

# Deep Discrete-Time Lagrangian Mechanics

Takehiro Aoshima<sup>1</sup>, Takashi Matsubara<sup>1</sup>, Takaharu Yaguchi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Graduate School of Engineering Science, Osaka University

<sup>2</sup>Graduate School of System Informatics, Kobe University

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## Introduction

### Goal: a deep neural network that

- learns the physical dynamics only from the position.
- ensures the energy conservation laws strictly in discrete time.

### Background

- Recent studies demonstrated that neural networks learn the physical dynamics associated with the conservation law of energy in continuous time [1].
- The energy is no longer conserved after numerical integrators discretize the time for computer simulations.
- Symplectic integrators conserve a modified energy and a discrete gradient method conserves energy strictly in discrete time [2; 3].
- They need velocity or momentum but measuring an accurate velocity is troublesome.
- Without an accurate velocity, a learned dynamics may be greatly different from the teacher system.
- The Verlet method is a symplectic integrator and depends only on the position.
- No method that conserves energy strictly in discrete time is available when only the position is available.

### Proposed approach

- models discrete-time Lagrangian mechanics, which is expressed only with the position.
- ensures the energy conservation laws strictly in discrete time by the *automatic discrete differential (AAD) algorithm* [3].

## Method: Theory

### Target system

- The potential energy  $V$  is expressed as a function of the position  $q$ .
- The kinetic energy  $T$  is expressed as a function of the velocity  $\dot{q}$  or momentum  $p$ .

### Hamiltonian mechanics

A system

- has a state  $u = (q, p)$ .
- has a Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H} = T + V$ .

Hamilton's equation

$\frac{dq}{dt} = \nabla_p T, \frac{dp}{dt} = \nabla_q V$  ensures the conservation law of energy.

For conserving energy strictly in discrete time, a discrete gradient has been employed [4].

Hamiltonian mechanics in continuous time

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \nabla_p T$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = \nabla_q V$$

Hamiltonian mechanics in discrete time with a discrete gradient

$$\frac{q^{(n+1)} - q^{(n)}}{\Delta t} = \bar{\nabla}_p T(p^{(n+1)}, p^{(n)})$$

$$\frac{p^{(n+1)} - p^{(n)}}{\Delta t} = \bar{\nabla}_q V(q^{(n+1)}, q^{(n)})$$

$\bar{\nabla} T$  is a discrete gradient of  $T$ .

## Method: Proposed Approach

### Method

- Eliminating the momentum from Hamiltonian mechanics in discrete time.

$$\text{Hamiltonian mechanics in discrete time with a discrete gradient}$$

$$\frac{q^{(n+1)} - q^{(n)}}{\Delta t} = \bar{\nabla}_p T(p^{(n+1)}, p^{(n)}), \frac{p^{(n+1)} - p^{(n)}}{\Delta t} = \bar{\nabla}_q V(q^{(n+1)}, q^{(n)})$$

### Proposed: discrete-time Lagrangian mechanics

$$M \frac{q^{(n+1)} - 2q^{(n)} + q^{(n-1)}}{(\Delta t)^2} = -\frac{1}{2} (\bar{\nabla}_q V(q^{(n+1)}, q^{(n)}) + \bar{\nabla}_q V(q^{(n)}, q^{(n-1)})) \quad (1)$$

- The potential energy  $V$  is modeled by a neural network.
- A discrete gradient  $\bar{\nabla}_q V$  is obtained by the *ADD algorithm* [3].
- $M$  is a mass matrix.

Since the proposed equation (1) converges to the Euler-Lagrangian equation, it is considered as a discrete-time Lagrangian mechanics.

### Proposed approach

- learns the physical dynamics only from the position by modeling a discrete-time Lagrangian mechanics.
- ensures the conservation law of energy strictly in discrete time using a discrete gradient.

### Training

- Minimizing mean squared error between left- and right-hand sides of Eq. (1).

### Prediction

- A next state is estimated by implicitly solving Eq. (1).

## Experiments and Results

### Datasets

- mass-spring system, pendulum system, and 2-body system

### Comparative methods

- Euler method, symplectic Euler method, and leapfrog integrator
- "leapfrog + proposed" use leapfrog integrator for training and the proposed approach for prediction.

### Results

- The proposed approach and the leapfrog integrator predict the state at a similar level.
- For the mass-spring and pendulum systems, the proposed approach conserves energy accurately, symplectic Euler method and leapfrog integrator conserve a modified energy only from the position but they do not conserve energy strictly.
- For the 2-body system, "leapfrog + proposed" conserves energy accurately.
- The proposed approach conserves modeled energy.

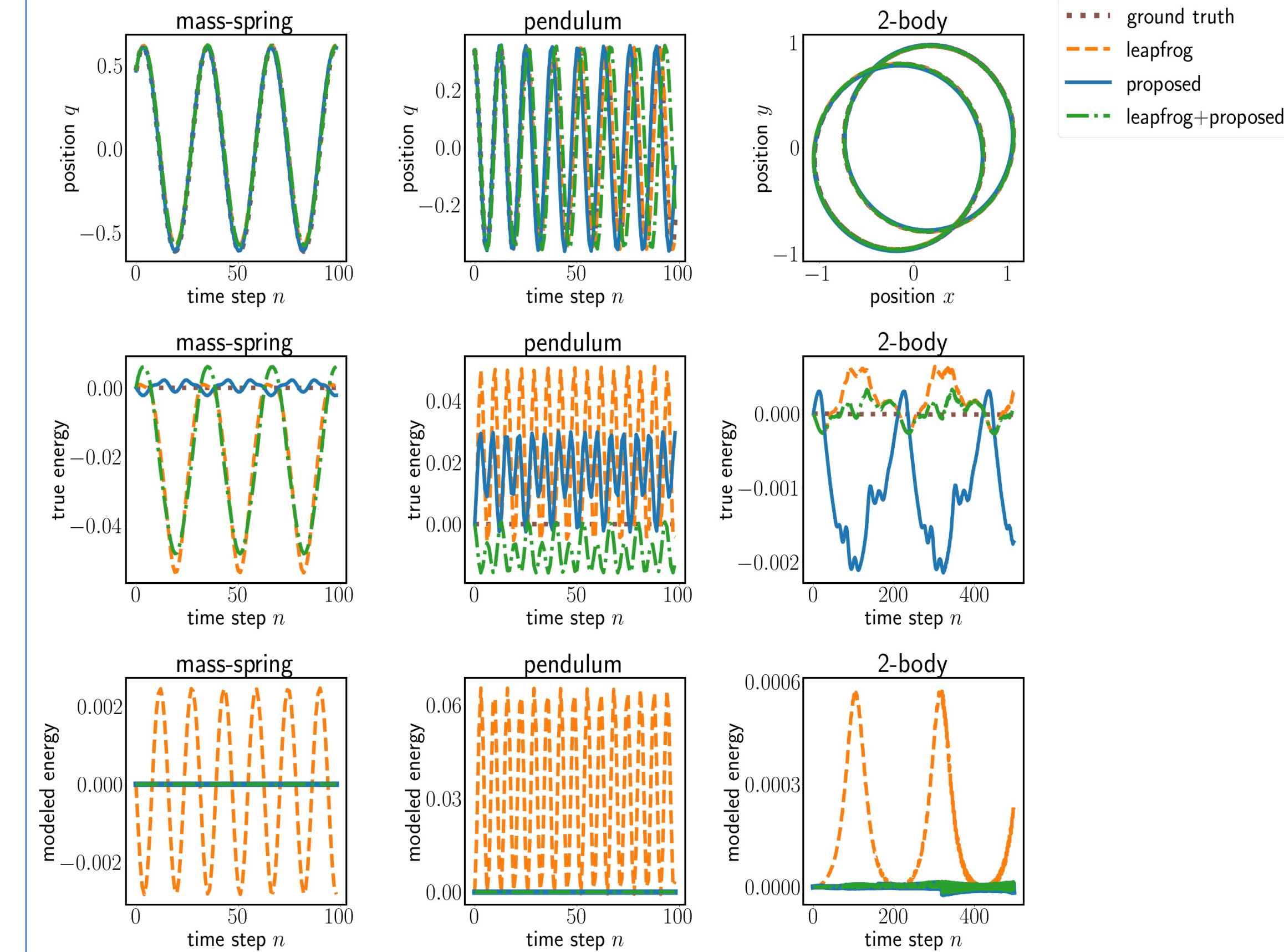


Figure 1: Results. (top) Position  $q$ . (center) True energy. (bottom) Energy modeled by each model (modeled energy).

Table 1: Mean squared errors averaged over 15 trials across all three tasks.

Model	Mass-Spring		Pendulum		2-Body	
	Position $q$	Energy	Position $q$	Energy	Position $q$	Energy
Euler	$4.48 \times 10^0$	$1.23 \times 10^1$	$2.96 \times 10^2$	$8.54 \times 10^1$	$3.71 \times 10^{-1}$	$8.64 \times 10^{-4}$
symplectic Euler	$7.09 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.67 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.89 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.45 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.77 \times 10^{-7}$
leapfrog	$7.09 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.57 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.89 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.04 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.14 \times 10^{-7}$
proposed	$6.20 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.52 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.43 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.20 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.00 \times 10^{-6}$
leapfrog+proposed	$8.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.19 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.47 \times 10^{-1}$	$8.38 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.59 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.01 \times 10^{-7}$

Table 2: The variance of modeled energy.

Model	Mass-Spring	Pendulum	2-Body
Euler	$3.84 \times 10^{-1}$	$3.85 \times 10^1$	$1.35 \times 10^{-4}$
symplectic Euler	$1.06 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.15 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.70 \times 10^{-7}$
leapfrog	$3.10 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.15 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.78 \times 10^{-9}$
proposed	$2.11 \times 10^{-12}$	$4.58 \times 10^{-11}$	$2.42 \times 10^{-11}$

## References

- [1] Greydanus *et al.* (2019) "Hamiltonian Neural Networks." In: Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems.
- [2] Chen *et al.* (2020) "Symplectic Recurrent Neural Networks." In: International Conference on Learning Representations.
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- [4] Hairer *et al.* (2006). Geometric Numerical Integration: Structure-Preserving Algorithm for Ordinary Differential Equations. Springer.