

Author: Eng. Carlos Andrés Sierra, M.Sc.  
[cavirguezs@udistrital.edu.co](mailto:cavirguezs@udistrital.edu.co)

Full-time Adjunct Professor  
Computer Engineering Program  
School of Engineering  
Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas

2025-III



# Outline

1 Basic Concepts



2 Cellular Automata



3 Digital Twins



# Outline

1 Basic Concepts

2 Cellular Automata

3 Digital Twins



# What is a simulation?

- **Simulations** are a type of real-world representation, but rarely exactly like the real world.
- Sometimes you need to **test** or **experiment** with expensive use cases. Simulations let you **play** with different inputs, conditions, hyperparameter optimizations.
- Also, there are dangerous or hard-to-reach scenarios where **simulations** become the best option.
- You should define the **level of detail** well enough to represent the expected behavior, without failing due to either **high complexity** or **lazy simplicity**.



# What is a simulation?

- **Simulations** are a type of real-world representation, but rarely exactly like the real world.
- Sometimes you need to **test** or **experiment** with **expensive use cases**.  
Simulations let you **play** with different **inputs**, **conditions**,  
**hyperparameter optimizations**.
- Also, there are dangerous or hard-to-reach scenarios where **simulations** become the best option.
- You should define the **level of detail** well enough to represent the expected behavior, without failing due to either **high complexity** or **lazy simplicity**.



# What is a simulation?

- **Simulations** are a type of real-world representation, but rarely exactly like the real world.
- Sometimes you need to **test** or **experiment** with **expensive use cases**. Simulations let you **play** with different inputs, conditions, hyperparameter optimizations.
- Also, there are **dangerous** or hard-to-reach **scenarios** where **simulations** become the best option.

• You should define the level of detail well enough to represent the expected behavior, without failing due to either high complexity or lack of simplicity.  
*- chemical processes  
- construction*



# What is a simulation?

- **Simulations** are a type of real-world representation, but rarely exactly like the real world.
- Sometimes you need to **test** or **experiment** with **expensive use cases**. Simulations let you **play** with different inputs, conditions, hyperparameter optimizations.
- Also, there are dangerous or hard-to-reach **scenarios** where **simulations** become the best option.
- You should define the **level of detail** well enough to represent the expected behavior, without failing due to either **high complexity** or **lazy simplicity**.



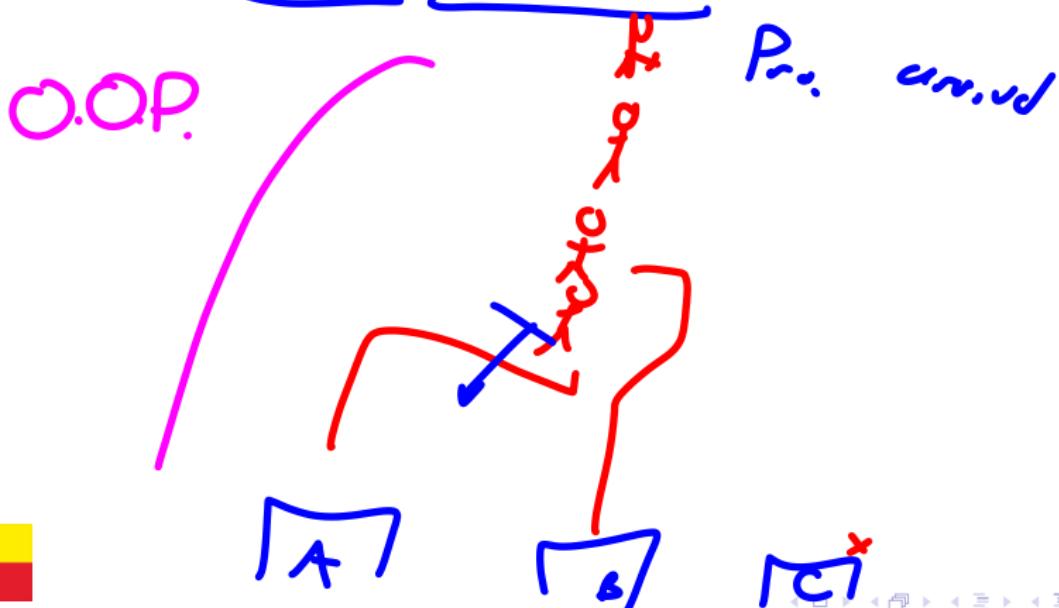
# Events and Stochastic Processes

- It is typical to play with **event probabilities**, creating **stochastic behaviors**.
- One way to simulate many systems is to use **event-based models**. Embrace the chaos and Murphy's Law.

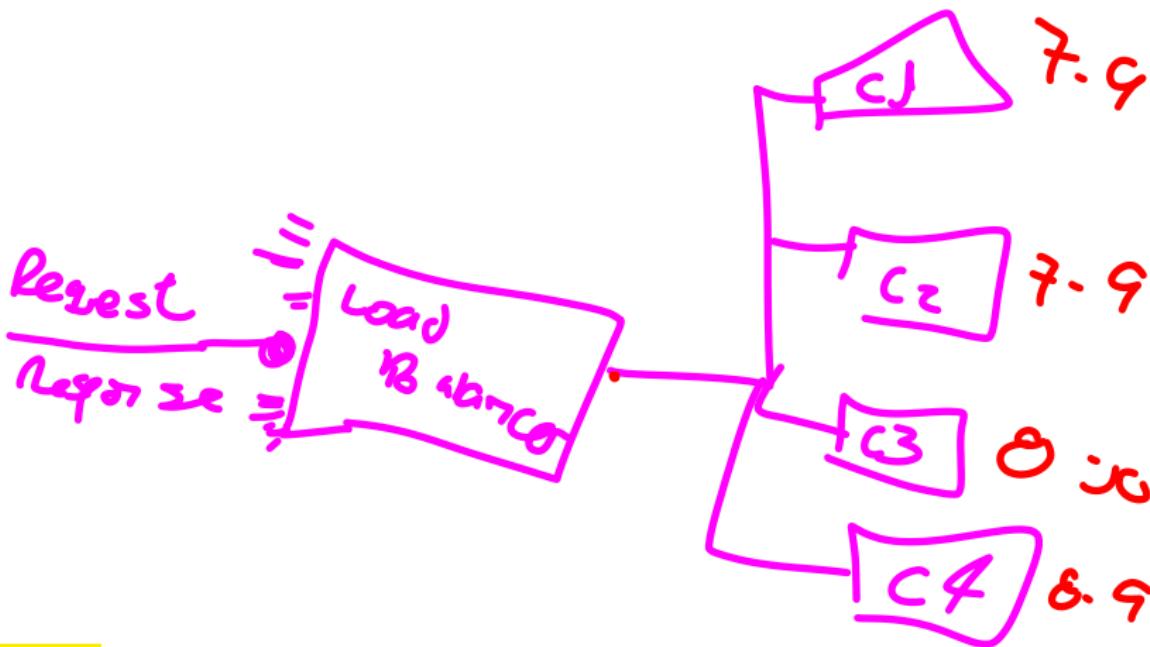


# Events and Stochastic Processes

- It is typical to play with **event probabilities**, creating **stochastic behaviors**.
- One way to **simulate** many **systems** is to use **event-based models**.  
Embrace the **chaos** and **Murphy's Law**.



# Case Study: Load Balancer in a Cloud Architecture



# Outline

1 Basic Concepts

2 Cellular Automata

3 Digital Twins

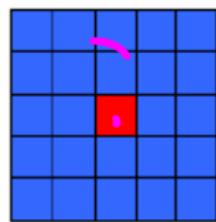
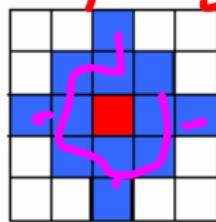
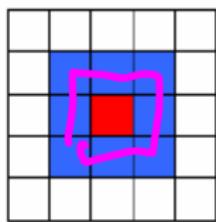
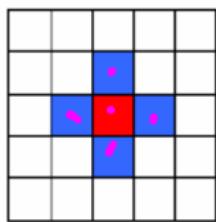
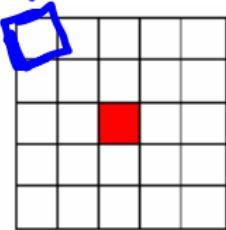


# Cellular Automata

*state changes*

- Cellular Automata are a **discrete model** defined by a **grid of cells**, each with a **state**.
- The **state of a cell** is updated based on the **states of its neighbors**.

cells



info time list object → Video games  
ATARI

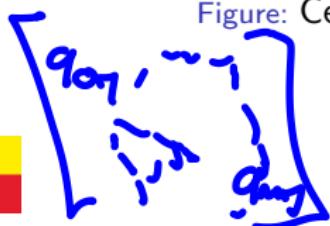


Figure: Cellular Automata Typical Neighborhoods

flow



# Game of Life

- Game of Life is a cellular automaton devised by the British mathematician John Horton Conway in 1970.
- It is a zero-player game, meaning that its evolution is determined by its initial state, requiring no further input.
- Rules:

chaos

$t = 0$

# Game of Life

- Game of Life is a cellular automaton devised by the British mathematician John Horton Conway in 1970.
- It is a zero-player game, meaning that its evolution is determined by its initial state, requiring no further input.
- Rules: *deterministic*
  - Any live cell with fewer than two live neighbors dies, as if by underpopulation.
  - Any live cell with two or three live neighbors lives on to the next generation.
  - Any live cell with more than three live neighbors dies, as if by overpopulation.
  - Any dead cell with exactly three live neighbors becomes a live cell, as if by reproduction.

$i-1, j-1$

$i, j-1$

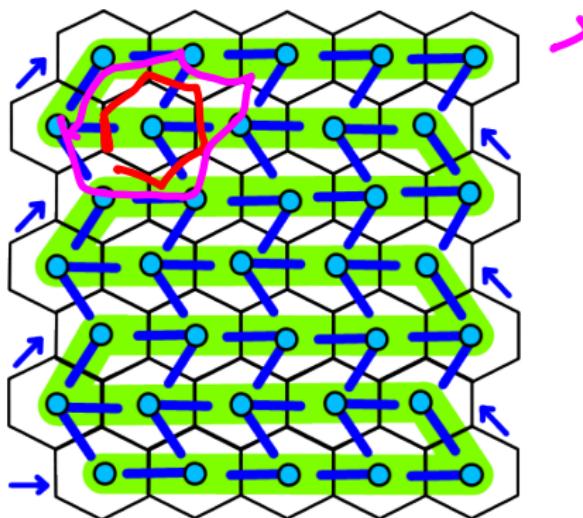


$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{for } i = 1 \dots N \\
 & \quad \text{for } j = 1 \dots N \\
 & \quad \quad \text{Sum} = \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^{N-1} M_{i+k, j+l} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{if } \text{Sum} = 3 \text{ then } L_i, j \text{ is live} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{else if } \text{Sum} < 2 \text{ then } L_i, j \text{ is dead} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{else if } \text{Sum} > 3 \text{ then } L_i, j \text{ is dead} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{else if } \text{Sum} = 2 \text{ or } 3 \text{ then } L_i, j \text{ is live}
 \end{aligned}$$



# HoneyComb Cellular Automata

- HoneyComb Cellular Automata is a different topology where a cell has six neighbors.
- This representation has different dispersion properties, which can be more interesting.



→ Sparse Matrix



## SIR Model

(2001)

→ SDS

discrete

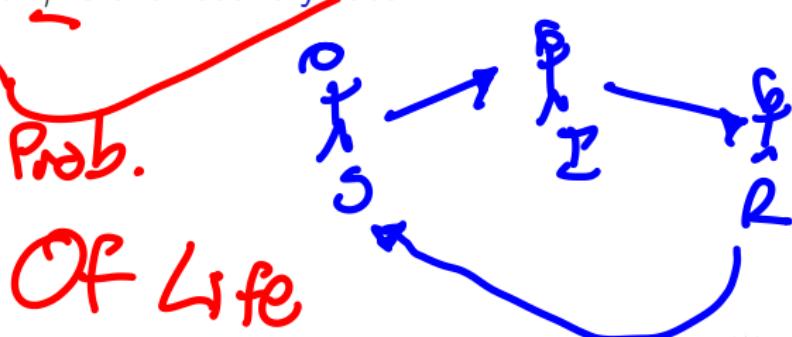
**SIR Model** is a compartmental model used to represent the transmission of a contagious disease.

- The **model** divides the population into three compartments: **S** for the number of susceptible individuals, **I** for the number of infected individuals, and **R** for the number of recovered individuals.
- The model is defined by the following differential equations where  $\beta$  is the transmission rate and  $\gamma$  is the recovery rate:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\beta \cdot S \cdot I$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta \cdot S \cdot I - \gamma \cdot I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma \cdot I$$



# Chaotic Systems

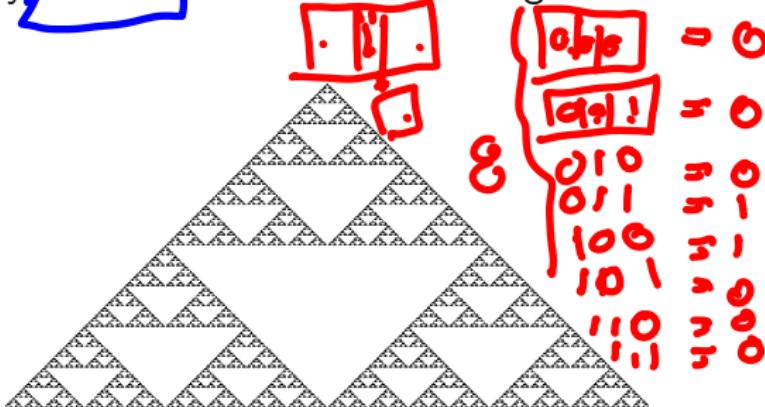
- **Chaotic Systems** are a class of **dynamical systems** that exhibit sensitive dependence on initial conditions. *8 bits → 1 byte*
  - This means that the **future behavior** of the system is **highly dependent** on the **initial conditions**.
  - The **Lorenz System** is a well-known example of a **chaotic system**.
  - Using **cellular automata** to simulate **chaotic systems** is a common practice. Many **fractals** can be created using what are called **chaotic rules**.

dynamical systems that exhibit  
conditions. 8 bits  $\rightarrow$  1 byte

Rules:  
4D ~ 3.7D  
3D 2.1D  
2D 1.9D

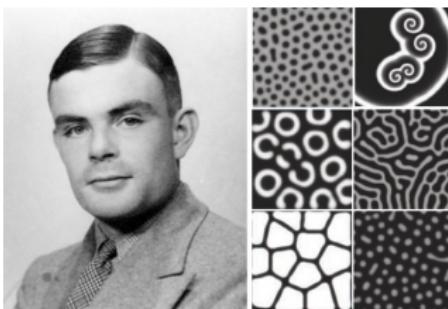


Sierpinski  
M.S. (UD-EG)



# Turing Morphogenesis

- **Turing Morphogenesis** is a theory of biological development that explains how **patterns** form in **living** organisms.
- The theory is based on the idea that **chemical signals** can interact to create **patterns** in living organisms.
- The **reaction-diffusion** model is a common way to simulate **Turing morphogenesis**.
- The model is defined by a set of **reaction** and **diffusion** equations that describe how the **chemical signals** interact.



# Outline

1 Basic Concepts

2 Cellular Automata

3 Digital Twins



# What are Digital Twins?

- A **Digital Twin** is a *virtual model* that accurately reflects a physical object or **system**.
- **Digital twins** enable **real-time monitoring**, **simulation**, and **analysis** of the physical counterpart.
- They are widely used in **manufacturing**, **smart cities**, **healthcare**, and **energy systems**.
- By integrating sensor data, **digital twins** help in predictive maintenance and process optimization.



# Applications of Digital Twins

- **Manufacturing:** Monitor equipment performance and **predict failures.**
- **Urban Planning:** Model city infrastructure to optimize traffic and resource use.
- **Healthcare:** Simulate patient-specific treatments and optimize procedures.
- **Energy Systems:** Analyze grid performance and integrate renewable energy sources.



# Applications of Digital Twins

- **Manufacturing:** Monitor equipment performance and **predict failures**.
- **Urban Planning:** Model city infrastructure to **optimize traffic** and resource use.
- **Healthcare:** Simulate patient-specific treatments and optimize procedures.
- **Energy Systems:** Analyze grid performance and integrate renewable energy sources.



# Applications of Digital Twins

- **Manufacturing:** Monitor equipment performance and **predict failures**.
- **Urban Planning:** Model city infrastructure to **optimize traffic** and resource use.
- **Healthcare:** **Simulate** patient-specific treatments and optimize procedures.
- **Energy Systems:** Analyze grid performance and integrate renewable energy sources.



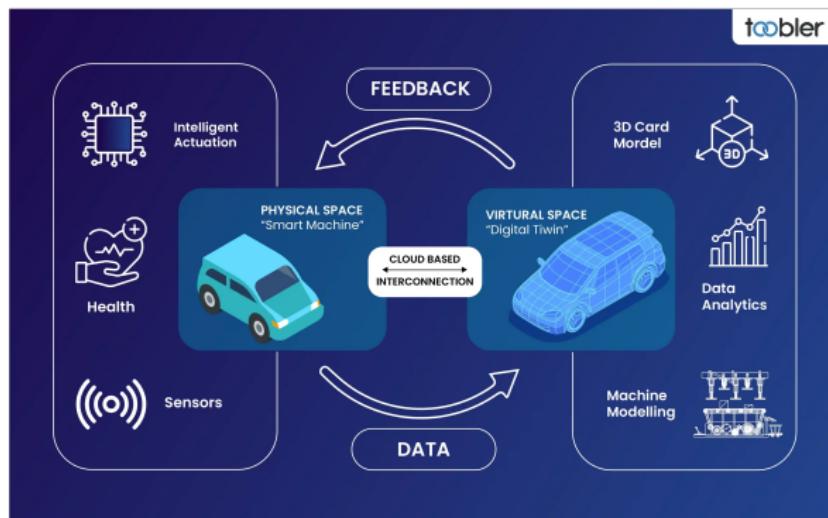
# Applications of Digital Twins

- **Manufacturing:** Monitor equipment performance and **predict failures**.
- **Urban Planning:** Model city infrastructure to **optimize traffic** and resource use.
- **Healthcare:** **Simulate** patient-specific treatments and optimize procedures.
- **Energy Systems:** Analyze **grid** performance and integrate renewable energy sources.



# Benefits of Digital Twins

- Enhanced **decision-making** through **real-time data analysis**.
- Improved efficiency and reduced operational costs.
- *Better understanding* of system behavior and performance.
- Increased collaboration between teams and stakeholders.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Challenges of Digital Twins

- Data integration and management.
- Ensuring data security and privacy.
- Maintaining the accuracy of the digital twin.
- Managing the complexity of the physical system.
- Ensuring interoperability between different systems and platforms.
- Scalability to accommodate large-scale systems.
- Cost of implementation and maintenance.
- User training and adoption.
- Regulatory compliance and standardization.
- Ethical considerations in data usage and analysis.
- Environmental impact of digital twin technologies.



# Outline

1 Basic Concepts

2 Cellular Automata

3 Digital Twins



# Thanks!

## Questions?



Repo: <https://github.com/EngAndres/ud-public/tree/main/courses/systems-analysis>

