

# Hyperparameters and Model Selection

**GRAHAM TAYLOR**

VECTOR INSTITUTE

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

CANADIAN INSTITUTE  
FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH

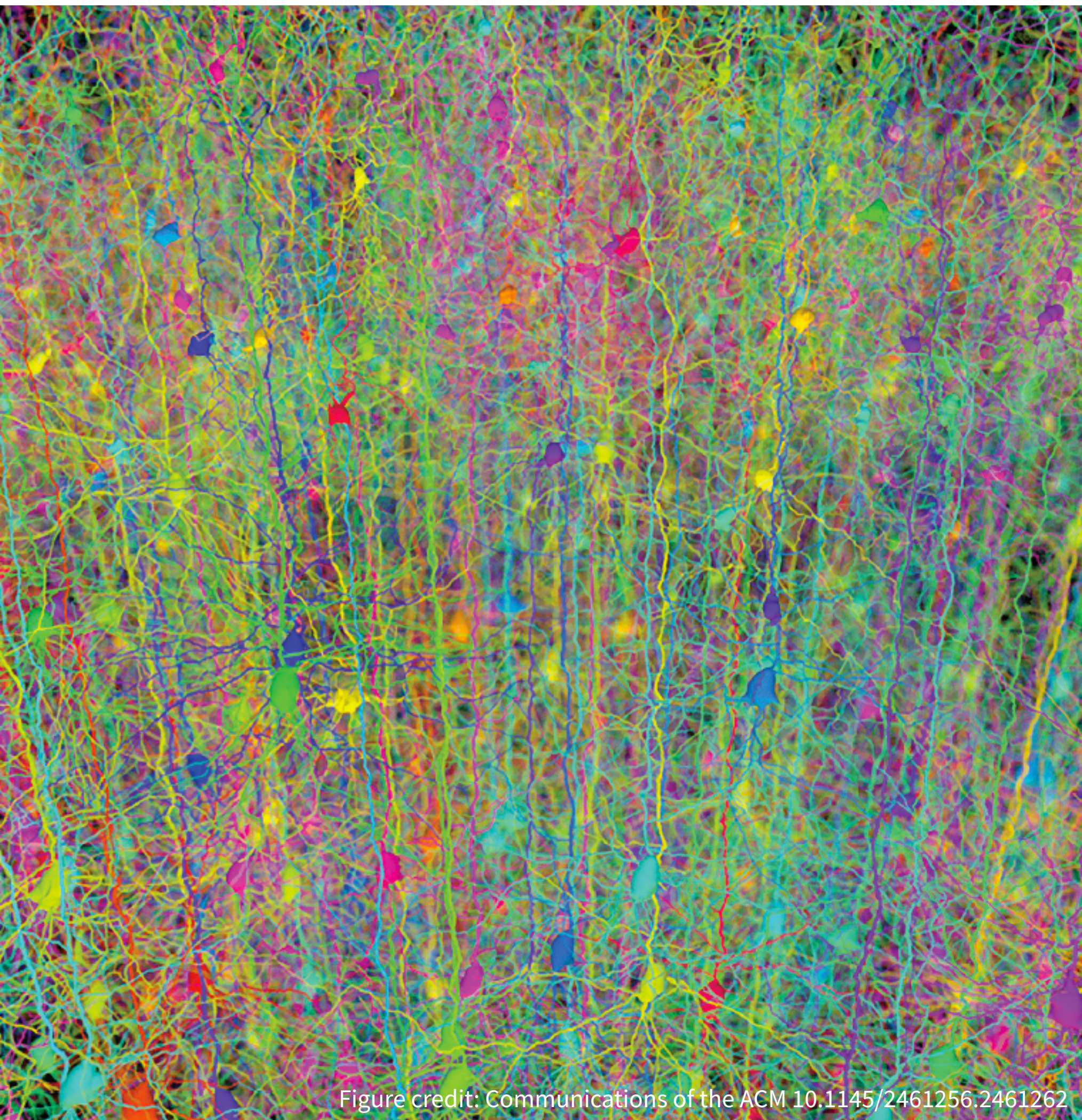


Figure credit: Communications of the ACM 10.1145/2461256.2461262

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

CHANGING LIVES  
IMPROVING LIFE

**CIFAR**  
CANADIAN  
INSTITUTE  
FOR  
ADVANCED  
RESEARCH

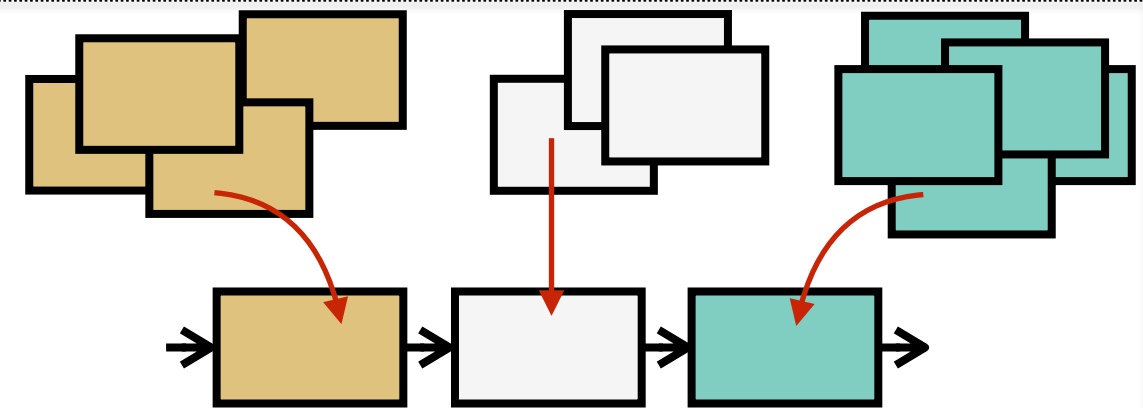


# Model vs. Learning Algorithm

# Model vs. Learning Algorithm

## Model (Architecture)

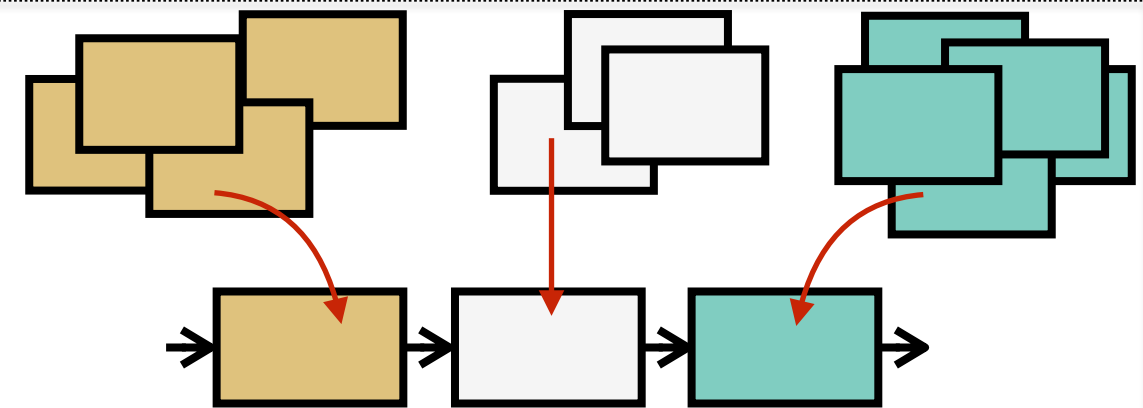
Describes path from input to output  
Employed at test time and training time



# Model vs. Learning Algorithm

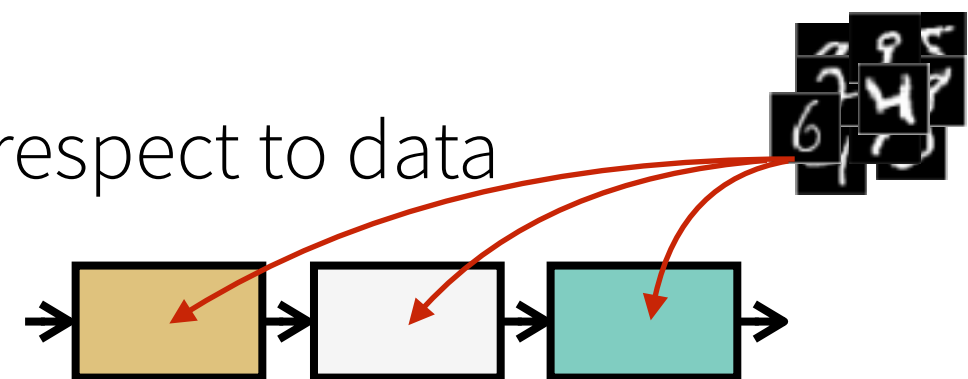
## Model (Architecture)

Describes path from input to output  
Employed at test time and training time



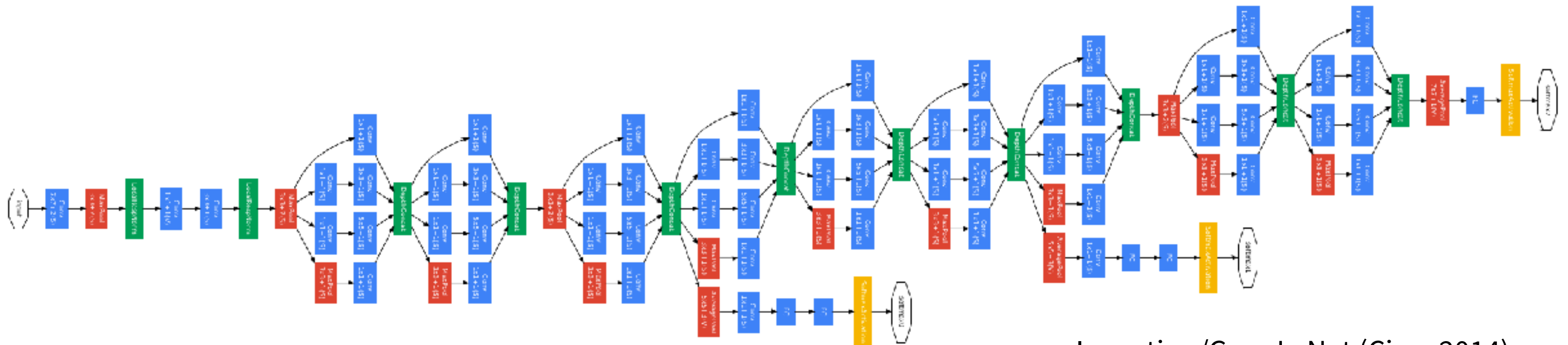
## Learning Algorithm

Describes how parameters are updated with respect to data  
Employed at training time



# Trend: Complex ML Architectures

	depth	size	top-5-error (%)	improved top-5 error (%)
AlexNet (2012)	8	60M	17.0	15.3
Inception (2014)	22	4M	10.1	6.7
VGGNet (2014)	19	144M	8.0	6.8
ResNet (2015)	152	~45M	5.7	3.6



### Inception/GoogLeNet (Circa 2014)

# Trend: Flexibility in Choosing a Learning Algorithm

TensorFlow™

Install

Develop

API r1.0

Deploy

Extend

Resources

Versions

Search

GitHub

API r1.0

Overview r1.0

Python API r1.0

Python API Guides

Asserts and boolean checks

Building Graphs

Constants, Sequences, and Random Values

Control Flow

Data IO (Python functions)

Higher Order Functions

Histograms

Images

Inputs and Readers

Math

Neural Network

Running Graphs

Sparse Tensors

Strings

Summary Operations

TensorFlow Debugger

Tensor Handle Operations

Tensor Transformations

Testing

Training

Variables

Wraps python functions

TensorFlow Estimator (contrib)

## Training

This library provides a set of classes and functions that helps train models.

## Optimizers

The Optimizer base class provides methods to compute gradients for a loss and apply gradients to variables. A collection of subclasses implement classic optimization algorithms such as GradientDescent and Adagrad.

You never instantiate the Optimizer class itself, but instead instantiate one of the subclasses.

- `tf.train.Optimizer`
- `tf.train.GradientDescentOptimizer`
- `tf.train.AdadeltaOptimizer`
- `tf.train.AdagradOptimizer`
- `tf.train.AdagradDAOptimizer`
- `tf.train.MomentumOptimizer`
- `tf.train.AdamOptimizer`
- `tf.train.FtrlOptimizer`
- `tf.train.ProximalGradientDescentOptimizer`
- `tf.train.ProximalAdagradOptimizer`
- `tf.train.RMSPropOptimizer`

Contents

Optimizers

Gradient: Computation

Gradient: Clipping

Decaying the learning rate

Moving Averages

Coordinator and QueueRunner

Distributed execution

Reading Summaries from Event Files

Training Hooks

Training Utilities

# Engineering architectures

- Romanticized notion of DL - end of feature engineering
- Feature engineering has decreased
- Architectures have become more complex

« Smerity.com

In deep learning, architecture engineering is the new feature engineering

-----

June 11, 2016

Two of the most important aspects of machine learning models are feature extraction and feature engineering. Those features are what supply relevant information to the machine learning models.

Representing the word **overfitting** using various feature representations:

- \* Morphological = [(prefix, **over-**), (root, **fit**), (suffix=imperfect tense, **-ing**)]
- \* Unigrams = ['o', 'v', 'e', 'r', 'f', 'i', 't', 't', 'i', 'n', 'g']
- \* Bigrams = ['ov', 've', 'er', 'rf', 'fi', 'it', 'tt', 'ti', 'in', 'ng']
- \* Trigrams = ['ove', 'ver', 'erf', 'rfi', 'fit', 'itt', 'tti', 'tin', 'ing']
- \* One-hot = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
- \* Word vector = [-0.26, 0.34, 0.48, -0.06, 0.16, 0.11, 0.13, -0.15, 0.47, -0.49, 0.07, -0.39, -0.13, -0.15, 0.06, 0.09]
- \* ...

If the features are few or irrelevant, your model may have a hard time making any useful predictions. If there are too many features, your model will be slow and likely overfit.

Humans don't necessarily know what feature representation are best for a given task. Even if they do, relying on feature engineering means that a human is always in the loop. This is a far cry from the future we might want, where you can throw any dataset at a

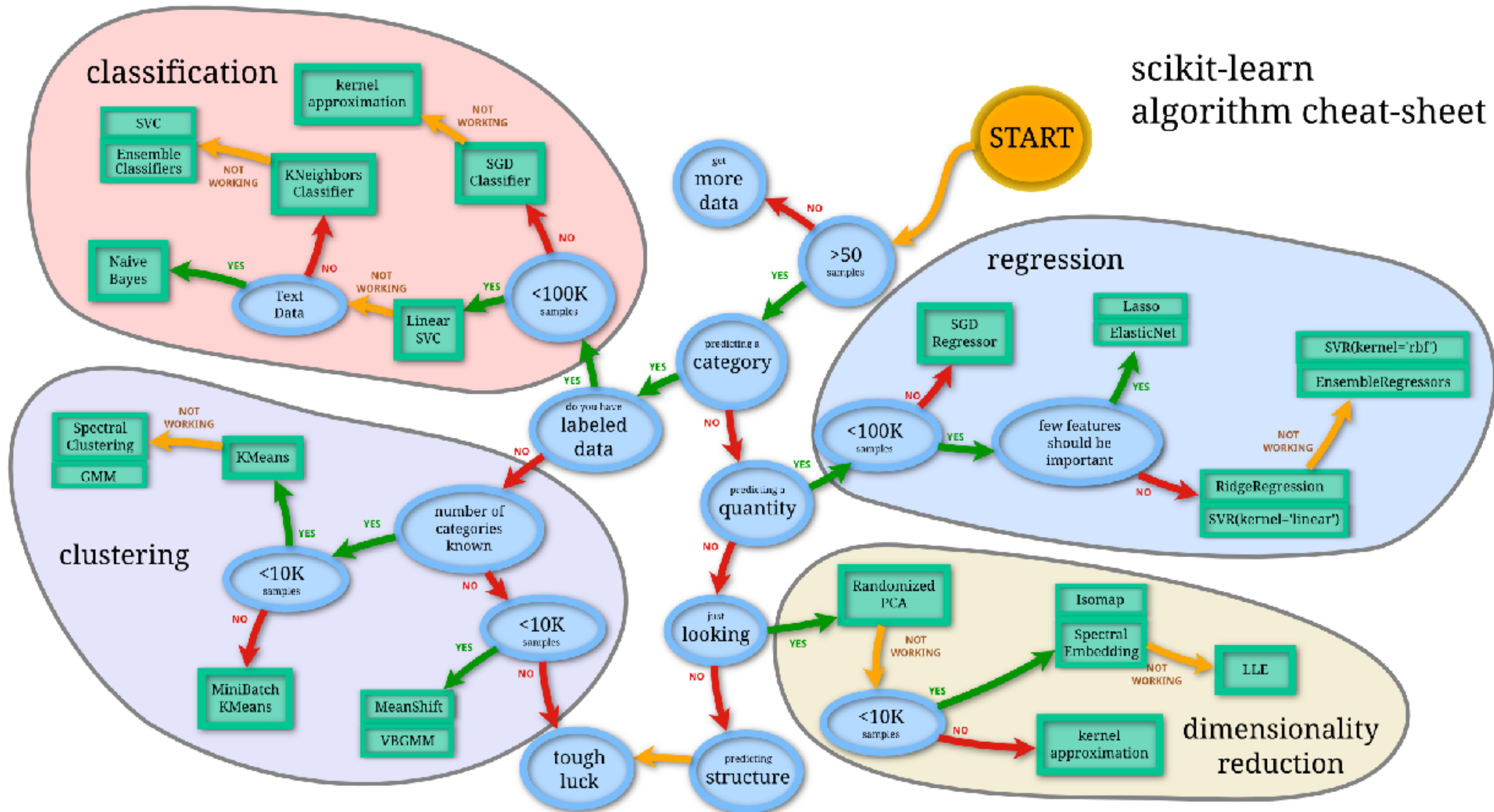
# Model Selection

You've got a **task** and you've got a **dataset**.

How do you choose a model, learning algorithm, and all of the associated tunable “knobs”?



# Example: Scikit-learn



# Hyperparameters

- Most machine learning algorithms have **hyperparameters**, settings that we use to control the algorithm's behaviour. These include:
  - Learning rate
  - Regularization (e.g. weight decay)
  - When to stop training (early stopping)
- Deep learning algorithms typically have more, associated with the model **architecture**, e.g.:
  - Number of layers
  - Number of hidden units in each layer
- How to set these?

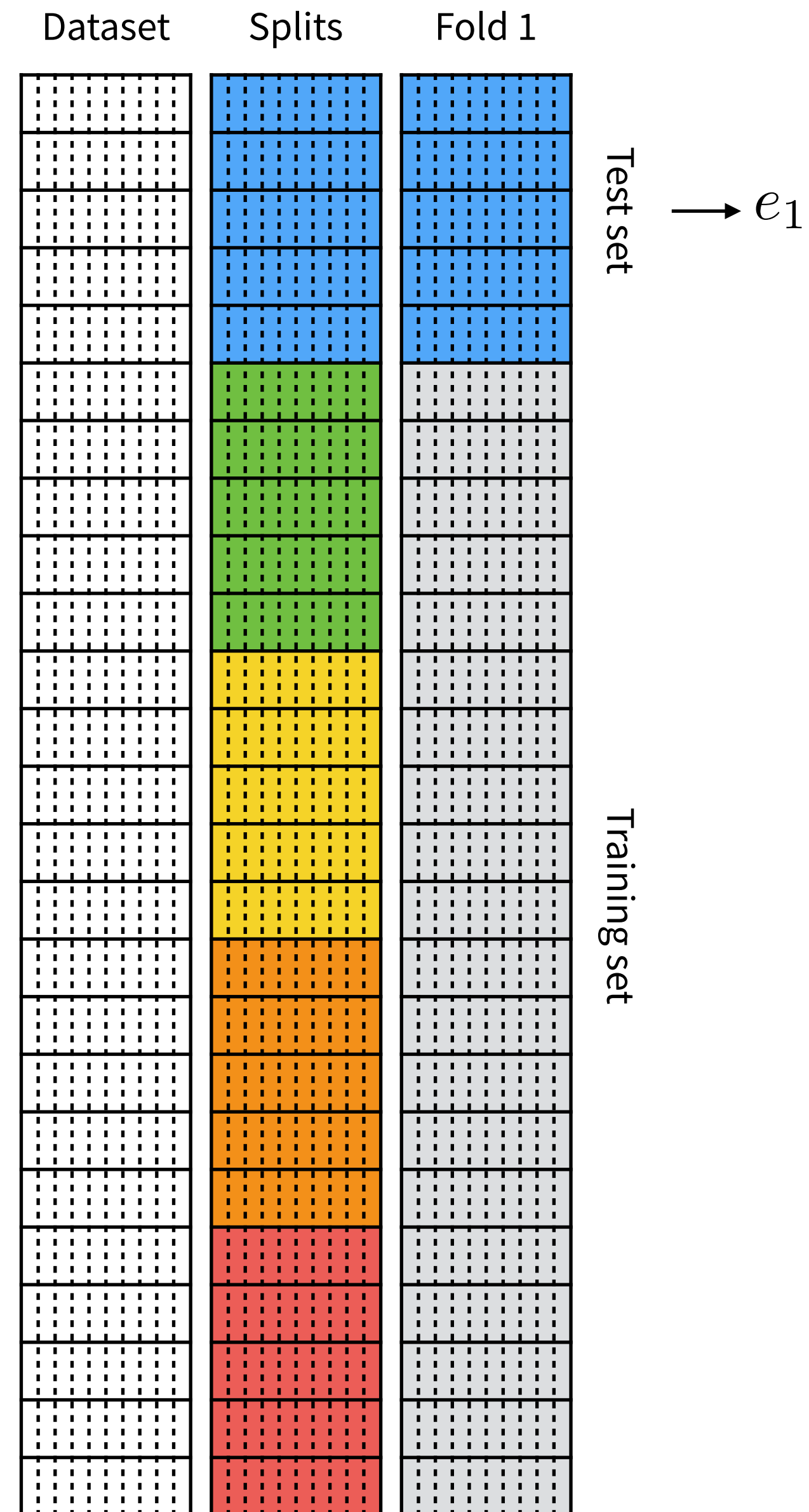


# Validation Sets

- A **validation set** is typically carved out of the training set for the purpose of choosing hyperparameters (e.g. ~20%)
- It is distinct from the **test set**
- It is important that the test set is not used in any way to make choices about the model, including the hyperparameters
- The validation error will typically **underestimate** the generalization error (because of its use to fit the model)

# Cross-validation

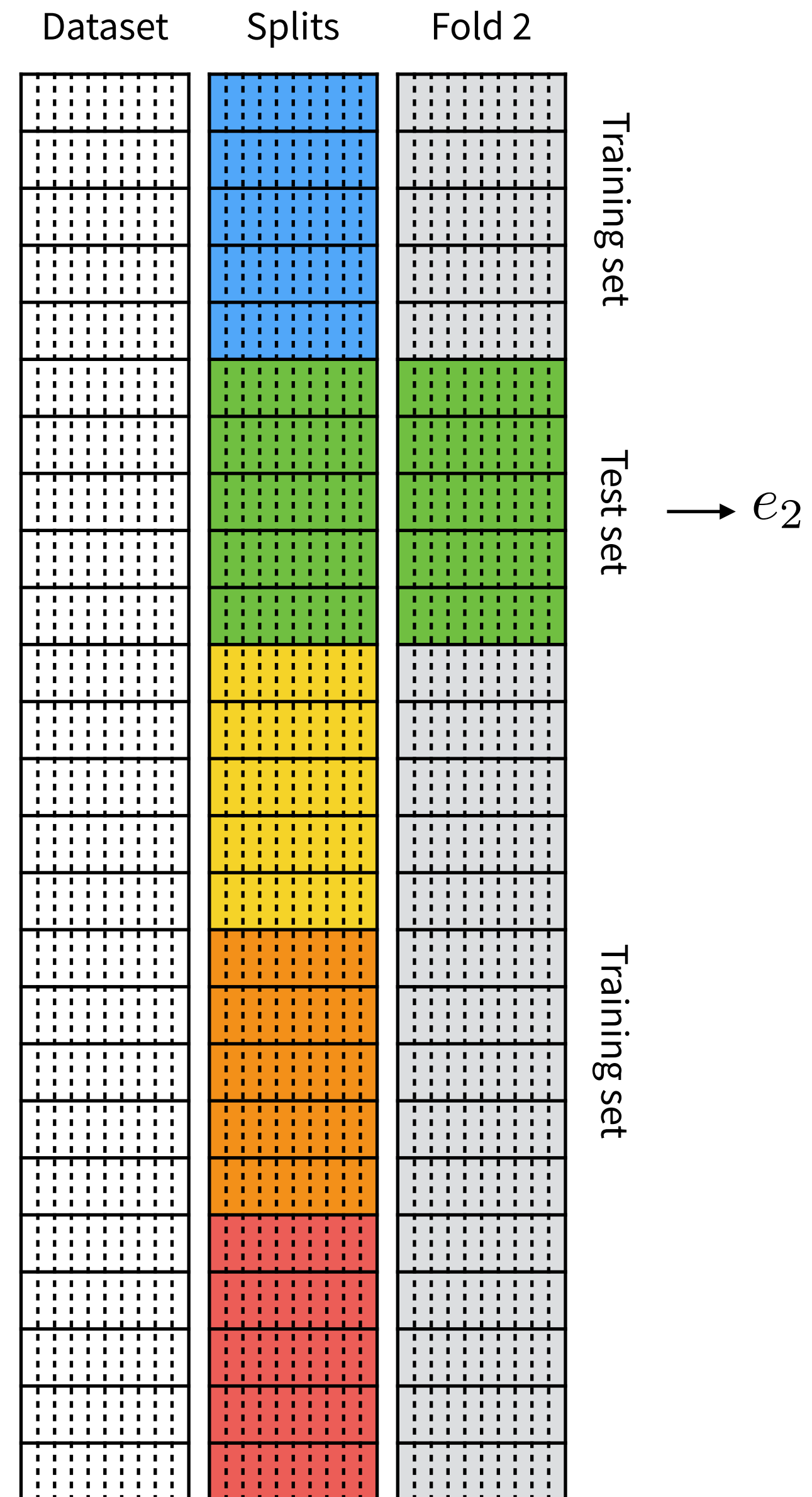
- Dividing the dataset into a fixed training set and test set can be problematic if the dataset is very small
- Procedures based on repeating the training and testing computation on different randomly chosen subsets (“splits”) allow one to use **all the examples** in the computation of mean test error
- The trade-off is **computational complexity**
- The most common such method is “k-fold” cross-validation (see 5-fold at right)





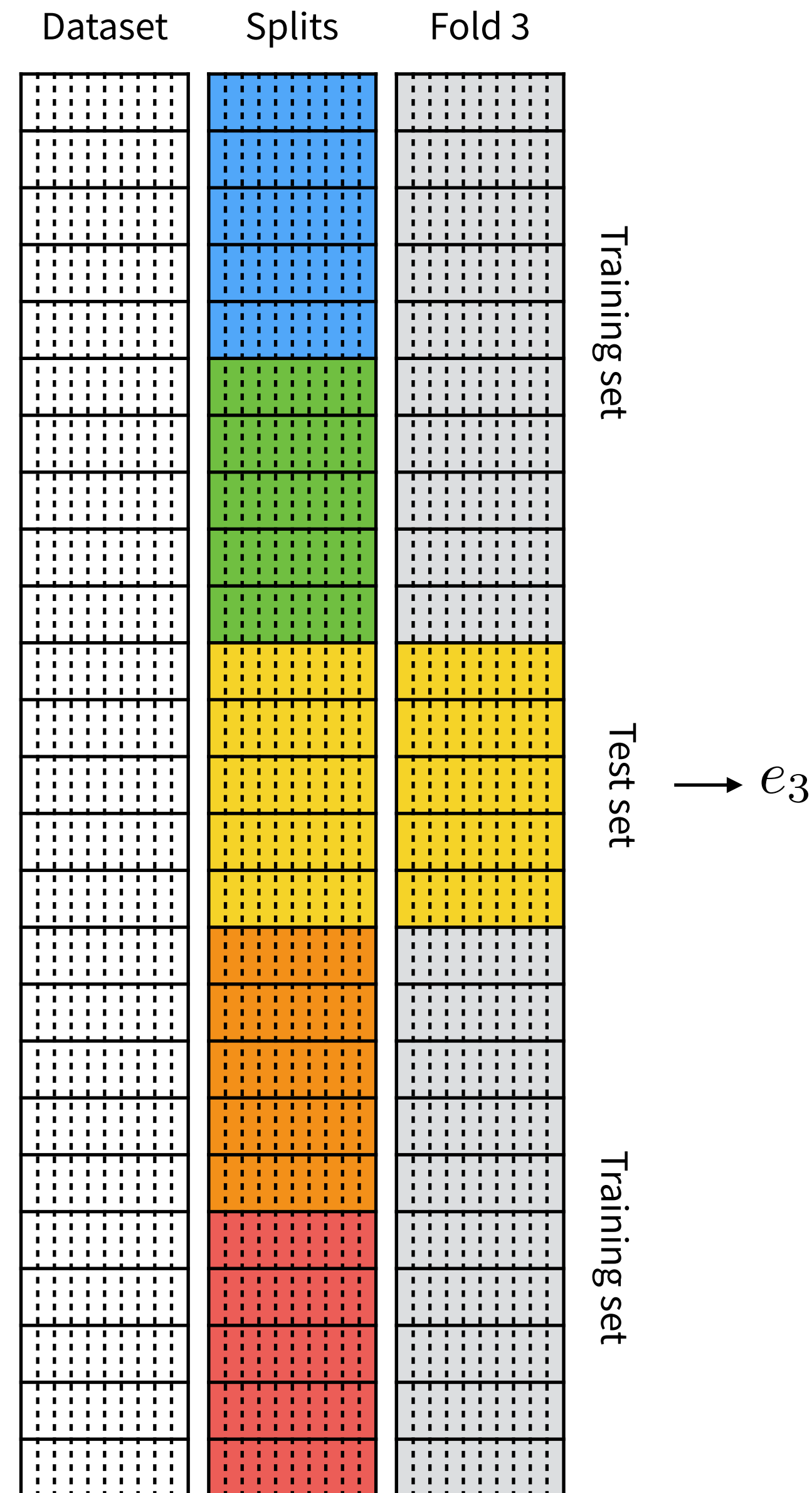
# Cross-validation

- Dividing the dataset into a fixed training set and test set can be problematic if the dataset is very small
- Procedures based on repeating the training and testing computation on different randomly chosen subsets (“splits”) allow one to use **all the examples** in the computation of mean test error
- The trade-off is **computational complexity**
- The most common such method is “k-fold” cross-validation (see 5-fold at right)



# Cross-validation

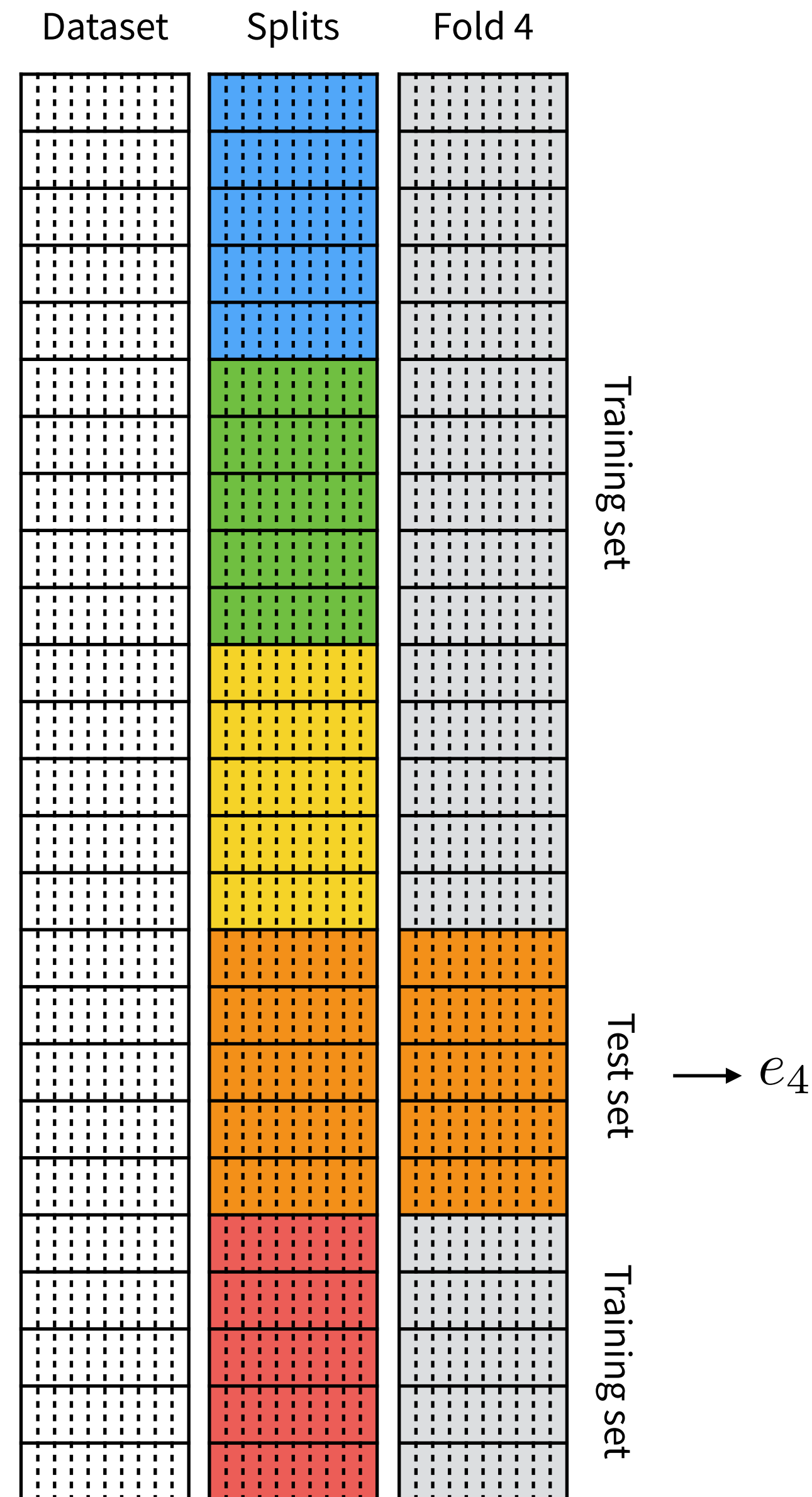
- Dividing the dataset into a fixed training set and test set can be problematic if the dataset is very small
- Procedures based on repeating the training and testing computation on different randomly chosen subsets (“splits”) allow one to use **all the examples** in the computation of mean test error
- The trade-off is **computational complexity**
- The most common such method is “k-fold” cross-validation (see 5-fold at right)





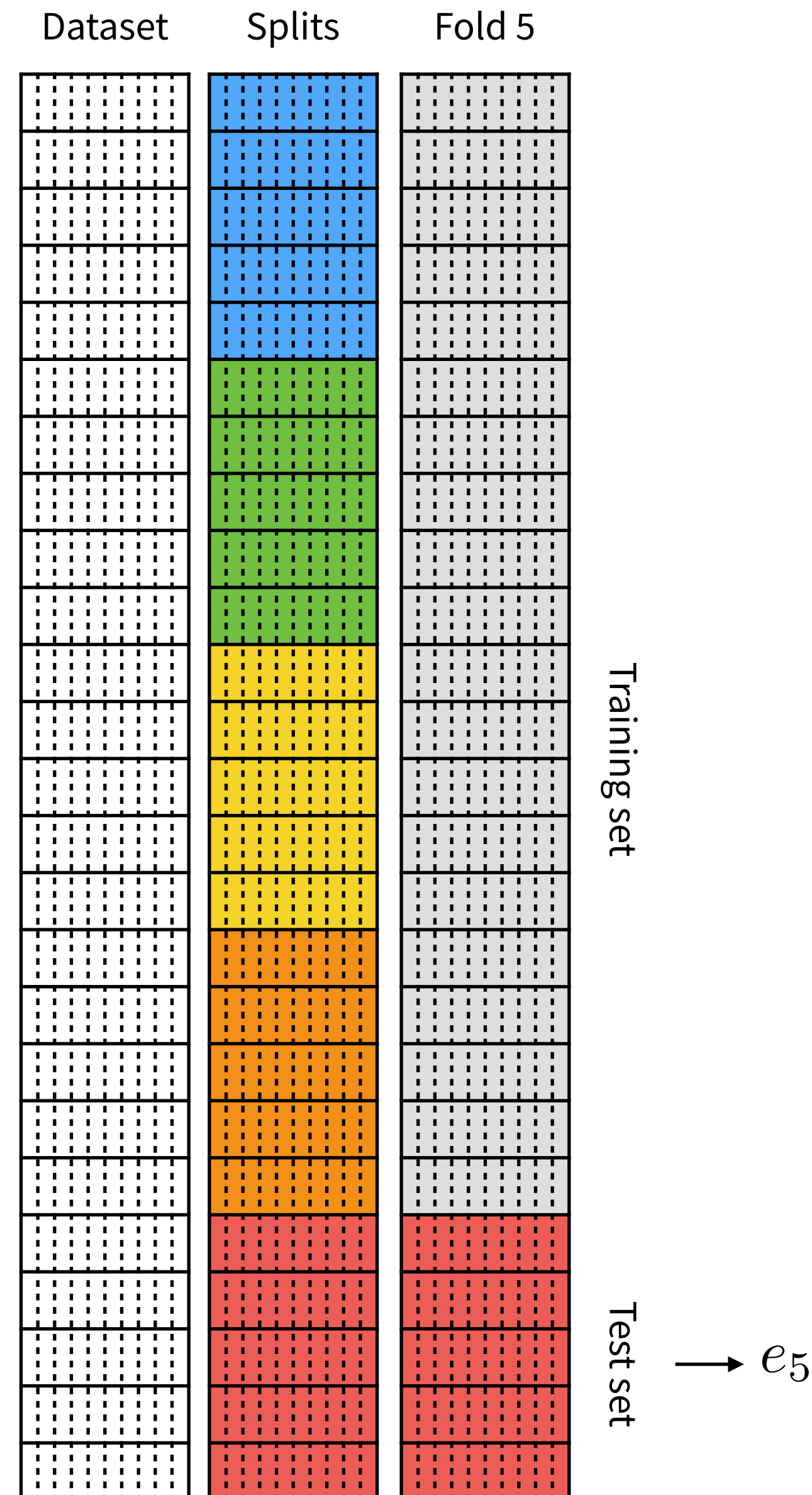
# Cross-validation

- Dividing the dataset into a fixed training set and test set can be problematic if the dataset is very small
- Procedures based on repeating the training and testing computation on different randomly chosen subsets (“splits”) allow one to use **all the examples** in the computation of mean test error
- The trade-off is **computational complexity**
- The most common such method is “k-fold” cross-validation (see 5-fold at right)



# Cross-validation

- Dividing the dataset into a fixed training set and test set can be problematic if the dataset is very small
- Procedures based on repeating the training and testing computation on different randomly chosen subsets (“splits”) allow one to use **all the examples** in the computation of mean test error
- The trade-off is **computational complexity**
- The most common such method is “k-fold” cross-validation (see 5-fold at right)





# Finding Hyperparameters

# Finding Hyperparameters

- Traditionally, there are two ways to set hyperparameters:

# Finding Hyperparameters

- Traditionally, there are two ways to set hyperparameters:
  - **Manually** (e.g. by expert knowledge)



# Finding Hyperparameters

- Traditionally, there are two ways to set hyperparameters:
  - **Manually** (e.g. by expert knowledge)
  - **Automatically**, by
    - systematic search, (e.g. grid, random)
    - Sequential model-based optimization



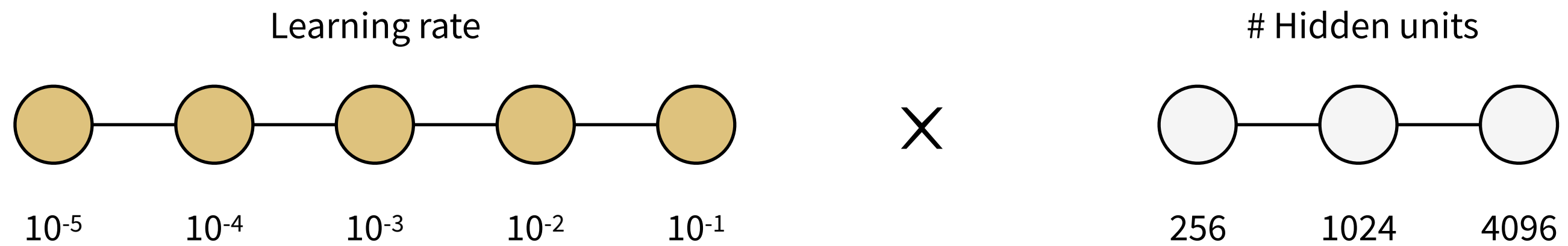
(nice entry point)

Shahriari et al. 2016. “Taking the Human Out of the Loop: A Review of Bayesian Optimization.” Proceedings of the IEEE 104 (1): 148–75.

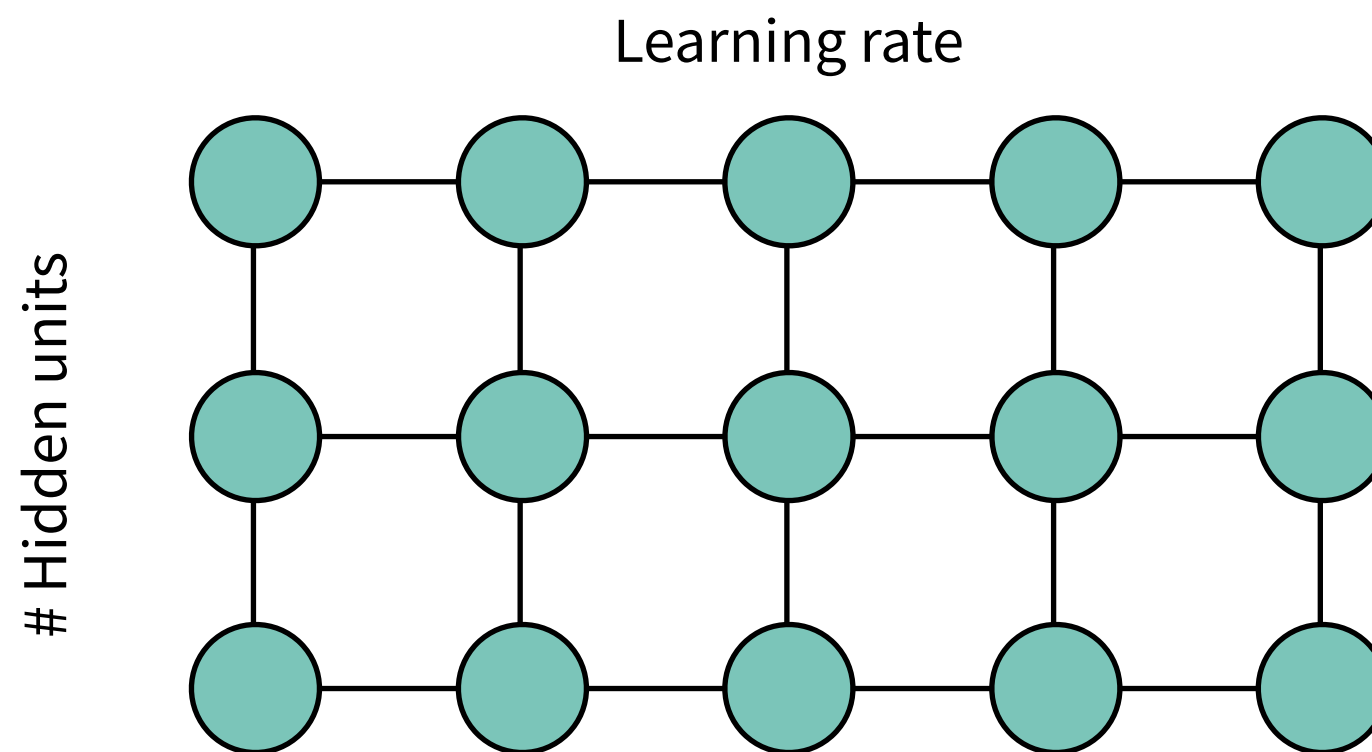
# Automatic Hyperparameter Optimization Algorithms

- The **popularity** of some learning algorithms (e.g. logistic regression, SVMs) stems in part from their ability to perform well with only 1-2 tuned hyperparameters
- Manual hyperparameter tuning can work very well when the user has a **good starting point** (e.g. baseline), or **months or years of experience**
- For many applications, these starting points are not available, so we turn to **automated methods**
- Caution: these algorithms have their own hyperparameters

# Grid search

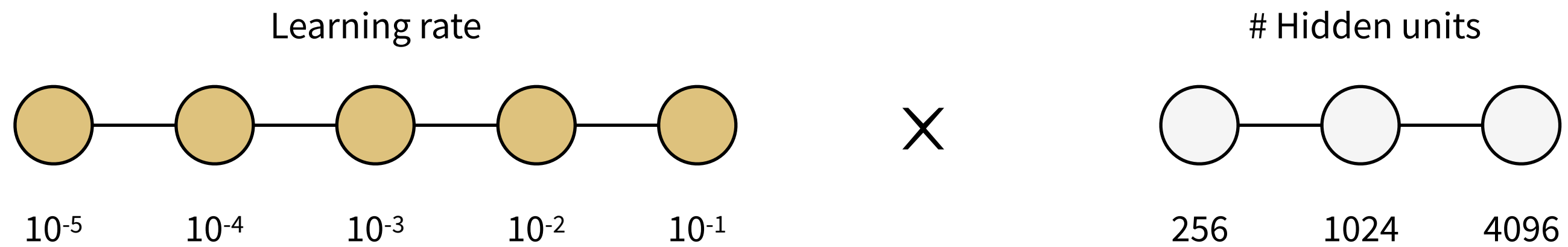


=

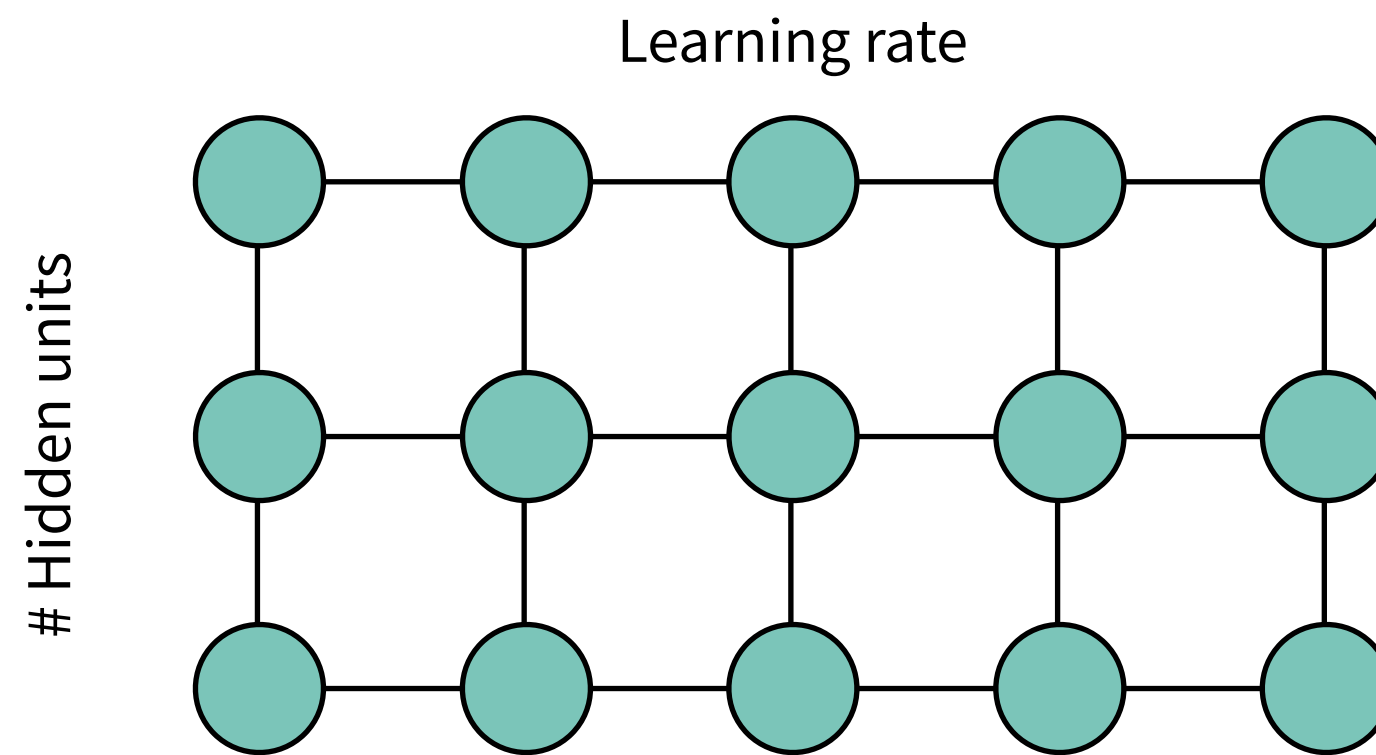




# Grid search

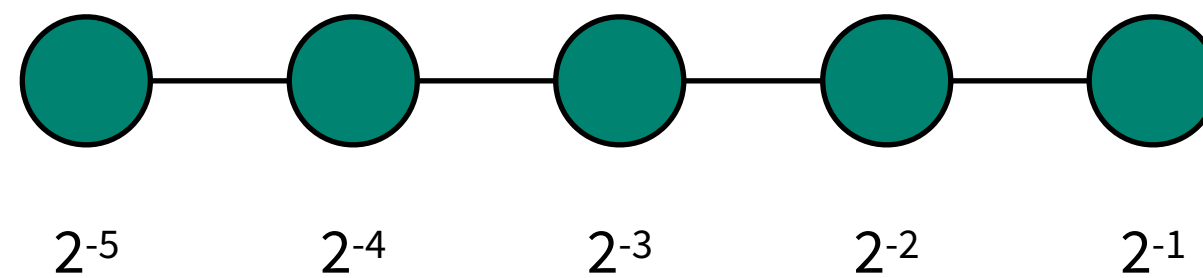


=



$\times$

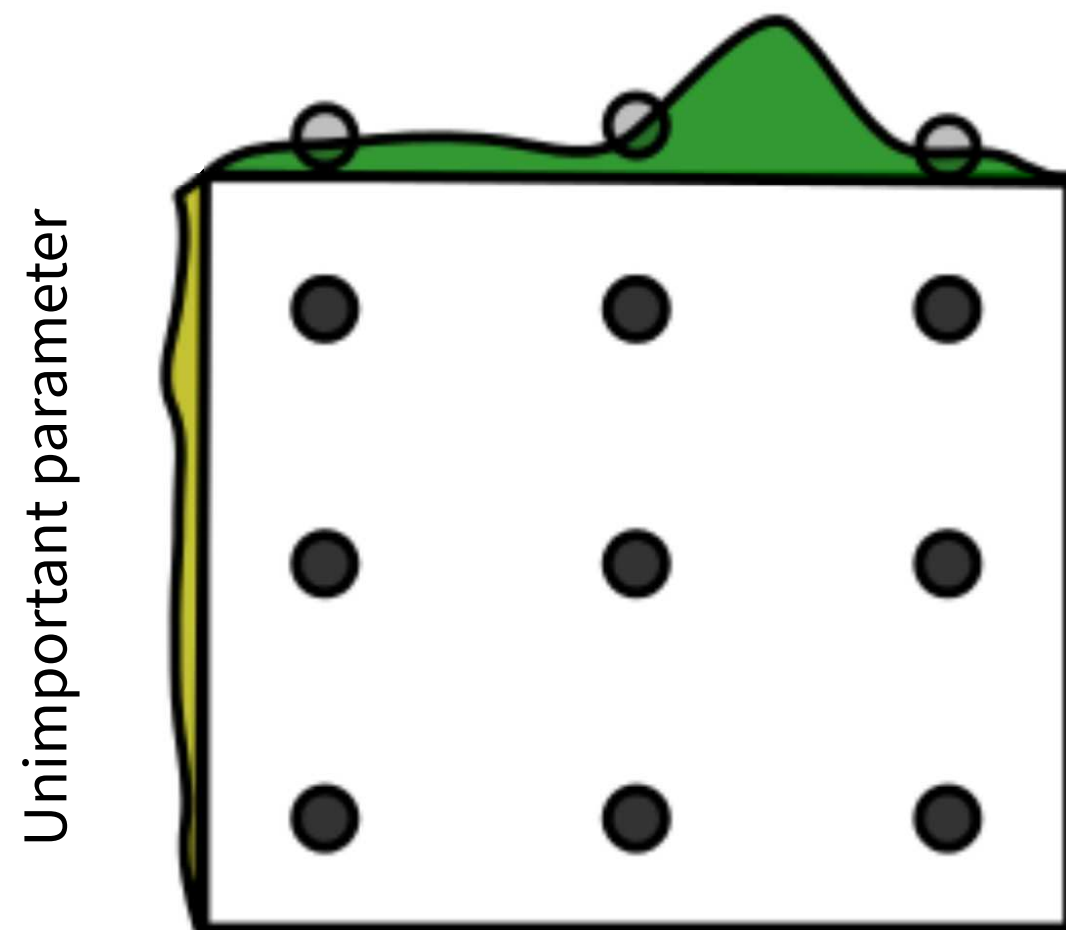
L2 regularization



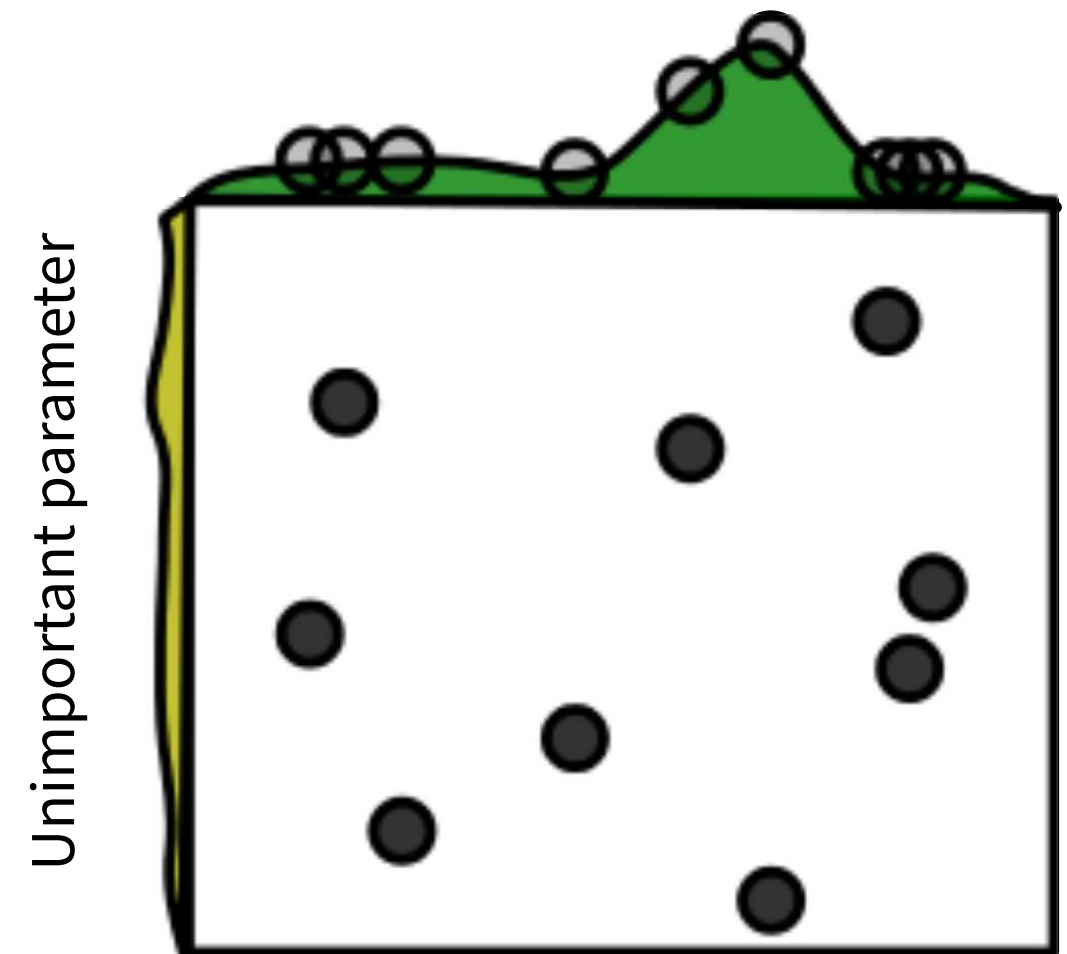
...

# Random search

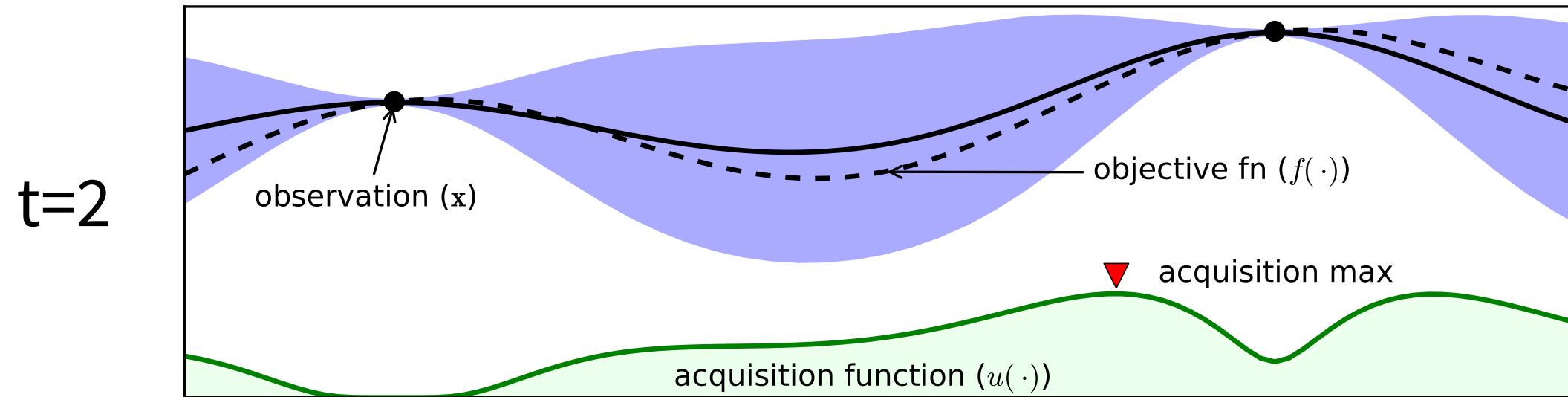
Grid Layout



Random Layout

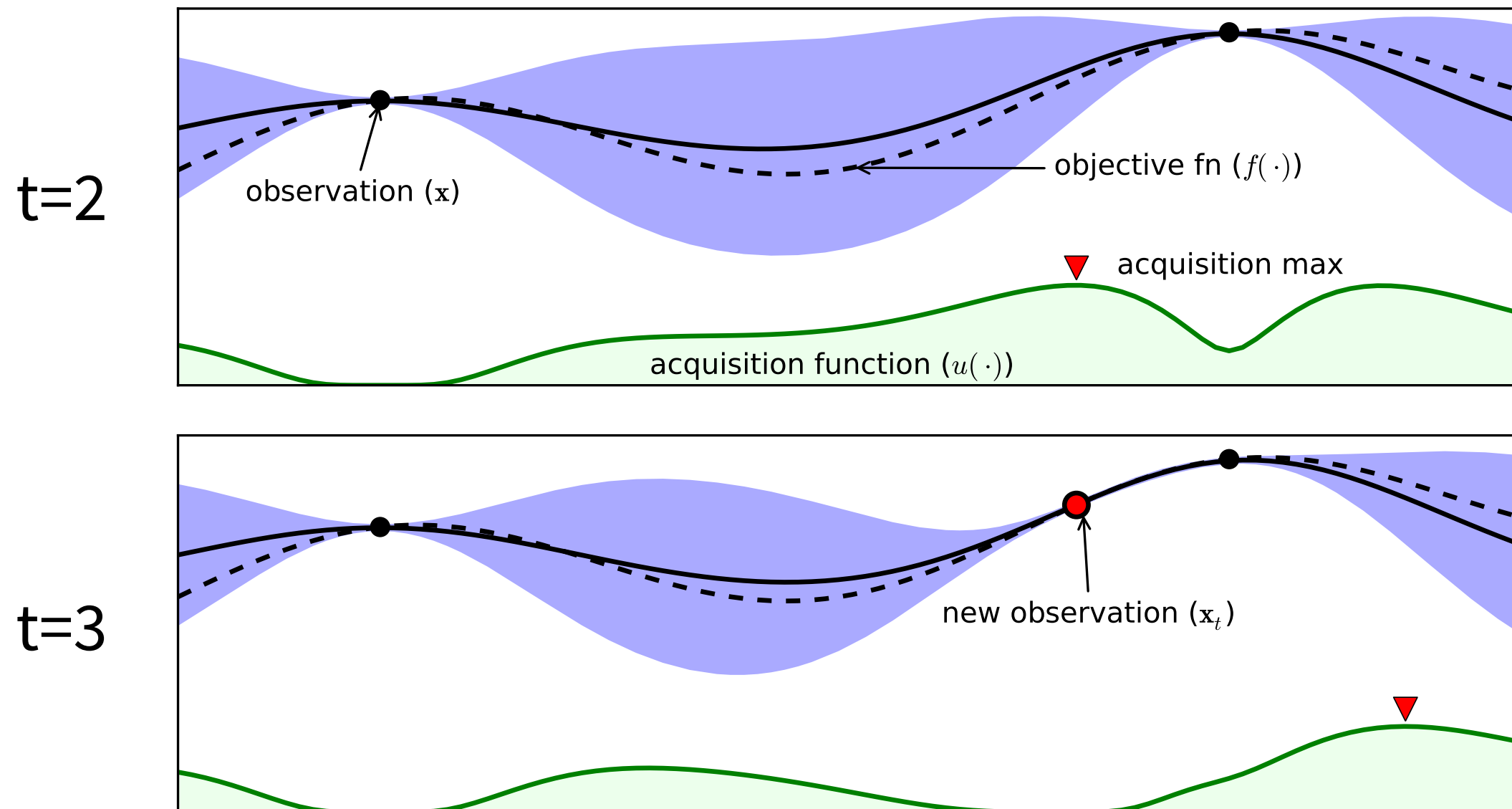


# Bayesian optimization

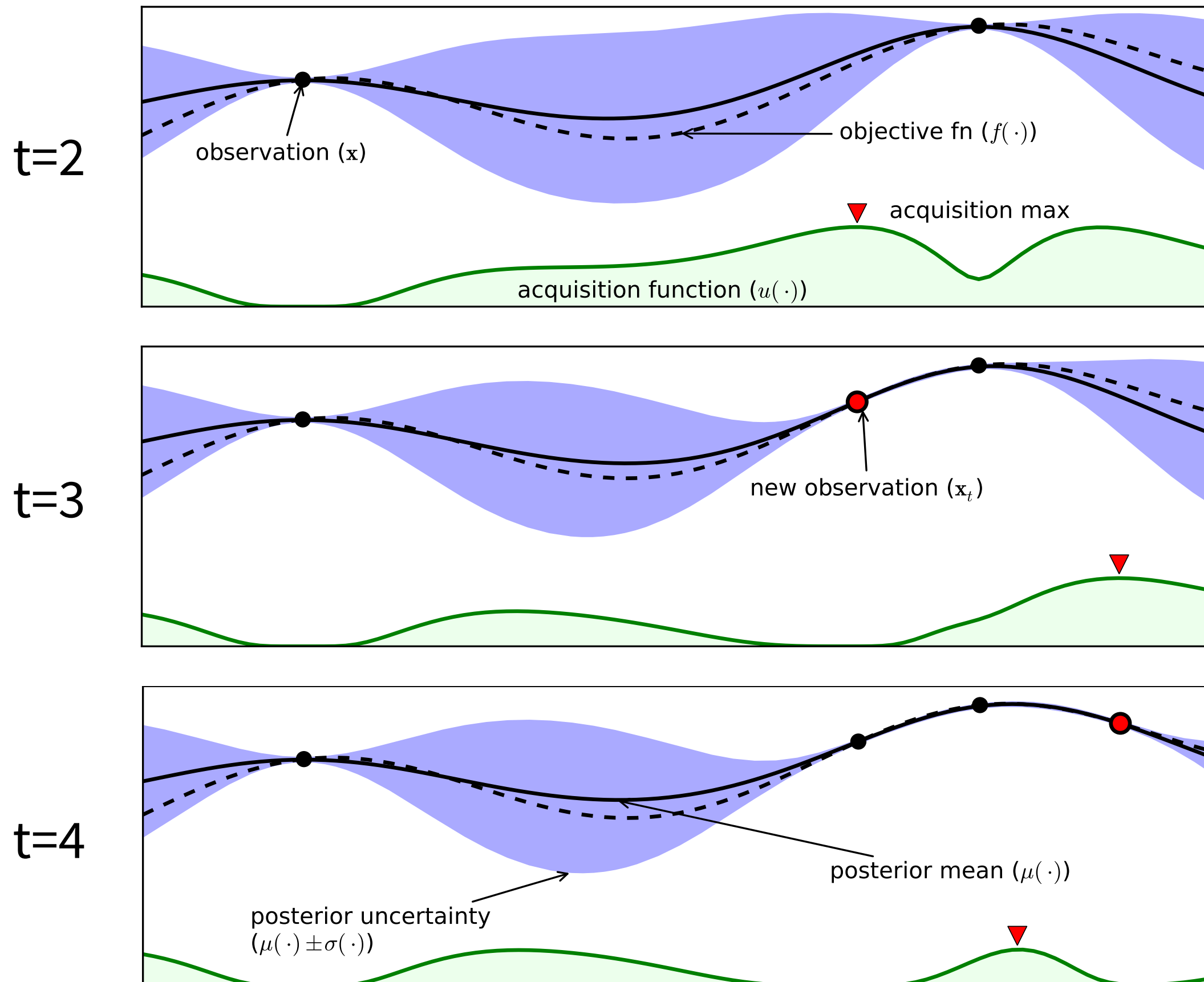




# Bayesian optimization



# Bayesian optimization



# Advice



# Advice

- For **simple models** with  $< 4$  hyperparameters, use grid search

# Advice

- For **simple models** with  $< 4$  hyperparameters, use grid search
- For **deep learning** (typically many more hyperparameters) try **random search** first
  - If you're experienced and feeling adventurous, try Bayesian optimization
  - Monitor architecture and optimizer learning research (e.g. Zoph and Le 2017)