

# Performance Evaluation of Computer Systems

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<sup>1</sup>MESCAL Project

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<http://mesca1.imag.fr/members.php>

Site web du cours : <http://mesca1.imag.fr/membres/jean-marc.vincent/index.html/M2R-EP/>



# Outline

1 **Scientific context**

2 **Methodology**

3 **Performance indexes**

4 **Results synthesis**



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# Research activities in performance evaluation

## Teams in Grenoble

- Mescal project : Large systems (clusters and grids)
- Moais project : Interactive parallel systems
- Drakkar team : Networking
- Eros (Sardes) : Middleware
- Verimag : Embedded systems
- etc

## Industrial collaborations

- France-Télécom R & D : load injectors, performances of middlewares
- HP-Labs : cluster computing, benchmarking
- Bull : benchmarking, performances analysis
- ST-Microelectronics

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# Application context (1)

## Complexity of computer systems

- **hierarchy** : level decomposition : OS / Middleware / Application
- **distribution** : asynchronous resources : memory, CPU, network
- **dynamicity** : architecture and environment (reliability, mobility,...)
- **scalability** : number of components (autonomous management)

## Typical problems

- Minimize losses in routing policies
- Minimize active waiting in threads scheduling
- Maximize cache hits
- Optimise block sizes in parallel applications
- Maximize troughput of communication systems
- Fix time-outs, reemission periods, ...
- Fix the granularity : pages, blocks, tables, message sizes...
- ...

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## Application context (2)

### Typical “hot” applications

- **Peer to peer systems** : dimensionning, control
- **Mobile networks** : ad-hoc networking, reactivity, coherence
- **Grids** : resources utilization, scheduling
- etc

### Other application domains

- production systems : production lines, logistic,...
- embedded systems
- modelling of complex systems : biology, sociology,...
- etc



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# Development of parallel/distributed applications

## Qualitative specifications : Is the result correct ?

- property verification : formal/automatic proofs
- testing : critical dataset

## Quantitative specifications: Is the result obtained in a reasonable time ?

- performance model
- performance measurements

## Problem identification: localization of the problem

- debugging, log analysis
- performance statistical analysis

## Modification and control

- source code / libraries / OS / architecture
- parameters of the system : dimensioning
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# Dual analysis

## Understand the behavior of a distributed application

- 1 identification of distributed patterns, states of the system
- 2 pattern verification
- 3 time evaluation
- 4 global analysis of the execution and performance synthesis
- 5 system monitoring
- 6 **global cost evaluation for the application user**

## Understand resources utilization

- 1 hierarchical model of resources
- 2 evaluation of utilization at :  
application level; executive runtime;  
operating system; hardware architecture
- 3 **global cost evaluation for the resources manager**

# Dual analysis

## Understand the behavior of a distributed application

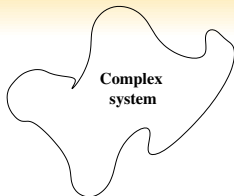
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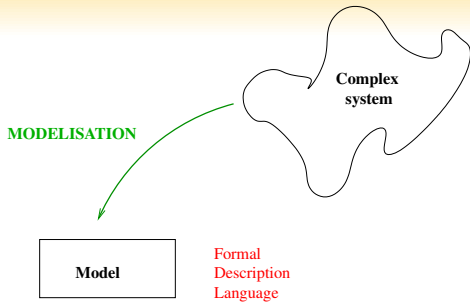
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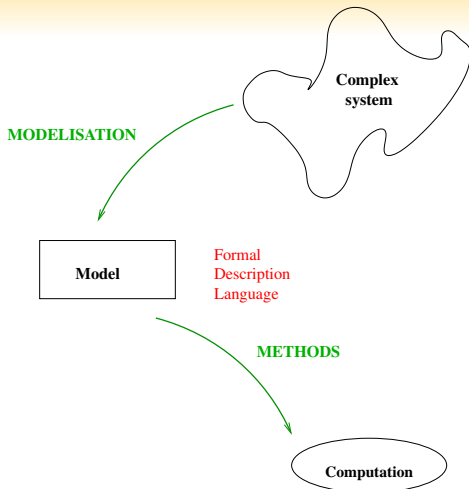
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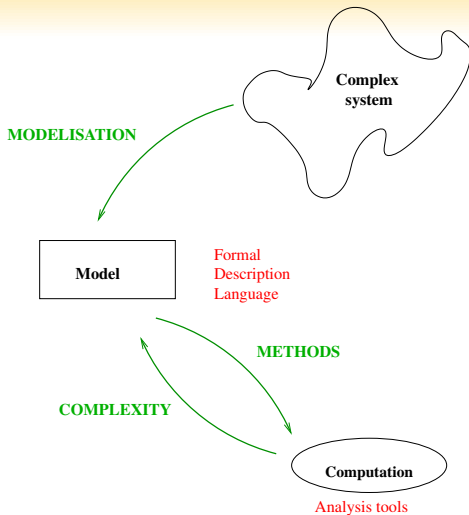
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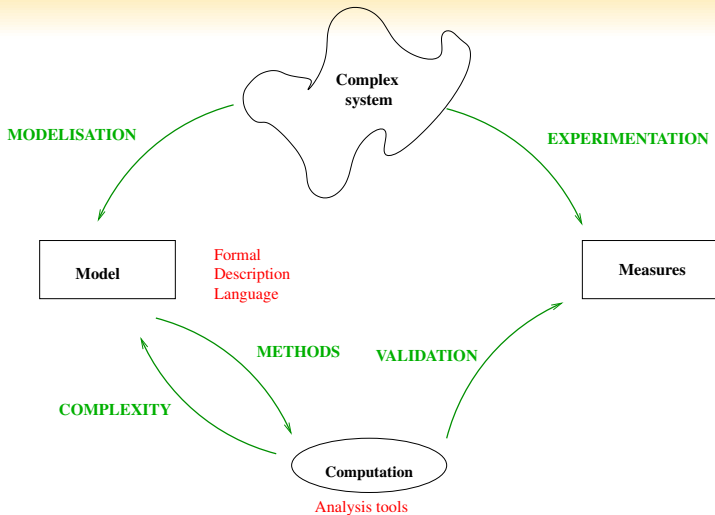
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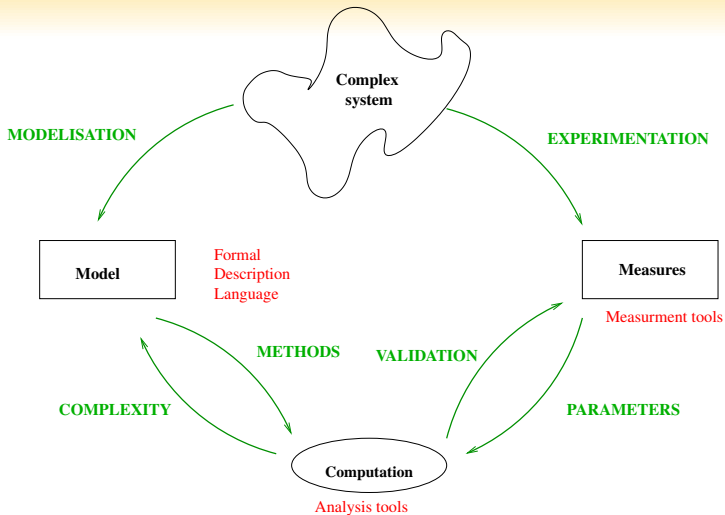
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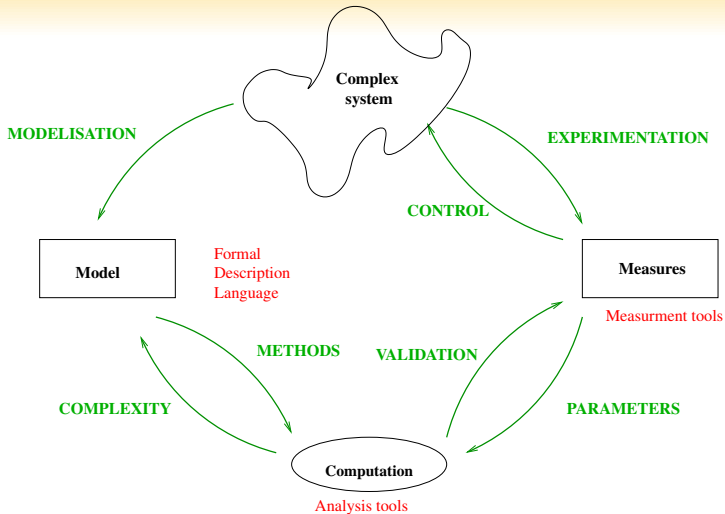
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# Evaluation methods

## From abstraction to physical reality

**Model**

**Method**

### Remarks :

Hybrid methods (emulation, load injectors, synthetic programs,...)

Dynamical process of evaluation

**Experimentation** ⇒ **Planning experiments methodology**



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Mathematical  $\longrightarrow$

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Analysis (formal, numerical, approximation)

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Software  $\longrightarrow$

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Analysis (formal, numerical, approximation)

Simulation (discrete events)

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# Evaluation methods

## From abstraction to physical reality

### Model

Mathematical →

Software →

Prototype →

### Method

Analysis (formal, numerical, approximation)

Simulation (discrete events)

Observation (measures)

### Remarks :

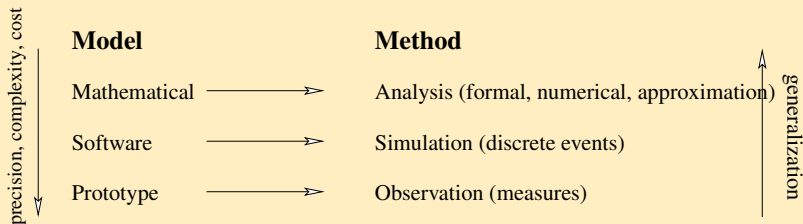
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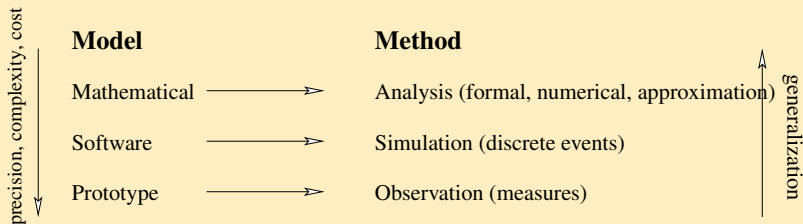
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# Steps for a Performance Evaluation Study (Jain)

- 1 State the goals of the study : level of decision, investment, optimization, technical,...
- 2 Define system boundaries.
- 3 List system services and possible outcomes.
- 4 Select performance metrics.
- 5 List system and workload parameters
- 6 Select factors and their values.
- 7 Select evaluation techniques.
- 8 Select the workload.
- 9 Design the experiments.
- 10 Analyze and interpret the data.
- 11 Present the results. Start over, if necessary.

# Aim of the course

## Objective

- 1 Be able to analyze and predict performances of parallel/distributed systems
- 2 Be able to build a software environment that produces the performances indexes.

## Methods

- 1 Specification and identification of problems : modelling
- 2 Analysis of quantitative models : formal, numerical, simulation
- 3 Experimentation and statistical data analysis.

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# Organization of the course

## Performance evaluation of systems 5 lectures 3h

- 1 Monday 15/10/2012 (13h30-16h45): Jean-Marc Vincent] Performance of computer systems.
- 2 Monday 22/10/2012 (13h30-16h45): Jean-Marc Vincent] System behavior modeling
- 3 Monday 08/11/2012 (13h30-16h45): Jean-Marc Vincent + Bruno Gaujal] From models to system dimensioning
- 4 Monday 15/11/2012 (13h30-16h45): Bruno Gaujal] Control of distributed systems
- 5 Monday 22/11/2012 (13h30-16h45): Bruno Gaujal] Networking and Game theory

## Evaluation

Reading of an article, synthesis and presentation



# Organisation

## Team



**Bruno Gaujal**  
Models of large scale systems and control



**Jean-Marc Vincent**  
Markovian modeling of systems, simulation and dimensioning

## References : text books

- **The Art of Computer Systems Performance Analysis : Techniques for Experimental Design, Measurement, Simulation and Modeling.** Raj Jain *Wiley 1991 (nouvelles versions)*  
Covers the content of the course, a complete book
- **Performance Evaluation** Jean-Yves Le Boudec EPFL electronic book  
<http://ica1www.epfl.ch/perfeval/lectureNotes.htm>  
Covers the statistical part of the course
- **Measuring Computer Performance: A Practitioner's Guide** David J. Lilja *Cambridge University press 2000*  
Covers the practical part of measurement and benchmarking
- **Discrete-Event System Simulation** Jerry Banks, John Carson, Barry L. Nelson, David Nicol, *Prentice Hall, 2004*  
Covers the part on simulation

## References : journals and conferences

- **General:** JACM, ACM Comp. Surv., JOR, IEEE TSE,...
- **Specialized:** Performance Evaluation, Operation research, MOR, ACM TOMACS, Queueing Systems, DEDS, ...
- **Application:** IEEE TPDS, TC, TN, TAC, Networks,...
- **Theoretical:** Annals of Probability, of Appl. Prob, JAP, Adv. Appl. Prob,...
- **Conferences on performances:** Performance, ACM-SIGMETRICS, TOOLS, MASCOT, INFORMS, ...
- **Conferences on an application domain:** ITC, Europar, IPDPS, Renpar, ...
- **National seminars:** Atelier d'évaluation de performances,...

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# Networking

## Flow performance

- latency, waiting time, response time
- loss probability
- jitter

## Operator performance

- bandwidth utilisation
- achievable throughput
- loss rate

## Quality of service

contract between user and provider

service guarantees

tradeoff between utilization and QoS

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# Parallel processing

## Program execution

- makespan, critical path
- speedup, efficiency
- active waiting, communication overlapping
- throughput

## System utilization

- cpu utilization, idle time
- memory occupancy
- communication throughput

## Parallel programming and scheduling

granularity of the application

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# Distributed applications

## Application

- response time
- reactivity
- throughput (number of processed requests/unit time)
- streaming rate

## System utilization

- service availability
- resource utilization
- communication throughput

## System security

- reliability (error-free period)
- availability

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# Synthesis

## User point of view

optimize its own performance

- get the maximum amount of resources for its own purpose
- guarantee the higher quality of service

## Resource point of view

Contract between users and resources:

- guarantee of "equity"
- optimize the use of resources
- minimize costs by identifying performance bottlenecks

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# Why experiments ?

## Design of architectures, softwares

- System debugging (!!)
- Validation of a proposition
- Qualification of a system
- Dimensioning and tuning
- Comparison of systems

Many purposes  $\Rightarrow$  different methodologies

# Modeling fundamentals

## Scientific Method

**Falsifiability** is the logical possibility that an assertion can be shown false by an observation or a physical experiment. [Popper 1930]

## Modeling comes before experimenting

### Modeling principles [J-Y LB]

- (Occam:) if two models explain some observations equally well, the simplest one is preferable
- (Dijkstra:) It is when you cannot remove a single piece that your design is complete.
- (Common Sense:) Use the adequate level of sophistication.

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# Design of models (introduction)

## Formulation of the question

Give explicitly the question (specify the context of experimentation)

- Identify parameters (controlled and uncontrolled)
- Identify factors (set levels)
- Specify the response of the experiment

**Minimize the number of experiments for a maximum of accuracy**

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# How to report results from model analysis

## Problem : provide "nice" pictures to help the understanding

- **Increases deeply the quality of a paper**
- Show the scientific quality of your research
- Observation leads to open problems
- Pictures generates discussions

## Mistakes

- **semantic of graphical objects**
- conventions for graphics reading
- first step in scientific validation



# Guidelines for good graphics (Jain)

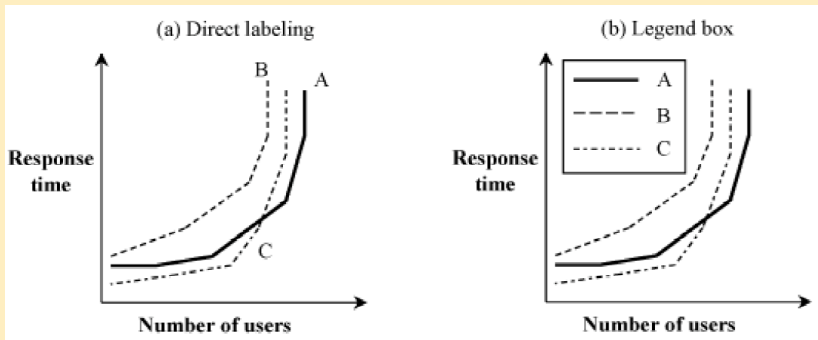
## Guidelines for Preparing Good Graphic Charts

### Specify the amount of information given by the chart

- 1 Require Minimum Effort from the Reader
- 2 Maximize Information
- 3 Minimize Ink
- 4 Use Commonly Accepted Practices
- 5 Make several trials before arriving at the final chart. Different combinations should be tried and the best one selected.

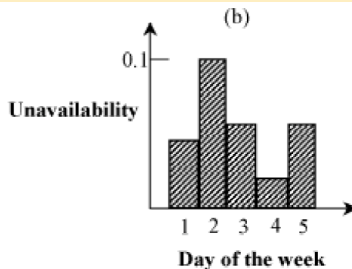
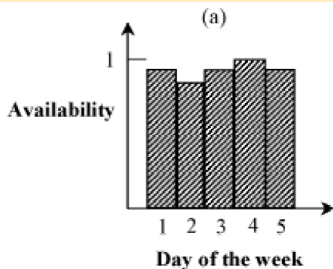
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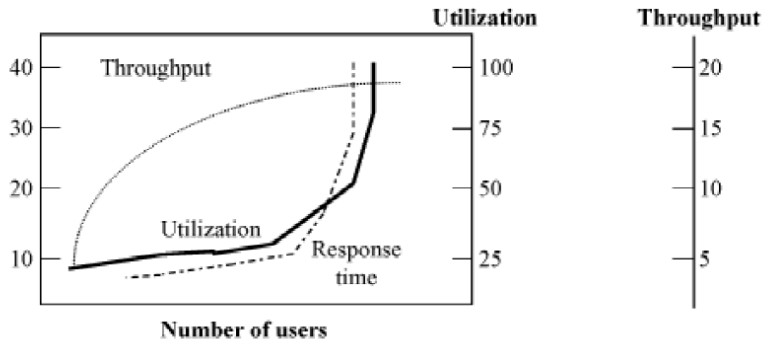
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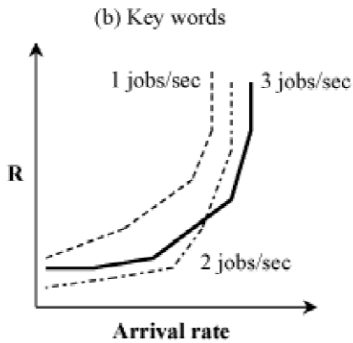
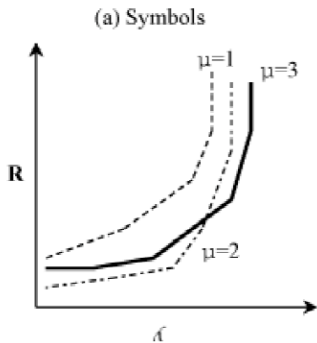
## Common mistakes

### Multiple scaling, Too much information



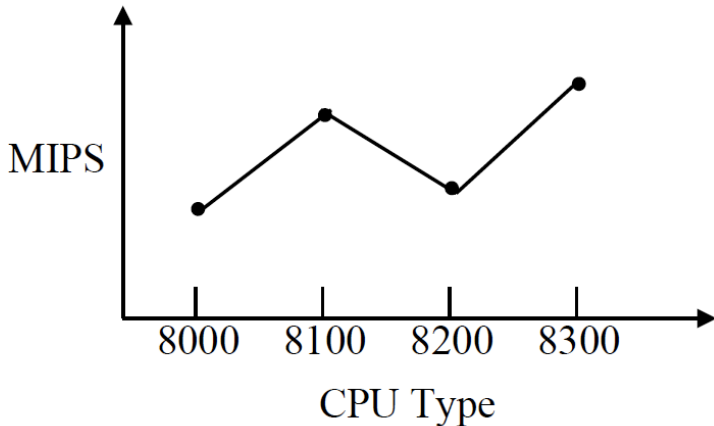
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## Cryptic information



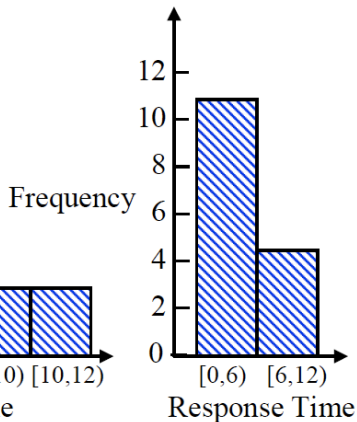
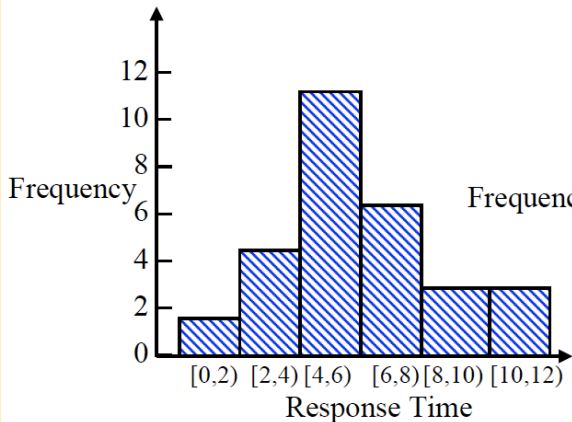
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### Non-relevant graphic objects



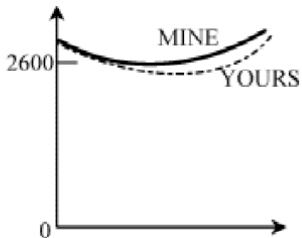
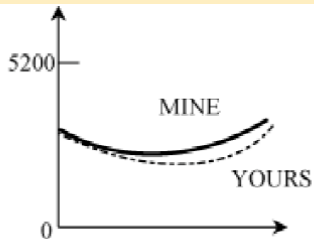
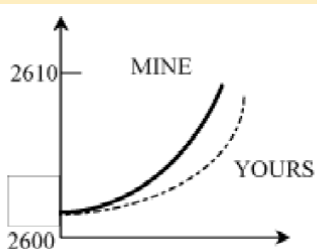
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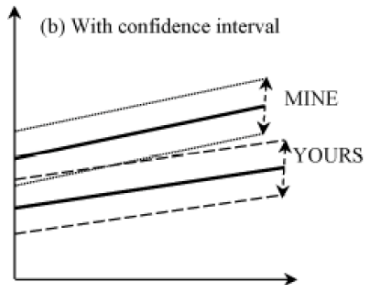
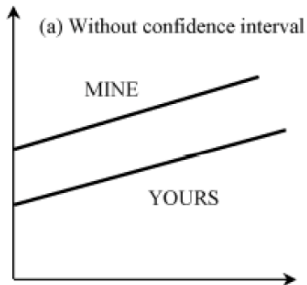
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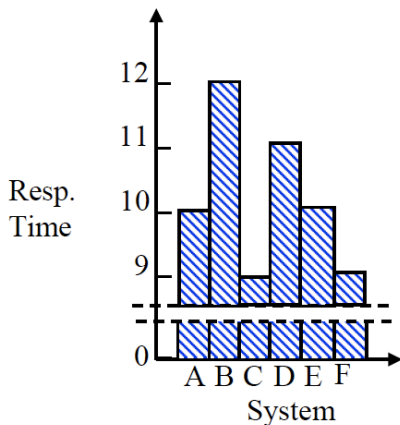
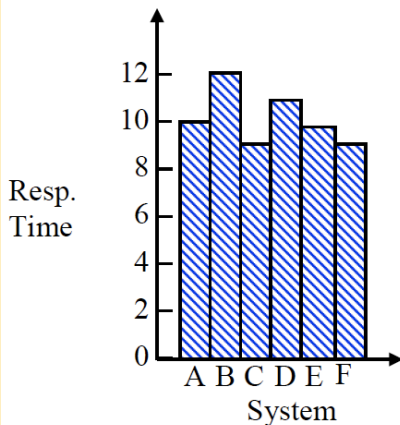
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## Checklist for good graphics (Jain)

- 1 Are both coordinate axes shown and labeled?
- 2 Are the axes labels self-explanatory and concise?
- 3 Are the scales and divisions shown on both axes?
- 4 Are the minimum and maximum of the ranges shown on the axes appropriate to present the maximum information.
- 5 Is the number of curves reasonably small? A line chart should have no more than six curves.
- 6 Do all graphs use the same scale? Multiple scales on the same chart are confusing. If two charts are being compared, use the same scale if possible.
- 7 Is there no curve that can be removed without reducing the information?
- 8 Are the curves on a line chart individually labeled?
- 9 Are the cells in a bar chart individually labeled?
- 10 Are all symbols on a graph accompanied by appropriate textual explanations?
- 11 If the curves cross, are the line patterns different to avoid confusion?



## Checklist for good graphics (Jain)

- 12 Are the units of measurement indicated?
- 13 Is the horizontal scale increasing from left to right?
- 14 Is the vertical scale increasing from bottom to top?
- 15 Are the grid lines aiding in reading the curve?
- 16 Does this whole chart add to the information available to the reader?
- 17 Are the scales contiguous? Breaks in the scale should be avoided or clearly shown.
- 18 Is the order of bars in a bar chart systematic? Alphabetic, temporal, best-to-worst ordering is to be preferred over random placement.
- 19 If the vertical axis represents a random quantity, are confidence intervals shown?
- 20 For bar charts with unequal class interval, is the area and width representative of the frequency and interval?
- 21 Do the variables plotted on this chart give more information than other alternatives?

## Checklist for good graphics (Jain)

- 22 Are there no curves, symbols, or texts on the graph that can be removed without affecting the information?
- 23 Is there a title for the whole chart?
- 24 Is the chart title self-explanatory and concise?
- 25 Does that chart clearly bring out the intended message?
- 26 Is the figure referenced and discussed in the text of the report?