

# Mathematics of statistical decision making

## and applications to bariatric surgery

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supervised by Odalric-Ambrym Maillard and Philippe Preux

30 January 2024



# Towards recommender systems in healthcare

Inria



# Online advertising

NETFLIX

Home Series Films New & Popular My List Browse by Languages

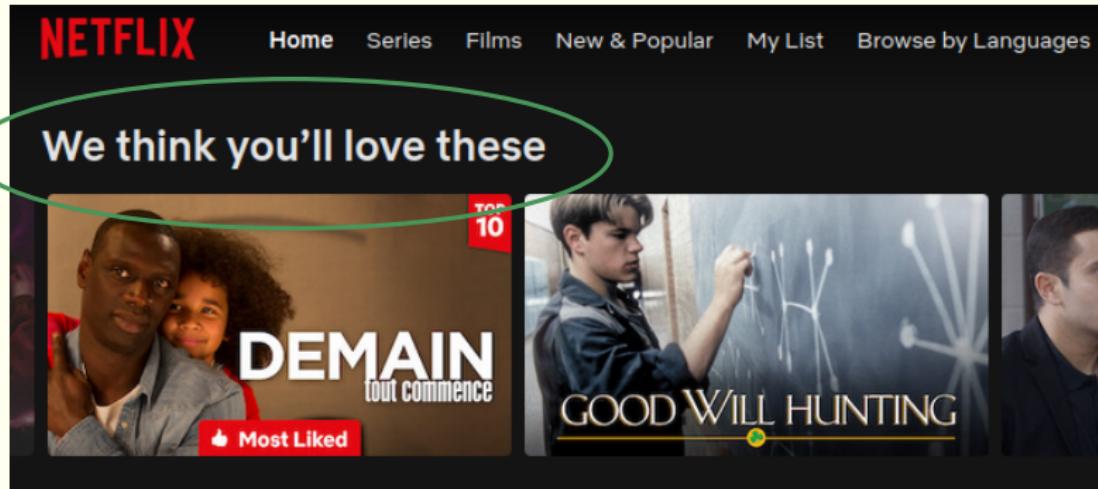
We think you'll love these

The image shows a section of the Netflix website's homepage. At the top, the Netflix logo is in red. Below it, a navigation bar includes links for Home, Series, Films, New & Popular, My List, and Browse by Languages. A large, bold text "We think you'll love these" is centered above two movie thumbnails. The first thumbnail on the left features a man and a young girl and is labeled "TOP 10". The title "DEMAIN tout commence" is displayed prominently. A red button at the bottom left of this thumbnail says "Most Liked" with a thumbs-up icon. The second thumbnail on the right shows a man drawing on a chalkboard and is labeled "TOP 10". The title "GOOD WILL HUNTING" is displayed prominently below the image.

# Online advertising

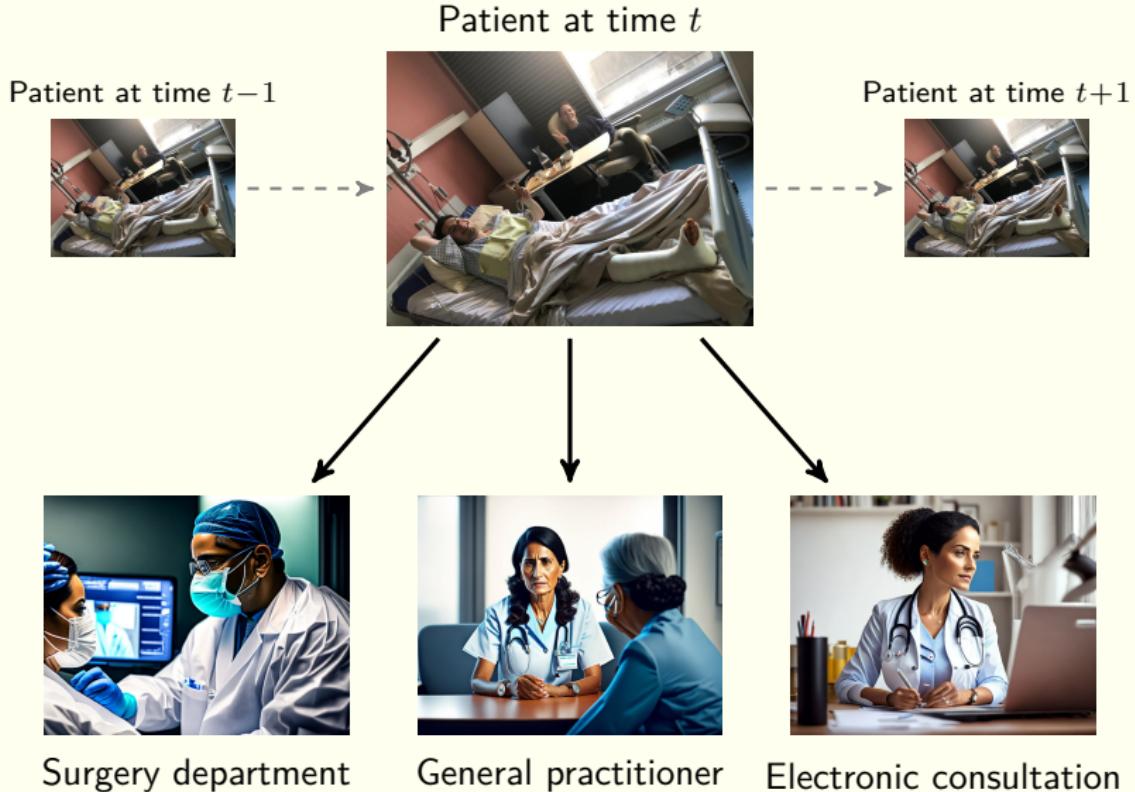
The image shows a screenshot of the Netflix homepage. At the top, the Netflix logo is on the left, followed by a navigation bar with links: Home, Series, Films, New & Popular, My List, and Browse by Languages. Below the navigation bar, there is a promotional banner with the text "We think you'll love these". This banner features a thumbnail for the movie "DEMAIN tout commence" (Top 10), which shows a man and a young girl. Below this thumbnail is a red button with the text "Most Liked" and a thumbs-up icon. To the right of this is another movie thumbnail for "GOOD WILL HUNTING", showing Matt Damon drawing a diagram on a chalkboard. A green oval has been drawn around the text "We think you'll love these". The bottom right corner of the image contains the text "3 / 33".

# Online advertising

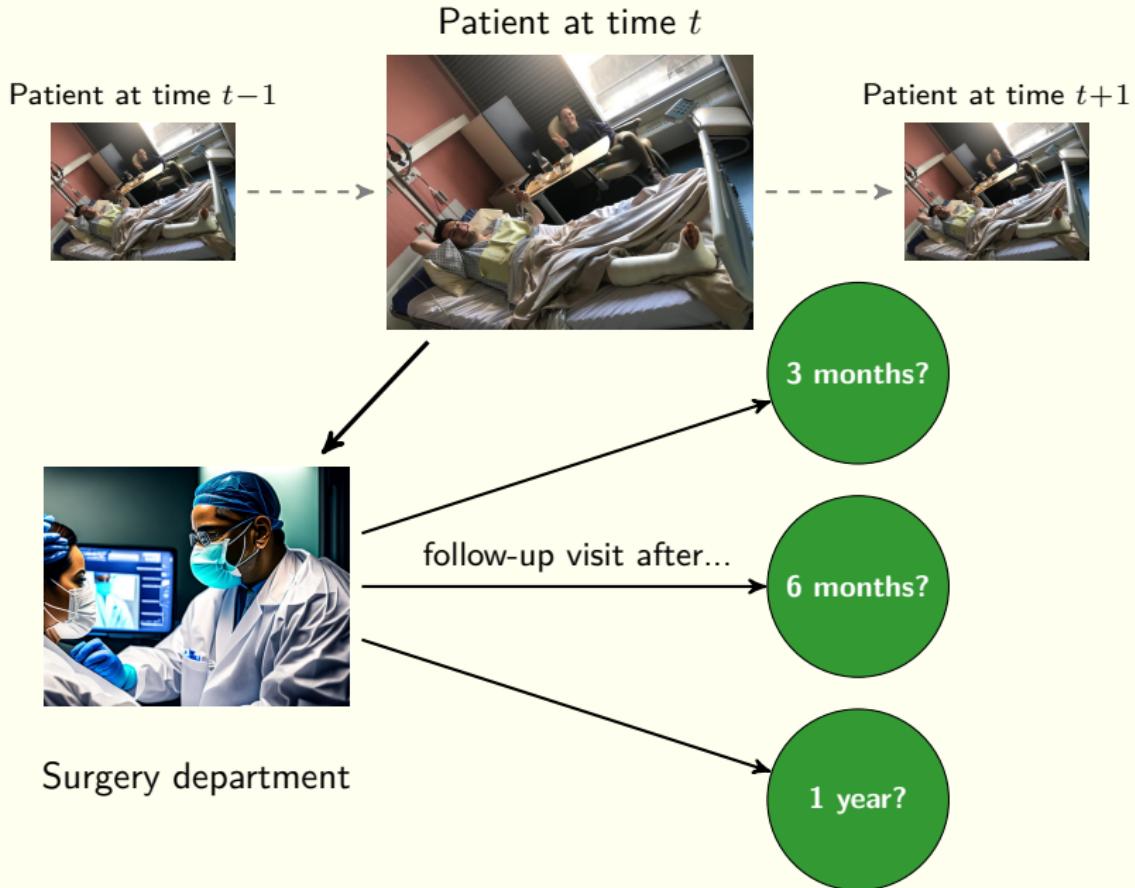


→ from online marketing to healthcare recommendations.

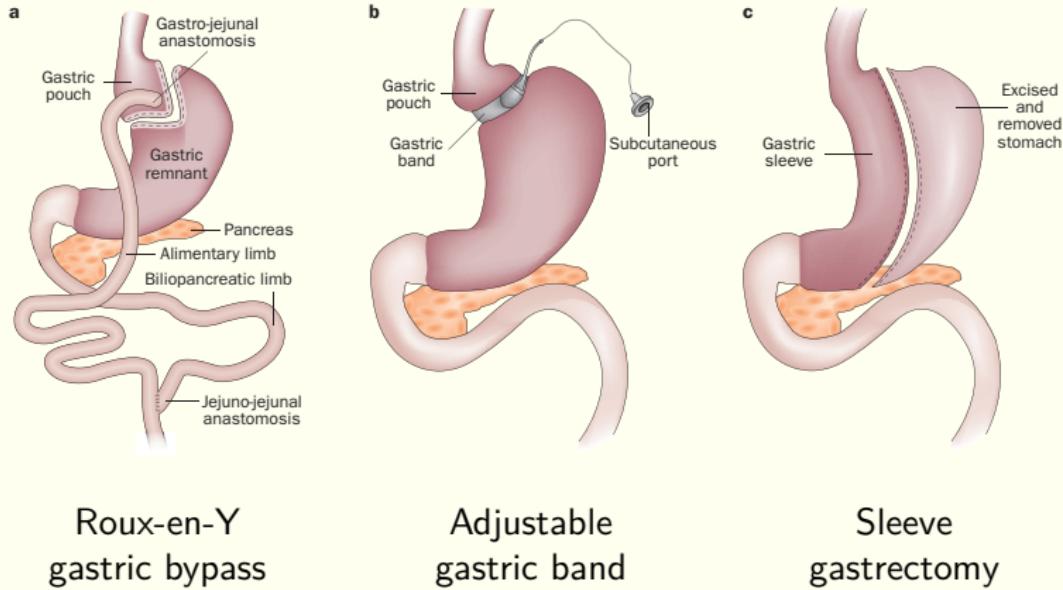
# Postoperative follow-up: where to go?



# Postoperative follow-up: when to go?



# Bariatric surgery



Roux-en-Y  
gastric bypass

Adjustable  
gastric band

Sleeve  
gastrectomy

→ In France: 60 000 operations each year, 1% of adults.

# Contributions in medical sciences

## Publications in peer-reviewed journals

- PS, Pierre Bauvin, Violeta Raverdy, Julien Teigny, Hélène Verkindt, Maxence Debert, Philippe Preux, François Pattou, et al. Development and validation of an interpretable machine learning based calculator for predicting 5 year-weight trajectories after bariatric surgery: a multinational retrospective cohort SOPHIA study.  
The Lancet Digital Health, 2023

- Robert Caiazzo, Pierre Bauvin, Camille Marciniak, PS, et al. Impact of robotic assistance on complications in bariatric surgery at expert laparoscopic surgery centers. a retrospective comparative study with propensity score.

Annals of Surgery, 2023



# Contributions in statistics and machine learning

## Publications in peer-reviewed international conferences with proceedings

- ❑ Sayak Ray Chowdhury, PS, Odalric-Ambrym Maillard, and Aditya Gopalan. [Bregman deviations of generic exponential families.](#)  
In [Conference On Learning Theory](#), 2023
- ❑ PS and Odalric-Ambrym Maillard. [Risk-aware linear bandits with convex loss.](#)  
In [International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics](#), 2023
- ❑ Dorian Baudry, PS, and Odalric-Ambrym Maillard. [From optimality to robustness: Adaptive re-sampling strategies in stochastic bandits.](#)  
[Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems](#), 2021b

## Workshop presentations in peer-reviewed international conferences

- ❑ PS and Odalric-Ambrym Maillard. [Risk-aware linear bandits with convex loss.](#)  
In [European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning](#), 2022 (poster)

## Ongoing

- ❑ PS. [Empirical chernoff concentration: beyond bounded distributions](#)
- ❑ PS, Romain Gautron, Odalric-Ambrym Maillard, Marc Corbeels, Chandra A. Madramootooe, and Nitin Joshi. [Quantifying the uncertainty of crop management decisions based on crop model simulations](#)

# Software contributions

## 💻 Bariatric Weight Trajectory Prediction

<https://bwtp.univ-lille.fr>



## 💻 rlberry

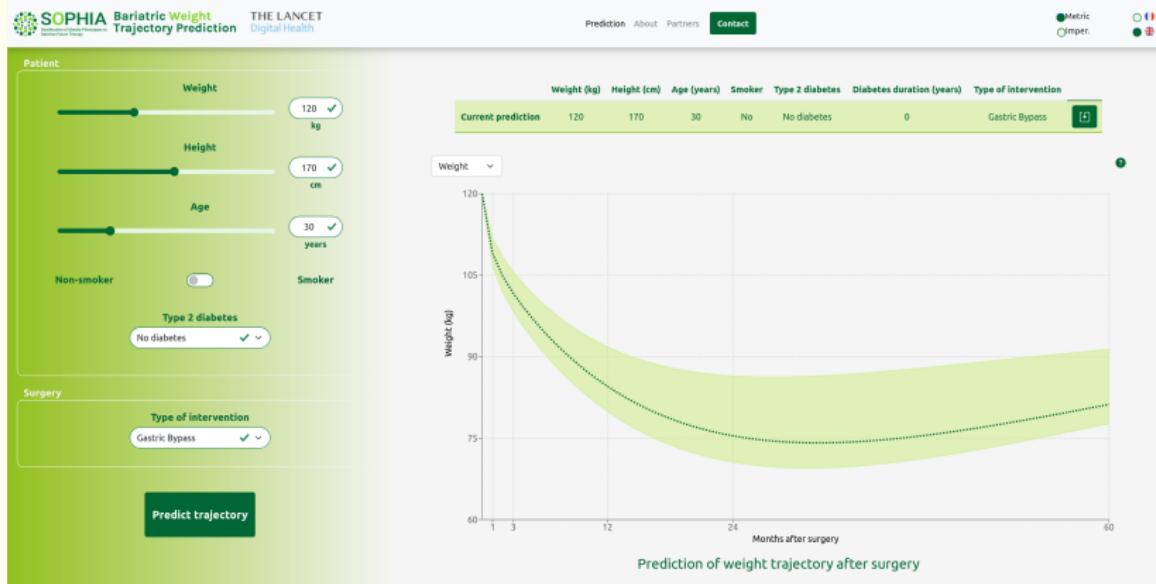
<https://github.com/rlberry-py/rlberry>

## 💻 concentration-lib

<https://pypi.org/project/concentration-lib>

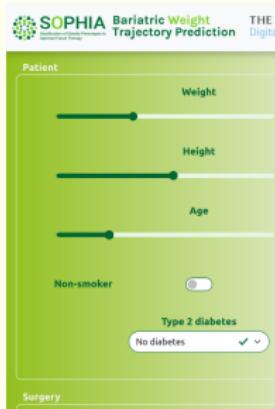


# Bariatric Weight Trajectory Prediction



Interpretable tree-based prediction model

# Bariatric Weight Trajectory Prediction



10k patients, 10 countries

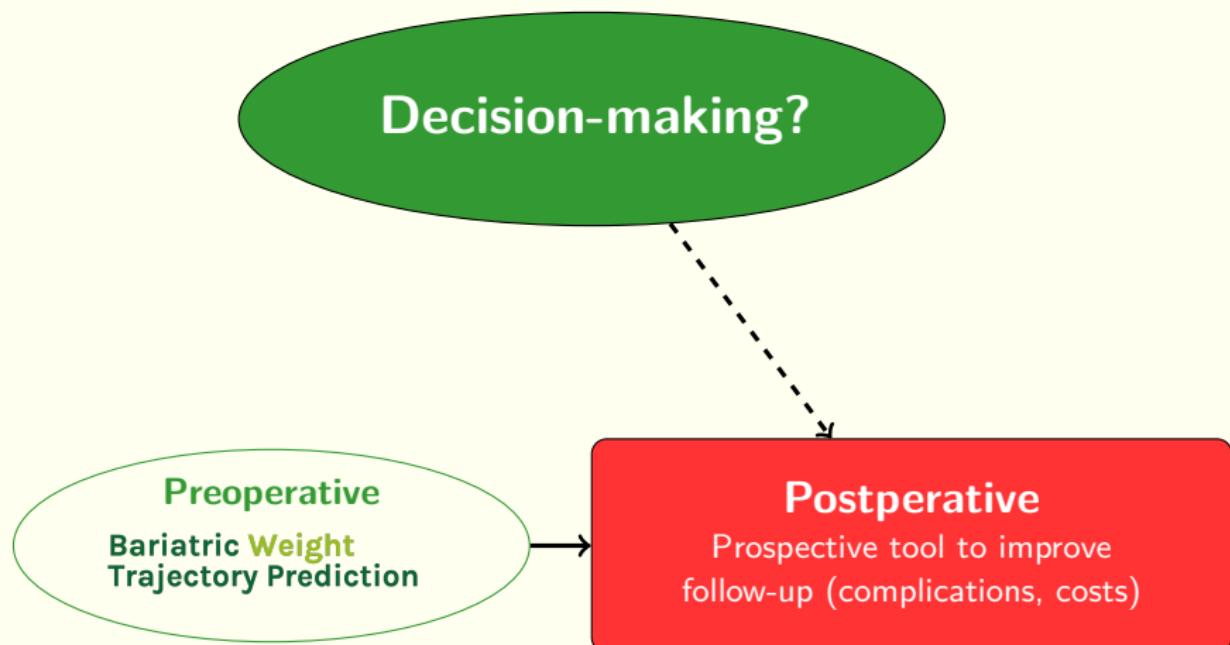


## THE LANCET Digital Health

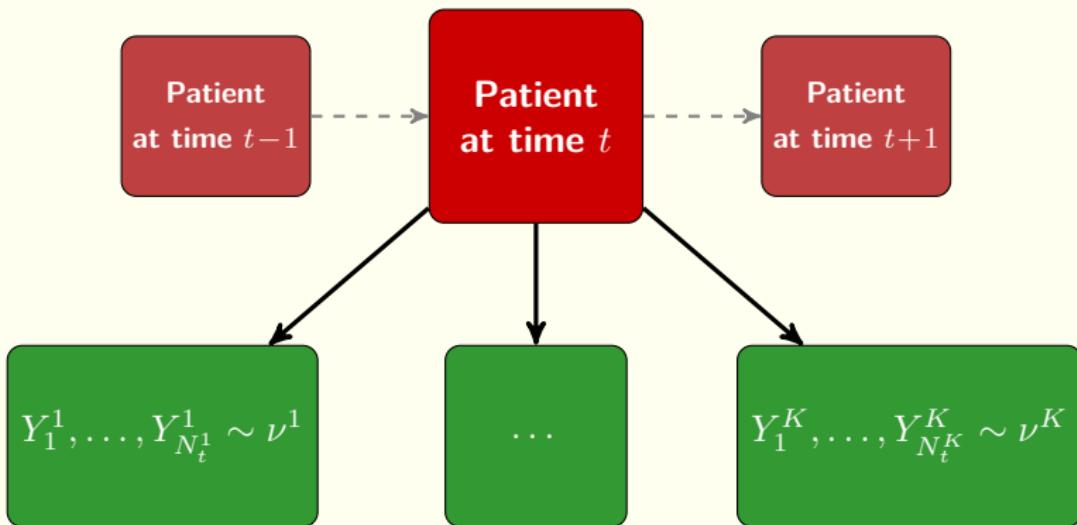


Interpretable tree-based prediction model

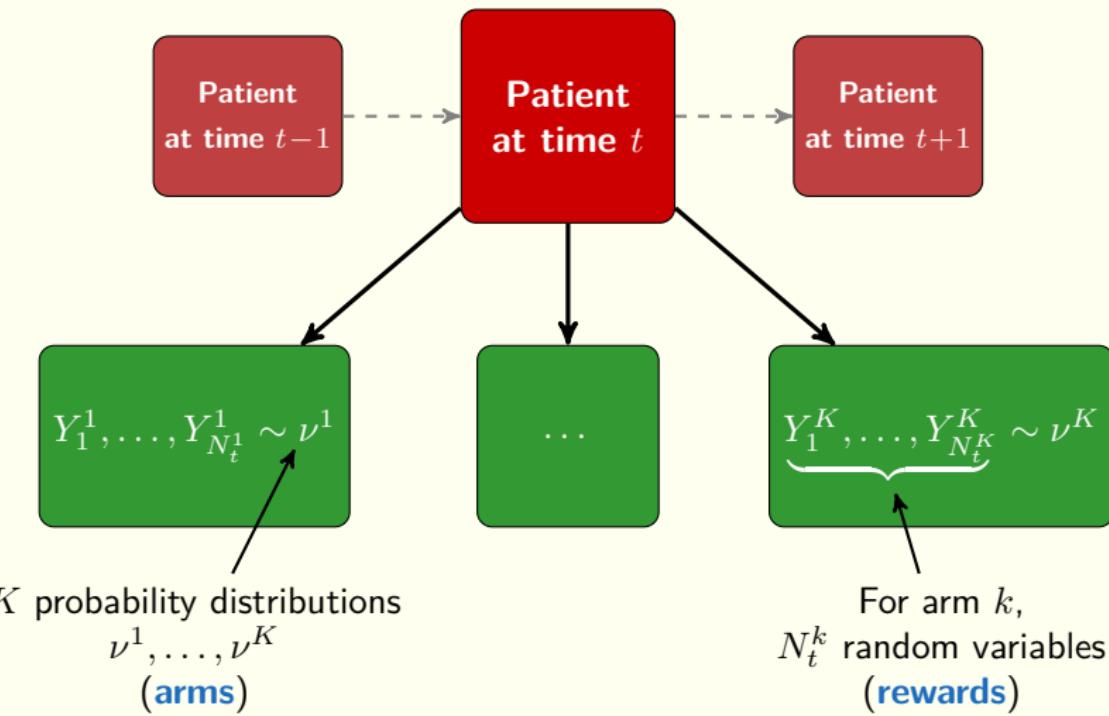
# From preoperative to postoperative follow-up



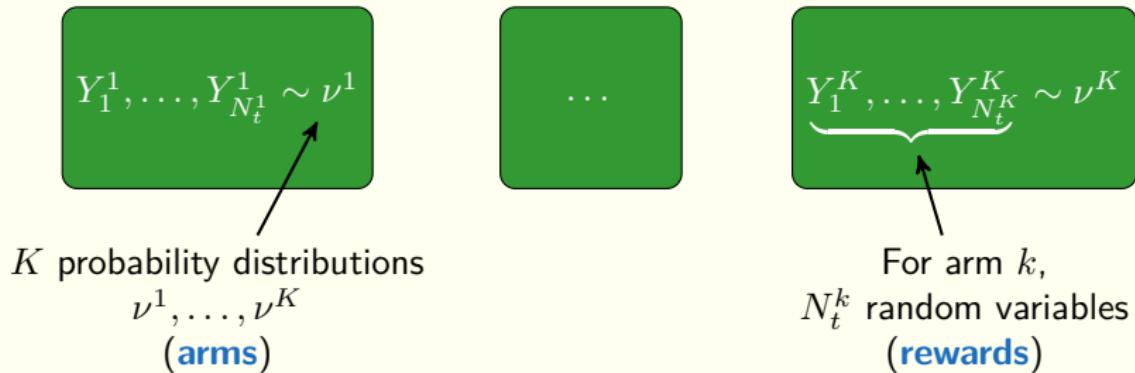
## Stochastic bandit



## Stochastic bandit



# Stochastic bandits



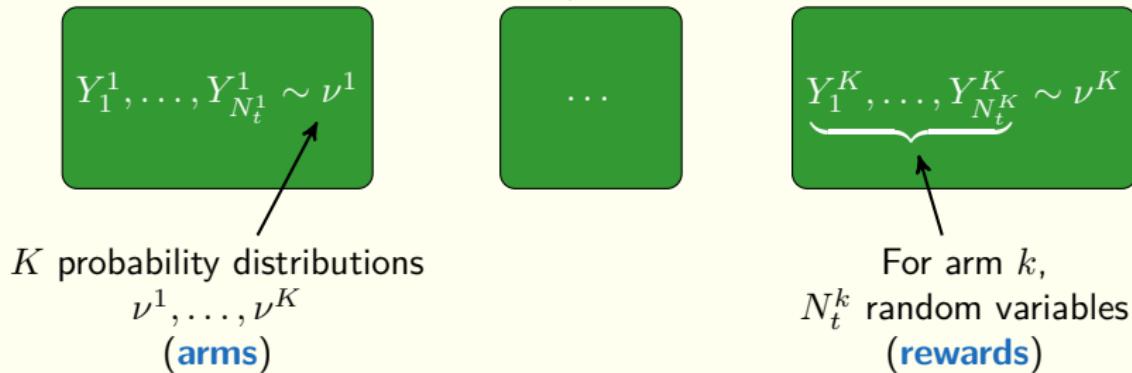
👉 Active sampling of arm  $\pi_t$ .

Score (e.g. expectation)

👉 Minimise **regret**  $\mathcal{R}_T = \sum_{t=1}^T \max_{k \in [K]} \rho(\nu^k) - \rho(\nu^{\pi_t})$ .

👉 **Contextual bandits**: features  $X$  help predict rewards  $Y$ .

## Stochastic bandits



### Regret lower bound ( $T \rightarrow +\infty$ ):

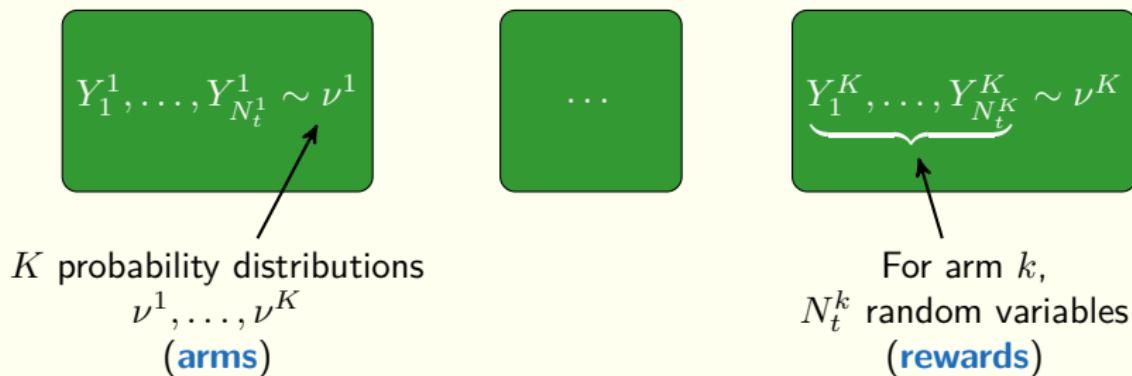
$$\nearrow \quad \mathcal{R}_T = \Omega(\sqrt{T}) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathcal{R}_T \geq \log(T) \sum_{k \in [K]} \frac{\rho^* - \rho(\nu^k)}{\mathcal{K}_{\inf}(\nu; \rho^*)}.$$

## Worst case

## Instance-dependent

$$\mathcal{K}_{\inf}(\nu; \rho^*) = \inf_{\nu'} \{\text{KL}(\nu \parallel \nu'), \rho(\nu') > \rho^*\}$$

# Exploration versus exploitation



Greed is **not** good!

✗  $\pi_{t+1} \neq \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \hat{\rho}_t^k$ .

Need to **explore**:

- ✓ Deterministic:  
 $\hat{\rho}_t^k + \text{confidence set.}$
- ✓ Randomised:  
 $\hat{\rho}_t^k + \text{noise.}$



# Challenges of healthcare recommendations



## Online advertising

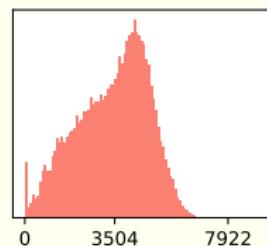
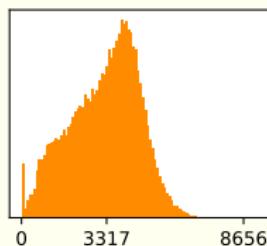
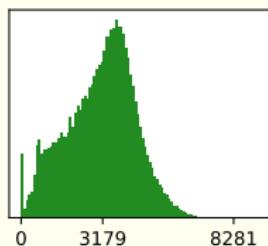
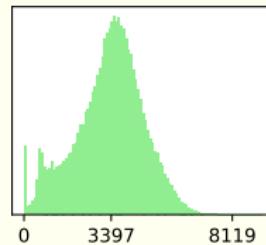
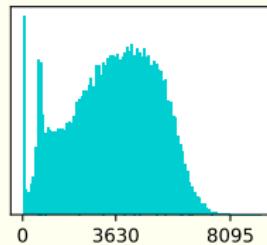
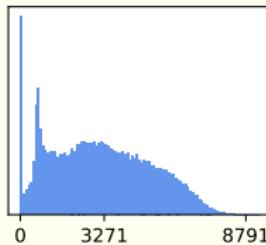
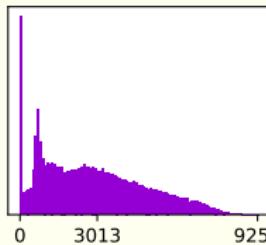
- ✓ Huge volume of data.
- ✓ Easy to model  
(Bernoulli, logistic...).
- ✓ Limited risks ( $\rho = \mathbb{E}$ ).

## Healthcare

- ✗ Slow and scarce data.
- ✗ Nonparametric models.
- ✗ Risky.

# Example distributions

Grain yield distributions (=rewards)



## I. Efficient deterministic exploration

- 👉 Quantify uncertainty for the score  $\rho$  from i.i.d.  $Y_1, \dots, Y_N$ .
- ❓ Confidence sets:  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{P}(\rho \in \widehat{\Theta}_n) \geq 1 - \delta$  (e.g.  $\delta = 5\%$ ).

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✖️ p-hacking: incompatible with random (active, data-dependent)  $N$ .
- ✓ Anytime valid confidence sequence:

$$\forall \text{ stopping time } N, \mathbb{P}(\rho \in \widehat{\Theta}_N) \geq 1 - \delta.$$

# I. Concentration bounds

Method	Assumption	Variance adaptive	Random $N$
$t$ -test	Gaussian (or $N \rightarrow +\infty$ )	✓	✗
Method of mixtures (MM) supermartingale inequality	Sub-Gaussian	✗	✓

- Robbins and Pitman. Application of the method of mixtures to quadratic forms in normal variates. 1949.  
Peña, Lai, and Shao. Self-normalized processes: Limit theory and statistical applications. 2009.

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Method of mixtures (MM) supermartingale inequality	Sub-Gaussian	✗	✓
Bregman MM	Exp. families	✓	✓
Empirical Chernoff MM	Second order sub-Gaussian	✓	✓

Robbins and Pitman. Application of the method of mixtures to quadratic forms in normal variates. 1949.

Peña, Lai, and Shao. Self-normalized processes: Limit theory and statistical applications. 2009.

# I. Bregman concentration

Parameter

Exponential family:  $p_\theta(y) = h(y) \exp(\langle \theta, F(y) \rangle - \mathcal{L}(\theta)).$

Feature function

Log-partition function

Bregman divergence:

$$\mathcal{B}(\theta', \theta) = \mathcal{L}(\theta') - \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \langle \theta' - \theta, \nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta) \rangle = \text{KL}(p_\theta \parallel p_{\theta'}).$$

Family	Known anytime valid concentration
Bernoulli, Gaussian (known variance)	✓
Gaussian, Chi-square, Poisson, Pareto, etc.	✗

## I. Bregman concentration

$$\widehat{\Theta}_n^\delta = \left\{ \theta_0 \in \Theta : (n + c) \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{L}} \left( \theta_0, \widehat{\theta}_{n,c}(\theta_0) \right) \leq \log \frac{1}{\delta} + \gamma_{n,c}(\theta_0) \right\}$$

is an anytime valid confidence sequence for this exponential family.

# I. Bregman concentration

Regularised estimator

$$\hat{\theta}_{n,c}(\theta_0) = (\nabla \mathcal{L})^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{n+c} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n F(Y_j) + c \nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta_0) \right) \right)$$

$$\hat{\Theta}_n^\delta = \left\{ \theta_0 \in \Theta : (n+c) \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{L}} \left( \theta_0, \hat{\theta}_{n,c}(\theta_0) \right) \leq \log \frac{1}{\delta} + \gamma_{n,c}(\theta_0) \right\}$$

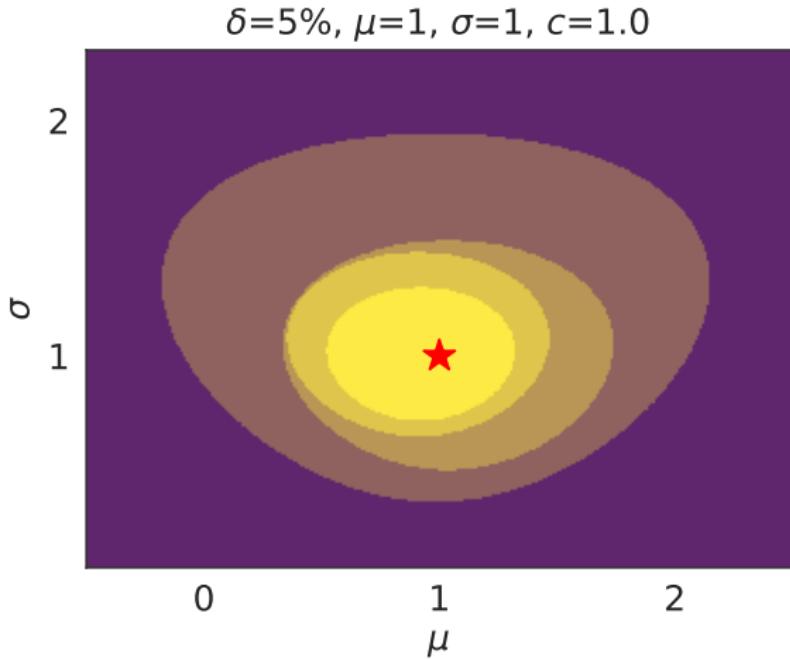
Bregman divergence

Bregman information gain

$$\gamma_{n,c}(\theta_0) = \log \left( \frac{\int_{\Theta} \exp(-c \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{L}}(\theta', \theta_0)) d\theta'}{\int_{\Theta} \exp(-(n+c) \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{L}}(\theta', \hat{\theta}_{n,c}(\theta_0))) d\theta'} \right)$$

is an anytime valid confidence sequence for this exponential family.

# I. Bregman concentration



# Challenges of healthcare recommendations



## Online advertising

- ✓ Huge volume of data.
- ✓ Easy to model  
(Bernoulli, logistic...).
- ✓ Limited risks ( $\rho = \mathbb{E}$ ).



## Healthcare

- ✓ Slow and scarce data.
- ✗ Nonparametric models.
- ✗ Risky.

## II. Nonparametric: bootstrapping from data only

👉 Greedy policy:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \frac{1}{N_t^k} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} Y_j^k.$$

Empirical average



## II. Nonparametric: bootstrapping from data only

👉 Greedy policy:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k Y_j^k.$$

Empirical average

$$w_{j,t}^k = \frac{1}{N_t^k}$$

## II. Nonparametric: bootstrapping from data only

👉 Greedy policy with fictitious rewards:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k Y_j^k + \tilde{w}_t^k \tilde{Y}_t^k.$$
$$w_{j,t}^k, \tilde{w}_t^k = \frac{1}{N_t^k + 1}$$

Empirical average  
Fictitious reward

## II. Nonparametric: bootstrapping from data only

Randomised greedy policy with fictitious rewards:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k Y_j^k + \tilde{w}_t^k \tilde{Y}_t^k.$$

$w_{j,t}^k, \tilde{w}_t^k \in [0, 1]$  random

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k + \tilde{w}_t^k = 1$$

Randomised average

Fictitious reward

## II. Nonparametric: bootstrapping from data only

Nonparametric Thompson sampling:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k Y_j^k + \tilde{w}_t^k \tilde{Y}_t^k.$$

$w_{j,t}^k, \tilde{w}_t^k \sim \text{Dir}(1, \dots, 1)$   
(uniform distribution on the simplex)

Dirichlet average

Fictitious reward  
( $\approx$  reward upper bound)

Kveton, Szepesvari, et al. [ICML](#), 2019.

Riou and Honda. [ALT](#), 2020.

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Dirichlet average

Fictitious reward  
( $\approx$  reward upper bound)

Beyond bounded rewards (with known bounds)?

Kveton, Szepesvari, et al. [ICML](#), 2019.

Riou and Honda. [ALT](#), 2020.

## II. Regret guarantees for Dirichlet sampling

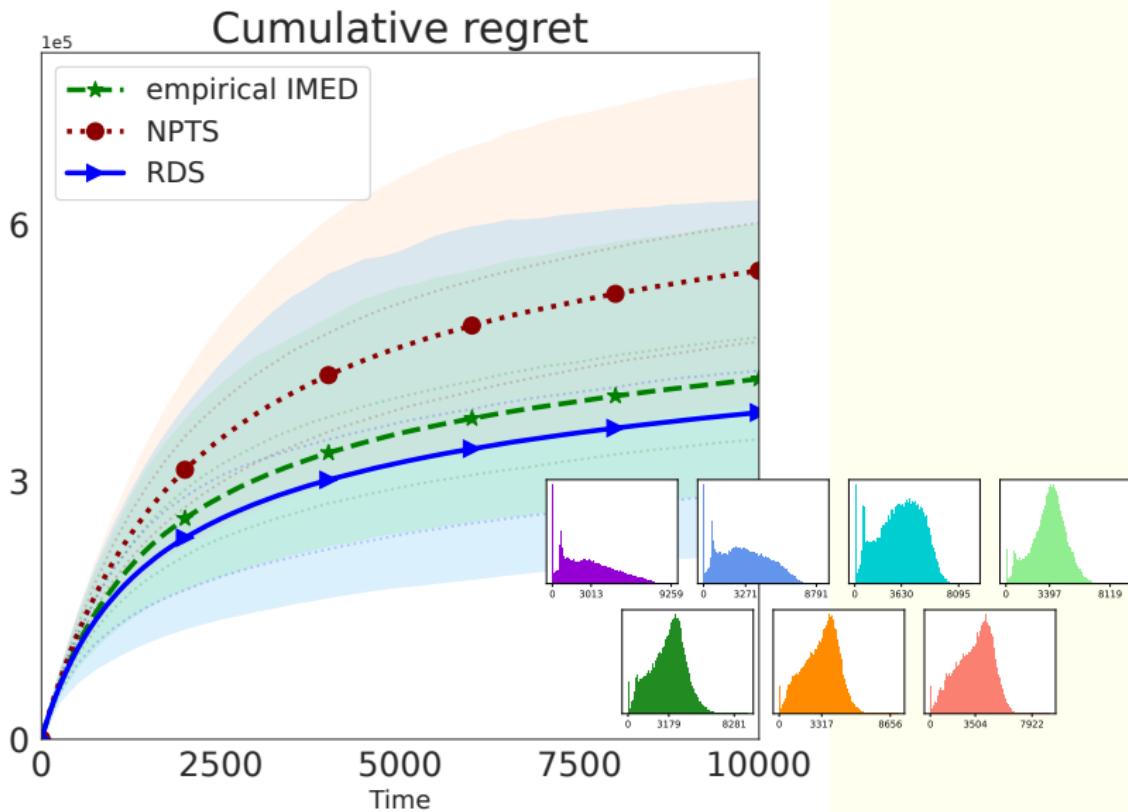
$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \in [K]} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t^k} w_{j,t}^k Y_j^k + \tilde{w}_t^k \tilde{Y}_t^k.$$

👉 Regret guarantees (instance-dependent)

- ✓ Optimal in several settings  
(bounded, bounded detectable, semibounded + quantile condition)

💡 **Light tailed:**  $\mathcal{R}_T = \mathcal{O}(\log(T) \log \log(T))$ .

## II. Dirichlet sampling



# Challenges of healthcare recommendations



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- ✓ Nonparametric models.
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### III. From risk-neutral to risk-aware

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#### ↳ Non-contextual bandits:

- ▶ Maillard. Robust risk-averse stochastic multi-armed bandits.  
ALT, 2013.
- ▶ Baudry, Gautron, et al. Optimal Thompson sampling strategies  
for support-aware CVAR bandits.  
ICML, 2021a.

#### ↳ Contextual bandits?

### III. From risk-neutral to risk-aware

Classical linear bandit  $Y = \langle \theta^*, X \rangle +$  zero-mean noise:

$$\widehat{\theta}_{t+1} = \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{s=1}^t (Y_s - \langle \theta, X_s \rangle)^2 + \text{exploration}.$$

Estimator of  
 $\rho(\nu) = \mathbb{E}_\nu [Y | X]$

### III. From risk-neutral to risk-aware

Classical linear bandit  $Y = \langle \theta^*, X \rangle +$  zero-mean noise:

$$\widehat{\theta}_{t+1} = \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{s=1}^t \mathcal{L}(Y_s, \langle \theta, X_s \rangle) \quad + \text{ exploration.}$$

Estimator of  
 $\rho(\nu) = \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\nu} [\mathcal{L}(Y, \langle \theta, X \rangle) | X]$   
(M-estimator)

$$\mathcal{L}(y, \xi) = (y - \xi)^2$$

### III. From risk-neutral to risk-aware

- Eligible risk measure linear bandit  $Y \approx \langle \theta^*, X \rangle + \text{zero } \rho\text{-noise}$ :

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Estimator of

$$\rho(\nu) = \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\nu} [\mathcal{L}(Y, \langle \theta, X \rangle) | X]$$

(M-estimator)

$\mathcal{L}$  (strongly) convex mapping

### III. From risk-neutral to risk-aware

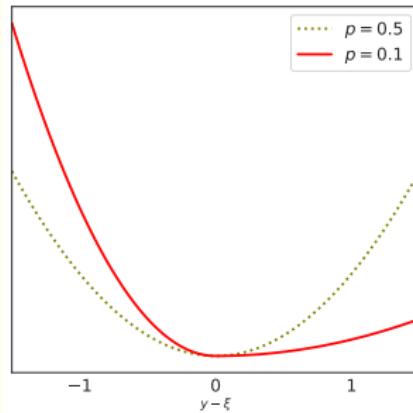
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Estimator of  
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(M-estimator)

$\mathcal{L}$  (strongly) convex mapping

Expectile:  $\mathcal{L}(y, \xi) = |p - \mathbf{1}_{y < \xi}| (y - \xi)^2$   
( $\neq$  loss for negative and positive rewards).



### III. Risk-aware policies

↳ Deterministic exploration:

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_x \langle \hat{\theta}_{t+1}, x \rangle + \text{UCB}(x),$$

**Worst case:**  $\mathcal{R}_T = \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\sqrt{T}).$

↳ Randomised Dirichlet exploration:

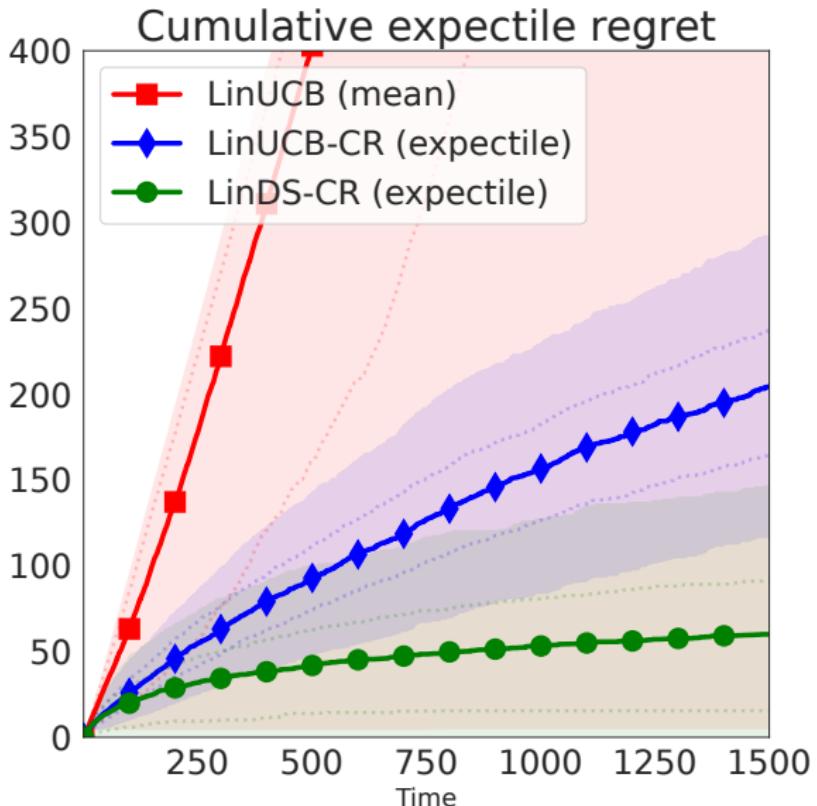
$$\tilde{\theta}_{t+1} = \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{s=1}^t w_s^t \mathcal{L}(Y_s, \langle \theta, X_s \rangle) + \tilde{w}_{t+1}^t \mathcal{L}\left(\tilde{Y}, \langle \theta, \tilde{X} \rangle\right),$$

$$\pi_{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_x \langle \tilde{\theta}_{t+1}, x \rangle,$$

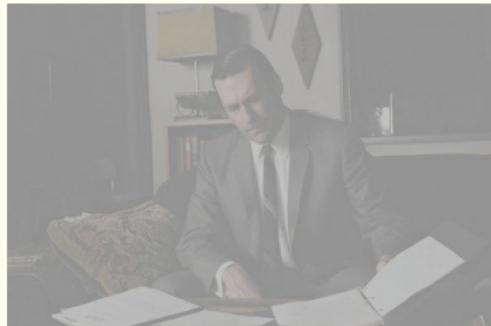
**Worst case:**  $\mathcal{R}_T \stackrel{?}{=} \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(\sqrt{T}).$

Linear Gaussian Thompson sampling?  
(strong approximation of weighted bootstrap)

### III. Risk-aware policies



# Challenges of healthcare recommendations



## Online advertising

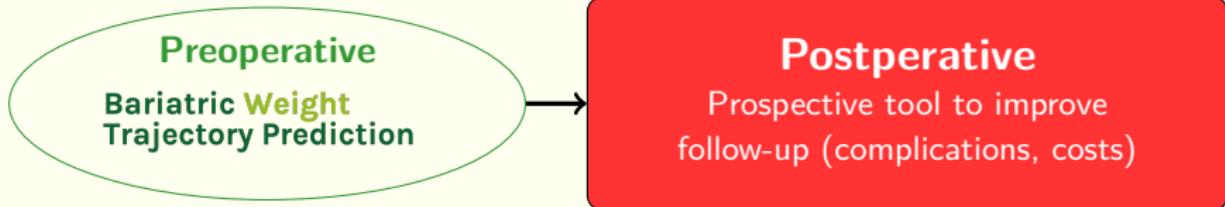
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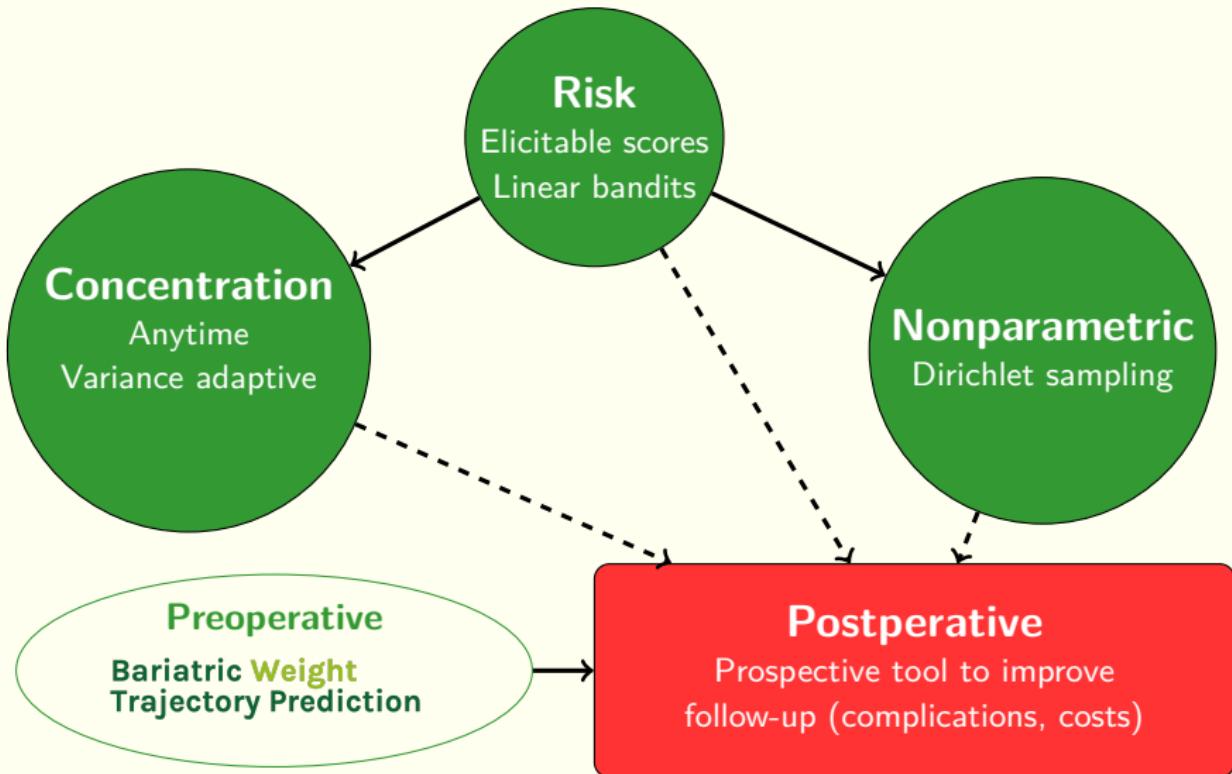
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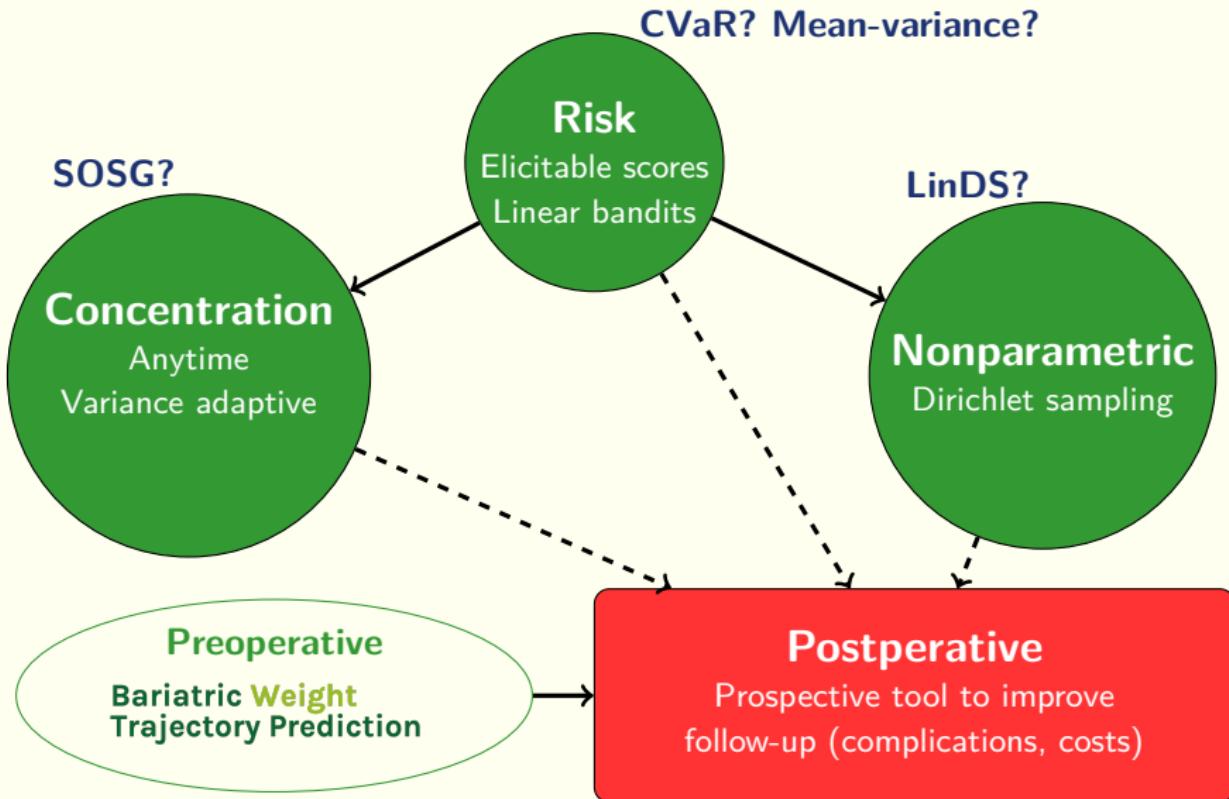
# Conclusion and future works



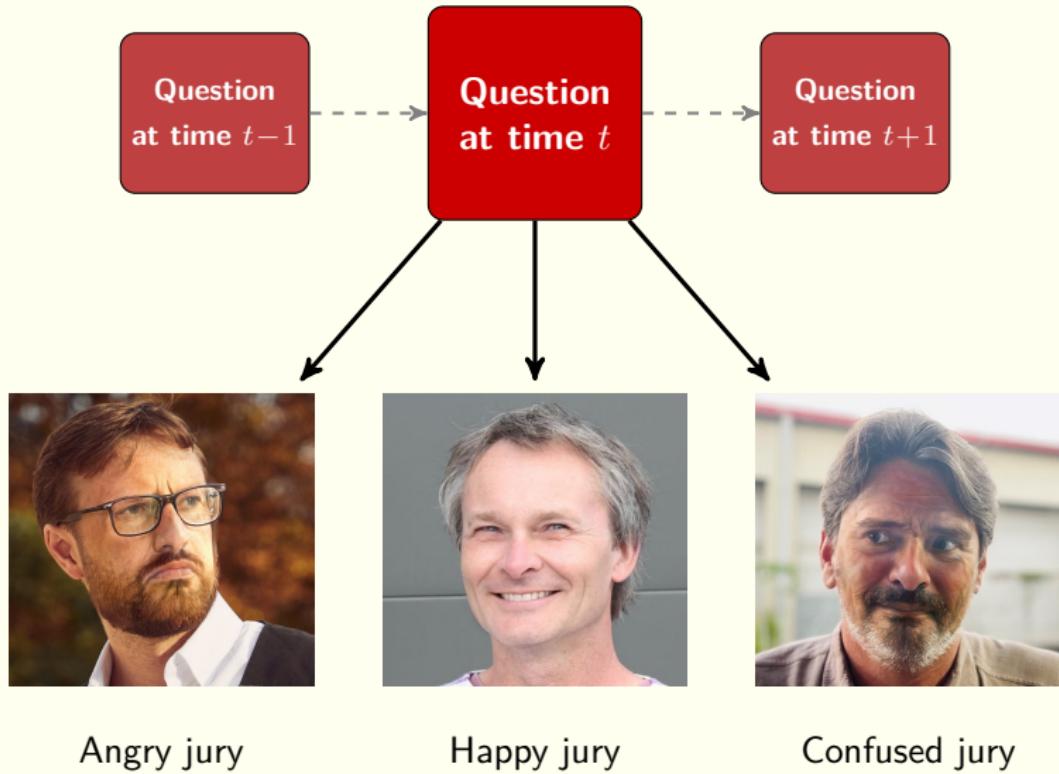
# Conclusion and future works



# Conclusion and future works



# Questions



**BUT WAIT**



**THERE'S MORE**

quickmeme.com

# Empirical Chernoff concentration

Sub-Gaussian (SG):  $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \log \mathbb{E} [e^{\lambda(Y-\mu)}] \leq \frac{\lambda^2 R^2}{2}$ .

Second order sub-Gaussian (SOSG):

$$\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+, \log \mathbb{E} [e^{-\lambda(Y-\mu)^2}] \leq -\frac{1}{2} \log (1 + 2\lambda(\rho R)^2).$$

Second to first order variance ratio ( $\rho \in (0, 1]$ )

Family	Known anytime valid concentration
Gaussian (unknown variance)	✗
Uniform, symmetric triangular (unknown support)	✗
Other nonparametric distributions	✗

# Empirical Chernoff concentration

$$\widehat{\Theta}_n^\delta = \left[ \widehat{\mu}_n \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{n} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right) R^2 \log \left( \frac{2\sqrt{1+\frac{n}{\alpha}}}{\delta} \right)} \right]$$

↑  
Proxy variance

is an anytime valid confidence sequence for SG.

# Empirical Chernoff concentration

$$\widehat{\Theta}_{n,\rho}^\delta = \left[ \widehat{\mu}_n \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{n} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right) \frac{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor V_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^I}{\rho^2 \left(G_{\beta,\gamma,\zeta,\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^T\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{3}{\delta}\right)}} \log \left( \frac{3\sqrt{1+\frac{n}{\alpha}}}{\delta} \right) \right]$$

is an anytime valid confidence sequence for SOSG.

# Empirical Chernoff concentration

Empirical variance estimator

$$\hat{\Theta}_{n,\rho}^\delta = \left[ \hat{\mu}_n \pm \sqrt{\frac{2}{n} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right) \frac{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor V_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^I}{\rho^2 \left(G_{\beta,\gamma,\zeta,\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^T\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{3}{\delta}\right)}} \log \left( \frac{3\sqrt{1+\frac{n}{\alpha}}}{\delta} \right) \right]$$

Second to first order  
variance ratio

$$G_{\beta,\gamma,\zeta,\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^T(z) = \frac{U\left(\beta, \gamma + \frac{t}{2}; \zeta + \frac{z}{2}\right)}{U(\beta, \gamma; \zeta)}$$

$$U(b, c; z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(b)} \int_0^{+\infty} u^{b-1} (1+u)^{c-b-1} e^{-zu} du$$

(Tricomi's confluent hypergeometric function)

is an anytime valid confidence sequence for SOSG.

# Empirical Chernoff concentration

