

# A multilevel Monte-Carlo theorem for stable numerical methods

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**SAM**

## Abstract problem

Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space and  $Y \in L_2(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{P}; H)$ .

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**Examples:**

- ▶ Parametric integration (Heinrich 2001): Let  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  bounded domain,  $H = L_2([0, 1])$ ,  $g: [0, 1] \times \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$Y \equiv u(\lambda) = \int_{\mathcal{D}} g(\lambda, x) \, dx.$$

- ▶ Option pricing (Giles 2008):  $H = \mathbb{R}$ , payoff function  $\varphi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and

$$Y = \varphi(X(T)),$$

where  $X: [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  solves some SODE.

## Standard Monte Carlo approach

Generate independent and identically distributed copies

$(Y^m)_{m=1}^M$ ,  $M \in \mathbb{N}$ , of  $Y$

$$\mathcal{MC}(M) := \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M Y^m.$$

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Error estimates:

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MC}(M)\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 &= \frac{1}{M^2} \left\| \sum_{m=1}^M (\mathbf{E}[Y] - Y^m) \right\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \left\| \mathbf{E}[Y] - Y^1 \right\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 = \frac{1}{M} \text{Var}(Y).\end{aligned}$$

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Hence

$$\|\mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MC}(M)\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} = \mathcal{O}(M^{-\frac{1}{2}}).$$

## Trouble ahead

Direct generation of copies of  $Y$  often not possible:

- ▶ distribution of  $Y$  is unknown,
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For this: Assume existence of a sequence  $(Y_\ell)_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}} \subset L_2(\Omega; H)$  such that  $\exists C_1, C_2, p_1, p_2 > 0$  with  $p_1 \leq p_2$  and

$$\|Y_\ell - Y\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} \leq C_1 2^{-p_1 \ell} \quad (\text{Strong conv}),$$

$$|\mathbf{E}[Y_\ell] - \mathbf{E}[Y]| \leq C_2 2^{-p_2 \ell} \quad (\text{Weak conv})$$

for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ .

## Single level Monte Carlo

Instead of  $Y$  we use  $Y_L$  for some  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$\mathcal{MC}_1(M, L) := \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M Y_L^m.$$

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Error representation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MC}_1(M, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= | \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathbf{E}[Y_L] |^2 + \| \mathbf{E}[Y_L] - \mathcal{MC}_1(M, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= | \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathbf{E}[Y_L] |^2 + \frac{1}{M} \text{Var}(Y_L). \end{aligned}$$

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Hence, by weak convergence

$$\| \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MC}_1(M, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} = \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{2^{-2p_2 L} + M^{-1}}\right).$$

## Computational cost

For a given precision  $\epsilon > 0$ :

Level  $L \in \mathbb{N}$  is determined by the weak error:

$$L := \left\lceil \frac{\log(\epsilon^{-1})}{\log(2)p_2} \right\rceil.$$

If  $L$  is large enough we may assume  $\text{Var}(Y_L) \approx \text{Var}(Y)$ , thus

$$M \geq \epsilon^{-2}$$

Monte Carlo samples are needed. Then

$$\|\mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MC}_1(M, L)\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon).$$

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Then

$$\tau(\mathcal{MC}_1(M, L)) = M2^{L-1} \geq \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{-(2+\frac{1}{p_2})}.$$

## Multilevel Monte Carlo sampler

Idea: Use the telescopic sum

$$\mathbf{E}[Y_L] = \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbf{E}[Y_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}]$$

with  $Y_0 = 0$ .

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$$\Delta_\ell := Y_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}.$$

Multilevel Monte Carlo sampler

$$\mathcal{MLMC}(M_1, \dots, M_L, L) := \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \sum_{m=1}^{M_\ell} \Delta_\ell^m,$$

where  $\Delta_\ell^m$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , is an i.i.d family of copies of  $\Delta_\ell$  for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ .

## Multilevel Monte Carlo – error representation

Error representation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MLMC}(M_1, \dots, M_L, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= | \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathbf{E}[Y_L] |^2 + \| \mathbf{E}[Y_L] - \mathcal{MLMC}(M_1, \dots, M_L, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= \dots + \left\| \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \sum_{m=1}^{M_\ell} (\mathbf{E}[\Delta_\ell] - \Delta_\ell^m) \right\|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= | \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathbf{E}[Y_L] |^2 + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \text{Var}(\Delta_\ell). \end{aligned}$$

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By strong convergence

$$\begin{aligned} \| Y_\ell - Y_{\ell-1} \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} &\leq \| Y_\ell - Y \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} + \| Y - Y_{\ell-1} \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)} \\ &\leq C_1(1 + 2^{-p_1}) 2^{-p_1 \ell} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus,

$$\text{Var}(Y_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}) \leq C_3 2^{-2p_1 \ell}.$$

## Multilevel Monte Carlo – parameter choice

$L \in \mathbb{N}$  is again determined by the weak error:

$$L \geq \frac{\log(\epsilon^{-1})}{p_2 \log(2)}.$$

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$M_1, \dots, M_L \in \mathbb{N}$  are given by

$$M_\ell \geq \left\lceil \epsilon^{-2} 2^{-\frac{(2p_1+1)\ell}{2}} \sum_{k=1}^L 2^{\frac{(1-2p_1)k}{2}} \right\rceil$$

as a solution to the optimization problem

$$\min_{(M_1, \dots, M_L) \in \mathbb{N}^L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L M_\ell \tau(\Delta_\ell) \left( = \frac{3}{2} \sum_{\ell=1}^L M_\ell 2^{\ell-1} \right),$$

$$\text{s/t} \quad C_3 \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} 2^{-2p_1\ell} \leq \epsilon^2.$$

## Multilevel Monte Carlo – total computational cost

If  $p_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$C \sum_{\ell=1}^L M_\ell 2^{\ell-1} \geq C\epsilon^2 L^2 \geq C\epsilon^2 \log(\epsilon^{-1})^2.$$

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If  $p_1 > \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$C \sum_{\ell=1}^L M_\ell 2^{\ell-1} \geq C\epsilon^2.$$

Reference: [Giles 2008].

## Applications to SODEs

Let  $X: [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be solution to

$$dX(t) = b^0(X(t)) dt + \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(X(t)) dW^r(t), \quad (\text{SODE})$$

$$X(0) = X_0,$$

where  $b^r: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $r \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$ , are sufficiently smooth.

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Then, for some smooth function  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  our aim is to  
approximate  $\mathbf{E}[Y]$  with

$$Y := \varphi(X(T)).$$

Approximation of  $X(T)$  by numerical schemes  $X_\ell(T)$ ,  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$Y_\ell := \varphi(X_\ell(T)).$$

## Numerical schemes

Temporal step sizes  $h_\ell = 2^{-(\ell-1)} T$  and grid points  $t_n^\ell := nh$ ,

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Euler-Maruyama method:  $p_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $p_2 = 1$

$$X_\ell(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) + h_\ell b^0(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) + \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell},$$

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Milstein scheme:  $p_1 = 1$ ,  $p_2 = 1$

$$X_\ell(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) + h_\ell b^0(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) + \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$$

$$+ \sum_{r_1, r_2=1}^m \mathcal{L}^{r_1} b^{r_2}(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r_1, r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$$

for  $n \in \{1, \dots, 2^{\ell-1}\}$ .

# Iterated stochastic integrals

Here

$$I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} := W^r(t_n^\ell) - W^r(t_{n-1}^\ell)$$

and

$$I_{(r_1, r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} := \int_{t_{n-1}^\ell}^{t_n^\ell} \int_{t_{n-1}^\ell}^\sigma dW^{r_1}(\tau) dW^{r_2}(\sigma)$$

for  $r, r_1, r_2 \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

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for  $r, r_1, r_2 \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

New problem:  $I_{(r_1, r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$  are not easily simulated.

## Truncated Milstein scheme

Giles, Szpruch 2012: Consider **truncated** Milstein:

$$X_\ell(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) + h_\ell b^0(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) + \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$$
$$+ \sum_{r_1, r_2=1}^m \mathcal{L}^{r_1} b^{r_2}(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) \frac{1}{2} (I_{(r_1)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} I_{(r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} - \delta_{r_1, r_2} h_\ell)$$

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for  $n \in \{1, \dots, 2^{\ell-1}\}$ .

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Motivation: Recall the relationship

$$I_{(r_1, r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} + I_{(r_2, r_1)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} = I_{(r_1)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} I_{(r_2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} - \delta_{r_1, r_2} h_\ell.$$

## Idea of antithetic MLMC

Use again the telescopic sum

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}[Y_L] &= \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbf{E}[Y_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}] \\ &= \sum_{\ell=1}^L (\mathbf{E}[Y_\ell - \bar{Y}_\ell] + \mathbf{E}[\bar{Y}_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}])\end{aligned}$$

with  $Y_0 = 0$  and

$$\bar{Y}_\ell := \frac{1}{2}(\varphi(X_\ell) + \varphi(X_\ell^a))$$

where  $X_\ell$  is generated by the truncated Milstein scheme and  $X_\ell^a$  is its **antithetic twin**.

## Definition of the antithetic twin

Write truncated Milstein scheme in terms of an increment function:

$$X_\ell(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) + \Phi_1(X_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell), h_\ell, (I_{(r)}^{t_n, t_{n-1}})_{r=1}^m).$$

Similarly, this can be done for two consecutive steps:

$$X_\ell(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell(t_{n-2}^\ell) + \Phi_2(X_\ell(t_{n-2}^\ell), h_\ell, (I_{(r)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell})_{r=1}^m, (I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell})_{r=1}^m).$$

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**Antithetic twin** is given by interchanging the role of the stochastic increments:

$$X_\ell^a(t_n^\ell) = X_\ell^a(t_{n-2}^\ell) + \Phi_2(X_\ell^a(t_{n-2}^\ell), h_\ell, (I_{(r)}^{t_n, t_{n-1}})_{r=1}^m, (I_{(r)}^{t_{n-1}, t_{n-2}})_{r=1}^m).$$

## Antithetic MLMC sampler

Recall the telescopic sum

$$\mathbf{E}[Y_L] = \sum_{\ell=1}^L \left( \underbrace{\mathbf{E}[Y_\ell - \bar{Y}_\ell]}_{=0} + \mathbf{E}[\bar{Y}_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}] \right).$$

Define the antithetic MLMC sampler by

$$\mathcal{MLMC}_a(L, M_1, \dots, M_L) := \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \sum_{m=1}^{M_\ell} \bar{\Delta}_\ell^m,$$

where

$$\bar{\Delta}_\ell := \bar{Y}_\ell - Y_{\ell-1}.$$

## Antithetic MLMC sampler – error representation

Error representation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathcal{MLMC}_1(M_1, \dots, M_L, L) \|_{L_2(\Omega; H)}^2 \\ &= | \mathbf{E}[Y] - \mathbf{E}[Y_L] |^2 + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{1}{M_\ell} \text{Var}(\bar{\Delta}_\ell). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Giles, Szpruch 2012)

Let  $\varphi \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy some polynomial growth conditions, let  $b^r: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $r \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , be sufficiently smooth. Then

$$\text{Var}(\bar{\Delta}_\ell) \leq C 2^{2\ell}$$

for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Thus, antithetic MLMC with truncated Milstein behaves in the same way as MLMC with full Milstein.

## First step of the proof

Lemma (Giles, Szpruch 2012)

Let  $\varphi \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy some polynomial growth conditions.  
Then

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(\bar{\Delta}_\ell) &\leq C \left( \left\| \frac{1}{2}(X_\ell(T) + X_\ell^a(T)) - X_{\ell-1}(T) \right\|_{L_p(\Omega, \mathbb{R})}^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left\| X_\ell(T) - X_\ell^a(T) \right\|_{L_p(\Omega, \mathbb{R})}^4 \right)\end{aligned}$$

for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We concentrate on first summand.

## A stability concept for numerical schemes

Let  $\mathcal{G}_\ell$  be space of grid functions  $Z_\ell: \{t_0^\ell, \dots, t_{2^\ell-1}^\ell\} \rightarrow L_2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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Write numerical scheme in terms of a residual operator

$\mathcal{R}_\ell: \mathcal{G}_\ell \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_\ell$ , such that  $\mathcal{R}_\ell[X_\ell] = 0 \in \mathcal{G}_\ell$ :

$$\mathcal{R}_\ell[\mathcal{Z}_\ell](t_0^\ell) = \mathcal{Z}_\ell(t_0^\ell) - X_0,$$

$$\mathcal{R}_\ell[\mathcal{Z}_\ell](t_n^\ell) = \mathcal{Z}_\ell(t_n^\ell) - \mathcal{Z}_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) - h_\ell b^0(\mathcal{Z}_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) - \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(\mathcal{Z}_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$$

## A stability concept for numerical schemes

Let  $\mathcal{G}_\ell$  be space of **grid functions**  $Z_\ell: \{t_0^\ell, \dots, t_{2^\ell-1}^\ell\} \rightarrow L_2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Write numerical scheme in terms of a **residual operator**

$\mathcal{R}_\ell: \mathcal{G}_\ell \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_\ell$ , such that  $\mathcal{R}_\ell[X_\ell] = 0 \in \mathcal{G}_\ell$ :

$$\mathcal{R}_\ell[Z_\ell](t_0^\ell) = Z_\ell(t_0^\ell) - X_0,$$

$$\mathcal{R}_\ell[Z_\ell](t_n^\ell) = Z_\ell(t_n^\ell) - Z_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell) - h_\ell b^0(Z_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) - \sum_{r=1}^m b^r(Z_\ell(t_{n-1}^\ell)) I_{(r)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell}$$

Endow  $\mathcal{G}_\ell$  with the two norms

$$\|Z_\ell\|_{0,\ell} = \max_{0 \leq i \leq 2^{\ell-1}} \|Z_\ell(t_i^\ell)\|_{L_2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

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and with the stochastic Spijker-norm

$$\|Z_\ell\|_{-1,\ell} = \|Y_\ell(t_0^\ell)\|_{L_2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)} + \max_{1 \leq n \leq 2^{\ell-1}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n Z_\ell(t_i^\ell) \right\|_{L_2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

# Bistability

## Definition

A numerical scheme is called **bistable**, if there exist constants  $C_1, C_2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}C_1 \|\mathcal{R}_\ell[Z_\ell] - \mathcal{R}_\ell[\tilde{Z}_\ell]\|_{-\mathbf{1}, \ell} \\ \leq \|Z_\ell - \tilde{Z}_\ell\|_{\mathbf{0}, \ell} \\ \leq C_2 \|\mathcal{R}_\ell[Z_\ell] - \mathcal{R}_\ell[\tilde{Z}_\ell]\|_{-\mathbf{1}, \ell}\end{aligned}$$

holds for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $Z_\ell, \tilde{Z}_\ell \in \mathcal{G}_\ell$ .

# Consistency

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A numerical scheme is called **consistent** of order  $\gamma_1 > 0$ , if there exists a constant  $C_1$  such that

$$\|\mathcal{R}_\ell[X|_{S_\ell}]\|_{-1,\ell} \leq C_1 2^{-\gamma_1 \ell}$$

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A sequence of grid functions  $(Z_\ell)_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}}$  is called **level-consistent** of order  $\gamma_2 > 0$ , if there exists a constant  $C_2$  such that

$$\|\mathcal{R}_\ell[Z_\ell]\|_{-1,\ell} \leq C_2 2^{-\gamma_2 \ell}$$

for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ .

## Apply stability concept to antithetic sampler

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \frac{1}{2}(X_\ell(T) + X_\ell^a(T)) - X_{\ell-1}(T) \right\|_{L_p(\Omega, \mathbb{R})} \\ & \leq C_2 \left\| \mathcal{R}_{\ell-1} \left[ \frac{1}{2}(X_\ell + X_\ell^a) \right] \right\|_{-1, \ell-1} \leq \dots \leq C 2^{-\ell}. \end{aligned}$$

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Clark-Cameron Example

$$\begin{aligned} dX(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & X_1(t) \end{pmatrix} d \begin{pmatrix} W^1(t) \\ W^2(t) \end{pmatrix} \\ X(0) &= 0 \in \mathbb{R}^2. \end{aligned}$$

## Truncated Milstein for Clark-Cameron

One step of truncated Milstein:

$$X_{\ell-1}(t_n^{\ell-1}) = X_{\ell-1}(t_{n-1}^{\ell-1}) + \left( I_{(1)}^{t_n^{\ell-1}, t_{n-1}^{\ell-1}} + \frac{1}{2} I_{(1)}^{t_n^{\ell-1}, t_{n-1}^{\ell-1}} I_{(2)}^{t_n^{\ell-1}, t_{n-1}^{\ell-1}} \right).$$

Two steps of truncated Milstein:

$$\begin{aligned} X_\ell(t_n^\ell) &= X_\ell(t_{n-2}^\ell) + \left( I_{(1)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} + I_{(1)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} \right. \\ &\quad \left. X_\ell^1(t_{n-2}^\ell) \left( I_{(2)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} + I_{(2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \left( I_{(1)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} I_{(2)}^{t_n^\ell, t_{n-1}^\ell} + \frac{1}{2} \left( I_{(1)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} I_{(2)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} + I_{(1)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} I_{(2)}^{t_{n-1}^\ell, t_{n-2}^\ell} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

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It directly follows

$$\left\| \mathcal{R}_{\ell-1} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (X_\ell + X_\ell^a) \right] \right\|_{-1, \ell-1} = 0.$$

# References

## Multilevel Monte Carlo

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## Stability concept

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## Antithetic MLMC approach

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