

January 2023

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Stochastic Langevin Monte Carlo for (weakly) log-concave posterior distributions.

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January 8, 2023

Abstract

In this paper, we investigate a continuous time version of the Stochastic Langevin Monte Carlo method, introduced in [39], that incorporates a stochastic sampling step inside the traditional over-damped Langevin diffusion. This method is popular in machine learning for sampling posterior distribution. We will pay specific attention in our work to the computational cost in terms of n (the number of observations that produces the posterior distribution), and d (the dimension of the ambient space where the parameter of interest is living). We derive our analysis in the weakly convex framework, which is parameterized with the help of the Kurdyka-Łojasiewicz (KL) inequality, that permits to handle a vanishing curvature settings, which is far less restrictive when compared to the simple strongly convex case. We establish that the final horizon of simulation to obtain an ε approximation (in terms of entropy) is of the order $(d \log(n)^2)^{(1+r)^2} [\log^2(\varepsilon^{-1}) + n^2 d^{2(1+r)} \log^{4(1+r)}(n)]$ with a Poissonian subsampling of parameter $(n(d \log^2(n))^{1+r})^{-1}$, where the parameter r is involved in the KL inequality and varies between 0 (strongly convex case) and 1 (limiting Laplace situation).

Keywords: Langevin Monte Carlo sampling; Log concave models; Weak convexity.

AMS classifications: Primary 62G50; secondary ; 62C10; 65C30; 60H3520.

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1 Markovian Stochastic Langevin Dynamics and main results

1.1 Introduction

Motivations In the recent past years, a huge amount of methods have been developed in machine learning to handle large scale massive datasets with a large number n of observations (X_1, \dots, X_n) embedded in a high dimensional space \mathbb{R}^d . These methods generally involve either optimization of a data-dependent function (for frequentist learning) or sampling a data-dependent measure (for Bayesian learning with posterior distributions). In both approaches, a bottleneck lies on the size of n and d that usually generates numerical difficulties for the use of standard algorithms. We are interested in this paper in the simulation of a posterior distribution following a Bayesian point of view with a statistical model described by a collection of densities $(p_\theta)_{\theta \in \Theta}$ on \mathcal{X} , where the parameter of interest θ^* belongs to $\Theta = \mathbb{R}^d$ and where the $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ are assumed to be i.i.d. observations in \mathcal{X} distributed according to p_{θ^*} . A standard Bayesian approach consists in defining a prior distribution π_0 on Θ and then sample the posterior distribution denoted by μ_n (which will be denoted by $\exp(-U_{\nu_n})$ below) using a numerical probabilistic approximation with the help of an over-damped Langevin diffusion:

$$d\theta_t = -\nabla U_{\nu_n}(t)dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t.$$

¹We are grateful to Patrick Cattiaux and Arnaud Guillin for helpful discussions and references on functional inequalities and especially on weak log Sobolev inequalities.

In this work, we manage to deal with an adaptation of the Langevin Monte Carlo (LMC) algorithm proposed in [39], that exploits some old ideas of stochastic algorithms introduced in [36]: instead of using the previous equation, the authors propose a modification of the diffusion that generates a noisy drift in the LMC due to a sampling strategy among the set of observations $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$. Before we provide some details on the precise objects and algorithm necessary to properly define this method, we first give some literature insights related to it.

State of the art Ergodicity and quantitative mixing properties of over-damped LMC and many other sampling algorithms is a popular subject of research initiated in the probabilistic works around, roughly speaking, two strategies. The first one relies on pathwise considerations and dynamical properties of random dynamical system and is built with some coupling argument and Lyapunov controls. We refer to the seminal contributions [32, 27], that exploits the approach of the Doeblin coupling and total variation (TV) bounds. Many extensions may be derived from this Lyapunov approach and may lead to Wasserstein or \mathbb{L}^2 upper bounds, we refer to [8] and the references therein of the same authors for a description of the link between Lyapunov conditions and ergodicity. The second strategy derives from spectral properties of Markov operators and is related to famous functional inequalities (Poincaré and Log-Sobolev among others). The general idea is to differentiate the distance along the time-evolution and apply a Gronwall Lemma to obtain a quantitative estimate of the long-time evolution of the semi-group. We refer to the seminal contributions of [26, 2], and to [3] for an almost exhaustive survey of all possible inequalities and consequences on the ergodicity of the Markov semi-groups. Finally, let us emphasize that some strong links exist between the spectral and the Lyapunov approaches, as pointed out by [9]. If functional inequalities are then strongly related to mixing properties and especially from a quantitative point of view, it is therefore necessary to develop a machinery that is able to assess these inequalities carefully, especially with a specific attention to our statistical setting of large n and d in the completely non-trivial situation where the target measure is *log-concave* but *not strongly log-concave*, which is a common feature of Bayesian posterior distributions.

On the statistical side, the mixing properties of LMC has been largely investigated during the past decade, strongly motivated by machine learning methods such as Exponentially Weighted Aggregation introduced by [11], which involves sampling a non log-concave and heavy tailed posterior distribution. A first paper of Dalalyan [12] establishes the cost of LMC to obtain an ε TV bound in terms of d and ρ when the target measure is ρ strongly log-concave and proposes a penalized version of LMC to circumvent the lack of strong log-concavity when the target distribution is only log-concave. Since this pioneering paper, a huge impressive literature expanded. Among others, we refer to [16] that gives a careful study of discretized LMC, [14] for a kinetic version of LMC and [15] where the penalized LMC in non strongly-concave situation is studied in depth. Among all these papers, first, the lack of strong log-concavity is dealt with a modification of the initial LMC using a surrogate and asymptotically vanishing penalty. Second, these papers assume that a noiseless gradient of the log-posterior is available at each iteration of the algorithm, which may not be realistic, especially with large n .

Stochastic LMC (SLMC below) has attracted the interest of several works: [39] introduced this method and described its efficiency from a numerical point of view in the particular case of Bayesian learning, which is exactly our framework. Some recent advances and related contributions may be also cited: [13] studies a noisy version of LMC and derives some non-asymptotic upper bounds (in terms of Wasserstein distance) of the sampling strategy in presence of a possibly biased noise for strongly log-concave posterior distribution. The recent contribution of [40] is also related to our work: the authors develop a machinery for the study of SLMC essentially based on the Poincaré inequality but the way the lower bound on the spectral gap involved in the LMC is dealt with appears to be inappropriate. In particular, the diffusion involved in (Stochastic)-LMC is used at a very low-temperature, proportional to $1/n$, which generates some important troubles in the size of the spectral gap in non strongly log-concave framework. In [35], the authors derives some close bounds to our framework for optimization purpose, and the authors identify the important dependency of the spectral gap denoted by λ_* in their paper with the temperature level $1/\beta$ they introduced. They obtain some very highly pessimistic bounds in some general situations (see their discussion in [35][Section 4]), they conclude their discussion by the urgent need to find some non-trivial situations where some better lower bounds of λ_* may be derived.

Indeed, the final remark of [35][Section 4]) is related to the well known metastability phenomenon: at a low temperature, the mixing rates of a lot of reversible and irreversible Markov semi-groups are strongly deteriorated by the low temperature settings, which is implicitly induced by a Bayesian posterior sampling problem with a large number n of observations. In a regime of variance noise of the order $O(\beta^{-1})$, the first study of large deviation principle of invariant measures traces back to [18] where the authors establish the asymptotic of the spectral gap of the over-damped Langevin diffusion as $\exp(-I\beta)$ ([18][Chapter 6]) where I is an explicit constant that depends on the potential of the Gibbs field. This result has been extended in depth by [26], which leads to the first precise analyses of the so-called simulated annealing method (see *e.g.* [24, 33]). These works, and more recent contributions with irreversible dynamical systems in a stochastic settings ([22, 19]) show that there is almost nothing to expect in metastable situations in terms of asymptotic behaviour of the spectral gap, and indirectly in terms of mixing rate. Hence, the only situation that may lead to reasonable results is an intermediary situation between the (almost) trivial strongly log-concave case and the metastable multi-welled case. This is the purpose of the weakly log-concave situation that is described by the family of Kurdyka-Lojasiewicz inequalities [28, 30] used in optimization theory [5] that have shown to be efficient for stochastic optimization [20] or for sampling [21]. We also refer to the recent contributions [6] that derives some functional inequalities within an intermediary framework in which the curvature ρ is related to their keystone function α that controls the constants involved in the functional inequalities they are studying.

Taking together the statistical considerations and limitations, we are motivated in this paper in the study of the continuous time Stochastic Langevin Monte Carlo procedure. This process will be described precisely in the next paragraph as well as the Kurdyka-Lojasiewicz setup parametrized by a real value r , which varies between 0 (strongly convex case) and 1 (limiting Laplace asymptotic tail). We will show that the final horizon of simulation to obtain an ε approximation is of the order:

$$(d \log(n)^2)^{(1+r)^2} [\log^2(\varepsilon^{-1}) + n^2 d^{2(1+r)} \log^{4(1+r)}(n)]$$

with a Poissonian subsampling of parameter $\frac{1}{n(d \log^2(n))^{1+r}}$.

The rest of the introduction consists in the definitions of the algorithm in Subsection 1.2, the way we assess the quality of our result with an entropy criterion in Subsection 1.3, as well as the quantitative weakly log-concave assumption in Subsection 1.4. We finally state our main result in Subsection 1.5.

1.2 Continuous time evolution

Below, we briefly remind the continuous time SLMC algorithm for Bayesian learning, for which a discretized form has been introduced in [39]. For this purpose, we consider a statistical model that is built with the help of a function $(x, \theta) \mapsto p_\theta(x)$ where $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ encodes the parameter of the statistical model and x the observation in a space denoted by \mathcal{X} . We then assume that we have n i.i.d. observations denoted by $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$ distributed according to p_θ . Given a prior distribution π_0 on \mathbb{R}^d , the posterior distribution μ_n is then defined as:

$$\mu_n(\theta) \propto \pi_0(\theta) \times \prod_{i=1}^n p_\theta(\mathbf{X}_i).$$

We introduce the log-parametrization that leads to the Gibbs form:

$$U_x(\theta) = -[\log \pi_0(\theta) + n \log p_\theta(x)],$$

and we then observe that:

$$\mu_n(\theta) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\right) = \exp(-U_{\nu_n}(\theta)),$$

where ν_n refers to the empirical distribution and U_{ν_n} the average value of $U_X(\theta)$ when $X \sim \nu_n$:

$$\nu_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\mathbf{X}_i}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad U_{\nu_n}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{X \sim \nu_n}[U_X(\theta)].$$

The standard Langevin Monte Carlo approach relies on the ergodic behaviour of the stochastic differential equation:

$$d\theta_t = -\nabla U_{\nu_n}(\theta_t)dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t, \quad (1)$$

that possesses under some mild assumptions a unique invariant distribution μ_n .

The SLMC algorithm takes benefit of both sampling with a S.D.E. and homogenization of the drift that may be written as an expectation on X that is sampled uniformly over the set of observations according to ν_n . The leading idea is to replace the expectation in U_{ν_n} that depends on the overall set of observations $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$ by a single unique observation that is randomized uniformly all along the evolution of the stochastic differential equation, and modified according to a Markov exponential clock. That being said, we can write an explicit formal definition of the algorithm as follows. We define $(\xi_j^{(n)})_{j \geq 1}$ an infinite sequence of exponential random variables of mean α_n^{-1} that will be fixed later on.

We also consider a sequence $\{V_j^{(n)}\}_{j \geq 0}$ of i.i.d. random variables uniformly distributed in $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. We then define the process $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ as a jump process that takes its values in $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ such that:

$$X_t = \begin{cases} \mathbf{X}_{V_1^{(n)}}, & \text{if } 0 \leq t < \xi_1^{(n)}, \\ \mathbf{X}_{V_j^{(n)}}, & \text{if } \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \xi_k^{(n)} \leq t < \sum_{k=1}^j \xi_k^{(n)}, \quad j > 1. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Informally, $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ should be understood as follows: the process takes the value of one observation uniformly chosen from the n observations $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ during exponential times with intensity α_n . The stochastic Langevin over-damped diffusion we consider is then given by the joint evolution $(\theta_t, X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and that is defined by:

$$d\theta_t = -\nabla_{\theta} U_{X_t}(\theta_t)dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t, \quad t > 0, \quad (3)$$

where $(B_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a multivariate standard Brownian Motion.

Algorithm 1: Stochastic Langevin over-damped

Data: $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$ i.i.d. observations, n_0 initial distribution, π_0 prior distribution

- 1 $t_0 = 0$
- 2 Generate θ_0 according to n_0
- 3 **for** $k = 0, 1, \dots$ **do**
- 4 Pick X_k uniformly in $\{\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n\}$
- 5 Generate ξ_k according to an Exponential distribution with mean α_n^{-1}
- 6 $t_{k+1} = t_k + \xi_k$
- 7 $\theta_{t_{k+1}} = \theta_{t_k} - \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \nabla_{\theta} U_{X_k}(\theta_s)ds + \sqrt{2}B_{\xi_k}$
- 8 **end**
- 9 **return** $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \theta_{t_k}$

1.3 Entropic divergence

To assess the long-time behaviour of the SLMC, we introduce several notations related to the pair $(\theta_t, X_t)_{t \geq 0}$. Below, we denote by λ_d the Lebesgue measure over \mathbb{R}^d . The semi-group induced by \mathcal{L} being elliptic on the θ coordinate, trivially irreducible and finitely supported on the x coordinate, makes the law of (θ_t, X_t) absolutely continuous with respect to the measure $\lambda_d \otimes \nu_n$ as soon as $t > 0$.

We introduce the notation of m_t to refer to the joint density of (θ_t, X_t) at time t with respect to $\lambda_d \otimes \nu_n$. In the meantime, n_t denotes the marginal distribution of θ_t and $m_t(\cdot|\theta)$ the conditional distribution of X_t given $\theta_t = \theta$. That is:

$$\text{Law}(\theta_t, X_t) = m_t, \quad n_t(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i), \quad m_t(x|\theta) = \frac{m_t(\theta, x)}{n_t(\theta)}, \quad (4)$$

for $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $x \in \{\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n\}$.

To show that the SLMC algorithm recovers the correct asymptotic behaviour, *i.e.* that $n_t(\theta) \rightarrow \mu_n$ when $t \rightarrow \infty$, we consider the relative entropy (or Kullback-Leibler divergence) of n_t with respect to μ_n that is well defined thanks to the ellipticity, and given by:

$$J_t = Ent_{\mu_n} \left(\frac{n_t}{\mu_n} \right) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta). \quad (5)$$

J_t measures at any time $t > 0$ a divergence between the instantaneous law of the process at time t and the (presumably) invariant distribution μ_n of the process (θ_t, X_t) . It would also be possible to measure this difference between the two distributions in terms of the \mathbb{L}^2 or the χ -square distance and to produce a theoretical analysis with the help of functional analysis but it would rely on stronger assumptions on the function U_{ν_n} .

In the meantime, we also introduce a weighted \mathbb{L}^2 distance between the conditional distribution of X_t given $\theta_t = \theta$ and the measure ν_n . This distance is denoted by I_t and is defined as:

$$I_t = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right)^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta). \quad (6)$$

This quantity measures the average closeness (w.r.t. θ) of the conditional law of x given θ at time t to ν_n .

1.4 Main assumptions

Weak convexity We will study the SLMC into a weakly convex framework, *i.e.* when U_{ν_n} is assumed to be convex but not necessarily strongly convex. SLMC has recently received an important interest in the machine learning community and has been studied essentially in its explicit Euler discretized form in various situations where functional inequalities are involved. We refer to [38] (uniform Log-Sobolev inequality), to [35] (uniform Poincaré inequality) where the authors develop a Wasserstein-2 analysis of the algorithm, and to [40] (uniform Poincaré inequality). In these works, the functional inequalities play a crucial role to analyze the behaviour of SLMC and these inequalities are *assumed*, which is an important hypothesis. Importantly, Poincaré or Log-Sobolev inequalities are not so innocent since they generally require convexity (see *e.g.* [4, 3]) to be reasonably dimension-dependent, and even strong convexity to be dimension free. Otherwise, the constant involved in these functional inequalities are exponentially degraded by the “temperature” $(n^{-1}(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{-(1+r)})$ in our case) and the dimension (d for us) as indicated in [26].

In our work, we have chosen to parameterize this lack of strong convexity with the help of the Kurdyka-Łojasiewicz inequality [28, 30], which is a standard tool in optimization to describe the transition between convexity and strong convexity and makes the bounds more explicit. This assumption allows to observe how the entropy evolves according to the key exponent involved in the KL inequality. In particular, it makes possible to understand the influence of the lack of strong convexity that is more or less hidden in the uniform Poincaré or Log-Sobolev inequalities that are assumed in the previous works. We introduce a parametric form of the KL inequalities following [20].

For this purpose, for any V twice differentiable function, we denote the spectrum of the Hessian matrix of V as $Sp(\nabla^2 V(\theta))$. Furthermore, if V is convex, we denote:

$$\underline{\lambda}_{\nabla^2 V}(\theta) = \inf Sp(\nabla^2 V(\theta)).$$

Hypothesis $\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}}^r(\mathbf{c}, L)$ We say that a function $V : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies a $\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}}^r(\mathbf{c}, L)$ -condition if:

- a) V is a \mathcal{C}^2 -function.
- b) V is a convex function and $\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} V(\theta) = V(\theta^*) > 0$.
- c) ∇V is L -Lipschitz.

d) There exist some constants $0 \leq r < 1$ and $\mathfrak{c} > 0$ such that:

$$\mathfrak{c}V^{-r}(\theta) \leq \underline{\lambda}_{\nabla^2 V(\theta)} \quad \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d. \quad (7)$$

Let us briefly comment this assumption.

- In [21], a slightly different parametrization is used with the introduction of another exponent q related to $\bar{\lambda}_{\nabla^2 V(\theta)} = \sup Sp(\nabla^2 V(\theta))$. The authors also assume the upper bound $\bar{\lambda}_{\nabla^2 V(\theta)} \leq \tilde{\mathfrak{c}}V^{-q}(\theta)$. Here, we have chosen to simplify this assumption and use a rough upper bound on the eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix given by the Lipschitz constant L , *i.e.* in the last inequality we simply use $\tilde{\mathfrak{c}} = L$ and $q = 0$.
- We shall observe that if $V(\theta) = (1 + \|\theta\|_2^2)^p$ with $p \in [1/2, 1]$, then V satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$ with $r = \frac{1-p}{p}$ and $\mathfrak{c} = 2p(1 - 2(1-p))$, see Remark 7 of [21] for further details. In particular, the larger p , the smaller r , which translates into a better curvature of the potential function V .
- When $r = q$, we recover a global standard KL inequality (see [20, 5]) and when $r = 1$ it corresponds to the limiting Laplace case.
- The case $r = 0$ is of course associated to the strongly convex situation where the curvature of the function is uniformly lower bounded by \mathfrak{c} .

Hence, it is expected that the complexity of SLMC increases with the lack of curvature, *i.e.* is an increasing function of r .

In section 4 we recall some important consequences of the KL inequality obtained in Lemma 15 of [21]. In particular, the growth of any function that satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$ is lower and upper bounded by a positive power of the distance to its minimizer.

If inequality (7) holds for a constant \mathfrak{c} , then it holds for all positive values less than \mathfrak{c} . For that reason, in section 5 we assume $\mathfrak{c} \leq \left(\frac{8L}{(1+r)}\right)^{1+r}$.

Assumption on the prior π_0 We state below the important consequence of a “population” $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$ assumption, but before, let us state some mild assumptions on π_0 .

Hypothesis $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ π_0 is a log-concave \mathcal{C}^2 -function such that $\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} -\log \pi_0(\theta) > 0$ and $\theta \mapsto \nabla \log \pi_0(\theta)$ is ℓ_0 -Lipschitz.

Since the prior distribution is chosen by the user, our $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ hypothesis is not restrictive and some typical examples satisfy these conditions, such as Gaussian, Weibull and Gamma, both with shape parameter larger than 1, Gumbel, among others.

Proposition 1.1. *We assume $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ and that there exist (\mathfrak{c}, r) such that for any $x: \theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(x)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$, then U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}n^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$, and in particular, for any \mathbf{X}_i , $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}n^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$.*

We introduce the notation $a \lesssim_{uc} b$ ($a \gtrsim_{uc} b$) which means $a \leq cb$ ($a \geq cb$) where c is a universal constant *i.e.* a positive constant independent of n and d .

We assume that the minimizers of the functions $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$ are contained in a ball of radius which depends of n and d . Additionally, we consider $\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$ to be at most of order d .

Hypothesis \mathcal{H}_{\min} There exists $\beta \geq 0$ such that:

$$\max_i \|\arg \min U_{\mathbf{X}_i}\|_2 \lesssim_{uc} \sqrt{d} \log^\beta(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \max_i \min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \lesssim_{uc} d.$$

Assumption \mathcal{H}_{\min} is not restrictive. In dimension $d = 1$, it holds for many concentrated i.i.d. samples $(X_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ with a suitable sub-Gaussian like behaviour for which the Laplace transform of $\min U_{X_i}$ is upper bounded as:

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(\lambda \min U_{X_i})] \leq \exp(\sigma^2 \lambda^k), \quad \forall \lambda > 0.$$

The previous upper bound implies that, in this case, β involved in \mathcal{H}_{\min} is given by $\beta = \frac{k-1}{k}$. We recover in particular the situation where $\beta = 1/2$ when $k = 2$. For larger dimensions, the result may be extended using that $\|X\|_2^2 \leq d \max_{1 \leq j \leq d} (X^j)^2$, where X^j is the j -th component of X . We should keep in mind from this last discussion that even if \mathcal{H}_{\min} is stated (and makes sense) for any value of $\beta > 0$, it holds in general for $\beta \leq 1$.

This \mathcal{H}_{\min} hypothesis together with $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ lead to an almost similar behaviour of the minimizer and the minimum of U_{ν_n} . Details appear in Proposition 4.4.

1.5 Long-time entropy convergence

We introduce for any time $t \geq 0$ the density of $\text{Law}(\theta_t)$ w.r.t. μ_n , which is given by:

$$f_t(\theta) = \frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)},$$

and n_0 is chosen such that $\|f_0\|_\infty < +\infty$. The following hypothesis guarantees this result which will be proved in Proposition 3.5.

Hypothesis $\mathcal{H}_{n_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$ A positive constant σ^2 exists such that $n_0 = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_d)$. Moreover, there exist two universal constants c_1 and c_2 such that $0 < c_1 \leq c_2 < 1$ and

$$\frac{c_1}{nL + \ell_0} \leq \sigma^2 \leq \frac{c_2}{nL + \ell_0}.$$

Futhermore, in Proposition 3.5, as an immediate consequence of the boundedness of $\|f_0\|_\infty$, we obtain that $J_0 \lesssim_{uc} nd^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n) + d \log\left(\frac{d}{n}\right)$.

The next result assesses a mixing property in terms of decrease of the entropy and therefore states the convergence of n_t towards the correct measure μ_n .

Theorem 1.1. *Assume $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$, \mathcal{H}_{\min} , $\mathcal{H}_{n_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$ and that each $\theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(\mathbf{X}_i)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(c, L)$, then*

- U_{ν_n} satisfies a Poincaré inequality of constant $C_P(\mu_n)$, indistinctly denoted as C_P .
- Define $c_{n,d} := n^4 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{1+r}$ and $O_{n,d} := \left(\frac{C_1 d}{n}\right)^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(C_2 n \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{1+r}\right)$, where C_1 and C_2 are universal constants, then for any $t > 0$:

$$J_t \lesssim_{uc} \left(J_0 + \frac{c_{n,d}}{\alpha_n} \left[1 + \left(\frac{C_P}{\alpha_n} + \sqrt{C_P} \right) e^{\frac{\sqrt{C_P}}{\sqrt{\alpha}} + \frac{C_P}{3\alpha_n}} \right] + O_{n,d} \right) (1+t)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{\sqrt{C_P}}{\sqrt{\alpha}}(\sqrt{1+t}-1)}. \quad (8)$$

- For any $\varepsilon > 0$, if $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{1+r}}$, then:

$$t \gtrsim_{uc} \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{(1+r)^2} \left[\log^2(\varepsilon^{-1}) + n^2 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{2(1+r)} + d^2 \log^2 d \right] \implies J_t \leq \varepsilon.$$

If we denote t_ε the smallest value such that $J_{t_\varepsilon} \leq \varepsilon$, then the choice of $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{1+r}}$ guarantees that the mean number of jumps $\alpha_n t_\varepsilon$ of the process $(X_t)_{0 \leq t \leq t_\varepsilon}$ is the minimum possible.

In order to proof the main result, we first present in Section 2 the classical tools related to the Markov semi-group, which could be skipped by the experienced reader in the subject. In Section 3 we prove the main result. Sections 4 and 5 are reserved to the technical results of the $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(c, L)$ hypothesis and U_{ν_n} , and the Markov Dynamics respectively.

2 Markov tools

It is straightforward to verify that the joint evolution of $(\theta_t, X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ exists and is weakly unique (in law) with the help of the Martingale Problem (MP below). For this purpose, we preliminary define the operator \mathcal{L} that acts on any function $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{X})$ as:

$$\mathcal{L}f(\theta, x) = \underbrace{-\langle \nabla_\theta U_x(\theta), \nabla_\theta f(\theta, x) \rangle + \Delta_\theta f(\theta, x)}_{:= \mathcal{L}_1 f(\theta, x)} + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha_n}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [f(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) - f(\theta, x)]}_{\mathcal{L}_2 f(\theta, x)}, \quad (9)$$

for all $(\theta, x) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{X}$.

The operator \mathcal{L} is divided into two terms, \mathcal{L}_1 acts on the component θ and is associated to the diffusion part, while \mathcal{L}_2 is the jump operator that acts on the x component. Thanks to the finiteness of the number of observations $(\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)$, we can apply the results of Section 4 and 5 of chapter 4 of [17] and deduce the following result:

Proposition 2.1. *Assume that for any $x \in \mathcal{X}$, U_x is $\mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $\nabla_\theta U_x$ is L_x -Lipschitz, then for any initial distribution ν on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{X}$, the martingale problem (\mathcal{L}, ν) is well-posed.*

The associated (weakly) unique process $(\theta_t, X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a Feller Markov process associated to the semi-group \mathcal{L} . In particular, the θ component verifies the S.D.E. (3).

If we denote by \mathcal{L}^* the adjoint operator of \mathcal{L} in $\mathbb{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \times \nu_n$, the backward Kolmogorov Equation yields:

$$\partial_t m_t(\theta, x) = \mathcal{L}^* m_t(\theta, x). \quad (10)$$

Using the ellipticity of the semi-group \mathcal{L} on the θ coordinate, we can use the result of [25] and deduce that for any $t > 0$, $n_t \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$ and the irreducibility yields $\forall t \geq 0, n_t > 0$. We will prove in Proposition 3.5 some sufficient conditions that implies $\|f_0\|_\infty = \|\frac{n_0(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}\|_\infty < +\infty$ and an important and standard consequence of the maximum principle, is as follows: if $\|f_0\|_\infty \leq M$, then

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \|f_t\|_\infty \leq M.$$

We defer the details of this result to the Proposition 3.5 as they are not central to our analysis and are rather technical.

Thanks to this master equation, it is possible to compute the derivative of the semi-group on some time dependent function of θ . For this purpose, we introduce two keystone operators. The first one describes the infinitesimal action on the θ coordinate under the average effect of X_t at time t that applies $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$ as:

$$\mathcal{G}_t f(\theta) = - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta f(\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\mathbf{X}_i | \theta) + \Delta_\theta f(\theta). \quad (11)$$

The second one is very close to the first one except that the average effect of X_t is replaced by the targeted ideal distribution ν_n . It leads to the definition $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$:

$$\mathcal{G}f(\theta) = - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta f(\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) + \Delta_\theta f(\theta) = - \langle \nabla_\theta f(\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\nu_n}(\theta) \rangle + \Delta_\theta f(\theta). \quad (12)$$

This derivative is given in the next result, whose proof is deferred to the appendix.

Lemma 2.1. *Let be h_t a twice differentiable function with uniformly bounded first and second order derivatives on \mathbb{R}^d , then for $t > 0$:*

$$\partial_t \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} h_t(\theta) dn_t(\theta) \right\} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_t \{h_t(\theta)\} dn_t(\theta) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G}_t h_t(\theta) dn_t(\theta), \quad (13)$$

where \mathcal{G}_t is the diffusion operator under the average effect of X_t , defined in Equation (11).

3 Proof of the main results

3.1 Evolution of the entropy J_t

The entropy satisfies the following differential inequality.

Proposition 3.1. *Assume \mathcal{H}_{\min} , $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ and for each \mathbf{X}_i , $\theta \rightarrow -\log p_\theta(\mathbf{X}_i)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, then a "universal" constant C (independent from n and d) exists such that $\forall t > 0$:*

$$\partial_t \{J_t\} \leq - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_\theta \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}} \right) \right\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta) + C I_t^{\frac{1}{3}} n^{\frac{1}{3}} \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{1+r}.$$

Proof. We shall use the standard preliminary estimate that may be derived from Equation (3.14) of [29] for elliptic diffusions to apply Lemma 2.1 to $f_t = \log(n_t \mu_n^{-1})$. From Equation (13), we have:

$$\partial_t \{J_t\} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_t \left\{ \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) \right\} dn_t(\theta) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G}_t \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta),$$

The first term vanishes since:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_t \left\{ \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) \right\} dn_t(\theta) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\partial_t \{n_t(\theta)\}}{n_t(\theta)} dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_t \{n_t(\theta)\} d\theta \\ &= \partial_t \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} dn_t(\theta) \right) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then, the derivative is reduced to the second term, and we are led to:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \{J_t\} &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G}_t \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta), \\ &= \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta)}_{J_{1,t}} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\mathcal{G}_t - \mathcal{G}) \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta)}_{J_{2,t}}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

We study the two terms $J_{1,t}$ and $J_{2,t}$ separately.

- Study of $J_{1,t}$. Since \mathcal{G} is a diffusion operator and μ_n is the invariant measure associated to \mathcal{G} , then we can use the classical link between $J_{1,t}$ and the Dirichlet form (see [3]):

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \mathcal{G} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) d\mu_n(\theta) \\ &= -4 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_\theta \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}} \right) \right\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta). \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

- Study of $J_{2,t}$. We use the difference between \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{G}_t , for any twice differentiable function f :

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{G}_t - \mathcal{G}) f(\theta) &= - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta f(\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle [m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) - \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)] \\ &= - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta f(\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right] \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i). \end{aligned}$$

Then, the term $J_{2,t}$ may be computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} |J_{2,t}| &= \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\mathcal{G}_t - \mathcal{G}) \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) dn_t(\theta) \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_{\theta} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right), \nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right] \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality with respect to the measure $\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) \times dn_t(\theta)$ in the first line, $2ab \leq a^2 + b^2$ in the second line and $\nabla \log f = 2\nabla \log \sqrt{f} = 2\frac{\nabla \sqrt{f}}{\sqrt{f}}$ in the third line, we obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned} |J_{2,t}| &\leq \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_{\theta} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) \right\|_2^2 dn_t(\theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \frac{3}{4} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_{\theta} \log \left(\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} \right) \right\|_2^2 dn_t(\theta) + \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta) \\ &\leq 3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_{\theta} \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}} \right) \right\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta) + \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta). \end{aligned}$$

Using Equation (15) and the previous line yields:

$$\partial_t \{J_t\} \leq - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_{\theta} \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}} \right) \right\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta) + \underbrace{\frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta)}_{:=\Delta_t}, \quad (16)$$

We then focus on the second term of the right hand side. For this purpose, we consider a non-negative function $g(t)$, which will be fixed later and we split Δ_t into two terms as:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_t &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \left(\mathbb{1}_{\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2 \leq g(t)} + \mathbb{1}_{\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2 > g(t)} \right) \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta) \\ &\leq g^2(t) I_t + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \mathbb{1}_{\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2 > g(t)} \left[\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right]^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) dn_t(\theta), \end{aligned}$$

where I_t has been introduced in Equation (6) and measures the closeness of $m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)$ to ν_n . Finally, for the last term we observe that $0 \leq m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \leq 1$ and $\left| \frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right| = n |m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) - \frac{1}{n}| \leq n$, which implies that:

$$\Delta_t \leq g^2(t) I_t + \underbrace{n^2 \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^2 \mathbb{1}_{\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2 > g(t)} dn_t(\theta)}_{:=\tilde{\Delta}_t}. \quad (17)$$

The Cauchy inequality leads to:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Delta}_t &\leq \left(\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2^4 dn_t(\theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)\|_2 > g(t)} dn_t(\theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_t)\|_2^4 \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(\|\nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_t)\|_2 > g(t)) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (18) \end{aligned}$$

We then use Proposition 4.1 and obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Delta}_t &\leq \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[(2(nL + \ell_0) U_{\mathbf{X}_i}^2(\theta_t)) \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(2(nL + \ell_0) U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_t) > g^2(t)) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq 2(nL + \ell_0) (n \mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^2(\theta_t)])^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2(nL + \ell_0)}{g^2(t)} \mathbb{E}[U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_t)] \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq [2(nL + \ell_0)]^{\frac{3}{2}} n^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^2(\theta_t)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}(\theta_t)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}{g(t)}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the Markov's inequality and the relation $\|\cdot\|_2 \leq \|\cdot\|_1$ in \mathbb{R}^n . We apply Proposition 5.1 with $\alpha = 2$ and $\alpha = 1$ and obtain that a constant $C > 0$ exists (whose value may change from line to line) such that:

$$\tilde{\Delta}_t \leq C \frac{n^{\frac{7}{2}} \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{3(1+r)}{2}}}{g(t)}.$$

We use this last bound in (17) and we deduce that:

$$\Delta_t \leq g^2(t) I_t + C \frac{n^{\frac{11}{2}} \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{3(1+r)}{2}}}{g(t)}.$$

Optimizing this last bound with respect to $g(t)$ leads to the upper bound:

$$\Delta_t \leq C I_t^{\frac{1}{3}} n^{\frac{11}{3}} \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{1+r}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

□

3.2 Evolution of the weighted \mathbb{L}^2 distance I_t

The quantity I_t involved in Proposition 3.1 measures how close to ν_n the conditional distribution of $X_t|\theta_t$ is. To study I_t , we first remark that it may be rewritten in a simpler way.

$$\begin{aligned} I_t &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right)^2 \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n^2(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 2 \frac{m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} + 1 \right) \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 2m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) + \nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) \right) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} - 1 \right) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)}{\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i)} \, dn_t(\theta) - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Using that $m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)n_t(\theta) = m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)$ and $\nu_n(\mathbf{X}_i) = \frac{1}{n}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we obtain that:

$$I_t = n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t^2(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)}{n_t(\theta)} \, d\theta - 1. \quad (19)$$

The next proposition then assesses how fast I_t decreases to 0 as $t \rightarrow +\infty$.

Proposition 3.2. *For any $t \geq 0$:*

$$I_t \leq I_0 e^{-2\alpha n t} \leq (n-1) e^{-2\alpha n t}. \quad (20)$$

Proof. Our starting point is Equation (19). We compute its derivative with respect to t :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \{I_t\} &= 2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)}{n_t(\theta)} \partial_t m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta - n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t^2(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)}{n_t^2(\theta)} \partial_t n_t(\theta) \, d\theta \\ &= 2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta - n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t n_t(\theta) \, d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Kolmogorov backward equation in the first line and $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2$ in the second one where \mathcal{L}_1 and \mathcal{L}_2 are defined in Equation (9), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\partial_t\{I_t\} &= 2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta - n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t n_t(\theta) d\theta \\
&= \underbrace{2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta}_{:=I_{3,t}} + \underbrace{2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_2 m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta}_{:=I_{1,t}} \\
&\quad - \underbrace{n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t n_t(\theta) d\theta}_{:=I_{2,t}}. \tag{21}
\end{aligned}$$

Then, $\partial_t\{I_t\}$ may be splitted into three terms that are studied separately.

- Study of $I_{1,t}$. We observe that:

$$\mathcal{L}_2 m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) = \frac{\alpha_n}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n [m_t(\mathbf{X}_j|\theta) - m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)] = \frac{\alpha_n}{n} - \alpha_n m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta). \tag{22}$$

We then use this last equation in the definition of $I_1(t)$ and obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned}
I_{1,t} &= 2n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_2 m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta \\
&= 2\alpha_n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta - 2\alpha_n n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta \\
&= 2\alpha_n - 2\alpha_n n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m_t^2(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)}{n_t(\theta)} d\theta \\
&= -2\alpha_n I_t. \tag{23}
\end{aligned}$$

- Study of $I_{2,t}$. Using the definition of n_t , we obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned}
I_{2,t} &= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t n_t(\theta) d\theta \\
&= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t \left(\sum_{j=1}^n m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_j) \right) d\theta \\
&= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \partial_t m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_j) d\theta \\
&= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \right) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_j) d\theta \\
&= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) dn_t(\theta).
\end{aligned}$$

where we used the Kolmogorov backward equation in the fourth line and again the definition of n_t in the last line. Again, the decomposition $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2$ yields:

$$I_{2,t} = -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) dn_t(\theta) - n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_2 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) dn_t(\theta).$$

We repeat some similar computations as those developed in Equation (22) to study the action of the jump component induced by \mathcal{L}_2 on m_t^2 . We obtain that:

$$\mathcal{L}_2 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) = \frac{\alpha_n}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n [m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_k|\theta) - m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)] = \frac{\alpha_n}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_k|\theta) - \alpha_n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta).$$

We use this last equation and obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned} I_{2,t} &= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) - \alpha_n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_k|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &\quad + \alpha_n n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) - \alpha_n n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{k=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_k|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &\quad + \alpha_n n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta) \\ &= -n \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \, dn_t(\theta). \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

- Study of $I_{2,t} + I_{3,t}$. We observe that this sum involves only \mathcal{L}_1 (see Equation (9)). We first compute:

$$\mathcal{L}_1 m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) = -\langle \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta), \nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \rangle + \Delta_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta),$$

and similarly:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_1 m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) &= -\langle \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta), \nabla_\theta m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \rangle + \Delta_\theta m_t^2(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \\ &= -2m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \langle \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta), \nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \rangle + 2\|\nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)\|_2^2 + 2m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \Delta_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta). \end{aligned}$$

Using these two equations into $I_{2,t} + I_{3,t}$ and $m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)n_t(\theta) = m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)$, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{I_{2,t} + I_{3,t}}{n} &= 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta \\ &\quad - 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)\|_2^2 n_t(\theta) \, d\theta - 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta \\ &\quad - 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta), \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta + 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \, d\theta \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla_\theta m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)\|_2^2 \, dn_t(\theta) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Gathering this last inequality with (23) into Equation (21) yields:

$$\partial_t \{I_t\} \leq -2\alpha_n I_t.$$

We conclude with a direct application of the Gronwall lemma while observing that $I_0 \leq n - 1$. \square

3.3 Functional (weak) log-Sobolev inequalities

3.3.1 Related works on functional inequalities

A straightforward consequence of Proposition 3.1 and Proposition 3.2 is the following differential inequality on the relative entropy J_t :

$$\partial_t \{J_t\} \leq - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left\| \nabla_\theta \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)}} \right) \right\|_2^2 \, d\mu_n(\theta) + c_{n,d} e^{-\frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t}, \tag{25}$$

where $c_{n,d}$ is defined as:

$$c_{n,d} \lesssim_{uc} n^4 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{1+r}. \quad (26)$$

At this stage, we should observe that a standard approach consists in finding a functional inequality that relates the key Dirichlet form $\mathcal{E}(f)$ defined by:

$$\mathcal{E}(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|\nabla_{\theta} f(\theta)\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta), \quad (27)$$

to $Ent_{\mu_n}(f^2)$, the entropy itself with respect to μ_n . These approaches rely on the initial works of [23] where Logarithmic Sobolev Inequality (LSI for short) were introduced. The consequences of LSI to exponential ergodicity has then been an extensive field of research and we refer to [3] for an overview on this topic. A popular sufficient condition that ensures LSI is the log strong-convexity of the targeted measure (see among other [2]) and an impressive amount of literature has been focused on the existing links between these functional inequalities, ergodicity of the semi-group, transport inequalities and Lyapunov conditions. We refer to [8, 1] (these two works are far from being exhaustive). The great interest of LSI has then been observed in machine learning and statistics more recently as testified by the recent works in Monte Carlo samplings of [31, 34]. A popular way to extend LSI from the strongly convex situation to a more general case relies on the ‘‘strong convexity outside a ball’’ hypothesis using the perturbation argument of the seminal contributions of [26]. If this method proves to be suitable for the study of the simulated annealing process in [33], [26], it appears to be doubtful for the study of sampling problems with convex potentials that satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$ as this settings do not imply an asymptotic strong convexity of $\theta \mapsto U(\theta)$ for large values of $\|\theta\|_2$. That being said, and maybe an even worst consequence of such approach, is the unavoidable dependency on the dimension for the LSI constant when using a perturbation approach, which leads to a serious exponential degradation of the convergence rates with the dimension of the ambient space.

To overcome these difficulties, we have chosen to use a slightly different functional inequality that may be considered as an innocent modification of LSI, but that indeed appears to be well suited to weakly log-concave setting described through an $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$ assumption. For this purpose, we shall use weak log-Sobolev inequalities (WLSI for short below) that have been introduced in [37] and whose interest has been extensively studied in many works to obtain exponentially sub-linear rates of mixing, see among others for example [7]. To derive such inequalities, our starting point will be the contribution of [10] that makes the link between Lyapunov conditions and WLSI. Our approach based on $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$ certainly shares some similarities with the recent work of [6] where some functional inequalities (Poincaré and Transport inequalities) are obtained within a framework of variable curvature bound.

3.3.2 Weak log Sobolev inequalities

We briefly introduce the key theoretical ingredients, that are exhaustively described in [3]. We introduce the following assumption, that will be suitable for the setting of bounded functions.

Definition 3.1 (Weak Log-Sobolev Inequality). *For any measurable space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ and for any nice function f , let us define:*

$$Ent_{\mu}(f^2) := \int_{\Omega} f^2 \log(f^2) d\mu - \int_{\Omega} f^2 d\mu \log \left(\int_{\Omega} f^2 d\mu \right).$$

The measure μ satisfies a WLSI if a non-increasing function $\varphi_{WLS} : (0, +\infty) \mapsto \mathbb{R}_+$ exists such that for any $f \in C_b^1(\Omega)$:

$$Ent_{\mu}(f^2) \leq \varphi_{WLS}(s) \mathcal{E}(f) + s Osc^2(f), \quad (28)$$

where $Osc(f) := \sup f - \inf f$.

Before establishing how to use this functional inequality, we first state the important relationship between Poincaré Inequality and WLSI.

Proposition 3.3. *Assume that μ satisfies a Poincaré Inequality of constant C_P , i.e. for any smooth integrable function f :*

$$C_P(\mu) \text{Var}_\mu(f) = C_P(\mu) \int_{\Omega} (f - \mu[f])^2 d\mu \leq \int_{\Omega} |\nabla f|^2 d\mu,$$

then if $\log c = \frac{3}{14e^2} \left(\frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{2}\right) + 1 + \log\left(\frac{14}{3}\right)$, then μ satisfies a WLSI with:

$$\varphi_{WLS}(s) = \begin{cases} 0, & s > \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{32}{C_P} \log\left(\frac{c}{s}\right), & s \leq \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}.$$

For the sake of readability, we introduce a universal $\mathfrak{a} > 0$ such that:

$$\varphi_{WLS}(s) = \begin{cases} 0, & s > \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathfrak{a} \frac{1 + \log\left(\frac{1}{s}\right)}{C_P}, & s \leq \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}. \quad (29)$$

Proof of Proposition 3.3. The proof of how the Poincaré Inequality implies the WLSI in the bounded setting described in Definition 28 is given for the sake of completeness. Technical details are skipped and we refer to the references below. We use the measure-capacity inequality (see [3], Section 8.3). We know that the Poincaré Inequality implies a capacity inequality (Proposition 8.3.1 of [3]) with a constant equal to $2C_P$. Then, we can apply Theorem 2.2 of [7] that induces a WLSI which is based on the function φ_{WLS} given in the statement of the proposition. \square

3.3.3 Weak log Sobolev inequalities under $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$

Of course, in the previous result, the only important dependency will be the one induced by C_P , which will deserve an ad-hoc study under Assumption $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$. The numbers 32 and $\log(c)$ will be dealt with as “universal constants” in what follows.

The next proposition states two lower bounds on the Poincaré constant within the $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$ framework. The first one always holds, regardless the value of (X_1, \dots, X_n) that may be randomly sampled. The second one has to be considered with high probability, with respect to the sampling process (X_1, \dots, X_n) .

Proposition 3.4. *Assume $\mathcal{H}_{\min}, \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$, $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ and for any x , $\theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(x)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$, then:*

i) *For any sample (X_1, \dots, X_n) , it holds:*

$$C_P(\mu_n) \gtrsim_{uc} \frac{1}{\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{(1+r)^2}}$$

ii) *Assume that $\theta \mapsto \mathbb{P}_\theta$ is injective and θ_0 exists such that $(X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim \mathbb{P}_{\theta_0}$. If locally around θ_0 , $\theta \mapsto |\theta - \theta_0|^{-\alpha} W_1(\mathbb{P}_\theta, \mathbb{P}_{\theta_0})$ does not vanish, then:*

$$\mathbb{E}_{(X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim \mathbb{P}_{\theta_0}} [C_P(\mu_n)] \gtrsim_{uc} \left(\frac{n}{Ld \log n}\right)^\alpha.$$

We are finally led to upper bound the oscillations of the function involved in the WLSI introduced in (28), i.e. we are looking for an upper bound of $Osc^2\left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t}{\mu_n}}\right)$ for any time $t > 0$. For this purpose, we observe that the Markov semi-group induces that $f_t = \frac{n_t}{\mu_n} = P_t f_0$ where $f_0 = \frac{n_0}{\mu_n}$. The next proposition implies the boundedness of f_t over \mathbb{R}^d when n_0 is chosen as a Gaussian distribution with a carefully tuned covariance matrix.

Proposition 3.5. *Assume $\mathcal{H}_{\min}, \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$, $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ and that, for any x , $\theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(x)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$, then:*

i) Two positive constants C_1 and C_2 exist, which are independent from n and d and such that:

$$\|f_0\|_\infty \lesssim_{uc} \left(\frac{C_1 d}{n}\right)^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(C_2 n d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n)\right).$$

ii) As a consequence:

$$Osc^2(\sqrt{f_t}) \leq Osc^2(\sqrt{f_0}) \lesssim_{uc} \left(\frac{C_1 d}{n}\right)^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(C_2 n d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n)\right).$$

iii) Moreover, a straightforward consequence of i) is:

$$J_0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \log(f_0(\theta)) dn_0(\theta) \lesssim_{uc} n d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n) + d \log\left(\frac{d}{n}\right).$$

3.4 Entropic convergence of the SLMC

The purpose of this paragraph is to prove the main result of the paper, *i.e.* Theorem 1.1 that guarantees the convergence of the SLMC algorithm.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Our starting point is the semi-group inequality (25) associated with the functional WLSI inequality (28). Using $c_{n,d}$ defined in (26), we obtain for any $s > 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \{J_t\} &\leq -\mathcal{E}\left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t}{\mu_n}}\right) + c_{n,d} e^{-\frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t} \\ &\leq -\frac{J_t}{\varphi_{WLS}(s)} + \frac{s}{\varphi_{WLS}(s)} Osc^2\left(\sqrt{\frac{n_t}{\mu_n}}\right) + c_{n,d} e^{-\frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t} \\ &\leq -\frac{J_t}{\varphi_{WLS}(s)} + \frac{s O_{n,d}}{\varphi_{WLS}(s)} + c_{n,d} e^{-\frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t}, \end{aligned}$$

where we applied Proposition 3.5 in the last line with $O_{n,d} \lesssim_{uc} \left(\frac{C_1 d}{n}\right)^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(C_2 n d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n)\right)$ and C_1 and C_2 two universal constants. We then choose s (that depends on t) such that:

$$s_t = e^{-A\sqrt{t+1}} \quad \text{with } A > 1 \quad \text{that will be chosen later on.}$$

We observe that $s_t < e^{-1} + 1/2$, so that Equation (29) of Proposition 3.3 yields:

$$\varphi_{WLS}(s_t) = \mathfrak{a} \frac{1 + \log\left(\frac{1}{s_t}\right)}{C_P} = \mathfrak{a} \frac{1 + A\sqrt{1+t}}{C_P}.$$

We introduce $\psi(t) = \exp\left(\frac{C_P}{\mathfrak{a}} \int_0^t \frac{du}{1+A\sqrt{1+u}}\right)$ and deduce that

$$\psi(t) = \exp\left(\frac{C_P}{\mathfrak{a}} \frac{2A(\sqrt{1+t}-1) - 2\log\left(\frac{1+A\sqrt{1+t}}{1+A}\right)}{A^2}\right) \leq \exp\left(\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}(\sqrt{1+t}-1)\right).$$

We now apply the Gronwall Lemma:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \{\psi(t)J_t\} &= \left(\frac{C_P}{\mathfrak{a}(1+A\sqrt{1+t})} J_t + J'_t\right) \psi(t) \\ &\leq \left[\frac{C_P O_{n,d}}{\mathfrak{a}} \frac{e^{-A\sqrt{t+1}}}{1+A\sqrt{1+t}} + c_{n,d} e^{-\frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t}\right] \psi(t) \\ &\leq \frac{C_P O_{n,d}}{\mathfrak{a}} e^{-(A-\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A})\sqrt{1+t}} + c_{n,d} e^{\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}(\sqrt{1+t}-1) - \frac{2\alpha_n}{3}t}. \end{aligned}$$

We denote by t_0 the positive real value that solves the equation $\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}\sqrt{1+t_0} = \frac{\alpha_n t_0}{3}$. We then observe that:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t e^{\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}(\sqrt{1+u}-1) - \frac{2\alpha_n}{3}u} du &\leq \int_0^{t_0} e^{\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}\sqrt{1+u}} du + \int_{t_0}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n}{3}u} du \\ &\leq t_0 e^{\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}\sqrt{1+t_0}} + \frac{3}{\alpha_n} = t_0 e^{\frac{\alpha_n t_0}{3}} + \frac{3}{\alpha_n}. \end{aligned}$$

If A is chosen such that $A > \frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}$, we then deduce that:

$$\begin{aligned} J_t &\leq \left(J_0 + c_{n,d} t_0 e^{\frac{\alpha_n t_0}{3}} + \frac{3c_{n,d}}{\alpha_n} \right) \psi(t)^{-1} + \frac{C_P O_{n,d}}{\mathfrak{a}} \psi(t)^{-1} \int_0^t e^{-(A - \frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A})\sqrt{1+u}} du \\ &\leq \left(J_0 + c_{n,d} t_0 e^{\frac{\alpha_n t_0}{3}} + \frac{3c_{n,d}}{\alpha_n} \right) \psi(t)^{-1} + \frac{2C_P O_{n,d}}{\mathfrak{a} \left(A - \frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A} \right)^2} \psi(t)^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used in the previous line the bound:

$$\int_0^t e^{-b\sqrt{1+u}} du \leq \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-b\sqrt{1+u}} du \leq \frac{2}{b^2}.$$

To obtain the lowest upper bound, we are led to choose A such that $\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A}$ as large as possible and below A , which naturally drives to the choice:

$$\frac{2C_P}{\mathfrak{a}A} = \frac{A}{2} \implies A = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} \sqrt{C_P}.$$

Using this value of A in the previous bound, we observe that $t_0 \leq \frac{3\sqrt{C_P}}{\alpha_n \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} + \frac{C_P}{\alpha_n^2}$, so that a constant C exists such that:

$$J_t \leq C \left(J_0 + \frac{c_{n,d}}{\alpha_n} \left[1 + \left(\frac{C_P}{\alpha_n} + \sqrt{C_P} \right) e^{\frac{\sqrt{C_P}}{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} + \frac{C_P}{3\alpha_n}} \right] + O_{n,d} \right) (1+t)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{\sqrt{C_P}}{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}}(\sqrt{1+t}-1)}. \quad (30)$$

In Proposition 3.4 we obtained $C_P \geq \frac{\kappa}{(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{(1+r)^2}}$. If instead of using the constant C_P , we use directly $\frac{\kappa}{(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{(1+r)^2}}$ with $\kappa < 1$, then all the previous computations remain the same only replacing C_P by its lower bound and:

$$J_t \leq C \left(J_0 + \frac{c_{n,d}}{\alpha_n} e^{\frac{\sqrt{\kappa} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} + \frac{1}{3\alpha_n} \right)}{(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{(1+r)^2/2}}} + O_{n,d} \right) (1+t)^{1/4} e^{-\frac{\sqrt{\kappa}(\sqrt{1+t}-1)}{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{(1+r)^2/2}}}. \quad (31)$$

Using the values of $O_{n,d}$, $c_{n,d}$ and the upper bound of J_0 , we finally observe that if $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n(d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{1+r}}$, then:

$$t \geq \aleph \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{(1+r)^2} \left[\log^2(\varepsilon^{-1}) + n^2 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{2(1+r)} + d^2 \log^2 d \right] \implies J_t \leq \varepsilon. \quad \square$$

4 Technical results on KL and U_{ν_n}

4.1 Growth properties under the Kurdyka-Łojasiewicz inequality

We remind here some important consequences of the KL inequality that implies several relationships between the function and the norm of its gradient. The proof of these inequalities may be found in Lemma 15 of [21] (a small mistake appears and we correct the statement with a factor 2 in our work).

Proposition 4.1. *Assume that a function V satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, then:*

$$\frac{2\mathbf{c}}{1-r} [V^{1-r}(\theta) - \min(V)^{1-r}] \leq \|\nabla V(\theta)\|_2^2 \leq 2L [V(\theta) - \min(V)], \quad \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

It is furthermore possible to assess a minimal and maximal growth property of any function that satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, which is necessarily lower and upper bounded by a positive power of the distance to its minimizer.

Proposition 4.2. *Assume that a function V satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, then, $\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$:*

$$V^{1+r}(\theta) - \min(V)^{1+r} \geq \frac{(1+r)\mathbf{c}}{2} \|\theta - \arg \min V\|_2^2,$$

and

$$V(\theta) - \min(V) \leq \frac{L}{2} \|\theta - \arg \min V\|_2^2.$$

A straightforward consequence of the first inequality is then

Proposition 4.3. *Assume that a function V satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, then, $\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$:*

$$V(\theta) \geq 2^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} \left(\min(V) + \left(\frac{(1+r)\mathbf{c}}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \|\theta - \arg \min V\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \right).$$

4.2 Properties of U_{ν_n}

Proof of Proposition 1.1. First, we observe that if each $\theta \mapsto \nabla \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{X}_i)$ is L -Lipschitz and $\theta \mapsto \nabla \log \pi_0$ is ℓ_0 -Lipschitz, then the triangle inequality implies that

$$\|\nabla U_{\nu_n}(\theta_1) - \nabla U_{\nu_n}(\theta_2)\|_2 \leq (nL + \ell_0) \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|_2.$$

Second, we consider the lower-bound property on the curvature and observe that:

$$\Delta_{\nabla^2 U_{\nu_n}(\theta)} = \inf_{e \in \mathbb{R}^d: |e|=1} e^T (\nabla^2 U_{\nu_n})(\theta) e \geq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \inf_{e \in \mathbb{R}^d: |e|=1} e^T (\nabla^2 U_{\mathbf{X}_i})(\theta) e.$$

The log concavity of the prior yields

$$\Delta_{\nabla^2 U_{\nu_n}(\theta)} \geq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_{\nabla^2 (-n \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{X}_i))} = \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_{\nabla^2 (-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{X}_i))}.$$

Then, the $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$ property applied to each term of the sum above and $\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} -\log \pi_0(\theta) > 0$ yields

$$\Delta_{\nabla^2 U_{\nu_n}(\theta)} \geq \mathbf{c} \sum_{i=1}^n [-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{X}_i)]^{-r} \geq \mathbf{c} n^r \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\mathbf{X}_i}^{-r}(\theta) = \mathbf{c} n^{1+r} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\mathbf{X}_i}^{-r}(\theta) \right).$$

From the Jensen inequality, we finally deduce that:

$$\Delta_{\nabla^2 U_{\nu_n}(\theta)} \geq \mathbf{c} n^{1+r} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n U_{\mathbf{X}_i}^{-r}(\theta) \right) \geq \mathbf{c} n^{1+r} U_{\nu_n}^{-r}(\theta).$$

We conclude that U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c} n^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$. For $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$, the proof is similar. \square

Proposition 4.4. *We assume $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$, \mathcal{H}_{\min} and that for any x : $\theta \mapsto -\log p_{\theta}(x)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c}, L)$, then:*

$$\|\arg \min U_{\nu_n}\|_2 \lesssim_{uc} d^{\frac{1+r}{2}} \log^{\beta(1+r)}(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} U_{\nu_n}(\theta) \lesssim_{uc} nd \log^{2\beta}(n).$$

Proof. Proposition 1.1 shows that U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(cn^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$. Therefore, we can apply Proposition 4.2 with $\theta = 0$ and deduce that:

$$\|\arg \min U_{\nu_n}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} (U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}(0) - \min U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}).$$

To obtain an upper bound of $U_{\nu_n}(0)$ we first bound $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)$ using Proposition 4.2, for all i , as follows:

$$U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0) \leq \min U_{\mathbf{X}_i} + \frac{nL + \ell_0}{2} \|\arg \min U_{\mathbf{X}_i}\|_2^2 \lesssim_{uc} d + nd \log^{2\beta}(n) \lesssim_{uc} nd \log^{2\beta}(n),$$

then $U_{\nu_n}(0) \lesssim_{uc} nd \log^{2\beta}(n)$. We deduce that:

$$\|\arg \min U_{\nu_n}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}(0) \lesssim_{uc} d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n).$$

The second part comes from $\min U_{\nu_n} \leq U_{\nu_n}(0)$. \square

5 Smoothness and boundedness of the semi-group

Proof of Proposition 3.4. i). The proof relies on an argument set up with a "fixed" sample (X_1, \dots, X_n) . Our starting point is Proposition 4.2 and the consequences of the Kurdyka-Łojasiewicz inequality. Since $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$ and $\theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(\mathbf{X}_i)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(c, L)$, then Proposition 1.1 shows that U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(cn^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$. Therefore, we can apply Proposition 4.2 and deduce that:

$$\|\theta - \arg \min U_{\nu_n}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} (U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}(\theta) - \min U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}) \leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}(\theta).$$

If I_d refers to the identity map, we use the fact that for any distribution μ , we have $Var[\mu] \leq \mu[\|I_d - a\|_2^2]$ for any $a \in \mathbb{R}^d$ so that a straightforward consequence with $a = \arg \min U_{\nu_n}$ is then:

$$Var(\mu_n) \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|\theta - \arg \min U_{\nu_n}\|_2^2 d\mu_n(\theta) \leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} \mu_n[U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}].$$

We then use the ergodic behaviour of $(\theta_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and observe that there exists a constant C independent from n and d such that:

$$\begin{aligned} Var(\mu_n) &\leq \frac{2}{(1+r)cn^{1+r}} \limsup_{t \geq 0} \mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^{1+r}(\theta_t)] \\ &\leq C \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{(1+r)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality comes from Proposition 5.1. We now use the Bobkov bound on the Poincaré constant for log-concave distribution (see Theorem 1.2 of [4]) and deduce that a universal constant K exists such that:

$$C_P(\mu_n) \geq \frac{1}{4K^2 Var(\mu_n)}.$$

Using the upper bound of the variance, we deduce that a universal $\kappa > 0$ exists such that:

$$C_P(\mu_n) \geq \frac{\kappa}{\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{(1+r)^2}}.$$

ii). For the second point, we consider a situation on average over the samples and the result uses the concentration of the posterior distribution around its mean. We know from Theorem 3 of [21] that a constant $c > 0$ exists such that:

$$\mathbb{E}_{(X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim \mathbb{P}_{\theta_0}} [Var(\mu_n)] \leq c \epsilon_{n,d}^2,$$

with $\epsilon_{n,d} = \left(\frac{Ld \log n}{n} \right)^{\alpha^{-1}}$. The result follows using the Jensen inequality and the Bobkov bound. \square

Proof of Proposition 3.5. i). We first establish the boundedness of f_0 . From our assumptions, we apply Proposition 1.1 and obtain that U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(\mathbf{c}n^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$. If $\theta_n^* = \arg \min U_{\nu_n}$, we then deduce from Proposition 4.2 that:

$$f_0(\theta) = \frac{n_0(\theta)}{\mu_n(\theta)} = \frac{Z_n e^{-\frac{\|\theta\|_2^2}{2\sigma^2} + U_{\nu_n}(\theta)}}{(2\pi)^{d/2} \sigma^d} \leq \frac{Z_n e^{-\frac{\|\theta\|_2^2}{2\sigma^2} + U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*) + \frac{(nL + \ell_0)}{2} \|\theta - \theta_n^*\|_2^2}}{(2\pi)^{d/2} \sigma^d}. \quad (32)$$

We compute an upper bound of Z_n and use the lower bound of U_{ν_n} induced by Proposition 4.3:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_n &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-U_{\nu_n}(\theta)} d\theta \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} \left[U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*) + n \left(\frac{1+r}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \|\theta - \theta_n^*\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \right]} d\theta \\ &\leq e^{-2^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-na_r \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} d\theta, \end{aligned}$$

with $a_r = \frac{((1+r)\mathbf{c})^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{2}$. Using the well known equality:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-a|\theta|^\ell} d\theta = \frac{d\pi^{d/2} \Gamma(d/\ell)}{\ell a^{d/\ell} \Gamma(d/2 + 1)}, \quad \forall a > 0, \quad \forall \ell > 0.$$

we then deduce with $a = na_r$ and $\ell = \frac{2}{1+r}$ that:

$$Z_n \leq e^{-2^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-na_r \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} d\theta \leq \frac{d(1+r)}{2} \frac{\pi^{d/2}}{(na_r)^{\frac{d(1+r)}{2}}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{d(1+r)}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2} + 1\right)}.$$

From standard relationships on the Gamma function:

$$Z_n \leq 2 \left(\frac{2^{1+r} \pi}{\mathbf{c}n^{1+r}} \right)^{\frac{d}{2}} d^{\frac{dr}{2}}. \quad (33)$$

We gather Equations (32) and (33) and obtain that:

$$f_0(\theta) \leq 2e^{U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*)} \left(\frac{2}{\mathbf{c}\sigma^2 n^{1+r}} \right)^{\frac{d}{2}} d^{\frac{dr}{2}} e^{-\frac{\|\theta\|_2^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{(nL + \ell_0)}{2} \|\theta - \theta_n^*\|_2^2}.$$

For all $\sigma^2 < \frac{1}{nL + \ell_0}$, a straightforward optimization on θ yields :

$$\|f_0\|_\infty \leq 2e^{U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*)} \left(\frac{2}{\mathbf{c}\sigma^2 n^{1+r}} \right)^{\frac{d}{2}} d^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(\frac{(nL + \ell_0)}{2(1 - \sigma^2(nL + \ell_0))} \|\theta_n^*\|_2^2 \right).$$

Then, the choice $\frac{c_1}{nL + \ell_0} \leq \sigma^2 \leq \frac{c_2}{nL + \ell_0}$, where $0 < c_1 \leq c_2 < 1$ in $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$ and the bounds of $\|\theta_n^*\|_2^2$ and $U_{\nu_n}(\theta_n^*)$ in Proposition 4.4 lead to :

$$\|f_0\|_\infty \leq 2 \left(\frac{C_1 d}{n} \right)^{\frac{dr}{2}} \exp\left(C_2 n d^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n) \right),$$

where C_1 and C_2 are universal constants.

ii). This result is an almost standard consequence of the maximum principle for a Markov semi-group property with a Brownian diffusion. For any bounded measurable $h > 0$, we observe that $P_t h > 0$ using the Markov property, and we are led to define g_t as the following function $g_t := \sqrt{P_t h}$. We then introduce $\bar{\theta}(t)$ and $\underline{\theta}(t)$ as:

$$\bar{\theta}(t) = \arg \max g_t(\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{\theta}(t) = \arg \min g_t(\theta).$$

The chain rule yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} Osc(g_t) &= \frac{d}{dt} (g_t(\bar{\theta}(t)) - g_t(\underline{\theta}(t))) \\ &= \frac{dg_t}{dt}(\bar{\theta}(t)) + \left\langle \nabla_{g_t}(\bar{\theta}(t)), \frac{d\bar{\theta}(t)}{dt} \right\rangle - \frac{dg_t}{dt}(\underline{\theta}(t)) - \left\langle \nabla_{g_t}(\underline{\theta}(t)), \frac{d\underline{\theta}(t)}{dt} \right\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

We compute:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dg_t}{dt}(\theta) &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{P_t h}} \frac{dP_t h}{dt}(\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{P_t h}} \mathcal{G}_t P_t h(\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{P_t h(\theta)}} \left[-\sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_{\theta} P_t h(\theta), \nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\mathbf{X}_i | \theta) + \Delta_{\theta} P_t h(\theta) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Now, we use that $\bar{\theta}(t) = \arg \max g_t = \arg \max P_t h$, (a similar argument holds for $\underline{\theta}(t)$):

$$\nabla_{\theta} g_t(\bar{\theta}(t)) = 0, \quad \nabla_{\theta} P_t h(\bar{\theta}(t)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_{\theta} P_t h(\bar{\theta}(t)) \leq 0.$$

then:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} Osc(g_t) &= \frac{dg_t}{dt}(\bar{\theta}(t)) - \frac{dg_t}{dt}(\underline{\theta}(t)) \\ &= \frac{\Delta_{\theta} P_t h}{2\sqrt{P_t h}}(\bar{\theta}(t)) - \frac{\Delta_{\theta} P_t h}{2\sqrt{P_t h}}(\underline{\theta}(t)) \\ &\leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

We have therefore shown that $Osc(\sqrt{P_t h})$ is decreasing in $t \geq 0$, which ends the proof. \square

Proof of Lemma 2.1. We proceed as in Proposition 3 of [33] to justify the use of the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem for the derivation of the integral involved in our statement. We can then deduce that:

$$\partial_t \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_t(\theta) dn_t(\theta) \right\} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \partial_t \{f_t(\theta)\} dn_t(\theta) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_t(\theta) \partial_t \{n_t(\theta)\} d\theta.$$

We leave the first term unchanged and now focus on the second term:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_t(\theta) \partial_t \{n_t(\theta)\} d\theta &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_t(\theta) \partial_t \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) \right\} d\theta \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n f_t(\theta) \partial_t \{m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i)\} d\theta \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L} f_t(\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the definition of n_t in the first step and Kolmogorov backward equation (10) in the last one. Since the function $f_t(\theta)$ does not depend on x , we observe that $\mathcal{L}_2 f_t(\theta) = 0$ and we only need to compute the remaining term $\mathcal{L}_1 f_t(\theta)$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_t(\theta) \partial_t \{n_t(\theta)\} d\theta = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}_1 f_t(\theta) m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta \quad (37)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n [-\langle \nabla_{\theta} f_t(\theta), \nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle + \Delta_{\theta} f_t(\theta)] m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) d\theta \\ &= -\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla_{\theta} f_t(\theta), \nabla_{\theta} U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\mathbf{X}_i | \theta) dn_t(\theta) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Delta_{\theta} f_t(\theta) dn_t(\theta) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{G}_t f_t(\theta) dn_t(\theta), \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

where we used the fact that $m_t(\theta, \mathbf{X}_i) = m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta)n_t(\theta)$. \square

5.1 Moments upper bounds

Proposition 5.1. *Assume $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$, $\mathcal{H}_{\pi_0}(\ell_0)$, \mathcal{H}_{\min} and that for each \mathbf{X}_i , $\theta \mapsto -\log p_\theta(\mathbf{X}_i)$ satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}, L)$. Then:*

i) *Three positive constants C_1 , C_2 and C_3 , independent from n and d , exist such that for any $t > 0$:*

$$\mathbb{E} \left[e^{\frac{(1+r)n\mathfrak{c}}{16}(\|\theta_t\|_2^2+1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}}} \right] \leq C_1 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{r}{1+r}} e^{C_2 n d \log^{2\beta}(n)} + C_3^d e^{\frac{(1+r)n\mathfrak{c}}{16}}.$$

ii) *For any $t > 0$ and for any $\alpha \geq 1$:*

$$\mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^\alpha(\theta_t)] \lesssim_{uc} n^\alpha \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)}.$$

Proof of i). We consider the function $f(\theta) = \exp\left(\frac{a}{2}(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^\rho\right)$ where $0 < \rho < 1$, which is twice differentiable. The gradient of f is computed as:

$$\nabla f(\theta) = a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho-1} f(\theta)\theta.$$

The Laplace operator is given as:

$$\Delta f(\theta) = a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho-2} f(\theta) \left[a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^\rho \|\theta\|_2^2 + (d + 2\rho - 2)\|\theta\|_2^2 + d \right].$$

We then deduce that for any $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_t f(\theta) &= - \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \nabla U_{\mathbf{X}_i}, \nabla f(\theta) \rangle m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) + \Delta f(\theta) \\ &= a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho-2} f(\theta) \left[-(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1) \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \theta, \nabla_\theta U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \rangle m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^\rho \|\theta\|_2^2 + (d + 2\rho - 2)\|\theta\|_2^2 + d \right] \\ &\leq a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho-2} f(\theta) \left[-(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1) \sum_{i=1}^n (U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) - U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)) m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho+1} + d(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1) \right] \\ &\leq a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\rho-1} f(\theta) \left[- \sum_{i=1}^n (U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) - U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)) m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) + a\rho(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^\rho + d \right], \end{aligned}$$

where we used the convexity of U_x for any position x .

Let us establish the bounds of $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta)$ and $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)$. We denote by $\theta_i = \arg \min U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$ and from Hypothesis \mathcal{H}_{\min} , there exist two positive constants \mathcal{K}_1 and \mathcal{K}_2 independent on n and d such that:

$$\max_i \|\theta_i\|_2^2 \leq \mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \max_i U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_i) \leq \mathcal{K}_2 d.$$

We apply Proposition 4.2 to each non-negative function $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$ that satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\text{KL}}^r(\mathfrak{c}n^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$, then we obtain that:

$$U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \geq n \left[\frac{(1+r)\mathfrak{c}}{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \|\theta - \theta_i\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}.$$

Since $\frac{2}{1+r} > 1$, the Jensen inequality yields $(u+v)^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \leq 2^{\frac{1-r}{1+r}} \left[u^{\frac{2}{1+r}} + v^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \right]$, for all $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ and we deduce that:

$$\|\theta - \theta_i\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \geq 2^{\frac{r-1}{1+r}} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} - \|\theta_i\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \geq 2^{\frac{r-1}{1+r}} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} - \left(\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{1}{1+r}}.$$

Then we use this inequality to obtain a lower bound of $U_{\mathbf{X}_i}$:

$$U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) \geq 2n \left[\frac{(1+r)\mathfrak{c}}{8} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} - n \left[\frac{(1+r)\mathfrak{c}}{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}}.$$

Moreover an upper bound of $\max U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)$ comes from Proposition 1.1 and 4.2 as follows:

$$U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0) \leq U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta_i) + \frac{nL + \ell_0}{2} \|\theta_i\|_2^2 \leq \mathcal{K}_2 d + \frac{\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{2}.$$

Using the previous bounds and the fact that $\sum_{i=1}^n m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) = 1$, it yields:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^n (U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(\theta) - U_{\mathbf{X}_i}(0)) m_t(\mathbf{X}_i|\theta) \\ & \geq 2n \left[\frac{(1+r)\mathfrak{c}}{8} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} - n \left[\frac{(1+r)\mathfrak{c}}{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} - \mathcal{K}_2 d - \frac{\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{2} \\ & \geq \frac{n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{4} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} - n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} - \mathcal{K}_2 d - \frac{\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used some uniform upper bounds when $r \in [0, 1)$. We then choose $\rho = \frac{1}{1+r}$ and we deduce that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_t f(\theta) & \leq \frac{a}{1+r} (\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} f(\theta) \left[-\frac{n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{4} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} + n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} + \mathcal{K}_2 d \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{2} + \frac{a}{(1+r)} (\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} + d \right] \\ & \leq \frac{a}{1+r} (\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} f(\theta) \left[-\left(\frac{n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{4} - \frac{a}{(1+r)} \right) \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} + n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}} (\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (\mathcal{K}_2 + 1)d + \frac{\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{2} + \frac{a}{(1+r)} \right], \end{aligned}$$

where we used $(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \leq \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} + 1$ in the second line.

We now fix $a = \frac{n(1+r)\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{8}$ and deduce that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathcal{G}_t f(\theta)}{f(\theta)} & \leq \frac{n^2 \mathfrak{c}^{\frac{2}{1+r}}}{64} (\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{-\frac{r}{1+r}} \left[-\|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} + 8(\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} + \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{8(\mathcal{K}_2 + 1)d + 4\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{n\mathfrak{c}^{\frac{1}{1+r}}} + 1 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

We then study two complementary situations and below, we denote by $K_{n,d}$ the radius of the key compact set involved by the previous Lyapunov contraction:

$$K_{n,d}^{\frac{2}{1+r}} = Cd \log^{2\beta}(n).$$

• When $\|\theta\|_2$ is large enough ($\|\theta\|_2 \geq K_{n,d}$), we observe that a large enough $C > 0$ independent from n and d exists such that:

$$\|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} \geq Cd \log^{2\beta}(n) \implies \frac{\mathcal{G}_t f(\theta)}{f(\theta)} \leq -\frac{n^2 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} \mathfrak{c}^{\frac{2}{1+r}}}{128} = -a_{n,d}. \quad (40)$$

• When $\|\theta\|_2$ is upper bounded ($\|\theta\|_2 \leq K_{n,d}$), we use the upper bound stated in Equation (39) and obtain that a universal C_1 (whose value may change from line to line) exists such that :

$$\begin{aligned} \|\theta\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}} &\leq Cd \log^{2\beta}(n) \implies \\ \mathcal{G}_t f(\theta) &\leq C_1 n^2 f(\theta) \left[8(\mathcal{K}_1 d \log^{2\beta}(n))^{\frac{1}{1+r}} + \frac{8(\mathcal{K}_2 + 1)d + 4\mathcal{K}_1(nL + \ell_0)d \log^{2\beta}(n)}{nc^{\frac{1}{1+r}}} + 1 \right] \\ &\leq C_1 n^2 d \log^{2\beta}(n) \exp\left(\frac{(C+1)c^{\frac{1}{1+r}} nd \log^{2\beta}(n)}{8}\right) \leq b_{n,d} e^{\delta_{n,d}}. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

We then use Equations (40) and (41) as follows. We define the function $\psi_{n,d}$ as $\psi_{n,d}(t) = \mathbb{E}[f(\theta_t)]$ and use Lemma 2.1:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi'_{n,d}(t) &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{G}_t f(\theta_t)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{G}_t f(\theta_t) [\mathbb{1}_{\|\theta_t\|_2 \geq K_{n,d}} + \mathbb{1}_{\|\theta_t\|_2 \leq K_{n,d}}]] \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}[-a_{n,d} f(\theta_t) \mathbb{1}_{\|\theta_t\|_2 \geq K_{n,d}} + b_{n,d} e^{\delta_{n,d}} \mathbb{1}_{\|\theta_t\|_2 \leq K_{n,d}}] \\ &\leq -a_{n,d} \psi_{n,d}(t) + a_{n,d} \sup_{\|\theta\|_2 \leq K_{n,d}} f(\theta) + b_{n,d} e^{\delta_{n,d}} \\ &\leq -a_{n,d} \psi_{n,d}(t) + (a_{n,d} + b_{n,d}) e^{\delta_{n,d}}. \end{aligned}$$

We apply the Gronwall Lemma and obtain that:

$$\forall t > 0 \quad \psi_{n,d}(t) \leq \left(1 + \frac{b_{n,d}}{a_{n,d}}\right) e^{\delta_{n,d}} + \psi_{n,d}(0) e^{-a_{n,d} t}. \quad (42)$$

Using that n_0 is a Gaussian distribution, which was fixed in $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{n}_0}(\mathbf{L}, \ell_0)$ hypothesis, we find an upper bound for $\psi_{n,d}(0) = E[f(\theta_0)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\theta) dn_0(\theta)$ as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{n,d}(0) &= (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{\frac{a}{2}(\|\theta\|_2^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} - \frac{\|\theta\|_2^2}{2\sigma^2}} d\theta \\ &\leq (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{d}{2}} e^{\frac{a}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-\frac{\|\theta\|_2^2}{2}(\frac{1}{\sigma^2} - a)} d\theta, \end{aligned}$$

if $\sigma^2 \leq \frac{1}{a} = \frac{8}{n(1+r)c^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}$ then the integral above is finite. Since $c_2 < 1 \leq \frac{8L}{(1+r)c^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}$, it guarantees $\sigma^2 < \frac{1}{a}$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{n,d}(0) &\leq (1 - a\sigma^2)^{-\frac{d}{2}} e^{\frac{a}{2}} \\ &\leq C_3^d e^{\frac{(1+r)n c^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16}}, \end{aligned}$$

where C_3 is a constant independent from n and d .

Finally, using the value of $a_{n,d}$ and $b_{n,d}$ in (42), we deduce that:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{\frac{(1+r)n c^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16}(\|\theta_t\|_2^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}\right] \leq C_1 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n)\right)^{\frac{1}{1+r}} e^{C_2 n d \log^{2\beta}(n)} + C_3^d e^{\frac{(1+r)n c^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16}}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

where C_2 is another universal constant, which concludes the proof. \square

Proof of ii). We consider $\alpha > 1$ and below, $C > 0$ refers to a ‘‘constant’’ independent from n and d , whose value may change from line to line. Our starting point is the upper bound of the exponential moments obtained in *i*). Proposition 1.1 shows that U_{ν_n} satisfies $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{KL}}^r(cn^{1+r}, nL + \ell_0)$, then thanks to Proposition 4.2:

$$\mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^\alpha(\theta_t)] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[(\min U_{\nu_n} + Cn\|\theta_t - \theta_n^*\|_2^2)^\alpha\right] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[(\min U_{\nu_n} + Cn\|\theta_n^*\|_2^2 + Cn\|\theta_t\|_2^2)^\alpha\right],$$

where $\theta_n^* = \arg \min U_{\nu_n}$.

By using Proposition 4.4 and the inequality derived from the Jensen inequality $(a+b)^\beta \leq c_\beta(a^\beta + b^\beta)$ for $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ and $\beta \geq 1$, we obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\min U_{\nu_n} + Cn\|\theta_n^*\|_2^2 + Cn\|\theta_t\|_2^2)^\alpha \\
& \leq C \left[nd \log^{2\beta}(n) + nd^{1+r} \log^{2\beta(1+r)}(n) + n\|\theta_t\|_2^2 \right]^\alpha \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + \|\theta_t\|_2^{2\alpha} \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \log^{\alpha(1+r)} \left(e^{k\|\theta_t\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} \right) \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \log^{\alpha(1+r)} \left(e^{\alpha(1+r)-1+k\|\theta_t\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} \right) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

The Jensen inequality and the concavity of $x \mapsto \log^p(x)$ on $[e^{p-1}, +\infty[$ when $p \geq 1$ yield

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^\alpha(\theta_t)] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \mathbb{E} \left[\log^{\alpha(1+r)} \left(e^{\alpha(1+r)-1+k\|\theta_t\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} \right) \right] \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \log^{\alpha(1+r)} \left[\mathbb{E} \left(e^{\alpha(1+r)-1+k\|\theta_t\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} \right) \right] \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \left[\alpha(1+r) - 1 + \log \mathbb{E} \left(e^{k\|\theta_t\|_2^{\frac{2}{1+r}}} \right) \right]^{\alpha(1+r)} \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + k^{-\alpha(1+r)} \left[\alpha(1+r) - 1 + \log \mathbb{E} \left(e^{k(\|\theta_t\|_2^2+1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}}} \right) \right]^{\alpha(1+r)} \right],
\end{aligned}$$

where we used in the last inequality that $\|\theta\|_2^2 \leq \|\theta\|_2^2 + 1$.

We then apply *i*) in Proposition 5.1, we choose $k = \frac{(1+r)n\epsilon^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16}$ and obtain that:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}[U_{\nu_n}^\alpha(\theta_t)] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left[\left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} + \frac{1}{n^{\alpha(1+r)}} \left[1 + \log \mathbb{E} \left(e^{\frac{(1+r)n\epsilon^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16} (\|\theta_t\|_2^2+1)^{\frac{1}{1+r}}} \right) \right]^{\alpha(1+r)} \right] \\
& \leq C \left[n^\alpha \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{n^{\alpha r}} \left[1 + \log \left[C_1 \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\frac{r}{1+r}} e^{C_2 n d \log^{2\beta}(n)} + C_3^d e^{\frac{(1+r)n\epsilon^{\frac{1}{1+r}}}{16}} \right] \right]^{\alpha(1+r)} \right] \\
& \leq Cn^\alpha \left(d \log^{2\beta}(n) \right)^{\alpha(1+r)},
\end{aligned}$$

where we used in the previous lines simple algebra and $\log(a+b) \leq \log(2) + \log(a) + \log(b)$ when $a \geq 1$ and $b \geq 1$. This concludes the proof. \square

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