



---

# Online Learning Application Project Presentation

*Gottschling Daniel - 11123625*

*Floris Fabio Marco - 10811227*

*Parenti Carolina – 10797066*

*Roberto Sonzini Gobbi - 10794845*

*Singh Karanbir - 10865124*

---

# Overview



Pricing problem with multiple products and inventory constraint



At each round  $t \in T$ :

The company chooses which types of product to sell and set price  $p_i$  for each type of product

A buyer with a valuation for each type of product arrives

The buyer buys a unit of each product with price smaller than the product valuation

## Requirement 1.1

Single product stochastic environment  
with no inventory constraint

### AGENT

UCB1 agent

### PARAMETERS

Time horizon:  $T = 10000$

Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$

### VALUATION DISTRIBUTION

At each round the valuation is sampled  
from:

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 5, 1)$$

### BASELINE

Price chosen by solving the following  
linear programming:

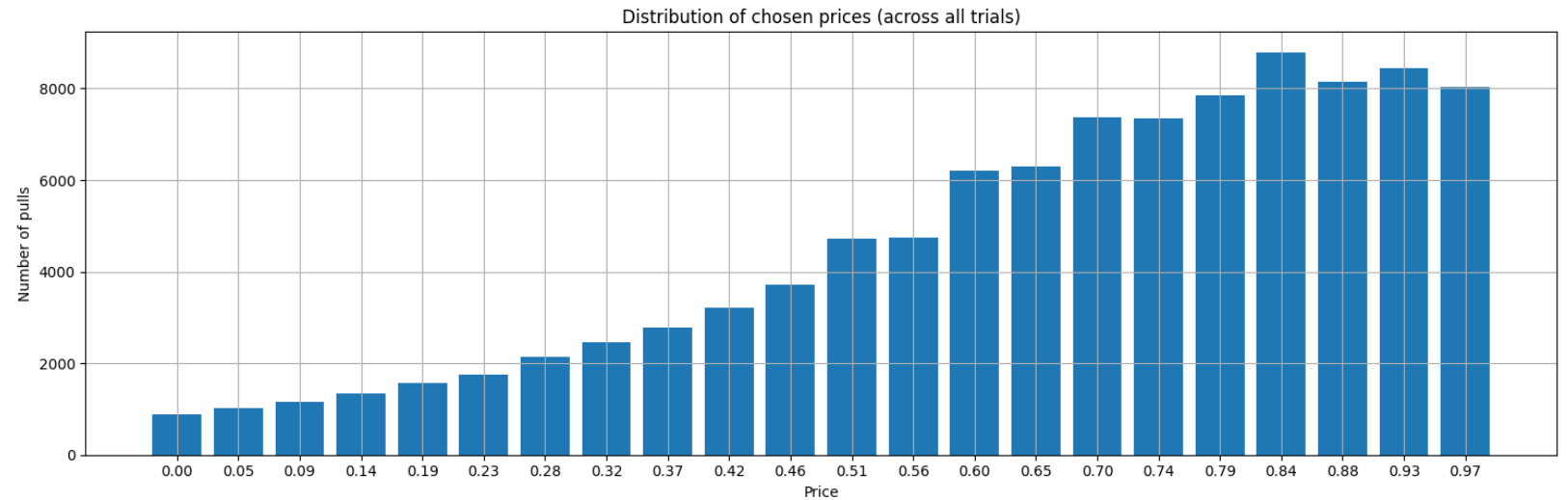
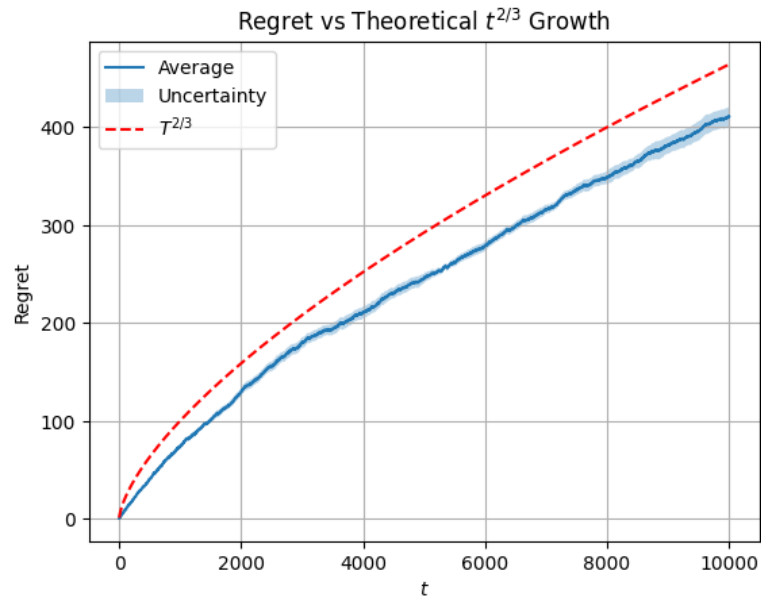
$$p_j = 1 - F(v_j)$$

$$\max_{x_j \in [0, 1]} \sum_{j=1}^K v_j \cdot p_j \cdot x_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K x_j = 1$$

# Requirement 1.1

## Single product stochastic environment with no inventory constraint



## Requirement 1.2

### Single product stochastic environment with inventory constraint

#### PARAMETERS

- Time horizon:  $T = 10000$
- Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$
- Budget: 45%  $T$

#### VALUATION DISTRIBUTION

At each round the valuation is sampled from

$$X \sim \text{Beta}(1, 1)$$

#### AGENT

Pulls the arm that solve the following LP:

$$\max_{x_j \in [0, 1]} \sum_{j=1}^P \text{UCB}_j \cdot x_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^P \text{LCB}_j \cdot x_j \leq \rho$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^P x_j = 1$$

#### BASELINE

Price chosen by following the following LP:

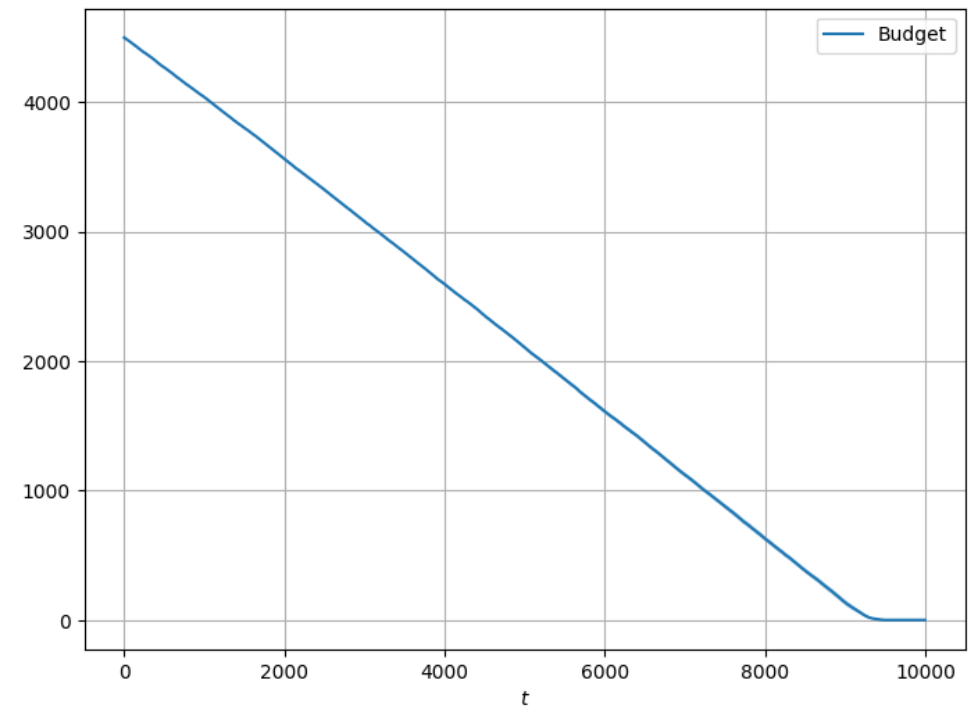
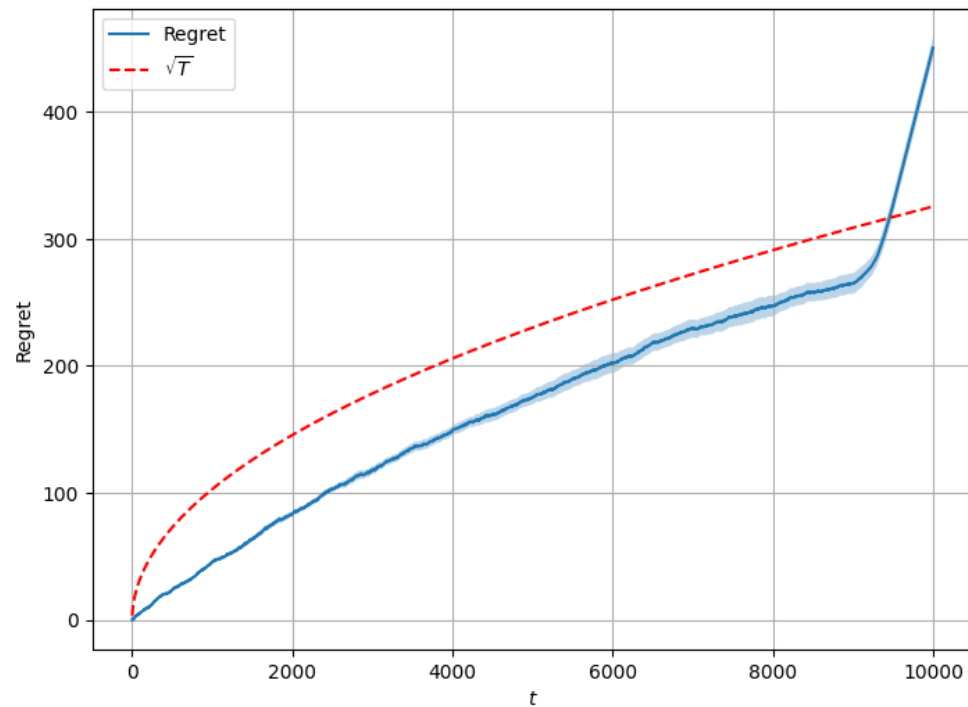
$$\max_{x_j \in [0, 1]} \sum_{j=1}^K v_j \cdot p_j \cdot x_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K x_j = 1$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K p_j \cdot x_j \leq \rho$$

## Requirement 1.2

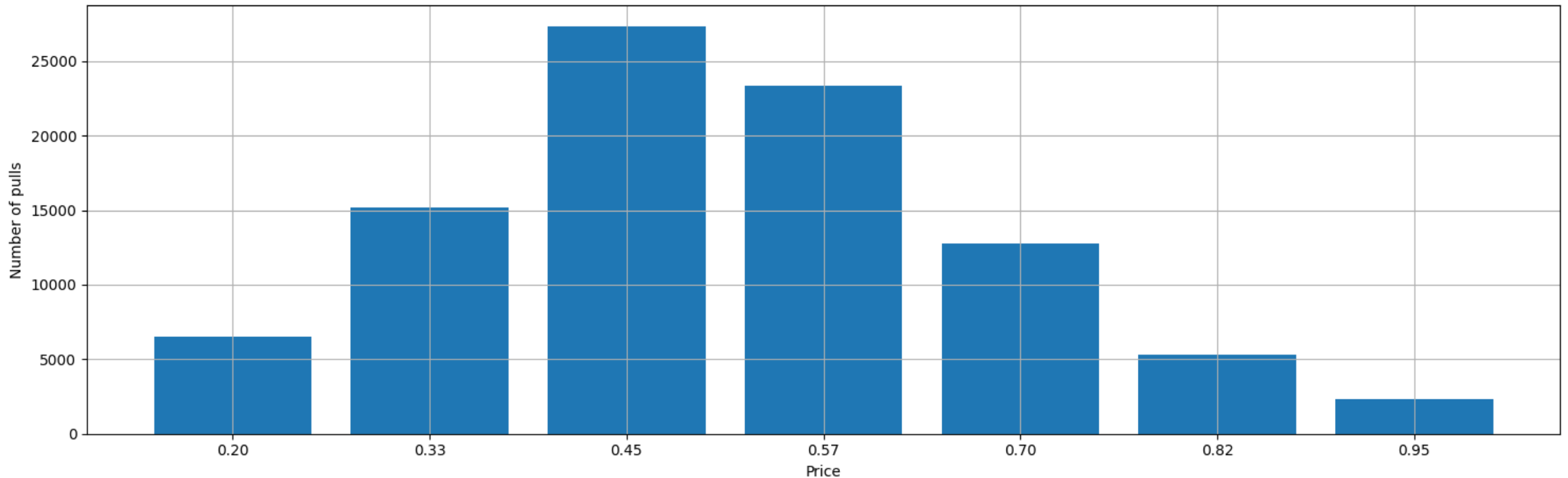
### Single product stochastic environment with inventory constraint



## Requirement 1.2

### Single product stochastic environment with inventory constraint

Distribution of chosen prices (across all trials)



# Requirement 2

## Multiple product stochastic environment with inventory constraint

### AGENT

- Combinatorial- UCB
- To extend the inventory constraint we modified the standard Combinatorial-UCB with UCB-like

### PARAMETERS

- Time horizon:  $T = 10000$
- Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$
- Budget: 75%  $T$
- Number of products:  $N=3$

### BASELINE

- Price chosen by solving the following LP

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x_{ij} \in [0,1]} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P v_j \cdot p_{ij} \cdot x_{ij} \\ \sum_{j=1}^P x_{ij} = 1 \quad & \text{per } i = 1, \dots, N \\ \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P p_{ij} \cdot x_{ij} \leq \rho \end{aligned}$$

### VALUATION DISTRIBUTION

At each round the valuation is sampled from

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1^2)$$

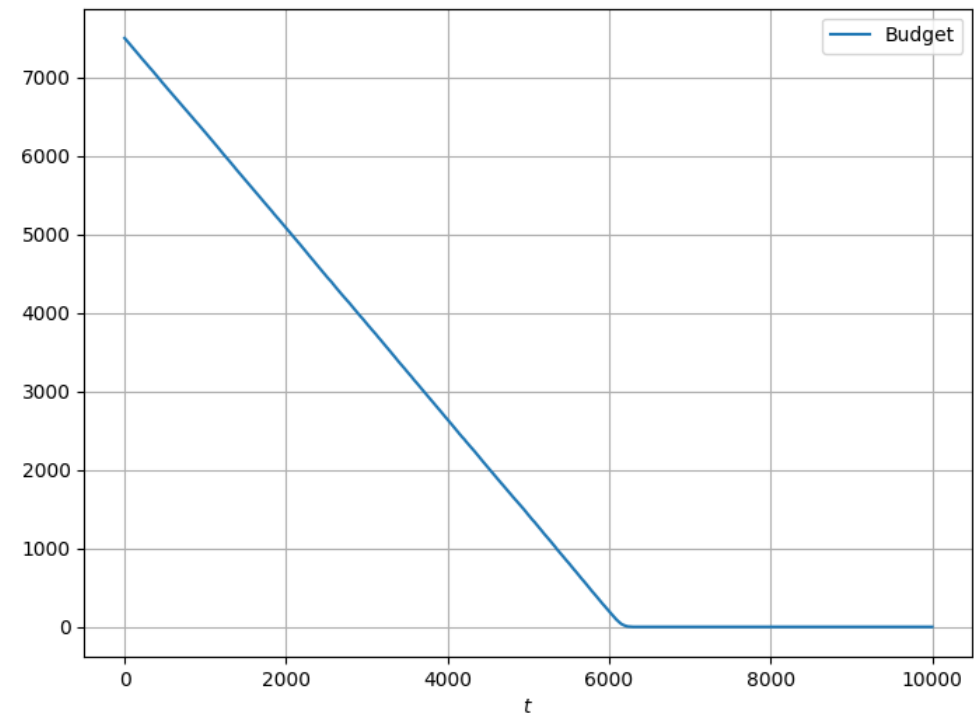
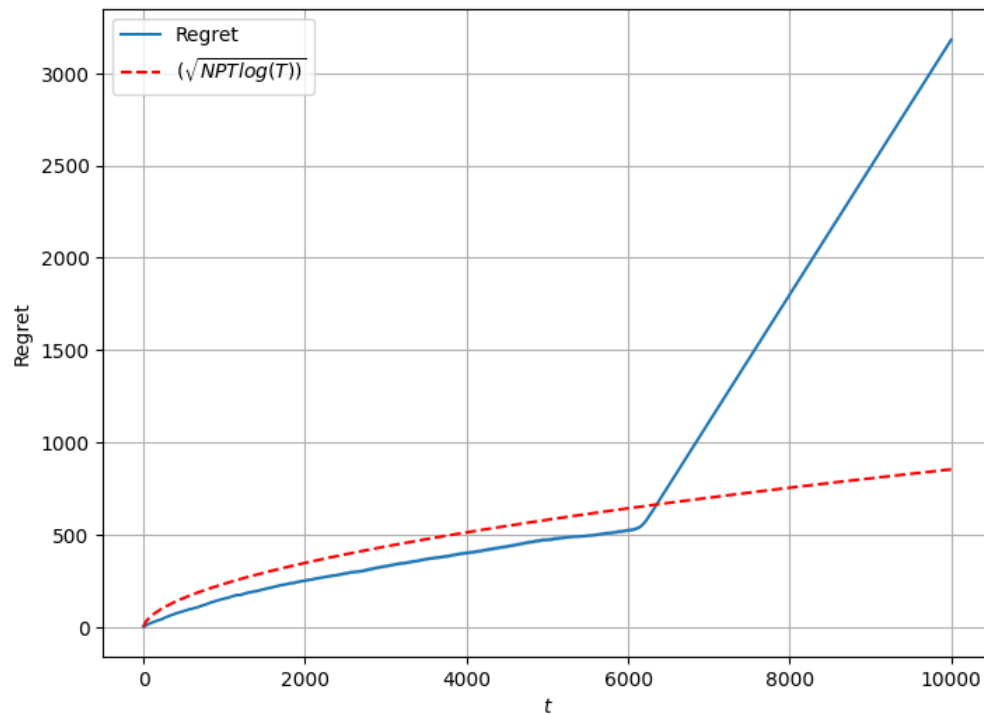
$$Y \sim \text{Beta}(3, 2)$$

$$Z \sim \text{Beta}(2, 20)$$



## Requirement 2

### Multiple product stochastic environment with inventory constraint



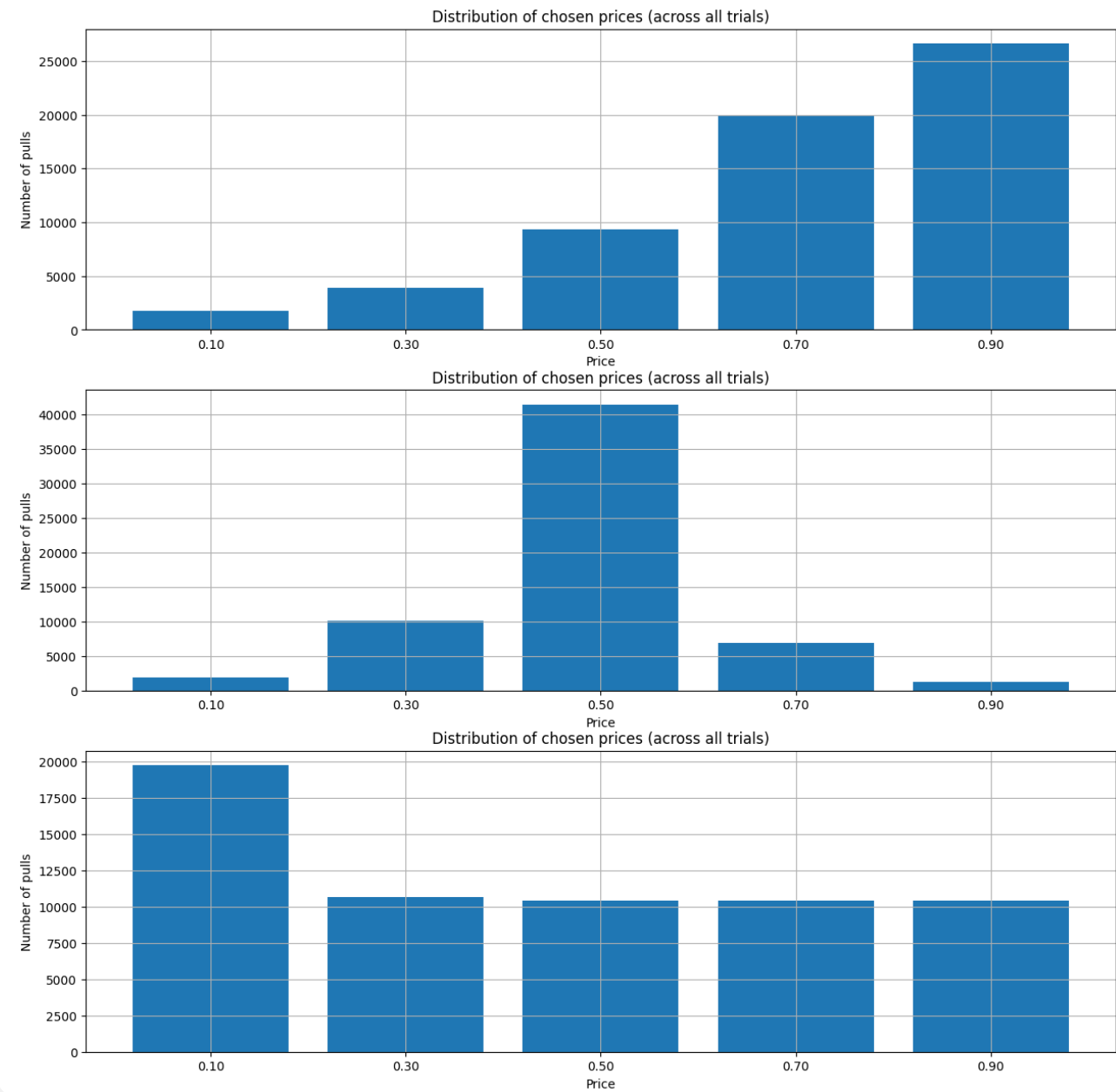
# Requirement 2

## Multiple product

## stochastic

## environment

## Inventory constraint



## Requirement 3

### Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product with inventory constraint

#### AGENT

- Multiplicative Pacing
- EXP3 as regret minimizer

#### BASELINE

- Price chosen by solving the following LP

$$\bar{F}(v_j) = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{t'=t-w+1}^t F_{t'}(v_j)$$

$$p_j = 1 - \bar{F}(v_j)$$

$$\min_{x \in [0,1]^K} - \sum_{j=1}^K v_j \cdot p_j \cdot x_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K x_j = 1$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K p_j \cdot x_j \leq \rho$$

#### PARAMETERS

- Time horizon:  $T = 10000$
- Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$
- Budget: 50%  $T$
- Learning rate EXP3:  $\sqrt{\frac{\log K}{KT}}$
- Learning rate Multiplicative pacing:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{T}}$

#### VALUATION DISTRIBUTION

At each round the valuation is sampled from

*Adversarial*

$X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$

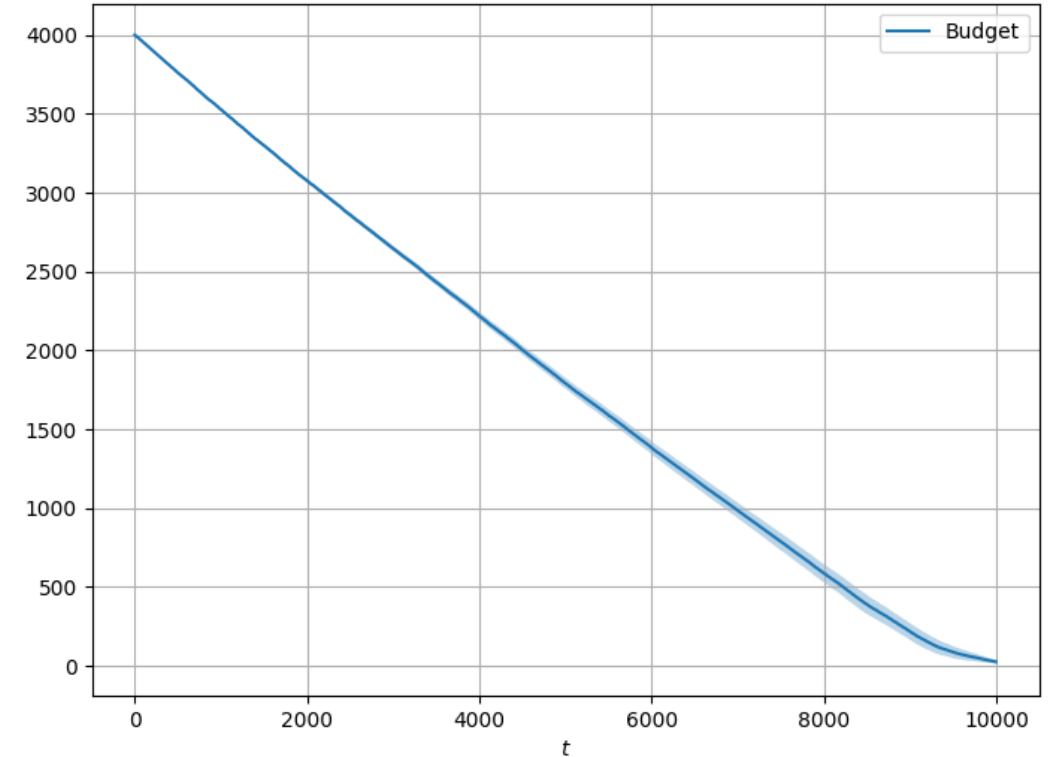
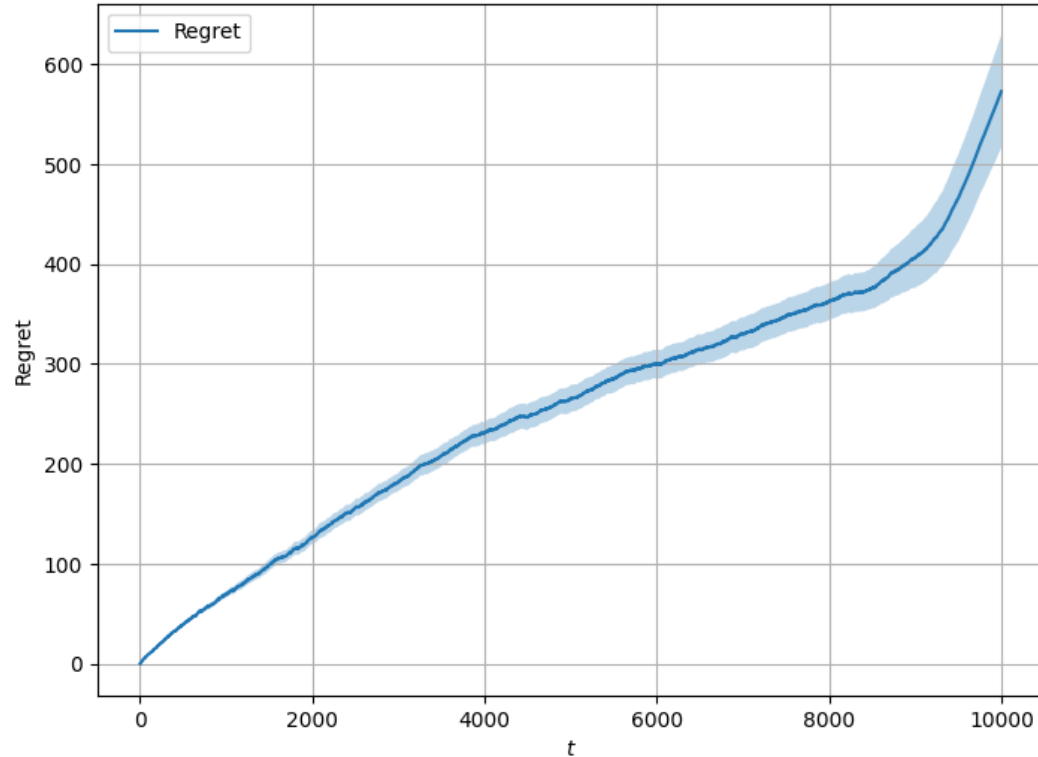
*Stationary*

$X \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1)$

### Requirement 3

**Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product  
with inventory constraint**

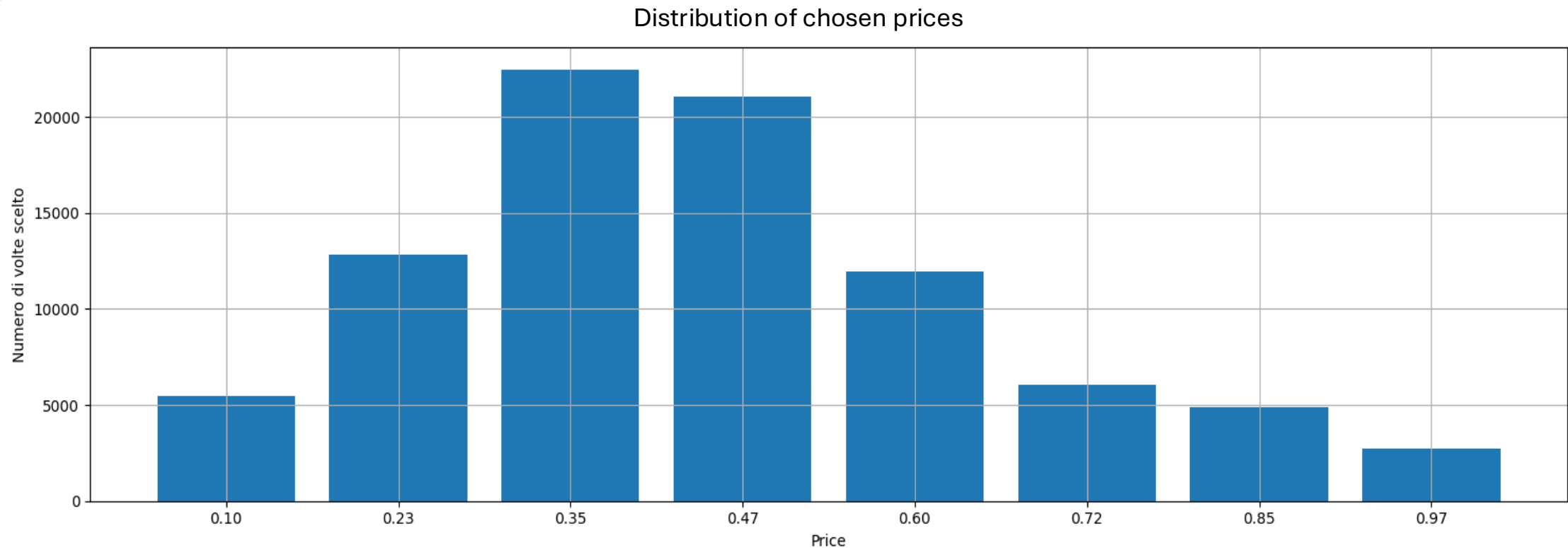
*ADVERSARIAL  
ENVIRONMENT*



### Requirement 3

**Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product  
with inventory constraint**

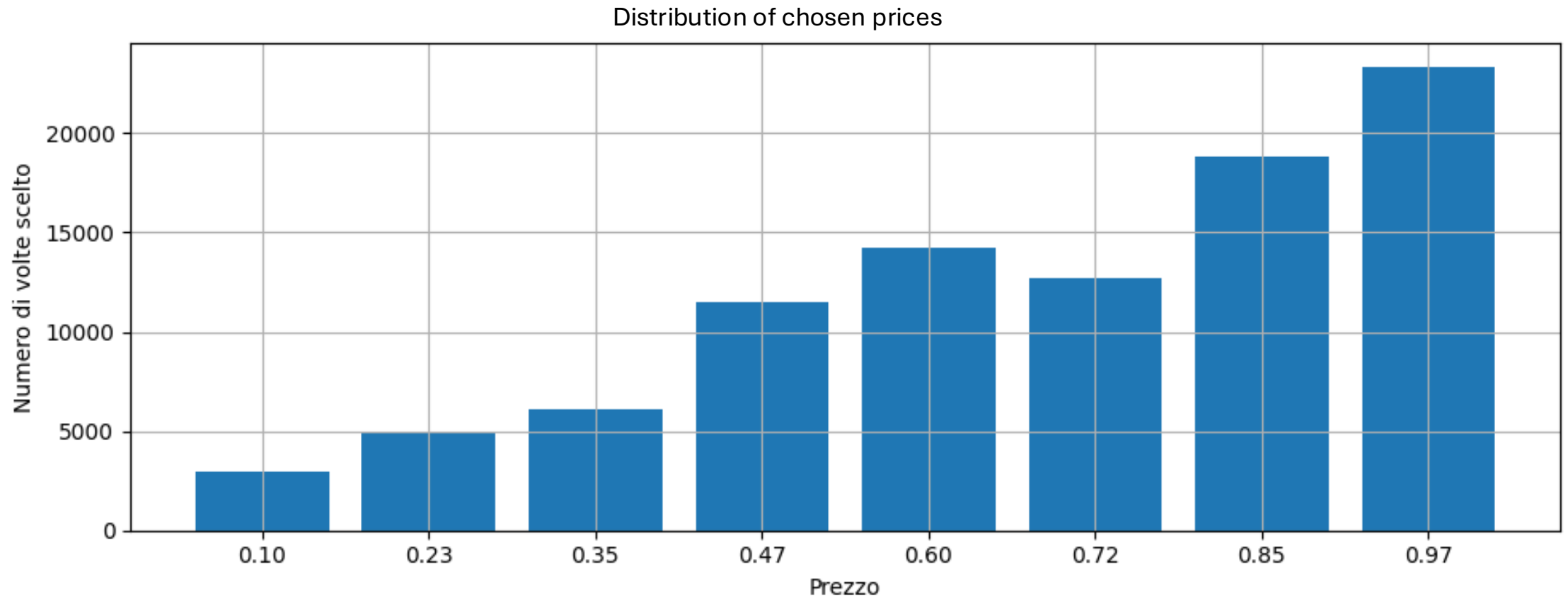
*ADVERSARIAL  
ENVIRONMENT*



### Requirement 3

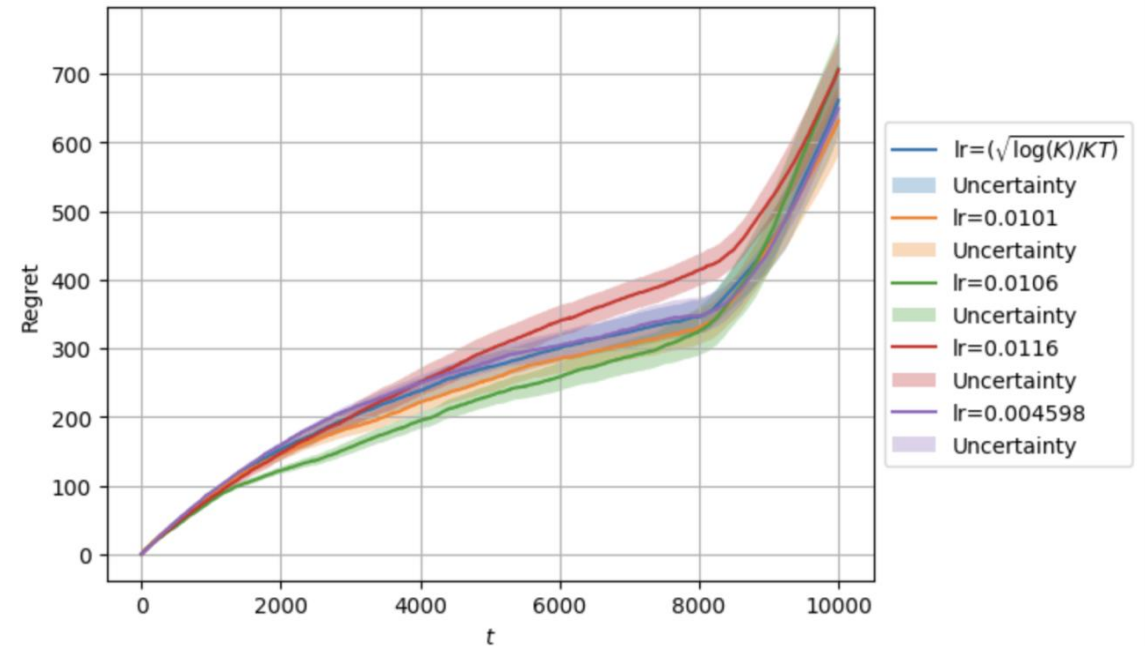
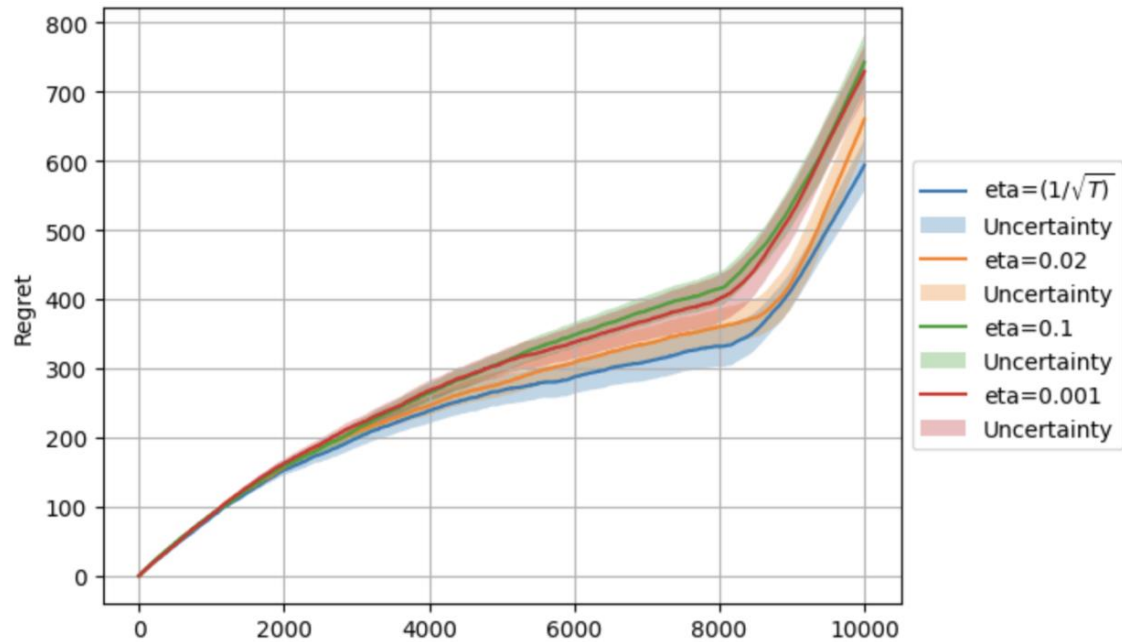
**Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product  
with inventory constraint**

*STATIONARY ENVIRONMENT*



## Requirement 3

### Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product with inventory constraint



*Tests on EXP3 parameters*

# Requirement 4

## Best-of-both-worlds with multiple products with inventory constraint

### PARAMETERS

- Time horizon:  $T = 10000$
- Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$
- Budget: 75%  $T$
- Number of products:  $N=3$

### STATIONARY ENVIRONMENT

At each round the valuation is sampled from

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1^2)$$

$$Y \sim \text{Beta}(3, 2)$$

$$Z \sim \text{Beta}(2, 20)$$

### HIGHLY NON-STATIONARY ENVIRONMENT

A sequence of correlated valuations for each type of product that changes quickly over time

At each round the valuation is sampled from

$$\mu \sim \mathcal{U}[0.4, 1.0]^N$$

$$A \sim \text{Uniform}[0, 1]^{N \times N}$$

$$\Sigma = AA^\top + 0.05 \cdot I_N$$

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$$



## Requirement 4

### Best-of-both-worlds with multiple products with inventory constraint

#### AGENT

- Multiplicative pacing agent for multiple product
- A different EXP3 agent for each product is used as a regret minimizer

#### BASELINE

At every round the chosen price is the one that maximises the following LP:

$$\max_{x_{ij} \in [0,1]} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P v_j \cdot \bar{p}_j \cdot x_{ij}$$

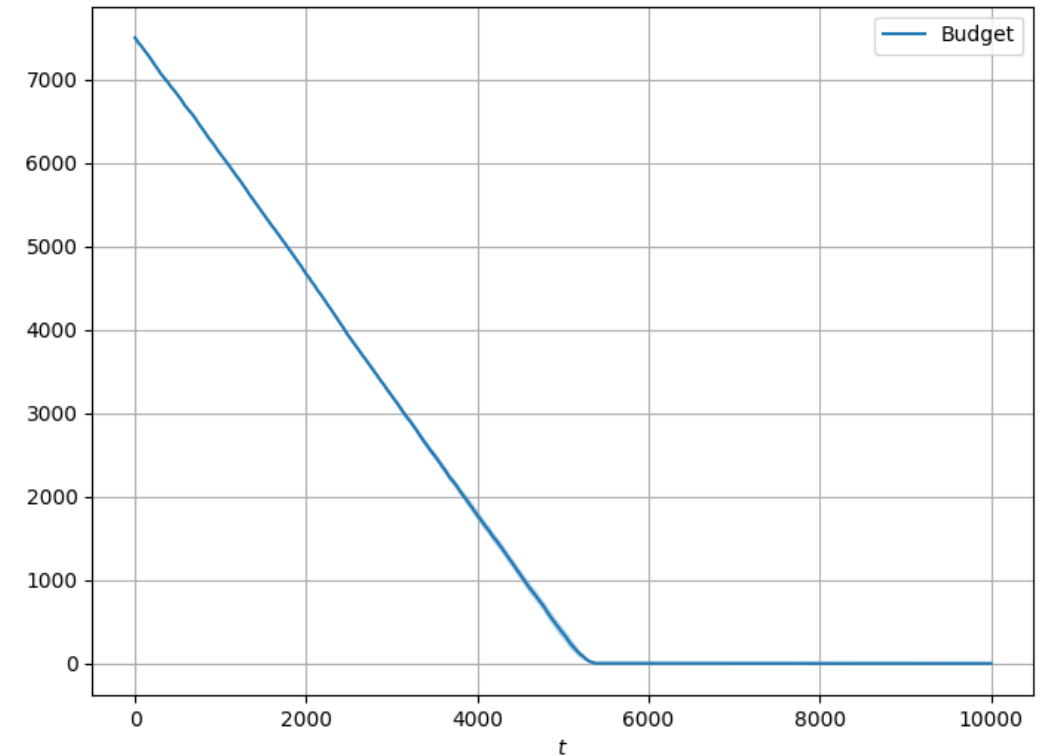
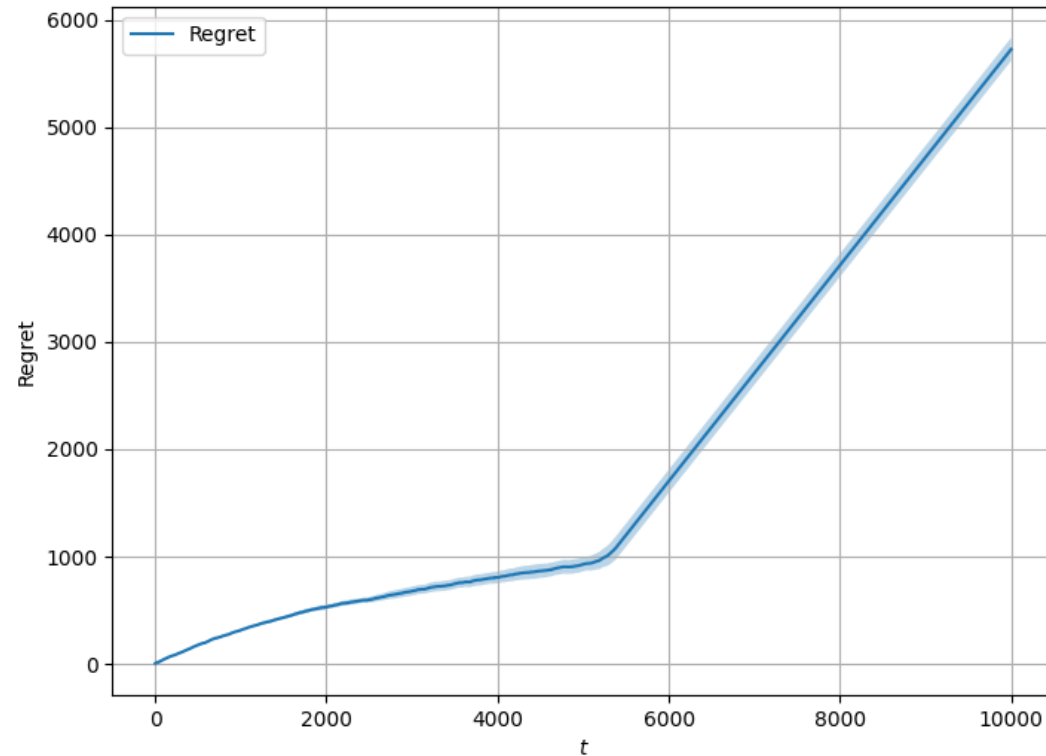
$$\sum_{j=1}^P x_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P \bar{p}_j \cdot x_{ij} \leq \rho$$

## Requirement 4

### Best-of-both-worlds with multiple products with inventory constraint

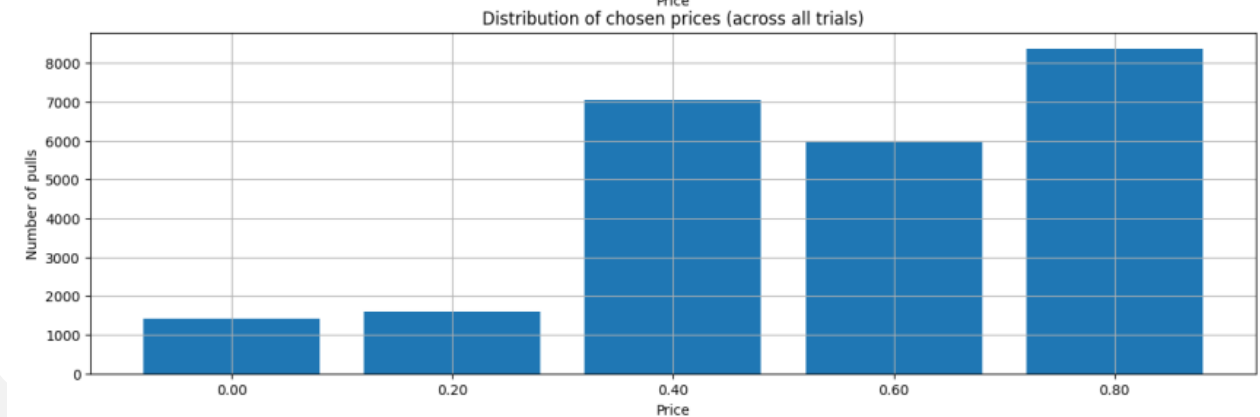
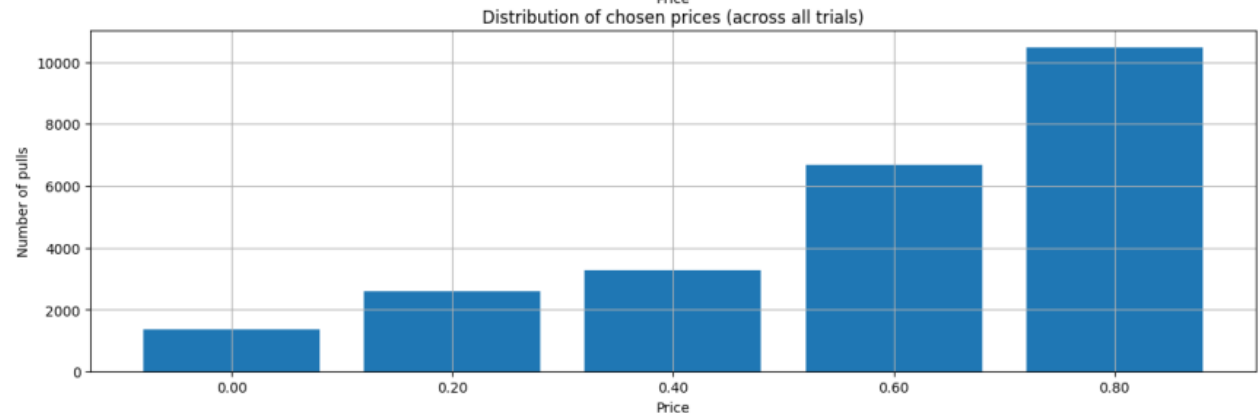
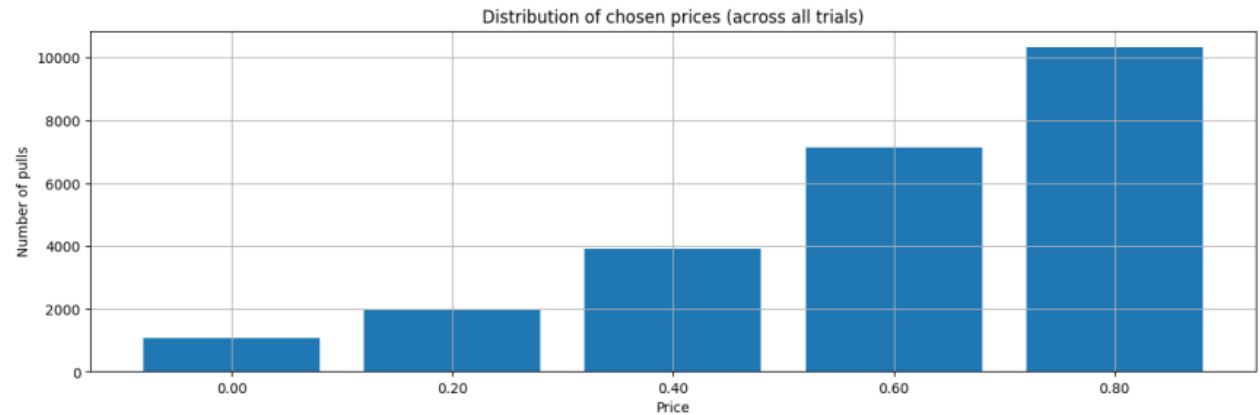
*ADVERSARIAL  
ENVIRONMENT*



# Requirement 4

## Best-of-both-worlds with multiple products with inventory constraint

*ADVERSARIAL  
ENVIRONMENT*



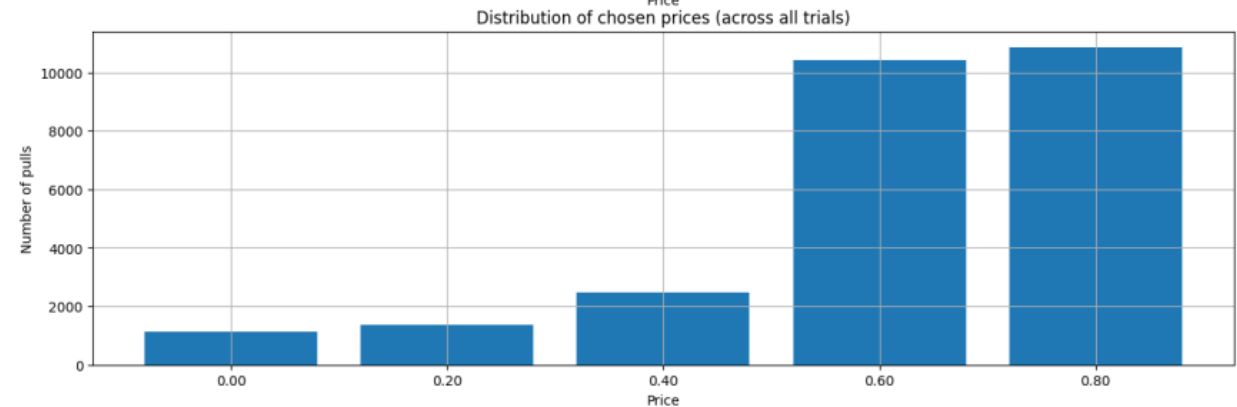
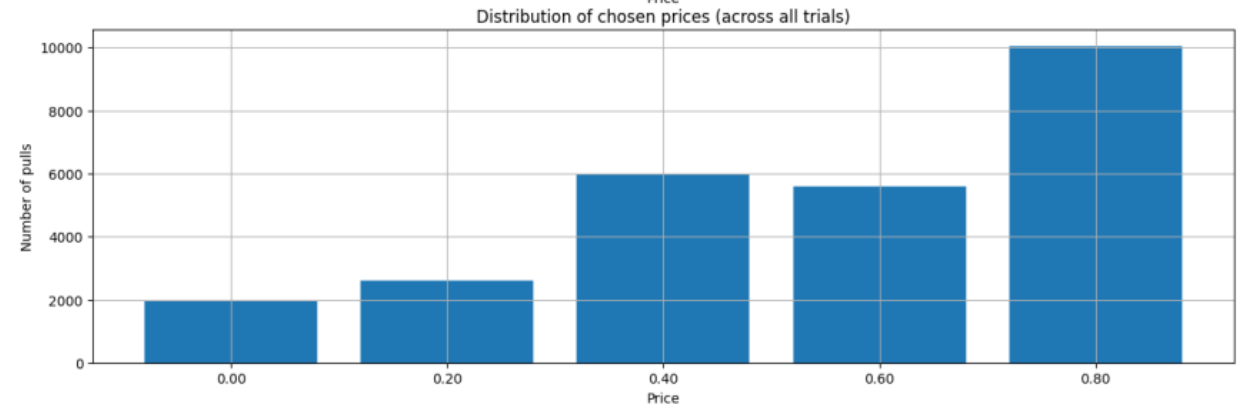
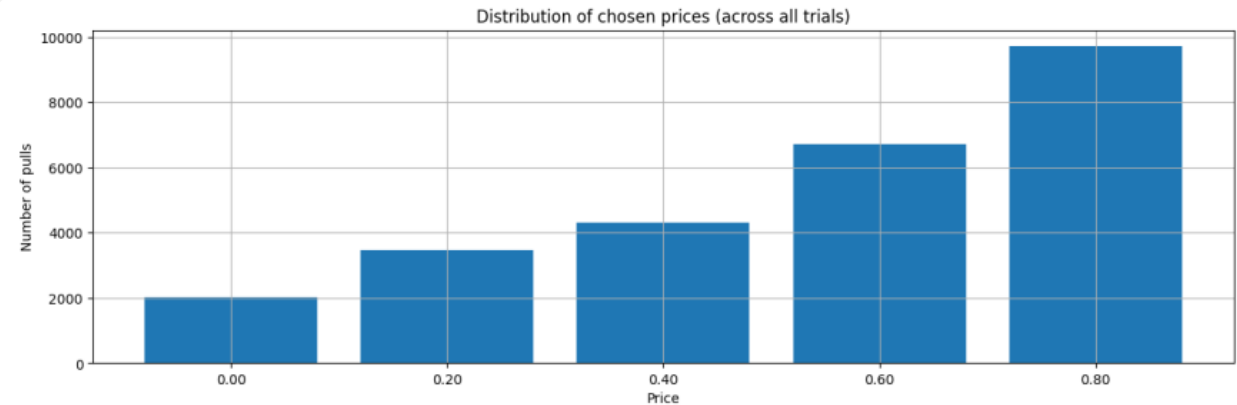
---

## Requirement 4

### Best-of-both-worlds with multiple products with inventory constraint

*STATIONARY  
ENVIRONMENT*

---



## Requirement 5

### Slightly non-stationary environments with multiple products and inventory constraint

#### SLIGHTLY NON-STATIONARY ENVIRONMENT

- Rounds are partitioned in intervals of different sizes
- In each interval the distribution of products valuations is chosen randomly between the following:

$$X_1 \sim \mathcal{U}(0, 1)$$

$$X_2 \sim \text{Beta}(4, 2)$$

$$X_3 \sim \text{Beta}(2, 4)$$

$$X_4 \sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1^2)$$

#### PARAMETERS

- Time horizon:  $T = 10000$
- Prices:  $p_i \in [0, 1]$
- Budget: 75%  $T$
- Number of products:  $N=3$
- Window size:  $w = 50\sqrt{T}$

## Requirement 5

### Slightly non-stationary environments with multiple products and inventory constraint

#### AGENT

- Combinatorial- UCB with sliding window
- To extend the inventory constraint we modified the standard Combinatorial-UCB with UCB-like

#### BASELINE

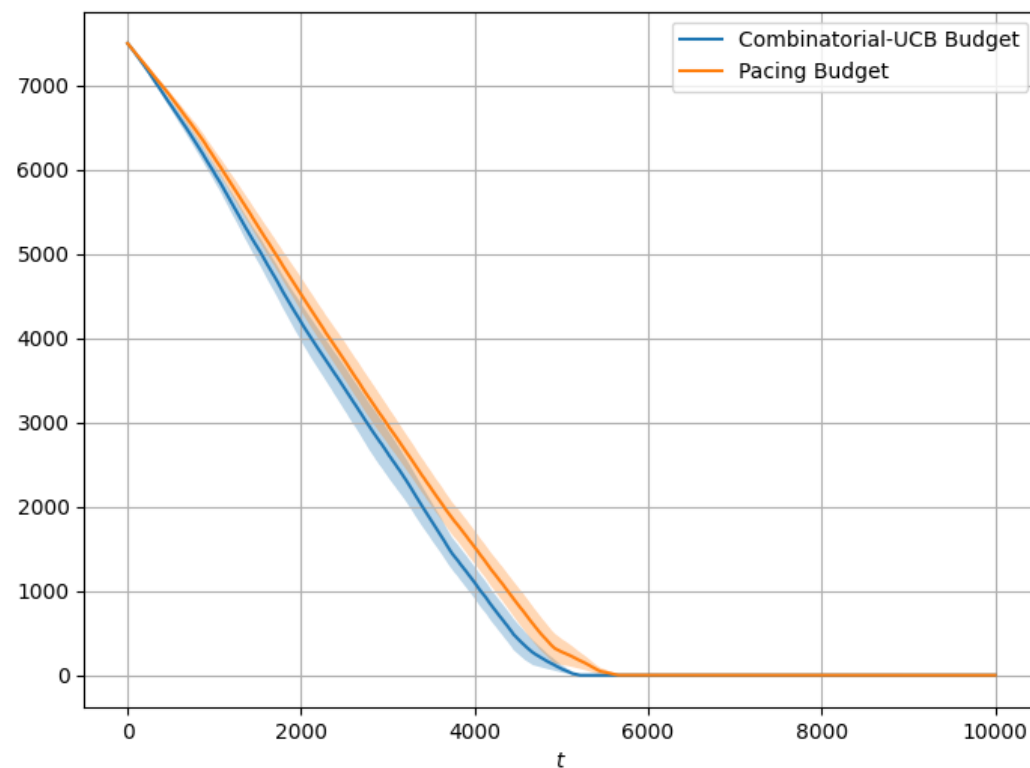
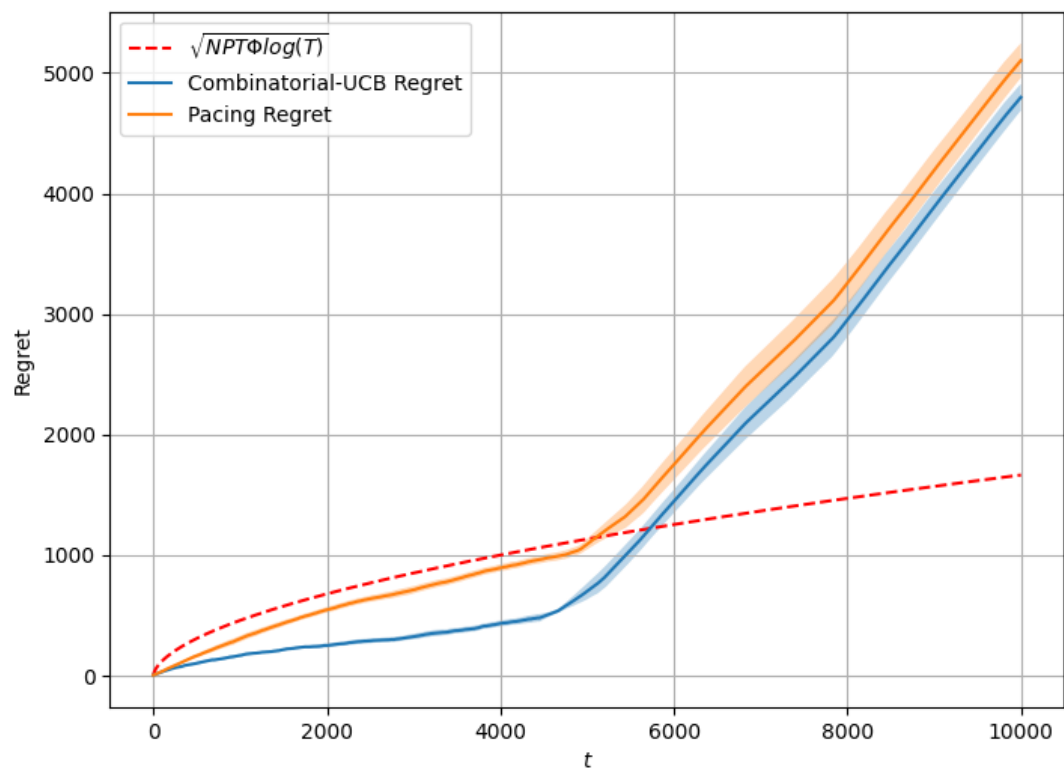
For ***each interval*** chooses the price that maximises the following LP:

$$\max_{x_{ij} \in [0,1]} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P v_j \cdot p_{ij} \cdot x_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^P x_{ij} = 1 \quad \text{per } i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^P p_{ij} \cdot x_{ij} \leq \rho$$

# Comparison in slightly non-stationary environment



# Requirement 5

## Slightly non-stationary environments with multiple products and inventory constraint

