

Suppose  $u$  is a uniform random variable in  $(0,1)$ , and we want a value of  $X$  from an exponential distribution.

If  $X \sim \text{Exponential}(\theta)$ :

$$F(X) = 1 - e^{-X/\theta}$$

And since  $u$  is uniform,  $u = F(x)$

Isolating for  $x$ , we have

$$x = - \overset{\text{or } \ln}{\log}(1-u)$$