

Introduction To Modeling & Simulation (Part 1)

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Introduction To Modeling and Simulation (Outline)

- What is Modeling and Simulation (M&S) ?
- Complexity Types
- Model Types
- Simulation Types
- M&S Terms and Definitions

What is M&S ?

- Discipline of **understanding** and **evaluating** the **interaction** of parts of a **real** or **theoretical system** by;
 - Designing its representation (**model**) and
 - Executing (running) the model including the time and space dimension (**simulation**).

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What is a System ?

- An unit or process, which **exists** and **operates in time and space** through the **interaction** of its parts.

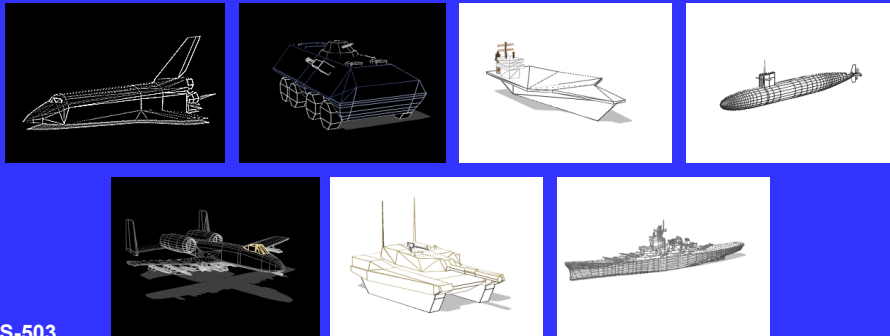


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What is a Model ?

- A **simplified representation** of a real or theoretical system **at some particular point in time or space** intended to **provide understanding** of the system.



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What Level of Model Detail ?

- Whether a **model** is **good** or **not** depends on the extent to which it **provides understanding**.
- All the models are **simplification** of reality.
- Exact copy of a reality can only be the reality itself.
- There is always a **trade off** as to **what level of detail** is included in the model:
 - **Too little detail**: risk of **missing relevant interactions**.
 - **Too much detail**: Overly **complicated** to understand.

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What is a Simulation ?

- The **manipulation of a model** in such a way that it **operates in time or space** to summarize it.



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Why Simulation ?

- **Enable** one to **percieve the interactions** that would otherwise **be apparent** because of their **separation** in time or space.



Drawn by Tuğgeneral Baynur Pekar

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Advantages of M&S

- **Choose correctly:**
 - M&S lets you test every aspect of a proposed change or addition without committing resources to their acquisition.
- **Compress and expand time:**
 - M&S allows you to speed up or slow down phenomena so that you can investigate them better.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Understand why:**
 - Managers often want to know why certain phenomena occur in a real system.
 - M&S lets you determine answers to “why” questions by reconstructing (replaying) the scene and taking a closer look at what has happened during the run.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Explore possibilities:**
 - You can explore new policies, operating procedures or methods without the need of experimenting with the real world systems.
- **Diagnose problems:**
 - Some systems are so complex that it is impossible to consider all the interactions taking place in a given moment.
 - With M&S, you can better understand the interactions among the variables that make up the complex system.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Identify constraints:**
 - Bottlenecks in a system is an effect rather than a cause.
 - Doing bottleneck analysis with M&S, you can discover the cause of the delays in work process, information, material or other processes.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Develop understanding:**
 - M&S provides understanding about how a system really operates rather than indicating someone's predictions about how a system will operate.
- **Visualize the plan:**
 - M&S lets you see your system actually running.
 - That allows you to detect design flaws that appear credible.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Build consensus:**
 - Instead of saying one person's opinion about a system, you actually show how the system works, so provide an objective opinion.
- **Prepare for change:**
 - Using M&S, you can ask what-if questions for determining future improvements and new designs on a system.

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Advantages of M&S

- **Invest wisely:**
 - M&S is a wise investment since
 - Typical cost of a simulation study is substantially less than generally 1% of the total amount being expended for the implementation of a design or redesign.

Advantages of M&S

- **Train the team:**
 - M&S can provide excellent training when design for that purpose.
 - In training, team provides decision inputs to the simulation as it progress, and observes the outputs.
 - After simulation ends, further evaluation can be provided by after action review (AAR).

Advantages of M&S

- **Specify requirements:**
 - M&S can be used to determine requirements for a system design by simulating different possible configurations of a system.

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Disadvantages of M&S

- **Model building requires special training:**
 - M&S is an art that is learned over time and through experience.
 - Two models of the same system developed by two different individuals may have similarities, but it is unlikely be the same.
 - Building a realistic model may require domain knowledge that can only be acquired from a subject matter expert.

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Disadvantages of M&S

- Simulation results may be difficult to interpret:
 - Since most simulation results are essentially random variables,
 - It may be hard to determine whether an observation is a result of system interrelationships or just randomness.

Disadvantages of M&S

- Simulation modeling and analysis can be time consuming and expensive:
 - Economizing on resources for modeling and analysis may result in a simulation not sufficient enough for the problem, and may consume time, effort and money for nothing.

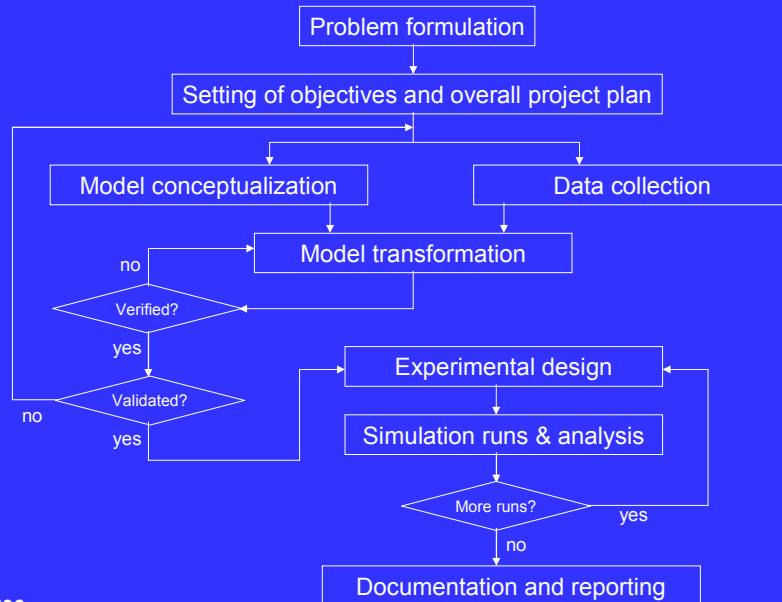
Disadvantages of M&S

- Simulation may be used inappropriately:
 - Simulation is used in some cases when analytical solution is possible, or even preferable.

How to Use a Simulation ?

- Develop a model,
 - Simulate it,
 - Analyze the results,
 - Learn from the simulation,
 - Revise the model & simulation,
 - Continue the interactions until adequate level of understanding is developed.
-
- M&S is a discipline, but it is also very much an art form.

Steps in a M&S Study



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Some Application Areas

- Medical research, training & support
- Industrial engineering designs & presentations (Factory process design, manufacturing, ...)
- Civil engineering designs & presentations (Building design, city & infrastructure planning, ...)
- Mechanical engineering designs & presentations (Engine designs, aerodynamic design, ...)
- Nature sciences (Physics, chemistry, biology, meteorology, astronomy, ...)
- Geographic Information Systems (Earth modeling, ...)
- Military Decision Support (War modeling, ...)
- Training (Simulators, games, ...)
- Entertainment (Games, ...)

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Practical Lecture Focus

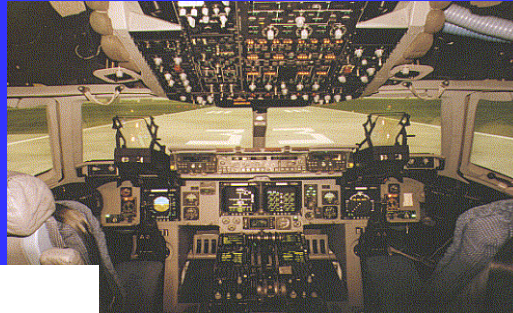
- **Modeling & Simulation in;**
 - Defense Industry, and
 - Game Programming.
- **Includes:**
 - Earth modeling,
 - Entity modeling,
 - Behavior modeling,
 - Sensor & weapon systems modeling,
 - Distributed simulations,
 - Simulation based optimization and analysis.

Complexity Types

- Detail Complexity
- Dynamic Complexity

Detail Complexity

- Associated with systems which have **many component parts**.



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Dynamic Complexity

- Associated with systems which **have cause and effect separated by time and space**.
- Great difficulty dealing with.
- **Unable to readily see the connections between parts** of the systems and **their interactions**.

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Mathematical Models

- Models, properties of which are described by mathematical symbols and relations.
- Constructed using:
 - Procedures (algorithms)
 - Mathematical equations.

Mathematical Models (Sample)



Chaparral Missile Properties (Parameters)

Type	Surface to air missile
Radius	2.75 inch
Length	58 inch
Guidance	Passive infrared
Range	4 km
Velocity	2.2 mach
War Head	High explosive
Engine	Rocket, 2 phased
Acceleration	2 m/sec

A = Acceleration
S = Speed
W = Effective Radius
E = Effective Range
S2 = Target Velocity
D = Target Distance

$$R = A + \frac{D}{(D/S + D/S2)}$$

→ **R = Probability of Hit**

Physical Models

- Models, properties of which are described by physical structures and relations.
- Usually applied to high fidelity (detailed) system simulations such as simulators.

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Physical Models (Sample)



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Process Models

- Models the process a system performs.
- Represents dynamic relations by mathematical and logical functions.

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Process Models (Sample)

Target

Take Fire
Decision

Perform Fire
Computations

Give Fire
Command

Fire
Missile

Missile
Hit Target



Search &
Classify
Target

Decide
To Fire

Compute
Fire
Direction

Command
Fire

Fire

Target
Destroyed

T_1

T_2

T_3

T_4

T_5

T_6

(T = Time) $T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4 + T_5 + T_6 = \text{Mission Complete}$

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Simulation Types (WRT Entities Involved)

- Live
- Virtual
- Constructive

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Live Simulations

- Real systems & actors
- Real environment



Possible results:

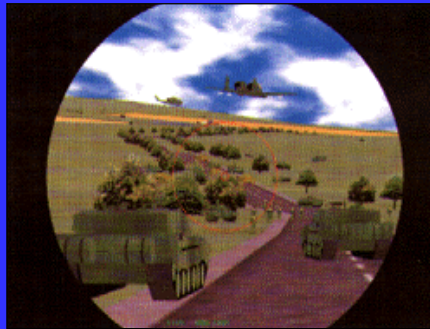
- **Resource Waste**
- **Time Waste**
- **Possible Damages**

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Virtual Simulations

- Real/Virtual systems & actors
- Real/Virtual environment



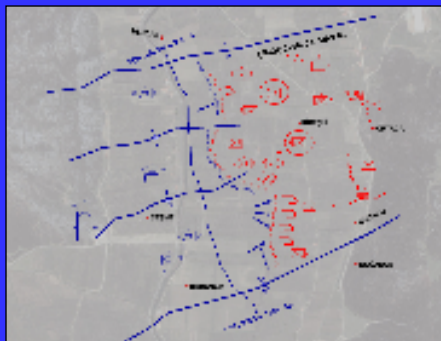
***Usually used for training
within simulators***

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Constructive Simulations

- Virtual systems & actors
- Virtual environment



Objectives:

- Doing measurement, comparison, forecasting & concept analysis,
- Producing statistics

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Simulation Types (WRT Time Advance)

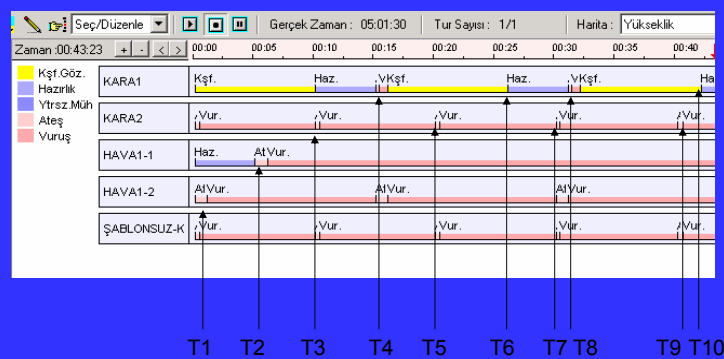
- Discrete
- Continuous

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Discrete (Event) Simulations

- Time is advanced from event time to event time rather than using a continuously advancing time clock.



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Continuous Simulations

- Something that can only really be accomplished with an analog computer.
- An approximation for continuous simulations (combined discrete continuous sim.) is;
 - Making the time step of the simulation sufficiently small so there are no transitions within the system between time steps.
 - So the simulation is stepped in time increments.



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Simulation Types (WRT Results)

- Deterministic
- Stochastic

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Deterministic Simulations

- A model that does **not contain probability**.
- Every run will result the same.
- Single run is enough to evaluate the result.

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Stochastic Simulations

- A model that **contains probability**.
- Units, process, events or their parameters are **initiated randomly** using random numbers.
- If different runs are initiated with **different** random number **seeds**,
 - **Every run will result differently**.
- **Multiple runs are required** to evaluate the results.
- Statistics such as **averages**, **standard deviations** are used for evaluation.



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Simulation Types (WRT Design)

- Traditional
- Agent-Based

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Traditional Simulations

- Simulations where the characteristics of a population are averaged together, and
- The model attempts to simulate changes in these averaged characteristics for the whole population.

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Traditional Simulations (Screen shoot of a GPSS Program)

- GPSS is a traditional computer simulation language that stands for general-purpose simulation systems.

An internet cafe simulation

```

GPSS World - TermWork.gps
File Edit Search View Command Window Help
-----
TermWork.gps
SERVICE TABLE P4,0,15,30
QUIT TABLE Q1,0,5,30
WAITING QTABLE WAITING,0,5,30
CHAIRS STORAGE 6
INITIAL X$PROFIT 0
INITIAL X$PROFITIZED 0
INITIAL X$PROFITTIME 0
INITIAL X$INTMEAN 60
INITIAL X$CORMEAN 60
INITIAL X$WAITMEAN 30
BILLCONST VARIABLE 400
TIREINC VARIABLE 10
TIRE VARIABLE R1,P2
BILLTIME VARIABLE 100*(INT(P2/V$TIREINC))
BILL VARIABLE V$BILLCONST*V$BILLTIME
CALCWAIT VARIABLE X$WAITMEAN+5*FN$WAITTIME
; Prob. to bank depending on the # of customers waiting
DECIDE VARIABLE 0.01+0.0275*(6-Q$WAITING)/(6-Q$WAITING)
; normal distribution of service time
; mean = X$CORMEAN, stdev = SD of X$CORMEAN
NORMALVAR VARIABLE X$CORMEAN+(X$CORMEAN-SD)*FN$SNORM
-----
GENERATE X$INTMEAN, FN$EXPO
    
```

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Traditional Simulations (A Sample GPSS Program)

- Statistical values are used to model & simulate the system.

Mean inter arrival times for different time of day

9:00 - 10:00	10:00 - 11:00	11:00 - 14:00	14:00 - 18:00	18:00-21:00	21:00-23:00	23:00-24:00	24:00-01:00
60 minutes	45 minutes	30 minutes	25 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	60 minutes

```

INITIAL X$INTMEAN 60
INITIAL X$WAITMEAN 30
CALCWAIT VARIABLE X$WAITMEAN+5*FN$WAITTIME
GENERATE X$INTMEAN, FN$EXPO
ASSIGN 1, V$CALCWAIT ; max waiting time is in parameter 1 of
xact
EXPO FUNCTION RN1,C24 ;Exponential Distribution
0,0/.1,0.104/.2,.222/.3,.355/.4,.509/.5,.69/.6,.915/.7,1.2/.75,1.38/
.8,1.6/.84,1.83/.88,2.12/.9,2.3/.92,2.52/.94,2.81/.95,2.99/.96,3.2/
.97,3.5/.98,3.9/.99,4.6/.995,5.3/.998,6.2/.999,7/.9997,8
WAITIME FUNCTION RN3,C25 ;Standard normal dist. function
0,-5/.00003,-4/.00135,-3/.00621,-2.5/.02275,-2
.06681,-1.5/.11507,-1.2/.15866,-1/.21186,-.8/.27425,-.6
.34458,-.4/.42074,-.2/.5,0/.57926,.2/.65542,.4
.72575,.6/.78814,.8/.84134,1/.88493,1.2/.93319,1.5
.97725,2/.99379,2.5/.99865,3/.99997,4/1,5
    
```

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Traditional Simulations (A Sample GPSS Program)

Simulating 1 day in GPSS

```

ONEDAY          GENERATE 961,,1 ; Internet Cafe Open at 09:00, 16*60 Min = 1 Day
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,60 ; After 09:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 60 min
SAVEVALUE COMMEAN,60 ; Computer Usage Mean = 60 min
ADVANCE 60 ; 1 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,45 ; After 10:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 45 min
ADVANCE 60 ; 1 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,30 ; After 11:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 30 min
SAVEVALUE COMMEAN,90 ; Computer Usage Mean = 90 min
ADVANCE 180 ; 3 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,25 ; After 14:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 25 min
ADVANCE 240 ; 4 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,20 ; After 18:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 20 min
ADVANCE 180 ; 3 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,30 ; After 21:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 30 min
ADVANCE 120 ; 2 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,40 ; After 23:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 40 min
SAVEVALUE COMMEAN,60 ; Computer Usage Mean = 60 min
ADVANCE 60 ; 1 Hours
SAVEVALUE INTMEAN,60 ; After 24:00 Inter Arrival Mean = 60 min
ADVANCE 60 ; 1 Hours
TERMINATE 1 ; Internet Cafe Closed At 01:00
    
```

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Traditional Simulations (Sample GPSS Execution)

The screenshot shows the GPSS World interface with several windows open:

- SA... (Savevalues):** A table listing simulation variables and their current values.

Savevalue	Value	Retry C.
QUIT	1.000	0
PROFIT	19400.000	0
PROFITFX...	6800.000	0
PROFITTIME	12600.000	0
INTMEAN	20.000	0
COMMEAN	90.000	0
WAITMEAN	30.000	0
LASTM11	635.829	0
LASTM12	609.609	0
LASTM13	598.866	0
LASTM14	642.336	0
- JOUR... (Journal):** Shows the current simulation step:


```

ADVANCE Line 109.
06/01/01 05:41:42 ADVANCE P4 ;
Use computer sometime
06/01/01 05:41:43 CONTINUE
06/01/01 05:41:43 Simulation in Progress.
06/01/01 05:41:44 HALT
06/01/01 05:41:44 Halt XN: 24, Block 26
            
```
- STORAGE ENTITIES:** Shows the state of storage entities, including CHAIRS with utilization 0.018 and capacity 6.
- QUEUE ENTITIES:** Shows the state of queue entities, including WAITING with 22 current entries and 16 zero entries.

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Traditional Simulations (Sample GPSS Results)

Queue waiting frequencies

Time Range	Frequency	Cumulative %
1 minutes	20	62.50%
1...5 minutes	1	65.63%
5...10 minutes	3	75.00%
10...15 minutes	1	78.13%
15...20 minutes	3	87.50%
20...25 minutes	1	90.63%
25...30 minutes	1	93.75%
30...35 minutes	2	100.00%

Frequency of leaving time for too much waited customers

Time Range	Frequency	Cumulative %
25...30 minutes	1	33.33%
30...35 minutes	2	100.00%

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Agent-Based Simulations

- Differs from traditional kinds of simulations in that some or all of the simulated entities are modeled in terms of agents.
- Explicitly attempts to model specific behaviors of specific individuals.
- Contrasted to methods where the characteristics of a population are averaged together.
- Supports structure preserving modeling of the simulated reality.

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Agent-Based Simulations (Domain Examples)

- Vehicles and pedestrians in traffic situations.
- Actors in financial markets.
- Consumer behavior.
- Humans and machines in battlefields.
- People in crowds.
- Animals and/or plants in eco-systems.
- Artificial creatures in computer games.

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Agent-Based Simulations (Advantages)

- Distributed control, supporting parallel computations on separate machines.
- Supports simulation of pro-active behaviour.
- Ability to add or delete entities during a simulation.
- Easy to swap (exchange) an agent with the corresponding simulated entity,
 - i.e., a real person or a physical machine, (even during a simulation) making the simulation scenarios very dynamic.

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Agent-Based Simulations (Advantages)

- Facilitates simulation of group behavior in highly dynamic situations,
 - Thereby allowing the study of "emergent behavior" that is hard to grasp with traditional methods.
- Well-suited for the simulation of situations where there are a large number of heterogeneous individuals who may behave somewhat differently.

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Agent-Based Simulations (Agent Characterization)

- What is referred to as an agent covers a spectrum ranging from ordinary objects to full agents.
- May **characterize them** with the following **dimensions**:
 - Interaction
 - Communication language
 - Control/autonomy
 - Pro-activeness
 - Spatial explicitness
 - Mobility
 - Adaptivity
 - Modelling concepts

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Agent-Based Simulations (Agent Characterization)

- **Interaction:**
 - From collaborative to no interaction at all.
- **Communication language:**
 - From KQML via simple signals (e.g. procedure calls) to none at all.
- **Control/autonomy:**
 - From each agent being a separate process (or thread) to one single process (monolithic system).

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Agent-Based Simulations (Agent Characterization)

- **Pro-activeness:**
 - From pro-active to full reactive.
- **Spatial explicitness:**
 - From each agent being assigned a location in physical geometrical space to no notion of space.
- **Mobility:**
 - From each agent being able to move around in the simulated physical space to all agents being stationary.

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Agent-Based Simulations (Agent Characterization)

- **Adaptivity:**
 - From learning to static behaviour.
- **Modelling concepts:**
 - From mentalistic (e.g., Belief Desire Intention [BDI]) to non-mentalistic.

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Frequently Used M&S Terms and Definitions

- Entity, Attributes, State Variables & Event
- Replication
- Pixel, Polygon & Voxel
- Fidelity & Resolution
- Aggregation & Disaggregation
- Interoperability & Reusability
- Frame
- Simulator
- Computer Generated Forces
- Distributed Simulation
- High Level Architecture (HLA)
- Conceptual Model of The Mission Space (CMMS)
- Verification & Validation

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Entity

- A representation of an object that requires explicit definition.
- An **entity can be**:
 - **Dynamic**: Moves through the system
 - E.g. A customer
 - **Static (resource)**: Serves other entities
 - E.g. A bank teller

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Attributes

- Local values that defines the characteristics of an entity.
- A **soldier attributes** could be:
 - **Max running speed**: 12 km/h
 - **Head direction left limit** : -80 degree
 - **Head direction right limit** : +80 degree
 - **Max ammunition level**: 20 bullets
 - **Max target detection range**: 2 km

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State Variables

- The collection of all information needed to define what is happening within an entity or system to sufficient level at a given point in time.
- A **soldier state variables** could be:
 - **Body posture**: standing, running, ...
 - **Head direction** : -80 ... +80 degrees
 - **Ammunition level**: 0 .. 20 bullets
 - **Health**: alive, injured, dead

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Event

- An occurrence that changes the state of a system.
- **Event types**:
 - **Internal** (endogenous) events
 - E.g. Beginning of a service at a bank.
 - **External** (exogenous) events
 - E.g. arrival of customers for service.

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Replication

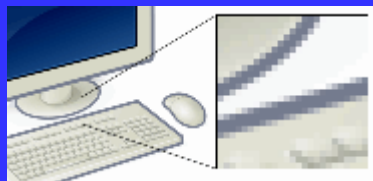
- A single simulation run is a random sequence of events that illustrated only one of the branches of all possible event flow combinations.
- Therefore, reaching a conclusion based on just a single run is not an appropriate way of analysis.
- To minimize effect of randomness, simulations are run multiple times with the same scenario and the results are averaged.
- Each of these runs are called a replication.

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Pixel

- The smallest piece of information in an image data.
- Normally arranged in a regular 2D grid, and are often represented using dots or squares.

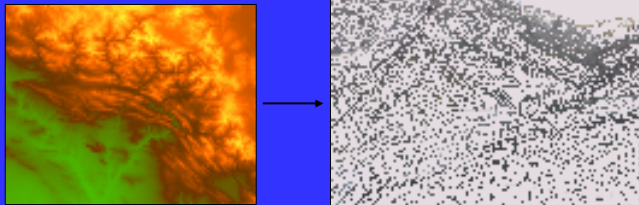


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Value of Pixels

- Intensity/value of each pixel is variable:
 - In color systems, each pixel has typically 3 or 4 components such as red, green, blue and alpha.
 - In digital elevation models, each pixel is typically a height value such as elevation from sea level.



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Polygon

- A plane figure that is bounded by a closed path or circuit, composed of a finite sequence of straight line segments.
- Segments are called edges or sides.
- Points where two edges meet are the polygon's vertices or corners.
- Interior of the polygon is called its body.



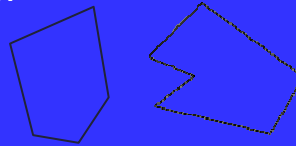
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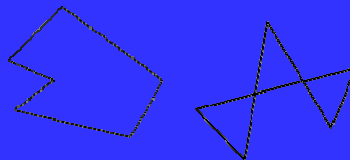
Characterization of Polygons

- **Convex:** Any line drawn through the polygon (and not tangent to an edge or corner) meets its boundary exactly twice.

- **Concave:** Non-convex.



- **Simple:** The boundary of the polygon does not cross itself. All convex polygons are simple.

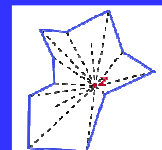


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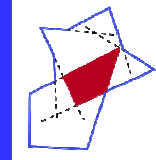
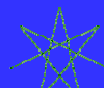
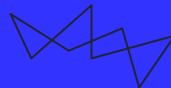
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Characterization of Polygons

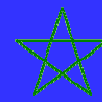
- **Star-shaped:** There exists a point that whole interior is visible from without crossing any edge. The polygon must be simple.



- **Self-intersecting:** Boundary of the polygon crosses itself.



- **Star-Polygon:** A polygon which self-intersects in a regular way.



- **Polygon with Holes:** A polygon having interior boundaries that generates holes.

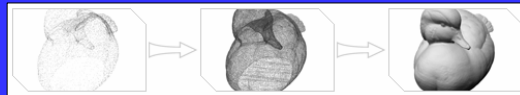


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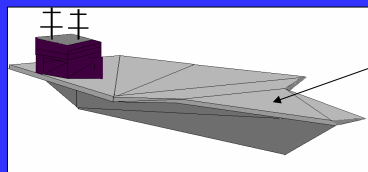
Polygonal Models

- A three dimensional model of an object that is created by building polygons (usually triangles) from the points in a point cloud.



Point cloud model Wireframe model Solid (surface) model

- A faceted three dimensional model of an object.



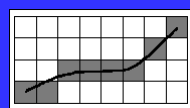
A face (triangle)

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Voxel

- A volume element, representing a value on a regular grid in three dimensional space.
- This is analogous to a pixel, which represents 2D image data.
- Voxels are frequently used in the visualization and analysis of medical and scientific data.



pixels



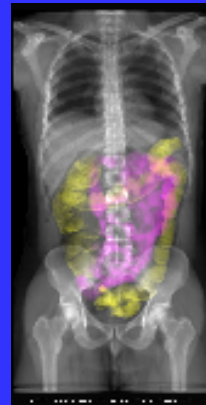
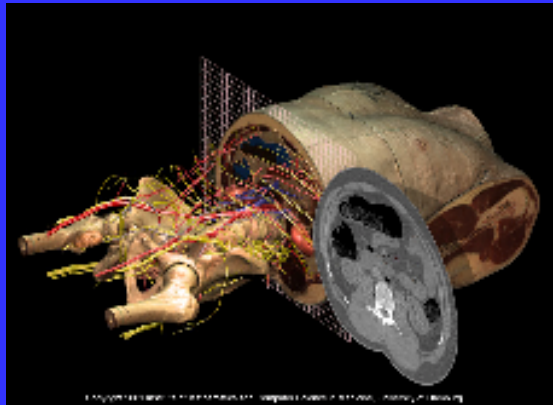
voxels

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Voxel Models

- A three dimensional model of an object that is represented by voxels (created with voxelization).



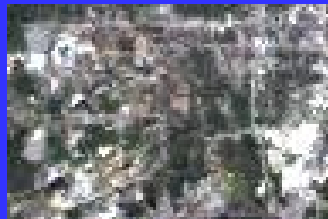
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Resolution

- The level of detail a model is represented.

Image



3D model



Low resolution

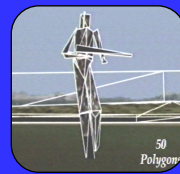
High resolution

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Fidelity

- The degree to which a model or simulation reproduces the state and behaviour of a real world system.
- Fidelity is therefore a measure of the realism of a model or simulation.
- A high resolution model does not always mean a high fidelity model.

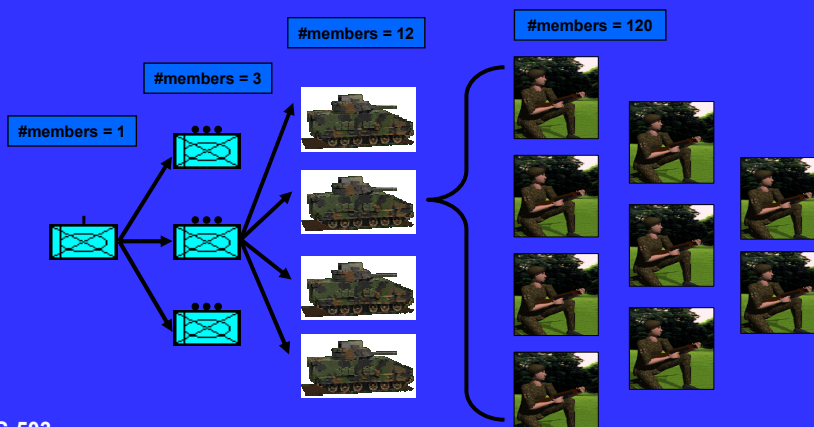


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Aggregation & Disaggregation

- The grouping/ungrouping of a number of entities for low/high fidelity modeling and/or visualization



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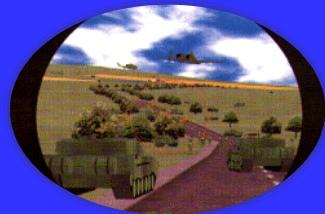
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Interoperability

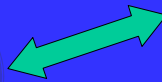
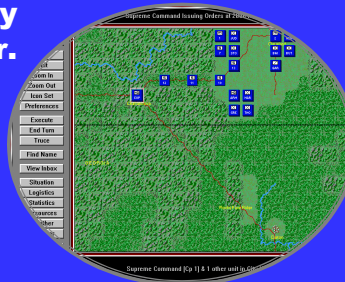
- The ability of diverse systems to work together (inter-operate).

If two systems are interoperable, they can work together.

Simulation "A"



Simulation "B"



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Reusability

- The likelihood a segment of source code can be used again to add new functionalities with slight or no modification.
- Reusable modules and classes;
 - Reduce implementation time,
 - Increase the likelihood that prior testing and use has eliminated bugs,
 - Localizes code modifications when a change in implementation is required.

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Frame

- One of the many single;
 - Photographic images in a motion picture, or
 - Time instant in a simulation run.



T1



T2



T3

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Simulator

- A software & hardware intergrated system that creates an environment that is as close as possible to reality for the purpose of training or research.



A flight simulator



A tank simulator

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Computer Generated Forces

- Simulated military entities (e.g. soldiers, tanks) capable of acting autonomously in a simulation environment using artificial intelligence techniques.



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Distributed Simulation

- An integrated simulation that is **partitioned into a number of smaller simulations** over different computational units (e.g. processors, computers).
- Provides **higher scalability** and **multi user interaction**.
- A system, whose performance improves proportional to the computational capacity added, is said to be a **scalable system**.

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Distributed Simulation



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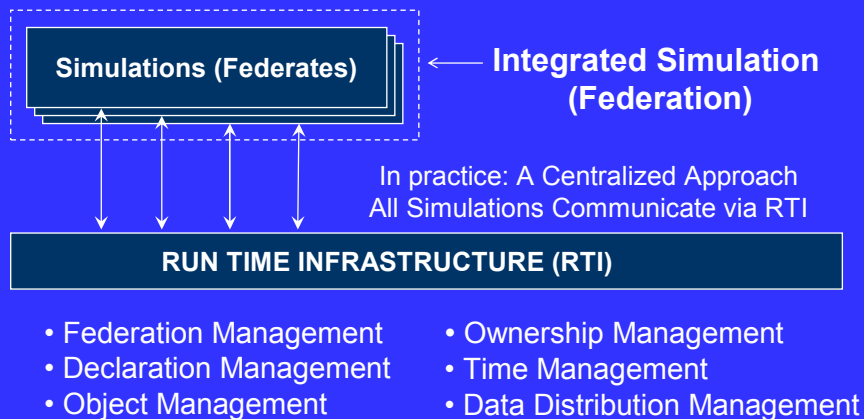
High Level Architecture (HLA)

- An IEEE (1516) standard for developing distributed simulations.
- The concept was developed by Defense Modeling & Simulation Office (DMSO).
 - Current technology was not providing tools necessary to achieve DoD M&S Master Plan.
 - A standard was needed for the interoperability of developed simulations.

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High Level Architecture (HLA)



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Conceptual Model of The Mission Space (CMMS)

- Developing simulations for some **specific domains** such as military operations **requires knowledge** of the domain (**mission space**).
- But that mission space knowledge is **not usually readily available** for the developers.
 - It is **incomplete, ambiguous** or **defined in an informal way**.
- In such a case,
 - It is **not possible to develop a high fidelity model and simulation**.

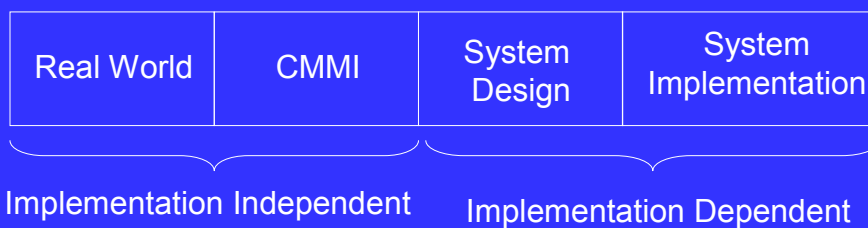
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Conceptual Model of The Mission Space (CMMS)

- CMMS is a bridge between subject matter experts (SME*) and developers, which describes in a consistent way how the real world runs within a particular domain.

SME* : A person who is an expert in a particular area.



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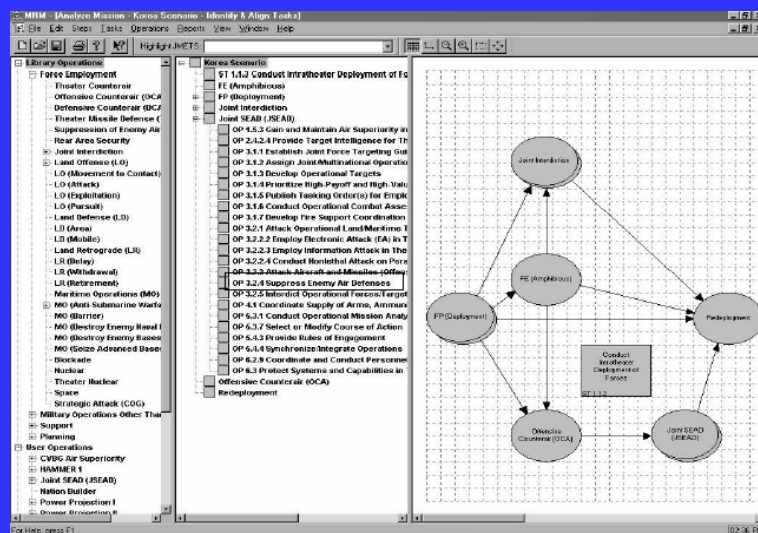
Steps of CMMS Development

- Collect authoritative simulation context information;
To develop scope of simulation, which describes the domain that a simulation is to address.
- Identify entities and processes;
That must be represented for the simulation to accomplish its objectives.
- Develop simulation elements;
To represent entities and processes.
- Address relationships among simulation elements;
To ensure that constraints and boundary conditions imposed by the simulation context are accommodated.

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Representing CMMS Formally



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Verification & Validation

- Real-world system under investigation is abstracted by a conceptual model.
- Conceptual model is then coded into operational model.
- Hopefully, operation model is a correct representation of real-world system.
- We need more than hope.
- To ensure correctness, we have to perform verification and validation.

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Verification

- Determination of whether the computer implementation of the conceptual model is correct.
- Question:
 - Does the operational model accurately reflect the conceptual model?
- To get an answer:
 - Examine the simulation program in details and compare to the conceptual model.

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Verification

- Commonsense ways to perform verification:
 - Follow the principles of structured programming (detailed plans, top-down design, flow charts, etc.).
 - Make operational model as self-documenting as possible (comments, graphical software).
 - Have computer code checked by more than one person.

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Verification

- Commonsense ways to perform verification:
 - Check to see that values of input data are being used appropriately (e.g. units).
 - For a variety of input-data values, ensure that outputs are reasonable.
 - Use an interactive run controller or debugger to check that program operates as intended (e.g. execute model step by step).
 - Visualisation is a very useful verification tool (e.g. detect actions that are illogical).

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Validation

- Determination of whether the conceptual model can be substituted for the real system for the purpose of experimentation.
- A variety of subjective and objective techniques can be used to validate the conceptual model.

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Validation

- Subjective techniques to perform validation:
 - Face validation: Model must appear reasonable to the subject matter experts.
 - Sensitivity analysis: When model input is changed, output should change in a predictable direction.
 - Extreme condition test: Check whether model behaves properly when input data are at the extremes.

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Validation

- Subjective techniques to perform validation:
 - Validation of conceptual model assumptions:
 - Check structural and data assumptions with appropriate personnel (experts, consultants).
 - No one person knows everything about the entire system.
 - So, many people are required.

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Validation

- Subjective techniques to perform validation:
 - Consistency checks:
 - Continue to examine operation model over time.
 - Detect significant changes in real-system that would effect correctness of simulation model.

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Validation

- Subjective techniques to perform validation:
 - Turing tests:
 - Experimentally compare model outputs to system outputs with experts.
 - Make experts distinguish the ones that are simulated.
 - If a substantial number of simulated ones are identified, simulation model is inadequate.

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Validation

- Objective techniques to perform validation:
 - Validating input-output transformations:
 - Compare model output to the output of real-system if possible (e.g. using t-test).
 - Validation using historical input data:
 - Drive operational model with historical records.
 - Output should stay within acceptable statistical error of those observed from real-world system.