



# Dynamic Disruption Simulation in Large-Scale Urban Rail Transit Systems

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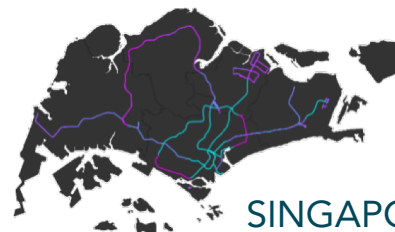
CSD&M 2019, Paris

# Mass Transport in Megacities



## NEW YORK CITY

- Population: 8.5M (2016)
- Daily Ridership: 5.6M (2016)



## SINGAPORE

- Population: 5.6M (2016)
- Daily Ridership: 3.1M (2016)

## Objectives

- Understand the effects of (unseen) **disruptions** on system operations and passenger flow
- Aid decision making: **planning** and **design** of **resilient** mass transport systems



# Understand, Plan & Design Resilient Mass Transport Systems

- A real-world system model of an urban rail mass transport system
  - Train operations based on real-world schedules
  - Dynamic passenger assignment
  - Disruption generator that can mimic real-world scenarios

## ➤ Agent-based, Discrete Event Simulation

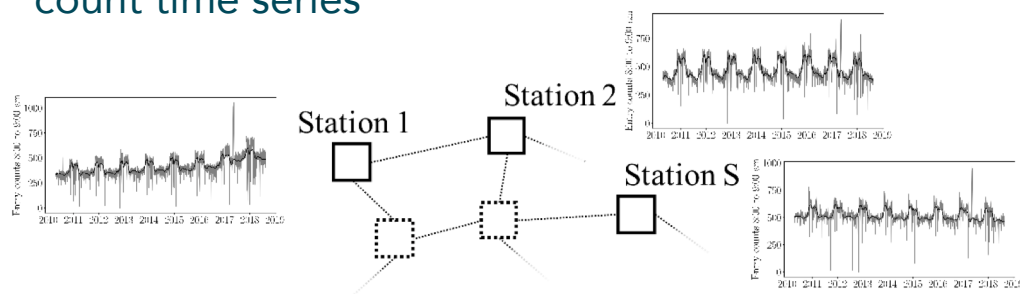
- Necessary to have appropriate data sources
- System Uncertainties are ubiquitous
  - (Aleatory) Variability of real-world system
  - (Epistemic) Uncertainty about modelling error and propagation of measurement uncertainty into parameter estimation

## ➤ Parameter inference models



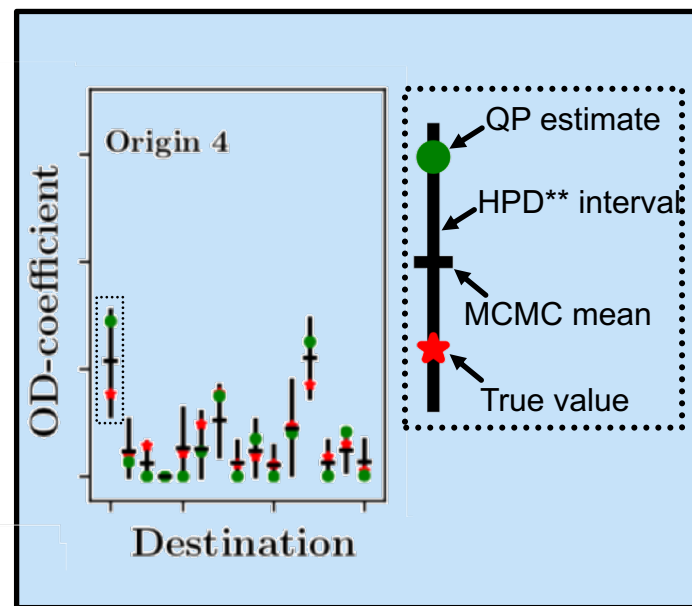
# Probabilistic estimates of passenger trip distribution parameters

- Origin-Destination estimation from station in- and outflow count time series



- Desired result: OD-split coefficient estimates for the proportions of passenger trips between every OD-pair
- Problem: Quadratic increase in the number of inferred parameters with increase in the number of station

➤ Markov-Chain Monte Carlo Sampling (No U-Turn Sampler)\*



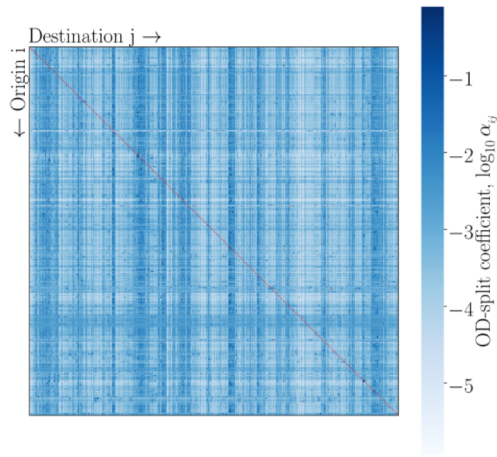
\*Carpenter, et al., Stan: A probabilistic programming language. *Journal of Statistical Software* 76(1), 2017

\*\* Highest Posterior Density

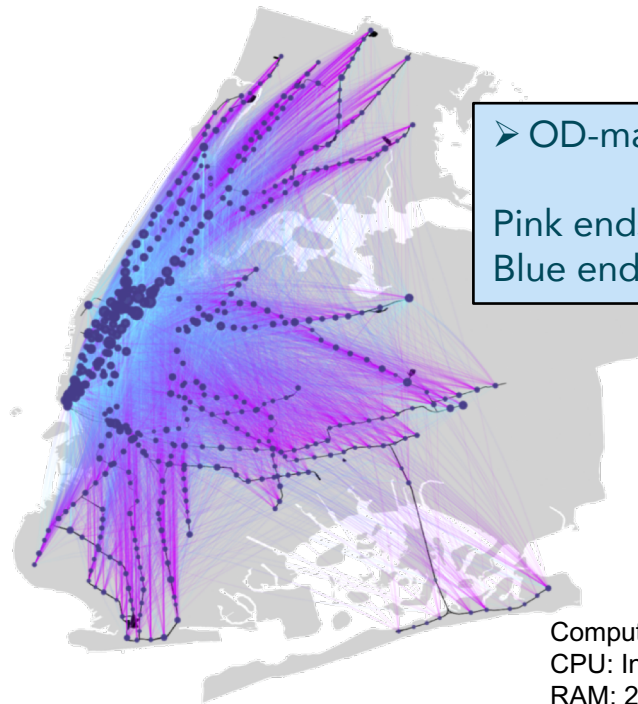


# Probabilistic estimates of passenger trip distribution parameters

- Station-level turnstile counts in the NYC subway network\*
- NYC subway system: 471 stations, ~1000 records, ~**220,000 parameters**



- MCMC OD-coefficient mean estimates for the 7:00 – 9:00 am morning rush-hour window



- OD-matrix map representation

Pink ends: Origins  
Blue ends: Destinations

Compute time: ~5 days  
CPU: Intel(R) Xeon(R) E5-2699 v3, 2.30GHz  
RAM: 200 GB

# Modelling disruptions – A real-world scenario

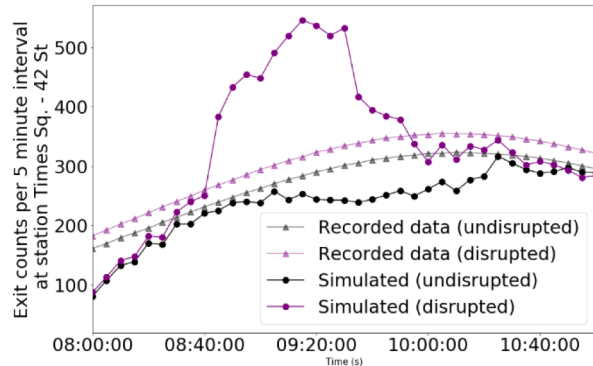
B D N Q R

Service Change

Posted: 05/09/2017 8:45 AM

Source: <https://twitter.com/NYCTSubway>

- Train capacity empty full
- Station platform occupancy (relative w.r.t. undisrupted condition) -15x 15x



## Simulation results

- Assumes disruption lasts from 8:30 until 9:30 AM
- Passengers freely choose new itineraries



Compute time: ~4 hrs  
CPU: Intel(R) Xeon(R) E5-2699 v3, 2.30GHz  
RAM: 200 GB

# Mitigating Disruptions – Optimization under Uncertainty

## ■ Test

- Passenger behavior changes
- Different controller behavior

## ■ Optimize

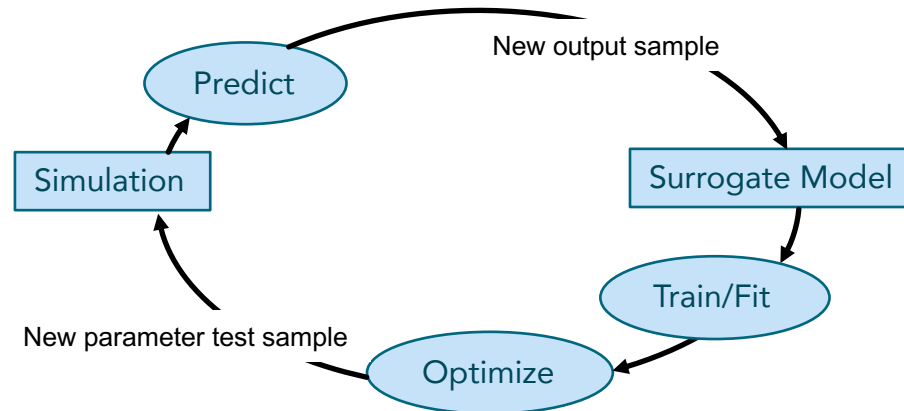
- Operational recovery actions

## ■ While subject to

- Variable passenger demand

## ■ Bayesian Optimization with Gaussian Processes

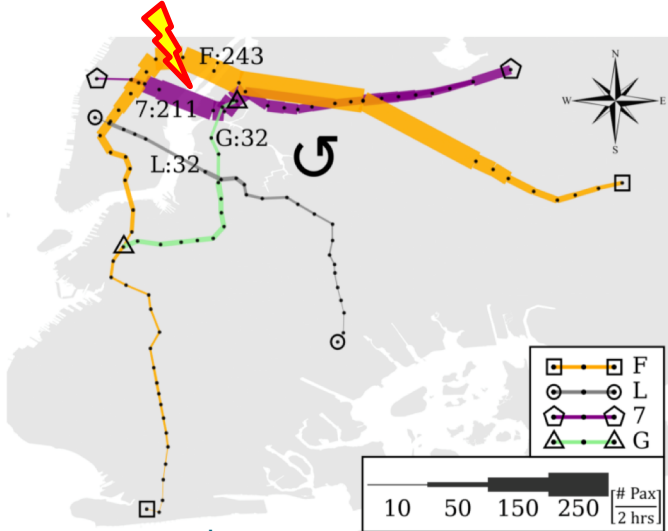
- **Iterative** updating of the Gaussian Process surrogate model with simulation output
- Surrogate model optimization based on acquisition function
- Acquisition function: **Expected Improvement**



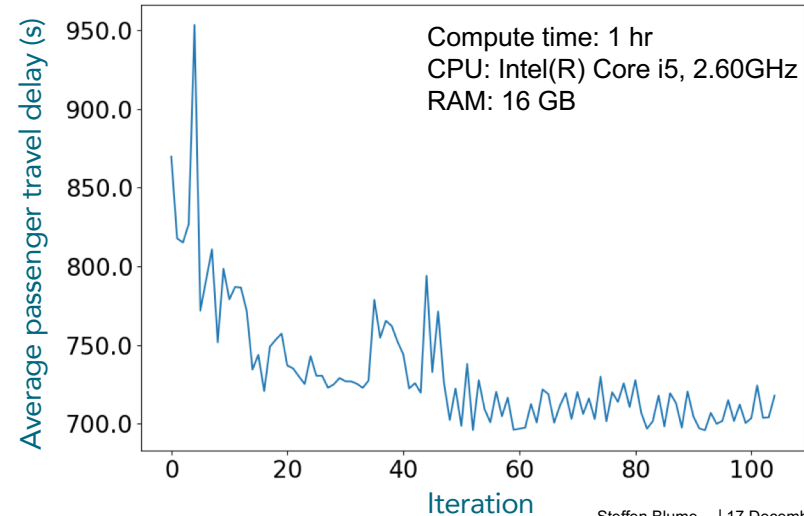
# Mitigating Disruptions – Optimization under Uncertainty

## ➤ Simulation optimization of train dispatch schedule during disruptions

- Preliminary experiments on a test network with an arbitrary disruption
- Optimization objective: Minimize average passenger travel delay
- Control parameters (total: 8): Train dispatch timings, Duration of schedule adjustment



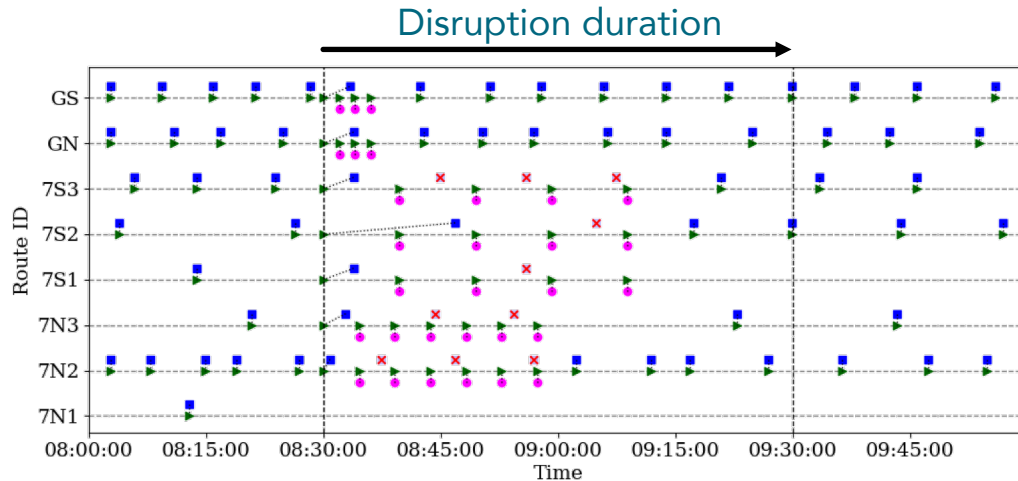
Test network



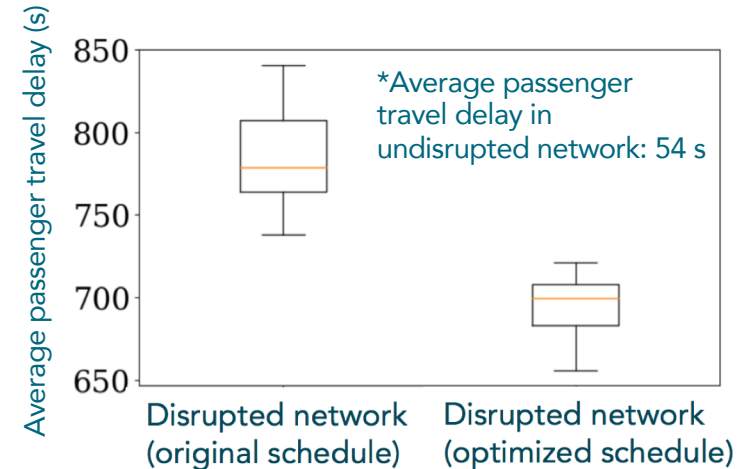
# Mitigating Disruptions – Optimization under Uncertainty

## ➤ Rescheduled train dispatch on routes not affected by disruption

- Rescheduling results in: Additional train injections, Dispatch time changes, Headway adjustments
- Average passenger travel delay overall reduces even under variable passenger demand



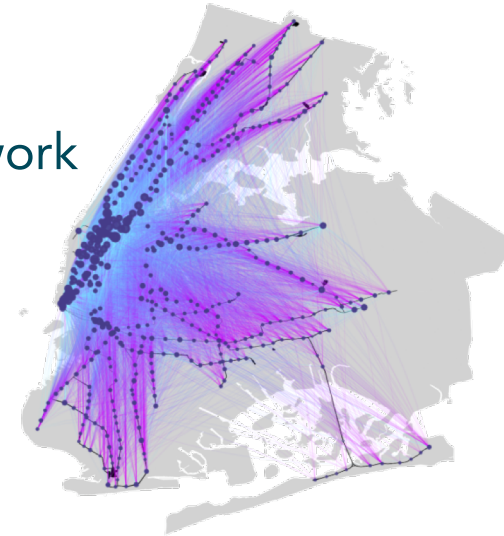
The optimized schedule





# Recap and Outlook

- Explicitly incorporated system uncertainties into model parameter estimates
- Agent-based, discrete-event simulation of subway network disruptions
- Optimized system schedules for improved disruption recovery
- Future work:
  - Test flexible operational schedule adjustment strategies
  - Test new system layouts
  - Test various disruption scenarios



THANK YOU !