



Swiss TPH



Using Bayesian Optimization
to calibrate individual-based models:

Application to OpenMalaria

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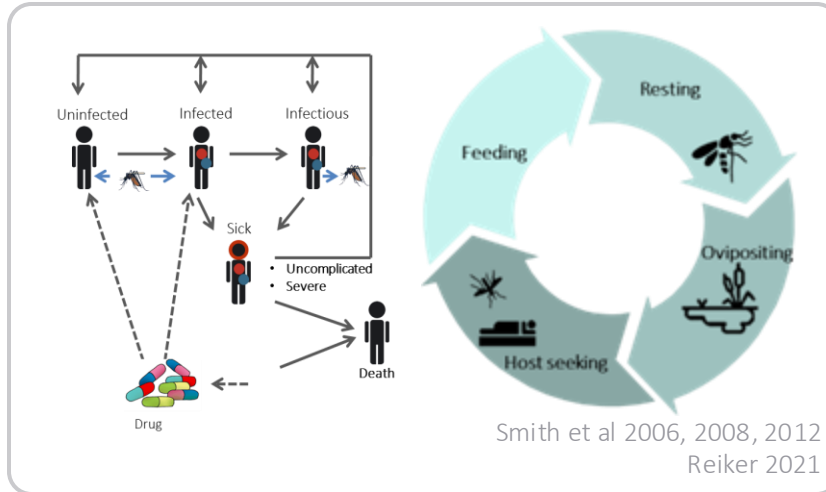
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OpenMalaria

An open-source individual-based stochastic model of malaria epidemiology and control.



github.com/SwissTPH/openmalaria



Parasite densities
Infectiousness
Number of infections
Immunity
Drug level



Infectiousness
Mosquito density
Feeding cycle
Parasite development
seasonality



Health System
Drugs & quality
Adherence
Compliance



Drugs
Vector Control (IRS, ITNs)
Vaccines
Mass treatment
Reactive strategies

Model parameters

labels	R0000
1 - $-\ln(1 - S_\infty)$	0.0507
2 - E^*	0.0325
3 - S_{imm}	0.1382
4 - X_p^*	1514.3859
5 - Y_p	2.0369
6 - σ_f^*	10.1736
7 - X_y^*	35158523.3113
8 - X_h^*	97.3347
9 - $-\ln(1 - \alpha_m)$	2.3303
10 - a_m	2.5311
11 - σ_0^*	0.6557
12 - X_s^*	0.9162
13 - Y_2^*	6502.2634
14 - α	142601.9125
15 - <i>DensityBias(nonGarki)</i>	0.1774
16 - σ_γ	0.05
17 - $\log(\phi_1)$	0.7362
18 - Q_D	0.0188
19 - Q_n	49.539
20 - <i>DensityBias(Garki)</i>	4.7961
21 - $Y_{B_1}^*$	784455.6
22 - Immune penalty	1.0
23 - Immune effector decay	0.0
24 - F_0	0.0968
25 - $\frac{\log^2}{\omega}$	0.2754
26 - Y_1^*	0.5965
27 - <i>Asexualimmunitydecay</i>	0.0
28 - Y_0^*	296.3024
29 - <i>Idetmultiplier</i>	2.7975
30 - a_F^*	0.1174
31 - $Muller_1$	0.0
32 - $Muller_2$	0.0

Infection Incidence

Acquisition of Immunity

Parasite densities

Disease Model:

- Pathogenesis
- Clinical
- Severe
- Mortality

Between 20 and 25 model parameters need to be calibrated.

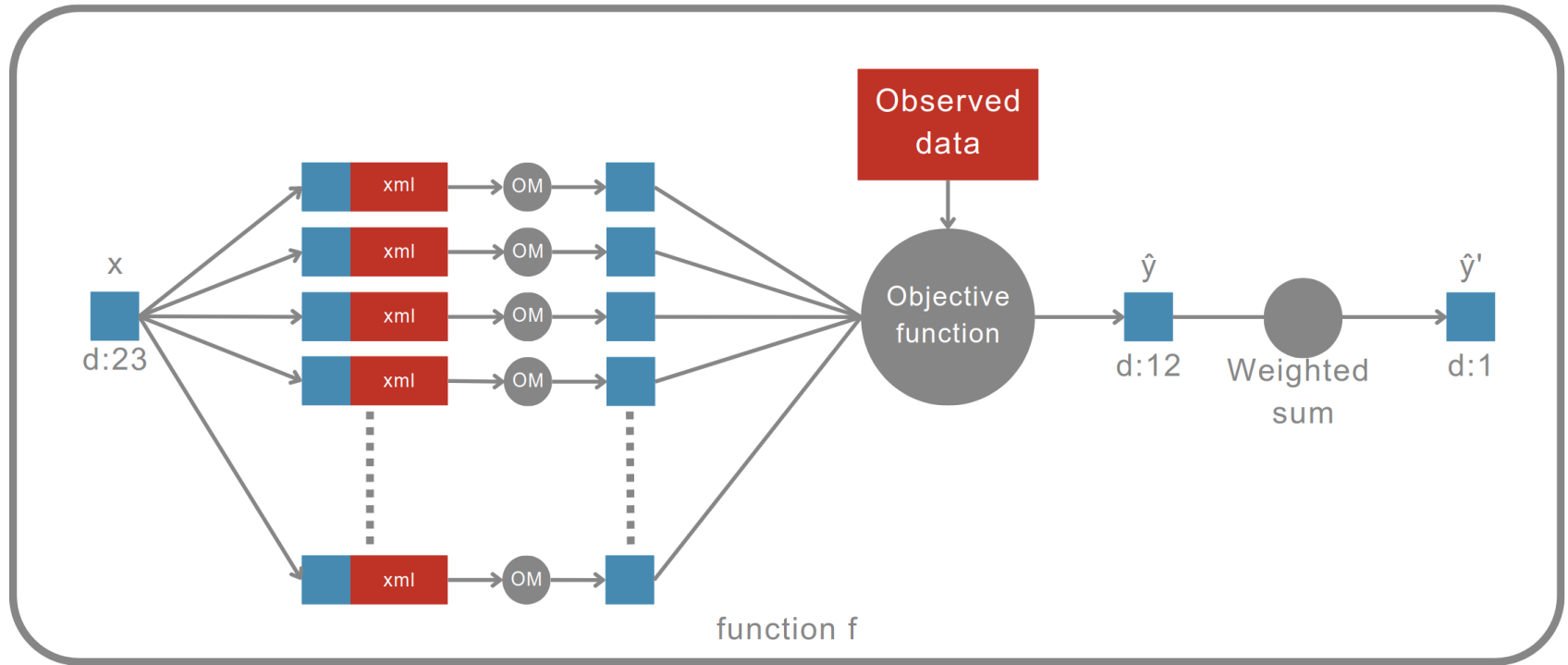
These parameters are not easily 'observable' in practice.

They need to be calibrated using observed data.

Why recalibrate?

- New data
- New model features
- Model variants

Loss function: 23 parameters -> 12 outputs



The curse of dimensionality

Ideally, we would like 10 samples per dimension.

1D: 10 samples

2D: 100 samples

3D: 1000 samples

...

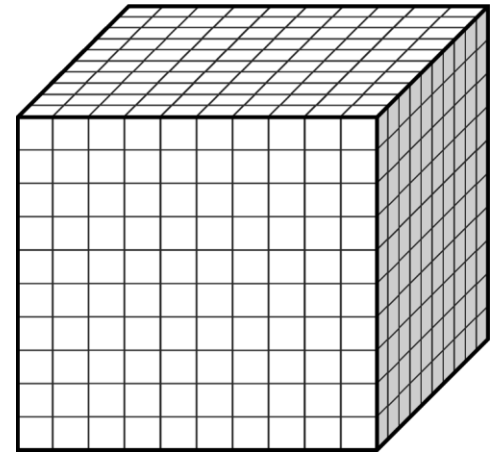
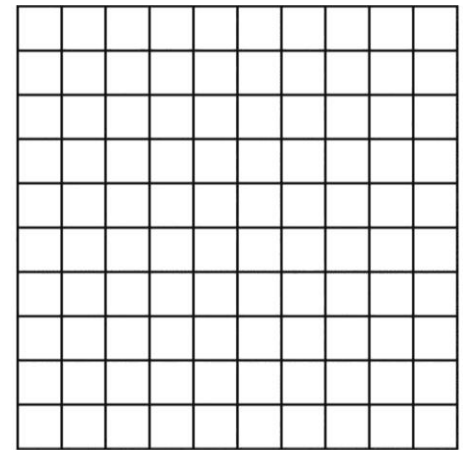
23D: 10^{23} samples (more than stars in the observable universe!)

Realistically, we can only do **10,000 samples maximum:**

0.000000000000000001% of 10^{23}

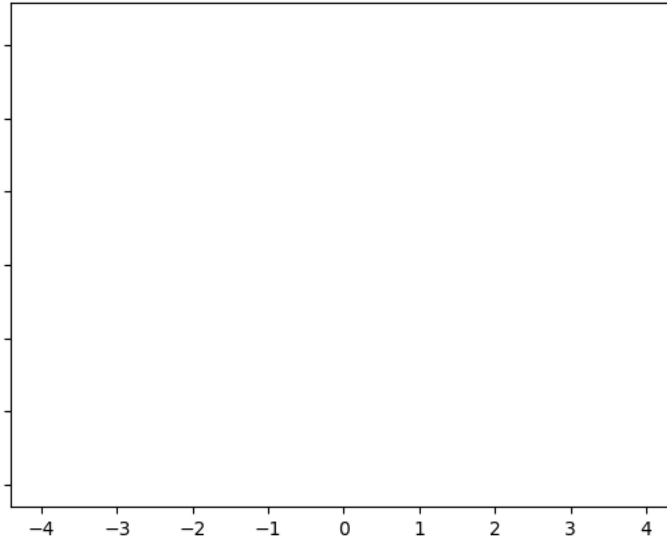
Bayesian optimization helps in minimizing the number of samples needed to converge.

However, exploration is still challenging.



Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example

Ackley 1D

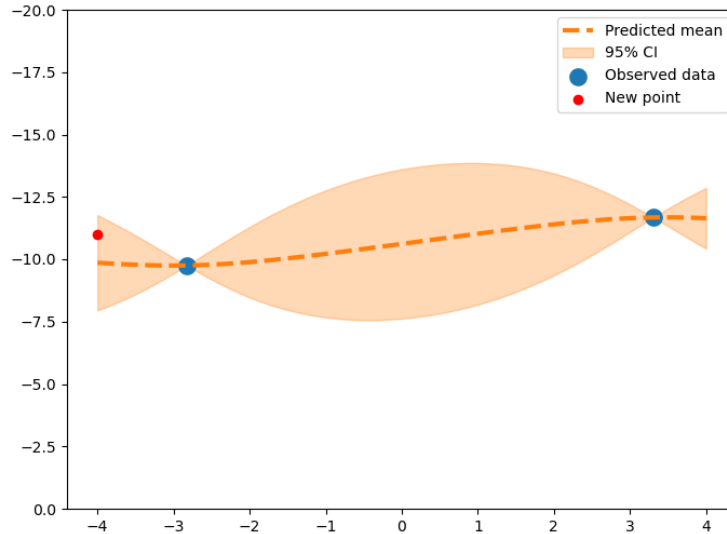


Simple 1D function.

Goal: minimize the function for x

Unfortunately, in real applications we do not know the shape of the function.

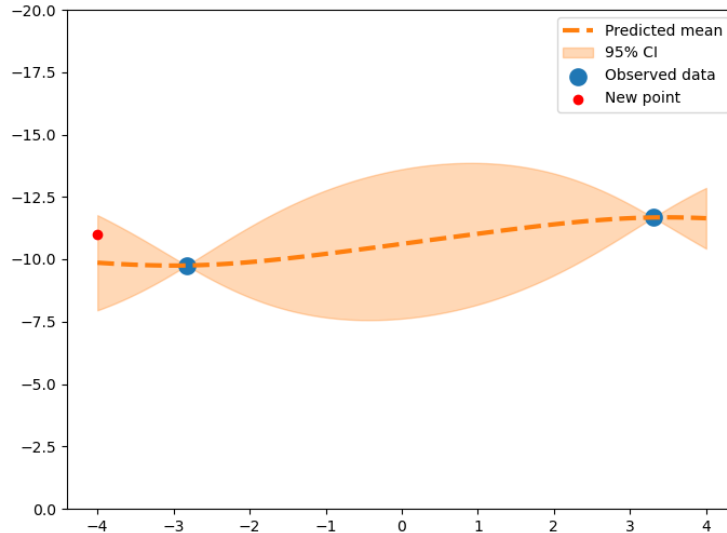
Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



1. Initial sampling

- OpenMalaria: 3000 initial samples

Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



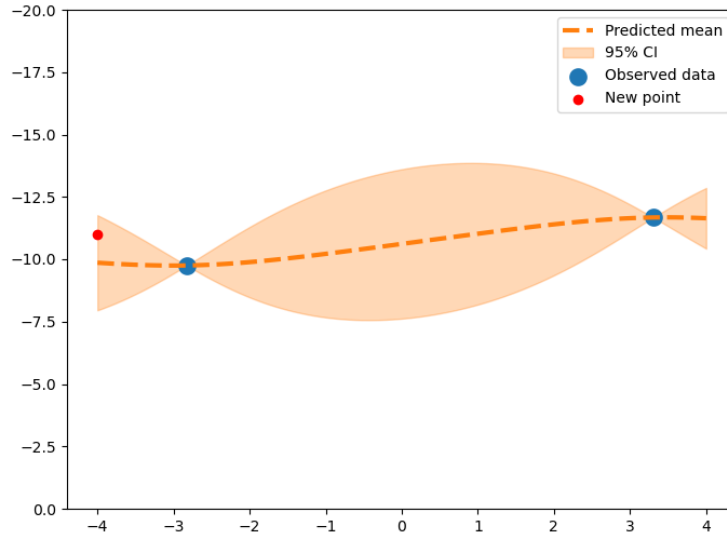
1. Initial sampling

- OpenMalaria: 3000

2. Fit surrogate model

- Single-task Gaussian process
- Multi-task Gaussian process

Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



1. Initial sampling

- OpenMalaria: 3000

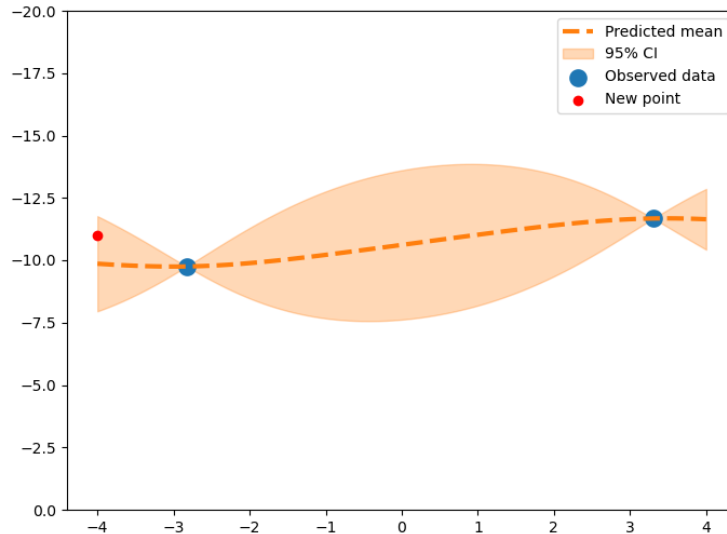
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3. Optimize acquisition function

- Exploration vs exploitation dilemma ("mutli-armed bandit problem")
- Optimize for mean vs uncertainty

Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



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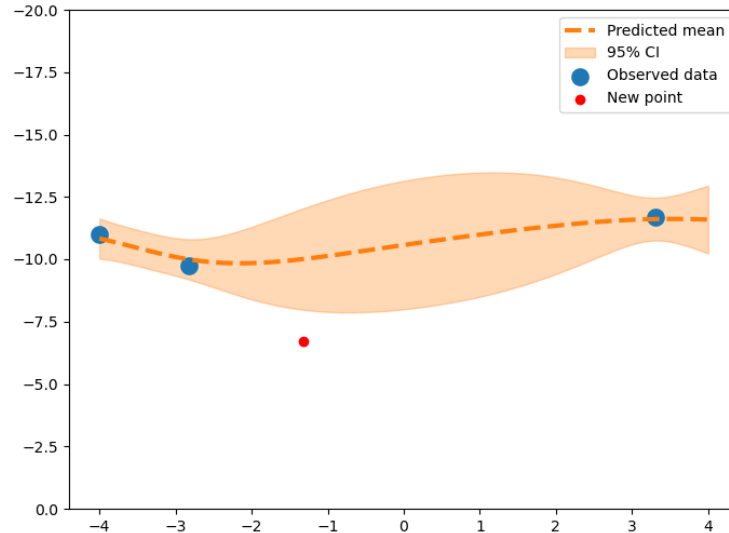
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Possible acquisition functions:

- *Expected improvement* (more exploration)
- *Upper confidence bound* (can be adjusted)
- *Thompson sampling* (more exploitation)
- ...

Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



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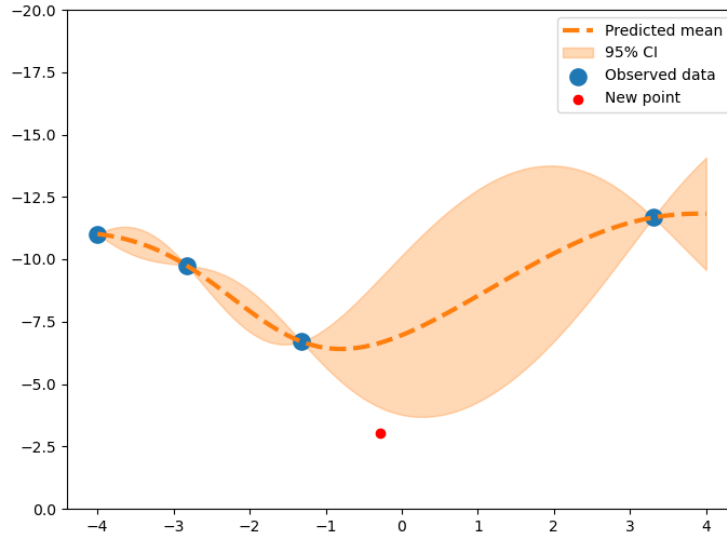
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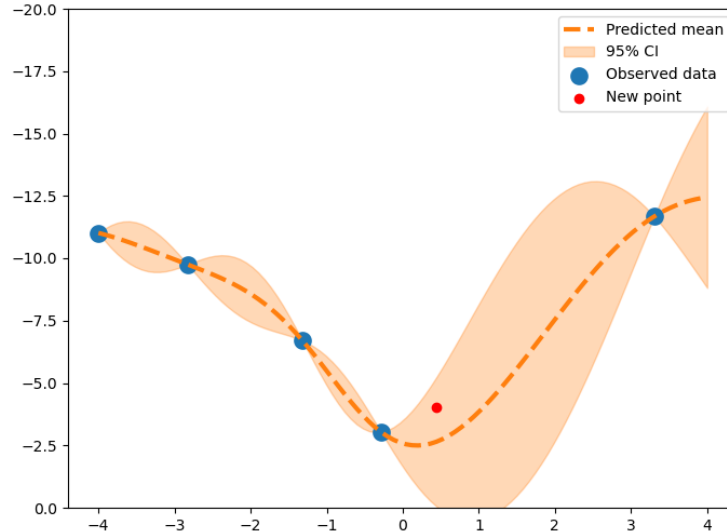
4. Add point to observed data

- OpenMalaria: batches of 64 points
- Up to 1h on A100 GPU to fit Multi-Task gaussian process

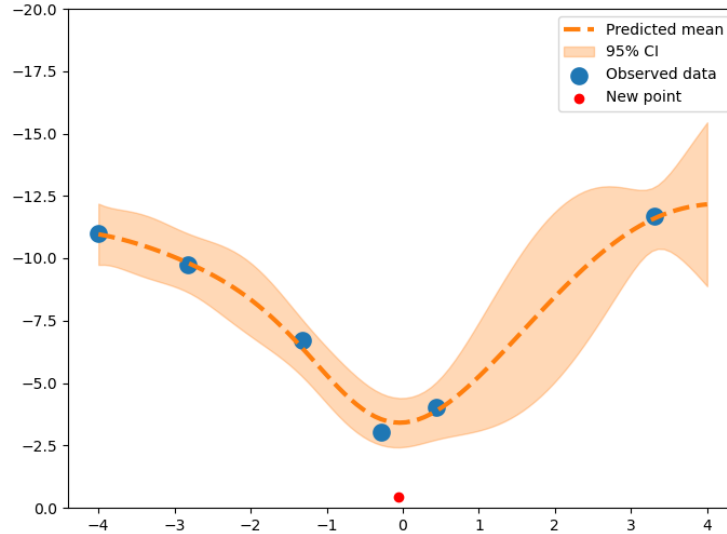
Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



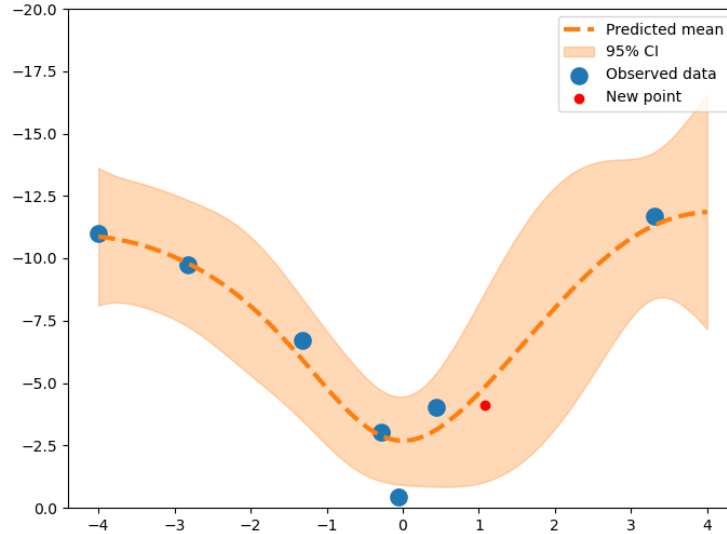
Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



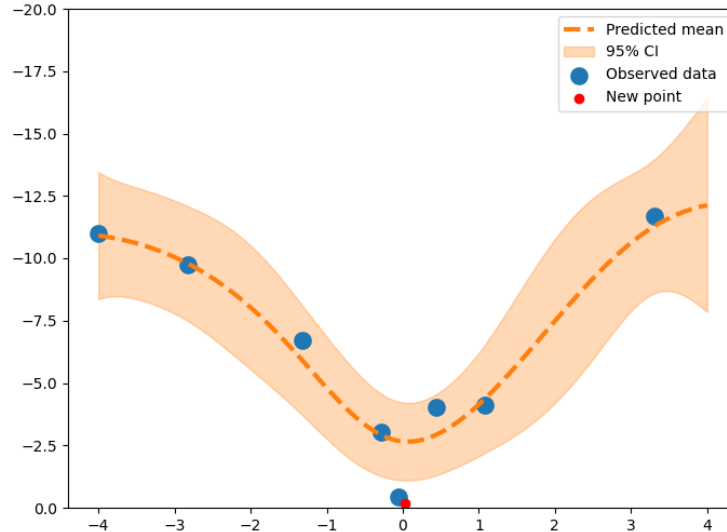
Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



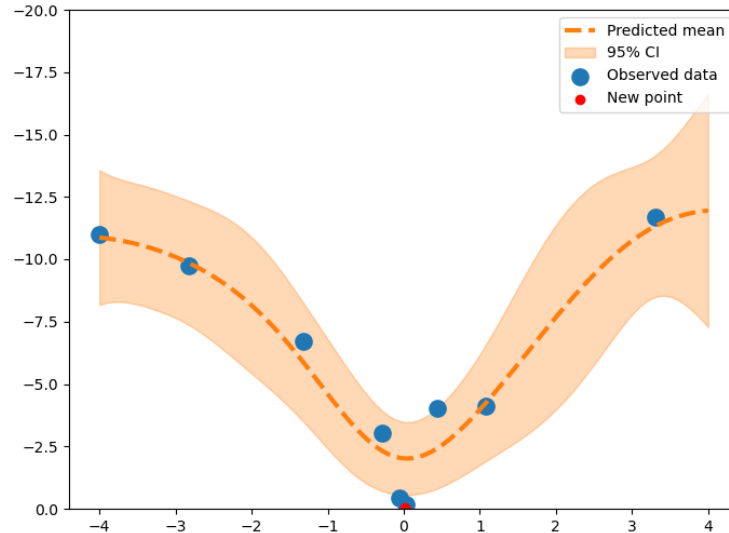
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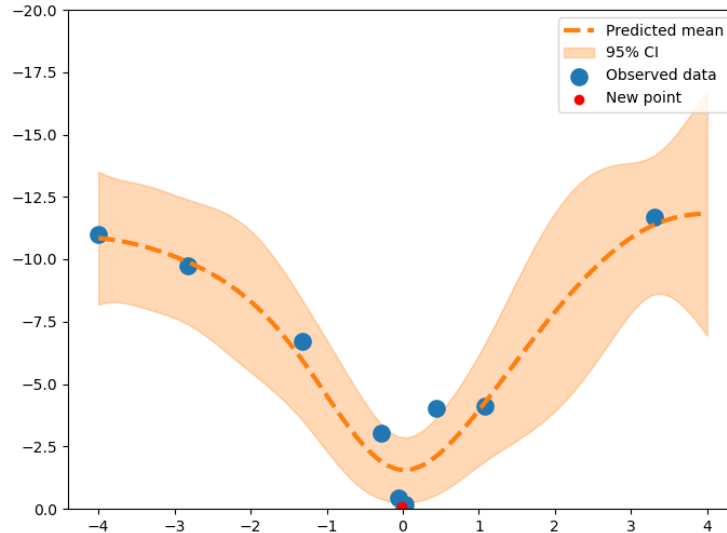
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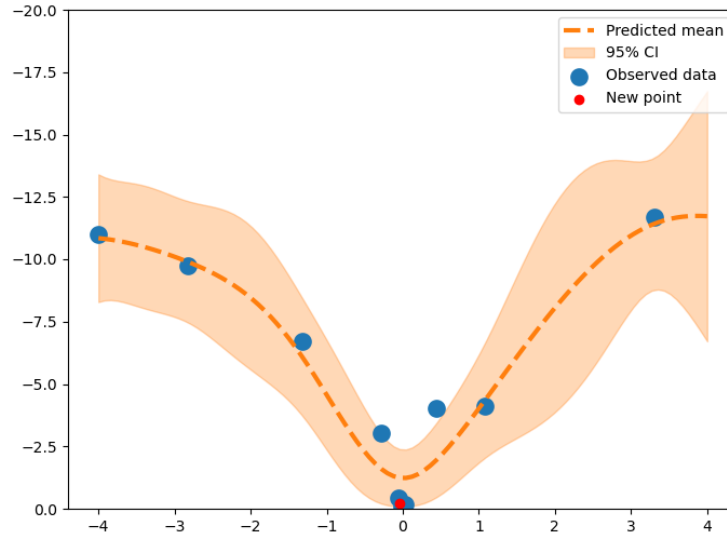
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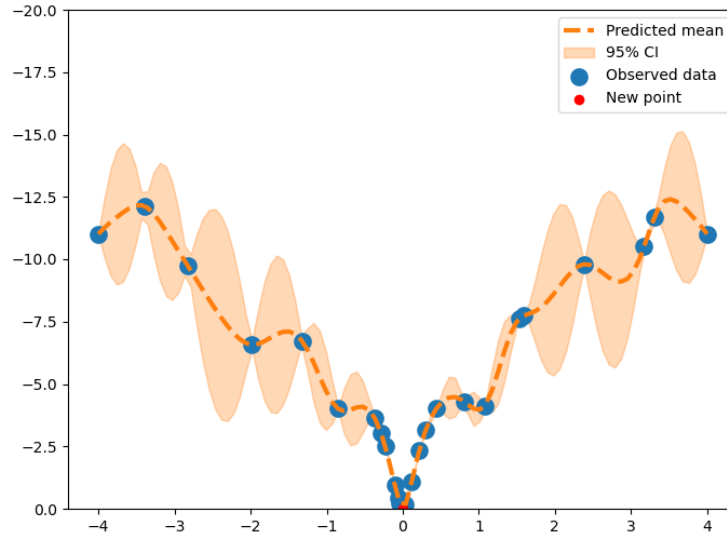
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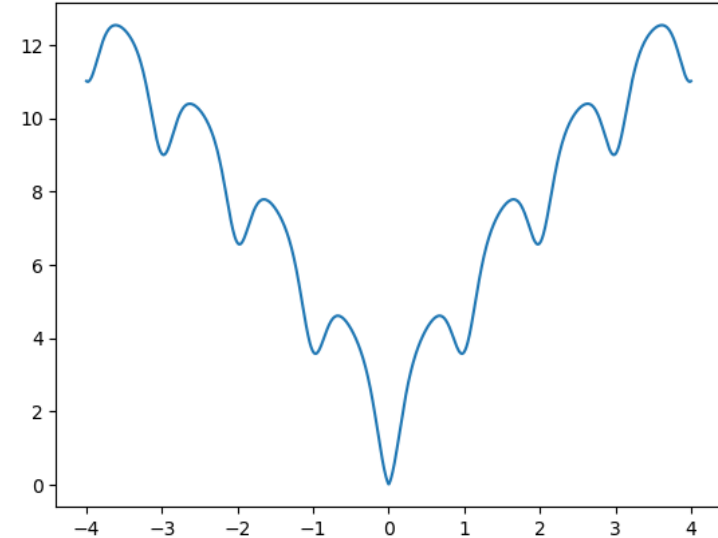
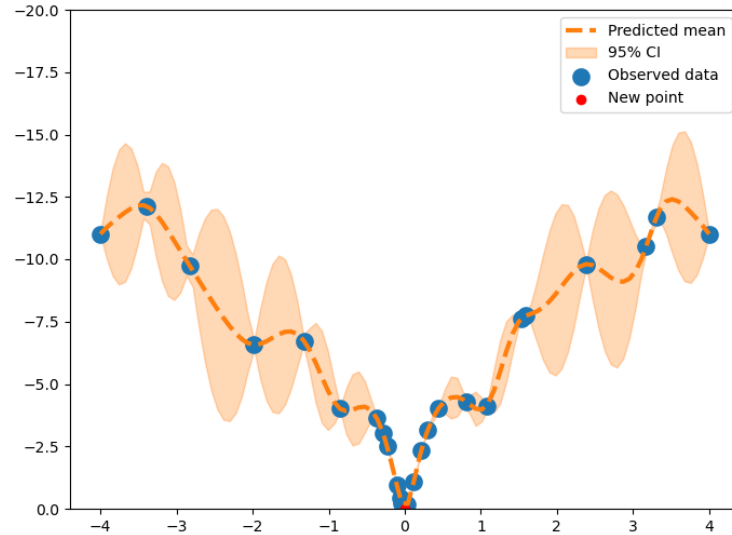
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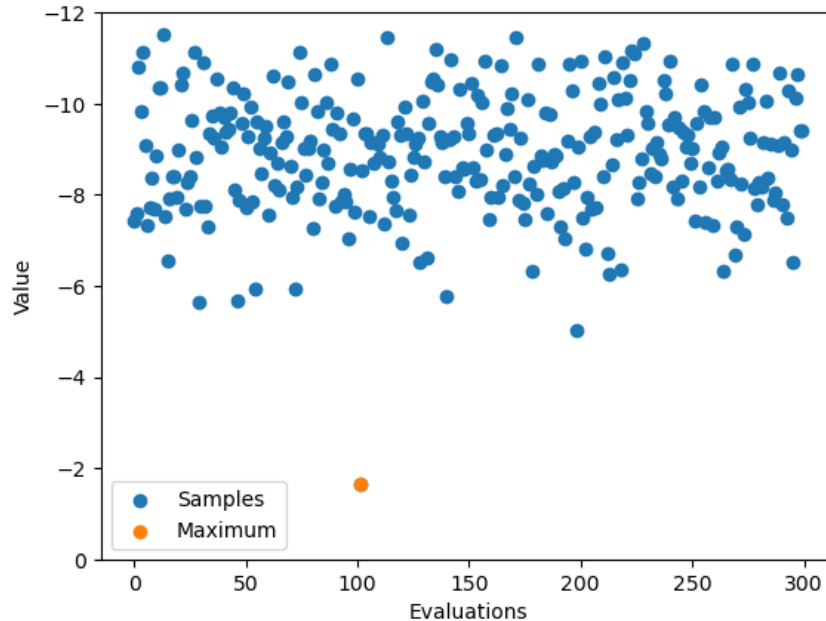
Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



Bayesian Optimization: step-by-step example



Convergence of Ackley 5D



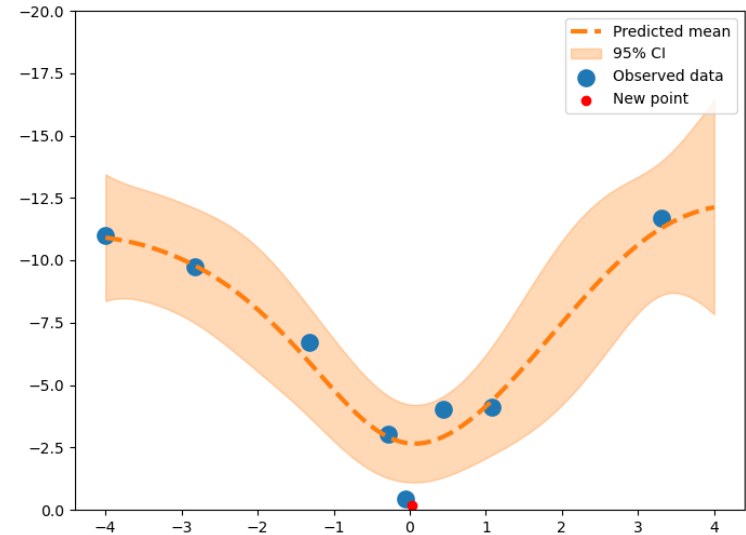
No convergence in 5D.

- The search space is too already large!
- Most of the search space is unknown
- Uncertainty (variance) is high everywhere
- Acquisition function does only exploration (forever)

Trust Region Bayesian Optimization (TuRBO)

Algorithm fails to improve over 3 consecutive iterations

- Cut the search space in half around the best current point

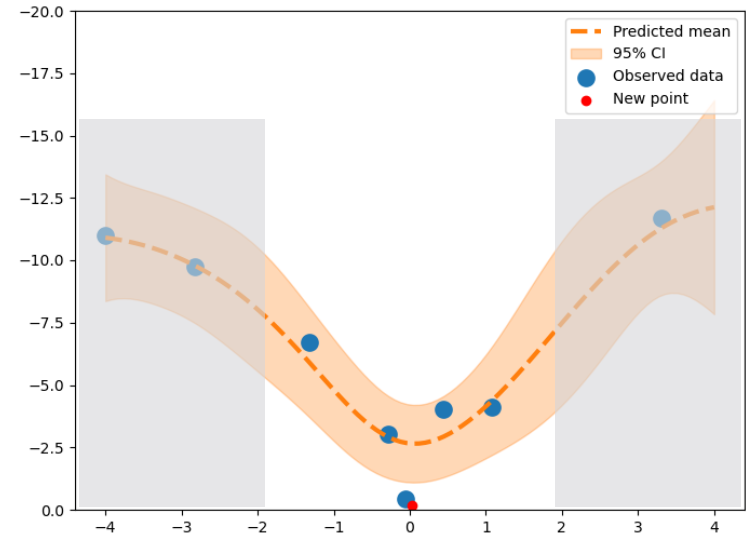


[1]: [Eriksson, David, et al. Scalable global optimization via local Bayesian optimization. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems. 2019](#)

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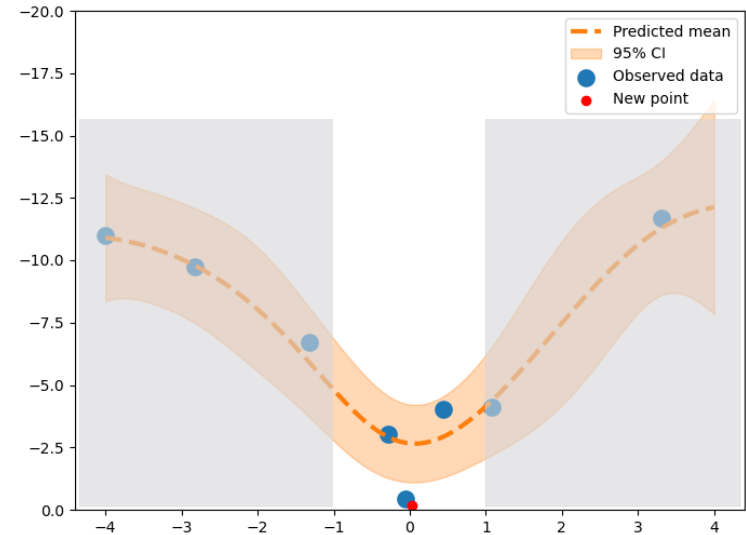


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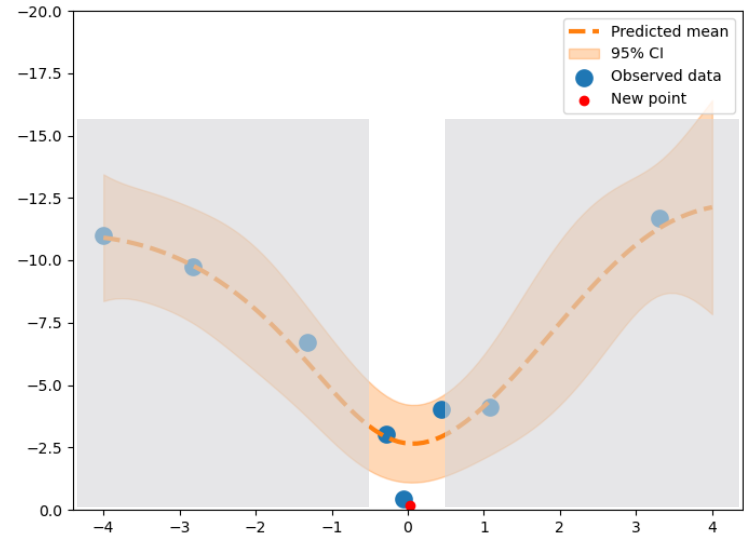
- Cut the search space in half around the best current point

Algorithm succeeds in improving over 3 consecutive iterations

- Double the search space around the best current point

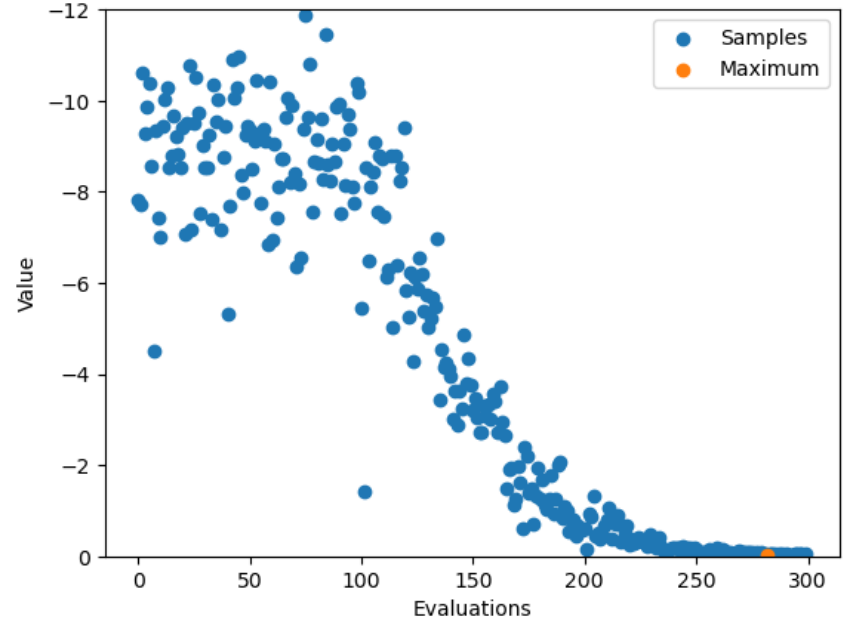
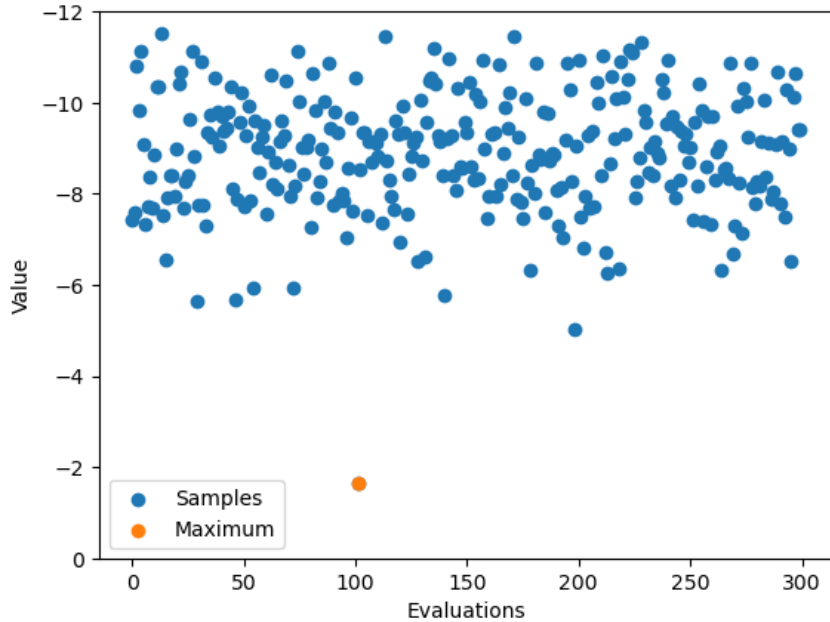
TuRBO:

- Guaranteed convergence
- More likely to end up in a local minima
- Requires more initial samples

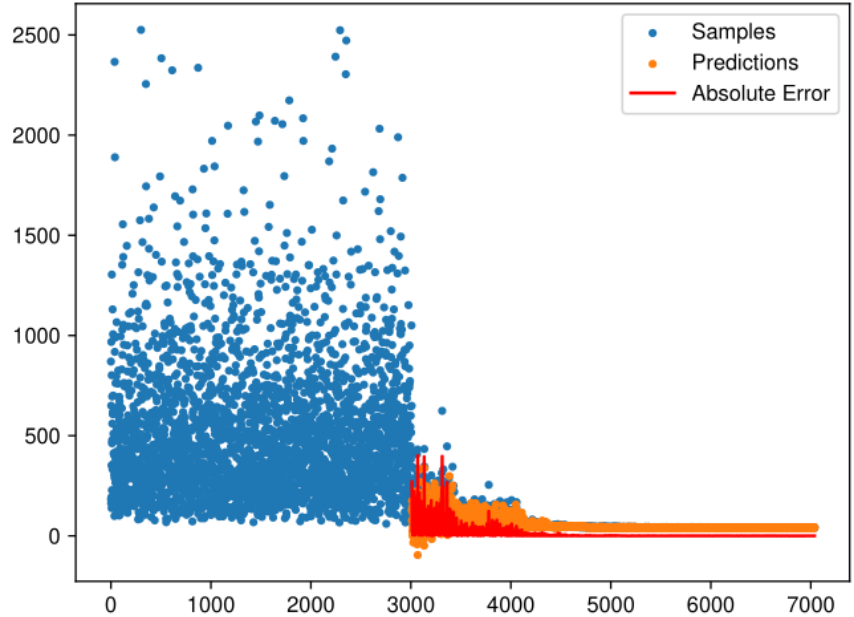
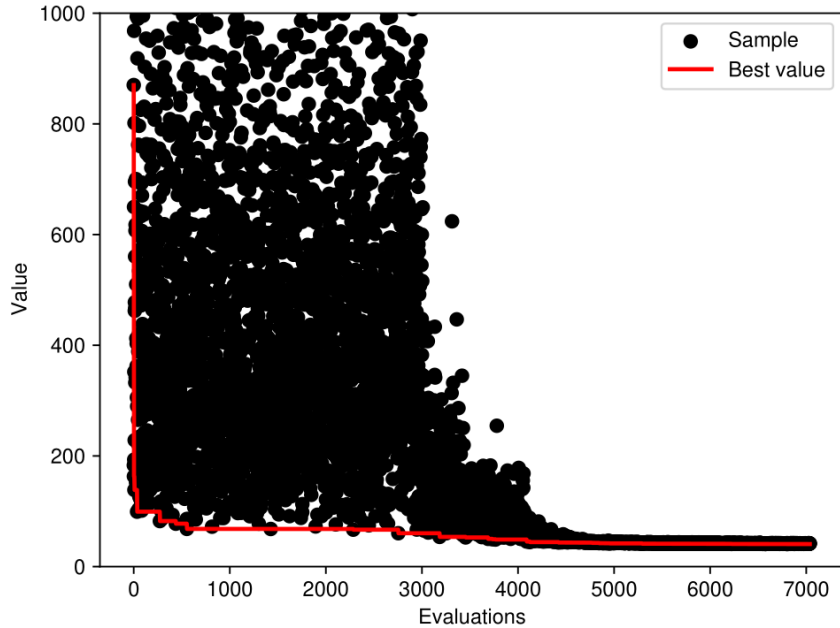


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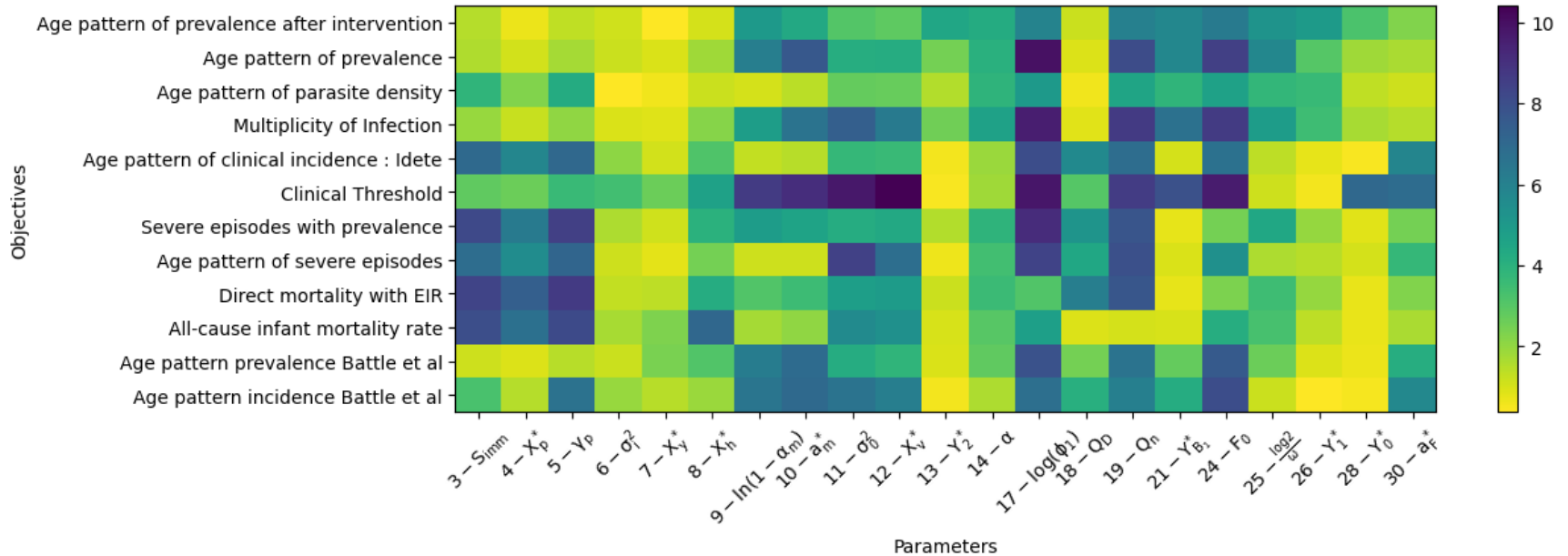
Convergence okf Ackley 5D with TuRBO (right)



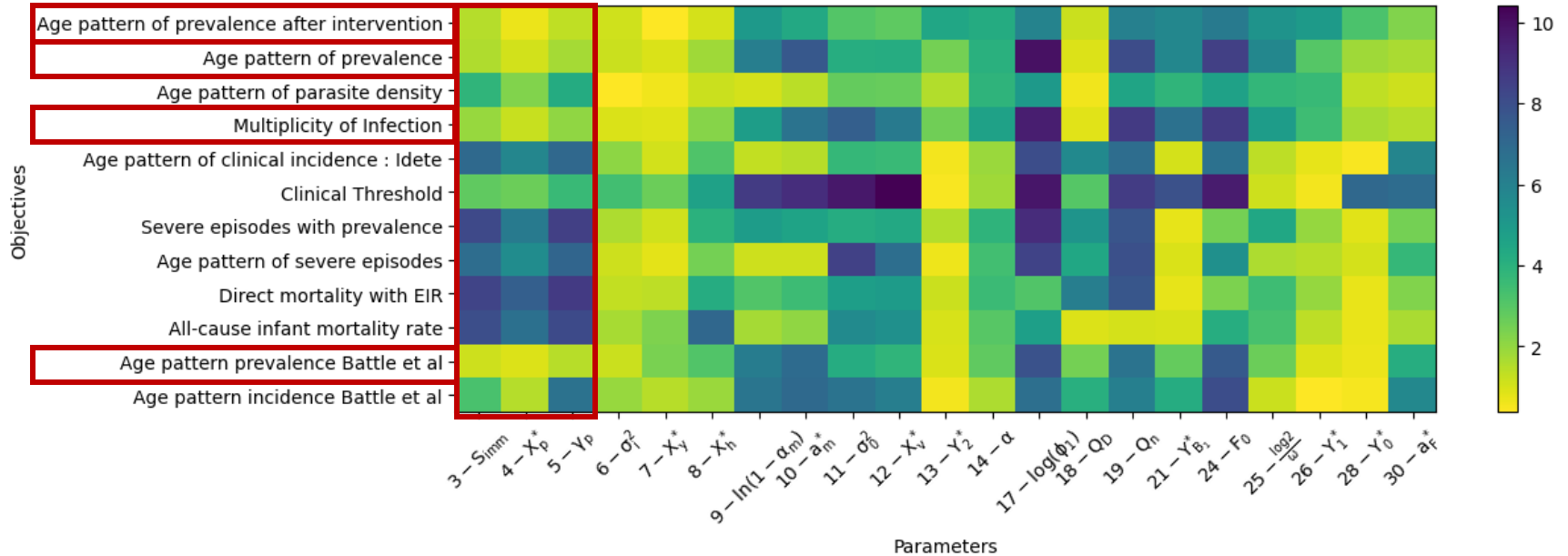
Convergence with OpenMalaria 23 parameters



Parameter-objective correlation



Parameter-objective correlation



Takeway messages

We have developed a framework to calibrate individual-based models (or other functions).

NOT plug and play:

- **It requires high quality, curated data**
- Objectives must be constrained enough
- The search space must be well defined
- Tools to validate the model are needed

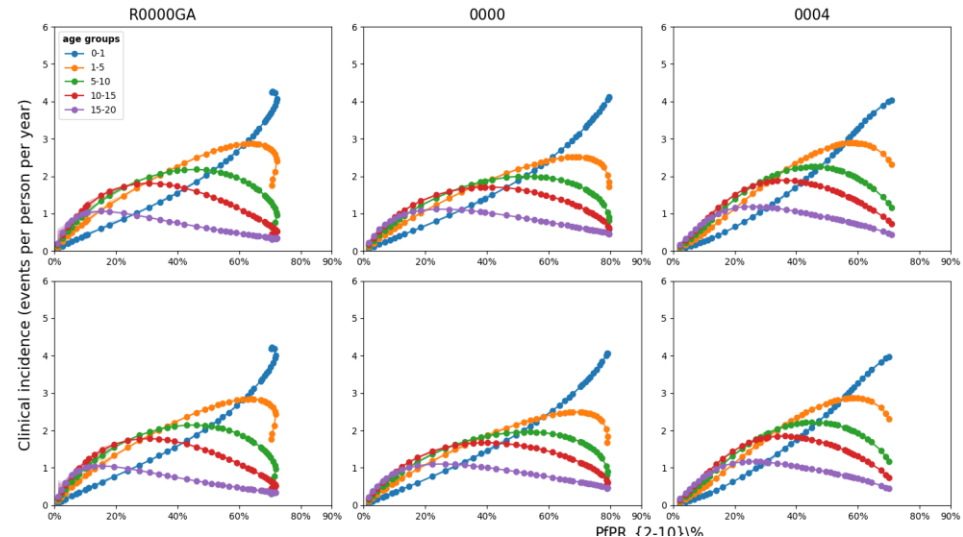
Limitations:

- The curse of dimensionality
- Computing cost and time
- Unidentifiability of some parameters
- Model limitations

Technical framework: Python & BoTorch

Also used for:

- EMOD (IDM, Chicago)
- Opisthorchis model (Swiss TPH, Basel)
- Vaccine trials (TKI, Perth)



Identifiability – comparing objectives across multiple fits

