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Modeling patients flows through a hospital using ARIMA theory and Markov theory

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Management summary

In this paper we develop a holistic model which enables Ziekenhuis Groep Twente, ZGT, to predict patient volumes and occupancy rates of (sub)specialisms at outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards at least one month ahead. Moreover, ZGT is interested in how patients transfer from one (sub)specialisms to another in the outpatients clinics and the nursing wards. The estimation of patient volumes and occupancy rates is useful for allocating nursing beds and staff. Currently, ZGT uses common sense and experience of employees to predict the number of beds, operating time and staff.

The model we propose, consists of three components: the arrival of patients at the three departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, the transfers between (sub)specialisms in the departments and the average service time. The first component is modeled by autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) models. The second component is modeled by using Markov theory. The average service times are computed by statistical analysis.

For the arrivals at outpatient clinics (first and repeated visit), operating theaters and nursing wards (one day-admission and more than one day admission), we propose ARIMA-models, which can predict weekly patient arrivals. We compute monthly transition probabilities for transfers between subspecialisms of surgery and the remaining part of the hospital for in- and outpatients. Also we compute weekly transition probabilities for transfers between 11 specialisms for inpatients. We demonstrate that for estimating patient volumes, the subdivision in 11 specialisms is more useful than the subdivision in several small subspecialisms of surgery and one large part, which represents the remaining part of the hospital. Also we argue that weekly transfers yield a better computation of transition probabilities than monthly transfers. This is due to the fact that the average nursing time of a single patient is much closer to one week than one month. We see this confirmed, as we compute the average service times. For 299 of 980 treatments, the nursing time is three days or more, for 181 treatments 5 days or more, for 60 treatments 10 days or more and for 0 treatments of 30 days or more.

The input model for the arrivals and the transition probability matrix can be used for computing patient volumes at a combination of department and (sub)specialism. If we use the average service times, we can also compute the occupancy rates. In Chapter 8

we pay special attention to the applicability and the possibility of the implementation of the model with respect to ZGT. Also we briefly explain the ins and outs of the model in this chapter.

The transition probabilities matrix demonstrates that more than 70% of the inpatients arriving at a specific specialism are also discharged within this specialism within one week. Thus less than 30% of the patients transfer from one specialism to another in the nursing ward, or stay in the hospital for a period longer than one week.

We back-test our model for 20 weeks in 2011 by estimating the expected weekly patient volumes at the nursing wards for 11 specialisms and comparing them with the actual values. Approximately 40% of the weekly patient volume estimates, differ less than 10 patients in comparison with the actual data. About 25% of the estimations are in the range of a difference between 10 and 20 patients in comparison with the actual data. As said, ZGT uses common sense to allocate staff and nursing beds. Since these estimations are not entirely comparable, we also construct a simple measure and compare our model to this measure. This measure uses the 4 year average arrivals. In 53% of the cases, our model estimates the arrivals better than the 4 year average model. Moreover, our model predicts 14% more cases than the 4 year average model, in which the difference between the estimate and the actual data is only 10 patients or less. The 4 year average model estimates 8% more cases than our model, in which the difference is more than 25 patients compared to the actual data.

To illustrate what these findings imply with respect to potential savings, we make a cost comparison of the two models. We calculate costs of wrongly planned nursing beds and staff per group of ten patients per week in case of an over- and underestimation by our model. We compare these costs to the cost estimates of the 4 year average model. For this purpose we use arbitrarily cost estimates of €1,200.– per patient per nursing day. In a scenario in which five of the ten planned beds are really used, the comparison shows a potential costs saving of 2.3 million euro for a period of 20 weeks in favor of our model. In the case of a worst case estimation, this is even higher: a cost reduction of approximately 4.6 million euro in 20 weeks. In these calculations, we assume that the capacity is available for five days a week and that no transfers between specialisms are allowed. We are well aware that we use several assumptions which should be validated with the real world and this may bring down the calculated cost savings estimates.

Overall, we construct a model which adequately models the patient flows within ZGT and estimates patient volumes and occupancy rates at the combination of department and (sub)specialisms and which has the potential to lower future costs.

Preface

The master thesis is the final project before the conclusion of the Master Program of Industrial Engineering and Management, track Financial Engineering and Management at the university of Twente. This graduation project is done in cooperation with the Ziekenhuis Groep Twente, ZGT in Hengelo and Almelo. From February 2012 until now I have been an intern at ZGT at the department Finance and Information.

From the start, the graduation project was very challenging. The assignment was not entirely defined, which led to much freedom to develop the borders of the research. I really appreciate the extent to which this freedom attains: there was a lot of space to develop my own view and models in the research. As time went by, the assignment became clear and I think we developed an adequate model and obtained some promising results in modeling patient flows and predicting patient volumes.

I would like to specially thank Daniel Plijter, Jasper Quik and Dennis Westerhof, all of ZGT, for their support. They introduced me in the health care industry and in particular in ZGT. Daniel's views were useful for the applicability of the research. Jasper's analytical and coding competencies were useful for the modeling part of the thesis. Finally, Dennis could explain the details of health care finance very well.

Next, I would like to thank Reinoud Joosten for being the chief supervisor of my graduation report. At some times we had very lively and pleasant discussions about the report and the research. The feedback was always very useful.

It is thanks to Erwin Hans that I got the opportunity to graduate in a hospital. I would like to thank Erwin for his willingness to put me in contact with ZGT and for being the second supervisor.

Writing the Master thesis, I realize there comes an end to studying. I have always enjoyed the studies I have attended at the University of Twente. I think in the future, I will always look very positively at this time.

Bas Weggemans
Enschede, August 19, 2012

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Motivation

Staff, nursing beds and operating theatres are scarce and expensive resources in a hospital. This is why management of hospitals would like to allocate these resources as efficient as possible. Furthermore, health care is a complex product: the demand for care is stochastic and the course of a medical treatment is not predetermined. Often multiple specialisms are involved in one treatment. As the health care process is a complex process and can be described in an abundance of details, we develop in this paper a holistic model which uses concepts from Finance in order to model patients arrivals at and patient flows between specialisms in the hospitals of Ziekenhuis Groep Twente, ZGT. A patient path is defined as the successive treatments a single patient undergoes at a specific combination of specialisms and departments of a hospital. These specialisms are e.g. surgery or cardiology. The departments are outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. A patient flow is defined as the visits to combinations of a department and a (sub)specialisms of a group of patients in a certain time period. Each department has his own function, the outpatient clinics are for diagnoses purposes and simple treatments, operating theaters for (complex) operations and nursing wards for clinical admissions. The various specialisms are represented at these departments. Currently ZGT uses common sense, historical averages and planned appointments as the basis for allocating staff, operating theaters and nursing beds. Moreover, ZGT has no insight in how patients transfer from one specialism to another specialism. Forecasting demand for care and having insight into transitions of patients through the hospital in a certain time period, should enable the management of ZGT to allocate staff, nursing beds and operating theaters more efficiently than the current manner of allocation, yielding a better occupancy rate and lower costs.

First, we introduce the research problem and research questions. Next, we discuss the relevance and methodology of the study. Also we provide a social and economical context and elaborate on changes in the health care market. Finally, we provide some background information on ZGT.

1.2 Research question

ZGT is interested in predicting patient volumes at the various departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards of the hospital, at least one month ahead. These estimates of patient volumes enables ZGT to allocate resources as staff, operating theaters and nursing beds more efficiently. Moreover, ZGT is interested in which share of patients transfer from one(sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in the hospital within a certain time period. Insight into future patient volumes and patient transfers between (sub)specialisms, provides the management of ZGT information required for using resources more efficiently. The research problem is as follows:

What is an adequate model to predict future patient volumes at least one month ahead at a (sub)specialism at the various departments within ZGT?

Next to the problem statement, we define a research objective, which is:

Develop a model that enables Ziekenhuis Groep Twente to predict patient volumes at least one month ahead at specific departments within the hospital, taking into account the transition from patients from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in a certain time period.

In order to answer the research objective, we define the following research questions:

1. Can we develop a model that can predict the number of patient arrivals in a certain time period of (sub)specialisms in the
 - a. Outpatient clinics?
 - b. Operating theaters?
 - c. Nursing wards?

This research question is answered in Section [6.3.1](#).

2. Can we develop a model that can compute the probability that a patient will transfer from one (sub)specialism to another(sub)specialism in a certain time period in the
 - a. Outpatient clinics?
 - b. Operating theaters?
 - c. Nursing wards?

This research question is answered in Section [6.3.2](#).

3. Can we develop a model that can estimate the service time of patients in the

- a. Operating theaters?
- b. Nursing wards?

This research question is answered in Section 6.3.3.

4. How can we combine the estimation of the expected number of arrivals at a certain (sub)specialism, the probability of a patient transferring from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism and the average service time to estimate the occupancy rate of specialisms at
 - a. Operating theaters?
 - b. Nursing wards?

This research question is answered in Section 6.1.

The modeling part is given in Chapter 3, the results are provided in Chapter 5.

1.3 Relevance of the research

The health care environment is rapidly changing. Social, political and economical causes ask for a more efficient use of resources as nursing wards and staff in the health care industry. The government tries to control the health care expenditures by allowing more competition between health care providers and by reforming the health care market. Until 2003 the health care market was mainly capacity and volume driven. The more capacity a health care provider possessed, the more health care budget the provider received. After the reform of 2003, a health care provider receives a fixed sum of money per treatment per patient. This requires a fundamental reorganization of the health care industry: the usage of nursing beds and operating rooms should be more efficient. That is avoiding over- and undercapacity of operating theaters and nursing beds as much as possible, given the capacity and time constraints. With respect to staff this is allocating staff such that there is neither a shortfall nor an abundance of staff, given the demand for care and a time constraint. Sections 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 explain in some more detail the different interests of society and the changing health care market.

At this moment in ZGT there is no direct link in the planning process between operating theaters on the one hand and nursing departments on the other hand. The data available is sufficient to forecast the occupancy of the nursing wards, however the current predicting methods are not really sophisticated but based on common sense and experience. Differences in occupancy rates of beds yields financial effects. At this moment the department nursing wards within a hospital is one of the most costly departments. A more efficient usage of nursing wards yields cost reductions. That is why the management would like to have estimates of future patient volumes as accurate as possible.

In this research we combine knowledge from other disciplines, in particular from Finance,

in order to model patient flows and predict patient volumes. We develop a holistic model which provides ZGT insight into patient flows through the various departments of the hospital, taking transitions from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism into account. The model enables them to predict patient volumes at (sub)specialisms at least one month ahead. Insight into patient flows and expected patient volumes can be used for allocating staff, nursing wards and operating theaters more efficiently. Moreover, the model gives insight what proportion of patients transfers from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism within a certain time period. The model we develop in this study uses the strengths of two different theories, namely ARIMA and Markov theory. The integration of these theories enables one to develop a holistic model of a hospital, which one can use to predict patient volumes of (sub)specialisms at the various departments at least one month ahead. Relatively little studies focus on using financial models in health care optimization and efficiency issues. By far, most studies use theories as queuing theory and the theory of petri nets. This research investigates the applicability of finance theories in health care. This can be seen as the scientific relevance of the study.

1.4 Methodology

The research questions deal with modeling the patient flow within a hospital. Aim is to construct a holistic model which predict patient volumes and keeps track of transitions of patients between (sub)specialisms. We develop a holistic view of the hospital in order to avoid a too much detailed view of a hospital and to deal with the complexity of the health care process in a hospital. A holistic approach is often used in Economics and Finance. In these disciplines the complex reality is described by a holistic model. Consider for instance how in Economics the Keynesian theory models the economy and society.

We use Financial theories in order to model the various aspects of the holistic model. We model patient admissions using ARIMA theory. In Finance, ARIMA-models are used in order to estimate indices and prices of commodities. We use Markov chains for modeling the transition probabilities between different departments in the hospital. Markov chains are the basis of many principles in Finance. The Markov property is again one of the key principles with respect to pricing: the property claims that the future price of a commodity only depends on its current price, irrelevant of the historical prices. In fact, it is one of the key assumptions of the efficient markets (Hull, 2009). In the Efficient market theory it is assumed that the price at this moment, reflects all information and that only this price is necessary to compute the price some small time instant later. In this research, part of the model we develop, also only requires the current information of a patient and not all historic information to compute the next step in his/her patient path. Finally, we use statistical analysis for computing the average service times. We introduce the model in Chapter 3.

In order to validate the model, it requires analysis of data. We use historical data for investigating the patient volumes per specialism and its inter and intra transitions. Also

we use historical data in order to develop a time series which can be used for forecasting future admissions. Finally, we use historical data to compute the average service time of patients.

1.5 Urge from society, a changing world

There is an urge from society to organize health care more cost-efficient. Population aging and co-morbidity have resulted in rising health care expenditures. Statistics Netherlands computed that there is a rising increase in health care expenditures in the period 2004-2008 (CBS, 2010). In 2009 the health care expenditures amount to 83.8 billion euro, an increase of 5.8% compared to 2008. Next, Statistics Netherlands computed that the health expenditures in 2009 per capita increased with 5.2% compared to 2008, confirming the trend that also the health care expenditures per capita are increasing over the years.

Furthermore, there is a shortage of staff in health care. Estimations of the SCP¹ demonstrates that the demand for health care staff will increase from 220.000 vacancies in 2005 to 300.000 vacancies in 2030 (Eggink, Oudijk, & Woittiez, 2010). The Dutch government has realized the need for more health care staff. In 2012 recruitment funds will increase to 852 million euro (VWS, 2012). These developments ask for a more efficient allocation of health care budget. To achieve this, the Dutch government designed a reform of the health care market, in which a more liberal market is introduced. Furthermore, the current economic situation and the introduction of a new expenses claim system have led to uncertainty on the health care market, which has made banks reserved with financing hospitals.

1.6 Changing health insurance market and expenses claim system

One can distinguish three players on the health care market. First there are the patients (demand side), second the health care providers (supply side) and finally the financing institutions, such as health care insurers or government. Often the market is regulated by a health care authority. In the Netherlands major reforms in the health care market have taken place. Both the health insurance market and the expenses claim system have been reformed, the former in 2003, the latter in 2005.

In the Netherlands the health insurance market is a dual system. The non insurable health care risks are financed by a special act and are totally paid by the Dutch government. The government finances this act from tax incomes, paid by employees and employers. This is regulated in the AWBZ.² The AWBZ is a collective and obligatory

¹SCP: Sociaal Cultureel Planbureau, English: Bureau for Social and Cultural Studies.

²AWBZ: Algemene Wet Bijzondere Ziektekosten, English: General Act on Exceptional Health Care Expenditures.

health care insurance which covers non insurable health care risks, as e.g. long stay care or nursing homes. Until 2003, every now and then, the law was amended to accommodate wishes from society, resulting in much bureaucracy and non transparency. The intensity of adaptations called for a reform of the act. The redefined act has legislative power as of 2003. The reform allowed more participants on the health care market in order to increase competition. Moreover, before the reform, patients were not confronted with the costs of health care. The new reform should make both patients and health care providers more cost-conscious.

The other demand for health care should be covered in an obligatory private health insurance. Health insurers are obliged to offer a by the government predefined package with treatments, which covers minimum health care benefits. Next to this health insurance one can take an additional health insurance. This part of the health insurance market is liberalized, such that insurers can compete.

The foundation of the insurance system is health equity: all people are allowed admission to health care, regardless their age, mental or physical condition. In the Netherlands an equalization pool and risk pool are used in order to reconcile differences in the customer population of health insurers. These funds are regulated by the government, which pools the risk of the various insured, by transferring funds to the insurer of the more risky insured from the insurer of the less risky insured. This measure should overcome moral hazard by insurance companies.

1.7 New expenses claim system in the Netherlands

The expenses claim system has been reformed. The reason for the reform is trying to change the incentives of the health care providers. The new expenses claim should make the providers more cost-efficient, as they are only compensated per treatment, instead of available capacity. A major reform has taken place in 2005 by the introduction of DBCs³ and a smaller one in 2012, in which DBC was replaced by DOT.⁴ These reforms are an additional challenge for the health care market. The Dutch government tries to introduce a health care system on a free market basis.

A DBC is the total care trajectory starting with a diagnosis and finally ending with some treatment from a specialist in a certain time period (maximum one year). With the introduction of DBC the Dutch health care market became partially competitive. For several treatments, often ‘less complex’ treatments (or B-segment), a free market has been introduced. The diagnosis and the treatments are administrated in one specific code, the DBC performance code. For complex treatments and some very rare and specific treatments (often in academic hospitals) the Dutch Care authority (NZA⁵ deter-

³DBC: Diagnose BehandelingsCombinatie, English: DTC, Diagnose Treatment Combination.

⁴DOT: DBC Op weg naar Transparantie, English: DTC, a Road map for more Transparency.

⁵NZa: Nederlandse Zorgautoriteit, English: Dutch Health care authority.

mines the prices (A segment). Over time, the authority will shift more treatments from the A segment to the B segment, so that the number of treatments on which hospitals can compete, will increase. The aim of introducing DBCs is making both hospitals and patients more cost conscious about how much health care actually costs.

Before the DBC expenses claim system and the reform of the AWBZ, hospitals were financed on basis of fixed prices, volume agreements and on basis of the number of inhabitants a hospital served. The hospitals received a fixed sum covering interest expenses, housing expenses and a variable part, depending on the number of admissions, nursing days, outpatient clinic consultations and day care treatments. This way of financing has led to a system in which compensations did not match the executed health care production. Also there was no incentive to organize health care efficient or that is to discharge patients as quickly as possible. The urge for a more transparent compensation system was born. One of the purposes of introducing DBCs was to overcome this problem.

However, the introduction of DBCs has led to an abundance of combinations of performance codes (each combination of outpatient visits, operating theater visits and clinical visits has for each diagnose its own performance code). Therefore, there was a desire for a more uniform system: DOT. DOT is derived from DBCs however; they are more uniform than DBC. In DOT the specific care is divided in several ‘DBC care products’. The ultimate combination of care products determines the specific DOT. In DOT a health care provider will receive a fixed price for a care product, regardless the specialism which has executed the treatment, in DBC these prices could have been different. Also the introduction of DOT has led to another expenses claim method towards the health care insurer. DBCs are checked on administrative errors by hospitals themselves and then submitted as a claim to the health insurer, DOTs are approved by an approval authority (grouper) and can then be paid out by a health insurer.

1.8 Ziekenhuisgroep Twente

Ziekenhuisgroep Twente, or short ZGT, is a health care organization in the east of the Netherlands. ZGT has two hospitals, one located in Hengelo and one in Almelo. Furthermore, the group has five outpatient clinics in Geesteren, Goor, Nijverdal, Rijssen and Westerhaar. ZGT was founded in 1998 as a merger of the two hospitals, Streekziekenhuis Midden-Twente in Hengelo and the Twenteborg Ziekenhuis in Almelo. This merger has made ZGT the largest hospital in Twente, only somewhat larger than Medisch Spectrum Twente, Enschede. The service area of ZGT covers the municipalities of Almelo, Hengelo, Borne, Dinkelland, Rijssen-Holtén, Twenterand, Tubbergen, Hof van Twente, Hellendoorn and Wierden. Other hospitals nearby, are in Enschede, Deventer, Hardenberg, Winterswijk, Zutphen and Zwolle. In 2010 the capacity of the hospital was 1085 beds. Furthermore, the production of DBCs in the A-segment equaled 213.524 and in the B-segment: 79,965 (ZGT, 2010). ZGT accommodates 25 different specialisms, from which surgery is the largest.

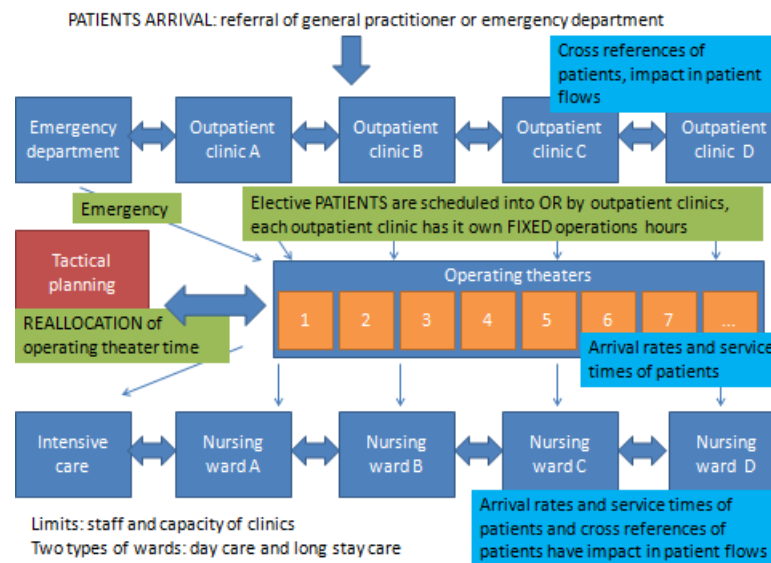


Figure 1.1: Patient flow within ZGT hospital, also general for Dutch hospitals.

In the ZGT a system, called tactical planning, is used in order to optimize the allocation of patients and specialists to operating theaters. This system is used to gain insight into the patient flows, their arrival processes and service times. Historical data and the expertise of specialists are used for optimizing the master schedule of the operation theaters. The patient flow within ZGT is given in Figure 1.1. In a hospital there are two types of patients: outpatients and inpatients. Outpatients are patients who only visit the hospital for a short treatment or diagnosis in an outpatient clinic. Inpatients are admitted at the hospital for a longer treatment. This can be a treatment of several hours (one day admission) or several days (more than one day admission). Both type of admissions require a nursing bed in a nursing ward.

ZGT is in the mid of a reorganization. The board of the hospital would like to make the hierarchical structure of the organization less stratified. Currently there are three divisions in the organization, two divisions deal with the health care process, the third division is facility management. These divisions are lead by managers, reporting to the board of directors. Next to these divisions a Financial and Information department, a Human Resource department and a Board Supporting department exist. All these departments directly report to the board of directors. Figure 1.2 shows the current organization structure.

In order to make the organization less stratified, the board would like to introduce a RVE-structure.⁶ RVEs are organized around one specialism. This can be a clinical

⁶RVE, Resultaat Verantwoordelijke Eenheid, English Profit Responsible Unit.

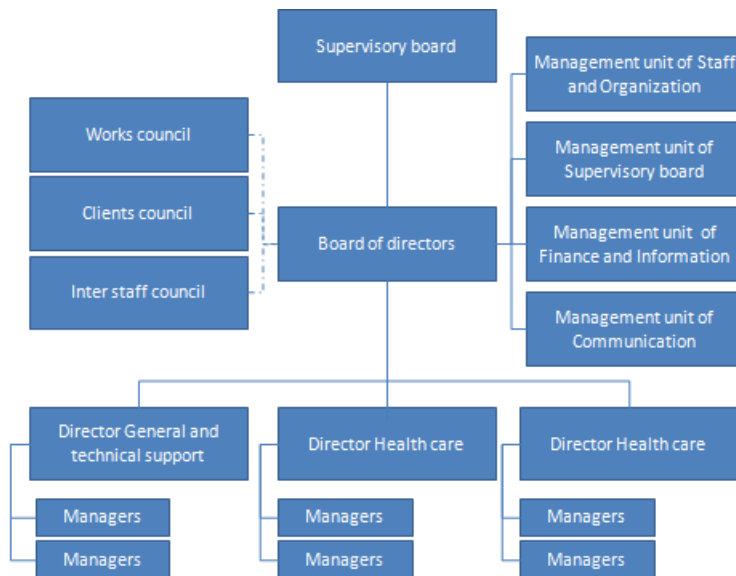


Figure 1.2: The current organization of ZGT hospital, until April 2012.

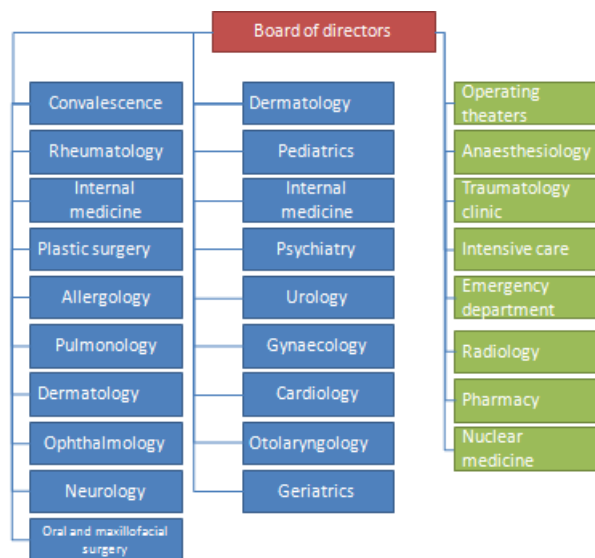


Figure 1.3: New structure of organization of ZGT hospital, per May 2012. Blue specialisms indicate porters and green specialisms are supporting specialisms.

(porter) or a supporting specialism. Figure 1.3 shows the different porter and supporting specialisms⁷ in the new RVE-structure. These entities will directly report to the board of directors. The RVEs could be compared with business units in an ordinary company. Goal of the introduction of the RVEs is to introduce a more entrepreneurial attitude within the different specialisms. Currently, in ZGT the entities determine their budget on cost basis principle. The RVEs structure should also make the different units revenue conscious. The reorganization is completed in May 2012.

1.9 Outline of report

The outline of the remainder of the report is as follows. In Chapter 2 we investigate the literature with regard to modeling patient flows in hospitals. In Chapter 3 we introduce a mathematical model in which we model patient flows through a hospital. The model consists of three components. First, we discuss how to model patient arrivals at the three departments. Next, we introduce a model in which the transfers of out- and inpatients between (sub)specialisms are modeled. Finally, we discuss techniques to obtain average service times. Chapter 4 discusses the data requirements as well as the data used in the holistic model. Chapter 5 elaborates on the results. Chapter 6 concludes. Chapter 7 provides a discussion and considers limitations of our research and suggestions for further research. Finally, in Chapter 8 we briefly explain the ins and outs of the model and discuss the applicability and implementation of the model and do recommendations to ZGT.

⁷Porter specialisms, e.g. cardiology, are specialisms where a patient is referred to in order to receive a medical specialist-oriented care; supporting specialisms, e.g. radiology, supports the porter specialisms by e.g. diagnosing and treatment of a patient.

Chapter 2

Theoretical framework

In this chapter we investigate relevant literature. We enlarge on the various disciplines and theories. The existing structure of the hospital is assumed to be given. The aim is not to propose changes in the structure of the hospital which could make the organization of the health care process within ZGT more efficient. Aim of the research is however to provide a holistic view of a hospital which enables one to predict future patient volumes at various combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms, given the current structure of the hospital. The required theory concerns mathematical models of a hospital such that we are able to reconstruct patient paths through a hospital and to compute future patient volumes at combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms. Predicting patient volumes and monitoring patient flows between specialisms requires three components:

1. Modeling patient arrivals in a certain time period.
2. Modeling transitions of patients between (sub)specialisms in a certain time period.
3. Computing average service times of treatments for specific treatments.

The first two require a consideration of various theories and models. The last item only requires a statistical analysis of historical service times. First, we consider theory concerning arrivals at specific departments of a hospital. Second, we focus on how to model transfers of patients between (sub)specialisms in a hospital. Finally, we motivate which theory we select for model building.

2.1 Patient arrivals

There are many ways of modeling patient arrivals at hospitals. In health care research queuing theory is one of the most dominant theories to model arrivals. ARIMA-models can also be used for predicting future arrivals. This section discusses both theories.

2.1.1 ARIMA theory

Autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) models can be used for forecasting. The principle is based on time series analysis. A time series is a sequence of data points

measured at equidistant time intervals. The applicability of time series analysis is wide, for instance in Finance many time series models are used in order to predict the behavior of certain commodity prices. ARIMA-models can yield good predictions in the short term.

Engle and Russel (1998) have described the data conditions under which an ARIMA-model can be used for forecasting: the data generating process should be stationary. The stationarity of the data generating process can be tested using a unit root test.

Several authors have used ARIMA-models in order to forecast patient volumes in hospitals. Kao and Tung (1980) use an ARIMA-model which predicts demand of inpatients in a large public hospital. The authors propose an ARIMA-model for forecasting the monthly admissions per specialism for the next twelve months. They find promising results in predicting the demand as they compare it with the actual demand. Abdel-Aal and Mangoud (1998) predict the monthly patient volume of a primary health care clinic using an ARIMA-model, which also accounts for seasonal effects. Abdel-Aal and Mangoud propose a ARIMA(4, 2, 0) model which fits best in forecasting the patient volumes of this particular clinic. Finally, Lin (1989) also uses an ARIMA-model in order to forecast monthly patient volumes. For several hospitals in the United States the author develops ARIMA-models for forecasting admission, discharge of patients and gains of a hospital. Furthermore, the paper provides some tests in order to check the outcome of the prediction with actual demand.

2.1.2 Queuing theory

Queuing theory is a mathematical theory about waiting lines. It observes a server which can serve persons or objects and a waiting line in front of this server. The theory requires a specific arrival distribution and service distribution. The length of the queue can be either finite or infinite. Network of queues is a modification of queuing theory. In a network of queues multiple queues are linked in a network. Applications of queuing theory are used in all sort of processes in which customers are served at a counter, as. e.g. shops and banks. Moreover, it has applications in traffic engineering and telecommunication. Queuing theory is mainly used to describe the arrivals at hospitals, but could also be used to model consecutive queues in a health care process.

Creemers and Lambrecht (2007) model a hospital in Belgium using a network of queues. The authors consider the health care process as a consecutive chain of locations in a hospital a patient visits. They link the outpatient clinic, the operating theater and the nursing wards, using queuing theory. The authors propose a model in which these locations have a $G|G|n$ -structure.¹ The authors determine the arrival and service process for the several locations in the health care process. Figure 2.2 provides an example of

¹In this case: the arrival process has a general distribution, the service process has a general distribution and the length of the waiting line is n .

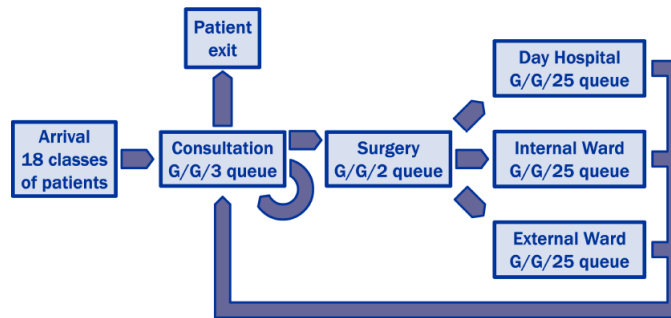


Figure 2.1: Network of queues of a hospital in Belgium (Creemers & Lambrecht, 2007).

network of queues, applied to hospitals. Queuing models assume that the arrival process possesses the memoryless property. Poisson and Erlang distributions have this property. It is the question however, whether patient admissions at a hospital are distributed as a Poisson or Erlang distribution. Schwartzman (1970) models patients arrivals, using a Poisson distribution. Utley et al. (2003) however claim that patient arrivals do not necessarily possess the memoryless property.

2.2 Patient transitions between (sub)specialisms

There are also several theories with regard to modeling patient transitions from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism. Markov theory seems natural as it comes to model system transitions. Also the theory of Petri nets is used to model transitions within a system. Both theories are explained in more detail in this section.

2.2.1 Markov models

Markov chains represent a system subject to going from one state to another state (transition) with a certain probability. A Markov chain has a finite number of states and transitions. Markov chains are used in order to compute the one-step transition probability of going from one state to another state, but becomes more powerful as it is a convenient method for computing the long run transition probability of going from one state to another. Markov chains have an abundance of applications, e.g. Economics, Operations research or Game theory.

Several authors have used Markov chains in order to model patient transfers between specific locations within a hospital. A patient transfer can be seen as a single patient transferring from one physical location to another physical location and can be described by a system transition in a Markov chain.² Perez et al. (2004) use Markov models in or-

²We choose physical locations, one particular treatment can occur at different specialisms. Moreover, this also enables one to model transitions within one (sub)specialism or process.

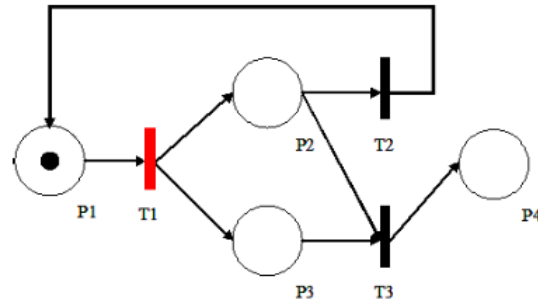


Figure 2.2: A Petri net as in the paper of Leite. The red T_1 indicates that it is activated (Leite *et al.*, 2010).

der to model patients transfers in an intensive care unit in a hospital in Colombia. They consider different steps in the process and provide an approximation of the likelihood that events occur in some order. Furthermore, they provide an estimate for the average length of stay. Akkerman and Knip (2004) also use Markov models in order to give an estimation of the length of stay at a cardiac surgery department of a Dutch hospital.

2.2.2 Petri nets

A Petri net is a bipartite graph³ in which the vertices represent transitions and places. In the representations of Petri nets, the vertices representing transitions are depicted by bars, the places are depicted by circles. The edges are always directed arcs. At circles tokens are stored; the transition is only activated if the input at places (circles) is equal or larger than the weight of the directed arc. Petri nets are used to model systems in which transitions can take only place if a minimum input is satisfied. In health care, for instance: a patient can only go to the next step in a health care process if all preconditions, e.g. several small medical examinations, are met. Other applications of Petri nets are in software engineering. Research in the field of health care and petri nets aims at improving data mining. Maruster *et al.* (2001) use a Petri net model in order to model the successive events in a health care process. The Petri net model is designed in order to model successive events in patient flows of a single patient. For specific treatments the authors develop a Petri net which is used for representing the patient flow within one specialism. Further research will deal with modeling the patient flow of multi multidisciplinary patients. Leite *et al.* (2010) model an intensive care unit using stochastic Petri nets. The authors conclude that Petri nets are useful for checking manual processes within the successive chain of events in a patient flow. As much hospitals still use manual processes the authors conclude that the use of Petri nets can prevent the

³A graph in which the vertices can be divided in two disjoint sets A and B, in other words every edge connects a vertex in set A to one in set B.

occurrence of deadlocks.

2.3 Selection of theory: ARIMA and Markov theory

ZGT would like to have an indication of future patient volumes and insight into the transfers of patients between specialisms in a certain time period. A single theory described above is not sufficient to provide a holistic model. To approach our goal, we choose ARIMA and Markov theory.

Time series are applied to forecast future patient volumes. This manner of forecasting also allows us to account for patient fluctuations. It is known that patient volumes vary over time. Time series have the opportunity to include this effect as it uses historical data for predicting the next value. Queuing theory is less useful for this purpose as it assumes a fixed arrival distribution. Historical data allows one to provide an ARIMA-model which can predict future patient volumes.

Petri nets are useful for modeling processes in which there is a necessity to specify a set of minimum conditions before a system can undergo a transition from one state to another. Petri nets however are not useful for forecasting purposes and computing transition probabilities. ZGT is interested in the transfers a patient can make between several (sub)specialisms. The abundance of possible transitions, makes queuing theories less appropriate. A matrix representing all transitions is more efficient and elegant and this is where Markov chains become interesting. Predicting patient volume and the occupancy rate of a combination of departments and (sub)specialisms, it is indispensable to keep track of how a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism during his patient path. We define a patient path as the consecutive chain of (sub)specialisms a patient visits for the treatment of one disease. A patient path can exist of several visits. Taking the whole patient history of one patient into account, requires an abundance of data storage and computation efficiency. If one is able to develop a model which only requires the last visit in order to determine the next visit, one can save a lot of computation time. This is one of the aspects in which lies the power of Markov theory. The Markov property states that the probability of going from one state to another state⁴ only depends on the last state and not on the history of all its predecessors. Moreover, Markov chains can possess a limiting distribution. The limiting distribution is a powerful tool to compute the transfers between (sub)specialisms in the long run.

To conclude we use the combination of ARIMA-models and Markov models to model patient arrivals and patient transfers between (sub)specialisms at departments.

⁴In this study going from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in a certain time period.

Chapter 3

Model

In this chapter we introduce mathematical theory, models and assumptions used in order to model the patient flow within a hospital. The model we use consists of three components: patient arrivals at various combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms, transfers of patients between (sub)specialisms within a department and the average service time for specific treatments. For the arrival process we use ARIMA theory, for modeling patient transfers between (sub)specialisms we use Markov theory and finally we use statistical analysis for computing the average service times.

Data limitations require to subdivide the hospital into three departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. The data at the three departments have other characteristics which makes it impossible to reconstruct a patient path by using the data of the various departments in one model. However if we split the model, we can reconstruct the patient path.¹ This is explained in more detail in Chapter 4. The specialisms are represented at the three departments. Figure 3.1 provides a schematic overview of the hospital in the three departments and depicts where the three different model components, are applied. The red bars in the picture represent the arrivals and are modeled by ARIMA theory. The blue boxes are the three departments and the green boxes are the (sub)specialisms within the departments. The black arrows within and between the departments represent the transition probabilities of a Markov chain. The number of specialisms and black arrows depicted in Figure 3.1, are not exhaustive. Finally, the orange box depicts the computation of the average service times of (sub)specialisms at the operating theaters and nursing wards.

Patient arrivals are modeled using ARIMA theory. Due to the stochastic character of the incidence of the demand for health care, one would like to have a model that can

¹Recall that a patient path is defined as the consecutive (sub)specialisms a single patient sees, during a treatment of one disease. A patient flow is defined as the visits to combinations of a department and (sub)specialisms of a group of patients in a certain time period. For determining a patient flow we have to know the patient paths of individual patients. The sum of transfers of single patients from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in a certain period is equal to the patient flow from this (sub)specialism to the other (sub)specialism in this period.

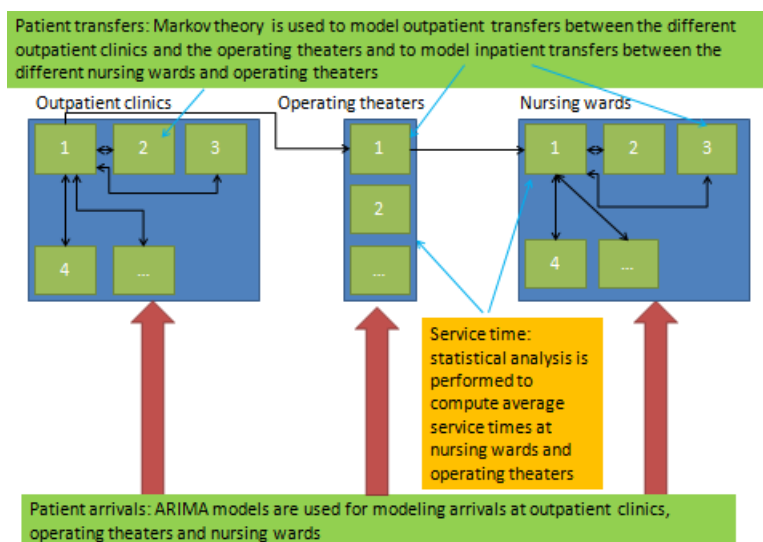


Figure 3.1: A graphical representation of the subdivision of the hospital ZGT in the three departments. The numbers at the green boxes in the departments represent the specialisms. In the figure we indicate where we apply ARIMA theory, Markov theory and statistical analysis.

predict the number of arrivals at a specific combination of a department and specialism in a certain time period. One can fit an ARIMA-model onto historical data points and use this model to predict future patient arrivals at a certain combination of department and specialism. At ZGT there is an abundance of historical data about patient arrivals at several departments and specialisms. For the combination of a specific department and (sub)specialism, we use the ARIMA theory to estimate an ARIMA-model which predicts the future patient arrivals at this combination. The theory about ARIMA-models is discussed in Section 3.1. In this section we introduce an ARIMA-model for ZGT.

Typically, a patient arrives at a hospital after a referral of a general practitioner. In a hospital elective patients first visit an outpatient clinic. Emergency patients are admitted at the emergency department, but this can be seen as special type of an outpatient clinic. At this point a decision will be made for further treatment. This decision is one of the following: an outpatient treatment in the same (sub)specialism, a referral to another (sub)specialism in the outpatient clinics, an appointment for an operation, an admission to a nursing ward or the discharge of the patient. Patients enter a nursing ward after being referred from an outpatient clinic or after being operated. The intensive care could be seen as a special nursing ward. The transfers are considered to be the transitions from one state to another state of a Markov chain.

We use two Markov chains in order to model transfer of patients from one (sub)specialism

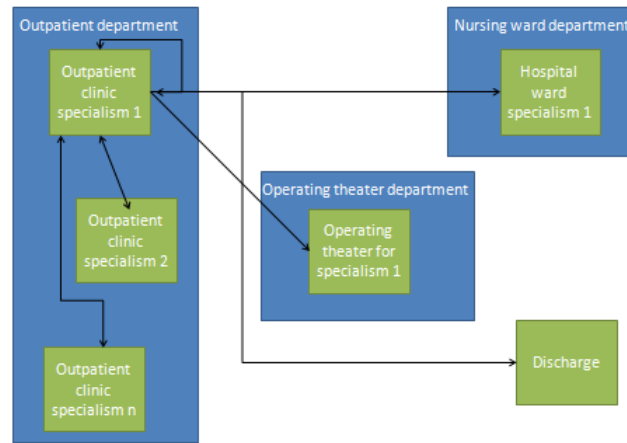


Figure 3.2: A graphical representation of a Markov chain of the transfers of outpatients.

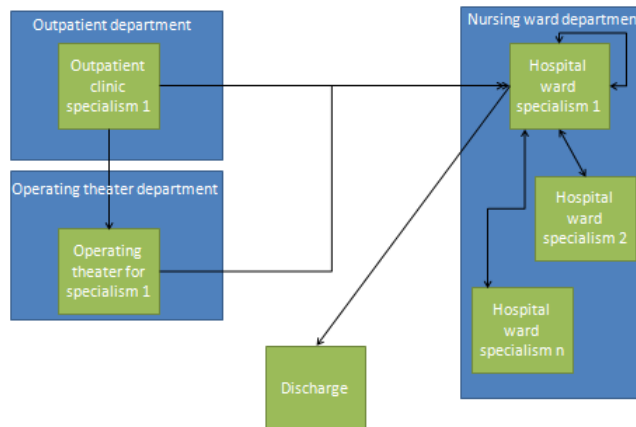


Figure 3.3: A graphical representation of a Markov chain of the transfer of inpatients.

to another (sub)specialism. This is due to data limitations which are discussed in Chapter 4 and Chapter 7. The first process describes the transfers of outpatients between specialisms in the outpatient clinics and the operating theaters. Figure 3.2 depicts the transfers of the outpatients. The second process deals with the transfers of inpatients between operating theaters and nursing wards. The transfers of the inpatients is shown in Figure 3.3. For simplicity, in both figures just one outpatient ward or hospital ward is considered. It assumes that patients can flow to and from a finite number of other outpatient clinics/nursing wards. As the transitions between various (sub)specialisms are of interest, the choice to use Markov theory seems natural. Section 3.2.1 provides the Markov chain for outpatient transfers and Section 3.2.2 for the inpatient transfers.

The last component of our model concerns the computation of average service times. The average service times are necessary when it comes to computing the occupancy rate of different combinations of (sub)specialisms and departments. The first two components: arrivals and transfer probabilities, are sufficient to compute the expected number of arrivals at a combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms. The last component: service time, adds a time dimension. Incorporating the average service times provide an estimate for how long a specific combination of department and (sub)specialism is occupied. The equations for computing the average service time are in Section 3.3.

Since ZGT, uses common sense and experience to estimate the number of nursing beds and operating time per (sub)specialism, we construct another simple performance measure to compare the results of our model to another model. We can compare the performance of both models using back-testing. Also we develop a method for a cost comparison between the two models. This is explained in Section 3.4.

3.1 Patient arrivals and ARIMA theory

The incidence of demand for care is uncertain. One cannot predict with certainty at which moment a person requires medical care within a hospital. However, using historical data, one can predict future patient volumes. ARIMA theory is suitable for this purpose. We require the number of arrivals at a certain combination of department and (sub)specialism at consecutive time periods. The number of arrivals are called data points. The ARIMA-model is used to provide a fit² onto this data points. The ARIMA-model can be used to predict the patient volumes of a next time period. In Figure 3.1, the figure with an overview of the holistic model, the prediction of patient arrivals, is illustrated by the red arrows.

ARIMA-models are used in Statistics and Econometrics in order to predict future points of a time series $\{W_t\}$ for time $t = 1, \dots, T$. Alexander (2001) provides a theoretical framework for ARIMA-models and time series analysis. ARIMA-models are denoted

²The ARIMA-model describes an equation which should fit the data points best. ARIMA can be used to predict patient volumes at a combination of department and specialism in the next time period.

as ARIMA(p, d, q)-models in which p is the number of autoregressive terms, d denotes which difference of the original series $\{W_t\}$ we take and q is the number of moving average terms. The application of ARIMA-models requires that the data are stationary. Stationarity can be obtained by taking differences of the original series. Also, the residuals of the estimated ARIMA series should follow a normal distribution and should not possess autocorrelation. Often, we compute for one series of arrivals, several ARIMA-models. We can use the Akaike criterion to identify the best fit among the estimated ARIMA series. We explain all this, in the next paragraphs.

Data can possess seasonal patterns. ARIMA-models can deal with seasonality by incorporating seasonal autoregressive and/or moving average terms. We can investigate whether data possess seasonal effects. This is described in Section 3.1.1.

Stationarity

A time series is said to be strongly stationary if and only if for the joint density function F_W the following holds:

$$F_W(W_{t+\tau}, \dots, W_{t+k+\tau}) = F_W(W_t, \dots, W_{t+k}). \quad (3.1)$$

for all τ and all W_t , $t = 1, \dots, T$. For a time series, however, it is sufficient to have a weakly stationary process. A time series is weakly stationary if the expected value and its variance are finite and independent of t , moreover the autocovariance function should only depend on k and not on t :

$$\gamma_{t,k} = \text{cov}(W_t, W_{t-k}) = E((W_t - E(W_t))(W_{t-k} - E(W_{t-k}))) = \gamma_k. \quad (3.2)$$

Unit roots tests, or Dickey-Fuller tests are performed in order to establish whether a time series is weakly stationary. To explain the usage of the test, we require the difference operator:

$$\Delta W_t = c + \beta W_t + \alpha_1 \Delta W_{t-1} + \dots + \alpha_m \Delta W_{t-m} + \varepsilon_t. \quad (3.3)$$

The test checks the significance of the appearance of β in the model of Equation 3.3. The null hypothesis denotes $\beta = 0$, whereas the alternative hypothesis is $\beta < 0$. The Dickey-Fuller test can only be applied to AR(1) models.³ A moving average process is always stationary. An autoregressive process can be weakly stationary from upon some lag τ . The augmented Dickey-Fuller test is a portmanteau test of the Dickey-Fuller test and enables one to test the significance of all coefficients in Equation 3.3 and to determine the number of lags m to include in the model.

One can check that the expected value and the variance of W_t are finite whenever $\beta < 0$ in Equation 3.3. Often, an original time series is not stationary, but the differenced series is. For instance, once modeling stock prices, the log returns of stock prizes are not stationary, but their difference are. Equation 3.3 is used in order to establish the d^{th} differences of the original series.

³AR is an abbreviation of autoregressive, AR(1) denotes an autoregressive process with one autoregressive term. MA is the abbreviation of moving average.

ARMA equation

If the data series is (weakly) stationary, an ARIMA-model can be applied. It is sufficient to use an ARMA (autoregressive moving average) model if the data series is stationary.⁴ The ARMA model is given by:

$$W_t = \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i L^i W_t + \sum_{i=1}^q \theta_i L^i \varepsilon_t + \varepsilon_t. \quad (3.4)$$

in which L is the lag operator:

$$L^k W_t = W_{t-k} \quad (3.5)$$

and in which α_i are the coefficients of the i th autoregressive terms and θ_i are the i th coefficients of the moving average terms. ε_t are the residuals. Residuals are the observable estimates of the unobservable statistical errors. ε_t is an independent and identically distributed random variable with mean zero and variance σ^2 . This is exactly the definition of a white noise process. A white noise process implies no autocorrelation. Sometimes a constant term is also included in Equation 3.4.

Autocorrelation in the residuals

Box-Pierce or Ljung-Box tests are statistical tests for checking the white noise condition. The Ljung-Box test is preferred over the Box-Pierce test. The test investigates whether any group of autocorrelations at lag j of a time series are different from zero for a fixed number of k lags. The null hypothesis is the assumption that the data are independently distributed. The alternative hypothesis is that the series is not. The test is applied to the residuals of the fitted series, e.g. the ε_t , $t = 1, \dots, T$ in Equation 3.4. The Ljung-Box test statistic⁵ follows a chi-squared distribution with T degrees of freedom and is a number for testing the autocorrelation up to order k , or that is $\text{corr}(W_t, W_{t+m}) = 0$ for $m = 1 \dots k$ and $m < k < T$.

Normality of the residuals

A Jarque-Bera⁶ test can be performed in order to check whether the residuals in Equation 3.4 are normally distributed. For large samples the test statistic has a chi-squared distribution with two degrees of freedom. The null hypothesis of the statistical test is that the error terms are normally distributed. If it is rejected we may conclude the data are not.

⁴We drop the "I" from ARIMA, I only indicates which difference we take in order to make the data stationary.

⁵The Ljung-Box statistic is $T(T+2) \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\rho_j^2}{T-j}$, in which ρ_j is the sample correlation at lag j .

⁶A Jarque-Bera test whether data is normally distributed, the test statistic is $JB = \frac{n}{6} (s^2 + \frac{(k-3)^2}{4})$.

Identifying the best fit

Finally, the Akaike or Schwarz criteria are used for indicating the goodness of fit of a model. Statisticians prefer the Akaike information criterion. The Akaike criterion is based on the number of parameters and the maximum value of the likelihood function of a fit and is just a number. The smaller the number, the better the fit. The lowest Akaike criterion among several fits of one series, indicates the best fit.

Software packages, like Eviews and Matlab, can do statistical tests, as the Ljung-Box test, the Jarque-Bera tests and compute the Akaike criterion.

3.1.1 Seasonality effects

Data might possess seasonal effects. For instance an ice cream vendor sees an increased sales during the summer months and lower sales during the other months. ARIMA-models can account for seasonal effects. If one suspects a cyclical effect after n periods one should take the n th difference to take this seasonal effect into account. The n th difference of a series W_t can be obtained by using the difference operator:

$$d(W_t, n) = (1 - L)^n W_t \quad (3.6)$$

in which L is the lag operator as in Equation 3.5. The notation of a seasonal ARIMA-model is $(p, d, q)X(P, D, Q)$, in which p, d, q are as before. P denotes the number of the seasonal autoregressive terms, Q the number of seasonal moving average terms, D the number of seasonal differences. Often we add a single number to this notation to indicate which seasonal difference we take, e.g. if we observe monthly data and one expects a yearly pattern, one could take the 12th difference for investigating this suspicion.⁷

Yaffee and McGee (2000) provide an action plan for investigating whether a series contains seasonal effects. One can do this by looking at the $(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA series. Seasonality events occur at regular time intervals, e.g. monthly or quarterly. By eyeballing, one might discover a cyclic pattern in the residual plot of the $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA series.⁸ Next, one can compare the residual plot of both the $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ - and the $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA series⁹ in order to observe a seasonal pattern. Finally, by looking at the plot of the autocorrelation function one might indicate at which lag we observe autocorrelation. Typically, we find strong autocorrelation at the lag at which we suspect a cyclic pattern and no autocorrelation at other lags. For instance, while analyzing monthly data in which one suspects a yearly pattern, one will find strong autocorrelation at the 12th lag.

⁷An ARIMA-model in which the seasonal components are first differenced and we subsequently take the 12th difference, is denoted by $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$.

⁸That is a plot in which the residuals are plotted. For comparing it also contains the actual data and the proposed model.

⁹We compare the first ordinary difference to the first seasonal difference.

3.1.2 Action plan for determining an ARIMA-model for a series

This subsection contains an action plan or summary of how to find an ARIMA-model for a time series $W_t, t = 1, \dots, T$. For a series $W_t, t = 1, \dots, T$ one does the following.

1. Investigate seasonality effects as described in Section 3.1.1.
2. Determine whether $W_t, t = 1, \dots, T$ is (weakly) stationary. This can be done by using an Augmented Dickey-Fuller test.
3. If the series is stationary, the ARMA equation (Equation 3.4) can be applied. If the data is not stationary, take d^{th} difference until stationarity is obtained and apply the ARMA equation to the stationary series.
4. Test whether the residuals are white noise. This can be done by using the Ljung-Box test.
5. Test whether the residuals are normally distributed. This can be done by using the Jarque-Bera test.
6. Presumably for different values of p and q the conditions of steps 2-5 are satisfied. Now compute the Akaike criterion in order to identify the best fit. The fit with the lowest Akaike criterion indicates the best fit.

As a rule one tries to find the simplest ARIMA-model which can forecast a series accurately. That is, one would like to have the least possible autoregressive and moving average terms possible. Also including a seasonal component increases the complexity of the ARIMA-model. If one finds no evidence for a seasonal pattern, one should not incorporate a seasonal component in the ARIMA-model.

3.1.3 Validation of estimated arrival series

One would like to know whether the series forecasts the expected number of patients reliably. Mean squared errors are used for indicating the error in the measurement between the actual values and the predicted values. As we use historic data we can compare the estimated series with the actual (or historic) data. Let \hat{W}_t be the estimated series by time series analysis of W_t . The error between the computation of \hat{W}_t and W_t is denoted by e_t and is called the bias.¹⁰ The mean squared error is a measure indicating the difference between an estimator and the actual data (Albers & Nijdam, 2007). The MSE of an estimator $\hat{\theta}$ with respect to the estimated parameter θ is defined as follows:

$$MSE(\hat{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta} - \theta]^2 \quad (3.7)$$

Now if we are interested in the MSE of the mean of a series W_t , we compute the MSE as follows:

$$MSE(\bar{W}) = \mathbb{E}[(\bar{W} - \mu)^2] = \left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \quad (3.8)$$

¹⁰ $e_t = \hat{W}_t - W_t$.

For our study we are thus interested in the difference of the actual and the predicted data, or also known as $MSE(e_t)$. A MSE of zero implies a perfect fit between the estimated value and the actual value. The MSE developed here only checks to what extent the proposed ARIMA-model fits onto the series of arrivals. The MSE is also equal to the sum of the variance of the errors and the bias squared. The smaller MSE, the smaller the variance of the error terms and the bias. Whenever MSE is close to zero, the error between the true value and the estimation is also small, and thus the deviation in the error with respect to the mean is small.

3.2 Patient transfers and Markov chains

We use a Markov chain in order to model the process of patient transfers between (sub)specialisms between the outpatient clinics and/or the operating theaters and the nursing wards and/or the operating theaters. Markov chains are a mathematical description of a system in which a transition from one state to another can be described with a certain probability. The transition probability does not depend on the previous states. A Markov process is said to be memoryless.

Definition of a Markov chain

Ross (2007) provides a mathematical definition of the Markov chain. Let $\{Z_n, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ be a stochastic process which can take on a finite or countable number of possible values. $Z_n = i$ means that the process is in state i at time n . Furthermore, it supposes that whenever the process is in state i , there is a fixed probability M_{ij} that it will be in the next state j . Formally, a Markov chain is defined as follows:

$$M\{Z_{n+1} = j | Z_n = i, Z_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, Z_1 = i_1, Z_0 = i_0\} = M\{Z_{n+1} = j | Z_n = i\} = M_{ij} \quad (3.9)$$

for all states $i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}, i, j$ and all $n \geq 0$. The process described in Equation 3.9 is known as a Markov chain. The equation states that the conditional distribution of a future state Z_{n+1} , given the past states Z_0, Z_1, \dots, Z_n , only depends on the previous state Z_n . This condition is known as the Markov condition.¹¹ For the transition probability, M_{ij} , the following holds:

$$i, j \geq 0 \quad M_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} M_{ij} = 1, \quad i, j = 0, 1, \dots \quad (3.10)$$

Or equivalently, we require i, j to be nonnegative. The transition probabilities should be greater or equal to zero for all i, j and in matrix representation a row sum should be equal to one.¹² The transition probabilities M_{ij} are denoted in a transition matrix \mathbf{M} .

¹¹The Markov condition is also known as the memoryless property of a Markov chain.

¹²The sum of the probabilities of starting in a state fixed i and ending in a fixed state j should sum to one.

Homogeneity and limiting distribution

A Markov chain is homogeneous if the transition probabilities do not change over time. That is the probability of going from state i to state j at time $t = 1$, is equal to the probability of going from state i to state j in some future period. A Markov chain is said to be an ergodic chain if it is possible to go from every state to every state. Moreover, a Markov chain is called regular if some power of the transition matrix has only strictly positive elements. [Winkler \(1995\)](#) provides theory on limiting distributions of Markov chains. Let the limiting distribution be \mathbf{L} . We require the Markov kernel¹³ to be primitive. A Markov kernel is primitive if there exists an n such that $M^n(i, j) > 0$ for all i, j .¹⁴ Now if \mathbf{M} has a primitive Markov kernel on a finite space with invariant (or limiting) distribution \mathbf{L} , then uniformly for all distributions v

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v\mathbf{M}^n = \mathbf{L}. \quad (3.11)$$

\mathbf{L} is also known as the stationary distribution. A Markov process should possess the Markov property, as defined in Equation 3.9. According to the literature, there are no known tests in order to test the Markov property directly. Some indirect tests could be done, as the order of dependence ([Perez et al., 2004](#)). Furthermore, the process should contain the stationary property. [Bickenbach and Bode \(2003\)](#) provide some statistical tests to examine the reliability of estimated Markov transition matrices. Furthermore, they discuss tests for spatial independence and homogeneity. The authors propose a likelihood ratio and Pearson χ^2 test in order to test the Markov property. Also they provide a method for constructing the transition probabilities, using maximum likelihood.

Measure whether homogeneity property holds

As this requires huge and complex computations, we use the notion of independence for testing the Markov property. In probability theory, two events are said to be independent if the occurrence of one of the events is neither more, nor less probable, than the other event. The definition is as follows:

$$\mathbb{P}(\psi \cap \omega) = \mathbb{P}(\psi)\mathbb{P}(\omega). \quad (3.12)$$

If two events ψ and ω are independent, the conditional probability becomes $\mathbb{P}(\psi|\omega) = \mathbb{P}(\psi)$ ¹⁵ and the Markov equation (Equation 3.9) reduces to:

$$M\{Z_{n+1} = j\} = M_{ij}. \quad (3.13)$$

¹³A function $p: S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a Markov kernel if 1) For each $x \in S$, the mapping $A \rightarrow p(x, A)$ is a probability function on (S, S) and 2) For each $A \in S$, the mapping $x \rightarrow p(x, A)$ is a S measurable function.

¹⁴A regular Markov chain and a primitive Markov chain coincides when the Markov kernel coincides with the transition kernel of the Markov chain.

¹⁵Formally $\mathbb{P}(\psi|\omega) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\psi \cap \omega)}{\mathbb{P}(\omega)}$ by independence $\frac{\mathbb{P}(\psi)\mathbb{P}(\omega)}{\mathbb{P}(\omega)} = \mathbb{P}(\psi)$.

For a homogeneous Markov chain one can demonstrate that Equation 3.9 can be rewritten as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
M\{Z_{n+1} = j | Z_n = i, Z_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, Z_1 = i_1, Z_0 = i_0\} &= M\{Z_{n+1} = j | Z_n = i\} = \\
M\{Z_n = j | Z_{n-1} = i, Z_{n-2} = i_{n-2}, \dots, Z_1 = i_1, Z_0 = i_0\} &= M\{Z_n = j | Z_{n-1} = i\} = \\
\dots & \\
M\{Z_2 = j | Z_1 = i, Z_0 = i_0\} &= M\{Z_2 = j | Z_1 = i\} = \\
M\{Z_1 = j | Z_0 = i\} &= M_{ij}.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

If we are able to demonstrate that we deal with an independent probability process or that is the condition in Equation 3.12 is satisfied, the following holds:

$$\begin{aligned}
M\{Z_{n+1} = j | Z_n = i\} &= M\{Z_{n+1=j}\} = \\
M\{Z_1 = j | Z_0 = i\} &= M\{Z_1 = j\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

In this research we shall compute the transition probability of transferring from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in the outpatient clinics/nursing wards for different time intervals. The different transition probabilities are called realizations. The computed transition probabilities are derived from time intervals which are disjoint. Since the time intervals are disjoint the independence assumption follows. If the different realizations over time do not differ too much, we may assume the homogeneity property holds.

Now we shall introduce a criterion which is useful for measuring this difference. This criterion is also useful in investigating the Markov property. Assume that we compute different realizations $t = 1, \dots, T$ of the transition probabilities. Each realization concerns another time interval and thus the intersection of the time intervals is an empty set.¹⁶ The transition probability realizations at different time intervals t , $1 \leq t \leq T$, are denoted by $M_{ij}(t)$. As criterion whether the Markov property holds, we use the following equation:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \max_{1 \leq t \leq T} \|M_{ij}(t) - \bar{M}_{ij}\| \leq \varepsilon \quad j \geq 0 \text{ } i \text{ fixed} \tag{3.16}$$

in which \bar{M}_{ij} is defined as follows:

$$\bar{M}_{ij} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T M_{ij}(t). \tag{3.17}$$

Equation 3.16 states that the maximum over t of the different T transition probabilities realizations and its average for a certain fixed i should be less or equal than ε . For this paper we assume two epsilons, namely $\varepsilon = 0.05$ and $\varepsilon = 0.10$. The two epsilons are sufficiently small for accepting the homogeneity property. In practice we also use

¹⁶Formally, for all t : $t = 1 \cap t = 2 \cap \dots \cap t = T = \emptyset$.

somewhat different criterion. In this criterion we exclude n -highest and m -lowest number of a series of realizations $M_{ij}(t)$, $t = 1, \dots, T$ and apply the adapted series to Equation 3.16. As we suspect that the data contains measurement errors due to for instance wrong data processing, we can exclude these externalities if computing the norm in Equation 3.16.

Measure for existence of the limiting distribution

The Chapman-Kolmogorov equations enables one to compute the M_{ij}^{n+m} transition probabilities. These equations should be interpreted as computing the probability of starting in state i and ending in state j in exactly $n + m$ transitions through a path which takes into state k at the n th transition. The equation is:

$$M_{ij}^{n+m} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} M_{ik}^n M_{kj}^m \quad \text{for all } n, m \geq 0, \text{ all } i, j. \quad (3.18)$$

We use the Chapman-Kolmogorov equations in order to test the limiting probabilities of the Markov chains. We compute the M^n transition probabilities for $i = j$ and $k = 0$. We assume that the time periods are indifferent.¹⁷

3.2.1 Markov chains and the transfers of outpatients

First we consider the transfers of outpatients. In Figure 3.1 the transfers of outpatients are depicted by the black arrows between the green marked specialisms in the departments outpatient clinics and operating theaters. A more detailed view is provided in Figure 3.2. There are n states S_i which represents the various locations an outpatient can be referred to, namely an outpatient clinic of another (sub)specialisms, the department operation theaters, the department nursing wards or discharge. $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 3$ denotes an outpatient clinics of a (sub)specialism. $n - 2$ represents the department operating theaters, $n - 1$ the department nursing wards and n represents discharge. We observe the transitions during some time interval t . The number of patients are thus considered in a certain time interval, t , which is defined as follows: $[t_{\tau+1} - t_{\tau})$. The time points $t_{\tau+1}$ and t_{τ} , are the two time points, between which we measure an inflow and outflow of patients from one location to another location. The transition probability thus denotes the probability that a patient will transfer from state S_i to state S_j within $[t_{\tau+1} - t_{\tau})$, and has formal definition:

$$P\{S_{n+1} = j | S_n = i, S_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, S_1 = i_1, S_0 = i_0\} = P\{S_{n+1} = j | S_n = i\} = a_{ij} \quad (3.19)$$

or

$$a_{ij}(t) := \text{the probability that a patient is sent from state } i \text{ to state } j \text{ in } [t_{\tau+1} - t_{\tau})$$

¹⁷For now we assume that the data should not necessarily be gathered from consecutive periods.

Patients who transfer from state i to state j somewhere in time interval $[t_\tau - t_{\tau+1})$ contribute to the transition probability. This allows patients to enter, to leave the system or to transfer from one state to another on an arbitrary time point t_t during the time interval t .¹⁸ We can not distinguish between the time length a patient is in the t interval, e.g. a patient entering a state at day one of the interval will be seen equally, as a patient entering the state at the last day of the interval. The estimated transition probability \hat{a}_{ij} of the transition probability a_{ij} can be computed as follows:

$$\hat{a}_{ij} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T r_{ij}(t)}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^n r_{ij}(t)} \quad (3.20)$$

in which $r_{ij}(t)$ denotes the number of patients transferred from state i to state j in time period t .¹⁹ The estimated transition probability $\hat{a}_{ij}(t)$ is the average of transition probabilities over all realizations t , $t = 1, \dots, T$.²⁰ One obtains the transition probability $\hat{a}_{ij}(t)$ of one realization t by dropping the summation from 1 to T in both numerator as the denominator in Equation 3.20. The accompanying transition matrix \mathbf{A} is as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1,n-3} & a_{1,n-2} & a_{1,n-1} & a_{1,n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2,n-3} & a_{2,n-2} & a_{2,n-1} & a_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-3,1} & a_{n-3,2} & \dots & a_{n-3,n-3} & a_{n-3,n-2} & a_{n-3,n-1} & a_{n-3,n} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The last three rows are special as they only contain 0 or 1. We only consider transfers of outpatients in the hospital from one (sub)specialisms to another (sub)specialism.

We assume that patients who are operated will always be nursed in a nursing ward and not in an outpatient clinic, which is why $a_{n-2,n-1} = 1$.

The elements of the second last row represent the transition probabilities of going from a nursing ward of (sub)specialism i to an outpatient clinic of (sub)specialism j . As we have argued that a normal patient path in a hospital exists of subsequently a visit to an outpatient clinic, (possibly) to an operating theater and finally to a nursing ward, we assume that patient cannot transfer from a nursing ward to an outpatient clinic and thus $a_{n-1,n-1} = 1$.²¹

¹⁸We also check whether a patient, who is in the hospital during interval t remains in the hospital during interval $t + 1$.

¹⁹ $r_{ij}(t)$ is equal to the patient flow from (sub)specialism i to (sub)specialism j in the interval $t = [t_{\tau+1} - t_\tau)$.

²⁰Note that a realization coincides with an interval in this case.

²¹Of course also, patients could transfer from a nursing ward to an operating theater, however as this transition matrix concerns the transfer of outpatients, we do not incorporate these transition probabilities here.

Finally, the last row represents the transition probabilities of going home²² to an outpatient clinic of (sub)specialism j . We do however estimate the arrivals using ARIMA theory. We incorporate the state 'discharge', to model the transition probability of a transfer of an outpatient from (sub)specialism to the state 'discharge'.

The probabilities of the last three rows are not estimated, since they are all logical zero or one.

Now the total number of expected outpatients TAO_j in the outpatients clinic of (sub)specialism j in interval t are:

$$\mathbb{E}[TAO_j] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} X_i^O \hat{a}_{ij} + X_j^O [a_{j,\hat{n}-2} + a_{j,\hat{n}-1} + a_{j,n}] \quad (3.21)$$

in which X_i^O is a specific number of outpatients for (sub)specialism. X_i^O has mean μ_i^O . We use time series analysis in order to estimate this parameter μ_i^O . This is explained in section 3.1. $X_j^O [a_{j,\hat{n}-2} + a_{j,\hat{n}-1} + a_{j,n}]$ in Equation 3.21 deals with the transfers of patients from the outpatient clinic to respectively an operating theater, a nursing ward of (sub)specialism j and discharge. The total number of expected outpatients in (sub)specialism is equal to the sum of new outpatients arriving from other (sub)specialisms and outpatients already being in this (sub)specialism. $\mathbb{E}[TAO_j]$ can be seen as the patient volumes in the department outpatient clinics at (sub)specialism j .

Assumptions for the transfers of outpatients

This subsection lists the assumptions for the Markov process describing the transfers of outpatients. These assumptions are specific for modeling the patient paths through the hospital.

- Patients can enter an outpatient clinic by a referral from a general practitioner and a referral from another outpatient clinic.
- For clinical admissions there exists one unique number. However, for successive outpatient clinic visits of one patient path, there exists non unique number. We assume that outpatient clinic visits occurring the same or adjacent time state are part of the same patient path. Also, if the patient visits an outpatient clinic in the next time period, this will be seen as part of the same patient path.

3.2.2 Markov chains and the transfers of inpatients

We construct a similar model for the transfers of the inpatients. In Figure 3.1 the transfers of inpatients are depicted by the black arrows between the green marked specialisms in

²²We assume home is the opposite of a discharge.

the departments operating theaters and nursing wards. A more detailed view is provided in Figure 3.3. We define similar states for the Markov chain of the transfers of the outpatients. Let denote U_i the states of this process, $i = 1, \dots, n$, in which $i = 1, \dots, n-3$ are the several nursing wards of a (sub)specialism, $i = n-2$ the department operation theaters, $i = n-1$ the intensive care and $i = n$ discharge. The formal Markov chain is:

$$P\{U_{n+1} = j | U_n = i, U_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, U_1 = i_1, U_0 = i_0\} = P\{U_{n+1} = j | U_n = i\} = b_{ij}. \quad (3.22)$$

The transition probability b_{ij} can be interpreted as follows:

$$b_{ij}(t) := \text{the probability that a patient is sent from state } i \text{ to state } j \text{ in } [t_{\tau+1} - t_{\tau}]$$

Note that the last state is an absorbing state. The estimate \hat{b}_{ij} of the transition probability $b_{ij}(t)$ is computed as follows:

$$\hat{b}_{ij} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T s_{ij}(t)}{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^n s_{ij}(t)} \quad (3.23)$$

in which $s_{ij}(t)$ is the number of patients transferred from location i to location j in interval t .²³ The transition matrix \mathbf{B} for this process is:

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1,n-3} & b_{1,n-2} & b_{1,n-1} & b_{1,n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2,n-3} & b_{2,n-2} & b_{2,n-1} & b_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b_{n-3,1} & b_{n-3,2} & \dots & b_{n-3,n-3} & b_{n-3,n-2} & b_{n-3,n-1} & b_{n-3,n} \\ b_{n-2,1} & b_{n-2,2} & \dots & b_{n-2,n-3} & 0 & b_{n-2,n-1} & b_{n-2,n} \\ b_{n-1,1} & b_{n-1,2} & \dots & b_{n-1,n-3} & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The transition probability $b_{n-2,n-2}$ is equal to zero as we assume that a patient can not stay within an operating theater during the whole time interval t . Next we assume that a patient in the intensive care unit cannot directly be discharged. That is why $b_{n-3,n-3}$ and $b_{n-1,n}$ are both equal to zero. Again, the last row is an absorbing state, representing the discharge process.

The total expected number of inpatients TAH_j for a nursing ward j in interval t is:

$$\mathbb{E}[TAH_j] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} X_i^N \hat{b}_{ij} + X_j^N \hat{b}_{j,n}. \quad (3.24)$$

$i = 1, \dots, n$. X_i^N represents the number of inpatients at a nursing ward for (sub)specialism j and has mean λ_i which is estimated using time series. $X_j^N \hat{b}_{j,n}$ of Equation 3.24 represents the expected number of inpatients who transfer from (sub)specialism j to the state 'discharge'. $\mathbb{E}[TAH_j]$ can be seen as the expected number of patients in the department nursing wards at (sub)specialism j .

²³ Again, we also check whether a patient, who is in the hospital during interval t remains in the hospital during interval $t+1$.

Assumptions for the transfers of inpatients

This subsection lists the various assumptions for the Markov process describing the transfer of inpatients.

- A patient can enter a nursing ward through a transfer from another nursing ward, or from an operation in an operation theater or a referral from an outpatient clinic. A patient can not enter the nursing ward otherwise.
- An admission is used in order to determine transfers from the various specialisms. This means that a patient who is admitted more than once, will be seen as two different patients.
- The origin of a patient at a new arrival or transfer is determined by linking the process of transfers of outpatients to the process of the transfers of inpatients. Unique combinations of patient numbers, DBC trajectories numbers and registration dates for operation are used in order to determine the origin.²⁴ If the combination of patient number and DBC trajectory number is in the outpatient clinic data but not in the operation data, than this indicates an outpatient clinic referral. If the combination of patient number, DBC trajectory number and registration number is in the operation data this indicates surgery in an operation theater, and thus that its origin is an operation theater. If however, the registration date is missing, this indicates a surgery in an outpatient clinic and the origin is an outpatient clinic. Finally, if the physical location of a patient is the intensive care unit, the origin is intensive care.
- Days will be used as the smallest time interval on which transitions are considered. A patient can only be at one particular specialism and department during a day. Thus, if a patient transfers, this occurs at the end of the day exactly, so that at the start of the new day the patient is at the new specialism.
- Patients on the intensive care can not immediately be discharged. These patients are first sent back to a normal nursing ward.

3.2.3 Action plan for establishing Markov chains

This section contains the consecutive steps how to construct a Markov chain from the data. It discusses the construction of states, transitions and state time. Also the concepts of homogeneity, Markov property and limiting distribution are discussed.

1. First choose the subdivision of states and time length of one state. A state change is denoted by a transition. In the health care path a (sub)specialism can be such a state. The transition is then defined as the transfer from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism during the time length of the state. The right choice of the length of the time interval and size of the state are of major importance. In

²⁴See Section 1.7 for a discussion on DBC, see Chapter 4 for all patient data characteristics.

Chapter 5, Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 we exhaustively discuss the consequences of choosing a certain subdivision of the hospital and the length of the time interval.

2. Determine the number of transitions, or transfers from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism, for the independent time intervals.
3. Use Equation 3.20 to compute the transition probabilities for the different realizations.
4. Use Equation 3.16 to investigate the homogeneity and Markov property of the Markov chain. If for all computed realizations the condition of Equation 3.16 is satisfied, than the series is homogeneous, meaning that the transition probabilities will not differ much over time. Also this indicates that the Markov property holds.
5. Use Equation 3.18 to investigate limiting distribution of the Markov chain.

3.3 Service times and occupancy rate of (sub)specialisms at operating rooms and nursing wards

The service time of patients is required in order to estimate how long a patient will stay in the hospital after admission. We subsequently estimate the average service time for operations and for nursing time. We compute the average time of a series $Y_i, i = 1, \dots, N$ service times, by computing the sample mean \bar{Y} , which is:

$$\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N Y_i. \quad (3.25)$$

The variance σ^2 is estimated by S^2

$$S^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^N (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2. \quad (3.26)$$

The average and the variance for each specialism are determined.

Occupancy rate

Along with the expected patient volume, the estimated service time allows one to estimate the expected occupancy rate of specialism i . The computation of average service times, is depicted by the orange box in Figure 3.1. Let b_{ij} be the transition probability an inpatient transfers from state i to j , as defined in Section 3.2.2, let X_i^N be the number of inpatients for specialism i at a nursing ward, determined by time series analysis and let Y_j^N be the simple mean of the services times for specialism j over all its treatments

in the department nursing wards. Then for example the expected occupancy rate O_j^N for (sub)specialism j at the nursing ward is derived as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}[O_j^N] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} X_i^N b_{ij}^{\hat{}} Y_j^{\bar{N}} + X_j^N b_{j,n}^{\hat{}} Y_j^{\bar{N}}. \quad (3.27)$$

The occupancy rate for (sub)specialism j at the outpatient clinics can be obtained similarly. Let a_{ij} be the transition probability an outpatient transfers from state i to state j , as defined in Section 3.2.1, X_i^O the number of outpatients in the outpatient clinics of specialism i and Y_i^O , the average service time of M treatments in the outpatient clinics of specialism i , then the expected occupancy rate O_j^O for (sub)specialism j at the outpatient clinics is equal to

$$\mathbb{E}[O_j^O] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} X_i^O a_{ij}^{\hat{}} Y_j^{\bar{O}} + X_j^O [a_{j,\hat{n}-2} + a_{j,\hat{n}-1} + a_{j,n}^{\hat{}}] Y_j^{\bar{O}}. \quad (3.28)$$

3.4 Back-testing and performance of the model

Back-testing is a technique used in social and natural science in order to test the performance of a model. We use back-testing for comparing the model results with the real results. Back-testing can be seen as part of the validation process. For this procedure we use predicted values of the ARIMA-models and the estimated Markov probabilities.

We do not use the average service times as the actual occupancy rate is not registered sufficiently accurate. Hospitals only register admissions of patients in whole days. So we can not distinguish between an admission of 1 hour and 23 hours. For performance purposes one would like to have the most accurate duration of an admission.

Back-testing our model involves the following steps:

1. Compute the series of estimates of arrivals for subsequent values of t , using the proposed ARIMA-model for the combination of departments and (sub)specialisms. Also estimate the Markov transition probabilities.
2. Compute using either Equation 3.21 the expected number of outpatients at a combination of an outpatient clinic for (sub)specialism j or Equation 3.24 the expected number of outpatients at a combination of a nursing ward for (sub)specialism j .
3. Compare the outcome of Equation 3.21 and Equation 3.24 at time t with the true value at time t .
4. Compare the difference of the outcomes of Equation 3.21 and Equation 3.24 and the true value at time t with the difference of another performance measure and the true value at time t .

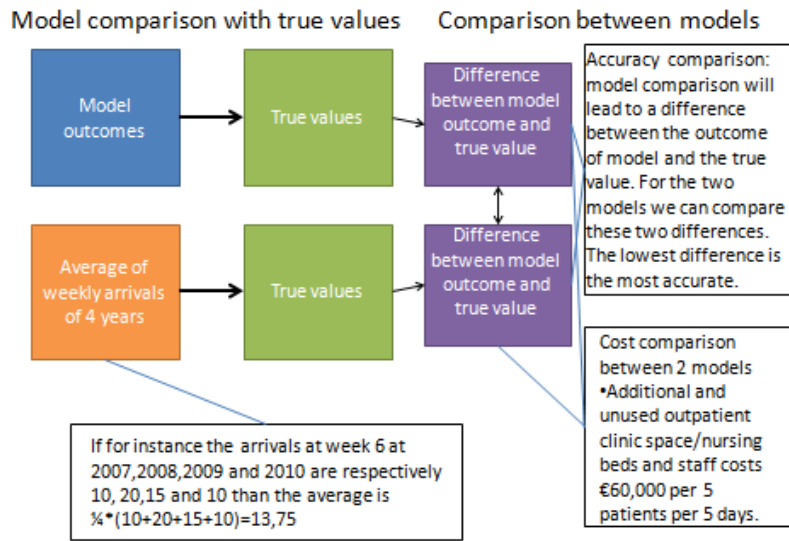


Figure 3.4: Overview of back-testing.

For reconstructing the series of estimates of arrivals for subsequent values of t applying the proposed ARIMA-model, we use the following equation:

$$\hat{X}_t = X_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i L^i \Delta \hat{X}_t + \sum_{i=1}^q \theta_i L^i \varepsilon_t + \varepsilon_t, \quad (3.29)$$

in which \hat{X}_t is the estimated number of arrivals at t . In fact, it is a method to predict the next arrival estimate for time t , if all values or estimates are known up an till time $t-1$.

We use back-testing for comparing our model values with the true values and comparing our model with another measure. Figure 3.4 provides an overview of the two different back-tests and the comparison between the two models. Also, we introduce arbitrarily costs, so that we can compare both models with respect to the costs of outpatient clinic space, nursing beds and hiring staff in case of an over- and underestimation of the patient volume.

Comparing with true values

The estimated arrivals at the outpatient clinics and the nursing wards for (sub)specialisms are compared with the true values. If the difference between comparison of the model outcome and the true value is zero, than the model estimates the patient volume at the combination of department and (sub)specialism correctly. The closer the difference is to zero, the better the estimation.

Comparison with another model

Also we compare the estimated patient arrivals at the outpatient clinics and the nursing wards for (sub)specialism with another performance indicator. Currently, ZGT uses common sense and experience of employees in order to estimate the required number of nursing beds and operating time, which is more difficult to replicate. That is why, we construct a simplified model and use it to compare it with our model. We choose the average volume over four years at a (sub)specialism as a comparison number, which we can compare with our predicted model values. This average is calculated by summing the true number of arrivals of a (sub)specialism at a certain department at the same time points each year and divide it by four. This step can be seen as a model comparison. We use this average as we have five years of data.²⁵ We compare the true figures of the last year with the estimated figures for the last year obtained by our model.

Cost comparison

Finally, we perform a cost comparison. The two models predict patient volumes at the specialisms in the department outpatient clinics and nursing wards. We introduce arbitrary costs for the capacity of the outpatient clinics, the nursing wards and staff.²⁶ We assume that keeping open an outpatient clinic or nursing ward, costs €60,000.- per ten patients per week.²⁷ For opening an extra outpatient clinic/nursing wards, the costs are also assumed to be €60,000.-.

In order to get an understanding of the sensitivity of the model, we consider two scenarios. We assume that the capacity for an outpatient clinic and a nursing ward, are both ten patients. Moreover, we also assume no transfers between the different specialisms in case of under- or overcapacity. In the first scenario we assume that we don't use the planned capacity at all in case of an overestimation. In the case of an underestimation, we assume the maximum excess of ten patients. We call this the worst case scenario. In a second scenario we assume that five out of ten are occupied in case of an overestimation. In case of an underestimation, the excess is five patients. Both scenarios assume a time horizon of five days. Note that the costs for the average scenario are half of the costs of the worst case scenario. These two scenarios are very artificial, because we expect in reality that the planning is more flexible.

²⁵The data we use is described in detail in Chapter 4. Data about inpatients and outpatients are available for the period 2007-2011, data about operations are available for the period 2008-2011.

²⁶Note the difference between capacity and patient volume. Capacity is the number of patients an outpatient clinic or nursing ward can hold. Patient volume is the number of patients present in the outpatient clinic or nursing ward during a certain time period.

²⁷This figure is based on ten patients. Figures of the NZa demonstrate that in 2008 the average costs per patient per nursing day are approximately €1,267.- for a hospital with more than 600 beds (NZa, 2008). For an easy calculation, we choose these costs to be €1,200. The total costs for ten patients per week are thus $5 * 10 * €1,200.- = €60,000.-$. The amount includes all costs made for one nursing day and is an average for all specialisms.

Chapter 4

Data

This chapter describes the data used for the research. We discuss the data itself and the modifications we make to the data. The reliability of the data is discussed in Chapter 7. First we discuss the data warehouse used in ZGT. Next we discuss the data used for modeling the arrivals at the combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms using ARIMA-models. After that, we discuss the data we use for determining the transition probability that a patient will transfer from one (sub)specialism to another in a certain time period. We deal with the outpatient and inpatient transfer process separately. At the end of this chapter, we elaborate on the data used for determining the average service times for various treatments.

4.1 Data warehouse

The data warehouse of an organization is a database in which all available information is stored. There are many ways of storing data into the data warehouse and accessing data from it. In order to determine the transition probabilities of our Markov chains, we rely on historical patient information obtained from the data warehouse. ZGT uses Chipsoft-EZIS (EZIS¹) registration system to record all patient details, both clinically and financially, regarding outpatient clinic visits, operations and hospitalization. Chipsoft is a Dutch software developer which has developed the EZIS patient registration system. The program is a work flow management system, which supports medical staff in order to register clinical details about patients. Within ZGT, the program is used in the outpatient clinics, the operating theaters and the nursing wards for storing patient details about diagnoses, treatments, visits, operations and admissions. Medical staff can view the health status of a patient in the system and update it immediately during a visit/operation/admission in ZGT. Financial and planning support staff use the system for financial and logistic purposes. This registration system is the backbone supplier of the data warehouse of ZGT with respect to clinical patient details. The staff of ZGT is responsible for entering and updating data in this data warehouse. Nurses, doctors

¹EZIS: Elektronisch Zorg Informatie Systeem, English: Electronic Health care information system.

and supporting employees daily enter patient details in EZIS. EZIS is a software package which stores information into the data warehouse, but is not principally used for data analysis within ZGT.

The data warehouse is daily filled with data from information systems such as EZIS, but also with other information systems. ZGT uses the software package Business Objects for analyzing data and retrieving data from the data warehouse. Business Objects is used worldwide in all sorts of enterprises in order to access and analyze data in a data warehouse. Business Objects allows one to build queries for analyzing data in the data warehouse. Users can select characteristics (dimensions) and measures from an universe in order to compile a certain report. For this research we use Business Objects for accessing and retrieving data from the data warehouse. The universes we access are mainly filled with data from the EZIS system. Finally, we use software packages as Eviews and Matlab for developing ARIMA-models and Excel for constructing the Markov transition probabilities and computing the average service times.

The data warehouse consists of several universes. The most important database is the DBC universe. This universe contains data of all closed and open DBC trajectories. DBC trajectories are specific per patient and treatment. The DBC universe contains information about treatments in the outpatient clinics, the operating theaters and nursing wards. More detailed data about outpatients can be found in the universe outpatients, more detailed data about operations is in the operations universe and finally more detailed data about inpatients is in the nursing wards universe. Figure 4.1 provides an overview of all software packages used.

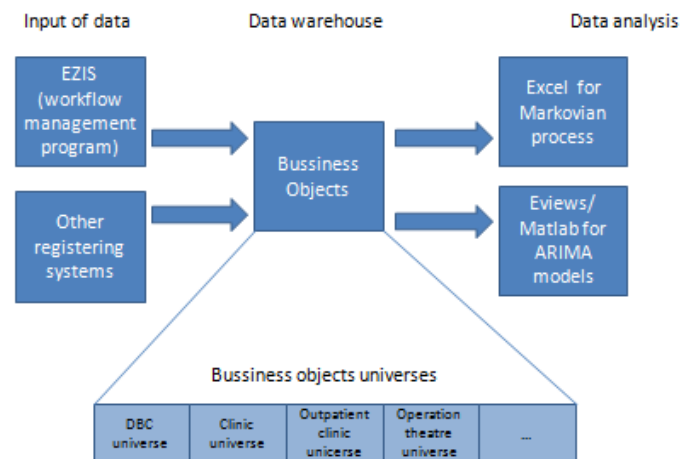


Figure 4.1: Overview of data mining, gathering data, data warehouse and data analysis in ZGT.

4.2 Data

As discussed in Chapter 3 the model we use, consists of three components, namely the patient arrivals at various combinations of departments and (sub)specialisms, the Markov transition probabilities that a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another and the average service times. ZGT stores data about outpatient clinics visits and nursing wards admissions from 2007. Data about operating theaters is stored from 2008 onwards.² This data is also used in all sorts of other reports within ZGT. For the three components we use the following data:

- For arrivals at the outpatient clinics and the nursing wards we use data from 2007-2011. The data contains the admissions in the period 2007-2011 for the sub(specialisms). For the arrivals at the operating theaters we use data from 2008-2011. The data contains the operations of the (sub)specialism in the period 2008-2011. Fitting an ARIMA-model onto data points requires sufficient data points. The more data points available, the better and easier one can obtain an ARIMA-model. The data characteristics and modifications are discussed in Section 4.3.
- For the determining the transition probabilities that a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another in a given department and time period, we use data from 2010 and 2011. The data contains the dates at which a patient has visited a combination of department and (sub)specialism. Computing transition probabilities requires a lot of manual effort and time. That is why we only compute transition probabilities for 2010 and 2011. The details of the data and modifications we make, are discussed in Section 4.4.
- For determining the average service times we only use 2011 data, as this reflects the most recent figures about treatments, such that we can take the newest developments and techniques into account. The data contains the gross operating time per treatment and of clinical admissions it contains the gross admission time. We elaborate on the data in Section 4.5.

Subdivision of hospital and time length of interval

We consider two subdivisions of the hospital. We do this in order to identify what the best subdivision would be for computing transition probabilities in the Markov chain. With this respect the time length of the interval and the size of the (sub)specialisms are important. The size of the (sub)specialisms can not be too small. If the size is too small, there exists a possibility that no or very little transfers will occur between two subspecialisms. The time length of the interval can not be too long, as the time becomes too long, most patients will be absorbed in the state 'discharge'. The share of this state

²For the data of the departments outpatient clinics and nursing wards, no accurate or reliable data is available before 2007, for the department operating theaters this is the case with data which are before 2008.

compared to the other states will become very large. Little fluctuations in the other states are more difficult to detect in that case. In order to investigate the influences we make two subdivisions. The first subdivision has small subspecialisms and a large time interval. The second subdivision only concerns specialisms but has a smaller time interval. The first subdivision is as follows:

1. General surgery and surgery for children.
2. Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointestinal surgery.
3. Traumatology and emergency incidents.
4. Vascular surgery.
5. Other surgery.

The time length for this state is one month. It appears that the time length of the interval is too large and the size of the subspecialisms are too small. This is also clarified in Section 5.2.3. The second subdivision is:

1. Cardiology.
2. Gastroenterology.
3. Gynecology.
4. Internal medicine.
5. Neurology.
6. Obstetrics.
7. Pediatrics.
8. Pulmonology.
9. Surgery.
10. Urology.
11. Other.

For this subdivision we use the time period of one week. We shall see in Section 5.2.3 that this subdivision is more suitable. Also the time length of one week is a better interval than one month. As this subdivision is more suitable for computing Markov transition probabilities, we only estimated ARIMA-models using weekly arrival figures for the eleven specialisms mentioned above.

4.3 Data for patient arrivals and time series analysis

Time series analysis is performed on the three departments of the hospital, namely the outpatient clinics, the operating theaters and the nursing wards. We use ARIMA-models to develop a forecasting model for estimating the number of weekly arrivals to the several (sub)departments at a certain department. The arrivals to the outpatient clinics are divided into a first outpatient clinic visit and a repeated outpatient clinic visit. The arrivals to a nursing ward are divided into a one day clinical admission (heavy and light) and a more than one day clinical admission. The length of time interval between two subsequent data points of the number of arrivals at a certain department and (sub)specialism on which we fit the ARIMA-model, should be equal to the length of time interval for which we compute the Markov transition probabilities. This is done in order to avoid timing differences, if we compute the estimated patient volumes at the combinations of department and (sub)specialism.

4.3.1 Data characteristics for patient arrivals and time series analysis

This subsection describes the data characteristics of a data series of patient arrivals at a combination of a (sub)specialism and a department which we can use for estimating an ARIMA-model. We use Business Objects for retrieving arrival data from the data warehouse. We require the characteristics: execution date, patient number, registration code, (sub)specialism and the number of treatments. The execution date is used for determining the period in which a treatment takes place. The (sub)specialism denotes the operator of the treatment, whereas the registration code denotes the type of treatment and its department. We require patient number and the number of treatments in order to make sure that we count all patients and treatments at a given time. Time series analysis requires the establishment of a series of which the data points are one equidistant time interval e.g. weeks or months. The characteristics allows us to determine the number of arrivals at a certain (sub)specialism and department in a certain fixed time interval. We estimate ARIMA-models, using weekly patient arrivals at the combination of a (sub)specialism and one of the three departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters or nursing wards. Estimating an ARIMA-model requires sufficient data points. That is why we choose weekly data arrivals instead of monthly data points. We shall see that for computing the transition probabilities, the length of the time interval is also very important. This is explained in Section 4.4.

4.4 Data for Markov process and transition matrices

The data we use are from 2010 and 2011. Remember that we compute the transition probabilities for the transfer of outpatients and inpatients. For reconstructing the patient path we require patient data from the outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. The patient data we use, contains patient information on treatments on a specific day, performed by a certain (sub)specialism.

In order to analyze the data, we have to modify the data. Computing the transition probabilities of the transfers of outpatients, requires different modifications to the data than for the transfers of inpatients. The Subsections (4.4.2-4.4.3) describe the characteristics and modifications. The transfers of outpatients and inpatients are modeled as two separate processes. These processes should be linked to each other. This is discussed in Section 4.4.4.

4.4.1 Data characteristics for Markov states

In order to compute the transition probabilities a patient transfers from a combination of a department and a (sub)specialism to another during a time period, we have to know how a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another in a certain time period. We have to reconstruct a patient path. Remember that a patient path is defined as the successive treatments a single patient undergoes at a specific combination of specialisms and departments of a hospital. We can construct the patient path using specific patient characteristics of visits to outpatient clinics, operations and admissions in nursing wards. In Business Objects we make a query which retrieves the required data from the data warehouse. We use the following patient characteristics, such that we can reconstruct the patient path.

- Start and end date of DBC trajectory. This two dates mark the start and end date of one DBC trajectory. By law, a DBC trajectory has a maximum length of one year. Remark that these data not necessarily coincides with the admission dates of a patient.
- DBC trajectory number. This is an unique number for each specialism and each treatment. DBCs will be replaced by the DOT structure. See also the discussion in Section 1.7.
- Patient code. This an unique registration number of a patient within ZGT.
- Specialism (e.g. surgery, neurology etc.) and subcategory of specialism (e.g. oncology and traumatology).
- Execution date, this date indicates the specific dates on which a treatment is executed.
- Admission number, this an unique number of the admission of a patient at a nursing ward.
- Registration code, this code indicates the type of care. This can be either a first outpatient clinic visit or a repeated outpatient clinic visit (the patient already has seen a specialist at an outpatient clinic) or an operation or an one day clinical admission (light or heavy) or a more than one day clinical admission. This code is based on the old expenses claim system for hospitals, in which the number of

outpatient clinic visits, the number of nursing days and the number of operations were important. See also the discussion in Section 1.6.

4.4.2 Transfer of outpatients

First we consider the transfers of outpatients. A transition is defined as the transfer of a single outpatient from one (sub)specialism in the outpatient clinics to another, in a certain time period. Furthermore, we consider transfers of outpatients to the departments operating theaters and nursing wards. Also we include discharges. We check which outpatient clinics a patient has attended during the time period, whether he/she has been scheduled for an operation, underwent an operation, is redirected to a nursing ward or is discharged. We proceed as follows as we construct the transition matrix.

- First we filter the outpatient data on the data belonging to the time period for which we are going to construct the transition probabilities.
- Next, we sort the data of outpatient clinics subsequently on patient code, execution date and registration code.
- A treatment of a patient is recorded on several lines. Each line indicates for a specific patient, one treatment at a specific (sub)specialism at a specific date. We determine for each line whether this is the first, or the last day or some day in between.
- Next, we determine whether the patient has been transferred from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism. This is the most important step in reconstructing the patient path of a single patient. The transfer can be to an outpatient clinic of a certain (sub)specialism, the department operating theaters, the waiting list for operating theater, the department nursing wards of a certain (sub)specialism or discharge. The waiting list procedure is described in Section 4.4.4.
- All transfers are counted and used for the computation of the transition matrix.
- In Excel, we create a pivot table in order to easily obtain the number of patients per combination of start and end specialism and/or subcategory. From these numbers we can compute the transition probabilities for this particular time period.

We check whether a patient visits an outpatient clinic in the next period, such that we can distinguish between discharge on the last day of the length of the time period and a scheduled visit in the adjacent period. We link the inpatients and operating data to the data of the outpatients by matching patient numbers. If a patient number is only in the inpatients data, then a patient in this time period is sent to the nursing ward and the patient is included in the state 'nursing ward'. If both the patient number is contained in the operating and nursing ward data, this indicates that the patient has underwent surgery. In this case the patient is added to the state 'with operation'.

4.4.3 Transfer of inpatients

This section deals with the transfers of inpatients. Remember that the transfer an inpatient can make, is between (sub)specialisms in the nursing ward in a certain time period, but also includes a transfer from the operating room to the nursing wards. Obviously, a transfer to the state 'discharge' is also included. Constructing the transition matrix for this process, we proceed as follows.

- We filter the data on the time period for which we would like to establish the transition probabilities.
- We sort the data subsequently on patient code, execution date, DBC trajectory code, admission number and registration code. The admission number is obtained from the Business Objects universe clinic. Using the unique combination of patient number and execution date, the admission number is added to the major file.
- Next, we link the operations and the outpatient clinic visits to the nursing wards admissions. We search in the operations and outpatient clinics data for a specific patient number. If the patient number is also in the operations data this means that the patient underwent an operation in the same month. This patient will be placed in the state 'operation'. A patient who is in the outpatient patient database and has been scheduled for an operation in an outpatient clinic, is included in the state 'outpatient clinic'. If a patient is both in the outpatient and the operation data, then we put this patient in the state including 'operation', as we assume that the natural flow of a patient through a hospital is outpatient clinic to operating theater to nursing ward.
- Again a treatment of several days is registered on more than one line. We determine for each line whether this is the first or the last day or some day in between. Each line indicates for a specific patient one treatment at a specific specialism and subcategory at a specific date.
- Next, we determine whether the patient has been transferred from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism. The transfer can be to a nursing ward of a certain (sub)specialism or discharge.
- All transfers are counted and used for the computation of the transition matrix.
- In Excel, we create a pivot table in order to easily obtain the number of patients per combination of start and end specialism and/or subcategory. From these numbers we can compute the transition probabilities for this particular time period.

It is checked whether a patient which is in the department nursing wards at the last day of the period, continues his/her stay in the hospital, or is discharged at this day.

4.4.4 Linking transfers of outpatients and inpatients and the waiting list state

We include a waiting list state in order to obtain a more realistic model of a patient path of a single patient through a hospital. The waiting list state is used in order to keep track of patients who are registered for operation during some state period, but however are not operated in the same state period. We also need this information in order to distinguish whether a patient has been operated in the operating theater or in an outpatient clinic. The registration date is used for this purpose: only for an operation in an operation theater this date is registered. For each operation it has been registered on which date a patient enters the waiting list. We construct a data file which enables us to determine in which period a patient respectively enters, is on and leaves the waiting list. This file is constructed as follows.

- First we collect operations details per patient for all specialisms in a specific year.
- The data we use, is obtained from two different Business Objects universes: DBC universe and operation theaters universe. We use two different universes as we require information from both universes: DBC universe is necessary for determining the flow through the hospital. The operating theater universe is used for obtaining the date of entering the waiting list. The operation details from both universes are linked by using specific patient characteristics per operation. We use the combination of patient code and execution date in order to link both universes. Since this list serves for determining whether a patient in the outpatient clinic is directly or not directly sent for operation, the DBC universe is filtered only on outpatient clinic visits. We link the information from the DBC database and the list established, using the unique combination of patient number and DBC trajectory number.
- The data is sort on patient number, execution date and registering date.
- For each operation it is determined in which period it has taken place. Also if the entry date of the waiting list is not in the same month in which the operation has taken place, the states in which the patient is on the waiting list, are determined.

For the waiting list state there are four distinct cases during a time period: a patient enters the waiting list, is on the waiting list, leaves a waiting list or enters the outpatient clinic and is operated in the same time period.

4.5 Data for service times

For determining service times of operations and admissions, we use data of 2011. Again we use Business Objects for retrieving the required data from the data warehouse. We use the universes DBC, operating theaters and nursing wards, in order to gather the required information. The operating theater universe contains the gross operation time per patient or that is the difference a patient leaves and enters an operating theater. As

we are interested in the time a patient blocks an operation theater, we use these two time points for computing the service time. For the admission we have the start and end time of the admission of a patient, this is stored in the nursing wards universe. The times do have a data-hour-minute format so that we can compute the operation and admission time per patient on a minute accuracy basis. The specific treatment details are stored in the DBC universe. We use Excel macros for linking the DBC and admission universe and DBC and operations figures. We assume that the times are correctly registered by the hospital staff. As a DBC is a specific treatment, we compute per DBC the average service time and its standard deviation.

Chapter 5

Results

In this chapter we discuss the results. Recall that our model consists of three pillars: patient arrivals, transfers of out- and inpatients and average service times. The first pillar is estimated using ARIMA-models, the second using Markov transition probabilities and the third using statistical analysis. First, we discuss the results for ARIMA-models. Next, we discuss the results for the transition probabilities that a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another. Moreover, we discuss the results of the average service times. At the end of the chapter, we discuss the results of a back-test and a cost comparison between our model and a simple model which uses the average arrival rates.

Remember that we work with two subdivisions of the hospital. These subdivisions are listed in 4.2. We use the two subdivisions in order to determine the most adequate size and time length of the Markov states. The first subdivision is into (sub)specialisms of surgery and the remaining part of the hospital is in the state 'other'. For this subdivision the time length is one month. The second subdivision is into 11 specialisms. The time length is one week.

It appears that the size of (sub)specialisms is too small and that the time length of one month is too long. We shall discuss this in depth in Section 5.2.3. For time series analysis, we only consider the subdivision in the 11 specialisms.

5.1 Results for time series analysis

This section discusses the results of the estimation of the arrival process for the 11 specialisms, using time series analysis. We established ARIMA-models using weekly patient arrivals for the departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. The outpatient clinic visits are divided in first and repeated visits. The nursing ward arrivals are divided in a one day admission (light and heavy)¹ and a more than one day admission.

¹There are only four specialisms which can have a heavy one day clinical admissions.

	Number of observed specialisms	Number of stationary series	Number of series with normal divided residuals	Number of series satisfying autocorrelation condition	most common ARIMA model
Outpatient clinics					
first arrival	11	11	9	11	7x (3,1,4)
repeated arrival	11	11	5	11	2x (3,1,3)
Operating theater	11	11	5	10	3x (3,1,4) and 3x (4,14)
Nursing wards					
one day (heavy)	4	4	3	4	none
one day (light)	11	11	10	11	2x (3,14) and 2x (4,14)
more than one day	11	11	7	11	3x (3,1,2) and 3x (3,1,4)

Figure 5.1: Summary of ARIMA-models for the various departments.

Figure 5.1 lists for the best fits,² the most common number of the autoregressive and moving average terms and the results for statistical tests, as the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test, the Jarque-Bera test and the Ljung-Box test. For each series of arrivals we fit 25 models. Determining the best fit of the ARIMA(p, d, q)-model,³ we start with $p = 0$ and then increase q from 0 to 4. Next, we increase p to 1 and again increase q from 0 to 4. We repeat this until p and q are both 4, so that we obtain 25 series.⁴ We keep d at one. We shall see in Section 5.1 that it is sufficient to difference data only once, to obtain a stationary series.

Figures A.1-A.5 of Appendix A contain the details of the ARIMA-models for the best fits of the 11 specialisms per outpatient clinics (first and repeated visit), operating theaters and nursing wards (one day admission, heavy or light, or more than one day admission). The figures contain the coefficients of the autoregressive and moving average terms. Also, the results for the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test, the Jarque-Bera test and the Ljung-Box test are provided in these tables. All tests are at a significance level of $\alpha = 5\%$.⁵

The next paragraphs discuss the results of statistical tests. We perform these tests in order to make sure that we can use ARIMA-models at all. We elaborate on stationarity of the data, on the normality of the residuals and the existence of no autocorrelation from a certain lag in the residuals.

²For each arrival series we fit 25 ARIMA-models, we use the Akaike criterion to identify the best fit. The lowest Akaike criterion indicates the best fit. Figure 5.1 summarizes the results for ARIMA-models with the lowest Akaike criterion per combination of department and specialisms.

³Recall that p , is the number of autoregressive terms, q the number of moving average terms and d denotes how many times we have to difference the original series to obtain a stationary series.

⁴Both p and q can attain the values of 0,1,2,3 and 4. So that we have $5^2 = 25$ different fits.

⁵Or otherwise stated, some Jarque-Bera tests are at a significance level of alpha equal to 10%.

Stationarity

All series are stationary if we take the first difference. Augmented Dickey-Fuller tests show that non of the original series are stationary.

The augmented Dickey-Fuller demonstrates that the original series are not stationary at $\alpha = 5\%$ significance, however, the first difference of all series, are stationary at $\alpha = 5\%$. The results are given in Figures [A.1-A.5](#).

Normality assumption and autocorrelation of residuals

For many configurations we accept the assumption that the residuals are normally distributed and that there is no autocorrelation.

We use the Jarque-Bera test in order to test whether the residuals are normally distributed. The Jarque-Bera test shows that for most series, the assumption that the residuals are normally distributed, is accepted at $\alpha = 5\%$ significance.

Furthermore, we test the autocorrelation of the series by using the Ljung-Box test. We test whether the series contains no autocorrelation from lag 20 till lag 253. Again, for most series we accept the assumption of no autocorrelation. However, for some series the normality and autocorrelation assumption is rejected. The results are in Figures [A.1-A.5](#).

Best fit: Akaike criterion

The Akaike criterion is computed to identify the best fit of 25 computed fits per series of arrivals. The fit with the lowest criterion is the best. For the ARIMA-models with the lowest Akaike criterion, details are given in Figures [A.1-A.5](#).

For every series of arrivals, the Akaike criterion for the 25 fits are in Figures [A.6-A.11](#). We see that the Akaike criterion does not decrease much as we increase p and q in the $ARIMA(p, d, q)$. This suggests that the number of autoregressive and moving average terms is sufficient. We compute per series of arrivals only 25 different ARIMA-models. We do this to reduce computation time: allowing additional autoregressive or moving term requires a quadratic increase of series to be estimated. Moreover, for ARIMA-series with many autoregressive and moving average terms, we face the problem that Matlab can not compute the inverse matrices which are used in the determination of the Akaike criterion. In Eviews we have to input all the different fits manually.⁶

So given the constraint that we only use 25 different fits,⁷ we have found the best fit

⁶If we for instance would like to investigate the best ARIMA-model, using the Akaike criterion, in which we allow both ten autoregressive and ten moving average terms, we get 121 possible fits for this ARIMA-model. Using Eviews, this means for all 59 series for which we develop an ARIMA-model that we have to estimate and judge over 7,000 ARIMA-models manually.

⁷In the range $p = 0$ to $p = 4$ and $q = 0$ to $q = 4$.

for our ARIMA-models. In theory, adding much more ARIMA autoregressive and moving average terms, might yield a sharp decrease in the Akaike criterion.⁸ However, adding additional terms do certainly increase the complexity of the ARIMA-model. As a rule, we try to minimize the number of autoregressive and moving average terms in an ARIMA-model in order to avoid an unnecessarily complicated model. As argued, it is too time consuming to estimate for all the 11 specialisms at the different departments, ARIMA-models using Eviews with more than four autoregressive and four moving average terms.

All computations, estimated ARIMA coefficients and outcome of test statistics, are digitally available.

5.1.1 Seasonality of time series

We investigate the presence of seasonal patterns in the data, using the action plan of [Yaffee and McGee \(2000\)](#). We shall see that there is no evidence of the existence of a seasonal component in the data and we may model the arrivals using an ordinary non-seasonal ARIMA-model.

We use the action plan as described in Section 3.1.1 in order to determine whether the patient arrivals at the various specialisms and departments exhibit seasonal effects. We respectively look at the residual plots of the $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ - and $(0, 1, 0)(0, 1, 0)12$ -ARIMA⁹ models and at the plots of the autocorrelations at certain lags, to identify seasonal effects. We research the possibility that data contains quarterly and yearly patterns. [Yaffee and McGee \(2000\)](#) suggest that one can identify seasonality effects by looking for a cyclic trend at some equidistant time intervals in the residual plots of the mentioned series. We look whether we can detect spikes in the data that occur at regular time intervals. Moreover, if looking at the plots of the autocorrelations at certain lags, one would expect strong autocorrelation at the lag at which we suspect a seasonal effect and no autocorrelation at the other lags.

Figures 5.3- 5.7 show the residual plots of the $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ - and $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -ARIMA- model respectively, for the first visits at the outpatient clinics of the specialism surgery. We shall see that the plots of these ARIMA-models do not contain seasonal components.

⁸We recommend to do further research in adding more autoregressive and moving average terms. Possibly, adding more of these terms will lead to a better prediction as more historical data are taken into account.

⁹Recall that the notation of seasonal $(P, D, Q)X(p, d, q)$ ARIMA-models is as follows: P denotes the number of seasonal autoregressive terms, D the seasonal difference, Q the number of seasonal moving average terms, p the number of ordinary autoregressive terms, d the ordinary difference and q the number of ordinary moving average terms. Often a single number is added to this notation to indicate at which lag we suspect seasonality. For instance $(P, D, Q)X(p, d, q)12$ denotes an ARIMA-model with a seasonality component at lag 12.

Looking at the plot of the residuals of the $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA-model, Figure 5.3, we observe that data is certainly not stationary. Moreover, we do not discover a cyclic trend at some equidistant time points. Now, if we look at Figure 5.4, the non-seasonal first difference ARIMA series, we see that the data seems stationary. Again we do not observe a clearly cyclic pattern. This is confirmed in the plots which we see in Figure 5.5 and Figure 5.6 in which we respectively take a monthly and quarterly seasonal difference. The plot of both a seasonal and ordinary differenced series, Figure 5.7, also does not show a clear pattern.

We perform a Box Pierce test, to test the influence of autocorrelation at certain lags. The plots of the residual partial correlation and the residual partial autocorrelation, confirm the non-seasonal trend. Figures A.12-A.15 respectively contain the plot of Autocorrelation function (ACF) and the Partial correlation function (PCF) of the $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ - and $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ ARIMA-model.

Figure 5.2 summarizes the results for the plots of the Autocorrelation function (ACF) and the Partial correlation function (PCF) with regard to seasonality. One can see that in this case, there is no evidence for a seasonal trend, as for all models there is still autocorrelation at lags other than the lag at which we might suspect autocorrelation.

model	should contain autocorrelation at lag	autocorrelation at lags	seasonal evidence ?
$(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)$	not applicable	1, 13, 16 and 18	no
$(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$	12	2, 3, 5, 11 and 14	no
$(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$	50	11, 31, 35 and 50	no
$(0, 1, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$	12	1, 11, 12, 13, 19 and 35	no

Figure 5.2: Summary of plots of the ACF and the PCF for the various ARIMA-models of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The second column indicates the lag at which we expect autocorrelation, whereas the third indicates the lags at which autocorrelation is observed.

Both, the residual plots, as the ACF and PCF plots, do not provide sufficient evidence for a seasonal pattern. As it is convenient to have the simplest ARIMA-model, we choose for an ARIMA-model without a seasonal pattern.

In Appendix A.2, Figure A.16-A.33 we provide for the one-day and the more than one day clinical admission of the specialism surgery and for the more than one day clinical admission of the specialism cardiology, the comparison between a non seasonal model and a seasonal model. All comparisons show no evidence of the existence of a seasonal component in the data, so we may model the arrivals, using an ordinary non-seasonal ARIMA-model.

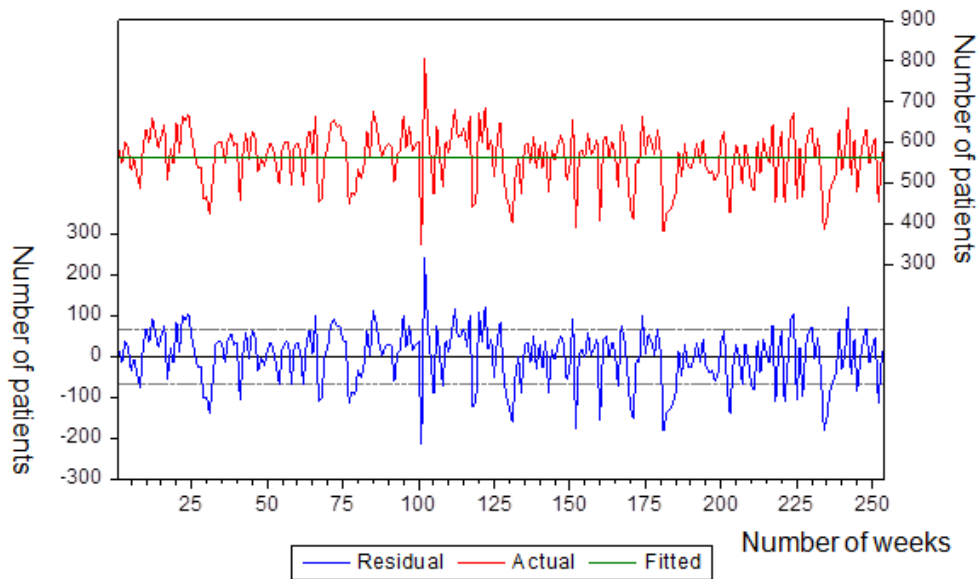


Figure 5.3: Plot of $(0,0,0)X(0,0,0)$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department out-patient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

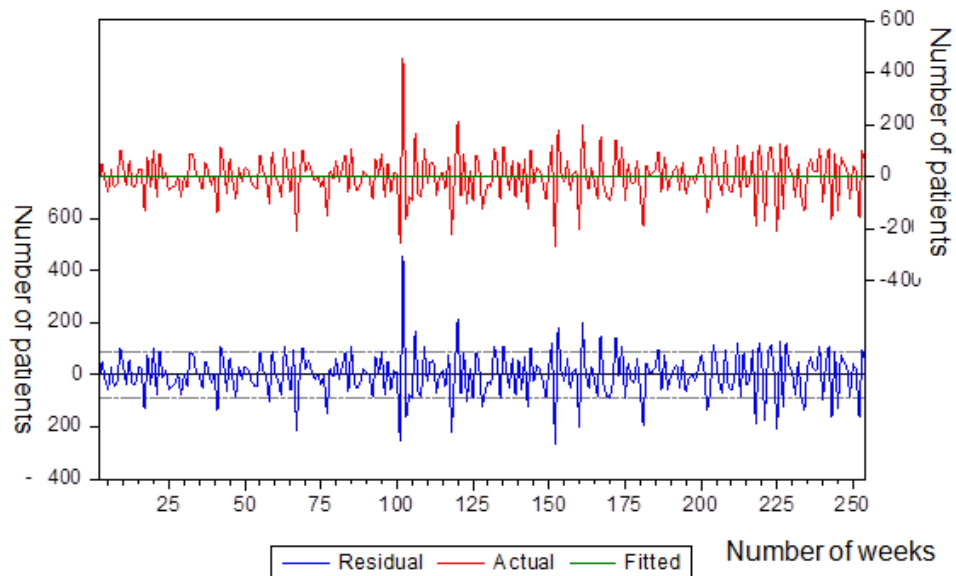


Figure 5.4: Plot of $(0,1,0)X(0,0,0)$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department out-patient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

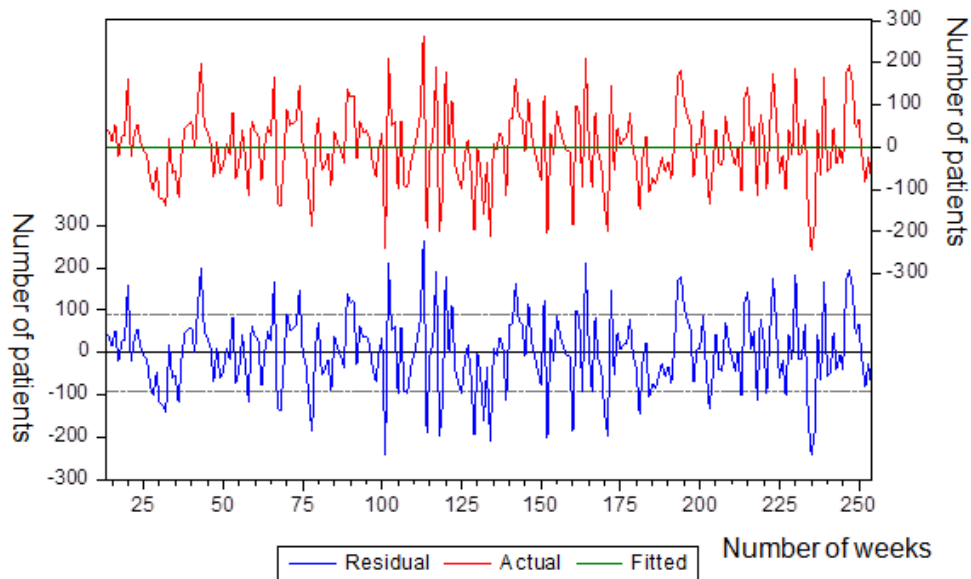


Figure 5.5: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

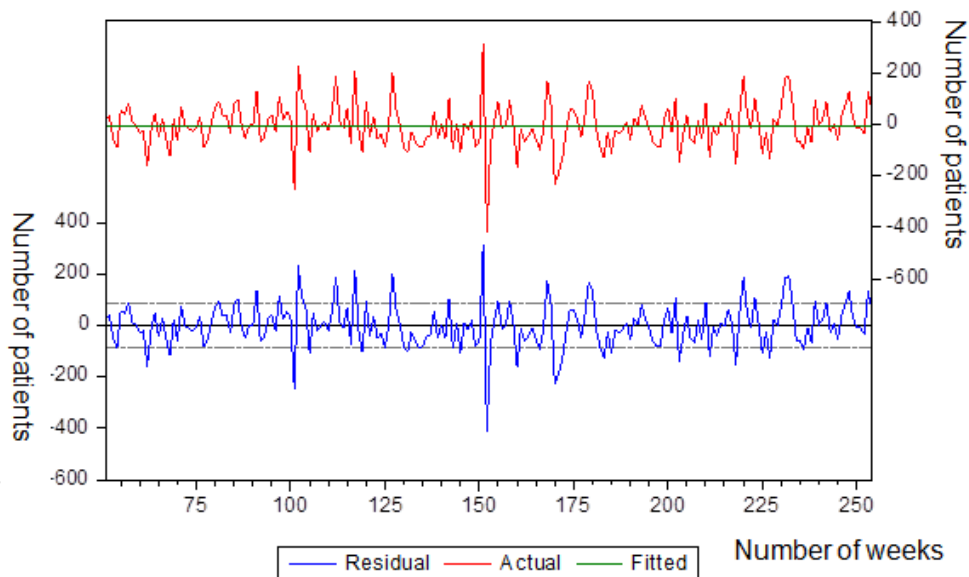


Figure 5.6: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

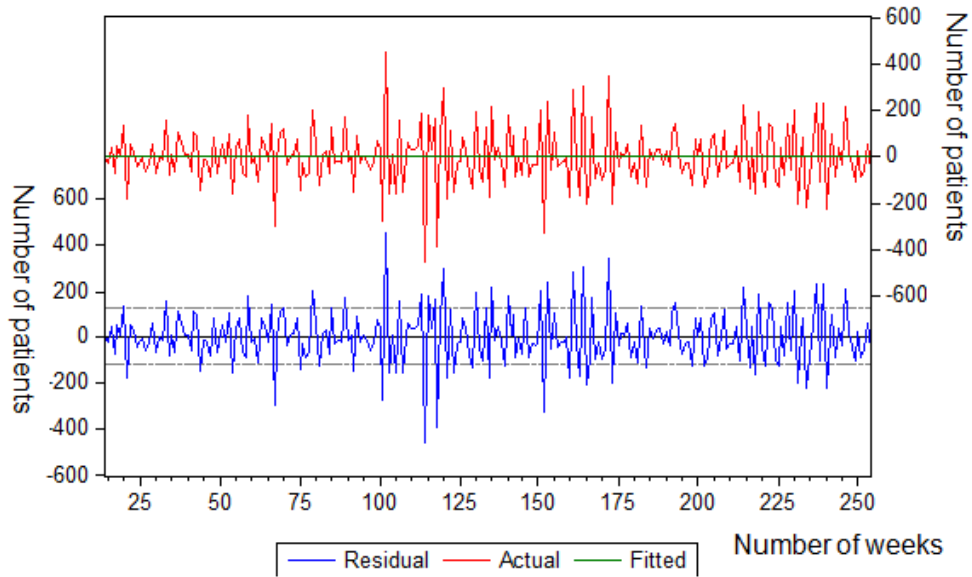


Figure 5.7: Plot of $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

5.1.2 Performance of time series analysis

The ARIMA-models enable us to find estimates of the patient volumes which are to a certain extent accurate. The difference between the real data and estimated data are small. Moreover, if we look at the plot of the fitted and actual data, we observe that the ARIMA-models do follow the increases and decreases of the patient arrivals.

First, we compare the time series predictions with actual data. As discussed in Section 3.1.3, we can use the mean squared error for analyzing the actual data with the fitted data. Using Matlab, we compute the MSE. In Figures A.37-A.42 of the Appendix one can find the MSE for all time series and all scenarios. An MSE of zero indicates a perfect fit. The maximum MSE for all configurations of all computed series is 1.76. As the MSE is defined as the sum of the bias squared and the variance of the residuals, a low MSE indicates also a small difference between the true and the estimated value. The MSE is computed as the difference between actual number of arrivals and the estimated number of arrivals. We estimate patient volumes in whole patients, the figure of 1.76 indicates that the difference between the true and estimated is small for all series of patient arrivals. Moreover, the variance of the residuals is also small.

Figure 5.8 shows the fitted, actual and the residuals for the cardiology of the more than one day clinical admission, using a $(4, 1, 2)$ -ARIMA-model. Figure 5.9 shows the same plots, but for the specialism urology, first outpatient clinic visits, using a $(3, 1, 4)$ -

ARIMA-model. The plots are obtained, using Eviews. Looking at the figures, one can see that it is impossible to have a perfect fit, however the ARIMA-model can predict the trend of the arrivals. This is due to the fact that ARIMA-models use historical data. Increases and decreases of patient volumes can be predicted with ARIMA-models, but can only be detected somewhat later, as the actual data of the previous time periods are already slightly decreasing and increasing. Furthermore, one can notice that the fitted line has less extreme peaks than the actual data. This due to the nature of the fitting procedure. Matlab and Eviews use the method of ordinary least squares for finding an ARIMA fit onto the data. The method of ordinary least squares is vulnerable for huge deviations in the data and will average out the outliers, while obtaining a fit. So the ARIMA-models have a slight delay in predicting patient volumes and face difficulty in detecting huge outliers in the patient volumes.

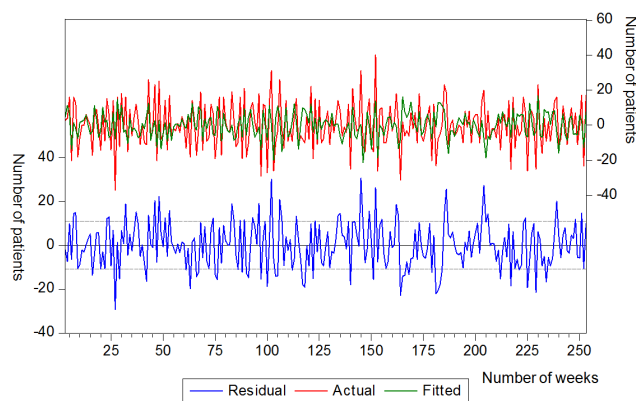


Figure 5.8: Plot of a $(4,1,2)$ -ARIMA-model for the department nursing wards (more than one day admission) for the specialism cardiology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

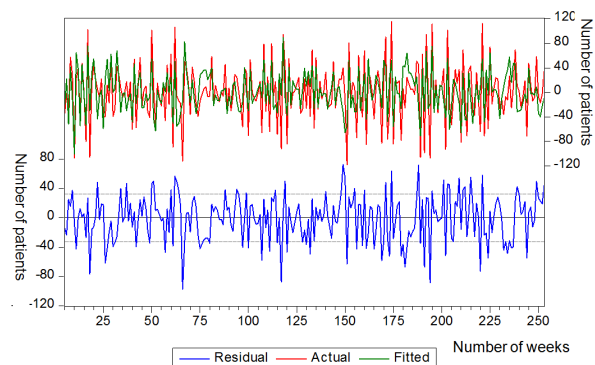


Figure 5.9: Plot of a $(3,1,4)$ -ARIMA-model for the department outpatient clinics (first visit) for the specialism urology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

5.2 Results for Markov transition probabilities

The results of the Markov transition probabilities are split in two parts: the transfers of the outpatients and the transfers of the inpatients. We discuss the subdivision of the hospital, the time length of the interval and the Markov property, homogeneity and limiting distribution of the proposed Markov chains.

5.2.1 Transfer of outpatients

Figure 5.10 gives the Markov transition probability matrix of the transfers of outpatients, using the subdivision in which the specialism surgery is divided in several subspecialisms and the remaining part of the hospital in the 'other state'. We compute the monthly transition probabilities in the period 2010-2011, giving us 24 realizations of the transition probability matrix of the transfers of outpatients. Using Equation 3.20 we obtain the expected average transition probabilities over the 24 realizations.

The transition matrix provides the monthly transition probabilities. Furthermore, we distinguish which departments a patient is referred to. This can be: the outpatient clinics, the operating theaters or the nursing wards. For the operating theaters we provide separate figures for the patients who are transferred to the operating theaters within in the same state time period and the patients who have to wait for a transfer to the operating theater. The last group of patients have to wait for at least one state time period. Also the transition probabilities of a discharge and being on a waiting list are given in Figure 5.10. Recall that the waiting list is an absorbing Markov state. We see this confirmed in Figure 5.10. We see that the transition probability for the transfers of the patients who are on a waiting list of the various (sub)specialisms, are all equal to one.

All results of the 24 realizations of the transition probabilities for the transfers of outpatients for the five subspecialisms of the specialism surgery, the other part of the hospital, the waiting list and discharge, are available digitally.

5.2.2 Transfer of inpatients

Figure 5.11 provides the average of 24 realizations of the monthly transition probabilities of transfers of inpatients between four subspecialisms of surgery¹⁰ and the remaining part of the hospital in one other state. We distinguish between the origin of the patients. This can be: the outpatient clinics, the operating theater, the nursing wards or the intensive care. The waiting list state and the discharge state are also provided in Figure 5.11.

Again, all results of the 24 realizations of the transition probabilities for the transfers of inpatients for the four subspecialisms of the specialism surgery, the other part of the hospital, the intensive care, the waiting list and discharge, are available digitally.

¹⁰In the nursing wards the subspecialism 'other surgery' is not existing. All other subspecialisms of surgery do exist in the nursing ward.

The average over the 50 realizations of the expected weekly transition probabilities of transfers of inpatients is provided in Figure 5.12. These transition probabilities concern the second subdivision in 11 specialisms.¹¹ The aim is to investigate the inter specialism transition probabilities. Recall also that the aim of two different subdivisions is to investigate the influence of the size of the (sub)specialisms on the Markov state. Also the time period for both computations, is different. This is all explained in Section 5.2.3. Again, Figure 5.12, distinguishes between the origin of the inpatients, which can be the outpatients clinics, the operating theaters, the nursing wards or the intensive care. We compute for 50 realizations the weekly transition probabilities for a transfer of inpatients from one specialism to another specialism.

All results of the 50 realizations of the eleven specialisms, the waiting list and discharge, are available digitally.

5.2.3 Subdivision and length of time interval

We recommend to work with a time period of one week. Also we recommend a subdivision of (sub)specialisms into sufficiently large (sub)specialisms. The subdivision into eleven specialisms seems more suitable than the subdivision into (sub)specialisms of surgery and one large other state. We explain this in the next two paragraphs.

The purpose of computing the transition probabilities according to two different subdivisions of the hospital and the two different lengths of the time interval of the states, is twofold. First we would like to know what the influence is of the size of the (sub)specialisms. The subspecialisms of surgery are small and might face little or no transfers of patients during the state time. Moreover, we are interested in the influence of the length of a time interval. The longer the state time, the higher the probability that a patient might transfer from one (sub)specialism to another. However, the state times can not be too large, as we then risk that the vast majority of all transfers will occur in the state 'discharge': the longer the state time, the higher the probability that the patient will also be discharged within the state time. For example, in Figure 5.11 one can see that the transition probability that a patient who is already in the nursing ward, transfers from traumatology to oncology is equal to 0,00%, and so there are many other transition probabilities. Moreover, one can see that the discharge probabilities in Figure 5.11 are all very high.¹²

Data analysis demonstrates that the subdivision into the subspecialisms of surgery and one large state 'other', leads to insufficient transitions per state for some of the subspecialisms. There are too many states with a very low number of, or even no, transitions. Figure B.1 provides the aggregate number of all transitions per (sub)specialism of surgery

¹¹See Section 4.4 for the subdivision.

¹²For all but the intensive care and waiting list, the estimated discharge probabilities are higher than 75%.

	Surgery						Other		Discharge	Sum
	General surgery and surgery for children	Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	Other	Traumatology and ER	Vascular Surgery	Waiting list	Other	Waiting list	Discharge	
Nursing wards										
Surgery										
General surgery and surgery for children	0,94%	0,59%	0,00%	0,56%	0,24%	0,00%	23,93%	0,00%	73,72%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	1,38%	1,12%	0,00%	0,63%	0,00%	0,00%	31,93%	0,00%	64,94%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	0,33%	0,19%	0,00%	2,43%	0,10%	0,00%	13,17%	0,00%	83,78%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	0,78%	0,36%	0,00%	0,96%	1,56%	0,00%	26,89%	0,00%	69,45%	100,00%
Other										
Other	1,04%	0,78%	0,01%	1,34%	0,88%	0,00%	17,41%	0,00%	78,55%	100,00%
Discharge										
Surgery										
General surgery and surgery for children	0,51%	0,29%	0,00%	0,66%	0,17%	0,00%	9,19%	0,00%	89,18%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	0,39%	0,56%	0,00%	0,16%	0,11%	0,00%	11,60%	0,00%	87,17%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	57,50%	0,00%	42,50%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	0,41%	0,07%	0,00%	1,00%	0,07%	0,00%	5,35%	0,00%	93,10%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	0,35%	0,16%	0,00%	0,22%	0,58%	0,00%	20,31%	0,00%	78,38%	100,00%
Other										
Other	0,36%	0,40%	0,00%	0,33%	0,46%	0,00%	9,92%	0,00%	88,54%	100,00%
Operating theater without waiting										
Surgery										
General surgery and surgery for children	3,23%	0,25%	0,00%	0,12%	0,25%	0,00%	7,64%	0,00%	88,52%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	1,18%	2,46%	0,00%	0,86%	0,53%	0,00%	7,70%	0,00%	87,27%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	50,00%	0,00%	0,00%	50,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	0,53%	0,05%	0,00%	4,42%	0,16%	0,00%	7,61%	0,00%	87,22%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	2,15%	1,08%	0,00%	2,96%	2,42%	0,00%	12,37%	0,00%	79,03%	100,00%
Other										
Other	2,70%	2,88%	0,00%	1,72%	1,14%	0,00%	9,20%	0,00%	82,36%	100,00%
Operating theater with waiting										
Surgery										
General surgery and surgery for children	2,11%	0,91%	0,00%	1,66%	0,15%	0,00%	14,35%	0,00%	80,82%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	0,56%	2,39%	0,00%	0,70%	0,14%	0,00%	18,59%	0,00%	77,61%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	2,59%	0,39%	0,00%	1,17%	0,39%	0,00%	13,73%	0,00%	81,74%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	1,62%	0,32%	0,00%	1,29%	1,29%	0,00%	28,16%	0,00%	67,31%	100,00%
Other										
Other	1,54%	2,33%	0,00%	0,84%	1,05%	0,00%	14,89%	0,00%	79,35%	100,00%
Outpatient clinics										
Surgery										
General surgery and surgery for children	0,00%	2,42%	0,00%	9,66%	2,07%	0,00%	83,92%	0,00%	1,93%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	3,44%	0,00%	0,00%	1,69%	1,17%	0,00%	91,57%	0,00%	2,14%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	17,75%	1,52%	0,00%	0,00%	1,45%	0,00%	77,45%	0,00%	1,83%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	1,41%	1,17%	0,00%	1,04%	0,00%	0,00%	95,57%	0,00%	0,80%	100,00%
Other										
Other	4,41%	5,69%	0,04%	3,99%	6,36%	0,00%	77,61%	0,00%	1,90%	100,00%
Waiting list										
General surgery and surgery for children	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointensinal surgery	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Traumatology and ER	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Vascular Surgery	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%

Figure 5.10: Average over 24 realizations of the expected monthly transition probabilities of transfers of outpatients in the period 2010-2011. The transition probabilities are from to probabilities, thus the origins are the lines, the destinations are the columns. Note that the probabilities are in %, the percentages represent a probability between 0 and 1.

		Surgery						Other		Discharge	Sum
		Intensive care	Nursing ward	Waiting list			Nursing ward	Waiting list			
		Other	General surgery and surgery for children	Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointestinal surgery	Traumatology and ER	Vascular Surgery	Waiting list	Other	Waiting list	Discharge	
Intensive care											
Surgery	General surgery and surgery for children	40,00%	20,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	40,00%	100,00%
	Oncology, lung surgery and gas	42,86%	0,00%	14,29%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	42,86%	100,00%
	Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	100,00%
	Traumatology and ER	57,14%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	42,86%	100,00%
	Vascular Surgery	50,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	25,00%	0,00%	25,00%	100,00%
Other	Other	2,28%	1,82%	8,65%	1,77%	6,67%	0,00%	31,14%	0,00%	47,67%	100,00%
Nursing wards											
Surgery	General surgery and surgery for children	1,72%	10,34%	0,00%	0,00%	0,86%	0,00%	3,45%	0,00%	83,62%	100,00%
	Oncology, lung surgery and gas	3,86%	0,00%	11,20%	0,77%	0,39%	0,00%	7,72%	0,00%	76,06%	100,00%
	Traumatology and ER	0,00%	0,32%	0,00%	5,48%	0,32%	0,00%	1,94%	0,00%	91,94%	100,00%
	Vascular Surgery	2,61%	0,33%	0,65%	0,00%	2,94%	0,00%	1,63%	0,00%	91,83%	100,00%
Other	Other	0,45%	0,03%	0,21%	0,11%	0,18%	0,00%	5,67%	0,00%	93,35%	100,00%
Operating theater											
Surgery	General surgery and surgery for children	0,98%	2,54%	0,06%	0,02%	0,02%	0,00%	0,54%	0,00%	95,84%	100,00%
	Oncology, lung surgery and gas	5,81%	0,07%	5,09%	0,02%	0,05%	0,00%	0,63%	0,00%	88,33%	100,00%
	Traumatology and ER	0,68%	0,00%	0,00%	4,84%	0,03%	0,00%	0,78%	0,00%	93,68%	100,00%
	Vascular Surgery	11,08%	0,00%	0,30%	0,00%	11,68%	0,00%	1,27%	0,00%	75,67%	100,00%
Other	Other	0,30%	0,03%	0,02%	0,02%	0,00%	0,00%	2,29%	0,00%	97,34%	100,00%
Outpatient clinic											
Surgery	General surgery and surgery for children	0,24%	3,19%	0,00%	0,04%	0,04%	0,00%	4,35%	0,00%	92,15%	100,00%
	Oncology, lung surgery and gas	0,56%	0,00%	6,54%	0,11%	0,06%	0,00%	3,38%	0,00%	89,34%	100,00%
	Traumatology and ER	0,25%	0,05%	0,04%	3,44%	0,00%	0,00%	1,48%	0,00%	94,74%	100,00%
	Vascular Surgery	0,91%	0,12%	0,06%	0,24%	6,33%	0,00%	1,34%	0,00%	90,99%	100,00%
Other	Other	0,40%	0,04%	0,11%	0,03%	0,03%	0,00%	5,65%	0,00%	93,74%	100,00%
Waiting list											
	General surgery and surgery for children	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
	Oncology, lung surgery and gas	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
	Traumatology and ER	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
	Vascular Surgery	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%
	Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%

Figure 5.11: Average over 24 realizations of the expected monthly transition probabilities of transfers of inpatients in the period 2010-2011. The transition probabilities are from to probabilities, thus the origins are the lines, the destinations are the columns. Note that the probabilities are in %, the percentages represent a probability between 0 and 1.

		Intensive Care				Clinic														Discharge	Waiting list	Sum
		Internal Medicine	Other	Surgery	Cardiology	Internal Medicine	Neurology	Other	Pulmonology	Gynecology	Obstetrics	Urology	Pediatrics	Gastroenterology	Discharge	Waiting list	Sum					
Intensive Care		Cardiology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Surgery	0,00%	53,85%	0,00%	23,08%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	23,08%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gastroenterology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%						
	Internal Medicine	2,72%	1,09%	0,82%	8,17%	1,09%	4,09%	38,96%	0,54%	1,09%	0,27%	0,27%	0,54%	0,27%	40,05%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pediatrics	7,14%	0,00%	0,00%	7,14%	0,00%	0,00%	28,57%	0,00%	14,29%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	42,86%	0,00%	100,00%						
	Pulmonology	0,00%	20,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	80,00%	0,00%	100,00%						
	Neurology	0,00%	16,67%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	83,33%	0,00%	100,00%						
	Other	0,22%	0,11%	1,97%	10,08%	0,77%	1,10%	3,72%	1,31%	3,61%	2,30%	38,44%	0,88%	0,22%	35,27%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Obstetrics	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	50,00%	50,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
Nursing ward		Cardiology	0,09%	0,33%	22,33%	1,04%	0,14%	0,09%	0,80%	0,05%	0,80%	0,09%	0,24%	0,05%	0,00%	73,94%	0,00%	100,00%				
	Surgery	0,16%	0,94%	0,47%	37,46%	0,16%	0,00%	0,94%	0,00%	0,16%	0,16%	0,78%	0,16%	0,00%	58,62%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gastroenterology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	1,02%	18,09%	0,34%	0,34%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,34%	0,34%	0,00%	79,52%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gynecology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,99%	0,00%	15,84%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,99%	69,17%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Internal Medicine	0,07%	0,55%	0,27%	1,03%	1,23%	1,51%	24,67%	0,00%	0,41%	0,34%	0,21%	0,00%	0,00%	69,71%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pediatrics	0,00%	0,20%	0,00%	0,10%	0,00%	0,00%	0,20%	24,05%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,39%	1,17%	73,90%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pulmonology	0,18%	0,89%	0,53%	0,36%	0,00%	1,42%	1,78%	1,78%	35,52%	0,00%	0,18%	0,00%	0,00%	57,37%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Neurology	0,11%	0,21%	0,21%	0,21%	0,00%	0,00%	1,07%	0,21%	0,54%	15,79%	0,11%	0,00%	0,00%	81,53%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Other	0,00%	0,06%	0,12%	0,12%	0,00%	0,06%	0,47%	0,59%	0,35%	0,59%	15,98%	0,06%	0,06%	81,54%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Urology	0,00%	0,77%	0,00%	0,77%	0,00%	0,00%	0,39%	0,00%	0,00%	1,16%	11,58%	0,00%	0,00%	84,94%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Obstetrics	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,32%	0,00%	0,00%	0,49%	0,00%	0,97%	9,58%	88,64%	0,00%	100,00%					
Operating room		Cardiology	0,62%	0,62%	1,85%	24,07%	0,00%	0,62%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,62%	0,00%	0,00%	71,60%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Surgery	0,70%	1,80%	0,61%	19,30%	0,05%	0,02%	0,15%	0,06%	0,07%	0,00%	0,07%	0,02%	0,02%	77,11%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gastroenterology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	9,52%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	90,48%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gynecology	0,26%	0,62%	0,15%	0,21%	0,00%	12,92%	0,05%	0,05%	0,31%	0,00%	0,88%	0,36%	0,05%	84,14%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Internal Medicine	0,00%	2,78%	0,00%	5,56%	2,78%	5,56%	25,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	58,33%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pediatrics	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	15,38%	0,00%	0,00%	7,69%	38,46%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	38,46%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pulmonology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	50,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	50,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Neurology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	33,33%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	66,67%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Other	0,01%	0,15%	0,11%	0,06%	0,01%	0,01%	0,14%	0,19%	0,24%	0,26%	6,50%	0,01%	0,00%	92,31%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Urology	0,33%	1,10%	0,28%	0,11%	0,00%	0,06%	0,11%	0,00%	0,39%	0,39%	0,44%	8,25%	0,22%	88,34%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Obstetrics	0,06%	0,18%	0,00%	0,18%	0,00%	0,00%	0,12%	0,00%	0,00%	0,71%	0,06%	1,12%	17,15%	80,44%	0,00%	100,00%					
Outpatient clinics		Cardiology	0,02%	0,28%	20,09%	0,42%	0,05%	0,07%	0,70%	0,05%	0,63%	0,05%	0,08%	0,03%	0,00%	77,54%	0,00%	100,00%				
	Surgery	0,20%	0,16%	0,42%	16,87%	0,16%	0,13%	0,45%	0,13%	0,22%	0,13%	0,49%	0,12%	0,04%	80,48%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gastroenterology	0,03%	0,17%	0,07%	0,35%	5,52%	0,14%	0,35%	0,03%	0,10%	0,03%	0,03%	0,03%	0,03%	93,09%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gynecology	0,00%	0,18%	0,36%	0,36%	0,00%	5,51%	0,36%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,18%	0,71%	92,36%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Internal Medicine	0,17%	0,37%	0,57%	0,55%	1,20%	1,29%	18,16%	0,04%	0,26%	0,23%	0,17%	0,09%	0,04%	76,88%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pediatrics	0,02%	0,02%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,02%	1,59%	22,19%	0,06%	0,00%	0,02%	0,35%	0,82%	74,88%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pulmonology	0,11%	0,55%	0,98%	0,25%	0,00%	0,30%	1,23%	1,64%	23,04%	0,08%	0,25%	0,00%	0,00%	71,58%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Neurology	0,11%	0,25%	0,18%	0,25%	0,07%	0,36%	0,50%	0,85%	0,85%	20,78%	0,21%	0,04%	0,00%	75,77%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Other	0,07%	0,07%	0,15%	0,17%	0,00%	0,00%	0,32%	0,18%	0,18%	0,43%	9,93%	0,00%	0,00%	88,50%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Urology	0,18%	0,18%	0,09%	0,26%	0,18%	0,09%	0,26%	0,09%	0,00%	0,35%	0,79%	13,27%	0,18%	84,09%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Obstetrics	0,00%	0,02%	0,03%	0,03%	0,00%	0,00%	0,03%	0,02%	0,00%	0,28%	0,02%	0,70%	8,88%	89,98%	0,00%	100,00%					
Waiting list		Cardiology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Surgery	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gastroenterology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Gynecology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Internal Medicine	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pediatrics	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Pulmonology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Neurology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Other	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Urology	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					
	Obstetrics	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	100,00%	0,00%	100,00%					

Figure 5.12: Average over 50 realizations of the expected weekly transition probabilities of transfers of inpatients in the period 2010. The transition probabilities are from probabilities, thus the origins are the lines, the destinations are the columns. Note that the probabilities are in %, the percentages represent a probability between 0 and 1.

in the outpatients clinics. Figure B.1 also contains the aggregate number for the state 'discharge' and 'other'. We notice that the averages for the four subspecialisms of surgery are really low, compared to the average of the state 'discharge'. Also the average number of transitions of the state 'order' is much higher than the average number of transitions of the subspecialisms of surgery.

In Figure B.2 we see the aggregate number of weekly transitions for the subdivision into specialisms. We see that averages per specialisms are about as high as for the subdivision in (sub)specialisms of surgery. However, Figure B.2 concerns the aggregated weekly transitions, whereas Figure B.1 concerns the aggregated monthly transitions. The increased number of transitions per equal time period, is due to decreasing the length of the time interval. For the specialisms surgery the average number of monthly transitions of the five subspecialisms together equals 82.75. If the time period is reduced to one week, the average number of transitions of surgery is 64.43, or equivalent to more or less, 260 transitions a month.

Moreover, we can see that the share of the patients who are discharged within the state time period, is reduced. For the subdivision into subspecialisms of surgery and the state time period of one month, the share of patients who are discharged within the state time, is equal to 93%. In the subdivision into specialisms and a state time period of one week, this share decreases to 73,75%. It is not convenient to make the time length of interval smaller than one week. The data will become too much blurred by the influence of weekends, as in principal no elective patients are admitted to the hospital during the weekend.

5.2.4 Markov property, homogeneity and limiting probabilities

In this section we discuss results whether the Markov property, the homogeneity properties and, limiting probabilities for Markov chains, hold. For the Markov property and homogeneity, we use Equation 3.16. Using Equation 3.18 we investigate the limiting probabilities. Although we do not investigate for all realizations the Markov and homogeneity property and the existence of a limiting distribution, the investigated realizations suggest that the properties hold for the two different subdivisions. We thus can conclude that we can model the transfers of patients from one (sub)specialism to another as a Markov chain. This is explained in the next two paragraphs. Figures B.3 and Figure B.4 in the Appendix provide an example in which we test Markov property, homogeneity property and limiting probabilities.

Investigating all possibilities concerning homogeneity and Markov property, yields an abundance of computations of Equation 3.16. For 12 different transition probabilities of transfers of inpatients all realizations are investigated: all do meet the criterion of Equation 3.16 and 3.18.

For the transfers of outpatients, the realizations of 11 different transition probabilities

are investigated. Again, all do satisfy the condition of Equation 3.16 and 3.18. So we can conclude that the Markov property, homogeneity and limiting distribution holds for the subdivision in subspecialisms of surgery and one state 'other' for the remaining part of the hospital, in which the time period of one state is equal to one month. Figure 5.13 provides an overview of the number of realizations that meets the criterion of Equation 3.16.

year	Inpatients		Outpatients	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
difference				
exceeds 10%	12	7	11	11
5%-10%	27	26	14	13
less than 5%	258	264	191	192
total	297	297	216	216

Figure 5.13: Overview of homogeneity property for the monthly transition probabilities of the subdivision in subspecialisms of surgery. For each estimation of a certain transition probability there are 12 realizations. The numbers in the first two rows of the table indicates the occurrence that of a series of realizations of one transition probability, there is at least one realization in the category which differs more than 10% or 5-10% respectively of its average. The third row reflects the series of realizations of one transition probability in which all realizations differ less than 5% of the average.

For the subdivision into 11 specialisms and the time period of one week, we also investigate the Markov property, homogeneity and limiting distribution. Figure 5.14 provides an overview of the number of realizations that meets the different criteria. As the differences between the different realizations and the average are small, this is also a good indication that the limiting distribution exists in this case.

	Inpatients 2011	
	modified	equation 3.6
difference		
exceeds 10%	19	66
5%-10%	25	3
less than 5%	671	646
total	715	715

Figure 5.14: Overview of homogeneity property for the weekly transition probabilities of the subdivision in 11 specialisms. For each estimation of a certain transition probability there are 50 realizations. The numbers in the first two rows of the table indicate the occurrence that of a series of realizations of one transition probability, there is at least one realization in the category which differs more than 10% or 5-10% respectively of its average. The third row reflects the series of realizations of one transition probability in which all realizations differ less than 5% of the average. The first column is the modified version of Equation 3.16 in which the 10 highest and lowest realizations are excluded, the second is an evaluation of Equation 3.16, including all realizations.

5.3 Average service times

The average service times are computed for different operations and admissions (one day and more than one day).

We compute the average operation times for 479 different operations. We find 232 operations having an average operating time which amount to more than one hour, we find 15 treatments with an operating time of more than 3 hours and only three treatments with an average operating time of more than 4 hours. The number of operations which have an operation time longer than one hour, also contains the number of operations which on average are longer than three and four hours. The number of operations that is longer than three hours also contains the operations which are longer than 4 hours.

In total we compute the average admission times for 980 types of treatments. We find for the admissions to the department nursing wards that 0 treatments, have an average which is 30 days or more, 60 treatments have an average which is 10 days or more, 181 treatments with an average of 5 days or more and 299 treatments with an average of 3 days or more. Again the admissions which are three days or longer, also contain the 5 and 10-day admissions. The number of admissions which is five days or longer also contains the admissions which are on average longer than 10 days.

The fact that 0 of the clinical treatments have an average service time longer than 30 days and that there are 60 treatments longer than 10 days, 181 treatments longer than 5 days and 299 longer than 3 days, justifies the choice for a one week time interval, in the Markov chain.

The average service time and the standard deviation are given in Figures C.1-C.8 of the appendix. Also the number of operations/admissions is included.

5.4 Comparison of the model

We compare our model and the 4 year average model¹³ with regard to accuracy and costs. We back-test both models for a period of 20 weeks in 2011. In Section 5.4.1 we explain that our model predicts the patient volumes more accurate than the 4 year average model. Our model predicts patient volumes such that it yields lower total costs for additional/unused staff and nursing beds. In case of the average scenario, the advantage in costs in favor of our model is approximately 2.3 million euro. We explain this in Section 5.4.2.

¹³Recall that the 4 year average model is introduced for comparing the holistic model with another model. The 4 year average model uses the average of the arrivals of the same period each year.

5.4.1 Back-testing

For 117 of 220 estimates, our model provides a more accurate estimate than the 4 year average model or that is in 53 % of the cases. Moreover, in 86 of the 220 cases our model estimates a patient volume which differs only a maximum of 10 patients of the true value, against 74 of 220 cases for the 4 year average model. In 14% of the cases our model is better with respect to the maximum difference of 10 patients. In 85 of 220 cases, the 4 year average model results in a prediction, which differs at least 25 patients of the true value. For our model this is only in 78 of 220 the cases, or this is 8% better.

Figure D.1 provides the differences between the 4 year average model and the actual data and between the outcomes of our model and the actual data of week 5 to 24 of 2011. We notice for the specialisms gastroenterology, gynecology, internal medicine, neurology, pediatrics and surgery that the outcomes of our model are often more accurate than the estimation by the four year average model.

We back-test our model for the arrivals of inpatients at the various specialisms between specialisms for 20 weeks of 2011. We use the transition probability matrix for the transfers of inpatients between specialisms, which is given in Figure 5.12 and arrival figures of 2007-2010 to estimate the arrivals for 2011. For estimating arrivals at the combinations of operating theaters and specialisms and combinations of nursing wards and specialisms, we use the best fit of the ARIMA-models for these series of arrivals. We apply Equation 3.24 in order to compute the patient volumes at the various specialisms. Finally, we compare these outcomes of a certain week to the outcomes of the 4 year average model.

5.4.2 Comparison of costs

Using arbitrarily cost estimates for the use of outpatient clinic space, nursing beds and staff, and estimations for week 5 till week 24 of 2011, our model results in a cost advantage of €2,340,000.– compared to the 4 year average model. Also, again we find evidence that our model is better for planning purposes than the 4 year average.

We use arbitrarily costs estimates per ten patients per week in order to compare the two models. We assume that the costs for additional nursing beds and staff in the department nursing wards, are €60,000.–. These additional costs arise if we overestimate patient capacity. For an underestimation the costs of unused staff and nursing beds we use the same estimate of €60,000.–. For simplicity purposes, we expect that there is no difference in costs between an over- and underestimation.

Figure 5.15 contains a histogram with two scenarios. For both scenarios we assume that the capacity of a nursing ward is ten patients. The first scenario we call the worst case scenario. This is the situation in which none of the planned capacity is used in case of an overestimation. In case of an underestimation, we need the maximum of ten additional beds. The second scenario is called the average scenario. In this case, we

assume half of the planned capacity is used in case of an overestimation. In case of an underestimation only half of the maximum of additional beds, thus five beds, are needed. The classes are on the horizontal axis, the costs are on the vertical axis. The blue bars indicate the total costs of our model for the average scenario and the green bars for the worst case scenario. The red bars indicate the total costs for the average scenario for the 4 year average model, while the orange bars indicate the worst case scenario.

We compose 29 classes. The lowest class is an overestimation of 110-120 patients, or equivalent to the total costs of €360,000.– per week in the average scenario and €720,000.– in the worst case scenario. The highest class is an underestimation of 150-160 patients, or equivalent to the costs of €480,000.– per week in the average scenario and €960,000.– in the worst case scenario. Figure 5.15 provides the total costs of an under- and overestimation in patient volumes. The figure contains the total costs for 10 of 11 specialisms¹⁴ per class of ten under- or overestimated patients.

Figure D.2 provides the total costs per class of 10 patients for our model and the 4 year average model. Applying the described cost estimation method, we predict that the extra costs for unused or additional staff for our model amounts to €14,640,000.– and for the four-year average model to €12,300,000.– in case of the average scenario. This is an advantage of €2,340,000.– in favor of our model. In the worst case scenario the advantage amounts to €4,680,000.–.

Finally, Figure 5.16 gives the frequencies of each of the 11 classes of 10 patients. The blue bars indicate our model, the red bars indicate the 4 year average model. We see that our model estimates in 23% of the cases, the required number of staff and nursing beds, while the 4 year average model only estimates in 13.5% of the cases, the required number of staff and nursing beds. Moreover, note that our model estimates in 57% of the cases patient volumes, which differs 10 patients at the very most from the true values. For the 4 year average model this is only 45.5%. Our model underestimates the patient volumes per specialism less often than the 4 year average model does (34% of the cases for our model, against 75% of the cases for the 4 year average model). Our model overestimates the patient volumes more often than the 4 year average model (43% of the 200 cases for our model, against 11.5% of the cases for the 4 year average model).

¹⁴The specialism 'other' is excluded. Since the specialism 'other' is composed of several small specialisms and costs are allocated to specific specialisms, it has no meaning to compute the additional/unused costs for this group of specialisms.

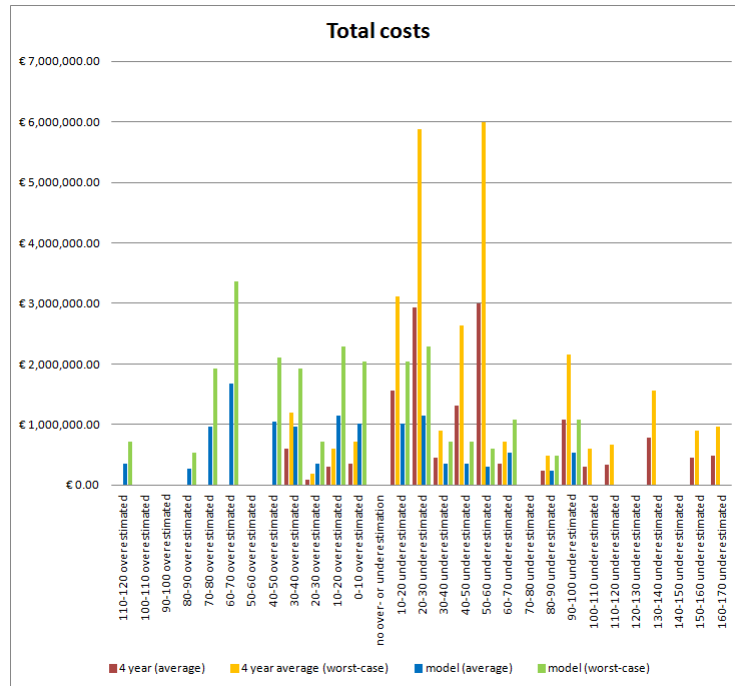


Figure 5.15: Histogram of the total costs of the holistic and the 4 year average model for the two scenarios for additional or unused nursing beds and staff for 10 specialisms in week 5 to week 24 of 2011.

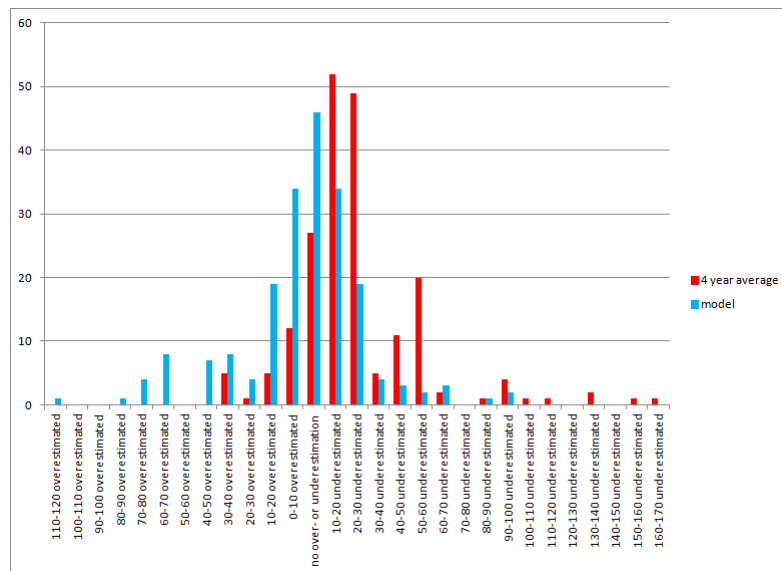


Figure 5.16: Overview of frequencies per class of 10 patients for the holistic model and the 4 year average model.

Chapter 6

Academic conclusions

In this chapter we present the conclusions of the research and pay special attention to the academic outcomes of the study. In Chapter 8 we discuss the applicability of the research with respect to ZGT and do recommendations. ZGT is interested in estimating patient volumes and occupancy rates of (sub)specialisms at the outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, at least one month ahead. First we discuss the performance of the model. Next, we elaborate on the academic relevance of the research. We thus first conclude on the last of the four research questions, listed in Section 1.2. Finally, we provide answers to the first three research questions. The model we developed, consists of three components: estimating patient arrivals at departments, the transfers of patients between (sub)specialisms in the departments and the average service times. The first two components are necessary to compute the expected patient volumes. All components are necessary for computing the occupancy rate. Each of the first three research questions deals with one of the components.

6.1 Performance of the model

At this moment, ZGT has no model to estimate patient volumes and occupancy rates at (sub)specialisms in the three departments. The holistic model we develop, is suitable for estimating patient volumes and occupancy rates at (sub)specialisms at least one month ahead, in the departments outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. The estimated patient volumes and occupancy rates are a useful tool for allocating nursing beds and staff. The model we develop can predict four months ahead.¹ Moreover, the model which we present, gives ZGT insight into patient flows between (sub)specialisms in the three departments.

With respect to the transfer of inpatients, the transition probability matrix provides the insight that more than 70 % of the patients who enter a certain specialism, do not

¹In Section 5.4 we provide an example in which we forecast for 20 weeks the patient volumes at specialisms in the nursing wards.

transfer to another specialism and are discharged within one week. Predicting the arrivals of inpatients accurately, is thus the most essential part if one would like to estimate the patient volumes at specialisms in the nursing wards in the near future. These estimations can be used for allocating staff and nursing beds. Due to limitations in the data warehouse of ZGT, we can not draw the same conclusion for the transfer of outpatients with certainty. However, computations suggest that the same conclusions hold for the transfers of outpatients. We recommend that ZGT for outpatients also keeps track of all referrals within one patient path. We present ARIMA-models for 11 specialisms with which we can predict patient volumes in the outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards.

We back-test our model for 20 weeks in 2011 by estimating the expected weekly patient volumes at the nursing wards for 11 specialisms and comparing them with the actual values. Approximately 40% of the weekly patient volumes estimates, differ less than 10 patients in comparison with the actual data. About 25% of the estimations are in the range of a difference between 10 and 20 patients in comparison with the actual data. As said, ZGT uses common sense to allocate staff and nursing beds. Since these estimations are not entirely comparable, we also construct a simple measure and compare our model to this measure. This measure uses the 4 year average arrivals. In 53% of the cases, our model estimates the arrivals better than the 4 year average model. Moreover, our model predicts 14% more cases than the 4 year average model, in which the difference between the estimate and the actual data is only 10 patients or less. The 4 year average model estimates 8% more cases than our model, in which the difference is more than 25 patients compared to the actual data.

Finally, we make a cost comparison of the two models. We calculate costs of wrongly planned nursing beds and staff per group of ten patients per week in case of an over- and underestimation by our model. Next, we compare these costs to the cost estimates of the 4 year average model. For this purpose we use arbitrarily cost estimates of €1,200.— per patient per nursing day. In a scenario in which five of the ten planned beds are really used, the comparison shows a potential costs saving of 2.3 million euro for a period of 20 weeks in favor of our model. In the case of a worst case estimation, this is even higher: a cost reduction of approximately 4.6 million euro in 20 weeks. We also assume that the capacity is available for five days a week and that no transfers between specialisms are allowed. We are well aware that we use several assumptions which should be validated with real world and this will bring down the calculated cost estimate.

6.2 Academic relevance of the model

We are interested whether we can model patient paths and flows through a hospital using a holistic model of three pillars: ARIMA-models, Markov chains and statistical computation of average service times. Our research shows that the combination of the three pillars is a good method for predicting patient volumes and occupancy rates at

(sub)specialisms in the near future. Predicting patient volumes and occupancy rates in this manner is a new concept. As described above, the model predicts patient volumes at nursing wards quite accurately. The fact that we combine the three components into one model and obtain accurate estimates, is a valuable scientific result.

In particular, little research has been done with respect to applicability of Markov theory in health care. The model we develop, demonstrates that Markov chains can be used for modeling patient transfers between outpatient clinics and operating theaters and between operating theaters and nursing wards. Statistical analysis suggests that the homogeneity property and Markov property is satisfied and that the limiting distribution exists of the Markov chains we develop in this paper. This is also a valuable result.

Also with regard to patient arrivals, the choice for an ARIMA-model is a good one, as statistical analysis shows that we can predict patient volumes accurately. The maximum MSE for all developed ARIMA-models is 1.76. This means that the sum of the bias squared (difference between true and error) and the variance of the error are relatively small. Again, statistical tests provide statistical evidence that we may model patient arrivals by using ARIMA-models.

6.3 Research questions

The next subsection will answer the first three research questions defined in Section 1.2.

6.3.1 Expected number of patient arrivals at departments

For the three departments outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, we propose relatively simple models which use a maximum of four time steps back. We develop for 11 specialisms ARIMA-models, which estimate the weekly arrivals several weeks ahead. We find no evidence of seasonal patterns in the data. The results are given in Figures A.1-A.5. Moreover, given the constraints of the maximum number of four autoregressive and four moving average terms, the proposed ARIMA-models predict the weekly patient volume well.

We see that the ARIMA-models predict increases or decreases of arrivals well. However, since ARIMA uses historical data, the ARIMA-models predict these increases or decreases about one or two weeks later than they occur in reality. This might be due to the fact that we do not incorporate sufficient autoregressive and moving average terms in our model. We do not incorporate additional terms, as the Akaike criterion indicates that introducing more terms, does not yield a better fit. Moreover, we are restricted due to limitations in the software packages Matlab and Eviews.² However, we recommend to do further research in the effect of incorporating additional autoregressive and moving

²Matlab can sometimes not compute the inverse matrix, which is used for computing the Akaike criterion. In Eviews all models have to be inputted manually.

average terms in the ARIMA-models. Extreme outliers are difficult to predict. This is due to the nature of the fitting algorithm we use. Ordinary least square fitting uses least squares, which are vulnerable for huge deviations from the mean. As the maximum MSE is 1.76 over all computed ARIMA series, the sum of the variance in the errors and the bias is also small for all computed series. This demonstrates that the difference in arrivals between the true value and error is small. Also the closer MSE is to zero, the better the fit: a MSE of zero indicates a perfect fit.

Finally, statistical tests show that the arrival data of all arrival series satisfy the condition of stationarity if the data are first differenced. We use the Akaike criterion to identify the best fit. The lowest Akaike criterion indicates the best fit. For each series of arrivals we compute 25 different ARIMA-models. We note that the Akaike criterion is not much decreasing as we introduce more autoregressive or moving average terms. As a rule, one tries to keep the ARIMA-models as simple as possible or that is trying to get a model with the least possible number of autoregressive and moving average terms. As the Akaike criterion is not much decreasing as we introduce more terms, we can thus conclude that the number of autoregressive and moving average terms used in our ARIMA-models, are sufficient. Finally, from the fits with the lowest Akaike criterion for each combination of departments and specialisms, almost all models do satisfy the normality and autocorrelation condition.

6.3.2 Transfer of outpatients and inpatients

For the transfers of outpatients and inpatients we develop transition probabilities that a patient transfers from one (sub)specialism to another. For the outpatients we develop monthly transition probabilities for the transfers between outpatient clinics of subspecialisms of surgery and the remainder of the hospital using data of 2010-2011. The results are given in Figure 5.10.

For the inpatients we develop two transition matrices. The first is with regard to the intra-specialism monthly transfers of the subspecialisms of surgery and of the remainder of the hospital. We use data of 2010-2011. The results are given in Figure 5.11. The second matrix deals with the transition probabilities of the weekly transfers of inpatients between 11 specialisms, using data of 2010. These results are given in Figure 5.12.

The size of the (sub)specialisms and the time length of the interval are important. The subdivision in large specialisms yields better figures for estimating the transition probabilities than the subdivision in small (sub)specialisms of surgery. The size should not be too small: the occurrence of a transition should not be too rare within the state time. For the subdivision into subspecialisms of surgery there are a lot of time intervals in which no or very little transitions occur. This is less the case for the subdivision into specialisms.

The time length of one week yields better figures for estimating the transition probabilities than the one month interval. The length of the interval should not be too large:

as the interval becomes too large, the state ‘discharge’ absorbs most of the transfers. For the one month interval more than 90 % of the patients is discharged within one month. If we reduce the period to one week this decreases to approximately 70 %. A further reduction of the time interval is not recommended as the effect of weekends will trouble the numbers for computing the transition probabilities.

Finally, statistical tests suggests that homogeneity and Markov property of the proposed Markov chains hold. Moreover, it suggests the existence of a limiting distribution, which can be used for determining the long-run transition probabilities.

6.3.3 Service time of patients

The average service times are used to compute the occupancy rate at specialisms. We compute the average service times of operations and admissions. All results are given in Figures C.1-C.8. 299 treatments of 980 in the nursing wards are on average longer than five days. There are only 60 treatments with an average nursing time longer than 10 days and none with an average longer than 30 days. As the majority of the average service times of the treatments is less than seven days, the average service times also confirm that the time period of our Markov chains of one week is better than a time period of one month.

We provide a model how to compute the occupancy rate at the combination of specialisms and departments. This involves using the average service times over all treatments of a certain (sub)specialism. We do not actually compute the occupancy rates. We do this as there is no actual reference material with which we can compare our outcomes. Moreover, just taking the average over all treatments might yield a huge over- or underestimation, as some particular complex treatments have much longer service time than the majority of the other treatments. The best solution would be that we could predict patient arrivals on basis of the treatments they receive. However, as volumes for many treatments are very low, the estimation becomes very difficult and unreliable. We recommend to do further research how to incorporate the service times in the model.

Chapter 7

Discussion, limitations and recommendations

In this chapter we discuss the three techniques used in each of the pillars of our model. We elaborate on why we divide the hospital in the three departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. Also, we discuss whether the results can be applied to other health care organizations. Next, we consider the limitations of our research. Finally, we provide recommendations for further research.

7.1 Discussion

First we discuss the implications of the three modeling techniques, ARIMA theory, Markov theory and the computation of means using statistics, which we use for each pillar in our model. Next, we discuss the division into three departments and at the end we elaborate on the applicability to other health care organizations.

7.1.1 Model implications

ARIMA theory

ARIMA theory is widely used in Finance and Economics for forecasting purposes. ARIMA-models however, face some drawbacks. First, the fact that models use historical data, leads to a later detection of increases and decreases than in reality occurs. The increases or decreases can only be detected if the values of previous time periods used for the estimation, are already increasing or decreasing. The more autoregressive terms are included,¹ the earlier an increase or decrease will be noticed, however the complexity of the model will increase. As a rule for determining an ARIMA-model, we use the rule that the simpler the model, the better. That is, we try to estimate an ARIMA-model which

¹The autoregressive terms are used, to implement values of the time series at earlier time steps. The more autoregressive terms are incorporated in the model, the more time points are taken into account, in order to forecast the next time step value.

forecasts accurately but includes the least autoregressive and moving average terms as possible. Also, the Akaike criterion confirms that incorporating more autoregressive or moving average terms in the ARIMA-model does not yield a better fit, as the Akaike criterion is not much decreasing if we do so.²

Moreover, for estimating an ARIMA-model, the method of ordinary least squares, is used. The method will not interpolate the huge outliers of a set of data points, when fitting an ARIMA series.

Also, there is no test that can tell you if the found fit, is an ARIMA-model which can forecast future values of a series accurately. The Akaike criterion can only provide a decisive answer what the best fit is among several ARIMA-models for the same data set. However, whether this fit is a good fit at all for the set of data points, is not answered. For ARIMA theory, there is no underlying theory which describes the selection of the best model for a given data set (Meyler, Kenny, & Quinn, 1998).

In this research, we use weekly figures from 2007-2011³ for estimating the arrivals at the departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards for 11 specialisms. The more data points are available, the better one can estimate an ARIMA-model. That is one reason why we choose our model to provide estimates of patient volumes in weeks, rather than in months. Reliable data before 2007 are not available in ZGT.

The computation of the MSE indicates, if comparing the true values with the estimated values that the differences are relatively small. A comparison with true values and the fitted values, confirm the image that outliers in the data arrivals are not predicted by the ARIMA-model. Moreover, increases and decreases are detected one week or two weeks later than in reality. However, compared with other methods for determining the arrivals at the departments, the ARIMA-models can give a good and accurate indication of the arrivals. If, for instance we had used queuing theory, a fixed arrival distribution is assumed per combination of department and (sub)specialism. The power of ARIMA-models is that they can cope with fluctuations in arrivals over time. These fluctuations can be predicted by ARIMA-models as they take into account values of previous periods. The input distribution in queuing theory, does not support this feature.

²In this research we choose among 25 different fits for one series of arrivals, the best fit for our ARIMA-model. We allow the maximum number of autoregressive to be four and the maximum number of moving average terms also be four (also the case of zero terms is considered, so that we obtain 25 different fits). The Akaike criterion indicates that adding more terms do not yield a better result. However adding much more terms (example five of each more) might yield a better result as we can rely on more historical data for predicting the arrivals at the next time step. We do not research this in this paper, due to limitations in the software and the rule that we would like to keep the ARIMA-models as simple as possible. We suggest this for further research.

³For operating theaters only data from 2008-2011.

Markov theory

As stated before, relatively little research has been done in the applicability of Markov theory in health care. No framework exists for modeling health care processes as a Markov chain. In fact, no analytical proof or test is known to provide a decisive answer whether some data possesses the mathematical properties required to model a Markov chain. There are some studies in health care, which use Markov theory, although they do not discuss how to investigate whether the Markov and homogeneity property holds and how to investigate the existence of a limiting distribution for the Markov chains for a certain data set.

We provide methods which test the homogeneity and Markov property of a Markov chain. Also we give a method how to test whether the limiting distribution of a Markov chain exists. We do however not provide an analytical proof. We recommend to do further research for finding an analytical proof for the homogeneity and Markov property and the existence of a limiting distribution if modeling a Markov chain on a set of data.

We demonstrate that Markov theory is an adequate manner for modeling transfers of patients between (sub)specialisms in the departments outpatients clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. Also we demonstrate that the transfers of outpatients and inpatients can be modeled, using Markov theory. The tests we conducted for the homogeneity and Markov properties suggest that these properties hold. The same holds for the existence of a limiting distribution. The tests we conduct suggest the existence of a limiting distribution of the proposed Markov chains.

Overall, we choose Markov theory for modeling the transfers of outpatients and inpatients between (sub)specialisms, because it is an elegant way of computing transition probabilities. The transition probabilities provide an overview what the probability is that a patient transfers from a certain (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in a certain time period. Other theories as queuing theory, can only provide these probabilities for the stationary or limiting situation.

Computing of average service times

The two model components, ARIMA theory and Markov theory, are necessary for computing the future patient volumes at least one month ahead at a (sub)specialism in one of the departments, outpatients clinics, operating theaters or nursing wards. The model component, average service time, should be added to obtain the occupancy rate at the (sub)specialisms.

The model we propose uses the average service time over all treatments for one certain (sub)specialism. As some treatments are very complex, their service times might deviate much from the bulk of treatments for this specialism. This might influence the average service time of this specialism and thus the occupancy rate significantly. More

research on the implementation of the service times in the model is recommended.

7.1.2 Division of hospital

In this model we divide the hospital into three departments, namely the outpatient clinics, the operating theaters and the nursing wards. We consider two Markov chains, namely the transfers of outpatients and inpatients.⁴ For Markov theory we could have combined these chains into one, however instead, we choose to work with two Markov chains. This due to the data limitations within ZGT. The data characteristics for the three departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, are different.

Moreover, the division in the three departments is convenient as it coincides with the departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, for which we would like to estimate the number of arrivals.

Finally, due to data limitations we can not determine with certainty if a transfer of a single outpatient belongs to his/her patient path. ZGT does not register the visits of one patient path under one registration number. We assume that the transfers which occur in the same or the adjacent time period, belong to the same patient path. However, this is of course not necessarily the case. We require this assumption, since we otherwise can not model transfers of outpatients at all. For the transfers of inpatients, this story does not hold: for an admission to nursing wards there is a single registration number, which is used for all transfers during the admission. We recommend that ZGT also should use one registration number for all visits to the outpatient clinics for one patient path, or even better one registration number for all visits during a patient path.

7.1.3 Model comparison

Currently, ZGT uses common sense and experience of employees to estimate the number of staff and nursing beds. The estimates are based on historical production figures, the agendas of specialists and planned appointments. ZGT allocates per specialism operation time and a number of beds for a period of several months ahead. For the operating times these estimations can be fine-tuned during meetings of tactical planning. For allocating nursing beds and staff in nursing wards, such meetings do not exist. The estimates ZGT uses, do not indicate the occupancy rates during the period, neither the estimated production. It only indicates the available resources, as operation time and staff for a certain specialism for a period of several months.

⁴The first Markov chain considers the transfer of outpatients of a specific (sub)specialism from one outpatient clinic to another outpatient clinic, to the department operating theater, to the department nursing wards or to discharge. The second Markov chain considers, the transfers of inpatients of a specific (sub)specialism from one nursing ward to another nursing ward, the intensive care or discharge. Moreover, the last Markov chain distinguishes between the origin of the patients: outpatient clinics, operating theaters or nursing wards.

As there is no model in ZGT which provides an indication of (estimated) patient volumes or occupancy rate at a certain (sub)specialism in a certain department, we can not compare the performance of our model to the current model of ZGT.

We introduce another measure, the 4 year average, in order to compare our model to another model. Probably, only partly the 4 year average, replicates the current estimation procedure of ZGT. We recommend to test our model in a hospital in which more advanced (estimated) patient volumes and occupancy rates estimation models are available.

7.1.4 Cost comparison

For computing the costs of over- and underestimating patient volumes per week, we distinguish two different scenarios. In both scenarios, we assume that a planned bed is available for five days. There will be no coordination between the different specialisms. The actual cost reduction will be somewhat lower than the estimated difference of 2.3 million euro between our model and the 4 year average model. It is likely that the over- and undercapacity does not appear for the whole week, but only for parts of this week. Moreover, presumably management interventions yield a reduction in over- and undercapacity by coordinating the several specialisms during the week. This leads to a more efficient use of the staff/outpatient clinic space/nursing beds of all specialisms.

Finally, the cost estimate of €6,000.— per patient per week is obtained by using the average costs for all hospitals for one nursing day. By order of NZa, Prismant computed the average price for one nursing day, which is €1,267.— in 2008 (NZa, 2008), so for five days this is approximately €6,000.—. This price reflects all costs made.

7.1.5 Applicability to other health care organizations

We expect that the research can be applied well in other hospitals in the Netherlands. This is due to the structure of Dutch hospitals. Also, most hospitals store sufficient data.

Other hospitals in the Netherlands have similar structures to ZGT. All hospitals are divided in the departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards.

Most hospitals store a lot of data about patients. The hospitals should store the admission times of patients at the outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards for determining ARIMA-models, which can forecast patient arrivals at these departments. As long as hospitals do have a good registration of the transfers a single patient undergoes in a patient path, we can compute the transition probabilities for the transfer from one (sub)specialism to another in a department in a certain time period. Finally, the hospitals should store the individual service times per patient, per treatment and per specialism.

7.2 Limitations

In this section we discuss the data limitations of this research.

7.2.1 Data limitations

As already is discussed in Section 7.1.2, data limitations require to divide the hospital in three departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards. The data characteristics are different for the three departments.

Moreover, a single registration number for visits belonging to one patient path does not exist. This makes it difficult to reconstruct the patient path for outpatients. For inpatients this does not hold, as the admission number is a unique number for an admission and is used by both specialisms if a patient is transferred from one to the other. Linking the operating theaters department to the department nursing wards, is not a problem. For most operations, the date of the operation coincides with the first day of the admission.⁵

7.2.2 Reliability of the data

One can question whether the data used in this research is reliable. Probably the data possesses inaccuracies or errors, as most data is manually inputted by the medical staff in programs as Chipsoft. However, as the data we use are financial figures, we may assume that there are correct to a very large extent. The financial data is used by ZGT for doing expenses claims at insurance companies.

7.3 Recommendations for further research

This section provides recommendations for further research.

7.3.1 Incorporation of service times

We recommend to do further research how to adequately incorporate service times of patients, in order to compute the occupancy rate at a combination of a department and (sub)specialism. The proposed model uses average service times for estimating the expected occupancy rate at a specific combination of a department and a (sub)specialism. As discussed in Section 7.1.1, complex treatments can influence the average service time over all treatments for a (sub)specialism significantly. This influences the estimation of the occupancy rate at the various combinations of department and (sub)specialism.

⁵Or the operating data is very close to the first day of the admission. In fact we allow two days between the date of the operation and the first day of the admission.

7.3.2 Fitting ARIMA-models using more autoregressive and moving average terms

We recommend to do further research in adding more autoregressive and moving average terms in the ARIMA-models used for estimating patient arrivals. As argued, the estimations are not entirely accurate, but demonstrate some delay compared to the true values. Adding more autoregressive and moving average terms might yield a better estimation. In our study we allow the maximum of autoregressive terms to be four and the maximum number of moving average terms also to be four. This is due to limitations in the software we use and the fact that we want to keep the ARIMA-models as simple as possible. It might be interesting to research whether the allowance of much more autoregressive and moving average terms, yields much better fits.

7.3.3 Recomputing the transition probabilities for the transfer of out-patients

We recommend to recompute the transition probabilities for the transfer of outpatients if there is one unique registration number for a patient path of a single patient. If there exists one unique registration number for the different visits during one patient path of a single patient, we can reconstruct with certainty the correct transition probabilities of transfers of patients. As discussed in Section 7.1.2 this no problem for the transfer of inpatients. For outpatients there is no registration number and we can not with certainty reconstruct a patient path.

7.3.4 Markov chains in health care

We recommend to do further research to the applicability of Markov chains in health care. As discussed in 7.1.1 little research has been done with this respect. Also we recommend to find a proof/procedure how to check whether data and a proposed Markov chain, do satisfy the mathematical conditions of a Markov chain.

7.3.5 Coding the model

We recommend to code the model for more validation purposes. Manually the three components are evaluated. The back-testing procedure provides a performance indication of the model for 20 weeks in 2011. However, we do not provide a programming code for our holistic model. In order to implement the model, we recommend to code the model. Also, this makes the validation of the model for a period extended than 20 weeks, easier.

Chapter 8

Applicability for ZGT and recommendations

The content of this paper is at some points rather theoretically. The purpose of this chapter is to elaborate on the applicability of the research with regard to ZGT. We explain the logic behind the model and elaborate on the possibility to implement the model. Moreover, we do recommendations to ZGT with respect to estimating patient volumes and occupancy rates.

8.1 Relevance: a changing society

Increasing life expectancy, co-morbidity, political and social pressure have urged the health care industry to become more cost-conscious. High qualitative health care is considered to be important in the Netherlands, however concerns about the continuously increasing costs have risen. The general opinion is that health care should be organized more (cost) efficiently. The health care process is complex: the demand for care is uncertain. Moreover, resources, as staff and nursing beds, used in the health care industry, are scarce. One would like to fine-tune demand and supply in hospitals, as ZGT, as efficiently as possible. Aim is to reduce the occurrence of over- and undercapacity as much as possible. To make planning more efficient, planners have to estimate better the future patient volumes and/or occupancy rates in the hospital.

8.2 Estimating patient volumes and occupancy rates

There are many ways to model expected patient volumes and occupancy rates. We propose a simple and intuitive model providing a helicopter view of patient flows through ZGT. The model computes the expected patient volumes and occupancy rates at different combinations of specialisms and departments: outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, at least one month ahead. Moreover, the model provides transfer probabilities what the next specialism will be, given the current specialism of the pa-

tient. Thus, if a patient enters the hospital we can subsequently estimate what the next treatment in the patient path will be, until the patient will finally be discharged.

Currently, no prediction model for estimating patient volumes and occupancy rates exists within ZGT. We propose two different methods to compute the patient volumes and occupancy rates. The first is a holistic model, which takes the transfers of patients between specialisms into account. The second only uses four year averages for computing future demands. In this report the focus is on the first model. The model combines techniques of different disciplines, as Finance, Econometrics and Probability theory in order to estimate patient volumes and occupancy rates.

The holistic model consists of three components. The model allows us to estimate patient volumes and occupancy rates. It uses transfer probabilities in order to estimate what the next step in a patient path will be. These estimations occur on the level of a combination of department¹ and specialism.² As the incidence for the demand for care is uncertain, we use many aspects of Probability theory in the holistic model. The model is depicted in Figure 8.1.

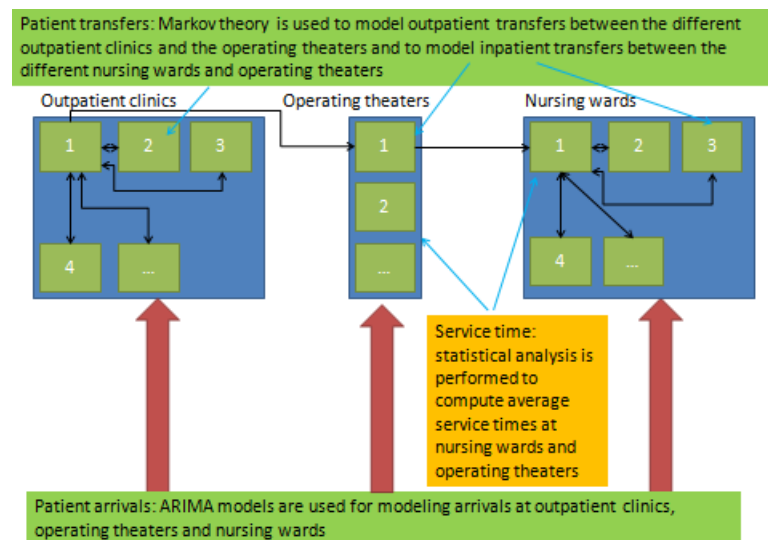


Figure 8.1: A graphical representation of the subdivision of the hospital ZGT in the three departments. The numbers at the green boxes in the departments represents the specialisms. In the figure we indicate where we apply the three components.

The transfer probabilities are modeled by a Markov chain. Markov chains are used in order to model transfers from one state to another. It assumes that the next time step

¹These departments are the outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards.

²E.g. cardiology or surgery.

only depends on the previous time step and not on its history. We estimate the transition probabilities of weekly transfer of inpatients between 11 specialisms. The results are in Figure 5.12. 10 of the 11 specialisms coincides with some of the established RVEs³ after the reorganization of 2012. The advantages of this approach is that we can define as much transfers as possible. It only requires the storage of one step in a patient path. Moreover, if we assume that the composition of the specialisms and departments will not change over time, we do not have to adjust the transition probabilities. Finally, we can compute the behavior of patients in the long run.

Markov chains are useful for modeling the transfers of patients within the hospital. However, we should also model the arrivals of the patients. For this purpose we use ARIMA-models. These models are for instance used in Finance in order to predict what the price of shares will be in the future. The results for the weekly arrivals of 11 specialisms are in Figures A.1-A.5. Advantage of ARIMA-models is that it can take into account fluctuations over time as it will follow a trend. Patient arrivals also possess fluctuations over time. The first two components are required in order to compute the expected number of patients at a combination of department and specialism.

Finally, the last component of the model is the computation of the average service time of treatments and admissions. This component is required so that we can compute the expected occupancy rates. Occupancy rates are computed by the number of patients times the indication how long these patients will stay.

8.3 Opportunities and recommendations

Results in this paper show that the holistic model can lead to a potential cost saving. The potential cost saving can be achieved if the demand for care can be estimated accurately. The model proposed, estimates patient volumes at different combinations of departments and specialisms at least one month ahead. Compared to the four year average model the estimations of the proposed model are more accurate. Moreover, the model provides insight into the patient flows within ZGT. Results demonstrate that approximately 70% of the patients enter and leave the hospital within one week at the same specialism.

The outcome of the model could support the planning process within the hospital. Currently, planning of operating theaters is managed in tactical planning. As far as we know, for the planning of outpatient clinics and nursing wards, the planning process is less sophisticated. The outcomes of our model can be used to predict patient volumes at specialisms of these three departments at least one month ahead. The more accurate the prediction, the more efficient staff and medical equipment can be used. Of two proposed models, the holistic model is the most accurate in its predictions of the patient volumes.

³RVE, Resultaat Verantwoordelijke Eenheid, English Profit Responsible Unit, see Figure 1.3 for the new structure of ZGT.

We recommend for the two departments, outpatient clinics and nursing wards to set up planning meetings, similar to the meetings of tactical planning, in which the planning and realizations of several months is discussed. In this meetings the outcome of our model, future patient volumes can be used for determining the usage of staff and medical equipment. For the department operating theaters, the outcome of our model can be used to support the planning decision making process of tactical planning.

Recommendations for ZGT

Having researched the patient flow through the three departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards, we make the following recommendations to ZGT:

1. Predict patient volumes at specialisms in the department nursing wards using the model. The outcomes can be used to allocate staff and nursing beds at least one month ahead.
2. Use the outcomes of our model with regard to the arrivals at specialisms in the department operating theaters in order to support the decisions made in meetings of tactical planning to allocate operating times to specific specialisms.
3. Set up similar meetings for planning, as tactical planning, in the departments outpatient clinics and nursing wards.
4. The use of a uniform system to register details of visits/treatments of patients in the three departments, outpatient clinics, operating theaters and nursing wards.
5. The use of one unique registration number for the visits/treatments which belong to the patient path of a single patient. This improves the outcomes of the model, as we can drop certain modeling assumptions and as a result estimate the transition probabilities of the transfers of outpatients more reliably.⁴

8.4 Implementation and usage

The holistic model we propose is only a pilot model. The components for computing the patient volumes are the output of different software programs. In order to make the model applicable, it is recommended to integrate the different components of the model in one program. Implementing the model requires some additional research and effort. One can choose two different approaches. The Finance and Information Department of ZGT can use the theory provided in this paper and build this model. This requires additional time of the current staff members. However, time consuming, this will lead to the required knowledge of staff for future releases. Another possibility is letting an informatics student code the model. This could be the basis for a master or bachelor thesis.

⁴We assume that the visits of one single outpatient in one or the adjacent time period belong to one patient path. If there is one registration number for the visits belonging to one patient path we can with certainty reconstruct a patient path.

Estimation of patient volumes and occupancy rates holds the following:

- Estimate the patient arrivals at the various combinations of the departments and specialisms. One can use the ARIMA models in Figures [A.1-A.5](#).
- Next, multiply the estimated arrivals with the transition probability matrix. That is for instance if we have the weekly arrivals at the nursing wards and one would like to compute the transfers of inpatients between specialisms in the nursing wards, multiplying the arrivals with the transfer matrix in Figure [5.12](#).
- Finally, for computing the occupancy rate, use the average services times provided in Figures [C.1-C.8](#).

After the model is implemented, the model can be used for predicting patient volumes. This requires data input. Monthly data admissions figures of the different specialisms should be uploaded to the model in order to keep the predictions accurately. One can update and estimate the patient volume of different specialisms at least one month ahead. Next, to other planning material, these figures can be used for determining an efficient allocation decisions of staff to the different specialisms. The model has the opportunity to predict patient volumes at least one month ahead.

8.5 Summary

To conclude, the results demonstrate that the holistic model provides promising results in predicting patient volumes at different specialisms. We have established a model which can estimate the transition probabilities of a transfer of in- and outpatients from one (sub)specialism to another (sub)specialism in a certain time period. In particular, we established the transition probabilities for inpatients and arrival rates for 10 specialisms which coincides with RVEs. Moreover, 70% of the patients entering the hospital at a given specialism will also leave the hospital at this specialism within one week. So in essence, the most important task is to determine the arrival process of patients at the various departments. In this paper we provide a method for continuously updating the expected arrivals at the various specialisms. However, as this study is only a pilot, the model proposed can not be implemented immediately.

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Appendix A

Time series analysis data

This appendix contains the results for the ARIMA-models for 11 specialisms, required for predicting weekly patient arrivals. The data we use, is from the period 2007-2011.¹ The figures below provide the coefficients of ARMA terms. Notice that for all series we take the first difference to obtain stationarity. The column 'ADF²' indicates whether the data is stationary at significance level $\alpha = 5\%$. A rejection of the null hypothesis is indicated by 0, an acceptance by 1. Next, we show results whether the residuals are assumed to have a normal distribution. This is provided in column 'Jarque-Bera'. For this test, we used different confidence levels. The number in this column indicates at which significance level we accept the null hypothesis. Finally, we also provide whether the series is autocorrelated, this is denoted in the column 'Ljung-Box'. In this column a zero denotes the acceptance of the null hypothesis at a significance level of $\alpha = 5\%$. Most data is obtained, using the Matlab software package, however as some Matlab could not compute some inverse matrices for checking routines, we also used Eviews. The fits computed by Eviews, are marked yellow.

Figures [A.1-A.5](#) show the results for the best ARIMA fits for each series of arrivals.³ The results of the Augmented Dickey-Fuller test, Jarque-Bera test and Ljung-Box test respectively are also in these figures. We list the results for 11 specialisms for the departments outpatient clinics (first and repeated visits), the operating theaters and nursing wards (one day admission (heavy or light) or more than day).

¹For the department operating theaters, the data is from 2008-2011.

²ADF, Augmented Dickey-Fuller.

³The best fit is determined by the Akaike criterion, the lowest Akaike criterion indicates the best fit. For all series the Akaike criterion are computed. These can be found in Figures [A.6-A.8](#).

specialism	Constant	AR 1	AR 2	AR 3	AR 4	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	Variance	Likelihood	ADF	Jarque Bera	Ljung Box	Scenario number	OK?
Cardiology	0,06	-0,23	0,11	0,76	0,00	-0,55	-0,41	-0,82	0,78	0,00	-1340,76	1	0,01	0	20	yes
Surgery	-0,25	-0,79	-0,79	0,19	0,00	-0,01	0,01	-1,00	0,00	2589,44	-1415,98	1	non significant	0	19	no
Gastroenterology	0,10	0,74	0,21	-0,46	-0,11	-1,53	0,27	0,73	-0,42	4246,07	-1163,59	1	0,05	0	25	yes
Gynecology	0,07	-0,08	-0,20	-0,87	0,25	-0,70	0,00	0,70	-1,00	578,50	-1262,67	1	0,05	0	25	yes
Internal Medicine	0,00	0,53	0,56	-0,69	0,00	-1,32	-0,16	1,00	-0,52	1326,54	-1315,26	1	0,001	0	20	yes
Pediatrics	0,04	-0,91	0,30	0,70	0,00	0,26	-1,05	-0,67	0,46	1918,81	-1159,82	1	0,05	0	20	yes
Pulmonology	0,21	-1,12	-0,23	0,44	0,00	-1,60	0,60	0,00	0,00	614,48	-1184,74	1	0,05	0	8	yes
Neurology	0,48	0,67	0,41	-0,69	0,00	-1,43	0,04	-0,85	0,26	686,27	-1286,39	1	0,001	0	20	yes
Other	0,13	-0,95	-0,86	-0,07	0,04	0,03	-0,02	1,00	-0,61	1526,09	-1765,89	1	non significant	0	20	no
Urology	-0,03	-0,03	0,04	-0,81	0,00	-0,98	0,08	0,92	-0,91	67623,15	-910,12	1	0,1	0	20	yes
Obstetrics	-0,03	-0,03	0,04	-0,81	0,00	-0,98	0,08	0,92	-0,91	67623,15	-910,12	1	0,05	0	20	yes

Figure A.1: ARIMA coefficients, ADF, Jarque-Bera and Ljung-Box results for the number of first outpatient visits.

specialism	Constant	AR 1	AR 2	AR 3	AR 4	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	Variance	Likelihood	ADF	Jarque Bera	Ljung Box	Scenario number	OK?
Cardiology	0,13	-0,33	0,08	0,73	0,13	-0,59	-0,36	-0,80	0,75	77,75	-1465,64	1	0,0001	0	25	yes
Surgery	0,78	-0,07	-0,67	0,05	0,26	-0,83	0,87	-0,96	0,00	6460,74	-1594,93	1	non significant	0	24	no
Gastroenterology	0,22	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	-0,88	0,00	0,00	0,00	19549,92	-1365,07	1	non significant	0	2	no
Gynecology	0,04	-0,10	0,35	0,00	0,00	-0,53	-0,47	0,00	0,00	2830,62	-1397,42	1	non significant	0	13	no
Internal Medicine	0,24	0,49	0,11	-0,65	0,00	-1,43	0,39	0,67	-0,64	3638,03	-1540,97	1	non significant	0	20	no
Pediatrics	0,04	0,25	0,12	0,08	0,16	-1,71	0,00	0,00	0,00	11886,77	-1319,81	1	0,001	0	22	yes
Pulmonology	0,05	0,75	0,03	0,00	0,00	-1,20	0,71	0,00	0,00	1997,85	-1332,17	1	0,05	0	18	yes
Neurology	0,50	0,29	-0,76	0,00	0,00	-1,13	1,13	-0,84	0,00	2298,42	-1353,35	1	non significant	0	14	no
Other	0,71	0,54	0,19	0,00	0,00	-1,29	0,29	0,00	0,00	2684,26	-1911,65	1	non significant	0	13	no
Urology	0,54	-0,14	-0,91	-0,12	0,00	-1,00	1,00	-1,00	0,00	213598,94	-1444,17	1	0,05	0	19	yes
Obstetrics	-0,11	-0,22	-0,92	-0,25	0,00	-0,75	0,99	-0,77	0,00	5316,31	-1195,49	1	0,05	0	19	yes

Figure A.2: ARIMA coefficients, ADF, Jarque-Bera and Ljung-Box results for the number of repeated outpatient visits.

specialism	Constant	AR 1	AR 2	AR 3	AR 4	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	Variance	Likelihood	ADF	Jarque Bera	Ljung Box	Scenario number	OK?
Surgery	-0,22	-0,55	-0,16	0,66	0,00	-0,04	-0,31	-0,93	0,28	0,00	-973,38	1	non significant	0	20	no
Gynecology	-0,10	-1,23	-0,90	0,10	0,11	0,54	-0,11	-0,99	-0,23	775,49	-744,17	1	0,025	0	25	yes
Other	-1,54	-1,30	-0,07	0,45	0,00	0,71	-0,92	-0,82	0,17	85,31	-1370,86	1	non significant	0	20	no
Urology	-0,02	-0,01	-0,40	-0,43	0,33	-0,64	0,42	-0,17	-0,61	38068,90	-738,46	1	0,05	1	25	no
Midwifery	-0,10	-0,82	0,00	0,00	0,00	-0,01	-0,79	0,00	0,00	87,96	-826,50	1	0,05	0	8	yes
Cardiology	-0,01	0,20	-0,95	0,00	0,00	-1,16	1,22	-0,92	0,00	182,95	-404,27	1	0,05	0	14	yes
Surgery	-0,03	0,63	0,65	-0,68	0,00	-1,67	0,14	1,00	-0,46	3,06	-936,28	1	non significant	0	20	no
Gastroenterology	0,00	-0,21	-0,80	0,00	0,00	-0,74	0,54	-0,80	0,00	572,73	-423,28	1	non significant	0	14	no
Gynecology	-0,07	-1,09	-0,96	0,00	0,00	0,24	0,00	-0,89	0,00	3,64	-591,23	1	0,05	0	14	yes
Other	-0,22	-0,06	0,06	0,69	-0,35	-0,46	-0,32	-0,84	0,68	18,68	-1128,24	1	non significant	0	25	no
Obstetrics	0,10	-1,42	-0,77	0,00	0,00	0,66	-0,40	-0,66	-0,17	3707,44	-589,71	1	non significant	0	15	no

Figure A.3: ARIMA coefficients, ADF, Jarque-Bera and Ljung-Box results for the number of operations.

Specialism (light)	Constant	AR 1	AR 2	AR 3	AR 4	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	Variance	Likelihood	ADF	Jarque Bera	Ljung Box	Scenario number	OK?
Cardiology	0,04	1,10	-0,57	-0,24	0,26	-1,94	1,50	-0,34	-0,22	85,22	-796,11	1	0,05	0	25	yes
Surgery	0,18	0,21	0,02	-0,83	0,20	-0,98	0,12	0,88	-0,87	31,67	-1086,35	1	non significant	0	25	no
Gastroenterology	0,38	-1,19	-0,63	0,22	0,00	0,51	-0,37	-0,94	0,00	333,93	-953,01	1	0,001	0	19	yes
Gynecology	0,00	0,21	0,17	0,00	0,00	-1,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	113,62	-808,66	1	0,05	0	12	yes
Internal Medicine	0,08	-0,22	0,74	0,00	0,00	-0,63	-1,02	0,65	0,04	34,84	-932,54	1	0,05	0	15	yes
Pediatrics	0,01	0,20	0,00	0,00	0,00	-0,90	0,00	0,00	0,00	104,76	-832,03	1	0,001	0	7	yes
Pulmonology	0,08	-0,70	-0,61	0,36	0,16	-0,10	0,10	-1,00	0,00	41,43	-760,82	1	non significant	0	24	no
Neurology	0,11	-0,23	-0,23	-0,95	0,00	-0,80	0,12	0,69	-0,89	24,39	-842,51	1	0,05	0	20	yes
Other	0,02	1,12	0,08	-0,17	-0,08	-2,00	1,00	0,00	0,00	47,65	-1275,02	1	non significant	0	23	no
Urology	0,05	-0,31	-0,65	-0,71	0,00	-0,66	0,41	0,01	-0,70	1425,20	-754,63	1	0,05	0	20	yes
Obstetrics	-0,01	0,71	0,00	0,00	0,00	-1,47	0,47	0,00	0,00	24,51	-975,71	1	non significant	0	8	no
Specialism (heavy)																
Surgery	0,00	0,68	0,00	0,00	0,00	-1,44	0,44	0,00	0,00	131,01	-857,13	1	0,001	0	8	yes
Gynecology	-0,01	-0,44	-0,52	-0,89	0,10	-0,34	0,04	0,45	-0,93	50,22	-536,75	1	non significant	0	25	no
Other	0,03	0,24	0,00	0,00	0,00	-0,96	0,00	0,00	0,00	4,54	-1225,38	1	0,001	0	7	yes
Urology	0,00	-1,11	-0,67	-0,43	0,00	-0,26	-0,74	0,00	0,00	937,20	-765,46	1	0,001	0	18	yes
Other	0,23	0,01	-0,56	0,39	0,19	-0,46	0,47	-0,85	0,00	24,75	-1060,51	1	non significant	0	24	no

Figure A.4: ARIMA coefficients, ADF, Jarque-Bera and Ljung-Box results for the number of one-day nursing admission, subdivided in light and heavy.

specialism	Constant	AR 1	AR 2	AR 3	AR 4	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	Variance	Likelihood	ADF	Jarque Bera	Ljung Box	Scenario number	OK?
Cardiology	-0,02	0,34	0,56			-1,22	-0,29	0,25	0,25			1	0,05	0	23	yes
Surgery	0,00	0,01	-0,82	0,20	0,00	-0,78	0,82	-0,97	0,00	744,42	-1093,74	1	0,01	0	19	yes
Gastroenterology	0,00	-1,04	-0,74	0,17	0,00	0,25	-0,16	-0,96	0,00	333,06	-682,96	1	0,05	0	19	yes
Gynaecology	0,04	-0,20	-0,75	-0,51	0,00	-0,64	0,44	-0,07	-0,66	13,55	-851,44	1	0,05	0	20	yes
Internal Medicine	0,00	0,71	0,00	0,00	0,00	-1,60	0,60	0,00	0,00	52,74	-912,11	1	0,001	0	8	yes
Pediatrics	0,00	0,35	0,19	0,20		-0,99						1		0	9	yes
Pulmonology	-0,01	-1,01	0,00	0,71	0,29	0,16	-0,82	-0,64	0,30	76,68	-841,05	1	0,05	0	25	yes
Neurology	0,00	-1,49	-0,94	0,00	0,00	0,53	-0,53	-1,00	0,00	48,70	-783,97	1	0,05	0	14	yes
Other	0,01	0,72	0,00	0,00	0,00	-1,37	0,37	0,00	0,00	30,10	-1156,87	1	non significant	0	8	no
Urology	0,05	-0,40	-0,74	0,21	0,10	-0,41	0,41	-1,00	0,00	538,22	-829,09	1	0,05	0	24	yes
Obstetrics	0,00	0,24	0,89	-0,20	0,00	-1,04	-0,93	0,96	0,00	42,31	-912,27	1	0,05	0	19	yes

Figure A.5: ARIMA coefficients, ADF, Jarque-Bera and Ljung-Box results for the number of clinical admissions regarding more than one nursing day.

specialism	Surgery	Gynecology	Other	Urologie	Other2
best scenario	9	26	8	19	25
scenario					
1	1831,07	1222,37	2563,67	1845,28	2201,26
2	1735,44	1107,92	2465,91	1626,17	2160,06
3	1727,47	1106,33	2458,63	1592,73	2153,44
4	1727,20	1107,19	2457,42	1589,92	2150,64
5	1726,44	1107,93	2459,34	1587,73	2150,77
6	1786,82	1178,73	2518,18	1766,74	2178,46
7	1724,04	1106,62	2456,77	1607,67	2149,56
8	1722,26	1099,89	2458,30	1579,37	2150,21
9	1724,01	1101,25	2459,33	1571,72	2150,35
10	1724,98	1103,20	2461,33	1563,32	2152,05
11	1762,45	1143,04	2507,06	1697,57	2170,59
12	1724,60	1107,93	2457,96	1574,40	2150,51
13	1724,17	1100,58	2459,59	1575,94	2151,53
14	1723,92	1103,95	2461,24	1573,28	2142,13
15	1725,70	1103,83	2463,17	1552,21	2148,03
16	1754,24	1140,32	2492,33	1615,83	2154,02
17	1723,41	1108,49	2459,67	1566,50	2156,02
18	1725,71	1102,58	2461,24	1542,92	2153,35
19	1726,51	1104,84	2462,29	1544,72	2140,46
20	1724,86	1100,69	2460,65	1546,72	2137,76
21	1750,80	1131,84	2486,85	1610,19	2156,02
22	1724,78	1107,32	2458,93	1563,19	2145,83
23	1724,52	1102,72	2460,12	1543,92	2148,23
24	1728,64	1106,56	2462,69	1545,84	2137,01
25	1726,85	1091,51	2461,89	1546,73	2138,82

Figure A.10: Akaike numbers for the 25 configurations for the department nursing wards (one day (heavy)).

specialism	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal medicine	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Urologie	Obstetrics
best scenario	20	20	21	9	26	15	9	25	20
scenario									
1	2332,97	1520,08	1862,02	1965,75	1847,28	1743,77	2409,07	1802,85	1968,89
2	2231,00	1398,58	1732,67	1847,60	1709,82	1584,97	2341,88	1683,06	1859,93
3	2224,22	1397,19	1727,50	1846,81	1710,56	1586,31	2334,85	1678,05	1856,16
4	2218,46	1397,05	1729,00	1847,15	1712,50	1586,66	2331,35	1674,58	1858,15
5	2218,31	1397,67	1730,57	1849,12	1713,72	1588,59	2329,67	1676,02	1857,84
6	2273,67	1456,88	1821,16	1906,59	1764,58	1665,81	2365,94	1741,41	1922,61
7	2220,76	1396,49	1728,61	1846,13	1710,50	1586,17	2329,23	1676,20	1855,77
8	2211,42	1390,08	1729,21	1832,22	1711,72	1587,30	2321,75	1677,43	1856,75
9	2213,40	1389,79	1732,25	1839,73	1713,65	1586,68	2323,65	1675,62	1856,61
10	2217,03	1389,44	1732,41	1840,24	1706,79	1588,65	2325,64	1677,62	1857,48
11	2265,55	1439,01	1793,62	1893,16	1733,42	1644,08	2355,89	1734,07	1892,18
12	2218,37	1396,29	1729,73	1846,76	1712,50	1586,04	2324,13	1675,39	1857,72
13	2212,47	1398,00	1732,18	1839,42	1713,56	1586,61	2323,72	1675,68	1856,19
14	2210,67	1384,50	1731,72	1834,04	1713,06	1579,95	2322,73	1677,51	1838,58
15	2202,74	1391,99	1735,91	1835,98	1714,69	1581,95	2324,67	1679,34	1858,64
16	2266,20	1437,03	1789,66	1882,84	1722,49	1616,69	2354,52	1719,46	1886,26
17	2220,06	1398,23	1731,73	1848,39	1713,83	1587,91	2324,66	1676,04	1856,97
18	2218,56	1389,10	1732,67	1840,65	1715,30	1588,45	2324,64	1677,48	1857,15
19	2201,49	1379,93	1733,72	1835,70	1705,90	1580,97	2324,71	1679,48	1838,54
20	2203,49	1393,33	1718,88	1833,39	1708,97	1582,94	2325,91	1679,88	1846,21
21	2259,24	1434,14	1768,20	1878,87	1723,90	1613,83	2353,57	1717,01	1874,94
22	2216,08	1398,45	1729,95	1850,38	1706,41	1583,63	2326,53	1677,60	1858,97
23	2205,16	1400,84	1731,43	1842,61	1710,13	1585,50	2326,94	1679,40	1858,63
24	2203,11	1381,90	1732,04	1837,69	1704,90	1583,22	2324,92	1674,19	1846,12
25	2205,72	1391,29	1732,94	1833,90	1700,09	1584,99	2326,89	1683,64	1860,64

Figure A.11: Akaike numbers for the 25 configurations for the department nursing wards (more than one day).

A.2 Seasonality

This section deals with checking the data on seasonality. In the paper we provide plots with the actual data, the fitted ARIMA-model and its residuals for the arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) of the the specialism surgery. This appendix contains the accompanying plots (Figures A.12-A.15) of the autocorrelation (ACF) and partial autocorrelation functions (PCF).

The bars indicate the extent of autocorrelation at the lags. The lags at which the bars lay behind the vertical dash, are the lags at which the test statistic identifies that the series possesses autocorrelation at a significance level $\alpha = 5\%$.⁴

Moreover, this Appendix contains the comparison whether the data possesses seasonality components of the arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day), for the specialism cardiology. The results are in Figures A.16-A.19. Also a comparison for the arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for the specialism surgery are provided. The results are in Figures A.23-A.26. Finally, a comparison for the arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for the specialisms surgery is given. The results are in Figures A.23-A.26.

We provide plots of the $(0, 0, 0)$ -, $(0, 1, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ - and $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-models and its residuals. Also for $(0, 1, 0)$ -, $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ - and $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-models, we provide the plot of the autocorrelation functions (ACF) and partial correlation functions (PCF). We only expect autocorrelation at the lag at which we suspect the season pattern. We see that for $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ - and $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-models there is still autocorrelation at lags other than lag 12 and 50.

⁴The Q test statistic is the output of a Box-Pierce test.

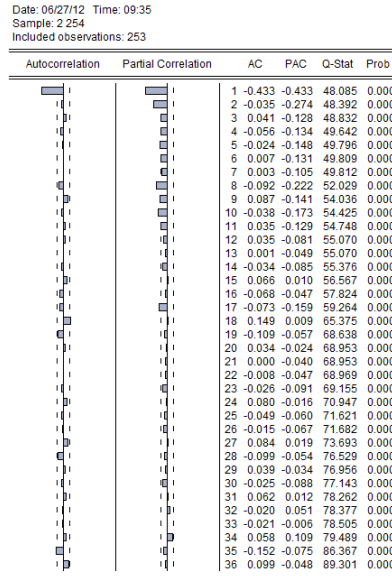


Figure A.12: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 1, 0)X(0, 0, 0)$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

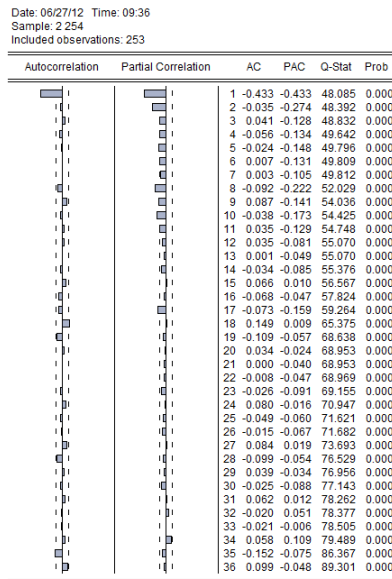


Figure A.13: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

Date: 06/27/12 Time: 09:38
Sample: 51 254
Included observations: 204

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob
		1 0.034	0.034	0.2362	0.627
		2 -0.049	-0.050	0.7322	0.993
		3 -0.099	-0.096	2.7895	0.425
		4 -0.062	-0.058	3.5845	0.465
		5 0.016	0.010	3.6397	0.602
		6 -0.035	-0.052	3.9065	0.689
		7 0.017	0.009	3.9670	0.784
		8 -0.012	-0.019	3.9999	0.857
		9 0.055	0.051	4.6548	0.953
		10 0.054	0.048	5.2898	0.871
		11 0.126	0.132	8.7410	0.646
		12 0.026	0.033	8.8902	0.712
		13 0.045	0.079	9.3264	0.748
		14 -0.010	0.020	9.3497	0.808
		15 0.083	0.122	10.888	0.760
		16 -0.048	-0.038	11.406	0.784
		17 0.011	0.048	11.433	0.833
		18 0.093	0.106	13.373	0.769
		19 -0.080	-0.079	14.839	0.733
		20 0.013	0.006	14.880	0.783
		21 0.040	0.051	15.251	0.810
		22 0.006	-0.039	15.259	0.851
		23 -0.001	-0.019	15.259	0.885
		24 0.037	0.027	15.573	0.903
		25 0.001	-0.024	15.573	0.927
		26 0.015	-0.013	15.623	0.945
		27 0.008	0.006	15.640	0.959
		28 -0.055	-0.079	16.365	0.960
		29 0.022	0.007	16.483	0.970
		30 0.032	0.026	16.728	0.976
		31 0.128	0.121	20.717	0.919
		32 -0.070	-0.094	21.920	0.910
		33 0.016	0.033	21.979	0.928
		34 -0.006	0.035	21.986	0.944
		35 -0.154	-0.192	27.973	0.799
		36 0.051	0.047	28.515	0.808
		37 -0.024	0.000	28.657	0.835
		38 0.028	-0.038	28.851	0.858
		39 0.002	-0.010	28.852	0.883
		40 0.011	0.025	28.882	0.904
		41 0.045	0.008	29.414	0.911
		42 0.057	0.027	30.245	0.912
		43 -0.098	-0.074	32.754	0.872
		44 -0.059	-0.054	33.664	0.871
		45 -0.058	-0.055	34.556	0.870
		46 -0.005	0.014	34.563	0.892
		47 0.065	0.062	35.691	0.886
		48 -0.038	-0.083	36.089	0.897
		49 -0.089	-0.114	38.249	0.866
		50 -0.369	-0.346	75.367	0.012

Figure A.14: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

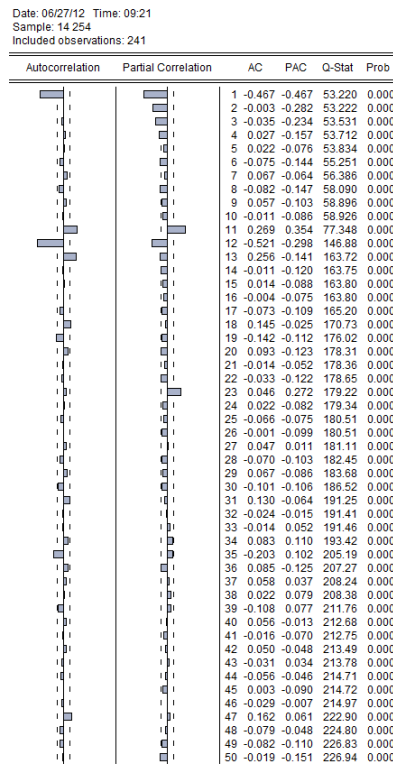


Figure A.15: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)_{12}$ ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department outpatient clinics (first visits) for the specialism surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

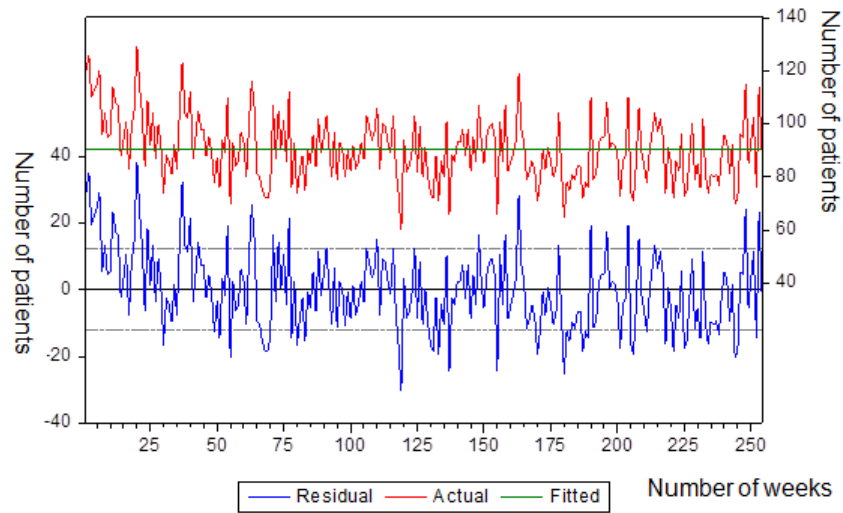


Figure A.16: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

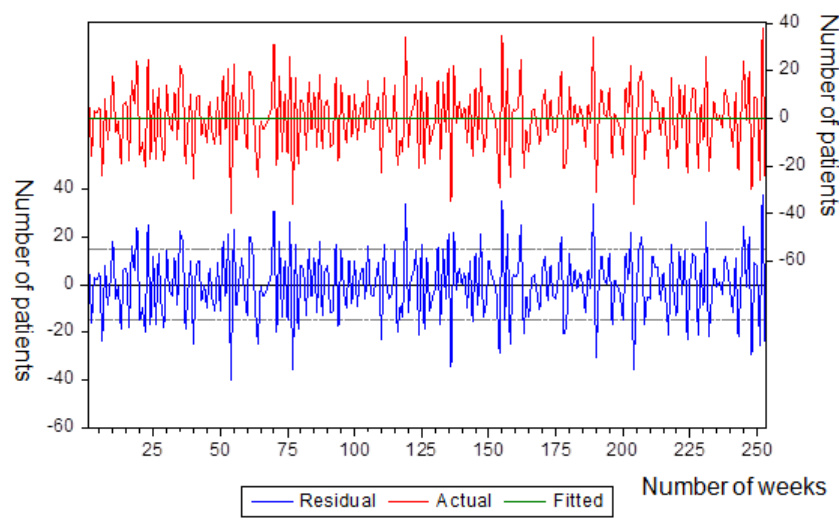


Figure A.17: Plot of $(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

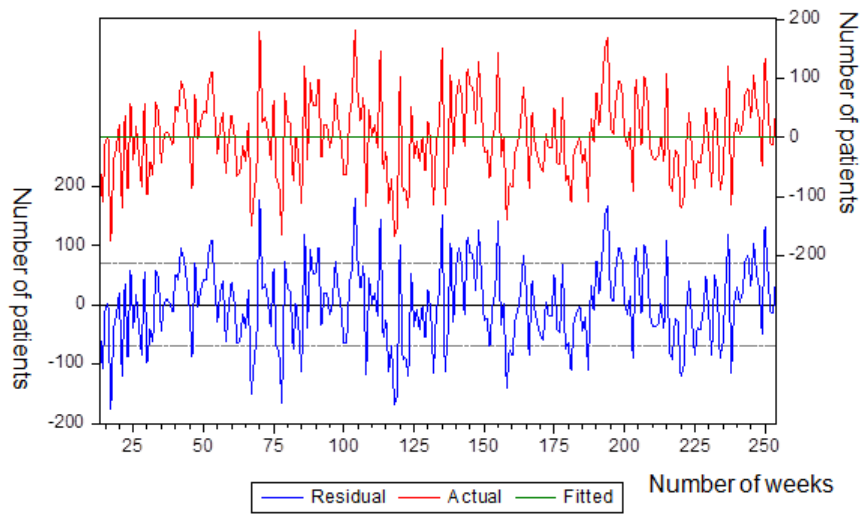


Figure A.18: Plot of $(0,0,0)X(0,1,0)_{12}$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

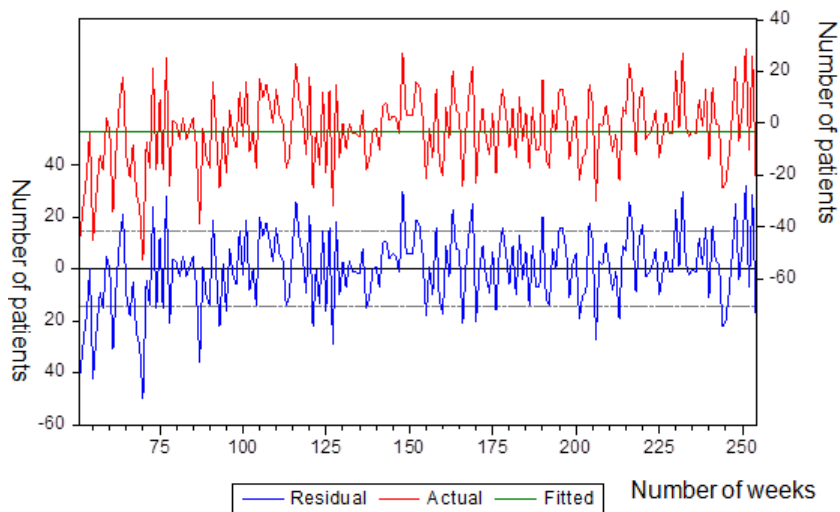


Figure A.19: Residual plot of $(0,0,0)X(0,1,0)_{50}$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

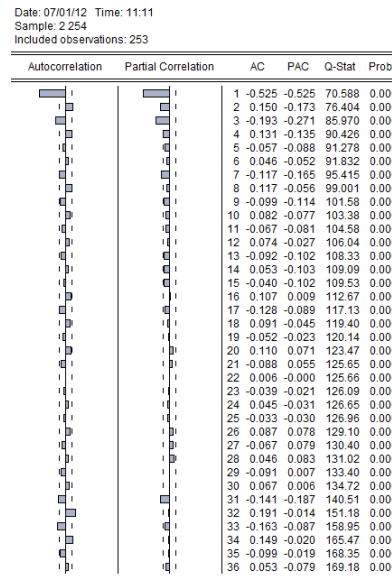


Figure A.20: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

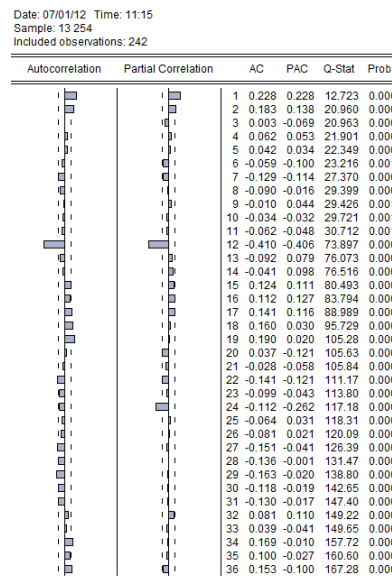


Figure A.21: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

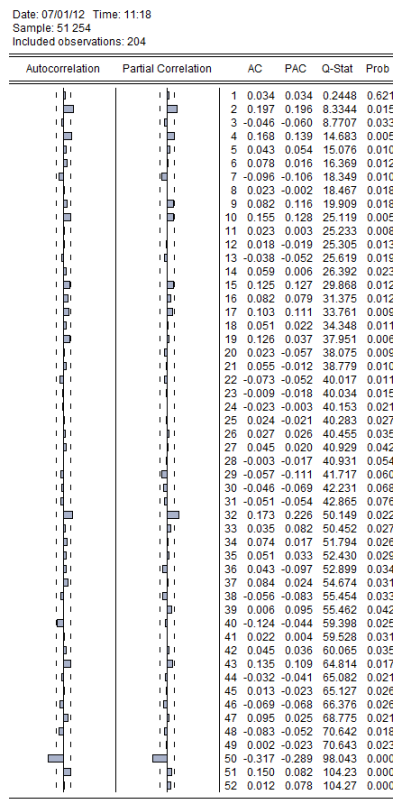


Figure A.22: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for cardiology. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

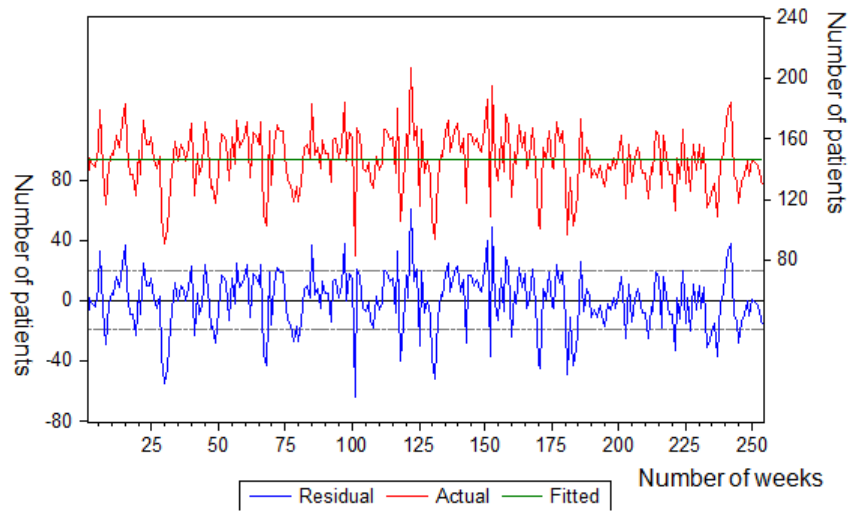


Figure A.23: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

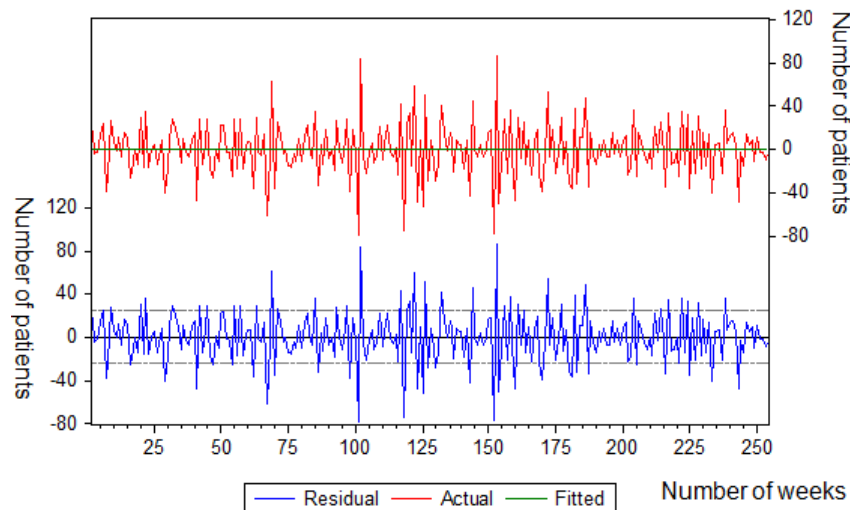


Figure A.24: Plot of $(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

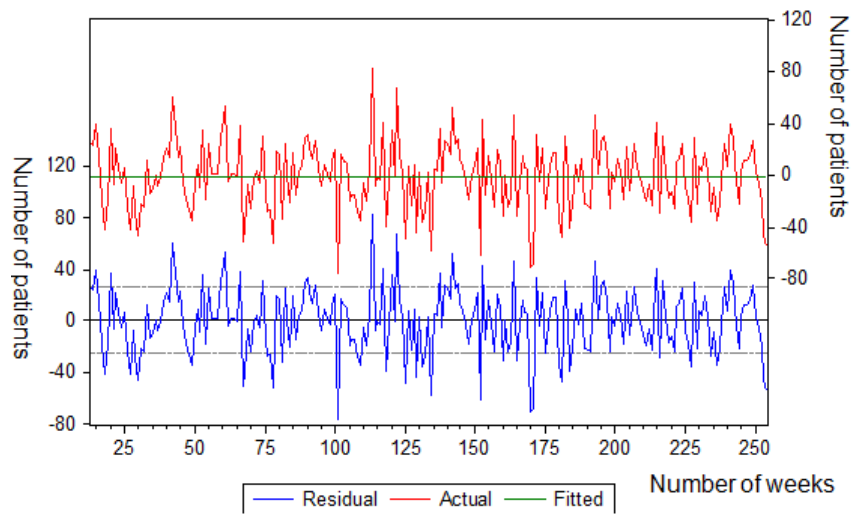


Figure A.25: Plot of $(0,0,0)X(0,1,0)12$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

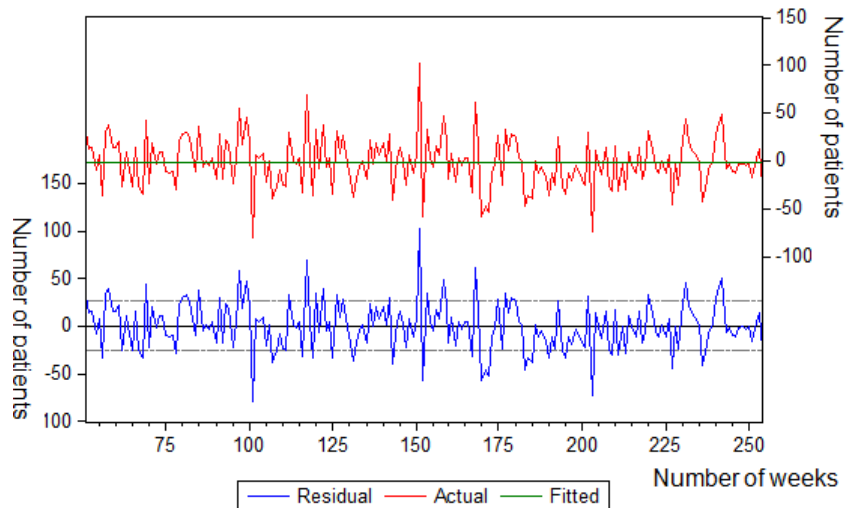


Figure A.26: Plot of $(0,0,0)X(0,1,0)50$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

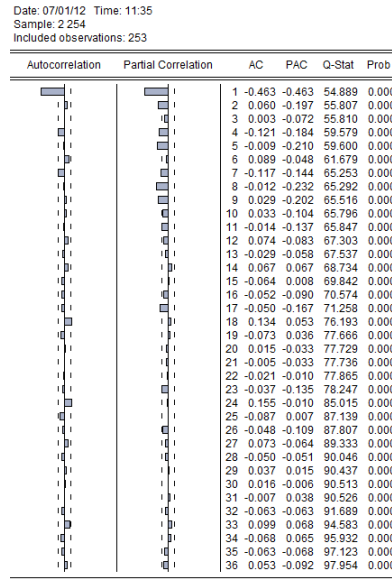


Figure A.27: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of (0, 1, 0)-ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

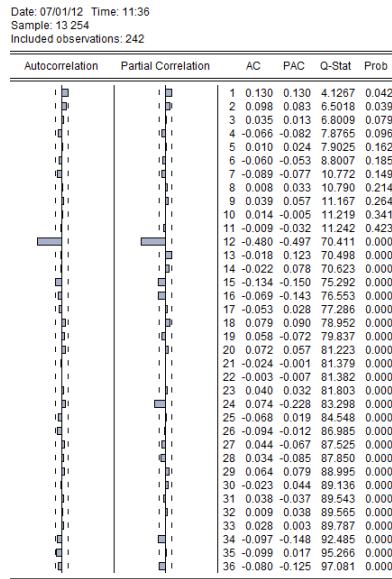


Figure A.28: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of (0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12-ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

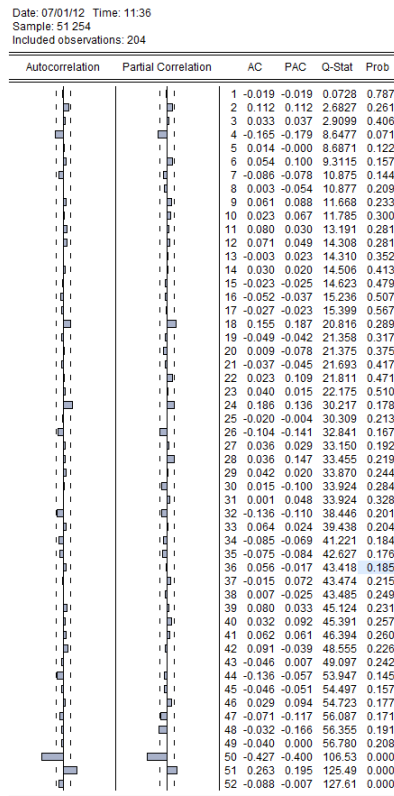


Figure A.29: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (more than one day) for surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

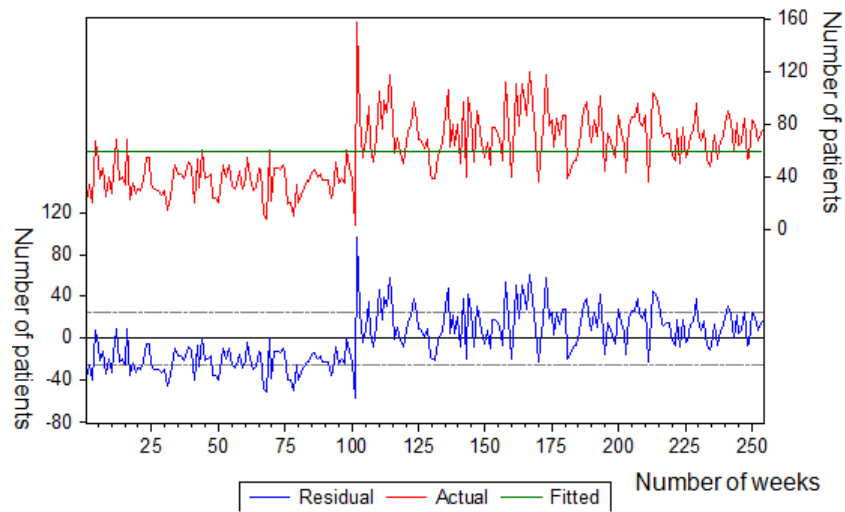


Figure A.30: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

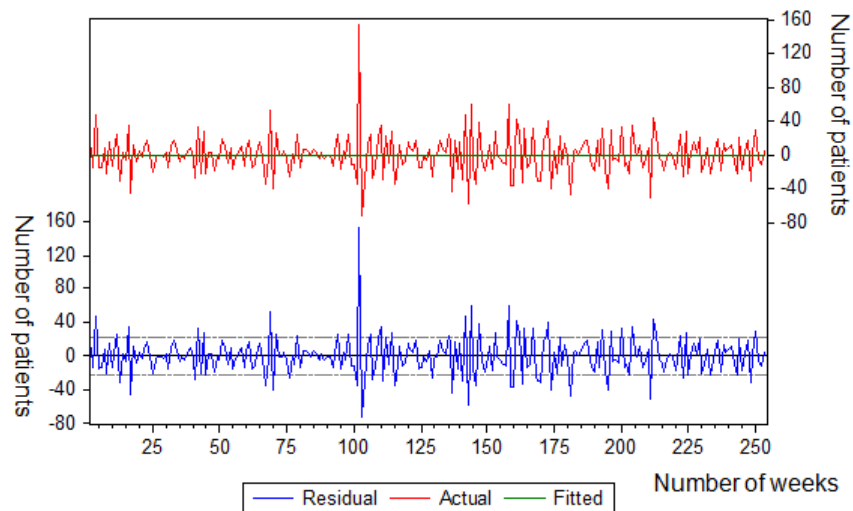


Figure A.31: Plot of $(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

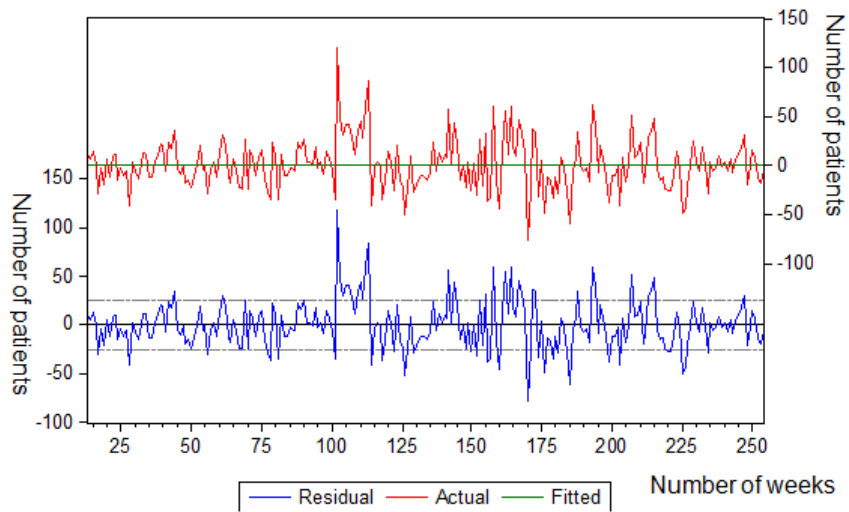


Figure A.32: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, the green line the estimated ARIMA-model and the blue lines depicts the residuals.

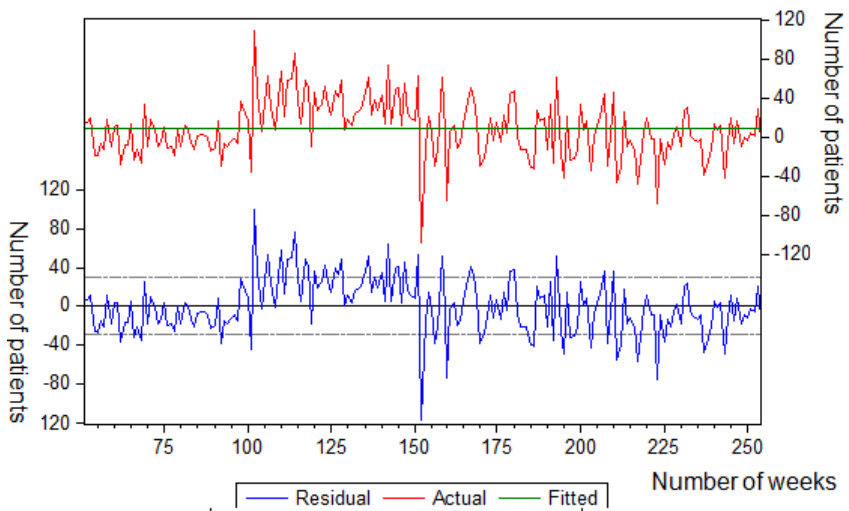


Figure A.33: Plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The red line indicates the actual data, green the estimated ARIMA-model and blue are the residuals.

Date: 07/01/12 Time: 11:38
Sample: 2 254
Included observations: 253

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob
		1 -0.410	-0.410	43.103	0.000
		2 -0.087	-0.307	45.032	0.000
		3 -0.004	-0.234	45.036	0.000
		4 0.090	-0.064	47.129	0.000
		5 -0.078	-0.104	48.693	0.000
		6 -0.023	-0.119	48.836	0.000
		7 -0.057	-0.208	49.700	0.000
		8 0.095	-0.108	52.075	0.000
		9 -0.017	-0.088	52.156	0.000
		10 -0.045	-0.127	52.690	0.000
		11 0.032	-0.090	52.958	0.000
		12 0.079	0.010	54.623	0.000
		13 -0.109	-0.097	57.821	0.000
		14 0.119	0.073	61.617	0.000
		15 -0.052	0.044	62.362	0.000
		16 -0.018	0.015	62.449	0.000
		17 -0.028	-0.017	62.670	0.000
		18 -0.014	-0.074	62.726	0.000
		19 0.000	-0.077	62.726	0.000
		20 0.034	-0.050	63.043	0.000
		21 -0.002	-0.009	63.045	0.000
		22 0.046	0.055	63.642	0.000
		23 -0.031	0.013	63.918	0.000
		24 -0.044	-0.062	64.456	0.000
		25 0.016	-0.073	64.529	0.000
		26 0.036	-0.050	64.897	0.000
		27 -0.036	-0.034	65.267	0.000
		28 0.001	-0.036	65.267	0.000
		29 0.008	-0.022	65.267	0.000
		30 0.017	-0.002	65.376	0.000
		31 0.019	0.049	65.480	0.000
		32 -0.088	-0.056	67.731	0.000
		33 0.138	0.111	73.347	0.000
		34 -0.099	-0.025	76.212	0.000
		35 0.029	0.014	76.453	0.000
		36 -0.058	-0.034	76.885	0.000

Figure A.34: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 1, 0)$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

Date: 07/01/12 Time: 11:39
Sample: 13 254
Included observations: 242

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob
		1 0.231	0.231	13.104	0.000
		2 0.082	0.030	14.771	0.001
		3 0.134	0.114	19.179	0.000
		4 0.152	0.103	24.914	0.000
		5 0.072	0.009	26.214	0.000
		6 0.048	0.011	26.795	0.000
		7 0.034	-0.007	27.093	0.000
		8 0.046	0.019	27.633	0.001
		9 0.017	-0.011	27.707	0.001
		10 -0.003	-0.017	27.710	0.002
		11 0.021	0.017	27.822	0.003
		12 -0.360	-0.406	61.053	0.000
		13 -0.087	0.088	62.999	0.000
		14 0.035	0.065	63.311	0.000
		15 -0.078	-0.049	64.903	0.000
		16 -0.137	-0.030	69.831	0.000
		17 -0.093	-0.053	72.112	0.000
		18 -0.068	-0.021	73.336	0.000
		19 -0.001	0.067	73.336	0.000
		20 0.010	0.093	73.426	0.000
		21 -0.012	0.005	73.463	0.000
		22 0.058	0.058	74.352	0.000
		23 -0.061	-0.068	75.350	0.000
		24 -0.071	-0.256	76.713	0.000
		25 -0.005	0.064	76.719	0.000
		26 -0.050	0.021	77.393	0.000
		27 -0.003	0.005	77.395	0.000
		28 -0.037	-0.098	77.778	0.000
		29 0.025	0.024	77.948	0.000
		30 0.006	-0.045	77.958	0.000
		31 0.041	0.118	78.429	0.000
		32 -0.044	0.019	78.978	0.000
		33 0.022	0.010	79.117	0.000
		34 -0.083	-0.073	81.065	0.000
		35 -0.001	0.005	81.065	0.000
		36 -0.060	-0.243	82.111	0.000

Figure A.35: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)12$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) for surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

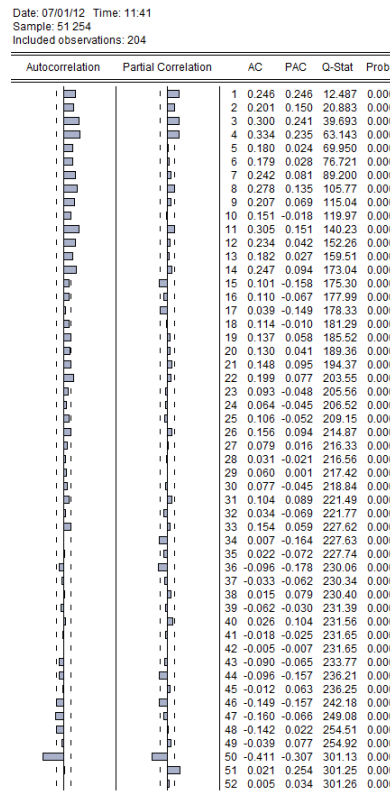


Figure A.36: Autocorrelation function and partial correlation function plot of $(0, 0, 0)X(0, 1, 0)50$ -ARIMA-model of arrivals at the department nursing wards (one day) surgery. The bars indicate the extent of correlation, bars behind the vertical dash indicate significant correlation.

A.3 Mean squared error for time series analysis

This part of the appendix contains figures with the mean squared errors (MSE) of the ARIMA-models for estimating the arrivals at 11 specialims. The figures contain for all 25 possible fits the MSE. The MSE is defined as the sum of the variance of the residuals and the bias squared. A MSE of 0 indicates a perfect fit. The closer the number is to zero, the smaller the difference between the estimates and the actual values. Figures A.37-A.42 contain the MSE for the departments outpatient clinics (first and repeated visit), operating theaters and nursing wards (one day (heavy and light) and more than one day).

scenario	Cardiology	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal medicine	Pediatrics	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Obstetrics
1	0,5099	0,5841	0,5515	0,4533	0,4743	0,4517	0,3828	0,4238	1,0771	1,1313
2	0,5763	0,6233	0,5893	0,5428	0,5034	0,5045	0,4851	0,5104	1,0871	1,1334
3	0,5606	0,6125	0,5794	0,5185	0,4957	0,5021	0,4827	0,5014	1,0864	1,1334
4	0,5611	0,6117	0,5802	0,5192	0,4952	0,5043	0,4829	0,5050	1,0864	1,1335
5	0,5516	0,6197	0,5800	0,5170	0,4942	0,5043	0,4815	0,4962	1,0838	1,1328
6	0,5448	0,5985	0,5567	0,4659	0,5022	0,4555	0,4007	0,4679	1,1441	1,1312
7	0,5667	0,6273	0,5919	0,5399	0,5217	0,5031	0,5014	0,5233	1,1005	1,1335
8	0,5523	0,6294	0,6526	0,5594	0,5181	0,6399	0,5520	0,5418	1,1276	1,1396
9	0,6275	0,6237	0,6367	0,5408	0,5130	0,6464	0,5286	0,5259	1,0956	1,1411
10	0,5690	0,6246	0,6093	0,5897	0,5054	0,5032	0,4547	0,5170	1,2507	1,1330
11	0,5504	0,6088	0,5626	0,4830	0,5008	0,4596	0,4045	0,4683	1,1452	1,1323
12	0,5639	0,6289	0,5894	0,5421	0,5235	0,5116	0,4986	0,5269	1,0949	1,1336
13	0,5906	0,6151	0,5760	0,5061	0,5129	0,6359	0,5416	0,4965	1,0908	1,1402
14	0,8631	0,8232	0,6199	0,5693	0,5520	0,6278	0,4969	0,5739	1,1100	1,1475
15	0,6778	0,6641	0,6148	0,5687	0,5881	0,5454	0,4876	0,5185	1,2593	1,1444
16	0,5763	0,6214	0,5619	0,5006	0,5105	0,4625	0,4117	0,4804	1,1632	1,1311
17	0,5666	0,6287	0,5917	0,5385	0,5285	0,5155	0,4952	0,5311	1,1158	1,1349
18	0,7076	0,7108	0,6006	0,5515	0,5290	0,5101	0,4696	0,6398	1,1690	1,1355
19	0,6515	0,7243	0,7470	0,6155	0,5785	0,5243	0,4697	0,5415	1,3807	1,1500
20	0,6807	0,7532	0,6068	0,6734	0,6899	0,5655	0,4874	0,7054	1,3785	1,1171
21	0,5868	0,6299	0,5614	0,5077	0,5146	0,4656	0,4204	0,4928	1,1841	1,1308
22	0,5536	0,6226	0,5933	0,5383	0,5273	0,5154	0,4952	0,5310	1,1073	1,1349
23	0,6656	0,7146	0,6160	0,6915	0,5929	0,5140	0,4677	0,6042	1,1224	1,1412
24	0,6094	0,7169	0,6380	0,5754	0,6197	0,5775	0,5382	0,5642	1,2261	1,1495
25	0,7118	0,7632	0,6548	0,5684	0,6353	0,5691	0,4933	0,7101	1,3773	1,1174

Figure A.37: MSE for the department outpatient clinics (first visits).

scenario	Cardiology	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal medicine	Pediatrics	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Urologie	Obstetrics
1	0,6578	0,7856	0,8350	0,5987	0,7000	0,6843	0,5034	0,5186	1,4458	1,4038	0,6342
2	0,6881	0,8082	0,8370	0,6333	0,7161	0,7004	0,5719	0,5600	1,4508	1,4043	0,6615
3	0,6865	0,8106	0,8437	0,6276	0,7146	0,7005	0,5686	0,5570	1,4520	1,4043	0,6556
4	0,6904	0,8101	0,8406	0,6290	0,7146	0,7002	0,5703	0,5630	1,4521	1,4050	0,6547
5	0,6947	0,8101	0,8417	0,6288	0,7157	0,7008	0,5705	0,5606	1,4514	1,4044	0,6557
6	0,7069	0,8993	0,8495	0,6210	0,7651	0,6854	0,5360	0,5427	1,5544	1,4076	0,6376
7	0,6882	0,8035	0,8465	0,6288	0,7115	0,7001	0,5738	0,5639	1,4493	1,4044	0,6642
8	0,7286	1,0131	0,8478	0,6435	0,7330	0,7339	0,7786	0,6400	1,6482	1,4066	0,7076
9	0,6865	0,8670	0,8429	0,6269	0,7480	0,7340	0,6445	0,6422	1,5604	1,4060	0,7014
10	0,7039	0,9369	0,8669	0,7247	0,7084	0,7902	0,5921	0,7110	1,5875	1,4075	0,6681
11	0,7184	0,8965	0,8598	0,6207	0,7706	0,6918	0,5418	0,5479	1,5567	1,4112	0,6446
12	0,6681	0,8381	0,8477	0,6293	0,7150	0,7000	0,5759	0,5777	1,4763	1,4044	0,6617
13	0,8056	0,9055	0,8471	0,6418	0,7151	0,7146	0,6444	0,6212	1,5237	1,4116	0,6983
14	0,7811	0,8481	0,9550	0,6355	0,7423	0,7350	0,7752	0,6631	1,5077	1,4075	0,6930
15	0,8345	0,8473	0,8898	0,6917	0,7437	0,8017	0,6023	0,6925	1,7228	1,4130	0,7012
16	0,7659	0,9199	0,8627	0,6316	0,8027	0,6901	0,5624	0,5605	1,5950	1,3990	0,6434
17	0,6719	0,8562	0,8478	0,6371	0,7197	0,7003	0,5735	0,5814	1,4478	1,4051	0,6617
18	0,8000	0,8806	0,8620	0,6910	0,7602	0,7453	0,7133	0,6608	1,5086	1,4131	0,6778
19	0,7795	1,1370	0,9129	0,6836	0,8684	0,7288	0,7455	0,6848	1,7581	1,4166	0,7074
20	0,7797	0,9955	0,8994	0,7674	0,8484	0,7562	0,6079	0,6607	1,3846	1,3781	0,7214
21	0,7862	0,9438	0,8653	0,6347	0,8140	0,6908	0,5757	0,5756	1,6281	1,3937	0,6425
22	0,6751	0,8578	0,8479	0,6373	0,7275	0,7019	0,5659	0,5873	1,4461	1,4053	0,6608
23	0,6821	0,8856	0,8469	0,7385	0,8476	0,7180	0,5910	0,5726	1,7150	1,4154	0,7180
24	0,8592	0,8923	0,9258	0,7182	0,8253	0,7544	0,6935	0,6288	1,6612	1,4165	0,7070
25	0,8178	1,0035	0,8848	0,6729	0,8479	0,8112	0,6334	0,6617	1,3501	1,3804	0,7209

Figure A.38: MSE for the department outpatient clinics (repeated visits).

scenario	Surgery	Gynecology	Other	Urologie	Obstetrics	Cardiology	Surgery2	Gastroenterology	Gynecology3	Other4	Obstetrics5
1	0.600	0.354	0.989	0.993	0.303	0.280	0.388	0.390	0.170	0.547	0.551
2	0.614	0.405	0.991	0.996	0.375	0.391	0.431	0.439	0.297	0.567	0.551
3	0.610	0.391	0.993	0.996	0.369	0.394	0.425	0.443	0.300	0.566	0.551
4	0.610	0.386	0.992	0.996	0.369	0.391	0.425	0.442	0.290	0.566	0.551
5	0.607	0.392	0.992	0.998	0.375	0.395	0.426	0.444	0.288	0.563	0.551
6	0.602	0.356	1.029	0.992	0.311	0.280	0.439	0.390	0.174	0.573	0.552
7	0.609	0.410	1.006	0.996	0.376	0.391	0.434	0.438	0.350	0.556	0.551
8	0.610	0.430	1.034	0.994	0.367	0.362	0.507	0.431	0.369	0.583	0.552
9	0.610	0.426	1.035	0.993	0.369	0.358	0.504	0.431	0.306	0.560	0.552
10	0.614	0.388	1.059	0.992	0.436	0.361	0.507	0.506	0.292	0.624	0.552
11	0.602	0.357	1.039	0.992	0.319	0.280	0.439	0.390	0.178	0.576	0.551
12	0.648	0.410	1.000	0.996	0.375	0.391	0.439	0.436	0.351	0.554	0.551
13	0.611	0.437	1.066	0.991	0.368	0.360	0.500	0.412	0.297	0.558	0.552
14	0.620	0.567	1.418	0.996	0.529	0.363	0.522	0.435	0.353	0.607	0.553
15	0.635	0.404	1.063	0.995	0.457	0.390	0.480	0.443	0.338	0.642	0.552
16	0.601	0.357	1.064	0.991	0.331	0.280	0.460	0.390	0.187	0.596	0.552
17	0.610	0.410	1.007	0.994	0.378	0.391	0.451	0.438	0.348	0.566	0.551
18	0.619	0.391	1.075	0.991	0.447	0.358	0.500	0.412	0.340	0.623	0.552
19	0.633	0.400	1.147	0.997	0.462	0.425	0.483	0.451	0.389	0.666	0.551
20	0.638	0.459	1.309	0.983	0.562	0.518	0.575	0.431	0.325	0.572	0.553
21	0.603	0.356	1.079	0.991	0.338	0.281	0.466	0.390	0.192	0.612	0.552
22	0.609	0.409	1.002	0.994	0.382	0.391	0.451	0.440	0.347	0.565	0.551
23	0.618	0.474	1.173	0.991	0.435	0.359	0.502	0.413	0.337	0.639	0.552
24	0.649	0.448	1.354	0.994	0.454	0.407	0.547	0.434	0.322	0.593	0.551
25	0.588	0.459	1.257	1.009	0.460	0.539	0.577	0.431	0.396	0.514	0.552

Figure A.39: MSE for the department operating theaters.

scenario	Cardiology	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal medicine	Pediatrics	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Obstetrics
1	0.2325	0.2995	0.3065	0.2332	0.2312	0.2393	0.1936	0.2133	0.4284	0.4264
2	0.4219	0.4347	0.4525	0.4200	0.4110	0.4276	0.4368	0.4030	0.5052	0.4780
3	0.3977	0.4188	0.4357	0.4167	0.3912	0.4161	0.4572	0.3958	0.5030	0.4731
4	0.3967	0.4154	0.4405	0.4167	0.3883	0.4286	0.4617	0.4063	0.5042	0.4757
5	0.3974	0.4157	0.4325	0.4175	0.3879	0.4208	0.4632	0.4005	0.5020	0.4804
6	0.2370	0.3128	0.3102	0.2342	0.2474	0.2413	0.1997	0.2320	0.4512	0.4249
7	0.4362	0.4578	0.4656	0.4194	0.4263	0.4500	0.4306	0.4460	0.4974	0.5118
8	0.5284	0.4503	0.5216	0.5655	0.4524	0.5511	0.4403	0.5642	0.5101	0.5970
9	0.5493	0.4297	0.5109	0.4233	0.4142	0.5640	0.4381	0.5660	0.5142	0.5918
10	0.4228	0.4728	0.4474	0.4187	0.4129	0.4125	0.4301	0.5842	0.5117	0.5174
11	0.2391	0.3201	0.3143	0.2359	0.2512	0.2430	0.2002	0.2327	0.4533	0.4241
12	0.4369	0.4582	0.4656	0.4196	0.4289	0.4574	0.4350	0.4480	0.5001	0.5157
13	0.4219	0.4436	0.4556	0.4192	0.4078	0.5329	0.4363	0.5650	0.5658	0.5113
14	0.4332	0.4368	0.6879	0.5044	0.4478	0.5469	0.4425	0.7070	0.5777	0.5554
15	0.4415	0.4730	0.3916	0.5215	0.4520	0.4440	0.4391	0.4311	0.5360	0.5389
16	0.2434	0.3348	0.3186	0.2369	0.2654	0.2458	0.2026	0.2424	0.4607	0.4240
17	0.4435	0.4565	0.4653	0.4043	0.4305	0.4574	0.4334	0.4486	0.4994	0.4294
18	0.5300	0.4253	0.4915	0.4189	0.4092	0.4442	0.4327	0.4278	0.5942	0.5120
19	0.5898	0.5025	0.6658	0.4296	0.4275	0.4514	0.4410	0.7183	0.5814	0.5112
20	0.5846	0.4960	0.4559	0.4127	0.4691	0.4929	0.5171	0.5855	0.5552	0.5537
21	0.2464	0.3378	0.3199	0.2379	0.2722	0.2473	0.2055	0.2493	0.4648	0.4240
22	0.4444	0.4563	0.4654	0.4520	0.4270	0.4573	0.4363	0.4475	0.5018	0.5204
23	0.4276	0.4275	0.5099	0.4162	0.4109	0.4441	0.4341	0.6738	0.5410	0.5172
24	0.4524	0.4115	0.4359	0.4150	0.4288	0.4530	0.4404	0.4989	0.5119	0.5301
25	0.5560	0.5187	0.3947	0.4049	0.4221	0.4481	0.4323	0.5872	0.5741	0.5391

Figure A.40: MSE the department nursing wards (one day (light)).

scenario	Surgery	Gynecology	Other	Urologie
1	0.2453	0.2536	0.1873	0.3832
2	0.4060	0.4322	0.4207	0.4992
3	0.4079	0.4081	0.3929	0.5814
4	0.4021	0.4088	0.3881	0.5566
5	0.4031	0.4071	0.3891	0.5675
6	0.2549	0.2550	0.1869	0.4058
7	0.4521	0.4373	0.4351	0.4899
8	0.5489	0.4302	0.4735	0.6337
9	0.5492	0.4335	0.3617	0.5126
10	0.5445	0.4358	0.3695	0.5260
11	0.2601	0.2565	0.1871	0.4113
12	0.4505	0.4339	0.4370	0.4875
13	0.5476	0.4328	0.4401	0.5668
14	0.4811	0.4484	0.3622	0.6006
15	0.4894	0.4146	0.3806	0.5158
16	0.2703	0.2600	0.1875	0.4315
17	0.4582	0.4396	0.4356	0.4853
18	0.4651	0.4256	0.3702	0.4610
19	0.5284	0.4116	0.5326	0.5572
20	0.4692	0.4535	0.7205	0.5644
21	0.2710	0.2620	0.1880	0.4419
22	0.4509	0.4289	0.4440	0.4881
23	0.4527	0.6079	0.5240	0.4730
24	0.4722	0.4022	0.6391	0.5521
25	0.4682	0.4662	0.7126	0.5694

Figure A.41: MSE the department nursing wards (one day (heavy)).

scenario	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal medicine	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Urologie	Obstetrics
1	0.3655	0.3076	0.2000	0.2323	0.2279	0.2169	0.3281	0.3201	0.2305
2	0.4757	0.4648	0.4176	0.4207	0.4439	0.3828	0.4762	0.4460	0.4049
3	0.4587	0.4358	0.4003	0.4340	0.4343	0.3755	0.4505	0.4282	0.4026
4	0.4614	0.4381	0.3985	0.4352	0.4350	0.3801	0.4448	0.4281	0.4027
5	0.4594	0.4378	0.3992	0.4361	0.4355	0.3765	0.4494	0.4320	0.4039
6	0.3751	0.3094	0.2060	0.2411	0.2330	0.2238	0.3415	0.3203	0.2359
7	0.4763	0.4646	0.4242	0.4116	0.4441	0.4413	0.4637	0.4572	0.4058
8	0.6325	0.4193	0.5794	0.3467	0.4189	0.5396	0.4818	0.4269	0.6093
9	0.6162	0.4112	0.4429	0.5566	0.3946	0.5396	0.4087	0.4542	0.3827
10	0.6528	0.4227	0.4310	0.5867	0.3987	0.5383	0.4086	0.4446	0.3819
11	0.3776	0.3097	0.2111	0.2436	0.2352	0.2242	0.3452	0.3214	0.2421
12	0.4771	0.4644	0.4287	0.4109	0.4441	0.4528	0.4609	0.4575	0.4137
13	0.4708	0.4137	0.4391	0.3354	0.4003	0.5335	0.4274	0.4514	0.3820
14	0.4858	0.4563	0.4587	0.5251	0.5010	0.4822	0.4151	0.5557	0.4283
15	0.5804	0.4051	0.5801	0.5293	0.5011	0.4778	0.4414	0.5104	0.4432
16	0.3776	0.3100	0.2166	0.2506	0.2400	0.2324	0.3524	0.3222	0.2484
17	0.4776	0.4644	0.4267	0.4242	0.4437	0.4527	0.4593	0.4605	0.3883
18	0.6517	0.4164	0.4421	0.3285	0.4075	0.4462	0.4436	0.4521	0.3743
19	0.4922	0.4555	0.4409	0.4360	0.5015	0.4773	0.4379	0.5807	0.6856
20	0.5200	0.4748	0.5492	0.5844	0.4279	0.4969	0.4811	0.4744	0.5435
21	0.3780	0.3102	0.2238	0.2546	0.2409	0.2356	0.3562	0.3227	0.2544
22	0.4749	0.4645	0.4260	0.4622	0.4427	0.4527	0.4590	0.4605	0.4453
23	0.4776	0.4333	0.4430	0.3855	0.4660	0.5478	0.4290	0.4542	0.3712
24	0.4911	0.4344	0.4358	0.4317	0.5711	0.5118	0.5527	0.4789	0.7073
25	0.4807	0.5440	0.5528	0.4576	0.6007	0.5184	0.5340	0.5882	0.6999

Figure A.42: MSE for the department nursing wards (more than one day).

Appendix B

Markov data

B.1 Subdivision and length of time interval

Figures B.1 and B.2 of this section contain respectively the aggregate number of weekly and monthly transitions of transfers of outpatients. The weekly transfers concern the transfers between subspecialisms of surgery, the monthly transfers are between 11 specialisms.

period	IC other	General surgery and surgery for children	Oncology, lung surgery and gastrointestinal surgery	Traumatology and ER	Vascular surgery	other	discharge	Waiting list OR surgery	Waiting list OR other	Total
jan-10	50	19	35	23	13	360	6486	1	24	7011
feb-10	49	11	40	18	23	355	5851		19	6366
mrt-10	58	4	15	4	10	99	6891		27	7108
apr-10	44	16	28	22	14	341	6256	1	43	6765
mei-10	44	16	28	22	14	341	6256	1	43	6765
jun-10	50	20	32	20	34	379	6631		16	7182
jul-10	47	16	23	29	21	246	5566	1	46	5995
aug-10	38	18	34	18	19	315	4921	1	37	5401
sep-10	48	16	40	28	26	347	6429		24	6958
okt-10	36	12	17	23	16	318	5997	1	27	6447
nov-10	41	10	31	22	17	388	6302		16	6827
dec-10	39	3	16	6	8	86	6218			6376
jan-11	42	14	24	29	23	393	6725	4	50	7304
feb-11	48	19	33	35	25	348	5969	4	50	6531
mrt-11	37	12	39	19	25	341	7021	5	18	7517
apr-11	49	12	19	19	23	307	6394	4	32	6859
mei-11	39	10	25	25	22	358	6133	5	20	6637
jun-11	51	24	34	26	25	376	5911	7	45	6499
jul-11	41	13	34	26	22	261	5998	5	32	6432
aug-11	38	5	9	3	6	66	5384	8	34	5553
sep-11	46	18	29	38	22	279	6229	6	40	6707
okt-11	47	15	35	19	24	367	5910		47	6464
nov-11	45	15	37	25	16	384	6399		14	6936
dec-11	40	13	22	20	9	246	6164			6514
mean	44,458	13,792	28,292	21,625	19,042	304,208	6168,375	3,600	32,000	6631,417
sd	5,477	5,073	8,615	8,381	6,805	95,193	464,030	2,444	12,142	493,555
modus	50	16	34	22	23	341	6256	1	24	6765

sd=standard deviation

Figure B.1: The total number of transitions for the subspecialisms of surgery per month and the average, standard deviation and modus for the period 2010-2011.

week	J.C. other	Cardiology	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynaecology	Internal medicine	Pediatrics	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Urology	Midwifery	Discharge	Waiting list	Total
2	14	68	121	5	12	86	60	46	36	90	11	27	1345	217	2144
3	3	48	64	5	11	60	36	42	24	55	12	13	1570	214	2163
4	8	40	64	6	9	60	37	21	26	52	11	19	1562	231	2148
5	10	35	73	8	3	59	38	49	11	43	3	18	1631	210	2192
6	6	57	60	10	7	54	36	39	10	64	9	19	1439	186	2000
7	8	50	72	8	10	55	31	33	18	54	18	16	1645	194	2213
8	10	39	76	4	7	47	29	37	20	53	13	18	1627	200	2188
9	4	43	57	4	5	51	43	35	21	39	6	22	1171	207	1713
10	8	36	44	7	4	46	23	38	13	57	10	11	1607	242	2148
11	11	43	66	2	5	56	36	26	12	43	6	17	1478	217	2018
12	6	46	72	6	10	57	33	23	13	54	8	25	1630	209	2197
13	6	33	71	7	5	55	46	32	10	37	12	25	1628	192	2165
14	6	42	69	1	13	52	34	24	12	40	11	15	1535	194	2048
15	7	30	59	10	5	38	42	25	19	44	7	21	1313	192	1813
16	7	31	84	5	11	43	33	24	19	60	8	16	1506	205	2053
17	9	35	68	7	7	40	32	29	18	50	8	17	1535	236	2091
18	4	44	49	4	3	55	21	31	10	62	8	17	1402	249	1965
19	2	33	49	4	2	47	29	28	14	34	7	20	1028	228	1527
20	2	39	52	7	3	48	25	31	17	28	7	24	1071	222	1578
21	5	25	72	7	7	39	28	21	14	50	8	22	1493	241	2035
22	7	39	83	9	7	46	25	29	12	47	7	29	1377	220	1940
23	7	35	77	5	10	49	28	25	13	43	8	25	1580	234	2146
24	4	44	88	7	12	45	52	24	18	46	8	44	1483	245	2122
25	10	37	70	7	8	45	46	17	20	44	12	21	1458	227	2022
26	7	37	78	4	9	43	42	12	16	52	23	5	1492	215	2041
27	8	41	63	3	6	43	31	26	13	65	4	25	1530	210	2070
28	10	39	72	6	5	43	36	27	16	50	8	21	1482	185	2000
29	4	28	65	10	1	50	23	20	18	34	8	16	1267	174	1720
30	3	23	58	7		34	27	15	13	44	5	15	1190	183	1619
31	15	26	70	13	2	38	16	22	19	31	5	13	1055	169	1496
32	8	22	59	12	2	39	16	22	16	31	9	20	968	175	1399
33	5	22	48	6	6	27	16	26	12	36	9	16	1007	181	1418
34	3	29	58	5	5	33	15	17	12	33	6	17	1083	193	1514
35	7	25	78	11	7	47	20	23	16	46	11	14	1357	220	1882
36	8	29	53	29	18	14	51	7	10	6	2	23	1382	252	1884
37	10	24	80	4	8	45	23	29	10	56	10	20	1451	252	2026
38	6	31	90	8	7	34	22	21	23	49	4	16	1512	257	2085
39	4	32	59	8	7	38	28	27	19	57	7	25	1518	242	2072
40	14	28	54	5	10	39	27	27	31	59	7	23	1498	249	2071
41	3	36	59	9	9	44	23	25	20	59	8	14	1380	239	1932
42	2	38	52	5	7	38	28	20	12	67	8	12	1512	236	2041
43	5	40	50	7	10	37	21	24	21	52	3	17	1520	239	2046
44	8	28	50	4	7	39	30	26	19	57	7	11	1197	225	1708
45	8	39	51	2	13	46	27	31	21	72	9	12	1466	246	2047
46	4	49	60	4	4	41	18	18	12	56	5	11	1440	249	1977
47	6	38	43	6	10	38	16	17	16	49	10	12	1436	242	1940
48	9	46	50	4	7	46	26	24	15	59	9	20	1466	224	2005
49	8	41	67	7	5	42	26	18	21	57	13	22	1478	187	1993
50	8	36	67	7	11	47	21	17	18	49	5	25	1527	153	1995
51	5	43	61	4	6	43	24	17	14	56	9	22	1510	93	1908
52	9	56	31	31	12	38	22	5	21	2	19	2	1186	50	1485
mean	6,882	37,216	64,431	7,176	7,400	45,078	29,765	25,333	16,745	48,490	8,647	18,627	1412,235	210,824	1941,235
sd	3,031	9,388	14,765	5,290	3,452	10,365	10,071	8,653	5,336	14,614	3,872	6,560	180,694	38,474	224,223
modus	8	39	72	7	7	38	36	24	12	57	8	25	1478	242	2148

sd= standard deviation

Figure B.2: The total number of transitions for 11 specialisms per week and the average, standard deviation and modus for the period 2010.

B.2 Markov property, homogeneity and limiting probabilities

Figure B.3 shows an example for the computation of the M^{n+m} -transition probabilities of transfers of outpatients. For computing these probabilities, we use the Chapman-Kolmogorov equations. In Figure B.4 there is an example for the M^{n+m} -transition probabilities of transfer of inpatients.¹

Both examples deal with the subdivision into subspecialisms of surgery. The first example regards all realizations of the transition probabilities that an inpatient transfers from the state 'other' to the state 'discharge'. The second example deals with all realizations of the transfers of inpatients, treated by the 'other part of the hospital', to the state 'discharge'.

On top of the figure, one sees the different realizations of the monthly one step transition probabilities. Next, the 2-transition, 4-transition, 8-transition, 16-transition and 32-transition probabilities realizations, are provided.

¹More data is available digitally.

Appendix C

Service times

This appendix contains the results of the average service times for the different specialisms. The average service times are given for clinical admissions in nursing wards (one day and more than one day) per DBC and for the operations, also per DBC. Figures [C.1-C.3](#) provide means, standard deviations and frequencies per DBC for the operations. Figures [C.4-C.8](#) contain means, standard deviations and frequencies per DBC for the admissions to nursing wards. The data is from 2011.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation
209	Oleracanon	20	1:12:36	0:00:30	297	Posttraum afw onder extrem	51	1:38:01	0:04:52	328	Heus-parafijt, obstr, znd hernia	49	2:00:06	0:04:57
208	Instabiliteit enkel	13	0:47:51	0:00:04	298	posttraum afw boven extrem	69	1:16:52	0:01:58	329	Overige niet maligne GI land	88	1:25:14	0:04:23
206	Posttraum afw enkel en voet	20	0:44:21	0:00:22	299	algemeen afw enkel en voet	4	1:40:00	0:06:00	330	A llypo-romtractie blaas	20	1:11:00	0:00:35
207	Aangeboren afw enkel en voet	34	1:07:21	0:00:43	300	Blaasomv	346	1:01:29	0:02:38	331	maligne neoplasma blaas	22	2:49:41	0:09:16
21	urtersteen	99	1:17:07	0:00:36	301	Wervelkolom	4	1:15:30	0:00:07	3301	Enkelvolding	1	1:56:00	0:00:00
210	radustoop	21	1:06:34	0:00:30	3005	Wervelkolom met rugmerglets	4	2:46:30	0:00:56	3304	Coelakie	5	0:30:00	0:00:01
211	Mammareduct, ptos, corr enk/dubz	153	1:38:36	0:02:44	3006	Claivculia	14	1:36:13	0:00:36	3308	Gastro-enteritis (e,cbact/vir)	1	0:41:00	0:00:00
212	Pols	123	1:01:10	0:00:39	3007	Scapula	6	1:49:40	0:00:16	331	Maligne neoplasma galblaas	28	0:43:36	0:00:20
213	Entrapment perifere zenuw	6	0:45:50	0:00:14	3008	Humerus proximaal en schacht	33	1:50:00	0:01:40	3314	Inflam darmz (col ulc/Crohn)	2	1:03:30	0:00:00
213	Gynaecomatie enk/dubbelzijdig	14	1:36:51	0:00:32	3009	Humerus dist.(epi)comdy/(len)	8	1:01:08	0:00:44	332	Tenolyse	22	0:40:03	0:00:34
2130	Baruitiden, overig	7	0:46:43	0:00:02	301	Neoplasma bljshchikflker	16	2:02:34	0:02:28	3320	Ostipatie (habituëel)	1	0:28:00	0:00:00
214	Metatarsalia	59	1:09:33	0:00:34	3011	Neoplasmie	3011	0:59:00	0:00:22	3326	Uteru (maag, duodenum)	2	0:31:00	0:00:01
2140	Contracturen	2	0:23:00	0:00:00	3012	Onderarm	10	0:50:42	0:00:32	3328	Voedingproblemen/-fouten	1	0:42:00	0:00:00
215	Falangen van de hand	42	0:59:30	0:00:26	3013	Pols	25	1:01:12	0:00:52	333	Maligne neoplasma colon	140	2:55:30	0:05:09
2150	Endoprothese controle	1	1:01:00	0:00:00	3014	Carpus	2	0:55:00	0:00:01	334	Maligne neopl recto-sigmoid	90	2:59:22	0:03:58
216	Capullectomie evt protheses	17	1:27:46	0:01:17	3015	Metatarsalia	5	1:15:36	0:02:01	335	Maligne neoplasma rectum	106	3:43:22	0:09:53
218	Femur, proximaal (t collum)	305	1:46:14	0:02:37	3016	Falangen van de hand	4	0:34:30	0:00:04	336	Pees herstel met transplantaat	6	1:35:00	0:01:24
219	Femur overig	22	1:48:14	0:02:26	3019	Femur proximaal (t collum)	135	1:15:44	0:00:49	337	Pees transpositie /reinsertie	9	1:12:13	0:00:17
220	Patella	65	1:46:07	0:00:38	302	Chronisch hartfalen	41	2:54:20	0:03:19	338	Rectum prolaps	11	2:11:38	0:06:06
221	Inbr/vervang prothese,enk/dubz	81	1:30:18	0:01:11	320	Femur overig	17	1:31:39	0:01:45	339	Incontinentie voor faeces	11	2:16:27	0:03:15
222	Inbr-tissue expand,enk/zinsurf	5	2:06:12	0:02:15	3021	Patella	4	1:12:30	0:00:05	34	Stress-incontinentie/prolaps	72	0:40:33	0:00:07
223	Inbr-tissue expand,dubz/zinsurf	5	2:06:12	0:02:15	3022	Fibula	2	1:04:30	0:00:10	340	Ostipatie	1	1:35:00	0:00:00
224	Enkel	148	1:16:18	0:00:47	3023	Tibiaplataeu	3	1:47:40	0:00:24	3401	Biepppees	1	2:53:00	0:00:00
23	Urticaria	10	1:09:12	0:02:49	3024	Tibia(met/znd fibula)mo-enkel	12	1:16:55	0:00:51	3402	Malleolinger	1	0:27:00	0:00:00
231	Abdom,plastiek,ind nav/te abd	4	2:05:30	0:03:19	3025	Enkel	28	1:03:06	0:00:46	3403	Achillespees	12	0:52:25	0:00:07
231	Mini-abd,plastiek/v-liposuctie	1	1:08:00	0:00:00	3026	Calicaneus	1	2:49:00	0:00:00	3404	Kniebanden	1	0:40:00	0:00:00
236	Galancaeus	2	3:06:00	0:00:12	3028	Tarsus	1	0:27:00	0:00:00	3409	Overige rupturen	3	1:07:00	0:00:09
237	tarsus	2	1:39:00	0:01:00	3029	Metatarsalia	2	0:48:30	0:00:13	341	Morbide obesitas BMI <45	36	1:50:02	0:00:36
238	Metatarsalia	25	1:18:29	0:00:20	303	Extrapatie ganglion, cyste	51	1:04:48	0:03:12	342	Morbide obesitas BMI >45	21	1:30:29	0:01:06
239	Falangen van de voet	5	0:47:48	0:00:03	304	Benigne neoplasma parotis	9	3:19:20	0:07:33	344	Herst lets bulgpees peeskoker	10	1:11:36	0:00:12
24	Ureterobstructie overig	44	1:36:16	0:15:03	305	Ben neopl overige speekselk	2	1:18:00	0:00:01	345	Herstel letsel bulgpees	5	1:56:00	0:00:14
250	Hals	1	0:38:00	0:00:00	306	Maligne neopl speekselkieren	5	0:54:36	0:03:06	346	Herst peeslets, pols/arm,1-3	1	0:53:00	0:00:00
252	Knie (ind meniscusletsel)	44	0:52:59	0:00:06	307	Oesofagus/cardia maligniteit	1	0:10:00	0:00:00	348	Herst buigp,lets-zen/valets	4	2:08:00	0:01:28
253	Enkel/voet	11	0:50:00	0:00:13	310	Mediast,scop/tomie/thor,scop	87	0:39:38	0:00:23	349	Overige maligne neoplasma abd	18	2:24:50	0:03:18
255	Schouder (humerus)	9	0:43:00	0:01:13	3103	Onderste extremiteit	71	1:23:14	0:00:38	35	Urgo-incontinentie/OAB	47	0:33:38	0:00:12
256	Elleboog	10	0:53:06	0:00:45	3109	Onderste extremiteit	71	1:15:00	0:00:00	350	Maligne melanoom van huid	84	1:07:45	0:01:34
257	Vinger, incl MCP	3	0:58:00	0:00:01	311	Pneumothorax, niet traai(trauz74)	7	1:52:09	0:01:17	351	Lymfadenopathie ect., rino	54	0:45:23	0:00:20
258	Chalazion/hordeolum	13	0:25:23	0:00:05	312	Thoraxmyleem	6	1:08:50	0:00:44	352	Maligne neoplasma weke delen	71	0:59:14	0:00:22
259	Overige pathologie oogleden	1	0:19:00	0:00:00	313	Neoplasma bronchus, long	35	2:39:00	0:03:34	320	Retardatie (combinatie)	1	0:41:00	0:00:00
261	Mallet pees, biceps	4	0:41:30	0:00:15	314	Vervond/tr-1%/herst-struct	8	1:30:38	0:00:41	353	Beh neuroom, zenuw tumor	20	0:51:33	0:00:21
262	achillespees	44	0:53:31	0:00:08	315	maligne neoplasma oesophagus	25	5:44:46	0:17:16	354	microchir herstel 1-zeligit zen	6	1:24:30	0:00:21
263	Knieband(en)	1	0:51:00	0:00:00	316	Verv,vingerrep/revas arm/bn	3	2:05:00	0:01:18	355	Microchir herst hoofden-/Zelig	1	0:47:00	0:00:00
269	overige rupturen	21	1:19:11	0:00:31	317	Benigne neopl mamma/mastopathie	89	0:50:29	0:00:55	356	Zenuwherst incl nemen transpl	3	3:13:40	0:04:17
27	Diagnose nno	4	0:26:15	0:00:05	318	Maligne neoplasma mamma	380	1:48:58	0:01:35	359	Overige oncologische diagnoses	15	0:43:16	0:00:08
279	Letse organen bulk en bekken	1	1:43:00	0:00:00	32	Septumafwijkingen	236	0:47:03	0:00:24	36	Snuitsitis	266	0:46:09	0:00:09
280	Open wond eenvoud, bij eniv	8	1:35:45	0:07:10	320	Abes intra-abdominaal	9	0:36:20	0:00:44	361	Artrrose IG / MCP / CMC	5	1:16:00	0:00:35
281	Open wond gewapeld, bij eniv	5	0:31:36	0:00:02	3202	AC + SC	2	1:15:00	0:00:02	362	Artrplast IG/MCP-streke, rtpos	1	0:27:00	0:00:00
282	Open wond gecompliceerd	39	0:48:35	0:00:18	3205	Schouder	4	1:17:00	0:02:49	363	Multipl artrplast+streke-rtpos	2	1:31:00	0:00:20
284	Branchiële ernstig	1	0:39:00	0:00:00	3207	Heup, prothese	11	0:27:16	0:00:13	364	CMC1 resectie artrplastiek	19	1:23:16	0:00:46
284	Congenitale ureteropathologie	2	0:28:30	0:00:04	322	Fractuur,lux,blaf/schroef fix	11	1:11:11	0:01:17	365	Artrlyse	5	0:49:12	0:00:36
290	corpus ai, natuurlijke opening	4	0:51:30	0:00:19	323	Ochloekystitis / cholelithiasis	325	1:25:01	0:00:52	370	Open wond eevn bijv, snijwonden	1	1:00:00	0:00:00
291	Corpus allenum pfefferend	12	0:36:25	0:00:20	324	Chron niernsurf (gn dialyse)	7	1:04:17	0:00:57	371	Exochn,seq,com,exoc,carp bos	8	0:45:30	0:00:08
292	Corpus allenum osteomyelise mat	386	0:51:38	0:00:21	325	Chron niernsurf predial fase	3	2:22:20	0:07:00	372	Verwijd K-draden,vossynth mat	9	0:46:20	0:00:06
295	Osslets / osteomyelitis	66	0:58:27	0:01:29	326	Crom (enternis regionalis)	17	2:03:49	0:06:52	373	Poststandoor,ost,com,pseudiatr	2	2:02:00	0:00:22
295	multitrauma nno	41	1:56:56	0:02:18	327	Diverticulosis / -itis	40	2:55:45	0:05:06	375	Amputatie vinger paar/ geheel	10	0:56:36	0:00:04

Figure C.2: Average service times for operations, standard deviations and frequencies, table 2.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average time	Standard deviation
381	Sci fasciectomie tr/tr iстраал	45	0:56:45	0:00:25	53	Dysfonctie	114	0:36:00	0:00:10	G13	PID	3	1:52:00	0:01:56
382	Sci fasci tom /tr mult iстраал	43	1:06:00	0:00:18	54	Impotentie/sexuele dysfunctie	7	0:34:00	0:00:00	G14	Buikpijn sonder gln coetz	4	0:46:20	0:00:01
383	Synovectom buig/streep/iстраал	1	1:03:00	0:00:00	55	Glibus / sikklaachten	7	0:38:34	0:00:04	G15	Uterus myomatosis	91	1:10:56	0:03:28
384	Synovectom buig/streep/mult iстраал	1	1:12:00	0:00:00	56	Cataract	2865	0:44:03	0:00:40	G16	Benigne adrenerfwijkng	184	1:26:33	0:00:39
385	Intronic release/transpositie	2	1:38:00	0:00:00	57	Overige pathologie lens	1	0:37:00	0:00:00	G17	Benigne adrenerfwijkng	60	1:26:49	0:01:13
391	Separatie syndactylie iстраал	1	0:46:00	0:00:00	58	Corp al hypofarynx/oesofagus	19	1:39:54	0:01:06	G18	Anticonceptie	40	0:45:22	0:00:09
393	Correctie complexe syndactylie	2	1:15:00	0:00:00	59	Overige penispathologie	71	0:15:06	0:00:05	G19	Cervicafw mcl atw cervixcytol	70	0:42:57	0:00:08
400	Prostaatcarcoom	83	3:03:59	0:14:25	58	Diagnostiek slaapsn.	9	0:36:51	0:00:05	G23	Vulvaire en vaginaale atw	111	0:35:58	0:00:08
402	Carotispathologie	46	2:02:33	0:00:21	59	OSAS	7	0:38:26	0:00:12	G25	Incontinentie / prolaps	391	1:31:36	0:02:00
403	Coetz ac bleeder(ijn varices)	2	1:14:00	0:01:48	60	Testistumor	14	1:04:04	0:00:15	G27	Screening familiaire tumoren	13	1:36:28	0:02:52
404	Impuls- en geleidingst	2	1:54:30	0:00:32	61	ICC	3	2:34:20	0:01:09	M11	Maligniteit vulva	8	1:07:38	0:01:31
405	Aneurysma aorta iliaal	76	2:54:30	0:03:38	60	Endophtalmitis	1	0:24:00	0:00:00	M12	Maligniteit vagina	3	1:55:20	0:10:01
406	Aneurysma aorta abd, ruptuur	19	2:56:57	0:02:39	60	Adenomatieuze poliepen	1	0:52:00	0:00:00	M13	Maligniteit cervix	5	3:20:12	0:22:15
407	Maagcraom,excl cardiaecr	15	0:34:48	0:00:27	60	Familiaire poliepsyndroom	1	0:37:00	0:00:00	M14	Maligniteit endometrium	51	2:27:59	0:04:26
409	Vaat atw abdominaal / bekken	7	1:36:17	0:03:17	60	Torsio testis	22	0:47:16	0:00:07	M15	Maligniteit myometrium	3	1:23:40	0:01:31
411	BPH/BH obstructie	299	1:13:24	0:00:33	61	Colorectale maligniteit	1	0:29:00	0:00:00	M16	Maligniteit ovarium / tuba	41	2:44:03	0:07:58
410	Vaaitletsel bovenste extremit	3	1:00:20	0:00:03	60	Chronische obstipatie	1	0:52:00	0:00:00	M99	Maligniteit overige	14	1:51:00	0:06:00
4103	Te venu osteosynthesemat	24	0:50:05	0:00:19	61	Onvrsting testis/epididymis	14	0:44:36	0:00:03	V21	Patologie bij te kw grav	288	0:36:50	0:03:11
4104	Te venu osteosynth vorevelkom	8	0:56:00	0:00:26	62	Maligniteit tum stad llliv	82	1:07:01	0:00:15	V41	Begeleiding grav in 2e lijn	9	0:29:23	0:00:04
4105	Te venu ov osteosynth(ovexk)	160	0:44:45	0:00:15	65	Mal hypofarynx tumor stad llliv	2	0:45:30	0:00:10	V51	Begeleiding met nad/nacontr	811	0:53:15	0:00:15
416	Aneurysma onderste extremititeit	19	3:00:57	0:01:55	64	Mal hypofarynx tumor stad llliv	2	0:45:30	0:00:10	V60	Compl na partus ut le lijn	46	0:36:56	0:00:14
417	Arterieel embolie/thrombose,336	10	1:38:30	0:01:27	65	Mal hypofarynx tumor stad llliv	15	0:44:32	0:00:12	V61	Complicaties partus ut le lijn	3	0:41:20	0:00:15
418	P.A.O.D. 2, claudicatio intern	78	2:37:33	0:02:40	66	Vasectomievoeroek	10	1:02:36	0:00:08					
419	P.A.O.D. 3, rustpijn	86	2:24:40	0:03:44	67	Liesbreuk (intra)scrotumpathol	1	0:07:00	0:00:00					
42	Prostaatcystite/abces	5	1:01:36	0:00:06	68	Maculopathie	1	0:07:00	0:00:00					
420	P.A.O.D. 4, gangreen	103	1:24:20	0:02:32	70	Urethrastricture	53	0:34:58	0:00:13					
421	Vaaitletsel lies / bovenbeen	4	0:49:45	0:00:06	71	Maligne tumor speekselklieren	3	2:08:40	0:08:22					
422	Vaaitletsel knie / onderbeen	1	0:32:00	0:00:00	72	Benigne tumor speekselklieren	16	2:00:41	0:02:26					
423	Varices onderste extremiteten	39	1:00:23	0:00:09	73	Cholecolithiasis	1	1:04:00	0:00:00					
427	Ulcus curis	4	0:59:00	0:00:16	72	Urethrastricture	1	0:33:00	0:00:00					
431	Bacteraemie/sepsis	21	1:01:00	0:00:03	74	Urethra(meatus) stenose/carunc	10	0:38:06	0:00:06					
432	Diabetische voet(diabetes mo)	13	1:12:05	0:02:44	75	Urethra(meatus) stenose/carunc	10	0:38:06	0:00:06					
433	Flebitis en tromboflebitis	1	0:43:00	0:00:00	75	Geen DRP	1	0:26:00	0:00:00					
435	Shuntcircuitwisse ipv nierlid	114	1:06:45	0:00:32	75	NHL laaggradig	2	5:39:00	1:13:48					
441	Resectie carop/prox carpectomie	2	2:09:00	0:00:00	76	Overige urethrapathologie	4	0:52:45	0:00:11					
442	Intercarpale arthroese	1	3:09:00	0:00:00	77	urethrastricture	1	1:38:00	0:00:00					
449	Overige vaat-diagnosen	1	0:33:00	0:00:00	79	Congenitale urethrapathologie	1	0:36:00	0:00:00					
45	Lymfoidi prostatacraom	5	1:37:12	0:00:40	800	Niet classificeerb diversen	1	1:33:00	0:00:00					
454	Comaeositeit / corp.allenium	4	0:18:00	0:00:02	806	Perfor> of anders co,perfor	1	1:55:00	0:00:00					
456	Perforatie, allien cornea	2	1:31:00	0:00:17	81	Congenitale afwijkingen	3	1:12:40	0:00:04					
457	Comedyatrofie / keratoconus	1	0:10:00	0:00:00	82	Zwelling in hals/diagnostiek	17	1:02:28	0:00:33					
459	overige pathologie cornea	1	0:08:00	0:00:00	83	Diepe hals abces	8	1:08:30	0:00:32					
48	Prostaatcraom (orchidect)	11	0:54:05	0:00:04	89	Overige malign tr,uro/gent	1	0:10:00	0:00:00					
50	peniscraom	2	1:10:30	0:00:10	904	Maligniteit stieldarm/cardia	4	0:49:15	0:00:00					
501	Defect tekort nt FG <tr<4%< td=""> <td>5</td> <td>0:49:12</td> <td>0:00:12</td> <td>907</td> <td>Secundair glucocoom</td> <td>2</td> <td>0:17:30</td> <td>0:00:00</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr<4%<>	5	0:49:12	0:00:12	907	Secundair glucocoom	2	0:17:30	0:00:00					
502	Uvitis anterior	1	0:11:00	0:00:00	92	Acute lichtegeobstructie	3	0:39:20	0:00:02					
503	Def/nt FG,tr<3/5i def<1%	27	1:09:47	0:01:31	927	Maligniteit coloretiaal	3	0:39:20	0:00:09					
504	Littc:nt FG,tr<3/5i def<1%	3	1:36:00	0:00:23	94	Phimosi/sphenulum	145	0:43:05	0:00:06					
505	Def/nt FG,tr<3/5i def<1-3	24	1:49:10	0:01:245	959	Overige oogafwijkingen	1	1:29:00	0:00:00					
507	Abces drain, kleine necroec	17	0:48:07	0:00:11	96	Spilitant na sterilisatie	8	1:33:07	0:00:04					
508	E 1-3 ben tum/naewi nt FG lltt	12	0:38:20	0:00:03	98	Divers urologische diagnose(n)	14	0:44:56	0:00:12					
509	Mal tumor niet in FG	8	0:54:23	0:00:41	99	ICC	15	0:38:24	0:00:12					
51	Afwijkingen mondholte	14	0:17:30	0:00:08	99	onbekende diagnose	1253	0:34:03	0:02:10					
510	Excl:3 ben tum/naewi vo FG/etc	35	0:56:17	0:00:68	998	ICC	3	0:14:00	0:00:04					
511	maligne tumor in FG tr<1%	34	1:02:37	0:00:43	999	Overig	1	0:00:00	0:00:00					
512	Exc ben tumor/PW tr<1-3% etc	18	0:53:27	0:00:22	F11	Orient ferf:ondz/bas beh vrouw	47	0:54:33	0:00:09					
513	exc mal tum/PW tr<1-3% nt FG	8	1:12:38	0:00:30	F21	Gespecialiseerde technieken	10	0:40:48	0:00:06					
514	exc ben tum/PW tr<1-3% nt FG	5	1:22:34	0:00:26	G11	Cyclustm	992	0:59:20	0:01:45					
52	Ziekten adenoid & tonsillen	625	0:25:05	0:00:12	G12	Fluor vaginalls	2	0:36:00	0:00:04					

Figure C.3: Average service times for operations, standard deviations and frequencies, table 3.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation
000	Tractaten	297	2964814	99950232	0502	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	10	2852336	872546
001	ALGEMEEN	1	218900	000000	0603	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	3	6621100	3025908
002	ALGEMEEN	41	720625	12802752	0611	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	245	242424	60806
003	ALGEMEEN	167	1495248	168110545	0531	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	532	1302113	1230839
004	ALGEMEEN	76	1494248	36785452	0541	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	1	5421100	000000
005	ALGEMEEN	173	5304338	74833635	0542	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	8	3771938	36160752
006	ALGEMEEN	1003	4421106	44871322	0543	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	4	8136000	7485507
007	ALGEMEEN	44	1281625	98037551	0551	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	115	2652000	000000
008	ALGEMEEN	32	2500358	39125601	0559	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	4	7732000	1343202
009	Diagnose Algemeen	23	452321	000558	0601	onbekende hoofd groep	1	8710000	000000
010	ALGEMEEN	9	7754907	2202510	06	onbekende hoofd groep	7	7195934	154035905
0101	Neuro-infecties	6	5294910	60592046	0601	Parietale afwijkingen	121	5342220	4451717
0102	Neuro-infecties	11	2665305	195146112	0602	Parietale afwijkingen	17	6203346	11995057
011	Algemeen	7	2583100	37903718	061	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	16	1952726	1602905
0111	Neuro-infecties	5	3715012	54475945	0611	Parietale afwijkingen	141	213255	22130
0112	Algemeen	22	301635	1863739	0612	Parietale afwijkingen	193	193552	125238
0121	Neuro-infecties	1	718900	000000	062	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	16	507241	10245
013	Algemeen	13	725555	8445326	0621	Parietale afwijkingen	18	65337	20716
0131	Neuro-infecties	2	1021200	103441	063	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	1	153300	00000
014	Algemeen	16	675626	1530242	064	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	6	32230	014117
015	ALGEMEEN	121	1574509	16001537	069	Parietale afwijkingen	90	300654	1700654
016	ALGEMEEN	228	923425	9895306	07	onbekende hoofd groep	1	13425400	000000
017	ALGEMEEN	9	230647	323145	0701	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	21	454003	1981127
018	ALGEMEEN	24	551053	13521250	071	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	317	32337	04721
0191	Neuro-infecties	48	240933	19610558	0711	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	4	4907900	20029511
0199	Neuro-infecties	5	354112	005217	072	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	226	348941	51806
02	Restgroep	3	5316220	14636119	073	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	73	35321	00811
020	ALGEMEEN	3	1003940	2692749	074	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	829	321114	10430
0201	Neuro-oncologie	78	2770939	58413840	0799	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	100	420904	2704914
021	ALGEMEEN	60	1013402	24655538	08	Diagnose Algemeen	2	1780230	575947
0211	Neuro-oncologie	4	2611200	15735139	080	Sacraal pijnsyndroom	116	31941	02201
022	ALGEMEEN	1	25400	000000	0801	Perifere zenuwen	1	42100	00000
0221	Neuro-oncologie	2	2131300	5723202	0802	Perifere zenuwen	1	20200	00000
023	ALGEMEEN	43	112840	1065645	0804	Perifere zenuwen	1	690000	00000
0231	Neuro-oncologie	10	3874024	108265729	0805	Perifere zenuwen	3	327200	00017
024	ALGEMEEN	4	522545	3041451	0809	Perifere zenuwen	2	40600	00816
025	ALGEMEEN	23	606521	323303	0811	Perifere zenuwen	37	1522802	29151619
0251	Neuro-oncologie	2	949930	000000	0812	Perifere zenuwen	8	1101408	8879359
026	ALGEMEEN	83	113835	51923	0821	Perifere zenuwen	6	54350	01925
027	Algemeen	1	75700	000000	0823	Perifere zenuwen	5	384712	853436
029	Neuro-oncologie	7	1664409	2313033	0829	Perifere zenuwen	3	34500	00110
03	Restgroep	3	135740	23712	09	Diagnose Algemeen	25	965919	14123252
0311	Deficities, metabool, voeding	1	2084800	000000	090	Coccygodynie	20	24039	00508
0312	Deficities, metabool, voeding	10	1353612	11752958	0901	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	129	73433	00726
0313	Deficities, metabool, voeding	1	6122700	000000	0911	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	19	165019	274808
037	Algemeen	7	464400	1212333	0999	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	13	100200	000000
0399	Deficities, metabool, voeding	1	1510200	000000	10	NER	80	1002748	9114706
04	Diagnose Algemeen	13	2273555	4181109	100	Pijn bij maligniteit	13	761955	6202148
0401	Psychische stoornissen	100	63453	022203	1001	Zintuigsystemen	5	483236	3635033
0402	Psychische stoornissen	67	225442	4502845	101	De uitkomst v/h consult/onderz	644	1313332	26764339
041	Cerv syndr/brachiale/hftdpjn	71	1402345	2782153	1010	Algemeen en/of systemisch	1	313700	00000
042	ALGEMEEN	257	56233	2991009	1011	Zintuigsystemen	31	645414	1830912
043	ALGEMEEN	31	1159754	2510655	102	CARDIOVASCUAIR	8	754623	4083212
044	Cerv syndr/brachiale/hftdpjn	35	35921	71009	103	CARDIOVASCUAIR	1	1881018	13906355
049	Psychische stoornissen	16	865811	3165357	104	Artriten	10	683500	000000
05	Diagnose Algemeen	6	2412220	6251841	105	Artriten	4	1382500	000000
0501	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	19	3415224	180580005	106	CARDIOVASCUAIR	4	480145	4543001
0502	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	29	2852336	872546	107	Artriden	21	115103	33124
0503	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	3	6621100	3025908	109	Artriden	18	6080045	71955621
0509	Zintuigsystemen	2	242424	60806	110	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	384	542422	1145140
0531	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	532	1302113	1230839	1130	Bot en weke delen tumoren	16	235311	1902301
0541	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	1	5421100	000000	1140	Bot en weke delen tumoren	4	9453945	37981338
0542	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	8	3771938	36160752	115	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	127	194654	253854
0543	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	4	8136000	7485507	116	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	241	212023	2750132
0551	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	115	2652000	000000	117	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	151	190059	564835
0559	Systeemaandoeningen CZS	4	7732000	1343202	119	CARDIOVASCUAIR	1	4581200	000000
06	onbekende hoofd groep	7	7195934	154035905	1199	Cerebrovasculaire aandoeningen	1	1894845	32831614
0601	Parietale afwijkingen	121	5342220	4451717	12	Otologie	169	770823	1572408
0602	Parietale afwijkingen	17	6203346	11995057	1201	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	22	992138	2660858
061	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	16	1952726	1602905	1201	Asma / COPD	170	430051	1882143
0611	Parietale afwijkingen	141	213255	22130	1202	Asma / COPD	29	40048	02809
0612	Parietale afwijkingen	193	193552	125238	1203	Bewegingsstoel	60	865312	5942614
062	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	16	507241	10245	1204	Bewegingsstoel	20	663618	5162548
0621	Parietale afwijkingen	18	65337	20716	121	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	640	164305	3859233
063	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	1	153300	00000	1211	Bewegingsstoel	5	1710310	25342103
064	Thoraxaal pijnsyndroom	6	32230	014117	1221	Bewegingsstoel	1	3552500	000000
069	Parietale afwijkingen	90	300654	1700654	123	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	144	314616	910232
07	onbekende hoofd groep	1	13425400	000000	1231	Bewegingsstoel	6	404710	1823011
0701	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	21	454003	1981127	124	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	162	993045	27475917
071	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	317	32337	04721	1241	Asma / COPD	469	1470627	12765922
0711	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	4	4907900	20029511	125	Gelaat	6	20000	000000
072	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	226	348941	51806	126	CARDIOVASCUAIR	2	1953300	8812915
073	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	73	35321	00811	127	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	135	144737	50438
074	Lumbago / (pseudo)radicul syndr	829	321114	10430	129	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	797	323308	1635440
0799	Migraine + Hoofdpijn	100	420904	2704914	1299	Bewegingsstoel	13	982737	9812139
08	Diagnose Algemeen	2	1780230	575947	13	Diagnose Algemeen	820	60709	873106
080	Sacraal pijnsyndroom	116	31941	02201	130	Perifere zenuwpijn (ind PHN)	190	54530	131745
0801	Perifere zenuwen	1	42100	00000	1301	Longtumoren	25	750122	12633746
0802	Perifere zenuwen	1	20200	00000	1302	Thoraxale/lumbale wervelkolom	18	1834720	61145752
0804	Perifere zenuwen	1	690000	00017	1303	Longtumoren	481	443620	3720622
0805	Perifere zenuwen	3	327200	00017	1304	Longtumoren	95	760411	6595724
0809	Perifere zenuwen	2	40600	00816	1305	Longtumoren	21	571309	1461900
0811	Perifere zenuwen	37	1522802	29151619	1306	Longtumoren	1	2134600	000000
0812	Perifere zenuwen	8	1101408	8879359	1307	Longtumoren	14	362443	7285828
0821	Perifere zenuwen	6	54350	01925	1308	Longtumoren	42	314017	1843911
0823	Perifere zenuwen	5	384712	853436	131	Gelaat	68	51454	35146
0829	Perifere zenuwen	3	34500	00110	132	Alg chr en chr bij kinderen	44	71033	131411
09	Diagnose Algemeen	25	965919	14123252					
090	Coccygodynie	20	24039	00508					
0901	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	129	73433	00726					
0911	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	19	165019	274808					
0999	Neuromusculaire aandoeningen	13	100200	000000					
10	NER	80	1002748	9114706					
100	Pijn bij maligniteit	13	761955	6202148					
1001	Zintuigsystemen	5	483236	3635033					
101	De uitkomst v/h consult/onderz	644	1313332	26764339					
1010	Algemeen en/of systemisch	1	313700	00000					
1011	Zintuigsystemen	31	645414	1830912					
102	CARDIOVASCUAIR	8	754623	4083212					
103	CARDIOVASCUAIR	1	1881018	13906355					
104	Artriten	10	683500	000000					
105	Artriten	4	1382500	000000					
106	CARDIOVASCUAIR	4	480145	4543001					

Figure C.4: Average service times for admissions in the department nursing wards, standard deviations and frequencies, table 1.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation
133	Alig chlr en chr bij kinderen	8	8:13:15	2:22:32	1630	Hand/pols	22	7:45:00	2:55:06	2002	Enkel en voet	5	4:22:54:12	1:28:22:6:05
134	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	1	45:49:00	0:00:00	1650	Hand/pols	70	6:48:00	0:47:22	2004	Enkel en voet	9	8:09:13	1:42:32
144	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	20	10:26:27	8:56:11	1685	Hand/pols	10	11:12:42	3:38:57	2006	Enkel en voet	12	16:10:50	4:19:20
150	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	3	4:21:40	0:06:20	1696	Hand/pols	8	1:09:53	2:15:36:57	2011	POBD	1185	1:04:23	131:44:52
150	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	104	108:10:08	206:20:41	1697	Hand/pols	2	5:42:00	0:00:04	2011	Enkel en voet	30	11:34:13	3:08:57
136	Gelaaft	3	19:20:40	2:33:03	1699	Hand/pols	1	3:09:00	0:00:00	202	POBD	41	9:14:00	7:09:19
136	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	5	84:22:24	165:05:29	17	Diagnose Algemeen	327	6:44:51	0:15:58	202	POBD	923	12:14:24	46:19:16
136	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	4	103:50:30	45:39:44	170	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	298	8:38:25	4:07:56	2020	Enkel en voet	5	12:34:48	3:32:19
137	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	34	123:14:32	112:43:47	1701	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	791	129:35:03	706:11:41	2025	Enkel en voet	9	13:01:27	3:41:47
139	CARDIOVASCULAIR	4	3:18:00	0:02:17	1702	Pleurale aandoeningen	73	15:10:748	48:21:12:25	203	POBD	855	7:50:53	520:32:11
139	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	10	11:45:124	98:43:59	1703	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	132	272:38:45	41:707:26:17	2030	Enkel en voet	26	17:00:37	3:54:53
139	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	29	62:34:48	752:35:51	1704	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	5	7:15:56:36	8:56:09	2035	Enkel en voet	21	25:30:00	0:00:00
139	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	2	14:28:00	4:51:36	171	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	24	10:32:00	8:56:09	204	Syndroom	492	45:52:27	219:53:25
139	Thoracale/lumbale wervelkolom	1	25:30:00	0:00:00	1710	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	72	25:03:26	9:36:37	2040	Enkel en voet	9	25:09:27	18:03:16
14	Diagnose Algemeen	714	13:26:43	71:23:03	1720	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	1	3:14:00	0:00:00	2045	Enkel en voet	10	5:11:30	0:17:02
140	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	6	27:22:00	77:18:28	173	Gelaaft	1	57:00:00	0:00:00	205	POBD	688	57:53:58	368:21:19
1401	Bronchopneumonie ea infecties	776	129:36:39	779:22:34	1730	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	2	7:40:00	0:03:01	2050	Enkel en voet	127	31:42:22	3:14:51:55
1402	Letseel + intoxicatie	107	62:57:38	749:13:56	174	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	20	50:34:07	43:06:38	2055	Enkel en voet	20	13:27:21	1:57:70:18
1403	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	9	76:09:40	51:47:49	175	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	2	10:58:20	0:15:56	2055	Syndroom	13	11:39:18	12:57:42:18
1404	Bronchopneumonie ea infecties	28	105:29:09	357:36:25	1750	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	5	59:23:36	79:31:45	2060	Enkel en voet	85	9:26:16	14:21:04
1405	Bronchopneumonie ea infecties	79	106:21:07	42:20:55	176	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	1	3:55:00	0:00:00	207	Traumatologie en SEH	138	39:56:27	3:50:47:27
1405	Bronchopneumonie ea infecties	6	17:34:10	21:09:21	1760	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	8	32:38:08	9:40:37	2070	Enkel en voet	6	14:52:40	4:27:30
141	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	9	26:02:27	38:09:56	179	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	32	17:08:34	25:12:40	208	Traumatologie en SEH	83	29:52:47	17:14:39
1411	Letseel + intoxicatie	5	22:00:20	85:35:52	1796	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	10	78:39:12	45:40:00	209	Traumatologie en SEH	26	24:53:09	28:16:16
1414	Diagnose Neonatologie	1	71:04:00	0:00:00	1799	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	5	9:38:36	3:33:33	2095	Enkel en voet	16	25:01:19	56:13:21
1421	Letseel + intoxicatie	1	3:05:00	0:00:00	1799	Bekken/liep/bovenbeen	1	3:27:00	0:00:00	2096	Enkel en voet	20	10:24:54	2:58:11
1422	Letseel + intoxicatie	6	153:40:40	2582:20:04	18	NER	44	34:01:26	141:15:26	2097	Enkel en voet	38	20:24:03	6:59:17
1431	Letseel + intoxicatie	11	19:19:16	26:09:27	180	Herpes zoster acuta	14	3:49:51	0:13:49	2098	Enkel en voet	1	10:00:00	0:00:00
1450	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	480	24:23:52	13:47:16	1801	NER	917	81:28:17	314:11:06	21	URETER	189	37:03:15	56:11:01
1450	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	151	28:32:52	77:53:03	1802	Vasculaire aandoeningen	159	119:33:38	481:26:39	210	Traumatologie en SEH	36	7:17:43	2:33:40
1470	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	85	11:38:49	11:21:05	1803	Knie	78	184:09:12	1626:10:29	2101	Aand, mogelijk resp insuff	24	11:64:21:3	375:01:21
1480	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	78	22:32:12	3:25:32	1804	Knie	39	21:00:02	313:46:05	2102	Aand, mogelijk resp insuff	4	3672:22:30	12142:11:39
1485	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	88	21:24:34	16:37:22	1805	Knie	1632	6:30:32	19:31:19	2103	Aand, mogelijk resp insuff	7	1003:36:43	313:16:21
1486	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	2	18:20:30	6:52:16	1810	Knie	7	23:38:31	23:12:03	2104	Aand, mogelijk resp insuff	1	172:00:00	0:00:00
1487	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	4	8:20:45	2:59:24	1830	Knie	193	25:09:25	2:28:08	2106	Diagnose Neonatologie	175	33:44:43	4680:41:44
1489	Schoudergordel/bovenarm	4	28:54:00	56:47:18	1830	Knie	3	4:58:40	0:10:55	211	Lichaam	125	17:16:20	11:20:12
15	NER	50	37:34:31	149:25:55	1840	Knie	13	11:33:23	162:34:24	212	Traumatologie en SEH	247	21:57:19	626:02:00
150	Complx regional p/ljnsyndr	77	42:12:19	3201:13:32	1850	Knie	65	15:41:55	291:5:34	2120	Overige/diversen	6	17:16:20	11:20:12
1501	Ellieboog/onderarm	5	34:48:00	7:24:39	1860	Knie	10	26:27:00	21:59:41	213	Lichaam	31	9:00:35	3:55:12
1503	Ellieboog/onderarm	1	22:11:50	0:00:00	1870	Knie	24	8:24:30	5:31:27	2130	Overige/diversen	8	10:58:45	2:32:03
1504	Ellieboog/onderarm	9	8:43:53	11:2:03	1880	Knie	19	8:10:09	2:41:45	214	Traumatologie en SEH	102	16:43:48	89:11:42
151	Gelaaft	1	6:38:00	0:00:00	1890	Knie	6	9:39:10	5:31:08	2140	Overige/diversen	2	1:20:15:00	22:31:24
151	(Non)Tuberculose	6	5:08:00	0:18:09	1896	Knie	62	21:20:57	37:28:30	215	Traumatologie en SEH	96	11:54:36	81:58:56
152	Gelaaft	2	28:02:00	0:00:33	1897	Knie	6	30:29:20	40:30:55	2150	Overige/diversen	3	49:28:00	51:41:34
1521	(Non)Tuberculose	3	149:37:20	914:29:52	1898	Knie	1	4:57:00	0:00:00	216	Traumatologie en SEH	50	83:39:34	641:08:06
154	Gelaaft	7	7:00:00	0:00:00	1899	Knie	11	4:32:49	0:08:47	217	Traumatologie en SEH	90	169:27:15	1408:16:20
1550	Ellieboog/onderarm	7	27:38:17	133:20:23	19	Diagnose Algemeen	3	326:56:00	1676:03:27	218	Traumatologie en SEH	337	245:24:34	2320:26:28
1560	Ellieboog/onderarm	44	7:05:31	2:02:38	1901	Slaap apnoe behandeling	1	231:50:00	0:00:00	219	Traumatologie en SEH	28	239:19:24	2725:43:44
159	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	42	24:33:29	108:00:51	1902	Slaap apnoe behandeling	11	35:28:27	138:34:03	22	Diagnose Algemeen	14	46:85:247	3566:33:02
1596	Ellieboog/onderarm	8	46:46:23	292:50:12	191	Veserale pijn	2	3:46:30	0:07:53	220	Traumatologie en SEH	14	66:02:09	126:39:45
16	onbekende hofid groep	2	29:25:00	23:10:26	1910	Onderbeen	1	2:62:23:00	0:09:21	2202	Diagnose Neonatologie	1	44:46:00	0:00:00
160	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	244	87:57:44	872:08:41	192	Veserale pijn	1	2:00:00	0:00:00	221	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STOFWIS.ZKT	147	106:37:49	895:19:26
1601	Interstitiële longafwijkingen	77	80:38:26	1470:43:58	1920	Onderbeen	1	21:00:00	0:00:00	222	Lichaam	217	110:08:03	1324:10:16
1602	Interstitiële longafwijkingen	6	16:20:00	33:34:19	199	Non consult	1	193:22:00	0:00:00	223	Lichaam	30	98:39:24	843:17:37
1603	Interstitiële longafwijkingen	39	4:53:132	449:55:06	1	Onderbeen	3	33:30:00	34:03:25	224	Traumatologie en SEH	218	5:12:04	376:42:55
162	Gelaaft	13	70:33:32	0:06:07	1996	Onderbeen	20	82:24:30	528:15:54	226	Lichaam	1	2:00:00	0:00:00
1620	Hand/pols	8	41:17:23	0:01:15	200	Arthralgie / arthritts	36	3:00:25	0:06:57	231	Lichaam	12	43:44:40	68:47:00
163	Alig chr en chr bij kinderen	140	48:37:01	209:22:32	2001	Enkel en voet	46	31:43:27	245:12:55	232	Bloed en bloedvormende organen	3	35:36:00	70:49:03

Figure C.5: Average service times for admissions in the department nursing wards, standard deviations and frequencies, table 2.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average sercie time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average sercie time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average sercie time	Standard deviation
233	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	5	1102:25:48	64:45:10	30	Fracturen	426	51:57:43	370:56:37	3204	Luxaties	1	24:54:00	0:00:00
234	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	3	2:00:00	0:00:00	3003	Fracturen	1	4:29:00	0:00:00	3205	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	14	25:56:47	0:36:00
236	Psychiatrie en SEH	9	6:43:13	278:33:18	3004	Fracturen	38	6:40:27	720:05:15	3206	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	23:10:15	12:22:36
237	Traumatologie en SEH	6	1:50:42:20	178:07:19	3005	Fracturen	2	15:58:00	9:38:27:31	3207	Luxaties	46	31:44:40	50:49:07
238	Traumatologie en SEH	46	1:74:12	2:60:10	3006	Fracturen	15	17:21:09	7:20:39	3208	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	136	60:43:20	1:57:58:09
239	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	29	9:53:41	792:30:51	3007	Fracturen	6	22:08:10	13:57:57	321	Bewegingsstelei & bindweefsel	2	2:20:09	0:04:01
241	URETER	73	4:53:41	5:54:50:04	3008	Fracturen	38	89:40:17	47:13:15:4	3210	Luxaties	28	47:10:47	289:25:54
240	Traumatologie en SEH	7	1:48:59:51	203:74:52	3009	Fracturen	8	14:38:38	3:12:44	3211	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	137	88:36:56	2:05:34:28
241	Psychische stoornissen	41	6:03:37	393:53:10	301	Korndarmgiftigheid	475	14:41:70:6	86:40:56	3211	Luxaties	1	2:41:00	0:00:00
242	Psychische stoornissen	128	15:39:48	137:18:39	3011	Fracturen	3	7:42:20	0:44:54	322	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	26	2:54:13:32	1:23:33:13
243	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	17	3:26:56:11	409:46:44	3012	Fracturen	12	10:37:35	2:35:55	323	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	723	69:24:06	509:42:19
244	Psychische stoornissen	3	4:45:00	0:10:44	3013	Fracturen	46	23:34:35	338:38:49	324	NEFROLOGIE	28	46:47:24	46:15:31:15
245	Psychische stoornissen	1	3:53:00	0:00:00	3014	Fracturen	3	6:38:20	0:22:23	325	NEFROLOGIE	429	17:64:20	66:01:36:32
246	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	1	3:22:00	0:00:00	3015	Fracturen	6	27:42:00	5:59:34	326	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	93	113:08:14	10:77:06:42
247	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	2	3:05:30	0:02:59	3016	Fracturen	9	5:46:13	0:16:59	327	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	185	11:57:09	17:41:06:33
248	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	1	4:34:50:00	0:00:00	3017	Fracturen	17	15:57:07	10:57:34:31	328	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	114	148:48:44	779:09:31
249	Traumatologie en SEH	4	26:59:00	0:00:00	3018	Fracturen	6	15:20:30:00	41:9:54:05	329	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	143	75:42:32	937:05:59
25	Diagnose Algemeen	2	82:06:30	264:50:11	3019	Fracturen	132	22:20:38:49	17:95:36:55	329	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	15	35:11:44	60:15:24
250	Traumatologie en SEH	10	5:02:36	0:40:16	302	Korndarmgiftigheid	264	94:26:46	824:02:19	33	BLAAS	60	45:44:44	67:95:18
251	Zenuwstelsel en hartslagen	15	2:51:20	147:21:44	3020	Fracturen	25	19:56:19	20:5:04:44	330	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	23	2:38:25:31	148:61:48:45
252	Traumatologie en SEH	59	1:60:15:2	90:56:18	3021	Fracturen	40	2:37:10:12	124:31:51:10	3301	Contusies	40	68:17:18	679:58:41
253	Traumatologie en SEH	24	4:45:30	0:10:24	3022	Fracturen	2	38:27:00	6:27:30	3302	Contusies	19	5:49:22	2:59:40:30
254	Traumatologie en SEH	4	6:25:20	3:95:38:09	3023	Fracturen	9	11:24:33	3:53:30:15	3303	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	73	40:42:52	2:11:43:09
255	Traumatologie en SEH	45	9:04:48	27:13:52	3024	Fracturen	18	44:39:27	16:54:8:38	3304	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	20	24:34:12	86:40:33
256	Traumatologie en SEH	12	26:52:40	88:54:15	3025	Fracturen	37	49:23:57	21:64:53:3	3305	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	48:31:00	59:58:09
257	Traumatologie en SEH	13	6:17:18	1:45:52	3026	Fracturen	1	309:44:00	0:00:00	3306	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	48:55:00	0:00:00
258	Oogleden	18	4:33:20	0:07:24	3028	Fracturen	1	3:00:00	0:00:00	3308	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	254	50:35:23	1:59:40:28
259	Oogleden	1	4:15:00	0:00:00	3029	Fracturen	5	4:38:12	0:07:38	331	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	124	41:19:17	2:71:06:27
26	Hartvaatstelsel	1	2:35:40:00	0:00:00	3030	Fracturen	69	10:45:07	8:01:34	3310	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	41	73:30:41	287:27:26
262	Traumatologie en SEH	60	28:40:13	224:58:20	3031	Fracturen	3	2:58:00	0:00:31	3311	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	11:05:51:2	423:04:57
263	Traumatologie en SEH	4	49:05:32	47:9:33:56	304	Oesofagus	19	26:26:13	7:28:30	3313	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	15	45:42:28	67:34:09
264	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	14	26:22:30	257:33:38	305	Oesofagus	19	6:40:35	4:59:29	3314	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	27	90:31:04	562:26:55
269	Traumatologie en SEH	46	24:33:26	73:20:06	306	systeemandoeningen	7	14:52:00	12:10:27	3315	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	28:47:00	0:00:00
27	Diagnose Algemeen	211	5:25:23	0:04:25	308	Oesofagus	33	44:39:44	286:40:43	3316	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	17:00:30	0:56:41
270	Traumatologie en SEH	211	18:37:02	148:44:55	309	systeemandoeningen	5	39:45:00	24:22:38	3318	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	68:48:12	2:33:47:41
271	Traumatologie en SEH	160	3:10:70:3	225:13:22	31	Rhinologie	91	15:49:22	32:21:27	332	NEFROLOGIE	35	42:24:15	310:56:18
272	Traumatologie en SEH	30	20:21:56	3:13:28	310	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	62	39:13:25	70:23:43	3320	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	142	40:06:59	352:43:06
273	Traumatologie en SEH	9	2:05:80:00	240:120:19	3102	Diconsies	3	61:05:20	85:56:28	3321	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	52:04:20	42:12:17
274	Traumatologie en SEH	5	1:25:36:12	3:53:38:13	3103	Diconsies	9	12:12:07	74:01:13	3323	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	26:23:36	24:02:18
275	Traumatologie en SEH	2	1:31:10:00	0:11:33	3104	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	133	44:00:09	46:03:31:6	3324	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	7	60:53:51	325:39:17
279	Traumatologie en SEH	11	2:15:10:00	90:54:00:56	3105	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	28	24:55:11	15:04:43	3326	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	6	48:01:00	94:53:48
28	URETER	6	26:41:50	48:24:40	3106	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	33:31:00	3:90:21	3327	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	31	17:19:27	98:39:01
280	Traumatologie en SEH	112	5:20:55	4:21:11	3107	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	80:38:36	30:31:34	3328	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	83	118:47:25	663:19:54
281	Traumatologie en SEH	149	4:53:74:9	740:38:58	311	NEFROLOGIE	94	47:13:17	51:51:21	333	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	186	148:36:37	175:17:22
282	Traumatologie en SEH	106	5:54:35:2	645:19:20	312	Hand, voet, extremiteten	4	58:41:45	324:06:35	334	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	92	220:11:48	2421:33:21
283	ENDOCRINOLOGIE EN STORWIS.ZKT	10	2:42:18	0:00:49	313	Hand, voet, extremiteten	33	178:24:05	854:50:02	335	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	155	152:34:09	2707:14:35
284	Traumatologie en SEH	18	4:01:13	387:40:20	314	Hand, voet, extremiteten	8	62:48:00	204:20:32	336	Hand, voet, extremiteten	6	97:30:30	2:33:50:39
29	URETER	2	20:22:00	3:02:03	315	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	33	246:52:49	265:34:51	337	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	41	171:03:51	1625:25:05
290	Traumatologie en SEH	3	14:19:20	1:32:13	316	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	1	5:57:00	0:00:00	338	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	19	85:16:03	316:30:38
291	Traumatologie en SEH	31	7:06:45	4:30:45	317	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	94	12:06:52	13:54:03	339	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	10	157:00:24	1066:22:08
292	Traumatologie en SEH	337	12:58:39	89:18:12	318	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	425	17:36:00	80:59:01	34	BLAAS	75	19:03:17	17:59:01
294	Traumatologie en SEH	447	3:05:00:4	383:08:46	319	systeemandoeningen	1	176:20:00	0:00:00	3401	Oncol long gastrointestin chlr	60	44:33:39	1:54:54:54
295	Traumatologie en SEH	106	1:05:59:12	305:28:15	3199	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	12	7:31:55	353:38:41	3402	Kapsel-band/pees/spier-rupuur	1	25:40:00	0:00:11
296	Traumatologie en SEH	2	1:05:50:00	144:28:51	320	Rhinologie	284	40:27:04	138:46:28	3403	Kapsel-band/pees/spier-rupuur	2	7:14:00	0:00:11
297	Traumatologie en SEH	59	9:04:08	143:749:34	3201	Luxaties	28	12:08:04	14:83:35:4	3403	Kapsel-band/pees/spier-rupuur	19	11:02:42:5	3175:56:02
298	Traumatologie en SEH	66	2:31:50	52:35:08	3202	Luxaties	152	39:56:38	108:37:40	3405	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	3:52:00	0:13:27
299	Traumatologie en SEH	26	1:00:31:30	1424:24:36	3203	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	19	5:19:35	3:34:38	3406	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	96:20:40	1:50:14:55

Figure C.6: Average sercie times for admissions to the department nursing wards, standard deviations and frequencies, table 3.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average service time	Standard deviation
3408	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	35128.24	77307.12	39	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	40388.30	11159.31	649	Vaatchirurgie	7	128550.26	158807.45
3409	Kepsel band/pees/spier-ruptuur	5	5912.48	7816.95	391	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	7923.00	6090.00	65	PROSTAAAT	5	35315.00	25915
341	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	42	35313.37	5836.32	393	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	5372.00	6090.00	651	INFECTIEZIKTEN	1	115119.00	0000.00
3410	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	22233.00	6152.24	399	Systemaandoeningen	9	60479.33	20550.48	452	INFECTIEZIKTEN	3	107027.00	0000.00
342	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	24	19543.30	16272.24	400	PROSTAAAT	215	5413.23	37159.25	453	INFECTIEZIKTEN	3	32321.20	399326.28
344	NEFROLOGIE	14	53322.00	18333.24	401	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	60391.15	16040.37	454	Coma	2	6331.10	0085.90
345	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	5	1005.48	1275.24	4002	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	307.00	6042.00	458	Coma	2	20253.00	0100.05
346	NEFROLOGIE	5	26343.00	4731.46	4003	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	6	115.10	6051.50	459	Coma	1	457.00	0000.00
347	NEFROLOGIE	1	67110.00	6000.00	4004	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	6	9940.51	30635.57	459	Coma	1	224.00	0000.00
348	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	7	14803.09	24064.92	4005	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	47380.00	6000.00	463	INFECTIEZIKTEN	5	104003.36	28941.34
349	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	18	25705.33	43665.43	4006	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	232.30	6000.13	469	INFECTIEZIKTEN	48	14453.53	53624.28
35	BLAAS	102	4827.56	24230.08	402	Ritme	1478	3158.14	34334.48	48	PROSTAAAT	10	11704.18	251733.48
350	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	92	27103.33	12133.31	403	Ritme	140	10203.32	189857.18	491	INFECTIEZIKTEN	49	21957.07	454000.45
3502	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	64	24245.52	4428.33	404	Ritme	474	6013.39	53104.02	499	INFECTIEZIKTEN	25	18342.53	129322.10
3503	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	64	28241.18	4605.10	405	Vaatchirurgie	127	8623.42	46941.02	50	PENS	7	41109.34	136593.36
3505	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	13	9242.28	732.02	406	Vaatchirurgie	38	16049.17	234659.52	5001	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	14	250.34	0064.5
3506	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	7	19829.00	15133.11	407	Maag en dunne darm	83	7236.05	129714.33	5002	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	7	4811.09	34609.57
3507	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	35433.00	6004.58	409	Ritme	33	7515.49	14303.09	5003	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	217.00	0000.00
3508	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	6	9482.22	808.38	4099	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	4083.30	6000.14	5004	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	13142.00	16810.26
351	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	524	3382.25	6092.10	41	PROSTAAAT	434	45121.13	97541.14	5005	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	173612	3837.56
3510	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	328.00	6000.00	410	Maag en dunne darm	82	3450.07	7402.23	501	Structurele harafwijking	175	3028.14	455360.06
3511	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	9	15227.20	68208.09	4101	Overige diagn traumatiologie	47	2538.32	12334.07	502	Structurele harafwijking	23	8513.47	56531.23
3513	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	6	16451.10	26431.30	4102	Overige diagn traumatiologie	33	6739.05	59564.43	503	Algemeen	29	2248.02	11159.38
3514	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	4133.00	6000.00	4103	Overige diagn traumatiologie	24	1245.55	9080.9	504	Algemeen	3	708.40	004.20
3515	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	7483.30	6000.16	4104	Overige diagn traumatiologie	8	3439.30	11150.41	505	Algemeen	3	4336.07	15949.42
3516	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	1839.45	1131.42	4105	Overige diagn traumatiologie	167	2811.15	47503.02	506	SYSTEMZIKTEN	12	67201.10	588344.11
3517	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	5220.00	6000.00	4106	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	513.20	6007.17	507	Algemeen	37	3940.09	194564.48
3518	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	3160.00	6001.46	4107	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	831.00	148.28	508	Algemeen	12	857.00	235.18
352	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	84	23030.06	14066.41	4108	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	15450.00	6000.00	509	Algemeen	22	4838.55	31208.30
3520	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	19	28314.44	8204.54	411	INFECTIEZIKTEN	61	15868.31	96624.25	5099	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	8352.30	269370.9
3522	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	405.30	6000.03	4110	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	28	7950.13	17655.57	51	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	27	519.02	048.28
3523	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	20	3944.33	10607.24	4112	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	39	4221.22	19449.16	510	Algemeen	37	5471.6	012.48
3524	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	91	16361.18	345.09	4113	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	45	5644.21	28703.31	5101	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	533.00	0044.6
353	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	20	20472.30	5757.57	4114	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	36	5311.15	6238.33	5105	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	4237.00	0000.00
354	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	9	2220.00	2538.04	4115	Vaatchirurgie	14	16549.39	89051.18	5107	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	17	20416.42	171501.05
355	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	1321.00	6000.00	413	INFECTIEZIKTEN	8	29048.30	165906.08	511	Algemeen	77	904.02	26253.8
356	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	3	2511.20	1859.00	416	Vaatchirurgie	21	17428.00	619636.24	5110	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	246.20	000.54
359	Oncol, long, gastrointestin chir	17	32939.39	11302.25	417	Vaatchirurgie	16	22218.45	51142.56	512	Algemeen	18	908.07	126.42
3599	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	12	49243.35	28557.13	418	Vaatchirurgie	262	6034.02	25126.58	513	Algemeen	15	3757.28	292000.5
36	Rhinologie	275	12051.19	1001.09	419	Vaatchirurgie	157	14538.06	291107.46	514	Algemeen	5	5457.24	21930.13
361	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	6	14294.40	448.18	4199	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	10360.00	3224.47	5199	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	8	12703.15	74836.26
362	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	458.00	6000.00	42	PROSTAAAT	24	6901.25	12817.56	52	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	1177	1139.03	505.05
363	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	2	815.30	6093.10	420	Vaatchirurgie	142	32813.35	651216.23	523	SYSTEMZIKTEN	5	228.00	0000.00
364	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	20	2206.36	355.09	421	INFECTIEZIKTEN	84	17650.40	143822.26	526	SYSTEMZIKTEN	1	6849.00	26147.42
365	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	3	3817.20	8436.55	422	Vaatchirurgie	1	1707.00	6000.00	527	SYSTEMZIKTEN	5	4239.00	0000.00
37	BLAAS	21	8049.34	62147.05	423	Vaatchirurgie	346	2245.57	6034.35	53	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	114	751.32	1054.6
3701	Wonden	3	2474.00	6000.17	425	Vaatchirurgie	3	2145.40	32499.57	54	PENS	1	2200.00	0000.00
3702	Wonden	2	2273.00	6000.14	426	Vaatchirurgie	5	18650.00	78746.06	55	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	52	1205.53	26424.9
371	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	9	623.33	6094.45	427	Vaatchirurgie	6	50914.00	899329.33	554	Lenis	3840	343.41	841.21
372	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	9	13371.13	753.08	431	INFECTIEZIKTEN	118	19052.08	184832.03	557	Lenis	1	4000.00	0000.00
373	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	2	8515.00	15346.24	433	Vaatchirurgie	57	33508.35	438213.03	559	Lenis	1	322.00	0000.00
375	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	6	7932.22	109.41	434	Vaatchirurgie	154	9203.12	22705.48	56	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	25	1433.43	4355.6
38	BLAAS	14	1846.17	6749.53	434	Vaatchirurgie	2	36036.30	21112.12	57	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	154	416.27	066.68
381	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	46	6261.17	607.94	435	Vaatchirurgie	101	5203.29	96629.64	58	PENS	14	648.00	621.53
382	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	41	7322.00	626.22	439	Vaatchirurgie	1	2190.00	6000.00	59	Mondholte, pharynx, larynx	8	1235.45	315.90
383	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	7000.00	6000.00	44	PROSTAAAT	1	2185.00	6000.00	599	SYSTEMZIKTEN	60	4004.10	7606.21
384	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	1	646.00	6000.00	441	Pols / onderarm	3	28007.00	541307.42	60	TESTIS & SCROTUM	16	1552.11	320.12
385	Hand, voet, extremiteiten	2	816.00	6000.12	442	Vaatchirurgie	7	6938.31	91755.19	6001	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	705.40	041.33

Figure C.7: Average service times for the department nursing aids, standard deviations, frequencies, table 4.

DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average sercie time	Standard deviation	DBC	Dutch name	Number	Average sercie time	Standard deviation
600	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	14	251239	12211649	763	HEMATOLOGIE	51	902132	33507
603	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	321245	485340	769	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	2173624	13205146
604	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	445800	00000	77	URETHRA	2	290100	225840
605	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	123730	60417	770	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	134100	00000
601	Colon	378	200650	4310227	771	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	313145	544035
602	Colon	234	200462	2381548	772	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	30300	00029
603	Corpus Vitreum	1	24400	00000	773	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	491820	1632237
605	Colon	31	265014	1813937	774	HEMATOLOGIE	14	733830	104146
606	Colon	660	61424	111702	775	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	93830	00023
607	Colon	36	22847	00142	776	HEMATOLOGIE	14	733830	104146
608	Colon	93	31341	11530	777	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	491820	1632237
609	Colon	112	195341	223445	778	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	93830	00023
609	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	23	241344	695234	779	HEMATOLOGIE	13	332955	1492107
61	TESTIS & SCROTUM	23	104913	11508	780	HEMATOLOGIE	2	83930	00000
610	Colon	227	125911	935602	781	HEMATOLOGIE	1	991300	00000
610	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	32500	00000	782	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	20400	00000
6104	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	16	673438	1400127	783	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	3	645340	702151
6105	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	75	293454	1434731	784	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	31630	00521
611	Colon	4	68400	843125	785	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	19	550319	1672040
612	Colon	89	133307	362646	786	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	201700	135542
613	Colon	58	154042	605237	787	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	515915	1270126
614	PULMOLOGIE / ALLERGLOGIE	3	235200	245326	788	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	1700000	20744010
619	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	192700	00000	789	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	462056	721623
62	TESTIS & SCROTUM	20	600606	2145342	790	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	7	581000	1205814
620	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	2	215300	00000	791	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	15	1380600	10025345
620	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	12800	00000	79	URETHRA	1	45100	00000
6204	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	2105300	18294518	799	HEMATOLOGIE	8	100300	41441
621	PULMOLOGIE / ALLERGLOGIE	2	1190800	5505255	800	Overige gastro-enterolog diagn	90	160334	2050649
629	PULMOLOGIE / ALLERGLOGIE	2	1148400	363817	801	Follow up	40	575026	4184105
63	Mondoholte, pharynx, larynx	85	111409	325541	802	Follow up	86	904224	13792010
631	Anorectum	28	80920	00224	803	Follow up	39	343637	2765904
632	Anorectum	15	23920	00224	804	Follow up	2	1694630	693331
64	TESTIS & SCROTUM	15	80920	00224	806	Follow up	28	1040613	21022042
65	TESTIS & SCROTUM	77	84746	05352	808	Follow up	3	1760800	5605204
657	Retina	81	14622	00355	81	Hals	3	253220	81613
659	Retina	2	64830	00002	810	Follow up	2	1200700	5745603
66	TESTIS & SCROTUM	15	74120	05735	811	MALIGNITEITEN	526	3129317	4014349
67	TESTIS & SCROTUM	10	61524	00750	82	Hals	19	380947	1264436
68	TESTIS & SCROTUM	13	161805	170432	820	Overige gastro-enterolog diagn	11	22222	00049
701	HEMATOLOGIE	389	311648	2584956	821	Follow up	207	1252059	4732043
702	Ontstekingen	19	3191003	90480030	822	MALIGNITEITEN	1	2853100	00000
703	HEMATOLOGIE	5	482648	2053227	823	MALIGNITEITEN	5	485636	745247
704	Macula	1141	04702	02419	83	BLAAS	12	722455	7870803
705	Macula	84	25648	43846	832	MALIGNITEITEN	92	155503	565629
706	HEMATOLOGIE	5	1332724	5974203	834	MALIGNITEITEN	29	293533	3405843
707	Macula	69	21945	42115	839	MALIGNITEITEN	47	370029	564053
708	Lever	5	134148	114412	841	MALIGNITEITEN	29	990109	6732505
709	HEMATOLOGIE	147	634911	7654734	841	MALIGNITEITEN	7	300700	1255823
71	URETHRA	61	203051	205610	842	MALIGNITEITEN	7	845026	8934753
710	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	15400	00000	843	MALIGNITEITEN	5	761924	340150
7104	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	19	431335	1930922	844	MALIGNITEITEN	7	2590207	154034152
7108	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	4	1583600	30053056	8902	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	18	72724	12232
711	Lever	3	102740	030117	8904	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	5	1730910	15094045
7111	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	55	101844	515810	8905	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	24	21617	00032
71111	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	1	60200	00000	8906	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	24	4780520	49113950
7112	Diagnose Alg kindergeneeskunde	21	35020	01048					

Figure C.8: Average service times for admissions in the department nursing wards, standard deviations and frequencies, table 5.

Appendix D

Model comparison

This appendix contains results for the model comparisons. Recall, we have two different models. The first is the holistic model with the three components, ARIMA-models, Markov models and average service times. The second is the 4 year average model. Figure [D.1](#) provides the differences between the 4 year average model and the actual data and between the outcomes of our model and the actual data of week 5 to 24 of 2011. A negative value in Figure [D.1](#) denotes an underestimation of the weekly patient volumes at a certain specialism, a positive value denotes an overestimation. Figure [D.2](#) provides the total costs per class of 10 patients for our model and the 4 year average model for two described scenarios in Section [5.4.2](#).

week	norm	Cardiology	Surgery	Gastroenterology	Gynecology	Internal Medicine	Pediatrics	Pulmonology	Neurology	Other	Urology	Midwifery
5	average	-4,75	91,00	14,00	17,75	4,25	20,00	-1,00	-1,00	319,25	9,75	-13,00
5	model	-3,67	14,74	-4,68	6,75	-22,33	-7,79	9,29	-16,56	378,32	-40,79	25,71
6	average	15,00	105,75	19,25	15,00	39,50	18,75	0,50	15,00	399,00	2,25	23,25
6	model	-49,05	15,93	-3,91	13,83	0,26	-5,74	-16,97	-3,75	-412,40	-50,52	12,16
7	average	3,50	60,50	19,00	19,75	29,50	2,25	16,75	9,75	372,50	5,00	23,75
7	model	-15,95	-14,69	-3,07	-5,28	1,74	0,04	-5,18	-5,12	825,25	-50,71	10,86
8	average	14,75	35,00	16,00	15,25	30,75	16,25	15,00	19,25	-31,25	2,75	10,75
8	model	18,47	69,87	1,92	-5,48	-1,30	-0,63	16,65	14,40	948,13	-44,32	35,20
9	average	3,75	1,25	35,50	9,75	29,00	-7,25	-2,00	-4,25	410,00	8,25	7,00
9	model	14,82	-60,52	4,12	1,59	-7,07	-9,57	-20,26	-29,06	-99,55	-58,12	-8,17
10	average	12,75	97,25	28,00	3,00	0,00	4,75	4,25	-2,50	372,00	12,75	13,25
10	model	22,34	-19,14	3,53	-4,27	-19,57	7,87	-12,11	-9,77	174,96	-37,60	13,01
11	average	17,50	65,50	37,75	5,25	34,50	-23,25	33,75	2,25	224,50	11,75	-30,25
11	model	-5,98	51,00	9,89	2,58	-0,67	-9,45	24,25	-25,57	505,34	-39,94	9,28
12	average	12,50	73,00	38,75	9,50	4,50	-9,25	12,25	16,00	15,50	-9,75	-35,25
12	model	0,62	66,16	16,11	19,08	-17,23	7,29	-13,51	14,95	475,11	-55,46	-18,70
13	average	12,50	72,00	20,50	35,50	6,00	10,50	13,00	9,75	123,50	6,75	8,00
13	model	-2,60	33,60	-4,10	3,65	-18,36	-18,18	1,89	-6,70	389,62	-51,93	11,90
14	average	27,00	72,50	38,75	22,25	10,75	-6,75	1,50	3,00	352,75	15,00	15,25
14	model	-10,43	-18,35	21,35	14,10	-10,25	-4,07	-6,60	-14,27	470,99	-40,53	-22,55
15	average	17,00	64,50	32,25	14,00	24,25	12,00	19,75	8,00	295,25	20,25	-20,00
15	model	-3,94	25,18	-4,01	8,48	1,90	-22,67	1,06	-6,23	49,21	-48,23	39,28
16	average	-2,00	32,75	39,50	21,75	0,25	-11,00	-0,75	20,50	273,50	21,00	14,50
16	model	10,13	-51,57	8,61	-18,58	-28,83	-5,10	-19,90	-10,23	-397,15	-28,30	10,17
27	average	22,50	-2,00	40,75	20,75	41,00	4,75	15,00	22,50	191,50	10,50	10,75
17	model	-12,67	45,06	20,19	-31,01	9,10	-14,99	5,79	9,76	941,88	-47,84	-19,01
18	average	23,50	32,75	37,25	-6,50	35,25	8,00	24,50	7,00	162,25	15,00	25,00
18	model	-10,02	26,35	4,97	-3,29	3,97	-4,54	9,93	-17,33	762,66	-26,83	-2,70
19	average	-9,00	80,75	1,25	2,75	-0,50	5,50	16,50	-19,00	513,75	5,75	2,25
19	model	-19,98	-89,23	-28,61	-15,24	-41,82	-1,53	-5,24	-34,33	-19,06	-71,87	8,61
20	average	22,25	124,25	28,25	33,75	35,75	-6,25	6,75	29,75	524,75	29,75	-19,50
20	model	8,24	55,39	-7,19	-17,18	1,68	16,83	-7,85	4,10	52,70	-19,51	-21,29
21	average	2,50	37,25	47,50	8,00	37,50	-1,75	10,50	14,00	283,75	8,50	-19,75
21	model	-22,43	-15,95	3,69	-3,70	-2,00	-15,46	-3,16	1,12	417,07	-64,28	8,17
22	average	12,25	53,50	15,50	-15,25	13,50	18,25	-3,00	8,50	11,25	4,75	27,25
22	model	-15,67	46,47	-6,34	6,86	-9,10	-8,34	-15,93	10,52	484,04	-32,42	-8,32
23	average	-27,25	-28,50	3,75	17,25	8,00	-1,50	11,75	-6,75	94,00	0,00	5,25
23	model	-7,57	-5,15	-22,02	-11,54	-31,48	-15,59	-0,67	-42,69	243,36	-60,82	30,71
24	average	-17,00	-29,50	10,50	8,25	29,25	-8,25	3,25	30,75	-83,75	8,50	1,75
24	model	24,54	13,00	2,81	23,38	-0,67	8,35	-6,99	16,06	538,56	-21,92	20,59

Figure D.1: Differences between 4-year average and actual data and our model and the actual data, for weeks 5-24 of 2011. Negative values are an underestimation of the true value; positive values are an overestimation.

class	model (average)	model (worst-case)	4 year (average)	4 year average (worst-case)	difference (average)	difference (worst-case)
110-120 overestimated	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	-€ 360,000.00	-€ 720,000.00
100-110 overestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
90-100 overestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
80-90 overestimated	€ 270,000.00	€ 540,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	-€ 270,000.00	-€ 540,000.00
70-80 overestimated	€ 960,000.00	€ 1,920,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	-€ 960,000.00	-€ 1,920,000.00
60-70 overestimated	€ 1,680,000.00	€ 3,360,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	-€ 1,680,000.00	-€ 3,360,000.00
50-60 overestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
40-50 overestimated	€ 1,050,000.00	€ 2,100,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	-€ 1,050,000.00	-€ 2,100,000.00
30-40 overestimated	€ 960,000.00	€ 1,920,000.00	€ 600,000.00	€ 1,200,000.00	-€ 360,000.00	-€ 720,000.00
20-30 overestimated	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	€ 90,000.00	€ 180,000.00	-€ 270,000.00	-€ 540,000.00
10-20 overestimated	€ 1,140,000.00	€ 2,280,000.00	€ 300,000.00	€ 600,000.00	-€ 840,000.00	-€ 1,680,000.00
0-10 overestimated	€ 1,020,000.00	€ 2,040,000.00	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	-€ 660,000.00	-€ 1,320,000.00
no over- or underestimation	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
10-20 underestimated	€ 1,020,000.00	€ 2,040,000.00	€ 1,560,000.00	€ 3,120,000.00	€ 540,000.00	€ 1,080,000.00
20-30 underestimated	€ 1,140,000.00	€ 2,280,000.00	€ 2,940,000.00	€ 5,880,000.00	€ 1,800,000.00	€ 3,600,000.00
30-40 underestimated	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	€ 450,000.00	€ 900,000.00	€ 90,000.00	€ 180,000.00
40-50 underestimated	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	€ 1,320,000.00	€ 2,640,000.00	€ 960,000.00	€ 1,920,000.00
50-60 underestimated	€ 300,000.00	€ 600,000.00	€ 3,000,000.00	€ 6,000,000.00	€ 2,700,000.00	€ 5,400,000.00
60-70 underestimated	€ 540,000.00	€ 1,080,000.00	€ 360,000.00	€ 720,000.00	-€ 180,000.00	-€ 360,000.00
70-80 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
80-90 underestimated	€ 240,000.00	€ 480,000.00	€ 240,000.00	€ 480,000.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
90-100 underestimated	€ 540,000.00	€ 1,080,000.00	€ 1,080,000.00	€ 2,160,000.00	€ 540,000.00	€ 1,080,000.00
100-110 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 300,000.00	€ 600,000.00	€ 300,000.00	€ 600,000.00
110-120 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 330,000.00	€ 660,000.00	€ 330,000.00	€ 660,000.00
120-130 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
130-140 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 780,000.00	€ 1,560,000.00	€ 780,000.00	€ 1,560,000.00
140-150 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
150-160 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 450,000.00	€ 900,000.00	€ 450,000.00	€ 900,000.00
160-170 underestimated	€ 0.00	€ 0.00	€ 480,000.00	€ 960,000.00	€ 480,000.00	€ 960,000.00
total costs	€ 12,300,000.00	€ 24,600,000.00	€ 14,640,000.00	€ 29,280,000.00	€ 2,340,000.00	€ 4,680,000.00

Figure D.2: Overview of the two scenarios for the total costs per class for the 10 specialisms in week 5 to week 24 of 2011.