Comparing System Configurations

4/13/2009
Opening Discussion

- Minute Essay comments
  - High School programming competition went really well.
  - Why isn't there a java.stats package?
  - Simulating computers.
More Than Two Systems

- You have to boost the confidence level for each interval when you have many.
  - For c comparisons use $1 - \alpha/c$.
- Use a standard
  - This leads to $k-1$ comparisons.
- All pairwise
  - If you want to do all pairs, then there are $k(k-1)/2$ comparisons. This will often lead to very wide intervals.
Last Approach

• Comparison with best
  – Do comparisons with the simulation that has the best mean.
  – This will tell you if there really is a statistical difference.
Ranking and Selection

- Take a few samples to start with and use that as an estimate of how many more samples you need to take.
- Only worry about differences of sufficient size.
- The book has a lot of math describing different approaches to raking.
- An alternative is to find a subset that includes the best.
3-D Visualizations

- We started to talk about this some last time, but didn't actually get to the point of rendering anything, in part because for some reason our MD code wasn't behaving nicely.
- Last time we stopped at 2-D visualizations.
Minute Essay

- Any questions?
- The second test is a little over a week from now.