



Online Learning Application Project Presentation

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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:

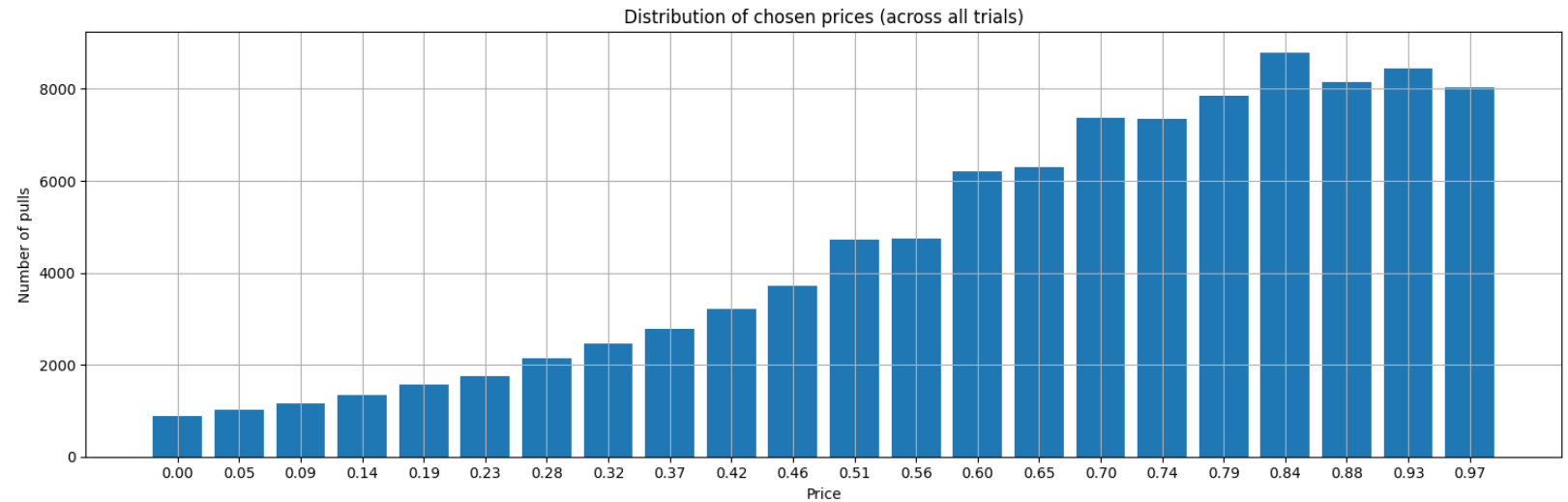
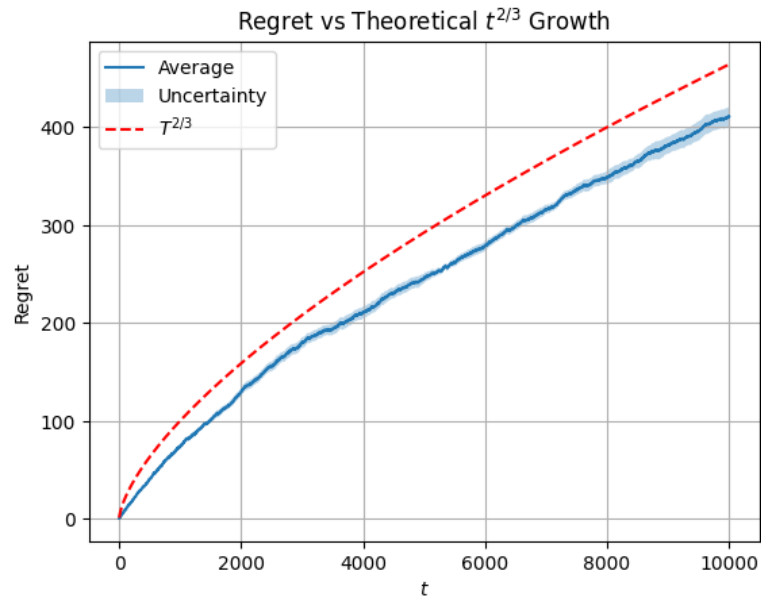
$$p_j = 1 - F(v_j)$$

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

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

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:

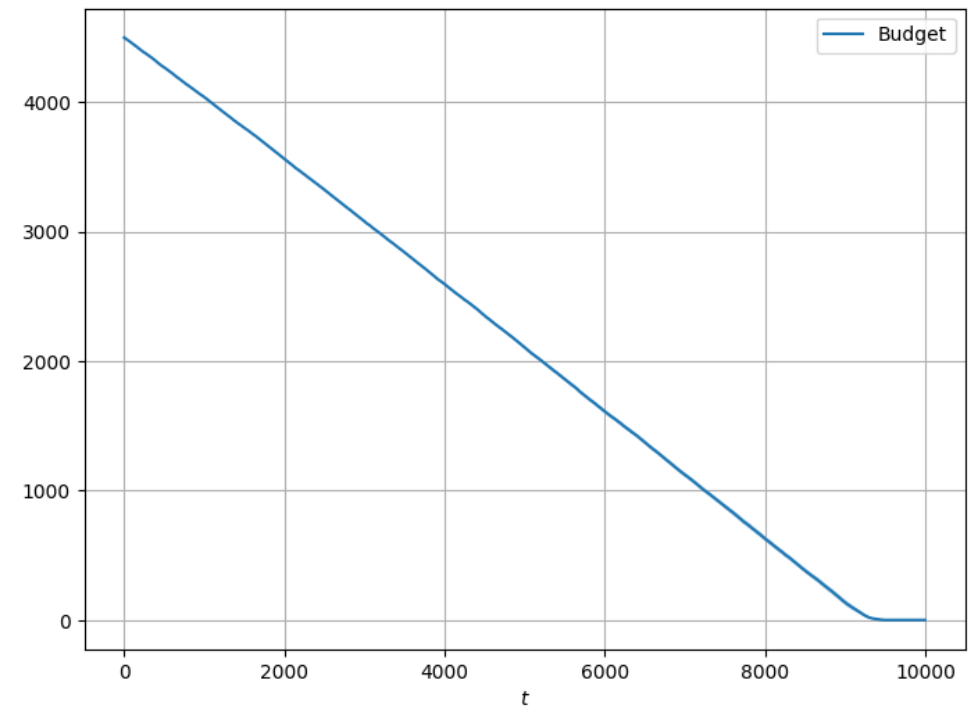
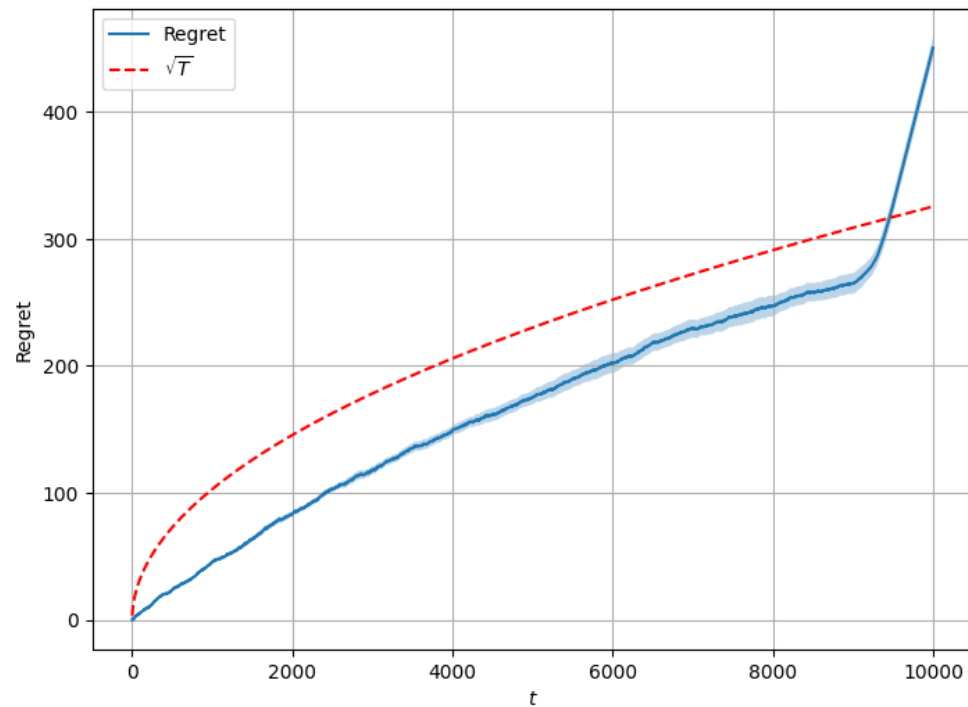
$$\max_{x_j \in [0, 1]} \sum_{j=1}^K v_j \cdot p_j \cdot x_j$$

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

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

Requirement 1.2

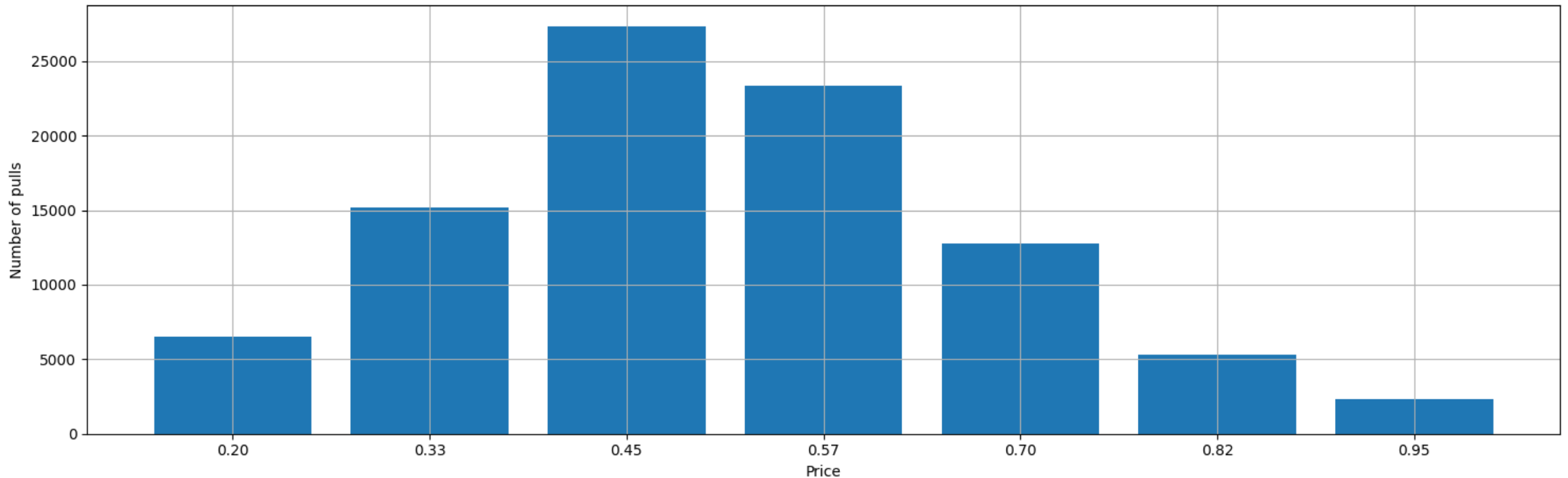
Single product stochastic environment with inventory constraint



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

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

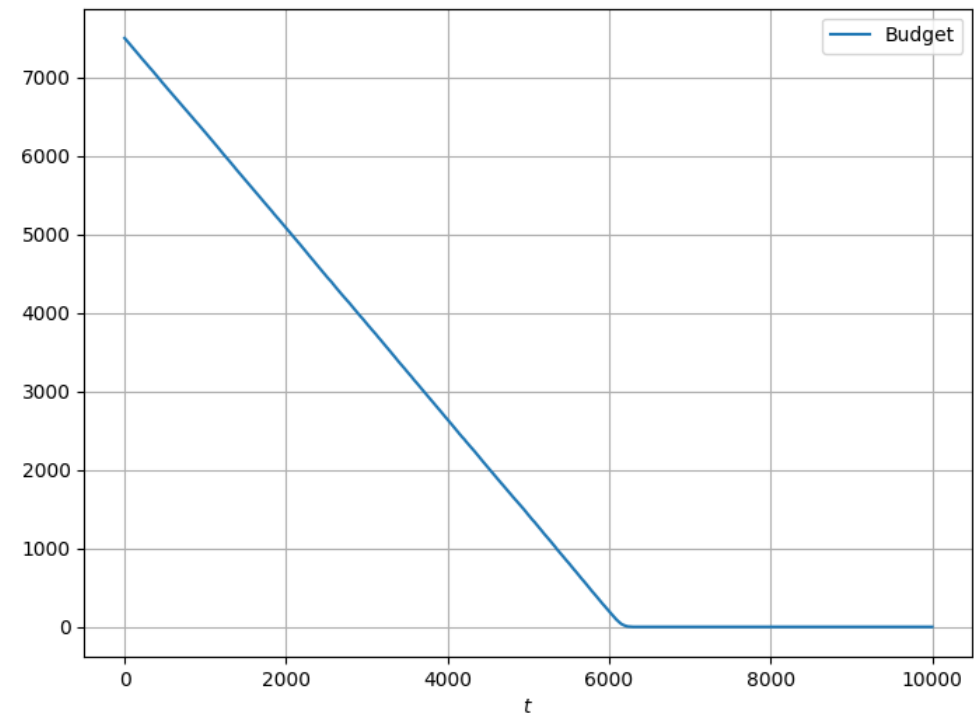
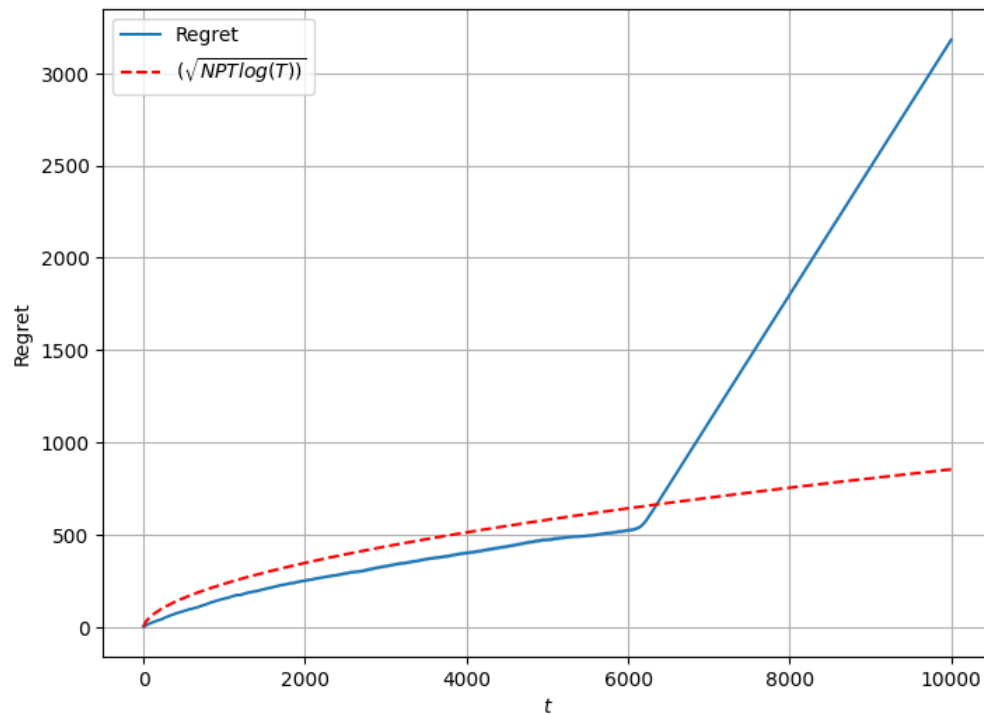
VALUATION DISTRIBUTION

At each round the valuation is sampled from

$$\begin{aligned} X &\sim \mathcal{N}(0.5, 1^2) \\ Y &\sim \text{Beta}(3, 2) \\ Z &\sim \text{Beta}(2, 20) \end{aligned}$$

Requirement 2

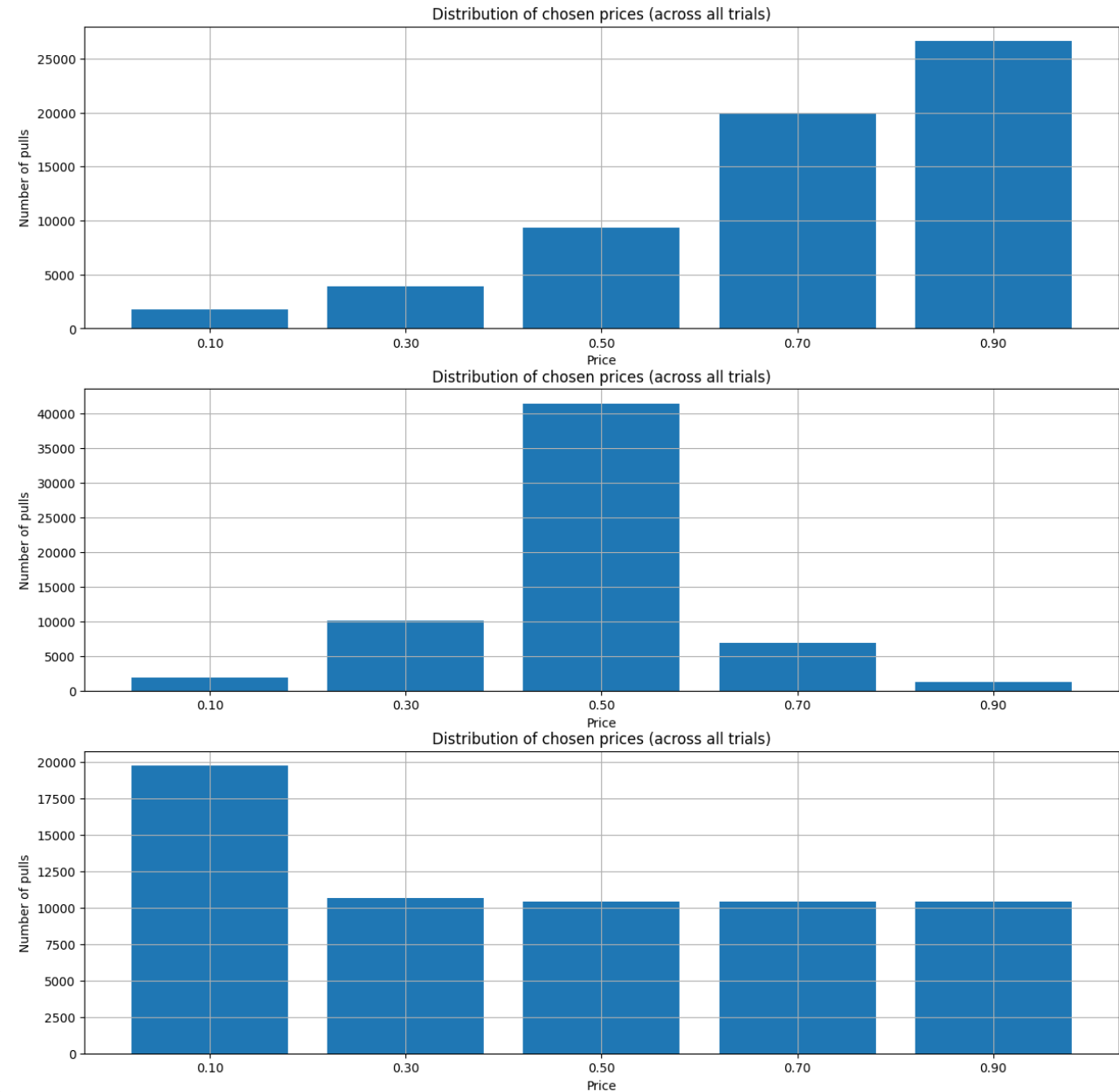
Multiple product stochastic environment with inventory constraint



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

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

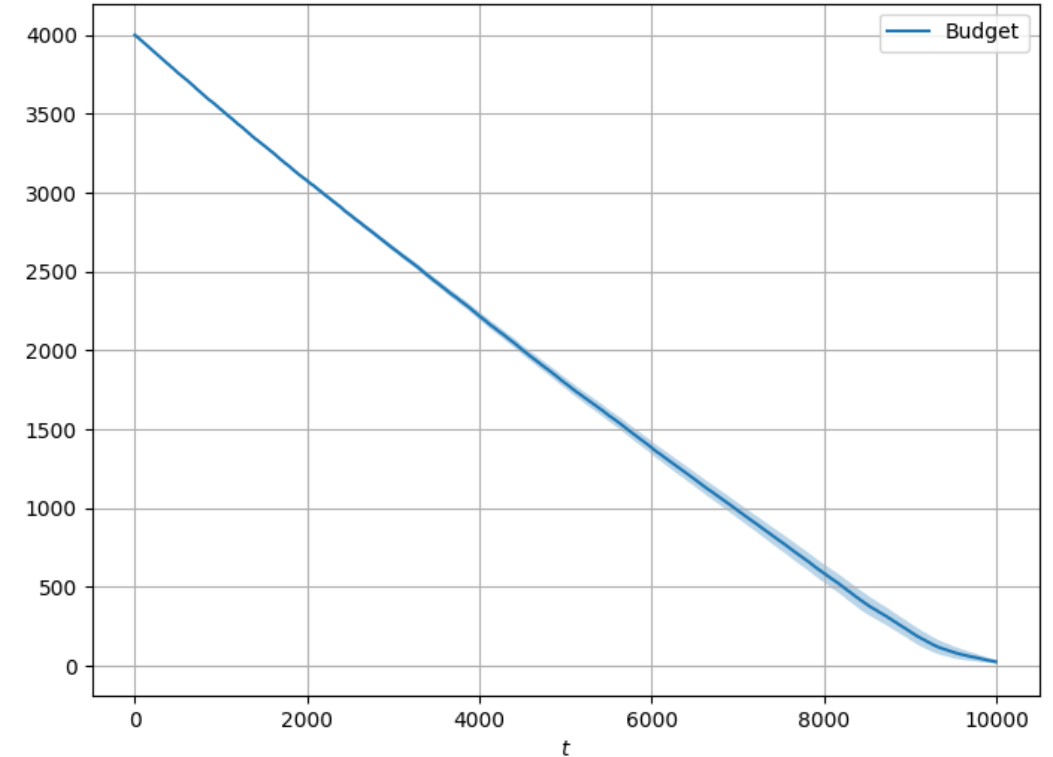
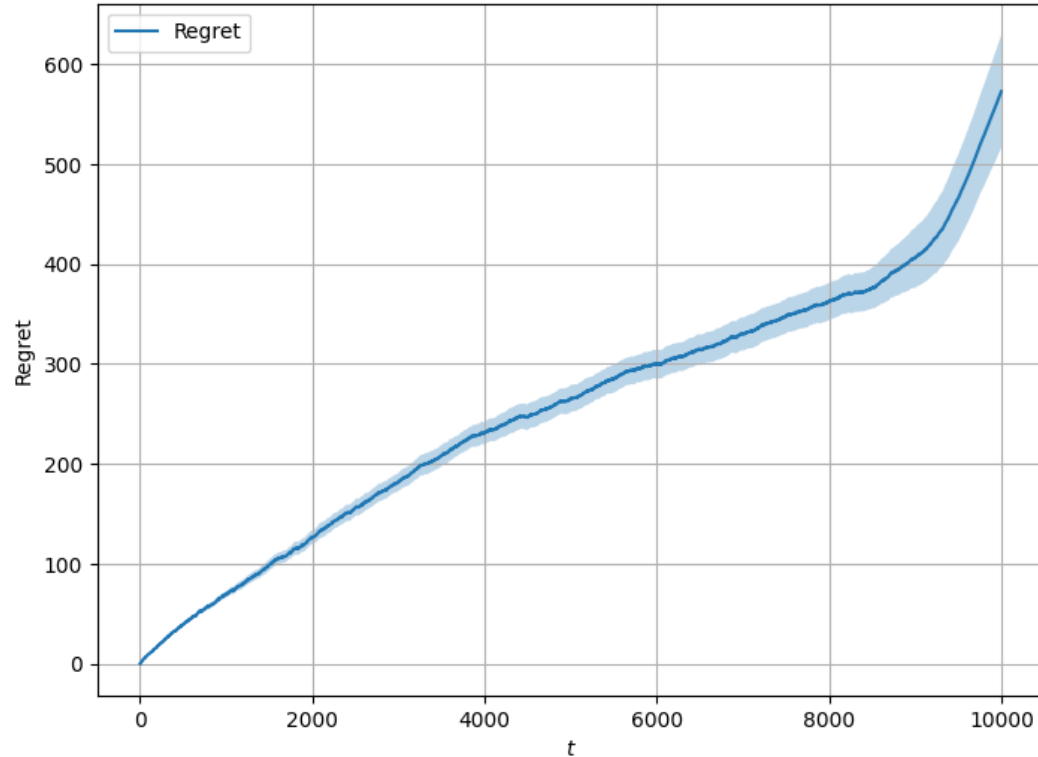
Stationary

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

Requirement 3

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

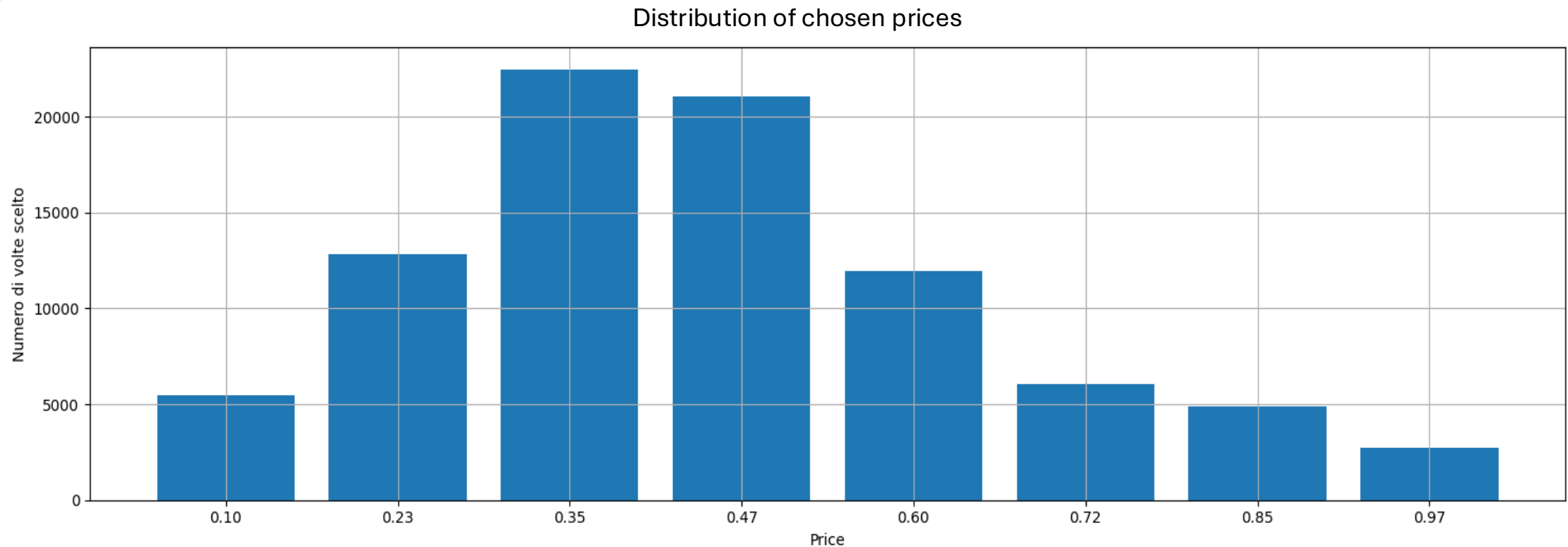
*ADVERSARIAL
ENVIRONMENT*



Requirement 3

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

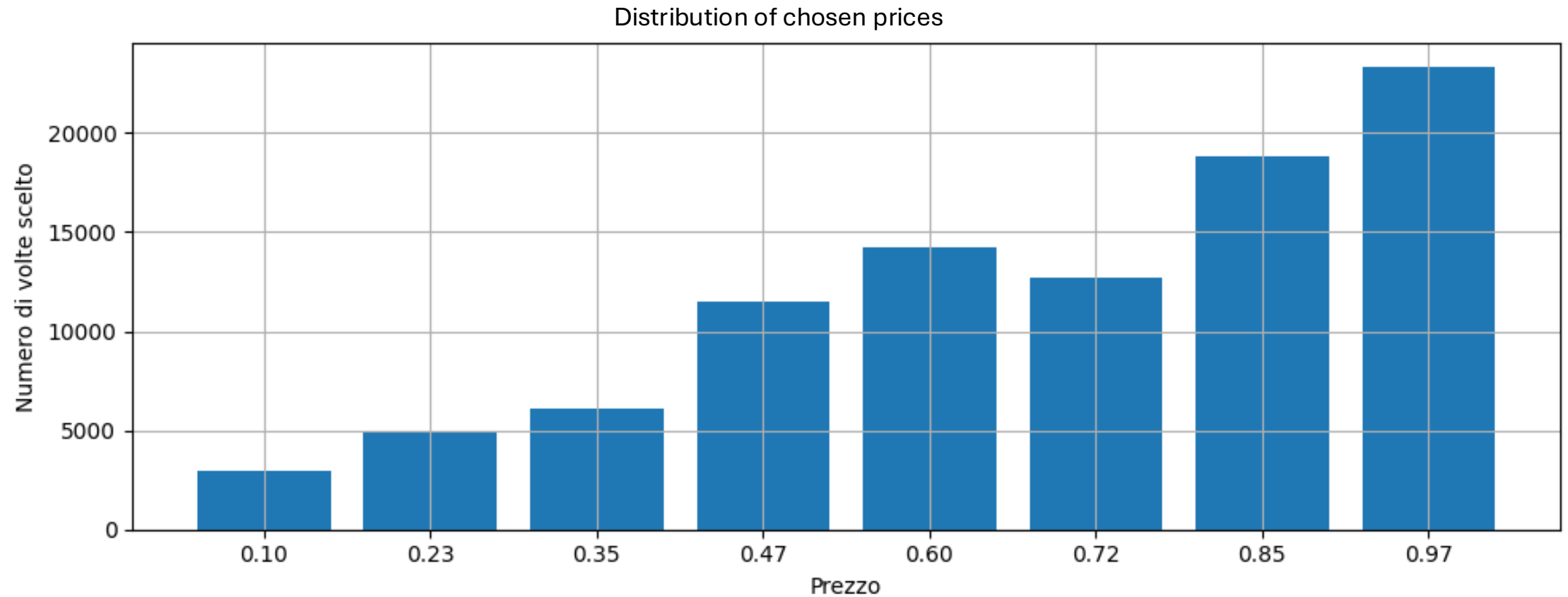
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Requirement 3

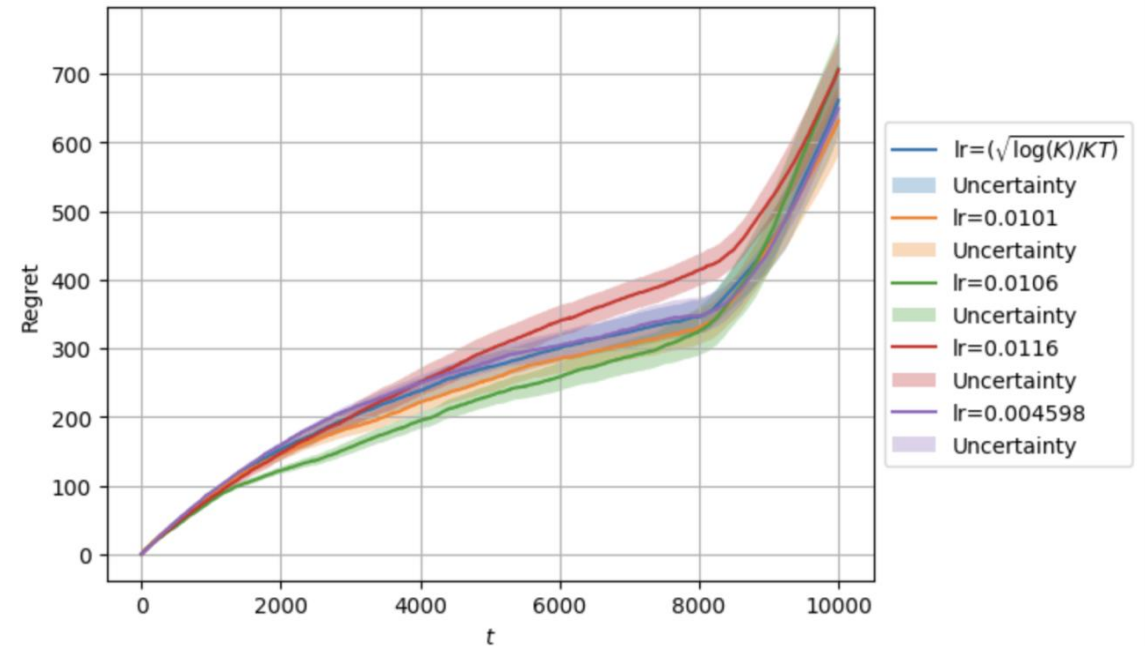
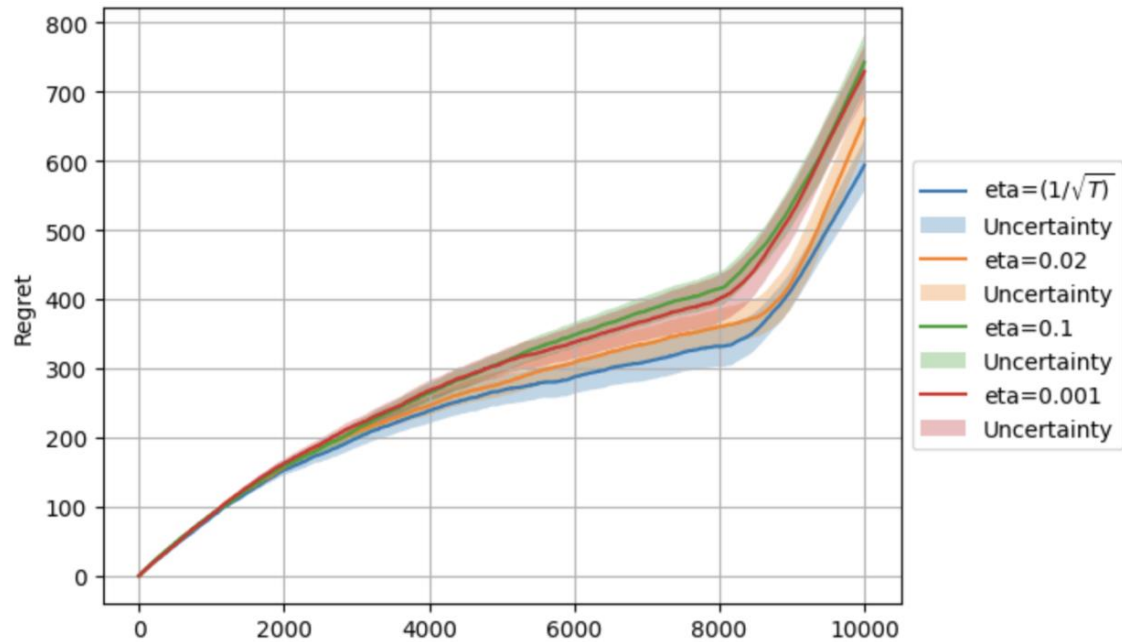
**Best-of-both-worlds algorithms with a single product
with inventory constraint**

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 (mean and covariance fixed for all the rounds):

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &\sim \mathcal{U}[0.4, 1.0]^N \\ A &\sim \text{Uniform}[0, 1]^{N \times N} \\ \Sigma &= AA^\top + 0.05 \cdot I_N \\ X &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)\end{aligned}$$

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 (mean and covariance change at each round)

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &\sim \mathcal{U}[0.4, 1.0]^N \\ A &\sim \text{Uniform}[0, 1]^{N \times N} \\ \Sigma &= AA^\top + 0.05 \cdot I_N \\ X &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)\end{aligned}$$

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:

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

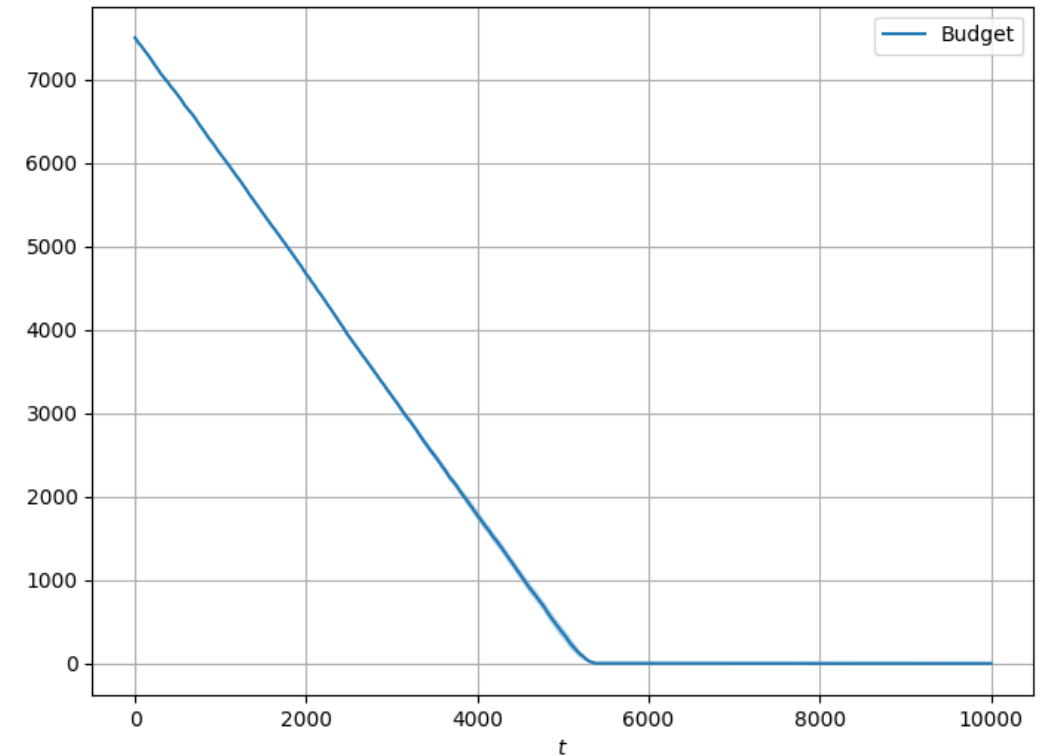
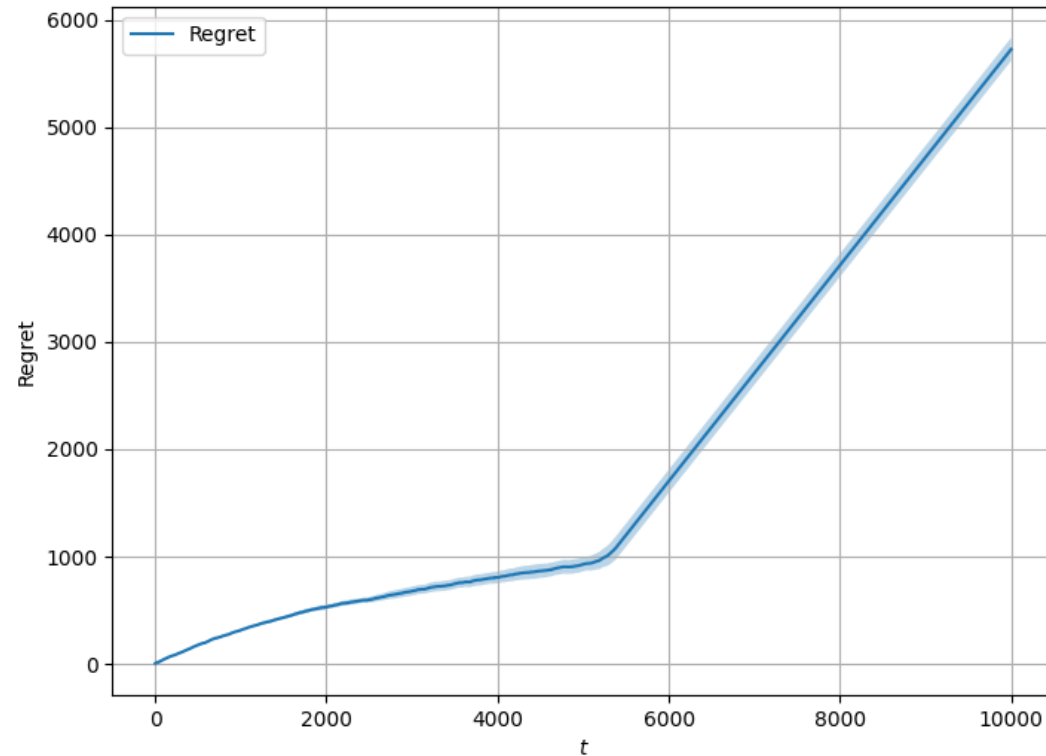
$$\sum_{j=1}^P x_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N$$

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

Requirement 4

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

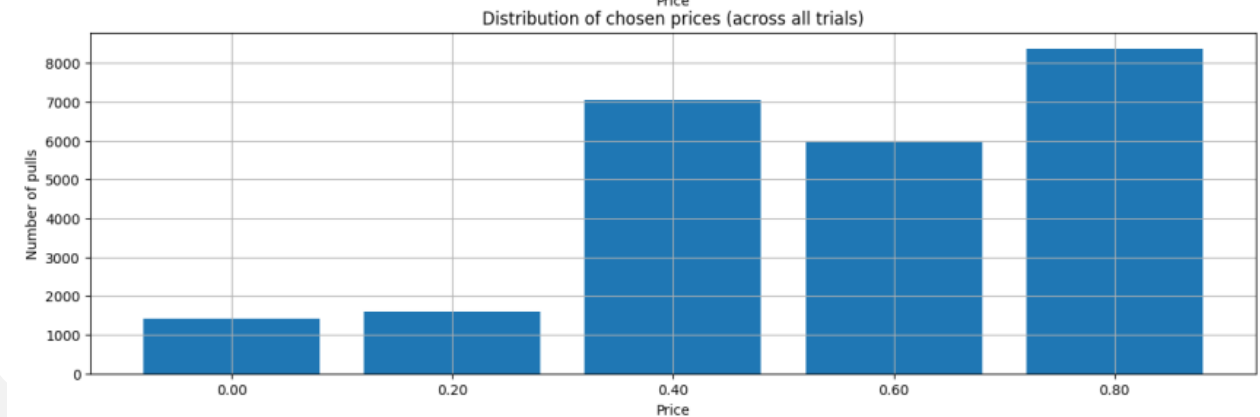
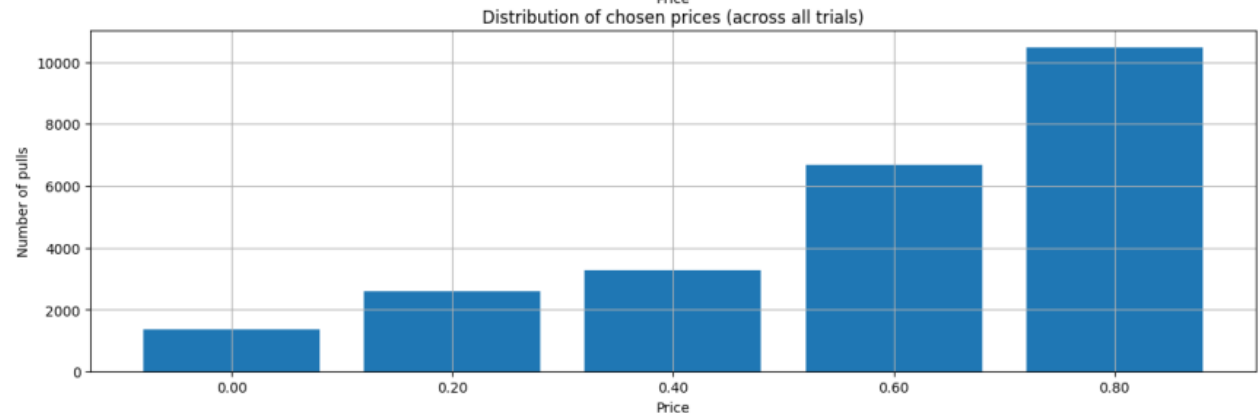
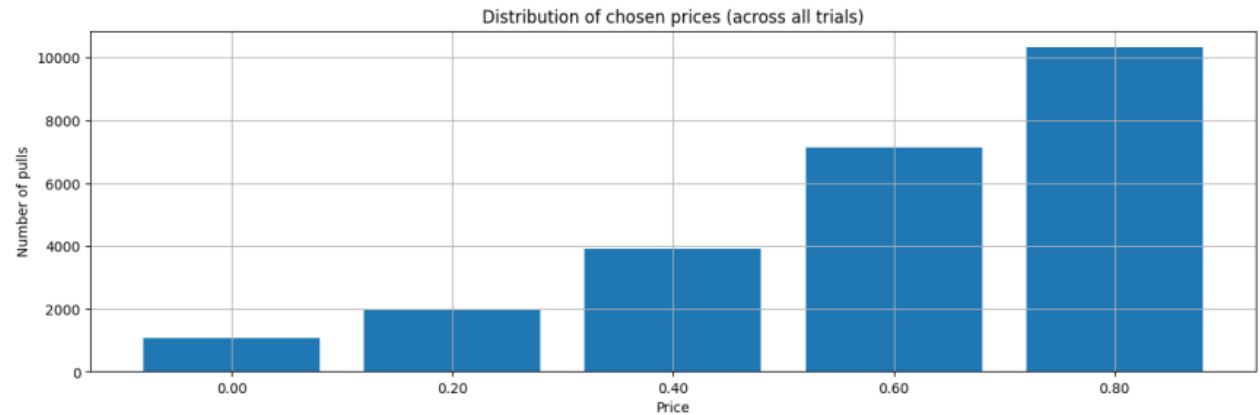
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Requirement 4

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

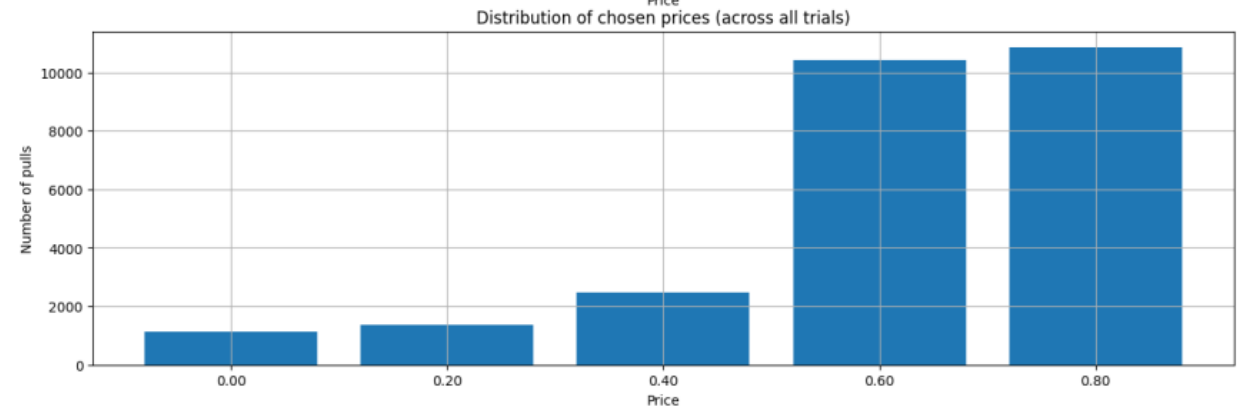
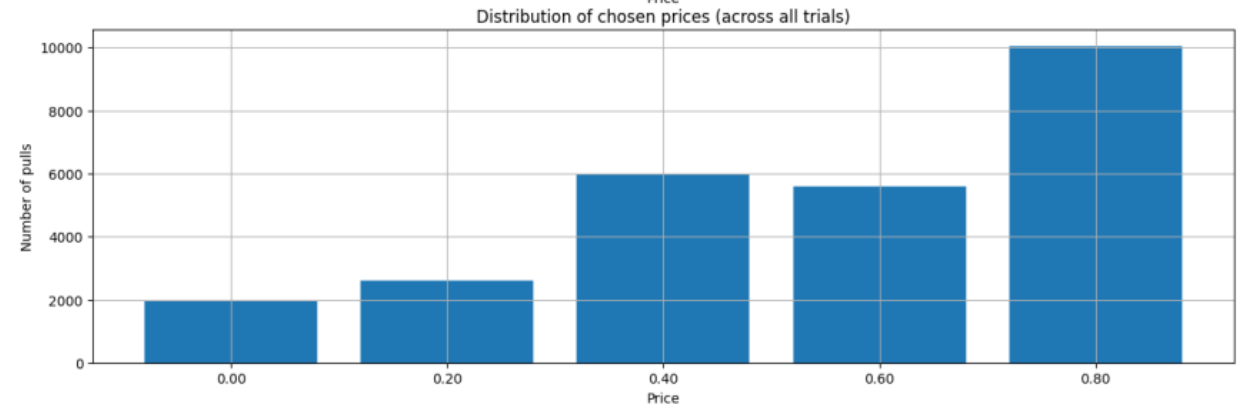
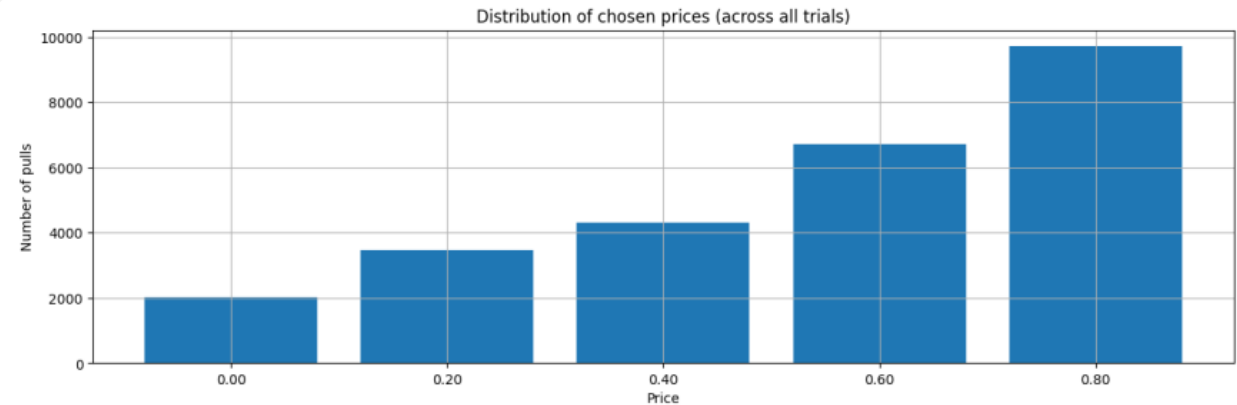
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Requirement 4

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

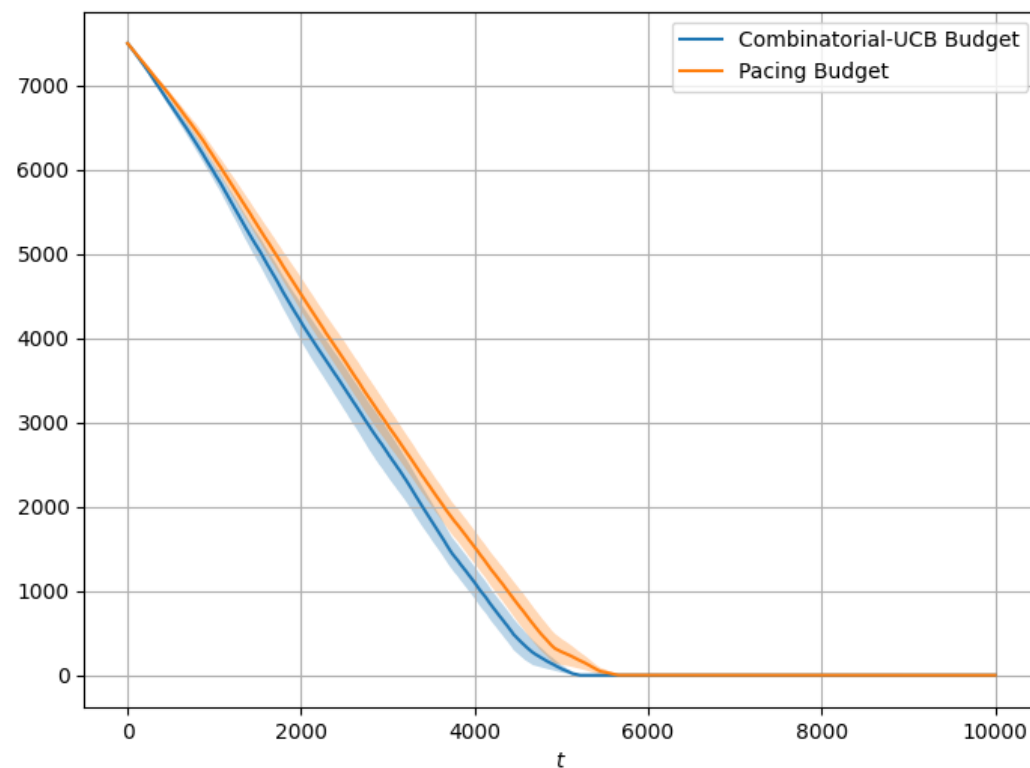
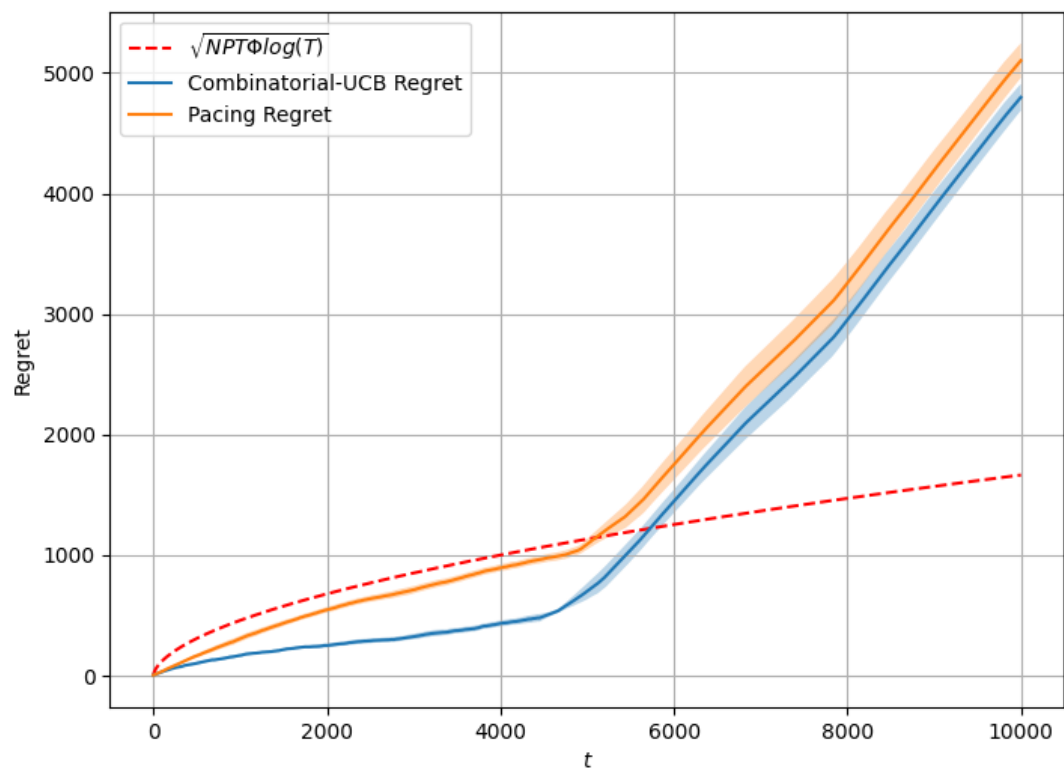
For ***each interval*** chooses the price that maximises the following LP:

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

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

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

Comparison in slightly non-stationary environment



Requirement 5

Slightly non-stationary environments with multiple products and inventory constraint

