

# Asynchronous Anytime Sequential Monte Carlo: Supplemental Material

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## 1 Introduction

We have the following state-space model

$$\begin{aligned} X_0 &\sim \mu, \\ X_n | X_{0:n-1} = x_{0:n-1}, Y_{0:n-1} &\sim f_n(x_n | x_{0:n-1}) && \text{for } n \geq 1, \\ Y_n | X_{0:n} = x_{0:n}, Y_{0:n-1} &\sim g_n(y_n | x_{0:n}, y_{0:n-1}) && \text{for } n \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $X_n$  is a  $\mathcal{X}$ -valued random variable and  $\mathcal{X}$  a metric space. Given a realization of the observations  $Y_{0:t} = y_{0:t}$ , we are interested in making inference about the latent state variables. We introduce the following unnormalised measures [2] for any  $0 \leq n \leq t$ ,

$$\alpha_n(dx_{0:n}) = p(dx_{0:n}, y_{0:n}), \quad \hat{\alpha}_{n+1}(dx_{0:n+1}) = p(dx_{0:n+1}, y_{0:n}).$$

with normalisation constant  $p(y_{0:n})$  and their normalised versions

$$\eta_n(dx_{0:n}) = p(dx_{0:n} | y_{0:n}), \quad \hat{\eta}_{n+1}(dx_{0:n+1}) = p(dx_{0:n+1} | y_{0:n}).$$

If  $\mu(dx)$  is a measure,  $\psi(x)$  a real-valued function,  $K(dx' | x)$  a Markov

kernel and  $A$  a Borel set, we use the following standard notation

$$\begin{aligned}\mu(\psi) &= \int \mu(dx) \psi(x), \\ \mu K(A) &= \int_A \mu(dx) K(dx'|x), \\ K\psi(x) &= \int \psi(x') K(dx'|x).\end{aligned}$$

Using this notation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_n(\psi) &= \widehat{\alpha}_n(g_n\psi), \quad \widehat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi) = \alpha_n f_n(\psi), \\ \eta_n(\psi) &= \frac{\widehat{\alpha}_n(g_n\psi)}{\widehat{\alpha}_n(g_n)}, \quad \widehat{\eta}_{n+1}(\psi) = \eta_n f_n(\psi).\end{aligned}$$

The following particle algorithm is used.

- Initialisation  $n = 0$ . For  $i = 1, \dots, N_0$  Sample  $X_0^{i,0} \sim \mu(\cdot)$  and compute  $W_0^i = g_0(y_0 | X_0^{i,0})$ .
- At time  $n \geq 0$ .
  - Branching step: Resample  $\{W_n^i, X_{0:n}^{i,n}\}_{i=1}^{N_n}$  to obtain  $\{\widetilde{W}_n^i, X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}\}_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}}$ .
  - Extension step: For  $i = 1, \dots, N_{n+1}$  sample  $X_{n+1}^{i,n+1} \sim f_{n+1}(\cdot | X_{0:n}^{i,n+1})$ .
  - Reweighting step: Set  $W_{n+1}^i = \widetilde{W}_n^i \cdot g_{n+1}(y_{n+1} | X_{0:n+1}^{i,n+1}, y_{0:n})$ .

On the branching step, we assume that the particles are processed sequentially in order given by a permutation  $\sigma_n$  on  $[N_n]$ . The  $i$ th particle processed is  $\sigma_n(i)$ , and the number of children  $M_{n+1}^i$  and common weight of each child  $V_n^i$  are determined, based only on information of particles  $\sigma_n(1), \dots, \sigma_n(i)$ , but not later particles and satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}V_n^i &= \overline{W}_n^i = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^i W_n^{\sigma_n(j)}, \\ M_{n+1}^i &= \left\lfloor \frac{W_n^{\sigma_n(i)}}{\overline{W}_n^i} \right\rfloor + \text{Bernoulli} \left( \frac{W_n^{\sigma_n(i)}}{\overline{W}_n^i} - \left\lfloor \frac{W_n^{\sigma_n(i)}}{\overline{W}_n^i} \right\rfloor \right).\end{aligned}$$

The total number of children for the next stage is  $N_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} M_{n+1}^i$ , with weights  $(\widetilde{W}_n^i)_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} = (\underbrace{V_n^1, \dots, V_n^1}_{M_{n+1}^1}, \dots, \underbrace{V_n^{N_n}, \dots, V_n^{N_n}}_{M_{n+1}^{N_n}})$ .

At each time step, we have the following approximations  $\beta_n^{N_0}$  and  $\tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}$  of  $\alpha_n$  and the approximation  $\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}$  of  $\hat{\alpha}_{n+1}$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n}) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \delta_{X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}}(dx_{0:n})}{N_0} \\ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n}) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \tilde{W}_n^i \delta_{X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}}(dx_{0:n})}{N_0}, \\ \hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(dx_{0:n+1}) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \tilde{W}_n^i \delta_{X_{0:n+1}^{i,n+1}}(dx_{0:n+1})}{N_0},\end{aligned}$$

Practically, when performing state estimation, we are not interested in the unnormalised measures  $\beta_n^{N_0}$ ,  $\tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}$  and  $\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}$  but in their normalised versions defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\nu_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n}) &= \frac{\beta_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n})}{\beta_n^{N_0}(1)}, \quad \tilde{\nu}_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n}) = \frac{\tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(dx_{0:n})}{\tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(1)}, \\ \hat{\nu}_{n+1}^{N_0}(dx_{0:n+1}) &= \frac{\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(dx_{0:n+1})}{\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(1)},\end{aligned}$$

where  $\nu_n^{N_0}$  and  $\tilde{\nu}_n^{N_0}$  approximate  $\eta_n$  while  $\hat{\nu}_{n+1}^{N_0}$  approximates  $\hat{\eta}_{n+1}$ .

This particle filter also outputs an estimate of the marginal likelihood given by

$$\hat{p}^{N_0}(y_{0:n}) = \hat{p}^{N_0}(y_0) \prod_{k=1}^n \hat{p}^{N_0}(y_k | y_{0:k-1})$$

where  $\hat{p}^{N_0}(y_0) := \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} W_0^i$  and for  $k \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p}^{N_0}(y_k | y_{0:k-1}) &:= \int g_k(y_k | x_{0:k}, y_{0:k-1}) \hat{\nu}_{k-1}^{N_0}(dx_{0:k}) \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_k} W_k^i}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{k-1}} W_{k-1}^i} \text{ for } k \geq 1.\end{aligned}$$

Hence it follows that

$$\hat{p}^{N_0}(y_{0:n}) = \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i. \quad (1)$$

We denote by  $B(E)$  the space of bounded real-valued functions on a space  $E$ , equipped with the sup norm denoted  $\|f\| = \sup_{x \in E} |f(x)|$ . We also denote by  $\mathcal{F}_n$  the natural filtration associated with all random variables generated by the particle algorithm at the end of the  $n$ th reweighting step, and  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_n$  similarly for just after the the branching step.

We make the following assumption on the model and branching step.

**Assumption B.** The function  $g_n(y_n | \cdot, y_{0:n-1}) : \mathcal{X}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies  $g_n(y_n | x_{0:n}, y_{0:n-1}) > 0$  for all  $x_{0:n} \in \mathcal{X}^{n+1}$  and  $\|g_n(y_n | \cdot, y_{0:n-1})\| \leq 1$  for all  $n \geq 0$ .

We note that if  $\|g_n(y_n|\cdot, y_{0:n-1})\| \leq B_n$  for some known constant  $B_n$ , then we can simply rescale  $g_n(y_n|\cdot, y_{0:n-1})$  to satisfy Assumption B. The assumption that  $g_n(y_n|x_{0:n}, y_{0:n-1}) > 0$  for all  $x_{0:n}$  is a sufficient assumption ensuring the system of particles cannot die.

**Assumption O.** The particle ordering  $\sigma_n$  is independent of all other random variables generating  $\mathcal{F}_n$ , conditioned on the number of particles  $N_n$ , and  $\sigma_n$  is uniformly distributed across all permutations of  $\{1, \dots, N_n\}$ .

It is straightforward to establish that the particle branching mechanism implies that  $\Pr(N_n > 0) = 1$  for any  $n \geq 0$  and that the following unbiasedness property is satisfied for any  $\psi \in B(\mathcal{X}^n)$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \widetilde{W}_n^i \psi \left( X_{0:n}^{i,n+1} \right) \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \psi \left( X_{0:n}^{i,n} \right). \quad (2)$$

Additionally, it ensures that for each  $n$  and  $i$ , we have

$$\mathbb{V}[M_n^i | \mathcal{F}_n] \leq V = 1/4 \quad (3)$$

as  $M_n^i$  is a shifted Bernoulli random variable and  $W_n^i, \widetilde{W}_n^i \leq 1$  straightforwardly by induction as  $\|g_n(y_n|\cdot, y_{0:n-1})\| \leq 1$ .

In the rest of the paper, Assumption B and Assumption O are assumed to hold.

## 2 Marginal likelihood estimation and unbiasedness

In this Section, we established that the marginal likelihood estimate given in (1) is unbiased.

**Proposition 1** *For any  $N_0 \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have*

$$\mathbb{E} [\widehat{p}^{N_0}(y_{0:n})] = p(y_{0:n}).$$

**Proof.** The proof follows from a backward induction. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} [\widehat{p}^{N_0}(y_{0:n})] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \middle| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_{n-1} \right] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} \widetilde{W}_{n-1}^i \int \underbrace{f_n(x_n | X_{0:n-1}^{i,n}) g_n(y_n | X_{0:n-1}^{i,n}, x_n, y_{0:n-1})}_{p(y_n | X_{0:n-1}^{i,n}, y_{0:n-1})} dx_n \right] \quad (\text{using } W_n^i = \widetilde{W}_{n-1}^i \cdot g_n(\cdot)) \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} \widetilde{W}_{n-1}^i p(y_n | X_{0:n-1}^{i,n}, y_{0:n-1}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_{n-1} \right] \right] \quad (\text{using (2)}) \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n-1}} W_{n-1}^i p(y_n | X_{0:n-1}^{i,n-1}, y_{0:n-1}) \middle| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_{n-2} \right] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n-1}} \widetilde{W}_{n-2}^i p(y_{n-1:n} | X_{0:n-2}^{i,n-1}, y_{0:n-2}) \middle| \mathcal{F}_{n-2} \right] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n-2}} W_{n-2}^i p(y_{n-1:n} | X_{0:n-2}^{i,n-2}, y_{0:n-2}) \middle| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_{n-3} \right] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} W_0^i p(y_{1:n} | X_0^{i,0}, y_0) \right] \\
&= p(y_{0:n}).
\end{aligned}$$

■

### 3 L2 Error Bounds

We first establish L2 error bounds for the unnormalised measures  $\beta_n^{N_0}$ ,  $\widetilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}$  and  $\widehat{\beta}_n^{N_0}$ .

**Theorem 2 (L2 error bounds for unnormalised measures)** *For any  $n \geq 0$ , there exists  $a_n, b_n, c_n < \infty$  such that for any  $N_0 \geq 1$  and any  $\psi_n \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+1})$ ,  $\psi_{n+1} \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+2})$*

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{a_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2, \\
\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \widetilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{b_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2, \\
\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \widehat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{c_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the function  $\psi_n(x_{0:n}) = 1$ , we get control over the variance of the unbiased estimator for the marginal likelihood estimate.

**Corollary 3** *We have, for some constant  $a_n$ ,*

$$\mathbb{V} \left[ \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \right] \leq \frac{a_n}{N_0}.$$

We proof this result by induction on  $n$ . It is straightforward to check that there exists  $a_0 < \infty$  such that  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \beta_0^{N_0}(\psi_0) - \alpha_0(\psi_0) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{a_0}{N_0} \|\psi_0\|^2$  holds as the initial particles are i.i.d. The proof then relies on the following propositions.

**Proposition 4 (Branching Step)** *Assume that there exists  $a_n < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_n \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+1})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{a_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2 \quad (4)$$

*then there exists  $b_n < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_n \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+1})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{b_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2. \quad (5)$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) = \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) + \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n)$$

so by Minkowski's inequality

$$\mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] + \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right].$$

The second term on the rhs is bounded using (4), so it suffices to control the first term. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) &= \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i) \psi_n(X_{0:n}^{i,n}) \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] &= \frac{1}{N_0^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i) \psi_n(X_{0:n}^{i,n}) \right\}^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \end{aligned}$$

where  $M_{n+1}^i$  is the number of children of particle  $i$  and  $V_n^i$  their common weight. Using the specific structure of the branching step, these are independent across particles, so,

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i) \psi_n(X_{0:n}^{i,n}) \right\}^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} \mathbb{E} \left[ (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i)^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \psi_n(X_{0:n}^{i,n})^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} \mathbb{V} [M_{n+1}^i V_n^i \middle| \mathcal{F}_n] \|\psi_n\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Using Assumption V, Now  $M_{n+1}^i$  is a translated Bernoulli variable and has variance upper bounded by 1/4, so

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i) \psi_n (X_{0:n}^{i,n}) \right\}^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} V \mathbb{E} \left[ (\bar{W}_n^i)^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \|\psi_n\|^2 \\ \text{Using } \bar{W}_n^i &\leq 1, && \leq \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} V \mathbb{E} \left[ \bar{W}_n^i \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] \|\psi_n\|^2 \\ \text{Using Assumption O,} &&& = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} V \frac{1}{N_n} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \|\psi_n\|^2 \\ &&& = V \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_i \|\psi_n\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now it follows from the unbiasedness of the marginal likelihood estimate that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} (M_{n+1}^i V_n^i - W_n^i) \psi_n (X_{0:n}^{i,n}) \right\}^2 \right] \leq V \|\psi_n\|^2 N_0 p(y_{0:n}).$$

Hence, it follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \beta_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{V p(y_{0:n})}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2.$$

■

**Proposition 5 (Extend Step)** *Assume that there exists  $b_n < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_n \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+1})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \alpha_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{b_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2 \quad (6)$$

*then there exists  $c_n < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_{n+1} \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+2})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \hat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{c_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2. \quad (7)$$

**Proof.** By Minkowski's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \hat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] \right\}^2 \right] + \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] - \hat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

The second term is,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \mathbb{E}[\hat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] - \hat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] &= \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}(f_n(\psi_{n+1})) - \alpha_n(f_n(\psi_{n+1})) \right\}^2 \right] \\ &\leq \frac{b_n}{N_0} \|f_n(\psi_{n+1})\|^2 \leq \frac{b_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

For the first term, we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \mathbb{E}[\widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] \\
&= \frac{1}{N_0} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \widetilde{W}_n^i \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n+1}^{i,n+1}) - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \widetilde{W}_n^i f_n \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}) \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \widetilde{W}_n^i \left( \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n+1}^{i,n+1}) - f_n \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence by taking expectations,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \mathbb{E}[\widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] \right\}^2 \middle| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_n \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{N_0^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \left( \widetilde{W}_n^i \right)^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n+1}^{i,n+1}) - f_n \psi_{n+1}(X_{0:n}^{i,n+1}) \right)^2 \middle| \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_n \right] \\
&\leq \frac{1}{N_0^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{n+1}} \widetilde{W}_n^i 2 \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2 \\
&= \frac{2}{N_0^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} W_n^i \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

By unbiasedness of the marginal likelihood estimate,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \mathbb{E}[\widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) | \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_n] \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{2p(y_{0:n})}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2$$

■

**Proposition 6 (Reweighting Step)** *Assume that there exists  $c_n < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_{n+1} \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+2})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \widehat{\alpha}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{c_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2 \quad (8)$$

*then there exists  $a_{n+1} < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi_{n+1} \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+2})$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \beta_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \alpha_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{a_{n+1}}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2. \quad (9)$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\beta_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \alpha_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) = \widehat{\beta}_{n+1}^{N_0}(g_{n+1}\psi_{n+1}) - \widehat{\alpha}_{n+1}(g_{n+1}\psi_{n+1}),$$

so

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \beta_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \alpha_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{c_n}{N_0} \|g_{n+1}\psi_{n+1}\|^2 \leq \frac{c_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2.$$

■ The following Proposition shows that it is straightforward to transfer the L2 error bounds on  $\beta_n^{N_0}$ ,  $\widetilde{\beta}_n^{N_0}$  and  $\widehat{\beta}_n^{N_0}$  to  $\nu_n^{N_0}$ ,  $\widetilde{\nu}_n^{N_0}$  and  $\widehat{\nu}_n^{N_0}$ .

**Proposition 7 (Normalisation)** *Assume we have an unnormalised random measure  $\mu^{N_0}(dx) = N_0^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N W_i \delta_{X^i} dx$  on  $E$  where  $0 < W_i \leq 1$  almost surely and such that there exists a measure  $\mu$  and a constant  $c < \infty$  satisfying for any  $\psi \in B(E)$*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \mu^{N_0}(\psi) - \mu(\psi) \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{c}{N_0} \|\psi\|^2 \quad (10)$$

then there exists a constant  $\bar{c} < \infty$  such that for any  $\psi \in B(E)$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu^{N_0}(1)} - \frac{\mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} \right\}^2 \right] \leq \frac{\bar{c}}{N_0} \|\psi\|^2.$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu^{N_0}(1)} - \frac{\mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} &= \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu^{N_0}(1)} - \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu(1)} + \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu(1)} - \frac{\mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} \\ &= \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi) \{ \mu(1) - \mu^{N_0}(1) \}}{\mu^{N_0}(1) \mu(1)} + \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi) - \mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\left| \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu^{N_0}(1)} - \frac{\mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} \right| \leq \frac{\|\psi\| |\mu^{N_0}(1) - \mu(1)|}{\mu(1)} + \frac{|\mu^{N_0}(\psi) - \mu(\psi)|}{\mu(1)}.$$

Hence by Minkowski's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \left\{ \frac{\mu^{N_0}(\psi)}{\mu^{N_0}(1)} - \frac{\mu(\psi)}{\mu(1)} \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{\|\psi\|}{\mu(1)} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \{ \mu^{N_0}(1) - \mu(1) \}^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\mu(1)} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[ \{ \mu^{N_0}(\psi) - \mu(\psi) \}^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows from (10). ■

The following Theorem now follows directly from the previous Proposition and Theorem on L2 error bounds for unnormalised measures.

**Theorem 8 (L2 error bounds for normalised measures)** *For any  $n \geq 0$ , there exists  $\bar{a}_n, \bar{b}_n, \bar{c}_n < \infty$  such that for any  $N_0 \geq 1$  and any  $\psi_n \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+1})$ ,  $\psi_{n+1} \in B(\mathcal{X}^{n+2})$*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \nu_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \eta_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{\bar{a}_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2, \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \tilde{\nu}_n^{N_0}(\psi_n) - \eta_n(\psi_n) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{\bar{b}_n}{N_0} \|\psi_n\|^2, \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\{ \hat{\nu}_{n+1}^{N_0}(\psi_{n+1}) - \hat{\eta}_{n+1}(\psi_{n+1}) \right\}^2 \right] &\leq \frac{\bar{c}_n}{N_0} \|\psi_{n+1}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Number of Particles

**Proposition 9** *The numbers of particles  $(N_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is a martingale.*

**Proof.** We will show that  $\mathbb{E}[N_{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n] = N_n$  by showing that for each particle  $i = 1, \dots, N_n$ , the expected number of children  $\mathbb{E}[M_{n+1}^i|\mathcal{F}_n] = 1$ . Using Assumption O, that the branching step involves a uniformly random ordering over particles,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[M_{n+1}^i|\mathcal{F}_n] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{W_n^{\sigma_n(i)}}{\bar{W}_n^i} \middle| \mathcal{F}_n\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^i \frac{W_n^{\sigma_n(j)}}{\bar{W}_n^i} \middle| \mathcal{F}_n\right] \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

since  $\bar{W}_n^i = \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^i W_n^{\sigma_n(j)}$  and  $\sigma_n$  is a uniform random permutation. ■

**Proposition 10** *We have*

$$\mathbb{V}[N_n] \leq nVN_0$$

*for some constant  $V$ .*

**Proof.** We proof this by induction on  $n$ . The case  $n = 0$  is trivial since  $\mathbb{V}[N_0] = 0$ . Recall that

$$N_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} M_{n+1}^i$$

with  $M_{n+1}^i$  being independent given  $\mathcal{F}_n$ , with variance  $\mathbb{V}[M_{n+1}^i|\mathcal{F}_n] \leq V$  by Assumption V. Suppose the proposition is true for  $n$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}[N_{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n] &\leq VN_n \\ \mathbb{V}[N_{n+1}] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{V}[N_{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n]] + \mathbb{V}[\mathbb{E}[N_{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n]] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}[VN_n] + \mathbb{V}[N_n] \\ &\leq (n+1)VN_0 \end{aligned}$$

■

As a consequence, the standard deviation is  $\sqrt{nVN_0}$ . Then the standard deviation can be made arbitrarily small relative to the expected number of particles,  $N_0$ , by having  $N_0$  arbitrarily larger than  $Vn$ .

**Corollary 11** *Using Doob's maximal inequality, we can also control the path-wise fluctuations of  $(N_n)_{n \geq 0}$ :*

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sup_{k=1, \dots, n} \left(\frac{N_k}{N_0} - 1\right)^2\right] \leq \frac{4n}{N_0}V = \frac{n}{N_0}.$$

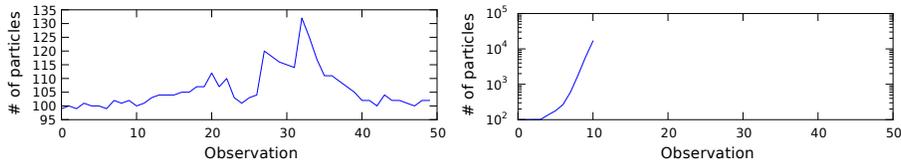


Figure 1: In this figure we demonstrate potential consequences when Assumption O is violated, comparing a best-case situation where the ordering of particles at  $n$  is completely independent of the ordering of particles at  $n + 1$ , artificially subjecting the ordering of the particles to a random permutation, to a worst-case situation where the ordering of particles is completely preserved from  $n$  to  $n + 1$ . We plot the number of particles  $K_n$  at each of  $n = 1, \dots, 50$  for a one-dimensional linear Gaussian model, initialized with 100 particles. (left) When the order of the particles arriving at each  $n$  is subject to a random permutation, then the number of particles is reasonably stable, staying at or near 100. (right) When the order of the particles arriving at each  $n$  is completely deterministic, then the total number of particles quickly explodes, in this case exceeding 15000 by  $n = 11$ . In practice, a naïve implementation of the incremental resampling scheme will have a very strong dependence in ordering across  $n$  — a particle which is one of the first to reach stage  $n$  is quite likely one of the first to reach stage  $n + 1$  as well.

## References

- [1] D. Crisan, P. Del Moral and T. Lyons, Discrete filtering using branching and interacting particle systems. Markov Processes and Related Fields, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 293-318.
- [2] P. Del Moral, Mean Field Simulation for Monte Carlo Integration, Chapman & Hall, 2013.