

# DISCRETE EVENT SIMULATION

## Discrete Event Simulation Overview

- Events: we need descriptions of possible events and the probability distributions for the event times; the “event list” is maintained and updated as system changes.
- Variables: time  $t$ , counters, system state and output variable(s).
- Examples: single and multiple server queues, inventory stocking models, insurance risk models, multimachine repair models, stock option models.

# SINGLE-SERVER QUEUES

## Single-Server Queues

- Assumptions:
  - a) customer arrivals  $\sim$  a homogeneous Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$ , so inter-arrival times are  $\sim Exp(\lambda)$ ;  
could also use nonhomogeneous  $\lambda(t)$  Poisson process;
  - b) sequential customer service from one server;
  - c) random service time  $Y$  with distribution specified by some  $G$ ;
  - d) no customers are allowed to enter system after a final time  $T$ .
- Variables:
  - a) time  $t$ ;
  - b) counters  $N_A(t) = \#$  arrivals by time  $t$ , and  $N_B(t) = \#$  departures by time  $t$ ;
  - c) state variable  $n(t) = \#$  of customers in system at  $t$ .
- Events: arrivals or departures; the event list contains time for next arrival  $t_A$  and time for next departure  $t_D$ .
- Example output variables are:
  - a) total customers served  $N$ ;
  - b) arrival times  $A(i)$  for customers with  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ;
  - c) departure times  $D(i)$  for customers with  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ;
  - d)  $T_p =$  time past final allowed arrival  $T$ , for last service.

## SINGLE-SERVER QUEUES CONTINUED

- Single Server Queue Simulation Algorithm:

Initialize:  $t = N_A = N_D = 0, n = 0$ ;

generate  $T_0$ , set  $t_A = T_0, t_D = \infty$ .

Advance the system state using four cases:

1.  $t_A \leq t_D$ , and  $t_A \leq T$  (a new arrival at time  $t_A$ , before next departure)
  - a) reset  $t = t_A, n = n + 1, N_A = N_A + 1$ ;
  - b) generate  $T_t$  and reset  $t_A = T_t$  (next arrival time);
  - c) if  $n = 1$  generate  $Y \sim G$  and reset  $t_D = t + Y$ ;
  - d) collect output data  $A(N_A) = t$ .
2.  $t_D < t_A, t_D \leq T$  (a departure at time  $t_D$ )
  - a) reset  $t = t_D, n = n - 1, N_D = N_D + 1$ ;
  - b) if  $n > 0$  generate  $Y \sim G$  and reset  $t_D = t + Y$ ;  
otherwise set  $t_D = \infty$  (queue is empty);
  - c) collect output data  $D(N_D) = t$ .
3.  $\min(t_A, t_D) > T, n > 0$  (try to empty the queue)
  - a) reset  $t = t_D, n = n - 1, N_D = N_D + 1$ ;
  - b) if  $n > 0$  generate  $Y \sim G$  and reset  $t_D = t + Y$ ;
  - c) collect output data  $D(N_D) = t$ .
4.  $\min(t_A, t_D) > T, n = 0$  (queue empty)
  - a) collect output data  $T_p = \max(t - T, 0)$ .

## SINGLE-SERVER QUEUES CONTINUED

- End of “run” results
  - Times  $(A(1), D(1)), (A(2), D(2)), \dots, (A(N_A), D(N_A))$ ;  
 $(D - A)$  average provides average of customer times for each run.
  - Time  $T_p$  is server overtime.
  - (Event, Time) pairs  $(n_1, t_1), (n_2, t_2), \dots$  provide an arrival/departure history:
    - $n = 0, \quad 0 \leq t < t_1,$
    - $n = n_1, \quad t_1 \leq t < t_2,$
    - $n = n_2, \quad t_2 \leq t < t_3,$
    - $\vdots$
- Averages over many runs give expected service time, server overtime, and other statistics.
- Example: Assume arrivals for a single server queue follow a homogeneous Poisson process with rate 3/hour, and the service time is uniformly distributed between 12 and 18 minutes.  
 Estimate the average time a customer spends in the system and the average amount of overtime put in by the server if  $T = 8$  hours.

## SINGLE-SERVER QUEUE EXAMPLE

```

function [A D Tp] = snglsv( T, lam )
% Returns arrival times A, departure times D, and overtime Tp
% Single-Server Q Simulation
t = 0; na = 0; nd = 0; n = 0; ta = -log(rand)/lam; td = inf;
while ta <= T % time left for more arrivals
    if ta <= td, t = ta; n = n + 1; % new arrival
        na = na + 1; A(na) = t; ta = t - log(rand)/lam;
        if n == 1, td = t + G; end,
    else, t = td; n = n - 1; % departure
        nd = nd + 1; D(nd) = t;
        if n > 0, td = t + G; else, td = inf; end
    end
end % no more arrivals, empty the Q
while n > 0, t = td; nd = nd + 1; D(nd) = t;
    n = n - 1; td = t + G;
end,
Tp = max(t-T,0); % Overtime
% end snglsv
function Y = G; % Uniform between .2 and .3
    Y = .2 + .1*rand;
% end % G = uniform(.2,.3)

```

## SINGLE-SERVER QUEUE EXAMPLE

Sample Output:

```
[ A, D, OT ] = snglsv(8,3); disp( [ A; D ] ); disp(OT)
0.42035  0.65946  0.87783  0.91594  1.0987
0.66493  0.91209  1.1605   1.3804   1.6201
... 27 total arrivals and departures ...
6.3914   6.4858   6.608   7.9071  7.9328
6.643    6.9398   7.1588  8.1947  8.4424
0.44236
for K = [100 1000] % collect ave customer times for each run
    for i = 1:K, [A,D,OT(i)] = snglsv(8,3); C(i) = mean(D-A); end
    disp([K mean(C) mean(OT)])
end
    100      0.54095      0.37947
   1000      0.52367      0.37052
clear
for K = [100 1000] % change lambda
    for i = 1:K, [A,D,OT(i)] = snglsv(8,4); C(i) = mean(D-A); end
    disp([K mean(C) mean(OT)])
end
    100      0.89534      1.058
   1000      0.90772      1.0916
```