

# Multi-parameter Bayesian optimisation of laser-driven ion acceleration in particle-in-cell simulations

E. J. Dolier<sup>1</sup>, M. King<sup>1,2</sup>, R. Wilson<sup>1</sup>, R. J. Gray<sup>1</sup> and P. McKenna<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>SUPA Department of Physics, University of Strathclyde, UK

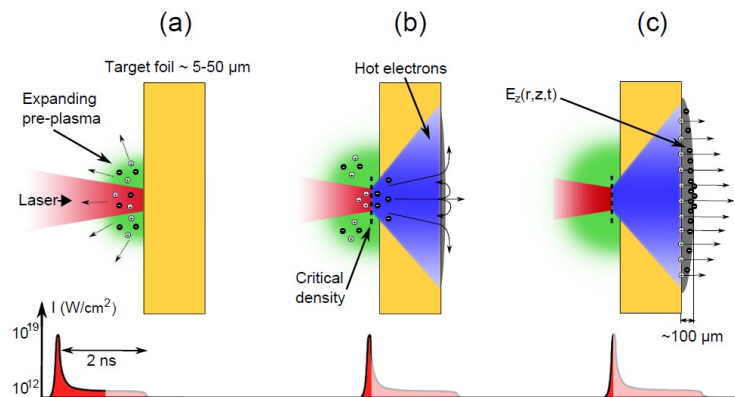
<sup>2</sup>The Cockcroft Institute, Sci-Tech, Daresbury, Warrington, UK

Particle Accelerators and Beams, University of Strathclyde

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

# Optimising Sources of Radiation from Laser-Solid Interactions

- Radiation sources generated in laser-solid interactions have unique properties which are useful for applications.
- However, properties of these sources must be optimised before applications can be realised.
- However, these are highly non-linear interactions – very difficult to optimise for all input parameters!



Source of Multi-MeV ions  
with unique properties for  
applications!

- Laser:
- Intensity
  - Energy
  - Pulse Duration
  - Focal spot size
  - Laser intensity contrast
  - Polarisation



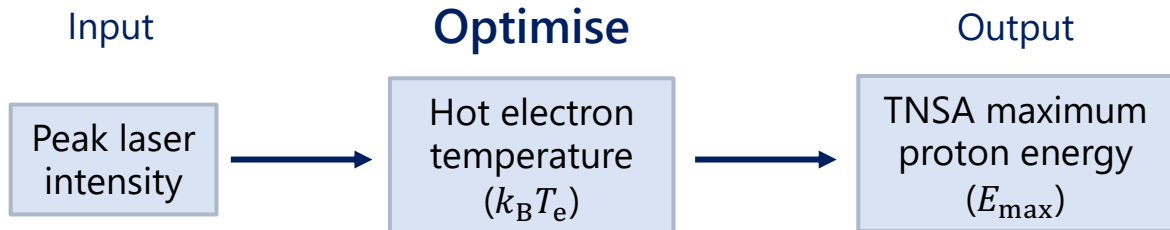
- Plasma:
- Energy conversion efficiency
  - Fast electron divergence angle
  - Z (scattering, resistivity)
  - Preplasma scale length
  - Target Thickness
  - Incidence angle



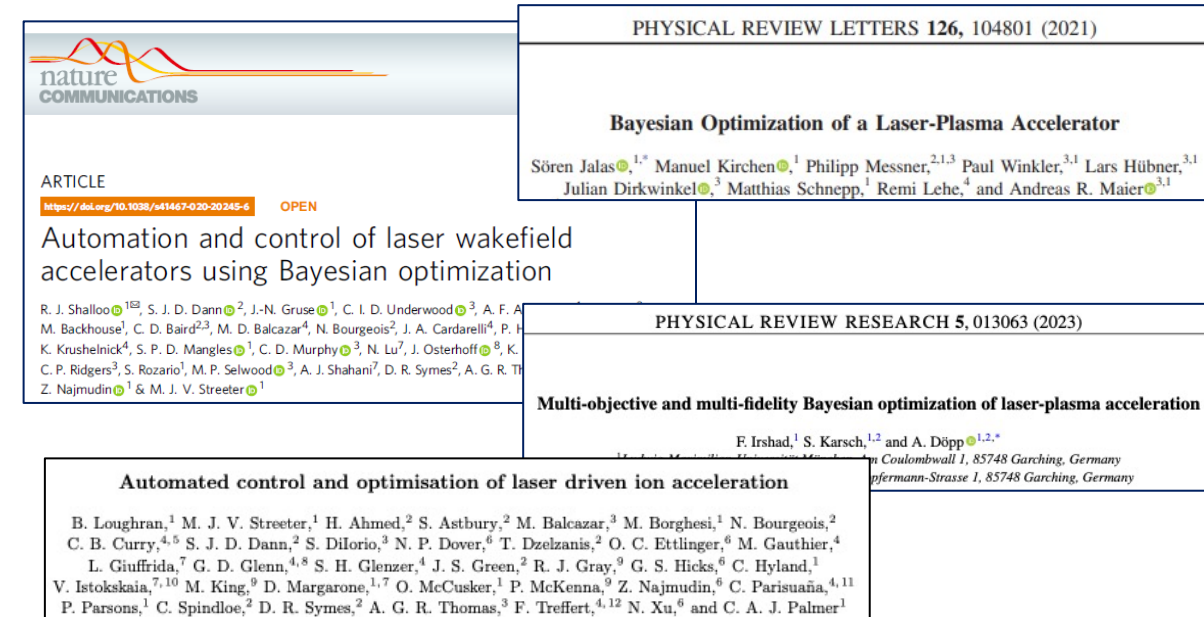
# Bayesian Optimisation of Laser-Plasma Accelerators

## Optimising in simulations

- Some interaction properties are difficult to measure experimentally but can be measured in simulations
- These properties define key source properties such as the maximum proton energy
- By optimising these properties in simulations, we can guide experimental conditions



## Optimising in experiments



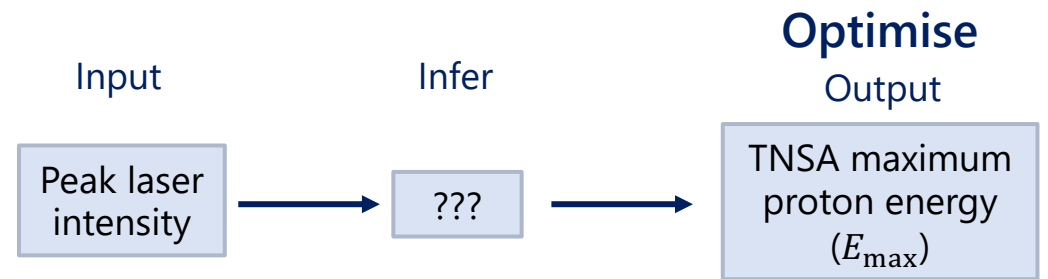
**PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 126, 104801 (2021)**

**Bayesian Optimization of a Laser-Plasma Accelerator**  
Sören Jalas<sup>1,\*</sup>, Manuel Kirchen<sup>1</sup>, Philipp Messner<sup>2,1,3</sup>, Paul Winkler<sup>3,1</sup>, Lars Hübner<sup>3,1</sup>, Julian Dirkwinkel<sup>3</sup>, Matthias Schnepf<sup>1</sup>, Remi Lehe<sup>4</sup>, and Andreas R. Maier<sup>3,1</sup>

**PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH 5, 013063 (2023)**

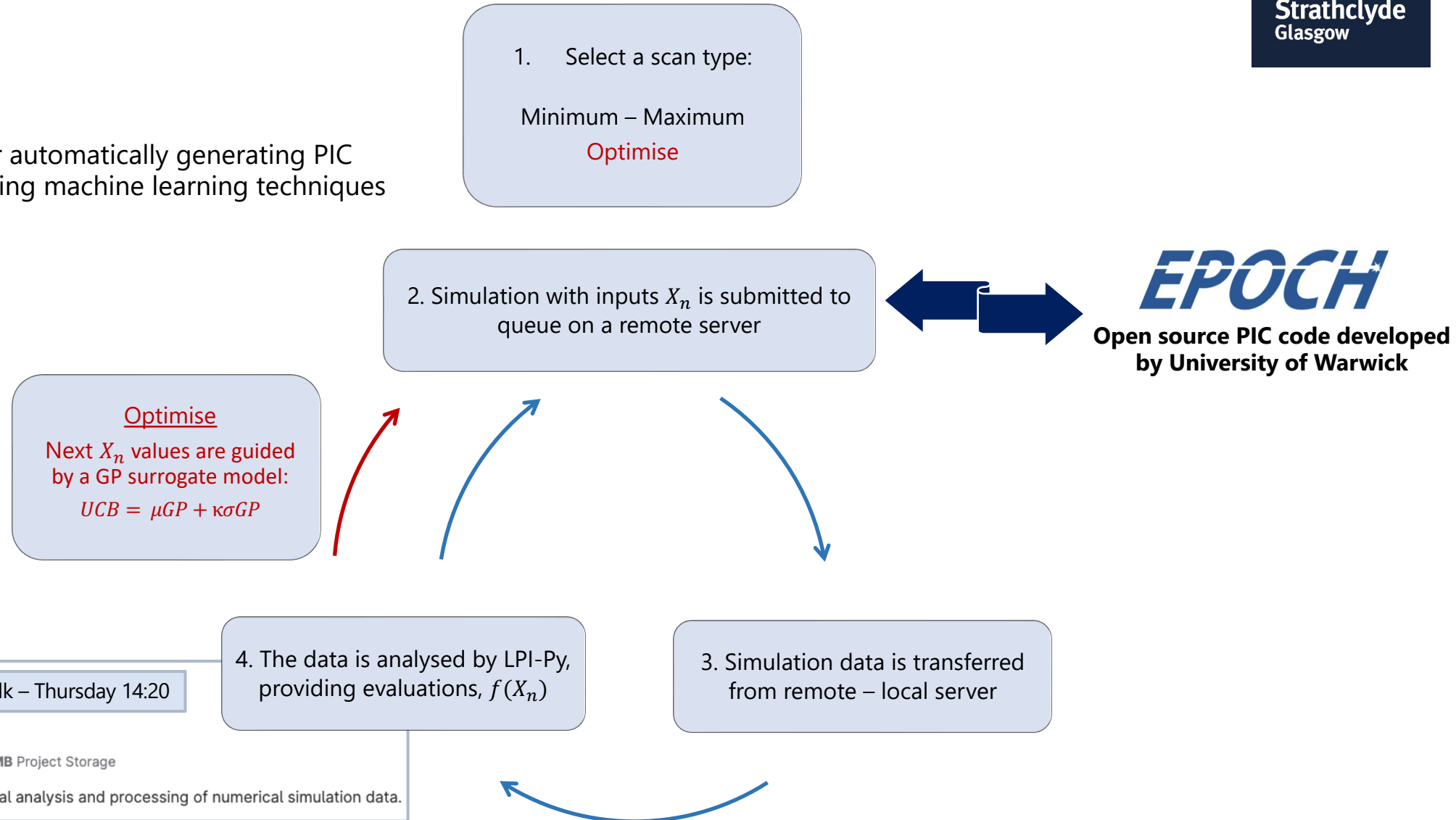
**Multi-objective and multi-fidelity Bayesian optimization of laser-plasma acceleration**  
F. Irshad<sup>1</sup>, S. Karsch<sup>1,2</sup> and A. Döpp<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

**Automated control and optimisation of laser driven ion acceleration**  
B. Loughran,<sup>1</sup> M. J. V. Streeter,<sup>1</sup> H. Ahmed,<sup>2</sup> S. Astbury,<sup>2</sup> M. Balcazar,<sup>3</sup> M. Borghesi,<sup>1</sup> N. Bourgeois,<sup>2</sup> C. B. Curry,<sup>4,5</sup> S. J. D. Dann,<sup>2</sup> S. Dilorio,<sup>3</sup> N. P. Dover,<sup>6</sup> T. Dzelanis,<sup>2</sup> O. C. Ettlinger,<sup>6</sup> M. Gauthier,<sup>4</sup> L. Giuffrida,<sup>7</sup> G. D. Glenn,<sup>4,8</sup> S. H. Glenzer,<sup>4</sup> J. S. Green,<sup>2</sup> R. J. Gray,<sup>9</sup> G. S. Hicks,<sup>6</sup> C. Hyland,<sup>1</sup> V. Istokskaia,<sup>7,10</sup> M. King,<sup>9</sup> D. Margarone,<sup>1,7</sup> O. McCusker,<sup>1</sup> P. McKenna,<sup>9</sup> Z. Najmudin,<sup>6</sup> C. Parisuaña,<sup>4,11</sup> P. Parsons,<sup>1</sup> C. Spindloe,<sup>2</sup> D. R. Symes,<sup>2</sup> A. G. R. Thomas,<sup>3</sup> F. Treffert,<sup>4,12</sup> N. Xu,<sup>6</sup> and C. A. J. Palmer<sup>1</sup>



# BISHOP code to facilitate Bayesian optimisation

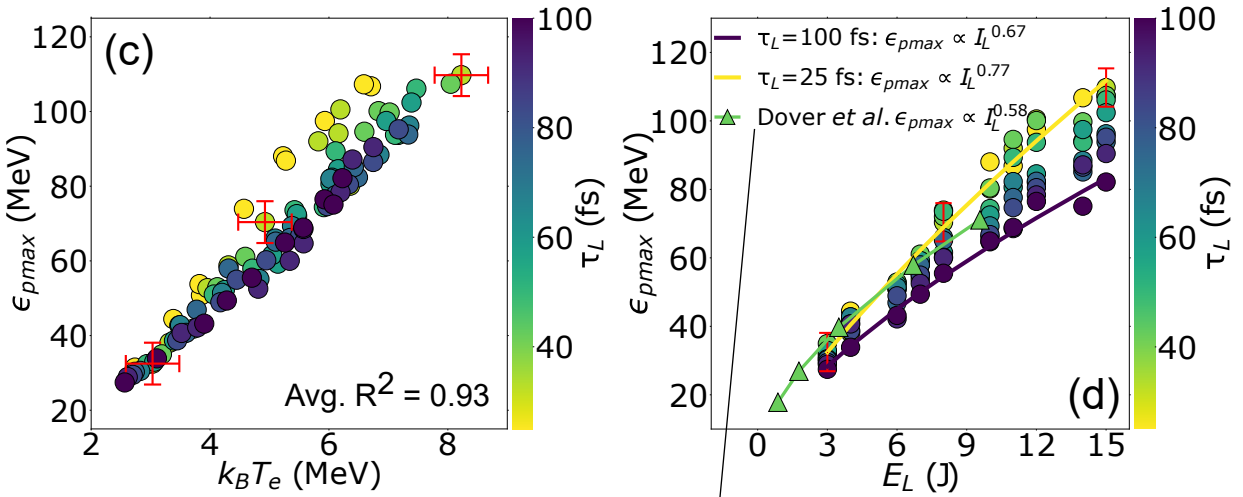
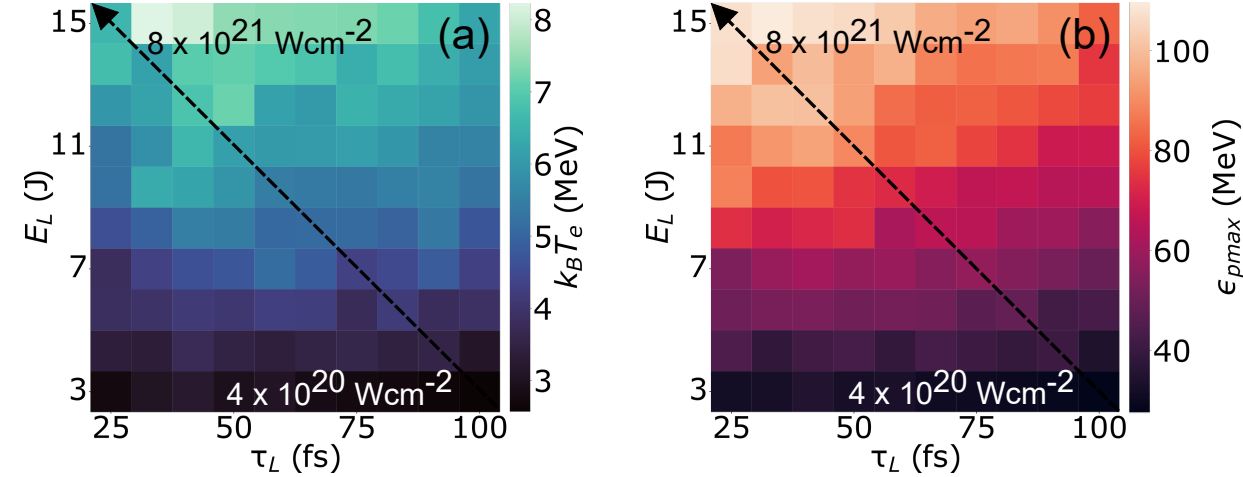
- Bishop is a platform for automatically generating PIC simulation data and applying machine learning techniques



# Conventional Optimisation using BISHOP

$$k_B T_e = mc^2 \left( \sqrt{1 + a_L^2} - 1 \right)$$

$$E_{\max} = 2k_B T_{\text{hot}} \ln^2 \left( \tau + \sqrt{1 + \tau^2} \right)$$



N. P. Dover, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124.8, 084802 (2020)

VOLUME 69, NUMBER 9      PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS      31 AUGUST 1992

**Absorption of Ultra-Intense Laser Pulses**

S. C. Wilks, W. L. Kruer, M. Tabak, and A. B. Langdon  
University of California, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, California 94550  
(Received 2 March 1992)

VOLUME 90, NUMBER 18      PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS      week ending 9 MAY 2003

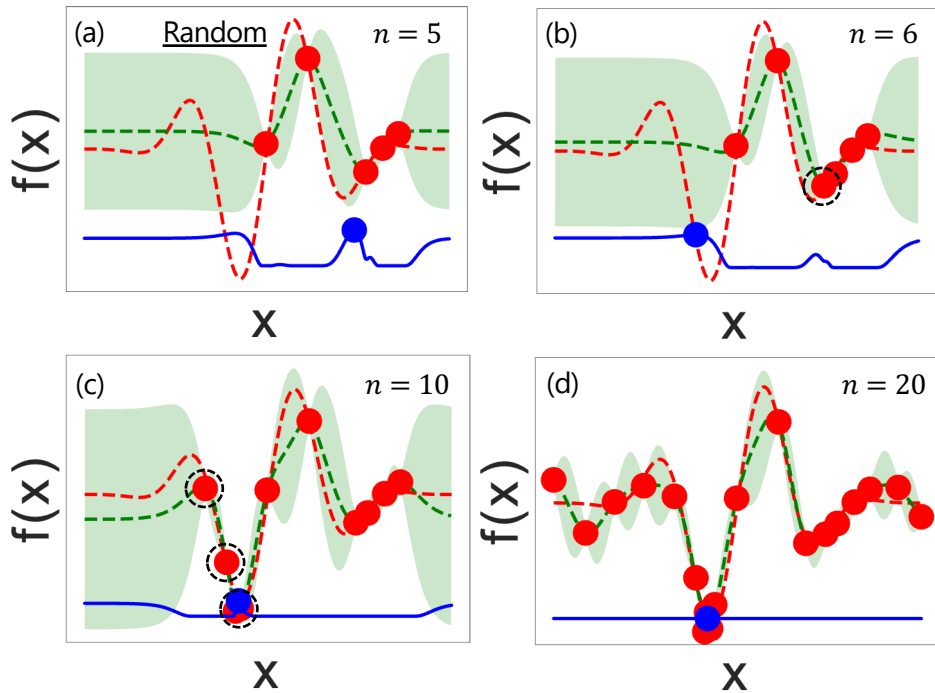
**Plasma Expansion into a Vacuum**

P. Mora  
Centre de Physique Théorique (UMR 7644 du CNRS), Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau 91128 Cedex, France  
(Received 27 September 2002; published 7 May 2003)

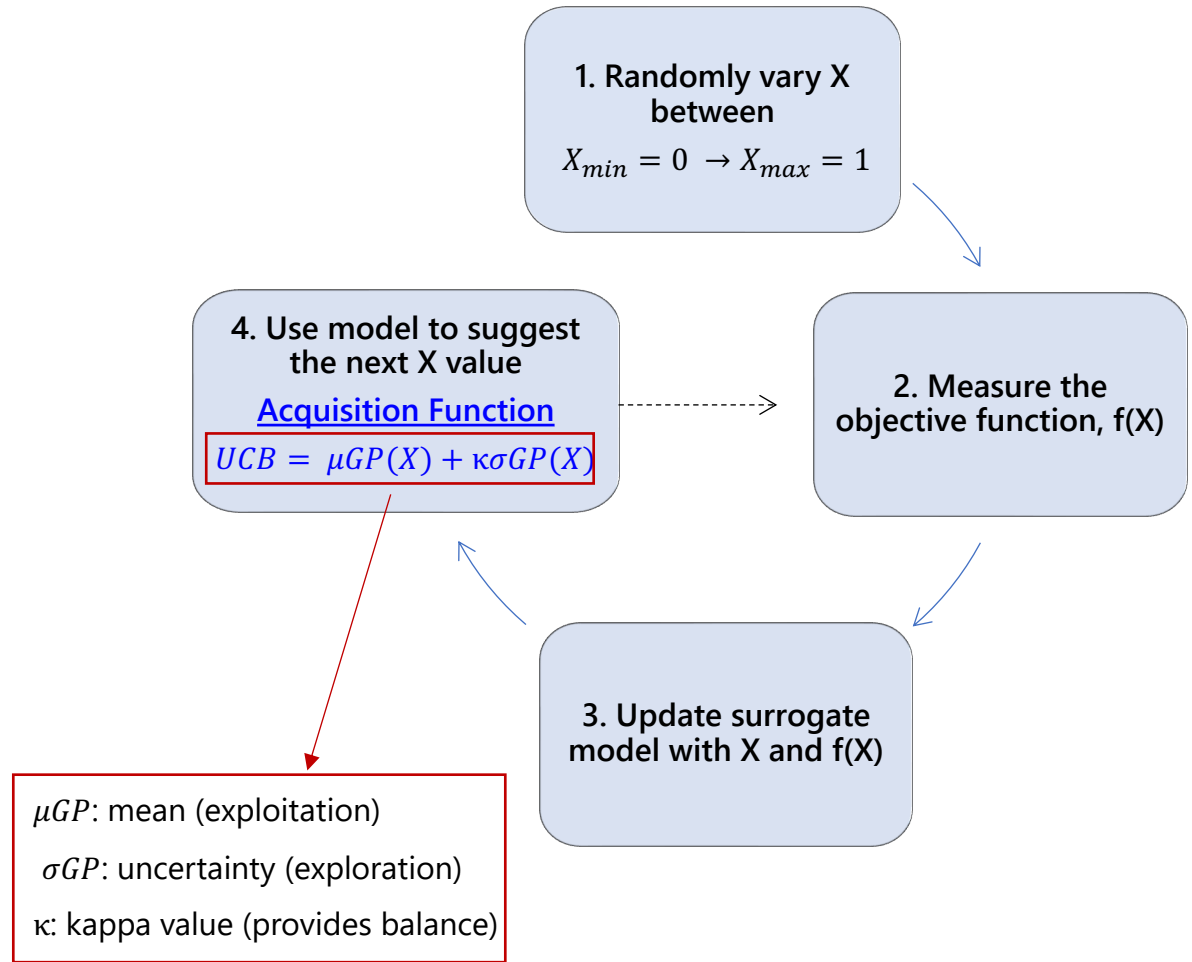
- 100 2D PIC simulations generated using BISHOP
- $\epsilon_{pmax}$  increases with electron temperature and peak laser intensity - good agreement with established models [S. Wilks 1992, P. Mora 2005]
- **Bayesian optimisation** has been used to optimise laser-plasma accelerators more efficiently!

# Bayesian Optimisation Example

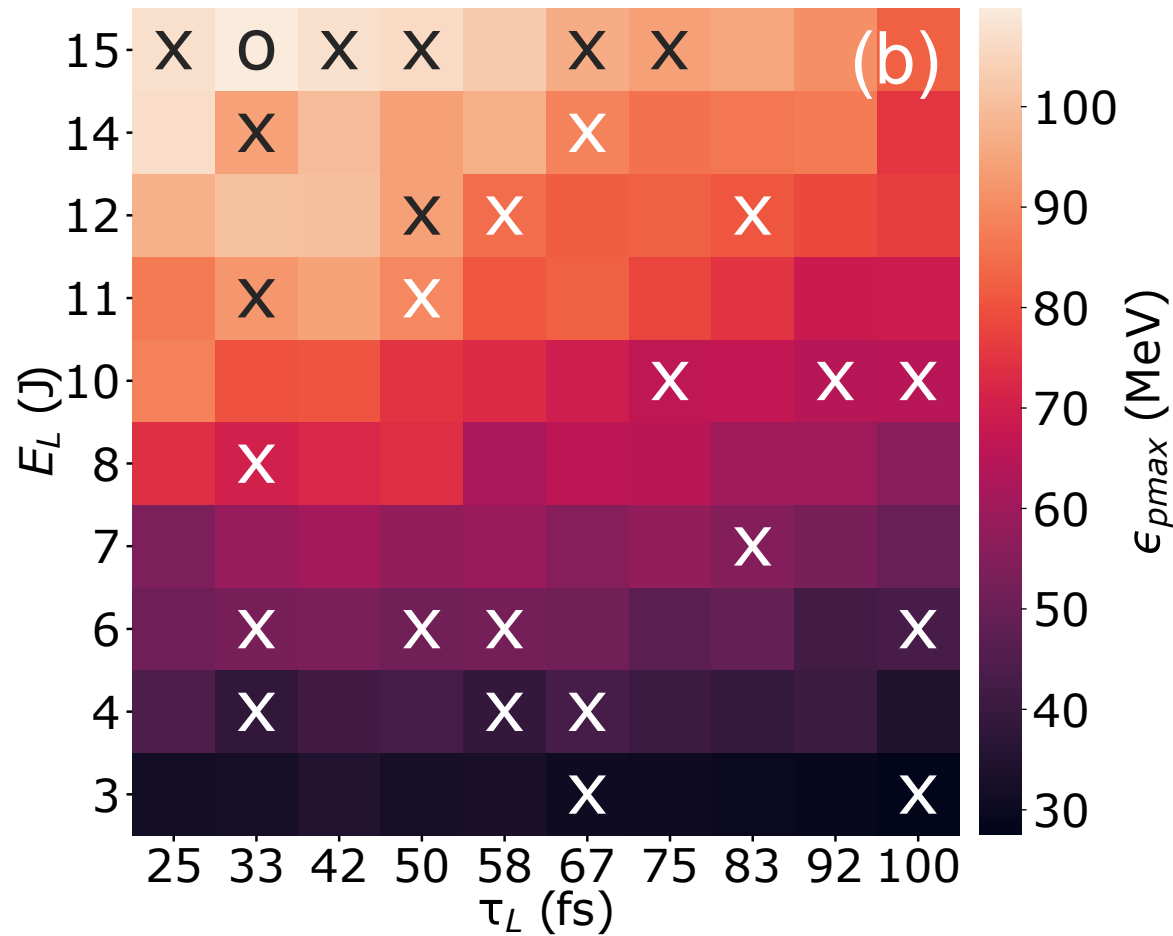
We can optimise a noisy and expensive function with **limited data!**



- Evaluations
- Acquisition function
- True Function
- Surrogate model ( $\mu_{GP}$ )
- Model uncertainty ( $\sigma_{GP}$ )

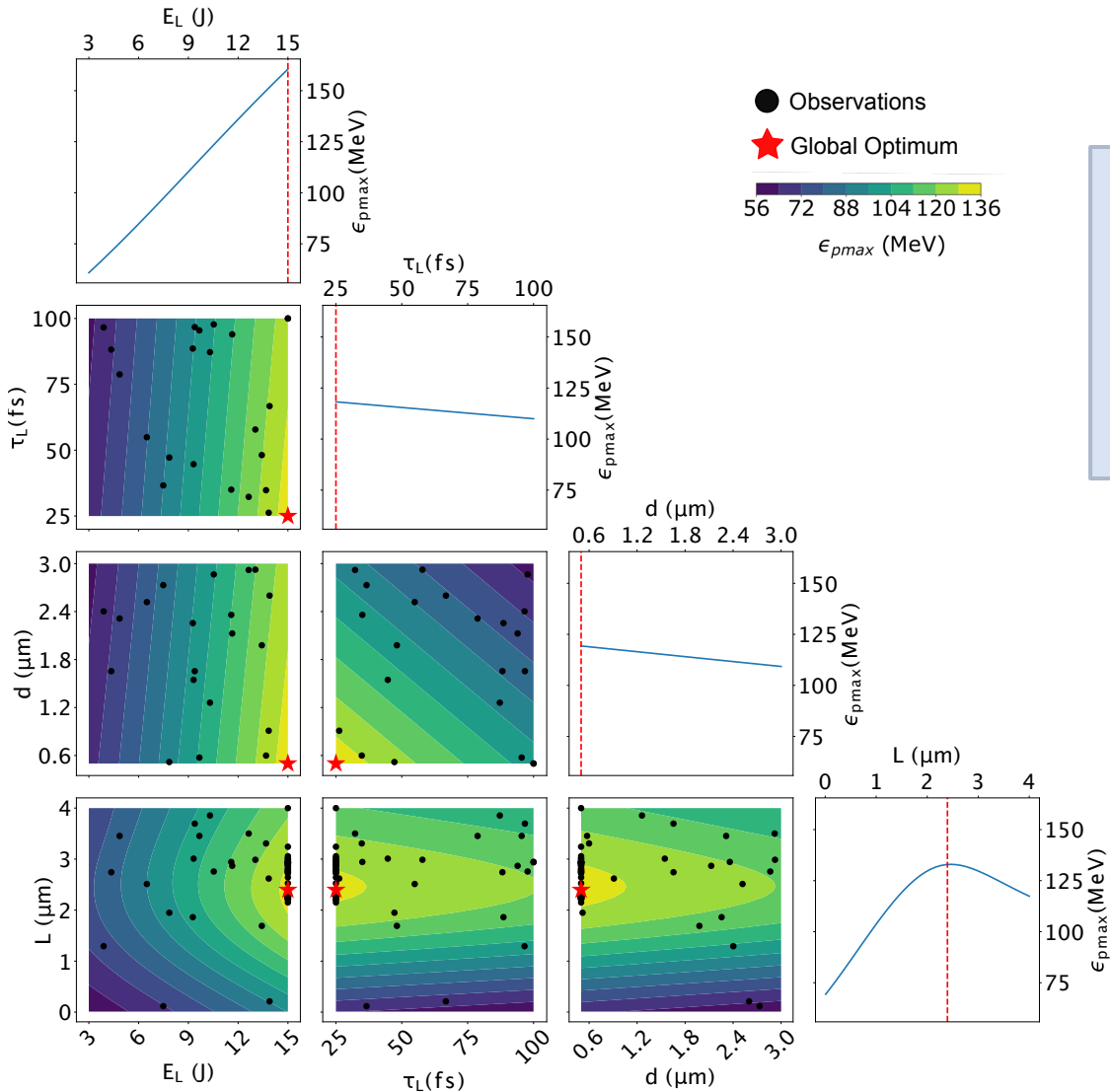


# Bayesian Optimisation using BISHOP



The optimum maximum proton energy was identified after  $\approx 23$  simulations - **4x more quickly** than by grid search for 2 input parameters

# Optimising for Laser AND Target Parameters



## Laser:

- **Intensity**
- **Energy**
- **Pulse Duration**
- Focal spot size
- Laser intensity contrast
- Polarisation

## Plasma:

- Energy conversion efficiency
- Fast electron divergence angle
- Z (scattering, resistivity)
- **Preplasma scale length**
- **Target Thickness**
- Incidence angle

Optimised TNSA maximum proton energy ( $E_{max}$ ) in **50 simulations** as a function of **4 laser-target parameters**

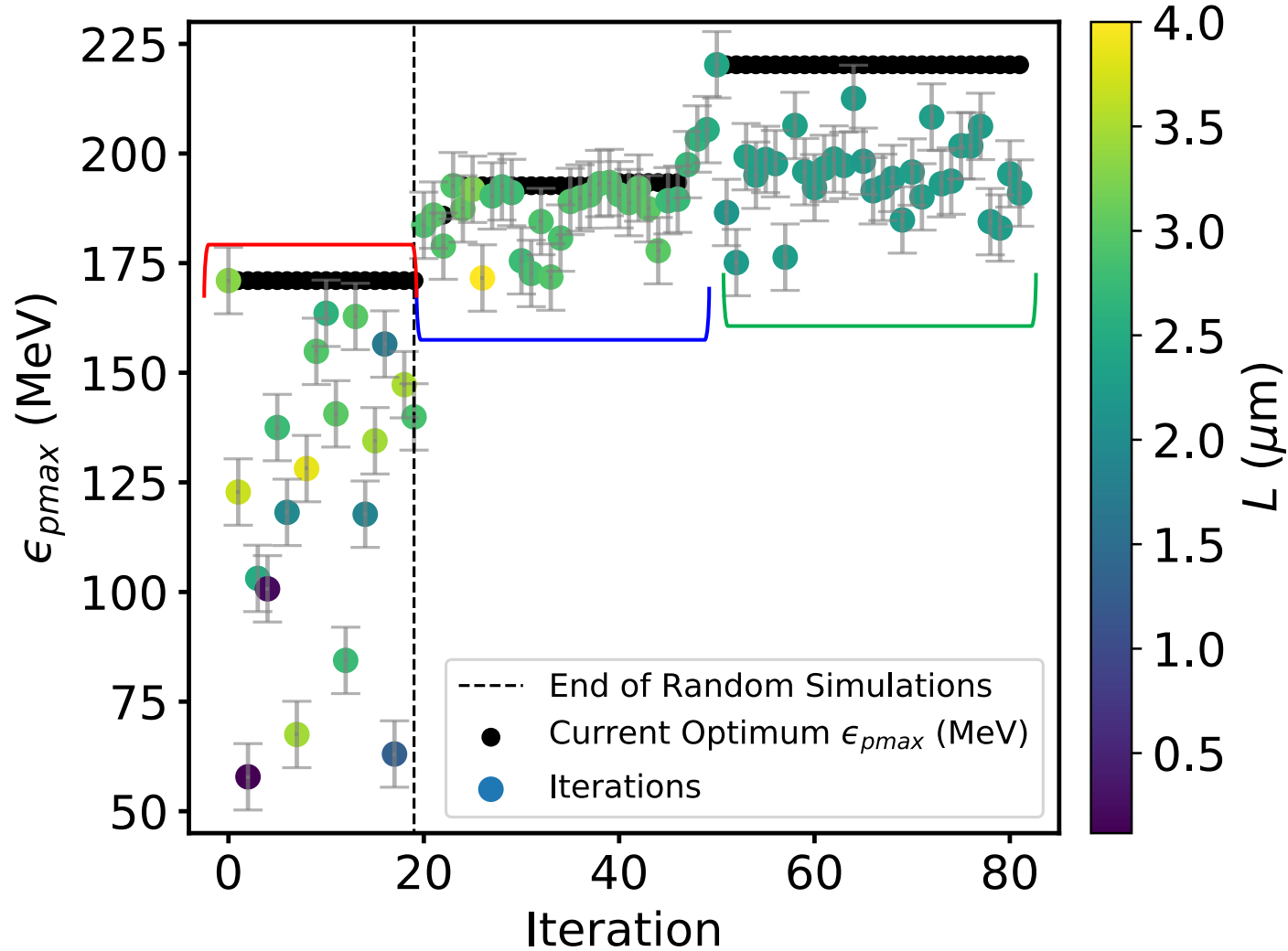
**≈ 1000 x faster than by grid search**

$E_{max} = 220$  MeV, for  $E_L = 15$  J,  $\tau_L = 25$  fs,  $t = 500$  nm,  $L = 2400$  nm

**≈ 2x increase in  $E_{max}$**  compared to varying 2 parameters



# Bayesian Optimisation Process



Inputs for each parameter are randomly varied to initialise the model

Model is created and is confident that optimal conditions for laser energy, pulse duration and target thickness have been found  
Model focuses on varying scale length from  $\sim L = 2.7 \mu\text{m} - L = 4.0 \mu\text{m}$

Model focuses on varying scale length from  $\sim L = 2.1 \mu\text{m} - L = 2.4 \mu\text{m}$

# Key Results of Proton Optimisation Work

- **BISHOP platform** generates a large dataset of expensive PIC simulations with minimal user input – significantly speeding up the process
- Using Bayesian optimisation, we identify an optimum configuration for a TNSA driven proton source **4x more quickly**, and using **4x less resource** compared to conventional grid search
- Optimised laser-driven ion acceleration as a function of 4 input laser-target parameters  $\approx$  **1000x more quickly** compared to conventional grid search resulting in a **2x** improvement in maximum proton energy
- Identified **non-trivial optimum condition** for front surface density scale length

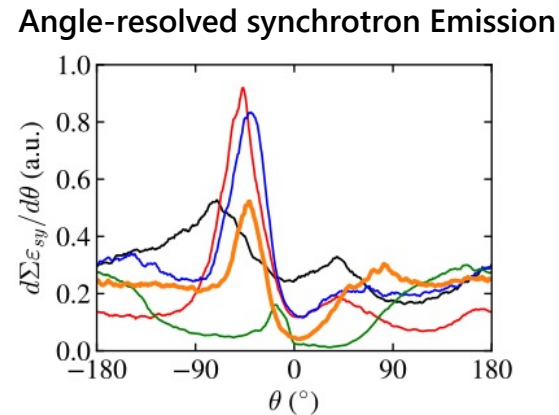
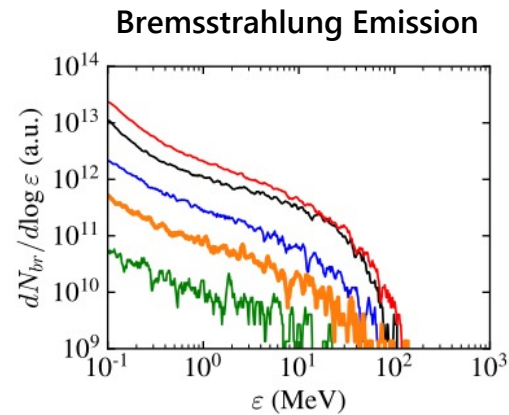
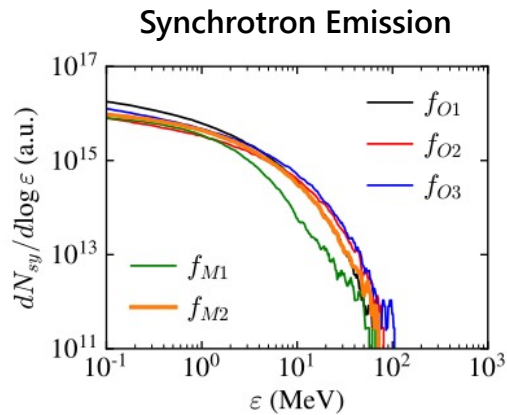
## Published Manuscript

Multi-parameter Bayesian optimisation of laser-driven ion acceleration in particle-in-cell simulations

E. J. Dolier et al 2022 New J. Phys. 24 073025

# What Next?

- Applying Bayesian optimisation to a more complex regime with more input parameters – **synchrotron emission!**



## Published Manuscript

Goodman, J., et. al, 2023. Optimisation and control of synchrotron emission in ultraintense laser-solid interactions using machine learning. HPLSE, pp.1-17.

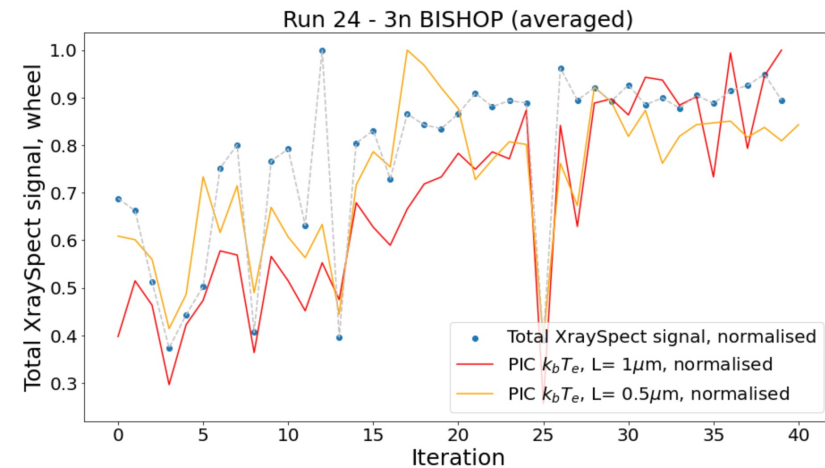
- Using BISHOP, Bayesian optimisation and LPI-Py to guide experiments - **ongoing analysis of two experiments and more scheduled soon!**

See Poster by Maia Peat from Thursday

Simulation guided Bayesian optimisation of fast electron temperature in laser-solid interactions

See Talk by Matthew Alderton from Thursday

Commissioning experiment on laser-driven proton acceleration on SCAPA



# Acknowledgements



I would like to acknowledge my PhD supervisors Prof. Paul McKenna and Dr. Ross Gray, as well as the wider Strathclyde group, all of whom were instrumental in the research presented.

# Thank you for your time!

# Any Questions?



University of  
**Strathclyde**  
**Glasgow**