

# DAGMA: Learning DAGs via M-matrices and a Log-Determinant Acyclicity Characterization



**Kevin Bello**



**Bryon Aragam**



**Pradeep Ravikumar**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**CHICAGO**



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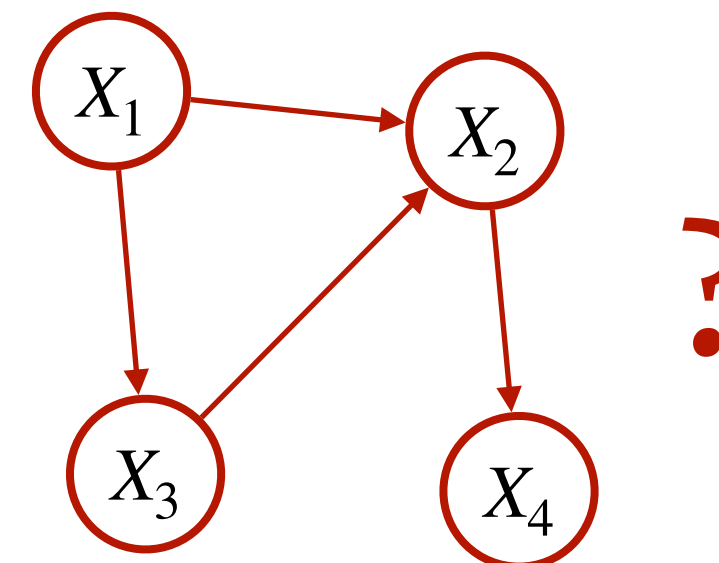
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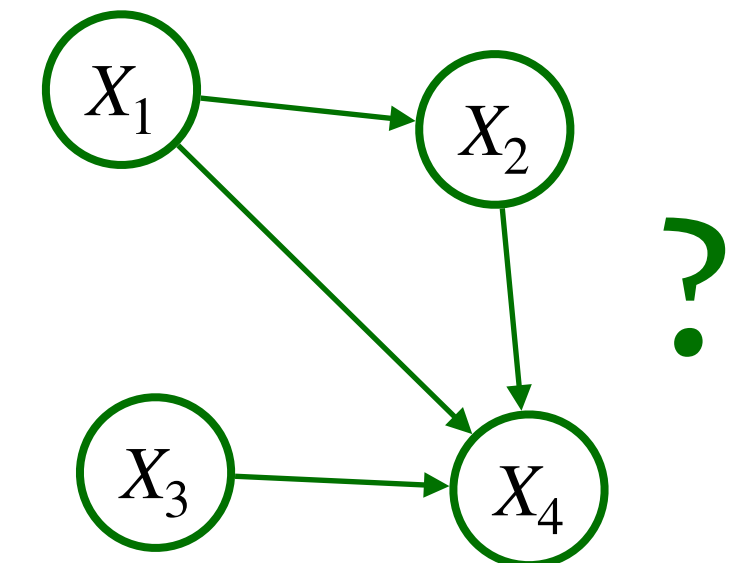
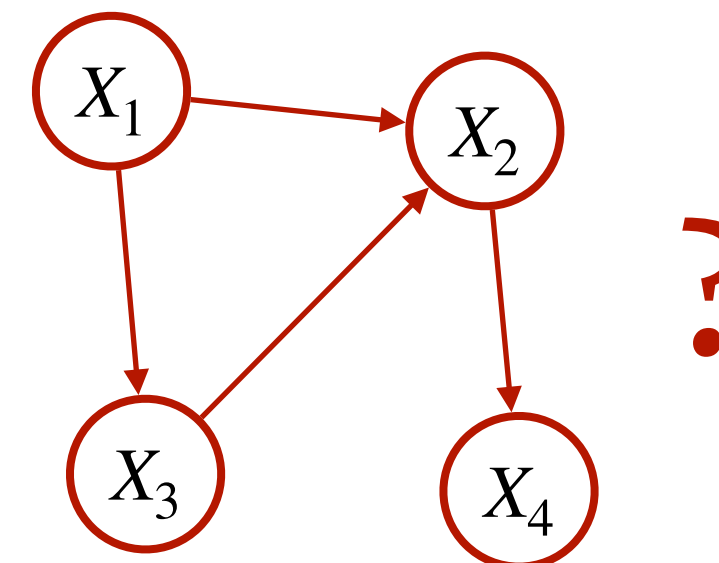
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The above problem is known to be **NP-complete** to solve (Chickering 1996).

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The above is possible since  $h_{\text{expm}}(W) = 0$  **if and only if**  $W$  is a DAG.



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**Theorem 1 (Informal).** For any  $s > 0$ . The following holds:

(i)  $h_{\text{ldet}}^s(W) \geq 0$ . Moreover,  $h_{\text{ldet}}^s(W) = 0$  if and only if  $W$  is a DAG.

(ii)  $\nabla h_{\text{ldet}}^s(W) = 2(sI - W \circ W)^{-\top} \circ W$ . Moreover,  $\nabla h_{\text{ldet}}^s(W) = 0$  if and only if  $W$  is a DAG.

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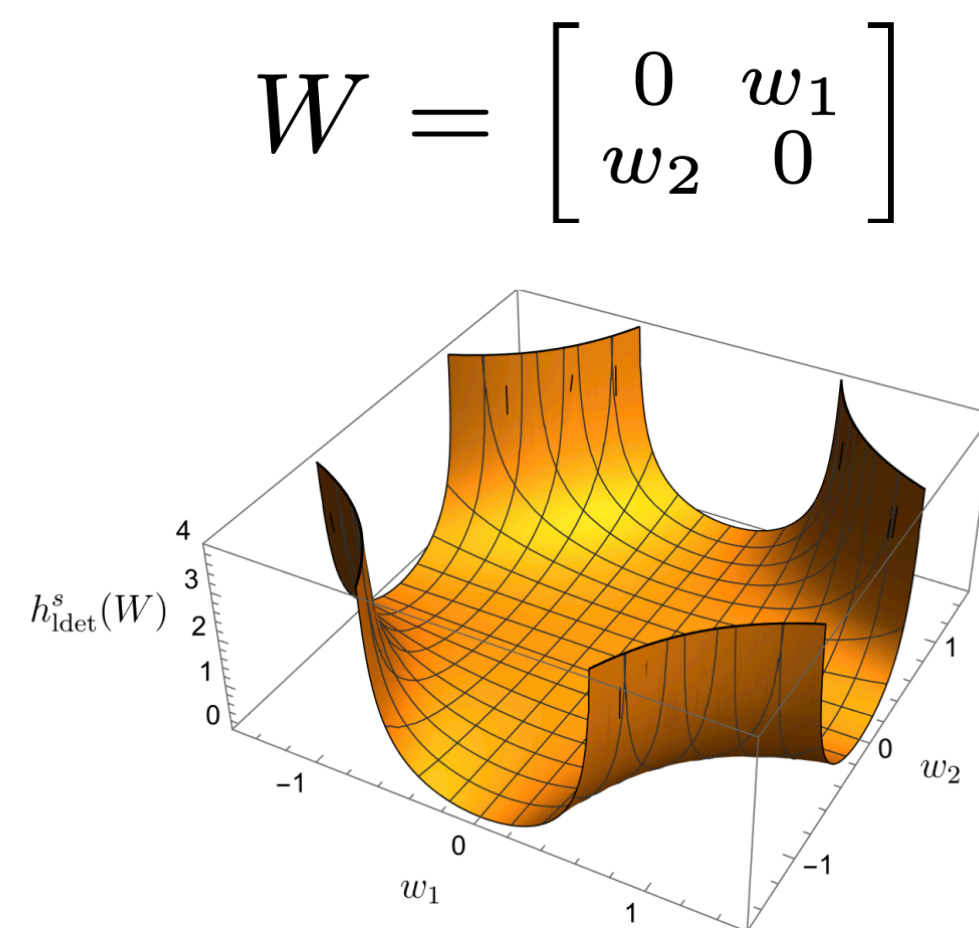
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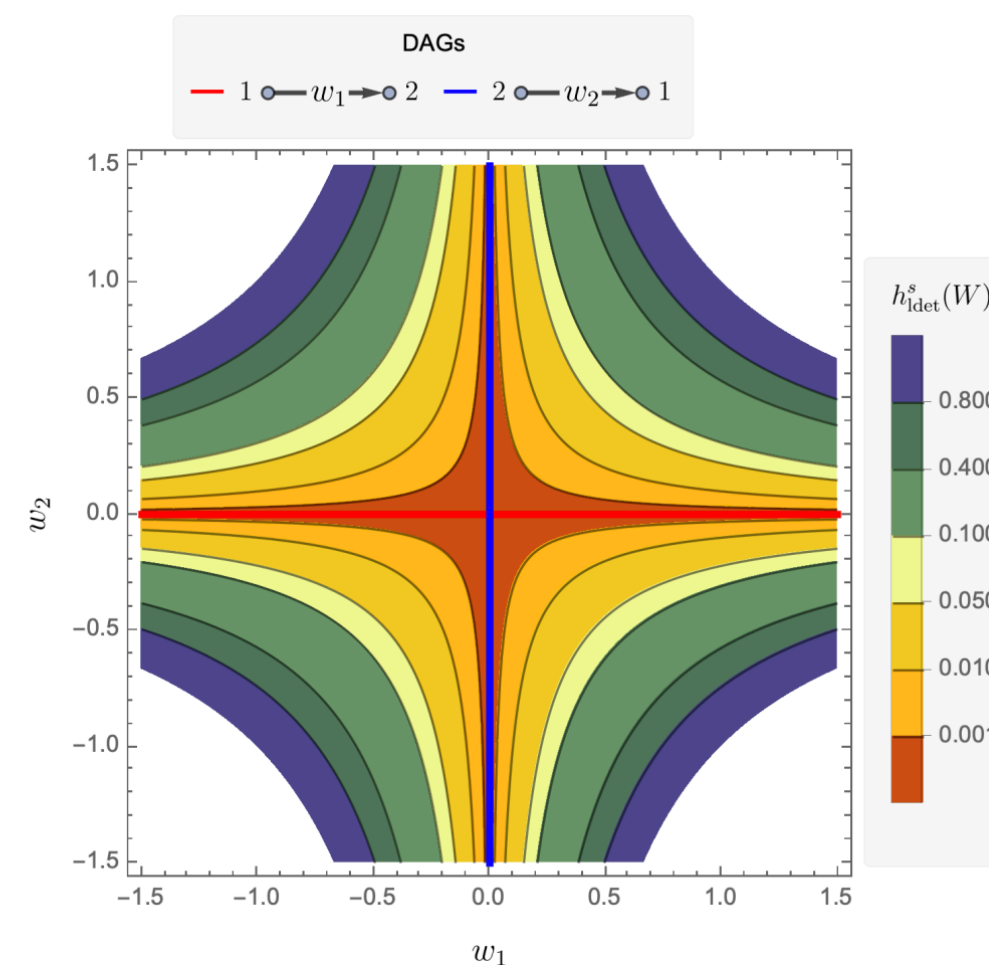
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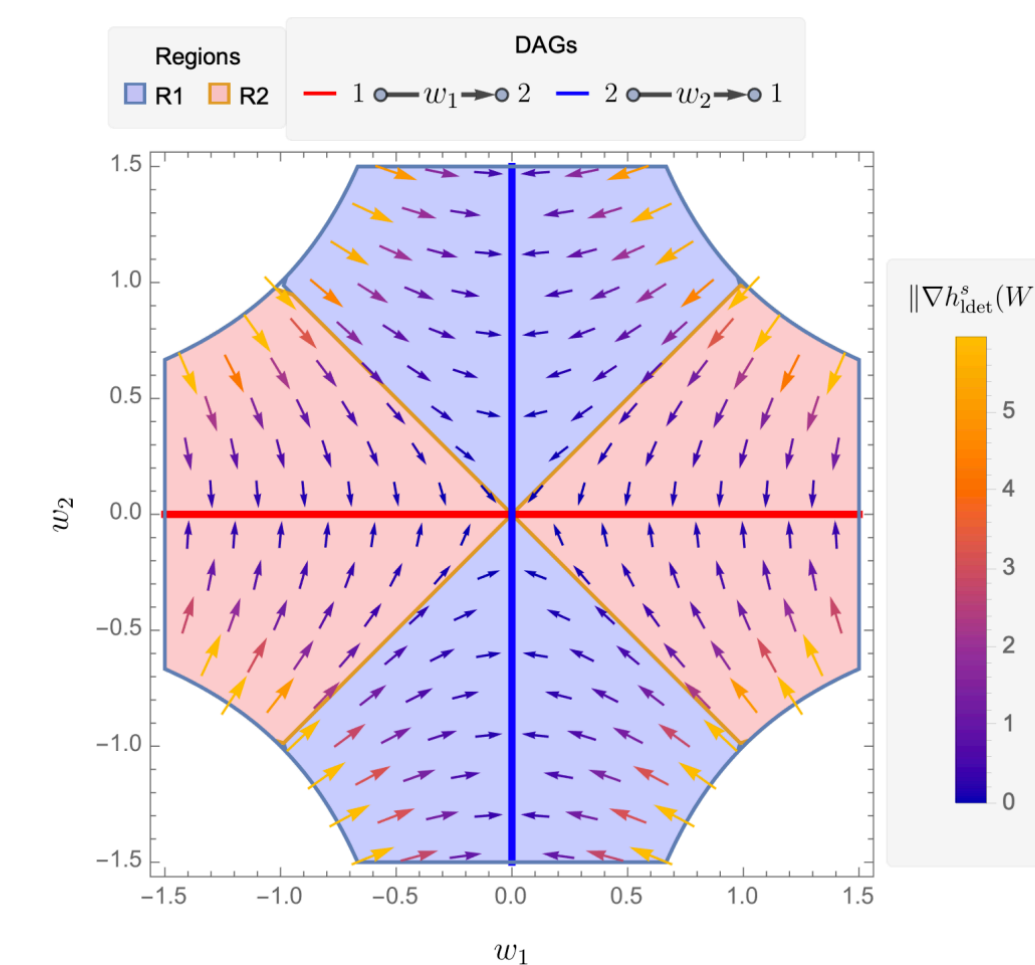
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(a)  $h_{\text{ldet}}^{s=1}(W)$



(b) Contours of  $h_{\text{ldet}}^{s=1}(W)$



(c) Vector field of  $\nabla h_{\text{ldet}}^{s=1}(W)$

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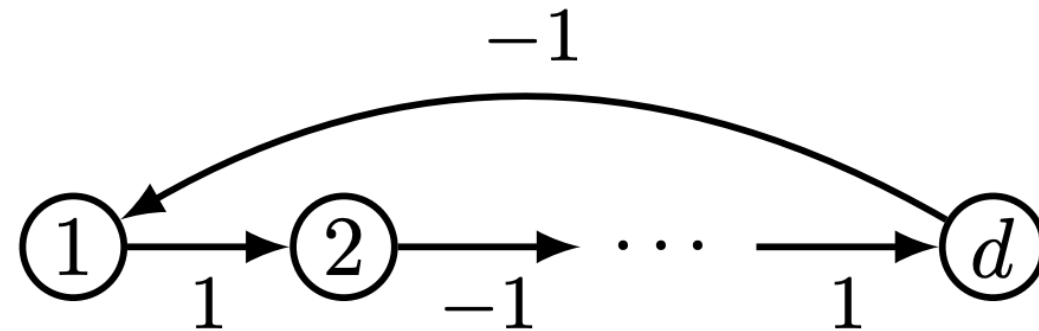
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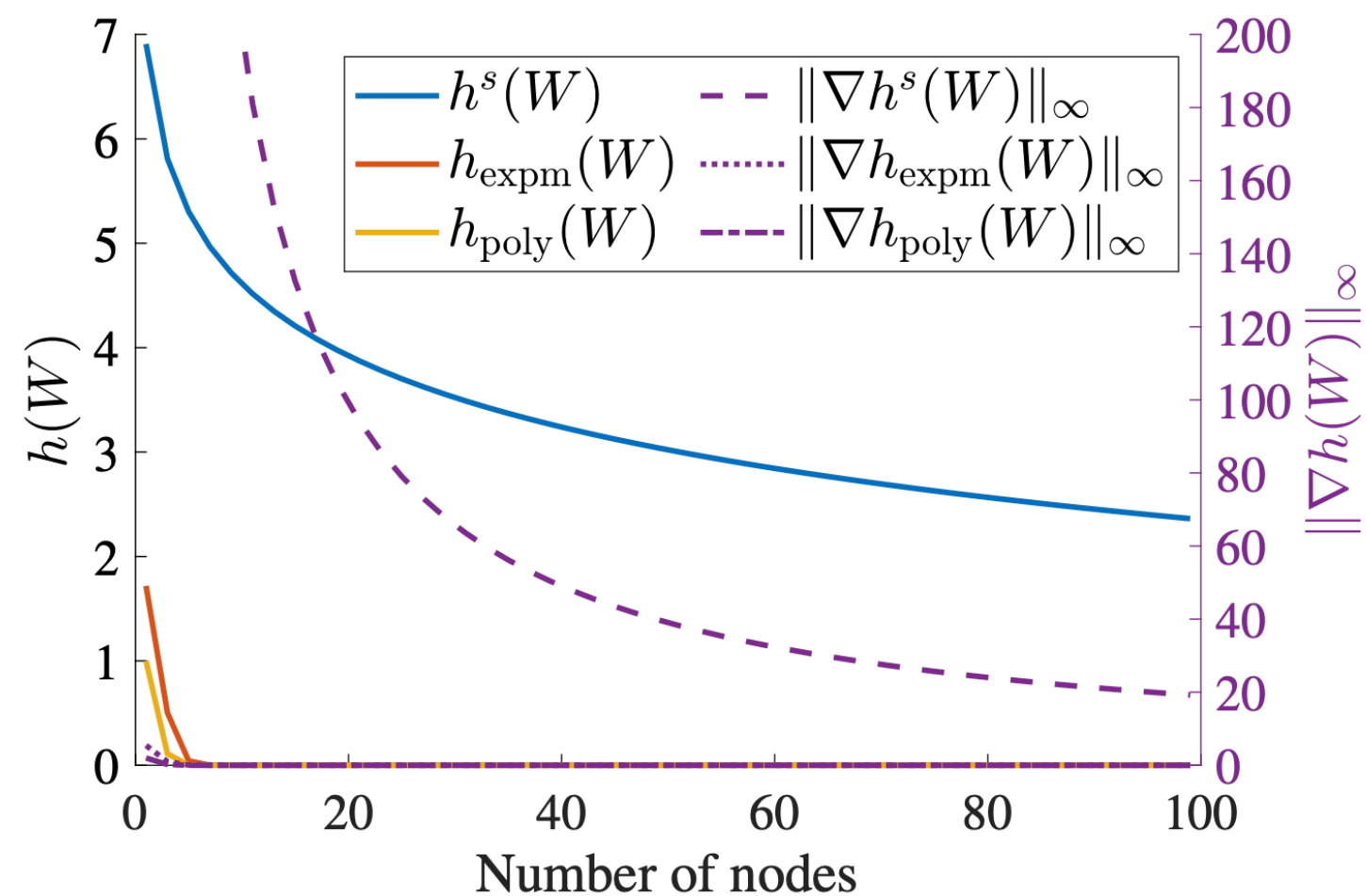
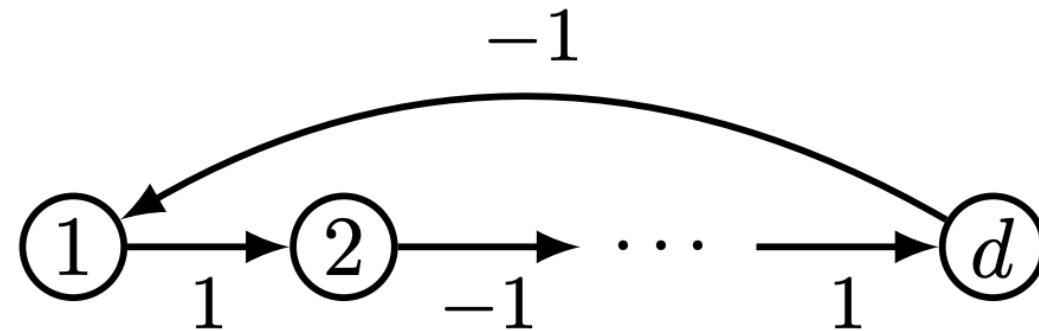
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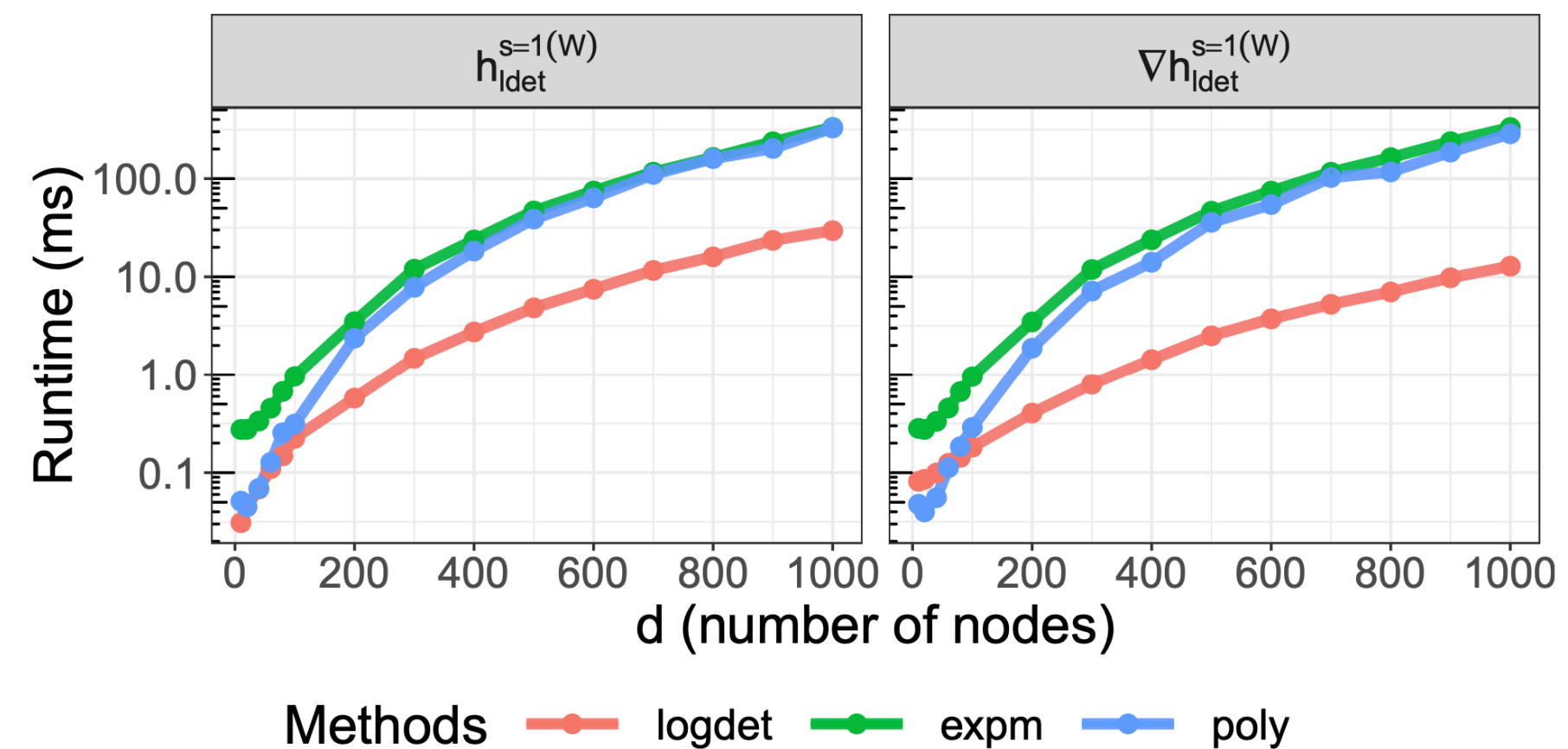
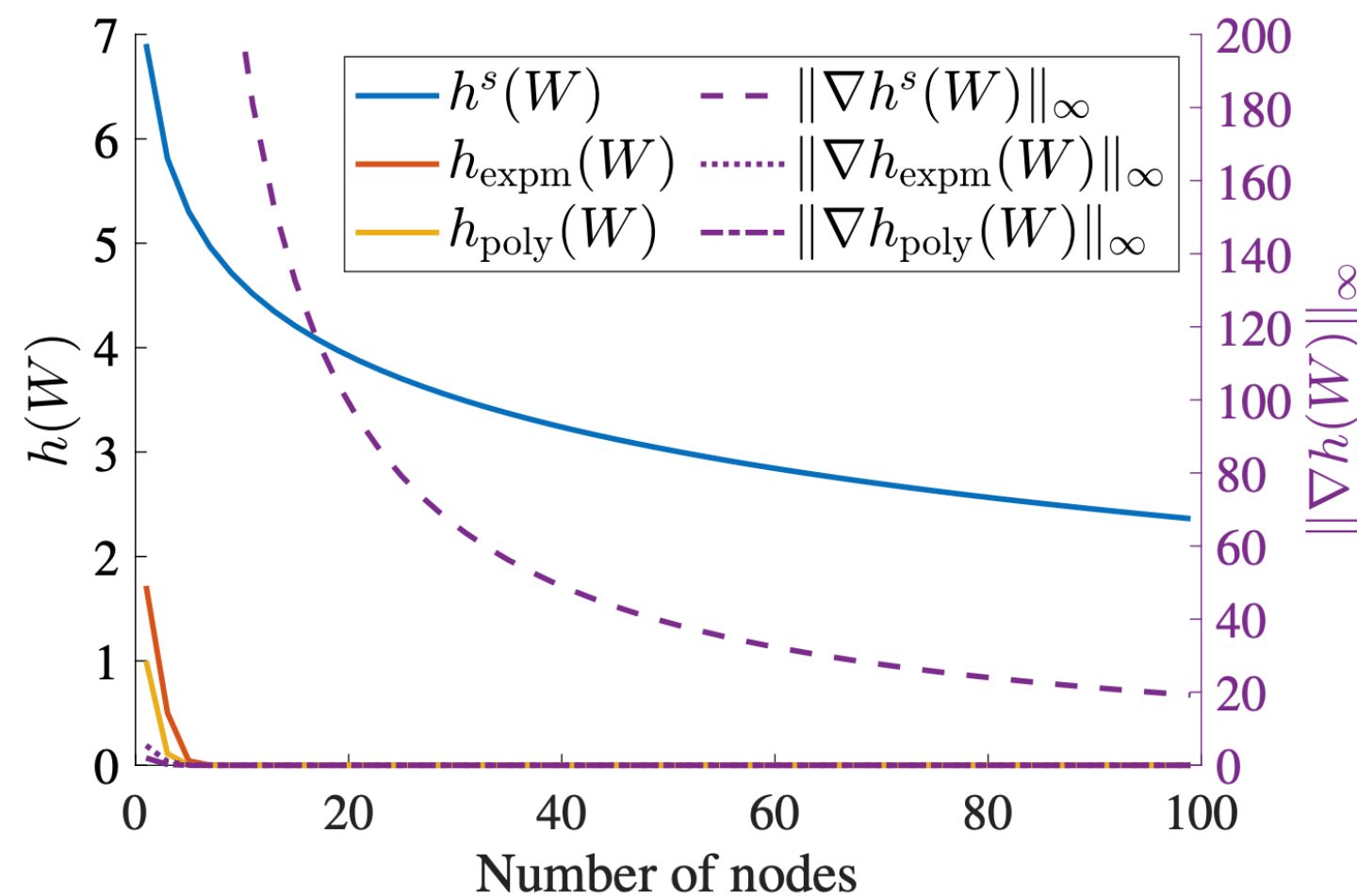
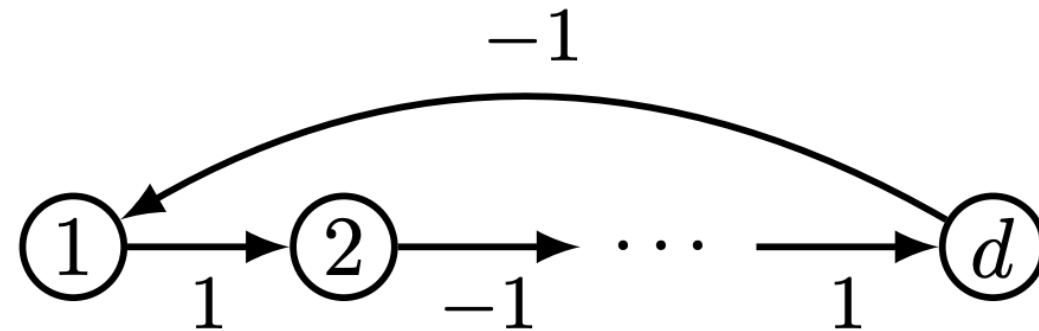
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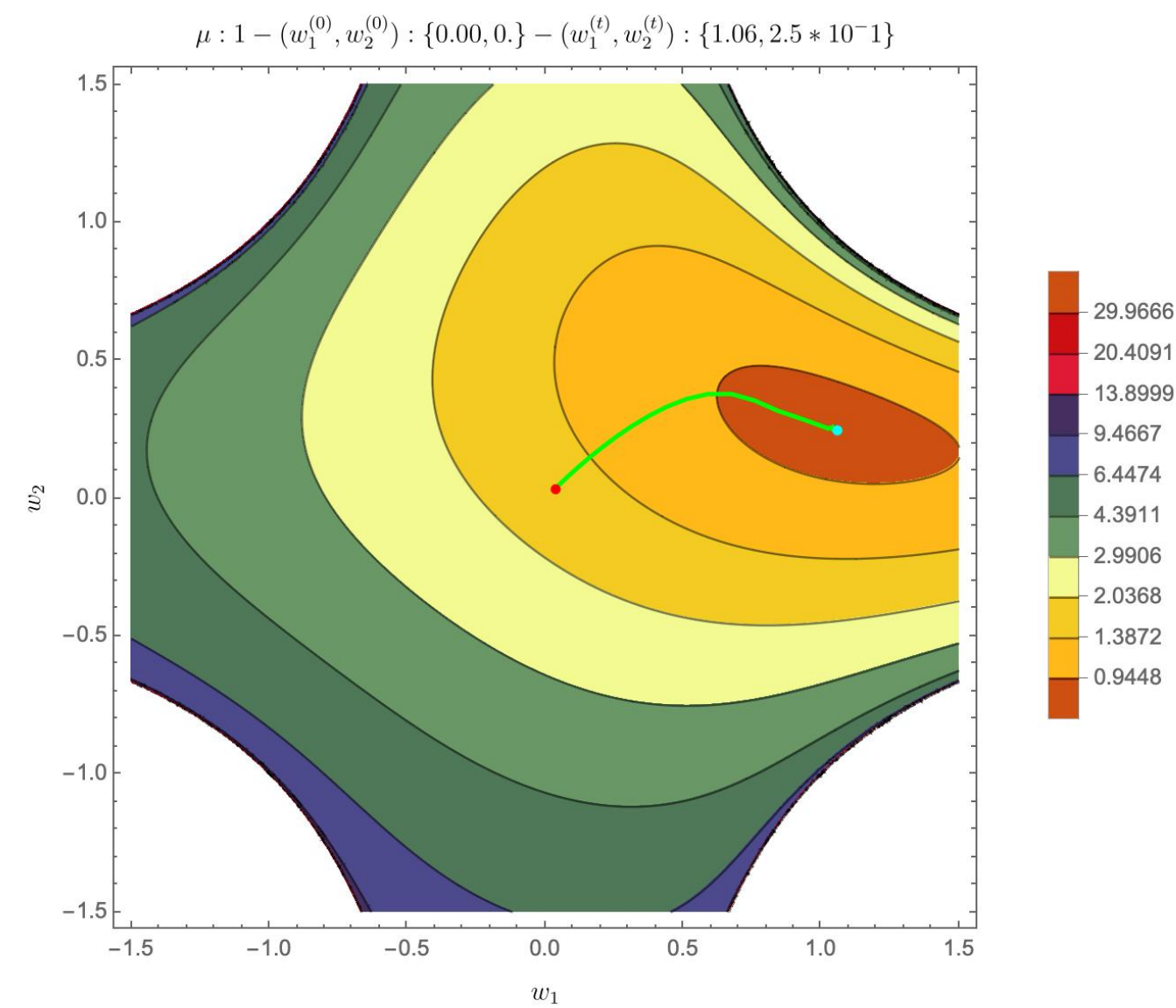
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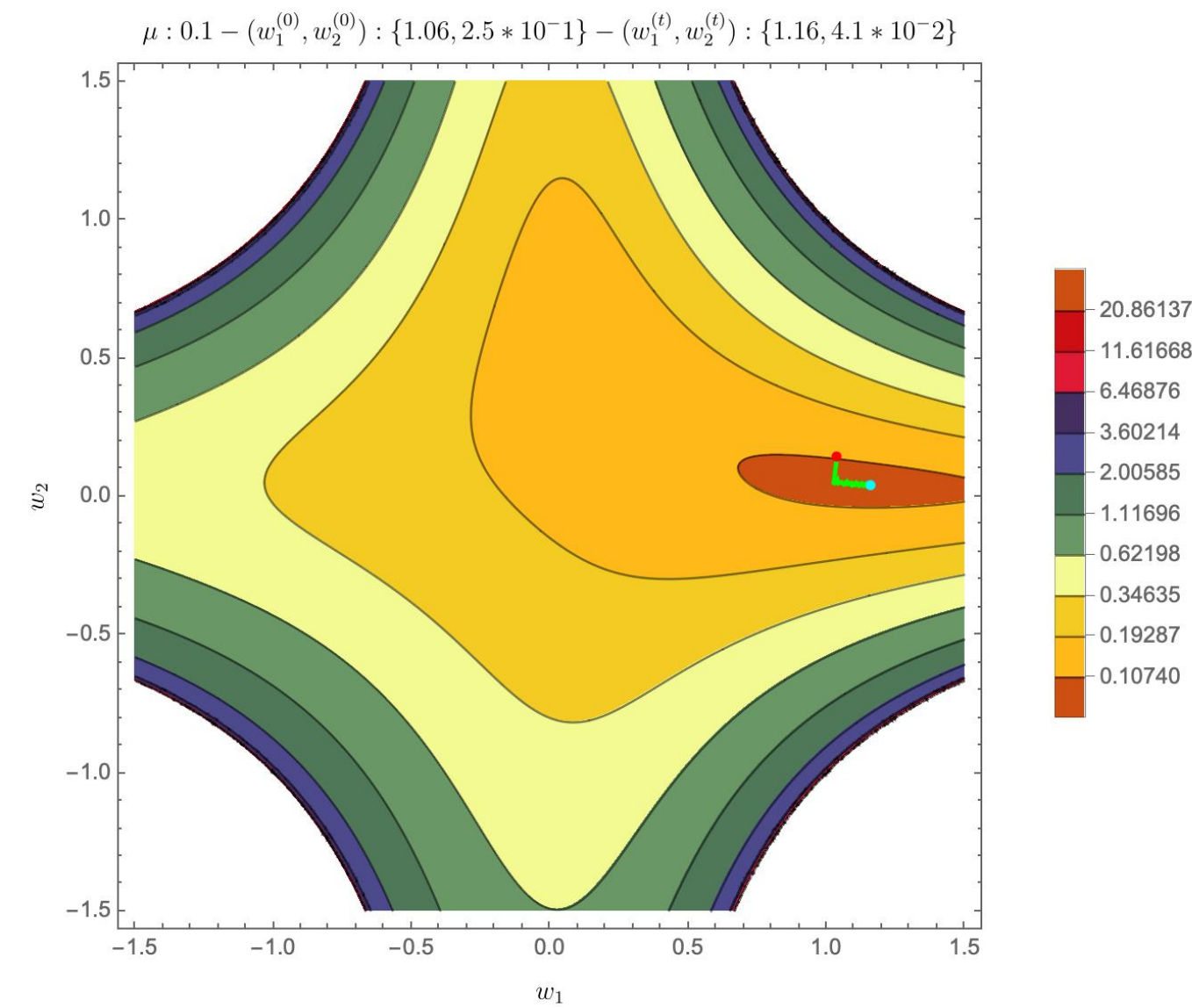
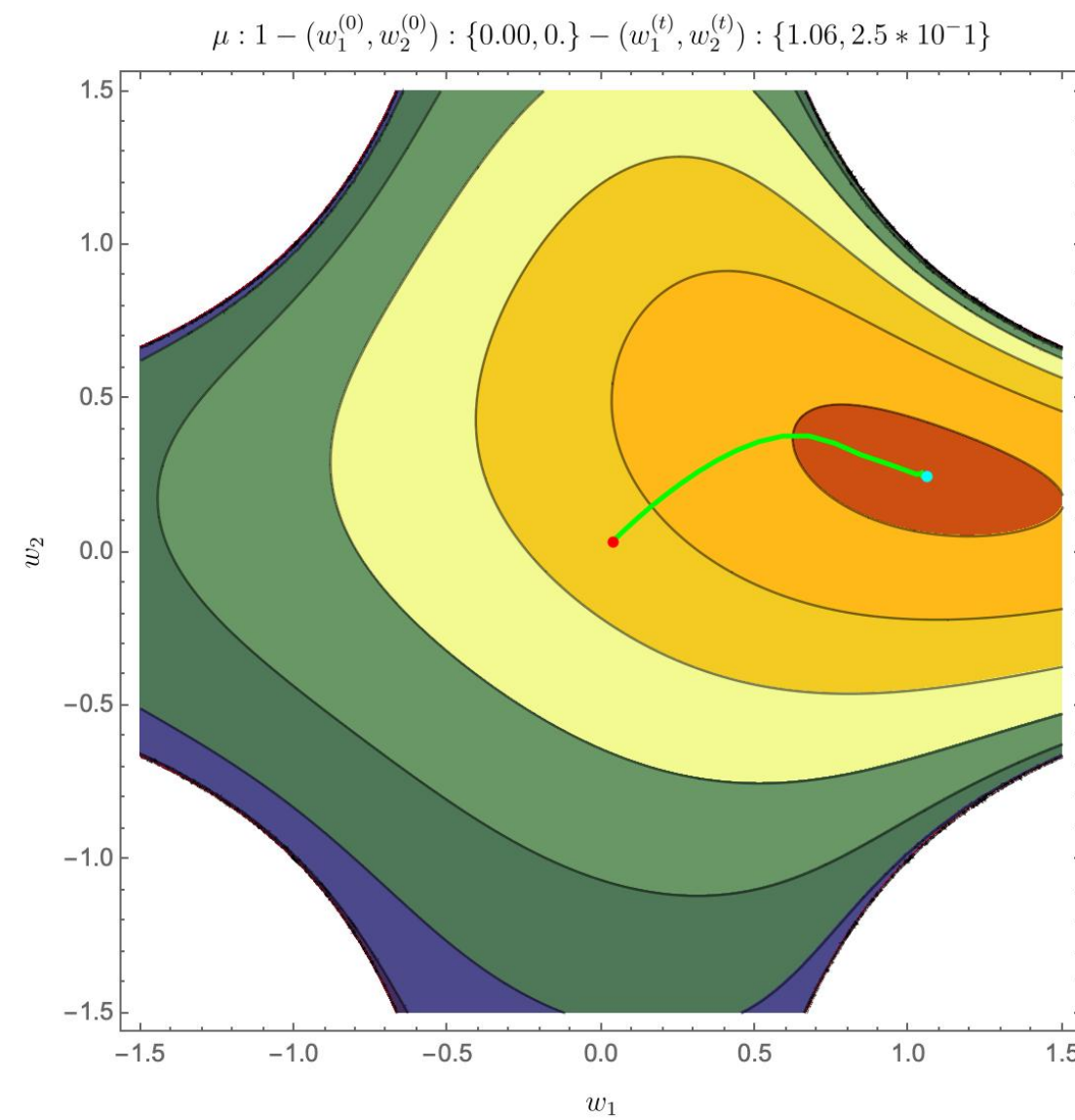
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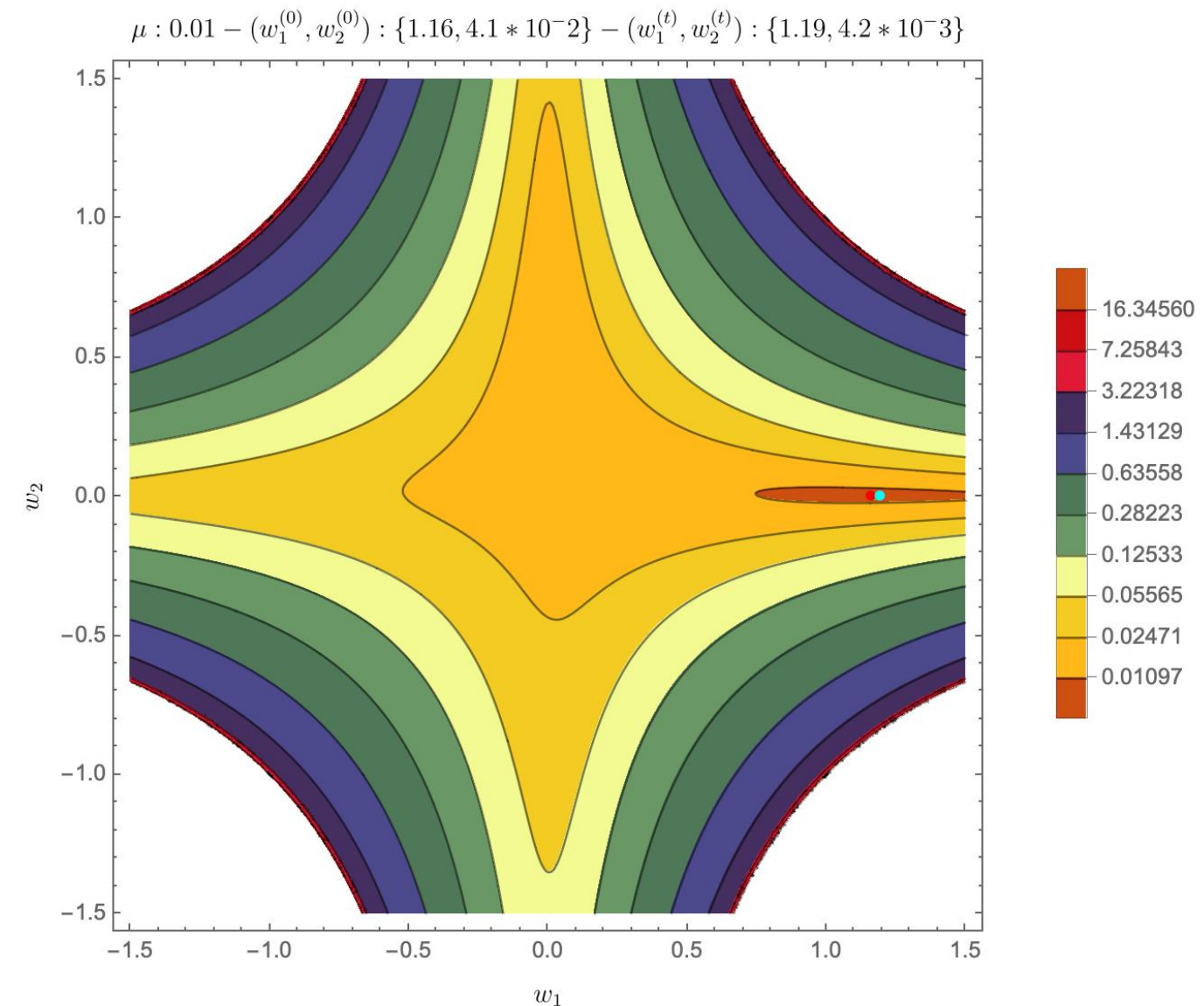
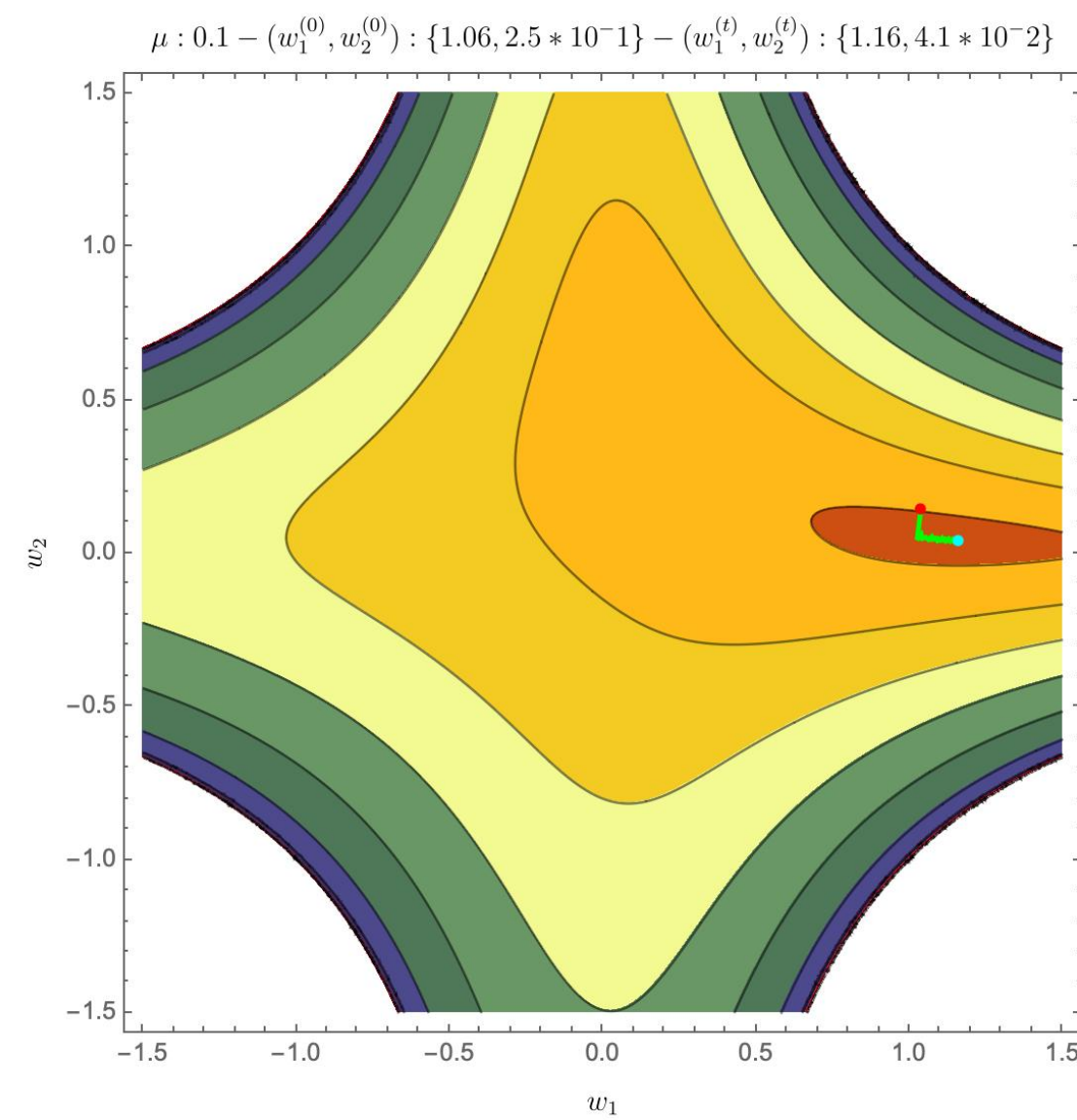
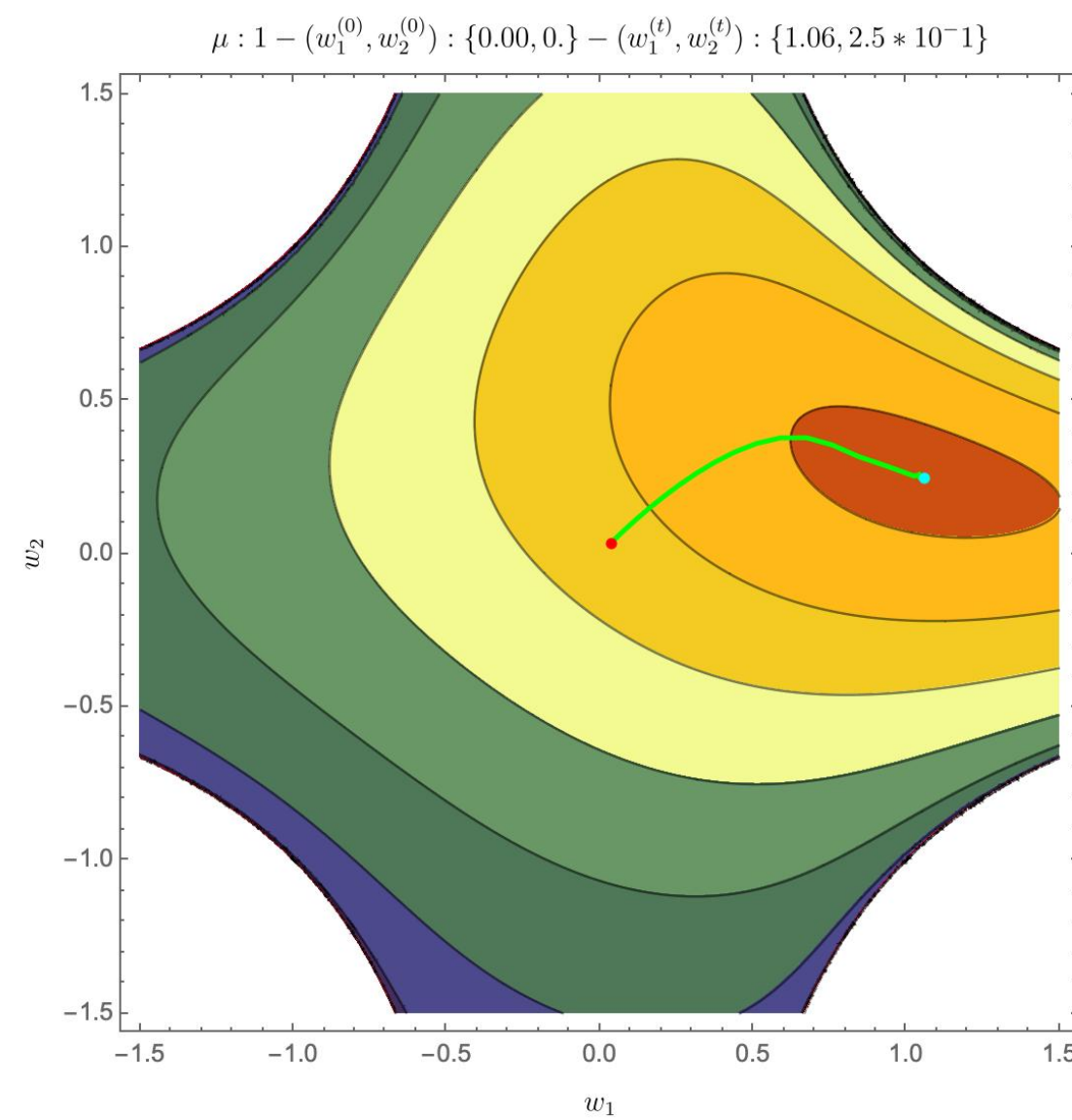
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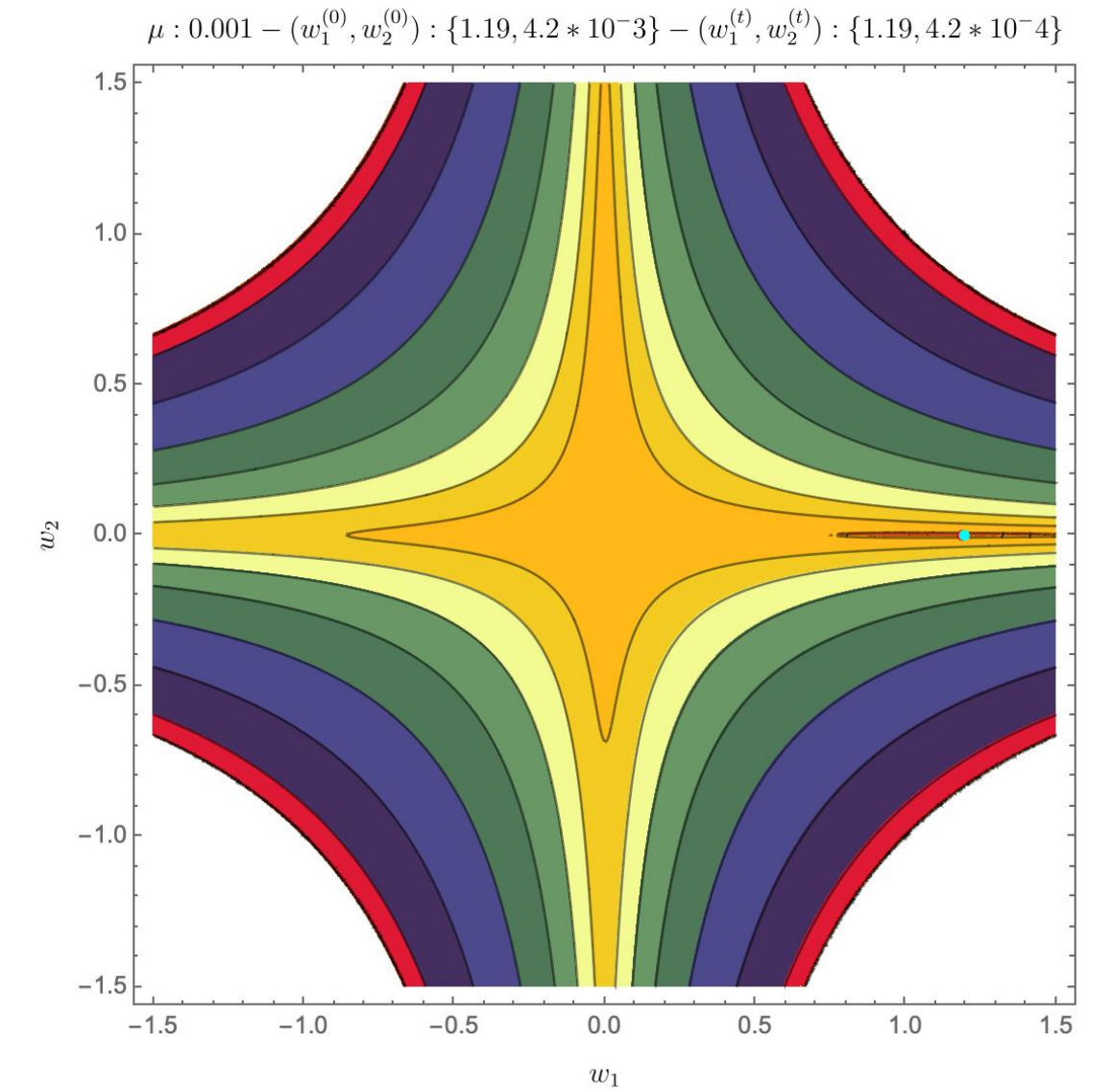
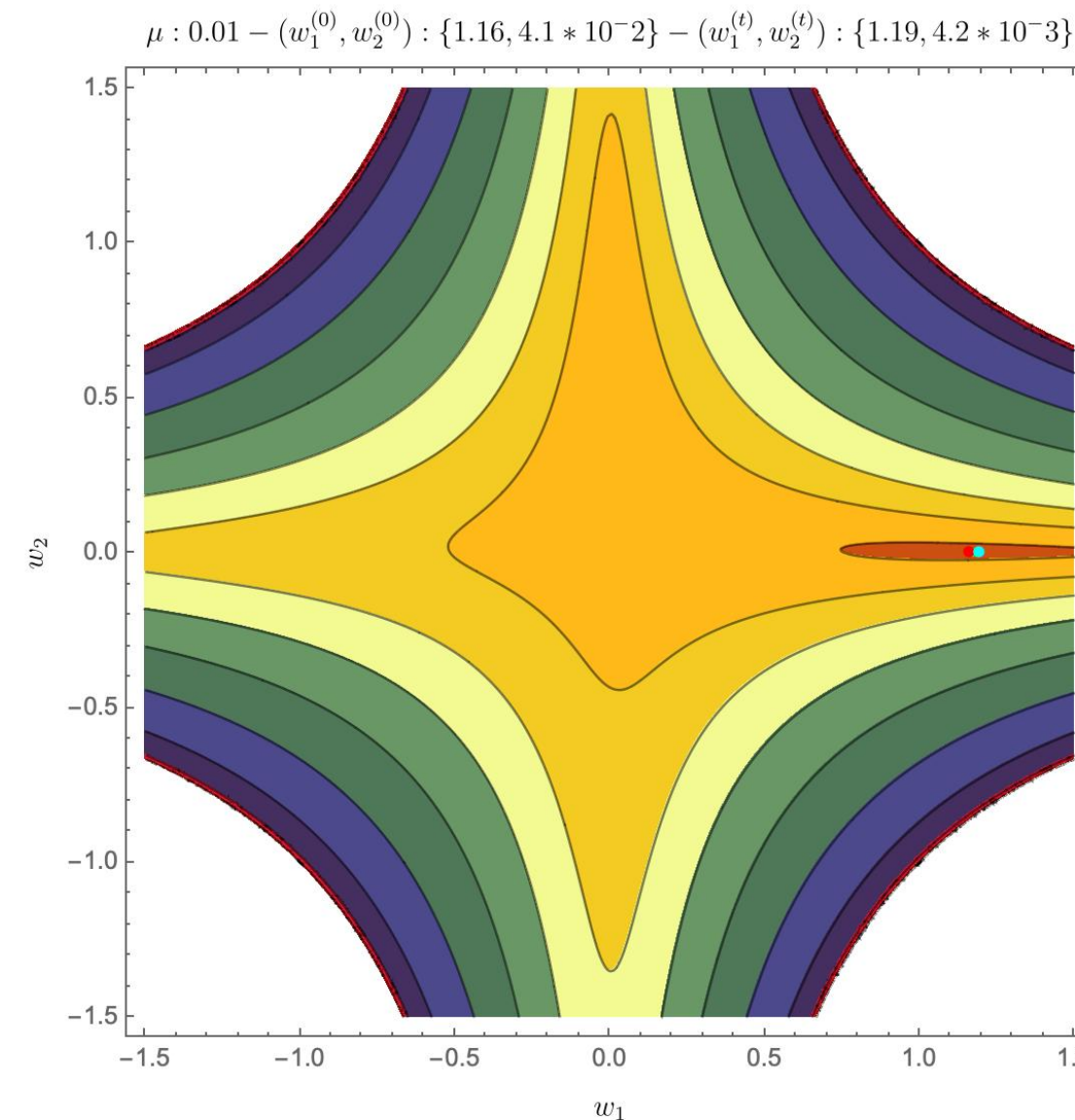
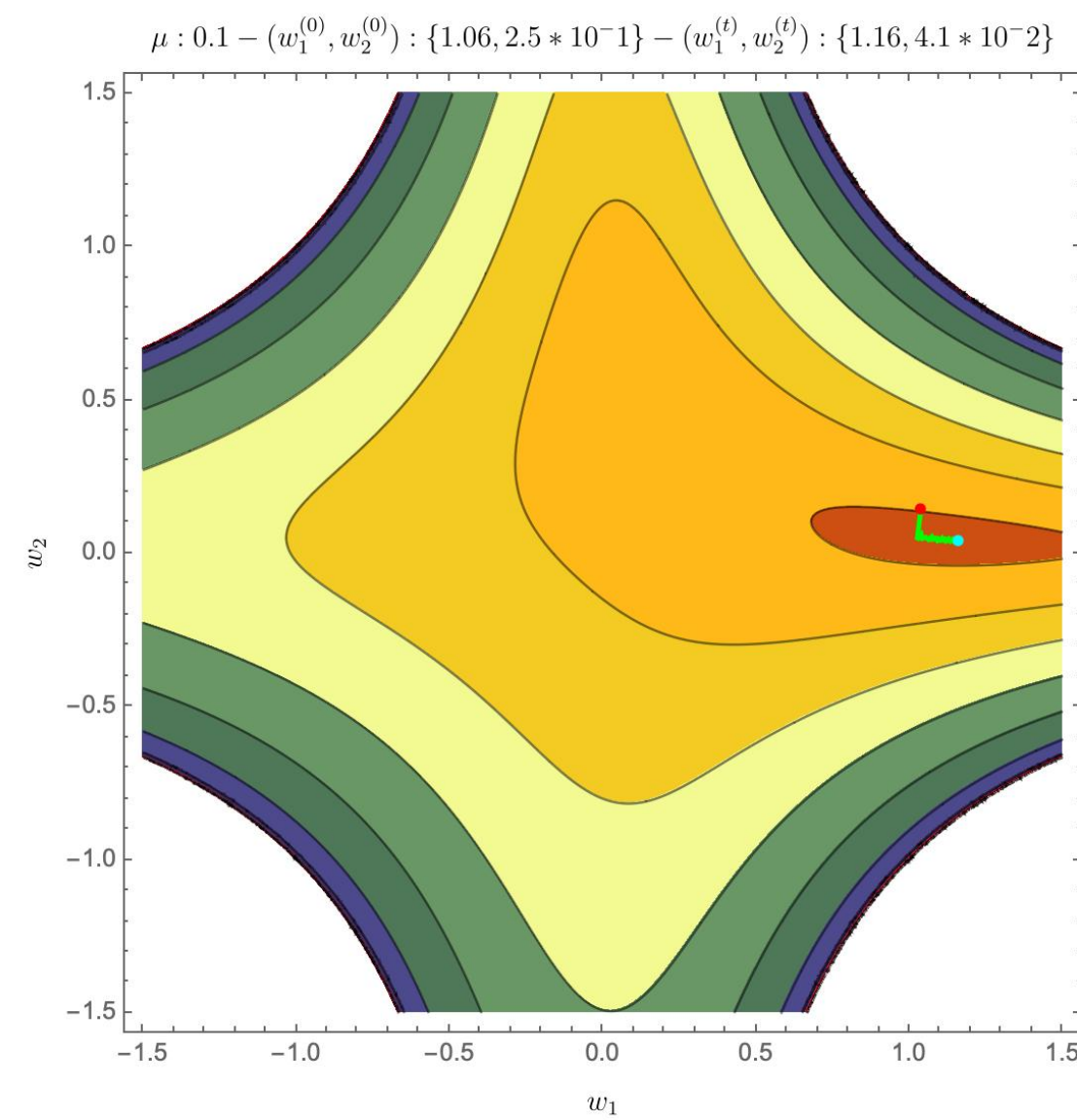
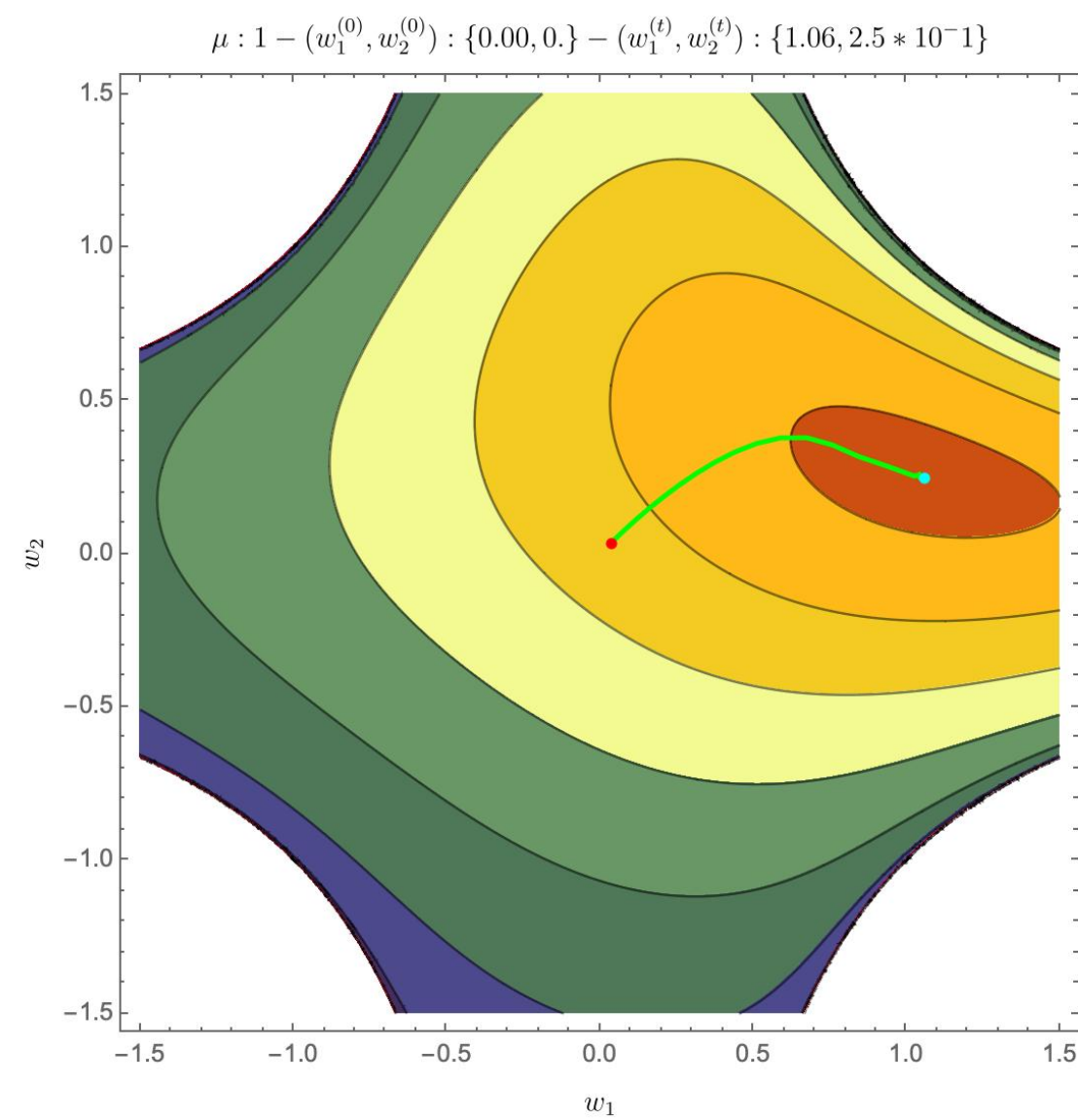
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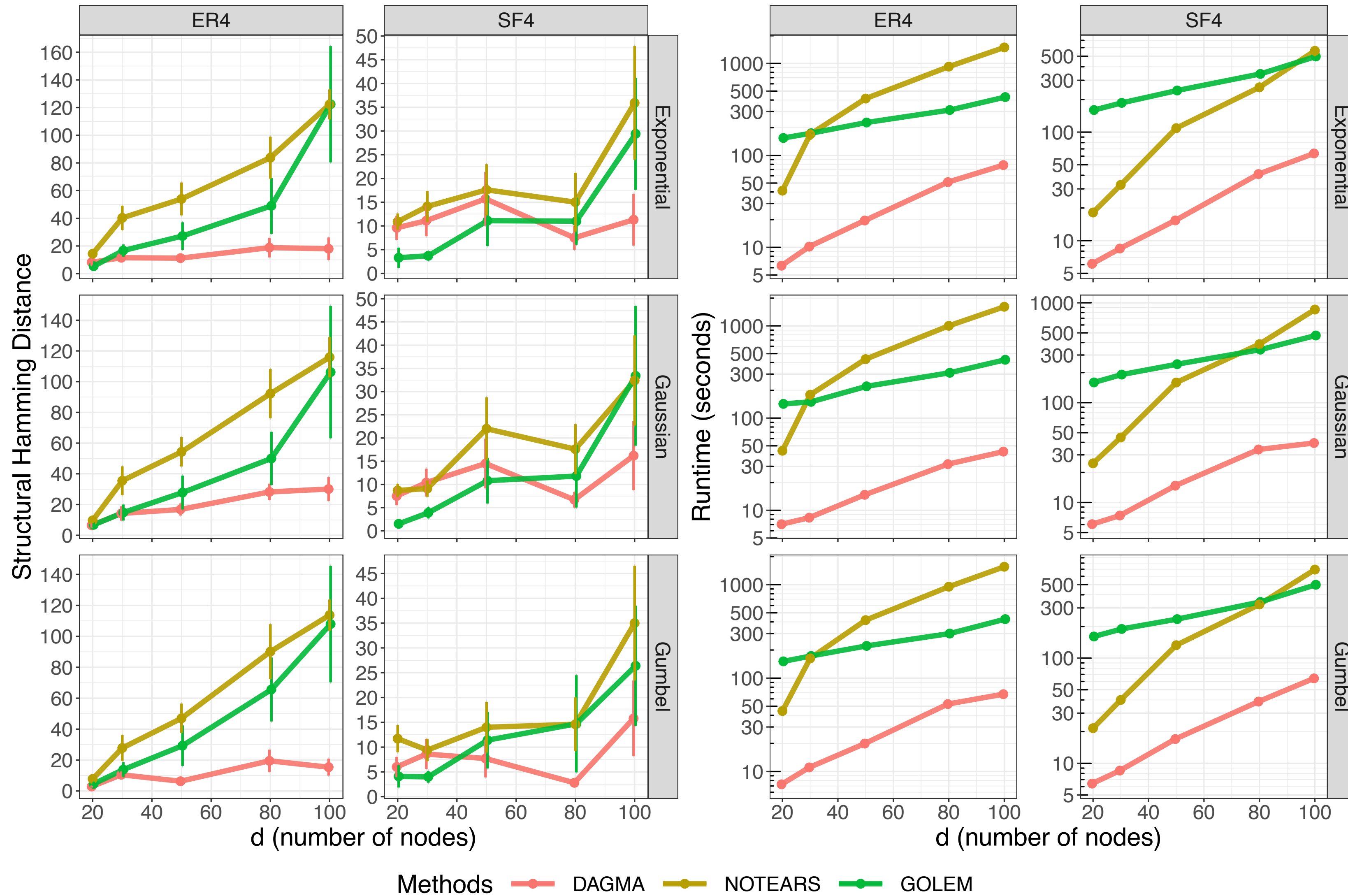
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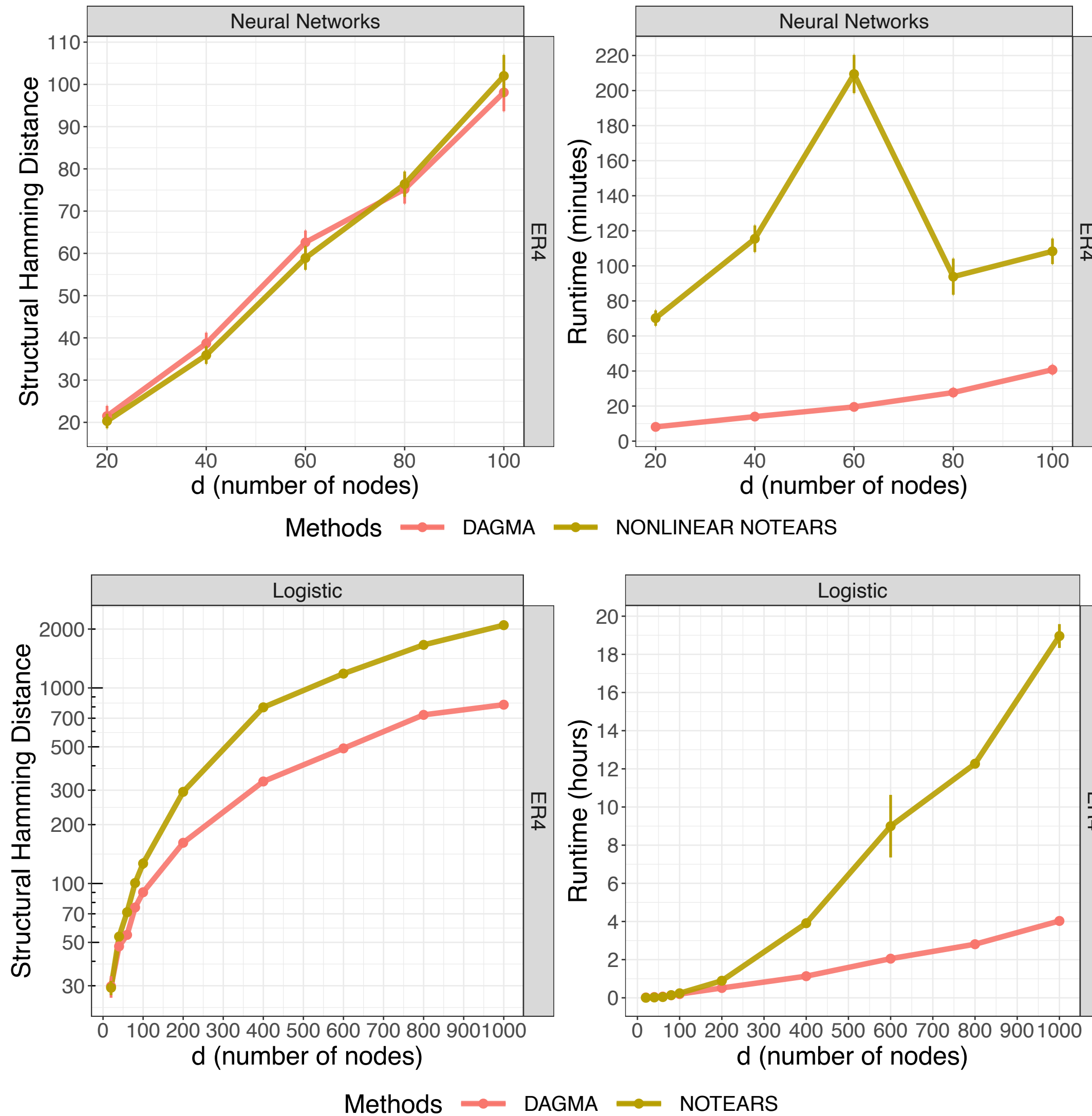
# Empirical improvements

## Linear SEMs



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## Nonlinear SEMs



# Future directions

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- In general, there is a need for rigorous guarantees of these continuous approaches:
  - Identifiability
  - Statistical/Computational guarantees