

# High-Dimensional Bayesian Optimization via Tree-Structured Additive Models

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## Highlights

Considering high-dimensional BO, we lower the computational resources required and facilitate faster model learning by *reducing the model complexity* while retaining the *sample-efficiency* of existing methods.

1. Trade-off expressiveness for scalability via **tree-structures**
2. Extend message passing via zooming technique to **continuous** domains
3. **Hybrid** method, exploiting tree structures
  - 3.1 Grows tree via Gibbs sampling
  - 3.2 Edge mutation
4. Demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach in a variety of experiments

## Introduction

**Goal:** Find  $x_{\max} = \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(x)$  for black-box function  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- Assume  $f$  decomposes as a sum of lower-dimensional functions [1]:

$$f(x) = \sum_{G \in \mathcal{G}} f^G(x^G), \quad (1)$$

where  $G \subseteq \{1, \dots, D\}$  denotes one subset of variables, and  $\mathcal{G}$  represents the **tree-structured** additive structure (See example  $h(x)$ ).

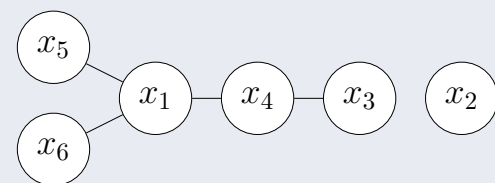


Figure:  $h(x) = h^A(x_1, x_6) + h^B(x_1, x_5) + h^C(x_1, x_4) + h^D(x_3, x_4) + h^E(x_2)$ .

- We model  $f \sim \mathcal{GP}(\mu, \kappa)$ , with each  $f^G$  being an independent sample from a Gaussian Process  $\mathcal{GP}(\mu^G, \kappa^G)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x) &= \sum_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \mu^G(x^G), \\ \kappa(x, x') &= \sum_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \kappa^G(x^G, x'^G). \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

- Focus on upper confidence bound (UCB) – global acquisition function  $\phi_t(x)$  be the sum of the individual acquisition functions with respect to structure  $\mathcal{G}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t(x) &= \sum_{G \in \mathcal{G}} \phi_t^G(x^G), \\ \phi_t^G(x^G) &= \mu_{t-1}^G(x^G) + \beta_t^{1/2} \sigma_{t-1}^G(x^G). \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

## Additive GP-UCB on Tree Structures

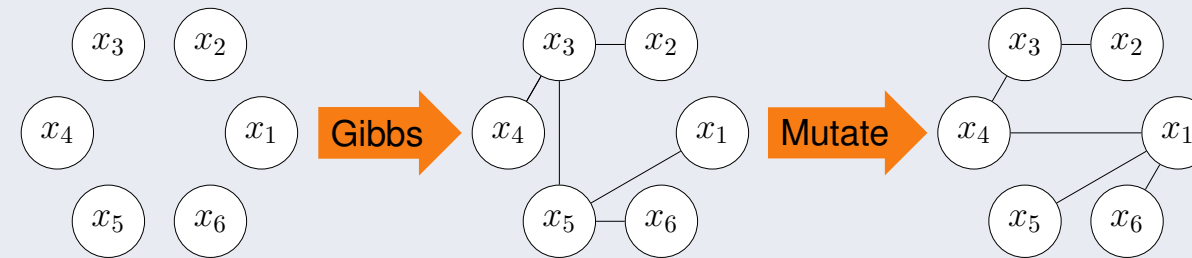
### Algorithm 1: TREE-GP-UCB

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1 Initialize  $\mathcal{D}_0 \leftarrow \{(x_t, y_t)\}_{x_t \in X_{\text{init}}}$ 
2 for  $t = N_{\text{init}} + 1, \dots, N_{\text{iter}}$  do
3   if  $t \bmod C = 0$  then
4     Learn  $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \text{TREE-LEARNING (Alg. 3)}$ 
5   Update  $\mu_t^G, \sigma_t^G : \forall G \in \mathcal{G}$  (3)
6   Optimize  $x_t \leftarrow \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \phi_t(x)$  (Alg. 2)
7   Observe  $y_t \leftarrow f(x_t) + \epsilon$ 
8   Augment  $\mathcal{D}_t \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{t-1} \cup \{(x_t, y_t)\}$ 
9 return  $\arg \max_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}} y$ 
    
```

## Hybrid Dependency Tree Structure Learning

Exploiting tree-structures to enable efficient tree structure learning

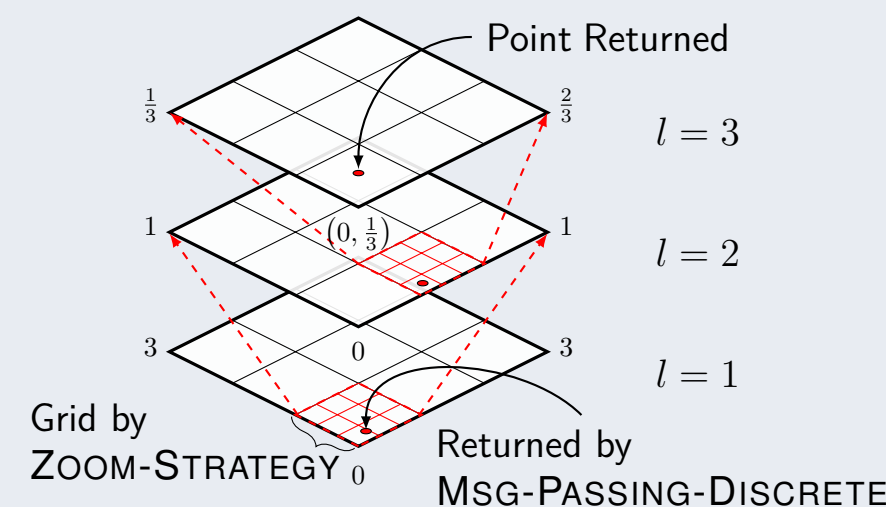


- Gibbs:** Sample approximately, avoiding the difficult task of sampling directly from the high-dimensional distribution over tree structures.
- Mutate:** Mutate edges while maintain tree structure diversity from one generation to another.

## Optimize Acquisition Functions via Zooming Technique

Extends [2], recursively zoom into the corresponding sub-domain

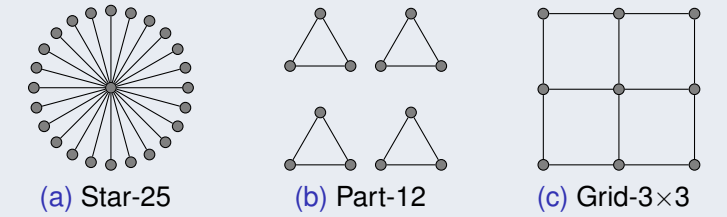
- Due to tree structure, message-passing computation is reduced to **quadratic of the domain**.
- Different zoom strategy can be employed
- Extend generalized additive models to continuous domains.



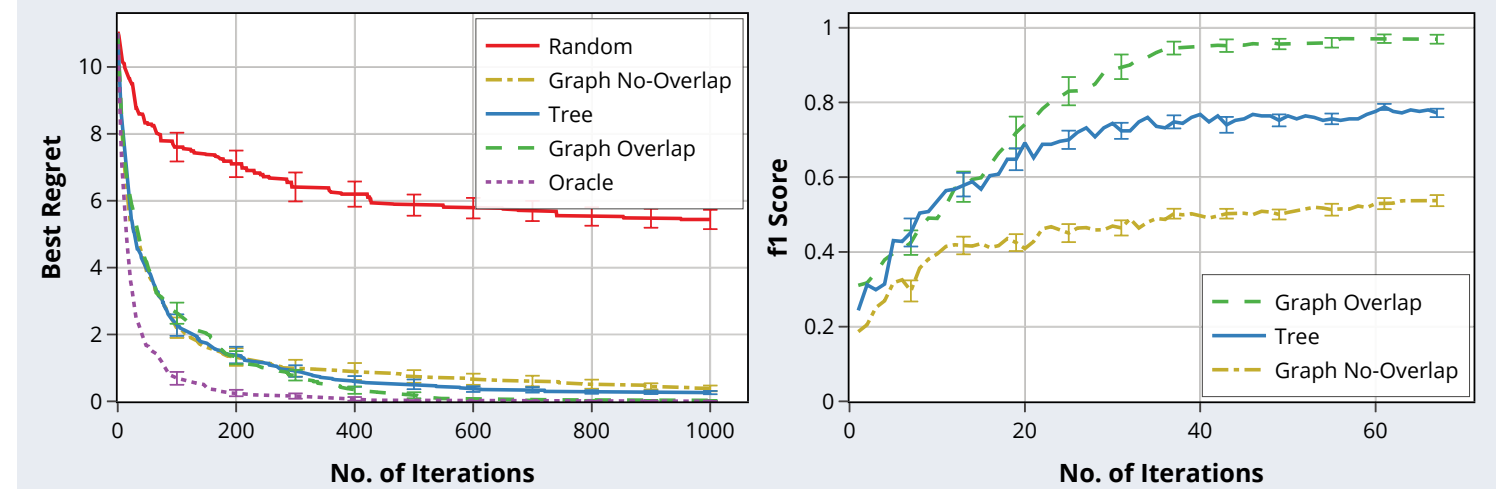
## Experiments

Experiments:

- Additive GP  $f$  (see right)
- Non-GP  $f$



**Grid-3x3 (Continuous):** Tree and Graph No-Overlap are not realizable; Tree remains competitive despite the poorer graph learning.



**Scalability:** Test Tree's scalability to higher dimensions up to 225D; Tree incurs the lowest cost, as the message passing cost is quadratic in grid size

**Real:** Tune Ipsolve's 74 parameters, finding the best parameters with a time limit of 5 seconds.

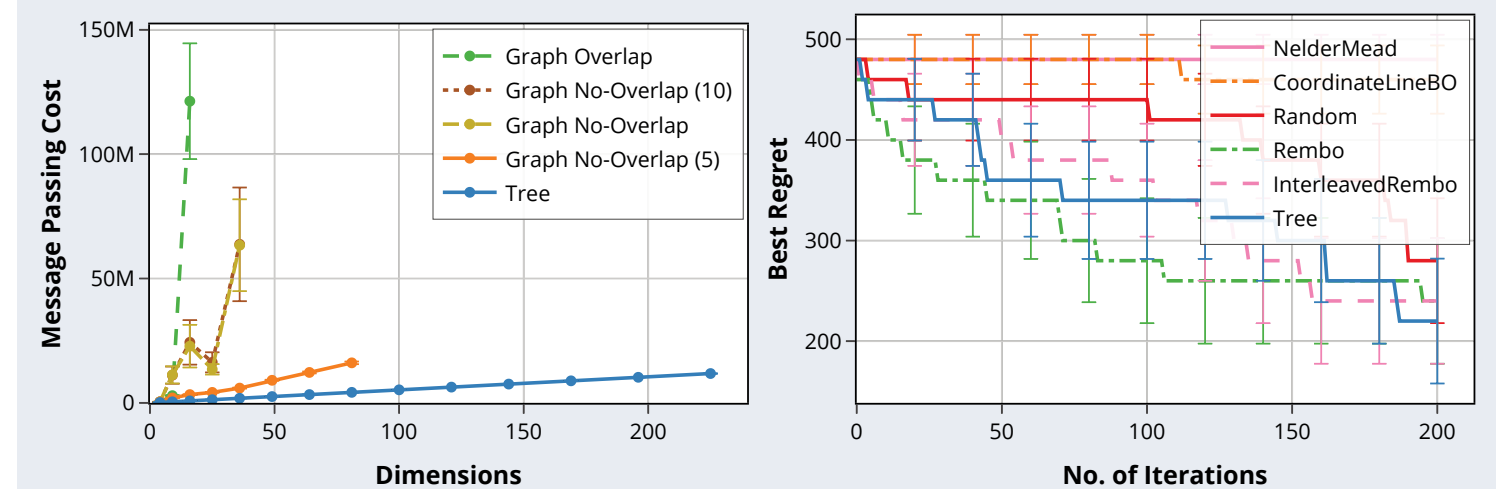


Figure: Scalability of Tree over dimensions

Figure: Ipsolve-misc05inf Performance

**Additional Experiments:** HPOLib2, NAS, Black-box adversarial attack

## References

- [1] K. Kandasamy, J. Schneider, and B. Póczos, "High dimensional Bayesian optimisation and bandits via additive models," in *Int. Conf. Mach. Learn. (ICML)*, 2015, pp. 295–304.
- [2] P. Rolland, J. Scarlett, I. Bogunovic, and V. Cevher, "High-dimensional Bayesian optimization via additive models with overlapping groups," in *Int. Conf. Art. Intel. Stats. (AISTATS)*, 2018, pp. 298–307.