

# Random Numbers

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**Abstract**—This manual provides a simple introduction to the generation of random numbers

## 1 UNIFORM RANDOM NUMBERS

Let  $U$  be a uniform random variable between 0 and 1.

1.1 Generate  $10^6$  samples of  $U$  using a C program and save into a file called uni.dat .

**Solution:** Download the following files and execute the C program.

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/codes/exrand.c
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/codes/coeffs.h
```

1.2 Load the uni.dat file into python and plot the empirical CDF of  $U$  using the samples in uni.dat. The CDF is defined as

$$F_U(x) = \Pr(U \leq x) \quad (1.1)$$

**Solution:** The following code plots Fig. 1.2

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/codes/cdf_plot.py
```

1.3 Find a theoretical expression for  $F_U(x)$ .

**Solution:** The CDF of  $U$  is given by

$$F_U(x) = \Pr(U \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p_U(u) du \quad (1.2)$$

We now have three cases:

a)  $x < 0$ :  $p_X(x) = 0$ , and hence  $F_U(x) = 0$ .

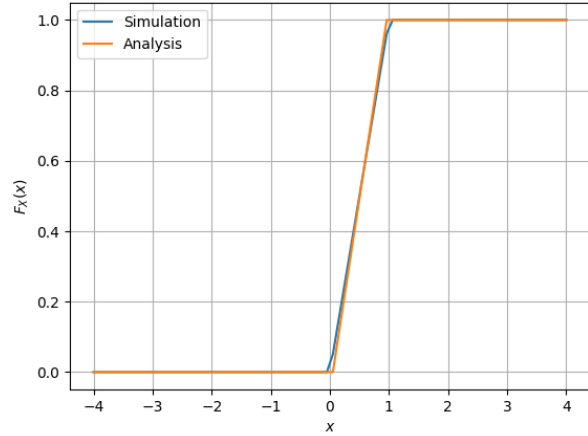


Fig. 1.2: The CDF of  $U$

b)  $0 \leq x < 1$ : Here,

$$F_U(x) = \int_0^x du = x \quad (1.3)$$

c)  $x \geq 1$ : Put  $x = 1$  in (1.3) as  $U$  is uniform in  $[0, 1]$  to get  $F_U(x) = 1$ .

Therefore,

$$F_U(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ x & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x \geq 1 \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

This is verified in Figure (1.2)

1.4 The mean of  $U$  is defined as

$$E[U] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N U_i \quad (1.5)$$

and its variance as

$$\text{var}[U] = E[U - E[U]]^2 \quad (1.6)$$

Write a C program to find the mean and variance of  $U$ .

**Solution:** The C program can be downloaded from

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/codes/cdf_plot.py
```

–9/ai1110–probability/master/manual/  
codes/mean\_var\_uni.c

1.5 Verify your result theoretically given that

$$E[U^k] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k dF_U(x) \quad (1.7)$$

**Solution:** We write

$$E[U^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 dF_U(x) \quad (1.8)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 p_U(x) dx \quad (1.9)$$

$$= \int_0^1 x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3} \quad (1.10)$$

and

$$E[U] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dF_U(x) \quad (1.11)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p_U(x) dx \quad (1.12)$$

$$= \int_0^1 x dx = \frac{1}{2} \quad (1.13)$$

which checks out with the empirical mean on 0.500007. Now, using linearity of expectation,

$$\text{var}[U] = E[U - E[U]]^2 \quad (1.14)$$

$$= E[U^2 - 2UE[U] + (E[U])^2] \quad (1.15)$$

$$= E[U^2] - 2(E[U])^2 + (E[U])^2 \quad (1.16)$$

$$= E[U^2] - (E[U])^2 = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{12} \quad (1.17)$$

(1.18)

and this checks out with the empirical variance 0.083301 of the sample data.

## 2 CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

2.1 Generate  $10^6$  samples of the random variable

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{12} U_i - 6 \quad (2.1)$$

using a C program, where  $U_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, 12$  are a set of independent uniform random variables between 0 and 1 and save in a file called gau.dat

**Solution:** The sample data is generated by the C file in Question 1.1

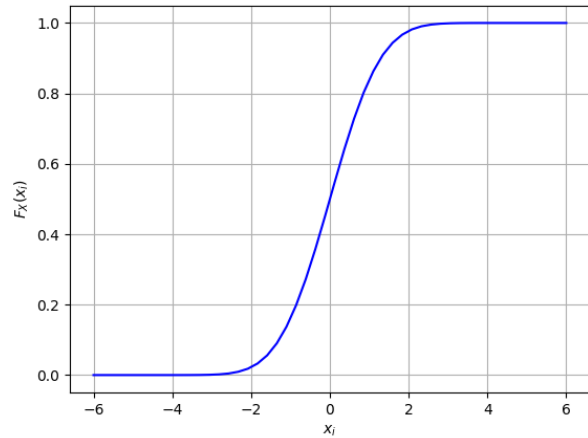


Fig. 2.2: The CDF of X

2.2 Load gau.dat in python and plot the empirical CDF of X using the samples in gau.dat. What properties does a CDF have?

**Solution:** The CDF of X is plotted in Fig. 2.2 The required python file can be downloaded using

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats
-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/
codes/cdf_gauss_plot.py
```

2.3 Load gau.dat in python and plot the empirical PDF of X using the samples in gau.dat. The PDF of X is defined as

$$p_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) \quad (2.2)$$

What properties does the PDF have? **Solution:** The PDF of X is plotted in Fig. 2.3 using the code below

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats
-9/ai1110-assignments/master/manual/
codes/pdf_plot.py
```

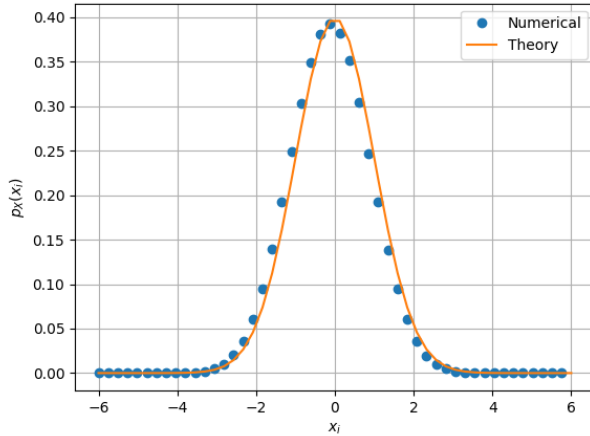
2.4 Find the mean and variance of X by writing a C program.

**Solution:** The C program is at

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats
-9/ai1110-assignments/master/manual/
codes/mean_var_gau.c
```

2.5 Given that

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right), -\infty < x < \infty, \quad (2.3)$$

Fig. 2.3: The PDF of  $X$ 

repeat the above exercise theoretically.

**Solution:** The mean is given by

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) dx = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

as the integrand is odd. This checks out with the empirical mean of 0.000326. The variance is given by

$$\text{var}[X] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \quad (2.5)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) dx \quad (2.6)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) dx = 1 \quad (2.7)$$

$$(2.8)$$

where we have integrated (2.6) by parts. This agrees with the empirical variance of 1.000906.

### 3 FROM UNIFORM TO OTHER

#### 3.1 Generate samples of

$$V = -2 \ln(1 - U) \quad (3.1)$$

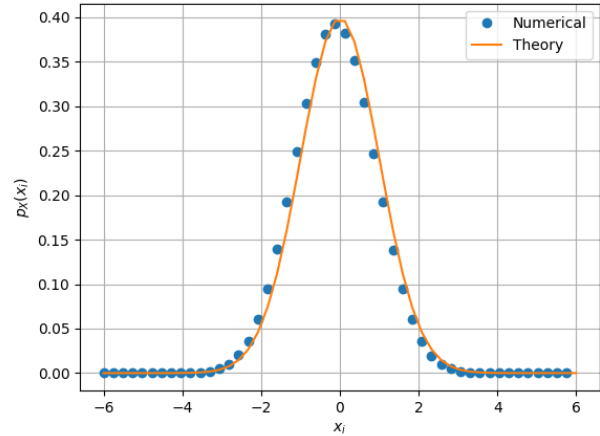
and plot its CDF.

**Solution:** The relevant python code is at

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/goats-9/ai1110-probability/master/manual/
codes/cdf_exp_plot.py
```

and the CDF is plotted in Figure (3.1).

#### 3.2 Find a theoretical expression for $F_V(x)$ .

Fig. 3.1: The PDF of  $X$ 

**Solution:** Note that the function

$$v = f(u) = -2 \ln(1 - u) \quad (3.2)$$

is monotonically increasing in  $[0, 1]$  and  $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Hence, it is invertible and the inverse function is given by

$$u = f^{-1}(v) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{v}{2}\right) \quad (3.3)$$

Therefore, from the monotonicity of  $v$ , and using (1.4),

$$F_V(v) = F_U\left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{v}{2}\right)\right) \quad (3.4)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_V(v) = \begin{cases} 0 & v < 0 \\ 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{v}{2}\right) & v \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$