

Analytical Study of Semi-Discrete Hamiltonian Dynamics in Diverse Potential Landscapes with Discrete Symmetries

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Abstract

I present a comprehensive analytical investigation of semi-discrete time-stepping methods applied to Hamiltonian systems in two spatial dimensions. This study explores the dynamics of a particle subjected to five distinct potential functions, encompassing both continuous potentials with one discretized dimension and fully discrete potentials defined on a two-dimensional lattice. The semi-discretization schemes combine continuous evolution for momenta (and one spatial coordinate in some cases) with probabilistic hopping rules for the discrete spatial variables. For each potential, I analyze the preservation of inherent discrete symmetries (including reflection, translation, and permutation), the behavior of conserved or invariant quantities, the characteristics of fixed points, and the properties of the probabilistic transitions governing the discrete motion. This comparative analysis across a range of potential landscapes provides valuable insights into the applicability and dynamical features of such hybrid discretization techniques for modeling physical systems with various forms of discrete symmetry.

Keywords: Semi-discrete Dynamics, 2D Lattice, Cosine Potential, Symmetry, Average Drift, Diffusion, Permutation Symmetry, Discrete Symmetry, Potential Function.

Introduction

Semi-discretization offers a powerful approach to modeling physical systems by treating some variables discretely while others remain continuous. Preserving the inherent discrete symmetries of these systems is crucial for accurate and physically relevant numerical methods. This paper presents an analytical study of semi-discrete time-stepping methods applied to a particle in two dimensions, exploring their behavior across five distinct potential functions exhibiting various discrete symmetries. This methodology combines Euler's method for continuous evolution with probabilistic hopping for discrete spatial coordinates. For each potential, I analyze symmetry preservation, conserved quantities, fixed points, and the characteristics of the probabilistic transitions. This work aims to provide insights into the dynamics of hybrid discretization techniques for Hamiltonian systems with diverse discrete symmetries.

Analysis of Semi-Discrete Dynamics in a Potential with Mixed Polynomial and Sinusoidal Contributions

Solving Methodology

The solving methodology for this potential involves first

semi-discretizing the Hamiltonian by treating the x-coordinate as discrete and applying Euler's method to the continuous variables. The discrete x-coordinate is updated probabilistically based on the x-momentum. Analytical investigations then focus on examining the symmetries of the potential and the semi-discrete map, analyzing the conservation of energy using the derived update rules, identifying fixed points by solving the resulting algebraic equations, and characterizing the expected behavior of the probabilistic stepping process [1, 2].

Semi-Discretization Methodology

The Potential Function:

$$V(x, y) = A \sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

Discretization of the x-Coordinate

For the discretization of the x-coordinate, a common and often convenient approach is to use a uniform grid. You can define the discrete x-coordinate as:

$$x_i = i\Delta x$$

where:

- i is an integer (...,-2,-1,0,1,2,...) representing the index

- of the discrete point.
- Δx is the grid spacing, which is a positive constant representing the distance between adjacent discrete points.

Implications of this Discretization

- The particle's position in the x-direction will only be allowed to take on these discrete values.
- Δx becomes a parameter in y . This system that you will need to choose. The choice of Δx can influence the accuracy of y . This semi-discrete approximation compared to the original continuous system. A smaller Δx typically leads to a finer resolution and potentially better accuracy but might also increase the computational effort if you try to simulate this numerically. For analytical work, Δx will appear as a parameter in these equations.

Continuous Evolution Using Euler's Method

Let the Hamiltonian of the system be given by:

$$H(x, y, p_x, p_y) = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + A \sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

During the continuous evolution step, the x-coordinate is held fixed at a discrete value $x_i = i\Delta x$. Thus, the effective Hamiltonian for this step is:

$$H(x_i, y, p_x, p_y) = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + A \sin^2(ax_i) + B(x_i^4 + Cx_i^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

I use Hamilton's equations of motion: $\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}$ and $\dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}$.

For the y-coordinate

$$\dot{y} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial p_y} \left(\frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + \dots \right) = \frac{p_y}{m}$$

$$p_y = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\dots + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2))$$

Using the chain rule:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \sin^2(by) = 2 \sin(by) \cos(by) \cdot b = b \sin(2by)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (y^4 + Fy^2) = 4y^3 + 2Fy = 2y(2y^2 + F)$$

$$p_y = -(bD \sin(2by) + 2Ey(2y^2 + F))$$

For the x-coordinate and its momentum:

$$p_x = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_i} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (A \sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2)) \Big|_{x=x_i}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sin^2(ax) = 2 \sin(ax) \cos(ax) \cdot a = a \sin(2ax)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^4 + Cx^2) = 4x^3 + 2Cx$$

$$p_x = -(aA \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))$$

Now, applying Euler's method for a time step h :

$$y_{n+1} \approx y_n + h\dot{y}(t_n) = y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h$$

$$p_{yn+1} \approx p_{yn} + h\dot{p}_y(t_n) = p_{yn} - h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))$$

$$p_{xn+1} \approx p_{xn} + h\dot{p}_x(t_n) = p_{xn} - h(aA \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))$$

Here, x_i remains constant during this continuous update from time n to $n+1$.

Probabilistic Update of the Discrete x-Coordinate

The probabilistic update of the discrete x-coordinate i from i to $i+1$ is governed by the value of η_n , defined as:

$$\eta_n = \frac{p_{xn+1} \cdot h}{m \cdot \Delta x}$$

where p_{xn+1} is the x-momentum after the continuous Euler update, h is the time step, m is the mass of the particle, and Δx is the grid spacing.

The probability of hopping to neighboring sites is then determined as follows:

**Case 1: $\eta_n > 0$ ** (Indicates a tendency for the particle to move in the positive x-direction) The probability of hopping to the next grid point $i_n + 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = \min(1, |\eta_n|) = \min\left(1, \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x}\right)$$

The probability of staying at the current grid point i_n is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 1 - \min\left(1, \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x}\right)$$

The probability of hopping to the previous grid point $i_n - 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$$

**Case 2: $\eta_n < 0$ ** (Indicates a tendency for the particle to move in the negative x-direction) The probability of hopping to the next grid point $i_n + 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$$

The probability of staying at the current grid point i_n is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 1 - \min\left(1, \left| \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x} \right| \right) = 1 - \min\left(1, -\frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x} \right)$$

The probability of hopping to the previous grid point $i_n - 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = \min(1, |\eta_n|) = \min\left(1, \left| \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x} \right| \right) = \min\left(1, -\frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x} \right)$$

**Case 3: $\eta_n = 0$ ** (Indicates no tendency for the particle to move in either x-direction based on momentum)

The probability of hopping to the next grid point $i_n + 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$$

The probability of staying at the current grid point i_n is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1$$

The probability of hopping to the previous grid point $i_n - 1$ is:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$$

This probabilistic update completes one time step of the semi-discretization methodology for the first potential function.

Analysis

Symmetry Analysis

I start with the reflection symmetry about the y-axis, where I consider the transformation $x \rightarrow -x$. In the context of this semi-discretization, this corresponds to the discrete index $i \rightarrow -i$, so $x_i = i\Delta x$ becomes $x_{-i} = -i\Delta x = -(i\Delta x) = -x_i$.

The first step is to see how the potential function behaves under this transformation. Can you substitute $-x$ for x in the expression for $V(x, y)$ and see if $V(-x, y)$ is equal to $V(x, y)$?

The potential function is:

$$V(x, y) = A \sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

Substitute $-x$ for x :

$$V(-x, y) = A \sin^2(a(-x)) + B((-x)^4 + C(-x)^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

To show that the potential $V(x, y)$ is symmetric under the reflection $x \rightarrow -x$, I substitute $-x$ into the potential function:

$$V(-x, y) = A \sin^2(a(-x)) + B((-x)^4 + C(-x)^2) + D \sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

Using the properties that $\sin(-z) = -\sin(z)$ and thus $\sin^2(-z) = (-\sin(z))^2 = \sin^2(z)$, and that $(-x)^4 = x^4$ and $(-x)^2 = x^2$, I get:

$$V(-x, y) = A(\sin(ax))^2 + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D\sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

$$V(-x, y) = A\sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D\sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

Thus, I can see that $V(-x, y) = V(x, y)$, which confirms that the potential is symmetric under reflection about the y-axis.

Next, I analyze how the probabilistic update of the discrete x-coordinate behaves under the transformations $i_n \rightarrow -i_n$ and $p_{xn+1} \rightarrow -p_{xn+1}$. Recall that $\eta_n = \frac{pxn+1 \cdot h}{m}$. Under these transformations, η_n becomes $\eta'_n = \frac{(-pxn+1) \cdot h}{m} = -\eta_n$. Now, I consider the probabilities:

If, before transformation, $\eta_n > 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = \min(1, \eta_n)$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$$

After transformation, $\eta_n < 0$, and the index in becomes $-i_n$. A hop to $i_n + 1$ corresponds to a hop to $-i_n - 1$, and a hop to $i_n - 1$ corresponds to a hop to $-i_n + 1$. For $\eta_n < 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = -i_n + 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = -i_n - 1) = \min(1, |- \eta_n|) = \min(1, \eta_n)$$

I see that the probability of hopping from i_n to $i_n + 1$ is the same as the probability of hopping from $-i_n$ to $-i_n - 1 = -(i_n + 1)$, which respects the reflection.

Now consider if, before transformation, $\eta_n < 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = \min(1, |\eta_n|) = \min(1, -\eta_n)$$

After transformation, $\eta_n > 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = -i_n + 1) = \min(1, |- \eta_n|) = \min(1, -\eta_n)$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = -i_n - 1) = 0$$

Here, the probability of hopping from i_n to $i_n - 1$ is the same as the probability of hopping from i_n to $-i_n + 1 = -(i_n - 1)$, again respecting the reflection.

Finally, if $\eta_n = 0$, then $\eta'_n = 0$, and the particle stays at the current index in both cases ($i_n + 1 = i_n$ and $i_n - 1 = -i_n$).

I have shown that the potential function $V(x, y)$ is symmetric under the reflection $x \rightarrow -x$. In the semi-discretized system, this corresponds to the transformation of the discrete index $i \rightarrow -i$ and the momentum $p_x \rightarrow -p_x$. This analysis of the probabilistic update rule for the x-coordinate revealed that the probabilities of hopping to reflected states are equal, thus the semi-discretization respects the reflection symmetry about the y-axis in a statistical sense.

To show that the potential $V(x, y)$ is symmetric under the reflection $y \rightarrow -y$, I substitute $-y$ into the potential function:

$$V(x, -y) = A\sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D\sin^2(b(-y)) + E((-y)^4 + F(-y)^2)$$

Using the properties that $\sin(-z) = -\sin(z)$ and thus $\sin^2(-z) = (-\sin(z))^2 = \sin^2(z)$, and that $(-y)^4 = y^4$ and $(-y)^2 = y^2$, I get:

$$V(x, -y) = A\sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D(\sin(by))^2 + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

$$V(x, -y) = A\sin^2(ax) + B(x^4 + Cx^2) + D\sin^2(by) + E(y^4 + Fy^2)$$

Thus, I can see that $V(x, -y) = V(x, y)$, which confirms that the potential is symmetric under reflection about the x-axis.

Next, I look at the continuous evolution with the transformed variables $y \rightarrow -y$ and $py \rightarrow -py$, starting from a state $(i_n, -y_n, p_{xn}, -p_{yn})$ at time n .

Using the Euler update rules: For the y-coordinate:

$$y'_{n+1} = (-y_n) + \frac{(-p_{yn})}{m}h = -(y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h) = -y_{n+1}$$

For the y-momentum:

$$p'_{yn+1} = (-p_{yn}) - h(bD\sin(2b(-y_n)) + 2E(-y_n)(2(-y_n)^2 + F))$$

Since $\sin(-z) = -\sin(z)$ and $(-y)^2 = y^2$, this becomes:

$$p'_{yn+1} = -p_{yn} - h(bD(-\sin(2by_n)) - 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))$$

$$p'_{yn+1} = -p_{yn} + hbD\sin(2by_n) + 2hEy_n(2y_n^2 + F)$$

Now I look at $-p_{yn+1}$:

$$-p_{yn+1} = -(p_{yn} - h(bD\sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F)))$$

$$-p_{yn+1} = -p_{yn} + hbD\sin(2by_n) + 2hEy_n(2y_n^2 + F)$$

I see that $p_{yn+1} = p_{yn}$.

For the x-momentum, the transformation $y \rightarrow -y$ does not directly affect the update rule, so

$$p'_{xn+1} = p_{xn}$$

To verify the symmetry of the continuous evolution under the reflection $y \rightarrow -y$ and $p_y \rightarrow -p_y$, I recall the Euler update rules:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h$$

$$p_{yn+1} = p_{yn} - h(bD\sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))$$

$$p_{xn+1} = p_{xn} - h(aA\sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))$$

Now, consider a state at time n transformed as $(i_n, -y_n, p_{xn}, -p_{yn})$. Applying the update rules to this transformed state yields:

$$y'_{n+1} = (-y_n) + \frac{(-p_{yn})}{m}h = -(y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h) = -y_{n+1}$$

$$p'_{yn+1} = (-p_{yn}) - h(bD\sin(2b(-y_n)) + 2E(-y_n)(2(-y_n)^2 + F))$$

Using $\sin(-z) = -\sin(z)$, I have:

$$p'_{yn+1} = -p_{yn} - h(bD(-\sin(2by_n)) - 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))$$

$$p'_{yn+1} = -p_{yn} + hbD\sin(2by_n) + 2hEy_n(2y_n^2 + F)$$

I also found that $-p_{yn+1} = p_{yn}$:

$$-p_{yn+1} = -(p_{yn} - h(bD\sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))) = -p_{yn} + hbD\sin(2by_n) + 2hEy_n(2y_n^2 + F)$$

Thus, $p'_{yn+1} = p_{yn}$. The update rule for p_{xn+1} remains unchanged as it does not depend on y or p_y . These results show that the continuous evolution using Euler's method respects the reflection symmetry about the x-axis.

next positions ($i + 1, i - 1, i$), with the lights being the corresponding probabilities of hopping. Let y_{n+1} be the y-coordinate after the continuous Euler update. Then:

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = P(i_{n+1} = i + 1 | i_n = i) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + P(i_{n+1} = i - 1 | i_n = i) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + P(i_{n+1} = i | i_n = i) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

I have the following cases for the hopping probabilities based on $\eta_n = \frac{p_{xn}+1}{m\Delta x}$:

**Case 1: $\eta_n > 0$ **

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = \min(1, \eta_n) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + 0 \cdot V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

**Case 2: $\eta_n < 0$ **

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = 0 \cdot V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

**Case 3: $\eta_n = 0$ **

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = 0 \cdot V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + 0 \cdot V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + 1 \cdot V(x_i, y_{n+1}) = V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

where $V(x_j, y_{n+1})$ for $j \in \{i-1, i, i+1\}$ is given by:

$$V(x_j, y_{n+1}) = A \sin^2(ax_j) + B(x_j^4 + Cx_j^2) + D \sin^2(by_{n+1}) + E(y_{n+1}^4 + Fy_{n+1}^2)$$

To analyze the conservation of average total energy, I would then need to look at $(H_{n+1}) = x_{n+1} + p_2 y_{n+1} + (V_{n+1})$ and compare it with the energy at time n, potentially also in an average sense if the initial x-position was considered probabilistic. Since the continuous part of the energy is generally not conserved by Euler's method, and the potential energy changes due to the hop, the average energy is also likely not conserved in general. A more detailed analysis would involve substituting the specific form of the potential and the Euler update rules.

I delve into the detailed algebra for the conservation of average total energy, starting with the case where $\eta_n > 0$.

The Hamiltonian at time n is:

$$H_n = \frac{p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn}^2}{2m} + A \sin^2(ax_i) + B(x_i^4 + Cx_i^2) + D \sin^2(by_n) + E(y_n^4 + Fy_n^2)$$

The average Hamiltonian at time n + 1 for $\eta_n > 0$ is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2}{2m} + \min(1, \eta_n) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

Substitute the Euler update for p_{xn+1} :

$$p_{xn+1}^2 = (p_{xn} - h(A \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i)))^2 = p_{xn}^2 - 2p_{xn}h(A \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i)) + O(h^2)$$

Substitute the Euler update for p_{yn+1} :

$$p_{yn+1}^2 = (p_{yn} - h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F)))^2 = p_{yn}^2 - 2p_{yn}h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F)) + O(h^2)$$

Substitute the Euler update for y_{n+1} in the potential terms. This will lead to terms involving y_n and terms of h . For instance:

$$\sin^2(by_{n+1}) = \sin^2(b(y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h)) = \sin^2(by_n + \frac{bp_{yn}}{m}h) = \sin^2(by_n) + O(h)$$

$$y_{n+1}^4 = (y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m}h)^4 = y_n^4 + O(h)$$

and similarly for other terms in the potential.

Now, I look at $(H_{n+1}) - H_n$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n &= \left[\frac{p_{xn}^2 - 2p_{xn}h(A \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))}{2m} - \frac{p_{xn}^2}{2m} \right] \\ &+ \left[\frac{p_{yn}^2 - 2p_{yn}h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))}{2m} - \frac{p_{yn}^2}{2m} \right] \\ &+ \min(1, \eta_n) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n) + O(h^2) \end{aligned}$$

I can see terms like:

$$-\frac{p_{xn}h}{m}(A \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))$$

$$-\frac{p_{yn}h}{m}(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))$$

and terms arising from the difference in potential energy due to the hop in x and the evolution of y to y_{n+1} .

Consider the difference in potential energy terms:

$$\begin{aligned} &\min(1, \eta_n)[A \sin^2(a(i+1)\Delta x) + B(((i+1)\Delta x)^4 + C((i+1)\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_{n+1}) + E(y_{n+1}^4 + Fy_{n+1}^2)] \\ &+ (1 - \min(1, \eta_n))[A \sin^2(ai\Delta x) + B((i\Delta x)^4 + C(i\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_{n+1}) + E(y_{n+1}^4 + Fy_{n+1}^2)] \\ &- [A \sin^2(ai\Delta x) + B((i\Delta x)^4 + C(i\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_n) + E(y_n^4 + Fy_n^2)] \end{aligned}$$

Even if $y_{n+1} \approx y_n$ for small h , the terms involving $x_{i+1} = x_i + \Delta x$ will generally not cancel out with the terms involving x_i , unless the potential is translationally invariant in x, which I have shown is not the case.

Therefore, $(H_{n+1}) - H_n \neq 0$ in general. The average energy is also not conserved by this semi-discretization method. A similar analysis holds for $\eta_n < 0$.

I now consider the case where $\eta_n < 0$. Recall that $|\eta_n| = -\eta_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x}$.

The Hamiltonian at time n remains the same:

$$H_n = \frac{p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn}^2}{2m} + A \sin^2(ax_i) + B(x_i^4 + Cx_i^2) + D \sin^2(by_n) + E(y_n^4 + Fy_n^2)$$

The average Hamiltonian at time n + 1 for $\eta_n < 0$ is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2}{2m} + \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

Substituting the Euler update terms for p_{xn+1}^2 and p_{yn+1}^2 as I did before:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{n+1} \rangle &= \frac{p_{xn}^2 - 2p_{xn}h(aA \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i)) + O(h^2)}{2m} \\ &+ \frac{p_{yn}^2 - 2p_{yn}h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F)) + O(h^2)}{2m} \\ &+ \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Now consider $(H_{n+1}) - H_n$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n &= \left[\frac{p_{xn}^2 - 2p_{xn}h(aA \sin(2ax_i) + B(4x_i^3 + 2Cx_i))}{2m} - \frac{p_{xn}^2}{2m} \right] \\ &+ \left[\frac{p_{yn}^2 - 2p_{yn}h(bD \sin(2by_n) + 2Ey_n(2y_n^2 + F))}{2m} - \frac{p_{yn}^2}{2m} \right] \\ &+ \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n) + O(h^2) \end{aligned}$$

Again, I have terms proportional to h arising from the kinetic energy updates. The difference in potential energy is now:

$$\begin{aligned} &\min(1, |\eta_n|)[A \sin^2(a(i-1)\Delta x) + B(((i-1)\Delta x)^4 + C((i-1)\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_{n+1}) + E(y_{n+1}^4 + Fy_{n+1}^2)] \\ &+ (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|))[A \sin^2(ai\Delta x) + B((i\Delta x)^4 + C(i\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_{n+1}) + E(y_{n+1}^4 + Fy_{n+1}^2)] \\ &- [A \sin^2(ai\Delta x) + B((i\Delta x)^4 + C(i\Delta x)^2) + D \sin^2(by_n) + E(y_n^4 + Fy_n^2)] \end{aligned}$$

Similar to the $\eta_n > 0$ case, the terms involving $x_{i-1} = x_i - \Delta x$ will generally not cancel out with the terms involving x_i , and the evolution of y also contributes to energy change. Thus, even for $\eta_n < 0$, $(H_{n+1}) - H_n \neq 0$ in general, and the average energy is not conserved.

Properties of the Probabilistic Step

The probability of transitioning from a discrete x-position i at time n to a position j at time n + 1 is given by:

$$P(i_{n+1} = j | i_n = i) = \begin{cases} \min(1, \eta_n) & \text{if } j = i + 1 \text{ and } \eta_n > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } j = i + 1 \text{ and } \eta_n \leq 0 \\ \min(1, |\eta_n|) & \text{if } j = i - 1 \text{ and } \eta_n < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } j = i - 1 \text{ and } \eta_n \geq 0 \\ 1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|) & \text{if } j = i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $\eta_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x}$.

The expected change in the discrete x-coordinate over one time step, $(\Delta i) = (i_{n+1} - i_n)$, is $(\Delta i) = \text{sgn}(\eta_n) \min(1, |\eta_n|)$.

The variance in the x-position after one time step is $\min(1, |\eta_n|) (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|))$ if $\eta_n \neq 0$, and 0 if $\eta_n = 0$.

The probabilistic step can be yield as a biased random walk on a 1D lattice. The bias is determined by η_n .

Conclusion

This investigation of the first potential function using the semi-discretization method revealed that while the potential exhibits reflection symmetry about both the x and y axes, it lacks translational symmetry. The standard Euler method used for the continuous evolution did not conserve energy, and due to the probabilistic hopping in the x-coordinate, the average energy of the system was also found to be generally non-conserved. The probabilistic step itself introduces a biased random walk on the discrete x-lattice, driven by the x-momentum, which allows the system to explore different spatial regions.

Analysis of a Semi-Discrete System in a Potential with Exponentially Damped Oscillations

Solving Methodology

For the potential with coupled trigonometric dependencies, the semi-discretization methodology remains the same. The analytical investigation, however, requires careful handling of the coupled terms when examining symmetries and deriving the change in energy. Finding fixed points involves solving a system of equations that includes these coupled terms, and the probabilistic step analysis remains consistent with the previous cases [3].

The Potential Function:

$$V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Semi-Discretization Methodology

Discretization of the x-Coordinate

The semi-discretization involves considering the x-coordinate at discrete points $x_i = i\Delta x$. The Hamiltonian becomes:

$$H(x_i, y, p_x, p_y) = \frac{p_x^2}{2m} + \frac{p_y^2}{2m} + e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

The partial derivatives calculated are:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_y} &= \frac{p_y}{m} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} &= 2\beta y e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by) + b e^{-\beta y^2} \sin(by) \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_x} &= \frac{p_x}{m} \\ -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} &= 2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i) \end{aligned}$$

Continuous Evolution Using Euler's Method

$$\begin{aligned} y_{n+1} &= y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m} h \\ p_{yn+1} &= p_{yn} + (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h \\ p_{xn+1} &= p_{xn} + (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \eta_n = \frac{p_{xn+1} h}{m \Delta x}.$$

The probabilistic update for i is as follows: If $\eta_n > 0$, then $P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = \min(1, \eta_n)$, $P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$, and $P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - \min(1, \eta_n)$. If $\eta_n < 0$, then $P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$, $P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = \min(1, |\eta_n|)$, and $P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)$. If $\eta_n = 0$, then $P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$, $P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$, and $P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1$.

Probabilistic Update of the Discrete x-coordinate

The probabilistic update of the discrete x-coordinate i (and hence x_i) is based on $\eta_n = p_{xn+1} h$:

If $\eta_n > 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = \min(1, \eta_n)$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - \min(1, \eta_n)$$

If $\eta_n < 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = \min(1, |\eta_n|)$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)$$

If $\eta_n = 0$:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1) = 0$$

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n) = 1$$

Analysis

Symmetry Analysis

Let the potential function be

$$V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Now, I substitute x with -x:

$$V(-x, y) = e^{-\alpha(-x)^2} \sin(a(-x)) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

I know that $(-x)2 = x2$ and $\sin(-ax) = -\sin(ax)$. Therefore,

$$V(-x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} (-\sin(ax)) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

$$V(-x, y) = -e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Comparing $V(-x, y)$ with $V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$, I can see that $V(-x, y) \neq V(x, y)$ unless $e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) = 0$ for all x, which is not generally true.

Therefore, the potential is not symmetric under reflection about the y-axis ($x \rightarrow -x$), unless specific conditions on the parameters a and α are met such that $e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) = 0$.

Let the potential function be

$$V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Now, I substitute y with -y:

$$V(x, -y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta(-y)^2} \cos(b(-y))$$

I know that $(-y)^2 = y^2$ and $\cos(-by) = \cos(by)$. Therefore,

$$V(x, -y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Comparing $V(x, -y)$ with $V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$, I can see that

$$V(x, -y) = V(x, y)$$

Therefore, the potential is symmetric under reflection about the x-axis ($y \rightarrow -y$). Let the potential function $V(x, y) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$

Now, I substitute x with $x + a_x$:

$$V(x + a_x, y) = e^{-\alpha(x + a_x)^2} \sin(a(x + a_x)) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Expanding the terms, I get:

$$V(x + a_x, y) = e^{-\alpha(x^2 + 2a_x x + a_x^2)} \sin(ax + a a_x) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

For translational symmetry in the y-direction, I require $V(x, y + ay) = V(x, y)$ for any arbitrary ay . This would mean:

$$e^{-\alpha(x^2+2ax+ax^2)} \sin(ax+aa_x) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax) + e^{-\beta y^2} \cos(by)$$

Subtracting the first term from both sides, I need:

$$e^{-\alpha(x^2+2ax+ax^2)} \sin(ax+aa_x) = e^{-\alpha x^2} \sin(ax)$$

This equality does not hold for arbitrary a_y and y unless $\beta = 0$ and $b = 0$, in which case the second term is constant. If $\beta = 0$ and $b \neq 0$, then I would need $\cos(b(y + a_y)) = \cos(by)$, which implies $bay = 2n\pi$ for some integer n . This must hold for any ay , which is not possible. If $\beta \neq 0$, the exponential term breaks the translational symmetry as $e^{-\beta(y^2+2ay+a^2)} \neq e^{-\beta y^2}$ for $a \neq 0$. Therefore, the potential is not symmetric under translation in the y-direction.

Conservation of Energy

The potential energy at time $n + 1$ is $V_{n+1} = e^{n+1} \sin(ax_{n+1}) + e^{n+1} \cos(by_{n+1})$. The expected potential energy (V_{n+1}) depends on the probability of the hop in the x-direction.

Case 1: $\eta_n > 0$ The probability of hopping to $i + 1$ is $\min(1, \eta_n)$, and the probability of staying at i is $1 - \min(1, \eta_n)$.

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = \min(1, \eta_n) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = \min(1, \eta_n) (e^{-\alpha x_{i+1}^2} \sin(ax_{i+1}) + e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1})) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) (e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) + e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1}))$$

Case 2: $\eta_n < 0$ The probability of hopping to $i - 1$ is $\min(1, |\eta_n|)$, and the probability of staying at i is $1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)$.

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

$$\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = \min(1, |\eta_n|) (e^{-\alpha x_{i-1}^2} \sin(ax_{i-1}) + e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1})) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1})$$

Case 3: $\eta_n = 0$ The probability of staying at i is $\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = V(x_i, y_{n+1}) = e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) + e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1})$

In all cases, y_n is given by the Euler update $y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m} h$. The Hamiltonian at time n is:

$$H_n = \frac{p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn}^2}{2m} + e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) + e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n)$$

The average Hamiltonian at time $n + 1$ is given by:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle = \langle \frac{p_{xn+1}^2}{2m} \rangle + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2}{2m} + \langle V_{n+1} \rangle$$

where

$$p_{yn+1} = p_{yn} + (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h$$

and

$$p_{xn+1} = p_{xn} + (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h$$

For the case $\eta_n = 0$, I have $\langle V_{n+1} \rangle = V(x_i, y_{n+1}) = e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) + e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1})$.

The difference in Hamiltonians is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2}{2m} + V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n)$$

I expand the squared momenta using the Euler update

rules:

$$p_{yn+1} = p_{yn} + (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h$$

$$p_{xn+1} = p_{xn} + (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h$$

So

$$p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2 = (p_{yn} + (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h)^2 - p_{yn}^2$$

$$= p_{yn}^2 + 2p_{yn} (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h + \mathcal{O}(h^2) - p_{yn}^2$$

$$= 2p_{yn} (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

And

$$p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2 = (p_{xn} + (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h)^2 - p_{xn}^2$$

$$= p_{xn}^2 + 2p_{xn} (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h + \mathcal{O}(h^2) - p_{xn}^2$$

$$= 2p_{xn} (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

Now consider the potential energy difference:

$$V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n) = e^{-\beta y_{n+1}^2} \cos(by_{n+1}) - e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n)$$

Expanding $y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{p_{yn}}{m} h + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$ using Taylor series, I would generally find a term proportional to h .

Therefore, $(H_{n+1}) - H_n$ will generally not be zero but will have terms of order h , indicating that

the average energy is not conserved by the Euler method for this semi-discrete system as Ill.

Case 1: $\eta_n > 0$ The average Hamiltonian difference is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2}{2m} + \langle V_{n+1} \rangle - V(x_i, y_n)$$

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2}{2m} + \min(1, \eta_n) V(x_{i+1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n)$$

Substituting the expressions for the kinetic energy differences (up to order h):

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n \approx \frac{1}{2m} (2p_{xn} (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - a e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i)) h) + \frac{1}{2m} (2p_{yn} (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + b e^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n)) h) + \min(1, \eta_n) (A \sin^2(ax_{i+1}) + B \sin^4(ax_{i+1}) + C \sin^2(by_{n+1})) + (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) (A \sin^2(ax_i) + B \sin^4(ax_i) + C \sin^2(by_{n+1})) - (A \sin^2(ax_i) + B \sin^4(ax_i) + C \sin^2(by_n))$$

Case 2: $\eta_n < 0$ The average Hamiltonian difference is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2}{2m} + \langle V_{n+1} \rangle - V(x_i, y_n)$$

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}^2 - p_{xn}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{yn+1}^2 - p_{yn}^2}{2m} + \min(1, |\eta_n|) V(x_{i-1}, y_{n+1}) + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) V(x_i, y_{n+1}) - V(x_i, y_n)$$

Substituting the expressions for the kinetic energy differences (up to order h):

$$\begin{aligned}\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n &\approx \frac{1}{2m} \left(2p_{xn} (2\alpha x_i e^{-\alpha x_i^2} \sin(ax_i) - ae^{-\alpha x_i^2} \cos(ax_i))h \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2m} \left(2p_{yn} (2\beta y_n e^{-\beta y_n^2} \cos(by_n) + be^{-\beta y_n^2} \sin(by_n))h \right) \\ &\quad + \min(1, |\eta_n|) (A \sin^2(ax_{i-1}) + B \sin^4(ax_{i-1}) + C \sin^2(by_{n+1})) \\ &\quad + (1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|)) (A \sin^2(ax_i) + B \sin^4(ax_i) + C \sin^2(by_{n+1})) \\ &\quad - (A \sin^2(ax_i) + B \sin^4(ax_i) + C \sin^2(by_n))\end{aligned}$$

In both cases, I see that $\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n$ is generally not zero. The Euler method introduces errors of order h in the continuous part, and the probabilistic hop introduces differences in the potential energy at x_i , x_{i+1} , or x_{i-1} . Therefore, the average energy is not conserved for this semi-discrete system using Euler's method.

Properties of the Probabilistic Step

The probability of transitioning from a discrete x -position i at time n to a position j at time $n+1$ is given by:

$$P(i_{n+1} = j | i_n = i) = \begin{cases} \min(1, \eta_n) & \text{if } j = i+1 \text{ and } \eta_n > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } j = i+1 \text{ and } \eta_n \leq 0 \\ \min(1, |\eta_n|) & \text{if } j = i-1 \text{ and } \eta_n < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } j = i-1 \text{ and } \eta_n \geq 0 \\ 1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|) & \text{if } j = i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $\eta_n = \frac{p_{xn+1}h}{m\Delta x}$.

The expected change in the discrete x -coordinate over one time step, $\langle \Delta i \rangle = (i_{n+1} - i_n)$, can be calculated as: If $\eta_n > 0$:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = (i_n + 1 - i_n) \min(1, \eta_n) + (i_n - 1 - i_n) \cdot 0 + (i_n - i_n) (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) = \min(1, \eta_n)$$

If $\eta_n < 0$:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = 0$$

In summary:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = \text{sgn}(\eta_n) \min(1, |\eta_n|)$$

The variance in the x -position after one time step can be expressed as $\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle - \langle \Delta i \rangle^2$. I calculate $\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle = \langle (i_{n+1} - i_n)^2 \rangle$:

If $\eta_n < 0$:

$$\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle = (1)^2 \min(1, \eta_n) + (-1)^2 \cdot 0 + (0)^2 (1 - \min(1, \eta_n)) = \min(1, \eta_n)$$

If $\eta_n < 0$:

$$\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle = 0$$

So

$$\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle = \min(1, |\eta_n|).$$

The variance is then: If $\eta_n > 0$: $\min(1, \eta_n) - (\min(1, \eta_n))^2 = \min(1, \eta_n)(1 - \min(1, \eta_n))$ If $\eta_n < 0$: $\min(1, |\eta_n|) - (-\min(1, |\eta_n|))^2 = \min(1, |\eta_n|)(1 - \min(1, |\eta_n|))$ If $\eta_n = 0$: $0 - 0^2 = 0$.

The probabilistic step can be viewed as a biased random walk

on a 1D lattice. The bias is determined by the parameter η_n . When $\eta_n > 0$, there is a higher probability of moving to the right, and when $\eta_n < 0$, there is a higher probability of moving to the left. The magnitude $|\eta_n|$ controls the strength of this bias (up to a maximum probability of 1). When $\eta_n = 0$, the walk has no bias in either direction (although the probability of hopping is zero in this specific implementation).

Conclusion

Investigation of the second potential function $V(x, y) = A \sin^2(ax) + B \sin^4(ax) + C \sin^2(by)$ using the semi-discretization method showed that I could successfully apply the methodology. However, similar to the first potential, the average energy of the semi-discrete system is generally not conserved when evolved using the Euler method due to the inherent non-conservation of Euler's method for continuous Hamiltonian systems and the probabilistic nature of the hopping in the x -direction. The probabilistic step itself functions as a biased random walk on the discrete x -lattice, driven by the x -momentum.

Semi-Discrete Dynamics on a 2D Lattice with a Discrete Cosine Potential

Solving Methodology

The methodology for this case involves a full discretization of the spatial coordinates, while momenta remain continuous. I use finite differences to approximate the forces from the discrete potential and Euler's method to update the momenta. The position update is probabilistic, with hopping on the 2D lattice. The analytical investigation includes analyzing the discrete symmetries of the lattice and potential, examining the conservation of average energy considering the probabilistic hops, determining conditions for a stationary average position on the lattice, and investigating potential diffusion-like behavior [4].

The Potential Function:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$$

Semi-Discretization Methodology

Discrete Positions on the 2D Lattice

I am given the discrete cosine potential function:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$$

I approximate the forces using finite differences:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{V(i+1, j) - V(i-1, j)}{2\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx -\frac{V(i, j+1) - V(i, j-1)}{2\Delta y}$$

First, I evaluate the potential at $(i+1, j)$ and $(i-1, j)$:

$$V(i+1, j) = A \cos(k_x(i+1)\Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_x \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$$

$$V(i-1, j) = A \cos(k_x(i-1)\Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x - k_x \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$$

Now, substitute these into the expression for $F_i(i, j)$:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_x \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) - A \cos(k_x i \Delta x - k_x \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)}{2\Delta x}$$

I use the trigonometric identity: $\cos(a+b) - \cos(a-b) = -2 \sin(a) \sin(b)$. Let $a = k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi$ and $b = k_x \Delta x$.

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{A(-2 \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x))}{2 \Delta x}$$

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

The forces from the discrete cosine potential, using finite difference approximations, are:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Momentum Update Using Euler's Method

The Euler update rules for the momenta are given by:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, j_n)h$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + F_j(i_n, j_n)h$$

I found the forces to be:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Substituting these into the Euler update rules, I get:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \left(\frac{A \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right) h$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \left(\frac{A \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y)}{\Delta y} \right) h$$

The momenta at the next time step $n + 1$ are updated from the momenta at the current time step n according to the following rules:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah}{\Delta x} \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah}{\Delta y} \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y)$$

Probabilistic Position Update (Hopping)

Let the current lattice site at time step n be (i_n, j_n) . The parameters influencing the hopping probabilities are:

$$\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m \Delta x}$$

$$\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m \Delta y}$$

The probabilities of transitioning to a new site (i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) at time step $n + 1$ are:

- Probability of hopping in the $+i$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $-i$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $+j$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n + 1) = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $-j$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n - 1) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

- Probability of staying at the same site:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n) = 1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}$$

The position on the 2D lattice is updated probabilistically at each time step based on the values of $\eta_{i,n}$ and $\eta_{j,n}$, which depend on the momenta. The particle has a chance to move one step in the positive or negative i or j direction, or to stay at its current location. The maximum probability of hopping in any single direction is limited to 0.25.

Analysis

Discrete Symmetry Analysis

For the potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$ to be invariant under the lattice translations $(i, j) \rightarrow (i + n_x, j + n_y)$, where n_x and n_y are integers, I must have:

$$V(i + n_x, j + n_y) = V(i, j)$$

Substituting the potential function, this condition becomes:

$$A \cos(k_x(i + n_x) \Delta x + k_y(j + n_y) \Delta y + \phi) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$$

This equality holds if and only if the arguments of the cosine functions differ by an integer multiple of 2π :

$$(k_x(i + n_x) \Delta x + k_y(j + n_y) \Delta y + \phi) - (k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) = 2\pi m$$

where m is an integer. Simplifying the left side, I get:

$$k_x n_x \Delta x + k_y n_y \Delta y = 2\pi m$$

This equation must hold for all integers n_x and n_y .

Consider the case where $n_y = 0$. Then I need $k_x n_x \Delta x = 2\pi m$. This must hold for any integer n_x . The smallest non-zero integer is $n_x = 1$, so I must have $k_x \Delta x = 2\pi m_x$ for some integer m_x . For this to hold for all n_x , it implies that $k_x \Delta x$ must be an integer multiple of 2π .

Similarly, consider the case where $n_x = 0$. Then I need $k_y n_y \Delta y = 2\pi m$. For this to hold for any integer n_y , it implies that $k_y \Delta y$ must be an integer multiple of 2π .

Therefore, the conditions for the potential to be invariant under the translational symmetries of

the lattice are:

$$k_x \Delta x = \frac{2\pi m_x}{L_x} L_x = 2\pi m_x$$

$$k_y \Delta y = \frac{2\pi m_y}{L_y} L_y = 2\pi m_y$$

where m_x and m_y are integers, and $L_x = 1$, $L_y = 1$ as I am considering a shift by one lattice unit. More generally, if I consider periodicity over L_x and L_y lattice units, then $k_x \Delta x = \frac{2\pi m_x}{L_x}$ and $k_y \Delta y = \frac{2\pi m_y}{L_y}$ where m_x, m_y, L_x, L_y are integers. For invariance under a shift by one lattice unit ($n_x = 1, n_y = 1$), I need $k_x \Delta x = 2\pi m_x$ and $k_y \Delta y = 2\pi m_y$.

The discrete cosine potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$ exhibits the translational symmetry of the 2D lattice if and only if $k_x \Delta x$ is an integer multiple of 2π and $k_y \Delta y$ is an integer multiple of 2π .

Conservation of Average Energy

The expected potential energy at time step $n + 1$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n + 1, j_n) \\ &\quad + P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n - 1, j_n) \\ &\quad + P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n + 1) V(i_n, j_n + 1) \\ &\quad + P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n - 1) V(i_n, j_n - 1) \\ &\quad + P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n, j_n) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the probabilities I defined:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) V(i_n + 1, j_n) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) V(i_n - 1, j_n) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) V(i_n, j_n + 1) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) V(i_n, j_n - 1) \\ &\quad - \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) \\ &\quad - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) \\ &= V(i_n, j_n) \end{aligned}$$

Now, I substitute the potential function $V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n + 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n - 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n + 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n - 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \end{aligned}$$

The expected potential energy at the next time step is a weighted average of the potential evaluated at the current site and its four nearest neighbors, with the weights given by the probabilities of hopping or staying.

Difference in Average Energy $(H_{n+1}) - H_n$

The difference in average energy between time step $n + 1$ and n is:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n &= \left(\frac{1}{2m} \left(p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah}{\Delta x} \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x) \right)^2 \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2m} \left(p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah}{\Delta y} \sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y) \right)^2 \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n + 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n - 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n + 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n - 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{p_{i,n}^2}{2m} - \frac{p_{j,n}^2}{2m} - A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x}$, $\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y}$, and $P_{+i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n}))$, $P_{-i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$, $P_{+j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n}))$, $P_{-j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$.

Expanding the squared momentum terms:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n &= \left(\frac{p_{i,n}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{i,n}Ah}{m\Delta x} \sin(\dots) \sin(k_x \Delta x) + \frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{Ah}{\Delta x} \sin(\dots) \sin(k_x \Delta x) \right)^2 \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{p_{j,n}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{j,n}Ah}{m\Delta y} \sin(\dots) \sin(k_y \Delta y) + \frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{Ah}{\Delta y} \sin(\dots) \sin(k_y \Delta y) \right)^2 \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n + 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k_x(i_n - 1) \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n + 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y(j_n - 1) \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad + (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{p_{i,n}^2}{2m} - \frac{p_{j,n}^2}{2m} - A \cos(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi) \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\sin(\dots)$ represents $\sin(k_x i_n \Delta x + k_y j_n \Delta y + \phi)$. Summary of Energy Conservation By observing this expression, I can see that $(H_{n+1}) - H_n$ is generally not equal to zero. The terms

proportional to h arise from the Euler method, indicating that the continuous part of the dynamics is not energy-conserving. Furthermore, the expected potential energy at time $n + 1$ is generally different from the potential energy at time n due to the probabilistic hopping, introducing further terms that do not cancel out. Therefore, the average energy is not conserved for this semi-discrete system using this Methodology.

Conclusion Regarding Conservation of Average Energy

The average energy of the system is generally not conserved under the described semi-discretization methodology and the use of Euler's method for updating the momenta. This lack of conservation arises from two primary sources:

1. Non-Conservation of Euler's Method: The Euler method, being a first-order approximation, does not generally conserve energy for continuous-time Hamiltonian systems. This introduces terms proportional to the time step h in the energy difference.
2. Probabilistic Hopping and Potential Energy Changes: The probabilistic movement of the particle on the lattice leads to the expected potential energy at the next time step being different from the potential energy at the current time step. This difference, along with the kinetic energy changes, does not generally sum to zero.

Therefore, while this semi-discretization method allows for

the evolution of the system, it does not inherently conserve the average energy.

Conditions for a Stationary Average Position

For a stationary average position on the lattice, I require that the expected change in both the i and j coordinates over one time step is zero:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = \langle i_{n+1} - i_n \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = \langle j_{n+1} - j_n \rangle = 0$$

The expected change in the i -coordinate is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta i \rangle &= (i_n + 1 - i_n)P_{+i} + (i_n - 1 - i_n)P_{-i} + (i_n - i_n)(1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) \\ \langle \Delta i \rangle &= P_{+i} - P_{-i} \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the expressions for P_{+i} and P_{-i} :

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

For $\langle \Delta i \rangle = 0$, I must have:

$$\max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

This condition is satisfied if and only if $\eta_{i,n} = 0$.

Similarly, the expected change in the j -coordinate is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta j \rangle &= (j_n + 1 - j_n)P_{+j} + (j_n - 1 - j_n)P_{-j} + (j_n - j_n)(1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) \\ \langle \Delta j \rangle &= P_{+j} - P_{-j} \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the expressions for P_{+j} and P_{-j} :

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

For $\langle \Delta j \rangle = 0$, I must have:

$$\max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

This condition is satisfied if and only if $\eta_{j,n} = 0$.

Recall that $\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x}$ and $\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y}$. Therefore, the conditions for a stationary average position are:

$$\frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x} = 0 \implies p_{i,n+1} = 0$$

$$\frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y} = 0 \implies p_{j,n+1} = 0$$

The average position on the 2D lattice remains stationary if and only if the momenta at the next time step in both the i and j directions are zero. This implies that there is no net drift of the particle on the lattice in either direction, on average.

Analysis of Diffusion-like Behavior

To explore diffusion-like behavior, I consider the mean squared displacement (MSD). The expected squared change in the i and j coordinates at each step are:

$$\langle (\Delta i_n)^2 \rangle = P_{+i} + P_{-i} = \min(0.25, \max(0, \eta_{i,n})) + \min(0.25, \max(0, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

$$\langle (\Delta j_n)^2 \rangle = P_{+j} + P_{-j} = \min(0.25, \max(0, \eta_{j,n})) + \min(0.25, \max(0, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

The MSD after N time steps is

$$\langle R_N^2 \rangle = \langle i_N^2 \rangle + \langle j_N^2 \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (\langle (\Delta i_n)^2 \rangle + \langle (\Delta j_n)^2 \rangle)$$

assuming the average position starts at zero and the changes in i and j are uncorrelated and have zero mean on average.

The momenta evolve as:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, j_n)h$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + F_j(i_n, j_n)h$$

where the forces are:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi) \sin(k_y \Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Assuming average initial momentum is zero and the average force over the lattice is zero, the squared momentum in the i -direction evolves as:

$$\langle p_{i,n+1}^2 \rangle \approx \langle p_{i,n}^2 \rangle + \frac{h^2}{2} \left(\frac{A \sin(k_x \Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right)^2$$

This implies that the average of the squared momentum grows linearly with time step n . Consequently, $\langle p_i^2 \rangle$ will also grow.

As $\langle \eta^2 \rangle$ increases, $\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle$ tends towards saturation. If $\langle (\Delta i)^2 \rangle$ and $\langle (\Delta j)^2 \rangle$ reach approximately constant values, then the MSD, $\langle R^2 \rangle$, grows linearly with N , indicating diffusion-like behavior.

However, the periodic potential might introduce trapping or oscillations, complicating the simple linear growth of MSD. A rigorous analysis requires further investigation.

The semi-discrete dynamics on the 2D lattice with a discrete cosine potential can exhibit diffusion-like behavior if the mean squared displacement of the particle grows linearly with time. This is expected to occur when the average squared momentum increases over time due to the fluctuating forces from the potential, leading to a roughly constant rate of hopping. However, the periodic nature of the potential can also lead to deviations from simple diffusion, such as trapping or oscillations. A detailed characterization of the long-time behavior would require more advanced analytical techniques or numerical simulations.

Summary of Observations and Results for Semi-Discrete Dynamics on a 2D Lattice with a Discrete Cosine Potential

- Semi-Discretization:** I successfully applied a semi-discretization method where the spatial coordinates are discrete, momenta are continuous, forces are approximated using finite differences, momenta are updated using Euler's method, and the position on the 2D lattice evolves probabilistically with defined hopping rules.
- Discrete Symmetries:** The potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$ exhibits the translational symmetries of the 2D lattice if $k_x \Delta x$ and $k_y \Delta y$ are integer multiples of 2π .
- Conservation of Average Energy:** This analysis indicated that the average energy of the system is generally not conserved due to the inherent non-conservation of the Euler

method for the continuous momenta and the changes in potential energy arising from the probabilistic hopping on the lattice.

- **Stationary Average Position:** The condition for a stationary average position on the lattice (i.e., no net drift) is that the average momenta in both the i and j directions are zero, leading to $\eta_{i,n} = 0$ and $\eta_{j,n} = 0$.

- **Potential Diffusion-Like Behavior:** I explored the possibility of diffusion-like behavior by

looking at the mean squared displacement (MSD). The analysis suggests that if the average squared momentum increases over time due to the fluctuating forces from the potential, the MSD could grow linearly with time, indicating diffusion. However, the periodic nature of the cosine potential might also lead to more complex phenomena like trapping or oscillations, which could deviate from simple diffusion. A more detailed investigation would likely require further analytical techniques or numerical simulations.

Analysis of Semi-Discrete Motion in a 2D Lattice Potential Exhibiting Permutation Symmetry

Solving Methodology

The methodology for this case involves a full discretization of the spatial coordinates, while momenta remain continuous. I use finite differences to approximate the forces from the discrete potential and Euler's method to update the momenta. The position update is probabilistic, with hopping on the 2D lattice. The analytical investigation includes analyzing the discrete symmetries of the lattice and potential, examining the conservation of average energy considering the probabilistic hops, determining conditions for a stationary average position on the lattice, and investigating potential diffusion-like behavior [5].

The Potential Function:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

Semi-discretization Methodology

Discrete Positions on the 2D Lattice

Forces from the Discrete Potential

I am given the discrete cosine potential function:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

I approximate the forces using finite differences:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{V(i+1, j) - V(i-1, j)}{2\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx -\frac{V(i, j+1) - V(i, j-1)}{2\Delta y}$$

Calculation of $F_i(i, j)$

First, I evaluate the potential at $(i+1, j)$ and $(i-1, j)$:

$$V(i+1, j) = A \cos(k(i+1)\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) = A \cos(ki\Delta x + k\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

$$V(i-1, j) = A \cos(k(i-1)\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) = A \cos(ki\Delta x - k\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

Now, substitute these into the expression for $F_i(i, j)$:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x + k\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) - A \cos(ki\Delta x - k\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)}{2\Delta x}$$

Factor out the common term $A \cos(kj\Delta y)$:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(kj\Delta y)(\cos(ki\Delta x + k\Delta x) - \cos(ki\Delta x - k\Delta x))}{2\Delta x}$$

I use the trigonometric identity: $\cos(a + b) - \cos(a - b) = -2 \sin(a) \sin(b)$. Let $a = ki\Delta x$ and $b = k\Delta x$.

$$F_i(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(kj\Delta y)(-2 \sin(ki\Delta x) \sin(k\Delta x))}{2\Delta x}$$

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

Calculation of $F_j(i, j)$

Next, I evaluate the potential at $(i, j+1)$ and $(i, j-1)$:

$$V(i, j+1) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(k(j+1)\Delta y) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y + k\Delta y)$$

$$V(i, j-1) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(k(j-1)\Delta y) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y - k\Delta y)$$

Now, substitute these into the expression for $F_j(i, j)$:

$$F_j(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y + k\Delta y) - A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y - k\Delta y)}{2\Delta y}$$

Factor out the common term $A \cos(ki\Delta x)$:

$$F_j(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x)(\cos(kj\Delta y + k\Delta y) - \cos(kj\Delta y - k\Delta y))}{2\Delta y}$$

I use the trigonometric identity: $\cos(a + b) - \cos(a - b) = -2 \sin(a) \sin(b)$. Let $a = kj\Delta y$ and $b = k\Delta y$.

$$F_j(i, j) \approx -\frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x)(-2 \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y))}{2\Delta y}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Summary of Results

The forces from the discrete cosine potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$, using finite difference approximations, are:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Continuous Momenta Update using Euler's Method

Momentum Update using Euler's Method

The Euler update rules for the momenta are given by:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, j_n)h$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + F_j(i_n, j_n)h$$

I found the forces for the potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ to be:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Substituting these into the Euler update rules, I get:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \left(\frac{A \sin(ki_n\Delta x) \cos(kj_n\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right) h$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \left(\frac{A \cos(ki_n\Delta x) \sin(kj_n\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \right) h$$

Summary of Momentum Update Rules

The momenta at the next time step $n + 1$ are updated from the momenta at the current time step

n according to the following rules:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \sin(ki_n\Delta x) \cos(kj_n\Delta y)$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \cos(ki_n\Delta x) \sin(kj_n\Delta y)$$

Probabilistic Position Update (Hopping)

Probabilistic Position Update on the 2D Lattice

Let the current lattice site at time step n be (i_n, j_n) . The parameters influencing the hopping probabilities are:

$$\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x}$$

$$\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y}$$

The probabilities of transitioning to a new site (i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) at time step $n + 1$ are:

- Probability of hopping in the $+i$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $-i$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $+j$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n + 1) = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n}))$$

- Probability of hopping in the $-j$ direction:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n - 1) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

- Probability of staying at the same site:

$$P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n) = 1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}$$

where

$$P_{+i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n}))$$

$$P_{-i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

$$P_{+j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n}))$$

$$P_{-j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

Summary of Probabilistic Update Rule

The position on the 2D lattice is updated probabilistically at each time step based on the values of $\eta_{i,n}$ and $\eta_{j,n}$, which depend on the momenta. The particle has a chance to move one step in the positive or negative i or j direction, or to stay at its current location. The maximum probability of hopping in any single direction is limited to 0.25.

Analysis

Permutation Symmetry Analysis

Translational Symmetry of the Potential

For the potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ to be invariant under the lattice translations $(i, j) \rightarrow (i + n_x, j + n_y)$, where n_x and n_y are integers, I must have:

$$V(i + n_x, j + n_y) = V(i, j)$$

Substituting the potential function, this condition becomes:

$$A \cos(k(i + n_x)\Delta x) \cos(k(j + n_y)\Delta y) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

This equality holds if and only if $kn_x\Delta x$ is an integer multiple of 2π and $kn_y\Delta y$ is an integer multiple of 2π . That is:

$$k\Delta x = 2\pi m_x$$

$$k\Delta y = 2\pi m_y$$

where m_x and m_y are integers. These conditions must hold for all integers n_x and n_y . The smallest non-zero integer is $n_x = 1$ and $n_y = 1$, so for the potential to be invariant under a shift by one lattice unit in both directions, I require:

$$k\Delta x = 2\pi m_x$$

$$k\Delta y = 2\pi m_y$$

where m_x and m_y are integers. More generally, if I consider the periodicity of the lattice, the potential will be periodic if $k\Delta x =$

$$\frac{2\pi m_x}{L_x} \text{ and } k\Delta y = \frac{2\pi m_y}{L_y} \text{ where } L_x \text{ and } L_y \text{ are the periods in terms of the number of lattice units, and } m_x, m_y \text{ are integers.}$$

Summary of Translational Symmetry

The discrete cosine potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ exhibits the translational symmetries of the 2D lattice (by one lattice unit in each direction) if and only if $k\Delta x$ is an integer multiple of 2π and $k\Delta y$ is an integer multiple of 2π .

Permutation Symmetry of the Potential

I will now examine the permutation symmetry of the potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$. Permutation symmetry requires that the potential is invariant under the exchange of indices i and j , i.e., $V(i, j) = V(j, i)$.

The potential function is:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

Swapping the indices i and j, I get:

$$V(j, i) = A \cos(kj\Delta x) \cos(ki\Delta y)$$

For permutation symmetry, I need $V(i, j) = V(j, i)$, so:

$$A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) = A \cos(kj\Delta x) \cos(ki\Delta y)$$

This equality holds for all integer values of i and j if the lattice spacing is the same in both directions, i.e., $\Delta x = \Delta y$.

I consider a square lattice where $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$. In this case, the potential becomes:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(kia) \cos(kja)$$

Now, if I exchange i and j:

$$V(j, i) = A \cos(kja) \cos(kia)$$

Since multiplication is commutative, $\cos(kja) \cos(kia) = \cos(kia) \cos(kja)$, which means $V(j, i) =$

$$V(i, j).$$

Summary of Permutation Symmetry

The potential function $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ exhibits permutation symmetry ($V(i, j) = V(j, i)$) when the lattice spacing is the same in both the x and y directions ($\Delta x = \Delta y$), which corresponds to a square lattice.

Conservation of Average Energy

Expected Potential Energy at Time n + 1

The expected potential energy at time step n + 1 is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= P(i_{n+1} = i_n + 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n + 1, j_n) \\ &+ P(i_{n+1} = i_n - 1, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n - 1, j_n) \\ &+ P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n + 1) V(i_n, j_n + 1) \\ &+ P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n - 1) V(i_n, j_n - 1) \\ &+ P(i_{n+1} = i_n, j_{n+1} = j_n) V(i_n, j_n) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the probabilities:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) V(i_n + 1, j_n) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) V(i_n - 1, j_n) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) V(i_n, j_n + 1) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) V(i_n, j_n - 1) \\ &+ (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) V(i_n, j_n) \end{aligned}$$

Now, I substitute the potential function $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k(i_n + 1)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k(i_n - 1)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n + 1)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n - 1)\Delta y) \\ &+ (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \end{aligned}$$

where $P_{+i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n}))$, $P_{-i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$, $P_{+j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n}))$,

$P_{-j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$.

Summary of Expected Potential Energy

The expected potential energy at the next time step is a weighted average of the potential evaluated at the current site and its four nearest neighbors, with the weights determined by the probabilities of hopping or staying, which depend on the momenta.

Difference in Average Energy (H_{n+1}) – H_n

The difference in average energy between time step n + 1 and n is:

$$\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n = \left(\frac{p_{i,n+1}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{j,n+1}^2}{2m} + \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle \right) - \left(\frac{p_{i,n}^2}{2m} + \frac{p_{j,n}^2}{2m} + V(i_n, j_n) \right)$$

where

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \sin(ki_n \Delta x) \cos(kj_n \Delta y)$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \cos(ki_n \Delta x) \sin(kj_n \Delta y)$$

and $\langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V(i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}) \rangle &= \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k(i_n + 1)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n})) A \cos(k(i_n - 1)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n + 1)\Delta y) \\ &+ \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n})) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n - 1)\Delta y) \\ &+ (1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j}) A \cos(k(i_n)\Delta x) \cos(k(j_n)\Delta y) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting these into the energy difference equation and expanding the squared momentum terms will result in a lengthy expression. However, similar to the previous case with the single coupled cosine potential, I can expect that $\langle H_{n+1} \rangle - H_n$ will generally not be zero. The Euler method introduces terms of order h , and the probabilistic hopping leads to changes in the expected potential energy that will not perfectly balance the changes in kinetic energy.

Summary of Energy Conservation

As with the previous potential, the average energy is generally not conserved for this semi-discrete system when using Euler's method for momentum updates and a probabilistic hopping rule. The approximations inherent in Euler's method and the statistical nature of the position updates lead to a non-zero difference between the average energy at consecutive time steps.

Stationary Average Position on the Lattice

Conditions for a Stationary Average Position

For a stationary average position on the lattice, I require that the expected change in both the i

and j coordinates over one time step is zero:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = \langle i_{n+1} - i_n \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = \langle j_{n+1} - j_n \rangle = 0$$

The expected change in the i-coordinate is given by:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = (i_n + 1 - i_n)P_{+i} + (i_n - 1 - i_n)P_{-i} + (i_n - i_n)(1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j})$$

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = P_{+i} - P_{-i}$$

Substituting the expressions for P_{+i} and P_{-i} :

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

For $\langle \Delta i \rangle = 0$, I must have:

$$\max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

This condition is satisfied if and only if $\eta_{i,n} = 0$.

Similarly, the expected change in the j-coordinate is given by:

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = (j_n + 1 - j_n)P_{+j} + (j_n - 1 - j_n)P_{-j} + (j_n - j_n)(1 - P_{+i} - P_{-i} - P_{+j} - P_{-j})$$

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = P_{+j} - P_{-j}$$

Substituting the expressions for P_{+j} and P_{-j} :

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

For $\langle \Delta j \rangle = 0$, I must have:

$$\max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) = \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

This condition is satisfied if and only if $\eta_{j,n} = 0$. Recall that $\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x}$ and $\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y}$. Therefore, the conditions for a stationary average position are:

$$\frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x} = 0 \implies p_{i,n+1} = 0$$

$$\frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y} = 0 \implies p_{j,n+1} = 0$$

Summary of Conditions for Stationary Average Position

The average position on the 2D lattice remains stationary if and only if the momenta at the next time step in both the i and j directions are zero. This implies that there is no net drift of the particle on the lattice in either direction, on average.

Potential Diffusion-like Behavior

To explore diffusion-like behavior, I again consider the mean squared displacement (MSD). The expected squared change in the i and j coordinates at each step are:

$$\langle (\Delta i_n)^2 \rangle = P_{+i} + P_{-i} = \min(0.25, \max(0, \eta_{i,n})) + \min(0.25, \max(0, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

$$\langle (\Delta j_n)^2 \rangle = P_{+j} + P_{-j} = \min(0.25, \max(0, \eta_{j,n})) + \min(0.25, \max(0, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

The momenta evolve as:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \sin(ki_n \Delta x) \cos(kj_n \Delta y)$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \cos(ki_n \Delta x) \sin(kj_n \Delta y)$$

I consider the average force over the lattice. The average of $\sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ and $\cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y)$ over a sufficiently large lattice is zero (assuming $k\Delta x$ and $k\Delta y$ are not integer multiples of 2π). Thus, if the initial average momentum is zero, it will remain around zero.

Now, I look at the evolution of the average squared momentum in the i-direction:

$$\langle p_{i,n+1}^2 \rangle = \langle (p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, j_n)h)^2 \rangle = \langle p_{i,n}^2 \rangle + 2h \langle p_{i,n} F_i(i_n, j_n) \rangle + h^2 \langle F_i(i_n, j_n)^2 \rangle$$

Assuming $\langle p_{i,n} \rangle = 0$, the term $\langle p_{i,n} F_i(i_n, j_n) \rangle$ might also be zero on average. The last term is:

$$\langle F_i(i_n, j_n)^2 \rangle = \left(\frac{A \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right)^2 \langle \sin^2(ki_n \Delta x) \cos^2(kj_n \Delta y) \rangle$$

Using the averages $\langle \sin^2(\theta) \rangle = 1/2$ and $\langle \cos^2(\theta) \rangle = 1/2$ over a cycle:

$$\langle F_i(i_n, j_n)^2 \rangle \approx \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{A \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right)^2$$

Similarly,

$$\langle F_j(i_n, j_n)^2 \rangle \approx \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{A \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \right)^2$$

Thus, $\langle p_{i,n+1}^2 \rangle \approx \langle p_{i,n}^2 \rangle + \frac{h^2}{4} \left(\frac{A \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \right)^2$, and similarly for p . This shows that the average squared

momenta grow over time. Consequently, $\langle \eta^2 \rangle$ and $\langle \eta^2 \rangle$ will also grow. As $\langle \eta^2 \rangle$ increases, the values of $\langle (\Delta i_n)^2 \rangle$ and $\langle (\Delta j_n)^2 \rangle$ will tend towards saturation. If these values become roughly constant, the MSD will grow linearly with time, indicating diffusion-like behavior.

Summary of Potential Diffusion-Like Behavior

Similar to the previous potential, the semi-discrete dynamics with $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ can also exhibit diffusion-like behavior. The fluctuating forces from the potential cause the average squared momenta to grow, leading to a non-zero probability of hopping. Over time, this can result in a linear growth of the mean squared displacement. The periodic nature of the potential can still influence the details of this diffusion, potentially leading to anisotropic diffusion if $\Delta x \neq \Delta y$ or if the parameters in the i and j directions are different.

Motion Along the Line $i = j$

I consider the motion along the line $i = j$ for the potential function $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$.

I assume a square lattice where $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$, so the potential is:

$$V(i, j) = A \cos(kia) \cos(kja)$$

Potential Along $i = j$

Substituting $j = i$, the potential along this line is:

$$V(i, i) = A \cos(kia) \cos(kia) = A \cos^2(kia)$$

This can also be expressed using the double angle formula for cosine:

$$V(i, i) = \frac{A}{2} (1 + \cos(2kia)) = \frac{A}{2} + \frac{A}{2} \cos(2kia)$$

This represents a 1D periodic potential along the line $i = j$.

Forces Along $i = j$

For a square lattice, the force components are:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(kia) \cos(kja) \sin(ka)}{a}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \cos(kia) \sin(kja) \sin(ka)}{a}$$

Along the line $i = j$, these become:

$$F_i(i, i) = \frac{A \sin(kia) \cos(kia) \sin(ka)}{a} = \frac{A}{2a} \sin(2kia) \sin(ka)$$

$$F_j(i, i) = \frac{A \cos(kia) \sin(kia) \sin(ka)}{a} = \frac{A}{2a} \sin(2kia) \sin(ka)$$

Thus, $F_i(i, i) = F_j(i, i)$ along the line $i = j$.

The potential along the line $i = j$ for the given 2D lattice potential on a square lattice is a 1D periodic potential. The forces in the i and j directions are equal along this line and depend on $\sin(2kia)$.

The motion of a particle starting on this line, under the defined semi-discretization with independent hopping, may or may not stay on this line.

Analysis of Average Drift

The average drift in the i and j directions is given by the expected change in position per time step:

$$\langle \Delta i \rangle = P_{+i} - P_{-i} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{i,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{i,n}))$$

$$\langle \Delta j \rangle = P_{+j} - P_{-j} = \max(0, \min(0.25, \eta_{j,n})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\eta_{j,n}))$$

where $\eta_{i,n} = \frac{p_{i,n+1}h}{m\Delta x}$ and $\eta_{j,n} = \frac{p_{j,n+1}h}{m\Delta y}$, and the momenta are updated by:

$$p_{i,n+1} = p_{i,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \sin(ki_n \Delta x) \cos(kj_n \Delta y)$$

$$p_{j,n+1} = p_{j,n} + \frac{Ah \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \cos(ki_n \Delta x) \sin(kj_n \Delta y)$$

If the initial average momenta are zero, $(p_{i,0}) = 0$ and $(p_{j,0}) = 0$, the average force in the i -direction over the lattice is:

$$\langle F_i(i_n, j_n) \rangle = \frac{A \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \langle \sin(ki_n \Delta x) \cos(kj_n \Delta y) \rangle$$

If $k\Delta x$ and $k\Delta y$ are not integer multiples of 2π , then $\langle F_i \rangle = 0$ and $\langle F_j \rangle = 0$. This implies $(p_{i,n+1}) = 0$ and $(p_{j,n+1}) = 0$, and consequently $(\eta_{i,n}) = 0$ and $(\eta_{j,n}) = 0$ on average. Substituting these into the average drift equations gives:

$$\langle \langle \Delta i \rangle \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \langle \Delta j \rangle \rangle = 0$$

Therefore, under the assumption of zero initial average momentum and that $k\Delta x$ and $k\Delta y$ are not integer multiples of 2π , the average drift for this potential is zero. A non-zero average

drift could occur with non-zero initial average momentum or if the average force is non-zero.

Average Drift with Non-Zero Initial Average Momentum

Suppose at the initial time $n = 0$, the particle has a non-zero average momentum $(p_{i,0}) = P_{i0}$ and $(p_{j,0}) = P_{j0}$. Assuming the average force from the potential is zero, the average momenta at subsequent time steps remain constant:

$$\langle \langle \Delta i \rangle \rangle = 0$$

$$\langle \langle \Delta j \rangle \rangle = 0$$

The average drift in the i and j directions becomes:

$$\langle \langle \Delta i \rangle \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \frac{P_{i0}h}{m\Delta x})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\frac{P_{i0}h}{m\Delta x}))$$

$$\langle \langle \Delta j \rangle \rangle = \max(0, \min(0.25, \frac{P_{j0}h}{m\Delta y})) - \max(0, \min(0.25, -\frac{P_{j0}h}{m\Delta y}))$$

If $P_{i0} > 0$, there is a positive average drift in the i -direction. If $P_{i0} < 0$, there is a negative average drift. The magnitude of the drift increases with $|P_{i0}|$ until it saturates at 0.25 steps per time step. Similar behavior occurs for the drift in the j -direction based on the sign and magnitude of P_{j0} .

A non-zero initial average momentum leads to a constant average drift in the direction of the initial momentum. The speed of this drift depends on the magnitude of the initial momentum and system parameters, with a maximum drift rate of 0.25 lattice sites per time step in each direction.

Average Drift Due to Specific Values of Potential Parameters

The forces are given by:

$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y)$$

For a non-zero average force over the lattice, the averages $(\sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y))$ or $(\cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y))$ must be non-zero. If $k\Delta x = 2\pi m_x$ (integer m_x), then $\sin(ki\Delta x) = 0$, so $F_i = 0$. Similarly, if $k\Delta y = 2\pi m_y$, then $\sin(kj\Delta y) = 0$, so $F_j = 0$.

For a non-zero average of $\sin(ki\Delta x)$ or $\cos(ki\Delta x)$ over all integers i , $k\Delta x$ would typically need to be a multiple of 2π (making sine zero) or zero (making sine zero).

However, in a finite lattice of size $L_x \times L_y$, averages like $\frac{1}{L_x} \sum_{i=0}^{L_x-1} \sin(ki\Delta x)$ might be non-zero for specific relationships between $k\Delta x$ and L_x .

For the infinite lattice case, it is generally challenging to obtain a sustained non-zero average force with this potential through specific values of k , Δx , or Δy alone.

Achieving a sustained non-zero average force, and thus a constant drift, through specific choices of the potential parameters k , Δx , or Δy is difficult for this potential over an infinite lattice.

Such a drift might be possible in finite lattices or with specific relationships between these parameters and the lattice dimensions.

Effects of Boundaries on Average Drift

In a finite lattice with boundaries, the probabilistic hopping rule needs to be modified when the particle reaches an edge. I consider two common types of boundaries: reflecting and absorbing.

Reflecting Boundaries

Consider a lattice bounded by $0 \leq i < L_x$ and $0 \leq j < L_y$.

- If the particle is at $\eta_{i,n}$ and $\eta_{i,n} < 0$ (attempting a hop to $i = -1$), a reflecting boundary would prevent this. A simple rule might be that the probability P_{+i} is redistributed to the probability of staying at $i = 0$ or hopping in the $+i$ direction. This would create a net average drift away from the boundary at $i = 0$.
- Similarly, at $i_{n+1} = L_x - 1$ with $\eta_{i,n} > 0$ (attempting a hop to $i = L_x$), the hop would be prevented, and the probability P_{+i} would be redistributed, leading to an average drift away from the boundary at $i = L_x - 1$.
- The same logic applies to the boundaries in the j direction at $j = 0$ and $j = L_y - 1$ based on the sign of $\eta_{j,n}$.

In general, reflecting boundaries in a finite lattice with a symmetric potential tend to cause an average drift away from the boundaries.

Absorbing Boundaries

Again, consider a lattice bounded by $0 \leq i < L_x$ and $0 \leq j < L_y$.

- If the particle reaches any of the boundaries (e.g., $i = 0, i = L_x - 1, j = 0, j = L_y - 1$), it is absorbed and removed from the system.
- If I consider an ensemble of particles, the total number of particles within the lattice will decrease over time.
- The average position of the particles that remain in the lattice might shift depending on the potential and the initial distribution. For a symmetric potential and a symmetric initial distribution, the average position of the surviving particles might stay roughly at the center, but the probability distribution will narrow as particles at the edges are absorbed.

Absorbing boundaries do not directly create a drift of the average position if the potential and initial conditions are symmetric. However, they do change the overall distribution and lead to a loss of particles from the system.

Summary

Reflecting boundaries typically induce an average drift away from the boundaries due to the prevention and redistribution of hopping probabilities that would lead outside the lattice. Absorbing boundaries lead to the removal of particles upon reaching them, which changes the overall distribution but may not cause a net drift in the average position of the remaining particles in cases of symmetry.

Symmetries of the Forces

The force components are given by:

$$F_i(i, j) = \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) = \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Permutation Symmetry

Under the exchange of indices $i \leftrightarrow j$ and lattice spacings $\Delta x \leftrightarrow \Delta y$, the forces transform as:

$$F_i(j, i, \Delta y, \Delta x) = \frac{A \sin(kj\Delta y) \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = F_j(i, j, \Delta y, \Delta x)$$

$$F_j(j, i, \Delta y, \Delta x) = \frac{A \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(ki\Delta x) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = F_i(i, j, \Delta x, \Delta y)$$

If $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$, then $F_i(j, i) = F_j(i, j)$ and $F_j(j, i) = F_i(i, j)$. The forces are interchanged under permutation of indices on a square lattice.

Reflection Symmetry

Reflection about the i -axis ($j \leftrightarrow -j$):

$$F_i(i, -j) = \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(-kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = F_i(i, j)$$

$$F_j(i, -j) = \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(-kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = -F_j(i, j)$$

Reflection about the j -axis ($i \leftrightarrow -i$):

$$F_i(-i, j) = \frac{A \sin(-ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = -F_i(i, j)$$

$$F_j(-i, j) = \frac{A \cos(-ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = F_j(i, j)$$

Rotational Symmetry (for $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$)

Rotation by 90 degrees ($(i, j) \rightarrow (-j, i)$):

$$F_i(-j, i) = \frac{A \sin(-kj\Delta x) \cos(ki\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{a} = -\frac{A \sin(kj\Delta x) \cos(ki\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{a} = -F_j(i, j)$$

$$F_j(-j, i) = \frac{A \cos(-kj\Delta x) \sin(ki\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{a} = \frac{A \cos(kj\Delta x) \sin(ki\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{a} = F_i(j, -i)$$

Symmetries of the Forces

The force components are given by:

$$F_i(i, j) = \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) = \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

Permutation Symmetry

Under the exchange of indices $i \leftrightarrow j$ and lattice spacings $\Delta x \leftrightarrow \Delta y$, the forces transform as:

$$F_i(j, i, \Delta y, \Delta x) = \frac{A \sin(kj\Delta y) \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = F_j(i, j, \Delta y, \Delta x)$$

$$F_j(j, i, \Delta y, \Delta x) = \frac{A \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(ki\Delta x) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = F_i(i, j, \Delta x, \Delta y)$$

If $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$, then $F_i(j, i) = F_j(i, j)$ and $F_j(j, i) = F_i(i, j)$. The forces are interchanged under permutation of indices on a square lattice.

Reflection Symmetry

Reflection about the i-axis ($j \leftrightarrow -j$):

$$F_i(i, -j) = \frac{A \sin(ki\Delta x) \cos(-kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = F_i(i, j)$$

$$F_j(i, -j) = \frac{A \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(-kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = -F_j(i, j)$$

Reflection about the j-axis ($i \leftrightarrow -i$):

$$F_i(-i, j) = \frac{A \sin(-ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta x)}{\Delta x} = -F_i(i, j)$$

$$F_j(-i, j) = \frac{A \cos(-ki\Delta x) \sin(kj\Delta y) \sin(k\Delta y)}{\Delta y} = F_j(i, j)$$

Rotational Symmetry (for $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$)

Rotation by 90 degrees ($(i, j) \rightarrow (-j, i)$):

$$F_i(-j, i) = \frac{A \sin(-kj\Delta y) \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(ka)}{a} = -\frac{A \sin(kj\Delta y) \cos(ki\Delta x) \sin(ka)}{a} = -F_j(i, j)$$

$$F_j(-j, i) = \frac{A \cos(-kj\Delta y) \sin(ki\Delta x) \sin(ka)}{a} = \frac{A \cos(kj\Delta y) \sin(ki\Delta x) \sin(ka)}{a} = F_i(j, -i)$$

Summary of Force Symmetries

The forces exhibit specific symmetry properties under permutation and reflection of the lattice indices. On a square lattice, the force components are interchanged upon swapping i and j . Reflections about the axes invert the sign of the force component along the other axis. Rotational symmetry is more complex and involves a relationship between the components at the rotated points.

Symmetries of the Motion

The motion of the particle is governed by the momentum update rules and the probabilistic hopping on the lattice. I consider how these behave under the discrete symmetries.

Reflection Symmetry

Reflection about the i-axis ($j \leftrightarrow -j$): The potential $V(i, -j) = V(i, j)$. The forces transform as

$F_i(i, -j) = F_i(i, j)$ and $F_j(i, -j) = -F_j(i, j)$. The momentum update rules become:

$$p'_{i,n+1} = p'_{i,n} + F_i(i'_n, -j'_n)h = p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, -j_n)h = p_{i,n} + F_i(i_n, j_n)h = p_{i,n+1}$$

$$p'_{j,n+1} = p'_{j,n} + F_j(i'_n, -j'_n)h = -p_{j,n} + (-F_j(i_n, j_n))h = -(p_{j,n} + F_j(i_n, j_n))h = -p_{j,n+1}$$

The η parameters transform as $\eta' = \eta_{i,n}$ and $\eta' = -\eta_{j,n}$. This leads to a swap in the hopping probabilities in the j direction: $P' = P_{-j}$ and $P' = P_{+j}$, while the probabilities in the i direction

remain the same. If the initial distribution of j and p_j is symmetric, the average motion will respect

This Reflection Symmetry.

Reflection about the j-axis ($i \leftrightarrow -i$): The potential $V(-i, j) = V(i, j)$. The forces transform as $F_i(-i, j) = -F_i(i, j)$ and $F_j(-i, j) = F_j(i, j)$. Similar to the previous case, if $p_{i,n}$ changes sign, then $p_{i,n+1}$ changes sign, and the hopping probabilities in the i direction are swapped. The motion respects reflection about the j -axis on average with symmetric initial conditions.

Rotational Symmetry (for $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$)

Under a 90-degree rotation $(i, j) \rightarrow (-j, i)$, the potential is invariant. The forces transform, and

if the momenta also transform as $p'_i = -p_j$ and $p'_j = p_i$, a more complex analysis shows that the dynamics should respect the rotational symmetry on average if the initial state is also rotationally symmetric.

Summary of Motion Symmetries

The semi-discrete motion exhibits the discrete symmetries of the underlying potential on average, provided that the initial conditions of the system are also symmetric with respect to the transformations considered. Reflections about the axes lead to corresponding reflections in the average motion, and rotational symmetry of the potential and initial state implies rotational symmetry in the average dynamics.

Conclusion

Summary of Observations and Results for Semi-Discrete Motion with Permutation Symmetry Potential

- Semi-Discretization:** I applied the same semi-discretization methodology as before.
- Forces:** I calculated the forces $F_i(i, j)$ and $F_j(i, j)$ using finite difference approximations.
- Momentum Update:** I used Euler's method to update the momenta based on these forces.
- Probabilistic Hopping:** The position on the lattice evolves probabilistically based on the updated momenta.
- Discrete Symmetries:** The potential $V(i, j) = A \cos(ki\Delta x) \cos(kj\Delta y)$ exhibits translational symmetry under certain conditions on $k\Delta x$ and $k\Delta y$, permutation symmetry when $\Delta x = \Delta y$, and also possesses reflection and rotational symmetries (for a square lattice).

- **Conservation of Average Energy:** The average energy is generally not conserved for similar reasons as with the previous potential.
- **Stationary Average Position:** The average position is stationary if the average momenta are zero.
- **Potential Diffusion-Like Behavior:** The system has the potential for diffusion-like behavior, with the mean squared displacement growing over time due to the fluctuating momenta.
- **Motion Along $i = j$:** For a square lattice with lattice spacing a , the potential along this line is $A \cos(2kia)$, and the forces F_i and F_j are equal to $A \sin(2kia) \sin(ka)$.
- **Average Drift:** The average drift is zero if the initial average momentum and average force are zero. A non-zero initial average momentum leads to a constant average drift. The average force from this potential is typically zero over an infinite lattice.
- **Variance of the Position:** The variance of the position grows over time, indicating diffusion, even when the average drift is zero.
- **Symmetries of the Forces:** The forces exhibit specific symmetries under permutation and reflection of indices.
- **Symmetries of the Motion:** The motion respects the symmetries of the potential and forces on average, provided the initial conditions are also symmetric.

Results

Thorough Comparison and Contrast of the Two Analyzed Potentials

I have analyzed two potential functions using the semi-discretization methodology:

1. $V_1(i, j) = A \cos(k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi)$
2. $V_2(i, j) = A \cos(ki \Delta x) \cos(kj \Delta y)$

I. Comparison and Contrast of Properties within Each Potential:

For both potential functions:

- **Semi-Discretization Methodology:** The same methodology was applied to both.
- **Conservation of Average Energy:** Average energy is generally not conserved for both due to the Euler method and probabilistic hopping.
- **Stationary Average Position:** Requires zero average momenta in both i and j directions for both.

- **Potential Diffusion-Like Behavior:** Both potentials show the potential for diffusion-like behavior driven by fluctuating momenta.
- **Average Drift:** For both, average drift is zero under zero initial average momentum and average force. Non-zero initial average momentum leads to drift.

II. Pairwise Comparison and Contrast of the Two Potentials Across Analyzed Properties:

- **Discrete Symmetries:**
 - V_1 : Translational, rotational (if square lattice and $k_x = k_y$), and reflection symmetries.
 - V_2 : Translational, permutation (if $\Delta x = \Delta y$), rotational (if square lattice), and reflection symmetries.
 - Contrast: V_2 possesses permutation symmetry on a square lattice, which is not a general symmetry of V_1 .
- **Forces:**
 - V_1 : Coupled forces where each component depends on both i and j through the argument $k_x i \Delta x + k_y j \Delta y + \phi$.
 - V_2 : Separable forces:
$$F_i(i, j) \approx \frac{A \sin(ki \Delta x) \cos(kj \Delta y) \sin(k \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

$$F_j(i, j) \approx \frac{A \cos(ki \Delta x) \sin(kj \Delta y) \sin(k \Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$
 - Contrast: V_1 produces coupled forces, while V_2 produces separable forces.
- **Motion Along $i = j$ (Square Lattice, $\Delta x = \Delta y = a$):**
 - V_1 : $V_1(i, i) = A \cos((k_x + k_y)ia + \phi)$.
 - V_2 : $V_2(i, i) = A \cos(2kia) = A(1 + \cos(2kia))$.
 - **Contrast:** Different forms of 1D periodic potentials along the line $i = j$.
- **Symmetries of the Forces:**
 - The specific symmetry properties under permutation and reflection differed between the two potentials, reflecting the forms of their respective force expressions.
- **Symmetries of the Motion:**
 - Both potentials resulted in motion that respects the symmetries of the potential and forces on average, given symmetric initial conditions.

Group-wise Comparison and Contrast Across All Analyzed Properties

The semi-discretization methodology established a common framework, leading to similarities in high-level behaviors such as energy non-conservation, conditions for stationary average position, and the potential for diffusion. The key differences observed in this analysis stem from the distinct mathematical structures of the two potential functions, particularly regarding their symmetries and the nature of the forces they produce (coupled vs. separable).

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