

Statistical Computing

R Lab



R Lab for Statistical Computing

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2019-04-07

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Welcome

Statistical computing mainly treats useful simulation methods.

Statistical Computing

We first look at random generation methods. Lots of simulation methods are built based on this random numbers.

Sampling from a fininte population

Generating random numbers is like sampling. From finite population, we can sample data with or without replacement. For example of sampling with replacement, we toss coins 10 times.

```
sample(0:1, size = 10, replace = TRUE)
[1] 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1
```

Sampling without replacement: Choose some lottery numbers which consist of 1 to 100.

```
sample(1:100, size = 6, replace = FALSE)
[1] 61 83 50 74 34 35
```

Random generators of common probability distributions

R provides some functions which generate random numbers following famous distributions. Although we will learn some skills generating these numbers in basis levels, these functions do the same thing more elegantly.

```
gg_curve(dbeta, from = 0, to = 1, args = list(shape1 = 3, shape2 = 2)) +
geom_histogram(
    data = tibble(
        rand = rbeta(1000, 3, 2),
        idx = seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)
    ),
    aes(x = rand, y = ..density..),
    position = "identity",
    bins = 30,
    alpha = .45,
    fill = gg_hcl(1)
)
```

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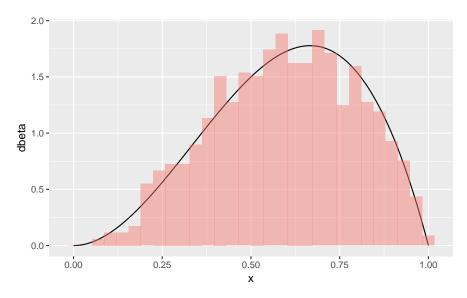


Figure 1: Beta(3,2) random numbers

Figure 1 shows that rbeta() function generate random numbers very well. Histogram is of the random number, and the curve is the true beta distribution.

Chapter 1

Methods for Generating Random Variables

1.1 Introduction

Most of the methods so-called *computational statistics* requires generation of random variables from specified probability distribution. In hand, we can spin wheels, roll a dice, or shuffle cards. The results are chosen randomly. However, we want the same things with computer. Here, r. As we know, computer cannot generate complete uniform random numbers. Instead, we generate **pseudo-random** numbers.

1.2 Pseudo-random Numbers

Definition 1.1 (Pseudo-random numbers). Sequence of values generated deterministically which have all the appearances of being independent unif(0,1) random variables, i.e.

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} unif(0, 1)$$

- behave as if following unif(0,1)
- typically generated from an initial seed

1.2.1 Linear congruential generator

```
Let x_0, x_1, \ldots \in \mathbb{Z}_+.

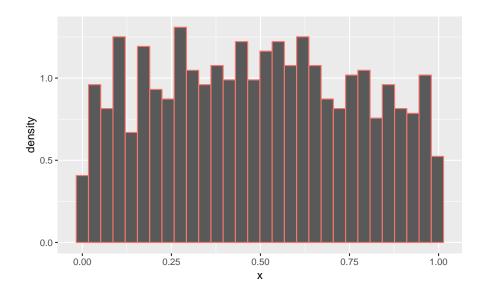
1. Set x_0 as initial seed.
2. Generate x_n, n = 1, 2, \ldots recursively:

a. x_n = (ax_{n-1} + c) \mod m
b. where a, c \in \mathbb{Z}_+, m: modulus
3. Compute u_n = \frac{x_n}{m} \in (0, 1)

Then u_1, u_2, \ldots \sim unif(0, 1)

lcg <- function(n, seed, a, b, m) {
   x <- rep(seed, n + 1)
   for (i in 1:n) {
        x[i + 1] <- (a * x[i] + b) %% m
   }
      x[-1] / m
}
```

```
tibble(
  x = lcg(1000, 0, 1664525, 1013904223, 2^32)
) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = x)) +
  geom_histogram(aes(y = ..density..), bins = 30, col = gg_hcl(1))
```



1.2.2 Multiplicative congruential generator

As we can expect from its name, this is congruential generator with c = 0.

- 1. Set x_0 as initial seed.
- 2. Generate $x_n, n = 1, 2, \ldots$ recursively:
 - a. $x_n = ax_{n-1} \mod m$
 - b. where $a \in \mathbb{Z}_+, m : \text{modulus}$
- 3. Compute $u_n = \frac{x_n}{m} \in (0,1)$

Then $u_1, u_2, \ldots \sim unif(0,1)$

We just set b = 0 in our lcg() function. The seed must not be zero.

```
tibble(
  x = lcg(1000, 5, 1664525, 0, 2^32)
) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = x)) +
  geom_histogram(aes(y = ..density..), bins = 30, col = gg_hcl(1))
```



1.2.3 Cycle

Generate LCG n = 32 with a = 1, c = 1, and m = 16 from the seed $x_0 = 0$.

```
lcg(32, 0, 1, 1, 16)
[1] 0.0625 0.1250 0.1875 0.2500 0.3125 0.3750 0.4375 0.5000 0.5625 0.6250
[11] 0.6875 0.7500 0.8125 0.8750 0.9375 0.0000 0.0625 0.1250 0.1875 0.2500
[21] 0.3125 0.3750 0.4375 0.5000 0.5625 0.6250 0.6875 0.7500 0.8125 0.8750
[31] 0.9375 0.0000
```

Observe that we have the cycle after m-th number. Against this problem, we give different seed from every (im + 1)th random number.

1.3 The Inverse Transform Method

Definition 1.2 (Inverse of CDF). Since some cdf F_X is not strictly increasing, we difine $F_X^{-1}(y)$ for 0 < y < 1 by

$$F_X^{-1}(y) := \inf\{x : F_X(x) \ge y\}$$

Using this definition, we can get the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1 (Probability Integral Transformation). If X is a continuous random variable with cdf $F_{(x)}$, then

$$U \equiv F_X(X) \sim unif(0,1)$$

Probability Integral Transformation. Let $U \sim unif(0,1)$. Then

$$P(F_X^{-1}(U) \le x) = P(\inf\{t : F_X(t) = U\} \le x)$$
$$= P(U \le F_X(x))$$
$$= F_U(F_X(x))$$
$$= F_X(x)$$

Thus, to generate n random variables $\sim F_X$,

```
\begin{array}{ll} \text{1. form of } F_X^{-1}(u) \\ \text{2. For each } i=1,2,\ldots,n; \\ \text{a. Generate } u_i \sim unif(0,1) \\ \text{b. } x_i = F_X^{-1}(u_i) \end{array}
```

Collect $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} F_X$.

1.3.1 Continuous case

Denote that the *probability integral transformation* holds for a continuous variable. When generating continuous random variable, applying above algorithm might work.

Example 1.1 (Exponential distribution). If $X \sim Exp(\lambda)$, then $F_X(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$. We can derive the inverse function of cdf

$$F_X^{-1}(u) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln(1 - u)$$

Note that

$$U \sim unif(0,1) \Leftrightarrow 1 - U \sim unif(0,1)$$

Then we just can use U instead of 1-U.

```
inv_exp <- function(n, lambda) {
   -log(runif(n)) / lambda
}</pre>
```

If we generate $x_1, \ldots, x_{500} \sim Exp(\lambda = 1)$,

```
gg_curve(dexp, from = 0, to = 10) +
  geom_histogram(
    data = tibble(x = inv_exp(500, lambda = 1)),
    aes(x = x, y = ..density..),
    bins = 30,
    fill = gg_hcl(1),
    alpha = .5
)
```

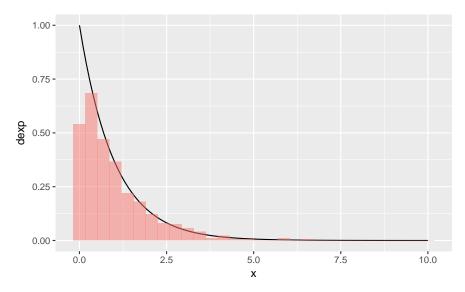


Figure 1.1: Inverse Transformation: Exp(1)

1.3.2 Discrete case

```
1. For each i=1,2,\ldots,n:

a. Generate u_i \sim unif(0,1)

b. Take x_i s.t. F_X(x_{i-1}) < U \le F_X(x_i)
```

Collect $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \sim F_X$.

```
pmf <-
  tibble(
    x = 0:4,
    p = c(.1, .2, .2, .2, .3)
)</pre>
```

Table 1.1: Example of a Discrete Random Variable

x	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
p	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3

Example 1.2 (Discrete Random Variable). Consider a discrete random variable X with a mass function as in Table 1.1.

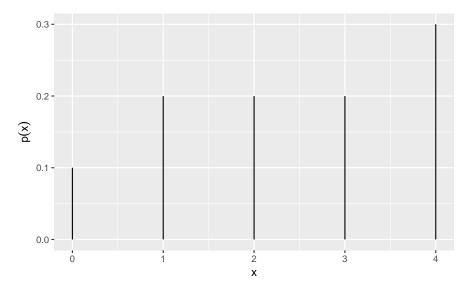


Figure 1.2: Probability Mass Function

Then we have the cdf

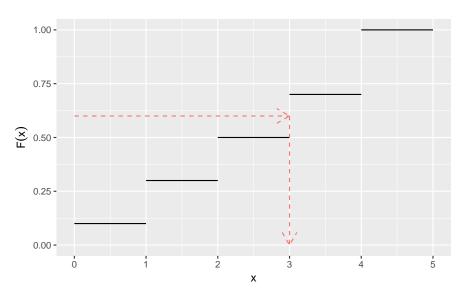


Figure 1.3: CDF of the Discrete Random Variable: Illustration for discrete case

Remembering the algorithm, we can implement dplyr::case_when() here.

```
rcustom <- function(n) {
  tibble(u = runif(n)) %>%
  mutate(
    x = case_when(
    u > 0 & u <= .1 ~ 0,
    u > .1 & u <= .3 ~ 1,
    u > .3 & u <= .5 ~ 2,
    u > .5 & u <= .7 ~ 3,
    TRUE ~ 4
  )</pre>
```

```
) %>%
    select(x) %>%
    pull()
}

tibble(
    x = rcustom(100)
) %>%
    ggplot(aes(x = x)) +
    geom_histogram(aes(y = ..ndensity..), binwidth = .1)
```

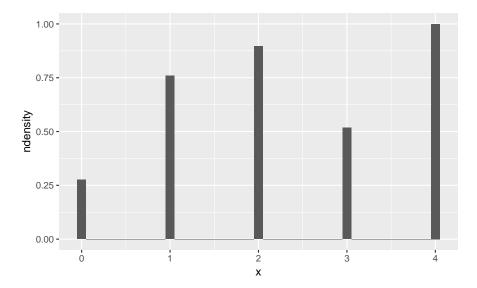


Figure 1.4: Generated discrete random numbers

See Figure 1.2 and 1.4. Comparing the two, the result can be said okay.

1.3.3 Problems with inverse transformation

Examples 1.1 and 1.2. We could generate these random numbers because we aware of

```
1. analytical F_X
2. F^{-1}
```

In practice, however, not all distribution have analytical F. Numerical computing might be possible, but it is not efficient. There are other approaches.

1.4 The Acceptance-Rejection Method

Acceptance-rejection method does not require analytical form of cdf. What we need is our *target* density (or mass) function and *proposal* density (or mass) function. Target function is what we want to generate. Propsal function is of any random variable that is *easy to generate random numbers*. From this approach, we can generate any distribution while computation is not efficient.

pdf or pmf	target or proposal		
f	target		
g	proposal - easy to generate random numbers		

First of all, g should satisfy that

$$sptf \subseteq sptg$$

Next, for some (pre-specified) c > 0

$$\forall x \in sptf : \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \le c$$

1.4.1 A-R algorithm

For $i = 1, \ldots, n$

- 1. $Y \sim g(Y)$
- 2. $U \sim unif(0,1) \perp \!\!\! \perp Y$
- 3. Accept-Reject step
 a. Accept: $U \leq \frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)} \Rightarrow x_i = Y$ b. Reject: otherwise, go to step 1

Collect $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} f(x)$.

1.4.2Efficiency

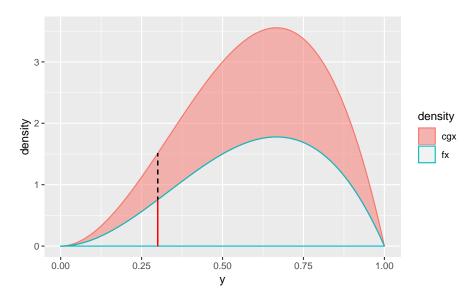


Figure 1.5: Property of AR method

See Figure 1.5. This illustrates the motivation of A-R method. Lower one is f(x) and the upper one is cg(x)which covers f. We can see that

$$0 < \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)} \le 1$$

The algorithm takes random number from $Y \sim g$ in each recursive step i, which is represented as a line in the figure. At this value, the algorithm accept Y as random number of f if

$$U \le \frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)}$$

Suppose that we choose a point at random on a line drawn in the figure 1.5. If we get the red line, we accept. Otherwise, we reject. In other words, the *colored area is where we reject the given value*. The smaller the area is, the more efficient the algorithm will be.

Proposition 1.1 (Properties of A-R Method). (1) $\frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)} \perp \!\!\! \perp U$

$$(2) 0 < \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)} \le 1$$

(3) Let N be the number of iterations needed to get an acceptance. Then

$$N \sim Geo(p)$$
 where $p \equiv P\left(U \le \frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)}\right)$

and so

$$\begin{cases} P(N=n) = p(1-p)^{n-1}I_{\{1,2,\ldots\}}(n) \\ E(N) = average \ number \ of \ iterations = \frac{1}{p} \end{cases}$$

(4)
$$X \sim Y \mid U \leq \frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)}$$
, i.e.

$$P\left(Y \le y \mid U \le \frac{f(Y)}{cq(Y)}\right) = F_X(y)$$

Remark (Efficiency). Efficiency of the A-R method depends on $p = P\left(U \leq \frac{f(Y)}{cg(Y)}\right)$. In fact,

$$E(N) = \frac{1}{p} = c$$

The algorithm becomes efficient for small c.

Proof. Note that

$$P\left(U \le \frac{f(y)}{cg(y)}, Y = y\right) = P\left(Y \le \frac{g(y)}{cg(y)} \mid Y = y\right) P(Y = y)$$

Since
$$U \sim unif(0,1)$$
, $P\left(Y \leq \frac{g(y)}{cg(y)} \mid Y = y\right) = \frac{f(y)}{cg(y)}$.

By construction, P(Y = y) = g(y).

It follows that

$$\begin{split} p &= P\bigg(U \leq \frac{f(y)}{cg(y)}\bigg) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P\bigg(U \leq \frac{f(y)}{cg(y)}, Y = y\bigg) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(y)}{cg(y)} g(y) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \end{split}$$

Hence.

$$E(N) = \frac{1}{p} = c$$

We can say that the method is efficient when the acceptance rate p is large, i.e. c small.

Corollary 1.1 (Efficiency of A-R Method). A-R method is efficient when $g(\cdot)$ is close to $f(\cdot)$ and

have small c.

Corollary 1.2 (Choosing c). To enhance the algorithm, we might choose c which satisfy

$$c = \max\left\{\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} : x \in sptf\right\}$$

1.4.3 Examples

Example 1.3 (Beta(a,b)). Let $X \sim Beta(a,b)$. Then the pdf of X is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{B(a,b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} I_{(0,1)}(x)$$

Solution (Generating Beta(a,b) with A-R method). Consider proposal density $g(x) = I_{(0,1)}(x)$, i.e. unif(0,1). To determine the optimal c s.t.

$$c = \max\left\{\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} : x \in (0,1)\right\}$$

find the maximum of

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{1}{B(a,b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1}$$

Solve

$$\begin{split} \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right) &= \frac{1}{B(a,b)} \Big((a-1)x^{a-2} (1-x)^{b-1} - (b-1)x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-2} \Big) \\ &= \frac{x^{a-2} (1-x)^{b-2}}{B(a,b)} \Big((a-1)(1-x) - (b-1)x \Big) \\ &= \frac{x^{a-2} (1-x)^{b-2}}{B(a,b)} \Big(a-1 - (a+b-2)x \Big) &= 0 \end{split}$$

It follows that

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \le \frac{f(\frac{a-1}{a+b-2})}{g(\frac{a-1}{a+b-2})} = c$$

if
$$\frac{a-1}{a+b-2} \neq 0, 1$$

```
ar_beta <- function(n, a, b) {
  opt_x <- (a - 1) / (a + b - 2)
  opt_c <- dbeta(opt_x, shape1 = a, shape2 = b) / dunif(opt_x)
  X <- NULL
  N <- 0
  while (N <= n) {
            Y <- runif(n)
            U <- runif(n)
            X <- c(X, Y[U <= dbeta(Y, shape1 = a, shape2 = b) / opt_c])
            N <- length(X)
            if ( N > n ) X <- X[1:n]
        }
        X
}</pre>
```

Now we try to compare this A-R function to R rbeta function.

```
gen_beta <-
 tibble(
   ar_rand = ar_beta(1000, 3, 2),
   sam = rbeta(1000, 3, 2)
  ) %>%
 gather(key = "den", value = "value")
gg_curve(dbeta, from = 0, to = 1, args = list(shape1 = 3, shape2 = 2)) +
 geom_histogram(
   data = gen_beta,
   aes(x = value, y = ..density.., fill = den),
   position = "identity",
   bins = 30,
   alpha = .45
 scale_fill_discrete(
   name = "random number",
   labels = c("AR", "rbeta")
 )
```

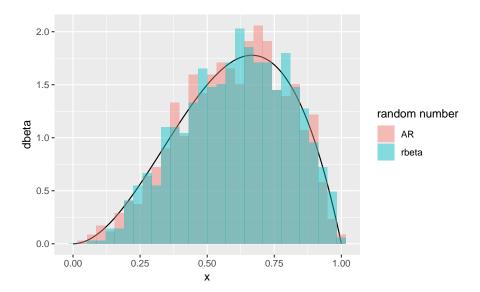


Figure 1.6: $\operatorname{Beta}(3,2)$ Random numbers from each function

In the Figure 1.6, the both histograms are very close to the true density curve. To see more statistically, we can draw a Q-Q plot.

```
gen_beta %>%
  ggplot(aes(sample = value)) +
  stat_qq_line(
    distribution = stats::qbeta,
    dparams = list(shape1 = 3, shape2 = 2),
    col = I("grey70"),
    size = 3.5
) +
  stat_qq(
    aes(colour = den),
    distribution = stats::qbeta,
    dparams = list(shape1 = 3, shape2 = 2)
) +
  scale_colour_discrete(
    name = "random number",
    labels = c("AR", "rbeta")
)
```

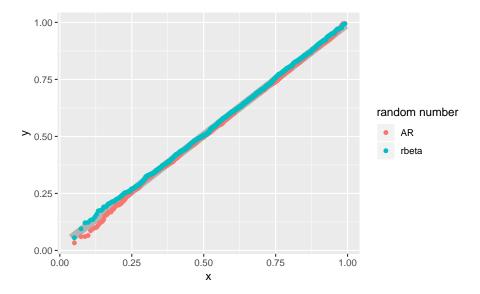


Figure 1.7: Q-Q plot for Beta(3,2) random numbers

See Figure 1.7. We have got series of numbers that are sticked to the beta distribution line.

Example 1.4 (A-R Method for Discrete case). A-R method can be also implemented to discrete case such as Example 1.2.

Table 1.3: Example of a Discrete Random Variable

X	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
р	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3

Solution (Generating discrete random numbers using A-R methods). Consider proposal $g(x) \sim$ Discrete unif(0,1,2,3,4), i.e.

$$g(0) = g(1) = \cdots = g(4) = 0.2$$

Then we set

$$c = \max\left\{\frac{p(x)}{g(x)} : x = 0, \dots, 4\right\} = \max\left\{0.5, 1, 1.5\right\} = 1.5$$

1.5 Transfomation Methods

1.6 Sums and Mixtures

1.6.1 Sums

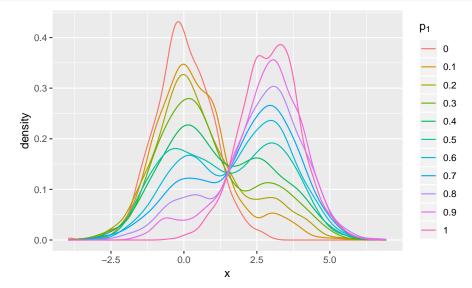
1.6.2 Convolutions and mixtures

```
library(foreach)
mix_norm <- function(n, p1, mean1, sd1, mean2, sd2) {
  x1 <- rnorm(n, mean = mean1, sd = sd1)</pre>
```

```
x2 <- rnorm(n, mean = mean2, sd = sd2)
k <- as.integer(runif(n) > p1)
k * x1 + (1 - k) * x2
}

mixture <-
foreach(p1 = 0:10 / 10, .combine = bind_rows) %do% {
   tibble(
     value = mix_norm(n = 1000, p1 = p1, mean1 = 0, sd1 = 1, mean2 = 3, sd2 = 1),
     key = rep(p1, 1000)
   )
}</pre>
```

```
mixture %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = value, colour = factor(key))) +
  stat_density(geom = "line", position = "identity") +
  scale_colour_discrete(
   name = expression(p[1]),
   labels = 0:10 / 10
) +
  xlab("x")
```



1.7 Multivariate Normal Random Vector

1.8 Stochastic Processes

- 1.8.1 Homogeneous poisson process
- 1.8.2 Nonhomogeneous poisson process
- 1.8.3 Symmetric random walk

Chapter 2

Monte Carlo Integration and Variance Reduction

2.1 Monte Carlo Integration

Consider integration problem of a integrable function g(x). We want to compute

$$\int_{a}^{b} g(x)dx$$

For instance, $g(x) = e^{x^2}$

Example 2.1.

$$\int_0^1 e^{x^2} dx$$

It seems tricky to compute the integral 2.1 analytically even though possible. So we implement *simulation* concept here, based on the following theorems.

Theorem 2.1 (Weak Law of Large Numbers). Suppose that $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (\mu, \sigma^2 < \infty)$. Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i \stackrel{p}{\to} \mu$$

Let g be a measurable function. Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} g(X_i) \stackrel{p}{\to} g(\mu)$$

Theorem 2.2 (Strong Law of Large Numbers). Suppose that $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} (\mu, \sigma^2 < \infty)$. Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} \mu$$

Let g be a measurable function. Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} g(X_i) \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} g(\mu)$$

Simple Monte Carlo estimator

Suppose that we have a distribution f(x). Consider

$$I \equiv \int_{sptf} g(x)f(x)dx \tag{2.1}$$

By the Strong law of large numbers 2.2,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} g(X_i) \stackrel{a.s.}{\to} E[g(X)] = I$$

Theorem 2.3 (Monte Carlo Integration). Consider integration (2.1). This can be approximated via appropriate pdf f(x) by

$$\hat{\theta}_M = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} g(X_i)$$

Go back to Example 2.1.

Solution.

$$I \equiv \int_0^1 e^{x^2} dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 \frac{e^{x^2}}{f(x)} f(x) dx \qquad f(x) = \frac{e^x}{e - 1} : pdf$$

$$= \int_0^1 (e - 1) \exp(x^2 - x) f(x) dx$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M (e - 1) \exp(X_m^2 - X_m)$$

Then generate $X_1, \ldots, X_M \sim f(x)$.

Let $F(X_1), \ldots, F(X_M) \stackrel{iid}{\sim} unif(0,1)$ where

$$F(x) = \int_0^x f(t)dt = \frac{e^x - 1}{e - 1}$$

i.e. $U_1 = \frac{e^{X_1} - 1}{e - 1}, \dots, U_M = \frac{e^{X_M} - 1}{e - 1} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} unif(0, 1)$. Hence,

$$X_m = \ln(1 + (e - 1)U_m)$$

i.e.

1.
$$u_1, \dots, u_M \stackrel{iid}{\sim} unif(0, 1)$$

2. $x_i = \ln(1 + (e - 1)u_i)$

2.
$$x_i = \ln(1 + (e - 1)u_i)$$

```
x <- log(1 + (exp(1) - 1) * runif(10000))
mean((exp(1) - 1) * exp(x^2 - x))
[1] 1.46</pre>
```

This method is also helpful solving high-dimensional problem.

Example 2.2 (Higher dimensional problem).

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 e^{(x_1 + x_2)^2} dx_1 dx_2$$

Solution.

$$I \equiv \int_0^1 \int_0^1 e^{(x_1 + x_2)^2} dx_1 dx_2$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{e^{(x_1 + x_2)^2}}{f(x_1, x_2)} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 \qquad f(x) = \frac{e^{(x_1 + x_2)}}{(e - 1)^2} = \frac{e^{x_1}}{e - 1} + \frac{e^{x_2}}{e - 1}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (e - 1)^2 \exp((x_1 + x_2)^2 - x_1 - x_2) f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M (e - 1)^2 \exp((X_{1m} + X_{2m})^2 - X_{1m} - X_{2m})$$

Hence,

```
1. u_{1m}, u_{2m} \sim unif(0,1), \quad m=1,\ldots,M
2. x_{jm} = \ln(1+(e-1)u_{jm}), \quad j=1,2, \quad m=1,\ldots,M

tibble(
    x1 = log(1 + (exp(1) - 1) * runif(10000)),
    x2 = log(1 + (exp(1) - 1) * runif(10000)))

) %>%
    summarise(int = mean((exp(1) - 1)^2 * exp((x1 + x2)^2 - x1 - x2)))

# A tibble: 1 x 1
    int
    <dbl>
1 4.95
```

- 2.1.2 Standard error
- 2.2 Variance and Efficiency
- 2.2.1 Variance
- 2.2.2 Efficiency
- 2.3 Variance Reduction
- 2.4 Antithetic Variables
- 2.5 Control Variates
- 2.6 Importance Sampling