

# Near-linear Time Gaussian Process Optimization with Adaptive Batching and Resparsification

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\* equal contribution. <sup>1</sup> DeepMind, <sup>2</sup> MaLGa - UniGe, <sup>3</sup> Facebook, <sup>4</sup> MIT - IIT

# Bayesian/Bandit Optimization

Set of candidates  $\mathcal{A}$

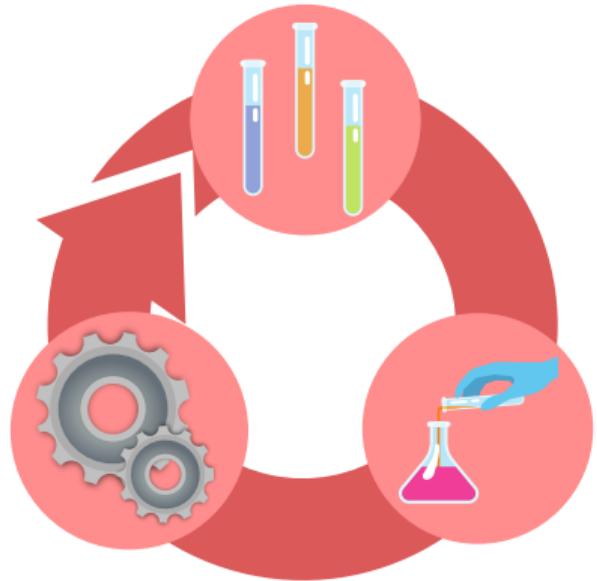


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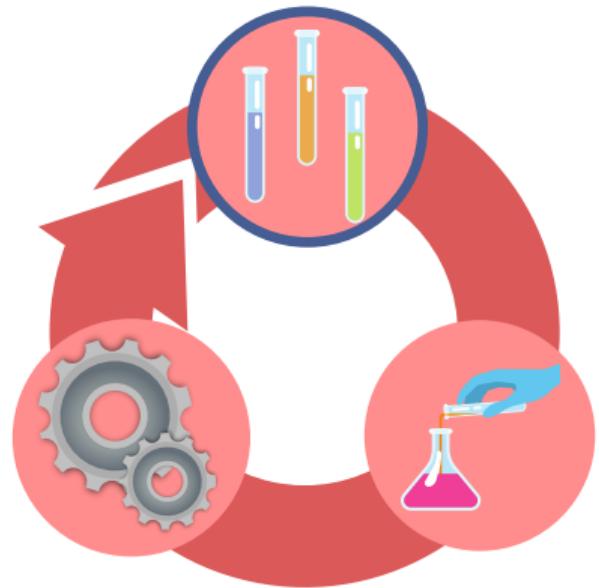


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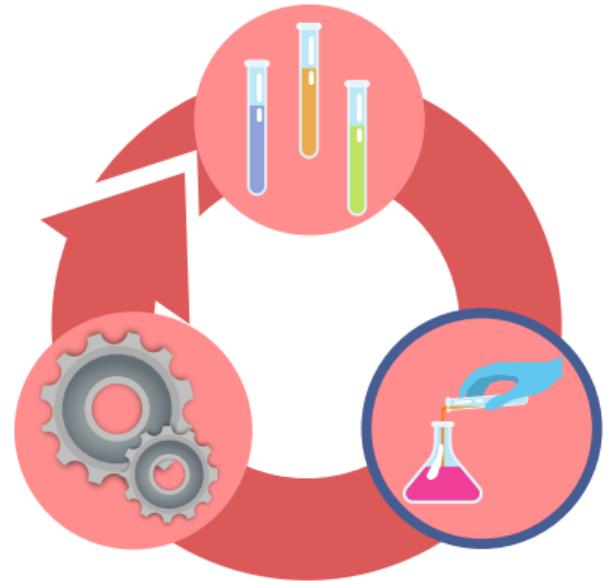


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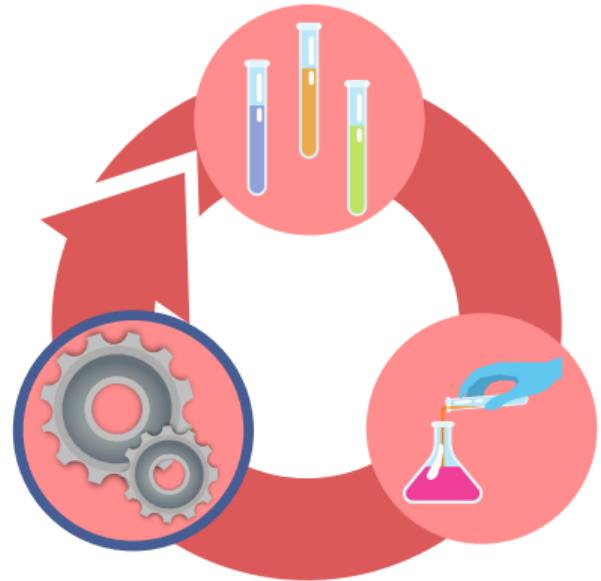


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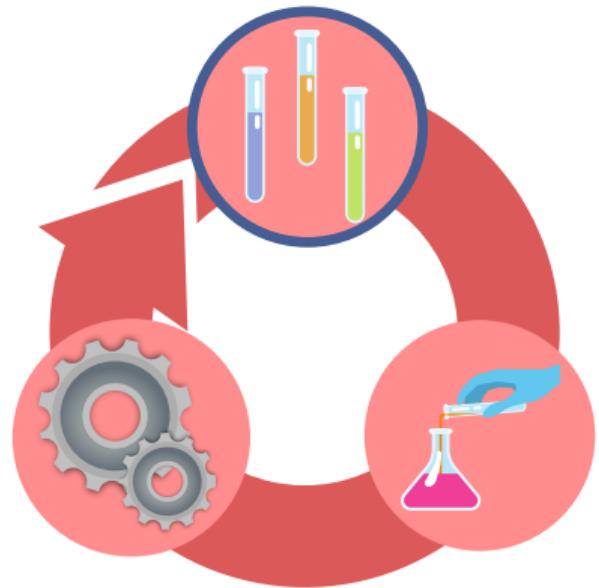


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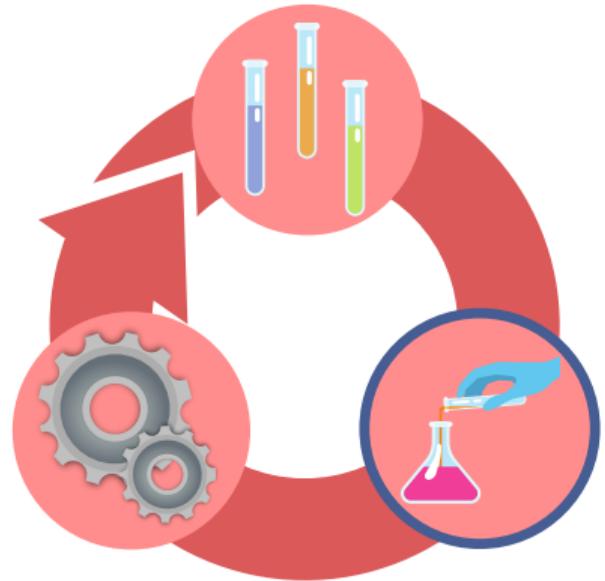


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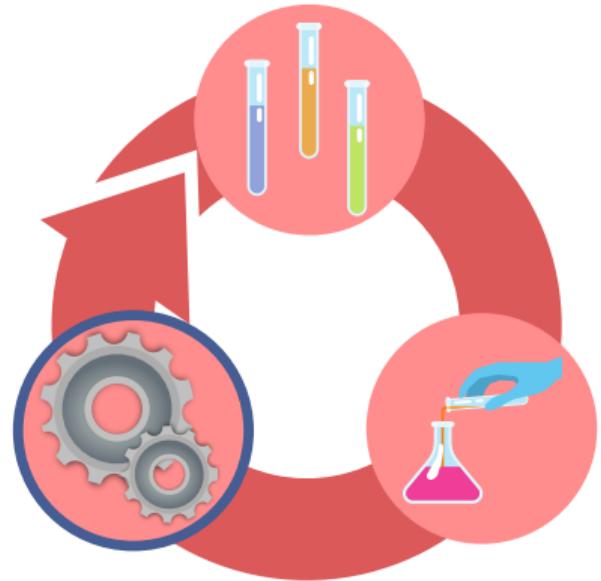


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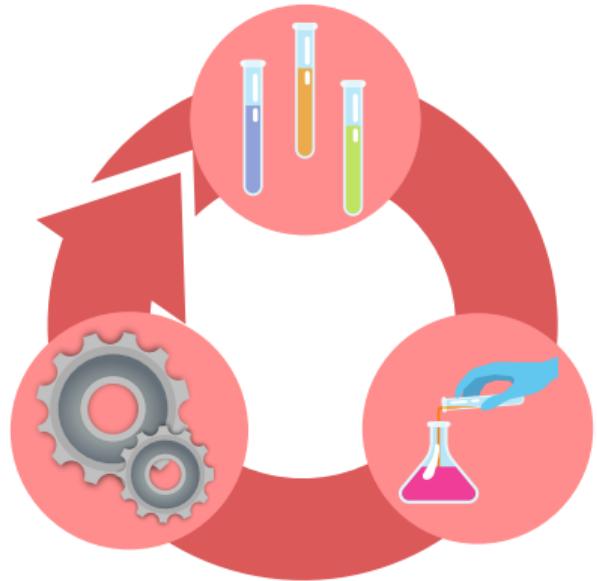


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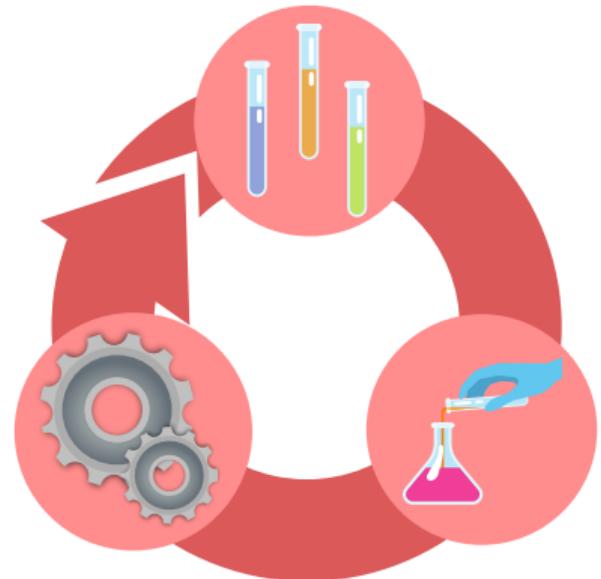


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Set of candidates  $\mathcal{A} = \{x_1, \dots, x_A\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

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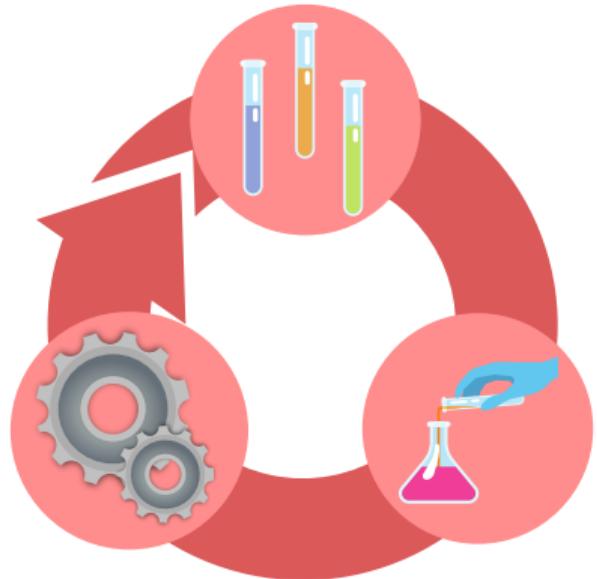


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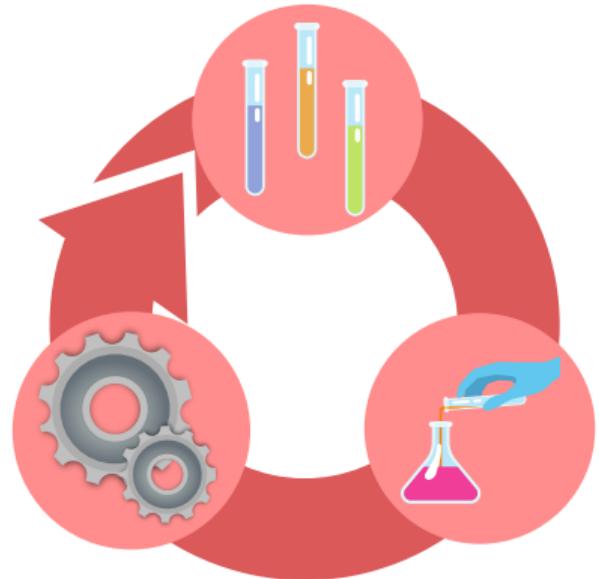


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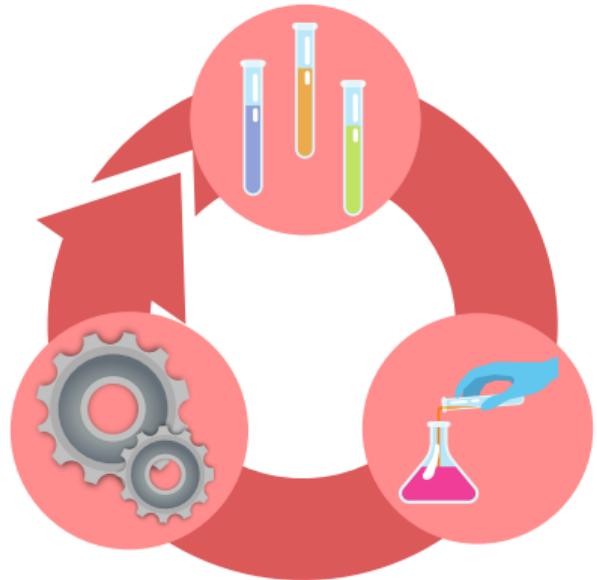


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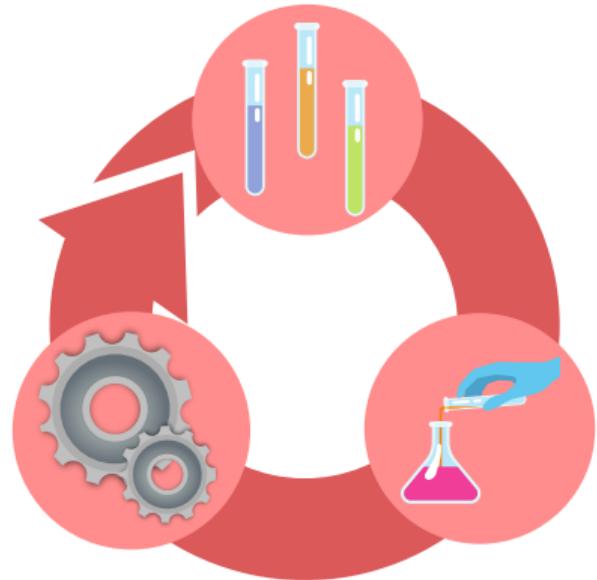


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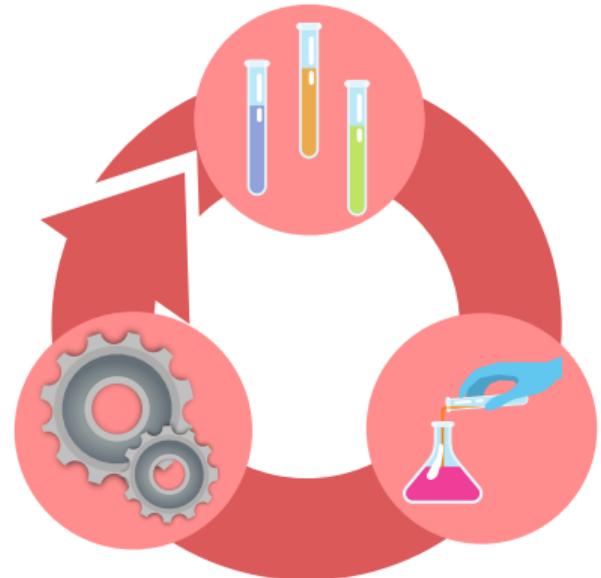
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Performance measure: cumulative **regret** w.r.t. best  $x_*$

$$R_T = \sum_{t=1}^T f(x_*) - f(x_t).$$



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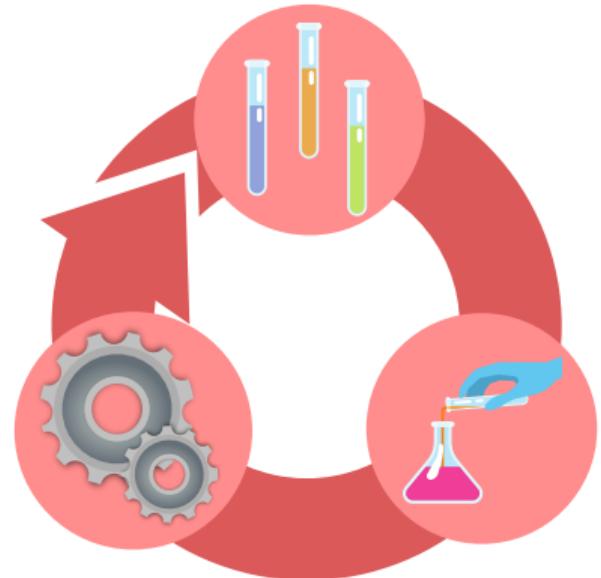
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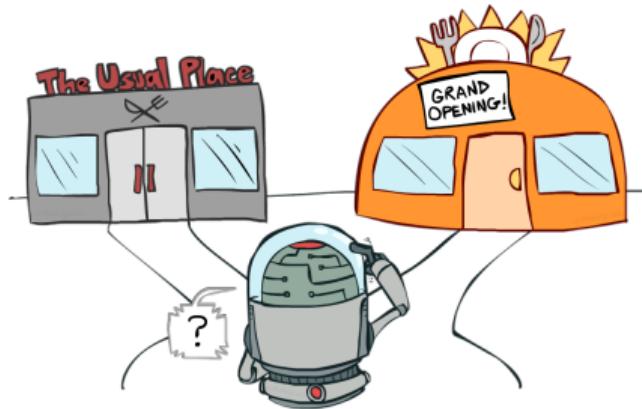
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💡 Use Gaussian process/kernelized Bandit to model  $f$

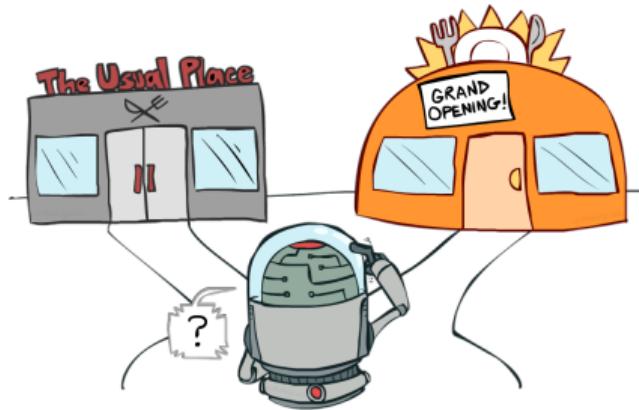
# Gaussian Process Optimization

😊 Well studied: exploration **vs** exploitation → no-regret (low error) 😊



# Gaussian Process Optimization

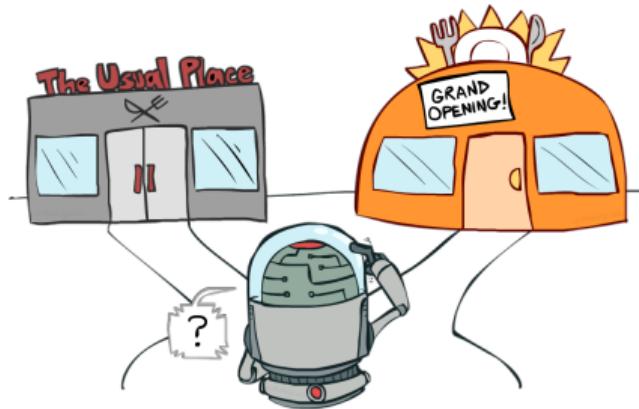
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🤔 performance **vs** scalability ? 🤔

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😊 Batch BKB: no-regret **and** scalable 😊

# Why Scalable GP Optimization is Hard

Experimental  
scalability

Computational  
scalability

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Experimental scalability



vs



sequential

batch

Computational scalability

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vs



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exact GP

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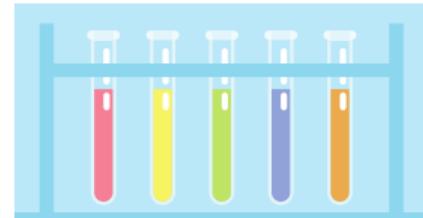
approximate GP

# Why Scalable GP Optimization is Hard

Experimental scalability



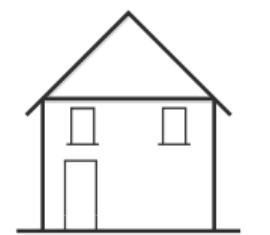
vs



Computational scalability

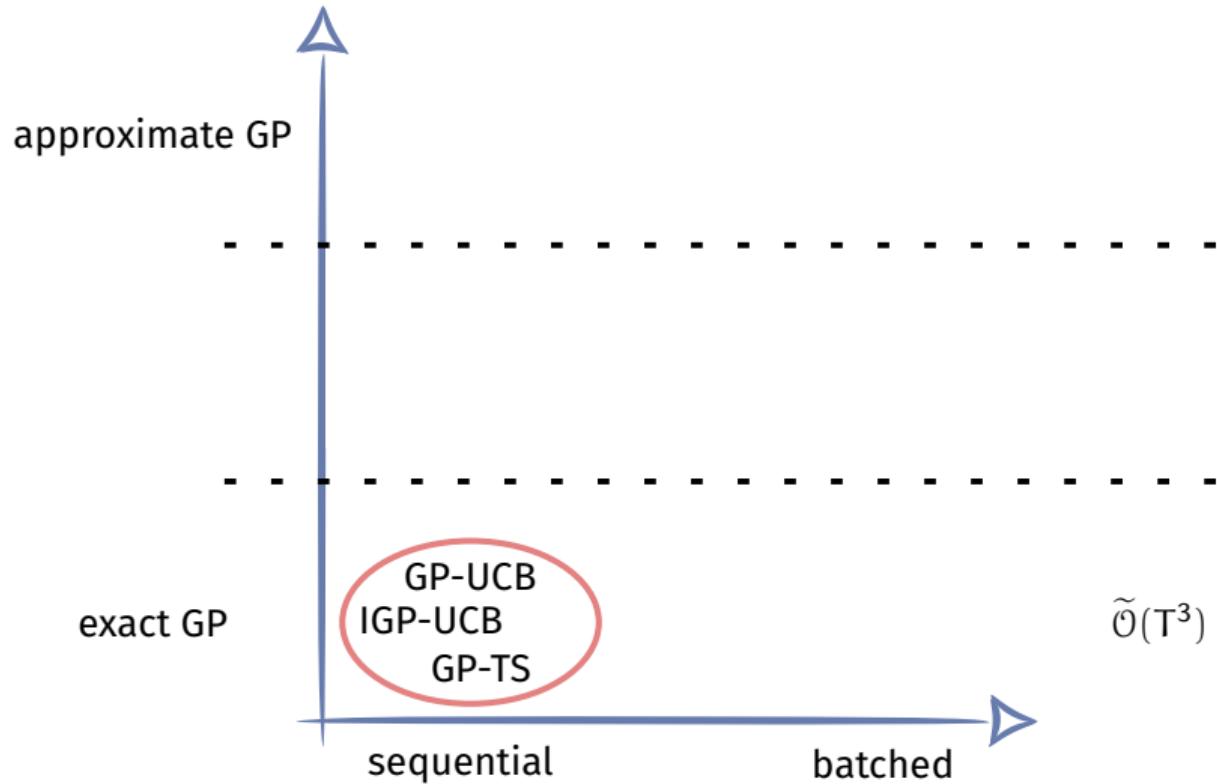


vs

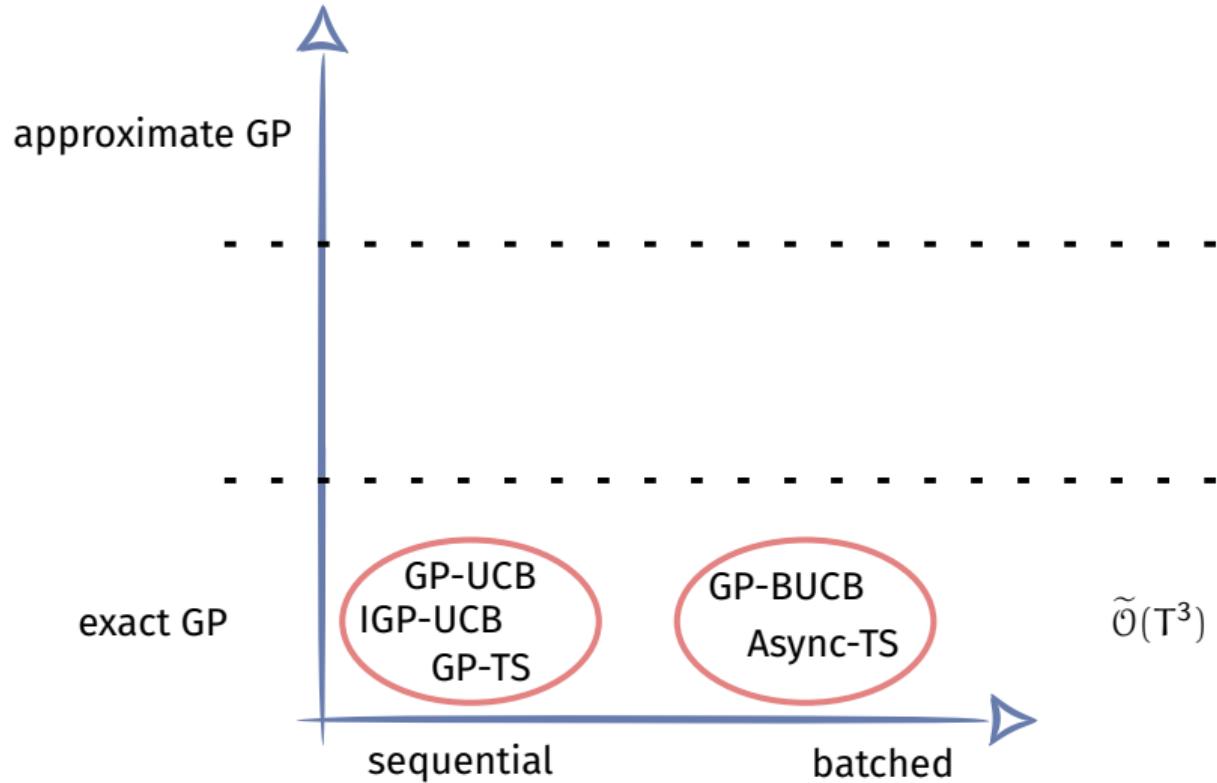


:( Batching and approximations increase regret :(

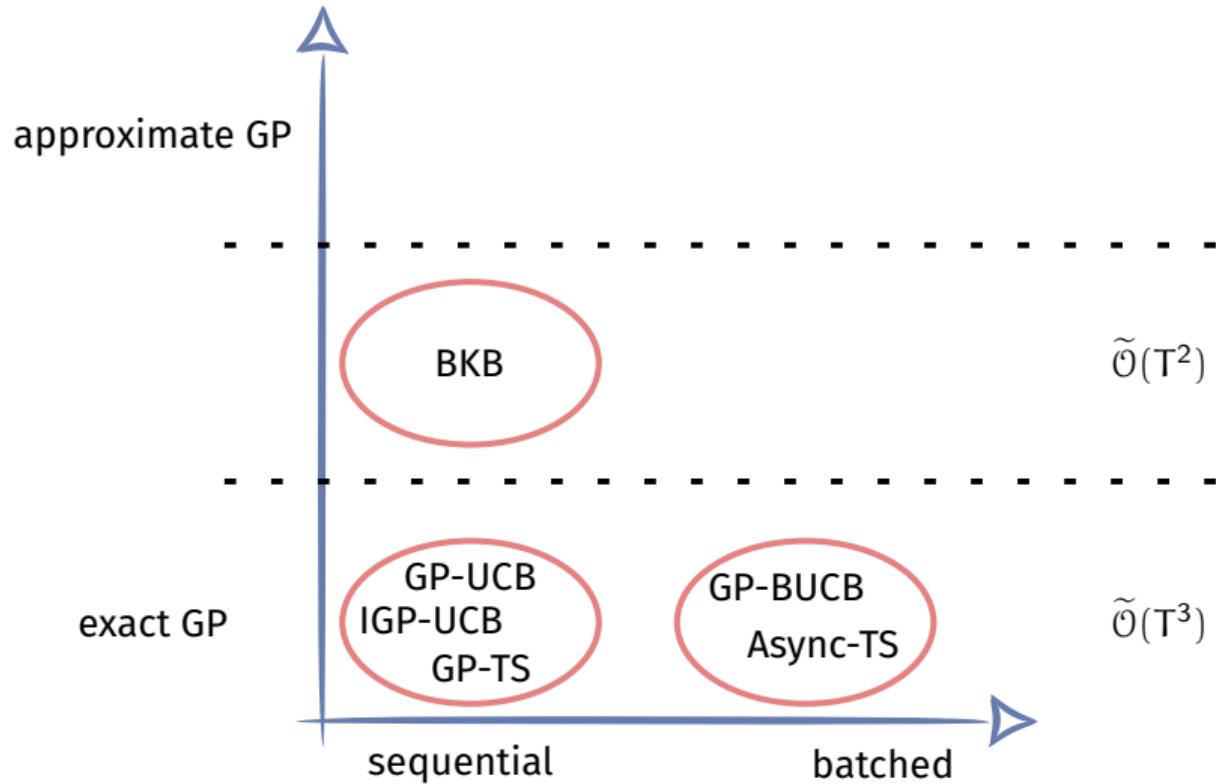
# Landscape of No-Regret GP Optimization



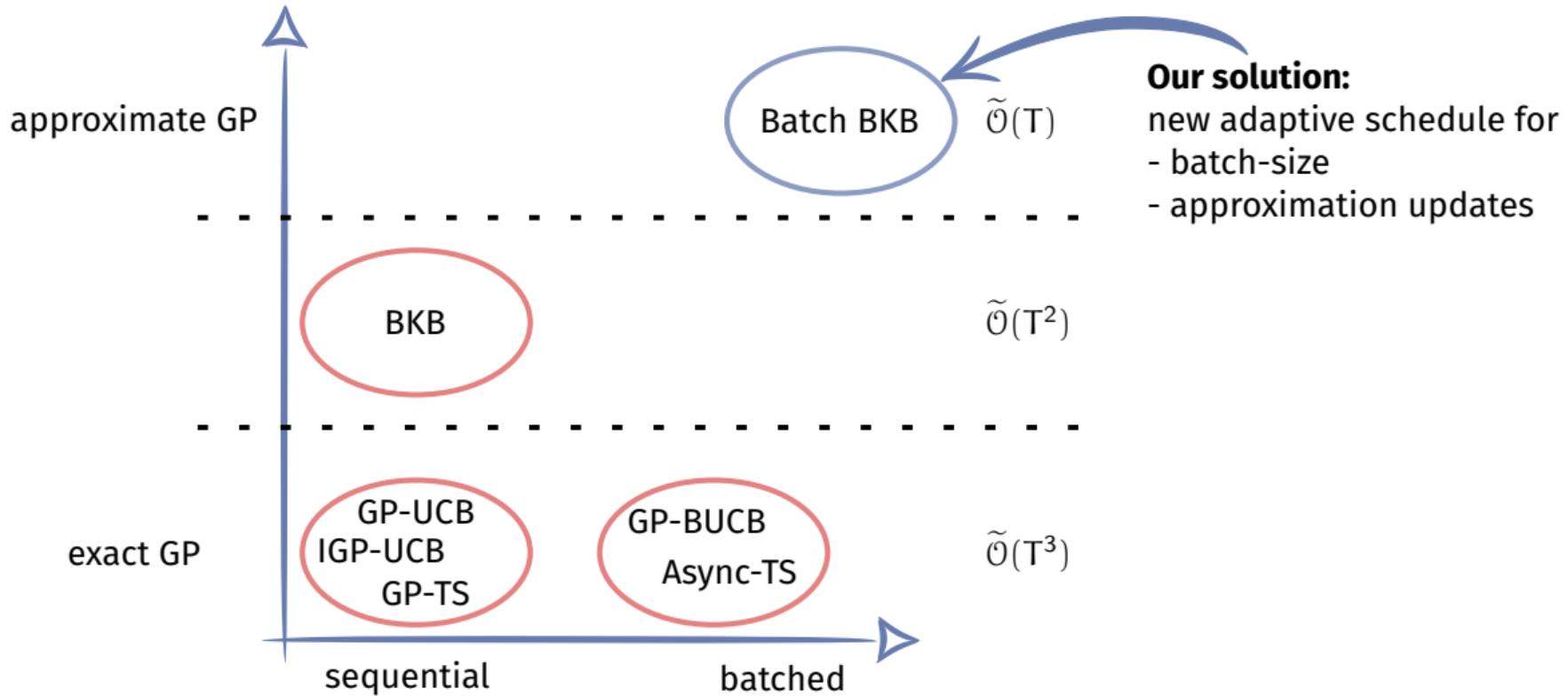
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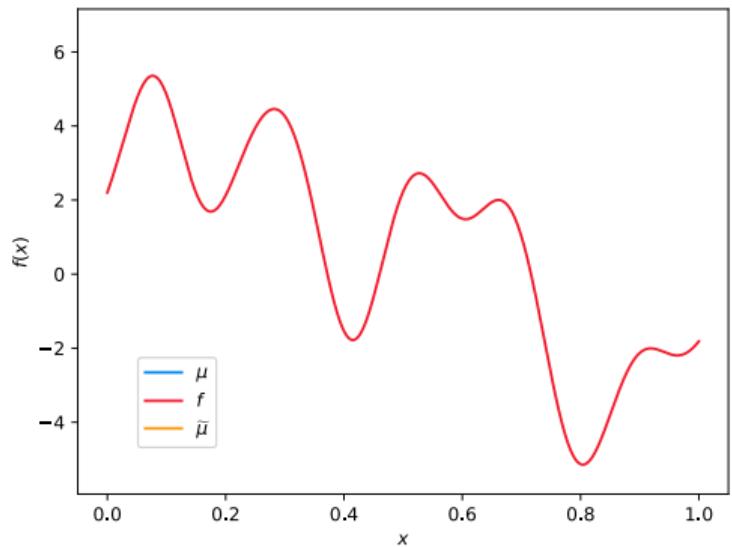
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# Choosing good candidates with GP-UCB

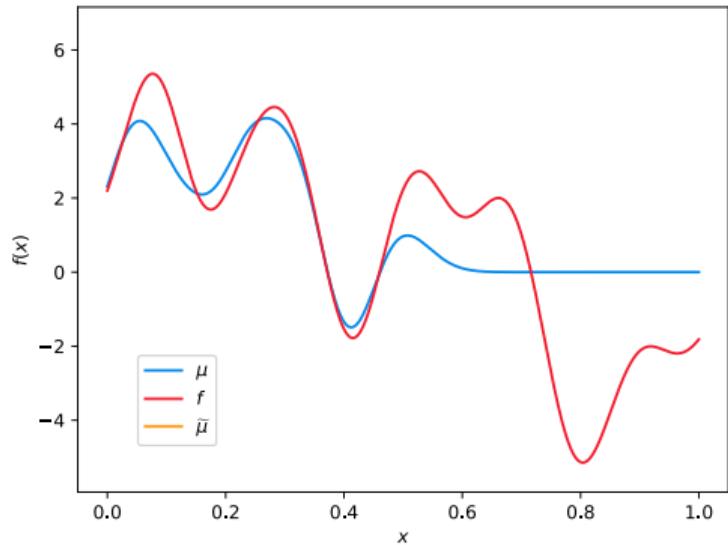


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$$X_t = \{x_1, \dots, x_t\}, Y_t = \{y_1, \dots, y_t\}$$

**Exact GP-UCB:**

$$u_t(\cdot) = \mu(\cdot | X_t, Y_t)$$

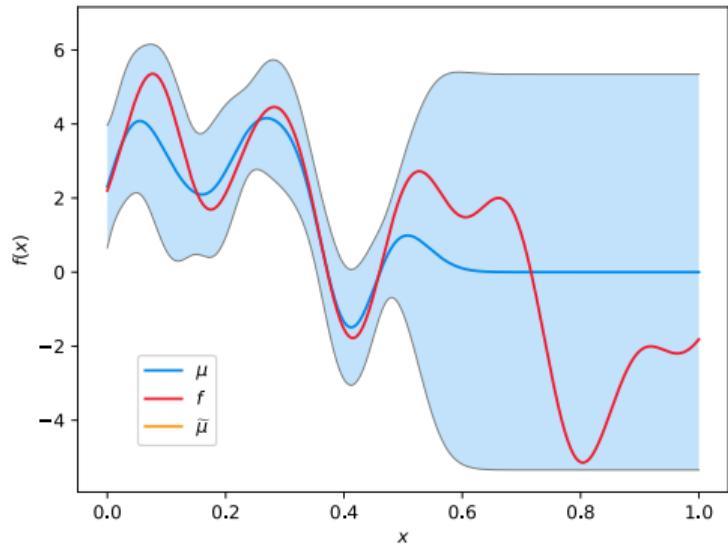


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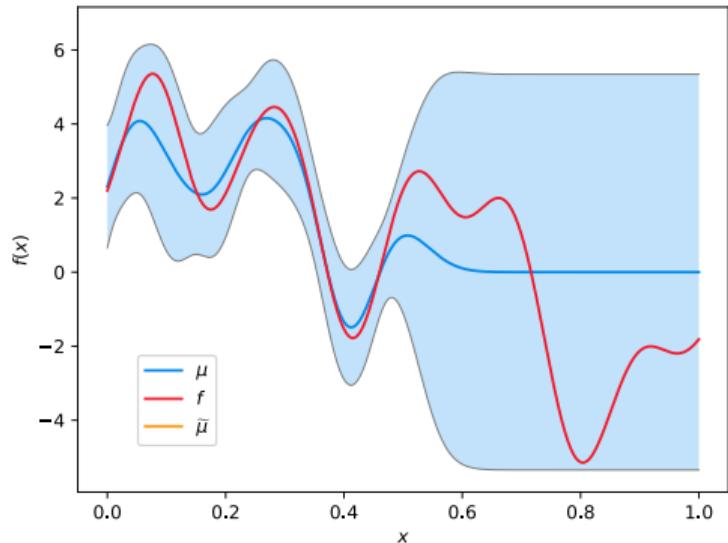
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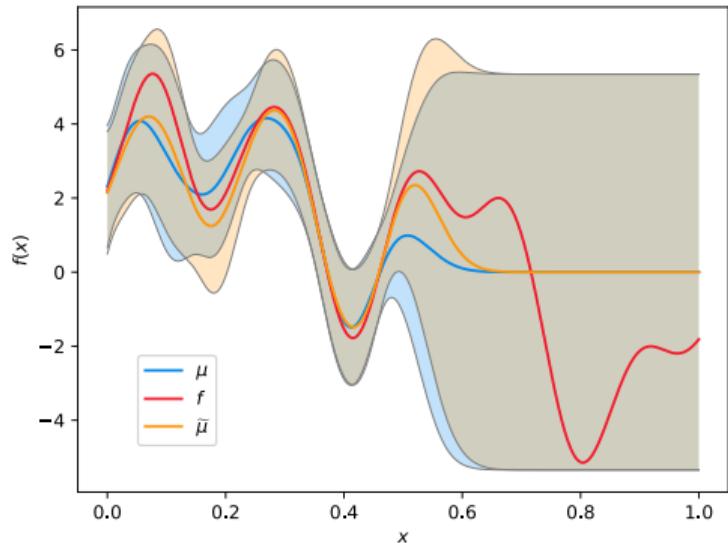
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**Sparse GP-UCB:**

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with  $\mathcal{D}_t \subset X_t$  inducing points



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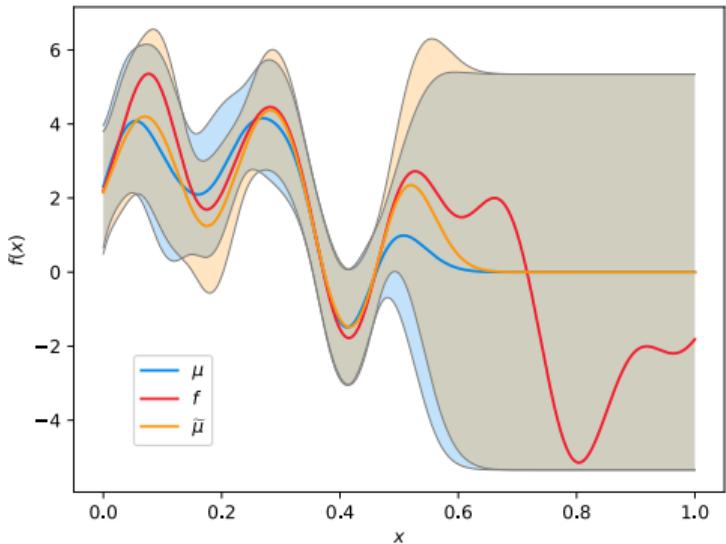
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[Cal+19]:  $\tilde{u}_t$  valid UCB if  $\mathcal{D}_t$  updated at every  $t$ .



# Performance vs Scalability

Better performance: collect more feedback, update inducing points (resparsify)

$$\tilde{u}_t(\cdot) = \tilde{\mu}(\cdot | X_t, Y_t, \mathcal{D}_t) + \tilde{\beta}_t \tilde{\sigma}(\cdot | X_t, \mathcal{D}_t)$$

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```
graph TD; A["Better performance: collect more feedback, update inducing points (resparsify)"] --> B["\tilde{u}_t(\cdot) = \tilde{\mu}(\cdot | X_t, Y_t, \mathcal{D}_t) + \tilde{\beta}_t \tilde{\sigma}(\cdot | X_t, \mathcal{D}_t)"]; A --> C["Worse scalability: experimental cost, resparsification cost"]; C --> D["\tilde{\beta}_t"]; C --> E["\tilde{\sigma}(\cdot | X_t, \mathcal{D}_t)"]
```

Worse scalability: experimental cost, resparsification cost

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Worse scalability: experimental cost, resparsification cost

Improve scalability: batching feedback (GP-BUCB), batching resparsification ?

# Delayed Resparsification

## New adaptive batching rule

no-resparsify until  $\sum_{i \in \text{Batch}} \tilde{\sigma}^2(x_i) \geq 1$

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“Not too big” Lemma: valid UCB

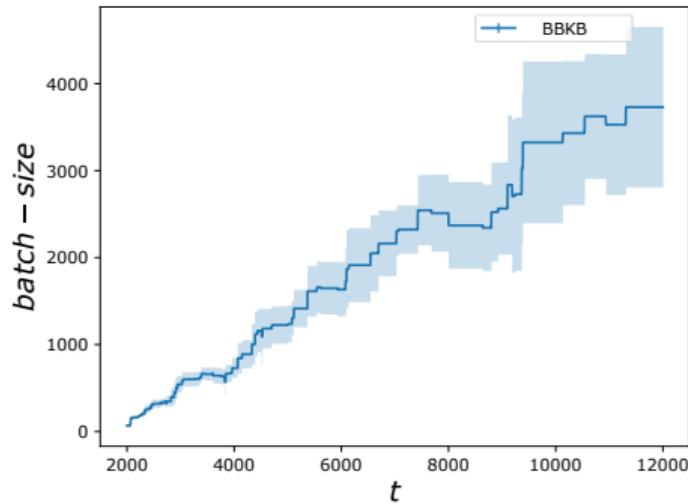
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**“Not too small” Lemma:** batch-size =  $\Omega(t)$



## Batch-BKB

### Theorem

With high probability **Batch-BKB** achieves no-regret with time complexity  $O(Td_{\text{eff}}^2)$ , where  $d_{\text{eff}} \ll T$  is the effective dimension / degrees of freedom of the GP.

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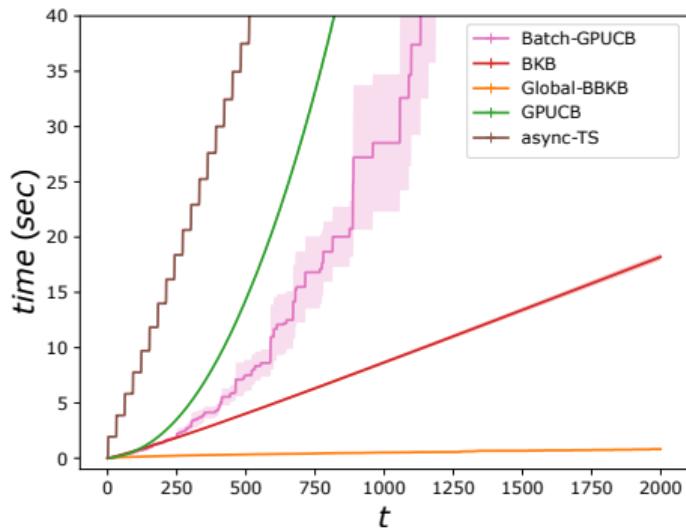
### Comparisons:

- 😊 Same regret of GP-UCB/IGP-UCB and better scalability (from  $O(T^3)$  to  $O(Td_{\text{eff}}^2)$ )
- 😊 Larger batches than GP-BUCB
- 😊 Better regret and better scalability than async-TS

# In practice: Scalability

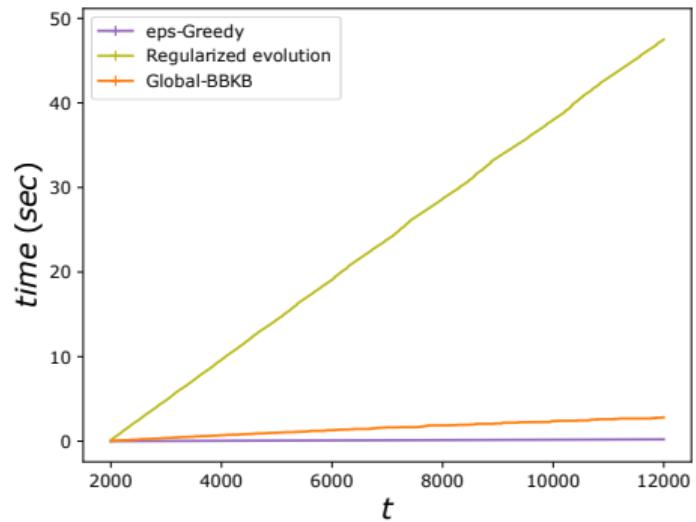
Cadata

$A = 20640, d = 8, T = 2000$



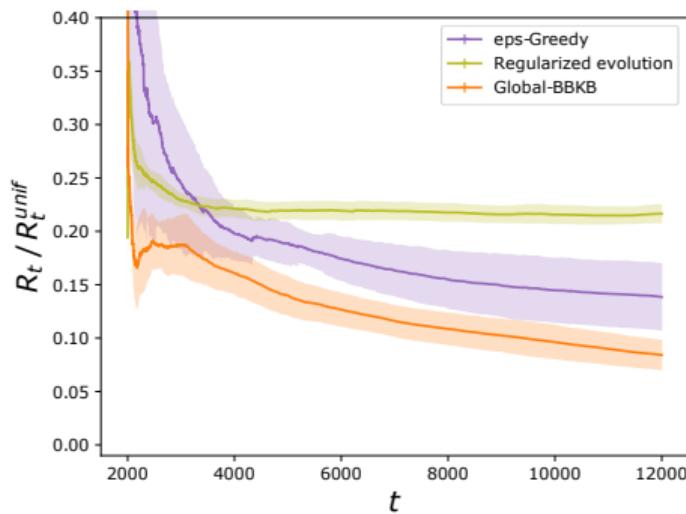
NAS-bench-101

$A = 12416, d = 19, T = 12000$

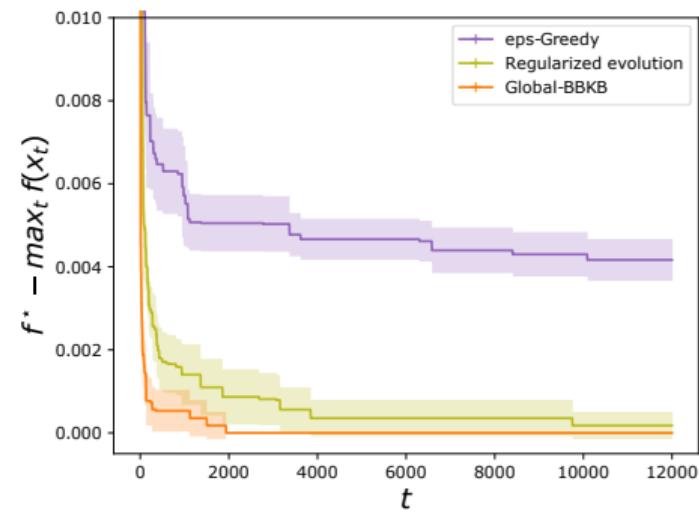


# In practice: Performance

NAS-bench-101  
Regret / Regret uniform



NAS-bench-101  
Simple Regret



# Thank you