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PREFACE

The European Conference on Modelling and Simulation (ECMS), which is the 32nd annual conference of the European Council for Modelling and Simulation, is an independent forum for academics and practitioners dedicated to research, development, and applications of modelling and simulation, not only from Europe but from all over the world. This year, the conference is hosted by Jade University of Applied Sciences in Germany.

Jade University of Applied Sciences, which was founded in 2009, is a state-owned university in the northwest of Lower Saxony. It has three campuses in the towns of Wilhelmshaven, Oldenburg, and Elsfleth. The university is made up of six departments and offers 37 undergraduate and 13 postgraduate degree courses. It is home to more than 7,600 students and 500 staff. Its main emphasis is on maritime, engineering, and business studies, in which modelling and simulation are of great importance.

The 2018 edition of ECMS once again brings together experts and practitioners from the field of modelling and simulation to present and to discuss their ideas, research, and challenges. This year's conference includes three new tracks, namely Simulation of Fluid-mechanically Effective Microstructures and Combustion Processes, Multi-physical Finite Element Simulation and Finite Discrete Element Methods. It attracted high quality submissions from 22 countries on five different continents. We are proud to present our distinguished keynote speakers to this conference, Professor Thomas Bäck from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands and Professor Frederic Stahl from the University of Reading in the United Kingdom. Professor Bäck is talking about algorithms for simulation-based optimisation problems whilst Professor Stahl is talking about building adaptive data mining models on streaming data in real-time.

We hope this book will serve as a reference to researchers and practitioners in the field, as well as an inspiration to those interested in the area of modelling and simulation. The chairpersons of this conference would like to thank all authors for their contributions and the track chairpersons for organising the reviewing process. Our special thanks go to the referees for their time and their efforts in reviewing all submitted papers. With their expertise and with valuable comments in most cases, they helped to maintain a high scientific quality of the conference. Furthermore, our thanks are due to Martina-Maria Seidel for running the ECMS office and to Professor Khalid Al-Begain, the president of the European Council on Modelling and Simulation. Last but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to the various members of the Department of Engineering Sciences of Jade University of Applied Sciences for their support.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Wilhelmshaven

Lars Nolle, Alexandra Burger, Christoph Tholen, Jens Werner, Jens Wellhausen

Wilhelmshaven, May 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Plenary Talks - Abstracts

Algorithms For Simulation-Based Optimization Problems

Thomas Baeck.....5

Building Adaptive Data Mining Models On Streaming Data In Real-Time, An Outlook On Challenges, Approaches And Ongoing Research

Frederic Theodor Stahl8

Finance and Economics and Social Science

Developing And Calibrating An ABM Of The Property Listing Task

Enrice Canessa, Sergio E. Chaigneau, Carlos Barra.....13

Econometric Modelling Of Time Series Relationship Between Fertility And Income For The Russian Population: Methodological Issues

Oksana Shubat, Anna Bagirova.....20

Dynamics Of Volatility Spillover Between Stock And Foreign Exchange Market: Empirical Evidence From Central And Eastern European Countries

Ngo Thai Hung.....27

Fuzzy Logic Modelling Of The Russian Demographic Space

Anna Bagirova, Oksana Shubat, Alexander Akishev35

Options With Stochastic Strike Prices

Janos Szaz, Agnes Vidovics-Dancs.....41

Competitiveness And Finance Of Supply Chains: Considerations On Optimisation

Peter Juhasz, Janos Szaz, Sandor Misik.....46

Healthcare Demand Simulation Model

Bozena Mielczarek, Jacek Zabawa.....53

The Effects Of Model Selection On The Guarantees On Target Volatility Funds

Gabor Kondor60

Review Of Global Industry Classification

Laszlo Nagy, Mihaly Ormos66

Supplementation Of The Regulation Of Anti-Cyclical Margin Measures

Csilla Szanyi, Melinda Szorodai, Kata Varadi74

Simulation in Industry, Business, Transport and Services

Simulation Of An Order Picking System In A Manufacturing Supermarket Using Collaborative Robots

Fabio Coelho, Susana Relvas, Ana P. Barbosa-Povoa83

Statistical Evaluation Of Emergency Service Demand In Electric Power Distribution Utilities

Guilherme de Oliveira da Silva, Vinicius Jacques Garcia, Lynceo Falavigna Braghirolli89

Simulation Based Analysis Of Ectopic Pregnancy Treatment Process To Support Process Redesign

Janis Grabis, Zane Grabe96

Simulation of Intelligent Systems

Behavior Tree Based Knowledge Reasoning For Intelligent Vessels In Maritime Traffic Simulations

Volker Golluecke, Daniel Lange, Axel Hahn, Soeren Schweigert105

Comparative Analysis Of Metamodeling Techniques Based On An Agent-Based Supply Chain Model

Mert Edali, Gonenc Yucel114

Blind Search Patterns For Off-Line Path Planning

Tarek A. El-Mihoub, Christoph Tholen, Lars Nolle121

Realtime Simulation And 3D-Visualisation Of Surface And Underwater Vehicles For Monitoring And Evaluating Autonomous Missions

Tobias Theuerkauff, Yves Wagner, Frank Wallhoff129

Model Checking Knowledge And Commitments In Multi-Agent Systems Using Actors And UPPAAL	
<i>Christian Nigro, Libero Nigro, Paolo F. Sciammarella</i>	136
Pseudo Neural Networks Via Analytic Programming With Direct Coding Of Constant Estimation	
<i>Zuzana Kominkova Oplatkova, Adam Viktorin, Roman Senkerik</i>	143
Study On Velocity Clamping In PSO Using CEC'13 Benchmark	
<i>Michal Pluhacek, Roman Senkerik, Adam Viktorin, Tomas Kadavy</i>	150
Tuning Of The Bison Algorithm Control Parameters	
<i>Anezka Kazikova, Michal Pluhacek, Roman Senkerik</i>	156
Comparative Study Of The Distance/Improvement Based SHADE	
<i>Adam Viktorin, Roman Senkerik, Michal Pluhacek, Tomas Kadavy</i>	163
Boundary Strategies For Firefly Algorithm Analysed Using CEC`17 Benchmark	
<i>Tomas Kadavy, Michal Pluhacek, Adam Viktorin, Roman Senkerik</i>	170
A Review On The Simulation of Social Networks Inside Heuristic Algorithms	
<i>Roman Senkerik, Michal Pluhacek, Adam Viktorin, Tomas Kadavy, Jakub Janostik, Zuzana Kominkova Oplatkova</i>	176
Mapping Of Enclosed Buildings Using Mobile Radio Tomography	
<i>Anastasia Ingacheva, Vladislav Kokhan, Dmitry Osipov</i>	183
On A Novel Search Strategy Based On A Combination Of Particle Swarm Optimisation And Levy-Flight	
<i>Christoph Tholen, Tarek A. El-Mihoub, Lars Nolle</i>	190
Predicting System Level ESD Performance	
<i>Guido Notermans, Sergej Bub, Ayk Hilbrink</i>	195

Modelling, Simulation and Control of Technological Processes

MATLAB Toolbox For Self-Tuning Predictive Control Of Time-Delayed Systems

Radek Holis, Vladimir Bobal205

New Approach To Modelling The Kinetics Of The Fermentation Process In Cultivation Of Lactic Acid Bacteria

*Georgi Kostov, Rositsa Denkova-Kostova, Vesela Shopska,
Petar Nedyalkov, Zapryana Denkova, Bogdan Goranov, Vasil Iliev,
Kristina Ivanova, Desislava Teneva*212

A Variable Detail Model Simulation Methodology For Cyber-Physical Systems

T.G. Broenink, J.F. Broenink219

Ball & Plate Model For Robotic System

Lubos Spacek, Jiri Vojtesek, Frantisek Gazdos, Tomas Kadavy226

Multimodel Approach In State-Space Predictive Control

Lukas Rusar, Vladimir Bobal232

Control Of Temperature Inside Plug-Flow Tubular Chemical Reactor Using 1DOF And 2DOF Adaptive Controllers

Jiri Vojtesek, Lubos Spacek, Frantisek Gazdos239

A Matlab-Based Simulation Tool For The Analysis Of Unsymmetrical Power System Transients In Large Networks

*Michael Kyesswa, Hueseyin K. Cakmak, Uwe Kuehnappel,
Veit Hagenmeyer*246

Simulation and Optimization

Process Optimization In "Smart" Companies Through Condition Monitoring

*Frank Morelli, Jan-Felix Mehret, Thorsten Weidt, Moustafa Elazhary.....*257

A Domain-Specific Language For Routing Problems

*Benjamin Hoffmann, Michael Guckert, Thomas Farrenkopf,
Kevin Chalmers, Neil Urquhart262*

Positivity And Stability Of Descriptor Continuous-Time Linear Systems With Interval State Matrices

Tadeusz Kaczorek269

Web-Based Simulation Of Production Schedules With High-Level Petri Nets

Carlo Simon275

Minimisation Of Network Covering Services With Predefined Centres

Milos Seda, Pavel Seda282

Finite Element Modelling Of Pacemaker Electrode For Time Varying Excitation

Shifali Kalra, M. Nabi288

Improved TPWL Based Nonlinear MOR For Fast Simulation Of Large Circuits

Ammu Chathukulam, Debashree Sarkar, Shifali Kalra, M. Nabi293

Diode Model Generation For Simulation Of Harmonic Distortion

Jennifer Schuett, Jens Werner, Ayk Hilbrink299

Quality Evaluation Of Models And Polymodel Complexes: Subject-Object Approach

*Boris Sokolov, Vladislav Sobolevsky, Stanislav Mikoni,
Valerii Zakharov, Ekaterina Rostova.....305*

Optimal Planning For Purchase And Storage With Multiple Transportation Types For Concentrated Latex Under Age-Dependent Constraint

Tuanjai Somboonwiwat, Sutthinee Klomsae, Walailak Atthirawong311

Using DEMATEL To Explore The Relationship Of Factors Affecting Consumers' Behaviors In Buying Green Products

Walailak Atthirawong, Wariya Panprung, Kanogkan Leerojanaprapa.....317

Solving Location Problem For Vehicle Identification Sensors To Observe And Estimate Path Flows In Large-Scale Networks	
<i>Pegah T. Yazdi, Yousef Shafahi</i>	323
Master Production Scheduling With Integrated Aspects Of Personnel Planning And Consideration Of Employee Utilization Specific Processing Times	
<i>Marco Trost</i>	329
Assessing Crop Rotation Sustainability Using Analytical Hierarchy Process	
<i>Saturnina Fabian Nisperos, Frederic D. McKenzie</i>	336
Ground Vehicle Localization With Particle Filter Based On Simulated Road Marking Image	
<i>Oleg Shipitko, Anton Grigoryev</i>	341
Thermistor Problem: Multi-Dimensional Modelling, Optimization And Approximation	
<i>Ciro D'Apice, Umberto De Maio, Peter I. Kogut</i>	348
 Simulation of Fluid-Mechanically Effective Microstructures and Combustion Processes	
Towards Immersed Boundary Methods For Complex Roughness Structures In Scale-Resolving Simulations	
<i>Konrad M. Hartung, Philipp Gilge, Florian Herbst</i>	359
Numerical Supported Design Of Continuously Adapted Riblets For Viscous Drag Reduction On A NREL Wind Turbine Airfoil	
<i>Karsten Oehlert, Jan H. Haake, Konrad M. Hartung</i>	366
Optimization Of The Plant Control Systems At Wilhelmshaven Power Plant Based On Coal Mill Models And State Controllers	
<i>Nicolas Mertens, Henning Zindler, Uwe Krueger, Marc-Hendrik Prabucki</i>	373

Multiphysical Finite Element Simulation

Modeling And Simulation Of Bioheat Powered Subcutaneous Thermoelectric Generator

Ujjwal Verma, Jakob Bernhardt, Dennis Hohlfeld381

Multiphysics Modeling And Simulation Of A Dual Frequency Energy Harvester

Sofiane Bouhedma, Yuhang Zheng, Dennis Hohlfeld.....386

Parametric Model Order Reduction Of Induction Heating System

Ananya Roy, M. Nabi.....391

Finite – Discrete - Element Simulation

Coupling Finite And Discrete Element Methods Using An Open Source And A Commercial Software

Akos Orosz, Kornel Tamas, Janos P. Radics, Peter T. Zwierczyk.....399

Coupled DEM-FEM Simulation On Maize Harvesting

Adam Kovacs, Peter T. Zwierczyk405

Investigation The Effect Of The Model Dimension In Soil-Cone Penetrometer Discrete Element Simulations

Krisztian Kotrocz, Gyoergy Kerenyi412

Automatic Calibration Of Discrete Element Models

Ferenc Safranyik, Istvan Keppler.....418

Investigation Of Soil-Sweep Interaction In Laboratory Soil Bin And Modelling With Discrete Element Method

Kornel Tamas, Zsofia Olah, Lilla Racz-Szabo, Zoltan Hudoba421

High Performance Modelling and Simulation

Modelling and Simulation of Data Intensive Systems - Special Session -

Concrete vs. Symbolic Simulation To Assess Cyber-Resilience Of Control Systems

Giuseppina Murino, Armando Tacchella.....433

Performance Optimisation Of Edge Computing Homeland Security Support Applications

Marco Gribaudo, Mauro Iacono, Agnieszka Jakobik, Joanna Kolodziej.....440

Anchor Placement In Indoor Object Tracking Systems For Virtual Reality Simulations

Marco Gribaudo, Pietro Piazzolla, Mauro Iacono.....447

New Fuzzy Numbers Comparison Operators In Energy Effectiveness Simulation And Modeling Systems

*Wojciech T. Dobrosielski, Jacek M. Czerniak, Hubert Zarzycki,
Janusz Szczepanski454*

Stackelberg Game-Based Models In Energy-Aware Cloud Scheduling

*Damian Fernandez-Cerero, Alejandro Fernandez-Montes,
Agnieszka Jakobik, Joanna Kolodziej.....460*

ANN-Based Secure Task Scheduling In Computational Clouds

Jacek Tchorzewski, Ana Respicio, Joanna Kolodziej468

Efficiency Analysis Of Resource Request Patterns In Classification Of Web Robots And Humans

Grazyna Suchacka, Igor Motyka.....475

Probability and Statistical Methods for Modelling and Simulation of High Performance Information Systems - Special Session -

Simulation Of Large-Scale Queueing Systems

Sergey A. Vasilyev, Galina Tsareva.....485

Global And Local Synchronization In Parallel Space-Aware Applications

*Franco Cicirelli, Agostino Forestiero, Andrea Giordano,
Carlo Mastroianni, Rostislav V. Razumchik*491

Software Package For The Active Queue Management Module Model Verification

*Tatyana R. Velieva, Anna V. Korolkova, Migran N. Gevorkyan,
Sergey A. Vasilyev, Ivan S. Zaryadov, Dmitry S. Kulyabov*498

Simulation Of The Limited Resources Queueing System For Performance Analysis Of Wireless Networks

Eduard Sopin, Kirill Ageev, Sergey Shorgin.....505

Author Index510

SOFTWARE PACKAGE FOR THE ACTIVE QUEUE MANAGEMENT MODULE MODEL VERIFICATION

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ABSTRACT

Self-oscillation modes in control systems of data transmission networks negatively affect the characteristics of these networks. To investigate the self-oscillation mode for systems with a control module, the analytical model of the active queue management module was developed. The problem of verification of the obtained theoretical results arises in the study. Previously, a software system was developed for software emulation of the router. However, its use has caused some difficulties. Alternatively, the simulation model of network with active queue management module was developed. The paper describes a software package for verifying theoretical calculations based on the NS-2 simulation system. For illustration, a numerical example is given.

INTRODUCTION

When modeling technical systems, there is often a question of verification of results. Either there is no access to data on the functioning of such systems, or the acquisition of data is associated with large resource and time costs. But some simulation experiments can be seen as a solution to this problem.

The problem of the occurrence of self-oscillatory regime in systems with control is considered (see Lautenschlaeger and Francini (2015)). In particular, the active queue management modules with RED-like algorithms were studied. Based on the theoretical model (see Misra et al. (1999); Kulyabov et al. (2018)) of the functioning of the RED module, the parameters of self-oscillating regimes were investigated. However, for completeness of the study, the verification of the results is necessary. We have developed the installation for a full-scale experiment on the basis of emulation of images of network equipment (see Velieva et al. (2015)). However, this approach required some extra resources, which were not at authors disposal. So, as a substitute, it was suggested to use the simulation model.

In this paper, the simulation model based on the NS-2 network protocol simulation tool is described. This approach proved to be more flexible in comparison with the full-scale experiment on the basis of emulation of network operating systems.

RED ADAPTIVE CONGESTION CONTROL MECHANISM

The RED algorithm (see Adams (2013); Kushwaha and Shwer (2013); Kushwaha and Gupta (2014)) uses a weighted queue length as a factor determining the probability of packets drop. As the average queue length grows, the probability of

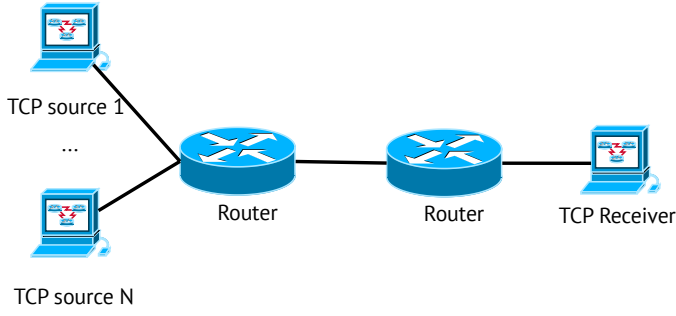


Fig. 1. Dumbbell topology

packets drop also increases. The algorithm uses two threshold values of the average queue length to control the drop function.

$$p(\hat{Q}) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < \hat{Q} \leq Q_{\min}, \\ \frac{\hat{Q} - Q_{\min}}{Q_{\max} - Q_{\min}} p_{\max}, & Q_{\min} < \hat{Q} \leq Q_{\max}, \\ 1, & \hat{Q} > Q_{\max}. \end{cases}$$

Here $p(\hat{Q})$ is the packets drop function (drop probability), \hat{Q} is the exponentially-weighted moving average of the queue size average, Q_{\min} and Q_{\max} are the thresholds for the weighted average of the queue length, p_{\max} is the the maximum level of the packets drop.

The RED algorithm is quite effective due to simplicity of its implementation in the network hardware, but it has a number of drawbacks. In particular, for some parameters values there is a steady oscillatory mode in the system, which negatively affects the quality of service (QoS) indicators (see Jenkins (2013); Ren et al. (2005); Lautenschlaeger and Francini (2015)). Unfortunately there are no clear selection criteria for RED parameters values, at which the system does not enter in self-oscillating mode.

SIMULATION MODEL

The full-scale experiment often involves certain difficulties. For example, the real equipment is not always available. Also the use of a virtual stand is associated with high demands on computer equipment (see Velieva et al. (2015)). In addition, since the simulation takes place in real time, the whole process is extremely long.

To save resources and time, simulation tools are usually used. The package ns2 (see Issariyakul and Hossain (2012); Altman and Jiménez (2012)) is a tool for network protocols simulating. This package was created as a reference modeling tool, so it is often used as an alternative to the full-scale experiment.

For an imitation experiment, we will use the so-called dumbbell topology (see Fig. 1). Additional TCP sessions are emulated by addition of extra sources.

The program for ns2 is written in TCL language (see Welch and Jones (2003); Nadkarni (2017)).

First, we need to create a simulator object. Let's set the experiment time.

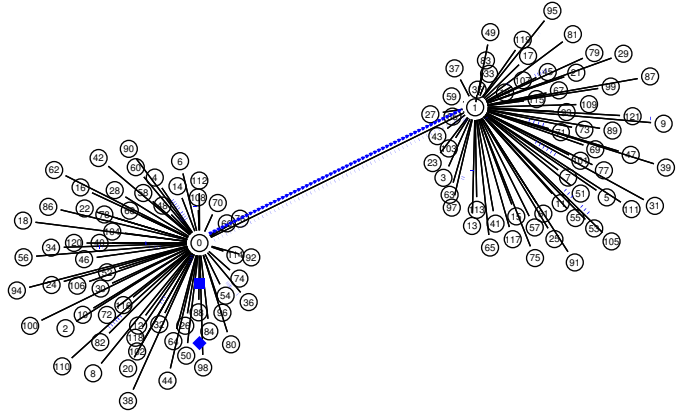


Fig. 2. Visualization of the simulation. Packets drop is shown

```
set ns [new Simulator]
```

```
set sduration 20
```

```
set simTime 20
```

We may write the data for the nam visualization tool (see Fig. 2). In the final version of the script, we will disable this feature to save resources.

```
# set nf [open out.nam w]
# $ns namtrace-all $nf
```

Let's set the number of TCP sessions (sources).

```
set numSrc 60
```

The current experiment is connected with the study of thresholds values influence on the occurrence of self-oscillation mode. Therefore, the threshold values are set as arguments.

```
if { $argc == 2 } {
    puts "[lindex $argv 0] [lindex $argv 1]"
    # thresh_ <=> Q_min
    # maxthresh_ <=> Q_max
    Queue/RED set thresh_ [lindex $argv 0]
    Queue/RED set maxthresh_ [lindex $argv 1]
}
```

In ns2, there are implementations of three varieties of the RED discipline: the original RED Floyd and Jacobson (1993) algorithm, the ARED algorithm, and the Gentle RED algorithm. The settings of the algorithms are controlled by parameters.

- `bytes_`: turns on (`true`) or turns off (`false`) the mode *byte mode*, in which the size of the package affects the probability of their tagging to drop;
- `Queue-in-bytes_`: if the value of the parameter is set to `true`, then the average queue length will be measured in bits. Also, the `thresh_` and `maxthresh_` will be measured by the calculated average packet size (`mean_pktsize_`). The default value is `false`;
- `thres_`: the minimum queue length threshold q_{\min} ;

- `maxthresh_`: the maximum queue length threshold q_{\max} ;
- `mean_pktsize_`: an approximate estimation of the packet size in bytes. The default value is 500;
- `q_weight_`: the w_q weighting factor is used in calculating of the average queue length;
- `wate_`: this option allows to maintain the interval between drops packets if its value is set as a `true`;
- `linterm_`: the inverse of the parameter p_{\max} . The default is 10;
- `setbit_`: takes the value `false`, if RED discards marked packets. If the value is set as `|true|`, a congestion bit is added to the marked packets;
- `drop-tail_`: when the value is `true` and the buffer is overflowed then the active queue management algorithm switches to the Drop Tail algorithm.

The default values for the parameters `q_weight_`, `maxthresh_` and `thres_` are 0.002, 15 and 5 respectively.

```
Queue/RED set q_weight_ 0.002
# Queue/RED set drop_tail_ true
Queue/RED set setbit_ false
Queue/RED set bytes_ false
Queue/RED set queue_in_bytes_ false
Queue/RED set gentle_ false
Queue/RED set mean_pktsize_ 1000
Queue/RED set cur_max_p_ 0.1
```

Two nodes that will play the role of routers are created.

```
set R1 [$ns node]
set R2 [$ns node]
```

Using a loop, we create the nodes that will simulate a TCP session.

```
# create the tcp/ftp src nodes
for {set i 1} {$i <= $numSrc} {incr i} {
    # Create node
    set n($i) [$ns node]
    # Create link
    $ns duplex-link n($i) $R1 100Mb 20ms DropTail
    # Create TCP agent on node n($i)
    set tcp($i) [new Agent/TCP/Reno]

    $tcp($i) set window_ 32
    $tcp($i) set fid_ 2
    $tcp($i) set packetSize_ 1000
    $tcp($i) set class_ 1

    $ns attach-agent n($i) $tcp($i)
    # FTP
    set ftp($i) [new Application/FTP]
    $ftp($i) attach-agent $tcp($i)
    $ftp($i) set type_ FTP

    # Create sink
    set s($i) [$ns node]
```

```
# Create link
$ns duplex-link s($i) $R2 100Mb 20ms DropTail
# Create sink agent on node s($i)
set sink($i) [new Agent/TCP/Sink]
$ns attach-agent s($i) $sink($i)

# Connect n($i) and s($i)
$ns connect $tcp($i) $sink($i)
}
```

The queue is connected to the link between the routers. Since we are only interested in traffic in the forward direction, the discipline Drop Tail is set to the link in the opposite direction.

```
set flink [$ns simplex-link $R1 $R2 15Mb 35ms RED]
$ns simplex-link $R2 $R1 15Mb 35ms DropTail
$ns queue-limit $R1 $R2 300
```

One of the most important objects in ns2 is the queue monitor. It allows to gather information not only about the length of the queue, but also about arriving, departing and dropped packets.

```
set qmon [$ns monitor-queue $R1 $R2 [open qm.tr <-
w] 0.01]
[$ns link $R1 $R2] queue-sample-timeout
```

To monitor the parameters of the RED queue (for example, between the nodes n_2 and n_3), the following lines of code should be added:

```
set redq [$ns link $n2 $n3] queue]
set traceq [open red-queue.tr w]
$redq trace curq_
$redq trace ave_
$redq attach $traceq
```

Here `curq_` is the current size of the queue, `ave_` is the average queue size. As a result, the output file consisting of three columns is obtained. The first column contains the flag Q (the current queue size) or a (average queue size). The other columns are the time and value of the observed parameter.

The size of the window we will be under control.

Obtaining TCP CWND Window information

```
# plotWindow(tcpSource file k): Write CWND of k <-
tcpSources in file
# The output format is as follows:
# TIME Win_flow1 Win_flow2 Win_flow3 ... <-
Win_flowN
proc plotWindow {tcpSource file k} {
    global ns numSrc

    set time 0.03
    set now [$ns now]
    set cwnd [$tcpSource set cwnd_]
```

```

if { $k == 1 } {
    puts -nonewline $file "$now \t $cwnd \t"
} else {
    if { $k < $numSrc } {
        puts -nonewline $file "$cwnd \t"
    }
}

if { $k == $numSrc } {
    puts -nonewline $file "$cwnd \n"
}
if { $k == $numSrc } {
    puts -nonewline $file "$cwnd \n"
}
$ns at [expr $now+$time] "plotWindow ←
    $tcpSource $file $k"
}

# Start plotWindow() for all tcp sources
# Output to stdout
for {set j 1} {$j<=$numSrc} {incr j} {
    $ns at 0.1 "plotWindow $tcp($j) stdout $j"
}

```

The process of simulation is started:

```

proc finish {} {
    exit 0
}

for {set i 1} {$i<=$numSrc} {incr i} {
    $ns at 0.0 "$ftp($i) start"
    $ns at $simTime "$ftp($i) stop"
    # $ns at $simTime "calc_throughput $tcpSrc ($j) ←
        $j $simTime"
}

$ns at $simTime "finish"
$ns run

```

If the file with the model is named as `red.tcl`. Then, in order to run the simulation, the `ns red.tcl` command should be executed.

PROCESSING OF THE SIMULATION RESULTS

After the simulation experiment a large amount of raw data is obtained and it is necessary to process this data.

By using the output data the parameters of self-oscillations may be obtained. Here are the fragments of the program in the Julia language (see Joshi and Lakhanpal (2017)), in which the spectral portrait of the self-oscillatory mode is constructed on the basis of the Fast Fourier Transform algorithm (see Rao et al. (2010)).

The file being processed is passed as an argument.

```

#!/usr/bin/env julia
if length(ARGS) > 0
    try

```

```

        global const window_size = readcsv(ARGS[1])[1, 2]
        global const count = readcsv(ARGS[1])[1, 1]
    catch err
        if isa(err, SystemError)
            error("File $(ARGS[1]) not found")
        else
            throw(err)
        end
    end
end
end

```

Actually, the spectral analysis is carried out on the basis of a Fast Fourier Transform algorithm.

```

delta = count[2] .- count[1]
Fd = 1.0 ./ delta
fftCount = length(window_size)
X = fft(window_size[1:512])
amplitude_spectrum = 2 .* abs.(X) / 512.0
amplitude_spectrum[1] = amplitude_spectrum[1] ./ 2.0
frequency = collect(0:Fd./512.0:Fd./2 - 1.0./512.0)

```

As a result the amplitude and frequency of the first harmonic of self-oscillations are obtained.

```

max_amp=findmax(amplitude_spectrum,1)
println (max_amp[1][1],",",frequency[max_amp[2]][1])

```

In addition, we may derive the point values of the spectrum in order to build a graph on it later.

```

for (f, A) in zip(frequency, amplitude_spectrum)
    println (f, ", ", A)
end

```

As in the current experiment the dependence of self-oscillations on the threshold values of the RED algorithm is investigated, we will generate files with different threshold values. This data will be used in carrying out the simulation.

```

#!/usr/bin/env python3
import itertools
import numpy as np

```

```

DIR = 'parameters'
Q_START = 10
Q_STOP = 90
Q_DELTA = 1

```

```

Q = np.arange(Q_START, Q_STOP+1, Q_DELTA)
gen = (p for p in itertools.product(Q, Q) if p[0] ←
    < p[1])
for i, p in enumerate(gen):
    with open("{0}/{1:04d}".format(DIR, i), ←
        mode='w', encoding='utf-8') as f:
        f.write("{0[0]} {0[1]}".format(p))

```

In order to collect all the elements together, we will use the *Snakemake* assembly system [https://snakemake.readthedocs.io]. This system is ideologically similar to the Make assembly

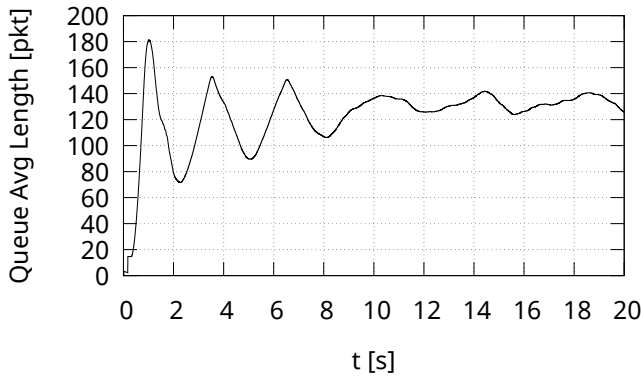


Fig. 3. Average queue length at link capacity $C = 5$ Mbps

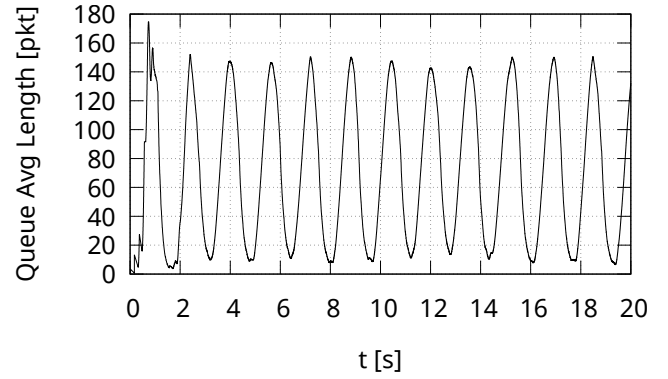


Fig. 4. Average queue length at link capacity $C = 20$ Mbps

system. However, it is not aimed at assembling software, but for reproducible and scalable data analyses. The syntax of *Snakemake* language is similar to the *Python* language.

```
rule all:
    input:
        ['spectrum/{0}'.format(f) for f in ←
         os.listdir("./parameters")]
    output:
        touch("./.status")

rule fft:
    input:
        "parameters/{ file }"
    output:
        "4 fft/{ file }"
    shell:
        "ns red. tcl 'cat {input}' > {output}"

rule spectrum:
    input:
        rules . fft . output
    output:
        "spectrum/{ file }"
    shell:
        "julia spectrum.jl {input} > {output}"
```

The resulting set of programs can be parallelized according to the SPMD ideology (single program, multiple data) (see Darema (2001)).

SIMULATION EXPERIMENT

As an illustration, we give a concrete example. Let's set the following parameters of the RED algorithm: the number of sessions $N = 60$, round-trip time $T_p = 0.075$ s, thresholds $Q_{\min} = 75$ packages and $Q_{\max} = 150$ packets, drop probability $p = 0.1$, parameter $w_q = 0.002$.

In the study examines the impact of the parameters on the character of the self-oscillation mode. Let us investigate the dependence of self-oscillation on the link capacity C .

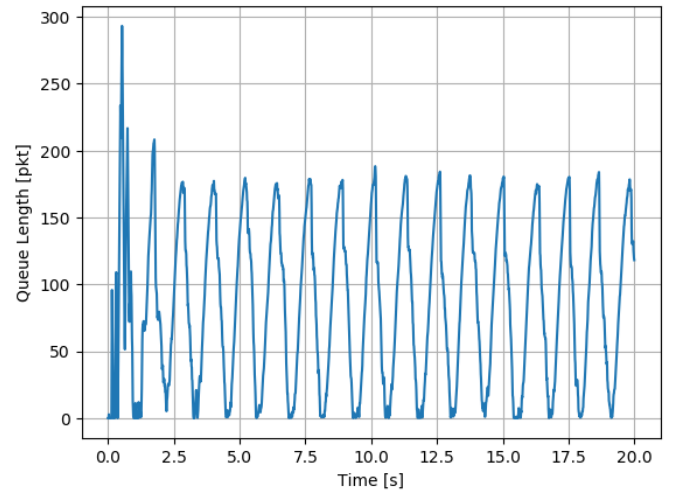


Fig. 5. Instantaneous queue length at link capacity $C = 20$ Mbps

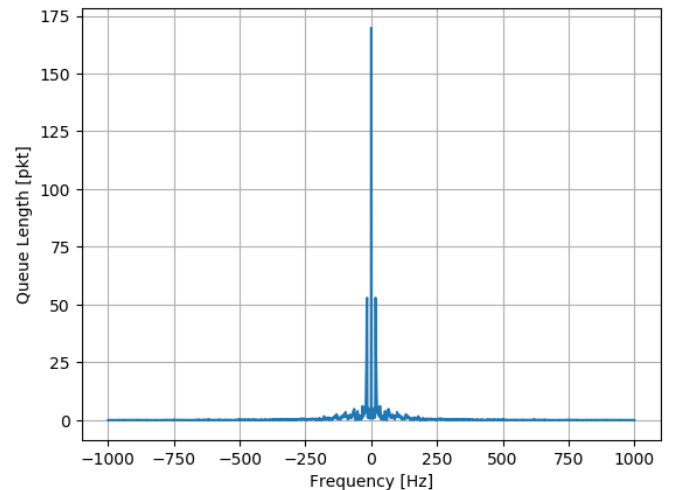


Fig. 6. Spectrum of self-oscillations of instantaneous queue length at link capacity $C = 20$ Mbps

The Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 show the behavior of the average queue length for link capacity $C = 5$ Mbps and $C = 20$ Mbps. In the second case clearly shows the presence of the self-oscillation mode. Theoretically obtained characteristic of this mode: oscillation frequency $\nu = 0.6$ Hz, oscillation amplitude $A = 150$ packets. In the spectral study of the results of the simulation, we obtained the following characteristics: the frequency of self-oscillations $\nu = 0.5$ Hz, the amplitude of the oscillations $A = 169$ packets (see Fig. 5 and Fig. 6). As can be seen, the theoretical and experimental values are very close. Thus, our program complex can serve the purposes of verification of theoretical studies of the self-oscillatory regime in control systems.

CONCLUSION

The authors have developed the set of programs for simulation experiment in order to investigate the self-oscillation mode of control systems and to verify theoretical results. It is assumed that this experiment will confirm the analytical model of the active queue management module with the RED-like algorithm proposed by the authors.

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