

# Rapid Modelling and Quick Response

Gerald Reiner  
Editor

# Rapid Modelling and Quick Response

Intersection of Theory and Practice

 Springer

*Editor*

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# Preface

## **Rapid Modelling and Quick Response - Intersection of Theory and Practice**

This volume is a sequel of the 1st Rapid Modelling Conference proceedings volume that focused on Rapid Modelling for increasing competitiveness. The main focus of the 2nd Rapid Modelling Conference proceedings volume “Rapid Modelling and Quick Response - Intersection of Theory and Practice” is the transfer of knowledge from theory to practice, providing the theoretical foundations for successful performance improvement (based on lead time reduction, etc. as well as financial performance measures). Furthermore illustrations will be given by teaching/business cases as well as success stories on new software tools in this field as well as new approaches. In general, Rapid Modelling is based on queueing theory but other mathematical modelling techniques as well as simulation models which facilitate the transfer of knowledge from theory to application are of interest as well.

Together with the proceedings volume of selected papers presented at the 1st Rapid Modelling Conference “Increasing Competitiveness - Tools and Mindset” the interested reader should have a good overview on what is going on in this field. The objective of this conference series is to provide an international, multidisciplinary platform for researchers and practitioners to create and exchange knowledge on increasing competitiveness through Rapid Modelling. In this volume, we demonstrate that lead time reduction (through techniques ranging from quick response manufacturing to lean production) is very important but not enough. Additional factors such as risk, costs, revenues, environment, etc. have to be considered as well. We accepted papers that contribute to these themes in the form of:

- Rapid Modelling
- Case study research, survey research, action research, longitudinal research
- Theoretical papers
- Teaching/business case studies

Relevant topics are:

- Queueing Theory
- Rapid Modelling in Manufacturing and Logistics
- Rapid Modelling in Services
- Rapid Modelling and Financial Performance Measurement
- Product and Process Development
- Supply Chain Management

Based on these categories, the proceedings volume has been divided into six chapters and brings together selected papers which present different aspects of the 2nd Rapid Modelling Conference. These papers are allocated based on their main contribution. All papers passed through a double-blind referee process to ensure their quality.

While the RMC10 (2nd Rapid Modelling Conference “Rapid Modelling and Quick Response - Intersection of Theory and Practice”) takes place at the University of Neuchâtel, located in the heart of the city of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, it is based on a collaboration with the project partners within our IAPP Project (No. 217891, see also <http://www.unine.ch/iene-kje>). We are happy to have brought together authors from Algeria, Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America.

## Acknowledgement

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the conference and this proceedings volume. First, we wish to thank all authors and presenters for their contribution. Furthermore, we appreciate the valuable help from the members of the international scientific board, the referees and our sponsors (see the Appendix for the appropriate lists).

In particular, our gratitude goes to our team at Enterprise Institute at the University of Neuchâtel, Gina Fiore Walder, Reinhold Schodl, Boualem Rabta, Arda Alp, Gil Gomes dos Santos, Yvan Nieto, who supported this conference project and handled the majority of the text reviews as well as the formatting work with LaTeX. Ronald Kurz created the logo of our conference and he took over the development of the conference homepage <http://www.unine.ch/rmc10>.

Finally, it has to be mentioned that the conference as well as the book are supported by the EU SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME - THE PEOPLE PROGRAMME - Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways Project (No. 217891) “How revolutionary queueing based modelling software helps keeping jobs in Europe. The creation of a lead time reduction software that increases industry competitiveness and supports academic research.”

# Contents

## Part I Queueing Theory

<b>Perturbation Analysis of M/M/1 Queue</b> .....	3
Karim Abbas and Djamil Aïssani	
<b>Series Expansions in Queues with Server Vacation</b> .....	17
Fazia Rahmoune and Djamil Aïssani	

## Part II Rapid Modelling in Manufacturing and Logistics

<b>Optimal Management of Equipments of the BMT Containers Terminal (Bejaia’s Harbor)</b> .....	33
Djamil Aïssani, Mouloud Cherfaoui, Smaïl Adjabi, S. Hocine and N. Zareb	
<b>Production Inventory Models for a Multi-product Batch Production System</b> .....	47
Ananth Krishnamurthy and Divya Seethapathy	
<b>Dependency Between Performance of Production Processes and Variability – an Analysis Based on Empirical Data</b> .....	61
Martin Poiger, Gerald Reiner and Werner Jammerneegg	
<b>Improving Business Processes with Rapid Modeling: the Case of Digger</b> .	77
Reinhold Schodl, Nathan Kunz, Gerald Reiner and Gil Gomes dos Santos	

## Part III Rapid Modelling in Services

<b>Quick Response Service: The Case of a Non-Profit Humanitarian Service Organization</b> .....	91
Arda Alp, Gerald Reiner and Jeffrey S. Petty	

<b>Applying Operations Management Principles on Optimisation of Scientific Computing Clusters</b> .....	105
Ari-Pekka Hameri and Tapio Niemi	
<b>Increasing Customer Satisfaction in Queuing Systems with Rapid Modelling</b> .....	119
Noémi Kalló and Tamás Koltai	
<b>Rapid Modelling of Patient Flow in a Health Care Setting: Integrating Simulation with Lean</b> .....	131
Claire Worthington, Stewart Robinson, Nicola Burgess and Zoe Radnor	
<b>Part IV Rapid Modelling and Financial Performance Measurement</b>	
<b>Evaluation of the Dynamic Impacts of Lead Time Reduction on Finance Based on Open Queueing Networks</b> .....	145
Dominik Gläßer, Boualem Rabta, Gerald Reiner and Arda Alp	
<b>The Financial Impact of a Rapid Modeling Issue: the Case of Lot Sizing</b> .	163
Lien G. Perdu and Nico J. Vandaele	
<b>Part V Product and Process Development</b>	
<b>A Flexibility Based Rapid Response Model in Ready to Wear Sector, in Turkey</b> .....	177
Müjde Erol Genevois and Deniz Yensarfati	
<b>Modular Product Architecture: The Role of Information Exchange for Customization</b> .....	195
AHM Shamsuzzoha and Petri T. Helo	
<b>Part VI Supply Chain Management</b>	
<b>The Impact of Technological Change and OIPs on Lead Time Reduction</b> .	215
Krisztina Demeter and Zsolt Matyusz	
<b>Global Supply Chain Management and Delivery Performance: a Contingent Perspective</b> .....	231
Ruggero Golini and Matteo Kalchschmidt	
<b>In-Transit Distribution Strategy: Hope for European Factories?</b> .....	249
Per Hilletoft, Frida Claesson and Olli-Pekka Hilmola	
<b>Effect of component interdependency on inventory allocation</b> .....	263
Yohanes Kristianto Nugroho, AHM Shamsuzzoha and Petri T. Helo	

**Dynamic Nature and Long-Term Effect of Events on Supply Chain Confidence** ..... 275  
Harri Lorentz and Olli-Pekka Hilmola

**Evaluation of Supply Process Improvements Illustrated by Means of a JIS Supply Process from the Automotive Industry** ..... 289  
Gerald Reiner and Martin Poiger

**Information Needs for Decisions on Supply Chain Design** ..... 303  
Stefan Seuring and Tino Bauer

**A Conceptual Framework for the Integration of Transportation Management Systems and Carbon Calculators** ..... 317  
Stefan Treitl, Heidrun Rosič and Werner Jammernegg

**A Conceptual Framework for the Analysis of Supply Chain Risk** ..... 331  
Monika Weishäupl and Werner Jammernegg

**A International Scientific Board** ..... 345

**B Sponsors** ..... 347



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