



Marine Corps 4

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Project Sponsor: Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Kline

About the Team

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Background and the Problem

Aviation Logistics Division (ALD) advises the Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, on aviation logistics, represents the Commander's interests across the Naval Aviation Enterprise, and provides support to subordinate organizations in order to ensure aircraft readiness.

The problem is that ALD relies too heavily on heuristics to predict how changes (in personnel, in supply delivery time, etc) affects aircraft readiness. ALD needs prediction tools: a discrete event simulator that models squadron maintenance.



The Solution

Our xForce team, along with our sponsor, are designing a simulator a simulation framework for Python. Python is open-source and available on the Marine Corps' network (a critically-important acceptance pre-requisite).

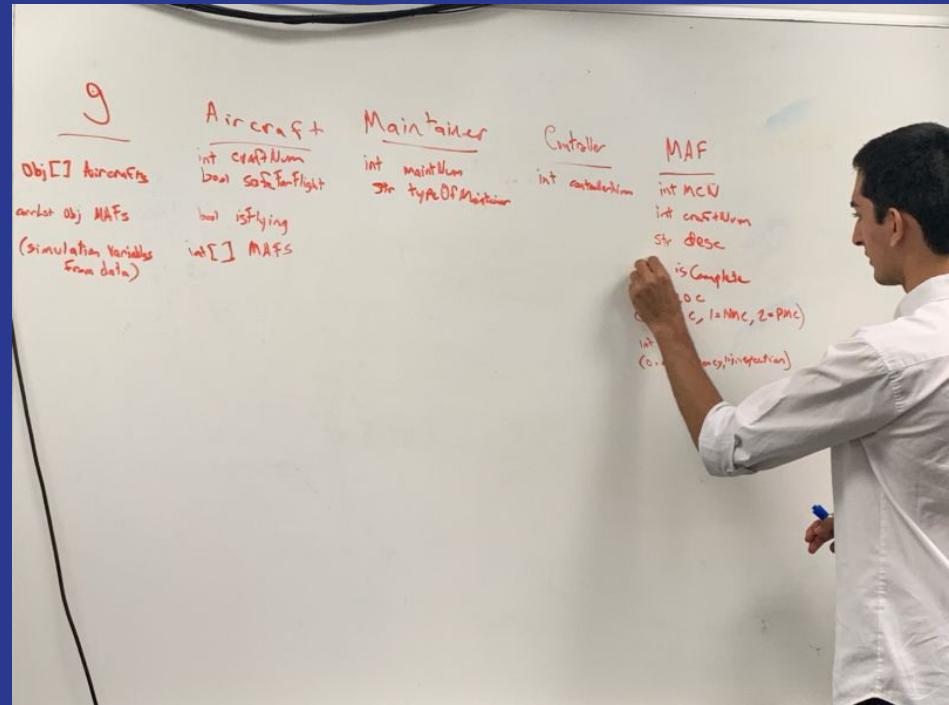




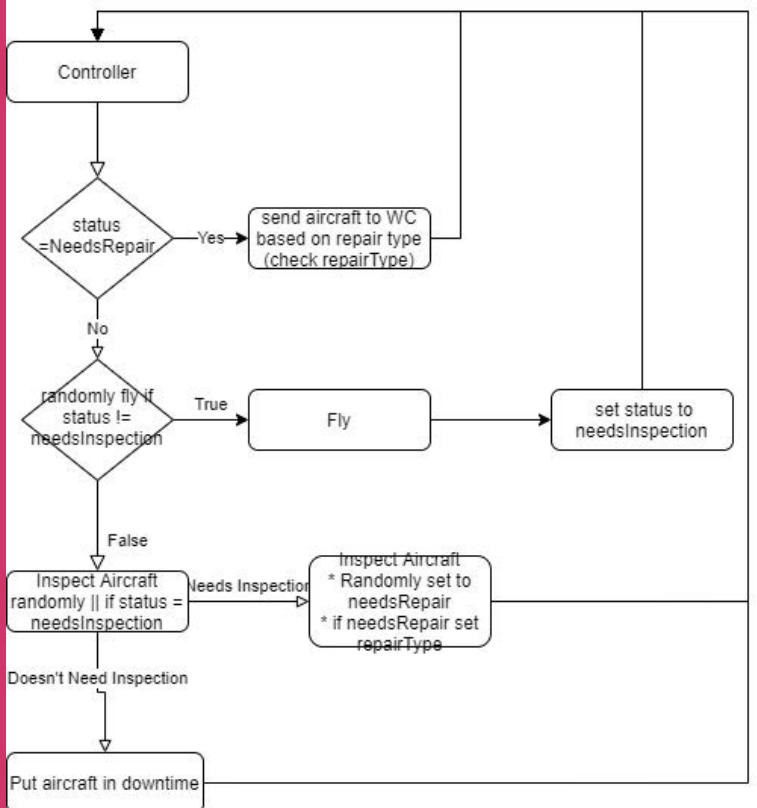
Work So Far

We learned the Maintenance Process through the other predictive tool our sponsor created: Maintenance Capacity Model (Microsoft PowerBI data analysis).

We traveled to Hawaii to interview squadrons directly and to work with our sponsor to design the simulation.



Simulation Design



```

V18SqnMainSimulation.py* X TRC.py X _g.py X _Aircraft.py X
31 class Squadron_Model:
32     def __init__(self, trial_number):
33         self.env = simpy.Environment()
34         self.aircraft_counter = 0
35         self.controller = simpy.Resource(self.env,
36                                         capacity=_g.gVars['numControllers'])
37         self.flightlineMech = simpy.Resource(self.env,
38                                         capacity=_g.gVars['numFlightlineMechs'])
39         self.airframeMech = simpy.Resource(self.env,
40                                         capacity=_g.gVars['numAirframeMechs'])
41         self.aviTech = simpy.Resource(self.env,
42                                         capacity=_g.gVars['numAviTechs'])
43         self.pilot = simpy.Resource(self.env,
44                                         capacity=_g.gVars['numPilots'])
45         self.trial_number = trial_number
46         self.mean_q_time_controller = 0
47         self.mean_q_time_flightlineMech = 0
48         self.mean_q_time_airframeMech = 0
49         self.mean_q_time_avitech = 0
50         self.mean_q_time_flight = 0
51         self.comebackthru = False
52         self.results_df = pd.DataFrame()
53         self.results_df['AC_ID'] = []
54         self.results_df['Q_Time_Controller'] = []
55         self.results_df['Q_Time_FlightlineMech'] = []
56         self.results_df['Q_Time_AirFrameMech'] = []
57         self.results_df['Q_Time_AviTech'] = []
58         self.results_df['Total_Flight_Time'] = []
59         self.results_df['Total_Flights'] = []
60         self.results_df['Total_AF_Repair_Time'] = []
61         self.results_df['Total_Avi_Repair_Time'] = []
62         self.results_df['Total_FL_Repair_Time'] = []
63         self.results_df['Total_Repair_Time'] = []
64         self.results_df.set_index("AC_ID", inplace=True)
65 # Generate_AC creates a number of Aircraft objects and names them by counter
66 # Each aircraft is given a material condition state through random decisions
67 # Each aircraft is then given a flight decision to start
68     def generate_ac(self):
69         for i in range(_g.gVars['numAircraft']):
70             self.aircraft_counter += 1
71             ac_id = _Aircraft.Aircraft(self.aircraft_counter)
72             #gives each aircraft a material condition discrepancy
73             #discovered during preflight inspection
74             ac_id.fl_decision()
75             ac_id.avi_decision()
76             ac_id.af_decision()
77             ac_id.flight_decision()
78             self.env.process(self.Controller(ac_id))
79             yield self.env.timeout(0)
80 # Controller considers aircraft condition, flight schedule, and decides
81 # what each A/C next step in the process is
82 # if A/C has gripe, send to repair process
83 # if A/C on schedule to fly, send to preflight inspection
84 # if A/C not on schedule and no gripes, send to downtime
85     def Controller(self, aircraft):
86         start_q_controller = self.env.now
87         with self.controller.request() as req:
88             yield req
  
```

The code defines a `Squadron_Model` class. It initializes resources for controllers, flightline mechanics, airframe mechanics, and aviatechs. It also initializes variables for the trial number and mean queue times for each resource. The `generate_ac` method creates `Aircraft` objects and assigns them unique IDs. Each aircraft is assigned a material condition discrepancy. The `Controller` method handles the logic for each aircraft, starting with a request for a controller resource. This is followed by a series of conditional blocks to determine the next step in the process based on the aircraft's current status and any gripes it may have.

The Finish Line



Our current model reads in variables,
approximates the maintenance process,
and returns:

- mean time waiting for mechanics
 - flight statistics per aircraft
 - mean repair time by maint type

We are now working to:

- simulation interrupts (off-shift)
 - supply parts wait time
 - inputs by real data vs manual variables

Fun Hawaii Pictures





Mahalo for coming to our Demo!

Hang loose! 🤘

