

Tribhuvan University
Institute of Science and Technology
2080

Bachelor Level / Fifth-Semester / Science
Computer Science and Information Technology (CSC317)
Simulation and Modeling

Full Marks: 60 + 20 + 20 Pass Marks: 24 + 8 + 8 Time: 3 Hours

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Section A

Attempt any two questions:

Why model of a system is built? What is the static model? Differentiate between static and dynamic mathematical models in simulation.

Systems models are built for a variety of reasons, but here are some of the key benefits:

- **Understanding:** A model helps you understand how a system works, what its components are, and how they interact. It's like creating a blueprint or a map of the system, making it easier to analyze its behavior.
- **Prediction:** Once you understand a system, you can use the model to predict its future behavior under different conditions. This can be helpful for tasks like forecasting sales, optimizing resource allocation, or identifying potential problems before they occur.
- **Communication:** A model can be a valuable communication tool to explain complex systems to stakeholders who may not have a technical background. It can help everyone involved be on the same page about how the system works.
- **Design and Improvement:** Models can be used to design new systems or improve existing ones. By simulating different scenarios and testing different configurations, you can identify the best approach before actually implementing it in the real world. This saves time, money, and resources.

Now, let's delve into static vs. dynamic models:

- **Static Model:** A static model represents a system at a specific point in time. It's like a snapshot that captures the state of the system and the relationships between its components, but it doesn't show how the system changes over time. Think of it as a detailed picture of a machine, but the picture doesn't show the machine actually working.
- **Dynamic Model:** A dynamic model, on the other hand, captures the behavior of a system over time. It takes into account how the system changes and evolves under different conditions. This is like a movie of the machine in action, showing how its parts move and interact. Dynamic models are often used for simulations, where you can experiment with different inputs and see how the system responds.

1.10 Model of a system

A model is defined as a representation of a system for the purpose of studying the system. It is necessary to consider only those aspects of the system that affect the problem under investigation. These aspects are represented in a model, and by definition, it is a simplification of the system.

Types of Models

The various types of models are

- Mathematical or Physical Model
- Static Model
- Dynamic Model
- Deterministic Model
- Stochastic Model

- Discrete Model
- Continuous Model

Mathematical Model

It uses symbolic notation and the mathematical equations to represent a system.

Static Model

It represents a system at a ***particular time point***, known as the Monte-Carlo simulation.

Dynamic Model

Represents systems as they change over time. Ex: Simulation of a bank

Deterministic Model

Contains no random variables. They have a known set of inputs which will result in a unique set of outputs. Ex: Arrival of patients to the Dentist at the scheduled appointment time.

Stochastic Model

Has one or more random variables as inputs. Random inputs lead to random outputs. Ex: Simulation of a bank involves random interarrival and service times.

Discrete and Continuous Model

Used analogously. Simulation models may be mixed both with discrete and continuous. The choice is based on the characteristics of the system and the objective of the study.

[Discrete Event Systems Simulation - ppt video online download \(slideplayer.com\)](#)

The key difference between static and dynamic mathematical models in simulation lies in their treatment of time:

Static Model:

- **Focus:** *Captures the state of a system at a specific point in time.*
- **Time Dependence:** *Not explicitly considered. The model represents a single snapshot of the system.*
- **Applications:**
 - Analyze relationships between variables in a system at a specific time.
 - Identify potential bottlenecks or resource limitations.
 - Useful for problems where time is not a critical factor.
- **Examples:**
 - A spreadsheet model calculating production costs based on current material prices.
 - A stress analysis of a bridge structure under a specific load.

Dynamic Model:

- **Focus:** Captures the behavior of a system as it changes over time.
- **Time Dependence:** Integral part of the model. Equations or algorithms describe how variables evolve.
- **Applications:**
 - Simulate the behavior of a system under different scenarios.
 - Predict future states of the system based on initial conditions.
 - Analyze the impact of changes on the system's performance.
- **Examples:**
 - A weather simulation model predicting atmospheric conditions over several days.
 - A population growth model forecasting population size based on birth and death rates.

Here's a table summarizing the key differences:

| Feature | Static Model | Dynamic Model |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Time Dependence | Not explicitly considered | Integral part of the model |
| Focus | System state at a specific point in time | System behavior over time |
| Applications | Analyze relationships between variables | Simulate system behavior, predict future states, analyze impact of changes |
| Examples | Production cost model, stress analysis | Weather simulation, population growth model |

Storage in GPSS

In GPSS, storage represents a ***limited-capacity resource within a system***. It's used to **model situations** where **entities** (like parts in your example) can wait or queue up before proceeding to the next step. Unlike facilities, which can only be occupied by one entity at a time, storage can hold multiple entities as long as there's available space.

In GPSS (General Purpose Simulation System), **storage** refers to the **capacity** or **location** within the **simulation model** where **entities**, such as **jobs, customers, or items**, are **held temporarily** during the simulation process. GPSS uses **storage to manage the flow of entities** through **various processes** in a system.

Properties of Random Numbers

A sequence of random numbers, $R_1, R_2, R_3 \dots$ must have two important properties:

Uniformity, i.e. they are equally probable everywhere

Independence, i.e. the current value of a random variable has no relation with the previous values

Section B

Attempt any eight questions:

Explain the Markov chain with a suitable example.

Markov chain or Markov process

A **Markov chain** or **Markov process** is a stochastic model describing a sequence of possible events in which the probability of each event depends only on the current state attained in the previous event.

A Markov chain is a mathematical system that moves from one state to another according to certain probabilistic rules.

A Markov chain is a discrete-time process for which the future behavior, given the past and the present, **only depends on the present and not on the past**.

It's like a game where you're in a specific situation, and what happens next only depends on your current situation, not on how you got there.

In simpler terms, it is a process for which predictions can be made regarding **future outcomes based solely on its present state**, and—most importantly—such predictions are just as good as the ones that could be made knowing the process's full history.

Markov analysis is a method used to **forecast** the value of a variable whose **predicted value** is influenced only by its **current state**, and not by any prior activity.

Markov chains are a fairly common, and relatively simple, way to statistically model random processes.

The primary advantages of Markov analysis are **simplicity** and out-of-sample

forecasting **accuracy**.

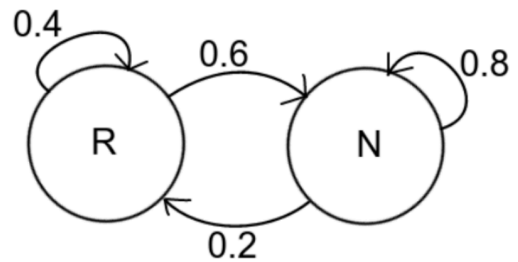
A game of snakes and ladders or any other game whose moves are determined entirely by dice is a Markov chain.

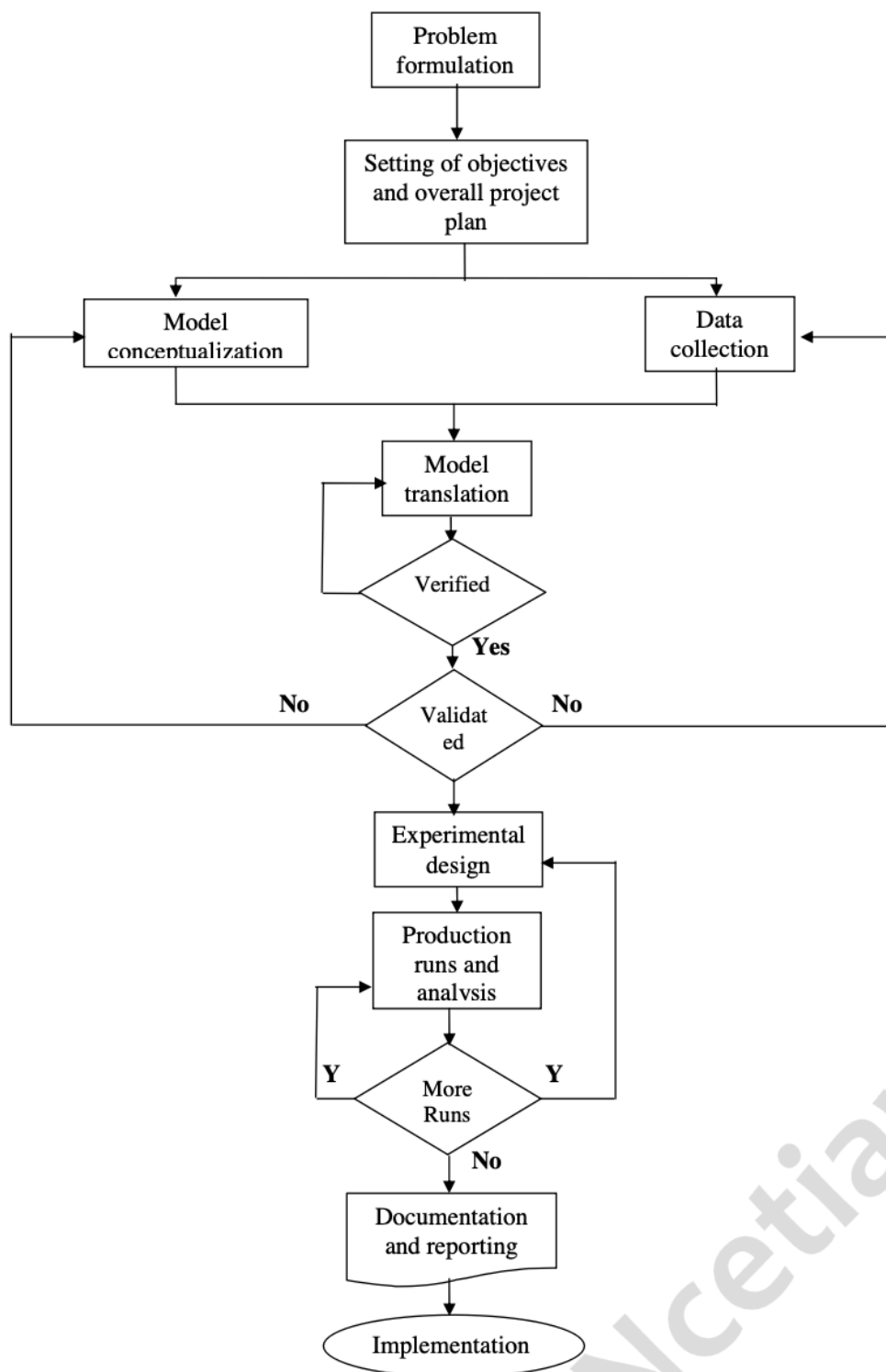
Markov chain diagram:

Let's illustrate using rainy days example. The probabilities for the system might be:

- If it rains today (R), then **there is a 40% chance it will rain tomorrow and 60% chance of no rain.**
- If it doesn't rain today (N), then **there is a 20% chance it will rain tomorrow and 80% chance of no rain.**

It may help to organize this data in what we call a state diagram. In this diagram appearing here, the left circle represents rain (R), and the right represents no rain (N). The arrows indicate the probability to change state. For example, the arrow from R to N is labeled 0.6 because there is a 60% chance that if it rains today, then it won't rain tomorrow.





What are the steps involved in a simulation study? Explain

1. Problem formulation

Every study begins with a statement of the problem, provided by policymakers. The analyst ensures it is clearly understood. If it is developed by analysts policy makers should understand and agree with it.

2 . Setting of objectives and overall project plan

The objectives indicate the questions to be answered by simulation. At this point, a determination should be made concerning whether simulation is the appropriate methodology. Assuming it is appropriate, the overall project plan should include

- A statement of the alternative systems
- A method for evaluating the effectiveness of these alternatives
- Plans for the study in terms of the number of people involved
- Cost of the study
- The number of days required to accomplish each phase of the with the anticipated results.

Model conceptualization

The construction of a model of a system is probably as much art as science. The art of modeling is enhanced by the ability

- To abstract the essential features of a problem
- To select and modify basic assumptions that characterize the system
- To enrich and elaborate the model until a useful approximation results.

Thus, it is best to start with a simple model and build toward greater complexity. Model conceptualization enhances the quality of the resulting model and increases the confidence of the model user in the application of the model.

Data collection

There is a constant interplay between the construction of the model and the collection of needed input data. Done in the early stages. Objective kinds of data are to be collected.

Model translation

Real-world systems result in models that require a great deal of information storage and computation. It can be programmed by using simulation languages or special-purpose simulation software. Simulation languages are powerful and flexible. Simulation software model development time can be reduced.

Verified

It pertains to the computer program and checking the performance. If the input parameters and logical structure and correctly represented, verification is completed.

Validated

It is the determination that a model is an accurate representation of the real system. Achieved through calibration of the model, an iterative process of comparing the model to actual system behavior and the discrepancies between the two.

The alternatives that are to be simulated must be determined. Which alternatives to simulate may be a function of runs. For each system design, decisions need to be made concerning

- Length of the initialization period
- Length of simulation runs
- Number of replications to be made of each run

9. Production runs and analysis

They are used to estimate measures of performance for the system designs that are being simulated.

10. More runs

Based on the analysis of runs that have been completed. The analyst determines if additional runs are needed and what design those additional experiments should follow.

11. Documentation and reporting

Two types of documentation.

- Program documentation
- Process documentation

Program documentation

Can be used again by the same or different analysts to understand how the program operates. Further modification will be easier. Model users can change the input parameters for better performance.

Process documentation

Gives the history of a simulation project. The results of all analyses should be reported clearly and concisely in a final report. This enables to review of the final formulation and alternatives, the results of the experiments, and the recommended solution to the problem. The final report provides a vehicle of certification.

Explain different estimation methods which are used in simulation output analysis.

Estimation Methods in Simulation Output Analysis

Estimation methods are crucial for drawing meaningful conclusions from simulation output. They help quantify uncertainty and assess system performance. Here are some common methods:

Point Estimation

- **Mean:** The average value of the output variable.
- **Variance:** Measures the dispersion of the output data.
- [1. Point Estimators - Definition, Properties, and Estimation Methods](#)



- [corporatefinanceinstitute.com](https://www.corporatefinanceinstitute.com)
-
- **Other statistics:** Median, mode, percentiles, etc.

Interval Estimation

- **Confidence intervals:** Provide a range of values within which the true population parameter is likely to lie with a specified probability.
- [1. www.studocu.com](https://www.studocu.com)
- www.studocu.com
- [2. Confidence in Our Estimates - sph.bu.edu](https://sph.bu.edu)



- sphweb.bumc.bu.edu
-
- **Prediction intervals:** Estimate the range of future values for the output variable.
- [1. 3.5 Prediction intervals | Forecasting: Principles and Practice \(2nd ed\) - OTexts](#)



- otexts.com
-

Replication

- **Independent replications:** Running the simulation multiple times with different random number seeds to obtain independent estimates.
- **Batch means:** Dividing the simulation output into batches and analyzing the mean of each batch.
- [1. Implementing the Batch Means Method in Simulation Experiments. - ResearchGate](#)



- www.researchgate.net
-

Time Series Analysis

- **Autocorrelation:** Measures the correlation between observations at different points in time.
- [1. 10.2 - Autocorrelation and Time Series Methods | STAT 462](#)



- online.stat.psu.edu
-
- **Spectral analysis:** Identifies periodic patterns in the output data.

Input-Output Analysis

- **Regression analysis:** Models the relationship between input variables and output variables.
- **Sensitivity analysis:** Evaluates the impact of changes in input parameters on the output.
- [1. Parameter Sensitivity Analysis - Dr. Manoj Kumar Yadav - Medium](#)



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- azmechatech.medium.com
-

Other Methods

- **Ratio estimation:** Used when the output is a ratio of two random variables.
- **Nonparametric methods:** Applicable when the distribution of the output is unknown.

Different Estimation Methods Used in Simulation Output Analysis

Question: Explain different estimation methods which are used in simulation output analysis.

Answer:

In simulation output analysis, several estimation methods are used to interpret the results and make informed decisions based on the simulated data. These methods help in summarizing the results, estimating parameters, and assessing the accuracy of the simulation. Here are some of the key estimation methods:

1. Point Estimation

- **Definition:** Point estimation involves providing a single value (point estimate) as an estimate of an unknown parameter based on the simulation results.
- **Method:** Calculate statistics such as the mean, median, or proportion from the simulation data.
- **Example:** If you simulated customer wait times, the sample mean of these wait times would be a point estimate of the average wait time in the system.

2. Confidence Intervals

- **Definition:** Confidence intervals provide a range within which the true parameter value is expected to lie with a certain level of confidence (e.g., 95%

confidence).

- **Method:** Calculate the interval using sample statistics and their standard errors. For example, for a mean, the confidence interval can be calculated as:
$$CI = \bar{X} \pm Z \times \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

where \bar{X} is the sample mean, Z is the Z-score for the desired confidence level, σ is the standard deviation, and n is the sample size.
- **Example:** After simulating the wait times of customers, a 95% confidence interval could be calculated to estimate the range of average wait times.

3. Regression Analysis

- **Definition:** Regression analysis estimates the relationship between dependent and independent variables using the simulation data.
- **Method:** Fit a regression model to the data to identify how changes in independent variables (predictors) affect the dependent variable (response).
- **Example:** If simulating the effect of different staffing levels on customer wait times, regression analysis can determine how wait times change with staffing levels.

4. Bootstrapping

- **Definition:** Bootstrapping is a resampling technique used to estimate the distribution of a statistic by repeatedly sampling with replacement from the observed data.
- **Method:** Generate multiple bootstrap samples from the simulation output and compute the statistic of interest for each sample. Analyze the variability across these samples to estimate confidence intervals or standard errors.
- **Example:** To estimate the confidence interval of the mean wait time, generate multiple bootstrap samples from the simulation data and calculate the mean for each sample to determine the range of means.

5. Nonparametric Methods

- **Definition:** Nonparametric methods do not assume a specific distribution for

the data and are useful when the data do not fit standard distributions.

- **Method:** Techniques like the Wilcoxon rank-sum test or the Kruskal-Wallis test are used to analyze differences between groups without assuming normality.
- **Example:** If comparing wait times between two different simulation scenarios, nonparametric tests can assess if the differences are statistically significant without assuming normal distribution.

6. Hypothesis Testing

- **Definition:** Hypothesis testing involves testing a hypothesis about a population parameter using simulation data.
- **Method:** Perform statistical tests (e.g., t-tests, chi-square tests) to determine if there is enough evidence to reject a null hypothesis in favor of an alternative hypothesis.
- **Example:** To test whether the average wait time has significantly changed after implementing a new policy, use hypothesis testing to compare the mean wait times before and after the policy change.

7. Variance Reduction Techniques

- **Definition:** Variance reduction techniques aim to decrease the variability of simulation outputs to obtain more precise estimates.
- **Method:** Apply methods like antithetic variates, control variates, or importance sampling to reduce the variance of simulation results.
- **Example:** Use control variates to reduce the variance in the estimate of the average wait time by using additional variables that are correlated with the output.

Importance of Estimation Methods:

- **Accuracy:** Provides accurate estimates of performance measures from simulation outputs.
- **Decision Making:** Helps in making informed decisions based on the simulation results.
- **Confidence:** Allows the assessment of how reliable the simulation results are

through confidence intervals and hypothesis testing.

- **Interpretation:** Facilitates understanding and interpretation of complex simulation outputs by summarizing and analyzing the results effectively.

Using these estimation methods helps ensure that the insights derived from simulation models are robust, reliable, and useful for decision-making processes.

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Different Estimation Methods Used in Simulation Output Analysis

In simulation output analysis, various estimation methods are employed to derive meaningful insights from the generated data. Here are some commonly used estimation methods:

1. Point Estimation:

- Point estimation involves calculating a single value (point estimate) to represent a parameter of interest, such as the mean or variance of the simulation output. For instance, the sample mean can be used as a point estimate of the population mean.

2.

3. Confidence Intervals:

- Confidence intervals provide a range of values within which the true parameter is expected to lie with a certain level of confidence (e.g., 95%). This method accounts for the variability in the simulation output and helps quantify uncertainty. Confidence intervals can be established using the Central Limit Theorem or bootstrapping methods.

4.

5. Bootstrapping:

- Bootstrapping is a resampling technique that involves repeatedly drawing samples from the simulation output data with replacement. This method allows for the estimation of the sampling distribution of a

statistic (e.g., mean, variance) and can be used to construct confidence intervals without assuming a specific distribution.

6.

7. Run-Length Control:

- This method involves determining the number of simulation runs needed to achieve a desired level of accuracy or precision in the estimate. It helps control the error in the estimates by specifying how long the simulation should run based on the variability observed in the output.

8.

9. Variance Reduction Techniques:

- Variance reduction techniques, such as control variates and antithetic variates, are used to improve the accuracy of estimates by reducing the variability in simulation output. Control variates involve using known properties of related variables to adjust the estimates, while antithetic variates use negatively correlated variables to stabilize the output.

10.

11. Sequential Analysis:

- In sequential analysis, the simulation is conducted in stages, and the results are evaluated after each stage. This method allows for early stopping of the simulation if sufficient precision is achieved, optimizing resource usage.

12.

13. Sensitivity Analysis:

- Sensitivity analysis examines how changes in input parameters affect the output of the simulation. This method helps identify which parameters have the most significant impact on the results and can guide decision-making.

14.

These estimation methods play a critical role in simulation output analysis, enabling analysts to draw reliable conclusions and make informed decisions based on the results.

Short Notes

a. Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis Testing is a statistical method used to infer properties about a population based on sample data. It involves the formulation of two competing hypotheses:

1. Null Hypothesis (
2. H_0
3. H
4. 0
- 5.
6. 0): This hypothesis states that there is no effect or difference, serving as the default assumption.
7. Alternative Hypothesis (
8. H_a
9. H
10. a
- 11.
12. a): This hypothesis represents the effect or difference that the researcher aims to prove.

Steps in Hypothesis Testing:

1. Formulate the null and alternative hypotheses.
2. Choose a significance level (
3. α
4. α), commonly set at 0.05.
5. Collect sample data and calculate a test statistic.
6. Compare the test statistic to critical values or use p-values to determine whether to reject or fail to reject the null hypothesis.

Importance: Hypothesis testing is crucial for making data-driven decisions and drawing conclusions in research, allowing researchers to assess whether observed effects are statistically significant.

b. Stationary Poisson Process

A Stationary Poisson Process is a stochastic process that models events occurring randomly over time, characterized by the following properties:

1. Independence: The number of events occurring in non-overlapping intervals are independent of each other.
2. Stationarity: The process has constant rates over time, meaning the average number of events in a given time interval remains the same regardless of when the interval occurs.
3. Poisson Distribution: The number of events occurring in a fixed interval of time follows a Poisson distribution, defined by the parameter
4. λ
5. λ (the average rate of occurrence).

Mathematical Representation:

- The probability of observing
- k
- k events in a time interval
- t
- t is given by:
- $P(N(t)=k)=(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t} / k!$
- $P(N(t)=k)=$
- $k!$
- $(\lambda t)^k$
- k
- e
- $-\lambda t$
-
- where
- $N(t)$
- $N(t)$ is the number of events in time
- t
- t .

Applications: Stationary Poisson processes are widely used in fields such as

telecommunications (modeling call arrivals), traffic flow analysis, and queuing theory, where events occur randomly and independently over time. This concludes the explanation of estimation methods used in simulation output analysis, along with short notes on hypothesis testing and stationary Poisson processes. If you have further questions or need additional information, feel free to ask!

Share

Rewrite

Define verification and validation. Explain the process of model verification in brief.

Verification

Verification is the process of determining that a model implementation and its associated data accurately represent the developer's conceptual description and specifications.

- Verification answers the question "**Have we built the model right?**". It is concerned with building the right model
- It is utilized in **comparison of the conceptual model to the computer representation** that implements that conception. It asks the question: **Is the model implemented correctly in the computer?** Are the input parameters and logical structure of the model correctly represented?
- Verification is an **iterative process** aimed at determining whether the product of each step in the development of the simulation **model fulfills all the requirements** levied on it by the previous step and is internally complete, **consistent, and correct enough to support the next phase.**

Validation

Validation is the process of determining the degree to which a simulation model and its associated data are an accurate representation of the real world from the perspective of the intended uses of the model.

validation answers the question "Have we built the right model?". Validation is concerned

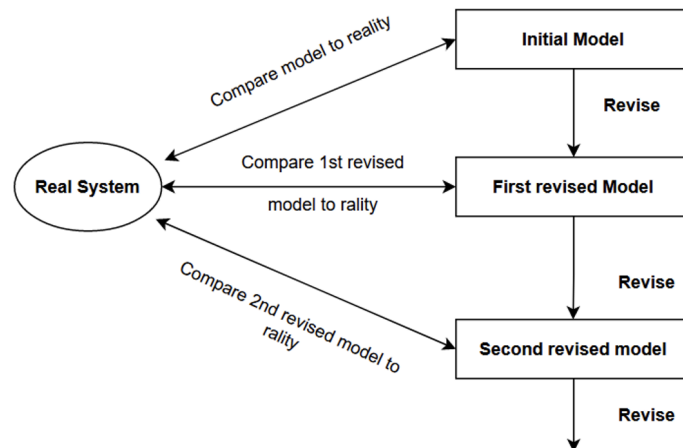
with building the right model

It is usually achieved through the calibration of the model.

Calibration and Validation of the models

In general, calibration is an iterative process in which the engineer estimates, sets, and adjusts the simulation model parameters until the results produced by the simulator are as accurate as possible for field measurements (real system).

Calibration is the iterative process of comparing the model to the real system, making adjustments to the model, comparing again and so on.



The first step in model building consists of observing the real system and the interactions among its various components and collecting data on its behavior. Operators, technicians, repair and maintenance personnel, engineers, supervisors, and managers under certain aspects of the system that may be unfamiliar to others. As model development proceeds, new questions may arise, and the model developers will return, to this step of learning true system structure and behavior.

The second step in model building is the construction of a conceptual model - a collection of assumptions on the components and the structure of the system, plus hypotheses on the values of model input parameters, illustrated by the following figure.

- The third step is the translation of the operational model into a computer recognizable form- the computerized model.

What is a feedback system? Explain with an example.

Feedback System

A feedback system compares its output to a desired input and takes corrective action to force the output to follow the input.

The term feedback is used to describe the phenomenon (situation).

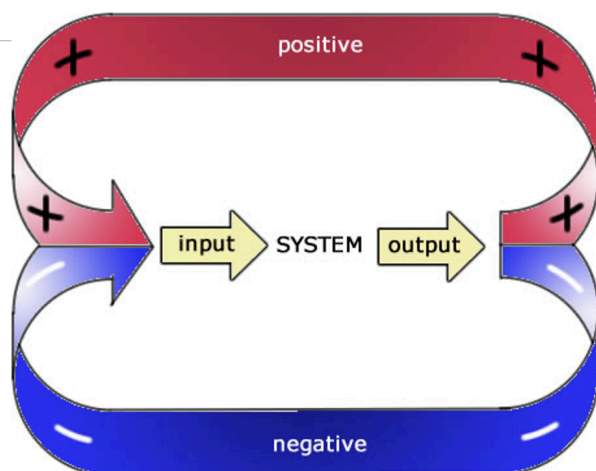
A home heating system controlled by a thermostat (a device that automatically regulates temperature) is a simple example of a feedback system.

Example :

The automatic heater whose purpose is to heat a room, and the output of the system can be measured as a room temperature. Depending upon whether the temperature is below or above the thermostat setting, the heater will be turned on or off, so that information is being feedback from the output to input. In this case, there are only two states either the heater is on or off.

Feedback System

- In a “positive feedback control system”, the **output values are added together** by the controller as the feedback is “**in-phase**” with the input.
- The effect of positive feedback is to “**increase**” the systems gain, i.e, the overall gain with positive feedback applied will be greater than the gain without feedback.
- In a “negative feedback control system”, the **output values are subtracted from each other** as the feedback is “**out-of-phase**” with the original input.
- The effect of negative feedback is to “**reduce**” the gain.



What is calling population? Explain the arrival and service process in a queue.

Calling Population, Arrival, and Service Process in a Queue

2. Arrival

- It defines the way that customers enter the system.

Most arrivals are random with random intervals between two adjacent parameters.

Arrivals may occur at **scheduled times or at random times**. When at random times, the

inter-arrival times are usually characterized by a **probability distribution**.

The **arrival rate** is the number of arrivals per unit of time.

- **arrival rate = $1/\text{inter arrival time}$**

The **inter-arrival time** is the time between each arrival into the system and the next.

- **inter-arrival time = $1/\text{arrival rate}$**

Calling Population, Arrival, and Service Process in a Queue

Calling Population

The **calling population** in a queuing system refers to the group of potential customers or entities that may require service. This population can be classified into two main types:

- **Infinite population:** In this case, the number of potential customers is considered limitless, and the arrival rate is not affected by the number of customers already in the system. This is often assumed in many queuing models for simplicity.
- **Finite population:** Here, the number of potential customers is limited. The arrival rate is influenced by the number of customers already being served or waiting in the queue. This model is more realistic in scenarios where the population is relatively small.

Arrival Process

The **arrival process** describes how customers or entities enter the queuing system. It's characterized by:

- **Arrival rate (λ):** The average number of arrivals per unit of time.
- **Inter-arrival time:** The time between consecutive arrivals.
- **Arrival pattern:** The distribution of inter-arrival times (e.g., Poisson, exponential, deterministic).

Service Process

The **service process** defines how customers or entities are served by the system. It's characterized by:

- **Service rate (μ):** The average number of customers served per unit of time.

- **Service time:** The time taken to serve a single customer.
- **Service distribution:** The distribution of service times (e.g., exponential, normal, constant).

Key points to remember:

- The relationship between arrival rate and service rate determines the stability of the queuing system. If the arrival rate is higher than the service rate, the queue length will grow indefinitely.
- The distribution of arrival and service times significantly impacts the behavior of the queuing system.
- Queuing models are mathematical representations of real-world systems and can be used to analyze performance metrics such as average waiting time, queue length, and system utilization.

Explain the Monte Carlo simulation method with an example.

Monte Carlo Simulations: Used to model scenarios with uncertainty by generating random samples and analyzing the results. This helps estimate the probabilities of different outcomes.

Define the problem, Identify the variables, Assign probabilities, Run the simulation, Analyze the results

A type of computational algorithm that **uses repeated random sampling** to obtain the likelihood of a range of results occurring.

Unlike a normal forecasting model, Monte Carlo Simulation **predicts a set of outcomes** based on an **estimated range of values versus a set of fixed input values**.

The Monte Carlo simulation provides **multiple possible outcomes and the probability** of each from a large pool of random data samples.

For instance, forecasting financial risks requires analyzing dozens or hundreds of risk

factors. Financial analysts use the Monte Carlo simulation to produce the probability of every possible outcome.

What Is Monte Carlo Simulation? | IBM

Example: Estimating the Value of π

A classic example of a Monte Carlo simulation is estimating the value of π (pi). Here's a step-by-step explanation:

1. **Define the Domain:** Consider a square of side length 2 centered at the origin. Within this square, inscribe a circle of radius 1.
2. **Generate Random Points:** Randomly generate points within the square. Each point has coordinates (x, y) where x and y are uniformly distributed between -1 and 1.
3. **Check Points Inside the Circle:** For each point, check if it lies inside the circle using the condition $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$.
4. **Calculate the Ratio:** The ratio of the number of points inside the circle to the total number of points generated approximates the ratio of the area of the circle to the area of the square. Since the area of the square is 4 (side length 2) and the area of the circle is π (radius 1), the ratio is $\frac{\pi}{4}$.
5. **Estimate π :** Multiply the ratio by 4 to estimate the value of π .

