

Monte Carlo Debugger Specification

1. Debugger clients

- a) Person who uses Monte Carlo simulations
- b) System that uses or performs Monte Carlo simulations

2. Problem description and user requirements

Problem	Requirement
Simulation result is a single value and as such cannot be analyzed in detail	Understanding of the result through analysis of its calculation
Large calculation trees	Convenient graphical representation of the tree; Step by step debugging of the calculation
Large number of simulation runs	Detailed analysis of an arbitrary simulation run; Statistics for each tree node and behavior across runs

3. Solution description – Develop a debugger for Monte Carlo simulations

- a) Debugger input – Document containing the results of a Monte Carlo simulation:
 - Configuration – Number of runs and calculation precision
 - Formula description – Tree representation of the calculated property
 - Simulation values – Values for each tree node in each of the simulation runs
- b) Debugger features
 - GUI tree representation of the calculation with expandable and collapsible nodes
 - Zoomable histogram or line chart of the values across simulation runs for each node
 - Statistics extraction for an arbitrary calculation node – min, max, mean, standard deviation and value distribution
 - Simulation run selection and filtering according to a criteria
 - Calculation debugging for an arbitrary simulation run.
Done by restoring observed values for the chosen run with the following operations:
 - Step over – Restore the value of the current node and move marker to the next sibling or step out to the parent if the current node is the last child
 - Step into – Expand subtree and move marker to the first child of the current node
 - Step out – Restore the subtrees of all siblings of the current node and move marker to the parent node