

Learning process models from simulations

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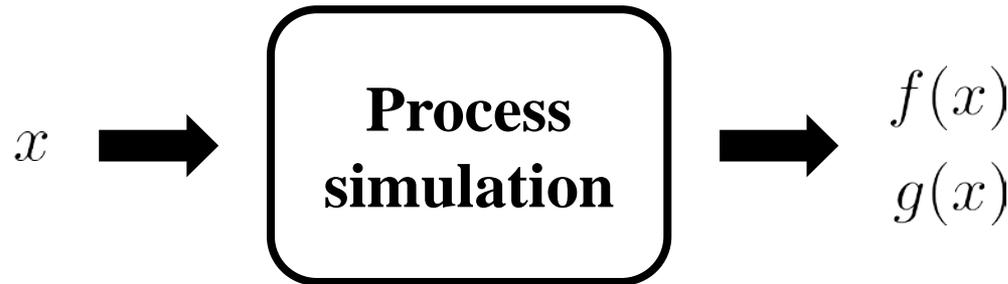
² National Energy and Technology Laboratory



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PROBLEM STATEMENT

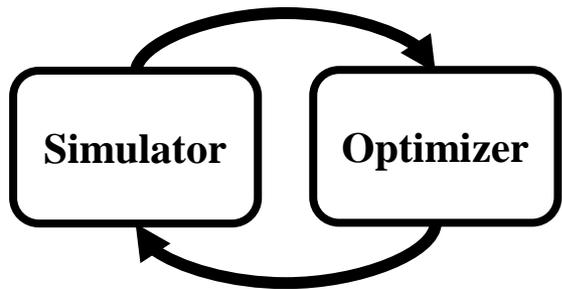
$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g(x) = 0 \\ & x^l \leq x \leq x^u \end{aligned}$$



- **Challenges:**
 - Lack of an algebraic model
 - Computationally costly simulations
 - Often noisy function evaluations
 - Scarcity of fully robust simulations

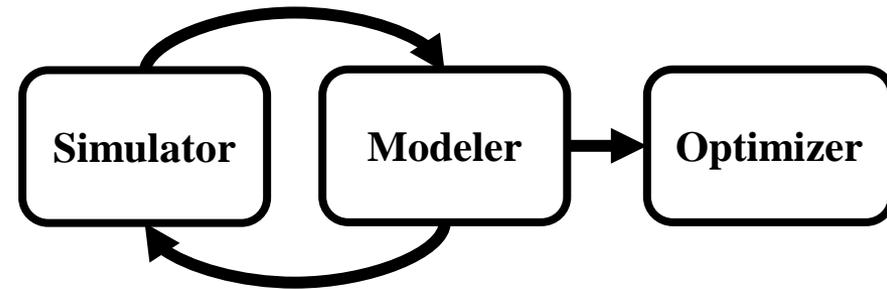
SIMULATION-BASED METHODS

Direct methods



- Estimated gradient based
 - Finite element, perturbation analysis, etc.
- Derivative-free optimization (DFO)
 - Local/global
 - Stochastic/deterministic

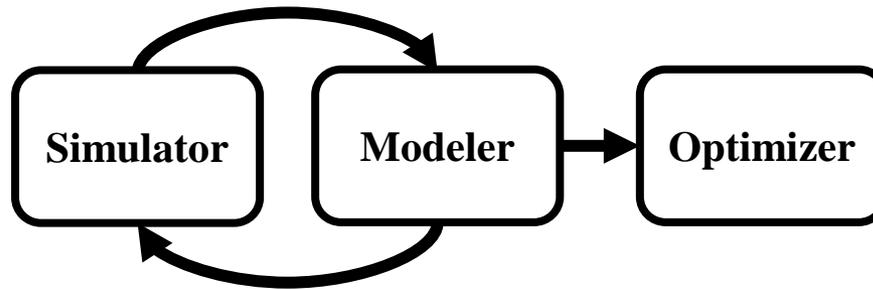
Indirect methods



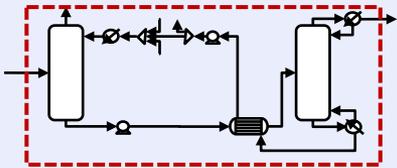
- What is modeled?
 - Objective, objective + constraints, **disaggregated system**
- Type of model
 - Linear/**nonlinear**
 - **Simple**/Complex
 - **Algebraic**/black-box
- Optimizer
 - **Derivative**/derivative-free

RECENT WORK IN CHEMICAL ENG

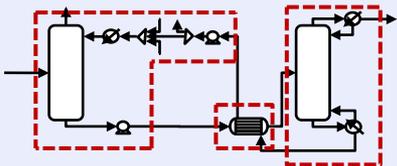
Indirect methods



Full process



Disaggregated



Kriging

- Palmer and Realff, 2002
- Huang, et. al., 2006
- Davis and Ierapetriton, 2012

Neural nets

- Michalopoulos, et. Al., 2001

Other

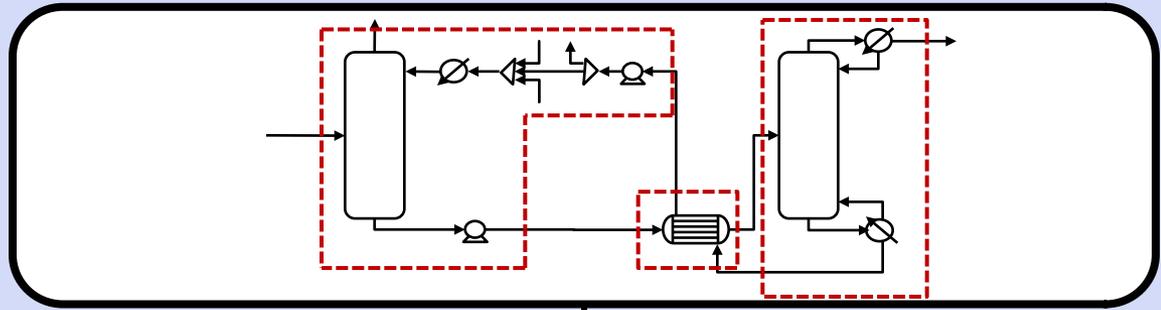
- Palmer and Realff, 2002

- Caballero and Grossmann, 2008

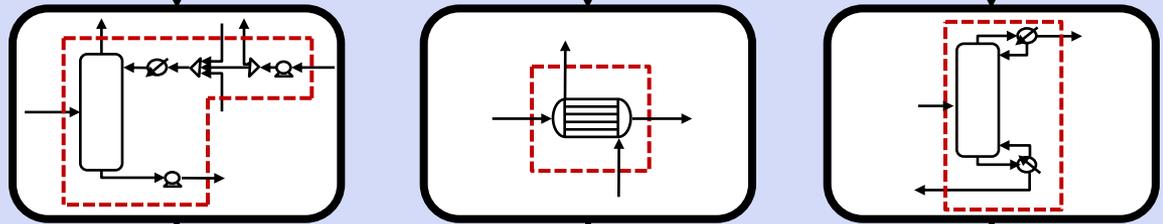
- Henao and Maravelias, 2011

PROCESS DISAGGREGATION

Simulation



Disaggregated blocks of process unit(s)



Surrogate models of blocks

$$f_1(x)$$

$$f_2(x)$$

$$f_3(x)$$

Algebraic constraints

Mass balances

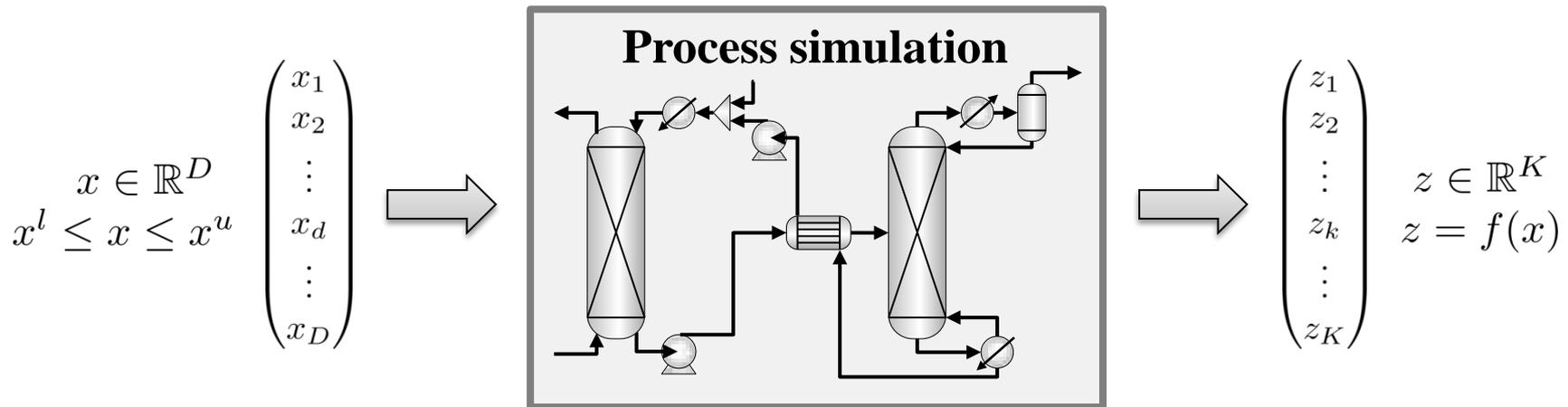
Design specs

Nonlinear program

Algebraic model for optimization

MODELING PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Build a model of output variables z as a function of input variables x over a specified interval



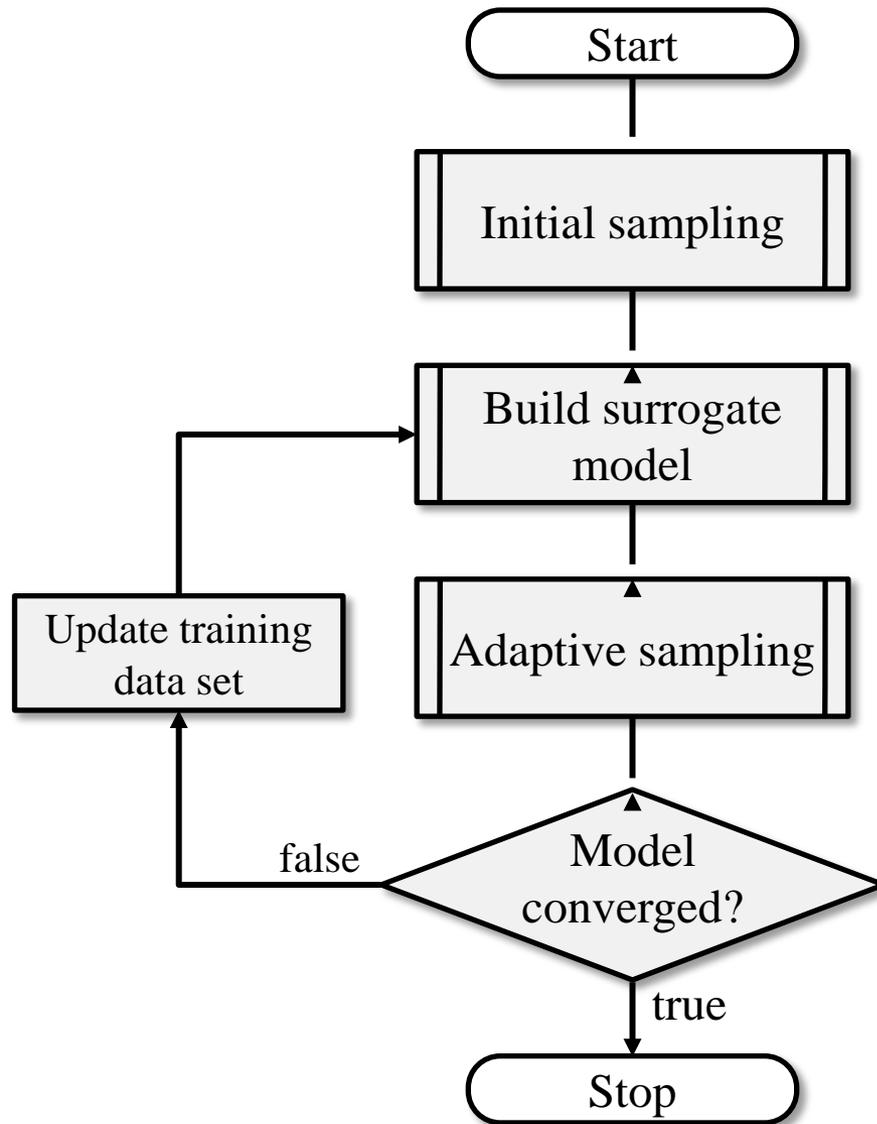
Independent variables:
Operating conditions, inlet flow properties, unit geometry

Dependent variables:
Efficiency, outlet flow conditions, conversions, heat flow, etc.

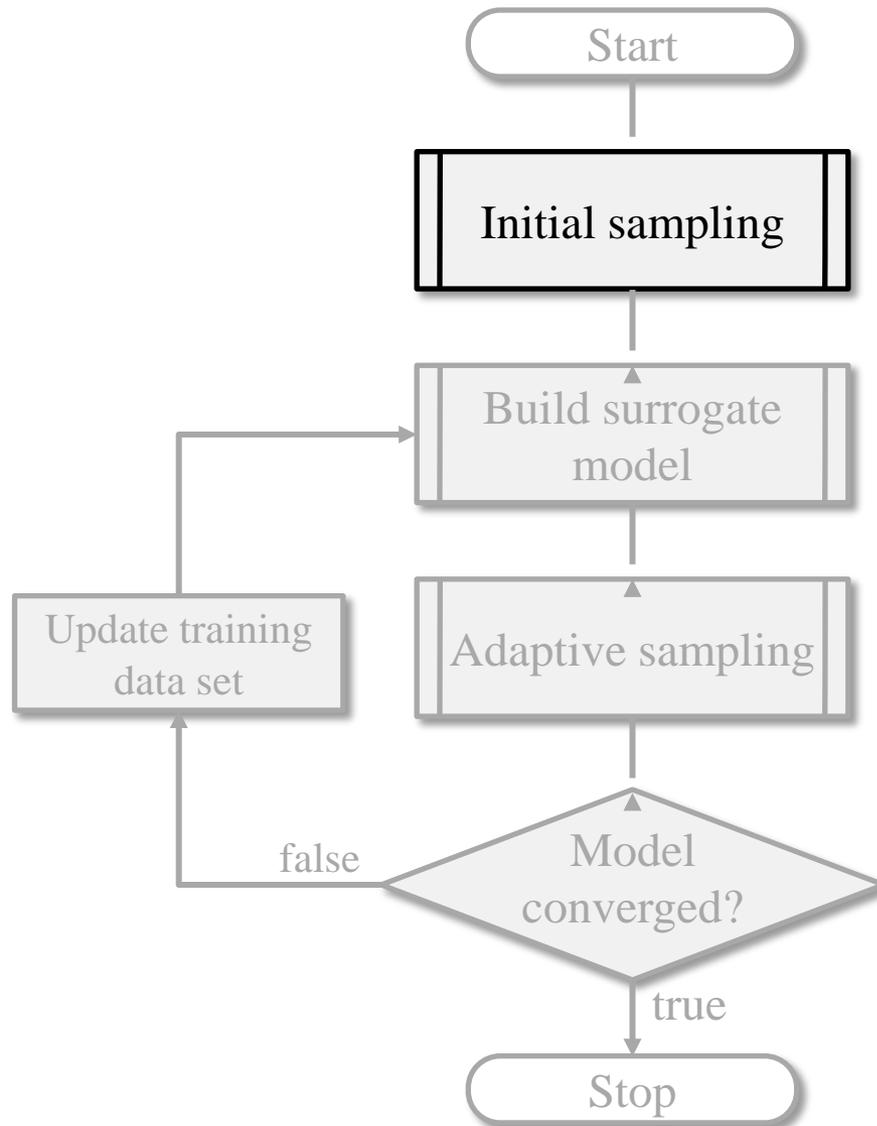
MODELING PROBLEM STATEMENT

- **Model questions:**
 - What is the functional form of the model?
 - How **complex** of a model is needed?
 - Will this be tractable in an algebraic optimization framework?
- **Sampling questions:**
 - How many sample points are needed to define an accurate model?
 - Where should these points be sampled?
- **Desired model traits:**
 - ✓ Accurate
 - ✓ Tractable in algebraic optimization: **Simple functional forms**
 - ✓ Generated from a minimal data set

ALGORITHMIC FLOWSHEET



ALGORITHMIC FLOWSHEET

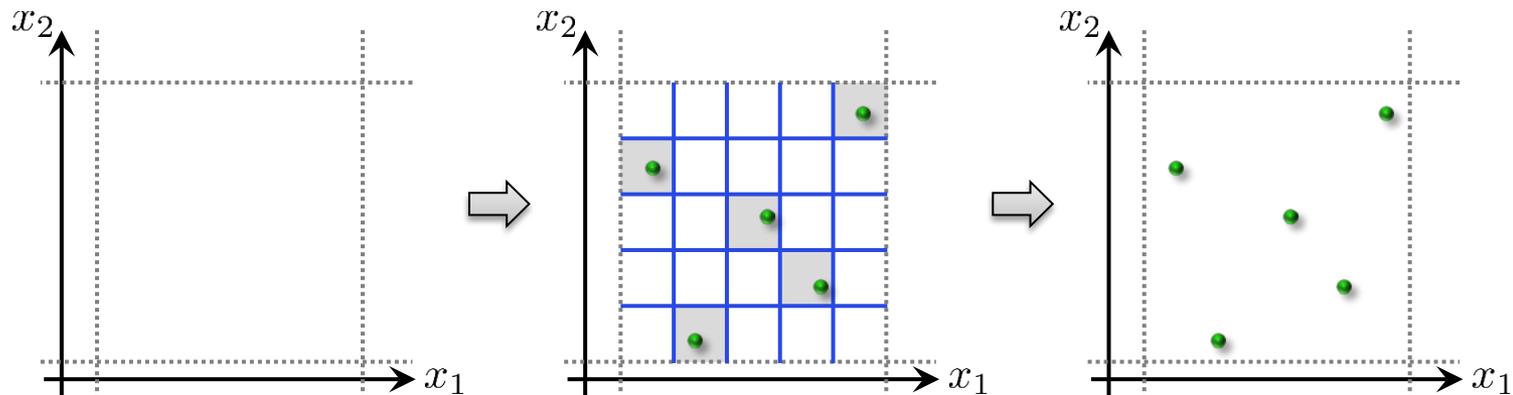


DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS

- **Goal: To generate an initial set of input variables to evenly sample the problem space**

$$x = (x^1 \quad x^2 \quad \dots \quad x^i \quad \dots \quad x^N)$$
$$x^i = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^i \\ x_2^i \\ \vdots \\ x_d^i \\ \vdots \\ x_D^i \end{pmatrix}$$

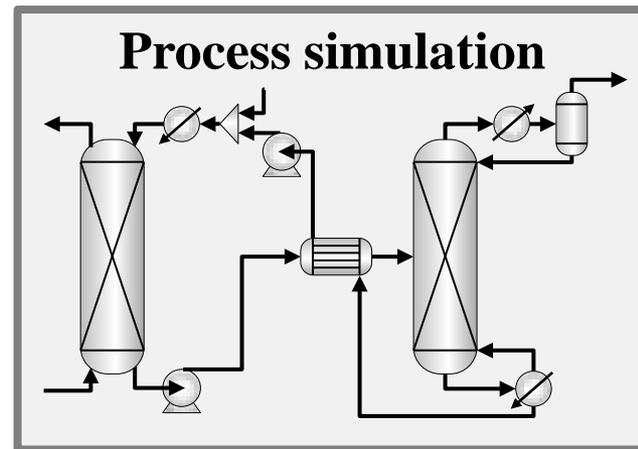
- **Latin hypercube design of experiments - Space-filling design**



INITIAL SAMPLING

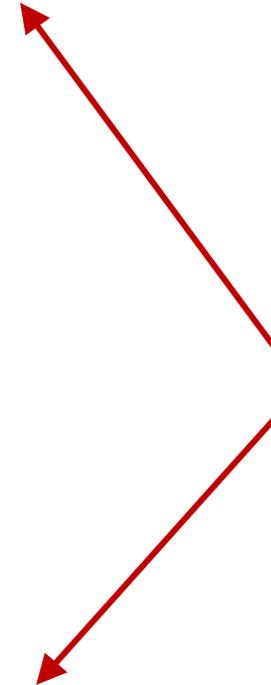
- After running the design of experiments, we will evaluate the black-box function to determine each z^i

$$x = (x^1 \quad x^2 \quad \dots \quad x^i \quad \dots \quad x^N)$$

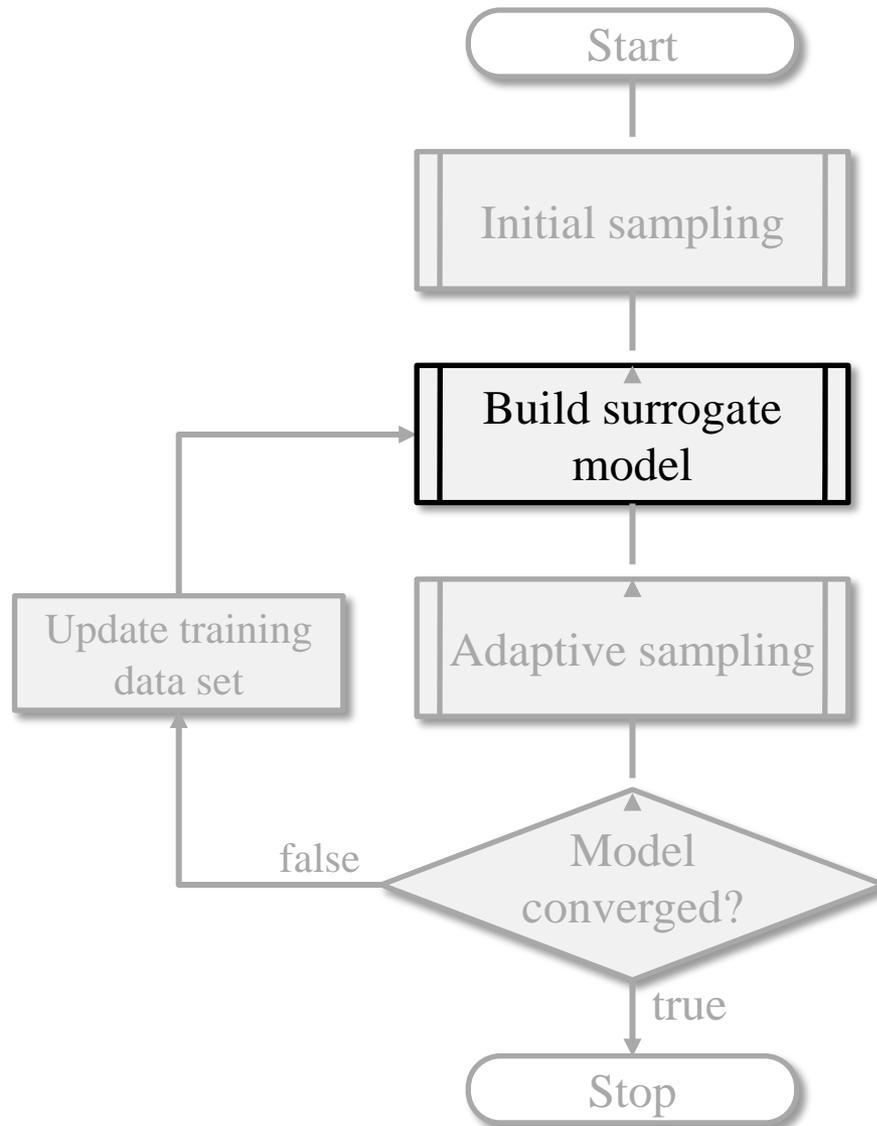


$$z = (z^1 \quad z^2 \quad \dots \quad z^i \quad \dots \quad z^N)$$

**Initial
training
set**



ALGORITHMIC FLOWSHEET



MODEL IDENTIFICATION

- Goal: Identify the **functional form** and **complexity** of the surrogate models

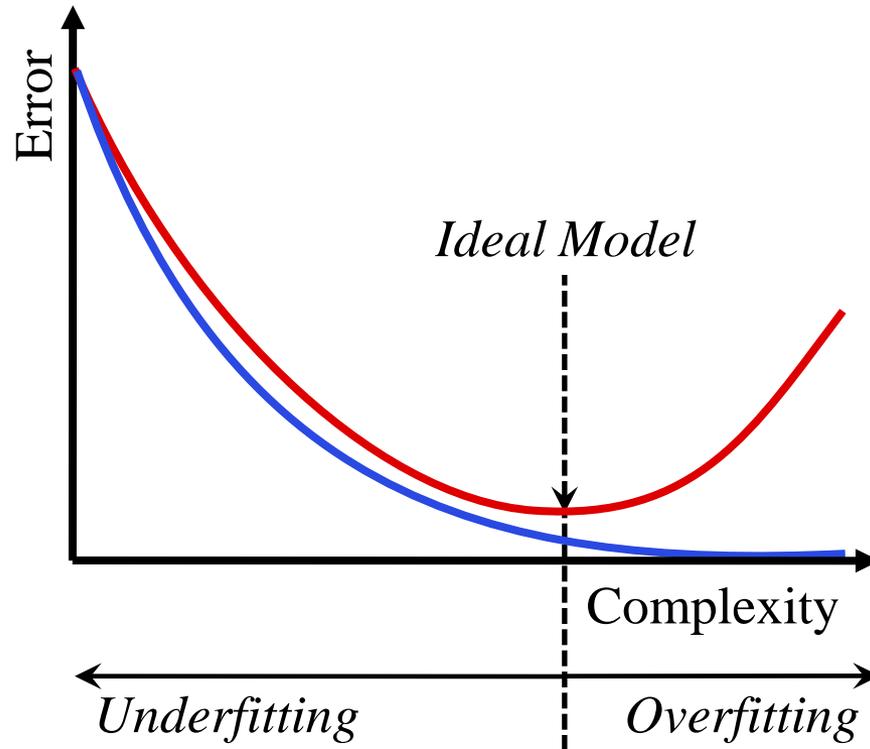
$$z = f(x)$$

- Functional form:

- General functional form is unknown: Our method will identify models with combinations of **simple basis functions**

Category	$X_j(x)$
I. Polynomial	$(x_d)^\alpha$
II. Multinomial	$\prod_{d \in \mathcal{D}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}} (x_d)^{\alpha_d}$
III. Exponential and logarithmic forms	$\exp\left(\frac{x_d}{\gamma}\right)^\alpha, \log\left(\frac{x_d}{\gamma}\right)^\alpha$
IV. Expected bases	From experience, simple inspection, physical phenomena, etc.

OVERFITTING AND TRUE ERROR



- **Empirical error:**
 - Error between the model and the sampled data points
- **True error:**
 - Error between the model and the true function

SURROGATE MODEL

- Surrogate model can have the form

$$\hat{z} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{B}} \beta_j X_j(x)$$

- Low-complexity desired surrogate form

$$\hat{z} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \beta_j X_j(x)$$

where $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$

- \mathcal{S} is chosen to
 - Reduce overfitting
 - Achieve surrogate simplicity for a tractable final optimization model

BEST SUBSET METHOD

- **Generalized best subset problem:**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathcal{S}, \beta} \quad & \Phi(\mathcal{S}, \beta) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{B} \end{aligned}$$

where $\Phi(\mathcal{S}, \beta)$ is a goodness of fit measure for the subset of basis function, \mathcal{S} , and regression coefficients, β .

- **Goodness of fit:**

- **Corrected Akaike Information Criterion (AIC_c)**

- Gives an estimate of the difference between a model and the true function

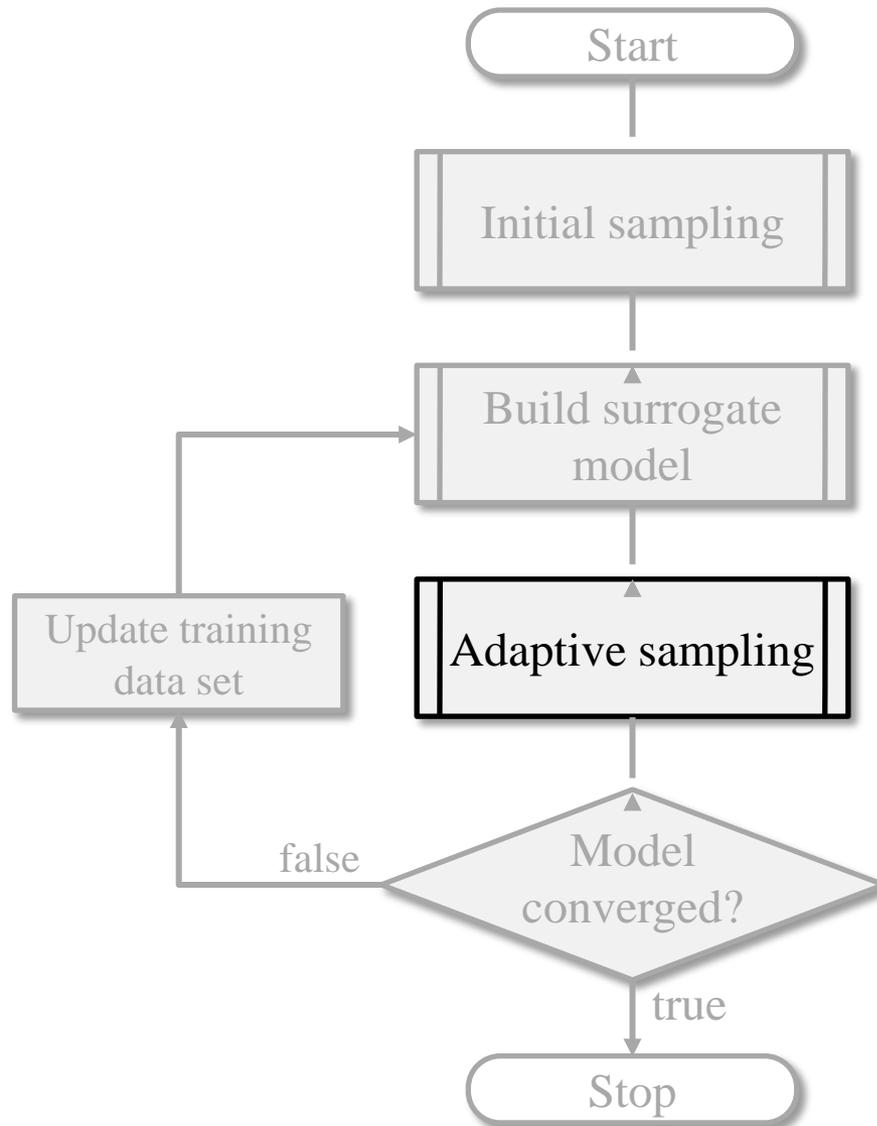
$$AIC_c = \underbrace{N \log \left(\frac{SSE}{N} \right)}_{\text{Accuracy}} + \underbrace{2T + \frac{2T(T+1)}{N-T-1}}_{\text{Complexity}}$$

FINAL BEST SUBSET MODEL

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & SE = \sum_{i=1}^N \left| z_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{B}} \beta_j X_{ij} \right| \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j \in \mathcal{B}} y_j = T \\ & -U(1 - y_j) \leq \sum_{i=1}^N X_{ij} \left(z_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{B}} \beta_j X_{ij} \right) \leq U(1 - y_j) \quad j \in \mathcal{B} \\ & \beta^l y_j \leq \beta_j \leq \beta^u y_j \quad j \in \mathcal{B} \\ & y_j \in \{0, 1\} \quad j \in \mathcal{B} \\ & \beta_j \in [\beta_j^l, \beta_j^u] \quad j \in \mathcal{B} \end{aligned}$$

- This model is solved for increasing values of T until the $AICc$ worsens

ALGORITHMIC FLOWSHEET



ADAPTIVE SAMPLING

- Goal: Search the problem space for areas of model inconsistency or **model mismatch**
- More succinctly, we are trying to find points that **maximizes the model error** with respect to the independent variables

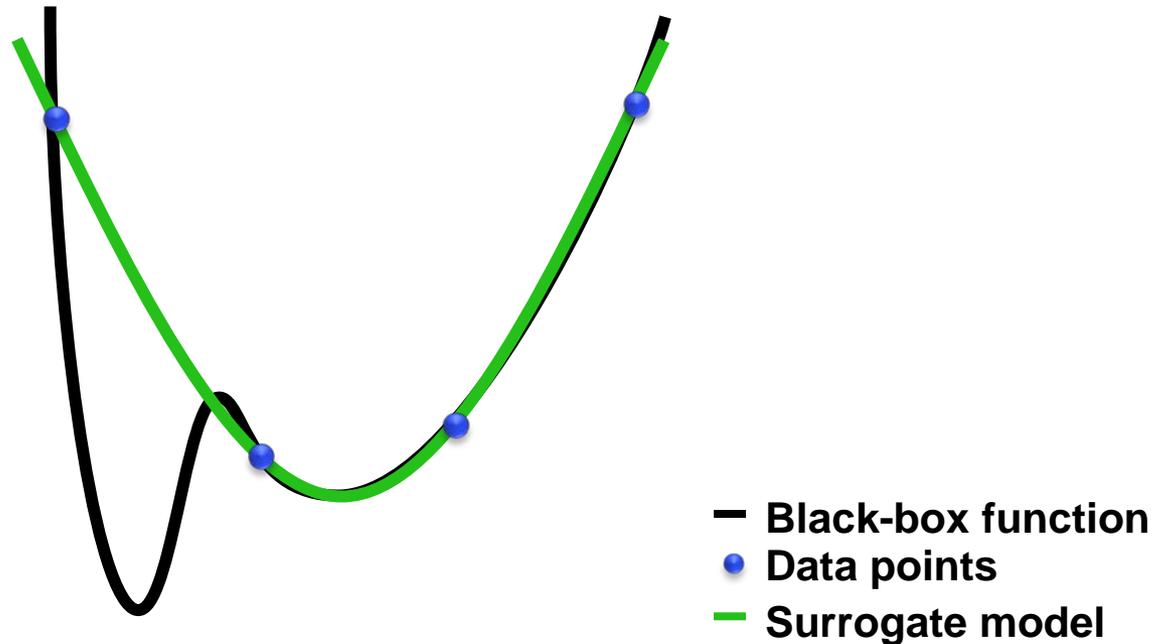
$$\max_x \left(\frac{z(x) - \hat{z}(x)}{z(x)} \right)^2$$

Surrogate model

- Optimized using a black-box or derivative-free solver (SNOBFIT)
[Huyer and Neumaier, 08]

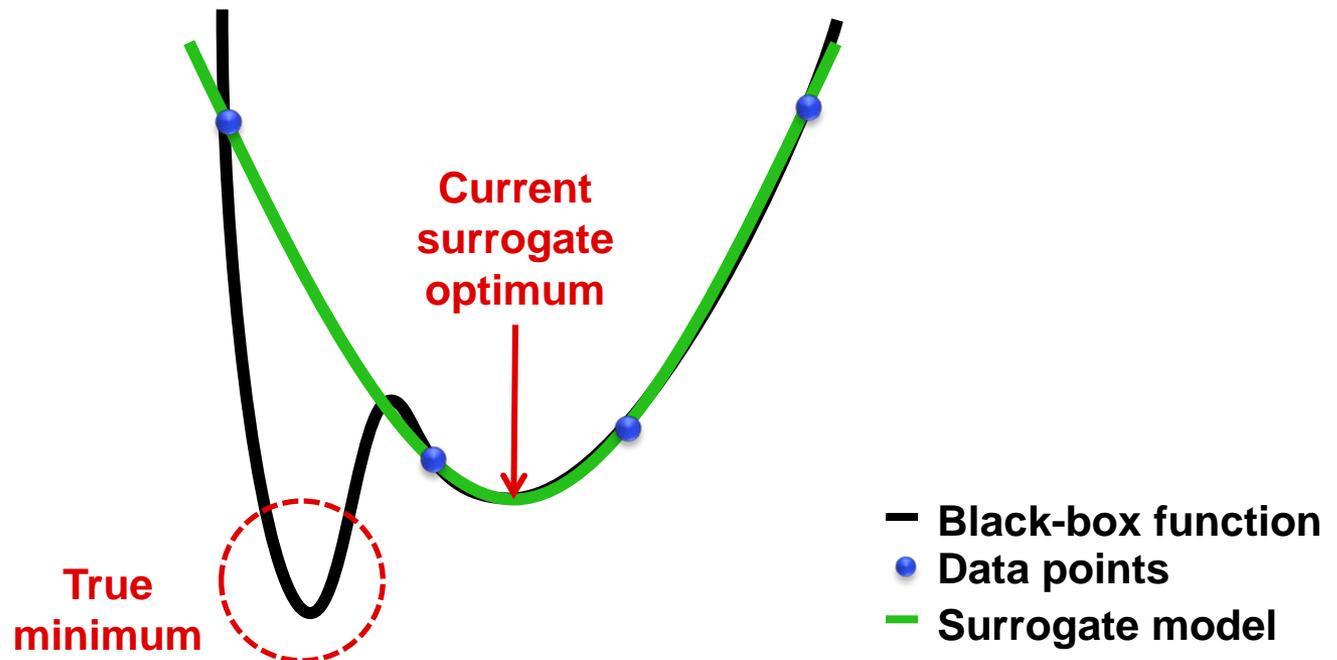
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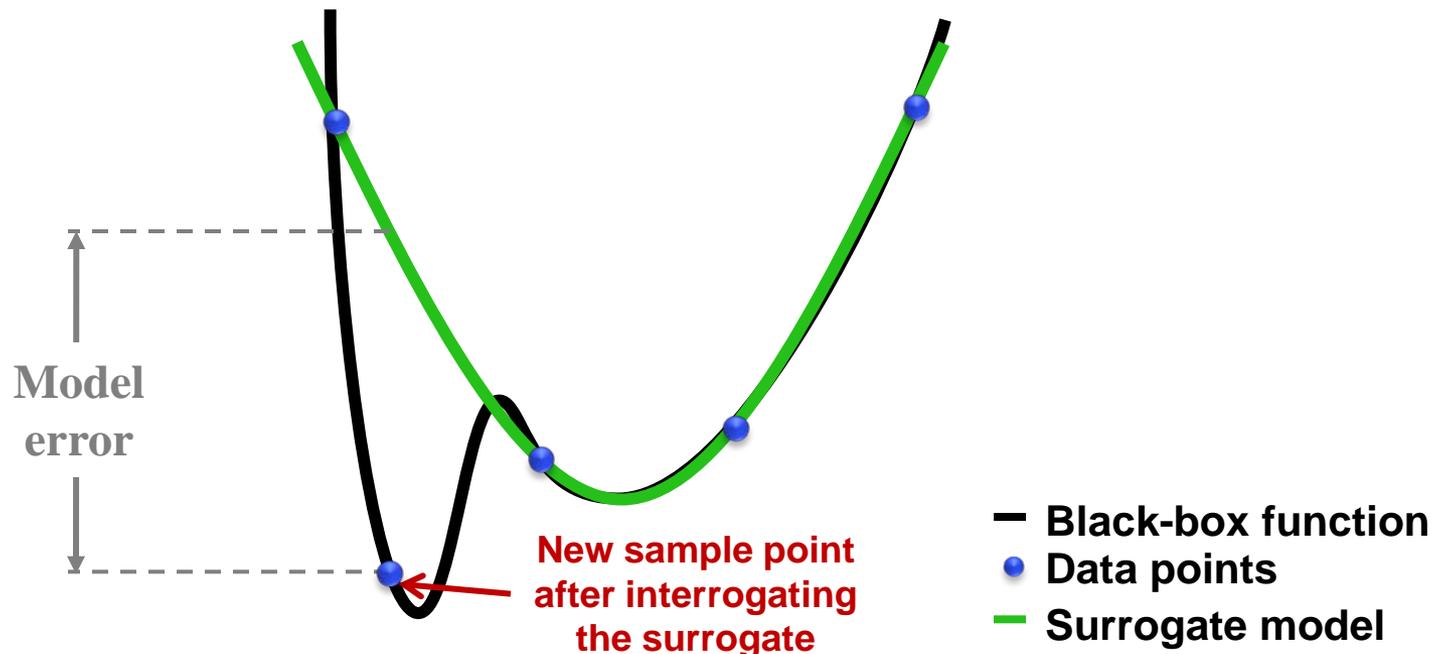
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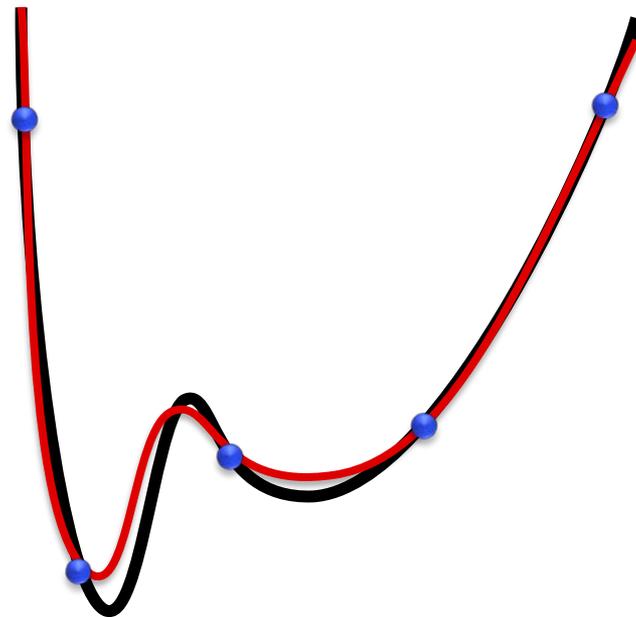
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- Black-box function
- Data points
- New surrogate model

ERROR MAXIMIZATION SAMPLING

- **Information gained using error maximization sampling:**
 - 1. New data point locations that will be used to better train the next iteration's surrogate model**
 - 2. Conservative estimate of the true model error**
 - Defines a stopping criterion
 - Estimates the final model error

COMPUTATIONAL TESTING

- Surrogate generation methods have been implemented into a package:

ALAMO

(Automated Learning of Algebraic Models for Optimization)

- Modeling methods compared
 - MIP – Proposed methodology
 - EBS – Exhaustive best subset method
 - Note: due to high CPU times this was only tested on smaller problems
 - LASSO – The lasso regularization
 - OLR – Ordinary least-squares regression
- Sampling methods compared
 - DFO – Proposed error maximization technique
 - SLH – Single latin hypercube (no feedback)

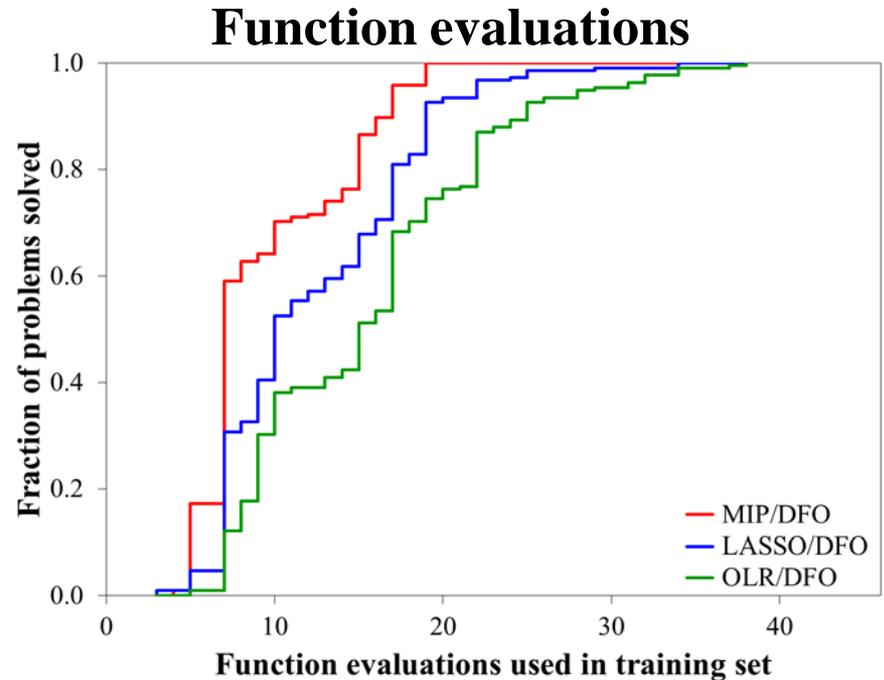
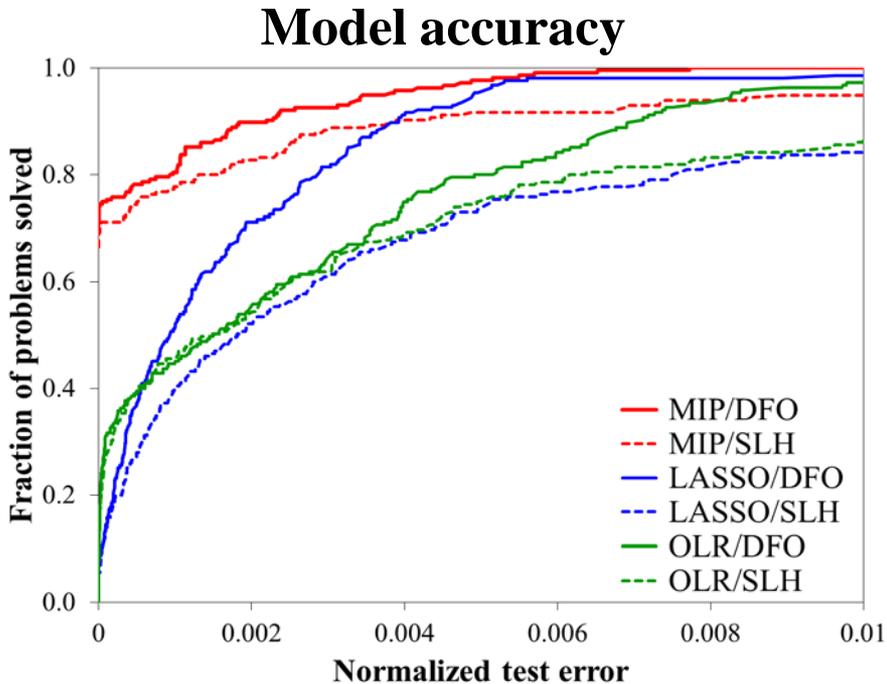
DESCRIPTION – TEST SET A

- Two and three input black-box functions randomly chosen basis functions available to the algorithms with varying complexity from 2 to 10 terms
- Basis functions allowed:

Category	$X_j(x)$	Parameters used
I. Polynomial	$(x_d)^\alpha$	$\alpha = \{\pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1, \pm 0.5\}$
II. Multinomial	$\prod_{d \in \mathcal{D}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}} (x_d)^{\alpha_d}$	for $ \mathcal{D}' = 2$ $\alpha = \{\pm 2, \pm 1, \pm 0.5\}$ for $ \mathcal{D}' = 3$ $\alpha = \{\pm 1\}$
III. Exponential and logarithmic forms	$\exp\left(\frac{x_d}{\gamma}\right)^\alpha, \log\left(\frac{x_d}{\gamma}\right)^\alpha$	$\alpha = 1, \gamma = 1$

True basis function coefficients were randomly chosen from a uniform distribution where $\beta \in [-1, 1]$.

RESULTS – TEST SET A



45 test problems, repeated 5 times, tested against 1000 independent data points

MODEL COMPLEXITY – TEST SET A

No. of inputs	No. of true terms	M1/DFO	M1/SLH	EBS/DFO	EBS/SLH	LASSO/DFO	LASSO/SLH	OLR/DFO	OLR/SLH
2	2	2	[2, 2]	2	2	[6, 8]	[6, 11]	[12, 15]	[12, 15]
2	3	3	3	3	3	[5, 12]	[5, 10]	[12, 14]	[12, 14]
2	4	[3, 4]	[3, 4]	[3, 4]	[3, 4]	[8, 11]	[8, 10]	[11, 12]	[11, 12]
2	5	[2, 4]	[2, 4]	[2, 5]	[2, 5]	[3, 12]	[4, 11]	[10, 16]	[10, 16]
2	6	[5, 6]	[6, 6]	[5, 6]	[6, 6]	[7, 10]	[6, 7]	[11, 13]	[11, 13]
2	7	[4, 6]	[4, 6]	[4, 7]	[4, 7]	[7, 11]	[6, 12]	[8, 13]	[8, 13]
2	8	[4, 5]	[5, 6]	[4, 5]	[5, 6]	[6, 8]	[6, 9]	[10, 15]	[10, 15]
2	9	[4, 6]	[4, 6]	NA	NA	[6, 14]	[7, 12]	[10, 17]	[10, 17]
2	10	[4, 8]	[4, 8]	NA	NA	[5, 14]	[7, 14]	[10, 14]	[10, 14]
3	2	[2, 3]	[2, 3]	NA	NA	[6, 12]	[7, 13]	[27, 29]	[27, 29]
3	3	[3, 3]	[3, 3]	NA	NA	[8, 16]	[7, 15]	[19, 22]	[19, 22]
3	4	4	[3, 4]	NA	NA	[10, 13]	[9, 10]	[16, 21]	[16, 21]
3	5	5	5	NA	NA	[11, 17]	[9, 15]	[15, 23]	[15, 23]
3	6	[5, 6]	[6, 6]	NA	NA	[9, 18]	[10, 13]	[15, 26]	[15, 26]
3	7	7	[7, 8]	NA	NA	[10, 22]	[10, 22]	22	22

DESCRIPTION – TEST SET B

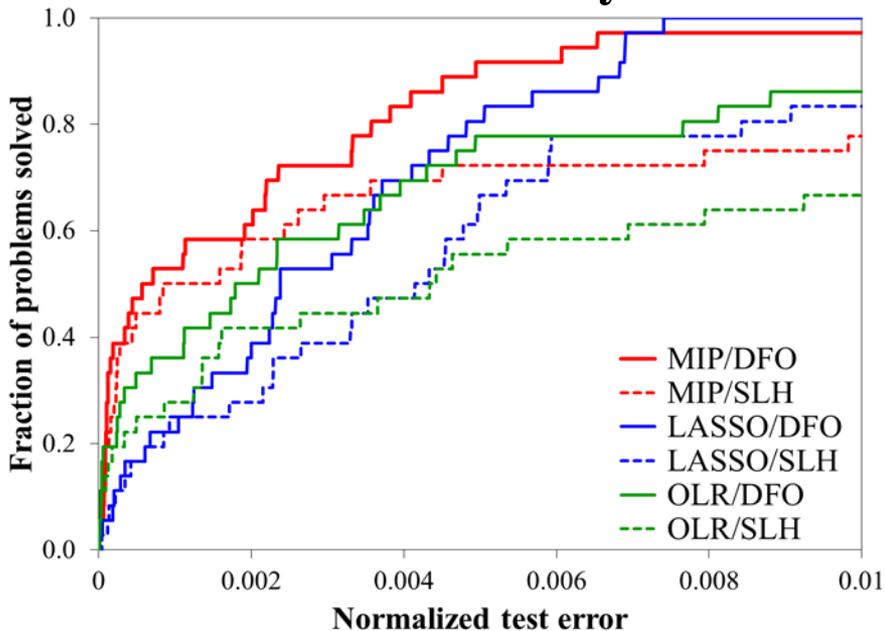
- **Two input black-box functions with basis functions unavailable to the algorithms with**

Function type	Functional form
I	$z(x) = \beta x_i^\alpha \exp(x_j)$
II	$z(x) = \beta x_i^\alpha \log(x_j)$
III	$z(x) = \beta x_1^\alpha x_2^\nu$
IV	$z(x) = \frac{\beta}{\gamma + x_i^\alpha}$

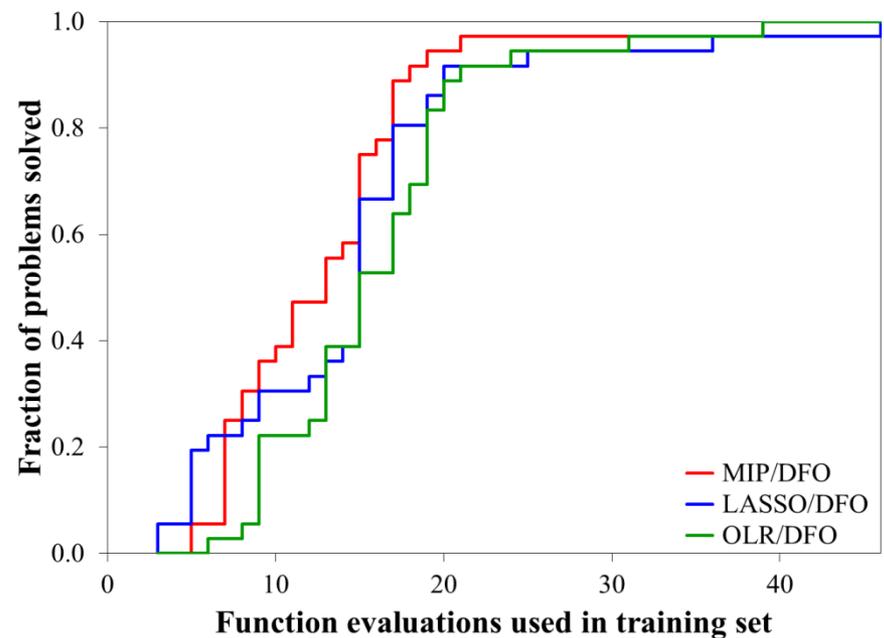
with true parameters chosen from a uniform distribution where $\beta \in [-1, 1]$, $\alpha, \nu \in [-3, 3]$, $\gamma \in [-5, 5]$, and $i, j \in \{1, 2\}$.

RESULTS – TEST SET B

Model accuracy

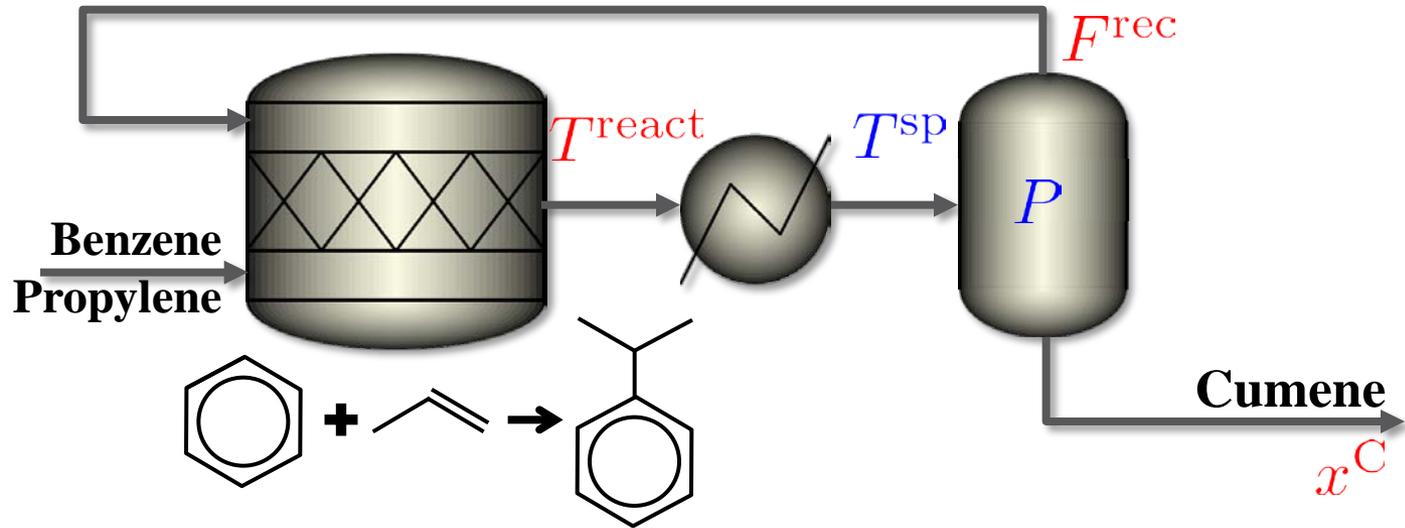


Function evaluations



12 test problems, repeated 5 times, tested against 1000 independent data points

TEST CASE: CUMENE PRODUCTION



Generate Models:

$$x^C(T^{sp}, P) = f_1(T^{sp}, P)$$

$$T^{react}(T^{sp}, P) = f_2(T^{sp}, P)$$

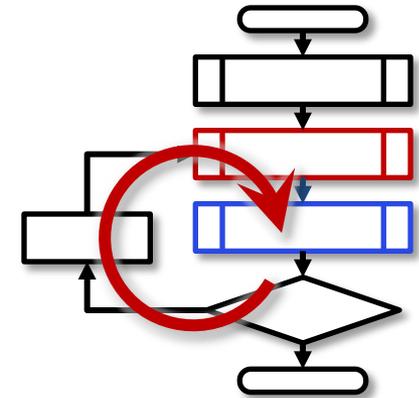
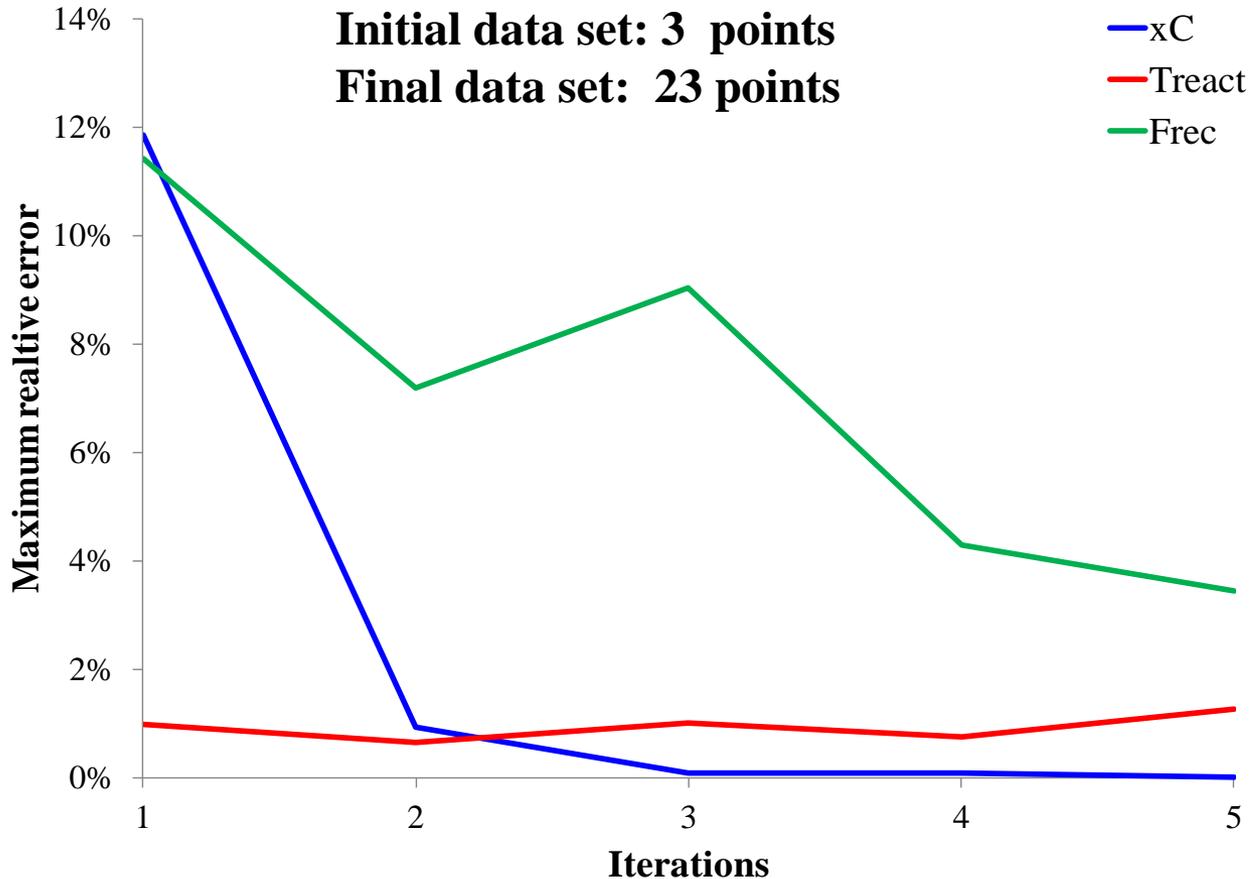
$$F^{rec}(T^{sp}, P) = f_3(T^{sp}, P)$$

Over the Range:

$$100^\circ F \leq T^{sp} \leq 250^\circ F$$
$$0.82 \text{ atm} \leq P \leq 1.36 \text{ atm}$$

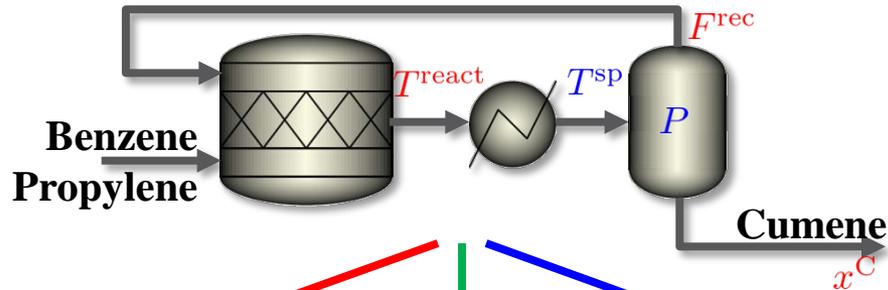
Cumene production simulation is from the Aspen Plus® Library

GENERATING THE SURROGATES



- **Maximum error found at each iteration may increase**
 - Due to the derivative-free solver is given more information at each iteration

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



max x^C

$$T^{sp} = 250^\circ\text{F}$$

$$P = 0.82\text{atm}$$

$$x^C = 0.981$$

$$T^{react} = 828.1^\circ\text{F}$$

$$F^{rec} = 645.7 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

$$\dot{m}^{cw} = 5.00 \cdot 10^7 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

$$A = 7,706\text{ft}^2$$

$\leq 5.2\%$ error

min Utilities

$$T^{sp} = 250^\circ\text{F}$$

$$P = 1.36\text{atm}$$

$$x^C = 0.964$$

$$T^{react} = 848.9^\circ\text{F}$$

$$F^{rec} = 373.16 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

$$\dot{m}^{cw} = 4.04 \cdot 10^4 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

$$A = 2,364\text{ft}^2$$

$\leq 3.0\%$ error

min CapitalCost

s.t. $x^C \geq 0.95$

$$T^{sp} = 168.1^\circ\text{F}$$

$$P = 0.82\text{atm}$$

$$x^C = 0.948$$

$$T^{react} = 860.4^\circ\text{F}$$

$$F^{rec} = 172.7 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

$$\dot{m}^{cw} = 4.40 \cdot 10^4 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{hr}}$$

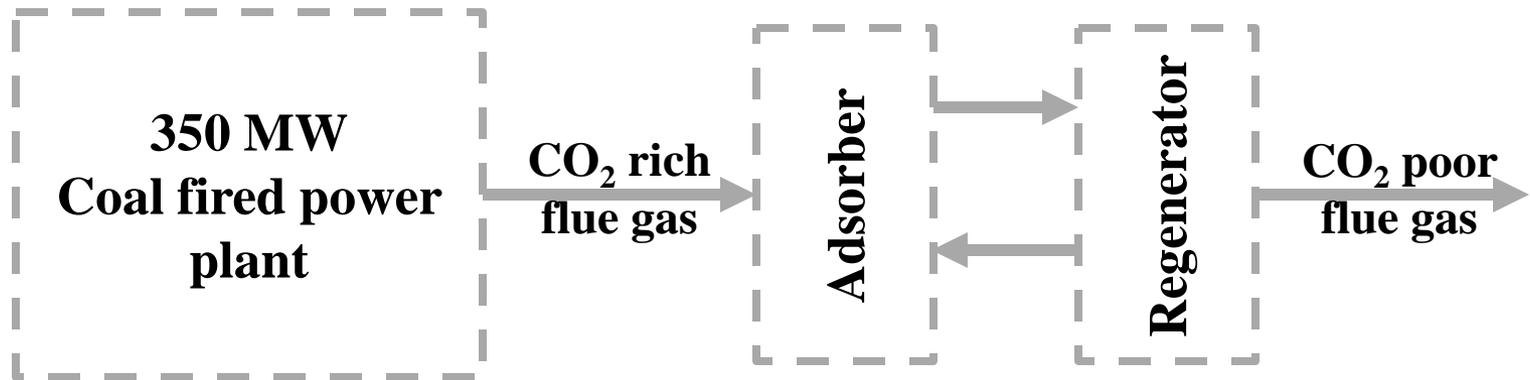
$$A = 2,310\text{ft}^2$$

$\leq 5.7\%$ error

CARBON CAPTURE OPTIMIZATION

- **Problem statement:**

Capture **90% of CO₂** from a 350MW power plant's post combustion flue gas with **minimal increase in the cost of electricity**

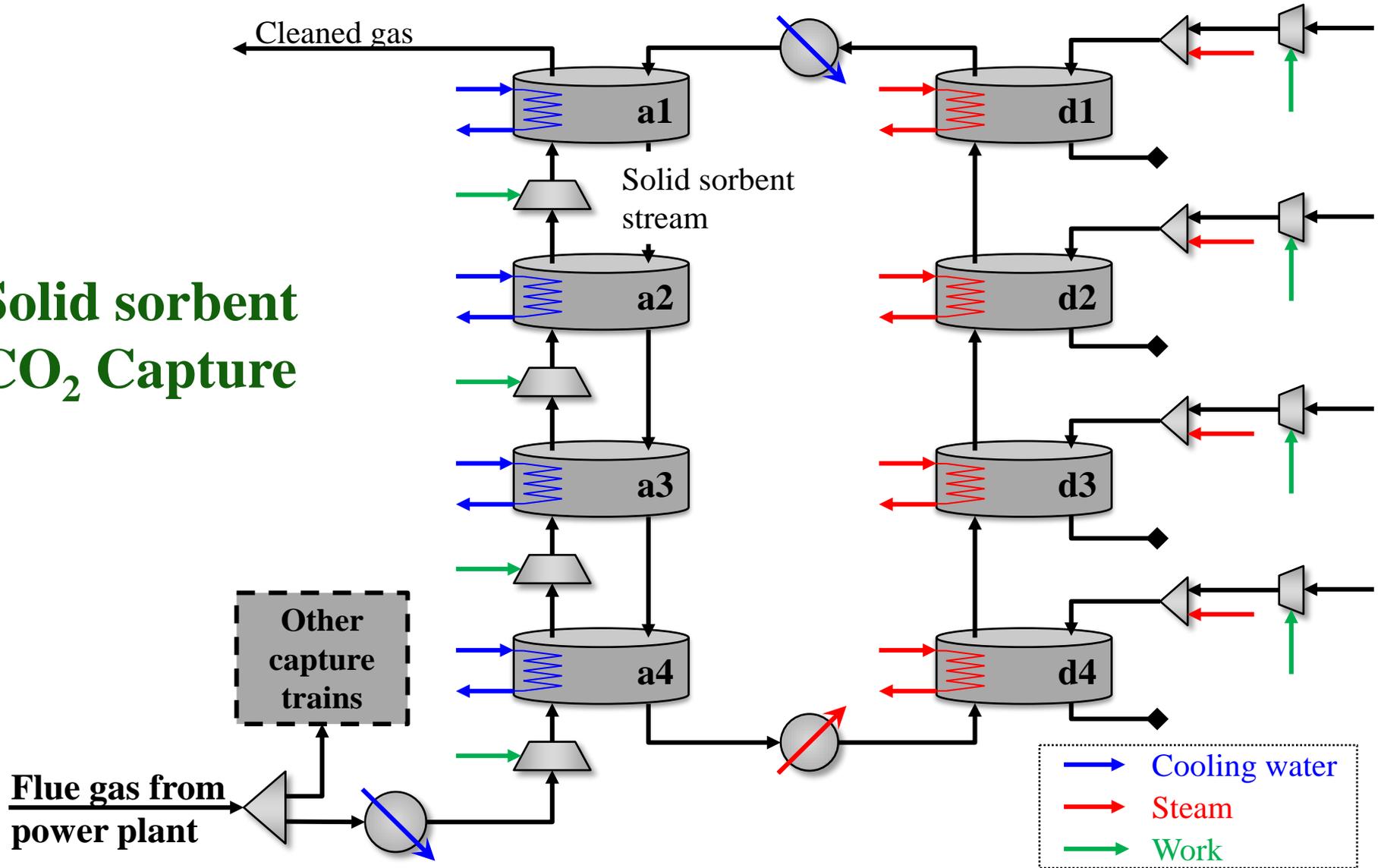


- **Design considerations:**

- Capture technology
 - Bubbling fluidized bed, moving bed, fast fluidized bed, transport bed, etc.
- Number of reactors
- Reactor configuration and geometry
- Operating conditions

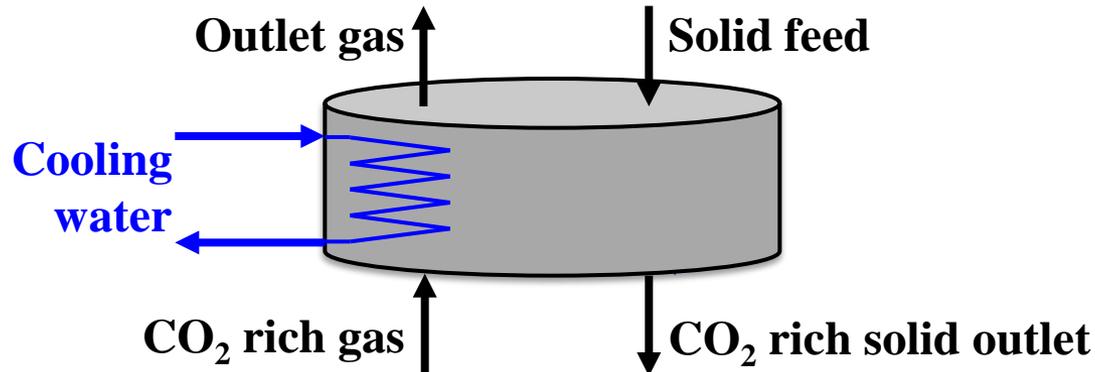
SUPERSTRUCTURE OPTIMIZATION

Solid sorbent CO₂ Capture



BUBBLING FLUIDIZED BED

Bubbling fluidized bed adsorber diagram



- **Model inputs (14 total)**

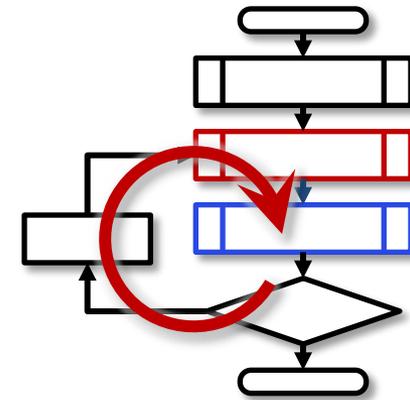
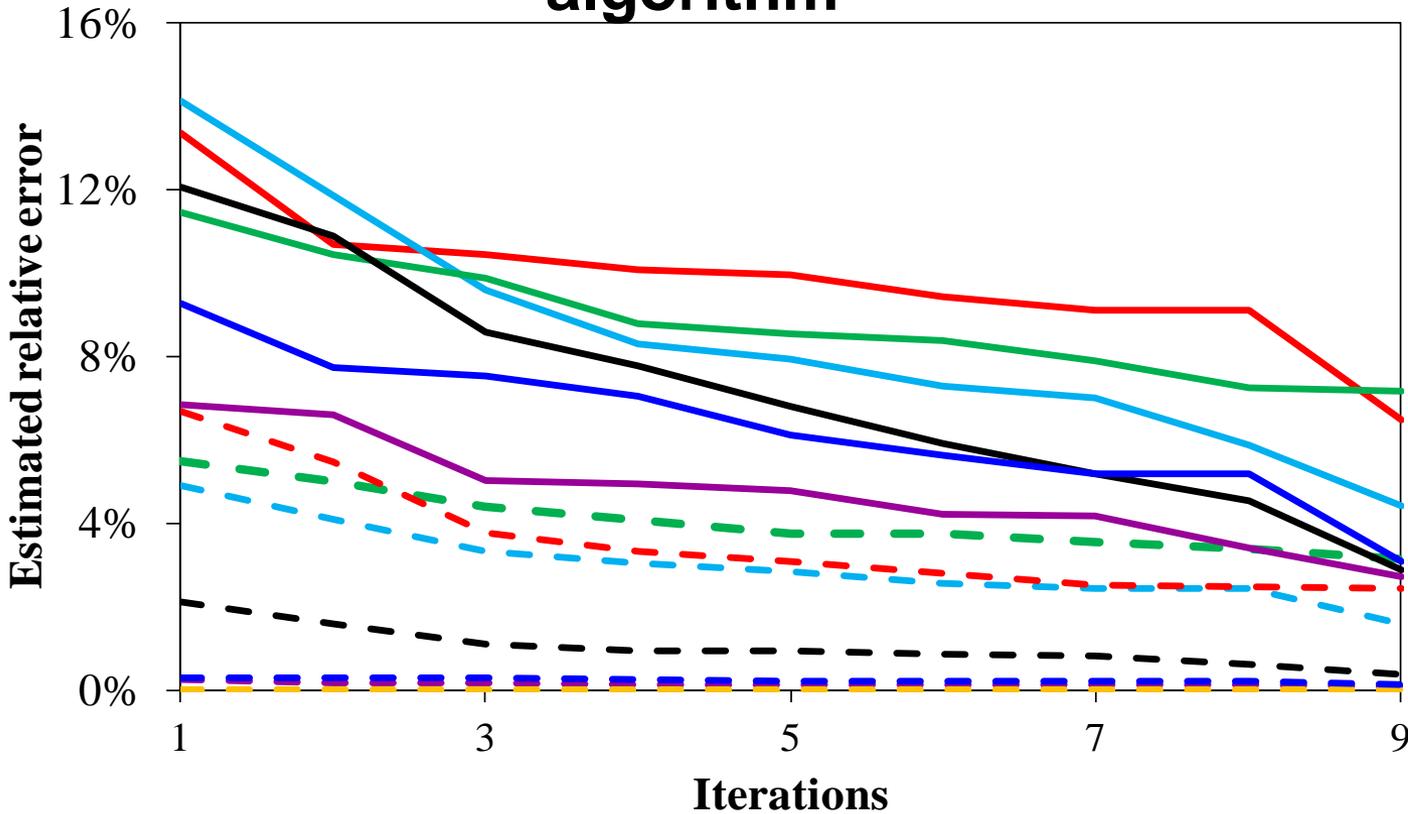
- Geometry (3)
- Operating conditions (4)
- Gas mole fractions (2)
- Solid compositions (2)
- Flow rates (4)

- **Model outputs (13 total)**

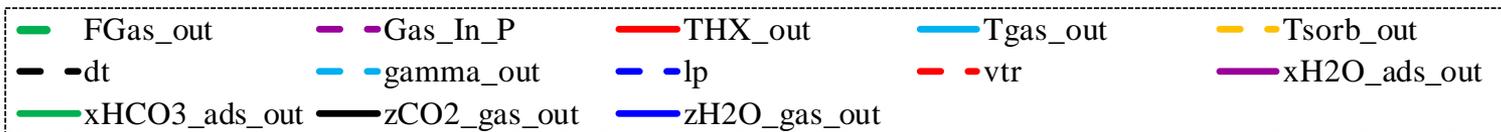
- Geometry required (2)
- Operating condition required (1)
- Gas mole fractions (2)
- Solid compositions (2)
- Flow rates (2)
- Outlet temperatures (3)
- Design constraint (1)

ADAPTIVE SAMPLING

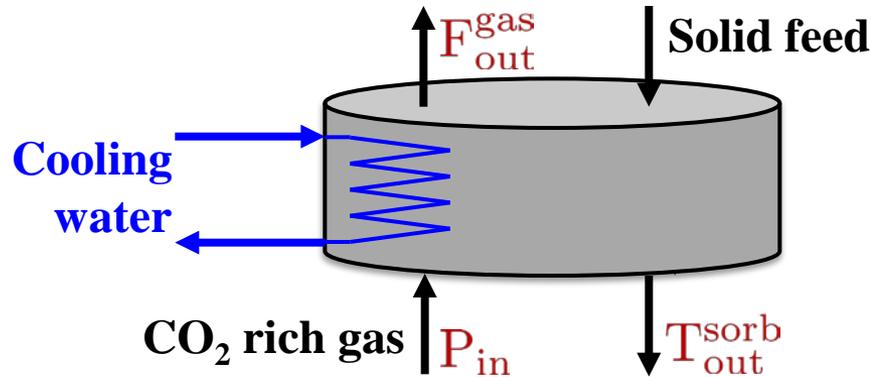
Progression of mean error through the algorithm



Initial data set:
137 pts
Final data set:
261



EXAMPLE MODELS



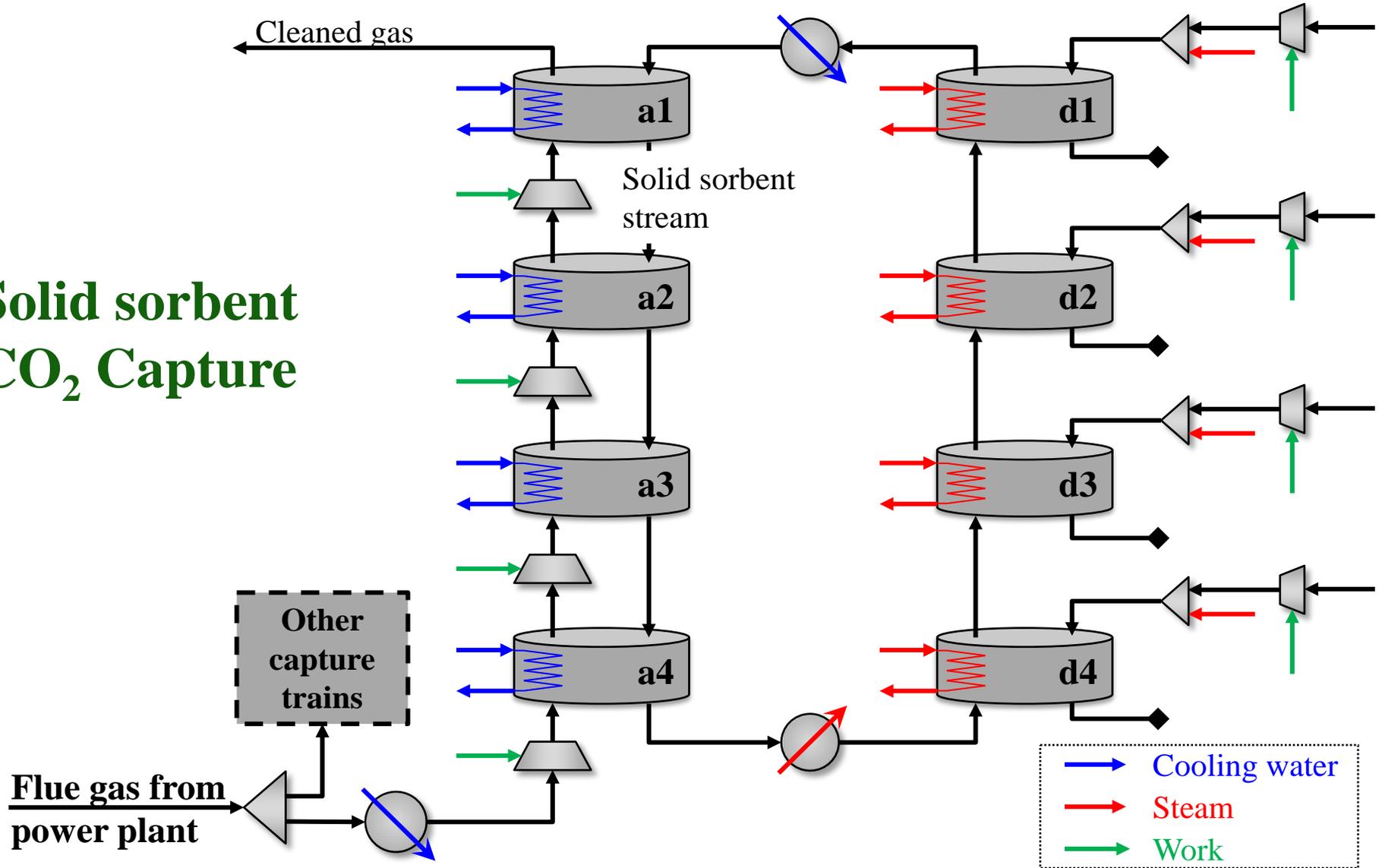
$$P_{in} = \frac{1.0 P_{out} + 0.0231 L_b - 0.0187 \ln(0.167 L_b) - 0.00626 \ln(0.667 v_{gi}) - 51.1 xHCO_3_{in}^{ads}}{F_{in}^{gas}}$$

$$T_{out}^{sorb} = 1.0 T_{in}^{gas} - \frac{(1.77 \cdot 10^{-10}) NX^2}{\gamma^2} - \frac{3.46}{NX T_{in}^{gas} T_{in}^{sorb}} + \frac{1.17 \cdot 10^4}{F^{sorb} NX xH_2O_{in}^{ads}}$$

$$F_{out}^{gas} = \frac{0.797 F_{in}^{gas} - \frac{9.75 T_{in}^{sorb}}{\gamma} - 0.77 F_{in}^{gas} xCO_2_{in}^{gas} + 0.00465 F_{in}^{gas} T_{in}^{sorb} - 0.0181 F_{in}^{gas} T_{in}^{sorb} xH_2O_{in}^{gas}}{1}$$

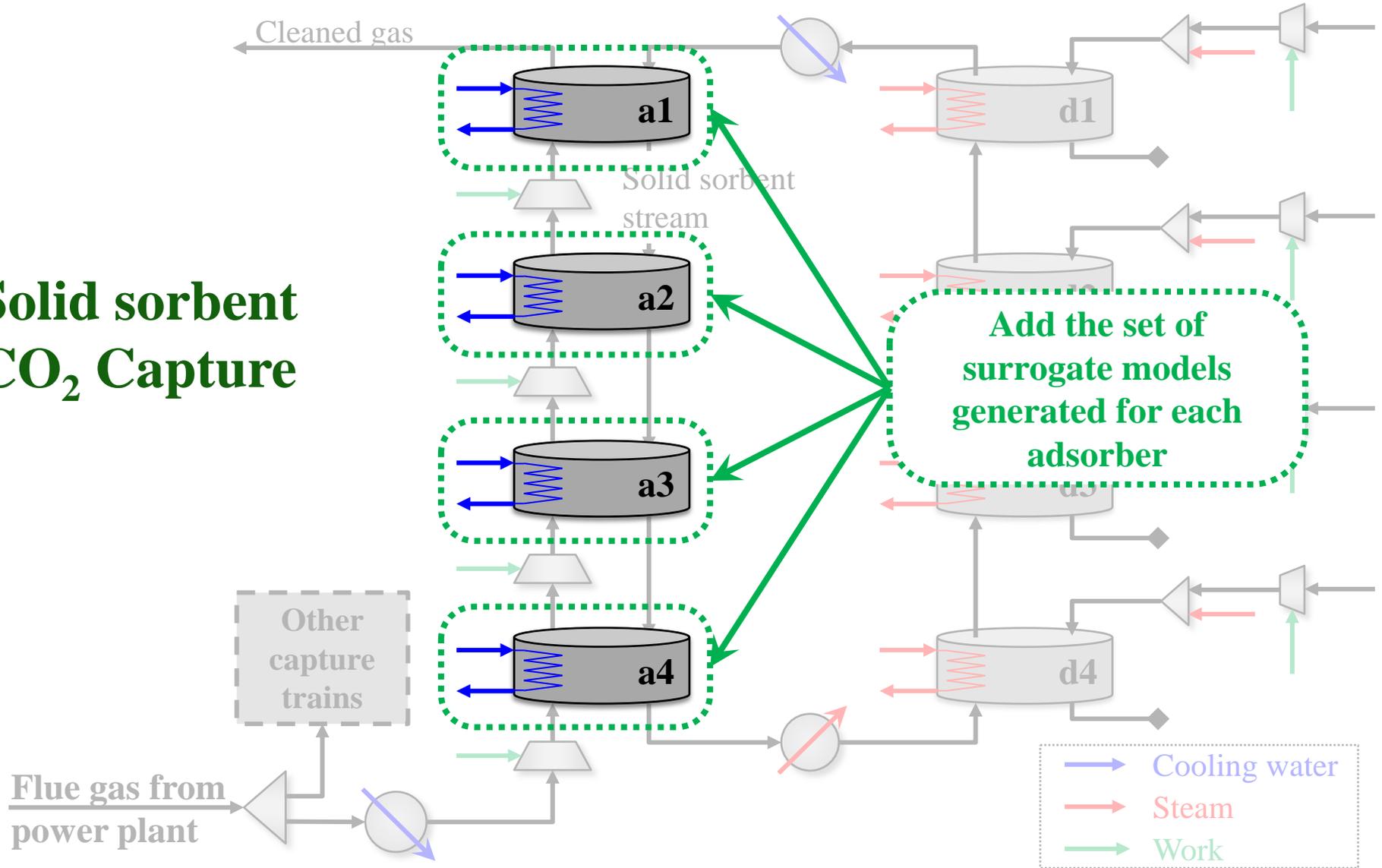
SUPERSTRUCTURE OPTIMIZATION

Solid sorbent CO₂ Capture

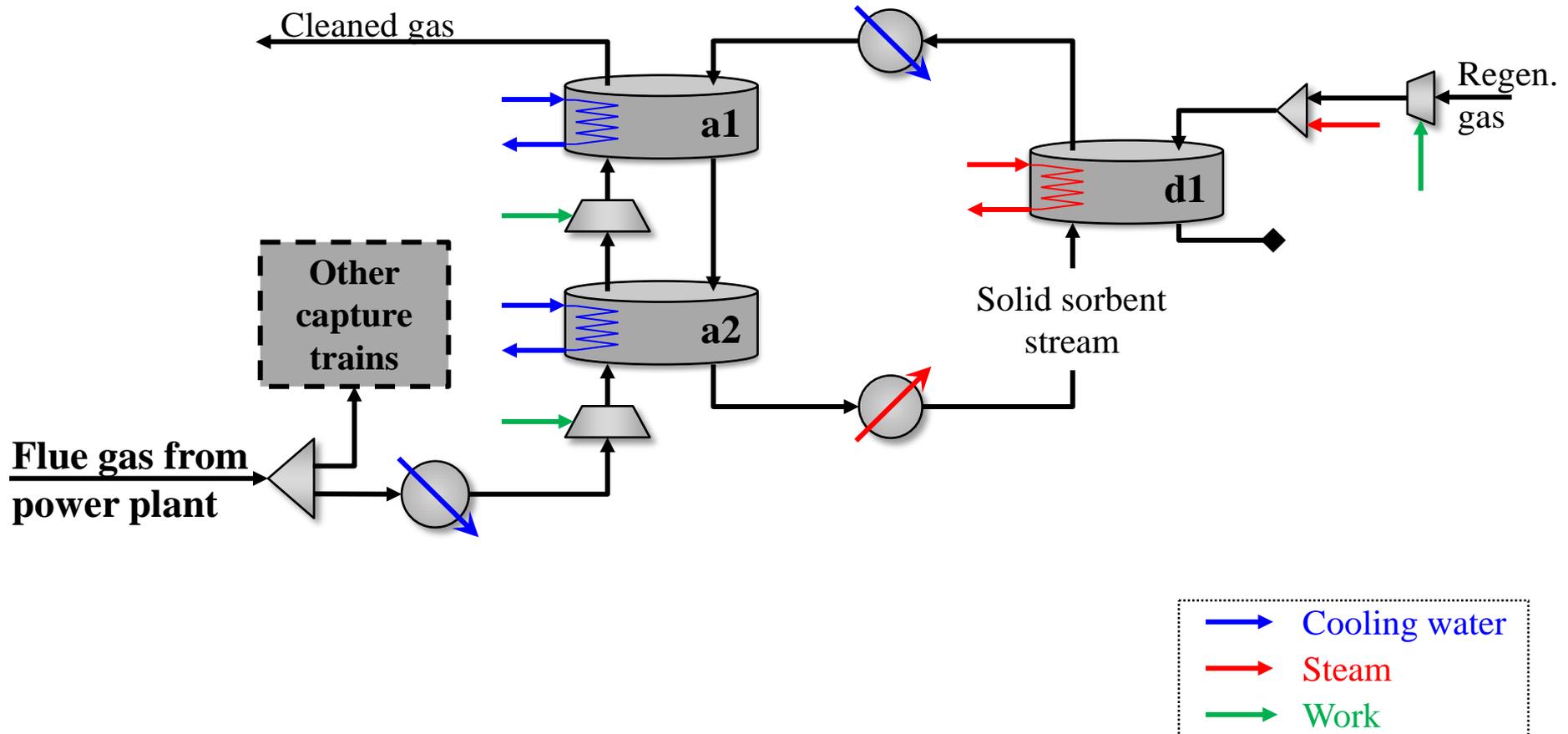


SUPERSTRUCTURE OPTIMIZATION

Solid sorbent CO₂ Capture



PRELIMINARY RESULTS

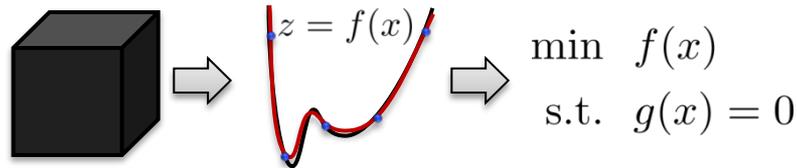


CONCLUSIONS

- The algorithm we developed is able to model black-box functions for use in optimization such that the models are
 - ✓ Accurate
 - ✓ Tractable in an optimization framework (low-complexity models)
 - ✓ Generated from a minimal number of function evaluations
- Surrogate models can then be incorporated within a optimization framework **flexible objective functions** and **additional constraints**

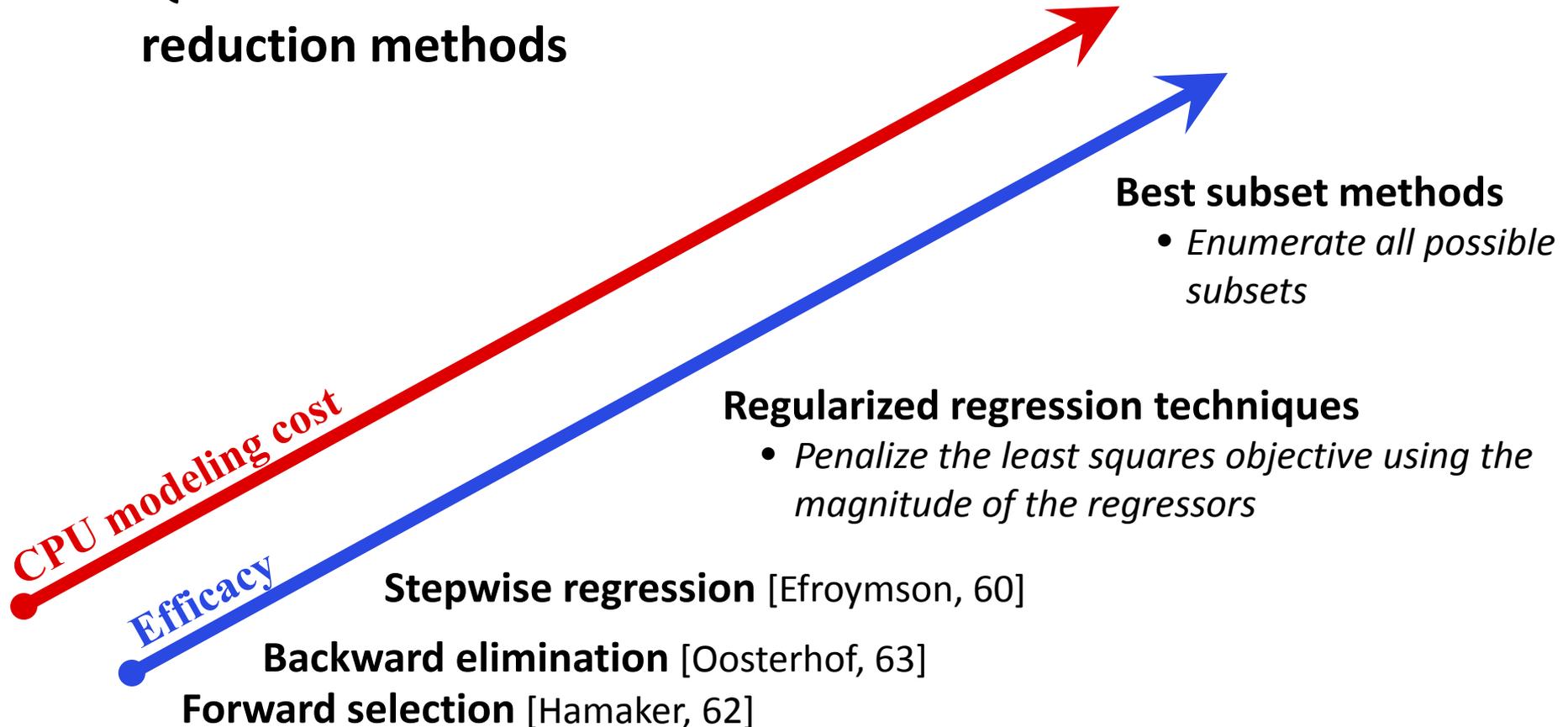
ALAMO

Automated Learning of Algebraic Models for Optimization



MODEL REDUCTION TECHNIQUES

- Qualitative tradeoffs of model reduction methods



BEST SUBSET METHOD

- **Surrogate subset model:**

$$\hat{z}(x) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \beta_j X_j(x)$$

- **Mixed-integer surrogate subset model:**

$$\hat{z}(x) = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{B}} (y_j \beta_j) X_j(x) \quad \text{such that} \quad \begin{array}{ll} y_j = 1 & j \in \mathcal{S} \\ y_j = 0 & j \notin \mathcal{S} \end{array}$$

- **Generalized best subset problem mixed-integer formulation:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{\beta, y} & \Phi(\beta, y) \\ \text{s.t.} & y_j = \{0, 1\} \end{array}$$

MIXED-INTEGER PROBLEM

- **Further reformulation**

- **Replace bilinear terms with big-M constraints**

$$y_j \beta_j \quad \longrightarrow \quad \beta_j^l y_j \leq \beta_j \leq \beta_j^u y_j$$

- **Decouple objective into two problems**

General:
$$\min_{\beta, T, y} \Phi(\beta, T, y) = \min_T \left\{ \underbrace{\min_{\beta, y} [\Phi_{\beta, y}(\beta, y)|_T]}_{\text{b) basis and coefficient selection}} + \Phi_T(T) \right\}$$

a) model sizing

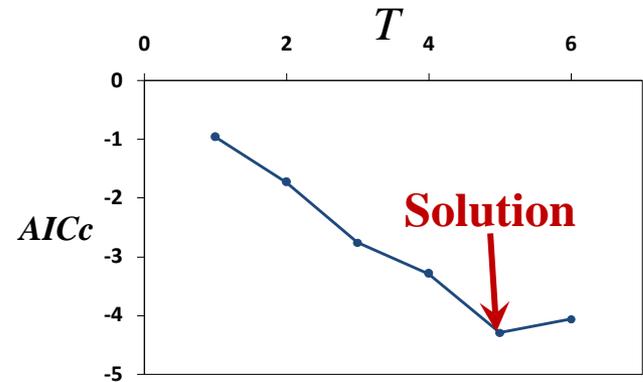
- **Inner minimization objective reformulation**

PROBLEM SIMPLIFICATIONS

- **Simplifications:**

- **Outer problem**

- The outer problem is parameterized by T and a local minima is found



- **Inner problem**

- Stationarity condition used to solve for continuous variables

$$\frac{d}{d\beta_j} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(z_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \beta_j X_{ij} \right)^2 \propto \sum_{i=1}^N X_{ij} \left(z_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \beta_j X_{ij} \right) = 0, \quad j \in \mathcal{S}$$

- Linear objective used to solved for integer variables

$$\text{Objective: } \sum_{i=1}^N \left| z_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{S}} \beta_j X_{ij} \right|$$