

Energy-stepping integrators in Lagrangian mechanics

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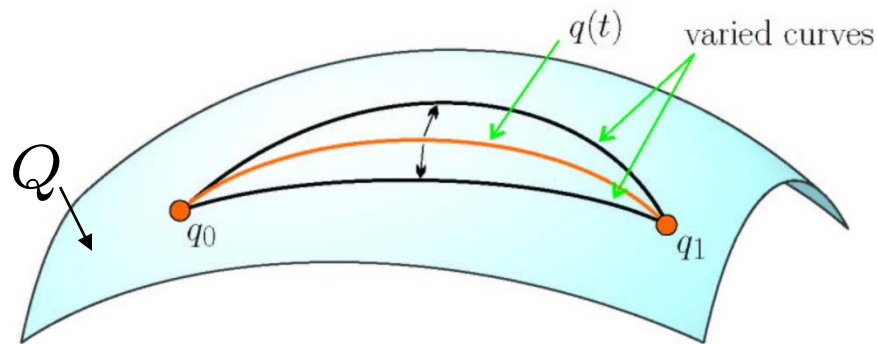
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Classical Lagrangian mechanics

- $Q \equiv$ Configuration manifold, e. g., $Q = E(n)^N$
- $TQ \equiv$ Tangent bundle
- $L : TQ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \equiv$ Lagrangian
- $S : Q^{[a,b]} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \equiv$ Action integral,

$$S = \int_a^b L(q(t), \dot{q}(t), t) dt$$

- Hamilton's principle: $\delta S = 0$, $\delta q(a) = \delta q(b) = 0$



Hamiltonian picture

- Phase space: $P = T^*Q$
- Hamiltonian: $H(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) = \sup_{\mathbf{v} \in T_{\mathbf{q}}Q} \{\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{v} - L(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v})\}$
- Canonical symplectic two-form:

$$\Omega = d\mathbf{q}_1 \wedge d\mathbf{p}_1 + \cdots + d\mathbf{q}_N \wedge d\mathbf{p}_N$$

- Symplectic manifold: (P, Ω)
- Propagator: $z(t) = (\mathbf{q}(t), \mathbf{p}(t)) = \varphi_t(z_0)$
- Symplecticity: $\varphi_{t*}\Omega = \Omega$, or

$$\Omega(T\varphi(z)\eta_1, T\varphi(z)\eta_2) = \Omega(\eta_1, \eta_2)$$



Lagrangian mechanics – Noether's thm

- $G \equiv$ Lie group, $T_e G \equiv$ Lie algebra
- Left action of G on Q is $\Phi : G \times Q \rightarrow Q$ s. t.
 - i) $\Phi(e, \mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q}, \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in Q$
 - ii) $\Phi(g, \Phi(h, \mathbf{q})) = \Phi(gh, \mathbf{q}), \quad \forall \mathbf{q} \in Q, \quad \forall g, h \in G$

- Generator: Given $\xi \in T_e G, \quad \xi_Q \in TQ$ s. t.

$$\xi_Q(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{d}{dt} [\Phi(\exp(t\xi), \mathbf{q})]_{t=0}$$

- Momentum map: $J : TQ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow T_e^* G$ s. t.

$$\langle J(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}, t), \xi \rangle = \langle \mathbf{p}, \xi_Q(\mathbf{q}) \rangle, \quad \forall \xi \in T_e G$$



Lagrangian mechanics – Noether's thm

Theorem (Noether's theorem) *Let Q be a smooth manifold and G a Lie group acting on Q . Let $L : TQ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a Lagrangian invariant under G . Then the momentum map J is a constant of the motion.*

Examples:

i) Linear momentum: $Q = E(n)^N$, $G = E(n)$.

$\Phi(u, q) = \{q_1 + u, \dots, q_N + u\} \equiv$ translations.

Momentum map: $J = \sum_{a=1}^N p_a$

ii) Angular momentum: $Q = E(n)^N$, $G = SO(n)$

$\Phi(R, q) = \{Rq_1, \dots, Rq_N\} \equiv$ rotations.

Momentum map: $J = \sum_{a=1}^N q_a \times p_a$



Conservation of energy - Spacetime

- $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{R} \times Q \equiv$ Spacetime configuration manifold
- $\mathbb{L}\left((q_0, \mathbf{q}), (q'_0, \mathbf{q}')\right) = L(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{q}'/q'_0, q_0) q'_0$
 $\equiv$ Spacetime Lagrangian

Examples:

- iii) *Energy*: $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{R} \times Q, \quad G = \mathbb{R}.$
 $\Phi(\xi, (q_0, \mathbf{q})) = (q_0 + \xi, \mathbf{q}) \equiv$ time-shift.
Momentum map: $J = L - \mathbf{p} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{q}} \equiv -E$



Time integration – ODE approach

- Euler-Lagrange (semidiscrete) equations:

$$-\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}^i} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial q^i} = 0$$

- Discretize in time as a system of ODEs
- **Example:** $L = (1/2) \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M} \dot{\mathbf{q}} - V(\mathbf{q}, t)$,
Newmark algorithm:

$$\mathbf{q}_{n+1} = \mathbf{q}_n + \Delta t \mathbf{v}_n + \Delta t^2 [(1/2 - \beta) \mathbf{a}_n + \beta \mathbf{a}_{n+1}]$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{n+1} = \mathbf{v}_n + \Delta t [(1 - \gamma) \mathbf{a}_n + \gamma \mathbf{a}_{n+1}]$$

$$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{a}_{n+1} + DV(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) = 0$$

- Variational structure neglected, no Noether's thm!



Discrete Lagrangian mechanics

- Vesselov (1988), Marsden and Wendlandt (1997)

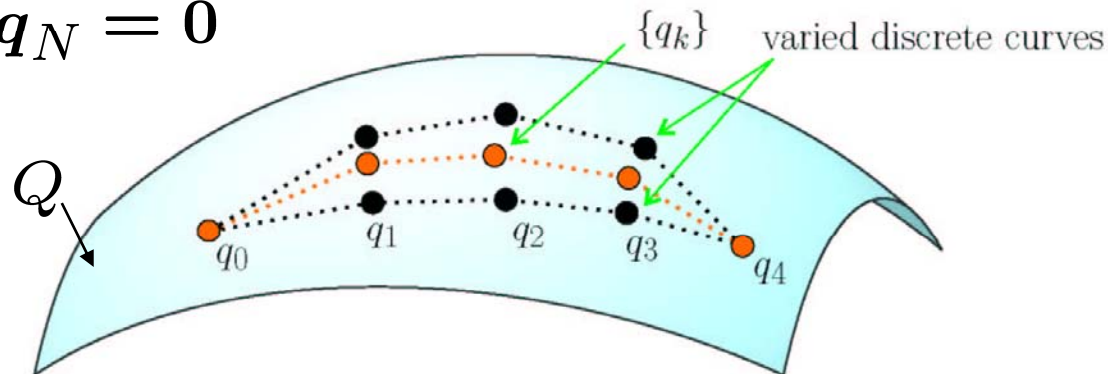
- $L_d : Q \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \equiv$ Discrete Lagrangian,

$$L_d \approx \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} L(\mathbf{q}(t), \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)) dt$$

- $S_d : Q^{N+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \equiv$ Action sum, $S_d = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} L_d(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{q}_{k+1})$

- **Discrete Hamilton's principle:** $\delta S_d = 0,$

$$\delta \mathbf{q}_0 = \delta \mathbf{q}_N = 0$$



Discrete Noether's theorem

- Discrete Euler-Lagrange equations:

$$D_1 L_d(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{q}_{k+1}) + D_2 L_d(\mathbf{q}_{k-1}, \mathbf{q}_k) = 0$$

- **Discrete Momentum map:** $J_d : Q \times Q \rightarrow T_e^* G$ s. t.

$$\langle J_d(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{q}_{k+1}), \xi \rangle = \langle D_2 L_d(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{q}_{k+1}), \xi_Q(\mathbf{q}_{k+1}) \rangle$$

Theorem (Discrete Noether's theorem) *Let Q be a smooth manifold and G a Lie group acting on Q . Let $L_d : Q \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a discrete Lagrangian invariant under G . Then the discrete momentum map J_d is a constant of the discrete motion.*



Discrete Noether's theorem

Examples: $L = (1/2)\dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M} \dot{\mathbf{q}} - V(\mathbf{q})$, $L_d \equiv \text{GMR}$

i) Linear momentum: $Q = E(n)^N$, $G = E(n)$.

$\Phi(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{q}) = \{\mathbf{q}_1 + \mathbf{u}, \dots, \mathbf{q}_N + \mathbf{u}\} \equiv \text{translations.}$

Discrete momentum map:

$$\mathbf{J}_d = \sum_{a=1}^N m_a \frac{\mathbf{q}_a^{k+1} - \mathbf{q}_a^k}{t_{k+1} - t_k}$$

ii) Angular momentum: $Q = E(n)^N$, $G = SO(n)$

$\Phi(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{q}) = \{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}\mathbf{q}_N\} \equiv \text{rotations.}$

Discrete momentum map:

$$\mathbf{J}_d = \sum_{a=1}^N \mathbf{q}_a^{k+1} \times \left(m_a \frac{\mathbf{q}_a^{k+1} - \mathbf{q}_a^k}{t_{k+1} - t_k} \right)$$



Discrete Noether's theorem

iii) Energy: $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{R} \times Q$, $G = \mathbb{R}$.

$$\mathbb{L}\left((q_0, \mathbf{q}), (q'_0, \mathbf{q}')\right) = L(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{q}'/q'_0, q_0) q'_0$$

$$\Phi(\xi, (q_0, \mathbf{q})) = (q_0 + \xi, \mathbf{q}) \equiv \text{time shift.}$$

Discrete momentum map:

$$J_d = \frac{\partial \mathbb{L}_d}{\partial t_{k+1}}\left((t_k, \mathbf{q}_k), (t_{k+1}, \mathbf{q}_{k+1})\right) \equiv -E_d$$

$$E_d = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}_{k+1} - \mathbf{q}_k}{t_{k+1} - t_k} \right)^T \mathbf{M} \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}_{k+1} - \mathbf{q}_k}{t_{k+1} - t_k} \right) + V(\mathbf{q}_{k+\alpha})$$

- Energy eq. determines $t_{k+1} \Rightarrow$ *Time adaption*
- Conversely: Energy conservation requires time adaption (Ge and Marsden, 1988)



Discrete Symplecticity

- Discrete momentum: $\mathbf{p}_k = -D_1 L_d(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{q}_{k+1})$
- Discrete propagator: $(\mathbf{q}_{k+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}) = \varphi_{\Delta t}(\mathbf{q}_k, \mathbf{p}_k)$
- Discrete symplecticity: $\varphi_{\Delta t*} \Omega = \Omega$
- Variational integrators are symplectic methods in the standard sense!



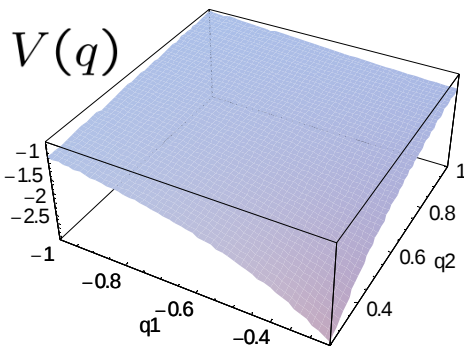
Variational integrators – Appraisal

- Variational integrators are symplectic
- Discrete trajectories conserve *discrete* momentum maps exactly
- Discrete momentum maps approximate (but differ from) time-continuous momentum maps
- Ambiguity in choice of discrete Lagrangian
- No guarantee of solvability of the discrete Euler-Lagrange equations (e.g., energy equation)
- Variational structure is no guarantee of convergence of the discrete trajectory
- Some schemes of interest may not be variational (e.g., absorbing/radiating boundaries)

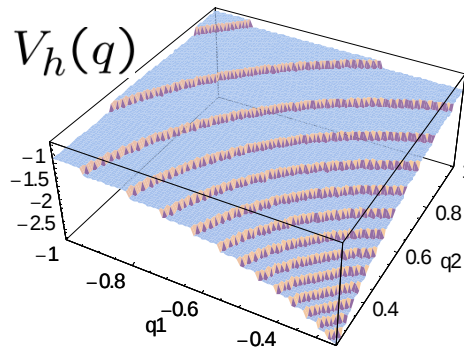


Energy Stepping, Force Stepping...

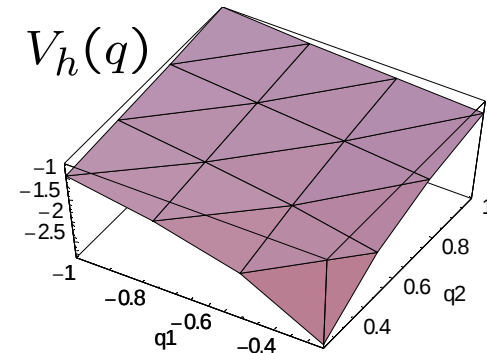
- **Main idea:** Replace the original Lagrangian $L(\dot{q}, q)$ by an approximate Lagrangian $L_h(\dot{q}, q)$ that can be solved exactly!
- Structural Lagrangian: $L(\dot{q}, q) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T M \dot{q} - V(q)$
- Approximate Lagrangian: $L_h(\dot{q}, q) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T M \dot{q} - V_h(q)$



Exact potential



Piecewise constant



Piecewise linear

$$V_h(q) = h \lfloor h^{-1} V(q) \rfloor$$

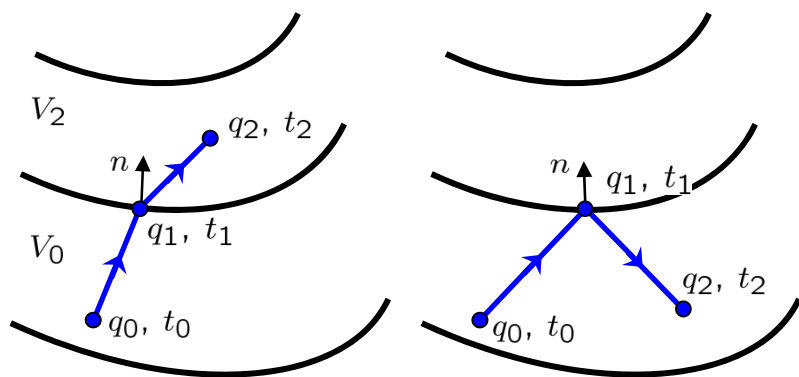


Energy Stepping, Force Stepping...

- Exact trajectories of the approximate Lagrangians:

$$V_h(q) = h \lfloor h^{-1} V(q) \rfloor$$

Piecewise constant approximation

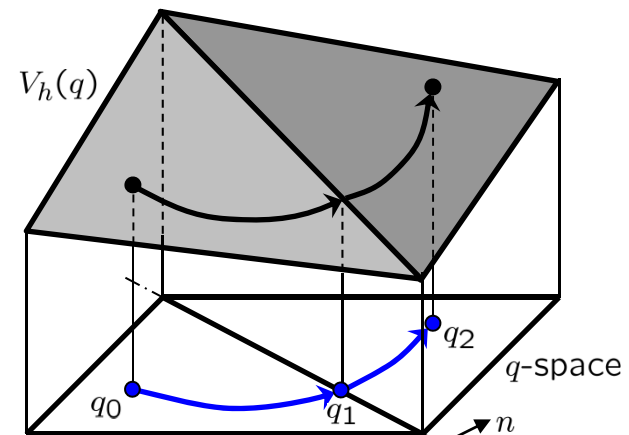


Diffraction by
downhill/uphill
energy step

Reflection by
uphill
energy step

Energy stepping

Piecewise linear approximation



System in free-fall
within simplices

Force stepping

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Energy Stepping – Exact trajectory

- Approximate energy:

$$V_h(q) = h[h^{-1}V(q)]$$

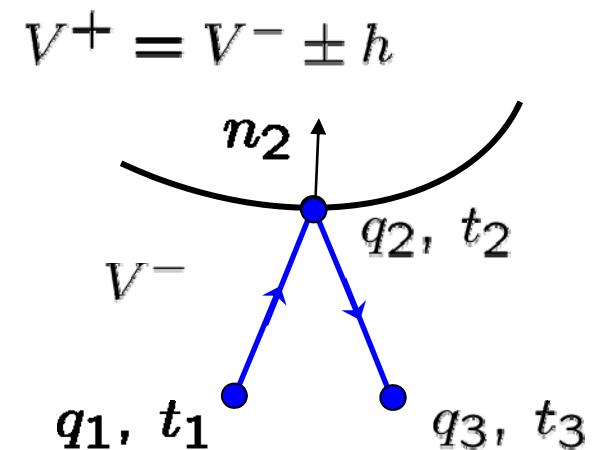
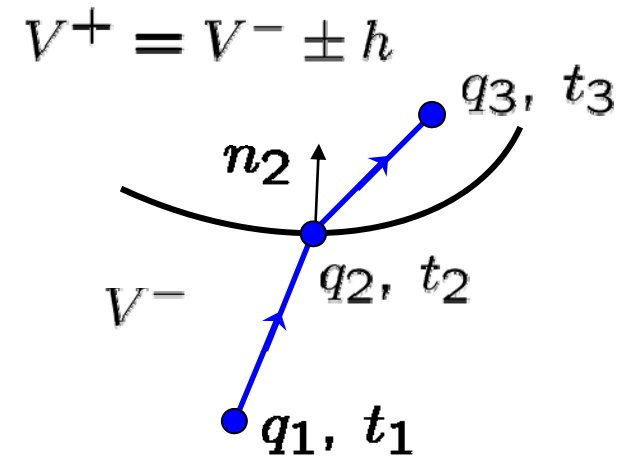
- Position update:

$$q_2 = q_1 + (t_2 - t_1)\dot{q}_1^+ \in h\mathbb{Z}$$

- Velocity update:

$$\dot{q}_2^+ = \dot{q}_1^+ + \lambda_2 M^{-1} n_2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^{+T} M \dot{q}^+ = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^{-T} M \dot{q}^- + \Delta V$$



Energy Stepping – Conservation props.

- Discrete symplecticity, $\varphi_{\Delta t*}\Omega = \Omega$, verified by direct computation

Theorem. *The energy-stepping trajectories conserve all invariants of $L(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T M \dot{q} - V(q)$.*

Proof. Consider a symmetry $\Phi : G \times Q \rightarrow Q$ such that $V \circ \Phi_g = V, \forall g \in G$. Note that momentum map

$$\langle J(q, \dot{q}), \xi \rangle = \langle M\dot{q}, \xi_Q(q) \rangle, \quad \forall \xi \in T_e G$$

is the same for V and V_h . Note further:

$$V_h \circ \Phi_g = (h[h^{-1}V]) \circ \Phi_g = h[h^{-1}V \circ \Phi_g] = h[h^{-1}V] = V_h \Rightarrow J_h = J = \text{constant by Noether's}$$

theorem



Energy Stepping – Convergence

- Example of non-convergence:

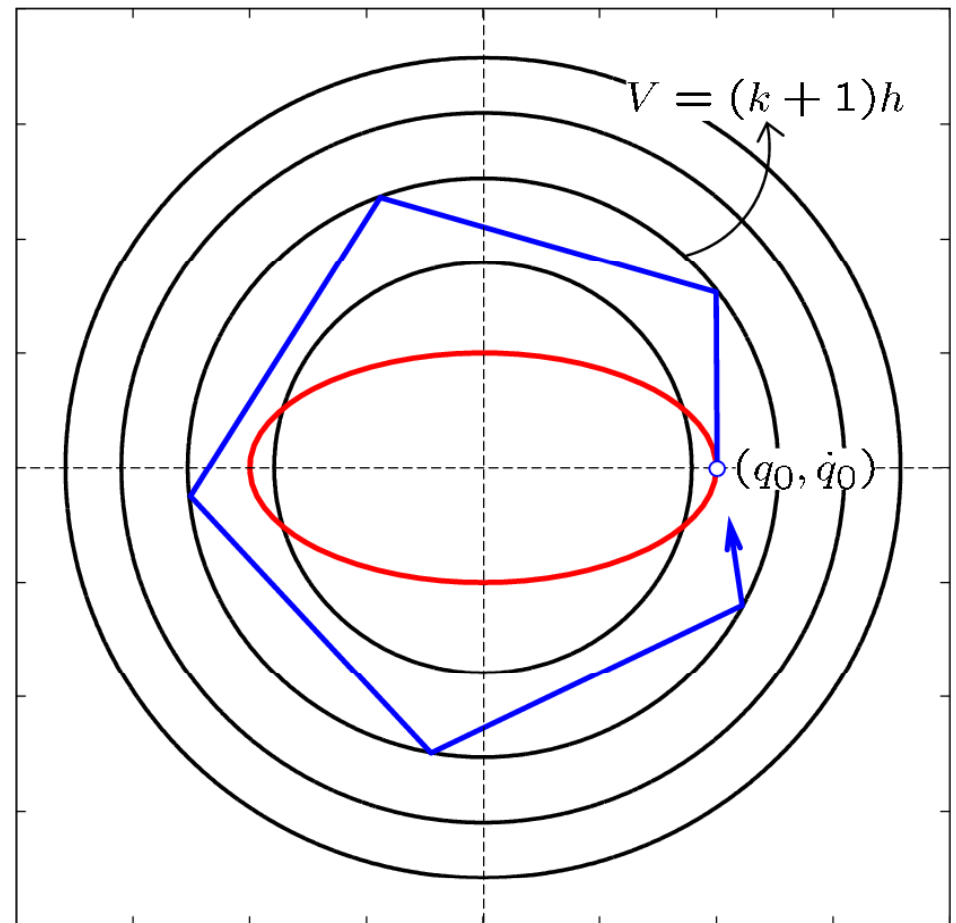
$$V = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$m = 1$$

$$q_0 = (1, 0)$$

$$\dot{q}_0 = (0, \gamma)$$

$$q(t) = (\cos(t), \gamma \sin(t))$$



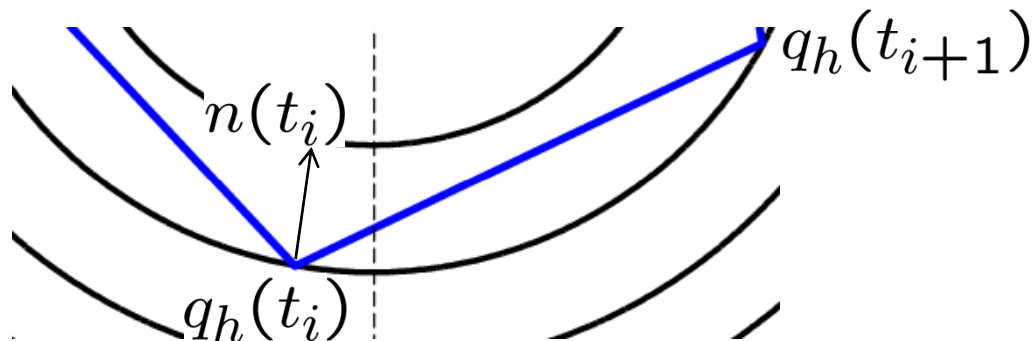
Energy Stepping – Convergence

Definition (transversality). Let q_h be a sequence of energy-stepping trajectories. Let $S(q_h) = \{t_1, \dots, t_{N_h}\}$ be the jump set of $\dot{q}_h(t)$. Then, q_h is transversal if

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \min_i \frac{|n(t_i) \cdot \dot{q}_h(t_i^-)|}{\sqrt{h}} = \infty$$

and

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \max_i \frac{|q_h(t_{i+1}) - q_h(t_i)|}{\sqrt{h}} = 0.$$



Energy Stepping – Convergence

Theorem (Global convergence). *Let q_0 and $\dot{q}_0$ be given such that $\nabla V(q_0) \cdot \dot{q}_0 \neq 0$ and let q_h be the energy-stepping trajectory such that $q_h(0) = q_0$ and $\dot{q}_h(0^+) = \dot{q}_0$. Then, if the sequence q_h is transversal, $q_h \rightarrow q$ in $W^{1,p}(0, T)$ for each fixed $T > 0$ and all $p < \infty$, where q is the unique solution of the equations of motion.*



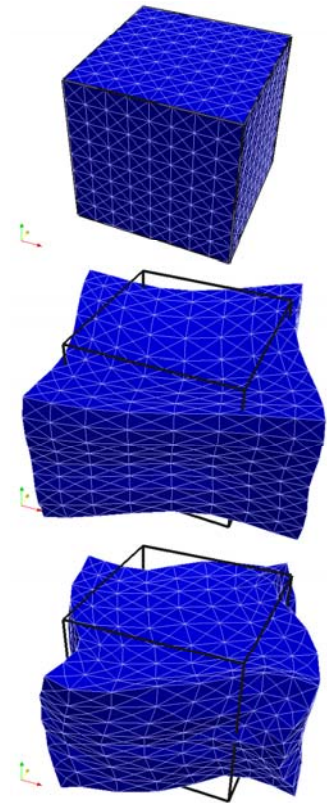
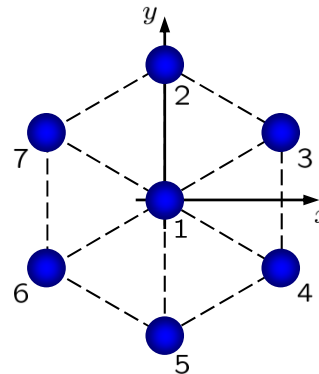
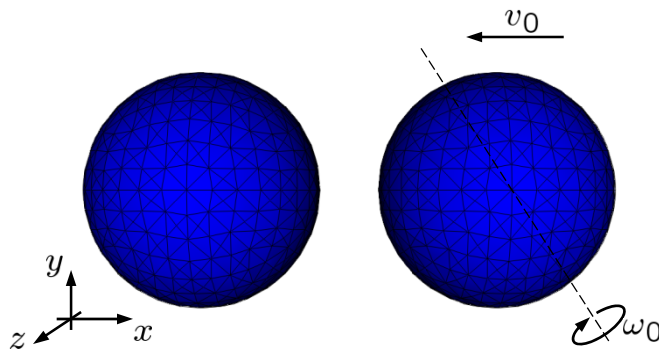
Energy stepping – Appraisal

- Energy-stepping scheme is symplectic, energy-momentum time-reversible integrator with automatic selection of the time step size
- Energy-stepping automatically conserves all the invariants of the system, whether explicitly known or not (hidden symmetries)
- The exact invariants of the system, as opposed to discrete approximations thereof, are exactly conserved by energy stepping
- Convergence subject to transversality condition



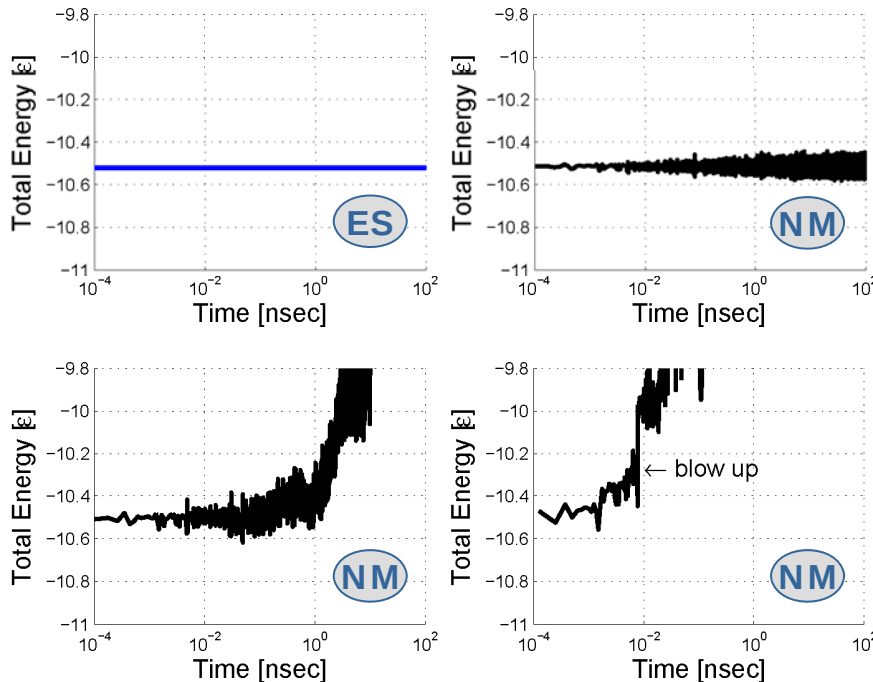
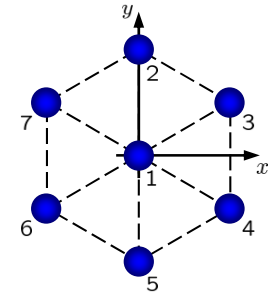
Energy stepping – Examples

- Dynamics of a frozen argon cluster
- Spinning neo-Hookean cube
- Dynamic contact of deformable bodies



Energy stepping – Argon cluster

$$L(q, \dot{q}) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \|\dot{q}_i\|^2}_{\text{Kinetic energy}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^N V(\|q_i - q_j\|)}_{\text{Potential energy}}$$



Lennard-Jones pair potential

$$V(r) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^6 \right]$$

Explicit Newmark (velocity Verlet)

$$q_{(n+1)} = q_{(n)} + \Delta t \dot{q}_{(n)} - \frac{\Delta t^2}{2} M^{-1} \nabla V(q_{(n)})$$

$$\dot{q}_{(n+1)} = \dot{q}_{(n)} - \frac{\Delta t}{2} M^{-1} [\nabla V(q_{(n)}) + \nabla V(q_{(n+1)})]$$

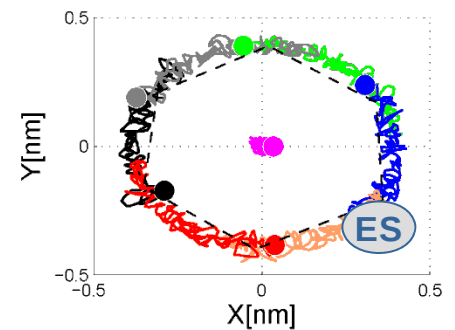
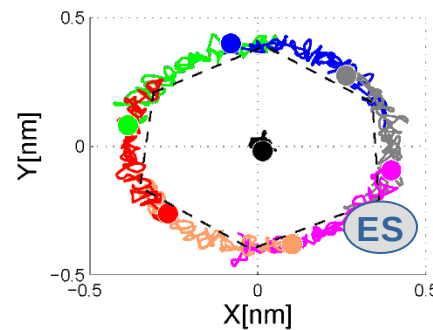
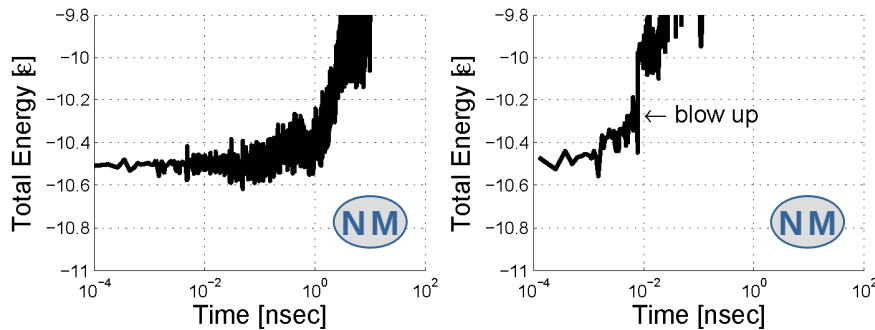
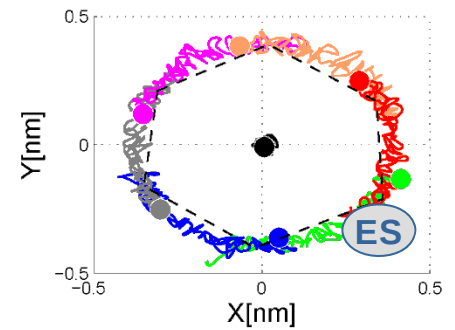
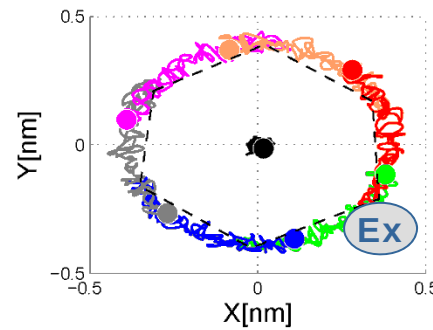
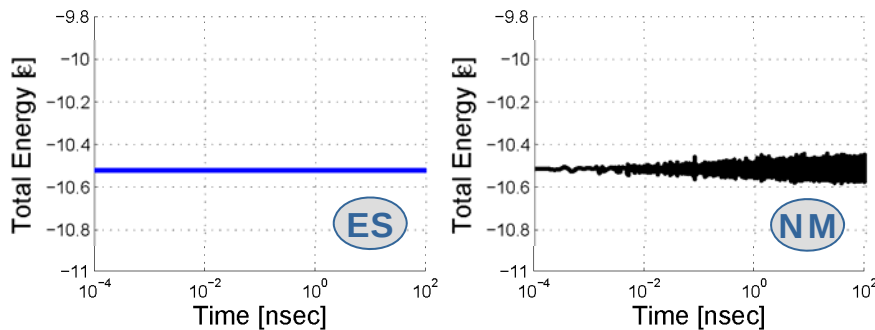
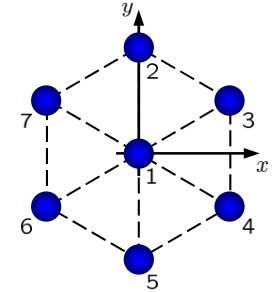
Total time simulated100nsec

$$\bar{\Delta}t = 57\text{fsec}, 87\text{fsec}, 125\text{fsec}, (10\text{fsec})$$



Energy stepping – Argon cluster

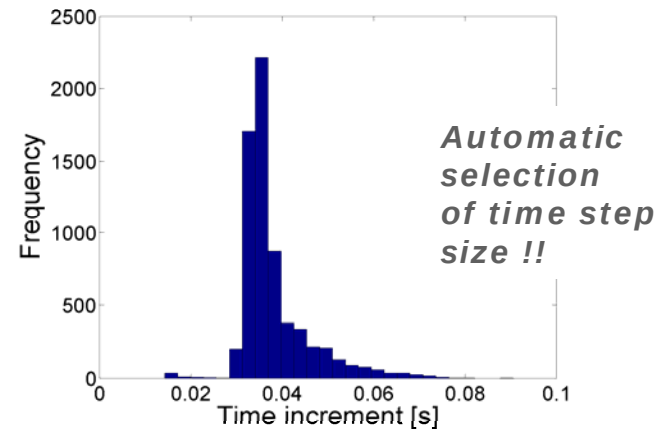
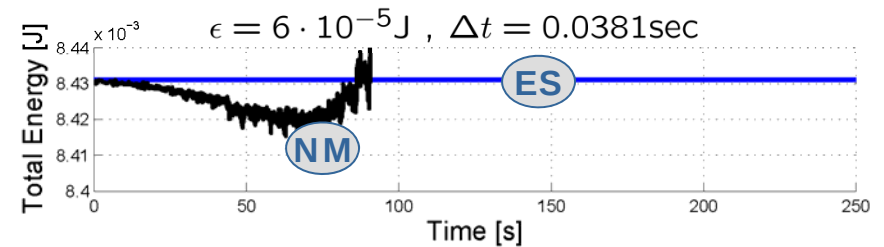
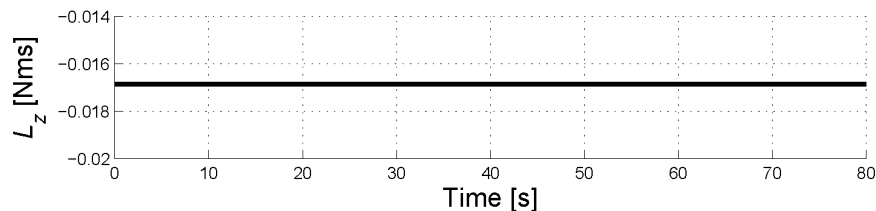
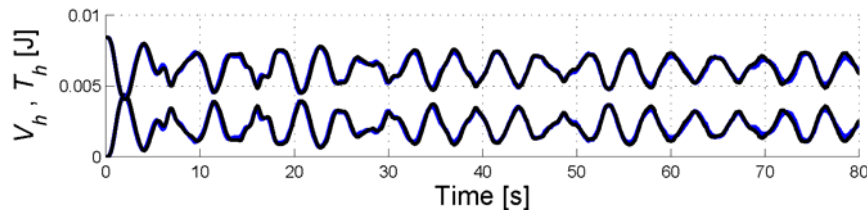
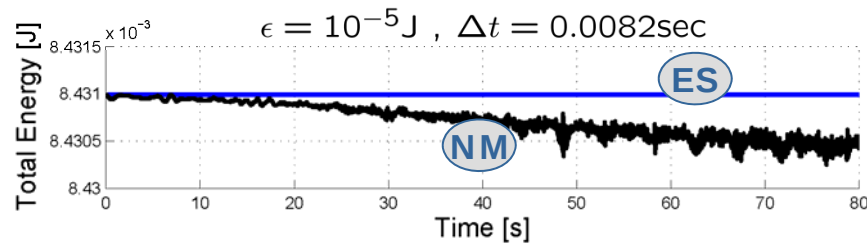
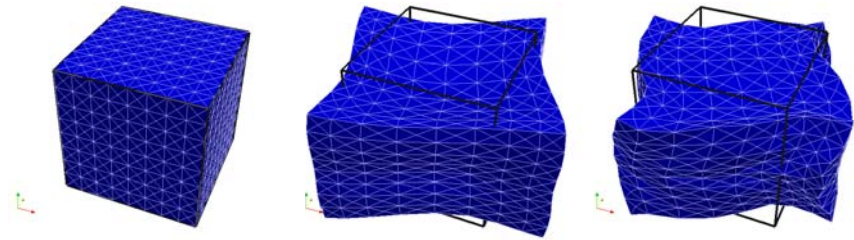
$$L(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \|\dot{q}_i\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^N V(\|q_i - q_j\|)$$



Energy stepping – Spinning cube

Finite element mesh: 12288 4-node tetrahedral
isoparametric elements and 2969 nodes.-
Strain-energy density:

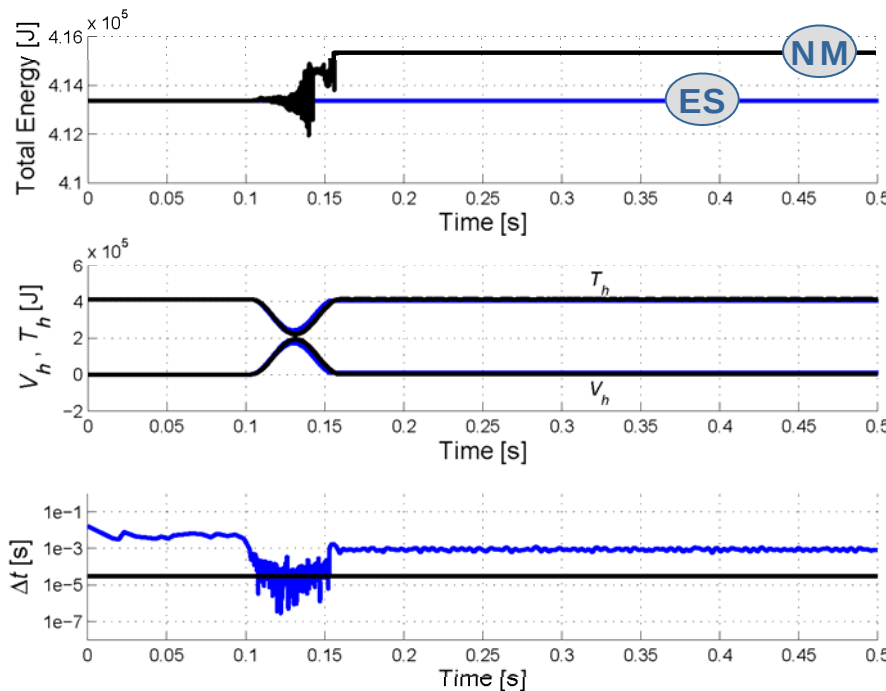
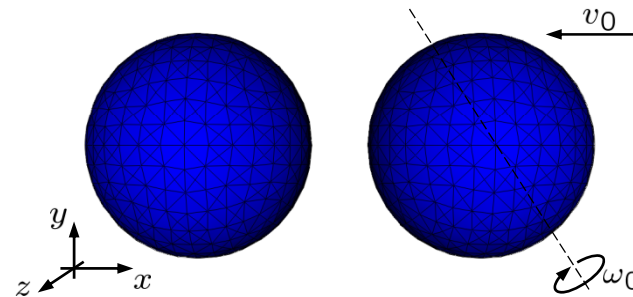
$$W(\mathbf{F}, X) = \frac{\lambda_0}{2} (\log J)^2 - \mu_0 \log J + \frac{\mu_0}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F})$$



Energy stepping – Spinning cube

The ball on the left is initially in rest.

The ball on the right is set into motion with initial linear and angular velocities.



Energy-stepping $h = 10^3 \text{ J}$, $\bar{\Delta}t = 275 \mu\text{sec}$

Explicit Newmark $\Delta t = 30 \mu\text{sec}$

Complex dynamics of non-smooth contact
Hyperelastic material properties
Explicit treatment of vibrational energy

Contact duration

$\tau = 47.6 \text{ msec}$

$\tau = 69.0 \text{ msec}$

Coefficient of restitution

$e = 0.964$

$e = 1.000$

Static Hertz law // Perfectly smooth rigid bodies



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Concluding remarks

- Main idea: *Replace the original Lagrangian by an approximate one that can be solved exactly*
- Energy stepping scheme: Replace potential energy by *terraced* approximation
- Energy stepping trajectories consist of piecewise rectilinear motion, automatic time-step selection
- Energy stepping is symplectic, energy-momentum conserving, time-reversible
- Convergence subject to transversality
- Transversality does not appear to be a concern in practice for large problems, general conditions

