

Contractions and Reactions in Schrödinger Bridges

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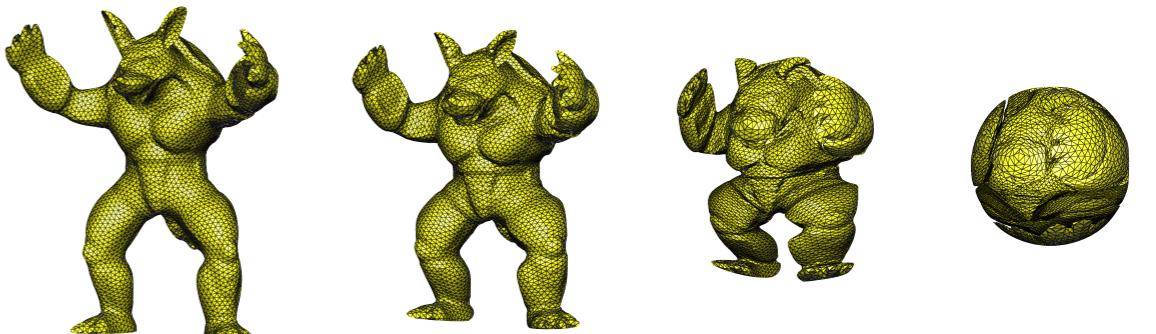
October 09, 2025

Bridge ↵ Transport from Source to Target

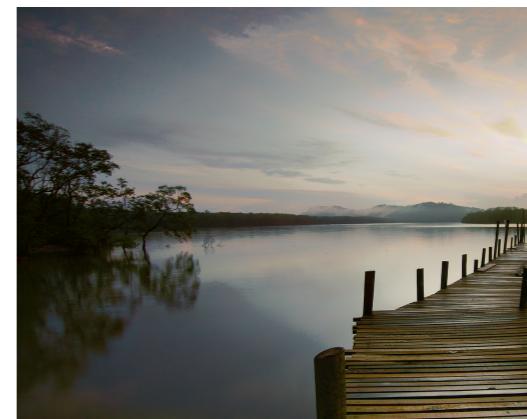
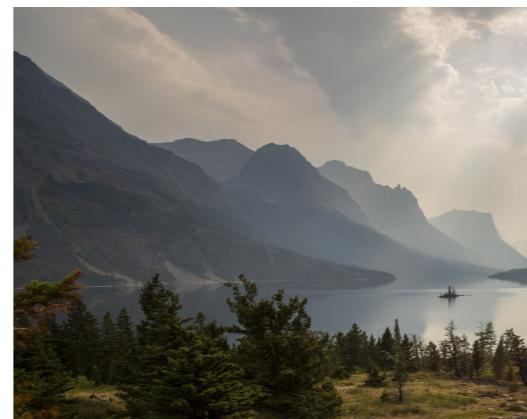
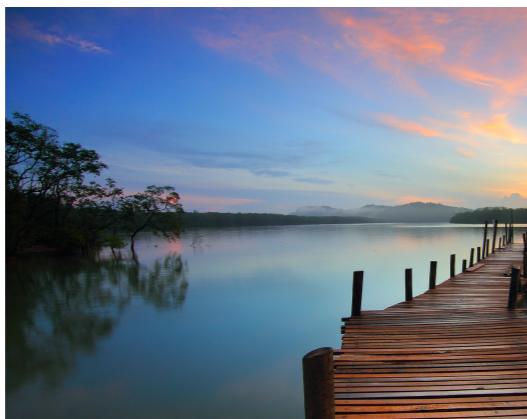
of goods



of meshes



of color



source

target

transported

of style



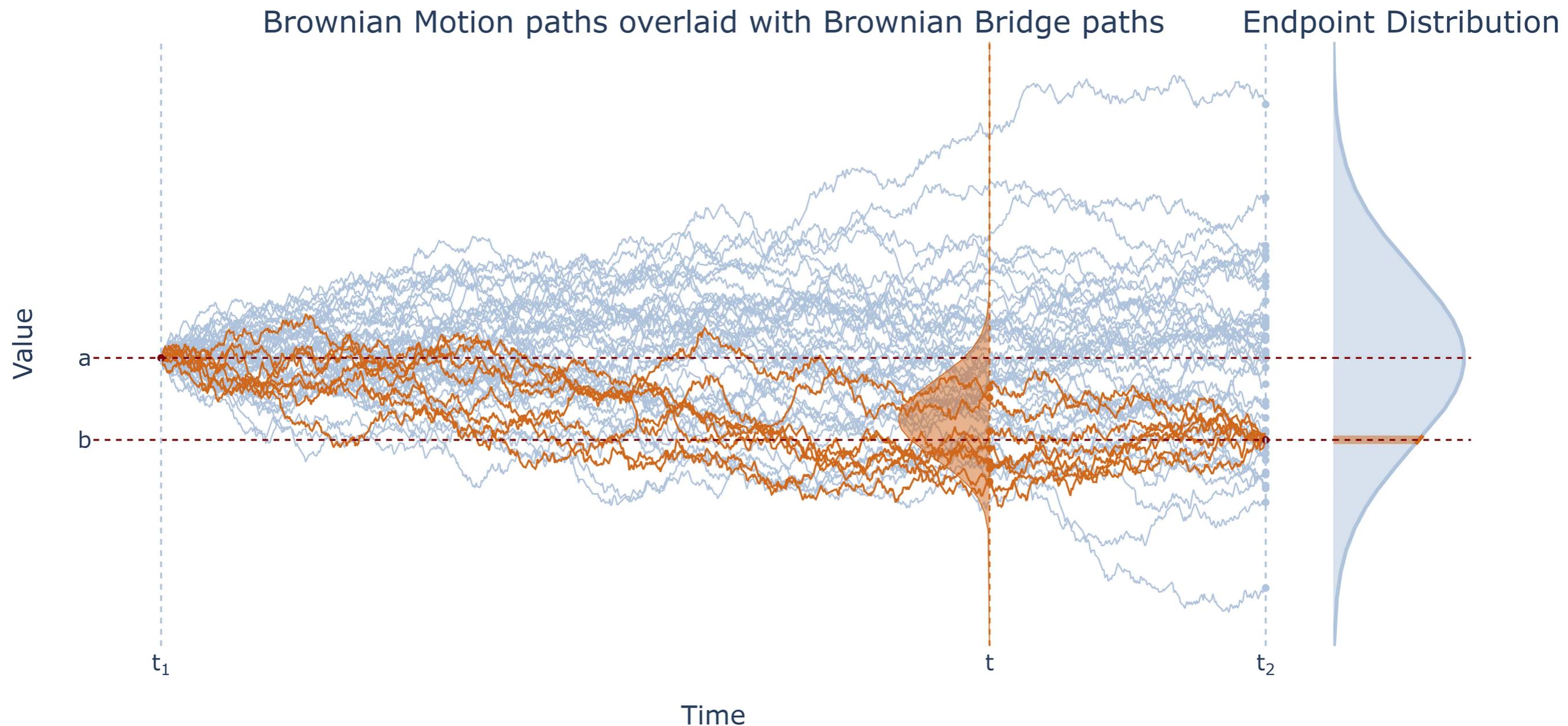
source

target

transported

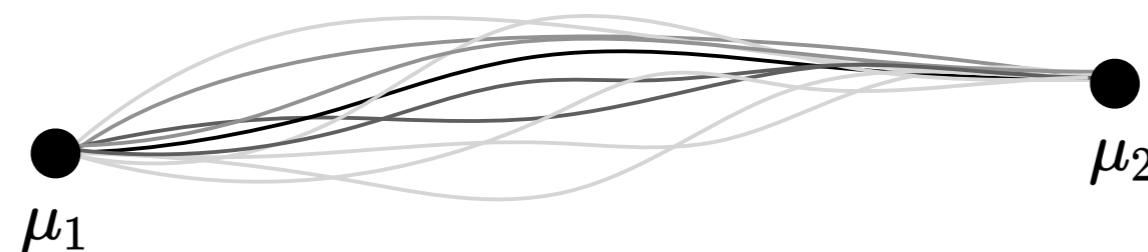
Diffusion Bridge: Transport via Diffusion

When source and target are points on the ground vector space

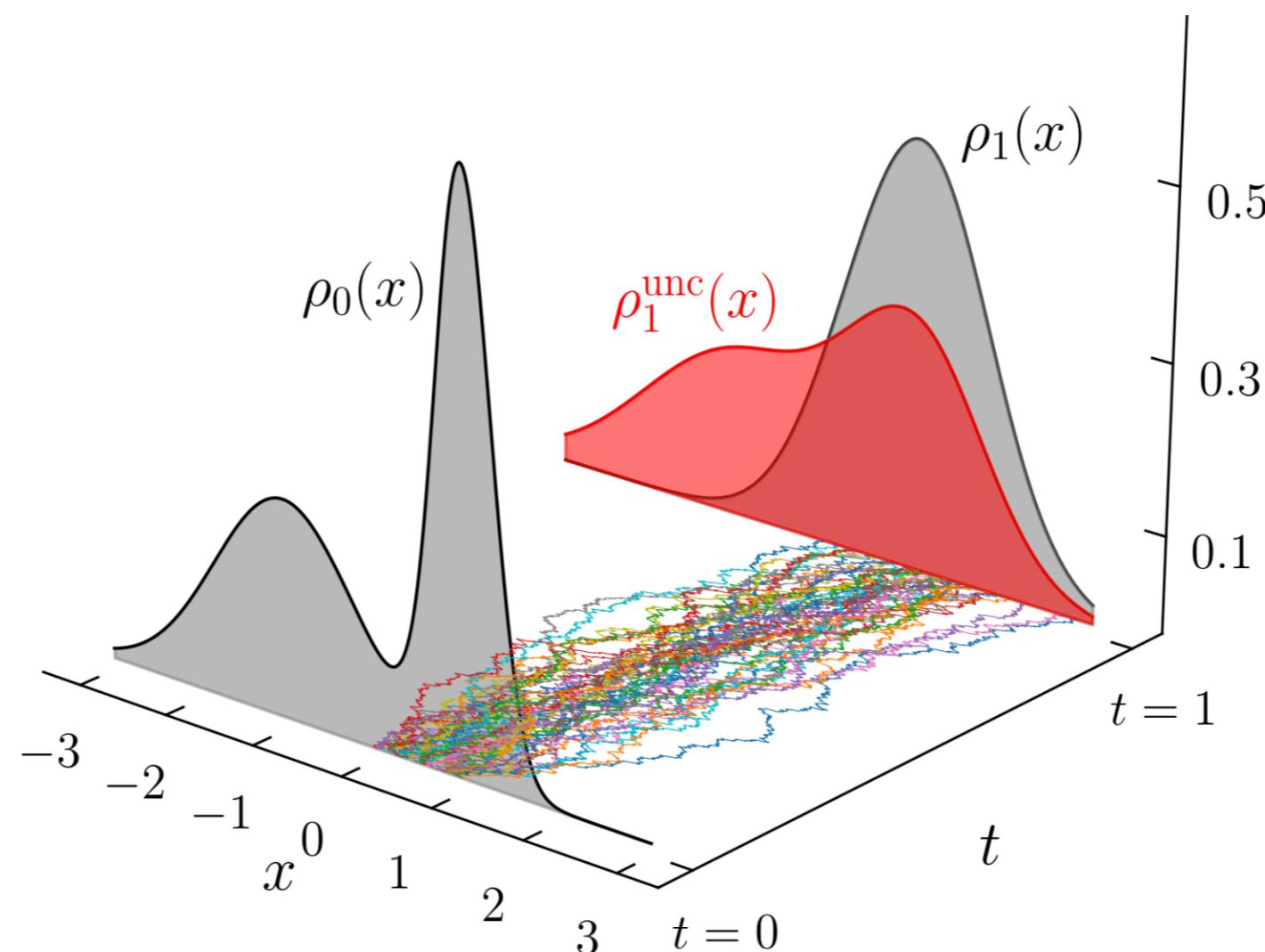


Schrödinger Bridge (SB): Transport via Diffusion

When source and target are measures or probability density functions (PDFs)



Comes with maximum likelihood guarantee on path space



Brief History of SB



formulates the problem as an attempt to give stochastic interpretation of quantum mechanics

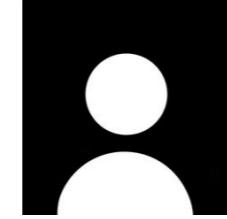
E. Schrödinger (1931-32)



R. Fortet (1940)



A. Beurling (1960)



B. Jamison (1975)

establish the existence-uniqueness of the solution for classical SB



H. Föllmer (1985-87)



T. Mikami (1990)



P. Dai Pra (1991)



M. Pavon (1991)

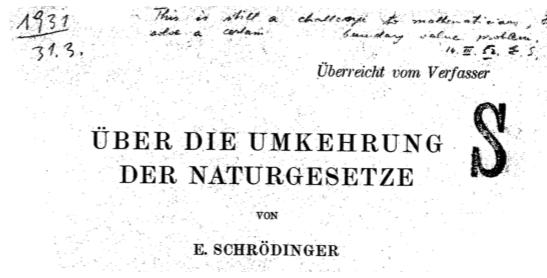
reformulate classical SB as minimum effort stochastic optimal control problem



A. Wakolbinger (1991)



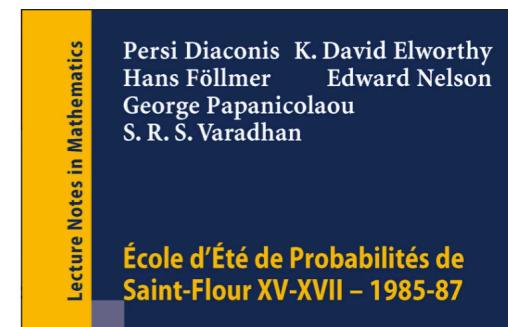
A. Blaquièvre (1991)



Sur la théorie relativiste de l'électron et l'interprétation de la mécanique quantique

PAR

E. SCHRÖDINGER



Persi Diaconis K. David Elworthy
Hans Föllmer Edward Nelson
George Papanicolaou
S. R. S. Varadhan

École d'Été de Probabilités de
Saint-Flour XV-XVII – 1985-87

1362

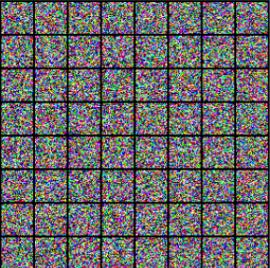
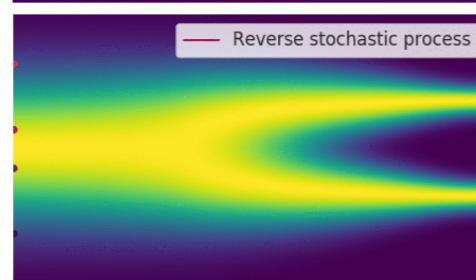
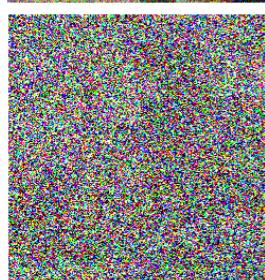
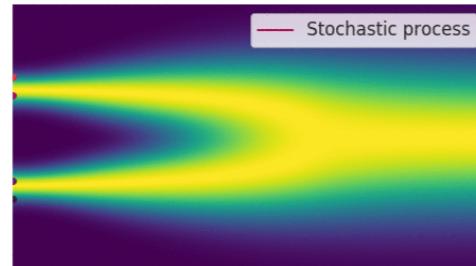
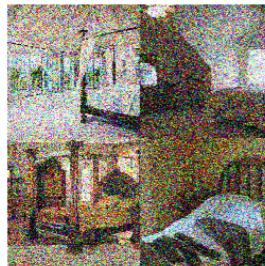
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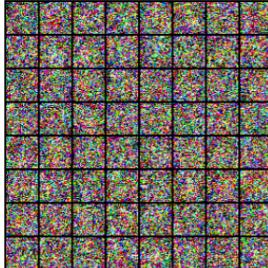
Springer

SB in the 21st Century

Generative AI



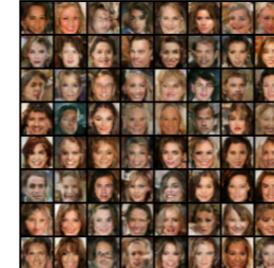
$t = 0$



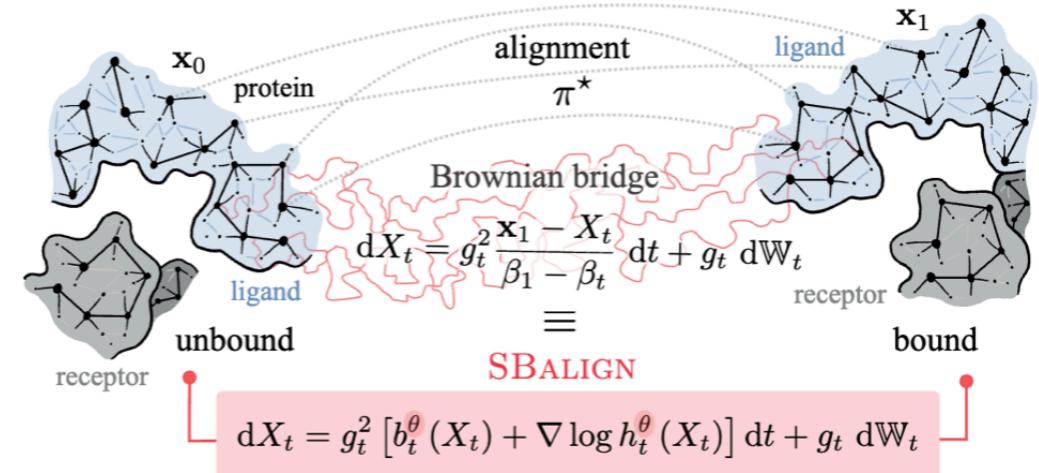
$t = 0.31$



$t = 0.60$



$t = 0.63$



Input



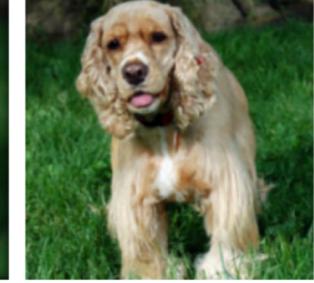
I^2 SB output



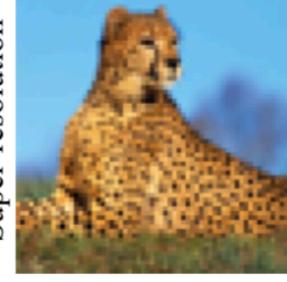
Input



I^2 SB output



Super-resolution

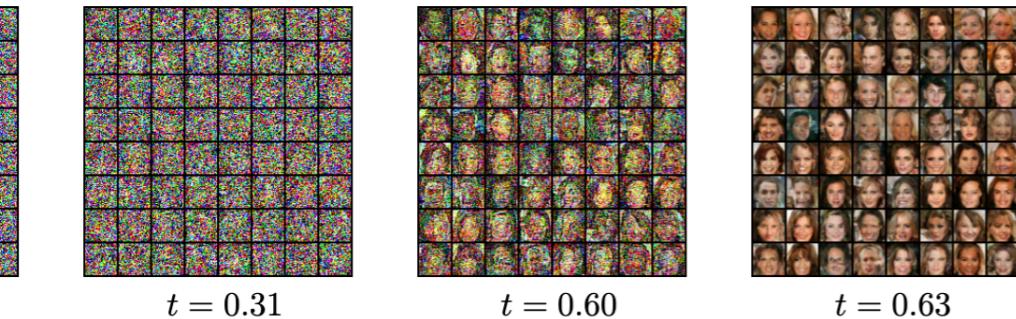
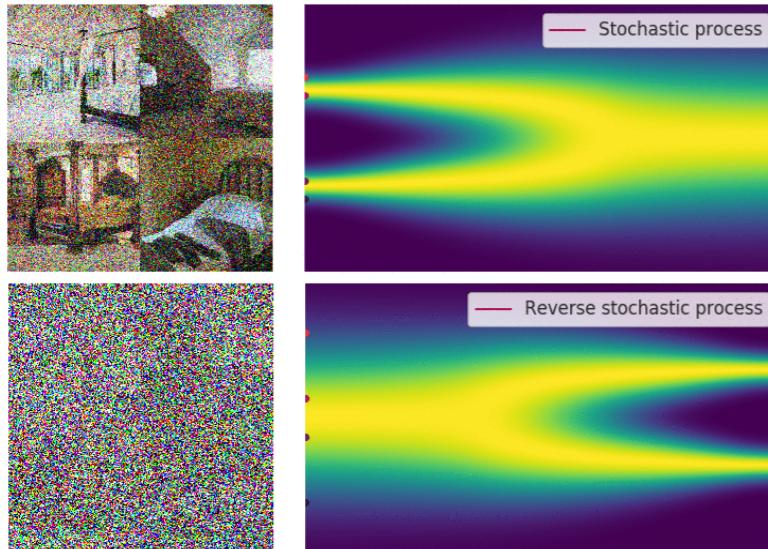


JPEG restoration



SB in the 21st Century

Generative AI



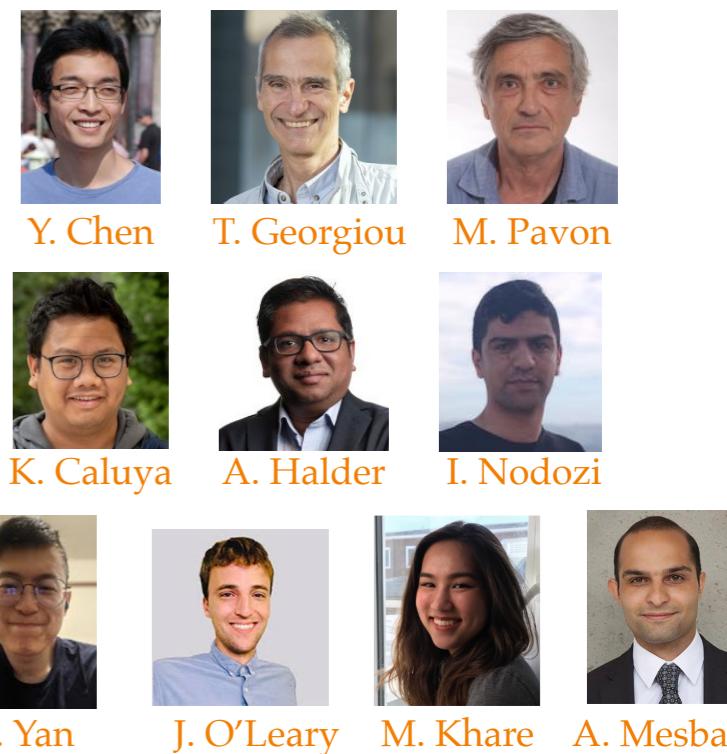
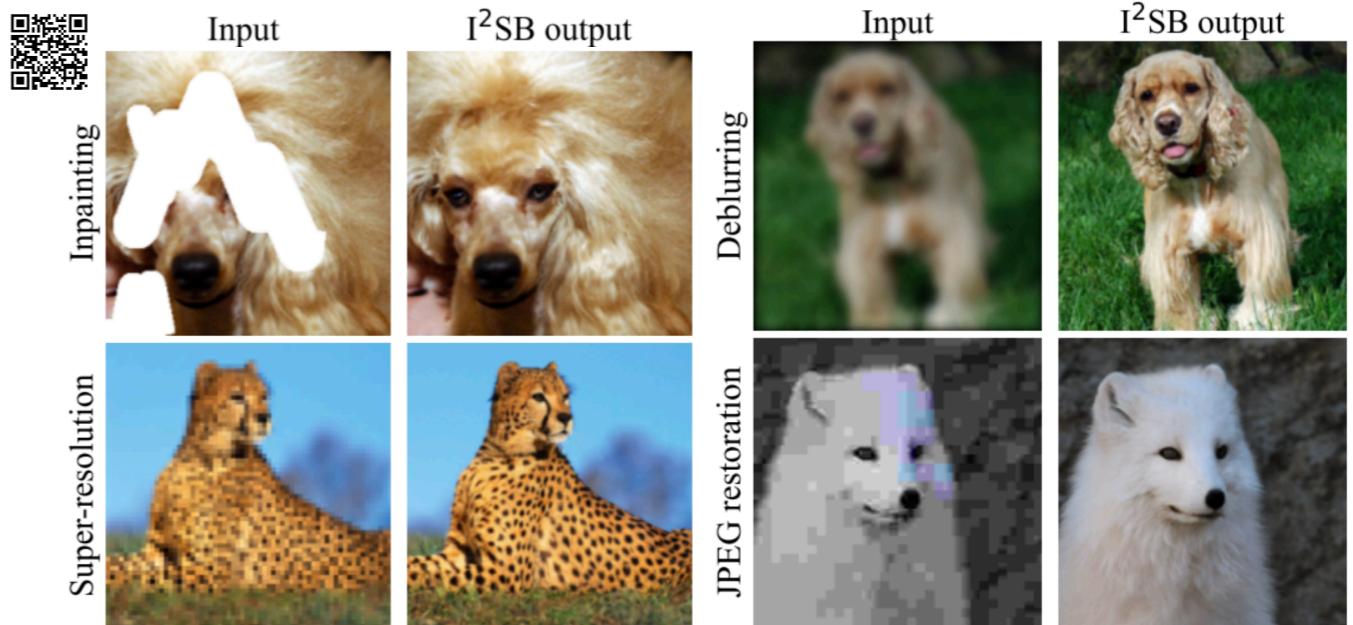
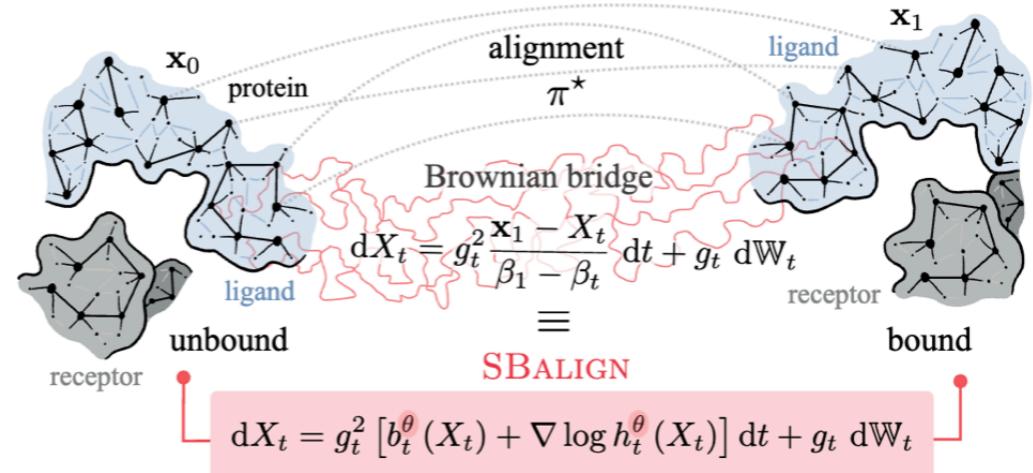
Stochastic Control

Linear Quadratic distribution control a.k.a. LQSB ~2015

generalized SB with nonlinear drift ~2020

reflected SB for deterministic path constraints ~2021

control non-affine SB: application to colloidal self-assembly ~2023



Outline of This Talk

Background

Stochastic control formulation + solution structure + dynamic Sinkhorn algorithm

Brief recap of my pre-advancement results

Contraction coefficient for LQSB

Lambertian SB

Post-advancement results

Control-affine SB (CASB) and Hopf-Cole transform

Markov kernel for classical SB: Hermite + Weyl Calculus

Markov kernel for LQSB

Back to quantum: CASB and classical SB

Outro

Summary + publications + acknowledgement

Background

Generalized SB: Stochastic Control Formulation

$$\arg \inf_{(\rho, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{P}_{01} \times \mathcal{U}} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \begin{array}{c} \text{state cost} \\ | \\ q(\mathbf{x}) \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{control cost} \\ | \\ r(\mathbf{u}) \end{array} \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} \, dt$$

$\xrightarrow{\quad}$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\rho \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})) = \Delta_{\Sigma(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})} \rho$$
$$\rho(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{x}), \quad \rho(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1(\mathbf{x}).$$

PDF dynamics for the
controlled Itô SDE

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) d\mathbf{w}, \quad \Sigma := \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^\top$$

prior drift prior diffusion diffusion tensor

Generalized SB: Stochastic Control Formulation

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \arg \inf_{(\rho, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{P}_{01} \times \mathcal{U}} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\text{state cost } q(\mathbf{x}) + \text{control cost } r(\mathbf{u})) \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} dt \\
 & \quad \xrightarrow{\text{weighted Laplacian } \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} ((\Sigma)_{ij} \rho)} \\
 & \quad \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\rho \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})) = \Delta_{\Sigma(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})} \rho \\
 & \quad \rho(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{x}), \quad \rho(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1(\mathbf{x}).
 \end{aligned}$$

PDF dynamics for the controlled Itô SDE

$$\mathbf{d}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) d\mathbf{w}, \quad \Sigma := \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^\top$$

$\mathcal{P}_{01} := \{ \text{PDF valued curves } \rho(t, \cdot) \text{ continuous in } t \in [t_0, t_1]$
 such that $\rho(t_0, \cdot) = \rho_0(\cdot), \rho(t_1, \cdot) = \rho_1(\cdot) \}$

$\mathcal{U} := \{ \text{Finite energy Markovian policies } \mathbf{u}(t, \mathbf{x}) \}$

Classical SB: $q = 0, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = u, \sigma = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} I$

Controlled Itô SDE $d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{u} dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\mathbf{w}$

First order conditions for optimality

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S\|_2^2 + \varepsilon \Delta_{\mathbf{x}} S = 0$$

Dual PDE in
value function S

$$\frac{\partial \rho_{\text{opt}}}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\rho_{\text{opt}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S) = \varepsilon \Delta_{\mathbf{x}} \rho_{\text{opt}}$$

Primal PDE in ρ_{opt}

Boundary conditions

$$\rho_{\text{opt}}(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{x}), \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1(\mathbf{x})$$

Optimal control

$$\mathbf{u}_{\text{opt}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S$$

Classical SB: Solution Structure

Apply Hopf-Cole transform $\varphi_\varepsilon := \exp\left(\frac{S}{2\varepsilon}\right)$, $\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon := \rho_{\text{opt}} \exp\left(-\frac{S}{2\varepsilon}\right)$

↑
Schrödinger factors

Decoupled linear PDEs

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_\varepsilon}{\partial t} = -\varepsilon \Delta_x \varphi_\varepsilon \quad \frac{\partial \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon}{\partial t} = \varepsilon \Delta_x \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon$$

forward and backward heat PDEs

Coupled boundary conditions

$$\hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon(t_0, \mathbf{x}) \varphi_\varepsilon(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0, \quad \hat{\varphi}_\varepsilon(t_1, \mathbf{x}) \varphi_\varepsilon(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1$$

Schrödinger system

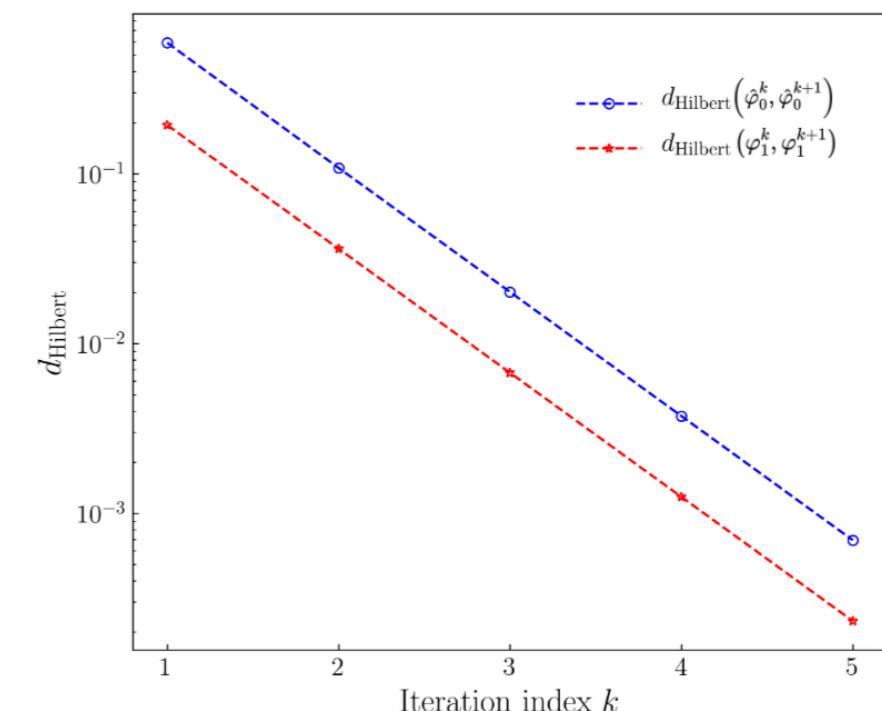
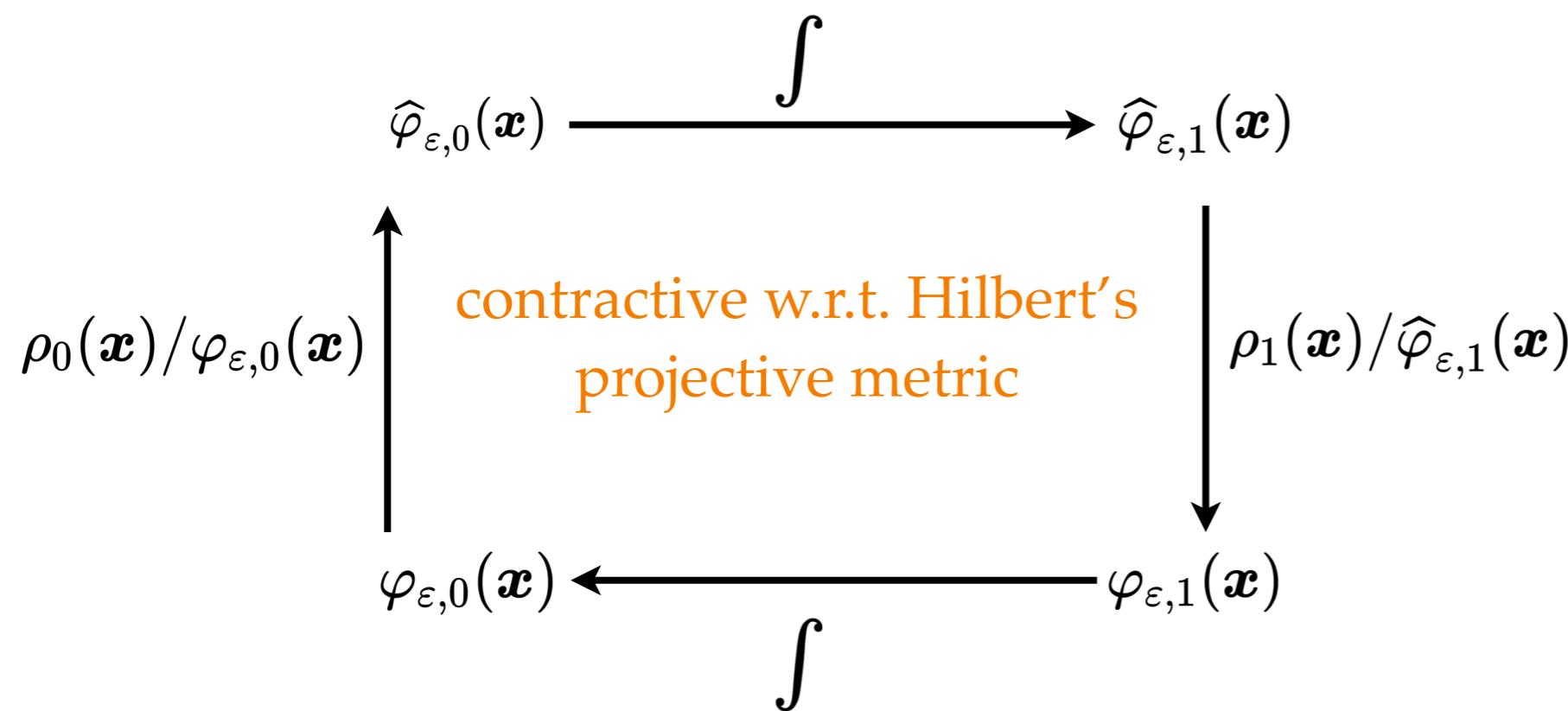
$$\rho_0(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\varphi}_{\varepsilon,0}(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} k(t_0, \mathbf{x}, t_1, \mathbf{y}) \varphi_{\varepsilon,1}(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

$$\rho_1(\mathbf{x}) = \varphi_{\varepsilon,1}(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} k(t_0, \mathbf{y}, t_1, \mathbf{x}) \hat{\varphi}_{\varepsilon,0}(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

Markov kernel for the uncontrolled process

Algorithm: Dynamic Sinkhorn Recursion

Fixed point recursion over function pair $(\varphi_{\varepsilon,1}, \widehat{\varphi}_{\varepsilon,0})$

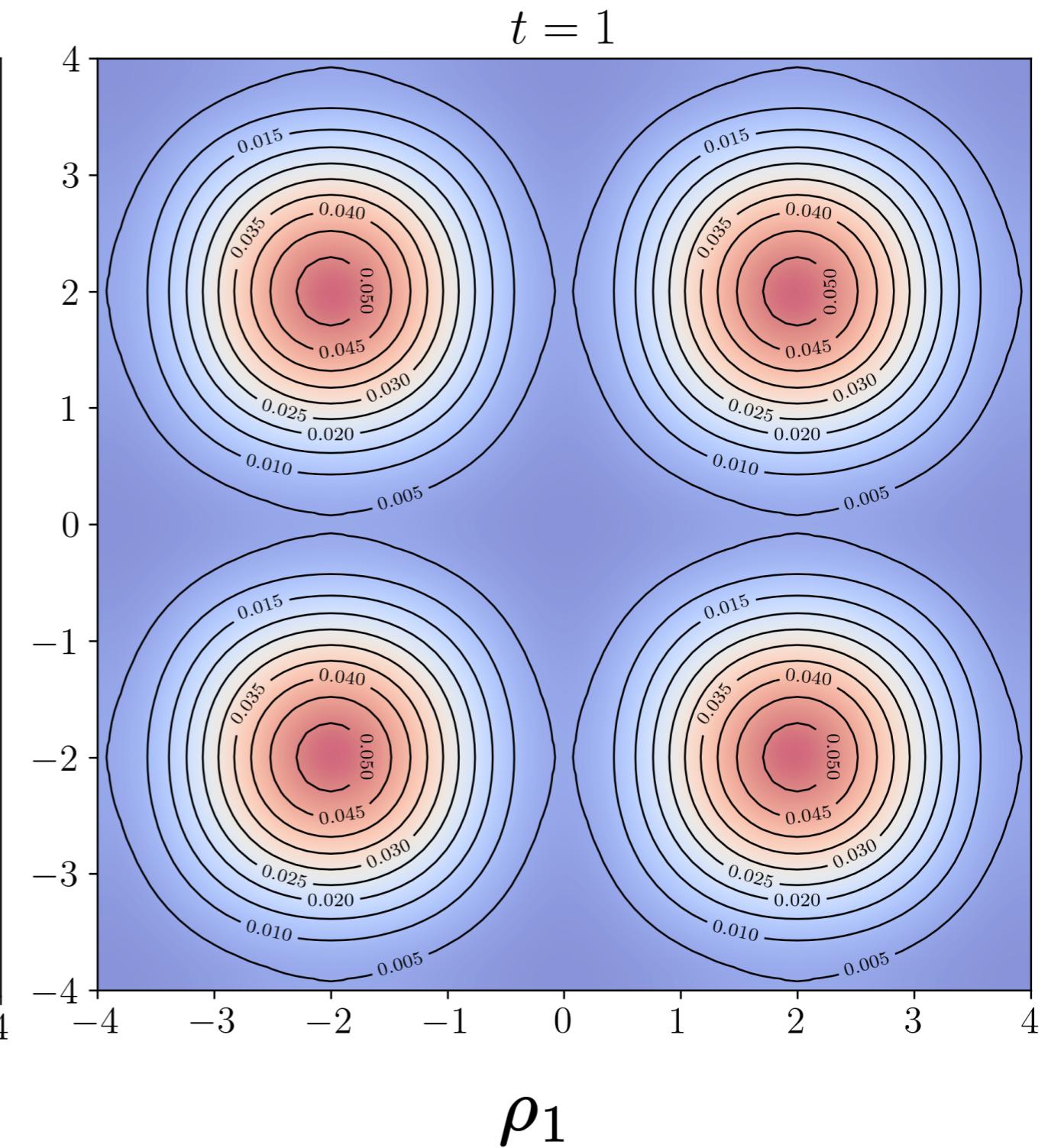
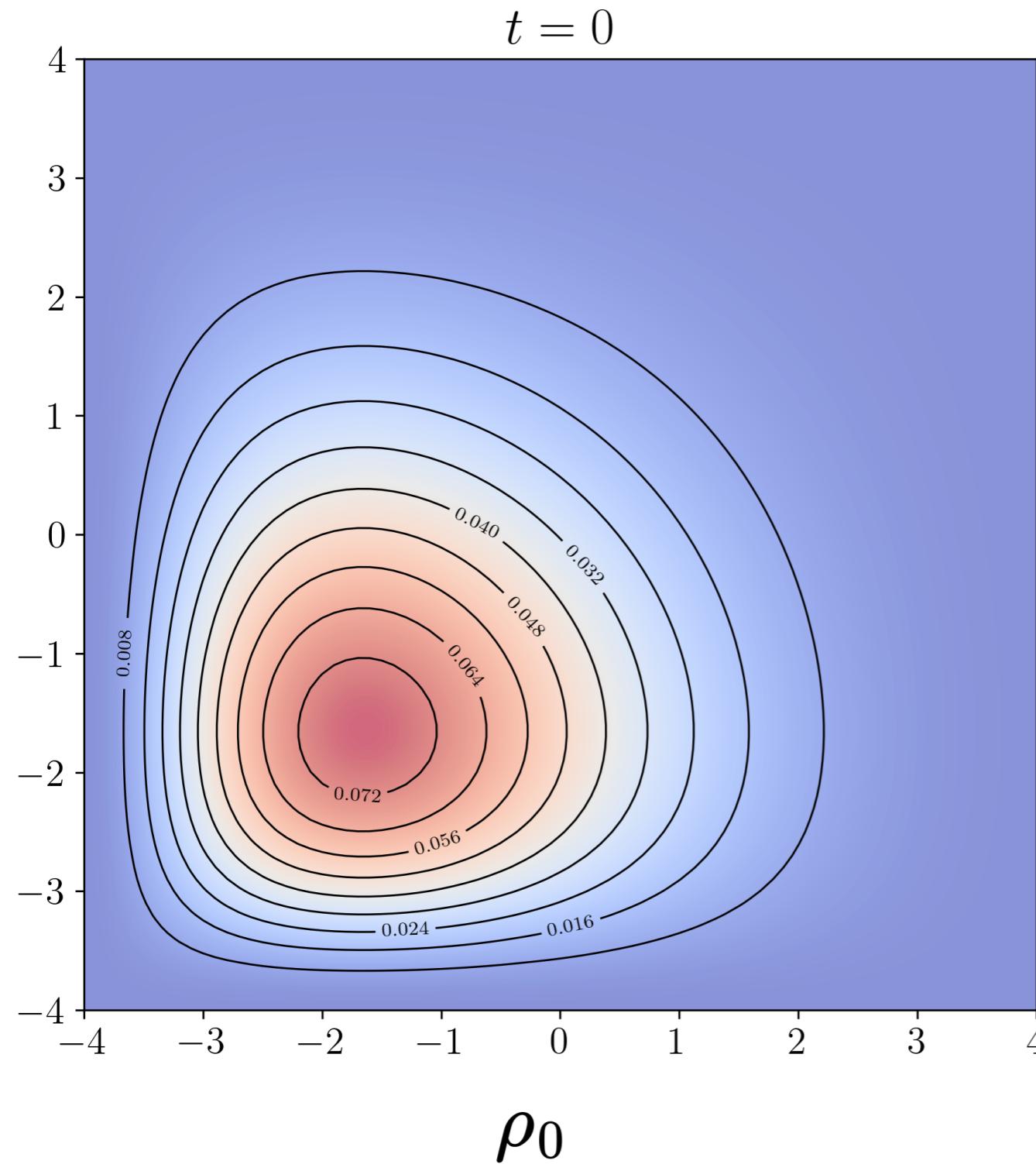


Recover original decision variables

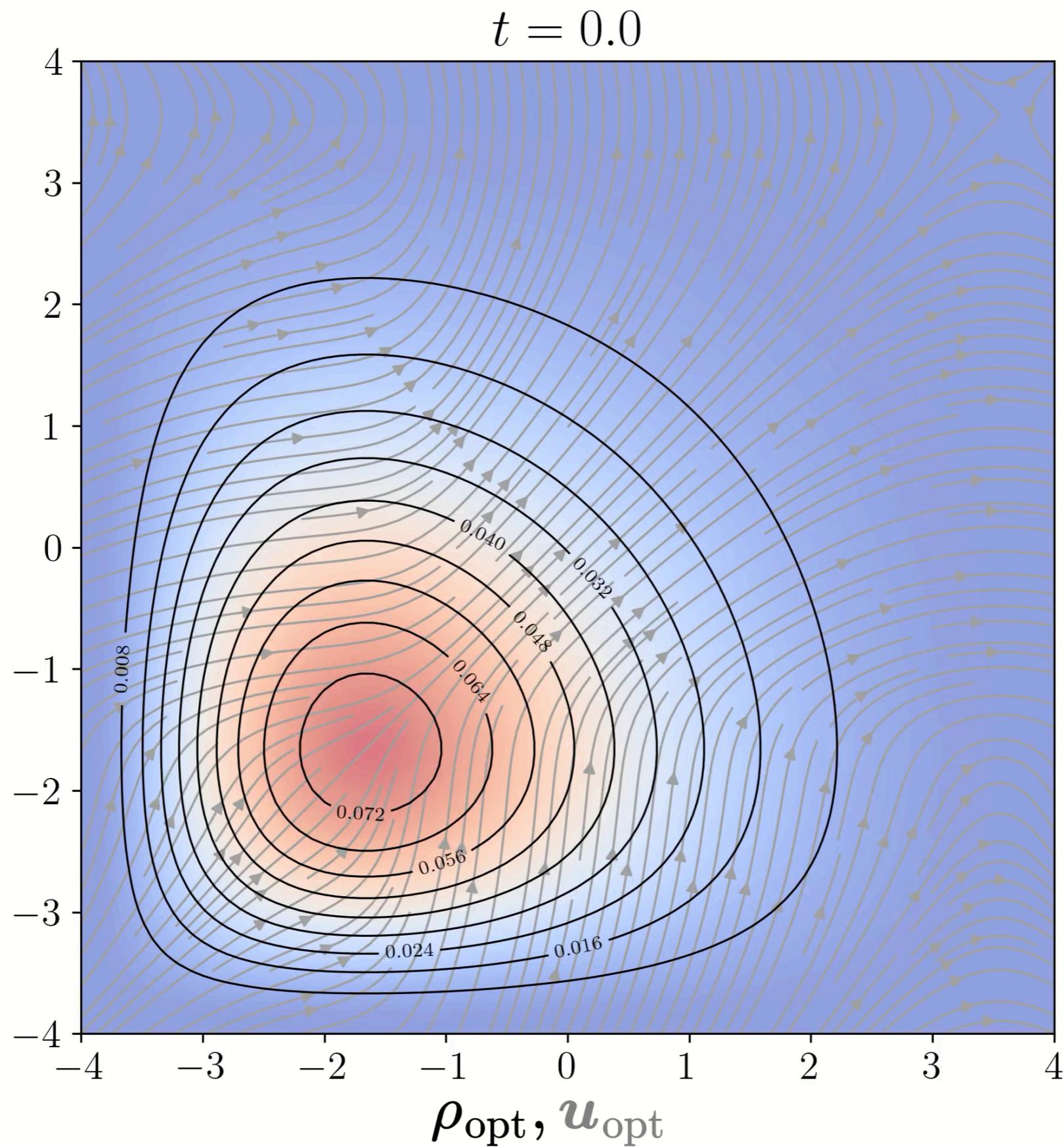
$$\rho_{\text{opt}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \widehat{\varphi}_{\varepsilon}(t, \mathbf{x}) \varphi_{\varepsilon}(t, \mathbf{x}) \quad \mathbf{u}_{\text{opt}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = 2\varepsilon \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \varphi_{\varepsilon}(t, \mathbf{x})$$

Classical SB Example: Input

$$\varepsilon = 0.3$$



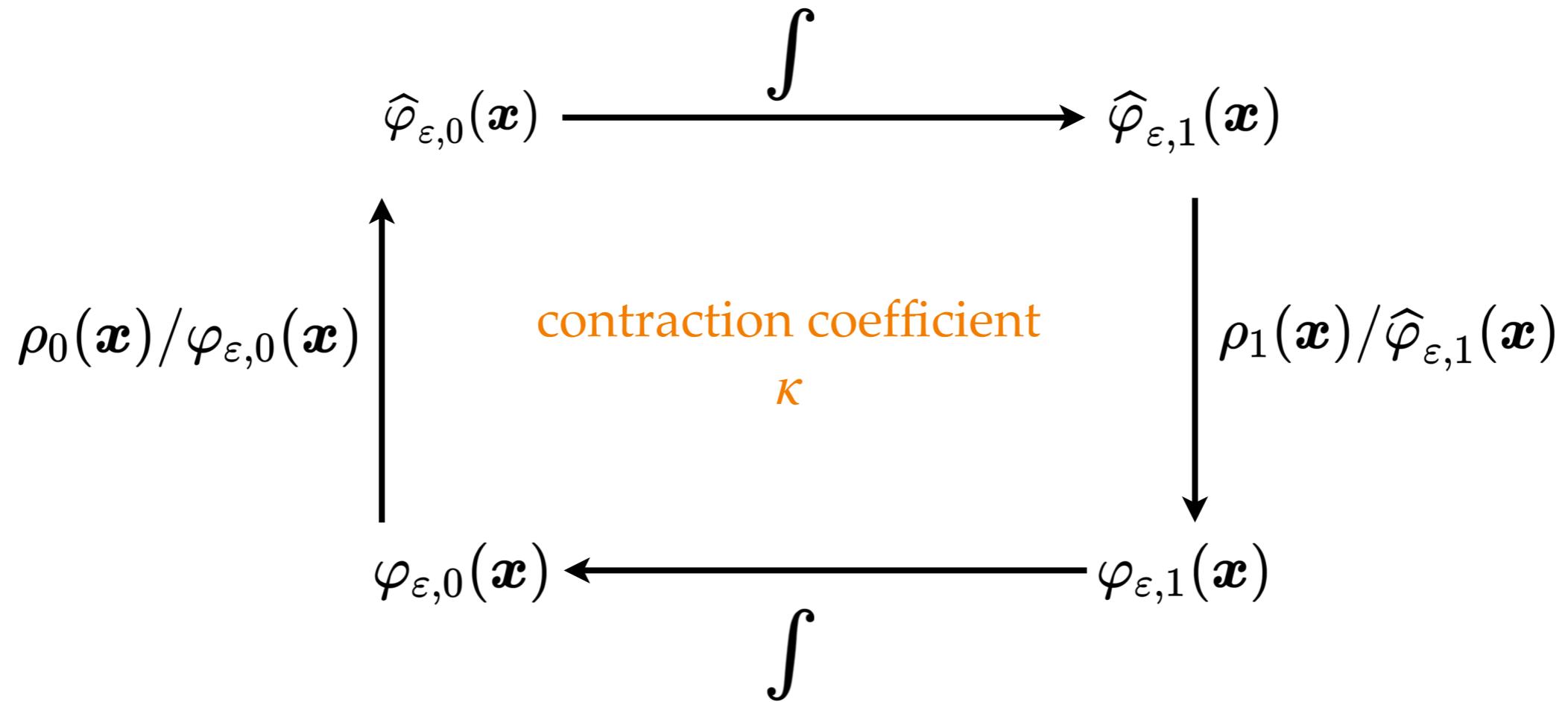
Classical SB Example: Output



Brief recap of my pre-advancement results



LQSB: $q = 0, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = A_t x + B_t u, \sigma = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} B_t$



worst-case contraction coefficient

$$\text{For LQSB } \kappa \leq \gamma_L = \tanh^2 \left(\frac{\tilde{\alpha}_L - \tilde{\beta}_L}{8\varepsilon} \right) \quad \tilde{\alpha}_L := \max_{\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbf{M}_{10}^{-1/2} \Phi_{t_1 t_0} \mathcal{X}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbf{M}_{10}^{-1/2} \mathcal{X}_1} \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_1\|_2^2$$

$$\tilde{\beta}_L := \min_{\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbf{M}_{10}^{-1/2} \Phi_{t_1 t_0} \mathcal{X}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbf{M}_{10}^{-1/2} \mathcal{X}_1} \|\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_1\|_2^2$$

LQSB: $q = 0, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = A_t x + B_t u, \sigma = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} B_t$

This result

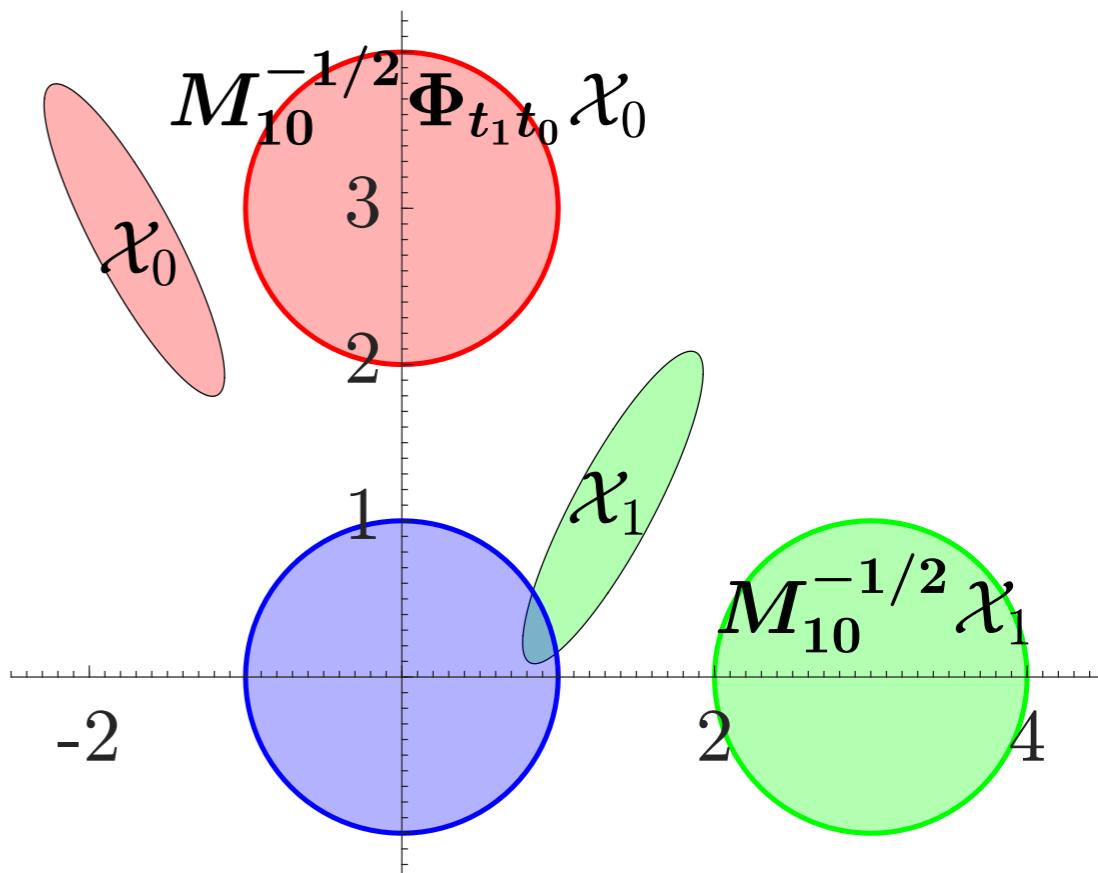
↳ yields control-theoretic + geometric interpretations:

Range of optimal state transfer cost $\tilde{\alpha}_L - \tilde{\beta}_L \uparrow \Rightarrow \gamma_L \uparrow$

Range of separation of $M_{10}^{-1/2} \Phi_{t_1 t_0} \mathcal{X}_0$ and $M_{10}^{-1/2} \mathcal{X}_1 \uparrow \Rightarrow \gamma_L \uparrow$

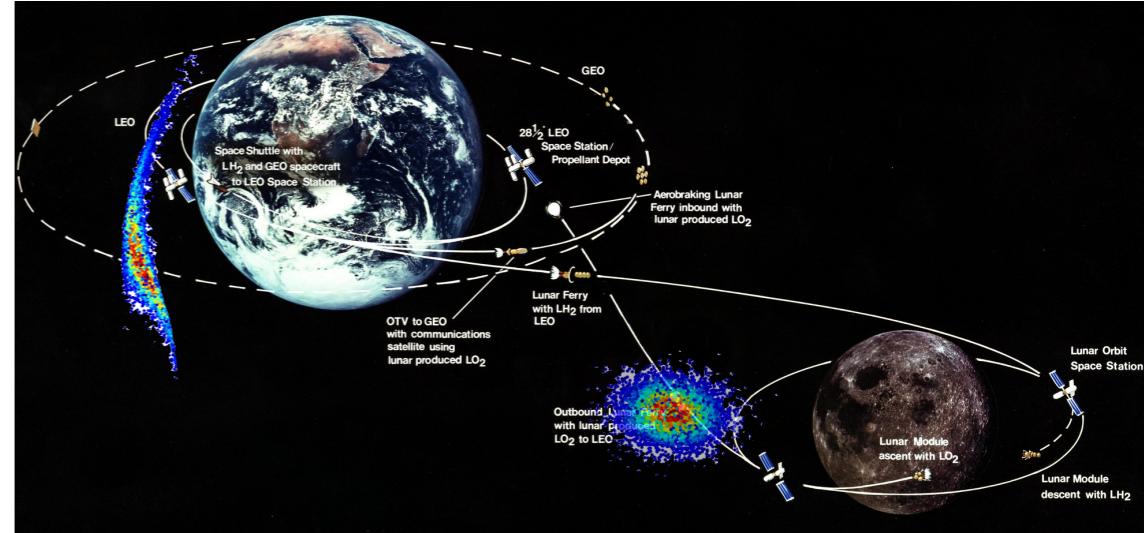
Process noise $\varepsilon \uparrow \Rightarrow \gamma_L \downarrow$

↳ suggests preconditioning



Probabilistic Lambert Problem

Position coordinate $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$



Find velocity control policy $\dot{\mathbf{x}} := \mathbf{u}(t, \mathbf{x})$ s.t.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{gravitational potential } V(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{\mu}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2} \left(1 + \frac{J_2 R_{\text{Earth}}^2}{2\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \left(1 - \frac{3z^2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \right) \right) \\ \ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} V(\mathbf{x}) \\ \mathbf{x}(t = t_0) \sim \rho_0 \quad \text{encodes statistical estimation errors} \\ \mathbf{x}(t = t_1) \sim \rho_1 \quad \text{encodes statistical performance specification} \end{array} \right.$$

Our result #1: probabilistic Lambert problem = optimal mass transport with state cost

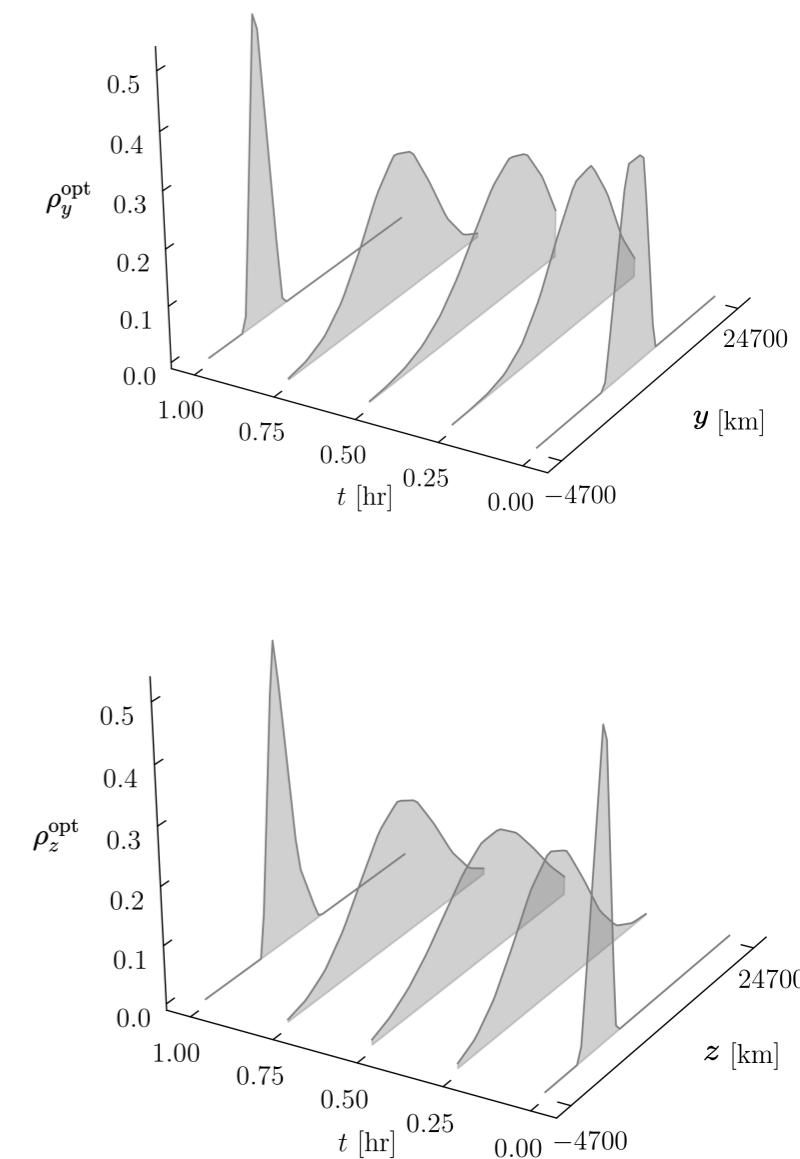
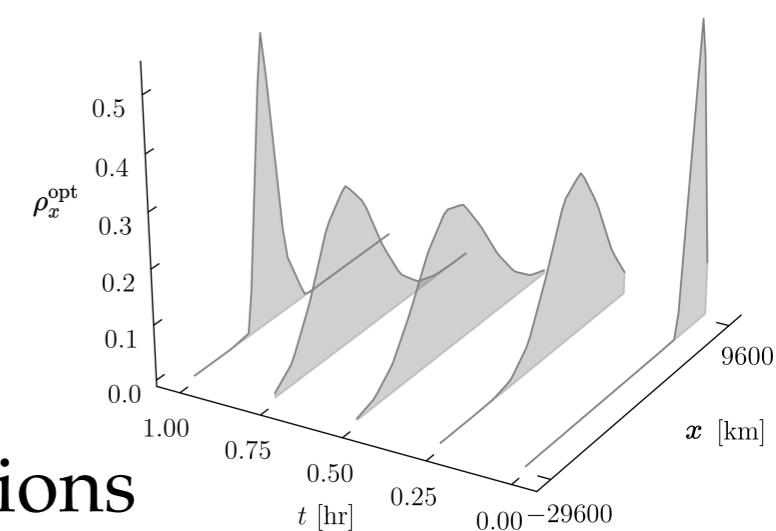
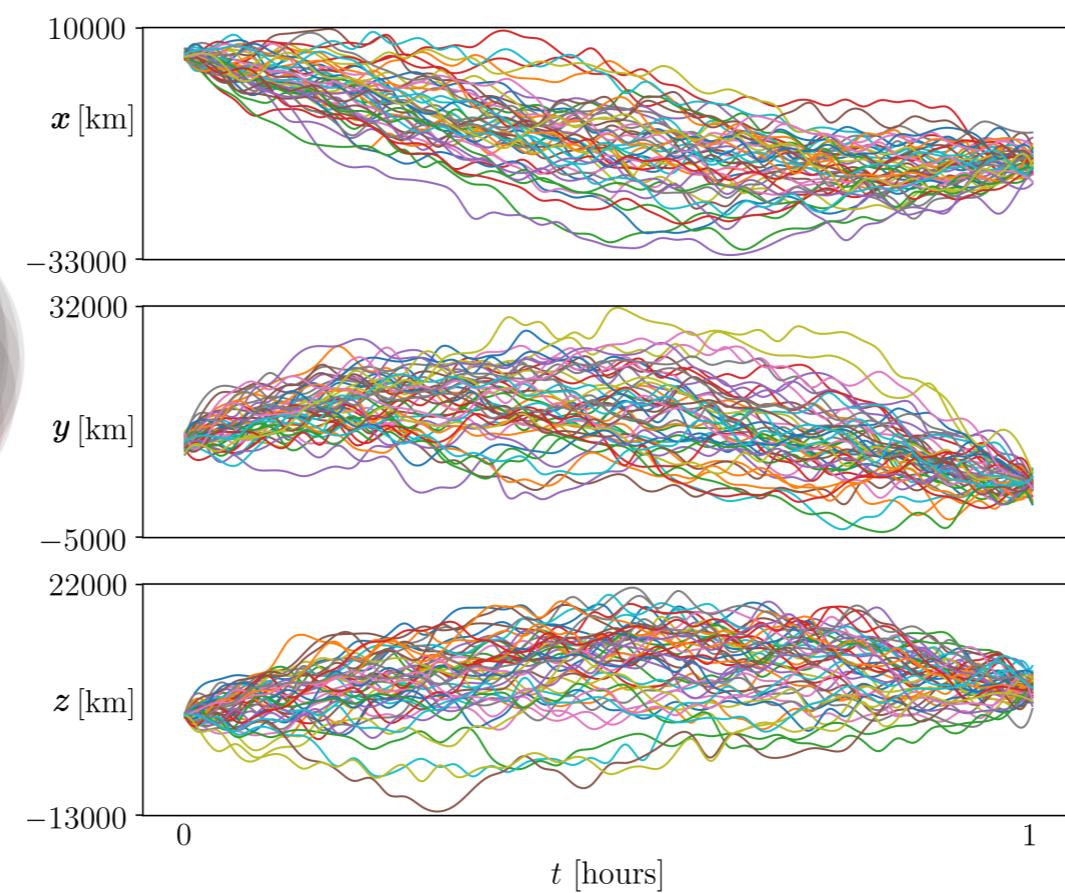
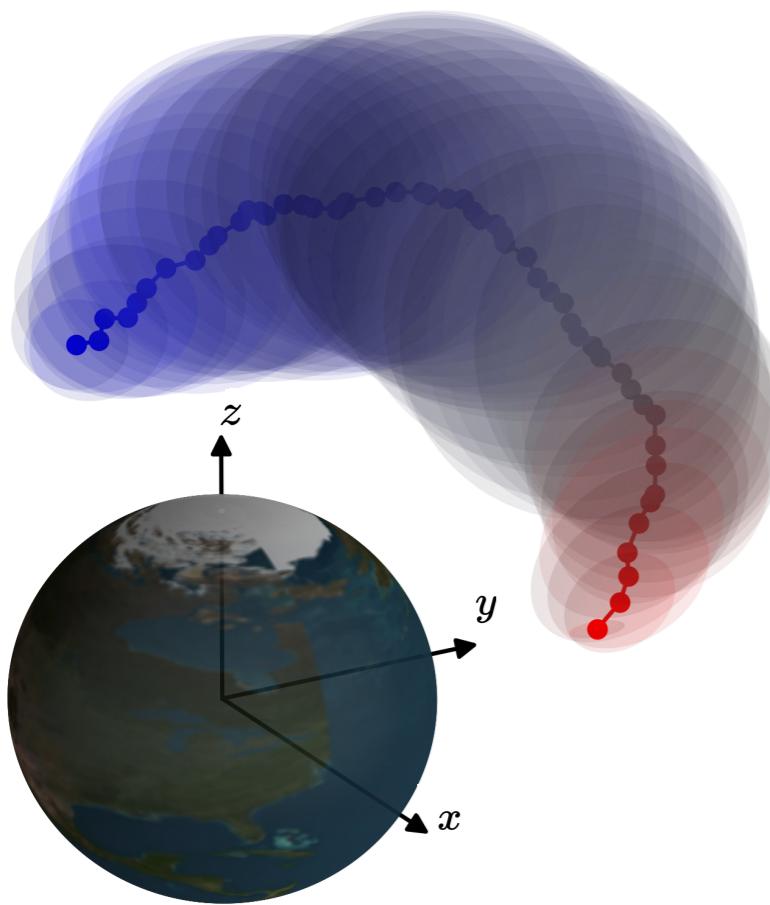
Our result #2: diffusive regularization = Lambertian SB

gravitational potential: from dynamics to state cost to reaction rate

$$\text{Lambertian SB: } q = -V, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = u, \sigma = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} I$$

This connection helps

- ↳ guarantee existence + uniqueness of solution
- ↳ numerical solution via dynamic Sinkhorn recursions



Post-advancement result #1

**Control-affine SB
and Hopf-Cole transform**



Control-Affine SB: $r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = A(t, x) + B(t, x)u$

First order conditions for optimality + generalized Hopf-Cole transform

$$\varphi_\lambda := \exp\left(\frac{S}{\lambda}\right), \hat{\varphi}_\lambda := \rho_{\text{opt}} \exp\left(-\frac{S}{\lambda}\right)$$

gives **coupled nonlinear reaction-advection-diffusion PDEs!!**

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\varphi}_\lambda}{\partial t} + \nabla_x \cdot (\hat{\varphi}(A + \mathbf{A}_\varphi)) - \Delta_\Sigma \hat{\varphi}_\lambda + \left(\frac{q}{\lambda} + \mathbf{q}_\varphi\right) \hat{\varphi}_\lambda = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_\lambda}{\partial t} + \langle \nabla_x \varphi_\lambda, A + \mathbf{A}_\varphi \rangle + \langle \Sigma, \text{Hess}_x \varphi_\lambda \rangle - \left(\frac{q}{\lambda} + \mathbf{q}_\varphi\right) \varphi_\lambda = 0$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_\lambda(t_0, x) \varphi_\lambda(t_0, x) = \rho_0(x), \quad \hat{\varphi}_\lambda(t_1, x) \varphi_\lambda(t_1, x) = \rho_1(x)$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}_\varphi := (\lambda BB^\top - 2\Sigma) \nabla_x \log \varphi_\lambda \text{ and } \mathbf{q}_\varphi := \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_x \log \varphi_\lambda)^\top (\lambda BB^\top - 2\Sigma) \nabla_x \log \varphi_\lambda$$

Special Case of CASB with $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^\top \propto \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$

Decoupled linear reaction-advection-diffusion PDEs

$$\frac{\partial \widehat{\varphi}_\lambda}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\widehat{\varphi}_\lambda \mathbf{A}) - \Delta_{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \widehat{\varphi}_\lambda + \frac{q\widehat{\varphi}_\lambda}{\lambda} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_\lambda}{\partial t} + \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi, \mathbf{A} \rangle + \langle \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}} \varphi_\lambda \rangle - \frac{q\varphi_\lambda}{\lambda} = 0$$

$$\widehat{\varphi}_\lambda(t_0, \mathbf{x}) \varphi_\lambda(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{x}), \quad \widehat{\varphi}_\lambda(t_1, \mathbf{x}) \varphi_\lambda(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1(\mathbf{x})$$

Conclusion: Hopf-Cole leads to decoupled linear PDEs iff $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^\top \propto \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$

Interpretation of $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^\top \propto \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$

↳ Noise \downarrow \Rightarrow Cost of optimal control \uparrow

↳ Noise \uparrow \Rightarrow Cost of optimal control \downarrow



Post-advancement result #2

Markov kernel for classical SB with quadratic state cost: derived 3 ways

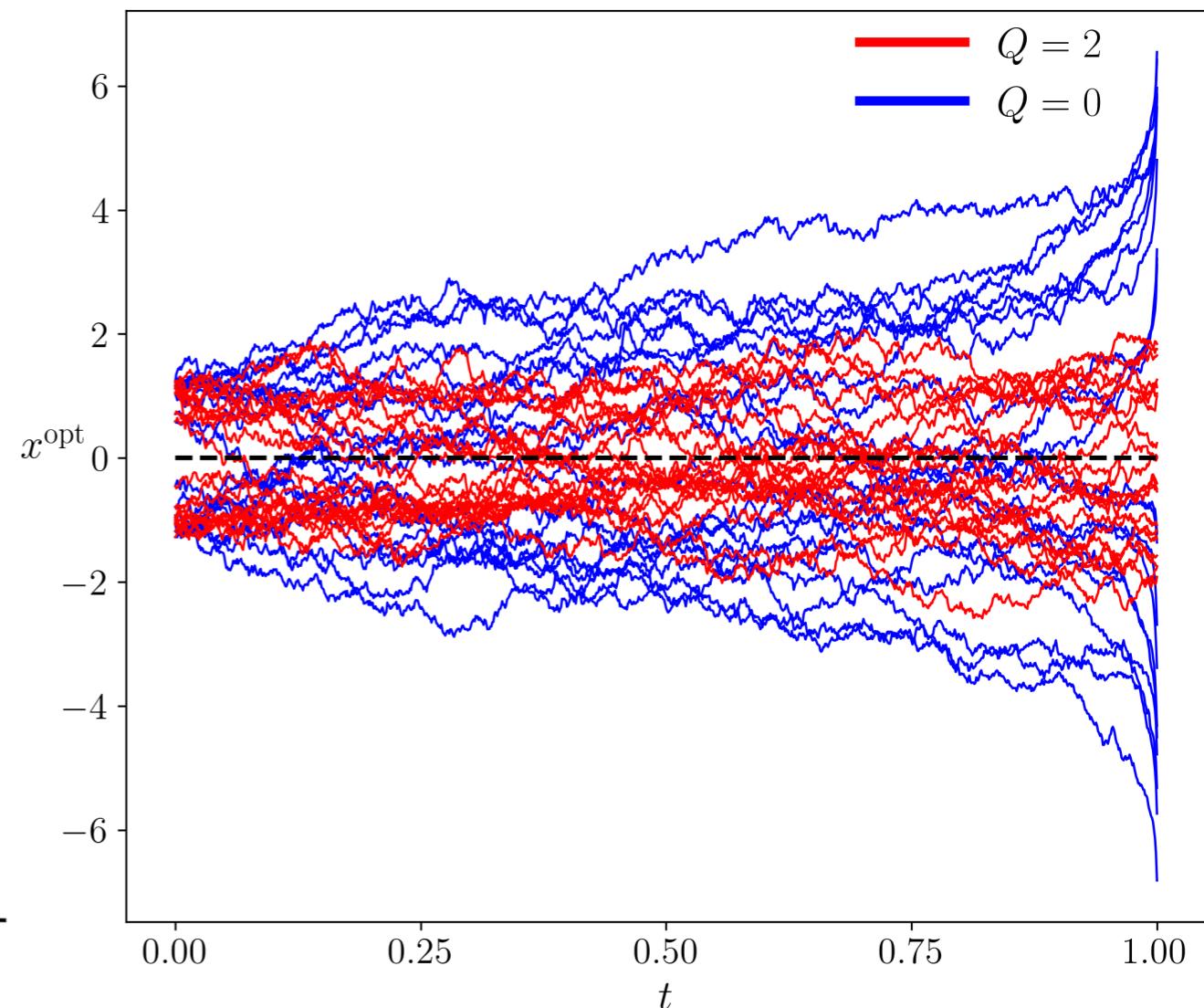


Classical SB: $q = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top Q \mathbf{x}, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, f = u, \sigma = \sqrt{2} I$

Quadratic state cost with $Q \succeq 0$

- ↳ biases sample paths toward desired level at all times
- ↳ a soft way to promote regulation / safety

After Hopf-Cole transform with $\varepsilon = 1$



$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \widehat{\varphi}}{\partial t} &= \left(\Delta_{\mathbf{x}} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top Q \mathbf{x} \right) \widehat{\varphi} \\ \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} &= \left(-\Delta_{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top Q \mathbf{x} \right) \varphi\end{aligned}$$

forward-backward reaction-diffusion PDEs with quadratic reaction rate

First Way: Hermite Polynomial Gymnastics

Eigen-decomposition $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{V}^\top \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{V}$

Change of variable $\mathbf{y} := \mathbf{V}\mathbf{x}$ gives

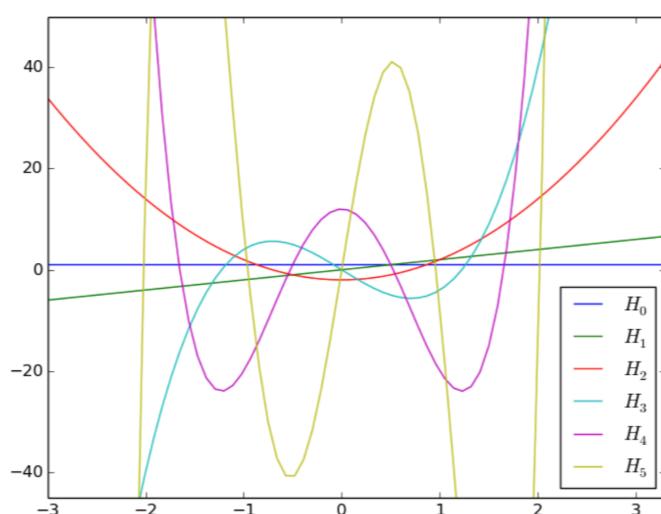
$$\frac{\partial \hat{\eta}}{\partial t} = \Delta_{\mathbf{y}} \hat{\eta} - (\mathbf{y}^\top \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{y}) \hat{\eta} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_i^2} - \lambda_i y_i^2 \right) \hat{\eta}$$

where $\hat{\eta}(0, \mathbf{y}) = \hat{\varphi}(0, \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{y})$

Apply separation of variables $\hat{\eta}(t, \mathbf{y}) = T(t) \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i(y_i)$

physicists' Hermite polynomial

and notice soln of $\frac{d^2Y}{dy^2} - (\lambda y^2 + c)Y = 0$ are $Y = a \exp\left(-\frac{y^2 \sqrt{\lambda}}{2}\right) H_n(\lambda^{1/4} y)$



$$H_n(x) := (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2})$$

of degree $n = -\frac{c}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} - \frac{1}{2} \in \mathbb{N}_0$

First Way: Hermite Polynomial Gymnastics

For $Q > 0$

Thm. Eig. decomposition: $Q = VDV^\top$

Then, $\widehat{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \eta(\mathbf{y} = V\mathbf{x}, t)$ where $\eta(\mathbf{y}, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \kappa(0, \mathbf{y}; t, \mathbf{z}) \eta_0(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}$

and

$$\kappa(0, \mathbf{y}; t, \mathbf{z}) = \frac{(\det(D))^{1/4}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n \det(\sinh(2t\sqrt{D}))}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) M \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{z} \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$M := \begin{bmatrix} D^{1/4} & \mathbf{0}_{n \times n} \\ \mathbf{0}_{n \times n} & D^{1/4} \end{bmatrix} M_1 M_2 \begin{bmatrix} D^{1/4} & \mathbf{0}_{n \times n} \\ \mathbf{0}_{n \times n} & D^{1/4} \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_1 := \begin{bmatrix} \cosh(2t\sqrt{D}) & -I_n \\ -I_n & \cosh(2t\sqrt{D}) \end{bmatrix}, \quad M_2 := \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{csch}(2t\sqrt{D}) & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \operatorname{csch}(2t\sqrt{D}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\eta_0(\mathbf{y}) = \widehat{\varphi}_0(V^\top \mathbf{x})$$

$Q = I$ recovers the multivariate Mehler kernel in quantum harmonic oscillator

First Way: Hermite Polynomial Gymnastics

For $Q \succeq 0$

Thm. $\kappa(0, \mathbf{y}; t, \mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{\kappa_+(0, \mathbf{y}_{[i_1:i_{n-p}]}; t, \mathbf{z}_{[i_1:i_{n-p}]})}_{\text{derived pos def kernel in } n-p \text{ variables}} + \underbrace{\kappa_0(0, \mathbf{y}_{[i_{n-p+1}:i_n]}; t, \mathbf{z}_{[i_{n-p+1}:i_n]})}_{\text{heat kernel in } p \text{ variables}}$

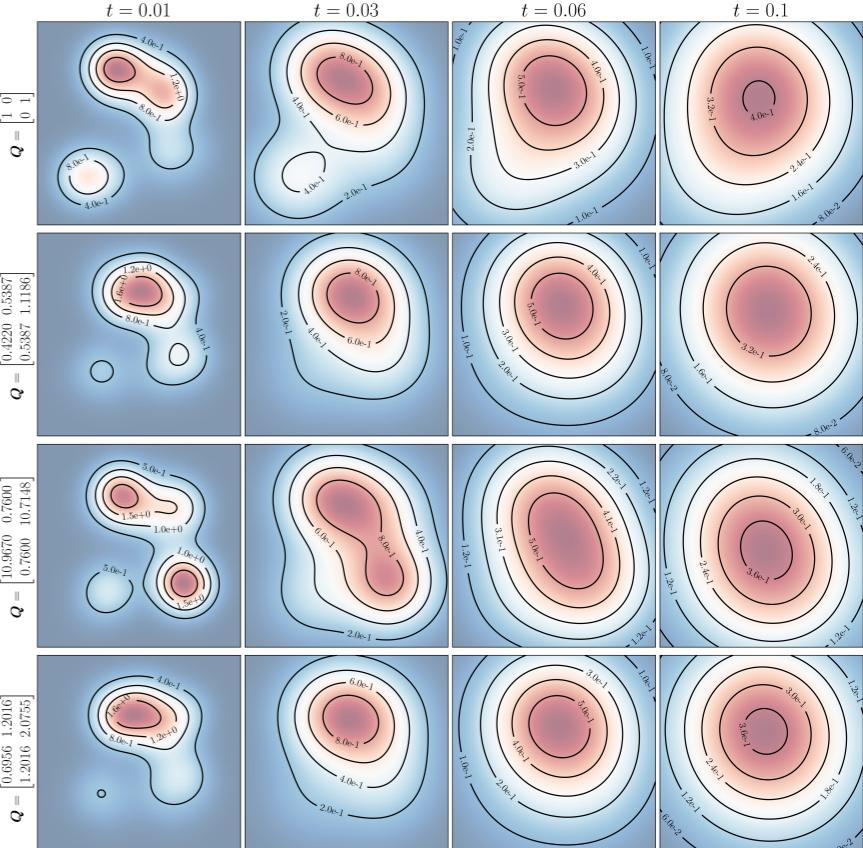
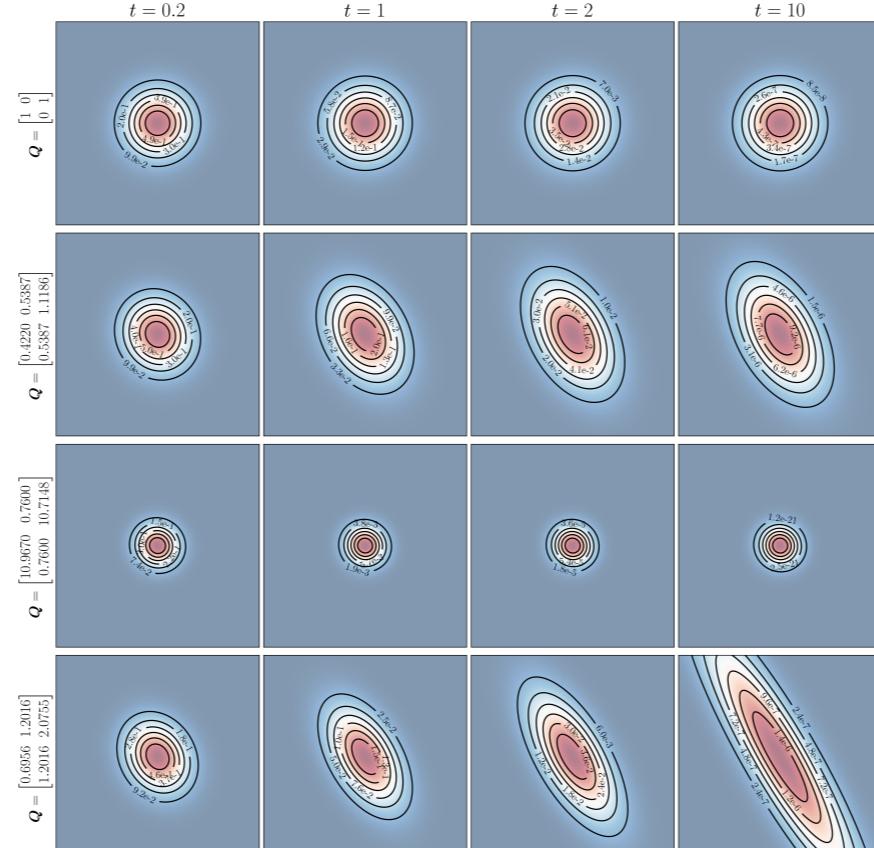
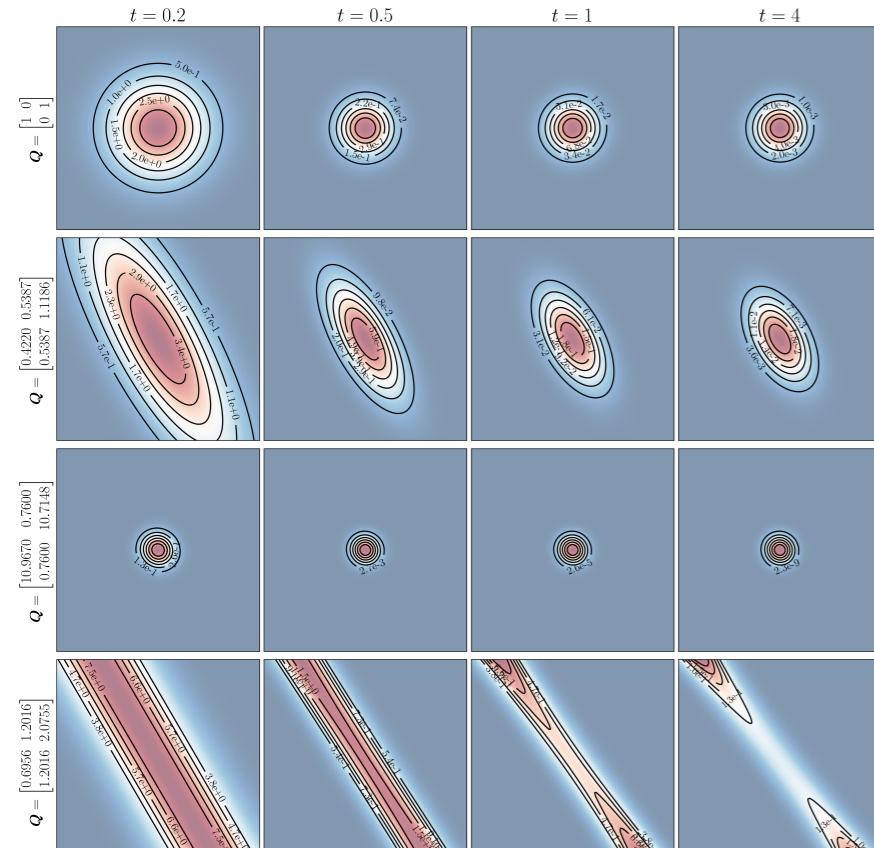
Action of kernel in x coordinates

scaled Himmelblau function

$$\hat{\varphi}_0(\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{35}\right)$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_0(\mathbf{x}) = 1$$

$$\hat{\varphi}_0(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$$



Second Way: Weyl Calculus

PDE \longrightarrow Weyl operator $H(X, D)$ \longrightarrow Weyl symbol $h(x, \xi)$ \longrightarrow Kernel κ

Step 1: PDE \longrightarrow Weyl operator $H(X, D)$

Let $X_k := x_k, D_k := \frac{1}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \quad \forall k \in [n]$

$$\mathbf{X} := (X_1 \dots X_n)^\top, \quad \mathbf{D} := (D_1 \dots D_n)^\top$$

Write the semigroup $\exp(-(t - t_0)\mathcal{L})$ in terms of \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{D}

Weyl operator is a composition:

$$Q_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{D}) := |\mathbf{D}|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k X_k^2$$

$$H_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{D}) = \exp(-(t - t_0)Q_\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{D}))$$

Second Way: Weyl Calculus

Step 2 (non-trivial): Weyl operator $H(X, D) \longrightarrow$ Weyl symbol $h(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi})$

Derive a PDE IVP for the Weyl symbol

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} h_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = - \sum_{j=0}^2 \frac{1}{j!} \{q_{\Lambda}, h_{\Lambda}\}_j(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}), \quad h_{\Lambda}|_{t=t_0} = 1$$

where $q_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = |\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k x_k^2$ and the j th order Poisson bracket

$$\{f, g\}_j(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) := \left(\frac{1}{2i} \right)^j \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_k \partial \xi_k} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_k \partial \nu_k} \right) \right)^j f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) g(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}) \Big|_{\mathbf{y}=\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\eta}=\boldsymbol{\xi}} \quad \forall j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Solution of this PDE IVP:

$$h_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\cosh(\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))} \right) \exp \left(- \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\lambda_k x_k^2 + \xi_k^2}{\sqrt{\lambda_k}} \tanh(\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0)) \right)$$

Second Way: Weyl Calculus

Step 3: Weyl symbol $h(x, \xi)$ \longrightarrow Kernel κ

In general,

$$\kappa(t_0, \mathbf{x}, t, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}}{2}, \xi\right) e^{i\langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}, \xi \rangle} d\xi$$

|

non-unitary inverse Fourier transform of $\xi \mapsto h((x+y)/2, \xi)$

Applying this to our Weyl symbol h_Λ gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \kappa_\Lambda(t_0, \mathbf{x}, t, \mathbf{y}) \\ &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{\lambda_k^{1/4}}{\sqrt{2\pi \sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t-t_0))}} \right) \\ & \times \exp\left(-\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_k}}{2} (x_k^2 + y_k^2) \frac{\cosh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t-t_0))}{\sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t-t_0))}\right) \\ & \times \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_k} x_k y_k \left(\frac{1}{\sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t-t_0))}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

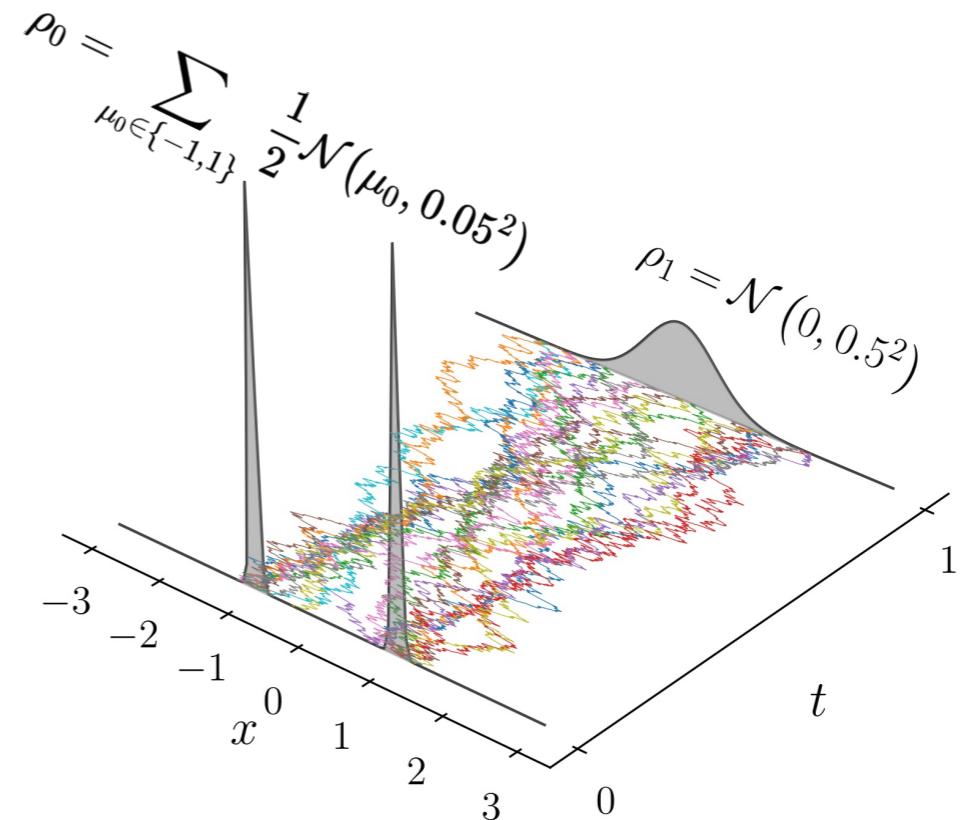
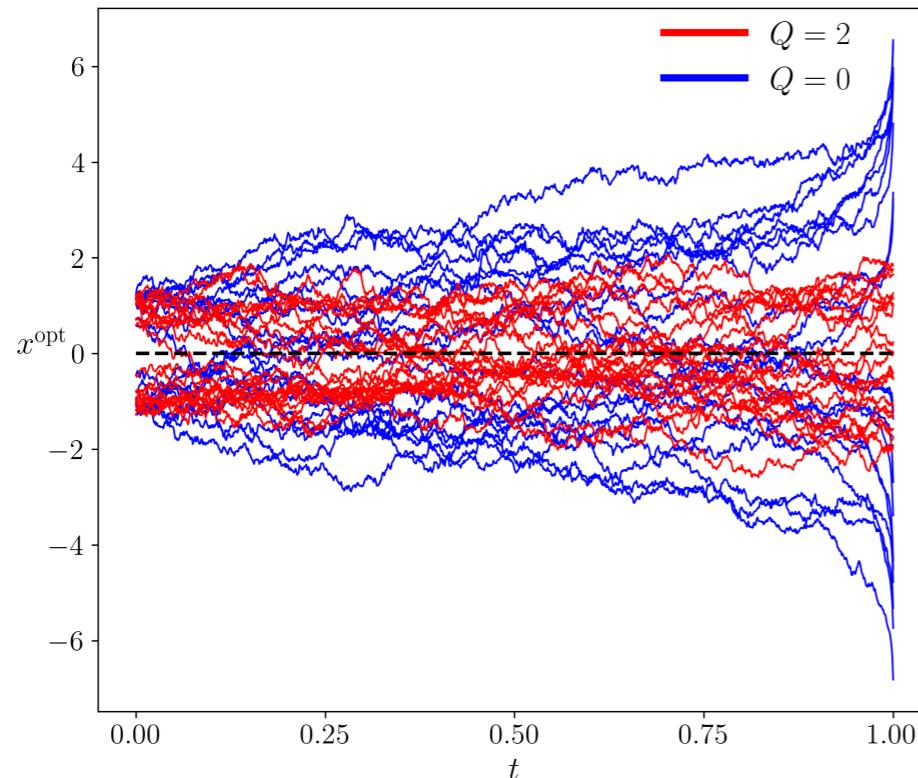
Same kernel obtained
via first way

Second Way: Weyl Calculus

Permits generalization for affine term: $q(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{z} + s, \quad \mathbf{Q} \succ \mathbf{0}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \kappa_{(\Lambda, \mathbf{r}, s)}(t_0, \mathbf{x}, t, \mathbf{y}) \\ &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{\lambda_k^{1/4} \exp(-c_k(t - t_0))}{\sqrt{2\pi \sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))}} \right) \\ & \times \exp \left(\sum_{k=1}^n -\frac{\sqrt{\lambda_k}}{2} (x_k^2 + y_k^2) \frac{\cosh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))}{\sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))} + \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_k} x_k y_k}{\sinh(2\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))} - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{v}_k (x_k + y_k) + \frac{1}{4\lambda_k} (\mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{v}_k)^2 \right) \tanh(\sqrt{\lambda_k}(t - t_0))}{\sqrt{\lambda_k}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$c_k := \frac{1}{4\lambda_k} (\mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{v}_k)^2 - \frac{s}{n}, \quad \mathbf{v}_k \text{ is } k\text{th column of } \mathbf{V}^\top$$



Post-advancement result #3

Markov kernel for LQSB
(subsumes previous kernel)



$$\text{LQSB: } q = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q}_t \mathbf{x}, r = \frac{1}{2} \|\cdot\|_2^2, \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{A}_t \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}_t \mathbf{u}, \sigma = \sqrt{2} \mathbf{B}_t$$

Assume

- ↪ controllable $(\mathbf{A}_t, \mathbf{B}_t)$ and $\mathbf{Q}_t \succeq \mathbf{0}$ are continuous and bounded
- ↪ $\mathbf{Q}_t \succ \mathbf{0}$ for some sub-interval (measure zero is okay) of time

To solve this LQSB with **generic non-Gaussian endpoints**, determine closed-form of Markov (not transition probability) kernel k

k is Green's function for the linear reaction-advection-diffusion PDE

$$\frac{\partial k}{\partial t} = -\langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}, k \mathbf{A}_t \mathbf{x} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{B}_t \mathbf{B}_t^\top, \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}^2 k \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q}_t \mathbf{x} k$$

Previous kernel was for the special case $\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{B}_t = \mathbf{I} \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$

Markov Kernels and Distances

We observe that known Markov kernels (including our earlier) look like

$$k = c(t, t_0) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\right)$$

Distance function $\text{dist}_{tt_0}^2 : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ induced by

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_\tau} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u}(\tau)\|_2^2 + q(\mathbf{z}(\tau)) \right) d\tau$$

and constrained by controlled ODE from Itô diffusion + BCs

We derive the kernel in terms of an associated Riccati matrix ODE solution

Computational Pipeline

deterministic OCP

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_\tau} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u}(\tau)\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{z}(\tau))^\top \mathbf{Q}(\tau) \mathbf{z}(\tau) \right) d\tau$$
$$\dot{\mathbf{z}}(\tau) = \mathbf{A}(\tau) \mathbf{z}(\tau) + \sqrt{2} \mathbf{B}(\tau) \mathbf{u}(\tau),$$
$$\mathbf{z}(\tau = t_0) = \mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{z}(\tau = t) = \mathbf{y}$$

Computational Pipeline

deterministic OCP

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_\tau} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u}(\tau)\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{z}(\tau))^\top \mathbf{Q}(\tau) \mathbf{z}(\tau) \right) d\tau$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{z}}(\tau) &= \mathbf{A}(\tau) \mathbf{z}(\tau) + \sqrt{2} \mathbf{B}(\tau) \mathbf{u}(\tau), \\ \mathbf{z}(\tau = t_0) &= \mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{z}(\tau = t) = \mathbf{y}\end{aligned}$$

-
- Relate to cost of min energy
- state transfer via solution map
- $\Pi(\tau, \mathbf{K}_1, t)$ for Riccati matrix
- ODE IVP
-

$\hat{\Phi}_{tt_0}, \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}$

are the state transition matrix
and the controllability Gramian
for the closed-loop system

$\text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\cdot, \cdot)$

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}^\top \mathbf{M}_{tt_0} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\mathbf{M}_{tt_0} :=$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0}^\top \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0} + \mathbf{\Pi}(t_0, \mathbf{0}, t) & -\hat{\Phi}_{tt_0}^\top \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \\ -\hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0} & \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Computational Pipeline

deterministic OCP

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}^\top \mathbf{M}_{tt_0} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix},$$

where $\mathbf{M}_{tt_0} := \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0}^\top \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0} + \Pi(t_0, \mathbf{0}, t) & -\hat{\Phi}_{tt_0}^\top \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \\ -\hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_{tt_0} & \hat{\Gamma}_{tt_0}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$

$\text{dist}_{tt_0}^2(\cdot, \cdot)$

.....
 Substitute k into $\frac{\partial k}{\partial t} = (L - q)k$
 with $k_0 = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ and solve
 reaction-advection-diffusion PDE.

$$k(t_0, \mathbf{x}, t, \mathbf{y}) = a \exp\left(- \int_{t_0}^t \theta(s) ds\right) \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}^\top \mathbf{M}_{tt_0} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

Markov kernel k

where $\theta(\tau) := \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}(\tau) + \mathbf{B}(\tau)\mathbf{B}(\tau)^\top \mathbf{M}_{11}(\tau, t_0))$,

$$a := (2\pi)^{-n/2} \lim_{t \downarrow t_0} \det\left(\mathbf{M}_{11}^{1/2}(t, t_0) \times \exp \int_{t_0}^t (\mathbf{A}(\tau) + \mathbf{B}(\tau)\mathbf{B}(\tau)^\top \mathbf{M}_{11}(\tau, t_0)) d\tau \right)$$

Post-advancement result #4

**Back to quantum: can we recast CASB
as wave steering?**



From CASB to Quantum

Recap CASB problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \inf_{(\rho, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{P}_{01} \times \mathcal{U}} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u}\|_2^2 \right) \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} dt \\ & \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\rho(\mathbf{A}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u})) = \Delta_{\Sigma(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})} \rho \\ & \rho(t = t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0, \quad \rho(t = t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1 \end{aligned}$$

Apply Madelung transform $(\rho_{\text{opt}}, S) \mapsto (\psi, \psi^\dagger)$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi &:= \exp \left(R + \frac{i}{\lambda} S \right) \quad \text{where } R := \frac{1}{2} \log \rho_{\text{opt}} \\ \psi^\dagger &:= \exp \left(R - \frac{i}{\lambda} S \right) \end{aligned}$$

Born's relation

$$\rho_{\text{opt}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \psi(t, \mathbf{x}) \psi^\dagger(t, \mathbf{x}) \quad \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

Nonlinear Schrödinger PDE BVP in ψ

$$i\lambda \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\lambda^2}{2} \Delta_{\Sigma} \psi + V_{\text{the control-affine SB}} \psi$$

complex-valued potential

$$\psi(t_0, \mathbf{x})\psi^\dagger(t_0, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_0, \quad \psi(t_1, \mathbf{x})\psi^\dagger(t_1, \mathbf{x}) = \rho_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Re(V_{\text{the control-affine SB}}) = & \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \langle \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \rangle + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \langle \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}} R \rangle + \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S, \mathbf{A} \rangle \\ & + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \|\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R\|_{\Sigma}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S\|_{\Sigma}^2 + \lambda^2 \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R \rangle \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S, \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B}^\top \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}} S \rangle - q \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Im(V_{\text{the control-affine SB}}) = & \lambda \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \langle \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}} S \rangle + (\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma} (\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S) + \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S \rangle \right. \\ & - \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R, \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B}^\top \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B}^\top \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} S) \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{\Sigma} R + (\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} R \right) \langle \text{Hess}_{\mathbf{x}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \rangle \right\} \end{aligned}$$

The Wave BVP Specialized for Classical SB

$$i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \Delta_x \psi + V_{\text{the classical SB}} \psi \quad \text{complex-valued potential}$$

where

$$\Re(V_{\text{the classical SB}}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x R + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x R\|_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S$$

$$\Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x R + \|\nabla_x R\|_2^2$$



$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial t} = -\langle \nabla_x R, \nabla_x S \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S + \Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}})$$

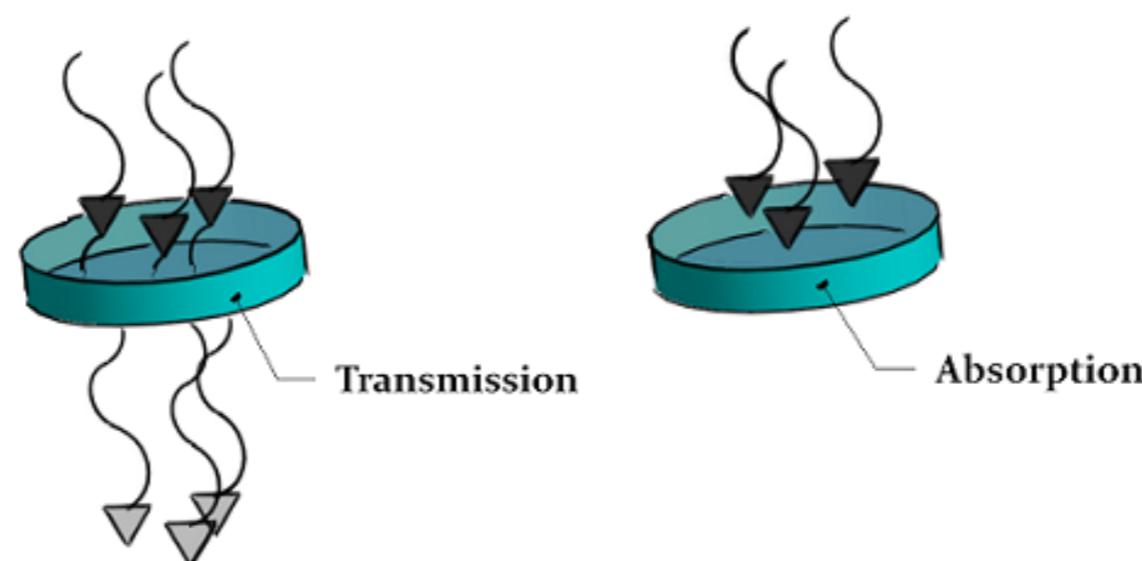
$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x S\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S$$

Interpretation of the Derived Complex Potentials

Real part = elastic scattering (transmission of wave function)

Imaginary part = inelastic scattering (absorption of wave function)

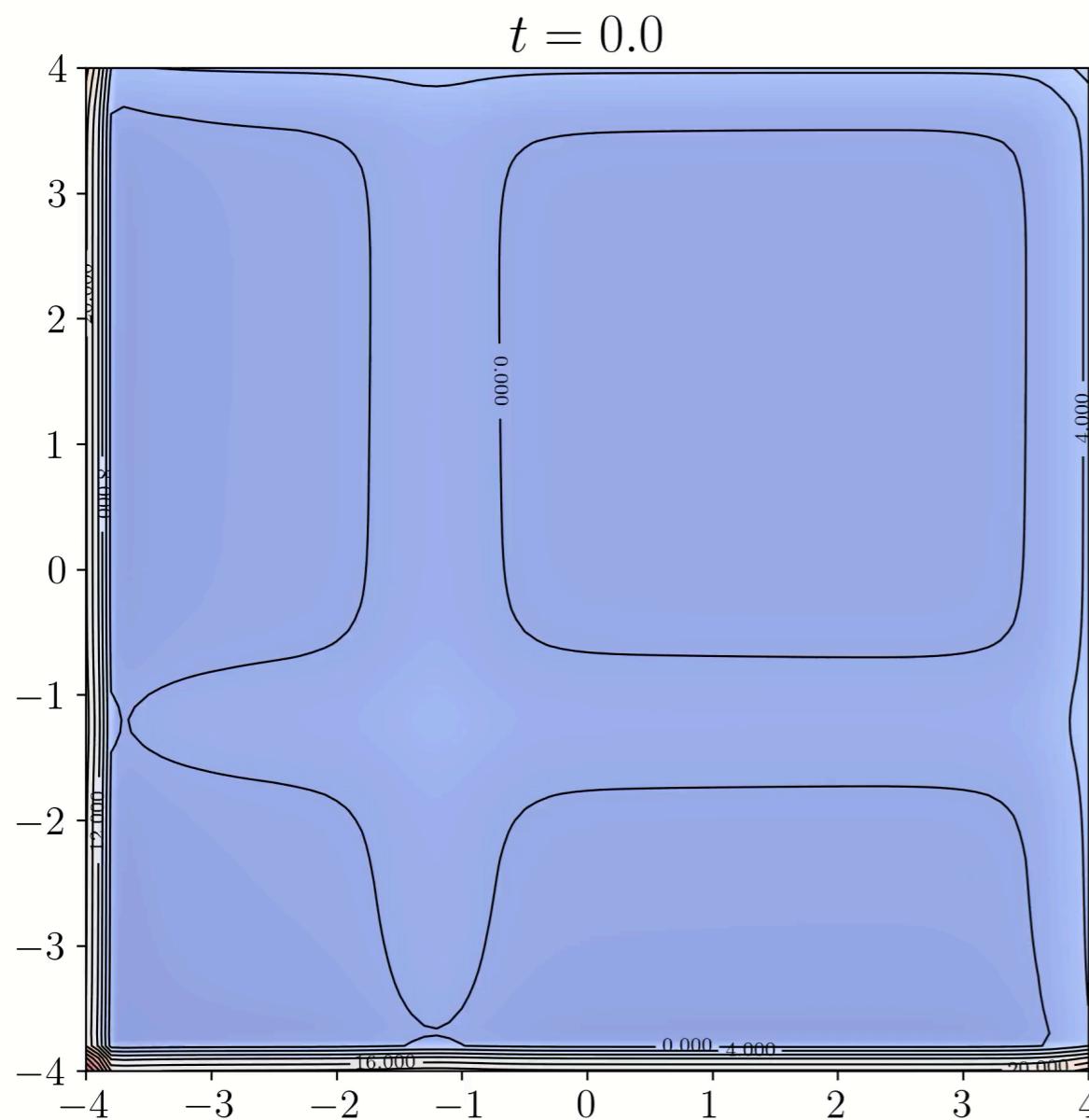
SB as a diffusion process induces a “medium”



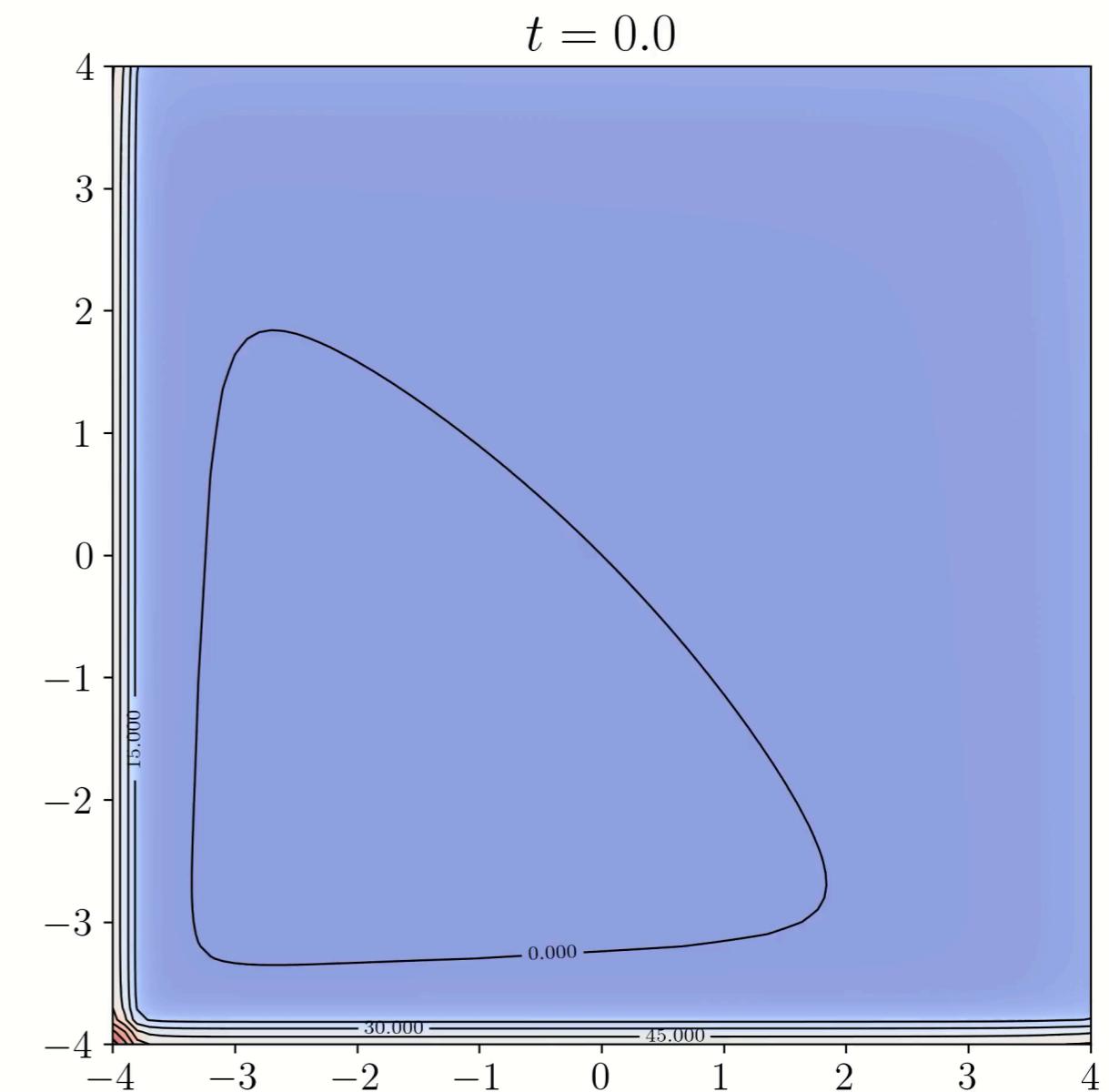
Similar to optical potential in nuclear physics

Example: Complex Potential for Classical SB

$\Re(V_{\text{the classical SB}})$



$\Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}})$



Generalization of Bohm Potential



PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 96, NUMBER 1

OCTOBER 1, 1954



Model of the Causal Interpretation of Quantum Theory in Terms of a Fluid
with Irregular Fluctuations

D. Bohm (1951-54)

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 2

JANUARY 15, 1952



A Suggested Interpretation of the Quantum Theory in Terms of “Hidden” Variables. I

Bohm's 1952 paper:

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial t} = -\langle \nabla_x R, \nabla_x S \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S$$

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x S\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S - \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x R\|_2^2 - i\Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}})$$

Our result for Classical SB:

If $\Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}}) = 0$, SB
is a near match for Bohm

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial t} = -\langle \nabla_x R, \nabla_x S \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S + \Im(V_{\text{the classical SB}})$$

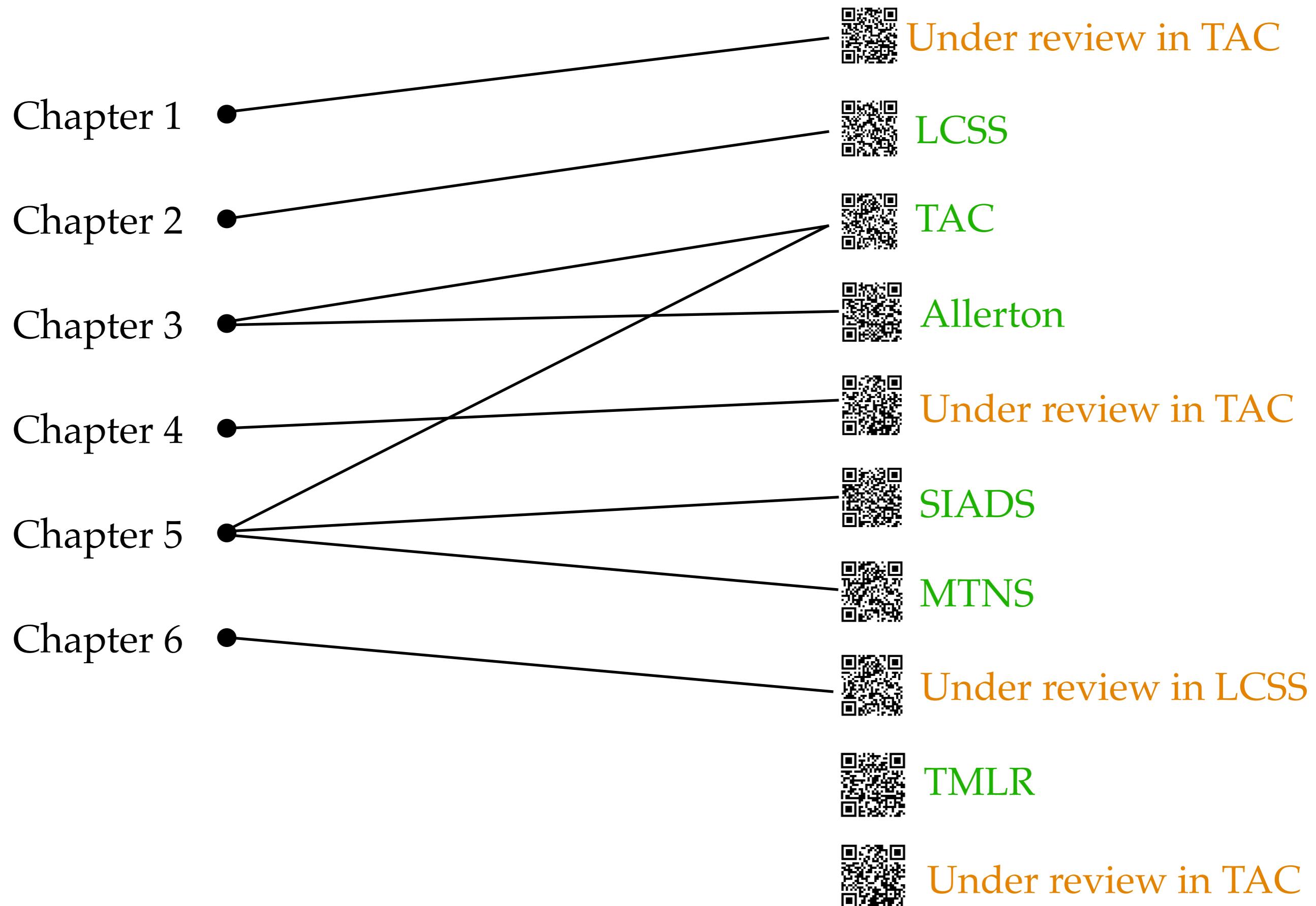
$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x S\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x S$$

Summary

SB \subset LQSB \subset CASB

SB variant	Contributions made by this dissertation
LQSB	<p>Derived worst-case contraction coefficient</p> <p>Derived Markov kernel for dynamic Sinkhorn</p>
Lambertian SB (linear non-quadratic)	<p>Proved probabilistic Lambert problem is generalized optimal mass transport</p> <p>Proved existence-uniqueness of solution for both with and without noise</p> <p>Dynamic Sinkhorn for numerical solution</p>
CASB	<p>Showed Hopf-Cole does not remove nonlinearity in general: possibility to generalize dynamic Sinkhorn</p> <p>Derived equiv. wave BVP: possibility for new algorithm</p>

Publications by Dissertation Chapters



Acknowledgements

My heartfelt thanks to

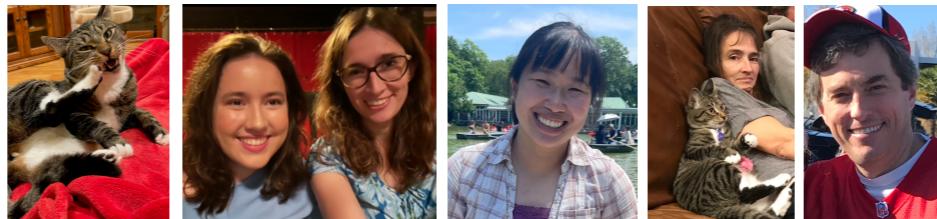
↳ my advisor



↳ my coauthors



↳ my friends and family



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Applied
Mathematics



COSMOS
UC Santa Cruz
California State Summer School for
Mathematics and Science

LDRD GS 25-ERD-044

Thank You

Backup Slides

Hilbert's Projective Metric d_{Hilbert}

A cone \mathcal{K} is called pointed if $\mathcal{K} \cap -\mathcal{K} = \{0\}$

For any pointed convex cone \mathcal{K} in a real vector space,

$$d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) := \log \left(\frac{\inf\{\theta \geq 0 \mid \theta v \geq u\}}{\sup\{\theta \geq 0 \mid u \geq \theta v\}} \right) \quad \forall u, v \in \text{interior}(\mathcal{K})$$

Example. For $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$,

$$d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) = \log \left(\frac{\max_{i=1,\dots,n} u_i/v_i}{\min_{i=1,\dots,n} u_i/v_i} \right)$$

Example. For $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{S}_+^n$,

$$d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) = \log \max\{\lambda_{\max}(u^{-1}v), \lambda_{\max}(v^{-1}u)\}$$

Hilbert's Projective Metric d_{Hilbert}

Nonnegativity. $d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) \geq 0 \quad \forall (u, v) \in \text{interior}(\mathcal{K})$

Indiscernability. $d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad u = \beta v \text{ for some } \beta > 0$

Symmetry. $d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) = d_{\text{Hilbert}}(v, u)$

Triangle inequality. $d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, w) \leq d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) + d_{\text{Hilbert}}(v, w)$

Scale invariance. $d_{\text{Hilbert}}(\alpha u, \beta v) = d_{\text{Hilbert}}(u, v) \quad \forall \alpha, \beta > 0$