

# Random Number Generation

- ✓ Properties of Random Numbers
- ✓ Pseudo-Random Numbers
- ✓ Generating Random Numbers
  - Linear Congruential Method



*“Every Cause has its Effect; every Effect has its Cause; everything happens according to Law; Chance is but a name for Law not recognized; there are many planes of causation, but nothing escapes the Law.”*

The Kybalion

- ✓ **Approach:** Arithmetically generation (calculation) of random numbers.
- ✓ **“Pseudo”**, because generating numbers using a known method renders it deterministic.

*... probably ... can not be justified, but should merely be judged by their results. Some statistical study of the digits generated by a given recipe should be made, but exhaustive tests are impractical. If the digits work well on one problem, they seem usually to be successful with others of the same type.*

*John von Neumann, 1951*

- ✓ **Goal:** To produce a sequence of numbers in  $[0,1]$  that simulates, or imitates, the ideal properties of random numbers (RN).

## Important properties of good random number routines:

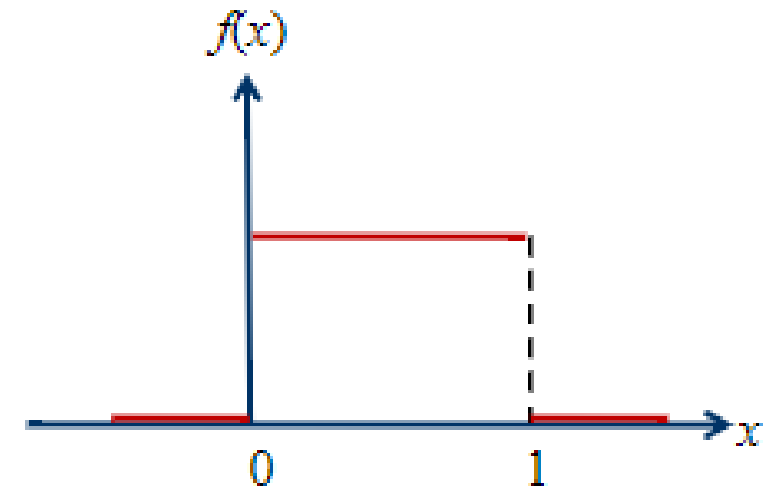
- ✓ Fast
- ✓ Portable to different computers
- ✓ Have sufficiently long cycle
- ✓ Replicable
  - Verification and debugging
  - Use identical stream of random numbers for different systems
- ✓ Closely approximate the ideal statistical properties of
  - Uniformity and
  - Independence



Random number  $R_i$  must be independently drawn from a uniform distribution with PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$E(R) = \int_0^1 x dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2}$$



PDF for random numbers

## Problems when generating pseudo-random numbers

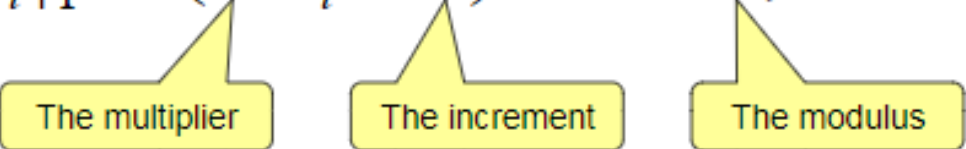
- ✓ The generated numbers might not be uniformly distributed
- ✓ The generated numbers might be discrete-valued instead of continuous-valued
- ✓ The mean of the generated numbers might be too high or too low
- ✓ The variance of the generated numbers might be too high or too low

## There might be dependence:

- ✓ Autocorrelation between numbers
- ✓ Numbers successively higher or lower than adjacent numbers
- ✓ Several numbers above the mean followed by several numbers below the mean



- ✓ To produce a sequence of integers  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  between 0 and  $m - 1$  by following a recursive relationship:

$$X_{i+1} = (aX_i + c) \bmod m, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$


The multiplier      The increment      The modulus

- ✓ Assumption:  $m > 0$  and  $a < m, c < m, X_0 < m$
- ✓ The selection of the values for  $a, c, m$  and  $X_0$  drastically affects the statistical properties and the cycle length
- ✓ The random integers  $X_i$  are being generated in  $[0, m - 1]$



✓ Convert the integers  $X_i$  to random numbers  $R_i = \frac{X_i}{m}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$

✓ Note  $X_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$   
 $R_i \in [0, (m-1)/m]$

## Example 1:

Use:  $X_0=27, a=17, c=43, m=100$

$$X_1 = (17 \times 27 + 43) \bmod 100 = 502 \bmod 100 = 2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_1 = 0.02$$

$$X_2 = (17 \times 2 + 43) \bmod 100 = 77 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_2 = 0.77$$

$$X_3 = (17 \times 77 + 43) \bmod 100 = 52 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_3 = 0.52$$

$$X_4 = (17 \times 52 + 43) \bmod 100 = 27 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_4 = 0.27$$

...

## Example 2:

Use:  $X_0=27$ ,  $a=13$ ,  $c=0$ ,  $m=64$

- ✓ The period of the generator is very low
- ✓ Seed  $X_0$  influences the sequence

The LCG has full period if and only if the following three conditions hold (Hull and Dobell, 1962):

1. The only positive integer that (exactly) divides both  $m$  and  $c$  is 1
2. If  $q$  is a prime number that divides  $m$ , then  $q$  divides  $a-1$
3. If 4 divides  $m$ , then 4 divides  $a-1$

| $i$ | $X_i$<br>$X_0=1$ | $X_i$<br>$X_0=2$ | $X_i$<br>$X_0=3$ | $X_i$<br>$X_0=4$ |
|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 0   | 1                | 2                | 3                | 4                |
| 1   | 13               | 26               | 39               | 52               |
| 2   | 41               | 18               | 59               | 36               |
| 3   | 21               | 42               | 63               | 20               |
| 4   | 17               | 34               | 51               | 4                |
| 5   | 29               | 58               | 23               |                  |
| 6   | 57               | 50               | 43               |                  |
| 7   | 37               | 10               | 47               |                  |
| 8   | 33               | 2                | 35               |                  |
| 9   | 45               |                  | 7                |                  |
| 10  | 9                |                  | 27               |                  |
| 11  | 53               |                  | 31               |                  |
| 12  | 49               |                  | 19               |                  |
| 13  | 61               |                  | 55               |                  |
| 14  | 25               |                  | 11               |                  |
| 15  | 5                |                  | 15               |                  |
| 16  | 1                |                  | 3                |                  |

## Proper choice of parameters

- ✓ For  $m$  a power 2,  $m=2^b$ , and  $c \neq 0$   
Longest possible period  $P=m=2^b$  is achieved  
if  $c$  is relative prime to  $m$  and  $a=1+4k$ , where  $k$  is an integer
- ✓ For  $m$  a power 2,  $m=2^b$ , and  $c=0$   
Longest possible period  $P=m/4=2^{b-2}$  is achieved  
if the seed  $X_0$  is odd and  $a=3+8k$  or  $a=5+8k$ , for  $k=0,1,\dots$
- ✓ For  $m$  a prime and  $c=0$   
Longest possible period  $P=m-1$  is achieved  
if the multiplier  $a$  has property that smallest integer  $k$  such  
that  $a^k-1$  is divisible by  $m$  is  $k=m-1$

- ✓ Linear Congruential Generators are a special case of generators defined by:

$$X_{i+1} = g(X_i, X_{i-1}, \dots) \bmod m$$

- ✓ where  $g()$  is a function of previous  $X_i$ 's

$$X_i \in [0, m-1], R_i = X_i/m$$

- ✓ Quadratic congruential generator

Defined by:  $g(X_i, X_{i-1}) = aX_i^2 + bX_{i-1} + c$

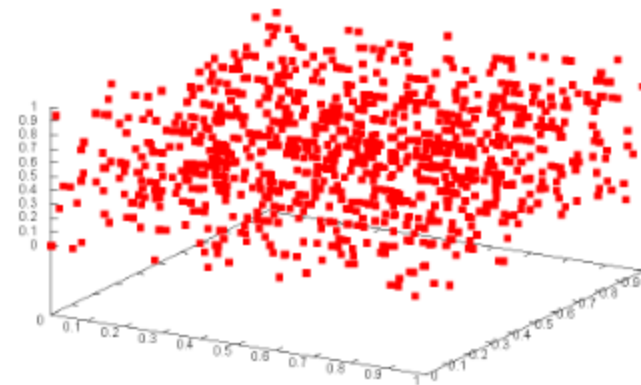
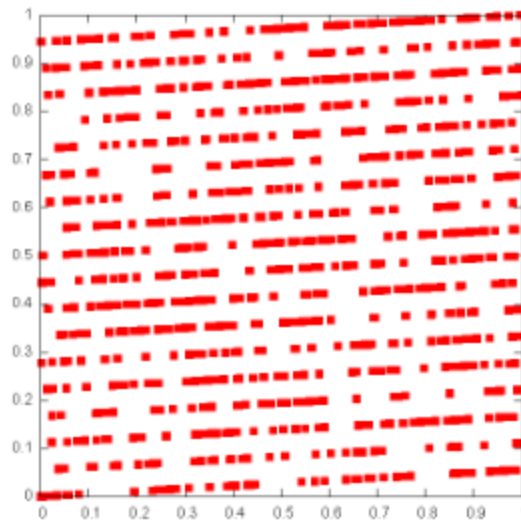
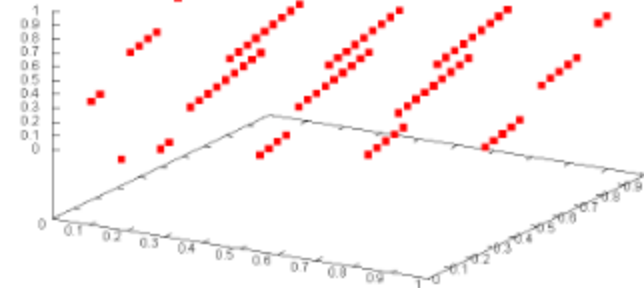
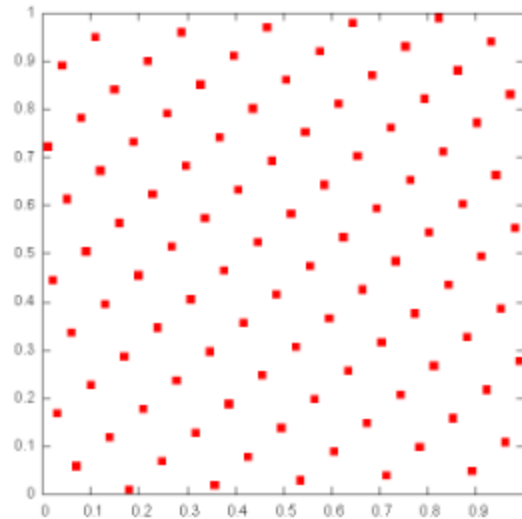
- ✓ Multiple recursive generators

Defined by:  $g(X_i, X_{i-1}, \dots) = a_1X_i + a_2X_{i-1} + \dots + a_kX_{i-k}$

- ✓ Fibonacci generator

Defined by:  $g(X_i, X_{i-1}) = X_i + X_{i-1}$

# Characteristics of a Good Generator



## # Exemplo 1 -Gerador Congruencial Linear

```
m <- 100;a <- 17;c <- 43;seed <- 27;n<-10
```

```
xn=seed
```

```
x=numeric(n)
```

```
for (i in 1:n){
```

```
  xn=(a*xn+c)%%m #resto da divisão
```

```
  x[i]=xn
```

```
}
```

```
x
```

**OBRIGADO!**