

# SIMULATION WITH ARENA

THIRD EDITION

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# Simulation with Arena

Third Edition

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He has authored over 50 technical articles and papers, served as chair of the Third International Conference on Production Research and was the general chair of the 1990 Winter Simulation Conference. He is on the visiting committee for the IE



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He is a Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and served as editor of a two-year series on Computer Integrated Manufacturing Systems for *IE Magazine* that received the 1987 IIE Outstanding Publication award. He has served in several positions at IIE, including president at the chapter and division levels, and vice president of Systems Integration at the international level. He founded and continues to organize the annual IIE/RS Student Simulation Contest. He collects tools and is the proud owner of a new tractor named Dutch and a recently enlarged and stocked farm pond.

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In his leisure time, Dave enjoys camping, hiking, canoeing, skiing, woodworking, and traveling with his wife and three daughters. So far, his travels have taken him to four continents, 17 countries, and all 50 U.S. states.

To those in the truly important arena of our lives:

Albert, Anna, Anne, Christie, and Molly;

Aidan, Charity, Emma, Jenny, Michael, Noah, Sammy, Sean,  
Shelley, and Tierney;

Melanie, Kathy, Victoria, and Diana.

## Preface

This third edition of *Simulation with Arena* has the same goal as the first two editions: to provide an introduction to simulation using Arena. It is intended to be used as an entry-level simulation text, most likely in a first course on simulation at the undergraduate or beginning graduate level. However, material from the later chapters could be incorporated into a second, graduate-level course. The book can also be used to learn simulation independent of a formal course (more specifically, by Arena users). The objective is to present the concepts and methods of simulation using Arena as a vehicle to help the reader reach the point of being able to carry out effective simulation modeling, analysis, and projects using the Arena simulation system. While we'll cover most of the capabilities of Arena, the book is not meant to be an exhaustive reference on the software, which is fully documented in its extensive online reference and help system.

Included is a CD with the Arena 7.01 academic software and all the examples in the text. A Web site for the book can be found at <http://www.arenasimulation.com/academicprograms/>. We encourage all readers to visit this site to learn of any updates or errata for the book or example files supplied, possible additional exercises, and other items of interest. The site also contains material to support instructors who have adopted the book for use in class, including downloadable lecture slides and solutions to exercises; university instructors who have adopted the book should contact the local McGraw-Hill representative for authorization (see <http://www.mhhe.com/catalogs/sem/engineering> to locate representatives in the U.S., or call 1-609-426-5793 to locate representatives outside the U.S.).

We've adopted an informal, tutorial writing style centered around carefully crafted examples to aid the beginner in understanding the ideas and topics presented. Ideally, readers would build simulation models as they read through the chapters. We start by having the reader develop simple, well-animated, high-level models, and then progress to advanced modeling and analysis. Statistical analysis is not treated as a separate topic, but is integrated into many of the modeling chapters, reflecting the joint nature of these activities in good simulation studies. We've also devoted more advanced chapters to statistical issues and project planning to cover more advanced issues not treated in our modeling chapters. We believe that this approach greatly enhances the learning process by placing it in a more realistic and (frankly) less boring setting.

We assume neither prior knowledge of simulation nor computer-programming experience. We do assume basic familiarity with computing in general (files, folders, basic editing operations, etc.), but nothing advanced. A fundamental understanding of probability and statistics is needed, though we provide a self-contained refresher of these subjects in Appendices C and D.

Here's a quick overview of the topics and organization. We start in Chapter 1 with a general introduction, a brief history of simulation, and modeling concepts. Chapter 2 addresses the simulation process using a simple simulation executed by hand.

In Chapter 3, we acquaint readers with Arena by examining a completed simulation model of the problem simulated by hand in Chapter 2, rebuilding it from scratch, going over the Arena user interface, and providing an overview of Arena's capabilities.

Chapters 4 and 5 advance the reader's modeling skills by considering one "core" example per chapter, in increasingly complex versions to illustrate a variety of modeling and animation features; the statistical issue of selecting input probability distributions is also covered in Chapter 4 using the Arena Input Analyzer.

Chapter 6 uses the model in Chapter 5 to illustrate the basic Arena capabilities of statistical analysis of output, including single-system analysis, comparing multiple scenarios (configurations of a model), and searching for an optimal scenario; this material uses the Arena Output and Process Analyzers, as well as OptQuest for Arena.

In Chapter 7, we introduce another "core" model, again in increasingly complex versions, and then use it to illustrate statistical analysis of long-run (steady-state) simulations. Alternate ways in which simulated entities can move around is the subject of Chapter 8, including material-handling capabilities, building on the models in Chapter 7. Chapter 9 digs deeper into Arena's extensive modeling constructs, using a sequence of small, focused models to present a wide variety of special-purpose capabilities; this is for more advanced simulation users and would probably not be covered in a beginning course.

In Chapter 10, we describe a number of topics in the area of customizing Arena and integrating it with other applications like spreadsheets and databases; this includes using VBA (Visual Basic for Applications) with Arena. Chapter 11 shows how Arena can handle continuous and combined discrete/continuous models, such as fluid flow. Chapter 12 covers more advanced statistical concepts underlying and applied to simulation analysis, including random-number generators, variate and process generation, variance-reduction techniques, sequential sampling, and designing simulation experiments. Chapter 13 provides a broad overview of the simulation process and discusses more specifically the issues of managing and disseminating a simulation project.

Appendix A describes a complete modeling specification from a project for *The Washington Post* newspaper. In Appendix B, we give problem statements for the Arena modeling contest held annually by the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) and Rockwell Software. Appendix C gives a complete but concise review of the basics of probability and statistics couched in the framework of their role in simulation modeling and analysis. The probability distributions supported by Arena are detailed in Appendix D. Installation instructions for the Arena academic software can be found in Appendix E. All references are collected in a single References section at the end of the book. The index is extensive, to aid readers in locating topics and seeing how they relate to each other; the index includes authors cited.

As mentioned above, the presentation is in "tutorial style," built around a sequence of carefully crafted examples illustrating concepts and applications, rather than in the conventional style of stating concepts first and then citing examples as an



afterthought. So it probably makes sense to read (or teach) the material essentially in the order presented. A one-semester or one-quarter first course in simulation could cover all the material in Chapters 1–8, including the statistical material. Time permitting, selected modeling and computing topics from Chapters 9–11 could be included, or some of the more advanced statistical issues from Chapter 12, or the project-management material from Chapter 13, according to the instructor's tastes. A second course in simulation could assume most of the material in Chapters 1–8, then cover the more advanced modeling ideas in Chapters 9–11, followed by topics from Chapters 12 and 13. For self-study, we'd suggest going through Chapters 1–6 to understand the basics, getting at least familiar with Chapters 7 and 8, then regarding the rest of the book as a source for more advanced topics and reference. Regardless of what's covered, and whether the book is used in a course or independently, it will be helpful to follow along in Arena on a computer while reading this book.

The CD included contains the academic version of Arena (see Appendix E for installation instructions), which has all the modeling and analysis capabilities of the complete commercial version but limits model size. All the examples in the book, as well as all the exercises at the ends of the chapters, will run with this educational version of Arena. The CD also contains files for all the example models in the book, as well as other support materials. This software can be installed on any university computer as well as on students' computers. It is intended for use in conjunction with this book for the purpose of learning simulation and Arena. It is not authorized for use in commercial environments.

If you were familiar with the second edition, here are the main changes:

- All the examples have been updated to conform to the current Arena version (7.01). The software is largely consistent with what was discussed in the second edition, but there are several new features and capabilities that we illustrate, including model documentation, enhanced plots, file reading and writing, printing, and animation symbols.
- Chapter 4 has been expanded to include what was Model 6-1.
- A new automotive maintenance and repair shop model has replaced the former call-center model, a new inventory model has been included in Chapter 5, and the statistical-analysis material has been moved out to Chapter 6.
- Chapter 6 is new and contains essentially what was in the statistical-analysis section of the former Chapter 5, using the new automotive maintenance and repair shop model of the updated Chapter 5.
- The new Chapters 7 through 13 cover the same material as in the former Chapters 6 through 12, respectively, except for updates.
- Two new IIE/RS modeling-contest problems have been added to Appendix B.
- The support materials on the Web site (slides and solutions) have all been updated.

As with any labor like this, there are a lot of people and institutions that supported us in a lot of different ways. First and foremost, Lynn Barrett at Rockwell Software really made this all happen by reading (and re-reading and re-re-reading, and then fixing) our semi-literate drafts, orchestrating the composing and production, reminding us of what month (and year) it was, and tolerating our tardiness and fussiness and quirky personal-hyphenation habits; her husband Doug also deserves our thanks for putting up with her putting up with us. Rockwell Software provided resources in the form of time, software, hardware, technical assistance, and moral encouragement; we'd particularly like to thank the Arena development team—Norene Collins, Cory Crooks, Glenn Drake, Tim Haston, Cynthia Kasales, Judy Kirby, Frank Palmieri, Chris Snyder, Dave Takus, and Vytas Urbonavicius—as well as Nicky Bleiel, Steve Frank, Judy Jordan, Gavan Hood, Scott Miller, Dennis Pegden, Jon Phillips, Darryl Starks, and Nancy Swets. And a special note of thanks goes to Deb Sadowski for her writing and influence as a co-author of the first two editions. The Department of Quantitative Analysis and Operations Management at the University of Cincinnati was also quite supportive.

We are also grateful to Gary Lucke and Olivier Girod of *The Washington Post* for allowing us to include a simulation specification that was developed for them by Rockwell Software as part of a larger project. Special thanks go to Pete Kauffman for his cover design and production assistance, and to Jim McClure for his cartoon and illustration design. And we appreciate the skillful motivation and gentle nudging by our editors at McGraw-Hill, Suzanne Jeans and, earlier, Eric Munson. The reviewers, Mansooreh Mollaghasemi, Barry Nelson, Ed Watson, and King Preston White, Jr., provided extremely valuable input and help, ranging from overall organization and content all the way to the downright subatomic. Thanks are also due to the many individuals who have used part or all of the early material in classes (as well as to their students who were subjected to early drafts), as well as a host of other folks who provided all kinds of input, feedback and help: Christos Alexopoulos, Ken Bauer, Diane Bischak, Sherri Blaszkiewicz, Eberhard Blümel, Mike Branson, Jeff Camm, Colin Campbell, John Charnes, Chun-Hung Chen, Hong Chen, Jack Chen, Russell Cheng, Christopher Chung, Frank Ciarallo, John J. Clifford, Mary Court, Tom Crowe, Halim Damerdjii, Pat Delaney, Mike Dellinger, Darrell Donahue, Ken Ebeling, Neil Eisner, Gerald Evans, Steve Fisk, Michael Fu, Shannon Funk, Fred Glover, Dave Goldsman, Byron Gottfried, Frank Grange, Don Gross, John Gum, Tom Gurgiolo, Jorge Haddock, Bill Harper, Joe Heim, Michael Howard, Arthur Hsu, Eric Johnson, Elena Joshi, Keebom Kang, Elena Katok, Jim Kelly, Teri King, Gary Kochenberger, Patrick Koelling, David Kohler, Wendy Krah, Bradley Kramer, Michael Kwinn, Jr., Averill Law, Larry Leemis, Marty Levy, Bob Lipset, Gerald Mackulak, Nancy Markovitch, Deb Mederios, Brian Melloy, Mansooreh Mollaghasemi, Ed Mooney, Jack Morris, Jim Morris, Charles Mosier, Marvin Nakayama, Dick Nance, Barry Nelson, James Patell, Cecil Peterson, Dave Pratt, Mike Proctor, Madhu Rao, James Reeve, Steve Roberts, Paul Rogers, Ralph Rogers, Tom Rohleder, Jerzy Rozenblit, Salim Salloum, G. Sathyanarayanan, Bruce Schmeiser, Carl Schultz, Thomas Schulze, Marv Seppanen, Michael Setzer, David Sieger, Robert

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