

class poll: U and $1 - U$ (simplest example of variance reduction)

$U \sim U[0, 1]$ and F is a cdf

set $X = F^{-1}(U)$, and also set $Y = F^{-1}(1 - U)$; then

(a) X has cdf F but Y does not.

(b) Y has cdf F but X does not.

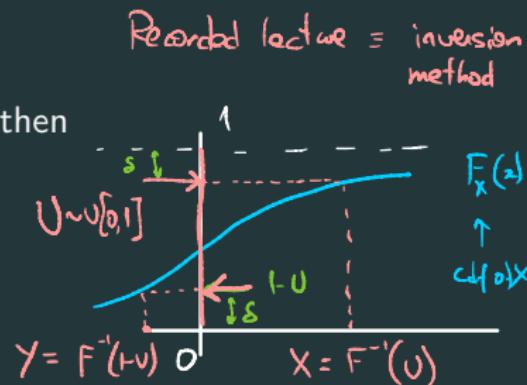
(c) both X and Y have cdf F , and X and Y are independent

(d) both X and Y have cdf F , and X and Y are dependent

(in fact, they 'negatively correlated')

i.e., if X is big, Y is small
 (and vice versa) $\Rightarrow F^{-1}(U)$ and $F^{-1}(1-U)$

have the same distn
 but they are dependent!



Note

CDF of U

is the same as

CDF of $1-U$

• It turns out that

$$Z = \frac{X+Y}{2}$$

then $E[Z] = E[X]$, but $\text{Var}(Z) \leq \text{Var}(X)$

Last few classes

$$\bar{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

- How to get CIs \equiv Std recipe - given X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n and st $\mu = E[X_i]$
 $95\% \text{ CI for } \mu \equiv \left[\bar{X}_n \pm 1.96 \sqrt{\text{Var}(\bar{X}_n)} \right]$
- Replace 2 by $\frac{1}{\sqrt{0.05}} \approx 5$ to get 95% CI $\quad \begin{matrix} \approx 2 \\ (\text{via CLT approx}) \end{matrix} \quad \approx \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2$
without CLT approx (via Chebychev's)
- Combine multiple CIs via union bound

(no coded lecture) - PRNGs (pseudo random number generators)

- basic idea \equiv There are deterministic fns $X_n = f(X_{n-1})$ such that the sequence $X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ appears to be independent $\sim U[0,1]$
- example - LCG $\equiv X_{n+1} = (aX_n + b) \bmod m$ for some chosen a, b, m , and seed X_0

Benefit of PRNGs - Can get repeatable simulations (by setting same 'seed')



ORIE 4580/5580: Simulation Modeling and Analysis

ORIE 5581: Monte Carlo Simulation

Unit 5: generating non-uniform random variables

Sid Banerjee

School of ORIE, Cornell University

random variable generation

random number: a sample from $U[0, 1]$

modern PRNGs (like `np.random.rand()`) are

- random enough for your simulation to be correct
- deterministic enough (by setting seed) for your simulation to be repeatable

the 'fundamental theorem' of simulation

can 'transform' a stream of i.i.d. $U[0, 1]$ into

- a random variable with any given cdf
- a random vector with any given correlation matrix
- any stochastic process

Intermediate Question - How do we get $U[0, 1]$?

- Pseudo randomness

generating rvs with arbitrary distributions

aim: "transform" $U[0, 1]$ rv to another rv with given probability distribution.

monte carlo sampling techniques

basic methods

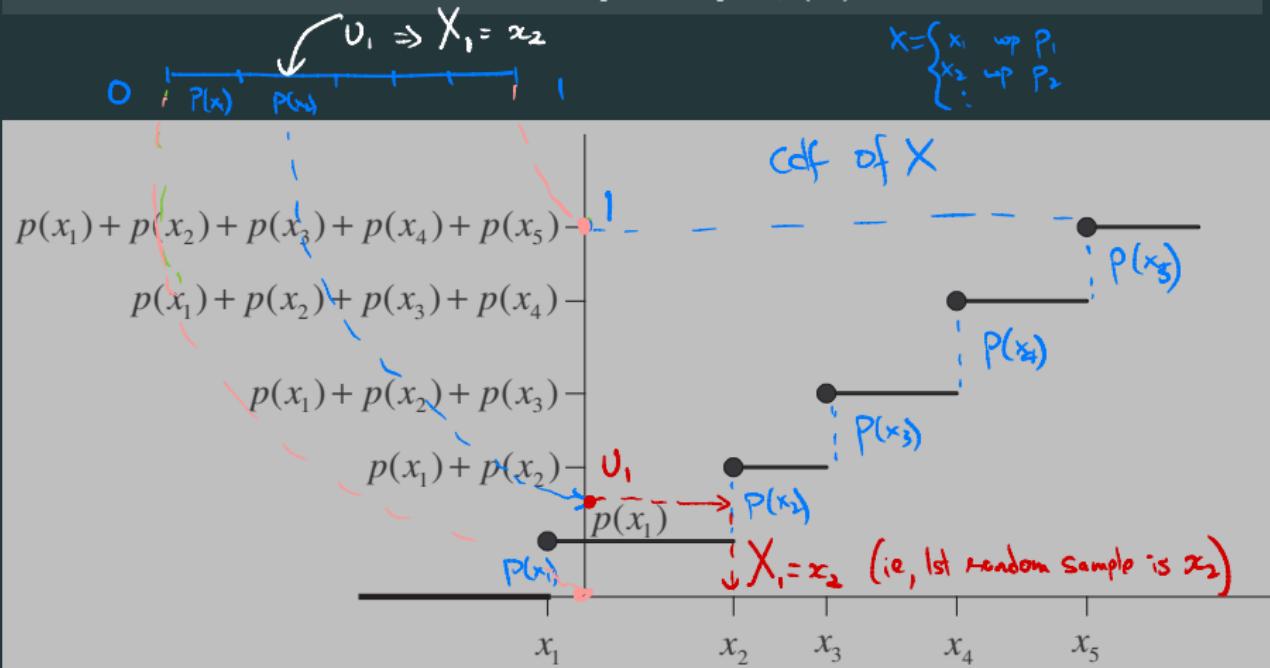
- inversion - basic method (see recorded lecture)
- acceptance-rejection ← most important general technique for generating
- distribution-specific techniques (Box-Muller for Gaussians) random numbers
- advanced techniques (adaptive rejection sampling, SIR)
↳ importance sampling

markov-chain monte carlo (MCMC)

- Metropolis-Hastings
- Gibbs sampling
- advanced techniques (slice sampling, Hamiltonian MC)

warm-up: simulating discrete rv

X takes values $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_5$, $\mathbb{P}[X = x_i] = p(x_i)$



example (contnd)

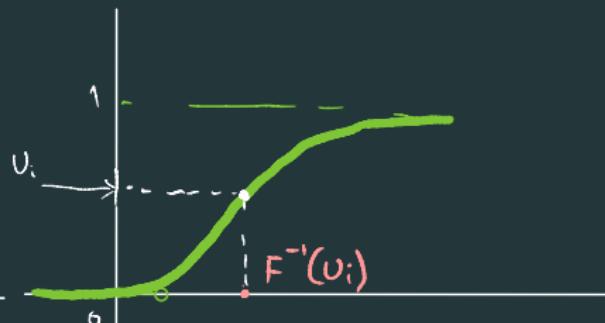
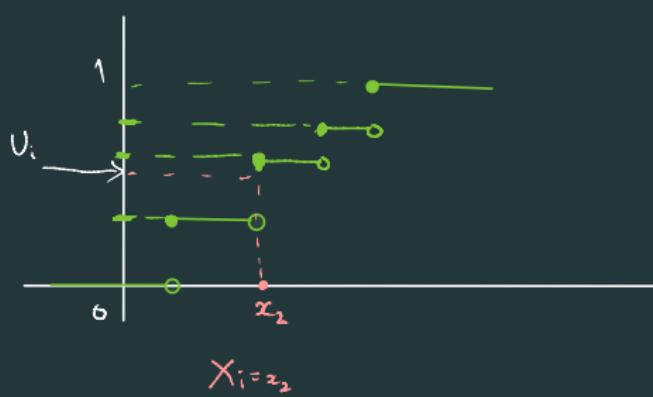
(intuition)

Given stream $U_1, U_2, \dots \sim U[0,1]$

'bucketing'

'limit'

inversion

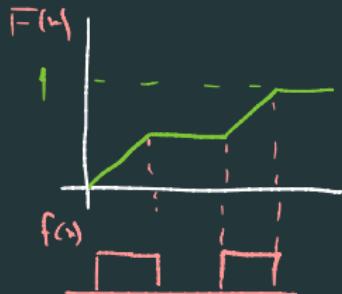


$$x_i = F^{-1}(U_i)$$

the inversion method

X continuous r.v. with pdf f and c.d.f. $F(\cdot)$

- want to generate samples of X .
- $F(\cdot)$ non-decreasing \Rightarrow can define inverse $F^{-1}(\cdot)$
- $F(x) = u \Leftrightarrow F^{-1}(u) = x$



inversion method

given desired cdf F (continuous, increasing), generate sample $X_0 \sim F$ as:

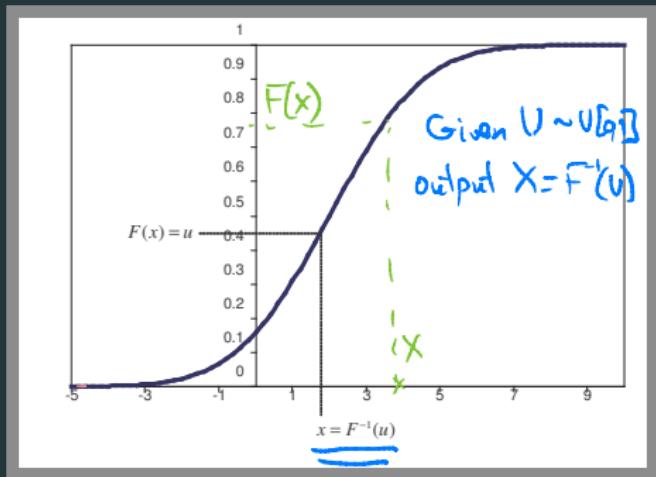
1. generate $U \sim U[0, 1]$. non-decreasing
2. return $X_o = F^{-1}(U)$.

- If X is not cont (discrete, or mixture of discrete + cont)
use 'generalized' inverse (every cdf has one!)

$$\forall u \in [0, 1] : F^{-1}(u) = \min \{ x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } F(x) \geq u \}$$

intuition/proof for inversion method

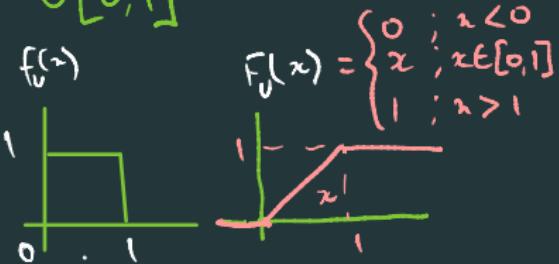
$$x = F^{-1}(u) \iff u = F(x)$$



main idea: always consider cdf

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \cdot U = \text{np.random.rand}() \\
 & X = F^{-1}(U) \\
 & \cdot \mathbb{P}[X \leq y] \quad \text{for any } y \in \mathbb{R} \\
 & = \mathbb{P}[F^{-1}(U) \leq y] \quad \because F \text{ is} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{non-dec} \\
 & = \mathbb{P}[F(F^{-1}(U)) \leq F(y)] \\
 & = \mathbb{P}[U \leq \underbrace{F(y)}_{\in [0,1]}] \quad (\text{by defn}) \\
 & = F(y)
 \end{aligned}$$

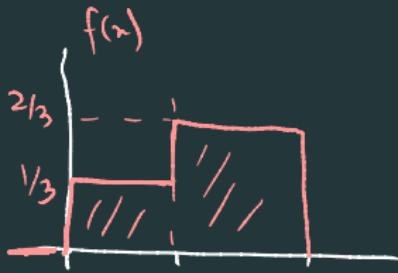
$U[0,1]$



example

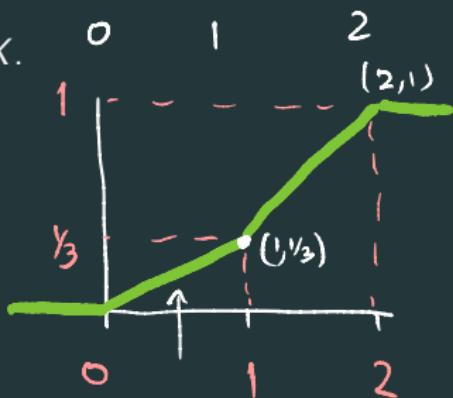
example – the pdf of X is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1/3 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2/3 & \text{if } 1 < x \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



develop an inversion method to generate samples of X .

$F(x) =$ see figure



To generate X

- sample $U \sim U[0,1]$
- output $X = F^{-1}(u)$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= x/3 \quad \text{for } x \in [0, 1] \\ \Rightarrow F^{-1}(u) &= 3u \quad \text{for } u \in [0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

example (contnd)

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & ; x < 0 \\ \gamma_3 & ; x \in [0, 1] \\ \frac{2x-1}{3} & ; x \in [1, 2] \\ 1 & ; x > 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow F^{-1}(u) = \begin{cases} 3u & ; u \in [0, \gamma_3] \\ \frac{3u+1}{2} & ; u \in [\gamma_3, 1] \end{cases}$$

example (exponential rv)

generate samples of an exponential r.v. with parameter λ , with cdf

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, x \geq 0 \Rightarrow F(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



$$\Rightarrow F^{-1}(u) = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln(1-u) \quad \text{for } u \in [0,1]$$
$$\Rightarrow 1-u \in [0,1]$$

- To generate $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$

- sample $U \sim U[0,1]$

- output $X = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln(1-U)$



(alternate - output $Y = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln(U)$)

drawback of inversion method

- inversion method may be computationally expensive.
- computing $F^{-1}(\cdot)$ may require numerical search.

Eg - $X \sim N(0,1)$

$$i.e., F_x(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} dz$$

$$= \Phi(z)$$

example - the pdf of X is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 60x^3(1-x)^2 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

no closed form \Rightarrow
what is $F^{-1}(\cdot)$

$$\boxed{F(x) = 15x^4 - 24x^5 + 10x^6} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

generate samples of X by using the inversion method.

$$F^{-1}(y) \Rightarrow \text{Find } z \text{ s.t } y = 15z^4 - 24z^5 + 10z^6$$

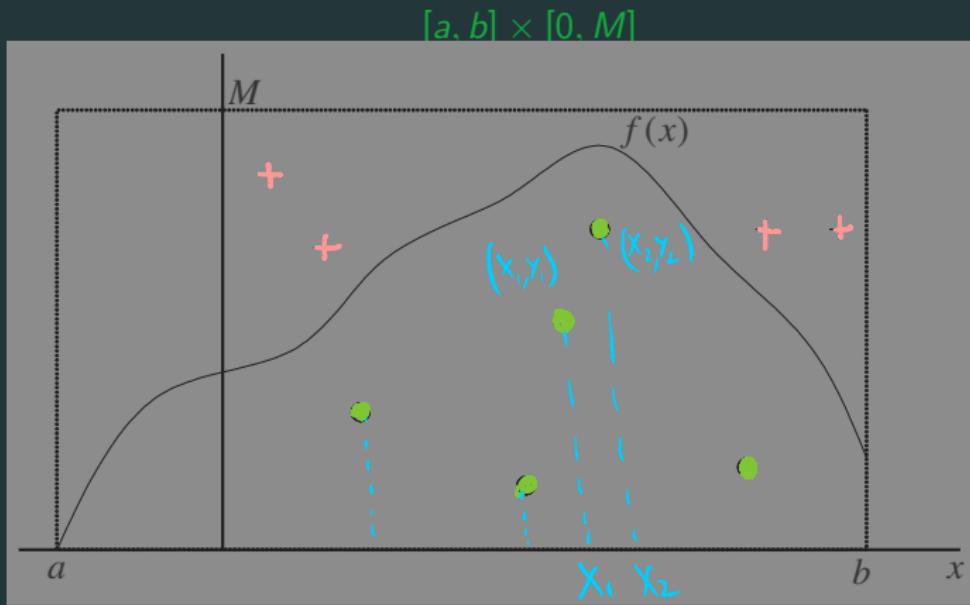
Problem - There is no formula for 'solving' a polynomial
of degree 5 and above (Abel, Galois)

acceptance-rejection

(vanilla / basic AR)

want to generate samples of a rv X

- pdf $f(\cdot)$ of X takes positive values only over $[a, b]$
- M is an upper bound on pdf of X , i.e., $M \geq \max_{x \in [a, b]} f(x)$
⇒ can enclose pdf in the rectangle



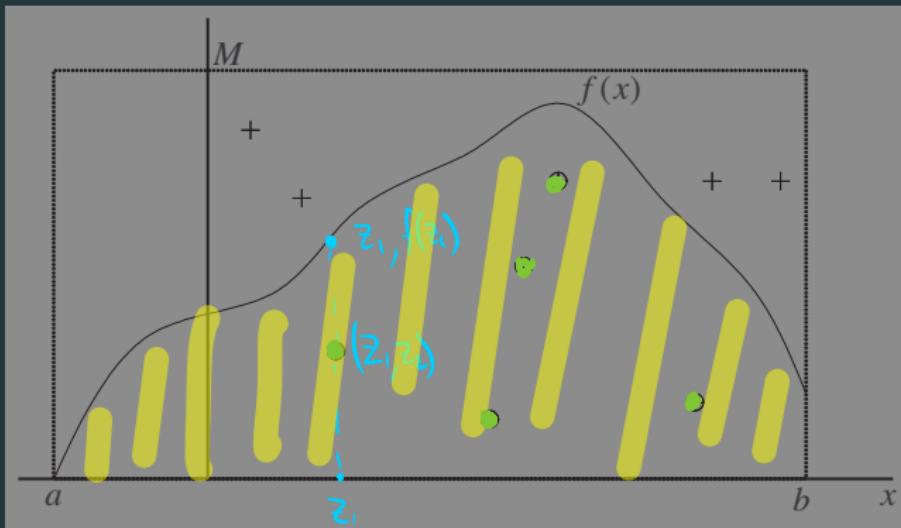
Idea

- Sample pts uniformly in rectangle
 - 'accept' pts which lie under curve $y=f(x)$
 - Output 'x-coordinate' of accepted point
- Claim - X_1 's dist' is $F(\cdot)$

acceptance-rejection

Easy claim - Accepted pts (z_1, z_2) are uniformly distributed between $y=0$ and $y=f(x)$

want samples of a rv $X \in [a, b]$, with pdf $f(x) \leq M$



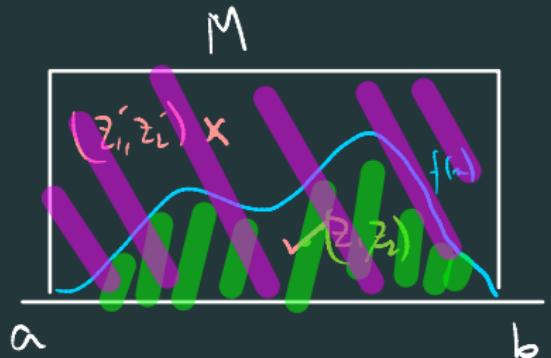
acceptance-rejection sampling

1. generate $U_1, U_2 \sim U[0, 1]$ $\underbrace{z_1 \sim \text{Unif}[a, b]}_{\text{if } z_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, M]}$ $(z_1, z_2) \sim \text{Unif}$ in rectangle
2. set $Z_1 = a + (b - a)U_1$, $Z_2 = MU_2$ $\leftarrow z_2 \sim \text{Unif}[0, M]$
3. if $Z_2 \leq f(Z_1)$, return $X_o = Z_1$; else, reject and repeat

AR sampling: proof of correctness

let X_o denote the output of the AR method for cdf F (main idea = look at CDF of accepted pts)

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet F_{X_o}(x) &= \mathbb{P}[X_o \leq x] = \mathbb{P}[Z_1 \leq x \mid (Z_1, Z_2) \text{ are accepted}] \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[(Z_1, Z_2) \text{ accepted AND } Z_1 \leq x]}{\mathbb{P}[(Z_1, Z_2) \text{ accepted}]} \end{aligned}$$

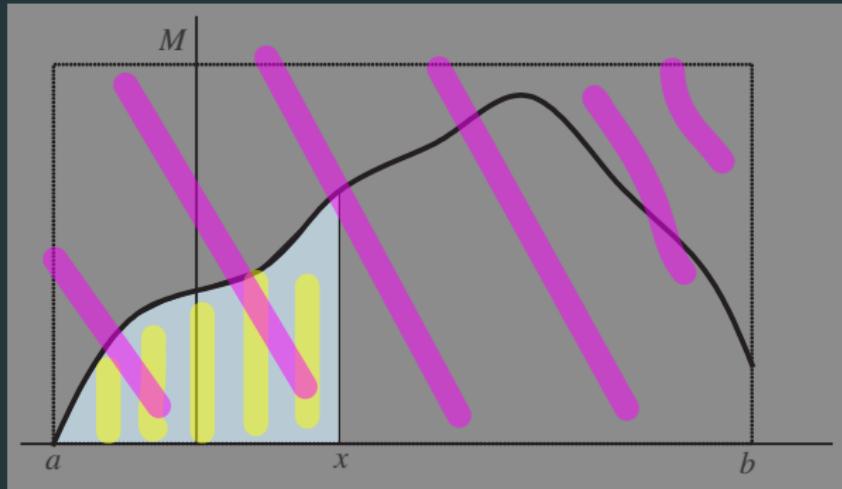


$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \mathbb{P}[(Z_1, Z_2) \text{ accepted}] &= \frac{\text{Area of } \text{green}}{\text{Area of } \text{purple}} \\ &= \frac{1}{M(b-a)} \end{aligned}$$

AR sampling: proof of correctness

$$\mathbb{P}[(Z_1, Z_2) \text{ accepted AND } Z_1 \leq x]$$

observe: $\mathbb{P}[Z_1 \leq x, Z_2 \leq f(Z_1)] = \mathbb{P}[(Z_1, Z_2) \in \text{shaded region in figure}]$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\text{Area of } \text{[blue shaded area]}}{\text{Area of } \text{[magenta shaded area]}} \\
 &= \frac{\int_a^x f(z) dz = F(x)}{M(b-a)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\cdot \mathbb{P}[Z_1 \leq x | (Z_1, Z_2) \text{ accepted}] = \frac{F(x)/M(b-a)}{1/M(b-a)} = F(x)$$