

COM-503

**Performance evaluation**

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Computer and Communication Sciences		Opt.
Computer science	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Cybersecurity	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Data Science	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Data science minor	E	Opt.
SC master EPFL	MA2, MA4	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	7
Session	Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	Written
Workload	210h
Weeks	14
<b>Hours</b>	<b>6 weekly</b>
Courses	3 weekly
Exercises	1 weekly
Project	2 weekly
<b>Number of positions</b>	

**Remark**

Pas donné en 2019-20. cours biennal donné les années paires

**Summary**

In this course you will learn the methods and techniques that are used to perform a good performance evaluation during a research or development project.

**Content**

**Methodology** A Performance Evaluation Methodology. The scientific method. Dijkstra and Occam's principle.

**Statistics and Modeling.**

Statistics and modeling, why and how. Comparing systems using sampled data. Regression models. Factorial analysis. Stochastic load and system models. Load forecasting. The Box-Jenkins method.

**Practicals.**

Using a statistics package (Matlab). Measurements. Discrete event simulation. Stationarity and Steady State. Analysis of simulation results. Perfect Simulations.

**Elements of a Theory of Performance.** Performance of systems with waiting times. Utilization versus waiting times.

Operational laws. Little's formula. Forced flows.law. Stochastic modeling revisited. The importance of the viewpoint. Palm calculus. Application to Simulation Performance patterns in complex systems. Bottlenecks. Congestion phenomenon. Performance paradoxes.

**Mini-Project** proposed by student.

**Learning Prerequisites****Required courses**

- A first course on probability
- A first course on programming

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Estimate confidence intervals
- Design a simulation method
- Critique performance metrics and factors
- Organize a performance evaluation study
- Quantify performance

- Conduct a performance analysis
- Synthesize performance results
- Systematize factors and metrics
- Present results of a performance analysis

### Transversal skills

- Use a work methodology appropriate to the task.
- Demonstrate the capacity for critical thinking

### Teaching methods

Lectures + pencil and paper exercises + labs + miniproject

### Expected student activities

Lectures

Paper and pencil exercises

Labs

Miniproject (last 4 weeks)

Tests every other week

### Assessment methods

T = Average of best (n-1) tests done every other week except during miniproject period

E = grade at final exam (during exam session)

L = average of labs

M = miniproject grade

Final grade =  $1/4 (T+E+L+M)$ , rounded to the nearest half integer.

All grades except the final grade are not rounded.

### Resources

#### Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI)

No

### Bibliography

- Performance Evaluation of Computer and Communication Systems, Le Boudec Jean-Yves, EPFL Press 2010
- also freely available online at [perfeval.epfl.ch](http://perfeval.epfl.ch)

### Ressources en bibliothèque

- [Performance evaluation of computer and communication systems / Le Boudec](#)

### Websites

- <http://perfeval.epfl.ch>

### Moodle Link

- <http://moodle.epfl.ch/course/view.php?id=14395>