

1. A three component system as shown in Figure 1 consists of a top plate, a base plate, and a bolt that must fit through holes in the two plates simultaneously. The top plate is not free to move relative to the base plate. Since there is variation in the

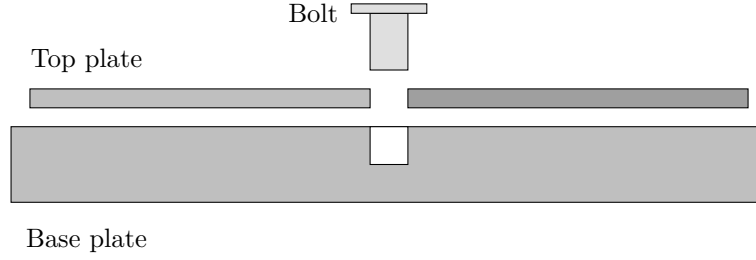


Figure 1: Three component system

diameters of the holes and bolt and in the true positions of the holes due to manufacturing and/or assembly tolerances, there will be some chance that the alignment will be off enough that the bolt will not fit through the two holes. Monte Carlo analysis can be used in this situation to determine the probability of an arbitrary set of components fitting together and evaluating the tolerance specifications on the individual components and the alignment process.

- If the radius of the hole in the top plate is  $r_p$ , the radius of the hole in the base plate is  $r_b$ , the bolt diameter is  $d$ , and the relative misalignment of the two holes is  $r$ , determine the geometric criterion that can be used to determine whether the bolt will or will not fit into the assembly. Consider the following two cases:  $r \geq |r_p - r_b|$  and  $r \leq |r_p - r_b|$ , as the “fitting” criterion is different for the two cases. Refer to Figure 2 for more details.

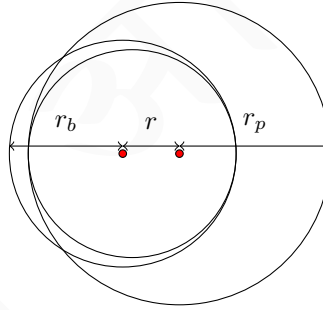


Figure 2: Fitting criterion

- Table 1 contains the nominal dimensions and  $3\sigma$  tolerance limits for the radii of the two holes, the diameter of the bolt, and the  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates of the two holes measured with respect to some reference point. It is assumed that all the dimensions and coordinates are normally distributed.

Table 1: Dimensions for the problem

Item	Nominal value in mm	Tolerance $3\sigma$ in mm
Bottom plate hole radius	25.25	$\pm 0.05$
Top plate hole radius	25.15	$\pm 0.05$
Bolt radius	24.95	$\pm 0.21$
Top plate hole $x$ -location	100	$\pm 0.2$
Top plate hole $y$ -location	100	$\pm 0.2$
Bottom plate hole $x$ -location	100	$\pm 0.2$
Bottom plate hole $y$ -location	100	$\pm 0.2$

- Write an Octave/Python script to simulate the outcomes of 1,000,000 trials. Determine the relative proportion of the outcomes in which the bolt will not fit into the assembly.

- Comment on whether or not the resultant probability is adequately low and how you would go about increasing/decreasing the odds of having defective parts. Note that maintaining very low probabilities of finding defective parts is not necessarily optimal as it implies very tight tolerances, and therefore, high manufacturing and assembly costs.

2. Consider a 4 state Markov Chain whose probability transition matrix is given below:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & p & 0 & 0 \\ p & 1-2p & p & 0 \\ 0 & p & 1-2p & p \\ 0 & 0 & p & 1-p \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $p = 1/3$ . Obtain the steady state distribution using simulation (count the fraction of times a state is visited by letting the Markov Chain evolve for  $N = 10^6$  time steps) and also by solving the appropriate set of equations.

3. Evaluate the integral

$$\int_0^1 \cos(2\pi\sqrt{1-x^2}) dx$$

by two different Monte Carlo techniques as indicated below. For both plot the convergence of the integrals as a function of  $N$  (similar to the plot we obtained in class). Check whether the scaling of the intervals goes down as  $1/\sqrt{N}$ .

- **Method 1:** Generate  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$  that are uniformly distributed on the interval  $[0, 1]$  and compute the integral as the sample mean of the function values at these points.
- **Method 2:** Note that the function ranges from  $-1$  to  $1$ . Dump points  $\{x_i, y_i\}_{i=1}^N$  on the unit square  $[0, 1]^2$  that are uniformly distributed and compute the integral by evaluating the fraction of points that lie below the function value.