

# Analyzing the Components of Distributed Coevolutionary GAN Training

Jamal Toutouh, Erik Hemberg, Una-May O'Reilly  
ALFA Lab, CSAIL, MIT

toutouh@mit.edu, hemberg@csail.mit.edu, unamay@csail.mit.edu

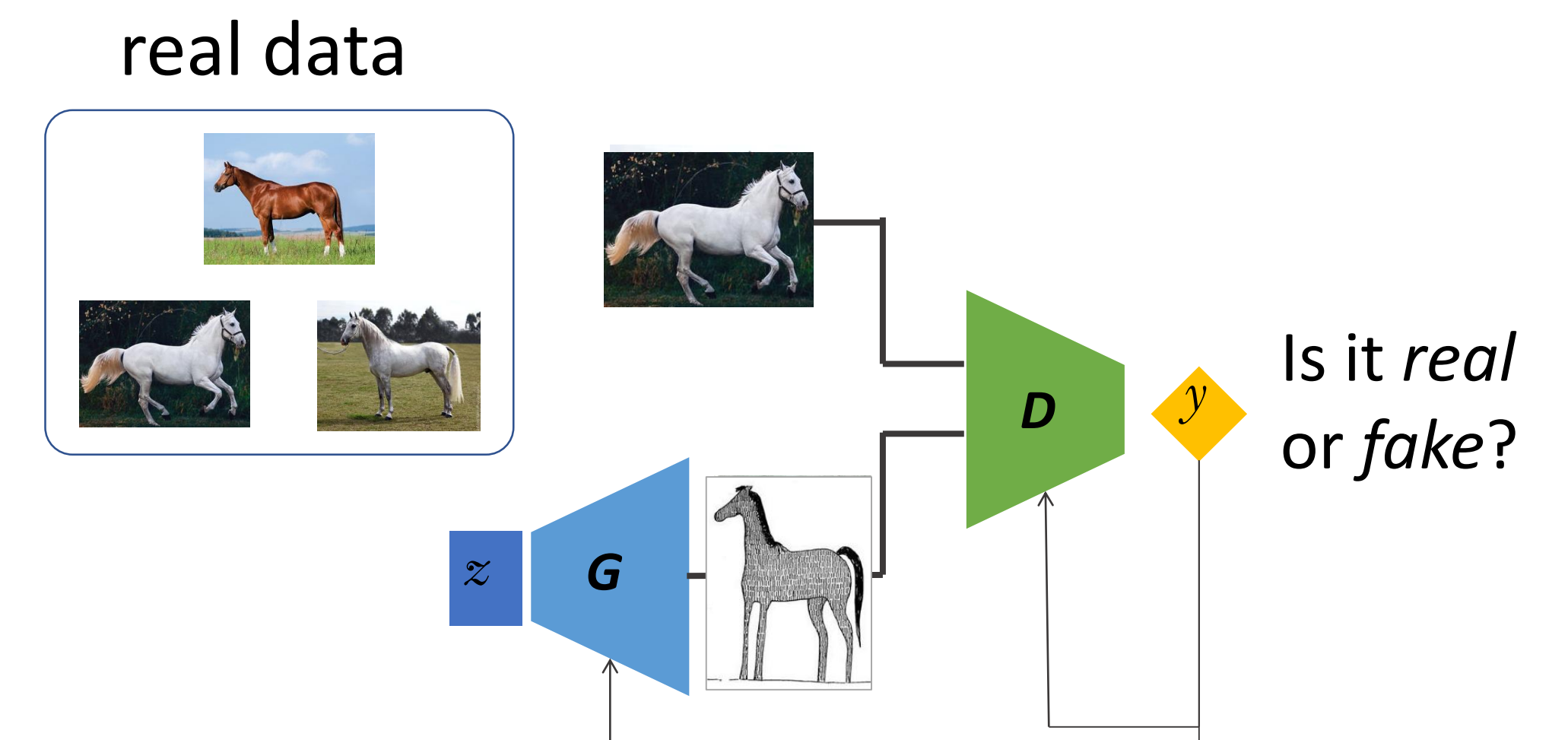


## Motivation

Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) construct a generative model by training two neural networks, a generator  $G$  and a discriminator  $D$ , using adversarial learning

**Lipizzaner** Distributed Coevolutionary GAN training shows:

- Fast and improved convergence due to gradient-based steps
- Robustness and resilience due to coevolution
- Diverse solutions due to mixture evolution
- Scalability due to spatial distribution topology



Main research question: *What is the effect of the main components of this type of training?*

## Distributed Coevolutionary GAN Training Ablations

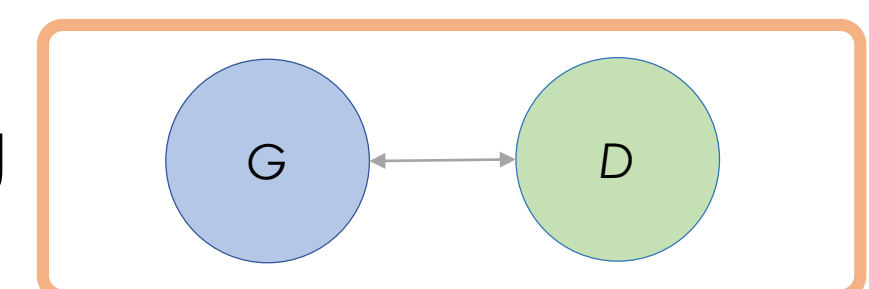
**Lipizzaner**

- creates **sub-populations** from neighborhoods
- **exchanges information** (updated networks) among the sub-populations after each training epoch
- applies **selection/replacement** of the center (*best*) network of the population

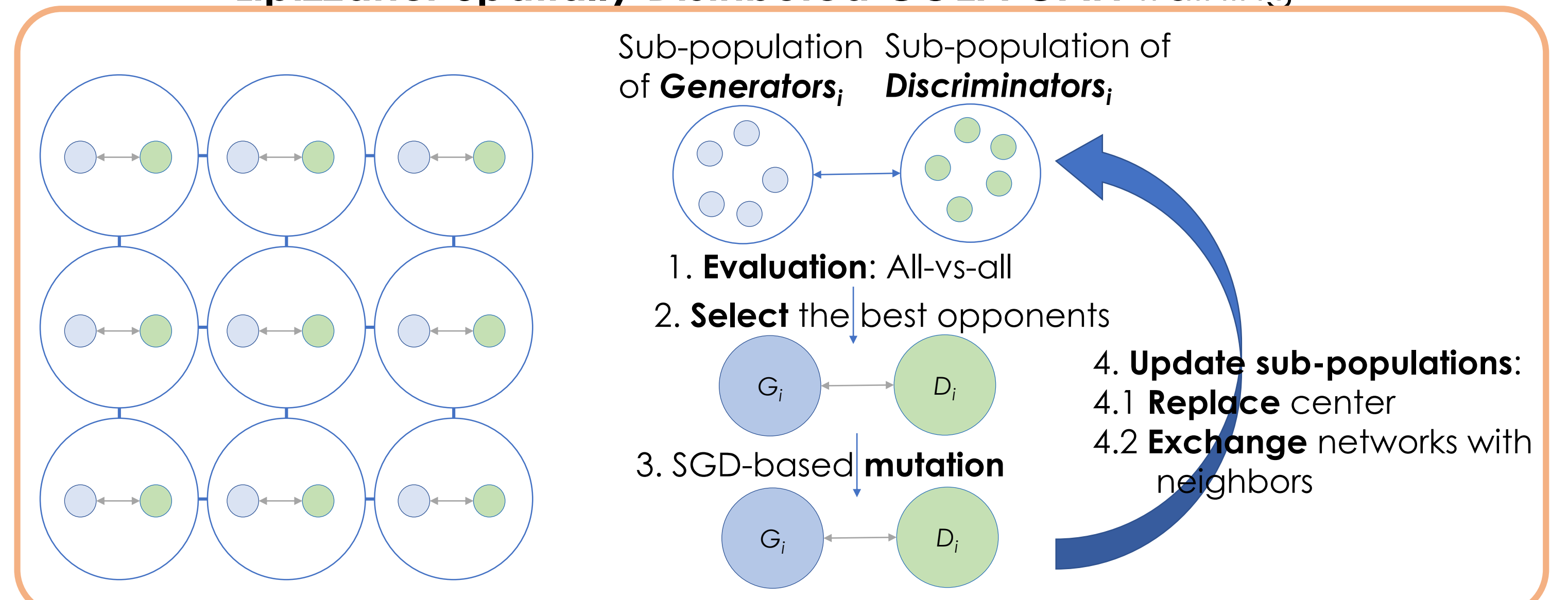
Three ablations: Spatial GAN (**SPaGAN**), Isolated CoEA GAN (**IsoCoGAN**), and Parallel GAN (**PaGAN**)

Feature	SPaGAN	IsoCoGAN	PaGAN
Use of sub-populations	Yes	Yes	No
Communication between sub-populations	Yes	No	No
Application of selection/replacement	No	Yes	No

Single-GAN training

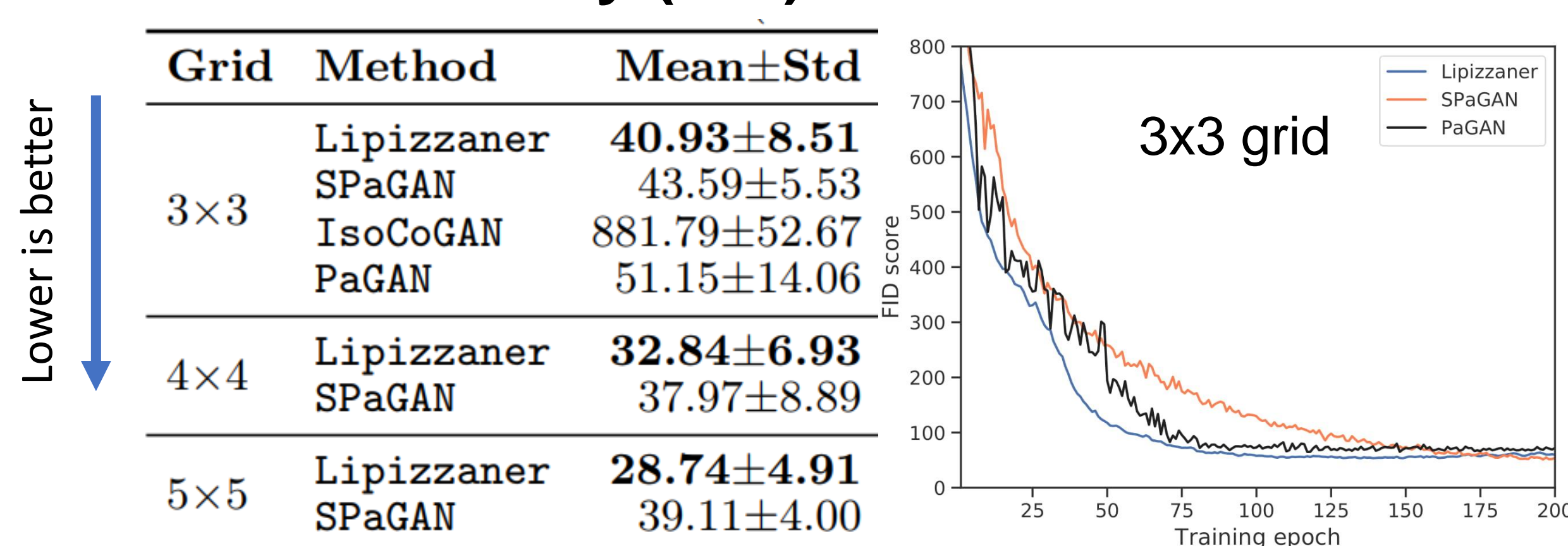


**Lipizzaner Spatially Distributed COEA GAN training**



## Experimental Analysis

### Generator Quality (FID)



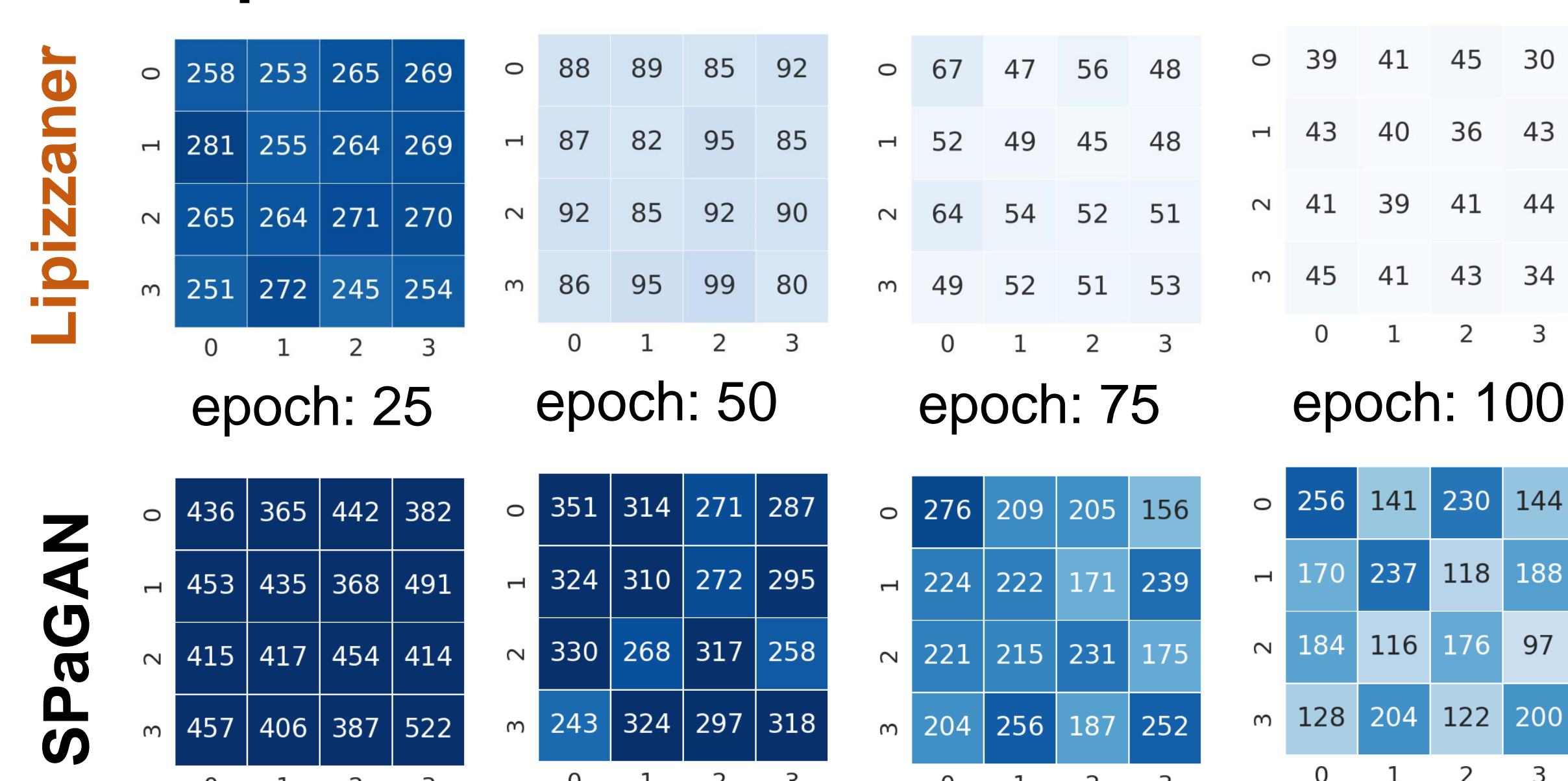
### Output Diversity (TVD)

Grid	Method	Mean±Std
3×3	Lipizzaner	0.12±0.03
	SPaGAN	0.12±0.02
	IsoCoGAN	0.83±0.08
	PaGAN	0.14±0.02
4×4	Lipizzaner	0.11±0.02
	SPaGAN	0.12±0.02
5×5	Lipizzaner	0.10±0.02
	SPaGAN	0.11±0.02

### Execution time (mins)

Grid	Method	Mean±Std
3×3	Lipizzaner	87.89±1.15
	SPaGAN	87.20±0.31
	IsoCoGAN	81.88±4.55
	PaGAN	38.07±2.73
4×4	Lipizzaner	91.30±0.94
	SPaGAN	90.72±0.58
5×5	Lipizzaner	105.64±3.25
	SPaGAN	101.88±1.64

### 4x4 Lipizzaner and SPaGAN Generators Evolution



## Conclusions

- ❖ The combination of selection pressure, that promotes convergence, and communication with the overlapped neighborhoods applied by **Lipizzaner** is the best choice.
- ❖ **SPaGAN** emphasizes the value of exchanging the best individuals
- ❖ **IsoCoGAN** shows that training GANs with a COEA flavor does not ensure convergence