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Performance Evaluation of Computer Systems

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Performance Modeling and Design of Computer Systems

4- GENERATING RANDOM VARIABLES FOR SIMULATION

Inverse-Transform Method

- This method assumes that
 - We know the **c.d.f.** of the random variable X
 - This distribution is easily invertible

Inverse-Transform Method to generate r.v. X :

1. Generate $u \in U(0, 1)$.
2. Return $X = F_X^{-1}(u)$.

A Standard Uniform Random Variable Y

- Let us assume that Y is a random variable uniformly distributed between 0 and 1. That is,

$$F_X(x) = P[X \leq x] = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x < 0, \\ x, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 1, & \text{if } x > 1. \end{cases}$$

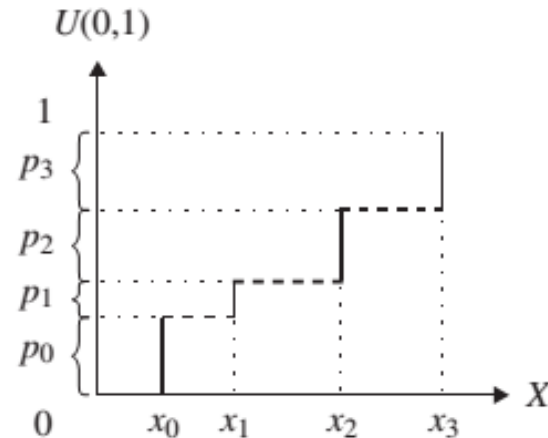
Generating a Random Variable X with Distribution $G(\cdot)$

- Define $X = G^{-1}(Y)$
- Then,

$$\begin{aligned}F_X(x) &= P[X \leq x] \\&= P[G^{-1}(Y) \leq x] \\&= P[Y \leq G(x)] \\&= G(x).\end{aligned}$$

Discrete Case

$$X = \begin{cases} x_0 & \text{with prob } p_0 \\ x_1 & \text{with prob } p_1 \\ \dots & \\ x_k & \text{with prob } p_k \end{cases}.$$



Solution:

- 1.** Arrange x_0, \dots, x_k s.t. $x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_k$.
- 2.** Generate $u \in U(0, 1)$.
- 3.** If $0 < u \leq p_0$, then output x_0 .
 If $p_0 < u \leq p_0 + p_1$, then output x_1 .
 If $p_0 + p_1 < u \leq p_0 + p_1 + p_2$, then output x_2 .
 If $\sum_{i=0}^{\ell-1} p_i < u \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} p_i$, then output x_ℓ , where $0 \leq \ell \leq k$.

Discrete Case

- If X can take on many values,
 - We therefore need closed-form expressions for $\sum_{i=0}^l p_i$ for all l .
 - Equivalently, we need a closed form for $F_X(x) = P\{X \leq x\}$ for any x .
 - Then, we could do the same thing as in the continuous case.

Continuous Case

- Let $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$ then we solve $y = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$
- then $1 - y = e^{-\lambda x}$ or $x = -1/\lambda \text{ Log}(1 - y)$

Accept-Reject Method

- Useful when we only know the **p.d.f.**, $f_X(\cdot)$.
- Throw away some of the instances until the desired **p.d.f.** is met
- **Example**
 - We want to generate P and we know how to generate Q

$$P = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with prob } p_1 = 0.36 \\ 2 & \text{with prob } p_2 = 0.24 \\ 3 & \text{with prob } p_3 = 0.40 \end{cases} \quad Q = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with prob } q_1 = 0.33 \\ 2 & \text{with prob } q_2 = 0.33 \\ 3 & \text{with prob } q_3 = 0.33 \end{cases} .$$

Discrete Case

- Let c be a constant such that $c > 1$ and

$$\frac{p_j}{q_j} \leq c, \forall j \text{ s.t. } p_j > 0.$$

Accept-Reject Algorithm to generate discrete r.v. P :

1. Find r.v. Q s.t. $q_j > 0 \Leftrightarrow p_j > 0$.
2. Generate an instance of Q , and call it j .
3. Generate r.v. $U \in (0, 1)$.
4. If $U < \frac{p_j}{cq_j}$, return $P = j$ and stop; else return to step 2.

Discrete Case

- **Proof**
- We want to prove that,
 - $P \{ \text{ends up being set to } j \text{ (as opposed to some other value)} \} = p_j$
 - $P \{ P \text{ ends up being set to } j \} = \frac{\text{Fraction of time } j \text{ is generated and accepted}}{\text{Fraction of time any value is accepted}}$
- Fraction of time j is generated and accepted
 - = $P \{ j \text{ is generated} \} \cdot P \{ j \text{ is accepted given } j \text{ is generated} \}$
 - = $q_j \cdot \frac{p_j}{cq_j} = \frac{p_j}{c}$
- Fraction of time any value is accepted
 - = $\sum_j (\text{Fraction of time } j \text{ is generated and is accepted})$
 - = $\sum_j \frac{p_j}{c} = \frac{1}{c}$
- So,
$$P \{ P \text{ ends up being set to } j \} = \frac{\frac{p_j}{c}}{\frac{1}{c}} = p_j$$

Continuous Case

- We now use **.p.d.f.** rather than **.p.m.f.**

Given: We know how to generate Y with probability density function $f_Y(t)$.

Goal: To generate X with p.d.f. $f_X(t)$.

Requirement: For all t ,

$$f_Y(t) > 0 \iff f_X(t) > 0.$$

Accept-Reject Algorithm to generate continuous r.v. X :

1. Find continuous r.v. Y s.t. $f_Y(t) > 0 \iff f_X(t) > 0$. Let c be a constant such that

$$\frac{f_X(t)}{f_Y(t)} \leq c, \forall t \text{ s.t. } f_X(t) > 0.$$

2. Generate an instance t of Y .
3. With probability $\frac{f_X(t)}{c \cdot f_Y(t)}$, return $X = t$ (i.e. “accept t ” and stop). Else reject t and return to step 2.

Generating Normal Random Variable

Goal: Generate $N \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$.

Idea: It will be enough to generate $X = |N|$ and then multiply N by -1 with probability 0.5.

- So,

$$f_X(t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}, \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

- Let $Y \sim \text{Exp}(1)$

$$f_Y(t) = e^{-t}, \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

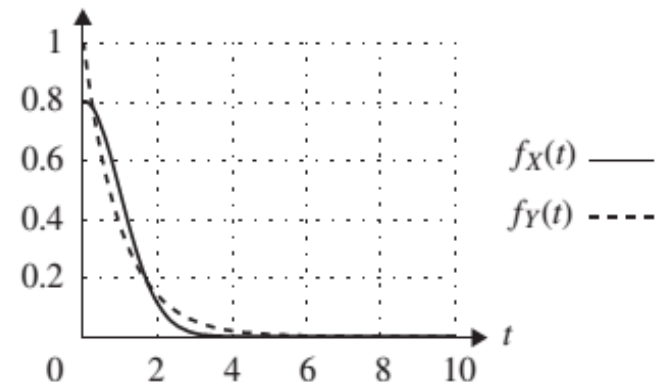


Figure 4.4. Solid line shows $f_X(t)$. Dashed line shows proposed $f_Y(t)$.

Determine c

$$\frac{f_X(t)}{f_Y(t)} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}+t} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} e^{t-\frac{t^2}{2}}$$

So, the maximum value occurs when $t - \frac{t^2}{2}$ is maximized.

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \left(t - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) = 1 - t \Rightarrow t = 1$$

So,

$$c = \frac{f_X(1)}{f_Y(1)} = \sqrt{\frac{2e}{\pi}} \approx 1.3.$$

Thus we only need 1.3 iterations on average!