

Bonus

Suggest a better implementation plan.

Here is what we can do to improve the implementation:

1. Dynamic Epsilon Decay in Epsilon-Greedy

- Instead of using a fixed decay rate $\epsilon = 1/t$, we can implement a more flexible decay mechanism, such as exponential decay:
 $\epsilon = \epsilon_0 * e^{(-kt)}$, where ϵ_0 is the initial value, and k is a decay constant.
- Additionally, we can set a lower bound for epsilon (e.g., $\epsilon \geq 0.01$) to ensure continued exploration throughout the experiment.

2. Bayesian Updates for Precision in Thompson Sampling

- We can use Bayesian updating to adaptively calculate the precision of each bandit's distribution based on observed rewards, rather than assuming a known precision.
- For instance, we could model rewards using a Beta distribution for binary outcomes or a Gaussian distribution for continuous outcomes and update the parameters dynamically as new data arrives.

3. Optimize for Bandit-Specific Parameters

- Before starting the experiment, we can introduce a tuning phase to determine the optimal initial parameters for each bandit.
- This could include setting the starting epsilon for Epsilon-Greedy or selecting the initial priors for Thompson Sampling.

4. Multi-Armed Bandit with Contextual Data

- To enhance decision-making, we could extend the implementation to a **Contextual Bandit** problem if user-specific data is available.
- This would involve incorporating features (e.g., user demographics, behavior) into the algorithm to optimize ad selection for different user segments.

5. Hybrid Algorithm

- A potential improvement is to combine Epsilon-Greedy and Thompson Sampling into a hybrid approach.
- For example, we could use Epsilon-Greedy in the initial phase of the experiment to ensure broad exploration and then switch to Thompson Sampling for more effective exploitation based on learned parameters.