

# Bayesian Optimization Techniques for Accelerator Control and Characterization

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Stanford  
University

**SLAC** NATIONAL  
ACCELERATOR  
LABORATORY

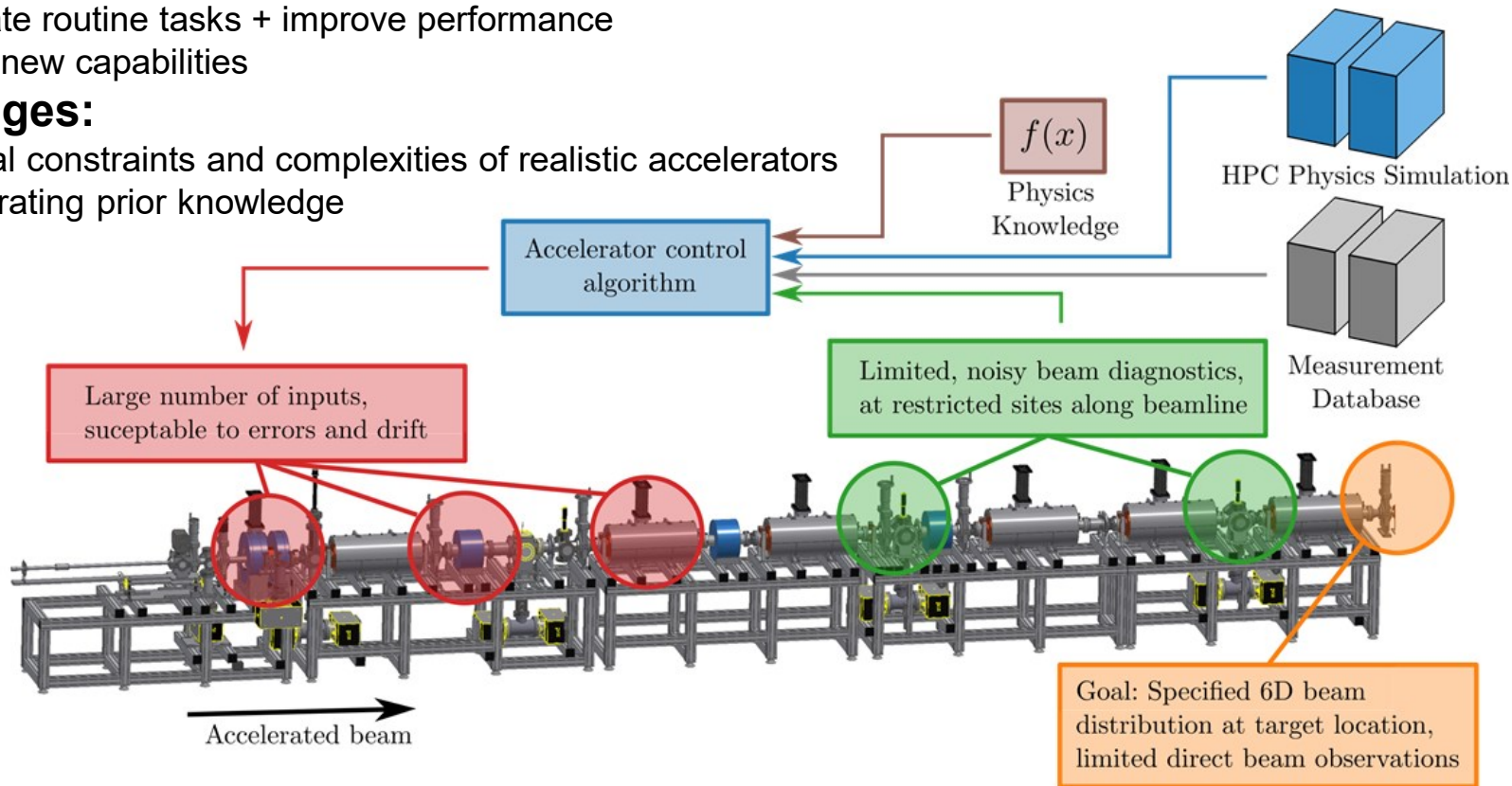
# Machine Learning Based Accelerator Control

## Goals:

- Automate routine tasks + improve performance
- Enable new capabilities

## Challenges:

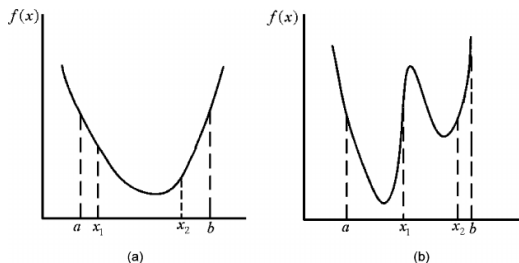
- Practical constraints and complexities of realistic accelerators
- Incorporating prior knowledge
- Scaling



# Optimization Considerations

## Problem complexity

*how difficult is the problem to solve?*



## Overhead

*how expensive is it to prepare for optimization?*



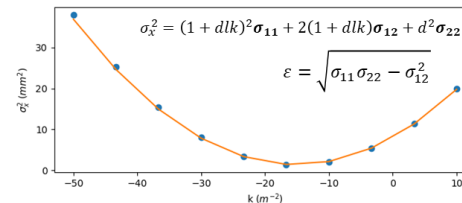
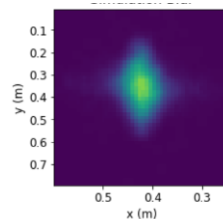
## Optimizer cost

*how expensive is it to make decisions?*

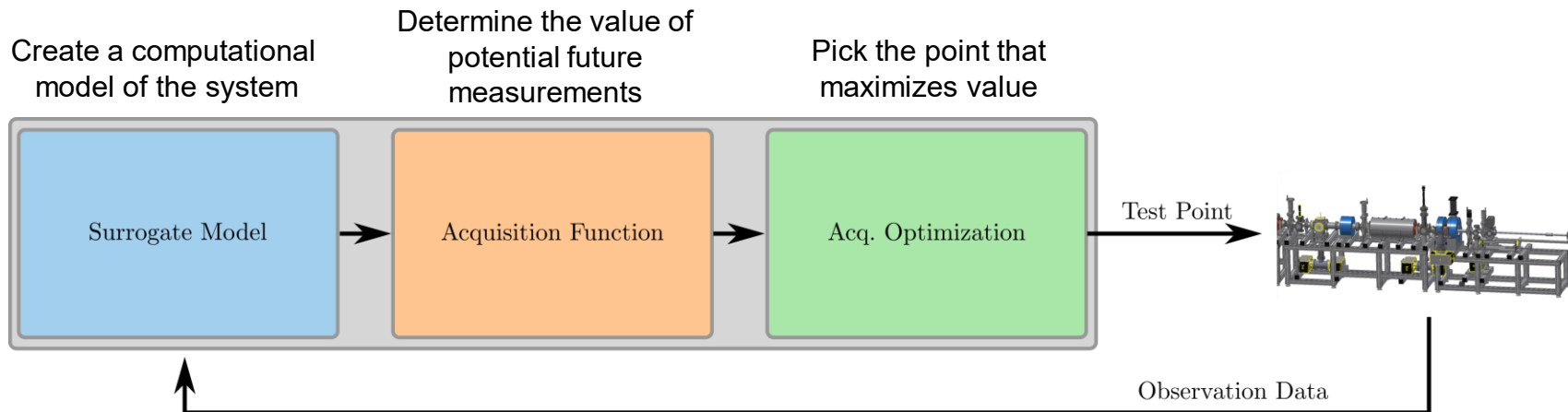


## Evaluation cost

*how expensive is it to evaluate objectives/constraints?*

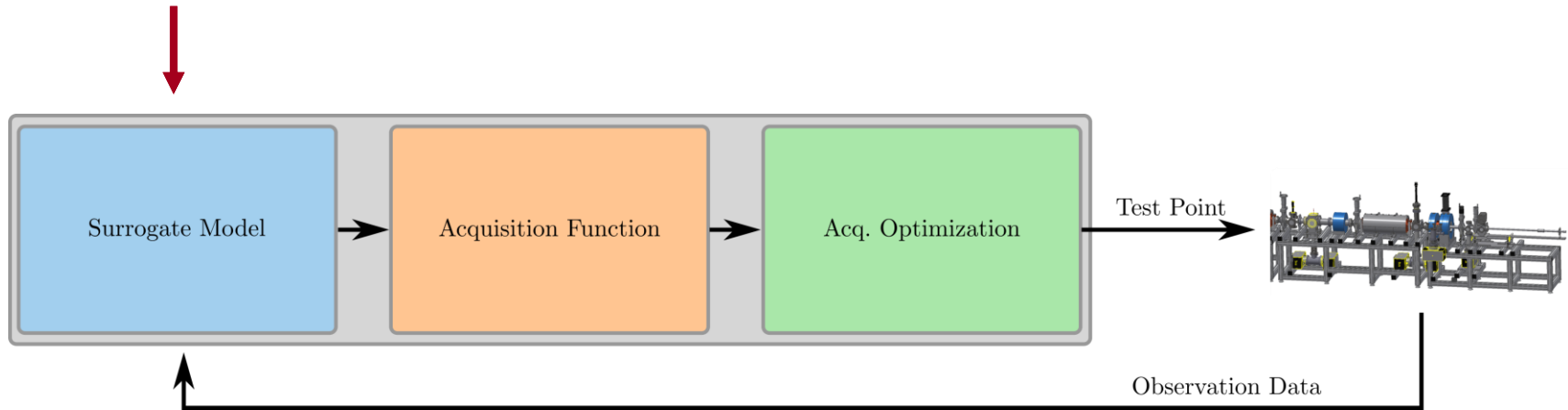


# Bayesian Optimization Algorithms



# Gaussian Process Modeling

Gaussian processes (GPs)

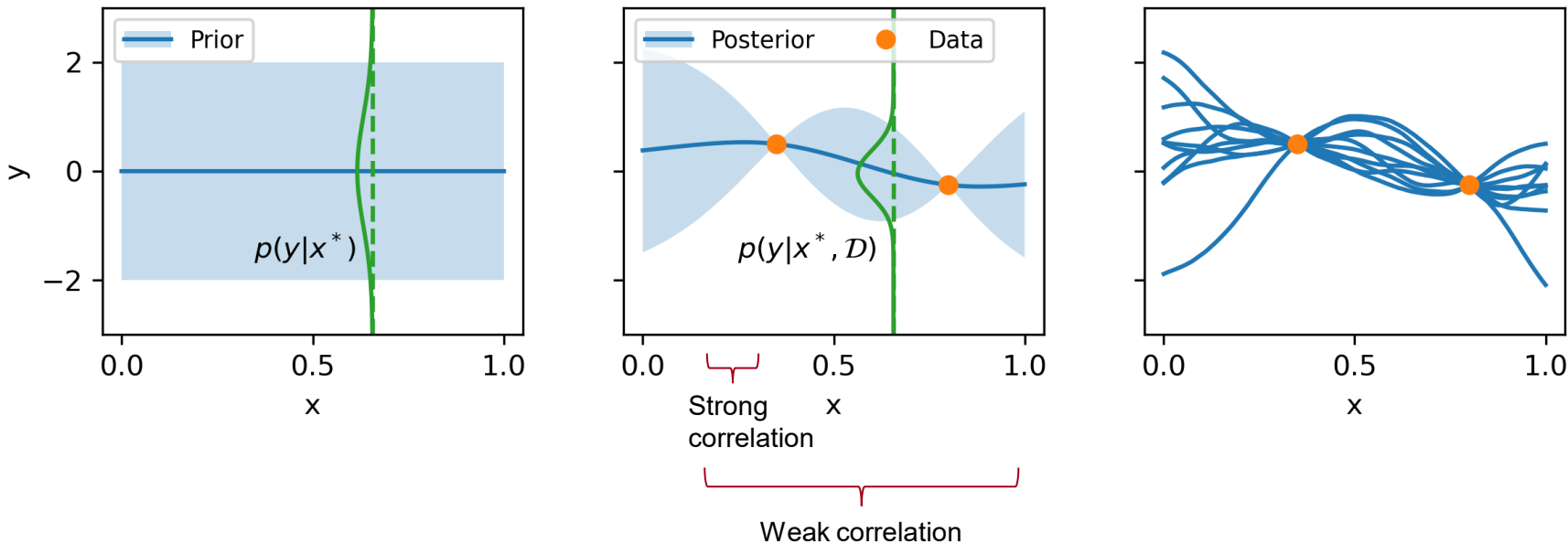


Why?

- Extracts a lot of information from a small number of data points → efficient
- Inherently accounts for noise and sources of uncertainty → ideal for accelerators + global optimization

# Gaussian Process Modeling

- Assume a Normal distribution of function values at prediction points  $x^*$
- Use correlations between function values at different locations in input space to make predictions



# Fitting Gaussian Processes to Data

We specify a **kernel** that specifies function value covariances at two points  $x, x' \rightarrow$  controls the overall function behavior. It is parameterized by **hyperparameters** which are fit to the data.

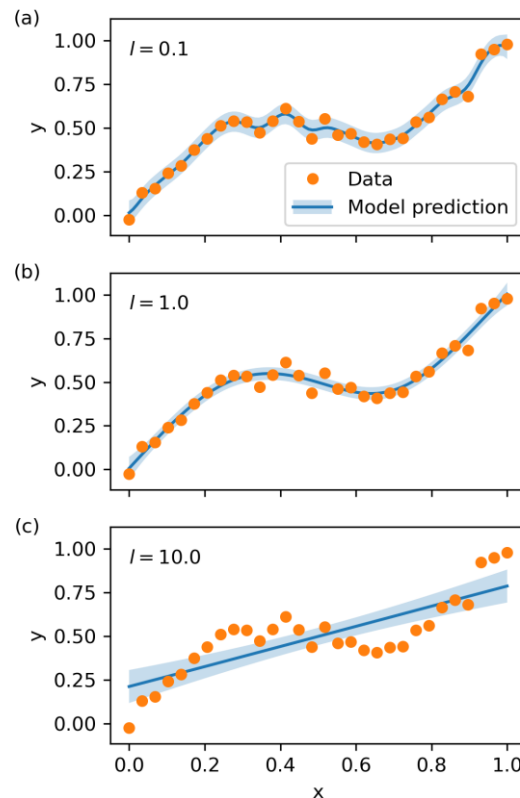
Radial Basis Function:

$$k(x, x') = \sigma_f^2 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2l^2}(x - x')^2\right) + \sigma_n^2 \delta_{xx'}$$

Kernel amplitude

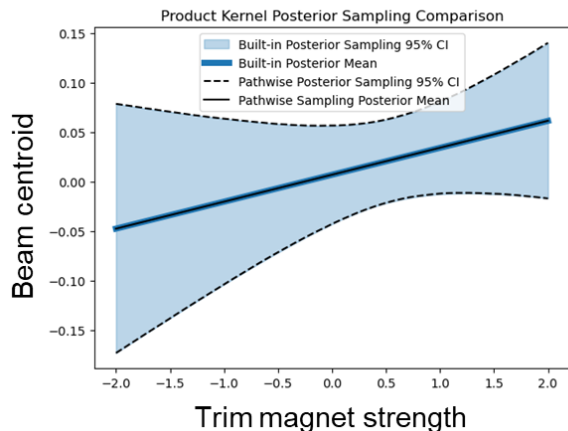
Kernel length scale    Noise

We learn **low dimensional structure** of the objective function during optimization.

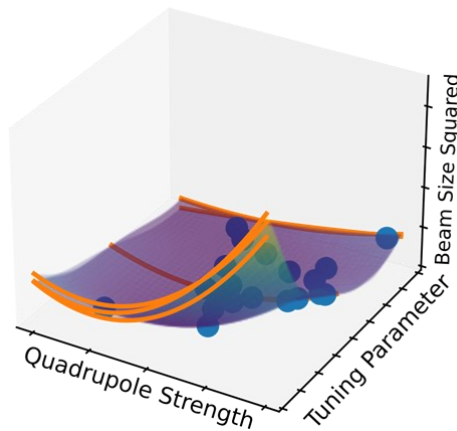


# Incorporating Physics Information into Kernels

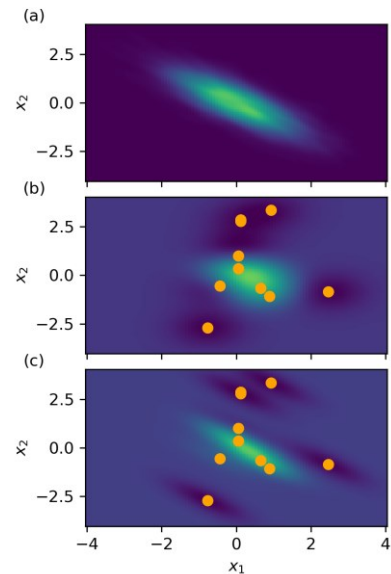
Enforce linear centroid response to steering magnets



Enforce quadratic beam size squared response to quadrupole magnets



Add cross correlations between magnet parameters

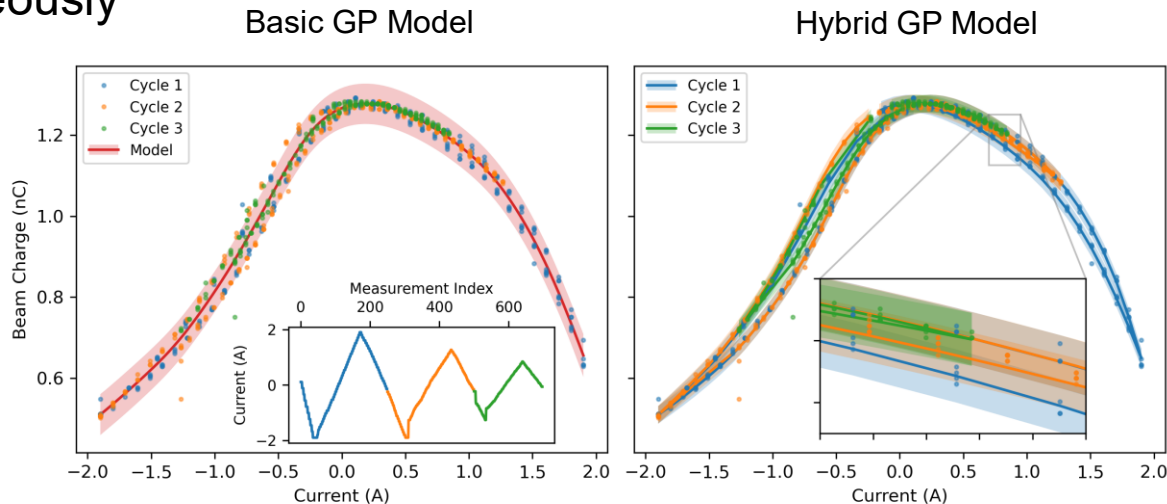
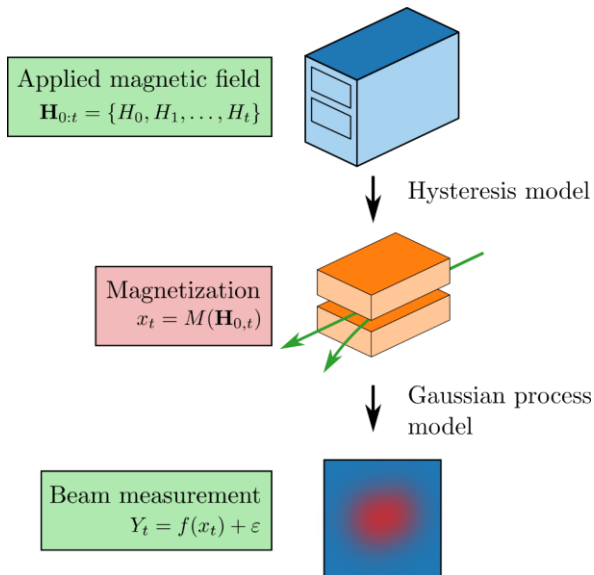


Incorporating physics information into GP models improves accuracy  
→ Enables better decision making → faster convergence to optimum



# Modeling Complex Physical Processes

Learn both hysteresis properties  
and beam response simultaneously  
using two step modeling

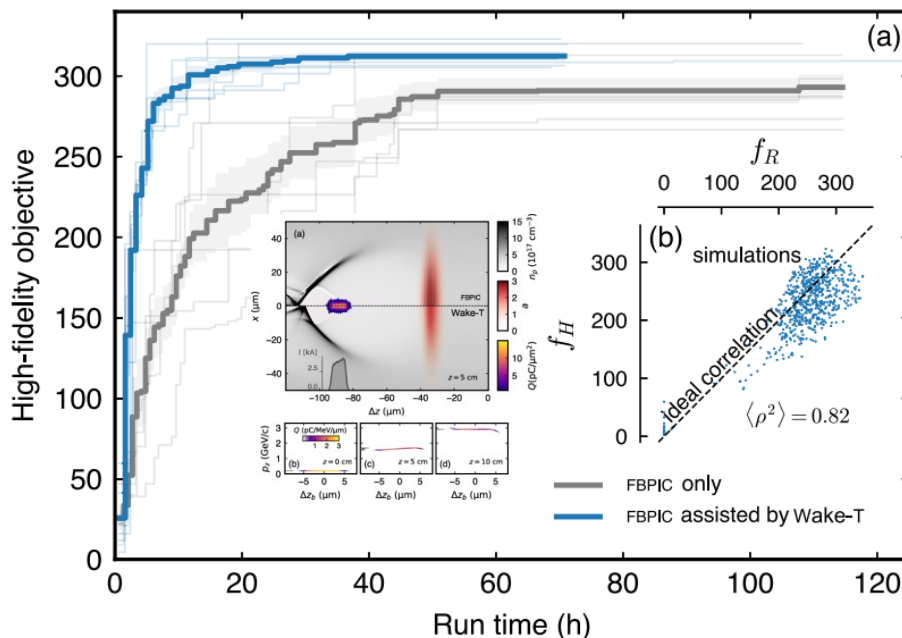
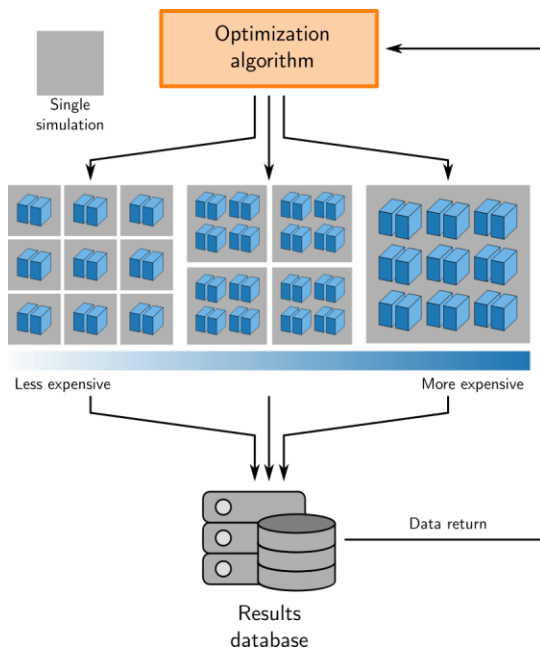


More accurate modeling  $\rightarrow$  improved optimization performance

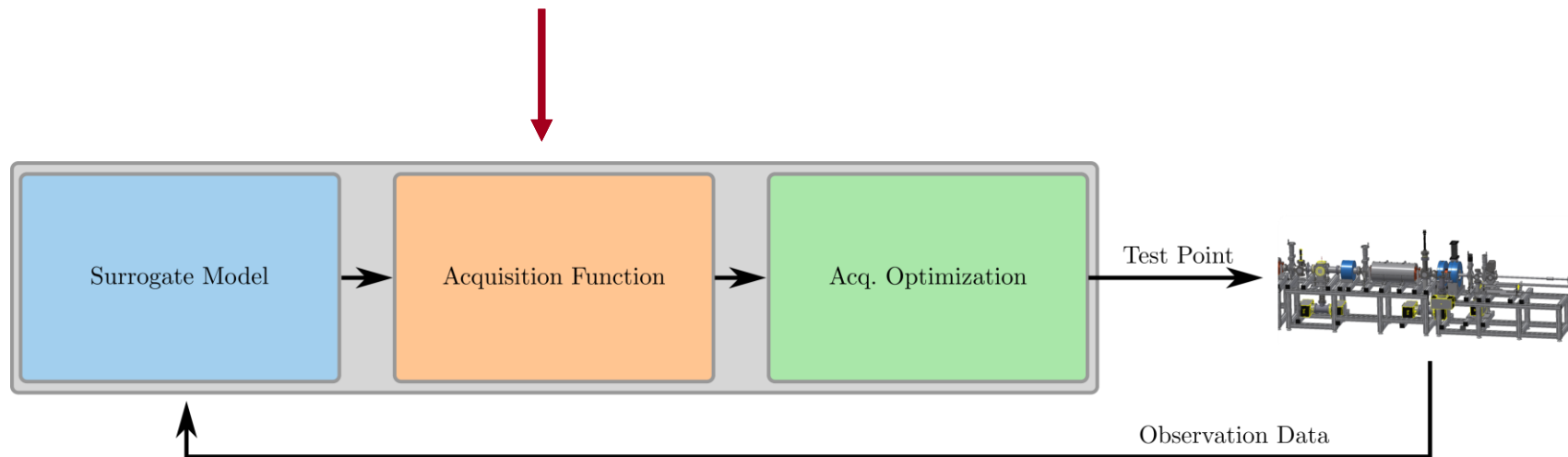
# Multi-Fidelity Modeling

Use **low fidelity approximations** to inform optimization at **high fidelities**

$$\text{Model kernel: } k(x, x', s, s') = k(x, x') \times k(s, s')$$

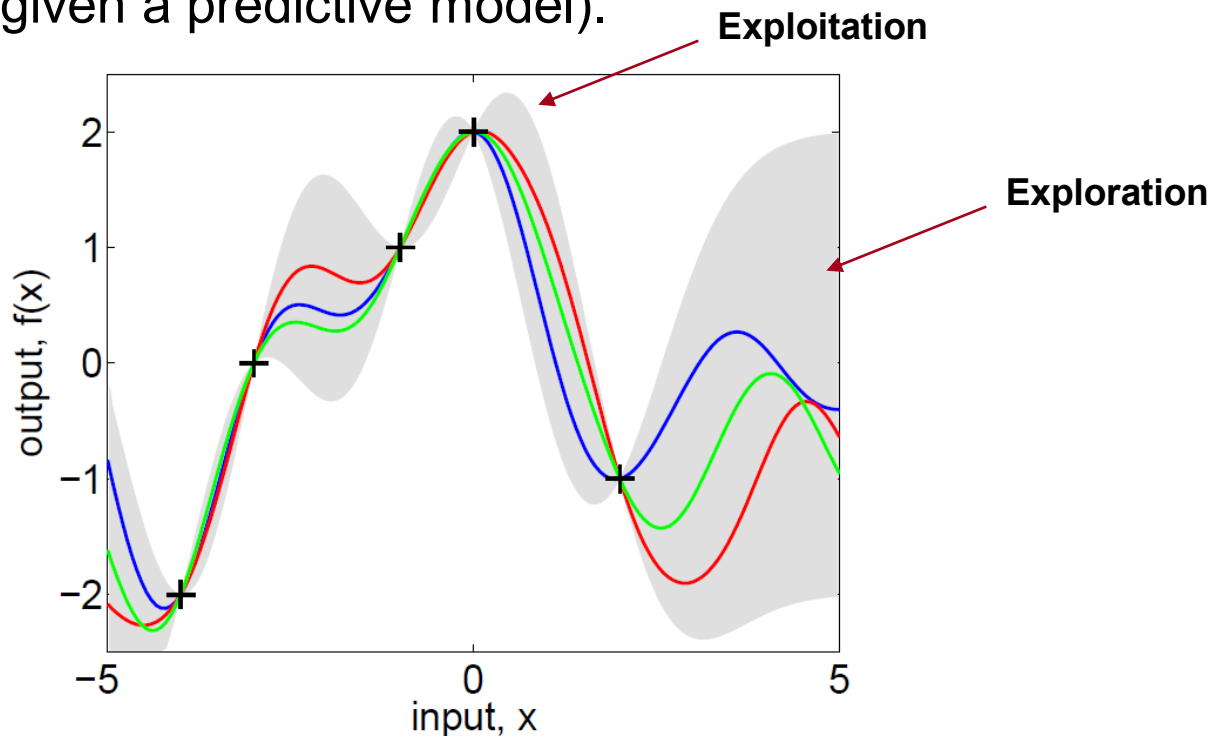


# Defining Acquisition Functions



# The Acquisition Function

Define a function that characterizes the value of making a potential measurement (given a predictive model).

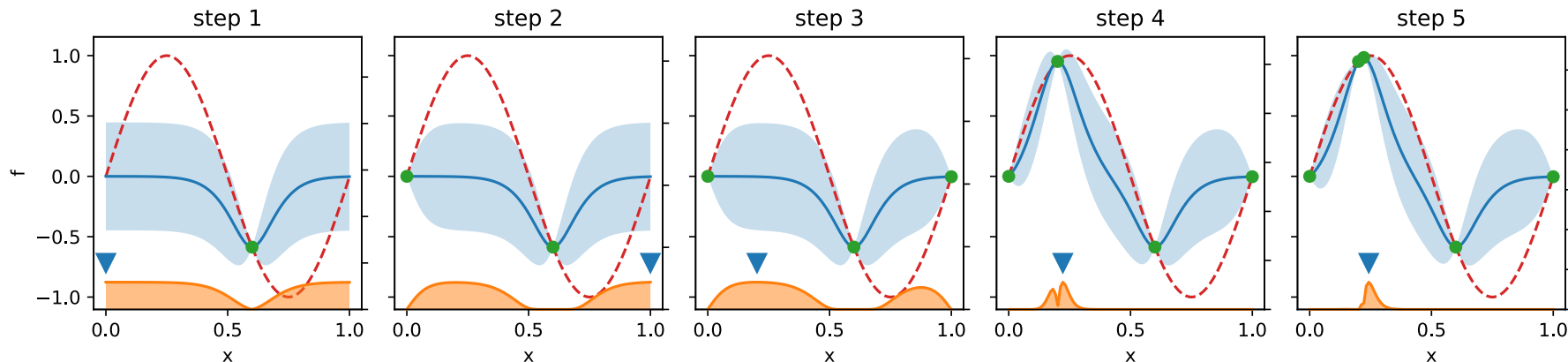
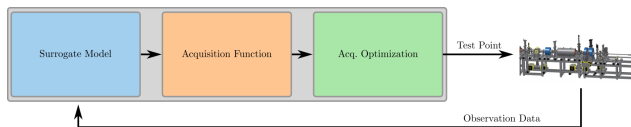


# Single Objective Optimization

$$EI(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}[\max(f(\mathbf{x}) - f^*)]$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_x EI(\mathbf{x})$$

(Assumes maximization)



Some notes:

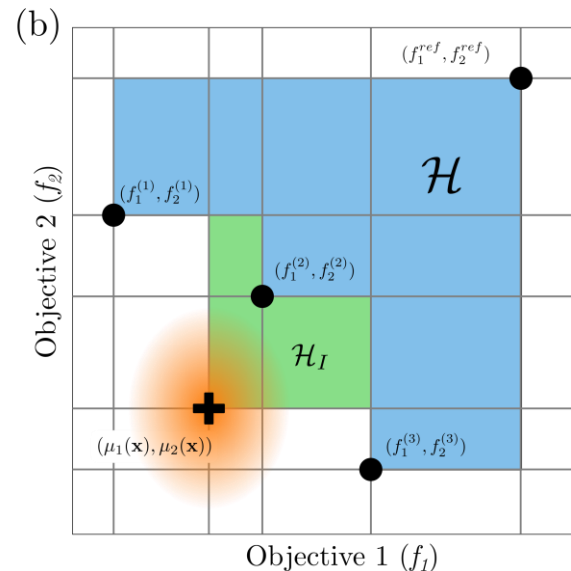
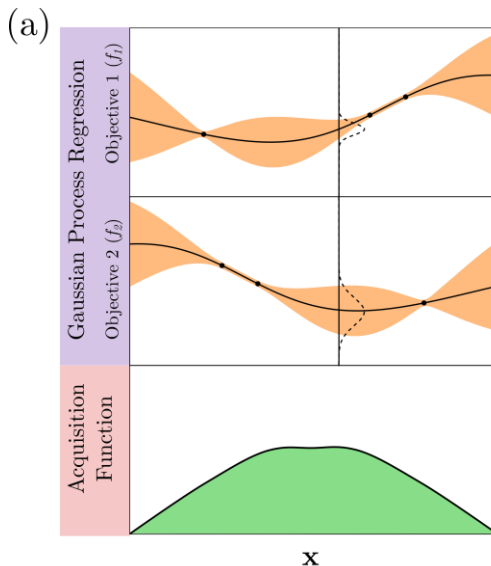
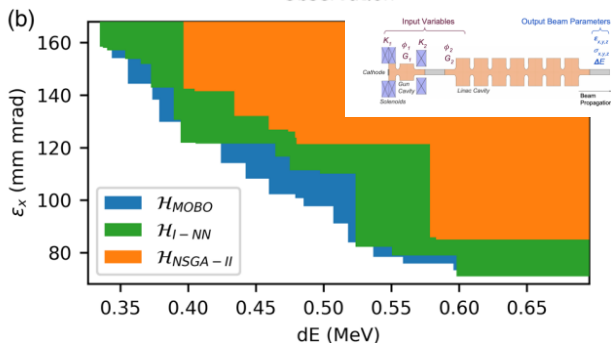
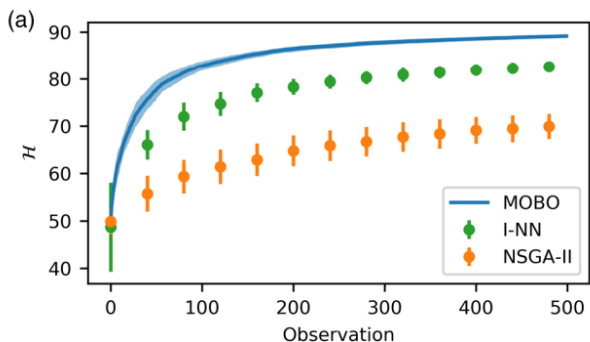
- The model accuracy improves in the region of interest
- Initially the model uncertainty is maximized at the domain boundaries

Many examples of this:

- Duris, J. et al. *PRL* 124.12 (2020): 124801.
- Xu, Chenran, et al. *PRAB* 26.3 (2023): 034601.
- Gao, Y., et al. *PRAB* 25.1 (2022): 014601.
- Miskovich, S. A., et al. *PRAB* 25.4 (2022): 044601.
- and many more...

# Multi-Objective Optimization

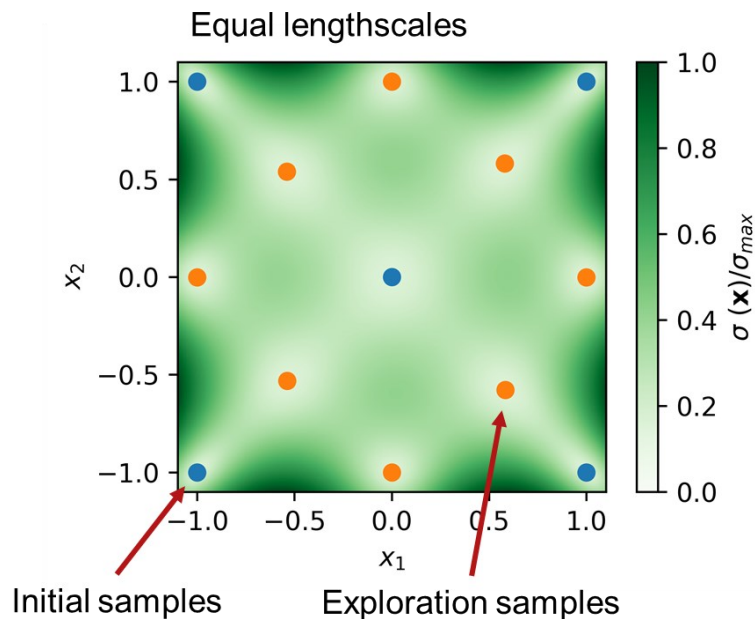
Determine the optimal trade-off between objectives -> the Pareto front



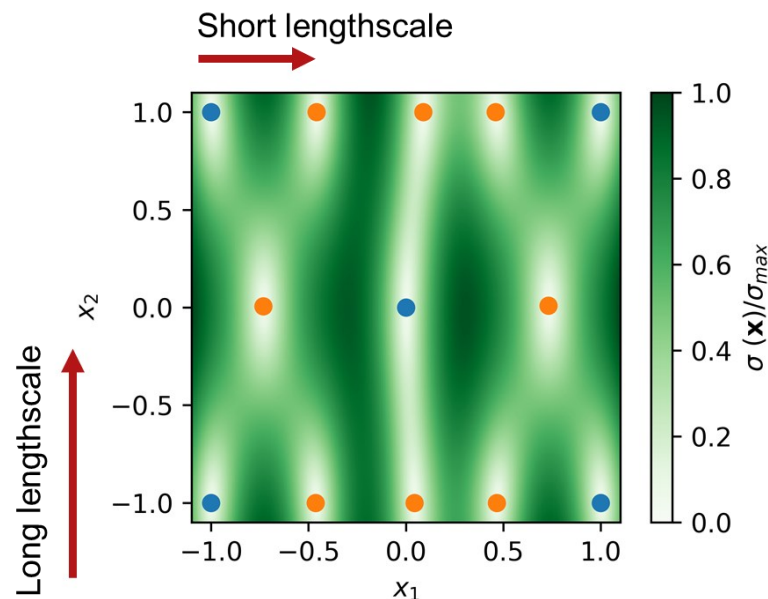
$$\alpha_{EHVI}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathcal{P}, \mathbf{r}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^P} \text{HVI}(\mathcal{P}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{r}) \cdot \xi_{\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}}(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

# Autonomous Characterization – Bayesian Exploration

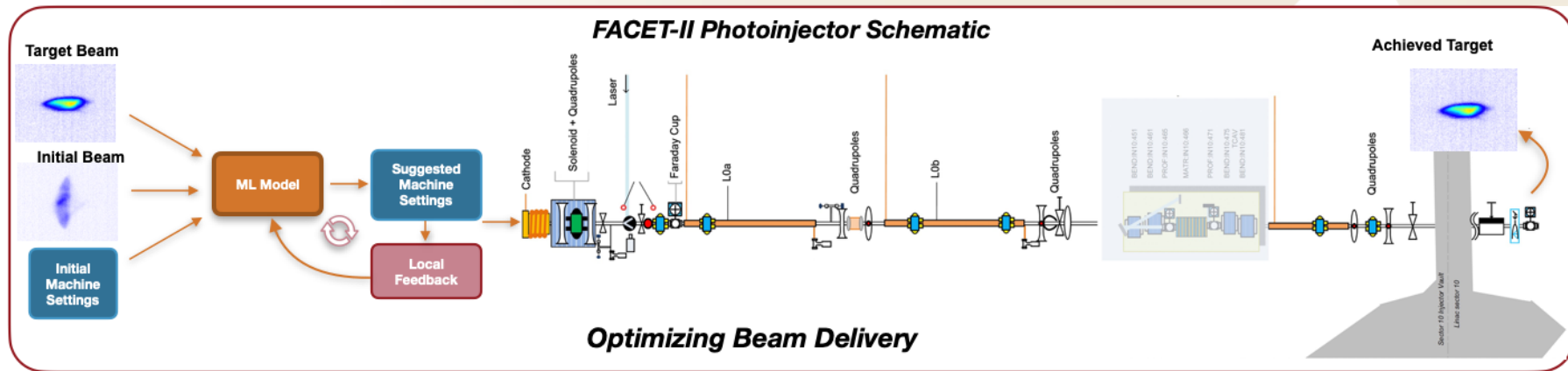
If the function changes more rapidly along one axis, sample more points along that axis!



$$\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{x})$$



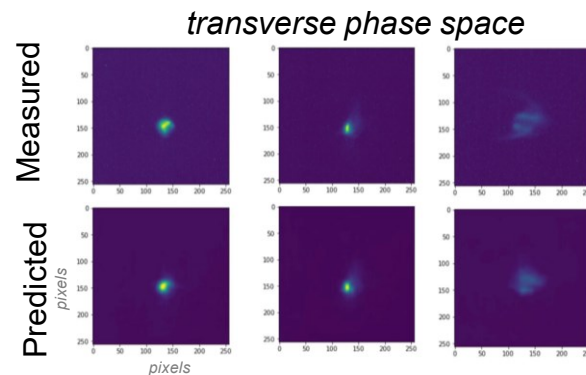
# Example: FACET-II Emittance Characterization



Used Bayesian Exploration for efficient high-dimensional characterization (10 variables) at 700pC: **2 hrs for 10 variables compared to 5 hrs for 4 variables with N-D parameter scan**

Data was used to train ML models to predict + optimize beam emittance and injector match

**Example of integrated cycle between characterization, modeling, and optimization → now extending to larger system sections and new setups (e.g. two-bunch)**

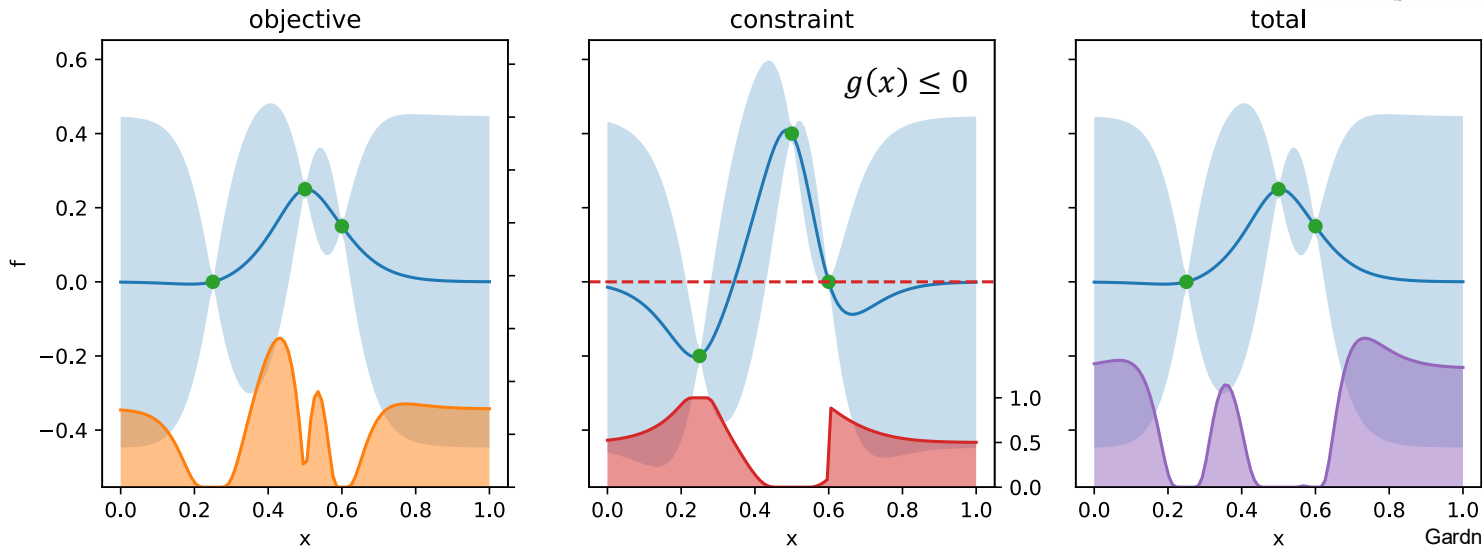
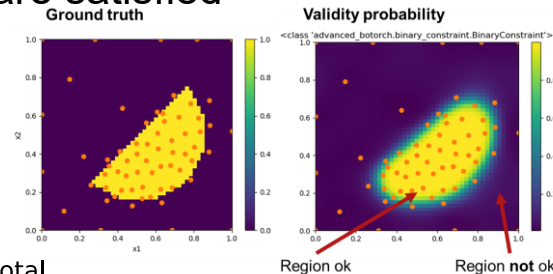




# Incorporating Constraints

Weight the acquisition function by the probability that constraints are satisfied

$$\hat{\alpha}(x) \rightarrow \alpha(x) \prod_i p[g_i(x) \leq h_i] \quad \text{Warning: Requires } \alpha(x) \geq 0$$



2D Example

# Proximal Biasing

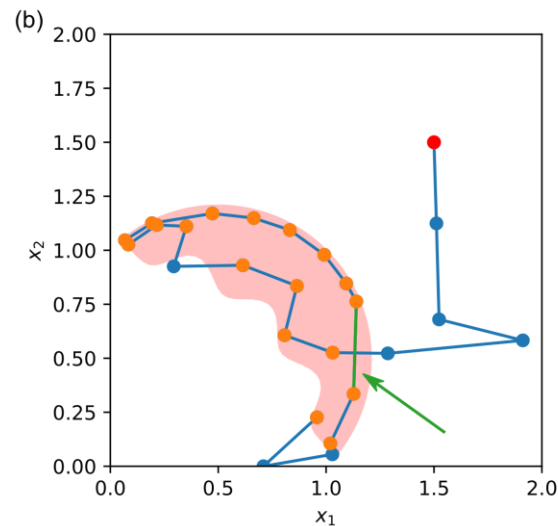
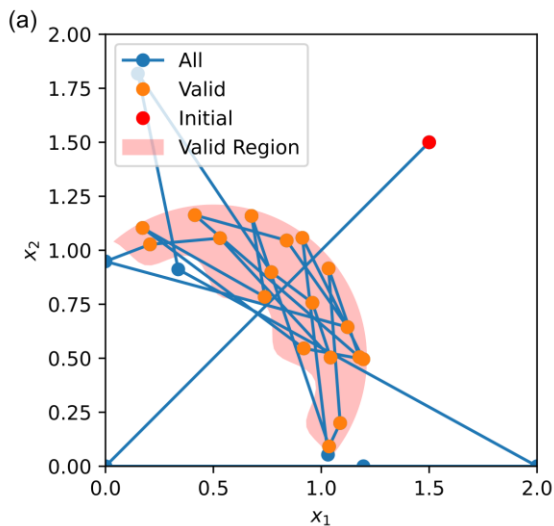
Prevents instabilities during optimization experimental beamlines

Weight the acquisition function by travel distance  $\rightarrow$  better than hard limits

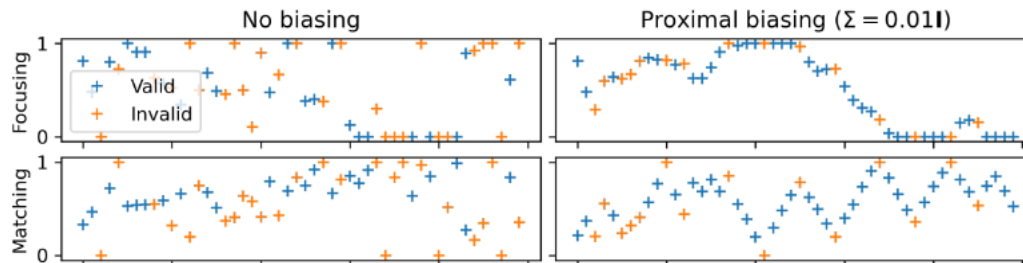
$$\hat{\alpha}(x) = \alpha(x) \exp\left(-\frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Warning: Requires  $\alpha(x) \geq 0$

Reduces travel distances during exploration

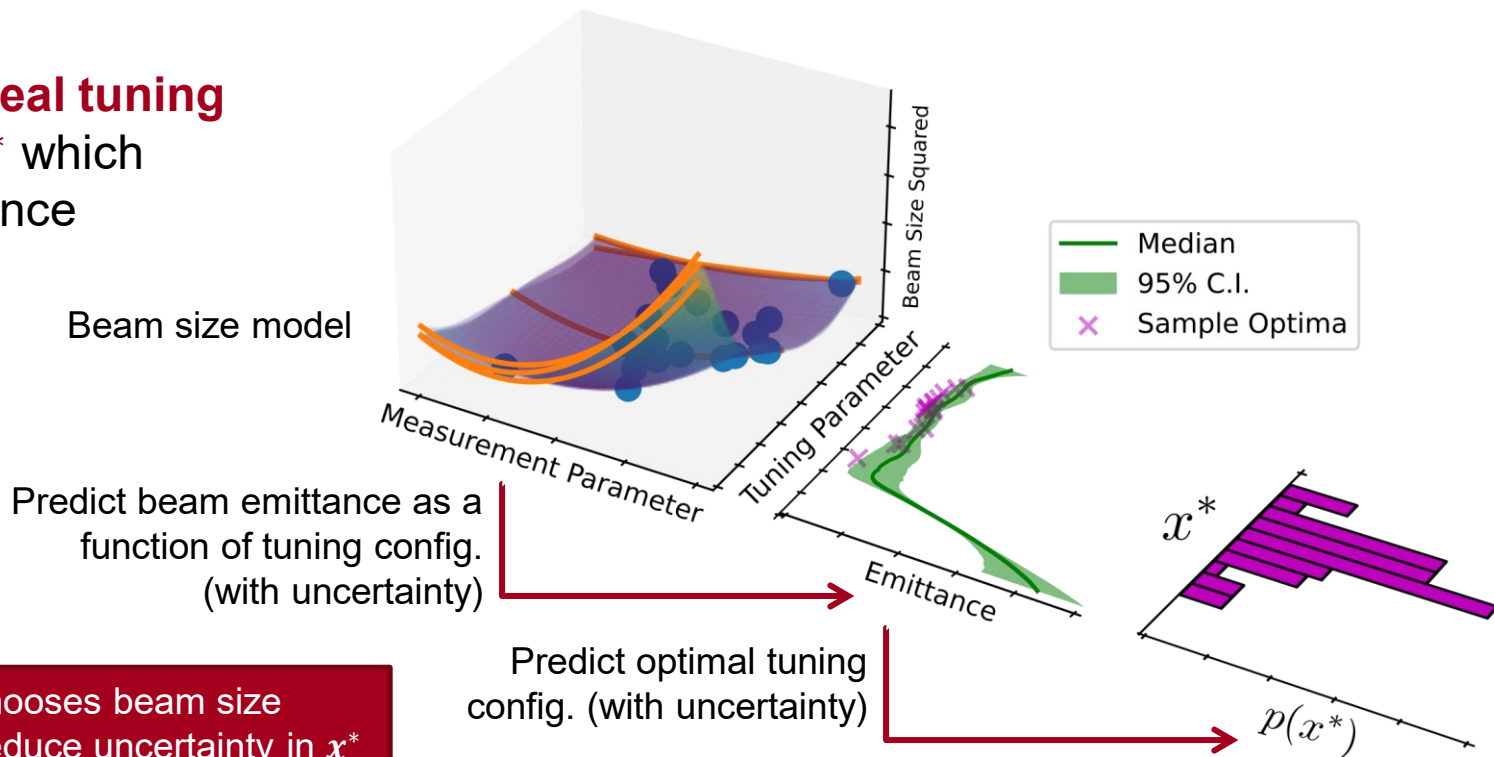


Roussel et. al. *Nat. Comm.* 2021



# Optimizing Virtual Measurements

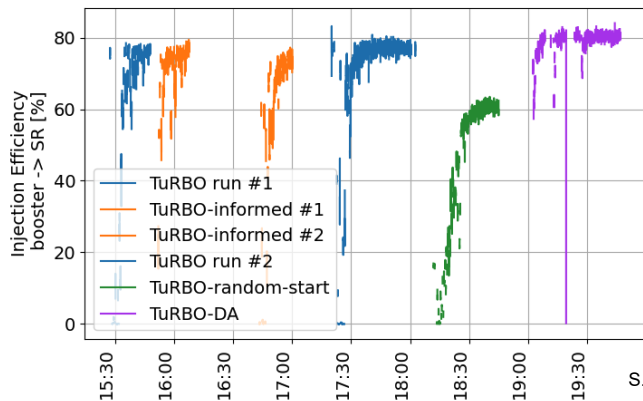
**Our goal:**  
Determine the **ideal tuning configuration  $x^*$**  which minimizes emittance



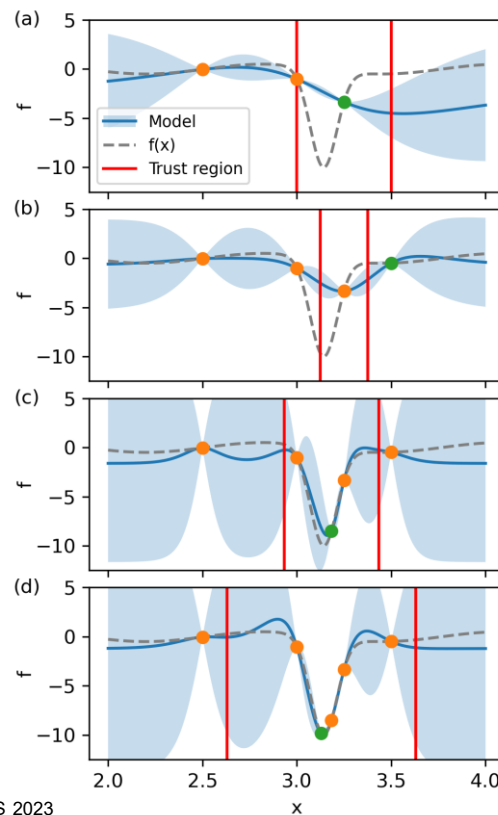
The BAX algorithm chooses beam size measurements that reduce uncertainty in  $x^*$  without measuring emittance directly → 20x speed up

# Trust Region Bayesian Optimization (TuRBO)

- Bayesian optimization tends to **over-prioritize exploration** to find global optima
- **Restrict search region** to local area around best point
- Expand / contract “**trust**” region based on algorithm successes / failures on-the-fly
- Helps find local extrema in high dimensional problems
- Optimization success at ESRF led to the **highest ever observed lifetime** using 8 knobs in under 30 mins



S. M. Liuzzo, MO3A001, ICALEPS 2023



# Xopt: Flexible Optimization of Arbitrary Problems

Easy to control

```
# create Xopt object.  
X = Xopt(YAML)  
  
# take 10 steps and view data  
for _ in range(10):  
    X.step()  
  
X.data
```

Python interface

```
xopt:  
  max_evaluations: 6400  
  
generator:  
  name: cnsga  
  population_size: 64  
  population_file: test.csv  
  output_path: .  
  
evaluator:  
  function: xopt.resources.test_functions.tnk.evaluate_TNK  
  function_kwargs:  
    raise_probability: 0.1  
  
vocs:  
  variables:  
    x1: [0, 3.14159]  
    x2: [0, 3.14159]  
  objectives: {y1: MINIMIZE, y2: MINIMIZE}  
  constraints:  
    c1: [GREATER_THAN, 0]  
    c2: [LESS_THAN, 0.5]  
  linked_variables: {x9: x1}  
  constants: {a: dummy_constant}
```



Text file interface



Badger GUI interface

Simple to connect with simulations / machine  
(single python function!)

```
evaluate(inputs: dict) -> dict
```

Many optimization algorithms

- Genetic algorithms (NSGA-II, etc.)
- Nelder-Mead Simplex
- Bayesian optimization, almost everything shown in this presentation

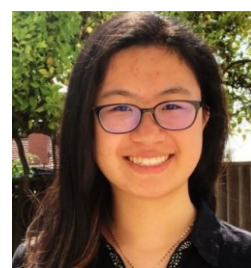
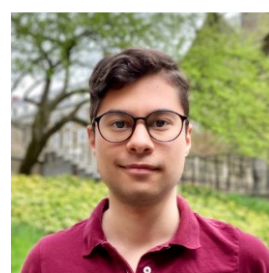
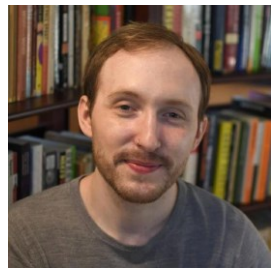
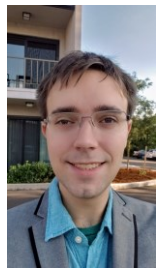
Currently used at many facilities: SLAC, DESY, Argonne, ESRF, BNL, LBNL, etc.

<https://christophermayes.github.io/Xopt/>

- We have identified algorithms available for automating many online and offline optimization tasks in accelerator physics
  - Some work is needed to make faster decisions, characterize safety-performance trade-offs, integrate into control systems
- These algorithms can be used out of the box to improve EIC operations and accelerator design in simulation

# Questions?

Thanks to the team!



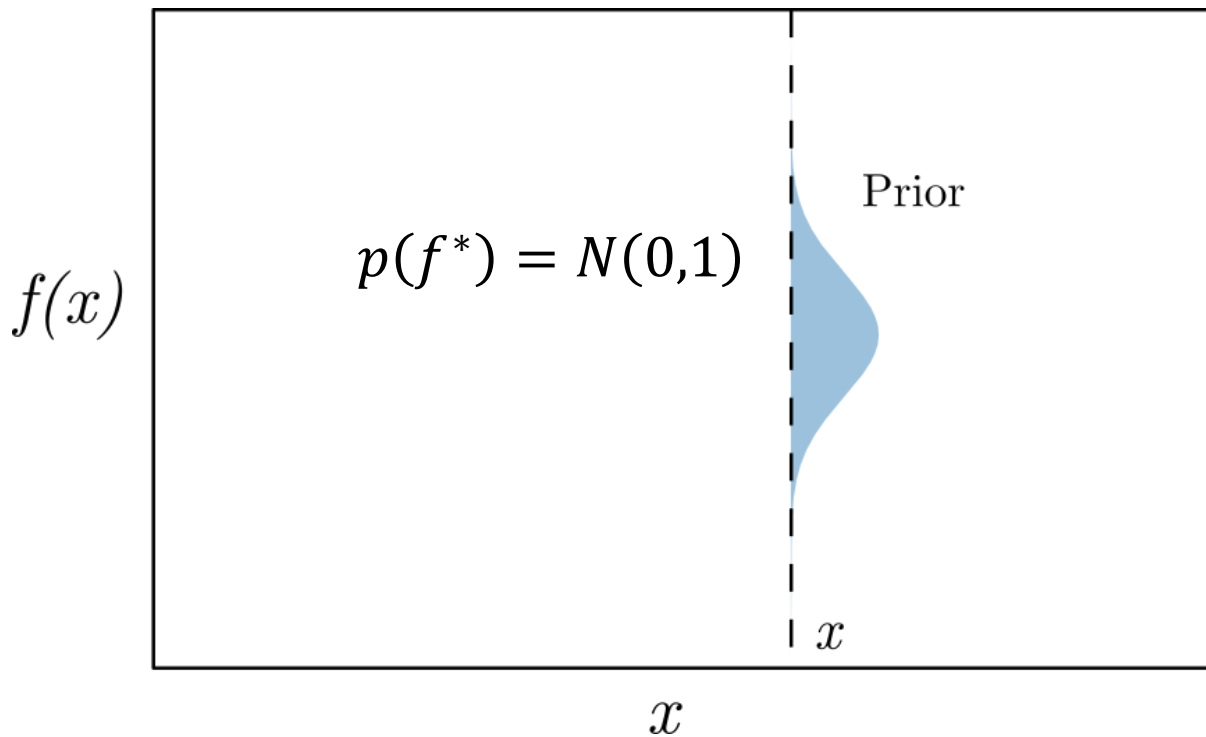
# Gaussian Process Math

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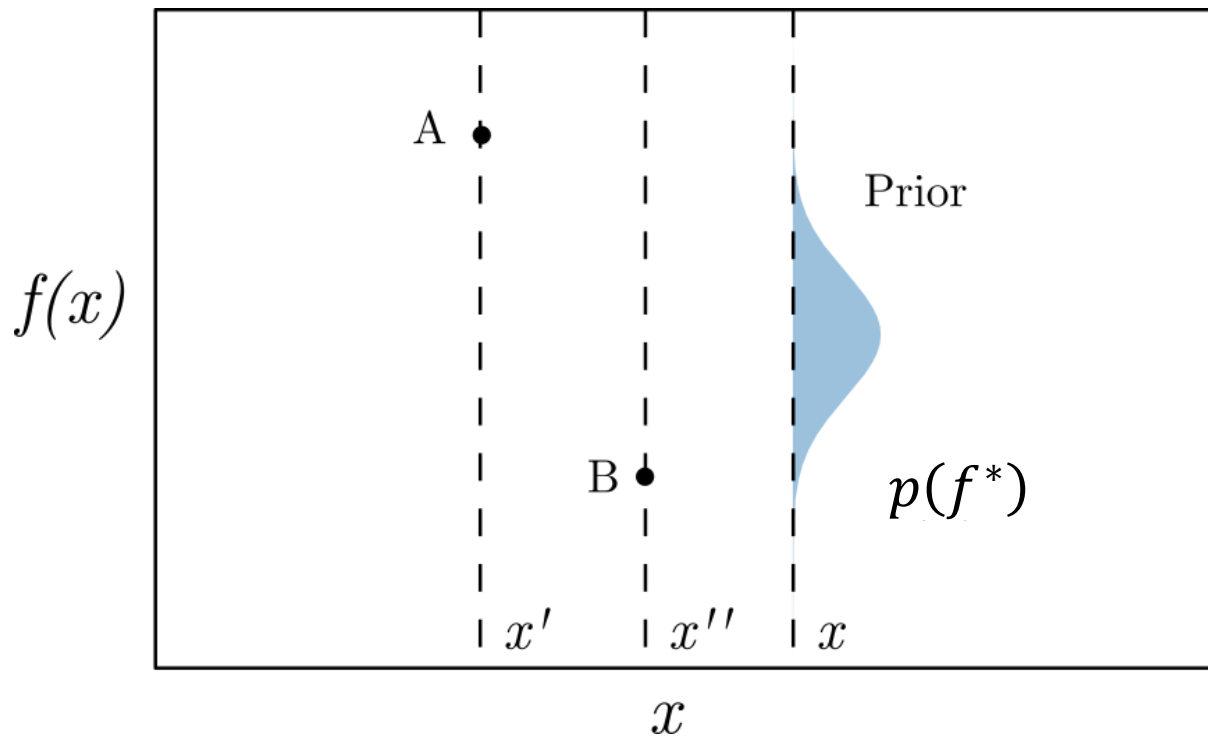
# Some intuition...

Let's predict the function value  $f^*$  at the point  $x$



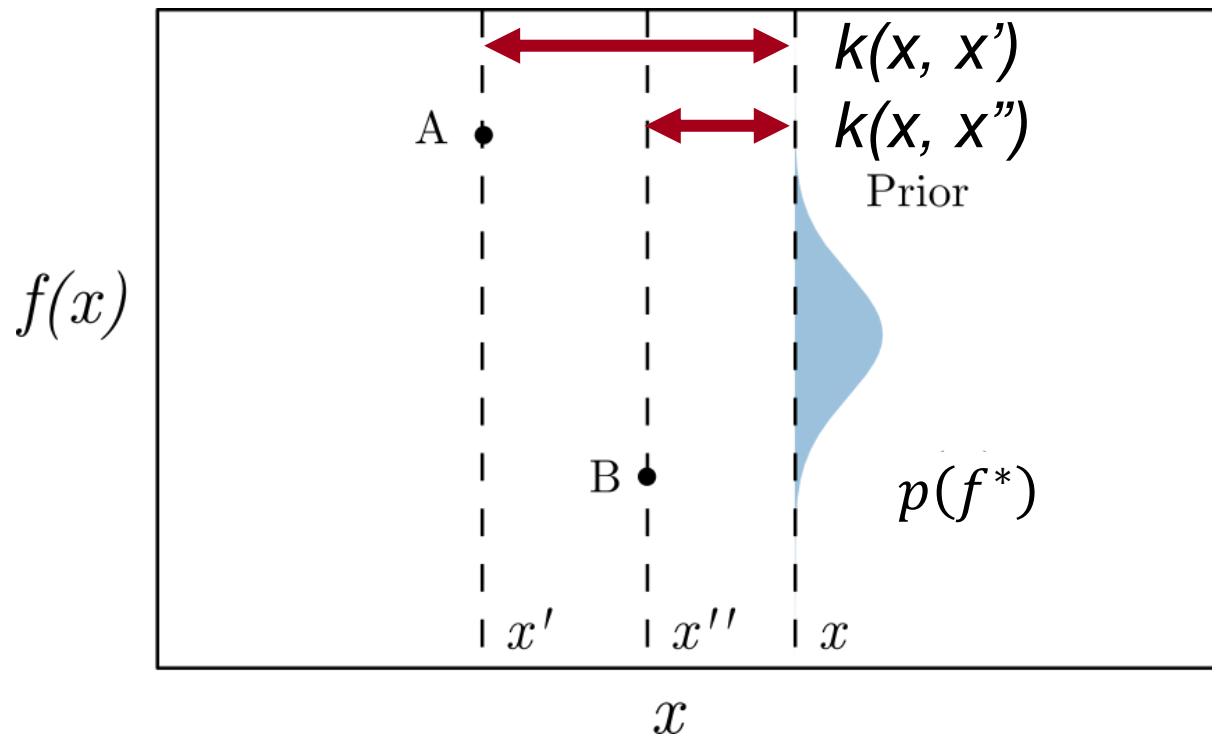
## Some intuition...

Which observation will have a larger impact on changing  $p(f)$ ?



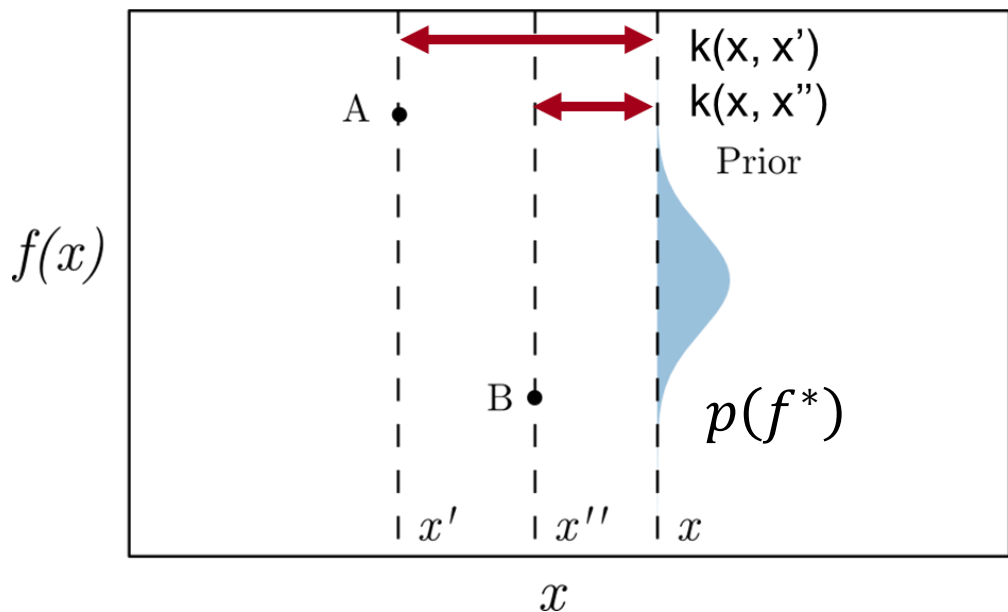
# Adding some math

Which observation will have a larger impact on changing  $p(f)$ ?



$$k(x, x') < k(x, x'')$$

# Adding some math



$$p(f_A, f_B, f^*) = N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

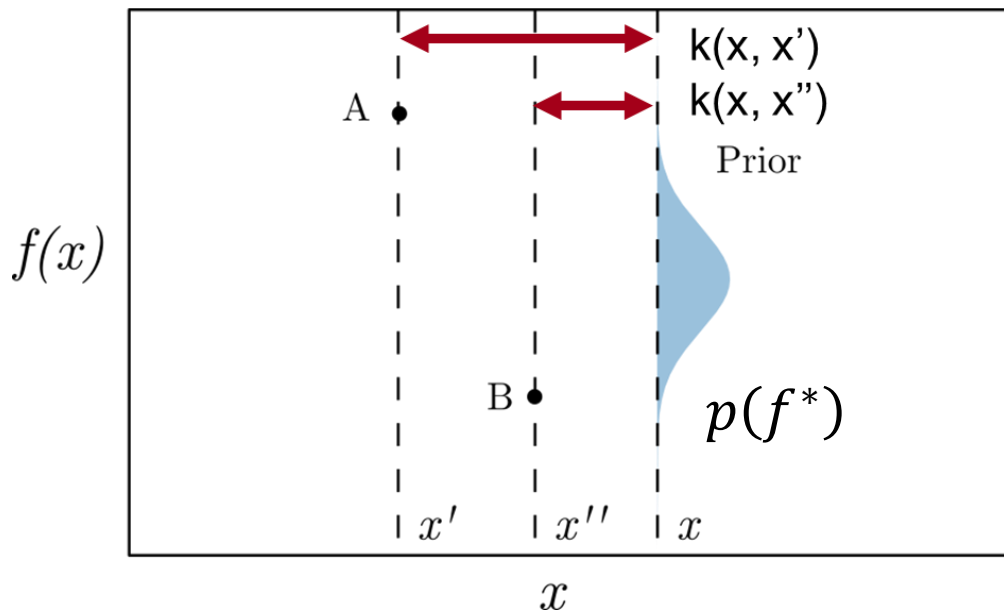
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} k(x', x') & k(x', x'') & k(x', x) \\ k(x', x'') & k(x'', x'') & k(x'', x) \\ k(x', x) & k(x'', x) & k(x, x) \end{pmatrix}$$



$$p(f^* | f_A, f_B) = \frac{p(f_A, f_B | f^*) p(f^*)}{p(f_A, f_B)} = \frac{p(f_A, f_B, f^*)}{p(f_A, f_B)}$$

Bayes rule

# Adding some math



$$p(f^* | f_A, f_B) = N(\boldsymbol{\mu}^*, \boldsymbol{\sigma}^*)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}^* = \boldsymbol{\mu} + K^* K^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^* = K^{**} - K^{*T} K^{-1} K^*$$

$$p(f^* | f_A, f_B) = \frac{p(f_A, f_B | f^*) p(f^*)}{p(f_A, f_B)} = \frac{p(f_A, f_B, f^*)}{p(f_A, f_B)}$$

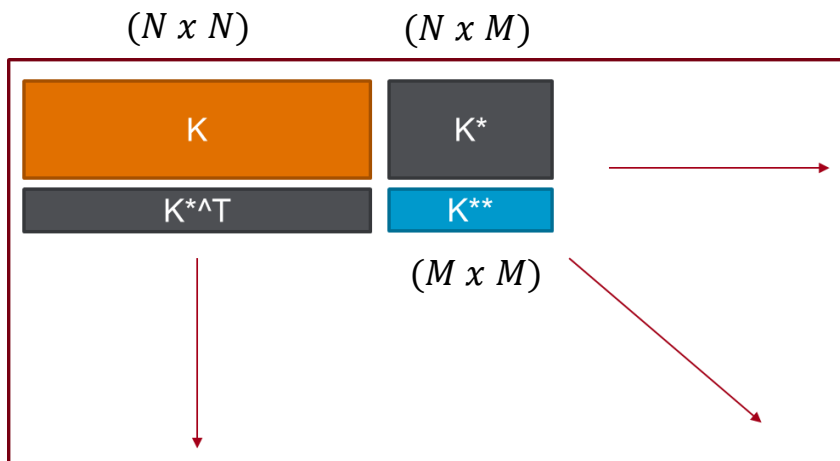


$K^{-1} \sim \mathcal{O}(N^3)!$

# Making predictions with GP's

What about multiple predictions?

$$p(f_0^*, f_1^*, \dots, f_M^* | f_0, f_1, \dots, f_N) = N(\mu^*, \sigma^*)$$



Draw function samples? Sample from the joint posterior distribution at requested points

