

# Minimalist analysis

A Lagrangian scheme for first-order HJB equations using neural networks

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Exact

# Table of Contents

Control problem with state constraints

A generic Lagrangian scheme

Numerical illustration on neural networks

## Setting of the problem

Let  $T > 0$ . We consider the solution  $V = V(t, x)$  of

$$\min \left( -\partial_t V + \max_{a \in A} \langle \nabla V, f(x, a) \rangle, V - g(x) \right) = 0, \quad V(T, x) = \max(\mathfrak{J}(x), g(x)). \quad (\text{HJ})$$

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## Notations and running assumptions Here

- (A1)
- $A \subset \mathbb{R}^\kappa$  is a compact set, and  $\mathbb{A}_{[t, T]}$  the set of measurable  $a(\cdot) : [t, T] \rightarrow A$ ,
  - $f : \mathbb{R}^d \times A \rightarrow T\mathbb{R}^d$  is a Lipschitz dynamic such that  $f(x, A)$  is convex  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,
  - The obstacle function  $g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and terminal cost  $\mathfrak{J} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are Lipschitz.

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**Well-posedness ([ABZ13])** There exists an unique continuous viscosity solution of (HJ).

## Origin of the problem (1/3)

Let  $f_0 : \mathbb{R}^{d-1} \times A \rightarrow T\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ , choose an "admissible" closed set  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$  and denote

$$\mathbb{B}_{\xi, [t, T]} := \left\{ a(\cdot) \in \mathbb{A}_{[t, T]} \mid \gamma_s^{t, \xi, a} \in K \quad \forall s \in [t, T], \dot{\gamma}_s^{t, \xi, a} = f_0(\gamma_s^{t, \xi, a}, a(s)), \gamma_t^{t, \xi, a} = \xi \right\}.$$

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**State-constrained control problem** Let  $L, J : \mathbb{R}^{d-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be Lipschitz, and

Find  $a^* \in \mathbb{B}_{[t, T]}$  that minimizes  $a \mapsto \int_{s=t}^T L(\gamma_s^{t, \xi, a}) ds + J(\gamma_T^{t, \xi, a})$  over all  $a(\cdot) \in \mathbb{B}_{[t, T]}$ .

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Introduce the corresponding value function

$$u(t, \xi) := \inf \left\{ \int_{s=t}^T L(\gamma_s^{t, \xi, a}) ds + J(\gamma_T^{t, \xi, a}) \mid a(\cdot) \in \mathbb{B}_{[t, T]} \right\}.$$



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$$x = (\xi, z), \quad f(x, a) := (f_0(\xi, a), L(\xi)), \quad g(x) = g_0(\xi), \quad \mathfrak{J}(x) = J(\xi) - z.$$

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Let again  $y^{t,x,a}$  solve  $\dot{y}_s = f(y_s, a(s))$ . Introduce the auxiliary map

$$V(t, x) := \inf \left\{ \max \left( \mathfrak{J} \left( y_T^{t,x,a} \right), \max_{s \in [t, T]} g \left( y_s^{t,x,a} \right) \right) \mid a(\cdot) \in \mathbb{A}_{[t, T]} \right\}.$$

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**Link between both ([ABZ13])** The auxiliary map  $V$  solves (HJ), and there holds

$$u(t, \xi) = \inf \{ z \in \mathbb{R} \mid V(t, (\xi, z)) \leq 0 \} \quad (\text{with the convention } \inf(\emptyset) = +\infty.)$$

## Origin of the problem (3/3)

**Example** We want to minimize  $\xi \mapsto |\gamma_T^{t,\xi,a}|$ , where  $\dot{\gamma}_s^{t,\xi,a} = a(s)$  and  $|\dot{\gamma}| \geq 1$ . Let  $A = [-1, 1]$ ,  $f_0(\xi, a) := a$ ,  $L = 0$ ,  $J(\xi) = |\xi|$  and  $g_0(\xi) = 1 - |\xi|$ .

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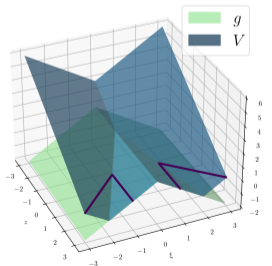
$$V(t, x) = \inf_{a \in \mathbb{A}_{[t,T]}} \left\{ \left| y_T^{t,x,a} \right| \vee \max_{s \in [t,T]} (1 - |y_s^{t,x,a}|) \right\}, \quad \begin{cases} (-\partial_t V + |\partial_{x_1} V|) \wedge (V - g) = 0, \\ V(T, x) = (|x_1| - x_2) \vee (1 - |x_1|). \end{cases}$$

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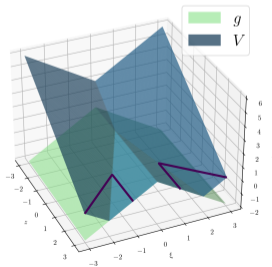
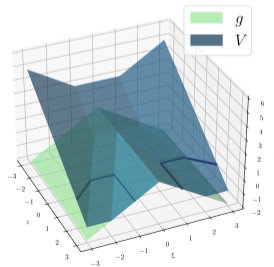
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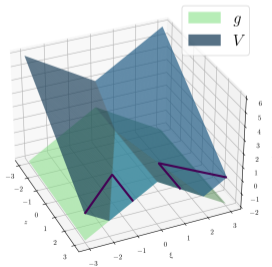
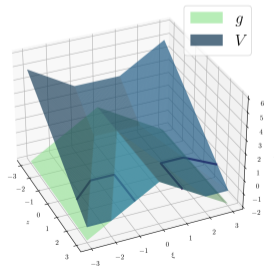
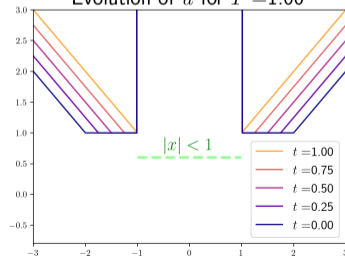
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Solution  $V$  at time  $t = T = 1.00$ Solution  $V$  at time  $t = 0.00$ Evolution of  $u$  for  $T = 1.00$ 

## Dynamical formulation ([ABZ13])

**Dynamic programming principle** For all  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $h \in [0, T - t]$ ,

$$V(t, x) = \inf \left\{ V(t+h, y_{t+h}^{t,x,a}) \bigvee_{s \in [t, t+h]} \max g(y_s^{t,x,a}) \mid a(\cdot) \in \mathbb{A}_{[t, t+h]} \right\}. \quad (\text{DPP})$$

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Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Delta t = T/N$  and  $t_n = n\Delta t$ . Introduce a first discretization of (DPP) by

$$V^n(x) := \inf \left\{ V^{n+1}(F_{\Delta t}^a(x)) \vee G_{\Delta t}^a(x) \mid a \in \text{Mes}(\mathbb{R}^d, A) \right\}, \quad V^N(x) = \mathfrak{J}(x) \vee g(x),$$

where  $F_{\Delta t}^a(x)$  is a constant approximation of  $y_{t+\Delta t}^{t,x,a}$ , and  $G_{\Delta t}^a(x)$  approximates  $\max_{s \in [t, T]} g(y_s^{t,x,a})$ .

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Under natural assumptions,  $V^n(x) \rightarrow V(t_n, x)$  locally uniformly when  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .

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# Expression

Let  $(t_n)_{n \in \llbracket 0, N \rrbracket}$  be a discretization of  $[0, T]$ , and  $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\Theta}^n \subset \text{Mes}(\mathbb{R}^d, A)$  be approximation spaces.

**(A3)** Let  $\hat{y}_{t_{n+1}}^{t_n, x, a} = \hat{F}_n(x, a)$  be a consistent scheme s.t.  $\hat{F}_n(\cdot, a)$  is bijective for small  $\Delta t$ .

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**Lagrangian scheme** Let  $(\mu^n)_{n \in \llbracket 0, N-1 \rrbracket} \subset \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be densities, and define

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{V}^N := \mathfrak{J} \vee g, \quad \hat{V}^n(x) := \hat{V}^{n+1} \left( \hat{y}_{t_{n+1}}^{t_n, x, \hat{a}^n} \right) \vee g(x) \end{array} \right. \quad (1a)$$

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**Remark – Storage** The approximations  $\hat{V}^n$  are just notations (only  $(\hat{a}^n)_{n \in \llbracket 0, N-1 \rrbracket}$  is stored).



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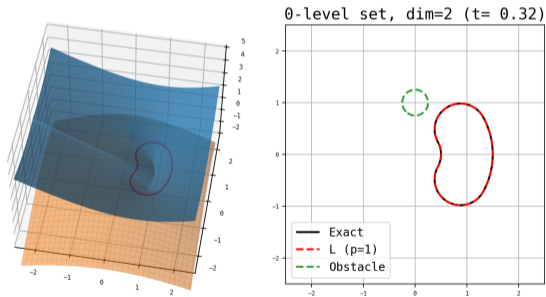


Figure: Without substeps

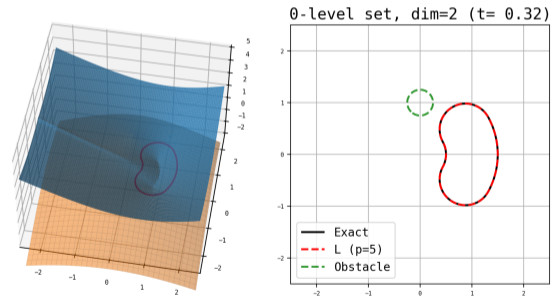


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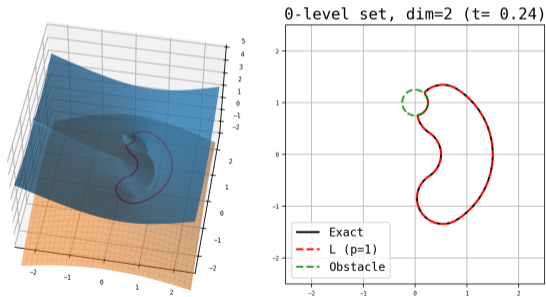


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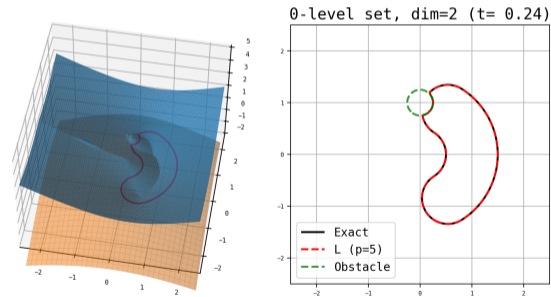


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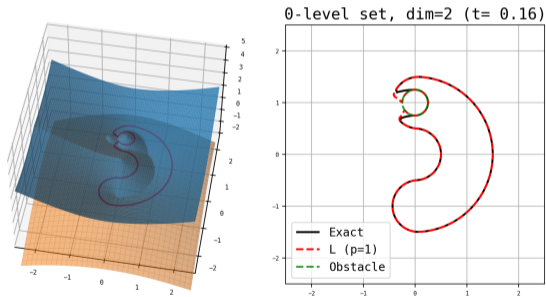


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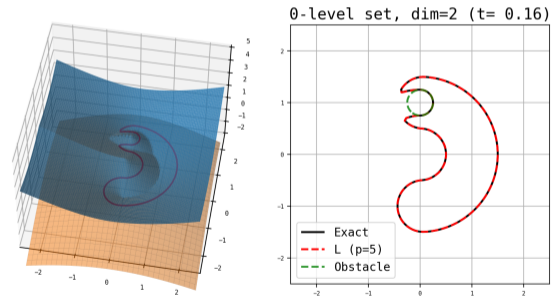


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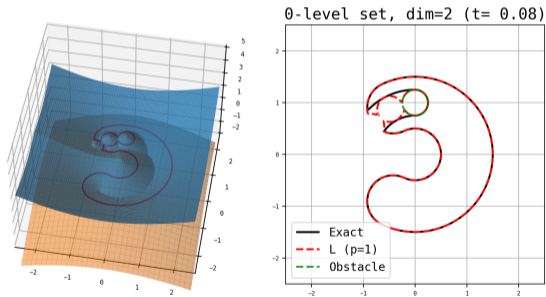


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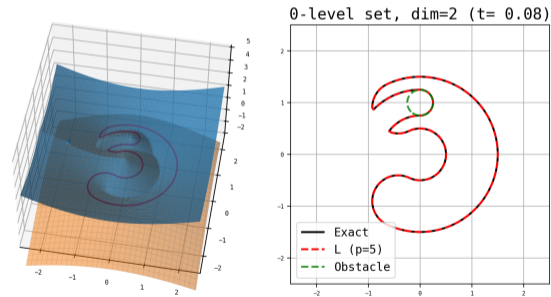


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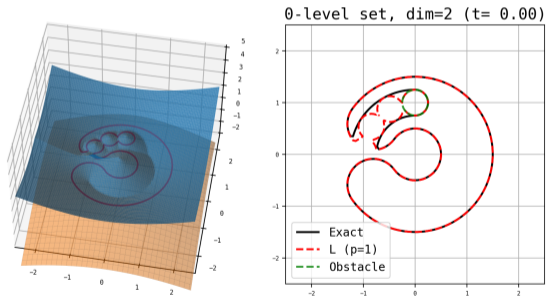


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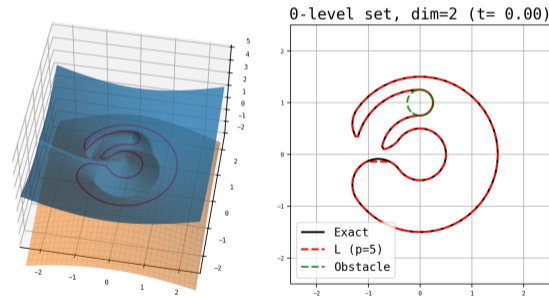


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# Main result

Assume that

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- $\hat{F}_n(x, \cdot)$  is continuous for small enough  $\Delta t$ , and  $|\hat{F}_n(x, a)| \leq |x| + C\Delta t(1 + |x|)$ .
  - The approximation spaces satisfy  $\overline{\lim_{\Theta \rightarrow \infty} \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\Theta}^n} = \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d, A)$  in  $L_{\mu^n}^1$ .
  - The densities  $\mu^n = \rho^n \mathcal{L}$  are such that  $\hat{F}(\text{supp } \rho^n) \subset \text{supp } \rho^{n+1}$ , and

$$C_{n, \Delta t} := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \sup_{a \in A} \frac{\rho^n(x)}{\rho^{n+1} \circ \hat{F}(x, a)} < \infty.$$

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**Convergence ([BPW22])** Under (A1) to (A4),  $\lim_{\Theta \rightarrow \infty} \max_{n \in \llbracket 0, N \rrbracket} \int |\hat{V}^n - V^n| d\mu^n = 0$ .



# Comments

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In the literature, this type of results is found in the neural network community. In particular,

- [HPBL21] and [BHLP22] analyze a similar problem in the context of stochastic optimization. The presented scheme is inspired from the *performance iteration* scheme of the authors, where the error analysis relies on diffusion, and related to the work of [BD07].

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- A similar error analysis is performed in [GPW20, GPW21], using GroupSort networks.
- Global regression is studied (for instance) in [SS18] (DGM), or [HL20] for BSDEs.

# Table of Contents

Control problem with state constraints

A generic Lagrangian scheme

Numerical illustration on neural networks

# Definition

**Neural network** Let  $L$  be a *number of layers*, and  $(d_k)_{k \in \llbracket 0, L \rrbracket}$  be natural numbers. A map  $\mathcal{R} : \mathbb{R}^{d_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_L}$  is a *feedforward neural network* if it is of the form

$$\mathcal{R} = \sigma_L \circ \mathcal{L}_L \circ \cdots \circ \sigma_1 \circ \mathcal{L}_1, \quad \sigma_i : \mathbb{R}^{d_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_i} \text{ nonlinear}, \quad \mathcal{L}_i : \mathbb{R}^{d_{i-1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_i} \text{ linear.}$$

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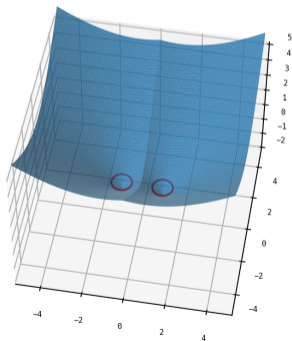
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- In practice, approximation very sensitive to the correct structure of the network.

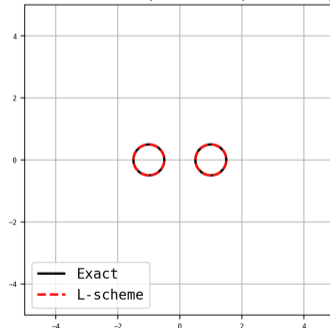
# Eikonal equation (1/2)

We consider  $T = 2$  and the obstacle-free Eikonal equation

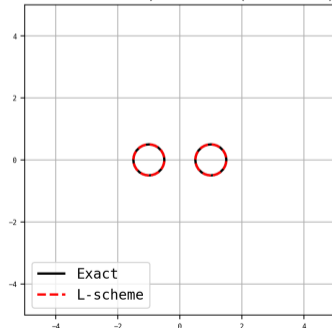
$$-\partial_t V(t, x) + \max_{a \in \overline{\mathcal{B}}(0,1)} \langle \nabla V(t, x), a \rangle = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad V(T, x) = \min(|x + e_1|, |x - e_1|).$$



0-level set, dim=6 (t= 2.00)



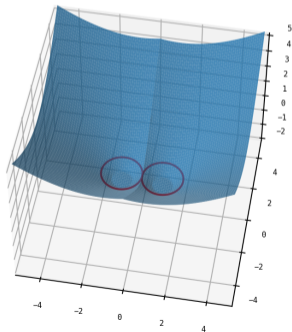
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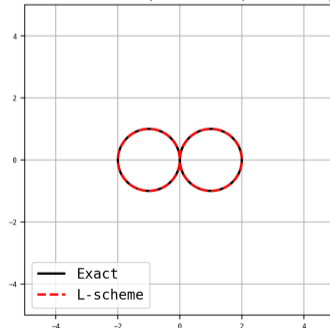
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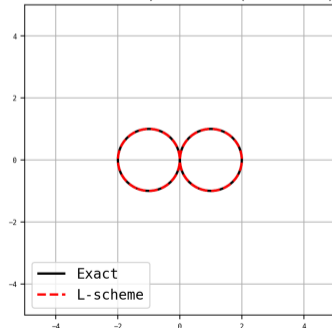
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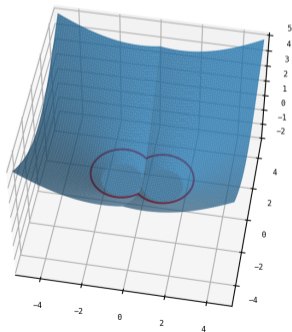
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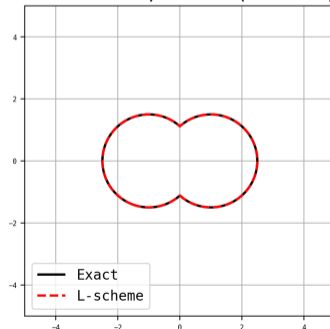
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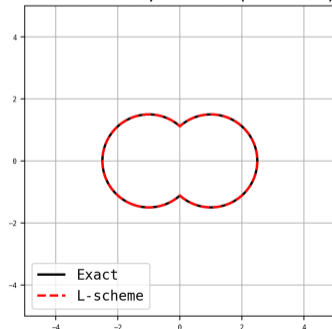
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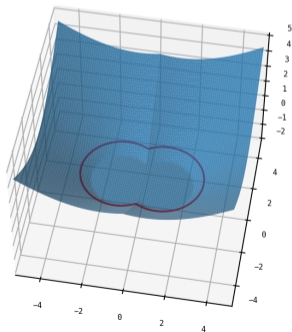
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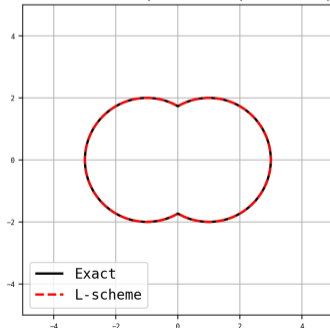
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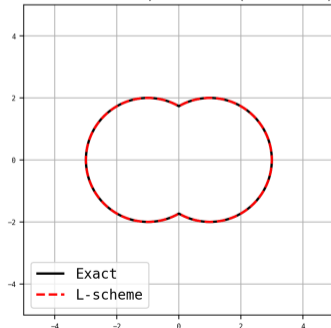
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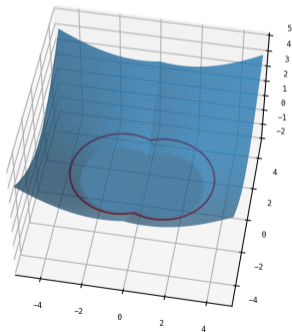
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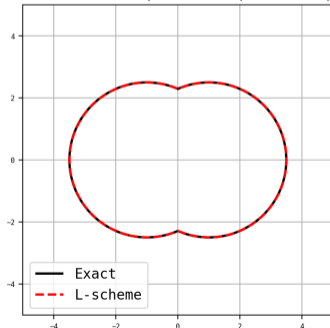
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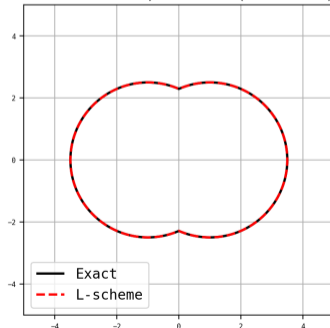
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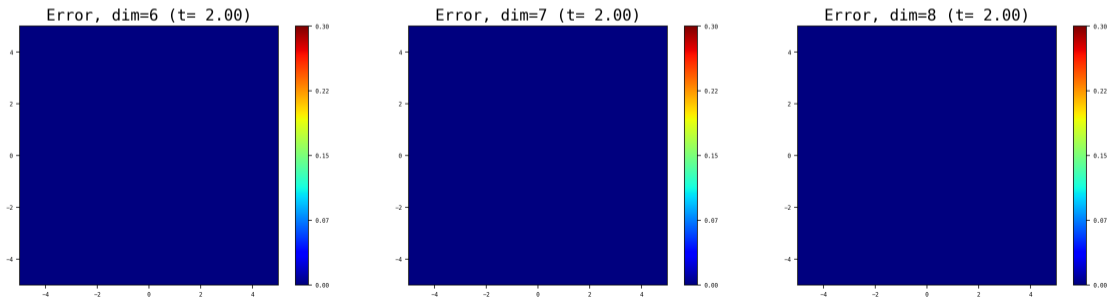
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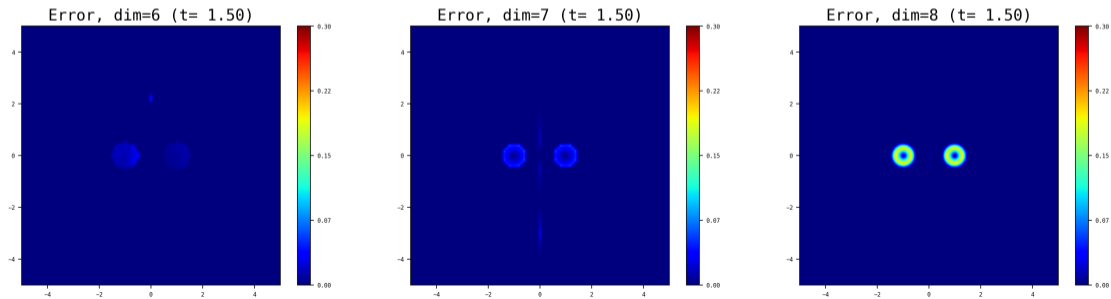
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Table: Errors for the Eikonal equation,  $N = 4$  iterations, 3 layers, 40 neurons

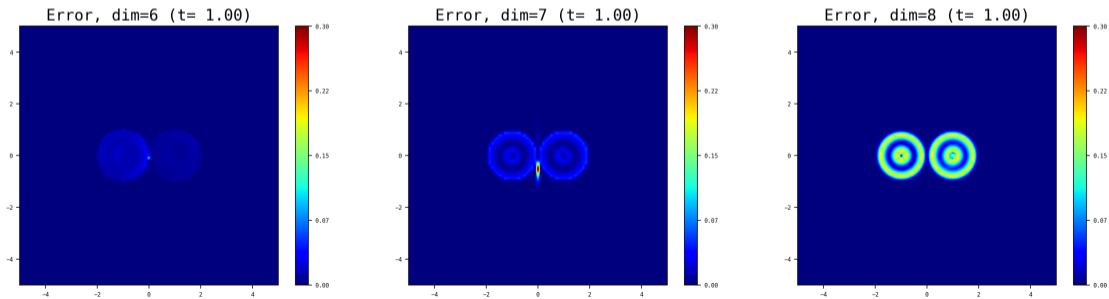
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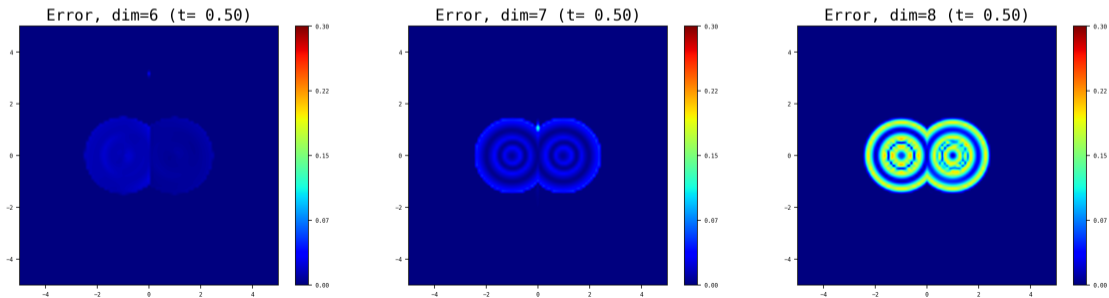
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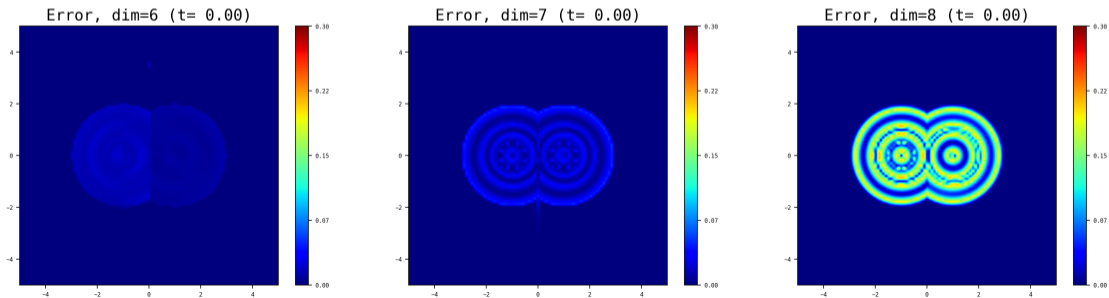
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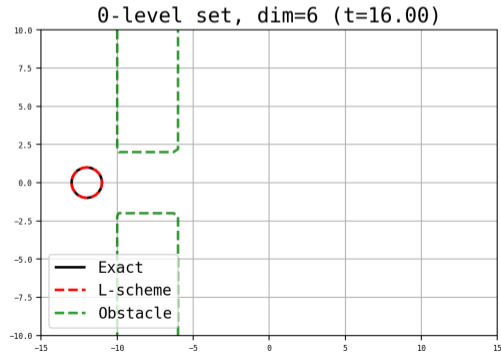
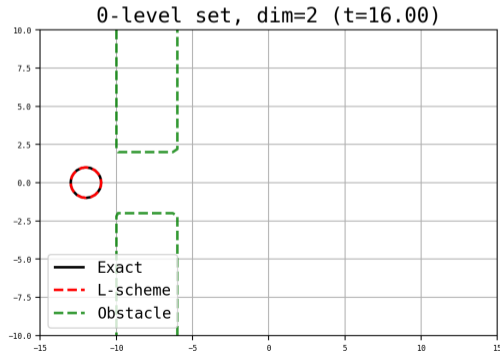
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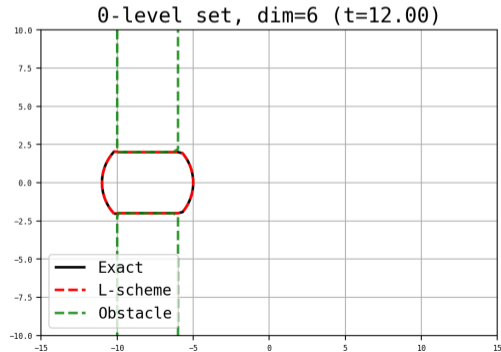
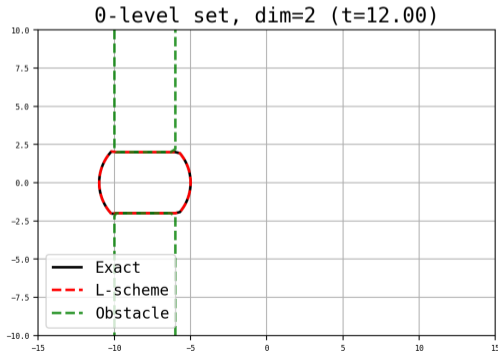
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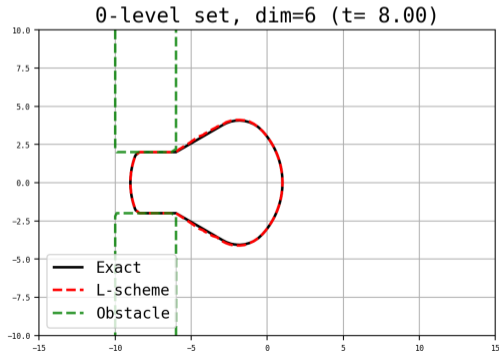
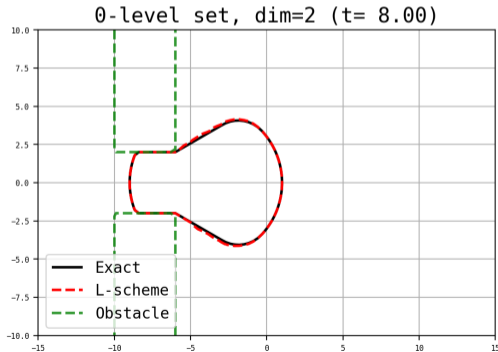
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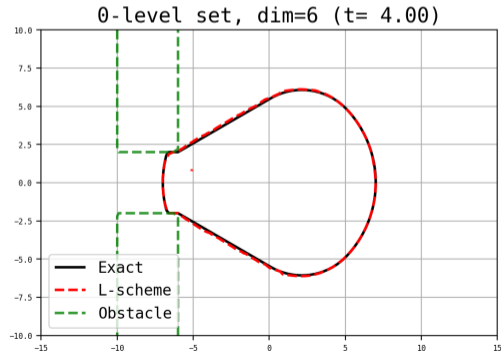
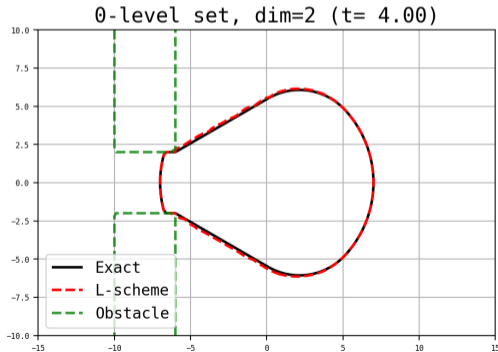




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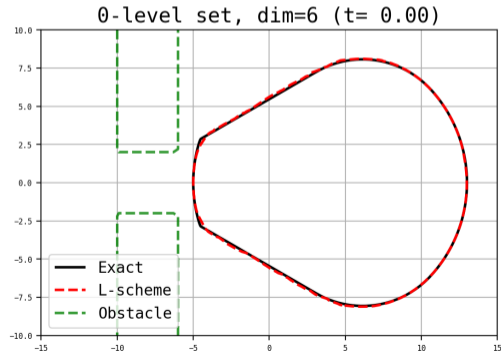
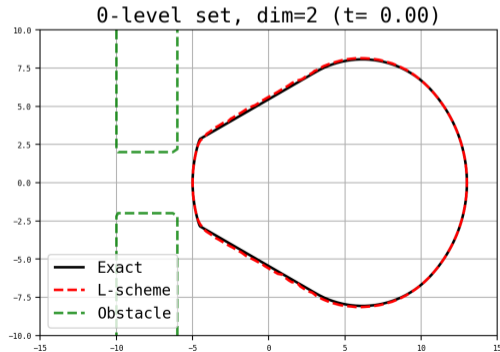
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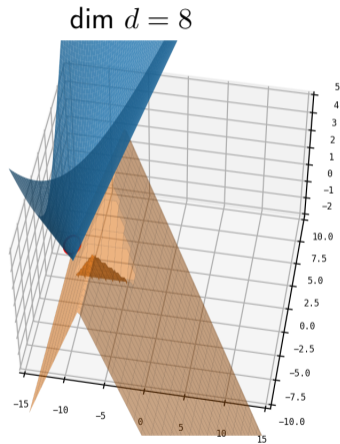
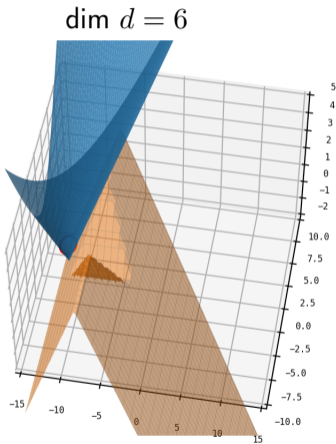
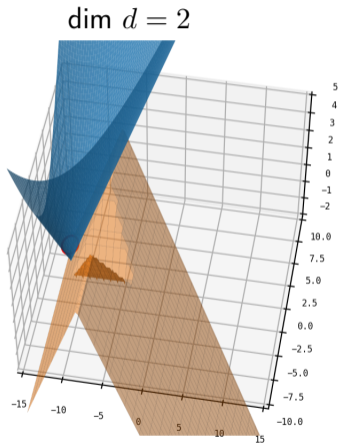
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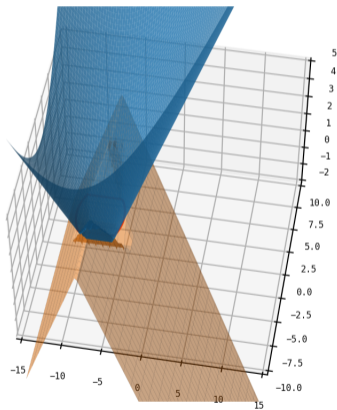


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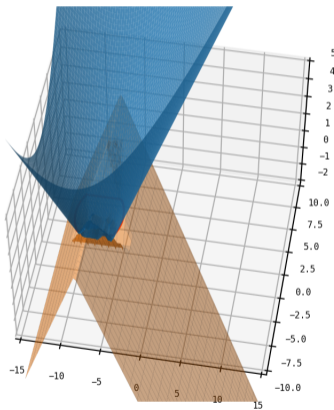


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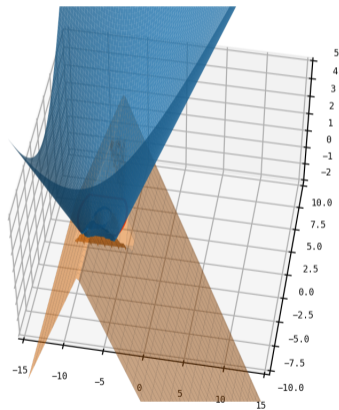
dim  $d = 2$



dim  $d = 6$

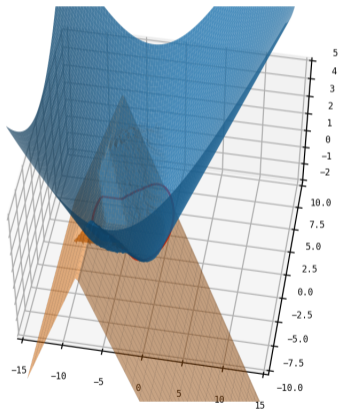


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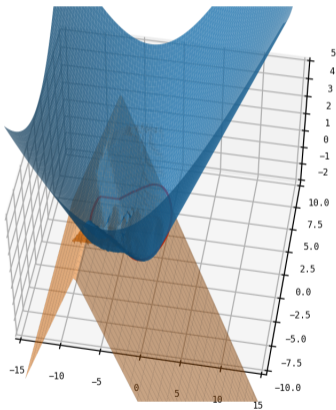


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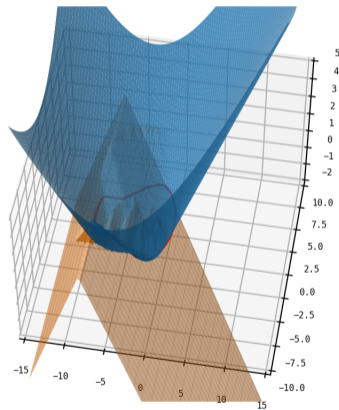
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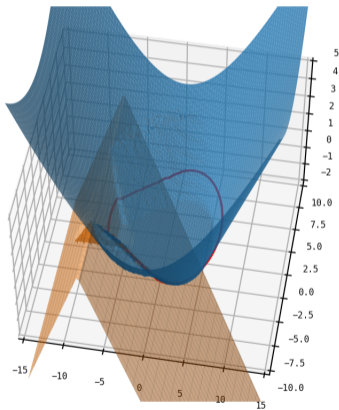


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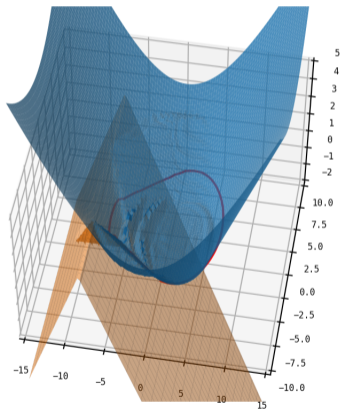


# The door problem (2/2)

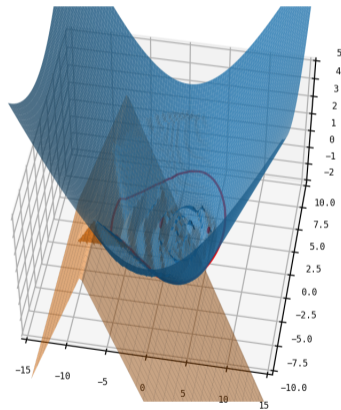
dim  $d = 2$



dim  $d = 6$

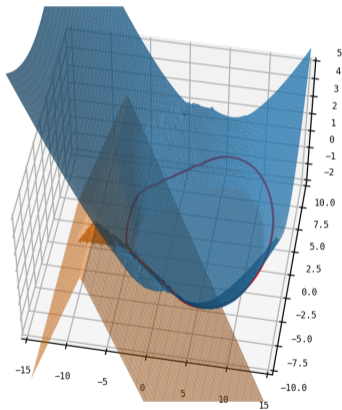


dim  $d = 8$

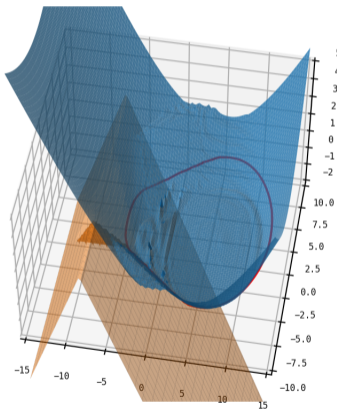


# The door problem (2/2)

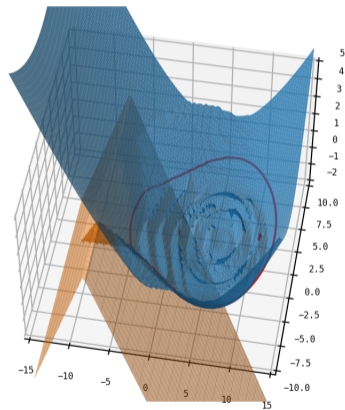
dim  $d = 2$



dim  $d = 6$



dim  $d = 8$



## Thank you!

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