



广州市城市规划勘测设计研究院  
GUANGZHOU URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN SURVEY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## An Auto Calibration Extension for Plan Parameters in MATSim

Ming Lü, Zhang Xiaoming  
06.2024

# CONTENT

- purpose & goal
  - why develop this extension
  - goal: parameter adaptation according to different scales
- framework & structure
  - Module framework, related mechanism and pipelines
- CMA-ES algorithm
  - How CMA-ES works and its formulation
- scenario test
  - parameter-estimation results
  - proof that it is auto-adaptive to different population scales
- conclusions and future work



# | purpose & goal

It is easy to simulate a city using commuting trips.

It is NOT easy to simulate a city scenario with uncertainties.

Questions:

- For irregular/random/less frequent trips made in a city, how many percentages respectively are contributing to the transportation system, in terms of total kilometers traveled per day?
- What kinda data do we need to get these numbers? either from a survey or from LBS data
- are these uncertain trips they taken into considerations for travellers' choices?

GOAL :

With limited data at hand(at least some trip diary data), try to estimate parameters for travel choices automatically.



# purpose & goal

When calibrating a scenario there are three things to do:

## config parameters

- running config parameters such as random seed, threads to make it running more efficient
- Hyper parameters setting up by experience
- designated parameters such as coordination system ids, output format
- running parameters that have influence on travel choices, mainly works on planCalcScore module

## revise inputs esp. plans

- use data mining technique to get more precise daily plans from a massive data source
- conduct a detailed RP & SP combined survey to get a better understanding
- combine multi-source trips, network files, transit data etc.
- scale link capacity and storage factor for fast simulations

## Algorithms interact with actual data

- CADYTS and other algorithm to improve routing or other choices regarding to counts data
- Simple strategy to make designated link volume towards ground truth data

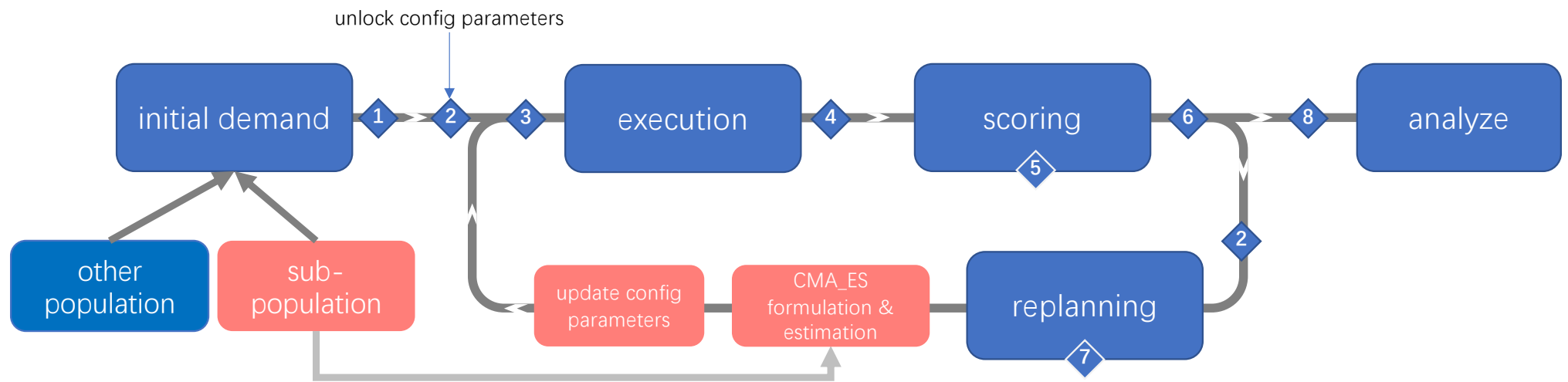


# CONTENT

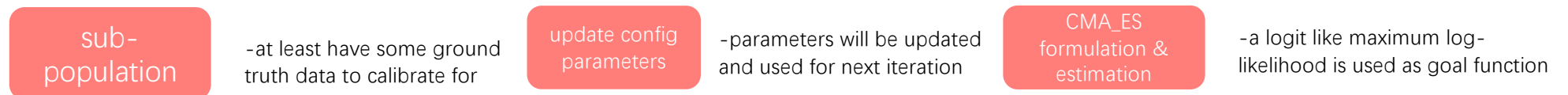
- purpose & goal
  - why develop this extension
  - goal: parameter adaptation according to different scales
- framework & structure
  - Module framework, related mechanism and pipelines
- CMA-ES algorithm
  - How CMA-ES works and its formulation
- scenario test
  - Parameter-estimation results
  - proof that it is auto-adaptive to different population scales
- conclusion and future work



# Framework of the extension



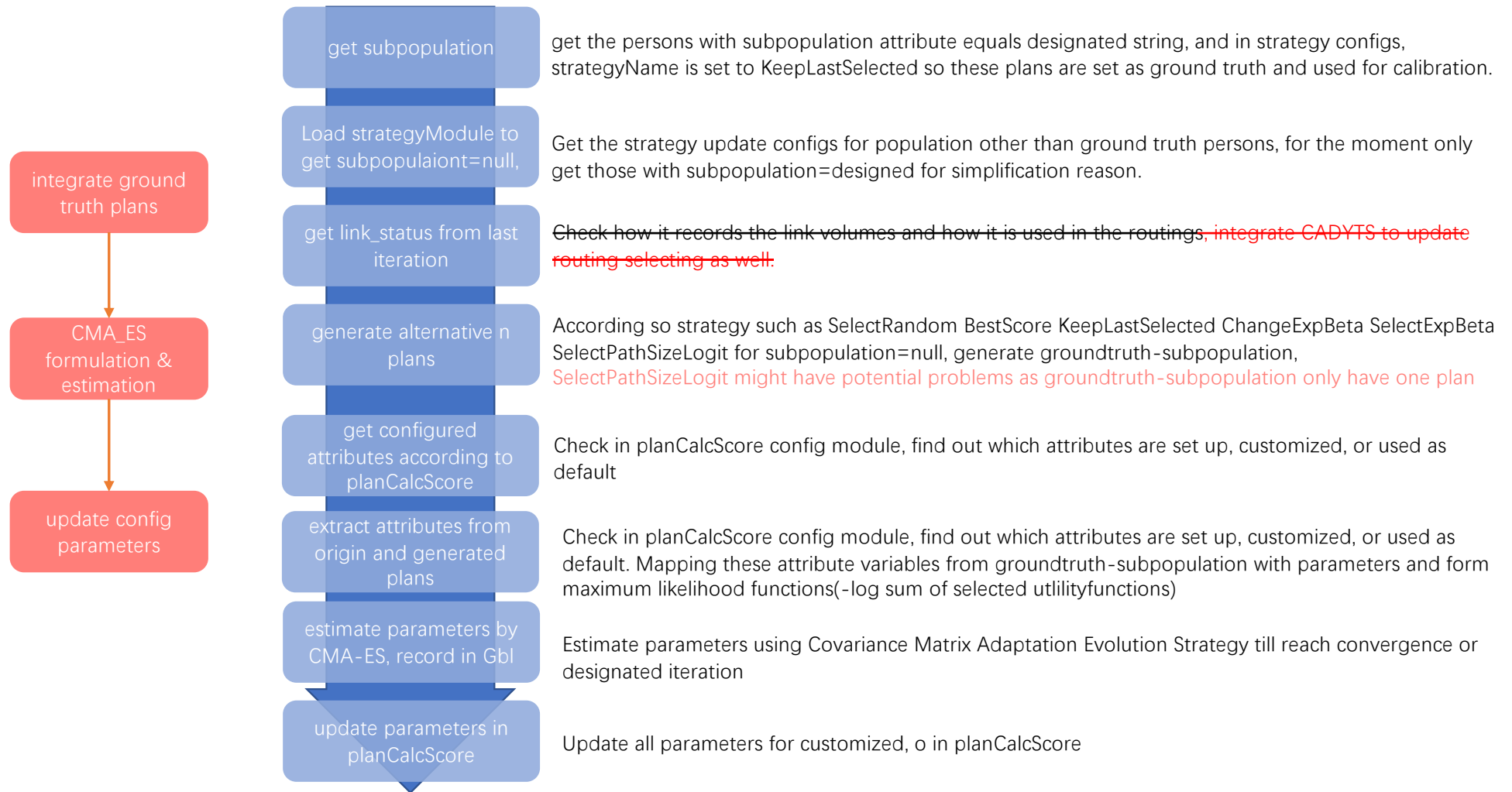
ground truth decisions as expected maximum utilities among alternatives



Controller Events: 1. simulation starts 2. Iteration Starts 3. Before Mobsim 4. After Mobsim  
5. Scoring 6. Iteration Ends 7. Replanning 8. Simulation Ends(Shutdown)



# Extension structure – pipe line



# config of the extension

1.add override module: **planParamCalibration**

```
<module name="planParamCalibration" >
  <!-- fixed subpopulation addresses initial plans' subpopulation attribute. This module uses these subpopulations' selected plan to adjust some
  act and trip parameters in planCalcScore module -->
  <param name="fixedSubPopulation" value="surveyPeople" />
  <!-- This parameter specifies when to stop update the parameters before iteration starts, options: designatedIteration, reachConvergence,
  default: designatedIteration(default maxIteration=1). By default, the module will update parameters in planCalcScore till min(designatedIteration,
  iteration). If reachConvergence is set, updating parameters stops when average estimated difference is smaller than 0.001-->
  <param name="calibrationEndCriteria" value="designatedIteration" />
  <param name="maxIteration" value="1" />
  <!-- maximumLikelihood (MLE) method for parameter estimation, option: -- >
  <param name="mleOptimizer" value="1" />
  <param name="maximumLikelihood" value="1" />
  <param name="maxAlternativePlans" value="5" />
  <param name="mleIteration" value="1000" />
  <param name="usePersonalParameter" value="true" />
  <param name="gbdtEnabled" value="true" />
</module>
```

2. Population file:

```
<person id="surveyPeople_0"> <attributes>
<attribute name="subpopulation"
class="java.lang.String" >surveyPeople</attribute> </attributes>
<plan selected="yes"> ...
```

4. They share other parameters together!!

3. Strategy module setup:

```
<module name="strategy" >
...
<parameterset type="strategysettings" >
  <param name="disableAfterIteration" value="-1" />
  <param name="executionPath" value="null" />
  <param name="strategyName" value="KeepLastSelected" />
  <param name="subpopulation" value="surveyPeople" />
  <param name="weight" value="0.2" />
</parameterset>
...
</module>
```





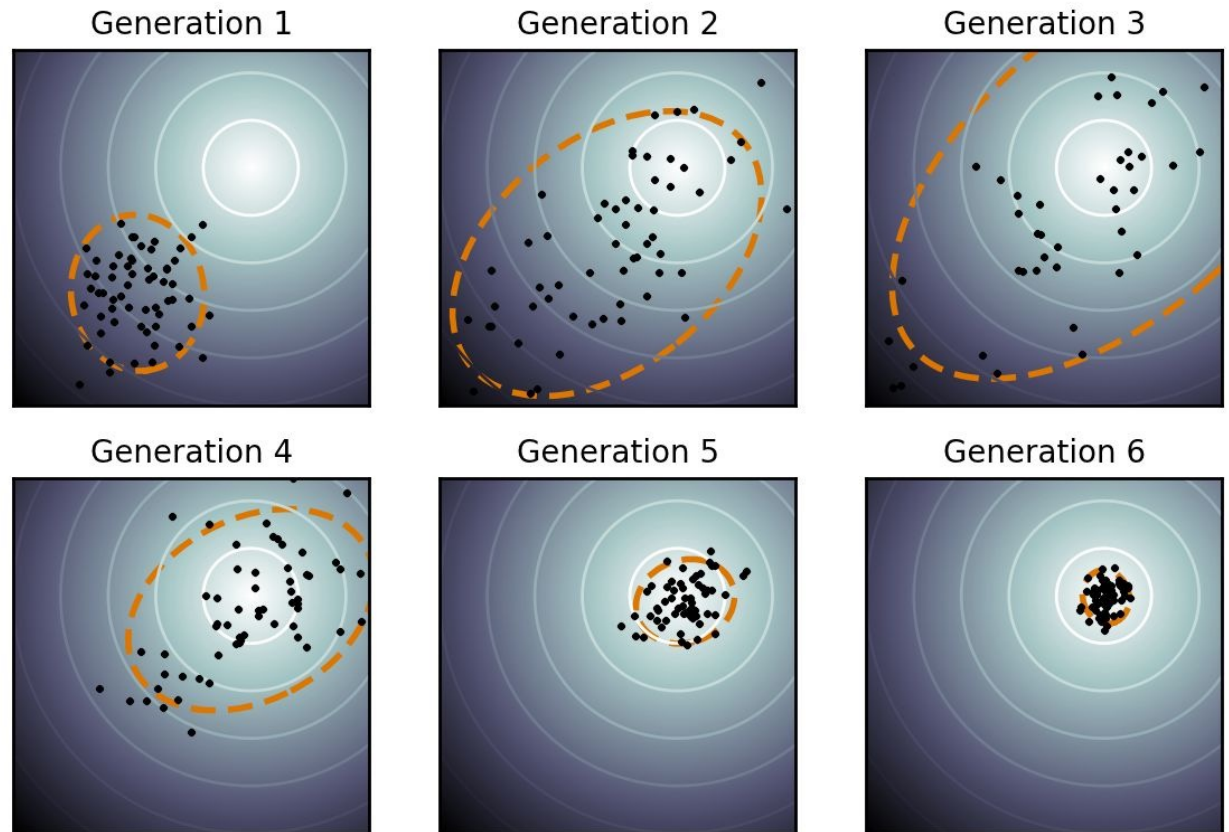
# CONTENT

- purpose & goal
  - why develop this extension
  - goal: parameter adaptation according to different scales
- framework & structure
  - Module framework, related mechanism and pipelines
- CMA-ES algorithm
  - How CMA-ES works and its formulation
- scenario test
  - Parameter-estimation results
  - proof that it is auto-adaptive to different population scales
- conclusion and future work



# CMA-ES algorithm for parameter estimation

Covariance Matrix Adaptation Evolution Strategy (CMA-ES) is a powerful optimization algorithm used primarily for solving non-linear, non-convex optimization problems in continuous domains. It is especially effective in high-dimensional spaces and scenarios where the objective function is complex, noisy, or lacks smoothness.



# CMA-ES algorithm for parameter estimation

[lower bounds

```
f lower = {double[27]@7812}
01 0 = -1000.0
01 1 = -1000.0
01 2 = 1.0E-5
01 3 = 1.0E-5
01 4 = -1000.0
01 5 = -1000.0
01 6 = -1000.0
01 7 = 1.0E-5
01 8 = 1.0E-5
01 9 = -1000.0
01 10 = -1000.0
01 11 = -1000.0
01 12 = -1000.0
01 13 = -1000.0
01 14 = -1000.0
01 15 = -1000.0
01 16 = -1000.0
01 17 = -1000.0
01 18 = -1000.0
01 19 = -1000.0
01 20 = -1000.0
01 21 = -1000.0
01 22 = -1000.0
01 23 = -1000.0
01 24 = -1000.0
01 25 = -1000.0
01 26 = -1000.0
```

Params to be estimated

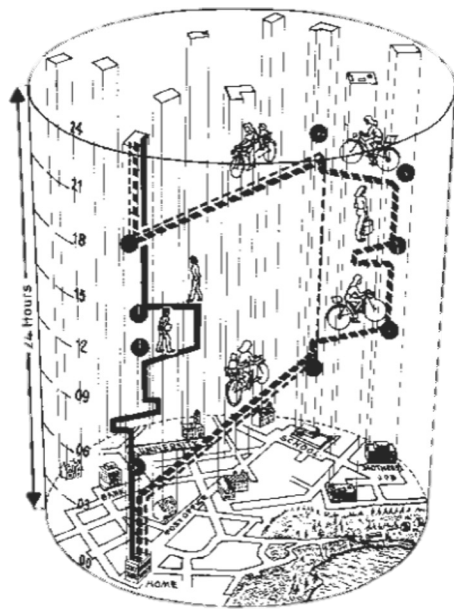
```
f arrayIndex = {ArrayList@7763} size = 27
> 0 = "earlyDeparture_utils_hr"
> 1 = "lateArrival_utils_hr"
> 2 = "performing_utils_hr"
> 3 = "marginalUtilityOfMoney"
> 4 = "arginalUtlOfWaitingPt_utils_hr"
> 5 = "utilityOfLineSwitch"
> 6 = "marginalUtlOfWaiting_utils_hr"
> 7 = "home|typicalDuration"
> 8 = "work|typicalDuration"
> 9 = "car|asc"
> 10 = "car|dailyMonetaryConstant"
> 11 = "car|monetaryDistanceRate"
> 12 = "car|dailyUtilityConstant"
> 13 = "car|marginalUtilityOfDistance"
> 14 = "car|marginalUtilityOfTraveling"
> 15 = "pt|asc"
> 16 = "pt|dailyMonetaryConstant"
> 17 = "pt|monetaryDistanceRate"
> 18 = "pt|dailyUtilityConstant"
> 19 = "pt|marginalUtilityOfDistance"
> 20 = "pt|marginalUtilityOfTraveling"
> 21 = "walk|asc"
> 22 = "walk|dailyMonetaryConstant"
> 23 = "walk|monetaryDistanceRate"
> 24 = "walk|dailyUtilityConstant"
> 25 = "walk|marginalUtilityOfDistance"
> 26 = "walk|marginalUtilityOfTraveling"
```

upper bounds]

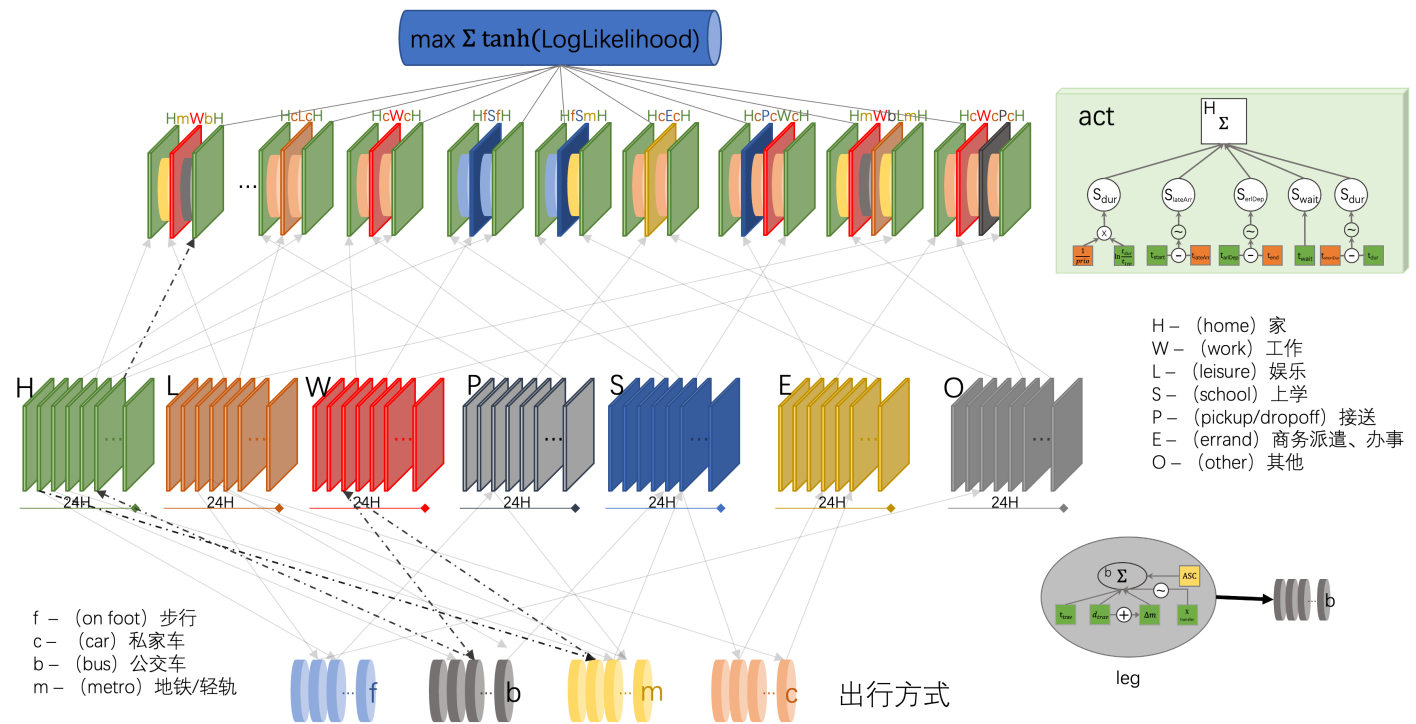
```
f upper = {double[27]@7813}
01 0 = -0.0
01 1 = -0.0
01 2 = 1000.0
01 3 = 1000.0
01 4 = -0.0
01 5 = -0.0
01 6 = -0.0
01 7 = 86400.0
01 8 = 86400.0
01 9 = 1000.0
01 10 = -0.0
01 11 = -0.0
01 12 = -0.0
01 13 = -0.0
01 14 = -0.0
01 15 = 1000.0
01 16 = -0.0
01 17 = -0.0
01 18 = -0.0
01 19 = -0.0
01 20 = -0.0
01 21 = 1000.0
01 22 = -0.0
01 23 = -0.0
01 24 = -0.0
01 25 = -0.0
01 26 = -0.0
```

1. Initialize parameters
2. Sample from the distribution
3. Evaluate the objective function values of the samples
4. Select the top samples with the best function values
5. Calculate the evolution paths and update the covariance matrix and step size
6. Check if stopping condition is met, terminate the algorithm or to the next generation

# CMA-ES for plans – duplicates from CharyparNagelAct&LegScoring



typical activity trip chain

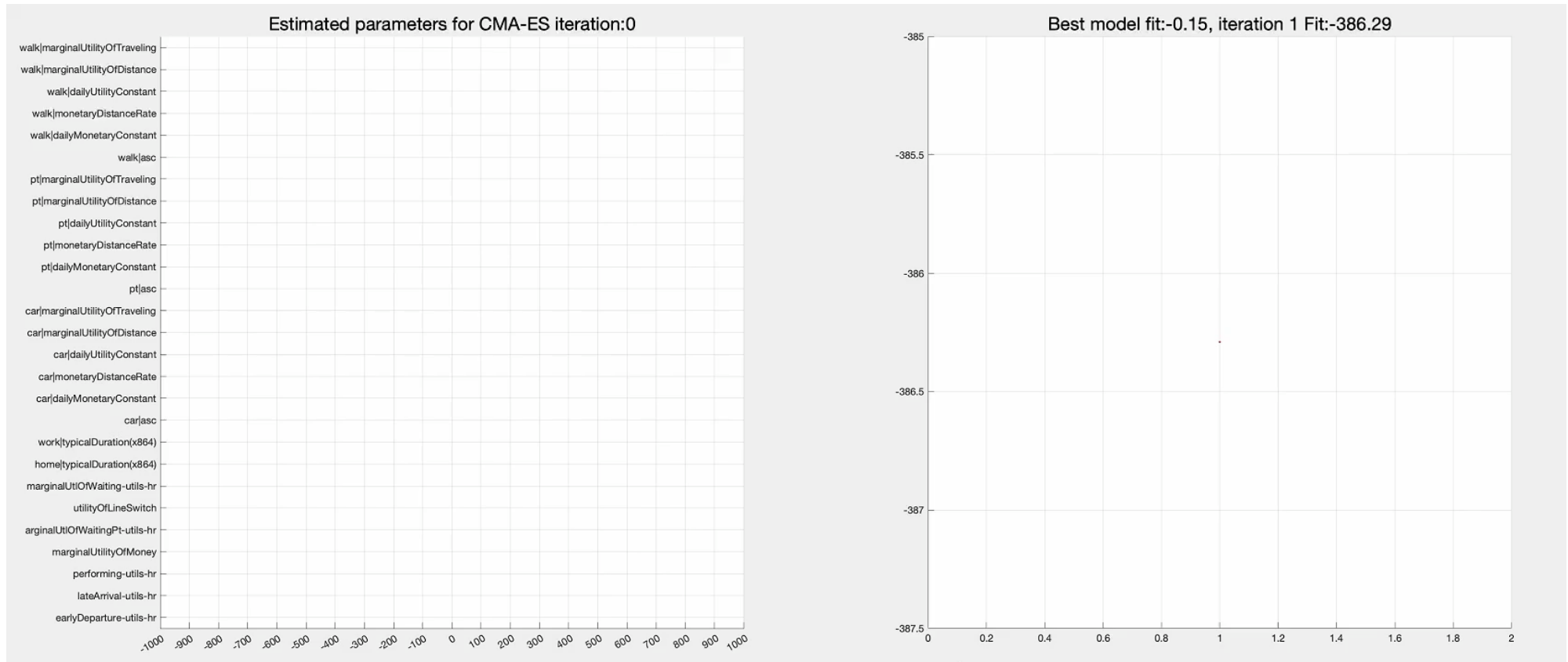


# CONTENT

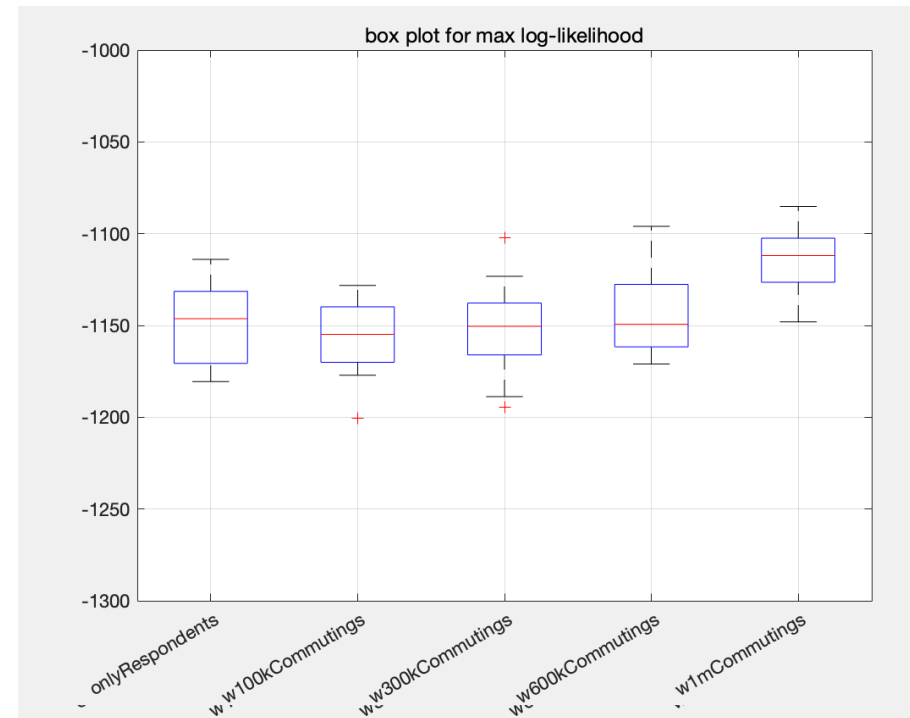
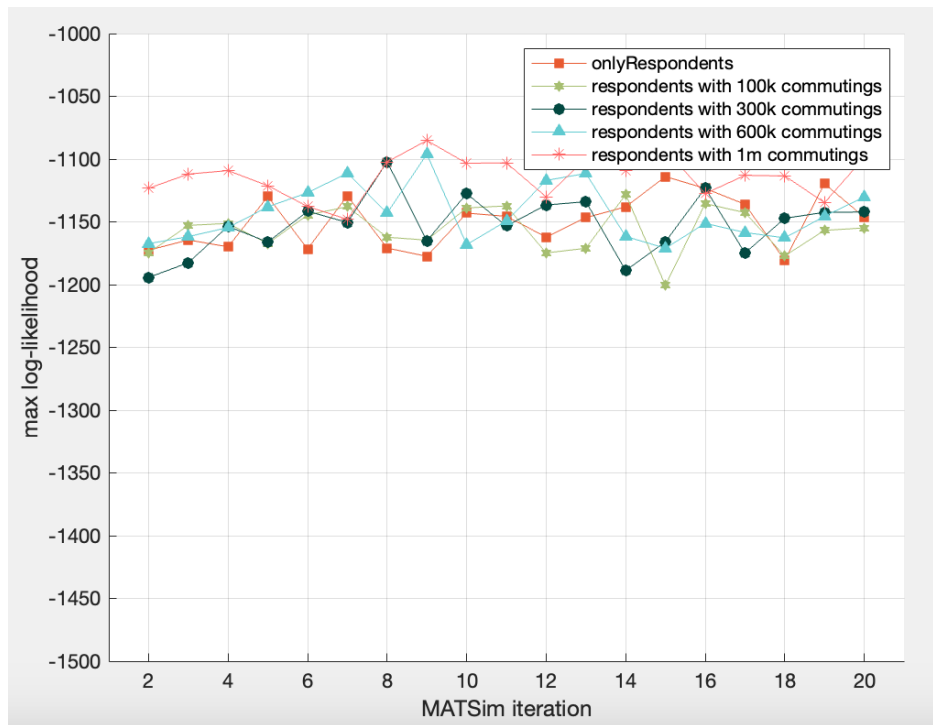
- purpose & goal
  - why develop this extension
  - goal: parameter adaptation according to different scales
- framework & structure
  - Module framework, related mechanism and pipelines
- CMA-ES algorithm
  - How CMA-ES works and its formulation
- scenario test
  - Parameter-estimation results
  - proof that it is auto-adaptive to different population scales
- conclusion and future work



# Scenario test – CMA-ES estimation inside a MATSim iteration



## Scenario test – Estimated model fit score with different scale of population



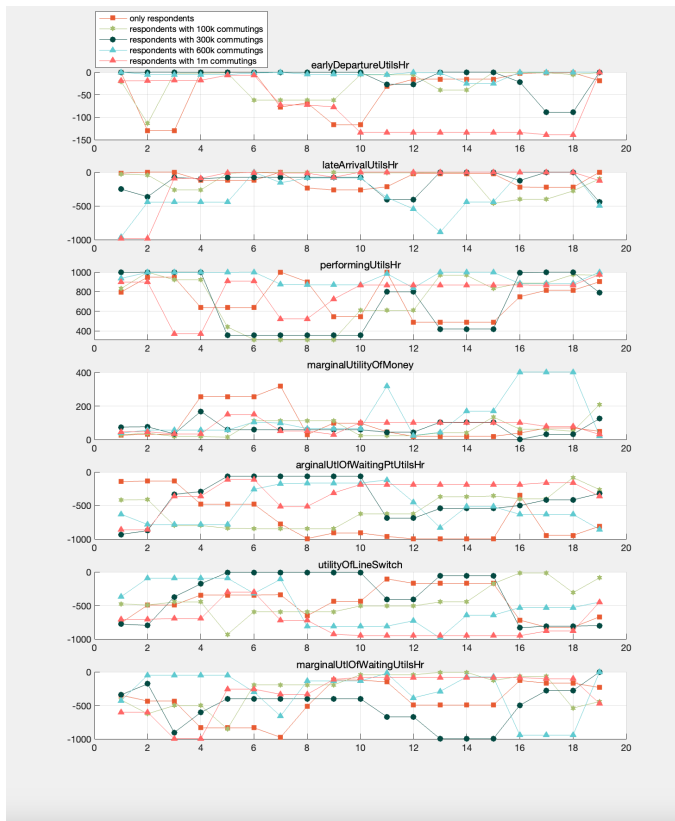
A street interview trip diary survey made at 09-10. 2023 in Caton

Commuting array is from LBS data from Gaode, with 100m grids accuracy

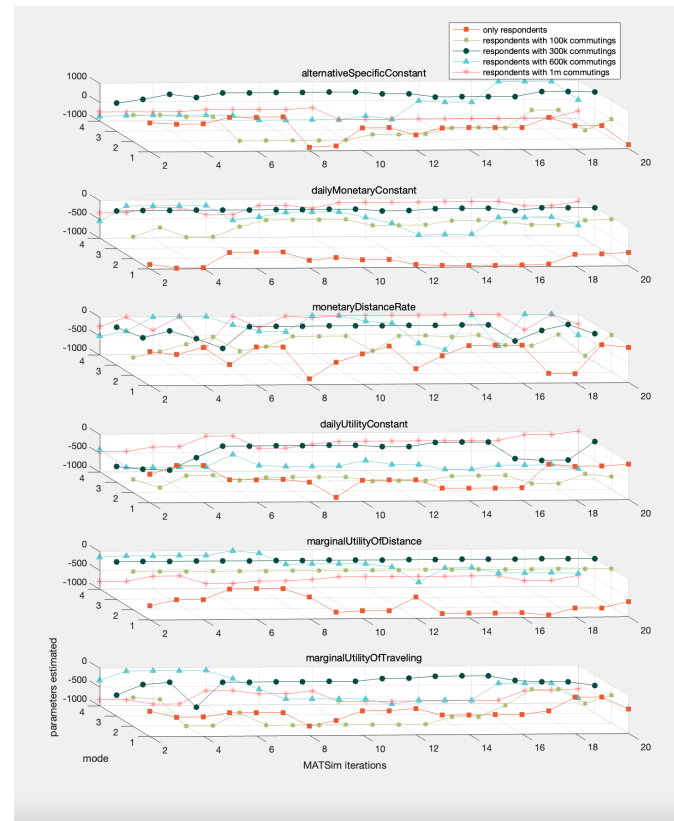


# Scenario test – Estimated parameters with different scale of population, different iterations

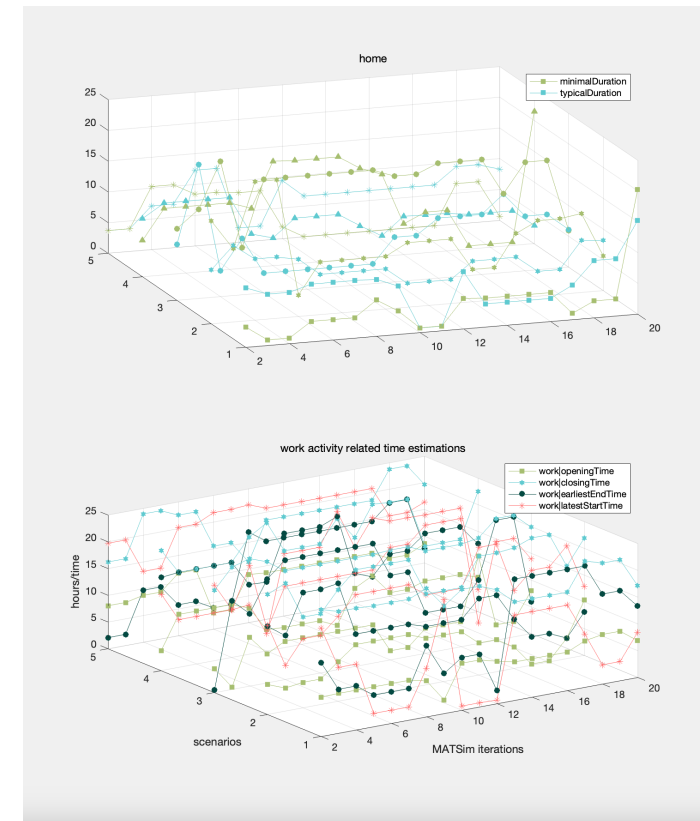
MATSim



for general parameters



for leg/mode parameters

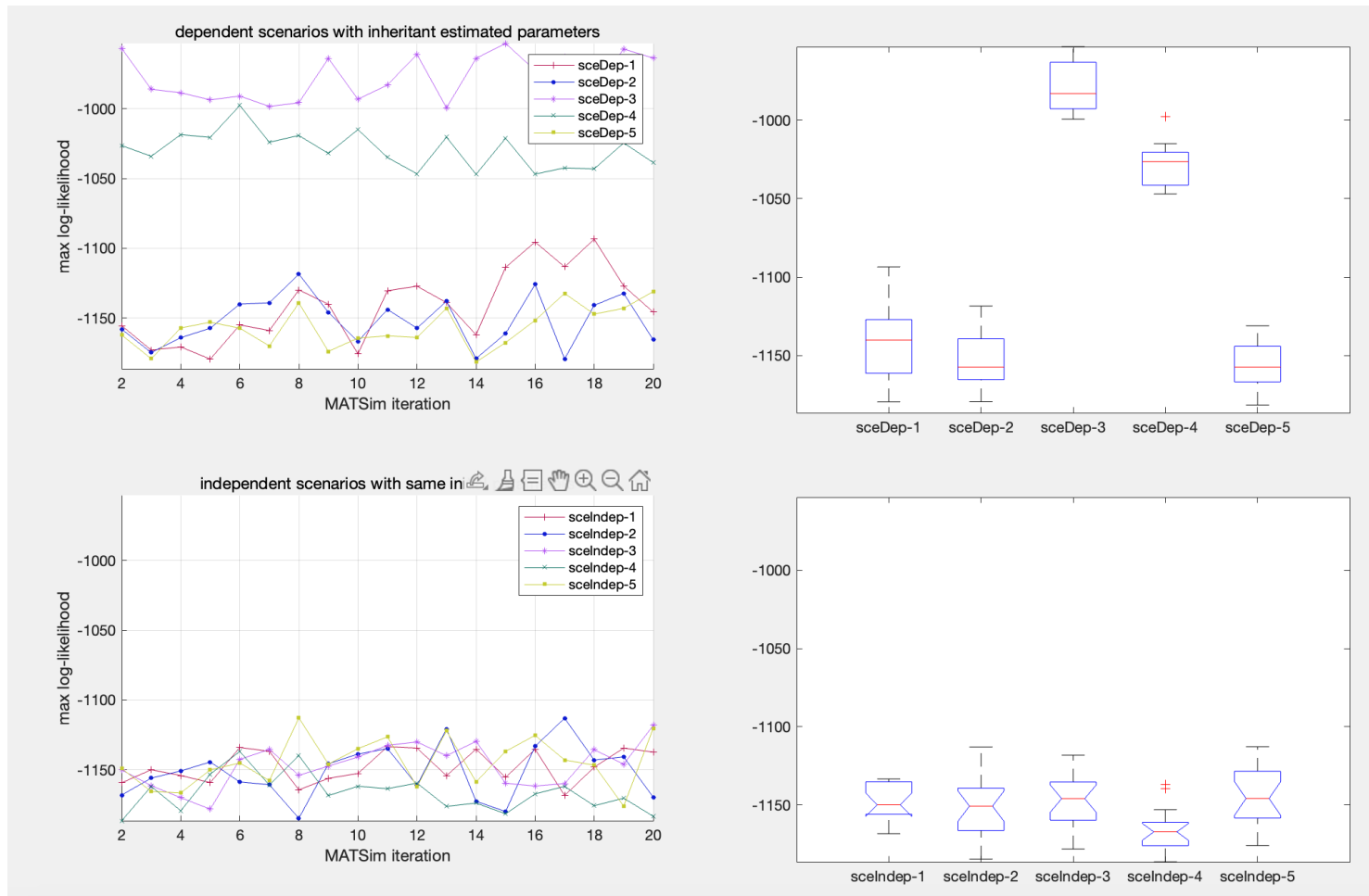


for act parameters





## Scenario test – CMAES best fitness with load from previous scenarios vs dependent parameters



## Scenario test – future test comparison biogeme vs cma-es

Use biogeme & cma-es to estimate parameters(show )

Apply parameters in config files

run a couple iterations , check if the survey plan is still the select show: hit ratio comparison

Self compare:

Run keep selected and get estimated parameters

Run without cali and check hit ratio



# CONTENT

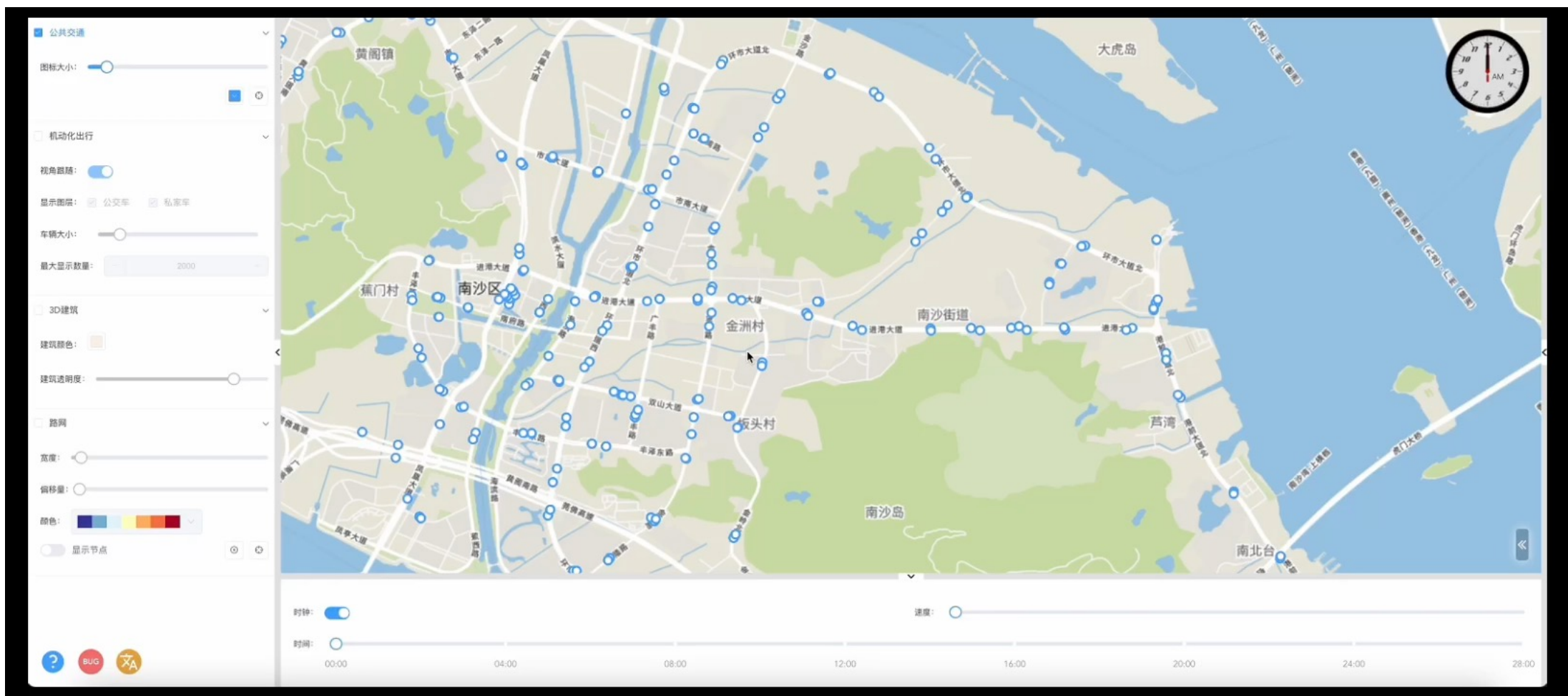
- purpose & goal
  - why develop this extension
  - goal: parameter adaptation according to different scales
- framework & structure
  - Module framework, related mechanism and pipelines
- CMA-ES algorithm
  - How CMA-ES works and its formulation
- scenario test
  - Parameter-estimation results
  - proof that it is auto-adaptive to different population scales
- conclusion and future work



# Conclusion & future work

- The project is still under development and lots of debugging to do
- This extension provides a way to simplify parameter setups for modelling under lack of data
- Trip diary or other ground truth data is a must have, and it is designed to dimensionless of input scales, and rather focusing on decision makings mimicking the ground truth data.
- It will definitely slowdown MATSim running time for the time being. Apache common math3 library is used and parallel computing is not implemented
- Other solvers for the fitness/goal function might be tested later, like traditional c-Newton method, BP, etc.
- Local minimum might be a very tricky problem for CMA-ES ...





convel@163.com