

# Predictions Based on Pixel Data

**TES Conference on Mathematical Optimization for Machine Learning**

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# Definition of the problem

**We have some data**

$$\{(U_i^0, \dots, U_i^M)\}_{i=1}^N$$

**We know there is a relation of the type**

$$U_i^{j+1} = \Psi(U_i^j) + \delta_i^{j+1} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

**We then want to approximate such map**

$$\mathcal{N}_\theta \approx \Psi$$

# Relevant questions

**Consider the parametric space of functions**

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \mathcal{N}_\theta : \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \theta \in \Theta \}$$

1. How well can we approximate the desired map with functions in this space?
2. Can we find the best approximator given the data we have available?

# Main questions

Consider the parametric space of functions

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \mathcal{N}_\theta : \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \theta \in \Theta \}$$

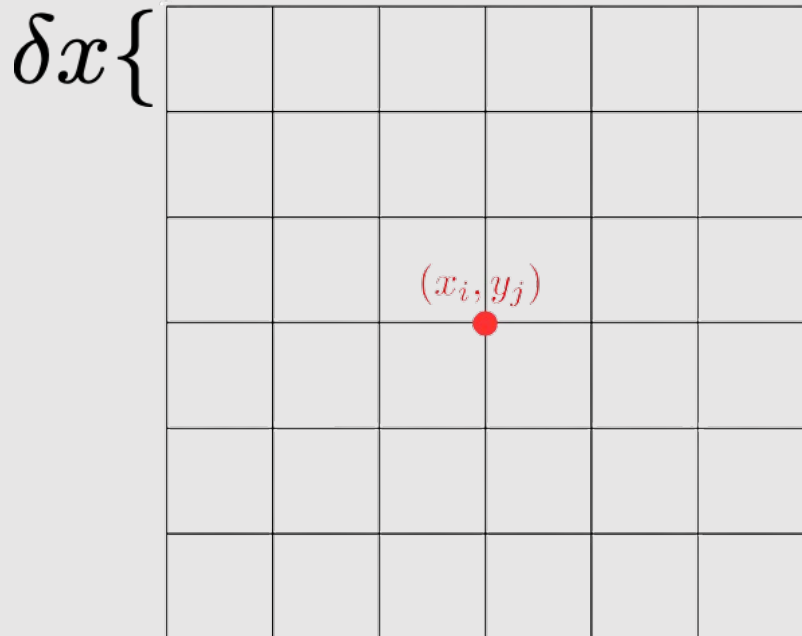
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# Particular case of interest

$$u = u(t, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \beta_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_{ij} \in \mathbb{N}^2$$

$$\partial_t u = \mathcal{L}u + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i (\partial_{\alpha_{i1}} u) (\partial_{\alpha_{i2}} u)$$



$$0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_M$$

$$(U^j)_{rs} = u(t_j, x_r, y_s)$$

$$x_r = r\delta x, \quad y_s = s\delta x.$$

# Method of lines

## Time dependent PDE

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## Semi-discretization in space with finite differences

$$\dot{U}(t) = L * U(t) + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i (D_{i1} * U(t)) \odot (D_{i2} * U(t)) := F(U(t))$$

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## Numerical discretization of the space-time dynamics

$$U_i^{j+1} = U_i^j + \delta t F(U_i^j) =: \Psi_F^{\delta t}(U_i^j)$$



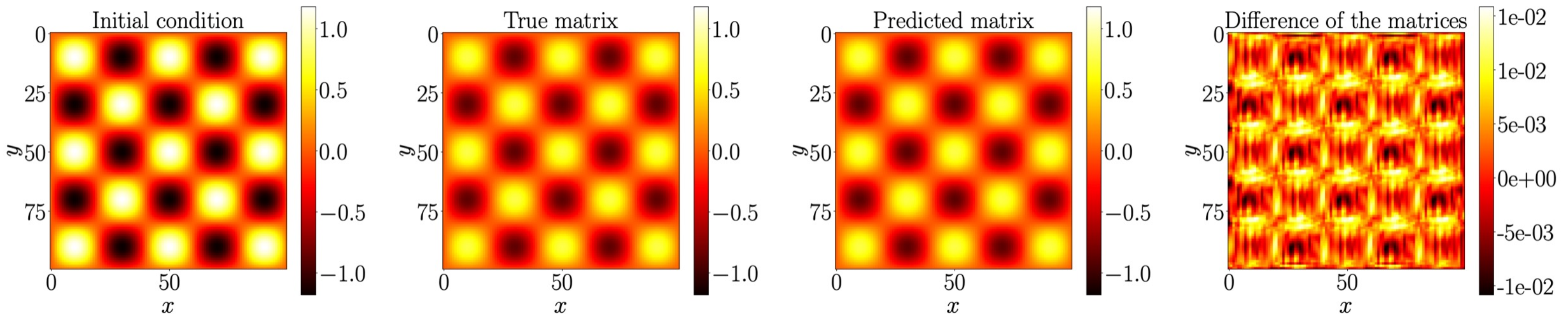
# Learning the solution map

**Data:**

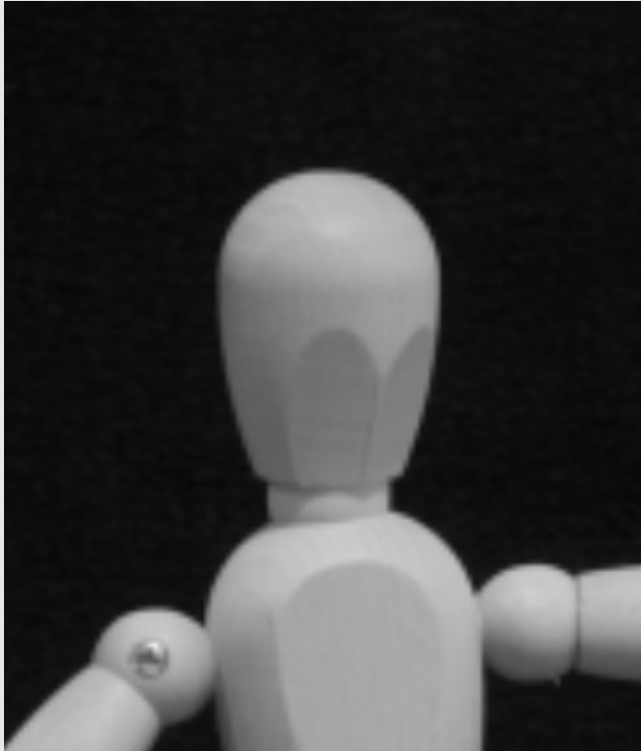
$$U_i^{j+1} = \Phi_F^{\delta t}(U_i^j) + \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2)$$

Fisher's Equation:

$$\partial_t u = \alpha \Delta u + u(1 - u)$$



# Finite differences as convolution



$$* \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} =$$

$\approx$

$-\partial_x$



# Space of functions

$$\begin{cases} \dot{V}(t) = F_{\theta}(V(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}, & \theta \in \Theta \\ V(0) = V_0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Phi_{F_{\theta}}^{\delta t}(V_0) = V(\delta t) = \Psi_{F_{\theta}}^{\delta t}(V_0) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1})$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \Psi_{F_{\theta}}^{\delta t} : \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} : \theta \in \Theta, F_{\theta} \text{ is a CNN} \}$$

Example : Explicit Euler gives a ResNet

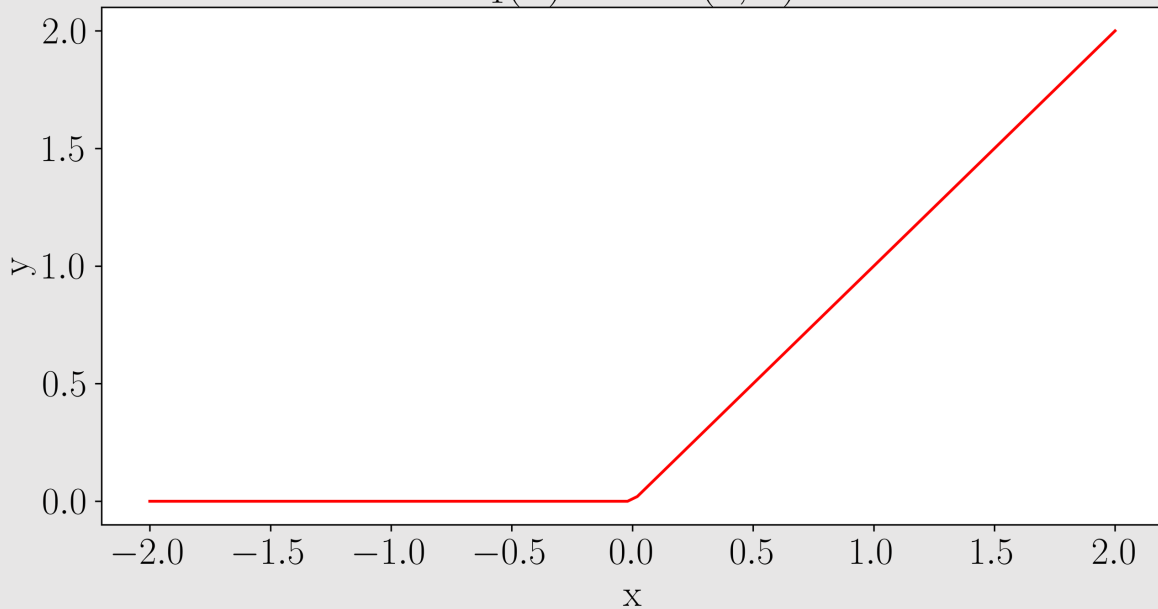
$$\Psi_{F_{\theta}}^{\delta t}(V) = V + \delta t F_{\theta}(V)$$

# Error splitting

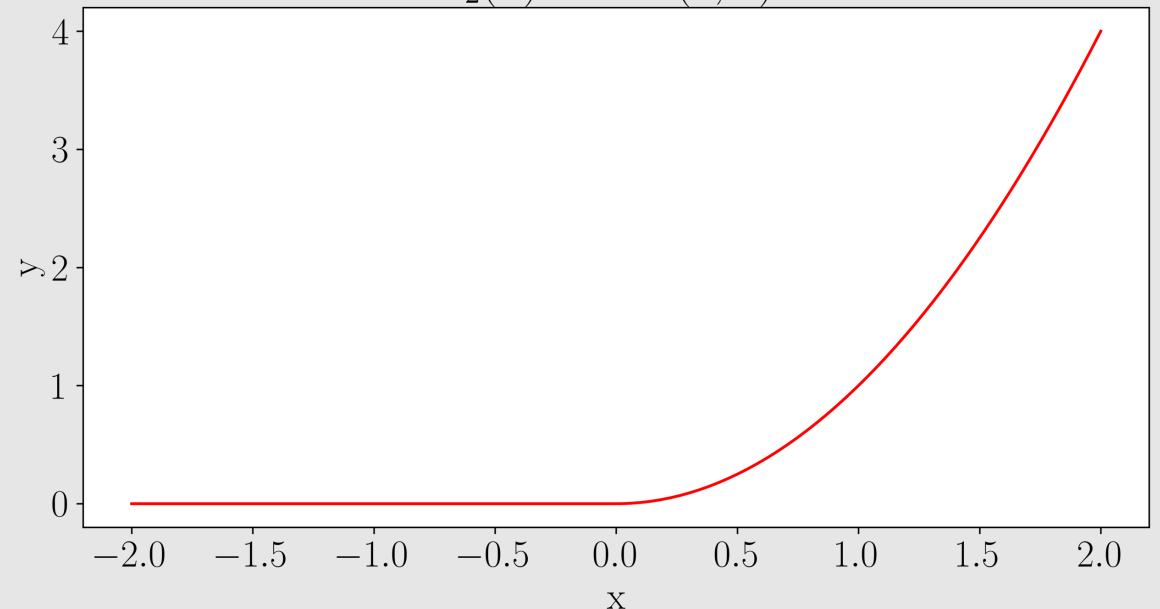
$$\begin{aligned} & \|U^{j+1} - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \\ &= \|\mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \Phi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \\ &\leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \|\Phi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Psi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) + \Psi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \\ &\leq \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(\delta x^2)}_{\text{spatial error}} + \underbrace{\|\Phi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Psi_F^{\delta t}(U^j)\|}_{\text{classical error estimate}} + \underbrace{\|\Psi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\|}_{\text{neural network approximation}} \\ &\leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1}) + \|\Phi_F^{\delta t}(U^j) - \Phi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \\ &\leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1}) + \delta t \exp(\text{Lip}(F)\delta t) \sup_{\|U\| \leq c} \|F_\theta(U) - F(U)\| \end{aligned}$$

# Useful activation functions

$$\sigma_1(x) = \max(0, x)$$



$$\sigma_2(x) = \max(0, x)^2$$



$$a = \sigma_1(a) - \sigma_1(-a)$$

$$2ab = (a + b)^2 - a^2 - b^2$$

$$= [\sigma_2(a + b) + \sigma_2(-(a + b))]$$

$$+ [\sigma_2(a) + \sigma_2(-a)] + [\sigma_2(b) + \sigma_2(-b)]$$

# Simplified setting

Example:

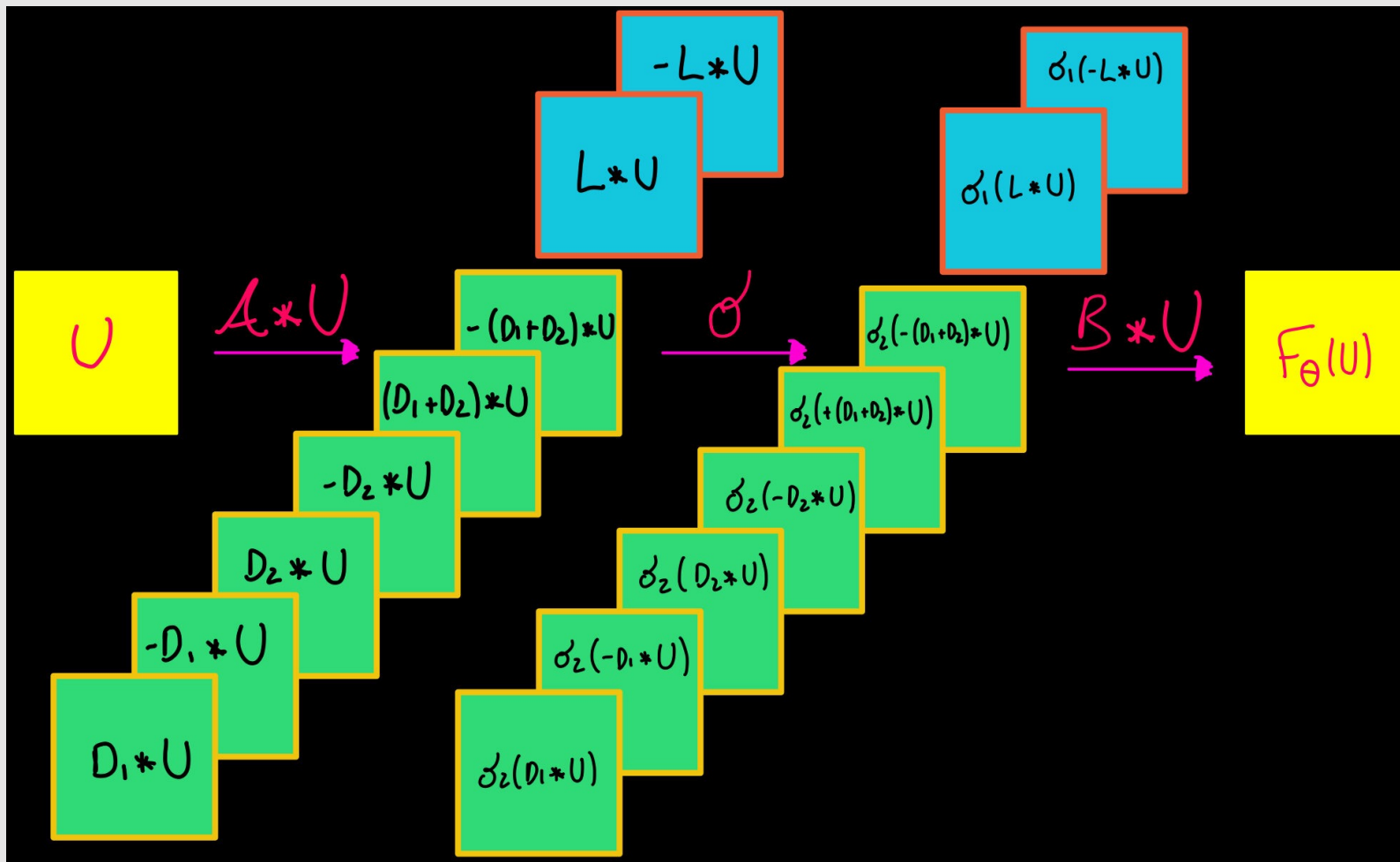
$$\partial_t u = \partial_x u + u \partial_y u$$

Semidiscretization:

$$F(U) = L * U + (D_1 * U) \odot (D_2 * U)$$

# Representation with CNN

$$F(U) = F_{\theta}(U) := \mathcal{B} * \sigma(\mathcal{A} * U)$$



# Approximation theorem

$$\begin{aligned} & \|U^{j+1} - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \\ & \leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1}) + \delta t \exp(\text{Lip}(F)\delta t) \sup_{\|U\| \leq c} \|F_\theta(U) - F(U)\| \end{aligned}$$



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There is a 2-layer CNN

$F_\theta$

making this  
quantity vanish

# Approximation theorem

$$\|U^{j+1} - \Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t}(U^j)\| \leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1})$$



$$\min_{\Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t} \in \mathcal{F}} \|\Psi_{F_\theta}^{\delta t} - \Phi_F^{\delta t}\| \leq \mathcal{O}(\delta x^2) + \mathcal{O}(\delta t^{r+1})$$

# Conclusion

1. How well can we approximate the desired map with functions in this space?

**If there is no noise, at least as well as with the method of lines and the correct right hand side**

2. Can we find the best approximator given the data we have available?

**Thank you for  
the attention**

Celledoni, E., Jackaman, J., M., D., & Owren, B., preprint (2023)  
Predictions Based on Pixel Data: Insights from PDEs and Finite Differences.