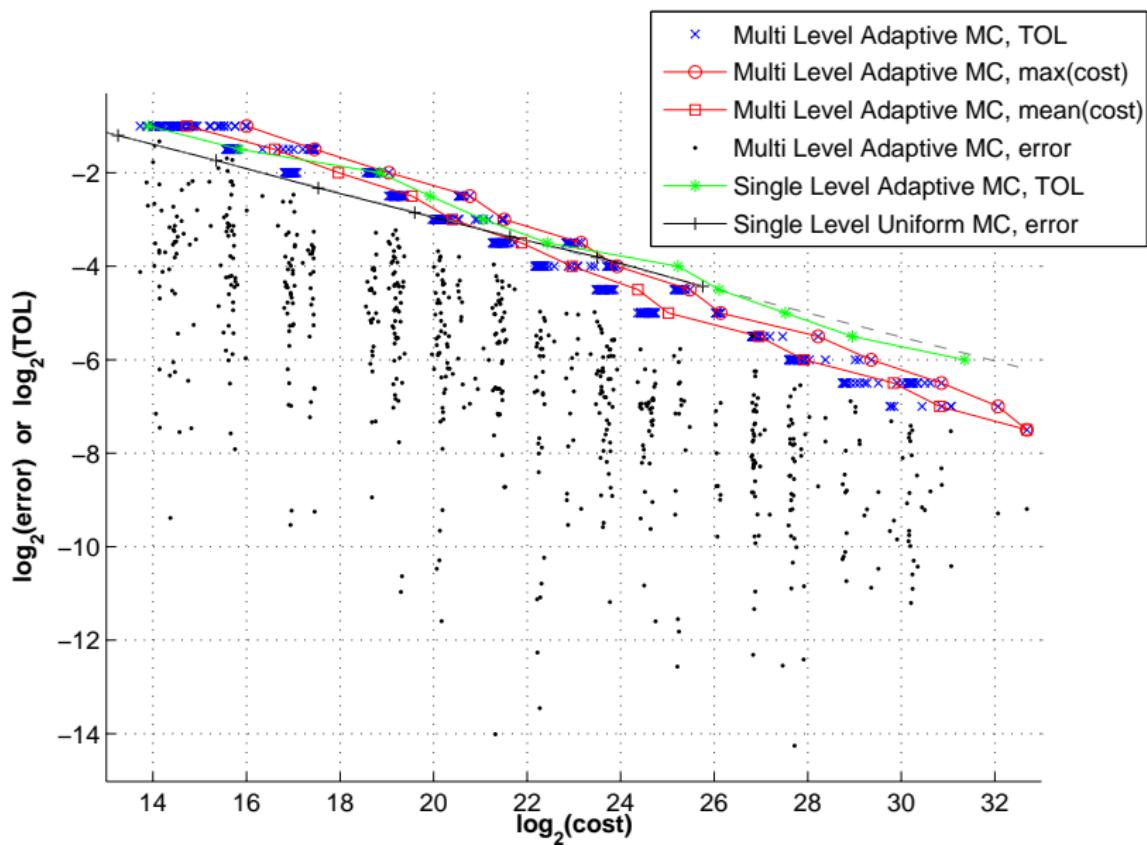
# Stopped diffusion adaptive strategy

- Take small steps when the path is close to the barrier
- Generate a new adaptive mesh pair for each realization

# Experimental Complexity: Barrier



# Experimental Complexity and Accuracy



## Lemma (Stopping)

*Suppose the adaptive algorithm applies the mesh refinement strategy described before on a set of realizations having the same uniform initial mesh of step size  $\Delta t_0$ . Then, given a prescribed accuracy parameter  $TOL_T > 0$ , the adaptive refinement algorithm stops after a finite number of iterations.*

Proof: Uses the imposed upper bound on the approximate error density.

## Lemma (strong convergence)

Suppose that  $a, b, g, X$  satisfy the assumptions in Lemma ??, that  $\bar{X}$  is constructed by the forward Euler method, based on the stochastic time stepping algorithm above. Then

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} E[|X(t) - \bar{X}(t)|^2] = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{TOL}{\rho_{low}(TOL)}\right) \rightarrow 0$$

## Lemma (strong convergence)

There exists a constant  $C_G > 0$  such that, for  $TOL_\ell = TOL_0 2^{-\ell}$  we have

$$\limsup_{\ell \rightarrow +\infty} \text{Var}(g_\ell - g_{\ell-1}) \frac{\rho_{low}(TOL_\ell)}{TOL_\ell} = C_G.$$

## Lemma (Variance Estimate)

Choose the number of realizations on each level,  $M_\ell$ , as follows

$$M_\ell = \left\lceil M_0 \frac{\rho_{low}(TOL_0) TOL_\ell}{\rho_{low}(TOL_\ell) TOL_0} \right\rceil. \quad (6)$$

Then the variance of the multilevel estimator

$A = \mathcal{E}_{\{\mathcal{S}_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^L} (g(\bar{X}_L(T)))$  satisfies

$$\limsup_{TOL \rightarrow 0} Var(A) \frac{M_0}{L(TOL_T)} \leq \frac{C_G TOL_0}{\rho_{low}(TOL_0)}. \quad (7)$$

Let  $M_0(TOL)$  be such that

$$\text{Var}(A(M_0)) \leq \frac{\text{TOL}_S^2}{C_C^2}.$$

Lemma ( $M_0$  asymptotic estimate)

For a given confidence interval parameter  $C_C > 0$ , the stopping criterion and the bound (7) imply

$$\limsup_{TOL \rightarrow 0} \frac{E[M_0] \text{TOL}_S^2}{L} \leq 2(C_C)^2 C_G \frac{\text{TOL}_0}{\rho_{low}(\text{TOL}_0)} \quad (8)$$

## Lemma (CLT approximation)

Assume that  $\text{Var}(g_0) > 0$ . Then the multilevel estimator  $A = \mathcal{E}_{\{\mathcal{S}_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^L}(g(\bar{X}_L(T)))$ , satisfies the following weak convergence

$$\frac{A - E[A]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(A)}} \xrightarrow{} N(0, 1), \quad \text{as } TOL \rightarrow 0 \quad (9)$$

Proof: verify that Lindeberg's CLT conditions are satisfied.

# Accuracy

Choose  $M_0$  deterministically, for instance by using an upper bound on the variance and imposing

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(A) &\leq C \frac{L}{M_0} \\ &\leq \left( \frac{\text{TOL}_S}{C_C} \right)^2. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

Then, by the CLT result, for any given  $y > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\frac{|E[A] - A|}{\text{TOL}_S} \leq y\right) &\geq P\left(\frac{|E[A] - A|}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(A)}} \leq C_C y\right) \\ &\rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-C_C y}^{C_C y} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx \text{ as } \text{TOL} \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (Accuracy)

Suppose that the assumptions of Lemma ?? hold. Then, for any confidence interval parameter  $C_C > 0$  in (10) and refinement stopping parameters  $C_R, C_S$  the adaptive algorithm with stochastic time steps satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{TOL \rightarrow 0+} P \left( \frac{|E[g(X(T))] - \mathcal{E}_{\{\mathcal{S}_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^L}(g(\bar{X}_L(T)))|}{TOL} \leq \frac{C_S}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \\ \geq \int_{-C_C}^{C_C} \frac{e^{-x^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dx. \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Here  $TOL_S = TOL_T = TOL/2$ .

## Theorem (Multi level efficiency)

*Suppose that the regularity assumptions of Lemma ?? hold.  
Choose the number of realizations on each level according to (6).  
Then the expected value of the final computational work,*

$$E[Work] = E[M_0]E[N_0] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L E[M_\ell]\{E[N_\ell] + E[N_{\ell-1}]\}$$

*corresponding to the adaptive steps satisfies asymptotically*

$$\limsup_{TOL \rightarrow 0+} \frac{\text{TOL}_S E[Work]}{E[N_{opt}] L \sum_{\ell=1}^L \rho_{low}^{-1}(TOL_\ell)} \leq C_G(C_C)^2 \frac{28}{C_R} \quad (12)$$

## Corollary

Assume that in our adaptive algorithms we impose a lower bound for the error density of the form  $\rho_{\text{low}}(TOL) = TOL^\gamma$  e.g.  $\gamma = 1/9$ . Then we have the following estimate for the computational work,

$$E[\text{Work}(TOL)] = \mathcal{O}\left(TOL^{-(2+\gamma)} \log\left(\frac{TOL_0}{TOL}\right)\right) \quad (13)$$

If, in addition, the exact error density is bounded away from zero on  $[0, T]$ , then

$$E[\text{Work}(TOL)] = \mathcal{O}\left(\left(TOL^{-1} \log\left(\frac{TOL_0}{TOL}\right)\right)^2\right). \quad (14)$$

# Conclusions

- Extended adaptive, non adapted, algorithms to the Multi level Monte Carlo setting,
- Asymptotic estimates describe the behavior of the resulting adaptive algorithms, numerical experiments confirm the predicted bounds.
- Extension to jump diffusions as in [MSTZ08] is direct.

## Future

- SPDEs
- Processes with jumps, reflections, ...
- Extensions to less regularity in payoff functions.

**THANK YOU!**

