

3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510582097494459230781640628620899
8628034825342117067982148086513282306647093844609550582231725359408128481117450284
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0190914564856692346034861045432664821339360726024914127372458700660631558817488152
0920962829254091715364367892590360011330530548820466521384146951941511609433057270
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429555961989467678374494482553797747268471040475346462080466842590694912...





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Algorithms for decision support

Random number generators

Stochastic variables occur in simulation at different places:

1. Input data are modeled as stochastic variables
 - E.g time until arrival of next customer
2. Generate random variables
 - When you schedule a new Arrival event you have to generate a random number for the time delay
3. Analysis of results

This lecture



Random number generators

1. Generate numbers $U(0,1)$
2. Use $U(0,1)$ to generate other distributions



Desirable properties?

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Desirable properties

- Numbers seems uniformly divided on $[0;1]$
- Numbers independent
- Sequence can repeat itself, but after a long while only
- Reproducible
- Separate streams
- Efficient (time and memory)

In **simulation** we use pseudo-random generators:

$$Z_i = f(Z_0, Z_1, \dots, Z_{i-1})$$

Results should be reproducible.



Midsquare method

- Z_0 4 digits (the number is $0.Z_0$)
- Z_0^2 8 digits
- Z_1 middle 4 digits of Z_0^2
- Etc.....

- Examples:
 - 1234, 01522756, 27321529
 - 1049, 1004, 0080, 0064, 0040, 0016, 0002, 0000....
 - 2100, 4100, 8100, 6100, 2100

- Disadvantages:
 - Can converge to zero
 - Repeats quickly



Linear congruential generators

- $Z_i = (a Z_{i-1} + c) \text{ MOD } m$
- $U_i = Z_i / m$

a = multiplier

c = increment

m = modulus

If $c > 0$: mixed generator

If $c = 0$: multiplicative generator

Applied in Java



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Linear congruential generators

■ $Z_i = (Z_{i-1} + 5) \bmod 13$

■ 1,6,11,3,8,0,5,10,2,7,12,4,9,1,6

■ Period 13

■ $Z_i = (2Z_{i-1} + 5) \bmod 13$

■ 8,8,8, ...

■ 1,7,6,4,0,5,2,9,10,12,3,11,1, ...

■ Period 12 or 1



Prime Modulus Multiplicative Linear Congruential Generator

- $c=0, m = p$ prime
- $Z_i = (a^i Z_0) \text{ MOD } p$
- Fermat's little theorem:
 - p prime, $1 \leq a < p$ then
$$a^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p}$$
- Let a be a primitive element in \mathbb{F}_p
$$a^i = 1 \pmod{p} \Leftrightarrow i = k(p - 1) \text{ with } k \text{ integer}$$
- Then period $p-1$
- Example $p=7, a=3$ primitive element, $a=2$ not primitive



Prime Modulus Multiplicative Linear Congruential Generator: Mersenne pimes

- Frequently used example $m = 2^{31} - 1$
(is one of the Mersenne primes, i.e. primes of the form $2^q - 1$)



Subtractive generator

■ $Z_n = Z_{n-55} - Z_{n-24} \bmod 10^9$

■ Seeds computed by:

- Selection of s_0 from $0, 1, 2, \dots, 10^9 - 1$
- $s_n = s_{n-2} - s_{n-1} \bmod 10^9$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots, 54$ ($s_{-1} = 0$)
- *Reordering of these values*
- Compute the next 165 values s_{55} to s_{219} . Store the last 55 values to start the sequences Z

■ Applied in C#

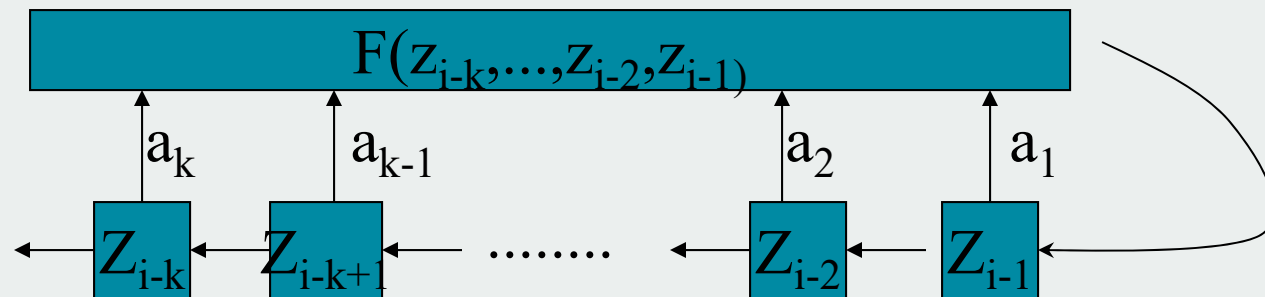


Tausworthe generator (linear feedback shift register)

- Generates bit sequences

$$z_i = (a_1 z_{i-1} + a_2 z_{i-2} + \dots + a_k z_{i-k}) \bmod 2$$

$$u_n = \sum_{j=1}^k z_{(n-1)k+j} 2^{-j}$$



Tausworthe generator (shift register)

■ Example

$$Z_i = (Z_{i-3} + Z_{i-4}) \bmod 2$$

1101 0111 1000 1001101...

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{13}{16}$$

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{7}{16}$$



Tausworthe generator (shift register)

- Side note: shift register and pseudo-random bit sequences are important for cryptography

Cryptographic RNGs that e.g. use current computer time are not useful for simulation



Mersenne Twister MT 19937

- Designed for simulation
- Twisted generalized feedback shift register
- Period is Mersenne prime $2^p - 1$
- Generates uniform distribution on $[0, 2^k - 1]$
- $k=32$ version has period $2^{19937} - 1$
- Fast
- Passes statistical tests
- Default in R, Matlab, Python, Ruby, PHP



Newer developments

- WELL family of generators
 - Developed in 2006
 - Well Equidistributional Long-period Linear
 - based on linear recurrences modulo 2 over a finite binary field F_2

- Xorshift
 - Based on linear feedback shift registers
 - Includes taking the exclusive or of a number with a bit-shifted version of itself

- **New developments are going on.**



Inverse transform (continuous)

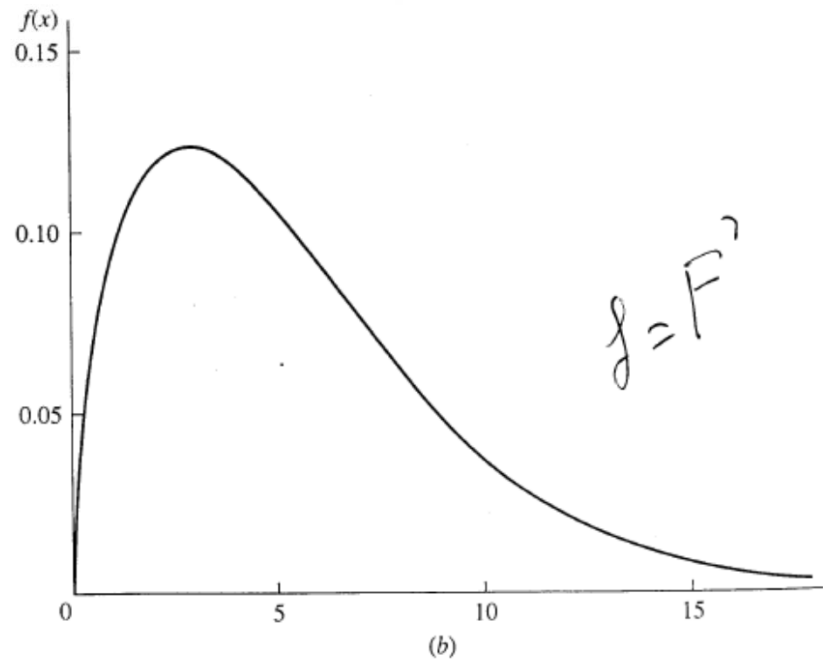
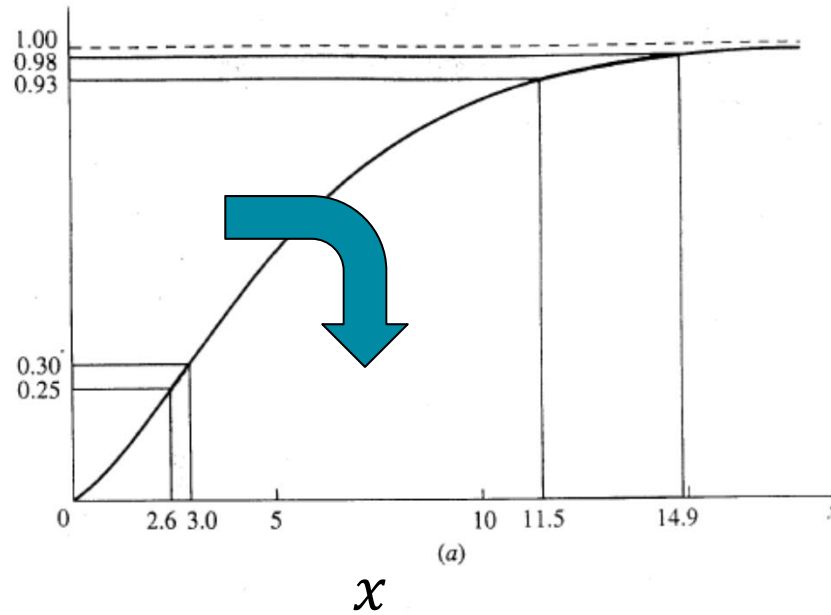
1. Generate u from $U[0,1]$
2. Return $x = F^{-1}(u)$

Here F is the probability distribution that you want to generate numbers from

$$P(X \leq x) = P(F^{-1}(u) \leq x) = P(u \leq F(x)) = F(x)$$



$u \in U[0; 1]$



CDF: F

PDF: f

FIGURE 8.2

(a) Intervals for U and X , inverse transform for Weibull(1.5, 6) distribution;
(b) density for Weibull(1.5, 6) distribution.

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Inverse transform: exponential distribution

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

1. Generate u from $U[0,1]$
2. Return

$$x = F^{-1}(u) = -\beta \ln(1 - u)$$



Inverse transform (discrete)

1. Generate u from $U[0,1]$
2. Choose smallest i such that $u \leq F(x_i)$,
where $x_1 < x_2 < \dots$ are the possible realizations
of the distribution
3. Return $x=x_i$



Example

- Numbers of prints after which ink refill is required
 - 1998: 10%
 - 1999: 20%
 - 2000: 40%
 - 2001: 20%
 - 2002: 10%
- How to generate from $U[0,1]$ with discrete inverse transform?



Composition

$$F(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j F_j(x)$$

1. Generate integer J such that $P(J = j) = p_j$
2. Generate X with distribution F_J

Exercise:



Composition: exercise

- For flight delays we know the following distribution:
 - 10% is too early, earlines follows a uniform distribution on $[0,20]$ minutes
 - 90% is too late, delay follows an exponential distribution with average 20 minutes
- How to generate random delays without any software library?



Convolution

1. Generate Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_m each with distribution G
2. Return $X = Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_m$

Example: k-Erlang



Wrap up

- After this lecture you know the basic algorithms of random number generation
- You are able to answer questions of the type given on slide 24.

