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Implementing Activity-Based Models - Accelerating the Replanning Process of Agents Using an Evolution Strategy

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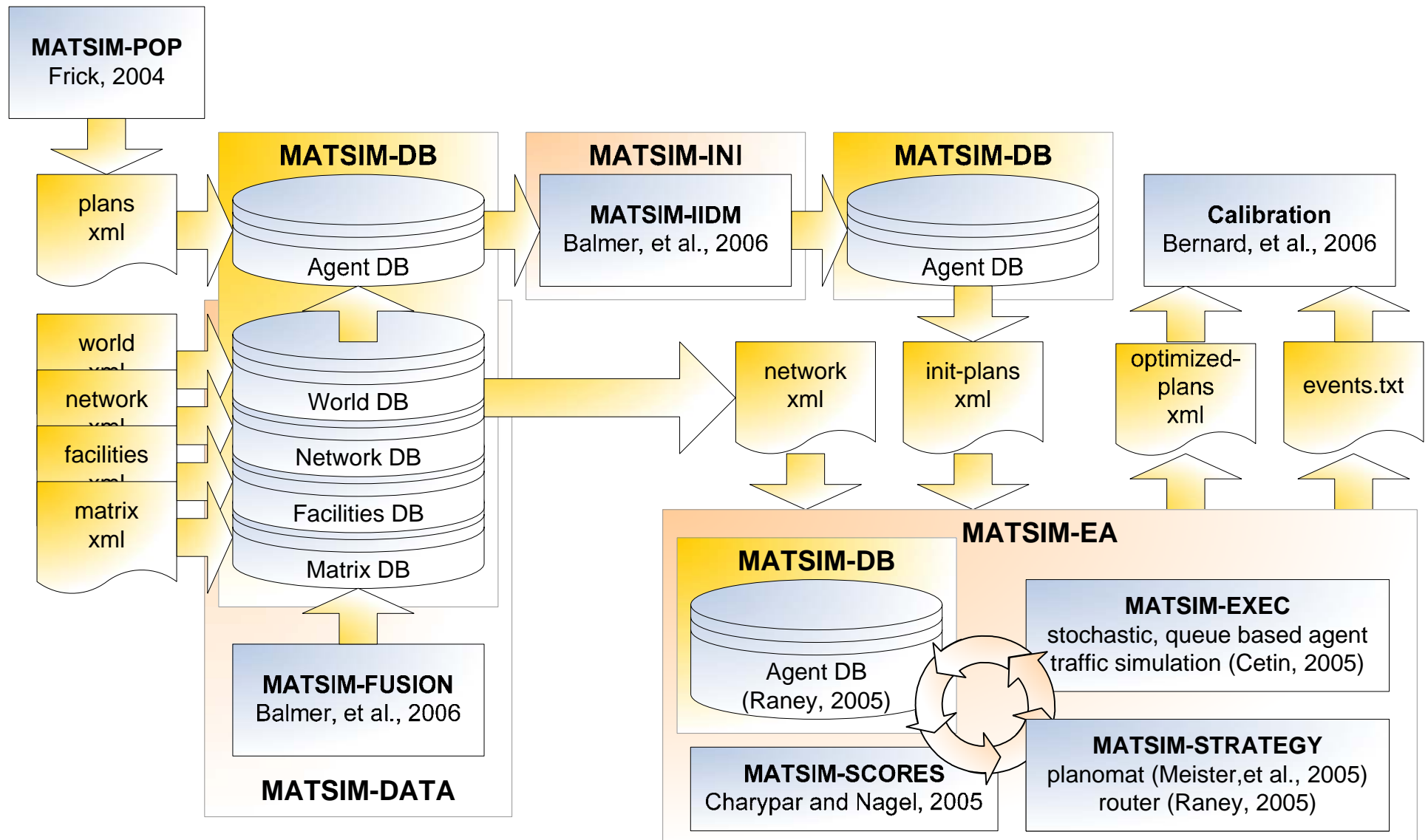
ETH

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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Overview

- MATSIM-T
- Goal
- Planomat
- Covariance Matrix Adaptation Evolution Strategy
- Learning performance
- Findings
- Further Work

MATSIM-T Process Steps

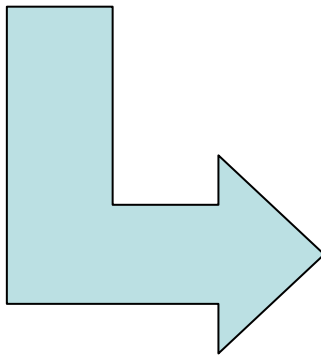


How to Get Final Daily Plans Faster

- More intelligent replanning
- Faster replanning

Approach

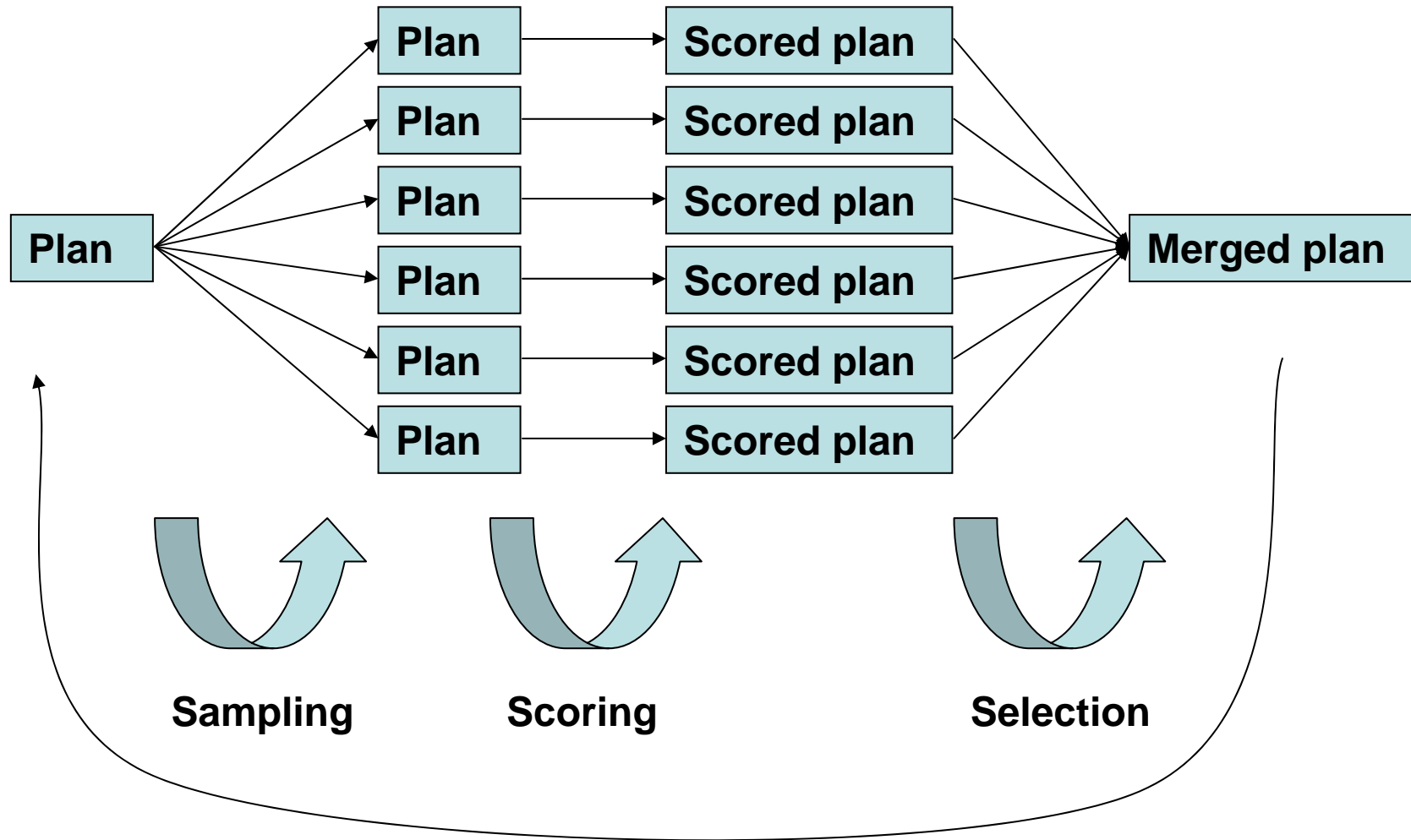
Use sophisticated algorithm to modify / adapt plans



- Higher quality of resulting plans
- Less evaluations of scoring function needed

How Planomat works

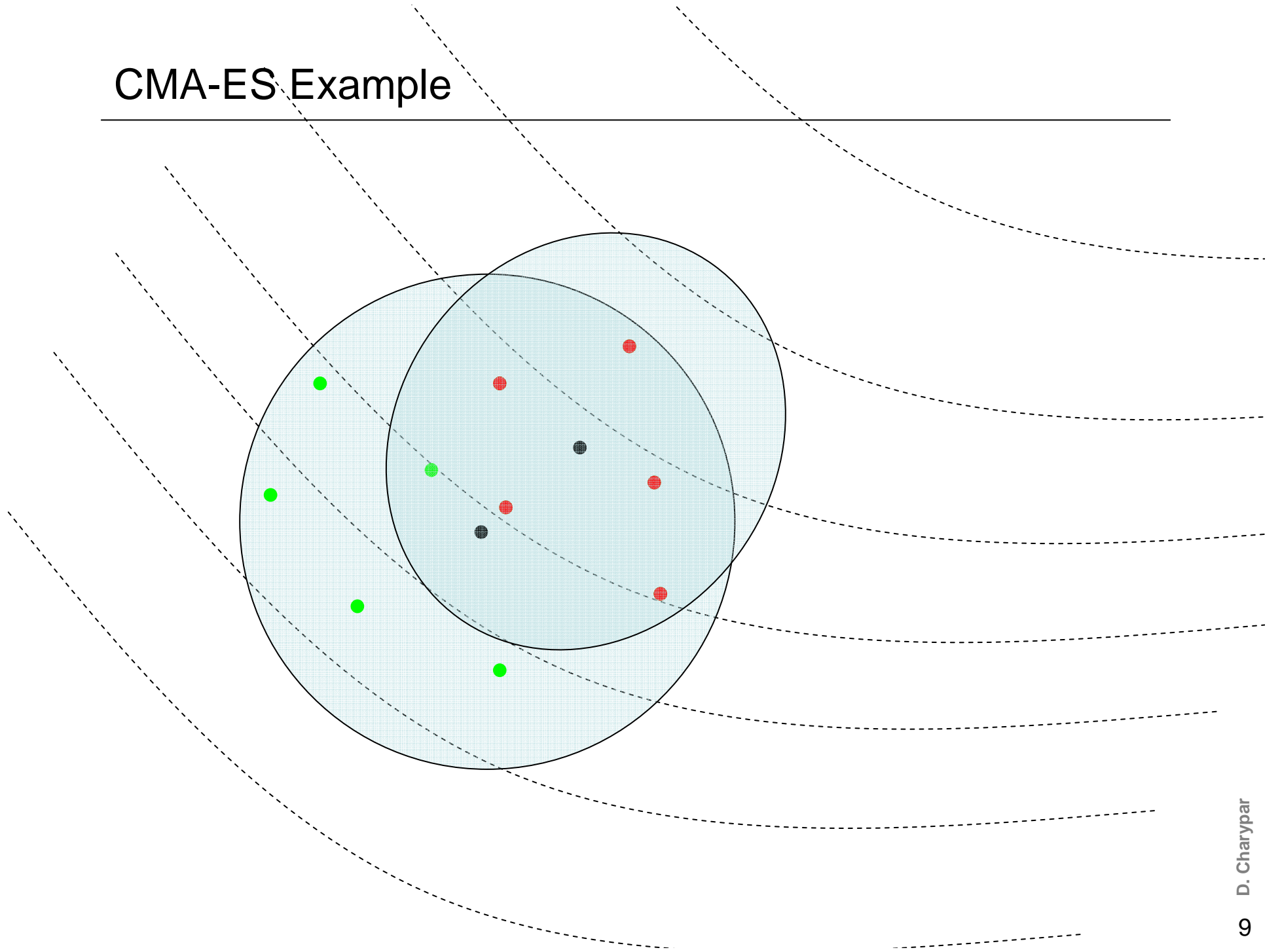
Candidate solutions



New optimization algorithm in planomat

- **Covariance Matrix Adaptation Evolution Strategy (CMA-ES)**
- Estimates multivariate normal distribution around current search point to maximize evolution progress
- Step-size adaptation based on object space path length and estimated length of a random walk

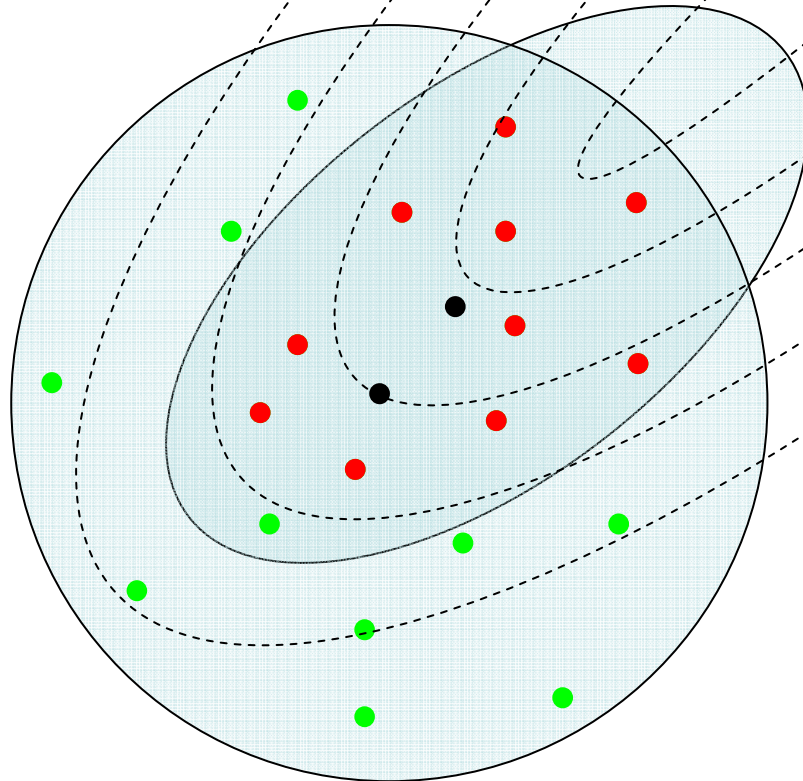
CMA-ES Example



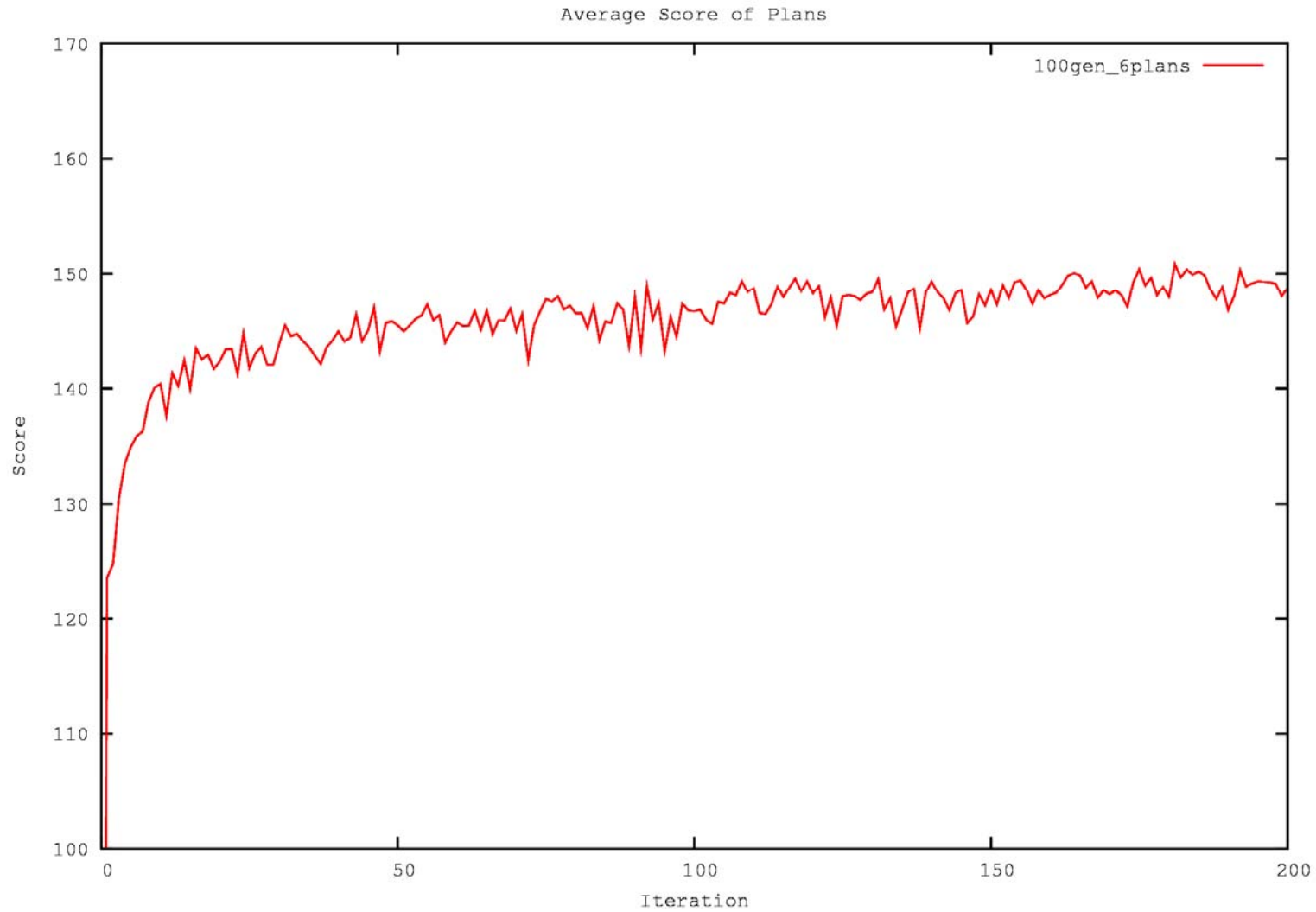
Properties of CMA-ES Optimizer

- Suited for non-linear, non-convex search problems
- Invariant to order preserving mappings of the objective function
- Can handle discontinuous, noisy search landscapes
- Able to cope with local optima
- Adapts to ill-conditioned search spaces
- Performs well on certain non-separable objective functions.
- Insensitive to any linear transformation of search space

CMA-ES Example 2

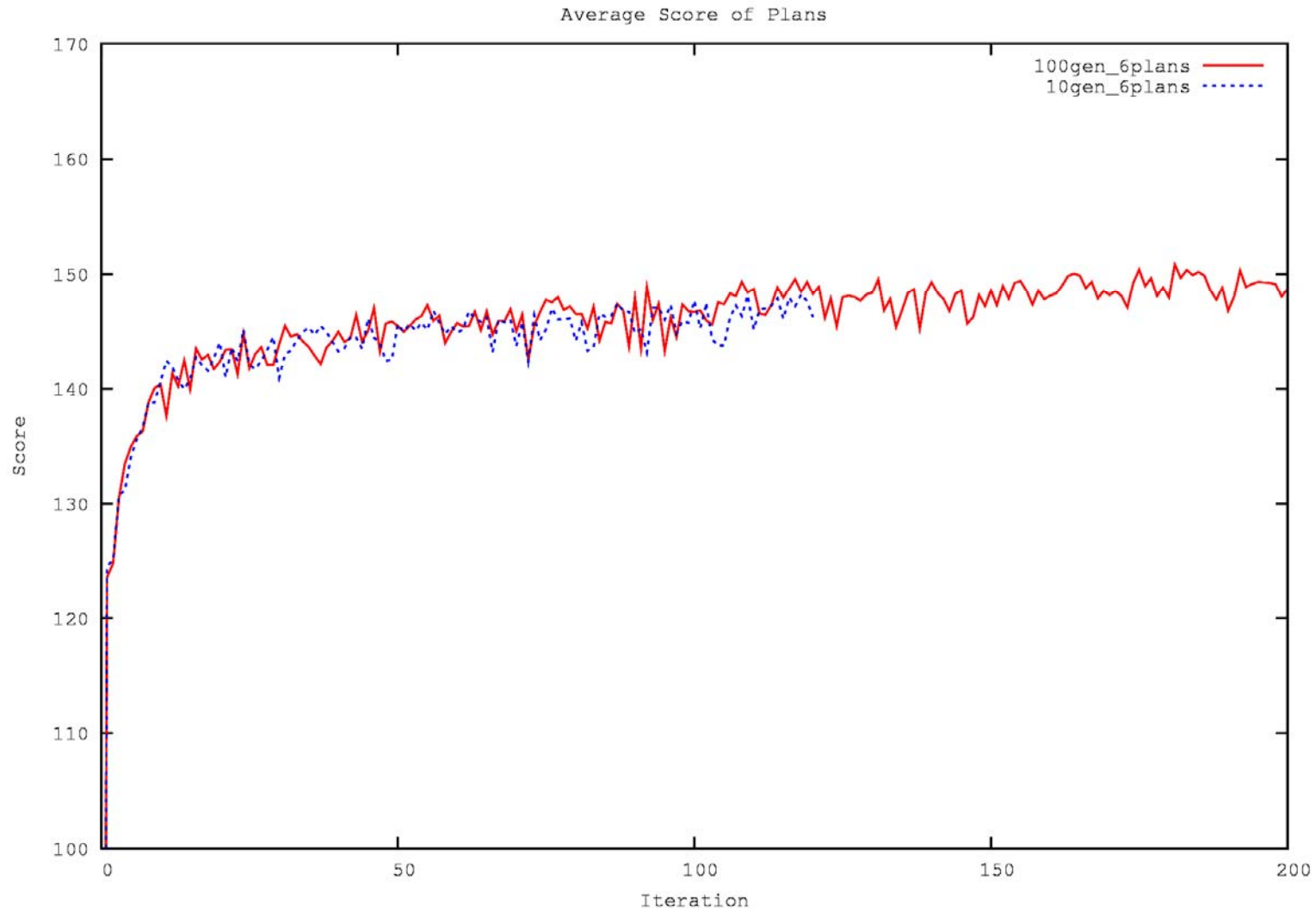


MATSIM-T Performance with Planomat-CMAES



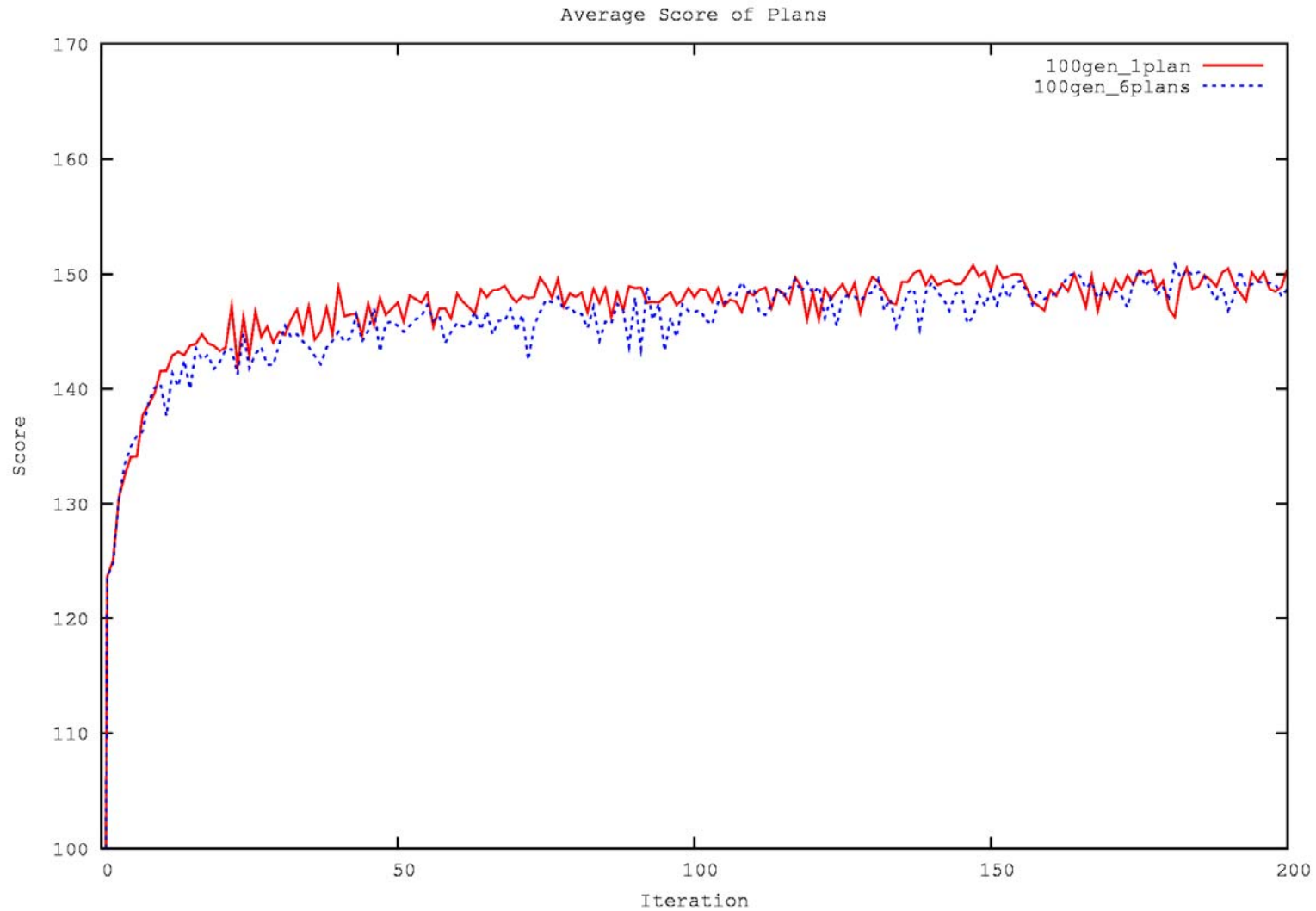
Agent DB with 6 plans per agent, $p_{\text{replan}}=0.1$, $p_{\text{reroute}}=0.1$,
 $p_{\text{random}}=0.1$, 100 CMA-generations

MATSIM-T Performance with Planomat-CMAES



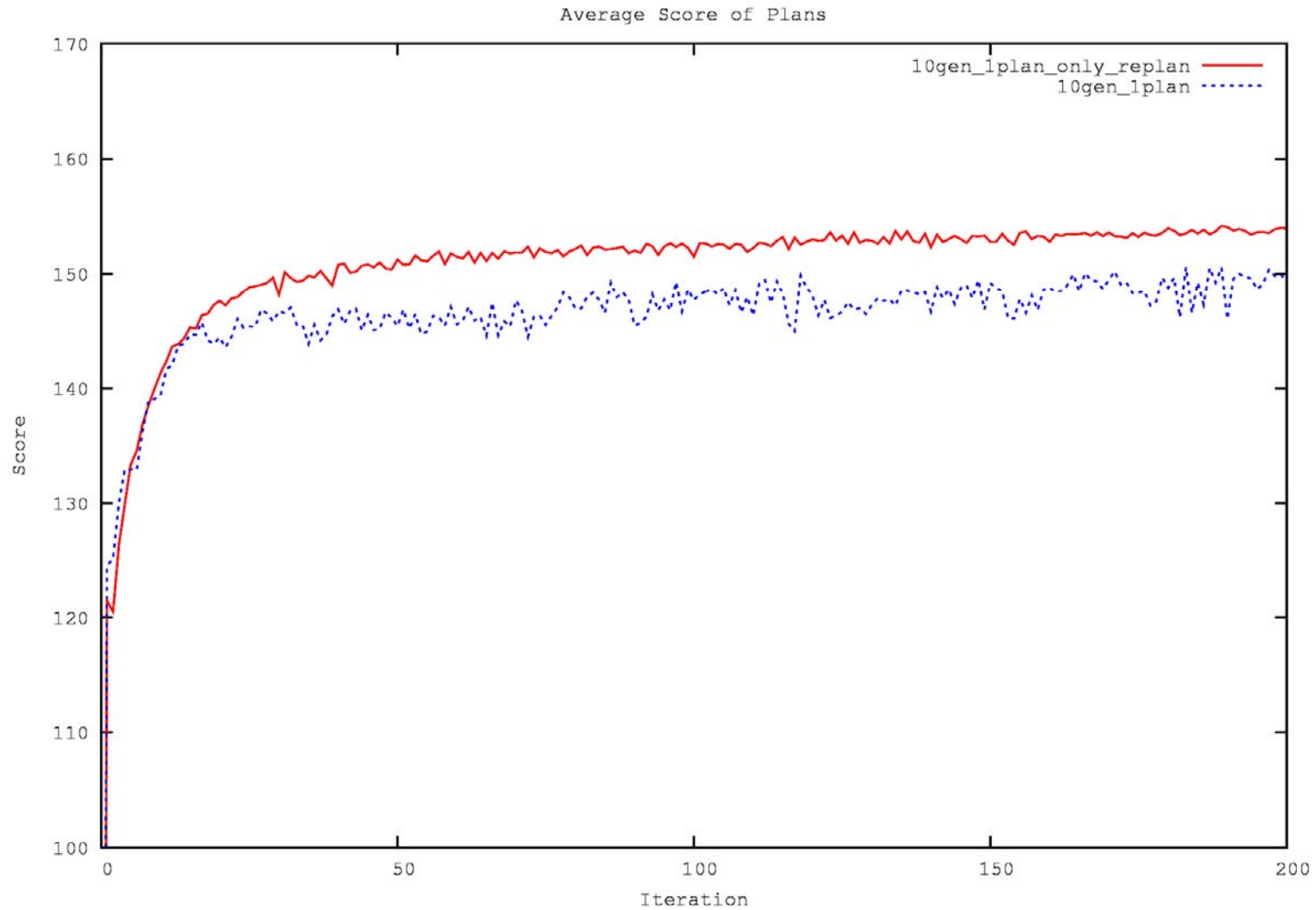
Comparison: Performance with 100 vs. 10 generations of CMA-ES evolution

MATSIM-T Performance with Planomat-CMAES



Comparison: Agent DB with 6 plans per agent vs. Agent DB with only 1 plan per agent

MATSIM-T Performance with Planomat-CMAES



Comparison: only replan vs. replan + reroute + random

Findings

- 10 generations / 100 evaluations of scoring function per agent sufficient
- Separate rerouting seems unnecessary
- Execution of randomly selected plans seems unnecessary
- Performance of learning process using MATSIM-T is not limited by quality of individual optimization of plans

Further Work

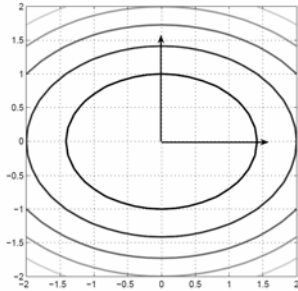
- Find optimal way of managing the replanning probability depending on state of the learning process
- Use more available information from MATSIM-EXEC in the planomat (time-dependent travel times)
- Location choice
- Mode choice
- Activity choice
- ...

Literature

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- Charypar, D. and K. Nagel (2005) Generating complete all-day activity plans with genetic algorithms, *Transportation*, 32 (4) 369–397.
- Balmer, M., K.W. Axhausen and K. Nagel (2005) An agent based demand modeling framework for large scale micro-simulations, paper submitted for the 85th annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board, TRB, Washington D.C., January 2006.
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New optimization algorithm in planomat

- **Covariance Matrix Adaptation Evolution Strategy (CMA-ES)**
- **Estimates multivariate normal distribution around current search point to maximize evolution progress**
- **Stepsize adaptation based on estimated drift of a random walk**



Contour plot of $f_{H_1}(x) = \frac{1}{5}(x_1^2 + 2x_2^2)$
typical shape for ill-conditioned problems

CMA deforms the covariance matrix in the direction of good steps

