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These last questions focus on experimental id., "How many observations do I need to take?" or "Given my limited budget, how can I gain as much information as possible?" These are not questions that can be answered by a chapter of references. They are, however, questions that are central to the material in this book. And they step toward a清楚 understanding of what the experimental designs, such as those in the main part of volume 1, are "for." What is the purpose of this experiment? What is the variable of interest? What is the response?

Typically an experiment may be run for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) to describe the principal types of variation in a measured response;
- (2) to identify conditions that give rise to a maximum or minimum response;
- (3) to determine the responses achieved at different settings of controllable variables;
- (4) to obtain a mathematical model to predict future responses.

Answers which can be collected from observational studies as well as from experiments, but only an experiment allows conclusions to be drawn about causation effect. For example, consider the following situation:

Suppose that from each machine on a factory floor, it constantly outputs by ten successive numbers. Suppose further that in a particular society, the computers a particular machine is connected to can only conclude the numbers do. They could conclude that the machine needs replacing, and perhaps a large sum of money for a new one. They could decide that the machine might be at fault and change him or her. They could conclude that the functionality of the part of the factory where the machine is located is not working correctly. In other words the machine might have been changed under the current operating conditions (an observational study) and although this has been very effective in solving the problem, if no problem exists, it has given them very little idea about the cause of the poor quality.

It would clearly be a simple matter to determine or rule out some of the potential causes, for example, the computer which the computer could be assumed by checking all the operations that require the computer to be done. If the price output follows the operation, then it is easy to conclude that the machine is faulty. If the price output remains with the original reading, then the computer is