



While trying to convey to an OP on X validated why the inversion method was not always the panacea in pseudo-random generation, I took the example of a mixture of  $K$  exponential distributions when  $K$  is very large, in order to impress (?) upon said OP that solving  $F(x)=u$  for such a closed-form cdf  $F$  was very costly even when using a state-of-the-art (?) inversion algorithm, like uniroot, since each step involves adding the  $K$  terms in the cdf. Selecting the component from the cumulative distribution function on the component proves to be quite fast since using the rather crude

```
x=rexp(1,lambda[1+sum(runif(1)>wes)])
```

brings a 100-fold improvement over

```
Q = function(u) uniroot((function(x) F(x) - u), lower = 0,
  upper = qexp(.999,rate=min(la)))[1] #numerical tail quantile
x=Q(runif(1))
```

when  $K=10^5$ , as shown by a benchmark call

```
test elapsed
1      compo    0.057
2      Newton  45.736
3      uniroot   5.814
```

where Newton denotes a simple-minded Newton inversion. ...