

# Data Science Practice: Shenzhen Metro System Optimization

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# Motivation & Background



- Shenzhen's **metro system** faces significant challenges **during peak hours**, including **overcrowding and long waiting times**.
- **Line 5** is the main line running east to west, with a daily passenger volume of **1.0262 million**, making it the busiest metro line in Shenzhen.
- **Optimization approach:** Through algorithm optimization, certain trains will be designated to **skip specific stations during peak hours** to reduce overall commuting time across the network.

## 01 EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

Data introduction and visualization.

## 02 ALGORITHM DESIGN

Greedy algorithm and local search.

## 03 EXPERIMENT

Experiment conduction and results.

## 04 CONCLUSION

Strategy in real life and further dissemination.

# CATALOGUE

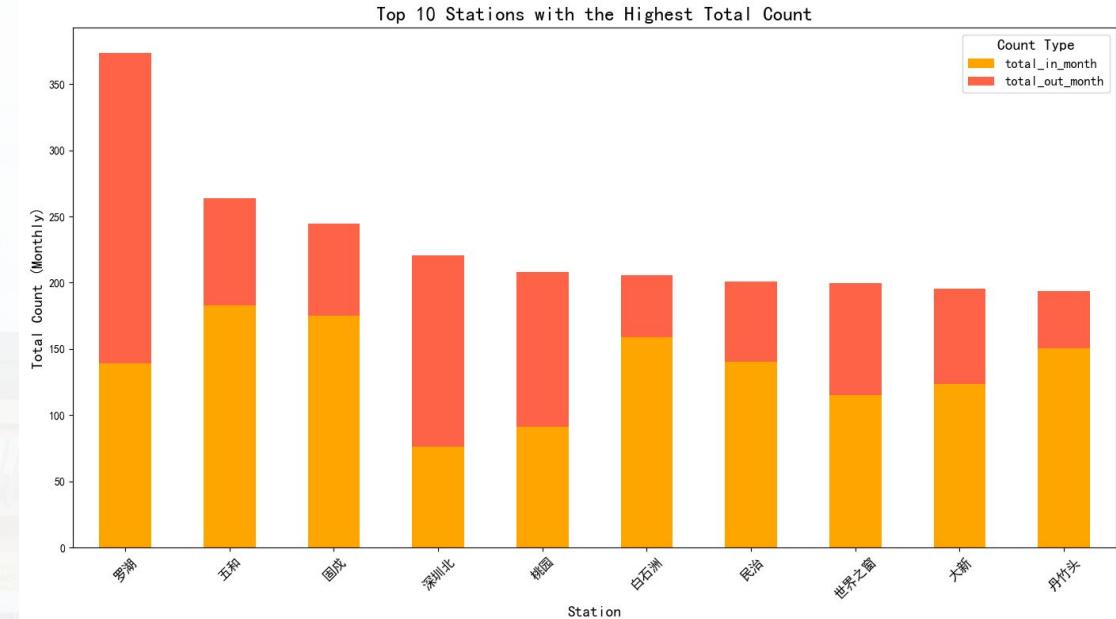
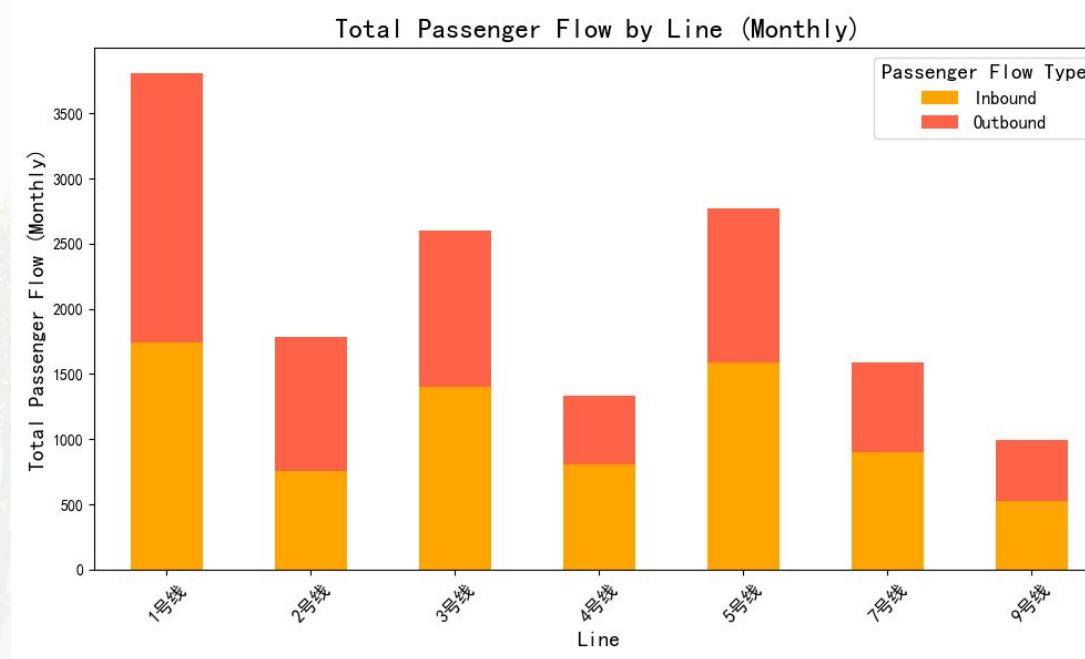


01

# EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

Data introduction and visualization.

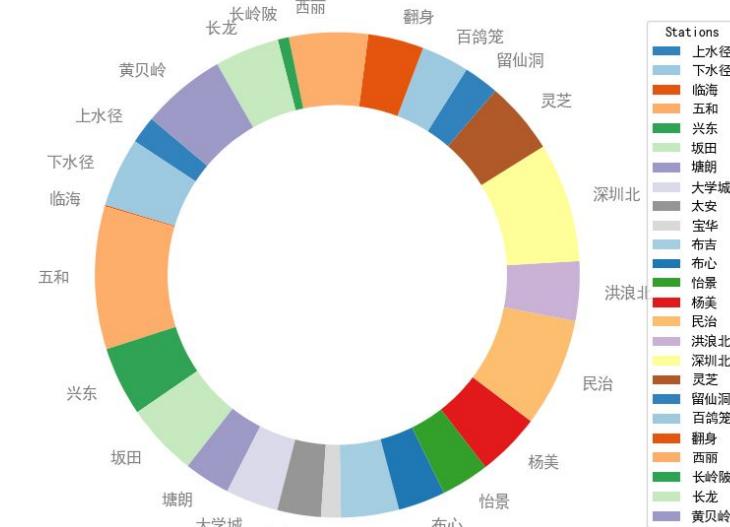
# Passengers flow of different stations & lines are different



- Total passenger flow ranking for different lines: line 1 > line 5 > line 3
- Total passenger flow ranking for different stations: Luohu > Wuhe > Gushu



Passenger Flow Distribution for Line 5



- Shenzhen Metro Line 5 follows an M-shaped route from southeast to northwest to southwest with a total length of 47.393 kilometers and 34 stations.
- The three busiest stations on Line 5 are: Wuhe, Shenzhenbei Station, and Minzhi Station.

02

# ALGORITHM DESIGN

Greedy algorithm and local search.

# Model Assumptions

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- The time saved remains constant for each station if a station is skipped.
- The distance between each neighboring station is constant.
- Subway crashes are not considered since we are optimizing scenarios with two subway railroads.
- There is a fixed capacity for each subway. This allows us to discuss situations where too many people are entering the subway.

# Problem Formulation

parameters	pure simulated	Shenzhen data
station_interval	2	1.5
skipped_saved	1.5	1.2
station_N	20	25
train_N	28	27
passengers_max	110	75
N	20,000	10,000

Table 1: parameter table

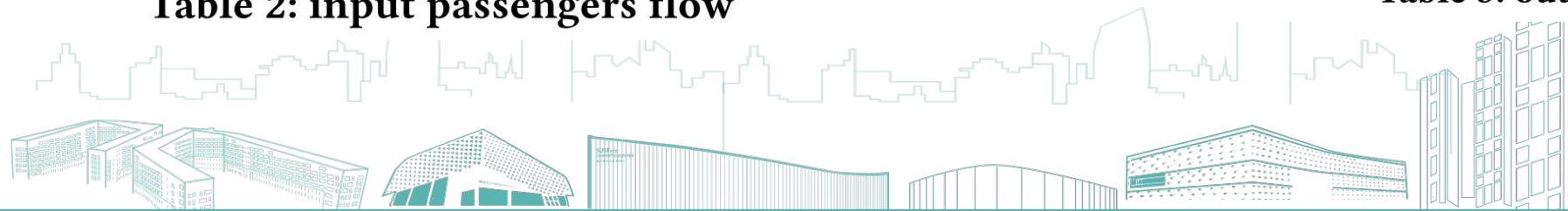
ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152

Table 2: input passengers flow



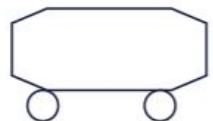
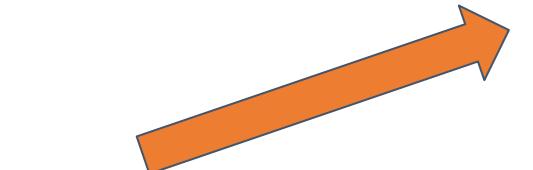
station_0	station_1	station_2	...	2*station_N
0	1	1	...	1
1	0	1	...	1
1	0	1	...	0
...	...	...	...	...
1	1	0	...	1

Table 3: output subway schedule



# Greedy Algorithm

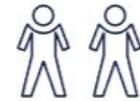
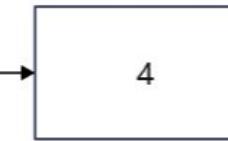
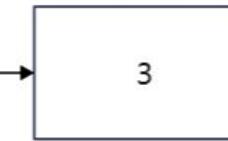
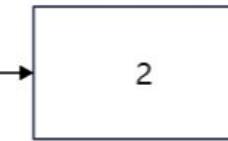
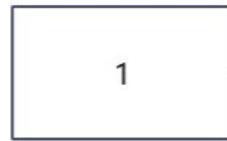
Skip?



Stop ✓

ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152

ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152



Initial Stage

stop

stop

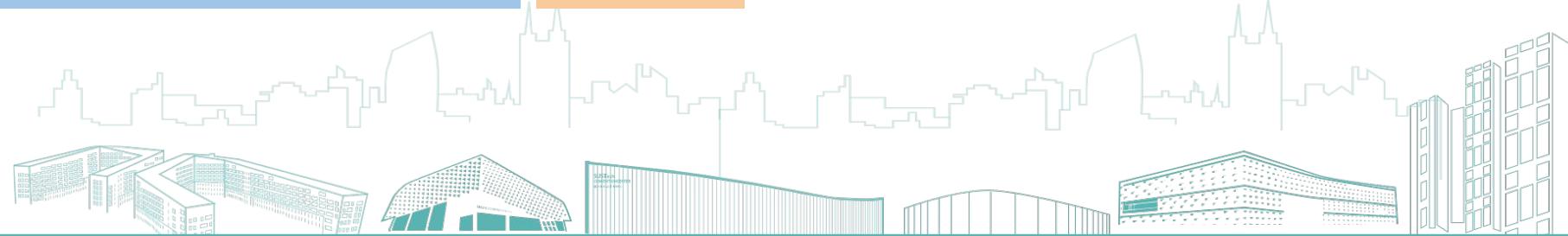
stop

stop

stop

Improved Stage...

stop



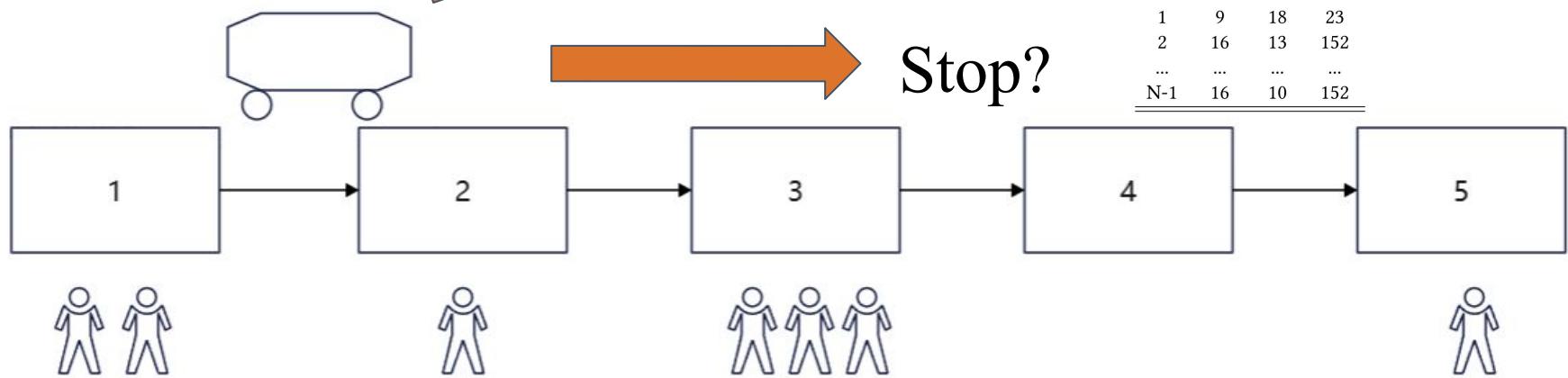
# Greedy Algorithm

Keep asking the stop or skip question...

Skip ✓

ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152

ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152



Initial Stage

stop

stop

stop

stop

stop

Improved Stage..

stop

skip

Improved Stage

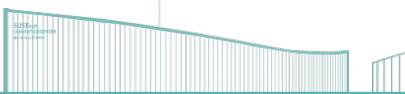
stop

skip

stop

skip

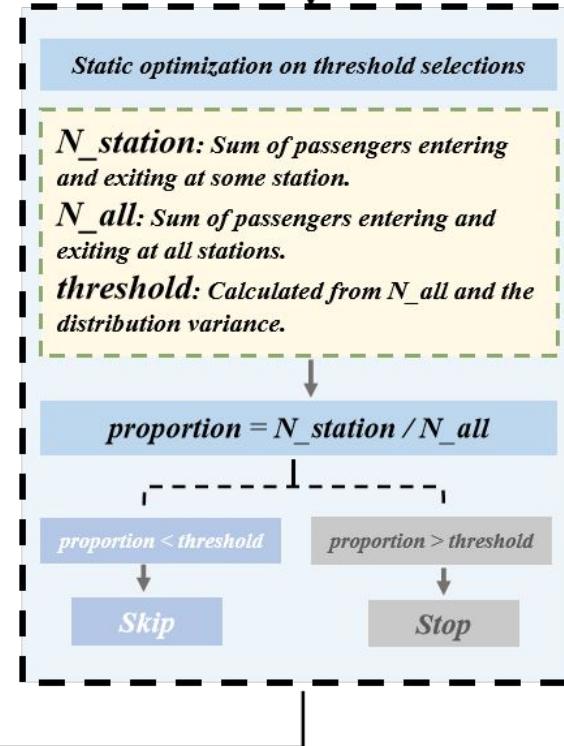
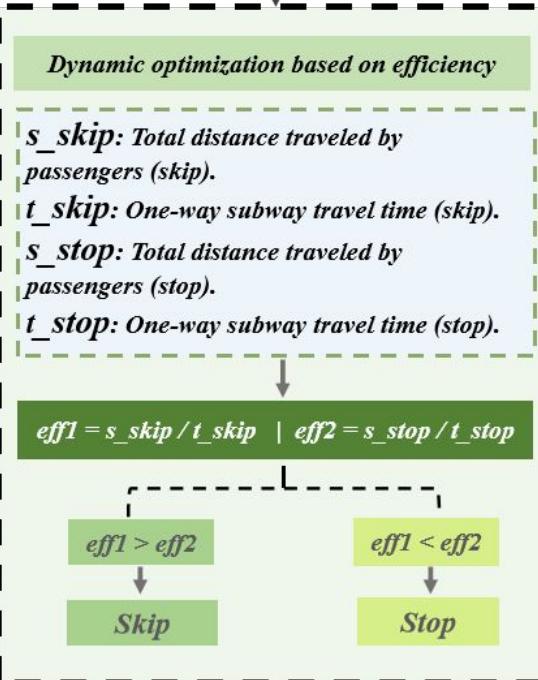
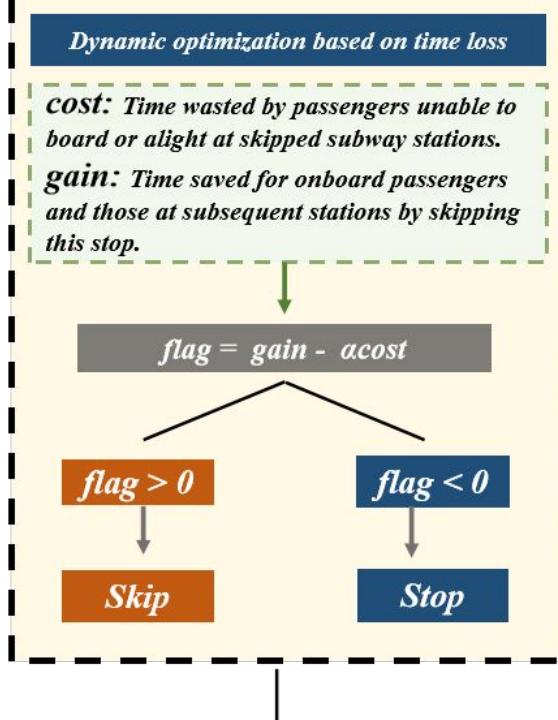
stop



# Greedy Algorithm

Idea: Designing subway skip-stop operational strategies to address rush hour congestion.

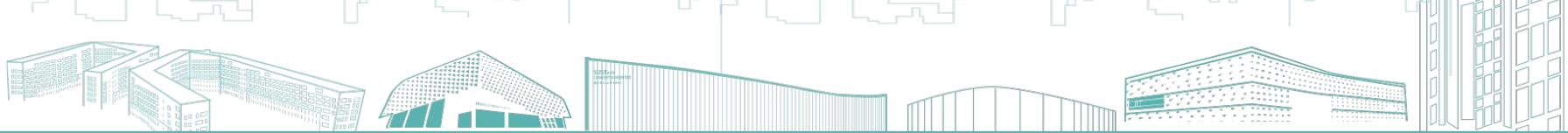
*Algorithm for deciding whether to skip the subway station*



ID	start	end	time
0	2	7	110
1	9	18	23
2	16	13	152
...	...	...	...
N-1	16	10	152

Table 2: input passengers flow

**Output:** Consolidate schedule output from three algorithms into a dataframe respectively.

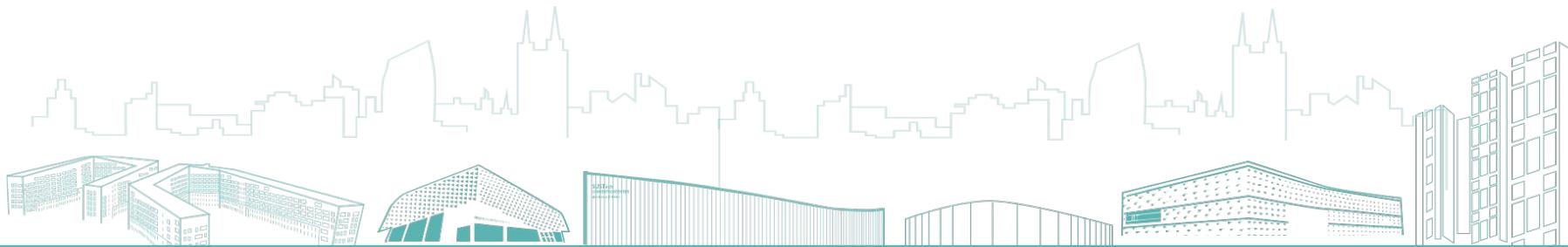


# Implementation of Local Search

- **Optimization Objective:** Minimize total passenger commuting time.
- **Process:**
  - Evaluate neighbors of the current schedule.
  - If a better neighbor is found, update the current schedule.
  - If not, retain the current schedule.
- **Neighbors Definition:** Based on Hamming distance of the schedule matrix.
- Maximal neighbourhood distance set to 3.

station_0	station_1	station_2	...	2*station_N
0	1	1	...	1
1	0	1	...	1
1	0	1	...	0
...	...	...	...	...
1	1	0	...	1

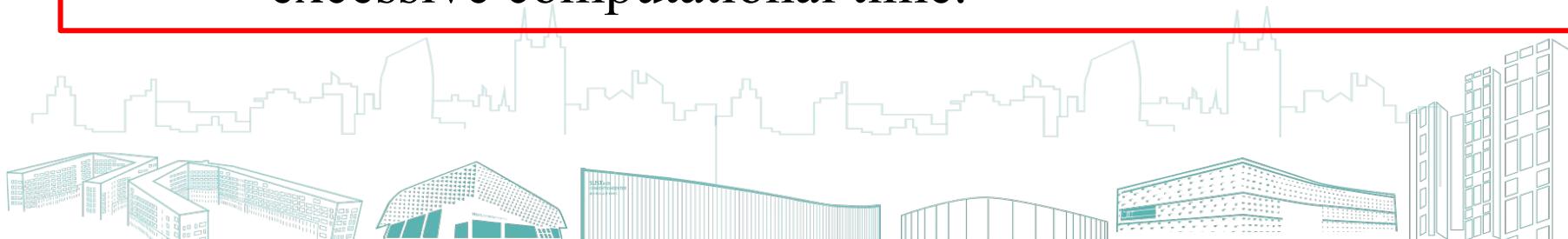
Table 3: output subway schedule



# Local Search

## Why Local Search?

- **Complexity of Advanced Methods:** Other algorithms require extensive computation.
  - Example: Calculating total waiting time for 100,000 passengers takes ~2.5 minutes.
  - Running 1000 iterations could take 41.7 hours.
- **Computational Constraints:** The schedule matrix for the morning peak contains over 2,500 elements.
  - 1,000 iterations are not enough to reach global optimal
- **Efficiency of Local Search:**
  - Local Search provides a relative good feasible solution without excessive computational time.



03

# EXPERIMENT

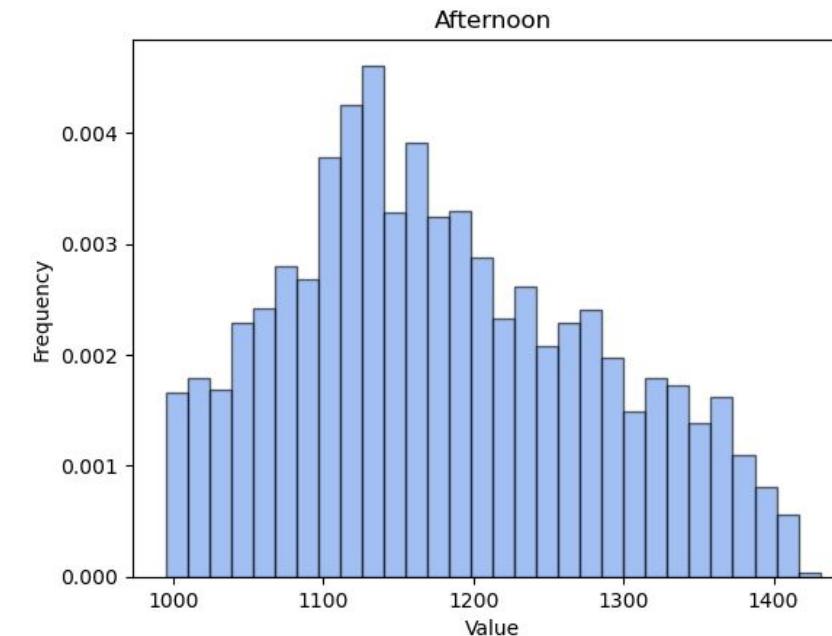
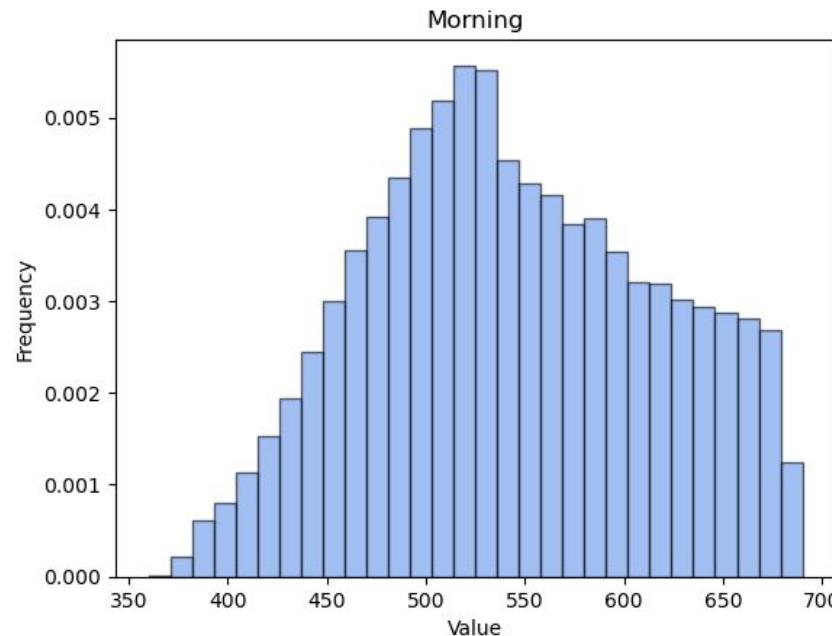
Experiment conduction and results.

# Experiment

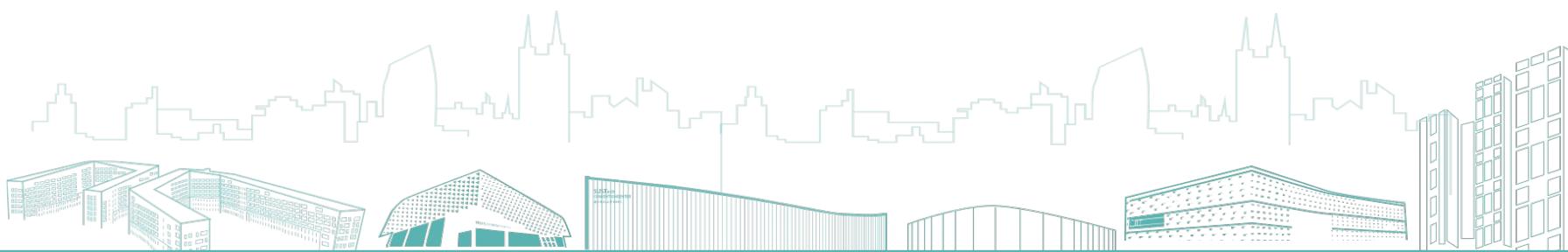
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- **Simulated Data Generation**
  - Based on Real Data
  - Probability Generating Data
- **Experiment Results and Performance Comparison**
  - Commuting Time Distribution
  - Local Search (searching for optimal)
  - Analysis of Commuting Time Improvement
  - Algorithms' Feature Analysis
  - Algorithm Sensitivity Analysis

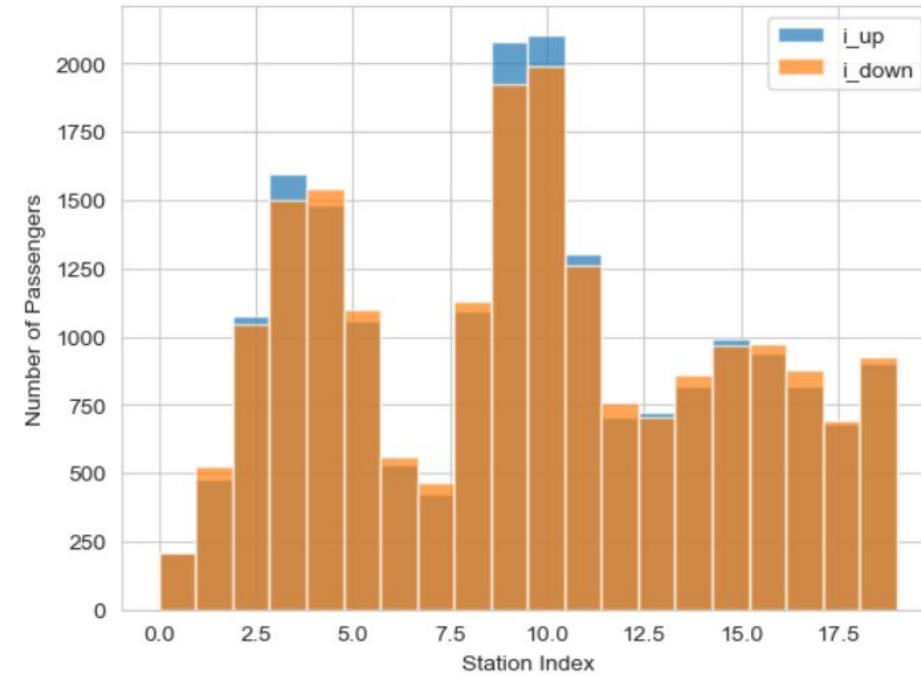
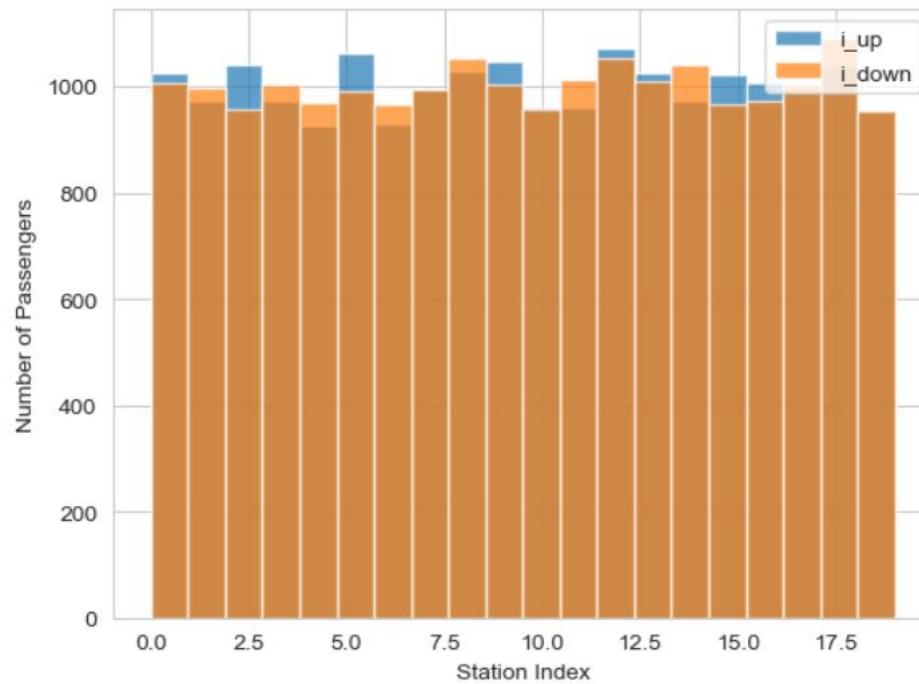
# Based on Real Data



- Generate the simulated data based on the distribution of real data.



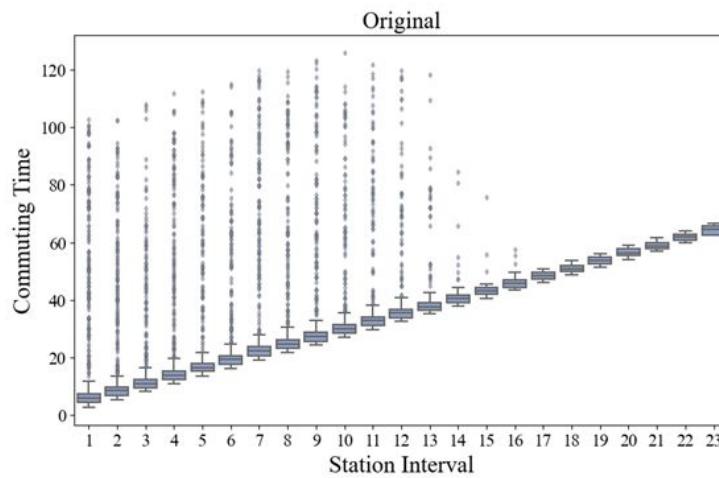
# Probability Generating Data



- We used uniform distribution and normal distribution to first generate a simulation Data

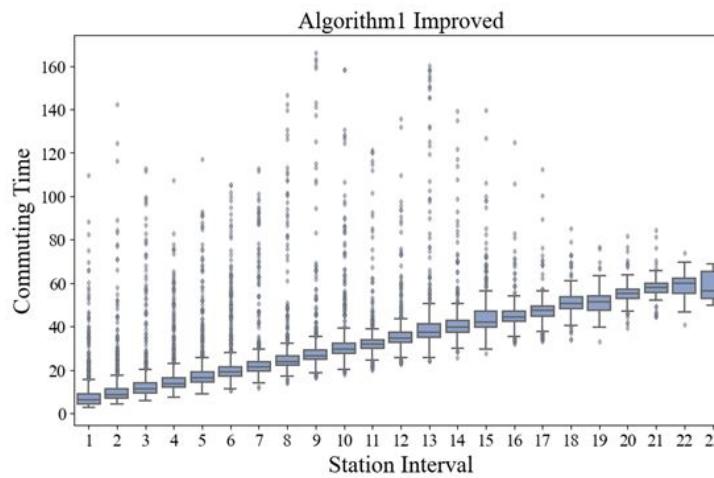


# Commuting Time Distribution ~ Time Interval

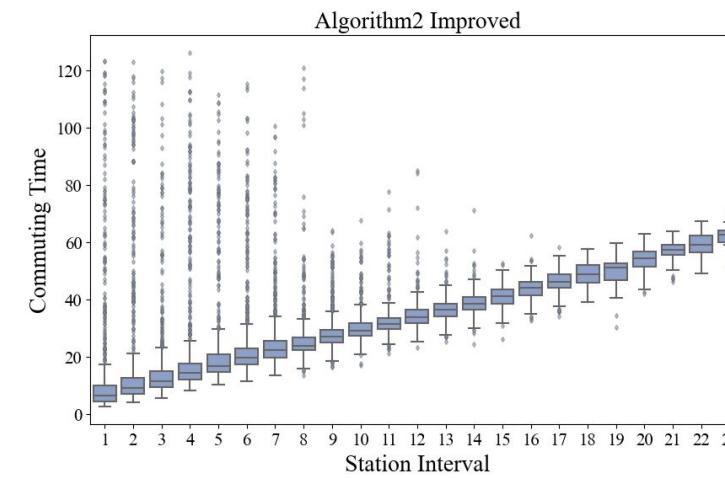


- Larger distance means longer commuting time
- Almost Linear
- Outliers are those who meet the train at morning peak

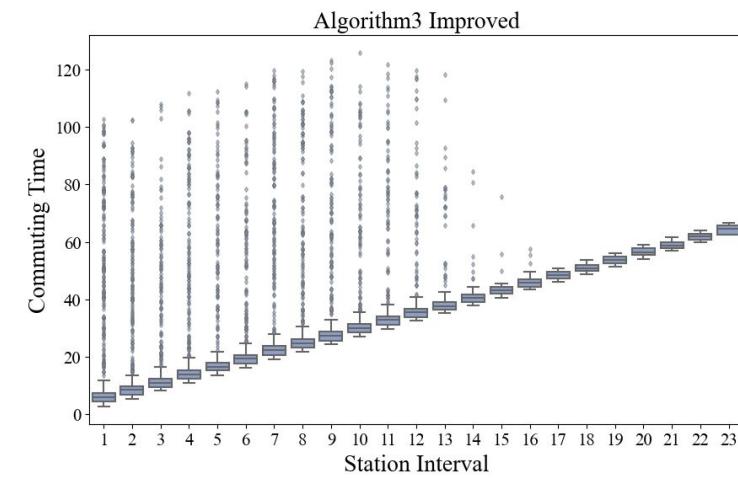
NOT OBVIOUS...



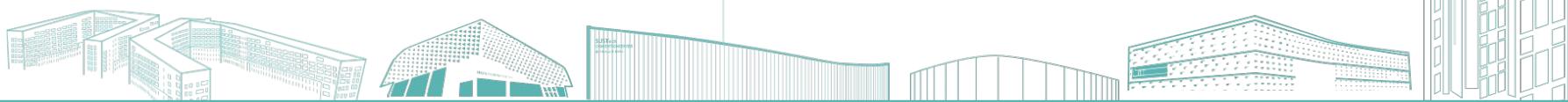
Algorithm 1



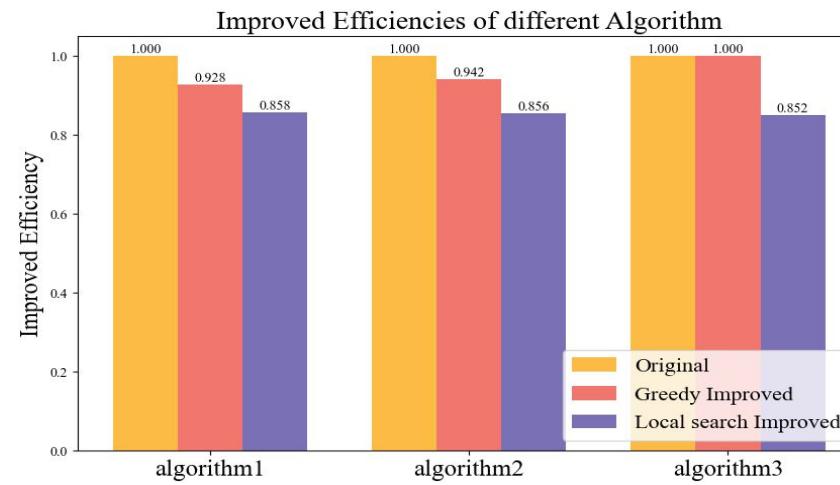
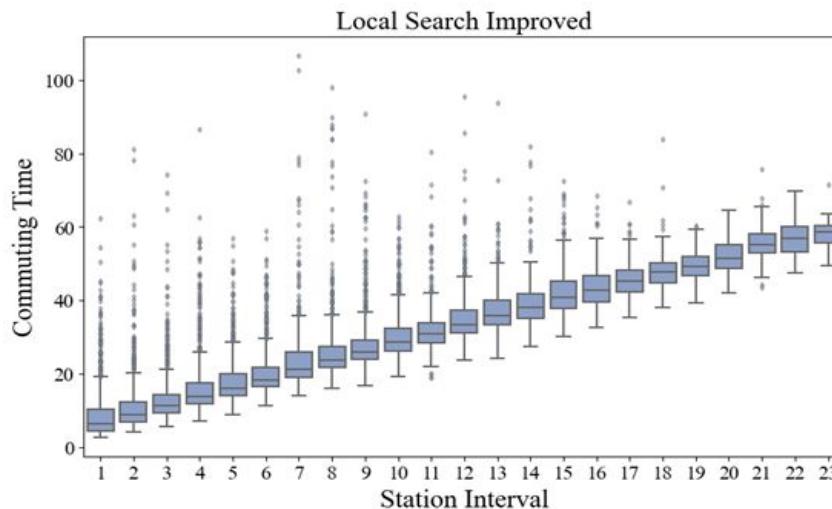
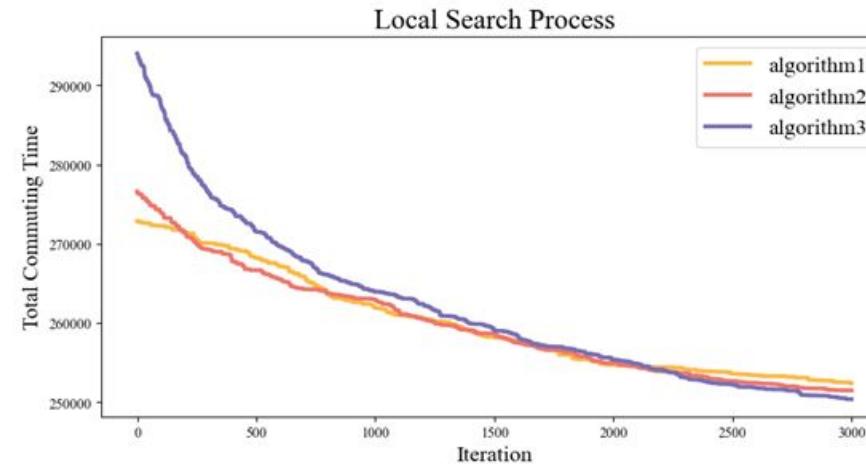
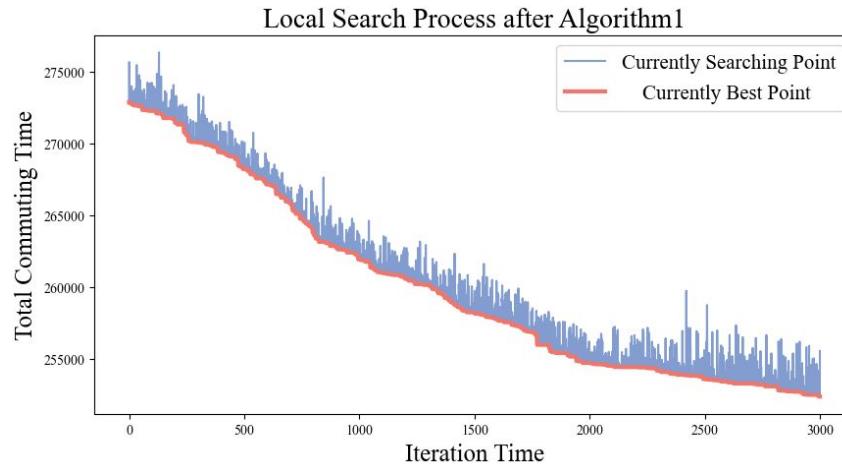
Algorithm 2



Algorithm 3

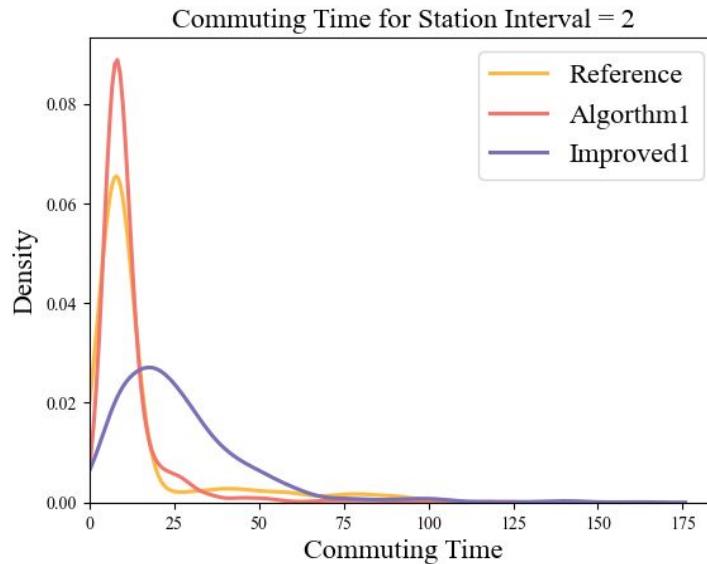


# Local Search (searching for optimal)

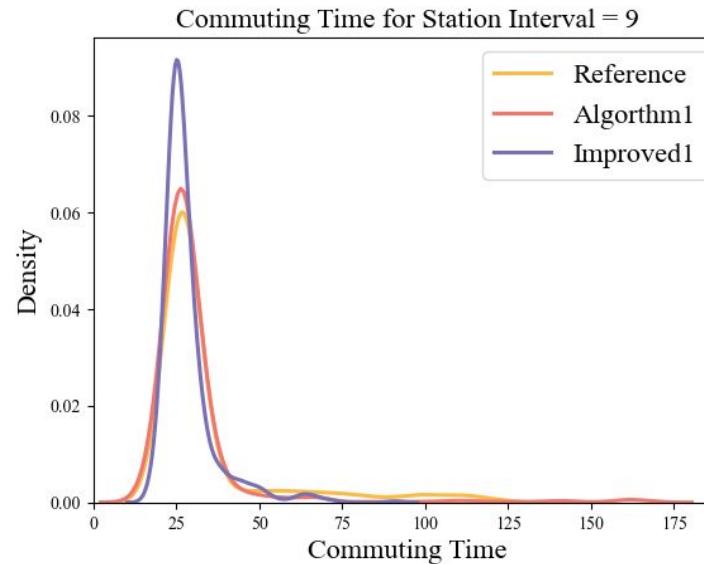


- Local search consistently elevates the total saved commuting time to approximately 15%.

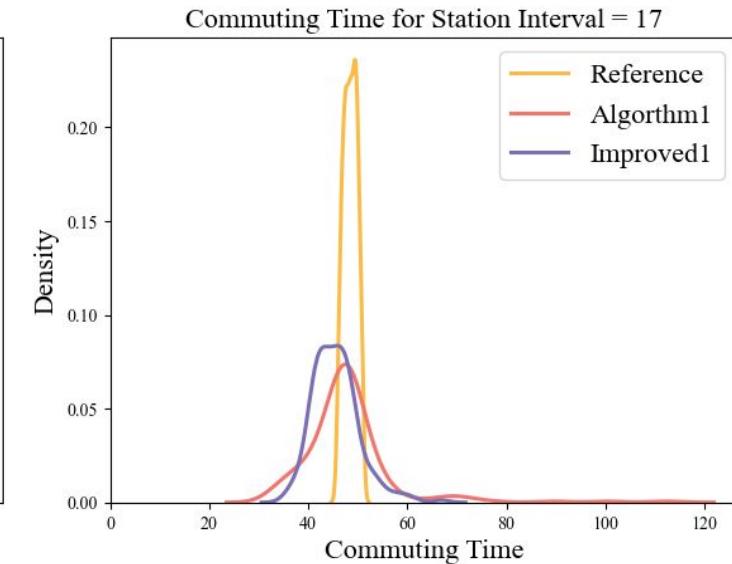
# Analysis of Commuting Time Improvement



Station Interval = 2



Station Interval = 9

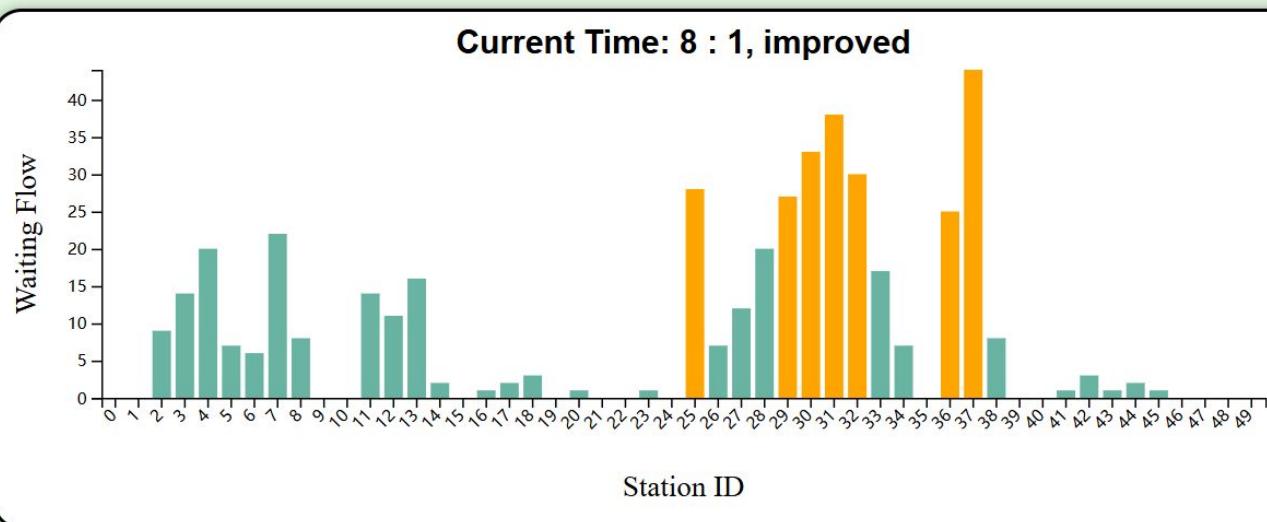
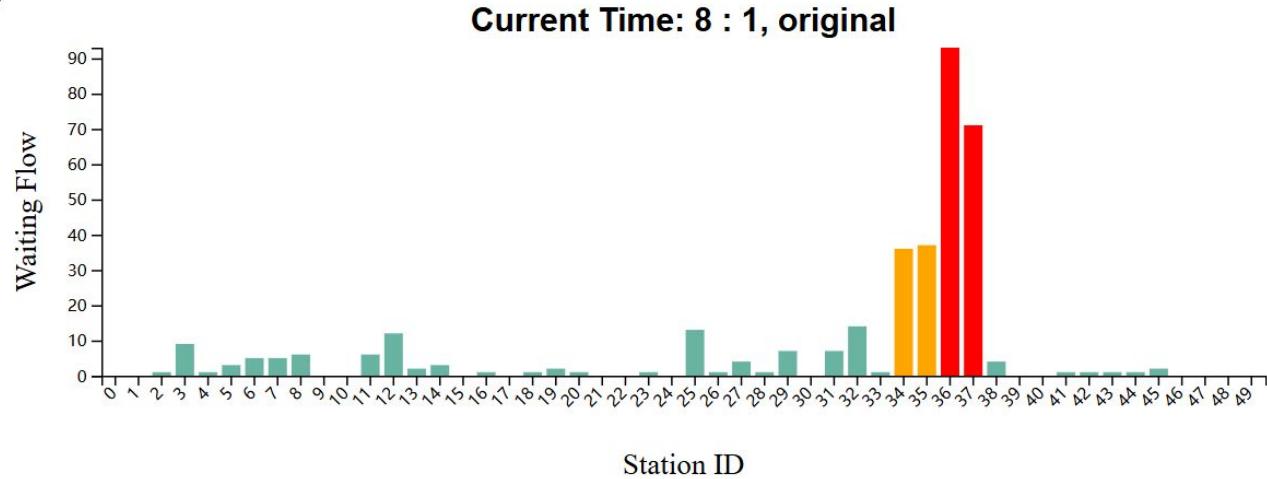


Station Interval = 17

- MORE TIME IS SAVED AS STATION INTERVAL INCREASES!

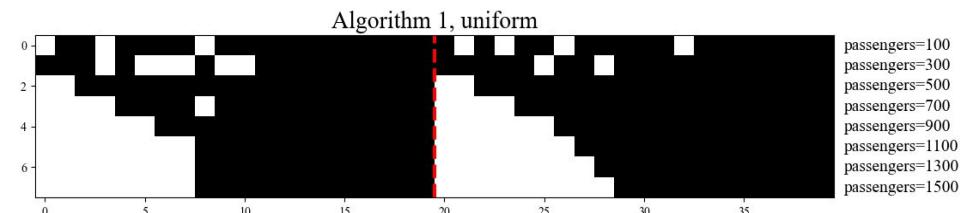
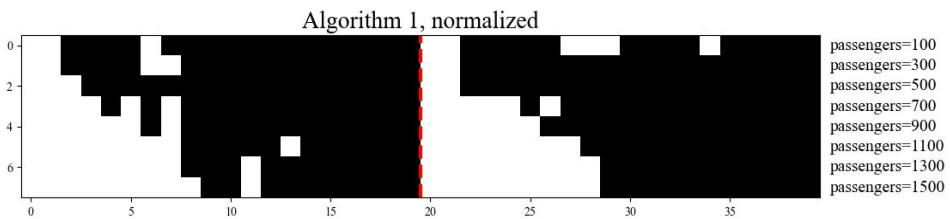
# A short display of the performance visualization

Visualization of Subway Waiting Flow (Original vs Improved)

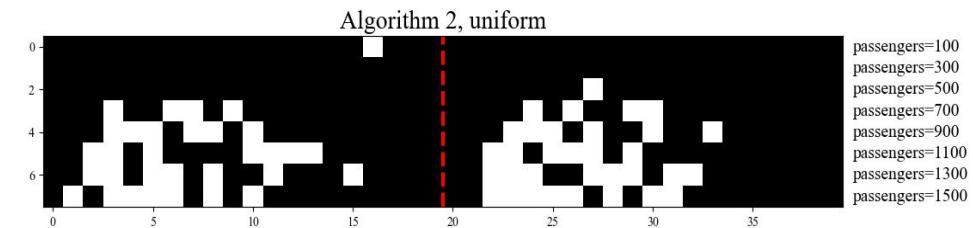
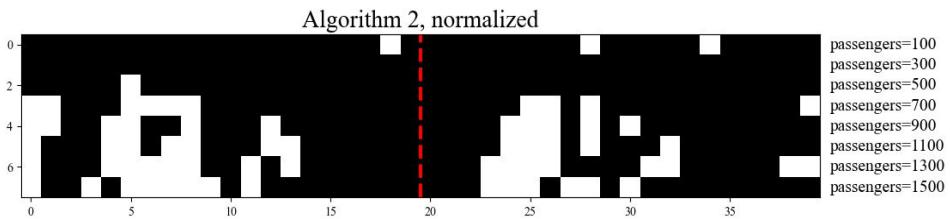


# Algorithms' Feature Analysis

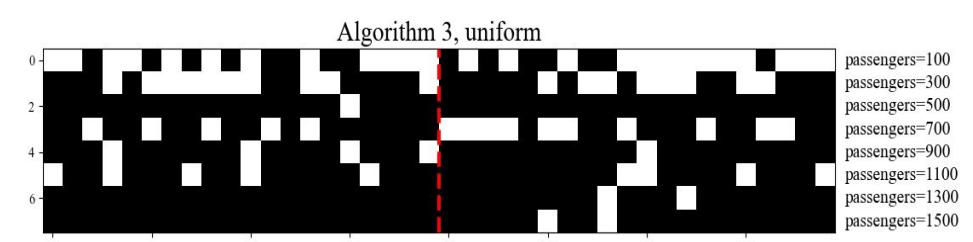
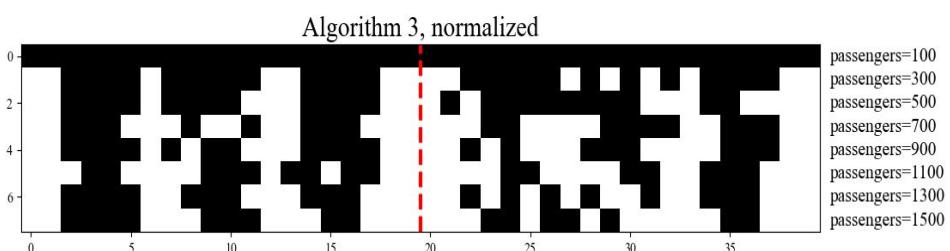
## Algorithm 1



## Algorithm 2



### Algorithm 3



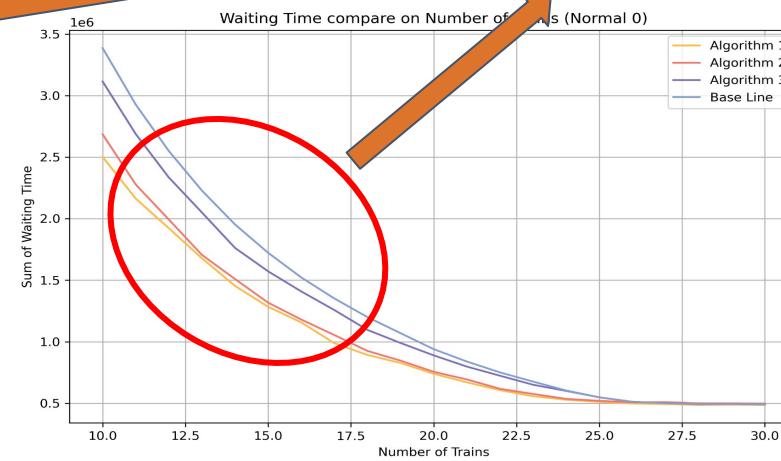
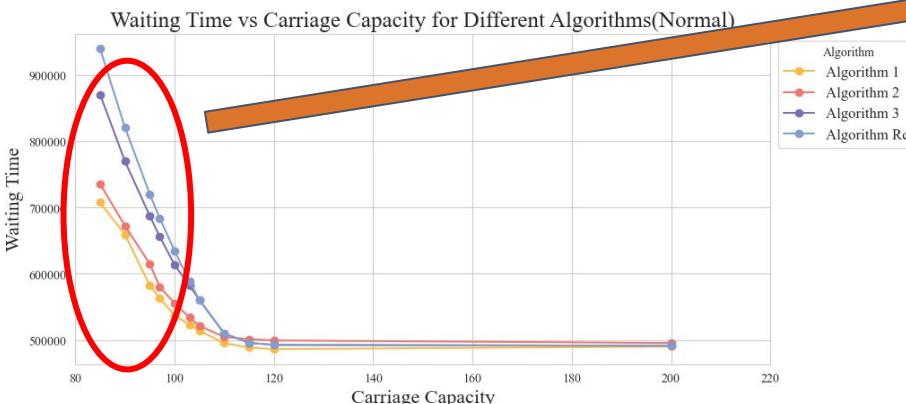
## Normal distributed data

## Uniform distributed data

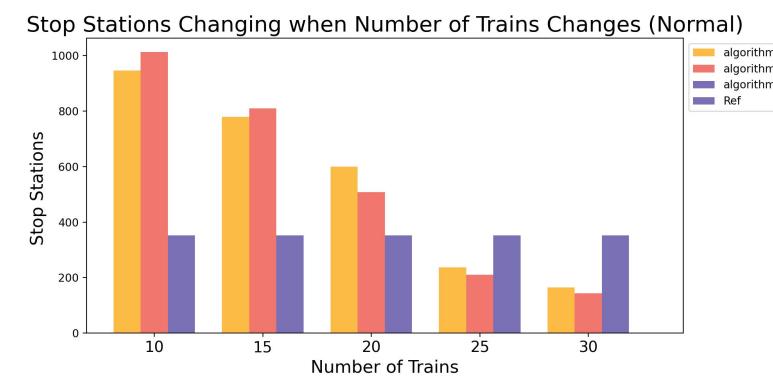
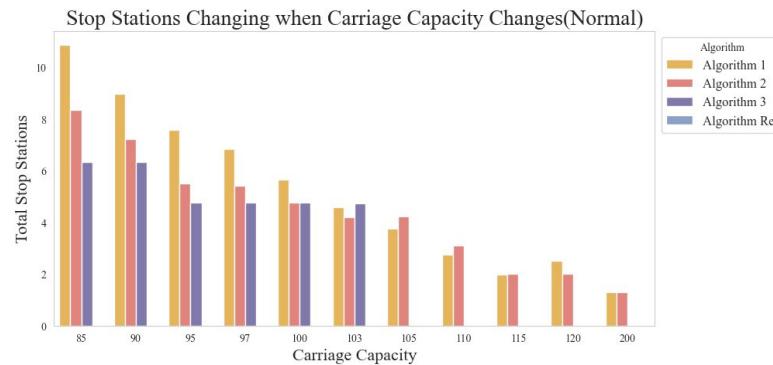
# Algorithms' Sensitivity Analysis

Know the risk!

Total  
Commuting  
Time



#  
Skipped  
Stations



Carriage Capacity

# Trains

- IMPROVEMENTS ARE GREATER WHEN THE SYSTEM IS CROWDED

04

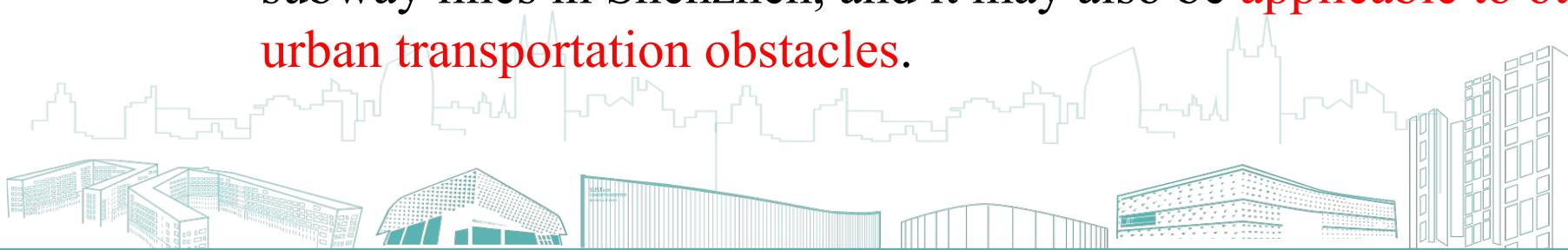
# CONCLUSION

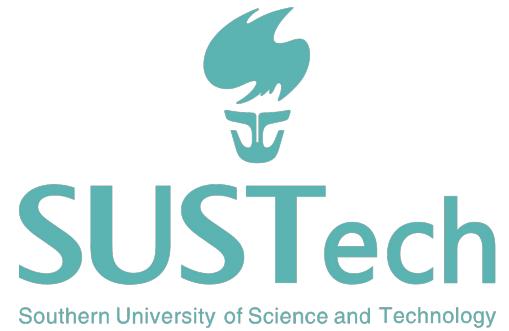
Strategy in real life and further dissemination.

# Conclusion

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- **Model application results**
  - An average decrease in travel time of approximately **15%**.
- **Effectiveness of dynamic optimization strategies**
  - Effectively balancing passenger loads across different stations not only alleviates congestion at key nodes but also ensures a smoother and more reliable commuting experience.
  - Example: Passenger congestion at key interchange stations such as Shenzhenbei and Minzhi has decreased by **20%**.
- **Sensitivity analysis**
  - The adjustability of parameters allows for customization of the model to various subway lines in Shenzhen, and it may also be **applicable to other cities facing similar urban transportation obstacles**.





# THANKS FOR WATCHING!

## Subway Schedule

Current Time: 7 : 37, original



Current Time: 7 : 37, improved

