

Question 13.2

In this problem you, can simulate a simplified airport security system at a busy airport. Passengers arrive according to a Poisson distribution with $\lambda_1 = 5$ per minute (i.e., mean interarrival rate $\mu_1 = 0.2$ minutes) to the ID/boarding-pass check queue, where there are several servers who each have exponential service time with mean rate $\mu_2 = 0.75$ minutes. [Hint: model them as one block that has more than one resource.] After that, the passengers are assigned to the shortest of the several personal-check queues, where they go through the personal scanner (time is uniformly distributed between 0.5 minutes and 1 minute).

Use the Arena software (PC users) or Python with SimPy (PC or Mac users) to build a simulation of the system, and then vary the number of ID/boarding-pass checkers and personal-check queues to determine how many are needed to keep average wait times below 15 minutes. [If you're using SimPy, or if you have access to a non-student version of Arena, you can use $\lambda_1 = 50$ to simulate a busier airport.]

<My Python code for the simulation>

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1 import simpy
2 import random
3 import numpy as np
4 import pandas as pd
5 import plotly.express as px

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class SecurityCheckpoint:
    def __init__(self, env, id_stations, scan_stations, id_check_server_time, scan_time_range):
        self.env = env
        self.id_check = simpy.Resource(env, id_stations)
        self.scan = simpy.Resource(env, scan_stations)
        self.id_check_server_time = id_check_server_time
        self.scan_time_range = scan_time_range

    def check_id(self, traveler_id):
        id_check_duration = random.expovariate(1 / self.id_check_server_time)
        yield self.env.timeout(id_check_duration)
        # print(f'A traveler {traveler_id} leaves the id check station at {env.now:.2f}.')

    def scan_traveler(self, traveler_id):
        scan_duration = random.uniform(self.scan_time_range[0], self.scan_time_range[1])
        yield self.env.timeout(scan_duration)
        # print(f'A traveler {traveler_id} leaves the scanning station at {env.now:.2f}.')

    def traveler(env, checkpoint, traveler_id):
        arrival_time = env.now

        with checkpoint.id_check.request() as request:
            yield request # a traveler enters id check station
            yield env.process(checkpoint.check_id(traveler_id)) # the traveler leaves id check station

        with checkpoint.scan.request() as request:
            yield request # a traveler enters scanning station
            yield env.process(checkpoint.scan_traveler(traveler_id)) # the traveler leaves id check station
        # print(f'now {env.now} - arrival_time {arrival_time} = {env.now - arrival_time}')
        wait_durations.append(env.now - arrival_time)

def security_checkpoint_operation(env, id_stations, scan_stations, id_check_server_time, scan_time_range):
    checkpoint = SecurityCheckpoint(env, id_stations, scan_stations, id_check_server_time, scan_time_range)

    traveler_id = 1

    # Create 1 initial traveler
    for _ in range(1):
        env.process(traveler(env, checkpoint, f'{traveler_id}'))

    while True:
        yield env.timeout(random.expovariate(1 / MEAN_INTERARRIVAL_RATE))
        traveler_id += 1
        env.process(traveler(env, checkpoint, f'{traveler_id}'))

def average_wait_time(durations):
    mean_wait = np.mean(durations)
    return mean_wait
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1 SEED = 1
2 ID_STATIONS = 20 # will vary
3 ID_CHECK_SERVER_TIME = 0.75 # minutes
4
5 SCAN_STATIONS = 20 # will vary
6 SCAN_TIME_RANGE = [0.5, 1] # minutes
7
8 # Passengers arrive according to a Poisson distribution with  $\lambda 1$  / per minute
9 lambda1 = 50 #  $\lambda 1 = 50$  to simulate a busier airport
10 MEAN_INTERARRIVAL_RATE = 1 / lambda1 # minutes

1 # Getting unique combinations of two lists 'id_check_station_time' and 'scan_station_time'
2 import itertools
3
4 id_check_station_time = list(range(10, 41, 1))
5 scan_station_time = list(range(10, 41, 1))
6 combinations = list(itertools.product(id_check_station_time, scan_station_time))

1 %%time
2 various_configs = list()
3 random.seed(SEED)
4 for comb in combinations:
5     wait_durations = []
6     ID_STATIONS = comb[0]
7     SCAN_STATIONS = comb[1]
8     env = simply.Environment()
9     env.process(security_checkpoint_operation(env, ID_STATIONS, SCAN_STATIONS, ID_CHECK_SERVER_TIME, SCAN_TIME_RANGE))
10    env.run(until=100)
11    avg_waiting = average_wait_time(wait_durations)
12    various_configs.append(
13        {
14            "num_id_stations": ID_STATIONS,
15            "num_scan_stations": SCAN_STATIONS,
16            "avg_waiting": avg_waiting,
17            "config": str(ID_STATIONS) + "&" + str(SCAN_STATIONS)
18        }
19    )
20 del env
21
22 df_various_configs = pd.DataFrame(various_configs)

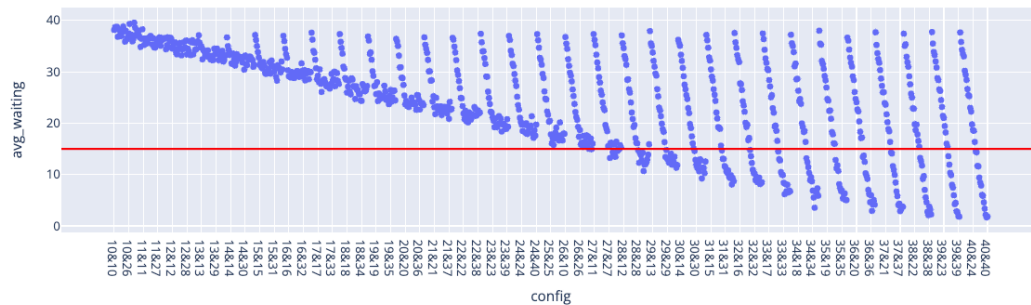
CPU times: user 1min 31s, sys: 15.6 ms, total: 1min 31s
Wall time: 1min 31s

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1 fig = px.scatter(df_various_configs.sort_values(by=["num_id_stations", "num_scan_stations"]), x="config", y="avg_waiting")
2 fig.add_hline(y=15, line_color="red")
3 fig.show()

```



Observations: To vary the number of ID/boarding-pass check stations and personal scanning stations, I iterated over combinations of different numbers of both types of stations. The range for each station type is between 10 and 40. Among 961 combinations, there are 185 combinations that result in an average travelers' waiting time of 15 minutes or less. The optimal number of each station can be determined based on external factors such as operation cost. However, if we assume the costs are the same, then the optimal setup includes 27 ID stations and 28 scanning stations, resulting in an average travelers' waiting time of approximately 13 minutes.

num_id_stations	num_scan_stations	avg_waiting	config
522	26	36	14.988471 26&36
525	26	39	14.979172 26&39
545	27	28	13.235261 27&28
548	27	31	14.326190 27&31
549	27	32	13.821256 27&32
...
956	40	36	4.603181 40&36
957	40	37	3.373735 40&37
958	40	38	2.178493 40&38
959	40	39	1.693107 40&39
960	40	40	1.837002 40&40

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1 optimal["stations_total"] = optimal["num_id_stations"] + optimal["num_scan_stations"]
2 optimal.loc[optimal["avg_waiting"] <= 15].sort_values(by=["stations_total"], ascending=True).head(5)

num_id_stations  num_scan_stations  avg_waiting  config  stations_total
545              27              28  13.235261  27&28             55
606              29              27  13.434151  29&27             56
576              28              28  14.727944  28&28             56
607              29              28  14.784725  29&28             57
577              28              29  12.306962  28&29             57

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