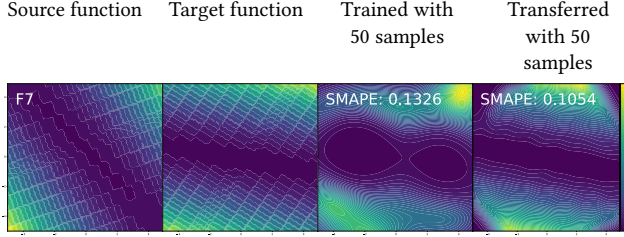


## 7 APPENDIX

Table 2 lists the SMAPE values (mean and standard deviations over ten repetitions) for three models: the original GPR, the transferred model, and the one trained from scratch measured on each target function in 2D and 10D. We also include the results for two sizes of transfer data:  $|\mathcal{T}| \in \{50, 50d\}$ . Using the Kruskal-Wallis test and Dunn’s posthoc procedure with a 5% significance level, we compare the SMAPE values of the three models and indicate the statistical significance as follows: the transferred model is underlined if it outperforms the original model; Among the transferred model and the one trained from scratch, the better one is indicated with boldface.

Figure 6 and 7 illustrate SMAPE scores ( $y$ -axis) of the original, transferred GPRs, and the one trained directly on the transfer data set (“Trained from scratch”) as a function of the size of the transfer data set on 2D and 10D BBOB functions. Sample sizes of transfer data for 2D ( $x$ -axis) are 10, 20, 30, 50, and 100. For 10D ( $x$ -axis), they are 10, 20, 30, 50, 100, 250, 500.

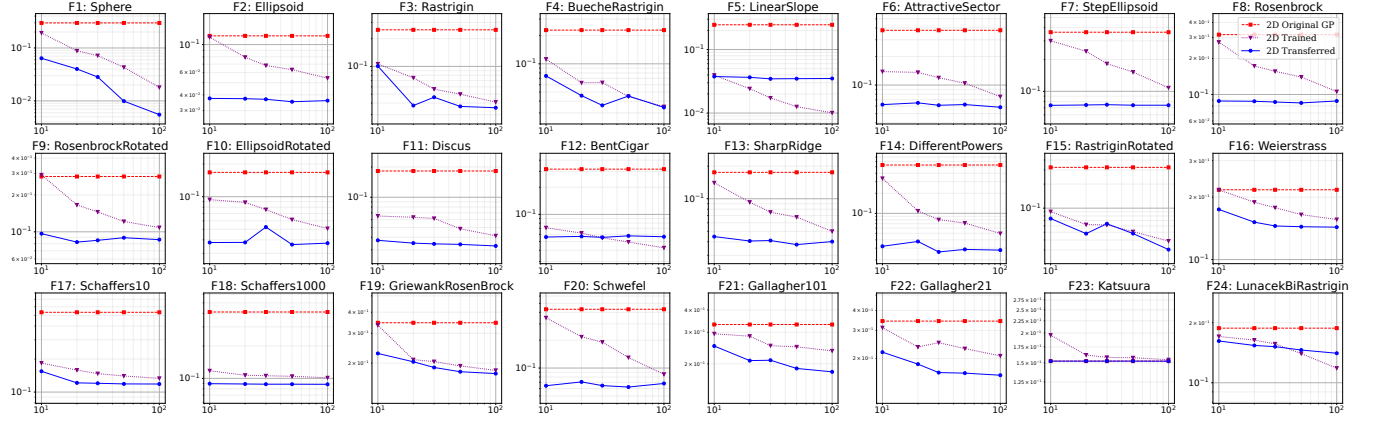
Figure 8 presents experimental outcomes consistent with our earlier findings: as the number of transfer data samples increases, the performance of the transferred GPR gradually becomes inferior to that of the GPR trained from scratch. Furthermore, in most BBOB functions, the performance gap between the transferred GPR and scratch-trained GPR tends to widen once the latter starts outperforming the former.



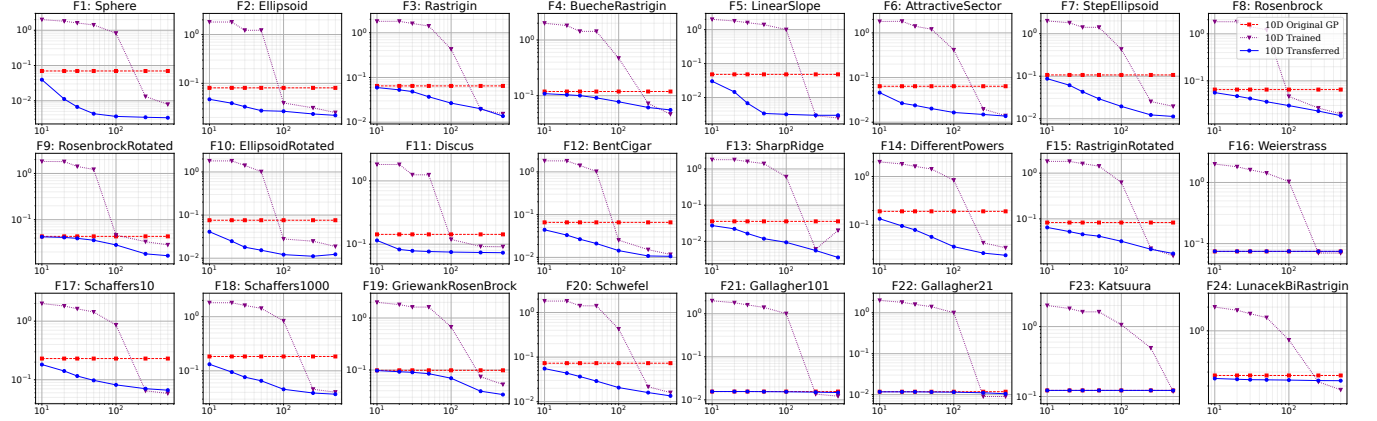
**Figure 5: A case study on the transfer learning result, showing the target, trained from scratch and transferred versions of F7 (StepEllipsoid) function in dimensionality 2.**

2D	Original GPR	Train from scratch	Transferred	Train from scratch	Transferred
		50 samples		100 samples	
F1	0.2973 $\pm$ 0.0770	0.0431 $\pm$ 0.0090	<b><u>0.0099 <math>\pm</math> 0.0105</u></b>	0.0180 $\pm$ 0.0041	<u>0.0055 <math>\pm</math> 0.0115</u>
F2	0.1172 $\pm$ 0.0310	0.0633 $\pm$ 0.0095	<u>0.0353 <math>\pm</math> 0.0186</u>	0.0542 $\pm$ 0.0073	<u>0.0360 <math>\pm</math> 0.0187</u>
F3	0.2494 $\pm$ 0.0798	0.0499 $\pm$ 0.0132	<b><u>0.0368 <math>\pm</math> 0.0041</u></b>	0.0410 $\pm$ 0.0067	<u>0.0356 <math>\pm</math> 0.0030</u>
F4	0.2286 $\pm$ 0.0777	0.0448 $\pm$ 0.0097	<u>0.0454 <math>\pm</math> 0.0331</u>	0.0350 $\pm$ 0.0030	<u>0.0343 <math>\pm</math> 0.0109</u>
F5	0.2455 $\pm$ 0.0788	0.0126 $\pm$ 0.0072	<u>0.0348 <math>\pm</math> 0.0258</u>	0.0101 $\pm$ 0.0051	<u>0.0350 <math>\pm</math> 0.0255</u>
F6	0.3778 $\pm$ 0.0950	0.1046 $\pm$ 0.0212	<u>0.0623 <math>\pm</math> 0.0319</u>	0.0755 $\pm$ 0.0159	<u>0.0583 <math>\pm</math> 0.0303</u>
F7	0.3623 $\pm$ 0.1175	0.1521 $\pm$ 0.0239	<b><u>0.0739 <math>\pm</math> 0.0198</u></b>	0.1080 $\pm$ 0.0115	<u>0.0739 <math>\pm</math> 0.0195</u>
F8	0.3166 $\pm$ 0.0703	0.1400 $\pm$ 0.0136	<u>0.0850 <math>\pm</math> 0.0460</u>	0.1057 $\pm$ 0.0136	<u>0.0882 <math>\pm</math> 0.0545</u>
F9	0.2830 $\pm$ 0.0728	0.1215 $\pm$ 0.0096	<u>0.0895 <math>\pm</math> 0.0504</u>	0.1083 $\pm$ 0.0099	<u>0.0863 <math>\pm</math> 0.0509</u>
F10	0.1676 $\pm$ 0.0428	0.0615 $\pm$ 0.0102	<u>0.0362 <math>\pm</math> 0.0163</u>	0.0509 $\pm$ 0.0064	<u>0.0373 <math>\pm</math> 0.0194</u>
F11	0.1824 $\pm$ 0.0571	0.0486 $\pm$ 0.0056	<u>0.0340 <math>\pm</math> 0.0195</u>	0.0414 $\pm$ 0.0070	<u>0.0328 <math>\pm</math> 0.0211</u>
F12	0.3180 $\pm$ 0.1046	0.0494 $\pm$ 0.0085	<u>0.0578 <math>\pm</math> 0.0321</u>	0.0426 $\pm$ 0.0125	<u>0.0565 <math>\pm</math> 0.0308</u>
F13	0.1754 $\pm$ 0.0411	0.0676 $\pm$ 0.0109	<u>0.0377 <math>\pm</math> 0.0249</u>	0.0500 $\pm$ 0.0060	<u>0.0402 <math>\pm</math> 0.0302</u>
F14	0.5325 $\pm$ 0.1454	0.0714 $\pm$ 0.0149	<u>0.0287 <math>\pm</math> 0.0262</u>	0.0498 $\pm$ 0.0060	<u>0.0280 <math>\pm</math> 0.0247</u>
F15	0.3241 $\pm$ 0.0990	0.0508 $\pm$ 0.0126	<u>0.0481 <math>\pm</math> 0.0537</u>	0.0388 $\pm$ 0.0039	<u>0.0303 <math>\pm</math> 0.0039</u>
F16	0.2171 $\pm$ 0.0255	0.1648 $\pm$ 0.0090	<b><u>0.1440 <math>\pm</math> 0.0082</u></b>	0.1560 $\pm$ 0.0033	<u>0.1433 <math>\pm</math> 0.0080</u>
F17	0.5335 $\pm$ 0.1625	0.1402 $\pm$ 0.0123	<b><u>0.1187 <math>\pm</math> 0.0049</u></b>	0.1333 $\pm$ 0.0084	<b><u>0.1184 <math>\pm</math> 0.0046</u></b>
F18	0.4117 $\pm$ 0.1253	0.1045 $\pm$ 0.0083	<u>0.0883 <math>\pm</math> 0.0054</u>	0.1013 $\pm$ 0.0093	<u>0.0881 <math>\pm</math> 0.0050</u>
F19	0.3465 $\pm$ 0.0795	0.1926 $\pm$ 0.0290	<u>0.1779 <math>\pm</math> 0.0114</u>	0.1812 $\pm$ 0.0090	<u>0.1735 <math>\pm</math> 0.0044</u>
F20	0.4315 $\pm$ 0.1291	0.1299 $\pm$ 0.0174	<b><u>0.0623 <math>\pm</math> 0.0304</u></b>	0.0856 $\pm$ 0.0070	<u>0.0681 <math>\pm</math> 0.0413</u>
F21	0.3317 $\pm$ 0.0294	0.2489 $\pm$ 0.0128	<u>0.1885 <math>\pm</math> 0.1028</u>	0.2364 $\pm$ 0.0131	<u>0.1805 <math>\pm</math> 0.0941</u>
F22	0.3432 $\pm$ 0.0386	0.2309 $\pm$ 0.0245	<u>0.1621 <math>\pm</math> 0.0788</u>	0.2080 $\pm$ 0.0223	<u>0.1573 <math>\pm</math> 0.0810</u>
F23	0.1527 $\pm$ 0.0043	0.1577 $\pm$ 0.0099	<u>0.1527 <math>\pm</math> 0.0043</u>	0.1548 $\pm$ 0.0062	<u>0.1526 <math>\pm</math> 0.0042</u>
F24	0.1876 $\pm$ 0.0411	0.1399 $\pm$ 0.0228	<u>0.1458 <math>\pm</math> 0.0354</u>	0.1183 $\pm$ 0.0144	<u>0.1405 <math>\pm</math> 0.0374</u>
10D	Original GPR	Train from scratch	Transferred	Train from scratch	Transferred
		50 samples		500 samples	
F1	0.0700 $\pm$ 0.0119	1.4140 $\pm$ 0.8951	<b><u>0.0043 <math>\pm</math> 0.0013</u></b>	0.0079 $\pm$ 0.0006	<b><u>0.0033 <math>\pm</math> 0.0013</u></b>
F2	0.0809 $\pm$ 0.0132	1.2238 $\pm$ 0.9507	<b><u>0.0276 <math>\pm</math> 0.0059</u></b>	0.0252 $\pm$ 0.0048	<u>0.0221 <math>\pm</math> 0.0071</u>
F3	0.0648 $\pm$ 0.0026	1.4149 $\pm$ 0.8936	<b><u>0.0370 <math>\pm</math> 0.0066</u></b>	0.0154 $\pm$ 0.0022	<u>0.0137 <math>\pm</math> 0.0015</u>
F4	0.1188 $\pm$ 0.0048	1.4282 $\pm$ 0.8734	<b><u>0.0915 <math>\pm</math> 0.0041</u></b>	0.0466 $\pm$ 0.0038	<u>0.0554 <math>\pm</math> 0.0037</u>
F5	0.0481 $\pm$ 0.0083	1.4013 $\pm$ 0.9144	<b><u>0.0034 <math>\pm</math> 0.0008</u></b>	0.0025 $\pm$ 0.0003	<u>0.0030 <math>\pm</math> 0.0003</u>
F6	0.0638 $\pm$ 0.0064	1.2098 $\pm$ 0.9678	<b><u>0.0202 <math>\pm</math> 0.0028</u></b>	0.0140 $\pm$ 0.0022	<u>0.0137 <math>\pm</math> 0.0015</u>
F7	0.1072 $\pm$ 0.0104	1.4140 $\pm$ 0.8950	<b><u>0.0294 <math>\pm</math> 0.0048</u></b>	0.0195 $\pm$ 0.0029	<b><u>0.0113 <math>\pm</math> 0.0012</u></b>
F8	0.0653 $\pm$ 0.0074	1.2178 $\pm$ 0.9579	<b><u>0.0360 <math>\pm</math> 0.0027</u></b>	0.0200 $\pm$ 0.0020	<u>0.0182 <math>\pm</math> 0.0012</u>
F9	0.0435 $\pm$ 0.0013	1.2220 $\pm$ 0.9529	<b><u>0.0359 <math>\pm</math> 0.0034</u></b>	0.0285 $\pm$ 0.0050	<b><u>0.0166 <math>\pm</math> 0.0008</u></b>
F10	0.0759 $\pm$ 0.0138	1.0156 $\pm$ 0.9844	<b><u>0.0153 <math>\pm</math> 0.0029</u></b>	0.0187 $\pm$ 0.0049	<u>0.0123 <math>\pm</math> 0.0037</u>
F11	0.1429 $\pm$ 0.0118	1.2462 $\pm$ 0.9232	<b><u>0.0766 <math>\pm</math> 0.0033</u></b>	0.0913 $\pm$ 0.0116	<b><u>0.0734 <math>\pm</math> 0.0025</u></b>
F12	0.0659 $\pm$ 0.0057	1.0222 $\pm$ 0.9778	<b><u>0.0211 <math>\pm</math> 0.0038</u></b>	0.0117 $\pm$ 0.0010	<u>0.0106 <math>\pm</math> 0.0021</u>
F13	0.0357 $\pm$ 0.0052	1.4045 $\pm$ 0.9095	<b><u>0.0119 <math>\pm</math> 0.0015</u></b>	0.0201 $\pm$ 0.0488	<u>0.0036 <math>\pm</math> 0.0006</u>
F14	0.1921 $\pm$ 0.0246	1.4246 $\pm$ 0.8789	<b><u>0.0574 <math>\pm</math> 0.0087</u></b>	0.0342 $\pm$ 0.0031	<u>0.0240 <math>\pm</math> 0.0054</u>
F15	0.0831 $\pm$ 0.0082	1.4205 $\pm$ 0.8853	<b><u>0.0418 <math>\pm</math> 0.0038</u></b>	0.0156 $\pm$ 0.0017	<u>0.0175 <math>\pm</math> 0.0054</u>
F16	0.0745 $\pm$ 0.0135	1.4214 $\pm$ 0.8838	<b><u>0.0748 <math>\pm</math> 0.0141</u></b>	0.0700 $\pm$ 0.0007	<u>0.0748 <math>\pm</math> 0.0142</u>
F17	0.2301 $\pm$ 0.0267	1.4332 $\pm$ 0.8657	<b><u>0.0977 <math>\pm</math> 0.0163</u></b>	0.0585 $\pm$ 0.0021	<u>0.0664 <math>\pm</math> 0.0138</u>
F18	0.1841 $\pm$ 0.0231	1.4261 $\pm$ 0.8766	<b><u>0.0654 <math>\pm</math> 0.0115</u></b>	0.0403 $\pm$ 0.0010	<b><u>0.0370 <math>\pm</math> 0.0014</u></b>
F19	0.0986 $\pm$ 0.0031	1.6226 $\pm$ 0.7547	<b><u>0.0850 <math>\pm</math> 0.0070</u></b>	0.0527 $\pm$ 0.0010	<b><u>0.0337 <math>\pm</math> 0.0013</u></b>
F20	0.0730 $\pm$ 0.0088	1.4112 $\pm$ 0.8994	<b><u>0.0290 <math>\pm</math> 0.0041</u></b>	0.0160 $\pm$ 0.0025	<u>0.0135 <math>\pm</math> 0.0012</u>
F21	0.0156 $\pm$ 0.0004	1.4041 $\pm$ 0.9103	<u>0.0155 <math>\pm</math> 0.0005</u>	<b><u>0.0122 <math>\pm</math> 0.0007</u></b>	<u>0.0148 <math>\pm</math> 0.0004</u>
F22	0.0118 $\pm$ 0.0005	1.4036 $\pm$ 0.9110	<b><u>0.0116 <math>\pm</math> 0.0005</u></b>	0.0090 $\pm$ 0.0024	<u>0.0105 <math>\pm</math> 0.0005</u>
F23	0.1223 $\pm$ 0.0009	1.6241 $\pm$ 0.7517	<u>0.1223 <math>\pm</math> 0.0009</u>	<b><u>0.1183 <math>\pm</math> 0.0011</u></b>	<u>0.1222 <math>\pm</math> 0.0009</u>
F24	0.2718 $\pm$ 0.0059	1.4718 $\pm$ 0.8067	<b><u>0.2393 <math>\pm</math> 0.0038</u></b>	0.1787 $\pm$ 0.0194	<u>0.2333 <math>\pm</math> 0.0031</u>

Table 2: On 2D and 10D BBOB functions, the mean and standard deviation (over ten repetitions) of the SMAPE value measured for the original and the transferred models, and the one trained with the transfer data set (“trained from scratch”). We include results obtained with two sample sizes of the transfer data:  $|\mathcal{T}| \in \{50, 50d\}$ . Using the Kruskal-Wallis test and Dunn’s posthoc procedure at a 5% significance level, we compare the three models and indicate the statistical significance as follows: the transferred model is underlined if it significantly outperforms the original model, while among the transferred model and the one trained from scratch, the significantly better one is indicated with boldface.



**Figure 6:** SMAPE scores ( $y$ -axis) of the original, transferred GPRs, and the one trained directly on the transfer data set (“Trained from scratch”) as a function of the size of the transfer data set on 2D BBOB functions. Sample sizes of transfer data for 2D ( $x$ -axis) are 10, 20, 30, 50, and 100.



**Figure 7:** SMAPE scores ( $y$ -axis) of the original, transferred GPRs, and the one trained directly on the transfer data set (“Trained from scratch”) as a function of the size of the transfer data set on 10D BBOB functions. Sample sizes of transfer data for 10D ( $x$ -axis) are 10, 20, 30, 50, 100, 250, and 500.

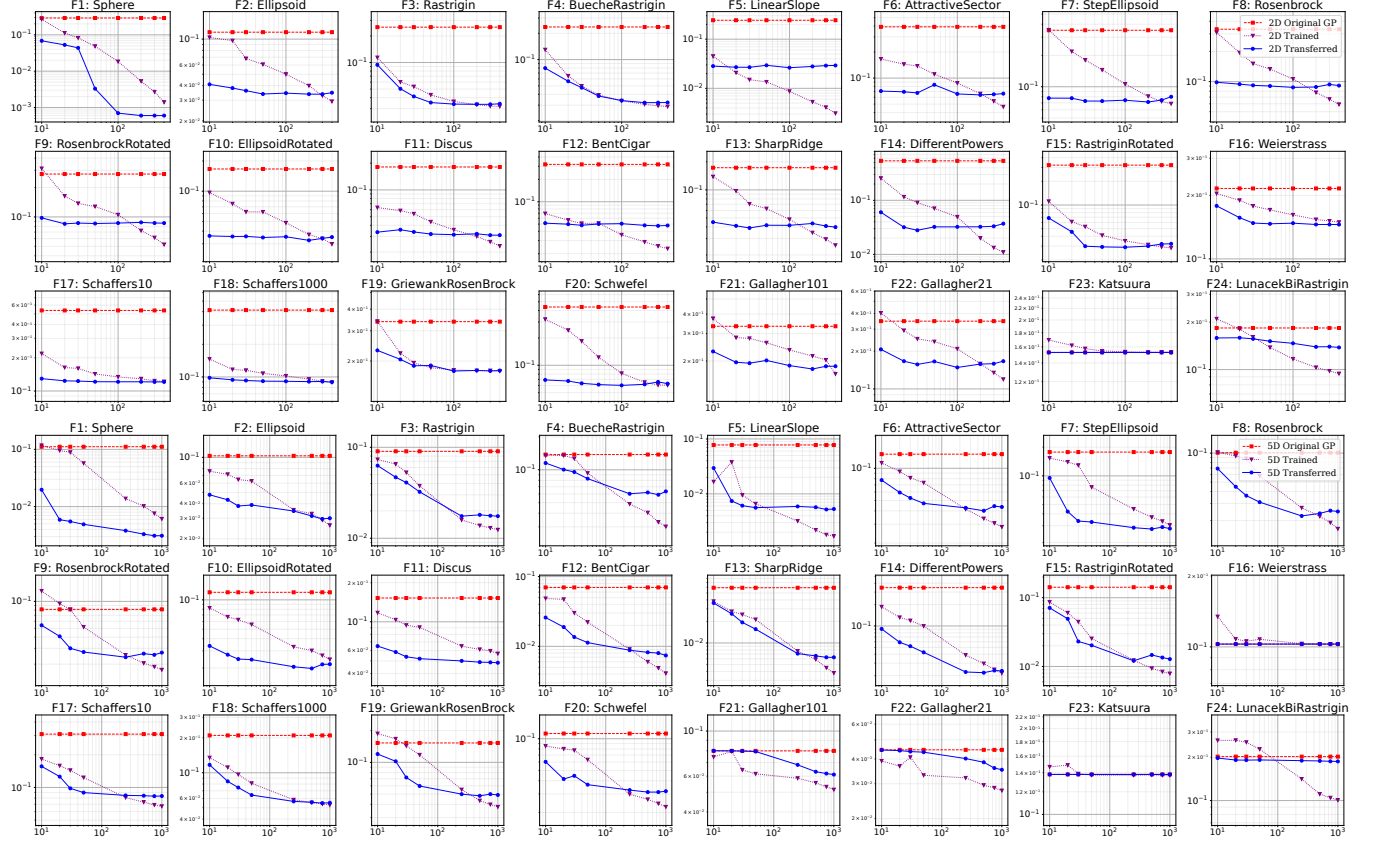


Figure 8: SMAPE scores ( $y$ -axis) of the original, transferred GPRs, and the one trained directly on the transfer data set ("Trained from scratch") as a function of the size of the transfer data set on 2D and 5D BBOB functions based on relatively larger sample sizes. Sample sizes of transfer data for both 2D and 5D are 10, 20, 30, 50, 50d, 100d, 150d, 200d.