



# Time to Take Off

Olivia Fenwick and Meenu Ravi

# Agenda

---



Project overview



Considerations and Concerns



Final output



Next Steps

# We created a model to simulate gate reassignment for delayed flights

- If a flight is delayed and its scheduled gate is unavailable at the new arrival/departure time our model automatically finds the closest available gate and reassigns it
- We used United Airlines schedule data to initiate the model and used a random number generator to create delays in real-time



# Project Goals

---

## Initial Goals

Initiate model to on small airport

- Richmond International Airport ~15 flights per day

Initiate model with static delay lengths

## Target Goals

Get model working on large airport

- O'Hare International Airport ~555 flights per day

Make delays more dynamic and have delay length be randomly updating instead of static

Display the flight changes in a dataframe representing a departure/arrivals board

## Stretch Goals

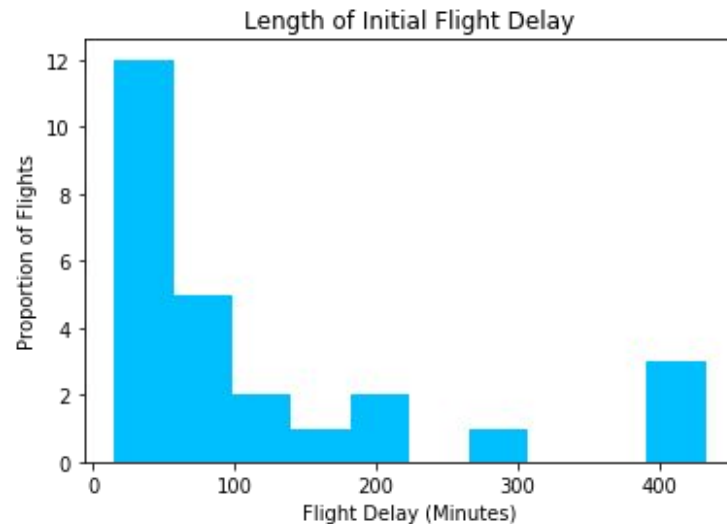
Create dynamic departure/arrivals board

Use minimum turn time to have different delay lengths for arriving and departing flights

# Considerations

---

- Data pre-processing and formatting
  - Especially working with datetime we had to ensure everything was consistent
- Create an arrivals/departure board to show flight status/gate assignment changing over time
- Randomly generated delays using a random number generate to simulate real-time delays
  - 5% - 10% of flights delayed
  - Delay length skewed to shorter delays



# Concerns and Mitigations

---

How to get the simulation to run in real-time

- SimPy library – Python's discrete-event simulation library
- Each run of the code to represent one minute of the day

Speed and performance

- Complexity of algorithms
- Eliminate duplicity of code

Adjusting for unexpected airline scenarios


- Tried to handle rationally as an airline would but within the limitations of our model
  - For example if a delay pushed a flight into the next day we chose to cancel that flight

# Flying into the Code


 [Click to View Full Code](#)


```
class Flight:
    def __init__(self, flightNumber, fromDestination, arrivalDateTime, departDateTime, gate):
        #initialisers
        self.id = flightNumber
        self.od = fromDestination
        self.gate = gate
        self.delayLen = 0
        self.report = "TBD"
        self.arrivalDateTime = arrivalDateTime.to_pydatetime()
        self.departDateTime = departDateTime.to_pydatetime()
```

```
class Gate:
    def __init__(self, name, gate_availability):
        self.name = name
        self.gate_availability = gate_availability
```


 **1** Two Main Classes to store flight info and gate availability

```
#Random selection to indicate
#when a flight is delayed
rand1 = uniform(0, 0.05)
#Random selection to indicate
#how long a flight is delayed
rand2 = uniform(0, 1)
```

 **2** Choose when a flight gets delayed and for how long randomly

Simulate relocation and reassignment using Simpy in a **4** 24 hour clock 

```
# create function to find closest gate - closest
#numerically or lowest in new concourse
def choose_closest_gate(old_gate, new_gate_list):
    gate_dist = 100
    closest_gate_concourse = ''
    closest_gate = ''
    concourse_old = old_gate[1:]
    gate_num_old = int(old_gate[1:])
    # loop through each available gate
    for gate in new_gate_list:
        concourse_new = gate[1:]
```

 **3** When a delay cause a gate collision, reassign flight to new gate

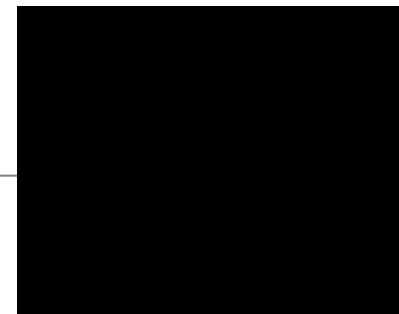
 [View a 24 hr Arrival Schedule](#)

```
##### set up and running simulated environment #####
env = simpy.rt.RealtimeEnvironment(factor=.2)
env.process(update(env, arrivalObjects,departObjects,
    flightObjects, gateObjects, inDate))
env.run(until=1440)
```

# Demonstration

View here Also:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZ2jl5msfaA>



*Welcome to Boston!*

Tail Number	Coming From	Arriving	Gate	Report	Time
N41140	SFO	2019-06-12T08:33:00	REASSIGNED B36	DELAYED 3 hr 38 mins (ETA: 21:54:00)	2019-06-12 11:02:00
N469UA	ORD	2019-06-12T09:19:00	B28	BAGS DELIVERED	
N26232	IAD	2019-06-12T10:04:00	B30	BAGS DELIVERED	
N12754	EWB	2019-06-12T11:02:00	B27	LANDING	
N62849	ORD	2019-06-12T11:12:00	B24	ONTIME	
N66893	ORD	2019-06-12T12:15:00	REASSIGNED B24	DELAYED 2 hr 11 mins (ETA: 19:44:00)	
N489UA	IAH	2019-06-12T12:32:00	B26	ONTIME	
N842UA	EWB	2019-06-12T12:42:00	B28	ONTIME	
N69806	EWB	2019-06-12T13:35:00	B23	ONTIME	
N61882	DEN	2019-06-12T14:04:00	B30	ONTIME	
N37413	IAD	2019-06-12T14:19:00	B36	ONTIME	
N502UA	SFO	2019-06-12T14:50:00	REASSIGNED B27	DELAYED 2 hr 23 mins (ETA: 20:02:00)	



# Next Steps

- Currently the departure and arrival boards have to be run separately
  - Threads would allow them to update simultaneously
- Use minimum turn time to have different delay lengths for arriving and departing flights
  - Make flight delays more realistic
- Try to incorporate weather data to predict and simulate how weather can affect delays at varying locations



A screenshot of an airport arrival board titled "Welcome to Richmond!". The board displays a table of flight arrivals with columns for Tail Number, Coming From, Arriving, Gate, Report, and Time. The data shows several flights arriving on 2019-06-15 at 13:57:00. The Report column indicates the status of each flight, such as "BAGS DELIVERED" or "ONTIME".

Tail Number	Coming From	Arriving	Gate	Report	Time
N13538	EWB	2019-06-15T12:58:00	B4	BAGS DELIVERED	2019-06-15 13:57:00
N27190	IAD	2019-06-15T13:36:00	B1	BAGS DELIVERED	
N133SY	DEN	2019-06-15T14:04:00	B3	ONTIME	
N89357	IAH	2019-06-15T16:08:00	B3	ONTIME	
N445AW	IAD	2019-06-15T18:06:00	B3	ONTIME	
N14249	ORD	2019-06-15T21:23:00	B3	ONTIME	
N522LR	IAD	2019-06-15T22:55:00	B4	ONTIME	
N85340	IAH	2019-06-15T23:13:00	B7	ONTIME	
N136SY	DEN	2019-06-15T23:29:00	B1	ONTIME	

Any questions?

