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THE RAILROAD PERFORMANCE MODEL

James F. Oiesen

U.S. Department of Transportation Transportation Systems Center Kendall Square Cambridge MA 02142



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PREFACE

This report joins two strands of thought that have recently occupied the author. The first strand is policy-oriented and has been concerned with the substantive question of determining the effect of proposed policies on the railroads [Oiesen, 1975]. The second is methodological and has been concerned with what models can be expected to do and how those models should be constructed and exposited [Oiesen, 1975a, 1976b]. This report is an attempt to apply the methodological principles of the second strand to the substantive problems of the first strand.

This report has benefited greatly from the meticulous, judicious editing of Martha Celestino. The typing was skill-fully done by Elissa Collins, Karen Daly, and Jeannie Sciandra.

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SUMMARY

This report describes the current, preliminary version of the Railroad Performance Model (RPM), which is a simulation model that predicts the effect of changes in government policies, railroad operating policies, shipper policies, and other factors on the performance of the nation's railroad system. This report consists of the motivation, specification, application, documentation, and evaluation of this model.

Motivation (Section 1, Appendix E). Many different changes in policy have been proposed with the aim of improving railroad performance. Determining whether these suggested policy changes would have the desired beneficial effects is difficult because of the complicated manner in which the railroads operate and because of the interdependence of railroads. Because of the potentially large gains that would result from well-conceived policies, it would be valuable to have a systematic model that explicitly incorporated the main features of railroad operation and could predict the effects of proposed policy changes on railroad performance. The need for such a model is the motivation for constructing the RPM.

Specification (Sections 2-4, Appendixes A,B,G,H). RPM is a computer simulation model that concentrates on the operation of the nation's rail system and on the effect that decisions have on that operation. The RPM models the stock of cars owned by each road, the origin-destination defand that arises each day, the loading of freight into cars, the linehaul of cars, the unloading of cars, and the allocation of empty cars among roads. Each of these processes is guided by the decisions made by the various decision-makers. Decisions made by the government (or which can be heavily influenced by the government) that are explicitly modeled are the level of per diem rates, the system of car service rules, and the revenue that railroads earn per loaded car-mile. Decisions made by individual railroads that are modeled are the number of cars owned, the order in which demand is serviced, the particular car into which demand is loaded, the route assigned to a car, the maximum number of empty cars held on line, and the empty foreign cars that are sent away. Shipper decisions that are modeled are the daily level of demand, the amount of time cars are held while being loaded or unloaded, and the decisions on when unserviced demand is withdrawn. These decisions, together with technical data such as distances and average speeds, are integrated into a coherent model of the nation's rail system.

Application (Section 5, Appendixes D and K). While the version of the RPM described in this report is not yet developed enough to give definitive answers to policy questions, a number

of example applications are carried out to show the capabilities of the RPM. The model is used to predict the effect of changes in per diem rates, in car service rules, in the demurrage system, and in the level of demand. These applications show how the RPM can give quantitative answers to policy questions, how it can be used to trace the channels through which policy changes exert an effect, and how it can be used to build up one's intuition about how railroads work and about what effects proposed policies would have.

Documentation (Appendixes I and J). The mathematical calculations required by the model specification are carried out by a computer program written in the GPSS V language. The appendixes list this program, which includes over 300 comments, and describe the organization and logic of the program.

Evaluation (Section 5.8, Section 6, Appendixes C and F). The version of the RPM described in this report is not a finished product but rather a demonstration model that indicates how a more sophisticated model could be constructed. How accurate and useful could an improved version of the RPM be? In a relative sense, the RPM seems to be superior to other models since it can handle a range of policy questions that other models cannot. In an absolute sense, the RPM has many desirable features that commend it, though there are obstacles that might hinder further development. In short, a model embodying the method and philosophy outlined in this report could apparently lead to an increased understanding of railroads and also yield answers to a range of policy questions that could be addressed by no other model. Thus, the RPM seems to hold great promise, though that promise is not fully realized in this report.

1. THE NEED FOR A MODEL OF RAILROAD PERFORMANCE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Because some of the railroads both earn low profits and provide an uneven quality of service, they are often considered to be one of the problem areas of the economy. On the one hand, it might be that this is the best that these railroads can do; burdened with unfavorable cost and demand conditions, they may already be making the best of a bad situation. On the other hand, it might be that if the railroads or the government did things differently, then the railroads would perform much better. This latter view is taken by many people and there is consequently a wealth of suggestions for actions that should be taken by government or by the industry.

with many different people championing many different courses of action, the difficulty lies in deciding which, if any, of these suggested actions are worthwhile. In order to judge the desirability of a change, one would like to know what the effect of that change would probably be. For example, what would be the nation-wide effect if:

there were a general raising or lowering of per diem rates, which are fees that a railroad pays for the use of cars belonging to other railroads?

- empty cars were charged a lower per diem rate than loaded cars?
- there were a change in the car service rules, which govern how a railroad treats cars belonging to other railroads?
- per diem rates or car service rules were varied monthly in response to the level of demand?
- per diem rates or car service rules were varied in different parts of the country in response to regional imbalances in the supply and demand for cars?
- there were a large fleet of free-running cars that were exempt from car service rules?
- there were a decrease in transit time through major terminal areas such as Chicago, Kansas City, and St. Louis?
- the reliability of transit time on individual links were increased?
- there were a decrease in transit time on major rail links?
- there were a speed-up in the loading and unloading of cars?

These questions are representative of many factual questions to which one would like to have answers before forming an opinion on which, if any, actions the industry or government should take.

1.2 THE NEED FOR A MODELING APPROACH

How might one arrive at answers to the questions just listed and to others like them? One approach would be to ask people with railroading experience to express an opinion on these questions. There are many problems with this approach. One is that these knowledgeable people perhaps have no direct experience with the altered environment that would be brought about by the fundamental changes that some of these changes call for. Another problem is that the knowledgeable people might not agree among themselves. Therefore, it would be desirable to have an alternative approach to obtaining answers to questions like these.

The alternative approach taken in this report is a modeling approach. A model, in brief, is a mathematical statement of the relationships between specified variables. These mathematical relationships contain within them answers to questions like those listed above. So a model is a device that organizes our knowledge and extracts from that knowledge the answers to questions of interest. Moreover, by developing a model we increase our knowledge and, therefore, increase our ability to answer questions about the railroads. However, modeling is not a panacea. If the relationships between the variables are too unstable or too complicated for the modeler to capture in mathematics, then the model will not give reliable answers to the questions it is called on to answer.

This paper is based on two facts and one working hypothesis. The facts are:

- there are many questions of interest about railroads that cannot be reliably answered by non-modeling approaches
- models have not yet been developed that try to answer these questions.

The working hypothesis is:

 the relationships that are to be modeled are not so complicated as to defy modeling.

These two facts, this working hypothesis, and the urgency of the questions under discussion provide the rationale for the development of the Railroad Performance Model, which is the name given to the model developed in this paper.

1.3 THE NATURE OF A MODEL

In order to make the Railroad Performance Model (RPM) easier to understand and to provide a unifying framework for the bulk of this report, a few words will be said about the three components that are common to all models. This discussion is drawn from Oiesen [1976b, pp. 5-29].

Any model has three components -- model inputs, model outputs, and model logic. The model inputs are the independent variables that drive the system; in the RPM these independent variables consist of government policies, industry policies, shipper policies, and other things that will be spelled out in Section 2. The model outputs are the dependent variables whose values are determined by the independent variables (i.e. the inputs) and by the way the system operates. The outputs of the RPM are a number of measures of railroad performance such as profit for the railroads, the frequency of car shortages, the average car cycle, and other things listed in Section 3. The model logic consists of assumptions about the way the system being considered operates. Therefore, when the inputs take on particular values, the model logic is used to determine what values the outputs take on in response. Therefore, as Figure One indicates, the model logic is a function that associates a unique value of the output variables with each value of the input variables.

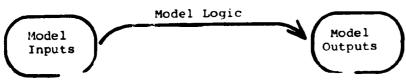


FIGURE 1. THE COMPONENTS OF A MODEL

If some of the inputs, e.g. government policies, are changed, then the model logic is used to calculate the induced change in the measures of railroad performance. In this way one can estimate the effects of changes in government policies, and one can arrive at answers to the types of questions listed in Section 1.1.

Therefore, the strategy for using a model has three steps:

- Step 1: Run the model for one set of input values and note the output values that result.
- Step 2: Run the model for a different set of input values and note the output values that result.
- Step 3: Interpret any changes in the output values as the effect that is caused by changing the inputs.

After Sections 2, 3, and 4 explain the RPM inputs, outputs, and model logic, respectively, Section 5 will implement this strategy.

1.4 TERMINOLOGY

A few of the terms used in this report will now be defined. A car is on line from the viewpoint of a particular railroad if that car is on the tracks controlled by that railroad. A car is off line if it is not on that railroad's tracks. A car is a home car for a particular railroad if that railroad owns that car; the car is a foreign car if that railroad does not own it. Empty cars are called empties. Interlining occurs if a shipment travels over the tracks of more than one railroad. The phrases unit of demand, load of demand, and demand are used interchangably to refer to the desire of a shipper to send one carload of freight from an origin to a destination. These phrases are used not only to refer to the intangible desire but also to the freight itself.

1.5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MODEL LOGIC

In order to make the next two chapters easier to understand and to give the reader an immediate feel for the RPM, a brief description of the model logic will now be given. A fuller description will be given in Section 4.

To be picturesque, think of a large wall map of the United States that has blinking lights as in a nuclear war movie. Suppose that the country's railroad tracks are sketched in. Suppose there is a little blinking red light on the map wherever there is an empty railroad car. Suppose there is a little blinking green light wherever there is a load of demand waiting for a car. Whenever a red and green light blink together, that means that the demand is loaded into that car. When the red and green lights are blinking together and moving, that represents a loaded car that is moving. When a red light is blinking and moving with no green light in tandem, that represents an empty car that is moving. If we sit in front of this map and watch all the lights, we are watching the nation's railroad system being simulated. That is what the Railroad Performance Model does, except that it uses a computer instead of a big map.

It is a plain fact that we will not be satisfied with this simulation if all the red and green lights move around at random; we want them to move so that, in some sense, their movement reproduces the activity of the real railroad system. The RPM attempts to achieve this goal by concentrating on the decisions that railroads, shippers, and government make and by focusing on how these decisions influence railroad performance. The RPM models the behavior of railroads and shippers with decision rules that state what the railroad or shipper will do in any given situation. These decision rules govern the amount of demand that will arise every day and how that demand will be loaded into cars and routed. These decision rules also govern the actions that will be taken by railroads or shippers when cars are in shortage or excess. Further assumptions about things like distances and average train speeds determine what happens to moving cars.

The sequence of decisions and other events that occur in a typical day as simulated by the PPM is as follows:

- cars arrive at each road; if loaded,
 they are sent to be unloaded; if unloaded,
 they are added to the stock of empties
- railroads decide which, if any, of the demand held over from the previous day will be loaded into cars
- shippers decide how much new demand will be created for this day for each origindestination pair

- railroads decide which, if any, of the new demand will be loaded into cars
- railroads choose a route for loaded cars
 and these cars begin their journey
- if demand has not been loaded, then shippers decide whether this demand should be held over until the next day or whether it should be removed from the model
- each road decides whether to send away any foreign empties on line; if any are sent away, their route is chosen and their journey begins.

The RPM gathers statistics on all this activity; at the end of a simulated year these data are processed and displayed to the user of the model.

In short, the RPM simulates the railroad system by stepping through a year one day at a time. On any day, the state of the railroad system consists of things like the number and owner-composition of empty cars on the lines of each railroad, the amount and origin-destination composition of demand at each railroad, and the number of cars in transit and the time at which they are to arrive at their destinations. The decisions made by railroads and shippers on a particular day depend on the state of the railroad system for that day, and these decisions in turn determine what the state of the railroad system will be in the future.

In this way, the RPM works through the year one day at a time, modeling the history of each unit of demand and each car separately. This, then, summarizes the RPM's view of the way the railroad system operates and of how government policies along with railroad and shipper decision rules determine railroad performance.

1.6 LIMITATIONS AND PURPOSE OF THE CURRENT MODEL

The version of the Railroad Performance Model that is explained in this paper has a number of limitations. These limitations flow largely from simplifying assumptions in the model logic and from flaws in the data base; these specific shortcomings will be spelled out in later chapters. However, at this time it should be stated that while the RPM has been constructed with a number of policy questions in mind, the version of the RPM explained in this report cannot provide accurate answers to these questions. The answers generated by the current version of the RPM are wrong, probably very wrong, and it would be irresponsible to base any policy decisions on the results of this version of the model.

Despite this seemingly harsh judgment, the current version of the model has achieved three objectives. First, while it cannot reliably answer policy questions, it goes a long way toward showing how a model that could reliably answer those questions could be constructed. The degree to which this objective is reached is discussed in Section 6.5. Second, it shows how an improved version of the model could serve as a unifying framework that could simplify and organize much of railroad research; this point is developed in Section 6.3. Third, even the crude current version of the model reflects enough of the complexity of the railroad system

that it can be used as a tool to build up one's intuition about how railroads work and about the possible effects that a policy change could have on the railroad system. This advantage is developed in Section 5.8. These benefits of the current model are listed here to emphasize that a model can be valuable even if it cannot make accurate quantitative predictions. These advantages will become more apparent as the exposition proceeds.

The next step is to consider the question of whether an improved version of the model should be developed; this will be taken up in Section 6. Until Section 6, the focus will be on explaining the current version of the RPM so that the reader can understand it. Because only limited resources were devoted to this demonstration model, it suffers from many shortcuts and simplifications. These will be pointed out below; and no justification is given for most of them. These simplifications should be seen as the temporary steppingstones to a more complete model, not as a finished product ready for searching criticism. Every effort will be made, starting in the next two sections, to point out the essential features of the model that would endure into a more sophisticated versions since these features do deserve criticism, and a judgment on the acceptability of those features will be a factor in the decision of whether further development of this model is desirable.

1.7 SCOPE OF THE RAILROAD PERFORMANCE MODEL

To make clear the types of policy questions which the Railroad Performance Model can and cannot answer, a brief discussion will be given of the stages through which a government decision-making process ideally passes. Constructing a parallel discussion of decision-making in the railroads is left to the reader. The ideas in this section are drawn from Oiesen [1976a, esp. pp. 13-19].

A government decision-making process ideally has four stages.

- List the alternative decisions under consideration
- Determine the variables of interest that those decisions could affect
- Predict the effect that each of those alternative decisions would have on the variables of interest
- Choose the best decision in light of the predicted effects of each decision.

These four states can be interpreted in terms of the RPM.

First, listing the alternative decisions under consideration
is analogous to listing the proposed policies that are to be
investigated and determining how to choose values for the RPM's
inputs to reflect these proposed policies.

These proposed policies include things like changing the per diem rate, changing the car service rules, and changing the demurrage system. Second, determining the variables of interest is analogous to specifying the outputs of the RPM, i.e. the measures of railroad performance such as railroad profit. Third, predicting the effect of the poss:ble decisions on the variables of interest is analogous to running the RPM and, thus, to determing what values of the outputs result when values are specified for the inputs. Fourth, choosing the best decision has no analog in the RPM. The RPM only predicts the effects, for example, of raising the per diem rate by fifty cents; the RPM makes no judgment as to whether raising the rate is a better idea than leaving it alone. Suppose that some railroads are helped by the increase and others are hurt. Is the increase a good idea? This is not a question that can be scientifically answered, at least not unless criteria are specified for determing how one judges whether one set of values for the measures of railroad performance is better than another set. If such criteria (e.g. the best decision is the one that maximizes aggregate railroad profit) are provided, then an extension of the RPM could determine the best decision; but such criteria are rarely provided.

In summary, the RPM, at best, determines how different policies affect the measures of railroad performance; it cannot determine the best decision for the government (unless

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social preferences or something like that are provided).

In other words, the RPM generates technical information that is necessary to informed decision-making, but it does not make the ethical judgments that are necessary to go from that technical information to a final decision.

Therefore, the RPM does not even in principle completely solve the government decision-making problem, but it does address three of the four stages of the problem. Appendix G contains a more detailed treatment of this topic.

1.8 SYSTEM EFFECTS

Since a large number of rail shipments travel over the lines of more than one railroad, the decisions made by one railroad can affect other railroads. These effects that one railroad has on others are called system effects. When constructing model of the railroads, one must make a choice as to the relative emphasis given to modeling effects on a single railroad and system effects.

The RPM puts greater emphasis on modeling the system effects; two reasons underlie this decision. First, as Appendix F points out, there are a number of models that treat single railroads in great detail; but there is apparently no model that can answer questions concerning the effect of changes in policies that inherently involve more than one railroad such as per diem rates and car service rules. Second, there is reason to believe that because system effects exist, policies such as per diem rates and car service rules can have a significant effect on the performance of the railroad system. Therefore, the RPM given heavy emphasis to system effects. This is not to say that the RPM ignores the effects on individual railroads; as Chapter 3 points out, the effects on individual railroads are measured in many different ways. It is to say that the RPM has less detail on individual railroads than models that deal solely with one railroad. In short, a disadvantage

of the RPM is that it models individual railroads in less detail than other models; counterbalancing this, an advantage is that the RPM explicitly includes system effects.

Appendix E discusses in detail the points raised in this section.

graph property and

1.9 ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

Section 2 describes the inputs to the Railroad
Performance Model. These are the variables that can be
changed between runs, so the RPM estimates how the measures
of railroad performance change in response to these input
variables. If a government or industry policy change can
be reflected in a change in these input variables, then
the model can estimate the effect of that policy change
on the measures of railroad performance. Thus, the richness of the set of policy questions on which the RPM can
throw light is determined by the input variables that the
model can accommodate.

Section 3 describes the outputs of the RPM. Since the RPM communicates to the user through these outputs, the usefulness of the model depends on the appropriateness of these outputs.

Section 4 describes the model logic. This chapter describes the assumptions about how the railroad system works. These assumptions cover both the decision rules followed by railroads and shippers and also more technical matters.

Section 5 contains a series of sample applications of the RPM that displays the output from computer runs showing how the measures of railroad performance change in response to changes in per diem rates, car service rules, the demurrage system, and demand. Section 6 concludes by stressing the strengths and weaknesses of the current version of the model and also the promise of future versions.

These chapters are all designed to be non-technical and comprehensible to any determined reader. At points where a complete description of the model would either be too technical or detailed for the general reader, the material is placed in an appendix. Appendixes A through H are written so that they can be understood by one unfamiliar with GPSS V, the computer language in which the model is programmed.

The rest of this report can be divided into the portion that explains the RPM and the portion that evaluates it.

Sections 2, 3, 4, and Sections 5.1 through 5.7 explain the current version of the RPM, and Section 5.8 and Section 6 evaluate it. That is, the first portion explains the assumptions of the model and detail its workings; the second portion discusses the good and bad aspects of the model. This sharp segregation of the two portions of the report is maintained for three reasons. First, the model is fairly complicated; understanding it is hard enough and would be even harder if debates over the assumptions were inserted every few pages.

Second, the reader who is only interested in a broad evaluation of the model can skip directly to Section 5.8 and

only a demonstration model that is a forerunner of more sophisticated models and since the cruder assumptions of the model would not appear in future versions and since no claims of accuracy are made for the current model, it would be out of place to criticize the details of the current model. The model as a whole embodies a comprehensive vision of how railroads work and how they can be modeled; it is this comprehensive approach, rather than the details of the current model, that merit criticism. Therefore, evaluation of the model is postponed until Section 6.

2. MODEL INPUTS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the inputs to the Railroad Performance Model (RPM). There are some structural inputs that are not allowed to vary in different runs of the model; these are discussed in Section 2. The rest of the inputs can be varied. Section 3 deals with the inputs chosen by the government, Section 4 with inputs chosen by the railroads, Section 5 with the inputs chosen by shippers, and Section 6 with the remaining inputs. To make it easy to recognize the inputs, each is stated and marked with a black dot before it is explained.

Two distinctions must be kept in mind while reading this chapter. The first distinction is between the model inputs and the values taken on by those inputs. The model inputs are a set of variables; the values taken on by those inputs are the values given to those variables for a particular run of the model. For example, the expected number of days it takes a car to travel from road 1 to road 2 is an input; in any one run of the model, that input will take on a value such as 2,3, or 4. Thus, the set of input variables does not change between runs; what changes is the values given to those variables. This section will explain what the input variables are, and it will state the Base Case

general engine in the

values for many of the input variables. The Base Case is interpreted as business—as—usual or as the status quo. It is anticipated that in a typical run of the model, most of the values used for the inputs will be the Base Case values; typically, a small number of Base Case values are altered to reflect a change (such as a policy change) that is being simulated. (Note: Sometimes "inputs" is used in place of "values taken on by the inputs;" this shorthand should cause no confusion. Also, some of the inputs are functions rather than numbers. Thus, the value of the input will be a function rather than a number.)

The second distinction is between a decision rule and a decision. A decision rule states what a decision-maker (such as a railroad or shipper) will do when faced with particular conditions. A decision is whatever it is that the decision-maker does. Consider a simple example. One decision you must make every morning is whether to carry your umbrella to work. You might use the following decision rule: Call the weather and find out what the probability of rain is; then carry your umbrella if the probability of rain is greater than or equal to 50 percent and leave it at home if the probability is less than 50 percent. In this example, the decision is either "carry the umbrella" or "leave it at home," and the decision rule determines which decision is taken

based on the probability of rain. In the RPM a decision rule must be input for each decision that a railroad or shipper is assumed to make. This section explains what these decision rules are and the factors on which decisions are assumed to depend.

The exposition in this section is designed to be comprehensible and collightening rather than exhaustive and tedious; Appendix A contains an exhaustive treatment of the material in this section. Moreover, this section only describes the model inputs; it does not describe how those inputs combine to determine railroad performance. That latter task is postponed to Section 4.

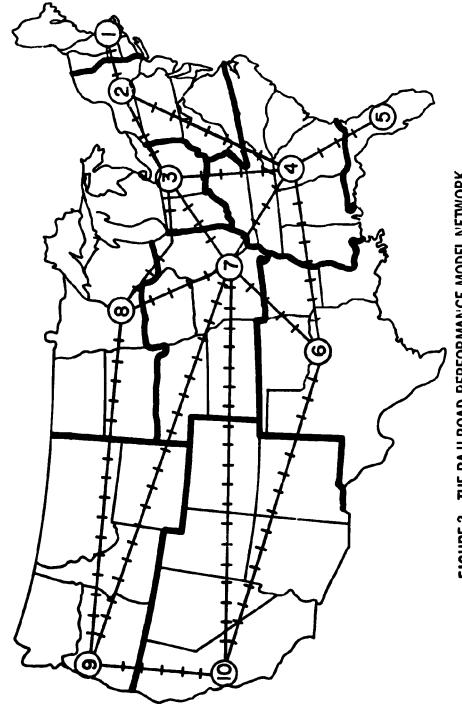
The section describes the assumptions that are embodied in the current version of the model. While not always as realistic as one might desire, the assumptions are as realistic as they could be made for the preliminary model. Future work will be devoted to improving these assumptions.

2.2 STRUCTURAL INPUTS

Certain features of the RPM cannot easily be changed between different runs of the current model. These features might be called the structure of the model. In the current version of the RPM, it is assumed that:

- there are ten railroads in the country
- there is a link of track connecting each pair of adjacent roads
- each railroad has only one yard
- there is only one type of car
- there are 1000 cars in the national fleet
- there is only one type of commodity.

It is assumed in the model that the country is divided into ten regions as shown in Figure 2. Each contains one railroad with one yard. The geographic area for each railroad has been picked so that the roads cover the country and so that the roads in the model display variety in size, number of interline connections, and other characteristics. There is no overlapping of roads, so the current model does not capture any competition between railroads. The links of track between adjacent roads that are used for interline shipments are shown. Each railroad includes that portion of a link up to the boundary with the next railroad. The actual exchange of cars occurs at one or the other of the yards rather than at the railroad boundary. In this sense, a railroad in the model is not a truly realistic representation of an existing railroad.



FIGUPE 2. THE RAILROAD PERFORMANCE MODEL NETWORK

The links of track used for intraline shipments are not shown. Since there is only one yard per road, we will not mention the yards any further and will speak only of roads; when we say, "the distance between road 3 and road 4 is 490 miles," what is meant is "the distance between road 3's yard and road 4's yard in 490 miles."

Since there is one homogenous type of car in the model, differences in car types and ages are ignored. Since there in one homogeneous commodity, differences in revenue and other factors associated with different commodities are ignored. The reader's attention is directed to the assumption that there are only 1000 cars in the national fleet. It is also assumed that a car is either empty or fully loaded; shipments that are less than a car load are not permitted.

All of these assumptions are features of the current model that, in principle, could be relaxed in future versions of the model.

2.3 INPUTS CHOSEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

There are four inputs to the model that the government has the power to set, though it does not always exercise that power today. These are:

- the car hire charge per day
- the car hire charge per mile
- the foreign cars into which a load may legally be placed
- the revenue per car-mile.

These inputs to the RPM will now be discussed in turn.

When a car belonging to one railroad is on the lines of another railroad, the road that temporarily has the car is required to pay a fee, called a car hire charge, to the car's owner. The car hire charge has two components. First, there is a flat charge that is paid for each day that a foreign car is on line. Second, there is a mileage charge that is paid for each mile that the foreign car travels on line. The assumed Base Case values for these two charges are \$5.00 and \$0.05, respectively. The phrase "per diem rate" is usually used loosely to refer to car hire charges, and it will be used in this report to refer to the daily car hire charge. Discussions of historical and other aspects of per diem rates can be found in Reebie Associates [1972, pp. 195-203] and in Mosbaek [1971, pp. 1-4]. The significance of

per diem rates as a policy tool is discussed in Appendix E.

The car service rules specify how a railroad must treat foreign cars on its lines. A complete list of the permanent car service rules can be found in Association of American Railroads [1974, pp. 2-5]. The only car service rule included in the Base Case is that a road cannot load a foreign car and send it away from its home lines. For example, a glance back at the map in Figure 2 shows that road 7 would not be allowed to load a car belonging to road 10 and send it to road 1. Thus, the car service rules are a constraint subject to which the railroads operate; these rules specify the foreign cars into which a unit of demand may legally be placed. It is assumed that the car service rules are always observed. A complete list of the legal loadings can be found in Section A.2. A detailed discussion of historical and other aspects of car service tules can be found in U.S. Senate Hearings [1971, pp. 350 ff]. The significance of car service rules as a policy tool is discussed in Section 5.4 and in Appendix E.

The RPM assumes that a road earns a constant amount of revenue by hauling a loaded car a mile, though this revenue per loaded car-mile can be changed between runs of the model. The value assumed in the Base Case is \$1.00 per mile. This

is a variable that the government can influence since the Interstate Commerce Commission has the power to set rail rates.

The four inputs just discussed are the only ones which the government can set directly, but it can indirectly affect many of the others. For example, the government cannot set the cost of hauling a car a mile, but the government can influence this cost through loan guarantees or in other ways. The point is that the government role is not necessarily limited to the four inputs just discussed.

2.4 INPUTS CHOSEN BY THE RAILROADS

The RPM allows each railroad to choose its own decision rules that it follows in its daily operations.

The decision rules which are inputs to the model govern:

- the order in which demand is serviced
- the particular car into which a unit of demand is loaded
- the route assigned to a car
- the maximum number of empty cars held
 Ine
- the specific empty foreign cars that are sent away
- the number of cars owned by each road.

These decision rules will now be discussed for a typical railroad.

A railroad must first decide on the order in which demand is to be serviced. That is, on a typical day, a road will be faced with different types of demand (i.e. demand with different destinations). The road must decide which demand will be given the first shot at the available empty cars, which gets the second shot, etc. The general decision rule assumed in this analysis for the Base Case is that the closer destinations will be serviced first and the further ones afterwards. For example, if on a particular day road 4 has demand destined for roads 4, 7, and 9, it will first load demand for road 4, then road 7, and then road 9,

if possible. The details of this decision rule can be found in Section A.3.

A rule is needed to govern the decision of which car a particular load of demand should be placed into. For example, road 4 might hold empty cars belonging to many different roads; into which car is road 4 to place a load destined for road 7? The decision rule used in the Base Case is:

- put the load into a car owned by the road to which the load is destined;
- 2) if no such car is available, put the load into a home car;
- 3) if no home car is available, then place the load into a car permitted by the car service rules that is owned by a road close to the destination road.

The precise interpretation of these rules is spelled out in Section A.3.

After a car has been loaded, or after it has been decided that an empty foreign car is to be sent off line, it is necessary to route the car, i.e. to decide what link of track it will be sent on. The decision rule used in the Base Case of the RPM is that the car is sent on the most direct route. The details of this are spelled out in Section A.3.

Each railroad is allowed to choose the maximum number of empty cars that it would like to hold on

line. For example, under the Base Case assumptions, road 3 desires to hold a maximum of 79 empty cars at any one time. The maximum number of cars a road wishes to hold depends on the per diem rate. For example, when the per diem rate is raised from its Base Case value of \$5.00 to \$6.00, the maximum number of cars that road 3 wishes to hold fails to 63; when the per diem rate is raised to \$7.00, the maximum number falls further to 47. The full Base Case decision rules for each railroad are stated in Section A.3.

If the maximum number of empties that a road would like to hold on line is exceeded by the number it actually holds, then it must decide which empties to send away. The Base Case decision rule is, loosely, to send away first the empties belonging to roads that are farthest away. This decision rule is precisely specified in Section A.3. It is assumed that empty home cars are never sent off line.

Another input controlled by each railroad is the number of cars that it owns, which is constant throughout the imulation year. This brings up an important point. The effects of many government, railroad, or shipper actions will be manifested not only through a change in how the railroads utilize their current stock of plant and equipment but also through a change in that stock. For example, if per diem rates are raised, this will

probably affect not only how railroads currently operate but also, after a lag of a year or two, the number of freight cars that railroads own. Therefore, in order to estimate the long-run effect of increased per diem rates on railroad performance, it is necessary to estimate how each road's stock of cars will change in response to the new per diem rates. A model that performs this estimation can be found in Oiesen [1975]. This model requires as input the profit that a railroad would earn from a fleet of a specified size as a function of per diem rates, car service rules, etc. This input can be provided by the RPM. Thus, these two models can be integrated in order to estimate the total effect of a change in, say, per diem rates, taking into account both the effect on fleet size and also on how that fleet is used. Since this integration of the two models has not been carried out, the number of cars that a railroad owns is assumed to be constant throughout each run of the model.

2.5 INPUTS CHOSEN BY SHIPPERS

Decisions made by shippers can influence the operation of the railroad system, and this is recognized by including four inputs over which the shippers exercise control:

- for each origin-desitination pair, two probability distribution of daily demand -one for the peak season and one for the slack season
- the maximum queue length of demand waiting at each road for empty cars that shippers will tolerate
- the maximum number of days that a unit of demand is allowed to wait for a load
- the probability distribution for the number of days that a shipper or consignee holds a car that is being loaded or unloaded.

At the beginning of each day, a number of units of demand is brought into the model for each of the 100 origin-destination pairs. (Since there are 10 railroads and since any railroad can serve as origin or destination, there are 10x10=100 possible origin-destination pairs.) For each of the origin-destination pairs there is a probability distribution of demand for the slack seasons (first and third quarters) and a different probability distribution for the peak seasons (second and fourth quarters). For example, consider demand for the origin-destination pair (3,2), i.e. demand that originates at road 3 and has road 2 as destination. The number of units of demand that the model creates for a single day during the peak season is 5 with probability 0.1, 6 with

probability 0.6, and 8 with probability 0.3. During the slack season the daily demand for this origin-destination pair is 5 with probability 0.5 and 6 with probability 0.5. There are different probability distributions for demand that originates at road 2 and has road 3 as destination. Table 2-1 shows the origin-destination demand that might be created on a typical day. For example, there are 7 units of demand created with road 2 as origin and road 3 as destination; there are 6 units of demand created with road 3 as origin and road 2 as destination. Full details on the manner in which demand is created each day can be found in Section A.4.

If there is a shortage of cars at a railroad and if there is a queue of demand built up at that origin waiting for empty cars, it is assumed that shippers will not allow this queue to grow beyond a maximum length. If demand is created at that origin which would increase the length of the queue beyond its maximum allowed size, then that demand would be destroyed, i.e. it would be removed from the model. The interpretation of a unit of demand being destroyed is that the shipper decides not to send the shipment by rail; the shipper either ships by some other mode or does not ship at all. For example, in the Base Case it is assumed that shippers will not permit the queue of waiting demand at road 4 to exceed 12 units; the other Base Case assumptions are in Section A.4.

If, on a particular day, there is a shortage of cars at a railroad and if demand for which there is no car is held in anticipation of arrival of an empty car, it is assumed

Table 2-1. Units of Origin-Destination Demand Created on a Typical Day

Destination

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3	2	2	1	С	0	1	0	0	n
2	4	7	7	2	0	0	1	0	n	0
3	3	6	7	2	0	2	1	0	0	1
4	1	2	2	16	2	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	С	1	3	n	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	2	0	9	1	0	0	1
7	o	0	1	0	0	1	8	3	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	С
9	o	o	0	o	0	0	1	0	3	1
10	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	5

Origin

that shippers will not allow the demand to be held over for more than a prescribed number of days. In the Base Case, the maximum number of days that a load can be held over is three. Therefore, if a load of demand has not been loaded into a car within 3 days after that demand is created, then that demand is destroyed.

The final input under shipper control is the number of days that is spent loading or unloading a car. The Base Case assumes that loading or unloading takes 1, 2, or 3 days with respective probabilities 0.55, 0.35, and 0.10. It is assumed that this probability distribution is the same for all railroads, the same for loading as for unloading, and the same throughout the year.

2.6 OTHER INPUTS

There are a number of other inputs to the model that might be collectively termed technical data:

- the distance in miles between each road
- the expected time it takes a car to traverse a link
- the time that a car spends on the sending road's lines when traversing a link
- the cost of hauling a loaded car a mile
- the cost of hauling an empty car a mile
- the distribution at the beginning of the year of cars owned by each road

These inputs are largely self-explanatory, but a few remarks are called for. The distance between roads probably would not be changed on different runs of the model, but it could be if one wanted to redraw the network pictured in Figure 2. The distances are given in Section A.5. For example, in the base case the distance between roads 3 and 4 is 490 miles; the expected transit time for a car going from road 3 to road 4 is 3 days; 1 day of this time is assumed to be on road 3's lines. These transit times do not include any time in which cars are formed into trains. In effect, this amounts to assuming that cars proceed independently to their destinations instead of traveling in

trains.

The Base Case cost of hauling a car a mile is 25¢ if the car is loaded and 20¢ if it is empty; these costs are assumed to be constant no matter how many cars are hauled, to be the same for all railroads, and to be the same throughout the year. These cost assumptions are particularly simplistic; it should not be assumed that they would be carried over into future versions of the model. Finally, at the beginning of the year the cars owned by the railroads must be distributed around the network.

2.7 SUMMARY

This Section has described the inputs to the RPM and has indicated what values those inputs take on in the Base Case. The complete details on these inputs and also on their Base Case values are given in Appendix A. A clear understanding of the model inputs is important since the scope of the model is determined by these inputs; the model can estimate the effect on railroad performance of some policy action if and only if that policy action acts through the inputs to the model. It sometimes takes some imagination to figure out how a policy action affects the inputs; but the inputs are designed to sweep in virtually everything that affects railroad performance, so the RPM is capable of generating answers to a wide range of policy questions. Some examples of how different policies act through the inputs are given in Section 5.

3. MODEL OUTPUTS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Each run of the Railroad Performance Model (RPM) simulates the operation of the national railroad system for one year. Each separate run of the model is based on different values for the inputs such as government, industry, or shipper policies, and one is typically interested in whether the change in government, industry, or shipper policies improves the performance of the railroad system. Unfortunately, there is no one measure of performance that is completely satisfactory from every point of view. Therefore, the model gathers a variety of different measures of performance that might be of interest to the railroads, shippers, government, or other interested parties.

Each measure of performance is called a "statistic."

The statistics gathered by the model fall into two broad categories -- summary statistics and detailed statistics.

To make it easy to recognize the outputs, each is stated and marked with a black dot. Details about the outputs and the format in which they are displayed are in Appendix B.

3.2 SUMMARY STATISTICS

The summary statistics described in this section are gathered for each railroad individually and also for the nation as a whole.

Since profit-seeking is a major goal of railroads and since the government is also concerned about railroad profit in the current situation of depressed profits for the railroads, the model collects statistics on

• profit.

That is, the model calculates the profit earned by each railroad during the simulated year, and it also calculates the aggregate profit of all the railroads.

Since car utilization statistics indicate the extent to which cars are being utilized and possible areas of improvement, a number of statistics on car utilization are collected for each railroad individually and also nationally. These statistics include the percentage of time that home cars are:

- loaded
- empty
- loaded and on line
- loaded and off line
- loaded and moving
- loaded and standing

- empty and on line
- empty and off line
- empty and moving
- empty and standing.

Also, the numbers (such as the number of days that home cars are loaded) used to calculate these percentages are collected and displayed. Other statistics gathered that deal with car utilization are:

- average car cycle
- percentage of miles traveled by home cars for which the cars are loaded.

Two of the summary statistics indicate the interdependence of railroads and whether a railroad is a net exporter or importer of cars:

- the number of days that home cars are off line per one hundred days that foreign cars are on-line
- number of foreign cars sent away empty as a percentage of the total number of cars loaded.

Two statistics are gathered to indicate the quality of the service received by shippers:

- percentage of demand that is not carried because of an insufficient number of cars
- percentage of demand subject to car shortages, i.e. percentage of demand that must wait for a car.

3.3 DETAILED STATISTICS

The summary statistics just described are calculated from a number of more detailed statistics which will now be described. In order to facilitate description, we will use road A and road B to stand for any of the ten railroads; it might happen that they are the same road. The following statistics are gathered

- the total number of car-loads of demand that arise during the year with A as origin and B as destination
- the total number of loads that are carried from A to B
- the amount of demand from A to B that is not carried because of an insufficient number of cars
- a frequency distribution showing how long demand at each origin waits for cars
- the number of empty cars owned by A that
 B sends away
- the number of days that cars owned by A are loaded and moving on B's lines
- the number of days that cars owned by A are loaded and standing on B's lines
- the number of days that cars owned by A are empty and moving on B's lines.
- the number of days that cars owned by A are empty and standing on B's lines

- t e number of loaded miles that cars owned by A travel on B's lines
- the number of empty miles that cars owned by A travel on B's lines
- the number of car shortages on A's lines.

3.4 SUMMARY

The Railroad Performance Model gathers a large number of statistics on the operation of the nation's railroads during the simulated year. When two runs of the model are made, it is possible to see the effect of the assumed difference in inputs of the two runs in either summary form or in great and intricate detail. Therefore, the model provides a great deal of output, and the user can pick and choose the portions that are of interest to him.

4. MODEL LOGIC

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The inputs and outputs have now been listed. The remaining task is to state how the Railroad Performance Model answers the question: When the inputs are given particular values, what values do the output variables take in response? That is, when all the input information about demand, cost, revenue, per diem rates, car service rules, etc. is specified, how will the railroad system perform? The model logic tells how the RPM answers this question. The model logic consists of five components or "modules," each of which is a model in itself. These five modules are:

- Demand Creation Module
- Demand Servicing Module
- Unserviced Demand Module
- Linehaul Module
- Allocation of Empties Module.

Since each module is a model in itself, it also has inputs, outputs, and logic. Just as the RPM is being described in terms of its inputs, outputs, and logic, each module will be described in the same way. However, there are some new features since each module is part of a larger module, i.e. the RPM. Each module's inputs are divided

into two types: exogenous and endogenous. An exogenous input to a module is an input whose value does not vary over the course of the simulation year; for example, the per diem rate is an exogenous input (to the Empty Car Allocation Module) since the per diem rate is constant over the year. The only variables that can be exogenous inputs to a module are those variables listed in Section 2 that are inputs to the RPM. An endogenous input to a module is an input that depends on the operation of the model and, thus, can vary over the course of the simulation year. For example, one of the inputs to the Empty Car Allocation Module is the number of empty cars that a road has on hand on a particular day; this number is not exogenously given; it depends on what has happened in the model up to that particular day, and it will probably change from day to day. Therefore, the number of empty cars that a road has on hand is an endogenous input.

Each module's outputs are divided into two types: endogenous and statistical. An endogenous output of a module is an output that is passed to another module to serve as an endogenous input. For example, the number of empty cars that a load has on line is an endogenous output of the Demand Servicing Module that serves as an endogenous input to the Empty Car Allocation Module. A variable is an endogenous

output of one module if and only if it is an endogenous input to another module. Statistical output refers to the information collected about the model's operation; this information is processed and used to calculate the output of the RPM. Throughout this chapter the statistical output will be displayed in tables but not explicitly explained since the discussion in Section 3 makes it self-explanatory.

Each of Sections 4.2 through 4.6 describe the inputs, outputs, and logic of one module. Since each module is called into operation every day, the inputs and outputs refer to one particular day. Once the modules have been described, Section 4.7 ties them all together into the Railroad Performance Model.

The section describing each module begins with a table that gives the module's inputs and outputs; the reader is urged to study these tables carefully.

4.2 DEMAND CREATION MODULE

Table 4-1. Inputs and Outputs of the Demand Creation Module

Input: Exogenous

- the season
- for each origin-destination pair, the probability distributions of daily demand for the peak season and for the slack season

Endogenous

none

DEMAND CREATION MODULE

Output: Endogenous

100 origin-destination demands

Statistical

amount of origin-destination demand created

The exogenous inputs to the Demand Creation Module on a particular day are the season (which is either slack or peak) and the probability distributions for demand between each of the 100 origin-destination pairs. Each day this module draws a random number which, along with the probability distributions, is used to generate the endogenous output of

100 origin-destination demands such as the ones given in Table 2-1. The exact process by which the day's demands are created is described in Section A.4.

4.3 DEMAND SERVICING MODULE

Table 4-2. Inputs and Outputs of the Demand Servicing Module

Input: Exogenous

- rules that determine which demand is loaded first
- car service rules specifying into which foreign cars a load may legally be placed
- rules by which a road decides which particular car to load a unit of demand into

Endogenous

- new demand for each origindestination pair
- amount of held-over demand
- stock of empty cars at each road

DEMAND SERVICING MODULE

Output: Endogenous

- loaded cars
- unserviced demand
- new stock of empty cars

Statistical

- number of origin-destination loads carried
- number of days each road's cars are loaded and standing
- number of loads carried in each road's cars

It is the job of the Demand Servicing Module to load demand into empty cars, inso ar as is possible. Endogenous inputs to this module are the stock of empty cars at each road and also the number of units of demand that require a car, broken down by origin and destination. The Demand Servicing Module first services the held-over demand.' This means that it takes a unit of demand that has been held over from the previous day and scans the stock of empty cars to find a car to load this demand into. If a suitable car exists, then a random number is drawn to determine how many days it takes to load the car. After servicing held-over demand, this module services the new demand that has been created on the day in question. Thus, after the Demand Servicing Module has finished the day's operation, it has produced the endogenous inputs of loaded cars, empty cars for which there is no demand, and demand for which there is no empty car. The loaded cars are passed to the Linehaul Module; the empty cars that are not loaded are passed to the Empty Car Allocation Module; the demand that is not loaded into a car is passed to the Unserviced Demand Module.

4.4 THE UNSERVICED DEMAND MODULE

Table 4-3. Inputs and Outputs of the Unserviced Demand Module

Input: Exogenous

- the maximum amount of waiting demand that shippers will tolerate at each road
- the maximum number of days that shippers will allow demand to wait for a car

Endogenous

 the amount of unserviced demand at each road

UNSERVICED DEMAND MODULE

Output: Endogenous

• held-over demand

Statistical

- amount of demand destroyed at each road because of lengthy queues
- amount of demand destroyed at each road after having gone unserviced for three days
- distribution of waiting times for demand at each road

Unserviced demand is demand that a road has not been able to load into a car. The Unserviced Demand Module receives unserviced demand from the Demand Servicing Module

and performs the following steps. First, if a unit of demand has waited the maximum allowed number of days without being loaded into a car, then it is destroyed, i.e. removed from the model. Second, if a unit of demand would cause the queue of demand waiting at a road to exceed a specified number, which is interpreted to be the longest queue that shippers will tolerate, then that unit of demand is destroyed. Third, any unserviced demand that is not destroyed is held over until the next day and then passed back to the Demand Servicing Module so that another attempt can be made to load it. This module collects the statistical output listed in Table 4-3.

4.5 THE LINEHAUL MODULE

Table 4-4. Inputs and Outputs of the Linehaul Module

Input: Exogenous

- expected transit time on each link
- rules that govern routing of cars
- number of days spent on the lines of the sending road when traversing a link
- probability distribution for unloading time

Endogenous

loaded cars

LINEHAUL MODULE

Output: Endogenous

additions to the stock of empty cars

Statistical

- number of days cars are loaded and moving
- number of loaded miles traveled
- number of days cars are loaded and standing

The endogenous input to the Linehaul Module is the stream of just-loaded cars from the Demand Servicing Module.

The Linehaul Module determines the links that a loaded car will travel and draws a random number to calculate the

number of days that the car requires to traverse each link. That is, the Linehaul Module takes the loaded car through the network one link at a time from origin to destination at the speed implied by the model inputs and random factors. When the car reaches its destination, the Linehaul Module draws a random number to determine the number of days it takes to unload the car; after the car is unloaded, it is placed in the destination road's stock of empties.

4.6 THE EMPTY CAR ALLOCATION MODULE

Table 4-5. Inputs and Outputs of the Empty Car Allocation Module

Input: Exogenous

- the maximum number of empties that each road will hold
- the decision rule used by each road in deciding which empties to send away

Endogenous

• the stock of empties held by each road

EMPTY CAR ALLOCATION MODULE

Output: Endogenous

changes in the location of empty cars

Statistical

- the number of days cars are empty and moving
- the number of empty foreign cars sent away by each road

After all of the day's other activities are over, the Empty Car Allocation Module decides what each road does with its stock of empties on hand. The actual number of empties on hand is compared to the maximum number of empties that the road desires to hold. If the number actually held exceeds this maximum number, then the excess foreign empties

that are to be sent away are chosen. These cars are routed over the link that takes them toward their home lines; a random number is drawn to determine how many days it takes each car to traverse this link. After the car has transversed this one link, it is placed in the stock of empties of the receiving road, which is not necessarily its owner. Thus, the endogenous output of this model is a change in the distribution of empty cars as empties are shifted from one road to another.

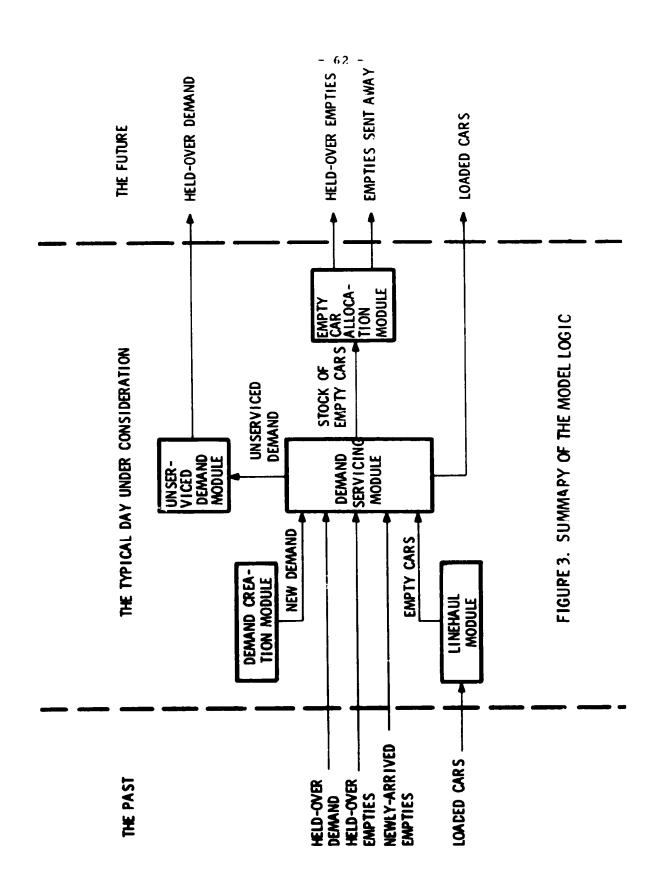
4.7 SUMMARY OF THE MODEL LOGIC

Previous sections in this chapter have described what each module does when called by the RPM. In order to show how these modules are tied together into a unified whole, we will work through the simulation of a typical day for a typical railroad. In this way we will show the order in which the RPM calls the modules and the way that variables are passed from one module to another. The discussion is organized around Figure 3, which shows the modules and the endogenous variables passed between them. To avoid cluttering the diagram, only the endogenous inputs and endogenous outputs of each module are shown.

Consider now one typical day on one typical railroad.

The day begins with four endogenous variables that have been generated by the past workings of the model: the amount of held-over demand, the stock of held-over empty cars, the number of newly arrived empty cars, and the cars that have just been loaded and are ready to begin linehaul. Exactly where these variables come from will be seen as the discussion progresses. On a typical day the RPM goes through seven steps.

a. The Linehaul Module checks the loaded cars that arrive at this railroad on this day. Those that have not yet reached their destination are routed over the next link they



are to traverse. Those that have reached their destination are sent to the consignee to be unloaded.

- b. The stock of empties is created. To do this, start with the stock of empties that has been held over from the previous day. Add to this any newly-arrived empties and any cars that will be unloaded on this day. Thus, it is assumed that all cars that will be empty during the day are available at the beginning of the day.
- c. The held-over demand is loaded into this stock of empty cars, insofar as is possible, by the Demand Servicing Module. Any demand not loaded is sent to the Unserviced Demand Module. The loaded cars are sent to the Linehaul Module, but this is in the future since it takes at least one day to load a car.
- d. The Demand Creation Module creates the new demand for the day and passes it to the Demand Servicing Module.
- e. The new demand is serviced by the Demand Servicing Module; note that held-over demand is given priority over the new demand. Any unserviced demand is sent to the Unserviced Demand Module. Loaded cars are sent as a future input to the Linehaul Module. Cars that have no demand loaded into them are passed to the Empty Car Allocation Module.
- f. The Unserviced Demand Module either destroys the unserviced demand or holds it over as an input to the next

day's operation of the Demand Servicing Module.

g. The Empty Car Allocation Module either holds the empty cars where they are or sends some of them away.

After a journey of one or more days, these cars become newly arrived empties and are an input into the Demand Servicing Module.

These seven steps are then repeated for the rest of the railroads. This completes the discussion of how the RPM simulates a single day's operation. Since the simulation of this day produces the four endogenous inputs that are needed for the next day's simulation, the next day can now be simulated. Thus, the RPM steps through the year simulating one day at a time until 364 days have been simulated, the statistics gathered daily are processed to produce the annual statistics that comprise the RPM output, and the simulation stops.

5. EXAMPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE MODEL

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Modeling can be broken down into two stages—specification and application. The specification stage consists of stating the model inputs, the model outputs, and the model logic; the preceding chapters have performed this stage. The application stage consists of making specific assumptions about the values taken on by the input variables and then of calculating the values that result for the output variables. This section deals with the application stage. A sequence of different assumptions about input values are made that correspond to different scenarios of policy interest. The RPM then calculates the resulting values of the outputs by the method of simulation. Appendix C discusses the advantages of using the method of simulation in a model such as the RPM.

A variety of different applications are made to illustrate the wide range of policy questions that the Railroad Performance Model can address. Section 5.2 describes the model's Base Case. Section 5.3 shows how the performance of the railroad system is affected if per diem rates are changed. This case is analyzed in considerably more detail than the other cases to bring out a number of different aspects of the model. Section 5.4 indicates the effect of a change in car service rules on railroad performance.

Section 5.5 investigates the effect of a change in the time it takes to load or unload a car; this can be interpreted as analyzing the effect of a change in the demurrage system. Section 5.6 examines the effect of extraordinarily high and low demand on railroad performance. Section 5.7 remarks on the cost of running the RPM.

Throughout the chapter selected output statistics will be presented as the need for them arises. Appendix K contains the summary output for 18 runs of the model; the more detailed output is available from the author. Exactly what the more detailed output consists of is spelled out in Appendix B; the entire output, both summary and detailed, for the Base Case is displayed in Appendix J. The runs are numbered to make it easier for the reader to keep track of them.

We establish the convention for this chapter that when we speak of the railroad system, we are talking about the "model" railroad system as specified in the RPM rather than about the real railroad system that is out there operating in the real world. For example, the statement "Aggregate railroad profit rises when the daily per diem rate is raised from \$5 to \$6" is understood to be true for the RPM but not necessarily true for the real world. This convention is necessary because, as explained in Section 1.6, the current, preliminary version of the RPM is not necessarily a reliable predictor of what would happen in

with assurance say that the conclusions about the operations of the RPM are necessarily true for the real world, we analysis that those conclusions might hold for the real world. In other words, the RPM suggests what might plausibly in the real world. Moreover, the analysis in this section demonstrates the types of analysis that could be carried out if an improved and reliable version of the RPM were available.

One question about the RPM is: How stable is the output? The RPM contains three categories of random variables: linehaul transit times, loading and unloading times, and daily demands. The output of the RPM for any one run depends on the particular stream of random numbers that are drawn during that run. Would the output be greatly affected if a different stream of random numbers were used? A qualified answer is: The output is relatively insensitive to the particular stream of random numbers used. An explanation of both the argument supporting this answer and also the significance of this answer can be found in Appendix D. It should be noted that it was possible to write the computer program so that the daily demands, though randomly generated, are exactly the same for the runs mentioned in Sections 5.2 through 5.5. This feature strengthens the inference that changes in output are due to changes in inputs rather than to random variations. This point is explained further in Section D.3.

5.2 THE BASE CASE

The run of the RPM in which the inputs are given the values corresponding to the status quo is termed the Base Case, which is numbered Run 1. The Base Case is important because in each application of the model an alternative to the status quo is represented by changing one or more of the Base Case values of the inputs. The alternative to the Base Case that is being studied at any one time is called the Tost Case. The output of the Base Case and Test Case are compared and any difference is assumed to be the effect of changing the values of the inputs. Since the applications in this section are only examples, the output that receives most of the emphasis is aggregate railroad profit. Aggregate railroad profit is used because it is of considerable importance and because it is a single number that is easy to use as an illustration; it should not be concluded that aggregate railroad profit is the only important measure of railroad performance.

5.3 EFFECTS OF A CHANGE IN THE PER DIEM RATE

5.3.1 Qualitative Effects of a Change in the Per Diem Rate

The Base Case value for the (daily) per diem rate is \$5.00. Section 5.3.2 disc sees the quantitative effects of raising that rate to \$6.00; then Section 5.3.3 investigates the quantitative effects of raising the rate to \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, and \$10.00. However, before discussing these quantitative effects, we need to outline the qualitative effects that the RPM allows.

The two types of qualitative effects that can result from a rise in the per diem rate are termed operational effects and distributional effects. Operational effects are defined as changes in the model outputs brought about by a change in operating decisions. The only immediate effect on operating decisions caused by a rise in the per diem rate is that railroads will send more foreign empties away. However, sending away more empties car cause repercussions that ramify through the network. In particular, there are three possible effects on aggregate railroad profit. First, as more foreign empties are sent away, an added cost is incurred in transporting these empties. Second, if the cars are sent to areas where there is excess demand, then more loads are carried and aggregate profit increases. Third, if the cars are more likely to be used by the roads that send them away rather than by the roads

that receive them, then this would tend to decrease the number of loads carried and, thus, to decrease aggregate railroad profit.

It should be noted that in the current version of the RPM the only way that a rise in the per diem rate can affect railroal operations is by affecting the number of empty cars each railroad is willing to hold. In the real world there are other channels through which a change in the per diem rate might work (e.g. by affecting the decision on which cars to load particular units of demand into) but these other channels do not appear in the current version of the RPM.

The other type of effect that a rise in the per diem rate can have is termed the distributional effect. In order to see what the distributional effect is, suppose just for this paragraph that a rise in the per diem rate has no effect on operational decisions. That is, suppose that railroad operation is identical before and after the rise in the per diem rate; exactly the same number of loads are carried. In this case, aggregate railroad profit would not be affected by the rise in the per diem rate, but the distribution of that fixed aggregate among the individual railroads would be affected. The roads that were net exporters of cars would receive larger per diem payments and their profits would go up. The roads that were net importers of cars would pay out more in per diem payments and their profit would go down. Aggregate railroad

profit, however, would be unaffected since whatever one rail-road would lose, another railroad would gain. Therefore, we say that the rise in per diem rates has a distributional effect. If we drop the assumption that railroad operation is unaffected by the rise in the per diem rate, then the distributional rate is still present, though it is somewhat obscured by the change in aggregate profit.

In short, the qualitative effect on aggregate profit of a change in operating decisions brought about by a rise in the per diem rate has three components. First, aggregate profit is lowered since a cost is incurred in hauling around empties. Second, aggregate profit might be raised since the roads that receive the empties might originate more loads. Third, aggregate profit might be lowered since the roads that send away the empties might originate fewer loads. The distributional effect has no effect on aggregate profit. Therefore, since one factor works to increase aggregate profit and two factors work to decrease it, a qualitative analysis cannot determine whether a rise in the per diem rate will increase or decrease aggregate profit; a quantitative analysis is needed.

(Note: It is a fact--both in the real world and in the current version of the RPM--that railroad revenue might go down even if the number of loads carried goes up. Nevertheless, the "number of loads carried" is often used in the discussion

where "revenue" would be more appropriate. There are two reasons for this. First, while it is logically possible that loads carried could go one way while revenue went the other, this is unlikely. Second, due to an oversight, the computer program for the current version of the RPM does not print out the figure for revenue.)

5.3.2 Quantitative Effects of a Change in the Per Diem Rate

The Base Case Run of the RPM, designated Run 1, assumes that the value of the daily per diem rate is \$5.00. We now compare the output generated by that run of the RPM with the output generated by the Test Case, numbered Run 8, which assumes that the per diem rate is \$6.00. In the course of discussion, reference will be made to the summary outputs displayed in Appendix K; reference will also be made to the detailed output, which is only displayed for the Base Case, in Appendix J.

We can begin the analysis of the effect of raising the per diem rate to \$6.00 by comparing the profit that results in each case. Table 5-1 gives the profit for each road and for the aggregate of all roads. It is seen that the increase in the per diem rate raises aggregate profit by \$194 thousand. The qualitative discussion in the previous section implies that since profit rises, it must be true that the number of loads originated also rises. This statement can be verified by looking at Table 5-2; 45,190 loads are originated in the Base Case and 45,394 in the Test Case, Not only does the increase in the per diem rate help the lailroads (in the sense of aggregate railroad profit being raised), but it also helps shippers. One way to see this is to note that more of shippers' demands for railroad services are met since more

Table 5-1. Profit for Each Road (in thousands of dollars)

Road	Base Case	Test Case	Change
1	734	738	+4
2	4315	4342	+27
3	2237	2205	-32
4	3340	3349	+9
5	469	470	+1
6	2034	2055	+21
7	3455	3510	+55
8	523	542	+19
9	862	885	+23
10	3382	3451	+69
Total	21,353	21,547	+194

Table 5-2. Number of Loads Originated

Road	Base Case	Test Case	Change
1	2927	2922	0
2	7358	7405	+47
3	7619	7707	+88
4	8574	8579	+5
5	1395	1395	0
6	4913	4912	-1
7	5256	5259	+3
8	2013	2026	+13
9	1667	1677	+10
10	3473	3512	+39
Total	45,190	45,394	+204

loads are carried; another indicator is the drop in the incidence of car shortages from 8 percent in the Base Case to 4 percent in the Test Case.

However, in many cases one is not content to know just whether aggregate railroad profit is affected; he will also be interested in how the profit of each railroad is affected by the policy change. Table 5-1 shows that the profit of every railroad except for road 3 rises. In order to illustrate the use of the model, we will analyze in detail the reason why railroad 3's profit declines even though the profit of every other railroad rises. One might think that the explanation of road 3's deviant response would run as follows: "Since aggregate railroad profit rose because more loads were originated, it must be true that the number of loads originated by road 3 went down; or perhaps the number of loads went up, but not by enough to offset the increased cost of transporting empties." While this is an attractive speculation, it must be rejected. As Table 5-2 shows, the number of loads originated by road 3 did not decline; in fact, what this table shows is the parodoxical result that the number of loads originated increased for road 3 by more than for any other road. Therefore, we must look elsewhere for the explanation for the fall in road 3's profit.

We can take the following comprehensive approach. When the per diem rate rises, the effect on road 3's profit can

be divided into four components:

- change in profit from hauling more or fewer loads, as the case may be
- decrease in profit due to the greater number of empty car miles
- change in the daily per diem payments received and paid
- change in the mileage per diem payments received and paid.

Each of these components will now be discussed. As the discussion proceeds, the entries in Table 5-3 will be explained.

Table 5-3. Components of Change i. Railroad 3's Profit (Thousands of dollars)

Component	Change in Profit
Revenue from extra loads	+22
Cost of extra transport of empties	- 5
Daily per diem	-44
Mileage per diem	- 6
Make 1	
Total	-33

First, consider the change in the revenue that road 3 earns from hauling loaded cars. The number of miles that loaded cars travel on road 1's lines rises in the Test Case by 29,470 miles (= 2,820,700 - 2,791,230). Since it is assumed that the revenue, net of cost, earned per loaded car mile is 75¢, it follows that road 3 earns an added

revenue of 22 thousand dollars (= $29,470 \times 0.75$) in the Test Case. This amount is entered in Table 5-3.

Second, the number of empty miles that cars trave? on road 3's lines increases by 24,800. Since the cost to road 3 is assumed to be 20¢ per car-mile, this means that profit is decreased by \$5 thousand (= 24,800 x .2). This amount is entered in Table 5-3.

Third, it can be calculated, though the calculations are not shown here, that in the Base Case the amount of daily per diem charges received by road 3 exceeded the amount paid by \$54,045 (= \$150,895 - 96,850). In the Test Case, the net receipts fell to \$10,014 (= \$144,060 - 134,046). Therefore, the effect on profit of the change in net receipts of daily per diem payments is a decrease of \$44,031 (= \$54,045 - 10,014). This amount is entered in Table 5-3.

Fourth, in the Base Case the mileage per diem payments received is a net of \$94,007; in the Test Case this falls to \$87,817. Therefore, the decrease in road 3's net mileage per diem receipts in the Test Case is \$6190. This amount is entered in Table 5-3.

We can now summarize, using the concepts of operational and distributional effects introduced in the preceding section. When the per diem rate is raised, more foreign empty cars are sent home by all roads. In particular, the number of foreign empties sent home by road 3 rises from 0 to 21; the number of road 3's cars which are sent back rises from 630 to 823. This added movement of empties adds \$5 thousand

to road 3's cost. However, in the Base Case road 3 was plagued with car shortages; 10 percent of the loads originating at road 3 had to wait at least one day for a car; 88 loads were not loaded at all. In the Test Case road 3 has more empty cars available, and this results in car shortages being eliminated and in revenue being increased by \$22 thousand. However, road 3 had so many cars on line that not all could be loaded; the number of days that home cars are on line and idle rose from 3208 in the Base Case to 8837 in the Test Case, In large part, the home cars that are on line and idle in the Test Case were off line earning per diam payments in the Base Case. The Test Case, thus, leads to a decrease of \$44 thousand in road 3's collection of daily per diem charges and a decrease of \$6 thousand in mileage per diem charges. In short, if we consider only the operational effects, road 3 is helped by the rise in per diem rates since the increase is revenue more than compensated for the increase in the cost of hauling empties. But when considering one railroad, we must take into account the distributional effects since they do not cancel out as they do when considering the railroads as a whole. We see that the drop in per diem receipts overwhelms the beneficial operational effects, so road 3 turns out to suffer from the rise in per diem rates. The reason why only road 3 suffered a fall in profit in the Test Case is because, with the exception of road 9, only road 3 had a major influx of home cars that were sent back by other roads. Since this is only an example rather

than an exhaustive analysis, we will cut the analysis off here; it is left as an exercise for the interested reader to figure cut why road 9's profit rose rather than fell.

This example has shown not only how the outputs of the RPM communicate to the user of the model the major effects of a policy change but also how the detailed outputs can be used to track down an explanation of why the observed effects came about. The process of tracing out these effects can help one appreciate some of the nuances of the railroad system and can build up one's intuition about how that system operates.

5.3.3 What is the Optimal Per Diem Rate?

Since there are many different per diem rates that could be chosen and since different rates have different implications for the performance of the railroad system, a question that naturally arises is: What is the optimal per diem rate? This question cannot be definitively answered here since there is no generally accepted criterion for deciding what is optimal [see Appendix G and Oiesen, 1976a, pp. 16-19]. What can be done here is to illustrate how the RPM can be used to generate the type of information that would be needed to pick out the optimal per diem rate once one had chosen a criterion.

For concreteness, concentrate on how aggregate profit responds to changes in the per diem rate. Six runs of the RPM have been done for different per diem rates; otherwise, they all embody the Base Case assumptions. Table 5-4 lists the numbers assigned to these runs, the per diem rate assumed for each run, the aggregate profit that results, and the number of loads carried by the railroads. Figure 4 graphs the aggregate profit as a function of the per diem rate; line segments are used to connect the six computed points of this function.

When the per diem rate is changed from \$5.00 to \$6.00 or from \$7.00 to \$8.00, then aggregate profit rises. That is, the increase in revenue generated by the greater number of loads carried more than offsets the cost of the increased transport

Table 5-4. Various Per Diem Rates and Their Implications

Run	Per Diem Rate	Profit(1000's)	Loads Carried
1	\$5	\$21,353	45,190
8	\$6	\$21,547	15,394
9	\$7	\$21,522	45,534
10	\$8	\$21,629	45,654
1.1	\$9	\$21,622	45,688
12	\$10	\$21,620	45,683

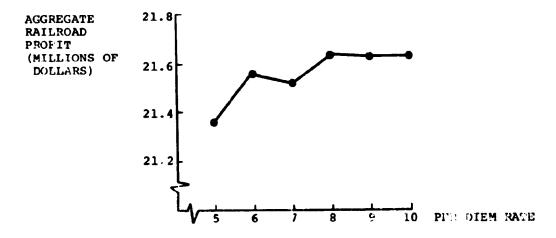


FIGURE 4. PROFIT AS A FUNCTION OF THE PER DIEM RATE

of empty cars. When the per diem rate is raised from \$6 to \$7 or from \$8 to \$9, the number of loads carried rises, but the resulting added revenue is insufficient to offset the added cost of hauling empties, so the aggregate profit falls. When the per diem rate is raised from \$9 to \$10, there is so much shuffling of empties that slightly fewer loads are carried; the resulting drop in revenue, compounded by the increased cost of hauling empties, causes aggregate profit to fall.

In short, if the goal is to choose the per diem rate that maximizes aggregate profit, then it appears that \$8 is a good candidate for the optimal per diem rate. However, since the function that relates aggregate profit to the per diem rate is evidently somewhat complicated, further analysis would be necessary before one could have confidence in this conclusion. (Note: The author is not advocating that the objective should be to maximize aggregate profit; this objective is only used as an example.)

5.4 EFFECT OF A CHANGE IN CAR SERVICE RULES

when one railroad has on its lines a car belonging to another railroad, the car service rules specify the regulations that the first railroad must observe in dealing with the foreign car. It should be emphasized that the car service rules are not just an abstract concept; they are widely seen as an effective policy tool, and they are actually used to try to bring about the desired amount of cooperation among railroads. The importance of car service rules is brought out by a recent issue of Traffic World which describes the Interstate Commerce Commission's rationale for a temporary change in car service rules:

In ordering changes in present regulations, the Commission said that the freight car shortage is "impeding both the domestic and export movements of agricultural, mineral, forest, and manufactured products and other commodities."

The Commission described as "ineffective" the present car service rules, regulations and practices of railroads governing the use, supply control, movement, distribution, exchange, interchange, and return of freight cars to meet the requirements of shippers [Traffic World, 1975, p. 46].

The point is that the idea of adopting alternative car services rules is a live issue, and it would be useful to have a method such as the RPM that could predict the effect of alternative car service rules on railroad performance.

The Base Case assumption about car service rules has two aspects. First, a road can load a unit of demand into any empty foreign car as long as the loaded car is not sent away from its home lines. Second, a road can hold onto an empty car as long as it wishes. We now investigate two different alternatives to the Base Case car service rules; each one of these alternatives modifies one of these aspects of the Base Case.

The first alternative, designated Run 13, assumes that a load can only be legally loaded into a car belonging to either the destination road or the originating road. This alternative might be advocated by one who thought that the problem was that cars were not being returned to their owners quickly enough and that this alternative would remedy the problem. The RPM can be used to determine whether this view constitutes a correct assessment of the problem. Table 5-5 gives the key data from the output. It is seen that

Table 5-5. Comparison of Alternative Car Service Rules

Run	Aggregate Profit (1000's)	Loads Carried	Percentage of time empty and standing
Base Case(1)	\$21,353	45,190	29
Test Case (13)	\$19,353	42,344	34

the change in car service rules lowered the aggregate profit by \$2 million, or about 10 percent. The reason for the drop in profit can be inferred from other data displayed in the output. Many units of demand that were loaded into foreign cars in the Base

Case were not loaded in the Test Case because of the restrictive car service rules. Thus, out of the total of 45,700 units of demand that were created, the number loaded fell from 45,190 in the Base Case to 42,344 in the Test Case. These foreign cars then stood idle since there was no demand suitable for them to carry, and the percentage of time that cars were empty and standing rose from 29 to 34 percent. For this reason, this first alternative set of car service rules caused aggregate profit to fall. (In fact, as the detailed output in Appendix K shows, the profit fell for every road except road 8.) One problem with the reasoning used by the advocate of this alternative that is uncovered by the RPM is that there is no provision for getting the empty cars back to home lines. This finding of the RPM, one might say, is obvious; however, in situations more complicated that this example alternative, things might be more complicated so that the effect of a policy change is not at all obvious. It is in these cases that the RPM can be of value.

The second alternative set of car service rules to be examined here leaves intact the Base Case assumptions about which foreign cars demand may be loaded into; the change is that a road is not allowed to hold any empty foreign cars. In other words, this alternative, designated Run 19, alters the Base Case by requiring that <u>all</u> foreign empties be sent away at the end of every day. Again, one might advocate such an alternative if he thinks that railroad performance

could be improved if cars were more speedily returned to their owners. The output from the Base Case and this new Test Case shows that this change in car service rules does indeed increase aggregate profit—from \$21,353 thousand to \$21,620 thousand. A somewhat roundabout route will be taken in explaining the significance of this result.

Section E.3.5 argues that car service rules and the per diem rate are policies that both work toward the same goal—to achieve the desired amount of cooperation among railroads. That both policies work toward the same goal is brought out by the following theorem. ("Railroad operations" is used as a shorthand term to cover the activity of cars, e.g. being loaded, moving, standing idle. This means that, in the context of the RPM, railroad operations include everything except for those quantities that are measured in dollars.)

Theorem: Railroad operations are <u>exactly</u> the same in the following two situations:

- a. the Base Case is altered by changing the daily per diem rate from \$5 to \$10;
- b. the Base Case is altered by replacing the assumption that a road can hold foreign empties as long as it wishes with the assumption that all foreign empties are sent away at the end of each day.

How does one prove such a theorem? One could simulate the two situations with the RPM and see if the two simula-

tions yielded the same output (except for the output on profit). However, the theorem is more general than this. It
says that all possible pairs of simulations of these two
situations yield identical railcoad operations, where a
"pair" of simulations means that the same sequence of random
numbers is used to simulate each of the two situations.

The operation of the railroad system will be the same in two situations if those factors that affect operation are the same in the two situations. The factors that affect operations are:

- the random factors
- the decision rules used by decision-makers
- the technical relationships (e.g. transit times) that determine what effects the random factors and decisions will have.

The criterion of proof that is offered is: The operation of the railroad system will be the same in two situations if these three factors are the same in both situations. This criterion allows a proof to be constructed.

<u>Proof</u>: First, consider the random factors. Since the random factors that influence linehaul transit times, loading and unloading times, and daily demands are not a function of either the per diem rate or the car service rules, the random factors are identical in the two situations.

Second, consider the decision rules. Section A.3 spells out for each railroad the decision rule that gives the maximum number of empty cars that that railroad wishes to hold as a function of the per diem rate. When the per diem

rate is set at \$10, then the decision rule for every railroad is to hold no foreign empties. (The reader will not
understand this unless he has read Section A.3.) This is
the same decision rule that each railroad is compelled to
follow under situation b); the only difference is that
situation b) states explicitly what the decision rule through
be, whereas situation a) induces this decision rule through
an economic incentive. Therefore, these two situations
lead to the same decision rules on sending away foreign
empties. Inspection of the other assumptions reveals that
no other decisions depend on per diem rates or car service
rules. Thus, these two situations lead to identical decision rules.

Third, consider the technical relationships. Inspection of the model logic show that no technical relationship depends on the per diem rates or car service rules except for the technical relationship that governs the amount of per diem charges paid from one road to another. Since the amount of per diem paid affect profit but not railroad operations, none of the technical relationships that affect railroad operations is affected. This completes the proof. O.E.D.

Several remarks on this theorem are in order.

First, this theorem is significant not because of the exact equality of railroad operations in the two situations since the exact equality is an accident of the model logic and Base Case inputs. Rather, the significance lies in

showing that the per diem rate and car service rules are two instruments to be used in pursuing the goal of satisfactory railroad performance and that these two instruments are partial substitutes for each other.

Second, though this theorem proves the equality of railroad operations and, hence, by implication, of aggregate railroad profit in the two situations, the distribution of that aggregate among the ten railroads is different in the two situations. Table 5-6 shows the profit earned by

Table 5-6. Profit in Runs 12 and 19 (thousands of dollars)

Road	Alternative Car Service Rules (19)	Per Diem Rate Equals \$10(12)	Difference (19)-(12)
1	776	753	23
2	4333	4359	-26
3	2182	2190	- 8
4	3317	3319	- 2
5	481	473	8
6	2077	2086	- 9
7	3545	3483	62
8	538	531	-13
9	883	890	- 7
10	3488	3515	-27
Total	21,620	21,620	0

each road in the two situations. It is seen that even though aggregate railroad profit is the same, its distribution is not. Some roads are better off in one situation, some in the other. This difference flows from the difference in per diem payments among roads in the two situations. In particular, those roads that are net exporters of cars are better

off under the higher per diem rate; those that are net importers of cars are better off under the alternative car service rules.

Third, an example of the way that car service rules and the per diem rate work in tandem to affect railroad performance can now be explained. Suppose that the alternative car service rules are adopted; the aggregate railroad profit Exactly how this aggregate will then be \$21,620 thousand. profit is split among the railroads can then be affected by the per diem rate that is chosen. That is, if a higher per diem rate is chosen, then the profit is shifted toward those railroads that are net exporters of cars. Any of the profit figures that are between those shown in Table 5-6 could be achieved. For example, if a per diem rate of \$7.50 were chosen along with the alternative car service rules, then each road's profit would be the average of the two figures shown in Table 5-6. This shows how these two policies are complementary and can be used together to achieve desired railroad performance.

Fourth, because the effect on railroad performance of choosing a particular level of the per diem rate depends on the car service rules in effect, and vice-versa, both policies should be chosen at the same time instead of one after the other. That is, if the best per diem rate is chosen, subject to car service rules being held constant, and

the per diem rate being held constant at the level just chosen, then the per diem rate and car service rules which individually are best might not be best together; this type of sequential decision-making is called sub-optimization.

Therefore, in theory, gains might potentially be realized if per diem rates and car service rules were considered together instead of separately, as they have been in the past for the most part. Whether large gains could be achieved in practice is an open question. An improved version of the RPM could throw light on this question.

5.5 EFFECT OF A CHANCE IN THE DEMURRAGE SYSTEM

One policy change often discussed is a change in the demurrage system [see Reebie Associates, 1972]. The demurrage system specifies how many free days shippers and receivers of cars are allotted to load and unload cars, and it also specifies the dollar penalties paid by shippers and receivers if they hold cars for more than the allotted number of days. The policy change that is usually mentioned is a tightening of the demurrage system that will cause shippers and receivers to hold cars for less time; the alleged benefit is that the railroads will have use of their cars for a greater amount of time, and this will allow them either to take in more revenue or to cut their investement in cars.

operations by changing the amount of time that cars spend being loaded or unloaded, a change in the demurrage system is modeled in the RPM by changing the probability distribution for loading and unloading time. The Base Case assumption is that the number of days taken to load or unload a car is 1,2, or 3 days with respective probabilities .55, .35, and .10.

As a Test Case, designated Run 14, assume that the demurrage system is changed so that the loading or unloading takes

1 or 2 days with respective probabilities .75 and .25. (It should be emphasized that these probabilities are not calculated by or provided by the RPM. These probabilities must be furnished by the user of the RPM; the user might get the probabilities from empirical data or from a model that is

designed to yield such probabilities as outputs.)

Demurrage payments are not reflected in the current version of the RPM.

Table 5-7. Effect of a Change in Demurrage Rates

Run	Aggregate Profit (1000's)	Loads Carried
Base Case(1)	\$21,353	45,190
Test Case(14)	\$21,656	45,525

As Table 5-7 shows, things do work out as expected. When the demurrage system is tightened, the aggregate profit and the number of loads carried both increase.

This example application of the RPM has shown how the effect of a change in the demurrage system can be predicted by the RPM even though the demurrage system is not a direct input to the model. This example can be generalized. When one wants to predict the effect of a policy change on rail-road performance, he must first decide how that policy change will affect the inputs to the RPM; once that is done, the RPM can be used to generate the desired predictions. Section 6.3 elaborates on this point.

It should also be pointed out that in this particular application the RPM only tells half the story; it only predicts the effect of a change in the demurrage system on the railroads and says nothing about the effect on shippers (except that more loads are carried). A decision-maker would presumably take into account both the gain to the railroads

and also the loss or inconvenience to the shippers before deciding whether a change in the demurrage system was a good idea.

5.6 EFFECT OF CHANGES IN DEMAND

There are two reasons why one might want to use the RPM to investigate the effect of changes in demand. First, there are government policies (such as macroeconomic policy or changes in regulation of railroads or of other modes) that can affect demand, so one might want to use the RPM to predict the effect that these policies would have on railroad performance and to determine if any policy change (e.g. of per diem rates or car service rules) would be needed in response. Second, since one does not know for sure what the future level of demand will be when considering a policy, one might want to do a sensitivity analysis to determine how sensitive the railroad performance yielded by a policy is to variations in demand. Table 5-8 contains hypothetical numbers that have been made up to show why a sensitivity analysis might be valuable. Suppose that A and B are two alternative policies

Table 5-8. Hypothetical Aggregate Profit
Resulting from Different Combinations
of Policies and Levels of Demand

Policy	State of Demand		
	Low	Average	High
A B	10	21	22
В	19	20	21

under consideration. If the policies are compared when demand is average, then policy A shows a slightly higher aggregate profit, and one might conclude that A is the better policy.

However, when it is realized that demand might well be low and that policy A yields a much lower aggregate profit when demand is low, this finding calls into question the conclusion that A is the better policy. In short, sensitivity analysis such as this can be valuable because it uncovers information about alternative policies that can than be valuable to a decision-maker.

Table 5-9 is analogous to Table 5-8, except that Table 5-9 contains information generated by runs of the RPM. The two alternative policies considered are setting the per diem rate at \$5 or \$10. The heading "slack" means that the

Table 5-9. Aggregate Profit Resulting from Different Levels of Demand and Different Per Diem Rates

<u>Policy</u>		State of Demand	
	Slack	Average	<u>Peak</u>
\$ 5.00 10.00	18,802 (15) 18,985 (17)	21,353 (1) 21,547 (12)	23,296 (16) 24,055 (18)

slack season level of demand is assumed to exist for the entire year: "Peak" means that the peak season level of demand exists for the entire year. "Average" means that the Base Case assumptions hold, i.e. demand is slack in the first and third quarters and peak in the second and fourth. The aggregate railroad profit is shown in Table 5-9 for each level of demand and for each per diem rate. The numbers

in parentheses refer to the run number that generated the profit figures. The differences in the results, while significant, are not as dramatic as in the hypothetical example; however, finding out that there is no joker in the deck can be useful for a decision-maker.

5.7 REMARKS ON THE COMPUTER

An Amdahl 470 V/6 computer was used for the runs reported in this paper. The Base Case run took 3.3 minutes; other runs took approximately the same time. At a cost of \$25 per minute, this means that a typical run of the current version of the RPM costs between \$80 and \$85. Appendixes I and J contain documentation of the computer program.

5.8 SUMMARY

This section has given a number of examples of how the RPM can be applied. Rather than recapitulate the applications, this summary will restate in a general form the lessons that have been learned about how the RPM can be useful to decision-makers and researchers. The exposition proceeds by answering three questions:

- What government and industry policies can the RPM be used to investigate?
- What types of questions can the RPM answer about those policies?
- How can the RPM aid the process of developing new policies?

What policies can the RPM be used to investigate? The general answer to this question is: The RPM can investigate any policy that exercises its effect through the model inputs. Since the RPM has been constructed so that virtually all policies work through its inputs, a very wide range of policy alternatives can, in principle, be investigated.

From the point of view of the RPM there are two different types of policies. One type of policy is represented directly in the inputs of the RPM. The per diem rate is an example of this type of policy since it is both a model input and a policy. The second type of policy is one which affects inputs but which is not itself an input. The demurrage system is an example of such a policy since the demurrage system is not a model input; the demurrage system affects railroad operations through its effect on the input of loading and unload-

ing time. The distinction between these two types of policies is important because it is easier to apply the RPM to the first type of policy. That is, in order to investigate the effect of a change in the per diem rate, all that needs to be done is to change the value of the per diem rate input. But in order to investigate the effect of a change in the demurrage system, one must first determine how the new demurrage system affects the loading and unloading times—and this could be a non-trivial task. Section 6.3 discusses this topic further.

what types of questions can the RPM answer about those policies? The general answer to this question is: When particular values are assumed for the inputs, the RPM can predict the values of the outputs that will result. More specifically, there are two types of answers that the RPM can yield. The first type of answer is a prediction of the most likely effect of a policy or of a set of policies. There are a number of ways in which one or more inputs could be changed and one or more runs of the RPM made to estimate the most likely effects of these changes. Perhaps a single alternative value for some input would be tried. Perhaps a sequence of different values for an input would be run so that railroad performance could be expressed as a function of this input. Perhaps two inputs would be changed on the same run to investigate their joint effect.

The second type of answer that the RPM can yield is a prediction of the sensitivity of railroad performance to variations in some input. Section 5.6 contains an example of how the RPM can be used to analyze the sensitivity of output to changes in demand. If the decision of what policies to adopt were to be analyzed using the theory of decision—making under uncertainty, a sensitivity analysis using the RPM could provide the probability distributions over outputs that this theory would require. This topic is discussed further in Appendix G.

How can the RPM aid the process of developing new policies?

The user obviously cannot use the RPM to investigate the effects of a policy until he has a particular policy in mind; nevertheless, the RPM can be used to jog his imagination and to help him think up new policies.

To see how the RPM can be used to develop new policies, suppose there is some particular policy whose effect the user wants to investigate. Before the RPM is run with this policy, the user typically has two types of expectations about what the output of that run will show. First, he anticipates that various aggregates will behave in certain ways; e.g., he might think that railroad profit will increase. Second, he anticipates that there will be a specific reason why the anticipated effect will occur, e.g. he might think that railroad profit will increase because more loads will get carried. When the RPM is run to investigate the effect

of this policy, the user can look at the output to verify his conjectures. He can look at the aggregate output to see if the policy had the anticipated effect; that is, he can look to see if profit did, indeed, rise. If it did, then he can look at the more detailed output to see if profit rose for the reason that the user had postulated. Either of these expectations might fail to be fulfilled. It might be that profit failed to rise; or if profit did rise, perhaps it rose for some reason other than an increase in the number of loads carried. In either case, the user will then want to examine the detailed output so that he can find out why profit behaved as it did. Once the user has determined why the unexpected happened, then perhaps he can exploit that knowledge to construct a different and more appropriate policy.

In short, the RPM can be used both as a check on intuition and as a tool to build up intuition. The RPM can be used to check one's intuition both on how aggregates respond to policy changes and also on the reasons why aggregates respond as they do. Examining the detailed output and tracing through the effects of a policy change can build up one's intuition about how railroads work and about the channels through which policies exert influence, and it is this augmented intuition that enables the user to conceive of new policies. It is a paradox of modeling that while a model

like the RPM is written in mathematics and admits of no vagueness, the benefit derived from using the model largely results from its effect on that subjective factor known as intuition. This, then, explains how the RPM can aid the process of arriving at appropriate policies.

6. EVALUATION OF THE MODEL

6.1 INTRODUCTION

There are three types of information that the Railroad Performance Model (RPM) can provide to a decision-maker or a researcher. First, it yields quantitative information. That is, the RPM calculates the numerical values that result for the outputs (which measure railroad performance) if specific values are assumed for the inputs (which reflect government, railroad, and shipper policies). Second, it provides qualitative information about the effect of a change in the model inputs. For example, if an input (e.g. the per diem rate) is changed, then the model predicts whether outputs (e.g. railroad profit) will increase or decrease. Third, the model provides qualitative information about how railroads work and about the mechanisms through which government policies (or other inputs) exercise an effect on the railroad system. Examples of this type of information were given in Section 5. All three types of information can be useful and valuable. This section is largely concerned with the accuracy and reliability of the information provided both by the current version of the RPM and also by any future, improved version.

The first point is that the specific numbers that are generated by the current version of the RPM are not

to be trusted. The numerous simplifying assumptions make it difficult to place any faith in the numbers, especially since some of the numbers (such is average car cycle) conflict with available evidence. Moreover, it is difficult to give a meaningful interpretation to some of the numbers. For example, how does one interpret the Base Case aggregate railroad profit of \$21.35 million in light of the assumption that there are only 1000 cars and remembering that the profit calculation does not explicitly take fixed costs into account? In short, some of the numerical output of the current version of the RPM is difficult to interpret, and some of that which can be interpreted is inaccurate.

The second point is that while there is no assurance that the qualitative information provided by the current model is accurate, there is good reason to consider it to be plausible. That is, a qualitative prediction of the model discussed in Section 5.3 is that raising the per diem rate from \$5.00 to \$6.00 would raise aggregate railroad profit. There is certainly no guarantee that this prediction would hold true in the real world, but it is certainly plausible that it might. If someone argued that a rise in the per diem rate would never, under any circumstance, raise aggregate railroad profit, then the RPM gives a refutation

to this argument by showing that there are circumstances under which profit would rise. Moreover, when the RPM output is examined to determine the mechanism through which the rise in the per diem rate increased profit (as was done in Section 5.3.2), this qualitative information is a plausible explanation; perhaps things really work that way, though there is no guarantee that they do.

Therefore, one source of value of the current version of the model is that it points out how the cailroad system might operate. But there is another, and probably more important, way in which the current version is valuable — it points the way to an improved version that can better provide all three types of information. That is, the approach embodied in the current version can be elaborated in order to construct another, improved version. This section describes the problems that would be encountered in developing an improved version and the benefits that would be reaped if an improved version were successfully completed.

The organization of this chapter is as follows. Section 6.2 gathers together many of the assumptions of the current version of the model. This display of the numerous simplifications all together should convince the reader that no trust should be placed in the reliability of the

current model. Section 6.3 shows how an improved version of the RPM could serve as a framework that could organize and simplify much of railroad research. Section 6.4 lists various attractive features possessed by the RPM. Section 6.5 discusses two possible obstacles that could hinder further development of the RPM. Section 6.6 discusses weaknesses in the current model and directions in which further development might proceed. Section 6.7 contains a few final remarks.

6.2 RECAPITULATION OF THE MODEL'S ASSUMPTIONS

Since the main assumptions made by the current version of the RPM have been scattered through several chapters and appendixes, they are collected here so that the reader can more easily appreciate the simplifications that have been made.

Background Assumptions

- There are 10 railroads in the country.
- Each railroad has one yard.
- There is one car type.
- There are 1000 cars in the country.
- There is one commodity type.
- There are two seasons -- slack and peak.
- Only full car-loads are carried.
- Cars move independently, not in trains.
- Car service rules are always observed.
- Car service rules apply equally to all cars.

Assumptions About Decision Rules

- The probability distribution of demand for each origin-destination pair is the same for each day during a season.
- Shippers withdraw a unit of demand if the queue of demand waiting for empty cars at a railroad exceeds a specified number.

- Snippers withdraw a unit of demand that is forced to wait more than a specified number of days for an empty car.
- Railroads follow set rules for deciding which empty cars to load demand into, and these rules do not change during the year.
- Each railroad picks the maximum number of empty cars to hold on line each day; this number depends on the daily per diem rate but not on the owner composition of empty cars on line or on any other variable in the model.

Assumptions About Other Inputs

:

- Per diem rates do not change during the year.
- Car service rules do not change during the year.
- The revenue earned by hauling a loaded car a mile is constant throughout the year and for all railroads and does not depend on any variable in the model.
- The cost of hauling a loaded car a mile and the cost of hauling an empty car a mile are constant throughout the year and for all railroads and do not depend on any variable in the model.
- The probability distribution of the time required to load a car is the same as for the time required to unload a car, and this distribution is the same for all railroads and the same throughout the year.
- The probability distribution of the transit time required to traverse a particular link is the same throughout the year.

Assumptions About Outputs

- A car is considered to be loaded and standing during the entire time it is being unloaded.
- Profit consists only of the variable cost and revenue stemming from car movements.

6.3 THE RPM AS A UNIFYING RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

One role that the RPM can fulfill is that of a unifying framework that organizes rail research. The basis of this claim is that an improved version of the RPM would include as inputs all factors that significantly affect the operation of the railroad system; thus, the effect of any policy on railroad performance can be predicted if it can be determined how that policy would affect the model inputs. This is illustrated in Figure 5.

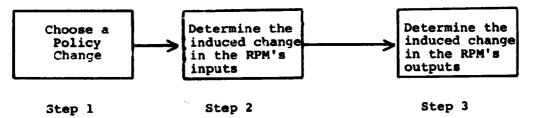


FIGURE 5. THE UNIFIED RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

The general outline of railroad research would have three steps.

Step 1: Choose a policy change (or some type of change) that is to be investigated. For example, the policy change might be to raise the per diem rate, to change the demurrage system, or any number of other things.

Step 2: Determine the change in the RPM's inputs that would be induced by this policy change. If the per diem rate is raised from \$5 to \$6, then Step 2 is trivial since the per diem rate is both a policy and also an input to the RPM. However, Step 2 is not trivial in the example of changing the demurrage system since the demurrage system is not an input into the RPM. The demurrage system affects railroad operation, it is claimed, by changing the loading and unloading times for cars. Therefore, in this example Step 2 would consist of determining how a specified change in the demurrage system would affect loading and unloading times.

Step 3: Determine the change in the RPM's outputs that would be induced by the change in inputs. This step consists of running the RPM with the new input values as determined by Step 2; the model output is then examined to determine the desirability of the proposed policy change.

In order to bring out the consequences of the RPM serving as a unified framework for railroad research, suppose for this paragraph that an improved, accurate version of the RPM were completed and that we had confidence in it. Then many policy options such as changing per diem rates or car service rules could be immediately investigated since these policies are inputs to the model. Moreover, the

research task of investigating the effects of other policy options would be greatly simplified. A researcher would be handed a list containing the RPM's inputs and go in the instructions:

Determine how the different policy options you are researching affect the RPM's input variables.

The researcher need only concern himself with this task; the RPM will do the rest. In other words, the researcher is only responsible for Steps 1 and 2; the RPM carries out the highly complicated Step 3. Without the RPM, the researcher must perform all three tasks. This is a Herculean assignment, and any number of research tasks have foundered on it. An improved version of the RPM, therefore, would represent not only a unifying framework for railroad research but also a dramatic simplification that could greatly increase the quality of that research.

6.4 ATTRACTIVE FEATURES OF THE RPM

This section describes five features of the RPM which are not present in all railroad models and which, in the author's opinion, enhance its usefulness. (Appendix F contains a more explicit comparison of the RPM with other models.) These features to be discussed are present in the current version, but a future version of the model could better take advantage of them.

First, the RPM recognizes the importance of <u>decisions</u>. Decisions play a key role because the railroad system does not operate automatically or in some mechanical way. That is, the railroad system is not like a ball rolling down an inclined plane whose behavior is governed solely by laws of science. The movement of cars and other aspects of railroad operations are largely governed by decisions made by humans -- by government, railroads, and shippers. Decisions are important not only because they shape railroad operations but also because it is by changing decisions that many policies affect railroad performance. Therefore, a model that is to be useful for policy analysis must pay close attention to decisions.

The RPM incorporates a great deal of detail on decisions by having each railroad make many decisions every day.

These decisions depend on the level and composition of demand, the location of cars, the owner composition of cars, the per diem rate, and other things. Therefore, the model does not assume that the railroad system operates in some mechanical way. Rather, the system operates adaptively, responding to the current state of things. In short, the RPM gives full recognition to the importance of decisions in shaping railroad operation and allows these decisions to respond flexibly to the environment in which the decision is made.

Second, the RPM is not wedded to any one particular theory of decision-making. In the economics literature it is usually assumed that firms (including railroads and shippers) make the decisions that maximize profit. The RPM is consistent with but not tied to this assumption; the FPM embodies a more general theory of decision-making. The RPM assumes that the railroads (and shippers) follow certain decision rules, but there is no assumption as to whether these decision rules are derived from profit maximization. The idea behind these decision rules is that they try to capture the actual decisions that railroads make (or would make), whether or not these decisions are based on profit maximization. Therefore, if railroads

really do maximize profit, then this should be built into the decision rules. But if railroads do something else, then the decision rules should be constructed to reflect this. What this means is that if the decision rules were successfully modeled, then the RPM would be able to accept these rules as input; and, given the importance of decisions, this would be an important step toward an accurate and reliable model.

Third, the RPM models the railroads in an intermediate level of detail. Generally, more detail is good for a model because it expands the model's inputs and outputs; more detail is bad because it makes the model more unwieldy. A model should have the amount of detail that allows it to answer the policy questions of interest but not so much that it is too big to use. A case can be made that the RPM is cast at the best level of detail. On the one hand, the RPM is detailed enough to have a large number of inputs; this allows it to address a large number of policy questions. If there were less detail, the model would not be able to say anything amout the effect of changes in the per diem rate or car service rules. On the other hand, if there were more detail, then one might well get bogged down when using the model, and it would not be a practical tool. Thus, the RPM is written at the level of detail that seems to be

the pest compromise between the lack of scope caused by insufficient detail and the unwieldiness caused by excess detail. The next section discusses this topic further.

Fourth, the RPM takes full account of the interdependence among railroads. This is done by including many
railroads in the model and by explicitly modeling the car
and commodity flows between them. Explicitly modeling these
interdependencies, or system effects, is a big step toward
accurate modeling; and it is essential if the model is
going to say anything about the effect of changing per diem
rates or car service rules since these policies are designed
to cope efficiently with the interdependence of railroads.
Appendix F goes into this topic in more detail.

Fifth, the RPM has a strong methodological foundation. As modern research has made more use of computers and sophisticated mathematical methods, it has become harder to keep the focus on the substance of the system being modeled rather than on the techniques themselves. It is too easy of the techniques to take over and to dictate the research strategy, even at the cost of substance. A good deal of effort has gone into protecting the RPM from this type of problem. The two papers [Oiesen, 1976a and Oiesen, 1976b], which were cited frequently in Section 1 and on which much of this report is directly or indirectly based, are largely an outgrowth of thinking on the

type of modeling approach appropriate to answering the type of questions that the RPM addresses. Therefore, this report avoids common methodological problems such as confusing inputs and outputs, reversing the direction of causation, or failing to recognize the role played by decisions.

This completes the discussion of the main features of the RPM that commend it. Of course, it is largely a matter of opinion whether a particular feature is a blessing or a curse. One person's strong methological foundation is another person's pool of quicksand. This section has tried to lay out the attractive features so that the reader can decide their value for himself.

6.5 OBSTACLES HINDERING FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE RPM

Can the RPM really be improved so that it can make reliable predictions and can serve us a framework for rail-road research? Perhaps it can, but there are two nagging problems which prevent one from quickly and confidently answering this question with a "YES."

The first problem is that there might be no suitable level of detail at which the model can be pitched. On the one hand, as pointed out above, as more detail is added to a model, it gains in accuracy (since greater precision is possible) and also in scope (since a wider range of inputs and outputs is possible). Since some minimum amount of accuracy and scope will be deemed necessary, there will be some minimum amount of detail that is needed in the model if it is to be useful. On the other hand, as more detail is incorporated into the model, it might lose its appeal because the input data is too extensive to be prepared, because the knowledge to model the details is lacking, or because the model is too expensive to run. There will be some maximum amount of detail that can be handled if the model is to remain useful. Therefore, the possibility exists that the minimum detail needed for usefulness might exceed the maximum amount of detail that can be tolerated. For example, it

might be the case that if decisions are modeled in enough detail to allow accurate predictions, then such a mass of input data is required to support this detail that it cannot be accurately gathered and that, thus, the hoped-for accuracy is not achieved. Whether this discouraging possibility is true for the RPM is not known; all that can be said is that it cannot be ruled out.

The second problem is that it might turn out that the various decision rules which are explicitly modeled in the RPM might defy modeling. Each decision rule that is an input to the RPM assumes that if the same, identical conditions occur twice, then the railroad (or shipper) will make the same decision each time. There are two snags on which modeling of these decision rules could get hung up. First, the decision rule could be unstable, i.e. the railroad might make different decisions even if identical situations are repeated. Second, even if the decision rule is stable, it might be so complicated that the modeler cannot discover it.

In order to explain these snags further, it will be instructive to compare a social science model (such as the RPM) with a natural science model. In the natural sciences, it is widely accepted that the laws governing phenomena are constant; e.g., given particular conditions, falling bodies always behave in the same way. One does not have to worry about the laws of physics changing or about the gravitational constant taking on one value in the first quarter and a different value in the second quarter. The stability of these physical laws has allowed scientists to discover many of them. In contrast, in a social science model there is more instability in the "laws" (or decision rules), since humans are not as reliable as the molecules of a perfect gas. It might be that the instability is so great that there is nothing systematic to model. Even if the instability is at an acceptable level so that there is a "law," this instability makes it harder for the modeler to discover what the law is. This difficulty usually is compounded by the inability to perform worthwhile controlled experiments in the social sciences. Therefore, the combination of possibly unstable laws and the difficulty of discovering whatever stable laws there might be are problems that could potentially torpedo any effort to develop a useful version of the RPM.

In summary, the point of this section is <u>not</u> that further development of the RPM would be fruitless. In the author's opinion, a good working hypothesis is that the problems mentioned in this section are not serious; the possibility of these arguments being true should not be allowed to paralyze research that could potentially have a large payoff. Nevertheless, there is no ironclad guarantee that further research

would have the payoff that it is not promise. One would be a Pollyanna if he did not recognize that these problems might possibly hamper future research. There are limits even to what computers can do.

6.6 POTENTIAL FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RPM

Sections 6.3 - 6.5 have discussed the main advantages and disadvantages that would be gained or encountered if the RPM were developed further. This section is written at a less grandiose level. It describes some of the short-comings of the current version of the model and uses this discussion as a springboard for outlining specific areas of the model that could be developed. Appendix H contains an abstract statement of the essential features that an improved version would exhibit.

There are three grounds on which one might criticize
the current version of the model. First, some phenomena are
excluded. For example, since there is only one yard per road,
the problem of how to distribute the empties on a road's lines
does not arise. Also, since cars are assumed to move independently, blocking and scheduling problems do not arise. A
final example is that pool cars and assigned cars cannot be
handled by the model since all cars are assumed indistinguishable.

The second ground for criticism is that the model contains qualitative inaccuracies. For example, a good case can be made that the cost of hauling a loaded car a mile is not constant; it depends on factors such as the level of demand, where it is being hauled, and others. Thus, the assumption

that the cost of hauling a car a mile is constant is qualitatively inaccurate.

The third ground for criticism is that even if the qualitative assumptions are correct, the wrong quantitative values might be used. For example, if the qualitative assumption that "The probability distribution of demand for each origin-destination pair is the same for each day during a season" is correct, the wrong probability distribution might be input to the model; i.e. an inaccurate quantitative assumption is made.

Future work on the RPM would consist of altering the model (including consideration of programming language) so as to include additional phenomea, to improve the qualitative assumptions, and to improve the quantitative assumptions. The particular direction taken would be the one that was deemed to contribute the most to increasing the usefulness of the model in light of the policy questions considered most important.

We can be slightly more specific about what the next stage in the development of the RPM might be. The first step would be to pick out a geographical area to model. Ideally, there would be a significant amount of interlining among railroads in this area and a negligible amount between railroads inside the area and railroads outside the area. This area might be the entire country. Once the network is picked,

one can then attempt to improve the model so as to circumvent the criticisms lodged against it. Consider the three types of criticism.

First, the model could be altered so it could include new phenomena. One vay to include new phenomena would be to relax some of the assumptions listed in Section 6.2. For example, the number of yards operated by each railroad could be increased, the number of commodity types could be increased, the number of car types could be increased, etc. There are also some phenomena not mentioned in the assumptions that could be added, e.g. competition among railroads.

Second, the qualitative assumptions of the model could be altered. A leading candidate for improvement here is the way that cost is modeled. Also, the range of variables that decisions depend on should be expanded. For example, the number of empties that a road wants to hold should be a function not only of the per diem rate but also of the anticipated demand and also perhaps of other variables. For another example, the decision rule on which cars to load which demand into should probably be a function of the per diem rate instead of a constant as it is in the current version of the model.

Third, the data needed by the improved version of the model would have to be gathered. Exactly what data would be

ne ded cannot be specified in advance; it depends on how the model is changed.

In short, the idea is that the RPM can be improved in stages. After each stage, a decision can be made as to whether further development is warranted. The specific improvements to be included in the next stage of development might well -- but need not necessarily -- be from those mentioned above. The improvements included would be determined by conferring with possible users of the model to determine which improvements would throw the most light on questions of interest.

6.7 CONCLUSION

There are many new policies that are proposed with the aim of improving the performance of the railroad system.

Our unaided intuition is often insufficient to tell us which of these proposed policies would work and which would not -- for the plain reason that the railroad system is so complicated. There are many different decision-makers making many different decisions that affect the operation of the railroad system. Moreover, the entire railroad system is tied together so that events in one sector ripple through the system causing effects -- sometimes unexpected -- in other sectors. In order to deal with this complexity, a model of the nation's railroad system has been developed.

The model has promise both in the range of policies it can address and also in the apparent soundness of its approach. The goals of the model are to provide accurate predictions of the effects of policy changes and to develop our intuition so that we can think of better policies. Whether or not the model can be developed sufficiently to meet these goals remains to be seen. In the author's opinion, while there is some question about the workability of a more sophisticated version of the Railroad Performance Model, the large potential payoff to having an accurate model with the scope of the RPM seems to make its further development a worthwhile, though risky, investment.

APPENDIXES

A. INPUT DESCRIPTION AND FORMAT

A.1 INTRODUCTION

This appendix, which is written parallel to Section 2, gives a complete description of the manner in which the inputs are structured, gives the values that are assumed for the inputs for the Base Case, and explains where those assumed values came from. When possible, the assumed input values are based on 1974 data. The reader should be warned that the assumed inputs are not slavishly realistic. Since the current version of the RPM is designed to be a demonstration model rather than a model to be immediately used, it was not deemed desirable to put much of the limited resources available into assembling data. Therefore, much of the input data is, quite justifiably, based on judgment and a desire to maintain consistency within the model rather than on meticulous data search and processing. Thus, this appendix strives to make clear what input data is used in the Case Case, but there is no pretense that this data is accurate.

In this and other appendixes the variables will be labelled with the symbol given to them in the computer program. This will put the interested reader in a position to understand

the program; these symbols should not cause any problem to the reader unfamiliar with GPSS.

A.2 INPUTS CHOSEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

In the Base Case the per diem (or car hire) charge per day is assumed to be

XH\$PDCPD = \$5.00.

The per diem charge per mile is assumed to be

XH\$PDCPM = \$0.05.

These values are rough averages taken from the schedule of per diem rates [Association of American Railroads, 1974, p.12].

The revenue per loaded car mile is assumed to be

XH\$RPLCM = \$1.00.

This figure is used since, according to the Association of American Railroads [1975a, pp. 33,42], the average revenue per ton-mile is about 2¢ and since the average number of tons carried per car, weighted by the length of haul, is about 50. Therefore, 2¢x50 = \$1.00.

The car service rules are represented by two separate inputs. The first is the number of feasible owners matrix, MB12, which is shown in Table A-1. If a load of demand has origin i and destination j, the $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element of this matrix contains the number of owning railroads into whose cars the car service rules would allow railroad i to load this demand. For example, in the Base Case if there is a

Table A-1 Number of Feasible Owners Matrix (MB12)

						Desti	natio	n			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	1	10	10	10	10	5	9	9	7	7	8
	2	2	10	9	5	5	6	7	6	6	7
	3	3	3	10	3	3	4	6	4	5	6
	4	4	4	5	10	2	4	7	6	7	5
igin	5	5	5	7	10	10	7	8	7	7	6
	6	6	6	6	6	3	10	6	6	5	3
	7	4	4	4	3	3	3	10	2	4	4
	8	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	10	3	3
	9	6	6	8	7	6	6	9	8	10	2
	10	9	9	9	9	5	5	9	6	3	10

Ori

load of demand with road 3 as the origin and road 4 as the destination, the number of feasible owners matrix states that the car service rules allow this demand to be loaded into the cars of only three roads. It remains to specify what those three roads are; it is convenient to postpone this until the next section.

A.3 INPUTS CHOSEN BY THE RAILROADS

The order in which demand is serviced is governed by the Demand Priority Matrix, MB19, shown in Table A-2. Row i gives the reverse of the order in which demand originating at road i is serviced. For example, on a given day, road 3 first attempts to service demand destined for road 3, then demand destined for road 2, then demand destined for road 1, then demand destined for road 4, etc.

Once a road has decided which demand should next be serviced, the decision on which of the empty cars it should be loaded into is governed by the car choice matrices, MB1,...MB10, which are shown in Tables A-3 through A-12. Suppose road i has a load of demand with destination j that it would like to put into an empty car. Row j of the car service matrix for road i, MBi, contains the numbers of the roads whose cars the car service rules allow this demand to be loaded into. For example, demand with road 3 for an origin and road 4 for a destination could be loaded into cars of roads 5,3, or 4; this is seen by looking at row 4 of AB3. The zeroes in these matrices are of no significance. The matrices also indicate road i's preferences as to which car it would like to place a load into; these matrices are designed so that the desirability of a car owned by an owner increases to the right. For example, road 3 first tries to load the demand destined for road 4 into a car owned by road 4; if no car owned by road 4 is available, then road 3 would like to load the demand into a car owned by road 3; if no car owned by road 3 is available, then

Table A-2

Demand Priority Matrix
(MB19)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	10	9	8	6	5	7	4	3	2	1
2	10	9	8	6	5	7	4	1	3	2
3	5	9	8	10	7	6	4	1	2	3
4	10	9	8	7	1	6	5	2	3	4
5	10	9	8	7	1	6	3	2	Ą	5
6	5	9	8	2	1	4	3	10	7	6
7	5	9	4	2	1	6	3	10	8	7
8	5	9	4	2	1	10	3	6	7	8
9	5	3	6	2	1	8	4	7	10	9
10	5	4	8	1	2	3	6	9	7	10

Origin

Table A-3

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 1

(MB1)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	10	9	6	8	7	5	4	3	2	1
2	10	9	6	8	7	5	4	3	1	2
3	10	9	6	8	7	5	4	2	1	3
4	10	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	1	4
5	2	3	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	0
6	2	3	4	5	8	7	10	1	6	0
7	2	3	4	6	8	9	10	1	7	0
8	2	3	7	9	10	1	8	0	0	0
ڼو	2	3	7	8	10	1	9	0	0	0
10	2	3	8	7	6	9	1	10	U	0

Table A-4

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 2

(MB2)

Owning Railroad

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	1	2
3	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	2	3	0
4	3	6	5	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
5	3	6	4	2	5	0	0	0	0	0
6	3	4	7	10	2	6	0	0	0	0
7	3	6	8	9	10	2	7	0	0	0
8	3	7	10	9	2	8	0	0	0	0
9	3	7	8	10	2	9	0	0	0	0
10	3	8	7	6	9	2	10	0	0	0

Table A-5

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 3

(MB3)

Owning Railroad

1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	1	2	3
4	5	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	4	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	10	7	3	6	0	υ	0	O	0	0
7	8	9	10	6	3	7	0	0	0	0
8	9	7	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	7	8	10	3	9	0	0	0	0	0
10	8	7	6	9	3	10	0	0	0	0

Table A-6

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 4

(MB4)

	1	2	3	.;	5	6	-,	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	2	8	7	4	3	0	0	0	0	0
4	9	10	1	2	3	8	7	6	5	4
5	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	10	7	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	10	9	8	3	6	4	7	0	0	0
8	9	6	7	3	4	8	0	0	0	0
9	3	8	7	6	10	4	9	0	0	0
10	7	6	9	4	10	0	0	0	0	0

Table A-7

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 5

(MB5)

Owning Railroad

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	4	3	2	5	1	0	0	o	0	0
2	4	3	1	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
3	4	1	2	7	8	5	3	0	0	0
4	3	2	1	6	7	8	9	10	5	4
5	4	3	2	1	6	7	8	10	9	5
6	4	7	8	9	10	5	6	0	0	0
7	4	3	6	8	9	10	5	7	0	0
8	4	3	6	7	9	5	8	0	0	0
9	4	6	8	7	10	5	9	0	0	0
10	4	7	6	9	5	10	0	0	0	0

Table A-8

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 6

(MB6)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	4	7	3	2	6	1	0	0	0	0
2	4	7	3	1	6	2	0	0	0	0
3	7	8	2	1	6	3	0	0	0	0
4	3	2	1	5	6	4	0	0	0	0
5	4	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	9	8	3	2	1	5	10	7	4	6
7	8	3	2	1	6	7	0	0	0	0
8	8	3	2	1	6	8	0	0	0	0
9	7	8	10	6	9	0	0	0	0	0
10	9	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A-9
Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 7
(MB7)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3	2	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	1	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	2	1	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	o
4	5	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	4	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	6	4	5	3	8	2	1	9	10	7
8	7	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	8	10	7	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	6	9	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A-10

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 8

(MB8)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	1	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	2	1	4	8	3	0	0	0	0	0
4	3	7	5	8	4	0	0	0	0	0
5	3	7	4	8	5	0	0	0	0	0
6	3	7	8	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	6	4	5	8	7	0	0	0	0	0
8	7	3	6	9	10	4	5	2	1	8
9	8	10	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	8	9	10	c	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 7.-11
Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 9
(MB9)

Owning Railroad

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	В	9	10
1	8	7	3	2	9	1	0	0	0	0
2	8	7	3	1	9	2	0	0	0	0
3	8	7	2	1	4	5	9	3	0	0
4	8	7	3	6	5	9	4	0	0	0
5	8	7	6	4	9	5	0	0	0	0
6	10	7	4	5	9	6	0	0	0	0
7	8	6	3	4	5	2	1	9	7	0
8	7	3	2	1	4	5	9	8	0	0
9	5	4	1	2	3	6	7	8	10	9
10	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A-12

Car Choice Matrix for Railroad 10

(MB10)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	10	1	0
2	8	7	6	5	4	3	1	10	2	0
3	8	7	6	5	4	2	1	10	3	0
4	8	7	6	3	2	1	5	10	4	0
5	7	6	4	10	5	0	0	0	0	0
6	7	4	5	10	6	0	0	0	0	0
7	8	6	4	5	3	2	1	10	7	0
8	7	3	2	1	10	8	0	0	0	0
9	10	8	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	9	6	7	8	3	4	5	2	1	10

Destination Railroad

.

road 3 would like to load the demand into a car owned by road 5; if no car owned by road 5 is available, then efforts to load that demand cease since there is no suitable car available into which to load this demand. This demand, therefore, is sent to the Unserviced Demand Module.

These car choice matrices are derived in two steps. First, the cars into which a load can legally be placed are found by applying the car service rule that a foreign car cannot be loaded and sent away from its home lines to the network in Figure 2. Second, the ordering of roads in each row is done according to the rules explained in Section 2.4.

Once a car is loaded at origin i for destination j, road i must decide what link of track that car will be sent over. The choice made in the Base Case is given in the next road matrix MB16, which is in Table A-13. If a car is at road i and its eventual destination is road j, then the $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element of this matrix gives the next road to which the car is sent.

The maximum number of empty cars that road i is willing to hold is expressed by a function FNi which has the per diem rate XH\$PDCPD as its argument. The per diem rate is allowed to range from \$1.00 to \$10.00. The ten functions are

Table A-13
Next Road Matrix (MB16)

Final Destination

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	1	2	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	3
3	2	2	3	4	4	7	7	8	8	7
4	2	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	7	6
5	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4
6	7	7	7	4	4	6	7	7	10	10
7	3	3	3	4	4	6	7	8	9	10
8	3	3	3	7	7	7	7	8	9	9
9	8	8	8	7	7	10	7	8	9	10
10	7	7	7	6	6	6	7	9	9	10

Location of Car

* *

If the number of empties that a road desires to hold is exceeded by the number it actually holds, then the disposition of foreign empties matrix, MB18, shown in Table A-14, governs the order in which empties are sent away. Row i of this matrix contains the reverse of the order in which road i would send empties away. For example, suppose that road 3 has more empties than it desires. It first sends away empties owned by road 10; if after sending away all the empties on its lines owned by road 10 it still has too many empties, then it sends away empties owned by road 9; empties owned by roads 5,6,1,2,4,8, and 7 go next. These orderings are based on the rule stated in Section 2.4.

The input that declares how many cars are owned by each railroad will be described below in Section A.5.

Table A-14 Empty Car Disposition Matrix (MB18)

Empty Cars Ranked in Order of Desirability

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	7	8	6	9	10	
2	1	3	4	5	7	8	6	9	10	
3	7	8	4	2	1	6	5	9	10	
4	5	3	7	6	2	1	8	10	9	
5	4	6	7	1	2	3	8	10	9	
6	7	4	10	5	8	3	2	1	9	
7	3	8	6	4	10	9	5	2	1	
8	7	3	9	10	6	4	5	2	1	
9	10	8	7	6	3	4	5	2	1	
10	9	6	7	8	3	4	5	2	1	
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 2 1 3 7 4 5 5 4 6 7 7 3 8 7 9 10	1 2 3 2 1 3 3 7 8 4 5 3 5 4 6 6 7 4 7 3 8 8 7 3 9 10 8	1 2 3 4 2 1 3 4 3 7 8 4 4 5 3 7 5 4 6 7 6 7 4 10 7 3 8 6 8 7 3 9 9 10 8 7	1 2 3 4 5 2 1 3 4 5 3 7 8 4 2 4 5 3 7 6 5 4 6 7 1 6 7 4 10 5 7 3 8 6 4 8 7 3 9 10 9 10 8 7 6	1 2 3 4 5 7 2 1 3 4 5 7 3 7 8 4 2 1 4 5 3 7 6 2 5 4 6 7 1 2 6 7 4 10 5 8 7 3 8 6 4 10 8 7 3 9 10 6 9 10 8 7 6 3	1 2 3 4 5 7 8 2 1 3 4 5 7 8 3 7 8 4 2 1 6 4 5 3 7 6 2 1 5 4 6 7 1 2 3 6 7 4 10 5 8 3 7 3 8 6 4 10 9 8 7 3 9 10 6 4 9 10 8 7 6 3 4	1 2 3 4 5 7 8 6 2 1 3 4 5 7 8 6 3 7 8 4 2 1 6 5 4 5 3 7 6 2 1 8 5 4 6 7 1 2 3 8 6 7 4 10 5 8 3 2 7 3 8 6 4 10 9 5 8 7 3 9 10 6 4 5 9 10 8 7 6 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5 7 8 6 9 2 1 3 4 5 7 8 6 9 3 7 8 4 2 1 6 5 9 4 5 3 7 6 2 1 8 10 5 4 6 7 1 2 3 8 10 6 7 4 10 5 8 3 2 1 7 3 8 6 4 10 9 5 2 8 7 3 9 10 6 4 5 2 9 10 8 7 6 3 4 5 2	1 2 3 4 5 7 8 6 9 10 2 1 3 4 5 7 8 6 9 10 3 7 8 4 2 1 6 5 9 10 4 5 3 7 6 2 1 8 10 9 5 4 6 7 1 2 3 8 10 9 6 7 4 10 5 8 3 2 1 9 7 3 8 6 4 10 9 5 2 1 8 7 3 9 10 6 4 5 2 1 9 10 8 7 6 3 4 5 2 1

Disp Emp

.

A. 4 INPUTS CHOSEN BY SHIPPERS

The method by which daily origin-destination demand is created is central to the model and will be explained in detail. It is assumed that there are only three levels of daily demand --- low, average, and high. These three levels of demand are shown in matrices MB13, MB14, and MB15, respectively. in Tables A-15 to A-17. The interpretation of these matrices is as follows. If demand is low on a particular day, then the origin-destination demands shown in the low daily demand matrix are created. For example, there will be 2 units of demand created with road 7 as the origin and road 8 as the destination. Whether demand is low, average, or high on a particular day depends on the season and on a random number drawing. The peak season is the second and fourth quarters; the slack season is the first and third quarters. The probability of demand being low, average, or high in a particular season is shown in Table A-18. The peak season probabilities are stored in the function that the computer program calls FN12; the slack season probabilities are stored in the function FNIL. The relative magnitudes of aggregate low, average, and high demands are based on judgment. The relative sizes of the specific origin-destination demands are based very roughly on carload waybill statistics (U.S. Department of Transportation, 1975, p. 1 of Appendix B). It should be stressed that no fine-tuning has gone into the demand input data used here.

Table A-15
Low Daily Demand Matrix
(MB13)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	6	5	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	2	5	5	2	0	1	2	0	0	1
4	1	1	1	13	1	1	1	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	2	0	7	1	0	0	1
7	0	0	1	0	0	2	6	2	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
10	0	0	0	Ú	0	1	1	0	1	4

Origin

Table A-16

Average Daily Demand Matrix
(MB14)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	4	7	7	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	3	6	7	2	0	2	1	0	0	1
4	1	2	2	16	2	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	2	0	9	1	0	0	1
7	0	0	1	0	0	1	8	3	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1
10	Q	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	5

Origin

:

Table A-17
High Daily Demand Matrix
(MB15)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	5	9	9	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
3	3	8	9	2	0	1	1	0	0	1
4	2	3	3	21	2	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
6	0	1	1	1	0	12	1	0	0	1
7	1	1	3	0	0	1	11	3	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	0	1
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	2
10	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	7

Origin

Table A-18

Probability of a Particular
Level of Demand Occurring

	Peak Season	Slack Season
Low	0.1	0.5
Average	0.6	0.5
High	0.3	0.0

The maximum number of units of demand that shippers will allow to queue up at each railroad is:

XB1 = 4	XB6 = 6
XB2 = 10	XB7 = 7
xB3 = 10	XB8 = 3
XB4 = 12	XB9 = 3
XB5 = 2	XB10 = 4

These numbers are based on judgment.

It is assumed that it takes 1,2, or 3 days to load or unload a car with respective probabilities 0.55, 0.35, and 0.10. These values are stored in the loading and unloading time function FN\$LULT. These values are based on an examination of the distribution exhibited in Reeble Associates [1972, p.59].

A.5 OTHER INPUTS

The relevant mileages can be obtained from the distance matrix, MH2, shown with the Base Case values in Table A-19. This matrix is interpreted in the following way. The cells containing dashes are not directly connected by a rail link. Suppose i j and that roads i and j are connected by a rail link. Then the (i,j) the element is the number of miles that a car travels on road i's lines when traveling between i and j. The (j,i) the element gives the number of miles on j's lines, and the sum of these two elements gives the total distance between roads i and j. These distances are short-line distances from the Rand-McNally Railraod Atlas [1971,pp. 4-5, 62]. If i=j, then the diagonal element is half the distances are based on judgment and the railroad atlas.

The expected transit time in days for a car traveling on a link can be obtained from the next link transit time matrix, MB11, in Table A-20. Suppose a car is located at road i are suppose that its eventual destination is road j. The next road matrix MB16 described above states what link the car will travel on next; the (i,j) the element of the next link transit time matrix gives the expected transit time in days to traverse this link.

Table A-19
Distance Matrix (MH2)

Receiving Road

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	50	200	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-
2	150	200	300	916	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	200	110	200	-	-	170	170	-	-
4	-	325	490	200	350	459	512	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	366	158	•	ı	•	-	-
6	-	ı	-	365	•	200	450	•	-	470
7	-	-	284	100	-	260	225	445	900	710
8	-	-	400	-	•	•	130	175	680	-
9	-	-	-		-	-	1278	1055	250	350
10	•	•	-	•	•	1225	1390	•	625	250

Sending Road

Table A-20
Next Link Transit Time Matrix (MB11)

Final Destination

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	2	2	2	2	4	4	2	2	2	2	2
	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
	4	4	4	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3
on	5	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
	6	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	4	4
	7	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	5
	8	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4
	9	4	4	4	5	5	3	5	4	2	3
	10	5	5	5	4	4	4	5	3	3	2
					7						

Location of Car For example, suppose a car is at road 7 and its eventual destination is road 2. The $(7,2)\frac{th}{t}$ element of the next road matrix says that that car will next travel to road 3; the $(7,2)\frac{th}{t}$ element of the next link transit time matrix says that it is expected that it will take 2 days to travel between roads 7 and 3. The number of days that it takes a car to travel between two roads will not always be the number specified in the next link transit time matrix since these numbers are expected rather than actual values. The model assumes that if the expected transit time is t days, then the actual transit time will be either t-1, t, or t+1 days, each with probability one-third. The numbers in the next link transit time matrix are derived in the following way. Assume that loaded cars continuously travel 16.7 mph when on roads 1,2, and 3; 18.1 mph when on roads 4 and 5; and 22.7 mph when on roads 6,7,8,9, and 10. These speeds are taken from the Association of American Railroads [1975b, p.3]. The distances implied by the distance matrix are divided by the appropriate speed to yield transit time in hours. This is rounded off to the nearest day; one day is added to allow for miscellaneous delays, and this is the number appearing in the next link transit time matrix.

If a car travels from road i to adjacent road j, element (i,j) of the time on sending road's lines matrix, MB17, Table A-21, tells how many days are spent on road i's lines. The number of days on road j's lines can then be calculated by residual since the total transit time is calculated in the manner described in the previous paragraph; all of the variation in transit time is absorbed by the receiving road.

The cost of hauling a loaded car one mile is assumed to be XH\$CPLCM = 25¢.

The cost for hauling an empty car one mile is assumed to be XH\$CPECM = 20¢.

These figures are based very loosely on work done at the Transportation Systems Center; but, as the text emphasizes, these figures are not to be taken seriously.

The Base Case distribution of cars at the beginning of the simulation is given in the cars matrix, MHl, in Table A-22. This matrix is 10X11. The (i,j)th element, for j£10, is the number of empty cars on road i's lines that are owned by road j. The (i,ll)th element is the number of empties on road i's lines, i.e. the sum of the first ten elements in row i. Not shown in Table A-22 is the sum of the elements in column j, which is the total number of cars owned by road j. The relative sizes of the fleets of different roads is based loosely on the Association of American Railroads [1975, p.2]. At the beginning of the year, all cars are assumed to be empty. Unlike the other inputs, the cars matrix is modified as the year progresses so that the number and owner composition of empties held by each

Table A-21 Time on Sending Road's Lines Matrix (MB17)

Receiving Road

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
			-	,		3	°		8	9	10
	1	1	1	-	_	-	-	•	-	-	-
	2	1	1	1	2	•	-	-	•	•	-
Sending Road	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
	4	ı	1	2	1	1	2	1	-	-	-
	5	-	-	-	1	1	•	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	-	1	-	**	1	•	-	1
	7	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	2
	8	-	_	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	-
	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	1
	10	-	-	•	-	-	3	3	-	2	1

Table A-22
Cars Matrix
(MH1)

						Owner	·					
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Location of Empty	1	20	30	20	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	77
	2	14	56	50	11	0	2	2	0	0	3	138
	3	8	55	56	14	0	5	4	2	2	3	149
	4	3	15	15	125	6	9	4	2	1	3	183
	5	0	0	0	11	18	0	0	0	0	0	29
	6	0	3	5	7	2	76	6	5	0	6	110
	7	0	3	4	1	0	6	66	18	6	14	118
	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	17	24	5	3	50
	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	30	12	47
	10	0	3	3	1	0	5	8	3	12	64	99

road varies during the year. In the runs of the model reported in Section 5, the simulation was run for 13 months; the statistics reported are those gathered in the last 12 months of the simulation. The statistics gathered during the first month were discarded because they are tainted by the assumption that all cars were empty at the beginning of the year.

A.6 SUMMARY

The name of the inputs and their symbols in the computer program will now all be written down in one place for reference.

Inputs controlled by the government

- per diem charge per day, XH\$PDCPD
- per diem charge per mile, XH\$PDCPM
- revenue per loaded car mile, XH\$RPLCM
- number of feasible owners matrix, MB12

Inputs controlled by the railroads

- demand priority matrix, MB19
- car choice matrices, MB1,...,MB10
- next road matrix, MB16
- maximum number of empties a road will hold, FN1,...,FN10
- disposition of foreign empties matrix, MB18
- cars matrix, MHl

Inputs controlled by shippers

- low, average, and high daily demand matrices, MB13, MB14, and MB15
- maximum length of the queue of demand waiting for cars that shippers will allow, XB1,...,XB10
- maximum number of days that a load can be held over
- e days spent loading or unloading, FN\$LULT
- the probability of demand being low, average, or high in the slack or peak season, FN11 and FN12, respectively.

Other inputs

- distances between roads matrix, MH2
- expected transit time between roads matrix, MB16
- time on sending road's lines matrix, MB17
- cost per loaded car mile, XH\$CPLCM
- cost per empty car mile, XH\$CPECM
- initial distribution of cars matrix, MHl

B OUTPUT DESCRIPTION AND FORMAT

B.1 INTRODUCTION

This appendix gives a detailed description of the output of the Railroad Performance Model and explains how the output data is displayed in the computer print-out. It is necessary to read this appendix in order to be able to read the computer output. The output will be discussed in four sections under the headings of the DATA matrix, the ADATA matrix, the basic information matrices, and the waiting time tables. The first two of these headings correspond to the summary statistics described in Section 3.2; the last two correspond to the detailed statistics of Section 3.3.

B.2 THE DATA MATRIX

The DATA matrix contains a number of summary statistics, all but one of which is presented in percentages or some other normalized form in order to bring out their significance. In the computer program, this matrix is referred to by either of two symbols -- MX\$DATA or MX11. This matrix is 11x17. Row i, i=1,...,10, contains data for railroad i. Row 11 contains data for the nation as a le. We will explain the data in the row for railroad i by working through the columns one at a time. The minor changes in wording needed for row 11, which contains aggregate data, will not be spelled out.

1. Profit for road i. This column contains the year's profit for railroad i, measured in dollars. However, it should be emphasized that the following somewhat flawed definition of profit is used:

- cost to road i of moving loaded cars on line
- cost to road i of moving empty cars on line
- + car hire payments received by road i
- car hire payments paid out by road i.

The flaw in this definition is that the only costs that are included are the variable costs incurred in moving cars.

Fixed costs such as overhead are not included.

- 2. The percentage of time that road i's cars are loaded. In calculating this statistic, it is assumed that cars are loaded during the entire time that they are being loaded or unloaded.
 - 3. The percentage of time that road i's cars are empty.
- 4. The percentage of time that road i's cars are loaded and on line.
- 5. The percentage of time that road i's cars are loaded and off line.
- 6. The percentage of time that road i's cars are loaded and moving.
- The percentage of time that road i's cars are loaded and standing.
- 8. The percentage of time that road i's home cars are empty and on line.
- The percentage of time that road i's cars are empty and off line.
- 10. The percentage of time that road i's cars are empty and moving.
- 11. The percentage of time that road i's cars are empty and standing.
 - 12. The percentage of miles traveled by road i's cars

for which the cars are loaded. This statistic is calculated by dividing the number of loaded miles traveled by road i's cars by the total number of miles traveled by road i's cars.

- 13. The percentage of demand originating at road i that is lost because of insufficient cars. This statistic is calculated by taking the number of units of demand during the year that both originate at road i and do not get loaded into a car (i.e. are destroyed) and dividing it by the number of units of demand that originate at road i during the year.
 - 14. The number of days that road i's cars are off line per 100 days that foreign cars are on road i's lines. If this statistic is greater than 100, then road i is a net exporter of cars.
- 15. Number of empty foreign cars sent away by road i during the year as a percentage of the number of cars loaded by road i.
- 16. The average car cycle for road i. This statistic is calculated by taking the total number of days that road i's cars are either loaded or empty and dividing by the number of loads carried in road i's cars.

17. Frequency of car shortages at road i. This statistic gives the number of loads of demand with road i as origin that experience a car shortage (i.e. are not loaded into a car on their first day in the model) as a percentage of the total number of loads of demand created with road i as origin.

This completes the description of the significance of each of the 17 columns of the DATA matrix.

B.3 THE ADATA MATRIX

The ADATA matrix also contains summary statistics, but these are in absolute (or non-normalized) form instead of in percentages. In the computer program this matrix is referred to by either of two symbols -- MX\$ADATA or MX7. This matrix is 11X17. Row i, i=1,...,10, contains data for railroad i. Row 11 contains data for the nation as a whole. As in the preceding section, we will explain the columns of this matrix for railroad i, leaving the reader to supply the interpretation for row 11.

- 1. Total car days for road i's cars. This is the total number of days that road i's cars are either moving or standing. This number is very close to 364 times the number of cars owned by road i, but not exactly because of a transition slippage that occurs at the beginning and the end of the year.
- The number of days that cars owned by road i are loaded and moving.
- 3. The number of days that road i's cars are loaded and standing. It is assumed that a car is loaded and standing during the entire time that it is being loaded or unloaded and at no other time.
- 4. The number of days that road i's cars are empty and moving.

- 5. The number of days that road i's cars are empty and standing.
- 6. The number of days that road i's cars are loaded and on line.
 - 7. The number of loaded miles traveled by road i's cars.
- The number of days that road i's cars are empty and on line.
 - 9. The number of empty miles traveled by home cars.
- 10. The number of units of demand originating at road i that are destroyed because of insufficient cars.
- 11. The number of units of demand that originate at road i.
 - 12. The number of days that road i's cars are off line.
- 13. The number of days that foreign cars are on road i's lines.
- 14. The number of empty foreign cars that road i sends away.
- 15. The number of units of demand originating on road i that get loaded.
 - 16. The number of loads carried in cars owned by road i.
 - 17. The number of car shortages at road i.

This completes the description of the significance of each of the 17 columns of the MX\$ADATA matrix.

9.4 BASIC INFORMATION MATRICES

The matrices to be defined now contain the basic elements of data that are collected while the model is running and that are used to calculate the DATA and DATA matrices. These matrices are all 10x10. The following paragraphs will first give the symbol(s) assigned to each matrix in the computer program, next give a short, intuitive name for the matrix, and finally give a detailed explanation of the meaning of the (i,j) the element of the matrix.

MX\$DMAND or MX8: The demand matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{t}$ element is the number of units of demand that are created during the year with origin i and destination j.

MX\$LOADS or MX10: The loads carried matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element is the number of loads with origin i and destination j that are actually carried during the year.

MH\$DESTQ: The immediate destruction matrix. The (i,j) the element gives the number of units of demand with origin i and destination j that are immediately destroyed after being created because the queue of waiting demand at road i is already full when this demand is created.

MH\$DESTW: The delayed destruction matrix. The (i,j) the element gives the number of units of demand with origin i and destination j that are destroyed after waiting unsuccessfully for three days for an empty car.

MX\$DLM or MX1: The days loaded and moving matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element is the number of days that cars owned by road i are loaded and moving on road j's lines.

MX\$DLUL or MX2: The days loading or unloading matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element is the number of days that cars owned by road i are being loaded or unloaded on road j's lines. This is also assumed to be the number of days that i's cars are loaded and standing on j's lines.

MX\$DEM or MX3: The days empty and moving matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element is the number of days that i's cars are empty and moving on j's lines.

MX\$DES or MX4: The days empty and standing matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{}$ element is the number of days that i's cars are empty and standing on j's lines.

MX\$LMILE or MX5: The loaded miles matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{t}$ element is the number of miles that i's cars travel on j's lines while loaded.

MX\$EMILE or MX6: The empty miles matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{t}$ element is the number of miles that i's cars travel on j's lines while empty.

MX\$SENT or MX9: The sent matrix. The $(i,j)\frac{th}{t}$ element is the number of empty cars owned by j that road i has sent away because it did not want them.

B.5 WAITING TIME TABLES

The output also includes tables of waiting time distributions at each road. These tables are named WAIT1, WAIT2,..., WAIT9, WAI10, and WAITN, one for each of the ten roads and one for the nation as a whole. These tables show the number of units of demand at each road that waited 1,2, or 3 days. Various other statistics are also given, e.g. mean waiting time.

B.6 SUMMARY

The names of the outputs and their symbols in the computer program will be collected here for reference.

Summary Outputs

- DATA matrix, MX\$DATA or MX11
- ADATA matrix, M\$ADATA or MX7

Detailed Outputs

- demand matrix, MX\$DMAND or MX8
- loads carried matrix, MX\$LOADS or MX10
- immediate destruction matrix, MH\$DESTQ
- delayed destruction matrix, MH\$DESTW
- days loaded and moving matrix, MX\$DLM or MX1
- days loading or unloading matrix, MX\$DLUL or MX2
- days empty and moving matrix, MX\$DEM or MX3
- e days empty and standing matrix, MX\$DES or MX4
- loaded miles matrix, MX\$LMILE or MX5
- empty miles matrix, MX\$EMILE or MX6
- sent matrix, MX\$SENT or MX9.
- waiting time tables, WAIT1,..., WAI10, WAITN

C. THE NATURE OF SIMULATION MODELS

A few brief remarks on the nature of simulation models will be included here since the author feels that there is we despread misunderstanding about the difference between simulation and analytic models and that there is among many modelers an unjustified disdain for simulation models. This appendix tries to clear up this misunderstanding and to combat the idea that simulation models are an inferior breed of model. In fact, it is argued that in a large class of important cases, simulation models are better than analytic models.

Section 2-4 describe the RPM's inputs, outputs, and logic. These sections describe the behavioral and technical assumptions that are made about how the railroad system operates. The point to make is that these sections could easily have been written so that the reader could not tell whether the RPM is an analytic or a simulation model. That is, it is quite possible that an analytic model and a simulation model could share the same assumptions. What distinguishes these two types of models is the method by which the outputs are calculated and the nature of the outputs.

To explain these assertions assume for simplicity that the only output is aggregate railroad profit, which we will call "profit." Once values are specified for the imputs, these is no unique value of profit that will result, because the model contains random variables. (Daily demand, transit,

times, and loading and unloading times are random in the RPM.)

There will be a probability distribution for profit. For example, there is some probability that profit will be tess than \$20 million, some probability that profit will be between \$20 and \$2' million, some probability that profit will be between \$21 and \$22 million, etc. An analytic model would solve either for this probability distribution or for some of its characteristics (e.g. its mean). The main problem with an analytic model is that it is often difficult to solve for this probability distribution. It can safely be stated that it is impossible, given current and forseeable mathematical techniques, to solve the RPM for this probability distribution or for its mean.

If one abandons hope for solving for this probability distribution or for its mean, then he might settle for a single drawing from this distribution. A simulation model provides this single drawing. In a model like the RPM where there are numerous independent random occurrences, there is reason to believe that this single drawing will be a good approximation to the mean of the distribution. Evidence for this is given in Appendix D.

In summary, three things should be emphasized. First, the assumptions underlying an analytic model might well be exactly the same as the assumptions underlying a simulation model. Second, an analytic model, if it can be solved, yields the desired probability distribution or some of its characteristics; a simulation model yields one drawing from this dis-

tribution, and there is usually no obstacle to calculating this drawing. Third, the one drawing yielded by a simulation model will in some cases (such as the RPM) be a good estimate of the mean of the distribution.

These considerations lead to the following question. Suppose we have a complicated set of assumptions (such as those of the RPM). Should an analytic or a simulation model be used? If an analytic model can be solved at reasonable expense, then an analytic model would be better because it would yield more information about the output than a simulation model. However, since a complicated system is being modeled, it is likely that an analytic model could not be solved. When it cannot be solved, what typically happens is that the modeler introduces simplifying assumptions until the analytic model can be solved, say, for the mean of the distribution. However, in models like the RPM, a simulation approach yields a good approximation to the mean of the distribution, but the simplifying assumptions are not needed. In other words, a simulation model would be able to provide answers of approximately the same quality as an analytic model, but the simulation model could handle a much richer set of assumptions. Therefore, the presumption is that for complicated models like the RPM, a simulation model is better than an analytic mode.

(Further discussion of some of the material in this appendix and of related matters can be found in Oiesen [1976b, esp. pp. 35-9].)

As a concluding conjecture, the author predicts that models having the same general form as the RPM will gain greatly in popularity in the near future. This general form consists of two parts. First, a number of static, analytic submodels of decision-makers, technical processes, or market interactions determine what happens at each point in time. These analytic submodels are called "modules" in this report. Second, the method of simulation is used to hook there static submodels together over time to form a dynamic model. A recent example of this general form being used in a large macroeconomic model is Fair [1974, esp. pp. 12-13,16].

D. RANDOMNESS AND THE STABILITY OF MODEL OUTPUT

D.1 INTRODUCTION

Appendix C points out that when the assumptions for a run of the RPM are specified, then these assumptions imply a probability distribution for the model outputs. The mathematical problem of finding this distribution or its mean cannot be solved, so we use a simulation model to take a drawing from this distribution. This appendix discusses the question of how much difference there is likely to be between different drawings from this distribution. The only model output considered is aggregate railroad profit.

The point at issue and its significance can be stated in the following way. On the one hand, suppose that, given a set of assumptions for one run of the model, the probability distribution for profit is very spread out. This means that if different runs of the model are made under these assumptions (i.e. different streams of random numbers are used), then the profit calculated by the model would probably jump around wildly. This behavior would largely destroy the usefulness of the model. On the other hand, if the probability distribution is tightly bunched, then successive runs would yield profit figures that displayed little variation. This stability in output would greatly enhance the usefulness of the model; it would, as Appendix C argues, make the simulation model virtually as good as a model with the same assumptions that could be solved analytically for the mean

of the distribution.

The RPM has three sources of randomness -- linehaul transit times, loading and unloading times, and daily demand. Section D.2 investigates the stability of profit when all three sources of randomness are allowed to vary; Section D.3 investigates the stability when only the linehaul transit times and the loading and unloading times vary.

D.2 STABILITY OF OUTPUT WHEN ALL SOURCES OF RANDOMNESS VARY

In order to investigate the degree to which profit fluctuates on different runs, four runs were made. These runs, numbered 1,5,6, and 7, all embody the Base Case assumptions; they differ only in the stream of random numbers used. The aggregate railroad profit for each run is given in Table D-1. It is seen that the differences between the profit

Table D-1. Variation in Profit Caused by Random Factors

Run	Aggregate profit (in millions)
1	\$21.35
5	21.60
6	21.25
7	21.64

figures are not major. The difference between the highest and lowest figures as a percentage of the lowest is 1.83 percent. That this percentage difference is relatively small is not unexpected; since nearly 150,000 independent random events occur in each run of the RPM, a loose application of the law of large numbers leads one to expect this small percentage difference.

The conclusion is that the output does seem to be relatively stable and not too sensitive to random variations.

However, two qualifications should be noted. First, only four runz were performed, so a small sample error could be present. Second, the less aggregated outputs are less

stable than the aggregate railroad profit. The interested reader can peruse some of these less aggregated outputs in the output listings in Appendix K. Both of these qualifications also apply to the conclusions in the next section.

D.3 STABILITY OF OUTPUT WHEN DEMAND DOES NOT VARY

While the amount of variation in profit displayed in the previous section might seem minor, it would be nice -and in some cases crucial -- to reduce this variation further. One way to reduce this variation is to take advantage of the fact that GPSS generates what are called pseudorandom numbers [see Schriber, 1974, pp. 12-15 or Gordon, 1969, p.95]. The use of pseudorandom numbers allows daily demand to be generated "randomly" during a single run while at the same time allowing identical daily demands to be generated on successive runs. This means that demand can be "controlled for" so that variations in output on successive runs are not caused by random variations in demand. Therefore, any differences in output between two runs is caused either by a difference in inputs or by random variation in transit times or in loading and unloading times -- not by random variation in demand.

The amount of variation in profit that car be caused by variations in transit times and in loading and unloading times is investigated in Runs 1-4, which control for demand. The profit figures generated by these runs are displayed in Table D-2. It is seen that the variation in profit figures

Run	Table D-2. Variation in Profit Caused by Random Factors Aggregate profit (in millions)
1	\$21.35
2	21.34
3	21.32
4	21.32

is considerably smaller than the variation reported in the preceding section. The difference between the highest and lowest figures as a percentage of the lowest figure is .0014 percent. This means that when demand is controlled for -- as it is in every run except for Runs 5-7 and 15-18 -- the profit figure exhibits virtually no sensitivity to randomness. Since all of the runs (except 15-18) described in Section 5 control for demand, we can have a great deal of confidence that the changes in outputs reported there do indeed flow from the changes in inputs rather than from random variation. This conclusion is subject to the two qualifications mentioned at the end of the preceding section.

(Since Runs 1-7 all embody the Base Case assumptions, there is no compelling reason why one rather than another should be designated as the "official" Base Case run. Run 1 is so designated only because it uses the default sequence of pseudorandom numbers provided by GPSS. All runs other than Runs 2-7 use the default random numbers.)

E. SYSTEM EFFECTS, EXTERNALITIES, AND RAILROAD PERFORMANCE

E.1 INTRODUCTION

Because cars flow between railroads, decisions made by one railroad affect other railroads; these effects transmitted through interlined cars are called system effects. The existence of system effects implies that some coordination of the actions of the railroads is necessary if the railroad system is to operate efficiently. Section E.2 explains in detail what system effects are and what they imply about the accuracy of models containing one railroad relative to the accuracy of models containing more than one. Section E.3 then discusses why these system effects give rise to what economists call an externality. This section explains what an externality is, why it can lead to inefficiency, and what can be done to counteract it. In sum, this appendix shows that a model with many railroads is sometimes needed to give reliable predictions and that reliable predictions can be of significant value in light of the externalities generated by railroad operations.

E.2 SYSTEM EFFECTS

If each railroad were a self-contained entity, then there would be no reason for a model to contain more than one railroad. That is, if the decisions taken by a railroad (any by the shippers served that railroad) affected only that one railroad, then there would be no interdependence among railroads and, consequently, no need to model more than one railroad at a time. However, railroads usually are not self-contained because loaded and empty cars flow among them. Therefore, decisions made by one railroad can alter the flow of cars among railroads and, thus, have an effect on other railroads. The term system effects will be used to describe these effects that are spread from one railroad to another via changes in the flow of interlined cars.

This concept of system effects needs to be spelled out in more detail. For concreteness, suppose that there are only two roads, A and B. Suppose further that we are only interested in modeling road A, i.e. we want to predict what the effect would be on Railroad A is a change were to occur. This change might be in government, railroad, or shipper policies or in anything else that affects road A. Two cases will be distinguished according to whether the change immediately affects just railroad A or both railroads.

Case I: Consider a change that immediately affects only decisions made by Road A. For example, the change might be that road A decides to adopt new decision rules for matching cars to demand or for allocating empty cars. These changes would have the immediate effect of altering decisions made by road A. Road A would perhaps load different cars, alter decisions on which demand to load when there is a car shortage, or send different foreign empties away. These immediate effects on A are called first-round effects.

There are various ways that these altered decisions might have an effect on road B. Perhaps more or less of A's cars will come loaded onto B's lines; perhaps more or less of B's cars will come loaded onto E's lines from A's lines; perhaps more or less of B's cars will come empty onto B's lines from A's lines. When any of these things happen, there will be an initial effect, e.g. if more loaded cars come onto B's lines, then B will probably collect more revenue; these effects are largely effects to which A subjects the passive B; B does not have much choice about them.

Once the cars are unloaded, however, then B's stock of empty cars is altered and B must decide what to do with these empty cars, e.g. which should it load, which should it hold where they are terminated, which should be sent elsewhere?

The decisions that B makes have effects on B such as changing the number of loads originated, the number of empty carmiles traveled, or the amount of per diem payments paid.

The total effect on B includes both the effects to which B is passively subjected and also the effects which are the results of B's altered decisions; these effects will be called the second-round effects. B's altered decisions, however, will not only affect B but also alter the flow of empty and loaded cars going to A. We can now repeat the analysis of the second-round effects. A will first be passively affected to some degree; then, as A's stock of empties changes, A's decisions are altered, and these altered decisions lead to further effects on A. These effects on A will be termed third-round effects. The reader can imagine the fourth-round effects, fifth-round effects, etc. that would follow.

We have seen how the change under consideration has an immediate, first-round effect on A. This change then has other effects on A and B which can be collectively termed higher-round effects. These higher-round effects constitute the system effects. That is, these higher-round effects occur only because the railroads are interdependent. If there were no flow of cars between railroads, then there would be only a first-round effect and no higher-round effects.

The implications for modeling of the existence of these higher-round, system effects will now be explained. Suppose we want to have a super-accurate model that will predict the total effect of the change on road A. Then we must have a model that includes not only road A but also road B since we must model B's decisions in order to figure out what the total effect is on A. However, we are probably willing to settle for something less than a super-accurate model. Modeling inevitably involves simplifications that assume away certain effects; the hallmark of good modeling is assuming away the effects that are unimportant and keeping in the model the effects that are important. In the present case, since we are studying a change that only affects A directly, we might decide that the higher-round effects are relatively unimportant and can be safely omitted from the model. That is, we would be content with a model that contained road A but no other roads. This model would not be super-accurate; but if the higher-round effects are indeed minor, then it would be accurate enough for our purposes. This simplification is usually made when a single railroad is being studied; Sections F.3 and F.4 mention some models that make this simplification.

Case II: Consider a change that immediately affects

decisions made by both railroads. For example, changes in the

per diem system, car service rules, or demurrage system might

alter the decisions made by both A and B. Insofar as the change has a first-round effect and alters road A's decisions, the process by which higher-round decisions follow in train is the same as that described for Case I. The difference in Case II is that there can now be immediate, first-round effects on B's decisions. This means that there will be a second-round effect on A, and so forth. The point is that in Case II there are many more higher-round effects, so a model that assumes them away and only contains road A will pay a heavier penalty in terms of loss of accuracy than would be paid in a Case I situation. In fact, since policies like per diem rates and car service rules presumably exert their effect by altering flows of cars between railroads, one cannot avoid the conclusion that a model must include both roads if it is to be used to analyze changes in these policies.

This section can be summarized by considering the question: Should a model with one railroad or a model with many railroads be used? The answer to this question depends on the relative importance of two conflicting considerations. The first consideration is that because there is interlining of cars, there exist system effects. That is, a change that affects one railroad will be transmitted through the railroad system and affect other railroads. This consideration implies that a

many-rajlroad model has an advantage since it can include the system effects that cannot be included in a one-railroad model. The second consideration is that it is easier to build n one-railroad models than one n-railroad model. This is an advantage of one-railroad models. How does one reconcile these opposing considerations?

on the one hand, if a particular change is judged to have no significant system effects, then the first consideration is irrelevant and a one-railroad model is appropriate. On the other hand, if a change has important system effects, then a model of a single railroad would probably lose so much accuracy that it would be on little or no value. Therefore, only a many-railroad model could provide a suitable level of accuracy; but a many-railroad model could do so only if the inherent difficulty of developing such a model could be overcome.

In short, the decision in this case is not between a cnerailroad model and a many-railroad model but rather between a many-railroad model and no model at all.

The twin rationale for constructing the RPM, which is a many-railroad model, is the fact that many policy questions involve significant system effects and can only be answered by a many-railroad model and the further fact that, as Section F.2 argues, there is apparently no existing many-railroad model that can handle these questions. The RPM, then, is an

exploratory model that investigates the question of whether a many-railroad model can be developed that provides the desired degree of accuracy.

E.3 EXTERNALITIES

E.3.1 Introduction

Over the last few decades economists have studied what are known as externalities. This section defines the concept of an externality (Subsection E.3.2), shows how the presence of an externality can lead to inefficiency (Subsection E.3.3), and discusses ways of dealing with externalities (Subsection E.3.4). Subsection E.3.5 then argues that the system effects discussed in Section E.2 are a form of externality and can lead to an inefficiency. By recognizing that these system effects are a form of externality, the knowledge and intuition that economists have developed for dealing with externalities becomes relevant to the railroads.

E.3.2 What is an Externality?

This subsection states a definition of an externality and gives a few examples that bring out the essential features of externalities. For convenience, we let dm stand for "decision-maker;" thus, dm might stand for an individual, a corporation, on any other entity that makes decisions.

We will use the following definition.

Definition: An externality occurs if one dm makes a decision that affects another dm, as long as that effect is not a consequence of a market transaction between those two dm's.

It should be noted that economists have had a great deal of trouble formulating an airtight definition of an externality. For a verbal discussion of some of the problems, see Baumol and Oates [1975, pp. 16-18]. For a mathematical discussion, see Buchanan and Stubblebine [1962]. Both of these discussions have their flaws.

Now for some examples. Suppose a train passes through a residential neighborhood every night and disturbs the residents with its noise. By deciding to run this train, the railroad affects the well-being of the residents. The effect is not a consequence of a market transaction since the railroad presumably has not paid the residents for the right to run this train. Therefore, running this train is an example of an externality. For another example, suppose a train passes through an urban area; whenever it crosses a road, automobiles have to stop and wait for it. Thus, whenever the railroad decides to run this

train, there will be effects on the well-being of the motorists. Since the motorists are not compensated for waiting, this is another example of an externality. Both of these examples are said to be negative externalities since the decisions made by the railroads decrease the well-being of the affected parties, but there can also be positive externalities that benefit those affected parties; an example will be given in Section E.3.5.

To further illuminate the definition, an example will be given of something that is not an ovternality. Suppose a railroad hires an employee; that is, the railroad decides to hire the employee and the employee decides to work for the railroad. Presumably, these decisions benefit both the railroad and the worker; therefore, one might think that this is a positive externality. However, this is not a positive externality since the hiring is a market transaction, which the definition excludes from being an externality.

E.3.3 Why are Externalities Important?

The reason why externalities are of interest is that they often impair efficiency. To see why this is so, suppose that a dm is part of a system (such as the railroad system) and that its decisions affect other dm's in the system. Presumably when making decisions this dm gives heavy weight to its own interests and little or no weight to the interest of other dm's in the system. This might well lead to the paradox that even though each dm pursues its own interest, each dm ends up worse off than if the dm's had cooperated and taken each others' interests into account. For example, consider a system that contains two railroads A and B. Suppose that A has to choose between two decisions a and a and that B has to choose between two decisions b₁ and b₂. Suppose Further that decisions a, and a, are equally attractive to A, and it chooses a_1 . Suppose further that decisions b_1 and b_2 are equally attractive to B, and it chooses b_1 . However, decisions made by one road can have effects on the other road. Suppose that if road A took decision a, then road B would benefit greatly; and if road B took decision b2, then A would benefit greatly. Therefore, both railroads could be better off if they switched their decisions to a, and b. This example indicates how the presence of an externality can lead to inefficiency since one railroad does not take into account the effects of its decisions on other roads; by coordinating decisions everybody can be made better off. It might be that nothing can be done that would bring about the coordination that

would remedy this inefficiency, but it might be that there are policies that would be successful. In short, externalities are important because they can lead to inefficiency, and studying externalities can suggest policies to deal with that inefficiency.

E.3.4 What Can be Done About an Externality?

Economists have recognized five general types of policies that might be used to compensate for an externality and to increase efficiency. The first policy is to use the price system. For example, the government can levy a tax on an undesirable activity like polluting and thus give the polluting dm an economic incentive to reduce his activity. The second policy is to issue commands that specify how a private dm must act. For example, the government might degree that certain activities (such as ones that produce a particular pollutant) be outlawed. The third policy is to encourage negotiation by the affected parties; in this way, the dm causing the externality is made aware of the interests of others and perhaps offered an economic incentive (e.g. a bribe) to act in accord with those interests. The fourth policy is to expand the scope of the dm's decisions so that the externality is "internalized." That is, if dm A makes a decision that affects dm B, then A and B might be merged into one decision-maker. This expanded dm can then take into account the effect of decisions on the joint interests of A and B. The fifth policy is for the government to take over and run things. The idea here is that, in principle, the government can take all legitimate interests into account when deciding what decisions to take. It should be emphasized that these five general types of policies are nothing more than potential ways of dealing with an externality; there is no guarantee that even one of them will work in a particular case.

E.3.5 Externalities and Railroads

The foregoing discussion of externalities will now be applied to railroads. For expositional purposes, assume just for this paragraph that there are no per diem rates, no car service rules, and no constraints on how a railroad treats foreign cars on line. If road A loaded one of its own cars and sent that loaded car to road B, then road B would get free use of that car. That is, B would benefit from A's decision to send a car onto B's lines; this is a positive externality. If there really were no constraints on how B treated A's car, then there's no telling what B might do with it. B might hold on to it for two years waiting for a load, maybe convert it into a restaurant, or perhaps load it and send it to Australia. Therefore, we can see two possible sources of inefficiency in this case. First, A might not load freight that would cause its cars to pass onto B's lines. Second, if B did receive A's cars, it might treat them in a selfish or sloppy manner. For both these reasons, we expect the number of loads carried to be less than it would be if A and B were well-coordinated. Thus, we would expect that the railroads or government would take steps to compensate for this externality and to bring about cooperation in order to increase efficiency. In fact, it is possible to interpret much of railroad history as a trial and error search for ways to deal with the externality caused by interlining.

Consider the five general methods listed above for dealing with an externality and how these methods have been used

by the railroads. First, the per diem rates represent the use of prices to regulate decisions since raods must decide whether they want to send a foreign car home or hold it and pay the per diem rate. A more extreme use of the price system is proposed by Rastatter and Snow [1970, pp. 121-3] who suggest that per diem rates should be controlled solely by market forces and should be allowed to fluctuate freely. Second, car service rules are commands that tell railroads certain things that they must do with foreign cars. Third, negotiations appear in such things as general manager's agreements where one road gives another permission to violate the car service rules. Fourth, the Railbox Corporation is a consortium of railroads that owns cars that are free-running and have no one road as a home road. This is an experiment that for some cars internalizes the externality since these cars are jointly owned by a number of railroads rather than by one railroad. Fifth, there are some who think that the best policy would be for the government to nationalize the railroads.

In sum, interlining leads to system effects and, thus, to an externality. This externality, if untreated, would have led to a serious inefficiency in railroad operation. Thus, all five of the general methods of dealing with an externality have either been used or proposed. The policies currently followed have evolved largely through trial and error. Since it is not feasible to do a large number of trial and error experiments, many reasonable policies have not been tried; therefore, there is no assurance that the current policies are

the best. Moreover, the trial and error method of finding policies does not tell one how policies should be altered as the circumstances change.

An alternative to the traditional trial and error procedur= is to use a model to find attractive policies. Economists have long been engaged in modeling that is designed to find the "optimal" policies that bring about the desired amount of cooperation when externalities exist. These efforts enable one to understand many of the issues involved in finding optimal policies, but immediate application of the standard techniques is forestalled by the complexity introduced by the many different decisions and decision-makers involved and by the intricate way in which the different decisions interact. The RPM deals with this complexity by using the method of simulation. It simulates a trial and error approach by assuming different policies on different runs. Since the RPM is a model rather than the real world, a large number of policy alternatives can be tried. This means that once the inefficiency caused by externalities has been recognized, the user can experiment with a number of proposed policy alternatives in order to find the one that yields the most satisfactory railroad performance.

E.4 SUMMARY

To summarize, this appendix has discussed system effects, the externalities caused by these system effects, the policies that can deal with these externalities, and the role that a model like the RPM could play in arriving at a policy choice. We have seen how a decision taken by one railroad can affect other railroads via the system effects that are transmitted through interline car flows. The presence of system effects means that inefficiency can arise because a railroad making a decision either will not or can not take into account the effects of that decision on other roads. There are five potential types of policies that can deal with this inefficiency. Isolating an appropriate policy is a diffcult task; the RPM can help in this task since it is a many-railroad model that explicitly models the flow of cars between roads. Therefore, the justification for the RPM can be stated in a single sentence: The RPM is potentially useful because interlining leads to inefficiency, because policies can reduce that inefficiency, because the appropriate policies are hard to identify, and because the RPM can help to find them.

F. COMPARISON OF THE RPM WITH OTHER MODELS

F.1 INTRODUCTION

There exist a large number of models that deals with some aspect of the railroad system. The purpose of this appendix is not to describe this host of models in detail but rather to compare and contrast them to the RPM at a general level. The comparison is mainly in terms of the range of questions that the various models are able to answer. The reader wanting a more systematic exposition of a number of these models is referred to Baker [1976].

This section is organized around two distinctions. The first distinction is between models that include only one railroad and models that include more than one. This distinction is important since the system effects that are discussed in Sections 1.8 and E.2 cannot be handled by a model that contains only one railroad.

The second distinction is between positive and normative models. A positive model is a model that tries to predict what will happen under specified conditions. For example, a positive model of a railroad might predict the effects of alternative decisions on that railroad's profit, on the amount of demand that is serviced, or on the number of car-days used to service a fixed level of demand. A normative model determines the "optimal" decision, i.e. the decision that best fulfills some specified criterion. That is, a normative model not only predicts the effects that different decisions would have but also picks out the decision that would yield the most desired

effects. For example, a normative model of an individual railroad might be used to find the decision that maximizes profit,
or maximizes the amount of demand that is serviced, or minimizes
the number of car-days used to service a fixed level of demand.
In principle, a normative model does more than a positive model
since it both predicts the effects of each decision (which a
positive model does) and also evaluates those effects and calculates the decision that is deemed "best" (which a positive
model does not do). In practice, however, normative models are
often subject to two difficulties. First, it might be difficult to state what criterion should be used to decide which
decision is best. Second, the model might be too complicated
to solve for the best decision; the discussion in Appendix C
on the frequent inability to solve analytic models applies to
normative models, which are usually analytic models.

Since railroads are classified according to whether they contain one or more railroads and according to whether they are positive or normative, there are four classes of models. These four classes, in order to importance to this appendix, are:

- e positive models of more than one railroad
- positive models of a single railroad
- normative models of a single railroad
- normative models of more than one railroad.

These four classes will now be discussed.

F.2 POSITIVE MODELS OF MORE THAN ONE RAILROAD

F.2.1 Description of these Models

We first discuss positive models containing more than one railroad -- the class of models to which the RPM belongs.

This subsection describes the two other models in this class of which the author is aware. For brevity, these two models are called the Queen's model and the FRA network model.

The Queen's model, as described in Petersen and Fullerton [1975], consists of three types of submodels. The first type of submodel is a positive model of a single link. Inputs to this component include the number of tracks on this link, the features of the link such as the signalling and control system, the traffic on this link, and the time a car takes to traverse this link if there is no congestion. The output is the actual transit time over this link, which equals the uncongested transit time plus any delays that result from trains meeting or overtaking each other on this link. The second type of submodel is a model of a single yard. Inputs include the physical characteristics of the yard, the rules used in "andling cars, and the traffic through the yard. The main output is the average throughput time for cars.

The first two types of submodels predict the time a car takes to traverse a link or pass through a yard, given the amount of traffic and other inputs. The third submodel integrates the first two into a model of a railway system. In this system model a set of yards and links is assumed, and the inputs for the yard and link models are specified. Further, an-

as a whole. The system model calculates the routings that minimize the number of car-days needed to carry the specified amount of traffic. It is assumed that there are enough empty cars available to carry all the traffic.

The FRA network model consists of a network, a file containing information about the links in the network, and a battery of computer programs. The network contains about 25,000 links and 15,000 nodes, though not all of them would be used in any one application of the model. The information file about each link gives information such as the length of the link and the number of tracks. There are a number of different computer programs (or models); discussion here will be confined to the main program, which is the traffic assignment program [IBM, 1975].

Input to the traffic assignment program includes a subset of the network, information about the links, a level of traffic and a definition of "impedance." Traffic is then routed so that impedance is minimized. Impedance can be defined to be distance, time, cost, or whatever seems appropriate and feasible. The model is static; the traffic assignment is typically for a year's traffic at a time.

F.2.2 Comparison of these Models with the RPM

In comparing the Queen's model and the FRA network model to the RPM, two considerations are of prime importance:

- What questions can each model answer?
- How accurately can it answer those questions?
 Four issues will be discussed that bear on these considerations.

First, the Queen's model and the FRA model both assume that freight is always carried; the availability of empty cars is never a binding constraint. In fact, it seems fair to say that these two models do not recognize the concept of an empty car. Moreover, these models do not distinguish between home and foreign cars. This means that in principle these models cannot answer questions about allocation of empties, freight car shortages, and policies such as per diem rates and car service rules. By "in principle" we mean that there is apparently no alternation of these models short of completely changing them that would allow them to address questions about these topics.

The inability of these two models to deal with these topics is significant since many policy questions involve these topics. For example, for many years freight car shortages have been a persistent and nagging problem. Policies are often discussed that are designed to deal with them, as illustrated by the quotation from the Interstate Commerce Commission in Section 5.4. Moreover, numerous Congressional hearing have been held on this problem [e.g. U.S. Senate, 1971]. In addition to this revealed concern over these topics, Appendix E provides the

theoretical reason why these are important topics for a many-railroad model to cover. In short, one critical advantage of the RPM is its ability to explicitly handle empty cars, empty car flows among railroads, and policies that affect car movements.

Second, the RPM gives a balanced emphasis to the numerous decisions made by railroads and shippers, whereas the other two models are unbalanced in the sense that they place most of their emphasis on the routing decision. Both of these models go through a complicated optimization to determine what routes loaded cars will take, but other decisions are either omitted entirely (such as decisions concerning empty cars) or treated sketchily (such as, in the Queen's model, the decision on how to schedule trains). In the author's opinion, this gives the routing decision more importance than it deserves.

Third, the RPM can incorporate daily fluctuations in demand, whereas the other two models cannot. The Queen's model is a "steady state" model that assumes that demand does not vary from day to day. The FRA model is even coarser since it assigns a year's traffic all at once and does not recognize "days", much less daily or even seasonal variation in demand. This point is of importance since it seems likely that some of the difficulties of freight car management stem from the irregularity and unpredictability of demand.

Fourth, there are some ways in which these two models are superior to the RPM. In particular, the Queen's model expresses the time it takes a car to pass over a link or through a yard

as a function of various relevant factors. In contrast, the current version of the RPM assumes a probability distribution for the transit time over a link that is not a function of anything; and the current version completely ignores delays in yards. (Note: A working version of the RPM that is more highly developed than the "current" version described in this report does include yard delays.) The point to make here is that this disadvantage of the RPM is not inherent; this disadvantage could be removed if the RPM were modified to include the Queen's link and yard models. Integrating these components of the Queen's model into the RPM probably would not be too difficult since they express delay as an analytic function of the relevant inputs.

In summary, as Section E.2 emphasizes, the only reason why we want a model containing more than one railroad is so the system effects can be modeled. Recall that system effects are caused by the flow of loaded and empty cars among roads. Only the RPM models empty car flows. All three models model the loaded car flows; but since the loaded car flows that occur depend on stocks of empty cars, it is a reasonable conjecture that the RPM could better predict loaded car flows. Thus, since the RPM could apparently better model the flows of loaded and empty cars among railroads, it could apparently better model the system effects -- which is the raison d'etre of a many-railroad model. Moreover, only the RPM could answer questions about policies such as per diem rates and car service rules that are designed to deal with system effects. Therefore, to return to the two considerations listed at the beginning

of this subsection, the conclusion is that the RPM could answer a much wider range of relevant policy questions and that, for those questions that all the models can answer, an improved version of the RPM could apparently answer them most accurately. This conclusion, however, is nothing more than a conjecture as long as the RPM has not been elaborated and validated.

F. 3 POSITIVE MODELS OF A SINGLE RAILROAD

F.3.1 Description of these Models

A number of positive models of individual railroads have been constructed that are designed to provide information useful to decision-makers. Nine of these models are discussed in Baker [1976, Section 3]. A typical model in this class and perhaps the best known is the AAR network simulation model [Midwest Research Institute, 1971].

These models typically have very detailed inputs such as the exact schedules of trains and the resources available in each yard. The model logic usually tries to reproduce actual behavior in great detail. In short, these models try to predict the effect of a change in a single railroad's policies on that railroad, and these predictions are usually based on a very detailed characterization of that railroad's operations.

F.3.2 Comparison of these Models with the RPM

The only inherent difference between the RPM and these models is that the RPM can handle system effects and these one-railroad models cannot. (Recall that system effects consist of the effects that one railroad has on other roads). This means that if a policy with significant system effects is being investigated, then the RPM rather than the one-railroad models would be the appropriate investigative tool. It is interesting to note that if there were a positive model for each road and if these were all simulation models written at the same level of detail, then they could be hooked together to form a version of the RPM. "Hooking them together" would consist of specifying how loaded and empty cars would flow between the roads.

While the only necessary difference between the RPM and these one-railroad models is in the treatment of system effects, in practice there are two other differences. First, a model that deals with only one road can go into much more detail than the RPM. This is appropriate since the one-railroad models are designed to guide the micro decisions of railroads while the RPM is not. Second, the range of phenomena allowed varies from model to model. For example, the AAR model does not recognize the existence of empty cars; it is assumed that there are enough cars to carry demand, whatever demand is. Thus, phenomena such as matching demand with empties and

allocation of empties that are treated in detail in the RPM do not even appear in the AAR model (and in many of the other models). Moreover, per diem rates and car service rules usually do not enter into these models.

In short, the RPM and the positive, one-railroad models should for the most part be viewed not as incompatible, competing models but rather as models that are designed to answer different types of questions. The one-railroad models are more fitted to investigating very detailed problems and in providing guidance to single railroads, but these models are not suited to investigating changes in government policies or any type of a change that has system effects. Thus, the RPM sacrifices detail in order to gain scope; presumably, for the applications to which the RPM is put, the gain in scope outweighs the loss in detail.

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F. 4 NORMATIVE MODELS OF A SINGLE RAILROAD

F.4.1 Description of these Models

There are a number of models of a single railroad that are designed to calculate the decision that in some sense is optimal for a single railroad. The decision that most of these models deal with is the treatment of empty cars, though some of them deal with scheduling or routing trains. A number of models of this type are described in Baker [1976, Section 5]. A model used by the Southern Railroad can be used to illustrate this type of model. The road is divided into 43 districts. Input into the model includes the supply and demand for empty cars in each district, information about the costs of moving an empty car, and information on the benefits of loading a unit of demand. The model is a linear programming model that determines what flows of empty cars should occur in order to maximize the difference between benefits and costs.

F.4.2 Comparison of these Models with the RPM

There are two different ways to compare a one-railroad, normative model to the RPM. First, a normative model calculates what, in some sense, a railroad should do. The decisions that a railroad should take might well differ from those that it actually takes, so it is not possible to hook together normative models of individual roads to form a version of the RPM since the RPM is a positive model that tries to reproduce actual behavior (and it would not be possible even if the RPM were a normative model).

Second, since the RPM is a positive model, it addresses different questions than a normative model. However, Appendix G shows how the RPM could be extended to a normative model. If this were done, the difference between the normative RPM and the one-railroad models would be that the RPM could take system effects into account. For example, the RPM would recognize that a decision by road A would affect road B and that this system effect would be reflected back to road A.A one-railroad model could not incorporate this system effect that road A's decision has on road A. Moreover, a normative version of the RPM could address questions about decisions made at a higher level than the individual railroad, e.g. decisions on per diem rates and car service rules.

F.5 NORMATIVE MODELS OF MORE THAN ONE RATLROAD

The author is not aware of any serious attempt to develop a normative model of more than one railroad. There are both theoretical and computational obstacles to the development of such a model. The theoretical obstacle is that any normative model must have an objective function that is to be optimized and there is no obvious candidate for this objective function. The practical obstacle is that if the model were anywhere near as complicated as the RPM, it would be exceedingly difficult to solve for the optimal decision. In short, these theoretical and practical obstacles seem to be the reasons why no normative model of more than one railroad exists, and they are also sufficient reasons why no one should agitate for such a model. If, despite these remarks, the reader would like to see an outline of what such a model might look like, he can turn to Appendix G.

G. THE RPM IN A DECISION-THEORETIC CONTEXT

The RPM, as described in this report, is a <u>privive model</u>; that is, the RPM is designed to predict the effects of various actions. A <u>normative model</u> not only predicts the effects of actions but also singles out the best (or optimal or most preferred) action. This appendix shows how the RPM could be the basis of a normative model. This appendix also expands the discussion in Section 1.7 on the relationship between the RPM and the decision problem faced by a decision-maker. The discussion draws on Oiesen [1976a, Appendix One]. To avoid needless complication, this appendix assumes that there are no random factors.

Let I be the set of values that the RPM's inputs could take on and let 0 be the set of values that the outputs could take on. If there are n inputs and m outputs, then each element of I is an n-vector and each element of 0 is an m-vector.

(Note that I and 0 are not the sets of inputs and output variables; rather, I and 0 are the sets of values that the input and output variables could take on.) If a value I'sI is picked for the inputs and the RPM is then run, the RPM calculates a value 0' for the outputs. In this way, the RPM associates a unique output value with each input value. Therefore, the RPM implicitly defines a function f with I as its domain and 0 as its range. Symbolically, this is written f: I \(\infty\) 0. In effect, developing the RPM amounts to specifying the input variables, the output variables, and the function f.

Suppose that a reliable version of the RPM is ready for

use; we will sketch out how the RPM could be used to construct a normative model. Suppose there is a set of policies that we would like to use the RPM to investigate. Suppose I* is a set of input values that corresponds to the set of policies. That is, I* is a subset of I, and each element of I* is the input value that represents one of the policies under consideration. Let the set O^* be the set of feasible output values; that is, each element of O^* could be attained by choosing one of the policies in I*. Symbolically, $O^* = \{O_1 \in O: f(I_1) = O_1 \text{ for some } I_1 \in I^*\}$. That is, O^* is the image of I* under f.

We must next assume that the decision-maker whose job it is to choose a policy from I* has preferences over O^* . That is, we assume that for any two elements in O^* , he can say that he prefers one, prefers the other, or is indifferent. Let the function $\emptyset: O^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ represent these preferences, where \mathbb{R} represents the real line. That is, if the decision-maker prefers O_1 to O_2 , then $\emptyset(O_1) \supset \emptyset(O_2)$.

We can now write the decision problem faced by this decision-maker as

max Ø [f(I)].

The components of this decision problem are I*,O*, f, and Ø. The relationship between the components is shown in Figure 6. For each element in I*, the function f determined by the RPM picks out the value of O* that results, and the

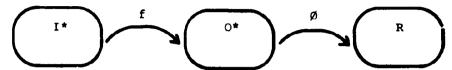


FIGURE 6. ELEMENTS OF THE DECISION PROBLEM function \emptyset then associates a real number or "utility" with this value of 0^* . This utility is, in effect, associated with the value in I* by the composite function $\emptyset(f)$. In this way, a utility is associated with each of the policies in I*. The policy in I* with the highest utility is the most preferred decision; that is, this policy is the one that should be adopted. In this way the RPM can be extended into a normative model that determines the optimal decision.

Recall that Section 1.7 stated that a government decision-making process ideally has the following four steps. First, decide what the set of possible policies is. In the formal decision problem just stated, this first step amounts to determining the set I*. Second, decide what the variables of interest are. In the decision problem, this second step corresponds to stating what the output variables are. Third, determine how the variables of interest respond to the different policies. The function f performs this step. Fourth, of the feasible values (i.e. 0*) for the variables of interest (i.e. the output variables), find the most preferred value. The function \$\textit{\gentleft}\$ states the preferences that allow this fourth step to be carried out. Therefore, the formal decision problem stated here shows how the four steps in the ideal decision-making process were

arrived at. In brief, I*, the output variables, f, and \emptyset completely define the decision pr 'lem, so the four steps amount to determining these four thinc..

The reader is perhaps wondering: How operational is all this? Note that any version of the RPM give the input variables, the output variables, and the function f. When a range of policies is picked for investigation, this gives—or comes close to giving—I*. Thus, the RPM yields three of the four components of the decision problem. The only missing component is Ø, which states the decision—maker's preferences. In the author's opinion, there is no way to systematically and objectively say very much about preferences. [See Oiesen, 1976a, pp. 16-19.] Preferences deal with ethical rather than technical matters. The most that can be expected from a model is technical information; it is up to the decision—maker to take the last, ethical step that is needed. It is the decision—maker's job to peruse the outputs that result from different values of the inputs and to decide which inputs, i.e. which policies, are most desirable.

In closing, a view that conflicts with the one in the previous paragraph will be called to the reader's attention.

A new book by Keeney and Raiffa [1976] argues that it is possible for technical analysis to say something about preferences. To give a flavor of their argument, two paragraphs will be quoted that discuss the typical sequence of events that occur when a complicated model is developed.

Several person-years of effort will be utilized developing, modifying, and verifying an elaborate simulation model that outputs the possible levels of several indicators of interest resulting from any particular policy. Perhaps the output is synthesized in terms of a few graphs or tables and a summary report is written for the decision maker. This decision maker then struggles for perhaps a week with the implication; of the alternatives and then chooses an alternative. The score: person-years on the uncertainty side of the problem, a week on the preference side. We feel that the shifting of a little effort-perhaps only a few person-months--to the preference aspects could lead to significantly improved decision making in many situations. In this book, we suggest how you might constructively use more effort on the preference aspects of analysis.

An illustrative example can help set the stage. A decision-making unit must make a policy choice in a complicated environment. Imagine that the problem is so complicated that a computerbased simulation model is designed such that for each policy choice under review, a scenario can be generated that indicates how the future might unfold in time. Now suppose that the analyst effectively summarizes the relative desirability of any future scenario not by a single number but, let us say, by a dozen wellchosen numbers: some reflecting costs, others reflecting benefits. Since these output performance numbers may simultaneously deal with economic, environmental, social, and health concerns, these summarizing indices will, in general, be incommensurable units. To complicate matters, suppose that stochastic elements are involved in the simulation so that, for a single policy choice being investigated, repeated simulation runs result in different sets of summary performance measures. The joint probability distribution of these performance measures as made manifest through repeated realizations of the simulation will, in general indicate that these 12 measures are probabilistically dependent. Now assume you are a harassed decision maker sitting in front of an output display device deluged with a mountain of conflicting information. You are confused. What should you do? How can you sort out the issues and start thinking systematically about your choice problem: which policy should you adopt in the real setting? We believe this book addresses your problem and has something constructive to say about it that is not merely platitudinous. (pp. viii-ix, emphasis in original)

Since the author just discovered this book, no evaluation of its argument can be given now; all that can be done is to call it to the reader's attention.

H. A GENERAL MODEL OF RAILROAD PERFORMANCE

Sections 2 through 4 and Appendixes A and B specify every detail of the current version of the RPM, and this obscuring mass of detail makes it difficult to discern the essential features of the model. Therefore, this appendix states a generalized version of the RPM that clears away the tangle of detail and exposes the essential features of the current model. Moreover, it is expected that these features would carry over to any improved version of the model that might be developed.

To make the essential features stand out distinctly, this appendix assumes that there are no random factors. Parenthetical remarks indicate how things would be altered if random factors were allowed. Except for the randomness, the current version of the RPM is a special case of the general model of this appendix; any improved version of the RPM probably would also be a special case of this general model.

The general model will be explained by discussing its inputs, outputs, and logic. The inputs to the general model consist of three components. The first component is the structural assumption such as the number of railroads, the number of yards each railroad has, the number of car types, and the number of commodity types. The second component is the decision rules followed by railroads, shippers, government, and any other decision-makers appearing in the model. Railroads have decision rules for things like how to match cars with demand, how to route cars, how to treat home and foreign empties, and how many cars to buy. Shippers have decision rules for things

like how many cars to demand, how to treat unserviced demand, and how long to hold on to cars during loading and unloading. Let $d(\cdot)$ stand for all these decision rules. That is, $d(\cdot)$ is a vector containing the decision rules that govern the decisions that are made. The symbol " $d(\cdot)$ " is used since the decision rules are functions; that is, the decisions that are made at a particular time are a function of the state of the railroad system at that time. The third component of inputs is everything else that independently affects railroad performance. This third component might include the weather, the initial state of the railroad system, and other miscellaneous things. Let I represent the first and third components of inputs. Thus, $(I, d(\cdot))$ constitutes the complete set of input variables.

There is very little to say in general about the output variables except that these variables measure the performance of the railroad system from the point of view of the railroads, shippers, general public, government, and any other interested parties. Let 0 stand for the set of output variables.

The logic of a model is, in general, a function that maps from the input variables to the output variables. That is, given a value for the input variables, the model logic is a function that determines the value that the output variables will take on. In order to state the model logic, three concepts must be explained. The first concept is the state of the railroad system. The state of the railroad system is defined to be a description at a point in time of all relevant

aspects of the railroad system. ("Relevant aspects" means those things that have a bearing either on decisions or on output.) We can think of the state of the railroad as being of two parts. One part is assumed to be the same from day to day; this part consists of yards, links of track, etc. The other part consists of things that can change from day to day. The things that can change from day to day include things like:

- the number of empty cars, broken down by location, owner, type, and, if moving, arrival date at next location
- the number of loaded cars broken down by location, owner, type of car, type of commodity carried, destination, and arrival date at next location

the number of units of new and waiting demand broken

down by type of commodity, origin, and destination. There could be other things that could change from day to day, depending on the specific assumptions made. For example, if labor is explicitly modeled and if the number of employees can vary from day to day, then the number of employees would be included in the state of the railroad system. Let the symbol s_t represent the state of the railroad system at day t; thus, s_t is a complicated variable that describes all relevant features of the railroad system on day t. No attempt will be made here to say what s_t might look like; it might be a set of matrices or something more complicated. Note that s_t includes information about the future such as: A particular car

will be arriving empty at a particular yard on day t+1.

The second needed concept is the <u>transition function</u>. If we let \emptyset be the transition function, then we write

$$s_{++1} = \emptyset [s_{+}, d (s_{+}), I].$$

This is the "transition equation" or the "equation of motion" of the railroad system. It is assumed that the specific decisions taken by railroads and shippers on day t depend on the state of the railroad system, so we write $d(s_t)$. This means that if the state of the railroad system is exactly the same on two different days, then the same decisions are taken on those two days. (More generality could be included by allowing $d(\cdot)$ to vary over time to reflect learning or something, but this complication is here suppressed.) This means that decisions do not depend on anything in addition to s_t . It does not mean that a particular decision must be sensitive to every part of s_t ; in fact, most decisions will not depend on all of s_t .

The transition equation says that if we start with a state \mathbf{s}_{t} , then the decisions taken by railroads and shippers on day t will be $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{s}_{t})$; the state \mathbf{s}_{t} , the decisions $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{s}_{t})$, and the inputs I then jointly determine \mathbf{s}_{t+1} , the state on the next day. (If there were random elements, then the transition function would determine a probability distribution for \mathbf{s}_{t+1} rather than a single value.) Since the function $\mathbf{d}(\cdot)$ and the values of the inputs I are fixed throughout the year, this means that, in effect, each day's state determines the next day's state. In this way, the railroad system bootstraps its

through time, moving from one day to the next, with the precise path it takes governed by the decisions taken each day.

The third needed concept is the <u>output function</u>. Let $s:(s_0,s_1,\ldots,s_T)$ be the vector of states that occur during the simulation period. The output function $f(\cdot)$ is then a function that associates a value of the output variables with a value of s, i.e.

$$0 = f(s)$$
.

(This is a slight abuse of notation since 0 is being used both for the set of output variables and also for the values taken on by these variables; this should cause no confusion.) The interpretation of this equation is as follows. The vector s is a complete description of what happened during the simulation. The output function merely extracts the desired information from s. For example, if profit is one of the output variables, the output function calculates the profit that results from any particular vector s. (If there were random elements, the output function would determine the probability distribution for the outputs, or perhaps characteristics of this distribution, rather than a particular value.)

The output function can now be rewritten to yield the model logic. The transition equation implies that s_i , $i=0,\ldots,T$, is a function of s_0 , $d(\cdot)$, and I. Therefore, the last equation implies that there exists a function $f^*(\cdot)$ that associates a value of the output variables with each value of the triple $(s_0,d(\cdot),I)$, i.e.

$$f^*(s_0,\dot{a}(\cdot),I)=0.$$

Recall that s_0 , $d(\cdot)$, and I are inputs. Thus this last equation expresses the outputs as a function of the inputs. The function $f^*(\cdot)$, therefore, is the model logic. (If there were random elements, then $f^*(\cdot)$ would determine not specific values for 0 but a probability distribution or characteristics of that probability distribution.)

This completes the discussion of the inputs, outputs, and logic of the general model. Three brief remarks are in order. First, at a very general level, this model has a great deal in common with a model described by Winter [1964, pp.245-7]. The mathematical statement is closely related to the axiomatic definition of a dynamical system in Kalman, Falb, and Arbib [1969, pp.5-6]. Second, this general model can, in principle, be "solved" either analytically or by simulation. The statement of the model allows either approach; Appendix C discusses this topic further. Third, except for the randomness, the current version of the RPM is a special case of this general model.

In summary, a railroad performance model is completely specified when we have chosen its input variables I and $d(\cdot)$, its output variables O, and its logic $f^*(\cdot)$. Since the function $f^*(\cdot)$ is very complicated, we are not able to specify it directly. Therefore, we must specify the transition function $\beta(\cdot)$, the output function $f(\cdot)$, and how the state of the railroad system s_t is measured; these three entites allow the function $f^*(\cdot)$ to be calculated, one point at a time. Thus, when the RPM is run, what is happening is that one point of the func-

tion f*(·) is being calculated. That is, specific values are picked for the inputs; the RPM works through time one day at a time, calculating what decisions are made and how these decisions, acting through the transition function, change the state of the railroad system. After all the daily states have been calculated, the output function is called to compute the values that the output variables take on; thus, specific values of the output variables are associated with specific values of the input variables, and one point of the function f*(·) has been calculated. This paragraph, then summarizes the essential features of a railroad performance model. The research task is to specify these features so that a useful model results.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPUTER PROGRAM

I.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this appendix is to describe how the computer program is organized and to put the reader in a position to understand the program. Section I.1 contains a list of the symbols used in the program. Section I.2 then describes what each part of the program does. To understand this appendix, the reader should be familiar with GPSS V, the language in which the program is written

It should be emphasized that the only thing the computer program does is to perform the calculations that

Sections 2 through 4 and Appendixes A and B say should be performed. That is, these sections and appendixes completely specify the substance of the RPM; the only remaining task is the elementary—though tiresome—one of performing the required calculations. This computer program carries out the required calculations.

I.2 DICTIONARY OF SYMBOLS

This section lists in alphabetical order the symbols used in the program. If the symbol stands for an input or output, this is noted so that the reader can turn to Appendix A or B for a more detailed description of this symbol's meaning.

FN1,...,FN10 (input): Expresses as a function of the per diem rate the maximum number of empty cars that each road wishes to hold.

<u>FN11</u> (input): Depending on the random number drawn, takes on one of the values 13,14, or 15 to indicate that demand is low, average, or high, respectively, on a particular day in the slack season.

FN12 (input): Depending on the random number drawn, takes on one of the values of 13,14, or 15 to indicate that demand is low, average, or high, respectively, on a particular day in the peak season.

<u>FN\$LULT</u> (input): Determines the number of days it takes to load or unload a car as a function of a random number.

MB1,...,MB10 (input): The car choice matrices.

MBll(input): The transit time matrix.

MB12 (input): The number of feasible owners matrix.

MB13 (input): The low daily demand matrix.

MB14 (input): The average daily demand matrix.

MB15 (input): The high daily demand matrix.

MB16 (input): The next road matrix.

MB17 (input): The time on sending road's lines matrix.

MB18 (input): The disposition of foreign empties matrix.

MB19 (input): The demand priority matrix.

MHl (input): The cars matrix.

MH2 (input): The distance matrix.

MH\$DESTW (output): The delayed destruction matrix.

MH\$DESTQ (output): The immediate destruction matrix.

MX\$ADATA (output): The ADATA matrix, summary output

in raw form.

MX\$DATA (output): The DATA matrix, summary output in

normalized form

MX\$DEM (output): The days empty and moving matrix.

MX\$DES (output): The days empty and standing matrix.

MX\$DLM (output): The days loaded and moving matrix.

MX\$DLUL (output): The days spent loading and unloading

matrix, i.e. the days loaded and

standing matrix.

MX\$DMAND (output): The demand matrix.

MX\$EMILE (output): The empty miles matrix.

MX\$LMILE (output): The loaded miles matrix.

MX\$LOADS (output): The loads carried matrix.

MX\$SENT (output): The empty cars sent away matrix.

MX1 (output): Same as MX\$DLM.

MX2 (output): Same as MX\$DLUL.

MX3 (output): Same as MX\$DEM.

MX4 (output): Same as MX\$DES.

MX5 (output): Same as MX\$LMILE.

MX6 (output): Same as MX\$EMILE.

MX7 (output): Same as MX\$ADATA.

MX8 (output): Same as MX\$DMAND.

MX9 (output): Same as MX\$SENT.

MX10 (output): Same as MX\$LOADS.

MX11 (output): Same as MX\$DATA.

Q1,...,010 (output): The number of units of demand at each road waiting for an empty car.

OSWAITN (output): The number of units of demand in the entire country waiting for an empty car.

 $\underline{V1,...,V32}$: Variables used, defined in comments in statements 371-435 in the program listing in Appendix J.

WAIT1,...,WAIT9, WAI10 (output): Tables that display the frequency distribution of the number of days that units of demand wait for empty cars at each road.

<u>WAITN</u> (output: Takle that displays the frequency distribution of the number of days that units of demand at all roads wait for empty cars.

XB1,...,XB10 (input): XBi is the maximum number of units of demand that shippers will allow to wait for empty cars at road i.

XBll: Takes on the value 11 in the slack demand season and 12 in the peak season.

XB12: Takes on one of the values 13, 14, or 15 to indicate that demand on a particular day is low, average, or high.

XB\$TTIME: Expected transit time for traversing the next link.

XB\$NROAD: The number of the road that will be reached when the next link is traversed.

XH17: Number of excess empties held by a road.

XH\$CPECM (input): Cost per empty car mile.

XH\$CPLCM (input): Cost per loaded car mile.

XH\$RPLCM (input): Revenue per loaded car mile.

<u>XH1,...,XH10</u>: The maximum number of empty cars that each road desires to hold.

XH11: Used for temporary storage of a number; has many different transient uses throughout the program.

1.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

This section describes the Base Case program, which is listed in Appendix I. The differences between this program and the programs used for other runs is trivial. Running down the right hand side of the program listing in Appendix J are statement numbers; it is seen that the statements are numbered from 1 to 812. These statement numbers are used to refer to specific portions of the program; "s." and "ss." are used as abbreviations for "statement" and "statements," respectively. Since almost every executable statement in the program is described by a comment, it should not be too hard for the reader to figure out what each individual statement does. Therefore, this section tries to give a big picture view of how the statements fit together.

The program falls into three parts:

- the first group of control cards
- the statements that model railroad operations
- the second group of control cards.

These parts will now be discussed.

The first group of control cards (ss. 1-478). These statements provide information to the GPSS processor and provide the data; they are largely self-explanatory to one familiar with GPSS. Since a large number of transactions are used in the model, the REALLOCATE cards (ss.1-4) reallocate space in primary memory toward transactions and common and away from other GPSS entities. The EQU cards (ss.6-28) are used so that indirect addressing and mnemonic

names can both be used. For example, MX1 and MX\$DLM are both names for the same matrix. When indirect addressing is necessary, MX1 is the name used since indirect addressing cannot be used with MX\$DLM. When indirect addressing is not needed, the more easily understood symbol MX\$DLM is used. The matrix initialization statements (ss.69-356) provide the input data given in the matrices in Appendix A. The miscellaneous initialization statements (ss.436-43) provide the constants that are required input. The other statements in the first group of control cards require no comment.

The statements that model railroad operation (ss.479-804). The statements that represent the model logic fall into nine segments that will be discussed in turn. Since the unit of time used in the simulation is one day, each statement refers to what happens on a particular day.

The first model segment (ss.479-92) performs two house-keeping duties. First, recall that the maximum number of empties that a road desires to hold is a function FNi of the per diem rate. It would be wasteful to evaluate FNi every day since its value does not change over the year. Therefore, ss.483-5 evaluate this function once and store the number in permanent locations XH1,...,XH10. Second, this segment regulates the value of the savevalue XB11, giving it a value of 11 when it is the slack season for demand and a value of 12 when it is the peak season. The season is peak during the first thirty days of the simulation, which is the normalization period for which no statistics are kept (see the ninth model

segment). Slack and peak seasons then alternate, with each season being 91 days long.

The second model segment (ss.493-506) is the Demand Creation Module. Statement 496 draws a random number. FN11 or FN12, depending on the season, then uses this random number to choose one of MB13, MB14, or MB15 as the matrix of new demand created on this day. Statement 501 creates a transaction for each unit of new demand. Statements 498-500 are arranged so that the order in which these transactions are created corresponds to the order in which the originating road desires to service that demand. Each transaction has 5 byte parameters and 1 halfword parameter. The first byte parameter contains the number of the originating road; the second contains the number of the destination road. Only transient use of the third is made in this segment; none of the other parameters are used in this segment. S.496 is written so that the newly created demand has a priority level of 3. These transactions representing loads of demand waiting for a car are, after being counted by statement 505, passed to the next model segement.

The third model segment (ss.507-524,545-49) is the Demand Servicing Module. This segment receives a stream of transactions representing demand and attempts to load them into cars. Statement 509 stores the maximum number of days that the demand will wait for a car in the fifth byte parameter. SS.510-12, 548 then take the demand transactions one at a time and look for an empty car into which the demand can be loaded. This is done by checking MH1, which is the matrix that keeps

track of where the empty cars are, to see if the originating road has an empty owned by a road into whose car this demand can legally be loaded; these legal owners are checked in the order specified in the car choice matrices, MB1,...,MB10. If there is no suitable empty car, then statement 549 sends the demand transaction to the Unserviced Demand Module. If there is a suitable empty car, then loading this demand into this car is simulated by reducing the stock of empties recorded in the MHl matrix (ss.513-14), storing the number of the owning road in byte parameter 3 (s.511), and collecting some statistics (ss. 519-20). Loading of the car is simulated in ss.521-23. A random number and the loading and unloading time function FN\$LULT are used to determine in s.521 the number of days it takes to load the car. S.515 gives the loaded car a priority level of 7 so that when it is unloaded, the empty car will be available when demand is serviced. S.524 passes the newly loaded car to the Linehaul Module.

The Fourth Model Segment (ss.524-44) is the Unserviced Demand Module. S.528 raises the priority of this demand transaction to 5 so that when it is passed back to the Demand Servicing Module, it is serviced after the empty cars are available but before the newly created demand is serviced. Unserviced demand transactions originating at road i are placed in Qi, i = 1,...,10, and also in a "national queue" WAITN. Ss. 529-534 check to see if the demand has been in the queue for the maximum allotted number of days; if so, after some housekeeping, that demand is destroyed, i.e. the trans-

action is terminated. If not, the demand is put in the queues if it is not already in them (ss. 535-537); but the demand is destroyed if it would cause the length of Qi to exceed XBi, the maximum queue length that shippers will tolerate (ss. 538-42). If the demand transaction gets through the Unserviced Demand Module without being destroyed, it is held for one day (s. 543) and then passed back to the Demand Servicing Module (s. 544).

The fifth model segment (ss. 550-72) is the Linehaul Module. The Linehaul Module receives a stream of just-loaded demand transactions from the Demand Servicing Module. Ss. 553-5 simulate the linehaul of this transaction over one link. S. 553 uses the next link transit time matrix to determine the expected transit time. S. 555 then draws a random number to determine the actual transit time and holds the transaction for that many days of simulated time. Ss. 556-63 collect information on the number of miles and days that this loaded car has just spent on the lines of the sending and receiving roads. S. 564 determines whether this car has another link to travel. If so, then s. 571 places the current location of the car into byte parameter 1, and the car is sent back to s.553 so it can traverse the next link. If not, then the car has reached its destination. S. 565 draws a random number and uses FN\$LULT to determine how many days are required for unloading. After the car is unloaded, it is returned to the stock of empties (ss. 568-9), and the demand transaction is terminated.

The sixth model segment (ss. 573-616) is the Empty Car Allocation Module. S. 575 creates a housekeeping transaction with a priority level of 2; this ensures that the last thing that happens in a day is that unwanted empties are sent away. S.577 compares the number of empties that road i actually holds, which is MH(i,ll), to XHi, which is the maximum number of empties the road desires to hold. If road i holds undesired empties, ss.579-84 determine which empties will be sent away. Ss.585-95 create a transaction to represent each empty car, and these cars are removed from road i's stock of empties (ss.588-89,596-97). Ss.600-612 then give these transactions a priority of seven and simulate the linehaul of these empties to the next road and collect statistics on what happens. The newly arrived empties are added to the stock of empties at the road where they are now located (ss.613-14), and the transactions representing empty cars are terminated.

The seventh model segment (ss.617-27), after the day's activities are completed, gathers statistics on the number of days that cars owned by each road spend empty and standing on the lines of each road.

The eighth model segment (ss.628-791) is called into action after the simulation is completed to prepare the final output of the model. Since the calculations performed in this segment are both elementary and tedious and since comments scattered through the program indicate exactly what is being calculated, no further remarks are called for here.

The ninth model segment (ss.792-804) stops the model

after it has run 30 days and then discards the statistics that have been gathered. The cars matrix MH1 and the distribution of cars around the network, some of them midway in a journey, are not affected by this model segment. This means that after this segment performs its duties, the model is properly initialized and ready for its run of one year to begin. (Note: The comment in s.793 mistakenly labels this segment the "eighth" model segment rather than the ninth. This mistake causes no error in execution since it is in a comment.)

The second group of control cards (3s.805-812). These statements start the model running (s.808), discard the unwanted statistics gathered during the first 30 days that are not discarded by the ninth model segment (s.810) and restart the model for its run of a year (s.811).

J. PROGRAM LISTING FOR THE BASE CASE

This appendix contains the listing from the Base Case Run, including both the program and the complete output. The following material appears in this order:

- 1) sheet with accounting information (1 page)
- 2) the program (16 pages)
- 3) the block count sheet (2 pages):
- 4) output (16 pages).

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1		SAWE VALUE	11.V3.KH	STORE MIRRER OF DAYS ON REC'NG ROAD	209
197		#SAVF VALUF	「「「「これのものである」とは、	IMPRATE NEW MATRIX	809
3		SAVEVALUE	11.F12.PE1.PE1.EE	STORE BILLES ON SENDING MOAD	
199		PRAVEVAL UF	CPILE PAS. PAS. EM21. PX	IPPRATE FRIIF RATRIX	919
110		RAYE VALUE	11. EMS (989. PR13. KK	STORE BILL'S DE RECETA SES ROAD	
111		MEAVFVALUF	CALLE. PRI. PAP. SELLI. SE	IPPORT FRILL BATORE	613
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113		BSAVFVALUF	1++PAP-11+1+PH	APA TO STOCK OF FIRETIFS	13
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K. SUMMARY OUTPUT

This appendix contains the summary output for Runs 1 through 18, which are described in Section 5 and Appendix D. (The output for Run 19 is not included since it is identical to the output of Run 12 except for the profit figures given in Table 5-6.)

The summary output consists of the DATA and the ADATA matrices. Each of the matrices contains 17 columns of output; each column has 11 rows; the first 10 rows refer to the 10 railroads and the last row refers to the nation as a whole. In order to understand these matrices, one must refer to the explanation in Sections B.2 and B.3.

The summary output for each run appears on a single page. The title gives the run number and a brief description of how the run differs from the Base Case Run.

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Run 1: Official Base Case (with the Standard Random Number Stream)

Run 2: Base Case with the Non-Standard Random Number Stream Generated by RMULT 31,,743

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Base Case with the Non-Standard Random Number Stream Generated by RMULT 1235,,6789 2505 18305 16417 16413 16613 18768 13072 16135 7581 7581 * ********** : halbalanta Run PULLEGED BATRIX DATA FULLWOOD MATRIX

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Run 6: Base Case with the Non-Standard Random Number Stream Generated by RMULT 229,83,111

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Run 7: Base Case with the Non-Standard Random Number Stream Generated by RMULT 1,889,27

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Run 12: Per Diem Rate Per Lay Equals

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Run 13: Car Service Rules Changed so that a Unit of Demand Gan Only be Loaded into Cars Belonging to the Origin or Destina-

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Run 17: Demand is at the Slack Season Level for the Entire Year and the Per Diem Rate Per Day Equals \$10

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Run 18: Demand is at the Peak Season Level for the Entire Year and the Per Diem Rate Per Day Equals \$10

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