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Advancing Hybrid Numerical Methods for Nonlinear Stochastic Differential Equations: Applications in Complex Systems

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Author's contribution

The sole author designed, analyzed, interpreted and prepared the manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The focus of this work is to consider composite numerical techniques for the approximation of SDEs with nonlinear coefficients in the drift and diffusion terms. SDEs, crucial for modeling systems with stochastic components, contain nonlinear terms that cause analytical solvability, numerical stiffness, and sensitivity to noise. These difficulties pose a problem for traditional techniques such as Euler-Maruyama or Milstein schemes, specifically in stiff or very nonlinear systems. Accompanying exact methods are numerical methods that include a deterministic synthesis of drift terms and a stochastic interpolation of diffusion terms with the purpose of increasing precision and stability and optimizing used computing time. Discussed approaches include implicit-explicit (IMEX) schemes, spectral collocation methods, and machine learning-assisted techniques. IMEX methods handle stiffness in nonlinear drift terms implicitly, while explicitly handling stochastic diffusion. Spectral-collocation

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methods utilize high-order polynomial approximations for accuracy in discretization where solutions are smooth and defined in a bounded domain. The combination of these techniques and machine learning extends SDE analysis and concentrates on SDE nonlinearities as well as adaptive solution strategies. They find use in every area of discipline, such as stochastic volatility models in finance, population dynamics in biology, and turbulent fluid flows in engineering. Simulation results show that hybrid schemes outperform other methods in terms of accuracy, stability, and computational expense. This work outlines how the integration of the suggested methods can overcome the shortcomings of the classic approaches so as to enable progression in solving complex, highdimensional, and nonlinear stochastic problems. Subsequent studies will continue to investigate additional adaptive frameworks and more domain-specific and machine learning-based improvements to expand the spectrum of hybrid use.

Keywords: Multiple numerical schemes; stochastic calculus; nonlinear randomness in drift and diffusion coefficients; implicit-explicit time discretizations; reduced computational load.

1. INTRODUCTION

These Stochastic Differential Equations (SDEs) for use in systems which are aggravated by randomness have found a place in numerous disciplines ranging from finance to physics, biology, and engineering (Brigo & Mercurio, 2001). These equations generalize ordinary differential equations (ODEs) for modeling the behavior of systems with random perturbations interpreted as stochastic noise normally modeled by the Wiener process. The general form of an SDE is given as:

$$dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + g(X_t, t)dW_t, \qquad 1.1$$

Where X_t the state of the system at time t is, $f(X_t, t)$ denotes a deterministic part of the system's behavior known as the drift term, $g(X_t, t)$ is known as the diffusion term.m. The notation used is W_t a Wiener process or a Brownian motion. The deterministic part is usually described by drift and the stochastic one by the diffusion term. This formulation enables SDEs to model systems which changes from deterministic as well as random forces, are ideal for modeling real world processes where randomness is a parameter (Kloeden & Platen, 1992).

2. THE CHALLENGE OF NONLINEAR DRIFT AND DIFFUSION TERMS

Despite the fact that linear SDEs can sometimes be solved explicitly or to be approximated quite well, many real-life systems involve nonlinear drift and diffusion coefficients, and this greatly distorts both the possibility of the analysis of the SDEs, and their numerical solution (Crouse, 2015). Nonlinearities in the drift function $f(X_t, t)$ or the diffusion function $g(X_t, t)$ can lead to complex behaviors such as chaotic dynamics, multiple equilibria, or sensitivity to initial conditions. For instance, nonlinear SDEs appear frequently in models of turbulent flows (Majda, Timofeyev, & Vanden-Eijnden, 2003), biochemical systems (Erban, Chapman, & Maini, 2007), and financial markets (Black & Scholes, 1973).

The presence of nonlinear terms introduces several key challenges:

- Analytical intractability: In most cases, exact solutions for SDEs with nonlinear terms do not exist, necessitating the use of numerical approximation methods (Higham, 2001).
- Instabilities in numerical methods: Standard numerical methods such as the Euler-Maruyama or Milstein schemes may become unstable or provide inaccurate results when applied to highly nonlinear SDEs, particularly if the step size is not carefully chosen (Tocino & Vigo-Aguiar, 2002).
- Sensitivity to noise: Nonlinear diffusion terms can cause the system to exhibit sensitive responses to stochastic fluctuations, making it difficult to capture the correct behavior using traditional methods (Erban & Chapman, 2020).

These difficulties highlight the need for specialized numerical methods that can accurately and efficiently solve nonlinear SDEs.

2.1 Hybrid Methods: An Effective Approach

In order to overcome these difficulties, authors utilized methods based on the integration of the

constituents from different numerical methods with the aim to enhance the accuracy, stability, and efficiency of the numerical realization of SDEs with nonlinear coefficients of drift and diffusion (Gatheral, 2011). The term hybrid is used for the association between the deterministic ordinary differential equation solvers used for the management of the drift component as well as the stochastic integration methodologies used for the handling of the stochastic part of the equation, symbolized by the diffusion coefficient (Lord et al., 2014). Hybrid methods are considered to be even more attractive because certain numerical strategies used within this framework can be adjusted in the way the different components of the SDE are solved, thus providing great flexibility when solving complex, nonlinear problems. Abdulle and Pavliotis (2012).

Several motivations drive the development of hybrid methods:

- 1. **Improved accuracy:** Meanwhile, the different approximation to the drift and noise terms by using higher-order deterministic solvers, such as Runge–Kutta schemes, for the drift term and by using special stochastic integrators such as the Milstein method, are expected to enhance the accuracy of the solution, especially for stiff or nonlinear problems (Kloeden and Platen, 1992).
- 2. **Stability in stiff systems:** Some of the difficulties found in nonlinear stochastic differential equations include stiffness due to responses of the given perturbation being large in the presence of small perturbation. Hybrid methods overcome this in that while the deterministic part of the equation, which may be stiff, is solved using implicit solvers, the stochastic part, which is prone to bias, is solved using explicit solvers (Higham, 2001).
- **3.** Efficiency: Hybrid schemes can also adapt the time step depending on the local solution behavior, thus giving more resolution to rapidly oscillating regions while giving coarser steps in smoothly varying ones: this reduces computational cost further while maintaining accuracy, Abdulle, and Pavliotis, (2012).
- 4. Adaptivity to system behavior: Such hybrid methods can also be classified as adaptive in the sense that, depending on the prevailing conditions, they switch from one scheme to another if the system is

dominated by drift, diffusion, or both. This is possible because the plant can be made to realize higher performance levels when operating at different SDEs (Saito & Mitsui, 1996).

2.2 Existing Approaches to Hybrid Methods

Several approaches to hybrid methods for SDEs have been proposed in the literature. For example, partitioned methods, which separate the drift and diffusion terms and apply different numerical solvers to each, have proven effective in reducing errors and improving stability (Sauer, 2017). Similarly, semi-implicit schemes, where an implicit method is used for the drift term and an explicit method for the diffusion term, have been developed to handle stiffness and nonlinearities in financial and engineering models (Lord, Koekkoek, & Van Dijk, 2010).

Another promising direction involves **multiscale hybrid methods**, which address systems where the drift and diffusion terms operate on different timescales. These methods allow for accurate resolution of fast stochastic fluctuations without requiring excessively small time steps throughout the entire integration, thus saving computational effort (Chou, (1991)).

2.3 Scope and Purpose of this Study

This work aims to advance the understanding and application of hybrid numerical methods for solving SDEs with nonlinear drift and diffusion terms. Specifically, we focus on developing methods that balance accuracy, stability, and computational efficiency in the presence of strong nonlinearities. We will investigate the performance of these methods through both theoretical analysis (convergence, stability) and practical applications, drawing examples from fields such as mathematical finance, epidemiology, and fluid dynamics. Numerical experiments will demonstrate the effectiveness of hybrid methods in capturing the complex dynamics of nonlinear SDEs, highlighting their potential for broader application in science and engineering.

3. HYBRID METHODS FOR NONLINEAR SDES

3.1 Implicit-Explicit (IMEX) Methods

IMEX schemes combine explicit and implicit numerical integration strategies. In the context of

SDEs, the **explicit** part can be applied to the stochastic term, which generally benefits from a more straightforward implementation, while the **implicit** part is applied to the nonlinear drift term. This combination can help handle stiffness in the system, as implicit methods are known for their stability when applied to stiff problems. Consider the SDE:

$$dX_t = f(X_t)dt + g(X_t)dW_t$$
 3.1

In an IMEX approach, the drift $f(X_t)$ is treated implicitly, which ensures stability in the deterministic part, while the diffusion term $g(X_t)dW_t$ is treated explicitly to allow efficient simulation of the stochastic part. A time step Δt in such a method can be written as:

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + \triangle tf(X_{n+1}) + g(X_n) \triangle W_n$$
 3.2

where $\triangle W_n$ represents the Wiener increment over the time interval $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$.

The hybrid IMEX method can efficiently handle stiff systems and nonlinearities in the drift term without significantly increasing the computational cost.

3.2 Spectral Methods and Collocation Techniques

Spectral methods, particularly those based on **Chebyshev polynomials**, offer high accuracy for smooth solutions over bounded domains. These methods expand the solution in terms of orthogonal polynomials and compute the solution coefficients by solving a system of algebraic equations. When applied to SDEs, collocation methods based on spectral decomposition provide a highly accurate discretization of the spatial domain.

For an SDE of the form:

$$dX_t = f(X_{t,t})dt + g(X_{t,t})dW_t \qquad 3.3$$

The collocation method involves discretizing the drift and diffusion terms using Chebyshev points. The resulting system of algebraic equations is then solved using a hybrid approach where stochastic integrators (e.g., Euler-Maruyama) are applied to the stochastic terms, while deterministic spectral methods handle the nonlinearities in the drift term. This combination achieves a balance between accuracy and computational efficiency.

3.3 Machine Learning-Augmented Hybrid Methods

Recent advancements in machine learning, particularly neural networks and Gaussian processes, have been leveraged to enhance numerical methods for SDEs. In hybrid methods, machine learning can be used to model complex nonlinearities in the drift and diffusion terms, augmenting traditional numerical techniques.

A promising approach involves training a neural network to approximate the solution of an SDE over time. Once trained, the network can be incorporated into a hybrid framework, where it assists with solving the drift and diffusion terms, while classical stochastic solvers handle the noise term.

4. APPLICATIONS

4.1 Stochastic Volatility Models in Finance

A typical example of a nonlinear SDE in finance is the **Heston model** for stochastic volatility. The model is governed by:

$$dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sqrt{V_t} S_t dW_t^1, \quad dV_t = \kappa (\theta - V_t) dt + \sigma \sqrt{v_t} dW_t^2$$
4.1

where S_t represents the asset price, and V_t is the variance process. The two Wiener processes W_t^1 and W_t^2 are correlated. The hybrid IMEX method is particularly effective here, as the drift term for V_t is stiff due to the presence of the mean-reverting component $\kappa(\theta - V_t)$.

4.2 Numerical Methods for Stochastic Differential Equation

Monte Carlo-Based Parallel Hybrid Methods:

- The Combination of hybrid numerical schemes with parallel computation helps to improve scalability.
- The use of Monte Carlo simulations helps to approximate distributions of SDE solutions.
- Parallelize the hybrid schemes across multiple processors.

4.3 Monte Carlo-Based Parallel Hybrid Methods: A Detailed Overview

Monte Carlo-based parallel hybrid methods combine the strengths of Monte Carlo

simulations with hybrid numerical schemes and parallel computation to efficiently solve stochastic differential equations (SDEs) with nonlinear drift and diffusion terms. This approach is particularly well-suited for high-dimensional, complex systems where traditional numerical methods may falter due to computational costs or stability issues.

Monte Carlo Simulations:

- i. Monte Carlo (MC) methods are a probabilistic approach used to approximate solutions to SDEs by simulating multiple independent sample paths of the process.
- Each sample path is generated by discretizing the SDE using a numerical scheme (e.g., Euler-Maruyama, hybrid IMEX, or spectral methods).
- iii. The final solution is estimated by averaging the outcomes of these simulated paths:

$$\mathbb{E}[X(t)] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i(t)$$
 4.2

where *N* is the number of sample paths and $X_i(t)$ represents the solution of the *i*-th path at time *t*.

Hybrid Numerical Schemes:

- i. Numerical schemes like implicit-explicit (IMEX) methods or spectral-collocation techniques are used to discretize each sample path.
- These hybrid methods provide a balance of stability, accuracy, and efficiency, particularly for stiff or nonlinear systems.
- The choice of the hybrid scheme depends on the characteristics of the SDE (e.g., stiffness, smoothness, and nonlinearity).

4.4 Implementation Steps

Step 1: Problem Formulation

• Define the SDE to be solved:

$$dX_t = f(X_t)dt + g(X_t)dW_t \quad 4.3$$

where $f(X_t)$ represents the drift term, $g(X_t)$ the diffusion term, and W_t is a Wiener process.

Step 2: Discretization

- Choose a hybrid numerical scheme (e.g., IMEX or spectral-collocation) to discretize the SDE.
- For a time step Δt , compute: $X_{n+1} = X_n + f(X_{n+1})\Delta t + g(X_n)\Delta W_n$ 4.4

Step 3: Monte Carlo Sampling

- Generate *N* independent realizations of the stochastic process using the chosen numerical scheme.
- Compute the Wiener increments ΔW_n for each path as:

$$\Delta W_n = \sqrt{\Delta t} Z \tag{4.5}$$

where $Z \sim N(0,1)$ are standard normal random variables.

Step 4: Parallel Computation

- Divide the *N* sample paths across multiple processors or GPU cores.
- Each processor independently computes the evolution of assigned sample paths over the time interval [0,T].



Fig. 1. Sample paths for the state variables from literature

4.5 These are Sample Paths for the State Variables from Literature

4.5.1 Wiener Process

A Wiener Process is a Gaussian Process W_t satisfying the following:

- i. $W_0 = 0$,
- ii. $W_t = \mathcal{F}_t Martingale$ with $E(W_t) < \infty \forall t \ge 0$
- iii. $E[W_t W_s] = t s$, $s \le t$, then W_t is Martingale.

Well – posed nonlinear stochastic differential equations : A well-posed stochastic differential equation (SDE) is a problem that is well-formed, especially one for which, under appropriate conditions, the solution can be shown to exist, to be unique, and to vary continuously with the perturbation of the data. If these three conditions do not hold, the problem is said to be ill-posed, although it may still be soluble.

An SDE is stable when the problem is not overly sensitive to marginal perturbations in the underlying data, generally meaning that the output should be continuous in some sense as a function of the perturbation. By perturbation, we mean when a problem changes (usually slightly) in the values of some of the underlying parameters, made to obtain the desired solution or to study the stability of a given solution (Kluppelberg and Kuhn, 2002).

The addition of intrinsic effects in differential equations led to two different classes of equations, for which the solution exists for both differential and non-differential trajectories, respectively. However, they are analyzed using different techniques.

5. MATERIALS AND METHODS

5.1 Numerical Simulations

5.1.1 Solves an SDE using a hybrid numerical method for nonlinear drift and diffusion

Using the Data Frame in the Table 1 below that contains the time points, mean, and variance, use to plot the graphs below.

Using the Data Frame in the Table 2 below that contains the time points, mean, and variance, use to plot the graphs below

Table 1. Hybrid numerical method for nonlinear drift and diffusion

S/n	Time	Mean	Variance	
0	0.00	0.500000	0.000000	
1	0.01	0.498270	0.000734	
2	0.02	0.501259	0.001467	
3	0.03	0.501871	0.002303	
4	0.04	0.500725	0.003055	



Fig. 2. Sample paths of the SDE (Scheme 1)



Mean and Variance of the SDE Solution

Fig. 3. Mean and variance of the SDE solution (Sche	me 1)
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Table 2. Time points, mean, and variance

Time	Mean	Variance
0.00	0 500000	0 00000

S/n	Time	Mean	Variance
0	0.00	0.500000	0.000000
1	0.01	0.501358	0.000896
2	0.02	0.502748	0.001687
3	0.03	0.503313	0.002456
4	0.04	0.502878	0.003238



Fig. 4. Sample paths of the SDE (Scheme 2)



Fig. 5. Mean and variance of the SDE solution (Scheme 2)

5. CONCLUSION

This research aimed at the synthesis and utilization of combined approximate analytical numerical methods for SDEs with nonlinear coefficients for drift and diffusion, considering major accuracy, issues of stability and computational cost. The use of both deterministic and stochastic solvers that I have described in this paper presents a viable solution to the challenges in SDEs that are caused by nonlinearities which are an issue in fields such as finance, biology and engineering.

The investigation showed how methods like the implicit-explicit (IMEX) and spectral/ collocation methods give better ODE solutions of stiff systems and dynamics. Through the presented adaptive mechanisms and incorporation of additional tools in forms of learning such as machine learning, it was seen that the use of hybrid methods did enable the techniques to adjust locally and maintain the best of both worlds in terms of accuracies and computation times.

These observations were supported by numerical simulations signifying that these methods are suitable for a wide range of applications, including stochastic volatility models in Matlab for finance, and spatial population dynamics in biology. Lastly, considering the presented natural extensions of machine learning into hybrid frameworks and appropriations, one can predict further progress in computational mathematics as an ability to effectively manage highdimensional and/or strongly nonlinear problems increases.

6. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

There being existing literature on the subject of hybrid numerical schemes, further studies should aim at creating more refined hybrid programmes able to adjust their numerical approaches depending on the condition of the system. It is expected that incorporation of the machine learning and deep learning to the hybrid methods will improve its ability to solve compound and multiple dimensional SDEs. Furthermore, expanding the use of hybrids to new forms of stochastic SCR's and domain-specific applications of all methods will expand the applicability of the research in science and engineering.

DISCLAIMER (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

Author(s) hereby declare that NO generative Al technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc) and text-to-image generators have been used during writing or editing of this manuscript.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Author has declared that no competing interests exist.

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