

# Modulation algorithm for the Schrödinger equation

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# Schrödinger equation

Linear Schrödinger equation, a.k.a. Quantum Harmonic Oscillator:

$$i\partial_t\psi(t, \mathbf{x}) + \Delta_{\mathbf{x}}\psi(t, \mathbf{x}) - |\mathbf{x}|^2\psi(t, \mathbf{x}) = 0, \quad (\text{QHO})$$

where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\Delta_{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$ ,  $\partial_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ ,  $d \geq 1$ .

Initial condition:

$$\psi(t = 0, \cdot) = \psi_0 \quad \text{smooth enough.}$$

# Numerical simulations

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- grid-based spectral methods: more accurate, but still rely on a grid.
- **gridless spectral methods**<sup>12</sup>: accurate and efficient depending on the initial condition.

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<sup>1</sup>Weizhu Bao, Hailiang Li, and Jie Shen. “A Generalized-Laguerre–Fourier–Hermite Pseudospectral Method for Computing the Dynamics of Rotating Bose–Einstein Condensates”. In: *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing* 31.5 (Jan. 2009).

<sup>2</sup>Mechthild Thalhammer, Marco Caliari, and Christof Neuhauser. “High-Order Time-Splitting Hermite and Fourier Spectral Methods”. In: *Journal of Computational Physics* 228.3 (Feb. 2009).



# Numerical simulations

Main numerical algorithms :

- finite differences: most simple ones, also the most expensive. Not feasible in high dimension.
- grid-based spectral methods: more accurate, but still rely on a grid.
- **gridless spectral methods**: accurate and efficient depending on the initial condition.
- **variational methods**<sup>1</sup>: made for initial conditions that write as sum of complex Gaussian functions.

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<sup>1</sup>Caroline Lasser and Christian Lubich. "Computing Quantum Dynamics in the Semiclassical Regime". In: *Acta Numerica* 29 (May 2020).

## Gridless spectral methods

*Idea:* decompose the initial condition into an appropriate basis, then use the basis functions' properties to solve (QHO).

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For instance, Hermite basis  $\{H_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is appropriate for (QHO) since

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta_x - |x|^2) H_n(x) &= -(2n + 1) H_n(x) \\ \implies i \partial_t c_n(t) &= (2n + 1) c_n(t). \end{aligned}$$

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*Advantages:* very efficient if the number of modes is small, easy to implement.

*Drawbacks:* Requiring an small number of modes in the basis imposes an implicit restriction at time  $t = 0$ . Example...

# Gridless spectral methods

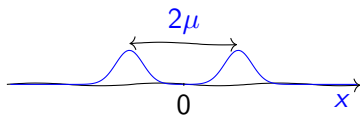
Solve (QHO) in dimension  $d = 1$ , where

$$\psi_0(x) = e^{-\frac{|x-\mu|^2}{2}} + e^{-\frac{|x+\mu|^2}{2}}, \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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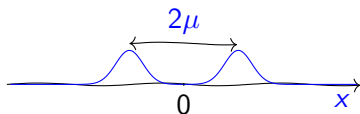
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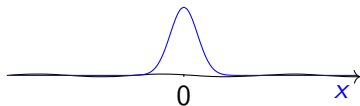
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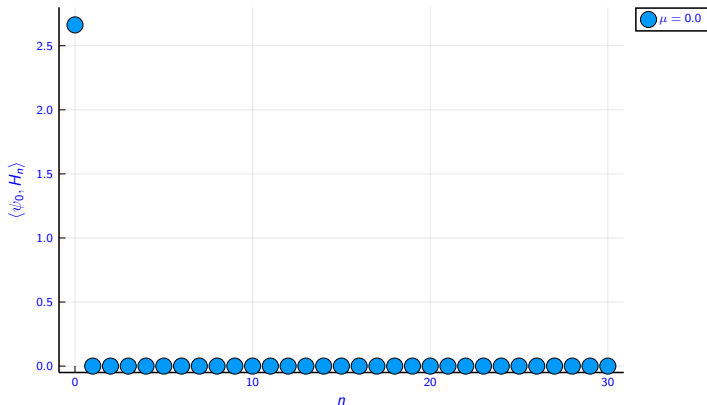
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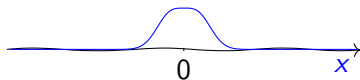
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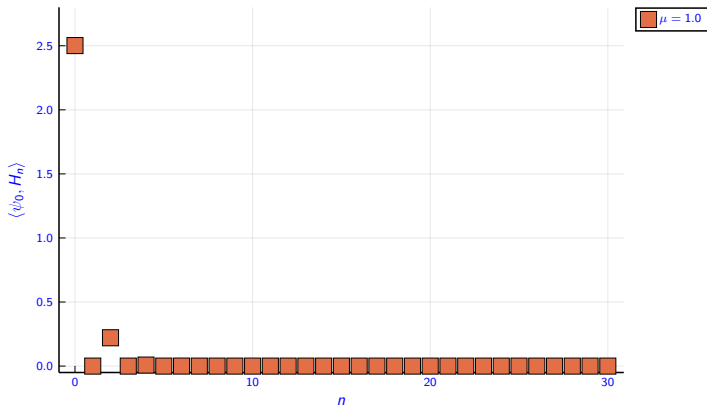
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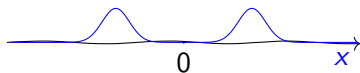
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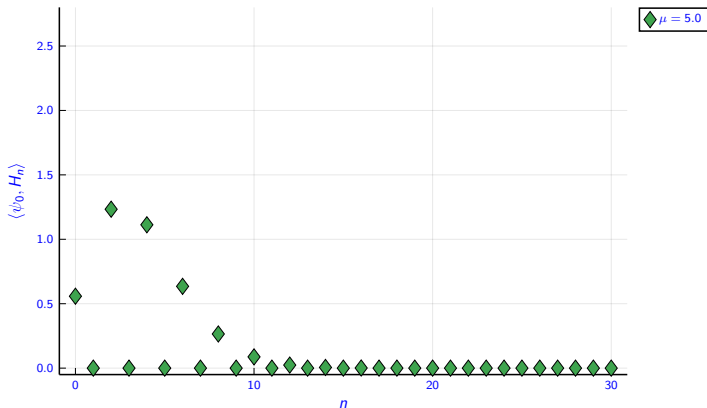
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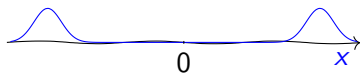
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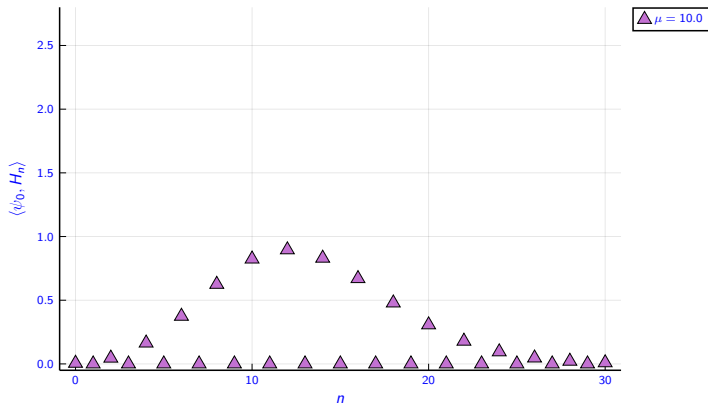
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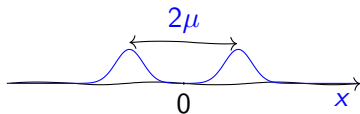
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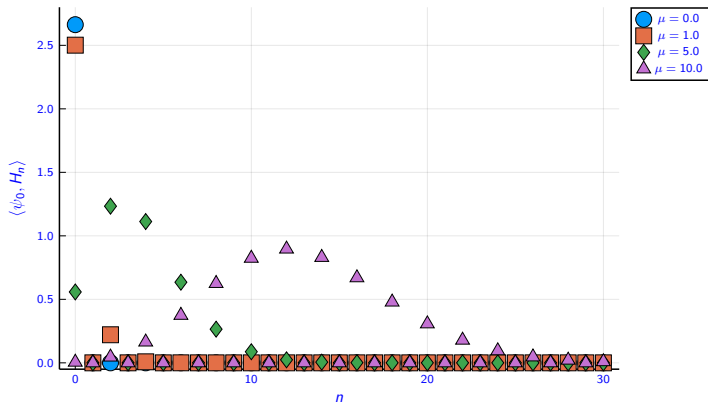
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# Variational methods

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Either:

- Dirac-Frenkel variational principle: issues inherent to DFVP arise (non-invertibility of projection matrix), only ad-hoc procedure can help obtain satisfying results.



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Either:

- Dirac-Frenkel variational principle: issues inherent to DFVP arise (non-invertibility of projection matrix), only ad-hoc procedure can help obtain satisfying results.
- Rothe method: works better than DFVP, but requires solving nonlinear optimization problem at each timestep → expensive

# Summary

Initial condition:

- sum of Gaussian functions → variational method
- few modes of a given basis → gridless spectral method

However, a Gaussian function is the first mode for Hermite basis → two possibilities in the simplest framework.

Proposed alternative: gridless spectral method designed for initial conditions as a sum of Gaussian functions → *modulation*.

# Summary

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However, a Gaussian function is the first mode for Hermite basis  $\rightarrow$  two possibilities in the simplest framework.

Proposed alternative: gridless spectral method designed for initial conditions as a sum of Gaussian functions  $\rightarrow$  *modulation*.

## Remark

More generally, we consider functions that write as a sum of few Hermite modes.

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## Modulation *ansatz*

Given  $N \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , decompose

$$\psi(t, x) := \sum_{j=1}^N \psi^j(t, x), \quad (1)$$

with

$$\psi^j(t, x) := \frac{A^j}{L^j} e^{i\gamma^j + iL^j\beta^j \cdot y^j - i\frac{B^j}{4}|y^j|^2} v^j(s^j, y^j), \quad (\text{"bubble"}) \quad (2)$$

where

$$y^j := \frac{x - X^j}{L^j}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{ds^j}{dt} := \frac{1}{(L^j)^2}. \quad (\text{"bubble frame"})$$

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All parameters depend on time!

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### Modulation

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### Warning

No uniqueness of the decomposition (1), dictated by initial condition

## Choice of parameters

By linearity, we plug each bubble  $u^j$ , into (QHO) (omit  $j$  index):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (i\partial_t + \Delta_x - |x|^2)u(t, x) \\
 &= \frac{A}{L^3} e^{i\gamma + iL\beta \cdot y - i\frac{B}{4}|y|^2} \\
 & \times \left[ \begin{aligned}
 & i\partial_s + \left( -\gamma_s + \beta \cdot X_s - L^2 (|\beta|^2 + |X|^2) \right) \\
 & + \left( \frac{A_s}{A} - \frac{L_s}{L} - B\frac{d}{2} \right) i + \left( -\frac{L_s}{L} - B \right) i\Lambda \\
 & + i \left( 2L\beta - \frac{X_s}{L} \right) \cdot \nabla \\
 & + \left( -2L^3 X + LB\beta - L\beta_s - \frac{B X_s}{2L} \right) \cdot y \\
 & + \Delta_y + \left[ \frac{B_s}{4} - \left( \frac{B^2}{4} + L^4 \right) - \frac{B L_s}{2L} \right] |y|^2
 \end{aligned} \right] v(s, y), \quad (3)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Lambda v := y \cdot \nabla v$ .





ODEs to solve:

$$\begin{aligned} A_s &= \frac{AB}{2}(d-2), & L_s &= -BL \\ B_s &= -4 + 4L^4 - B^2, & X_s &= 2L^2\beta \\ \beta_s &= -2L^2X, & \gamma_s &= L^2(|\beta|^2 - |X|^2). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

For each  $j = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $v^j$  now satisfies (QHO) in bubble  $j$ 's frame  $(s^j, y^j)$ :

$$(i\partial_t + \Delta_x - |x|^2)v^j(t, x) = 0 \iff (i\partial_{s^j} + \Delta_{y^j} - |y^j|^2)v^j(s^j, y^j) = 0$$

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**Miracle!**

They can be integrated exactly!

**Remark**

They are the same equations as the Dirac-Frenkel variational principle when there is no redundancy in DFVP (i.e. no overlapping).

# Explicit expressions of modulation parameters

$$A(t) = A(0) \left( \frac{L(t)}{L(0)} \right)^{\frac{2-d}{2}},$$

$$L(t)^2 = 2h(t) - \cos(\xi(t))\sqrt{4h(t)^2 - 1},$$

$$B(t) = 2 \sin(\xi(t))\sqrt{4h(t)^2 - 1},$$

$$X_i(t) = \sin(\theta_i(t))\sqrt{2a_i(t)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, d,$$

$$\beta_i(t) = \cos(\theta_i(t))\sqrt{2a_i(t)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, d,$$

$$\gamma(t) = \gamma(0) + \sum_{l=1}^d \frac{a_l(0)}{2} [\sin(2\theta_l(t)) - \sin(2\theta_l(0))]$$

$$s(t) = -\frac{1}{2} \arctan \left( \left( 2h(0) + \sqrt{4h(0)^2 - 1} \right) \tan \left( \frac{\xi(0)}{2} - 2t \right) \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \arctan \left( \left( 2h(0) + \sqrt{4h(0)^2 - 1} \right) \tan \left( \frac{\xi(0)}{2} \right) \right) + m_t \frac{\pi}{2},$$

where, if  $m_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  is such that  $\frac{\xi(0)}{2} \in m_0\pi + [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ , then  $m_t \in \mathbb{Z}$  is defined by  $\frac{\xi(t)}{2} \in (m_0 - m_t)\pi + [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ .

action-angle variables

$$a_i(t) = \frac{1}{2} (X_i(0)^2 + \beta_i(0)^2) = a_i(0),$$

$$\theta_i(t) = \arctan \left( \frac{X_i(0)}{\beta_i(0)} \right) + 2t,$$

$$h(t) = \frac{L(0)^4 + 1 + \frac{B(0)^2}{4}}{4L(0)^2} = h(0),$$

$$\xi(t) = \arctan \left( \frac{B(0)}{4h(0) - 2L(0)^2} \right) - 4t.$$

## Modulation parameters: OK. $v$ ?

Function  $v^j$  required to solve (QHO) in variables  $(s^j, y^j)$ .

Hermite basis:

$$\left\{ \varphi_n(y^j) := H_{n_1}(y_1^j) \cdots H_{n_d}(y_d^j) : n \in \mathbb{N}^d \right\}.$$

Decompose

$$v^j(0, y^j) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^d} v_n^j \varphi_n(y^j), \quad (6)$$

with  $v_n^j \in \mathbb{C}$ , then

$$v^j(s^j, y^j) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^d} v_n^j e^{-(2|n|+d)is^j} \varphi_n(y^j). \quad (7)$$

Does it work well?

## Reference scheme

In order to assess the efficiency of the bubble scheme, we need a reference scheme. We use a Fourier-spectral grid-based method with an exact splitting method between  $\Delta$  and  $|x|^2$  (cf.<sup>23</sup>):

$$e^{-it(-\Delta+|x|^2)} = e^{-\frac{i}{2} \tan(t)|x|^2} e^{\frac{i}{2} \sin(2t)\Delta_x} e^{-\frac{i}{2} \tan(t)|x|^2}.$$

$\Delta$  part approximated via a Fourier approach (with numerically truncated basis).

Two-dimensional examples, with 256 points used in each dimension, and a computational domain  $[-15, 15] \times [-15, 15]$ .

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<sup>2</sup>Joackim Bernier, Nicolas Crouseilles, and Yingzhe Li. “Exact Splitting Methods for Kinetic and Schrödinger Equations”. In: *Journal of Scientific Computing* 86.1 (Jan. 2021).

<sup>3</sup>Joackim Bernier. “Exact Splitting Methods for Semigroups Generated by Inhomogeneous Quadratic Differential Operators”. In: *Foundations of Computational Mathematics* 21.5 (Oct. 2021).

# Good properties of the bubble scheme

## Numerical boundary conditions

The bubble scheme computes a solution on the unbounded domain  $\mathbb{R}^d$ !

## Time evolution

In preparation of the third part of the presentation, results are shown at each timestep using time-discretization. **This is not necessary!** We can simply compute the bubble solution at time  $T$ , and doing a time-discretization just accumulates round-off errors.

## Variational, gridless spectral, bubbles...

- gridless spectral method:  $N = 1$
- variational method:  $N$  large



# Assessing bubble scheme efficiency

## Example 1: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = e^{-|x-\mu|^2} e^{i \cosh |x-\mu|} \approx e^{-|x-\mu|^2} e^{i + i \frac{|x-\mu|^2}{2}},$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mu = (1, 1)$ .

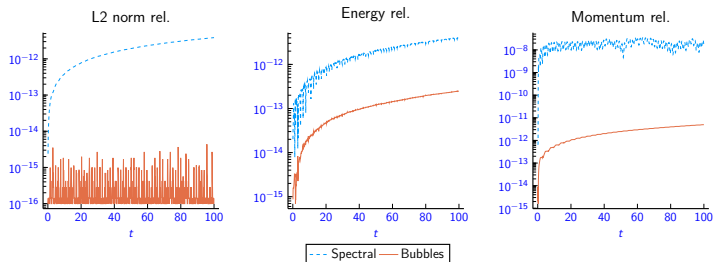


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

## Example 2: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = \sum_{i=1}^3 e^{\gamma^i + i\beta^i \cdot (x - X^i) - \frac{|x - X^i|^2}{2(L^i)^2}},$$

$$\gamma^1 = 5$$

$$\gamma^2 = -5$$

$$\gamma^3 = 0,$$

$$X^1 = 7(1, 0)$$

$$X^2 = 7 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)$$

$$X^3 = 7 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right),$$

with  $L^j = 3$  and  $\beta^j = (X^j)^\perp$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

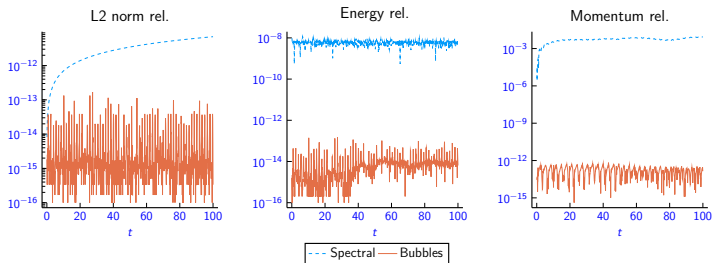


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

### Example 3: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = \pi e^{-\frac{|x-\mu_1|^2}{2L^2}} + 2e^{-\frac{|x-\mu_2|^2}{2L^2}}.$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $L = 2$ ,  $\mu_1 = (0, 5)$  and  $\mu_2 = (8, 0)$ .

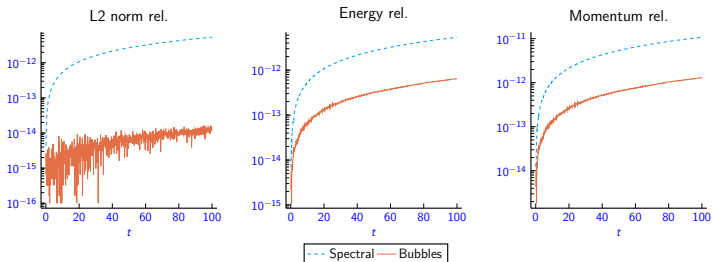


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

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We are now interested in the nonlinear Schrödinger equation:

$$i\partial_t u(t, x) + \Delta_x u(t, x) - |x|^2 u(t, x) = u(t, x)|u(t, x)|^2.$$

We now can solve (QHO) exactly, so by splitting, we only need to solve

$$i\partial_t u(t, x) = u(t, x)|u(t, x)|^2.$$

### Restriction

We want to keep the bubble discretization

## Simplifying assumption

We now consider  $v^j(s^j, y^j) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}|y^j|^2\right)$  (i.e. only first Hermite mode).

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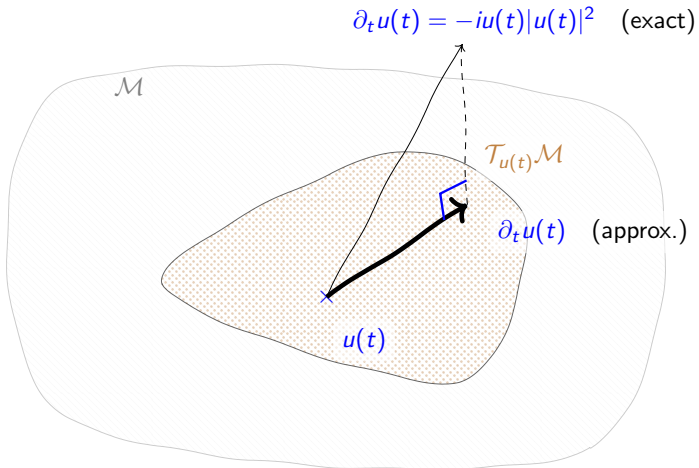
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Bubble decomposition:  $u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{M}$ , with

$$\mathcal{M} := \left\{ w \in \mathbb{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \left| \begin{array}{l} w(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{A^j}{L^j} e^{i\gamma^j + i\beta^j \cdot (x - X^j) - \frac{2+iB^j}{4(L^j)^2} |x - X^j|^2}, \\ A^j, B^j, \gamma^j \in \mathbb{R}, L^j \in \mathbb{R}_+, X^j, \beta^j \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{array} \right. \right\}. \quad (8)$$

We want to keep the bubble decomposition at all times, but  $u(t, \cdot) |u(t, \cdot)|^2 \notin \mathcal{M} \rightarrow$  we project  $\partial_t u(t)$  onto  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# Dirac-Frenkel principle





Let  $B_{u(t)}$  be a basis of  $\mathcal{T}_{u(t)}\mathcal{M}$ , then Dirac-Frenkel principle yields

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u(t) &\in \mathcal{T}_{u(t)}\mathcal{M}, \quad \text{such that} \\ \langle f, i\partial_t u(t) \rangle &= \langle f, u(t) | u(t) \rangle, \quad \forall f \in B_{u(t)}. \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

A family (which may happen to be linearly dependent!) spanning the tangent space  $\mathcal{T}_{u(t)}\mathcal{M}$  is given by

$$B_{u(t)} = \left\{ e^{i\Gamma^j(y^j) - \frac{|y^j|^2}{2}}, (y_1^j) e^{i\Gamma^j(y^j) - \frac{|y^j|^2}{2}}, \dots, (y_d^j) e^{i\Gamma^j(y^j) - \frac{|y^j|^2}{2}}, \right. \\ \left. |y^j|^2 e^{i\Gamma^j(y^j) - \frac{|y^j|^2}{2}} : j = 1, \dots, N \right\}, \tag{10}$$

where we defined

$$\Gamma^j(y^j) := \gamma^j + L^j \beta^j \cdot y^j - \frac{B^j}{4} |y^j|^2.$$

Application of the Dirac-Frenkel principle results in a linear system:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{S}.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{E}$  contains approximate time derivatives of each parameter.

### Computation of $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{S}$

We use analytical formulas for the components of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{S}$ , since their components are product of Gaussian in different frames. Should also be doable with Hermite functions, we did not try yet to do the computations. For more general functions  $v$ , need to resort to numerical integration.

Does it work well?

# Assessing bubble scheme efficiency

## Example 1: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = e^{-|x-\mu|^2} e^{i \cosh |x-\mu|} \approx e^{-|x-\mu|^2} e^{i + i \frac{|x-\mu|^2}{2}},$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mu = (1, 1)$ .

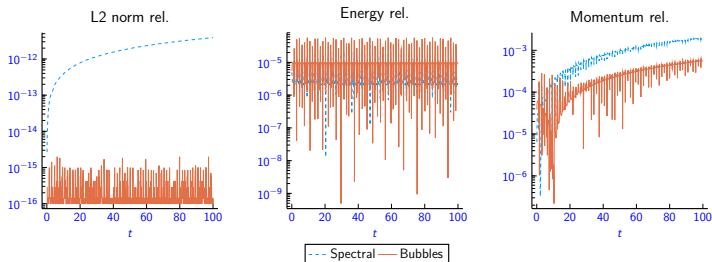


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

## Example 2: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = \sum_{i=1}^3 e^{\gamma^i + i\beta^j \cdot (x - X^j) - \frac{|x - X^j|^2}{2(L^j)^2}},$$

$$\gamma^1 = 5$$

$$\gamma^2 = -5$$

$$\gamma^3 = 0,$$

$$X^1 = 7(1, 0)$$

$$X^2 = 7 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right)$$

$$X^3 = 7 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right),$$

with  $L^j = 3$  and  $\beta^j = (X^j)^\perp$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

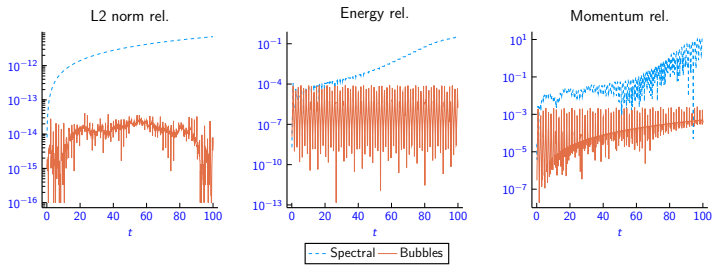


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

### Example 3: Video

$$\psi(t=0, x) = \pi e^{-\frac{|x-\mu_1|^2}{2L^2}} + 2e^{-\frac{|x-\mu_2|^2}{2L^2}}.$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $L = 2$ ,  $\mu_1 = (0, 5)$  and  $\mu_2 = (8, 0)$ .

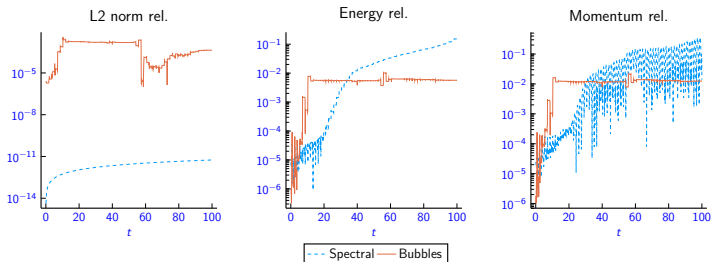


Figure:  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$ .

## Remarks

Modulation works very well in the linear setting Dirac-Frenkel principle works well when  $\mathbf{A}$  is well-conditioned.

When it is not the case, the approximation is very bad and yields very large time derivative of parameters  $\rightarrow$  jumps observed. It is inherent to the Dirac-Frenkel principle  $\rightarrow$  Loïc's work?

Thank you for your attention!



# References

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