Mitigating noise in Green's function Monte Carlo using contour deformations



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The rich nuclear landscape







Nuclei as targets



 $M_{0^{\vee}}$

[Engel & Menéndez, Rep Prog Phys 2017, 046301]



Model uncertainties restrict the efficiency of studies using nuclear targets!





Nuclear effective Hamiltonian

Non-relativistic two-body Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{A} \frac{p_i^2}{2M_N} + \sum_{i < j} v_{ij}(r_{ij})$$

Argonne v_{18} (AV18) potential:

[Wiringa, Stoks, Schiavilla PRC51 (1995)]

- Nijmegen *pp* and *np* scattering data
- Low-energy nn scattering
- Deuteron binding energy

Baryon # = A Nucleon

$$r_{ij}$$

$$v_{ij}(\boldsymbol{r}_{ij}) = \sum_{p} v_p(|\boldsymbol{r}_{ij}|) O_{ij}^p(\boldsymbol{r}_{ij})$$

$$O_{ij}^1 = 1, \qquad O_{ij}^2 = \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j$$

$$O_{ij}^3 = \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j, \qquad O_{ij}^4 = (\boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j)(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j)$$

$$O_{ij}^5 = S_{ij}(\vec{r}_{ij}), \qquad O_{ij}^6 = (\boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j) S_{ij}(\vec{r}_{ij})$$

$$\dots \qquad \dots$$

$$[S_{ij}(\boldsymbol{r}_{ij}) \equiv 3(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \hat{r}_{ij})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \cdot \hat{r}_{ij}) - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j]$$



Green's function Monte Carlo

 $|\Phi\rangle$

Short-time propagator / Green's function

Lie-Trotter-Suzuki $\begin{cases} e^{-H\delta\tau} = e^{-V\delta\tau/2}e^{-T\delta\tau} \\ T = \sum_{i} p_{i}^{2}/2M_{N} \text{ and} \end{cases}$ $G_{\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R}) \equiv \langle \mathbf{R}' | e^{-\frac{1}{2}} \delta\tau \langle \mathbf{R}' | e^{-\frac{1}{2}$ $S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau} \sim e^{-V\delta\tau/2}$

Variational ansatz $e^{-H\tau}, \tau \gg 0$ Ground state $|\Psi_0\rangle$

$$\tau e^{-V\delta\tau/2} + \mathcal{O}(\delta\tau^3)$$

d
$$V = \sum_{i < j} v_{ij}(\mathbf{r}_{ij})$$

$$-H\delta\tau |R\rangle$$

$$\mathbf{R}')G^0_{\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R})S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R})$$



Green's function Monte Carlo Wavefunction $\Psi(\mathbf{R}) \equiv \langle \mathbf{R} | \Psi \rangle$ is a spin-isospin vector with dim $2^A \begin{pmatrix} A \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$

GFMC approach:

Sample R, explicitly track $\Psi(R)$

 $G_{\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R}) \equiv \langle \mathbf{R}' | e^{-H\delta\tau} | \mathbf{R} \rangle \approx S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R}')G_{\delta\tau}^{0}(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R})S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R})$ $S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}$ are matrices in this space Free propagator is a simple Gaussian $G^{0}_{\delta\tau}(\mathbf{R}',\mathbf{R}) \sim \exp\left[-\frac{(\mathbf{R}'-\mathbf{R})^2}{2\delta\tau/M_N}\right]$



Green's function Monte Carlo

Path integral definition of $\Psi(\tau)$:

$$\Psi(\tau, \boldsymbol{R}^N) = \int \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[d\boldsymbol{R}^n G_{\delta\tau}^0(\boldsymbol{R}^{n+1}, \boldsymbol{R}^n) \right] \times \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\boldsymbol{R}^{n+1}) S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\boldsymbol{R}^n) \right] \Phi(\boldsymbol{R}^0)$$

- 1. Sample $\mathbf{R}^0 \sim \Phi(\mathbf{R}^0)$
- 2. Draw $\mathbf{R}^n \sim I(\mathbf{R}^n | \mathbf{R}^{n-1}, ..., \mathbf{R}^0)$, where

$$I(\mathbf{R}^{n} | ...) \equiv G_{\delta\tau}^{0}(\mathbf{R}^{n}, \mathbf{R}^{n-1}) \frac{\Phi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{R}^{n}) S(\mathbf{R}^{n}, ..., \mathbf{R}^{0}) \Phi(\mathbf{R}^{0})}{\Phi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{R}^{n-1}) S(\mathbf{R}^{n-1}, ..., \mathbf{R}^{0}) \Phi(\mathbf{R}^{0})}$$

Use samples to compute $\langle O \rangle = \frac{\langle \Phi | O \exp(-H\tau) | \Phi \rangle}{\langle \Phi | \exp(-H\tau) | \Phi \rangle}$

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Typically: "Diffuse" according to $G^0_{\delta\tau}$, then apply population sampling and heatbath to account for full importance weight





Fermionic sign problem in GFMC

$$v_{ij}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) = \sum_{p} v_p(|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|)O_{ij}^p(\mathbf{r}_{ij})$$

$$O_{ij}^1 = 1, \qquad O_{ij}^2 = \mathbf{\tau}_i \cdot \mathbf{\tau}_j$$

$$O_{ij}^3 = \mathbf{\sigma}_i \cdot \mathbf{\sigma}_j, \qquad O_{ij}^4 = (\mathbf{\tau}_i \cdot \mathbf{\tau}_j)(\mathbf{\sigma}_i \cdot \mathbf{\sigma}_j)$$

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$$\dots \qquad \dots$$

$$[S_{ij}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) \equiv 3(\mathbf{\sigma}_i \cdot \hat{r}_{ij})(\mathbf{\sigma}_j \cdot \hat{r}_{ij}) - \mathbf{\sigma}_i \cdot \mathbf{\sigma}_j]$$





E.g. tensor erator gives -trivial phases



Contour deformations for sign problems

Sign problems solved in some lattice field theories with complex actions



Non-relativistic nuclear path integral quite different, but similar inspirations!



Deforming the GFMC path integral

Just contour deformation in $3A \times N$ dimensions...

$$\Psi(\tau, \boldsymbol{R}^{N}) = \int \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[d\boldsymbol{R}^{n} G_{\delta\tau}^{0}(\boldsymbol{R}^{n+1}, \boldsymbol{R}^{n}) \right] \\ \times \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\boldsymbol{R}^{n+1}) S_{\frac{1}{2}\delta\tau}(\boldsymbol{R}^{n}) \right] \Phi(\boldsymbol{R}^{n+1}) \\ = \int \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[d\tilde{\boldsymbol{R}}^{n} G_{\delta\tau}^{0}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{R}}^{n+1}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{R}}^{n}) \right] \times \dots$$

Cauchy's theorem guarantees exact equality as long as integrand is *holomorphic*

Deformed contour lives in $\mathbb{C}^{3A \times N}$

 $\Phi(\mathbf{R}^0)$

Original integral on $\mathbb{R}^{3A \times N}$

[Image credit: Neill Warrington]



Analytic continuation

1. Replace $v_{ij}(|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|) \longrightarrow v_{ij}^H(\rho_{ij})$, with $\rho_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{r}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ij}$ (hebyshev fits

2. Replace $\Phi(\{|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|\}_{i < j}) \longrightarrow \Phi^H(\{\rho_{ij}\}_{i < j})$

3. Rewrite $p_i \Psi(\mathbf{R}) \longrightarrow i \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} \Psi(\mathbf{R})$ and apply derivatives





Cartesian contour deformations

Simple choice: Constant shift per coordinate

- No Jacobian factor

- $3A \times N$ free parameters $\lambda_i^n = (\lambda_{1,i}^n, \lambda_{2,i}^n, \lambda_{3,i}^n)$

More generally: Additional coordinate dependence $\lambda_i^n(\mathbf{R}^n)$

- Jacobian factor must be kept tractable!
- Behavior at infinity





Spherical contour deformations

Simple choice: Constant shift in polar angle

$$(\tilde{r}_i^n, \tilde{\theta}_i^n, \tilde{\phi}_i^n) =$$

- No Jacobian factor
- $A \times N$ free parameters λ_i^n

More generally: Deform r, θ and/or additional coordinate dependence

- Endpoints $r \to 0,\infty$ and $\theta \to 0,\pi$ fixed
- 2π -Periodicity of ϕ in the real direction

- $= (r_i^n, \theta_i^n, \phi_i^n + i\lambda_i^n)$



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Optimizing the contour Choice of \tilde{R} defines new GFMC procedure and generally modifies the variance.

We optimize parameters by numerically minimizing variance per observable studied.

Gradients of (log) variance using Monte Carlo estimates:

 $\mathscr{L}_{O}(\alpha) \equiv (1$

 $+\alpha$

Reweighting factors under deformed importance sampling



$$-\alpha)\log\left\langle \left| \tilde{W}(\boldsymbol{R}^{N},...,\boldsymbol{R}^{0}) \right|^{2} \right\rangle_{\tilde{P}} \overset{\text{deformed weights } \tilde{I}(\boldsymbol{R}^{n}|...,\boldsymbol{R}^{n})}{\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{\dagger}(\boldsymbol{\tilde{R}}^{N})OS(\boldsymbol{\tilde{R}}^{N},...,\boldsymbol{\tilde{R}}^{0})\Phi(\boldsymbol{\tilde{R}}^{0})} \right|^{2}$$



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Deuteron binding energy: setup

Variational wavefunction optimized for AV4, evolved with AV6 to induce a sign problem analogous to nuclei with larger A

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|p \uparrow n \uparrow \rangle - |n \uparrow p \uparrow \rangle) \times f(|\mathbf{r}_{12}|)$$

- Eigenstate of spin and isospin operators
- Tensor operator introduces a sign problem

$$\hat{S}_{12}(r,\theta,\phi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta\\ \sin\theta e^{i\phi} & -\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\hat{S}_{12}(\boldsymbol{r}_{12}) = (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \hat{r}_{12})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \hat{r}_{12})$ Center-of-mass, spherical coordinates





Deuteron binding energy: sign problem

Sign problem inspires contour deformation of ϕ in spherical coordinates

One timestep:
$$\tilde{\phi} = \phi + i\lambda$$

 $\hat{S}_{12}(r, \theta, \tilde{\phi}) = X$
where $X(\lambda) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\lambda/2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Multiple timesteps: $\phi(\tau) = \phi(\tau) + i\lambda(\tau)$ can achieve similar effect using a "ramp"

 $\begin{array}{c} X^{-1}(\lambda) \ \hat{S}_{12}(r,\theta,\phi) \ X(\lambda) \\ \lambda/2 \quad 0 \\ \rho^{\lambda/2} \end{array} \bigotimes \left(\begin{array}{c} e^{-\lambda/2} & 0 \\ e^{-\lambda/2} & 0 \\ \rho^{\lambda/2} \end{array} \right) \\ \end{array}$

 $\lambda(\tau) = (\tau - N\delta\tau/2)\ell$



Deuteron binding energy: contour

Ramp $\lambda(\tau)$ with optimal magnitude compared vs trained $\lambda(\tau)$





Deuteron binding energy: results

Unbiased result confirmed, but improvement is a small factor.







Deuteron Euclidean response: setup

Response functions:

$$\mathcal{R}_{J'J}(\boldsymbol{q},\tau) = \frac{\langle \Phi | J^{'\dagger}(\boldsymbol{q}) e^{-H\tau} J(\boldsymbol{q}) | \Phi \rangle}{\langle \Phi | e^{-H\tau} | \Phi \rangle}$$

Euclidean density response function:

$$\hat{N}_{i}(\boldsymbol{q}) = \int d^{3}r \, e^{-i\boldsymbol{q}\cdot\boldsymbol{r}} \psi_{i}^{\dagger}(\boldsymbol{r}) \psi_{i}(\boldsymbol{r})$$

$$\rho_{ij}(\boldsymbol{q},\tau) \equiv \mathcal{R}_{N_i,N_j}(\boldsymbol{q},\tau) = \frac{1}{Z} \int \prod_{n=0}^N d\boldsymbol{R}^n \left[e^{i\boldsymbol{q}\cdot(\boldsymbol{r}_i^N - \boldsymbol{r}_j^0)} \right] \boldsymbol{I}(\boldsymbol{R}^N,\dots,\boldsymbol{R}^0)$$

- Large sign problem already from observable
- Variational wavefunction optimized and evolved with AV6

• Response of nuclei to external (electromagnetic, axial, etc.) currents



Deuteron Euclidean response: sign problem Expectation value of $\rho(\boldsymbol{q},\tau) = \sum \rho_{ij}(\boldsymbol{q},\tau) \sim e^{-\tau \boldsymbol{q}^2/4M_N}$ **Exponentially severe phase** [Carlson+ PRC65 (2002), nucl-th/0106047] i.icancellation required for GFMC

Average magnitude of sample estimate of $\rho(\boldsymbol{q}, \tau)$ is $\mathcal{O}(1)$

Form of the observable inspires Cartesian-coordinates deformation:

$$\tilde{r}_1(\tau) = r_1 + i\lambda(q, \tau)$$
 and \tilde{r}_2

For $\rho_{11}(\boldsymbol{q}, \tau) = \langle e^{i\boldsymbol{q}\cdot(\boldsymbol{r}_1^N - \boldsymbol{r}_1^0)} \rangle$, for example:

$$\lambda(0) = -qN\delta\tau/4M_N$$

$$e^{i\boldsymbol{q}\cdot(\boldsymbol{r}_1^N-\boldsymbol{r}_1^0)} \longrightarrow$$

estimate of mean value!

 $\sigma(\tau) = \mathbf{r}_2 - i\lambda(\mathbf{q}, \tau)$ [C.o.M. frame]

and $\lambda(N\delta\tau) = qN\delta\tau/4M_N$

Note: Different deformation needed for each (i,j)

 $e^{-\tau q^2/4M_N} e^{iq \cdot (r_1^N - r_1^0)}$





Deuteron Euclidean response: contours

Hand-selected "ramp" parameterizations compared against trained results.







Deuteron Euclidean response: results



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Deuteron Euclidean response: results

Average phase is improved, in some cases exponentially.

Strange dependence on total GFMC evolution time $N\delta\tau$?

- Numerically: $\lambda \approx 0.64 \mathrm{MeV}^{-1}$ roughly independent of $N\delta\tau$
- Analytical argument: $\lambda \sim N\delta\tau$
- Optimal deformation for $\tau < N\delta\tau$ extends continuously to remaining GFMC timesteps, adding noise?







Summary

This is proof-of-principle work, but already implements / demonstrates:

- Analytic continuation of nuclear potentials and variational wavefunctions
- Deformed GFMC with $R \rightarrow \tilde{R}$, guaranteed exact by Cauchy's thm
- Numerical variance optimization
- **Significant improvement** in deuteron Euclidean density response functions, although only modest improvement in the binding energy

Future work:

- Applications to larger nuclei
- More sophisticated / modern nuclear Hamiltonians
- Extension to Auxiliary Field Diffusion Monte Carlo (AFDMC)



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Thanks!