

# A Proposal for Community (Quasi-) Monte Carlo Software

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My initial attempts in this direction over the past 5 years have produced GAIL<sup>1</sup>

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# Can We Have qMC Community Software that Grows Up to Be Like ...

**Chebfun** Computing with Chebyhsev polynomials, [chebfun.org](http://chebfun.org)

**Clawpack** Solution of conservation laws, [clawpack.org](http://clawpack.org)

**deal.II** Finite-elements, <http://dealii.org>

Mission: To provide well-documented tools to build finite element codes for a broad variety of PDEs, from laptops to supercomputers.

Vision: To create an open, inclusive, participatory community providing users and developers with a state-of-the-art, comprehensive software library that constitutes the go-to solution for all finite element problems.

**FEniCS** Finite-elements, [fenicsproject.org](http://fenicsproject.org)

**Gromacs** Molecular dynamics, [gromacs.org](http://gromacs.org)

**Stan** Markov Chain Monte Carlo, [mc-stan.org](http://mc-stan.org)

**Trilinos** Multiphysics computations, [trilinos.org](http://trilinos.org)

- Developed and supported by multiple research groups
- Used beyond the research groups that develop it
- A recognized standard in its field



## What Is Available Now

**John Burkhardt** Variety of qMC Software in C++, Fortran, MATLAB, and Python,  
`people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/`

**Mike Giles** Multi-Level Monte Carlo Software in C++, MATLAB, Python, and R,  
`people.maths.ox.ac.uk/gilesm/mlmc/`

**Fred Hickernell** Guaranteed Automatic Integration Library (GAIL) in MATLAB,  
`gailgithub.github.io/GAIL_Dev/`

**Stephen Joe & Frances Kuo** Sobol' generators in C++, Generating vectors for lattices,  
`web.maths.unsw.edu.au/~fkuo/`

**Pierre L'Ecuyer** Random number generators, Stochastic Simulation, Lattice Builder in C/C++  
and Java, `simul.iro.umontreal.ca`

**Dirk Nuyens** Magic Point Shop, QMC4PDE, etc. in MATLAB, Python, and C++,  
`people.cs.kuleuven.be/~dirk.nuyens/`

**Art Owen** Various code, `statweb.stanford.edu/~owen/code/`

**MATLAB** Sobol' and Halton sequences

**Python** Sobol' and Halton sequences

**R** `randtoolbox` Sobol', lattice, and Halton sequences



# Decisions to Make If We Want to Succeed

## Key Elements

- Sequences—IID, Sobol', lattice, Halton, sparse grid, . . . , including randomization; fixed and extensible sample size and dimension; constructions using optimization



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- Stopping criteria
- Compelling use cases
- Packages that display output in tables or plots



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- How will parallel computing be supported?





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- Start small, with good skeleton



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- Reasonable license



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## Good Development Practices

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- Version control on Git or equivalent
- Ownership of routines, updates require owners' approval
- Comprehensive tests run regularly
- Reasonable license
- Marketing on websites and at conferences



# Bigger than One Research Group

- We have experience over the past 5 years developing GAIL<sup>2</sup>
- Our group has learned some of the discipline required to develop good software
- Our group does not have the capacity to tackle this whole project, and neither does your group
- A good software library should attract developers
- Let's leave a legacy to our community that goes beyond theorems and algorithms

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# We Must Weigh ...

## Costs

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Less time to prove theorems

Learning a new language

Compromise with other research groups

Time spent writing documentation and tests

## Benefits

More impact for our theorems

Wider access and better performance for our code

More capable code than can be produced by one research group

Fewer bugs for those who use the code

Attract more qMC developers

Attract more qMC users

Happier funding agencies





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  - An initial version control platform, and a model for collaboration



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  - An initial version control platform, and a model for collaboration
  - A few initial routines
  - An initial use case
- Invite others to join us



# Elements of the Community Software—Discrete Distributions

```
classdef (Abstract) discreteDistribution
```

```
%Specifies and generates the components of  $a_n \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \delta_{x_i}(\cdot)$ 
```

```
properties (Abstract)
```

```
    distribData %information required to generate the distribution
```

```
    state %state of the generator
```

```
    nStreams
```

```
end
```

```
properties
```

```
    domain = [0 0; 1 1]; %domain of the discrete distribution,  $\mathcal{X}$ 
```

```
    domainType = 'box' %domain of the discrete distribution,  $\mathcal{X}$ 
```

```
    dimension = 2 %dimension of the domain,  $d$ 
```

```
    trueDistribution = 'uniform' %name of the distribution that the discrete ...  
                                distribution attempts to emulate
```

```
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Discrete Distributions

```
classdef (Abstract) discreteDistribution
methods (Abstract)
    genDistrib(obj, nStart, nEnd, n, coordIndex)
        % nStart = starting value of  $i$ 
        % nEnd = ending value of  $i$ 
        % n = value of  $n$  used to determine  $a_n$ 
        % coordIndex = which coordinates in sequence are needed
    end
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Discrete IID Uniform

```
classdef IIDDistribution < discreteDistribution

%Specifies and generates the components of  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}(\cdot)$ 
%where the  $\mathbf{x}_i$  are IID uniform on  $[0,1]^d$  or IID standard Gaussian
properties
    distribData %stream data
    state = [] %not used
    nStreams = 1
end

methods
    function obj = initStreams(obj,nStreams)
        obj.nStreams = nStreams;
        obj.distribData.stream = ...
            RandStream.create('mrg32k3a','NumStreams',nStreams,'CellOutput',true);
    end
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Discrete IID Uniform

```

classdef IIDDistribution < discreteDistribution
    function [x, w, a] = genDistrib(obj, nStart, nEnd, n, coordIndex, ...
        streamIndex)
        if nargin < 6
            streamIndex = 1;
        end
        nPts = nEnd - nStart + 1; %how many points to be generated
        if strcmp(obj.trueDistribution, 'uniform') %generate uniform points
            x = ...
                rand(obj.distribData.stream{streamIndex}, nPts, numel(coordIndex)); ...
                %nodes
        else %standard normal points
            x = ...
                randn(obj.distribData.stream{streamIndex}, nPts, numel(coordIndex)); ..
                %nodes
        end
        w = 1;
        a = 1/n;
    end
end

```



# Elements of the Community Software—Functions

```

classdef (Abstract) fun
% Specify and generate values  $f(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ 
properties
    domain = [0 0; 1 1] %domain of the function,  $\mathcal{X}$ 
    domainType = 'box' %e.g., 'box', 'ball'
    dimension = 2 %dimension of the domain,  $d$ 
    distribType = 'uniform' %e.g., 'uniform', 'Gaussian'
    nominalValue = 0 %a nominal number,  $c$ , such that  $(c, \dots, c) \in \mathcal{X}$ 
end

methods (Abstract)
    y = f(obj, xu, coordIndex)
    % xu = nodes,  $\mathbf{x}_{u,i} = i^{\text{th}}$  row of an  $n \times |u|$  matrix
    % coordIndex = set of those coordinates in sequence needed,  $u$ 
    % y =  $n \times p$  matrix with values  $f(\mathbf{x}_{u,i}, \mathbf{c})$  where if  $\mathbf{x}'_i = (x_{i,u}, \mathbf{c})_j$ , then  $x'_{ij} = x_{ij}$  for
        %  $j \in u$ , and  $x'_{ij} = c$  otherwise
end

end

```



# Elements of the Community Software—Keister's Function

```
classdef KeisterFun < fun
% Specify and generate values  $f(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ 
methods
    function y = f(obj, x, coordIndex)
        %if the nominalValue = 0, this is efficient
        normx2 = sum(x.*x,2);
        if (numel(coordIndex)  $\neq$  obj.dimension) && (obj.nominalValue  $\neq$  0)
            normx2 = normx2 + (obj.nominalValue.^2) * (obj.dimension - ...
                numel(coordIndex));
        end
        y = exp(-normx2) .* cos(sqrt(normx2));
    end
end
end
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—StoppingCriteria

```
classdef (Abstract) stoppingCriterion
% Decide when to stop a
properties
    absTol = 1e-2 %absolute tolerance, d
    relTol = 0 %absolute tolerance, d
    nInit = 1024 %initial sample size
    nMax = 1e8 %maximum number of samples allowed
end
properties (Abstract)
    discDistAllowed %which discrete distributions are supported
    decompTypeAllowed %which decomposition types are supported
end
methods (Abstract)
    stopYet(obj, distribObj)
        % distribObj = data or summary of data computed already
    end
end
```





# Elements of the Community Software—CLTStopping

```
classdef CLTStopping < stoppingCriterion
% Stopping criterion based on the Central Limit Theorem
properties
    discDistAllowed = "IIDDistribution" %which discrete distributions are ...
        supported
    decompTypeAllowed = ["single"; "multi"] %which decomposition types are ...
        supported
    inflate = 1.2 %inflation factor
    alpha = 0.01;
end

properties (Dependent)
    quantile
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—CLTStopping

```
classdef CLTStopping < stoppingCriterion
methods
    function [obj, dataObj, distribObj] = ...
        stopYet(obj, dataObj, funObj, distribObj)
        if ~numel(dataObj)
            dataObj = meanVarData;
        end
        switch dataObj.stage
```



# Elements of the Community Software—CLTStopping

```
classdef CLTStopping < stoppingCriterion
    switch dataObj.stage
        case 'begin' %initialize
            dataObj.timeStart = tic;
            if ~any(strcmp(obj.discDistAllowed,class(distribObj)))
                error('Stoppoing criterion not compatible with sampling ...
                    distribution')
            end
            nf = numel(funObj); %number of functions whose integrals add up ...
                to the solution
            distribObj = initStreams(distribObj,nf); %need an IID stream ...
                for each function
            dataObj.prevN = zeros(1,nf); %initialize data object
            dataObj.nextN = repmat(obj.nInit,1,nf);
            dataObj.muhat = Inf(1,nf);
            dataObj.sighat = Inf(1,nf);
            dataObj.nSigma = obj.nInit; %use initial samples to estimate ...
                standard deviation
            dataObj.costF = zeros(1,nf);
            dataObj.stage = 'sigma'; %compute standard deviation next
```



# Elements of the Community Software—CLTStopping

```
classdef CLTStopping < stoppingCriterion
    case 'sigma'
        dataObj.preVN = dataObj.nextN; %update place in the sequence
        tempA = sqrt(dataObj.costF); %use cost of function values to ...
            decide how to allocate
        tempB = sum(tempA .* dataObj.sighat); %samples for computation ...
            of the mean
        nM = ceil((tempB*(obj.quantile*obj.inflate ...
            /max(obj.absTol,dataObj.solution*obj.relTol))^2) ...
            * (dataObj.sighat./sqrt(dataObj.costF)));
        dataObj.nMu = min(max(dataObj.nextN,nM),obj.nMax - dataObj.preVN);
        dataObj.nextN = dataObj.nMu + dataObj.preVN;
        dataObj.stage = 'mu'; %compute sample mean next
```



# Elements of the Community Software—CLTStopping

```
classdef CLTStopping < stoppingCriterion
    case 'mu'
        dataObj.solution = sum(dataObj.muhat);
        dataObj.nSamplesUsed = dataObj.nextN;
        errBar = (obj.quantile * obj.inflate) * ...
            sqrt(sum(dataObj.sighat.^2/dataObj.nMu));
        dataObj.errorBound = dataObj.solution + errBar*[-1 1];
        dataObj.stage = 'done'; %finished with computation
    end
    dataObj.timeUsed = toc(dataObj.timeStart);
end

function value = get.quantile(obj)
    value = -norminv(obj.alpha/2);
end

end
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Integration

```
function sol = integration(funObj, distribObj, stopCritObj)
%Specify and generate values  $f(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ 
% funObj = an object from class fun
% distribObj = an object from class discrete_distribution
% stopcritObj = an object from class stopping_criterion

stopYet(stopCritObj, funObj, distribObj);
while ¬strcmp(stopCritObj.nextStep,"stop")
    updateData(stopCritObj, distribObj, fun_obj, decompType)
    newData = getData(stopCritObj, distribObj, funObj, decompType, oldData);
    [stop, oldData, sol] = stopYet(stopCritObj, distribObj, decompType, ...
        oldData, newData);
end
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Integration Example

```
% How to integrate a function using our community QMC framework
% An example with Keister's function integrated with respect to the uniform
% distribution over the unit cube
stopObj = CLTStopping %stopping criterion for IID sampling using the ...
    Central Limit Theorem
distribObj = IIDDistribution; %IID sampling with uniform distribution
[sol, out] = integrate(KeisterFun, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
>> IntegrationExample
sol = 0.4310
out =
timeUsed: 0.0014
nSamplesUsed: 7540
errorBound: [0.4210 0.4410]
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Integration Example

```
stopObj.absTol = 1e-3 %decrease tolerance  
[sol, out] = integrate(KeisterFun, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
sol = 0.4253  
out =  
timeUsed: 0.0333  
nSamplesUsed: 652546  
errorBound: [0.4243 0.4263]
```





# Elements of the Community Software—Integration Example

```
stopObj.absTol = 0; %impossible tolerance  
stopObj.nMax = 1e6; %calculation limited by sample budget  
[sol, out] = integrate(KeisterFun, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
sol = 0.4252  
out =  
timeUsed: 0.0392  
nSamplesUsed: 1000000  
errorBound: [0.4244 0.4260]
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Asian Call, Low D

```
%A multilevel example of Asian option pricing
distribObj.trueDistribution = 'normal'; %Change to normal distribution
stopObj.absTol = 0.01; %increase tolerance
stopObj.nMax = 1e8; %pushing the sample budget back up
OptionObj = AsianCallFun(4) %4 time steps
[sol, out] = integrate(OptionObj, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
OptionObj =
dimension: 4
sol = 6.1740
out =
timeUsed: 1.0517
nSamplesUsed: 5680546
errorBound: [6.1640 6.1840]
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Asian Call, High D

```
OptionObj = AsianCallFun(64) %single level, 64 time steps  
[sol, out] = integrate(OptionObj, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
OptionObj =  
AsianCallFun with properties:  
dimension: 64  
sol =6.2036  
out =  
meanVarData with properties:  
timeUsed: 25.1910  
nSamplesUsed: 5610402  
errorBound: [6.1936 6.2136]
```



# Elements of the Community Software—Asian Call, Multi-Level

```
OptionObj = AsianCallFun([4 4 4]) %multilevel, 64 time steps, faster  
[sol, out] = integrate(OptionObj, distribObj, stopObj)
```

```
OptionObj =  
1×3 AsianCallFun array with properties:  
sol = 6.2052  
out =  
timeUsed: 2.2171  
nSamplesUsed: [8080862 446720 85907]  
errorBound: [6.1968 6.2135]
```

# Thank you

Slides available on SpeakerDeck at  
[speakerdeck.com/fjhickernell/qmc-community-software](https://speakerdeck.com/fjhickernell/qmc-community-software)





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