# Combining ML+MINLP for the Algorithm Configuration Problem

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- Configure a given algorithm via **machine learning** and **mathematical optimization** (lommazzo (2021), lommazzo et al. (2020a, 2020b)).
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- Hp. the performance p of algorithm A depends on the specific instance (from easy to hard to solve, based on how A is configured).

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**Instance features** : vector  $\pi \in \Pi$ .

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We aim at solving:

 $\min_{\boldsymbol{c}\in C_{A}}\bar{\boldsymbol{p}}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\pi}},\boldsymbol{c})\,,$ 

where  $\tilde{\pi}$  is given and  $\bar{p}$  is an approximation of an algorithm performance function  $p(\pi, c)$ .

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#### Hybridizing ML and MINLP methods



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#### Using ML+MINLP to "optimally" configure algorithms



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#### MINLP phase: the Configuration Space Search Problem

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- instance features  $\pi$
- machine learning paradigm to learn the approximation function  $\bar{p}(\pi, c)$  from historical data (Support Vector Regression (SVR)/Decision Trees/Logistic Regression)
- Given a new problem instance  $\tilde{\pi},$  the corresponding CSSP is solved

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For SVR, the CSSP is:

$$\min_{\bar{c}\in C_{\mathcal{A}}}\sum_{i\in S}\alpha_{i}\exp^{-\gamma\|(\pi_{i},c_{i})-(\tilde{\pi},\bar{c})\|_{2}^{2}},$$

where *S*: training set indices;  $\pi_i$ ,  $c_i$  are input data;  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\gamma$  are found by training.

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# Formulate and solve the MINLP model above in AMPL. Which solver to use? An instance is available online.