

1 **Relationship between the constant  $L$  and convergence rate, comparison w/ [23] (Reviewers #1 and #3).** Th 3.3  
2 (line 202) relates the algorithm convergence rate to the stepsize  $t_k$ . This stepsize depends on the constant  $L$  through  
3 the expression of  $\text{step}_{\#}(p)$ , which shows the dependency between convergence rate and  $L$ . In the paper, we prove  
4 that  $\text{step}_{\#}(p)$  is lower bounded. We have observed numerically that the stepsize is larger than the stepsizes used by  
5 other discretizations schemes in the heavy-ball method, as shown in Fig 3, and will provide further numerical evidence  
6 in the revised version. We are currently working on an analytical comparison with [23], which requires the explicit  
7 computation of a tight lower bound of  $\text{step}_{\#}(p)$  as a nonlinear function of  $s$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\mu$ , and  $L$  (R#3).

8 **Omitted relevant literature (Reviewer #2).** We respectfully disagree with this comment, as we include the work by  
9 the authors suggested by R#2, see [3], [22], [23], [28] and [29]. It is impossible to provide an exhaustive literature  
10 review, but we will include recent papers<sup>1</sup> (available after the submission of our work) by Attouch, Frana, and  
11 co-authors which deal, resp., with the discretization of inertial systems with Hessian-driven damping and conformal  
12 Hamiltonian systems to obtain optimization algorithms. We will include Kolarijani *et al.*, which uses hybrid dynamical  
13 systems to generate fast optimization methods that employ constant-stepsize discrete dynamics. The differences with  
14 our work are clear, as none of these references design variable-stepsize integrators based on event-triggered control.

15 **Perceived limited applicability of the proposed setting and extensions beyond it (all reviewers).** As a result of the  
16 concerns raised by R#2, we have realized that the twice differentiability assumption can be weakened: in the heavy-ball  
17 case, only continuous differentiability is needed for the discretization. In Nesterov’s case, twice differentiability arises  
18 from the presence of a Hessian term  $\sqrt{s}\nabla^2 f(x)v$  in the ODE, which is inherited by the discretization. The work [23]  
19 replaces it by  $\nabla f(x_{k+1}) - \nabla f(x_k)$  when discretized, providing an appealing research direction circumventing the use  
20 of the Hessian. It is standard practice in the literature to assume knowledge of  $\mu$  and  $L$  for strongly-convex functions  
21 when looking for the optimal rate. Besides, several methods have been designed to approximate these constants in  
22 practice, and they can surely be adapted to our setting. As pointed by R#1, the function  $g$  is case-dependent, but the  
23 methodology presented here is applicable to the discretization of other dynamical systems endowed with a Lyapunov  
24 function certificate. We agree with R#3 that pursuing this will broaden the applicability of our theory. Although  
25 regularization can also be used to endow convex functions with strong convexity, it would also be extremely interesting  
26 to extend this methodology to the convex framework (R#2). Nonetheless, the main point of the paper is to introduce  
27 the idea of a systematic way to develop discretizations that maintain the convergence rate properties of their continuous  
28 counterparts. R#1 and #3 point out that the originality of the paper is “basically beyond doubt” and we believe it may  
29 inspire new research given the recent explosion of activity in the area of high-resolution ODEs.

30 **Importance of opportunistic state-triggered control and variable-stepsize discretization (Reviewer #3).** Oppor-  
31 tunistic state-triggered control saves resources by taking into account the current system state while maintaining  
32 performance guarantees. This is in contrast to periodic sampling, where worst-case scenarios have to be taken into  
33 account, drastically reducing inter-sampling time. Analogously, the proposed integrators take into account the current  
34 state of the dynamics through the values of  $v$  and  $\nabla f$  to adjust its stepsize while satisfying convergence and performance  
35 guarantees. This contrasts with fixed-stepsize integrators, whose stepsize is limited by the most unfavorable situation.  
36 In practice, this may have a critical impact on performance. We will address any possible confusion (especially regarding  
37 terminology) pointed by R#3 in the revised version.

38 **Simulations (all reviewers).** We will include richer numerical experiments if the paper is accepted. We have run  
39 now simulations with quadratic functions defined by 50x50 matrices with similar results. *Convergence* will be shown  
40 by plotting the decay of the objective and Lyapunov functions (R#1). Regarding Fig 2, we show that the three  
41 discretization procedures follow the same trajectory (the continuous dynamics). The proposed approach is able to follow  
42 the curve taking longer stepsizes, thus making further progress when run for an equal number of iterations. Formally,  
43 let us denote by  $t_k$  the stepsize of our method at iteration  $k$  and by  $s$  the stepsize of a fixed-stepsize integrator. After  $n$   
44 iterations, our integrator approximates the continuous dynamics at  $\sum_{k=1}^n t_k$ , while the constant-stepsize integrators  
45 approximates it at  $n \cdot s$ . In simulations,  $\sum_{k=1}^n t_k$  is significantly larger than  $n \cdot s$  (R#1). We will also include the  
46 ET integrator for comparison in Fig 2 in the revised version (R#3). Finally, we introduce the *optimal stepsize* only  
47 for comparison purposes, as the minimizer is in practice unknown. Knowledge of the minimizer  $x_*$  would enable the  
48 explicit computation of the Lyapunov function (cf. Th. 3.1), which in turn allows to solve  $\dot{V} + \alpha V = 0$  (cf. line 181)  
49 by any standard numerical method at any iteration. We refer to this solution as optimal stepsize (Fig 3, green), as is the  
50 actual largest stepsize one may take conserving the Lyapunov decay. Fig 3 illustrates how our algorithm is able to chase  
51 this optimal stepsize at any iteration, without knowledge of the minimizer (R#1 and #3). R#2 also points out that the  
52 computation of the stepsize may be convoluted. While the ET integrator is more involved, the ST integrator relies on a  
53 simple function of the quantities  $\|v\|$ ,  $\|\nabla f\|$  and  $\langle v, \nabla f \rangle$ , (see  $\text{step}_{ST}$ , line 196) which can be computed easily.

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<sup>1</sup>H. Attouch, Z. Chbani, J. Fadili, and H. Riahi. First-order optimization algorithms via inertial systems with Hessian driven damping. *arXiv:1907.10536*, 2019; G. Frana, J. Sulam, D. Robinson, and R. Vidal. Conformal symplectic and relativistic optimization. *arXiv:1903.04100*, 2019; A. S. Kolarijani, P. M. Esfahani, and T. Keviczky. Fast Gradient-Based Methods with Exponential Rate: A Hybrid Control Framework. In *Proceedings of the 35th International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2018