

Points to Cover in Reporting an Experiment Conducted Using SimSeg Lite

Your report of your experiment should include sections that accomplish the following tasks and/or cover the following points.

State your hypothesis and the rationale for it.

State your hypothesis.

Note the scope and control conditions under which you are going to test it (i.e., conditions under which you think the hypothesis should be correct).

Provide a short discussion explaining your reasoning for your hypothesis.

Formally specify the scope, control, and treatment conditions

Fill out Tables 1 and 3 (provided below).

Identify the scope and control conditions for your experiment (settings for these variables should be the same in both Tables 1 and 3).

Identify the experimental “treatment” for your experiment (settings for variables related to this should be different in Tables 1 and 3).

Perform the experiments and record the results.

Record the results of the “baseline” experiments in Table 2 (provided below).

Record the results of the “treatment” experiments in Table 4 (provided below).

Review the Data and Evaluate the Hypothesis

Did the results obtained in simulation experiments conducted using the “treatment” scenario differ from the results obtained in simulation experiments conducted using the “baseline” scenario?

If so, in what way?

In your opinion, do the results provide evidence that supports the research hypothesis? Or do the results fail to provide evidence to support the research hypothesis?

Consider the Implications of the Results

Discuss whether, based on these results, your thinking about residential segregation changed?

Discuss whether you think the results you obtained are relevant for helping understand “real world” segregation patterns? Why?

A. Design and Document the “Baseline” Scenario

Select program settings to design the “baseline” simulation scenario and document these settings by recording them in Table 1.

Table 1. Settings for the “Baseline” Simulation Scenario*		
Ethnic Inequality:	Area Stratification:	Discrimination:
Means-Testing:	Adjacent Ethnic Mix:	Status Preferences:
Ethnic Preferences (Specified Targets for In-Group and Out-Group Contact)		
Whites	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:
Blacks	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:
Hispanics	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:

* All simulation scenarios are based on a city-wide ethnic composition of 60% White, 20% Black, and 20% Hispanic. See program documentation for discussion of other “fixed” parameters of the simulation model.

B. Run 9 Trials Using the Baseline Scenario and Record the Results

Perform the following steps to “run” a simulation experiment or “trial”.

1. Click on “Reset” to initialize the city landscape.
2. Click on “Begin” to start the simulation experiment. If necessary, click on “Continue” to continue the experiment until 30 “cycles” are completed.
3. Record the values for the segregation outcomes in Table 2.

Repeat the above steps for 9 separate experiments. Use the same scenario each time.

Table 2. Summary of Segregation Outcomes for 9 “Baseline” Experiments											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		Md*
Dissimilarity:											
White-Black											
White-Hispanic											
Black-Hispanic											
Isolation											
White											
Black											
Hispanic											
Centralization											
White											
Black											
Hispanic											

* Md = Median or “middle” score for the set of 9 scores.

C. Design and Document the “Treatment” or “Experimental” Scenario

Modify the “baseline” settings to implement the “treatment” scenario and document these settings by recording them in Table 3.

Table 3. Settings for the “Treatment” Simulation Scenario*		
Ethnic Inequality:	Area Stratification:	Discrimination:
Means-Testing:	Adjacent Ethnic Mix:	Status Preferences:
Ethnic Preferences (Specified Targets for In-Group and Out-Group Contact)		
Whites	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:
Blacks	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:
Hispanics	In-Group Contact:	Out-Group Contact:

* All simulation scenarios are based on a city-wide ethnic composition of 60% White, 20% Black, and 20% Hispanic. See program documentation for discussion of other “fixed” parameters of the simulation model.

D. Run 9 Trials Using the “Treatment” Scenario and Record the Results

Perform the following steps to “run” a simulation trial (i.e., single experiment).

1. Click on “Reset” to initialize the city landscape.
2. Click on “Begin” to start the simulation experiment. If necessary, click on “Continue” to continue the experiment until 30 “cycles” are completed.
3. Record the values for the segregation outcomes in Table 4.

Repeat the above steps for 9 separate experiments. Use the same scenario each time.

Table 4. Summary of Segregation Outcomes for 9 “Treatment” Experiments											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		Md*
Dissimilarity:											
White-Black											
White-Hispanic											
Black-Hispanic											
Isolation											
White											
Black											
Hispanic											
Centralization											
White											
Black											
Hispanic											

* Md = Median or “middle” score for the set of 9 scores.