

INTRODUCTION

The most complete analytical model for F-Region plasma particle dynamics, which includes the **Coulomb collision effect**, was described by Milla & Kudeki (2011). The β and D are known as Spitzer coefficients which have large values for electron dynamic. U is a Gaussian white noise vector. This approach forces the use of small time-step discretization ($dt \ll 1$) for an Euler-Maruyama algorithm, generating a high computational execution time. The stiffness behavior of this model requires a better computational treatment to increase efficiency. A wide exploration on SDE numerical solvers has been covered and numerical benchmarks have been performed.

SDE NUMERICAL SOLVERS

Higher-order algorithms based on more complex expansions avoid the use of small time-step discretization, however, more terms are needed to be calculated on each iteration to maintain precision and stability.

$$dX_t = \left(\frac{1}{2} X_t + \sqrt{X_t^2 + 1} \right) dt + \sqrt{X_t^2 + 1} dW_t$$

A weak convergence test is presented in Figure II, solving the 1D system with analytical solution shown in Debrabant & Robler (2010). This test establishes the relationship between precision and computational discretization for solvers listed in table I:

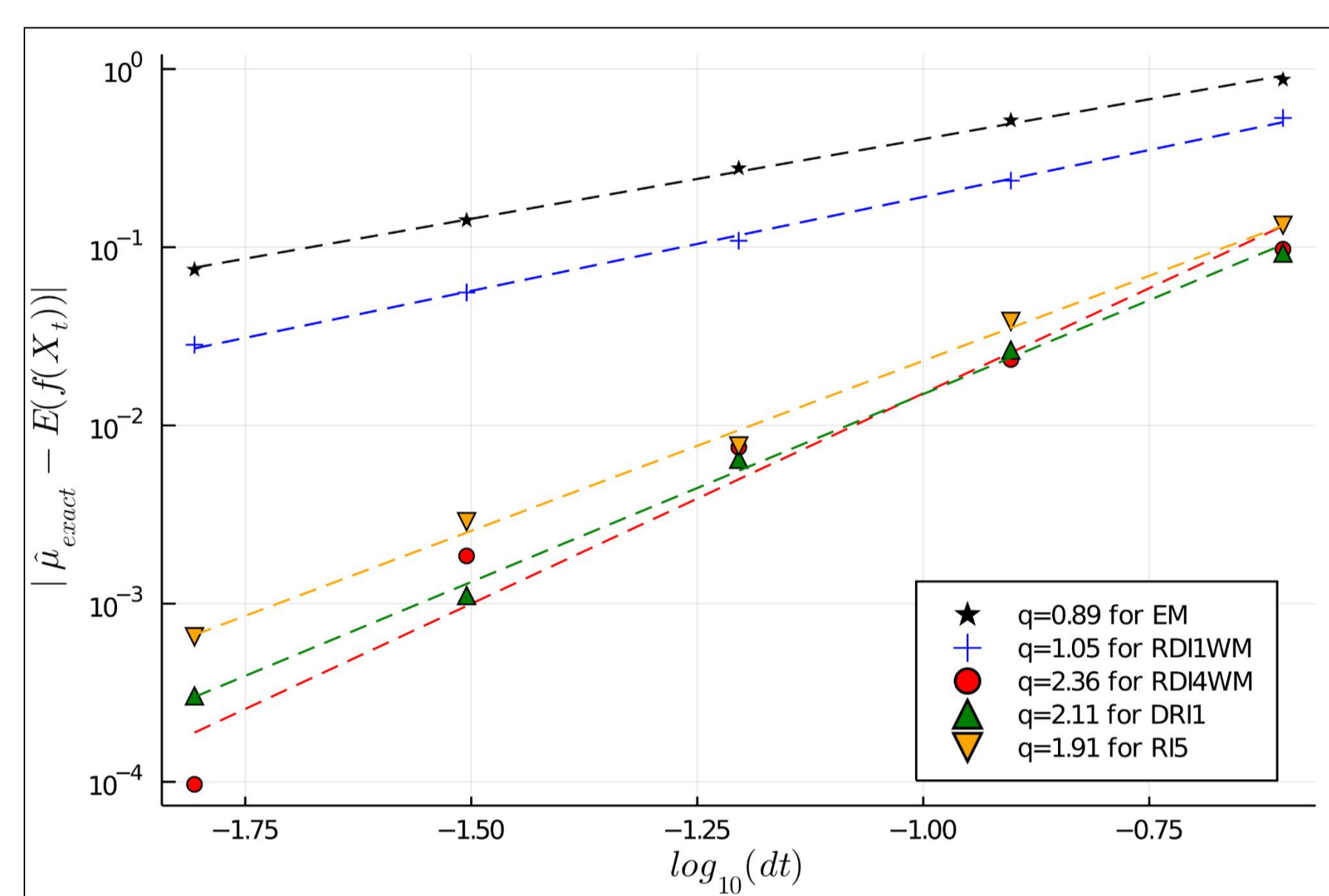


Figure II: Weak order of convergence (q) analysis for algorithms listed in Debrabant & Robler (2010).

Algorithm	Description	Features
EM	Euler-Maruyama	Explicit, Weak order 1
RDI1WM	Stochastic Runge-Kutta based algorithm	Explicit, Weak order 1
RDI4WM	Stochastic Runge-Kutta based algorithm	Explicit, Weak order 2
R5	Stochastic Runge-Kutta based algorithm	Explicit, Weak order 2
DR1	Approximated EM (Drift Condition)	Explicit, Weak order 1

Table I: List of Stochastic Solvers

Algorithm	dt (s)	Execution Time (s)	Error
Adaptive EM	dt ~ 1/10β	0.923	~ 10 ⁻¹
	dt ~ 1/100β	5.96	~ 10 ⁻²
RDI4WM	0.315	0.17	~ 10 ⁻¹
	0.1	0.638	~ 10 ⁻²

Table II: Execution time and computational error are measured for Adaptive Euler-Maruyama and RDI4WM

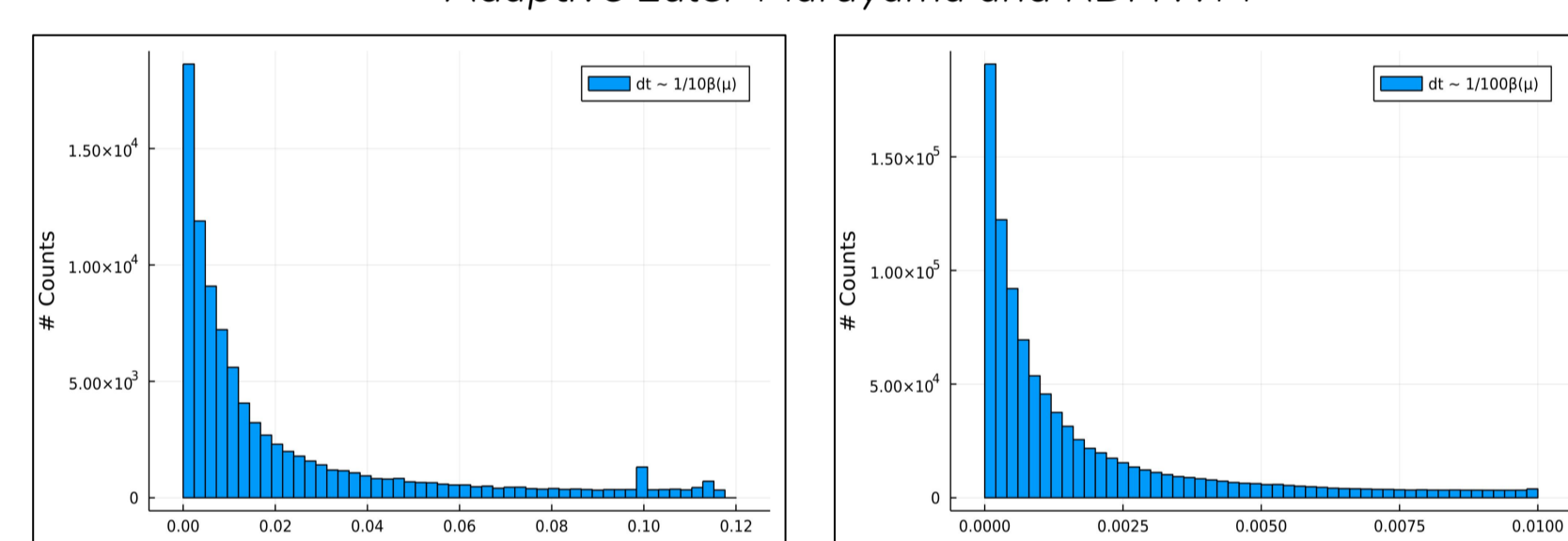


Figure III: Both plots show a histogram for adaptive time step. The right panel is for the dt ~ 1/10β, and the right panel is for dt ~ 1/100β.

We identify that RDI4WM algorithm has the fewer error measurement from solvers listed in table I. In addition, we are also interested in comparing this higher-order algorithm with the adaptive Euler-Maruyama scheme used by Milla & Kudeki to solve their model, explained in Table II. This test also suggests that the RDI4WM algorithm has a greater performance over the adaptive scheme.

SIMULATION

The model is used to simulate the evolution of charged particles on an O* plasma. The RDI4WM algorithm must recover the standard results from particle dynamics as shown in Figure III. This higher-order solver was constructed to handle with stiffness equations like Milla & Kudeki model, which include the Coulomb collision effect. In figure III, variable radius gyromotion behavior is recovered using this new stochastic solver.

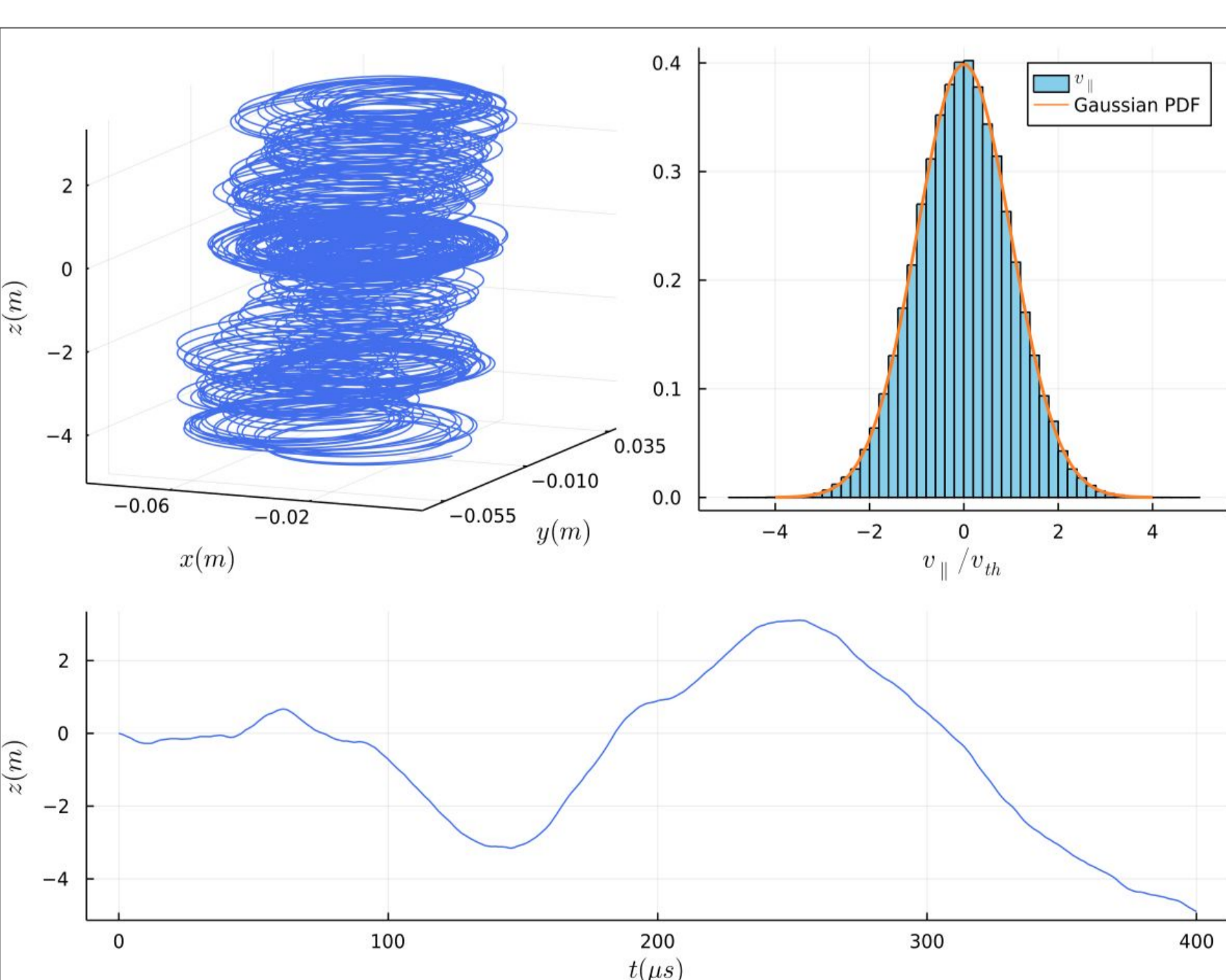


Figure III: Simulated electron trajectory for an O* plasma ($T_e = 1e3$ K, $N_e = 10^{12} m^{-3}$), with B field aligned to Z-axis using the RDI4WM algorithm. The velocity histogram corresponds to the z-direction. Orange line is an analytical Gaussian distribution with mean $\mu = 0$ and variance $\sigma = 1$.

However, we must focus on recovering the particle displacement, both parallel and perpendicular to the B field. To test a good performance of the SDE solvers, a bunch of 5000 trajectories sampled from a normal distribution $\sim N(0, v_{th})$ is used to reproduce the electron Auto Correlation Function (ACF) shown in figure IV.

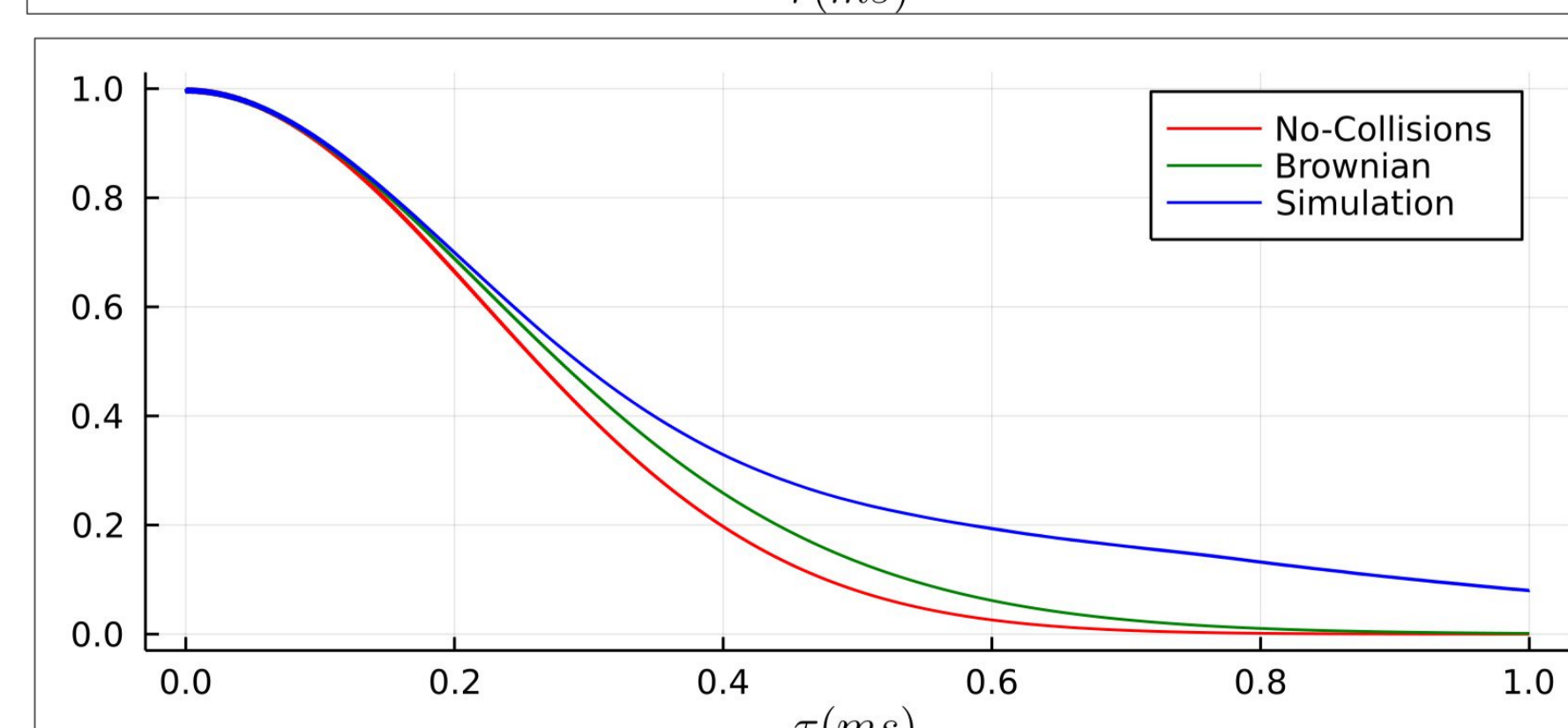
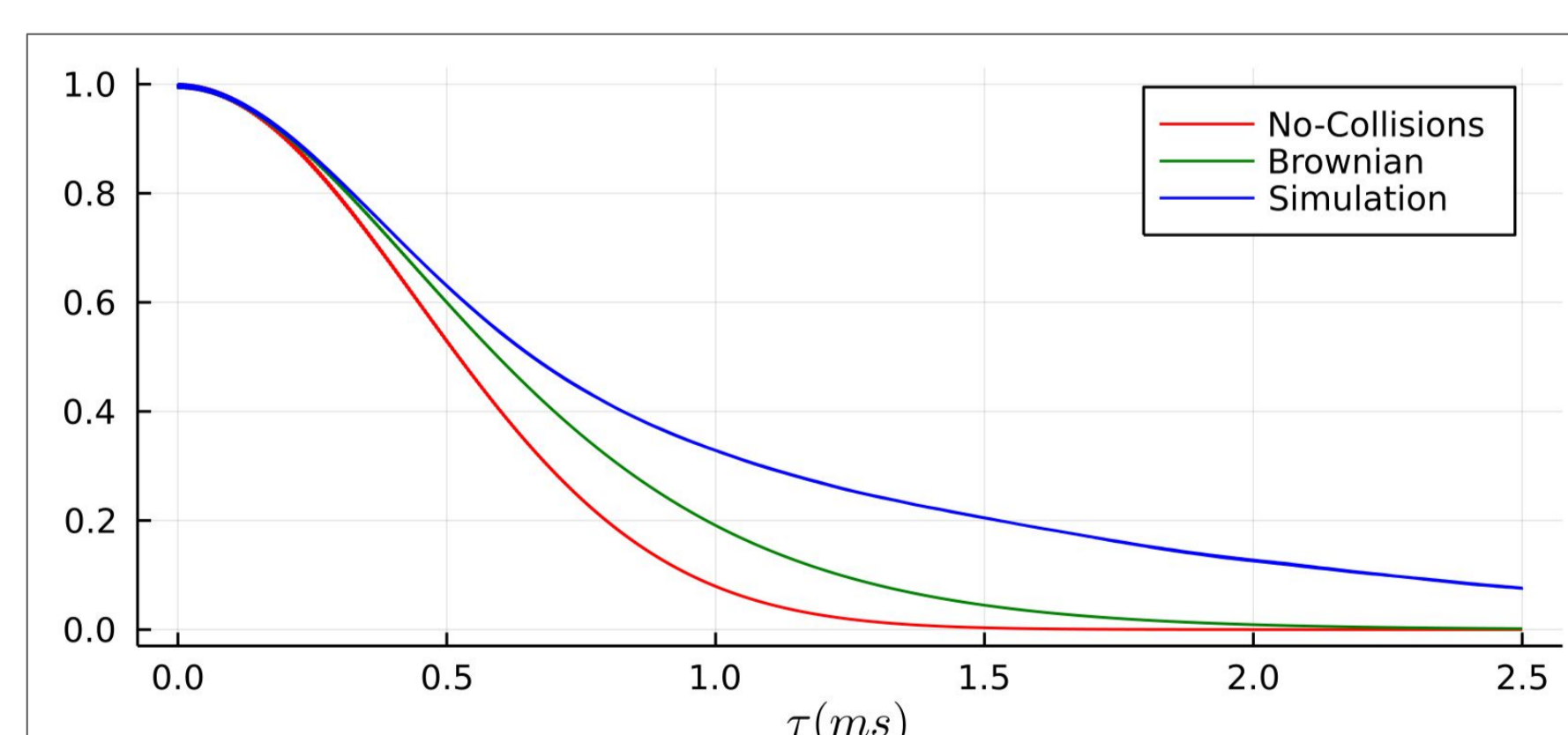


Figure IV: Top figure shows a simulation for a correlated time of $t = 1$ ms and an aspect angle of $\alpha = 1.0^\circ$. Bottom figure shows a simulation for $t = 2.5$ ms and aspect angle of $\alpha = 0.5^\circ$.

RESULTS

In this section, we present different parameter scenarios to explore the approximation that electron ACF can be decoupled into perpendicular and parallel contributions:

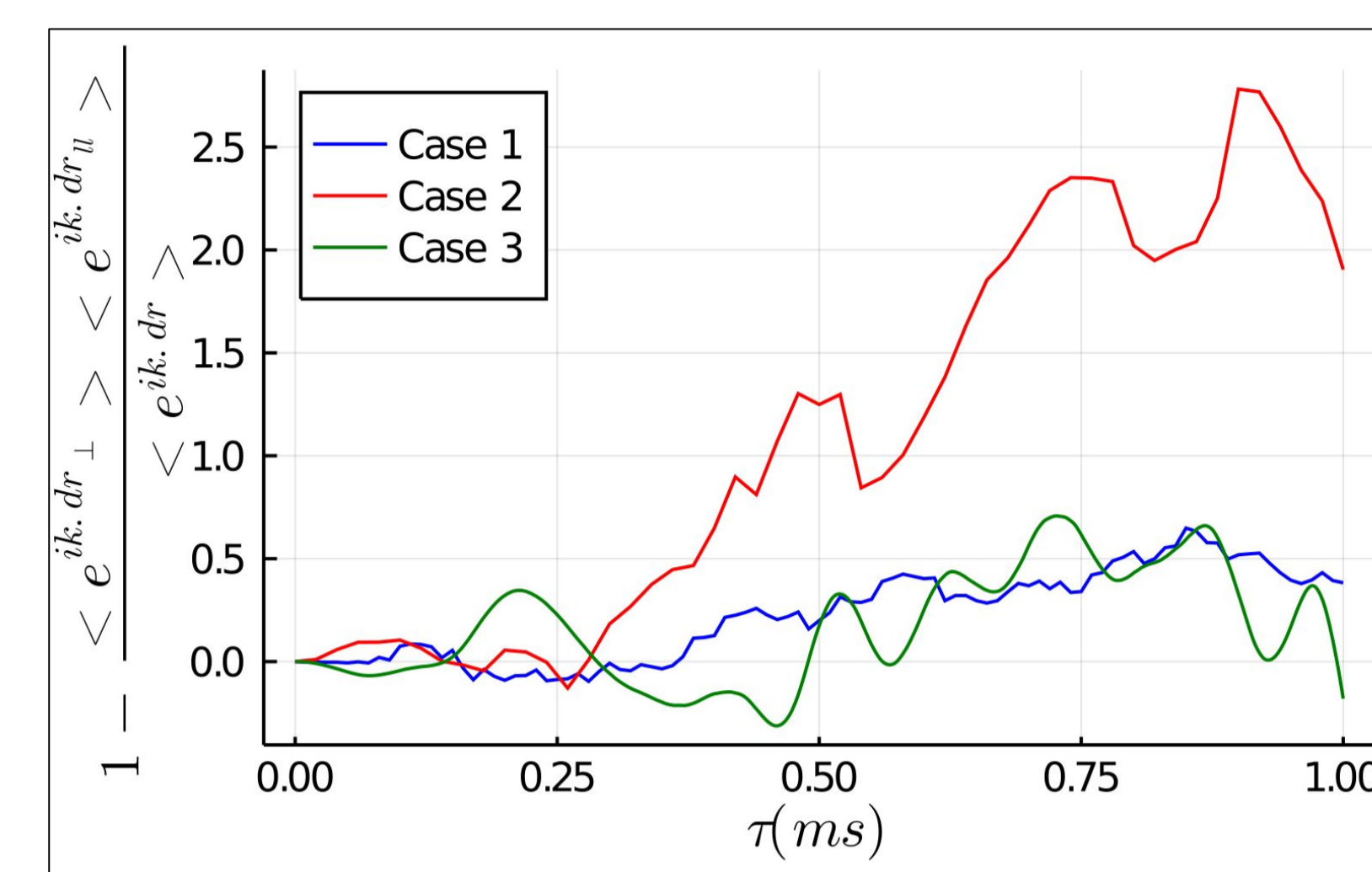


Figure V: Relative error measurement for electron ACF using

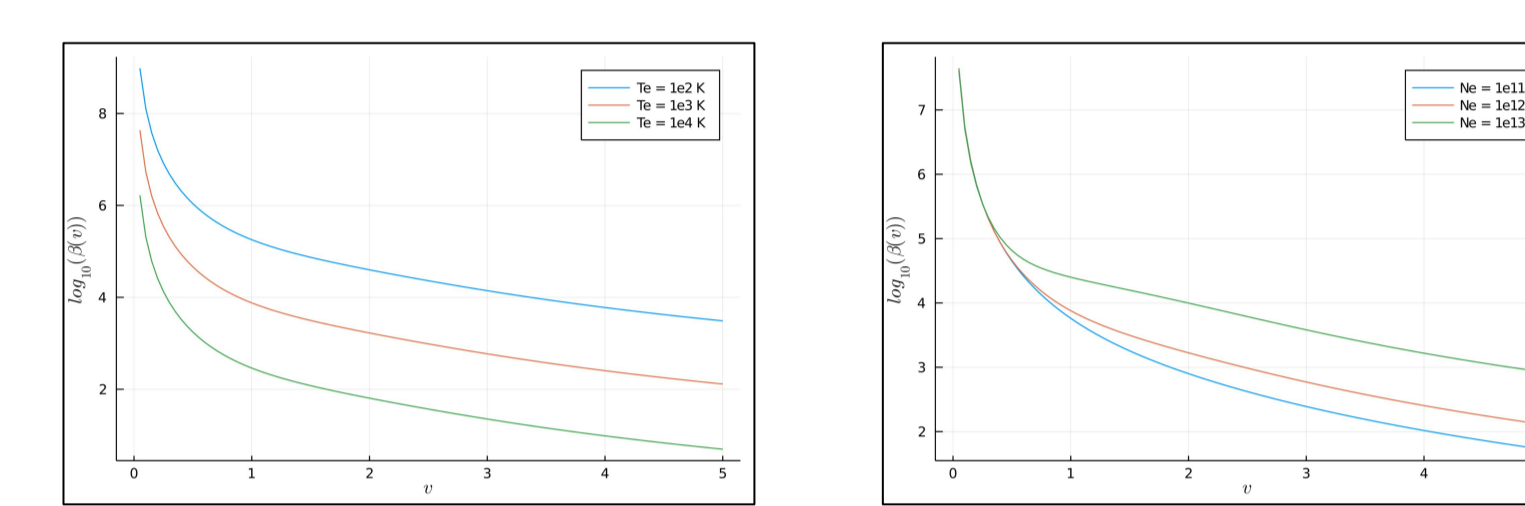


Figure VI: Drift Spitzer Coefficients dependency from temperature (left), and electron density (right).

$$\langle e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \Delta \vec{r}} \rangle \approx \langle e^{i\vec{k}_\perp \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_\perp} \rangle \langle e^{i\vec{k}_\parallel \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_\parallel} \rangle$$

To explore the sensibility of this assumption we set 3 different scenarios. First, a standard set of parameters (Case 1). Then, a modified temperature, density and magnetic field (Case 2) to test the sensibility of this assumption to physical parameters, and finally, an almost unmagnetized electron dynamics (Case 3).

Case	Parameters
Case 1	B = 25μT; T _e = 1000 K; N _e = 1e12
Case 2	B = 12μT; T _e = 500 K; N _e = 5e12
Case 3	B = 50nT; T _e = 1000 K; N _e = 1e12

Table III: List of different physical parameters

From figure V, it is observed that from the three different scenarios, the relative error of the electron ACF remains under a ~2.5% for the specific parameter combinations shown in table I.

Further, the numerical results from Milla & Kudeki model suggest that the particle displacement distribution along the B field is dominated by a non-Normal distribution. This behavior was also observed in our simulation using the RDI4WM higher-order algorithm as shown in figure VII. To explore the idea of a non-Gaussian distribution, various distributions were tested to fit the statistics of the

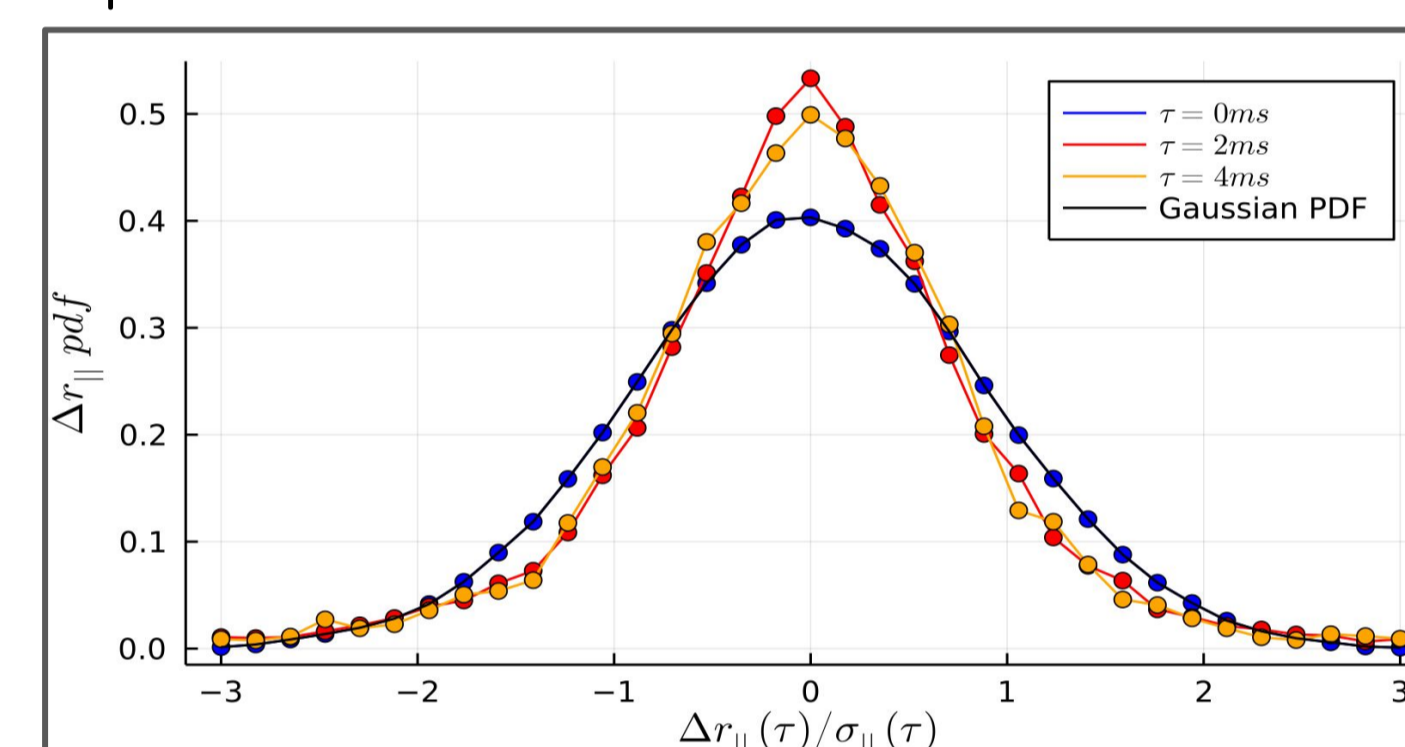


Figure VII: Normalized unit variance distribution for parallel displacements for different time delays. The evolution shows a deviation from Gaussian pdf.

Because we assumed that the distributions are symmetric and centered at zero, we can parameterize this model using three parameters:

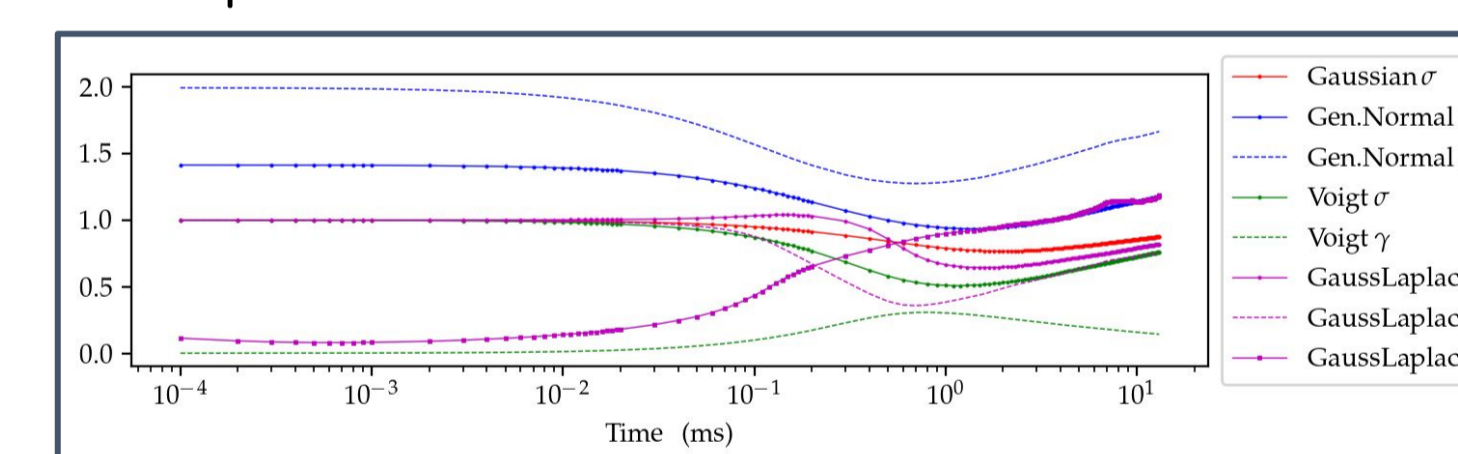


Figure IX: Time evolution of the fitting parameters of the tested distributions.

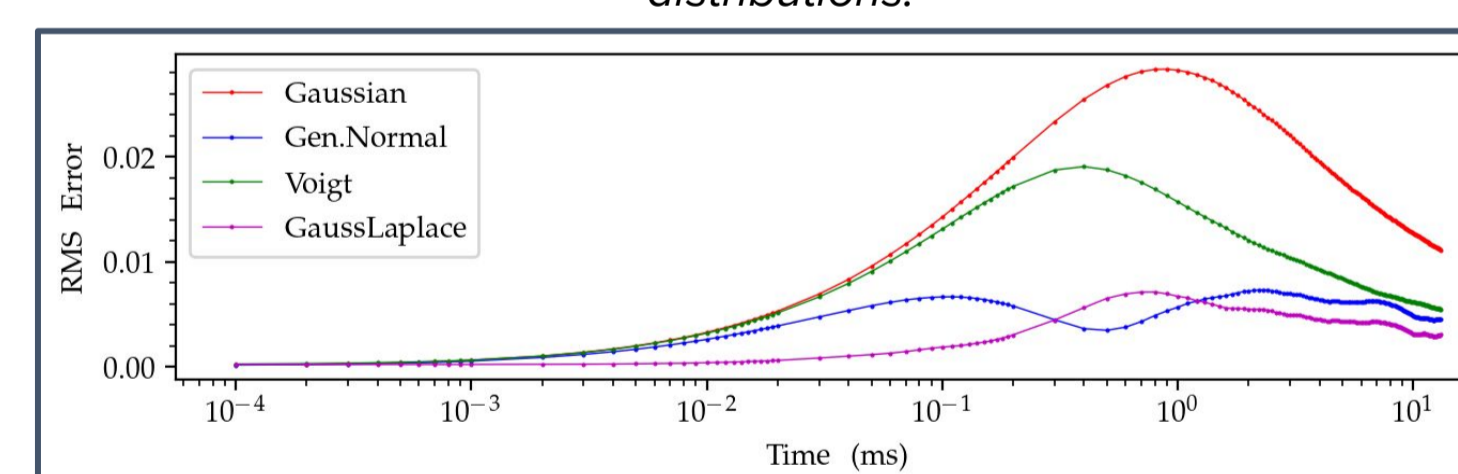


Figure XI: Time evolution of the RMS error for the tested distributions.

parallel displacements observed in the simulation for electron particle trajectories. The best fit was obtained using a superposition of a Gaussian and a Laplace distributions as shown in Figure VIII:

$$f(\Delta r_\parallel) = A_G f_G(\sigma) + (1 - A_G) f_L(b)$$

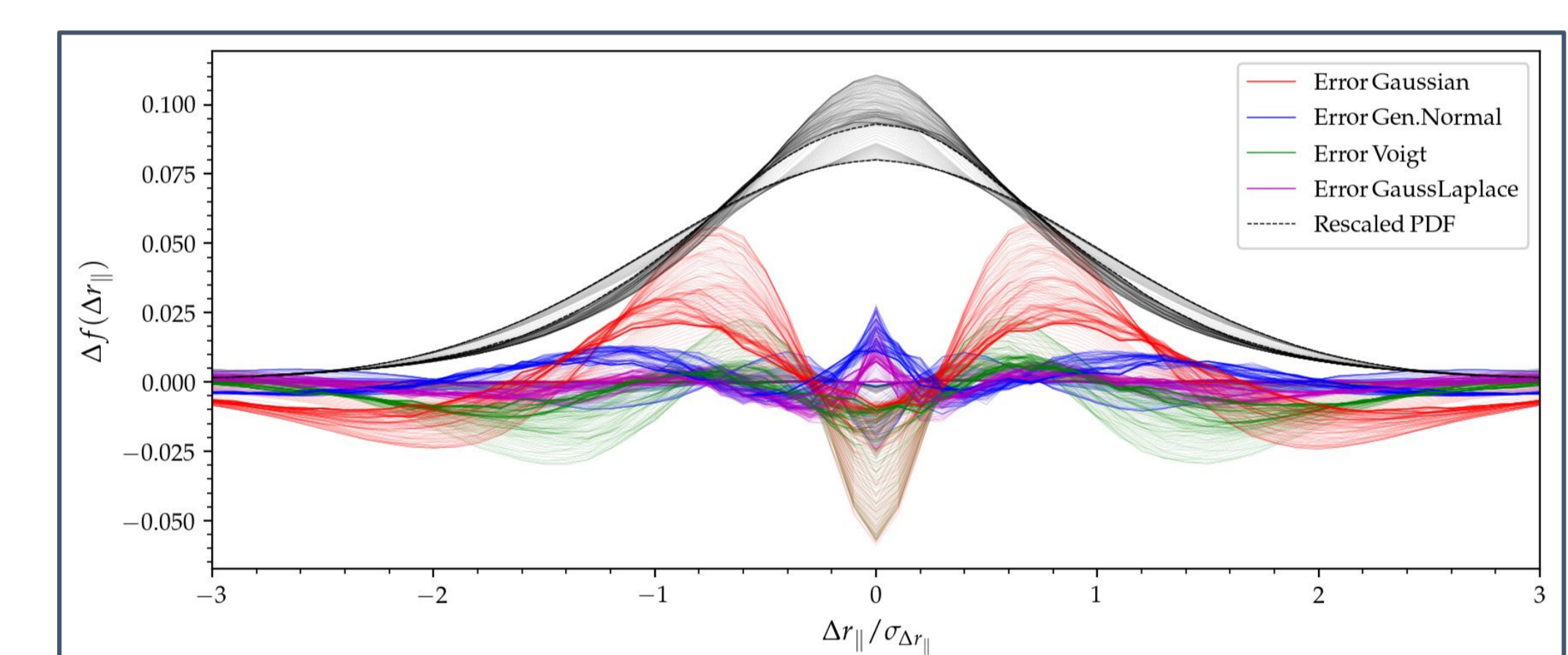


Figure VIII: Absolute errors between various distributions and the numerical statistics of parallel displacements. The parameters of each distribution were obtained through nonlinear fitting.

This model can be used to refine realistic estimations of the ISR spectra because the characteristic function has a closed form. From Figure IX, fitted parameters are calculated among integration time, using the particle parallel displacement distribution generated from the simulation. The RMS error estimation was calculated to validate the proximity of the Gauss Laplace distribution over all time evolution among the other fitted distributions.

CONCLUSIONS

- The RDI4WM higher-order numerical algorithm has been used to solve the Milla & Kudeki model for the electron particle dynamics, showing a better performance than the others.
- Numerical instability, caused by the stiffness behavior of the Milla & Kudeki model due to the great values for electron Spitzer coefficients and gyro-term, was controlled with a bigger and fixed time-step $dt = 1e-8$. This model simulation can be reproduced faster using the new approach with a reduction in computational time and memory allocation.
- Due to the parallel displacement deviation shown in the Milla & Kudeki model, a statistical analysis was done to determine if these distributions can be fitted to a known distribution. Further analysis is required to establish a better simulation agreement.

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