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The Hamiltonian mechanics of stochastic acceleration¹ JOSHUA BURBY, Princeton University, ANDREY ZHMOGINOV, University of California, Berkeley, HONG QIN, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, University of Science and Technology of China — We show how to find the physical Langevin equation describing the trajectories of particles undergoing collisionless stochastic acceleration. These stochastic differential equations retain not only one-, but two-particle statistics, and inherit the Hamiltonian nature of the underlying microscopic equations. This opens the door to using stochastic variational integrators to perform simulations of stochastic interactions such as Fermi acceleration. We illustrate the theory by applying it to two example problems.

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