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Sommario/riassunto	With the advance of new computing technology, simulation is becoming very popular for designing large, complex, and stochastic engineering systems, since closed-form analytical solutions generally do not exist for such problems. However, the added flexibility of simulation often creates models that are computationally intractable. Moreover, to obtain a sound statistical estimate at a specified level of confidence, a large number of simulation runs (or replications) is usually required for

each design alternative. If the number of design alternatives is large, the total simulation cost can be v