

# Wasserstein Gradient Flow for Stochastic Prediction, Filtering, Learning and Control

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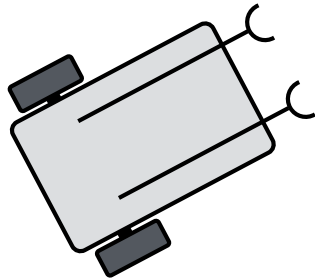
# Overarching Theme

**Systems-control theory for densities**



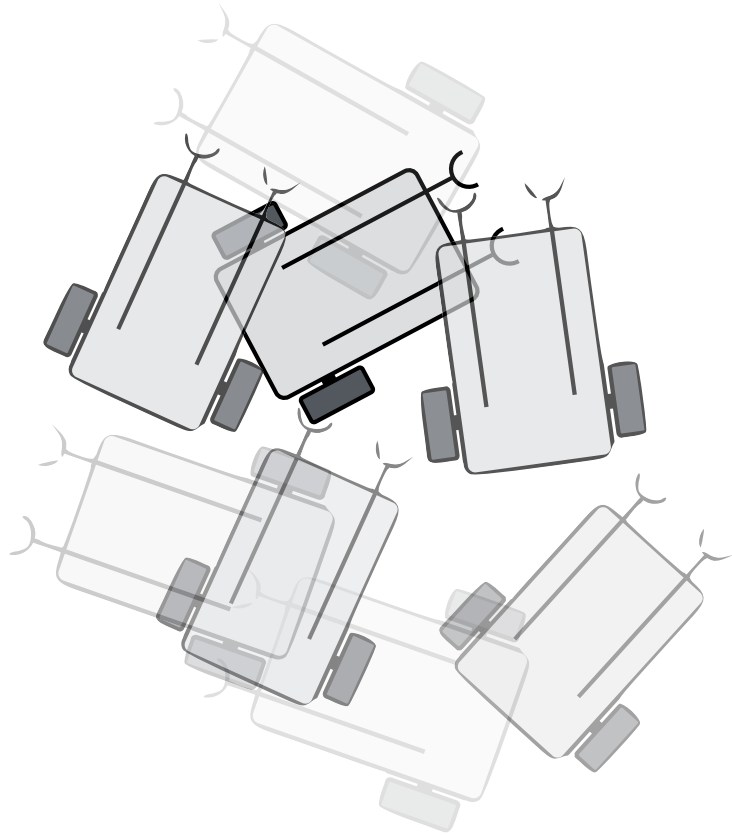
**What is density?**

# Probability Density Fn.



$$\boldsymbol{x}(t) \in \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{X} \equiv \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1$$

# Probability Density Fn.

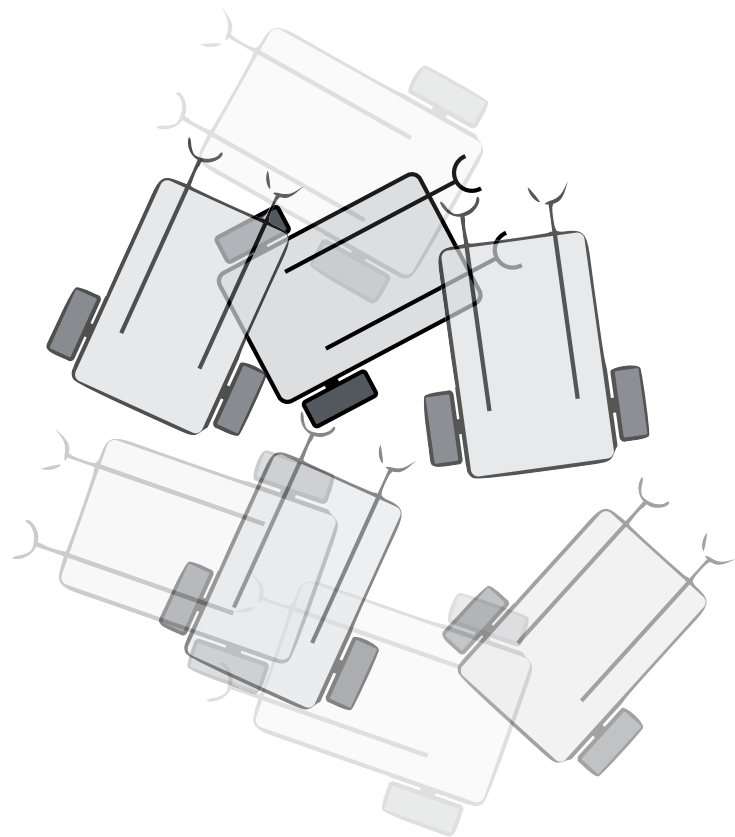


$$\mathbf{x}(t) \in \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{X} \equiv \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1$$

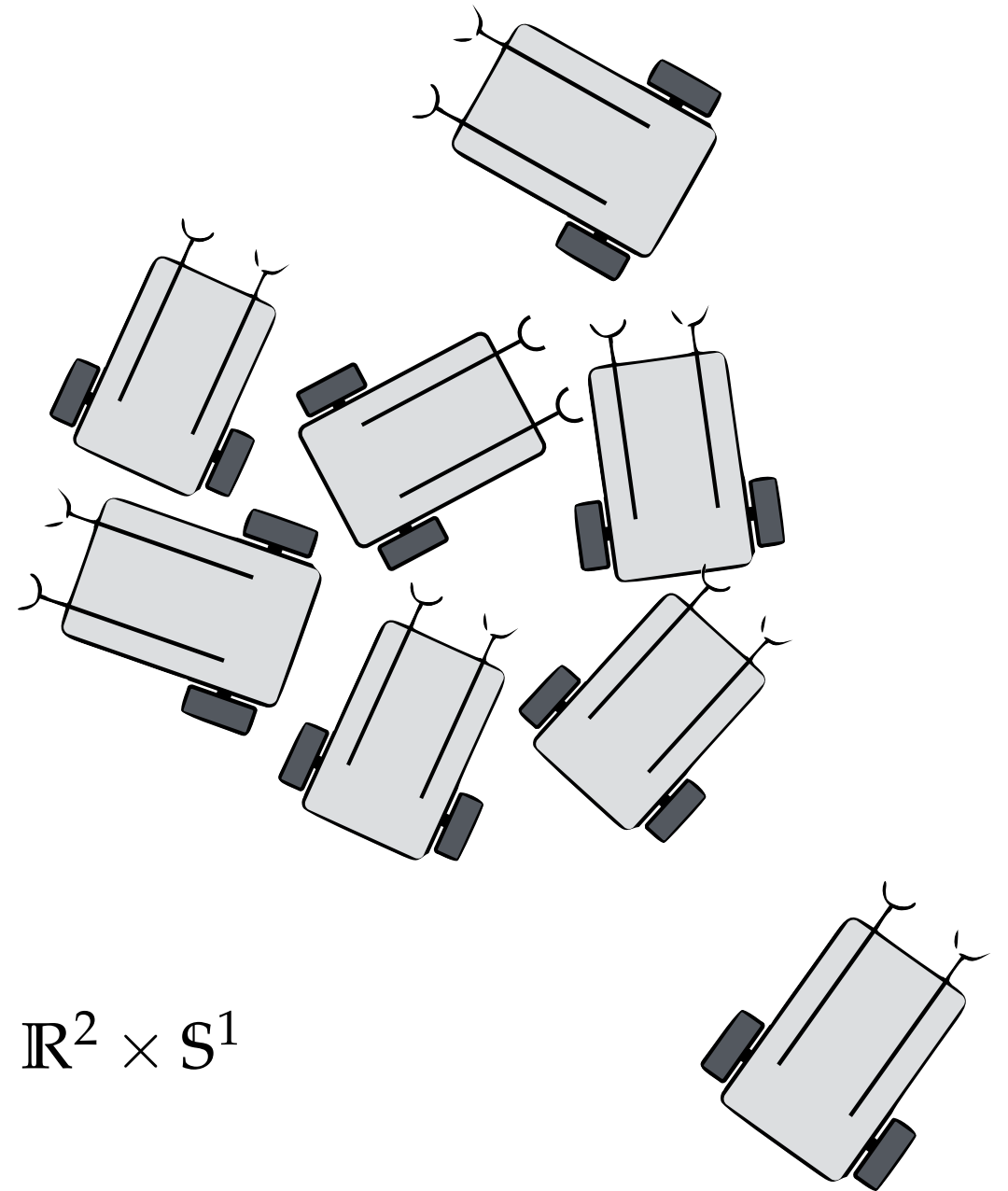
$$\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) : \mathcal{X} \times [0, \infty) \mapsto \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}} \rho \, d\mathbf{x} = 1 \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, \infty)$$

# Probability Density Fn.



# Population Density Fn.



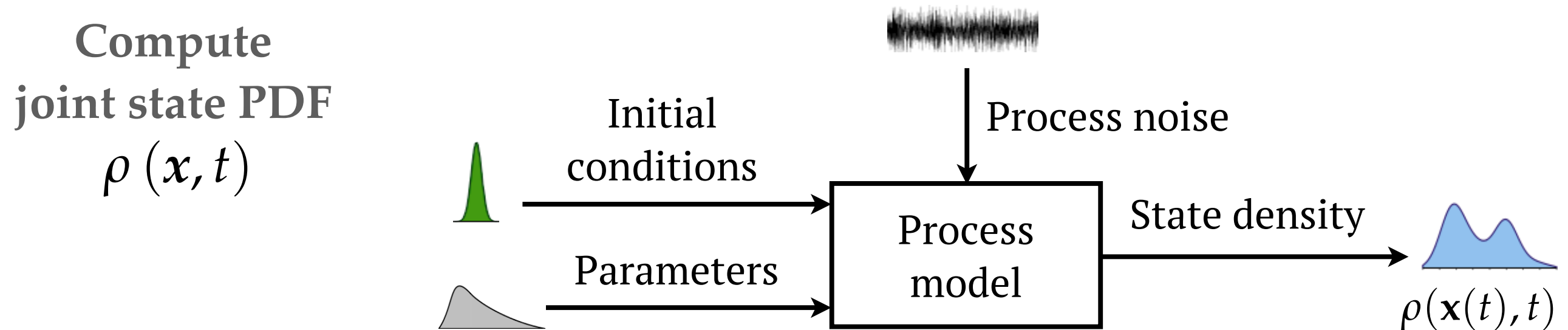
$$\mathbf{x}(t) \in \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{X} \equiv \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) : \mathcal{X} \times [0, \infty) \mapsto \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}} \rho \, d\mathbf{x} = 1 \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, \infty)$$

**Why care about densities?**

# Prediction Problem



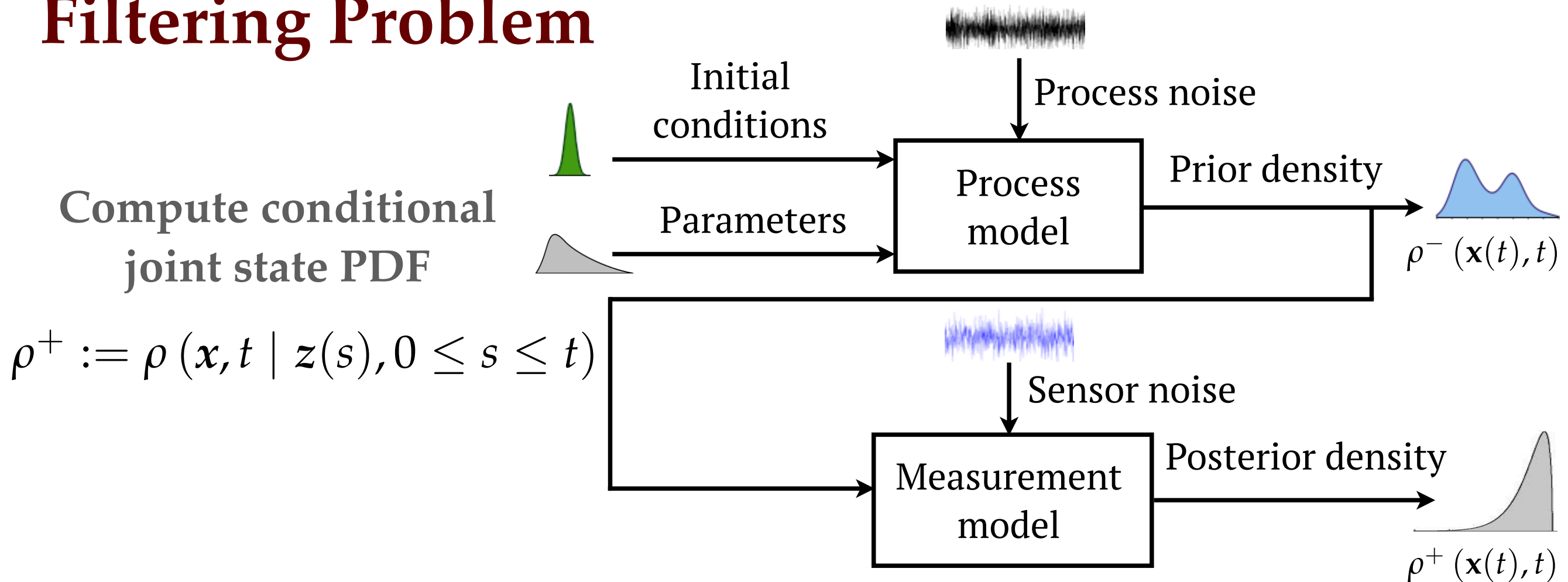
## Trajectory flow:

$$d\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) dt + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}, t) d\mathbf{w}(t), \quad d\mathbf{w}(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{Q}dt)$$

## Density flow:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}}(\rho) := -\nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{f}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \left( \left( \mathbf{g} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{g}^\top \right)_{ij} \rho \right)$$

# Filtering Problem



## Trajectory flow:

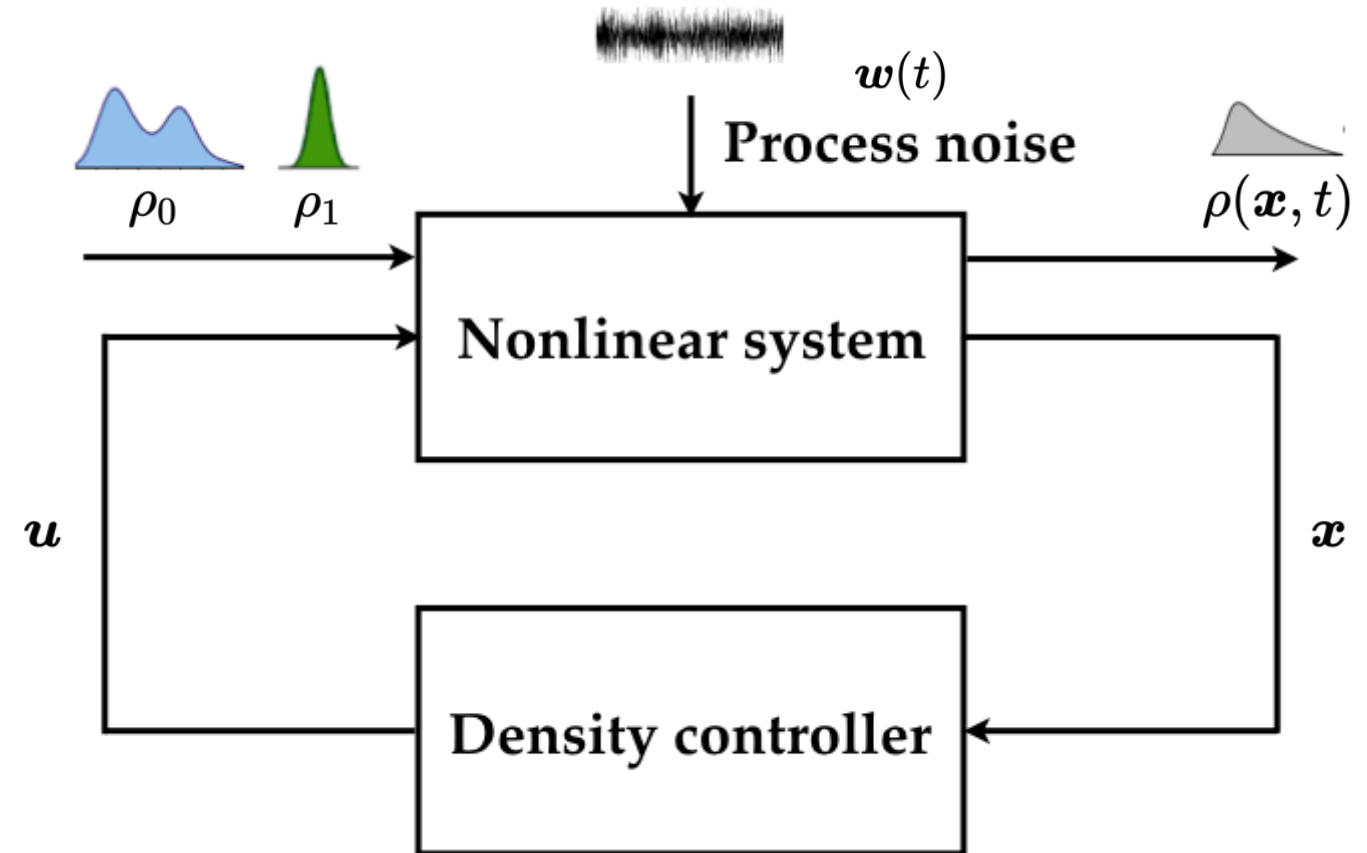
$$\begin{aligned} d\mathbf{X}(t) &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}, t) dt + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}, t) d\mathbf{w}(t), & d\mathbf{w}(t) &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{Q}dt) \\ d\mathbf{Z}(t) &= \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{X}, t) dt + d\mathbf{v}(t), & d\mathbf{v}(t) &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{R}dt) \end{aligned}$$

## Density flow:

$$d\rho^+ = \left[ \mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}} dt + (\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mathbb{E}_{\rho^+}\{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, t)\})^\top \mathbf{R}^{-1} (d\mathbf{z}(t) - \mathbb{E}_{\rho^+}\{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, t)\} dt) \right] \rho^+$$

# Control Problem

Steer joint state PDF via feedback control over finite time horizon



$$\underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^1 \|u\|_2^2 dt \right]$$

subject to

$$dx = f(x, u, t) dt + g(x, t) dw,$$

$$x(t=0) \sim \rho_0, \quad x(t=1) \sim \rho_1$$

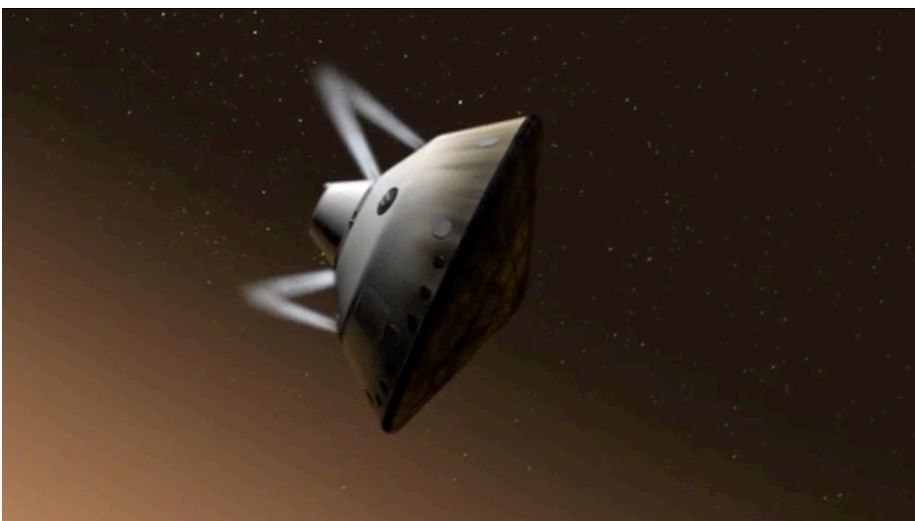
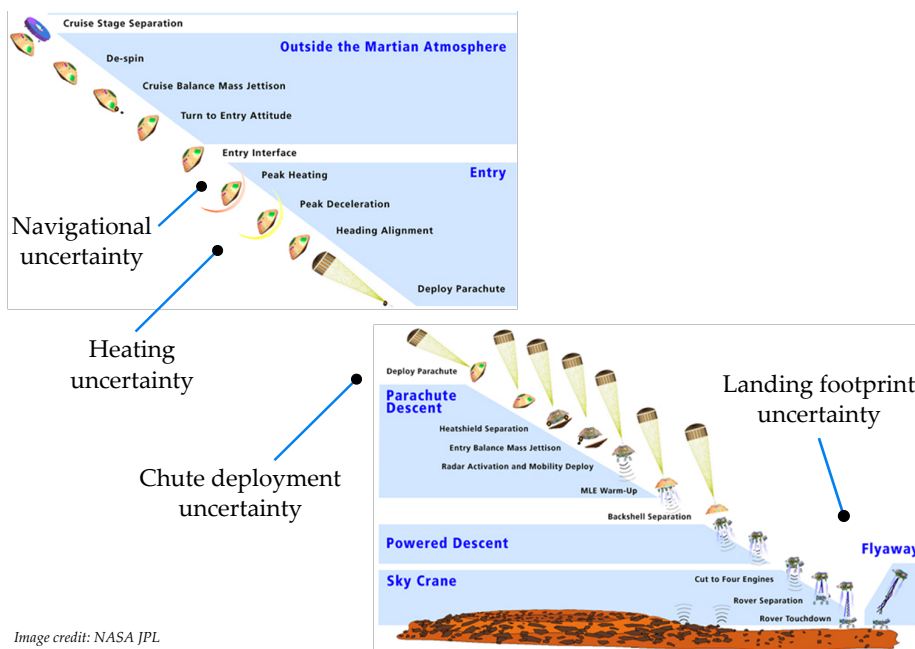


# PDFs in Mars Entry-Descent-Landing

Prediction Problem

Filtering Problem

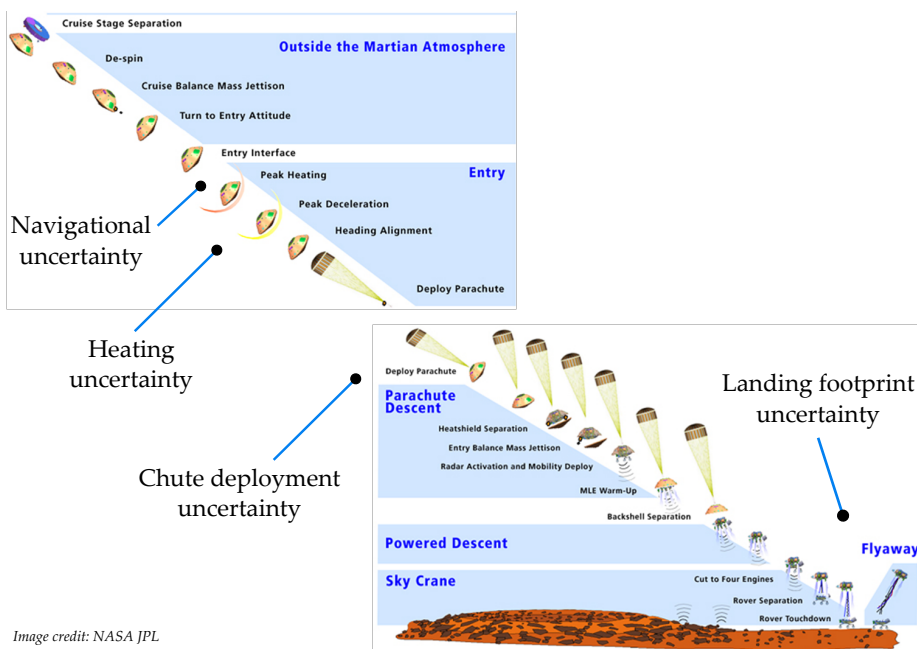
Control Problem



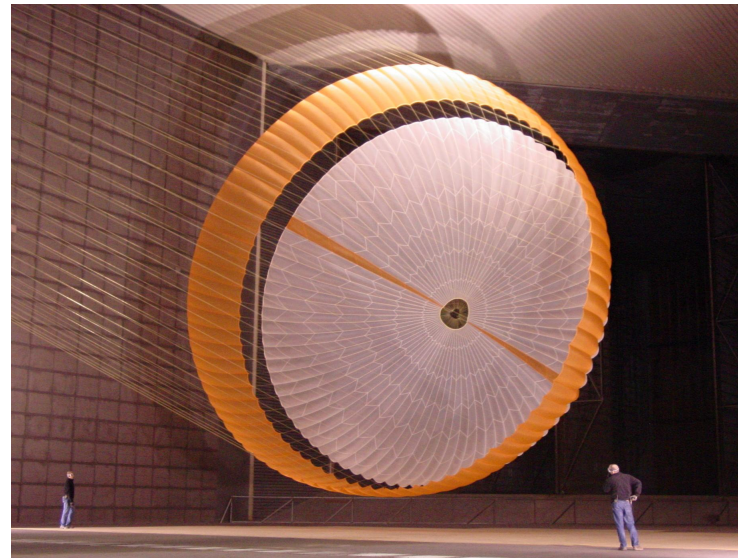
Predict heating rate uncertainty

# PDFs in Mars Entry-Descent-Landing

## Prediction Problem

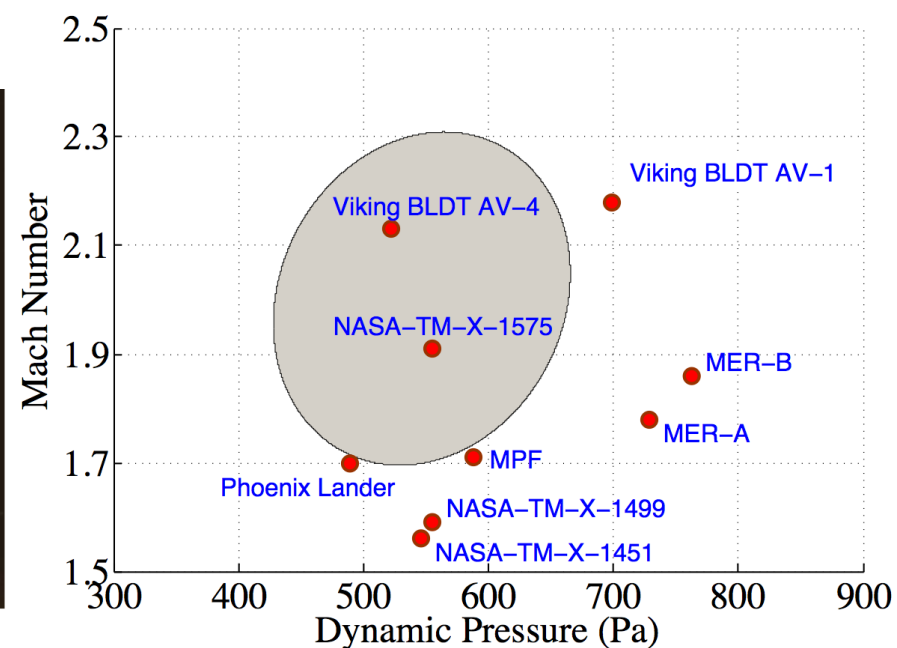
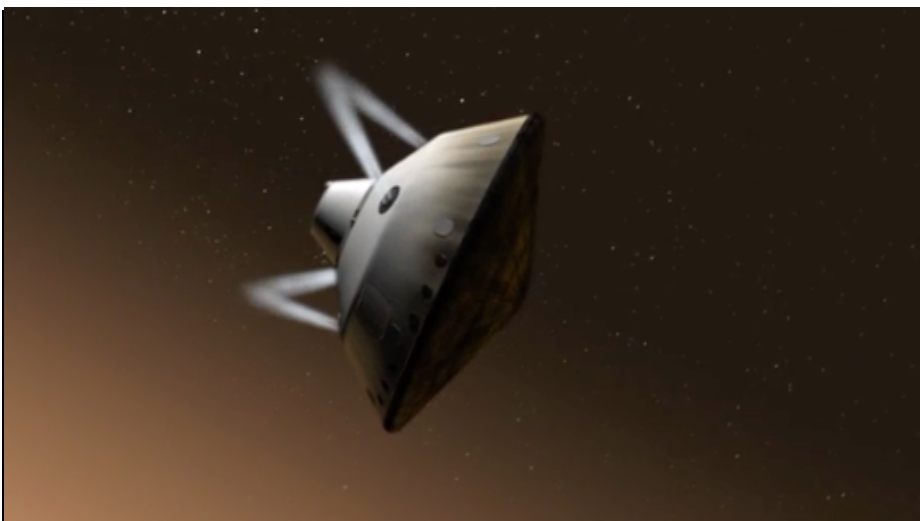


## Filtering Problem



Supersonic parachute

## Control Problem



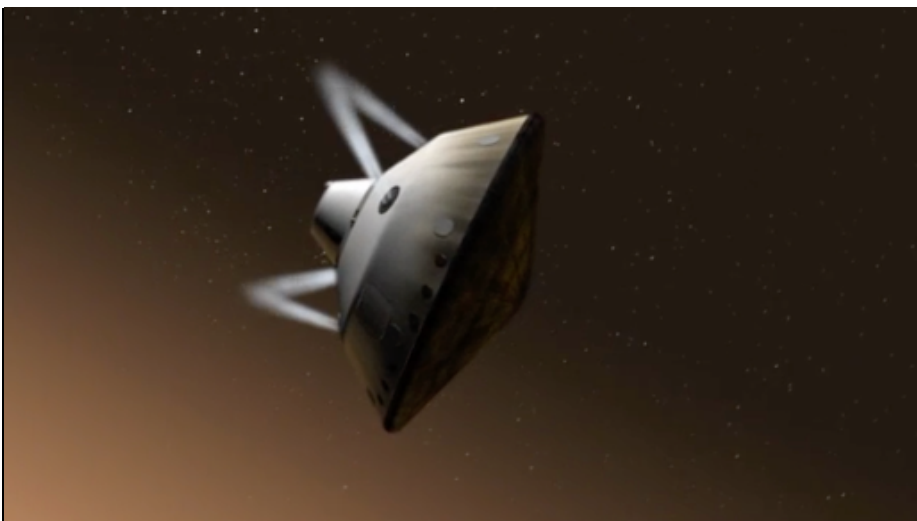
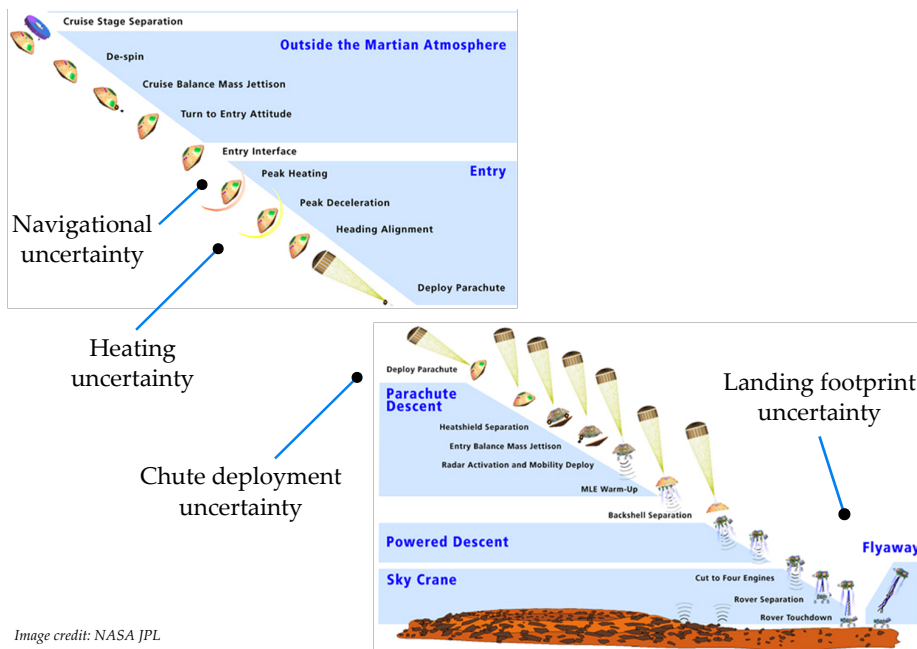
Predict heating rate uncertainty

Estimate state to deploy parachute



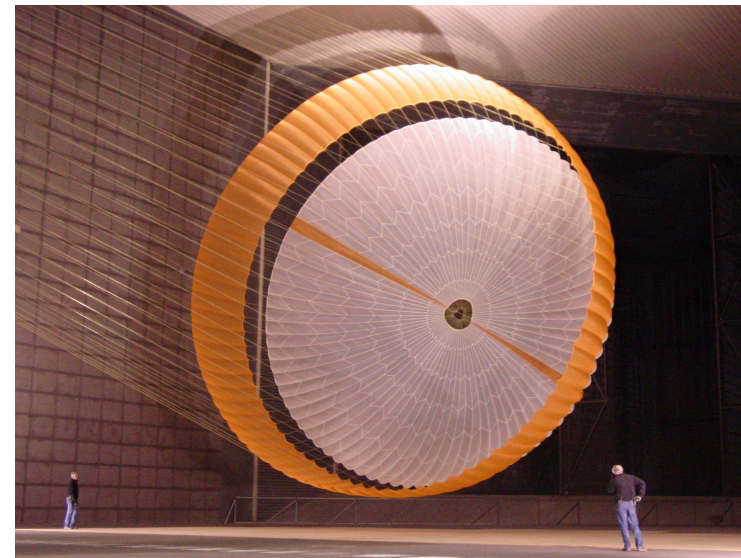
# PDFs in Mars Entry-Descent-Landing

## Prediction Problem

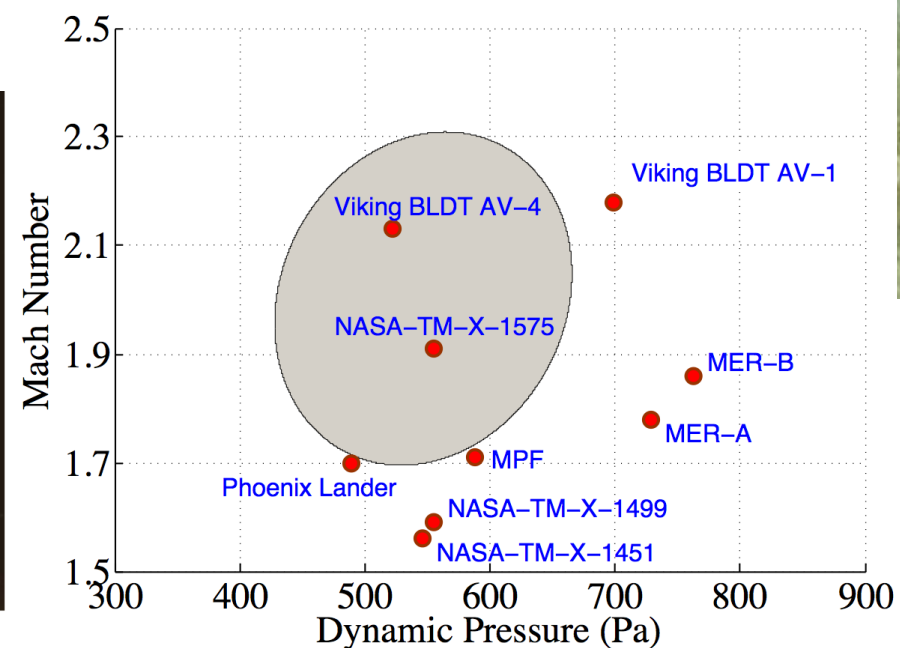


Predict heating rate uncertainty

## Filtering Problem

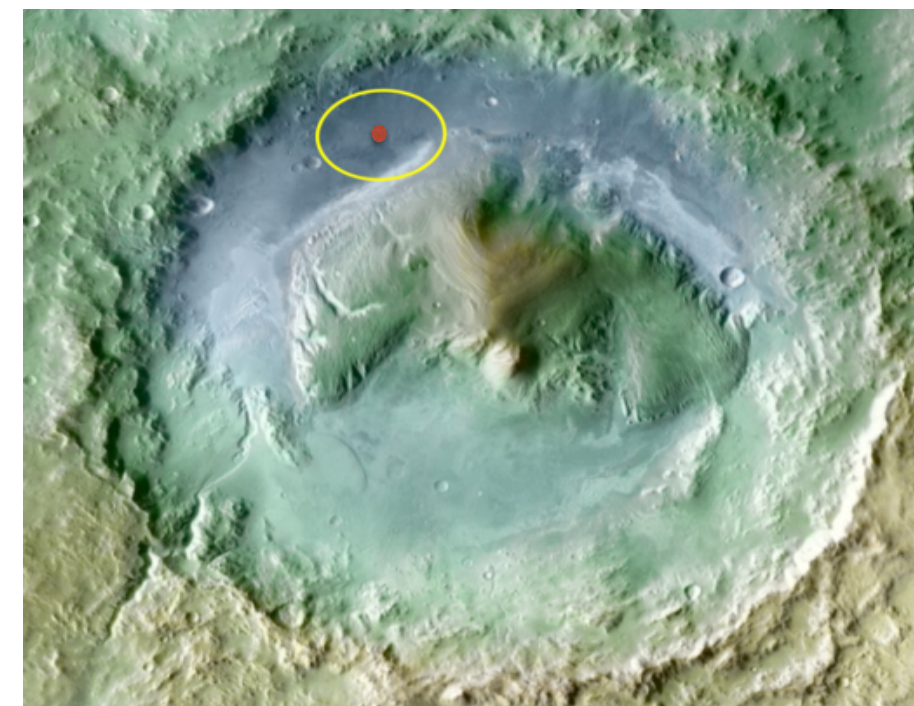


Supersonic parachute



Estimate state to deploy parachute

## Control Problem



Gale Crater (4.49S, 137.42E)

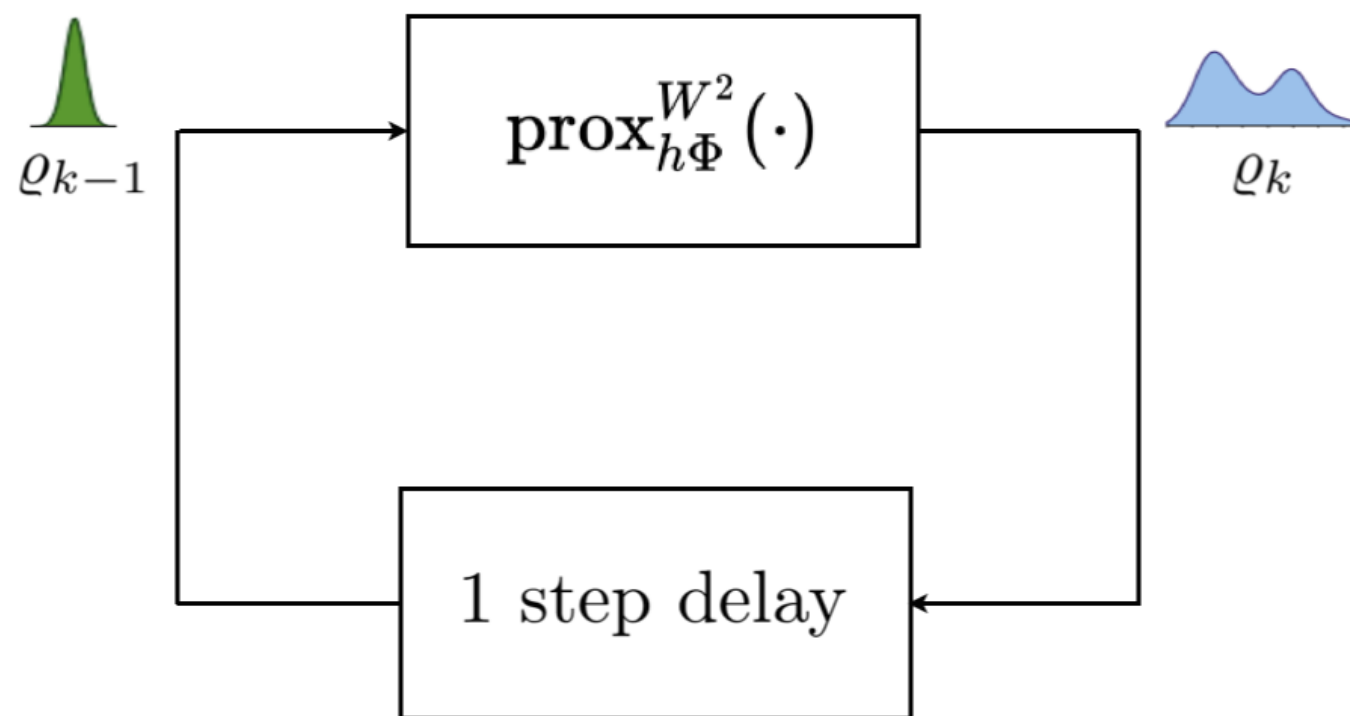
Steer state PDF to achieve desired landing footprint accuracy

# Solving prediction problem as Wasserstein gradient flow

# What's New?

Main idea: Solve  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}} \rho$ ,  $\rho(x, t = 0) = \rho_0$  as gradient flow in  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})$

Infinite dimensional variational recursion:



Proximal operator:  $\varrho_k = \text{prox}_{h\Phi}^{W^2}(\varrho_{k-1}) := \arg \inf_{\varrho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} W^2(\varrho, \varrho_{k-1}) + h\Phi(\varrho) \right\}$

Optimal transport cost:  $W^2(\varrho, \varrho_{k-1}) := \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\varrho, \varrho_{k-1})} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}} c(x, y) \, \mathrm{d}\pi(x, y)$

Free energy functional:  $\Phi(\varrho) := \int_{\mathcal{X}} \psi \varrho \, \mathrm{d}x + \beta^{-1} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \varrho \log \varrho \, \mathrm{d}x$

# Geometric Meaning of Gradient Flow

## Gradient Flow in $\mathcal{X}$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = -\nabla\varphi(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{x}_0$$

### Recursion:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_k &= \mathbf{x}_{k-1} - h\nabla\varphi(\mathbf{x}_k) \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{k-1}\|_2^2 + h\varphi(\mathbf{x}) \right\} \\ &=: \text{prox}_{h\varphi}^{\|\cdot\|_2}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$

### Convergence:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \rightarrow \mathbf{x}(t = kh) \quad \text{as} \quad h \downarrow 0$$

$\varphi$  as Lyapunov function:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\varphi = -\|\nabla\varphi\|_2^2 \leq 0$$

## Gradient Flow in $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})$

$$\frac{\partial\rho}{\partial t} = -\nabla^W\Phi(\rho), \quad \rho(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \rho_0$$

### Recursion:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_k &= \rho(\cdot, t = kh) \\ &= \arg \min_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} W^2(\rho, \rho_{k-1}) + h\Phi(\rho) \right\} \\ &=: \text{prox}_{h\Phi}^{W^2}(\rho_{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$

### Convergence:

$$\rho_k \rightarrow \rho(\cdot, t = kh) \quad \text{as} \quad h \downarrow 0$$

$\Phi$  as Lyapunov functional:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\Phi = -\mathbb{E}_\rho \left[ \left\| \nabla \frac{\delta\Phi}{\delta\rho} \right\|_2^2 \right] \leq 0$$

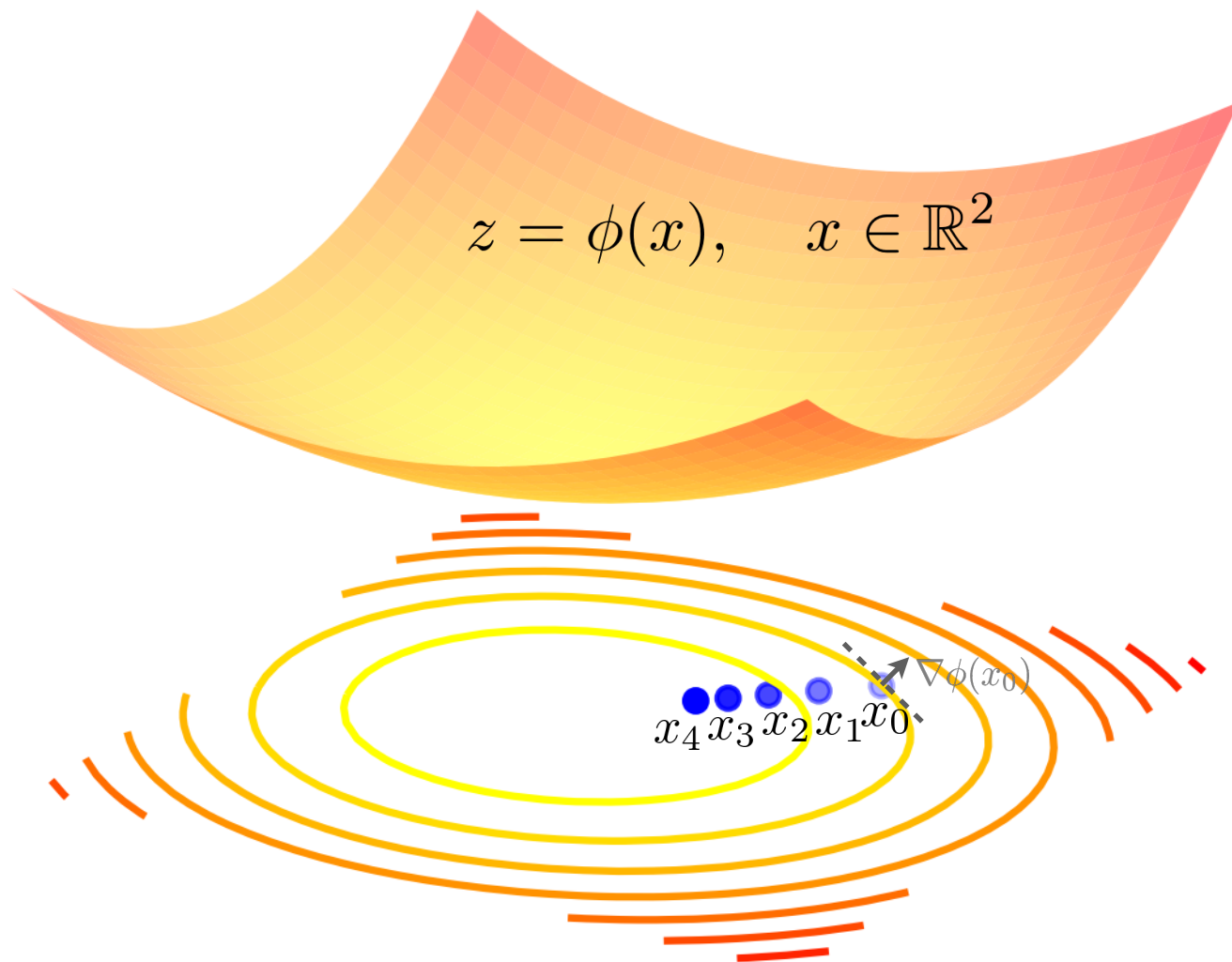


# Geometric Meaning of Gradient Flow

## Gradient Flow in $\mathcal{X}$

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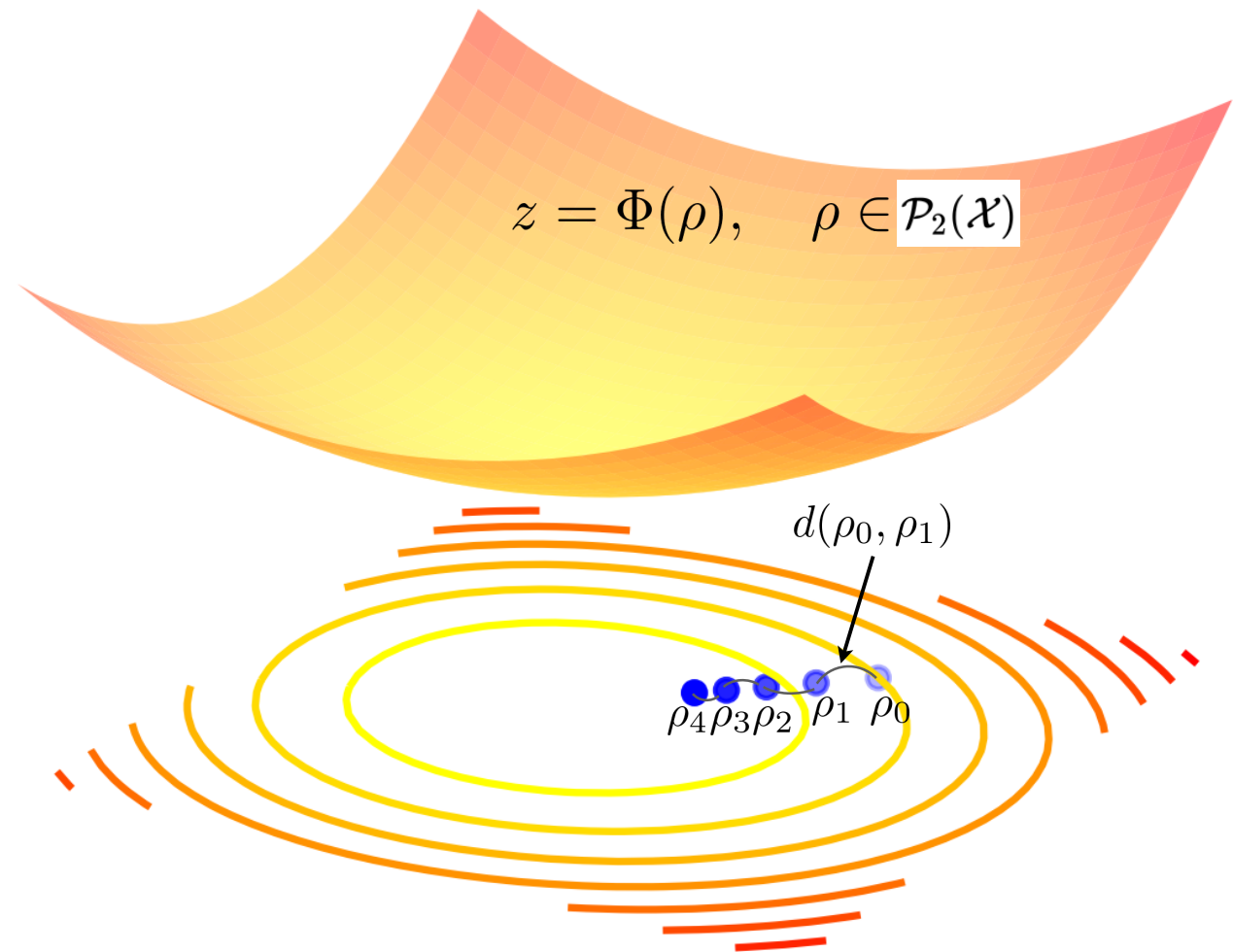
$$z = \phi(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$



## Gradient Flow in $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})$

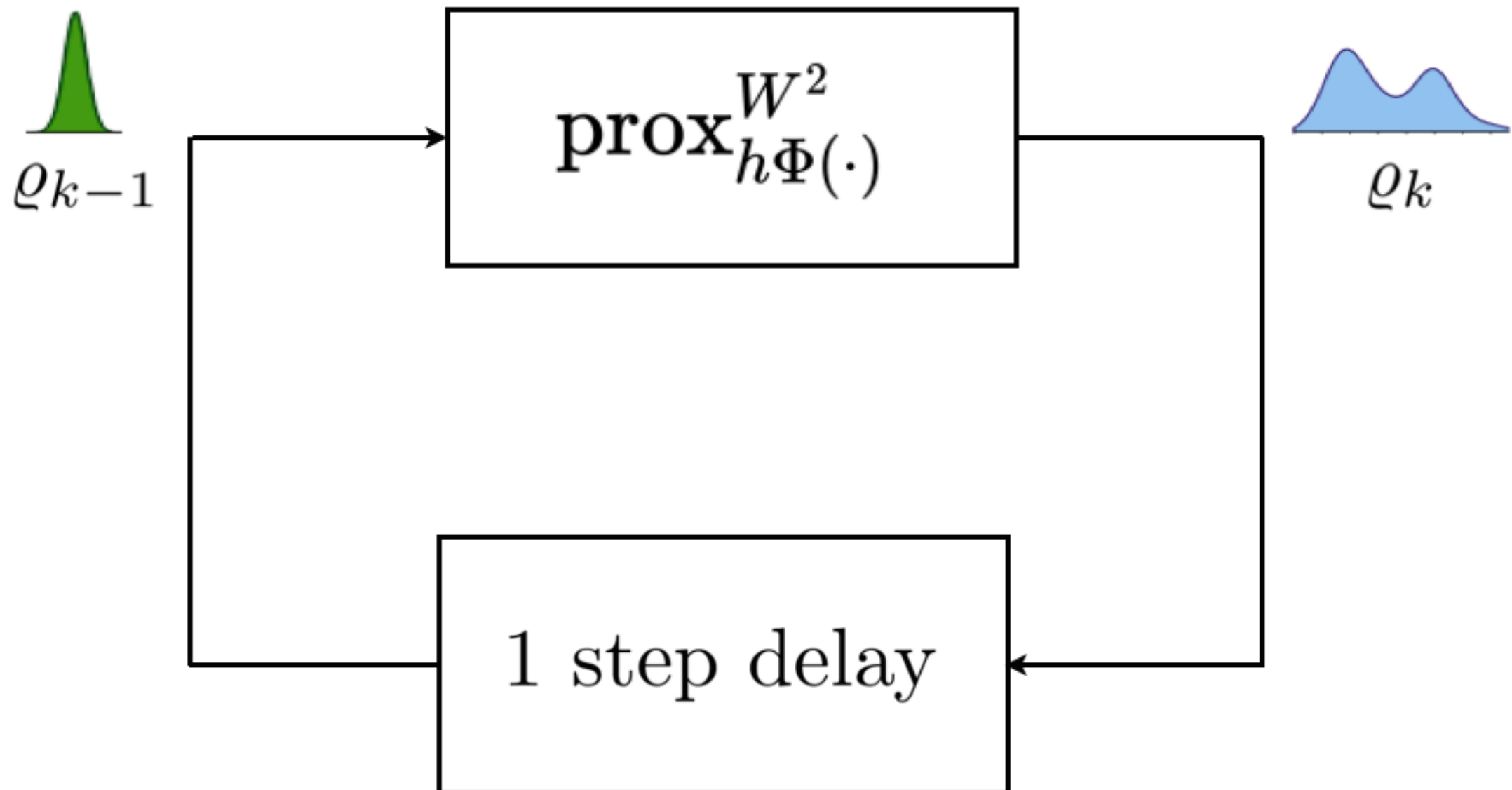
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$$z = \Phi(\rho), \quad \rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})$$



# Algorithm: Gradient Ascent on the Dual Space

Uncertainty propagation via point clouds



No spatial discretization or function approximation



# Algorithm: Gradient Ascent on the Dual Space

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \psi \rho) + \beta^{-1} \Delta \rho$$

$\Updownarrow$  **Proximal Recursion**

$$\rho_k = \rho(\mathbf{x}, t = kh) = \arg \inf_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^n)} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} W^2(\rho, \rho_{k-1}) + h \Phi(\rho) \right\}$$

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$\Downarrow$  **Discrete Primal Formulation**

$$\boldsymbol{\varrho}_k = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\varrho}} \left\{ \min_{\mathbf{M} \in \Pi(\boldsymbol{\varrho}_{k-1}, \boldsymbol{\varrho})} \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{C}_k, \mathbf{M} \rangle + h \langle \psi_{k-1} + \beta^{-1} \log \boldsymbol{\varrho}, \boldsymbol{\varrho} \rangle \right\}$$

# Algorithm: Gradient Ascent on the Dual Space

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$\Downarrow$  **Entropic Regularization**

$$\varrho_k = \arg \min_{\varrho} \left\{ \min_{\mathbf{M} \in \Pi(\varrho_{k-1}, \varrho)} \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{C}_k, \mathbf{M} \rangle + \epsilon H(\mathbf{M}) + h \langle \psi_{k-1} + \beta^{-1} \log \varrho, \varrho \rangle \right\}$$

$\Updownarrow$  **Dualization**

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_0^{\text{opt}}, \lambda_1^{\text{opt}} = \arg \max_{\lambda_0, \lambda_1 \geq 0} & \left\{ \langle \lambda_0, \varrho_{k-1} \rangle - F^*(-\lambda_1) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{\epsilon}{h} \left( \exp(\lambda_0^\top h / \epsilon) \exp(-\mathbf{C}_k / 2\epsilon) \exp(\lambda_1 h / \epsilon) \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# Recursion on the Cone

$$\mathbf{y} = e^{\frac{\lambda_0^*}{\epsilon} h} \Big| \quad \Big| \quad \mathbf{z} = e^{\frac{\lambda_1^*}{\epsilon} h}$$

Coupled Transcendental Equations in  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\mathbf{z}$

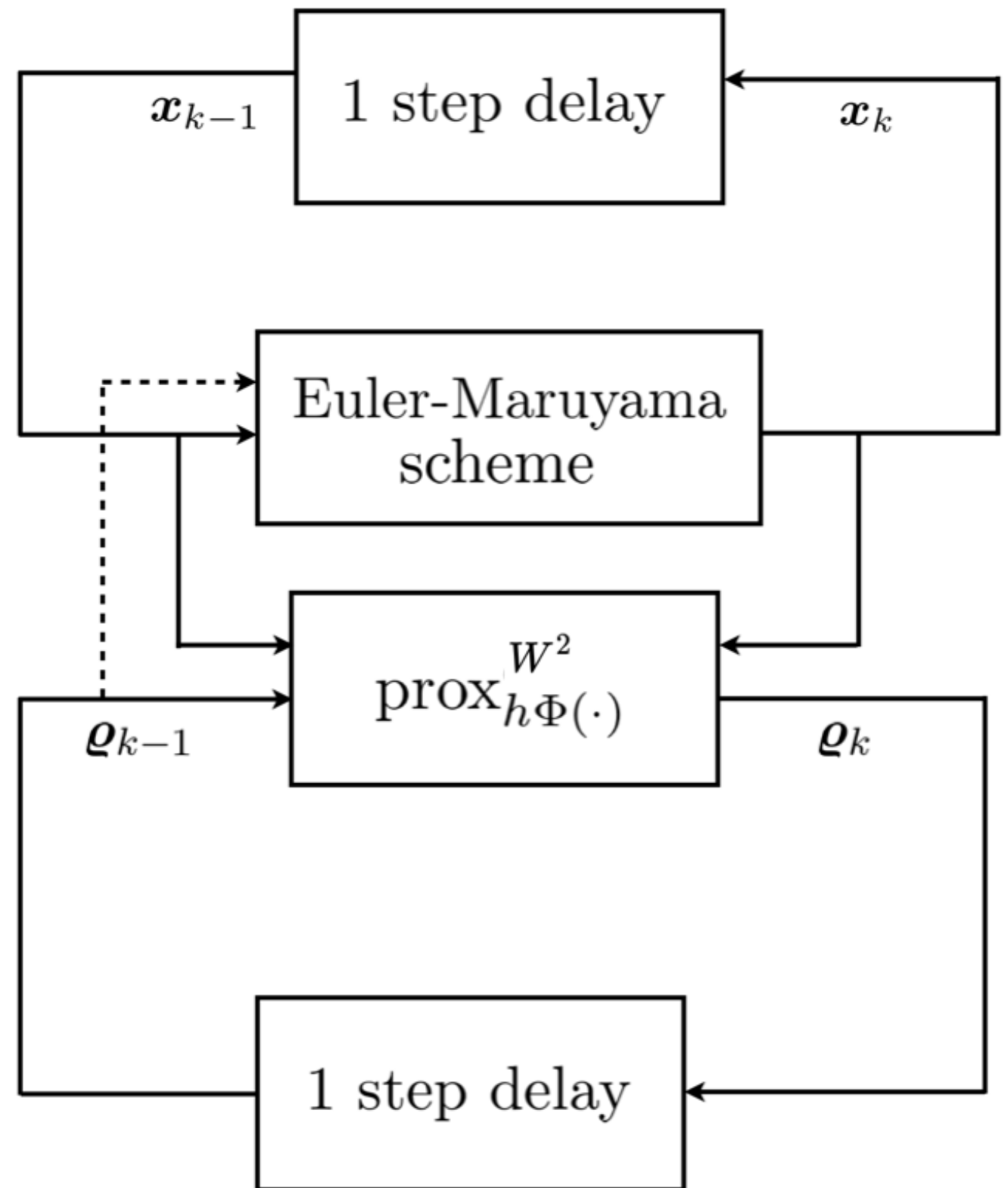
$$\begin{array}{l} \Gamma_k = e^{\frac{-\mathbf{c}_k}{2\epsilon}} \\ \varrho_{k-1} \\ \xi_{k-1} = \frac{e^{-\beta\psi_{k-1}}}{e} \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow \\ \longrightarrow \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y} \odot \Gamma_k \mathbf{z} = \varrho_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{z} \odot \Gamma_k^\top \mathbf{y} = \xi_{k-1} \odot \mathbf{z}^{-\beta\epsilon/2h} \end{array}} \longrightarrow \varrho_k = \mathbf{z} \odot \Gamma_k^\top \mathbf{y}$$

**Theorem:** Consider the recursion on the cone  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$

$$\mathbf{y} \odot (\Gamma_k \mathbf{z}) = \varrho_{k-1}, \quad \mathbf{z} \odot (\Gamma_k^\top \mathbf{y}) = \xi_{k-1} \odot \mathbf{z}^{-\frac{\beta\epsilon}{h}},$$

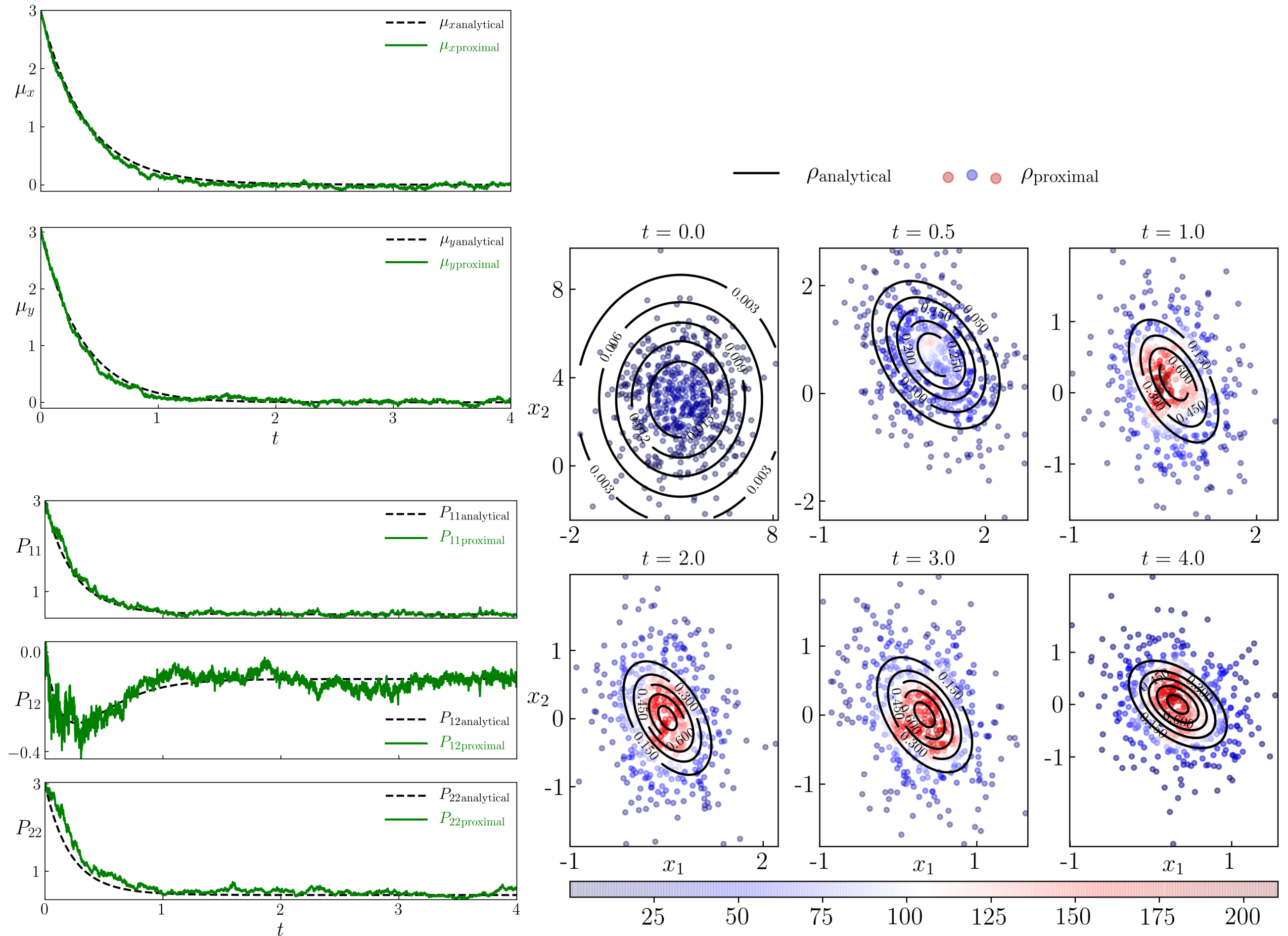
Then the solution  $(\mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{z}^*)$  gives the proximal update  $\varrho_k = \mathbf{z}^* \odot (\Gamma_k^\top \mathbf{y}^*)$

# Algorithmic Setup



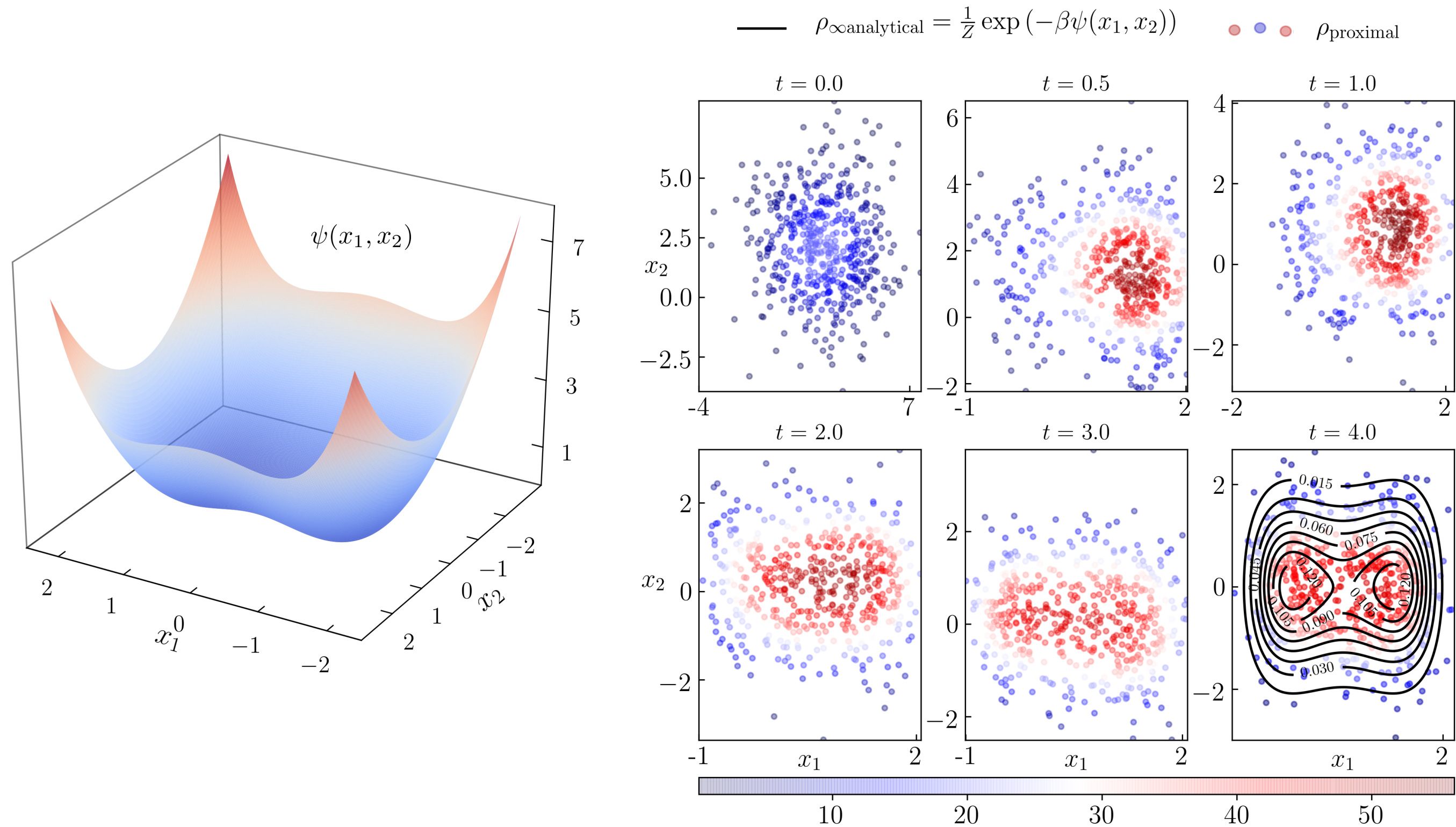
**Theorem:** Block co-ordinate iteration of  $(y, z)$  recursion is contractive on  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}^n \times \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ .

# Proximal Prediction: 2D Linear Gaussian

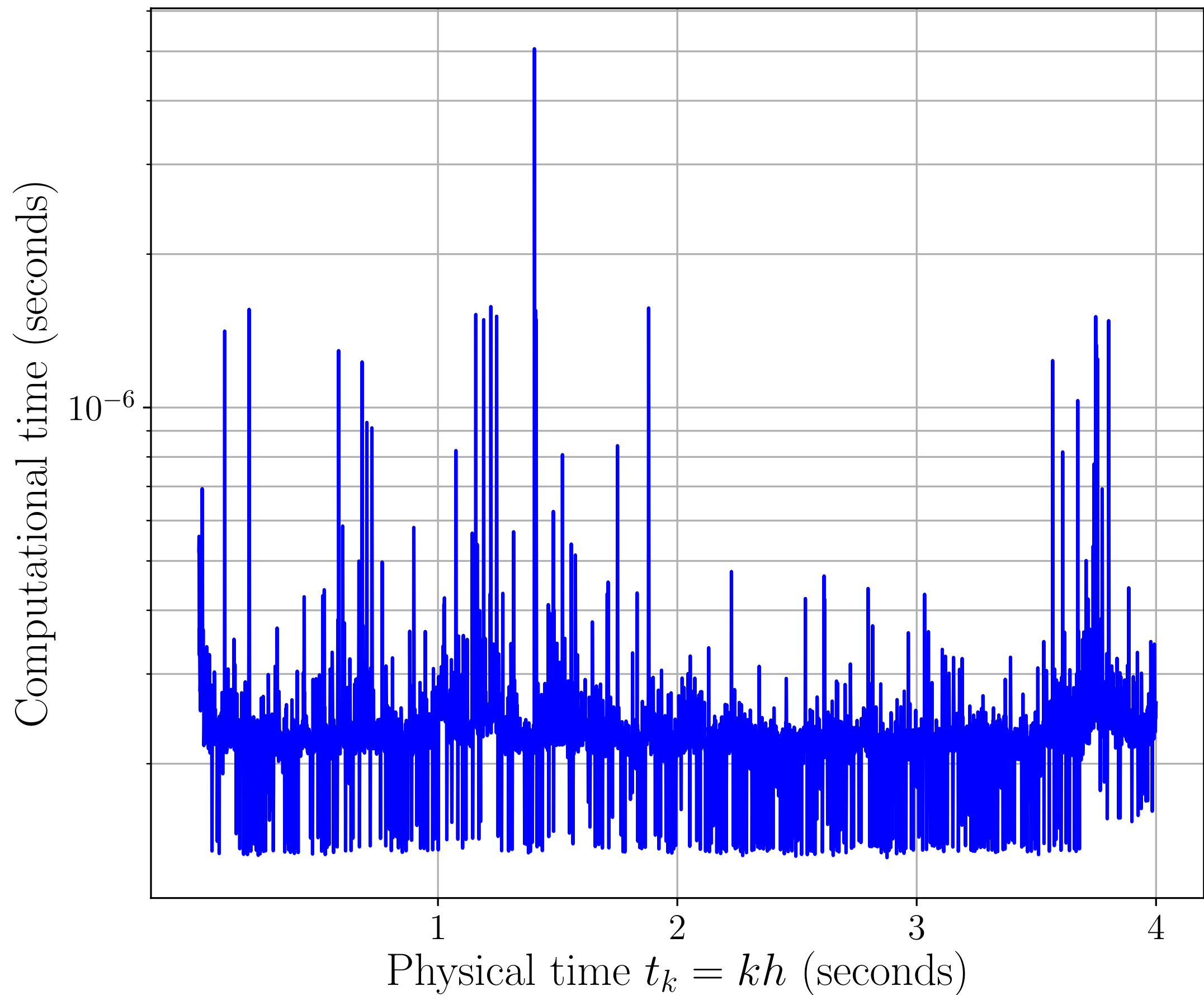




# Proximal Prediction: Nonlinear Non-Gaussian



# Computational Time: Nonlinear Non-Gaussian





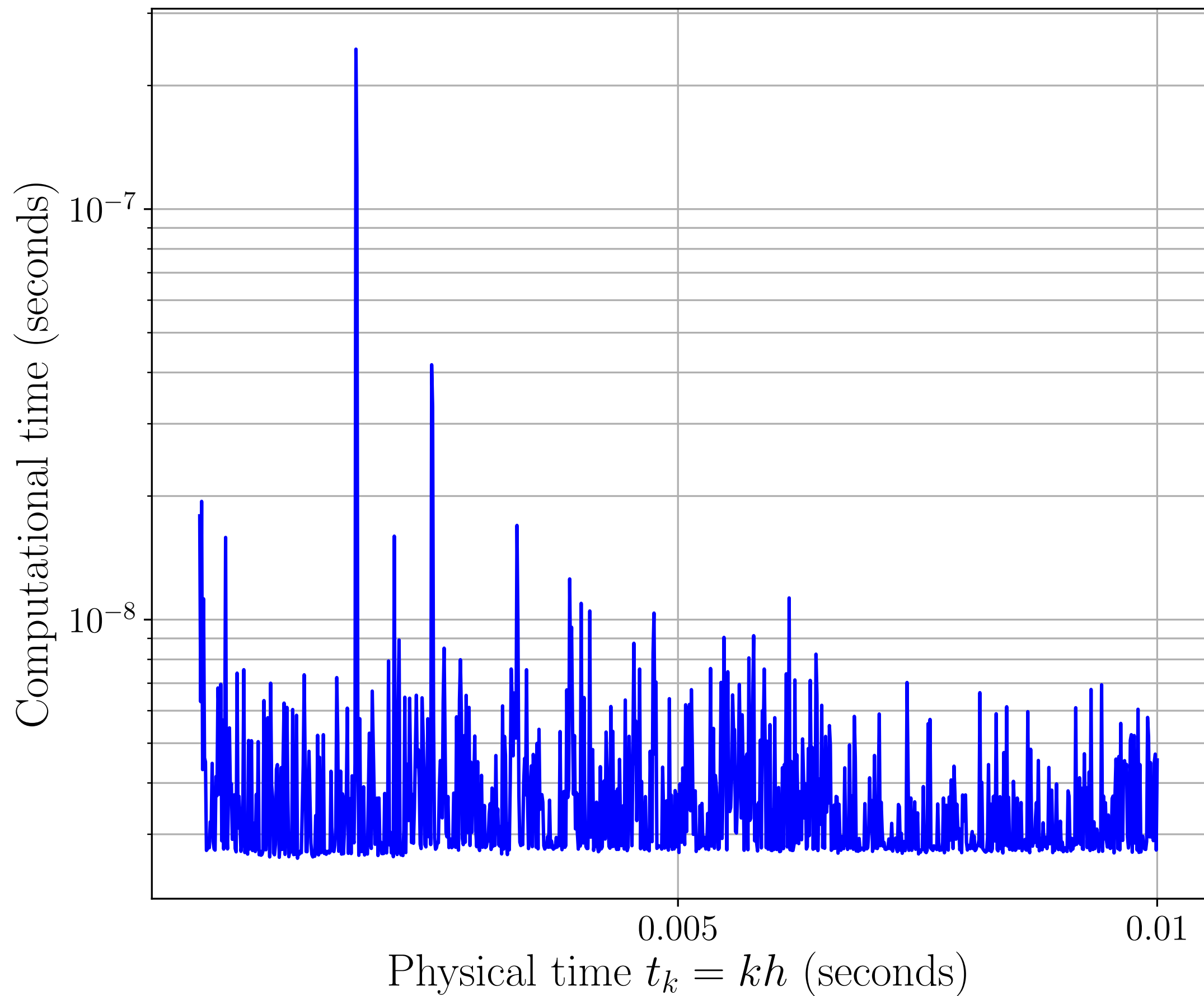
# Proximal Prediction: Satellite in Geocentric Orbit

Here,  $\mathcal{X} \equiv \mathbb{R}^6$

$$\begin{pmatrix} dx \\ dy \\ dz \\ dv_x \\ dv_y \\ dv_z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ v_z \\ -\frac{\mu x}{r^3} + (f_x)_{\text{pert}} - \gamma v_x \\ -\frac{\mu y}{r^3} + (f_y)_{\text{pert}} - \gamma v_y \\ -\frac{\mu z}{r^3} + (f_z)_{\text{pert}} - \gamma v_z \end{pmatrix} dt + \sqrt{2\beta^{-1}\gamma} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ dw_1 \\ dw_2 \\ dw_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \\ f_z \end{pmatrix}_{\text{pert}} = \begin{pmatrix} s\theta & c\phi & c\theta & c\phi & -s\phi \\ s\theta & s\phi & c\theta & s\phi & c\phi \\ c\theta & & -s\theta & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{k}{2r^4} (3(s\theta)^2 - 1) \\ -\frac{k}{r^5} s\theta & c\theta \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, k := 3J_2 R_{\text{E}}^2, \mu = \text{constant}$$

# Computational Time: Satellite in Geocentric Orbit



# Extensions: Nonlocal Interactions

**PDF dependent sample path dynamics:**

$$d\mathbf{x} = - (\nabla U(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla \rho * V) dt + \sqrt{2\beta^{-1}} d\mathbf{w}$$

**McKean-Vlasov-Fokker-Planck-Kolmogorov integro PDE:**

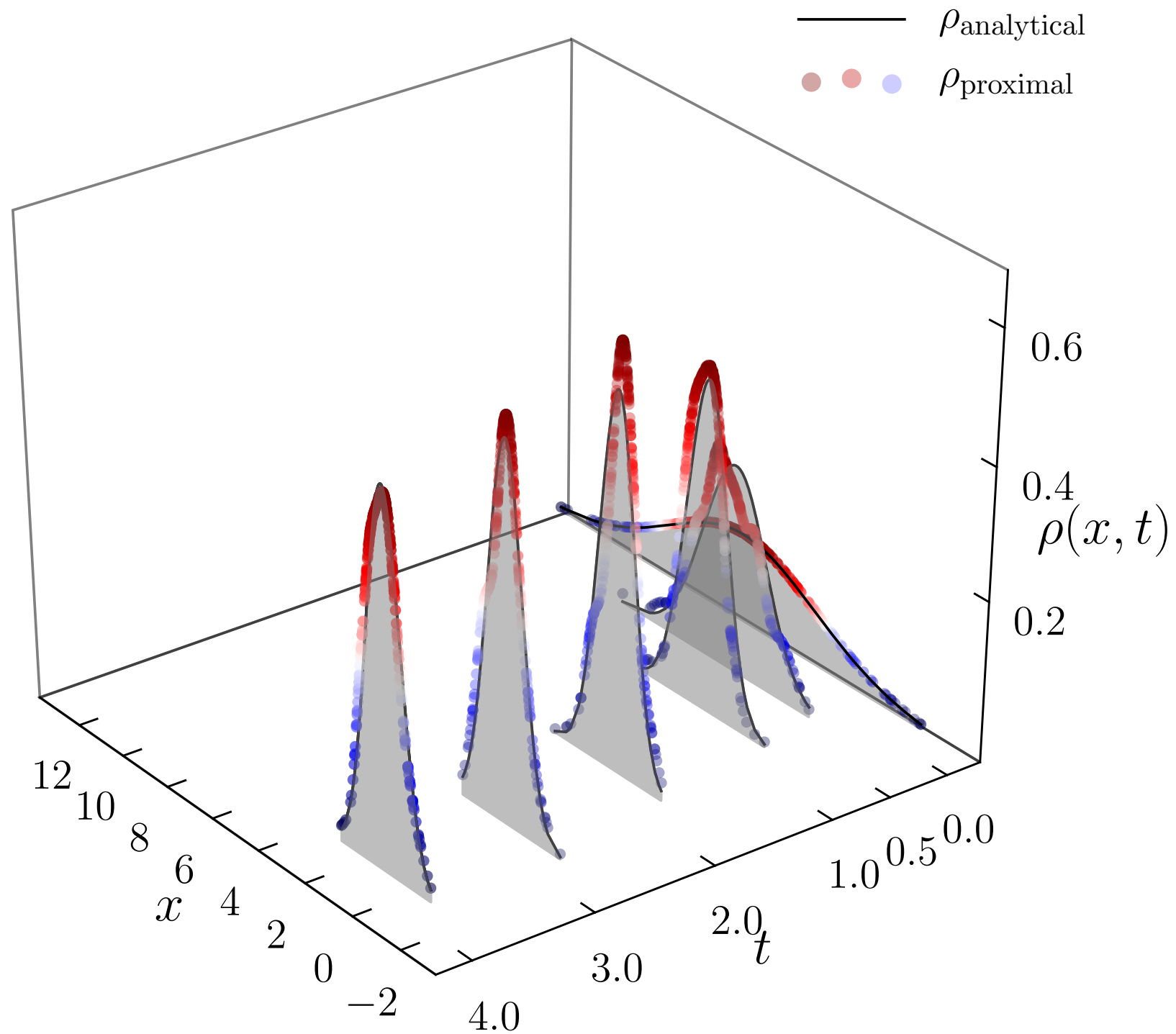
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla (U + \rho * V)) + \beta^{-1} \Delta \rho$$

**Free energy:**

$$F(\rho) := \mathbb{E}_{\rho} [U + \beta^{-1} \rho \log \rho + \rho * V]$$

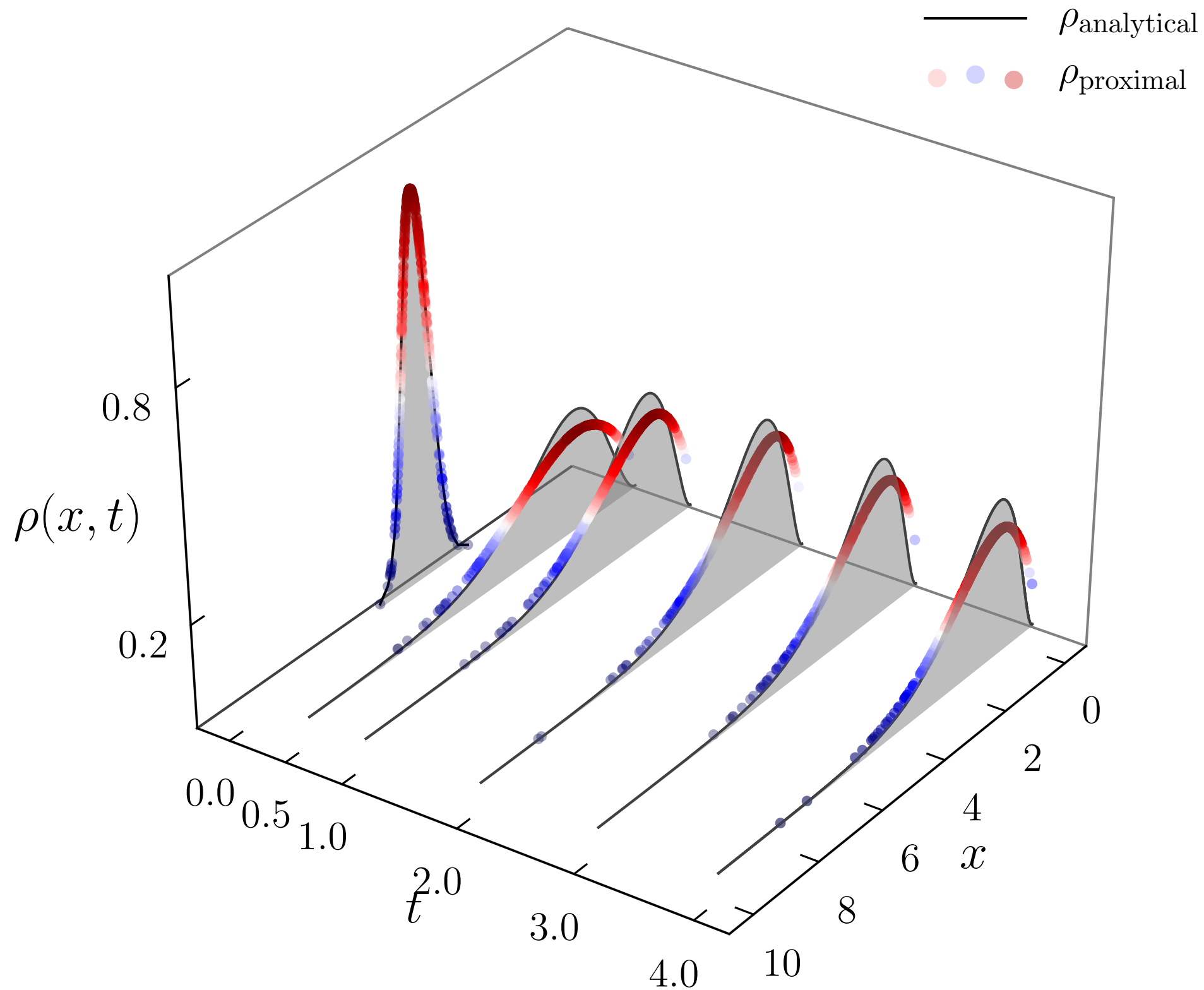
# Extensions: Nonlocal Interactions

$$U(\cdot) = V(\cdot) = \|\cdot\|_2^2$$

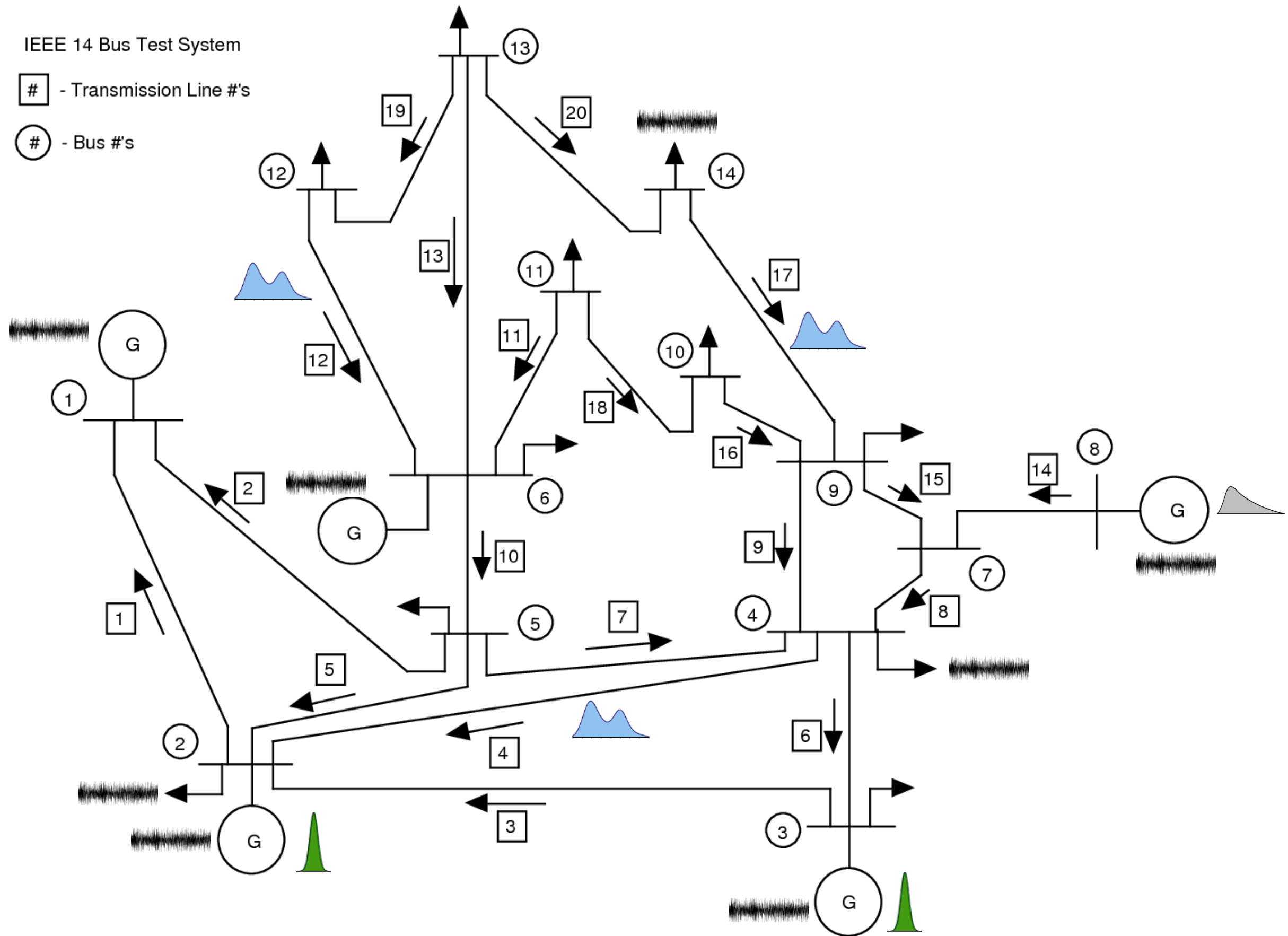


# Extensions: Multiplicative Noise

**Cox-Ingersoll-Ross:**  $dx = a(\theta - x) dt + b\sqrt{x} dw, 2a > b^2, \theta > 0$



# Uncertainty Propagation in Power Systems



# Network Reduced Power System Model

Structure preserving power network model with noise

$$m_i \ddot{\theta}_i + \gamma_i \dot{\theta}_i = P_i^{\text{mech}} - \sum_{j=1}^n k_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j) + \sigma_i \times \text{stochastic forcing}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Mixed Conservative-Dissipative SDE over state variables  $(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\omega}) \in \mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$

$$d\boldsymbol{\theta} = \boldsymbol{\omega} dt$$

$$d\boldsymbol{\omega} = (-(\boldsymbol{\gamma} \oslash \boldsymbol{m}) \odot \boldsymbol{\omega} - \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} V(\boldsymbol{\theta})) dt + (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \oslash \boldsymbol{m}) \odot d\boldsymbol{w}$$

Potential function  $V : \mathbb{T}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

$$V(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{m_i} P_i^{\text{mech}} \theta_i + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \frac{1}{m_i} k_{ij} (1 - \cos(\theta_i - \theta_j))$$

# Proximal Recursion for Power System Model

Consider simple case: homogeneous generators with  $\sigma^2 = 2\beta^{-1}\gamma$

Lyapunov functional:

$$\Phi(\rho) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \left( \frac{1}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_2^2 + V(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) \rho \, d\boldsymbol{\theta} d\boldsymbol{\omega} + \beta^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \rho \log \rho \, d\boldsymbol{\theta} d\boldsymbol{\omega}$$

However, the FPK PDE is NOT a gradient descent of  $\Phi$  w.r.t.  $W$

Instead, do:  $\varrho_k = \text{prox}_{h\gamma\tilde{\Phi}}^{\tilde{W}}(\varrho_{k-1}), \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$

$$\tilde{\Phi}(\rho) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_2^2 \rho \, d\boldsymbol{\theta} d\boldsymbol{\omega} + \beta^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{T}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n} \rho \log \rho \, d\boldsymbol{\theta} d\boldsymbol{\omega}$$

$$\tilde{W}^2(\varrho, \varrho_{k-1}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\varrho, \varrho_{k-1})} \int_{\mathbb{T}^{2n} \times \mathbb{R}^{2n}} s_h(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\omega}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\omega}}) \, d\pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\omega}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\omega}})$$

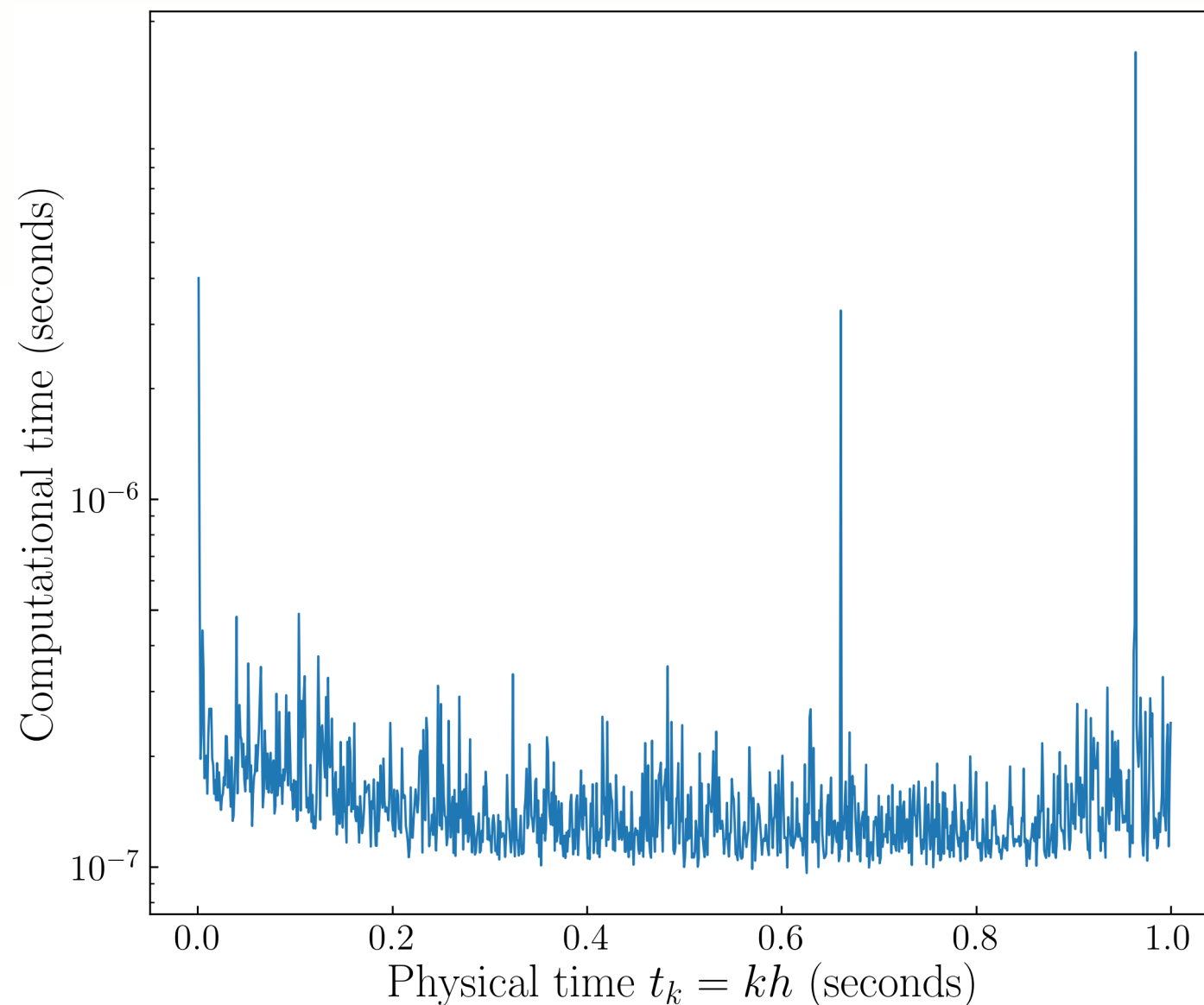
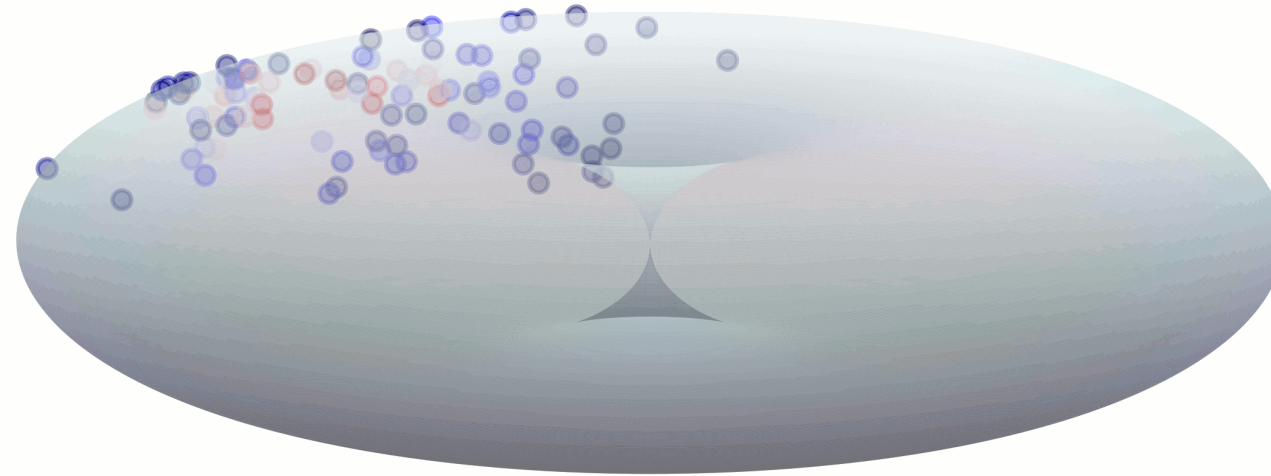
where  $s_h(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\omega}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\omega}}) := \|\bar{\boldsymbol{\omega}} - \boldsymbol{\omega} + h\nabla V(\boldsymbol{\theta})\|_2^2 + 12 \left\| \frac{\bar{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}}{h} - \frac{\bar{\boldsymbol{\omega}} + \boldsymbol{\omega}}{2} \right\|_2^2$



# Proximal Prediction: Power System with $n = 2$

Projection of the joint PDF on  $\mathbb{T}^2$

$t = 0.0000$  s



# Details on Proximal Prediction

## Publications:

- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Proximal Recursion for Solving the Fokker-Planck Equation, *ACC 2019*.
- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Gradient Flow Algorithms for Density Propagation in Stochastic Systems, *IEEE Trans. Automatic Control* 2020, doi: [10.1109/TAC.2019.2951348](https://doi.org/10.1109/TAC.2019.2951348).
- A.H., K.F. Caluya, B. Travacca, and S.J. Moura, Hopfield Neural Network Flow: A Geometric Viewpoint, *IEEE Trans. Neural Networks and Learning Systems* 2020, doi: [10.1109/TNNLS.2019.2958556](https://doi.org/10.1109/TNNLS.2019.2958556).

**Git repo:** [github.com/kcaluya/UncertaintyPropagation](https://github.com/kcaluya/UncertaintyPropagation)

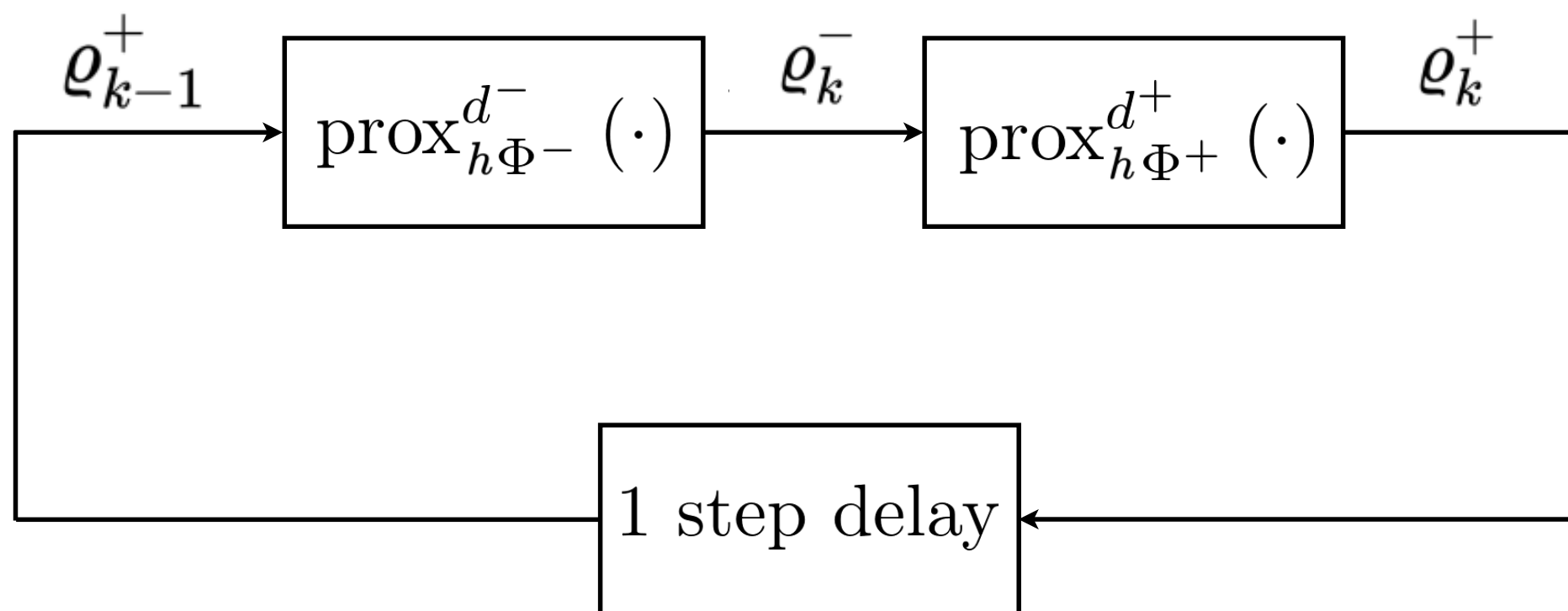
# Solving filtering as Wasserstein gradient flow

# What's New?

**Main idea: Solve the Kushner-Stratonovich SPDE**

$$d\rho^+ = [\mathcal{L}_{\text{FP}}dt + \mathcal{L}(dz, dt, \rho^+)]\rho^+, \quad \rho(x, t=0) = \rho_0 \text{ as gradient flow in } \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{X})$$

**Recursion of {deterministic ◦ stochastic} proximal operators:**



**Convergence:**  $\varrho_k^+(h) \rightarrow \rho^+(x, t = kh)$  as  $h \downarrow 0$

**For prior, as before:**  $d^- \equiv W^2$ ,  $\Phi^- \equiv \mathbb{E}_{\varrho}[\psi + \beta^{-1} \log \varrho]$

**For posterior:**  $d^+ \equiv d_{\text{FR}}^2$  or  $D_{\text{KL}}$ ,  $\Phi^+ \equiv \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\varrho^+}[(y_k - h(x))^\top R^{-1}(y_k - h(x))]$

# Explicit Recovery of the Kalman-Bucy Filter

**Model:**

$$d\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(t)dt + \mathbf{B}d\mathbf{w}(t), \quad d\mathbf{w}(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{Q}dt)$$

$$d\mathbf{z}(t) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}(t)dt + d\mathbf{v}(t), \quad d\mathbf{v}(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{R}dt)$$

**Given  $\mathbf{x}(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \mathbf{P}_0)$ , want to recover:**

$$d\mu^+(t) = \mathbf{A}\mu^+(t)dt + \overset{\mathbf{P}^+\mathbf{C}\mathbf{R}^{-1}}{\underset{\text{I}}{\mathbf{K}(t)}} (d\mathbf{z}(t) - \mathbf{C}\mu^+(t)dt),$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{P}}^+(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}^+(t) + \mathbf{P}^+(t)\mathbf{A}^\top + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{B}^\top - \mathbf{K}(t)\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}(t)^\top.$$

— A.H. and T.T. Georgiou, Gradient Flows in Uncertainty Propagation and Filtering of Linear Gaussian Systems, *CDC 2017*.

— A.H. and T.T. Georgiou, Gradient Flows in Filtering and Fisher-Rao Geometry, *ACC 2018*.

# Explicit Recovery of the Wonham Filter

**Model:**

$$x(t) \sim \text{Markov}(Q), \\ dz(t) = h(x(t)) dt + \sigma_v(t) dv(t)$$

**State space:**  $\Omega := \{a_1, \dots, a_m\}$

**Posterior**  $\pi^+(t) := \{\pi_1^+(t), \dots, \pi_m^+(t)\}$  **solves the nonlinear SDE:**

$$d\pi^+(t) = \pi^+(t)Q dt + \frac{1}{(\sigma_v(t))^2} \pi^+(t) \left( H - \hat{h}(t)I \right) \left( dz(t) - \hat{h}(t)dt \right),$$

where  $H := \text{diag}(h(a_1), \dots, h(a_m))$ ,  $\hat{h}(t) := \sum_{i=1}^m h(a_i) \pi_i^+(t)$ ,

**Initial condition:**  $\pi^+(t=0) = \pi_0$ ,

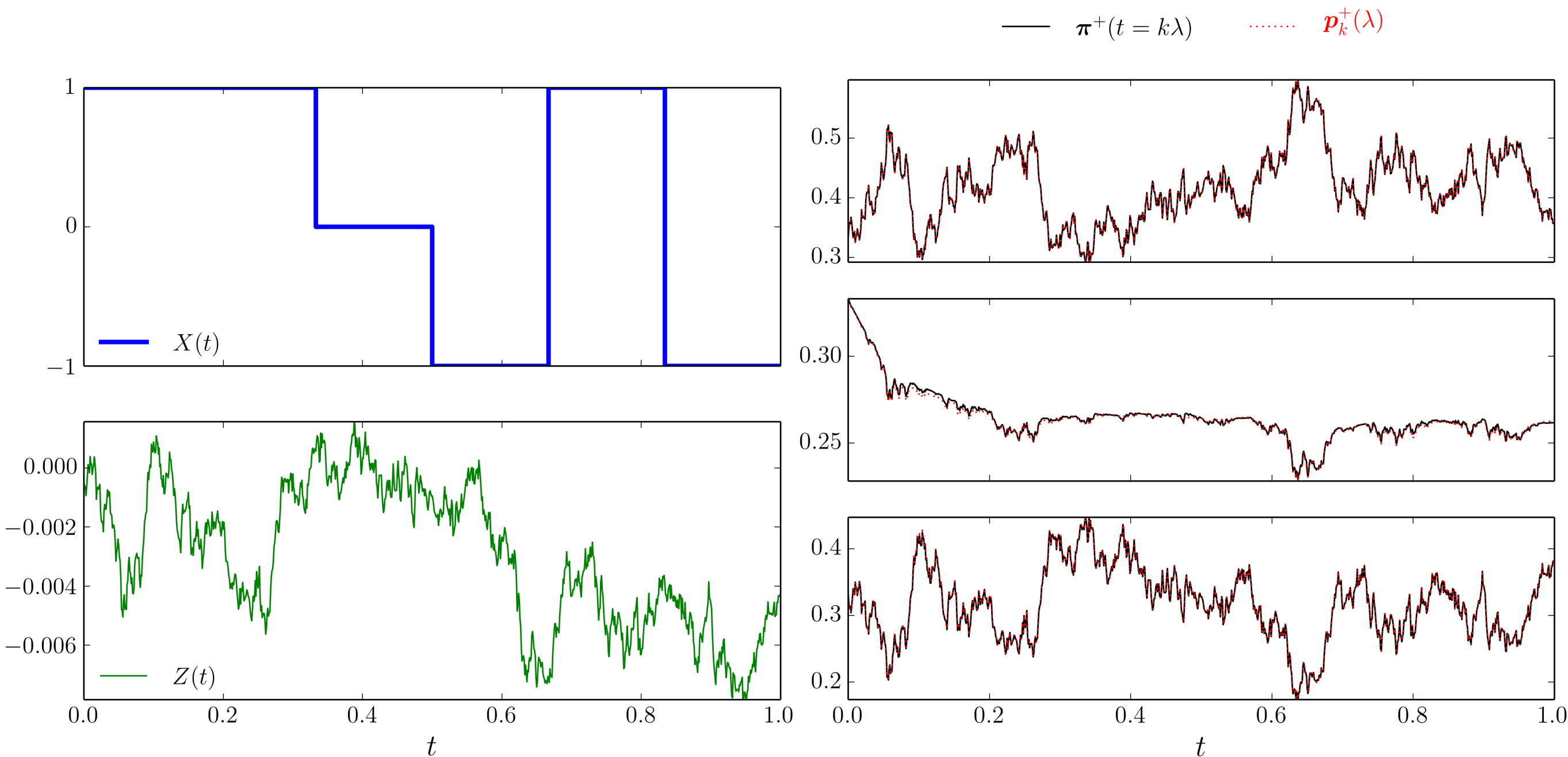
**By defn.**  $\pi^+(t) = \mathbb{P}(x(t) = a_i \mid z(s), 0 \leq s \leq t)$

J.SIAM CONTROL  
Ser. A, Vol. 2, No. 3  
Printed in U.S.A., 1965

SOME APPLICATIONS OF STOCHASTIC DIFFERENTIAL  
EQUATIONS TO OPTIMAL NONLINEAR FILTERING\*

W. M. WONHAM†

# Numerical Results for the Wonham Filter



# **Solving density control as Wasserstein gradient flow**



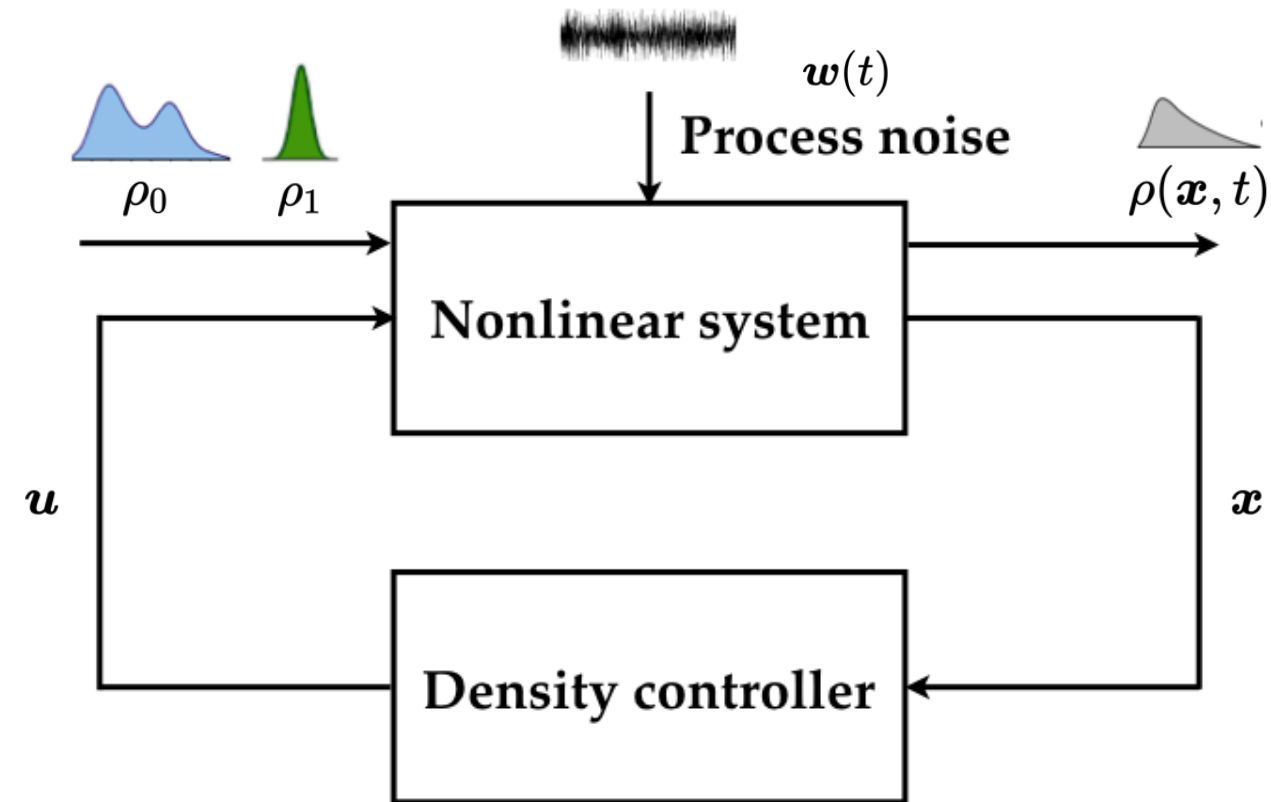
# Finite Horizon Feedback Density Control

$$\underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^1 \|u(x, t)\|_2^2 dt \right]$$

subject to

$$dx = \left\{ f(x, t) + B(t)u(x, t) \right\} dt + \sqrt{2\epsilon} B(t) dw,$$

$$x(t=0) \sim \rho_0, \quad x(t=1) \sim \rho_1$$



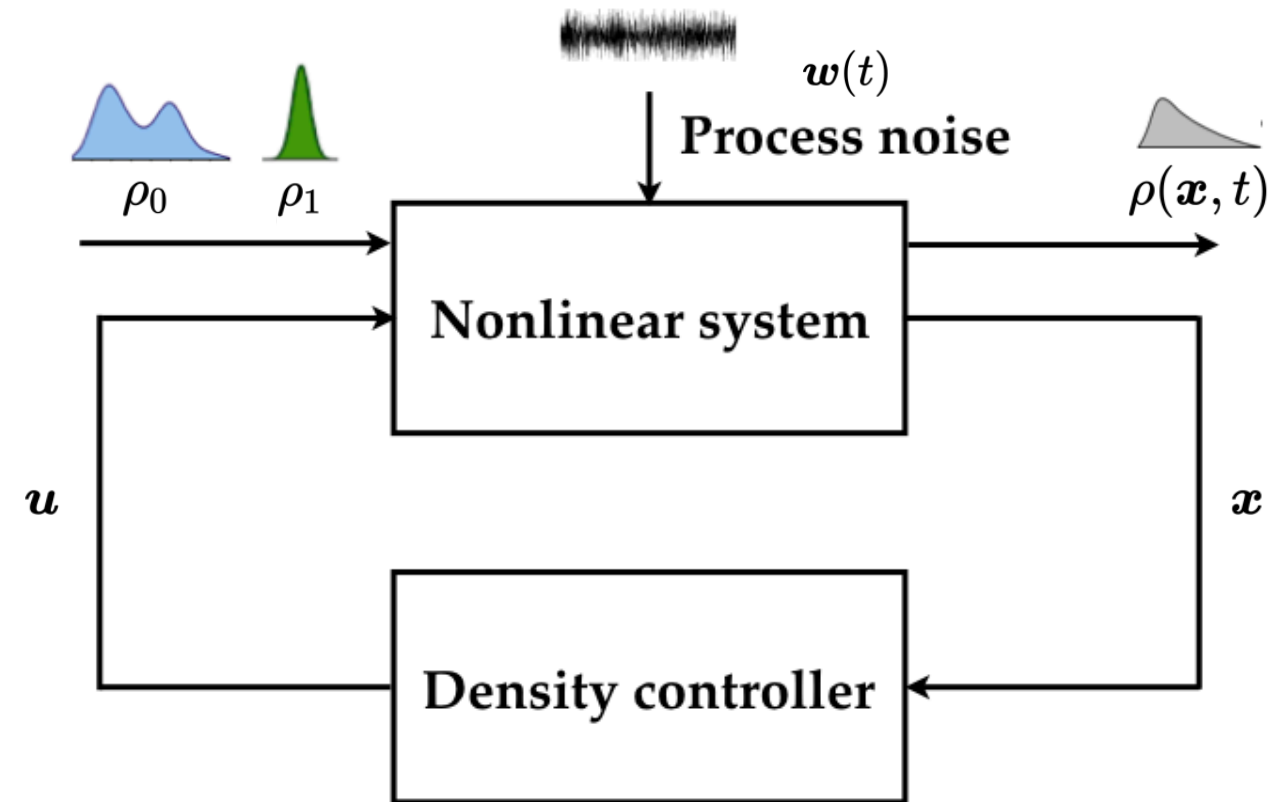
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**Necessary conditions for optimality:** coupled nonlinear PDEs (FPK + HJB)

$$\frac{\partial \rho^{\text{opt}}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \rho^{\text{opt}} \left( f + B(t)^\top \nabla \psi \right) \right) = \epsilon \mathbf{1}^\top \left( D(t) \odot \text{Hess}(\rho^{\text{opt}}) \right) \mathbf{1},$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \|B(t)^\top \nabla \psi\|_2^2 + \langle \nabla \psi, f \rangle = -\epsilon \langle D(t), \text{Hess}(\psi) \rangle$$

**Boundary conditions:**

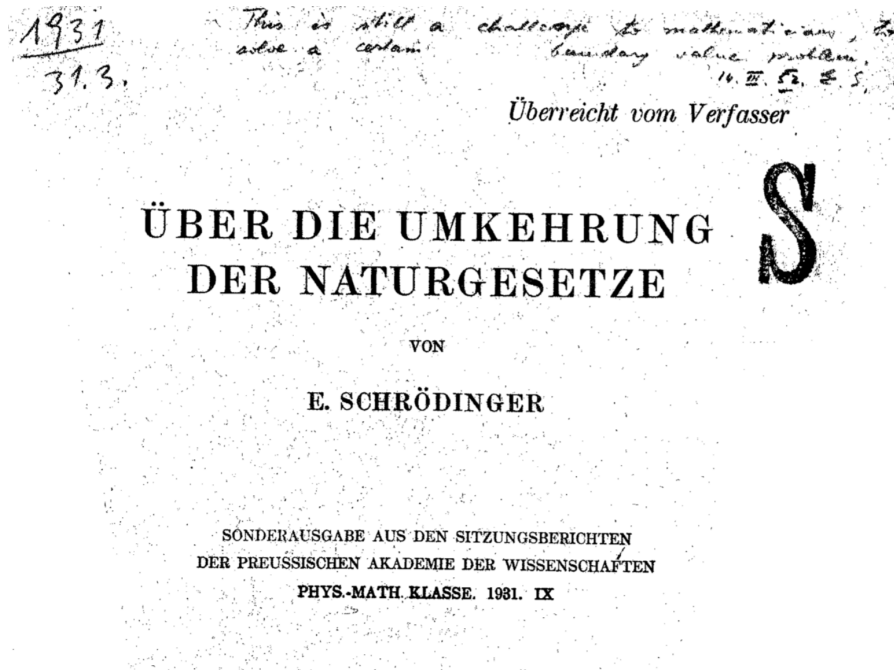
$$\rho^{\text{opt}}(x, 0) = \rho_0(x), \quad \rho^{\text{opt}}(x, 1) = \rho_1(x)$$

**Optimal control:**

$$u^{\text{opt}}(x, t) = B(t)^\top \nabla \psi$$

# Feedback Synthesis via the Schrödinger System

# Schrödinger's (until recently) forgotten papers:



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

PAR  
E. SCHRÖDINGER

## I. — Introduction

J'ai l'intention d'exposer dans ces conférences diverses idées concernant la mécanique quantique et l'interprétation qu'on en donne généralement à l'heure actuelle ; je parlerai principalement de la théorie quantique relativiste du mouvement de l'électron. Autant que nous pouvons nous en rendre compte aujourd'hui, il semble à peu près sûr que la mécanique quantique de l'électron, sous sa forme idéale, *que nous ne possédons pas encore*, doit former un jour la base de toute la physique. A cet intérêt tout à fait général, s'ajoute, ici à Paris, un intérêt particulier : vous savez tous que les bases de la théorie moderne de l'électron ont été posées à Paris par votre célèbre compatriote Louis de BROGLIE.



**Hopf-Cole transform:**  $(\rho^{\text{opt}}, \psi) \mapsto (\varphi, \hat{\varphi})$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\boldsymbol{x}, t) &= \exp\left(\frac{\psi(\boldsymbol{x}, t)}{2\epsilon}\right), \\ \hat{\varphi}(\boldsymbol{x}, t) &= \rho^{\text{opt}}(\boldsymbol{x}, t) \exp\left(-\frac{\psi(\boldsymbol{x}, t)}{2\epsilon}\right),\end{aligned}$$

**Optimal controlled joint state PDF:**  $\rho^{\text{opt}}(x, t) = \hat{\varphi}(x, t) \varphi(x, t)$

**Optimal control:**  $u^{\text{opt}}(x, t) = 2\epsilon B(t)^\top \nabla \log \varphi(x, t)$

# Feedback Synthesis via the Schrödinger System

2 coupled nonlinear PDEs  $\rightarrow$  boundary-coupled linear PDEs!!

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial \hat{\phi}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot (\hat{\phi} f) + \epsilon \mathbf{1}^\top (\mathbf{D}(t) \odot \text{Hess}(\hat{\phi})) \mathbf{1}}_{\text{forward Kolmogorov PDE}}, \quad \varphi_0 \hat{\phi}_0 = \rho_0,$$

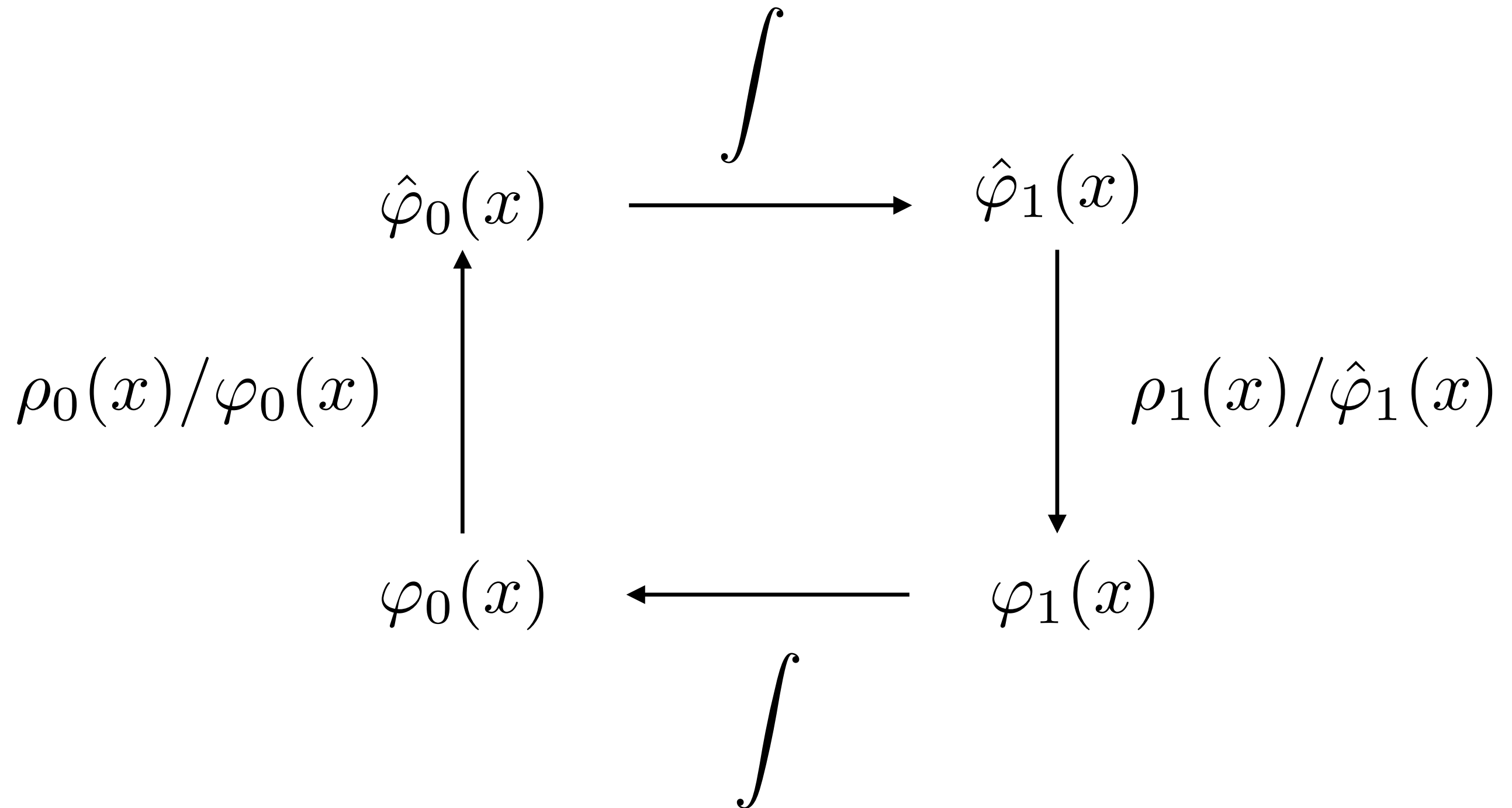
$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} = -\langle \nabla \varphi, f \rangle - \epsilon \langle \mathbf{D}(t), \text{Hess}(\varphi) \rangle}_{\text{backward Kolmogorov PDE}}, \quad \varphi_1 \hat{\phi}_1 = \rho_1.$$

Wasserstein proximal algorithm  $\rightarrow$  fixed point recursion over  $(\hat{\phi}_0, \varphi_1)$

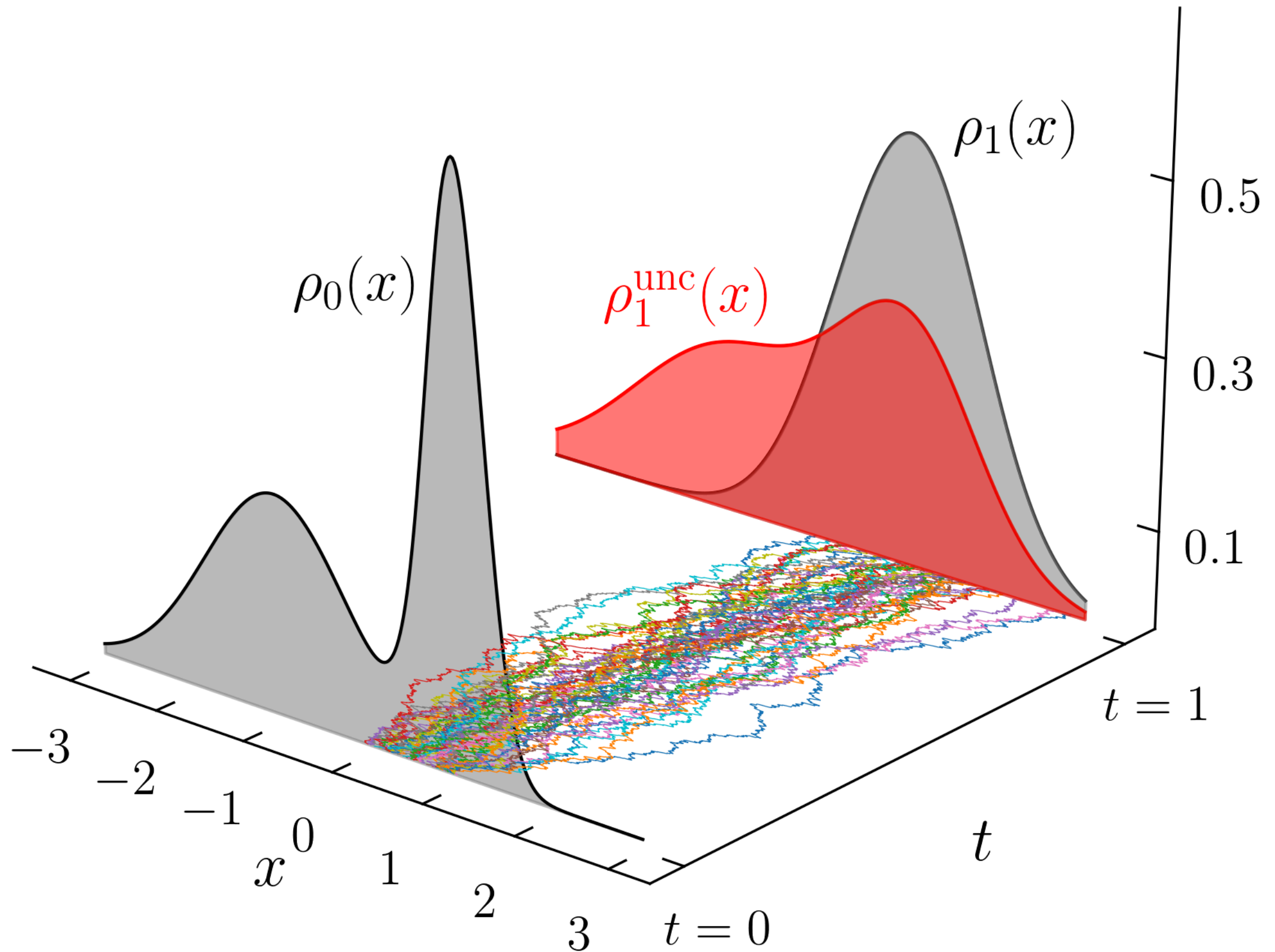
 (Contractive in Hilbert metric)

— Y. Chen, T.T. Georgiou, and M. Pavon, Entropic and displacement interpolation: a computational approach using the Hilbert metric, *SIAM J. Applied Mathematics*, 2016.

# Fixed Point Recursion over $(\hat{\varphi}_0, \varphi_1)$

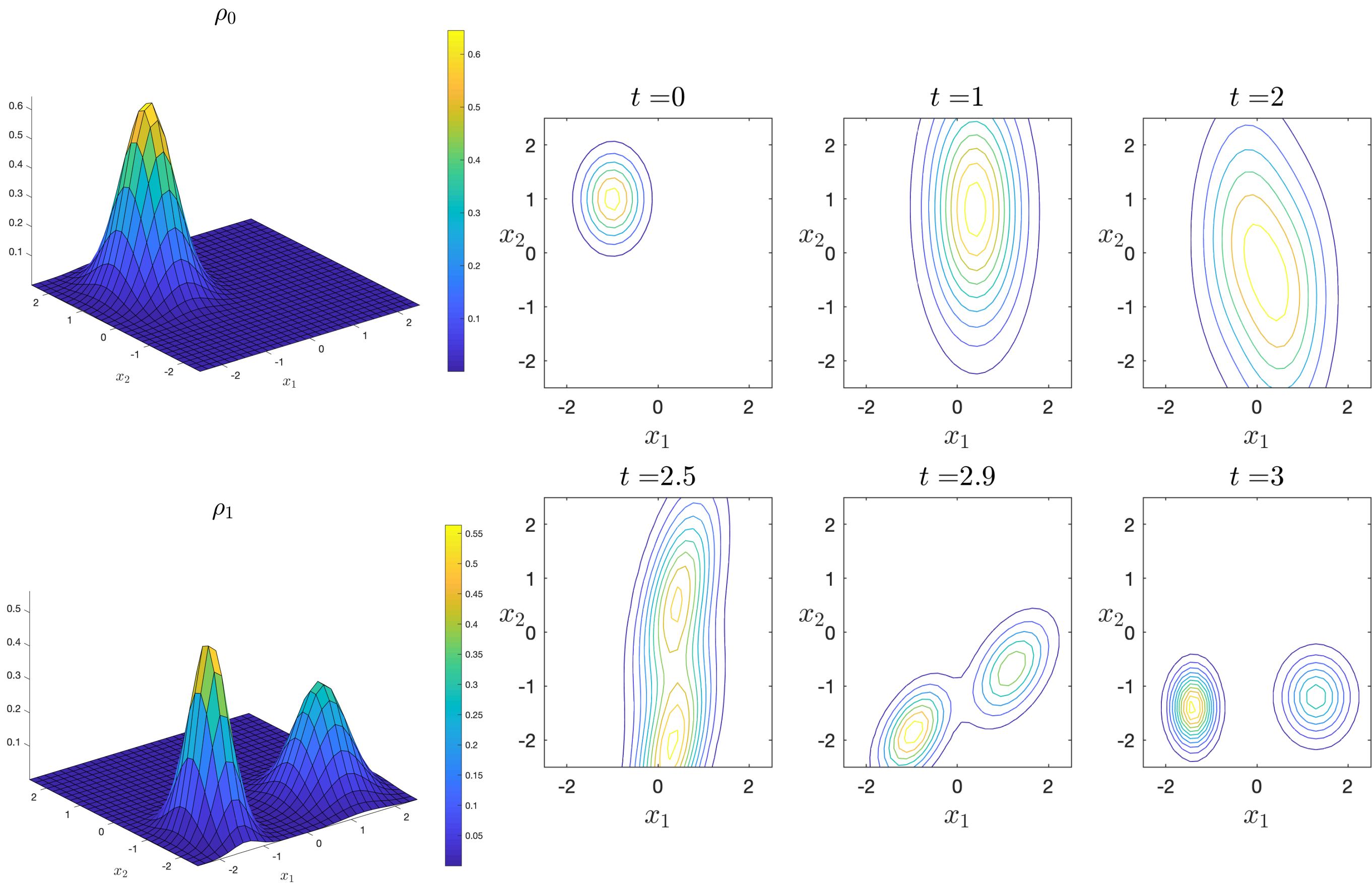


# Feedback Density Control: Zero Prior Dynamics



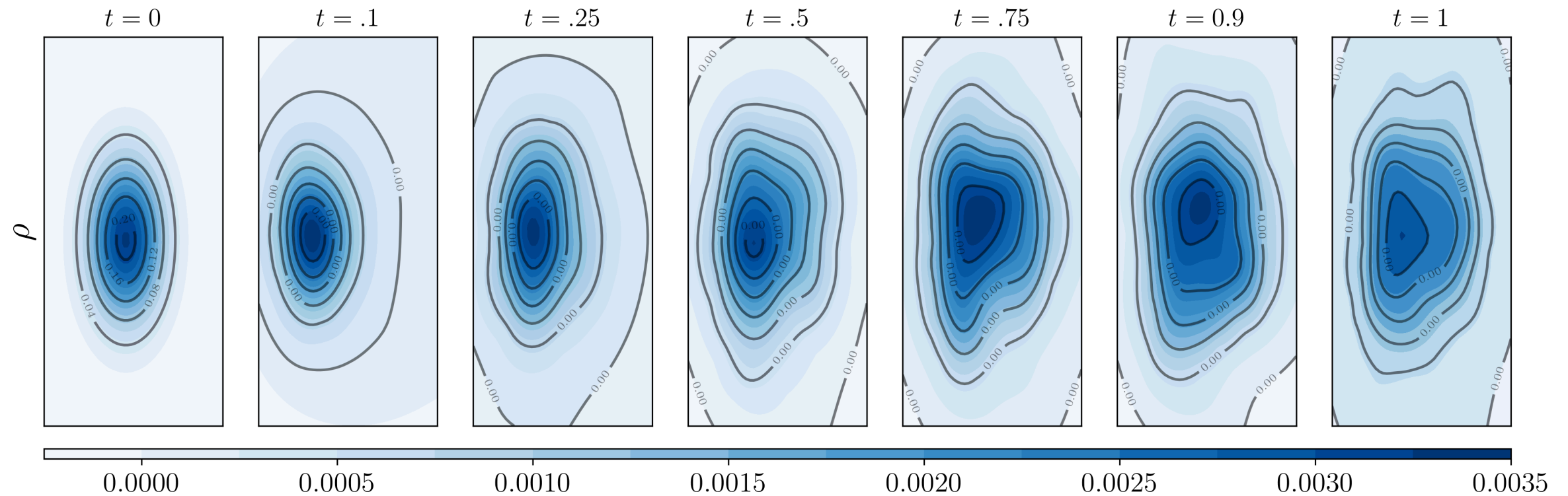


# Feedback Density Control: LTI Prior Dynamics

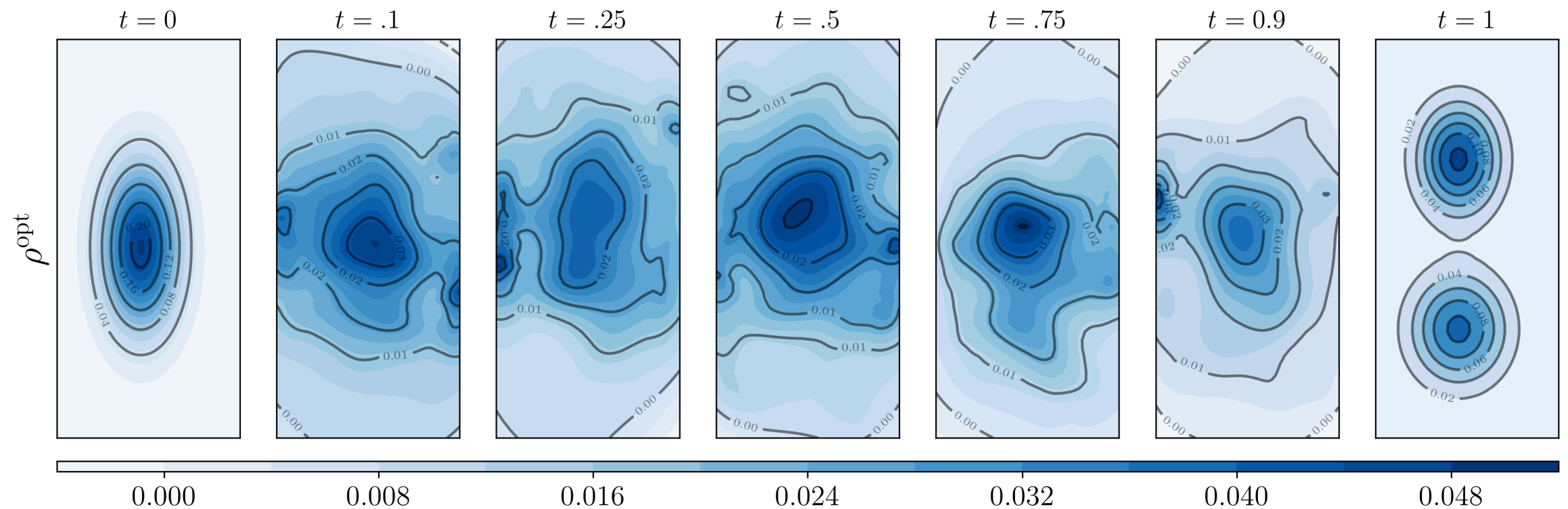


# Feedback Density Control: Nonlinear Grad. Drift

## Uncontrolled joint PDF evolution:

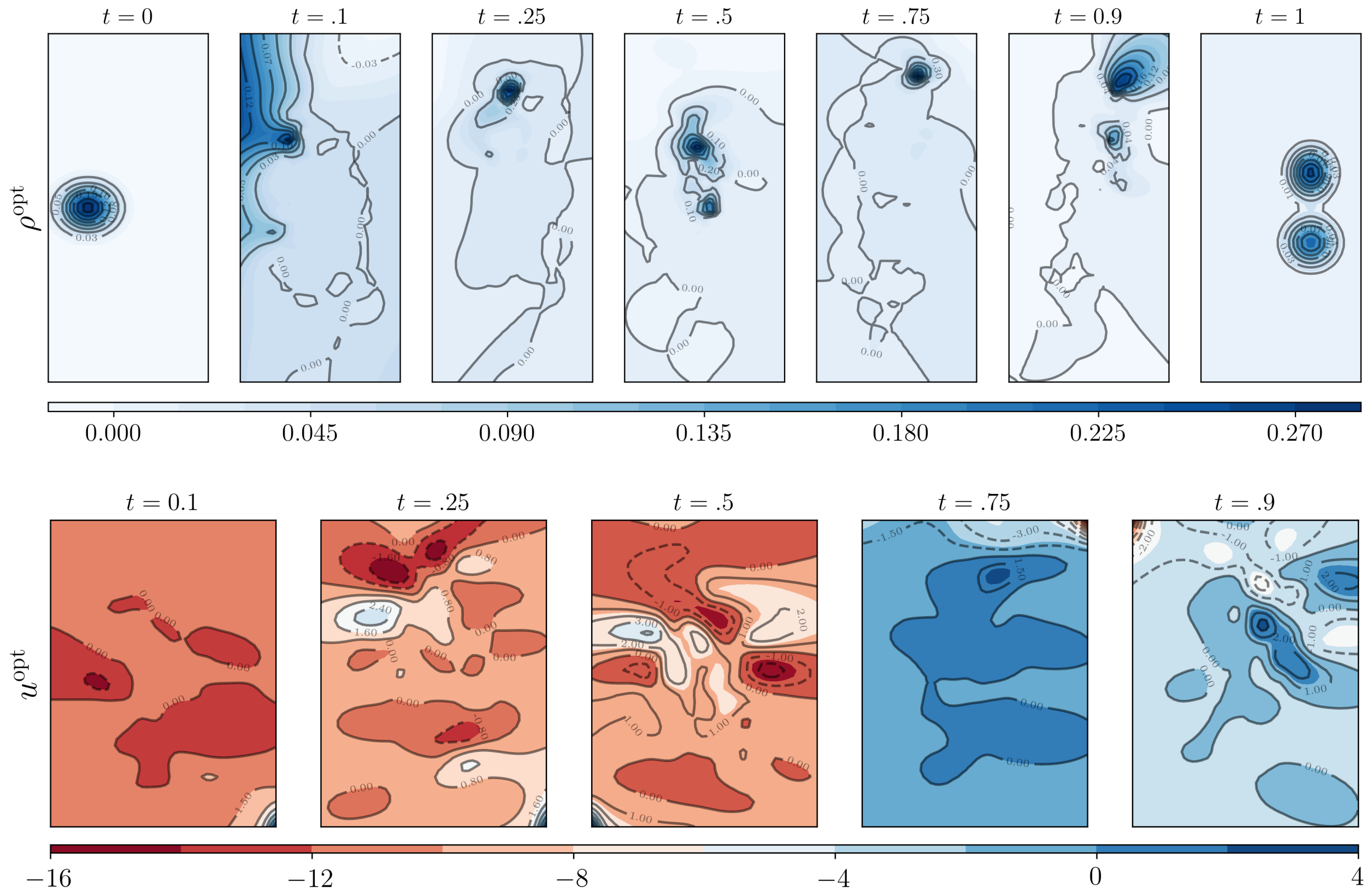


## Optimal controlled joint PDF evolution:



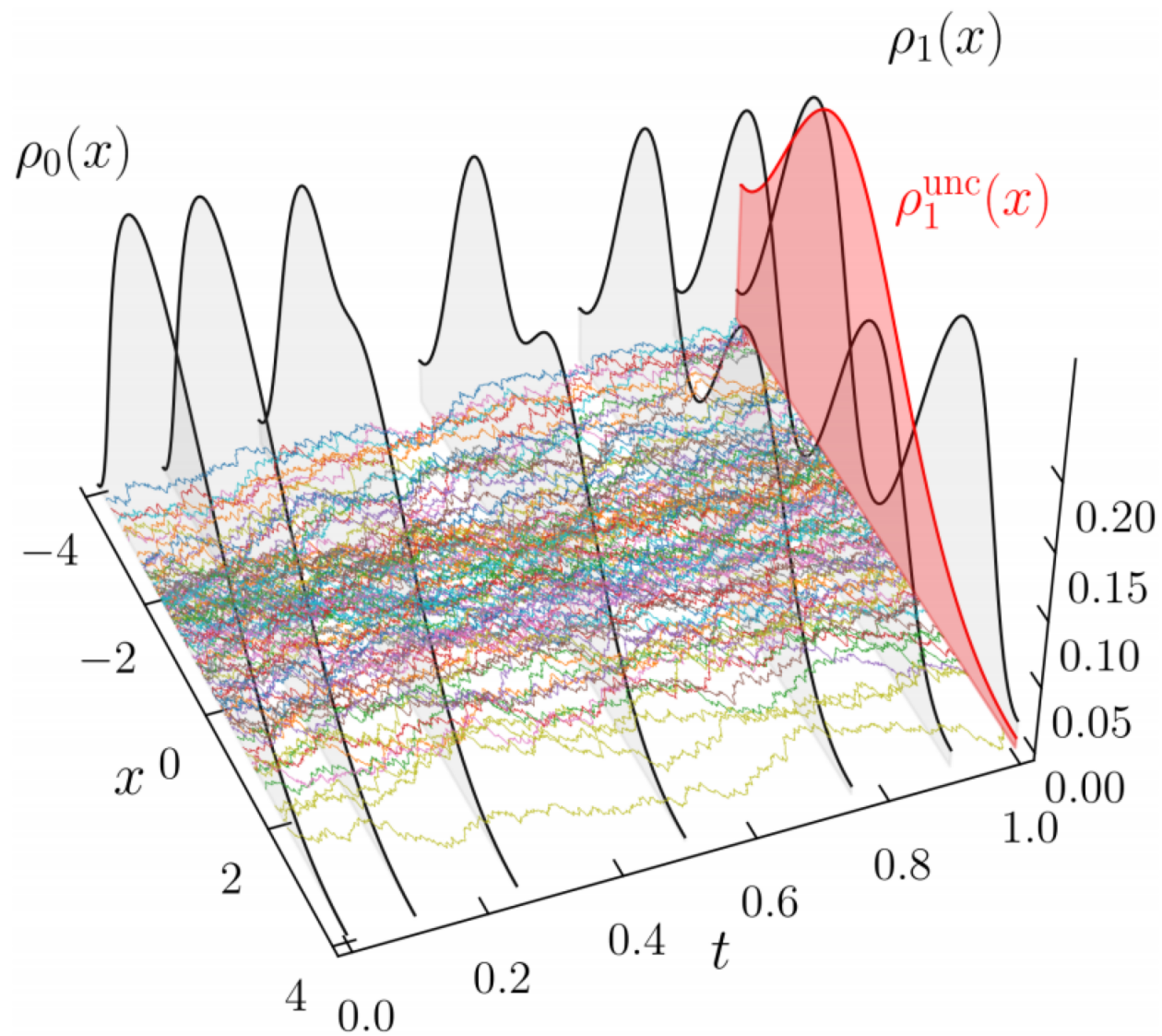


# Feedback Density Control: Mixed Conservative-Dissipative Drift

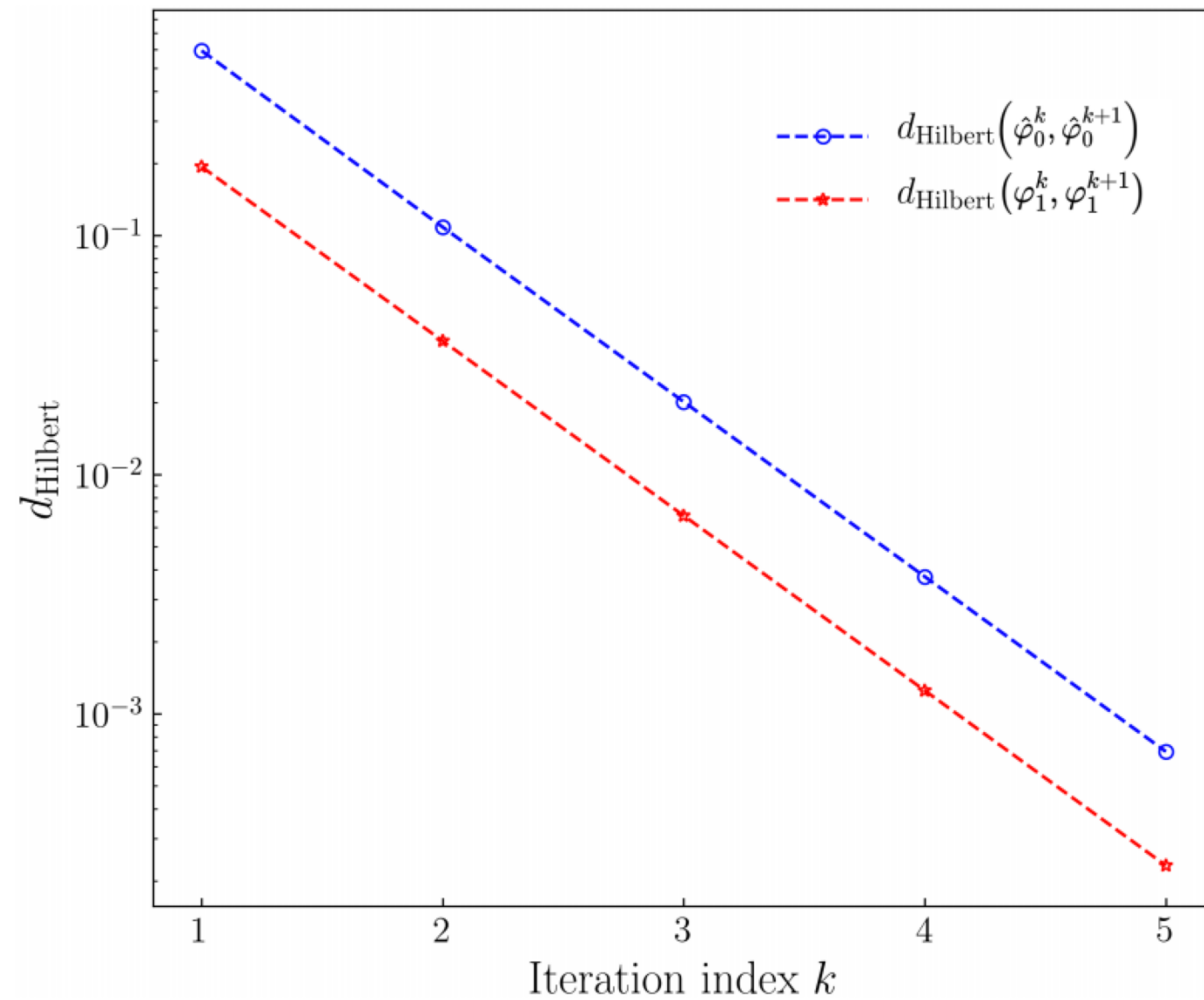


# Density Control with Det. Path Constraints

## Reflecting Schrödinger Bridge



## Contraction in the Hilbert metric



# Details on Density Control

## Publications:

- A.H., and E.D.B. Wendel, Finite horizon linear quadratic Gaussian density regulator with Wasserstein terminal cost, *ACC 2016*.
- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Wasserstein proximal algorithms for the Schrödinger Bridge Problem: density control with nonlinear drift, *IEEE Trans. Automatic Control*, under review, 2019.
- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Finite horizon density control for static state feedback linearizable systems, *IEEE Trans. Automatic Control*, in revision, 2020.
- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Finite Horizon Density Steering for Multi-input State Feedback Linearizable Systems, *ACC 2020*.
- K.F. Caluya, and A.H., Reflected Schrödinger bridge: density control with path constraints, *CDC 2020*.

# Learning a neural network as Wasserstein gradient flow

In collaboration with Google Research

# Learning Neural Network from Data

(feature vector, label) =  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$

Consider shallow NN: 1 hidden layer with  $n_H$  neurons

NN parameter vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta} := (\boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{n_H})^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{pn_H}$

Approximating function:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{n_H} \sum_{i=1}^{n_H} \Phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i), \quad \text{example: } \Phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i) = a_i \sigma(\mathbf{w}_i^\top \mathbf{x} + b_i)$$

Population risk functional:

$$R(\hat{f}) = \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y)} \left[ \left( y - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^2 \right] \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^2$$

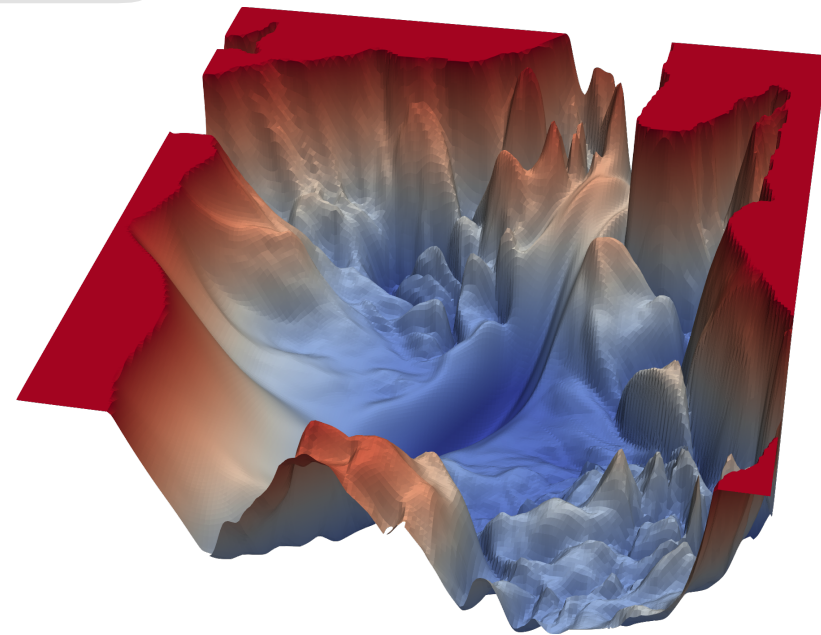
Learning problem: minimize  $R(\hat{f})$   
 $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{pn_H}$

# Learning Neural Network from Data

Learning problem: minimize  $R(\hat{f})$   
 $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{\text{H}}}$

Challenge: highly non-convex (many local minima)

Surprise: SGD and its variants work in practice!!





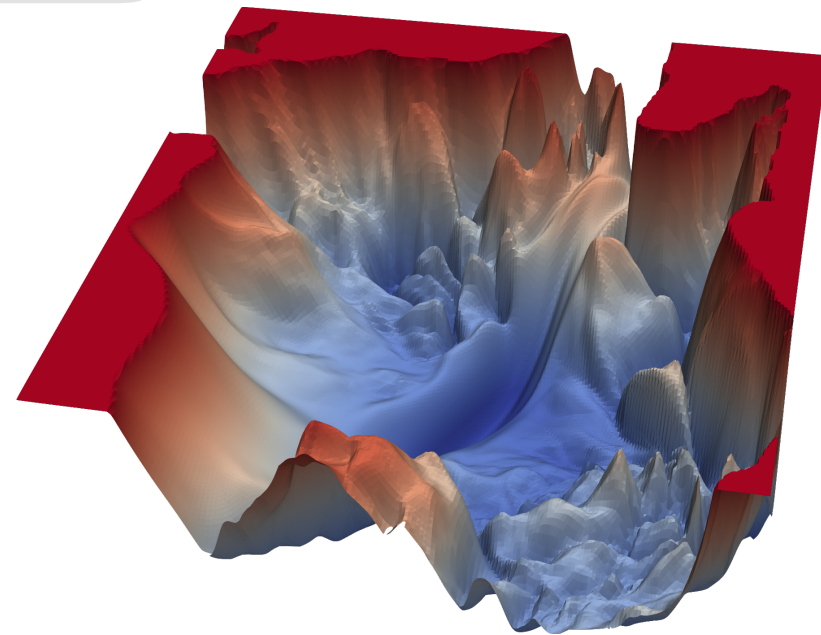
# Learning Neural Network from Data

Learning problem: minimize  $R(\hat{f})$   
 $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{\text{H}}}$

Challenge: highly non-convex (many local minima)

Surprise: SGD and its variants work in practice!!

Good news: emerging theory (starting in 2018!!)



Chizat and Bach (NIPS 2018), Mei, Montanari and Nguyen (PNAS 2018), Rotskoff and Vanden-Eijnden (arXiv:1805.00915, 2018), Williams et al (arXiv:1906.07842, 2019)

Idea: Think of the mean field, i.e., infinite width ( $n_{\text{H}} \rightarrow \infty$ ) limit

$$\hat{f} \equiv \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \rho) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} \Phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Then, learning problem: minimize  $R(\hat{f})$   
 $\rho \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^p)$

# Mean Field Density Dynamics of SGD

Free energy functional:  $F(\rho) := R(\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}, \rho))$

For quadratic loss:

$$F(\rho) = \underbrace{F_0}_{\text{independent of } \rho} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^p} V(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{advection potential energy, linear in } \rho} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^p} \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} U(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rho(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) d\boldsymbol{\theta} d\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}_{\text{interaction potential energy, nonlinear in } \rho},$$

where

$$F_0 := \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y)} [y^2], \quad V(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y)} [-2y\Phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})], \quad U(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) := \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y)} [\Phi(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})\Phi(\mathbf{x}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}})]$$

PDF dynamics for SGD:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \left( \rho \nabla \left( \underbrace{V + U \circledast \rho}_{\frac{\delta F}{\delta \rho}} \right) \right), \text{ where } (U \circledast \rho)(\boldsymbol{\theta}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} U(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \rho(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) d\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

This PDE is the gradient flow of functional  $F$  w.r.t. the Wasserstein metric  $W$



# Wasserstein Proximal Recursion for Training NN

$$\begin{aligned}\varrho_k(\tau, \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \arg \min_{\varrho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^p)} \frac{1}{2} (W(\varrho(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \varrho_{k-1}(\tau, \boldsymbol{\theta})))^2 + \tau F(\varrho(\boldsymbol{\theta})) \\ &= \text{prox}_{\tau F}^W(\varrho_{k-1})\end{aligned}$$

**Classifying two Gaussians:**

$$d = 40, n = 100,$$

$$a = 1, b = 0, \sigma(\cdot) = \tanh(\cdot),$$

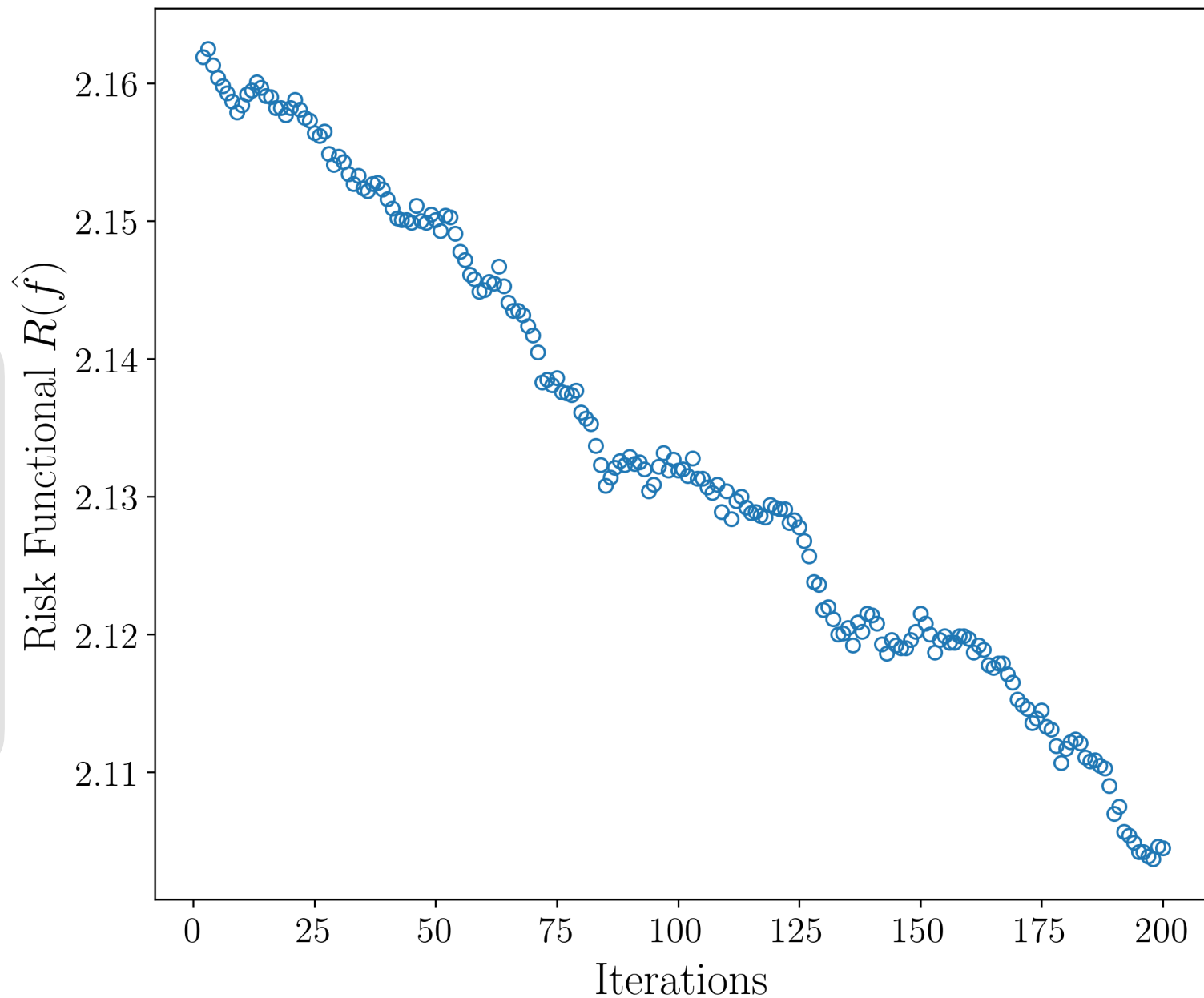
Joint law of  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}$  :

$$\text{Prob}(y = +1, \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, (1 + \Delta)^2 \mathbf{I}_d)) = \frac{1}{2},$$

$$\text{Prob}(y = -1, \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, (1 - \Delta)^2 \mathbf{I}_d)) = \frac{1}{2},$$

$$\tau = 10^{-3}, n_{\text{sample}} = 100, \Delta = 0.2,$$

$$\text{Noisy SGD with } \beta = \frac{1}{3}$$



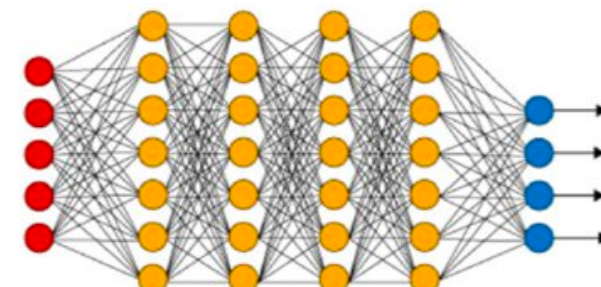
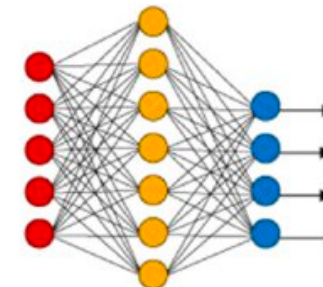
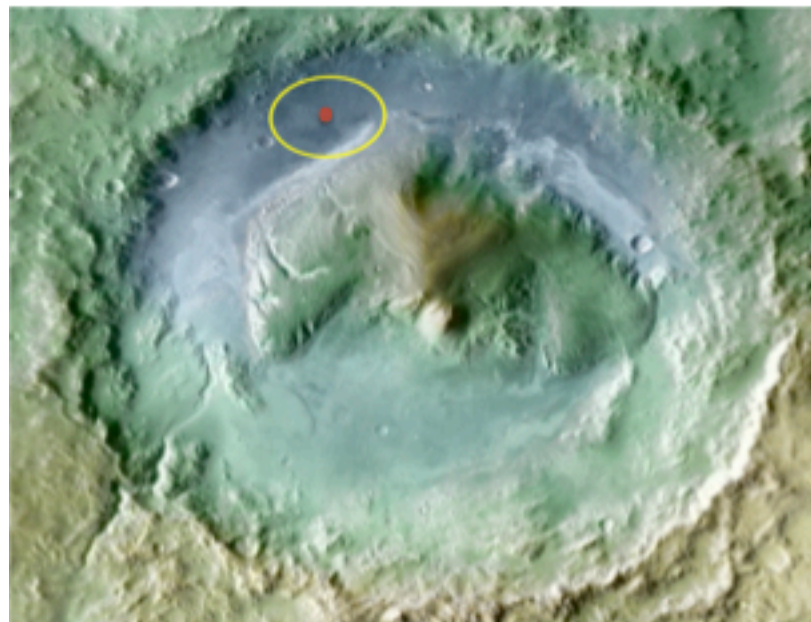
# Take Home Message

Emerging system-control theory for densities

Wasserstein gradient flow: one unifying framework for the prediction, estimation, learning, and feedback control

Feedback density control theory: many recent progress, much remains to be done

Several applications: controlling biological and robotic swarm, process control



# Thank You

Support:



CITRIS  
PEOPLE AND  
ROBOTS



# Pictorial Summary

