

# Variations on branching methods for non linear PDEs

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## Context

Try to solve Semi Linear

$$-\partial_t u - \mathcal{L}u = f(u), u_T = g, \quad t < T, x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

Or Full non linear

$$-\partial_t u - \mathcal{L}u = f(u, Du, D^2u), u_T = g, \quad t < T, x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

with

- $f$  polynomial in  $u, Du, D^2u$ ,
- $g$  Lipschitz, coefficients bounded continuous.
- Deterministic methods (Finite Difference...) suffers highly from curse of dimensionality ,
- Probabilistic methods such to solve BSDE (Semi Linear), SOBSDE (Full linear) can be based on regression, so suffer (to a less extend) from curse of dimensionality .

## Branching dates and particle trajectories (burgers)

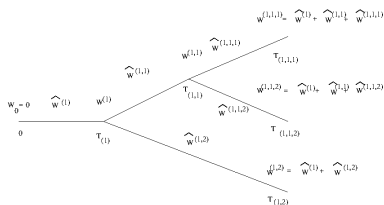


Figure: Galton-Watson tree : brownian for Burgers

- $(\tau^k)_{k=(k_1, \dots, k_n), k_i \in \{1, 2\}, n > 1}$  iid rv with density  $\rho$ ,
- Sequence of branching dates  $T_{k=(k_1, \dots, k_n)} = T_{k_-(k_1, \dots, k_{n-1})} + \tau^{(k_1, \dots, k_n)} \wedge T$ ,
- $\Delta T_k = T_k - T_{k_-}$  the time increments
- $(\hat{W}^k)_{k=(k_1, \dots, k_{n-1}, k_n) \in \{1, 2\}^n, n > 1}$  independent Brownian motion
- Each particle  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_{n-1}, k_n) \in \{1, 2\}^n, n > 1$  equipped with a brownian with increments

$$W_{T_k}^k := W_{T_{k_-}}^{k_-} + \hat{W}_{\Delta T_k}^k$$

- Particule  $k$  position :  $X_t^k := x + \mu t + \sigma_0 W_t^k$  for  $t \in [T_{k_-}, T_k]$

# Original branching methods for semi linear (Henry-Labordere et al. [1]) (exemple Burgers) in 1D

- PDE :  $\partial_t u + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_0^2 D^2 u + \mu Du + buDu = 0$ ,
- Using Feynman-Kac:

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, x) &= \mathbb{E}_{0,x} \left[ \bar{F}(T) \frac{g(X_T)}{\bar{F}(T)} + \int_0^T \frac{buDu(t, X_t)}{\rho(t)} \rho(t) dt \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{0,x} [\phi(T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}^{(1)})] \end{aligned}$$

with  $\bar{F}(t) := \int_t^\infty \rho(s) ds$  complementary CDF of  $\tau_{(1)}$ ,

$$\phi(t, y) := \frac{\mathbf{1}_{\{t \geq T\}}}{\bar{F}(T)} g(y) + \frac{\mathbf{1}_{\{t < T\}}}{\rho(t)} (buDu)(t, y).$$

# Original algorithm for semi linear

- On  $\{\mathbf{1}_{\{T_{(1)} \geq T\}}\}$  just compute  $\frac{g(X_T)}{\bar{F}(T)}$ ,

## Original algorithm for semi linear

- On  $\{\mathbf{1}_{\{T_{(1)} < T\}}\}$ ,

$$\frac{buDu(T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}})}{\rho(T_{(1)})} = \frac{b}{\rho(T_{(1)})} \mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [\phi(T_{(1,1)}, X_{T_{(1,1)}}^{(1,1)})]$$

$$D\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [\phi(T_{(1,2)}, X_{T_{(1,2)}}^{(1,p)})]$$

- Generate 2 particles (1, 1) marked  $\theta((1, 1)) = 0$  and (1, 2) marked  $\theta((1, 2)) = 1$

## Original algorithm for semi linear

- On  $\{\mathbf{1}_{\{T_{(1)} < T\}}\}$ ,

$$\frac{buDu(T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}})}{\rho(T_{(1)})} = \frac{b}{\rho(T_{(1)})} \mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [\phi(T_{(1,1)}, X_{T_{(1,1)}}^{(1,1)})]$$

$$D\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [\phi(T_{(1,2)}, X_{T_{(1,2)}}^{(1,p)})]$$

- Use automatic differentiation :

$$\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} \left[ \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,2)}}^{(1,2)}}{\sigma_0 \Delta T_{(1,2)}} \phi(T_{(1,2)}, X_{T_{(1,2)}}^{(1,2)}) \right]$$

## Backward recursion for semi linear

$$\widehat{\psi}_k := \frac{g(X_T^k) - \overbrace{g(X_{T_{k-}}^k)}^{\mathbf{1}_{\{\theta_k \neq 0\}}}}{F(\Delta T_k)} \quad \text{if } T_k = T,$$

Control variate

$$\widehat{\psi}_k := \frac{b}{\rho(\Delta T_k)} \prod_{\tilde{k} \in \{(k,1), (k,2)\}} \widehat{\psi}_{\tilde{k}} \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{k}}, \quad \text{if } T_k \neq T$$

where

$$\mathcal{W}_k = \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta_k=0\}} + \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta_k \neq 0\}} \frac{(\sigma_0)^{-1} \widehat{W}_{\Delta T_k}^k}{\Delta T_k}.$$

Weight for  $u$  term  $Du$  term

$$u(0, x) = \mathbb{E}_{0, x} [\widehat{\psi}_{(1)}].$$



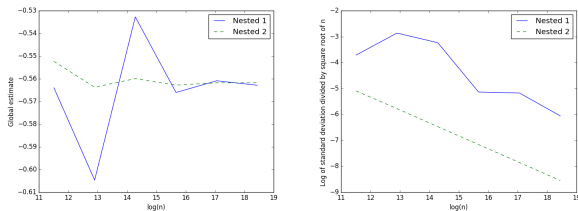
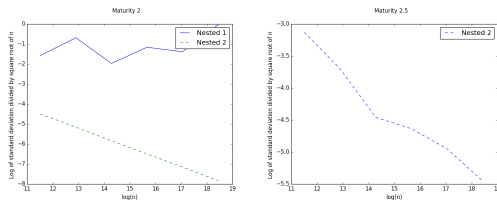
# Finite variance requirement

- $\frac{1}{x\rho(x)^2} = O(x^\alpha)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$  with  $\alpha \geq 0$ . Use Gamma laws parameters  $\kappa \leq 0.5$ ,
- Implies a lot of branching and a higher computational cost.
- only finite for small coefficients and small maturities.

Modification to handle longer maturities :

- Use exponential law for  $u$  terms, use gamma law for  $Du$  term.
- Compute conditional expectation with 2 or 4 particles.

## Results on burgers type equation dimension 4

Figure: Estimation and error in  $d = 4$ . Maturity  $T = 1.5$ Figure: Error in  $d = 4$ , maturity  $T = 2.$ ,  $T = 2.5$

## Re-normalization Labordère et al. [2]

- For gradient term :

$$\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} \left[ \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}}{\sigma_0 \Delta T_{(1,p)}} \left( \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}) - \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^1)}) \right) \right],$$

$p = 1, 2$

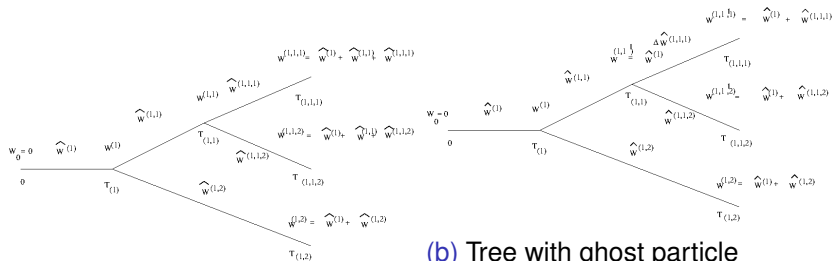
- $X^{(1,p^1)}$  has the same past as  $X^{(1,p)}$  at date  $T_{(1)}$ ,

same increment between  $T_{(1,p)}$  and  $T$ ,

no brownian increment between  $T_{(1)}$  and  $T_{(1,p)}$

- Acts as a control variate.
- $\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} \left[ \left( \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}) - \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^1)}) \right)^2 \right] = O(\Delta T_{(1,p)})$ .
- Permits to use all  $\rho$  densities (so exponential); finite variance in the linear case. No current result in the semi linear one.
- This ghost method outperforms the original method.

# Original Galton-Watson tree and the ghost particles associated



(a) Original Galton-Watson tree

$$\begin{aligned} W^{(1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} \\ W^{(1,1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1)} \\ W^{(1,2)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,2)} \\ W^{(1,1,1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1,1)} \\ W^{(1,1,2)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1,2)} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Tree with ghost particle  $k = (1, 1^1)$

$$\begin{aligned} W^{(1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} \\ W^{(1,1^1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} \\ W^{(1,2)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,2)} \\ W^{(1,1^1,1)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1,1)} \\ W^{(1,1^1,2)} &= \hat{W}^{(1)} + \hat{W}^{(1,1,2)} \end{aligned}$$

# Original re-normalization for burgers Labordère et al. [2]

$$\widehat{\psi}_k := \frac{g(X_T^k)}{F(\Delta T_k)} \text{ if } T_k = T$$

$$\widehat{\psi}_k := \frac{b}{\rho(\Delta T_k)} \prod_{\tilde{k}=\{(k,1),(k,2)\}} (\widehat{\psi}_{\tilde{k}} - \widehat{\psi}_{\tilde{k}^1} \mathbf{1}_{\{\theta(\tilde{k}) \neq 0\}}) \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{k}}, \text{ if } T_k < T$$

$$u(0, x) = \mathbb{E}_{0,x} \left[ \widehat{\psi}_{(1)} \right].$$

## Re-normalization with antithetic ghosts Warin [3]



$$\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} \left[ (\sigma_0^\top)^{-1} \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}}{\Delta T_{(1,p)}} \frac{1}{2} \left( \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}) - \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^1)}) \right) \right].$$

- $X^{(1,p^1)}$  has the same past as  $X^{(1,p)}$  at date  $T_{(1)}$ , same increment between  $T_{(1,p)}$  and  $T$  and  $-\hat{W}_{\Delta T_k}^{(1,p)}$  increment between  $T_{(1)}$  and  $T_{(1,p)}$ .
- Finite variance in the linear case.

# Numerical original ghost versus antithetic ghosts for $u$ calculation.

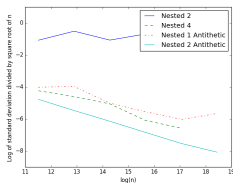


Figure: Error in  $d = 6$   $T = 3$  for Burgers

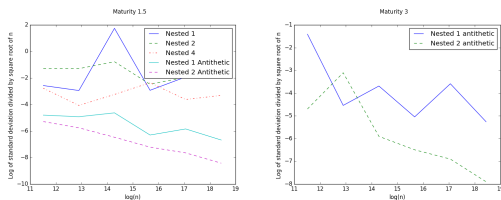


Figure: Error in  $d = 6$  for  $(Du)^2$  non linearity.

# Numerical original ghost versus antithetic ghosts for $Du$ calculation.

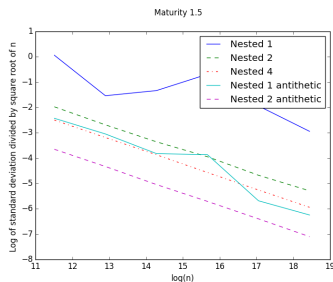


Figure: Error in  $d = 6$  for the term  $b.Du$  on Burgers test case for  $T = 1.5$ .



# Full non linear $f(u, Du, D^2u) = bu^{l_0}(Du)^{l_1}(D^2u)^{l_2}$ : original scheme with 2 ghosts Labordère et al. [2]

$$D^2\mathbb{E}_{T(1), X_{T(1)}} [\phi(T(1,p), X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p)})] = \mathbb{E}_{T(1), X_{T(1)}} [(\sigma_0)^{-2} \frac{(\hat{W}_{\Delta T(1,p)}^{(1,p)})^2 - \Delta T(1,p)}{(\Delta T(1,p))^2} \psi],$$

$$\psi = \frac{1}{2} [\phi(T(1,p), X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p)}) + \phi(T(1,p), X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p^1)}) - 2\phi(T(1,p), X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p^2)})].$$

- $X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p)}$  the original particle
- $X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p^1)}$  ghost with  $-\hat{W}_{\Delta T_k}^{(1,p)}$  increment between  $T(1)$  and  $T(1,p)$
- $X_{T(1,p)}^{(1,p^2)}$  ghost without increment between  $T(1)$  and  $T(1,p)$

# Finite variance in the linear case

- $\mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [(\psi)^2] = O(\Delta T_{(1,p)}^2),$
- The variance of the scheme is finite for small maturities , small coefficients,
- No current proof for the full non linear case.

# A first new scheme for Full Non Linear with 3 ghosts Warin [3]

- Use first order derivative weights on two successive time steps  $\frac{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}{2}$ .

- $(\hat{W}^{k,i})_{k=(k_1, \dots, k_{n-1}, k_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n, n > 1, i=1,2}$  independent BM

$$D^2 \mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [\phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)})] = \mathbb{E}_{T_{(1)}, X_{T_{(1)}}} [2(\sigma_0)^{-2} \left( \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),1}}{\Delta T_{(1,p)}} \frac{(\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),2})}{\Delta T_{(1,p)}} \psi \right)],$$

$$\psi = \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p)}) + \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^3)}) - \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^1)}) - \phi(T_{(1,p)}, X_{T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p^2)}).$$

- $X^{(1,p)} = X^{(1)} + \mu \Delta T_{(1,p)} + \sigma_0 \left[ \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),1} + \hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),2}}{\sqrt{2}} \right]$
- $X^{(1,p^3)} = X^{(1)} + \mu \Delta T_{(1,p)}$  ghost freezing position
- $X^{(1,p^1)} = X^{(1)} + \mu \Delta T_{(1,p)} + \sigma_0 \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),1}}{\sqrt{2}}$  ghost without second  $\hat{W}$  increment
- $X^{(1,p^2)} = X^{(1)} + \mu \Delta T_{(1,p)} + \sigma_0 \frac{\hat{W}_{\Delta T_{(1,p)}}^{(1,p),2}}{\sqrt{2}}$  ghost without first  $\hat{W}$  increment

## Remark and extension

- Bounds on variance calculation indicate a potential smaller variance value of the new scheme,
- An antithetic ghost version of the second scheme with 7 ghosts can be used.
- Higher number of ghosts means higher memory requirement.
- Higher derivatives are easy to treat.

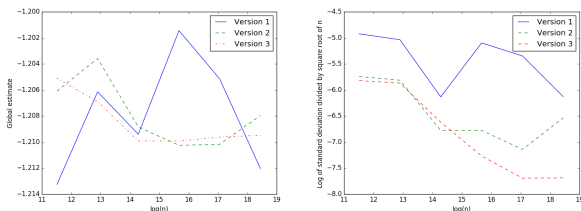
Results for full non linearity  $uD^2u$ 

$$f(u, Du, D^2u) = h(t, x) + \frac{0.1}{d} u(\mathbf{1} : D^2u),$$

$$\mu = 0.21\sigma_0 = 0.5\mathbf{1}, \quad \alpha = 0.2$$

$$h(t, x) = \left(\alpha + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{2}\right) \cos(x_1 + \dots + x_d) e^{\alpha(T-t)} + 0.1 \cos(x_1 + \dots + x_d)^2 e^{2\alpha(T-t)} + \mu \sin(x_1 + \dots + x_d) e^{\alpha(T-t)},$$

$$u(t, x) = \cos(x_1 + \dots + x_d) e^{\alpha(T-t)}.$$



**Figure:** Solution  $u(0, 0.5)$  obtained and error in  $d = 6$  with  $T = 1$ , analytical solution is  $-1.20918$ .

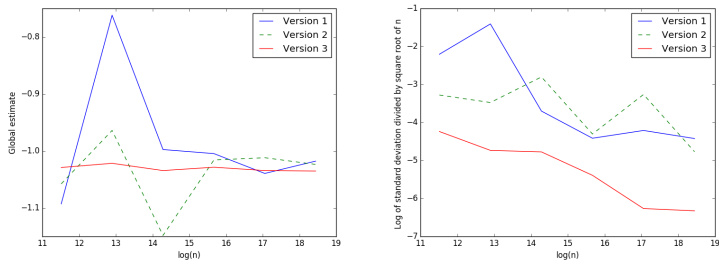
Results for full non linearity  $uD^2u$  : derivative

Figure: Derivative ( $1.Du$ ) obtained and error in  $d = 6$  with  $T = 1$ .

Results for non linearity  $Du D^2u$ 

$$f(u, Du, D^2u) = 0.0125(\mathbf{1} \cdot Du)(\mathbf{1} : D^2u).$$

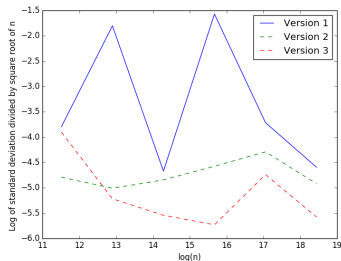
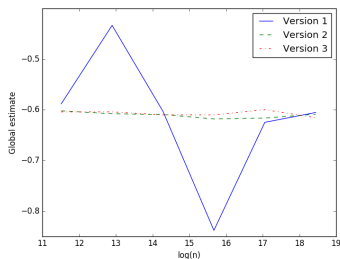


Figure: Solution  $u(0, 0.5)$  and error obtained for  $d = 4$  with  $T = 1$ .



Pierre Henry-Labordere et al. "Branching diffusion representation of semilinear PDEs and Monte Carlo approximation". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1603.01727* (2016).



Pierre Henri Labordère et al. *Truncation and renormalization techniques for solving the nonlinear PDEs by branching processes*. 2017. eprint: [arXiv:to come](#).



Xavier Warin. *Variation of branching methods for non linear PDEs*. 2017. eprint: [arXiv:to come](#).