



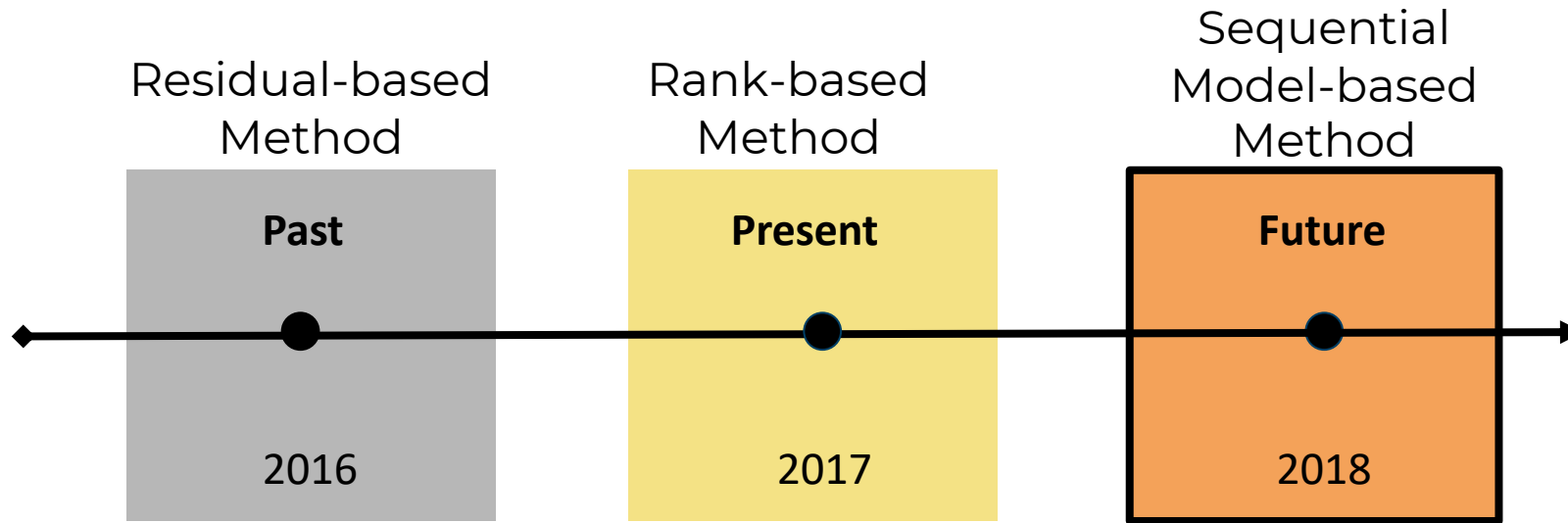
ai4se.net

Frugal Ways of Finding “Good” Configurations

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Advisor: Dr. Tim Menzies

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Flashback from last exam



Future Work: When will Flash win?

- Flash can **reduce the cost** of performance optimization.
- Flash can be **adapted** to solve **multi-objective** performance optimization.

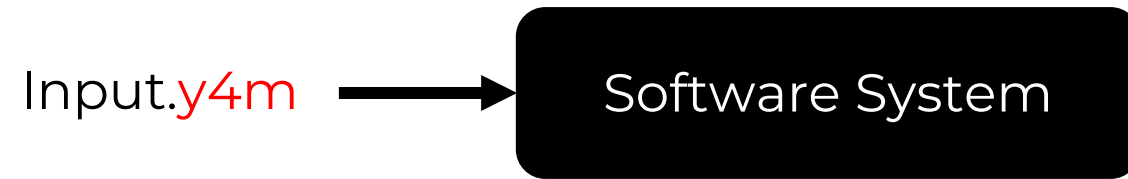
Statement of Thesis

Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

What?

Software System

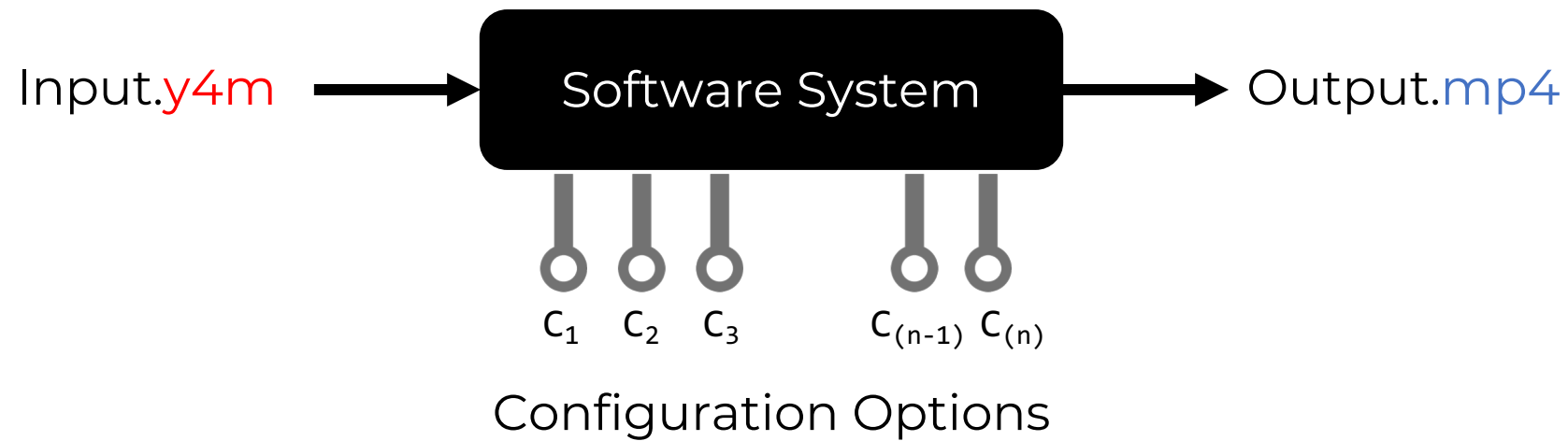
What?



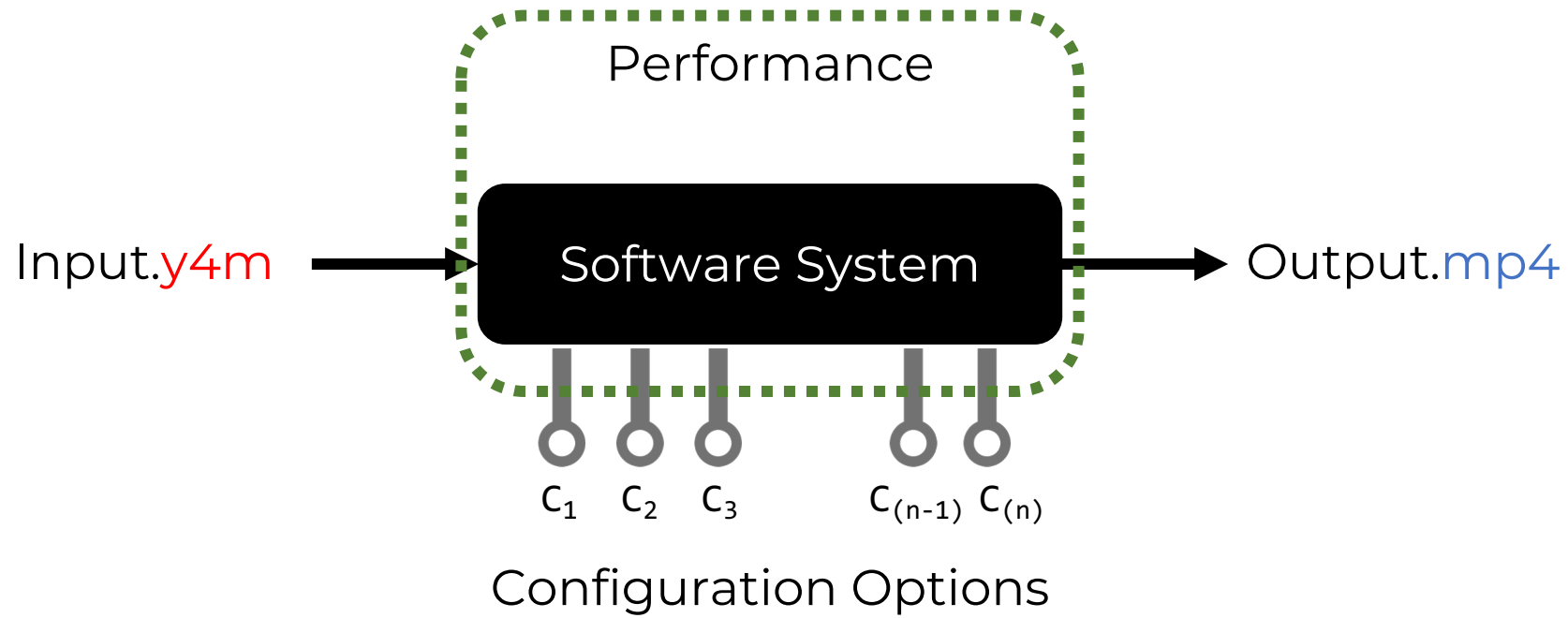
What?



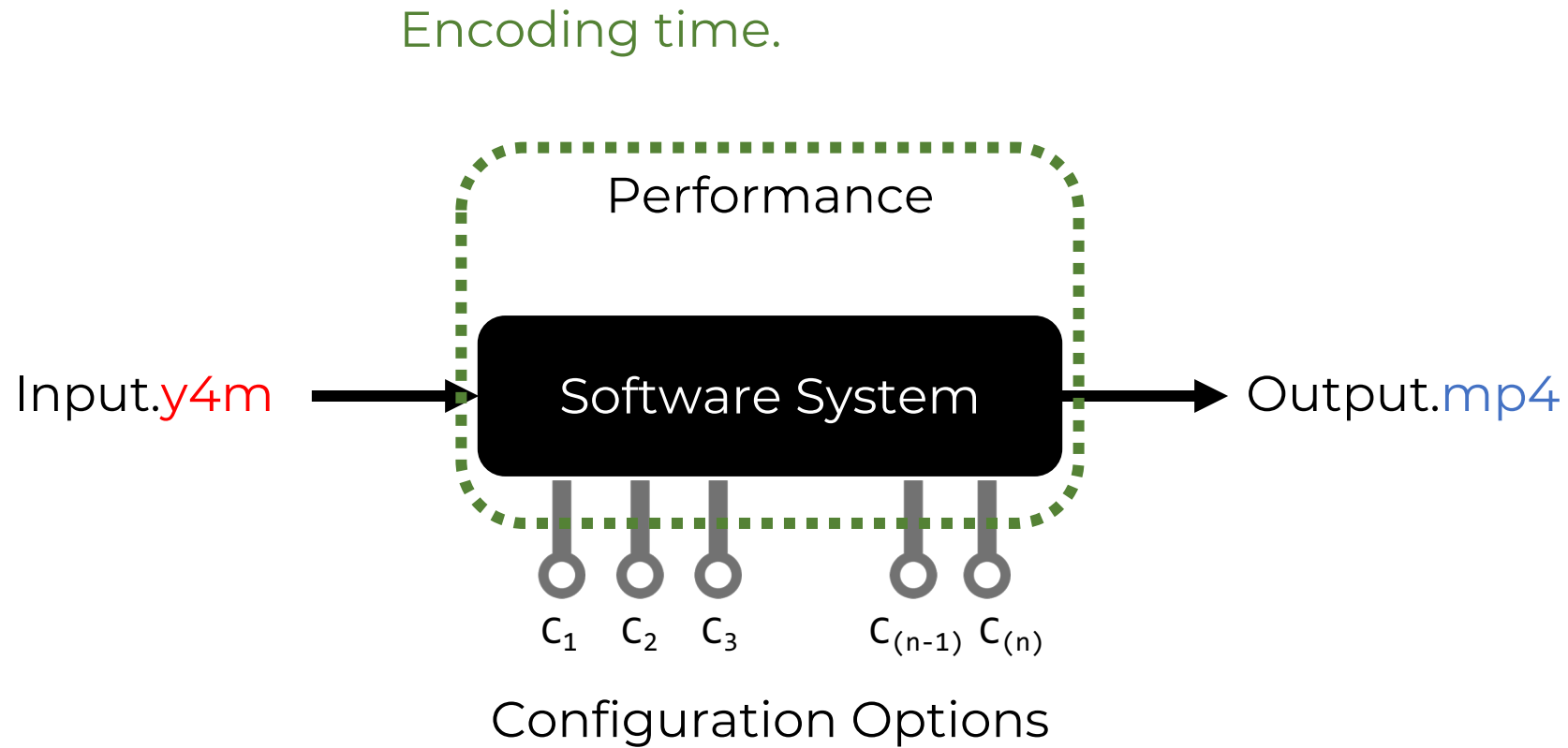
What?



What?

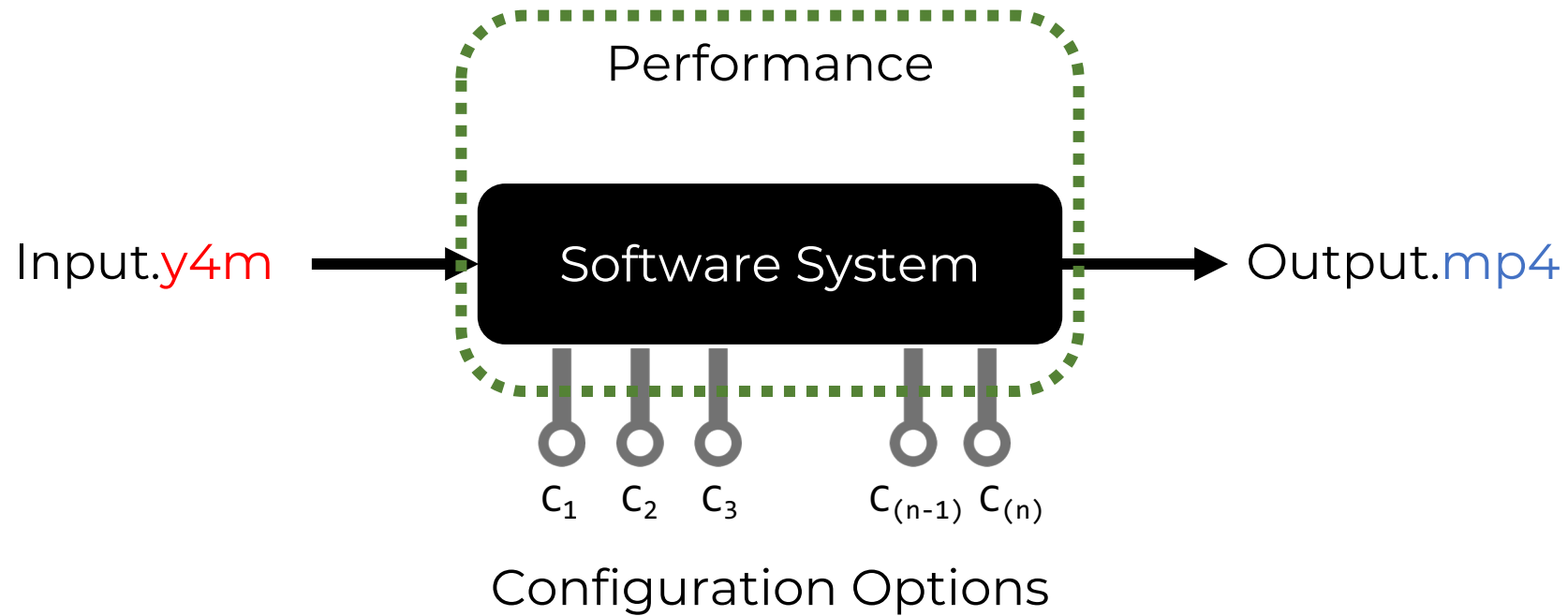


What?



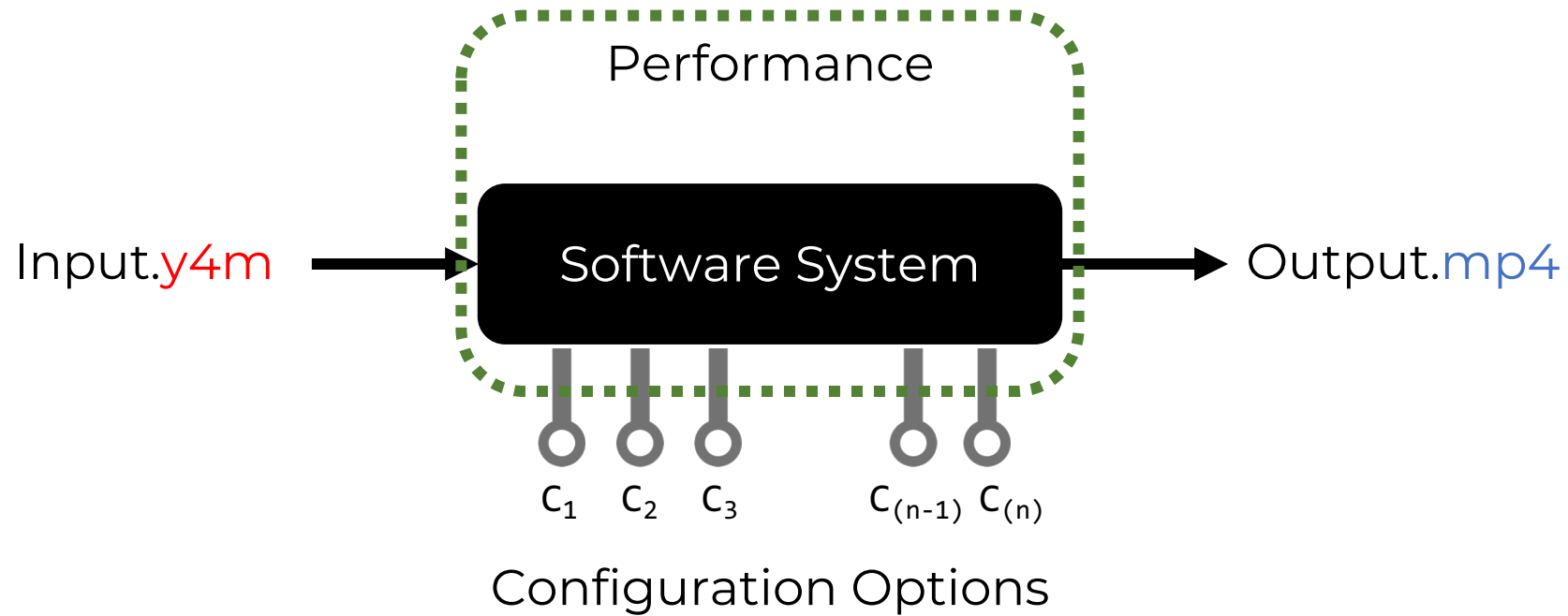
What?

Encoding time. Throughput.



What?

Find (near) **optimal configuration** of a software system
while **minimizing** measurements



What?

Features																Perf. (s)
x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	x_6	x_7	x_8	x_9	x_{10}	x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	x_{15}	x_{16}	y_i
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	651
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	536
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	581
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	381
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	424
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	615
1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	477
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	263
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	272
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	247
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	612
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	510
1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	555
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	264
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	576
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	268

What?

Configuration Options				Features												Perf. (s)
x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	x_6	x_7	x_8	x_9	x_{10}	x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	x_{15}	x_{16}	y_i
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1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	424
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1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	477
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x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	x_6	x_7	x_8	x_9	x_{10}	x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	x_{15}	x_{16}	y_i
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1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	477
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	263
Optimal Solution				0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	272
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	247
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	612
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	510
Configuration				0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	Performance
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1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	268

Why is it important?

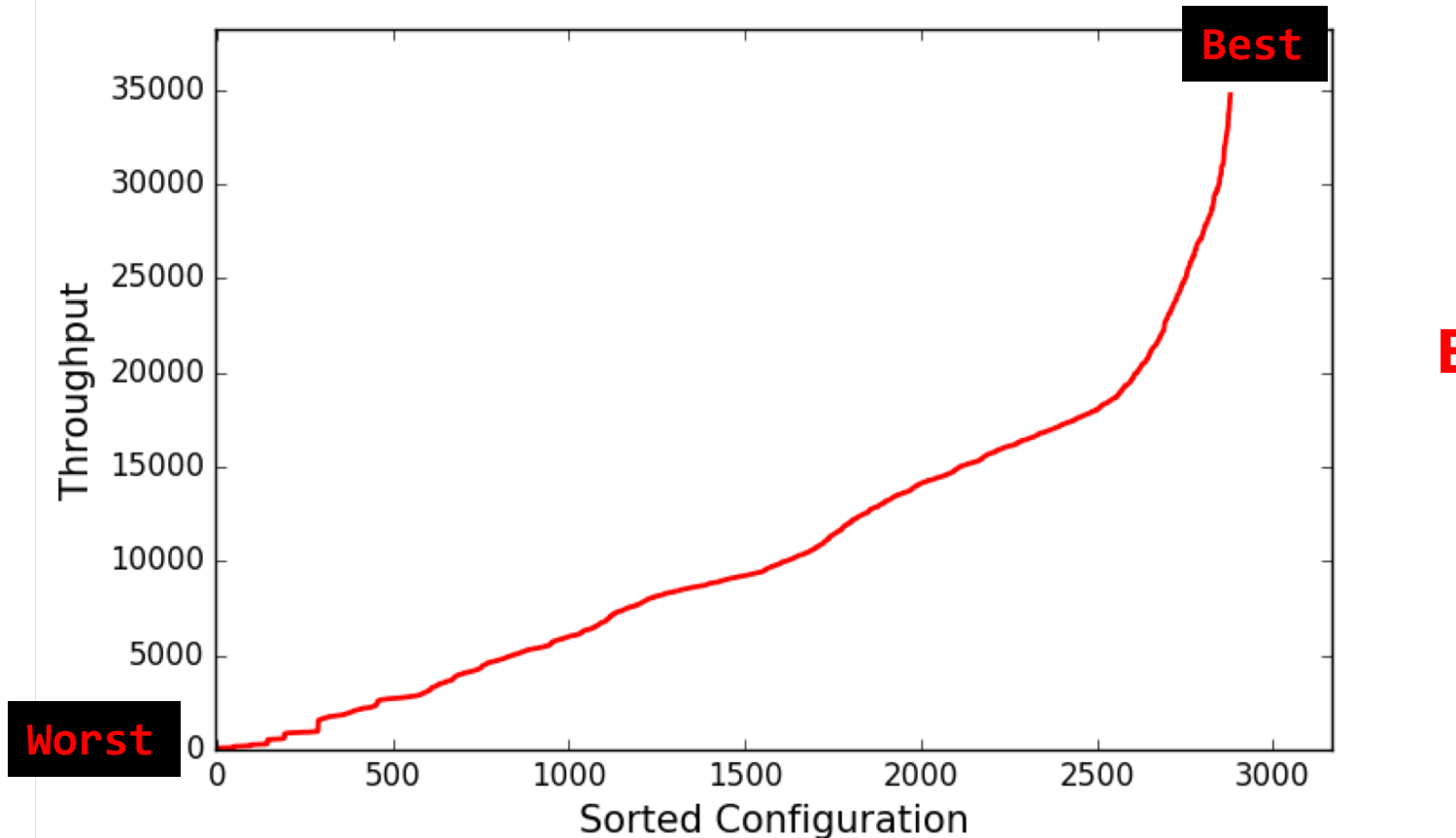
Why is it important?

System: Apache Storm

Performance: Throughput

Workload: Word Count

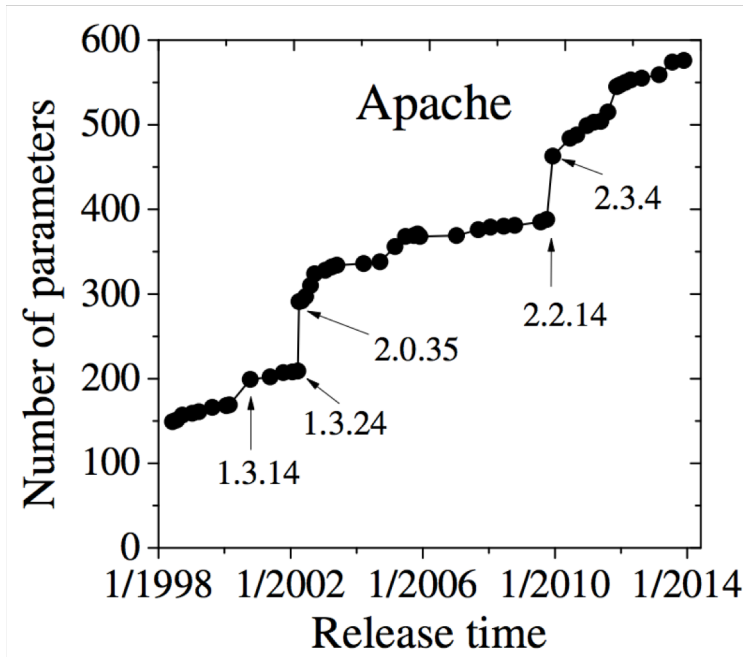
#Configuration options: 6



Necessary

Best configuration is 480 times better than
Worst configuration

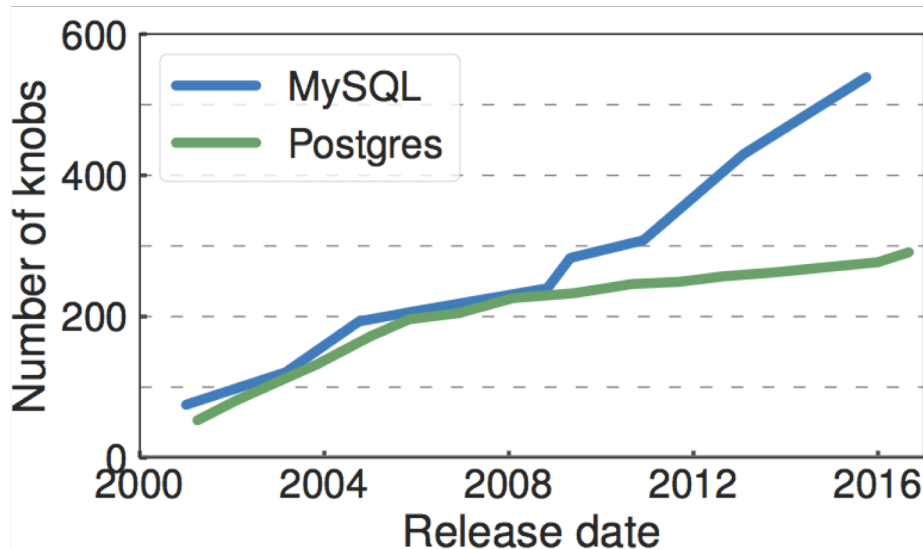
Why is it important?



200 new configuration options added to Apache HTTP server between 2010 and 2014^[1]

Necessary

Complex



250 new configuration options added to MySQL between 2012 and 2016^[2]

[1] Xu et. al.; Hey, you have given me too many knobs!: understanding and dealing with over-designed configuration in system software; FSE 2015¹⁹

[2] Van Aken, Dana, et al. "Automatic Database Management System Tuning Through Large-scale Machine Learning." *ICMD* 2017.

Why is it important?

Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Default MySQL configuration in 2016 assumes that machine has **only 160 MB of RAM**^[1]

Rule-of-thumb settings for WordCount (in Hadoop) gave one of its **worst execution times**^[2]

[1] Van Aken, Dana, et al. "Automatic Database Management System Tuning Through Large-scale Machine Learning." *International Conference on Management of Data*. ACM, 2017.

[2] Herodotou, Herodotos, et al. "Starfish: A Self-tuning System for Big Data Analytics." *CIDR*

Why is it important?

- Evaluation of single instance of software/hardware co-design problem can take **weeks**^[1]
- Rolling Sort use-case required **21 days**, within a total experimental time of about **2.5 months**^[2]
- Test suite generation using Evolutionary Algorithm can take **weeks**^[3]

Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Expensive

[1] Zuluaga, Marcela, et al. "Active learning for multi-objective optimization." *International Conference on Machine Learning*. 2013.

[2] Jamshidi, Pooyan, and Giuliano Casale. "An uncertainty-aware approach to optimal configuration of stream processing systems." *MASCOTS-2016*

[3] Wang, Tiantian, et al. "Searching for better configurations: a rigorous approach to clone evaluation." *FSE-2013*

Why is it important?

Cloud Computing

- [Ernest](#)
- [Cherrypick](#)
- [PARIS](#)

Machine Learning

- [Hyperparameter Tuning](#)
- [Random search](#)
- [SMBO](#)
- [Fabolas](#)

Database

- [Otter-tune](#)
- [Ituned](#)

Software Engineering

- [Tuning or Default Values?](#)
- [Tuning for Software Analytics](#)
- [Tuning for Defect Prediction](#)
- [Topic Modelling](#)

Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Expensive

Ubiquitous

Why is it important?

Cloud Computing

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Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Expensive

Ubiquitous

Why is it important?

Performance
Optimization

Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Expensive

Ubiquitous

Why is it important?



Performance
Optimization

Necessary

Complex

Default is not good

Expensive

Ubiquitous

- Optimization is ubiquitous and expensive
- The Model-based optimization is a popular alternative

Claim: Better ways to build and use Models

Case Study: Configurable Software System Optimization

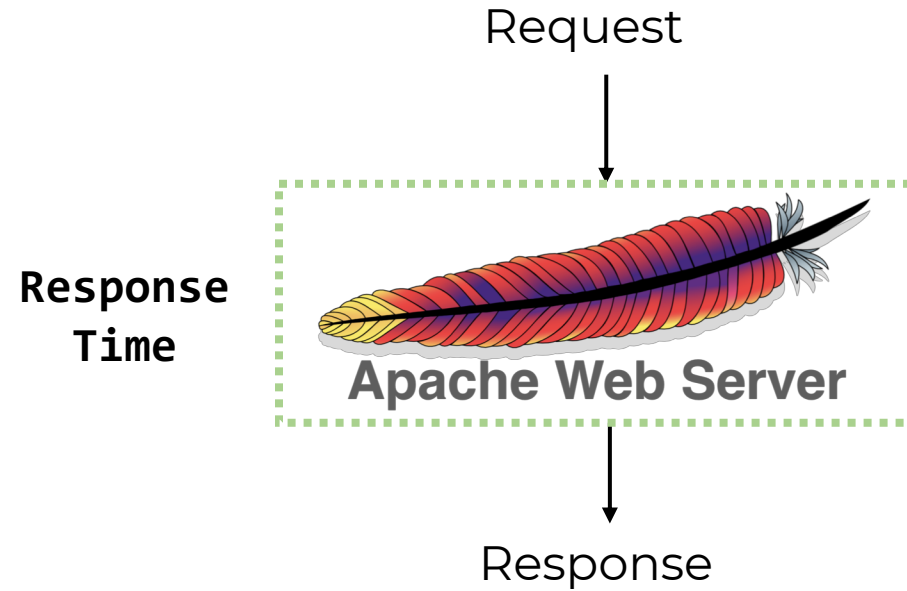
Potential future application: Any optimization problem

Previously on Performance Optimization [1][2]

Residual based Methods

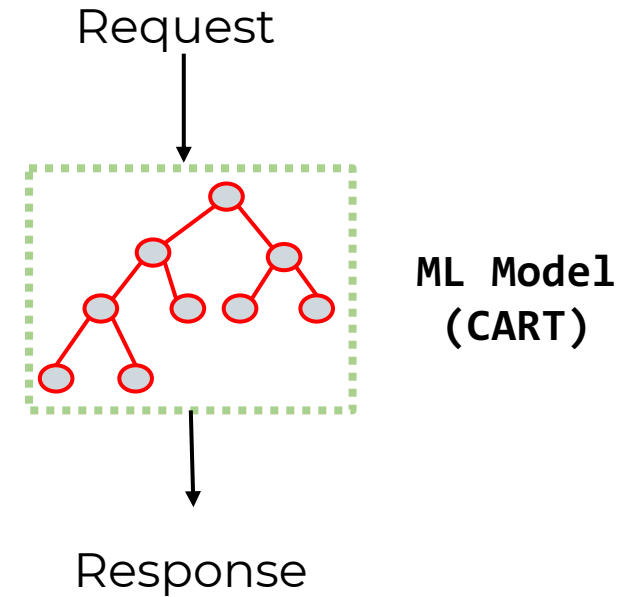
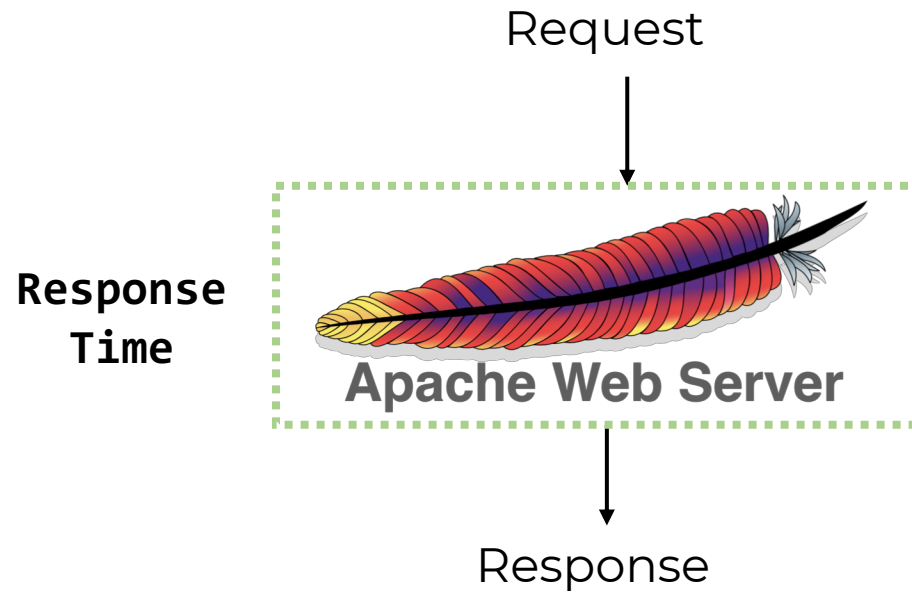
[1] Guo et al.; "Variability-aware performance prediction: A statistical learning approach."; ASE-2013

[2] Sarkar et al.; "Cost-efficient sampling for performance prediction of configurable systems (t)."; ASE-2015

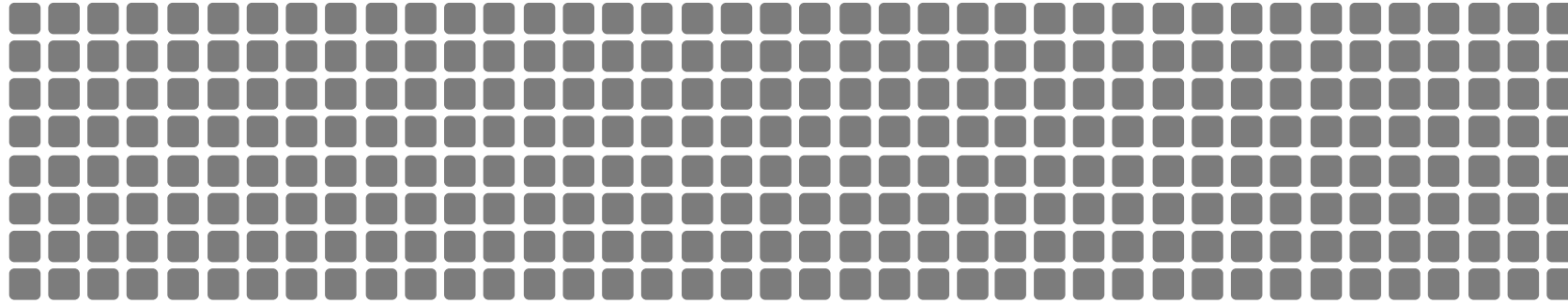


Residual-based Method

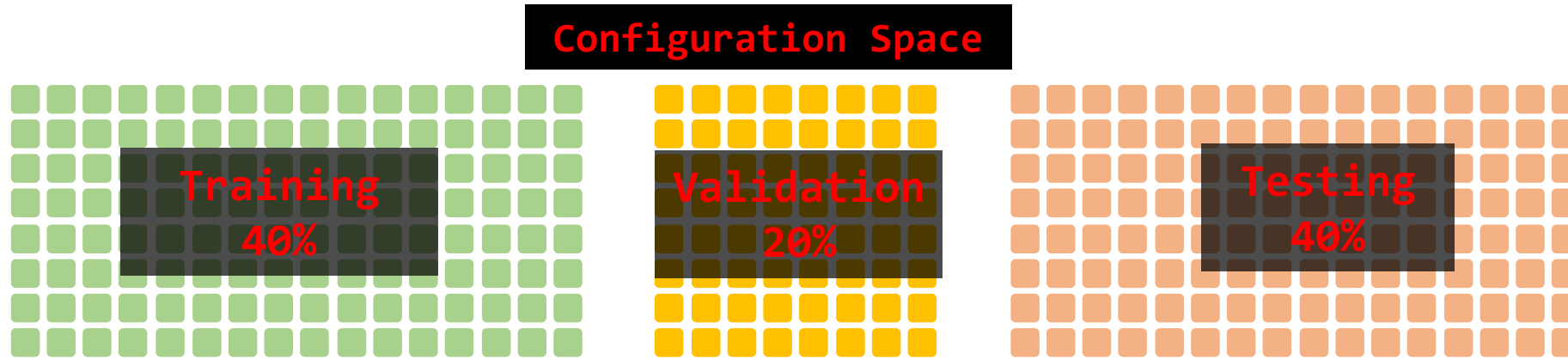
Previously...



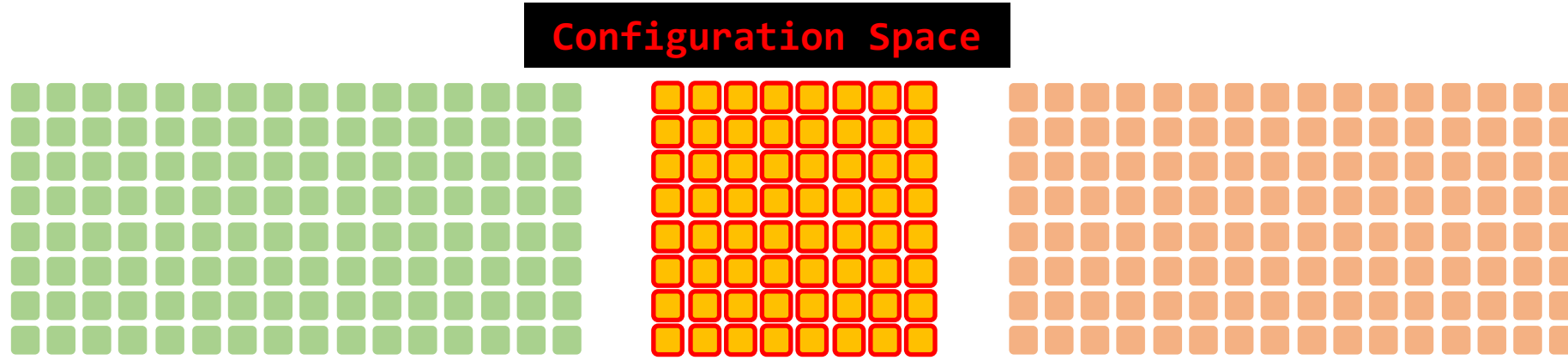
Configuration Space



Measurements = 0

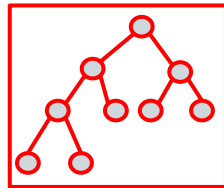
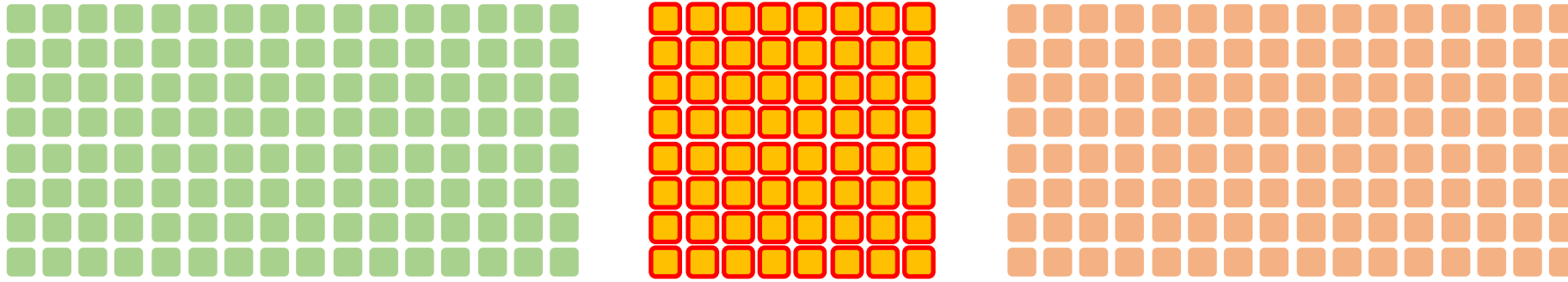


Measurements = 0



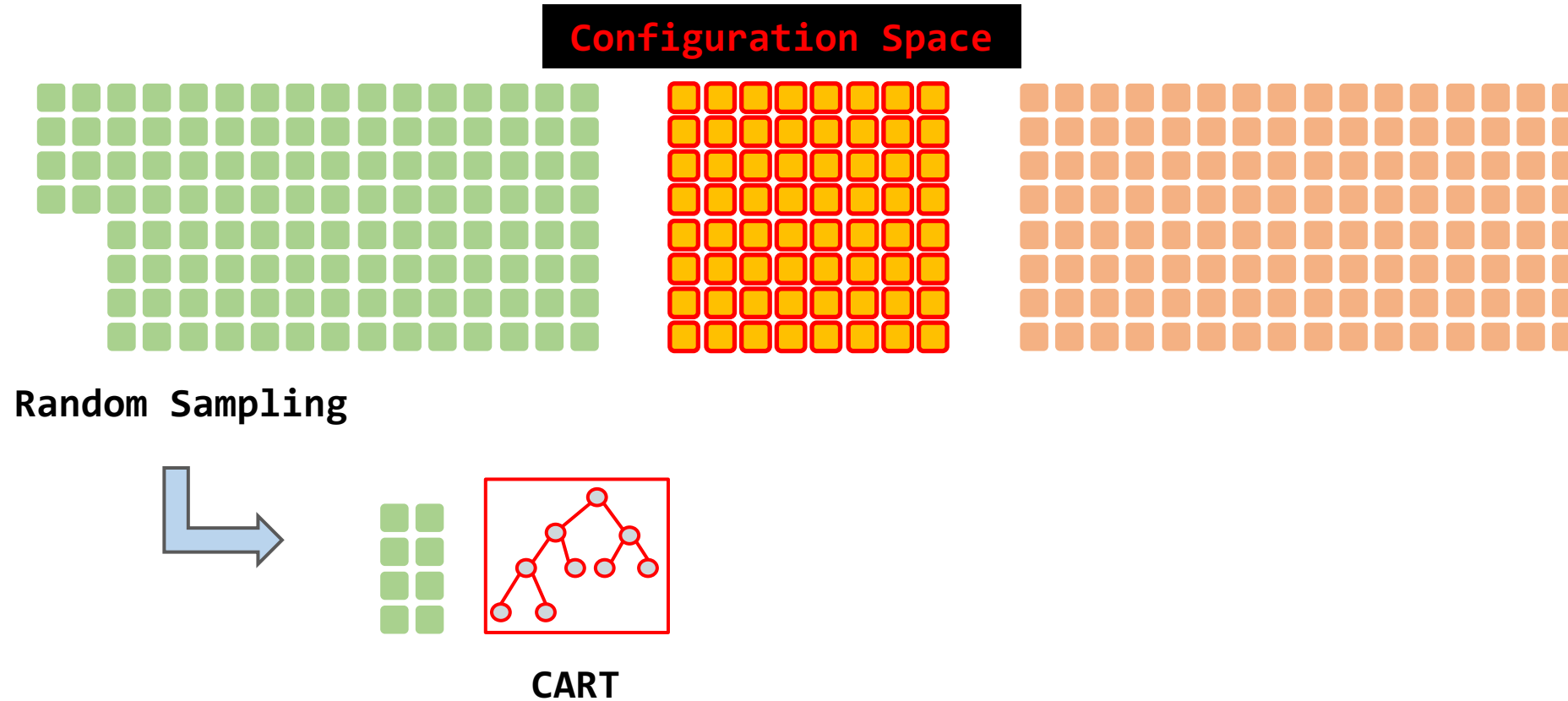
Measurements = 64

Configuration Space

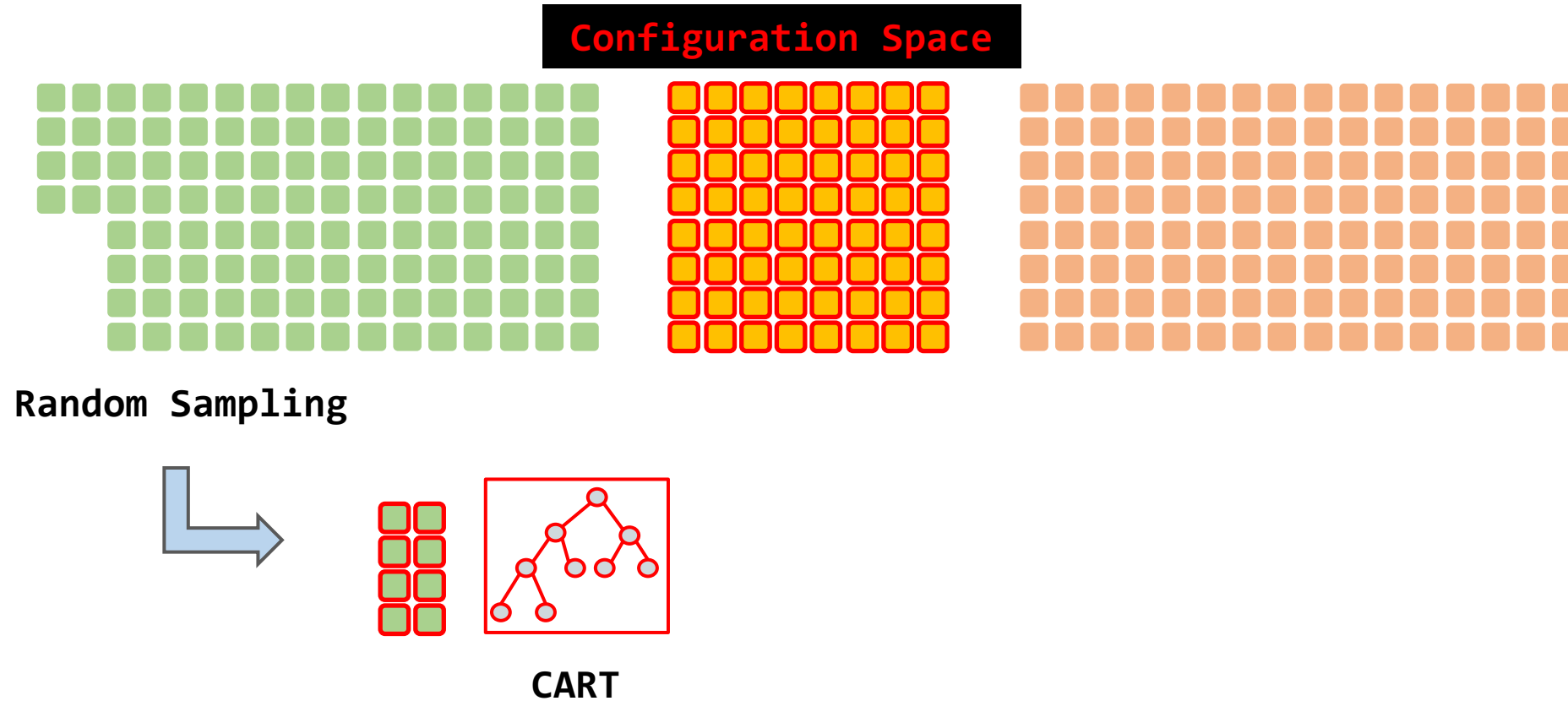


CART

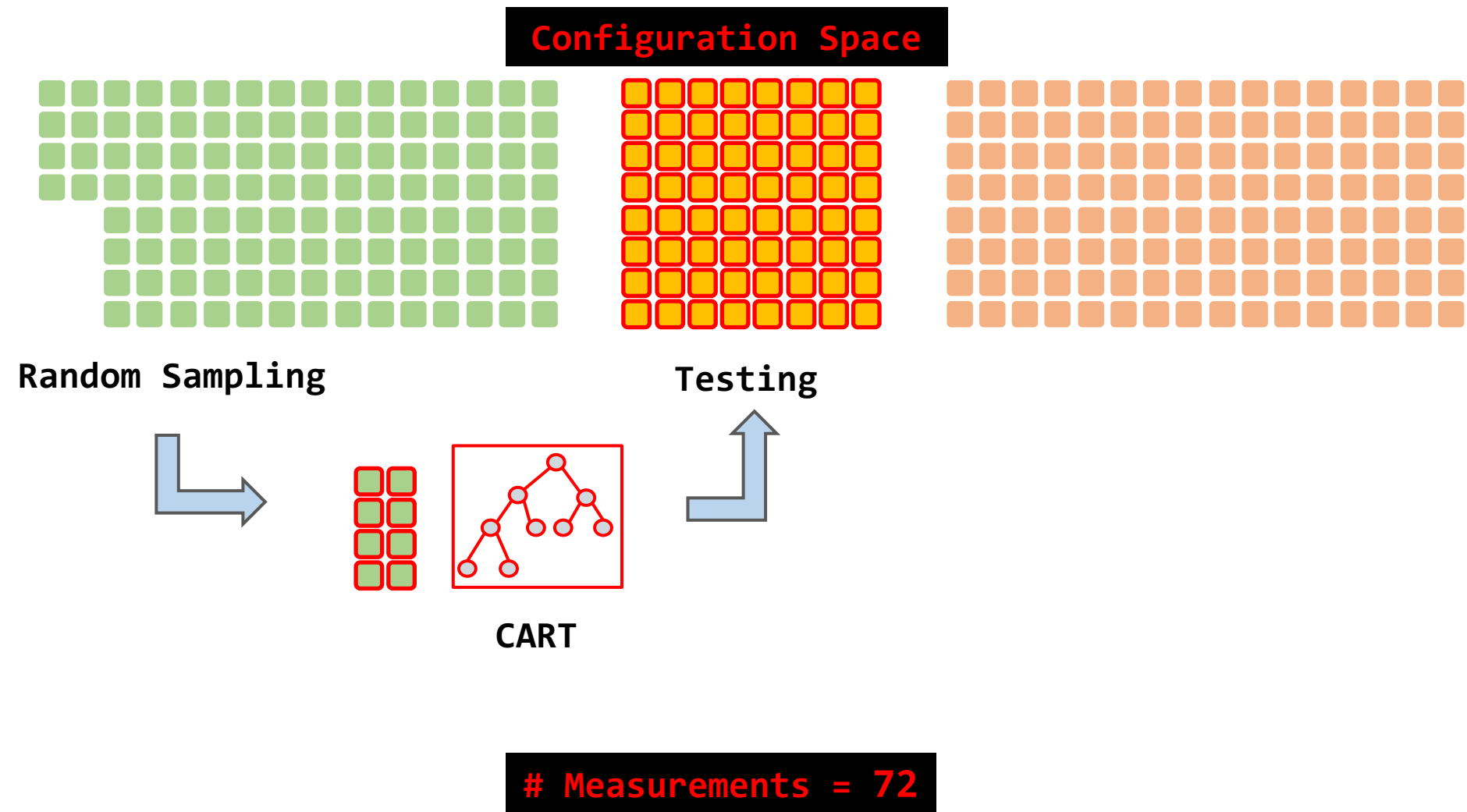
Measurements = 64

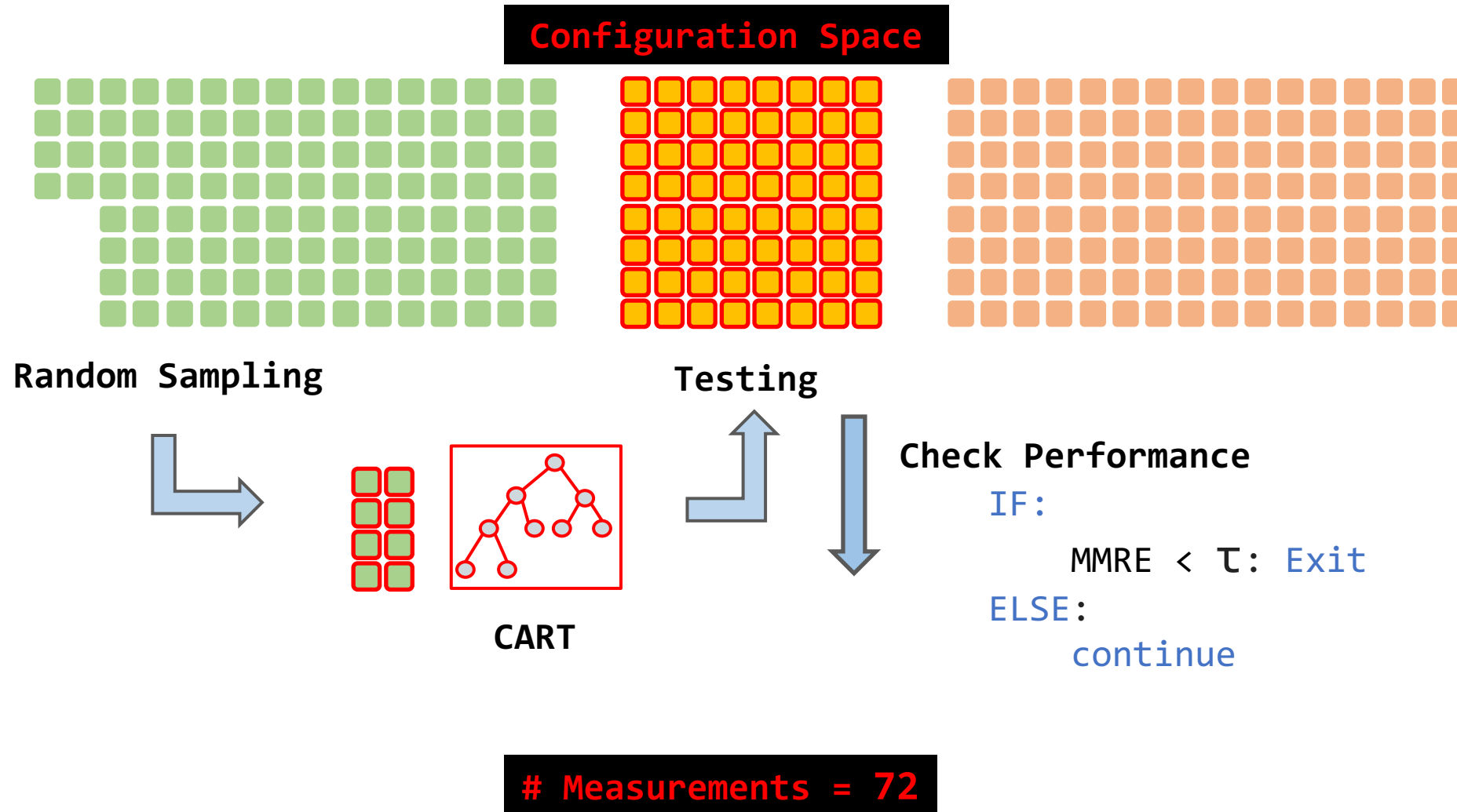


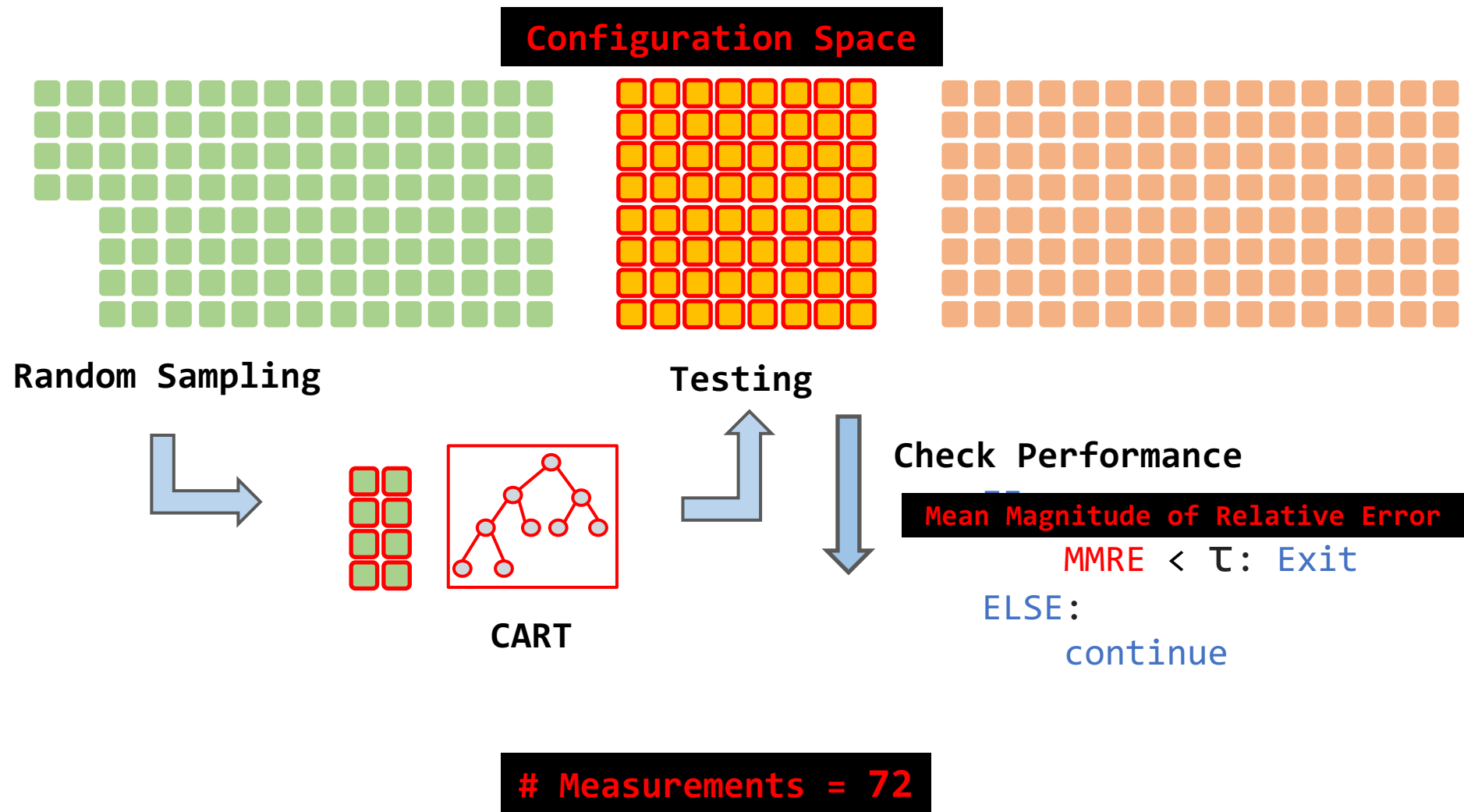
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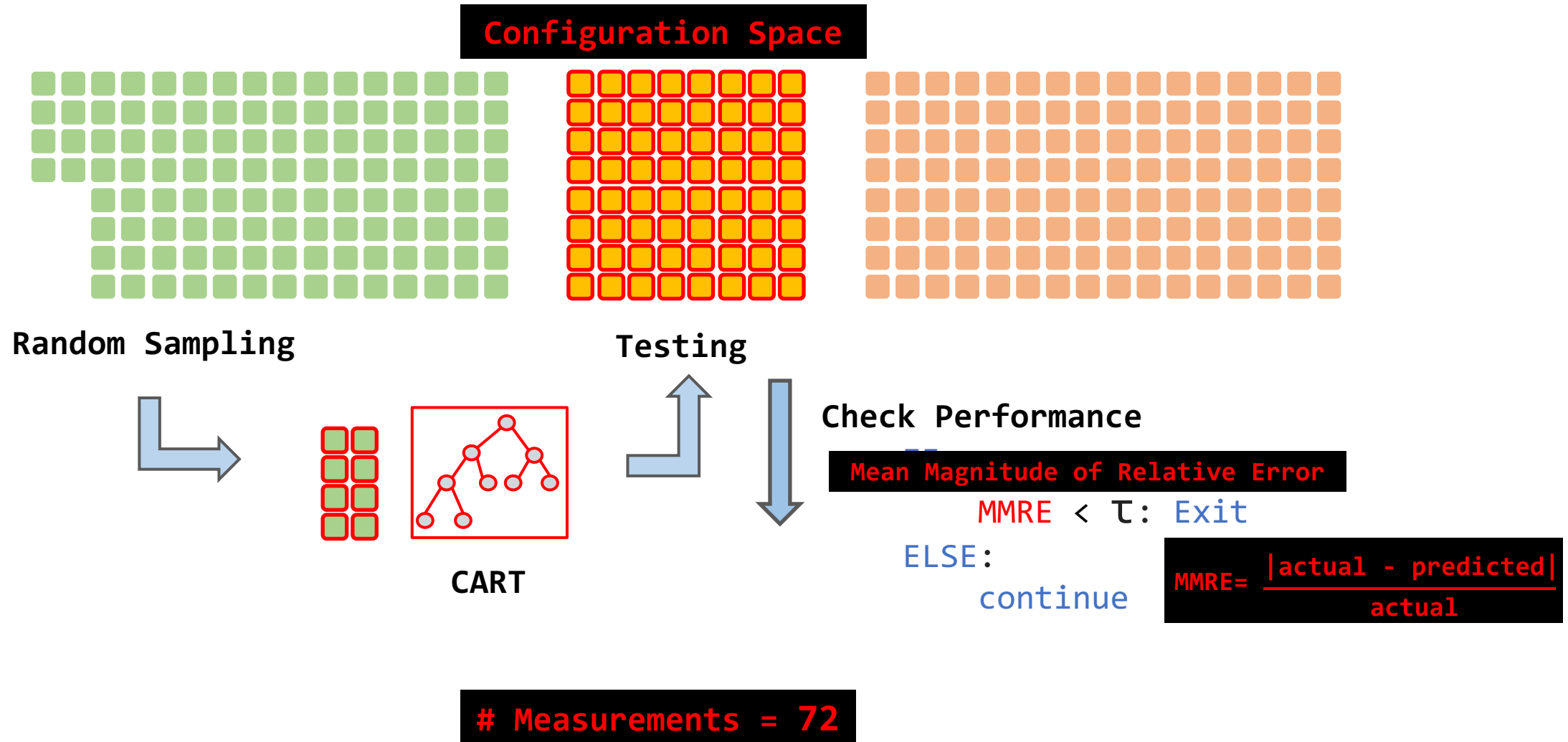


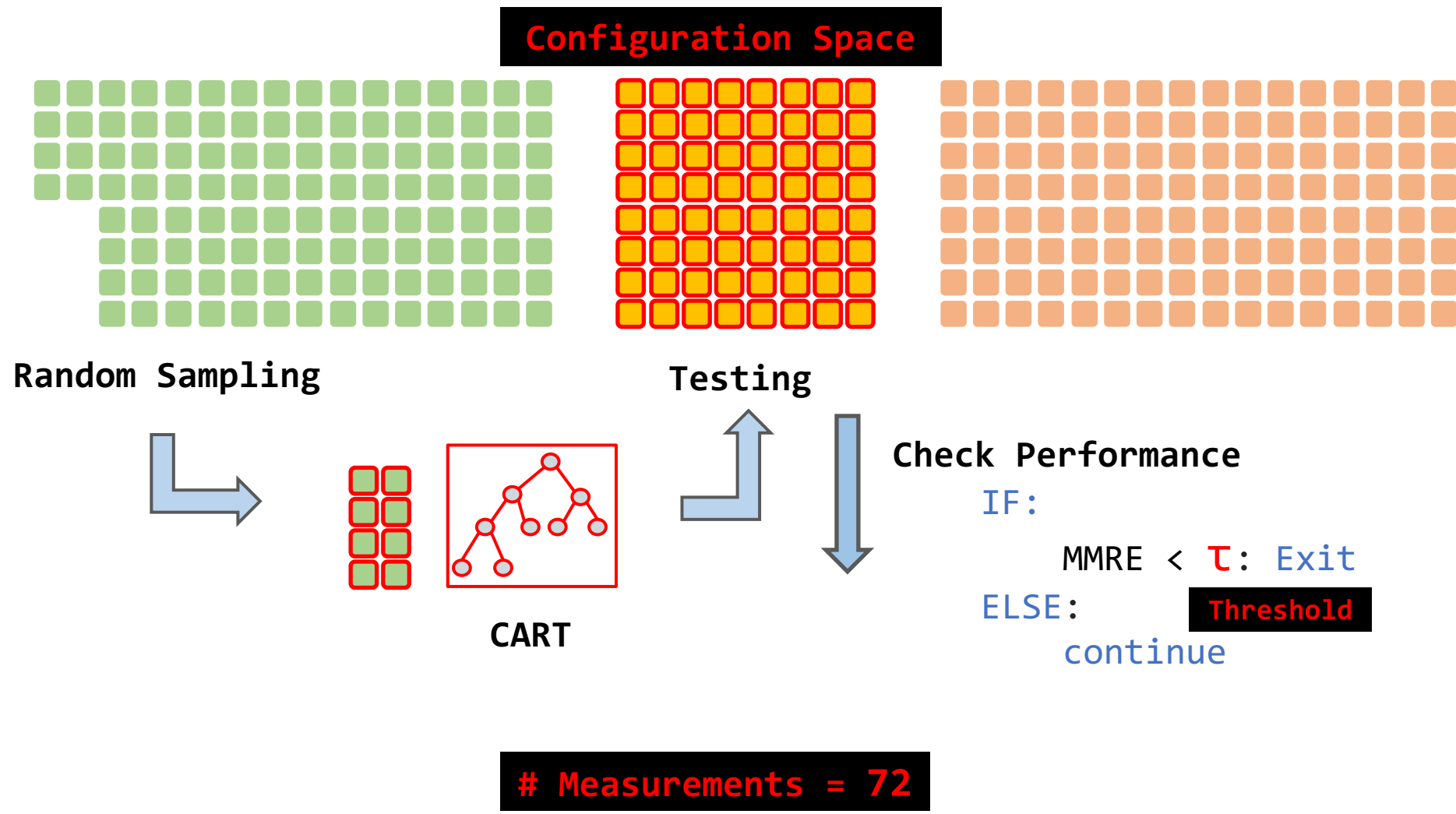
Measurements = 72

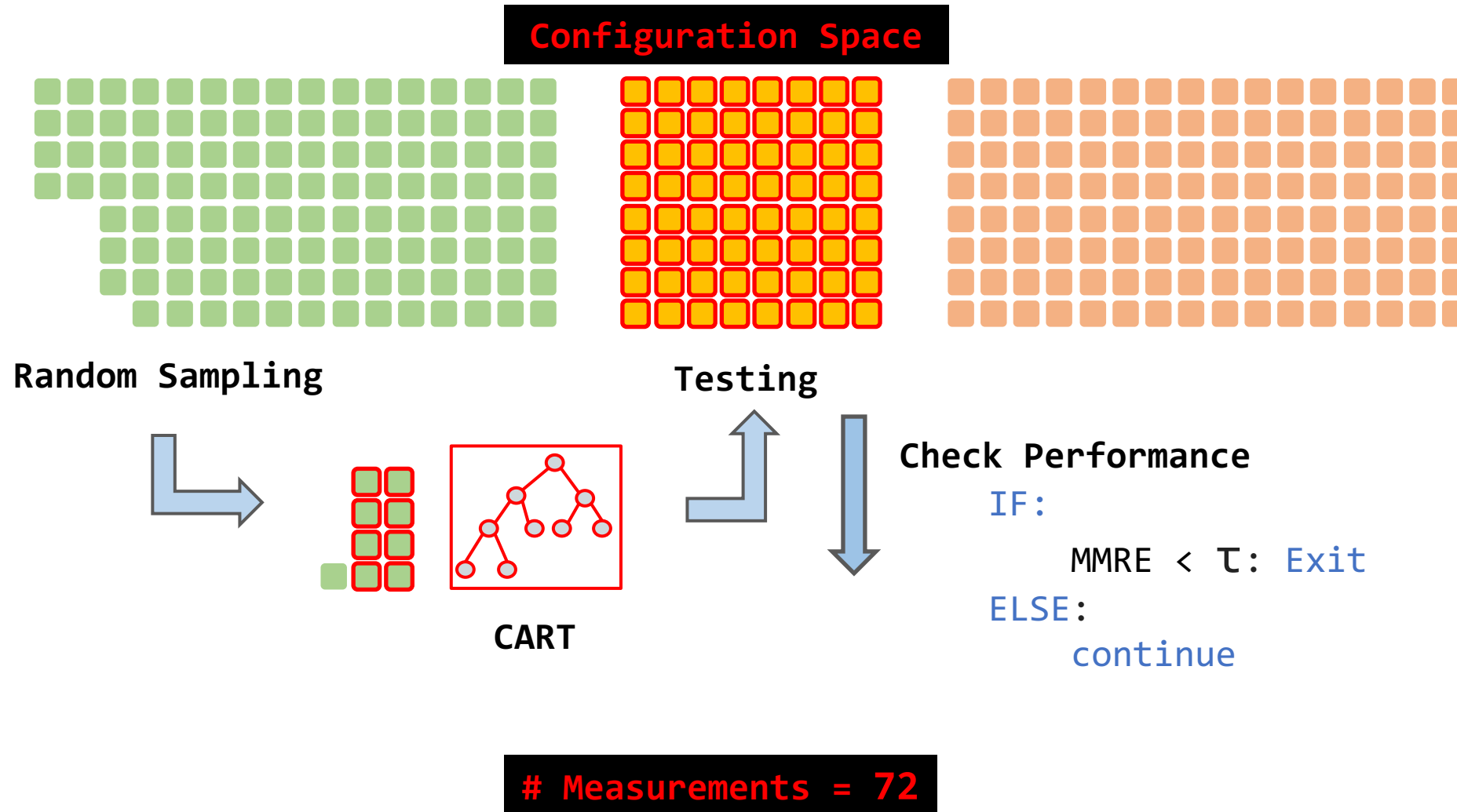


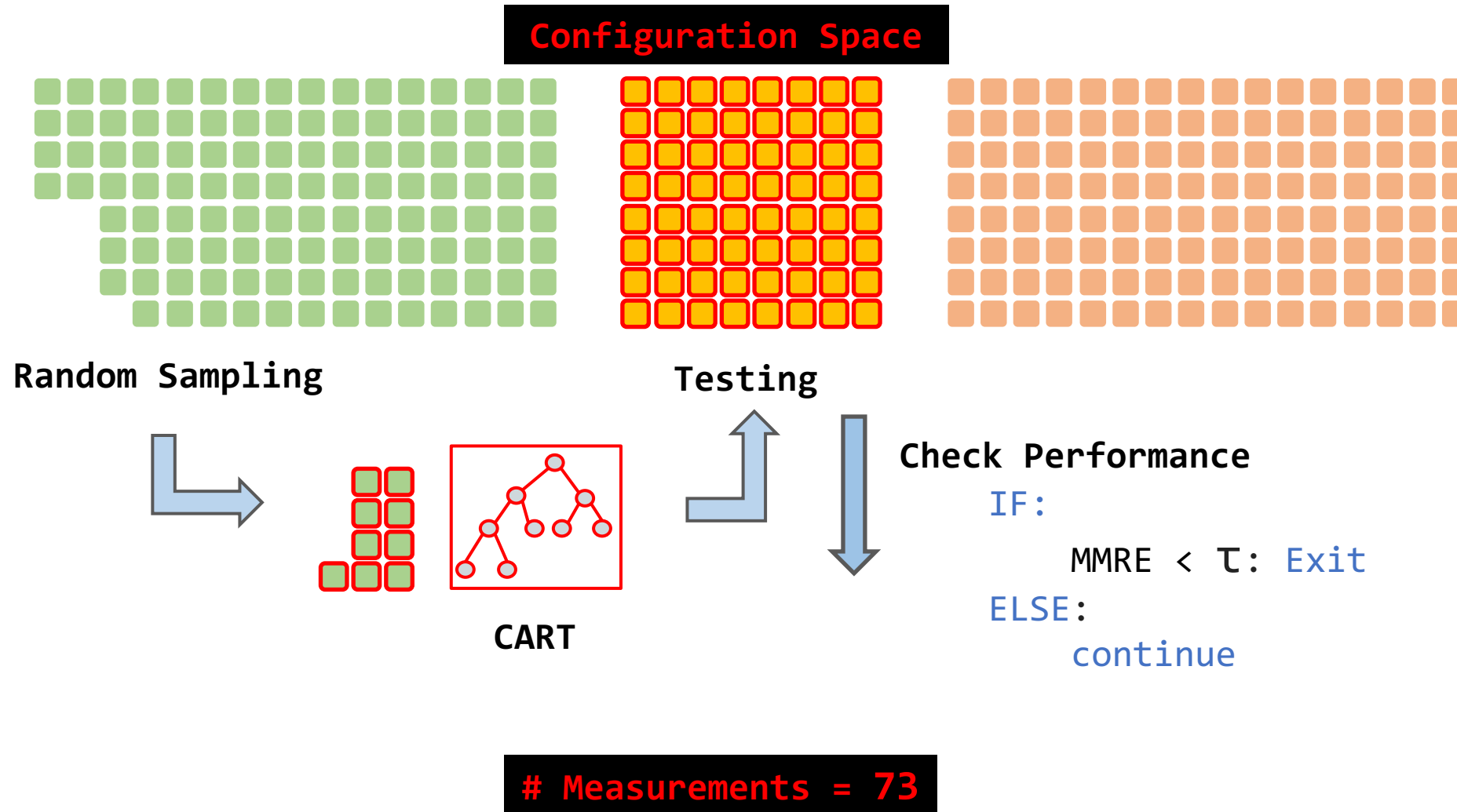


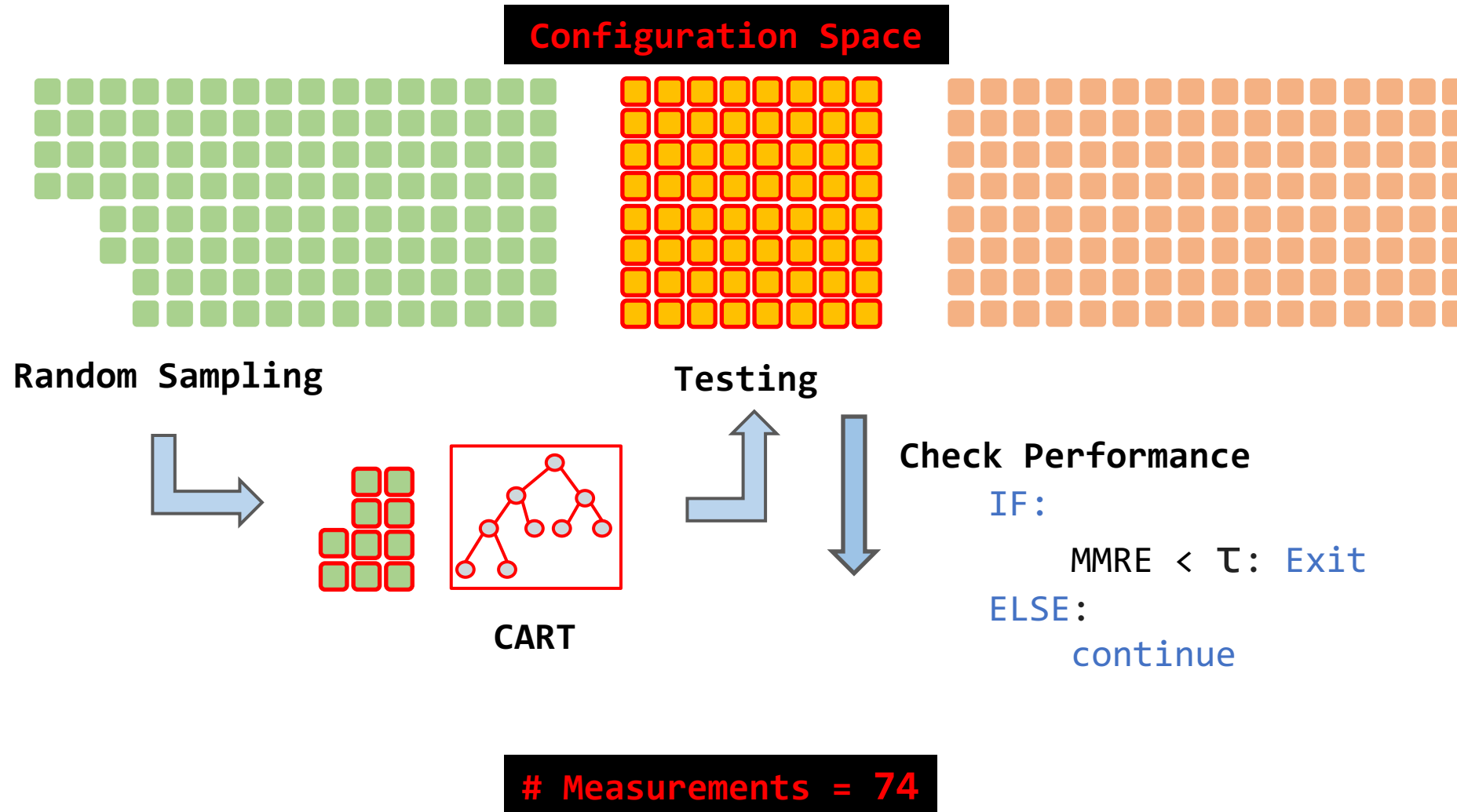


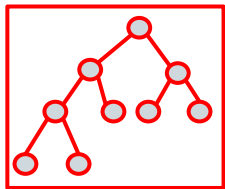
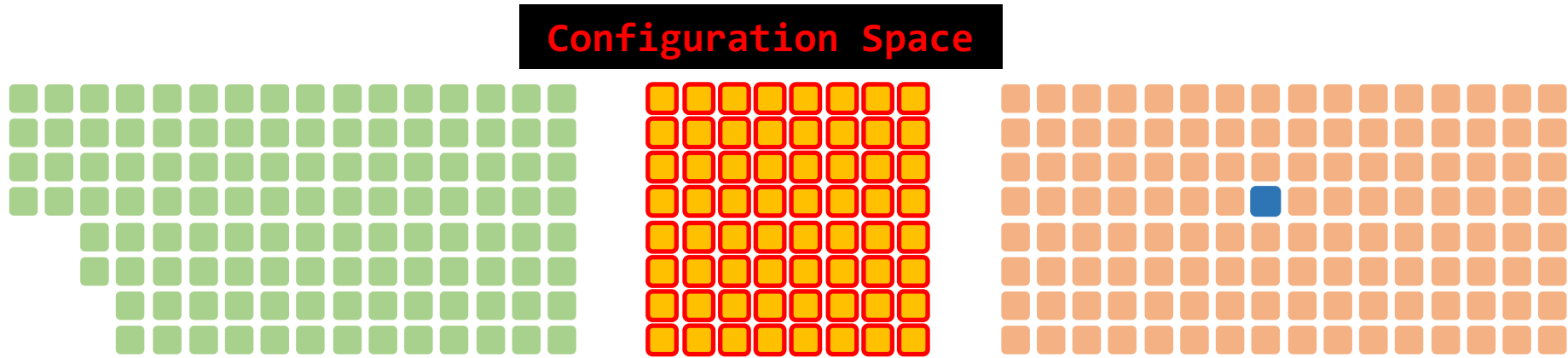










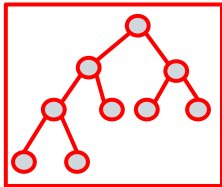
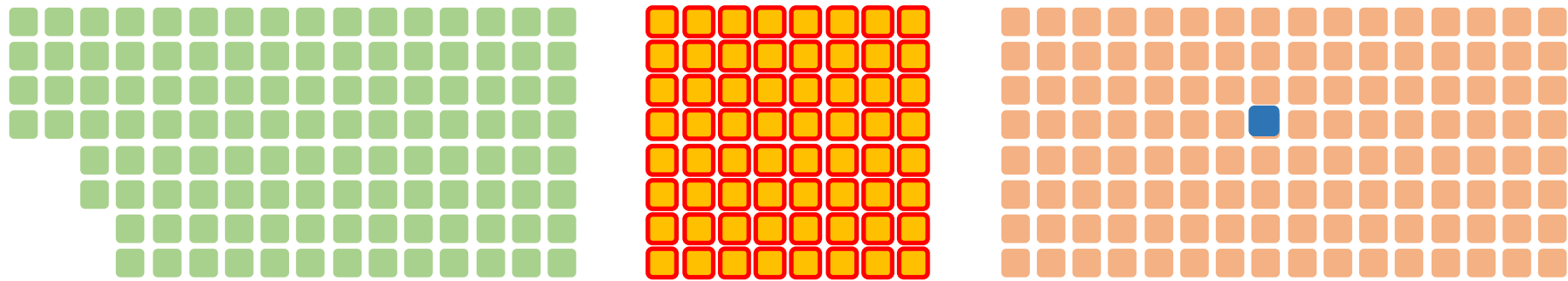


CART

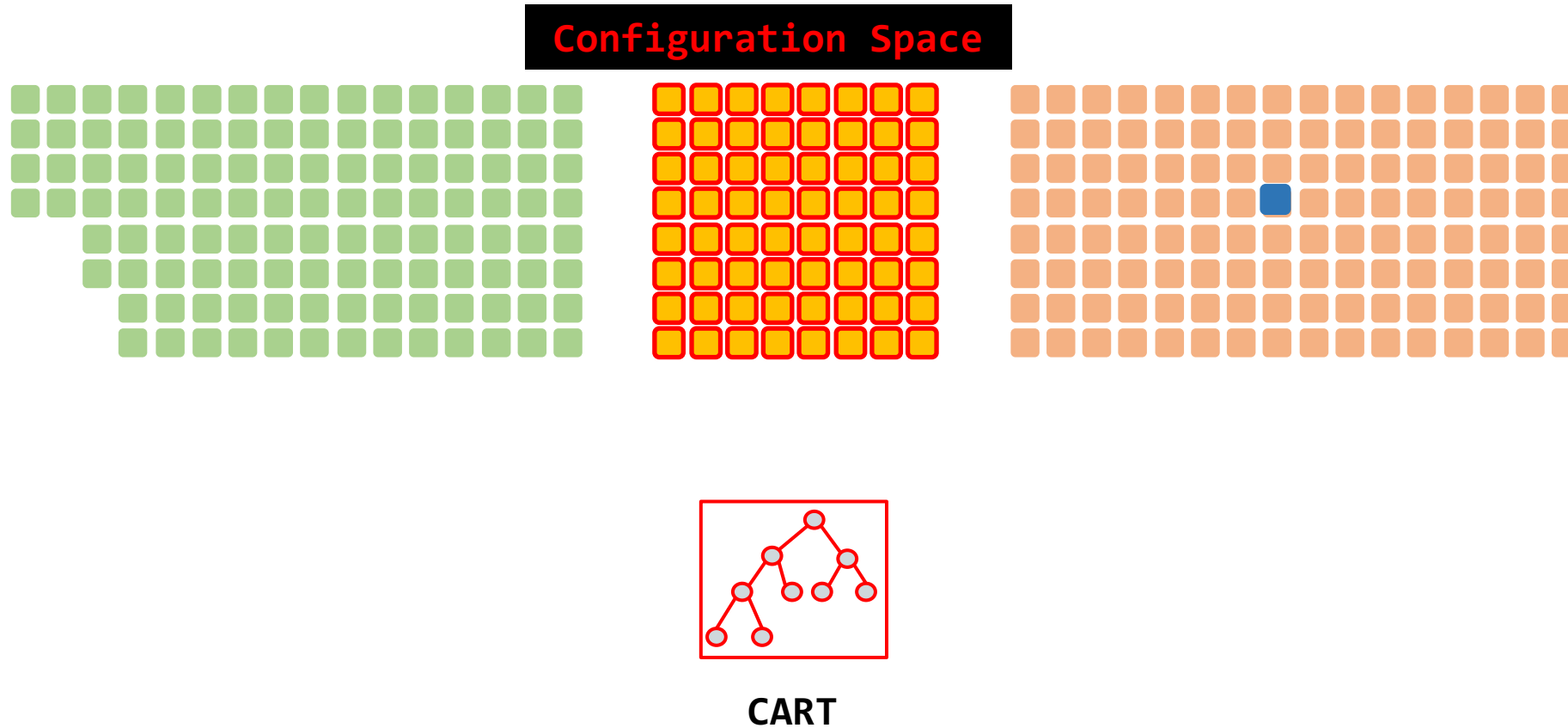
Find Good Configuration

Measurements = 74

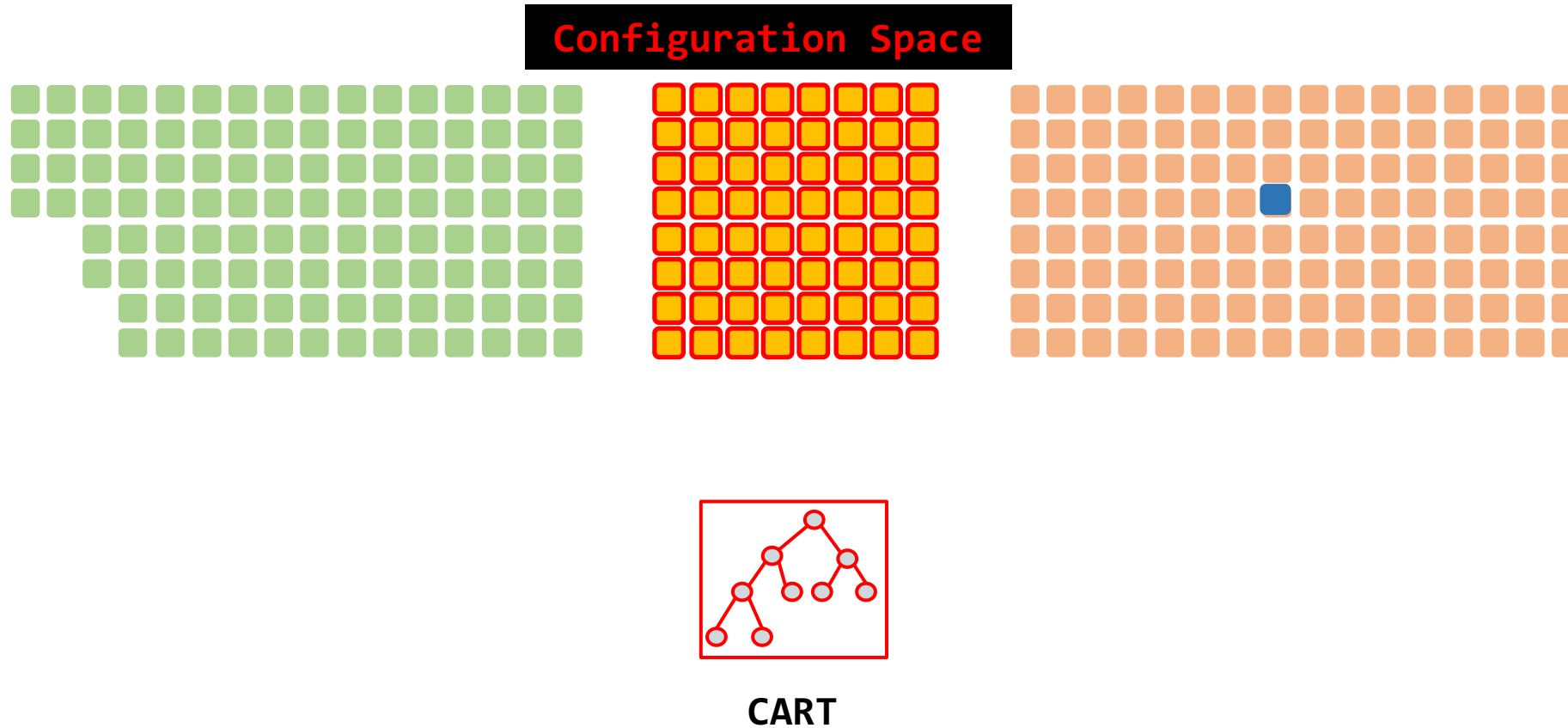
Configuration Space



CART

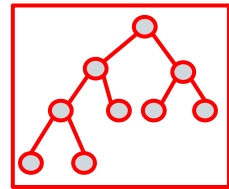
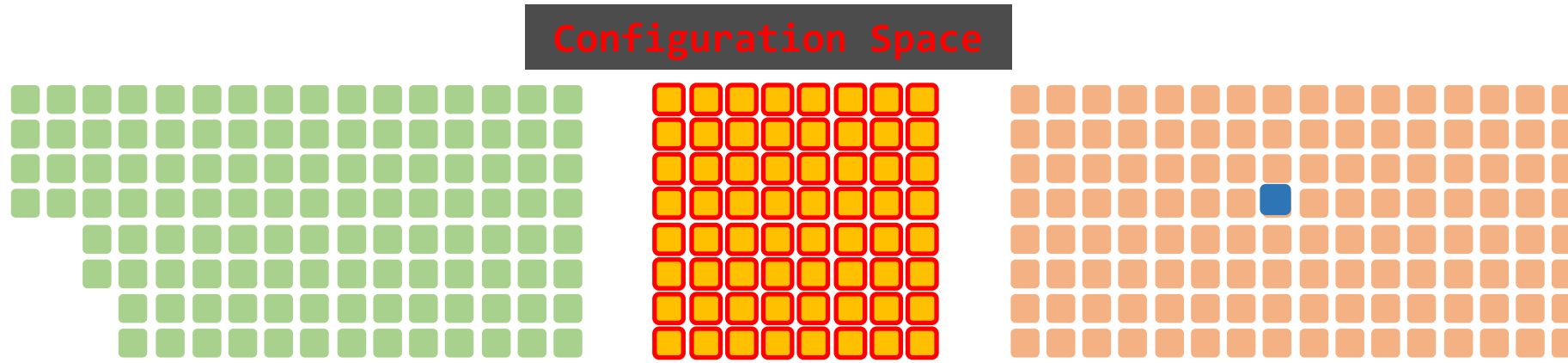


How **close** is the predicted optimal from actual optimal?



Quality

How **close** is the predicted optimal from actual optimal?



CART

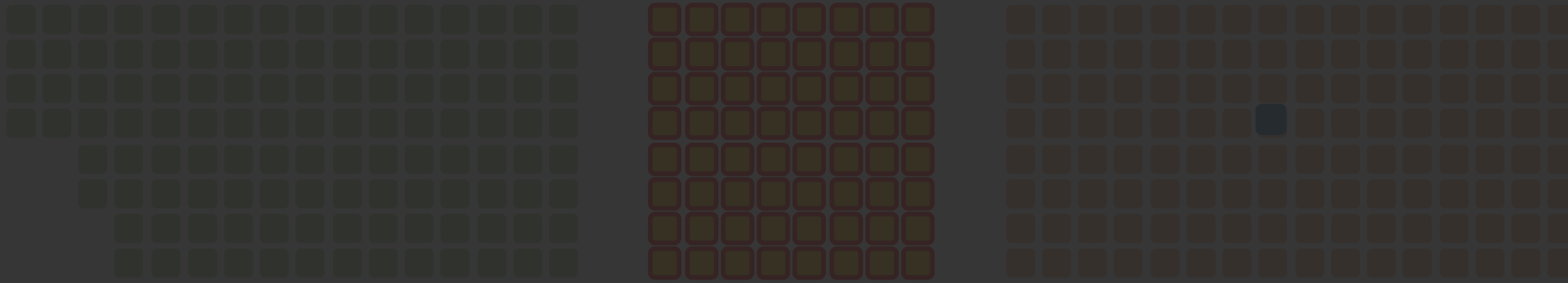
Quality

How **close** is the predicted optimal from actual optimal?

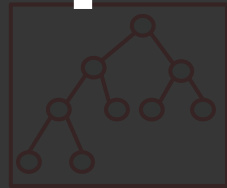
Cost

\$???

Configuration Space



Expensive



Regression Tree

Quality

How close is the predicted optimal from actual optimal?

Cost

???

“..in **real world scenarios**, the cost of acquiring the optimal configuration is overly **expensive and time consuming**..”
- Gary M Weiss and Ye Tian

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- Gary M Weiss and Ye Tian

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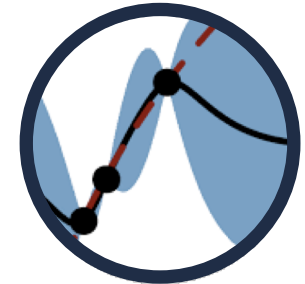
Clustering



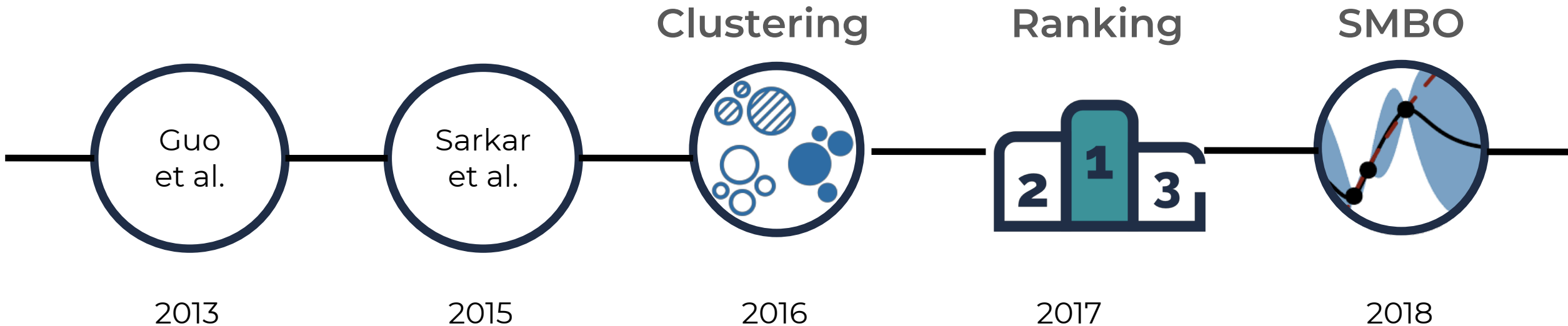
Ranking



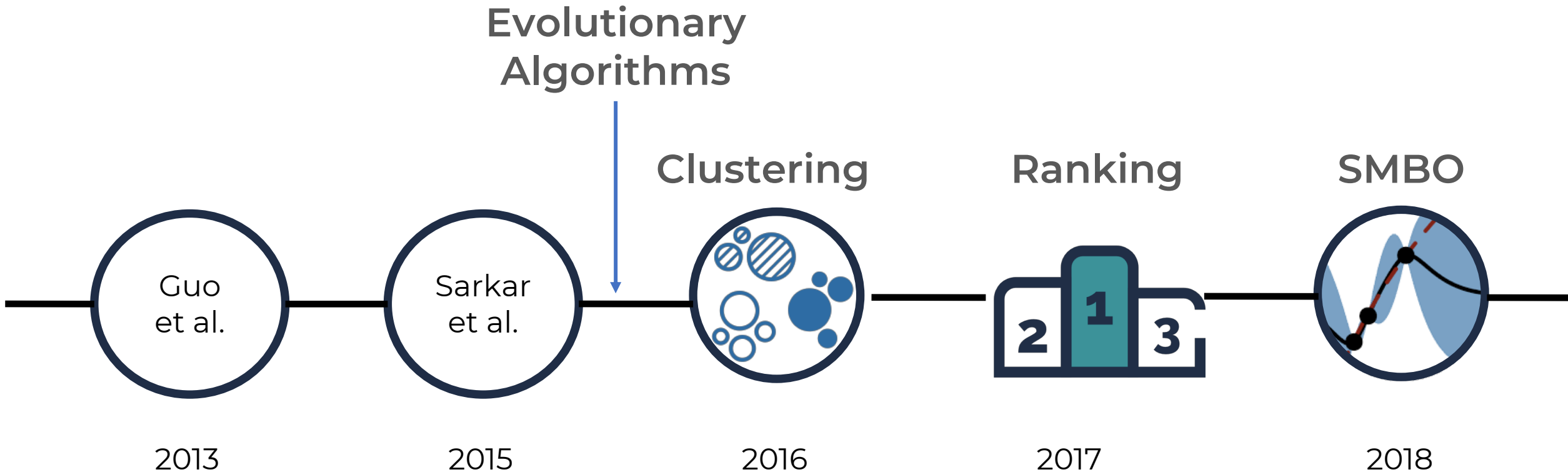
SMBO



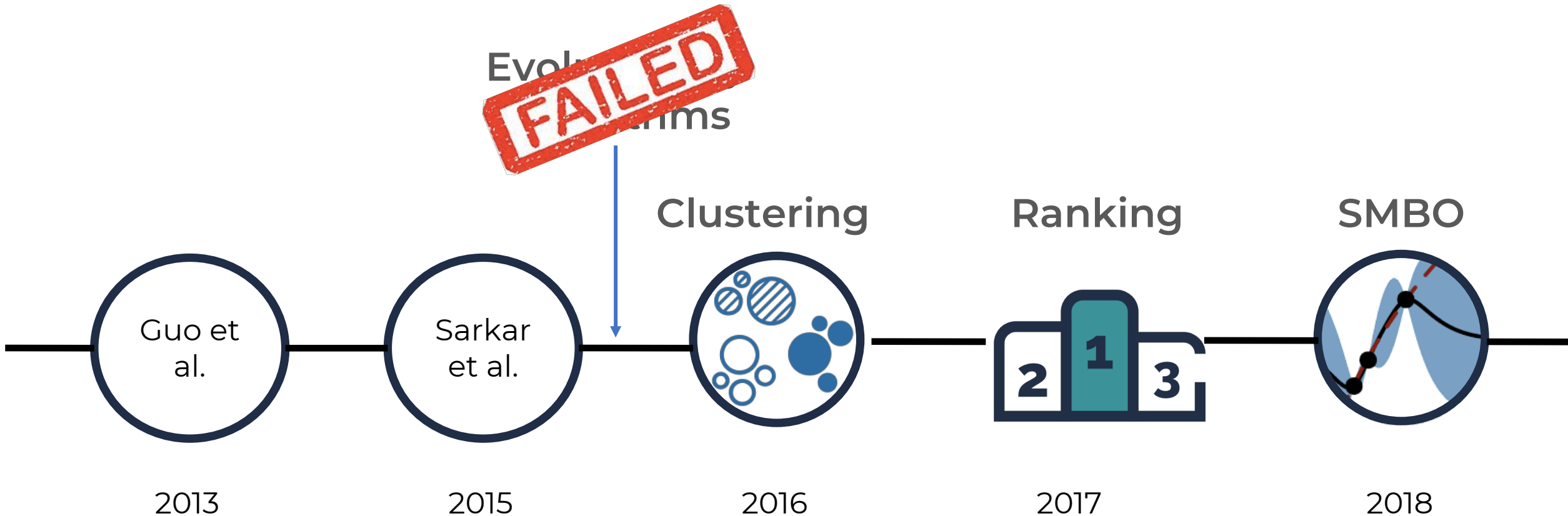
Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.



Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.



Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.



Guo et al.; "Variability-aware performance prediction: A statistical learning approach."; ASE-2013

Sarkar et al.; "Cost-efficient sampling for performance prediction of configurable systems (t)."; ASE-2015

Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

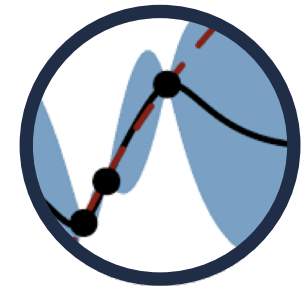
Clustering



Ranking



SMBO



Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

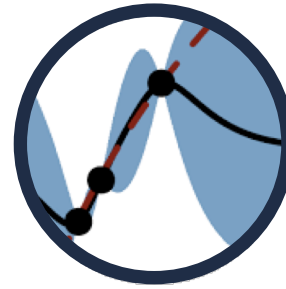
Clustering



Ranking



SMBO



Cloud Computing

Arrow



ICDCS'18

Scout



*

Mickey



CLOUD'18

Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

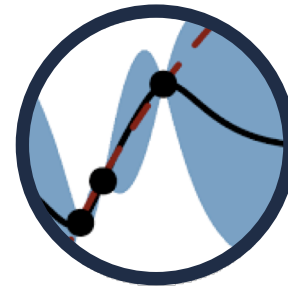
Clustering



Ranking

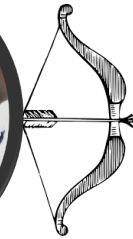


SMBO



Cloud Computing

Arrow



ICDCS'18

Scout



*

Mickey



CLOUD'18

Transfer Learning

BEETLE



*

58



Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

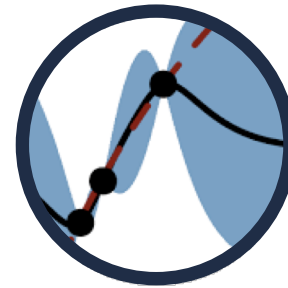
Clustering



Ranking



SMBO



Cloud Computing

Arrow



ICDCS'18

Scout



*

Mickey



CLOUD'18

Effort Estimation

ROME



*

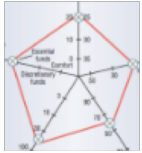
Transfer Learning

BEETLE



*

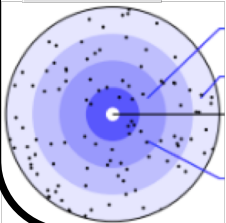
General Optimization



SSBSE'16

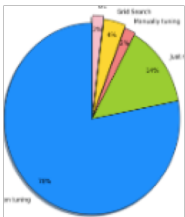
Rank	Treatment
50-4-5-8-110	
1	SPEA2
1	NSGAII
2	SWAY4
50-4-5-8-110	
1	SWAY4
1	SPEA2
1	NSGAII
50-4-5-8-110	
1	SWAY4
2	SPEA2
2	NSGAII
50-4-5-8-110	
1	SWAY4
2	SPEA2
2	NSGAII

IST'16



TSE'18

Software Analytics



JMSE'19



MSR'18

Learner	Parameter	Default
CART	criterion	"gini"
	max_features	None
	min_samples_split	2
	min_samples_leaf	1
KNN	n_neighbors	5
	weights	"uniform"
SVM	C	1.0
	kernel	"rbf"
	coef0	0.0
	gamma	"auto"
RF	criterion	"entropy"
	max_features	"auto"
	min_samples_split	2
	min_samples_leaf	1
	n_estimators	10

SWAN'18

Performance Optimization

Clustering



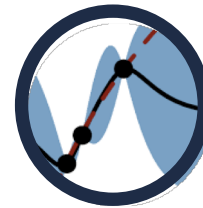
ASEJ'17

Ranking



FSE'17

SMBO



TSE'18

Effort Estimation

ROME

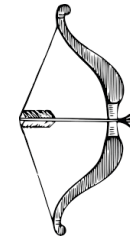


EMSE'19

Have you published?

Cloud Computing

Arrow



ICDCS'18

Scout Mickey



TPDS'19



CLOUD'18

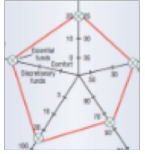
Transfer Learning

BEETLE



TSE'19

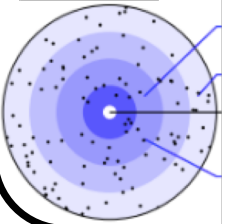
General Optimization



SSBSE'16

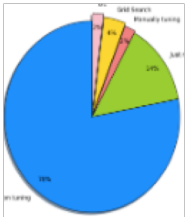
Rank	Treatment
50-4-5-6-110	
1	SPEA2
1	NSGAII
2	SWAY4
50-4-5-6-090	
1	SWAY4
1	SPEA2
1	NSGAII
50-4-5-4-110	
1	SWAY4
2	SPEA2
2	NSGAII
50-4-5-4-090	
1	SWAY4
2	SPEA2
2	NSGAII

IST'16



TSE'18

Software Analytics



JMSE'19



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SWAN'18

Performance Optimization

Clustering



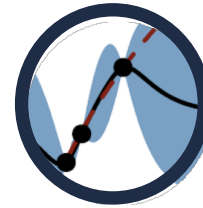
ASEJ'17

Ranking



FSE'17

SMBO

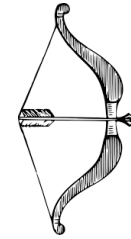


TSE'18

Have you published?

Cloud Computing

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Scout Mickey



TPDS'19



CLOUD'18

Effort Estimation

ROME



EMSE'19

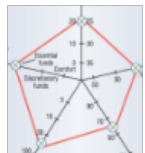
Transfer Learning

BEETLE



TSE'19

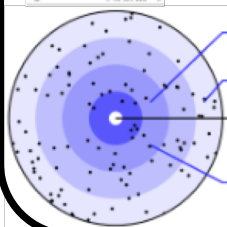
General Optimization



SSBSE'16

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1	NSGAII
50-4-5-4-110	
1	SWAY4
2	SPEA2
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IST'16



TSE'18

Software Analytics



JMSE'19



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SWAN'18

Performance Optimization

Clustering



ASEJ'17

Ranking



FSE'17

SMBO



TSE'18

Effort Estimation

ROME

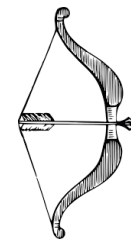


EMSE'19

Have you published?

Cloud Computing

Arrow



ICDCS'18

Scout



TPDS'19

Mickey



CLOUD'18

Transfer Learning

BEETLE



TSE'19

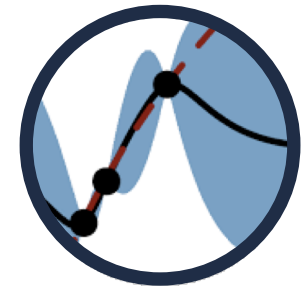
Clustering



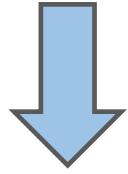
Ranking



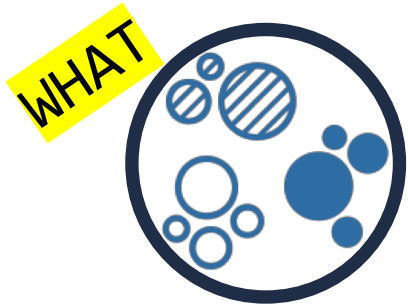
SMBO



Presented during Written Prelims



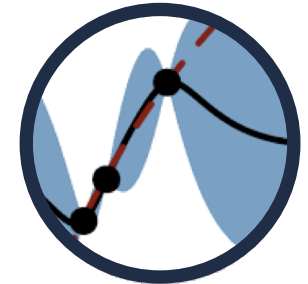
Clustering



Ranking



SMBO



Nair et al.; [Faster discovery of faster system configurations with spectral learning](#); ASEJ (2016)



WHAT (Clustering)

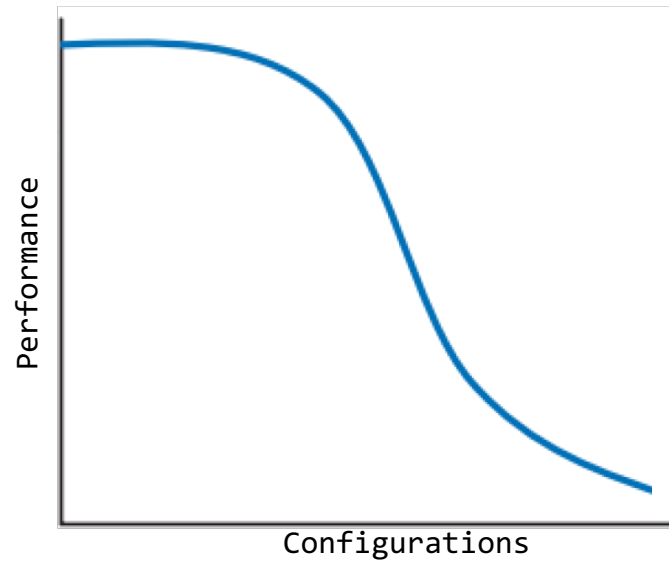
Intuition



WHAT (Clustering)

Intuition

Expectation

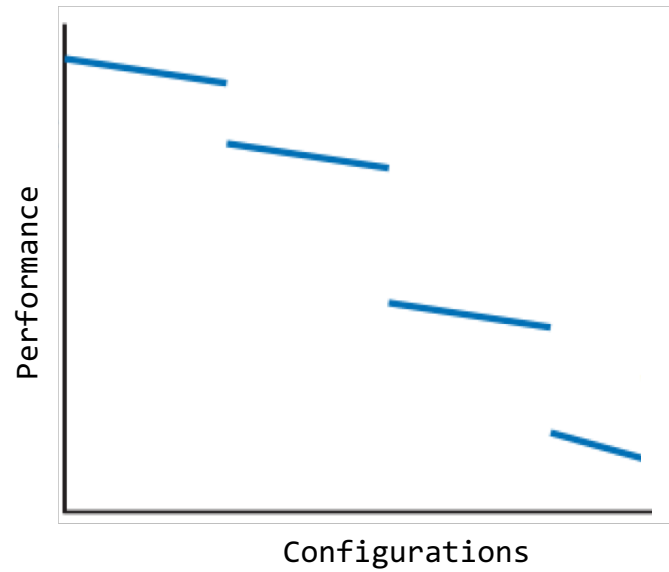




WHAT (Clustering)

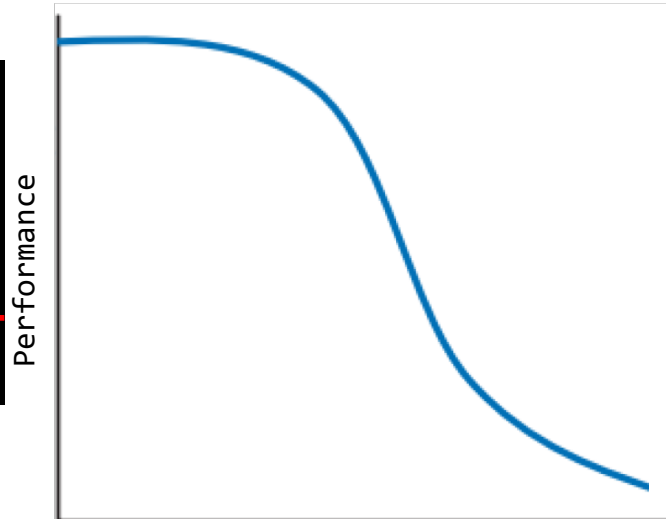
Intuition

Reality



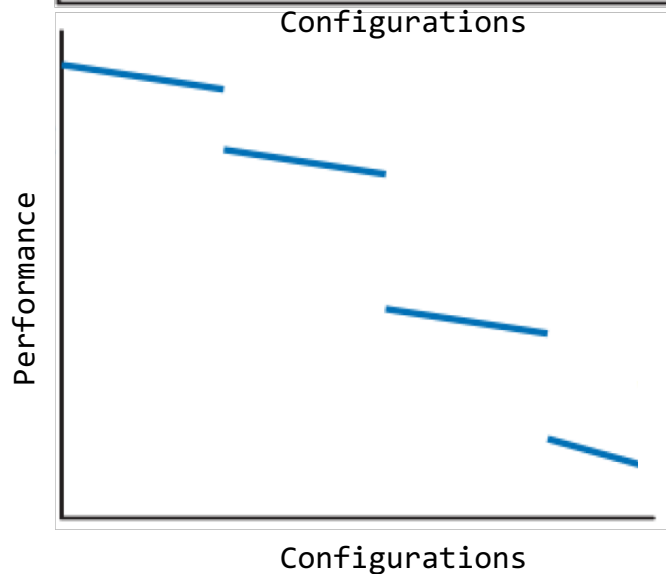


Expectation



- Most of the configuration options **does not affect** the performance
- First **Cluster** then **Sample**

Reality

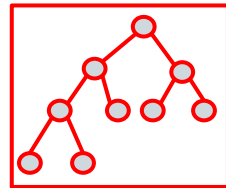
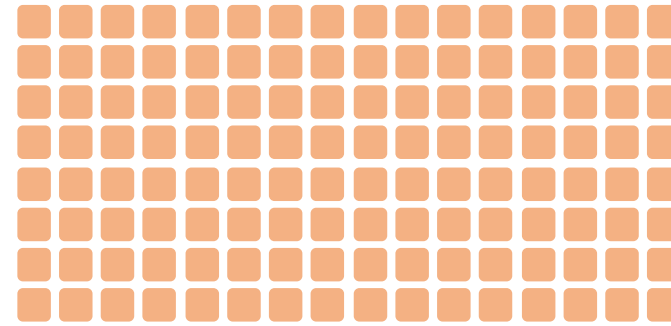
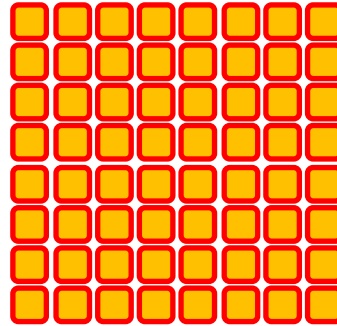
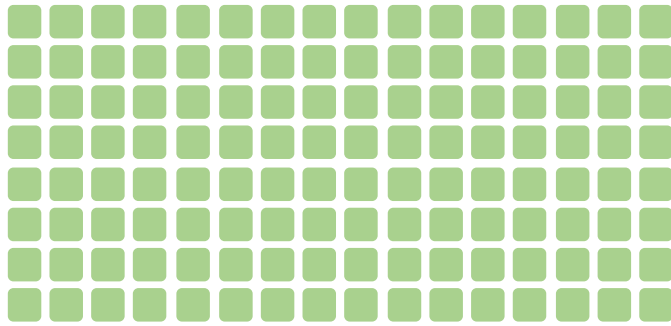




WHAT (Clustering)

WHAT

Configuration Space



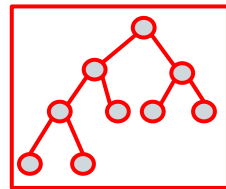
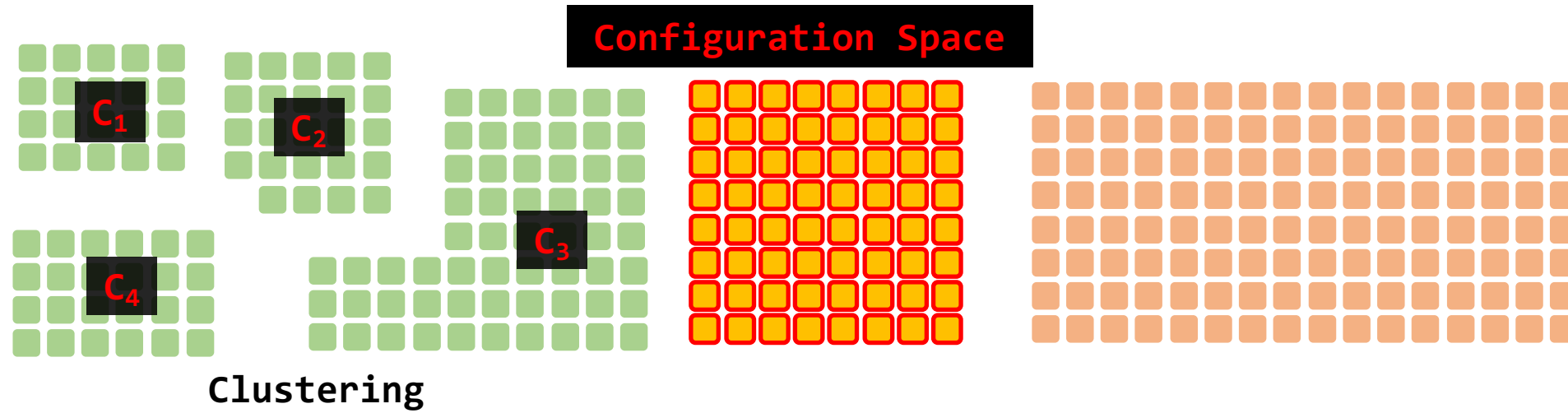
CART

Measurements = 64



WHAT (Clustering)

WHAT



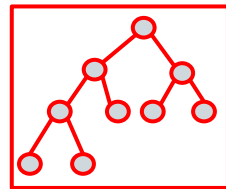
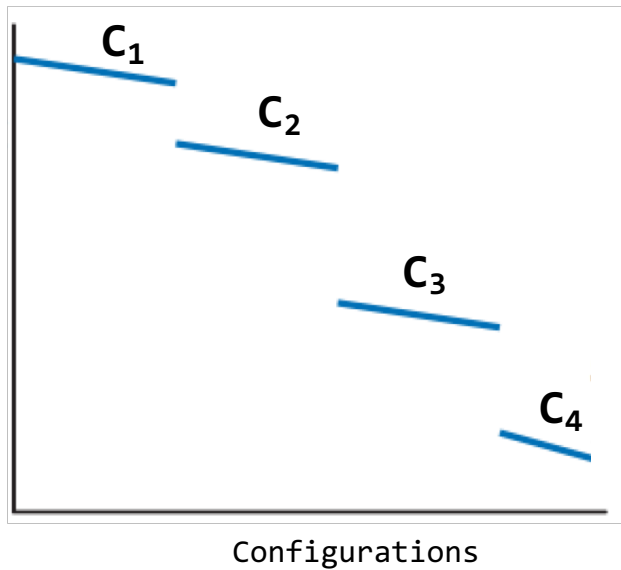
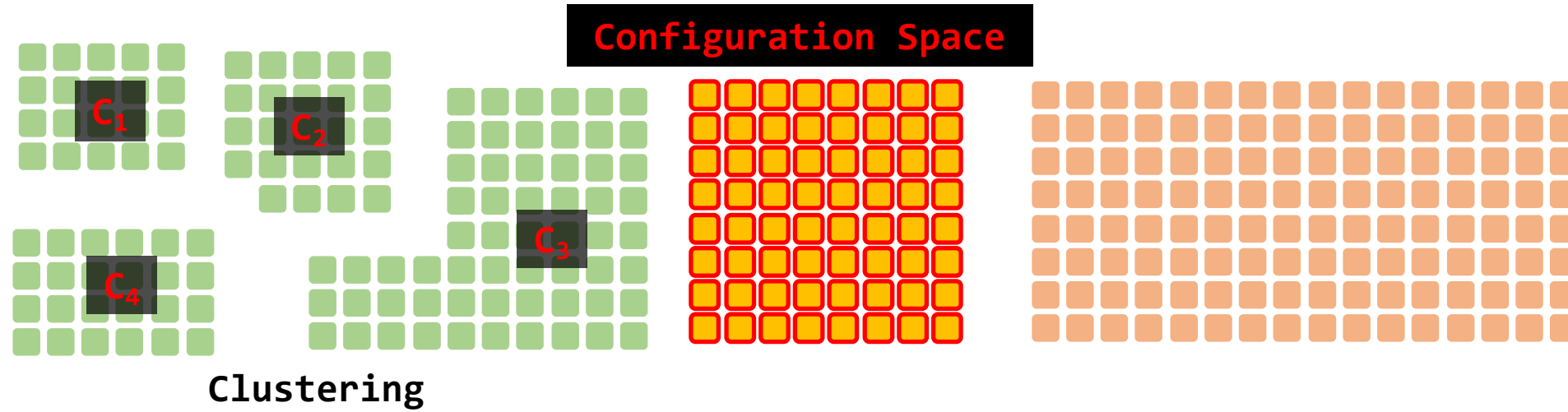
CART

Measurements = 64



WHAT (Clustering)

WHAT



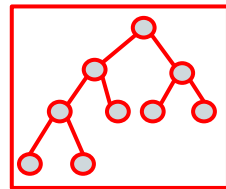
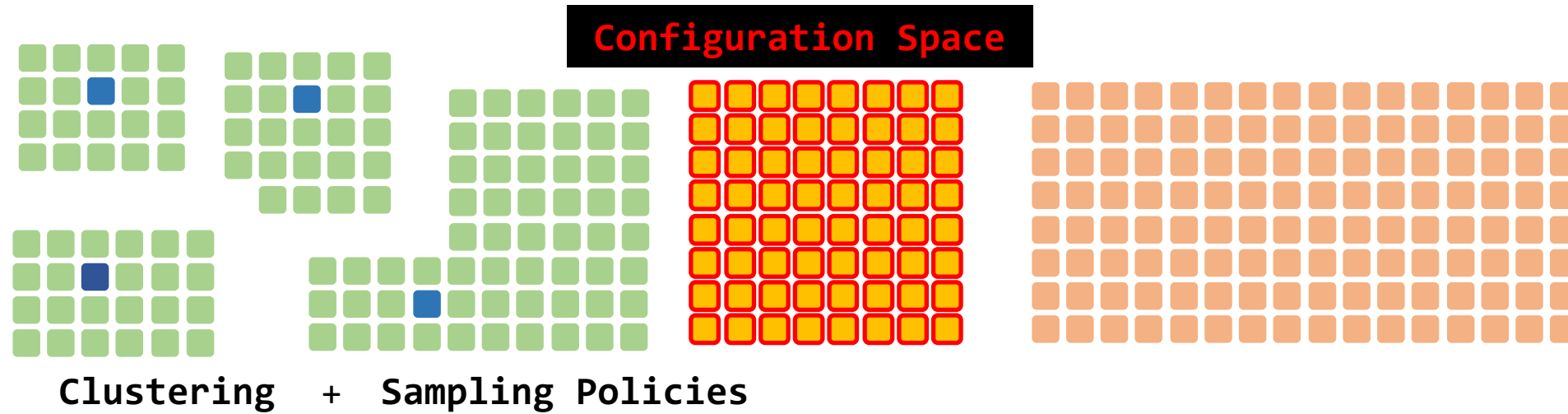
CART

Measurements = 64



WHAT (Clustering)

WHAT



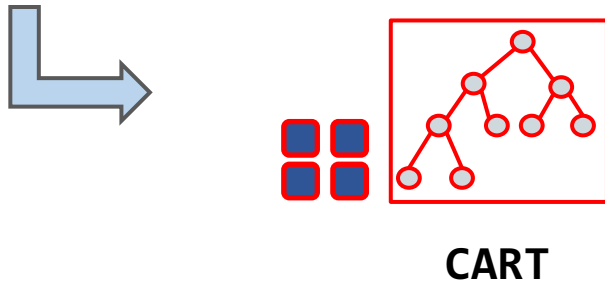
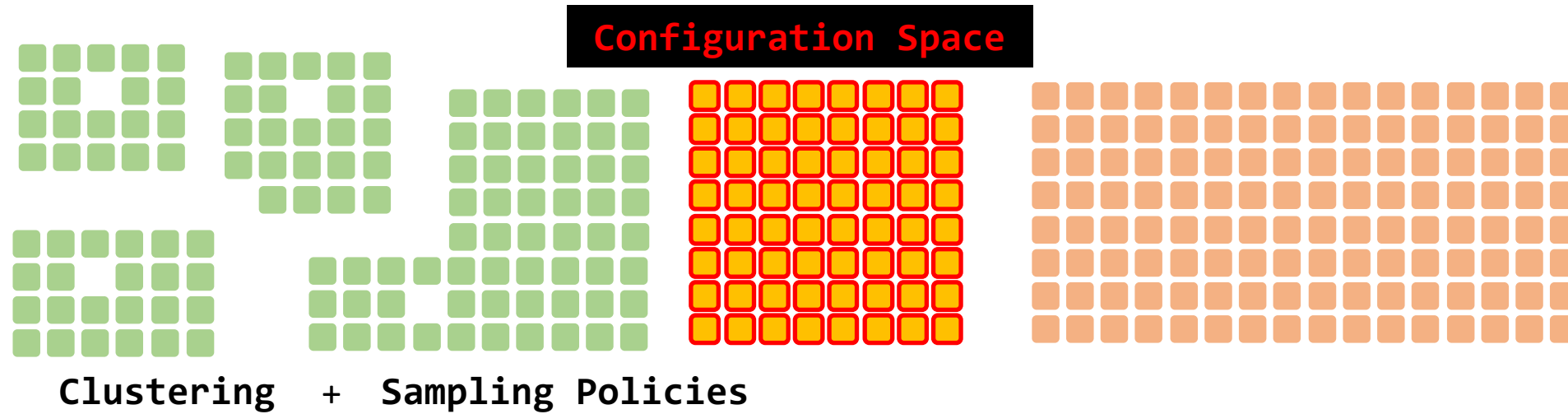
CART

Measurements = 64



WHAT (Clustering)

WHAT

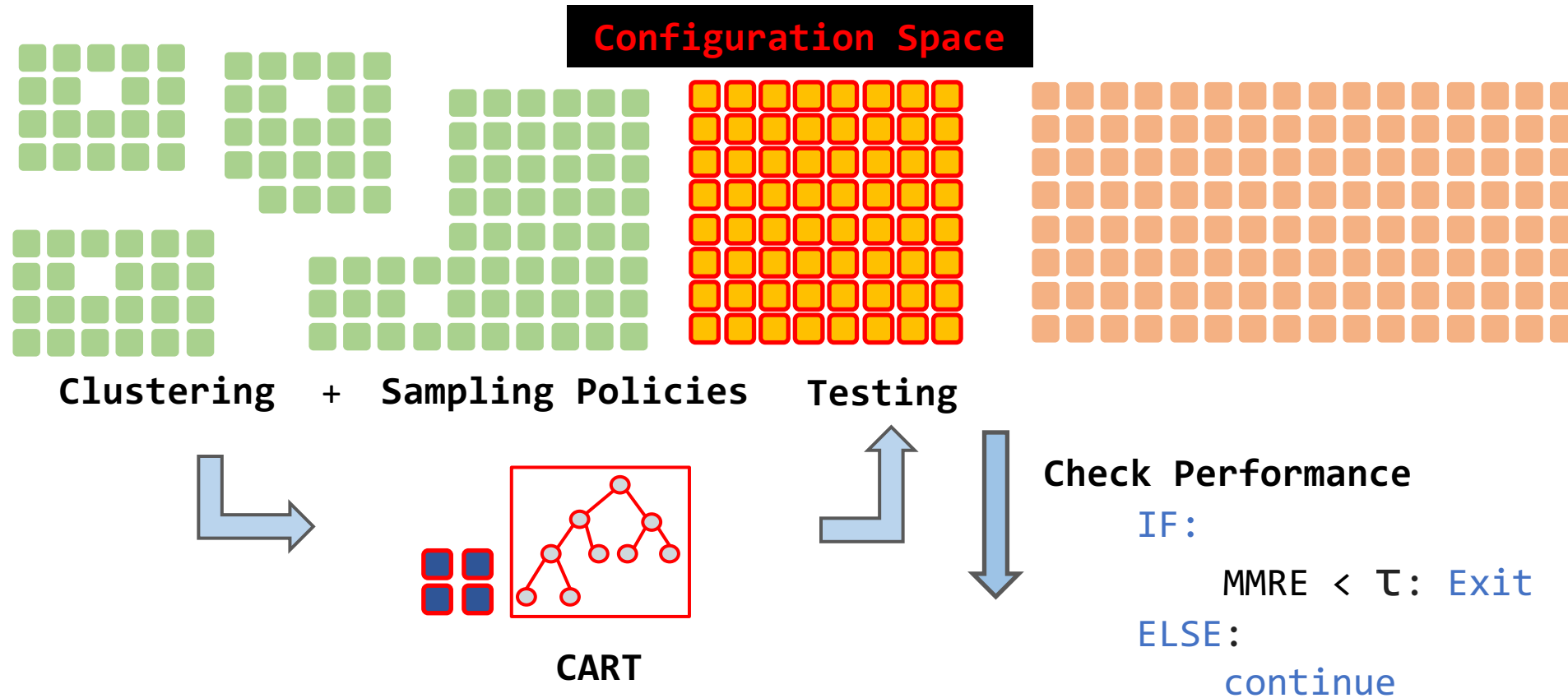


Measurements = 68



WHAT (Clustering)

Previously?



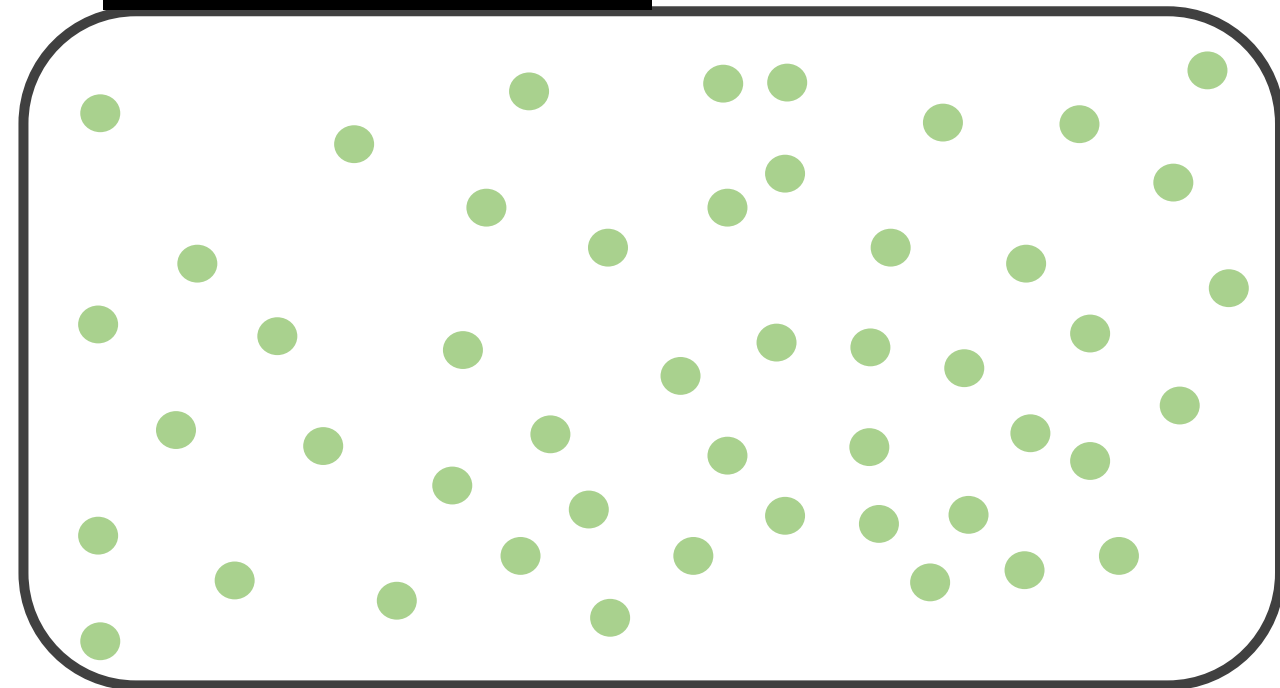
Measurements = 68



Configuration Space



Configuration Space





Configuration Space

Configuration





How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)

Configuration Space

initial

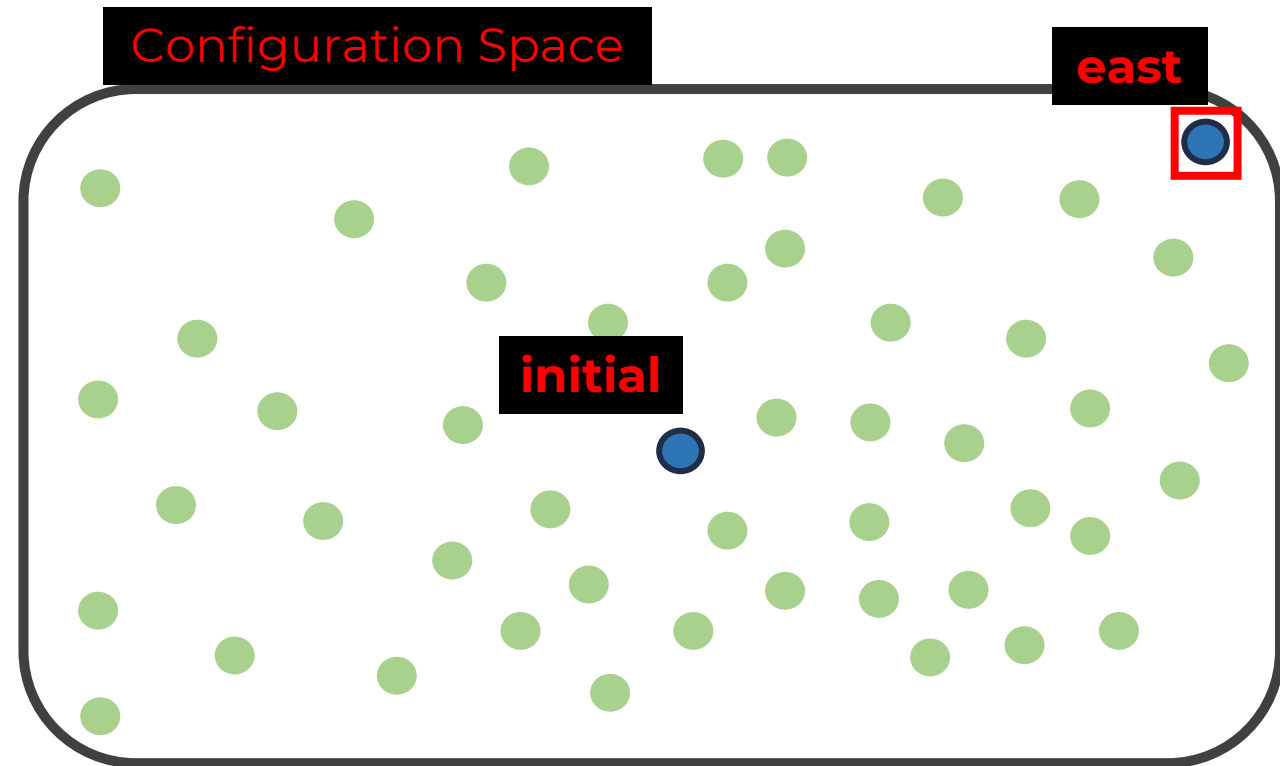




WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)
2. Find furthest point (east)

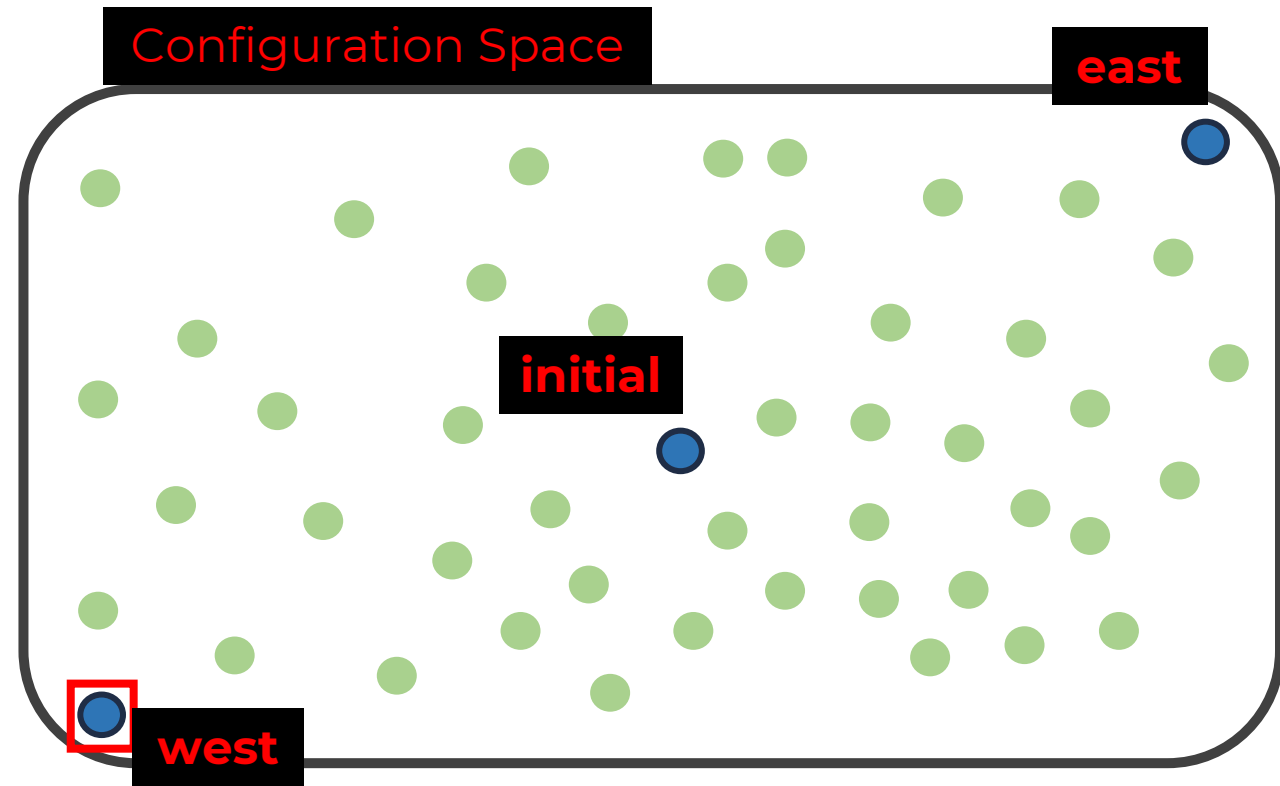




WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)
2. Find furthest point (east)
3. Find furthest point from east (west)



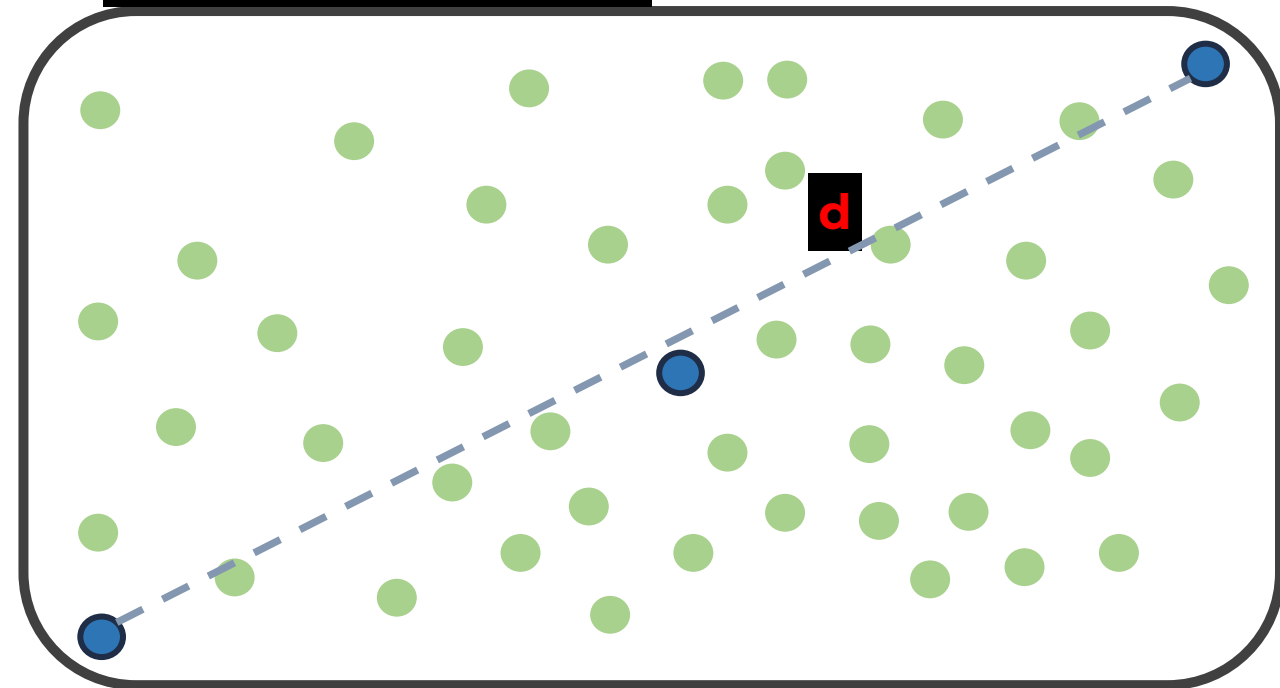


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)
2. Find furthest point (east)
3. Find furthest point from east (west)
4. Connect east and west (d)

Configuration Space



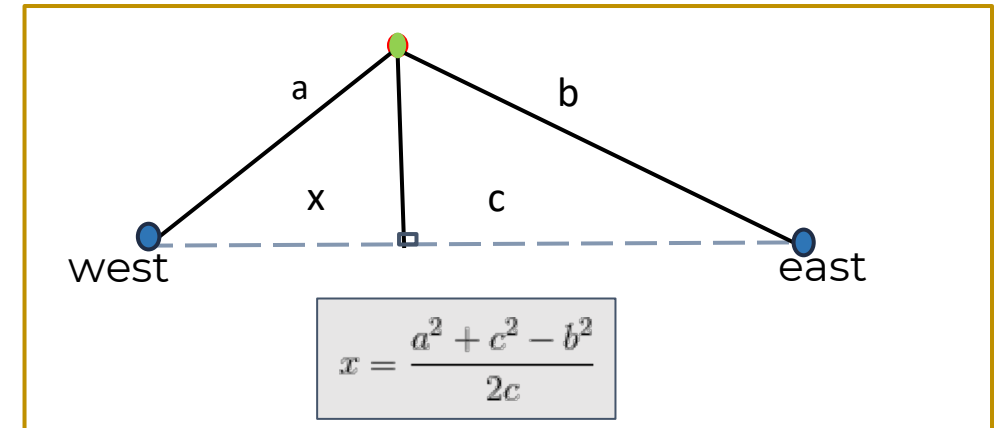
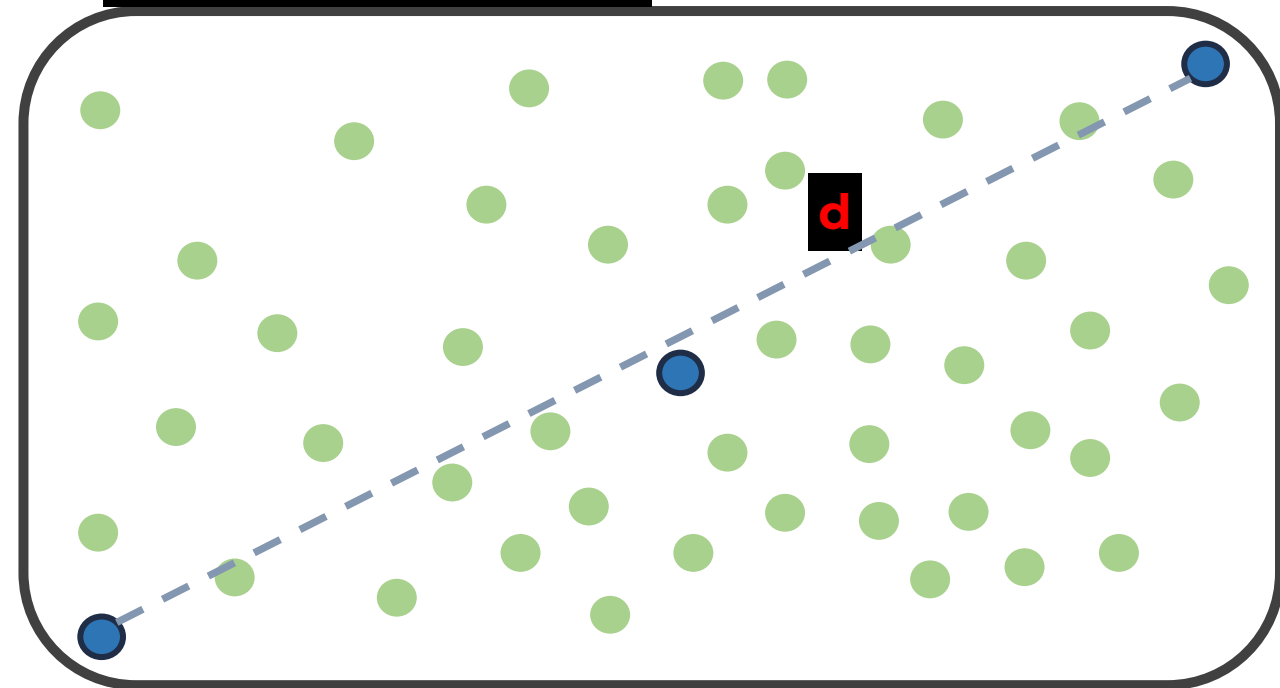


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)
2. Find furthest point (east)
3. Find furthest point from east (west)
4. Connect east and west (d)
5. Projects configurations to d
 - a) For all points
 - ☐ Choose a point (candidate)
 - ☐ Calculate position on d

Configuration Space



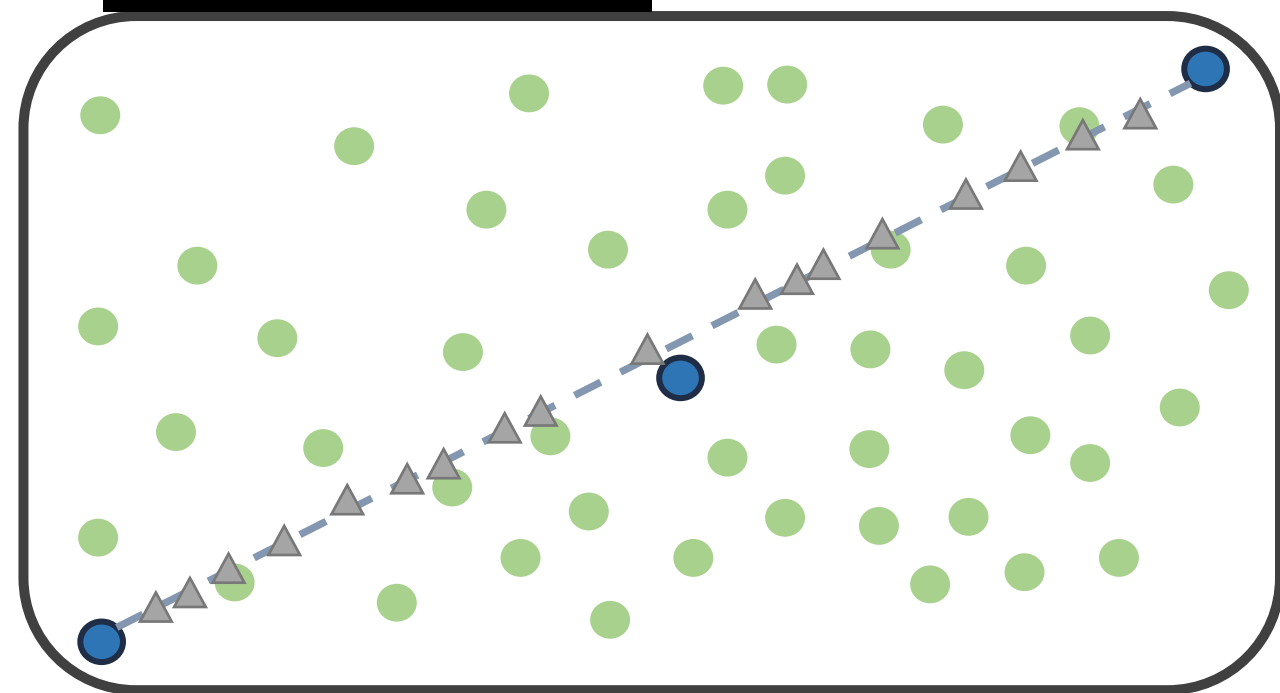


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

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Configuration Space



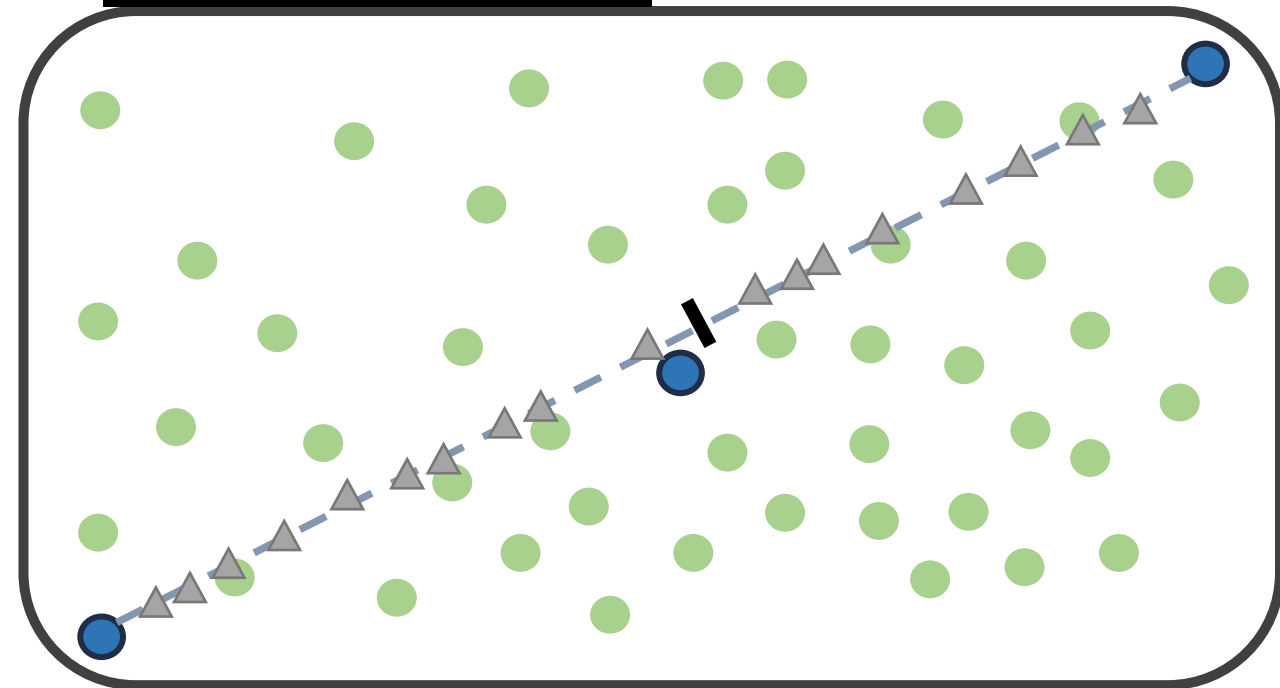


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

1. Select random configuration (initial)
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3. Find furthest point from east (west)
4. Connect east and west (d)
5. Projects configurations to d
 - a) For all points
 - ☐ Choose a point (candidate)
 - ☐ Calculate position on d
6. Split at median of d

Configuration Space



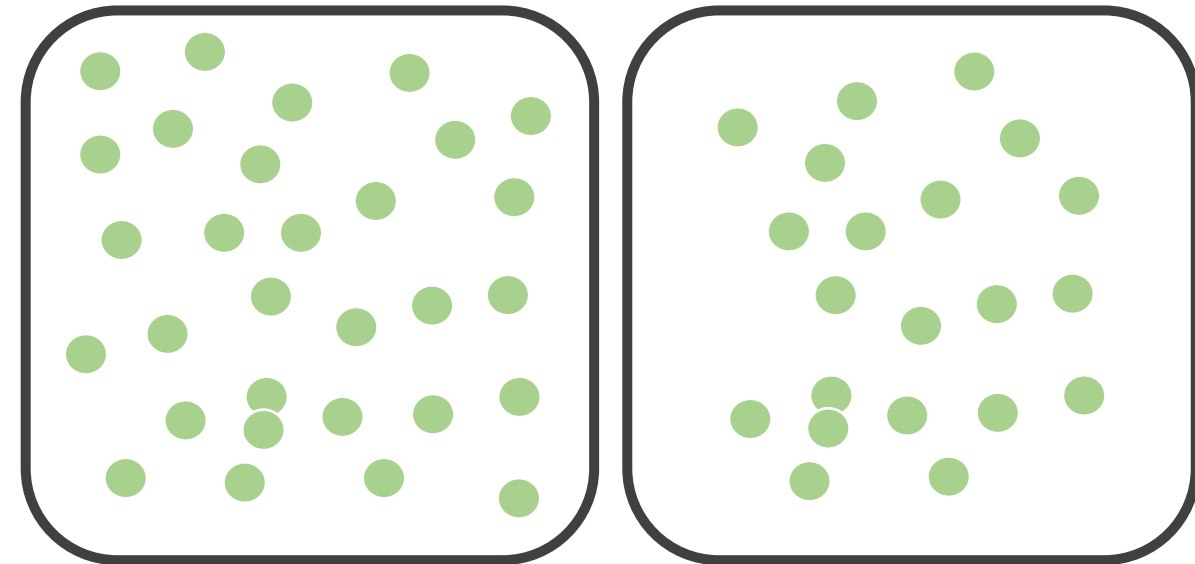


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

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Configuration Space



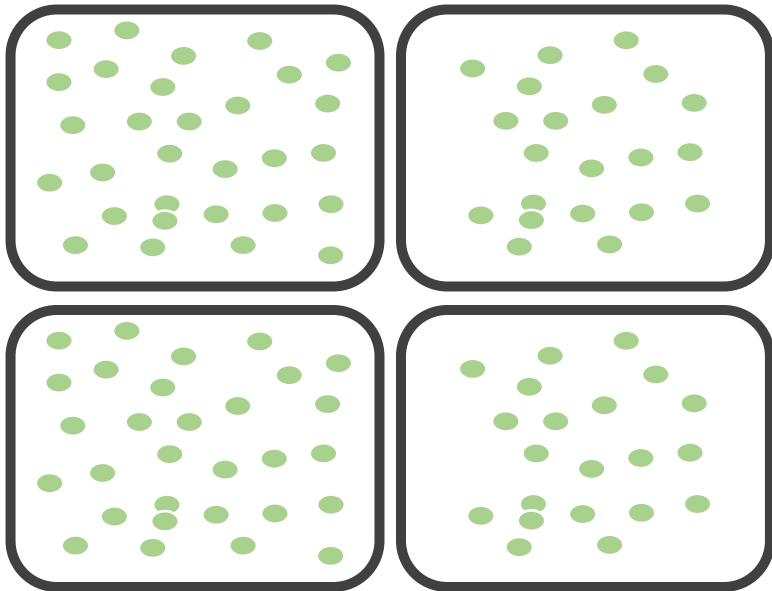


WHAT (Clustering)

How to Cluster?

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3. Find furthest point from east (west)
4. Connect east and west (d)
5. Projects configurations to d
 - a) For all points
 - ☐ Choose a point (candidate)
 - ☐ Calculate position on d
6. Split at median of d
7. Recurse

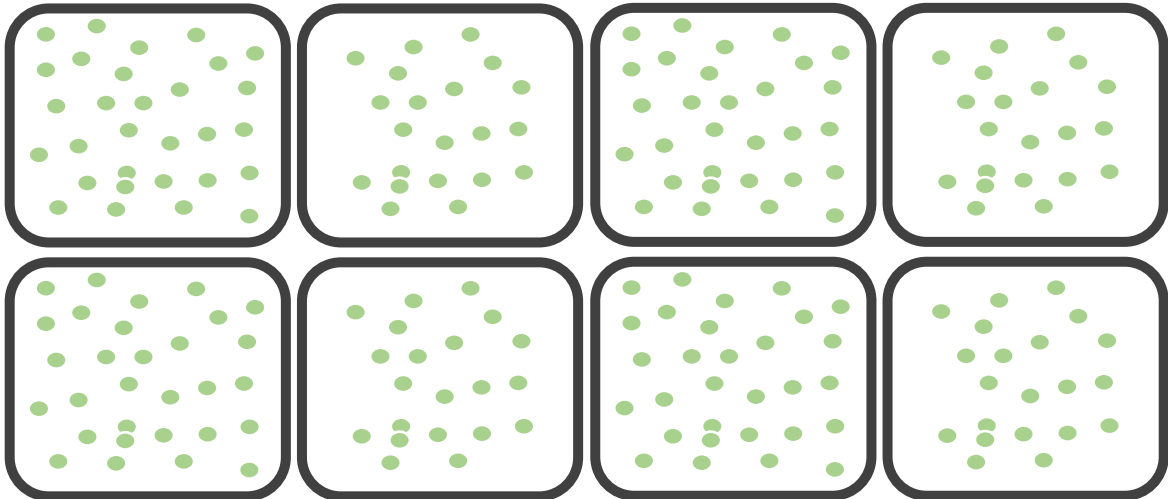
Configuration Space





WHAT (Clustering)

Configuration Space



How to Cluster?

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 - ❑ Choose a point (candidate)
 - ❑ Calculate position on d
6. Split at median of d
7. Recurse
8. Stop when $|\ln| < \text{sqrt}(N)$



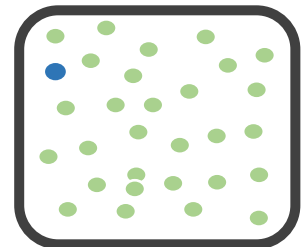
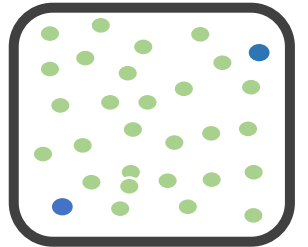
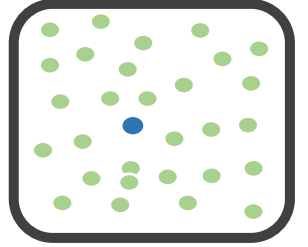
WHAT (Clustering)

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8. Stop when $|n| < \text{sqrt}(N)$

Sampling Policies

- Random
 - Choose a candidate at random
 - Number of evaluations/Cluster = 1
 - Point selected/Cluster = 1
- East-West
 - Choose extreme points in dimension of maximum variance
 - Number of evaluations/Cluster = 2
 - Point selected/Cluster = 2
- Exemplar
 - Choose the best candidate from the cluster
 - Number of evaluations/Cluster = n
 - Point selected/Cluster = 1





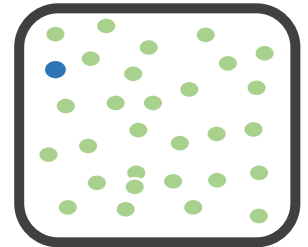
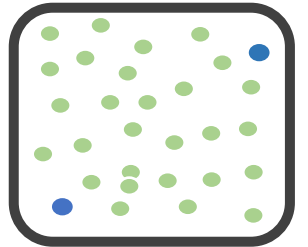
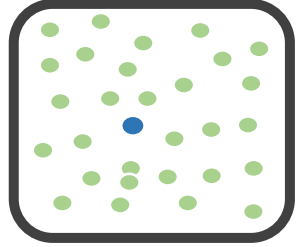
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6. Split at median of d
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 - Choose extreme points in dimension of maximum variance
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 - Point selected/Cluster = 2
- **Exemplar**
 - Choose the best candidate from the cluster
 - Number of evaluations/Cluster = n
 - Point selected/Cluster = 1





- WHAT can generate good predictions using **only a small number** of configurations
- WHAT can **build “good” models** which can be used in optimizers
- WHAT is **comparable** to the state of the art predictors



- WHAT can generate good predictions using **only a small number** of configurations
- WHAT can **build “good” models** which can be used in optimizers
- WHAT is **comparable** to the state of the art predictors

Quality

WHAT is close to the actual optimal

Cost

Cheaper than the state of the art



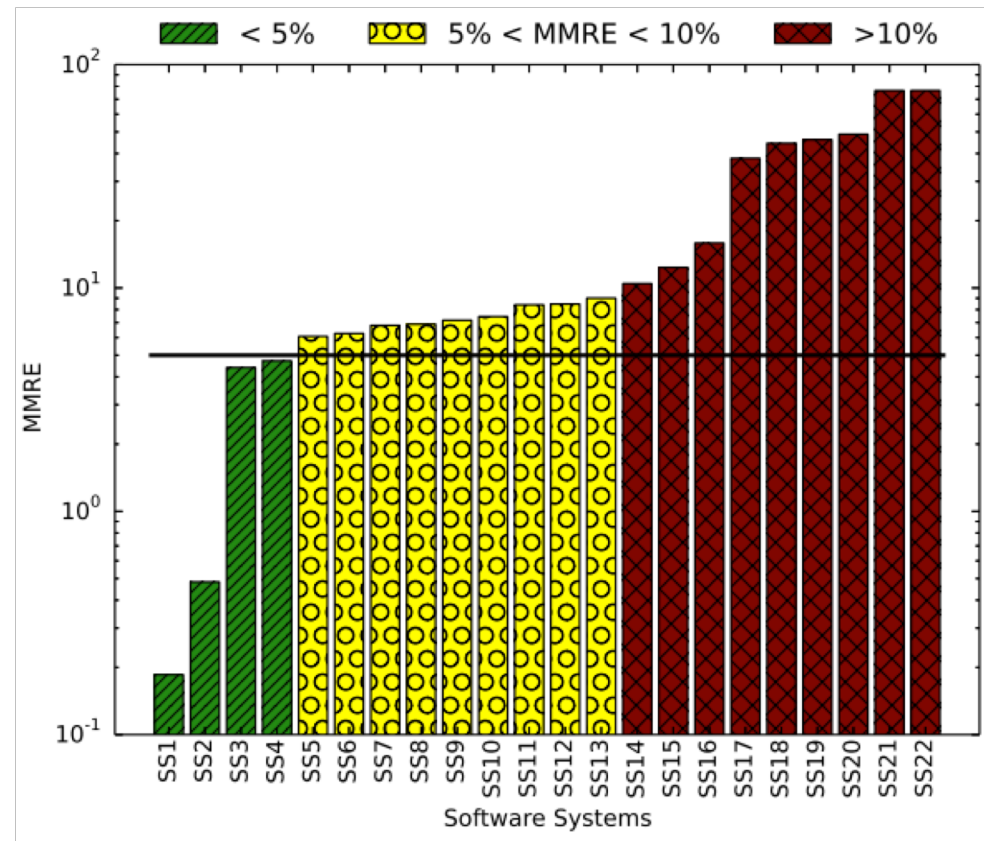
Unsupervised clustering does not work in all cases

Limitations

- Only works if WHAT can generate meaningful clusters.
- Only works when **an accurate model** can be built
- The stopping condition or threshold (τ) is **arbitrary**

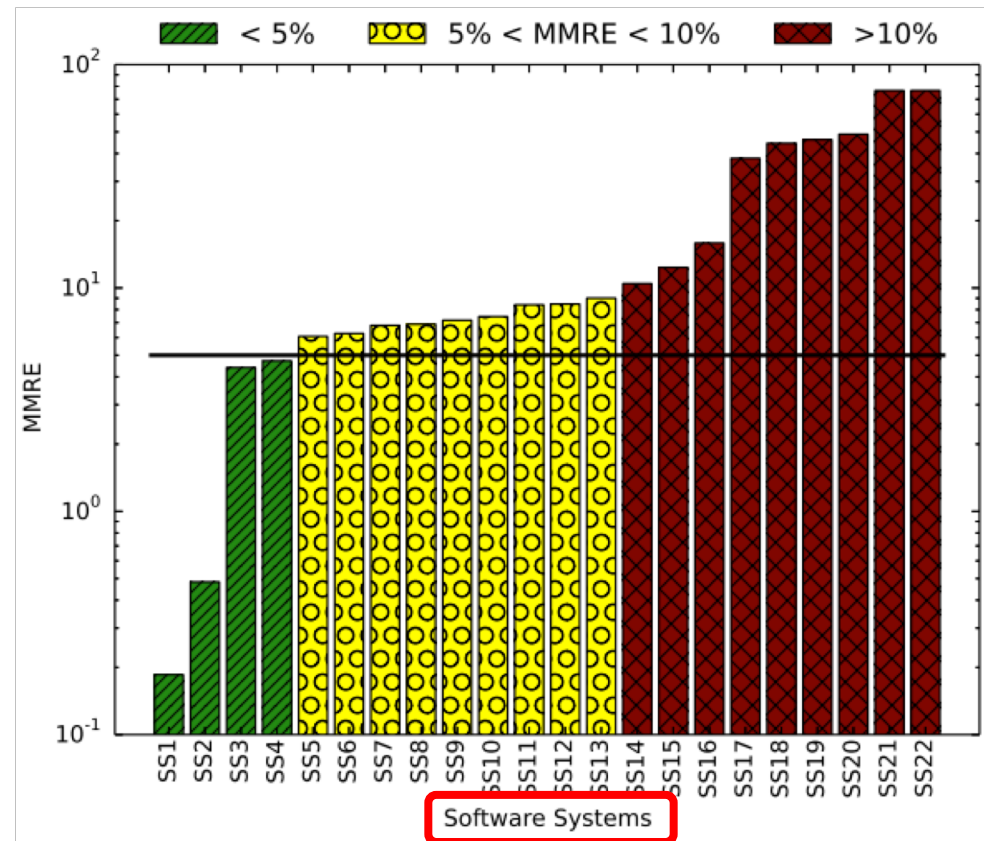
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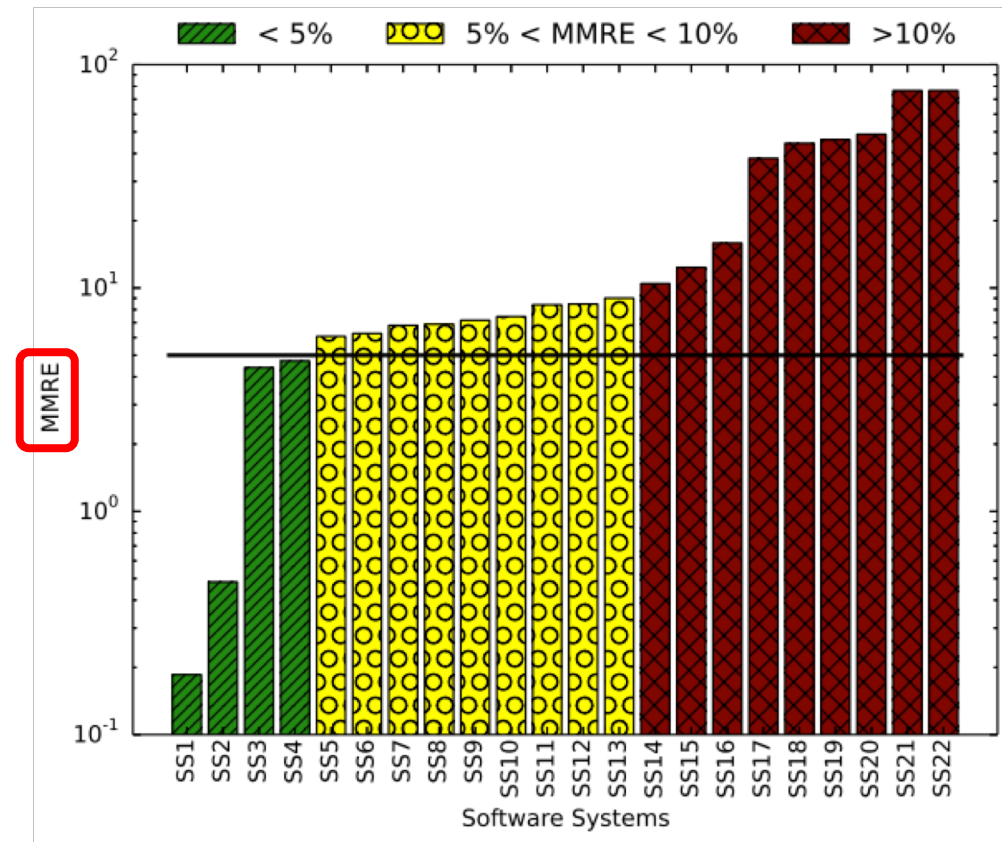
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Limitations

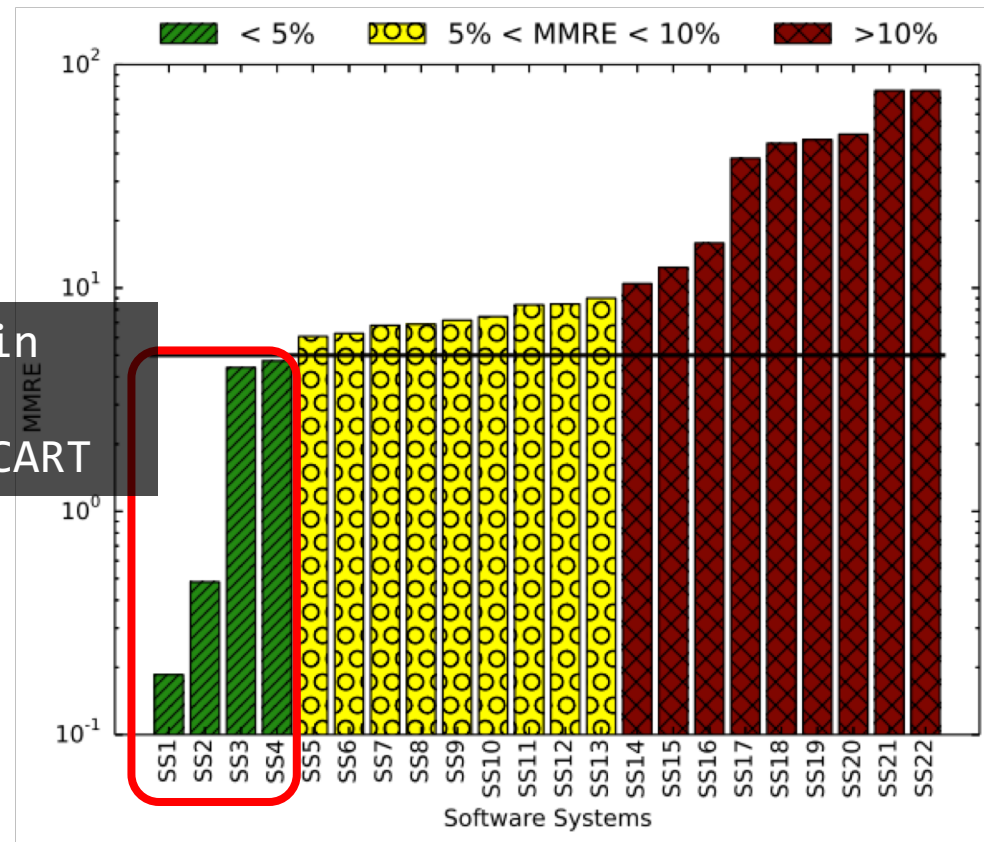
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Limitations

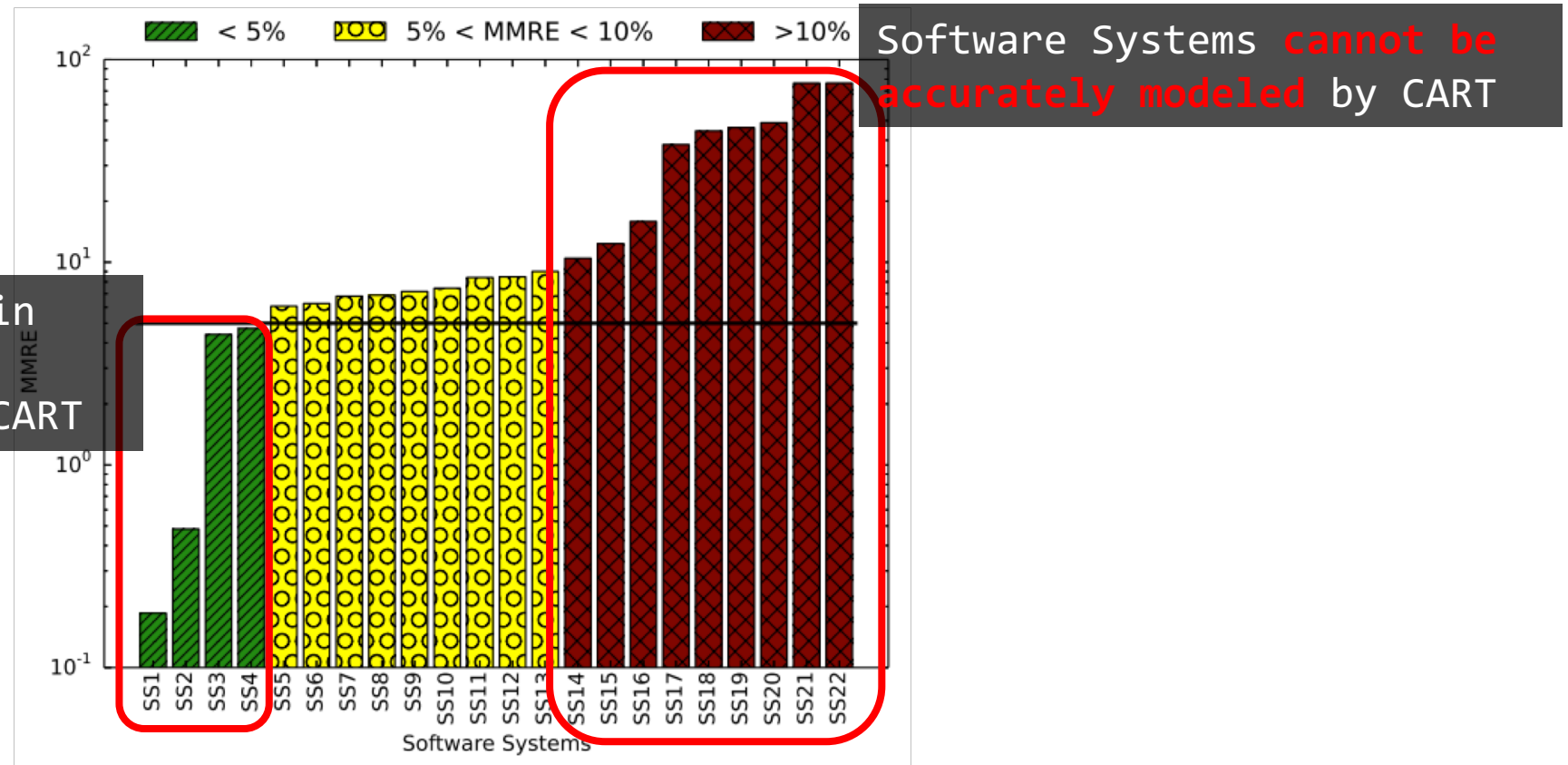
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Software Systems used in prior works **can be accurately modeled** by CART



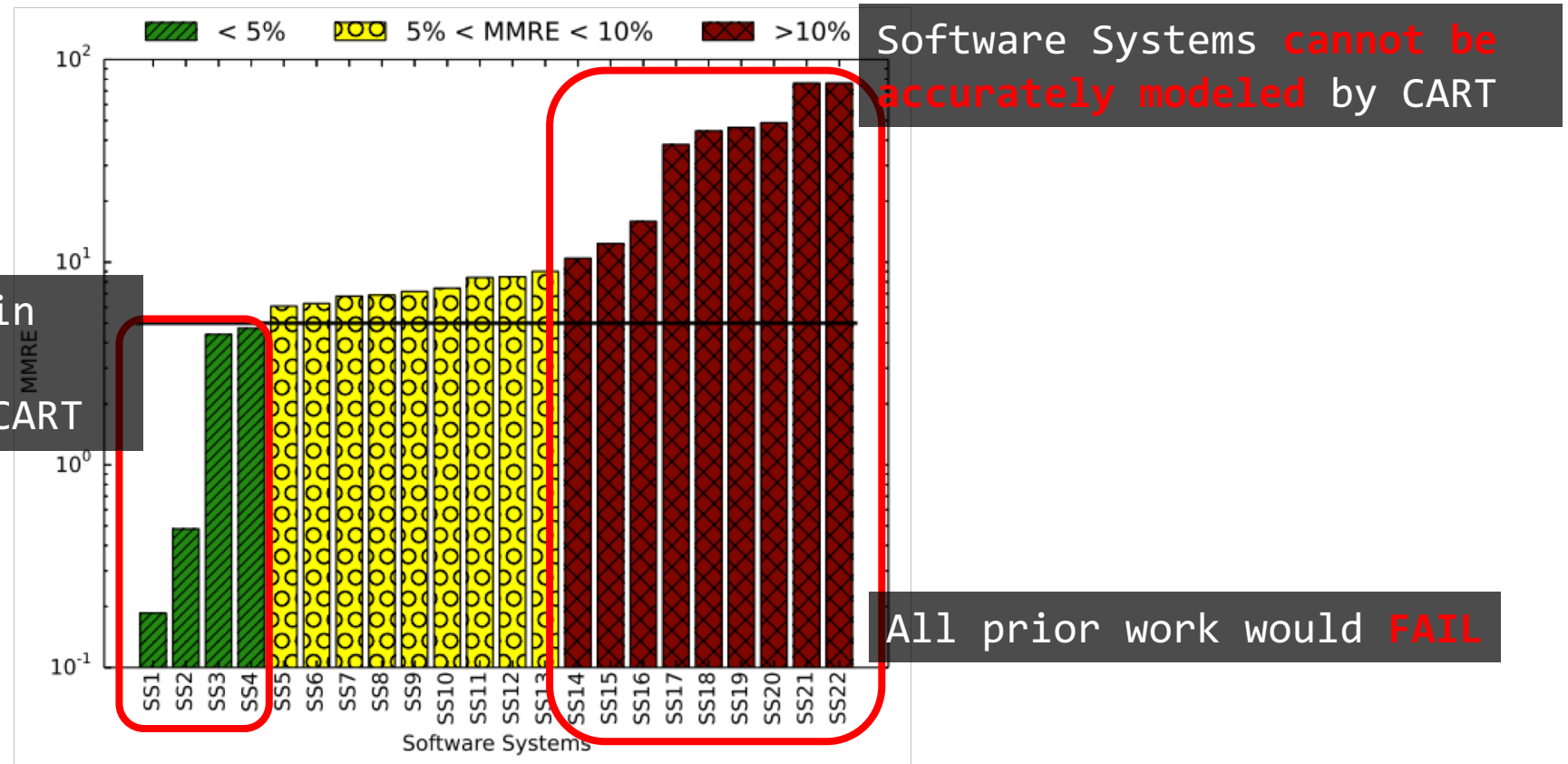
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Limitations

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Presented during Oral Prelims



Nair et al.; [Using Bad Learners to find Good Configurations](#); FSE (2017)

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

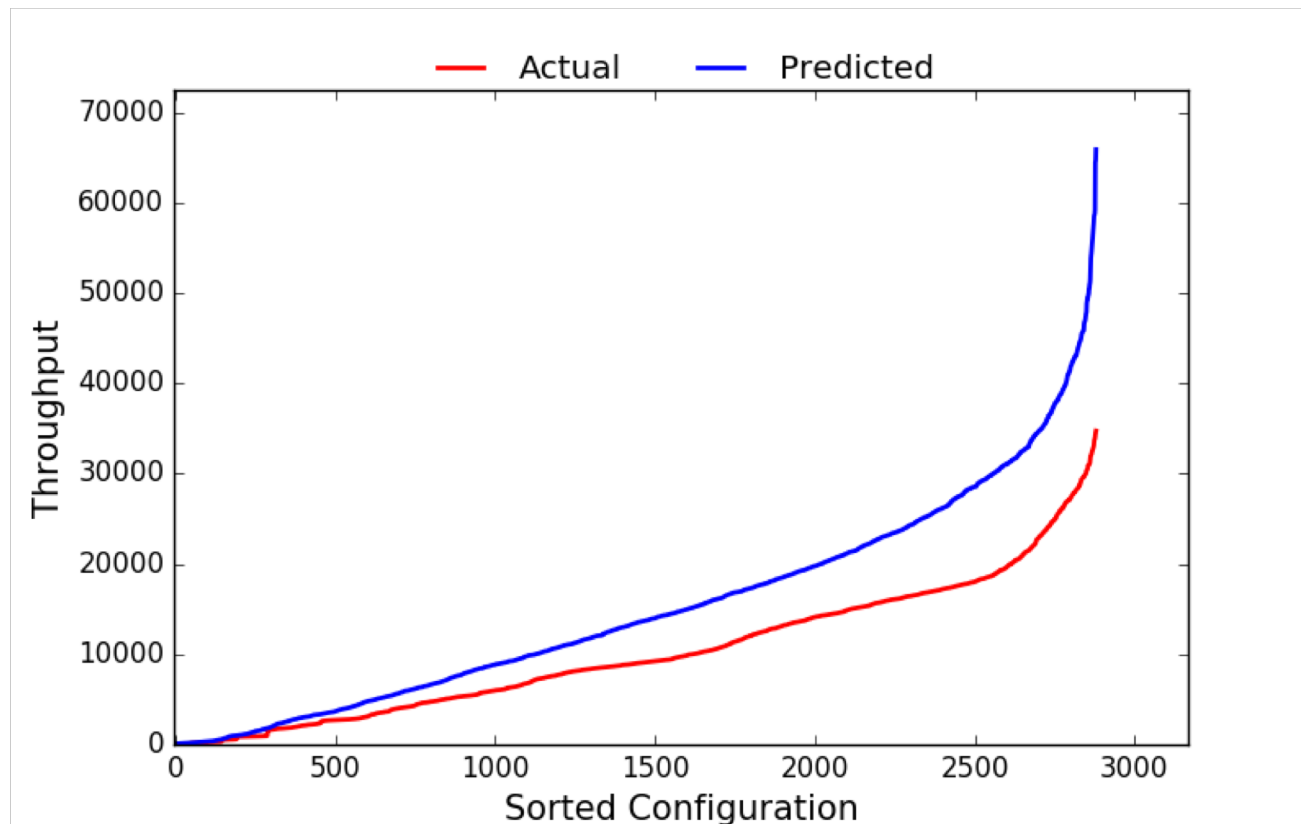




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

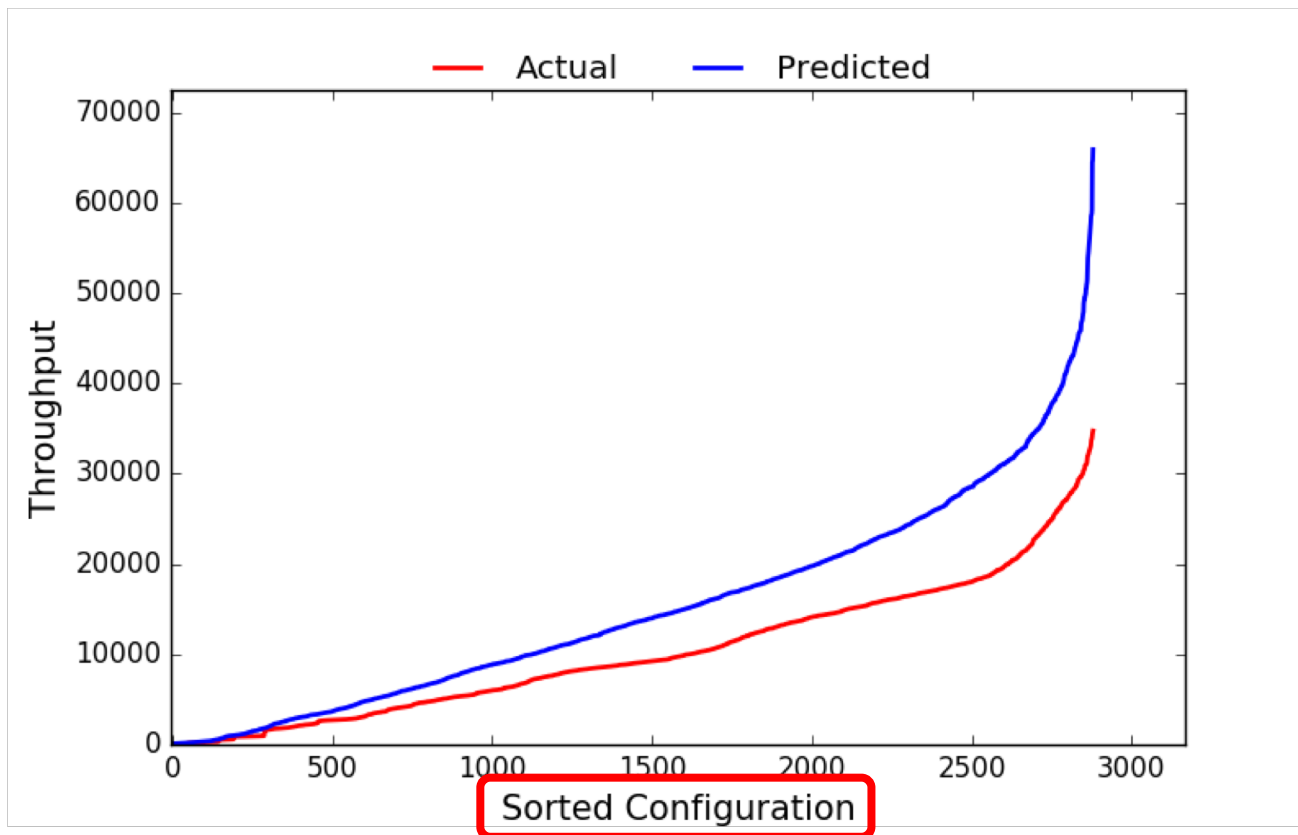




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

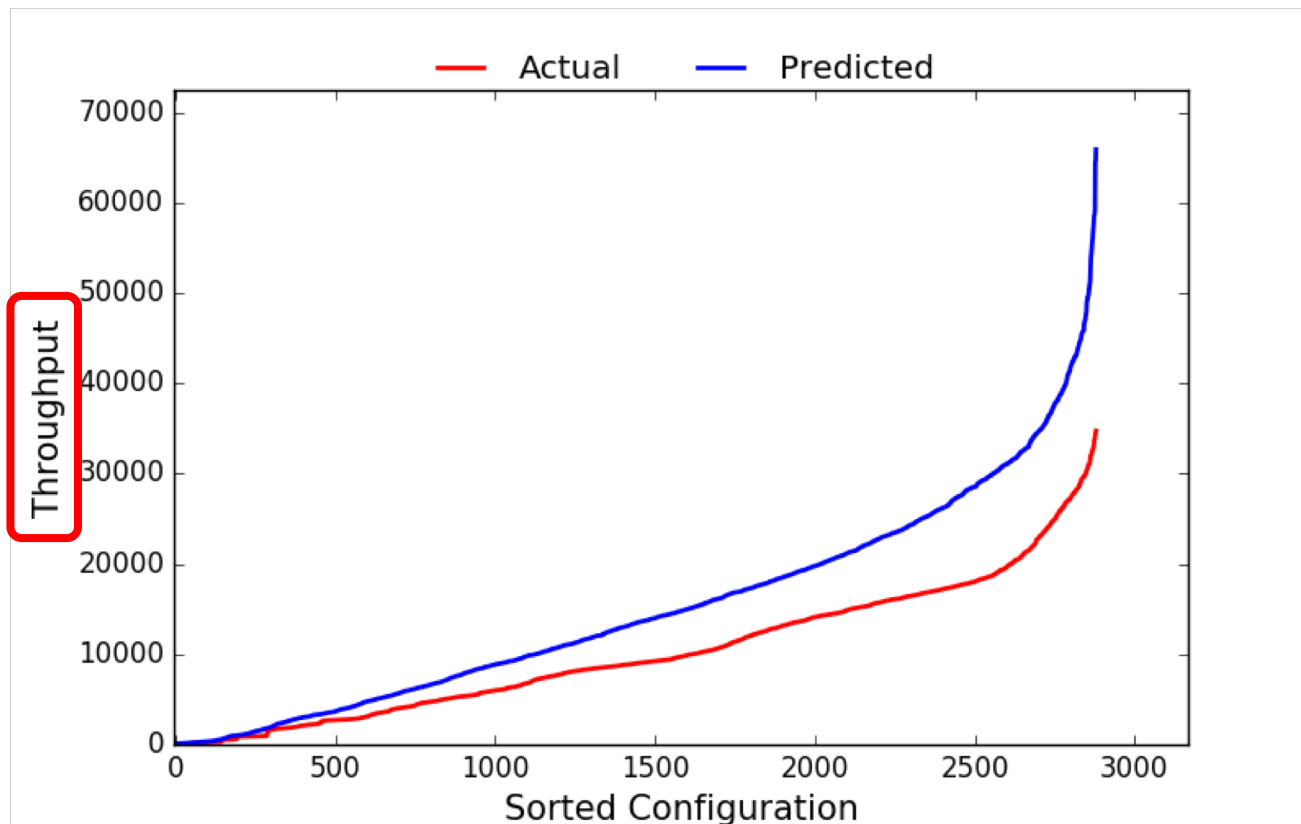




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

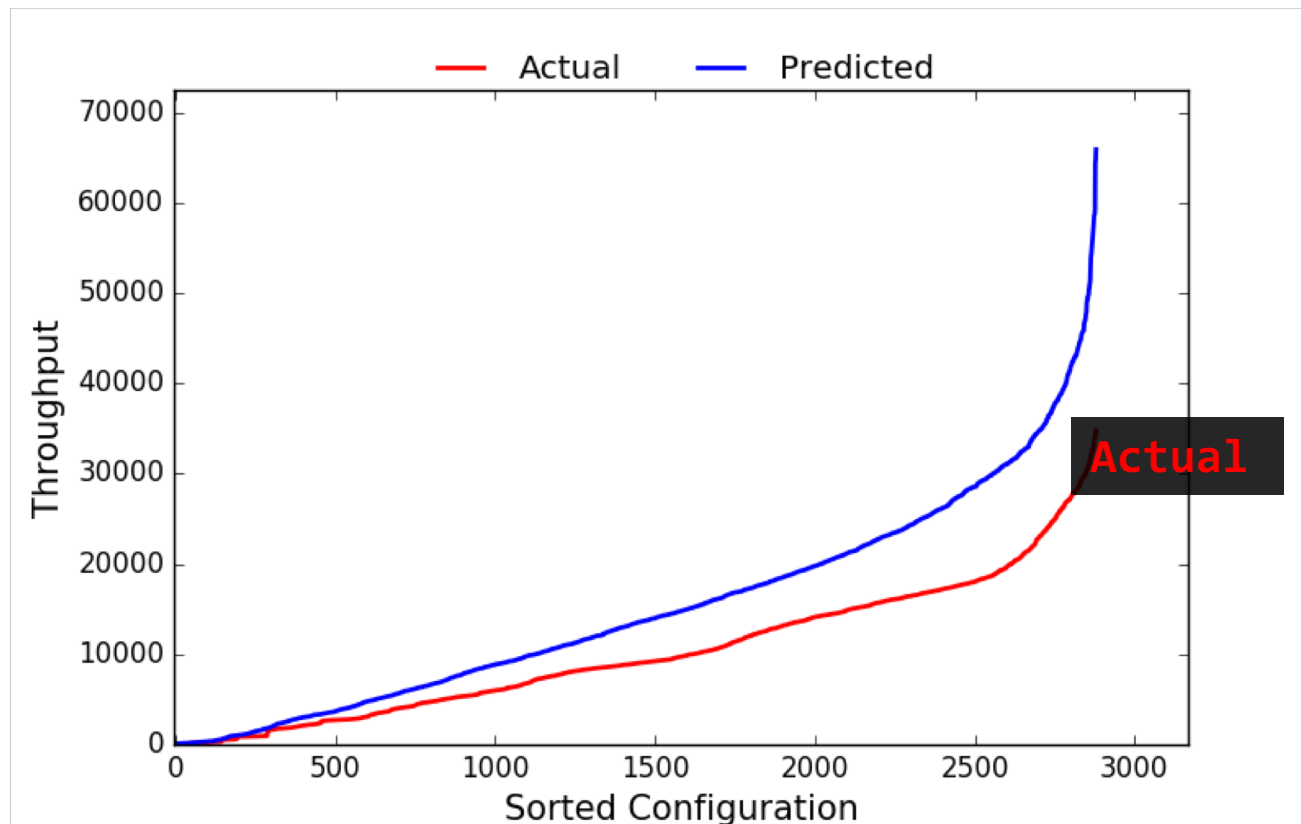




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

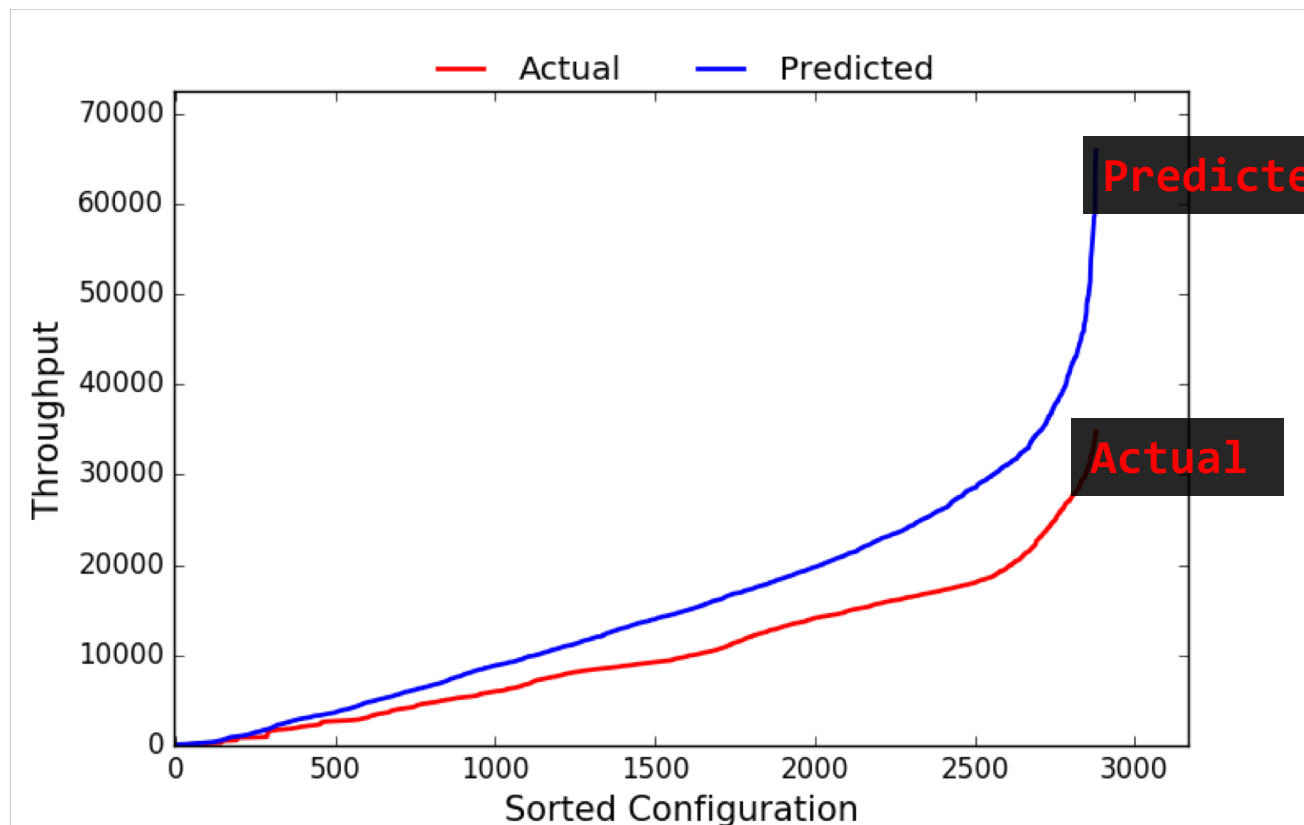




Ranking

Intuition

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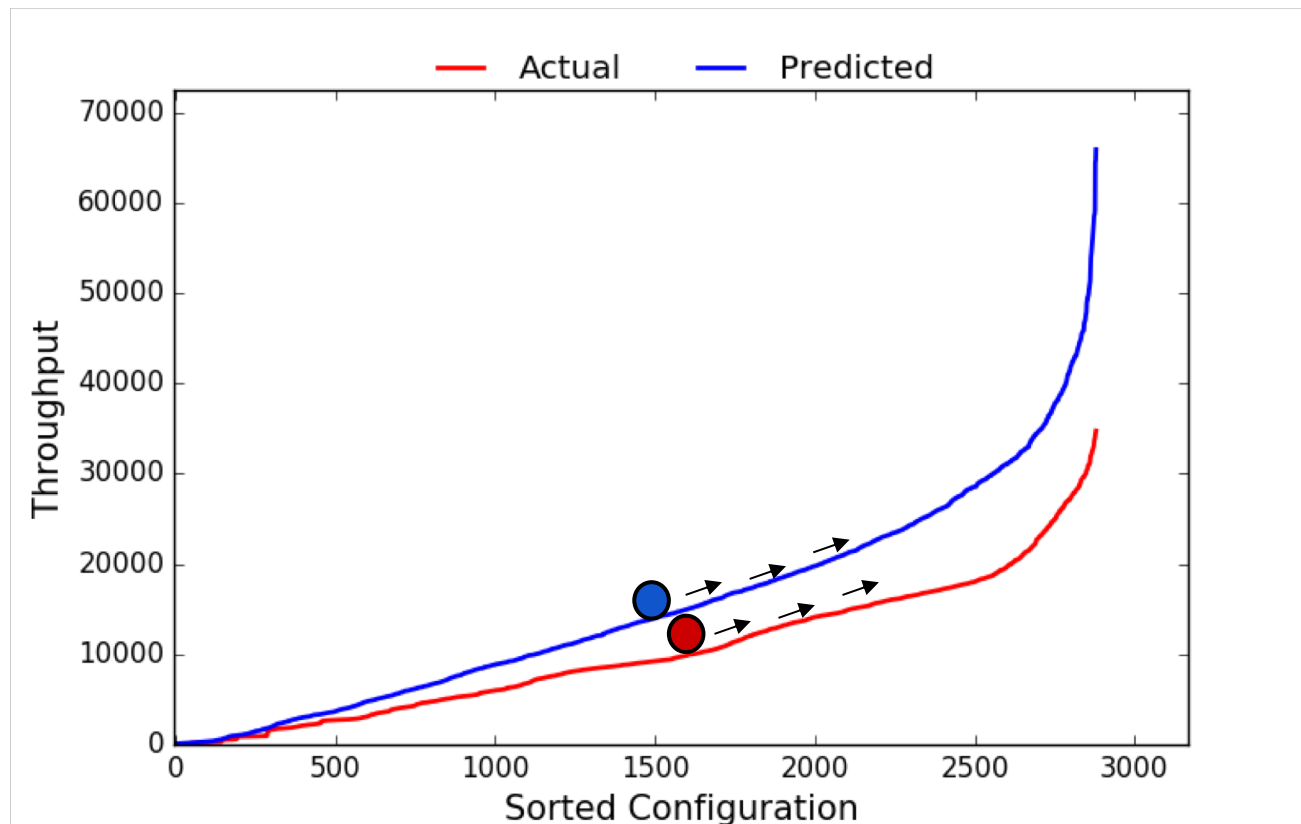




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

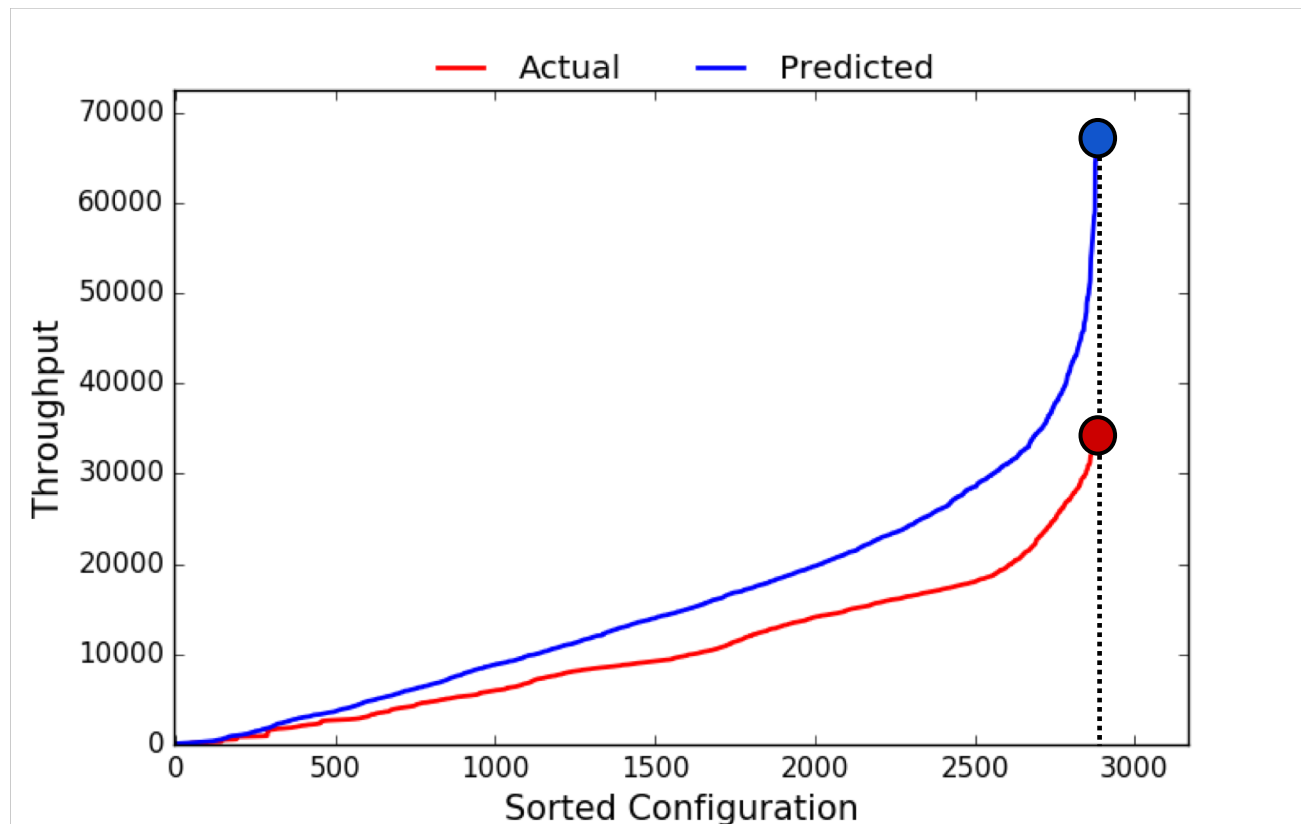




Ranking

Intuition

Rank-preserving model rather than **highly accurate model**

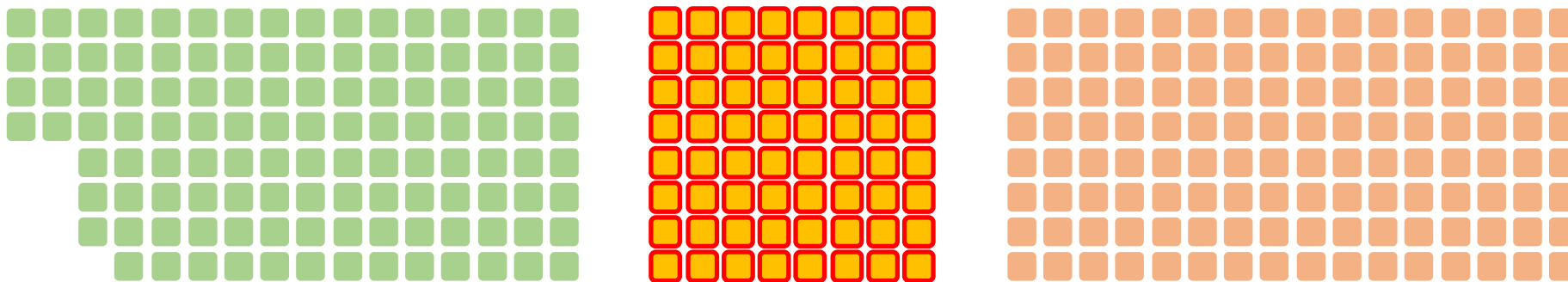


Best Configuration obtained using **actual** and the **predicted** values is the same

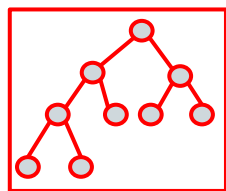
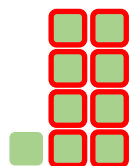
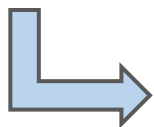


Ranking

Configuration Space

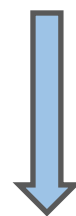


Random Sampling



CART

Testing



Check Performance

IF:

Accuracy < T: Exit

ELSE:

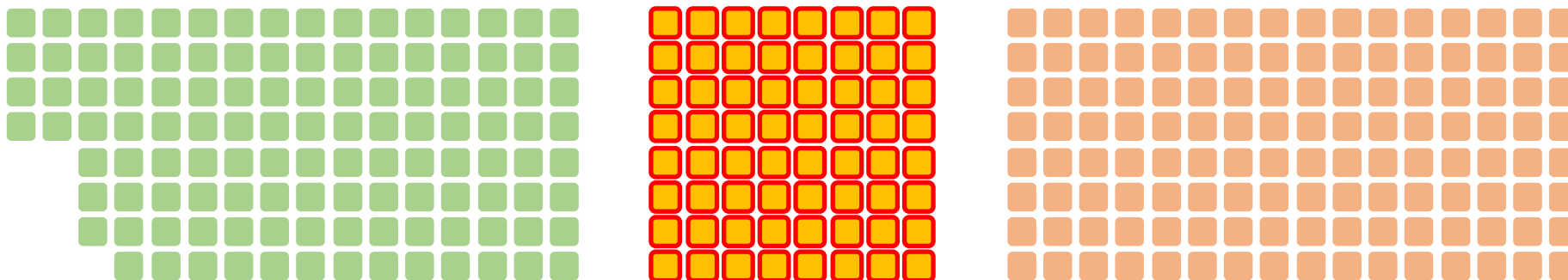
continue

Measurements = 72

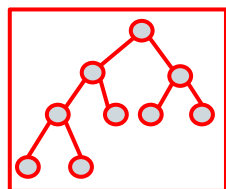
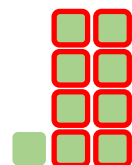
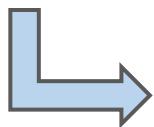


Ranking

Configuration Space

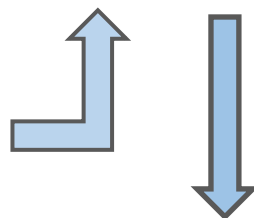


Random Sampling



CART

Testing



Check Performance

IF:

Accuracy < T: Exit

ELSE:

continue

Measurements = 72

$$accuracy = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n |rank(y_i) - rank(f(x_i))|$$

- A rank-based method **can be used to find (near) optimal configurations**
- A rank-based approach **requires fewer measurements**

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- A rank-based approach **requires fewer measurements**

Quality

Rank based approaches finds configurations close to the actual optimal

Cost

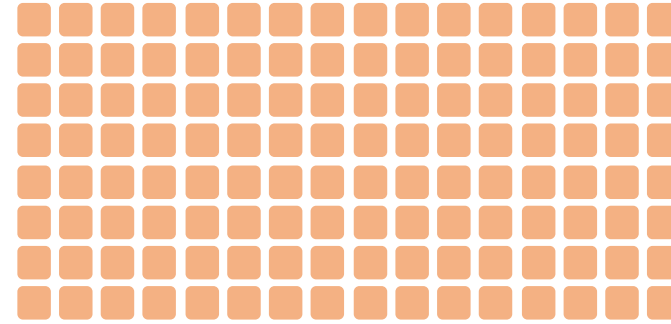
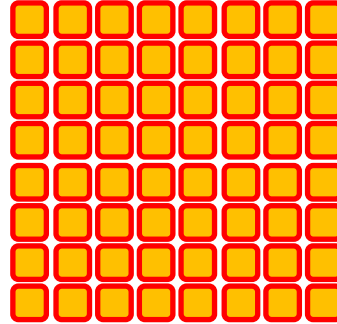
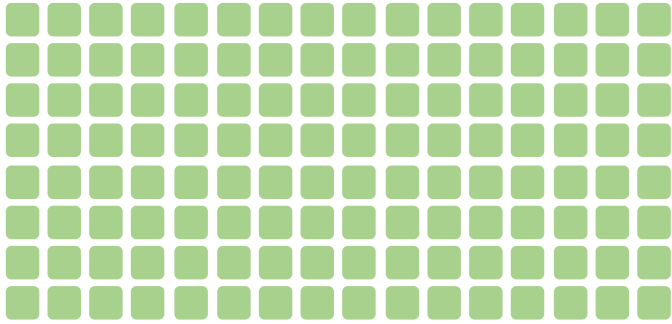
Cheaper than the state of the art



Ranking is a useful paradigm

Limitations

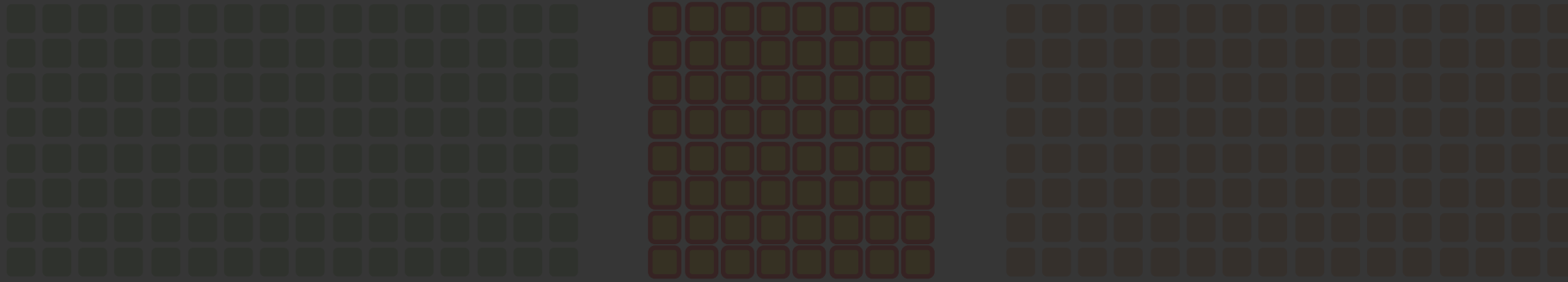
Configuration Space



Measurements = 64

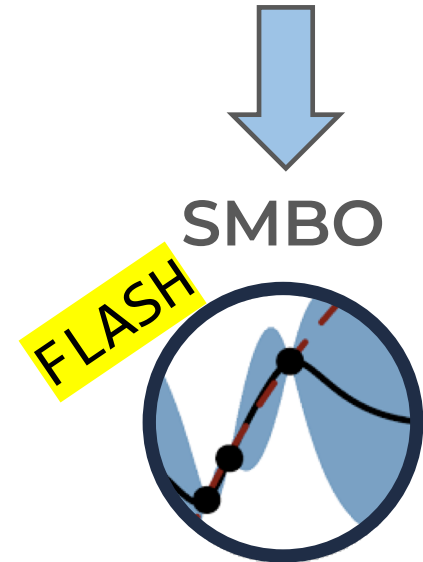
Previously?

Configuration Space

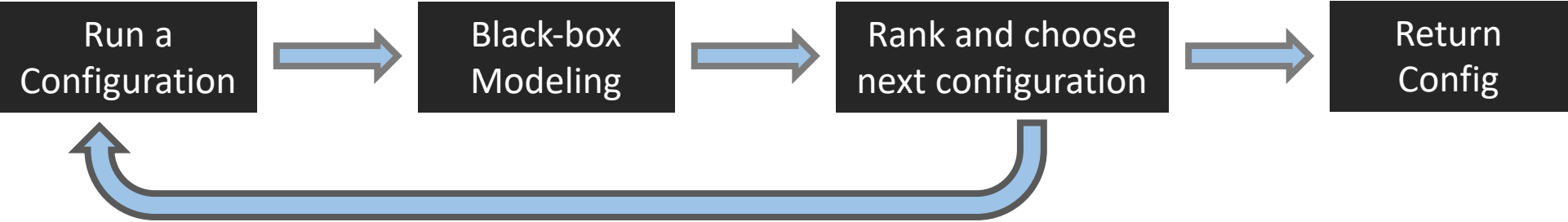


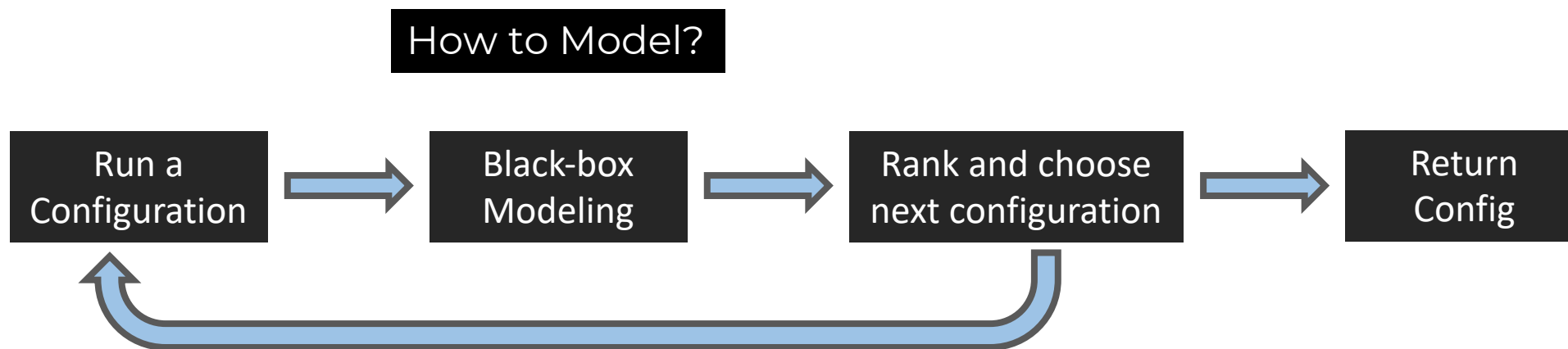
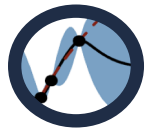
Expensive

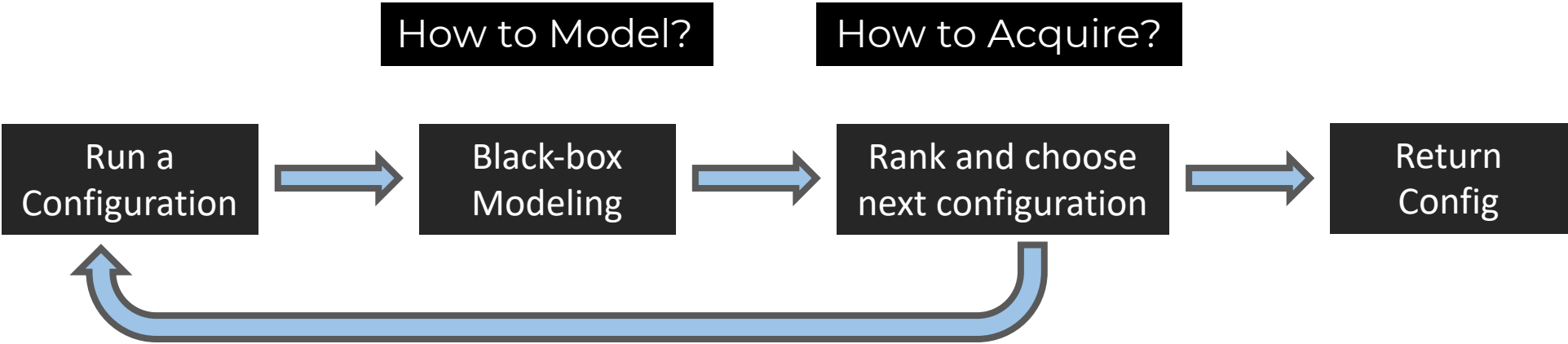
Measurements = 64

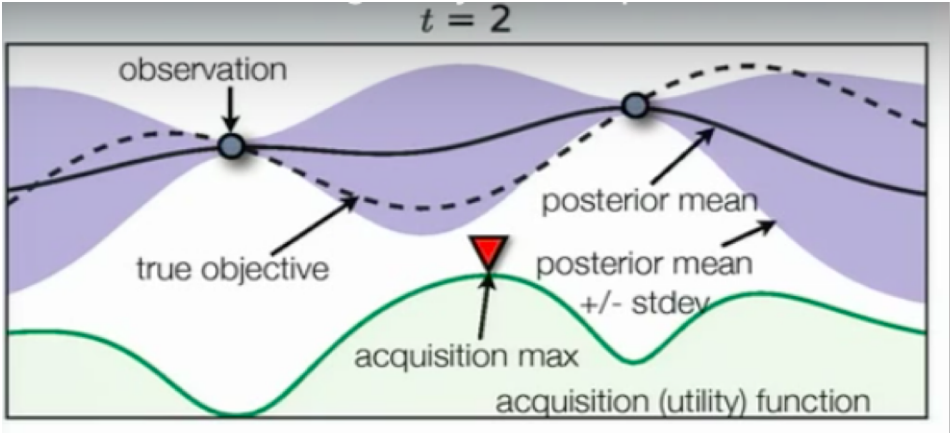
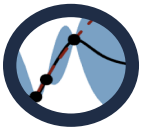


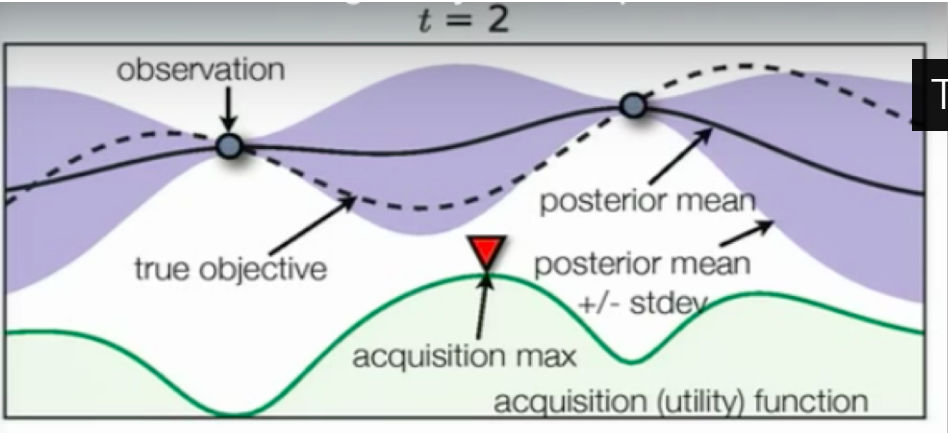
Nair et al.; Finding faster configurations using Flash; TSE (2018)



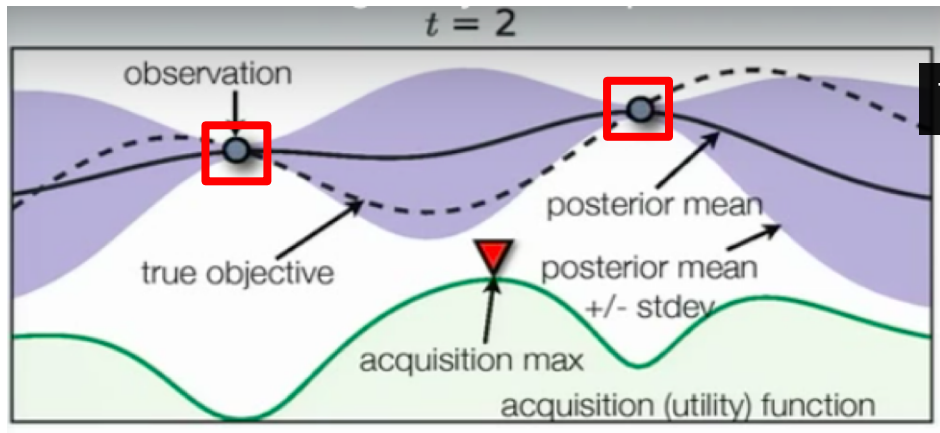




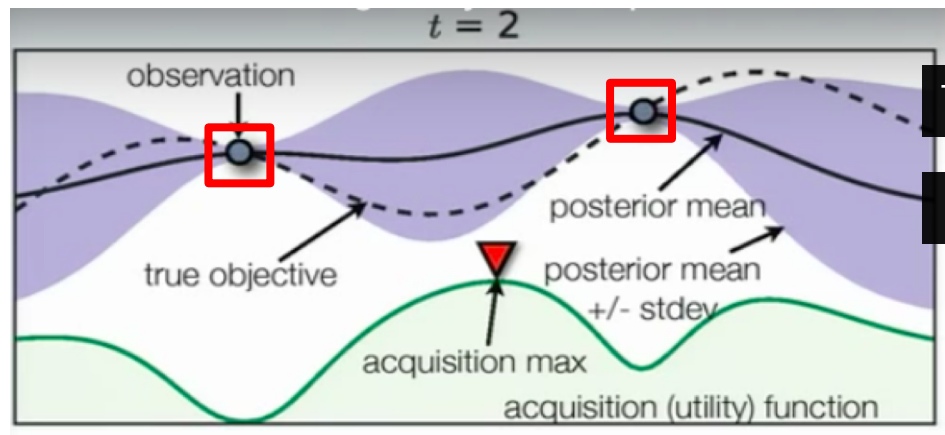
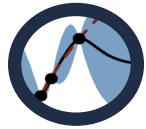




True Performance Distribution

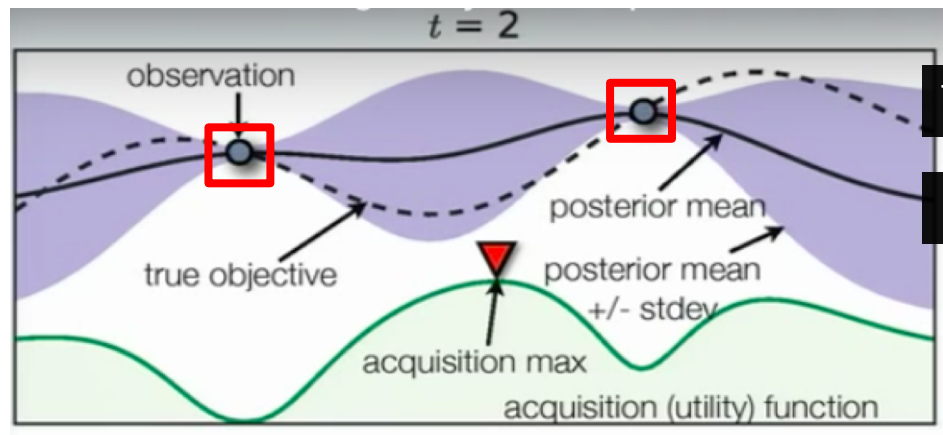
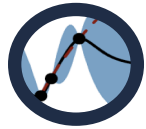


True Performance Distribution



True Performance Distribution

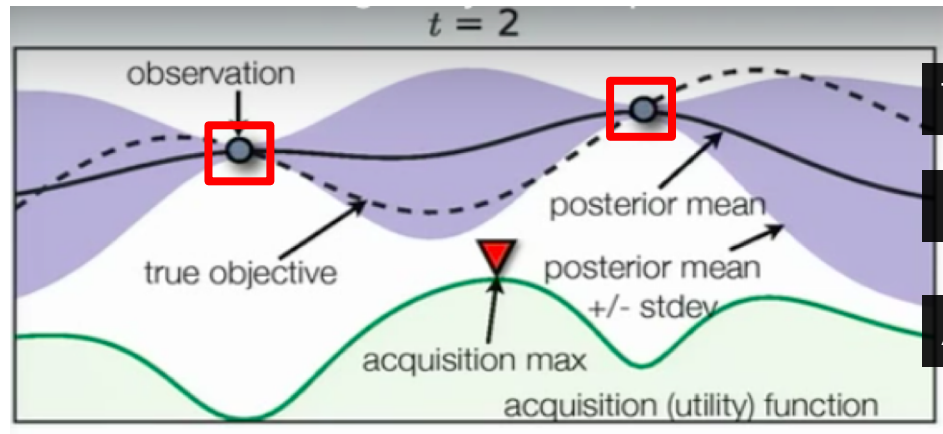
Predicted Performance Distribution



True Performance Distribution

Predicted Performance Distribution

Surrogate of choice:
Gaussian Processes (GP)

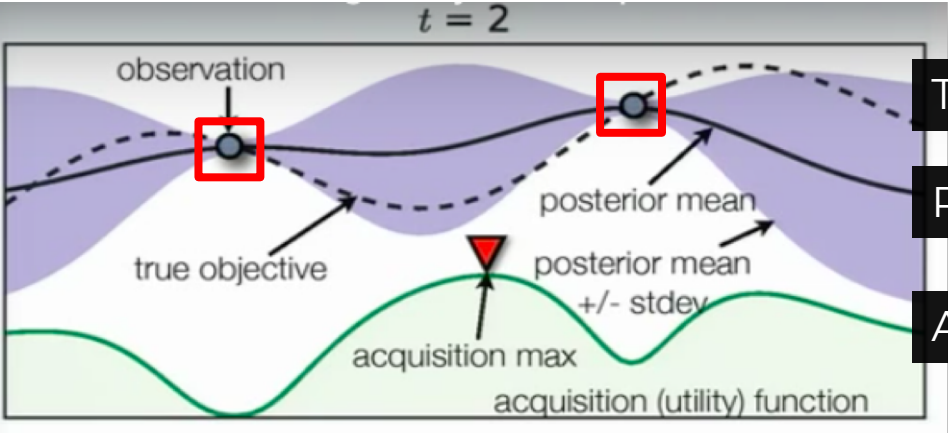


True Performance Distribution

Predicted Performance Distribution

Acquisition Function

Surrogate of choice:
Gaussian Processes (GP)



True Performance Distribution

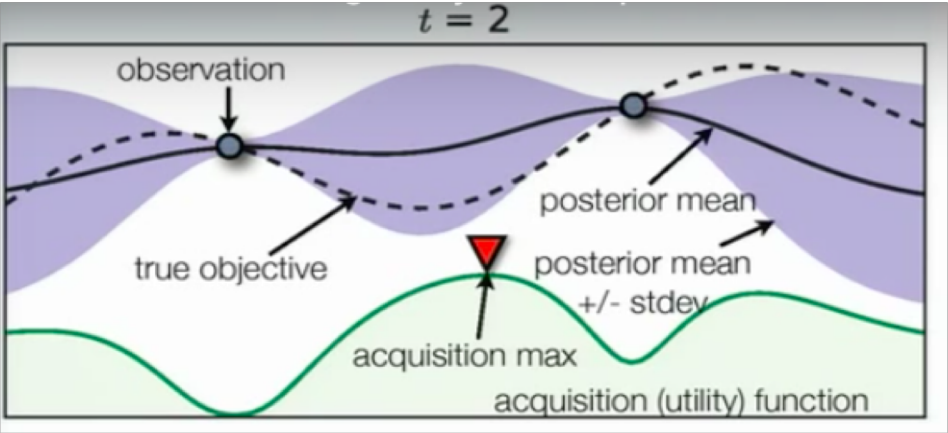
Predicted Performance Distribution

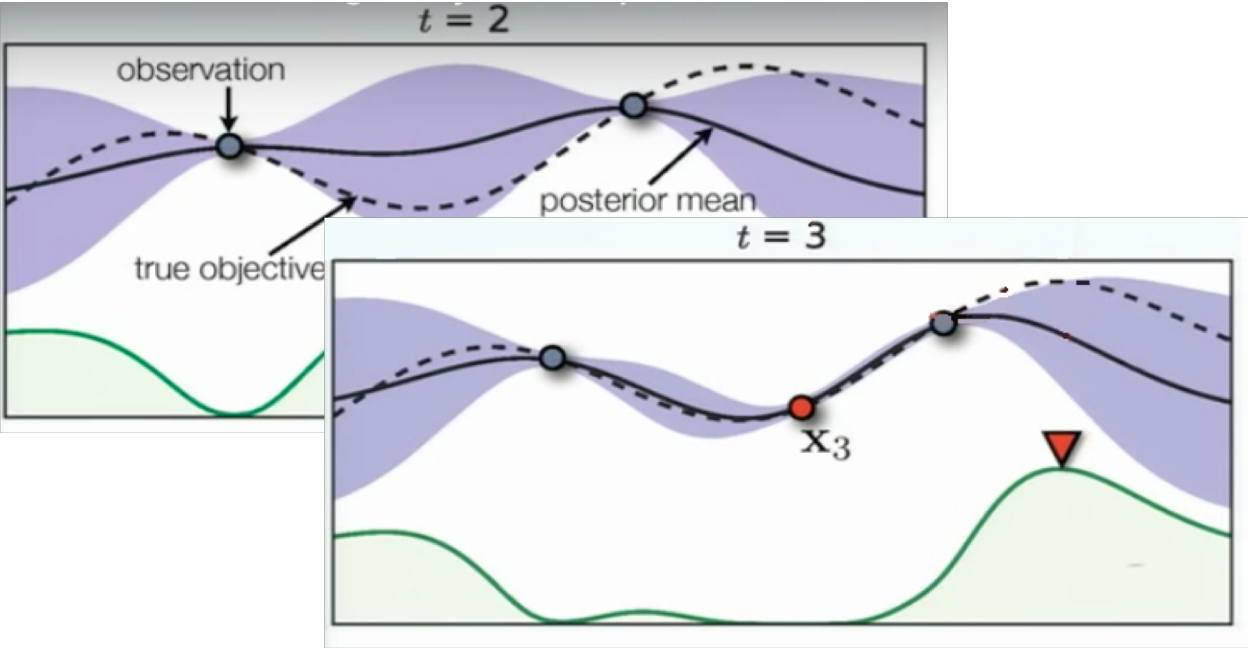
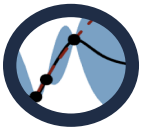
Surrogate of choice:
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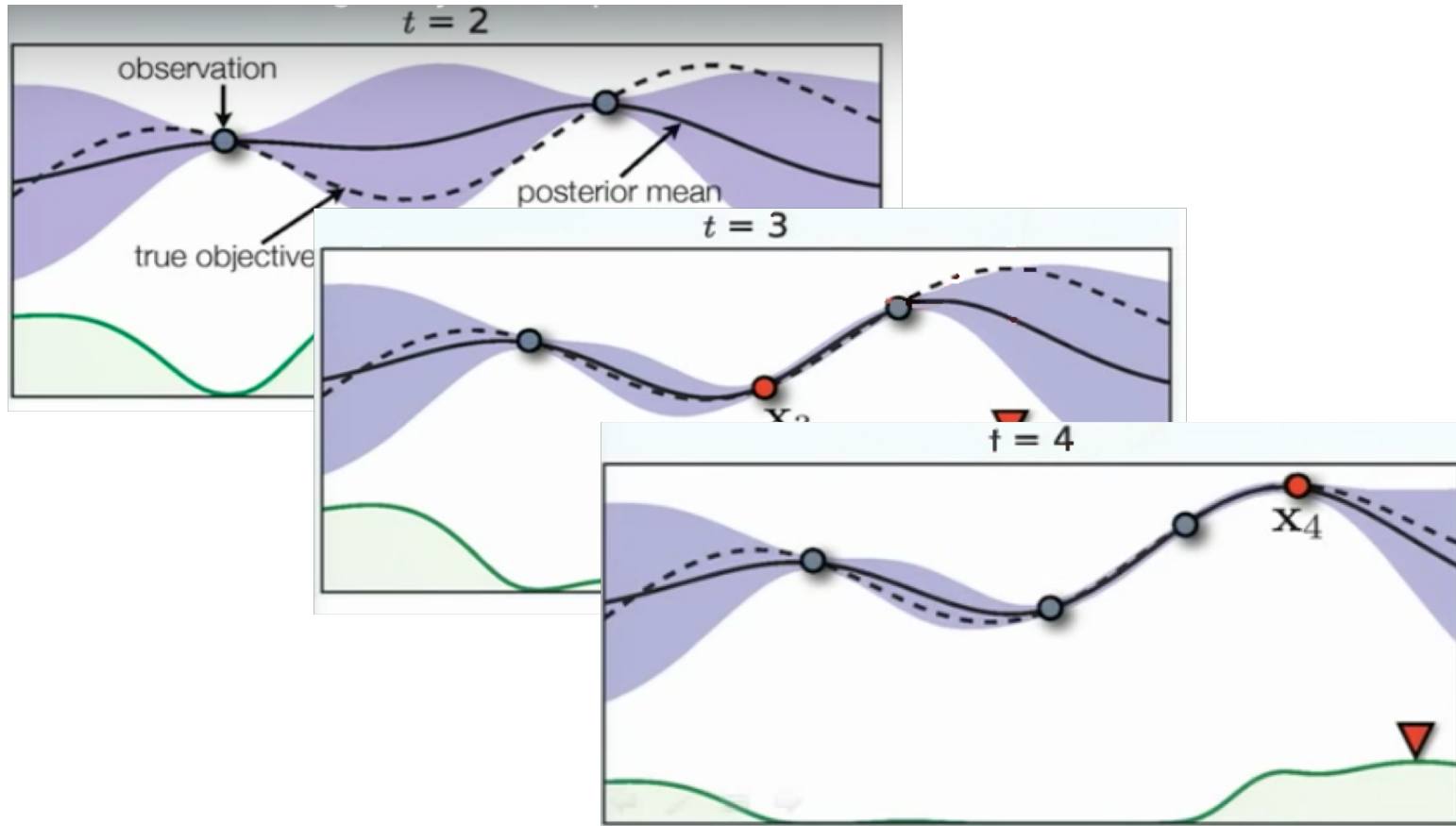
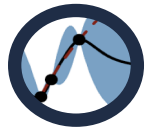
Acquisition Function

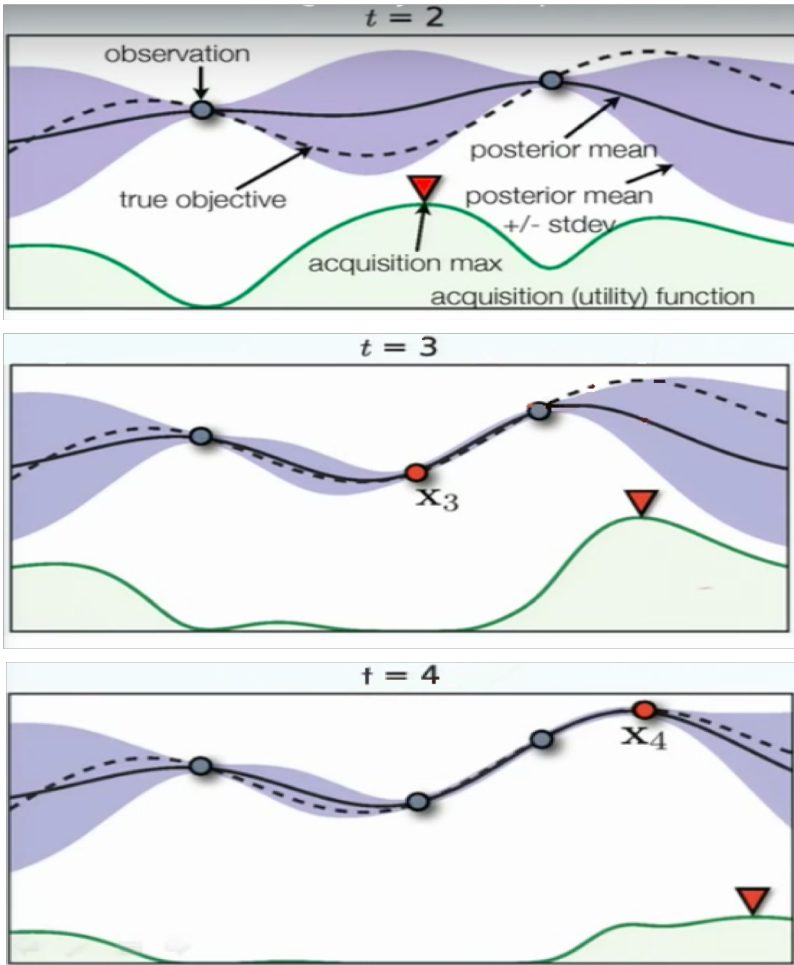
$$\mu(x) + \kappa \cdot \sigma(x)$$

Tradeoff between
Exploration vs Exploitation

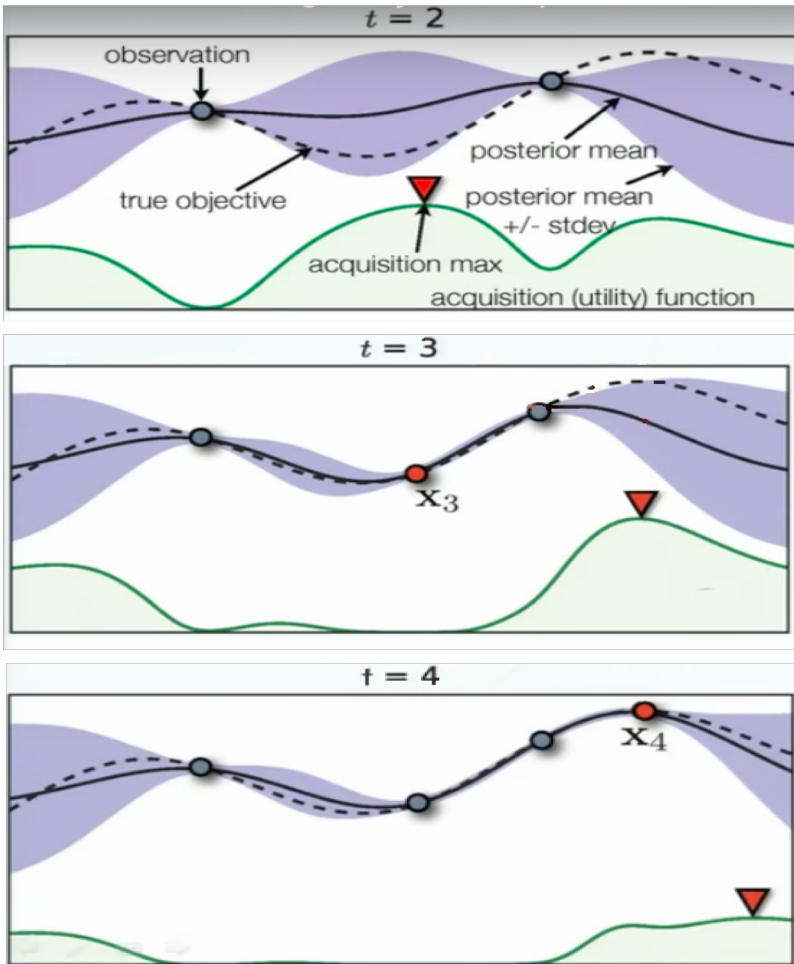
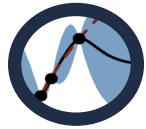








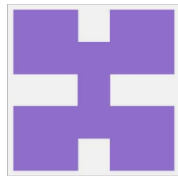
```
Input:  $f, \mathcal{X}, S, \mathcal{M}$   
 $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \text{INITSAMPLES}(f, \mathcal{X})$   
for  $i \leftarrow |\mathcal{D}|$  to  $T$  do  
     $p(y | \mathbf{x}, \mathcal{D}) \leftarrow \text{FITMODEL}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{D})$   
     $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} S(\mathbf{x}, p(y | \mathbf{x}, \mathcal{D}))$   
     $y_i \leftarrow f(\mathbf{x}_i)$   $\triangleright$  Expensive step  
     $\mathcal{D} \leftarrow \mathcal{D} \cup (\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)$   
end for
```

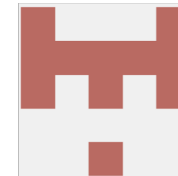
```

Input:  $f, \mathcal{X}, S, \mathcal{M}$ 
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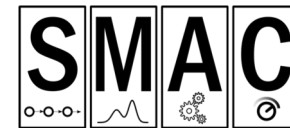
```



Hyperopt



MOE



SMAC



Spearmin

Google Vizier

ePAL



- GPMs can be **very fragile**, that is, very sensitive to the parameters of GPMs^[1]
- GPMs **do not scale to high dimensional** data as well as a large dataset^[2]
- GPMs for optimization was limited to models **with around ten decisions**^[3]

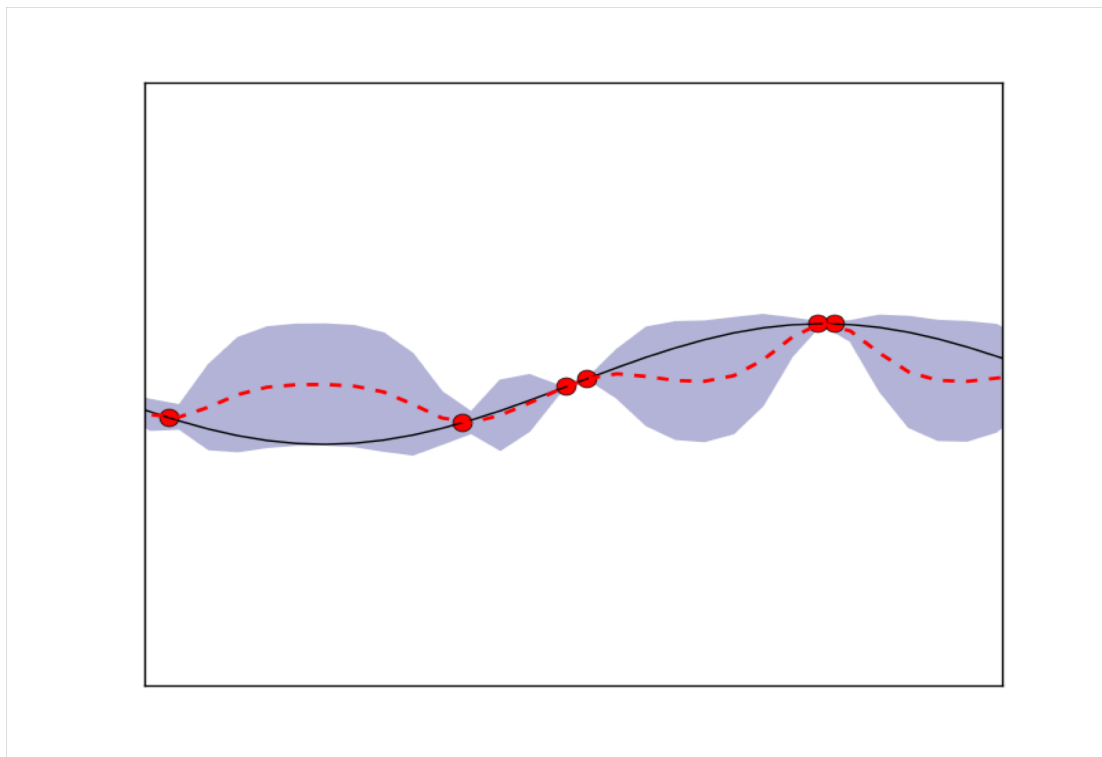
[1] Brochu et al.; "A tutorial on Bayesian optimization of expensive cost functions, with application to active user modeling and hierarchical reinforcement learning,"; ArXiv, p. 49, 2010.

[2] Shen et al.; Fast gaussian process regression using kd-trees. In Advances in neural information processing systems; 2006.

[3] Wang et al.; Bayesian optimization in a billion dimensions via random embeddings; Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research, 2016.



Workflow of Flash



Gaussian Processes

$$\mu(x) + \kappa \cdot \sigma(x)$$

Run a Configuration

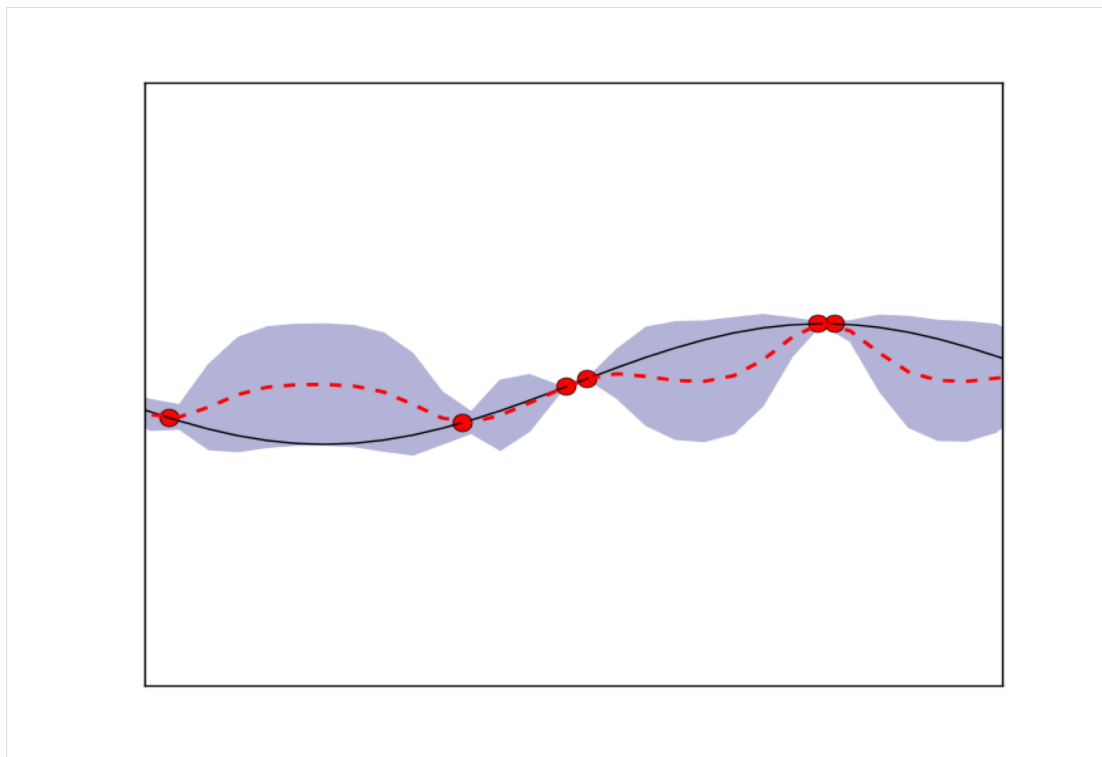
Black-box Modeling

Rank and choose next configuration

Return Config



Workflow of Flash



Gaussian Processes

$$\mu(x) + \kappa \cdot \sigma(x)$$

Run a Configuration

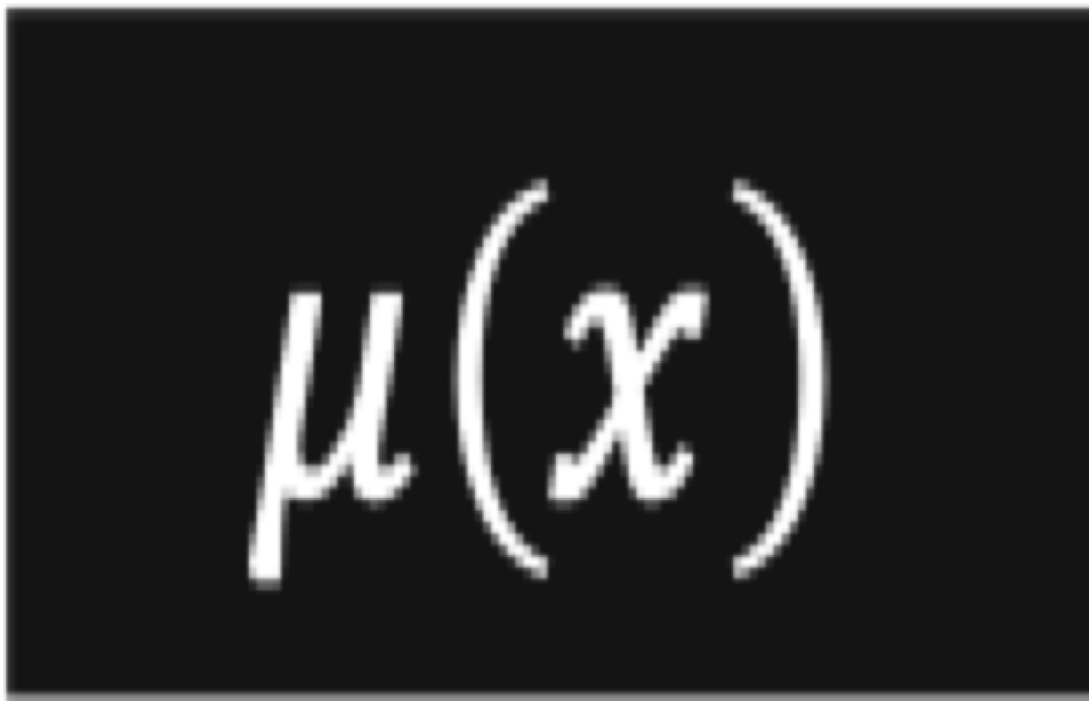
Black-box Modeling

Rank and choose next configuration

Return Config



Workflow of Flash



Gaussian Processes

$\mu(x)$

Run a
Configuration

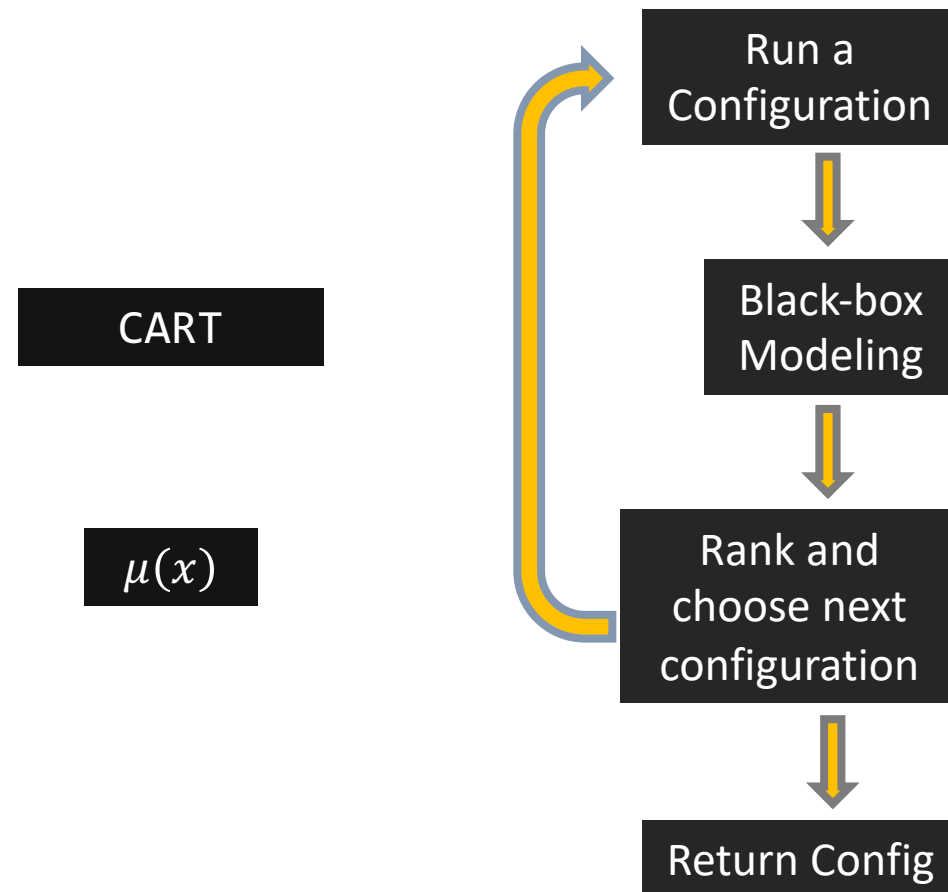
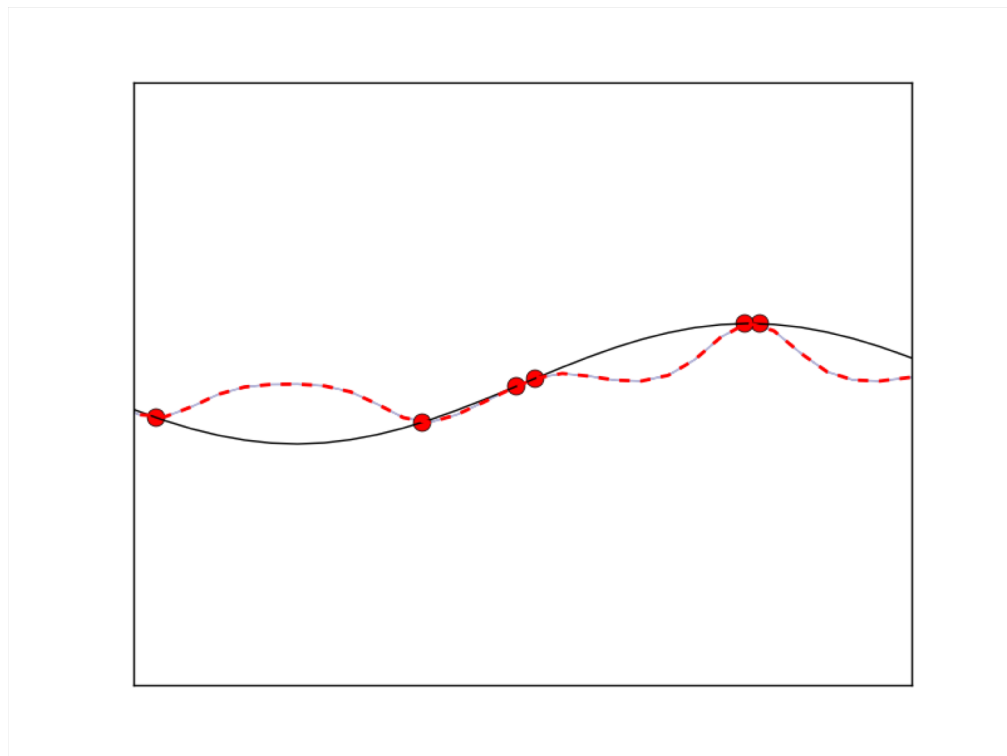
Black-box
Modeling

Rank and
choose next
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Return Config

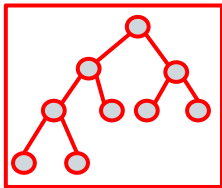
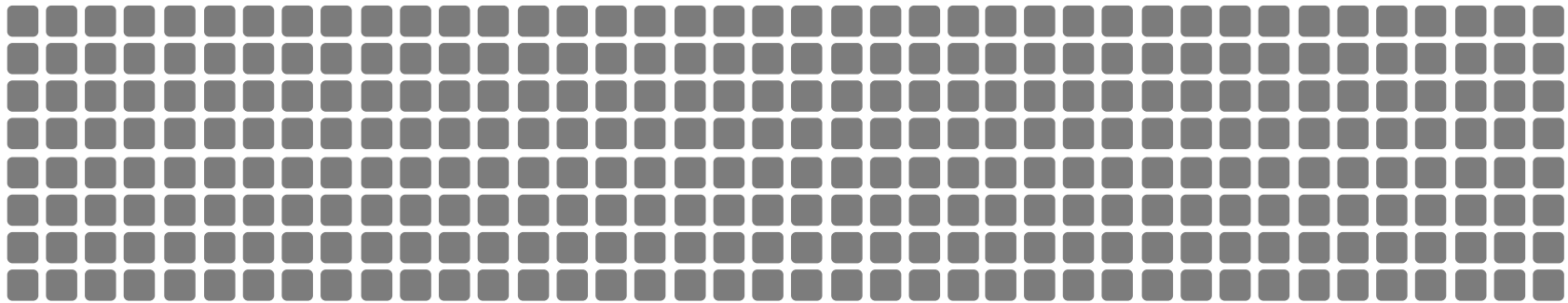


Workflow of Flash





Configuration Space

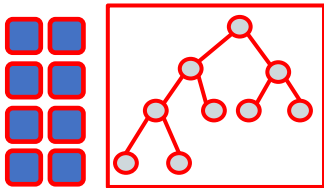
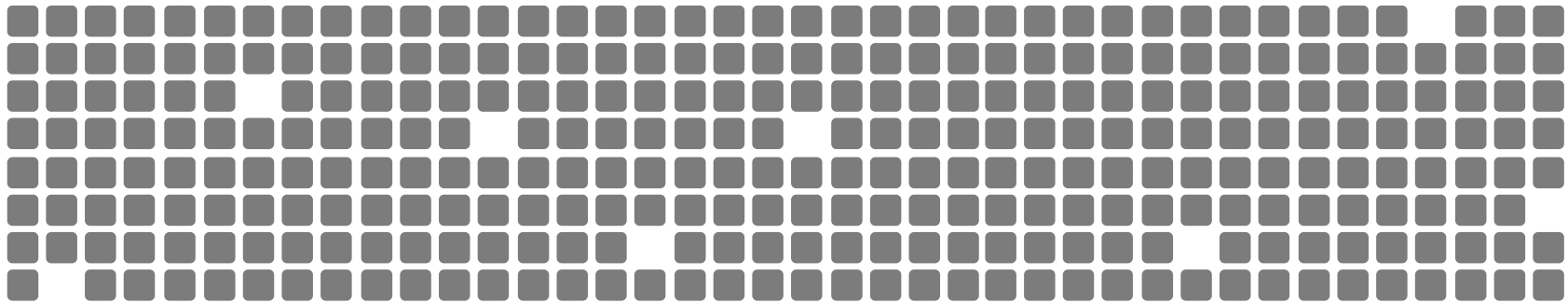


CART

Measurements = 0



Configuration Space

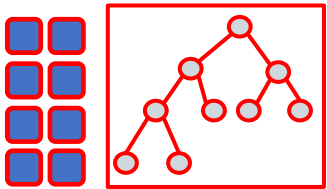
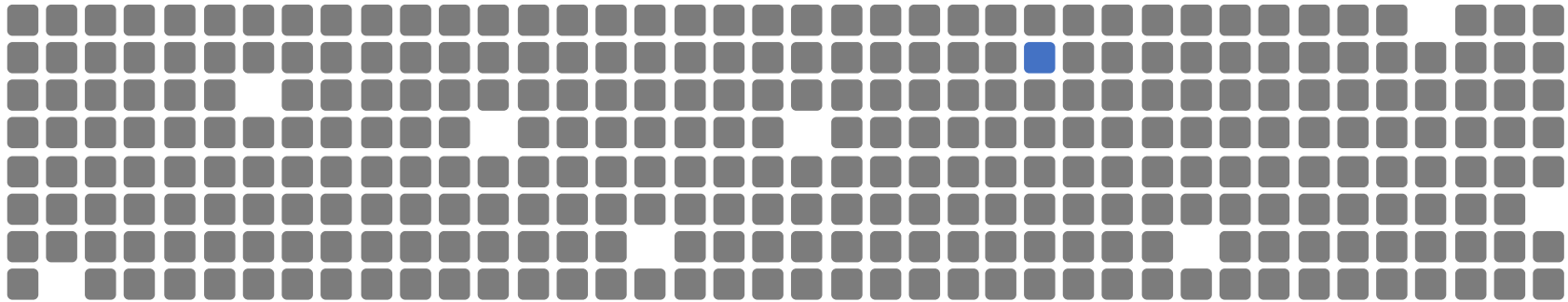


CART

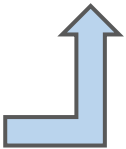
Measurements = 8



Configuration Space



CART

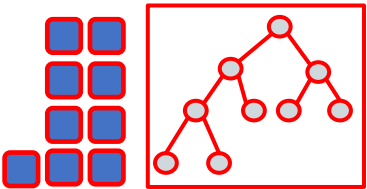
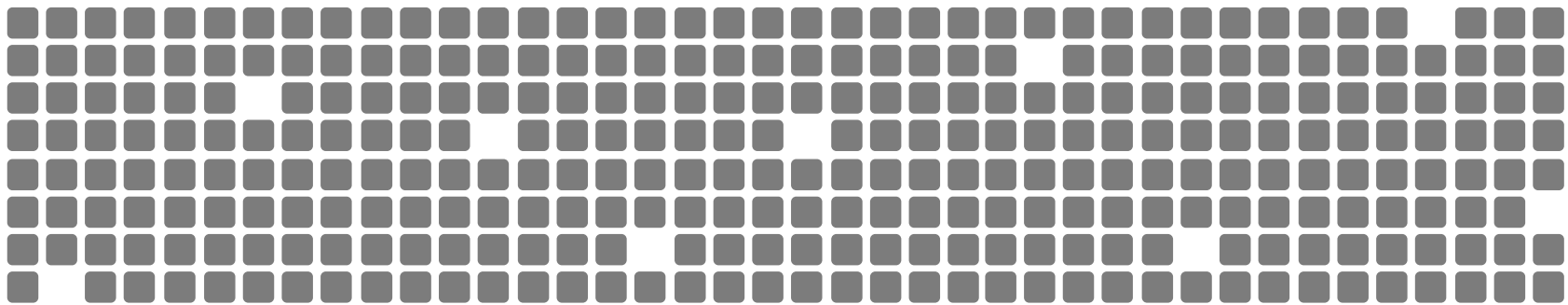


$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}(f'(x))$$

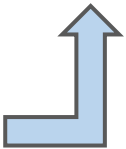
Measurements = 8



Configuration Space



CART

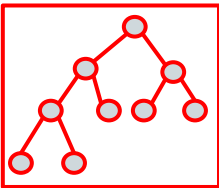
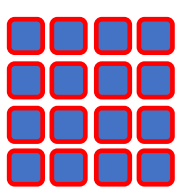
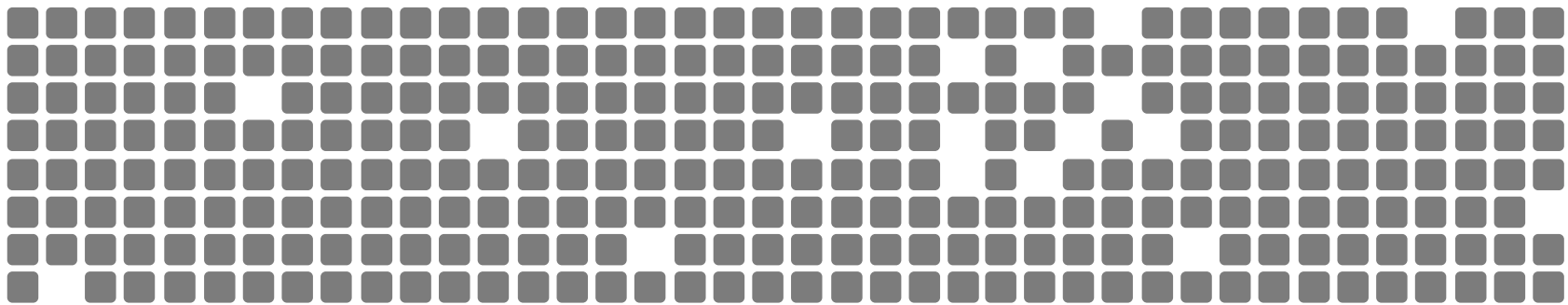


$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}(f'(x))$$

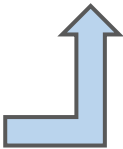
Measurements = 9



Configuration Space



CART

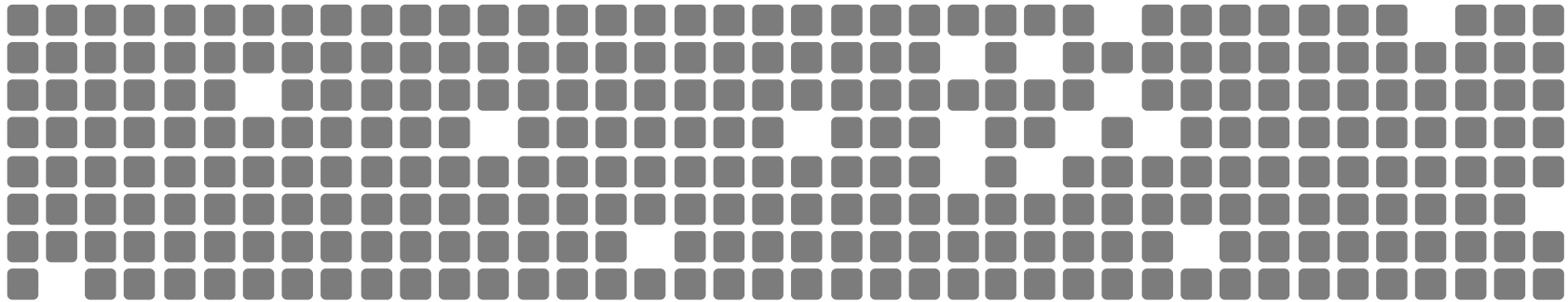


$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}(f'(x))$$

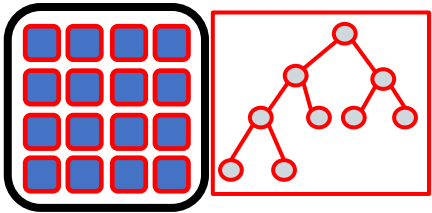
Measurements = 16



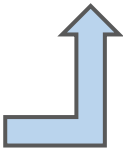
Configuration Space



Budget



CART



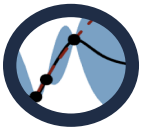
$$x^* = \operatorname{argmax}(f'(x))$$

Measurements = 16



RQ1 Can FLASH find the good configuration?

RQ2 How expensive is FLASH?



Quality

RQ1

Can FLASH find the good configuration?

Cost

RQ2

How expensive is FLASH?



Residual based Method

Sequentially (randomly) sample configuration to build a decision tree till **threshold** accuracy is reached

Rank based Method

Sequentially (randomly) sample configurations to build a decision tree which **preserves relative ordering**



Guo et al., 2013

Residual based Method

Sequentially (randomly) sample configuration to build a decision tree till **threshold** accuracy is reached

Nair et al., 2017

Rank based Method

Sequentially (randomly) sample configurations to build a decision tree which **preserves relative ordering**



Flash (SMBO)

Subject Systems



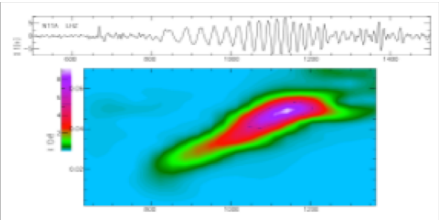
Data Processing

Mesh Solver



FPGA

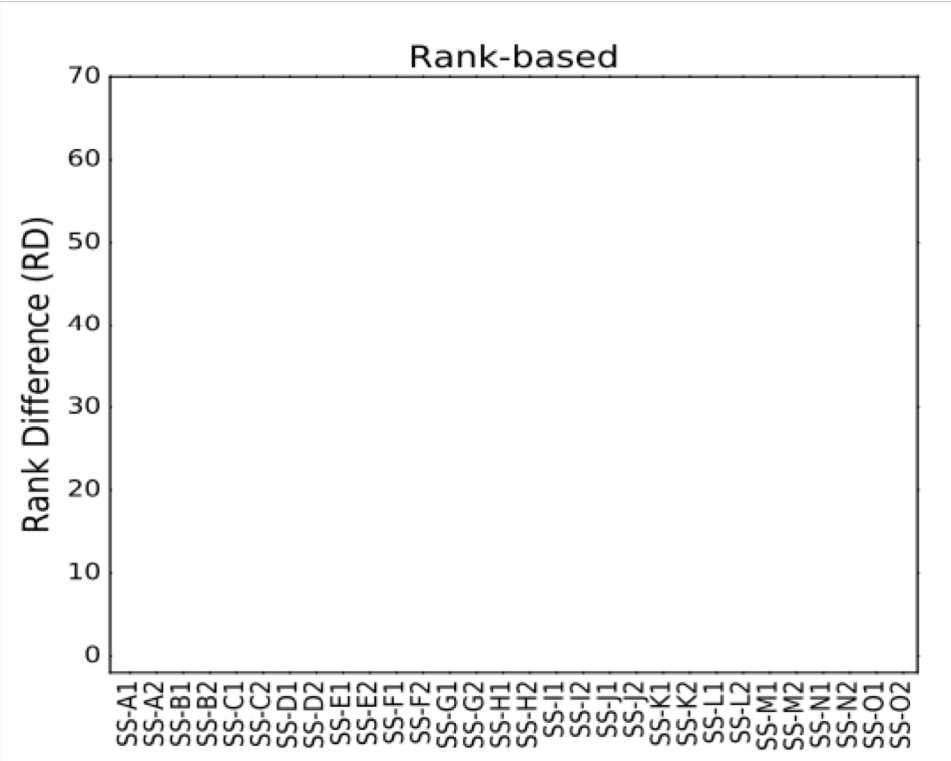
Seismic Analysis

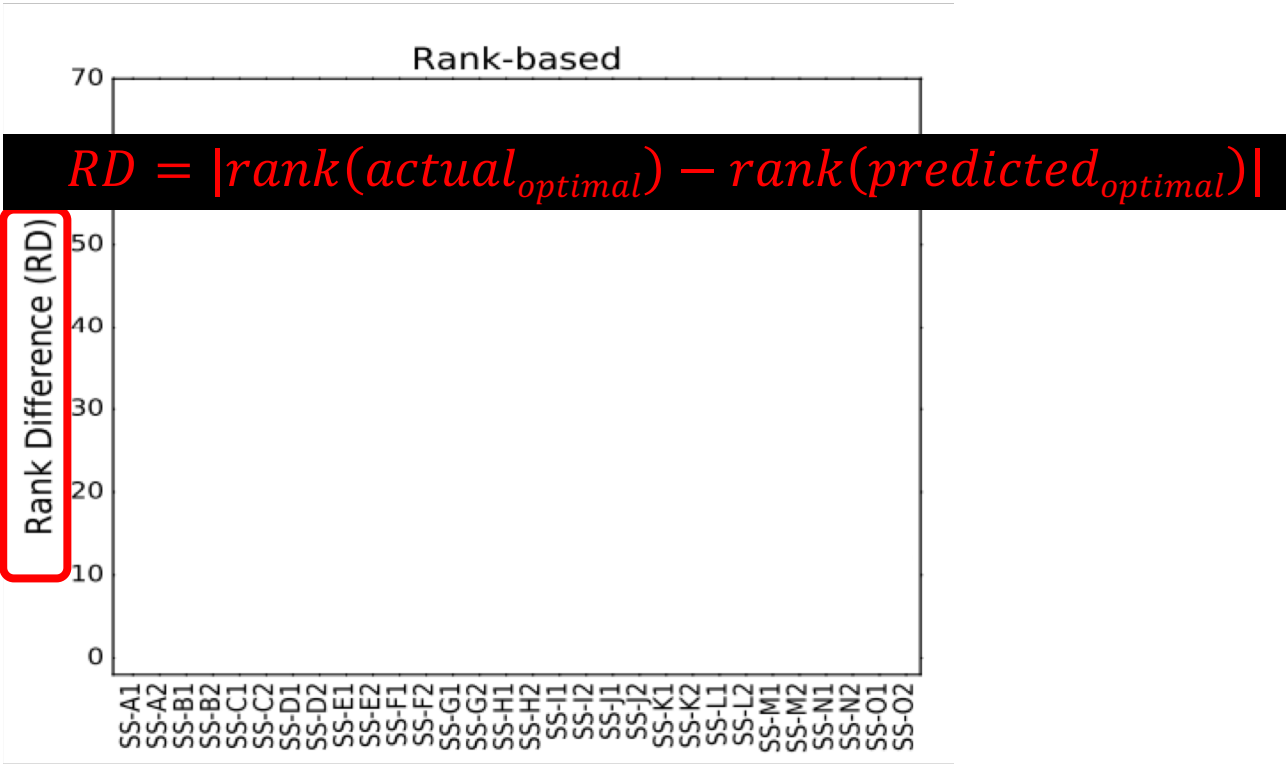


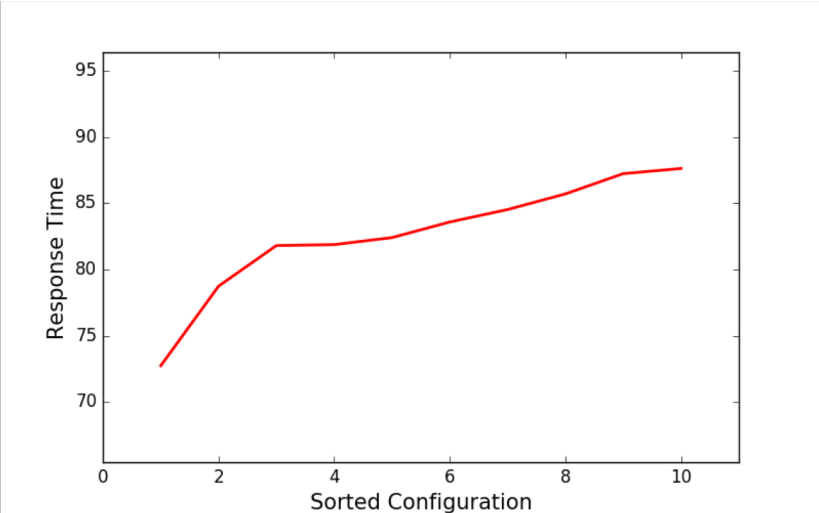
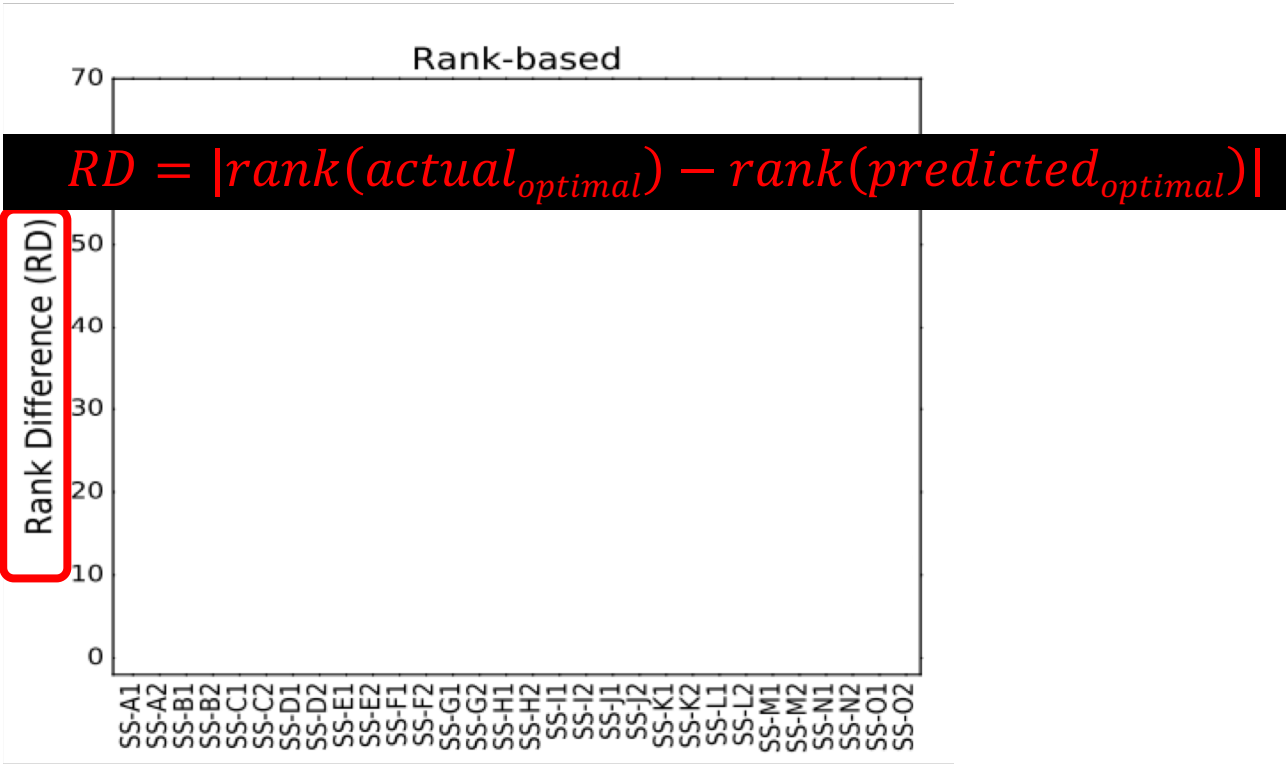
Compiler

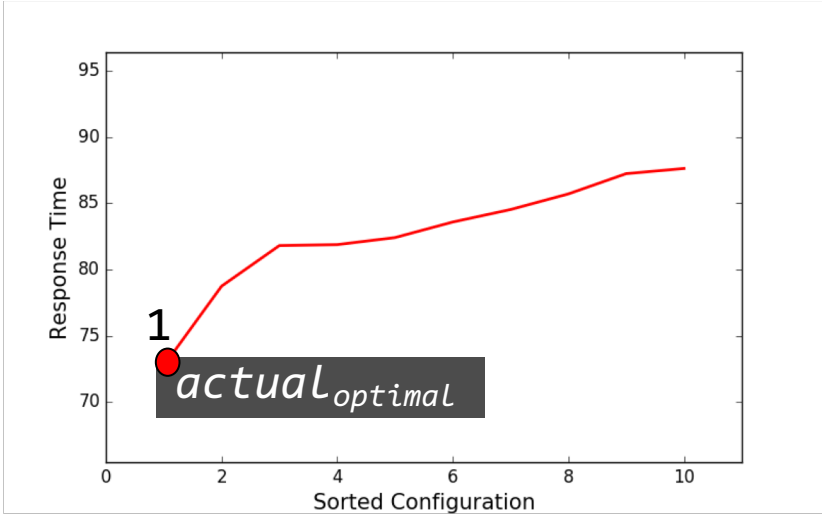
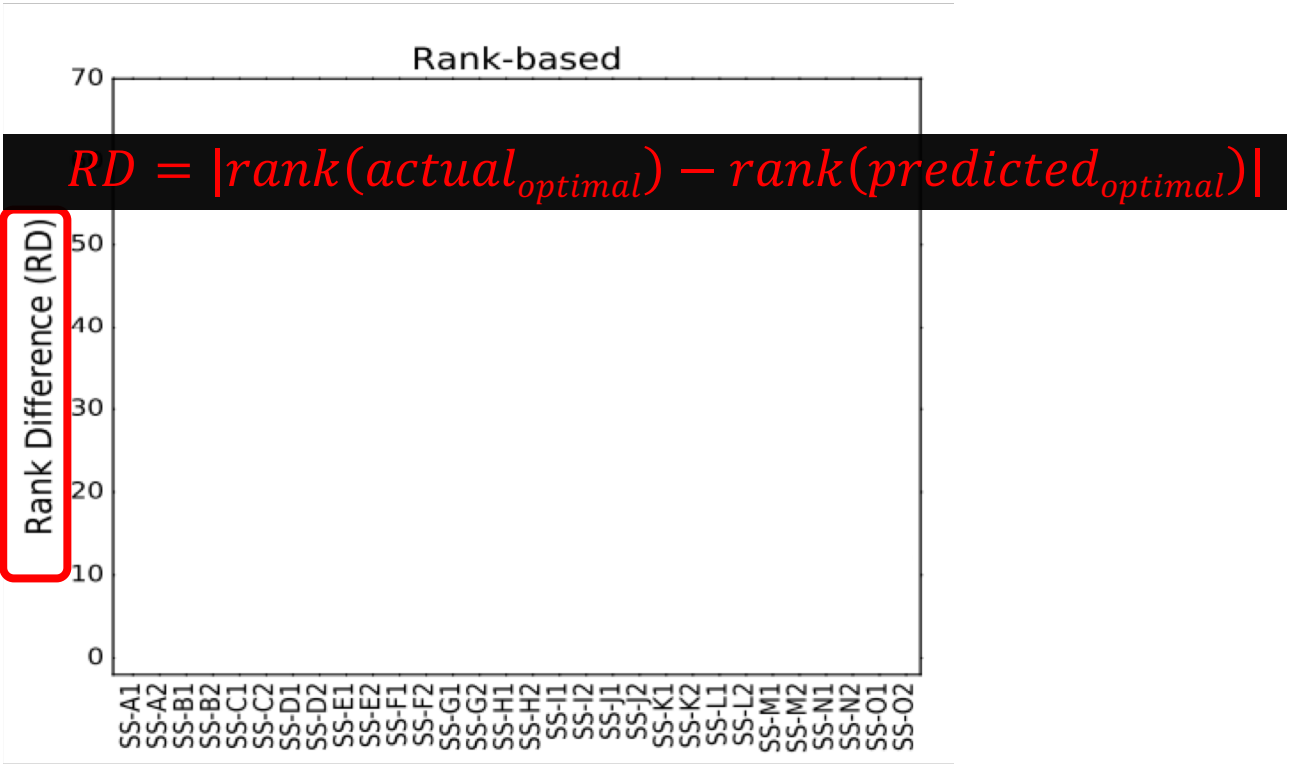
Video Encoder

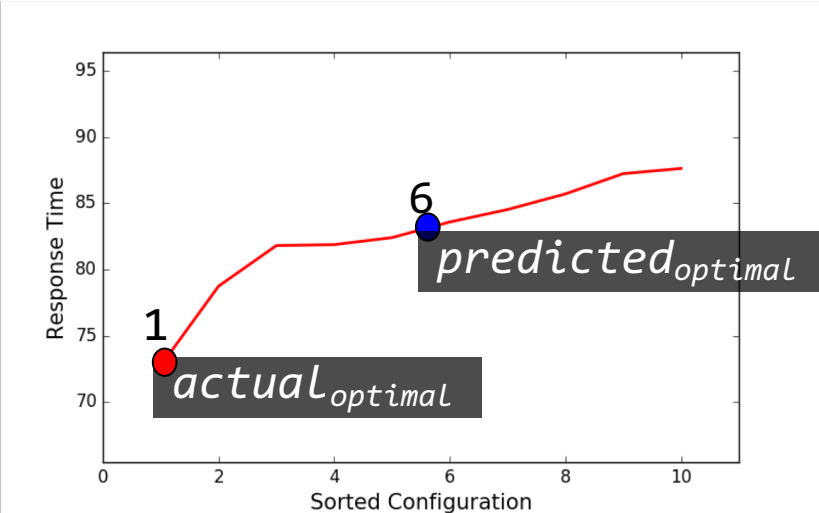
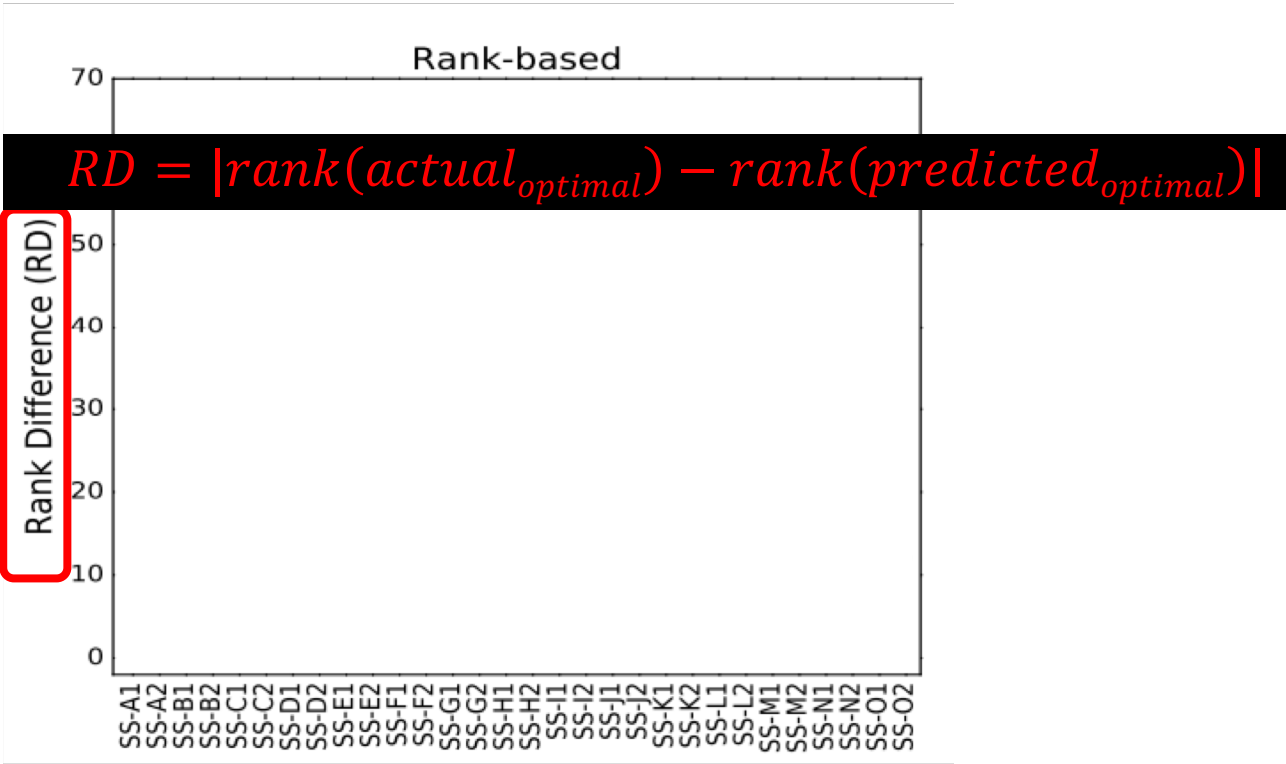
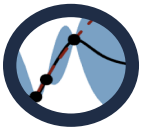


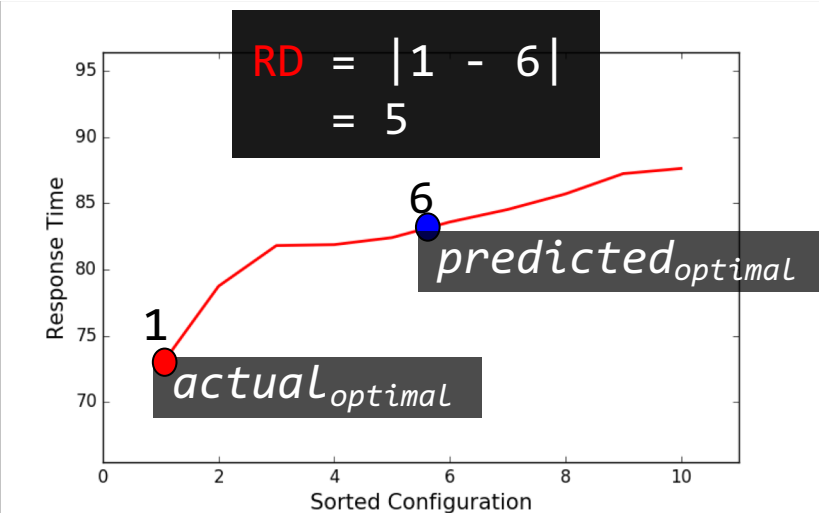
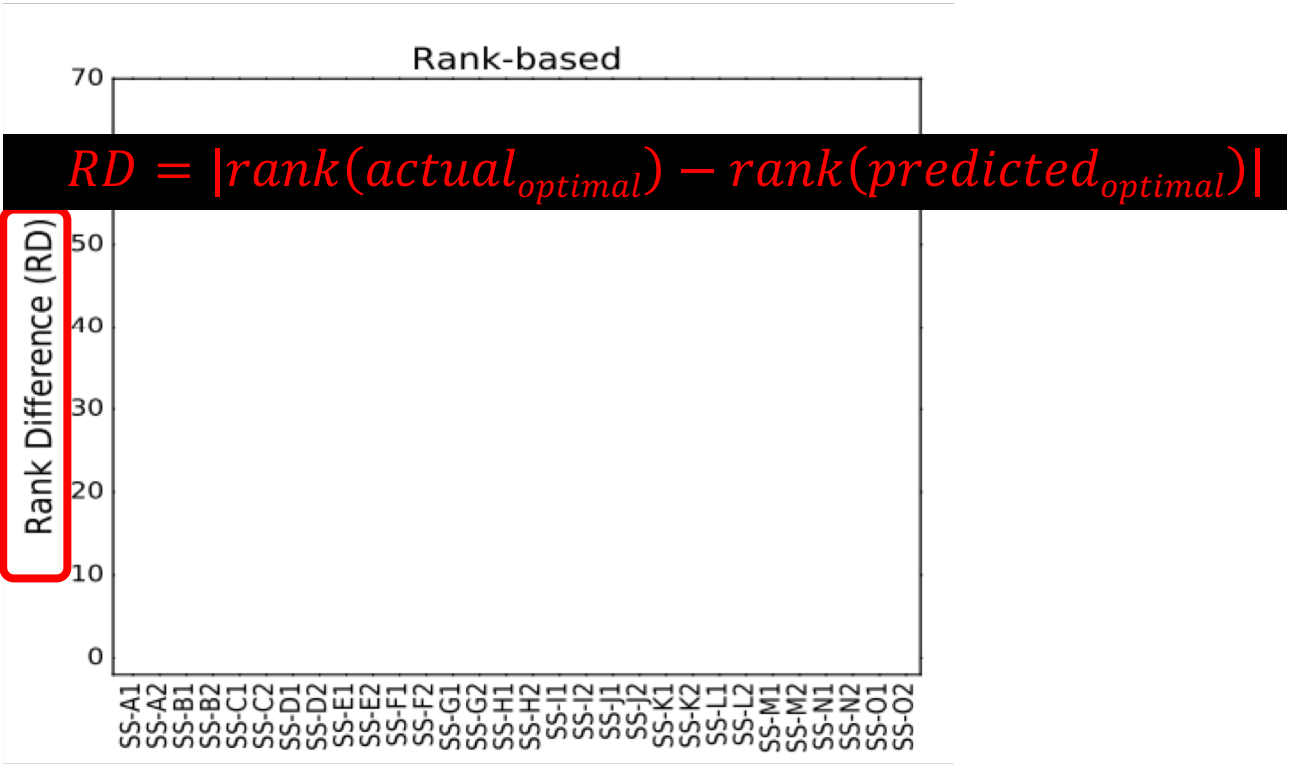


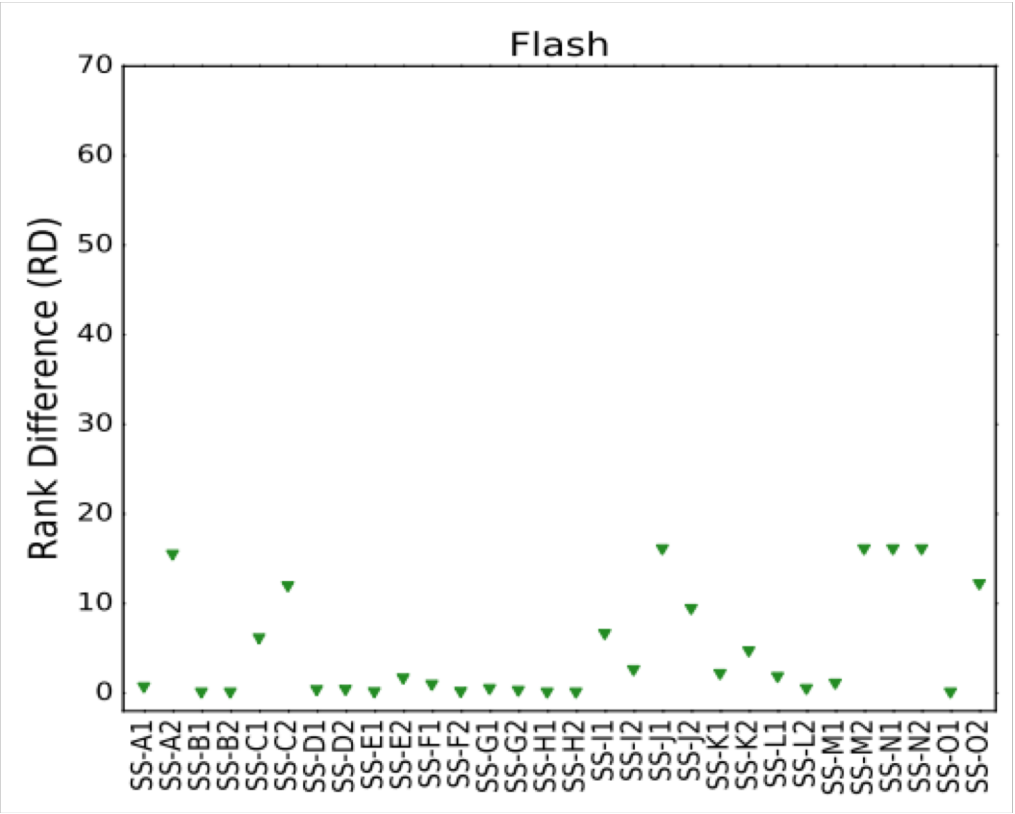


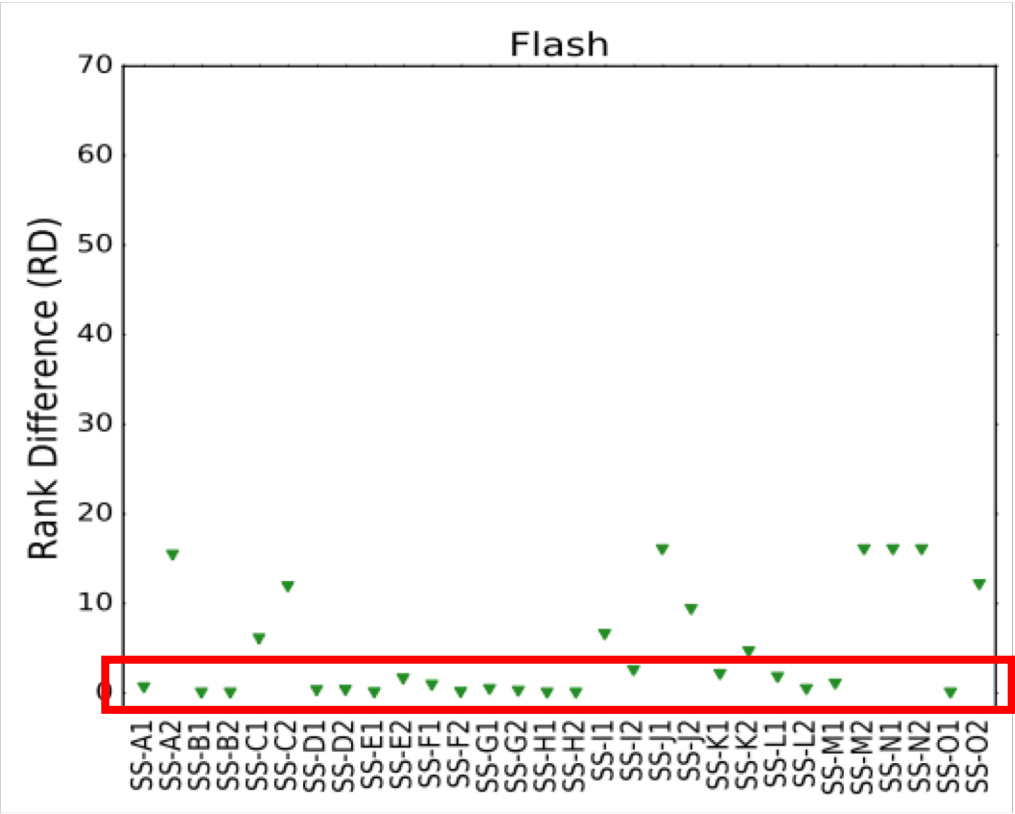


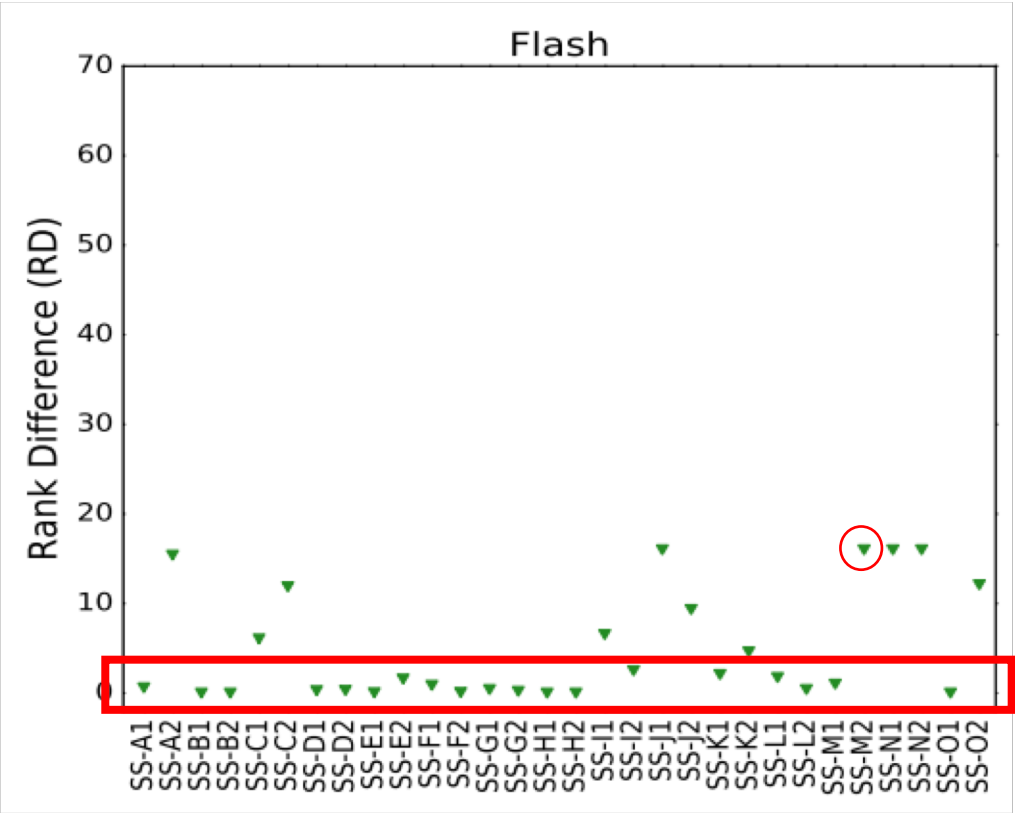


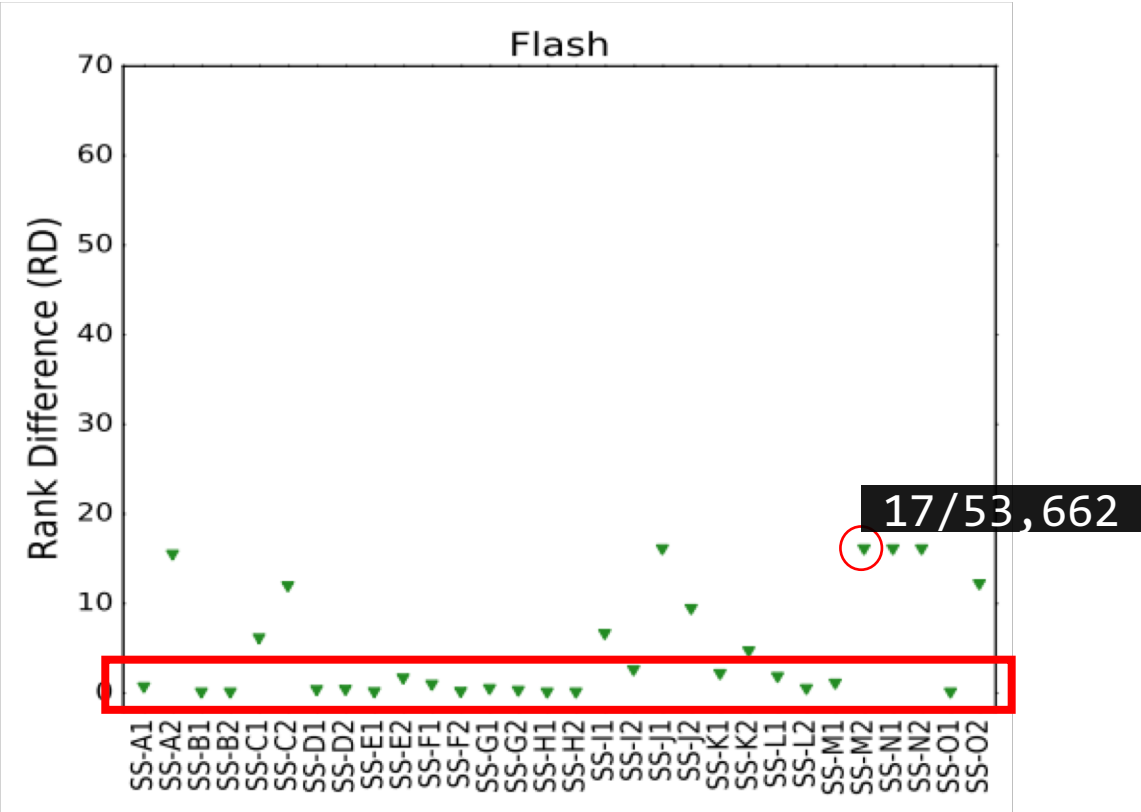


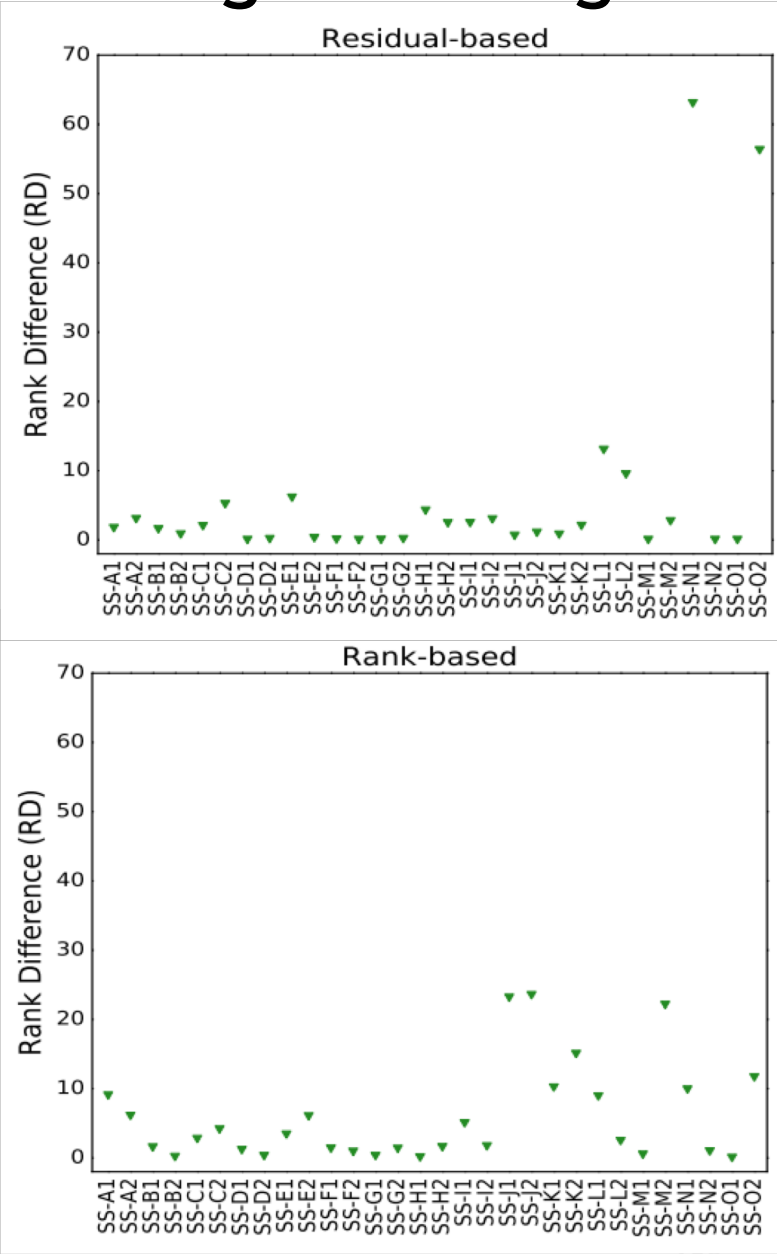
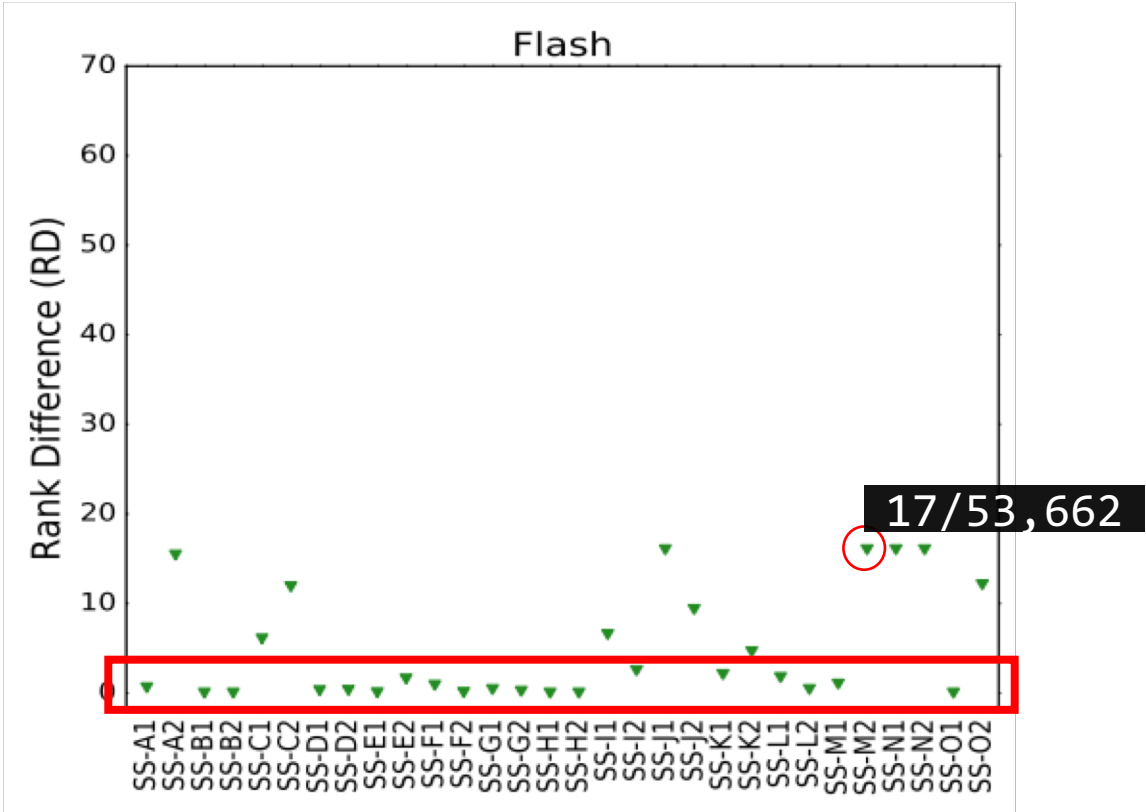




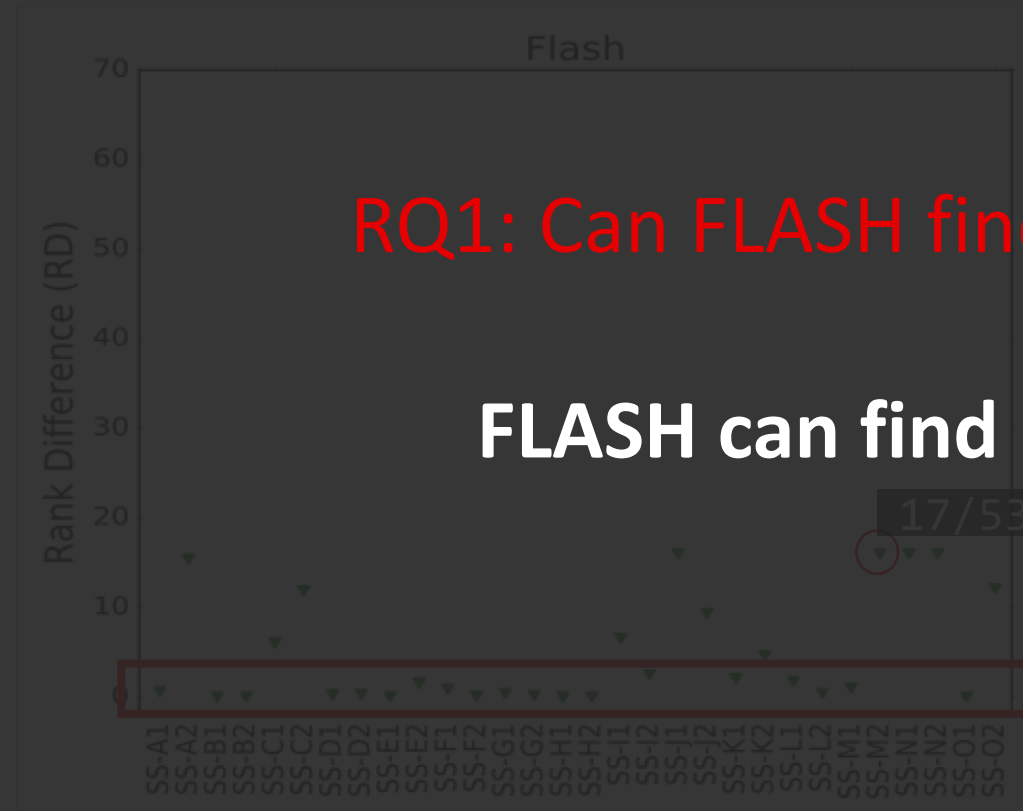






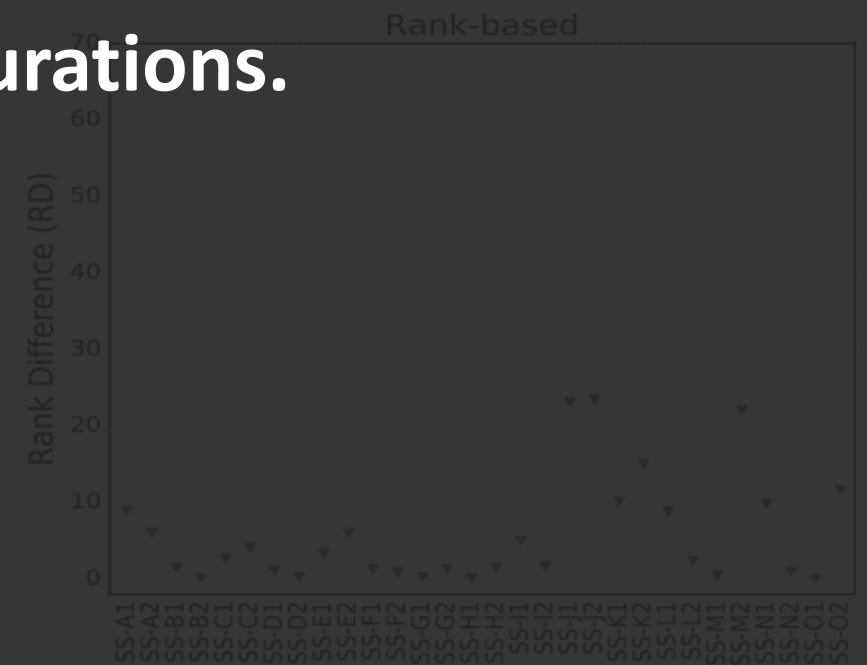
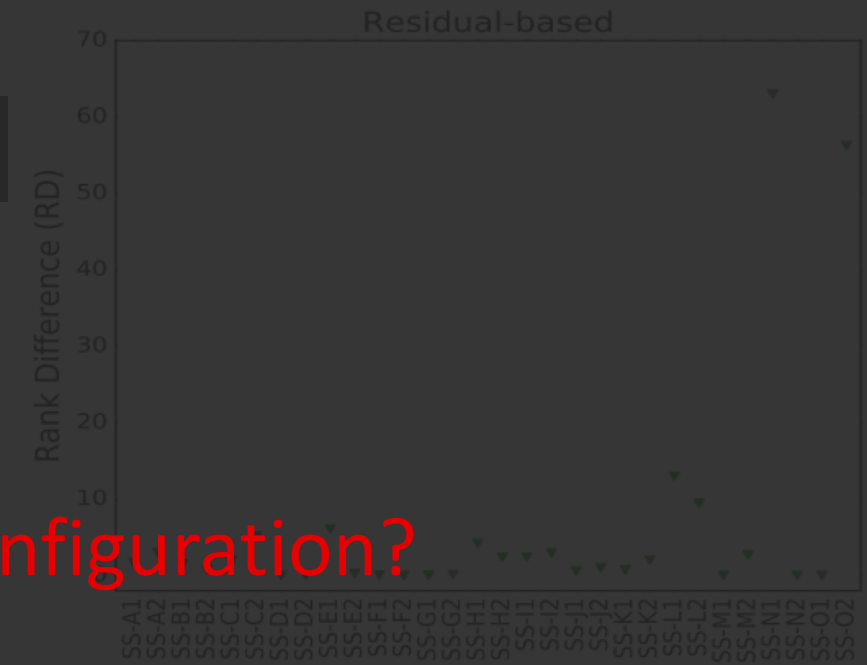


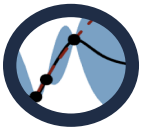
RQ1: Can FLASH find the good configuration?



RQ1: Can FLASH find the good configuration?

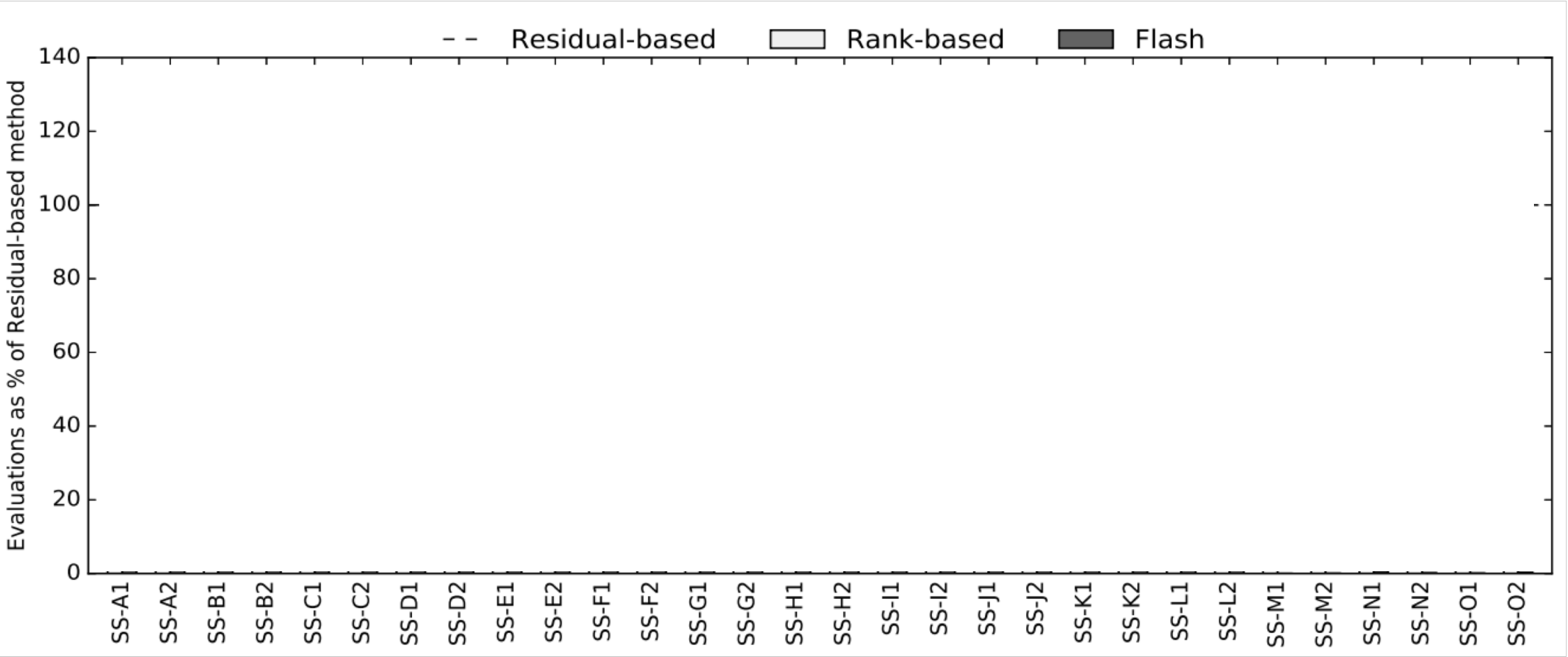
FLASH can find better configurations.

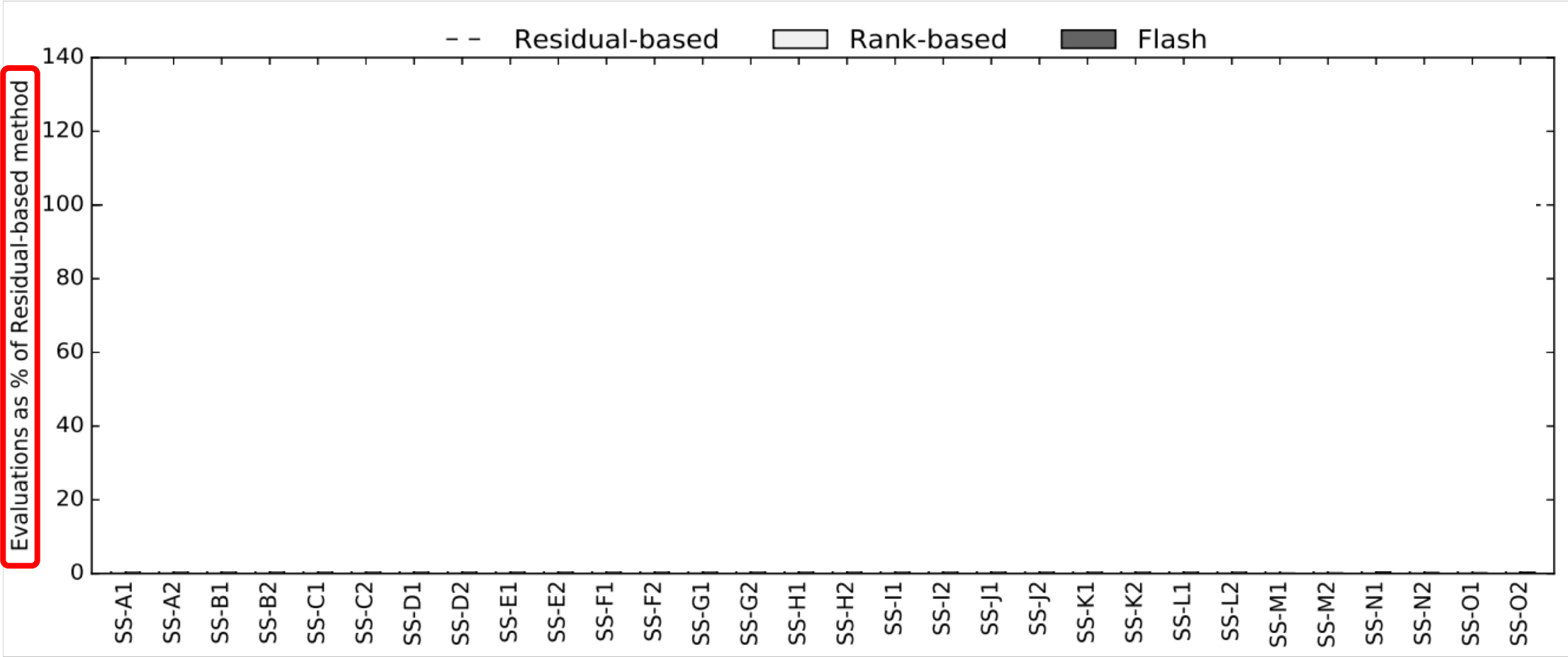


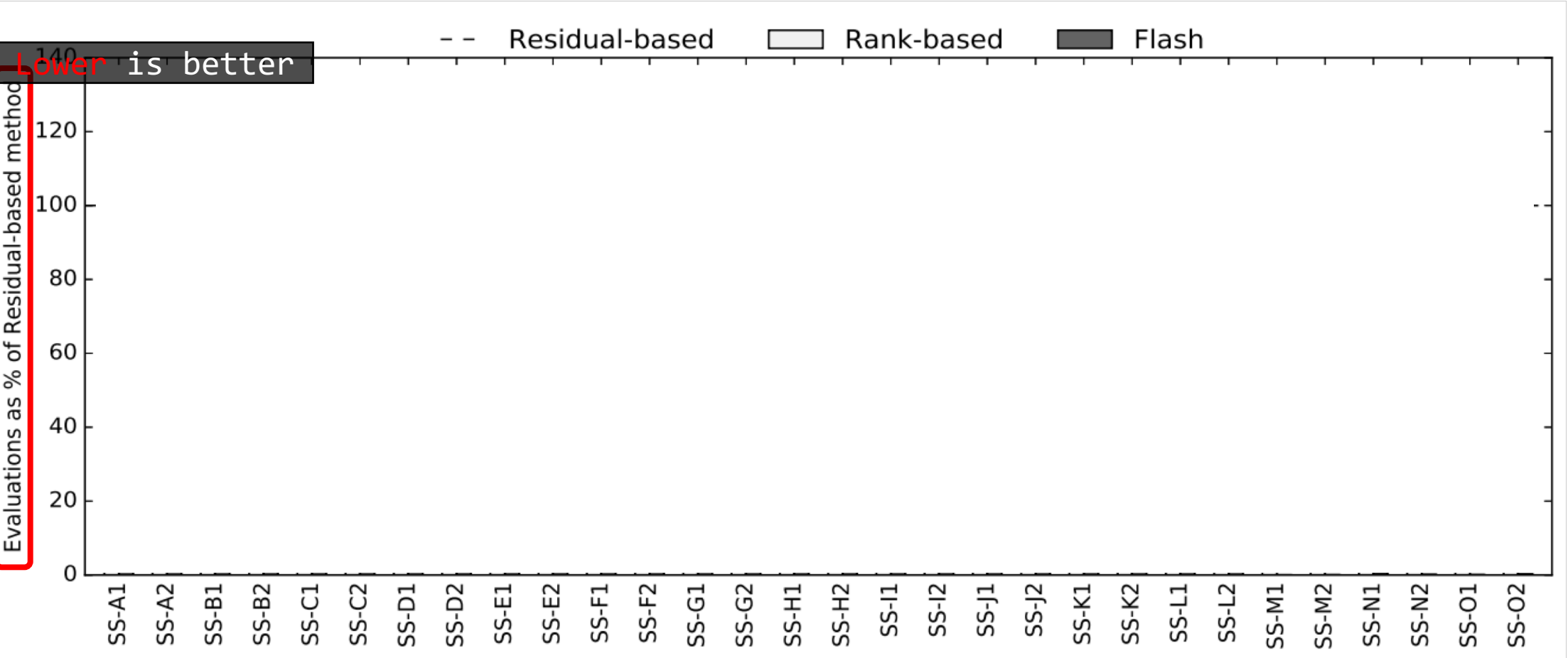


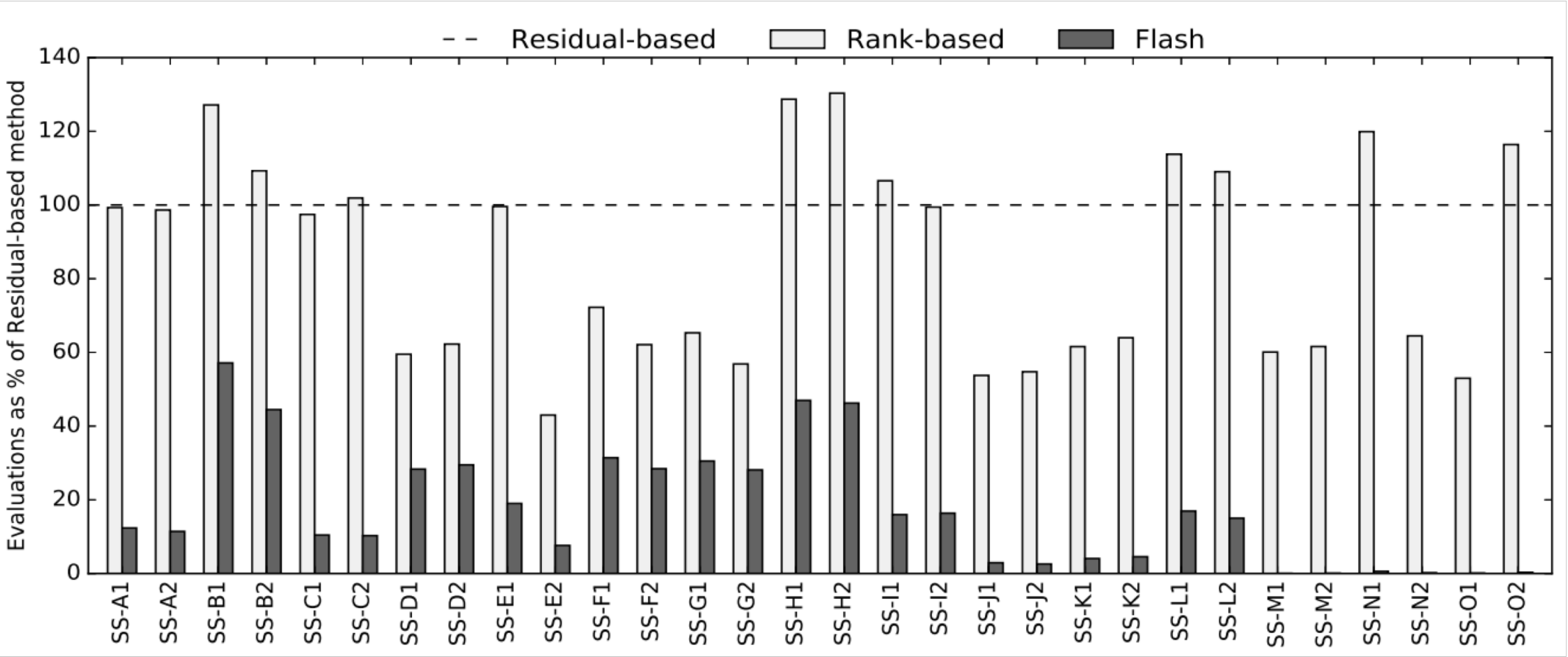
Flash (SMBO)

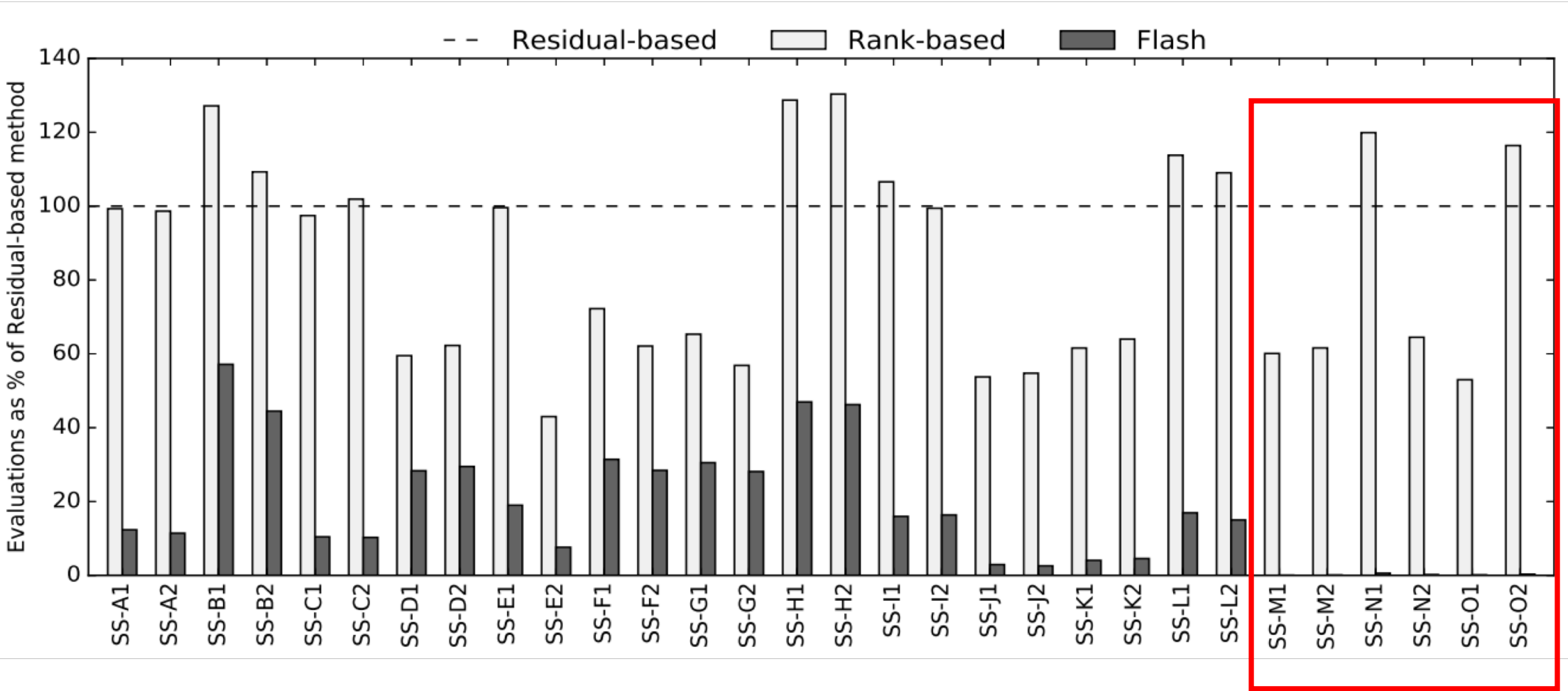
RQ2: How expensive is FLASH?



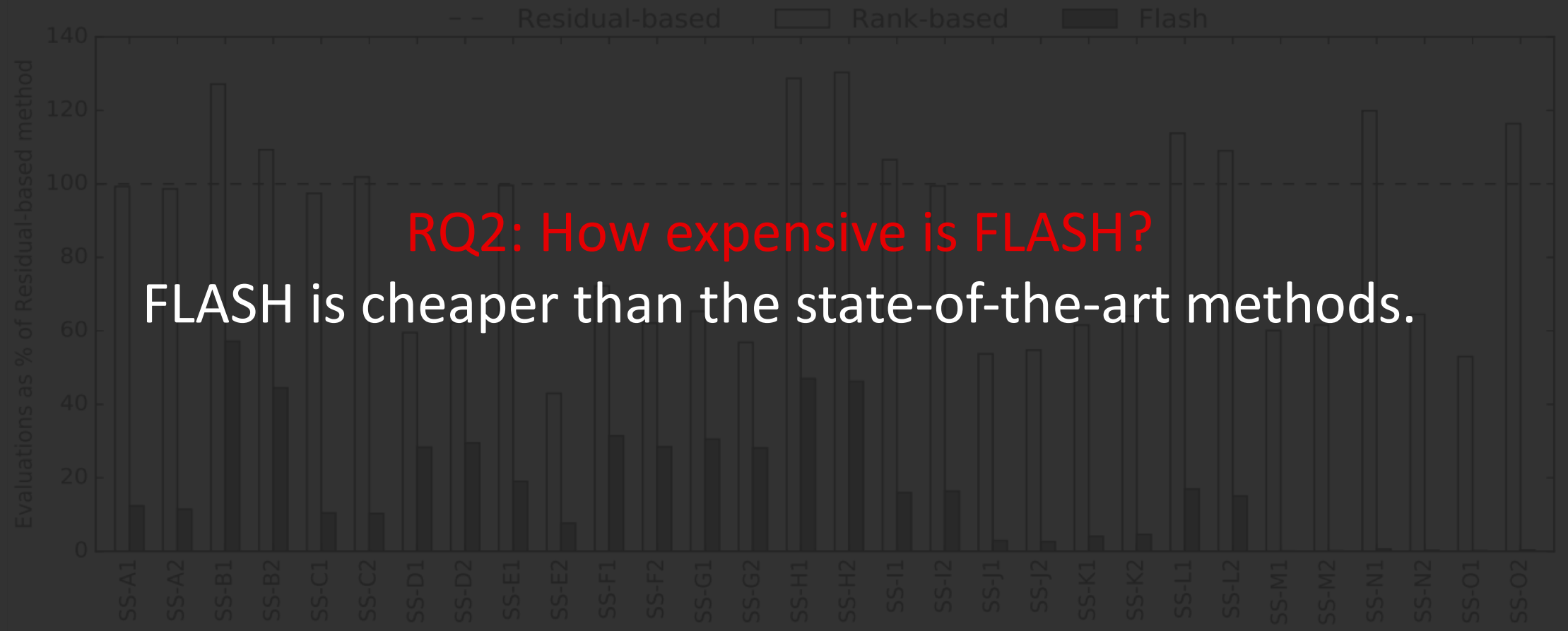








RQ2: How expensive is FLASH?





Flash (SMBO)

FLASH **can** answer



FLASH **can** answer

- Q.** Given a software system, which configuration **maximizes the throughput** (performance measure) for a given benchmark?



FLASH can answer

Single Objective problem

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FLASH **can** answer

Single Objective problem

- Q. Given a software system, which configuration **maximizes the throughput** (performance measure) for a given benchmark?

FLASH **cannot** answer

- Q. Given a software system, which configuration maximizes the **throughput while minimizing latency** for a given benchmark?



FLASH **can** answer

Single Objective problem

- Q. Given a software system, which configuration **maximizes the throughput** (performance measure) for a given benchmark?

FLASH **cannot** answer

Multi-Objective problem

- Q. Given a software system, which configuration maximizes the **throughput while minimizing latency** for a given benchmark?



FLASH **can** answer

Single Objective problem

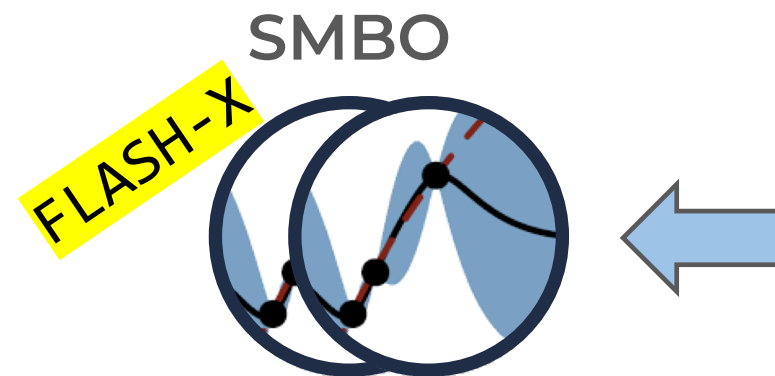
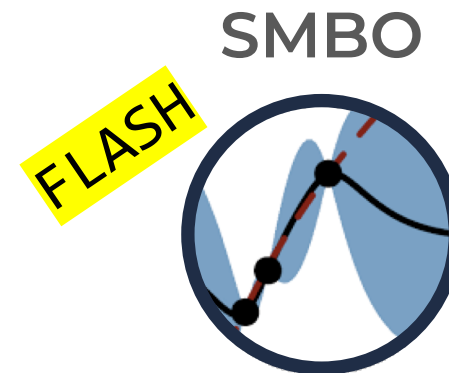
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FLASH **cannot** answer

Multi-Objective problem

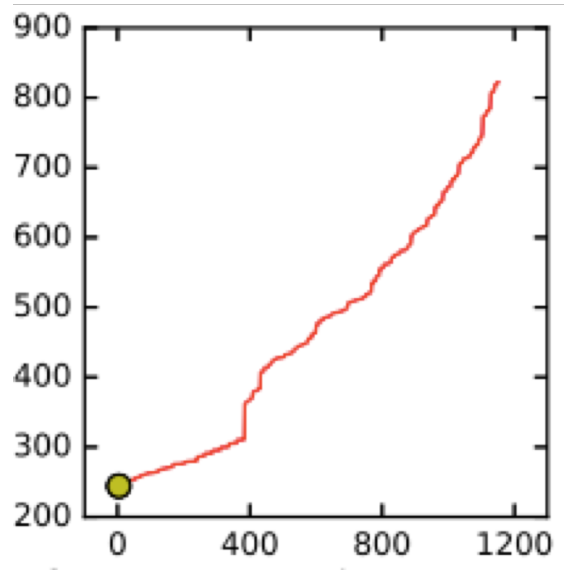
- Q. Given a software system, which configuration maximizes the **throughput while minimizing latency** for a given benchmark?

How can FLASH be modified to solve multi objective (MO) problems?



Nair et al.; Finding faster configurations using Flash; TSE (2018)

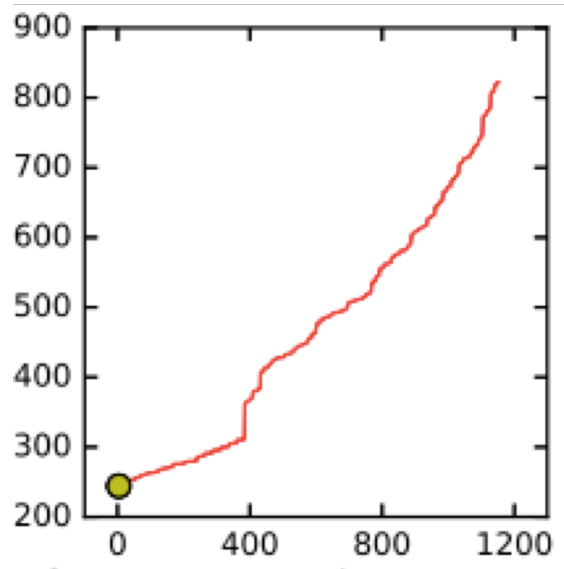
What is a MO Problem?



Single Objective Problems

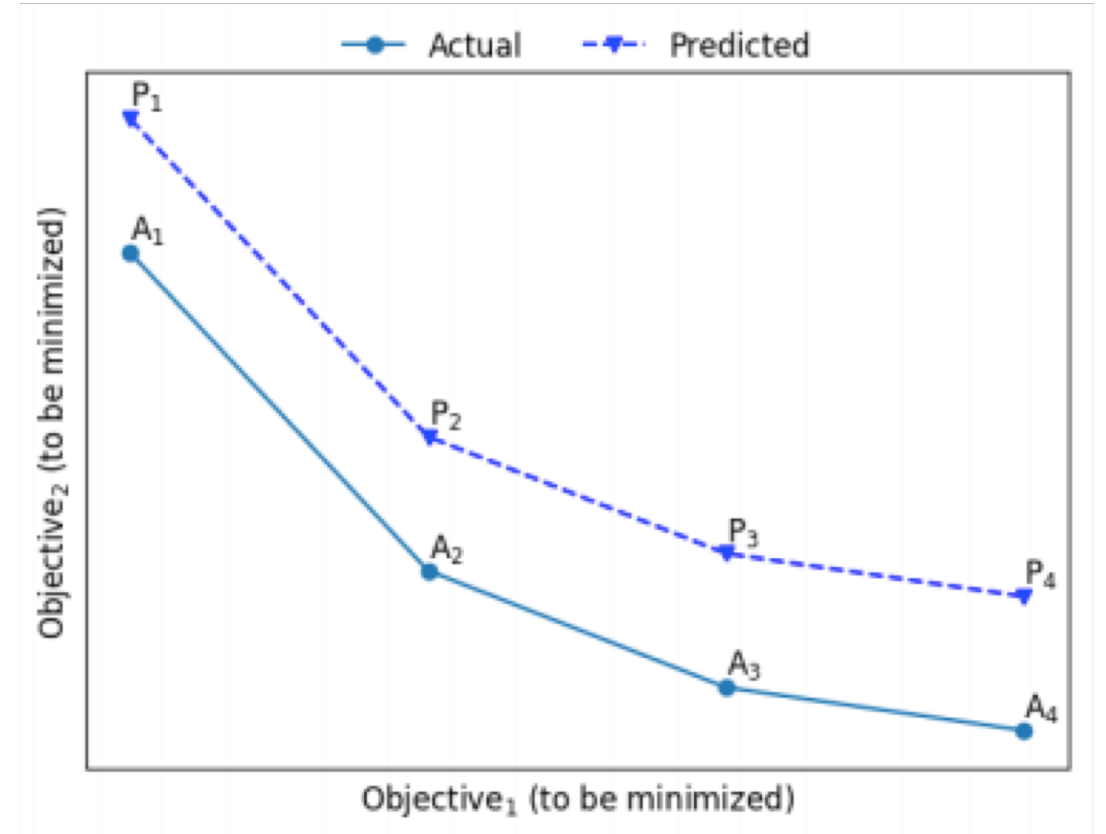
Single 'best' solution

What is a MO Problem?



Single Objective Problems

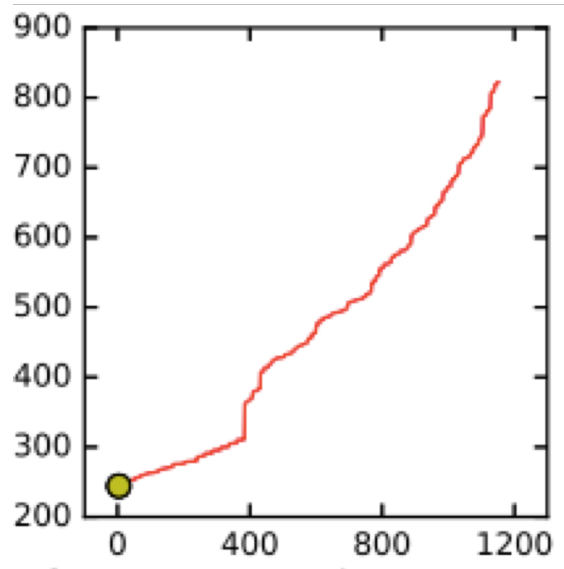
Single 'best' solution



Multi-Objective Problems

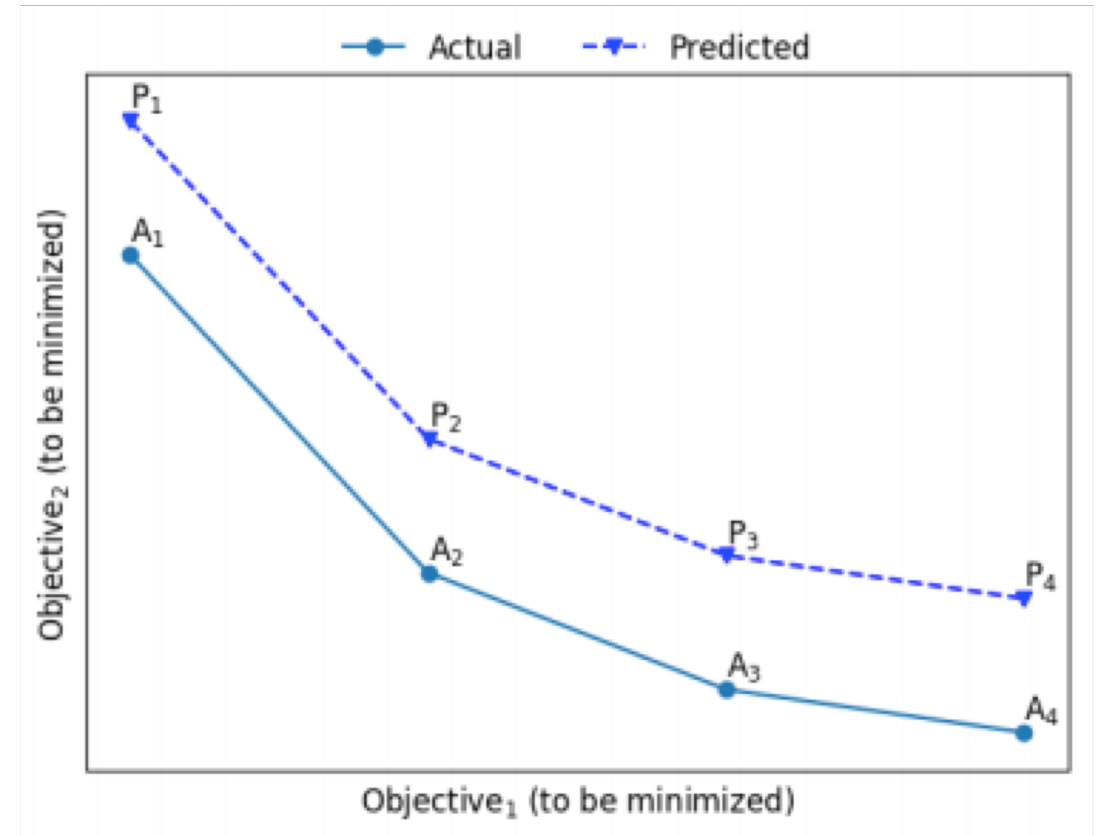
- No single 'best' solution
- Number of 'best' solutions

What is a MO Problem?



Single Objective Problems

Single 'best' solution

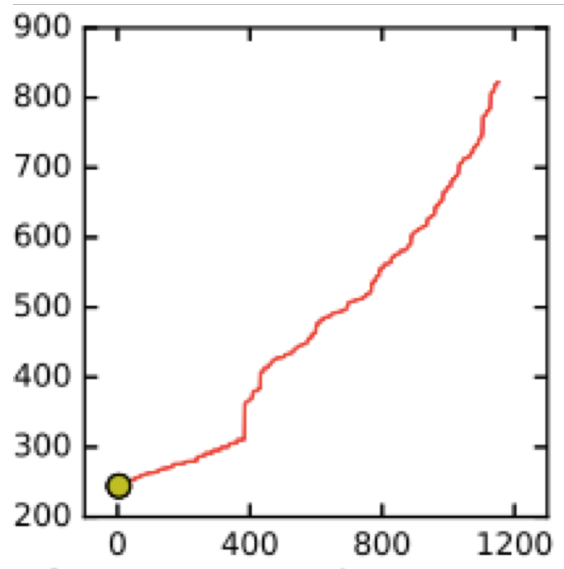


Multi-Objective Problems

- No single 'best' solution
- Number of 'best' solutions

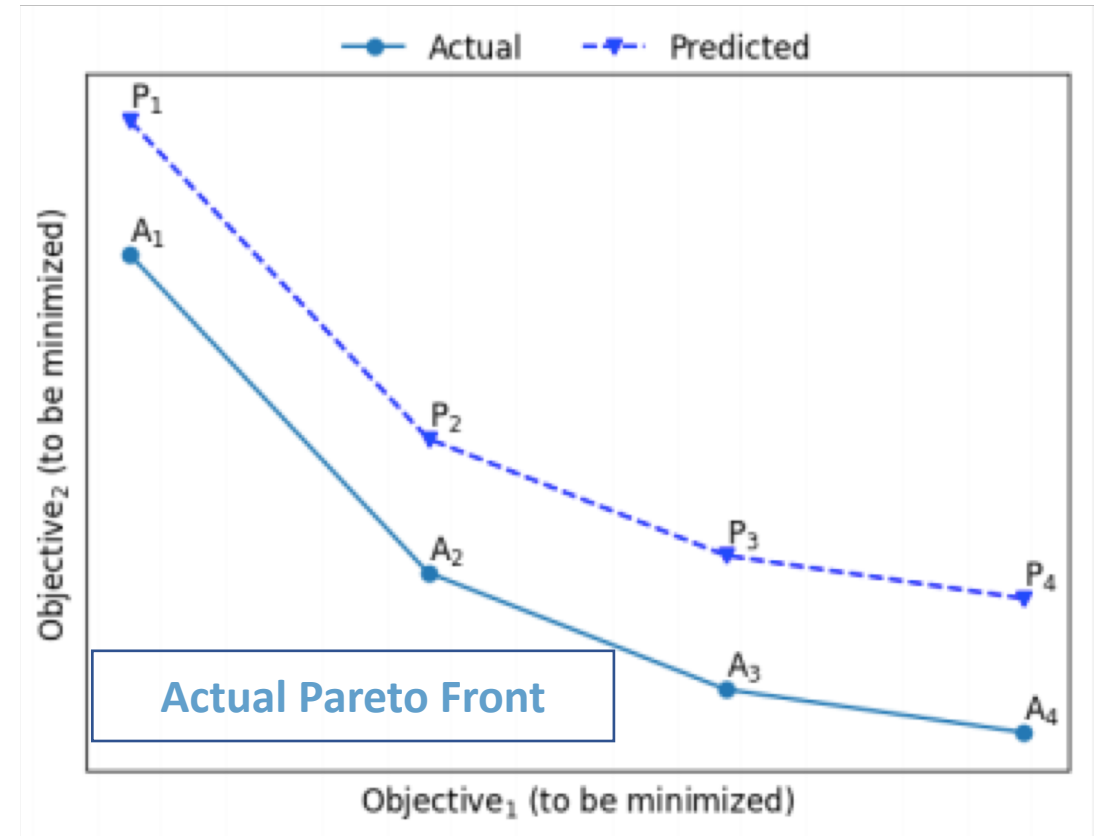
Pareto Front

What is a MO Problem?



Single Objective Problems

Single 'best' solution

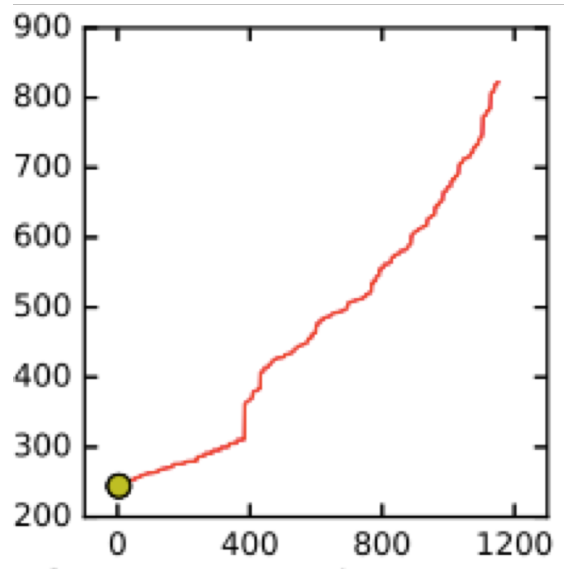


Multi-Objective Problems

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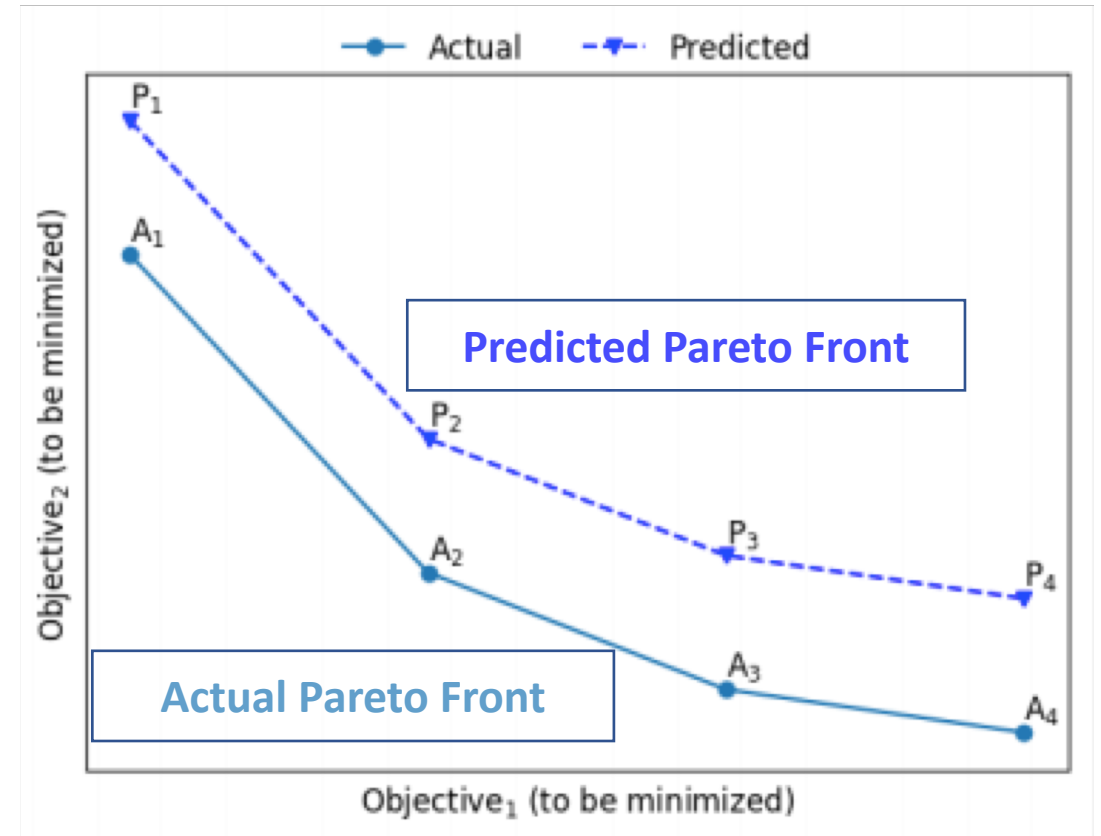
Pareto Front

What is a MO Problem?



Single Objective Problems

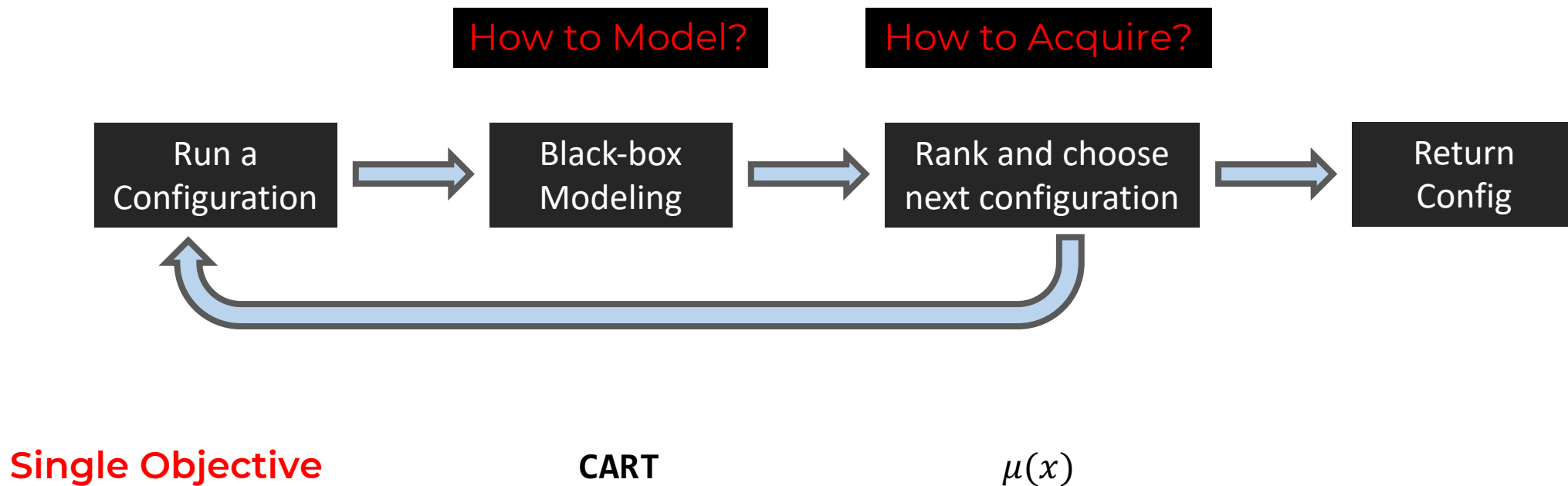
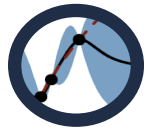
Single 'best' solution

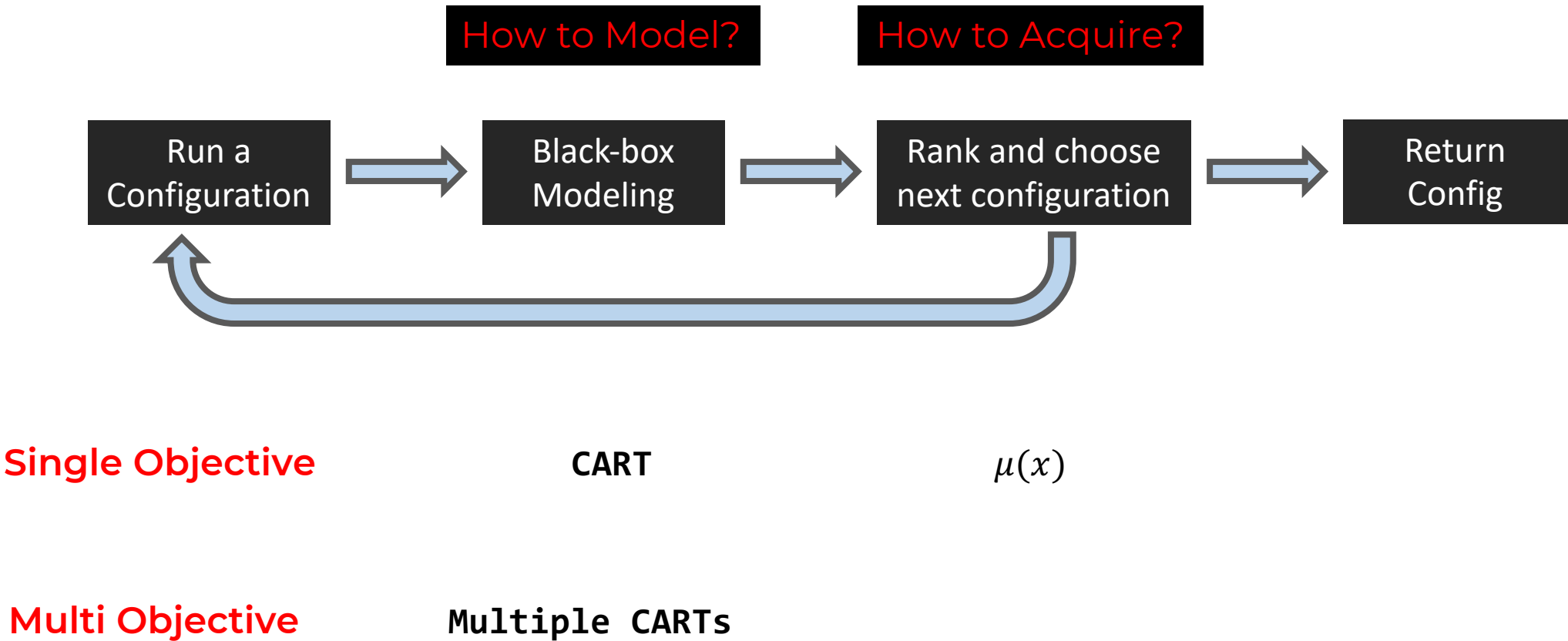


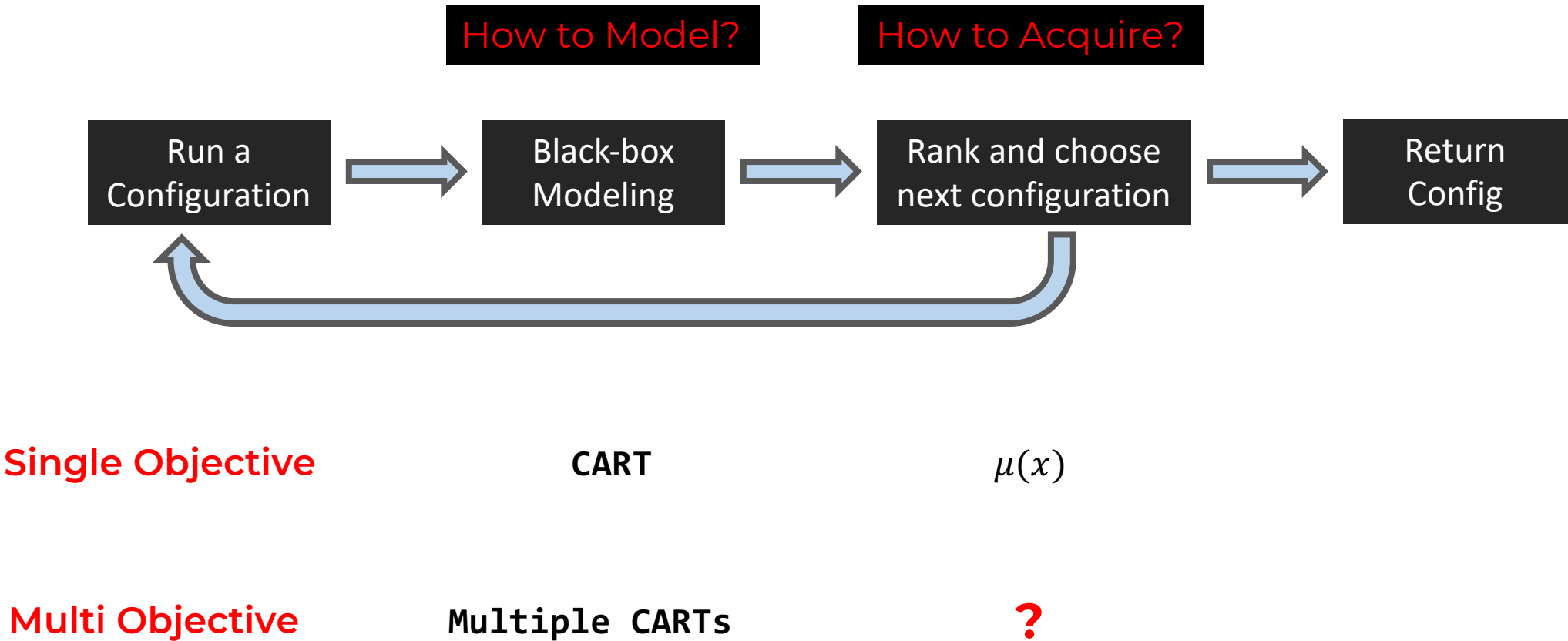
Multi-Objective Problems

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- Number of 'best' solutions

Pareto Front









Flash-X (SMBO)

How to acquire new configurations? Multi-objective

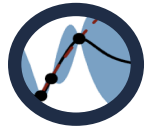
- Need for a fitness assignment scheme to quantify relative fitness value.



Flash-X (SMBO) How to acquire new configurations? Multi-objective

- Need for a fitness assignment scheme to quantify relative fitness value.
- Decomposition based scheme: Divide a problem into sub-problems.^[1]

[1] Zhang, Qingfu, and Hui Li. "MOEA/D: A multiobjective evolutionary algorithm based on decomposition." IEEE Transactions on evolutionary computation 11.6 (2007): 712-731.



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Weight Vector

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)^T$$

$$\lambda_i \geq 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i = 1$$

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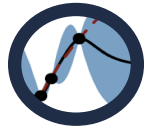
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$$\text{maximize } g^{ws}(x|\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x)$$

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weight vector

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$$\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i = 1$$

Bazza

$$\text{maximize } g^{ws}(x|\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x)$$

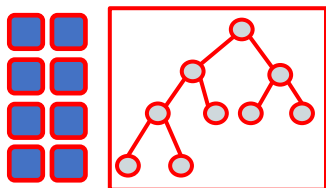
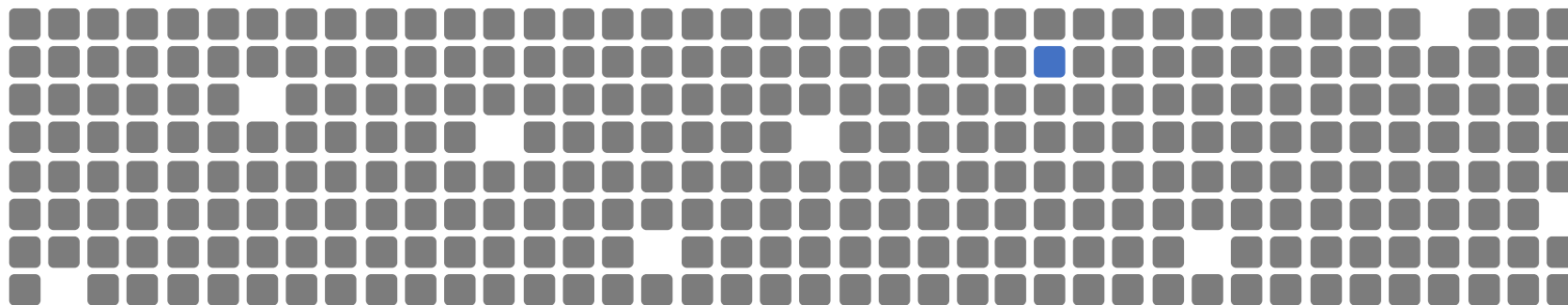
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Flash-X (SMBO)

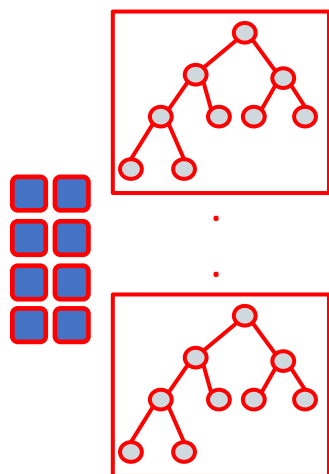
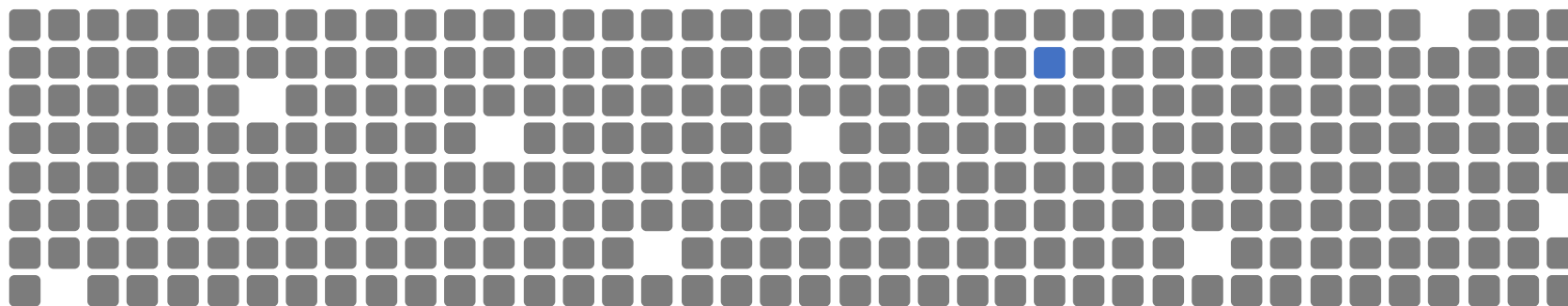
Configuration Space



CARTs



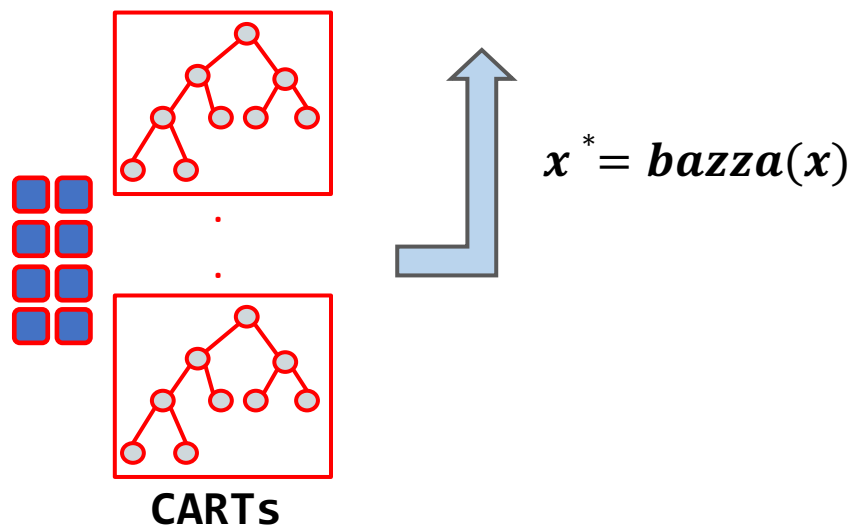
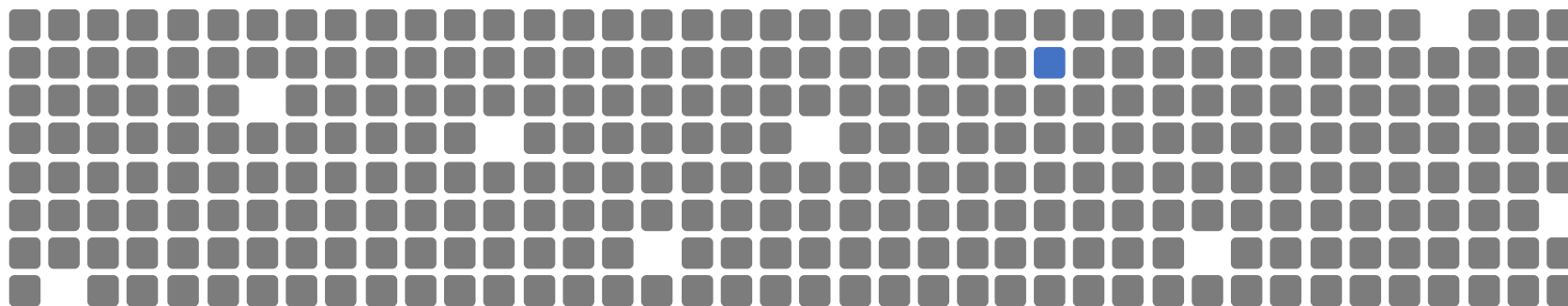
Configuration Space

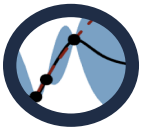


CARTs

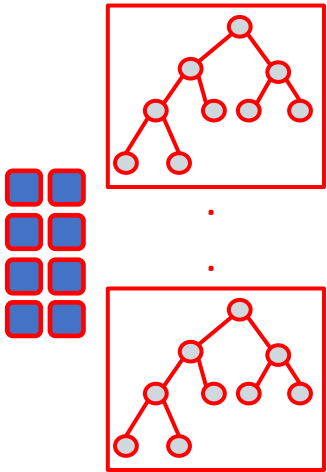
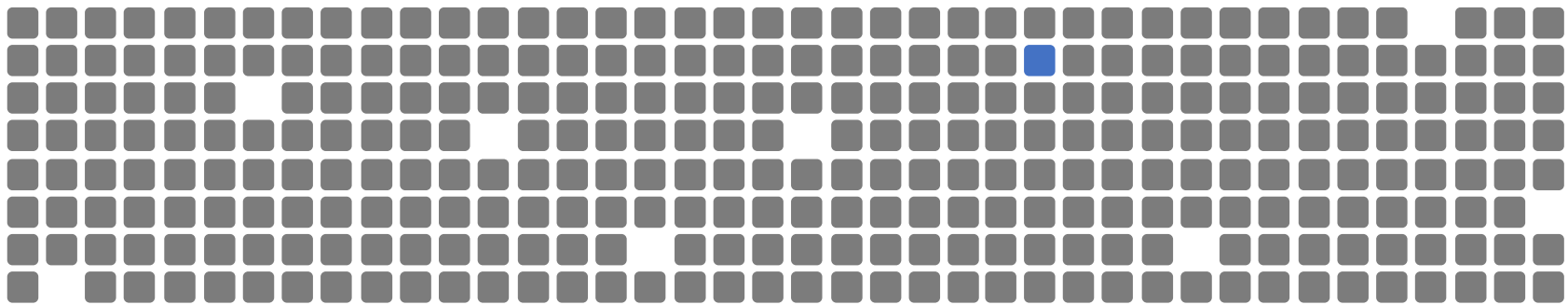


Configuration Space

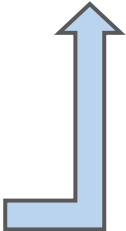




Configuration Space



CARTs

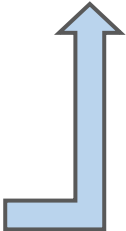
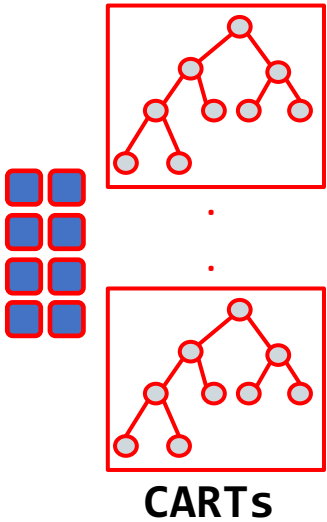
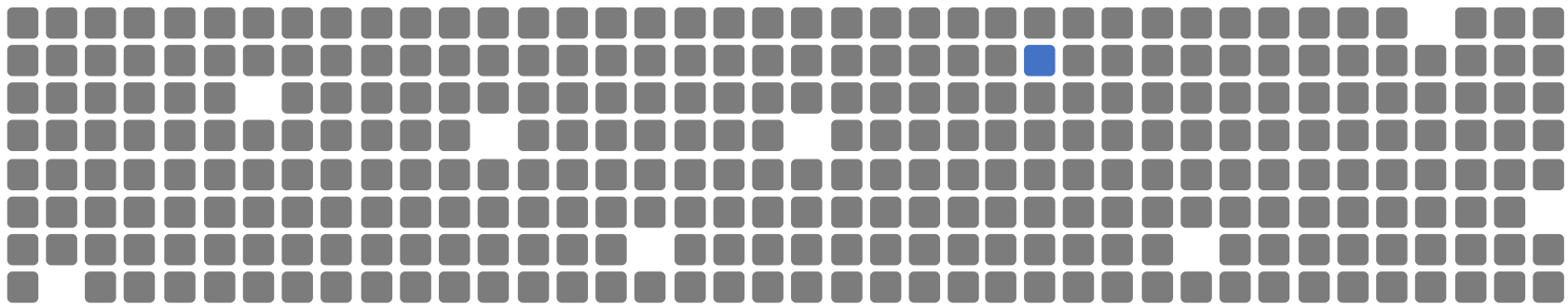


$$x^* = \text{bazza}(x)$$

- 1 Generate N unit vectors (V) of length M



Configuration Space

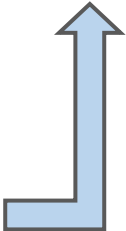
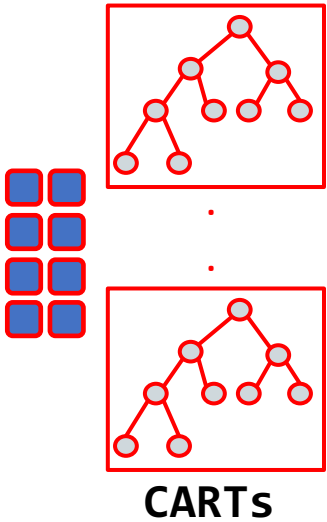
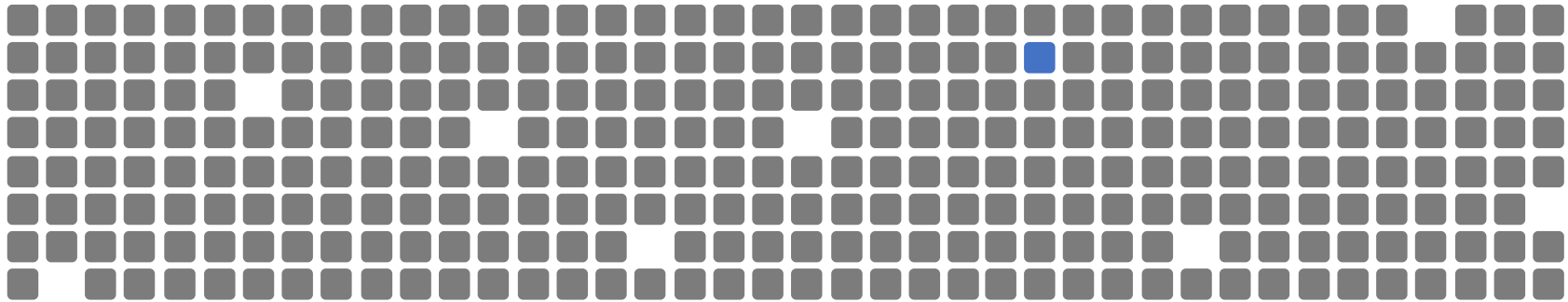


$$x^* = \textit{bazza}(x)$$

- 1 Generate **N** unit vectors (V) of length M
User Defined



Configuration Space

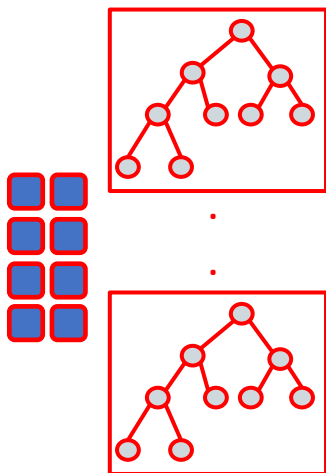
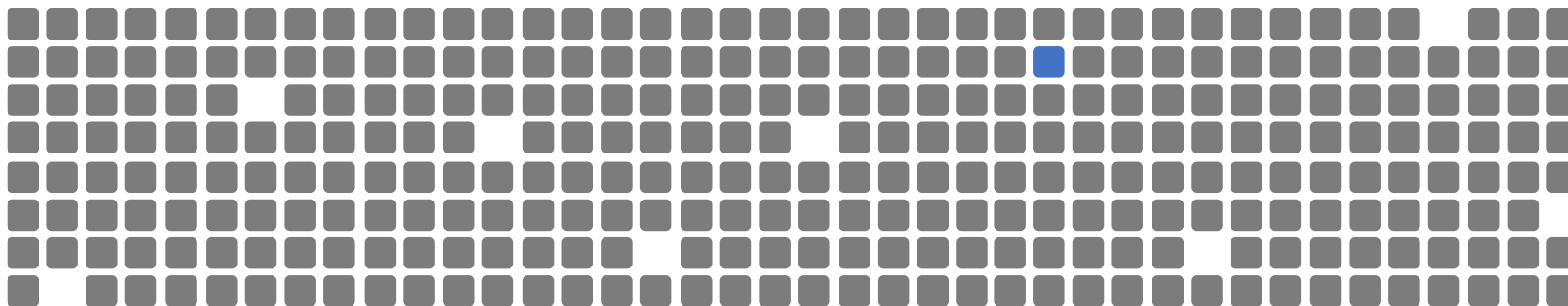


$$x^* = \text{bazza}(x)$$

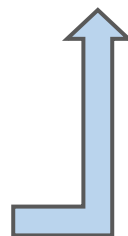
- 1 Generate N unit vectors (V) of length M
Objectives



Configuration Space



CARTs

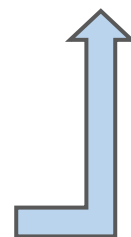
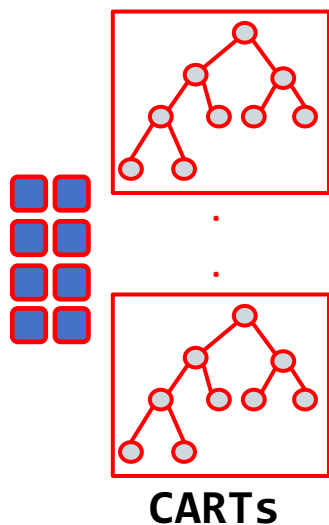
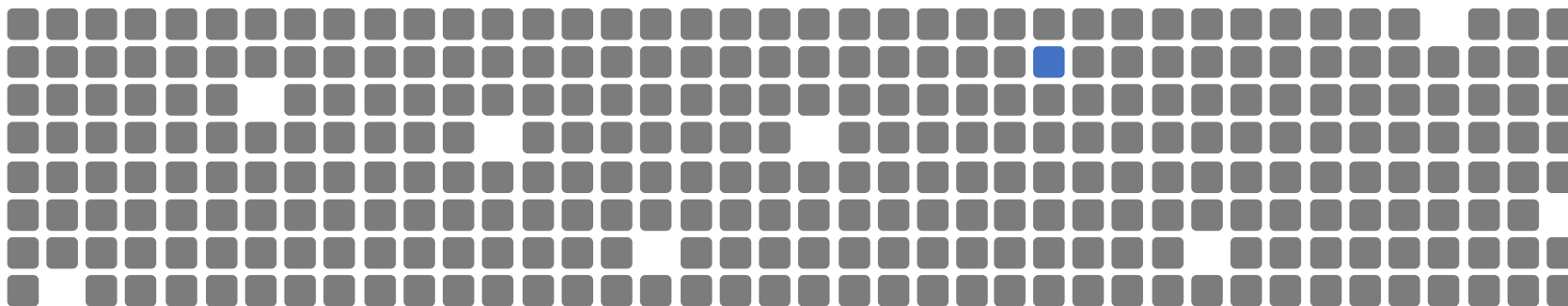


$$x^* = \text{bazza}(x)$$

- 1 Generate N unit vectors (V) of length M
- 2 Compute bazza for all configurations



Configuration Space



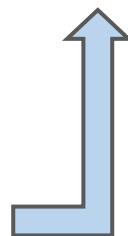
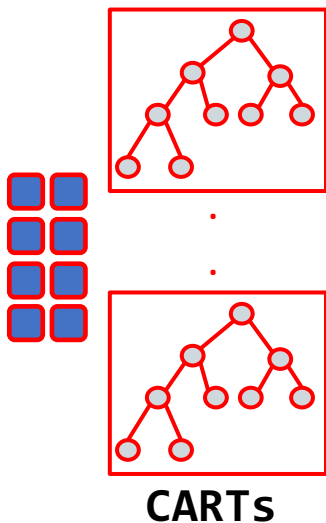
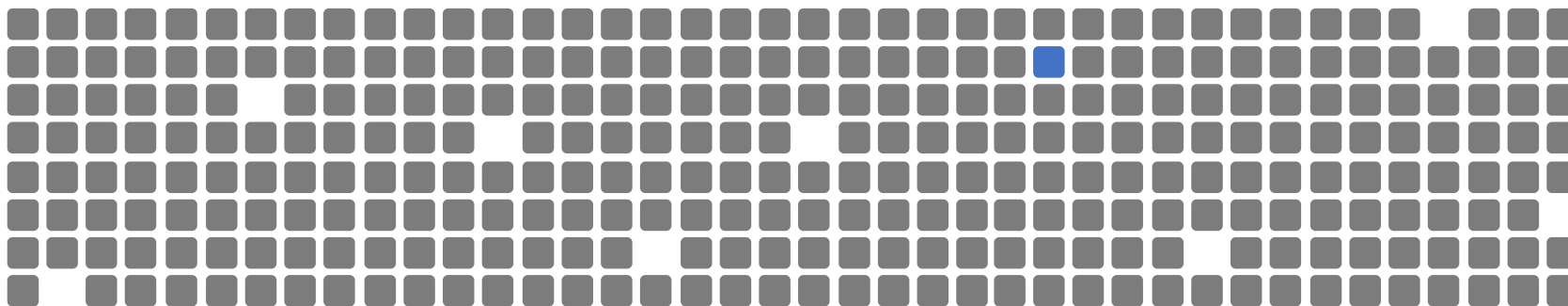
$$x^* = \text{bazza}(x)$$

- 1 Generate N unit vectors (V) of length M
- 2 Compute bazza for all configurations

$$\text{bazza}_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n \sum_j^m (V_{n,j} \cdot f_j(x_i))$$



Configuration Space

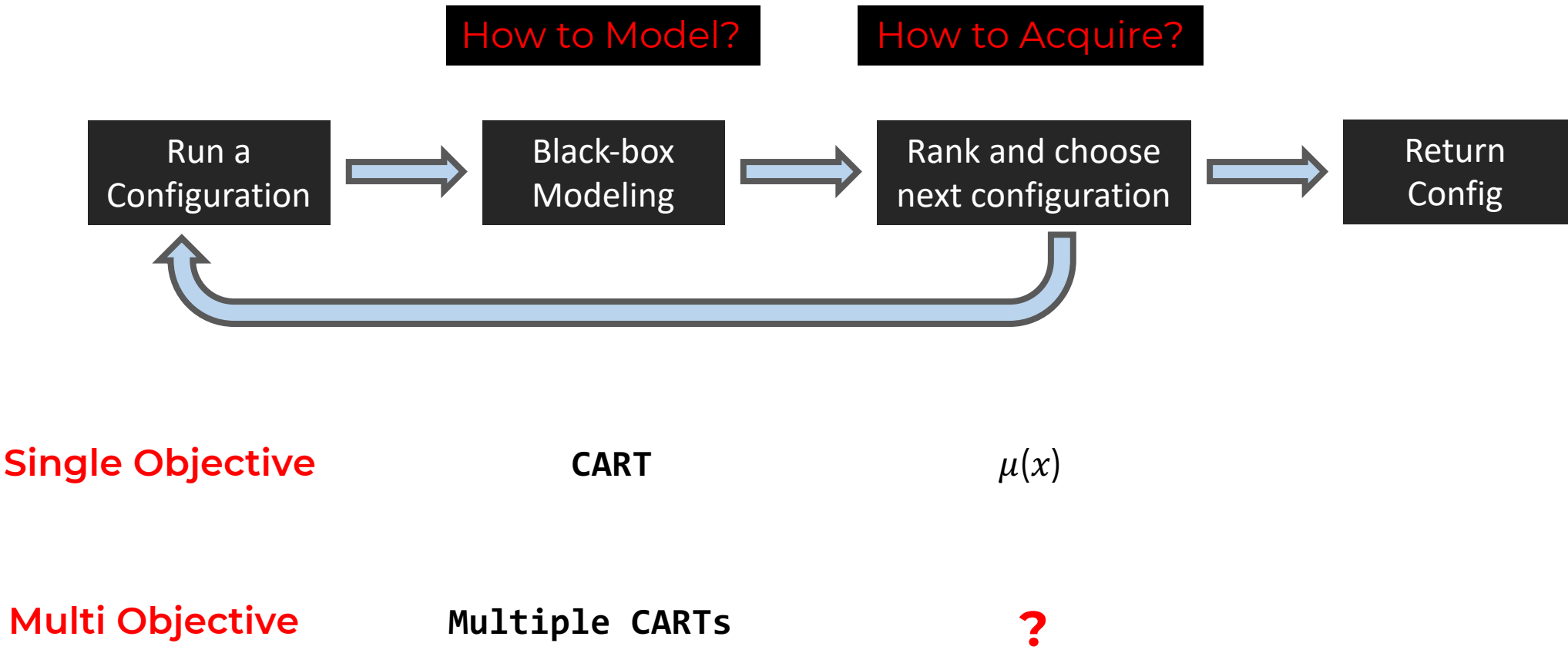


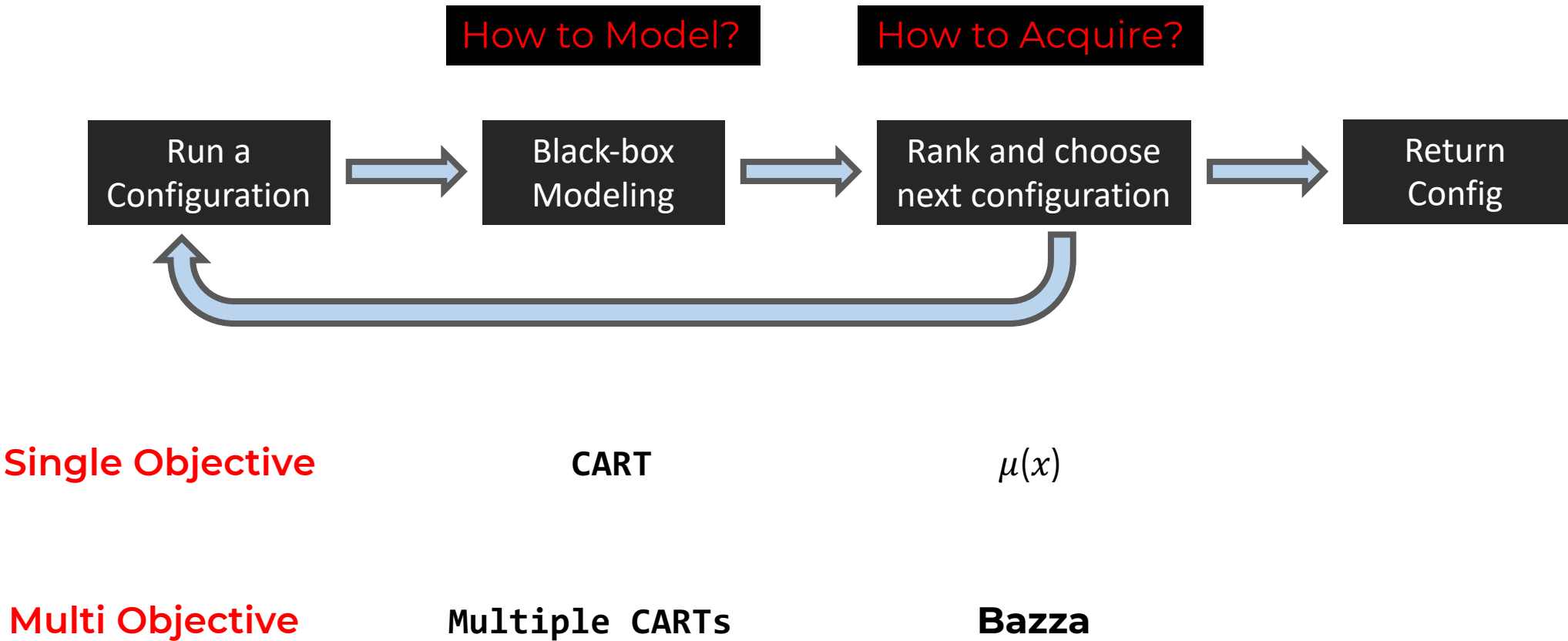
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- 1 Generate N unit vectors (V) of length M
- 2 Compute bazza for all configurations

$$\text{bazza}_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n \sum_j^m (V_{n,j} \cdot f_j(x_i))$$

- 3 Return $\text{argmax}(\text{bazza}_i)$







ePAL^[1]

Reflects on the evaluated configurations to decide the next best configuration to measure using Maximum Variance (predictive uncertainty) as an acquisition function.

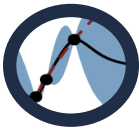


ePAL^[1]

Reflects on the evaluated configurations to decide the next best configuration to measure using Maximum Variance (predictive uncertainty) as an acquisition function.

We use two versions of ePAL:

- ePAL with $\epsilon = 0.01$ (ePAL_0.01)
- ePAL with $\epsilon = 0.3$ (ePAL_0.3)

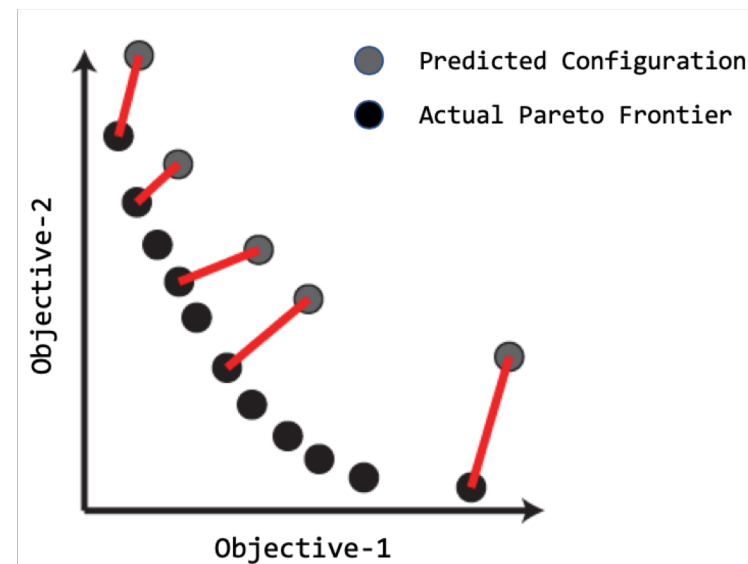




Generational Distance (GD)

Measures the closeness of the solutions from by the optimizers to the Pareto frontier that is, the actual set of non-dominated solutions.

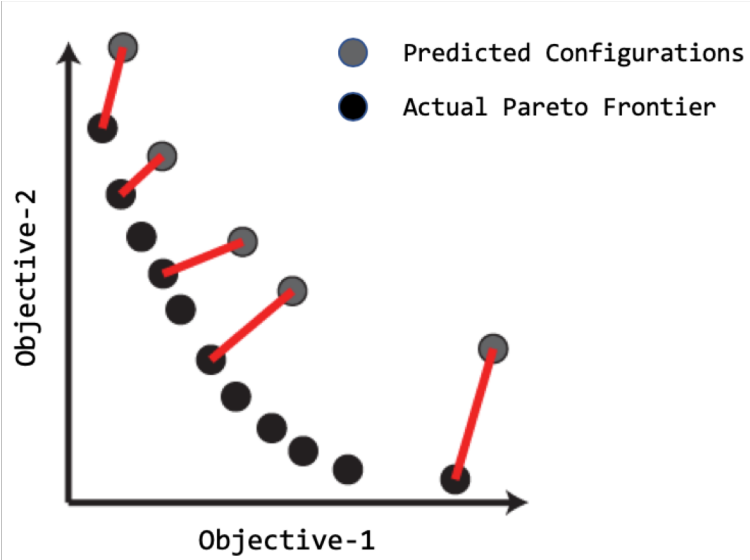
Evaluation Metrics





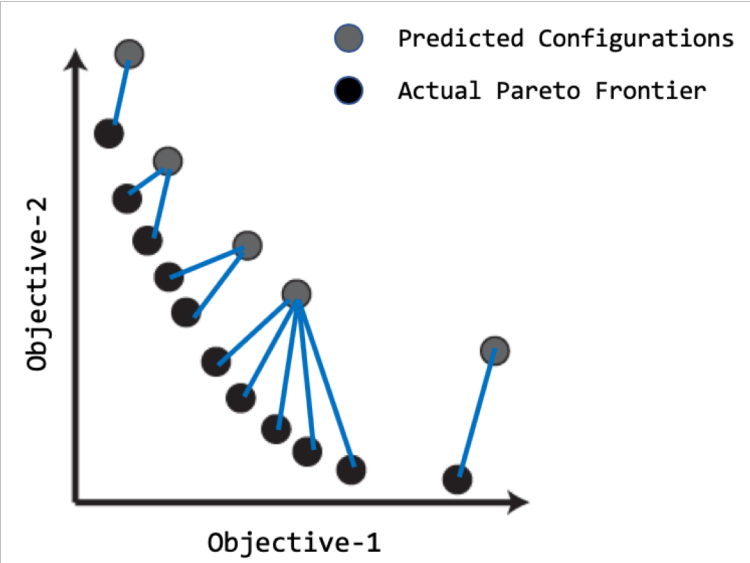
Generational
Distance
(GD)

Measures the closeness of the solutions from by the optimizers to the Pareto frontier that is, the actual set of non-dominated solutions.



Inverted
Generational
Distance
(IGD)

Mean distance from points on the true Pareto-optimal solutions to its nearest point in solutions returned by the optimizer.





- RQ3** How effective is FLASH-X for MO performance optimization?
- RQ4** Can FLASH-X reduce the effort of MO performance optimization?
- RQ5** Does FLASH-X save time for MO performance optimization?



Quality

RQ3 How effective is FLASH-X for MO performance optimization?

Cost

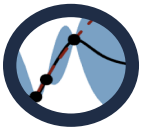
RQ4 Can FLASH-X reduce the effort of MO performance optimization?

RQ5 Does FLASH-X save time for MO performance optimization?



Flash-X (SMBO)

RQ3: How effective is FLASH-X for MO performance optimization?



Software	GD			IGD		
	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH-X	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH-X
SS-A	0.002	0.002	0	0.002	0.002	0
SS-B	0	0	0.005	0	0.003	0.001
SS-C	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.004	0.004	0
SS-D	0	0.004	0.014	0.002	0.007	0.009
SS-E	0.001	0.001	0.012	0.004	0.008	0.002
SS-F	0	0.016	0.008	0	0.006	0.016
SS-G	0	0	0.023	0.003	0.006	0.004
SS-H	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS-I	0.008	0.018	0	0.008	0.018	0
SS-J	0	0	0.002	0.002	0.002	0
SS-K	0.001	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.001
SS-L	0.01	0.028	0.006	0.007	0.008	0.009
SS-M	X	X	0	X	X	0
SS-N	X	X	0.065	X	X	0.015
SS-O	X	X	3.01E-07	X	X	3.20E-06
Win (%)	73	67	93	67	33	67



Software	GD			IGD		
	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH-X	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH-X
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RQ3: How effective is FLASH for MO performance optimization?

RQ3: How effective is FLASH-X for MO performance optimization?

FLASH-X is very effective for MO performance configuration optimization.

Software	GD			IGD		
	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH
SS-A	0.002	0.002	0	0.002	0.002	0
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RQ4: Can FLASH-X reduce the effort of MO performance optimization?



RQ4: Can FLASH-X reduce the effort of MO performance optimization?

Software	Evals		
	epal_0.01	epal_0.3	FLASH-X
SS-A	109.5	73.5	50
SS-B	84.5	20	50
SS-C	247	101	50
SS-D	119.5	67	50
SS-E	208	54.5	50
SS-F	138	71	50
SS-G	131	69	50
SS-H	52	28	50
SS-I	48	30	50
SS-J	186	30	50
SS-K	209	140	50
SS-L	68.5	35	50
SS-M	X	X	50
SS-N	X	X	50
SS-O	X	X	50
Win (%)	0	33	80



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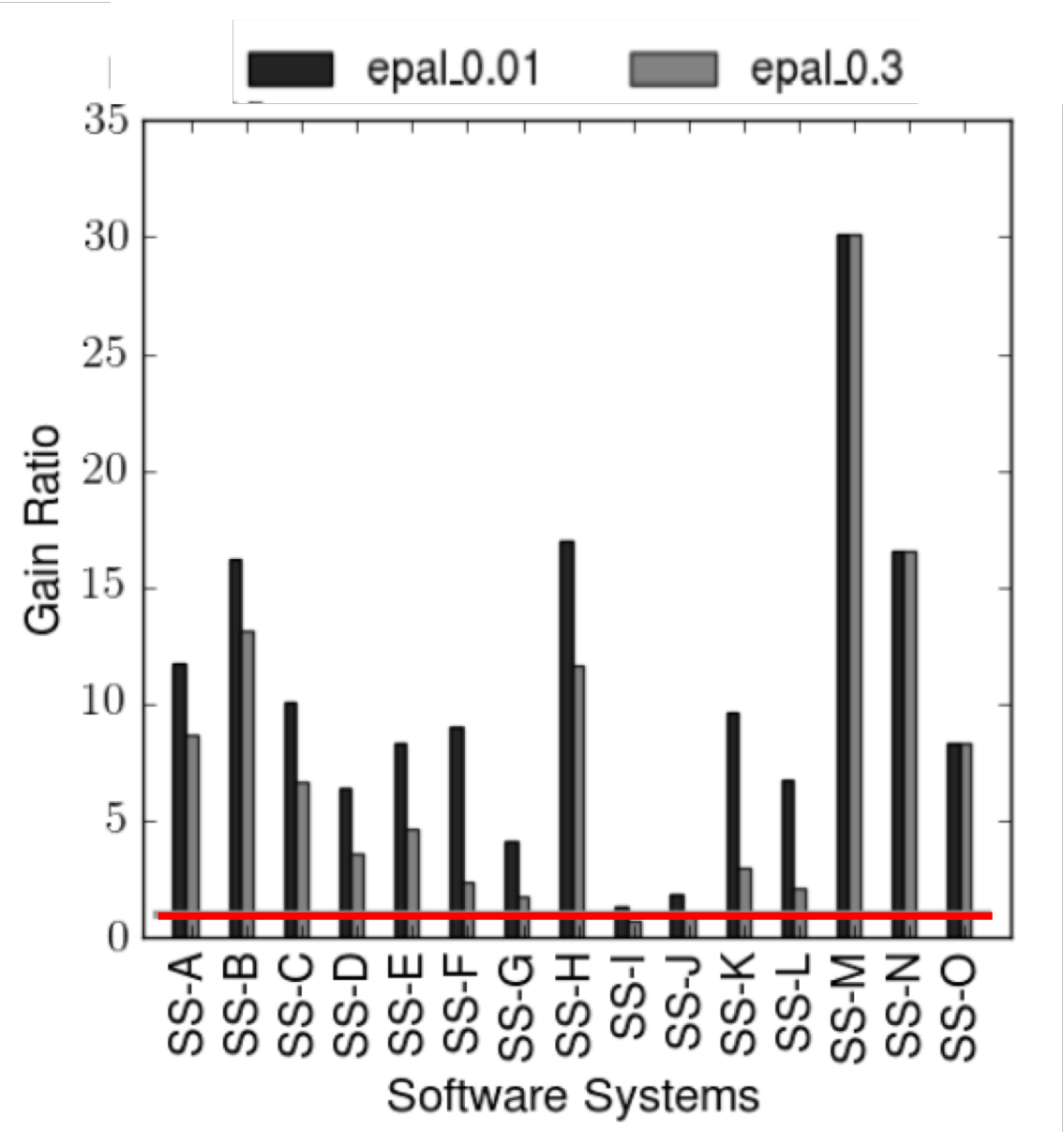
RQ4:Can FLASH-X reduce the effort of MO performance optimization?

FLASH-X requires fewer measurements than ePAL.



Flash-X (SMBO)

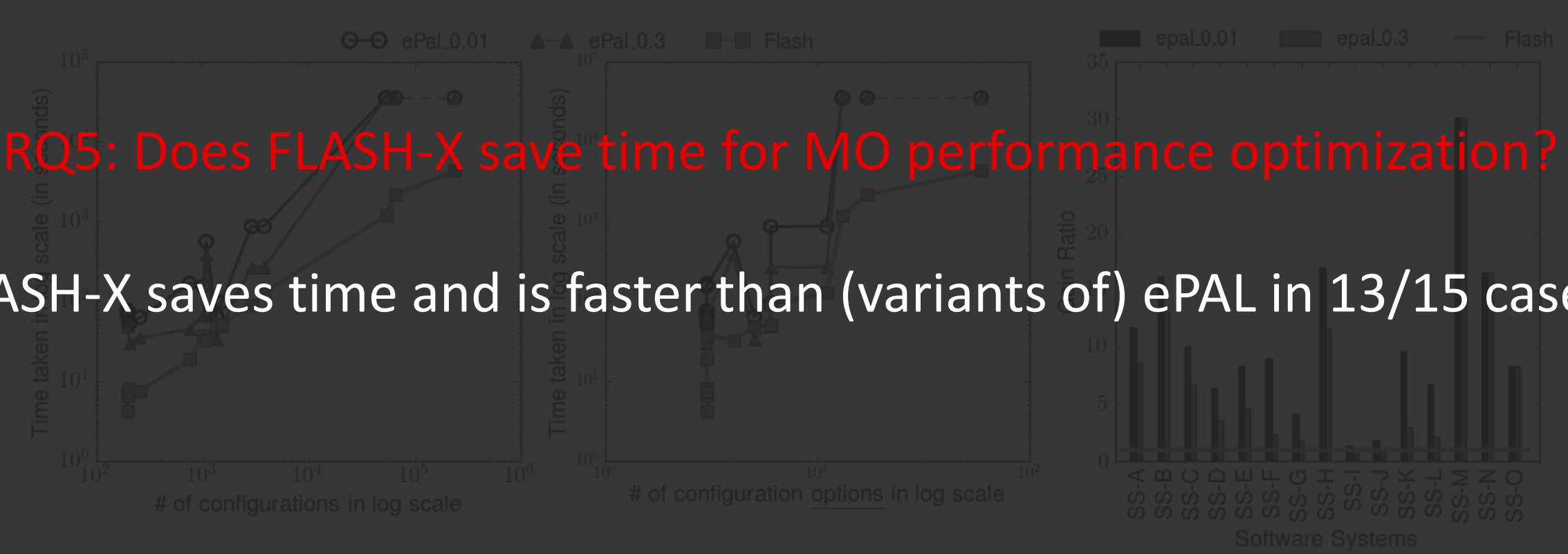
RQ5: Does FLASH-X save time for MO performance optimization?



RQ5: Does FLASH save time for MO performance optimization?

RQ5: Does FLASH-X save time for MO performance optimization?

FLASH-X saves time and is faster than (variants of) ePAL in 13/15 cases.





Use the model to sample

Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.

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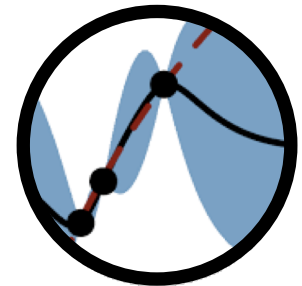
Clustering



Ranking



SMBO



Effective performance optimization of configurable software systems only requires **approximate, cheap** and **easy to build** models.



Clustering

- First **Cluster and then Sample** to avoid redundant samples
- Did not perform well in External Validation Studies

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Unsupervised clustering does not work in all cases

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Ranking

- The **Ranking** is a useful paradigm
 - Ranking is extremely robust to errors or outliers
 - reduces the number of training samples to train models
- Requires use of holdout set

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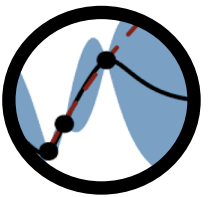


Ranking



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- “**Given what one knows about the problem, what can be done next?**” is a powerful idea



SMBO

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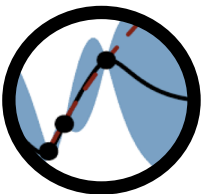


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Use model to sample

Future Work

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?

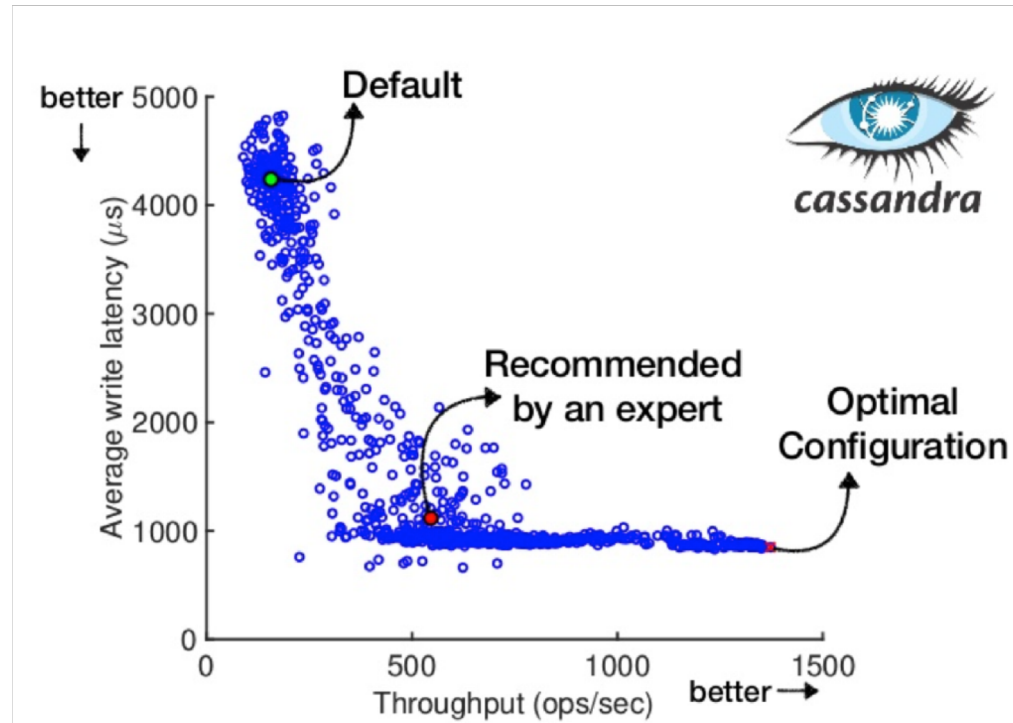
Human in the loop

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?

Future Work

Human in the loop

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?



Human in the loop

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?

Can we learn from our experience to increase the rate of convergence or decrease the cost?

Human in the loop

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?

Can we learn from our experience to increase the rate of convergence or decrease the cost?

FLASH has to be repeated if ever the **software** is updated on the **workload** of the system changes abruptly or **environment** changes.

Future Work

Human in the loop

Can expert knowledge be used to increase the rate of convergence?

Transfer Learning

Can we learn from our experience to increase the rate of convergence or decrease the cost?

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External Validity

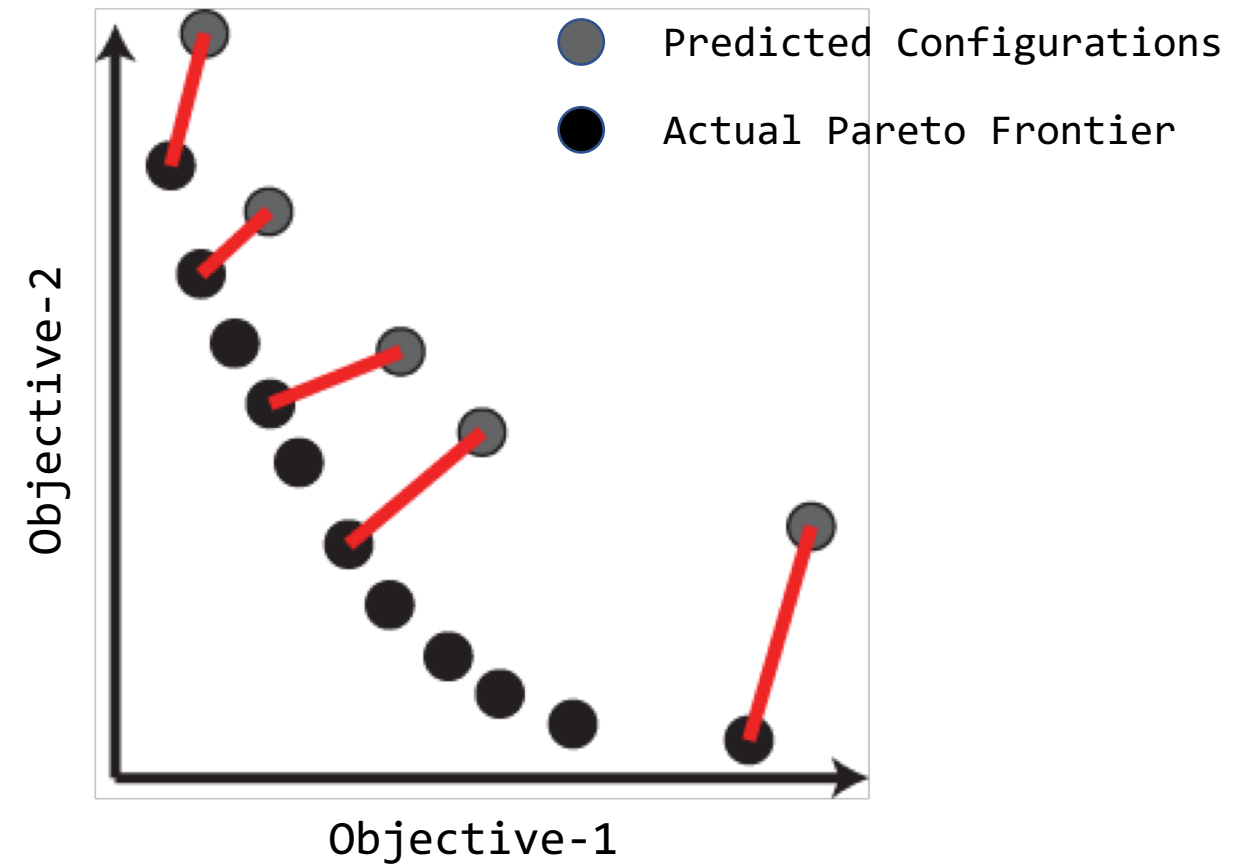
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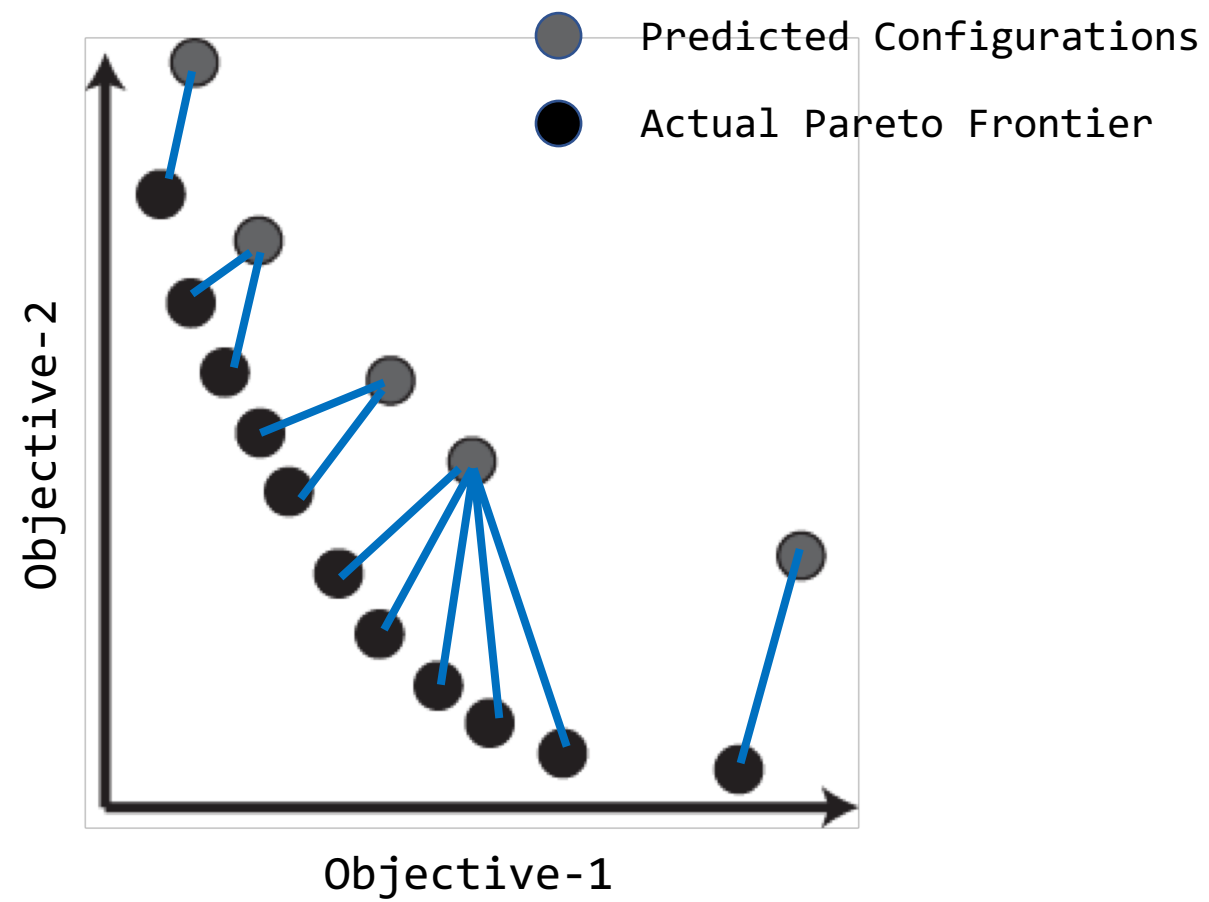
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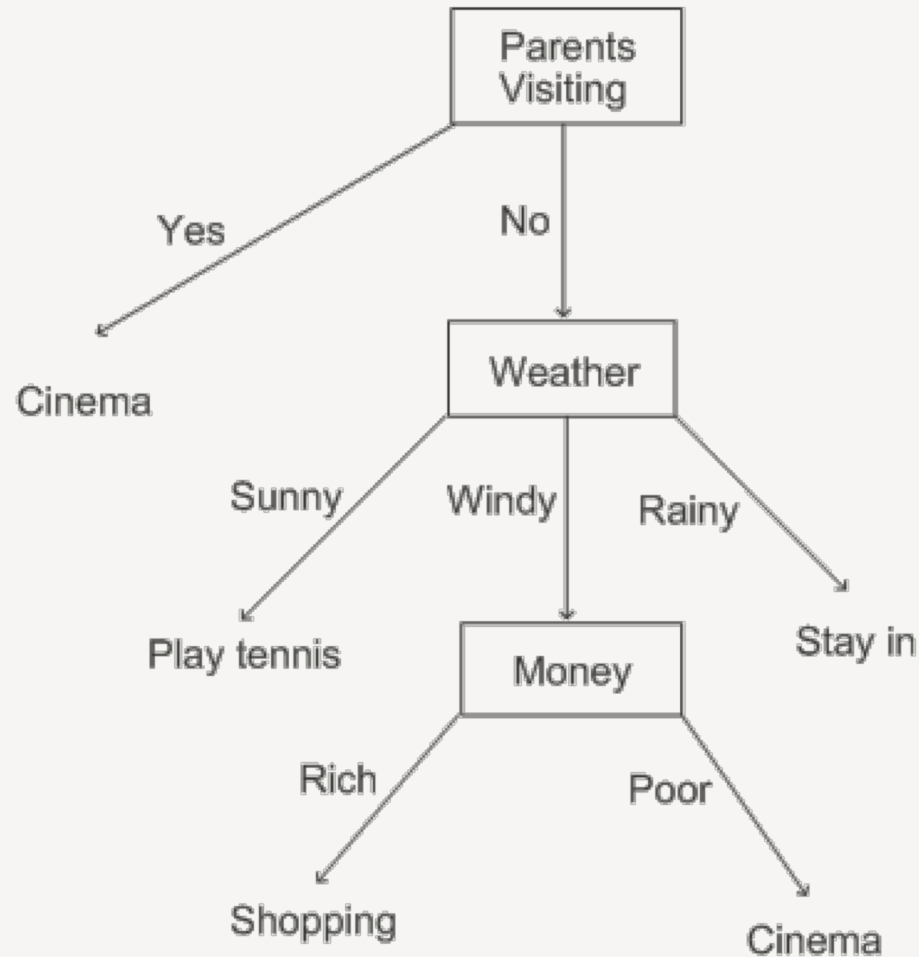
Thank you

“There’s no sense in being precise when you don’t even know what you’re talking about.”
–John von Neumann





Decision Tree



- It worked!
- Prior work* used CART
- Scalable
- More comprehensible

S SOFTWARE	R REGR. MODEL	A ACQ. FUNCTION
S SPEARMINT	G GAUSSIAN PROCESS	E EXP. IMPROV
M MOE	G GAUSSIAN PROCESS	E EXP. IMPROV
H HYPEROPT	T TREE PARZEN EST.	E EXP. IMPROV
S SMAC	R RANDOM FOREST	E EXP. IMPROV