



## From Predictive Analytics to Optimization-Guided Learning (OGL)

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#### Education



- Ph.D, ISE, Texas A&M University, USA (Major: Operations Research)
- M.S., IEEM, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan
- B.S. & B.B.A., Mathematical Science and MIS, National Chengchi University, Taiwan

**D** Experience

- Prof., Dept of Information Management, National Taiwan University (2020-now)
- Deputy Director, CPO, tsmc (2024-now).
- Director, Institute of Manufacturing Information and Systems, NCKU (2018-2020)
- AE, IEEE Transactions on Semiconductor Manufacturing (2023-2025)
- AE, IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering (2020-2022)
- Grants: 50+ industry-academia cooperation projects (manufacturing focus)
  - Applications: Semiconductor manufacturing/packaging, panel, motor drier, fasteners, machine tools, petrochemical, plant factory, educational process, hospitals, etc.
- Committee: National Quality Award, National Science & Technology Council, etc.
- Consultant: Semiconductor, TFT-LCD, AutoML Startup, Taiwan AI Academy, etc.
- Award
  - IE Award, CIIE (2023); Outstanding Research Award, MOST (2022); IEEE Senior Member (2021); Micron Teacher Award (2018); Ta-You Wu Memorial Award of Distinguished Young Scholars, MOST (2017)

#### Research Interest

 Manufacturing Data Science, Intelligent Manufacturing Systems, Productivity and Efficiency Analysis, Multi-Objective Stochastic Optimization

Objective Stochastic Optimization Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU

Optimization-Guided Learning





**I** Five-Phase Analytics

**□** From Predictive to Prescriptive Analytics

□ From Prescriptive to Optimization-Guided Learning

Takeaway

#### **Five-Phase Analytics**

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#### □ FIVE-Phase Analytics: A way from POINT to PLANE



Optimization-Guided Learning

#### One Example...



We typically build AI models for prediction or scenario analysis

- CNN, LSTM, SVM, Random Forest, Boosting, PLS, …
- Then...Which model is better? What's the next step after prediction?

□ Prediction is **Risky**!

How about the potential risk (i.e. loss) after decision-making?

#### Example

- Model A with accuracy 95%, however, inaccurate prediction could lead to big loss.
- Model B with accuracy 90%, however, inaccurate prediction could lead to small loss.
- Which model do you prefer?

#### $\square$ Predictive Thinking $\rightarrow$ Prescriptive Decision

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#### Prescriptive Analytics and Risk Assessment



#### Confusion Matrix for Binary Classification

- Two risks: false alarm (type I) and miss rate (type II)  $\rightarrow$  Prescriptive
- Trade-off between two misclassified errors  $\rightarrow$  cost sensitive



	Testing					
	Accuracy	AUC				
Model A	71.9%	70.2%				
Model B	78.1%	78.9%				

#### AUC: Area under the Curve of ROC

Lee, C.-Y., and Chien, C.-F., 2022. Pitfalls and protocols of data science in manufacturing practice. Journal of Intelligent Manufacturing, 33, 1189–1207. Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Optimization-Guided Learning Chia-



# Decisions take into account the RISKS associated with the realization of uncertain events.

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#### Raw Material Price Prediction and Procurement



#### Price Forecast (Predictive Analytics)



Crude Oil				Upstream			Butadiene			_	Downstream				
	Variable	r.c.	c.c.		Variable	r.c.	c.c.		Variable	r.c.	c.c.		Variable	r.c.	c.c.
	X01	17.9591	0.5195	★	X03	2.2597	0.8511		Y			$\star$	X22	5.6786	0.7958
$\star$	X02	18.3465	0.5229	$\star$	X04	0.8613	0.1990		X10	0.9936	0.9997		X23	0.7643	0.9258
					X05	1.6192	0.5878		X11	1.0051	0.9997		X24	0.8698	0.9424
					X06	-0.3626	-0.1536		X12	0.8651	0.8741		X25	0.9213	0.7151
					X07	2.0611	0.5830		X13	0.9153	0.8584		X26	0.8003	0.9272
				$\star$	X08	-0.4406	-0.4160	$\star$	X14	0.8382	0.9401		X27	0.8897	0.9313
					X09	0.0002	0.4336		X15	0.8153	0.9406		X28	0.0008	0.5036
	<u> </u>						-		X16	0.8615	0.9390		X29	0.0005	0.4319
	Legend								X17	0.8751	0.8425	*	X30	1.0112	0.9810
		Butadiene(BD)							X18	0.8802	0.9512		X31	1.3185	0.9753
		_	r.c. > 1.5						X19	0.2148	0.0719		X32	0.1570	0.1345
	-	r.c. < 0			ified			X20	0.3655	0.1411	$\star$	X33	0.7595	0.3052	
		★ http://www.anables.identified by feature selection			incu			X21	0.0012	0.4902		X34	1.4520	0.6067	

**Feature Extraction** 



Lee, C.-Y., Chou, B.-J., and Huang, C.-F. 2021. Data Science and Reinforcement Learning for Price Forecastifige and Raw Material Procurement in Petrochemical Industry. Advanced Engineering Informatics, 51, 101443. Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Optimization-Guided Learning Chia-Yen

### **Raw Material Price Prediction and Procurement**



#### Reinforcement Learning (Prescriptive Analytics)



	<b>Current policy</b>	(s,S) policy	Optimal policy
Average inventory (tonne)	3112	1812	3197
Standard deviation of inventory (tonne)	743	302	489
Amount purchased (tonne)	25,301	35,430	36,835
Total cost (US\$)	44,596,113	42,324,694	39,091,618

Lee, C.-Y., Chou, B.-J., and Huang, C.-F. 2021. Data Science and Reinforcement Learning for Price Forecasting and Raw Material Procurement in Petrochemical Industry. Advanced Engineering Informatics, 51, 101443.

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#### Optimization-Guided Learning

#### Prognostics and Health Management (PHM)

**Remaining Useful Life (RUL) (Predictive Analytics)** 



http://www.li-ming.com.tw/

Lee, C.-Y., T.-S. Huang, M.-K. Liu, and C.-Y. Lan. 2019. Data Science for Vibration Heteroscedasticity and Predictive Maintenance of Rotary Bearings. Energies., 12 (5), 801. Jiang, W., Hong, Y., Zhou, B., He, X. and Cheng, C. 2019. "A gan-based anomaly detection approach for imbalanced industrial time series," IEEE Access, vol. 7, pp. 608–619. Chia-Yen Lee, Ph.D. 10 Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Optimization-Guided Learning

Feature Engineering

frequency Domain

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Time Domain, Frequency Domain, Time-

**OLab** 

#### Prognostics and Health Management (PHM)



#### □ Predictive Maintenance (PdM) Scheduling (Prescriptive Analytics)

The proposed four-stage PM (preventive maintenance) algorithm provides a tradeoff between machine workload (capacity loss) and condition (PHM indicator; yield loss), and integrates non-bottleneck machines in upstream and downstream of the bottleneck.



#### Workflow: From Predictive to Prescriptive Analytics



- **1st stage: Predictive Analytics** 
  - Estimation
  - Prediction or forecast is difficult
    - because it's about the FUTURE
  - Estimation or imputation is reasonable
    - Use known information to estimate **UNKNOWN** information



2nd stage: Prescriptive Analytics 

- Optimization
- Decision-maker's preference structure
  - Multi-objective decision analysis
- Resource allocation optimization
  - 8M1I: 人(Man)、機(Machine)、料(Material)、方法 (Method)、測量(Measure)、時間(Minutes)、資金 (Money)、環境(Mother nature/environment)、資訊 (information)
- **Risk assessment & diversification**





## Prediction is the Process; Decision is the Purpose.

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#### So...



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**Optimization-Guided** Learning





Hyperparameter Optimization in Learning Algorithm

- Grid Search, Random Search (eg. tabu search, genetic algorithm)
- Bayesian Optimization; Optimal Computing Budget Allocation (OCBA)

Optimization-Guided Learning (OGL)

- Genetic Algorithm embedded with Reinforcement Learning (GAeRL)
- Reinforcement Learning embedded with Robust Optimization (RLeRO)

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Hyperparameter Optimization in Learning Algorithm



https://pub.aimind.so/understanding-hyperparameter-optimization-techniques-4a39d0494612 *Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Optimization-Guided Learning* 



 $\theta$ Bayesian optimization example: Three iterations of Bayesian optimization minimizing a 1D function. The figure shows a Gaussian process (GP) approximation (solid black line and blue shaded region) of the underlying objective function (dotted black line). The figure also shows the acquisition function (green). The acquisition function (GP-LCB, lower confidence bound) is the difference of the mean and variance of the GP (multiplied by a constant), which Bayesian optimization minimizes to determine where to sample next.

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https://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1006606 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayesian\_optimization



#### Optimal Computing Budget Allocation (OCBA) (Chen and Lee, 2011)

• Given a limited computing power, OCBA finds the best alternative (i.e. parameter design) by maximizing the probability of correct selection (PCS). OCBA maximizes PCS, given a limited budget.



Need more computations for simulation

Notations:

*K*: a set of designs (alternatives)

 $b \in K$ : the best design

 $n_i$ : # of simulation allocated for design  $i \in K$ 

 $\mu_i$ : the mean of fitness value for design *i* 

*T*: the total computing budget

**OCBA Model** 

$$\begin{split} \max_{N_1,\dots,N_{|K|}} PCS &= 1 - \sum_{i \in K, i \neq b} P\{\tilde{\mu}_b > \tilde{\mu}_i\} \\ \text{Approximate Probability of Correct Selection(APCS)} \\ \text{s.t.} \sum_{i \in K} n_i \leq T, \\ n_i \geq 0, \forall i \in K. \\ \text{Let } \sigma_i \text{ be the variance for design } i \text{ . PCS can be asymptotically maximized when the relationship between two non-best design } i \text{ and } j, \text{ where } i \neq j \neq b, \text{ in the } l\text{th iteration.} \\ & = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{n_i^{l+1}}{n_j^{l+1}} = \left(\frac{\sigma_i/(\tilde{\mu}_b - \tilde{\mu}_i)}{\sigma_j/(\tilde{\mu}_b - \tilde{\mu}_j)}\right)^2 \\ n_b^{l+1} = \sigma_b \sqrt{\sum_{i \in K, i \neq b} \left(n_i^{l+1}/\sigma_i\right)^2} \end{array} \right] \end{split}$$

\_ap

# of simulation replications for the best design

#### OCBA should be the best Ranking and Selection process (Branke et al., 2007)

Chen, C. H. and Loo H. Lee. Stochastic simulation optimization an optimal computing budget allocation. Singapore Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific, 2011. Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Chia-Yen Lee, Ph.D. 18 **Optimization-Guided** Learning



- Genetic Algorithm embedded with Reinforcement Learning (GAeRL)

Lee, C.-Y., Ho, C.-Y., Hung, Y.-H., and Deng, Y.-W., 2024. Multi-objective genetic algorithm embedded with reinforcement learning for petrochemical melt-flow-index production scheduling. *Applied Soft Computing*, 159, 111630.

- Reinforcement Learning embedded with Robust Optimization (RLeRO)

Lee, C.-Y., Huang, Y.-T., and Chen, P.-J., 2024. Robust-optimization-guiding deep reinforcement learning for chemical material production scheduling. *Computers and Chemical Engineering*, 187, 108745.

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Genetic Algorithm embedded with Reinforcement Learning (GAeRL) **POLab** 

- □ Petrochemical Production Scheduling (化工廠排程特性)
  - Objective Functions
    - Minimize tardiness (satisfying due date)
      - > Total Tardiness =  $\sum_{j \in J} T_j = \sum_{j \in J} \max\{C_j D_j, 0\}$
    - Minimize # of conversion, transition time, volume of transition product
      - > Transition Prodcuts =  $\sum_{t \in T} (MFI_{t+1} MFI_t)^2$
  - Constraints
    - Type Conversion Constraint
    - Specific Group Constraint
    - Melt-flow-index (MFI) Slowly-Rise-and-Fall Constraint
    - Sequence-Dependent Transition Time Constraint





Blömer, F., & Günther, H.-O. (1998). Scheduling of a multi-product batch process in the chemical industry. Computers in industry, 36(3), 245-259. Blomer, F., & Gunther, H.-O. (2000). LP-based heuristics for scheduling chemical batch processes. International Journal of Production Research, 38(5), 1029-1051. Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU Optimization-Guided Learning Chia-Yen Lee, Ph.D. 20

### **Scheduling Methodology**

- □ JSP is among the hardest combinatorial optimization problems.
  - NP-hard problem
- Heuristic Method (Priority Rule)
  - Shortest processing time (SPT), earliest due date (EDD), etc.
  - Pros: easy to understand
  - Cons: poor performance for complicated production line
- Meta-Heuristic Algorithm (Tabu, Simulated Annealing, Genetic Algorithm)
  - Approximated-optimization approach
  - Pros: provide a good solution efficiently
  - Cons: cannot guarantee the global optimum

#### Reinforcement Learning

- Optimal control approach to take actions in a dynamic environment
- Pros: consider decision over time for dynamic flexible job shop scheduling (DFJSS)
- Cons: convergence issue in a large state space and action space

#### Mathematical Programming

- Optimization-based approach formulated by mixed integer programming
- Pros: Guarantee global optimum
- Cons: computational burden for large-scale problem (not suitable for frequent rescheduling)

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Local optimum Short running time



Global optimum Long running time

### Genetic Algorithm (GA)





Holland, J. H. (1975). "Adaptation in Natural and Artificial Systems," University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor.

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## How does RL guide GA?

#### Population Similarity

- Population similarity: cluster the population with DBSCAN, and then use the Spearman rank correlation coefficient to estimate the correlation within the groups and between the groups.
- Correlation: total within group = between groups
- Population similarity as the correlation within the groups divided by the number of the clusters.
- Guide the mutation and crossover to balance exploration and exploitation.
  - if chromosomes appear similar, the population might be premature: need exploration and increase mutation and crossover rates
  - if chromosomes appear dissimilar, the population are not converged: need exploitation and decrease mutation and crossover rates.

#### Phase of Iterations

• Phase of iteration: the number of iterations that GA did not find the better solutions.

#### □ State Space in RL

 Discretize the two states by assigning quartiles to each value (i.e., the state space consists of the 4×4=16 states).

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#### **Reinforcement Learning Elements**



#### Action

- Rate tuning and mechanism design related to crossover and mutation
- Rate tuning: "fix", "increase", and "decrease" by multiplying the original rate by 1, 1.02, and 0.98.
- Combining the crossover and mutation rates to generate 3×3=9 actions.
- Crossover mechanism: "one-point order crossover", "two-point order crossover", and "positionbased order crossover"
- Mutation mechanism: "adjacent two-point change mutation", "arbitrary multiple-point shift mutation", and "shift change mutation".
- Combining the crossover and mutation mechanisms to generate 3×3=9 actions

#### Reward

- Two-objective reward: minimization of (1) transition products and (2) total tardiness.
- Hypervolume as the volume surrounded by the solutions and a reference point (REF) (i.e., the poorest solution having the highest limit of each objective).
- Goal: maximize the hypervolume: If the present hypervolume indicator is better than last time, the reward is with +1; otherwise, if it is worse than last time, the reward is with -1.



#### GA embedded with RL (GAeRL)





Lee, C.-Y., Ho, C.-Y., Hung, Y.-H., and Deng, Y.-W., 2024. Multi-objective genetic algorithm embedded with reinforcement learning for petrochemical melt-flow-index production scheduling. *Applied Soft Computing*, 159, 111630.

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## **Empirical Study of Petrochemical Scheduling**

#### Petrochemical Factory

- Leading manufacturer & supplier of polypropylene in Taiwan
  - Product portfolio consists primarily of SBS, SIS, SEBS, and SEP, including compound materials for footwear, modified asphalt, waterproofing membranes, adhesives, and plastics modification.
- Data Source: manufacturing execution system (MES)
- Time: First half of 2019



#### Data Size

- 38 orders including 199 batches, 4 types of catalyst, 4 types of donors, and 12 precedence groups.
- Transform the data for proprietary information protection without loss of generality.
- Results
  - Reduce transition products in the petrochemical production line by more than 10% through minimizing the change of the Material Flow Index (MFI).
  - It ensures the fulfillment of customer due dates.

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## **Empirical Study of Petrochemical Scheduling**



#### □ State Space

• 16 states (combination of 4 levels of similarity and 4 levels in phase due to quantile discretization).

#### □ Action Space

 9 actions (combination of 3 levels in crossover and 3 levels in mutation) with respect to rate tuning and mechanism selection, respectively.

#### Initial Parameters Settings

• Population size 20, crossover rate 0.8, and mutation rate 0.2.

Action ID	Crossover rate	Mutation rate
R1	Decrease	Decrease
R2	Fix	Decrease
R3	Increase	Decrease
R4	Decrease	Fix
R5	Fiv	Fiv
(baseline)		
R6	Increase	Fix
R7	Decrease	Increase
<b>R8</b>	Fix	Increase
R9	Increase	Increase

Action ID	Crossover	Iviutation
M1	One-point order crossover	Adjacent two-point change
M2	Two-point order crossover	Adjacent two-point change
M3	Position-based order crossover	Adjacent two-point change
M4	One-point order crossover	Arbitrary multiple-point shift
M5 (baseline)	Two-point order crossover	Arbitrary multiple-point shift
M6	Position-based order crossover	Arbitrary multiple-point shift
M7	One-point order crossover	Shift change mutation
M8	Two-point order crossover	Shift change mutation
M9	Position-based order crossover	Shift change mutation

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## **Empirical Study of Petrochemical Scheduling**



Performance Comparison (with 30 replications)

Six Algorithms: (1) Engineering Experience Heuristic (EEH), (2) NSGA-II, (3) NSGA-II with random action (NSGAw/RA) for rate tuning of crossover and mutation, (4) NSGA-II with random action (NSGAw/RA) for mechanism selection of crossover and mutation, (5) NSGAeRL for rate tuning, (6) NSGAeRL for mechanism selection. (Note: NSGAw/RA has the same set of actions with NSGAeRL, but with equal probability of selecting actions rather than the optimal policy.)

State (optimal p	e oolicy)	Similarity-1	Similarity-2	Similarity-3	Similarity-4	State (optimal policy	cy) Similarity-1	Similarity-2	Similarity-3	Similarity-4	
Phase-1 R1		<b>R1</b>	<b>R4</b>	R1	R4	Phase-1	<b>M7</b>	<b>M6</b>	M1	M6	
Phase-2 R8		<b>R8</b>	<b>R</b> 8	R4	R9	Phase-2	<b>M4</b>	M8	M4	M2	
Phase-3		R3	R6	R3	<b>R1</b>	Phase-3	M1	M4	M6	<b>M8</b>	
Phase	Phase-4 R5		R4	<b>R8</b>	<b>R4</b>	Phase-4	M4	M5	M5 <b>M8</b>		
Mean (Standar Deviatio		rd EEH n)	NSGA	NSGAv -II for Ra Tunir	vRA NSO Ite for M Ing Sel	GAwRA echanism lection	NSGAeRL for Rate Tunin	g for N	NSGAeRL for Mechanism Selectio		
Transitio		<b>n</b> 5993	7247	7603	3 (	6974 6791			6517		
Pr	roduct	<b>s</b> (0)	(950)	) (1283	3) (	952)	(940)		(841)		
	Total	672	316	292	-	260	256		234		
Tardines		<b>s</b> (0)	(98)	(78)		(44)	(70)		(38)		
# of		1	1287	' 872	2	1597	1418		1767		
Iteration		ns (0)	(490)	) (463	5) (	378)	(489)		(292)		
СР	PU Tim	<b>e</b> 3	1122	924		1474	1466		1722		
(second)		) (0)	(448)	) (442	2) (	337)	(483)		(280)		

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- Genetic Algorithm embedded with Reinforcement Learning (GAeRL)

Lee, C.-Y., Ho, C.-Y., Hung, Y.-H., and Deng, Y.-W., 2024. Multi-objective genetic algorithm embedded with reinforcement learning for petrochemical melt-flow-index production scheduling. *Applied Soft Computing*, 159, 111630.

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## Reinforcement Learning embedded with Robust Optimization (RLeRO POLab

#### Petrochemical Production Scheduling

- Uncertainty
  - Demand fluctuation and yield rate
  - Polyhedral uncertainty sets encode a budget of uncertainty into cardinality constraints.
- Objective function
  - To maximize the gross profit of the chemical production schedule

$$-Max \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{p \in P} V_i A^*_i x_{ip} - \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{p \in P} C_i^S s_{ip} - \sum_{i \in I} C_i^L l_{ip} - \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in I, j \neq i} \sum_{p \in P} C_{ij}^T z_{ijp}$$
Sales profit Inventory cost Stockout cost Transition cost

Constraints

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■ State initialization for subproblems

$$s_{iP_0} = S_i^I, \forall i \in I; x_{if} = X_{ij}, \forall i \in I, f \in F \cup \{P_0\}$$

Mass balance constraint

$$s_{ip} = s_{i(p-1)} + A_i^* x_{ip} - D_{ip}^* + l_{ip}, \forall i \in I, p \in P$$

Production transition identification

$$\sum_{i \in I} z_{ijp} = x_{jp}, \forall j \in I, p \in P$$
$$\sum_{j \in I} z_{ijp} = x_{i(p-1)}, \forall i \in I, p \in P$$

Machine occupancy constraint

 $\sum_{i \in I} x_{ip} = 1, \forall p \in P$ 

• Variable domains

 $\begin{aligned} x_{ip} &\in \{0,1\}, \forall i \in I, p \in P \cup \{P_0\} \\ z_{ijp} &\in \{0,1\}, \forall i \in I, j \in I, p \in P \\ s_{ip} &\geq 0, \forall i \in I, p \in P \cup \{P_0\} \\ l_{ip} &\geq 0, \forall i \in I, p \in P \end{aligned}$ 

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## Reinforcement Learning embedded with Robust Optimization (RLeRO POLab

#### Action

- Network output discrete probability distribution A
- Action *a* is sampled from *A*, corresponding to  $x_{ip}$ .

Episode

Finish a complete scheduling window and rolling to the next.

Reward

The change in objective value after a particular action

State encoding



Methods

- Perfect information deterministic optimization (PIDO)
- Expected value deterministic optimization (EVDO)
- Robust optimization (RO)
- Advantage-Actor-Critic (A2C)
- A2C + EVDO guiding
- A2C + RO guiding

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## Reinforcement Learning embedded with Robust Optimization (RLeRO POLab

## Sensitivity Analysis

Optimization-based models



RL-based models



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## Solution Value Analysis

- Expected value of perfect information (EVPI)
  - "How much a decision-maker would be willing to pay for perfect information when using the model"
  - subtract the PIDO value from the target model's
  - The robust models are less needed of perfect infor.

RIERO



150000 140000 130000 100000 100000 100000 100000 100000 0,0 0,5 1,0 1,5 2,0 2,5 3,0 3,5 Delta (demand distortion rate)

- Price of robustness
  - Distance of objective
     between the baseline
     (EVDO) and robust solution
  - "How much it cost to apply robust solutions"
- Adopt conservative policies in high demand fluctuation. Optimization-Guided Learning



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#### Takeaway



Prediction is the Process; Decision is the Purpose.

From Predictive to Prescriptive Analytics

Optimization-Guided Learning (OGL)
 Find the "unchanged" power in "changing" env.
 Make the learning system more "stable".

Light speed in vacuum (真空光速): 299,792,458 m/s Planck constant (普朗克常數):  $6.62607015 \times 10^{-34}$  J·s Electron mass (電子質量):  $9.10938291 \times 10^{-31}$  kg Avogadro constant (亞佛加厥常數):  $6.02214076 \times 10^{23}$  mol<sup>-1</sup> Boltzmann constant (波茲曼常數):  $1.38064852 \times 10^{-23}$  J/K Gravitational constant (重力常數):  $6.67384 \times 10^{-11}$  m<sup>3</sup>/(kg · s<sup>2</sup>)



## We can observe them, but cannot change them. 我們只能觀察到,但不能改變他們

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBVIn2PFTYM Productivity Optimization Lab, NTU







