

# Inverse Transform method

## Rationale

Otherwise known as inverse CDF method. The continuous case:

Suppose that we have a continuous random variable  $X$  having Cumulative Density Function (CDF)  $F_X$ . Then, the random variable

$$U = F_X(X)$$

has a Uniform distribution  $U \sim U_{[0,1]}$ . So to generate a random variate  $x$  from the distribution of  $X$ , we can use the following transformation

$$F_X^{-1}(U) = x$$

where  $F_X^{-1}(\cdot)$  is the inverse CDF or quantile function.

## Weibull example

We want to generate a sample of 10,000 random realizations from a Weibull distribution  $W(5, 2)$  using the Inverse CDF method.

If  $X \sim \mathcal{W}ei(\alpha, \beta)$  having PDF and CDF defined respectively as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PDF} \quad f_X(x) &= \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left( \frac{x}{\beta} \right)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left( - \frac{x}{\beta} \right)^\alpha \\ \text{CDF} \quad F_X(x) &= 1 - \exp\left( - \frac{x}{\beta} \right)^\alpha \end{aligned}$$

## Weibull example solve

Then by the Inverse CDF method, we can generate realizations of  $X$  by equating  $U = F_X(x)$  and solving for  $x$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} U &= 1 - \exp\left( - \frac{x}{2} \right)^5 \\ 1 - U &= \exp\left( - \frac{x}{2} \right)^5 \\ -\ln(1 - U) &= \left( \frac{x}{2} \right)^5 \\ \left( -\ln(1 - U) \right)^{1/5} &= \frac{x}{2} \\ 2 \left( -\ln(1 - U) \right)^{1/5} &= x \end{aligned}$$

Next up: Python program.

Entrée [5]:

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib
import seaborn as sns

# 1. Define Inverse CDF function
def Inverse_CDF_Weibull(n, alpha, beta) :
    u = np.random.uniform(low=0.0, high=1.0, size=n)           # generate uniform numbers
    data = beta*((-np.log(1-u))**(1/alpha))                    # formula derived

    return pd.DataFrame(data = data, columns = ['data'])        # return a data frame instead of array

# 2. Generate realizations of the desired distribution
np.random.seed(2023)
dataset = Inverse_CDF_Weibull(n = 1000, alpha = 5, beta = 2)
dataset.head()
```

Out[5]:

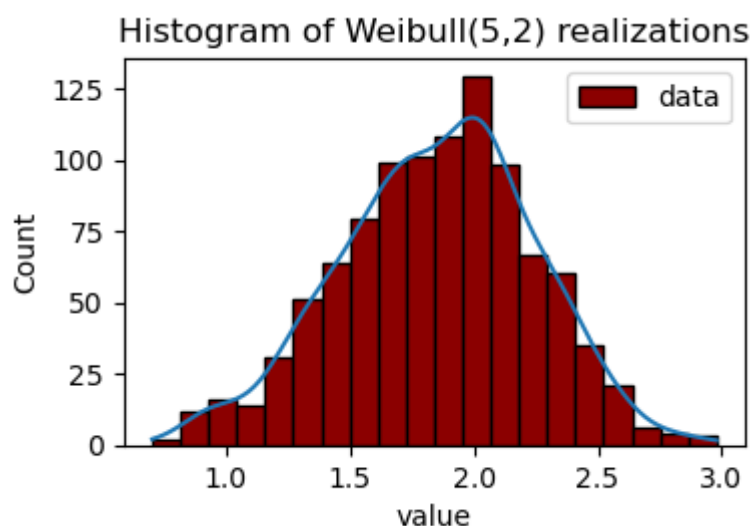
	data
0	1.655497
1	2.343973
2	1.952544
3	1.340683
4	1.372833

Entrée [7]:

```
# 3. Plot with seaborn
plt.figure(figsize=(4,2.5))
plot = sns.histplot(dataset, kde = True, bins = 20, facecolor="darkred", edgecolor='black')
plot.set(title='Histogram of Weibull(5,2) realizations')
plot.set(xlabel="value")
```

Out[7]:

[Text(0.5, 0, 'value')]



## References

Rizzo, M.L. (2019). Statistical Computing with R, Second Edition (2nd ed.). Chapman and Hall/CRC.  
<https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429192760> (<https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429192760>).

Python: (<https://www.python.org/>) (<https://www.python.org/>).