Bayesian Optimization for Min Max Optimization

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In the lab, engineers search for the optimal controllable design parameters.



Therefore, they have to solve:

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} f(\theta). \tag{1}$$

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In real life, engineers have to consider the worst-case uncontrollable environmental conditions when designing a product.



Therefore, they have to solve:

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \max_{\zeta \in Z} f(\theta, \zeta).$$
(2)

Motivation (cont.)



In real life, engineers have to consider the worst-case uncontrollable environmental conditions when designing a product.



Therefore, they have to solve:

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \max_{\zeta \in Z} f(\theta, \zeta).$$
(3)

As function evaluations are costly and there exists enough prior knowledge to construct a surrogate model using a Gaussian Process, we can use Bayesian Optimization [1].



The work on Bayesian Optimization for Min Max Optimization adapts the following acquisition functions:

Our work	Recent approaches
Entropy Search [2]	Expected Improvement [3], [4]
Knowledge Gradient [5]	GP-UCB [6]–[8]
return candidates that increase	return candidates that potentially
the information about the op-	are the optimum
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Our test problems:



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Experiments (cont.)





(a) eggholder*

(b) mean residuals

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- Figure 3: Eggholder* problem and corresponding results.
- -: Entropy Search, ·--: Knowledge Gradient,
- -: Thompson Sampling, · · · : GP-UCB



Thank you.

Have a look into our work on https://github.com/fraunhofer-iais/MinMaxOpt

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