

$$\theta = E[X]$$

Y

X, Y are not independent

① Control Variate  
(X, Y)

have to know the expectation  
of Y

$$W = X + c \cdot (Y - \mu_Y)$$

$$c = - \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\text{Var}(Y)}$$

typically estimated from simulations  
can estimate from data

(X, Y<sub>1</sub>, ..., Y<sub>d</sub>)

$$E[Y_i] = \mu_i$$

$$W = X + \sum_{j=1}^d c_j \cdot (Y_j - \mu_j)$$

if Y<sub>1</sub>, ..., Y<sub>d</sub> all independent

$$c_j = - \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y_j)}{\text{Var}(Y_j)}$$

$\Rightarrow$  if not independent

$$\text{Var}(W) = \text{Var}(X) - \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2}{\text{Var}(Y)}$$

② Conditioning

maybe  $E[Y]$

$E[X|Y]$

$$E[E[X|Y]] = E[X]$$

$Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  ↓

$$E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n E[X|Y_i]\right] = E[X]$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(E[X|Y]) + E[\text{Var}(X|Y)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(E[X|Y]) &= \text{Var}(X) \\ &\quad - E[\text{Var}(X|Y)] \\ &\leq \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X|Y) &= E[(X - E[X|Y])^2 | Y] \\ &= E[X^2 | Y] - E[X|Y]^2 \end{aligned}$$

→ if you can use  $Y$  both for conditioning and as a control variate, conditioning will give you a better reduction of variance, but can get a better reduction in variance by using both!

$$W = E[X|Y] + c \cdot (Y - \mu_Y)$$

$$c = - \frac{\text{Cov}(E[X|Y], Y)}{\text{Var}(Y)}$$

$E_X$  (control variates)  
single server queue

$X$  = total time in system  
for first  $N$  arrivals

### ③ Stratification (Stratified Sampling)

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$$\theta = E[X]$$

$Y$  is a discrete random  
with w/ support

$$y_1, \dots, y_k$$

$$P_i = P(Y = y_i) \quad \text{for } y_1, \dots, y_k$$

can sample

$$X | Y = y_i$$

$$X_1, \dots, X_n$$
$$V_{\text{er}}(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{n} V_{\text{er}}(X)$$

$\Rightarrow$  generate  $n \cdot P_i$  samples  
 $X | Y = y_i \quad i = 1, \dots, k$   
 $\uparrow$

$\bar{X}_i \Rightarrow$  sample mean of the samples

$$\hat{\mu} = \sum_{i=1}^k \bar{X}_i \cdot p_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[\hat{\mu}] &= \sum_{i=1}^k p_i \cdot E[X | Y=y_i] \\ &= E[E[X | Y]] = \\ &\quad E[X] \end{aligned}$$

$$Var(\bar{X}_i) = \frac{Var(X | Y=y_i)}{np_i}$$

$\uparrow np_i$  samples  $X | Y=y_i$

$$Var(\hat{\mu}) = Var\left(\sum_{i=1}^k p_i \bar{X}_i\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k p_i^2 Var(\bar{X}_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{P_i}{n P_i} \cdot \text{Var}(X | Y=y_i) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k P_i \text{Var}(X | Y=y_i)} \\
&= \frac{1}{n} E[\text{Var}(X | Y)]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}(X) &= E[\text{Var}(X | Y)] \\
&\quad + \text{Var}(E[X | Y])
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}(\bar{X}) &= \frac{1}{n} \text{Var}(X) \geq \frac{1}{n} E[\text{Var}(X | Y)] \\
&= \text{Var}(S)
\end{aligned}$$

Note: (1) auxiliary variable  
 discrete, but doesn't  
 have finite support

$N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$  finite support  
version

$$Y = N \quad \text{if } N < k$$

$$Y = k \quad \text{if } N \geq k$$

$$P(Y=i) \quad i=0, \dots, k-1$$
$$= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^i}{i!}$$

$$P(Y=k) = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^i}{i!}$$

$$X | N=i, \quad i=0, 1, \dots, k-1$$

$$\underbrace{X | N \geq k}$$

Ex single-server queue

$X$  = total time in system  
for arrivals before  $T$

$N$  = # of arrivals

generate samples

$$X | N = 0 \Rightarrow 0$$

$$X | N = 1$$

$$X | N = 2$$

$\vdots$

$$X | N = k-1$$

$$X | N \geq k$$



## Post stratification

$Y$  discrete, finite support,  
known pmf

$(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$

$\bar{X}_i$  = sample mean of  
all samples  $Y=y_i$

$$\hat{\mu} = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i \bar{X}_i$$

# Variance Reduction

Is there a  
auxiliary variable?

Yes

Do we know  
the distribution of

$Y$ ?

Yes

Can we sample from  $X|Y$

Yes

No

NO  
Is  $X = h(U_1, \dots, U_n)$   
with monotone?  
↓  
counter

NO  
DO WE KNOW YES  
→ condition

$E[X|Y]$

NO

DO WE KNOW  
THE  $E[Y]$

CONTROL

100 ↓  
stratification

-  
post

VARIATE