

Norton Dynamics

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Introduction

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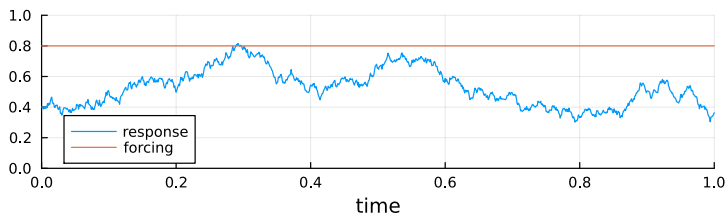
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- At the macroscopic level, fluxes and forces play symmetric and conjugate roles: fixing one determines the other.
- “Standard” NEMD approaches fix the force exactly at the microscopic level, and measure ergodic averages of the flux.
- Instead, we can try to take the dual approach: fix the flux exactly, and measure ergodic averages of the forcing needed to sustain it.

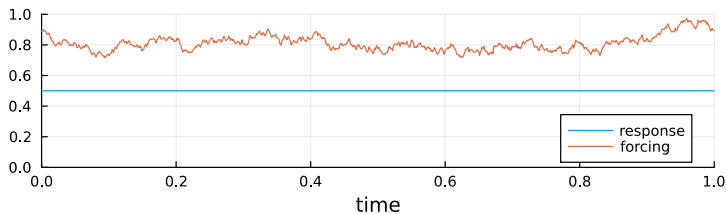
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Illustration

Thévenin

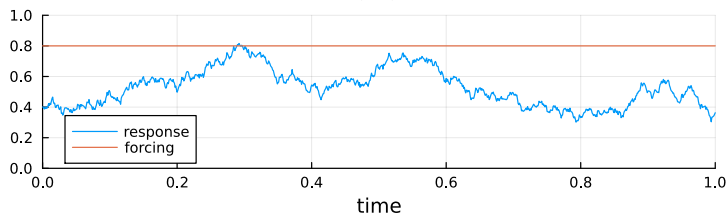


Norton

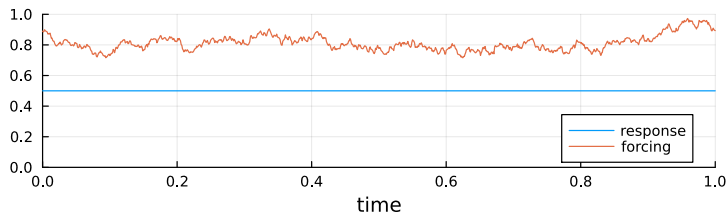


Illustration

Thévenin



Norton



If the estimators for the average forcing have better statistical properties than estimators for the average response, choose Norton over Thévenin.

Standard NEMD dynamics

Fix a d -dimensional configuration space \mathcal{X} , a reference drift b and diffusion matrix σ . External forcing: $F : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, modulated in strength by $\eta \geq 0$.

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$$dX_t^\eta = b(X_t^\eta) dt + \sigma(X_t^\eta) dW_t + \eta F(X_t^\eta) dt.$$

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- Transport coefficient:

$$\rho_{R,F} = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\eta} \left[\int_{\mathcal{X}} R d\mu^\eta - \int_{\mathcal{X}} R d\mu^0 \right].$$

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For the Norton approach, we replace ηdt by the increment of a stochastic process $d\Lambda_t^r$.

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- The forcing process Λ_t^r is determined by the condition $R(Y_t^r) = r$ for all $t \geq 0$, and can be written as an adapted Itô process,

$$d\Lambda_t^r = \lambda_t dt + d\tilde{\Lambda}_t^r,$$

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- Dynamics on the manifold

$$\Sigma_r = \{y \in \mathcal{X}, \quad R(y) = r\} = R^{-1}\{r\}.$$

Explicit form

By applying Itô's formula to the constraint, the SDE for Λ^r can be written explicitly, and the Norton dynamics can be written as

$$dY_t^r = \bar{P}_{F, \nabla R}(Y_t^r) [b(Y_t^r)dt + \sigma(Y_t^r)dW_t] \\ - \frac{(\nabla^2 R : \Pi_{F, \nabla R, \sigma}) F}{2\nabla R \cdot F}(Y_t^r) dt.$$

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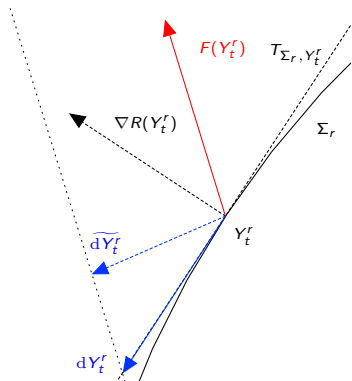
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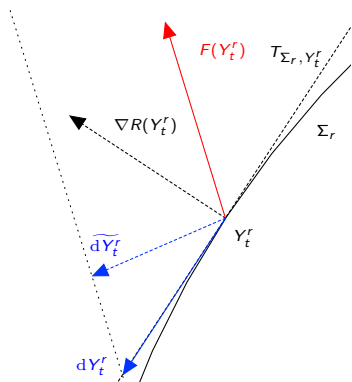
Expressions for the forcing terms: $\lambda_t = \lambda(Y_t^r)$, for some explicit $\lambda : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and for the martingale part,

$$d\tilde{\Lambda}_t^r = - \frac{\nabla R(Y_t^r) \cdot \sigma(Y_t^r) dW_t}{\nabla R(Y_t^r) \cdot F(Y_t^r)}.$$

Geometric picture

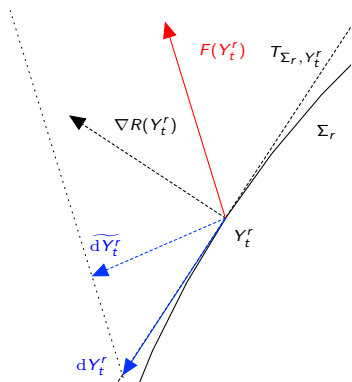


Geometric picture



The increments get reprojected onto the tangent space, but with respect to F instead of ∇R .

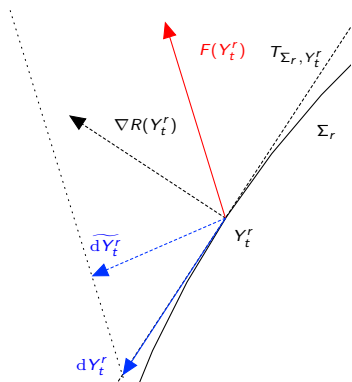
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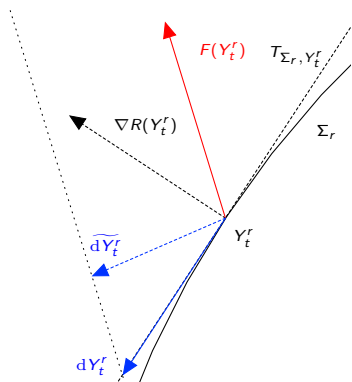


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We are interested in the average magnitude with respect to $F(Y_t^r)$ of (the non-martingale part of) the recall force or Lagrange multiplier $d\Lambda_t^r$.

straightforward generalizations

By very similar arguments, we can easily recover explicit expressions for the following generalizations:

- The case of constraints on multiple fluxes.
- The case of a time-dependent constraint $R(Y_t^r) = r_t$, with r_t deterministic or stochastic.
- A combination of these two.

Transport coefficients

Assuming that the Norton dynamics has a unique invariant probability measure ν^r for all r small enough, define the Norton analog of the transport coefficient:

$$\tilde{\rho}_{R,F} = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{r}{\int_{\Sigma_r} \lambda d\nu^r - \int_{\Sigma_0} \lambda d\nu^0}.$$

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Loosely: measure the reciprocal of the resistance of the system instead of the conductance.

Computing averages of λ in practice

In practice, compute discrete trajectory averages of Lagrange multipliers:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{X}^{n+1} = \Phi_{\Delta t}(X^n, G^n), \\ X^{n+1} = \tilde{X}^{n+1} + \Lambda^{n,*} F(X^n), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

with $\Phi_{\Delta t}$ a scheme for the reference dynamics, $\Lambda^{n,*}$ is taken so that $R(X^{n+1}) = r$.

Using the equation for $d\tilde{\Lambda}_t^r$, the martingale part can be corrected at dominant order:

$$\Lambda^n = \Lambda^{n,*} - \sqrt{\Delta t} \frac{\nabla R(X^n) \cdot \sigma(X^n) G^n}{\nabla R(X^n) \cdot F(X^n)}.$$

Then, estimate λ^n by

$$\lambda^n = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \Lambda^n.$$

Norton dynamics in the Langevin setting

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Physical interpretation

The Norton dynamics satisfies an oblique Gauss's principle of least constraint: the Norton force minimizes the distance to the equilibrium force, with respect to a metric for which

$$F(q) \perp G(q)^\perp \quad \forall q.$$

If F is proportional to G , this is just the classical principle of least constraint, and corresponds to the original idea of Evans & al.

Splitting schemes

The generator for the Norton dynamics can be written as

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^A + \mathcal{L}^B + \gamma \mathcal{L}^O,$$

with

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}^A = M^{-1} p \cdot \nabla_q + \frac{\nabla G p \cdot M^{-1} p}{F \cdot G} F \cdot \nabla_p, \\ \mathcal{L}^B = -\bar{P}_{F,G} \nabla V \cdot \nabla_p, \\ \mathcal{L}^O = -\bar{P}_{F,G} M^{-1} p \cdot \nabla_p + \frac{1}{\beta} \bar{P}_{F,G} \bar{P}_{G,F} : \nabla_p^2. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

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B dynamics: ballistic evolution.

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A dynamics: not analytically solvable in general.

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In the case $R = G \cdot p$, the Lagrange multiplier can be computed analytically. Because the O step is analytically solvable, the contribution of the Gaussian increment can be exactly cancelled.

Mobility

We take a constant force $F \in \mathbb{R}^{dN}$ (d =physical dimension, N =number of particles).

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The response is the velocity in the direction F ,

$$R(q, p) = F \cdot M^{-1} p = M^{-1} F \cdot p.$$

Then $G = M^{-1} F$, $\nabla G = 0$, so the Norton dynamics is just given by

$$\begin{cases} dq_t = M^{-1} p_t dt, \\ dp_t = \bar{P}_{F, M^{-1} F}(q_t) \left(-\nabla V(q_t) dt - \gamma M^{-1} p_t dt + \sqrt{\frac{2\gamma}{\beta}} dW_t \right). \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Shear viscosity

Take a F acting only on the x -components, but with a strength dictated by a y -profile. The response is the y -profile in the x -components of the velocity, which can be quantified by an empirical Fourier coefficient. In equations,

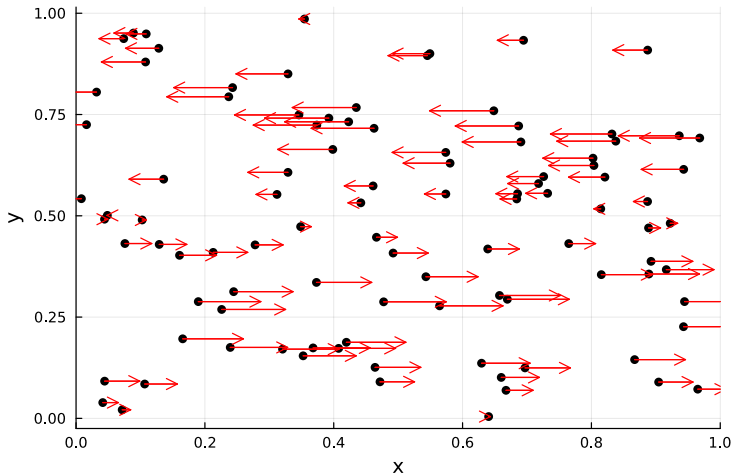
$$\forall 1 \leq i \leq N, \forall 2 \leq \alpha \leq d, \quad F(q)_{i1} = f_y(q_{i2}), \quad F(q)_{i\alpha} = 0,$$

with f_y a reference forcing profile, and

$$R(q, p) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(M^{-1} p \right)_{i1} \exp \left(\frac{2i\pi q_{i2}}{L} \right). \quad (6)$$

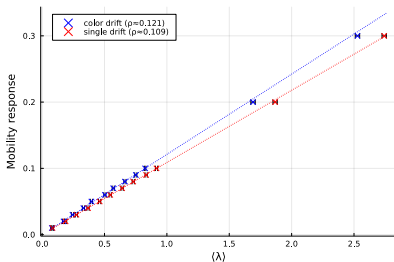
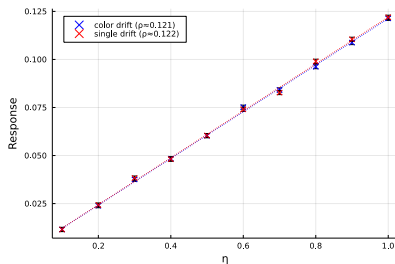
The shear viscosity can be related to the transport coefficient for this response, which is again of the form $G \cdot p$.

Shear viscosity



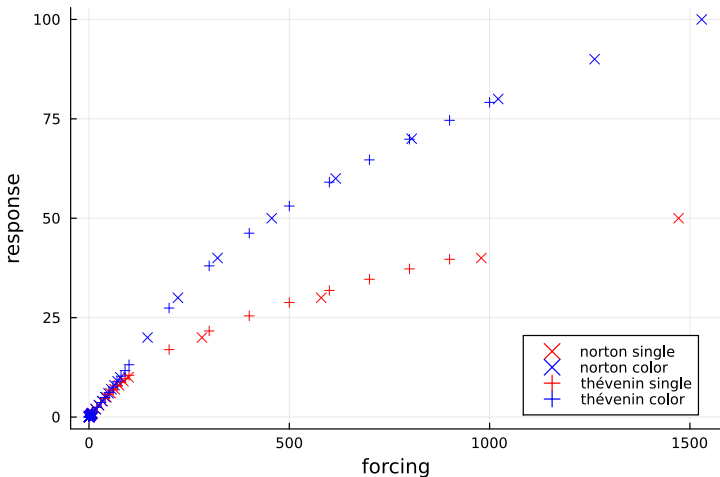
Numerical results: mobility

We apply the method to a Lennard-Jones fluid of 1000 particles. We observe agreement in the linear regime for the “color drift” forcing:



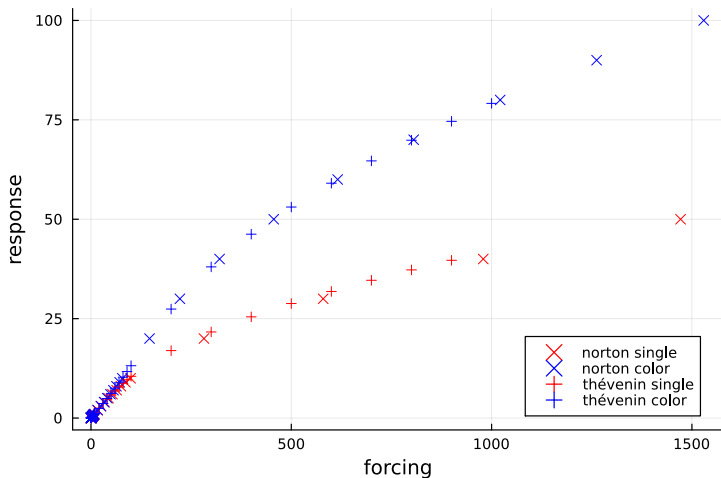
Numerical results: mobility

Agreement far into the non-linear regime



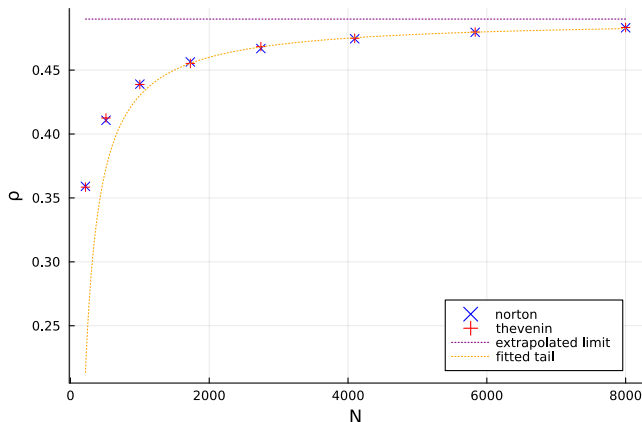
Numerical results:mobility

No gain in asymptotic variance for the mobility estimators.



Numerical results: shear viscosity

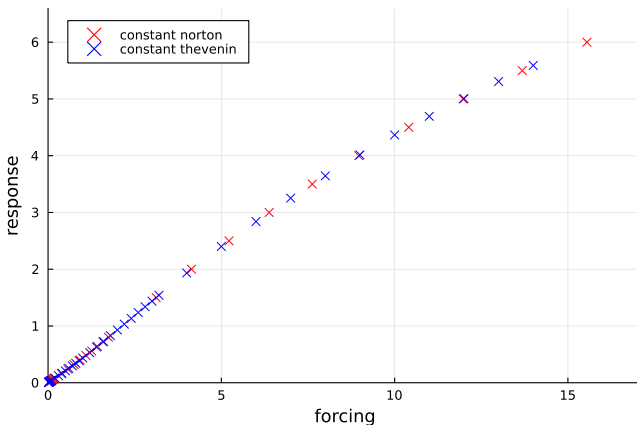
We apply the shear viscosity Norton method to a Lennard-Jones fluid, first using a sinusoidal forcing profile.



We observe convergence to the same thermodynamic limit, with agreement well before that point.

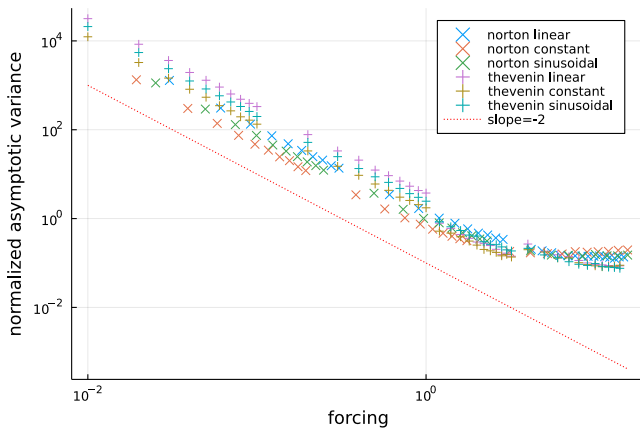
Numerical results: shear viscosity

Again, we observe agreement between Norton and Thévenin responses in the non-linear regime. Here, with a piecewise-constant forcing profile:



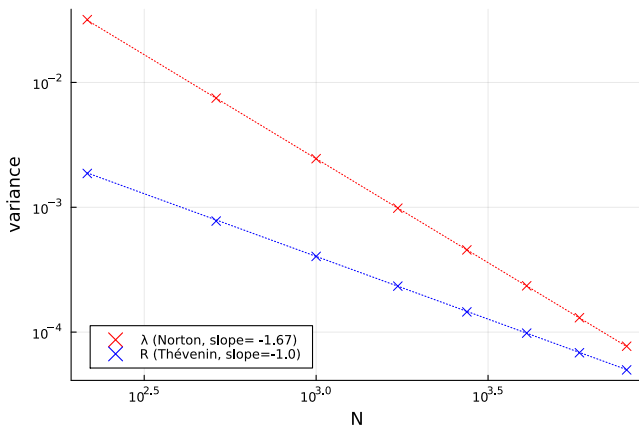
Numerical results: shear viscosity

However: we observe an improvement in the asymptotic variance for estimators coming from the Norton method.



Numerical results: shear viscosity

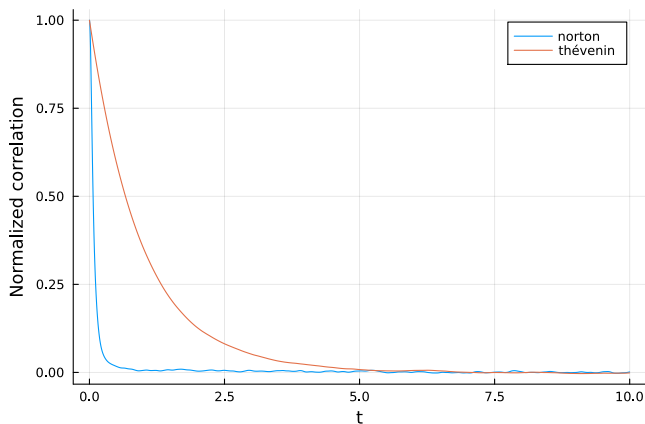
To explain this discrepancy, we compare the variance for λ in the Norton ensemble with the variance for R in the Thévenin ensemble.



Surprising and asymptotically better scaling for the Norton method, but higher variance: this suggests that the improvement comes from shorter correlations.

Numerical results: shear viscosity

Indeed, this is what we observe.



Here, we plot the (statistical) autocorrelations functions for two equivalent values of η and r in the Thévenin and Norton ensembles, at a fixed $N = 8000$.

Problems for future work

Many theoretical questions are left to tackle:

- Criteria for well-posedness, existence/uniqueness of the steady-state, ergodicity.
- Equivalence of ensemble results between the Thévenin and Norton ensembles.
- Providing an explanation for the variance and autocorrelation scaling of λ in the Norton ensemble.
- Linear response theory for the Norton method: derive Green-Kubo like expressions for the inverse transport coefficient.

Idea for linear response

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However, there are issues to overcome in the Norton setting:

- The equilibrium measure ν^0 , supported on Σ_0 , is not known.
- The perturbed measure ν^r , supported on Σ_r , is singular with respect to ν^0 .
- The generator for the Norton dynamics on Σ_r cannot be expressed as a perturbation of the generator \mathcal{L}^0 on Σ_0 : they have the same expression, but different domains.

Formal idea for the linear response

Idea: by a change of variables $\phi_{-r} : \Sigma_r \rightarrow \Sigma_0$, consider instead the generator \mathcal{L}^r for the dynamics

$$\phi_{-r}(Y_t^r),$$

which lives on Σ_0 . The map ϕ_{-r} can easily be found by considering ϕ to be the flow of the ODE

$$\dot{y} = \frac{N(y)}{\nabla R(y) \cdot N(y)}.$$

Natural choices include $N = \nabla R$ and $N = F$. Then,

$$\mathcal{L}^r \varphi(y) = \mathcal{L}^0 [\varphi \circ \phi_{-r}] (\phi_r(y)).$$

This is a non-linear perturbation of \mathcal{L}^0 , but by a formal linearization, we can write the first-order term as

$$\nabla \left[\mathcal{L}^0 \varphi \right] \cdot \frac{N}{\nabla R \cdot N} - \mathcal{L}^0 \left[\nabla \varphi \cdot \frac{N}{\nabla R \cdot N} \right].$$