

A multi-level stochastic collocation method for Schrödinger equations with a random potential

Tobias Jahnke, Benny Stein

CRC Preprint 2022/19, March 2022

KARLSRUHE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CRC 1173



Participating universities



Universität Stuttgart

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Funded by

DFG

1 **A multi-level stochastic collocation method**
2 **for Schrödinger equations with a random potential***

3 Tobias Jahnke[†] and Benny Stein[†]
4

5 **Abstract.** We propose and analyze a numerical method for time-dependent linear Schrödinger equations with
6 uncertain parameters in both the potential and the initial data. The random parameters are dis-
7 cretized by stochastic collocation on a sparse grid, and the sample solutions in the nodes are ap-
8 proximated with the Strang splitting method. The computational work is reduced by a multi-level
9 strategy, i.e. by combining information obtained from sample solutions computed on different re-
10 finement levels of the discretization. We prove new error bounds for the time discretization which
11 take the finite regularity in the stochastic variable into account, and which are crucial to obtain
12 convergence of the multi-level approach. The predicted cost savings of the multi-level stochastic
13 collocation method are verified by numerical examples.

14 **Key words.** Uncertainty quantification, splitting methods, Strang splitting, Schrödinger equation, sparse grids,
15 stochastic collocation method, multi-level method

16 **AMS subject classifications.** 65M12, 65M15, 65M70, 65D05, 65C20, 35Q41

17 **1. Introduction.** In recent years the influence of uncertain parameters on the behaviour
18 and the simulation of partial differential equations (PDEs) has received increasing attention.
19 A central goal of *uncertainty quantification* is to understand these influences in any PDE oc-
20 ccurring in real-life phenomena. An important example is the *time-dependent linear Schrödinger*
21 *equation* which describes the evolution of the wave function of a quantum-mechanical system.
22 The wave function is the key to compute observables such as, e.g., positions and momenta, or
23 the probability to find the system in a given subset of the state space. Since solving the full
24 molecular Schrödinger equation is typically impossible, the classical approach is to use the
25 Born-Oppenheimer approximation to separate the slow motion of the heavy nuclei from the
26 fast dynamics of the electrons. This leads to a lower-dimensional Schrödinger equation for the
27 nuclei on an electronic energy surface; cf. [19, II.2.]. The potential of the reduced equation,
28 however, is obtained by a number of approximations and simplifications, and is thus affected
29 by a significant degree of uncertainty. Additional uncertainties arise from the fact that the
30 initial state of the system can only be measured with limited accuracy. A reliable numerical
31 treatment of these uncertainties in numerical simulations is desirable and necessary.

32 From all non-intrusive methods for uncertainty quantification, the arguably most studied
33 classes are *stochastic collocation methods* and *Monte Carlo type methods* – at least from the
34 numerical analyst’s point of view. Both of these classes rely on sample solutions obtained
35 from solving the same deterministic PDE with different values of the parameters. From
36 these sample solutions one may derive, e.g., expectations, variances, higher-order moments

*Submitted to the editors DATE.

Funding: Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) – Project-ID 258734477 – SFB 1173

[†]Institute for Applied and Numerical Mathematics, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Karlsruhe (Germany) (tobias.jahnke@kit.edu, benny.stein@kit.edu).

37 or other statistical quantities of the solution. In the case of stochastic collocation methods,
38 one may even obtain a surrogate for the unknown solution itself via a generalised polynomial
39 chaos approximation or interpolation. Non-intrusive methods have the advantage that any
40 suitable traditional numerical method can be used to solve the deterministic PDEs, and that
41 parallelization is trivial because the sample solutions are uncoupled. Stochastic collocation
42 schemes are discussed, e.g., in [2, 22, 20, 28]. One of the most important extensions of the
43 standard Monte Carlo approach are Multi-Level Monte Carlo methods [7, 6, 8]. These methods
44 use information obtained from sample solutions computed on different refinement levels of the
45 discretization, which decreases the computational work significantly under certain conditions.
46 For stochastic collocation methods such a multi-level procedure has been introduced and
47 developed in [25, 26, 12]. In these references it was shown that multi-level stochastic collocation
48 (MLSC) methods need much lower computational costs than standard collocation methods if
49 a high accuracy is desired and the regularity of the solution with respect to the parameters is
50 rather low. The method we propose in this work is closely related to [25].

51 The multi-index stochastic collocation approach from [10, 9] is perhaps the most important
52 extension of MLSC. This approach computes an estimator based on mixed difference operators
53 in all individual spatiotemporal and stochastic dimensions. This is more general than in the
54 MLSC method described here, where the refinement in the stochastic dimensions is determined
55 by a single parameter (and the temporal discretisation, too). By solving a simplified knapsack
56 problem, a quasi optimal multi-index set for the difference operators is selected based on profits
57 computed from a priori work and error bounds. Another extension of MLSC is presented in
58 [17], where the approach from [25] was extended in such a way that the adaptive (spatial)
59 mesh refinement is allowed to vary with the samples. This allows an optimization of the
60 computational work in each stochastic collocation point which was shown to be superior
61 to strategies which are only adaptive in the spatial or stochastic discretisation, but ignore
62 properties of individual samples.

63 Many stochastic and deterministic PDEs or ODEs can be decomposed into two or more
64 parts which can be solved numerically with significantly lower computational costs than the en-
65 tire problem. Splitting methods exploit this property and provide a family of time-integrators
66 which are both efficient and easy to implement. The accuracy, stability, and the geometric
67 properties of splitting methods have been thoroughly analyzed in a large number of papers;
68 examples in the context of the linear Schrödinger equation are, e.g., [1, 5, 11, 14, 18, 19, 21]
69 and references therein. Applying splitting methods to PDEs with uncertain parameters is
70 straightforward if a non-intrusive method is chosen to deal with the randomness. Moreover,
71 error bounds for the full discretization are readily obtained by combining the available error
72 bounds for splitting methods and for the space discretization with the known convergence
73 results for non-intrusive methods. This is *not* true for multi-level stochastic collocation meth-
74 ods, because here convergence of the method used for computing the sample solutions does *not*
75 imply convergence of the multi-level approximation. To obtain convergence of the multi-level
76 method, certain conditions must be fulfilled, which are required to combine the information
77 computed on different levels. These conditions involve a stronger norm with respect to the
78 random parameters, and for splitting methods and other time-integrators, these conditions
79 cannot be verified with standard results from the literature.

80 *Goals and results.* We propose and analyze a multi-level stochastic collocation method
 81 on sparse grids for time-dependent linear Schrödinger equations with an uncertain potential
 82 and uncertain initial data. We assume that the dimension of the state space is moderate,
 83 but that the parameter set which models the uncertainty can be high-dimensional. The
 84 sample solutions at the nodes of the sparse grid are computed with time discretization by
 85 the Strang splitting method. This yields a method which is efficient and easy to implement.
 86 The focus of our work, however, is on the convergence analysis. We prove new error bounds
 87 for the time discretization, which are the cornerstone to verify conditions for convergence
 88 of the multi-level stochastic collocation method. The main challenge is the fact that the
 89 linear Schrödinger equation is neither elliptic nor parabolic, such that typical solutions *have*
 90 *only finite regularity*. Our work is the first convergence analysis for a multi-level stochastic
 91 collocation method with time discretization by a splitting method. Splitting methods within
 92 the framework of stochastic *Galerkin* methods – which are not the subject of our paper – have
 93 been analyzed, e.g., in [16, 27, 4].

94 *Structure of this paper.* In Section 2 the problem setting is introduced. The Strang splitting
 95 method and stochastic collocation methods on sparse grids are reviewed in Subsections 3.1 and
 96 3.2, respectively. In Subsection 3.3 we explain how the techniques can be combined to obtain a
 97 single-level method. This approach is then extended to a multi-level version in Subsection 4.1.
 98 In particular, conditions for convergence of the multi-level stochastic collocation method are
 99 formulated; cf. Assumptions 2 and 3. In Subsection 4.2 we present our main result (Theorem 3)
 100 and show that the conditions for convergence can be verified with this theorem. Since the
 101 proof is rather long and technical, it is postponed to Section 7. The efficiency of the method
 102 is discussed in Section 5 and the computational savings are confirmed by numerical examples
 103 in Section 6.

104 **2. Linear Schrödinger equations with random data.** We consider the parametric linear
 105 Schrödinger equation

$$106 \quad (2.1a) \quad \partial_t u(t, x, y) = i\Delta u(t, x, y) + iV(x, y)u(t, x, y), \quad t \in [0, T], \quad x \in \mathbb{T}^D, \quad y \in \Gamma,$$

$$107 \quad (2.1b) \quad u(0, x, y) = u_0(x, y), \quad x \in \mathbb{T}^D, \quad y \in \Gamma,$$

109 with solution $u: [0, T] \times \mathbb{T}^D \times \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, where T is the length of the time interval, $\mathbb{T}^D = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^D$
 110 denotes the D -dimensional torus, Γ is some compact parameter set and $V(\cdot, y) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D)$ is
 111 a bounded real-valued potential. With no loss of generality we assume that $\Gamma = [-1, 1]^d$. The
 112 solution $u = u(t, x, y)$ depends on the temporal variable t , the spatial variable x , and on a
 113 parameter vector y which accounts for uncertainty in the potential V and the initial data u_0 .
 114 These uncertainties are caused, e.g., by modelling or measurement errors.

115 The focus of this paper is on the t - and y -discretizations, whereas no discretization in
 116 x is made. The space discretization of (2.1) can be carried out with standard methods,
 117 which is briefly addressed in the context of the numerical experiments in Section 6. Most
 118 of the time, the spatial variable x will be hidden in our notation: instead of denoting the
 119 solution by $u = u(t, x, y)$, we consider $u(t, y) : x \mapsto u(t, x, y)$ as an element in the Hilbert
 120 space $X = L^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$. With this convention, (2.1) can be formulated as a parameter-dependent

121 abstract Cauchy problem

$$122 \quad (2.2a) \quad \partial_t u(t, y) = i\Delta u(t, y) + iV(y)u(t, y), \quad t \in [0, T], \quad y \in \Gamma,$$

$$123 \quad (2.2b) \quad u(0, y) = u_0(y), \quad y \in \Gamma,$$

125 with solution $u: [0, T] \times \Gamma \rightarrow X$. The operator

$$126 \quad H(y_\star) = \Delta + V(y_\star): H^2(\mathbb{T}^D) \rightarrow X$$

128 is self-adjoint for every $y_\star \in \Gamma$ by the Kato-Rellich theorem [15, Chapter V.4.1, Theorem 4.3].
 129 Hence, $iH(y_\star)$ generates a strongly continuous unitary group $(e^{itH(y_\star)})_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ by Stone's theorem
 130 [24, Chapter 1.10, Theorem 10.8], which means that for every y_\star , (2.2) has a unique solution
 131 $u(t, y_\star) = e^{itH(y_\star)}u_0(y_\star)$ with constant norm. Throughout we assume that $\|u_0(y)\|_X = 1$ for
 132 all y , such that $\|u(t, y)\|_X = 1$ for all t and all y .

133 The following assumption on the parameter space is made henceforth.

134 **Assumption 1.** *The variable $y \in \Gamma$ corresponds to a realization of a random variable $Y \sim$*
 135 *$\mathcal{U}(-1, 1)^d$ with uniform probability density $\varrho(y) = \frac{1}{2^d}$.*

136 This assumption is made in order to use a particular error estimate for the sparse grid inter-
 137 polation which is given in Subsection 3.2. Our results could also be adapted to other choices
 138 of Γ and ϱ . In particular, every bounded probability density $\hat{\varrho}$ on $\Gamma = [-1, 1]^d$ can be handled,
 139 since it defines a weaker norm. If $\hat{\varrho}$ is also bounded from below, then the induced norms are
 140 even equivalent. Problems with, e.g., different probability measures and different abscissas in
 141 each direction could also be treated. The requirement that Γ is compact, however, is essential.

142 3. Discretization of time and of the parameter set.

143 **3.1. Time discretization with the Strang splitting method.** In this subsection we con-
 144 sider (2.2) without uncertainty or, equivalently, for a *fixed* vector $y = y_\star \in \Gamma$. In this case,
 145 a very popular and widely used method to approximate the solution is the Strang splitting
 146 method

$$147 \quad (3.1) \quad \tilde{u}_n(y_\star) = \Phi_\tau(y_\star)\tilde{u}_{n-1}(y_\star) := e^{i\tau V(y_\star)/2}e^{i\tau\Delta}e^{i\tau V(y_\star)/2}\tilde{u}_{n-1}(y_\star), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

148 which successively computes approximations $\tilde{u}_n(y_\star) \approx u(t_n, y_\star)$ at times $t_n = n\tau$ with a given
 149 step-size $\tau > 0$; see, e.g., [1, 5, 11, 14, 18, 19, 21] and references therein. Note that $\tilde{u}_n(y_\star) =$
 150 $\Phi_\tau^n(y_\star)u_0(y_\star)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with the notation $\Phi_\tau^0(y_\star) = \text{Id}$ and $\Phi_\tau^n(y_\star) = \Phi_\tau(y_\star)(\Phi_\tau(y_\star))^{n-1}$.
 151 The Strang splitting is a time-reversible second-order method with a unitary numerical flow.
 152 This method is particularly efficient when combined with a pseudo-spectral method for space
 153 discretization, because then $e^{i\tau\Delta}$ can be computed by means of the Fast Fourier transform;
 154 see, e.g., Section II.1.3 in [19].

155 The accuracy of the Strang splitting was analyzed, e.g., in [19, III.3.2] and in a more
 156 general setting in [14, Section 2-3]. In these references, the following error bounds are shown.
 157 Here and below, the commutator of two operators A and B is denoted by $[A, B] = AB - BA$,
 158 and $\|\cdot\|_X$ is the usual norm of $X = L^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$.

159 **Theorem 1.** *Let $y = y_\star \in \Gamma$ be fixed and let $u(t, y_\star) = e^{itH(y_\star)}u_0(y_\star)$ be the exact solution*
 160 *of (2.2).*

(i) If $V(y_\star) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D)$ and if the commutator bound

$$(3.2) \quad \|[V(y_\star), \Delta]w\|_X \leq C\|w\|_{H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)},$$

holds for all $w \in H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)$, then there is a constant C_1 such that

$$(3.3) \quad \|e^{i\tau H(y_\star)}w - \Phi_\tau w\|_X \leq C_1\tau^2\|w\|_{H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)}$$

for every $w \in H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)$. If in addition $u_0(y_\star) \in H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)$, then there is a constant C_2 such that

$$(3.4) \quad \|u(t_n, y_\star) - \Phi_\tau^n u_0(y_\star)\|_X \leq C_2 t_n \tau \max_{s \in [0, T]} \|u(s, y_\star)\|_{H^1(\mathbb{T}^D)}.$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $t_n = n\tau \in [0, T]$. The constants C_1 and C_2 depend on $\|V(y_\star)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D)}$ and on C from (3.2), but not on τ .

(ii) Suppose that the assumptions from part (i) hold. If the commutator bound

$$(3.5) \quad \|[[V(y_\star), \Delta], \Delta]w\|_X \leq C\|w\|_{H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)},$$

holds for all $w \in H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$, then there is a constant C_1 such that

$$(3.6) \quad \|e^{i\tau H(y_\star)}w - \Phi_\tau w\|_X \leq C_1\tau^3\|w\|_{H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)},$$

for every $w \in H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$. If in addition $u_0(y_\star) \in H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$, then there is a constant C_2 such that

$$(3.7) \quad \|u(t_n, y_\star) - \Phi_\tau^n u_0(y_\star)\|_X \leq C_2 t_n \tau^2 \max_{s \in [0, T]} \|u(s, y_\star)\|_{H^2(\mathbb{T}^D)}.$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $t_n = n\tau \in [0, T]$. The constants C_1 and C_2 depend on $\|V(y_\star)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D)}$ and on the constants in the commutator bounds (3.2) and (3.5), but not on τ .

The inequalities (3.3) and (3.6) are bounds for the *local* error, i.e. for the error after only one time-step. The *global* error after many time-steps is estimated in (3.4) and (3.7). The convergence rate in part (ii) is higher: (3.7) yields second order convergence with respect to τ , whereas (3.4) yields only convergence with order one. On the other hand, the assumptions in part (ii) are stronger.

Remark 1. The commutator bounds are related to the spatial regularity of the potential $V(y_\star)$. If $V(y_\star) \in W^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D)$, then the commutator

$$\begin{aligned} [\Delta, V(y_\star)]w &= (\Delta V(y_\star))w + 2\nabla V(y_\star) \cdot \nabla w + V(y_\star)\Delta w - V(y_\star)\Delta w \\ &= (\Delta V(y_\star))w + 2\nabla V(y_\star) \cdot \nabla w \end{aligned}$$

is only a first-order differential operator – it involves second-order derivatives of $V(y_\star)$, but only first-order derivatives of the function w to which the commutator is applied. Hence, the commutator bound (3.2) holds with a constant which depends on $\|V(y_\star)\|_{W^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D)}$. In a similar way, it can be checked by a tedious but straightforward calculation that the double commutator $[[\Delta, V(y_\star)], \Delta]$ is only a second-order differential operator if $V(y_\star) \in W^{4,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D)$, because the fourth-order derivatives cancel; cf. [19, page 99]. As a consequence, the commutator bound (3.5) holds with a constant which depends on $\|V(y_\star)\|_{W^{4,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D)}$.

200 **3.2. Sparse grid discretization of the parameter set.** The Strang splitting allows us to
 201 compute accurate approximations $\Phi_\tau^n u_0(y_\star) \approx e^{it_n H(y_\star)} u_0(y_\star)$ to the solution of (2.2) for every
 202 single $y_\star \in \Gamma$. However, this is not enough, since our goal is to approximate $y \mapsto u(t_n, y)$ for
 203 all values of y *simultaneously*. The principle of stochastic collocation is to compute $\Phi_\tau^n u_0(y_i) \approx$
 204 $u(t_n, y_i)$ for finitely many vectors $y_1, \dots, y_\eta \in \Gamma$, and then to use these values to construct
 205 an interpolant. But since the dimension d of the parameter space $\Gamma = [-1, 1]^d$ is typically
 206 not small, one has to choose the collocation points y_1, \dots, y_η carefully to avoid the *curse*
 207 *of dimension*, i.e. the effect that for a fixed accuracy the number of nodes η has to grow
 208 exponentially in d . We use sparse grids to choose y_1, \dots, y_η in order to alleviate the curse of
 209 dimension to a certain extent.

210 The following description of the interpolation process follows the presentation in [23,
 211 Sec. 2.1]. Let $\mathbb{P}_{m_i}(X) = \mathbb{P}_{m_i} \otimes X$, where \mathbb{P}_{m_i} is the space of univariate polynomials on
 212 $[-1, 1]$ with complex coefficients and degree not larger than m_i . For any index $i \in \mathbb{N}$, let
 213 $y_1^i, \dots, y_{m_i}^i \in [-1, 1]$ be a set of abscissas and let

$$214 \quad (3.8) \quad Q_i: C([-1, 1], X) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{m_i}(X), \quad Q_i w(y) = \sum_{j=1}^{m_i} w(y_j^i) \ell_j^i(y),$$

215 be the corresponding interpolation operator. Here, ℓ_j^i , $j = 1, \dots, m_i$, are the Lagrange poly-
 216 nomials corresponding to the abscissas $y_1^i, \dots, y_{m_i}^i$. The index i determines the accuracy of
 217 the interpolation, while m_i is the corresponding number of nodes actually used by Q_i . The
 218 mapping $i \mapsto m_i$ is called growth rule.

219 In the multivariate setting the full tensor product interpolation formula corresponding to
 220 a multi-index $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_d) \in \mathbb{N}^d$ is given by

$$221 \quad Q_{\mathbf{i}} w = (Q_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes Q_{i_d}) w = \sum_{j_1=1}^{m_{i_1}} \dots \sum_{j_d=1}^{m_{i_d}} w(y_{j_1}^{i_1}, \dots, y_{j_d}^{i_d}) (\ell_{j_1}^{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \ell_{j_d}^{i_d})$$

222 for $w \in C([-1, 1]^d, X)$. Clearly, $m_{i_1} m_{i_2} \dots m_{i_d}$ function evaluations of w are necessary to com-
 223 pute $Q_{\mathbf{i}} w$. The sparse grid interpolation with level parameter ℓ is now defined via Smolyak's
 224 formula

$$225 \quad (3.9) \quad \mathcal{A}(\ell, d) w = \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathcal{I}_\ell} (-1)^{\ell+d-|\mathbf{i}|} \binom{d-1}{\ell+d-|\mathbf{i}|} Q_{\mathbf{i}} w, \quad w \in C([-1, 1]^d, X),$$

226 where $\mathcal{I}_\ell = \{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{N}^d \mid \ell+1 \leq |\mathbf{i}| \leq \ell+d\}$. The nodes of the sparse grid are all points where w
 227 is evaluated, i.e.

$$228 \quad \left\{ (y_{j_1}^{i_1}, \dots, y_{j_d}^{i_d}) : \mathbf{i} \in \mathcal{I}_\ell, j_k \in \{1, \dots, m_{i_k}\}, k \in \{1, \dots, d\} \right\}$$

230 More points and hence more accurate approximations are obtained with a larger value of ℓ .
 231 The notation $\mathcal{A}(\ell, d)$ is often used in the literature, but in the following sections, $\mathcal{A}(\ell, d)$ will
 232 be denoted by \mathcal{Q}_ℓ (without indicating the dimension) in order to express its relation to the

233 one-dimensional constituents Q_{j_i} . The number of points needed to evaluate $\mathcal{Q}_\ell w = \mathcal{A}(\ell, d)w$
 234 is denoted by η_ℓ .

235 Now the collocation points y_1, \dots, y_η of the stochastic collocation method are simply
 236 chosen to be the nodes (3.2) of a sparse grid with a suitable enumeration. These nodes,
 237 however, depend on the abscissas y_j^i , which can be chosen in several ways. We decide for the
 238 Clenshaw-Curtis abscissas

$$239 \quad (3.10) \quad y_j^i = -\cos\left(\frac{\pi(j-1)}{m_i-1}\right), \quad j = 1, \dots, m_i,$$

240 for $i > 1$ and $y_j^1 = 0$ with the usual weights, and with growth rule

$$241 \quad (3.11) \quad m_1 = 1, \quad m_i = 2^{i-1} + 1, \quad i > 1.$$

242 This choice implies that the abscissas for Q_i are a subset of the abscissas for Q_{i+1} and hence the
 243 corresponding grids are *nested*. In [3, Prop. 6], it was shown that the corresponding sparse grid
 244 interpolation operator $\mathcal{Q}_\ell = \mathcal{A}(\ell, d)$ is actually interpolatory whenever the one-dimensional
 245 interpolation grids are nested, which is not clear from the definition (3.9) itself.

246 For $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ we consider spaces of continuously differentiable functions given by

$$247 \quad C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X) = \left\{ w: \Gamma \rightarrow X \mid \partial_y^{\mathbf{j}} w \in C(\Gamma, X), \mathbf{j} = (j_1, \dots, j_d) \in \mathbb{N}_0^d, |\mathbf{j}|_\infty \leq k \right\}$$

248 with norm

$$250 \quad \|w\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} = \max_{|\mathbf{j}|_\infty \leq k} \|\partial_y^{\mathbf{j}} w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}, \quad \|w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} = \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \|w(y)\|_X.$$

252 These spaces are typically used to establish error bounds for interpolation on sparse grids, see
 253 e.g. [3] and [23]. Note that $C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)$ is larger than the classical function space $C^k(\Gamma, X)$,
 254 which is defined with $|\mathbf{j}|_1 \leq k$ instead of $|\mathbf{j}|_\infty \leq k$. Let I denote the identity operator. For
 255 $w \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)$ with $k \in \mathbb{N}$, Eq. (3.28) in [23] yields the bound

$$256 \quad \|(I - \mathcal{Q}_\ell)w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \frac{C}{|C(1+2^k) - 1|} (C(1+2^k))^d (\ell+1)^{2d} 2^{-k\ell} \|w\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

$$257 \quad (3.12) \quad \leq C(k, d) (\ell+1)^{2d} 2^{-k\ell} \|w\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}.$$

259 One may also obtain a version of (3.12) where accuracy is expressed in terms of the number
 260 of nodes $\eta = \eta_\ell$ in the sparse grid. In [3], the estimate

$$261 \quad (3.13) \quad \|(I - \mathcal{Q}_\ell)w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C(k, d) \eta^{-k} (\log(\eta))^{(k+2)(d-1)+1} \|w\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

262 was given. Slightly better (but more complicated) estimates were stated in [23, Sec. 3.1.1].

263 **3.3. Single-level stochastic collocation method.** The sparse grid discretization of Γ can
 264 now be combined with the time discretization from 3.1. This yields the following stochastic
 265 collocation method.

266 1. Choose a level parameter $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$, $\eta = \eta_\ell$ and compute the nodes $y_1, \dots, y_\eta \in \Gamma$ of the
 267 associated sparse grid. Choose $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and set the step-size to $\tau = T/N$.

268 2. For every $j = 1, \dots, \eta$ and every $n = 1, \dots, N$ compute approximations

$$269 \quad \tilde{u}_n(y_j) = \Phi_\tau^n(y_j)u_0(y_j) \approx u(t_n, y_j)$$

271 with the Strang splitting.

272 3. For every $n = 1, \dots, N$ compute the interpolation polynomial $\mathcal{Q}_\ell \Phi_\tau^n u_0$ of the data
273 $(y_j, \tilde{u}_n(y_j))$, $j = 1, \dots, \eta$. This yields an approximation to $y \mapsto u(t_n, y)$.

274 The step-size $\tau = T/N$ determines the accuracy of the temporal approximations, whereas
275 the accuracy of the y -approximations depends on the level parameter ℓ from the previous
276 subsection.

277 **4. Multi-level stochastic collocation with Strang splitting.** The single-level stochastic
278 collocation method can be used to approximate $y \mapsto u(t_n, y)$ at every time point t_n . In
279 situations where a very accurate approximation is sought-after or where the regularity in y is
280 low such that a very fine sparse grid is required, the efficiency can be improved considerably
281 by multi-level stochastic collocation methods – at least if certain conditions are met. Such
282 methods have been proposed and analyzed in [25, 26, 12]. For more recent works containing
283 remarkable extensions of the approach consider [10, 9, 17].

284 In the next subsection, we briefly outline how to construct such a multi-level method for
285 (2.2). We closely follow the presentation in [25], where an elliptic problem was considered.

286 **4.1. The multi-level method and conditions for convergence.** In the previous section,
287 the sparse grid interpolation operator on level ℓ was denoted by \mathcal{Q}_ℓ , and the number of nodes
288 by η_ℓ . Because of (3.13), however, we will henceforth index the interpolation operator by the
289 number of points of the sparse grid, i.e. we use the notation \mathcal{Q}_{η_ℓ} instead of \mathcal{Q}_ℓ . Moreover, we
290 pretend that \mathcal{Q}_η could be defined for *arbitrary* $\eta \in \mathbb{N}$, although this is actually only true if η
291 is the number of nodes of a sparse grid.

292 Assume for simplicity that only an approximation at the final time T is supposed to be
293 computed; approximations at several times are discussed in Remark 2 below. Given a set of
294 collocation points $y_1, \dots, y_\eta \in \Gamma$ and a number $N \in \mathbb{N}$, the numerical solution at $T = t_N = N\tau$
295 computed with step-size $\tau = T/N$ is denoted by

$$296 \quad u_{\eta, \tau}^{(\text{SL})} = \mathcal{Q}_\eta \Phi_\tau^N u_0.$$

298 The upper index “(SL)” stands for single-level, referring to the fact that only a single point set
299 $\{y_q : q = 1, \dots, \eta\}$ and a single step-size τ are used to compute $u_{\eta, \tau}^{(\text{SL})}$. In contrast, multi-level
300 collocation is based on computations with several different step-sizes and point sets.

301 Choose $N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, set $\tau_0 = T/N_0$, and $\tau_j = 2^{-j}\tau_0$ for $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$, such that $(\tau_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is a
302 decreasing sequence of step-sizes. Each of these step-sizes induces a numerical flow Φ_{τ_j} and a
303 number of time-steps $N_j = 2^j N_0$ to reach the final time $T = \tau_j N_j$. For simplicity, the notation

$$304 \quad u_{\tau_j} = \Phi_{\tau_j}^{N_j} u_0 \approx u(T, \cdot)$$

306 is used henceforth. As $u_0 = u_0(y)$, $u(T, y)$ and $\Phi_\tau = \Phi_\tau(y)$ depend on y , the approximations
307 $u_{\eta, \tau}^{(\text{SL})} = u_{\eta, \tau}^{(\text{SL})}(y)$ and $u_{\tau_j} = u_{\tau_j}(y)$ are functions in y as well, but the argument “(y)” will often
308 be omitted to improve readability.

309 **Assumption 2.** Suppose that there exists constants $\alpha, C_T > 0$ such that

$$310 \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\tau_j}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_T \tau_j^\alpha$$

312 for all $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

313 Let $(\eta_\ell)_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ be an increasing (but not necessarily strictly increasing) sequence of integers,
314 and let \mathcal{Q}_{η_ℓ} be an interpolation operator based on η_ℓ nodes. According to (3.13) we expect that
315 $\mathcal{Q}_{\eta_{\ell+1}}$ is more accurate than \mathcal{Q}_{η_ℓ} if $\eta_{\ell+1} > \eta_\ell$. On the other hand, the cost of one evaluation of
316 \mathcal{Q}_{η_ℓ} is proportional to η_ℓ . The following assumption is very similar to the assumptions made
317 in [25].

318 **Assumption 3.** There exist constants $C_I, C_*, \beta, \mu > 0$ and an index $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that the
319 following holds:

$$320 \quad (4.1a) \quad \|v - \mathcal{Q}_{\eta_\ell} v\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_I \eta_\ell^{-\mu} \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \quad \text{for all } v \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X),$$

$$321 \quad (4.1b) \quad u_{\tau_j} = \Phi_{\tau_j}^{N_j} u_0 \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X) \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

$$322 \quad (4.1c) \quad \|u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_* \tau_0^\beta \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

$$323 \quad (4.1d) \quad \|u_{\tau_{j+1}} - u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_* \tau_{j+1}^\beta \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

325 After these preparations we are in a position to formulate the multi-level stochastic collocation (MLSC) method. We set $u_{\tau_{-1}} = 0$ and start with the telescoping sum

$$327 \quad (4.2) \quad u_{\tau_J} = \sum_{j=0}^J (u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}}), \quad u_{\tau_j} = \Phi_{\tau_j}^{N_j} u_0.$$

328 In practice, only an interpolation of each u_{τ_j} can be computed, not u_{τ_j} itself. The most obvious
329 approach would be to interpolate every difference under the sum with the same interpolation
330 operator. In order to reach a given accuracy, however, it is much more efficient to balance the
331 two errors caused by time-integration and interpolation in a near-optimal way. If j increases,
332 then (4.1d) implies that the difference $u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}}$ decreases and can thus be interpolated with
333 a coarser (but cheaper) interpolation operator. Conversely, a more accurate interpolation has
334 to be used for the summands with small j , but for those terms, the time-integration is less
335 costly. This suggests to define the multi-level approximation $u_J^{(\text{ML})}$ by

$$336 \quad (4.3) \quad u_J^{(\text{ML})} = \sum_{j=0}^J \mathcal{Q}_{\eta_{J-j}} [u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}}] = \sum_{j=0}^J \left(u_{\eta_{J-j}, \tau_j}^{(\text{SL})} - u_{\eta_{J-j}, \tau_{j-1}}^{(\text{SL})} \right).$$

337 Next, the sequence $(\eta_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ has to be specified. Applying the triangle inequality to the
338 global error yields

$$339 \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\tau_J}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} + \|u_{\tau_J} - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} = \text{(I)} + \text{(II)}.$$

340 We show that for a suitable choice of $(\eta_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0}$, the error components (I) and (II) converge at
341 the same rate, which implies convergence of the multi-level approximation.

342 The term (I) = $\|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\tau_J}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ is the error of the time discretization with the
 343 splitting method. By Assumption 2 there are parameters $\alpha, C_T > 0$ independent of τ_J such
 344 that (I) $\leq C_T \tau_J^\alpha$. From (4.2) and Assumption 3, we may estimate the stochastic collocation
 345 error as

$$346 \quad \text{(II)} \leq \sum_{j=0}^J \|(u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}}) - \mathcal{Q}_{\eta_{J-j}}(u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}})\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \sum_{j=0}^J C_I C_\star \eta_{J-j}^{-\mu} \tau_j^\beta.$$

348 Choosing a sequence $(\eta_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ with

$$349 \quad (4.4) \quad \eta_{J-j}^{-\mu} \leq C_T ((J+1) C_I C_\star)^{-1} \tau_J^\alpha \tau_j^{-\beta}$$

350 yields (II) $\leq C_T \tau_J^\alpha$, such that the error contribution from (II) and (I) is basically the same.
 351 It follows that

$$352 \quad (4.5) \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq 2C_T \tau_J^\alpha,$$

354 which means that the multi-level approximation converges as $J \rightarrow \infty$. However, the conver-
 355 gence relies on the somewhat abstract Assumptions 2 and 3. The next step is to verify these
 356 assumptions for the Strang splitting applied to (2.2).

357 **Remark 2.** *In exactly the same way approximations at the times $\tau_0, 2\tau_0, 3\tau_0, \dots, N_0\tau_0 = T$*
 358 *could be computed. However, the efficiency of the multi-level method comes from the fact that*
 359 *some approximations are made with a rather large step-size $\tau_j \leq \tau_0$. If N_0 is rather large*
 360 *and thus even the maximal step-size $\tau_0 = T/N$ is rather small, then the efficiency is typically*
 361 *reduced.*

362 **4.2. Verification of the conditions for convergence.** Theorem 1 yields the pointwise
 363 error bound

$$364 \quad (4.6) \quad \|u(T, y_\star) - u_{\tau_j}(y_\star)\|_X = \|u(T, y_\star) - \Phi_{\tau_j}^{N_j} u_0(y_\star)\|_X \leq C \tau_j^\alpha$$

366 for every single y_\star with $\alpha = 1$ or $\alpha = 2$, depending on the spatial regularity of the initial data
 367 and the potential. Extending this result to an error bound in $\|\cdot\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ is straightforward if
 368 the regularity assumptions in Theorem 1 hold uniformly in y , which will be shown below.

369 For functions $v: \Gamma \rightarrow X$ which admit a holomorphic extension to a complex polyellipse it
 370 can be shown that $\|v - \mathcal{Q}_{\eta_\ell} v\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \mathcal{O}(\eta_\ell^{-\mu})$, but for functions of finite regularity, as in our
 371 case, the error estimate (3.13) contains a logarithmic factor $\log(\eta_\ell)^E$ with $E = (k+2)(d-1)+1$.
 372 To the best of our knowledge, it is not really possible to include this factor into the construction
 373 of the multi-level method and into the analysis in Section 5.1. To get around this problem
 374 one can simply use that $\log(\eta_\ell)^E \leq C \eta_\ell$ for a constant C which depends on k and d , but not
 375 on η_ℓ . Hence, the estimate (4.1a) in Assumption 3 holds with $\mu = k - 1$. Of course, the loss
 376 of one order of convergence is often way too pessimistic.

377 The main challenge is to prove that the remaining parts of Assumption 3 are true. Accord-
 378 ing to (4.1b) it has to be shown that the numerical solution has a certain degree of smoothness
 379 with respect to y . In order to confirm (4.1d) the difference between two approximations with

380 different step-sizes has to be bounded in the stronger norm. Such a result cannot be deduced
 381 from the classical pointwise error bound (4.6). The larger k , the faster is the convergence of
 382 the sparse grid interpolation in (4.1a) (since we can choose $\mu = k - 1$), but the stronger are
 383 the conditions (4.1b), (4.1c), and (4.1d).

384 Our main result is Theorem 3 below. It implies in particular that Assumptions 2 and 3
 385 hold if the initial data and the potential are sufficiently regular. The corresponding conditions
 386 are now formulated in detail.

387 **Assumption 4.** Let $u_0 \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

388 **Assumption 5.** Let $V \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, W^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D))$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

389 Assumption 5 means that

$$390 \quad (4.7) \quad \|\partial_x^{\mathbf{r}} \partial_y^{\mathbf{m}} V\|_{C(\Gamma, L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D))} \leq C, \quad |\mathbf{r}|_1 \leq s, \quad |\mathbf{m}|_\infty \leq k.$$

392 holds for $s = 2$. Replacing $V(y_\star)$ in Remark 1 by $\partial_y^{\mathbf{m}} V(y)$ and using that partial derivatives
 393 with respect to x and y are independent shows that (4.7) implies the commutator bound

$$394 \quad (4.8) \quad \|[\partial_y^{\mathbf{m}} V, \Delta]w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C\|w\|_{C(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))}, \quad |\mathbf{m}|_\infty \leq k$$

396 for all $w \in C(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))$. Assumption 4 and the commutator bound (4.8) are generalizations
 397 of the assumptions made in part (i) of Theorem 1. We will show that this is sufficient to verify
 398 (4.1c) and (4.1d) in Assumption 3 for $\beta = 1$. In order to obtain $\beta = 2$ in (4.1c) and (4.1d),
 399 more regularity is required, i.e. Assumption 5 has to be replaced by the following one.

400 **Assumption 6.** Let $V \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, W^{4,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^D))$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

401 Assumption 6 implies Assumption 5 and, as in Remark 1, the commutator bound

$$402 \quad (4.9) \quad \|[[\partial_y^{\mathbf{m}} V, \Delta], \Delta]w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C\|w\|_{C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}, \quad |\mathbf{m}|_\infty \leq k$$

404 for all $w \in C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))$, which is a generalization of (3.5).

405 Assumption 4, 5, and 6 can be easily checked in practice, because these assumptions
 406 concern the *given* initial data and the *given* potential. In contrast, the abstract conditions
 407 (4.1b), (4.1c), and (4.1d) refer to the numerical solution, which is not known *a priori*.

408 **Theorem 2.** Suppose that Assumption 4 and Assumption 5 hold for some $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Then,
 409 the classical solution of the initial value problem (2.2) has the regularity

$$410 \quad u \in C^1([0, T], C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)) \cap C([0, T], C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))).$$

412 The proof of Theorem 2 is based on classical techniques from semigroup theory and can be
 413 found in the supplementary material, Section SM1. A consequence of Theorem 2 is that

$$414 \quad (4.10) \quad M_k^{(s)} = \max_{t \in [0, T]} \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^s(\mathbb{T}^D))}$$

415 is well-defined for $s \in \{1, 2\}$.

417 We are now ready to state our main results. The proofs are quite long and therefore
 418 postponed to later sections.

419 **Theorem 3.** Let $0 < \tau \leq 1$ and set $t_n = n\tau$. Let $H(y) = \Delta + V(y)$ such that the exact
420 solution of (2.2) is $u(t, y) = e^{itH(y)}u_0(y)$.

421 (i) If Assumption 4 and Assumption 5 are true with the same $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, then $\Phi_\tau^n u_0 \in$
422 $C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)$ for all n . Moreover, there is a constant C such that

$$423 \quad \|u(t_n, \cdot) - \Phi_\tau^n u_0\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq CM_k^{(1)}\tau \quad \text{for} \quad t_n = n\tau \in [0, T]$$

425 with $M_k^{(1)}$ defined by (4.10). The constant C depends on T and on the constants in
426 (4.8) and (4.7) with $s = 2$.

427 (ii) If, in addition, Assumption 6 is true with the same $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, then there is a constant
428 C such that

$$429 \quad \|u(t_n, \cdot) - \Phi_\tau^n u_0\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq CM_k^{(2)}\tau^2 \quad \text{for} \quad t_n = n\tau \in [0, T]$$

431 with $M_k^{(2)}$ defined by (4.10). The constant C depends on T and on the constants in
432 (4.9) and (4.7) with $s = 4$.

433 The proof of Theorem 3 is given in Section 7. Choosing $k = 0$ shows that Assumption 2 holds
434 with $\alpha = \beta = 1$ in case (i) and $\alpha = \beta = 2$ in case (ii).

435 **Verification of (4.1b), (4.1c), and (4.1d).** Applying Theorem 3 with $n = N_j$, $\tau = \tau_j =$
436 T/N_j and $t_n = T$ verifies (4.1b) and yields the bound

$$437 \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq CM_k^{(\beta)}\tau_j^\beta$$

439 with $\beta = 1$ in case (i) and $\beta = 2$ in case (ii). With $\tau_{j+1}^\beta + \tau_j^\beta = (1 + 2^\beta)\tau_{j+1}^\beta$ it follows that

$$440 \quad \|u_{\tau_{j+1}} - u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq \|u_{\tau_{j+1}} - u(T, \cdot)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} + \|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

$$441 \quad \leq CM_k^{(\beta)}(1 + 2^\beta)\tau_{j+1}^\beta$$

443 such that (4.1d) is true. Moreover, the estimate

$$444 \quad \|u_{\tau_j}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq \|u_{\tau_j} - u(T, \cdot)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} + \|u(T, \cdot)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq \left(CM_k^{(\beta)} + \frac{M_k^{(0)}}{\tau_0^\beta} \right) \tau_0^\beta$$

446 shows that (4.1c) holds for a sufficiently large C_* .

447 5. Efficiency of the multi-level approximation.

448 **5.1. Computational costs for a given accuracy.** Here we consider the computational cost
449 required to achieve a desired accuracy ε with the MLSC method. This analysis relies on the
450 convergence rates from Assumptions 2 and 3.

451 In the rest of this section we use the following notation: It holds $a \lesssim b$ if and only if $a \leq Cb$
452 for some constant C which is independent of the step-size τ , the number of interpolation points
453 η , the level j , and the accuracy ε . Similarly, we have $a \approx b$ if and only if $a = Cb$ for some
454 constant C with the same properties.

455 Let C_j denote the cost of ‘‘evaluating’’ $u_{\tau_j} - u_{\tau_{j-1}}$ at a sample y . Since the number of
456 time steps of the splitting method is $N_j = T/\tau_j$, it is natural to assume the following.

457 **Assumption 7.** $C_j \lesssim \tau_j^{-1}$.

458 The *total computational cost* of the MLSC approximation (4.3) is defined as

$$459 \quad (5.1) \quad C^{(\text{ML})} = \sum_{j=0}^J \eta_{J-j} C_j.$$

460 The following result quantifies the cost which is needed to achieve an accuracy of ε with the
461 MLSC method.

462 **Theorem 4.** *Suppose that Assumption 4 – 7 hold and assume that $\alpha \geq \min\{\beta, \mu\}$. Then,*
463 *for given $\varepsilon < e^{-1}$, there exists $J \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and a sequence $(\eta_j)_{j=0}^J$ of real numbers such that*

$$464 \quad (5.2) \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \varepsilon$$

465 *and simultaneously*

$$466 \quad C_\varepsilon^{(\text{ML})} \lesssim \begin{cases} \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu}}, & \mu < \beta, \\ \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu}} |\log(\varepsilon)|^{1+\frac{1}{\mu}}, & \mu = \beta, \\ \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{\mu-\beta}{\alpha\mu}}, & \mu > \beta. \end{cases}$$

467 The sequence $(\eta_j)_{j=0}^J$ is explicitly given by

$$470 \quad (5.3) \quad \eta_{J-j} = (2C_I C_\star \max\{\tau_0^\beta, 1\} \mathcal{S}(J))^{1/\mu} \varepsilon^{-1/\mu} 2^{-j(\beta+1)/(\mu+1)}, \quad j = 0, \dots, J,$$

471 where

$$472 \quad \mathcal{S}(J) = \sum_{j=0}^J 2^{-j(\beta-\mu)/(\mu+1)}.$$

473 *Proof.* The proof is the same as in [25, Thm. 4.2]. ■

474 In Subsection 4.2 we have seen that Theorem 3 yields $\alpha = \beta = 1$ (under Assumption 4 and
475 5) or $\alpha = \beta = 2$ (under Assumption 4 and 6). In both cases the requirement $\alpha \geq \min\{\beta, \mu\}$
476 is satisfied. For $\alpha = \beta = 2$, Theorem 4 implies that $\|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \varepsilon$ holds with

$$477 \quad C_\varepsilon^{(\text{ML})} \lesssim \begin{cases} \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu}}, & \mu < 2, \\ \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} |\log(\varepsilon)|^{\frac{3}{2}}, & \mu = 2, \\ \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}}, & \mu > 2. \end{cases}$$

478 The optimal choice for η_{J-j} gives in general only a real number, not an integer. In
479 practice, however, the interpolation operators \mathcal{Q}_m are only available for certain integer levels
480 ℓ corresponding to $m = m_\ell$, the number of interpolation points on that level. To determine
481 a practicable family $(\tilde{\eta}_j)_{j=0}^J$ as a replacement for $(\eta_j)_{j=0}^J$, one could simply choose the next
482 integer $\tilde{\eta}_j = m_{\ell(j)}$ for which an interpolation operator (and hence an associated sparse grid)
483 is available, i.e.

$$484 \quad (5.4) \quad \tilde{\eta}_j = \min\{m_\ell : \ell \in \mathbb{N}, \eta_j \leq m_\ell\}, \quad j = 0, \dots, J.$$

488 This choice may not lead precisely to the cost estimate from Theorem 4, but in practice one
 489 often observes that the cost behaves nearly as predicted. However, one should be aware of the
 490 fact that the sequence $(m_\ell)_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}}$ usually grows exponentially in case of nested point sequences,
 491 see e.g. (3.11) for the growth rule which is usually applied with Clenshaw-Curtis points. Hence,
 492 $\tilde{\eta}_j$ might be up to twice as large as η_j in some cases, which could be crucial if the stochastic
 493 dimensions d is large, or if very accurate solutions (and hence large values of η_J) are required.
 494 In such cases, the simple choice (5.4) could severely influence the cost behaviour of the MLSC
 495 method. This is the main reason why other strategies to determine $(\tilde{\eta}_j)_{j=0}^J$ are discussed in
 496 [25, Rem. 6.1, 6.3]. In our numerical experiments, we will also use the strategy described as
 497 “up/down” in their article.

498 In some applications the goal is not to approximate the wave function u itself, but rather
 499 a quantity of interest. Typical quantities of interest in case of a single particle are its *position*

$$500 \quad (5.5) \quad P: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D, \quad u \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{T}^D} x |u(x)|^2 dx,$$

502 or the probability that the particle is located in a set $S \subset \mathbb{T}^D$,

$$503 \quad (5.6) \quad M_S: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad u \mapsto \int_S |u(x)|^2 dx.$$

505 For continuously Fréchet differentiable observables $\chi(u)$ of the wave function u , the rate of
 506 convergence is at least as good as for the wave function itself, and Theorem 4 is true if
 507 $\|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ is replaced by the corresponding expected error in the quantity of
 508 interest. We omit the details.

509 **5.2. Comparison with single level collocation methods.** Under the assumptions of The-
 510 orem 4, the error of the single-level collocation method can be bounded by

$$511 \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_{\eta_*, \tau_*}^{(\text{SL})}\| \leq C_T \tau_*^\alpha + C_I \|u_{\tau_*}\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \eta_*^{-\mu}$$

512 for any admissible $\eta_* \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\tau_* > 0$. To make both contributions equal to $\varepsilon/2$ (or ε , since
 513 we ignore constants anyway), one can choose $\tau_* \approx \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$ and $\eta_* \approx \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu}}$. The computational cost
 514 to achieve the total error ε is then bounded by

$$515 \quad (5.7) \quad C_\varepsilon^{(\text{SL})} \approx \frac{\eta_*}{\tau_*} \approx \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{1}{\alpha}}.$$

516 To compare this with Theorem 4, we consider the quotient $C_\varepsilon^{(\text{ML})}/C_\varepsilon^{(\text{SL})}$ which indicates
 517 the *cost reduction* of the multi-level approach compared to the single-level approach. By
 518 Theorem 4 and (5.7), we have

$$519 \quad (5.8) \quad \frac{C_\varepsilon^{(\text{ML})}}{C_\varepsilon^{(\text{SL})}} \approx \begin{cases} \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}, & \mu < \beta, \\ \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} |\log(\varepsilon)|^{1+\frac{1}{\mu}}, & \mu = \beta, \\ \varepsilon^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha\mu}}, & \mu > \beta. \end{cases}$$

520 Note that only the decay rate in ε and μ is meaningful in the above discussion of the cost
521 savings, because constants which appear in $C_\varepsilon^{(ML)}$ and $C_\varepsilon^{(SL)}$ have been ignored.

522 For $\alpha = \beta = 2$ we observe that the cost reductions are $\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} = \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}$ for low regularity ($\mu < 2$),
523 $\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} |\log(\varepsilon)|^{3/2}$ for $\mu = 2$ and $\varepsilon^{\frac{\beta}{\alpha\mu}} = \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{\mu}}$ for higher regularity ($\mu > 2$). Clearly, the savings are
524 most noticeable if the regularity μ of the solution is rather low (and hence generally more levels
525 are required) and the tolerance is small. Figure 1 below gives a picture of this situation (dark
526 blue is best, yellow means “no savings”). Note that (5.8) considered as a function in μ and ε
527 has a discontinuity at $\mu = \beta = 2$ due to the logarithmic term. Since this case corresponds to
528 a null set, however, we have plotted (5.8) only for $\mu > 2$ and $\mu < 2$ for better visibility.

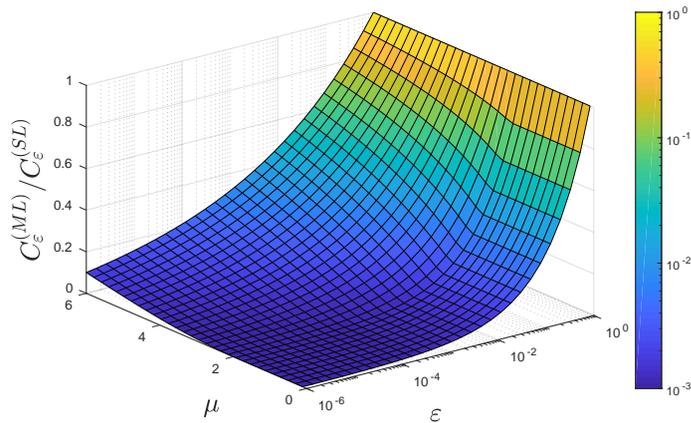


Figure 1. Cost reduction (5.8) of the multi-level approach

529 **6. Numerical experiments.** For the following numerical tests we consider the equation

$$530 \quad (6.1a) \quad \partial_t u(t, x, y) = \frac{i}{2} \partial_x^2 u(t, x, y) + iV(x, y)u(t, x, y), \quad t \in [0, T], \quad x \in \mathbb{T}, \quad y \in \Gamma,$$

$$531 \quad (6.1b) \quad u(0, x, y) = u_0(x, y), \quad x \in \mathbb{T}, \quad y \in \Gamma.$$

533 Recall that the random variables Y_1, \dots, Y_d which correspond to the parameters y_1, \dots, y_d are
534 uniformly distributed on $[-1, 1]$ by Assumption 1.

535 In order to study the convergence of the MLSC method we compare the final approxi-
536 mation at time T with a reference solution $u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot, \cdot)$. Now we explain how such a reference
537 solution may be obtained. In order to simplify the corresponding formulas, the factor $1/2$ in
538 front of the second derivative was introduced in (6.1a). This factor was missing in (2.1) but
539 does not affect the preceding analysis substantially.

540 *Reference solution.* If we replace the torus \mathbb{T} by \mathbb{R} and assume that the potential is a
541 polynomial of degree 2 with representation

$$542 \quad (6.2) \quad V(x, y) = -\nu(y)(x - \kappa(y))^2 - \gamma(y),$$

544 then a family of solutions to the linear Schrödinger equation is given by parametrized Gaus-
545 sians

$$546 \quad (6.3a) \quad u(t, x, y) = \exp(w(t, x, y))$$

$$547 \quad (6.3b) \quad \text{with} \quad w(t, x, y) = \frac{i}{2}C(t, y)(x - q(t, y))^2 + ip(t, y)(x - q(t, y)) + i\xi(t, y),$$

549 cf. [19, Sec. II.4.1]. The functions $p(t, y), q(t, y) \in \mathbb{R}$ and $C(t, y), \xi(t, y) \in \mathbb{C}$ are related via
550 the four ODEs

$$551 \quad (6.4a) \quad \partial_t q(t, y) = p(t, y),$$

$$552 \quad (6.4b) \quad \partial_t p(t, y) = -2\nu(y)(q(t, y) - \kappa(y)),$$

$$553 \quad (6.4c) \quad \partial_t \xi(t, y) = \frac{iC(t, y)}{2} + \frac{1}{2}p(t, y)^2 - \nu(y)(q(t, y) - \kappa(y))^2 - \gamma(y),$$

$$554 \quad (6.4d) \quad \partial_t C(t, y) = -C(t, y)^2 - 2\nu(y),$$

556 supplied with initial values. If the imaginary part of $C(t, y)$ is strictly positive for $t = 0$,
557 then this is the case for all t , such that $|u(t, \cdot, y)|$ is a real Gaussian. However, neither the
558 potential (6.2) nor the solution (6.3) are periodic in space, and thus this construction does
559 not seem to be compatible with the PDE (6.1) on the torus. But the complex Gaussian (6.3)
560 decays exponentially, and as long as it is almost zero outside the interval $[-L, L]$ for all t
561 and y , the error caused by imposing periodic boundary conditions at $\pm L$ is negligible; cf. [19,
562 p. 75]. Hence, (6.3) provides highly accurate solutions to the Schrödinger equation on the
563 torus if the interval $[-L, L]$ is sufficiently large. For the same reason, one can expect that the
564 error bounds from Theorem 3 remain true although the underlying assumptions are, strictly
565 speaking, not met.

566 In order to obtain a reference solution to (6.1)–(6.2) with initial data $u_0(x, y) = \exp(w(0, x, y))$,
567 $N_{\text{ref}} = 10.000$ (pseudo-)random vectors $y^1, \dots, y^{N_{\text{ref}}} \in \Gamma$ were drawn from the joint distribu-
568 tion of $Y \sim \mathcal{U}((-1, 1)^d)$. For each y^j the ODE system (6.4) was solved with a Dormand-Prince
569 method with relative error tolerance set to 10^{-10} . This approach was chosen in order to keep
570 the reference solution independent of the concepts used for the MLSC method (splitting, sparse
571 grids, collocation). Since we focus on the error induced by discretizing the parameter set Γ
572 and time, however, we have used the same space discretization for the reference solution and
573 for the MLSC method, namely Fourier collocation with $M = 2^{10}$ grid points. Computations
574 were made on the time interval $[0, 1]$ and the spatial domain $[-3\pi, 3\pi]$ with periodic boundary
575 conditions. All errors were computed at the endpoint $t = T = 1$ of the time interval.

576 *Two-dimensional example.* As a first test, we chose the following parametrization in $d = 2$
577 dimensions. For $y = (y_1, y_2) \in \Gamma$ the potential (6.2) with

$$578 \quad \nu(y) = 1 + \frac{\delta}{3}(y_1 + 2y_2), \quad \kappa(y) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}(y_1 + y_2) \right), \quad \gamma(y) = 1 + \frac{\delta}{3}(y_1 + y_2^2)$$

580 and noise parameter $\delta = \frac{1}{20}$ was used. The initial values at time $t = 0$ were set to

$$581 \quad (C(0, y), q(0, y), p(0, y), \xi(0, y)) = \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{4}y_2^2 + i, -2 + \delta y_1^2 y_2^2, 2, 1 \right),$$

582 which defines $u(0, x, y)$ via (6.3).

583 Since the potential and the initial data are smooth enough, Theorem 3 can be applied with
 584 $\alpha = \beta = 2$, which justifies Assumption 2 and 3. In order to illustrate Theorem 4, however, the
 585 values of μ and of the product $C_I C_\star$ had to be determined numerically, because the optimal
 586 choice of η_{J-j} in (5.3) relies on these values and on the maximal step-size $\tau_0 = 0.1$. Our
 587 numerical data confirmed Assumption 2 with $C_T = 1.23$ and $\alpha = 1.96$, and, after setting
 588 $\beta = \alpha$, Assumption 3 with $\mu = 1.80$ and $C = C_I C_\star = 8.78$. The values of μ and C were
 589 obtained by extrapolating from error diagrams of the quantities in Assumption 3. Only 3 or 4
 590 levels are usually required to observe good values for the constants and rates. For details, we
 591 refer to [25, Sec. 6]. The value $\alpha = 1.96$ agrees very well with the order 2 expected according
 592 to Theorem 3(ii). In this example the “up/down” rounding strategy was used.

593 In (4.5) and in (5.2) the error is measured in the norm $\|\cdot\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ with $X = L^2(\mathbb{T}^D)$. In
 594 the numerical tests, this norm has to be replaced by its discrete counterpart

$$595 \max_{j=1}^{N_{\text{ref}}} \left(\frac{6\pi}{M} \sum_{k=1}^M |u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, x_k, y^j) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, x_k, y^j)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \approx \|u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot, \cdot) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$$

596

597 where x_k , $k = 1, \dots, M$ are the Fourier collocation points in the spatial domain. The fact
 598 that Γ is bounded implies the bound $\|w\|_{L^2_\rho(\Gamma, X)} \leq \|w\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ for every $w \in C(\Gamma, X)$, with L^2_ρ
 599 denoting the L^2 space with weight ρ . For this reason, we have also computed the error in the
 600 discrete norm

$$601 \left(\frac{6\pi}{N_{\text{ref}} M} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{ref}}} \sum_{k=1}^M |u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, x_k, y^j) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, x_k, y^j)|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$602 \approx \left(\mathbb{E} \left[\|u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot, \cdot) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot, \cdot)\|_X^2 \right] \right)^{1/2} = \|u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot, \cdot) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^2_\rho(\Gamma, X)}.$$

603

604 In Figure 2 these two alternatives are indicated by “error in $C(\Gamma, X)$ ” and “error in $L^2_\rho(\Gamma, X)$ ”.
 605 Moreover, we have investigated two other types of error, namely the error in the expected value

$$606 (6.5) \quad \left| \mathbb{E} \left[M_{\mathbb{T}} \left(u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot) \right) - M_{\mathbb{T}} \left(u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot) \right) \right] \right|$$

607

608 in the quantity of interest $M_{\mathbb{T}}$ defined in (5.6) and the error

$$609 (6.6) \quad \left| \mathbb{E} \left[P \left(u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot) \right) - P \left(u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot) \right) \right] \right|$$

610

611 in the quantity of interest P defined in (5.5). In Figure 2 these two errors are denoted by
 612 “error in $M_{\mathbb{T}}$ ” and “error in P ”, respectively. Of course, (6.5) and (6.6) must also be replaced
 613 by a suitable discretization in the numerical examples. It can be shown that (6.5) is not larger
 614 than $\|u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$. For (6.6) the situation is more complicated because the
 615 functional P is nonlinear. In most situations, however, it is to be expected that (6.6) is much
 616 smaller than $\|u_j^{(\text{ML})}(T, \cdot) - u_{\text{ref}}(T, \cdot)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$, because applying P can be seen as an averaging
 617 which usually cancels a lot of contributions to the error.

618 Figure 2(b) confirms that the error in $\|\cdot\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$ stays indeed below the tolerance ε , and
 619 that same is true for the other three types of error. Since $2 = \beta > \mu = 1.80$, we expect from
 620 Theorem 4 that the computational cost scales as $\varepsilon^{-1/\mu}$. Figure 2(a) shows, however, that the
 621 CPU time of the method (blue circles) scales rather as $\varepsilon^{-1/\mu_{\text{obs}}}$ (blue line) with the slightly
 622 smaller value $\mu_{\text{obs}} = 1.544$. For comparison, we included the theoretical slope $\varepsilon^{-1/\mu-1/\alpha}$ of
 623 the single-level stochastic collocation method from (5.7), too.

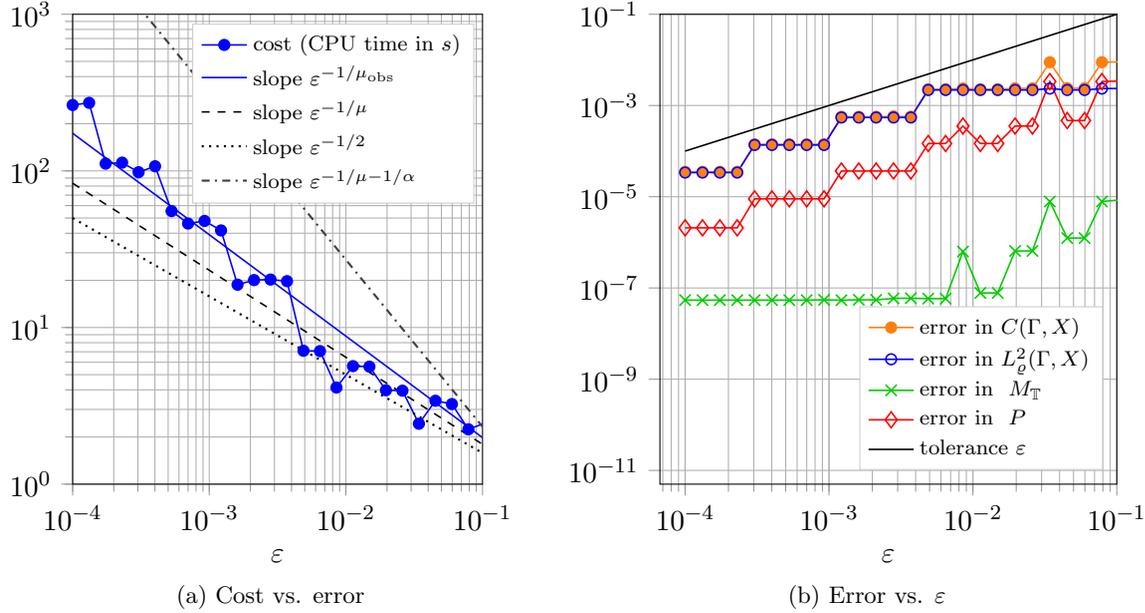


Figure 2. Validation of the MLSC method in the two-dimensional example ($\mu = 1.80$, $\mu_{\text{obs}} = 1.544$).

624 In the iterative process of finding the correct value of J from Theorem 4 described in [25,
 625 Sec. 6.3], one has to compute the multi-level approximations $u_{\tilde{J}}^{(\text{ML})}$ for all $\tilde{J} = 0, \dots, J-1$, too.
 626 This is included in the CPU time depicted in Figure 2(a), but was not included in the cost
 627 from Theorem 4. This could explain why slightly more effort than expected is necessary for
 628 smaller tolerances ε . On the other hand, one can reuse most of the approximations computed
 629 for \tilde{J} between 0 and $J-1$ for the multi-level approximation $u_J^{(\text{ML})}$. Another effect which
 630 contributes to the slightly worse cost behaviour which we observe is the crude overestimation
 631 of the quantity η_{J-j} explained in the text below equation (5.4).

632 **Ten-dimensional example.** To check the performance of the method in $d = 10$ dimensions,
 633 we considered the quadratic potential (6.2) with

$$634 \quad \nu(y) = 1 + \frac{\delta}{3}(y_1 + 2y_2), \quad \kappa(y) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}(y_3 + y_4) \right), \quad \gamma(y) = 1 + \frac{\delta}{3}(y_5 + y_6^2)$$

636 for $y = (y_1, \dots, y_{10}) \in \Gamma$, and with noise parameter $\delta = \frac{1}{20}$. The initial values at time $t = 0$
 637 were

$$638 \quad \left(C(0, y), q(0, y), p(0, y), \xi(0, y) \right) = \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{4}y_7^2 + i, -2 + \delta y_8^2 y_9^2, 2 + \delta y_{10}, 1 \right).$$

639 The remaining parameters were the same as in the two-dimensional example before.

640 This time, we apply the multi-level approach to approximate the functional P from (5.5)
641 of the solution instead of the solution itself. Thus, our goal is now to achieve

$$642 \quad |\mathbb{E}[P(u(T, \cdot)) - P(u_J^{(\text{ML})})]| \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{instead of} \quad \|u(T, \cdot) - u_J^{(\text{ML})}\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \varepsilon.$$

643 The procedure to achieve this is very similar, and we refer to [25, Sec. 4.3] for details. Ap-
644 proximating the functional P with a given accuracy is typically easier than approximating
the solution itself, but the challenge here is the large dimension of the parameter set Γ . The

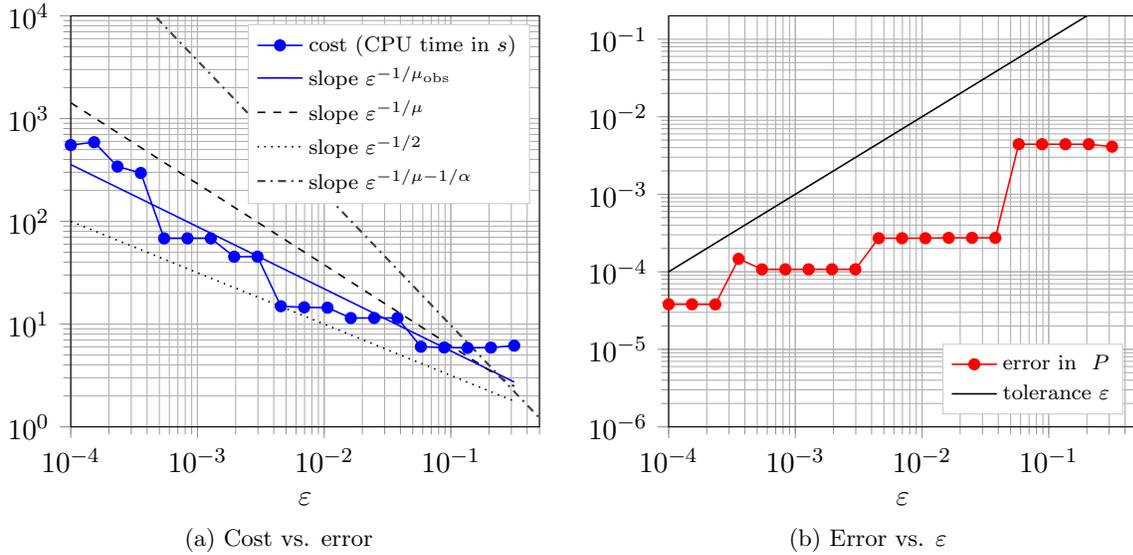


Figure 3. Validation of the MLSC method in the ten-dimensional example ($\mu = 1.268$, $\mu_{\text{obs}} = 1.654$).

645

646 P -analogues of Assumptions 2 and 3 were confirmed numerically with constants and param-
647 eters $\mu = 1.268$, $C = C_I C_* = 1.361$, $C_T = 0.0055$ and $\alpha = 2$. This time, we use the rounding
648 strategy which always rounds down, because we expect that the overhead of rounding up in
649 this dimension would be too large.

650 Figure 3(a) shows that the computational costs (blue circles) scale as $\varepsilon^{-1/\mu_{\text{obs}}}$ with $\mu_{\text{obs}} =$
651 1.654 (blue line). This is significantly better than expected, because Theorem 4 states that
652 the computational costs grow proportional to $\varepsilon^{-1/\mu}$ (black dashed) when $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. Figure 3(b)
653 shows that the error in the observable P stays below the tolerance for all ε . Thus the results
654 agree with the theoretical statement from Theorem 4.

655 **7. Proof of Theorem 3.** In order to prove part (ii) of Theorem 3 a bound for the local
656 error (Lemma 8) and a stability result (Lemma 9) are combined to show the global error
657 bound. For part (i), Lemma 8 is replaced by Lemma 7. Since both lemmas can be shown
658 with essentially the same procedure, we only prove Lemma 8. The proof of Lemma 7 is easier
659 and can be found in Section SM2 of the supplementary materials.

660 In Theorem 3 the error is measured in the norm $\|\cdot\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$, which involves multiple
661 derivatives with respect to y . For this reason, multivariate versions of the product rule and

662 the chain rule will play an important role in the proof. In order to formulate these auxiliary
663 results, the following notation is introduced.

664 **7.1. Notation.** Let $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ be the integer from Theorem 3, and set

$$665 \quad (7.1) \quad \boldsymbol{\eta} = \underbrace{(1, \dots, 1)}_k, \dots, \underbrace{(d, \dots, d)}_k.$$

666
667 Let $m = kd$ and $M = \{1, \dots, m\}$. For a subset $S \subseteq M$ with $|S|$ elements we define

$$668 \quad \frac{\partial^{|S|}}{\partial y^S} = \frac{\partial^{|S|}}{\prod_{j \in S} \partial y_{\eta_j}}.$$

670 This notation is well-defined, because for sufficiently smooth functions the order of the deriva-
671 tives can be interchanged. Note that by definition maximal number of partial derivatives in
672 each spatial direction depends on $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ and hence on k . In the special case $S = M$ we have

$$673 \quad \frac{\partial^m}{\partial y^M} = \frac{\partial^m}{\partial y_{\eta_1} \cdots \partial y_{\eta_m}} = \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y_1^k} \cdots \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y_d^k}.$$

675 The power set of a set $S \subseteq M$ is denoted by \mathcal{P}^S , the power set without the empty set by \mathcal{P}_*^S ,
676 and the set of partitions of S into non-empty subsets by $\Pi(S)$. The complement S^c of $S \subseteq M$
677 is always understood as the complement in M , i.e. $S^c = M \setminus S$.

678 **Example 5.** Let $m = 3$ and $M = \{1, 2, 3\}$. Then the five elements of $\Pi(M)$ are the follow-
679 ing.

680 *Partitions with one block:* $\{\{1, 2, 3\}\}$

681 *Partitions with two blocks:* $\{\{1\}, \{2, 3\}\}, \{\{2\}, \{1, 3\}\},$ and $\{\{3\}, \{1, 2\}\}$

682 *Partitions with three blocks:* $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}\}$

684 Note that the empty set \emptyset also has exactly one partition, namely \emptyset itself.

685 The multivariate product rule may now be stated in the form

$$686 \quad (7.2) \quad \frac{\partial^{|S|}}{\partial y^S}(fg) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|} f}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|} g}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}}$$

688 for a set $S \subseteq M$, whereas the multivariate chain rule (also known as *Faà di Bruno's formula*)
689 is given by

$$690 \quad (7.3) \quad \frac{\partial^{|S|}}{\partial y^S} f(g(y)) = \sum_{\pi \in \Pi(S)} f^{|\pi|}(g(y)) \prod_{B \in \pi} \frac{\partial^{|B|} g}{\partial y^B},$$

692 where $|\pi|$ is the number of “blocks” in the partition π . Proofs of these equations together
693 with examples can be found in [13].

694 **Example 6.** The power set of $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ is

$$695 \quad (7.4) \quad \mathcal{P}^S = \left\{ \emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\} \right\},$$

697 and hence the multivariate product rule (7.2) reduces to

$$698 \quad \frac{\partial^3}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2 \partial y_3} (fg) = f \cdot \frac{\partial^3 g}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2 \partial y_3} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_1} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y_2 \partial y_3} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y_1 \partial y_3} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_3} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2}$$

$$699 \quad + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_3} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_1 \partial y_3} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y_2 \partial y_3} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_1} + \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2 \partial y_3} \cdot g.$$

701 Each term is related to one of the sets in (7.4). The multivariate chain rule (7.3) yields

$$702 \quad \frac{\partial^3}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2 \partial y_3} f(g(y)) = f'(g(y)) \frac{\partial^3 g(y)}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2 \partial y_3}$$

$$703 \quad + f''(g(y)) \left(\frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_1} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g(y)}{\partial y_2 \partial y_3} + \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g(y)}{\partial y_1 \partial y_3} + \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_3} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g(y)}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2} \right)$$

$$704 \quad + f'''(g(y)) \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_1} \cdot \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_2} \cdot \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_3}.$$

706 Each term corresponds to one of the partitions from Example 5. For example, the partition
707 $\pi = \{\{2\}, \{1, 3\}\}$ has two blocks, i.e. $|\pi| = 2$, and we obtain

$$708 \quad f^{|\pi|}(g(y)) = f''(g(y)), \quad \prod_{B \in \pi} \frac{\partial^{|B|} g}{\partial y^B} = \frac{\partial g(y)}{\partial y_2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 g(y)}{\partial y_1 \partial y_3}.$$

710 With this notation the commutator bounds (4.8) and (4.9) read

$$711 \quad (7.5) \quad \left\| \left[\frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S}, \Delta \right] w_1 \right\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C \|w_1\|_{C(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))}, \quad S \in \mathcal{P}^M,$$

$$712 \quad (7.6) \quad \left\| \left[\Delta, \left[\frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S}, \Delta \right] \right] w_2 \right\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C \|w_2\|_{C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}, \quad S \in \mathcal{P}^M.$$

714 Assumption 6 and the relations (7.1) with $m = kd$ imply that (7.5) and (7.6) hold for all
715 $w_1 \in C(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))$ and $w_2 \in C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))$.

716 $V(y)$ is a multiplication operator and thus

$$717 \quad (7.7) \quad [\partial_{y_j} V(y), V(y)] = 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, d, \quad y \in \Gamma.$$

718 The same is also true for higher derivatives of $V(Y)$.

7.2. Local error.

719 **Lemma 7.** *Let $v \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}))$. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3 (i) the error*
 720 *after one time-step is bounded by*

$$722 \quad (7.8) \quad \|\Phi_\tau v - e^{i\tau H(y)}v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_{\text{loc}}\tau^2 \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))}.$$

723 *The constant C_{loc} depends only on the constants on the right-hand side of (4.7) and (4.8),*
 724 *but not on τ .*

725 The proof of Lemma 7 is given in Section SM2 of the supplementary materials.

726 **Lemma 8.** *Let $v \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}))$. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3 (ii) the error*
 727 *after one time-step is bounded by*

$$728 \quad (7.9) \quad \|\Phi_\tau v - e^{i\tau H(y)}v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_{\text{loc}}\tau^3 \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}.$$

729 *The constant C_{loc} depends only on the constants on the right-hand side of (7.5) and (7.6),*
 730 *but not on τ .*

731 *Proof of Lemma 8.* Throughout we abbreviate

$$732 \quad \mathcal{D} = \frac{\partial^m}{\partial y^M} = \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y_1^k} \cdots \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y_d^k}.$$

734 We only prove that

$$735 \quad \|\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v) - \mathcal{D}(e^{i\tau H(y)}v)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C_{\text{loc}}\tau^3 \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}$$

736 since the procedure for differential operators with lower order than \mathcal{D} is completely analogous.

737 In Step 1 of the proof an expansion of $\mathcal{D}u(t, y) = \mathcal{D}e^{itH(y)}v(y)$ in powers of τ is derived.
 738 Its representation is modified in Step 2. In Step 3 a corresponding expansion of $\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v)$ is
 739 obtained. The Step 4, the difference between the two expansions is analyzed, and it is shown
 740 that all terms of $\mathcal{O}(\tau)$ and $\mathcal{O}(\tau^2)$ cancel.

741 **Step 1.** For the exact solution $u(t, y) = e^{itH(y)}v(y)$, we have

$$742 \quad \partial_t \mathcal{D}u(t, y) = iH(y)\mathcal{D}u(t, y) + i \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} u(t, y)}{\partial y^{S^c}}$$

744 and the variation-of-constants formula yields

$$745 \quad \mathcal{D}u(\tau, y) = e^{\tau iH(y)}\mathcal{D}v(y) + i \int_0^\tau e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} u(r, y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} dr.$$

747 Using this expression again for the term with $u(r, y)$ in the integrand, this yields

$$748 \quad (7.10) \quad \mathcal{D}u(\tau, y) = e^{\tau iH(y)}\mathcal{D}v(y) + \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \left(I_1(S) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_*^{S^c}} I_2(S, T) \right)$$

749

750 with

$$751 \quad (7.11) \quad I_1(S) = i \int_0^\tau e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{riH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} dr,$$

$$752 \quad (7.12) \quad I_2(S, T) = i^2 \int_0^\tau \int_0^r e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{(r-\nu)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|T|} V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} u(\nu, y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} d\nu dr.$$

754 Note that formally $I_1(S) = \mathcal{O}(\tau)$ and that $I_2(S, T) = \mathcal{O}(\tau^2)$.

755 **Step 2.** In order to compare (7.10) with a corresponding representation of $\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v)$ in Step
756 4, the integrals $I_1(S)$ and $I_2(S, T)$ have to be approximated by suitable quadrature formulas.
757 The integral $I_1(S)$ is approximated by the trapezoidal rule, i.e.

$$758 \quad I_1(S) = i \int_0^\tau e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{riH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} dr$$

$$759 \quad (7.13) \quad \approx \frac{i\tau}{2} \left(e^{\tau iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} + \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{\tau iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} \right) =: I_1^\square(S).$$

761 Abbreviating the integrand inside $I_1(S)$ by $h(r)$, the error of the trapezoidal rule can be
762 expressed in Peano form as

$$763 \quad E = \frac{i\tau}{2} (h(0) + h(\tau)) - i \int_0^\tau h(s) ds = -\frac{i\tau^3}{2} \int_0^1 \theta(1-\theta) h''(\theta\tau) d\theta.$$

764 Hence, to obtain an error of order τ^3 , it has to be shown that h is twice continuously differ-
765 entiable with bounded second derivative. To check the required regularity of the integrand,
766 we compute

$$767 \quad \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} = i e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \left[\frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S}, H(y) \right] e^{riH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}},$$

$$768 \quad \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial r^2} = e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \left[H(y), \left[\frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S}, H(y) \right] \right] e^{riH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}}.$$

770 These terms are bounded by (7.5), (7.6), and (7.7). The approximation (7.13) is of accuracy
771 $\mathcal{O}(\tau^3)$, and hence we may replace $I_1(S)$ by $I_1^\square(S)$ in the following.

772 Now consider the second integral, $I_2(S, T)$. After setting

$$773 \quad g(r, \nu) = e^{(\tau-r)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{(r-\nu)iH(y)} \frac{\partial^{|T|} V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} u(\nu, y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}}$$

774

775 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
776 \quad I_2(S, T) &= i^2 \int_0^\tau \int_0^r g(r, \nu) d\nu dr \\
777 &\approx \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2} \right)^2 \cdot (g(0, 0) + 2g(\tau, 0) + g(\tau, \tau)) \\
778 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2} \right)^2 \cdot e^{\tau i H(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|} V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} \\
779 &\quad + \left(\frac{i\tau}{2} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} e^{\tau i H(y)} \frac{\partial^{|T|} V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} \\
780 \quad (7.14) &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S|} V(y)}{\partial y^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|} V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} u(\tau, y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$781 \quad (7.15) \quad =: I_2^\square(S, T).$$

783 The very last term in (7.14) will be treated by yet another variation-of-constants formula to
784 replace

$$785 \quad (7.16) \quad \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} u(\tau, y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} \quad \text{by} \quad e^{\tau i H(y)} \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} + \mathcal{O}(\tau),$$

786 at least if $S \cup T \neq M$ (or equivalently $|S| + |T| \neq m$). The quadrature formula $I_2^\square(S, T)$
787 for the triangle $\{(r, \nu): 0 \leq r \leq \tau, 0 \leq \nu \leq r\}$ integrates constant functions exactly,
788 and since it can be checked that the integrand has the required regularity, it follows that
789 $I_2(S, T) = I_2^\square(S, T) + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3)$. Combining the above observations, we arrive at

$$790 \quad (7.17) \quad \mathcal{D}u(\tau, y) = e^{\tau i H(y)} \mathcal{D}v(y) + \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \left(I_1^\square(S) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_*^{S^c}} I_2^\square(S, T) \right) + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3).$$

792 **Step 3.** Now a corresponding expansion has to be derived for the numerical solution. We
793 have

$$794 \quad (7.18) \quad \mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v) = \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}^M} \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau(y)}{\partial y^S} \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} = \Phi_\tau(y) \mathcal{D}v(y) + \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau(y)}{\partial y^S} \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}}$$

796 and, utilizing (7.2) and (7.3),

$$\begin{aligned}
797 \quad \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau}{\partial y^S} &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|} e^{\frac{i\tau}{2} V(y)}}{\partial y^T} e^{i\tau \Delta} \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|} e^{\frac{i\tau}{2} V(y)}}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}} \\
798 \quad (7.19) &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}^S} \sum_{\pi \in \Pi(T)} \sum_{\sigma \in \Pi(S \setminus T)} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2} \right)^{|\pi| + |\sigma|} \prod_{B \in \pi} \frac{\partial^{|B|} V(y)}{\partial y^B} \Phi_\tau \prod_{C \in \sigma} \frac{\partial^{|C|} V(y)}{\partial y^C}.
\end{aligned}$$

800 The crucial terms are those of $\mathcal{O}(\tau)$ and $\mathcal{O}(\tau^2)$, whereas higher-order terms can be neglected.
801 In order to identify the terms with $|\pi| + |\sigma| \leq 2$, we define the set \mathcal{P}_{**}^S as the set \mathcal{P}_*^S without

802 S . Separating the terms with $T = \emptyset$ and $T = S$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}
803 \quad \frac{\partial^{|S|}\Phi_\tau}{\partial y^S} &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_{**}^S} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} \Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|}V(y)}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}} \\
804 \quad &+ \sum_{\substack{\sigma \in \Pi(S) \\ |\sigma| \leq 2}} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right)^{|\sigma|} \left[\Phi_\tau \prod_{C \in \sigma} \frac{\partial^{|C|}V(y)}{\partial y^C} + \prod_{C \in \sigma} \frac{\partial^{|C|}V(y)}{\partial y^C} \Phi_\tau \right] + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3) \\
805 \quad (7.20) \quad &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_{**}^S} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right)^2 f(S, T) + \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right) \left[\Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} + \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} \Phi_\tau \right] + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3) \\
806
\end{aligned}$$

807 with

$$808 \quad f(S, T) = \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} \Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|}V(y)}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}} + \frac{1}{2} \Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|}V(y)}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial^{|S \setminus T|}V(y)}{\partial y^{S \setminus T}} \Phi_\tau.$$

809 The equality (7.20) follows from the fact that every partition $\sigma \in \Pi(S)$ with $|\sigma| = 2$ consists
810 of an arbitrary subset $\emptyset \subsetneq T \subsetneq S$ and its complement in S . If we go through all such subsets
811 T and notice that T is also the complement of $S \setminus T$, we have counted each partition $\sigma \in \Pi(S)$
812 with $|\sigma| = 2$ twice. Hence the factor $1/2$ appears in the second and third term in the definition
813 of $f(S, T)$.

814 Before we substitute (7.20) into (7.18), we have to deal with some set-theoretic consider-
815 ations. In fact, $S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M$ and $T \in \mathcal{P}_{**}^S$ is equivalent to saying that $T \in \mathcal{P}_*^M$ and $M \supseteq S \supsetneq T$.
816 A set $S \supsetneq T$ can be written in a unique way as $S = S' \cup T$ with $S' \in \mathcal{P}_*^{T^c}$. Hence, for any
817 function f , we have the identity

$$818 \quad \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_{**}^S} f(S, T) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \sum_{S' \in \mathcal{P}_*^{T^c}} f(S' \cup T, T) = \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_*^{S^c}} f(T \cup S, S).$$

819 The last step is changing the names of T and S' to S and T . In our case, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
820 \quad (7.21) \quad f(T \cup S, S) &= \left[\frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} \Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} + \frac{1}{2} \Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} \frac{\partial^{|T|}V(y)}{\partial y^T} \Phi_\tau \right]. \\
821
\end{aligned}$$

822 By substituting these formulas into (7.18), we obtain the expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
823 \quad \mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v) &= \Phi_\tau(y) \mathcal{D}v(y) + \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}_*^{S^c}} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right)^2 f(T \cup S, S) \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c \setminus T|}v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c \setminus T}} \\
824 \quad (7.22) \quad &+ \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right) \left[\Phi_\tau \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} + \frac{\partial^{|S|}V(y)}{\partial y^S} \Phi_\tau \right] \cdot \frac{\partial^{|S^c|}v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3). \\
825
\end{aligned}$$

826 *Step 4.* Now we subtract (7.17) from (7.22). The local error bound (3.6) implies

$$827 \quad \|\Phi_\tau v_0 - e^{i\tau H(y)} v_0\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C\tau^3 \|v_0\|_{C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}$$

828 for $v_0 \in C(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))$. Hence, replacing the numerical flow Φ_τ by the exact flow $e^{\tau i H(y)}$ does
829 not spoil the accuracy. By carefully comparing the terms in (7.22) and (7.21) with the ones
830 in (7.17), (7.13) and (7.15), we obtain

$$831 \quad (7.23) \quad \|\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v) - \mathcal{D}(e^{i\tau H(y)} v)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq C\tau^3$$

832 for a constant C which depends only on the constants on the right-hand side of (4.7) and
833 (4.8), but is independent of τ . All the $\mathcal{O}(\tau^3)$ -terms and hence also in the constant C contain
834 $\|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^2(\mathbb{T}^D))}$ as a factor. ■

835 **7.3. Stability and global error.** In order to pass from the local error to the global error,
836 the following stability result is required.

837 **Lemma 9.** *Let $v \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)$. Under the assumptions of Theorem 3 (i) the estimate*

$$838 \quad (7.24) \quad \|\Phi_\tau v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq (1 + C_{\text{stab}}\tau) \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq \exp(C_{\text{stab}}\tau) \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

840 *holds for all step-sizes $\tau \in (0, 2]$. The constant C_{stab} is independent of τ , but depends on k
841 and on $\|V\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D))}$.*

842 *Proof.* First, we observe that

$$843 \quad \|\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}^M} \left\| \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau(y)}{\partial y^S} \right\| \left\| \frac{\partial^{m-|S|} v(y)}{\partial y^{S^c}} \right\|_{C(\Gamma, X)}$$

$$844 \quad (7.25) \quad \leq \|\Phi_\tau\| \left\| \frac{\partial^m v(y)}{\partial y^M} \right\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} + \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}_*^M} \left\| \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau(y)}{\partial y^S} \right\| \cdot \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)},$$

845

846 with $\|\cdot\| = \|\cdot\|_{C(\Gamma, \mathcal{B}(X))}$. For $S \neq \emptyset$, (7.19) yields

$$847 \quad \left\| \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau}{\partial y^S} \right\| \leq \sum_{T \in \mathcal{P}^S} \sum_{\pi \in \Pi(T)} \sum_{\sigma \in \Pi(S \setminus T)} \left(\frac{i\tau}{2}\right)^{|\pi|+|\sigma|} \left\| \prod_{B \in \pi} \frac{\partial^{|B|} V(y)}{\partial y^B} \Phi_\tau \prod_{C \in \sigma} \frac{\partial^{|C|} V(y)}{\partial y^C} \right\|.$$

848

849 Since $V \in C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D))$ and $\|\Phi_\tau\| \leq 1$, the norm on the right-hand side can be bounded
850 by some constant C which only depends on $\|V\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^D))}$. Thus, sorting after powers of
851 τ , we obtain

$$852 \quad \left\| \frac{\partial^{|S|} \Phi_\tau}{\partial y^S} \right\| \leq C \left(\frac{\tau}{2} + \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\tau}{2}\right)^{|S|} \right),$$

853

854 which is bounded by $C|S|\tau/2$ as long as $\tau \leq 2$. Thus, by (7.25),

$$855 \quad \|\mathcal{D}(\Phi_\tau v)\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} \leq \left\| \frac{\partial^m v(y)}{\partial y^M} \right\|_{C(\Gamma, X)} + C_k \tau \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

856

857 for all $\tau \leq 2$ with a constant C_k . Of course, the procedure is similar if one considers derivatives
 858 of lower order than k . Hence, we arrive at

859
$$\|\Phi_\tau v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \leq (1 + C_k \tau) \|v\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)}$$

860 as long as $\tau \leq 2$. ■

861 *Proof of Theorem 3.* In order to prove part (i) we combine the local error bound (7.8)
 862 and the stability estimate (7.24) to derive the global error bound. This is a typical “Lady
 863 Windermere’s fan” argument. We have

864
$$\begin{aligned} \|\Phi_\tau^n u_0 - e^{it_n H(y)} u_0\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \|\Phi_\tau^j (\Phi_\tau e^{iH(y)t_{n-j-1}} u_0) - \Phi_\tau^j (e^{it_{n-j} H(y)} u_0)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \\ 865 &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \exp(C_{\text{stab}} \tau j) \|\Phi_\tau e^{iH(y)t_{n-j-1}} u_0 - e^{it_{n-j} H(y)} u_0\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, X)} \\ 866 &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \exp(C_{\text{stab}} \tau j) C_{\text{loc}} \tau^2 \|e^{it_{n-j-1} H(y)} u_0\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))} \\ 867 &\leq \frac{\exp(C_{\text{stab}} \tau)^n - 1}{\exp(C_{\text{stab}} \tau) - 1} C_{\text{loc}} \tau^2 \max_{t \in [0, t_n]} \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{C_{\text{mix}}^k(\Gamma, H^1(\mathbb{T}^D))} \\ 868 &\leq \exp(C_{\text{stab}} t_n) \frac{C_{\text{loc}}}{C_{\text{stab}}} \tau M_k^{(1)}. \end{aligned}$$

870 Note that C_{stab} and C_{loc} are exactly the constants from the stability and local error estimates
 871 (7.24) and (7.8). Replacing (7.8) by (7.9) proves part (ii) of Theorem 3. ■

872 *Acknowledgement.* The authors thank the anonymous referees for their helpful remarks
 873 and suggestions.

874 **REFERENCES**

875 [1] W. AUZINGER, O. KOCH, AND M. THALHAMMER, *Defect-based local error estimators for splitting*
 876 *methods, with application to Schrödinger equations, Part II. Higher-order methods for linear prob-*
 877 *lems*, J. Comput. Appl. Math., 255 (2014), pp. 384–403, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cam.2013.04.043>,
 878 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cam.2013.04.043>.
 879 [2] I. BABUŠKA, F. NOBILE, AND R. TEMPONE, *A stochastic collocation method for elliptic partial differential*
 880 *equations with random input data*, SIAM Rev., 52 (2010), pp. 317–355, [https://doi.org/10.1137/](https://doi.org/10.1137/100786356)
 881 [100786356](https://doi.org/10.1137/100786356).
 882 [3] V. BARTHELMANN, E. NOVAK, AND K. RITTER, *High dimensional polynomial interpolation on sparse*
 883 *grids*, Adv. Comput. Math., 12 (2000), pp. 273–288, <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1018977404843>, <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1018977404843>.
 884 [4] A. CHERTOCK, S. JIN, AND A. KURGANOV, *An operator splitting based stochastic Galerkin method for the*
 885 *one-dimensional compressible Euler equations with uncertainty*. Preprint, 2015, [http://www.math.](http://www.math.wisc.edu/~jin/publications.html)
 886 [wisc.edu/~jin/publications.html](http://www.math.wisc.edu/~jin/publications.html) (accessed 2018-10-12).
 887 [5] S. DESCOMBES AND M. THALHAMMER, *An exact local error representation of exponential operator*
 888 *splitting methods for evolutionary problems and applications to linear Schrödinger equations in*
 889 *the semi-classical regime*, BIT, 50 (2010), pp. 729–749, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10543-010-0282-4>,
 890 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10543-010-0282-4>,
 891 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10543-010-0282-4>.

- 892 [6] M. B. GILES, *Improved multilevel Monte Carlo convergence using the Milstein scheme*, In: Monte Carlo
893 and quasi-Monte Carlo methods 2006. Selected papers based on the presentations at the 7th inter-
894 national conference ‘Monte Carlo and quasi-Monte Carlo methods in scientific computing’, Ulm,
895 Germany, August 14–18, 2006., Springer, Berlin, 2008, pp. 343–358.
- 896 [7] M. B. GILES, *Multilevel Monte Carlo path simulation*, *Operations Research*, 56 (2008), pp. 607–617.
- 897 [8] M. B. GILES, *Multilevel Monte Carlo methods*, *Acta Numer.*, 24 (2015), pp. 259–328, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S096249291500001X>, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S096249291500001X>.
- 899 [9] A.-L. HAJI-ALI, F. NOBILE, L. TAMELLINI, AND R. TEMPONE, *Multi-index stochastic collocation conver-*
900 *gence rates for random PDEs with parametric regularity*, *Found. Comput. Math.*, 16 (2016), pp. 1555–
901 1605, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10208-016-9327-7>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10208-016-9327-7>.
- 902 [10] A.-L. HAJI-ALI, F. NOBILE, L. TAMELLINI, AND R. TEMPONE, *Multi-index stochastic collocation for*
903 *random PDEs*, *Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg.*, 306 (2016), pp. 95–122, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cma.2016.03.029>, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cma.2016.03.029>.
- 905 [11] E. HANSEN AND A. OSTERMANN, *Exponential splitting for unbounded operators*, *Math. Comp.*, 78
906 (2009), pp. 1485–1496, <https://doi.org/10.1090/S0025-5718-09-02213-3>, <https://doi.org/10.1090/S0025-5718-09-02213-3>.
- 908 [12] H. HARBRECHT, M. PETERS, AND M. SIEBENMORGEN, *On multilevel quadrature for elliptic stochastic*
909 *partial differential equations*, in *Sparse grids and applications*, vol. 88 of *Lect. Notes Comput. Sci.*
910 *Eng.*, Springer, Heidelberg, 2013, pp. 161–179, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-31703-3>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-31703-3>.
- 912 [13] M. HARDY, *Combinatorics of partial derivatives*, *Electron. J. Combin.*, 13 (2006), pp. Research Paper 1,
913 13, http://www.combinatorics.org/Volume_13/Abstracts/v13i1r1.html.
- 914 [14] T. JAHNKE AND C. LUBICH, *Error bounds for exponential operator splittings*, *BIT*, 40 (2000), pp. 735–744,
915 <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1022396519656>, <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1022396519656>.
- 916 [15] T. KATO, *Perturbation theory for linear operators*, *Classics in Mathematics*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1995.
917 Reprint of the 1980 edition.
- 918 [16] A. KOFLER, T. LEVAJKOVIĆ, H. MENA, AND A. OSTERMANN, *A splitting/polynomial chaos expansion*
919 *approach for stochastic evolution equations*, *J. Evol. Equ.*, 21 (2021), pp. 1345–1381, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00028-020-00627-5>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00028-020-00627-5>.
- 921 [17] J. LANG, R. SCHEICHL, AND D. SILVESTER, *A fully adaptive multilevel stochastic collocation strategy*
922 *for solving elliptic PDEs with random data*, *J. Comput. Phys.*, 419 (2020), pp. 109692, 17, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2020.109692>, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2020.109692>.
- 924 [18] C. LASSER AND C. LUBICH, *Computing quantum dynamics in the semiclassical regime*, *Acta Nu-*
925 *mer.*, 29 (2020), pp. 229–401, <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0962492920000033>, <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0962492920000033>.
- 927 [19] C. LUBICH, *From quantum to classical molecular dynamics: reduced models and numerical analysis*,
928 *Zurich Lectures in Advanced Mathematics*, European Mathematical Society (EMS), Zürich, 2008,
929 <https://doi.org/10.4171/067>, <https://doi.org/10.4171/067>.
- 930 [20] M. MOTAMED, F. NOBILE, AND R. TEMPONE, *A stochastic collocation method for the second order*
931 *wave equation with a discontinuous random speed*, *Numer. Math.*, 123 (2013), pp. 493–536, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00211-012-0493-5>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00211-012-0493-5>.
- 933 [21] C. NEUHAUSER AND M. THALHAMMER, *On the convergence of splitting methods for linear evolutionary*
934 *Schrödinger equations involving an unbounded potential*, *BIT*, 49 (2009), pp. 199–215, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10543-009-0215-2>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10543-009-0215-2>.
- 936 [22] F. NOBILE, R. TEMPONE, AND C. G. WEBSTER, *A sparse grid stochastic collocation method for partial*
937 *differential equations with random input data*, *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 46 (2008), pp. 2309–2345,
938 <https://doi.org/10.1137/060663660>, <https://doi.org/10.1137/060663660>.
- 939 [23] F. NOBILE, R. TEMPONE, AND C. G. WEBSTER, *A sparse grid stochastic collocation method for partial*
940 *differential equations with random input data*, *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 46 (2008), pp. 2309–2345,
941 <https://doi.org/10.1137/060663660>, <https://doi.org/10.1137/060663660>.
- 942 [24] A. PAZY, *Semigroups of linear operators and applications to partial differential equations*, vol. 44
943 of *Applied Mathematical Sciences*, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1983, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4612-5561-1>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4612-5561-1>.
- 945 [25] A. L. TECKENTRUP, P. JANTSCH, C. G. WEBSTER, AND M. GUNZBURGER, *A multilevel stochastic*

- 946 *collocation method for partial differential equations with random input data*, SIAM/ASA J. Uncer-
947 tain. Quantif., 3 (2015), pp. 1046–1074, [https://doi.org/10.1137/](https://doi.org/10.1137/140969002)
948 140969002.
- 949 [26] H.-W. VAN WYK, *Multilevel sparse grid methods for elliptic partial differential equations with random*
950 *coefficients*. Preprint, 2014, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1404.0963>.
- 951 [27] K. WU, H. TANG, AND D. XIU, *A stochastic Galerkin method for first-order quasilinear hyperbolic systems*
952 *with uncertainty*, J. Comput. Phys., 345 (2017), pp. 224–244, [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2017.05.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2017.05.027)
953 027.
- 954 [28] D. XIU AND J. S. HESTHAVEN, *High-order collocation methods for differential equations with random*
955 *inputs*, SIAM J. Sci. Comput., 27 (2005), pp. 1118–1139, <https://doi.org/10.1137/040615201>.