

1 **===Reviewer 1===**

2 *The execution time for inference is not provided in the paper. It might be a problem in cases like web marketing, where*
3 *the agents must make decisions in millisecond order. Median inference time to select an action is between 5 to 8 ms*
4 *across all datasets in terms of the wall-clock time, and does not change as more examples are seen. This compares*
5 *favourably versus other methods such as LINFULLPOST, whose action selection gets slower as more data is observed.*
6 *We will state this in the next revision.*

7 *The advantage of the proposed algorithm is clear for the discrete tasks but not for continuous tasks. The published GLN*
8 *formulation is specifically for Bernoulli modelling. We propose tree-based discretization as a method of adapting GLCB*
9 *to continuous rewards. The results are competitive with SOTA so we have elected to include them for completeness.*

10 *I think the authors used seven datasets out of the eight datasets described in the paper [7]. The only one not used from*
11 *the paper is "mushroom." Why is it excluded? The Mushroom dataset was the first dataset that we tried, and we obtain*
12 *SOTA performance. We later dropped the results for clarity of exposition because the dataset fits neither a classification*
13 *nor regression formulation out of the box, i.e. the correct decision must be based on expected utility computation.*

14 *[...] the synthesized dataset "wheel" seems to have a parameter δ . What is the value of δ ? We used $\delta = 0.95$, which*
15 *was the default at the time in the Deep Bayesian Bandits library. We now note this.*

16 **===Reviewer 2===**

17 *[...] in the appendix there is no explicit literature reference for the CTREE algorithm. CTREE is our own simple very*
18 *method of tree-based discretization, and is defined in Algorithm 3. We will better explain this in the revision.*

19 *We will also expand our Broader Impact section as requested.*

20 **===Reviewer 3===**

21 *The rationale for why utilizing such a scheme for "Pseudocounts for GLNs" is not clearly explained. Pseudocounts*
22 *have a strong track record for driving exploration in reinforcement learning (eg, [12]). Density estimation is typically*
23 *utilized to compute pseudocounts, which is computationally expensive. By using the structural property of GLN gating*
24 *we are able to approximate with essentially zero computational overhead. Moreover, our pseudocount proposal is*
25 *closely related to "half-space depth" and "half-space mass", which are statistical notions used within outlier detection*
26 *to avoid density estimation. One can interpret our exploration bonus to be proportional to how much of an outlier a*
27 *given context is using the existing GLN gating mechanisms.*

28 *The rationale for utilizing the proposed "Pseudocounts for GLNs". Why do you use such an aggregation scheme? Are*
29 *there any other alternatives? We experimented with different aggregation schemes such as mean, median, and min. We*
30 *discuss the "soft-min" aggregation in the paper because it has both strong empirical results and theoretical guarantees.*

31 *[...] the data size is very small as you only report experimental results till 5000. I wonder if the advantage of your*
32 *proposed method can keep when the data size increases? We chose a sample size of 5k (with 500 seeds) to allow for*
33 *fair evaluation across all baseline algorithms, some of which scale super-linearly in the data size (GLCB incurs constant*
34 *cost). We did manage to run our experiments for 10-fold the number of steps (with fewer seeds), and found that our*
35 *GLCB remains the best neural algorithm. We were unable to run full Bayesian Linear Regression (LINFULLPOST)*
36 *within the rebuttal timeframe (it requires inverting matrices that grow with the amount of observed data), so it is possible*
37 *that this might outperform GLCB despite being prohibitively difficult to scale.*

38 **===Reviewer 4===**

39 *We agree that our discussion of should be expanded and aim to do so using the additional page for accepted papers.*

40 *[I]t is not clear if the grid search over hyperparameters for GLCB is leaking information about the test set. Our*
41 *experimental setup followed the guidelines set out in the cited Deep Bayesian Bandit Showdown paper, which is an*
42 *established benchmark focusing on online performance given a single stream of data. For each competitor we tried both*
43 *their previously published hyperparameters as well as performing our own sweeps to ensure the fairest comparison.*

44 *Furthermore, there is no idea of the sensitivity of GLCB to hyperparameter choices (i.e., what if tuning is not done?).*
45 *Our model is robust to hyperparameter choices in our experience. This is supported by our experimental results, where*
46 *we use a shared set of hyperparameters for all binary tasks and all continuous tasks, despite large differences in the*
47 *shape and distribution of the datasets.*

48 *[D]oes GLCB do better on regression tasks if the (scaled and shifted) reward is randomly rounded to a Bernoulli*
49 *to induce a classification problem? Thanks for the interesting suggestion. We ran this experiment by binarizing the*
50 *"financial" dataset, where the best action has value 1 and the rest have 0, and GLCB does indeed perform better in this*
51 *setting. We will follow up on this.*