



**UCL**

# Bayesian quadrature for parametric expectations

Dr François-Xavier Briol  
Department of Statistical Science  
University College London



# Topic of this talk

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## Conditional Bayesian Quadrature

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Masha Naslidnyk<sup>1,\*</sup>

Arthur Gretton<sup>2</sup>

François-Xavier Briol<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, University College London, London, UK

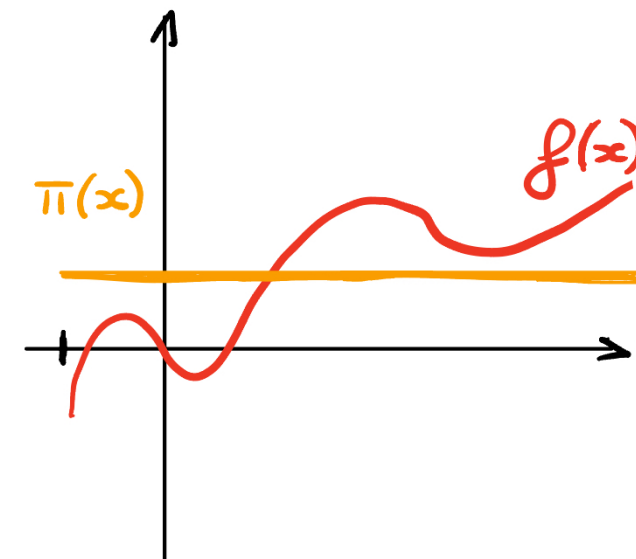
<sup>3</sup>Department of Statistical Science, University College London, London, UK

Recently appeared at **UAI 2024!**

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Quantity of interest:

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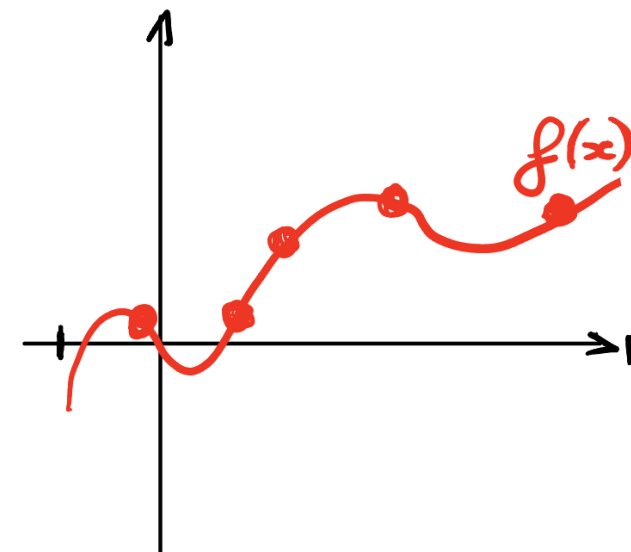
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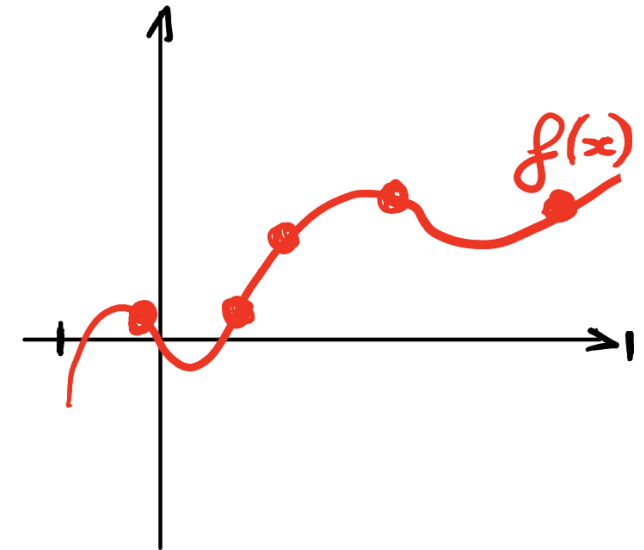
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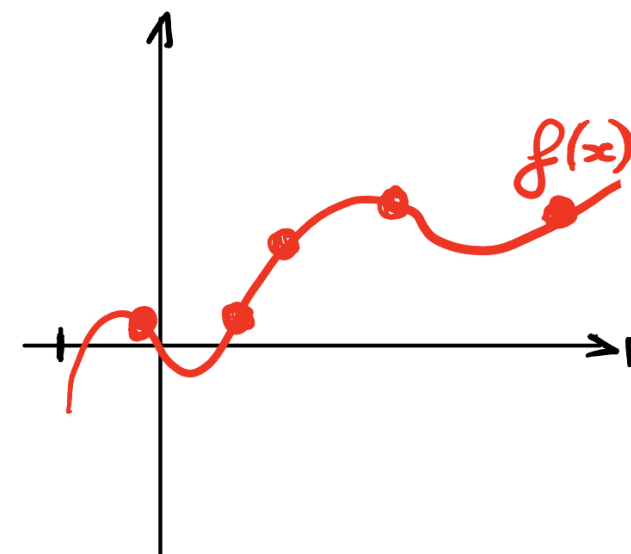
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**Most of the literature:**

$$\{x_i, w_i\}_{i=1}^N \text{?????}$$

# Related Numerical Integration Tasks

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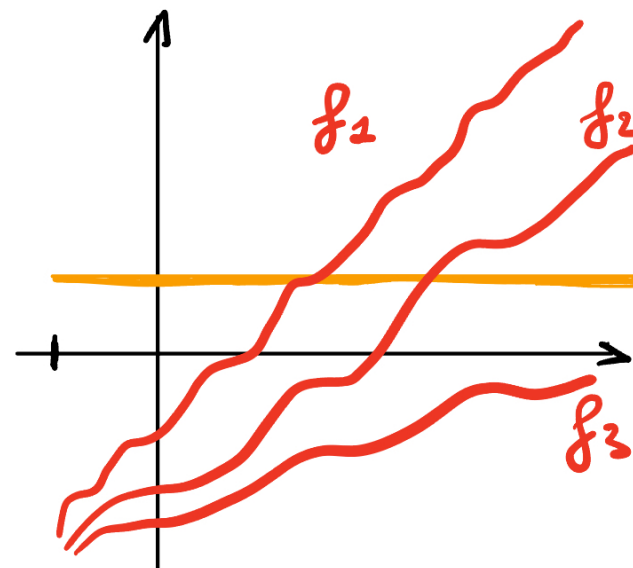
**Key question:** What does “related” mean, and how do we take advantage of it?

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**Example 1:**  
Related integrands  
 $f_1, \dots, f_T$

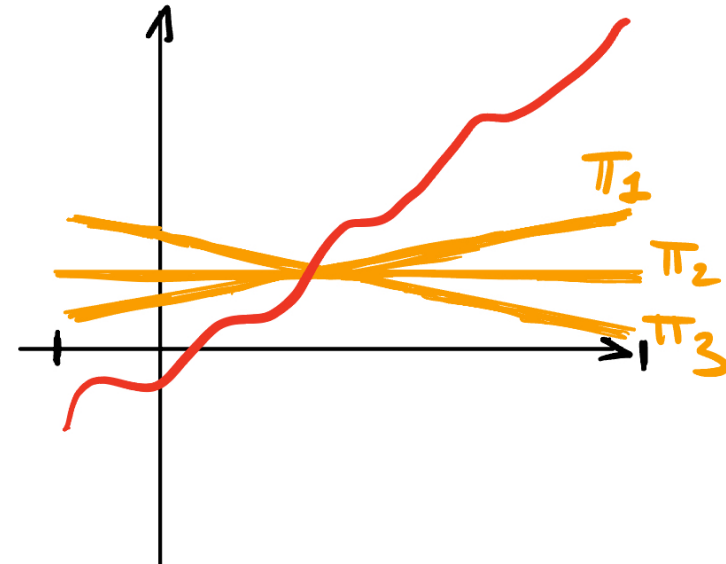


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**Example 2:**  
Related densities  
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Madras, N., & Piccioni, M. (1999). Importance sampling for families of distributions. *The Annals of Applied Probability*, 9(4), 1202–1225.

Tang, X. (2013). *Importance sampling for efficient parametric simulation*. Boston University.

Demange-Chryst, J., Bachoc, F., & Morio, J. (2022). Efficient estimation of multiple expectations with the same sample by adaptive importance sampling and control variates. *arXiv:2212.00568*.



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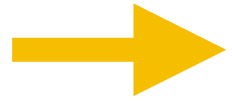


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Sun, Z., Oates, C. J., & Briol, F.-X. (2023). Meta-learning control variates: Variance reduction with limited data. *UAI (oral)*, 2047–2057.

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[Several other talks at MCQMC, or papers from this community!]

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**Goal:** We want to approximate  $I(\theta)$  over some region of the parameter space  $\Theta$ :

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Function values at each sample for each task

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Posterior expectation as function of hyperparameters

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Bayesian posterior

Hyperparameters in the prior or likelihood

The diagram illustrates the components of the Bayesian sensitivity analysis equation. The equation is  $I(\theta) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(x)\pi(x; \theta)dx$ . Four yellow arrows point from descriptive text to parts of the equation: one from 'Posterior expectation as function of hyperparameters' to  $I(\theta)$ ; one from 'QoI; e.g. moments' to  $f(x)$ ; one from 'Bayesian posterior' to  $\pi(x; \theta)$ ; and one from 'Hyperparameters in the prior or likelihood' to  $\theta$ .

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Most of the existing work is based on some form of importance sampling...

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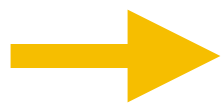
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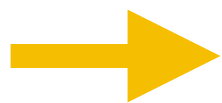
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**Many others...** Bayesian experimental design, statistical divergences for conditional distributions, etc.. etc..

# Least-squares Monte Carlo

Longstaff, F. A., & Schwartz, E. S. (2001). Valuing American options by simulation: A simple least-squares approach. *Review of Financial Studies*, 14(1), 113–147.

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**Slow  
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$$\hat{I}_{\text{MC}}(\theta_t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i^t; \theta_t)$$



**Slow convergence**

**Stage II:** Perform linear regression over  $\Theta$  using estimators from Stage I:

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**Linear model might be poor**

# Least-squares Monte Carlo

Longstaff, F. A., & Schwartz, E. S. (2001). Valuing American options by simulation: A simple least-squares approach. *Review of Financial Studies*, 14(1), 113–147.

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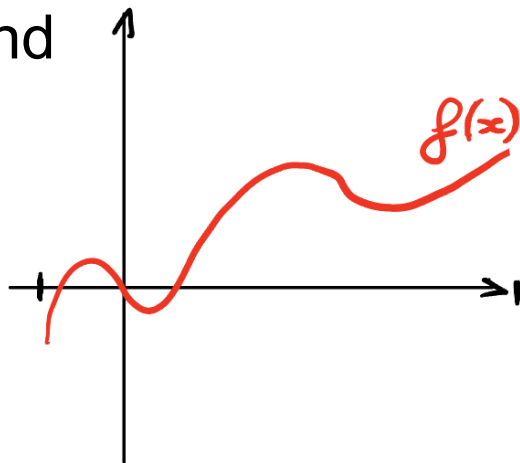


We will try to improve on this with GPs...

# Bayesian quadrature

Consider a single task:  $I = \int_x f(x)\pi(x)dx$

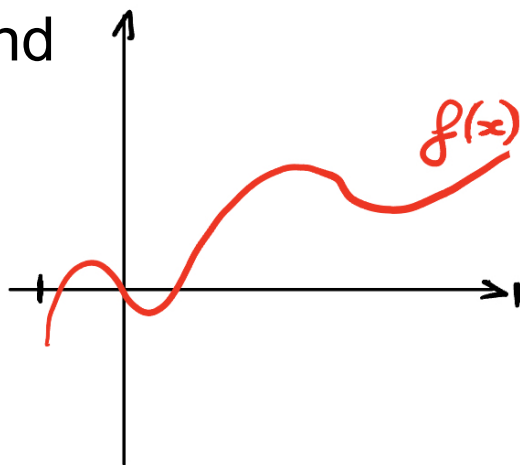
Integrand



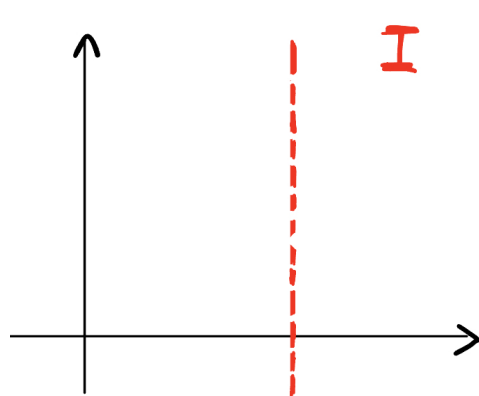
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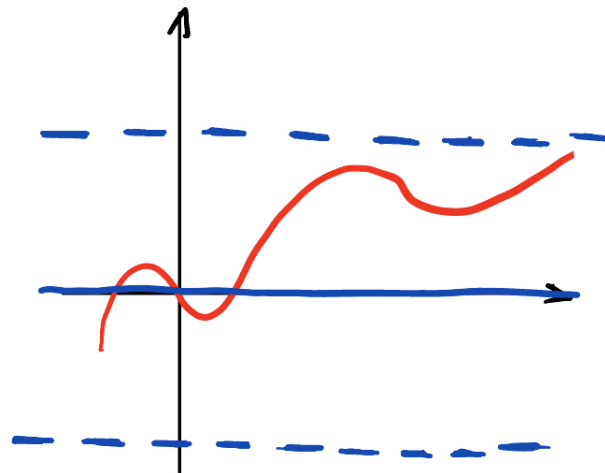
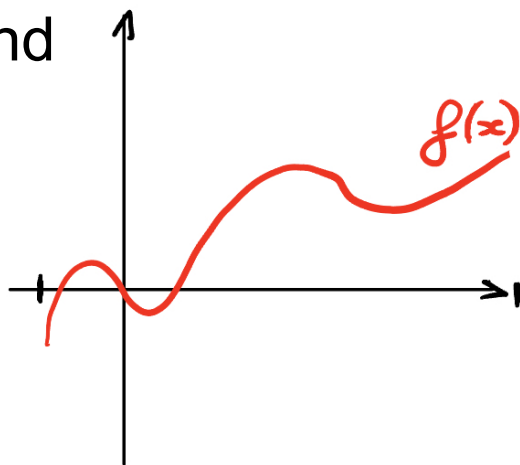
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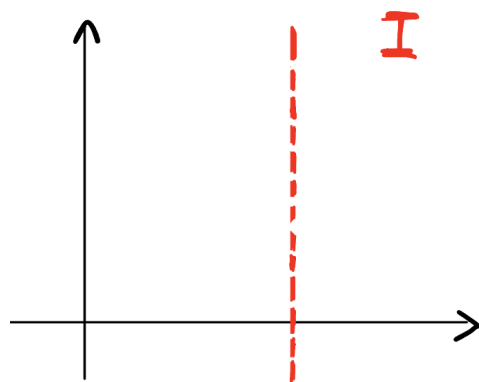
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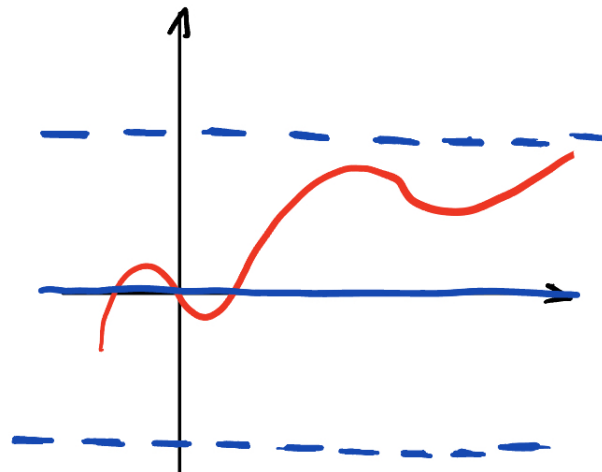
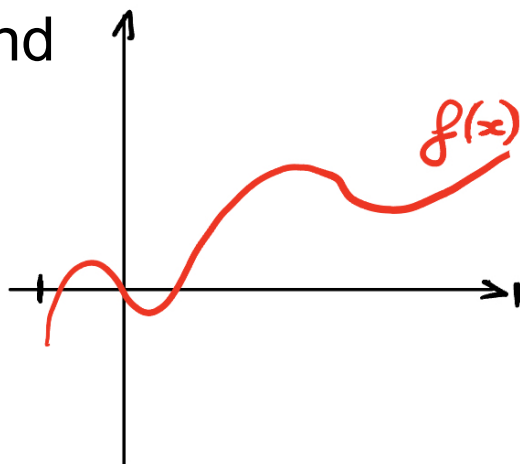
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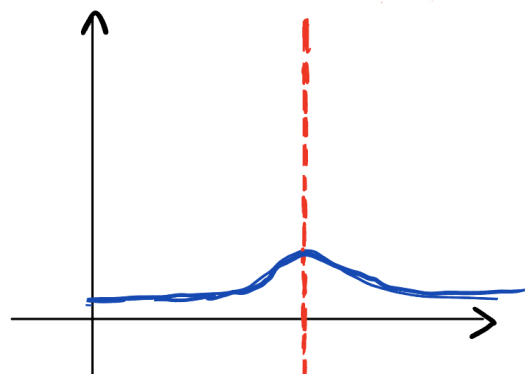
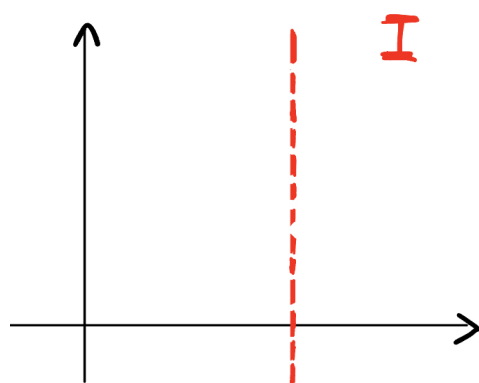
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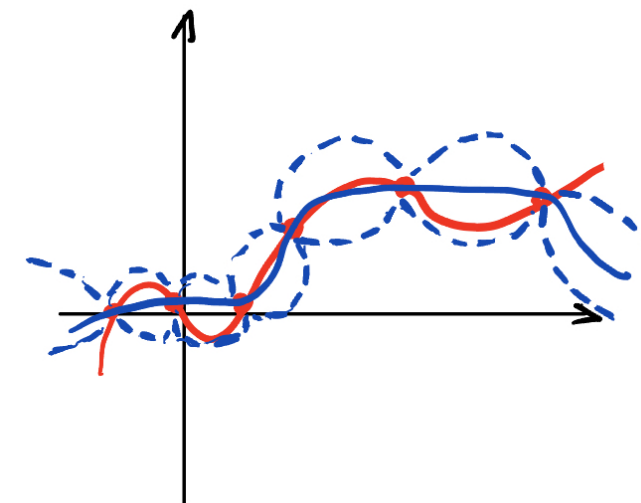
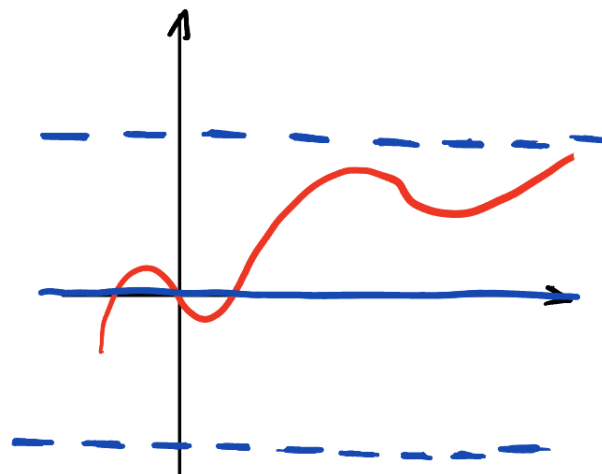
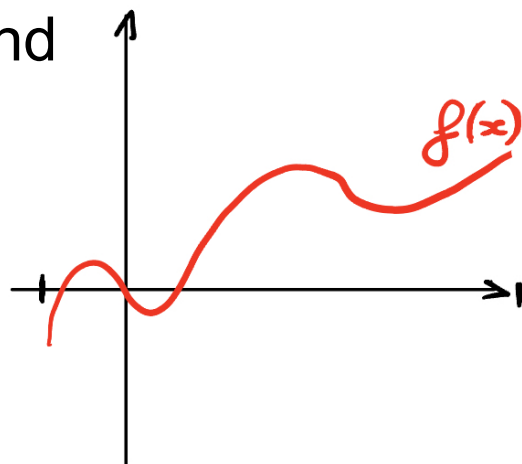
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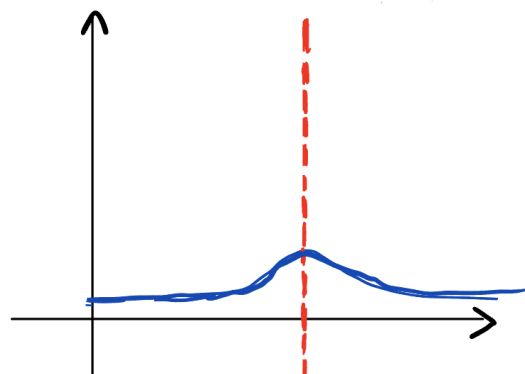
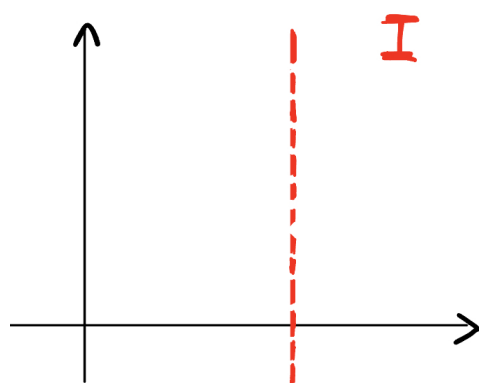
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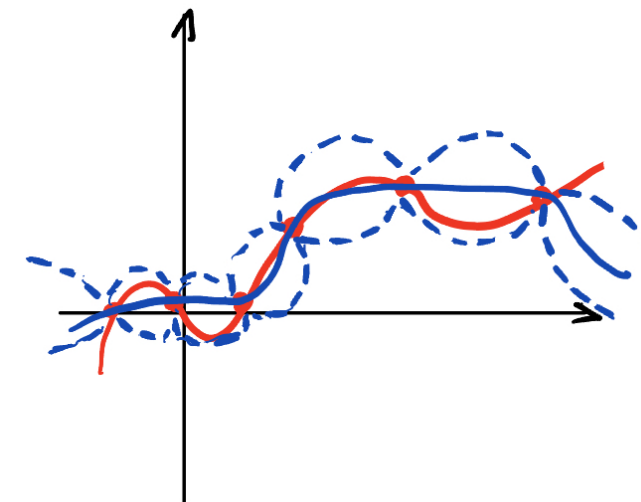
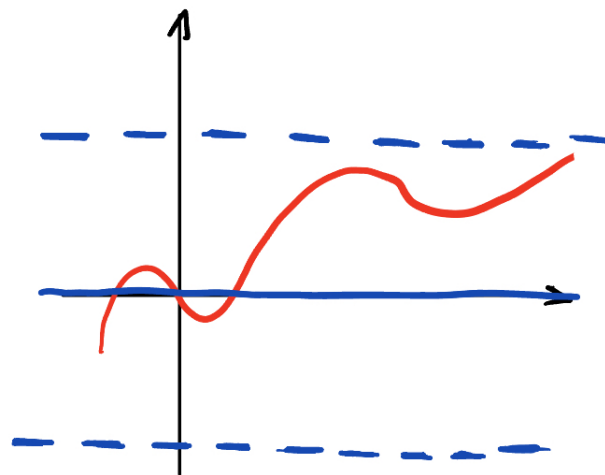
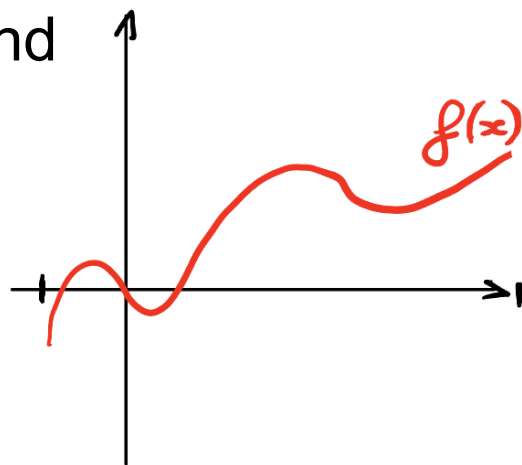
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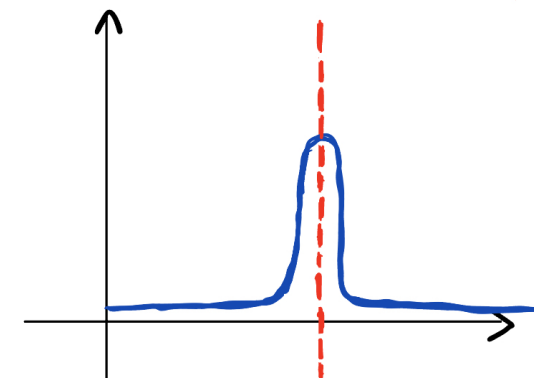
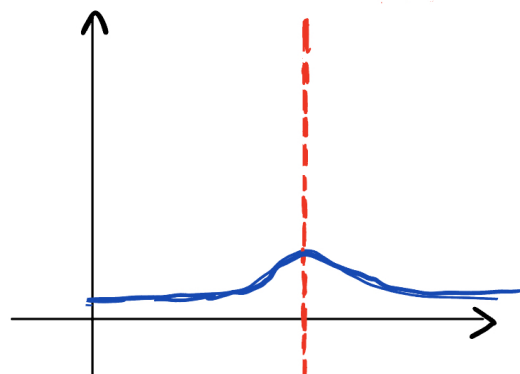
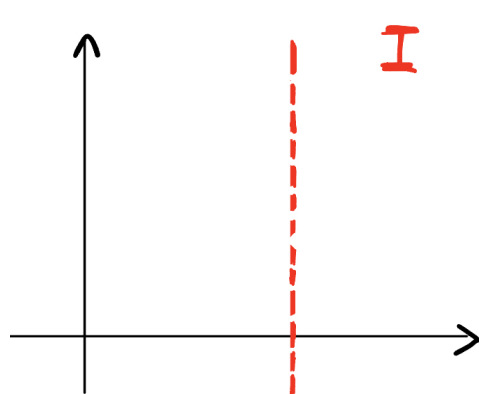
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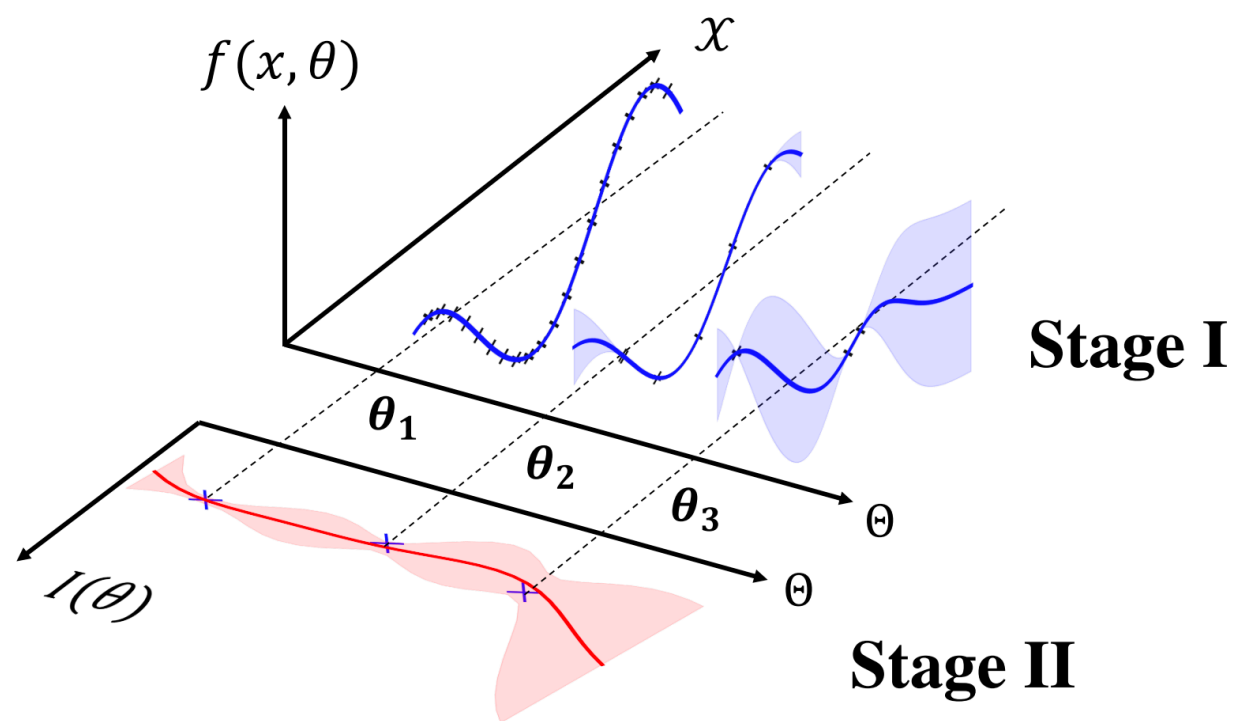


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# Conditional Bayesian Quadrature

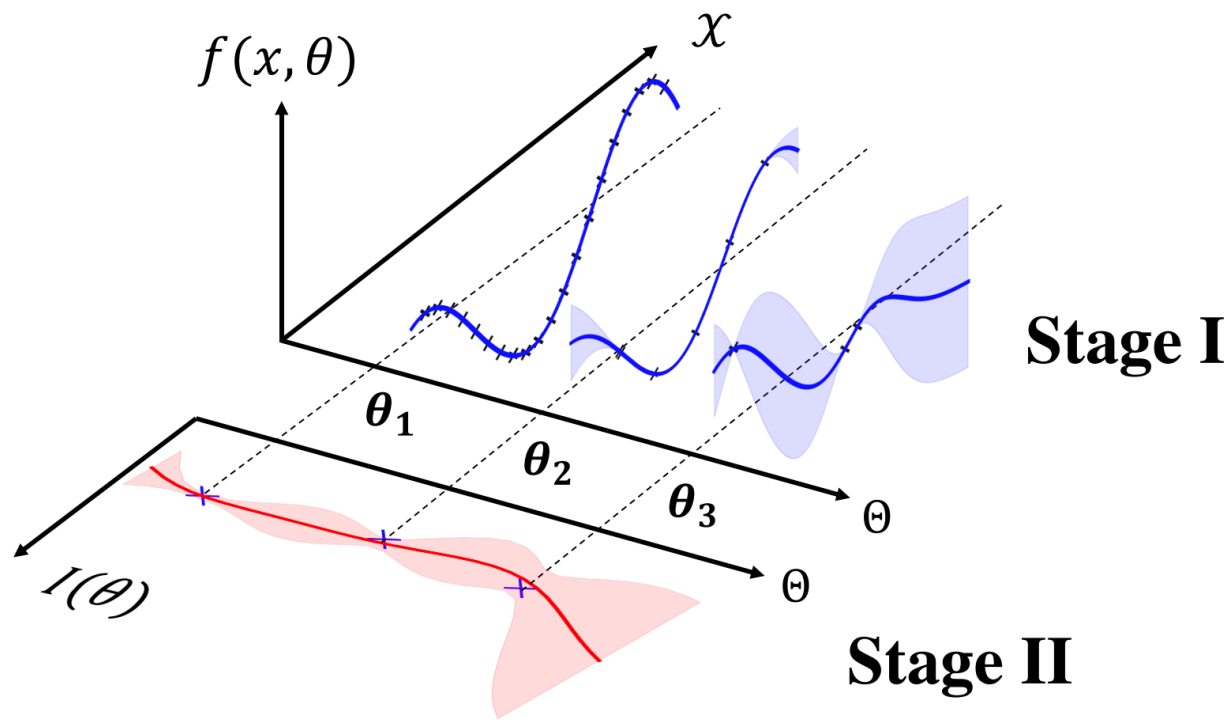


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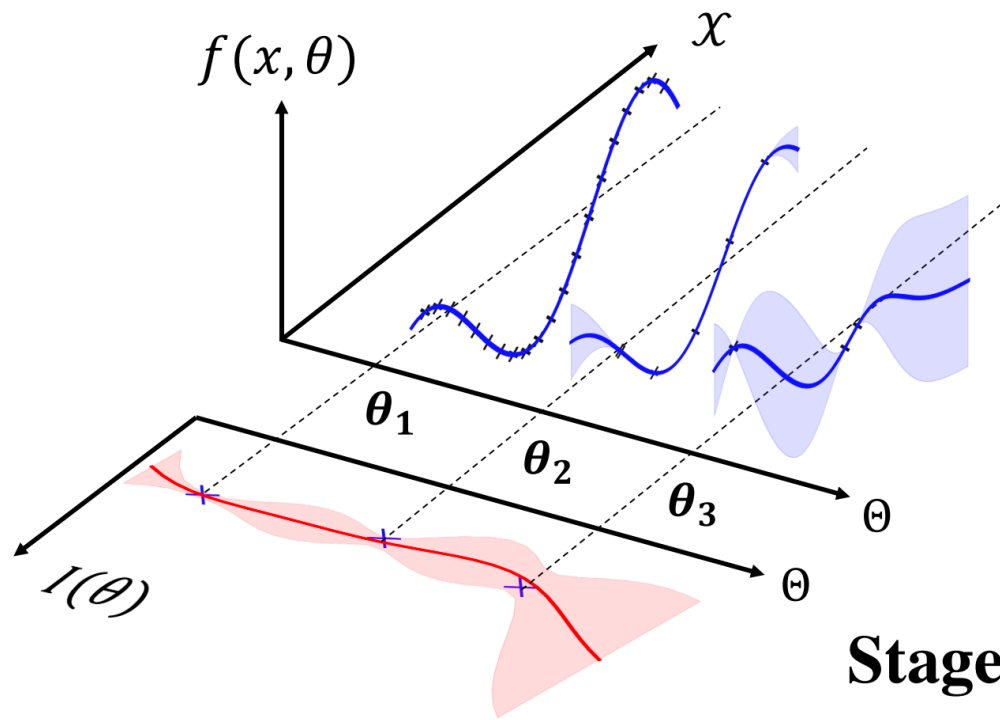
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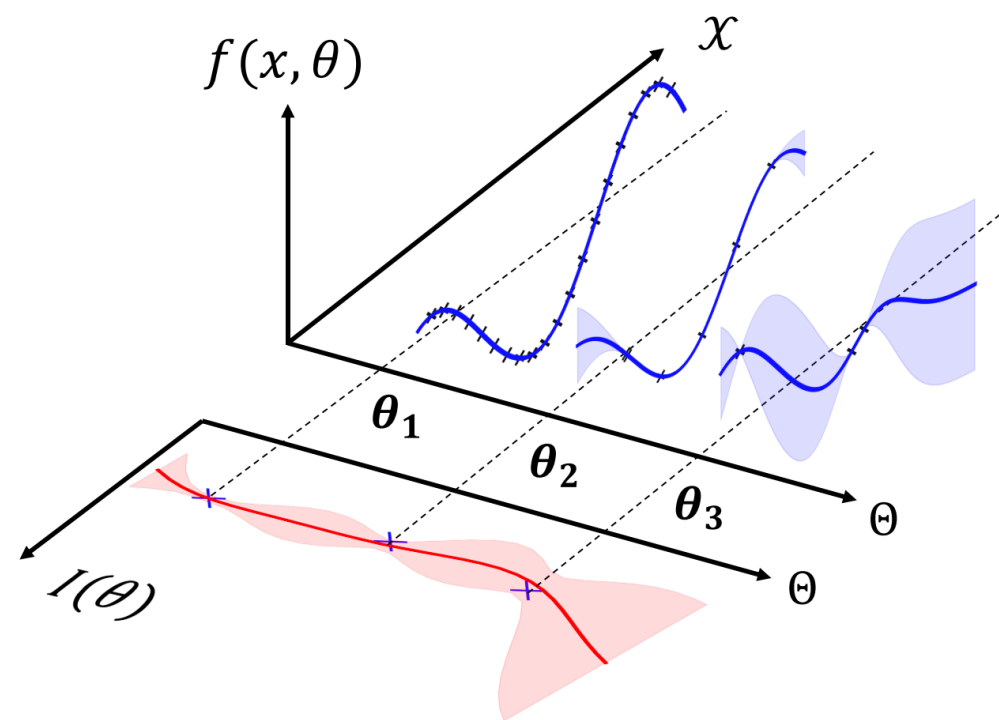
**Stage II**

**Stage II:** Heteroscedastic GP regression over  $I(\theta)$  with data from Stage I and likelihood

$$\hat{I}_{\text{BQ}}(\theta_t) = I(\theta_t) + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim N\left(0, \sigma_{\text{BQ}}^2(\theta_t)\right)$$

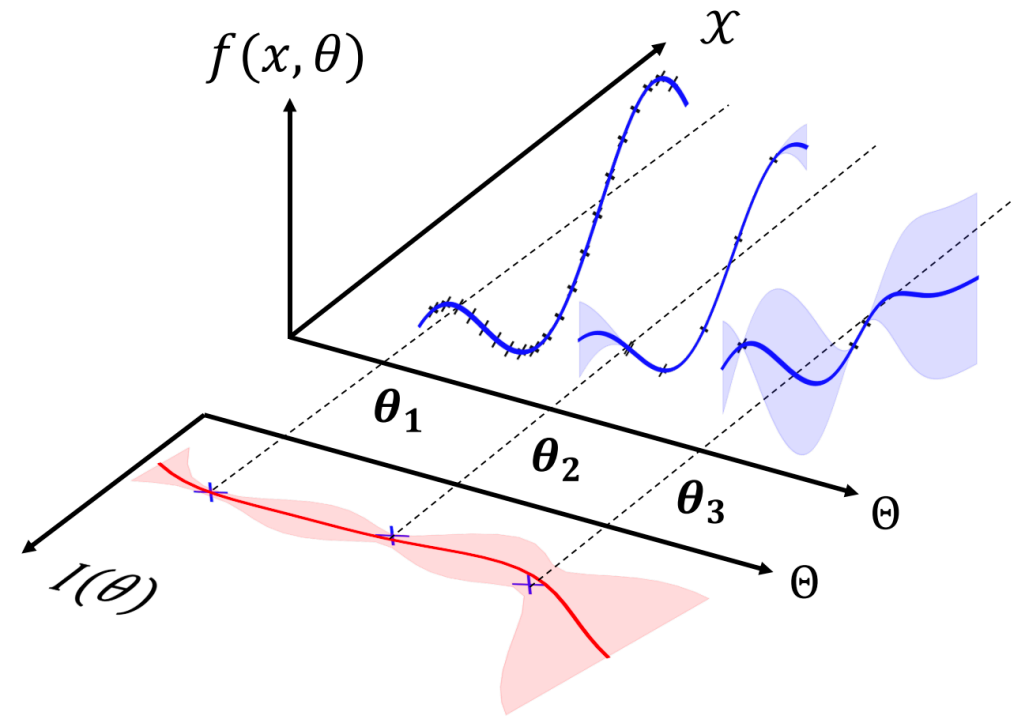
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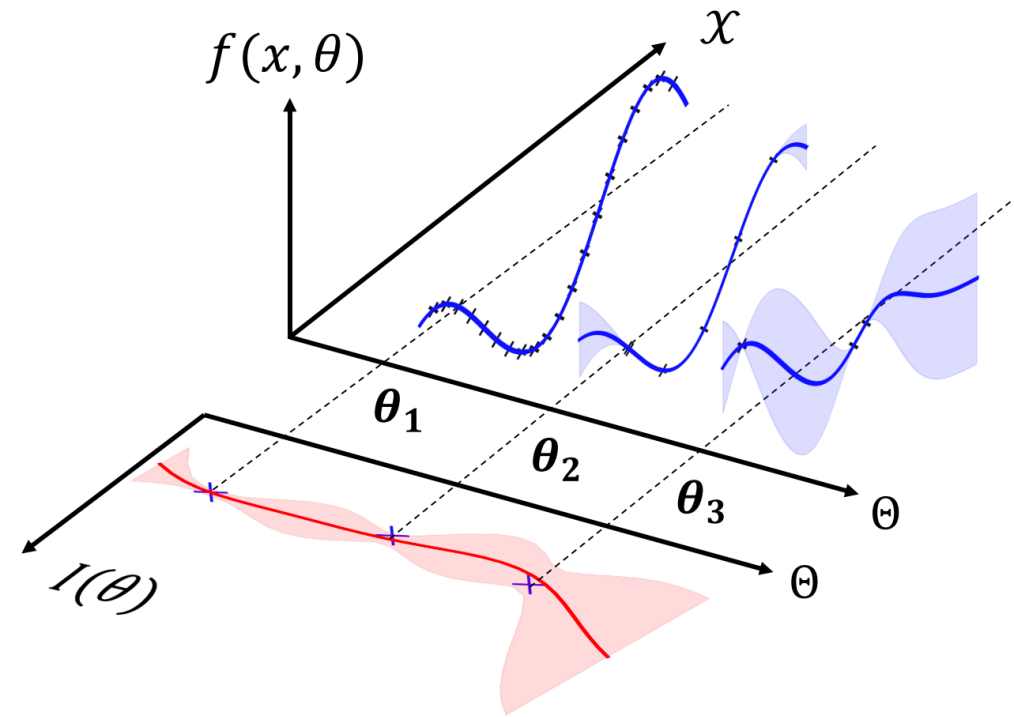
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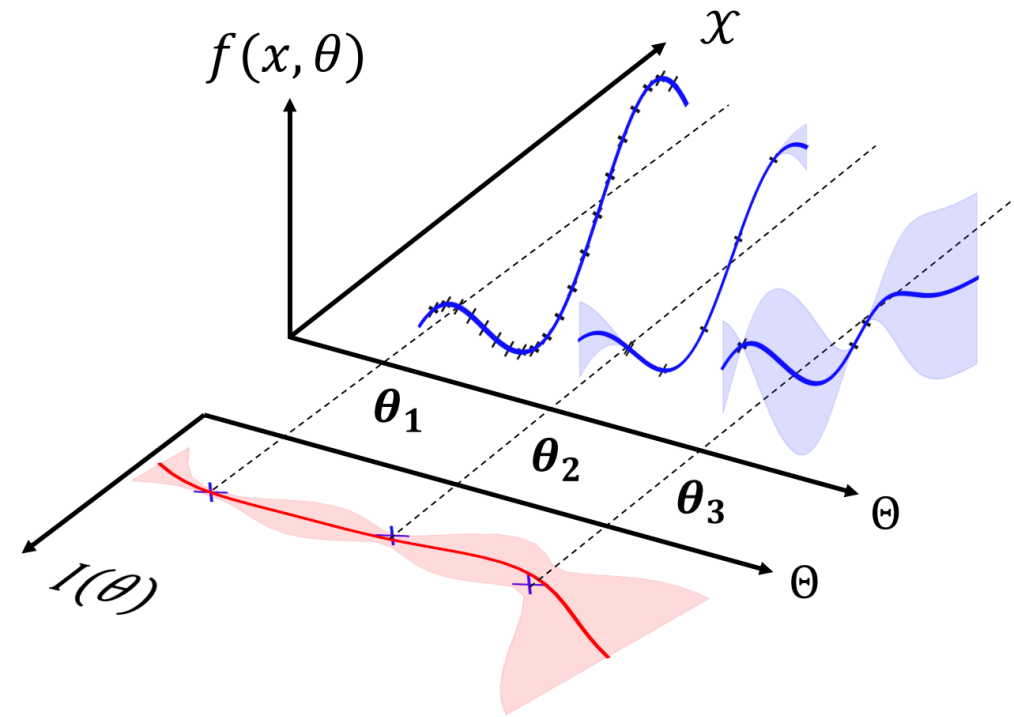
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- Stage II likelihood accounts for the fact that some BQ estimators might be more accurate than others...
- We end up with a full (Gaussian process) posterior **quantifying our uncertainty** on  $I(\theta)$ !



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Slow rate.  
Can probably be improved...

# Illustration: Bayesian sensitivity analysis

**Setting:** Bayesian linear regression with  $\mathcal{N}(0, \text{diag}(\theta))$  prior with  $\theta \in (1, 3)^d$  on the coefficients.

**QoI:** Sum of second moments of the posterior; i.e.  $f(x; \theta) = x^\top x$ .

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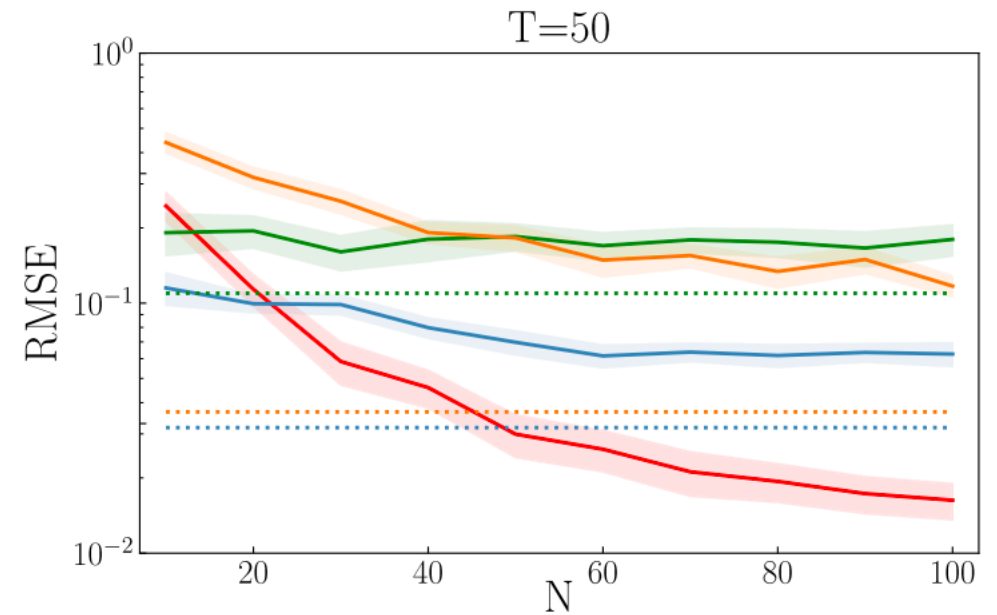
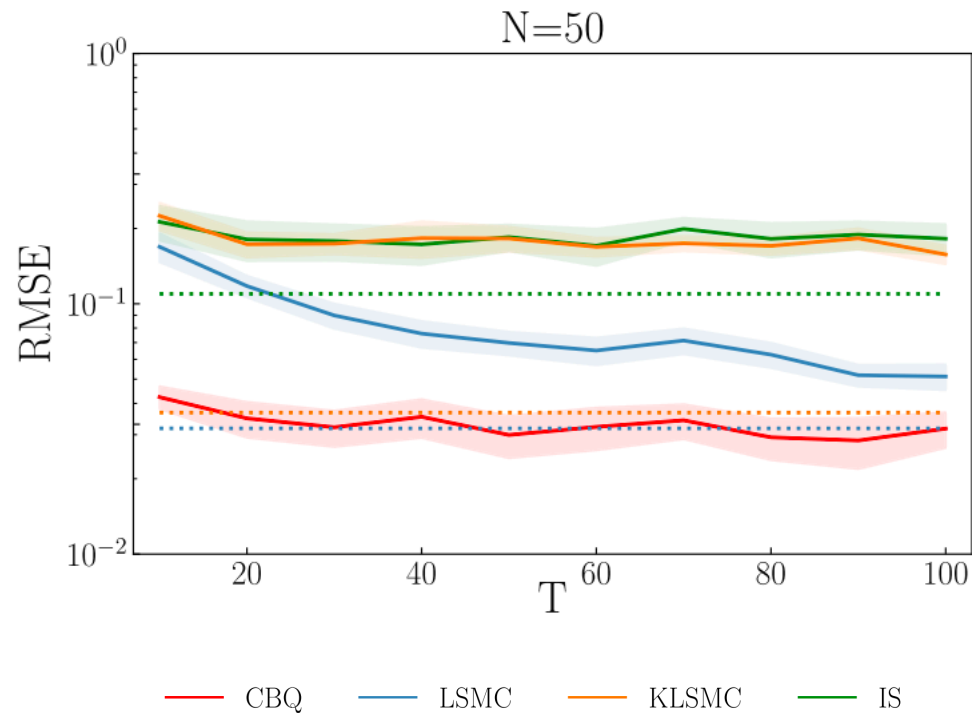


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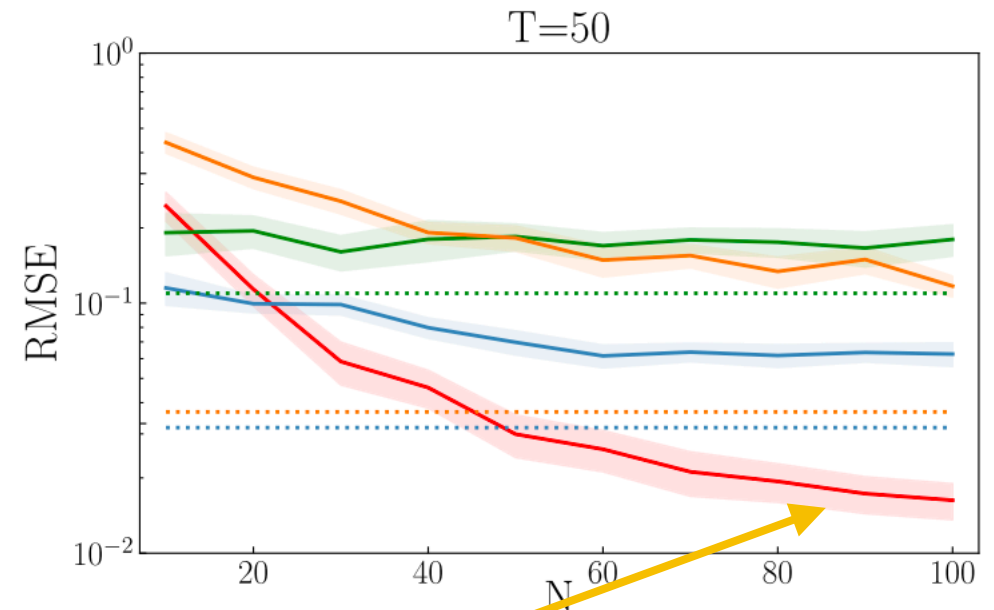
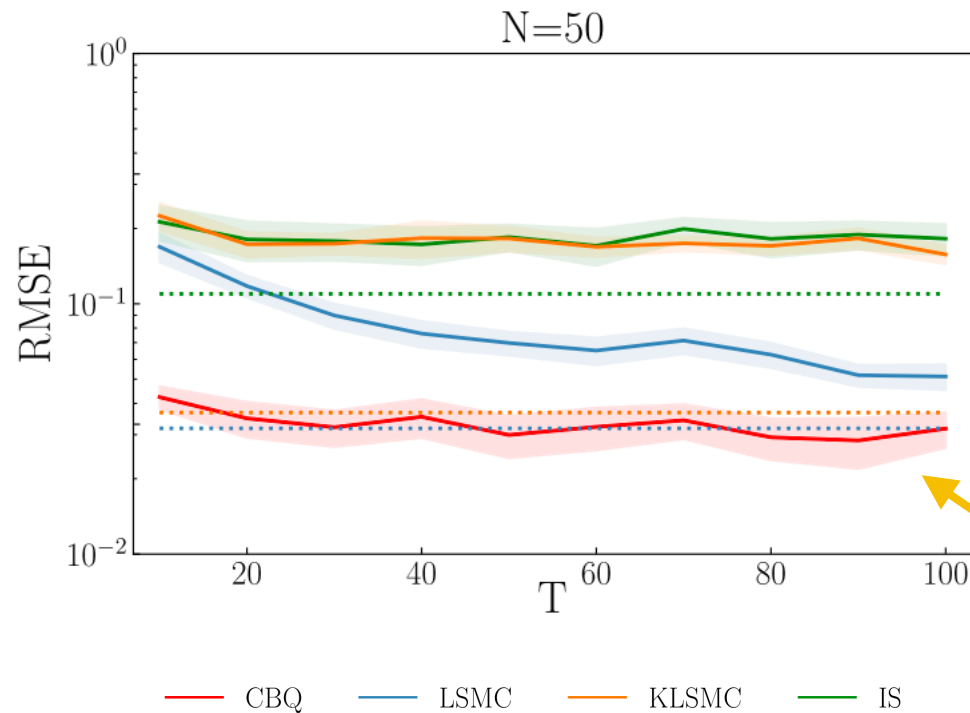
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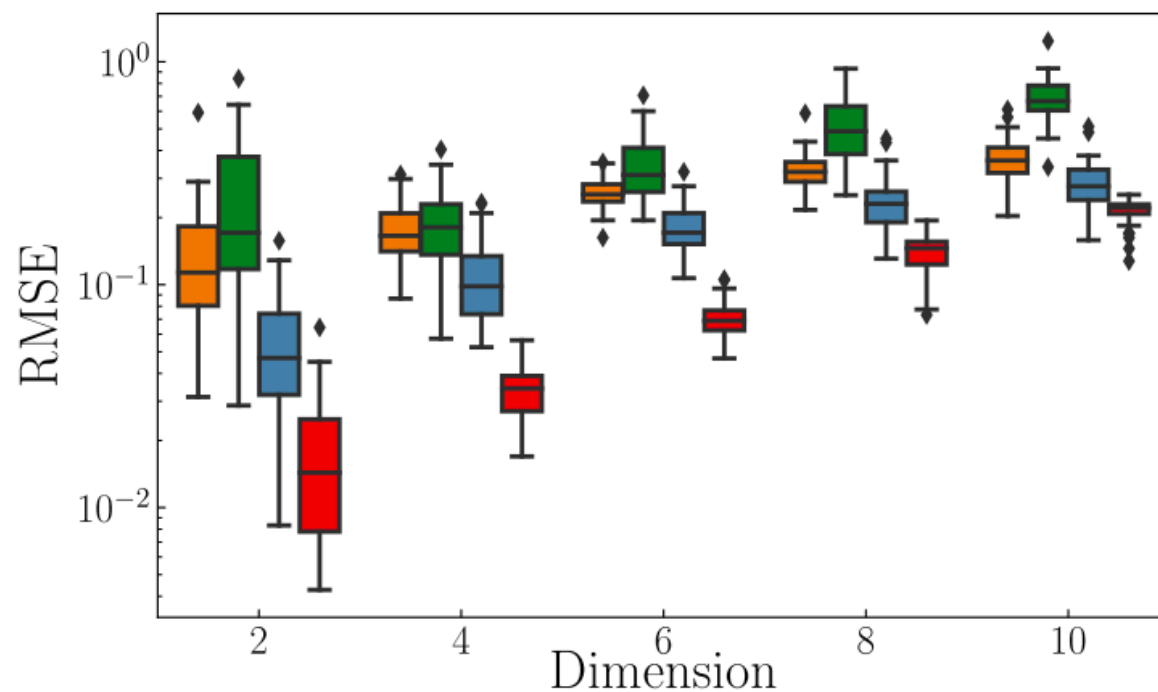
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Orders of magnitude more accurate!

# Bayesian sensitivity in varying dims

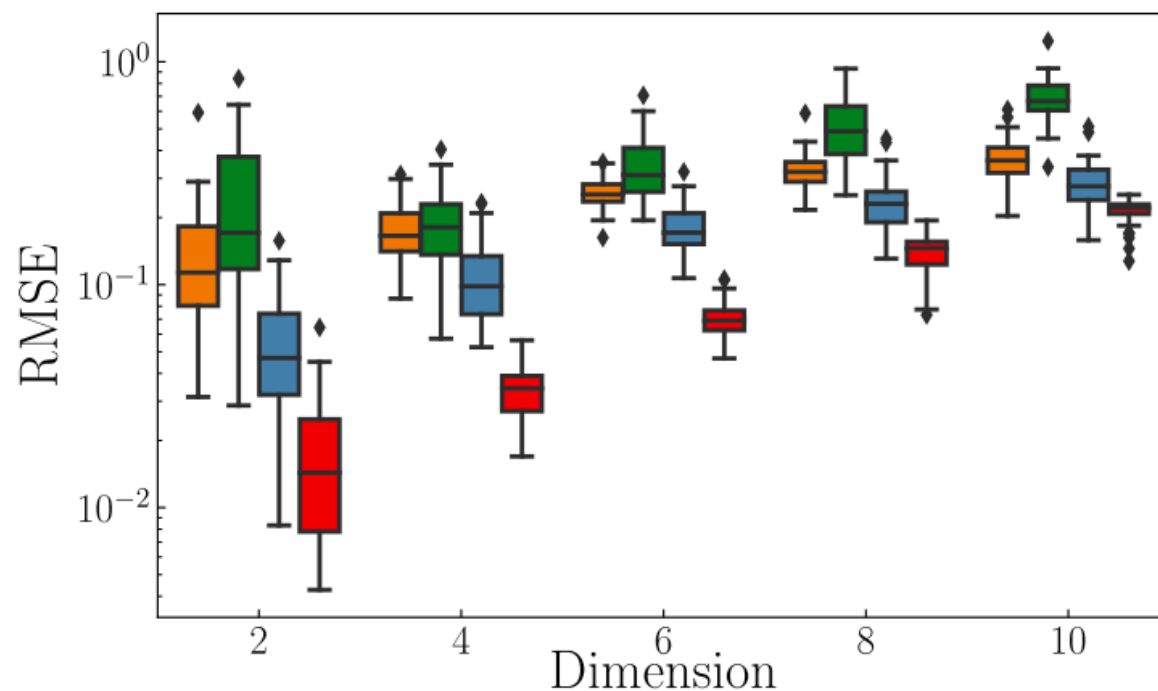
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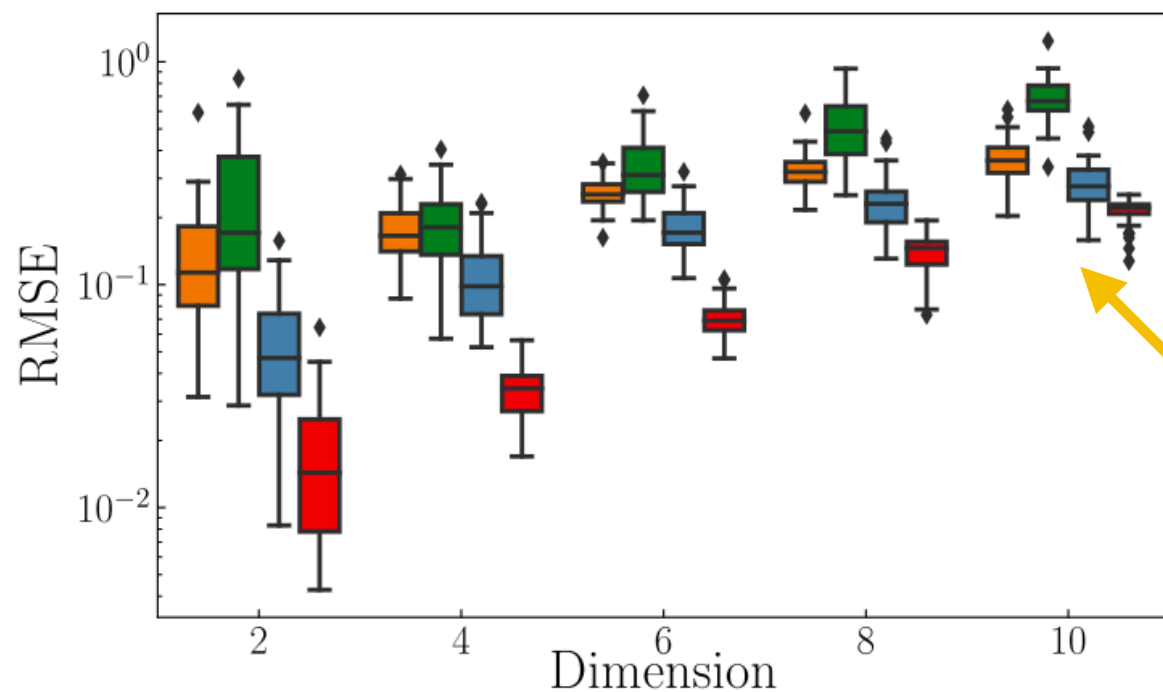
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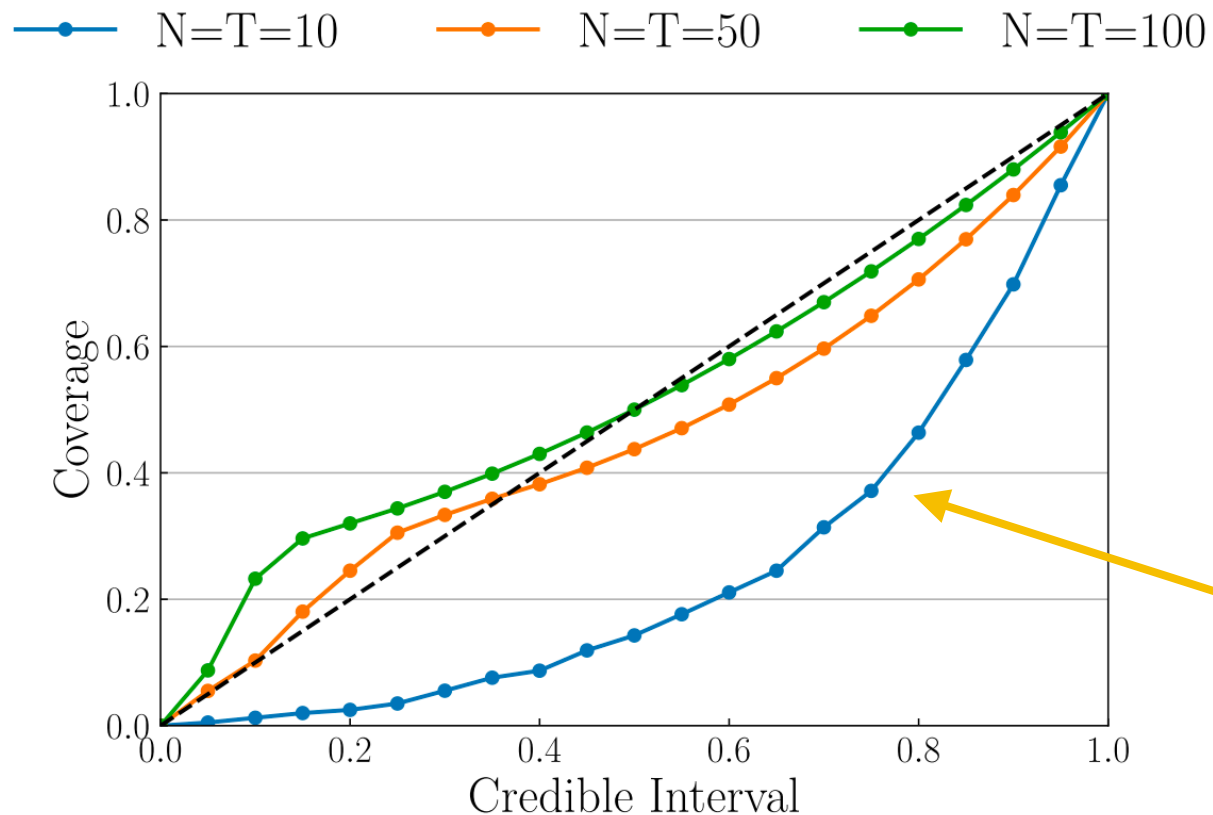
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- It also rate bears out in practice

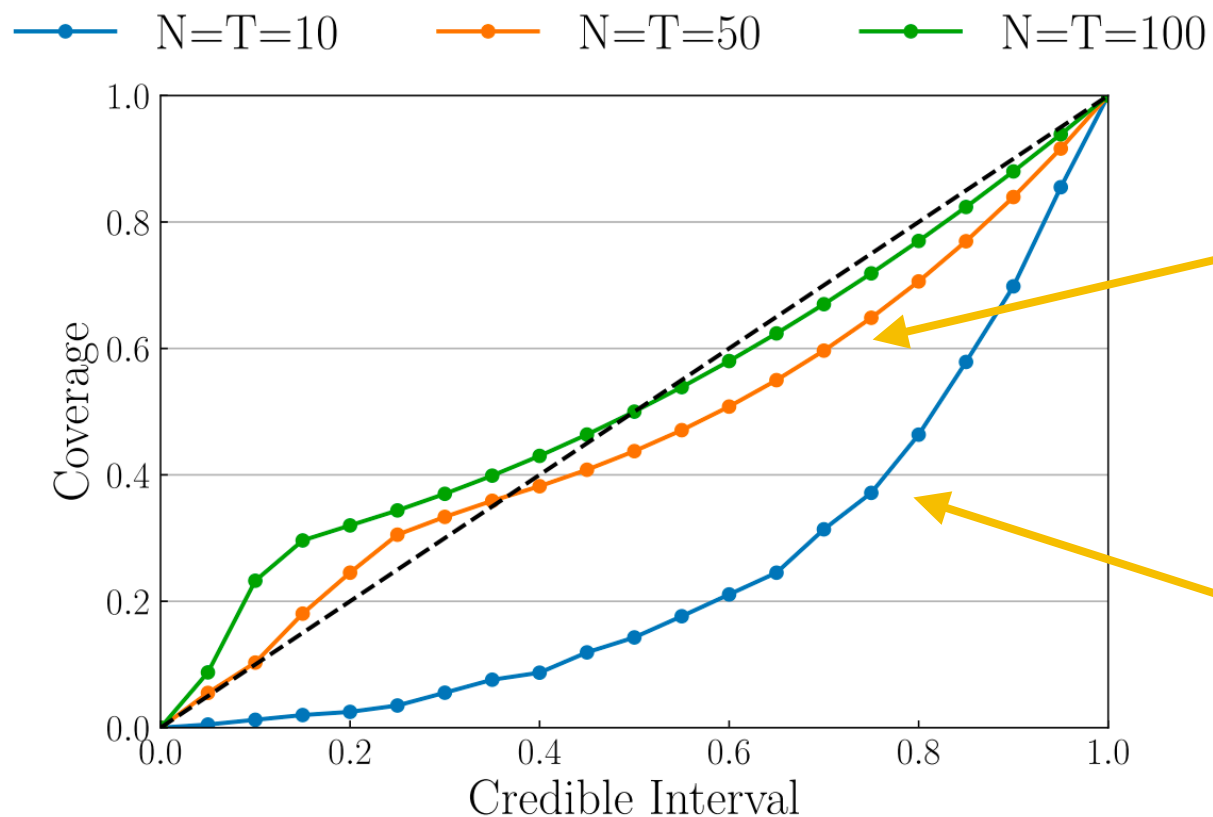
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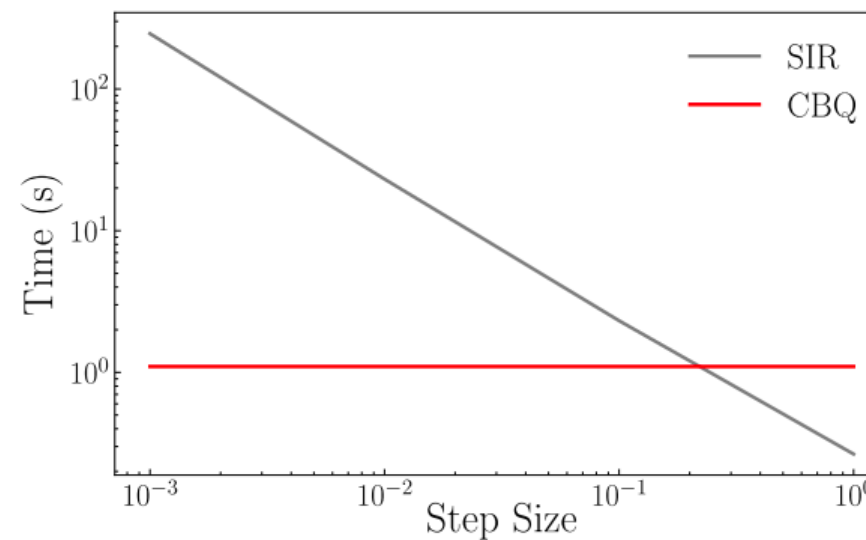
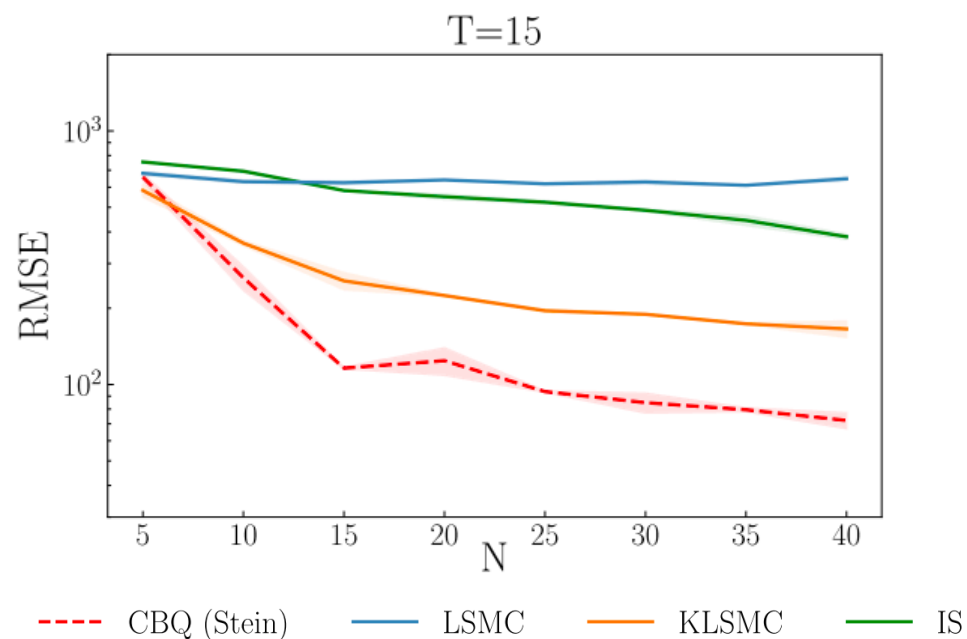


- But things get better for large  $N, T$  (although we didn't study this theoretically...)
- The CBQ posterior tends to be poorly calibrated when the number of data points is extremely small

# Bayesian sensitivity analysis for SIR

**Setting:** Bayesian sensitivity with  $\text{Gamma}(\theta, 10)$  prior on infection rate.

**QoI:** Expected peak number of infected individuals over time period.

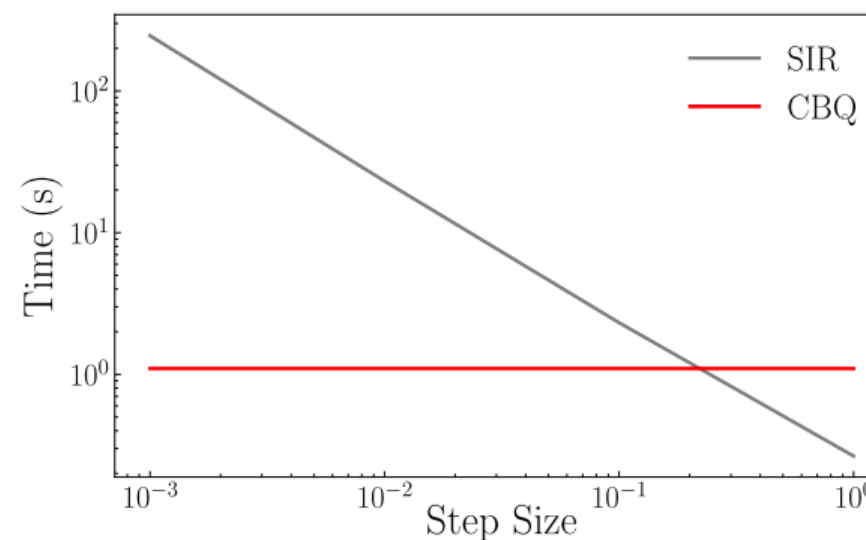
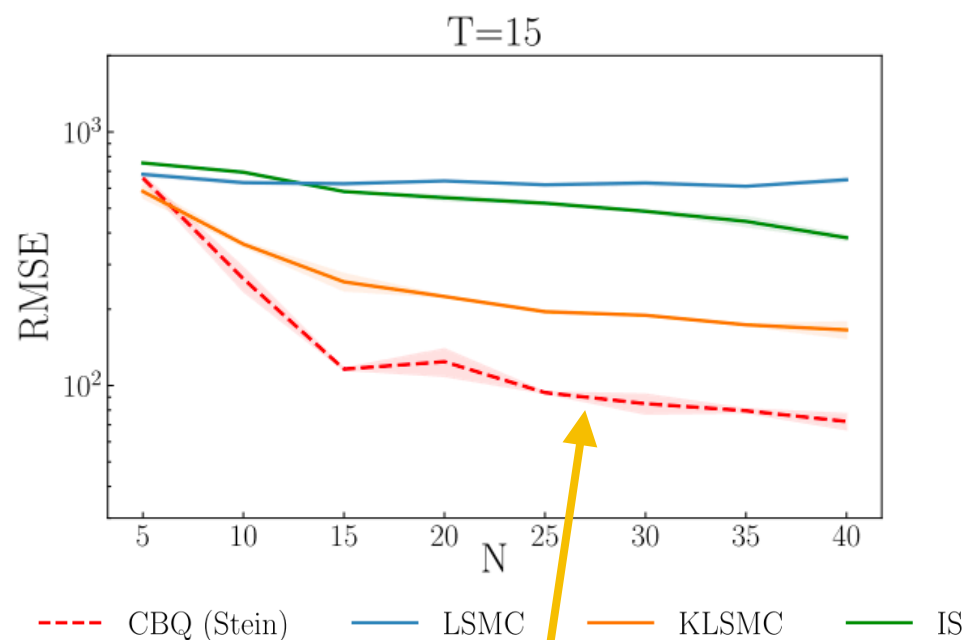




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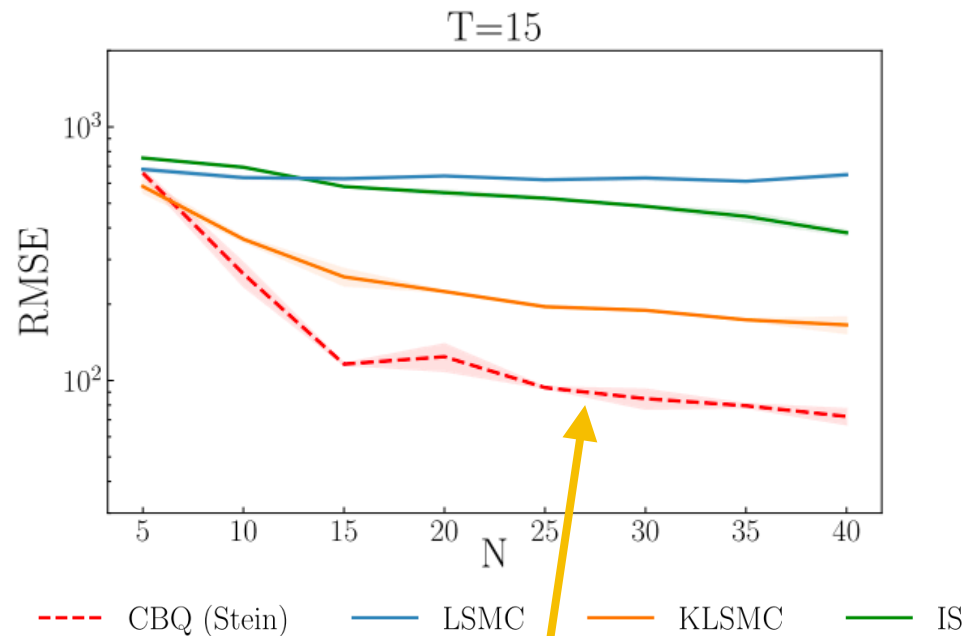


We get much faster convergence than alternatives!

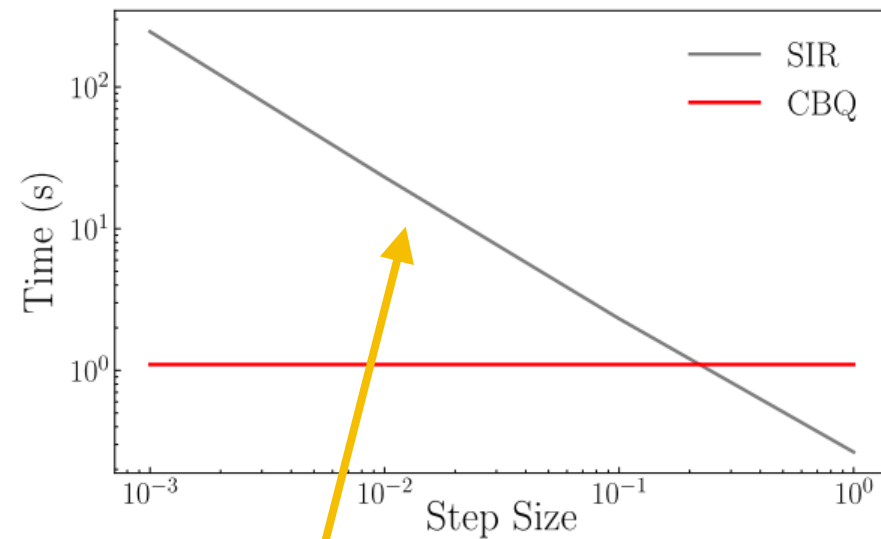
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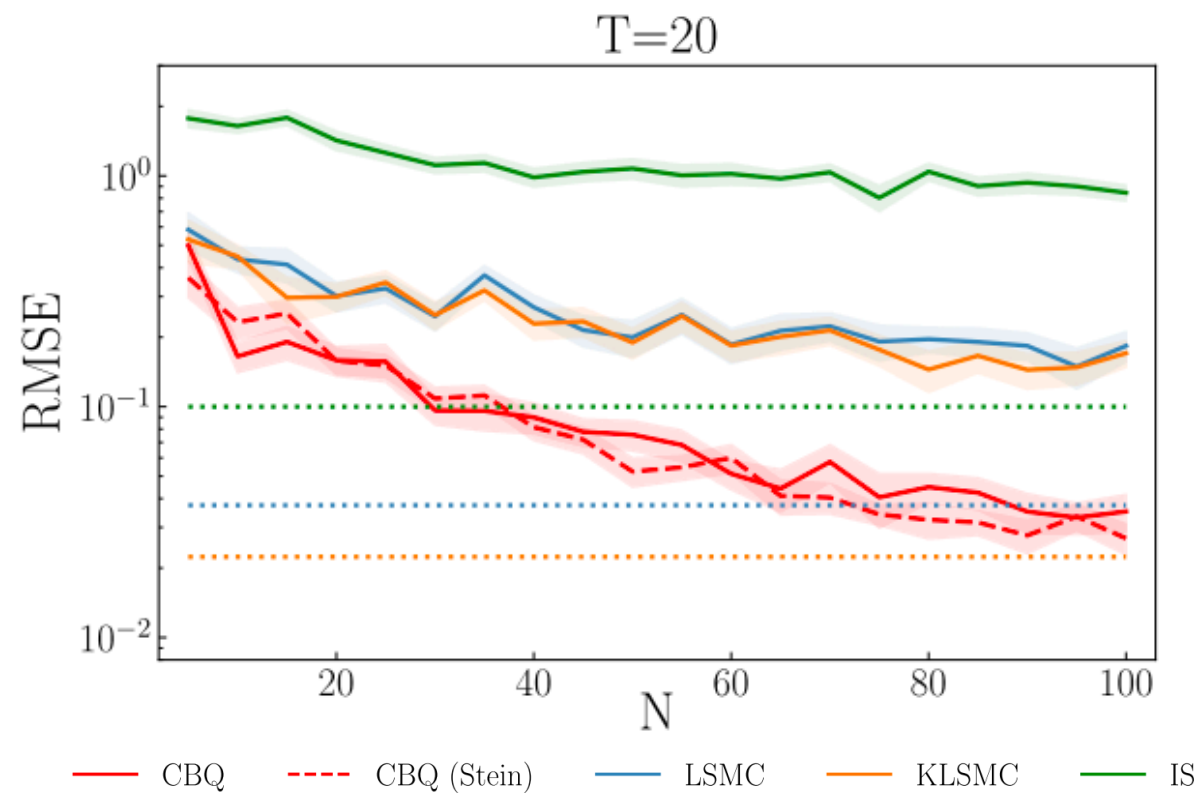


The cost of doing CBQ is negligible compared to simulating from the SIR model accurately.

# Option pricing in finance

**Setting:** Pricing of butterfly call option using Black-Scholes formula.

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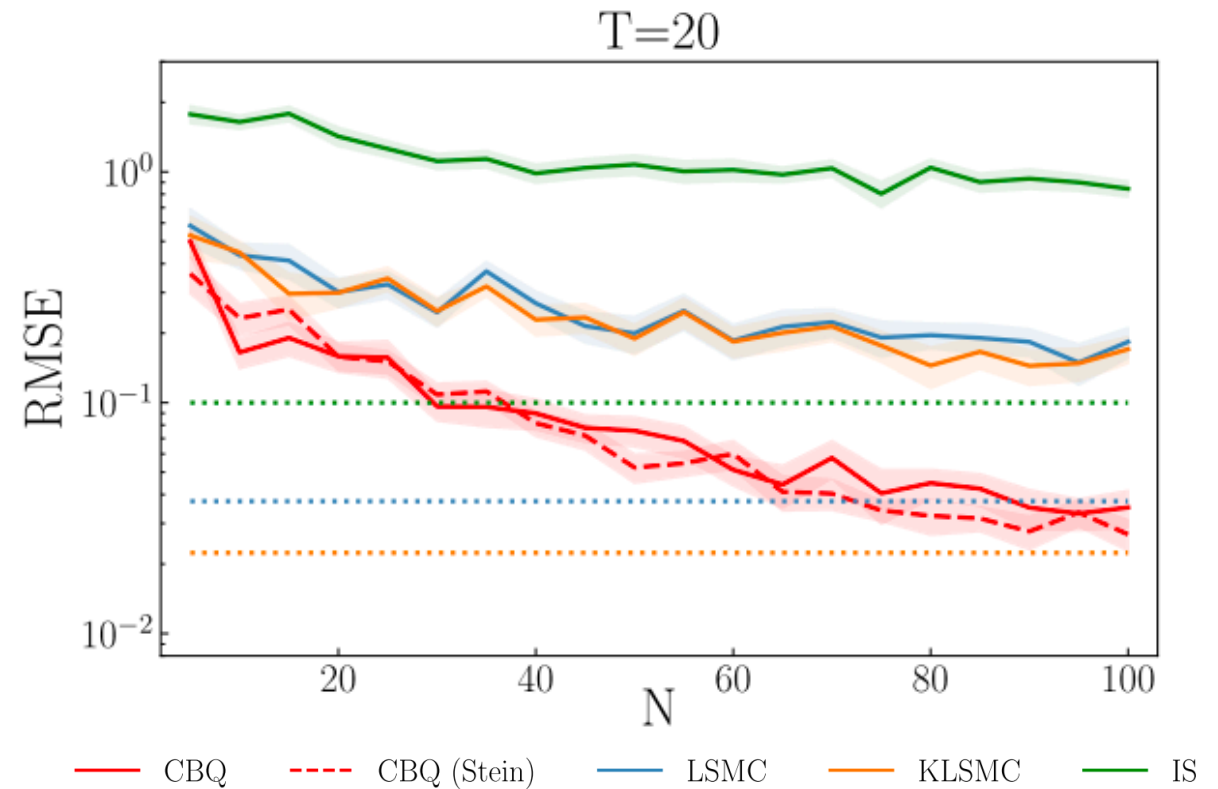


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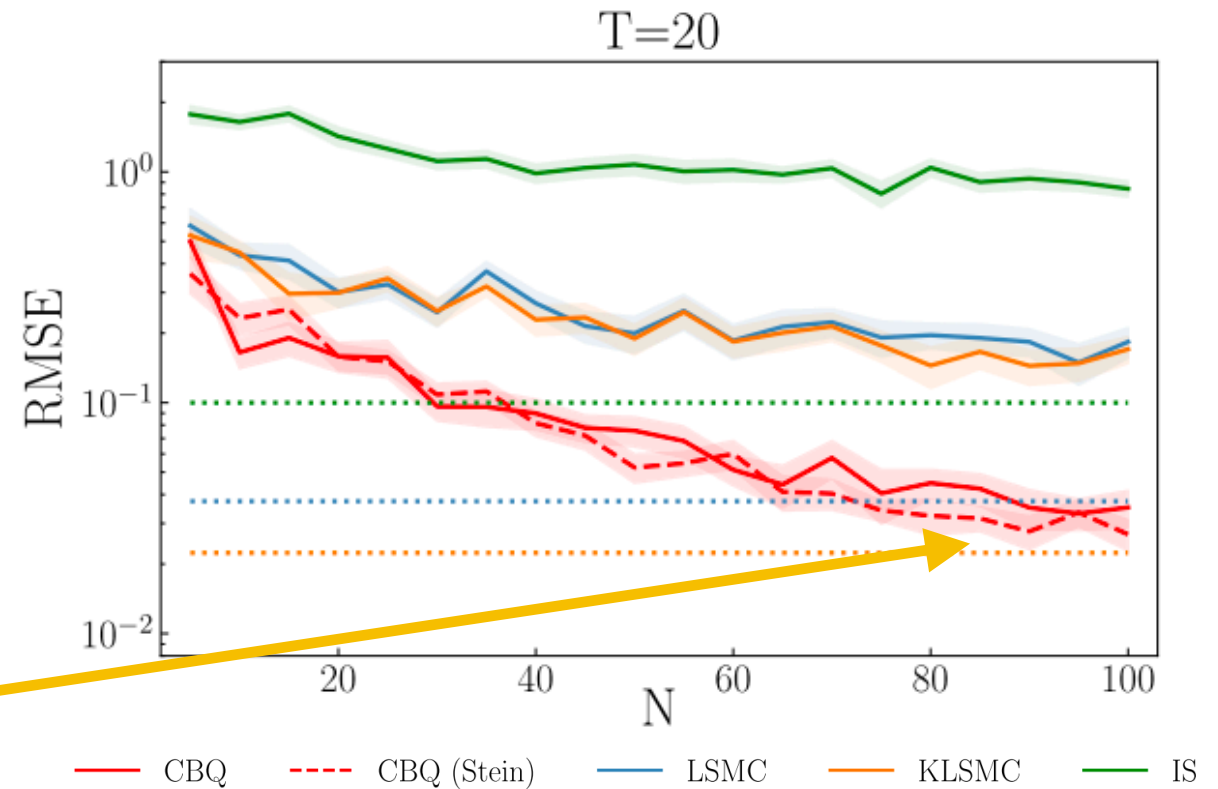
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This specific problem can be solved in closed-form, but is representative of option pricing which usually requires **expensive simulations of SDEs**....

**CBQ significantly outperforms competitors!**

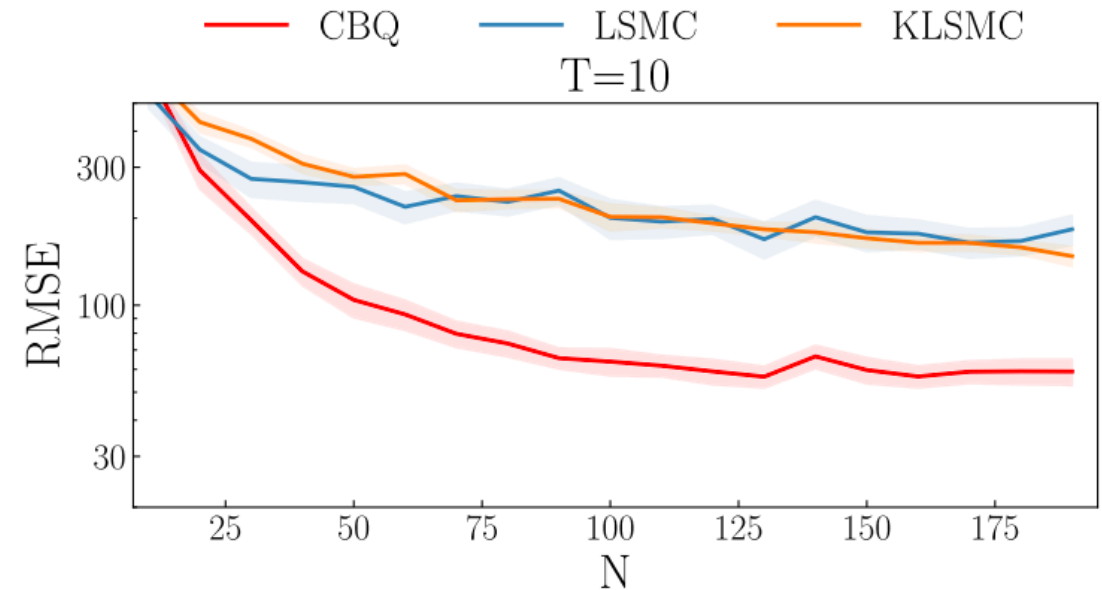
(Dotted lines is performance when  $N = T = 1000$ )



# Health economics

**Setting:** Expected value of perfect information in Health economics.

**QoI:** Nested expectation representing expected value of collecting additional measurements from patients.

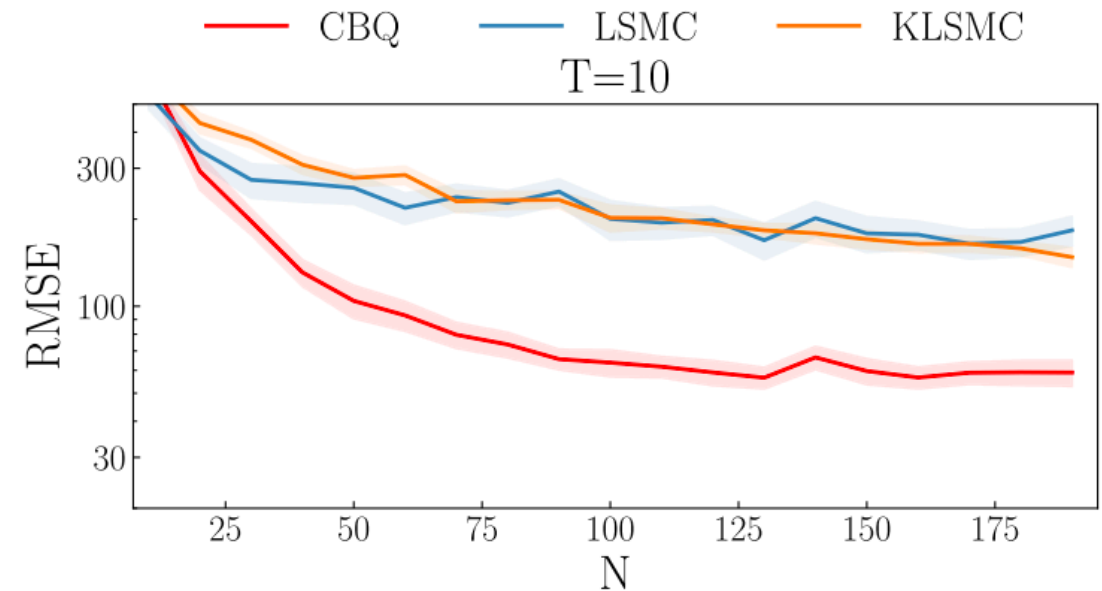


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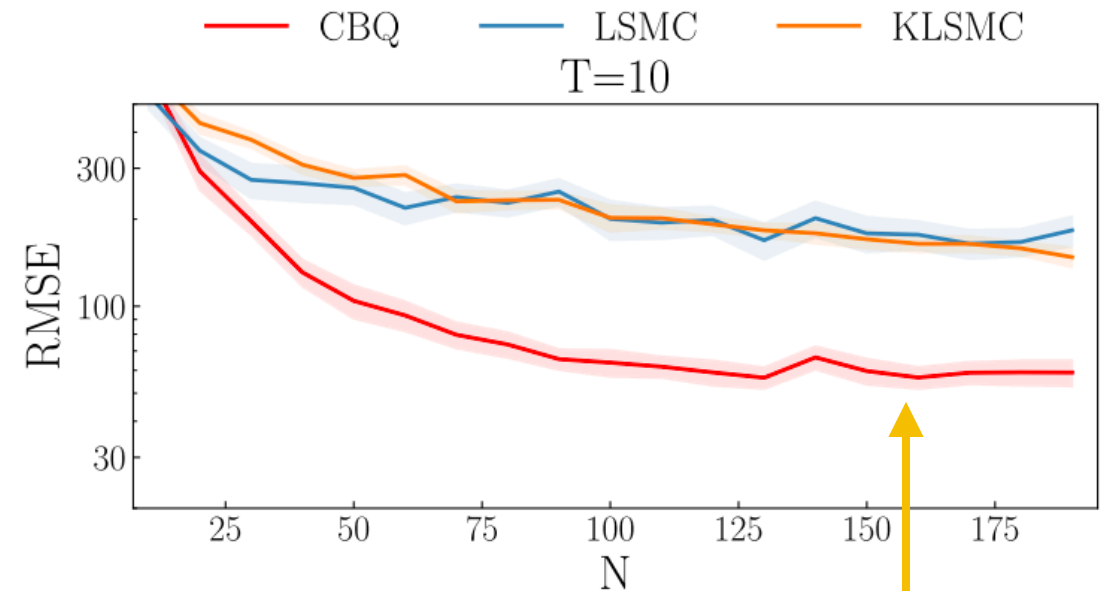


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Again much faster convergence! i.e. we need a lot less patients!



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- Plenty of work remaining including:
  - Lower bounds on the error.
  - Faster convergence in  $T$ , the number of tasks.
  - Active learning for a task and across tasks.



# Any Questions?

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## Conditional Bayesian Quadrature

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