

# Numerical Methods for Solving Poisson Equation with Applications in Filtering and Classification

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- 1 Poisson equation
- 2 Poisson equation in nonlinear filtering
- 3 Numerical solution: Galerkin method
- 4 Spectral clustering
- 5 Numerical solution: Graph Laplacian based method
- 6 Poisson equation in classification



# Poisson Equation

## Problem Definition

**Poisson equation:** A real-valued function  $\phi$  satisfies Poisson equation if,

$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \phi) = h - \hat{h}, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^d$$

where

- $\rho$  is a probability density function
- $h$  is a real-valued function
- $\hat{h} = \int h \rho \, dx$

**In practice:**  $\rho$  is not given. Only  $X^1, \dots, X^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d}}{\sim} \rho$  are known.

**Objective:** Design an algorithm with output  $\phi^{(N)}$  s.t  $\phi^{(N)} \approx \phi$

**Motivation:**

- 1 Simulation and optimization theory for Markov  
dels [Meyn, Tweedie, 2012]
- 2 Nonlinear filtering [Yang, et. al. 2015]



## Motivation: Nonlinear Filtering

### Problem:

**Signal model:**  $dX_t = a(X_t) dt + dB_t, \quad X_0 \sim p_0(\cdot)$

**Observation model:**  $dZ_t = h(X_t) dt + dW_t$

What is posterior distribution of  $X_t$  given  $\mathcal{Z}_t := \sigma(Z_s : 0 \leq s \leq t)$ , i.e

$$P(X_t | \mathcal{Z}_t) = ?$$

### Solution:

- Linear and Gaussian: Kalman filter
- Nonlinear and non-Gaussian: (Approximate solutions) Extended Kalman filter, particle filter, feedback particle filter, ...



### Problem:

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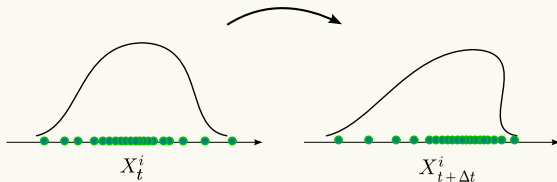
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### Solution:

- Linear and Gaussian: **Kalman filter**
- Nonlinear and non-Gaussian: (Approximate solutions) **Extended Kalman filter, particle filter, feedback particle filter, ...**



# Feedback Particle Filter



## Idea:

- Approximate  $P(X_t|\mathcal{Z}_t)$  with particles  $\{X^1, \dots, X^N\}$
- Update particles with a control law s.t

$$X_t^i \sim P(X_t|\mathcal{Z}_t), \quad \forall t > 0$$

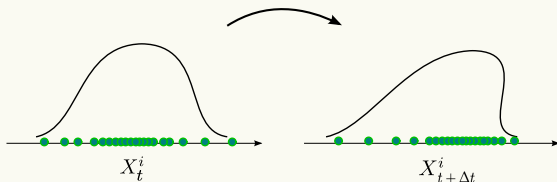
## Algorithm:

$$dX_t^i = a(X_t^i) dt + dB_t^i + K(X_t^i) \circ \left( dZ_t - \frac{h(X_t^i) + \hat{h}}{2} dt \right), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N$$

- $\hat{h} = E[h(X_t)|\mathcal{Z}_t] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum h(X_t^i)$
- $K(x) = \nabla \phi(x)$ , where  $\phi$  is the solution to the Poisson equation



# Feedback Particle Filter



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## Poisson Equation in Nonlinear Filtering

**Poisson equation:** A real-valued function  $\phi$  satisfies Poisson equation if,

$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \phi) = h - \hat{h}, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^d$$

where

- $\rho$  is the density of the posterior  $P(X_t | \mathcal{Z}_t)$ ,
- $h$  is the observation function
- $\hat{h} = \int h \rho dx$

**In practice:** Only  $X^1, \dots, X^N \sim P(X_t | \mathcal{Z}_t)$  are given

**Objective:** Design an algorithm with output  $\phi^{(N)}$  s.t.  $\phi^{(N)} \approx \phi$





$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \phi) = h - \hat{h}, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^d$$

**Hilbert space:**

$$H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho dx) := \left\{ \phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \phi \in L_\rho^2, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \in L_\rho^2, \int \phi \rho dx = 0 \right\}$$

**Weak form:**  $\phi \in H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho dx)$  is the weak solution of the Poisson equation if,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\nabla \phi \cdot \nabla \psi) \rho dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (h - \hat{h}) \psi \rho dx, \quad \forall \psi \in H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho dx)$$

**Existence and uniqueness:** A unique weak solution in  $H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho dx)$  exists if,

1  $h \in L_\rho^2$

2  $\rho$  satisfies the Poincaré inequality

**Poincaré inequality:**  $\exists \lambda > 0$  s.t

$$\int \phi^2 \rho dx \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \int |\nabla \phi|^2 \rho dx, \quad \forall \phi \in H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho dx)$$



# Numerical solution

## Galerkin method

### Weak form:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\nabla \phi \cdot \nabla \psi) \rho \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (h - \hat{h}) \psi \rho \, dx, \quad \forall \psi \in H_0^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \rho \, dx)$$

### Galerkin Method:

- 1 Write  $\phi$  as linear combination of basis functions

$$\phi = c_1 \psi_1 + \dots + c_M \psi_M$$

- 2 Construct a finite dimensional approximation of the weak form

$$Ac = b$$

where

$$A_{ml} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\nabla \psi_m \cdot \nabla \psi_l) \rho \, dx, \quad b_m = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (h - \hat{h}) \psi_m \rho \, dx$$

- 3 Solve the system of  $M$  linear equations for  $c = [c_1, \dots, c_M]^T$

### Issues:

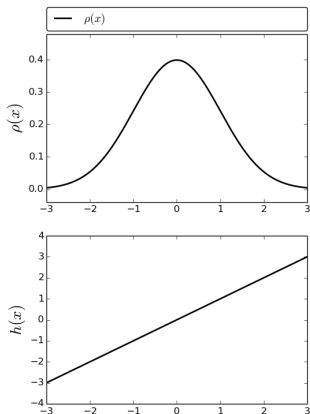
- 1 Choice of the basis functions
- 2  $M$  grows as  $d$  grows



# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example I:**  $X \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,



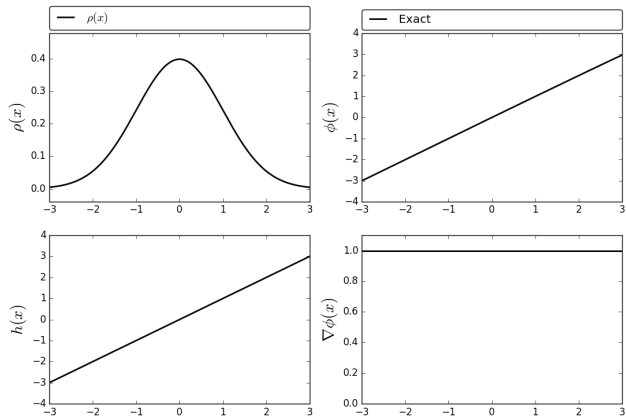


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example I:**  $X \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,

$$-e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{d}{dx} \left( e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right) = x, \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi = x$$



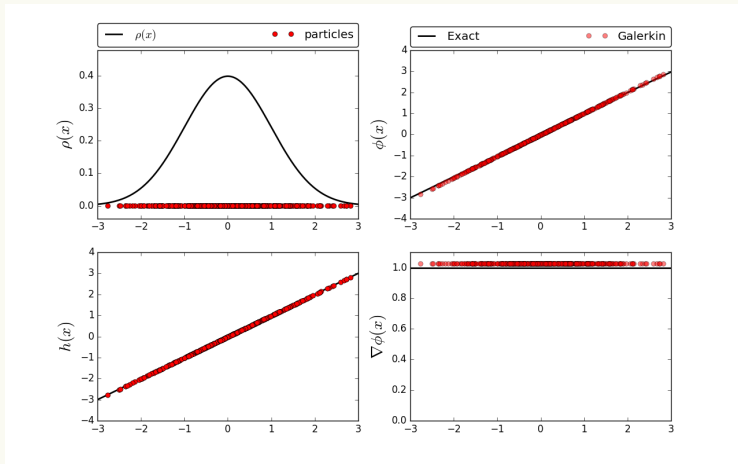


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example I:**  $X \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,

Galerkin method with basis =  $\{x\}$



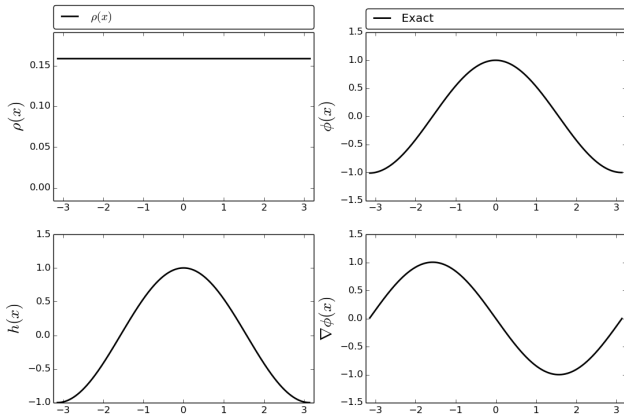


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example II:**  $X \sim \text{unif} [-\pi, \pi]$  and  $h(x) = \cos(x)$ ,

$$-2\pi \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right) = \cos(x), \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi = \cos(x)$$



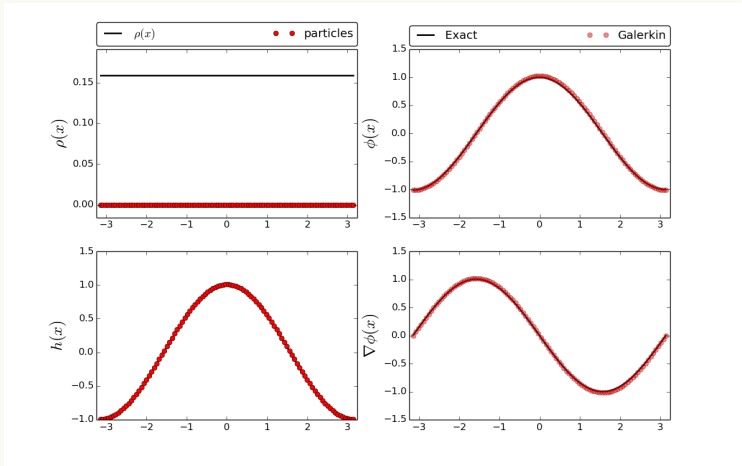


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example II:**  $X \sim \text{unif}[-\pi, \pi]$  and  $h(x) = \cos(x)$ ,

Galerkin method with basis =  $\{\cos(x), \sin(x)\}$



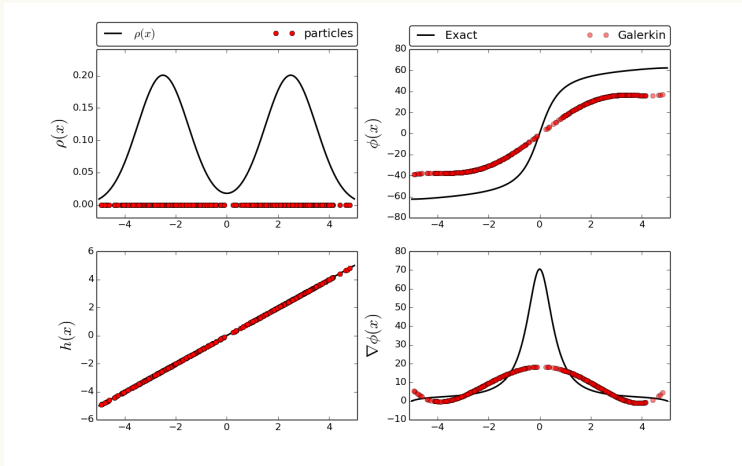


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example III:**  $X \sim N(-2.5, 1) + N(2.5, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,

Galerkin method with basis=  $\{x, x^2, \dots, x^6\}$





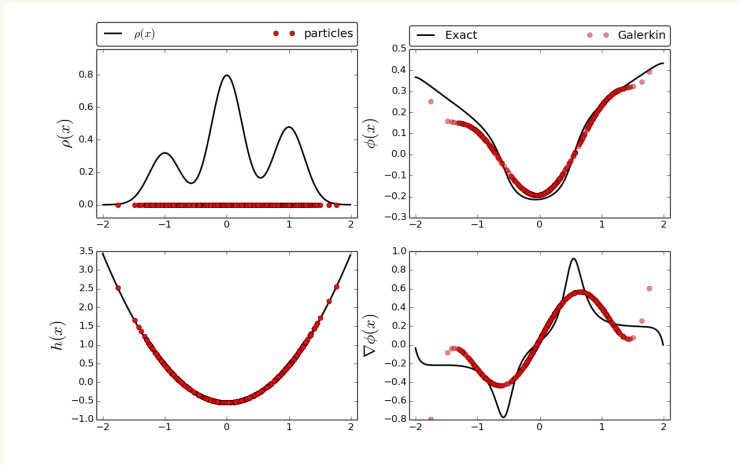


# Numerical Examples

## Galerkin method

**Example IV:**  $X \sim \frac{2}{10}N(-1, \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{5}{10}N(0, \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{3}{10}N(1, \frac{1}{4})$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,

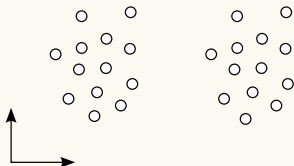
Galerkin method with basis =  $\{x, x^2, \dots, x^6\}$





# Outline

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**Unlabeled data:**  $\{X^1, \dots, X^N\}$

**Objective:** Identify groups of data that are similar

## Spectral method:

- 1 Construct a graph where nodes are data points
- 2 Specify weights  $W_{ij}$  for edges
- 3 Construct the graph Laplacian matrix

$$L = I - D^{-1}W$$

- 4 Cluster according to the eigenvectors of  $L$



# Gaussian Kernel

**Gaussian kernel:**  $K_{ij} = \exp\left(-\frac{|X^i - X^j|^2}{4\epsilon}\right)$

	Weights	Limit of $L$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$
[Belkin, 2003]	$W_{ij} = K_{ij}$	$-\Delta + O(\epsilon), \quad (*)$
[Coifman, Lafon, 2006]	$W_{ij} = \frac{K_{ij}}{(\sum_l K_{il})(\sum_l K_{jl})}$	$-\Delta + O(\epsilon)$
[Hein, 2007]	$W_{ij} = \frac{K_{ij}}{(\sum_l K_{il})^\lambda (\sum_l K_{jl})^\lambda}$	$-\frac{1}{\rho^s} \nabla \cdot (\rho^s \nabla ) + O(\epsilon), \quad (**)$

- (\*) True only if  $X \sim \text{unif}$
- (\*\*)  $s = 2(\lambda - 1)$

**Intresting case:**  $s = 1$

**Weighted Laplacian:**  $-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla )$

Review paper on weighted Laplacian [Grigoryan, 2007]



# Numerical Solution of the Poisson Equation

## Graph Laplacian Based Method

**Main idea:**

$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \phi) = h - \hat{h} \quad \approx \quad L\phi = h - \hat{h}$$

**Procedure:**

- 1 Construct the weight and degree matrix

$$W_{ij} = \frac{K_{ij}}{(\sum_l K_{il})^{\frac{1}{2}} (\sum_l K_{jl})^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \quad D_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \sum_l W_{il}, \quad A := D^{-1}W$$

- 2 Construct the graph Laplacian matrix

$$L = \frac{I - D^{-1}W}{\epsilon}$$

- 3 Solve a system of  $N$  linear equations

$$L\phi = h - \hat{h}$$

- 4 Approximate  $\nabla \phi$

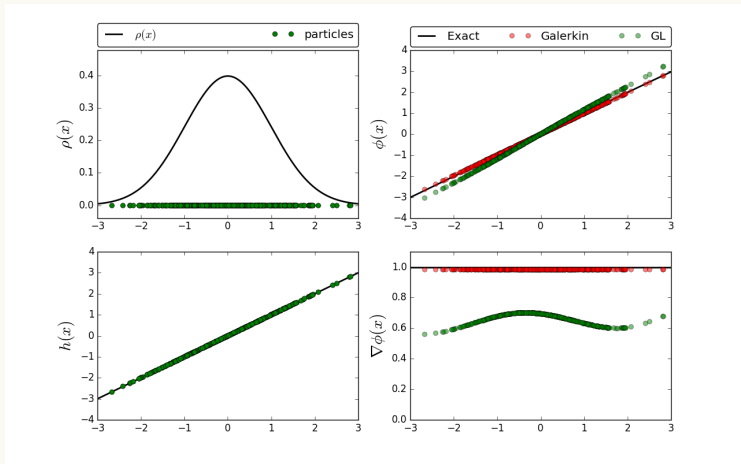
$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{1}{2\epsilon} (A(x_i \phi) - A(x_i)A(\phi))$$



# Numerics

## Graph Laplacian method

**Example I:**  $X \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,

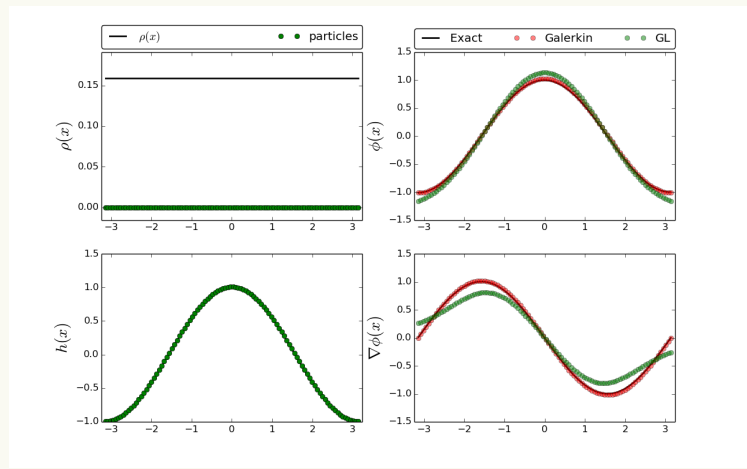




# Numerics

## Graph Laplacian method

**Example II:**  $X \sim \text{unif}[-\pi, \pi]$  and  $h(x) = \cos(x)$ ,

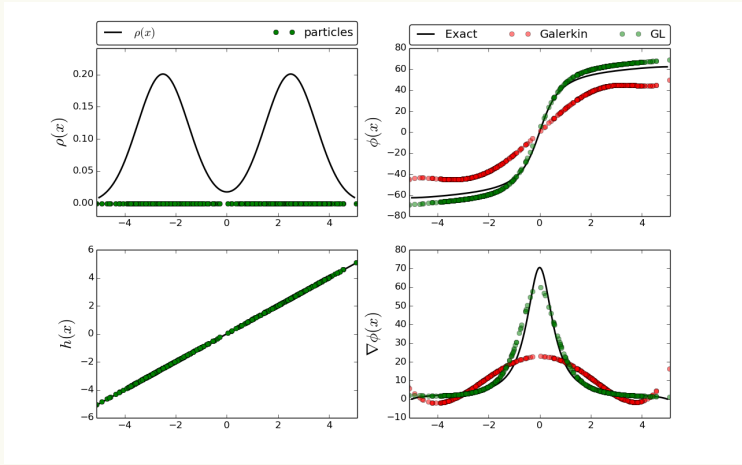




# Numerics

## Graph Laplacian method

**Example III:**  $X \sim N(-2.5, 1) + N(2.5, 1)$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,



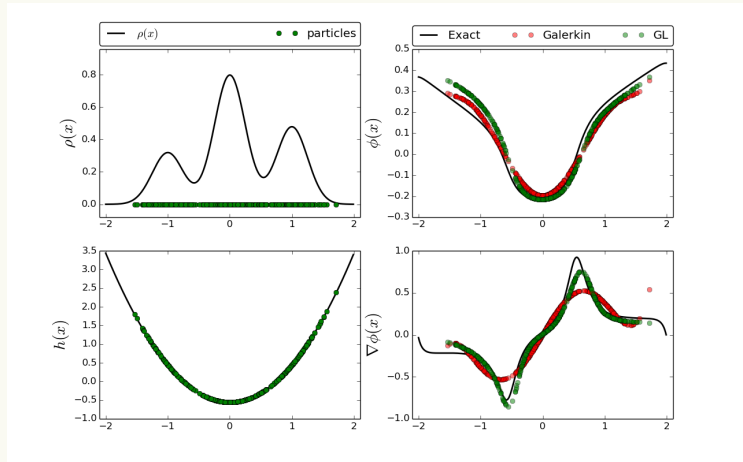




# Numerics

## Graph Laplacian method

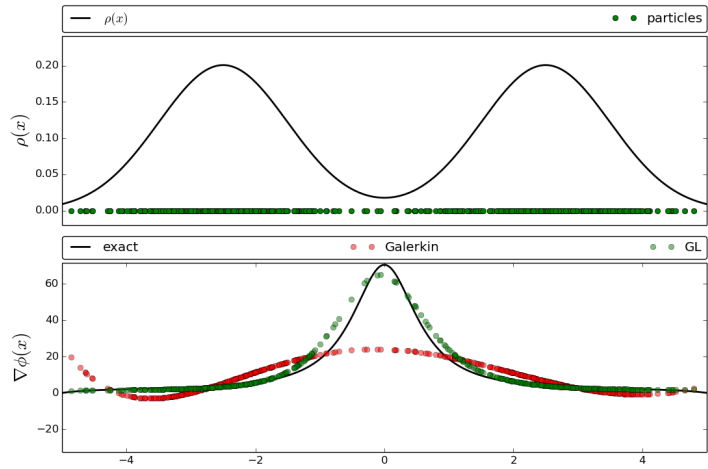
**Example IV:**  $X \sim \frac{2}{10}N(-1, \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{5}{10}N(0, \frac{1}{4}) + \frac{3}{10}N(1, \frac{1}{4})$  and  $h(x) = x$ ,





# Numerics

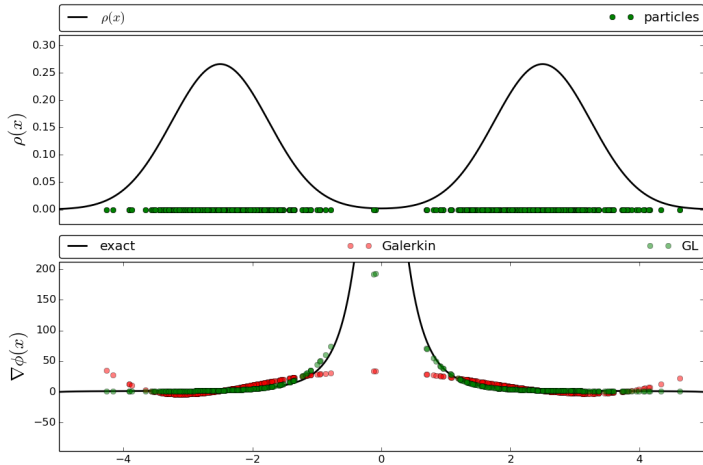
## Bimodal distribution, Varying Variance





# Numerics

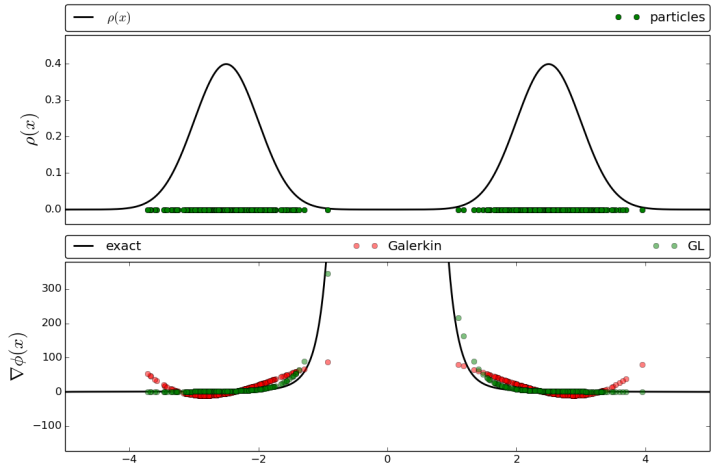
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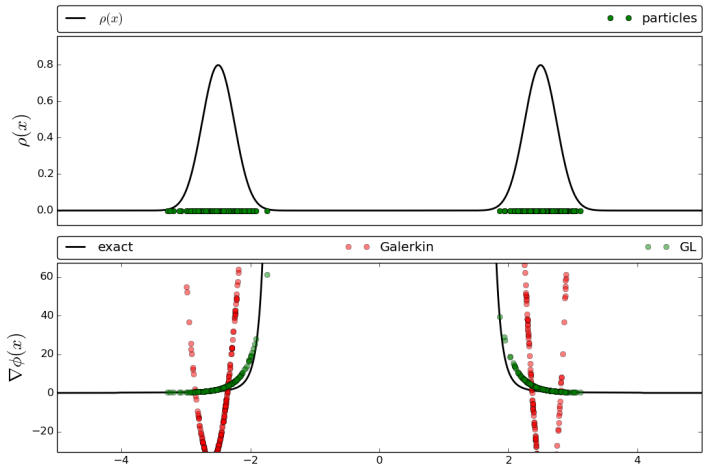
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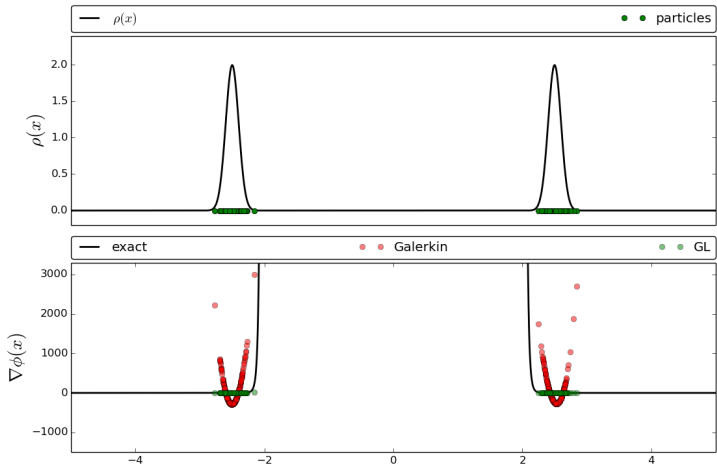
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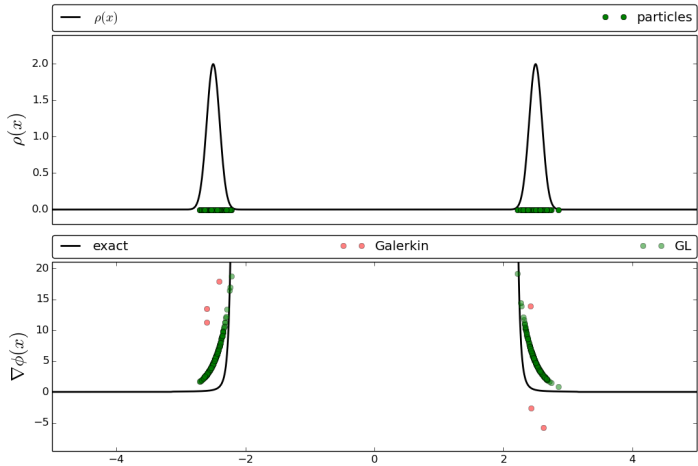
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# Numerics

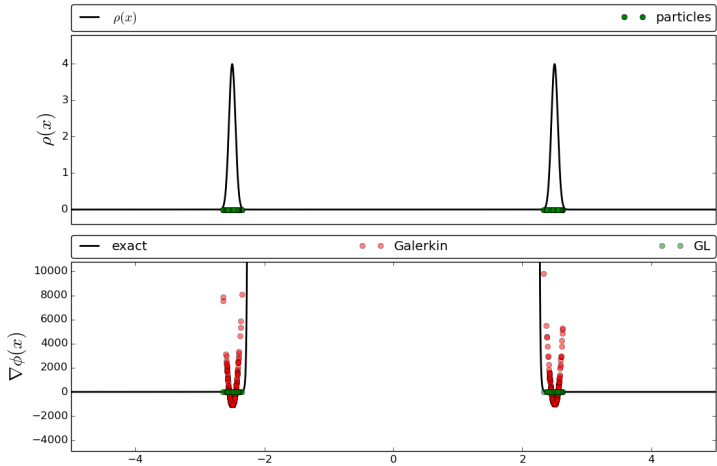
## Bimodal distribution, Varying Variance





# Numerics

## Bimodal distribution, Varying Variance

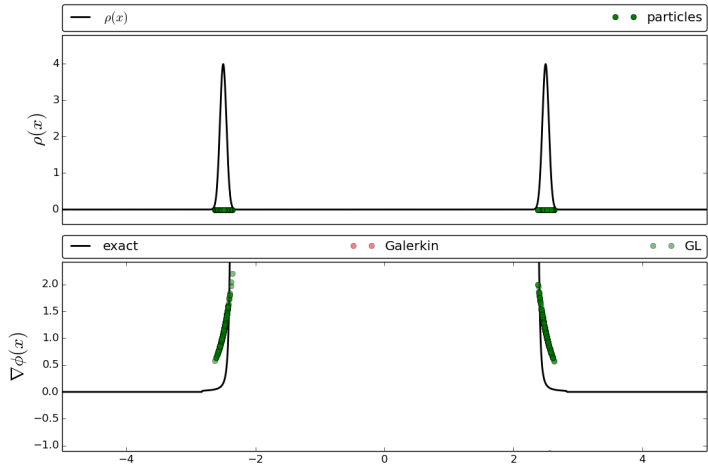






# Numerics

## Bimodal distribution, Varying Variance



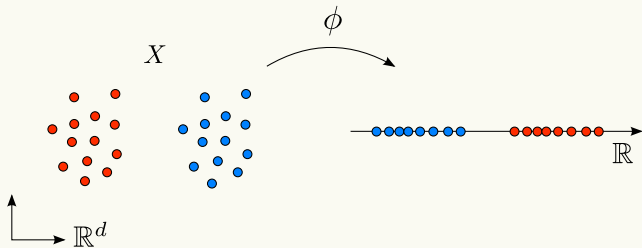


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# Classification Problem



**Feature vector:**  $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$

**Label:**  $Y \in \{-1, 1\}$

**Training data:**  $\{(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_N, Y_N)\}$

**Classifier:**  $\phi(x) = ?$



## Poisson Equation in Classification

**Optimization:** A classifier is obtained through optimization

$$\phi^{(N)} = \arg \min_{\phi \in \Phi^{(N)}} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi(X_i)|^2}_{\text{Complexity penalty}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \phi(X_i)(Y_i - \hat{Y})}_{\text{Linear loss}}$$

**In the limit as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ :**

$$\phi = \arg \min_{\phi \in \Phi} \left( \int \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2 \rho \, dx - \int \phi(h - \hat{h}) \rho \, dx \right)$$

where

- $\rho$  is the pdf generating data
- $h = E[Y|X]$  is the underlying labeling function

**First order optimality condition:**

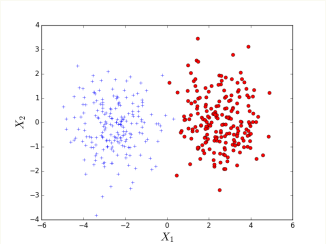
$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla \phi) = h - \hat{h},$$



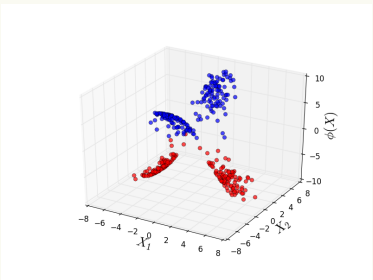
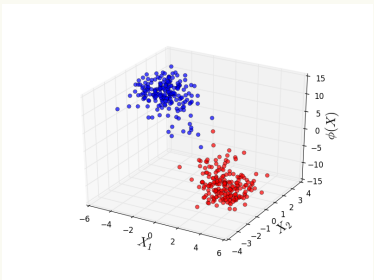
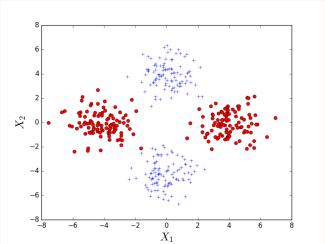
# Numerical Examples

## Poisson Equation in Classification

### Example I



### Example II

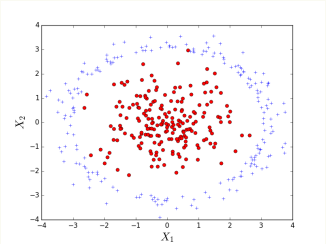




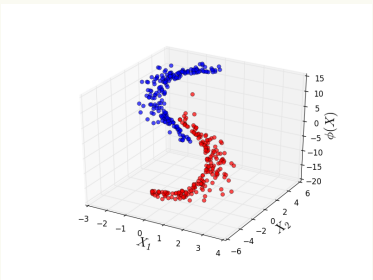
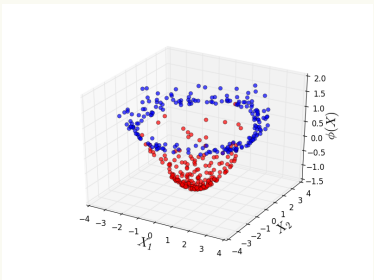
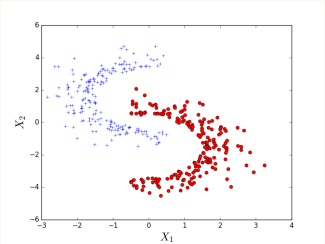
# Numerical Examples

## Poisson Equation in Classification

### Example III



### Example IV





Thank you!



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# Consistency result

## Kernels

- Heat kernel:

$$k_t(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} \exp\left(-\frac{|x - y|^2}{4t}\right)$$

$$K_\epsilon(\phi)(x) := \int k_\epsilon(x, y)\phi(y) \, dy = \phi(x) + \epsilon\Delta\phi(x) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

- Data dependent kernel:

$$W_\epsilon(x, y) = \frac{k_\epsilon(x, y)}{\sqrt{K_\epsilon(\rho)(x)}\sqrt{K_\epsilon(\rho)(y)}}$$

$$A_\epsilon(\phi)(x) := \frac{\int W_\epsilon(x, y)\phi(y)\rho(y) \, dy}{\int W_\epsilon(x, y)\rho(y) \, dy} = \phi(x) + \epsilon\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \cdot (\rho\nabla\phi)(x) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

### Proof idea:

$$\frac{\partial k_\epsilon}{\partial \epsilon} = \Delta k_\epsilon, \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} k_\epsilon = \delta$$