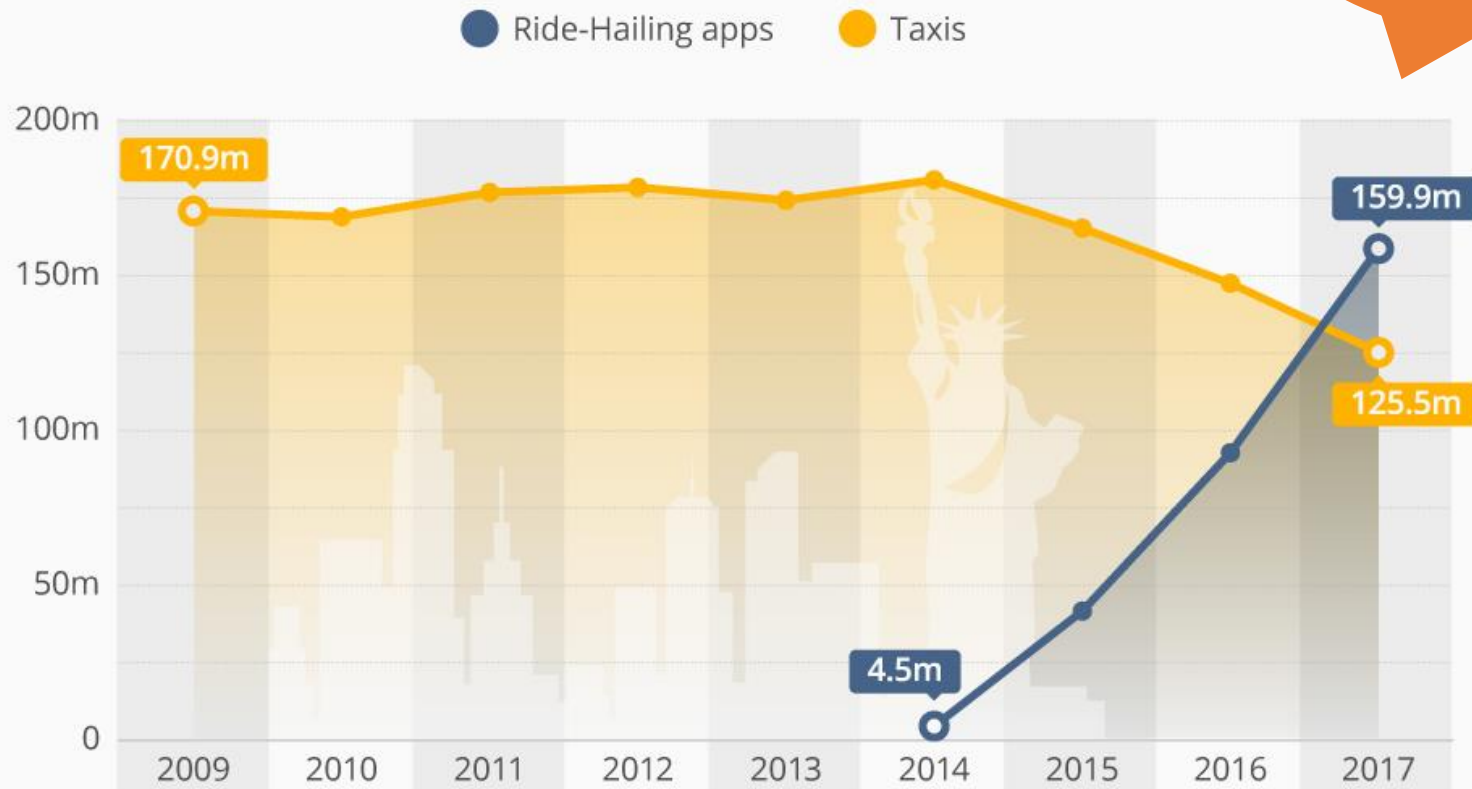


# Highly Efficient and Scalable Multi-hop Ride-sharing

Yixin Xu, Lars Kulik, Renata Borovica-Gajic, Abdullah Aldwyish, Jianzhong Qi  
The University of Melbourne

# Ride-Hailing Apps Surpass Regular Taxis in NYC

Yearly Taxi Pickups in New York City compared to Ride-Hailing Apps\*



Growing rapidly



U B E R



\* Apps include Uber, Lyft, Juno, Via and Gett; taxis include green and yellow cabs  
@StatistaCharts Source: toddwschneider.com



# Existing research focus

- Speed-up the matching time
  - Large scale real-time ridesharing with service guarantee on road networks, PVLDB, 2014
  - A unified approach to route planning for shared mobility, PVLDB, 2018
  - GeoPrune: Efficiently Matching Trips in Ride-sharing Through Geometric Properties, SSDBM, 2020
  - ...
- Improve the matching quality
  - Price-aware real-time ride-sharing at scale: an auction-based approach, SIGSPATIAL, 2016
  - Utility-aware ridesharing on road networks, SIGMOD, 2017
  - Mobility-aware dynamic taxi ridesharing, ICDE, 2020
  - ...

# Existing research focus

- Speed-up the matching time
  - Large scale real-time ridesharing with service guarantee on road networks, PVLDB, 2014
  - A unified approach to route planning for shared mobility, PVLDB, 2018

## Existing research focus: single-hop ride-sharing


- ...

- Improve the matching quality

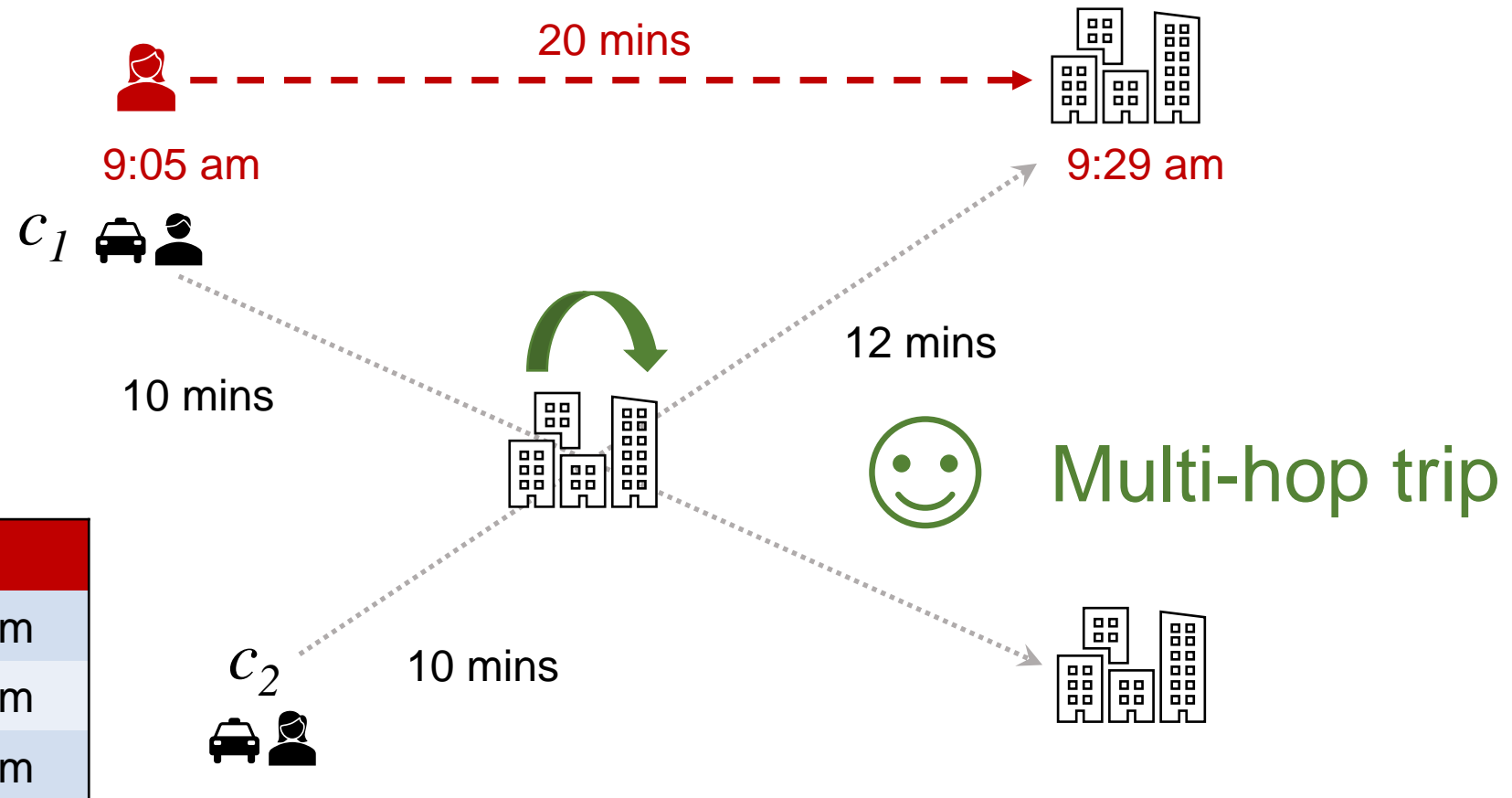
The possibility of transfers is not considered in previous works

- Utility-aware ridesharing on road networks, SIGMOD, 2017
- Mobility-aware dynamic taxi ridesharing, ICDE, 2020
- ...

# Multi-hop ride-sharing: example


 9:00 am

 No direct trip

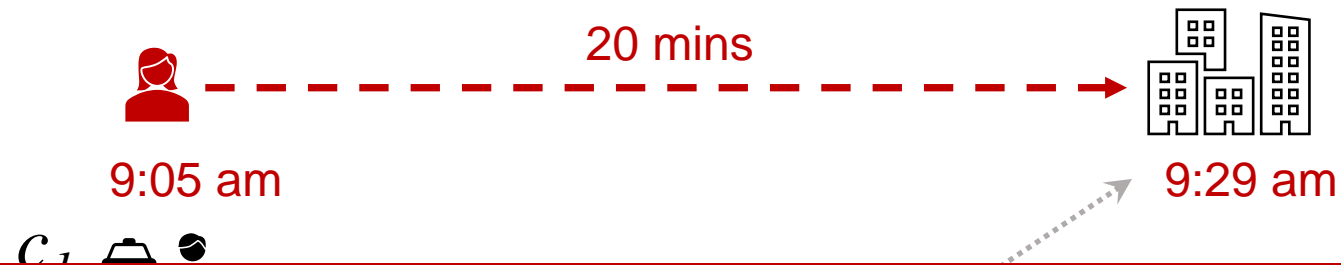


<b>Alice</b>	
issue time	9:00 am
latest pick-up	9:05 am
latest drop-off	9:29 am

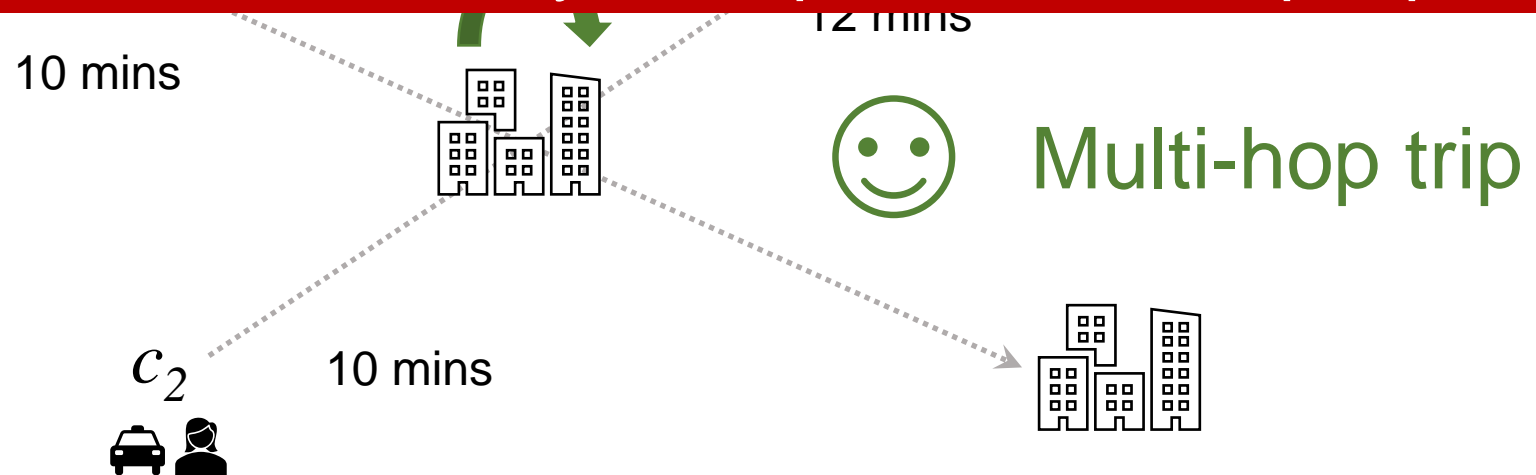
# Multi-hop ride-sharing: example

 9:00 am

 No direct trip



Research problem: efficiently find optimal multi-hop trips

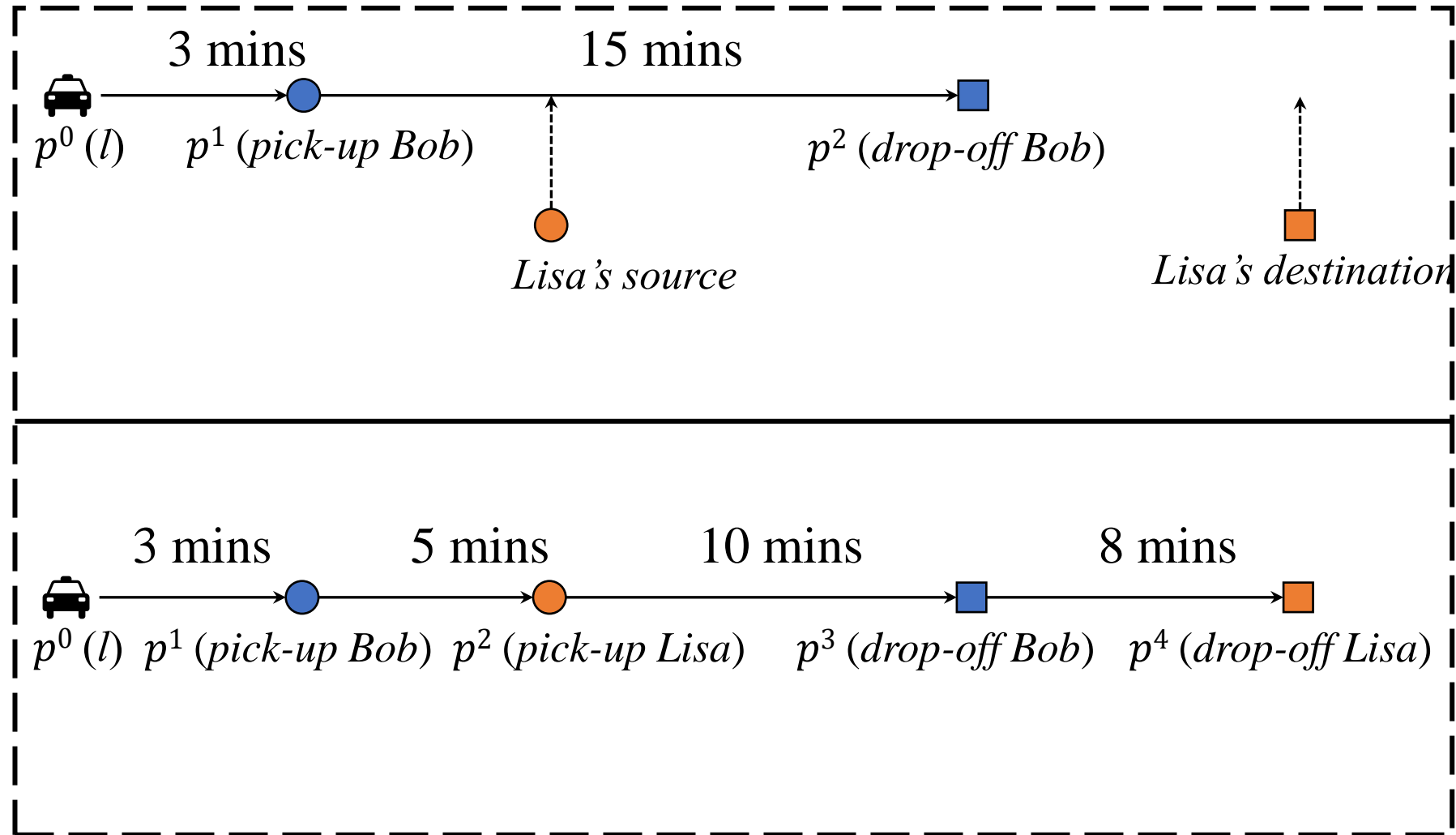


<b>Alice</b>	
issue time	9:00 am
latest pick-up	9:05 am
latest drop-off	9:29 am

# Assumption: insertion

<b>Bob</b>	
issue time	9:00 am
latest pick-up	9:05 am
latest drop-off	9:23 am

<b>Lisa</b>	
issue time	9:07 am
latest pick-up	9:12 am
latest drop-off	9:30 am



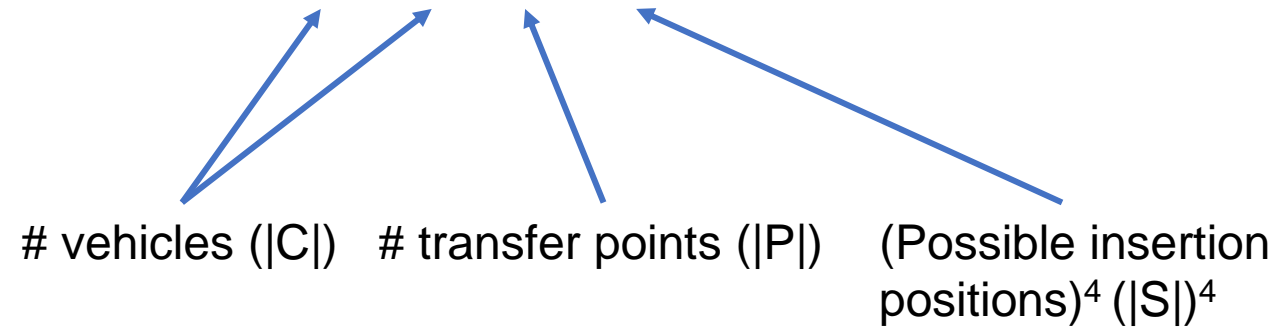
# Multi-hop match:

- $r_n.m = \langle c_1, c_2, \phi, \Gamma \rangle$ 
  - $c_1$ : the first vehicle
  - $c_2$ : the second vehicle
  - $\phi$ : the transfer point
  - $\Gamma$ : the insert positions
    - $\Gamma(s)$ : source to the first vehicle's schedule
    - $\Gamma(\phi_1)$  transfer point to the first vehicle's schedule
    - $\Gamma(\phi_2)$ : transfer point to the second vehicle's schedule
    - $\Gamma(e)$ : destination to the second vehicle's schedule



# High computational complexity

➤  $r_{n,m} = \langle c_1, c_2, \phi, \Gamma \rangle$



➤ Possible solutions:  $|C| * |C| * |P| * |S|^4$

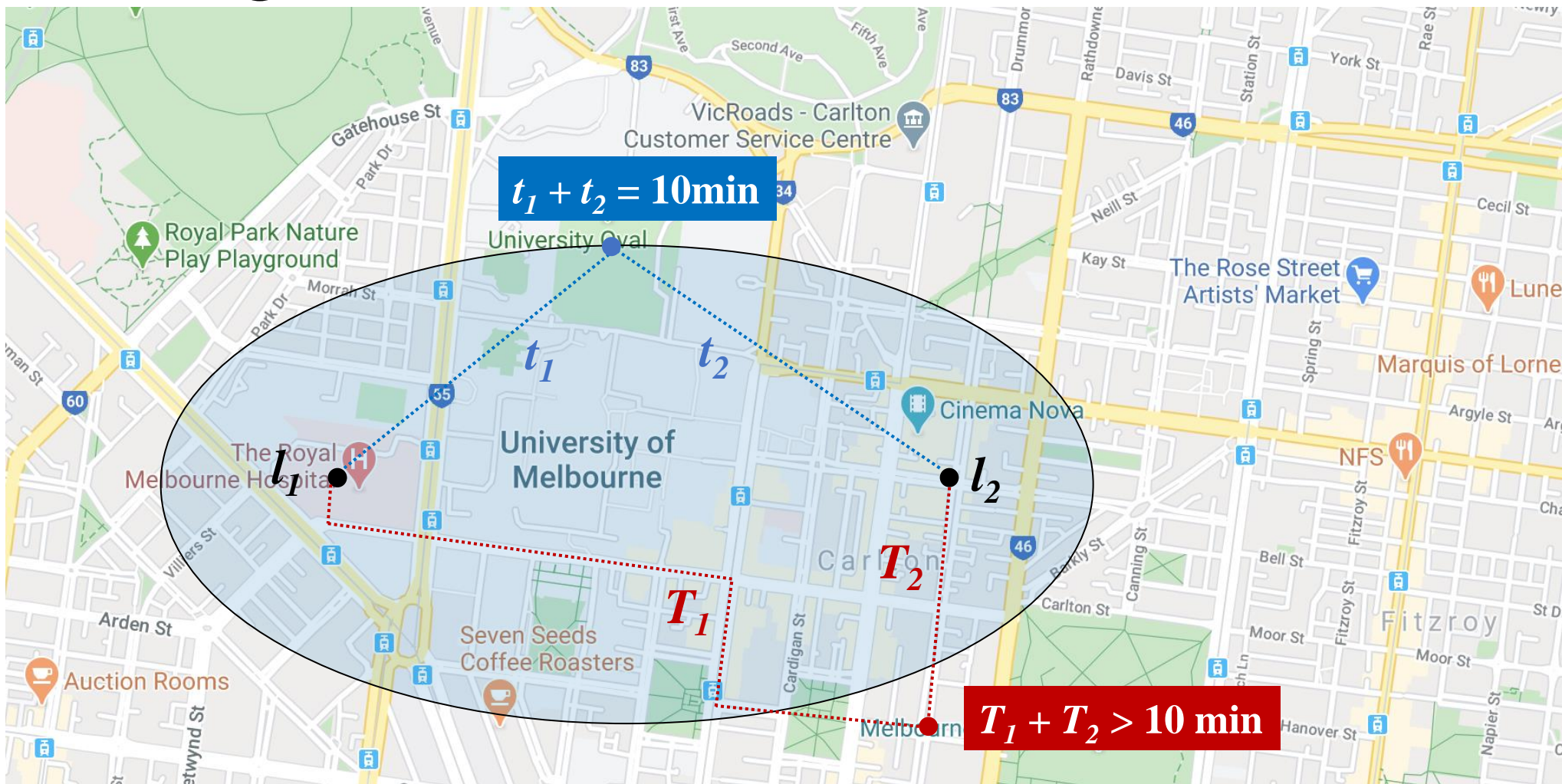
# Two algorithms are proposed

- Station-first algorithm
- Vehicle-first algorithm

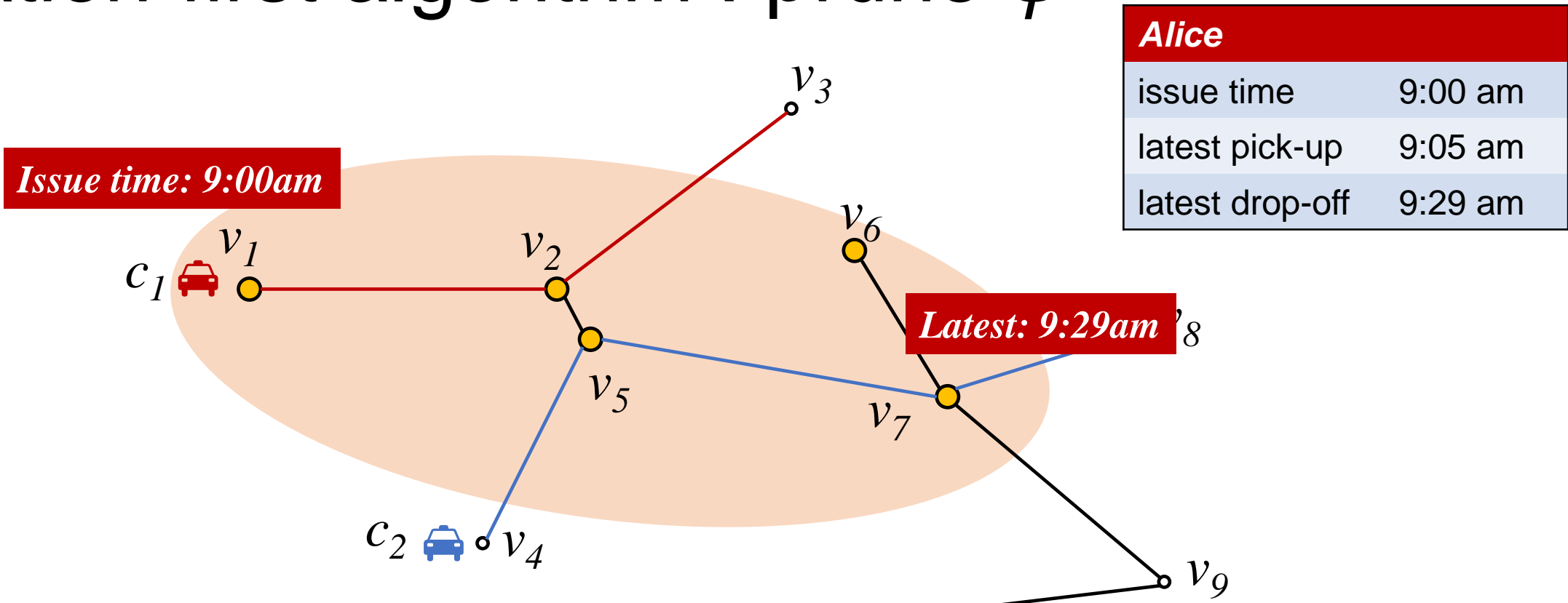
# Station-first algorithm

- $r_n.m = \langle c_1, c_2, \phi, \Gamma \rangle$ 
  - Filter out possible transfer point  $\phi$
  - For each possible  $\phi$ 
    - Search for  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $\Gamma$

# Bounding ellipse



# Station-first algorithm : prune $\phi$



Pruning strategy: the transfer point must be within a detour ellipse

# Station-first algorithm: determine $c_1$ , $c_2$ , and $\Gamma$

- A transfer point  $\phi$  splits the trip into two itineraries
  - Itinerary 1:  $s - \phi$
  - Itinerary 2:  $\phi - d$
  
- State-of-the-art single-hop algorithm – GeoPrune<sup>1</sup>
  - GeoPrune ( $s, \phi$ )
  - GeoPrune ( $\phi, d$ )

Preferable when possible transfer points are sparse

1. Yixin Xu, Jianzhong Qi, Renata Borovica-Gajic, Lars Kulik. GeoPrune: Efficiently Matching Trips in Ride-sharing Through Geometric Properties, International Conference on Scientific and Statistical Database Management (SSDBM), 2020.

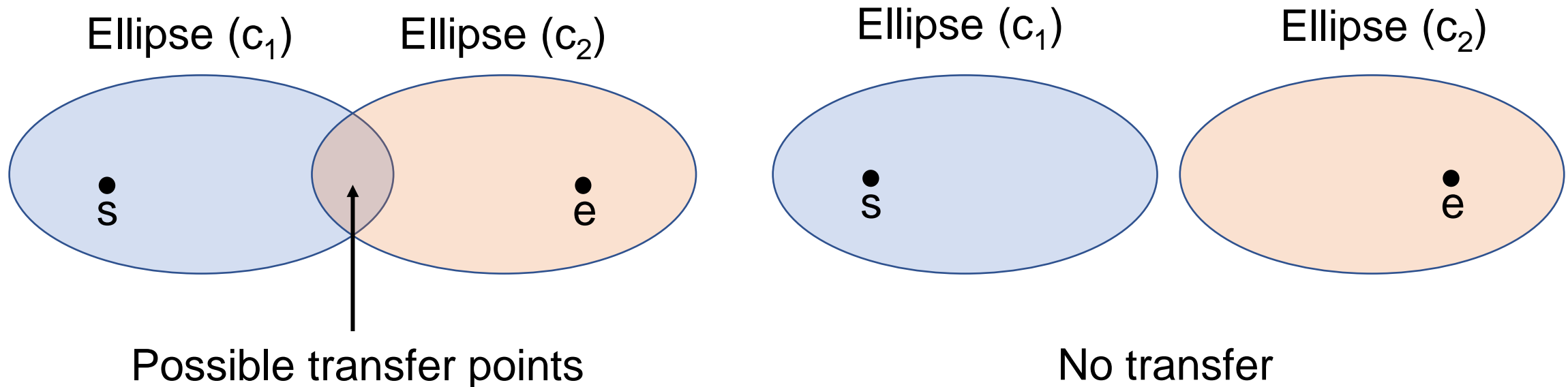
# Vehicle-first algorithm

- $r_{n,m} = \langle c_1, c_2, \phi, \Gamma \rangle$ 
  - first determine  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $\Gamma$
  - For each  $\langle c_1, c_2, \phi, \Gamma \rangle$ 
    - Search for the optimal transfer point  $\phi$

Preferable when possible transfer points are ~~sparse~~ **dense**

# Vehicle-first algorithm: determine $c_1$ , $c_2$ , and $\Gamma$

- Possible transfer
  - The detour ellipses of two vehicles must overlap





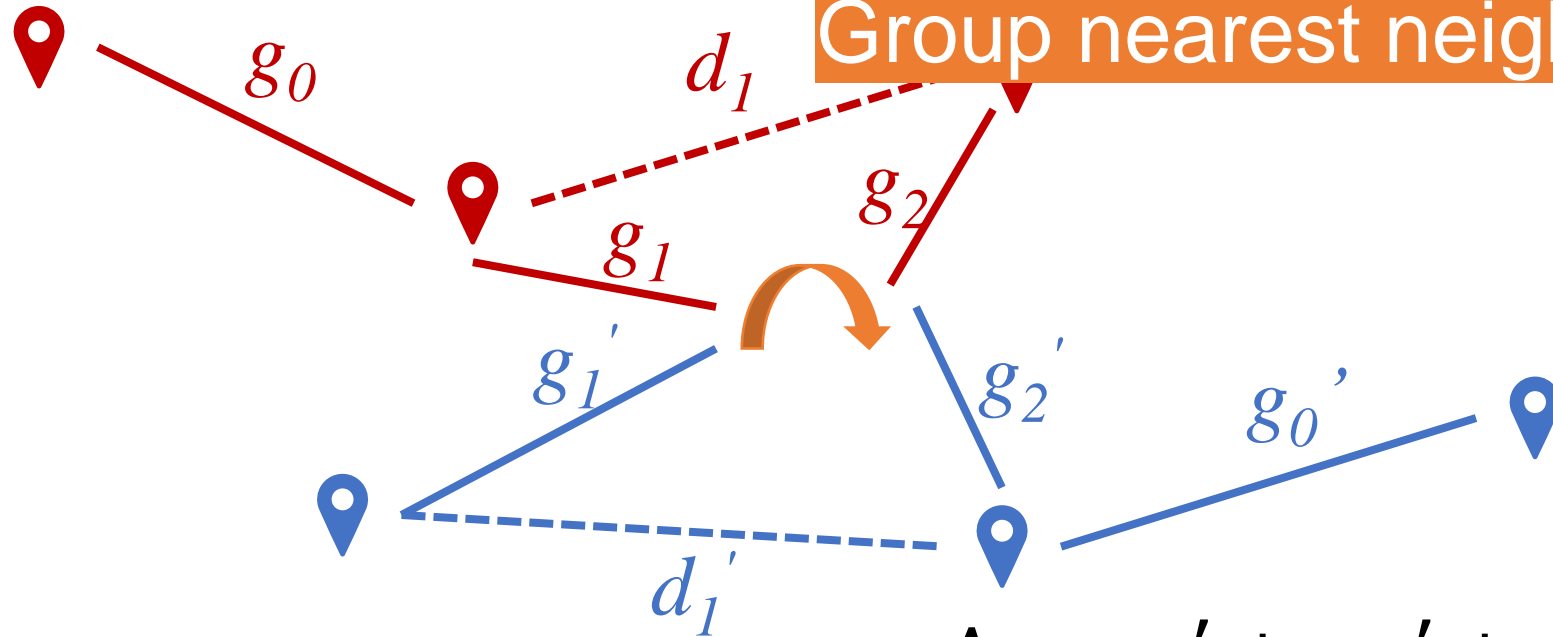
# Vehicle-first algorithm: determine $\phi$

- Key observation: the optimal transfer point depends on only several fixed locations

$$\Delta_1 = g_0 + \mathbf{g}_1 + \mathbf{g}_2 - d_1$$

Minimize  $g_1 + g_2 + g'_1 + g'_2$

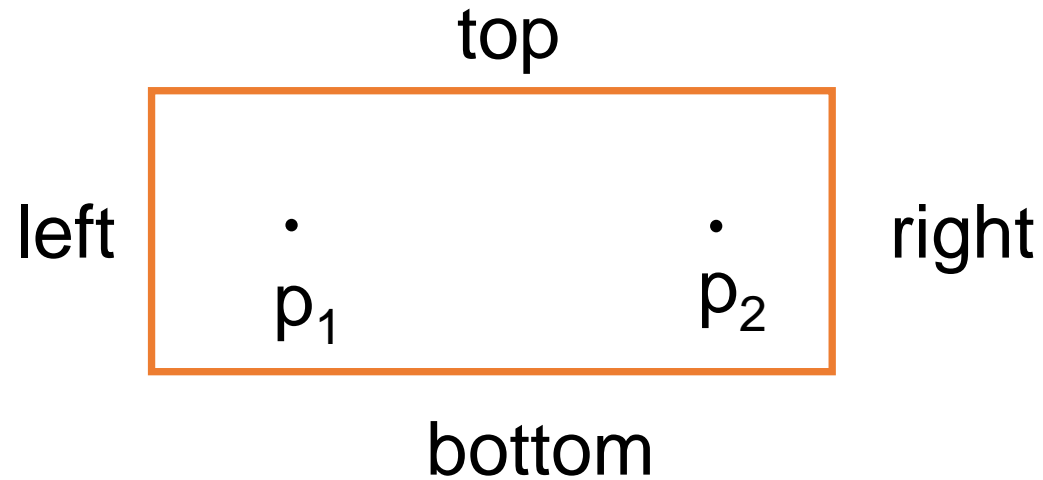
Group nearest neighbor query



$$\Delta_2 = g'_0 + \mathbf{g}'_1 + \mathbf{g}'_2 - d'_1$$

# Speed-up

- Learn the reachable area (ellipse)
- Only check the first few transfer points



# Experimental results

## ➤ **Real-word datasets**

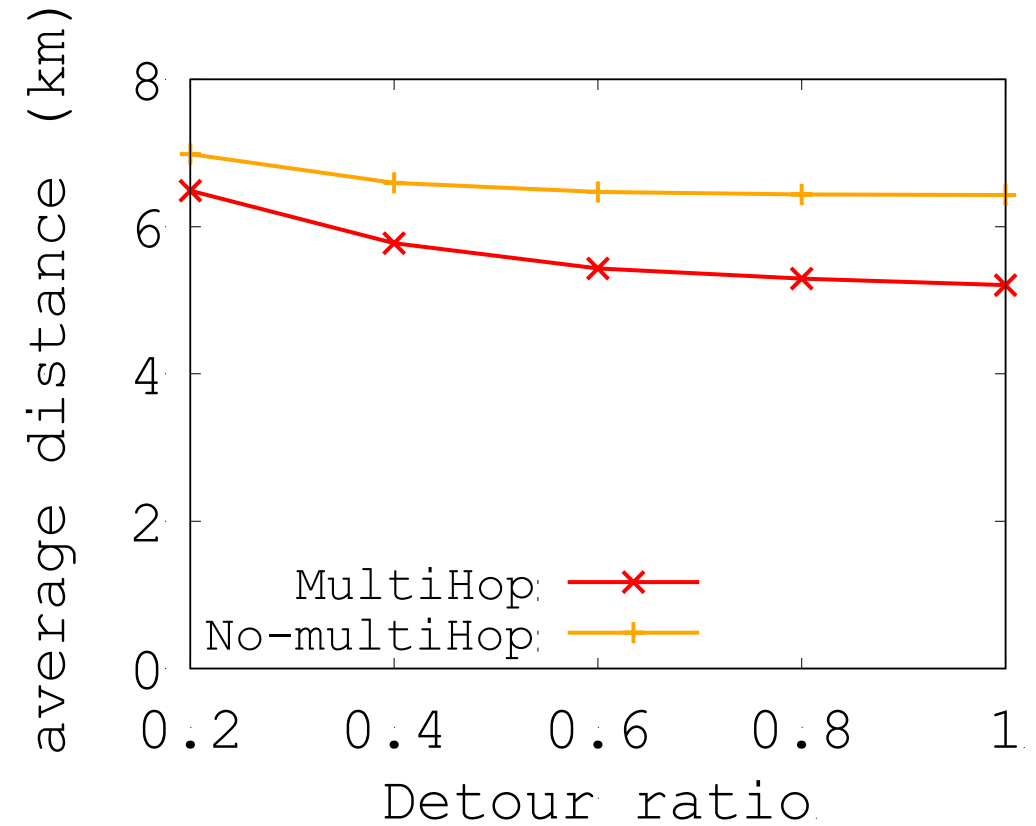
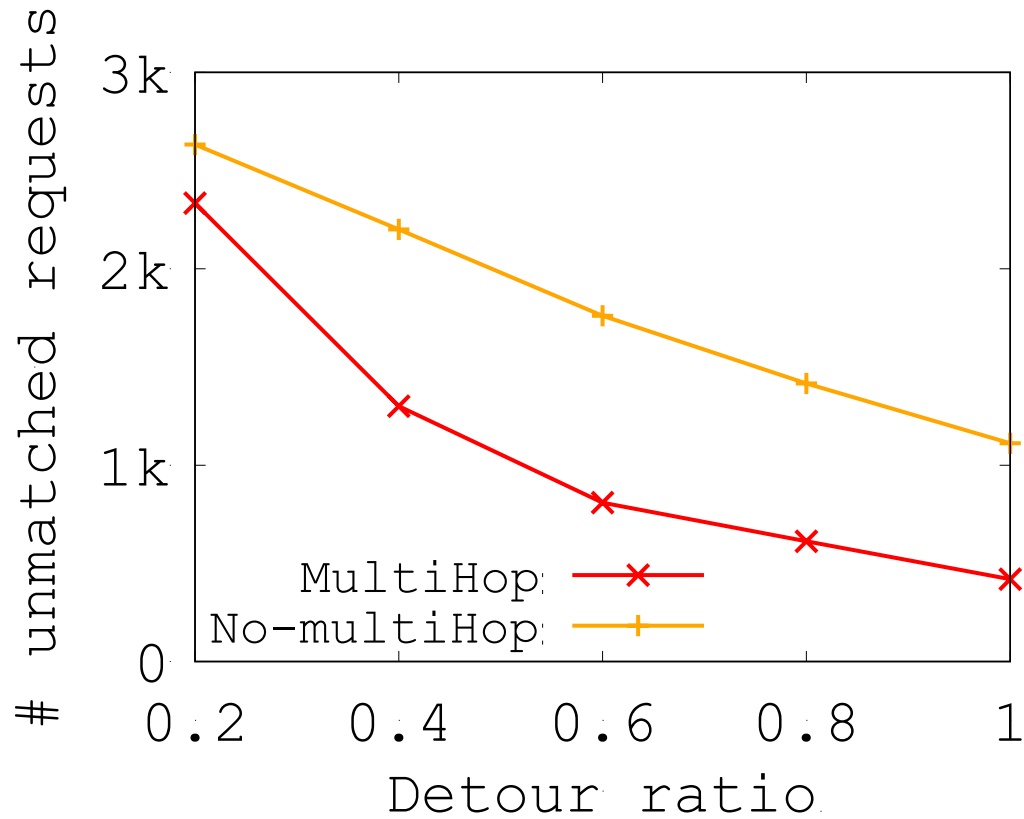
- Chengdu (CD): 166,296 nodes, 405,460 edges

## ➤ **Default settings**

- # requests: 10000
- # vehicles: 4096
- Waiting time: 4min
- Detour raio: 0.2
- Minimize the total travel distance

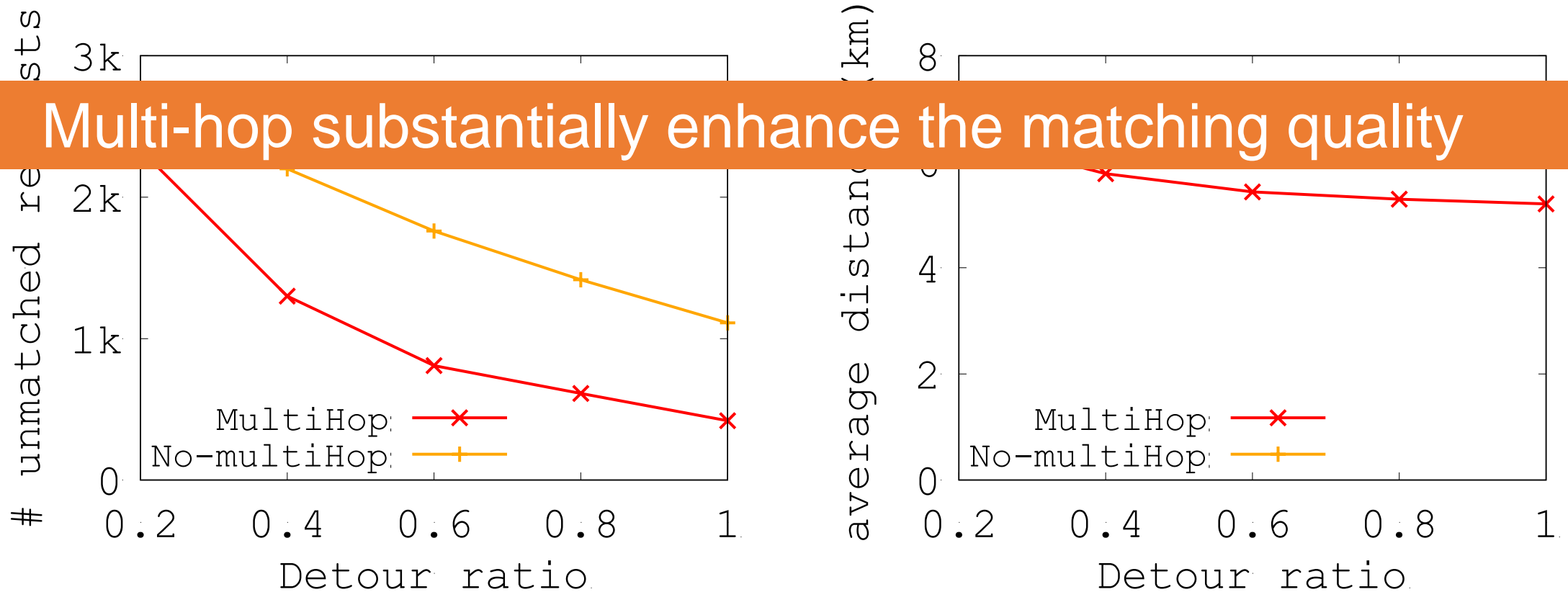
# Benefits of multi-hop ride-sharing

## ➤ Effect of the detour ratio



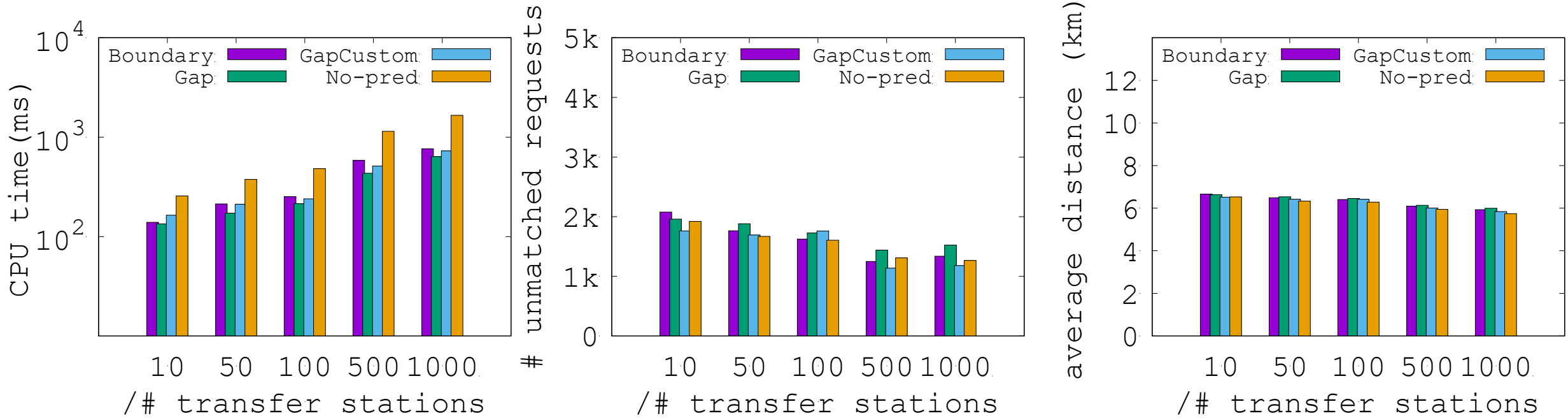
# Benefits of multi-hop ride-sharing

## ➤ Effect of the detour ratio



# Algorithm performance

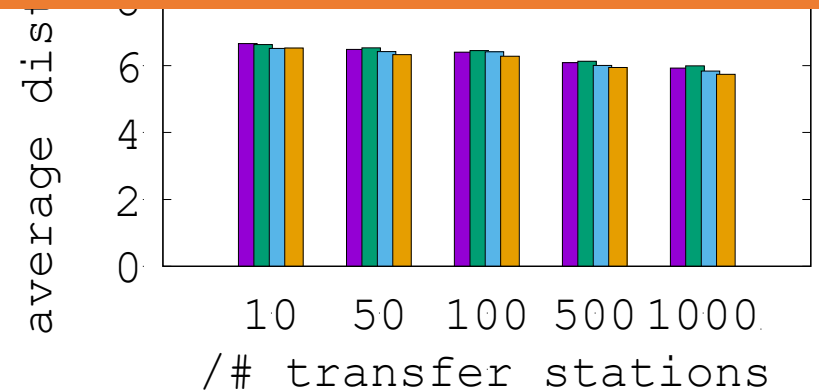
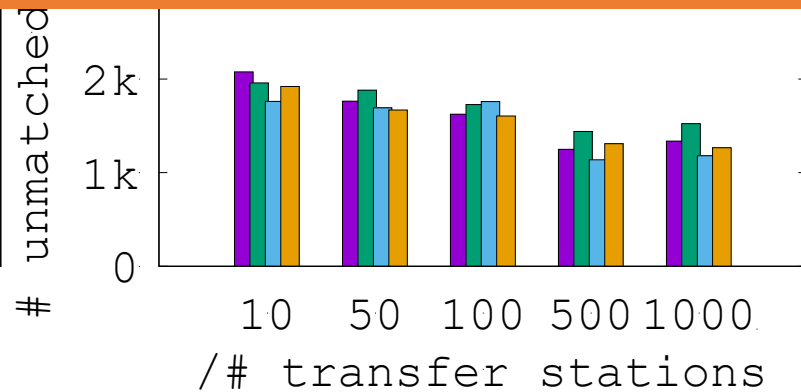
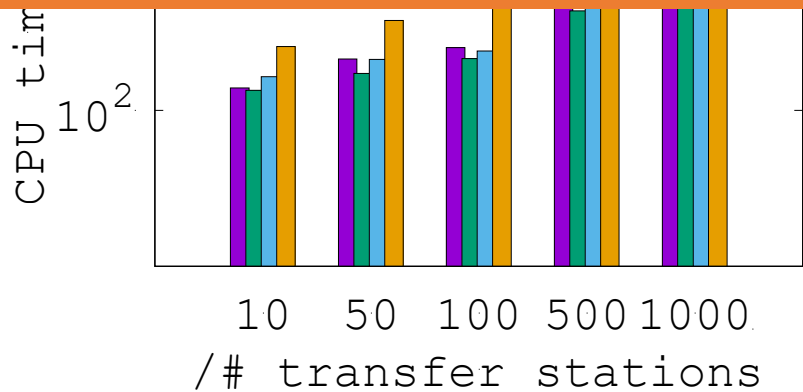
## ➤ Effect of the # transfer points



# Algorithm performance

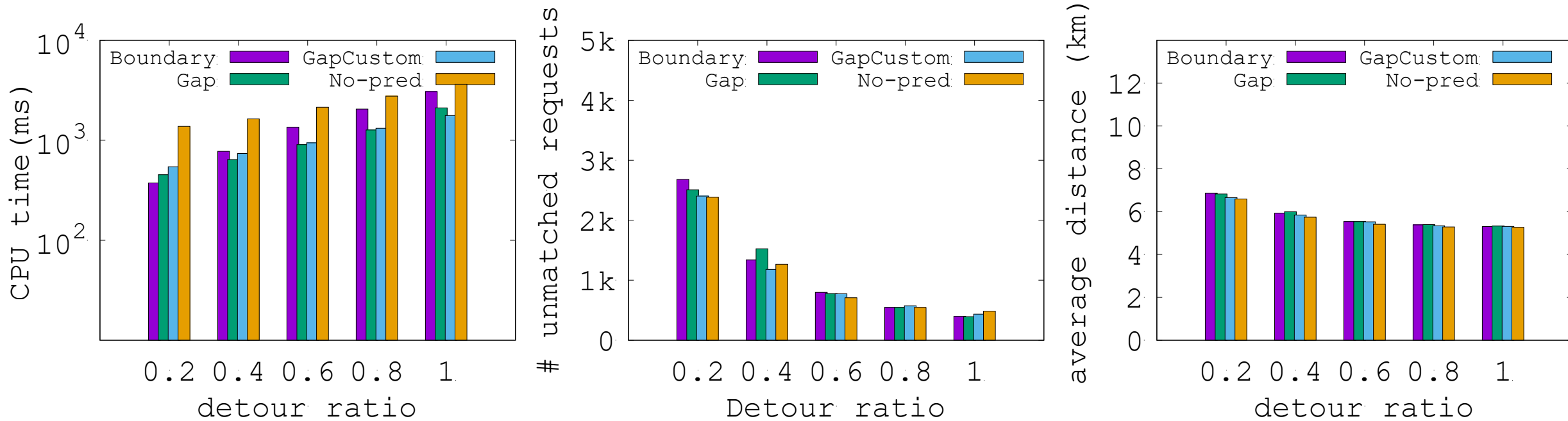
## ➤ Effect of the # transfer points

Station-first algorithm achieves faster matching time when the number of transfer points is limited



# Algorithm performance

## ➤ Effect of the detour ratio

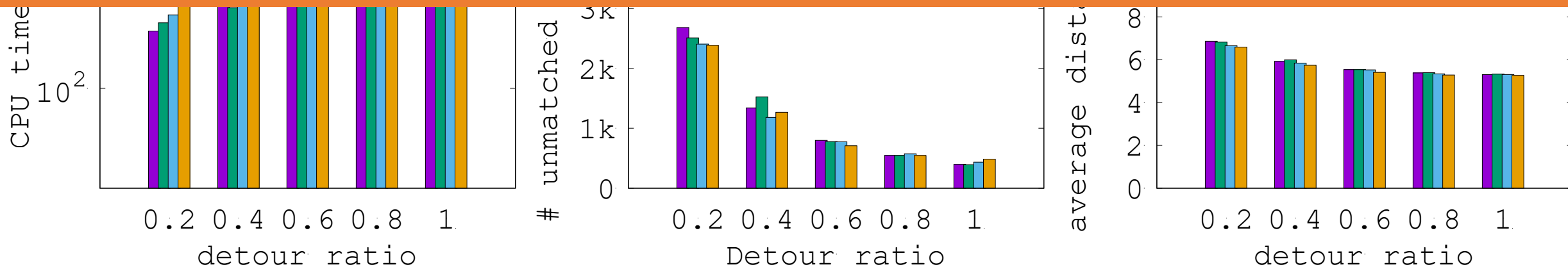




# Algorithm performance

## ➤ Effect of the detour raio

The approximation strategies improve the matching time by **one order of magnitude** while achiving comparable matching quality

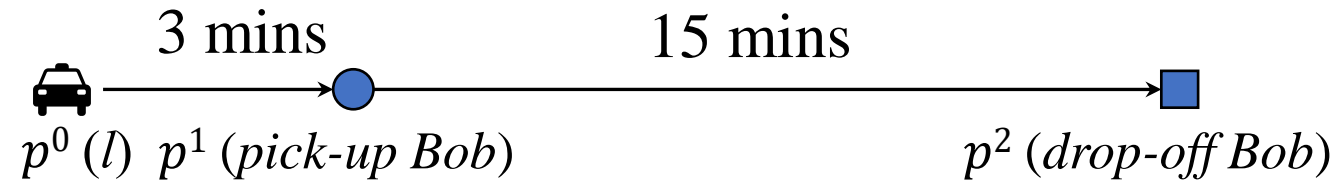


# Conclusion

- **Benefits** of Multi-hops
  - Substantially enhance flexibility of ride-sharing
  - More requests served
  - Less travel time required
- Our proposed exact algorithm outperforms the state-of-the-art by **2~3 orders of magnitude**
- Our speed-up techniques accelerate the matching time by **another order of magnitude**
- Our **efficient and scalable algorithms** enable multi-hop ride-sharing in real-world

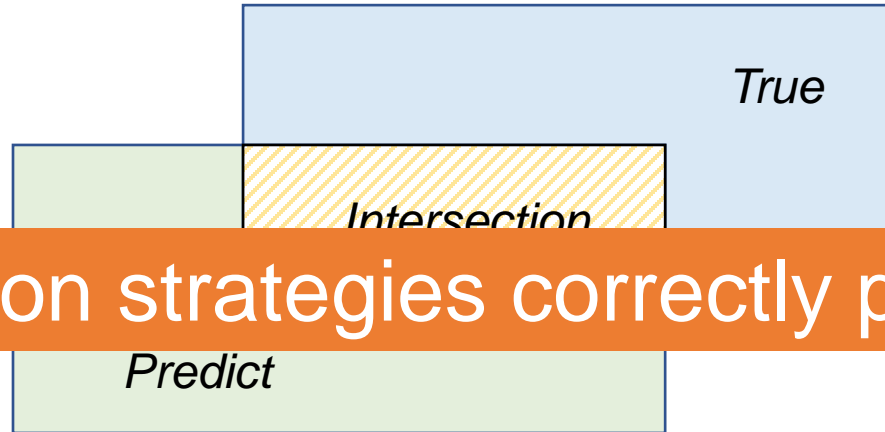
# Insertion -- vehicle schedule

<b>Bob</b>	
issue time	9:00 am
latest pick-up	9:05 am
latest drop-off	9:23 am



	$p_0$	$p_1$	$p_2$
Est arrival (Arr)	9:00 am	9:03 am	9:18 am
Lat arrival (Lat)	9:00 am	9:05 am	9:23 am

# Prediction quality



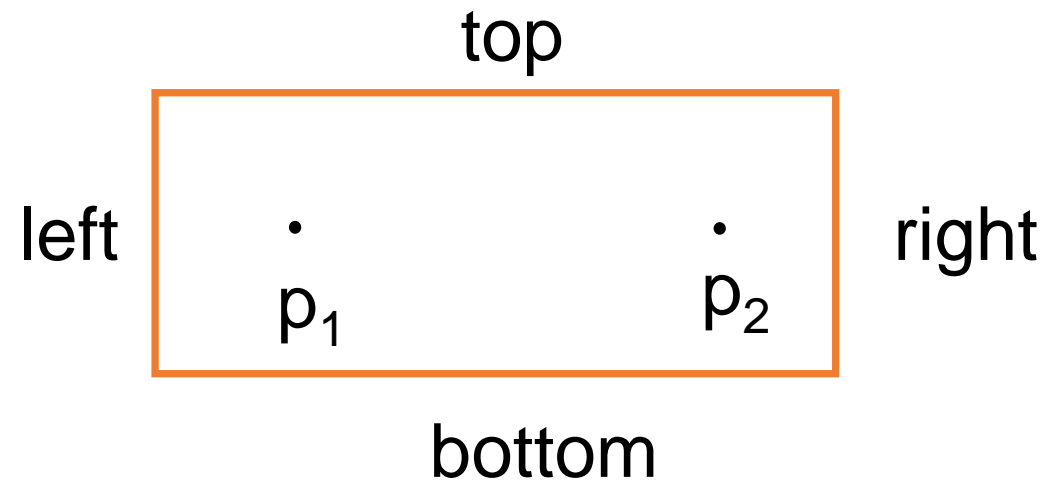
Our prediction strategies correctly predict 98% reachable areas

$$IOI = \frac{\text{Intersection}}{\text{True}}$$

Prediction	Boundary	Gap	GapCustom
IoT	94.62%	93.25%	97.68%

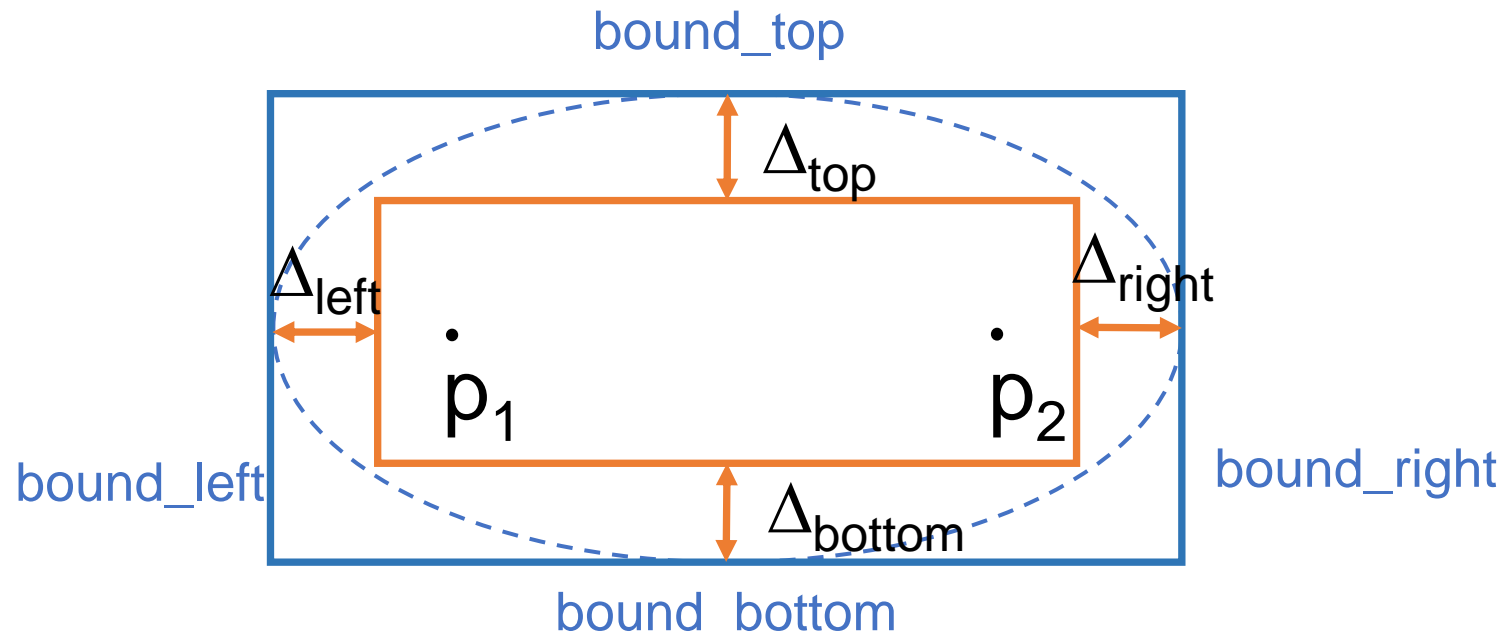
# Speed-up: learning the reachable area

- Input: the two locations, the time budget
- Strategy 1:
  - predict the four boundaries (top, left, bottom, right)
  - Loss: mean square error



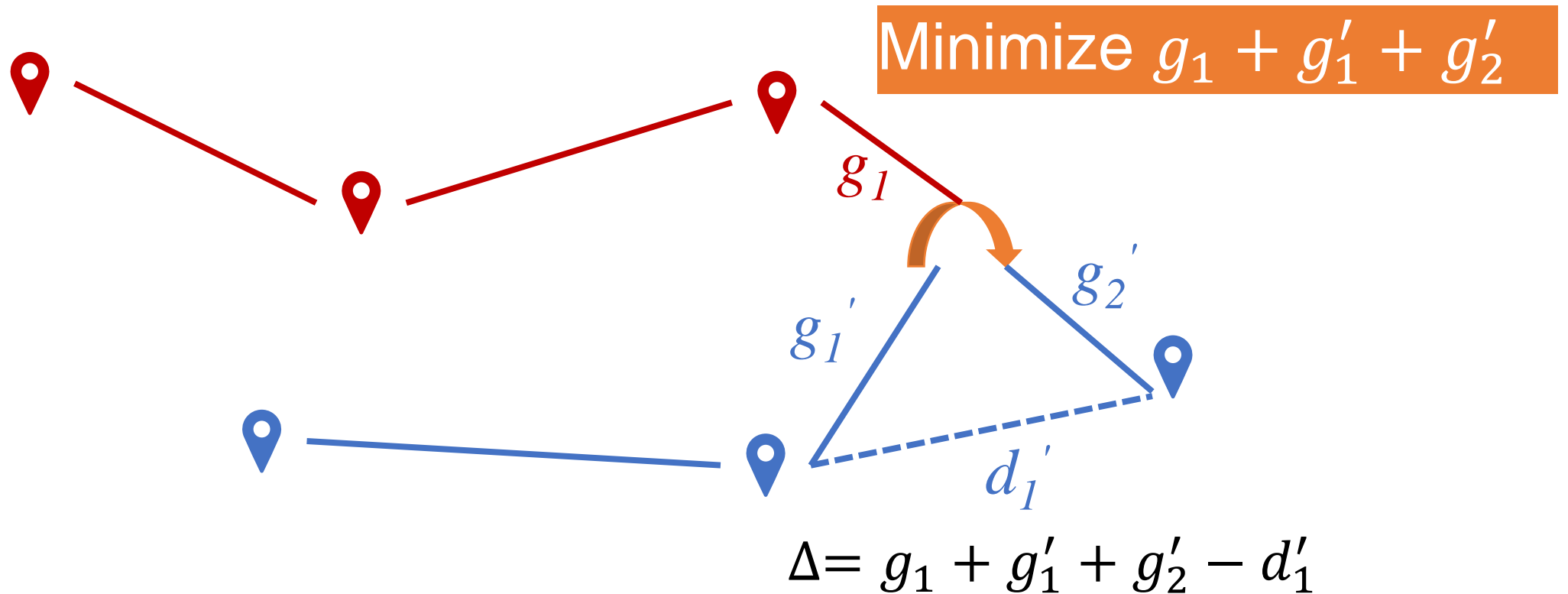
# Speed-up: learning the reachable area

- Observation: ellipses bound the reachable area
- Strategy 2:
  - predict the four gap values ( $\Delta_{\text{top}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{left}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{bottom}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{right}}$ )
  - Loss function: mean square error



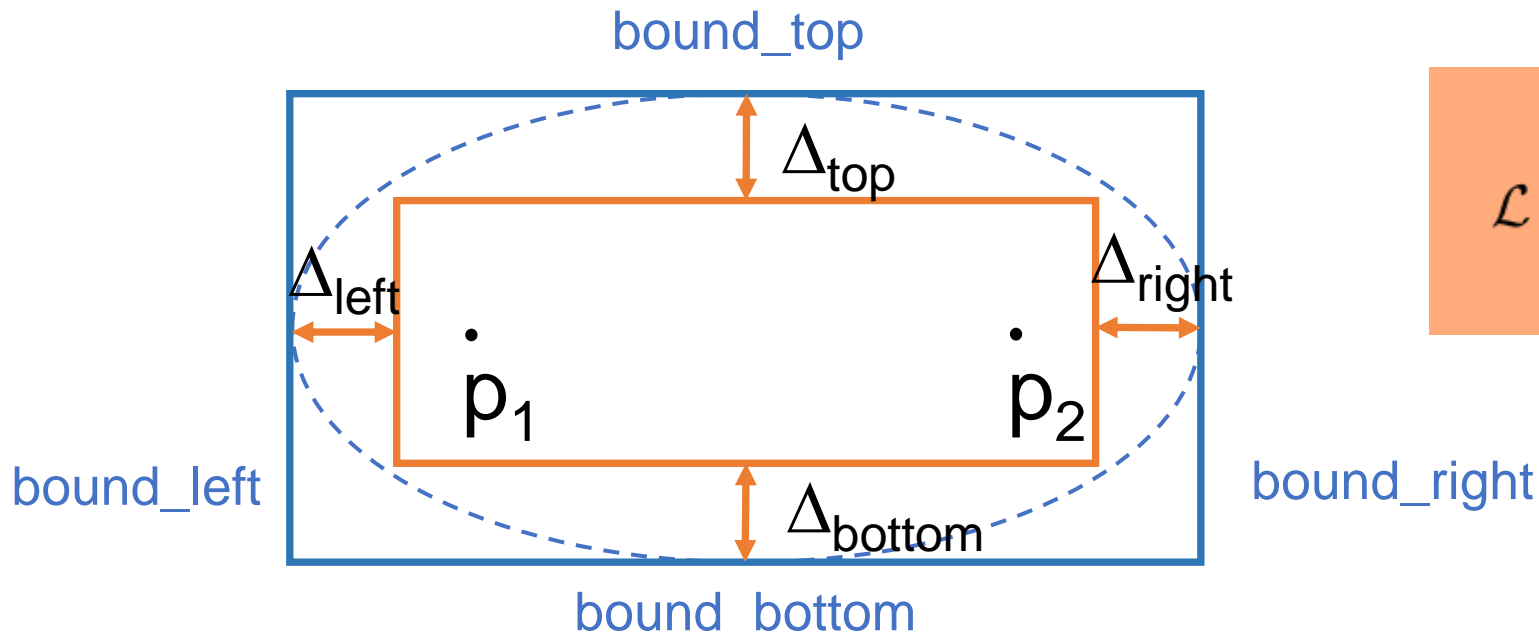
# Vehicle-first algorithm: determine $\phi$

- Key observation: the optimal transfer point depends on only 3-4 stops in the schedule.



# Speed-up: learning the reachable area

- Observation: penalize large prediction to avoid false negatives
- Strategy 2:
  - predict the four gap values ( $\Delta_{\text{top}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{left}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{bottom}}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{right}}$ )
  - Customize loss function



$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(y_{\text{true}} - y_{\text{pred}})^2$$