Tutorial

An Introduction to Analytica

Analytica 3.1 for Windows

Lumina Decision Systems, Inc.
26010 Highland Way
Los Gatos, CA 95033
Phone: 650-212-1212
Fax: 650-240-2230
Web Site: www.lumina.com

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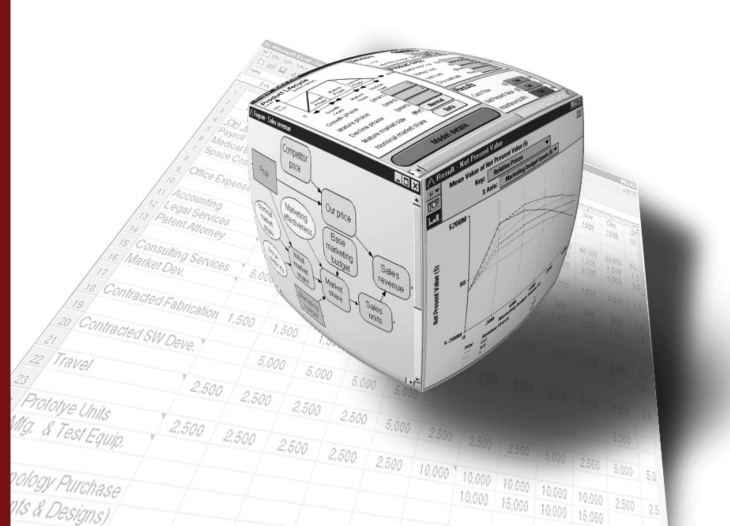


This introduction tells you how to use this manual.

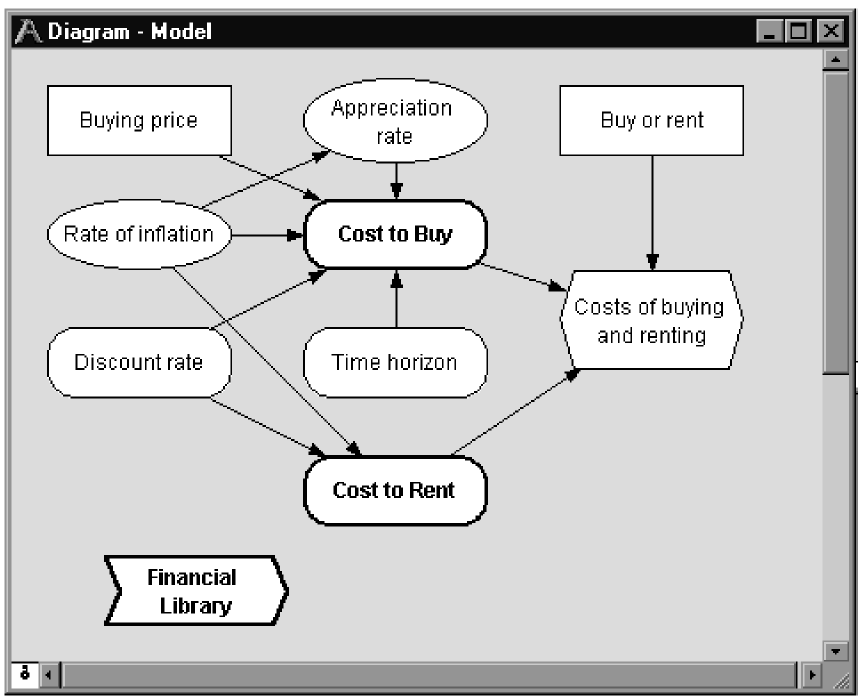
In this Chapter

Introduction: About Analytica

Welcome to Analytica

You are about to discover a new and powerful tool for real-world modeling and analysis. Analytica embodies the idea of using a white board for problem-solving. Using a visual point-and-click approach, you draw nodes and arrows to depict the relationships between model components. This approach allows you to describe the essential *qualitative* nature of the problem without getting lost in the details. As the model develops and your understanding of the problem becomes clear, you can define the exact quantitative details of the model.

A key feature of Analytica is its ability to create hierarchies of models. By grouping together related components of a problem into separate submodels, you can impose a top-down organization to your model. This will help you to manage complex relationships and will allow other users to more easily grasp important concepts.



Another key feature of Analytica is the use of Intelligent Arrays™. These enable you to add or remove dimensions such as time periods, geographic regions, alternative decisions, etc., with minimal changes to the model structure. Unlike spreadsheets, which require you to repeat formulas with each new dimension, Analytica separates the dimensions from the relationships so that models remain simple. As the dimensions change, Analytica automatically updates, reports, and graphs the results.

Each node in an Analytica model has a window that displays the node's inputs and outputs, and allows you to enter definitions, descriptions, units of measure, and other documentary information. This self-documenting capability, combined with hierarchical models and Intelligent Arrays™, makes it easier to understand and communicate how models work.

Analytica also features fully integrated risk and sensitivity analysis for analyzing models with uncertain inputs; powerful facilities for time-dependent, dynamic simulations; comprehensive overlay graphs; and over 100 financial, statistical, and scientific functions for calculating just about any type of mathematical expression.

Who can use Analytica

Analytica is for the modeler and problem solver—from the financial analyst modeling business opportunities to the engineer designing new products to the scientist investigating the behavior of physical phenomena.

It is particularly suited to users in the fields of management consulting, health and environmental sciences, aerospace, oil & gas, construction, manufacturing, financial services, and investing.

Tutorial overview

This tutorial is a hands-on introduction to using Analytica. Step-by-step instructions show you how to explore and analyze an existing Analytica model and how to create a new Analytica model. Because later tutorial sections build on the material in earlier chapters, you should work through the chapters in sequence.

We recommend that everyone new to Analytica complete Chapters 1 through 5, which will take two to three hours. If you want to work more quickly, skip the text and only follow the instructions in the boxed steps. Then, if you are unsure about any terms or concepts, look them up in the glossary, or review the text.

This tutorial is designed to introduce you to some of Analytica's basic features. Once you are familiar with the basics, refer to the Analytica *User Guide* for more detailed information on Analytica's features.

- **Chapter 1 – Using the Rent vs. Buy Model**

  This chapter shows how to open an Analytica model. Using a simple interface to an example model that analyzes the total costs of buying or renting a house, you will calculate results and change input values to see the effects on the results. You will display uncertain results in a variety of ways.

- **Chapter 2 – Exploring the Rent vs. Buy Model**

  This chapter shows you how to browse a model's structure and assumptions by examining its influence diagrams, variables, and definitions.

- **Chapter 3 – Analyzing the Rent vs. Buy Analysis Model**

  This chapter shows you how to perform importance analysis and sensitivity analysis to see which uncertain variables most heavily influence the outcome.

- **Chapter 4 – Creating a Model**

  This chapter shows you how to create a new Analytica model. In the process of building a model that analyzes the costs of owning and operating an automobile, you will create variables, define relationships between variables, add documentary text, and compute results. In addition, you will create modules and add dependencies between modules.

- **Chapter 5 – Creating Arrays (Tables)**

  This chapter shows you how to add index variables and Edit Tables to a model, and demonstrates how tables work in Analytica, including an introduction to table functions.

- **Chapter 6 – Creating the Party Problem Model**

  This chapter walks you through a familiar problem: where to have your next party. This model introduces probability tables and conditional deterministic tables. You should complete this chapter if your models will use discrete or conditional uncertainties.

- **Chapter 7 – Creating the Foxes and Hares Model**

  In this chapter you create a dynamic model of population sizes that depend on each other and that change with time. You should complete this chapter if your models will use dynamic simulation or variables that change over time.

- **Chapter 8 – On Your Own**

  This chapter briefly describes all the example models provided with Analytica. You should investigate these as you begin to build your own models.

Installing Analytica

Before you start this tutorial, follow these steps to install the Analytica application and associated model files on your hard disk:

1. **Start Windows.**
2. **Insert the Analytica CD in your computer's CD-ROM drive.**
3. **The Windows Installer should automatically start up and begin installing Analytica**

If the AutoRun function does not work, follow these alternate steps:

3. **Click on the *Start* button on the Windows taskbar.**
4. **Select *Run* from the popup menu.**
5. **In the *Run* dialog box, specify the program SETUP.EXE on your CD-ROM drive (usually either the D: or E: drive).**
6. **Click on *OK*.**

The setup program requires some responses from you. For example, you will be asked to verify the directory name in which Analytica will be installed. Most users can accept the defaults provided by the setup program. The default installation location for Analytica is C:\Program Files\Lumina\Analytica 3.1.

Conventions used in this tutorial

The conventions used in this tutorial are as follows:

- Boxed, numbered instructions along the left side of the page give you the steps to take.

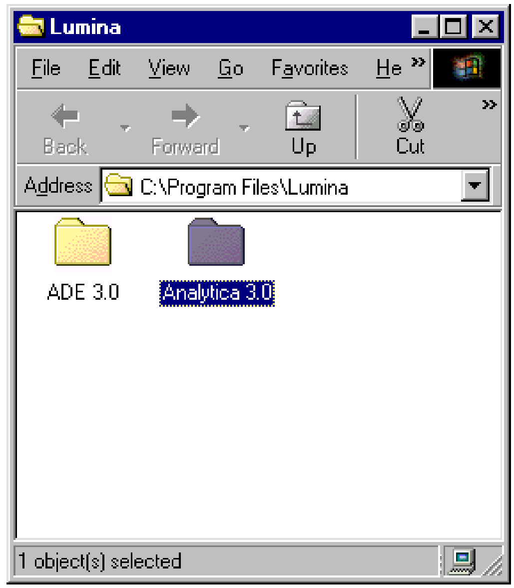
Explanatory text often follows a step, accompanied by pictures of the Analytica screens similar to the ones you see on your computer.

For example:

1. This is an instruction.

1. In a step, ***this is the text you will enter.***

   This is explanatory text.



- Variable and model titles are displayed in *italic type*.
- Special Analytica terms are displayed in ***bold italic type***; they are defined when they are first introduced.
- The following keys on the keyboard are shown in *italic type*: *Enter, Return, Tab, Delete, Shift, Alt.*

For your reference, a glossary at the end of the tutorial defines the terms used in this tutorial.

Notes alert you to useful or important information. They look like this:

Analytica Note: *These alert you to useful or important information.*

Assumed background

This tutorial assumes that you already have the basic skills needed to run Windows programs, including the following:

Term	Meaning
click	Press and release the mouse button one time.
double-click	Press and release the mouse button two times.
drag	Press and hold down the mouse button while moving the cursor to a new location on the screen, then release the mouse button.
press	Press and hold down the mouse button.
select	Click on an interface object, such as a menu command or a cell in a table; selected objects usually appear highlighted.

You also need to know how to use pulldown and popup menus, scroll bars, and windows.

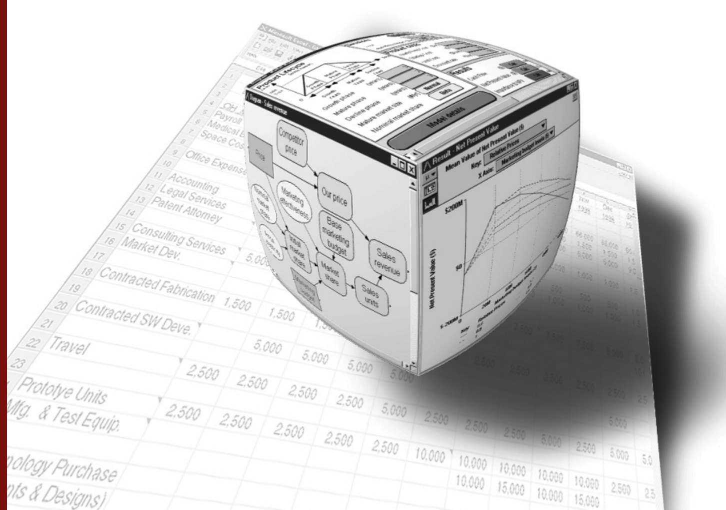
If you are not familiar with these basic operations, look at the reference material that came with your computer.

This tutorial also assumes that you have basic skills of financial or quantitative modeling—for example, from previously using a spreadsheet program.

It assumes that you are acquainted with elementary statistics and are comfortable with the concepts of mean, median, and standard deviation. It also assumes that you have some understanding of probability distributions, such as the normal and uniform, and are familiar with the concepts of probability density function and cumulative distribution function. These terms are reviewed briefly in the *Glossary* at the end of the tutorial.

Chapter 1

Using the Rent vs. Buy Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Open an existing model
- Calculate results
- Change input values to calculate different results

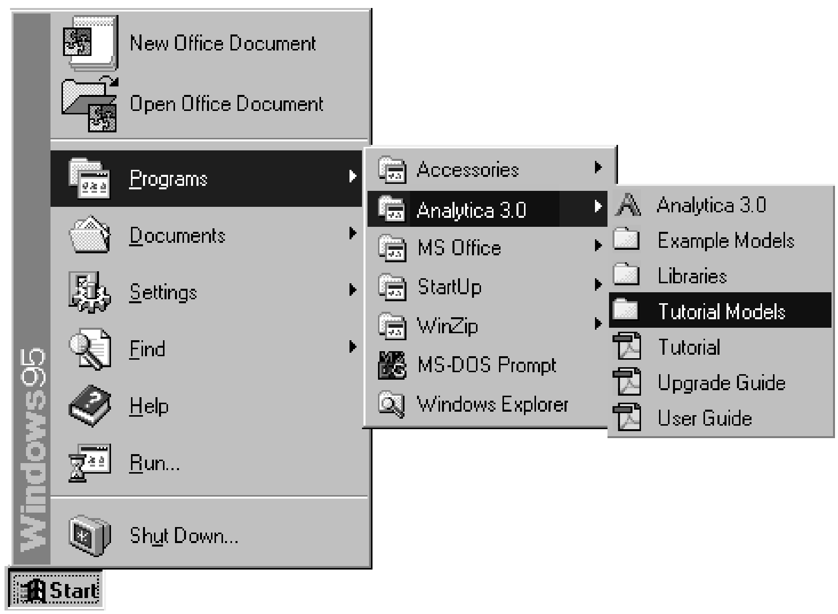
Chapter 1: Using the Rent vs. Buy Model

In this chapter, you use the *Rent vs. Buy* model, an Analytica™ model that compares the cost of renting a house to the cost of buying one. After working through the chapter, you will know how to open an existing model, use it to calculate results, and change input values to calculate different results.

Opening the Rent vs. Buy model

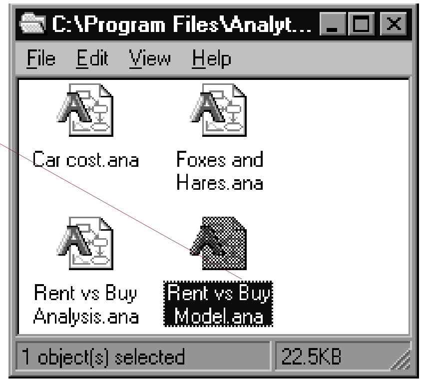
To begin, follow these steps.

1. **Click on the *Start* button on the Windows taskbar.**
2. **Click on *Programs* in the *Start* popup menu.**
3. **Click on *Analytica* in the *Programs* popup menu.**
4. **Click on *Tutorial Models* in the *Analytica* popup menu.**



5. Open the Rent vs. Buy model.

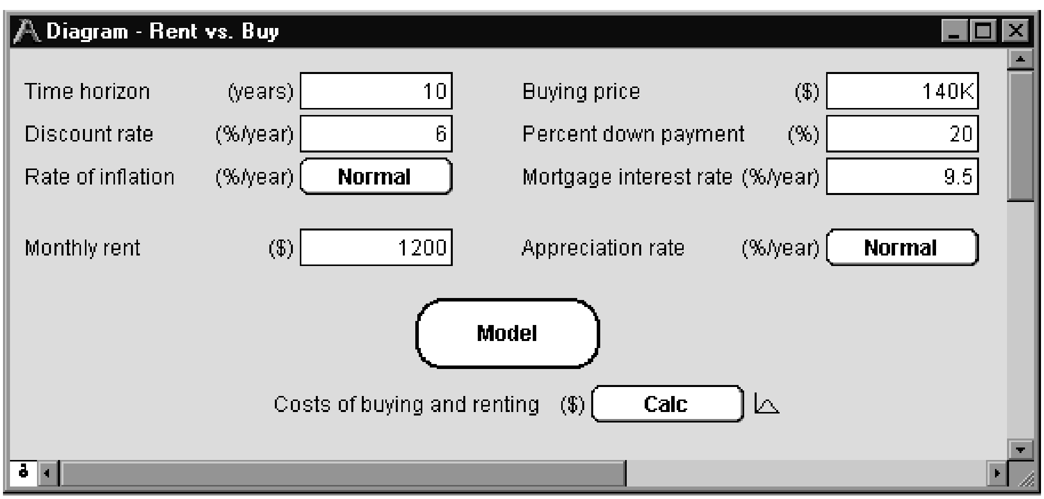
1. Double-click on the icon for the *Rent vs. Buy* model to start Analytica.



Analytica reads in the *Rent vs. Buy* model.

Becoming familiar with the diagram window

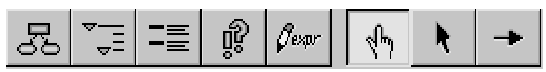
When you open a model, Analytica first displays a top level diagram window. The *Rent vs. Buy* model diagram shows several input variables that affect the trade-offs between renting and buying, ***Normal*** buttons, a ***Calc*** button, and a node labeled *Model*.



This top level diagram is an end user interface to the model itself, which is contained in the *Model* node. In this chapter, you will use only the interface in this top level diagram; in the following chapters you will explore the model in more depth.

Across the top of the screen is a horizontal palette of buttons. This is called the ***tools palette***.

The Browse tool



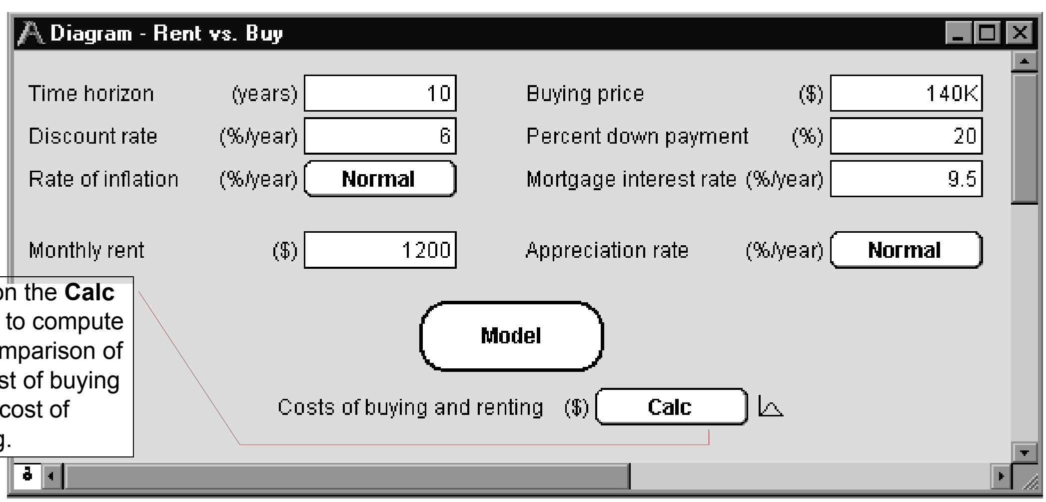
When you first open the *Rent vs. Buy* model, the ***Browse tool*** is highlighted on the palette. With the Browse tool selected, the cursor looks like a hand  when it is over the diagram. The Browse tool allows you to calculate the model, change input values, and examine (but not change) the structure of the model. In this chapter, you will only use the Browse tool.

Using Online Help

At any time, you can press the F1 button on the keyboard or use the Help pulldown menu to access Analytica's online help system.

Computing an output value

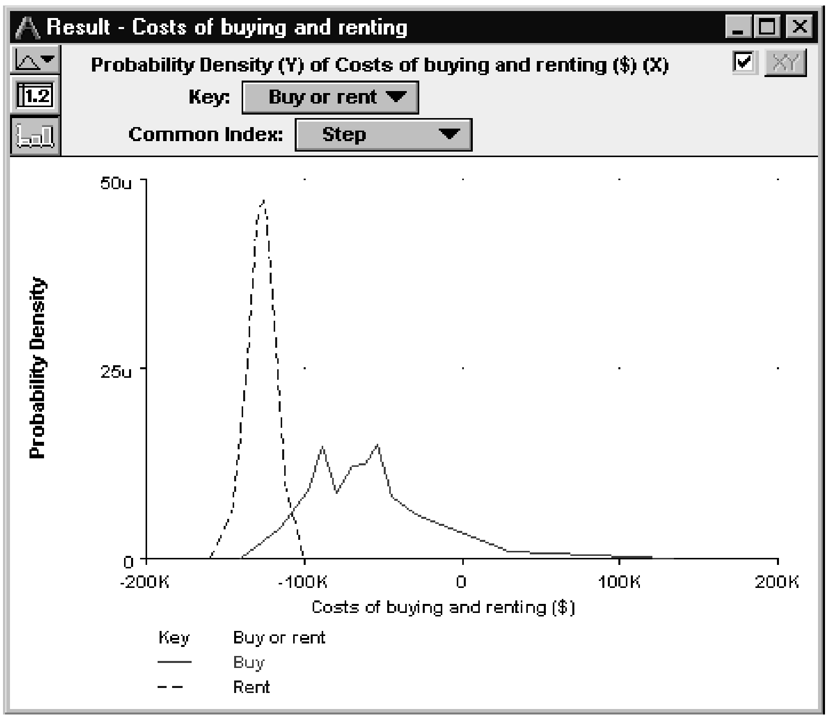
In the *Rent vs. Buy* model, the output value of interest is at the bottom, *Costs of buying and renting*.



1. Click on the **Calc** button to compute the comparison of the cost of buying to the cost of renting.

The output value displays in a Result window. This Result window shows a graph of two ***probability density*** curves, one for buying and one for renting. In a probability density graph, the units of the vertical scale are chosen so that the total area under each curve is 1 (100%). 25µ corresponds to 25 x 10^{-6}/$ or 0.000025/$.

Analytica Note: *Numerical suffixes like µ and K are used extensively throughout Analytica. A quick reference for these suffixes is given on the back page of this tutorial.*

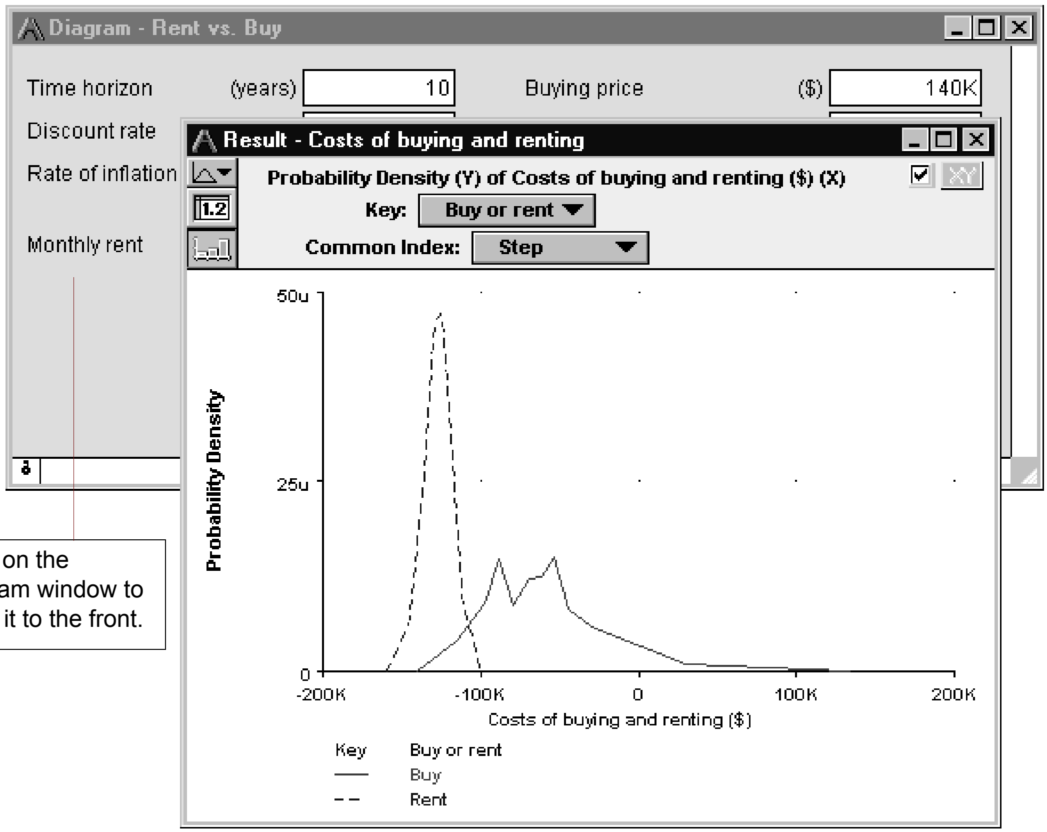


Since the graph is of probability densities, both buying and renting have probabilistic, or uncertain, inputs. The probability density graph for Rent appears to be a smooth bell-shaped curve (Normal distribution). The graph for Buy appears “noisy,” indicating it is a more complicated function of uncertain inputs.

This probability density graph appears “noisy” because Analytica is using a sample size of 100. A larger sample size would produce a smoother curve, but the curve would take longer to compute. You can also make this graph appear smoother by increasing the number of samples per plot point. See

"Uncertainty Options" in the *Analytica User Guide* for more information.

The graphs show that the cost of renting, given the model's inputs, will be between about $100,000 and $150,000 (the negative numbers mean cost—cash flowing out), while the cost of buying will be between $125,000 and a gain of $100,000.

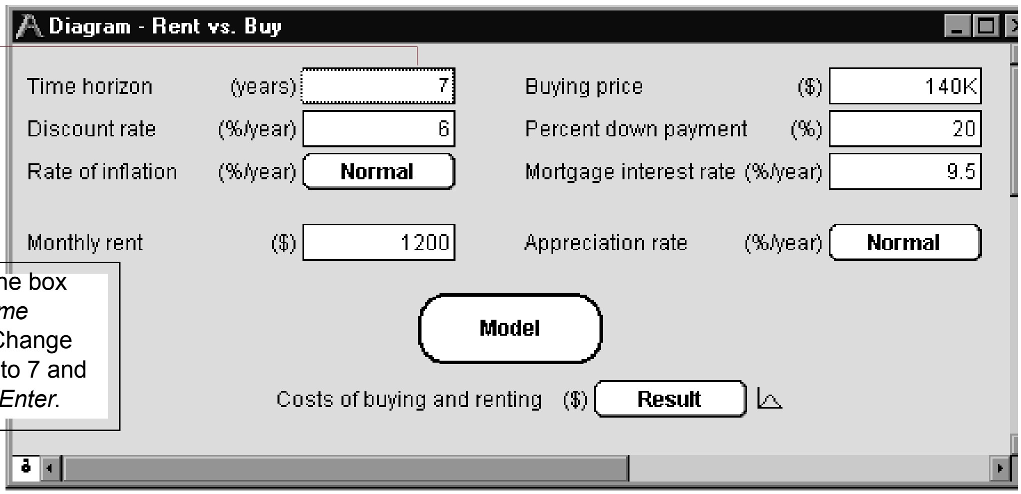


2. Click on the diagram window to bring it to the front.

The button next to *Costs of buying and renting* has changed to Result. The ***Result*** button indicates that the value has been computed; clicking on the ***Result*** button will display the values.

Changing input values and recomputing

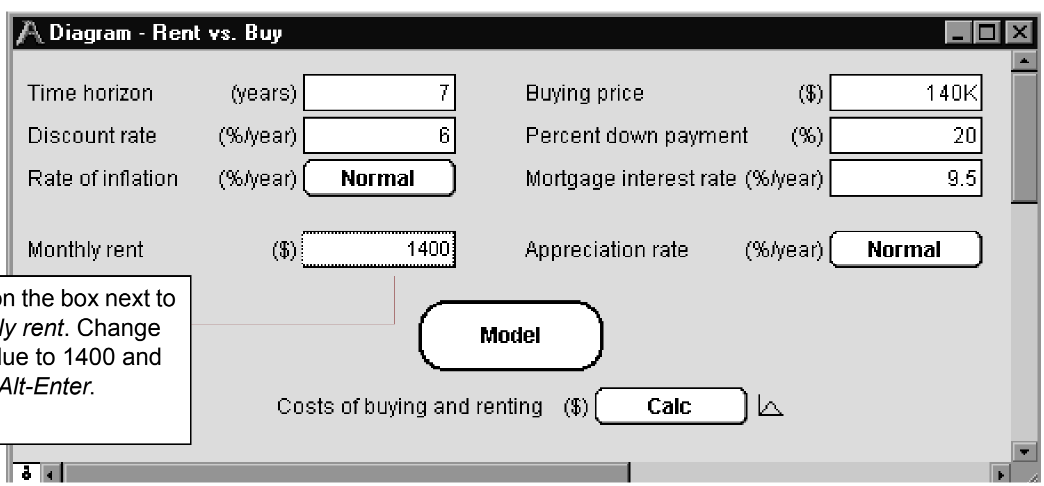
Now you will change some input values to the model and recompute the rent vs. buy comparison. You will change the values of *Time horizon*, *Monthly rent*, and *Buying price*.



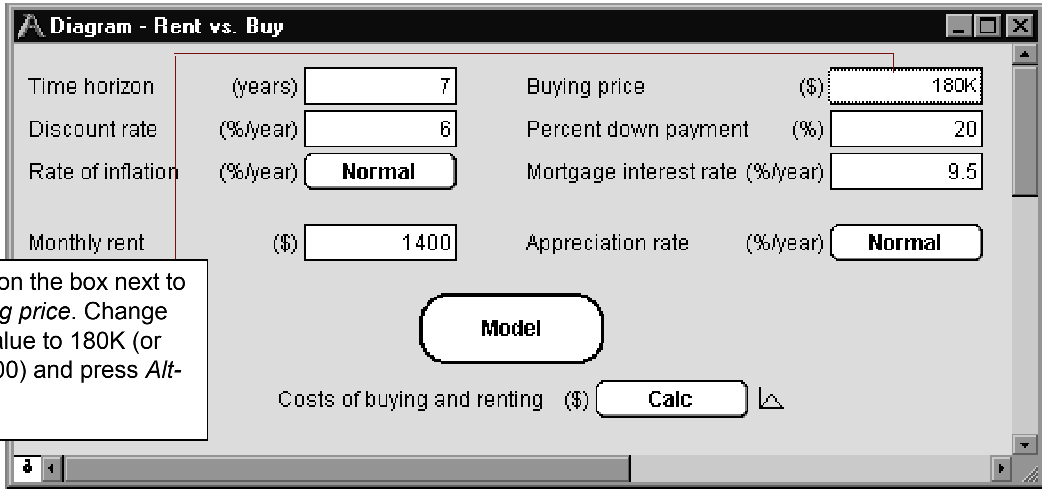
1. Click on the box next to *Time horizon*. Change the value to 7 and press *Alt-Enter*.

Analytica Note: *The main Enter key and the numeric keypad Enter key are not interchangeable. They have different functions in Analytica. Alt-Enter is equivalent to the numeric keypad Enter key.*

As soon as you change an input, the ***Result*** button changes to a ***Calc*** button, indicating that the *Costs of buying and renting* needs to be recomputed.

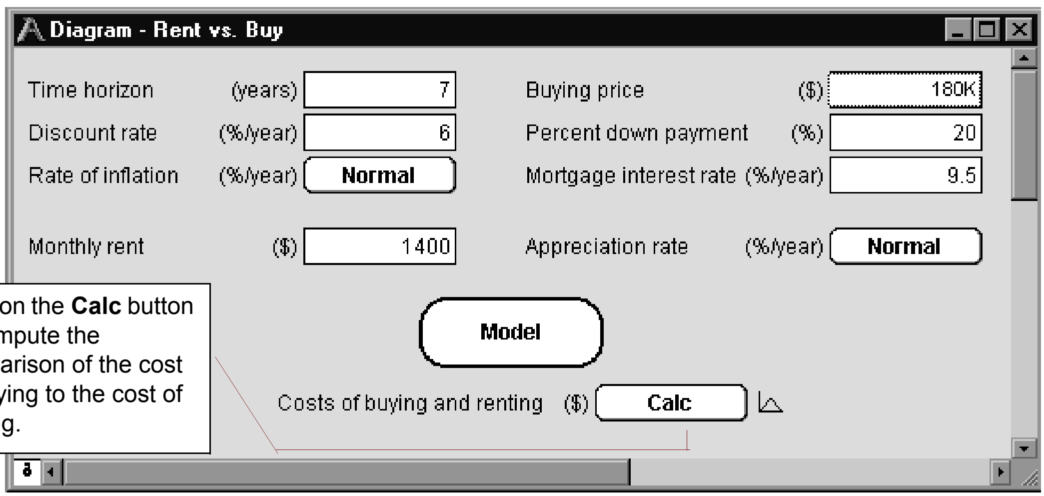


2. Click on the box next to *Monthly rent*. Change the value to 1400 and press *Alt-Enter*.



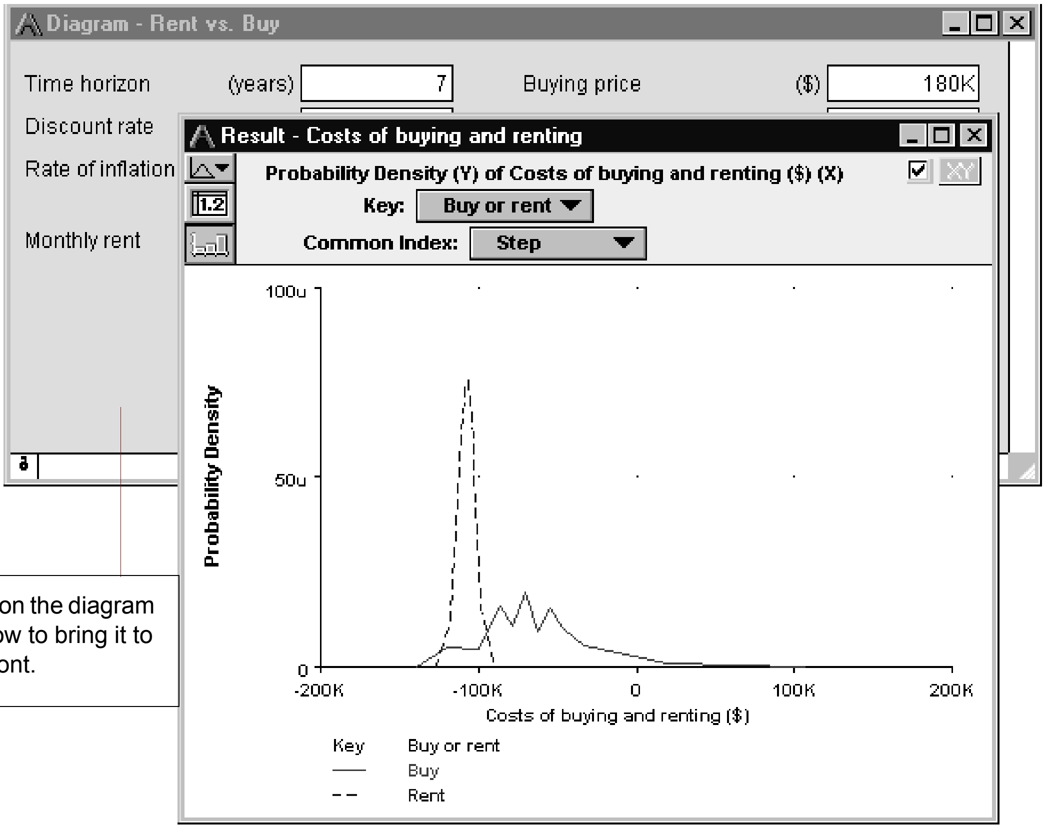
3. Click on the box next to *Buying price*. Change the value to 180K (or 180000) and press *Alt-Enter*.

Now you are ready to recompute to see the new results.



4. Click on the **Calc** button to compute the comparison of the cost of buying to the cost of renting.

The graphs show that the cost of renting, given these changed inputs, will be between \$90,000 and \$120,000, while the cost of buying will be between \$140,000 and a gain of \$75,000.

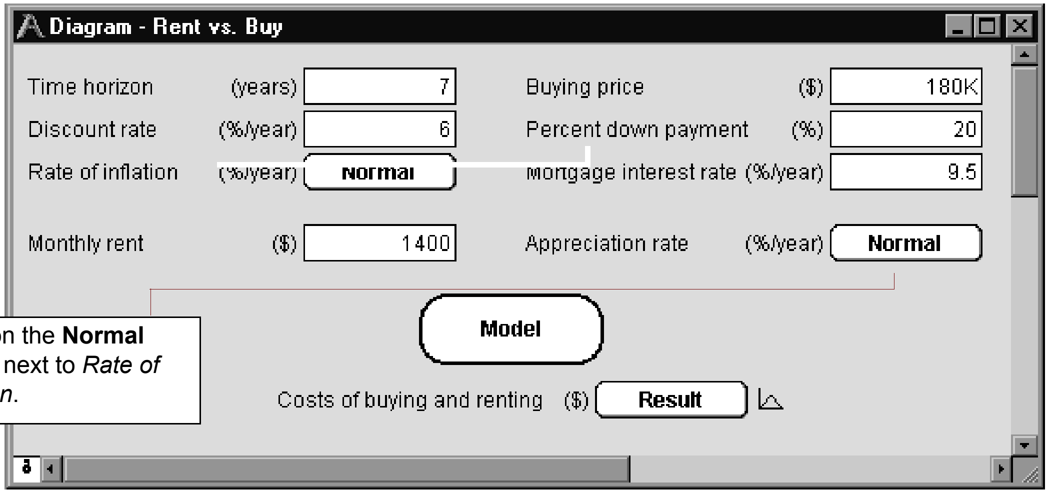


5. Click on the diagram window to bring it to the front.

Examining and changing an uncertain input

When an input is defined as an probability distribution, a button with the name of the distribution appears next to the input's name. Clicking on this button opens a window called the Object Finder, in which you can see details and change the distribution's parameters or type of distribution.

Rate of inflation's button says Normal, indicating that it is defined as a normal distribution.

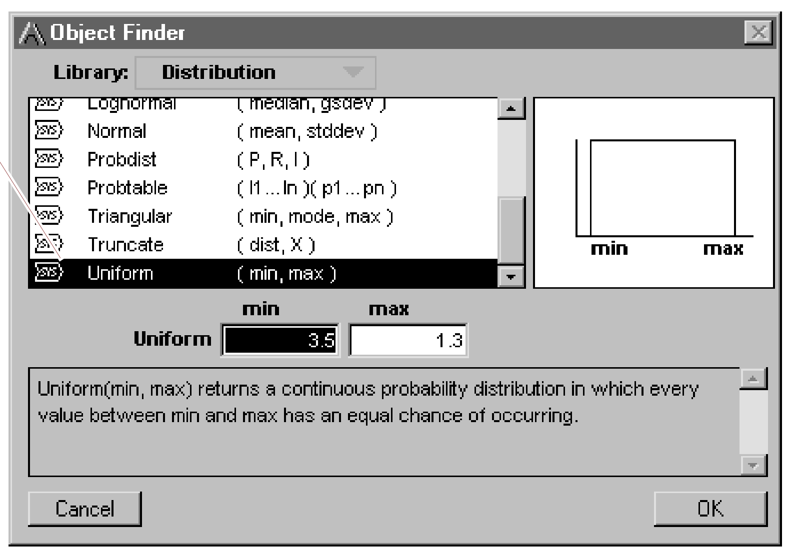


1. Click on the **Normal** button next to *Rate of inflation*.

A window called the Object Finder appears. It shows that *Rate of inflation* is defined as a normal distribution with a ***mean*** of 3.5 and a ***standard deviation*** of 1.3 (units are %).

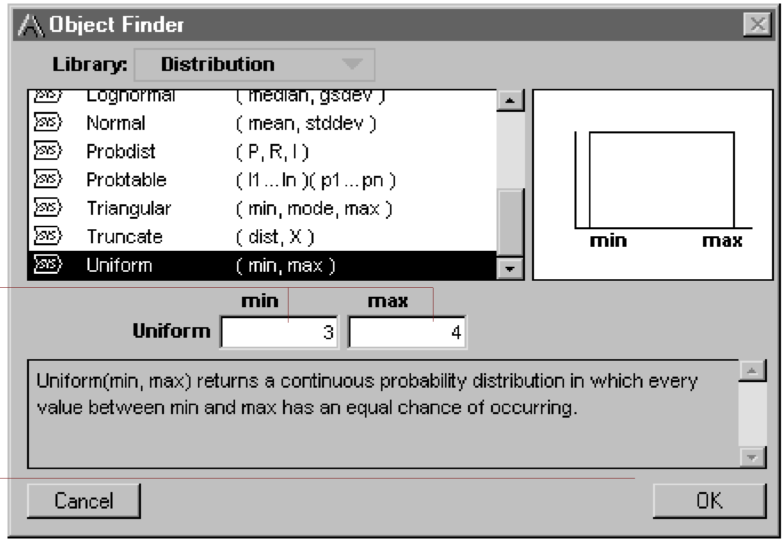
You will now modify the probability distribution that defines *Rate of inflation*. Rather than using the normal distribution, you will use the uniform distribution, and assume that inflation has an equal probability of being anywhere between 3% and 4% per year.

2. Scroll down the list of distributions until you see Uniform, and select Uniform.

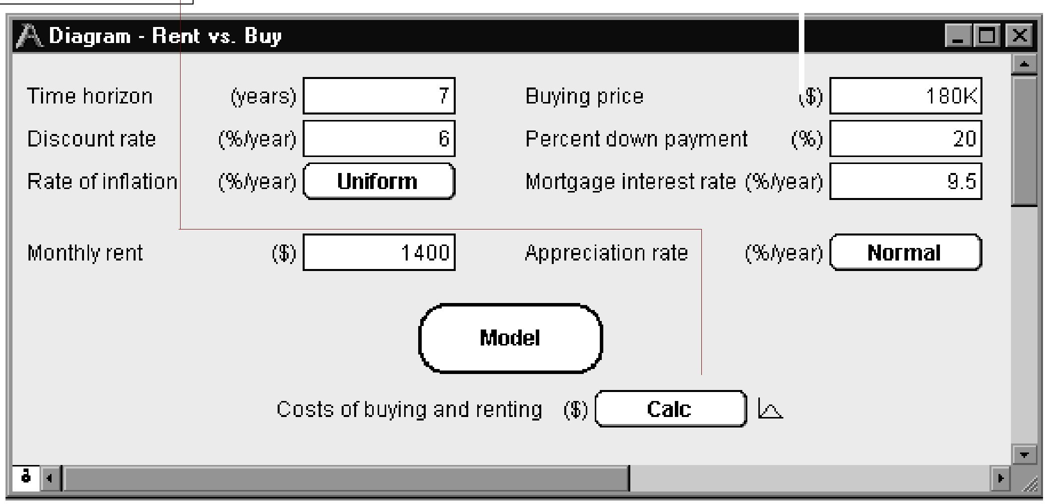


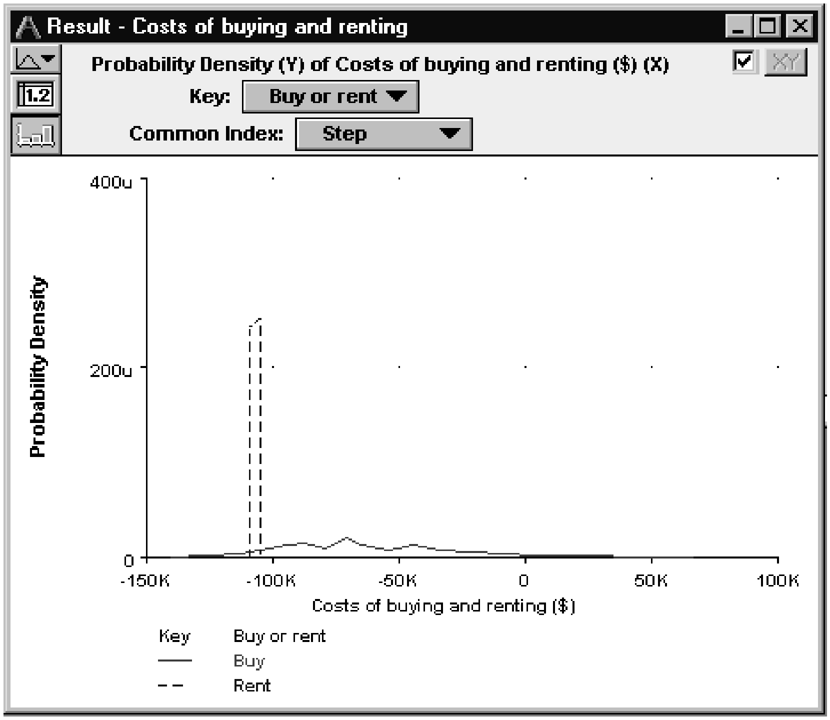
3. Change the minimum to 3 and the maximum to 4.

4. Click on **OK** to accept the change.



5. Click on the **Calc** button to compute the new comparison of the cost of buying to the cost of renting.





The graphs show that the uncertainty in the cost of renting has narrowed to between about $105,000 and $110,000, while the uncertainty in the cost of buying has flattened between about $125,000 and a gain of $50,000.

Displaying alternative uncertain views

Analytica offers a variety of views to display uncertain values, including selected statistics, ***probability bands***, the ***probability density*** function, the ***cumulative probability*** distribution function, measures of central tendency, and the table of random numbers from which the uncertain distribution is estimated.

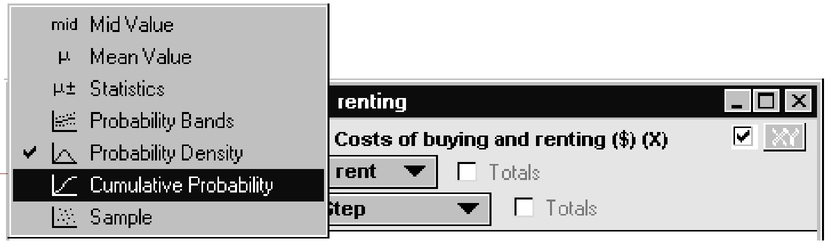
You will now examine several of these views.

In the upper left corner of the Result window is the Uncertainty View popup menu.

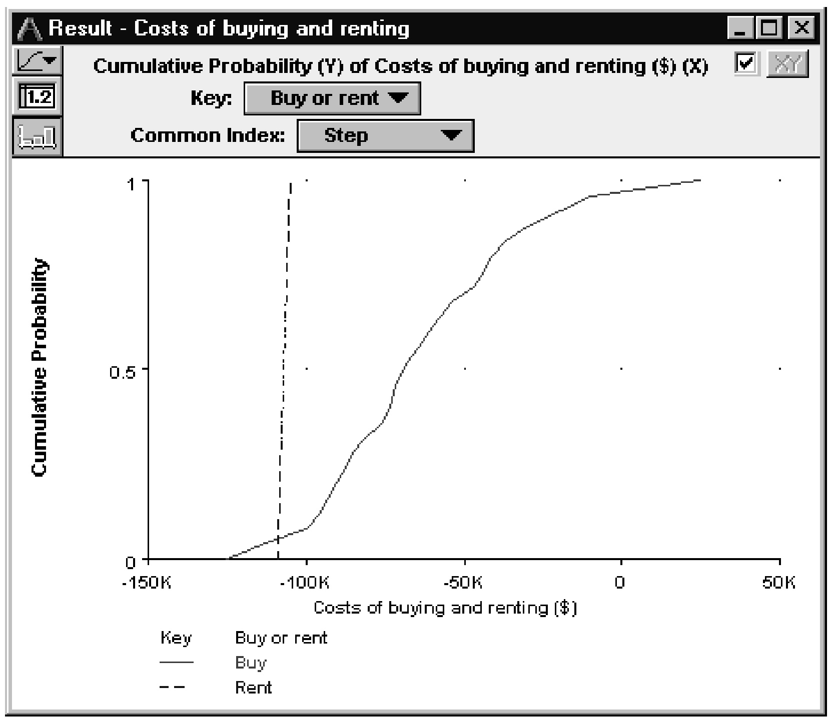
Uncertainty View popup menu

The miniature probability distribution [ ] indicates that ***Probability Density*** is selected.

1. Press on the Uncertainty View popup menu to see the uncertainty view options. Select **Cumulative Probability** ( ).



The Result window now shows two cumulative probability curves. These curves give the probability, along the vertical axis, that each cost is less than a given value along the horizontal axis.



There appears to be about a 50% probability that the cost to buy is below $70,000, while the cost to rent has a 50% probability of being below about $107,000.

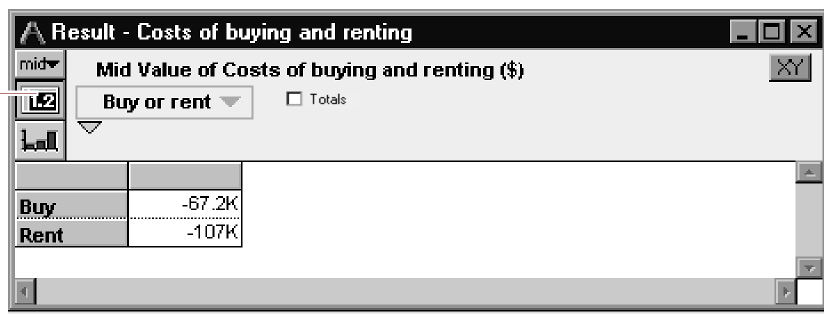
Sometimes you may want to see an uncertain value expressed as a single number—a measure of central tendency. Analytica computes the ***Mid Value*** by fixing all input probability distributions at their median (50% probability) values. The mid value, also sometimes called the deterministic value, is the only uncertainty view available for nonprobabilistic results.

2. Press on the Uncertainty View popup menu to see the uncertainty view options. Select **Mid Value** ( ).

The Result window now displays bar graphs for the two mid values.

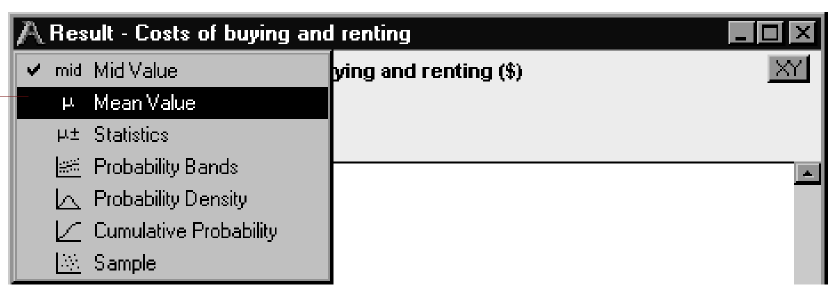
Under the Uncertainty View popup menu are two buttons, and . The is highlighted, indicating that the Result window is displaying a graph view. Result windows can also display numeric values in a spreadsheet-like table view.

3. Click on the Table view button ( ) to select the Table view.



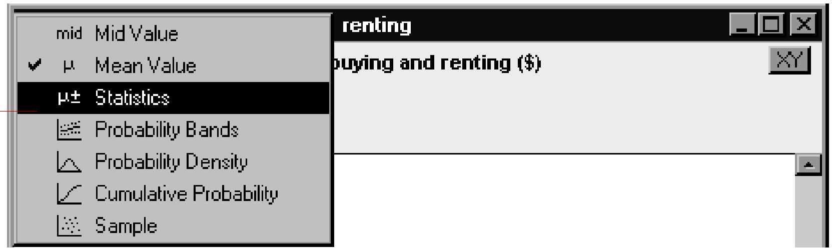
Analytica also provides the ***Mean*** value.

4. Select **Mean Value** ( ) from the Uncertainty View popup menu.

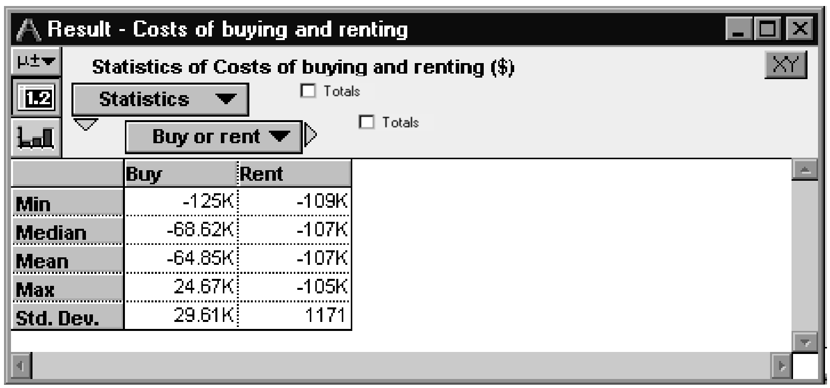


You can also view a set of statistics, including both the median and mean, the ranges (minimum and maximum), and the standard deviation.

5. Select **Statistics** (μ±) from the Uncertainty View popup menu.



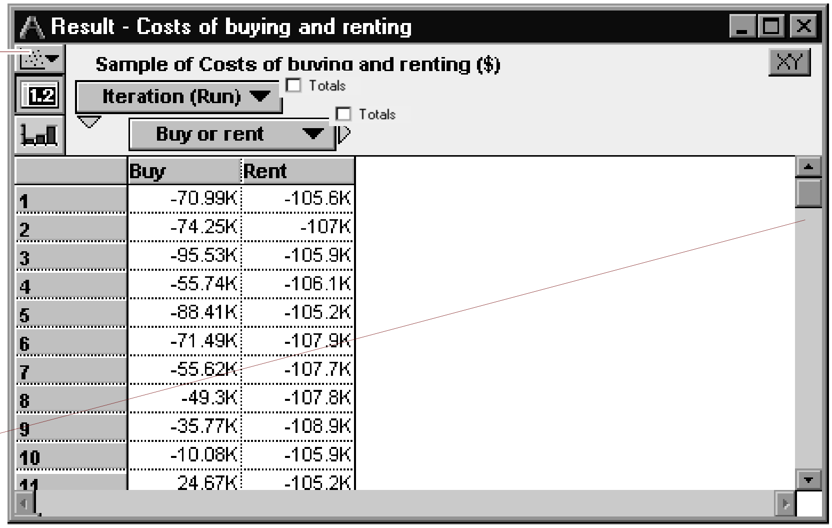
The Result window now displays the minimum, median, mean, maximum, and standard deviation for *Costs of buying and renting*.



The statistics may not be exact, because they are estimated from a sample of values from the distribution.

Finally, you will see the sample values.

6. Select **Sample** ( ) from the Uncertainty View popup menu.



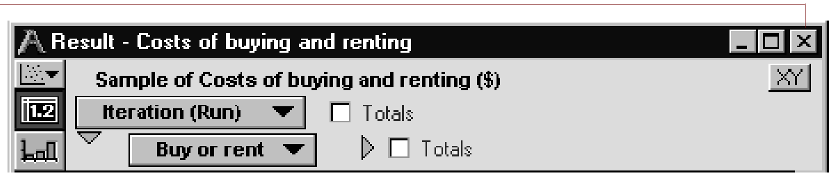
	Buy	Rent
1	-70.99K	-105.6K
2	-74.25K	-107K
3	-95.53K	-105.9K
4	-55.74K	-106.1K
5	-88.41K	-105.2K
6	-71.49K	-107.9K
7	-55.62K	-107.7K
8	-49.3K	-107.8K
9	-35.77K	-108.9K
10	-10.08K	-105.9K
11	24.67K	-105.2K

7. Use the scroll bar to examine more sample values in the table.

The table above lists the 100 sample values that Analytica randomly generated from the probability distribution to estimate the statistics.

A sample size of 100 is adequate for most applications; however, if you need more precise estimates, you can increase the sample size. (See “Uncertainty Setup dialog box” in Chapter 13 of the *Analytica User Guide*.)

8. Click on the Result window’s close button to return to the Diagram window.



Using the Rent vs. Buy model: Summary

You have now used the *Rent vs. Buy* model to calculate the results of a model, change input values and probability distributions, and display the uncertain results in a variety of ways. These are the basic techniques for using any quantitative model.

After you create your own models, you may want to give them a top-level input and output diagram like the one used in this chapter. For information about customizing a model for end users, see the *Analytica User Guide*, Chapter 9.

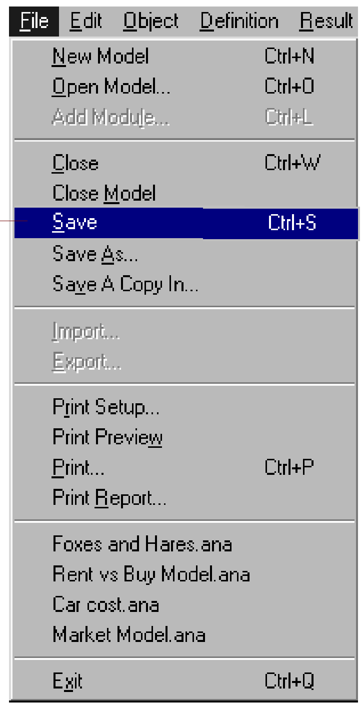
In the next chapter, you will navigate the details of the *Rent vs. Buy* model, exploring its structure and contents.

Saving your model

If you want to save changes to your model, you can do so at this point. (For instructions on quitting without saving, see the next section.)

1. Select **Save** from the **File** menu.

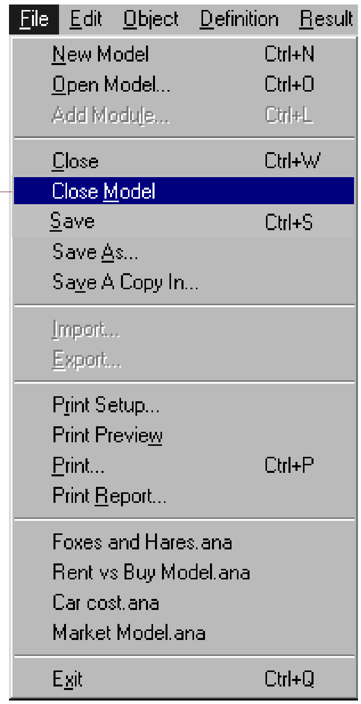
   You can also type the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl-S.



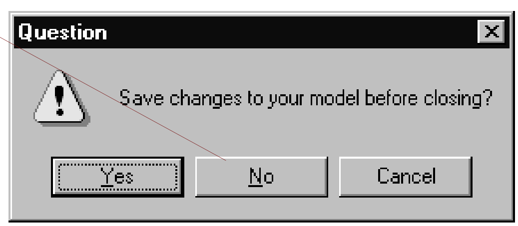
Closing your model without saving

Often after using a model, you will want to close it without saving any changes that you made to inputs.

1. Select **Close Model** from the **File** menu.



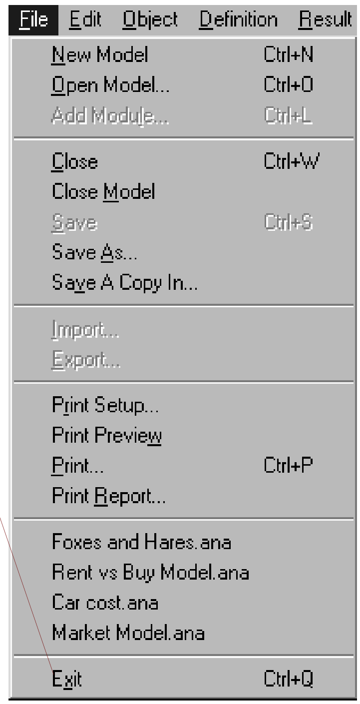
2. Click on the **No** button.



Quitting Analytica

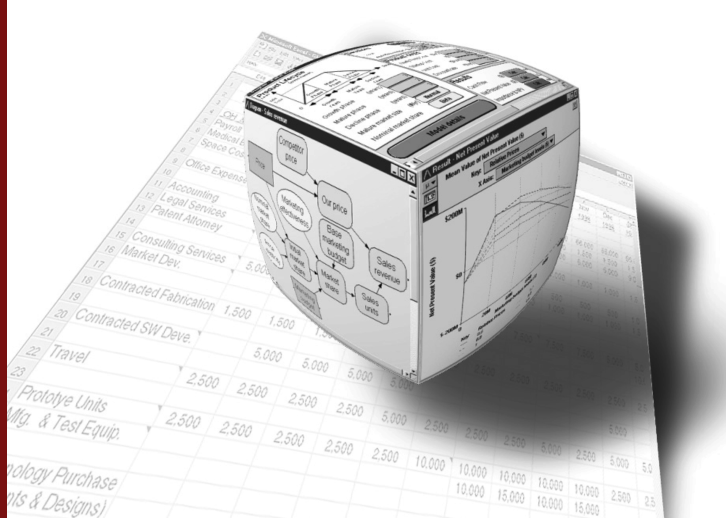
When you have finished using a model, you may want to quit Analytica.

1. Select **Exit** from the **File** menu.



Chapter 2

Exploring the Rent vs. Buy Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to explore a model by examining its:

- Influence diagrams
- Variables
- Attributes
- Definitions
- Results

Chapter 2: Exploring the Rent vs.Buy Model

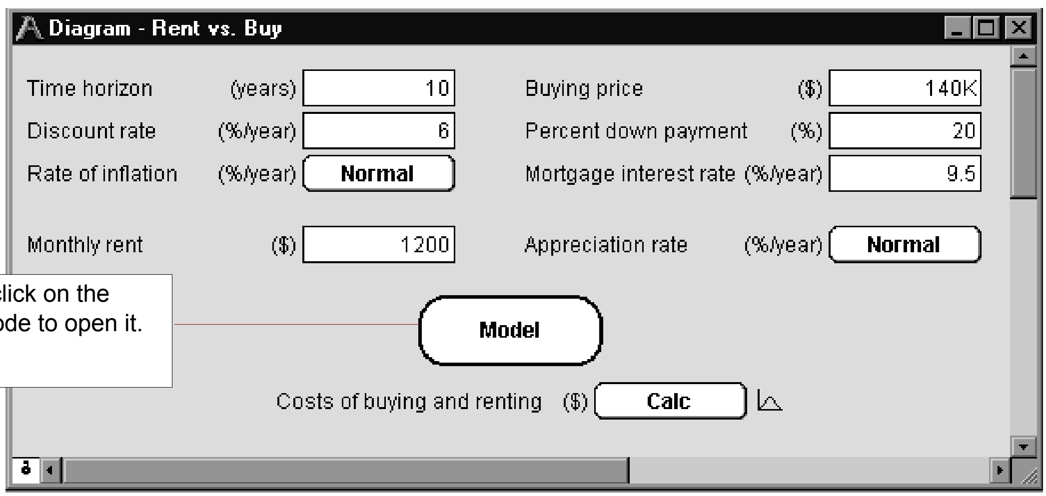
This chapter assumes you have started Analytica and have opened the *Rent vs. Buy* model. If this is not the case, see “Opening the Rent vs. Buy model” on page 11.

In this chapter, you will examine the structure and contents of the *Rent vs. Buy* model.

The *Rent vs. Buy* model uses financial flow conventions: funds flowing in (received) have positive values; funds flowing out (expended) have negative values.

Recognizing an influence diagram

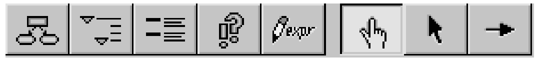
In this chapter, you will delve into some of the details of the *Rent vs. Buy* model. You will not use the top diagram that you used in Chapter 1.



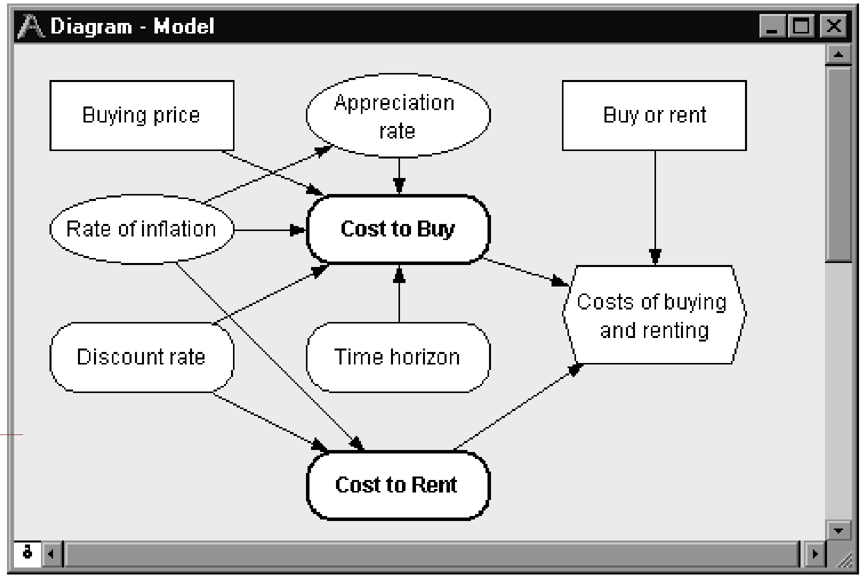
1. Double-click on the *Model* node to open it.

The details of an Analytica model display in an ***influence diagram*** window. An influence diagram (shown below) is a graphical representation of a model, showing how different variables in the model interact with each other. A typical influence diagram consists of a number of ***nodes*** connected by ***arrows***.

Tools palette



Influence diagram window



Nodes represent variables and appear as boxes, ovals, hexagons and other shapes. Different node shapes represent different types of variables. Analytica uses the term ***variable*** broadly to include anything that has a value or can be evaluated. Note that many of the variables have the same names as the inputs and output at the top diagram that you used in Chapter 1. The top diagram provides an easy way to see and change these nodes' values.

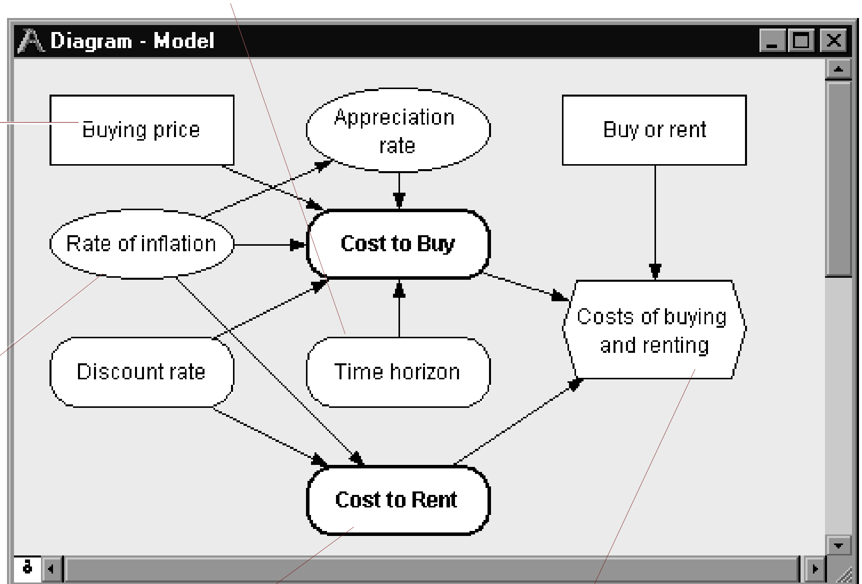
Arrows connecting different variables indicate a relation between the variables. The arrow connecting *Rate of inflation* to *Appreciation rate* indicates that the value of the *Appreciation rate* variable depends on the value of the *Rate of inflation* variable. In the *Rent vs. Buy* model influence diagram, *Cost to Buy* depends on the *Buying price*, *Rate of inflation*, *Appreciation rate*, *Discount rate* and *Time horizon* variables.

The following figure illustrates different types of nodes.

A ***General variable*** is represented by a rounded rectangle. It can represent any type of variable and is useful when you don't know what the type is. Typically, a general variable is used to represent a deterministic quantity or functional relationship.

A ***Decision variable*** is represented by a rectangular node. A Decision variable is directly under the control of the decision maker.

A ***Chance variable*** is represented by an oval node. A Chance variable cannot be controlled directly by the decision maker. It has an uncertain value represented by a



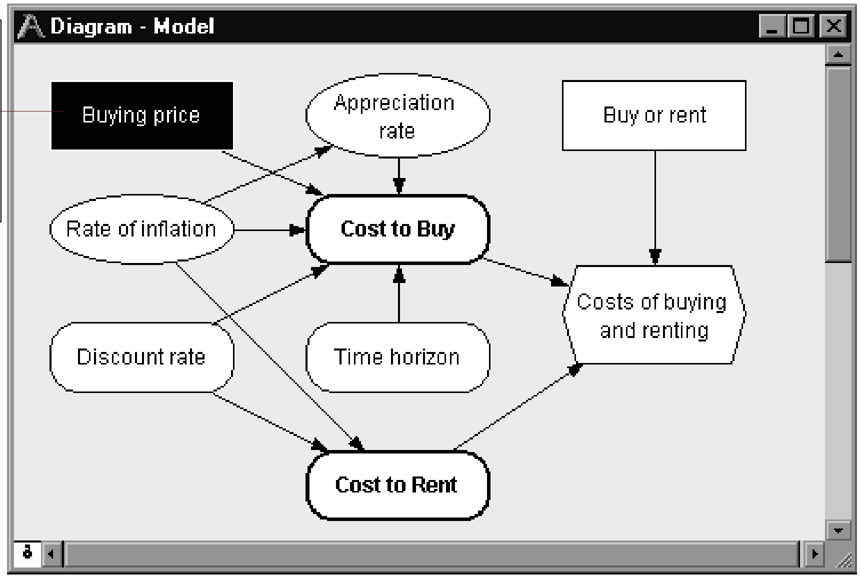
A ***Module*** is represented by a thick-lined rounded rectangle. A module contains its own influence diagram, allowing nesting of multiple modules within a model.

An ***Objective variable*** is represented by a hexagon. This variable evaluates the overall value or desirability of possible outcomes. In this model, the goal is to evaluate the cost difference between renting and buying. A decision model usually contains a single objective variable.

Opening an Object window

Every variable and object in Analytica has an associated ***Object window*** containing detailed information about it. You can display the Object window of any variable by double-clicking on its node in the influence diagram.

2. Double-click on the *Buying price* node to open the *Buying price* Object window.



Information about a variable is provided in a list of attributes. Attributes include the variable’s class (for example, decision, chance, or constant), as well as its identifier, units, title, description, definition, inputs, and outputs.

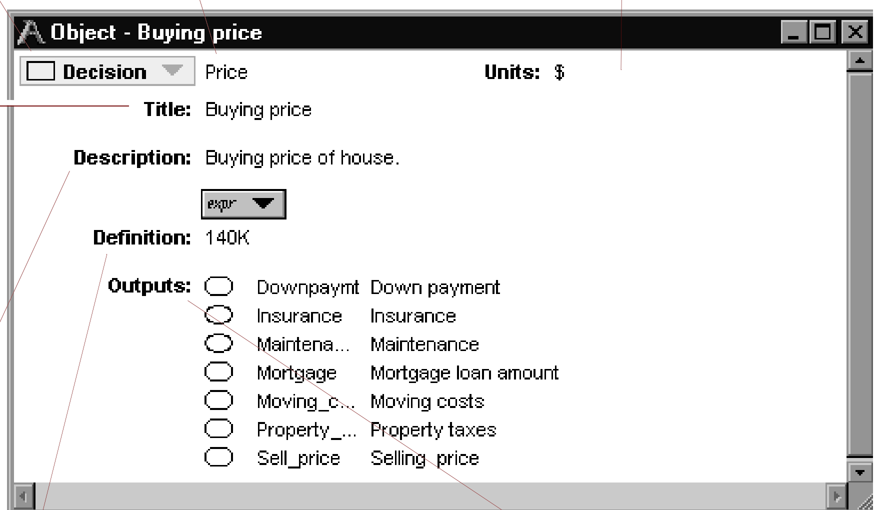
This variable's ***identifier*** is *Price*. The identifier is used to refer to this variable in definitions of other variables. It can contain up to 20 characters.

The ***units*** attribute indicates the units of measurement for the variable. The *Buying Price* variable is measured in dollars.

This variable's ***class*** is Decision variable.

A variable's ***title*** describes briefly what the variable represents. The title is also shown in the node on the influence diagram.

The ***description*** provides more complete documentation (unlimited length) about this variable.



The ***definition*** specifies the variable value, or how to compute the value, sometimes using other variables as inputs. The definition may also be a probability

Outputs are other variables that depend on this variable.

Analytica Note: *You can enter numbers with a suffix abbreviation, so Buying Price can be defined as either 140K or 140000. A quick reference for these suffixes is given on the back page of this tutorial.*

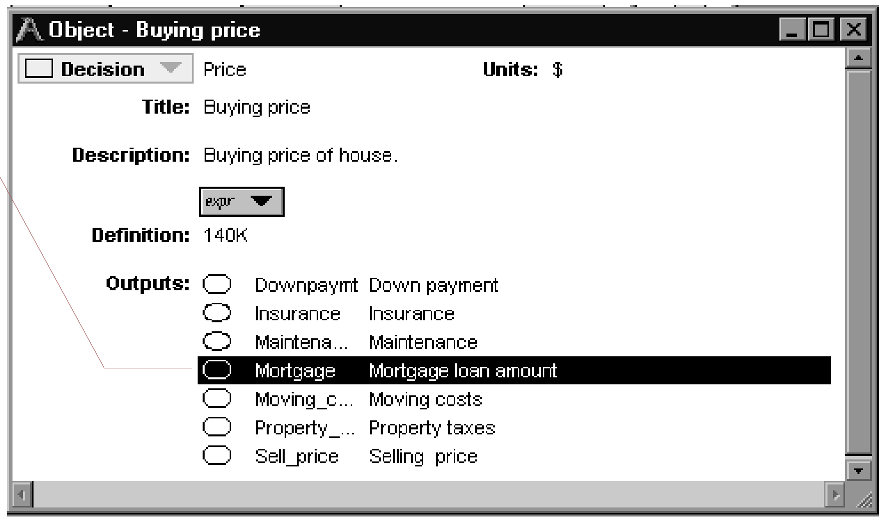
Moving between Object windows

You have opened the Object window of a variable (*Buying price*) by double-clicking on its node in the influence diagram.

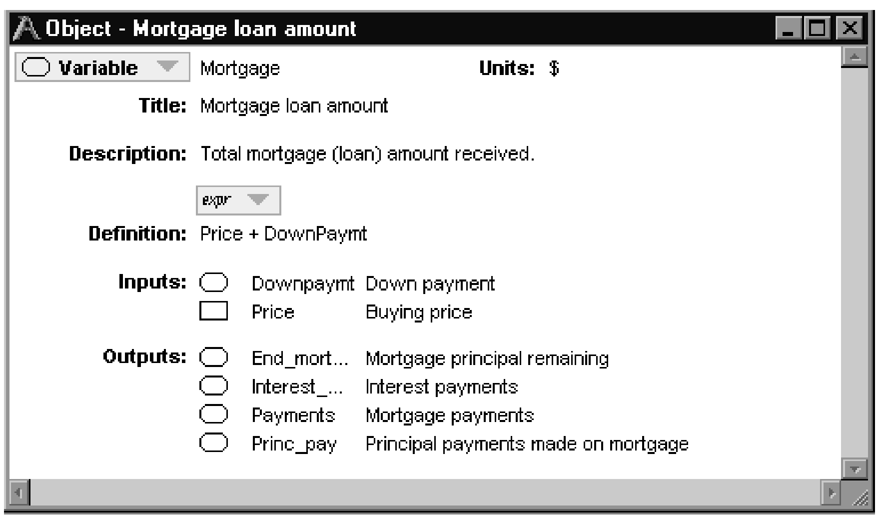
The Object window may contain a list of the variable's ***inputs*** and/or ***outputs***.

You can open the Object window for any input or output variable by double-clicking on the one you wish to view.

1. Double-click on the output variable titled *Mortgage loan amount*.



Analytica switches to the Object window for *Mortgage loan amount.*

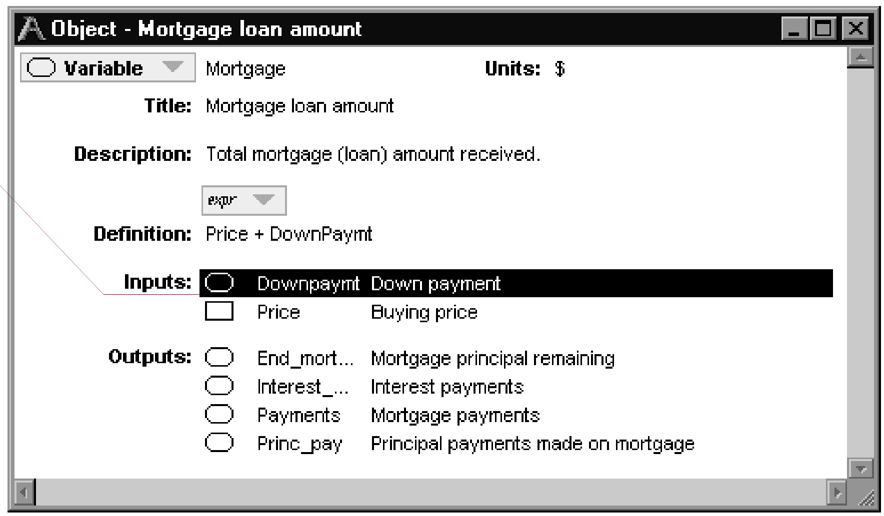


Note in the figure above that the ***title*** of *Mortgage loan amount* is different from the variable's ***identifier***, *Mortgage*. The title is what the model user normally sees; the identifier is used as a mathematical symbol in the definitions of other variables that depend on this variable.

The ***definition*** of the *Mortgage loan amount* is an ***expression***, the sum of *Buying price* and *Down payment* (which is a negative amount). The definition refers to these variables by their identifiers.

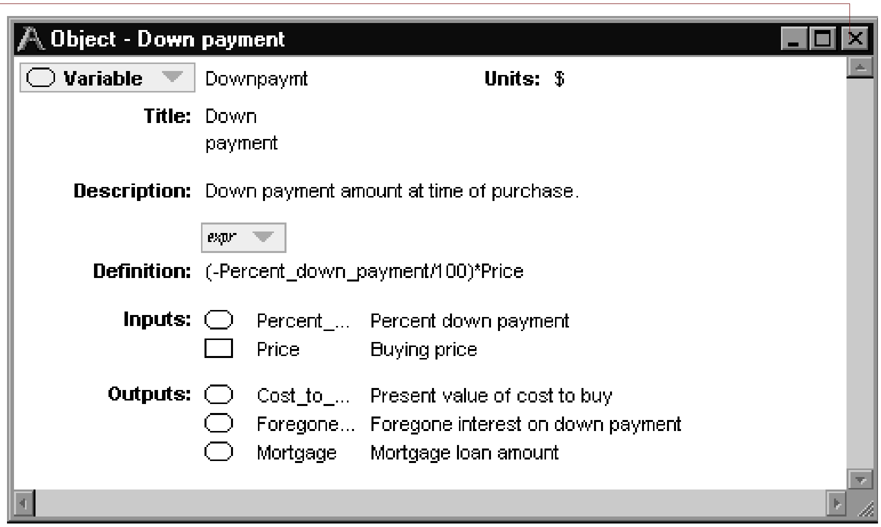
Inputs lists the identifiers and titles of the variables in the definition. *Buying price*, the variable you just examined, is one of the inputs. The other input of *Mortgage loan amount* is *Down payment*.

2. Double-click on the *Down payment* input.



The Object window now displays the attributes of *Down payment.*

3. Click on the Close button to close the window and return to the diagram.

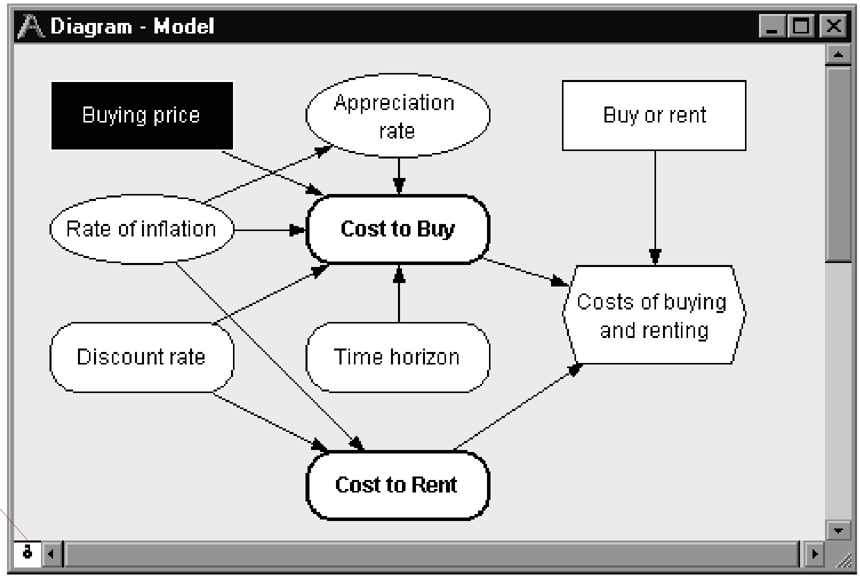


Using the Attribute panel

As an alternative to viewing a variable's attributes in a separate window, you can inspect them in the ***Attribute panel***, which is an auxiliary window pane that you can open below the influence diagram.

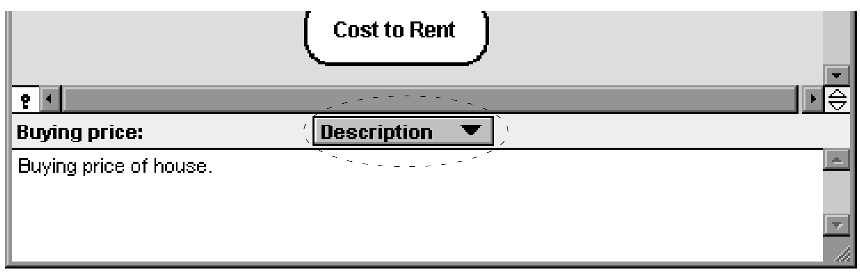
The Attribute panel allows you to rapidly examine one attribute at a time of any variable in the model. You select the variable you wish to view and select the attribute to examine from a popup menu.

The variable *Buying price* should be highlighted with a title in white, indicating that it is selected; if it is not, select it by clicking on it once.



1. Click on the Key icon ( ) to open the Attribute panel.

By default, Analytica displays the ***description*** of *Buying price* in the Attribute panel.

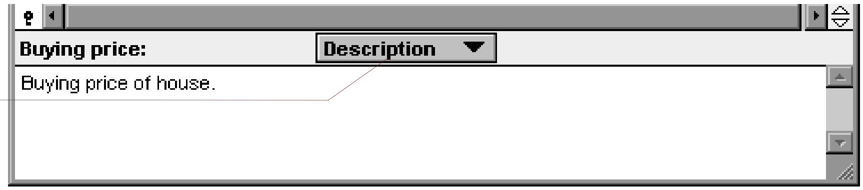


Inspecting definitions in the Attribute panel

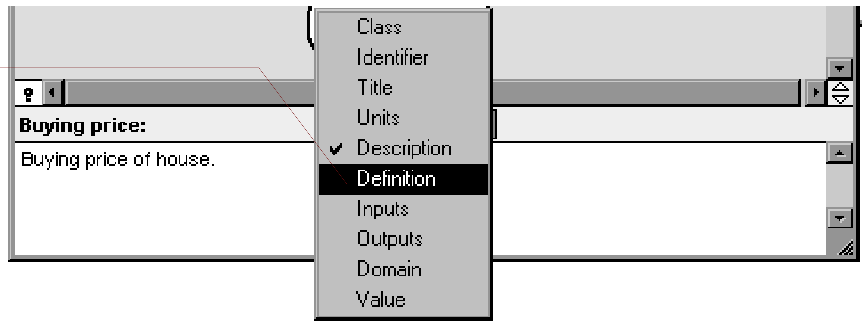
The Attribute panel allows you to inspect any attribute of a variable.

In this section, you will see the definition of two variables that you viewed in the top level diagram in Chapter 1.

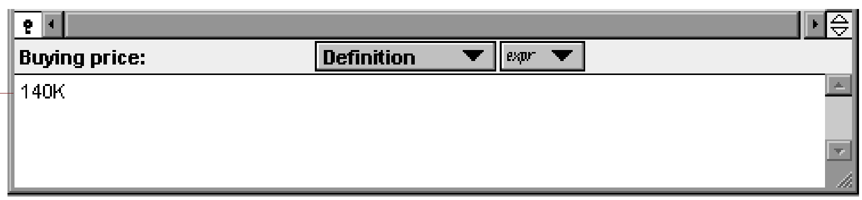
1. Click on **Description** to view the Attribute popup menu.



2. Select **Definition** as the new current attribute to display.



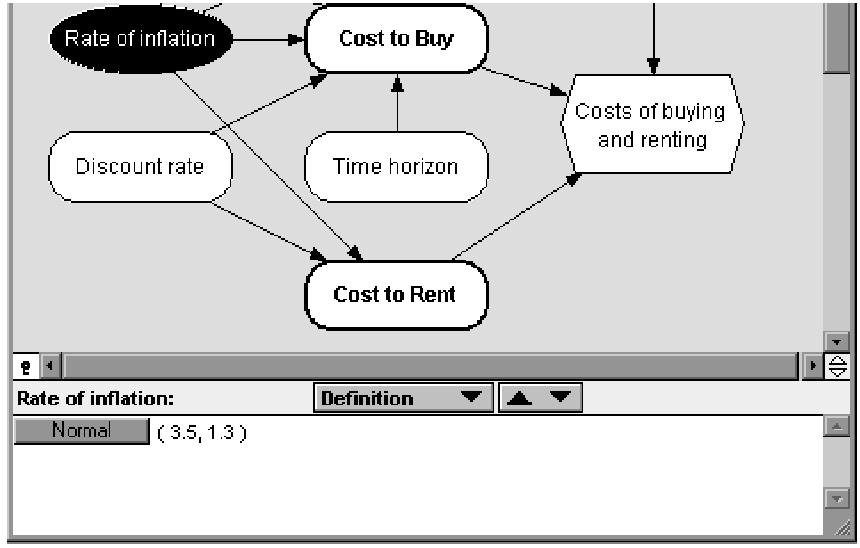
The definition of *Buying price* is displayed. It is a single number: 140K (140,000).



When a variable is defined as an ***uncertainty distribution***, a button appears in the Definition field.

3. Select the *Rate of inflation* node.

   The definition in this example is a normal distribution; hence, the button is labeled **Normal**.



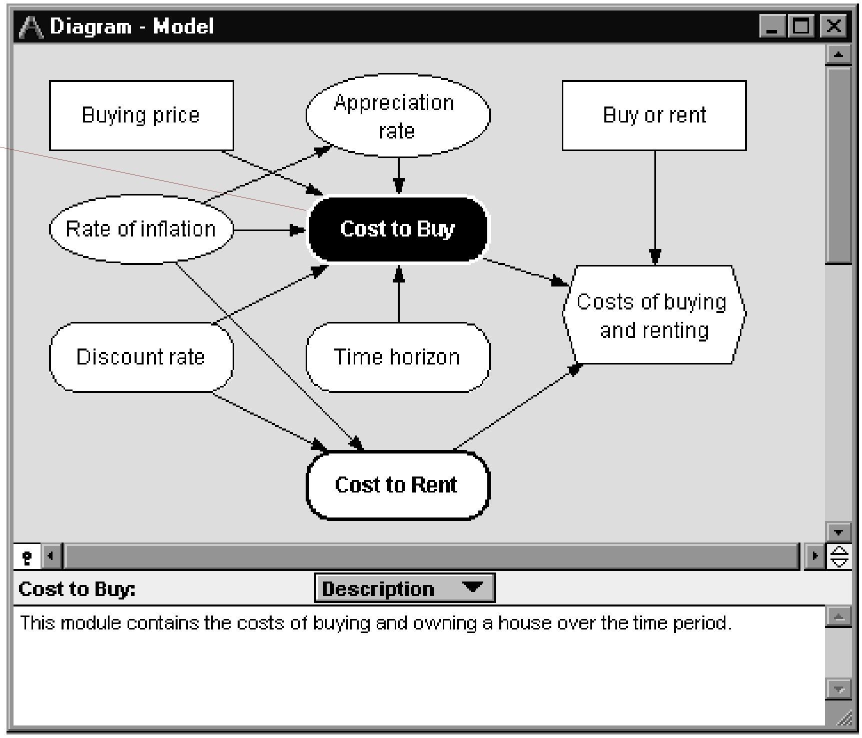
In Chapter 1 you saw that *Rate of inflation* is defined as a normal distribution with a mean of 3.5 and a standard deviation of 1.3. These are the input parameters to the normal distribution, and they display to the right of the ***Normal*** button.

Opening a module

Analytica models generally contain ***modules***. Each module contains the details of a part of the model, also represented as an influence diagram. In the *Rent vs. Buy* model, *Cost to Buy* and *Cost to Rent* are both modules.

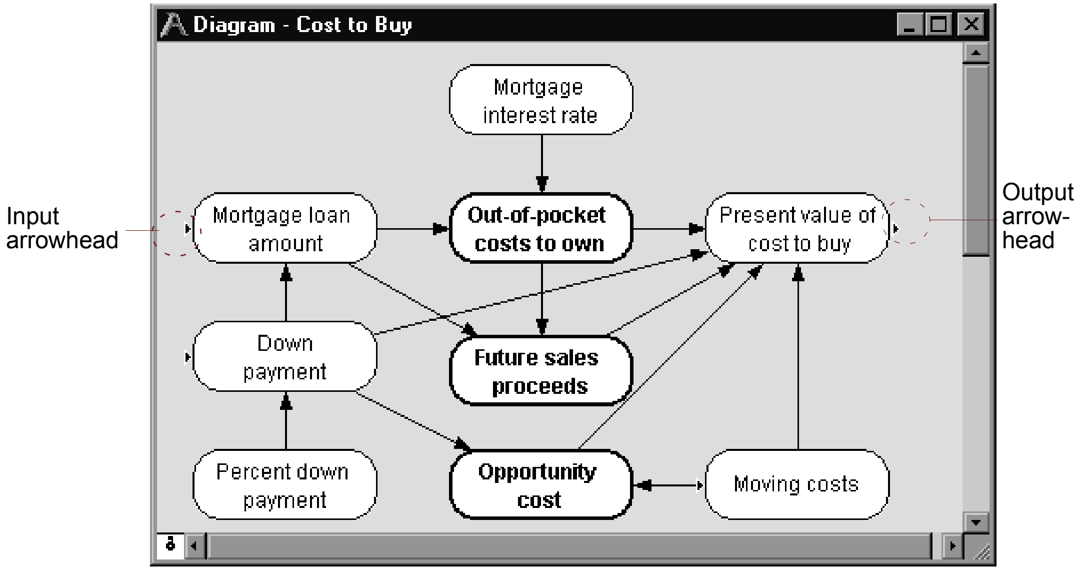
Modules can also contain other modules. In this manner, a large model with hundreds of variables can be organized into a hierarchy of models, each small enough to be easily understood.

1. Double-click on the *Cost to Buy* node to open the module.



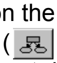
Analytica displays the influence diagram of the *Cost to Buy* module. This module contains three additional modules: *Out-of-*

Pocket Costs to Own, Future Sales Proceeds, and *Opportunity Cost*.



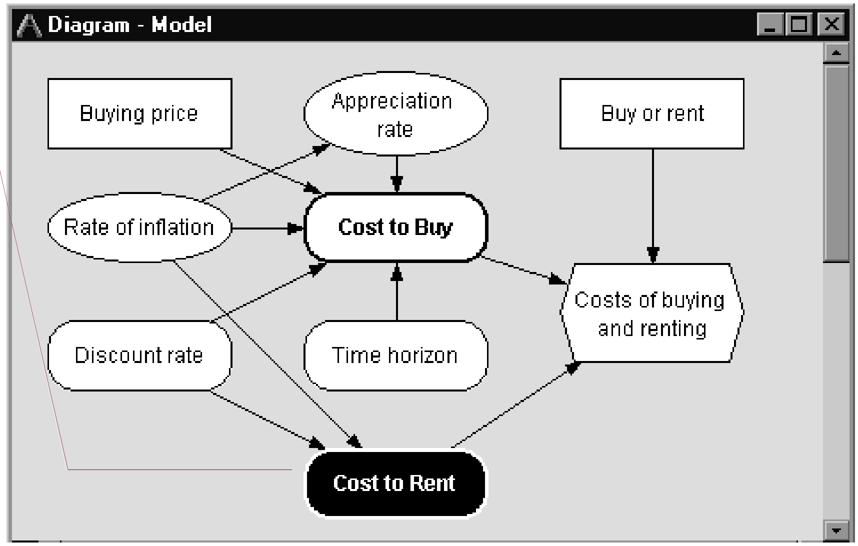
The ***input arrowhead*** (without a trailing line) shows that the node to the right of the arrow has one or more inputs from outside this module.

The ***output arrowhead*** shows that the node to the left of the arrow has one or more outputs outside this module.

2. Click on the Diagram button () to return to the parent diagram, *Model*.

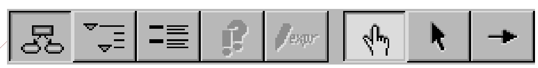
3. Double-click on the *Cost to Rent* node to open the module.

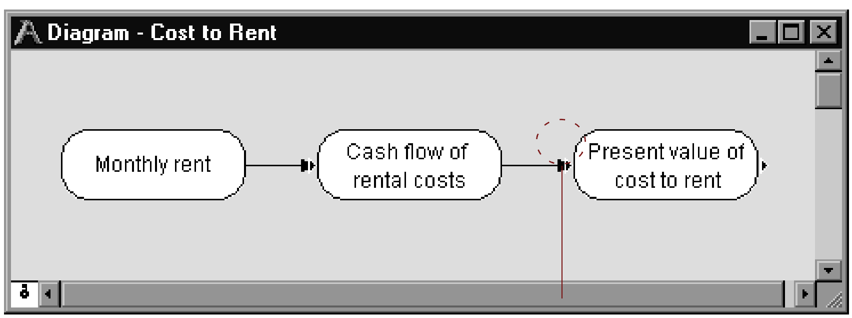
   The *Cost to Rent* diagram opens (see the figure below).



Analytica limits the number of open windows at each level of the model hierarchy to minimize clutter on your screen. See “Managing Windows” in Chapter 19 of the *Analytica User Guide* for information on how to open more than one module Diagram window at a time.

4. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the parent diagram, *Model*.





Combined arrowhead

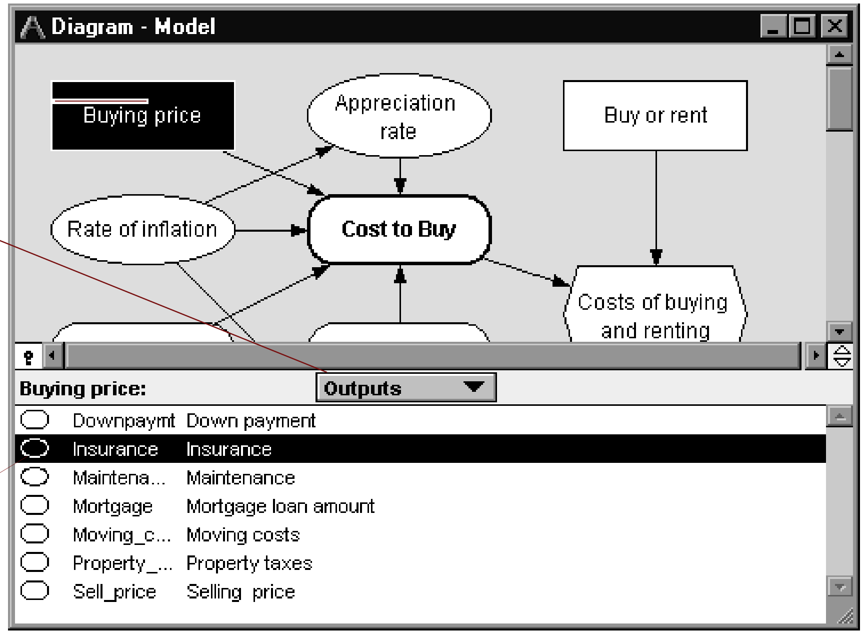
The combined arrowhead shows that the node has one or more inputs from outside this module, plus the input variable in this module.

You can also navigate the model by tracking a variable’s inputs or outputs.

5. Select the *Buying price* node.

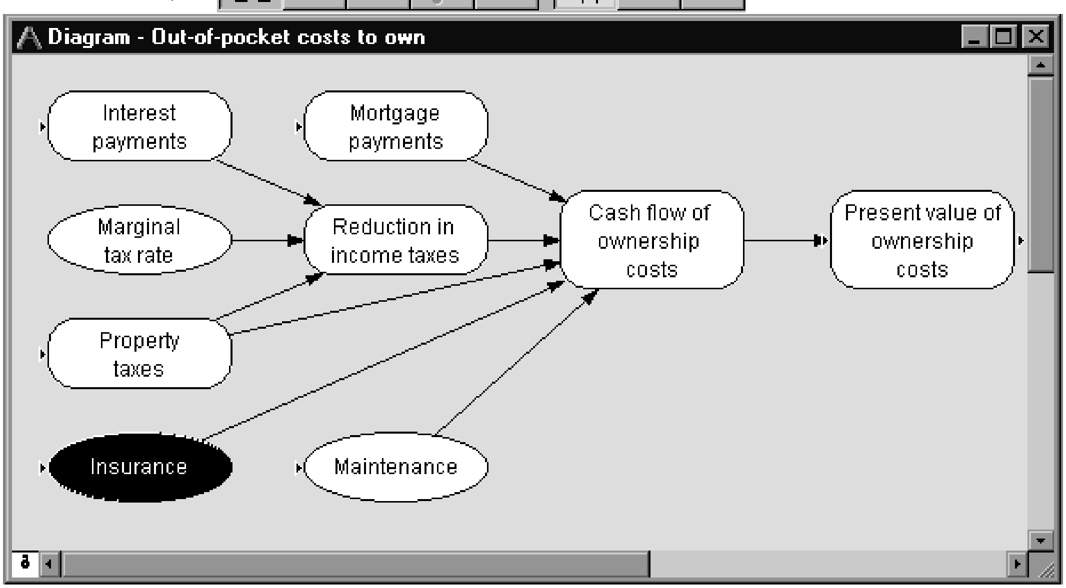
6. Select **Outputs** from the Attribute popup menu to view a list of variables that depend on the *Buying price* variable.

7. Double-click on *Insurance*.



8. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the parent diagram, *Model*.

The *Out-of-Pocket Costs to Own* module diagram is brought to the front, with the *Insurance* node selected.



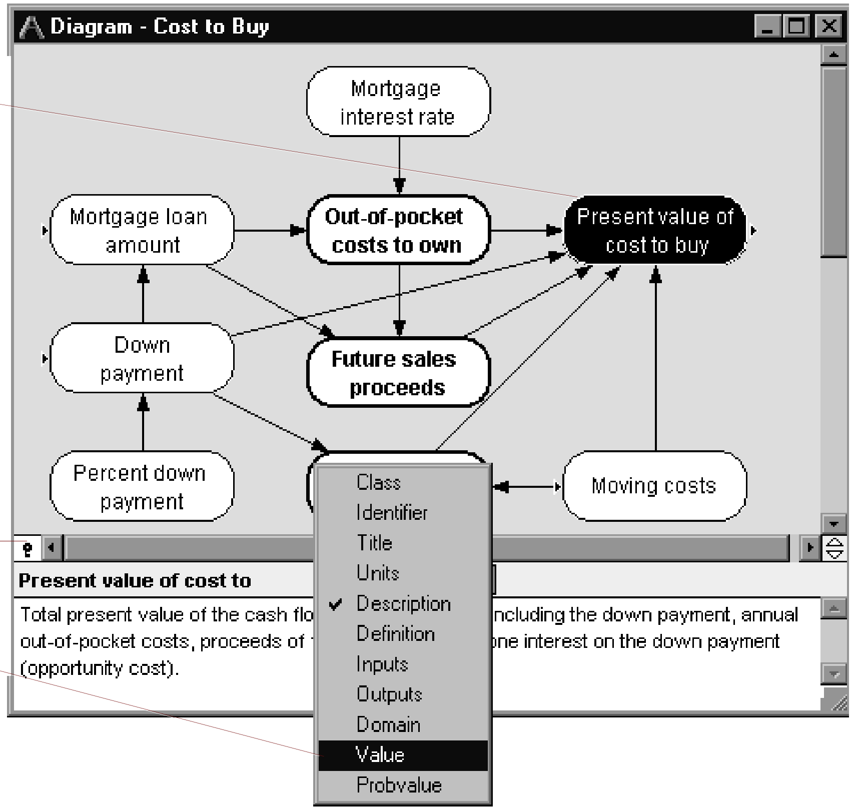
Inspecting values in the Attribute panel

The Attribute panel allows you to view certain attributes, such as a variable's ***value***, that are not (initially) displayed in an Object window.

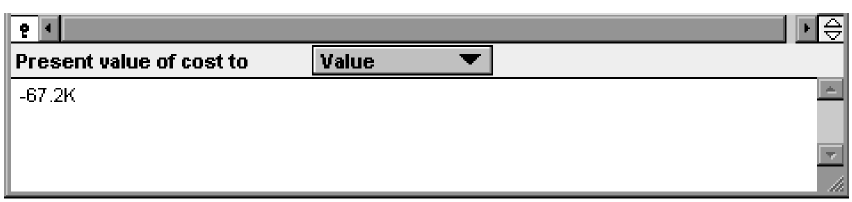
1. Select the *Present value of cost to buy* node.

2. Click on the Key icon to open the Attribute panel.

3. Press on the Attribute popup menu and select **Value**.



The deterministic (or mid) value of *Present value of cost to buy* displays, in this case, -67.2K.



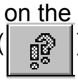
If ***Value*** was not previously computed, Analytica computes the variable's value ***deterministically***, assuming that all of the input probability distributions are fixed at their median values. ***Mid value*** is an abbreviation for this deterministically computed value.

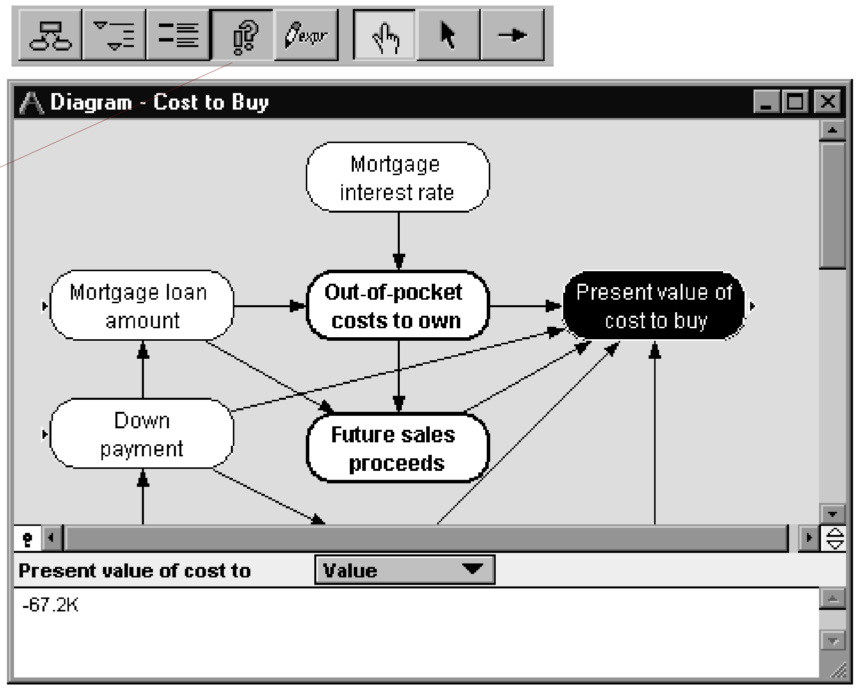
You can use the Attribute panel in this manner to examine the mid value of any variable in the model.

It is faster to compute a mid (deterministic) value than an uncertain (probabilistic) value, so it is useful for conducting initial checks of a model before performing any uncertainty analysis.

Displaying results

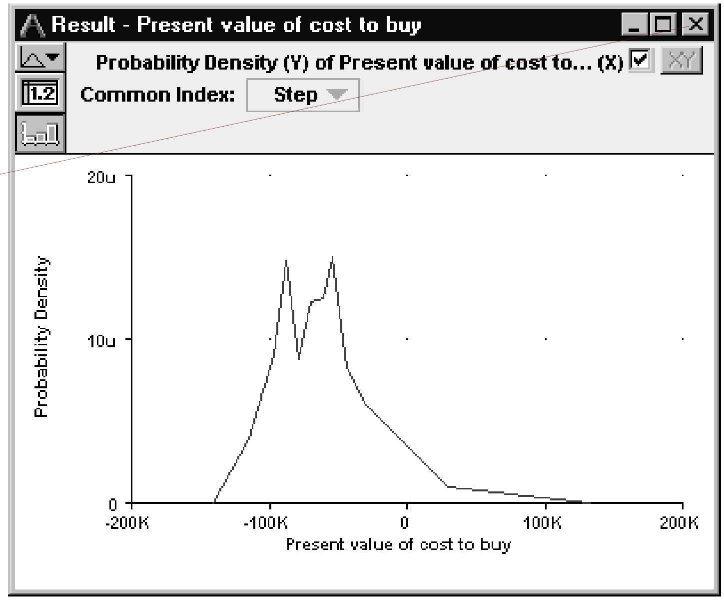
When you are viewing a model's influence diagram, you can evaluate any variable and display its value in a Result window.

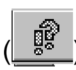
1. With *Present value of cost to buy* still selected, click on the Result button () to evaluate it.



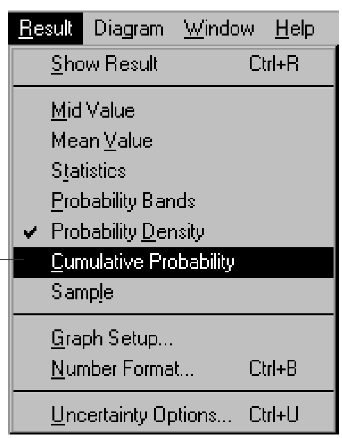
A Result window displays the probability density function graph for this variable. Analytica displays the uncertainty view that was most recently selected from the Uncertainty View popup menu, or that was saved with the model.

2. Click on the Close button to close the Result window.

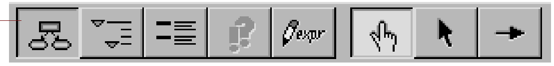


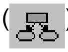
As an alternative to clicking on the Result button () and then selecting an uncertainty view, you can use the ***Result*** menu to evaluate a variable and select the uncertainty view of the result.

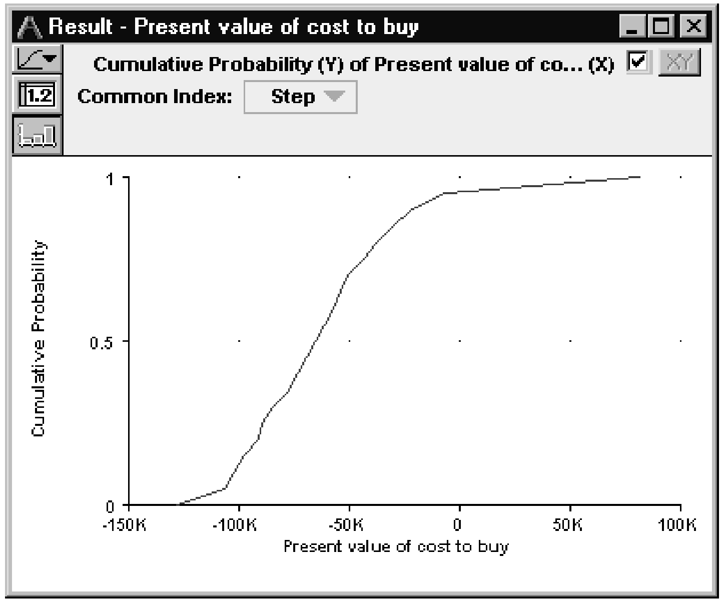
3. With *Present value of cost to buy* still selected, press on the **Result** menu. The check mark next to **Probability Density** indicates that the **Probability Density** was last displayed. Select **Cumulative Probability**.

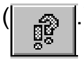


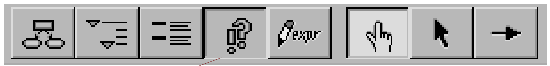
The Result window appears displaying the variable's cumulative probability distribution.

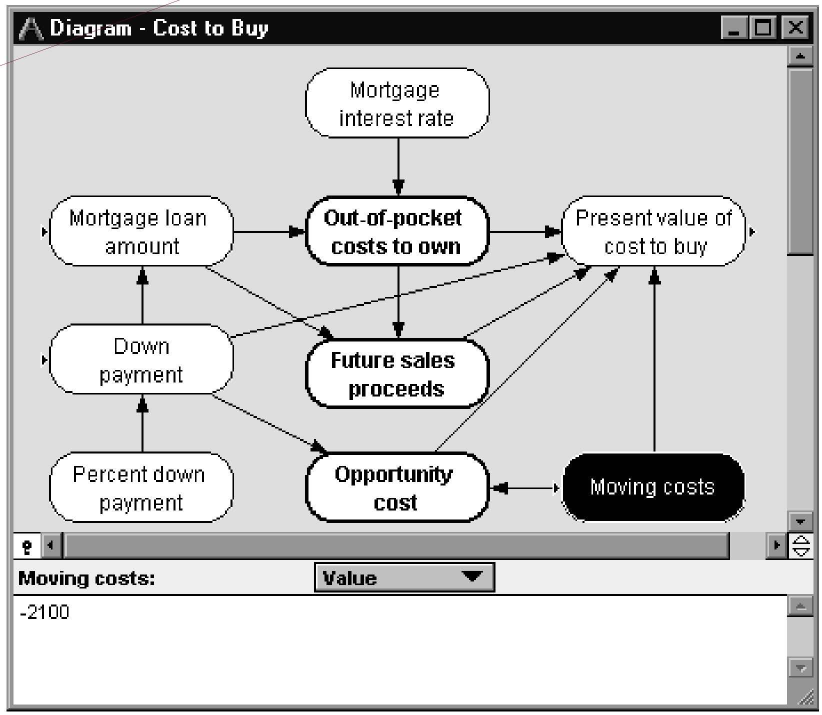


4. Click on the Diagram button () to display the *Cost to buy* diagram.



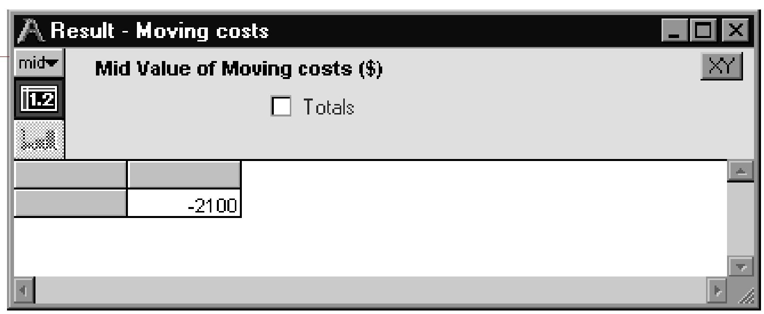
5. Select *Moving costs* and then click on the Result button () to evaluate.





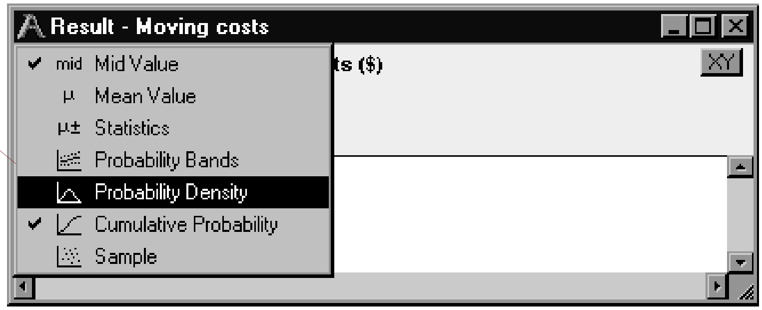
A single mid value appears in table view.

Uncertainty View Popup Menu



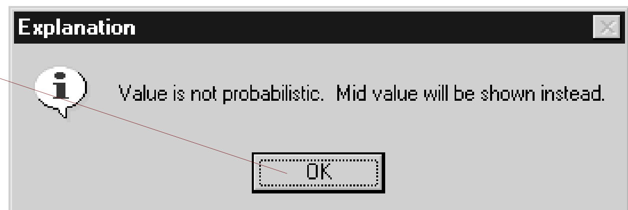
The mid value in table view is the only result view available for a nonprobabilistic variable with a single value. Note that the graph view button is disabled.

6. Press on the Uncertainty View popup menu and select **Probability Density**.



Analytica tells you that this is a nonprobabilistic value.

7. Click on the **OK** button.



Exploring the Rent vs. Buy model: Summary

You now have browsed the *Rent vs. Buy* model by examining its influence diagrams, variables, attributes, definitions, and results. These are the basic techniques for exploring any Analytica model.

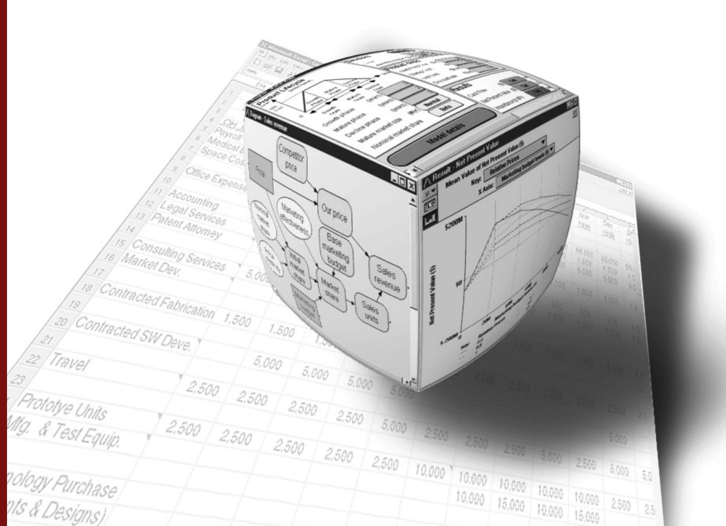
The next chapter shows you how to analyze the *Rent vs. Buy* model.

You may quit Analytica at this point. See “Quitting Analytica” on page 28.

Exploring the Rent vs. Buy

Chapter 3

Analyzing the Rent vs. Buy Analysis Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Perform importance analysis
- Perform parametric analysis
- Set up and compare alternative decisions

Chapter 3:Analyzing the Rent vs. Buy Analysis Model

In this chapter you will analyze the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* model, a modified version of the model that you used in Chapter 1: Using the Rent vs. Buy Model and Chapter 2: Exploring the Rent vs.Buy Model. You will identify its key sources of uncertainty through importance analysis, perform parametric analysis, and compare alternative decisions.

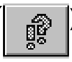
For instructions on how to open a model, see "Opening the Rent vs. Buy model" on page 11. In this case, however, open the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* model by double-clicking on the icon labeled *Rent vs. Buy Analysis.ana*.

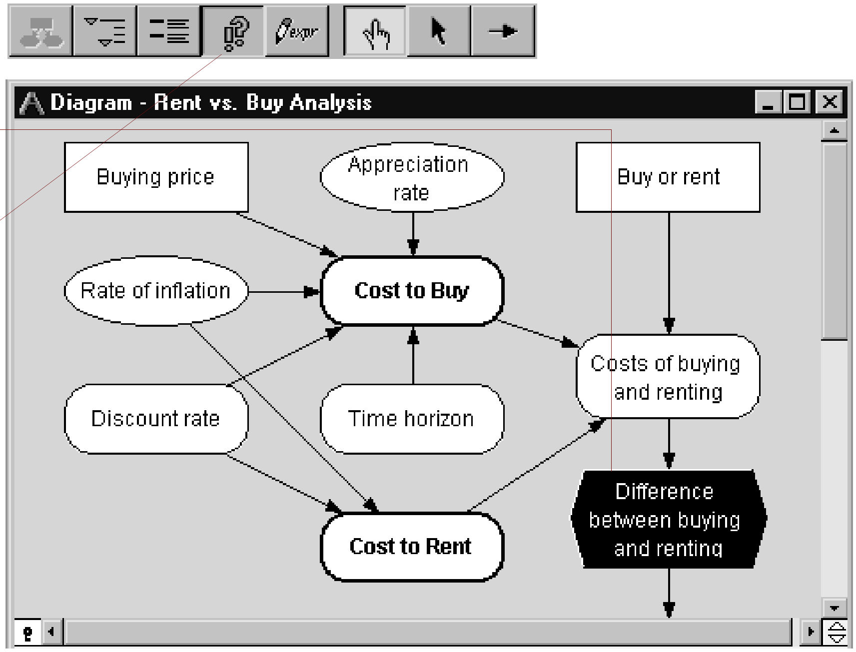
Examining the difference between renting and buying

The *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* model is the module called *Model* that you explored in Chapter 2: Exploring the Rent vs.Buy Model, with the addition of nodes to help you understand the importance of the uncertain inputs to the uncertainty in the output.

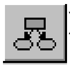
In Chapter 1: Using the Rent vs. Buy Model, you saw that evaluating *Costs of buying and renting* produces a graph of two uncertain values. To understand whether it would be financially advantageous to rent or buy, the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* model includes the objective node, *Difference between buying and renting*.

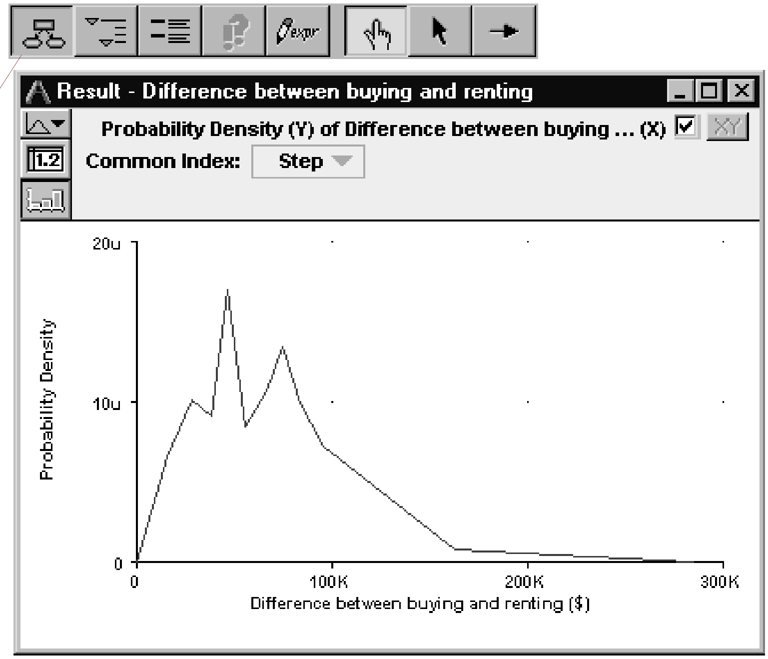
1. Click on the *Difference between buying and renting* node to select it.

2. Click on the **Result** () button to evaluate it.



The difference between the two uncertain values is also uncertain. The difference is positive if buying costs less over the time period, and negative if renting costs less over the time period.

1. Click on the Diagram button () to return to the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* Diagram window.



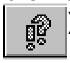
Importance analysis

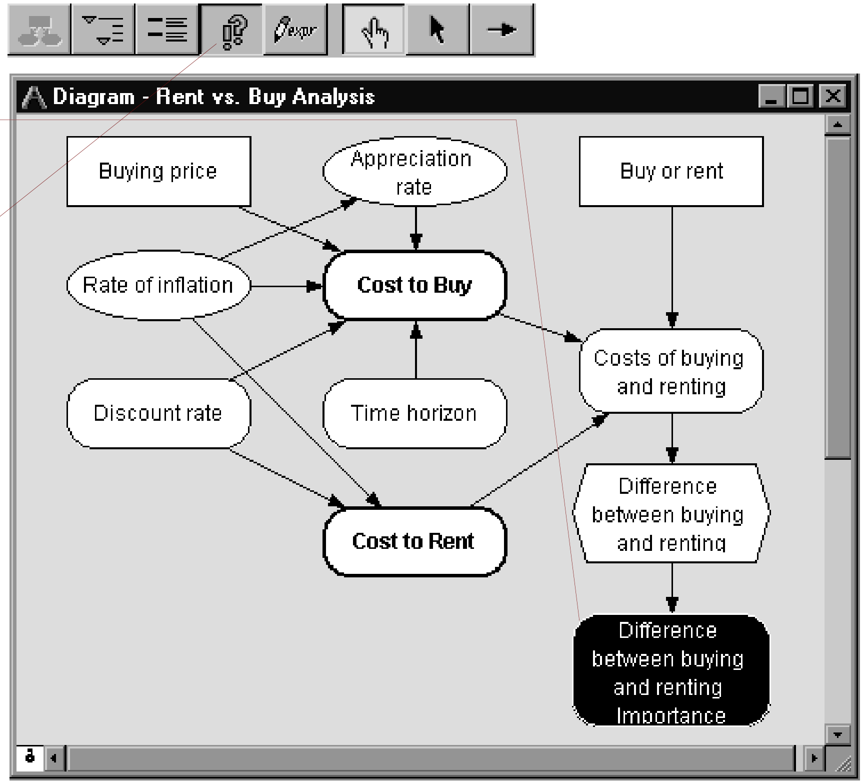
In the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* model, as in most complex models, several of the input variables are uncertain.

It is often useful to understand how much each uncertain input contributes to the uncertainty in the output. Typically, a few key uncertain inputs are responsible for the lion's share of the uncertainty in the output, while the rest of the inputs have little impact.

Analytica's ***importance analysis*** features can help you understand which uncertain inputs contribute most to the uncertainty in the output. You can then concentrate on getting more precise estimates or building a more detailed model for the one or two most “important” inputs.

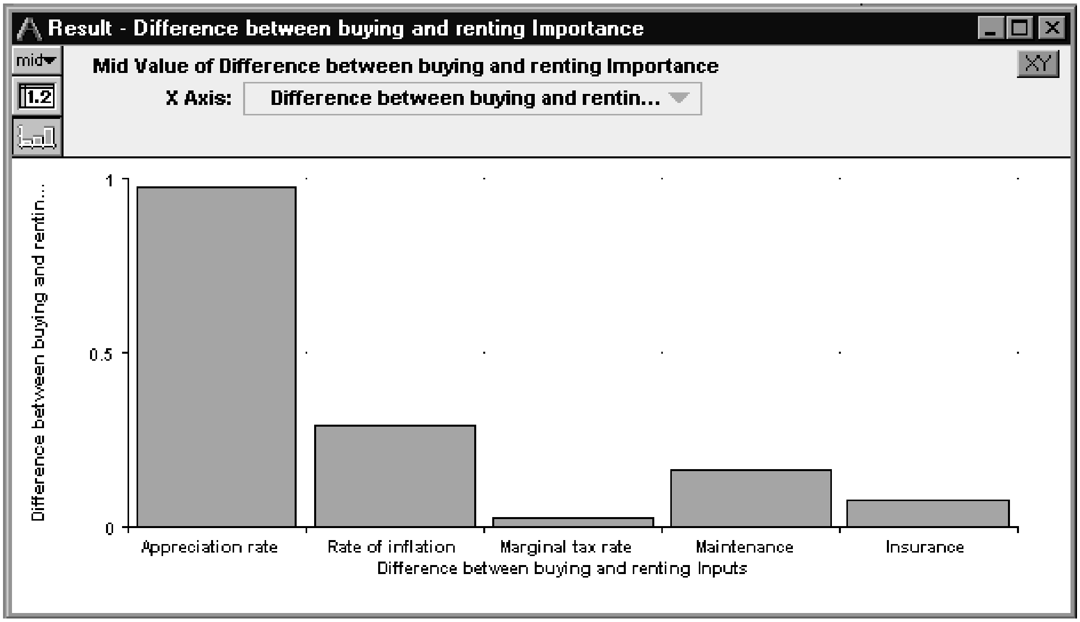
1. Select the *Difference between buying and renting* node.

2. Click on the Result button () to display the importance values.

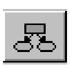


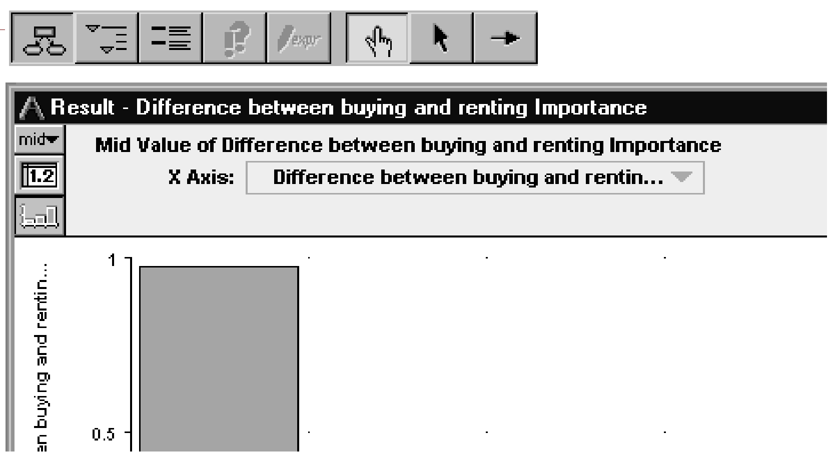
Analytica defines “importance” as the rank order correlation between the output value and each uncertain input. Each variable’s importance is calculated on a relative scale from 0 to 1. An importance value of 0 indicates that the uncertain input variable has no effect on the uncertainty in the output. A value of

1 implies total correlation, where all of the uncertainty in the output is due to the uncertainty of a single input.



It is clear in the above figure that the input *Appreciation Rate* is contributing most of the uncertainty in the *Difference between buying and renting*.

3. Click on the Diagram button () to return to the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* Diagram window.



For more information about importance analysis and the steps to create an importance variable in your own model, see “Scatter Plots” in Chapter 16 of the *Analytica User Guide*.

Performing parametric (sensitivity) analysis

Parametric analysis (also called sensitivity analysis) involves varying the value of an input variable to examine its effect on a selected output. Performing sensitivity analysis often provides useful insights into how small changes in input variable values affect the desired outcome.

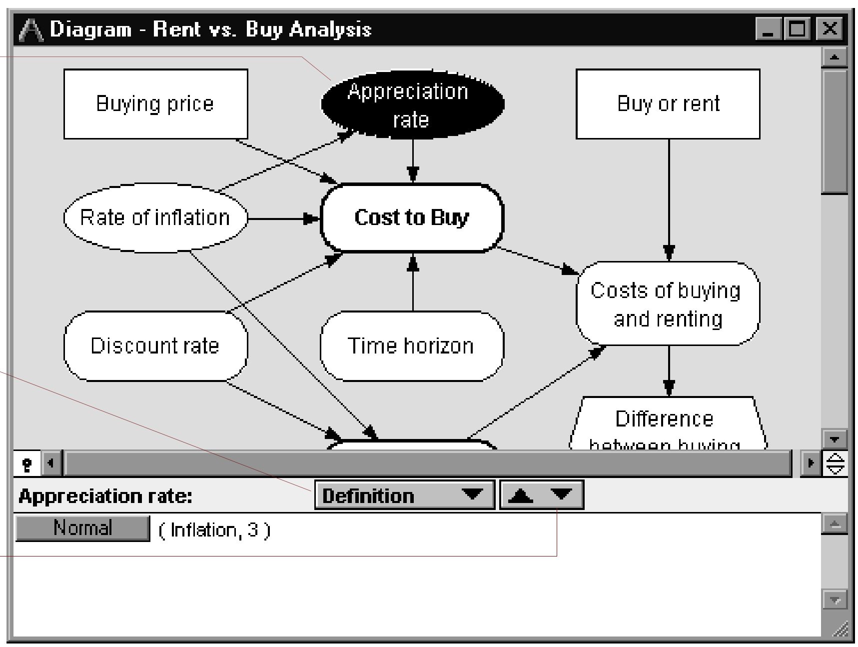
Because the importance analysis in the section “Importance analysis” revealed that *Appreciation rate* caused most of the uncertainty in *Difference between buying and renting,* you will start the parametric analysis with that input variable. You will change *Appreciation rate’s* definition from a probability distribution to a list of alternative values, and analyze the effect on the *Difference between buying and renting* output.

Before proceeding, click on the Key icon ( ) to open the Attribute panel.

1. Select the *Appreciation rate* node.

2. Select **Definition** from the Attribute popup menu to view its definition.

Expression popup menu



When the Definition attribute is displayed, the Expression popup menu ( ) appears. The distribution icon ( ) in the menu indicates that the definition is a probability distribution.

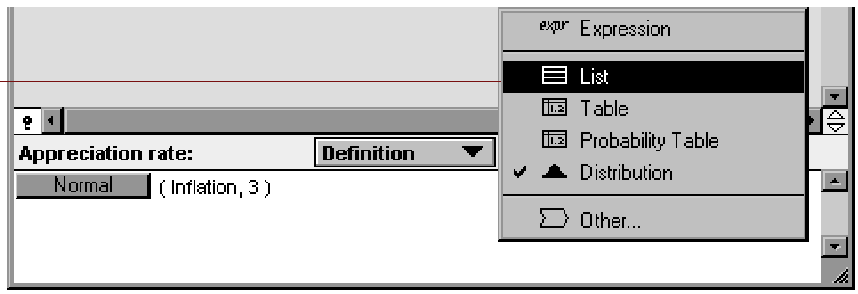
The Expression popup menu allows you to change the definition of a variable to one of several different types of expressions.

Expression types include:

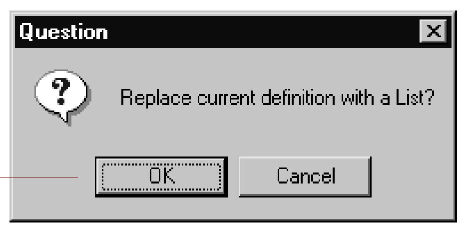
- Expression, or mathematical formula ( )
- List ( )
- List of Labels ( )
- Table ( )
- Probability table ( )
- Distribution ( )

You will now use the Expression popup menu to change the definition of *Appreciation rate* from a probability distribution to a list. You will redefine *Appreciation rate* as a list of alternative values from -10% to 10%.

3. While pressing on the **Expression** popup menu, drag the mouse to **List**, and release the mouse button to select **List.**



4. Click on the **OK** button or press the *Enter* key to confirm that you want to change the definition from a distribution to a list.

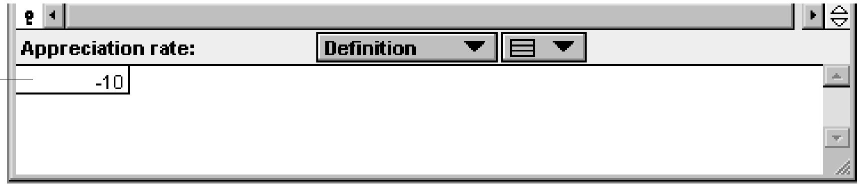


Note that the icon on the Expression popup menu has changed to indicate that List ( ) was selected.

When a definition is first changed to a list, a cell (indicated by a box around it) appears in the definition. The first cell in the list initially contains the expression that was previously in the definition. In this case, you see the expression for a Normal distribution.

You will replace the entry with a number and add cells to perform parametric analysis.

5. Select the cell by clicking in it. Type the value ***-10*** and press the *Enter* key.

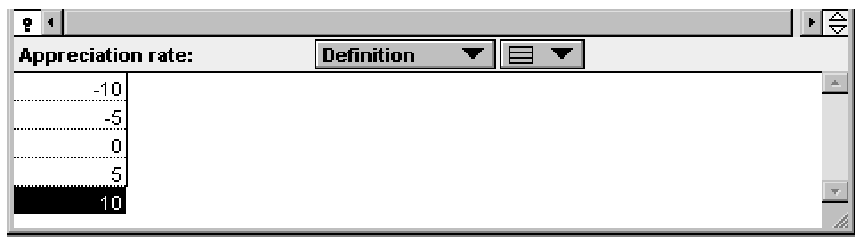


A new cell appears.

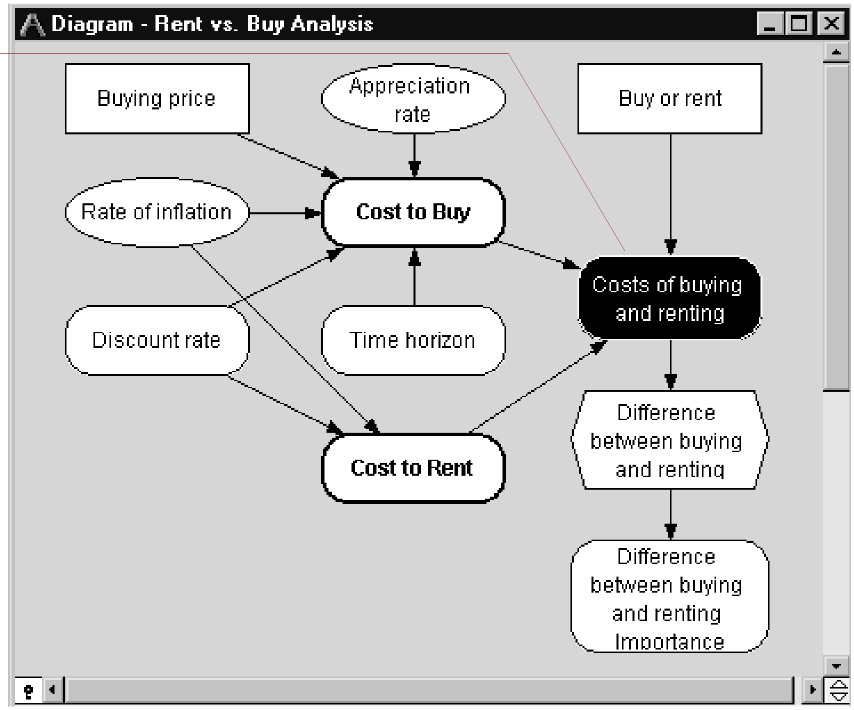
In Analytica, you add cells to a list by pressing the main *Enter* key, not the numeric keypad *Enter* key.

In addition, after you have entered two values, as you press *Enter* to add a new cell, Analytica automatically fills in the new cell with a value based on the difference between the last two values. You can override the automatic value by typing the desired value.

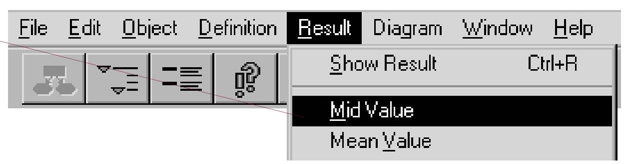
6. Type ***-5***, followed by the *Enter* key. 0 automatically appears. Press the *Enter* key two more times; automatically, 5 and 10 appear.



7. Select the *Costs of buying and renting* node.



8. Select **Mid Value** from the **Result** menu.

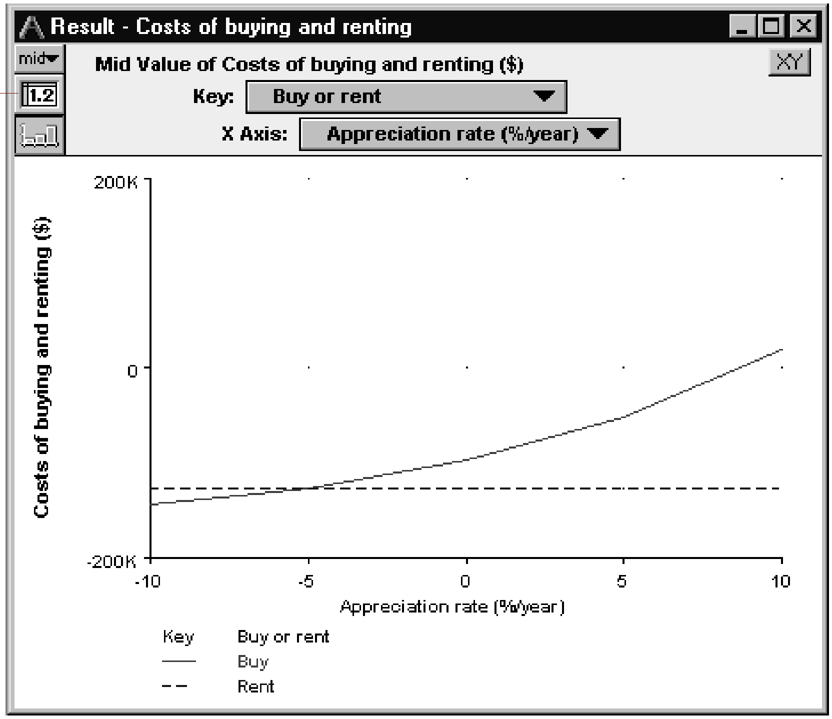


The resulting graph shows the Mid Value of buying and renting as a function of *Appreciation rate*, which varies from -10% to 10%, as you just entered.

Appreciation rate is informally called an ***index*** because it characterizes a dimension of another variable's value, in this case, *Costs of buying and renting*.

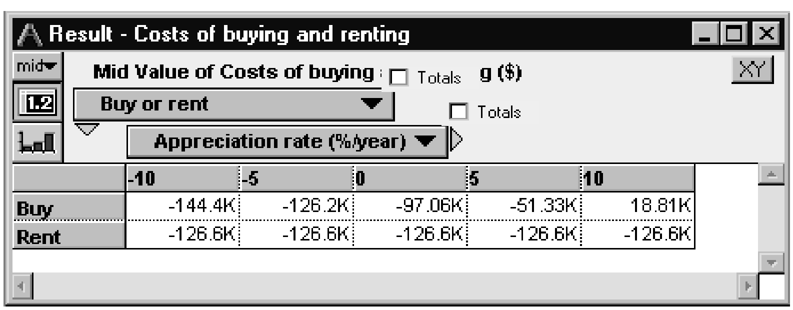
The graph shows that at an *Appreciation rate* of about -5% per year, renting and buying will cost the same. If it is less than -5%, it would be better to rent; if it is greater than -5%, it would be better to buy.

9. Click on the Table button ( ) to view the result as a table.



The table shows the values computed for each parameterized value of *Appreciation rate*.

10. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* Diagram window.



	-10	-5	0	5	10
Buy	-144.4K	-126.2K	-97.06K	-51.33K	18.81K
Rent	-126.6K	-126.6K	-126.6K	-126.6K	-126.6K

Evaluating alternative decisions

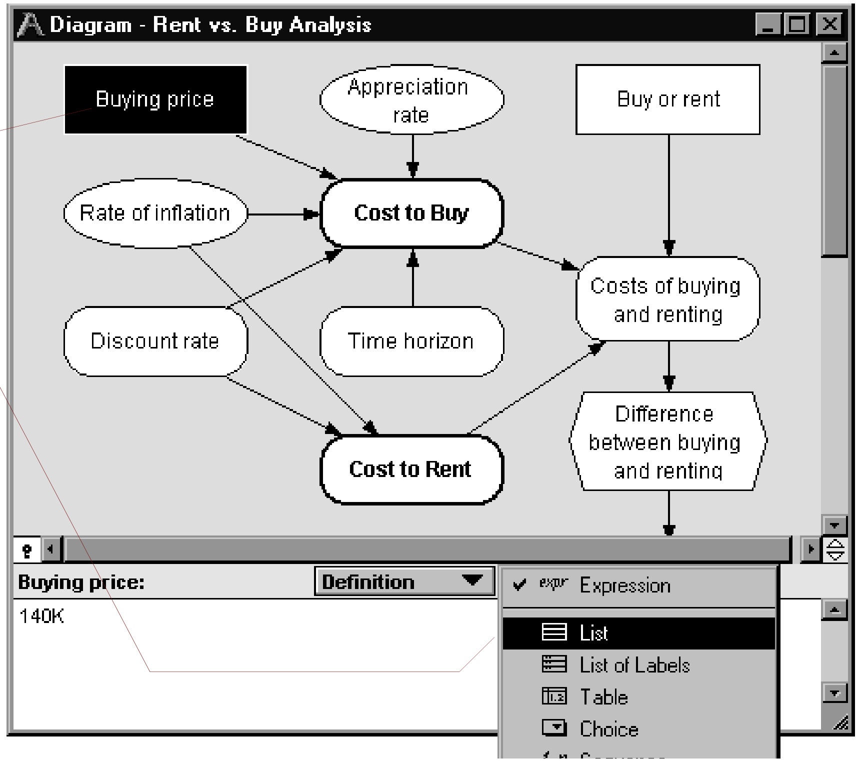
Analytica allows you to perform sensitivity analysis on several variables simultaneously.

In this section, you will change *Buying price* to compare results based on alternative decisions. In doing so, you will perform parametric analysis on both *Buying price* and *Appreciation rate* at the same time.

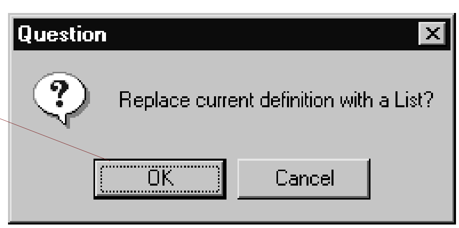
1. Select the *Buying price* node.

2. Press on the Expression popup menu and select **List**.

   Analytica confirms that you want to make this selection.



3. Click on the **OK** button to proceed.

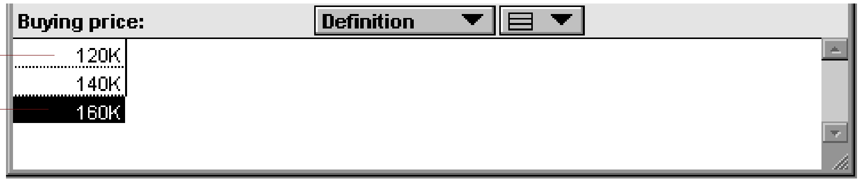


The first cell in this list contains the expression for the previous definition, *140K*. You will change this value, and add additional cells, as you did in Step #5 on page 62 and Step #6 on page 62.

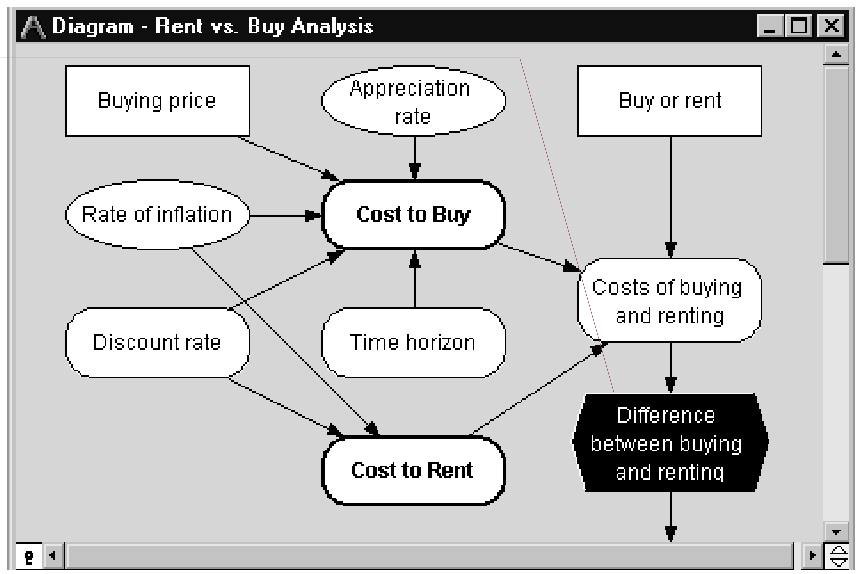
4. Click in the cell to select it. Type ***120K*** and press the *Enter* key.

5. Type ***140K***, followed by the *Enter* key.

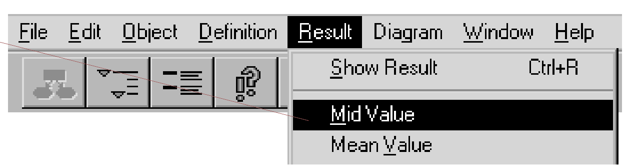
   160K is automatically entered in the next cell.



6. Select the *Difference between buying and renting* node.

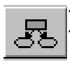


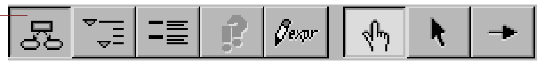
7. Select **Mid Value** from the **Result** menu to recompute and display its value.

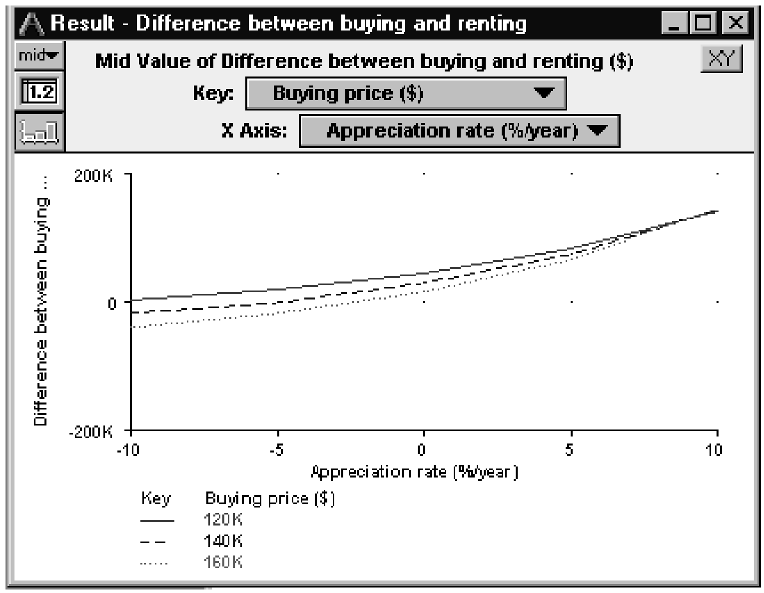


The Result window appears displaying the variable's mid value. The *Difference between buying and renting* variable is three curves, one for each *Buying price*. Below the graph is a key to identify each curve.

When you examine the mid value results, you can see that only a $160K home, coupled with an appreciation rate of -2%/year (or worse) results in renting being cheaper than buying. So, what is the best buy, a 120K home or a 160K home? That depends on what you anticipate the appreciation rate will be. For appreciation rates less than 9%/year, the less expensive home is the better investment. For higher appreciation rates above 9%, the more expensive home provides a larger return.

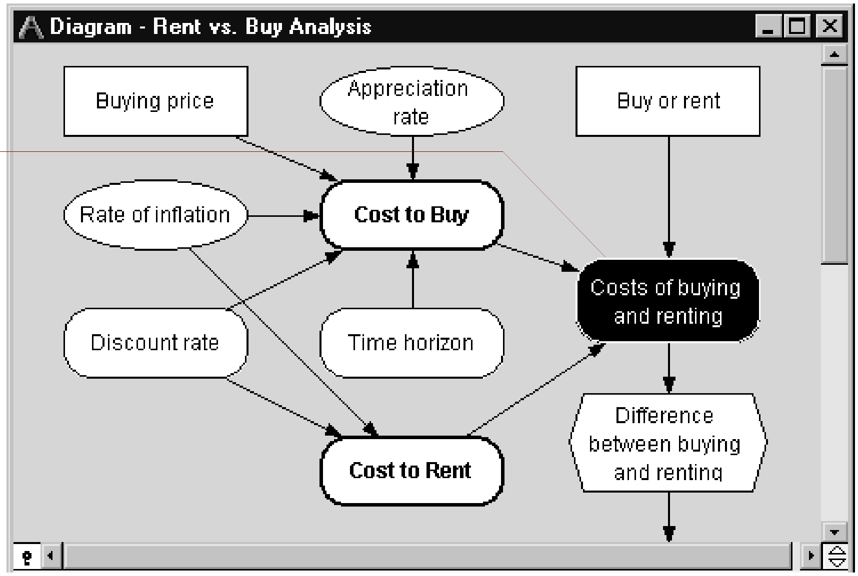
8. Click on the Diagram button () to return to the *Rent vs. Buy Analysis* Diagram window.



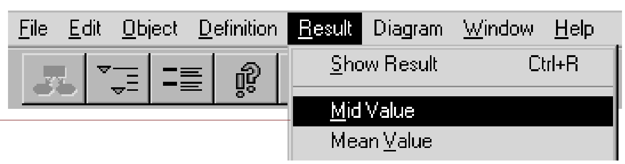


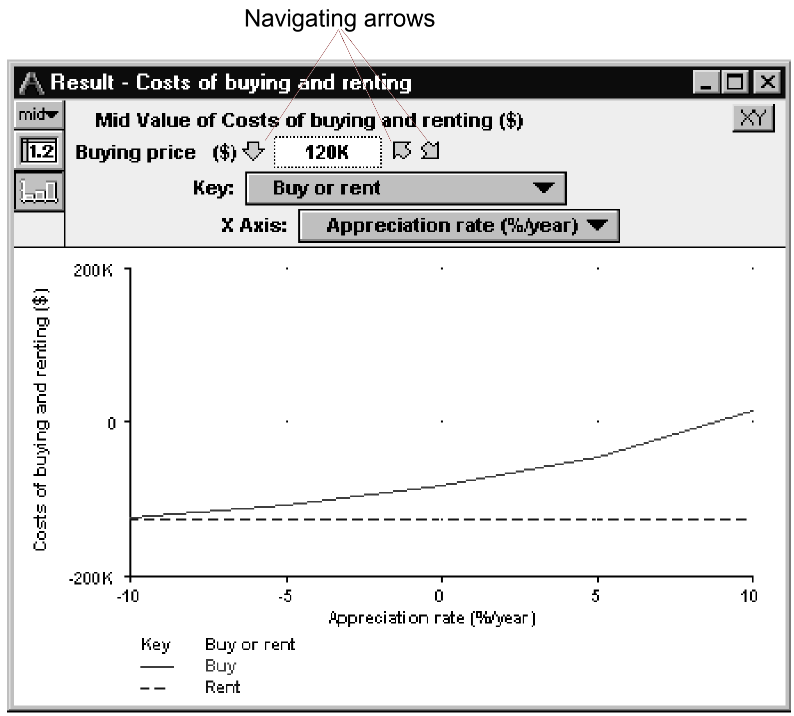
Remember that the cost of renting has been held constant. To further investigate the effect of this, you will examine the *Costs of renting and buying* node.

9. Select the *Costs of buying and renting* node.



10. Select **Mid Value** from the **Result** menu to recompute and display its value.



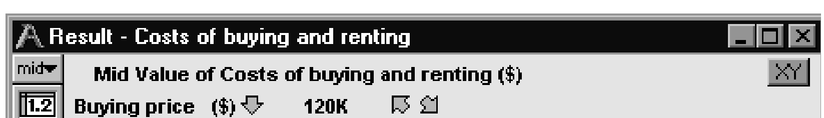


The result has three dimensions, *Buying price*, *Buy or Rent*, and *Appreciation rate*, shown in the figure above.

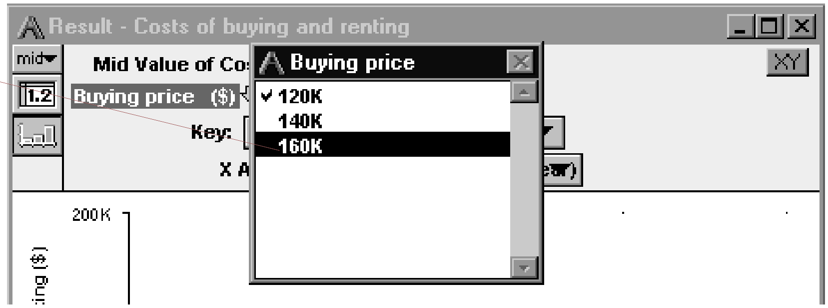
Because only two dimensions can be shown in the graph, Analytica chooses one value of the third dimension to display, in this case, *Buying price* equals *$120K*.

Use the navigating arrows to display different values of the *Buying price* index.

11. Click on the down arrow (⇩) to display a scrolling list of alternative values for the variable.

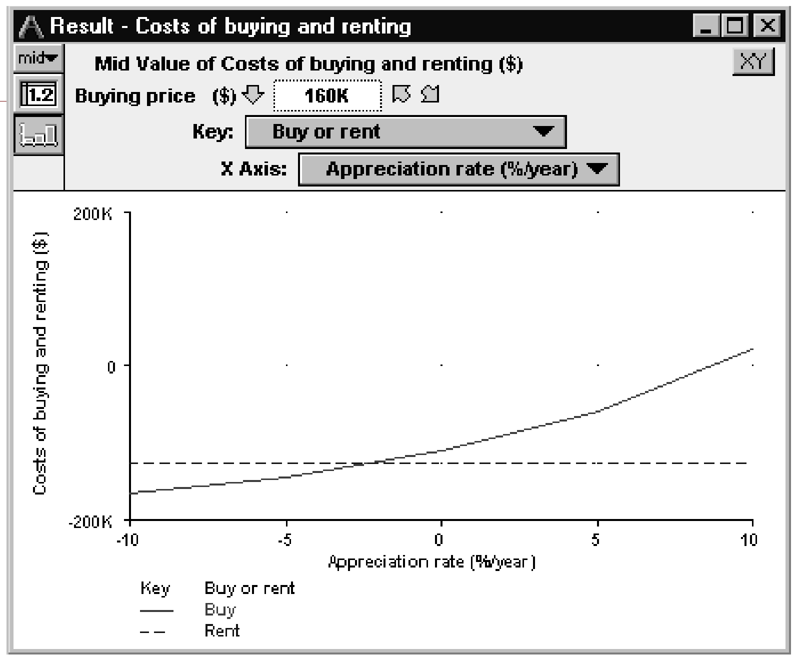


12.Click on **160K** to select it.



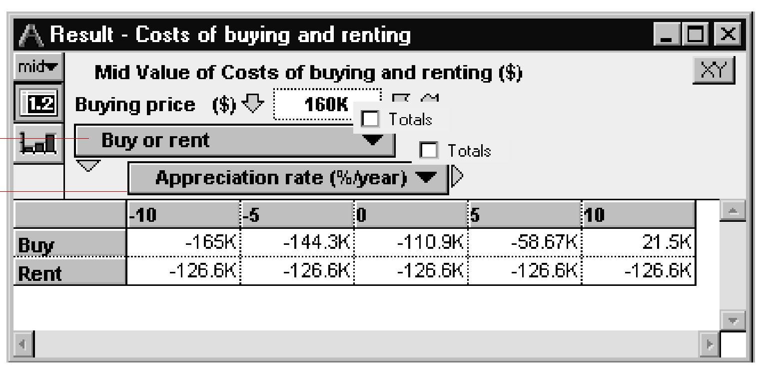
The graph changes to show the mid value of *Costs of buying and renting* given that the *Buying price* equals *$160K*.

13.Click on the Table button (1.2) to see the table view.



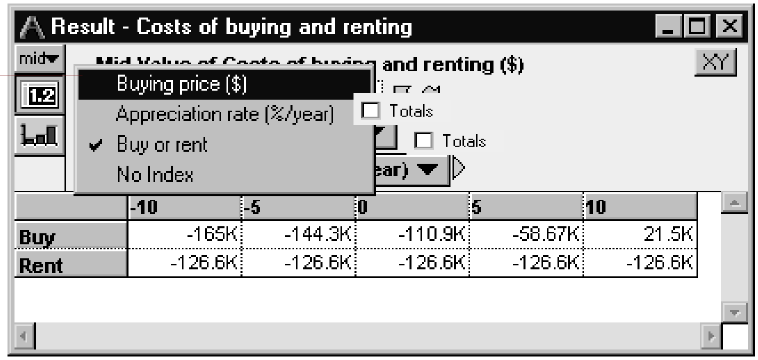
Row index popup menu

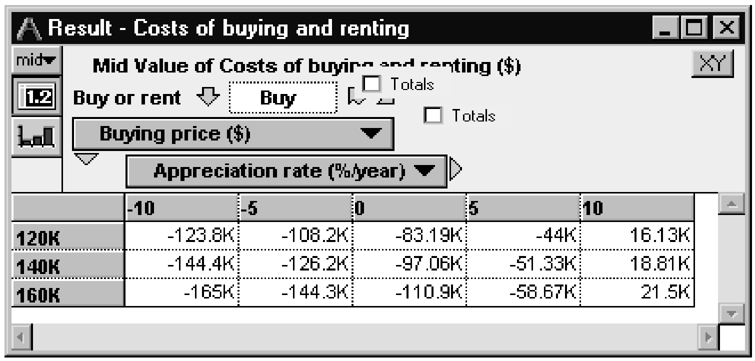
Column index popup menu



14. Press on the Row index popup menu and select *Buying Price ($)*.

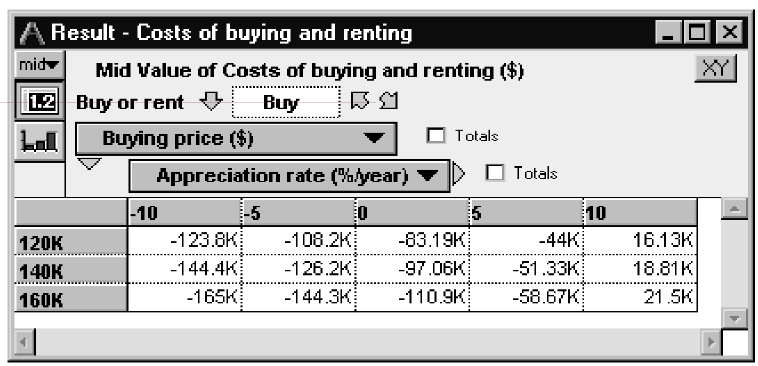
Buy or Rent becomes the third dimension with one value (Buy) displayed.



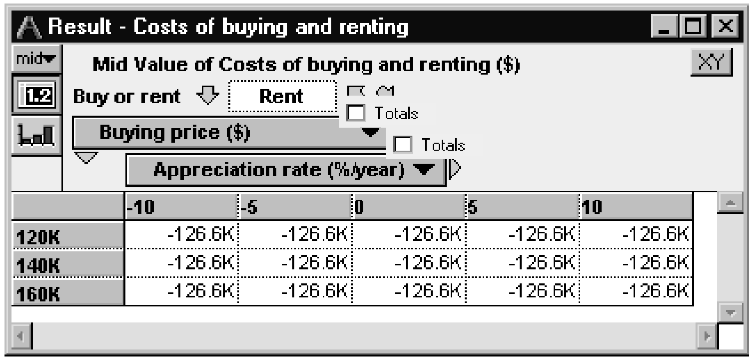


This table shows the mid net present value of buying for the parameterized values of *Buying Price* and *Appreciation Rate*.

15. Click on the navigating arrow ( ) to show the corresponding table for *Rent*.



This table shows that *Cost to Rent* does not vary with *Buying Price* or *Appreciation rate*.



Analyzing the Rent vs. Buy Analysis model: Summary

In this chapter, you have:

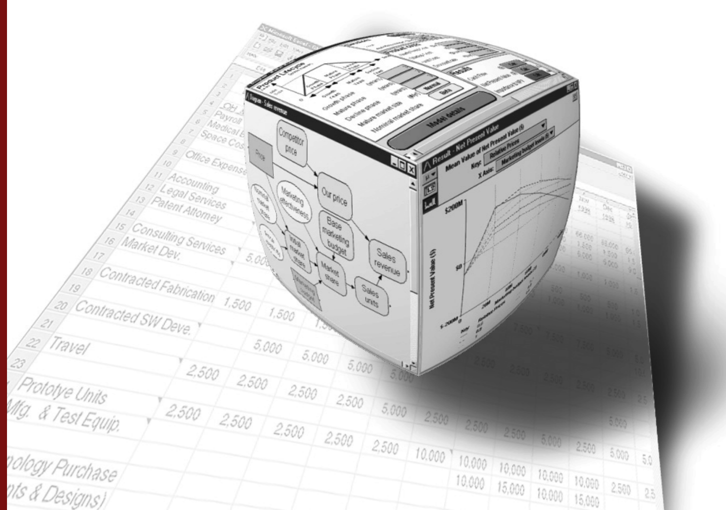
- performed importance analysis
- performed parametric analysis
- set up and compared alternative decisions

The next chapter introduces you to creating a new Analytica model.

You may quit Analytica at this point. See “Quitting Analytica” on page 28.

Chapter 4

Creating a Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Create a model
- Document and define variables
- Create a module
- Draw arrows between variables

Chapter 4: Creating a Model

This chapter introduces you to creating a new Analytica model.

In the process of building a model that analyzes the costs of owning and operating an automobile, you will create variables, define dependencies, add documentary text, and compute results. In addition, you will create modules.

Start Analytica by double-clicking on its icon as described in “Opening the Rent vs. Buy model” beginning on page 11. Analytica opens with a blank new model.

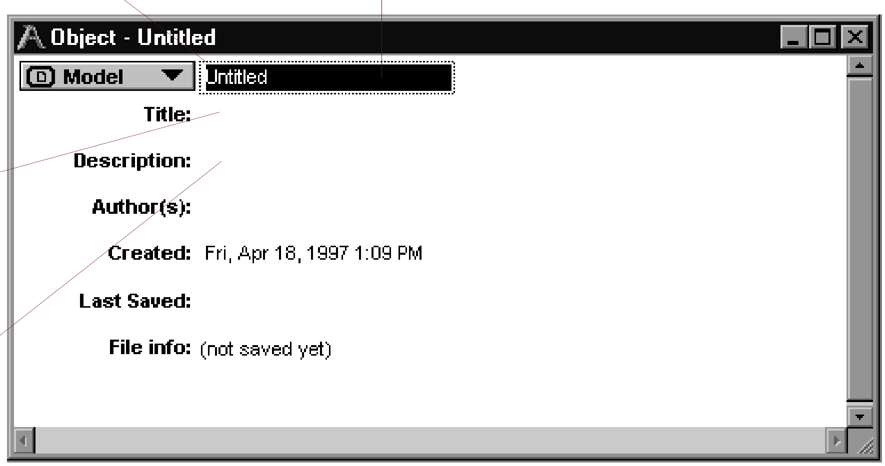
Documenting the model

An untitled model window appears when you create a new model. A ***model*** consists of a root module with any number of additional modules.

When you first create a new model, you must enter an identifier and other information, also referred to as documentation, describing its title, description, and author.

1. Type ***Carcosts*** in the Identifier field to identify your model.
2. Tab to, or click in, the TItle field (to the right of the label **Title**) and type ***Car cost model***.
3. Tab to, or click in, the Description field (to the right of the label **Description**) and type ***A demonstration model to show how to calculate the cost of running a car.*** See the following figure for the completed screen.

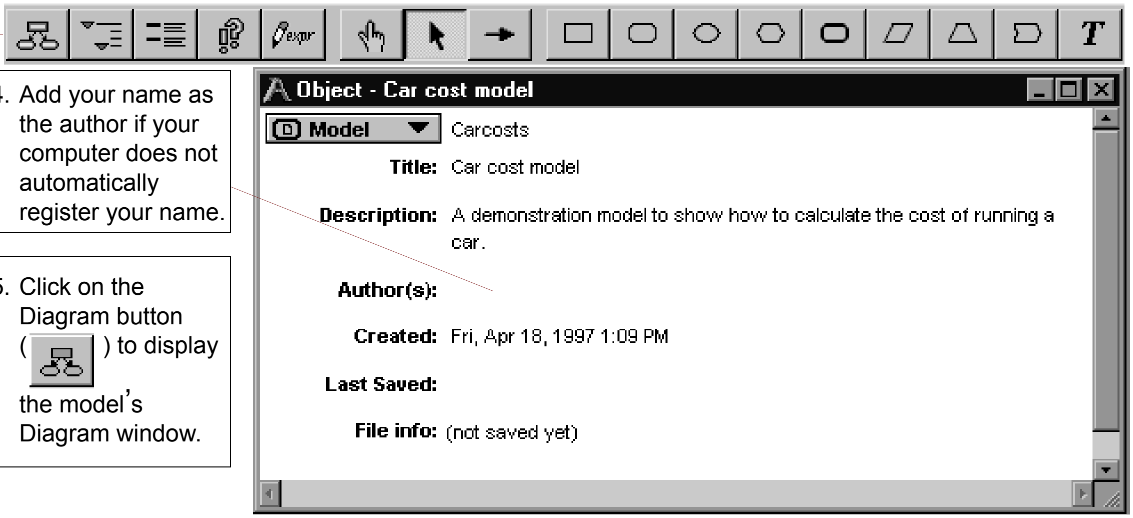
Identifier (holds up to 20 characters)



Analytica Note: *You can either press the Tab key or use the mouse to move between fields.*

4. Add your name as the author if your computer does not automatically register your name.

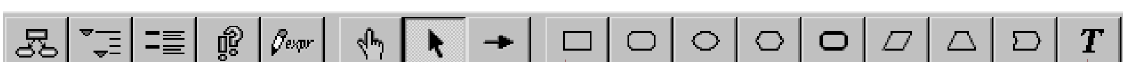
5. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to display the model's Diagram window.



Editing a diagram

You previously were in the Browse mode, with the ***Browse tool*** () highlighted in the tool palette. In Browse mode you can view an existing model, without changing its structure. When you create a new model, the Edit tool () is selected by default. You use the Edit tool to create or change a model.

Be sure to note which tool is selected throughout the remainder of this tutorial.



Browse tool

Edit tool

Node palette

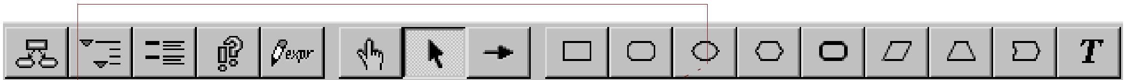
When the Edit tool is selected, a menu of icons is displayed in the Node palette. These icons represent the different node types and allow you to add nodes to the diagram.

Creating variables

In this section, you will create variables in the *Car Cost* model.

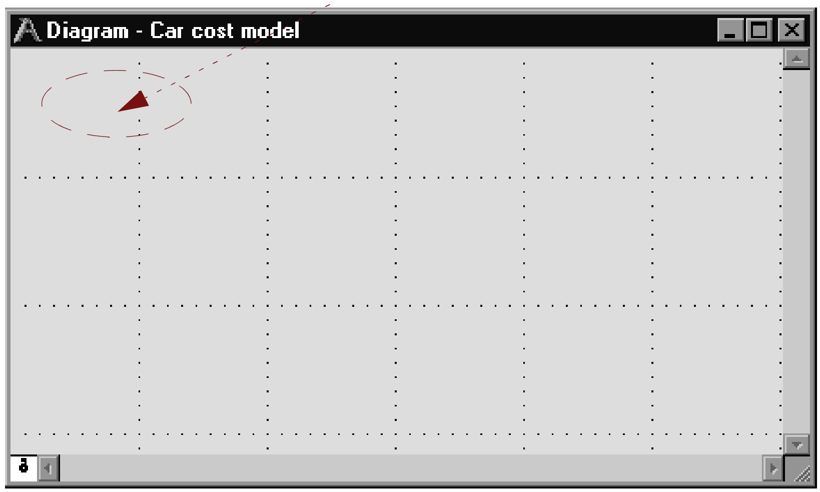
Each variable has a node type; select the node type based on what you know about the variable. If you are not sure what kind of variable it is, or if you know that the variable has a single value, represent it as a General variable. See “Recognizing an influence diagram” on page 31 of this tutorial for a description of the node types.

The first variable you will create is for the cost of fuel. Because the cost of fuel changes, you will use a Chance variable.



1. Drag the Chance icon () to a position in the influence diagram.

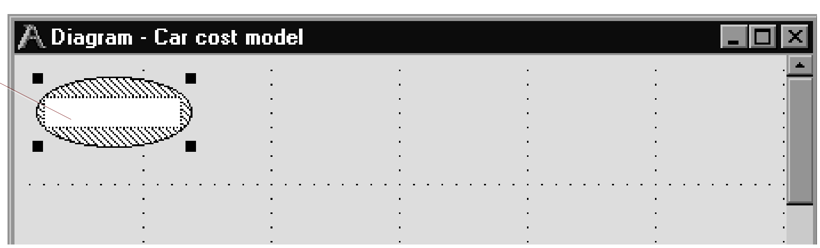
   A new Chance variable appears in the diagram at the location where you release the mouse button; the insertion point indicates that you can enter a title.



As you build a model, you should select descriptive titles for your variables. Descriptive variable titles remind you of the model’s logic and help inform others about how the model operates.

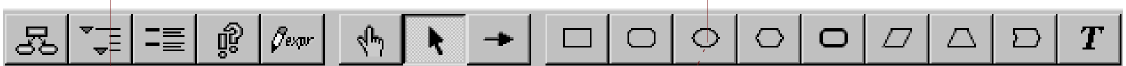
2. Type ***Fuel cost*** for the variable title.

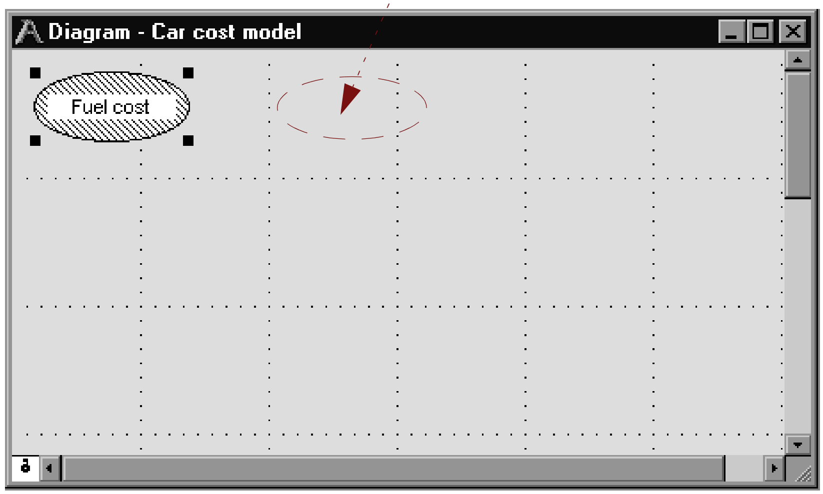
   Press *Alt-Enter* or click on any other location in the diagram to accept the title.



Analytica Note: *Fuel cost is filled with a diagonal line pattern around its text, indicating that it does not have a valid definition.*

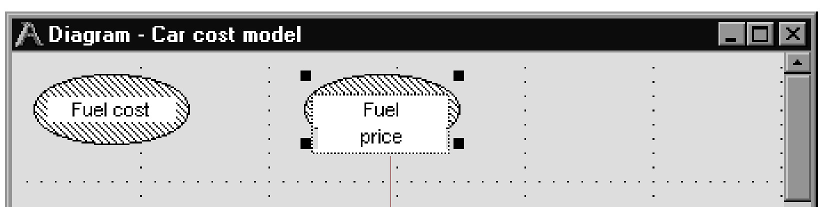
You will repeat Steps #1 and #2 to create four more Chance variables that affect fuel cost. You will title these variables *Fuel price* (price per gallon of gasoline), *Annual miles* (number of miles driven each year), *Mpg* (miles per gallon of gasoline), and *Age* (driver's age).





3. Drag the Chance icon ( ) to a position on the diagram.

The text in a node title will wrap to fit within the node, after you press *Alt-Enter*. You can manually create a new line in a title by pressing the *Enter* key at the desired break point(s).

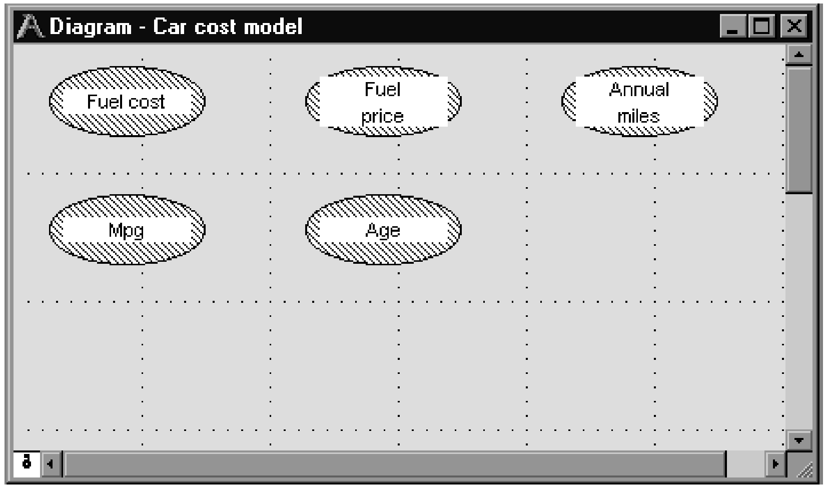


4. Type ***Fuel*** and press the *Enter* key to create a second line.

   Type ***price*** and press *Alt-Enter* to indicate that you are finished.

5. Repeat Steps #3 and #4 to create three more variables, as shown in the figure.

   Title the variables ***Annual miles***, ***Mpg***, and ***Age***.

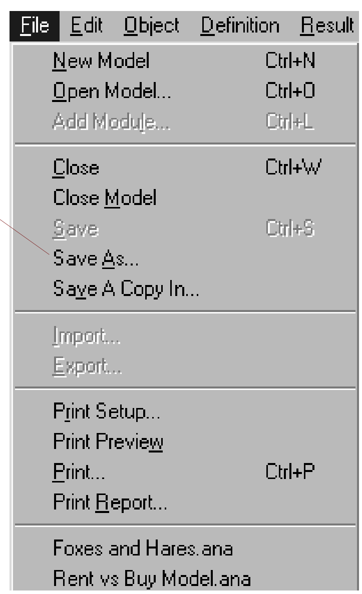


Saving your model

While creating or modifying a model, you should periodically save your changes. You should save frequently so that you do not lose very much information if your system crashes unexpectedly. See “Saving your model” on page 26.

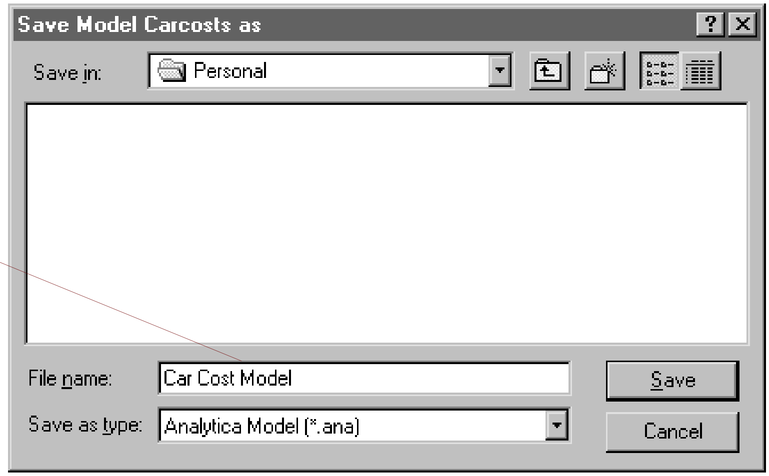
Analytica initially uses the title of your model, *Car cost model*, to name the file that contains the model. To save the file under a different name,select ***Save As*** from the ***File Menu***.

1. Select **Save As** from the **File** menu.



Analytica defaults to your personal directory.

2. Type the new file name here.



Deleting a variable

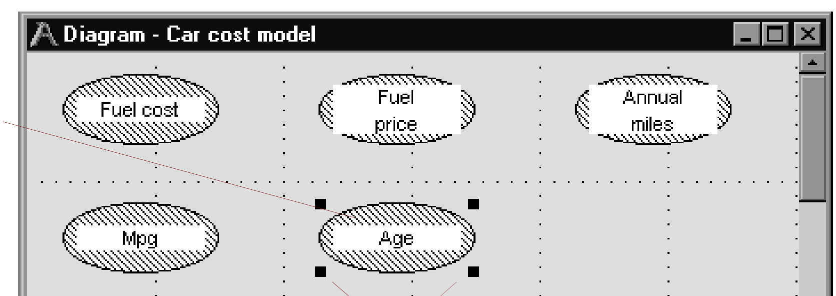
Sometimes you may want to delete a variable that you previously created.

In this example, you realize that the driver's age is not relevant to your understanding of the *Fuel Cost* variable. Therefore, you will delete the *Age* variable.

1. If the *Age* node is not selected, select it.

   Handles surround the node to indicate that it is selected.

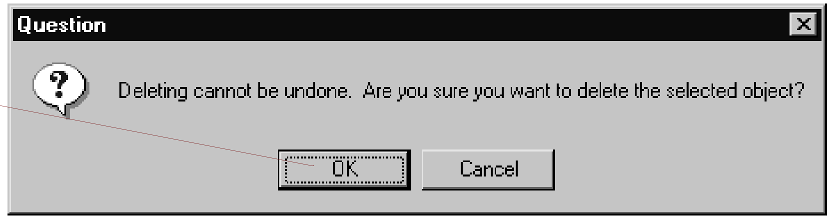
2. Select **Clear** from the **Edit** menu, or press the *delete* key.



Handles

The Delete command cannot be undone; Analytica asks you to confirm that you want to delete.

3. Click on **OK** to confirm that you would like to delete the selected object.



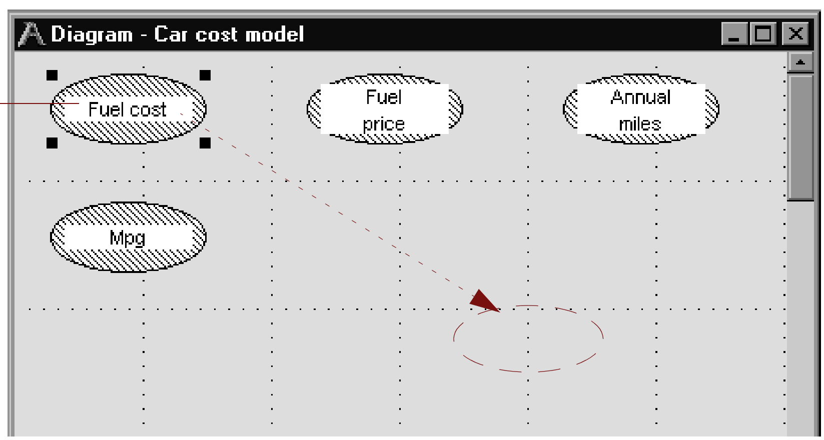
Moving nodes

When you create a model, you should try to structure the model layout to make the model logic easy to understand. As you refine your model, however, you undoubtedly will want to group nodes in different ways. You can move nodes easily to organize your influence diagrams in the best way possible.

In this section, you will move variable nodes so that the three variables contributing to fuel cost surround the *Fuel cost* node. You begin by moving a single variable node in the diagram. You will then select and move multiple nodes at once.

1. Drag the *Fuel cost* node to the position shown by the arrow.

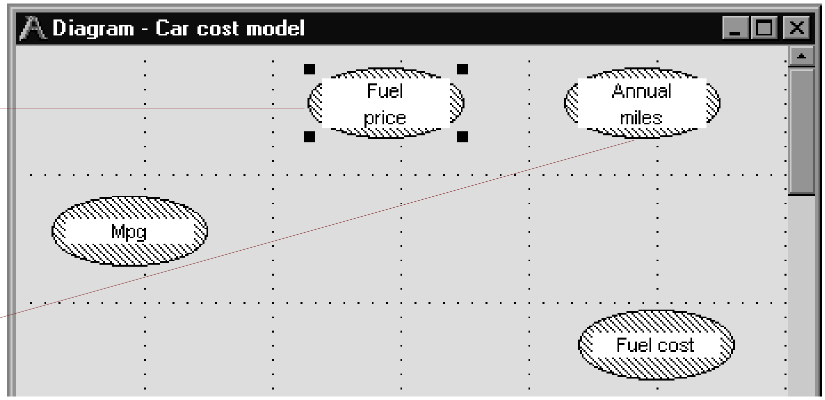
   The node reappears at the location where you release the mouse button (as shown in the following figure).



2. To move the *Fuel price* and *Annual miles* nodes at the same time, first select the *Fuel price* node.

3. Hold down the *Shift* key and select the *Annual miles* node.

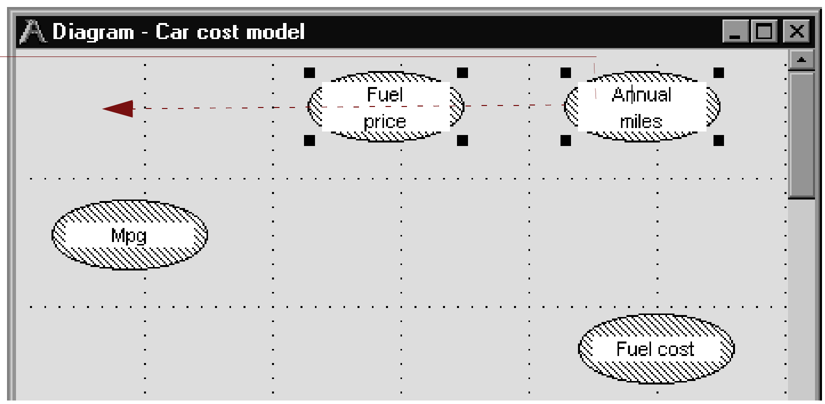
   Now, both nodes are selected (as shown in the following figure).



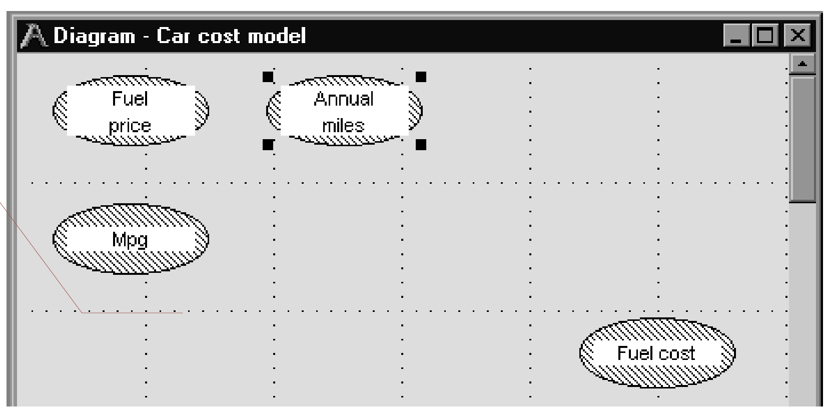
Another way to select multiple nodes is to drag a selection box, using the Edit tool, around the nodes you want to select.

4. Drag the *Annual miles* node to the left, to the position shown by the arrow.

   Both nodes reappear at the location where you release the mouse button (see the following figure).



5. Click anywhere outside the two nodes within the diagram to deselect the nodes.



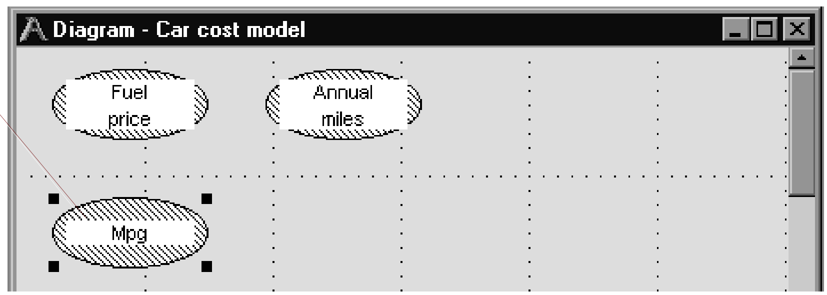
Analytica Note: *You can undo or redo a drag operation by selecting* ***Undo/Redo*** *from the* ***Edit*** *menu, or by typing the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl-Z.*

Editing variable titles

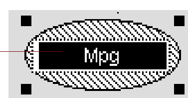
Each variable in the model is represented by a titled node in the model's influence diagram. Occasionally, you will want to change the title of an object to make the model easier to understand.

In this section, you will change the title of the variable *Mpg* to *Miles per gallon*.

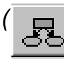
1. Select the *Mpg* node.



2. Click again inside the node's title to select its text for editing.

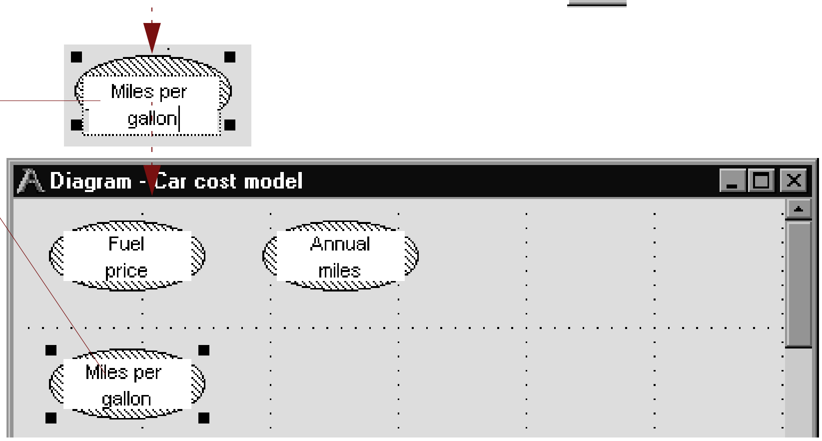


Analytica Note: *Pause briefly between the click to select the node and the click to select the text within it. If you complete two single-clicks too quickly, Analytica interprets your actions as a double-click and opens an Object window.*

If you accidentally open the Object window, return to the Diagram window by clicking on the Diagram button ().

3. Type **Miles per gallon** and press *Alt-Enter*.

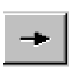
   The newly titled node is displayed.



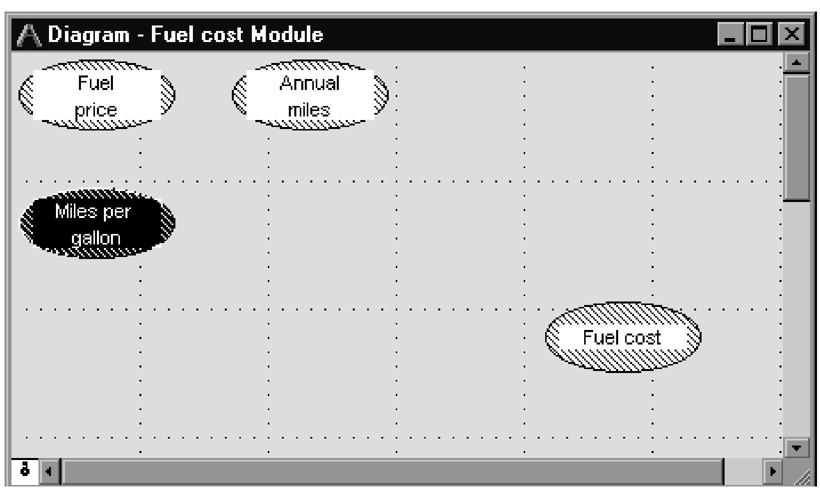
Drawing an arrow between nodes

One of Analytica's most powerful features is its ability to show relationships between variables in the influence diagram. ***Influence arrows*** are used to specify the dependencies between variables.

Because the *Miles per gallon* variable influences the *Fuel cost* variable, you will draw an arrow connecting the two nodes.

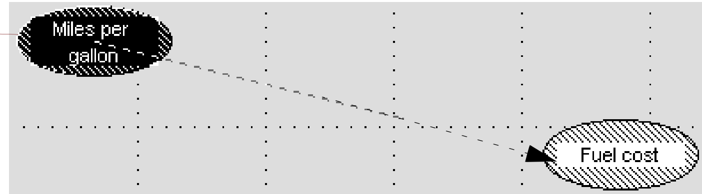
1. Select the Arrow tool  to begin drawing arrows.

1. Notice that the cursor turns into an arrow (➔).



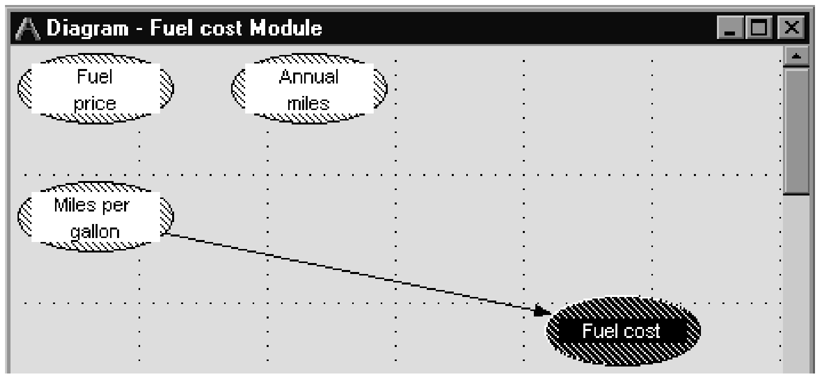
2. Drag from the *Miles per gallon* node to the *Fuel cost* node.

   Fuel cost becomes highlighted when you drag the arrow over any part of it (as shown in the following diagram).



3. Release the mouse button when *Fuel cost* is highlighted.

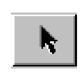
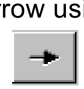
   The two nodes are now connected by an arrow, indicating that *Miles per gallon* affects *Fuel cost*.



If the nodes are not connected by an arrow, repeat Steps #1 through #3.

Deleting an arrow

Occasionally, you may need to delete an arrow because of an earlier mistake or a change in your understanding of the model. This section shows you how to delete the arrow that connects *Miles per gallon* to *Fuel cost*.

You can delete an arrow using either the Edit tool  or the arrow tool. 

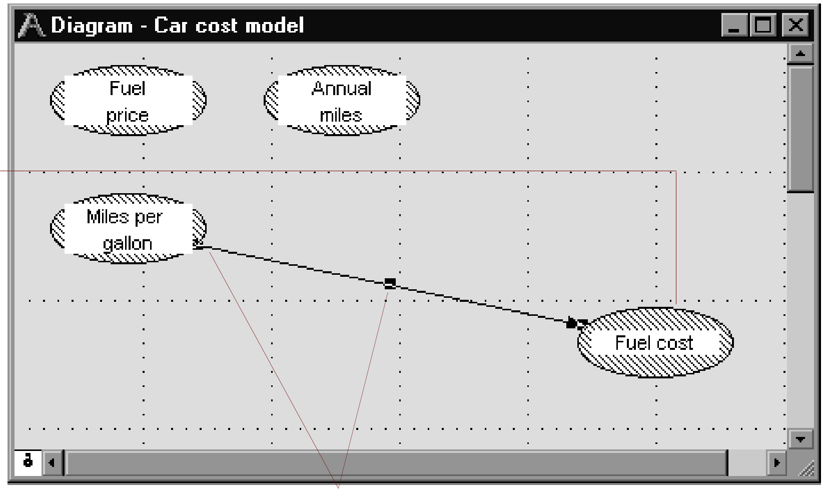
First, make sure you have either the Edit tool or Arrow tool selected.

1. Select the arrow.

   It is easiest to select the arrow by clicking on the arrow head. Handles appear when the arrow is selected.

2. Press the *delete* key to delete the arrow.

   The arrow disappears.



Handles

Connecting multiple arrows

When one variable is influenced by many other variables, you can draw multiple arrows at once. This section shows you how to connect the three variables contributing to the *Fuel cost* variable.

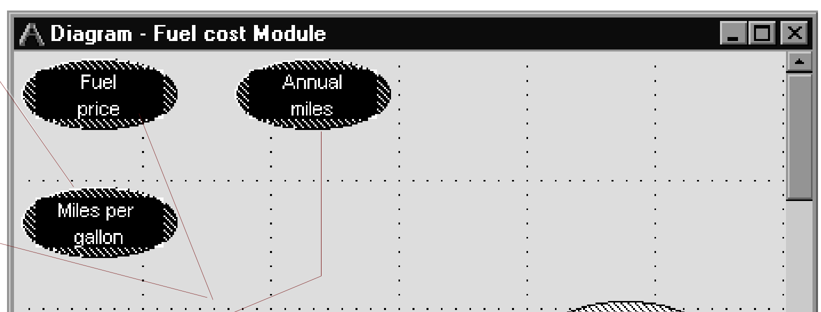
First, make sure the Arrow tool is selected.

1. Select the *Miles per gallon* node.

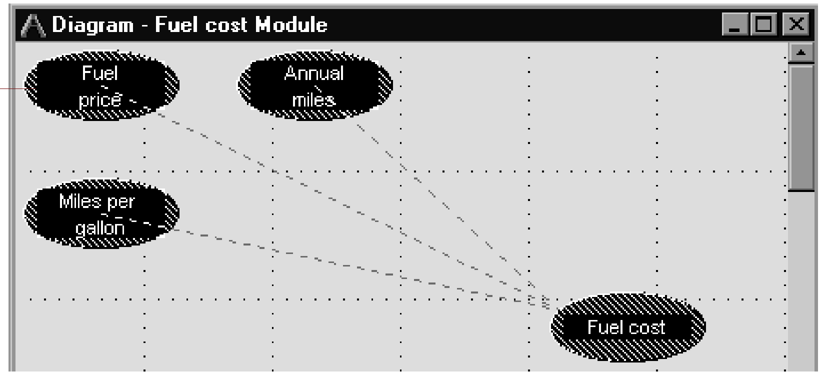
2. Hold down the *Shift* key and select the *Fuel price* node.

3. Hold down the *Shift* key and select the *Annual miles* node.

   All three nodes are now selected.



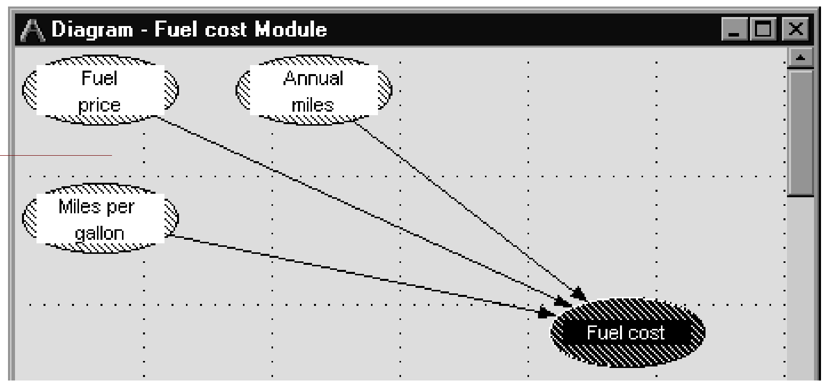
4. Drag from any one of the selected nodes to the *Fuel cost* node.

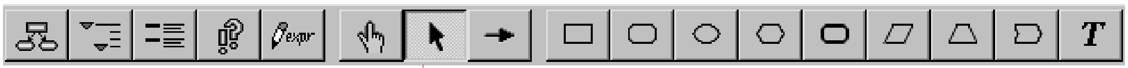


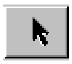
5. Release the mouse button when the *Fuel cost* node is highlighted.

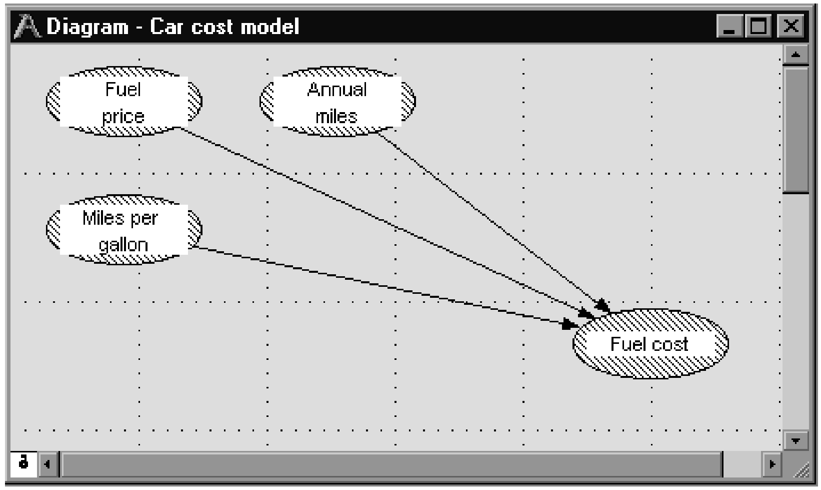
   Three arrows should now point to the *Fuel cost* node (as shown in the following diagram).

6. Deselect all of the nodes by clicking in any location in the diagram that is not on a node.





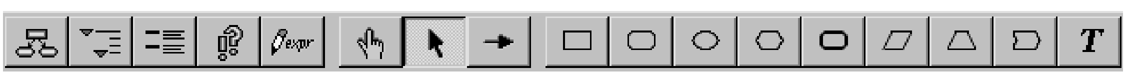
7. Select the Edit button  () to turn off arrow drawing.



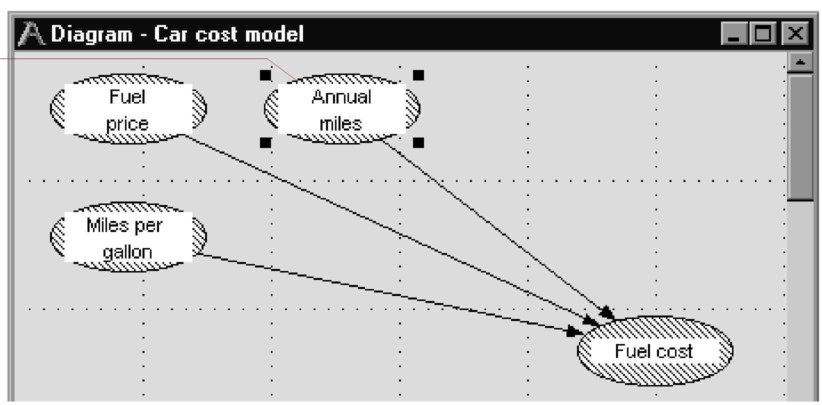
Entering attributes using the Object window

When you create an Analytica model, you can add documentation of the model and of its variables. Analytica supports integrated documentation that can be tied to every variable in the model.

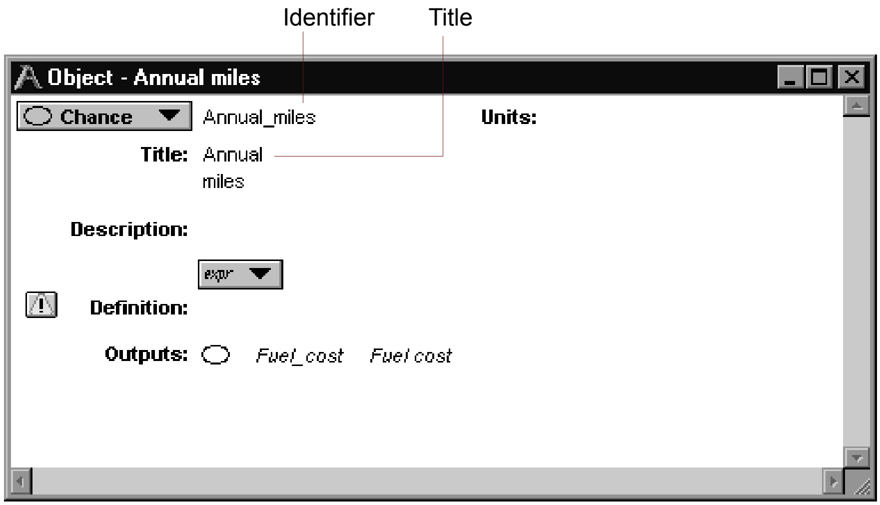
In this section, you will provide documentation for the *Annual miles* variable in the *Car Cost* model.



1. Double-click on the *Annual miles* node to open its Object window.



Analytica Note: *You can also open a variable's Object window by double-clicking on the node using the Browse or Arrow tools. If you are using the Browse tool, you will not be able to enter or change documentation.*

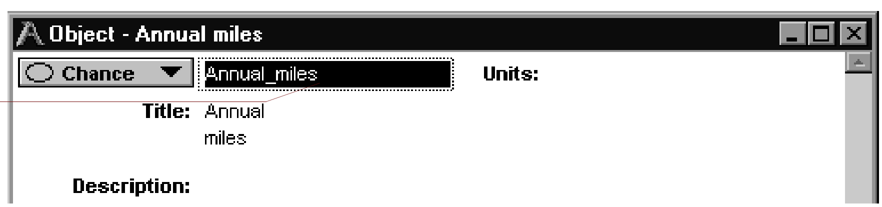


The identifier in the Object window shown above is *Annual_miles*. Analytica assigns the identifier when the title is created. It uses the first 20 characters of the title except for spaces, which are replaced by underscores (_). Analytica does not differentiate between uppercase and lowercase letters.

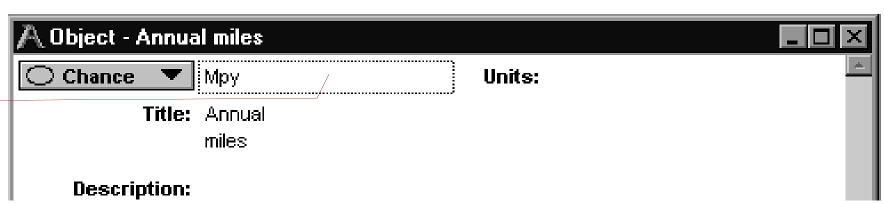
You can directly edit both the identifier and the title.

First, you will change the variable's identifier to a short abbreviation so that it can easily be used later in the definitions of other variables. You will then document the variable more fully.

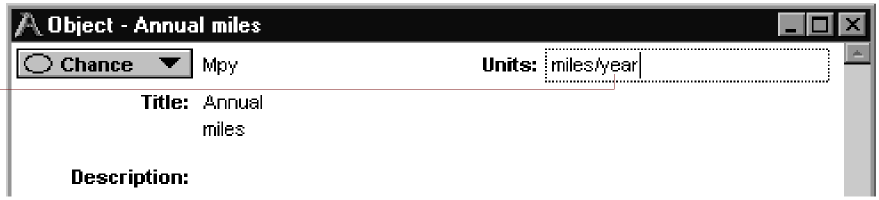
2. Select the contents of the Identifier field.



3. Type ***Mpy*** and press *Alt-Enter*.

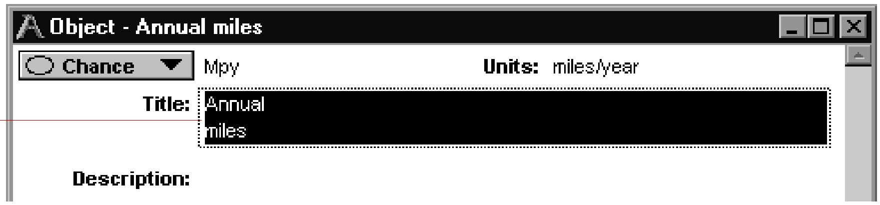


4. Click on the Units field. Type ***miles/ year*** and press *Alt-Enter*.

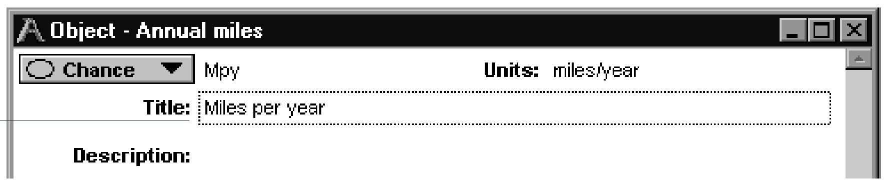


Analytica Note: *Analytica uses the information from the Units field to label graphs or tables that use the Miles per year variable; Analytica does not use it in any mathematical computations.*

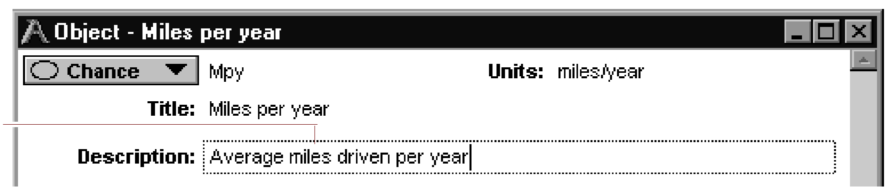
5. Select the contents of the Title field and press the *delete* key to erase **Annual miles**.



6. Type ***Miles per year*** and press *Alt-Enter*.



7. Click in the Description field and type ***Average miles driven per year*** and press *Alt-Enter*.



Defining a variable explicitly

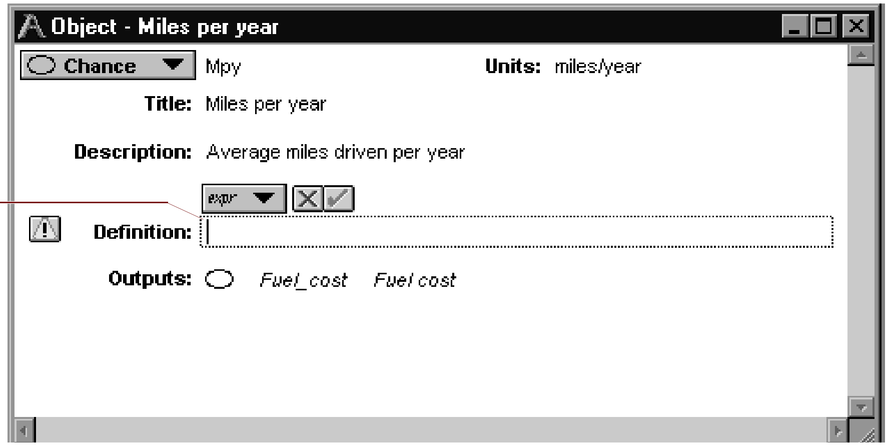
When you create and document a variable, you must also ***define*** the ***mathematical expression*** for computing its value.

In this section, you will provide a mathematical expression for the *Miles per year* variable. You will define *Miles per year* as a single number.

For this example, assume that the average number of miles driven annually is 12,000.

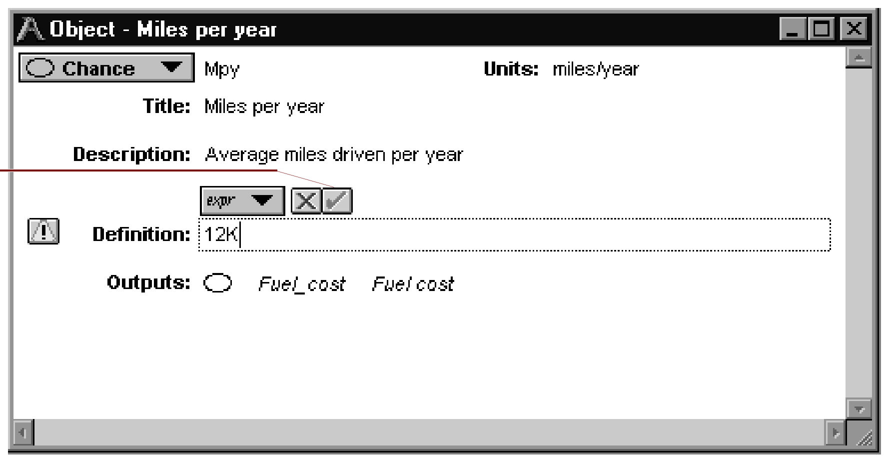
1. Click in the Definition field to enter a mathematical expression for the variable; type ***12K***.

   A Warning icon () indicates that this variable's definition has not yet been accepted.

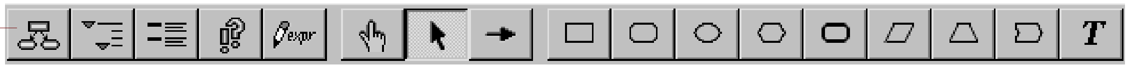


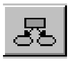
2. Click on the Check button ( ) or press *Alt-Enter* to accept the new definition.

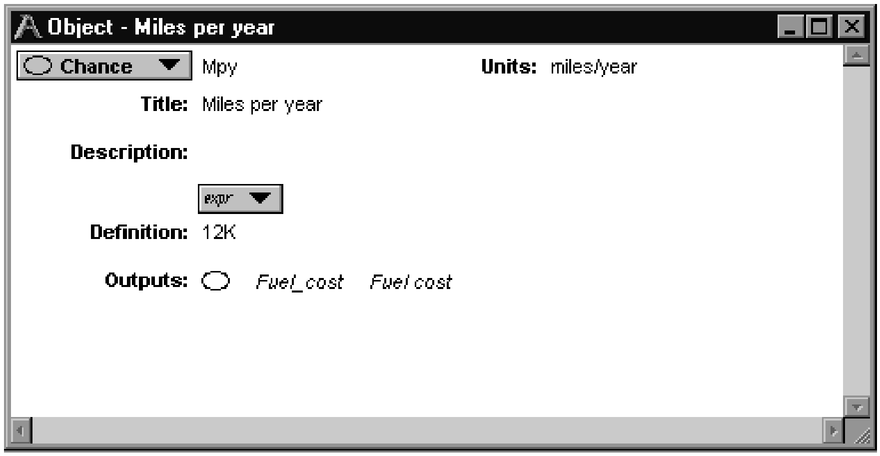
   The Warning icon disappears because the variable now has a valid definition.



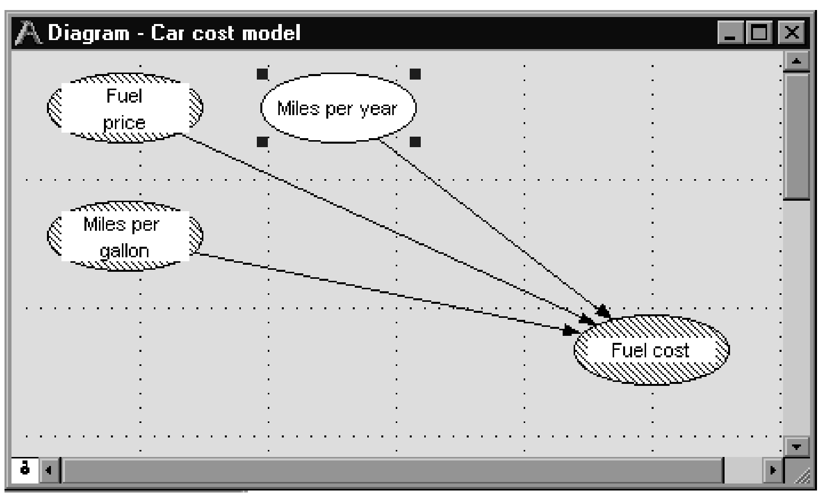
***Analytica Note:** Whenever another variable's definition includes the **identifier** (Mpy) of Miles per year , this defined value, 12K, will be used.*



3. Click on the Diagram button  to return to the influence diagram.



Miles per year is no longer filled with a diagonal line pattern around its title, shown in the figure below. The clear node indicates that *Miles per year* now has a definition that is valid and can be computed.



Defining a variable that is influenced by other variables

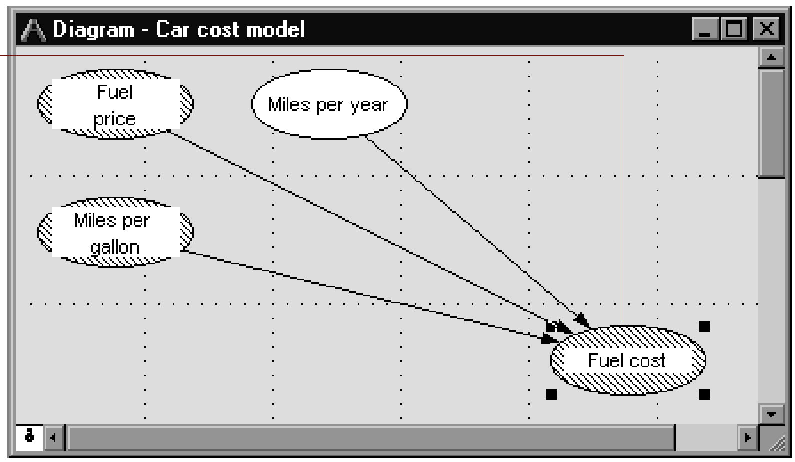
When one variable is influenced by (dependent upon) another variable, you must provide a mathematical expression that describes the relationship between the variables. The *Fuel cost* node has arrows entering it from three other variables.

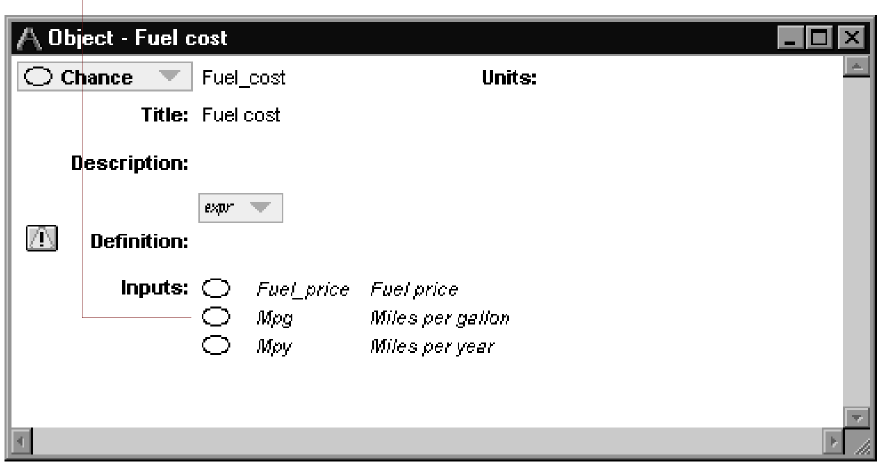
In this section, you will enter a definition for *Fuel cost* that describes how it depends on the *Miles per year, Miles per gallon,* and *Fuel price* variables.

1. Double-click on the *Fuel cost* node to open its Object window.

   The identifiers and titles of the three input variables appear in the Inputs field for the Fuel cost variable.

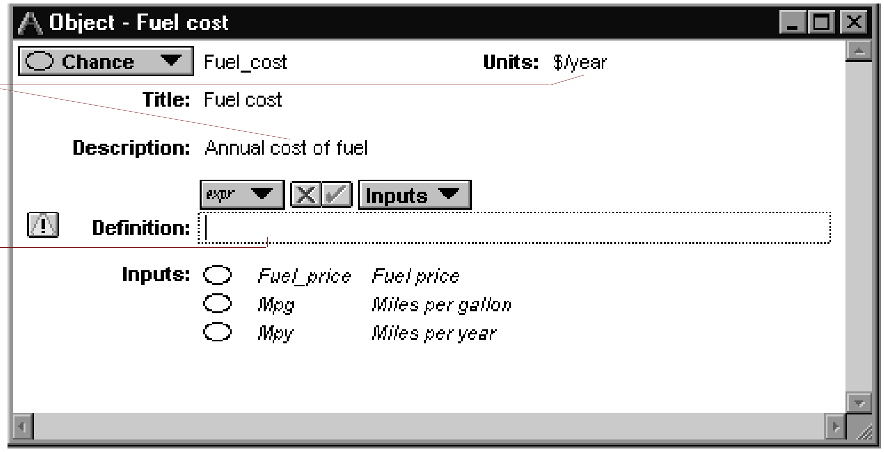
   Because the form of the dependence has not been specified, the Definition field is blank.





2. Enter the variable's units, ***$/year***, description,and ***Annual cost of fuel***.

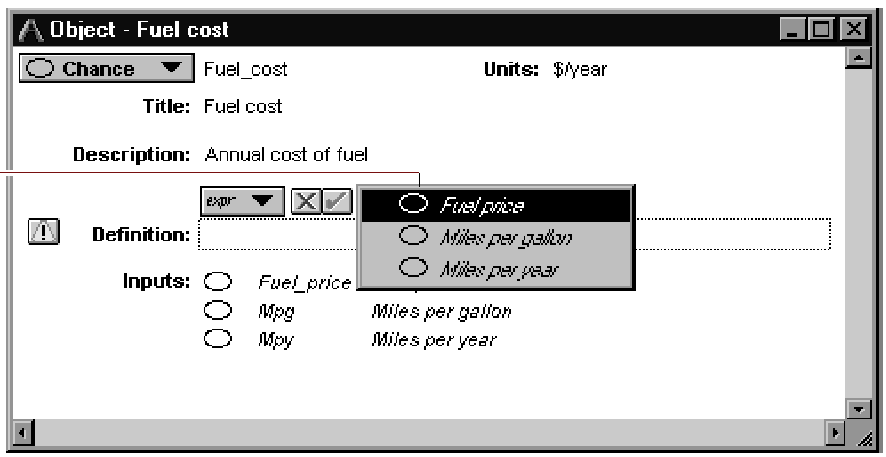
3. Click in the Definition field to enter a mathematical expression.



Because Fuel cost is equal to price times miles driven divided by miles per gallon, you will enter the following expression into the Definition field: **`Fuel_price*Mpy/Mpg`**. (An asterisk (**`*`**) represents multiplication; a slash (**`/`**) represents division.)

4. Press on the Inputs popup menu, and select the name of the variable that you want to add, in this case, *Fuel price*. *Fuel_price* appears in the Definition field.

5. Type an asterisk (**`*`**).

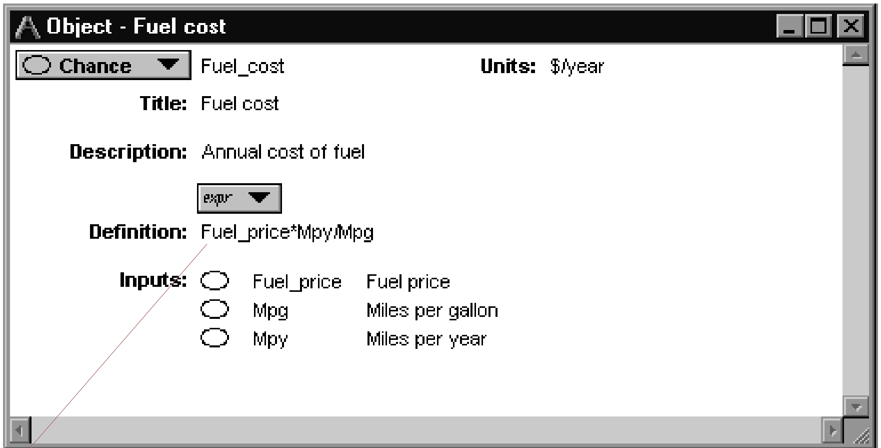


6. Select *Miles per year* from the Inputs popup menu.

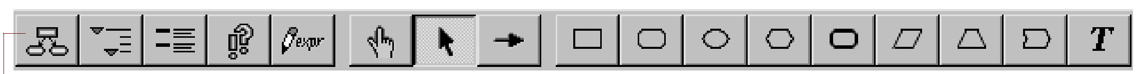
7. Type a slash (/).

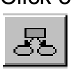
8. Select *Miles per gallon* from the Inputs popup menu.

9. Press *Alt-Enter* or click on the check  button to accept the definition. The Definition field should look like this.

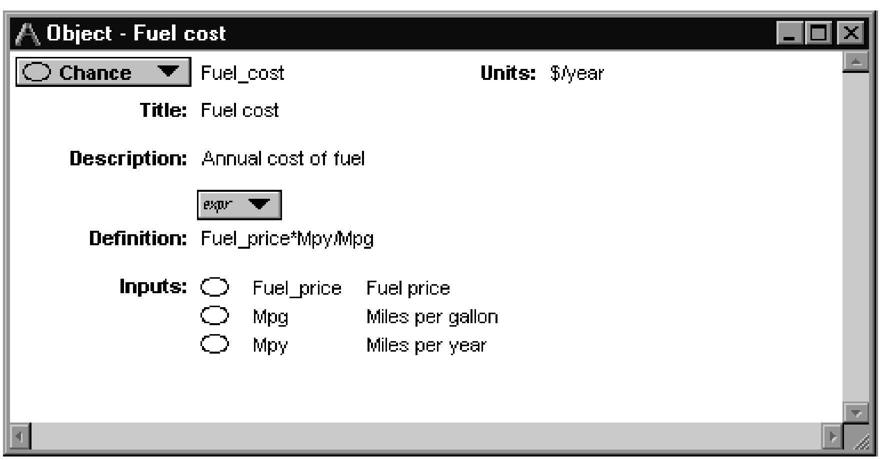


Based on the definition you just entered, the value of *Fuel cost* is calculated by multiplying the values of *Fuel price* and *Miles per year*, and then dividing the result by the value of *Miles per gallon*.



10. Click on the  Diagram button to return to the influence diagram.

Note that *Fuel cost* is no longer diagonally shaded, indicating that it has a valid definition.



Probabilistic definition

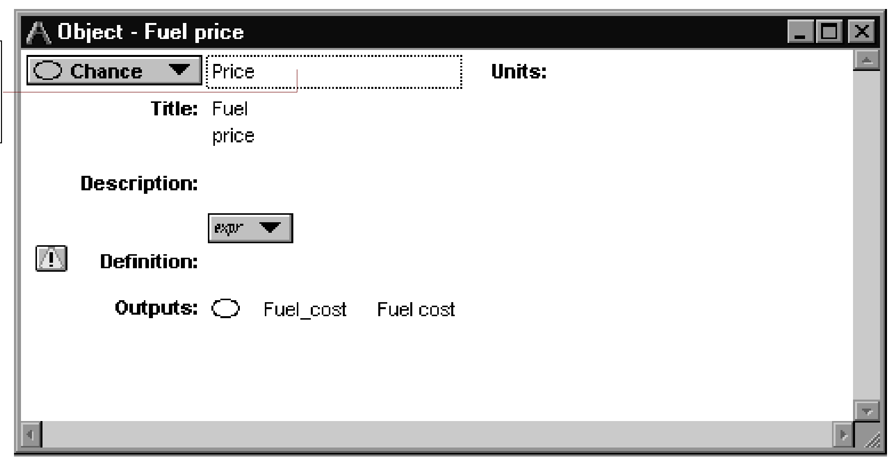
In this section, you will document the variable *Fuel price* and provide it with a ***probabilistic*** definition. You will assume that the exact price of gasoline is not known and that its uncertainty is best expressed as a normal distribution. You will enter this definition and view the distribution.

Analytica Note: *Uncertain values can be expressed using any of a wide range of probability distributions. Consult a probability and statistics text book for information on the characteristics and uses of different distributions.*

1. Double-click on the *Fuel price* node to open its Object window.

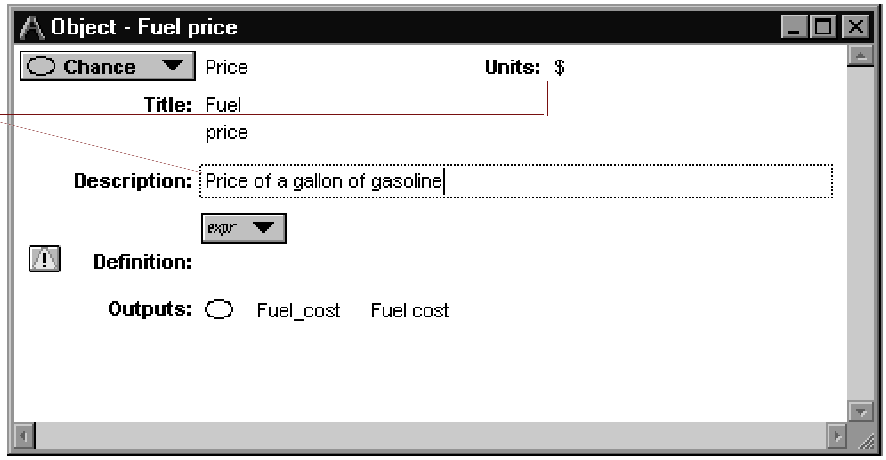
A new variable automatically receives a default identifier based on the first 20 characters of the variable's title. You will now change this identifier.

2. Change the identifier to ***Price***.



Analytica Note: *As shown in the section "Defining a variable that is influenced by other variables" beginning on page 93, the definition of the Fuel cost variable refers to the Fuel price variable. Because you just changed the identifier of Fuel price, the definition of Fuel cost is automatically updated to refer to the new identifier.*

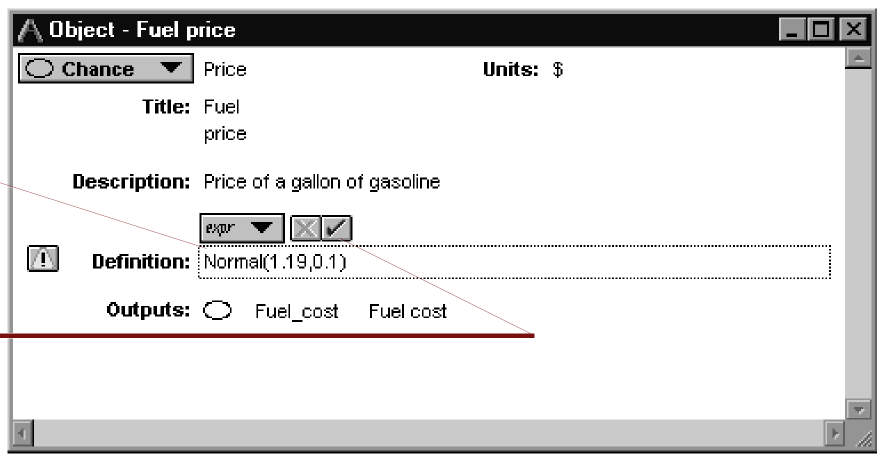
3. Enter the units, ***$***, and description, ***Price of a gallon of gasoline***, as shown.



Now you will define *Fuel price* as a normal distribution with a mean of $1.19/gallon and a standard deviation of $0.10. You will enter the uncertainty distribution directly as an expression, rather than using the Object Finder.

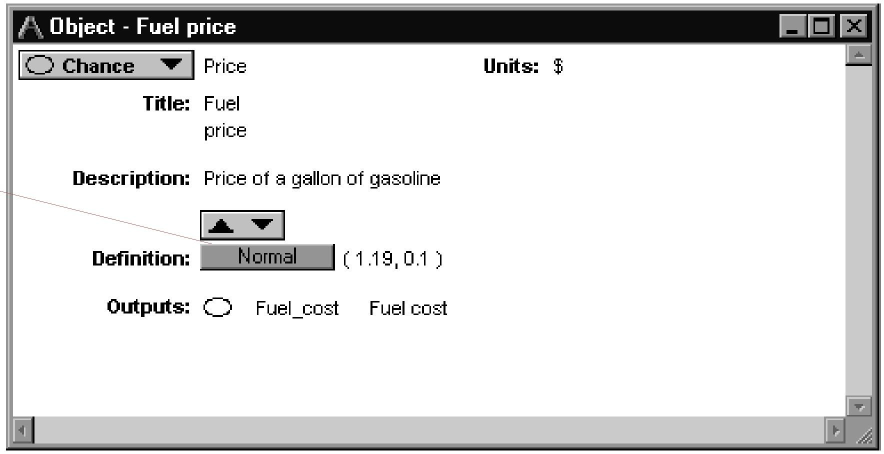
4. Enter the definition for the normal distribution as ***Normal(1.19, 0.1)***

5. Click on the Check button ( ) or press *Alt-Enter*.



The definition field now contains a button, indicating the type of distribution you just entered, ***Normal***.

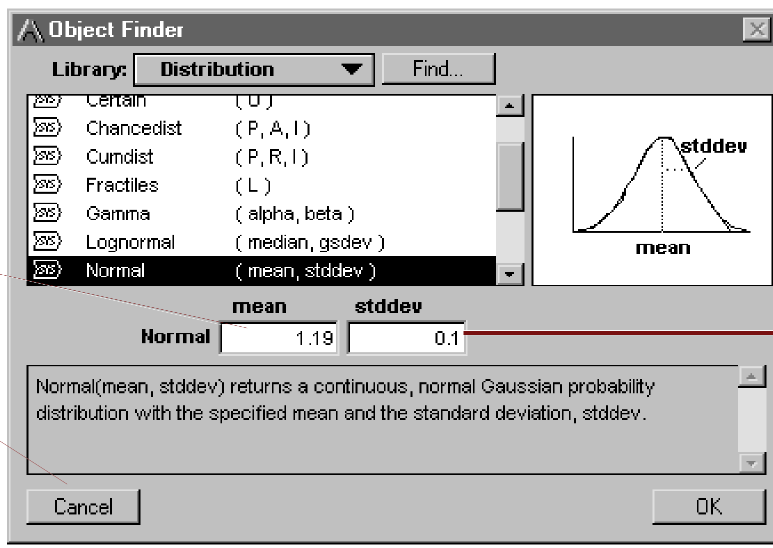
6. Click on the button to see the distribution in the Object Finder.



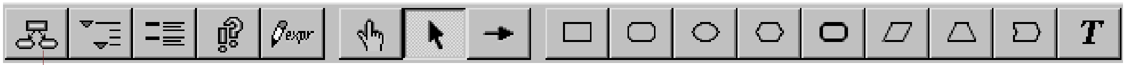
The Object Finder dialog box displays the normal distribution along with a graphic, the parameters you specified, and a description of the distribution.

Mean

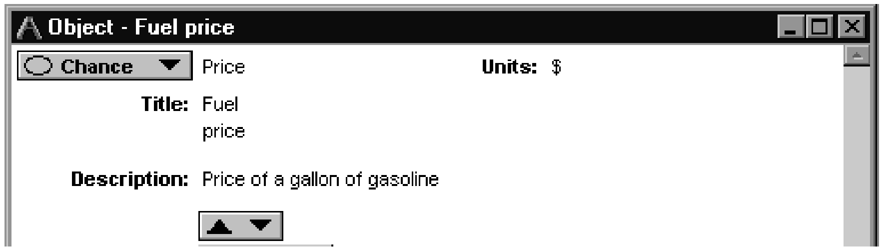
7. Click on the **Cancel** button to close this dialog box.



Standard deviation



8. Click on the Diagram button to return to the influence diagram window.
Note that *Fuel price* is no longer diagonally shaded.



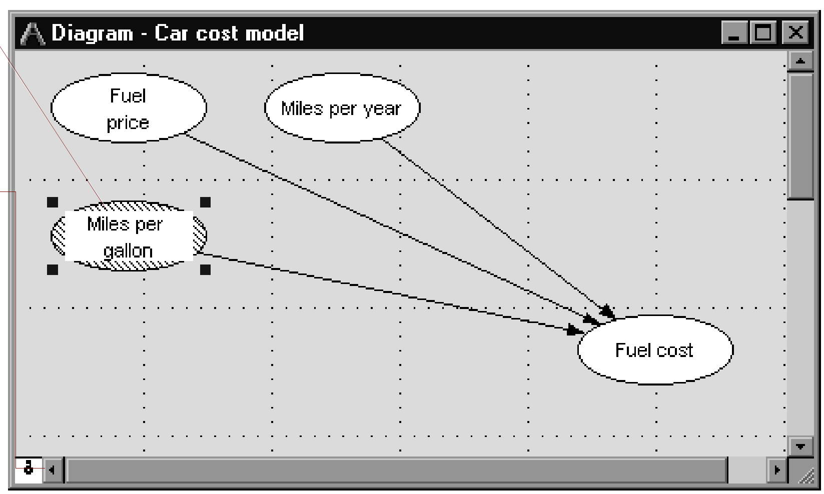
Entering attributes using the Attribute panel

Rather than opening a separate window to alter a variable's attributes, you may prefer to see a variable's attributes in the same window as the model influence diagram. The Attribute panel, which appears under the diagram, allows you to edit as well as examine attributes.

In this section, you will enter data for the *Miles per gallon* variable in the Attribute panel.

1. Select the *Miles per gallon* node.

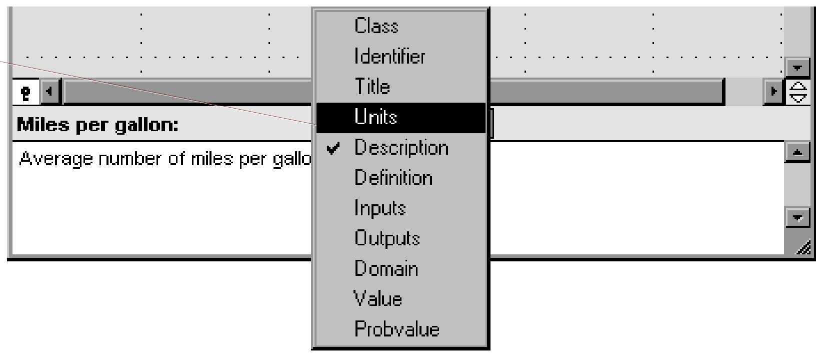
2. Click on the Key icon to display the Attribute panel.



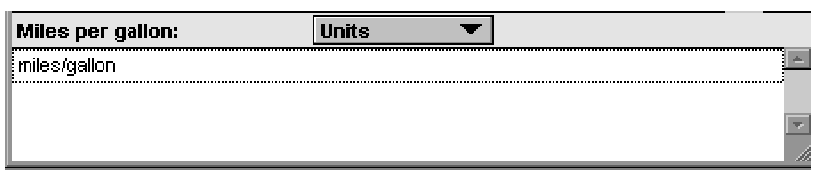
The Attribute panel appears below the diagram. You can use this view to enter or edit data for the currently selected variable in the influence diagram.

3. Click in the Attribute panel to enter the description for *Miles per gallon*. Type ***Average number of miles per gallon obtained by car***, then press *Alt-Enter*.

4. Select **Units** from the Attributes popup menu.



5. Type ***miles/gallon***, then press *Alt-Enter*.



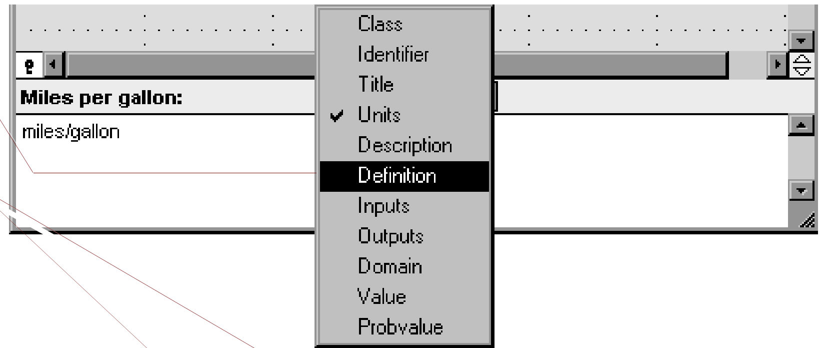
Now that you have entered the documentation for variable *Miles per gallon*, you will enter its definition in the Attribute panel.

You will define the value of *Miles per gallon* as an uncertain value that is equally likely to be any value between 20 and 30. The uniform distribution describes an equally likely uncertainty.

You will define the variable as a distribution using the Expression popup menu.

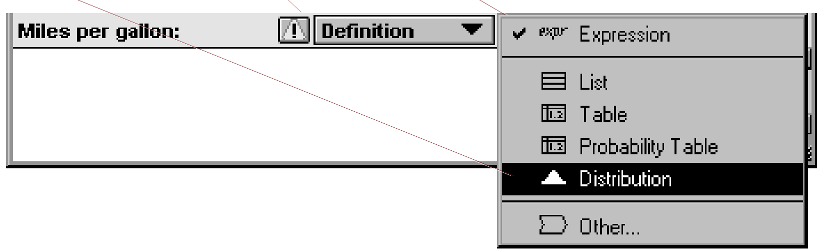
1. Select **Definition** from the Attributes popup menu.

   The Warning icon (⚠) and the Expression popup menu appear above the Definition field.

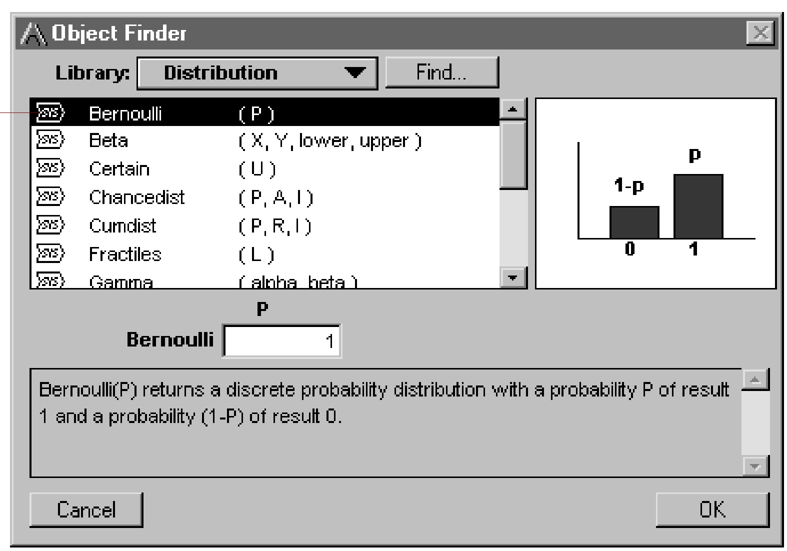


2. Press on the Expression popup menu and select **Distribution**.

   The Object Finder dialog box displays the Distribution library, with the first distribution (Bernoulli) selected. See the figure on the following page.



Bernoulli distribution is selected



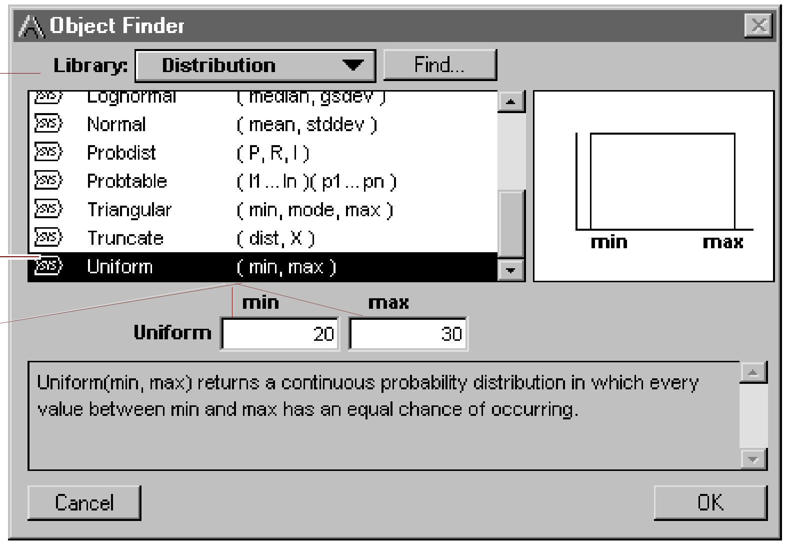
3. Scroll down to make the Uniform distribution visible and select it.

Distribution library is selected

Uniform distribution is selected

4. Enter the values ***20*** and ***30*** in the boxes.

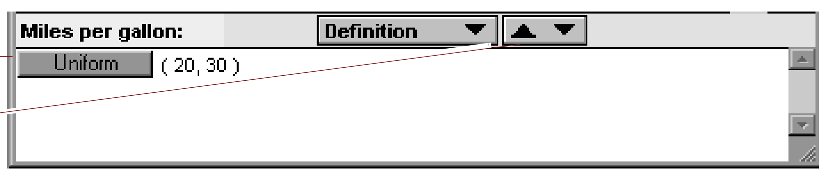
5. Click on the **OK** button to accept this new definition.



The Attribute panel now looks as shown in the following figure. The distribution icon ( ) in the Expression popup menu indicates that a probability distribution is selected; the button is labeled with the name of the distribution.

Distribution button

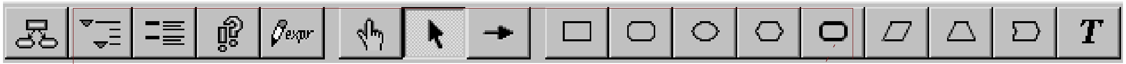
Expression popup menu



Creating a module

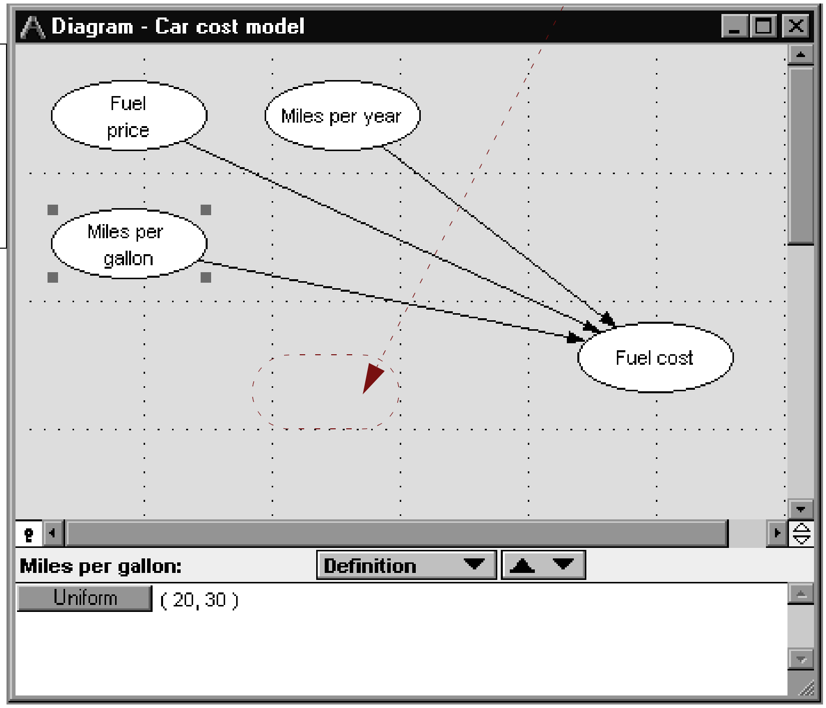
To simplify complicated diagrams, most complex models use submodels, called modules. A ***module*** is an influence diagram containing variables and their relationships to one another.

In this section, you will create a module that contains the fuel cost variables. First, make sure the Edit tool ( ) is selected.

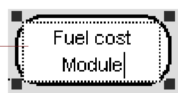


1. Drag the Module icon (▭) to the position shown by the arrow.

   Notice that a module node has thick outlines.

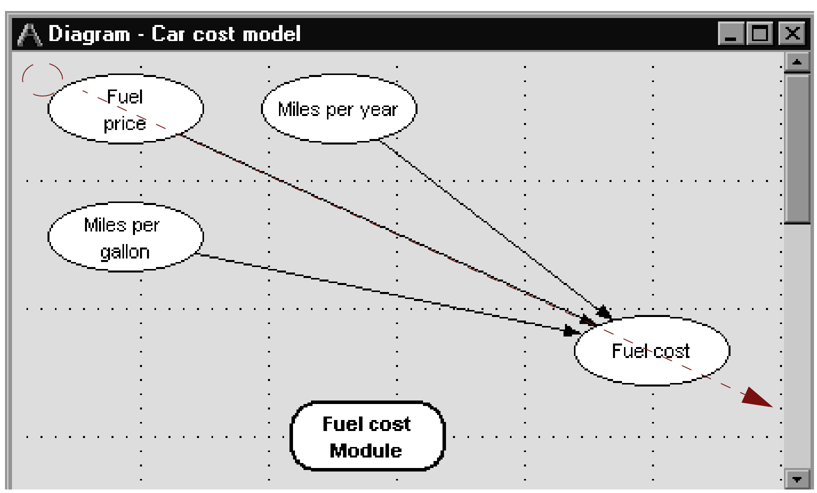


2. Title the node ***Fuel cost Module*** and press *Alt-Enter*.



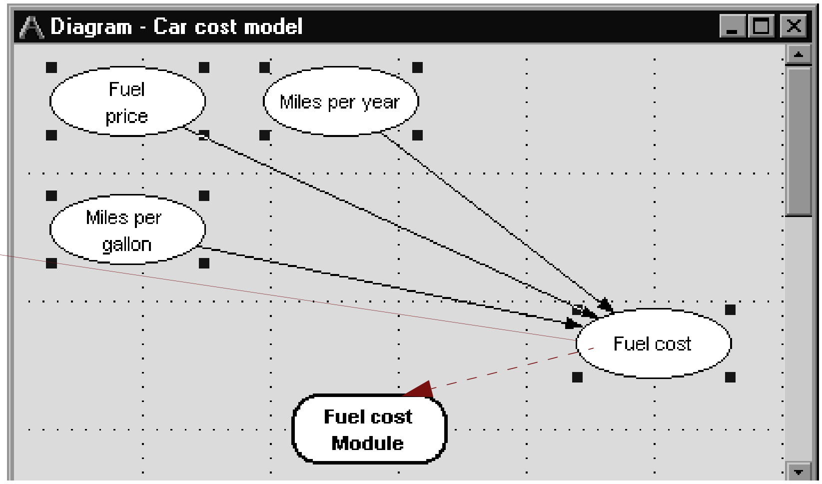
3. Select all of the nodes (*Fuel price, Miles per year, Miles per gallon,* and *Fuel cost*) except for the *Fuel cost Module*.

   To select all of the nodes, create a selection box surrounding the nodes by pressing the mouse in the upper left corner and dragging to enclose the four nodes.

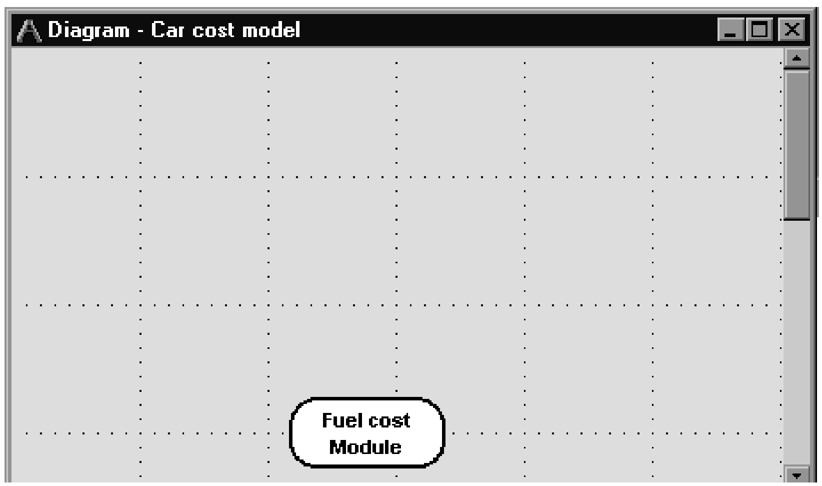


4. Drag from any of the selected variables onto the *Fuel cost Module* node; this node becomes highlighted when the mouse is over it.

5. Release the mouse button.



Your diagram should now look like the following.



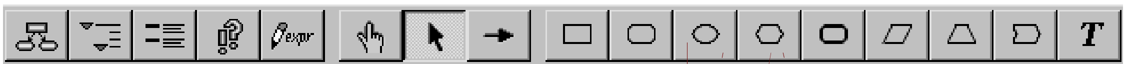
Analytica Note: *If you left any nodes behind, simply drag them onto the Fuel cost Module node now.*

Drawing arrows between variables in different modules

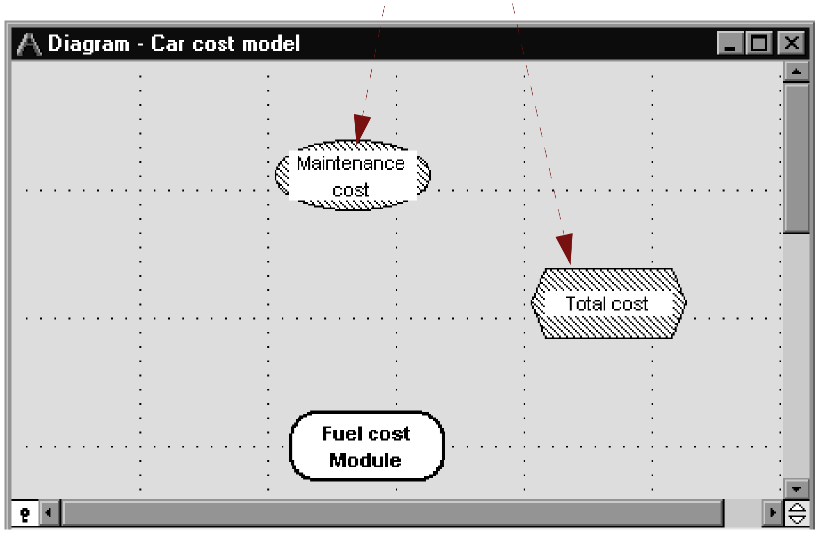
In addition to drawing arrows between variables in a single model or module, you can create dependencies between variables in different modules using the Arrow tool.

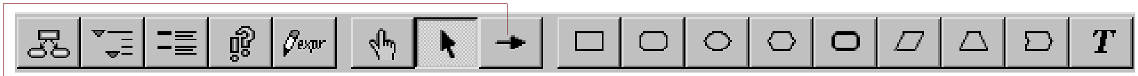
In this section, you will add more variables to the top-level model and connect them to variables in the module that you just created.

First, you will add a *Maintenance cost* Chance variable, and define a *Total cost* Objective variable. The *Total cost* variable will be used to compute the sum of the *Maintenance cost* and *Fuel cost* variables.

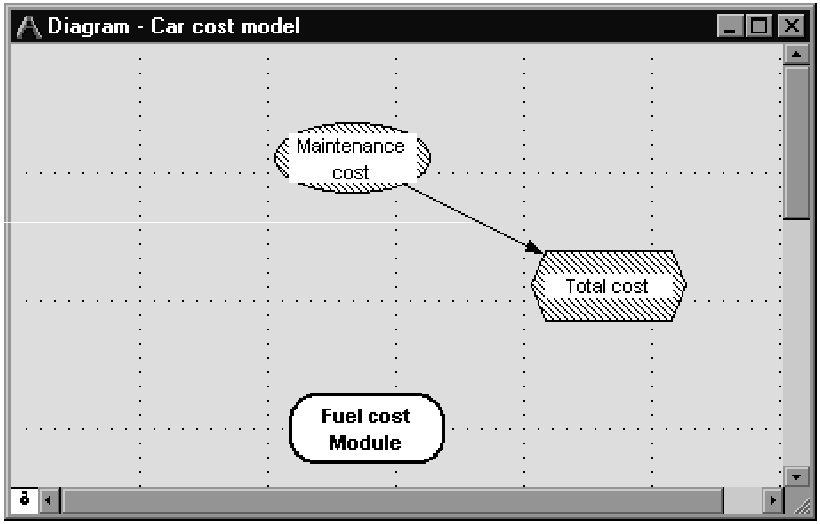


1. Drag the Chance icon ( ) to the position shown by the arrow.
2. Title this Chance variable ***Maintenance cost***, and press *Alt-Enter*.
3. Drag the Objective icon ( ) to the position shown by the arrow.
4. Title this Objective variable ***Total cost*** and press *Alt-Enter*.





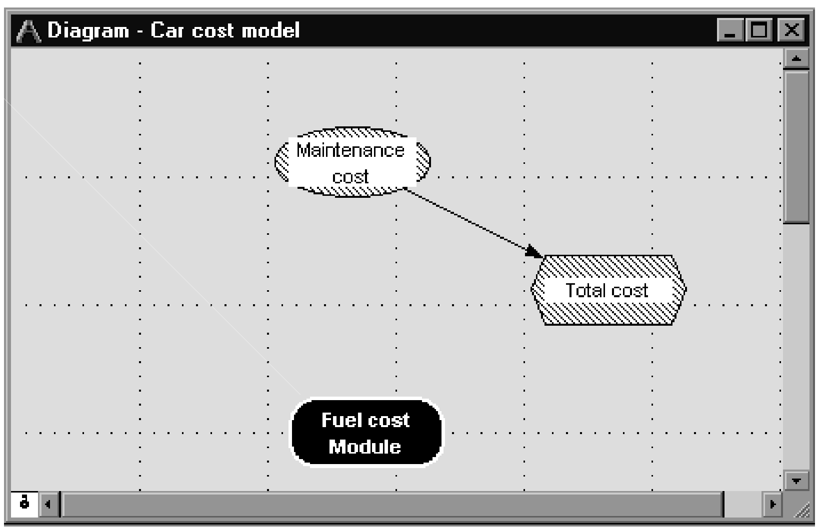
5. Select the Arrow () tool.



6. Draw an arrow from *Maintenance cost* to *Total cost*.

You will now create an arrow between the *Fuel cost* variable (inside the *Fuel cost Module*) and the *Total cost* variable.

7. Double-click on the *Fuel cost Module* (which contains the *Fuel cost* variable) to open it.

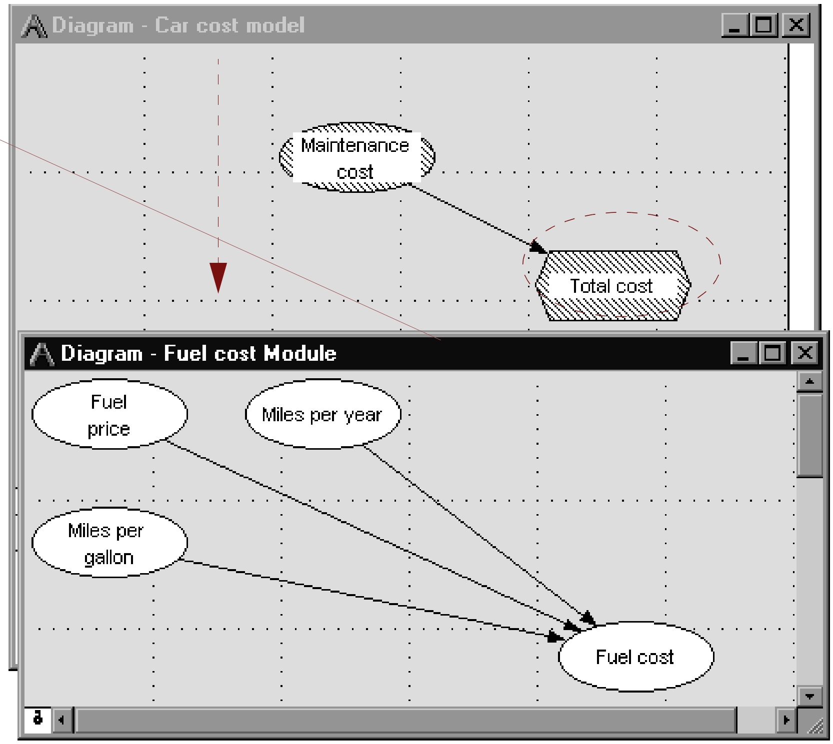


You can double-click on a node to open it using any tool. Here, you are using the Arrow tool.

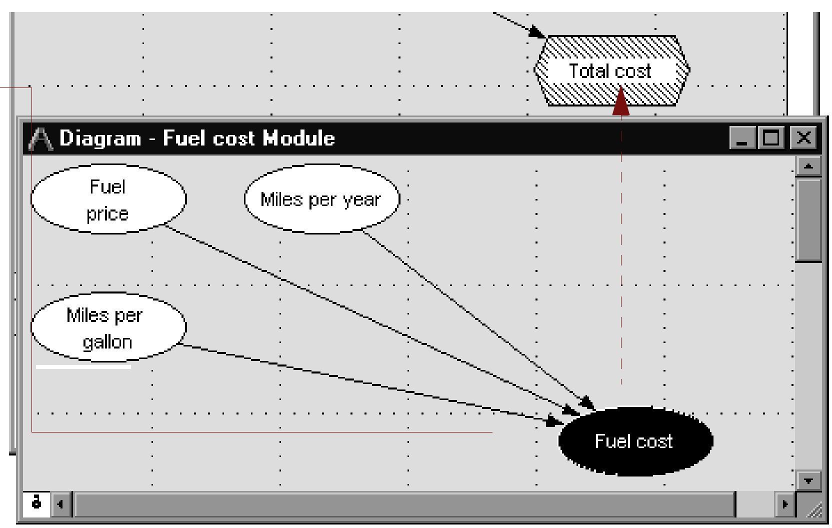
The *Fuel cost Module* Diagram window is now in the foreground. You will move this window down on the screen to expose the

Total cost node, which is located behind this window in the *Car cost model* Diagram window. Then you will draw an arrow from the *Fuel cost* node in the *Fuel cost Module* window to the *Total cost* node in the *Car cost model* window.

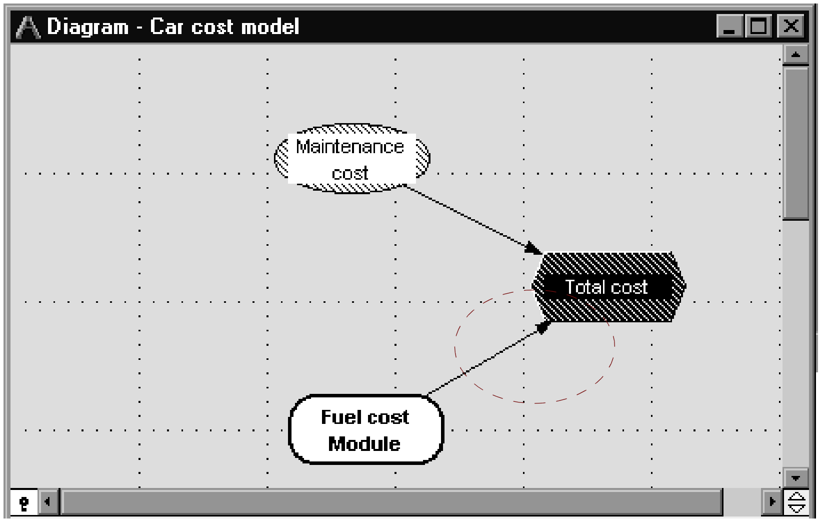
8. Press on the title bar of the *Fuel cost Module* Diagram window and move the window down so that you can see the *Total cost* node in the window behind it.



9. Drag from the *Fuel cost* node to *Total cost.*



An arrow is drawn between the *Fuel cost Module* and the *Total cost node.* This arrow does not represent the specific dependency you just created, only that *Total cost* depends on one or more variables in the *Fuel cost Module*.

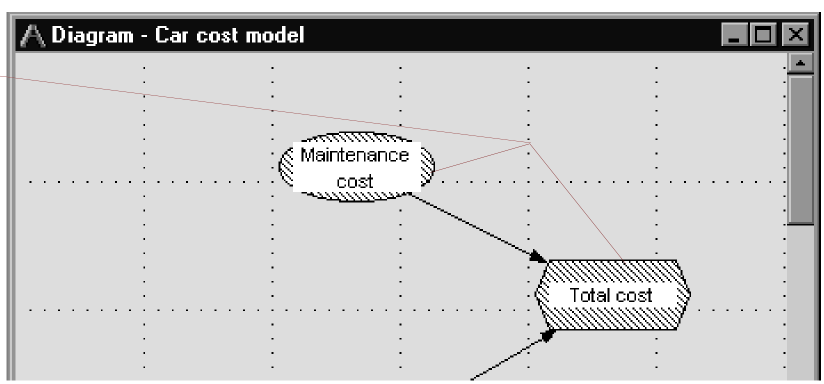


Completing the model

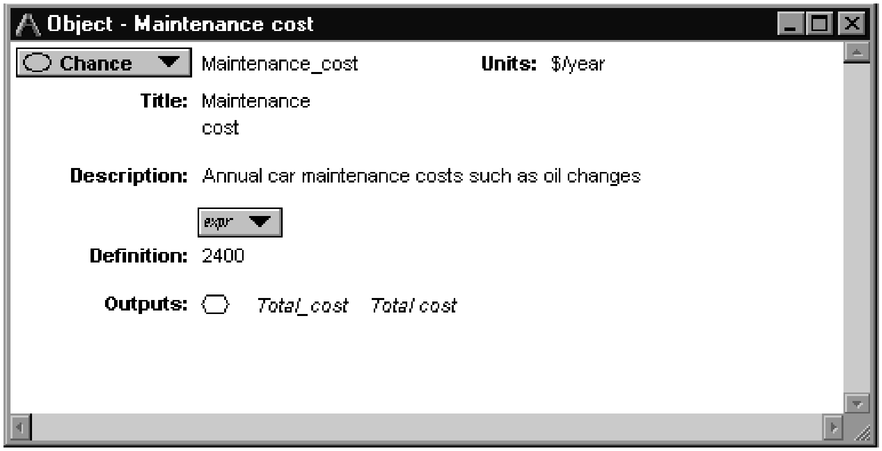
Thus far, you have used several methods for moving between windows, documenting variables, and specifying their definitions. In this last step of this chapter, it is up to you to complete the model on your own.

Reminder: *Select the Edit tool and either use the Attribute panel at the bottom of the screen or double-click on a node to open its Object window.*

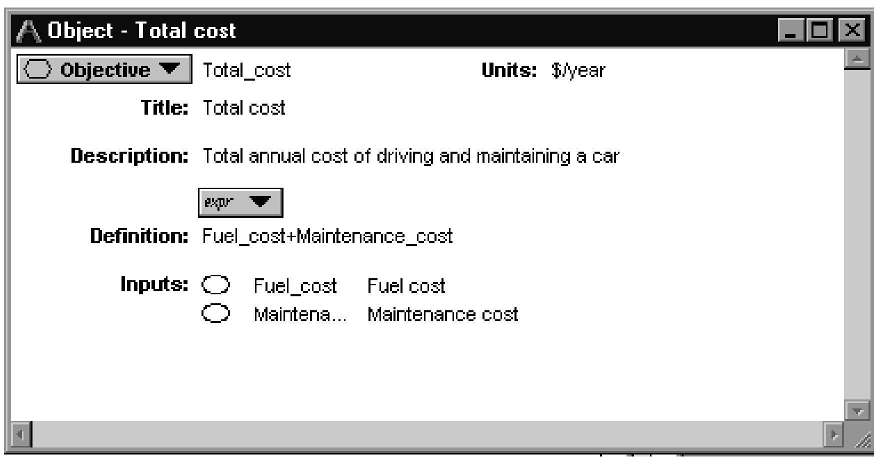
1. Document *Maintenance cost* and *Total cost* and specify their definitions using the information shown in the Object windows on the following page.

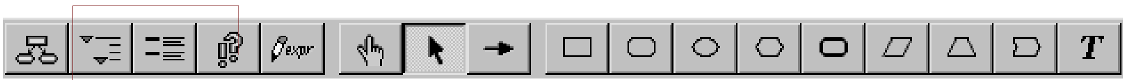


Enter these attributes for *Maintenance cost:*



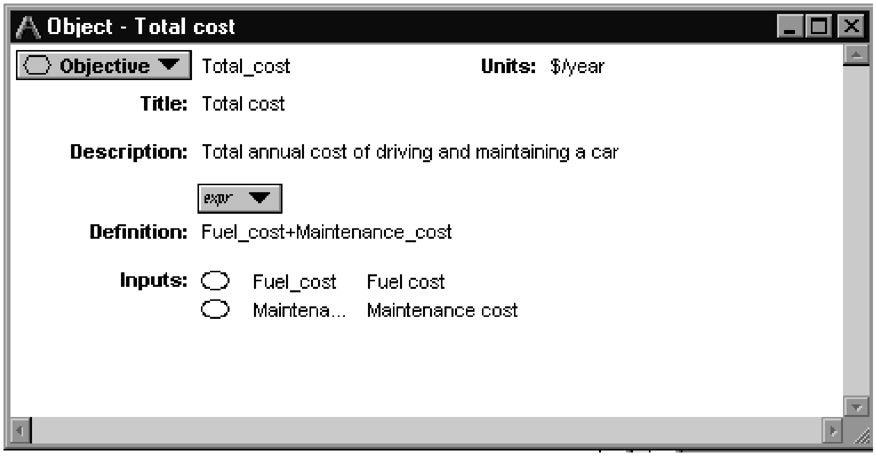
Enter these attributes for *Total cost*:

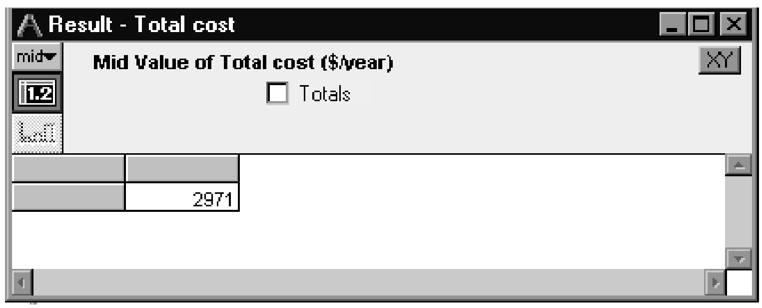


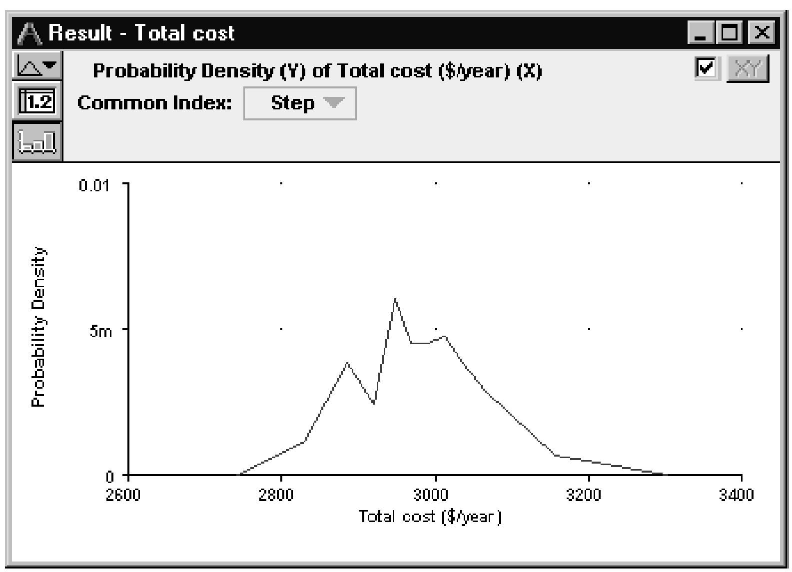


2. Click on the Result button to evaluate *Total cost*.

   Examine the mid value and probability density of *Total cost*.







Creating the Car Cost model: Summary

In this chapter, you have:

- created a model
- documented and defined variables
- created a module
- drawn arrows between variables in the same module and in different modules

In the next chapter, you will extend the *Car Cost* model to include tables of data.

Saving your model and quitting

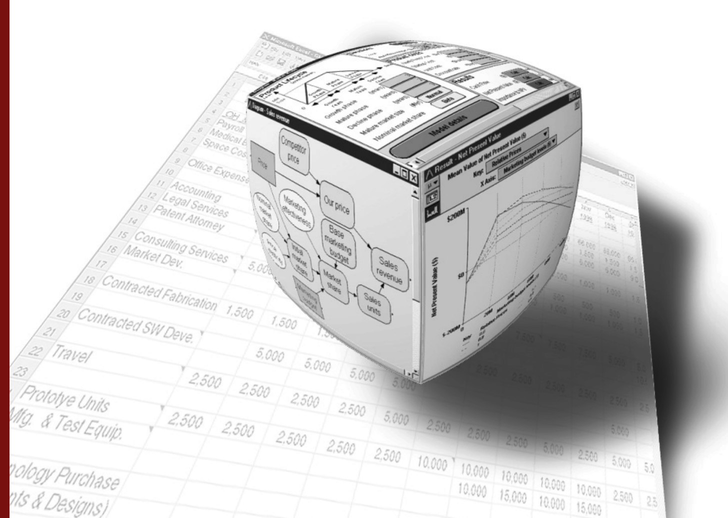
After you have created part or all of a model, you should save it. Because you previously saved your model, it will be saved with the name you gave it.

Close the Attribute panel by clicking on the key ( ).

You may quit Analytica at this point. See “Quitting Analytica” on page 28.

Chapter 5

Creating Arrays (Tables)



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Define index variables
- Define a table and select its indexes
- Define other variables using the same indexes
- View the results of table calculations
- Combine results from a table using the **`Sum`** function

Chapter 5: Creating Arrays (Tables)

Using the *Car Cost* model created in the previous chapter, you will create tables, edit their size and dimensions, and compute the results.

An ***array*** is a collection of values that can be viewed as one or more spreadsheet-like ***tables***. These terms may be used interchangeably for one or two-dimensional arrays (tables). If an array has more than two dimensions, you must view it as a set of two-dimensional tables. With Analytica's Intelligent Arrays, you can define a variable as an array with as many as fifteen dimensions. You can then use that variable in calculations as easily as if it had been defined as a single number.

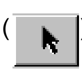
The *Car Cost* model that you saved should be located in the Analytica folder on your hard disk. If you cannot find it, a copy of the *Car Cost* model is provided in the Tutorial folder, inside the Analytica folder on your hard disk.

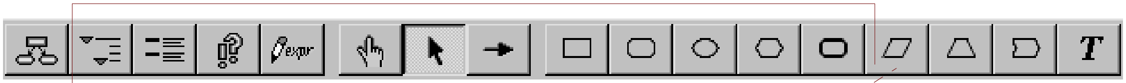
Creating an index variable

Suppose you own two cars and wish to evaluate the annual costs of each one at the same time. Each car you own has a different value for *Miles per gallon* and *Maintenance cost*. Using ***tables*** and ***indexes***, you can assign miles per gallon and maintenance costs for each car type and calculate the total costs of each one as simply as calculating the total costs of one car.

In this section you will create and define an ***index variable***, *Car type,* to distinguish the different cars.

Index variables identify every dimension of multidimensional variables; it’s usually best to plan for and create the indexes before defining the arrays.

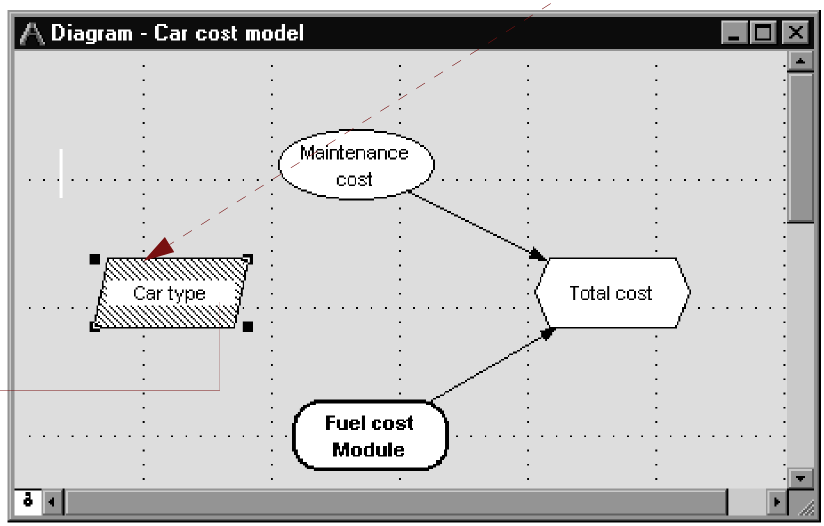
First, make sure the Edit tool () is selected.



1. Drag the Index node icon into the position shown.

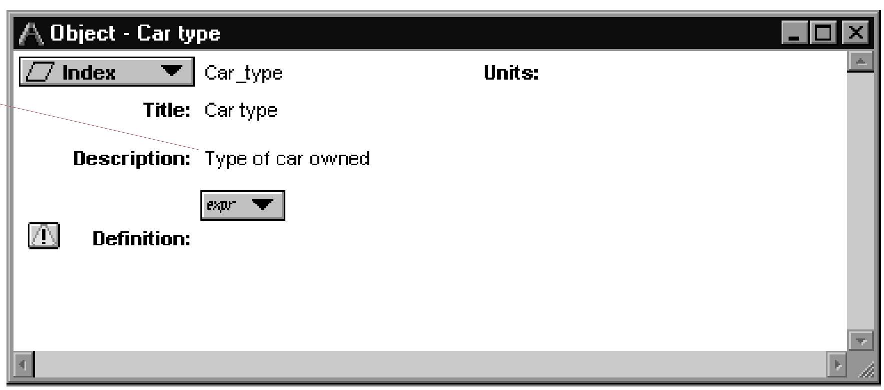
2. Title the node ***Car type***.

3. Double-click on *Car type* to open its Object window.



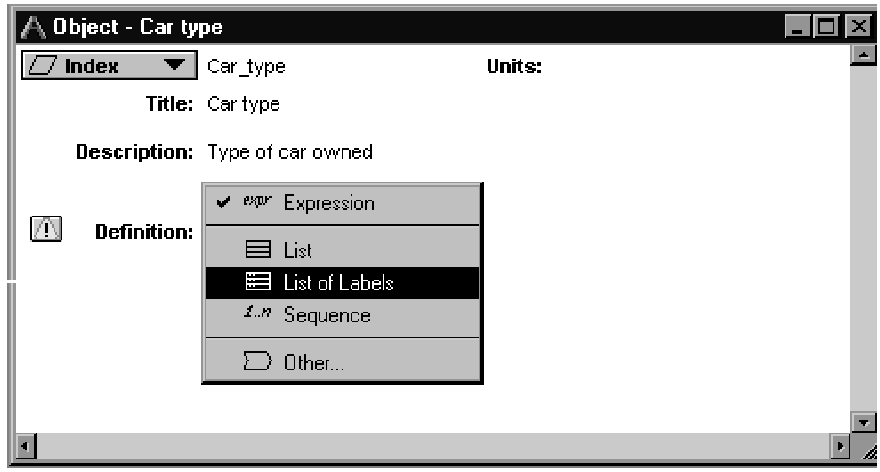
Next, you will enter the documentation and definition for this index. *Car type* will identify two different cars by size: small and large.

4. In the Description field, type ***Type of car owned***, and press *Alt-Enter*.



You will define *Car type* as a list of text labels identifying each car type.

5. Select **List of Labels** from the Expression popup menu.

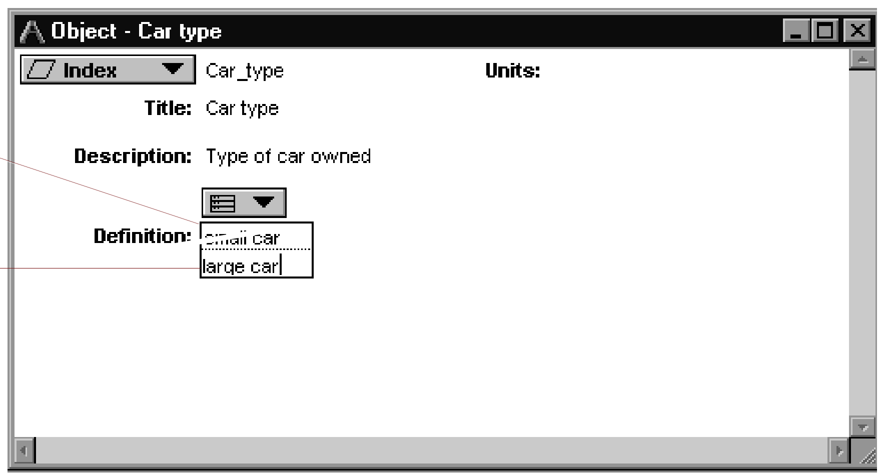


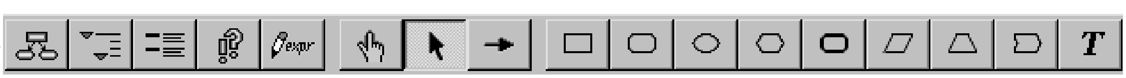
Analytica Note: *A **List** differs from a **List of Labels** in that a **List** can contain numbers or expressions that compute to numbers, while a **List of Labels** only contains text, such as names.*

6. Click in the first cell to select it, and type ***small car***; then press the *Enter* key.

7. In the second cell that appears, type ***large car***.

8. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the Diagram window.



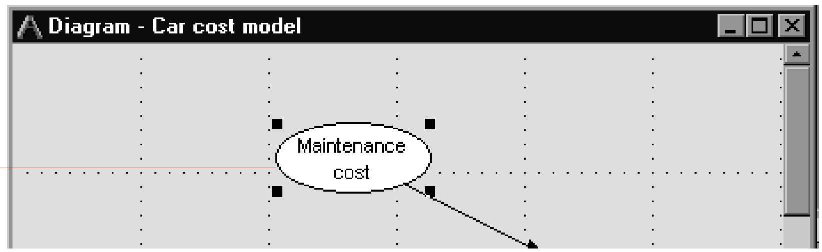


Creating an array (table)

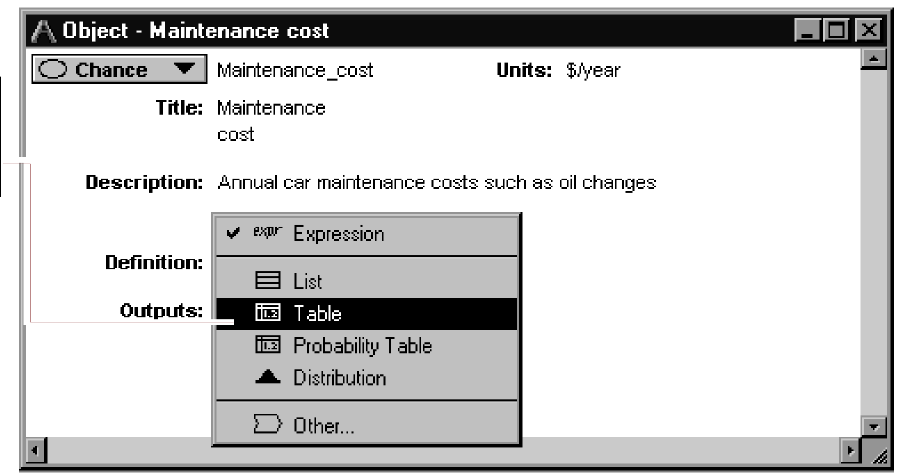
Now that the index, *Car type,* is defined, in this section you will redefine *Maintenance cost* as an array, assigning one cost for each car type.

You could define *Maintenance cost* as a list of numbers, but Analytica wouldn't know that each number corresponds to a specific car type. By defining *Maintenance cost* as an array (table) with the dimension of *Car type*, Analytica associates the specific maintenance costs to each car type. This will make it easy to use *Maintenance cost* in calculations and obtain total costs by car type.

1. Double-click on *Maintenance cost* to open its Object window.

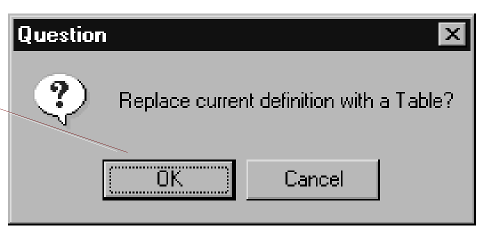


2. Select **Table** from the Expression popup menu.



Because you previously defined *Maintenance cost* as a number, Analytica asks you to confirm that you want to replace the current definition.

3. Click on the **OK** button to continue.



Selecting an array index

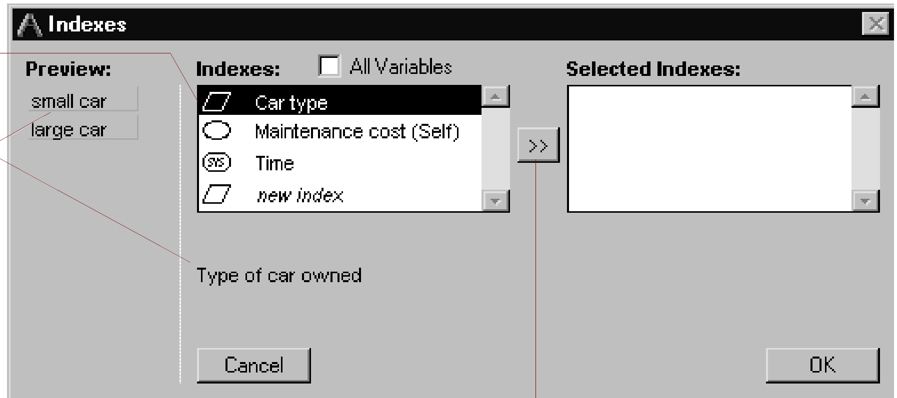
In this section, you will assign the index variable for your array.

When you first create an array (table), the Indexes dialog box opens for you to choose the table indexes.

Here, *Car type* appears at the top of the Indexes list, on the left.

1. Select *Car type* in the Indexes list.

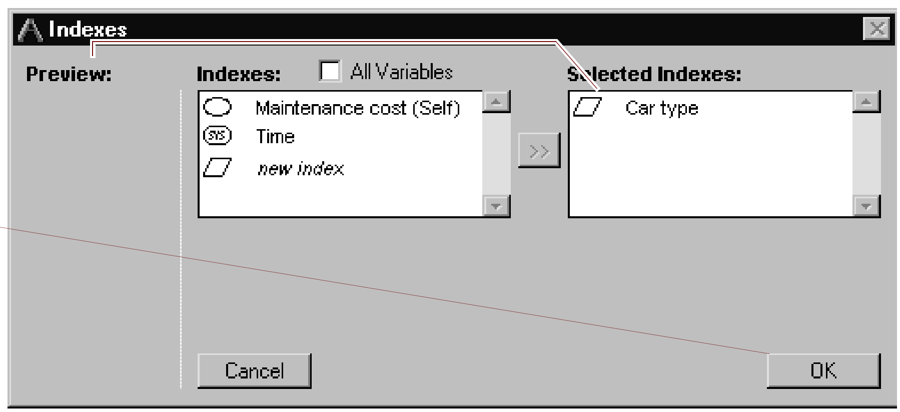
   A preview of the definition and description appear for the selected index.



2. Click on the Move (**>>**) button to move *Car type* into the Selected Indexes list on the right.

   Car type is now shown in the Selected Indexes list.

3. Click on the **OK** button to accept the index.

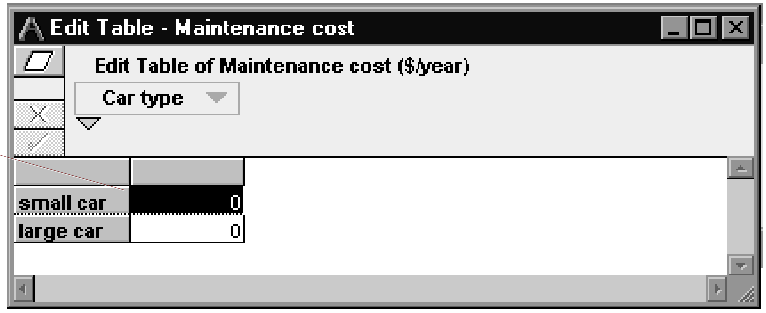


After choosing the index for your table and clicking on the **OK** button, an Edit Table window opens, indicating that this is an array that you can edit or change.

The Edit Table window is like a spreadsheet, with rows and columns labeled according to the indexes selected. As with a spreadsheet, you can navigate between cells using the *Arrow*, *Tab*, *Shift-Tab*, *Return*, and *Shift-Return* keys.

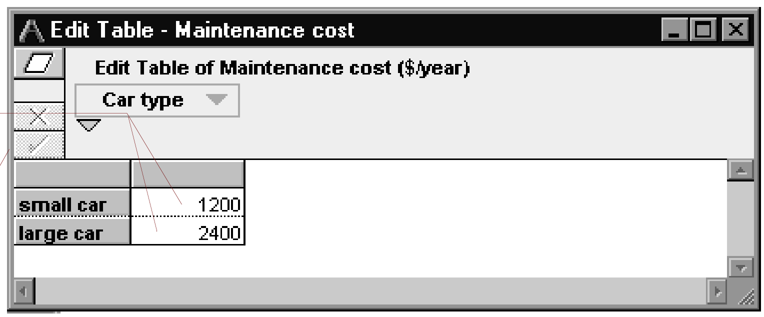
In this example, you have only one index, so *Maintenance cost* is a one-dimensional table. The index, *Car type*, is shown in the first column. The second column holds the corresponding values for maintenance costs.

4. Select the first cell.



5. Enter ***1200*** for the small car and ***2400*** for the large car.

6. Click on the Check button (✓) to accept the values.



7. Click on the Close button to close the window.

8. Close the *Maintenance cost* Object window by clicking on its Close button.

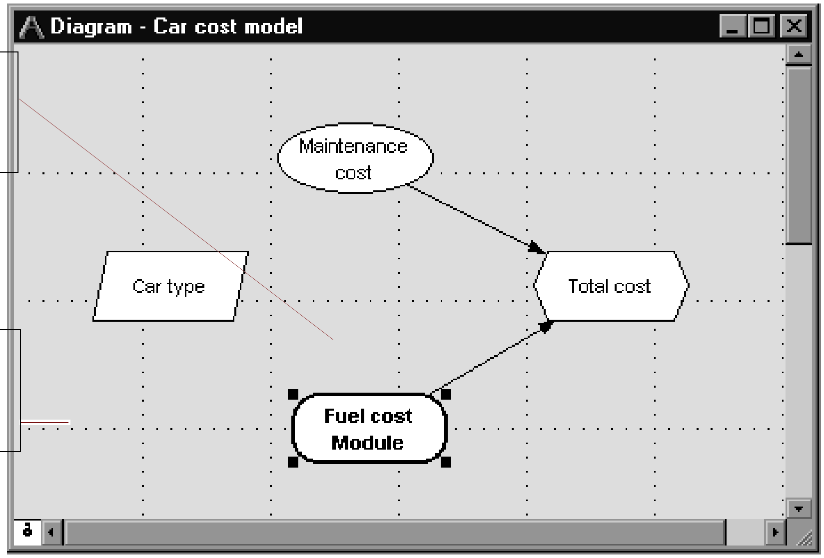
Creating another array using the same index

Maintenance cost may not be the only variable that has a different value for each car type. Suppose that *Miles per gallon* is also different for each car type.

In this section you will define *Miles per gallon* as an array indexed by *Car type*.

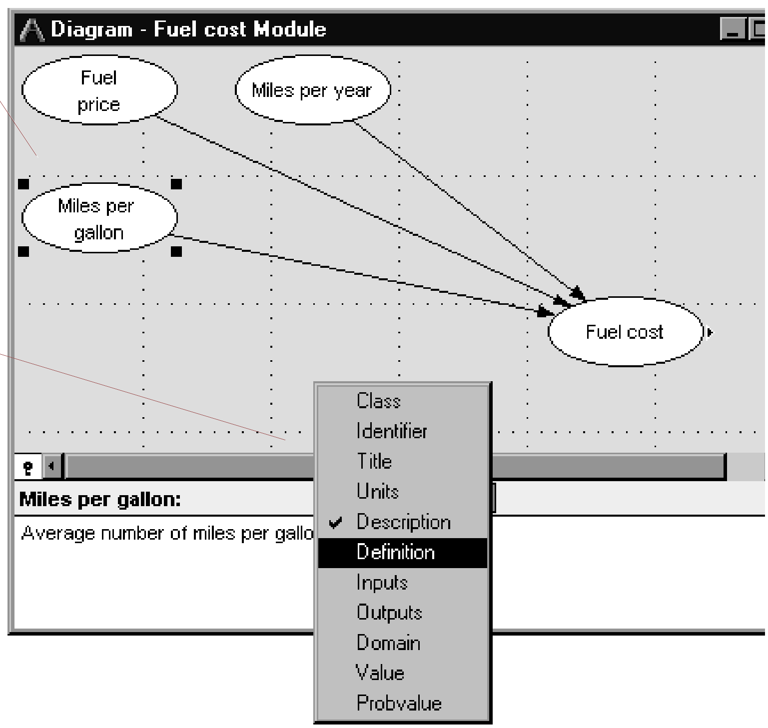
1. Double-click on *Fuel cost Module* to open its Diagram window.

2. Click on the Key icon ( ) to open the Attribute panel.

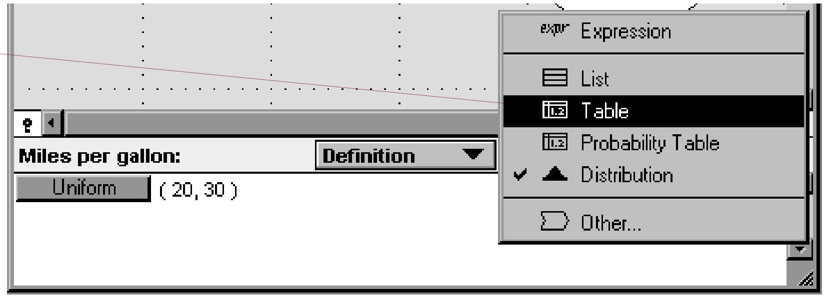


3. Select *Miles per gallon*.

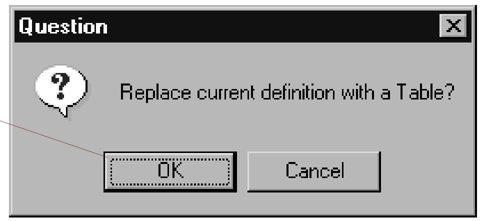
4. Select **Definition** from the Attributes popup menu.



5. Select **Table** from the Expression popup menu.

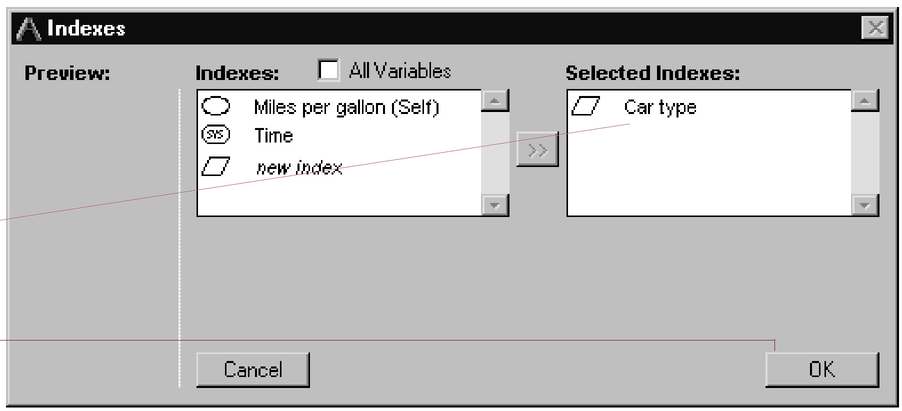


6. Click on the **OK** button to change the definition to a table.



7. Select *Car type* in the left-hand list and click on the Move (**>>**) button.

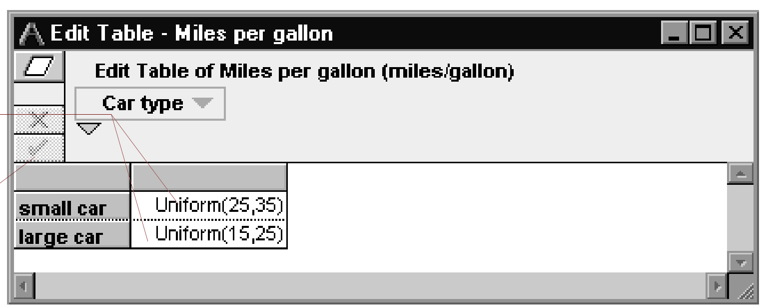
   The result should look as shown here.



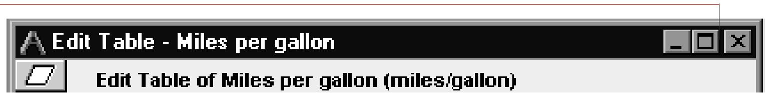
8. Click on the **OK** button.

9. Type in a uniform distribution for each car as shown here.

10. Click on the Check button (✓) to accept the definition of *Miles per gallon*.



11. Close this window by clicking on the Close button.

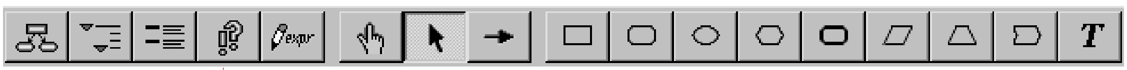


Viewing results of an array calculation

Thus far, you have defined *Miles per gallon* as a one-dimensional table, *Miles per year* as a number, and *Fuel price* as a distribution; *Fuel cost* is defined as a mathematical expression of these variables.

In this section, you will compute the mid value for *Fuel cost* to observe the result of calculating with an array and other types of variables.

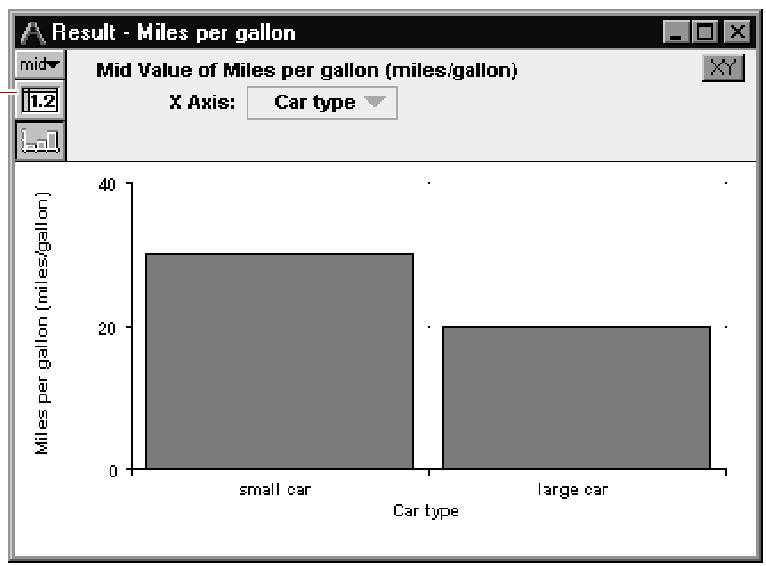
First, you will review the definitions and mid values of the inputs to *Fuel cost*. *Miles per gallon* should still be selected.



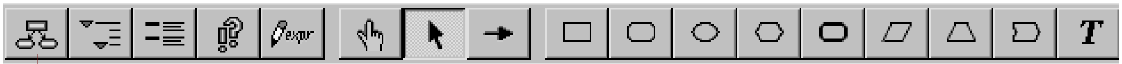
1. Click on the **Result**  button to evaluate *Miles per gallon*.

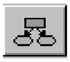
The Result window displays a bar graph for the two mid values.

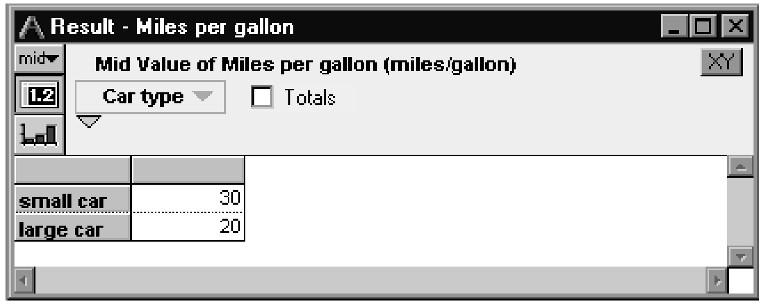
2. Click on the Table view button to  select the Table view.



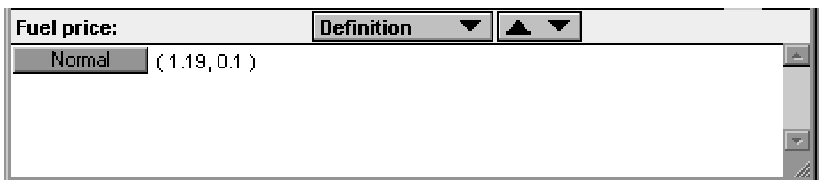
Analytica returns the mid values (20 and 30) for the uniform distributions that you just entered.



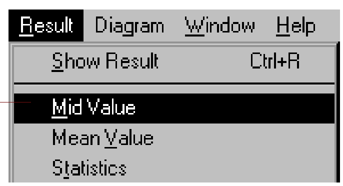
3. Click on the Diagram button to  return to the Diagram window.



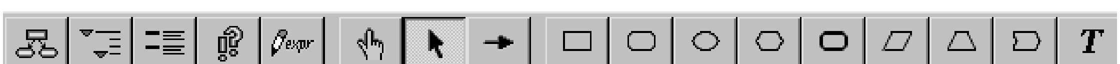
4. Select *Fuel price*. Note that it is defined as a normal distribution.

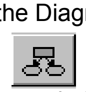


5. Select **Mid Value** from the Result menu.

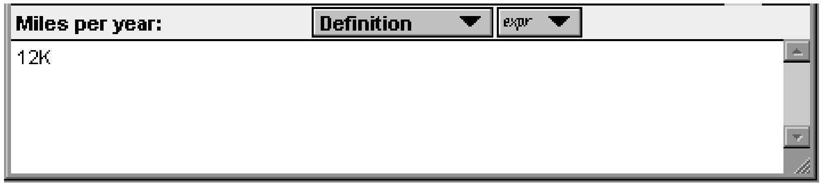


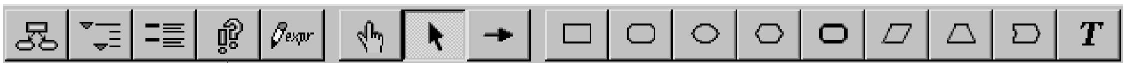
Analytica returns the median of the normal distribution, which is the same as its mean, 1.19.

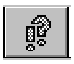


6. Click on the Diagram button to  return to the Diagram window.

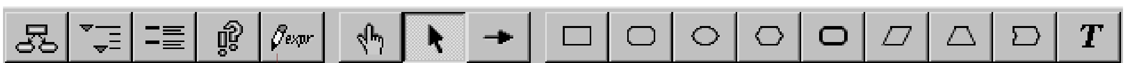
7. Select *Miles per year*. Note that it is defined as a single value.

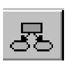


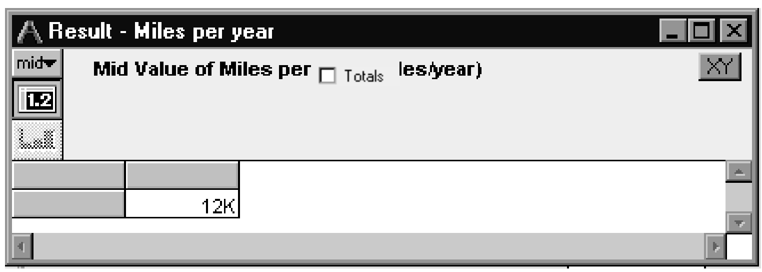


8. Click on the **Result** button. 

Analytica returns the value, 12K.



9. Click on the Diagram button  to return to the Diagram window.

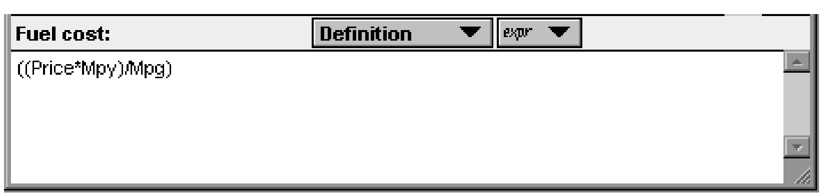


You have seen that the mid values of the inputs to Fuel cost evaluate to:

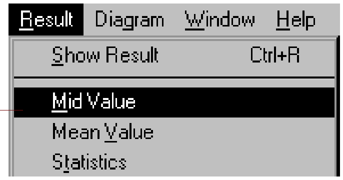
- *Miles per gallon*: small car, 30 and large car, 20 (a one-dimensional table)
- *Fuel price*: a single number, 1.19
- *Miles per year*: a single number, 12K

Now you will see how *Fuel cost* is computed.

10. Select *Fuel cost*. Note that it is defined as an expression.

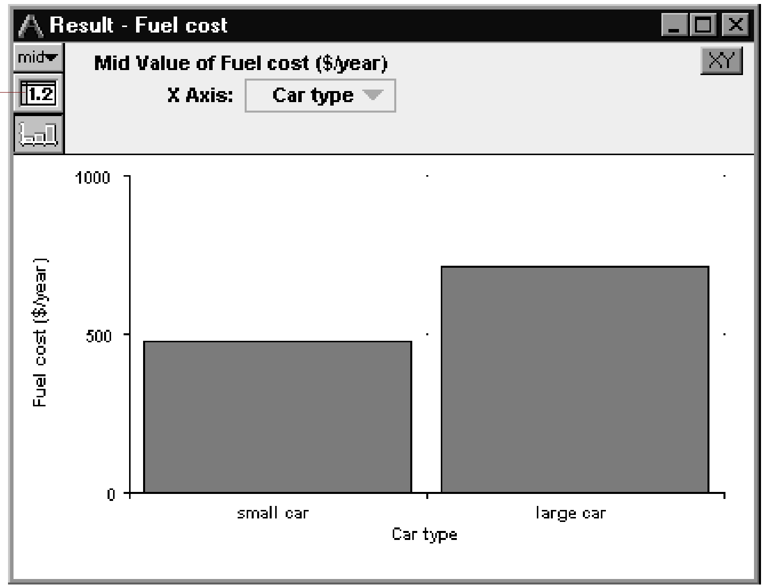


11.Select Mid Value from the **Result** menu.



The Result window displays a bar graph with two values.

12.Click on the Table view button (1.2) to select the Table view.



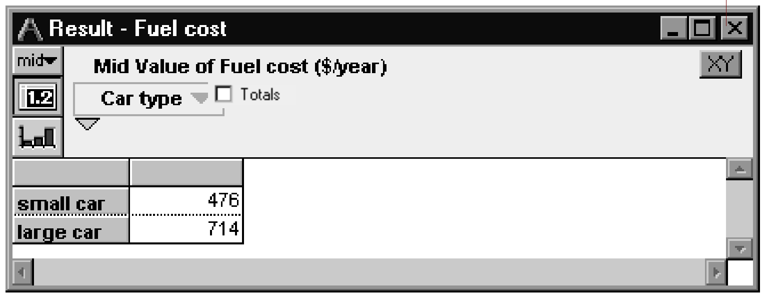
Analytica returns an array, indexed by *Car type*. This is so, even though *Fuel Cost* was not defined as an array, because one of its inputs, *Miles per gallon*, is an array indexed by *Car type*.

You can see how the values were obtained:

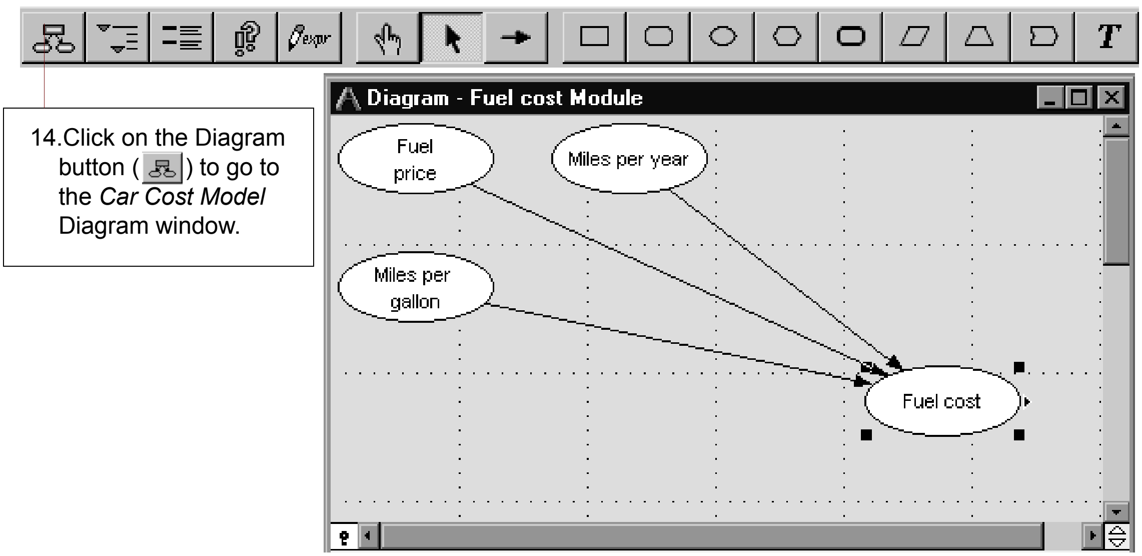
```
Small car:1.19 * 12K / 30 = 476
Large car:1.19 * 12K / 20 = 714
```

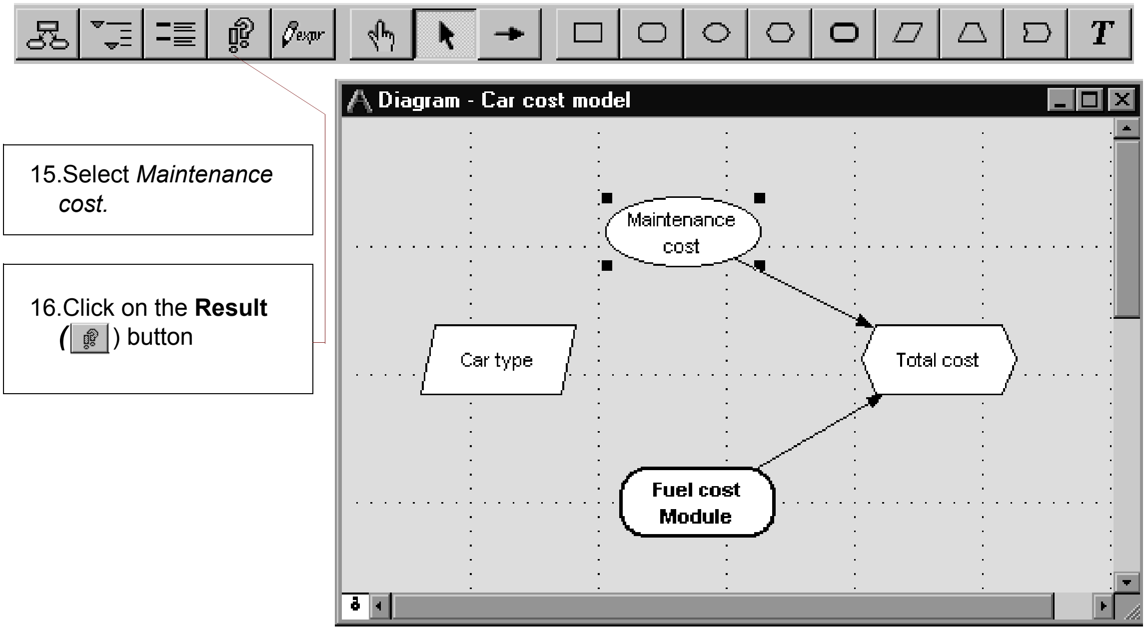
Now you will see how *Total cost* is computed.

13.Close the Result window to go to the *Fuel Cost* Diagram window.



14.Click on the Diagram button ( ) to go to the *Car Cost Model* Diagram window.



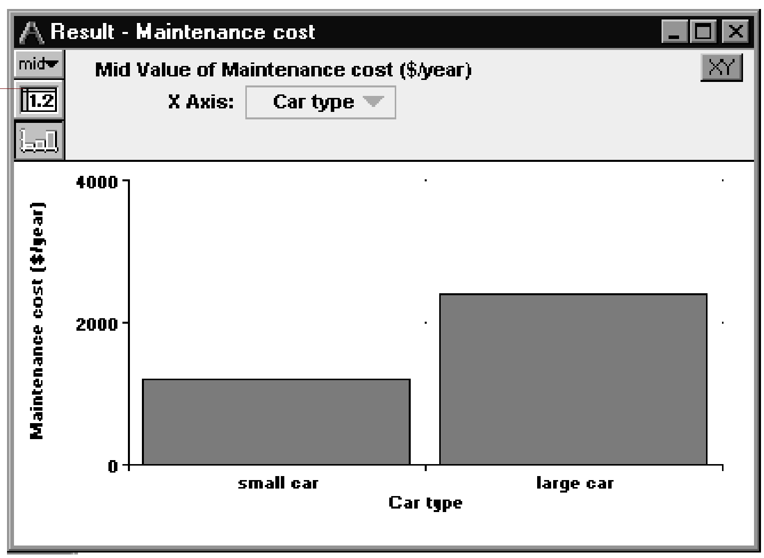


15.Select *Maintenance cost.*

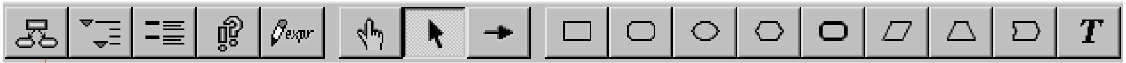
16.Click on the **Result** ( ) button

The Result window displays a bar graph for the two mid values.

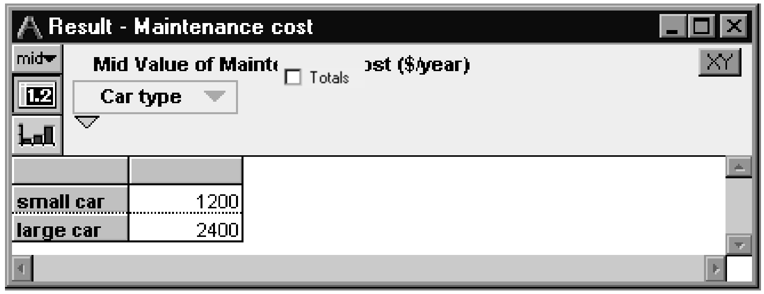
17.Click on the Table view button ( ) to select the Table view.



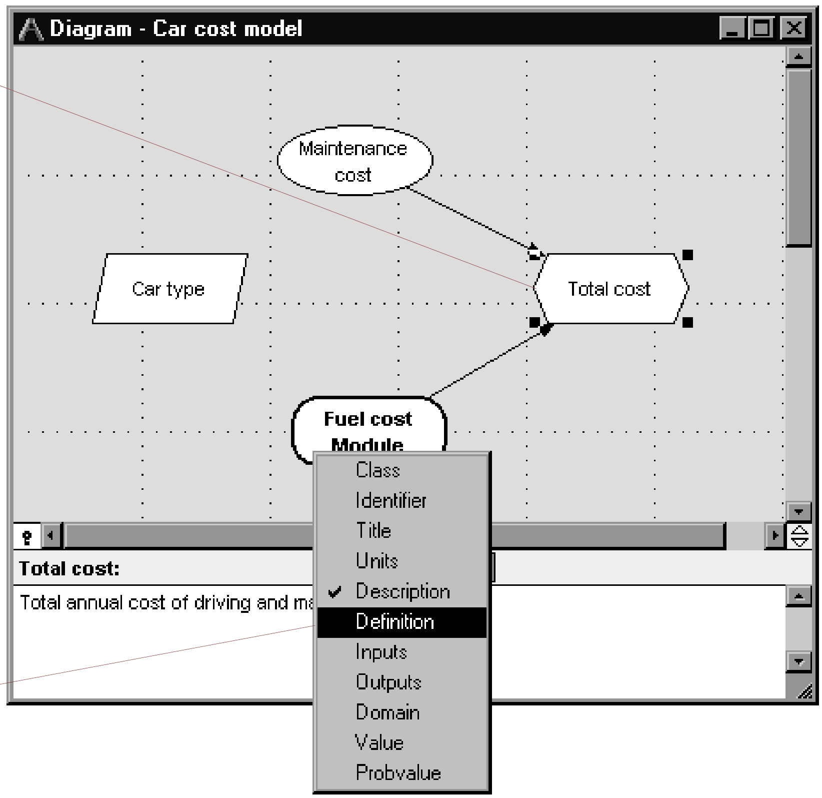
Analytica returns the array that you entered (1200 for the small car and 2400 for the large car).



18.Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the Diagram window.



19.Select *Total cost.*

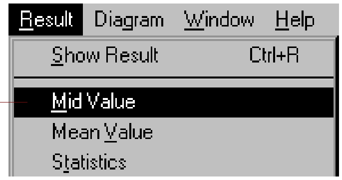


20.Select **Definition** from the Attribute popup menu.

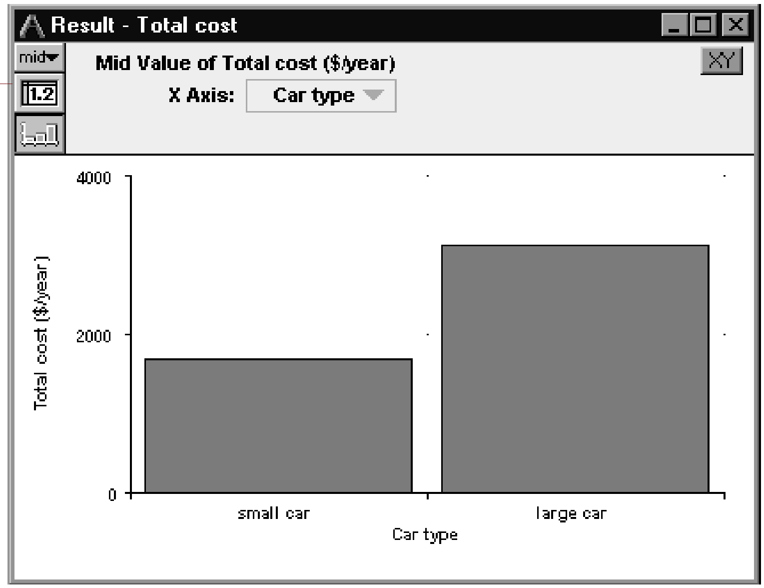
Note that this definition is a simple arithmetic expression. You know, though, that both inputs are arrays indexed by *Car type*. You can expect that *Total cost* will also be an array indexed by *Car type*:

```
Small car:476 + 1200 = 1676
Large car:714 + 2400 = 3114
```

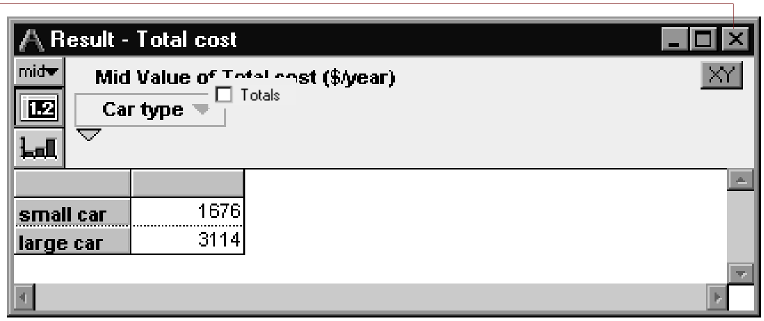
21.Select **Mid Value** from the Result menu.



22.Click on the Table button (1.2) to view the result as a table.



23.Close the Result window.



The values for *Total Cost* are as expected. Because of Analytica's Intelligent Arrays, *Total Cost* was calculated correctly for each car type.

Analytica Note: *The sum of the costs for both cars is $4790. Note this value for the next section.*

Combining results from a table

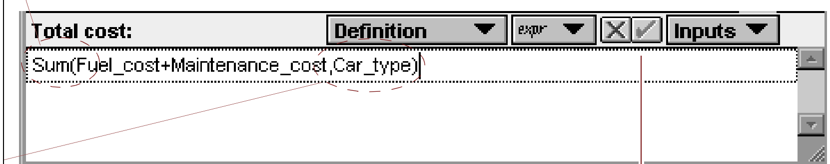
You may wish to view the sum of *Total cost* for all *Car types*—for example, to determine whether you can afford both cars. In this section, you will sum across the dimension *Car type,* giving a single number.

You will sum by using one of Analytica's built-in array functions, the **`Sum()`** function. For details about the **`Sum()`** function, see "Array-reducing functions" in Chapter 12 of the *Analytica User Guide*.

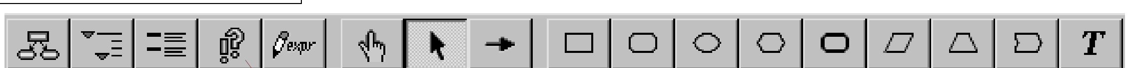
1. Click at the left side of the Definition field and type: ***Sum(***

2. Click at the end of the Definition field and type: ***,Car_type)***

   The Definition field should now look like this.



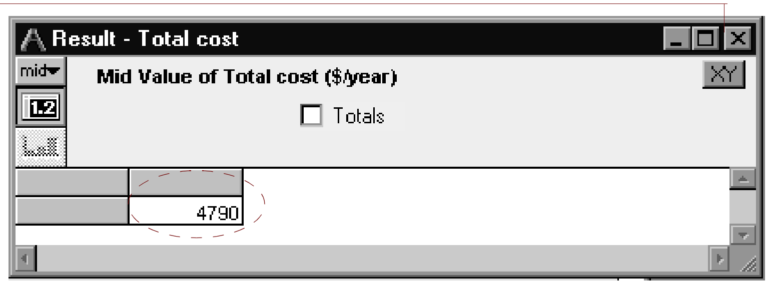
3. Click on the Check button ( ) to accept the new definition.



4. Click on the Result button ( ) to view the result.

The value is now the sum of the *Car type* values, which totals $4790, as was noted in the previous section.

5. Close the Result window.



Adding a dimension to a variable

In this section you will further extend the *Car Cost* model by adding another dimension to the *Maintenance cost* variable.

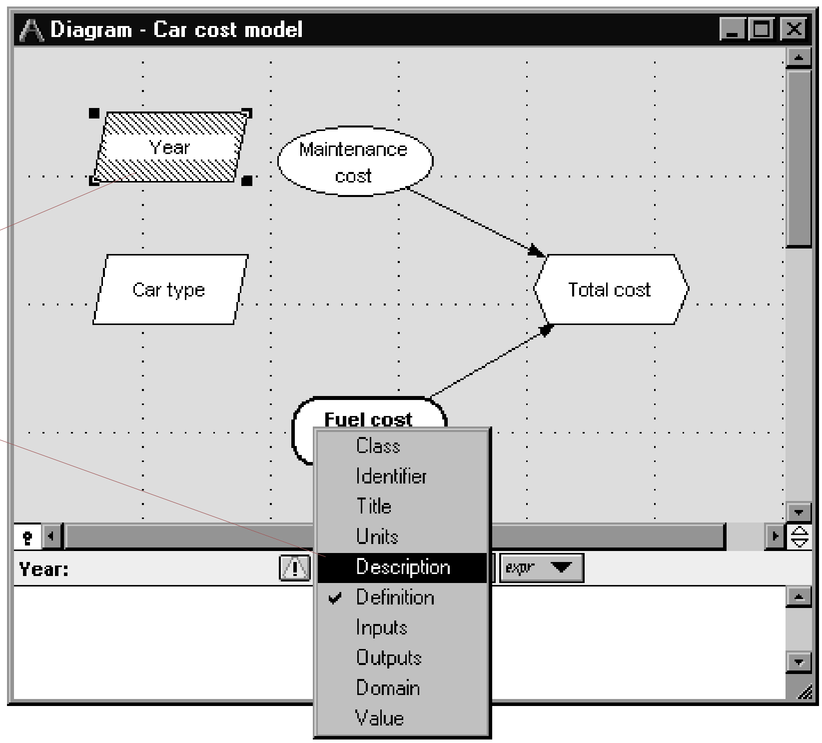
Let's assume that you want to estimate the cost of ownership of your two cars over the next three years. You think that each car's maintenance cost will increase over time. You are also planning a cross-country trip in the small car next year.

Start by creating a second index variable, *Year*.

1. Drag the Index node icon ( ) to the position shown.

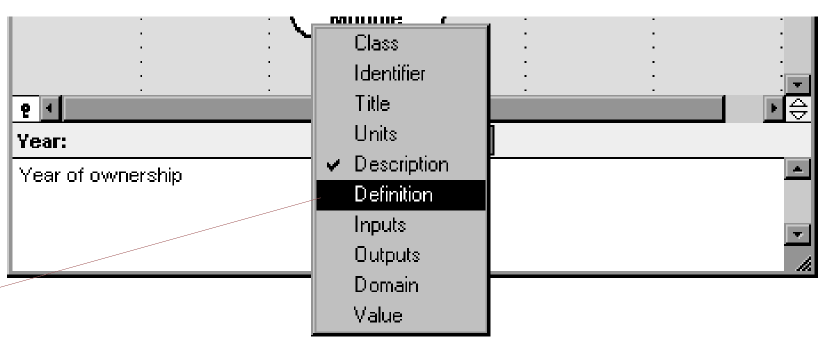
2. Title the node *Year*.

3. Select **Description** from the Attribute popup menu.



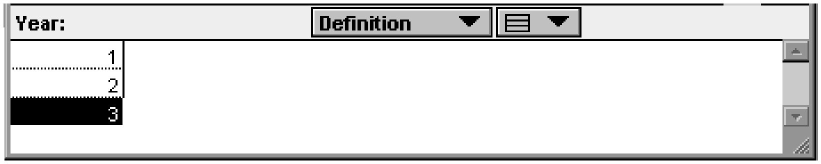
4. In the Description field, type *Year of ownership*, and press *Alt-Enter*.

5. Select Definition from the Attribute popup menu.



You will define this index as the numbers 1, 2, and 3, representing the first, second, and third years.

6. Select **List** from the Expression popup menu.

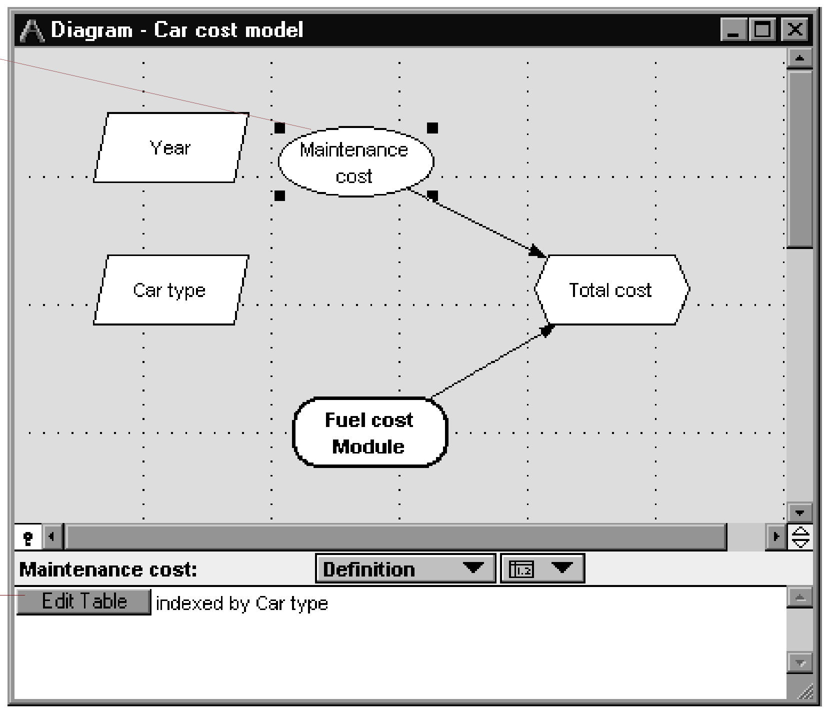


7. 1 is entered by default in the first cell. Select the cell, then press the *Enter* key twice.

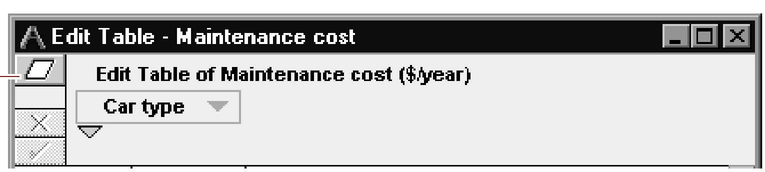
Now you are ready to expand *Maintenance cost*, making it a table indexed by *Year*.

8. Select *Maintenance cost.*

9. Click on the Edit Table button to open the Edit Table window.



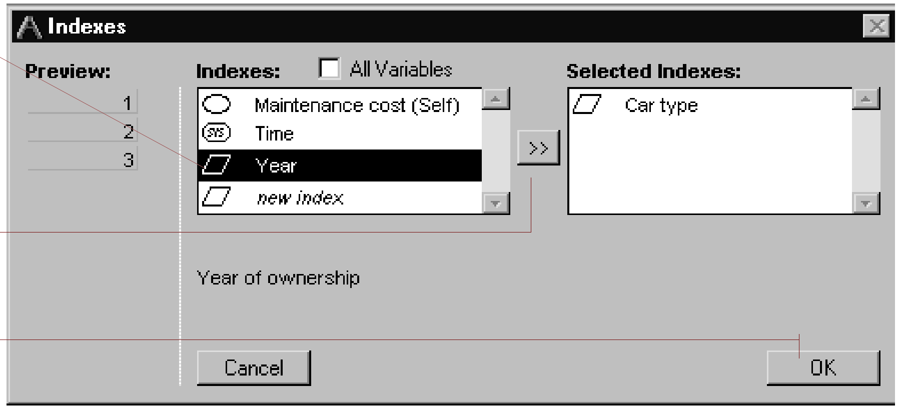
10. Click on the ( ) to open the Indexes dialog box.



11. Select *Year* in the Indexes list.

12. Click on the Move (**>>**) button to move Year into the Selected Indexes list on the right.

13. Click on the **OK** button to accept the change.

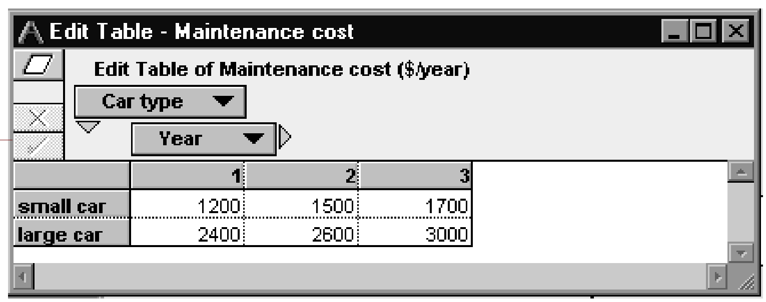


The Edit Table window displays again, showing that *Maintenance cost* now has two dimensions. The previous values (1200 and 2400) have been duplicated across all the years.

14. Change the values in the cells, as shown here.

15. Click on the Check button (✓) to accept the changes.

16. Close the Edit Table window by clicking on the Close button.

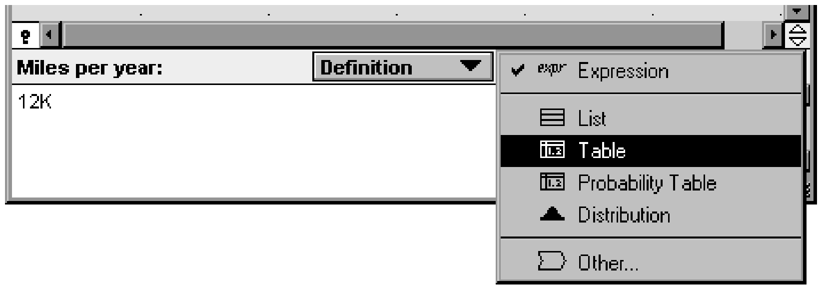


Completing the model

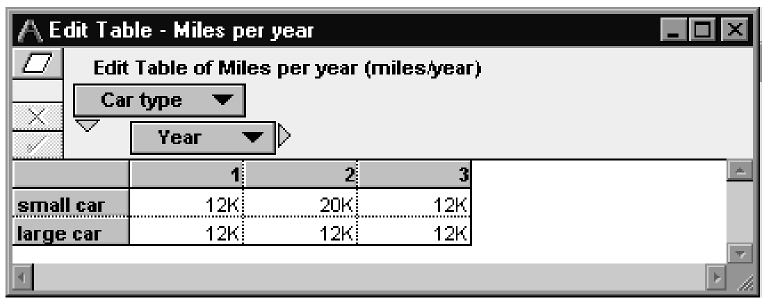
The last step is to expand *Miles per year* to be a table indexed by *Car type* and *Year*, so that you can include the increased miles for next year's cross-country trip and see the effect on fuel cost. Do this step on your own.

1. Change *Miles per year* to be defined as a table.

   Select *Car type* and *Year* as indexes of the table.

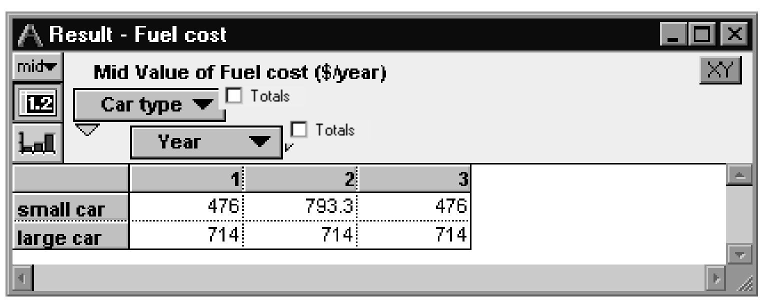


2. Enter the values in the cells, as shown here.



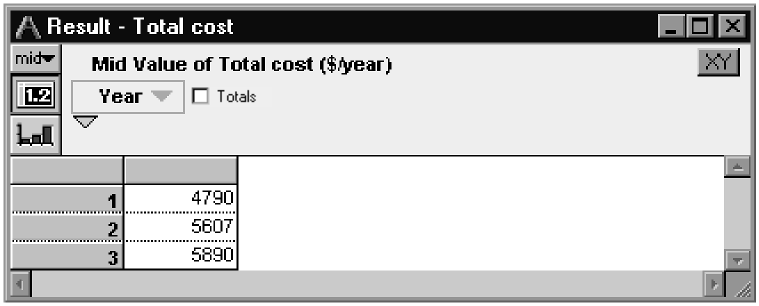
Evaluate *Fuel cost*. You do not need to change its definition to have it calculate correctly.

3. Examine the Mid Value of *Fuel cost.*



Finally, evaluate *Total cost* in the *Car Cost model* diagram window. Again, you will not change its definition. Both of its inputs are two dimensional, indexed by *Year* and *Car type*, and it is computed by summing across the *Car type* dimension. So you might expect *Total cost* to be a one dimensional array, indexed by *Year*.

4. Examine the Mid Value of *Total cost.*



As expected, *Total cost* is a one dimensional array, giving the total cost for each year.

Creating Arrays (Tables): Summary

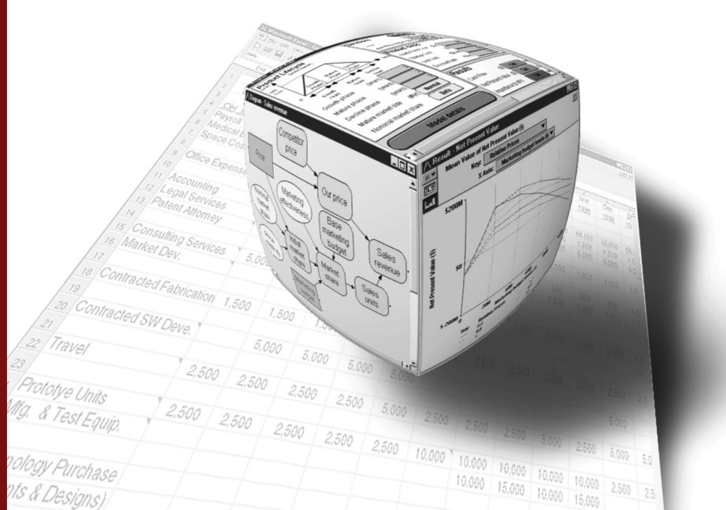
In this chapter, you have:

- defined index variables
- defined a table and selected its indexes
- defined other variables using the same indexes
- viewed the results of table calculations
- combined results from a table using the `Sum` function.

This chapter was a brief introduction to Intelligent Arrays, one of Analytica's most powerful features. For more information, see the *Analytica User Guide*, Chapters 11 and 12.

Chapter 6

Creating the Party Problem Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Define a variable as a probability table
- Define a variable as a deterministic table

Chapter 6: Creating the Party Problem Model

In this chapter you will create a new Analytica model called *Party Problem*. (For information about how to create a new model, see the beginning of Chapter 4, “Creating a Model”.) The *Party Problem* model illustrates the use of discrete probability distributions.

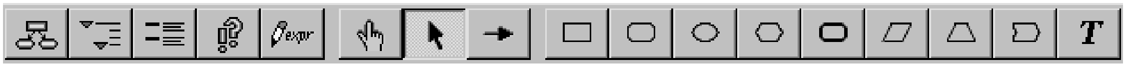
You should study this chapter if your models will use discrete or conditional probabilities.

In many kinds of models, your variables may be described using probability distributions based on expert judgment or on empirical data. On those occasions when the outcomes are discrete or qualitative (for example, low, medium, or high), you may need to use discrete probability distributions.

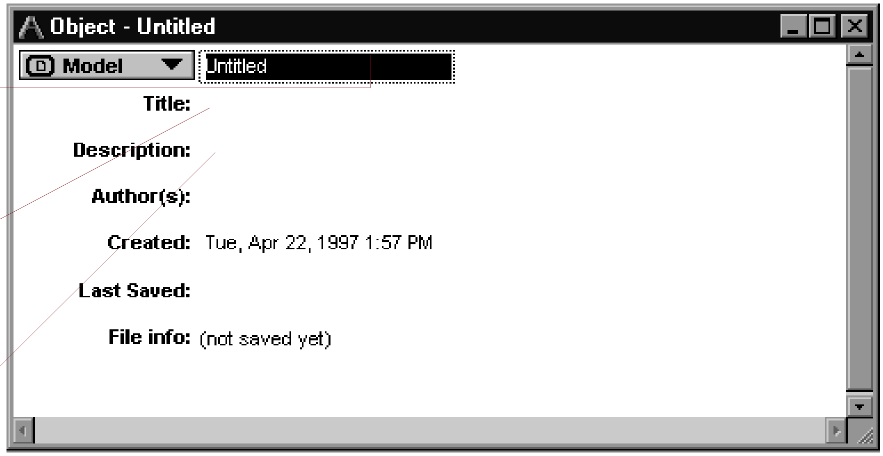
In the *Party Problem* model, the key uncertain variable is weather: it could be sunny or rainy. The weather has an impact on the decision about the location of a party—indoors, on a porch, or outdoors.

Documenting the model

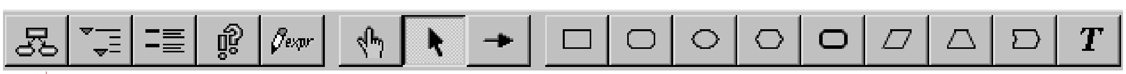
Specify the information shown in this model's Object window.



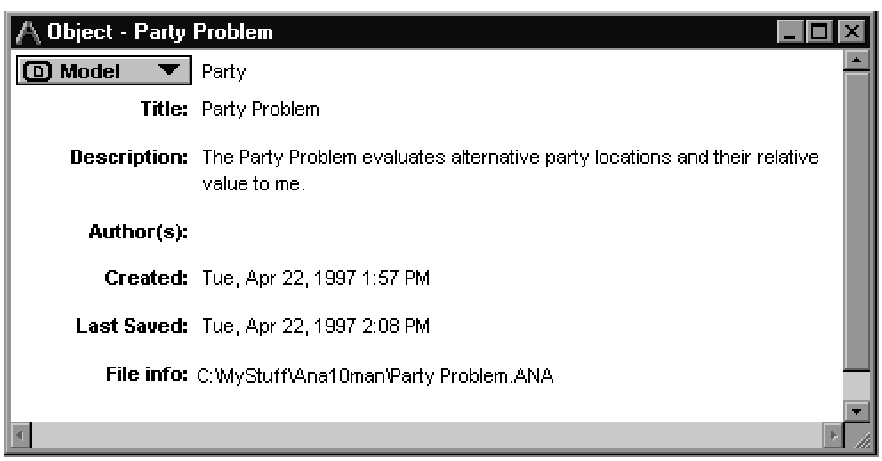
1. Type ***Party*** in the Identifier field to identify your model.
2. Tab to or click in the Title field and type ***Party Problem***.
3. Tab to or click in the Description field and type ***The Party Problem evaluates alternative party locations and their relative value to me.***



The Object window should now look like this:

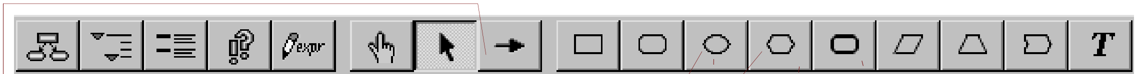


4. Save the model by selecting **Save** from the **File** menu.
5. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to bring the Diagram window to the front.

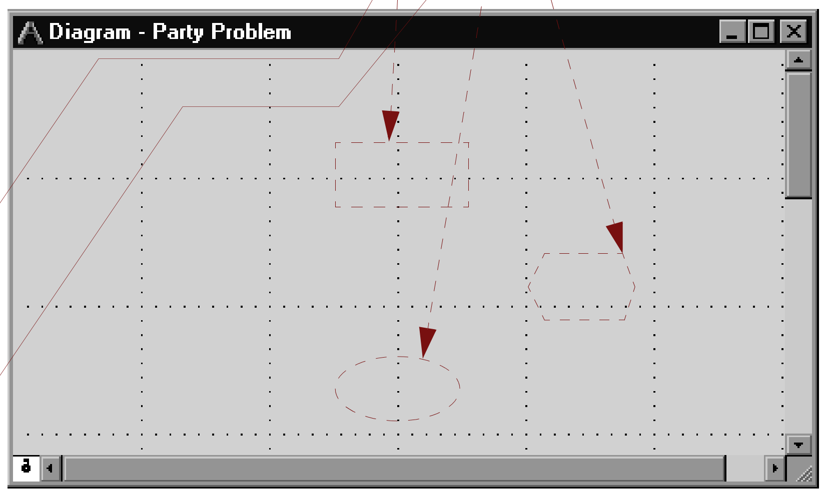


Creating the variables: Party Location, Weather, and Utility

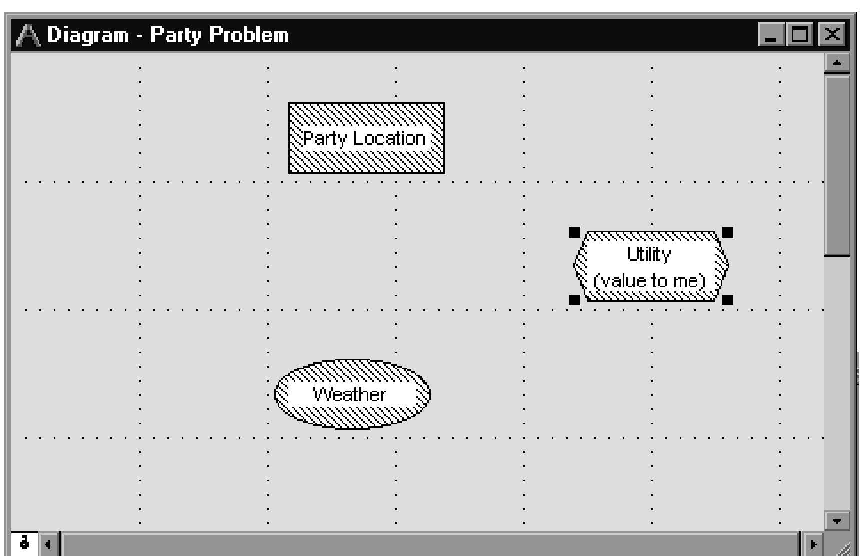
Using the techniques introduced in “Creating variables” on page 77, you will create a *Party Location* Decision variable, a *Weather* Chance variable, and a *Utility* Objective variable.



1. Create a Decision node ( ) and title it ***Party Location***.
2. Create a Chance node ( ) and title it ***Weather***.
3. Create an Objective node ( ) and title it ***Utility (value to me)***.

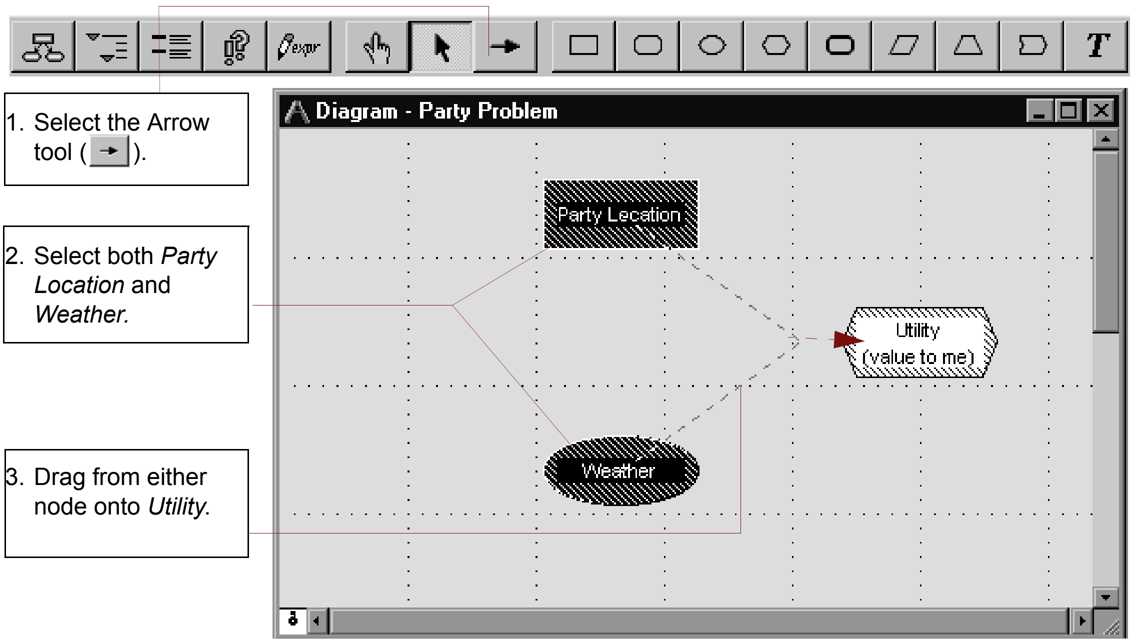


Your diagram should now look like this:

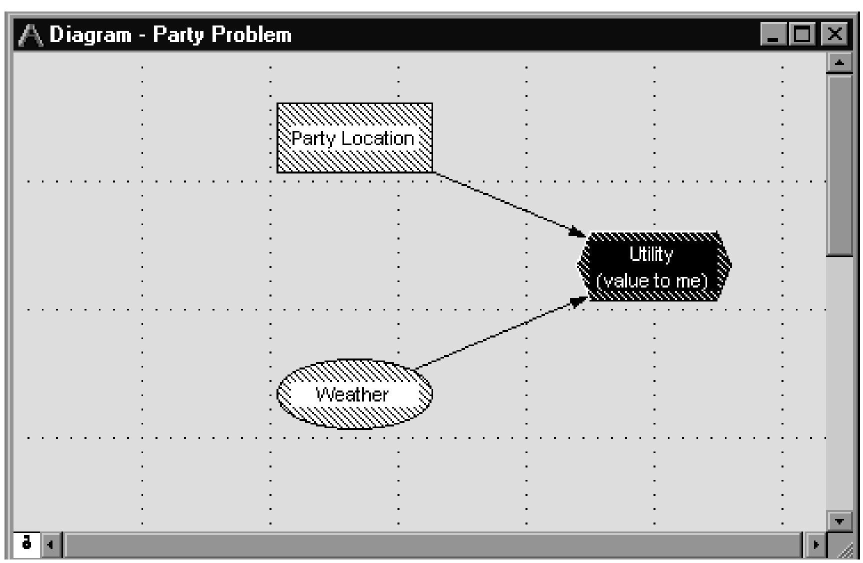


Drawing arrows between the variables

In this section, you will draw arrows from *Party Location* and *Weather* to *Utility* using the techniques introduced in “Connecting multiple arrows” on page 86.



Your diagram should now look like this:



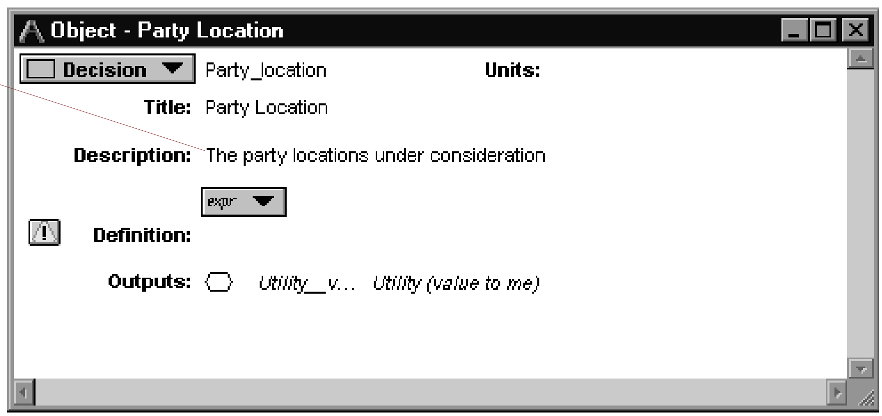
Defining Party Location as a list of labels

Consider that there are three possible locations where you could hold your party—indoors, on the porch, and outdoors. You will define *Party Location* as a list of labels identifying each location.

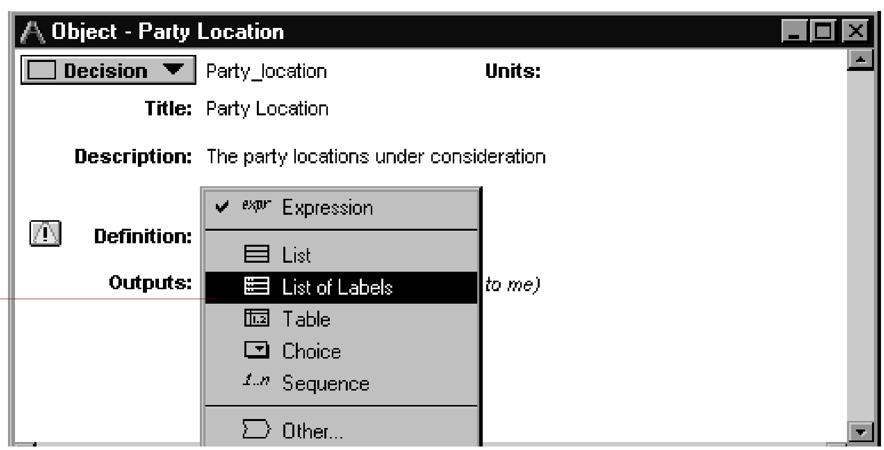
Party Location will be used to index the *Utility (Value to Me)* objective node, so it is similar to the *Car Type* index variable created for the *Car Cost* model in the section “Creating an index variable” beginning on page 115. (*Party location* is a decision variable, rather than an index variable, because it is directly under your control.)

1. Double-click on *Party Location* to open its Object window.

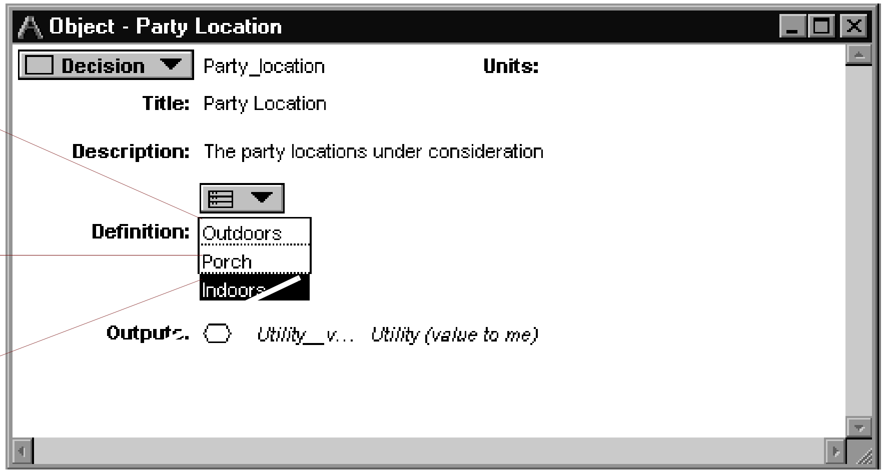
2. Click in the Description field and type ***The party locations under consideration.***

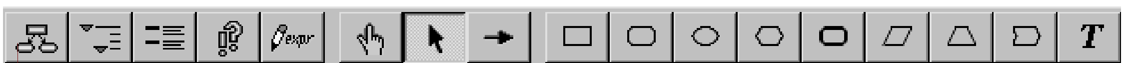


3. Select **List of Labels** from the Expression popup menu.

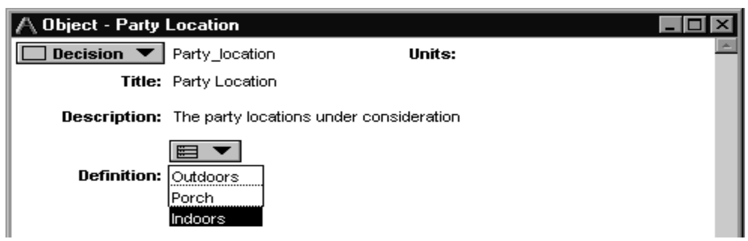


4. Click in the first cell and type ***Outdoors***; then press the *Enter* key.
5. In the next cell, type ***Porch***; then press the *Enter* key.
6. In the next cell, type ***Indoors***; then press *Alt-Enter* to accept the changes.





7. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the diagram.

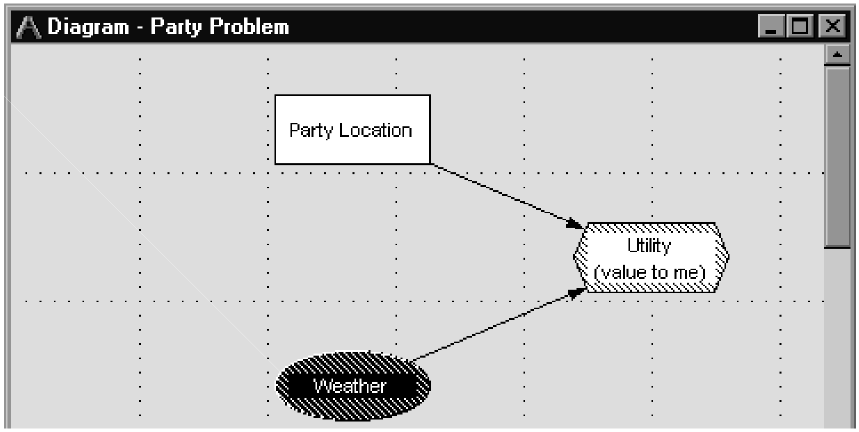


Defining Weather as a probability table

In this model, as in real life, weather is unpredictable.

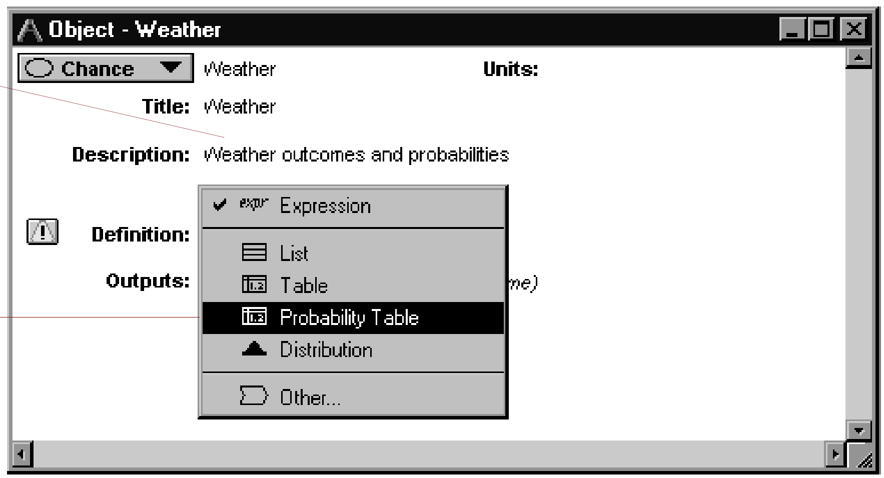
In this section, you will characterize weather as having two possible discrete outcomes, either sunny or rainy. In addition, you will assign probabilities for each possible outcome. This is done by defining weather as a ***probability table***. A probability table is Analytica's function for describing discrete probabilities.

1. Double-click on *Weather* to open its Object window.



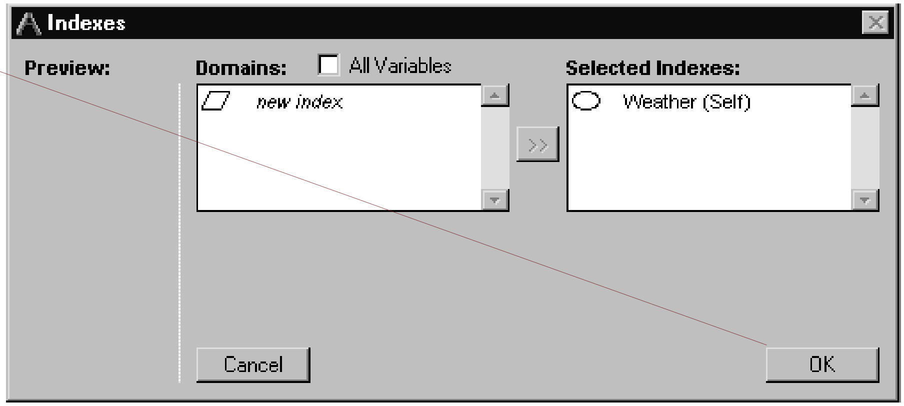
2. Click in the Description field and type ***Weather outcomes and probabilities.***

3. Select **Probability Table** from the Expression popup menu.



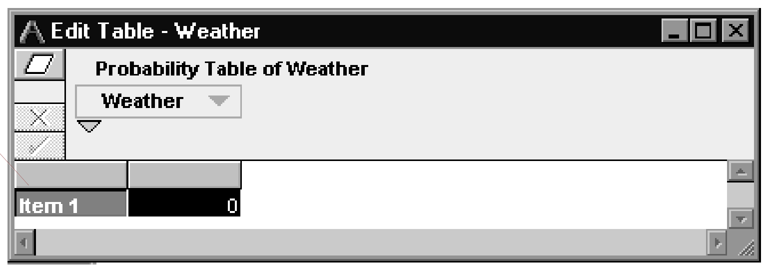
The Indexes dialog box opens to confirm your choice of index for the table. *Weather (Self)* appears in the Selected Indexes list in the Indexes dialog box. *Self* indicates that the index—the possible outcomes of the discrete distribution—is contained within the probability table. *Self* is required as an index of a probability table.

4. Click on the **OK** button.



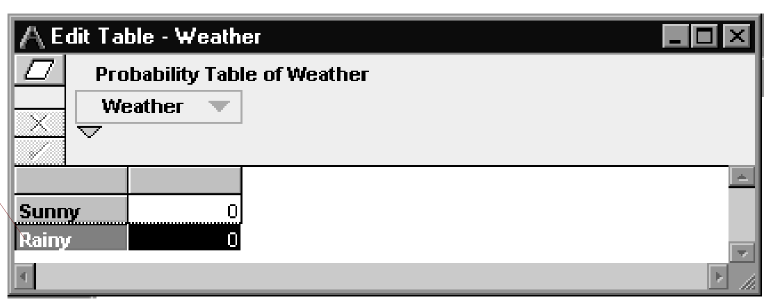
An Edit Table window appears. In this table, the first column will hold the outcomes and the second column will hold their probabilities. You will enter the possible outcomes in the first column.

5. Click in the cell labeled **Item 1** to select the first label for Weather. Type ***Sunny*** into the cell, replacing **Item 1**, and press the *Enter* key.



Analytica Note: *A second row should be added to the table, containing the same label as the first row,* ***Sunny****. If a second row does not appear, make sure you have the text for* ***Sunny*** *selected, and press the Enter key again*

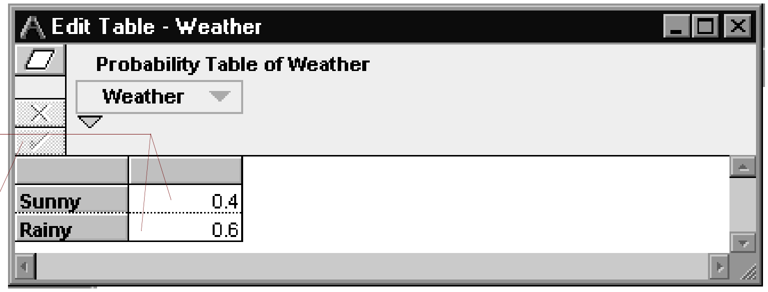
6. A second row is added to the table. Type ***Rainy*** and press *Alt-Enter* to accept the entries.

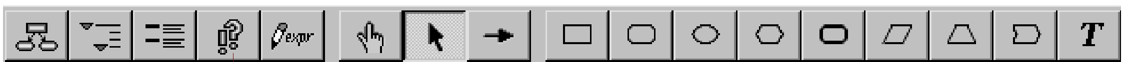


.In the second column, you will enter the probabilities of the possible outcomes.

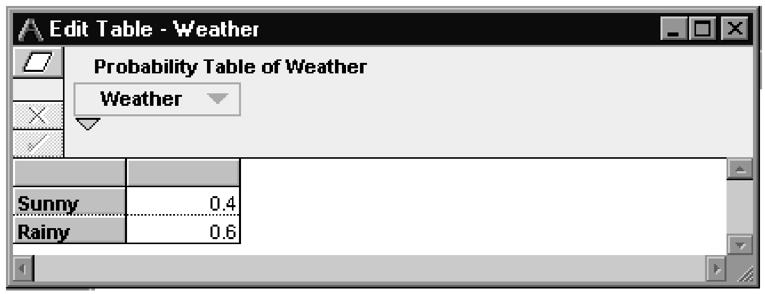
7. Enter the values ***0.4*** and ***0.6*** for the probabilities of sunshine and rain.

8. Click on the Check button ( ) to accept these entries.



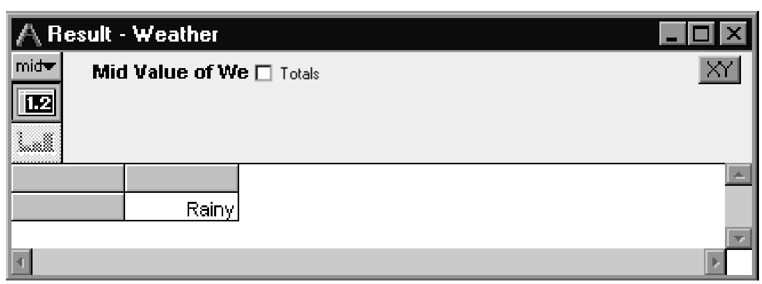


9. Click on the Result button ( ) to evaluate *Weather*.



The Mid Value is Rainy, since more than 50% of the probability was assigned to Rainy.

10.Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the Diagram window.



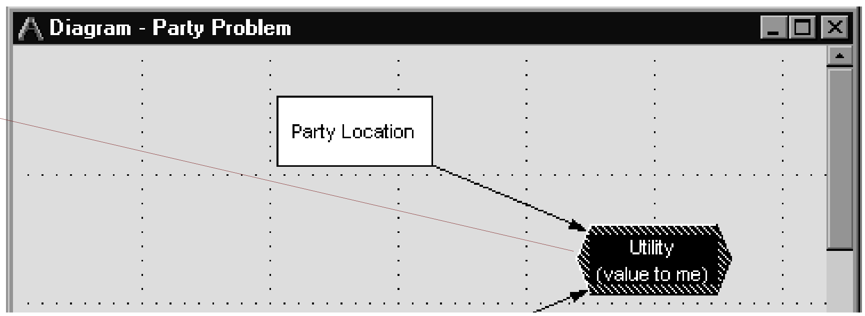
Defining Utility as a deterministic table

The utility of a party location decision depends on the outcome of the weather.

In this section, you will define *Utility* as a ***deterministic table*** (or determtable) using both *Party Location* and *Weather*.

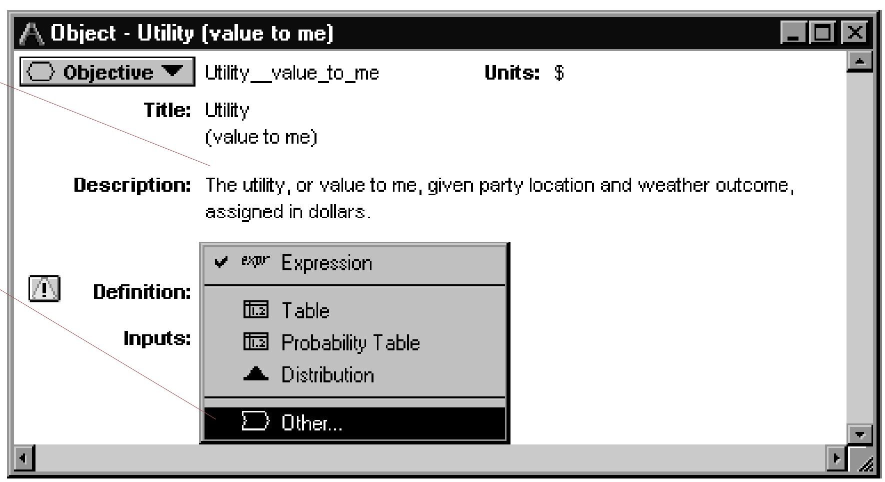
A deterministic table appears similar to an Edit Table or Probability Table. At least one index of a deterministic table must be a discrete probabilistic variable (probability table). The result of evaluating a deterministic table takes into account the probability distribution described by the probability table index.

1. Double-click on *Utility* to open its Object window.



2. Enter the units and description as shown here.

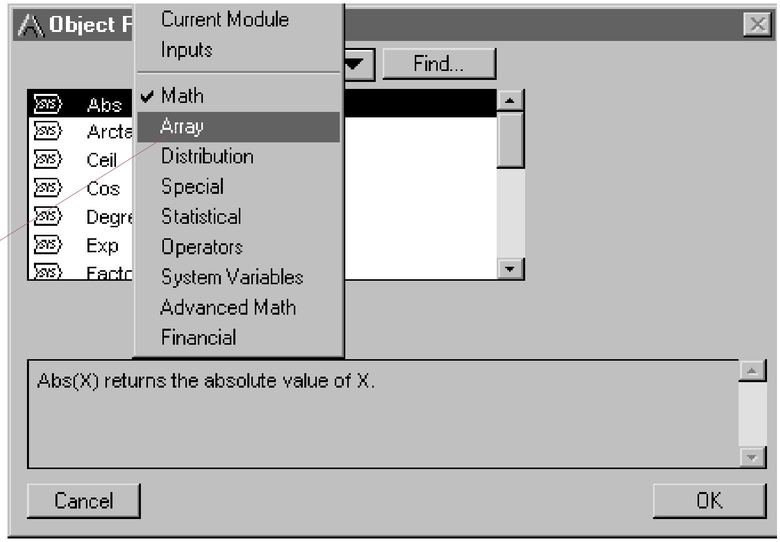
3. Select **Other** from the Expression popup menu.



Because the *Utility* variable hasn't been defined yet, the first function in the first library is displayed. Libraries hold the functions available for you to use. For an overview of Analytica's libraries and their functions, see the section “Definition menu” in Appendix A of the *Analytica User Guide*.

You will select the **`Determtable()`** function, which is in the ***Array*** library.

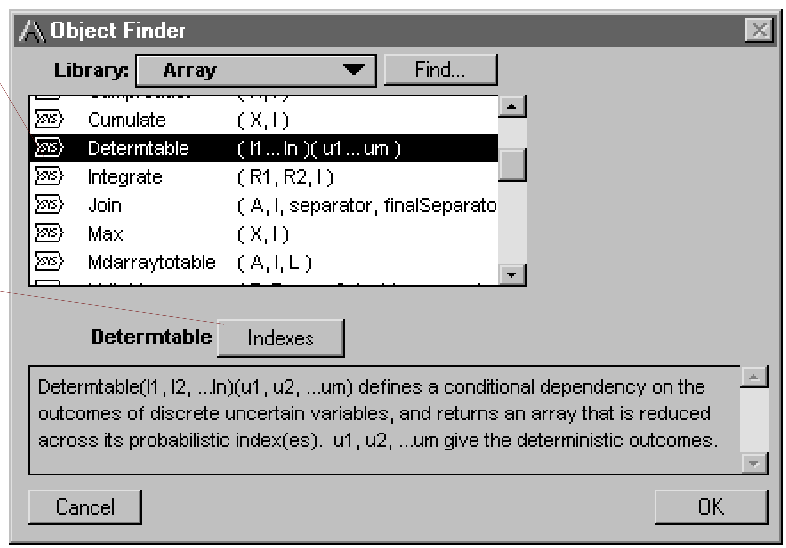
4. Press on the **Library** popup menu and select **Array**.



Analytica Note: *The Object Finder gives a brief description of the selected function.*

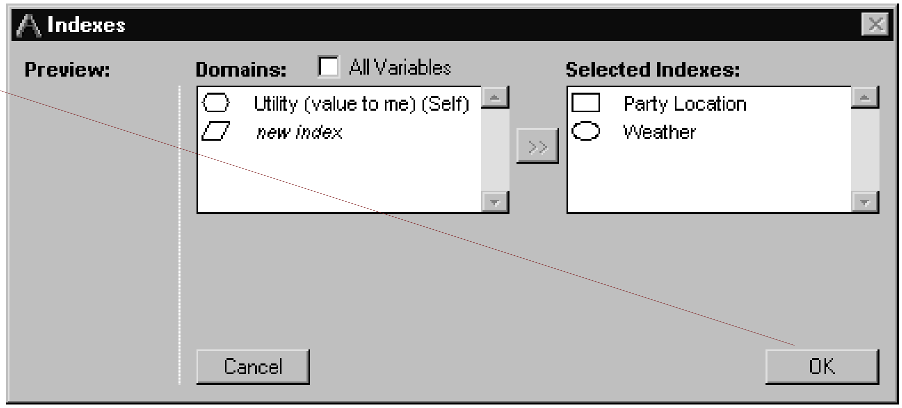
5. Scroll down the list and select Determtable().

6. To specify the indexes for the table, click on the **Indexes** buton.



Party Location and *Weather* are already selected as indexes because you drew arrows from them to *Utility* and they are defined as lists.

7. Click on the **OK** button to accept these Indexes.

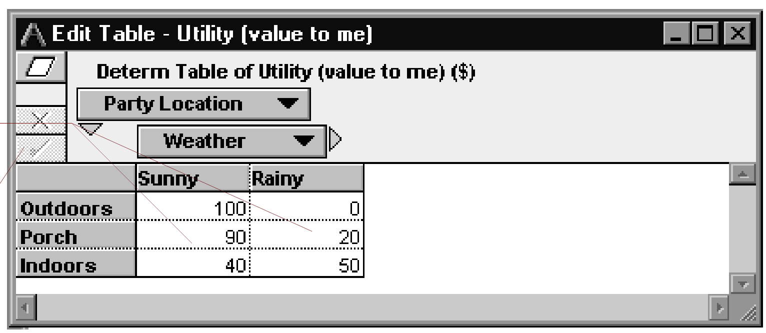


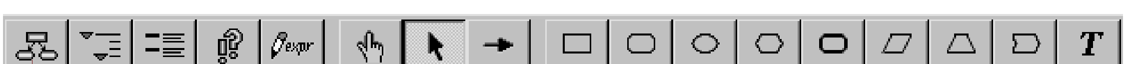
An Edit Table window opens for you to specify the dollar values for *Utility.*

You will give a value for each combination of party location and weather. These values describe the amount of money it is worth to you if you use a given party location and the weather turns out a certain way. Nominally, it is most valuable to have the party outdoors if it is sunny; it is least valuable if it is rainy and you are outdoors. Other values fall between these extremes.

8. Enter the values shown in the cells.

9. Click on the Check button (✓) to accept these entries.

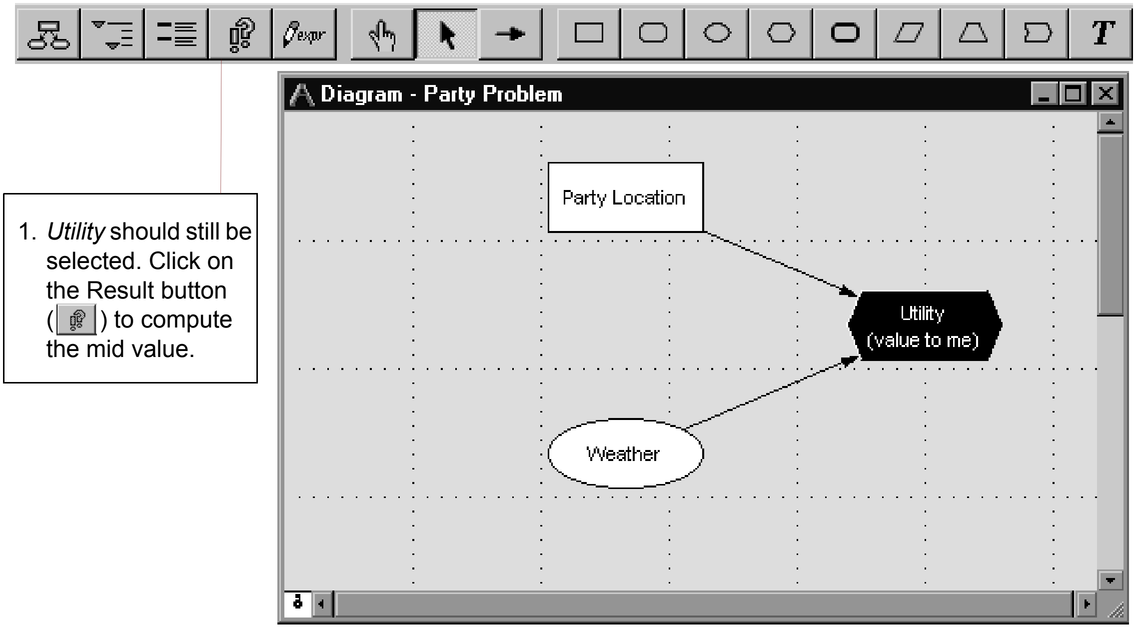




10. Click on the Diagram button ( ) to return to the Diagram window.

Computing Utility

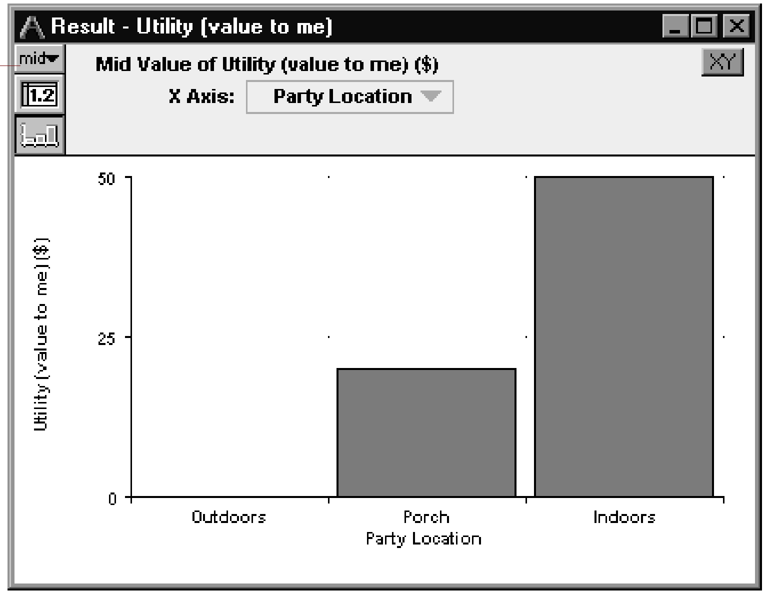
In this section, you will compute the value of *Utility*.



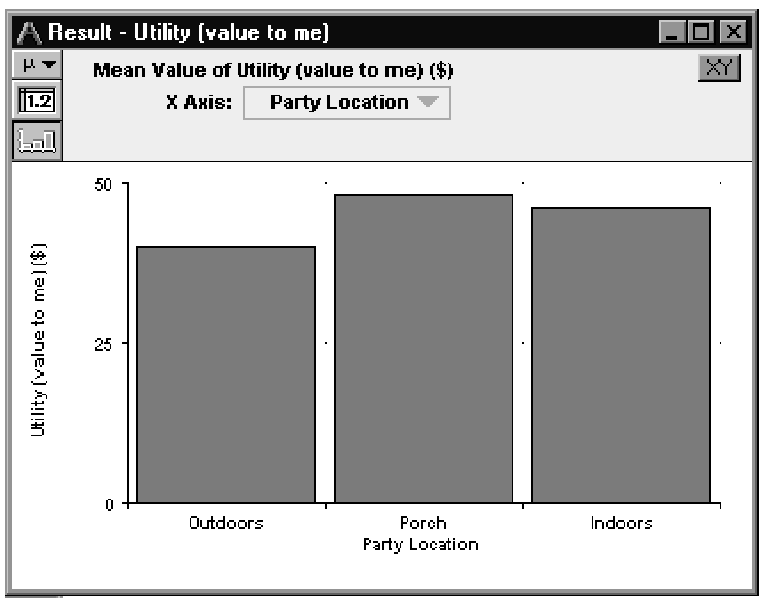
1. *Utility* should still be selected. Click on the Result button ( ) to compute the mid value.

The utility of each party location corresponds to the values you just entered for ***Rainy*** in the *Utility* deterministic table, because the mid value of *Weather* is ***Rainy***. With these outcomes, a deterministic assessment leads you to conclude that your best bet is to hold the party indoors.

2. Select **Mean Value** from the Uncertainty View popup menu.



The mean value gives you a very different assessment: the porch gives you the greatest expected utility. The mean value as estimated by the sample is approximately 40 for outdoors, 48 for the porch, and 46 for indoors.



The exact expected utility for each party location can be calculated by multiplying the probabilities of the outcomes by the values of *Utility*:

```
Outdoors= (100)*0.4 + (0)*0.6= 40
Porch  = (90)*0.4 + (20)*0.6= 48
Indoors= (40)*0.4 + (50)*0.6= 46
```

Note to those with a background in discrete modeling:

Analytica simulates all probability distributions and calculates the expected (mean) value of a distribution by computing the average of the samples. For a discrete distribution, the computed mean converges, with increasing sample size, toward the value obtained by multiplying the probabilities by the discrete outcome values.

Creating the Party Problem model: Summary

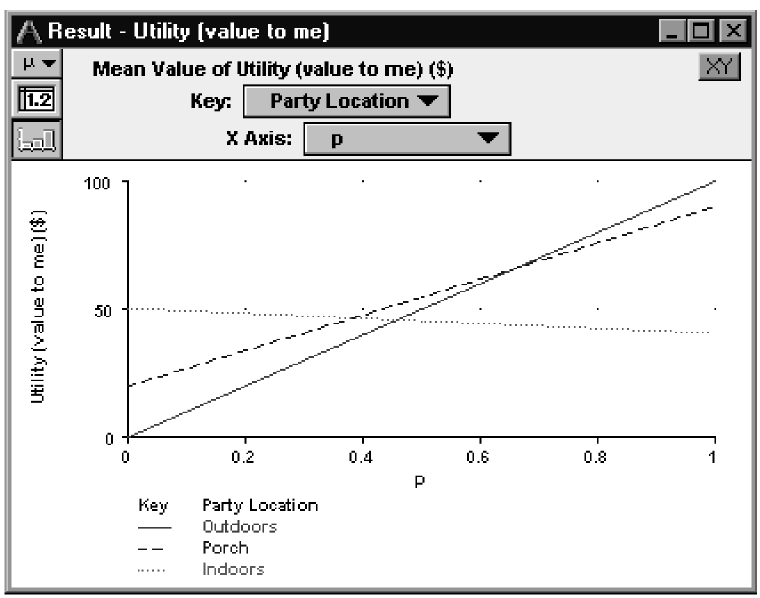
In this chapter, you have:

- defined a variable as a probability table, a discrete distribution
- defined a variable as a deterministic table, a function that defines a conditional dependency on the outcome of a discrete uncertain variable.

Exercise

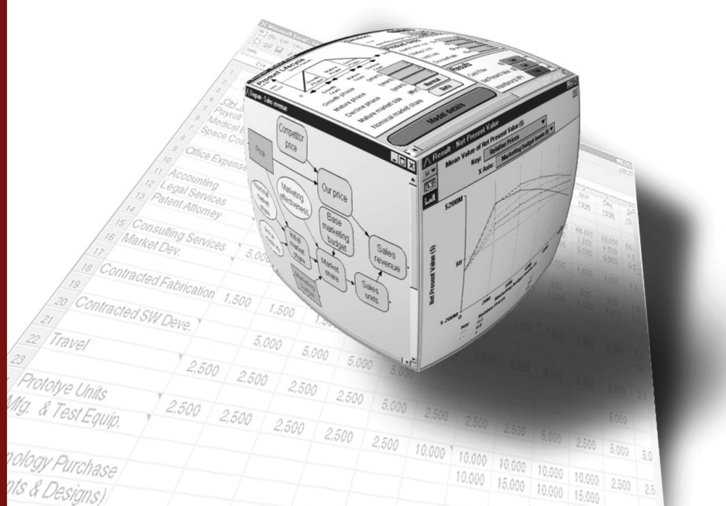
As an exercise, extend the model to examine how the utility of each party location varies as the probability of rain varies from 0 to 100%.

1. **Create another chance node, titled `p`, the probability of sunshine. Define it as the range of probabilities from 0 to 100%, as `Sequence(0, 1, 0.5)`.**
2. **Redefine *Weather* as `p` and `(1-p)`.**
3. **Recalculate the mean value of *Utility*. Display the result as a graph:**



Chapter 7

Creating the Foxes and Hares Model



In this Chapter

This chapter shows you how to:

- Use the **`Dynamic()`** function and the system variable *Time*
- Calculate the results of two nodes simultaneously
- Include variable names in definitions
- Use the **`Min()`** and **`Max()`** functions

Chapter 7: Creating the Foxes and Hares Model

In this chapter you will create a new Analytica model, called *Foxes and Hares*. This model is more complex than those you built in the previous chapters, and will introduce you to more advanced model-building techniques.

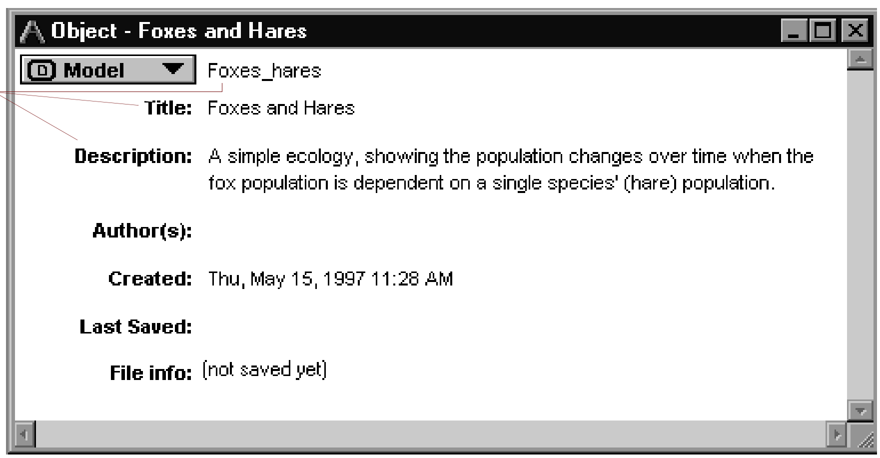
You should complete this chapter if your models will use dynamic simulation or variables that change over time.

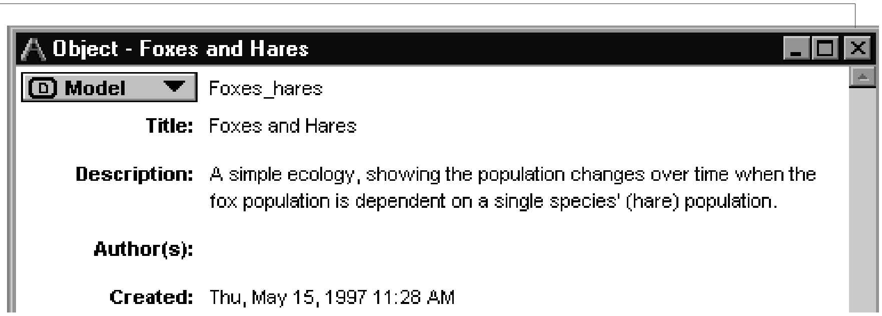
Foxes and Hares models a simple ecology where the populations of two species, foxes and hares, are dependent on each other over time.

Documenting the model

Document the model using the information specified in the Object window below.

1. Enter the model's Identifier, Title, and Description.
2. Save the model by selecting **Save** from the **File** menu.
3. Click on the Close button to close the model's Object window and bring the Diagram window to the front.





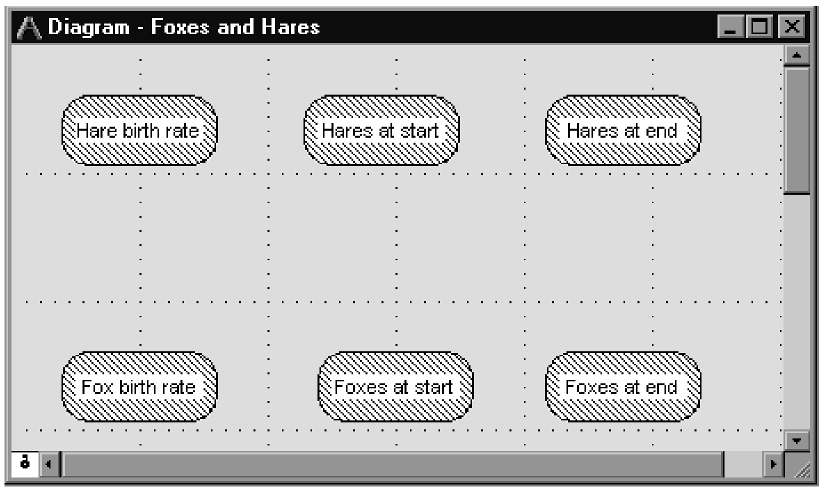
Creating the Foxes and Hares diagram

To create a model of the fox and hare populations, you will make a number of simplifying assumptions.

Start by assuming a number of time periods. Each time period will have the same behavior:

- At the start of the time period, each population grows (from births).
- In the middle of the time period, the foxes prey on the hares.
- At the end of the time period, you will tally the populations.

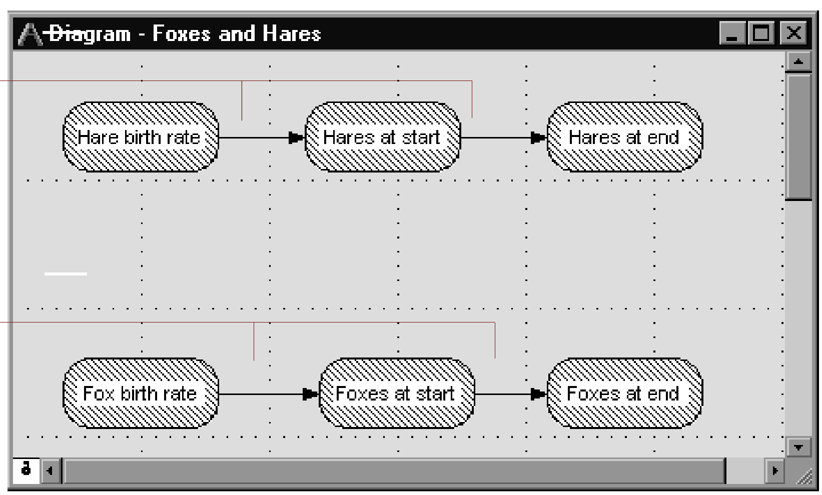
1. Create six General variable ( ) nodes and title them ***Hare birth rate, Hares at start, Hares at end, Fox birth rate, Foxes at start*** and ***Foxes at end***.



2. Draw arrows from *Hare birth rate* to *Hares at start*, and from *Hares at start* to *Hares at end*.

3. Draw arrows from *Fox birth rate* to *Foxes at start*, and from *Foxes at start* to *Foxes at end*.

   Your diagram should now appear as shown here.



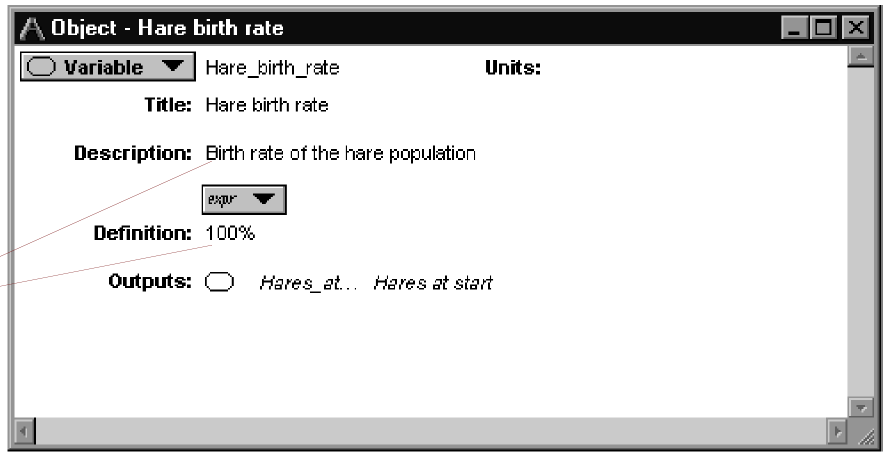
Defining Hare birth rate and Fox birth rate

Your model will assume that the hare population, left unchecked, doubles in each time period, and the fox population, given an adequate food supply (hares), grows by 35% in each time period.

1. Select the Edit tool ( ) and double-click on *Hare birth rate* to open its Object window.

2. Enter the Description and Definition as shown here.

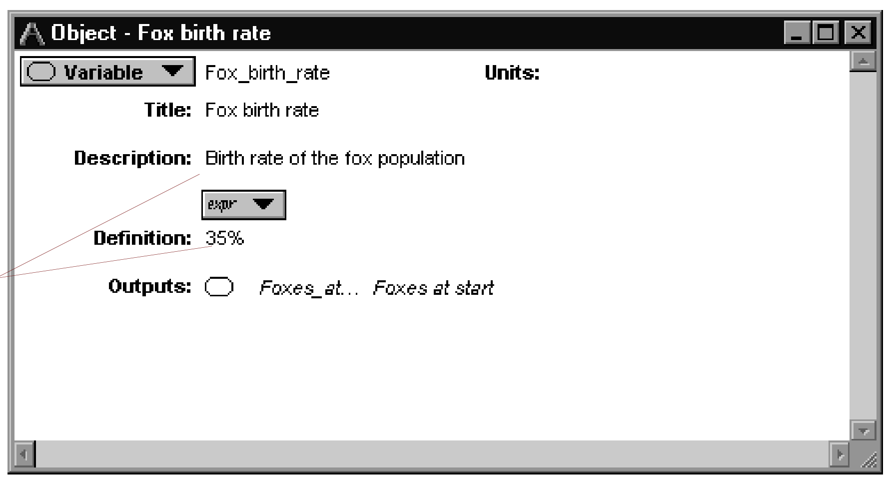
3. Close the Object window to return to the Diagram window.



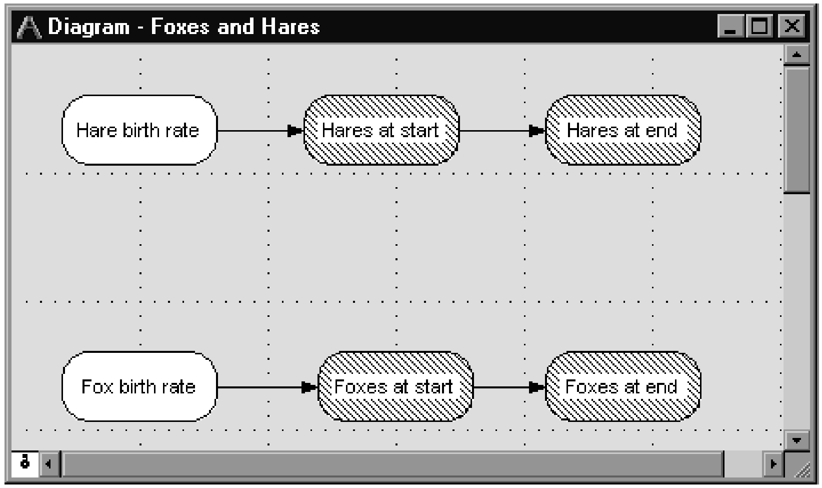
4. Double-click on *Fox birth rate* to Open its Object window.

5. Enter the Description and Definition as shown here.

6. Close the Object window to return to the model



Note that boththe *Hare birth rate* and *Fox birth rate* nodes are solid, indicating that their definitions are valid.



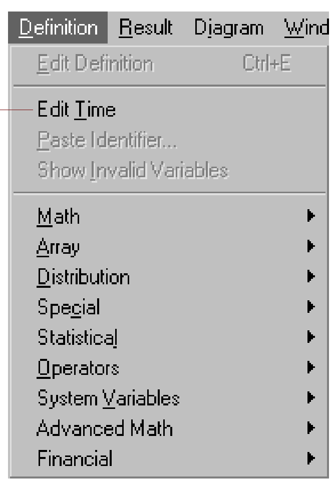
Defining the Time variable

Next, you will investigate how the hare and fox populations grow over time if they are simply allowed to reproduce without any controls. You will start with a time horizon of 10 units.

Analytica has a special built-in variable, *Time* , for use in models such as this one. You will define *Time* as a list: **`[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]`**. The simplest way to define this list is by using the **`Sequence()`** function.

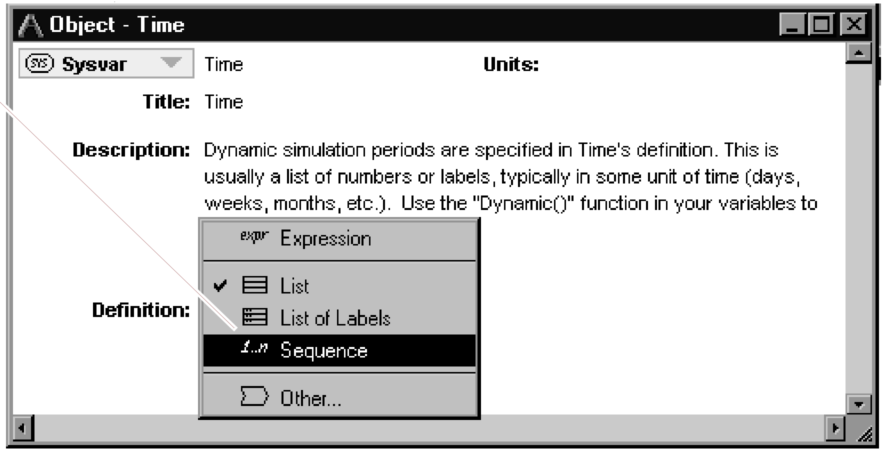
1. Select **Edit Time** from the **Definition** menu.

   The Object window for *Time* displays.



2. Select **Sequence** from the Expressions popup menu.

3. Click on the **OK** button to replace the existing definition with a sequence.



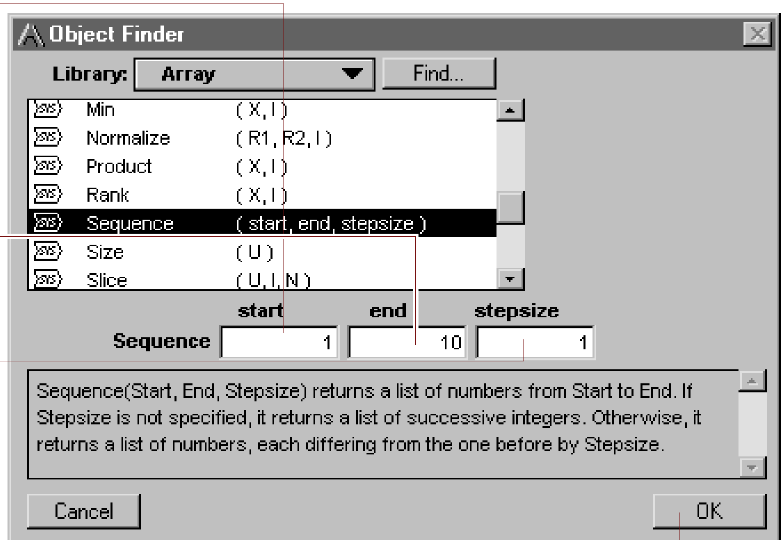
The parameter fields for the **`Sequence()`** function contain the starting number, the ending number, and the step size.

4. Enter ***1*** (to start at time 1) in the first Sequence parameter field, **start**.

5. Tab to the next field, **end**, and enter ***10*** (to end at time 10).

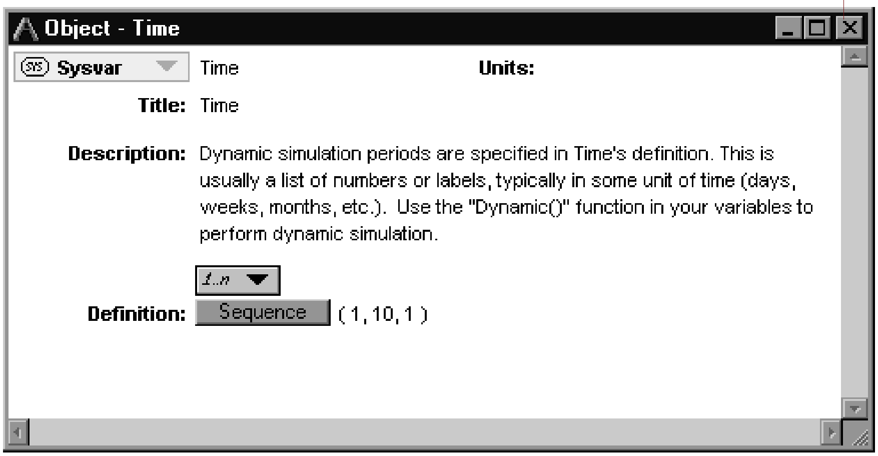
6. Tab to the third field, **stepsize**, and enter **1** (to increment time by 1 unit for each calculation).

7. Click on the **OK** button to save your entries.



The Object window for *Time* shows that the definition is now a sequence from 1 to 10.

8. Click on the Close button to close the *Time* Object window and return to the Diagram window.



Defining hare population as a function of time

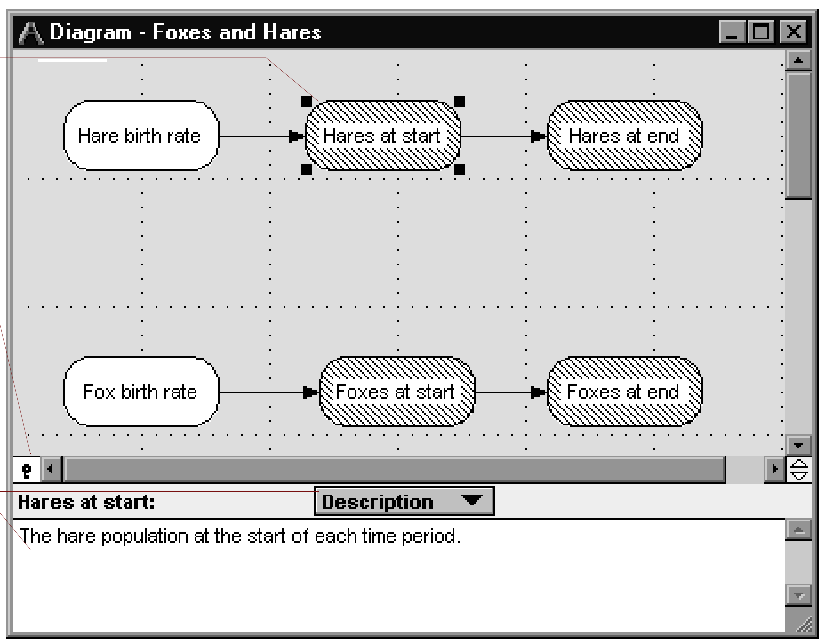
Next, you will define the initial hare population as 100 and the population at the start of each subsequent time period to grow at its birth rate.

1. Select *Hares at start* .

2. Click on the Key icon ( ) to open the diagram's Attribute panel.

3. Click in the Description field and enter the text as shown here.

4. Press *Alt-Enter* to save your entry.



You will define the population at each time period to be a function of its size at the end of the previous time period. A special system function, **`Dynamic()`**, is used to perform this calculation; it calculates a value for each unit of *Time*.

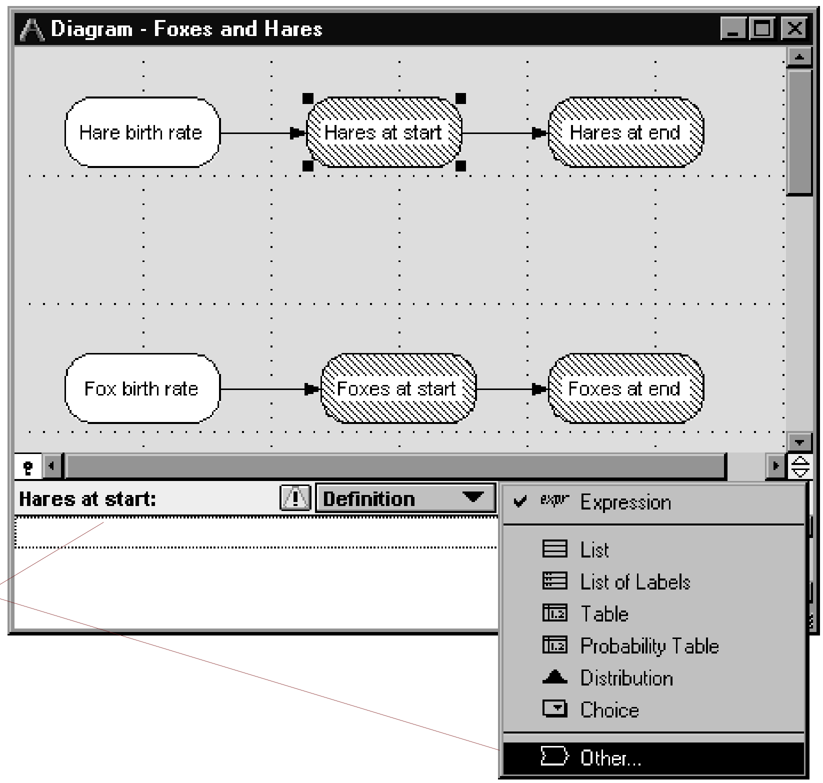
`Dynamic()` is the only function in Analytica that permits cyclic dependency. In other words, the **`Dynamic()`** function allows you to refer to the variable that it defines or to other dynamic variables at earlier time periods. The **`Dynamic()`** function must appear at the topmost level of a definition; it cannot be used inside another expression. The syntax for **`Dynamic()`** requires the initial value of the variable, or the value of the variable at the first unit of *Time*.

To define *Hares at start* with **`Dynamic()`**, you will use the Object Finder.

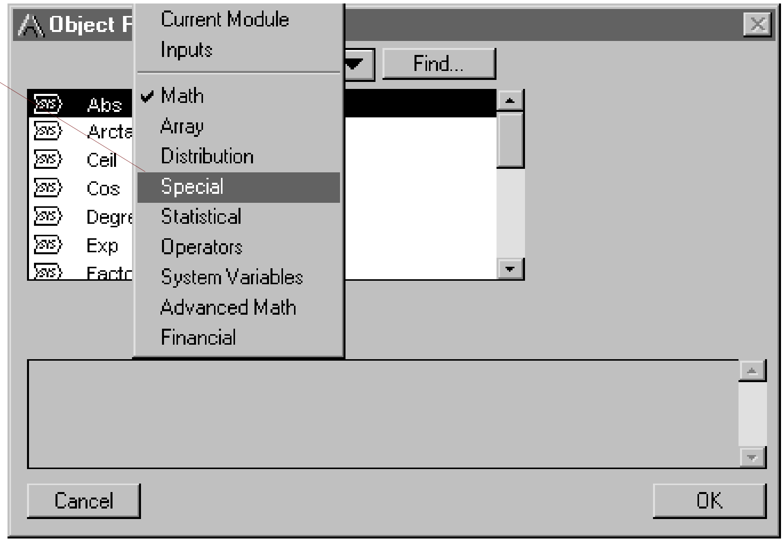
5. Select **Definition** from the Attribute popup menu.

6. Click in the text field, and select **Other** from the Expressions popup menu.

   The Object Finder window is displayed.



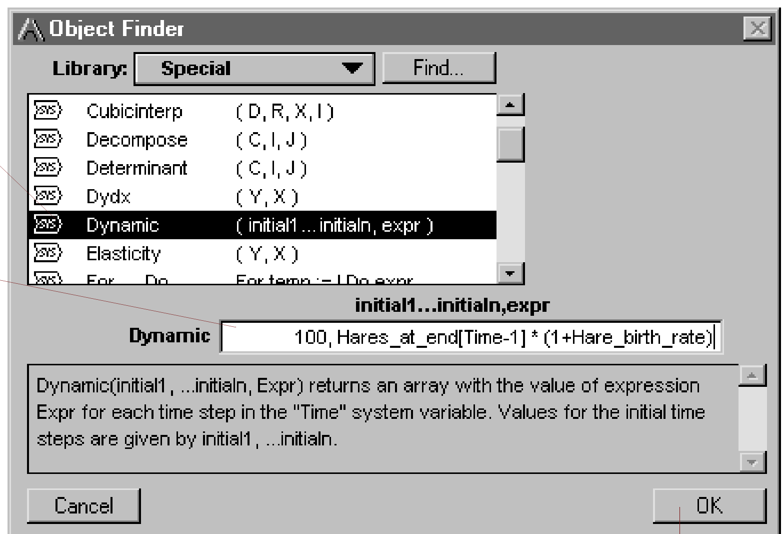
7. Select **Special** from the **Library** popup menu.



8. Click on **Dynamic** to see the description and parameter box for the **`Dynamic()`** function.

9. Click in the Dynamic field and type ***100, Hares_at_end [Time - 1] * (1 + Hare_birth_rate)***.

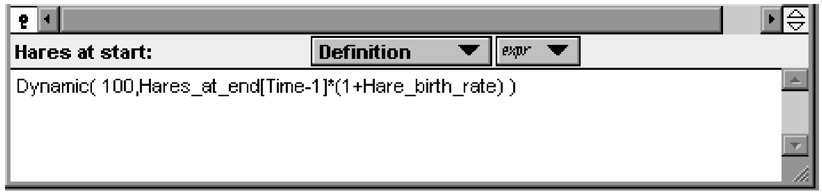
10. Click on the **OK** button (or press *Alt-Enter*) to close the window.



Analytica Note: *Square brackets are necessary for* **`[Time-1]`**. *Be sure to use parentheses around other expressions in* **`Dynamic()`**.

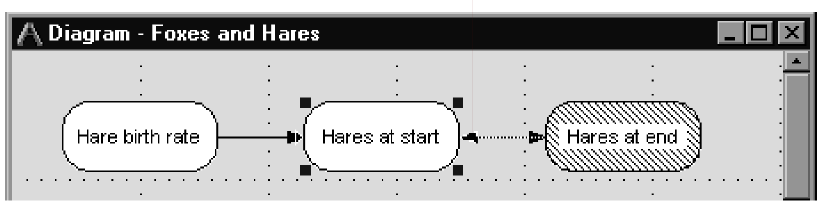
The Attribute panel shows the `Dynamic()` function in the Definition field. This definition states that the starting population of hares is 100 at the first time period; at the start of all other time periods, the population is equal to the population at the end of the previous time period (`Time-1`) plus the number of hares born.

11. Press *Alt-Enter* to accept the definition.



Note that a gray arrowhead points from *Hares at end* to *Hares at start*. The gray arrow is the diagram symbol for a dynamic dependency—that is, the *Hares at end* input is from an earlier time period.

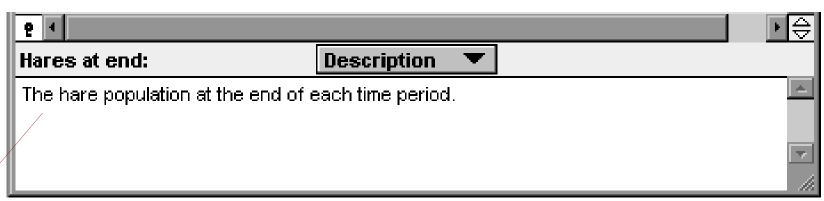
Dynamic arrow



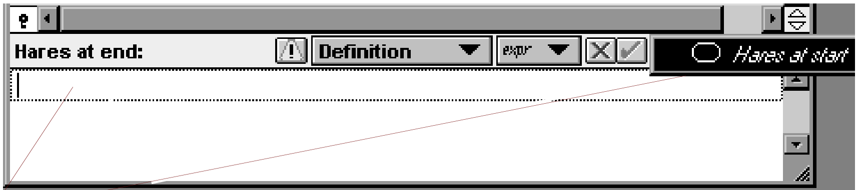
You will now define the population at the end of each period to be equal to the population at the start of each period. (You will later modify this definition to subtract the hares being captured during the period.)

12. Select *Hares at end*.

13. Select **Description** from the Attribute popup menu, click in the text field and enter the Description as shown here.

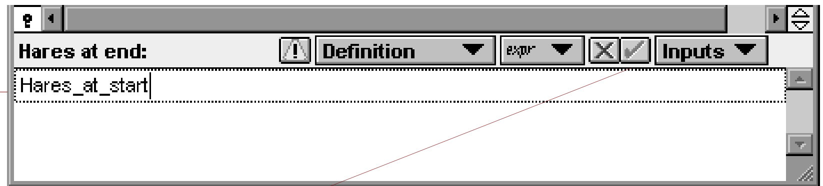


14. Select **Definition** from the Attribute panel's popup menu.



15. Click in the Definition field; then select *Hares at start* from the Inputs popup menu.

    Hares_at_start now appears in the Definition text field.



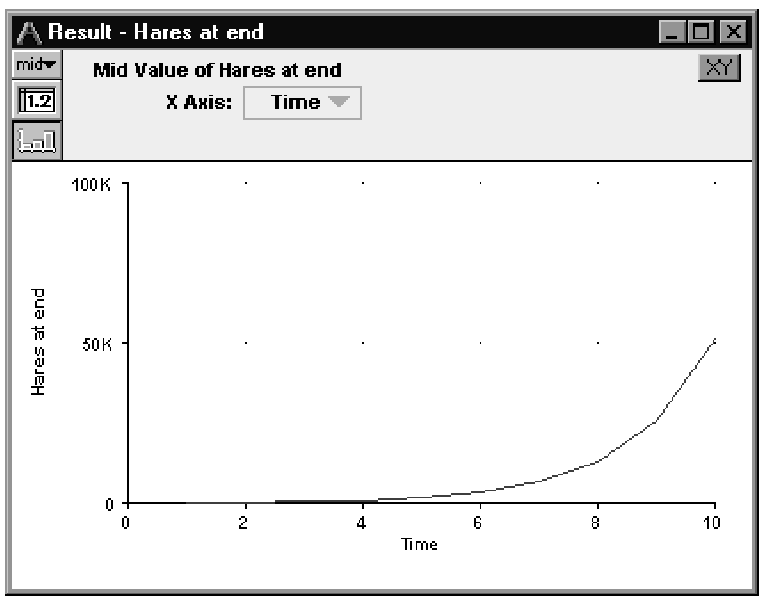
16. Click on the Check button ( ) (or press *Alt-Enter*) to accept your definition.

Next, you will look at the result to see the hare population over time.

17. With the *Hares at end* node selected, click on the Result button ( ).

    You can see the population explosion after only 10 time periods!

18. Return to the Diagram window by closing the Result window or clicking on the Diagram window.



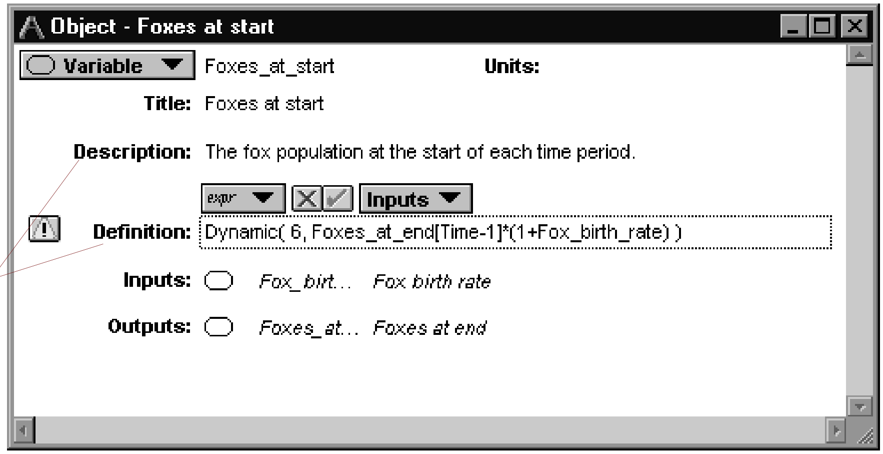
Defining the fox population as a function of time

You will follow similar steps to define the fox population. Assume the starting number of foxes is 6. Instead of using the Object Finder, you will type directly in the Definition field.

1. Double-click on *Foxes at start* to open its Object window.

2. Enter the Description and Definition as shown here.

3. Return to the Diagram window.



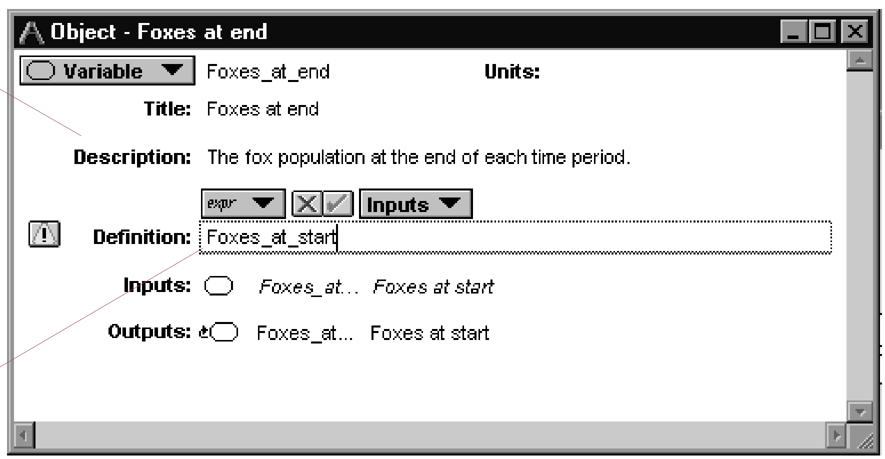
4. Double-click on *Foxes at end* to open its Object window.

5. Enter the Description as shown here.

6. Enter the Definition using the Inputs popup menu.

   Foxes_at_start will now appear in the Definition field.

7. Return to the Diagram window.

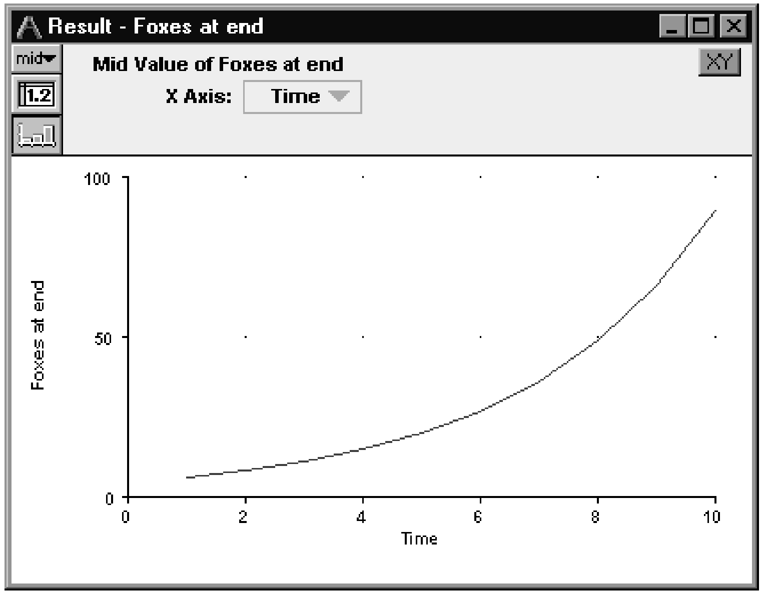


Next, you will look at the result to see the fox population over time.

8. With the *Foxes at end* node selected, click on the Result button.

   You can see that the fox population also explodes, but grows more slowly than the hare population.

9. Return to the Diagram window.

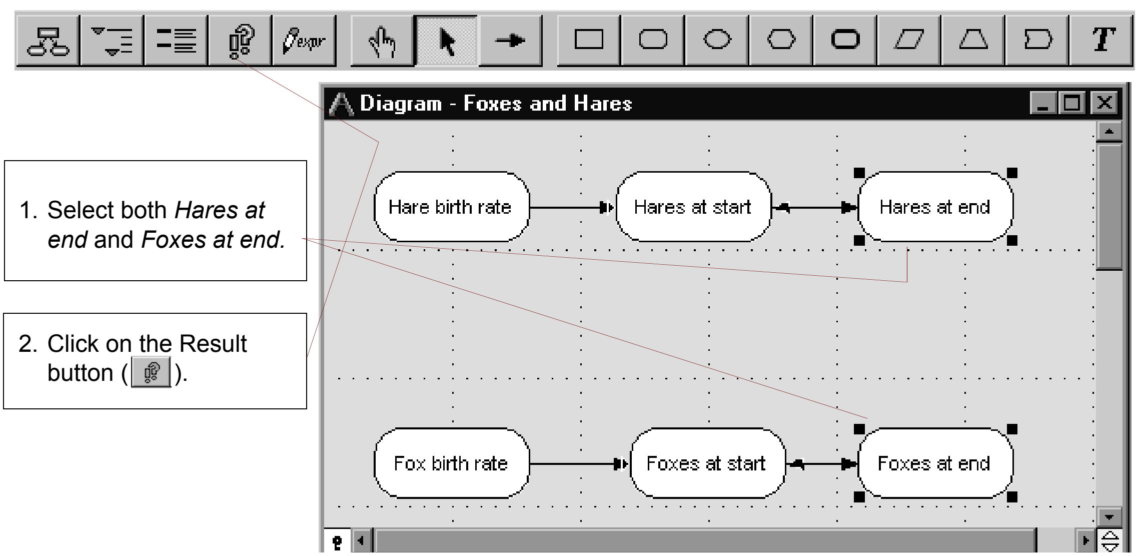


Creating the Populations objective

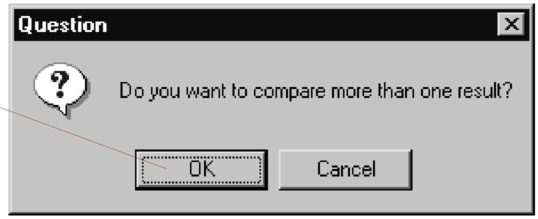
To directly compare the two populations, you will view both populations on one graph. You will create a new variable to show both population results.

1. Select both *Hares at end* and *Foxes at end.*

2. Click on the Result button ( ).



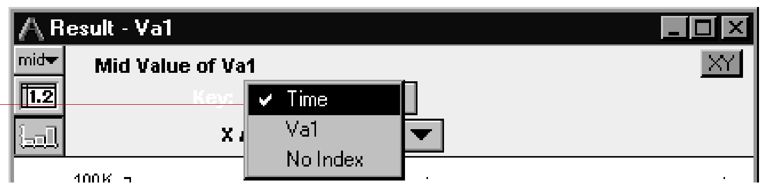
3. Because you want to compare the two results, click on the **OK** button (or press *Alt-Enter*).



Analytica creates a new node with a dummy name. You will change the name and move it to a better position on the diagram in just a minute. But first, you will view the resulting graph.

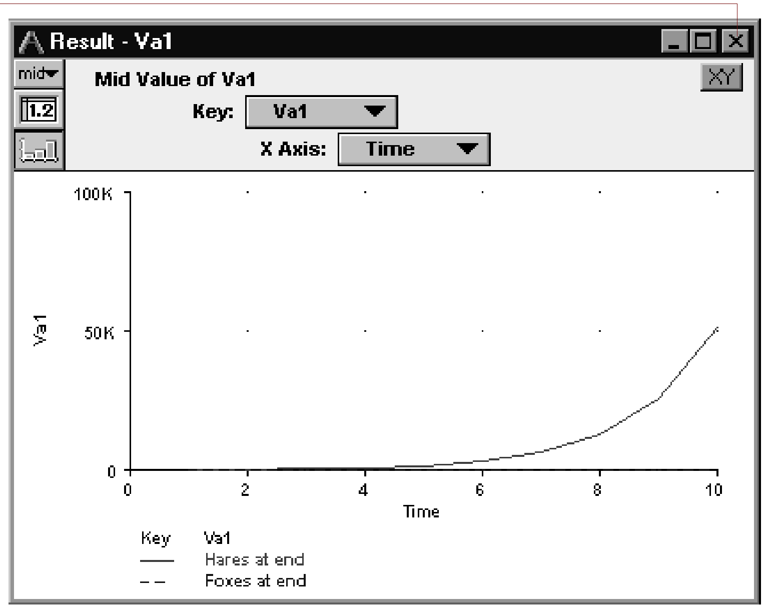
The default graph view is not useful, so you will change the *x*-axis to *Time* in order to see the two animal populations over time.

4. Click on the *x*-axis popup menu and select **Time**.



Now the population explosions of both the hares and the foxes appear on the same graph. Note that the number of foxes is very small compared to the number of hares and is visible on this graph as a line on the *x*-axis.

5. Return to the Diagram window.

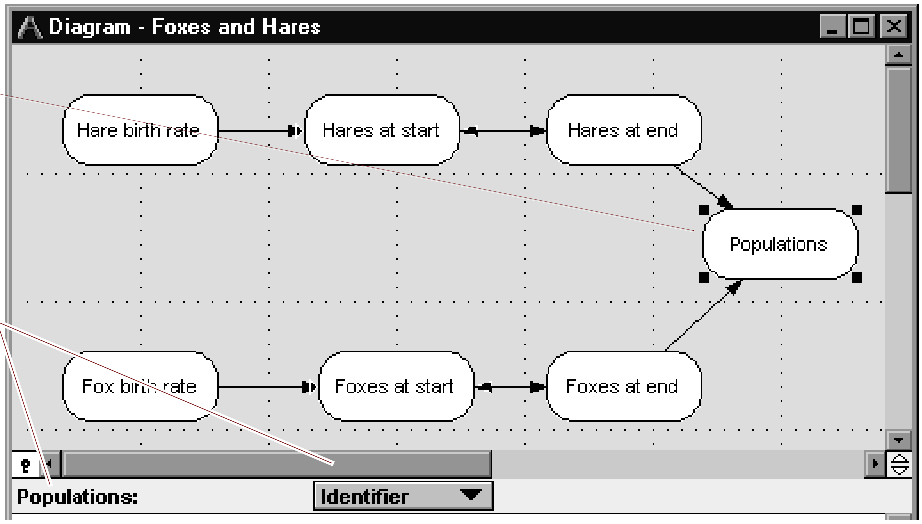


Next, you will adjust the position, name, and class of the new node.

6. Move the new node to the position shown in the figure.

7. In the Attribute panel, change the identifier to ***Populations***, replacing the dummy name.

8. Press *Alt-Enter* to save the change.

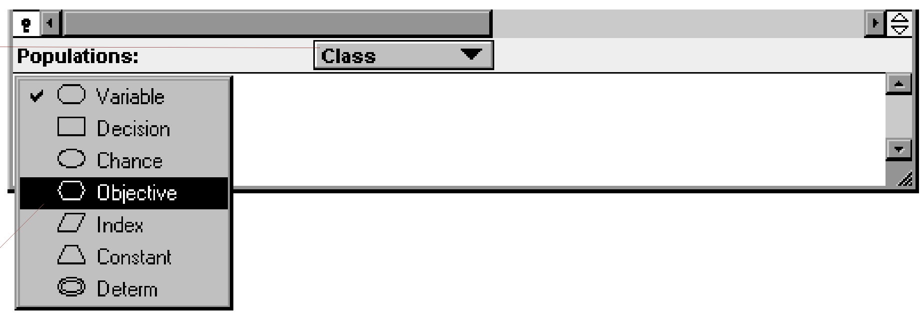


Note that the title also changes.

Since this node is the final output of the model, you will change its class to objective.

9. Select the **Class** attribute from the Attribute popup menu.

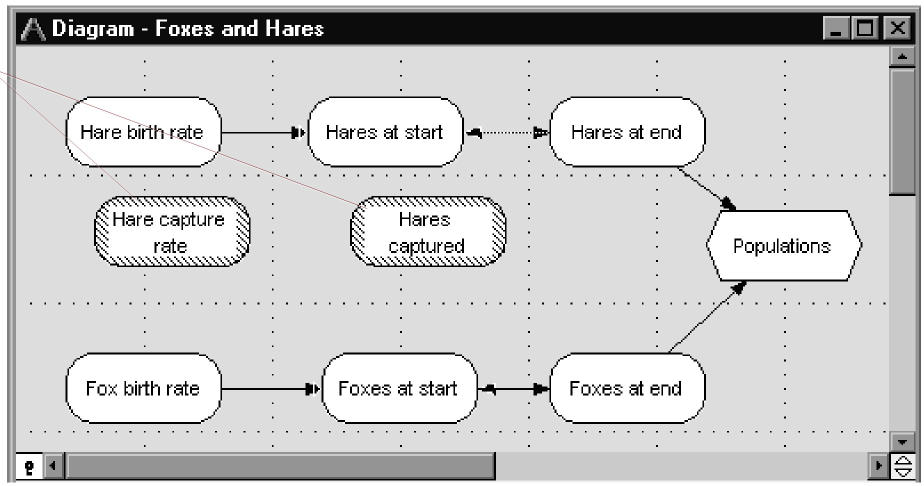
10. From the Class popup menu, select **Objective**.



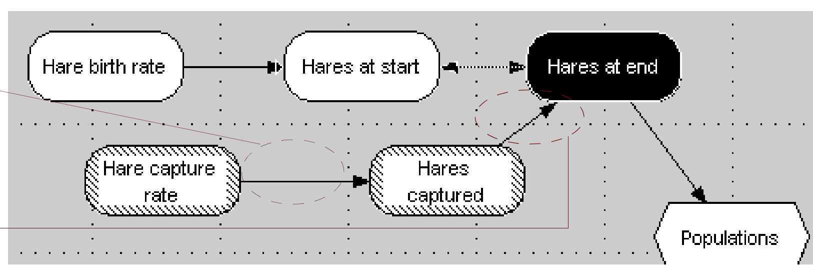
Defining the population control: foxes capture hares

In this section, you will define the population control for the hares, namely that they are captured by foxes during a time period. You will assume that the foxes hunt independently from each other and that each fox captures 25% of the hares during a time period.

1. Create two General variable nodes and title them ***Hare capture rate*** and ***Hares captured***.



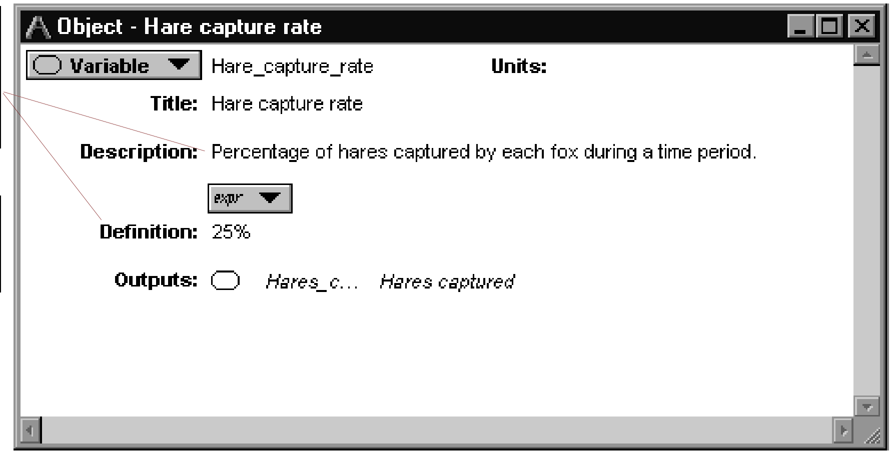
2. Draw an arrow from *Hare capture rate* to *Hares captured*.
3. Draw an arrow from *Hares captured* to *Hares at end*.



4. Double-click on *Hare capture rate* to open its Object window.

5. Enter the Description and Definition as shown here.

6. Close the Object window.



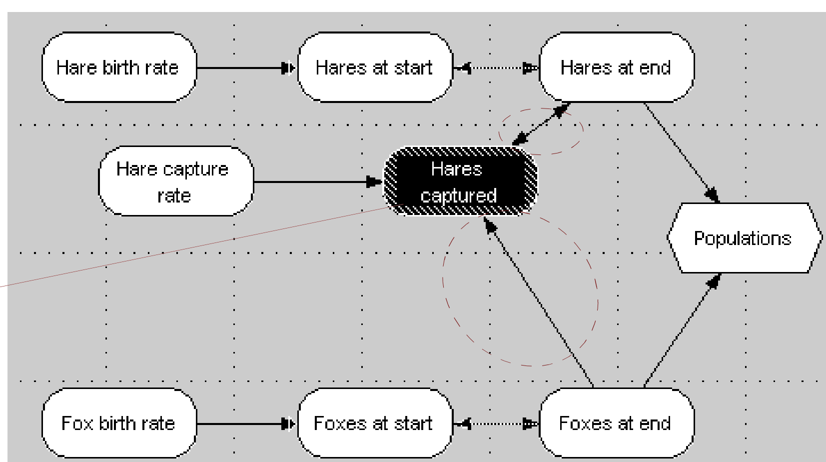
7. Select *Hares captured* and, with Description selected in the Attribute popup menu, enter the Description as shown here.

If only adult hares are captured and only adult foxes are captors, then, in a time period, the number of hares captured is the hare capture rate times the hare population at the end of the previous period times the fox population at the end of the previous period.

You will again use the **`Dynamic()`** function, using an initial value of 75 hares captured. This time you will enter the dynamic expression directly into the Definition field.

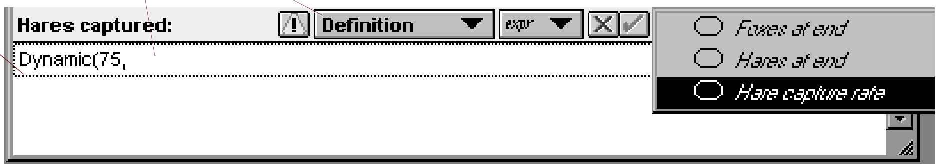
8. Draw arrows from both *Hares at end* and *Foxes at end* to *Hares captured.*

9. Select *Hares captured.*



10.Select Definition from the Attributes popup menu and click in the Definition text field.

11.Type ***Dynamic(75,***

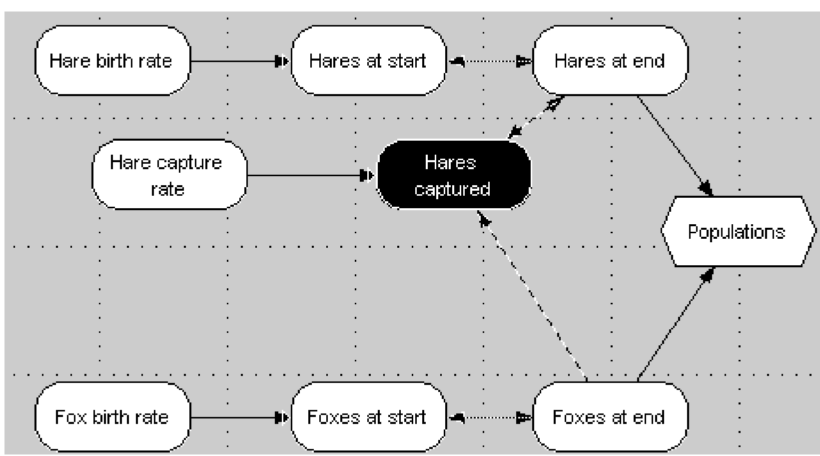


12.Select *Hare capture rate* from the Inputs popup

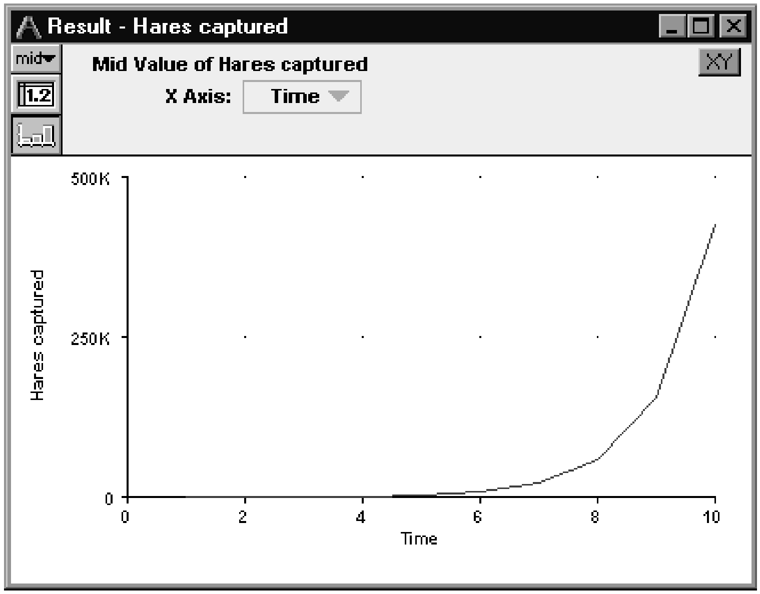
13.Continue editing the definition of *Hares captured* by typing and by selecting inputs from the Input popup menu until it is as shown here.

14.Click on the Check button ( ) (or press *Alt-Enter*) to accept your definition.

Note that the arrows you drew in Step #8 above are now broken lines. These lines indicate that the dependency is dynamic—the input variable is from an earlier time period.



15. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the number of hares captured as a function of time.

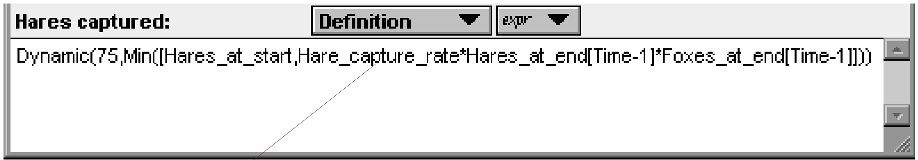


Something is not quite right. These numbers grow to be larger than the number of hares at the start of the period (compare the graph of *Hares at end*, which equaled *Hares at start*, on page 166). This is reasonable; for example, if there are more than four foxes, it is possible for the calculation to give more than 100% of the hares.

To prevent the number of hares captured from exceeding the number of hares at the start of the period, you will constrain the definition of *Hares captured* by using the **`Min()`** function.

The **`Min()`** function selects the minimum value from an array of numbers. The syntax for finding the minimum of two numbers *x* and *y* is **`Min([x,y])`**. (The expression **`[x,y]`** creates an array from *x* and *y* .) You want the number of hares captured to always be the minimum of the calculated number and the number of hares at the start of the period.

16. Select *Hares captured.*

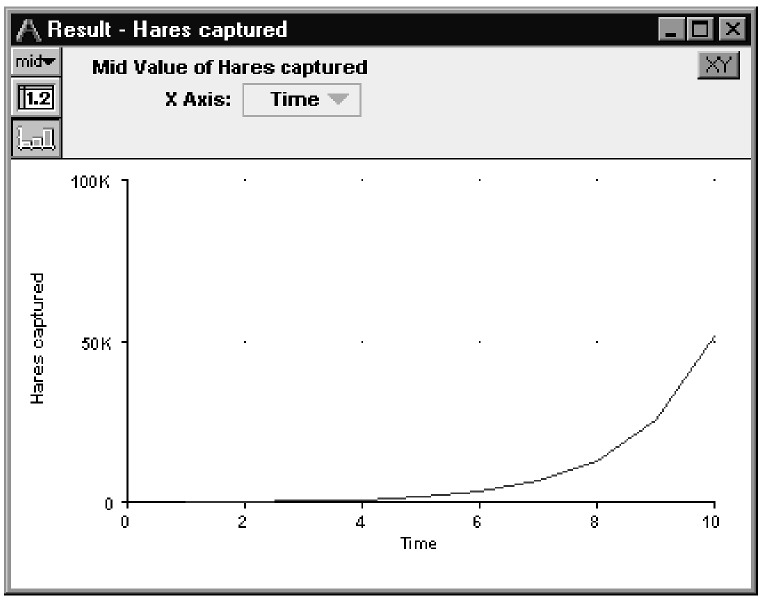


17. In the Attribute panel, edit the definition of *Hares captured* until it appears as shown here.

18. Press *Alt-Enter* to accept the revised definition.

19. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the number of hares captured as a function of time.

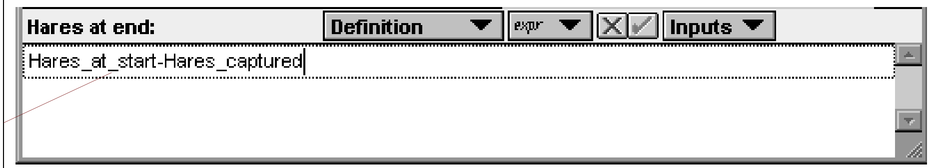
    Now the number captured is no greater than the number at the start of the period.



20. Select *Hares at end* in the model diagram.

Next, you will reduce the number of hares at the end of the time period by the number that are captured.

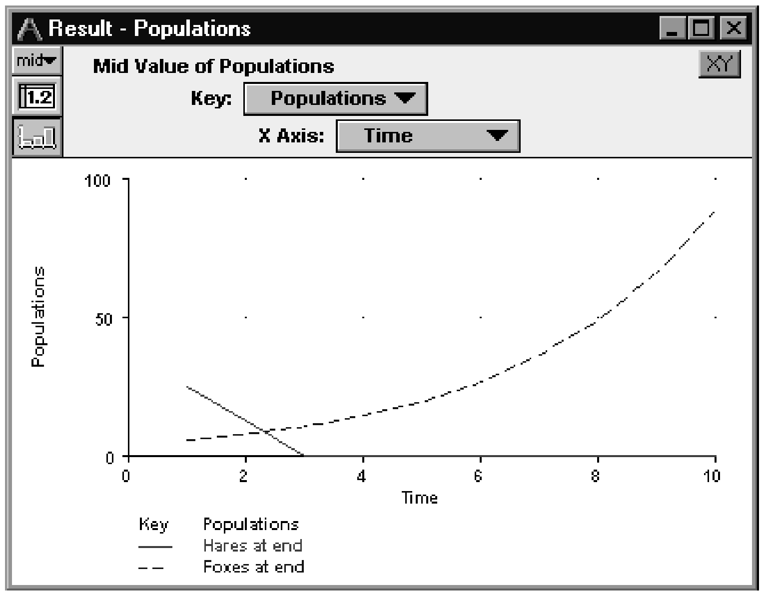
21. In the Attribute panel, edit the definition of *Hares at end* until it appears as shown here.



22. Press *Alt-Enter* to accept the revised definition.

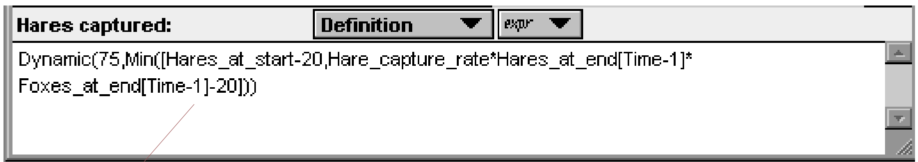
23. Select *Populations* in the model diagram.

24. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the resulting populations as a function of time.



Oops! The hare population goes to zero! You don't find extinction very interesting, so you will assume that a small number of hares, say 20, will be able to hide from the foxes and survive. You will further modify the definition of *Hares captured*, to allow 20 to survive.

25. Select *Hares captured*.



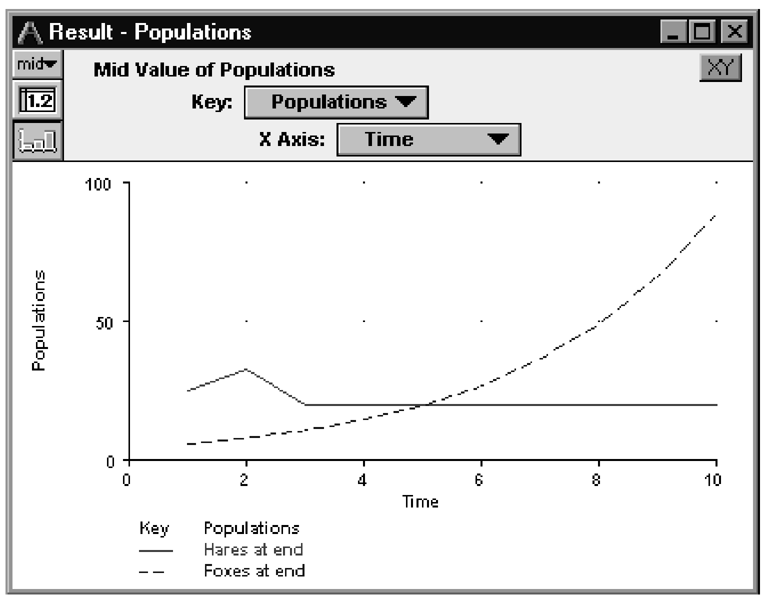
26. Edit the definition of *Hares captured* until it appears as shown here.

27. Click on the Check button (or press *Alt-Enter*) to accept the revised definition.

28. Select *Populations*.

29. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the results.

30. Return to the Diagram window.

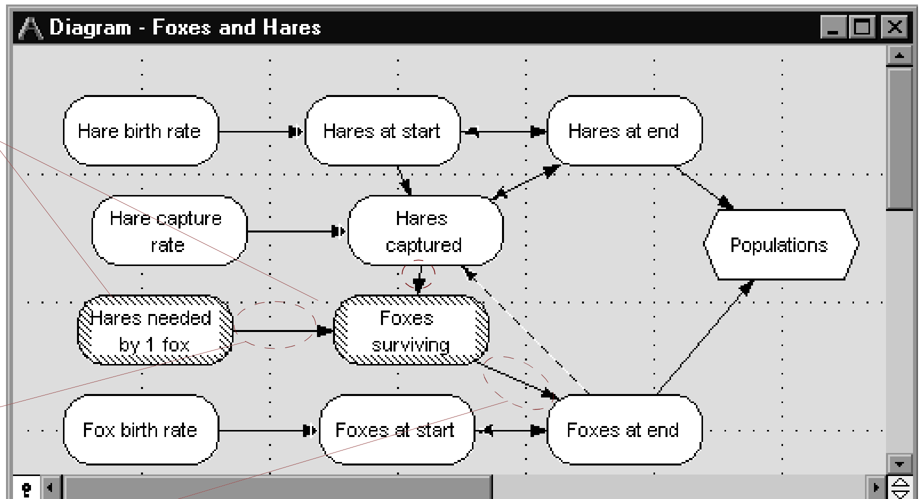


Now the hare population is well under control: it falls to 20 and remains there. However, one piece of the model is still missing: population control for the foxes, who must have enough hares to eat.

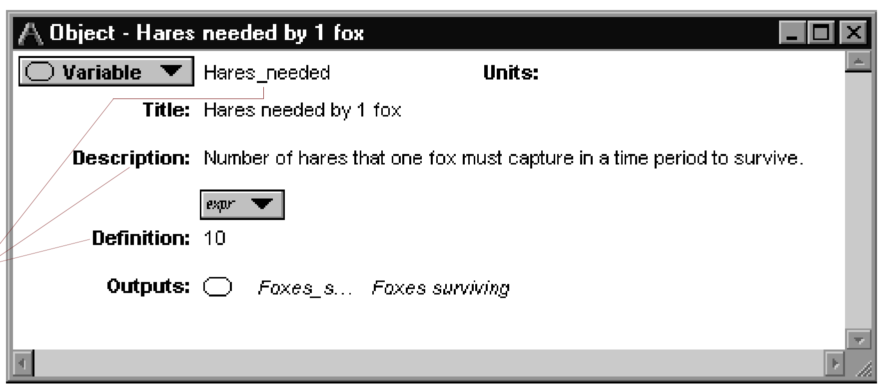
Defining the population control: foxes require hares

During any time period, each fox needs to eat at least ten hares in order to survive. Therefore, in any time period, the number of foxes surviving is, at most, the number of hares captured divided by ten. You will now add this constraint to your model.

1. Create two General variable nodes and title them ***Hares needed by 1 fox*** and ***Foxes surviving***.
2. Draw arrows from both *Hares needed by 1 fox* and *Hares captured* to *Foxes surviving*.
3. Draw an arrow from *Foxes surviving* to *Foxes at end*.



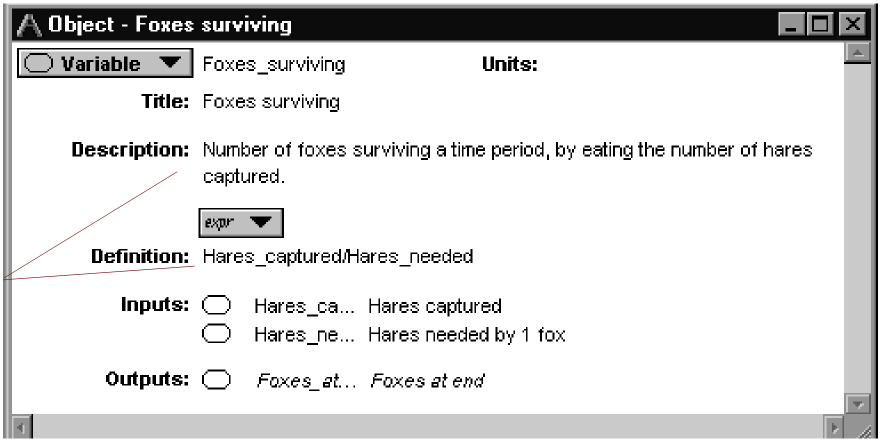
4. Double-click on *Hares needed by 1 fox* to open its Object window.
5. Edit the Identifier, Description, and Definition as shown here.
6. Close the Object window.



7. Double-click on *Foxes surviving* to open its Object window.

8. Enter the Description and Definition as shown here.

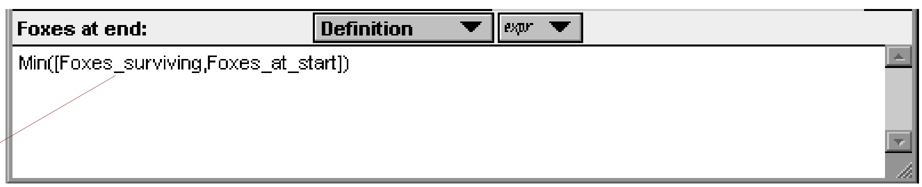
9. Close the Object window.



You are ready to adjust the population of foxes at the end of the time period by the number surviving during the period. The number at the end of the period is the smaller of the number of foxes at the start of the period and the number of foxes surviving. Again you will use the `Min()` function.

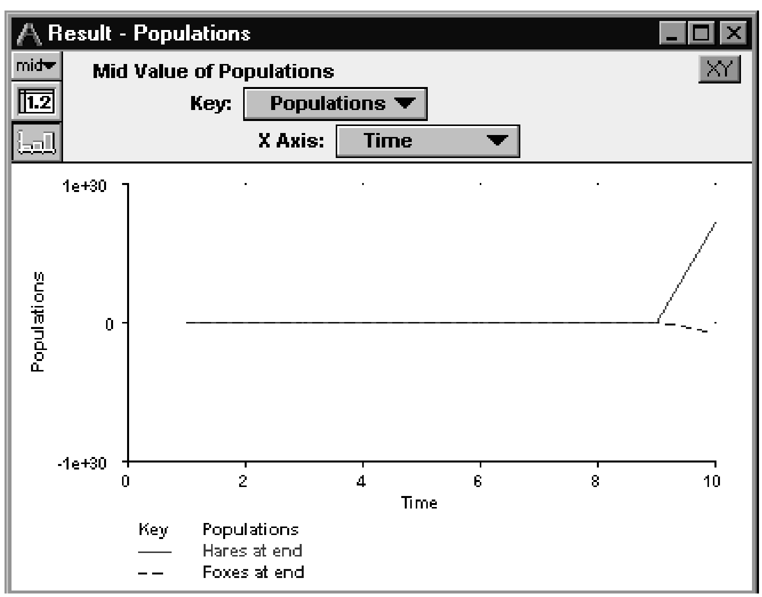
10. Select *Foxes at end*.

11. In the Attribute panel, edit its definition until it appears as shown here.



12. Select *Populations*.

13. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the results.



It looks like the population of foxes is declining below 0, allowing the hare population to explode! To verify this, look at the table view by clicking on the Table button ( ).

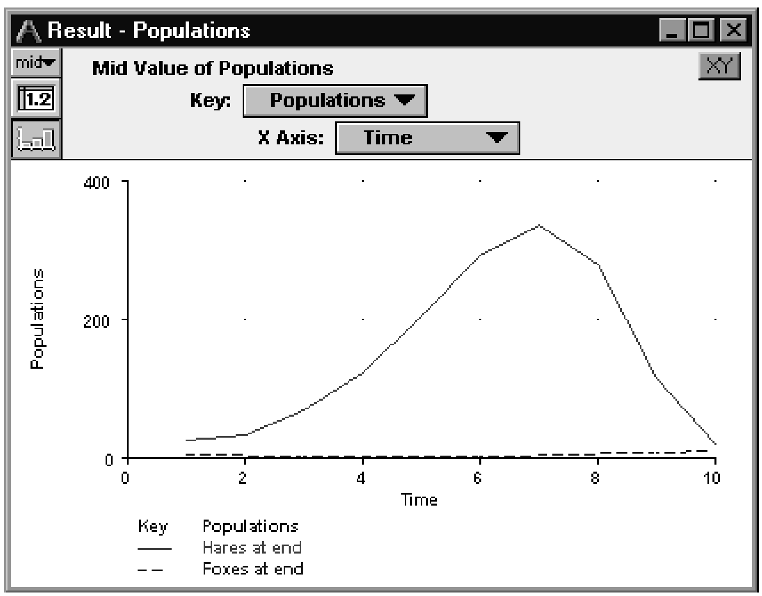
You know that in order to continue reproducing, there must be at least two foxes. Therefore, you will further assume that two foxes always manage to survive somehow (and one is male and the other female!). You will modify the definition of *Foxes at end* to constrain it from falling below two.

In other words, the population of *Foxes at end* must always be two or the calculated population, whichever is greater. To implement this constraint, you will use the **`Max()`** function.

14. Edit the definition of *Foxes at end* until it appears as shown here.

15. Select *Populations*.

16. Click on the Result button ( ) to see the results.



Now you can see the fox population falling and rising, with a much larger hare population rising and falling.

Viewing the final results of both populations

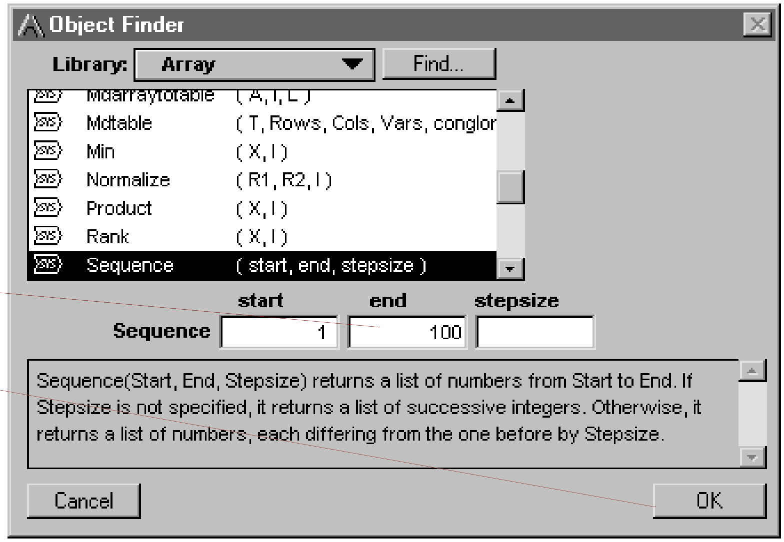
Finally, you will examine the fox and hare populations fluctuating over a longer period of time, 100 periods.

1. Select **Edit Time** from the **Definition** menu.

2. Click on **Sequence**.

3. Change the End parameter from 10 to **100**.

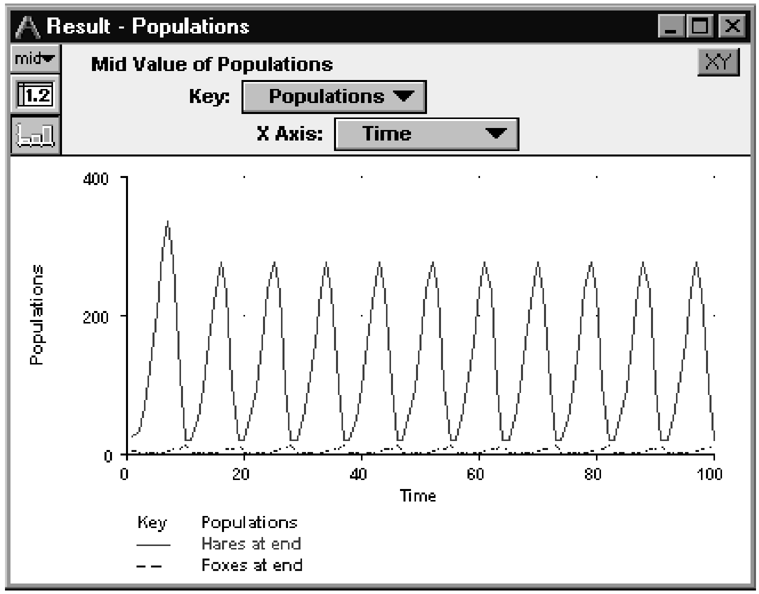
4. Click on the **OK** button to save this change.



5. Close the Object window for *Time*.

   The **Calculate** button appears in the Result window.

6. Click on the **Calculate** button to see the population cycle swings over the 100 time periods.



Now you can clearly see the rise and fall of the fox population lagging behind the hare population's rise and fall.

Suggestion: now that the model is complete, go back and revise the input assumptions to see how they impact this result.

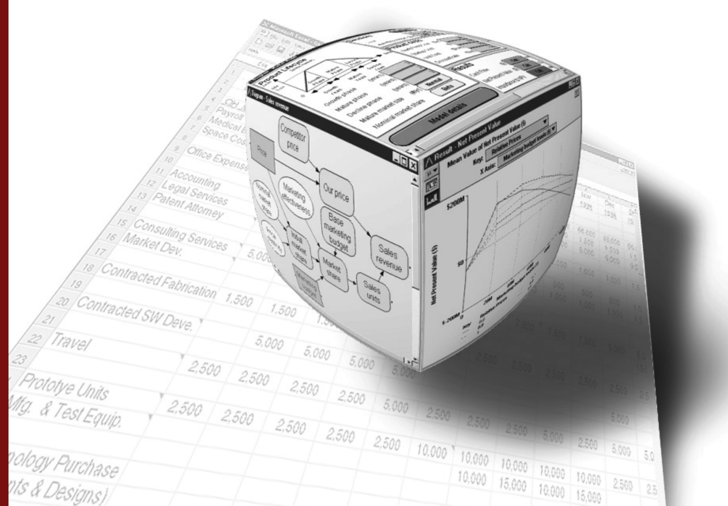
Creating the Foxes and Hares Model: Summary

In this chapter, you have:

- defined a variable as a function of another variable at an earlier time period using the **`Dynamic()`** function and the system variable *Time*
- had Analytica calculate the results of two nodes simultaneously, and automatically create a new variable to display the results
- used the Input popup menu to include variable names in definitions
- created more complex expressions to constrain a variable using the **`Min()`** and **`Max()`** functions.

Chapter 8

On Your Own



In this Chapter

This chapter describes the example models provided with Analytica.

Chapter 8: On Your Own

Congratulations on completing the Analytica Tutorial. You are now ready to begin creating your own models.

For more detailed information on Analytica, see the *Analytica User Guide*. It is a reference on all aspects of Analytica, including descriptions of all available functions.

Within the Analytica folder are folders titled Example Models and Libraries, which contains a variety of Analytica models, including all the examples illustrated in the *Analytica User Guide*, as libraries that are useful to include when building your own models. Many of the example models were created by users just like you. These models contain a wealth of ideas on using Analytica for practical applications. You should investigate these examples to see some of the different ways in which models can be constructed.

If you create models that you feel would be helpful or interesting to others, please send them to us for inclusion in a future Example Models folder; see the *Analytica User Guide*, Appendix H, “How to Contact Us”, or see the end of this chapter.

The Example Models folder is subdivided into these folders:

- Business Examples
- Decision Analysis
- Dynamic Models
- Function Examples
- Risk Analysis
- User Guide Examples

Business Examples

Bond Model

This model takes typical bond purchase inputs (purchase price, par value, interest rate, and life to maturity) and calculates bond cash flows, current yield and yield to maturity.

Breakeven Analysis

This model is a simple example of a breakeven analysis of a set of revenue levels, when the fixed expenses are set at one amount and the variable expenses are a constant fraction of revenue.

Expected R&D Project Value

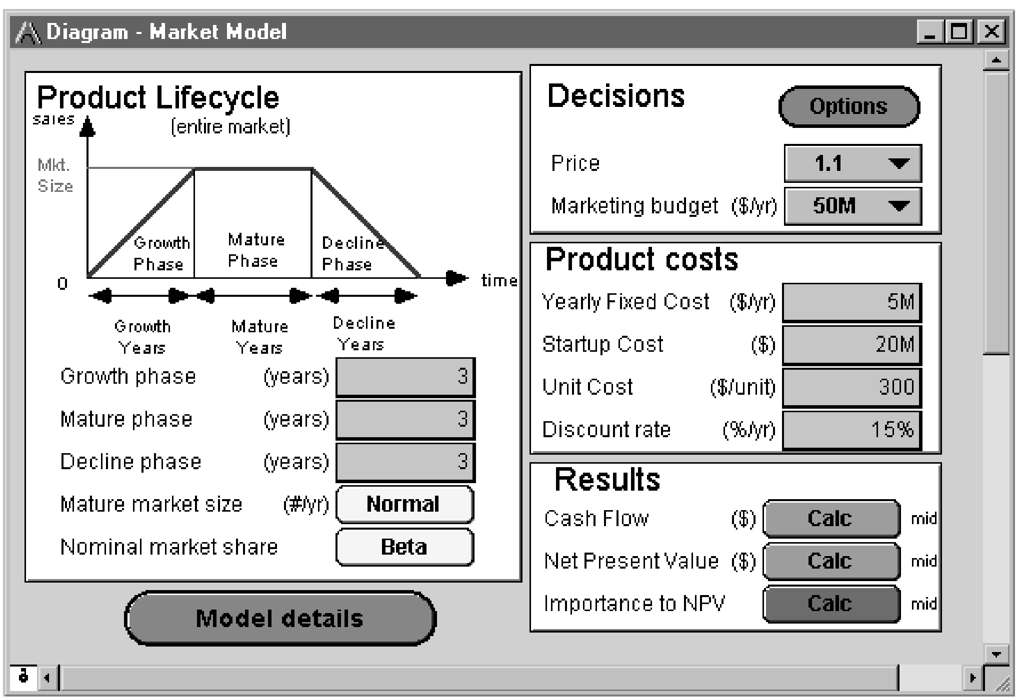
This model evaluates and compares the expected commercialization value of multiple proposed R&D projects.

Financial Statement Templates

This example model contains a complete set of standard financial statements: a profit and loss statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement. It provides a step by step guide to using these templates to generate your own financial statements. You may enter values into the existing template and/or modify the variable definitions to reflect your own accounting standards.

Market Model

This model explores a market for a new product, and the pricing and advertising budget decisions involved. This example also



shows the use of “forms” for receiving input and presenting output for users of the model.

Plan_Schedule_Control

This model takes input data for activity paths required to complete a project, and calculates various outputs describing the critical path, timing and costs for project completion.

Sales Effectiveness

This model evaluates the effects of unit price on salesmen headcount and production capacity. The model contains an example of taking user estimates of uncertainty in a standard high-medium-low form, and transforming those inputs into a continuous distribution for propagation through the model.

Derived from Principles of Systems by Jay W. Forrester, 1968, ISBN 0-915299-87-9.

Subscriber Pricing

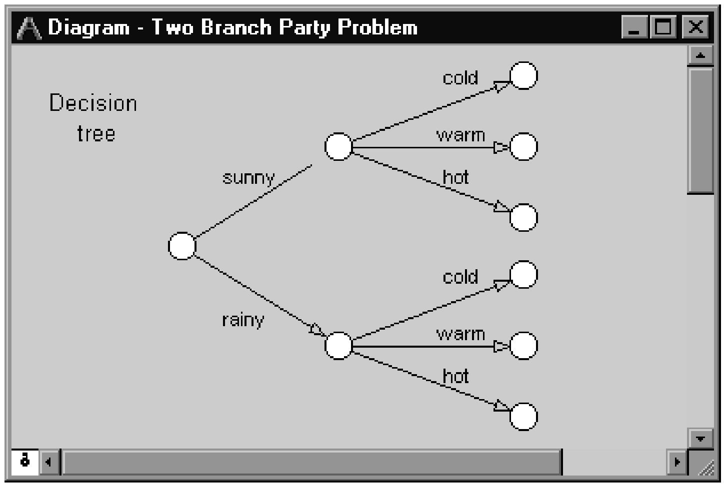
The purpose of this model is to determine the amount of revenue needed on a monthly basis from each subscriber of a service to just meet the weighted average cost of capital of the firm from the service release date to the end of the Study Horizon. In other words, it calculates the monthly unit revenue rate required from each subscriber of a service to give a return on investment at the end of the Study Horizon that is equal to the weighted average cost of capital of the firm.

Decision Analysis

This folder includes models that illustrate the discipline of decision analysis.

2 Branch Party Tree

The author of this model wants to throw a party, and can't decide where to throw it. This model shows how to model a 2 branch decision tree in Analytica.



Beta Updating

This model uses the beta distribution for Bayesian updating of beliefs about the probability that a coin will come up heads.

Biotech R&D Portfolio

This multi-project R&D evaluation models a typical R&D decision problem that might be faced by a biogenetic company.

Gibbs Sampling in Bayesian Network

This model solves a Bayesian network using the Gibbs sampling method, also referred to as Stochastic Simulation. It is an instance of Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation. This implementation runs multiple simulations simultaneously. You may specify observations for any subset of variables in the model (using the pull down menus), and compute the posterior probabilities for any of the other variables.

For more on this technique, see S. L. Lauritzen & D. J. Spiegelhalter, “Local Computations with Probabilities on Graphical Structures and Their Application to Expert Systems”, Journal Royal Statistical Society Series B50:2, 1984, p. 157-224.

LEV R&D Strategy

This example models R&D decision analysis for investment strategy among several choices of powerplants for a Low Emissions Vehicle (LEV).

Newton-Raphson Method

This model implements the Newton-Raphson (or simply Newton's) method, one of the most powerful and well-known numerical methods for finding the root of f(x)=0.

Nonsymmetric Tree

This model is an example of what, using decision tree terminology, would be an asymmetric decision tree in Analytica.

Party With Forecast

This model presents a problem facing a party host. In the face of uncertain weather, what is the best location to hold a party? The value the host assigns to the party is a function of both the location chosen and the weather outcome.

This model augments the basic party model in order to show the value of imperfect information—in this case, a weather forecast—using Bayesian updating.

Supply and Demand

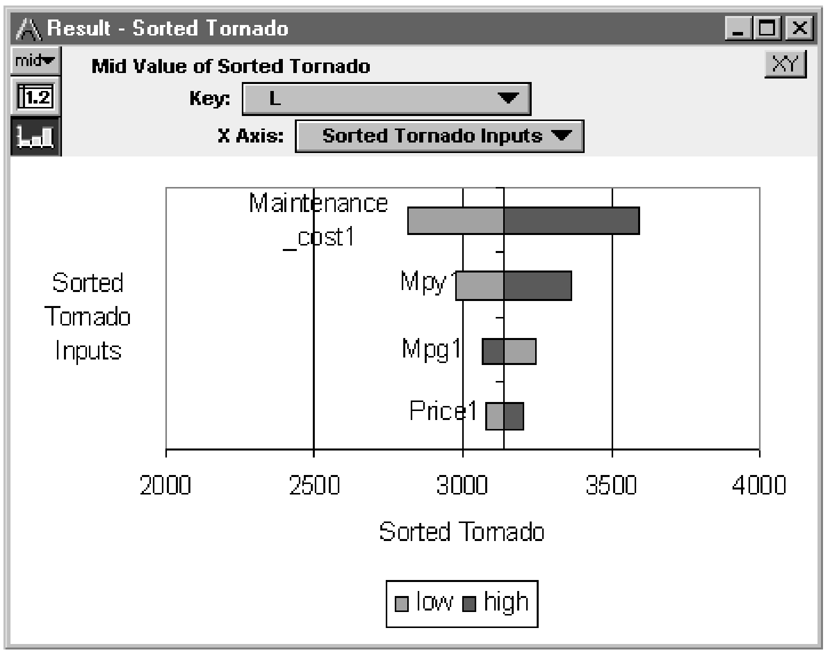
This model calculates the required supply level to maximize profit when the profit function is asymmetric around the average demand value.

Tornado Diagrams

A Tornado diagram is a common tool used to depict the sensitivity of a result to changes in selected variables. The fundamental analysis behind a tornado diagram consists of varying only one input variable at a time, keeping all other variables at their nominal values. Typically, a Low and a High value are selected for each input, and the output variable is computed while only one variable varies at a time. This example model shows two methods for selecting high and low values: 1. by varying all inputs by the same relative amount, e.g., low=90%

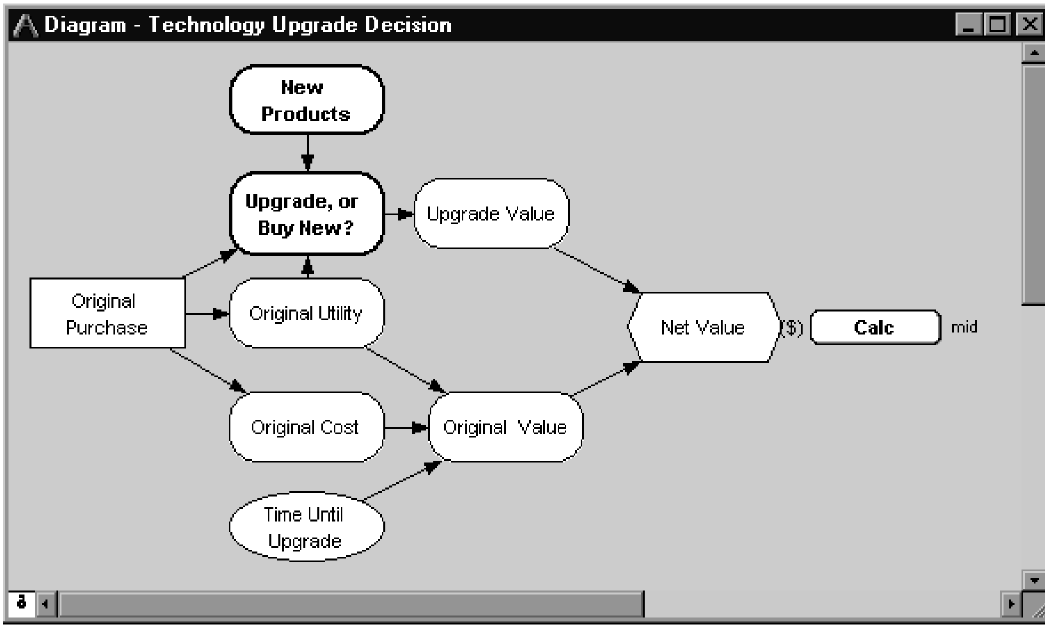
of nominal, high=110% of nominal, or 2. by varying all inputs between two given fractiles. This only makes sense if your inputs are uncertain variables. Example: Low=10% fractile, High=90% fractile, nominal=50% fractile.

Note that Analytica's built-in graphing tool can produce only vertical bar graphs, allowing only rotated tornado diagrams to be created. The conventional (non-rotated) tornado diagram can be obtained using Excel Graph from within Analytica. An example of plotting with both Analytica and Excel are given in the example.



Upgrade Decision

This model represents a decision often faced in today's world: which technology to purchase now, in the face of uncertain future products and prices.



Dynamic Models

This folder includes models that use Analytica's **`Dynamic()`** function for performing dynamic simulation (modeling with cyclic dependencies).

Leveling

This example levels staff efforts over time according to staff available, computing both the work done over time and idle time.

Markov Chain

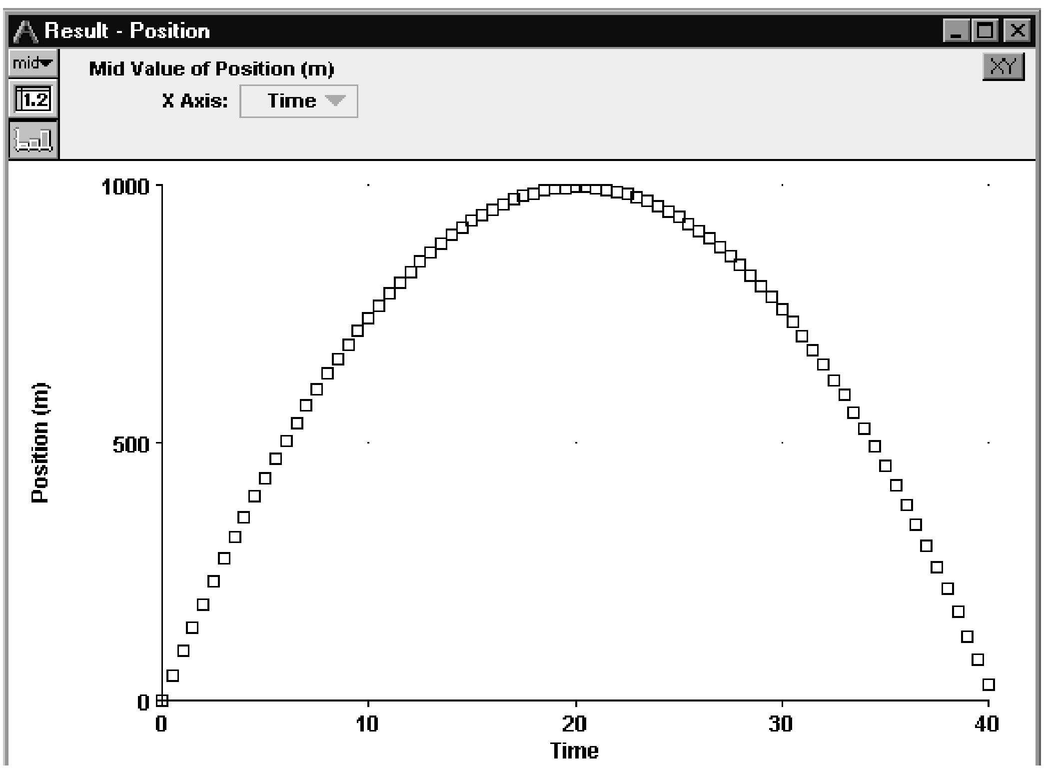
This model demonstrates how to simulate a Markov process using dynamic time. The example estimates the number of hospital patients over time, modeled as a Markov process.

Mass-Spring-Damper

This model simulates a typical free mass-spring-damper system. By free system, it is meant that there is no time dependent driving force or displacement acting on the mass. Ordinarily solutions to such a system are determined from a set of homogeneous second order differential equations accompanied by the appropriate initial conditions. In this model, the kinematic variables (displacement, velocity, and acceleration) are related by the typical kinematic equations, and the dynamic variables (Spring Force and Damper Force) are related to the acceleration and the system mass by Newton's 2nd Law. The user inputs the various initial state conditions (spring constant, damper constant, mass, initial displacement, and initial velocity) and the run time of the model. The graphical solutions generated by this dynamic model are comparable to the solutions determined by the corresponding differential equations.

Projectile Motion

An example demonstrating how to use the system variable *Time* and the `Dynamic()` function to model time-variant behavior—in this case, the motion of a projectile.



Unequal time steps

This model gives an example of a dynamic variable that calculates growth over time, where *Time* is defined with unequal time steps. It is an example of exponential and/or linear growth or decay—that is, a dynamic variable whose values in one time period are exponentially or linearly dependent on the values in the previous time period.

Engineering Examples

Adaptive Filter

This model curve-fits noisy time sequence data using an adaptive filter.

Antenna Gain

This model calculates the expected gain of an antenna looking at two different satellites.

Failure Analysis

This model provides a system simulation demonstrating a failure analysis with both parallel (bulbs) and series (bulbs and switch) components. The model shows use of a `Determtable` instead of nested **`if...then`** statements to assess the state of the system. Both the switch and the bulbs use an exponential function to assess the probability of failure.

Function Examples

This folder contains examples illustrating a variety of Analytica's functions and modeling techniques.

Autocorrelation

This model calculates the autocorrelation coefficients of noisy time sequence data.

Choice and Determtable

This model shows that when **`Choice`** nodes are indexed by 'self', you can use **`Determtables`** to propagate the selected choice. This is cleaner than some other methods of using **`Choice`** outputs.

Correlated Distributions

This model reorders a group of probabilistic variables' samples so that they mimic a desired correlation structure as closely as possible.

For more information on this method see Iman, R.L., and Conover, W.J., "A distribution free approach to inducing rank correlation among input variables", Commun. Statist.-Simula. Computa. (Marcel Dekker, Inc.), 11(3), 1982, 311-334.

Correlated Normals

This model demonstrates a method for creating two normal distributions with a specified correlation between them. The two resulting unit normals can be transformed to have any mean and standard deviation. From Scheuer, E.M., Stoller, D.S., "On the generation of Normal Random Vectors", *Technometrics*, 4:278-281, 1962.

DBWrite Example

This model demonstrates how you can write data from an Analytica model to a relational database using ODBC. Using this model requires Analytica Enterprise - refer to Chapter 21 of the Analytica Users Guide.

Discrete Sampling

This model demonstrates how to generate a distribution from a discrete sample of numbers.

Extracting Diagonal

This model demonstrates how to extract a diagonal from a matrix.

Regression Examples

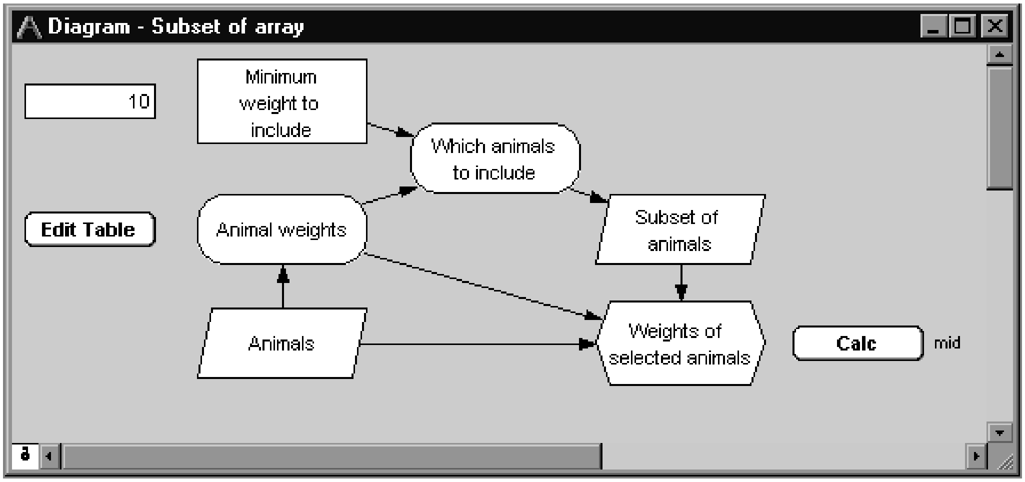
This model demonstrates the use of Generalized Linear Regression by best fit curves of various function forms to a set of (x,y) points.

Sorting People by Height

This example sorts an index (*People*) by a table of values (*Heights*), and then uses the sorted index to created a sorted table of values (*Sorted heights*).

Subset of Array

This model creates a subset array out of a larger array based on a decision criterion.



Swapping y and x-index

This model swaps a computed or one-dimensional table value with its index, thereby making the computed value an index.

Use of MDTable

This model demonstrates the use of the **`MDTable`** function, which converts records in table form into multi-dimensional arrays. Multi-dimensional arrays are often useful for visualizing large sets of records. By allowing data to be viewed either as a graph or in a pivot table, the geometric relationship between records often becomes immediately evident.

Risk Analysis

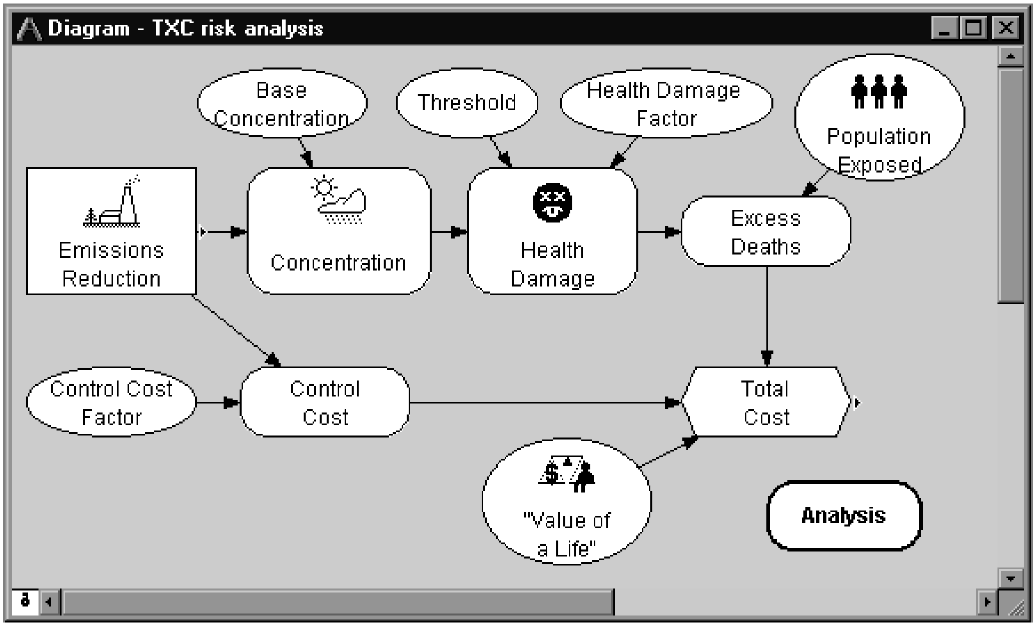
This folder contains applications relating to the field of risk analysis.

Seat belt safety

This model compares the value of various policies for restraints on occupants of automobiles.

Txc

This model demonstrates risk/benefit analysis, in this case regarding the benefits of reducing the emissions of fictitious air pollutant TXC.



Libraries

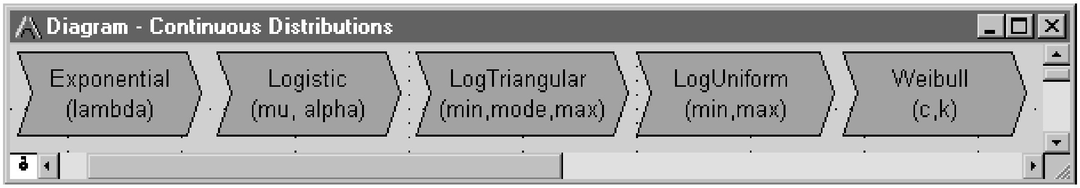
The models in this folder contain functions that can be added to your model and used similarly to Analytica's built-in functions. They are saved as libraries.

Bayes function

This model contains **`Posterior`**, a function for calculating posterior probabilities using Bayes' Theorem.

Continuous Distributions

This model contains the **Exponential**, **Logistic**, **LogTriangular**, **LogUniform**, and **Weibull** functions.

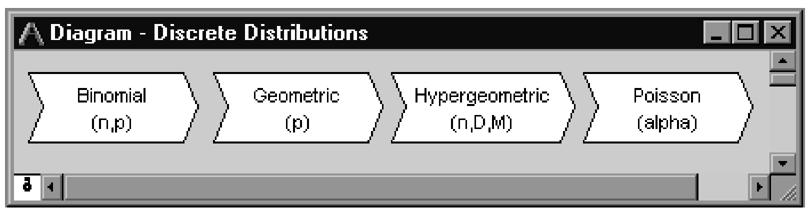


Data Statistics Library

This model contains functions for calculating statistical quantities for numerical data (that is, a list of numbers): the Mean, Standard Deviation, Kurtosis, Skewness, and Variance.

Discrete Distributions

This model contains the **Binomial**, **Geometric**, **Hypergeometric**, and **Poisson** functions.



Expand Index

This model contains the function **Change Index.** When this function is given an array indexed by one index, it returns an array indexed by another index.

This model contains an example in which **Change Index** is used to combine cashflows over two different time periods into a single cashflow over a single time period.

Financial Library

This model contains a variety of corporate finance functions: Black-Scholes Option Values (**CallOption, PutOption**), Capital Asset Pricing Model (**CAPM**), Miles/Ezzell Adjusted Cost of Capital (**CostCapME)**, Modigliani/Miller Adjusted Cost of Capital (**CostCapMM**), Present Value of Perpetuity (**PVperp**), Present Value of Growing Perpetuity (**PVgperp**), and Weighted Average Cost of Capital (**WACC**).

ODBC-Library

This library provides additional functionality (**`ValList, InsertRecSql, WriteTableSql`**) for using ODBC access to databases. Note that using ODBC requires Analytica Enterprise - refer to Chapter 21 of the Analytica Users Guide.

User Guide Examples

This folder contains the examples that are given in the *Analytica User Guide*.

Analyzing Unc & Sens

The examples in this model demonstrate Analytica's tools for analyzing the uncertainty of variables, relationships between uncertain variables, and sensitivity of outputs to changes in inputs. These include statistical functions and sensitivity analysis functions.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 16, “Analyzing Uncertainty and Sensitivity”.

Array Examples

The examples in this model demonstrate the basics of working with multidimensional arrays.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 11, “Basic Modeling with Arrays (Tables)”.

Array Function Examples

The examples in this model demonstrate many more of Analytica's built-in array functions.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 12, “Array Function Reference”.

Continuous Distributions

A continuous distribution is one that is defined for a continuous variable—that is, for a real-valued variable. The examples in this model demonstrate Analytica's built-in functions that create or modify continuous distributions.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 14, “Using Continuous Probability Distributions”.

Discrete Distributions

A discrete distribution is a probability distribution for a variable that can result only in certain, discrete outcomes. The examples in this model demonstrate Analytica's built-in functions that create or evaluate discrete distributions.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 15, “Using Discrete Probability”.

Dynamic & Dependencies

Dynamic & Uncertainty

Dynamic Example 1

Dynamic Example 2

These are dynamic models. A dynamic model is a model with one or more dynamic variables—that is, variables that can change over time. These models illustrate various uses of the **`Dynamic`** function.

These models are used in User Guide Chapter 17, “Modeling Changes over Time”.

Expression Examples

The examples in this model demonstrate the building blocks for creating and editing variable definitions—expressions, standard operators, and mathematical functions.

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 10, “Using Expressions”.

Input and Output Nodes

This model is used in User Guide Chapter 9, “Creating Models to be Used by Others”.

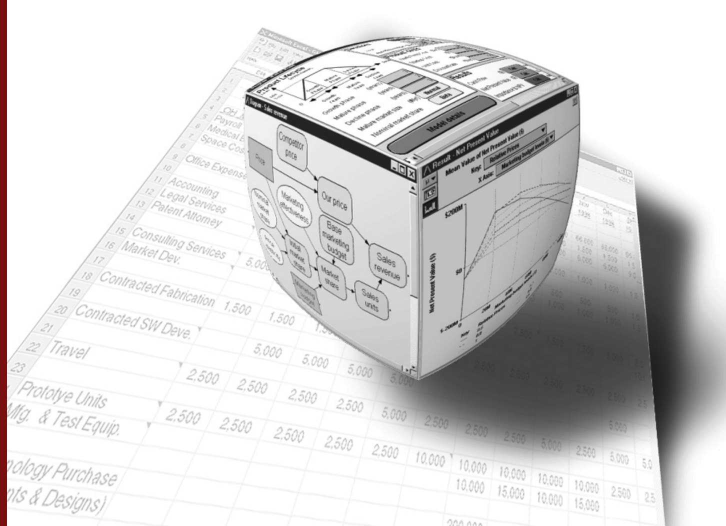
Summary

If you have created a model that other Analytica users would benefit from, please send it to us for possible inclusion in future versions of the Example Models folder. Send your well-constructed, thoroughly documented models to:

support@lumina.com

Also, if you experience any problems with the example models, or if you feel that they need to be changed in some way, please contact us at the above email address.

Glossary



Competitor price
Our price
Base marketing budget
Sales revenue
Sales units
Market share
Office Expense
Accounting
Legal Services
Patent Attorney
Consulting Services
Market Dev.
Contracted Fabrication
Contracted SW Deve.
Travel
Prototye Units

In this Glossary

A compilation of terms specific to Analytica as well as statistical terms used in this manual.

Glossary

Array

A collection of values that can be viewed as one or more tables. An array has one or more dimensions; each dimension is identified by an index.

Arrow, influence arrow

Influence arrows (or arrows) from one variable node to another indicate that the origin node affects (influences) the destination node. If the nodes depict variables, the origin variable is an input to the destination variable, and the destination variable is an output of the origin variable.

Arrow tool

The tool for drawing arrows between nodes.

Attribute

A property of an object, such as its title, description, definition, value, or inputs.

Attribute panel

An auxiliary window pane that can open below an influence diagram. Use it to rapidly examine one attribute at a time of any variable, function, or module.

Browse tool

A tool for examining the structure and assumptions of a model, with limited ability to make changes to the model.

Chance variable

An uncertain variable that cannot be directly controlled by the decision maker. It is usually defined by a probability distribution. A Chance variable is represented by an oval node.

Class

Analytica objects are organized into the following classes: Module, Attribute, Function, and Decision, Chance, Objective, Index, and General variables.

Cumulative probability distribution

A graphical representation of a probability distribution. It plots the cumulative probability that the actual value of the uncertain variable *X* will be less than or equal to each possible value of *X*. The cumulative probability distribution is a display option in the Uncertainty View popup menu on a Result window.

 Decision variable

A variable that the decision maker can control directly. A Decision variable is represented by a rectangular node.

Definition

A specification for computing a variable's value. It can be a number, a mathematical expression, a list of values, a table, or a probability distribution.

Description

Text explaining what the object represents in the system being modeled. It is limited in length to 32,000 characters.

Deterministic table

A function that gives the value of a variable conditional on the values of its input variables, where the inputs are all discrete variables.

Deterministic value

See ***mid value***.

Domain

The possible outcomes for a variable defined as a probability table.

Edit Table

A definition that is an array (table) is also called an Edit Table because it can be edited.

Glossary

Edit tool

A tool for creating or changing a model. Use it to move, resize and edit nodes, and expose the Arrow tool and Node palette.

Expression

A formula that can contain any combination of numbers, variables, functions, distributions, and operators, such as **`0.5`**, **`a-b`**, or **`Min(x)`**, combined according to the Analytica language syntax.

Expression type

Expression types include expression, list (of expressions or numbers), list of labels (text strings), table, probability table, and distribution. (Any definition, regardless of expression type, can be viewed as an expression.) You select an expression type using the Expression popup menu, which appears above the Definition field.

General variable

Any type of variable; useful when the variable type is unknown. The General variable typically represents a deterministic or functional dependency.

Graph

Format for displaying a multidimensional result. To view a result as a graph, click on the Graph button. See also ***table***.

Identifier

A short name for an object. A variable's identifier is used to refer to the variable in mathematical expressions in definitions of other variables. An identifier must start with a letter, have no more than 20 characters, and contain only letters, numbers, and **`'_'`** (underscore, used instead of a space). Compare to ***title***.

Importance analysis

Shows the effect the uncertainty of one or more input variables has on the uncertainty of an output variable. Importance is defined as the rank-order correlation between the sample of output values and the sample for each uncertain input. This is a robust measure of the uncertain contribution because it is insensitive to extreme values and skewed distributions.

Index

Identifies a dimension of an array (table). An index is usually a variable defined as a list, list of labels, or sequence.

Indexes

Plural of index, indicates a set of index variables that define the dimensions of a table (in an Edit Table or value).

 Index variable

A class of variable, defined as a list, list of labels, or sequence, that is used to identify the dimensions of a table, for example, in an Edit Table. An Index variable is represented by a parallelogram node.

Influence arrow

See ***Arrow***.

Influence diagram

A graphical representation of a model, consisting of nodes (variables) and arrows (relationships between variables).

Input

An input of a variable *X* is a variable that has an arrow drawn to *X*, or appears in the definition of *X*. See also ***output***.

Input arrowhead

Shows that a node has one or more inputs from outside its module. It is located on the left side of a node. Press the arrowhead for a popup menu of the input variables.

List

A type of expression, consisting of an ordered set of numbers or expressions, available in the Expression popup menu. A list is often used to define Index and Decision variables.

List of labels

A type of expression, consisting of an ordered set of text labels, available in the Expression popup menu. A list of labels is often used to define Index and Decision variables.

Mean

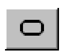
The average or expected value.

Mid, Mid value

A calculation of the variable's value assuming all uncertain inputs are fixed at their median values.

Model

A module, or a hierarchy of modules; the main, or root, module at the top of the module hierarchy. Between sessions, a model is stored in a Analytica document file.

 **Module**

A collection of related objects, including variables, functions, and other modules, organized as a separate influence diagram. A module is represented by a rounded rectangular node with a thick outline.

Node

A box (rectangular, oval, or any other shape) that represents a variable in an influence diagram. Different node shapes are used to represent different types of variables.

Normal distribution

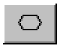
The bell-shaped curve, or Gaussian distribution.

Object Finder

A dialog box used to browse and edit the functions and variables available in a model.

Object window

List of the attributes for an object (variable, function, or module), including its class, identifier, title, and description.

 **Objective variable**

A variable that evaluates the overall value or desirability of possible outcomes. The objective can be measured as cost, value, or utility. A purpose of most models is to find the decision or decisions that optimize the objective—for example, minimizing cost or maximizing expected utility. Most decision models contain a single objective node, although the objective can be composed of several subobjectives. An Objective variable is represented by a hexagonal node.

Output

An output of a variable *X* is a variable that has an arrow drawn from *X*, or whose definition refers to *X*. See also ***input***.

Output arrowhead

Shows that a node has one or more outputs outside its module. It is located on the right side of the node. Press the arrowhead for a popup menu of the output variables.

Parametric analysis

A type of sensitivity analysis in which you specify a set of alternative values for one or more inputs, and examine the effect on selected model output variables. See also ***sensitivity analysis***.

Probabilistic variable

A variable that is uncertain and is defined with a probability distribution.

Probability bands

The bands that capture a certain portion of the total probability for a variable. For example, the 5% and 95% probability bands contain 90% of the total probability, while the 50% probability band corresponds to the median value. By default, the 5%, 25%, 50%, 75%, and 95% probability bands are shown. These bands are also referred to as ***confidence intervals*** or ***fractiles***. Probability bands are a display option in the Uncertainty View popup menu on a Result window.

Probability density function

A graphical representation of a probability distribution that plots the probability density against the value of the variable (also referred to as PDF). The probability density at each value of *X* is the relative probability that *X* will be at or near that value. The probability density function can be displayed for continuous, but not discrete, variables. It is a display option in the Uncertainty View popup menu on a Result window.

Probability distribution

Describes the relative likelihood of a variable having different possible values.

Probability table

A table for defining a Chance variable with a set of outcomes and a discrete probability distribution (numerical probability for each outcome). If the variable depends on (that is, is conditioned by) other discrete variables, each of these conditioning variables gives an additional dimension to the table, so you can specify the probability distribution conditional on the value of each conditioning variable.

Self

A keyword referring to the index of a table that is indexed by itself. *Self* refers to the alternative values of the variable defined by the table.

Sensitivity analysis

A group of methods to identify and compare the effects of various input variables to a model on a selected output. Example methods of sensitivity analysis are importance analysis and parametric analysis.

Standard deviation

Reflects the amount of spread or dispersion in an uncertainty distribution. It is the square root of the variance.

Table

A two-dimensional view of an array-valued definition or result. The array can have more than two dimensions, but only two can be seen at one time. A table is a type of expression available in the Expression popup menu. A definition that is a table is also called an ***Edit Table***. In the Result window, click on the Table button to select the table view of an array-valued result. See also ***graph***.

Title

The full name of an Analytica object, briefly describing what the object represents. A variable's, function's, or module's title is displayed in its node, in window titles, and in object lists. It is limited to 255 characters in length. It can contain any characters, including spaces and punctuation. Compare to ***identifier***.

Uniform distribution

A distribution representing an equal chance of occurrence for any value between the lower and upper values.

Uncertainty View options

An uncertain result can be displayed as a ***Mid value***, ***Mean***, Statistics, ***Probability Bands***, ***Probability Density***, ***Cumulative Probability***, or Sample. Select the option to display with the popup menu in the top left corner of the Result window or in the ***Result*** menu.

Units

Indicate the units of measurement for a variable. Units are used to annotate tables and graphs, but are not used in evaluating a variable.

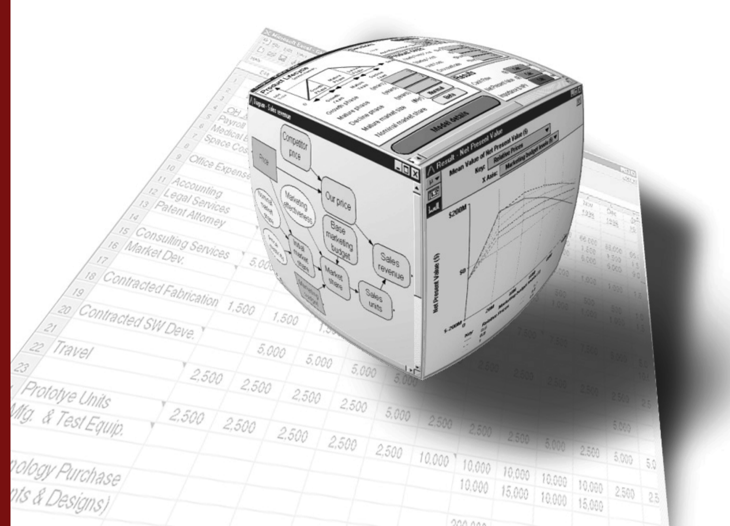
Value

A variable's value attribute is its mid value, computed by assuming that all uncertain inputs are fixed at their median values. It can be a scalar (single) number, a table of numbers, or a probability distribution.

Variable

An object that has a value, which may be a text string, a number, or a table. Classes of variable include Decision, Chance, and Objective.

Credits



Competitor price
Our price
Sales revenue
Sales units
Office Expenses
Accounting
Legal Services
Patent Attorney
Consulting Services
Market Dev.
Contracted Fabrication
Contracted SW Deve.
Travel
Prototye Units

Credits

Analytica Tutorial

The Analytica Tutorial was written by Brian Arnold and Lynda Korsan with Kathleen Drake, Ben Miller, Max Henrion, and Randa Mulford (Expert Support, Inc.). It was updated for Windows originally by David Dvorkin, and for version 2.0 by Lonnie Chrisman, Jason Harlan, and Tim Nieman.

Edited by Lynda Korsan, Brian Sterling, Eric Wainwright, and Randa Mulford and Adrienne Esztergar (Expert Support, Inc.).

Layout design by Mike Marsh.

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Analytica Windows and Dialogs

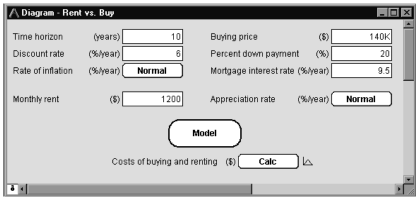
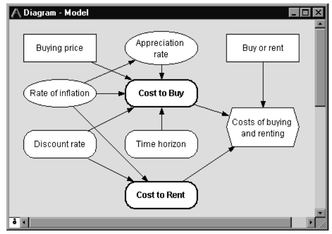
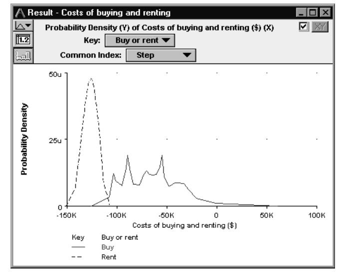


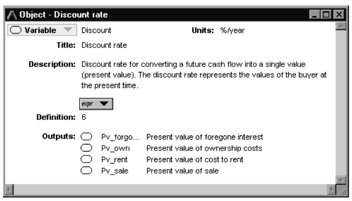
Diagram Window



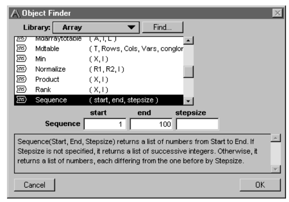
Influence Diagram



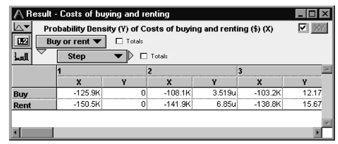
Result Window—Graph View



Object Window



Object Finder



Result Window—Table View

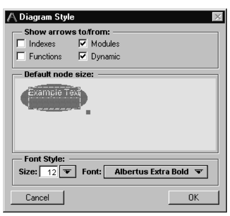
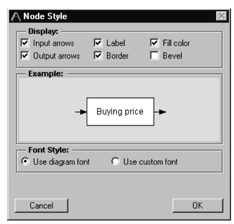
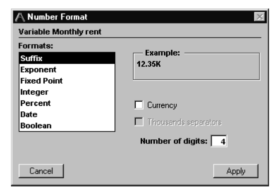


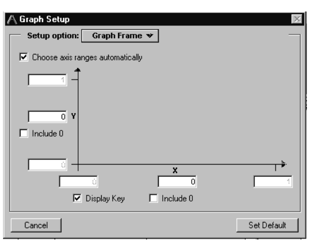
Diagram Style Dialog



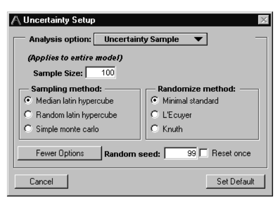
Node Style Dialog



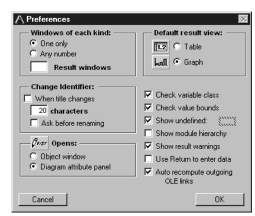
Number Format Dialog



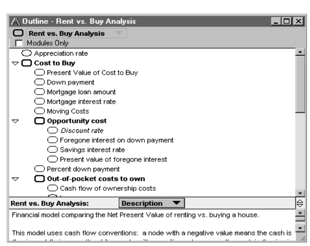
Graph Setup Dialog



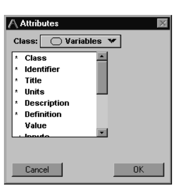
Uncertainty Setup Dialog



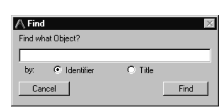
Preferences Dialog



Graph Setup Dialog



Outline Window

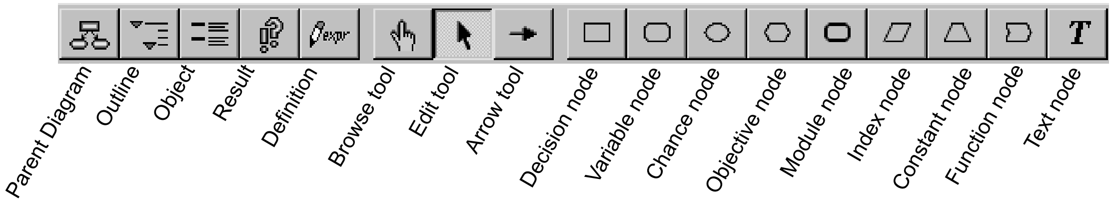


Attributes Dialog

Find Dialog

Analytica Quick Reference

The Tool Bar



The node palette is displayed when either the Edit tool or Arrow tool is selected.

Numerical Formats (Output)

Format	Description	Example
Suffix	the default (see the following table)	12.35K
Exponent	scientific exponential	1.235e04
Fixed Point	fixed decimal point	12345.68
Integer	fixed point with no decimals	12346
Percent	percentage	1234568%
Date	text date	12 Jan 93
Boolean	true or false	True

Numerical Prefixes and Suffixes (Input)

Power of 10	Suffix	Prefix
3	K	Kilo
6	M	Mega or Million
9	G	Giga
12	T	Tera or Trillion
15	Q	Quad

Power of 10	Suffix	Prefix
-2	%	percent
-3	m	milli
-6	µ	micro (mu)
-9	n	nano
-12	p	pico
-15	f	femto

Analytica Note: *If integer or fixed point is selected, a number larger than 10^9 displays in exponent format.*