System Models and Role of Simulation

A system model is a simplified representation of a real-world system. It captures the essential components, their interactions, and the system's behavior. System models are used to analyze, predict, and optimize system performance.

Role of Simulation:

Simulation involves creating a computer model of a system and then running experiments on that model to observe its behavior over time. It is a powerful tool for:

- **Understanding complex systems:** Simulating complex systems can help identify bottlenecks, inefficiencies, and potential problems.
- **Predicting system behavior:** Simulation can be used to forecast future performance under different conditions.
- **Optimizing system design:** By experimenting with different design parameters, simulation can help identify the optimal configuration.
- **Training and education:** Simulation can be used to train operators and decision-makers in a safe and controlled environment.

Example:

Consider a manufacturing system with machines, workers, and raw materials. A simulation model of this system can help analyze:

- **Production capacity:** How many units can be produced in a given time period?
- **Bottleneck identification:** Which machine or worker is limiting production?
- Inventory levels: How much raw material and finished goods should be kept in stock?
- Worker scheduling: What is the optimal work schedule to maximize productivity?

Entities, Attributes, States, and Activities

- **Entities:** These are the objects within a system that are being simulated. In the manufacturing example, entities could be:
 - Machines
 - Workers
 - · Raw materials
 - · Finished goods
- Attributes: These are the characteristics or properties of entities. For example:
 - Machine attributes: processing time, breakdown rate, maintenance time
 - Worker attributes: skill level, wage rate, availability
 - Raw material attributes: quantity, quality, cost
 - Finished good attributes: type, quantity, value

- **States:** These represent the condition or status of an entity at a particular point in time. For example:
 - Machine states: idle, processing, broken-down, under maintenance
 - Worker states: working, idle, on break
 - Raw material states: in stock, out of stock
 - Finished good states: in inventory, shipped
- Activities: These are the actions or processes that entities undergo. For example:
 - Machine activities: processing parts, undergoing maintenance, being idle
 - Worker activities: working on a machine, moving materials, taking a break
 - Raw material activities: being consumed, being replenished
 - Finished good activities: being produced, being shipped

Types of Systems

- **Deterministic Systems:** These systems have a fixed, predictable behavior. The output of a deterministic system is completely determined by its initial conditions and inputs.
 - **Example:** A simple pendulum with a fixed length and initial displacement.
- **Stochastic Systems:** These systems involve randomness and uncertainty. The output of a stochastic system can vary even with the same initial conditions and inputs.
 - **Example:** A queueing system with random arrival and service times.
- Continuous Systems: These systems involve variables that change continuously over time.
 - **Example:** A system of differential equations describing the motion of a planet.
- **Discrete Systems:** These systems involve variables that change at discrete points in time.
 - Example: A traffic light system with fixed cycle times.

Steps in Simulation Studies

- 1. **Problem Definition:** Clearly define the problem and the objectives of the simulation study.
- 2. **Model Conceptualization:** Develop a conceptual model of the system, identifying the relevant entities, attributes, states, and activities.
- 3. **Model Formulation:** Translate the conceptual model into a mathematical or logical model.
- 4. **Model Coding:** Implement the model using a simulation software package (e.g., Arena, Simio, AnyLogic).
- 5. **Model Verification:** Ensure that the model is coded correctly and produces the expected results.
- 6. **Model Validation:** Validate the model by comparing its output to real-world data or known analytical solutions.
- 7. **Experimental Design:** Design the simulation experiments, specifying the input parameters and the performance measures of interest.
- 8. **Model Execution:** Run the simulation experiments and collect the output data.
- 9. **Output Analysis:** Analyze the simulation output data to draw conclusions and make recommendations.

10. **Implementation:** Implement the insights gained from the simulation study in the real-world system.

Unit 2

Unit 2: Statistical Tools and Techniques

1. Generation of Pseudorandom Numbers

Pseudorandom numbers are numbers that appear to be random but are generated by a deterministic algorithm. They are used in simulation to introduce randomness into the model.

Methods of Generation:

- Linear Congruential Generator (LCG):
 - A simple and widely used method.
 - Generates a sequence of numbers using the following formula:

 $Xn+1 = (aXn + c) \mod m$

where:

- Xn+1 is the next random number
- Xn is the current random number
- a, c, and m are parameters that determine the sequence
- Mersenne Twister:
 - A more complex but more efficient and statistically better generator.
 - Generates a very long period of random numbers.

2. Random Variate Generation

Random variate generation involves transforming uniformly distributed random numbers into random numbers from a specific distribution.

Methods of Generation:

- Inverse Transform Method:
 - Used for distributions with a simple inverse cumulative distribution function (CDF).
 - Steps:
 - 1. Generate a uniform random number, U.
 - 2. Calculate the inverse CDF of U, $F^{(-1)}(U)$.
 - 3. The result is a random variate from the desired distribution.

• Acceptance-Rejection Method:

- Used for distributions without a simple inverse CDF.
- Steps:
 - 1. Generate a uniform random number, U1.

- 2. Generate another uniform random number, U2.
- 3. If $U2 \le f(x)/M$, where f(x) is the probability density function (PDF) of the desired distribution and M is a constant, accept x.
- 4. Otherwise, reject x and repeat steps 1-3.

• Composition Method:

- Used for distributions that can be expressed as a mixture of simpler distributions.
- Steps:
 - 1. Determine the mixture probabilities for each component distribution.
 - 2. Generate a uniform random number, U.
 - 3. Select a component distribution based on U and the mixture probabilities.
 - 4. Generate a random variate from the selected component distribution.

3. Generation for Uniform, Poisson, and Normal Distributions

• Uniform Distribution:

• Directly generated using a random number generator.

• Poisson Distribution:

- Inverse Transform Method can be used for small values of the parameter λ .
- For larger values, algorithms like the Knuth's Algorithm or the Rejection Method can be used.

• Normal Distribution:

- Box-Muller Transform: Generates two independent standard normal random variates from two uniform random variates.
- Polar Method: A more efficient method for generating pairs of standard normal random variates.

4. Sampling and Estimation

- **Sampling:** The process of selecting a subset of a population to study.
 - **Simple Random Sampling:** Each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected.
 - **Stratified Sampling:** The population is divided into strata, and a random sample is taken from each stratum.
 - **Cluster Sampling:** The population is divided into clusters, and a random sample of clusters is selected.
- **Estimation:** The process of using sample data to estimate population parameters.
 - **Point Estimation:** A single value is used to estimate the population parameter.
 - **Interval Estimation:** A range of values is used to estimate the population parameter with a certain level of confidence.

5. Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Maximum likelihood estimation is a method of estimating the parameters of a statistical model by finding the values that maximize the likelihood function.

6. Confidence Intervals and Hypothesis Testing

- **Confidence Intervals:** A range of values that is likely to contain the true population parameter with a certain level of confidence.
- **Hypothesis Testing:** A statistical method used to determine whether a hypothesis about a population parameter is true or false.

7. Stochastic Processes and Markov Models

- **Stochastic Process:** A process that evolves over time in a random manner.
- Markov Process: A stochastic process with the Markov property, which states that the future state of the process depends only on the present state and not on the past states.
 - Markov Chain: A discrete-time Markov process.
 - Markov Process: A continuous-time Markov process.

Example: Simulation of a Queueing System

A queueing system can be simulated using a discrete-event simulation model. The entities in the model are customers, and the activities are arrival and service. The attributes of a customer can include arrival time and service time. The state of the system can be the number of customers in the queue and the

Sources and related content

unit 3

Unit 3: Simulation of Inventory and Queuing Systems

1. Inventory Systems

Inventory systems involve managing the stock of goods to meet demand while minimizing costs. Simulation can be used to analyze different inventory policies and determine optimal inventory levels.

Types of Inventory Systems:

- **Continuous Review Systems:** Inventory levels are monitored continuously, and orders are placed when the inventory level falls below a reorder point.
- **Periodic Review Systems:** Inventory levels are reviewed periodically, and orders are placed to bring the inventory level up to a target level.

Simulation of Inventory Systems:

- 1. **Model Building:** Define the system parameters, such as demand distribution, lead time, ordering cost, holding cost, and shortage cost.
- 2. **Simulation Experimentation:** Simulate the system under different inventory policies and parameter settings.
- 3. **Performance Evaluation:** Analyze the simulation output to evaluate the performance of different policies, including:

- Average inventory level
- Average number of stockouts
- Average order quantity
- · Total cost

2. Queuing Systems

Queuing systems involve customers arriving at a service facility and waiting for service if the facility is busy. Simulation can be used to analyze the performance of queuing systems and identify bottlenecks.

Types of Queuing Systems:

- Single-Server Queues: A single server serves customers one at a time.
- Multi-Server Queues: Multiple servers serve customers simultaneously.
- **Network of Queues:** Multiple queues are interconnected, and customers may move between queues.

Simulation of Queuing Systems:

- 1. **Model Building:** Define the system parameters, such as arrival rate, service rate, number of servers, queue capacity, and service discipline.
- 2. **Simulation Experimentation:** Simulate the system under different parameter settings and operating conditions.
- 3. **Performance Evaluation:** Analyze the simulation output to evaluate the performance of the queuing system, including:
 - Average queue length
 - Average waiting time
 - Server utilization
 - System throughput

3. Modeling and Performance Evaluation of Computers and Computer Communication Networks

Simulation can be used to model and evaluate the performance of computer systems and networks.

Computer Systems:

- **CPU Scheduling:** Simulate different CPU scheduling algorithms, such as First-Come-First-Served (FCFS), Shortest Job First (SJF), and Priority Scheduling.
- **Memory Management:** Simulate different memory management techniques, such as paging and segmentation.
- I/O Subsystem: Simulate the performance of I/O devices and their impact on system performance.

Computer Communication Networks:

- **Packet Switching Networks:** Simulate the flow of packets through the network, including routing, congestion control, and error handling.
- Wireless Networks: Simulate the propagation of radio signals, interference, and channel access protocols.
- **Network Protocols:** Simulate the behavior of network protocols, such as TCP/IP, to evaluate their performance under different load conditions.

Example: Simulation of a Call Center

A call center can be modeled as a multi-server queuing system. The entities in the model are calls, and the activities are arrival and service. The attributes of a call can include arrival time and service time. The state of the system can be the number of calls in the queue and the number of calls being served.

By simulating the call center, we can analyze:

- Average wait time: How long do customers have to wait before being served?
- **Server utilization:** How busy are the agents?
- Call abandonment rate: How many customers hang up before being served?
- **Impact of different staffing levels:** How does changing the number of agents affect performance?

By understanding these performance metrics, call center managers can make informed decisions about staffing levels, resource allocation, and service level improvements.

Unit 4

Unit 4: Biological and Sociological System Simulation, Verification and Validation

1. Biological System Simulation

Biological systems are complex systems with numerous interacting components. Simulation is a powerful tool to study these systems, especially when experimental manipulation is difficult or unethical.

Examples of Biological Systems Simulated:

- **Population Dynamics:** Simulating the growth and decline of populations, considering factors like birth rates, death rates, and migration.
- **Epidemic Modeling:** Simulating the spread of infectious diseases, considering factors like transmission rates, recovery rates, and vaccination rates.
- **Cellular Biology:** Simulating the behavior of cells and cellular processes, such as cell division, metabolism, and signal transduction.
- **Ecological Systems:** Simulating the interactions between species in an ecosystem, including competition, predation, and mutualism.

2. Sociological System Simulation

Sociological systems involve human behavior and social interactions. Simulation can help analyze social phenomena and predict future trends.

Examples of Sociological Systems Simulated:

- **Urban Planning:** Simulating the growth and development of cities, considering factors like population growth, migration, and land use.
- **Social Networks:** Simulating the spread of information and influence through social networks.
- **Economic Systems:** Simulating the impact of economic policies on economic indicators like GDP, inflation, and unemployment.
- **Social Behavior:** Simulating human behavior in various social contexts, such as decision-making, cooperation, and conflict.

3. Verification and Validation of Simulation Models

Verification and validation are crucial steps in ensuring the accuracy and reliability of simulation models.

Verification:

- **Structural Verification:** Ensuring that the model is correctly implemented in the simulation software.
- Logical Verification: Ensuring that the model's logic and algorithms are correct.

Validation:

- **Input Validation:** Ensuring that the input data used in the simulation is accurate and representative of the real-world system.
- Output Validation: Comparing the simulation output to real-world data or known analytical solutions.
- **Sensitivity Analysis:** Assessing the impact of changes in input parameters on the simulation output.

Performance Measures and Their Estimation

- **Performance Measures:** Key metrics used to evaluate the performance of a simulation model, such as:
 - · Average queue length
 - Average waiting time
 - System utilization
 - Throughput

• Estimation Techniques:

- **Statistical Estimation:** Using statistical methods to estimate the true value of a performance measure.
- **Confidence Intervals:** A range of values that is likely to contain the true value of a performance measure with a certain level of confidence.

• **Hypothesis Testing:** Testing hypotheses about the performance of the system.

Length of Simulation Run

The length of a simulation run depends on various factors, including:

- **System Dynamics:** The time required for the system to reach a steady state.
- **Desired Precision:** The level of accuracy required in the estimates of performance measures.
- Computational Resources: The available computational power.

Variance Reduction Techniques

Variance reduction techniques can be used to reduce the variance of simulation output, leading to more precise estimates. Some common techniques include:

- Antithetic Variates: Using pairs of random numbers that are negatively correlated.
- Control Variates: Using a related system with known performance to reduce variance.
- **Importance Sampling:** Biasing the simulation to focus on important regions of the sample space.

By carefully considering these factors and employing appropriate techniques, simulation can provide valuable insights into the behavior of complex systems and help in decision-making.