

enslIE. Simulation methods

Abass SAGNA,
`abass.sagna@ensiie.fr`

Maître de Conférences à l'enslIE,
Laboratoire de Mathématiques et Modélisation d'Evry
Université d'Evry Val-d'Essonne, UMR CNRS 8071

<http://www.math-evry.cnrs.fr/members/asagna/>

January 6, 2026

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Some situations where there is no analytical formula for $\mathbb{E}(h(X))$, where X is a random vector (or stochastic process) defined on \mathbb{R}^d and $h : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{R}$.

Examples:

- ① $h(x) = \cos(x^2)\mathbb{1}_{[0,2\pi]}(x)$ and $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.
- ② Let $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be a Markov process, $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $\tau = \inf\{k \geq 0, X_k \notin A\}$. Let $m \leq n$ and $\mathcal{F}_m = \sigma(X_0, \dots, X_m)$. Compute

$$\mathbb{E}(h(X_0, \dots, X_n)\mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > n\}}|\mathcal{F}_m^X) \text{ or } \mathbb{E}(h(X_0, \dots, X_n)\mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < n\}}|\mathcal{F}_m^X), \quad (1)$$

where h and $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$ can be defined as follows:

- ① h may be equal to 1: compute for example $\mathbb{P}(\{\tau > n\}|\mathcal{F}_m^X)$
- ② $h(x_0, \dots, x_n) = \min_{i=0, \dots, n} \text{dist}(x_i, A)$,
- ③ $h(x_0, \dots, x_n) = \text{dist}(x_n, A)$,
- ④ $(X_{k \wedge n})_{k \geq 0}$ may evolve as $X_0 = x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and for every $k \geq 0$,

$$X_{k+1} = X_k + \mu(X_k)/n + \sqrt{1/n} \sigma(X_k) Y_{k+1}$$

where $\mu : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$, $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{d \times q}$ and $Y_k \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0; I_q)$.

- 1 The set A may be equal to the circle of center x_0 and radius $\gamma > 0$:

$$A = \mathcal{C}(\gamma) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \text{dist}(x, x_0) \leq \gamma\}.$$

- 2 In the case $d = 2$, we may choose $X \equiv (X, Y)$:

$$\begin{cases} X_{t_{k+1}} = X_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_1) + \sigma_1 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} \right) \\ Y_{t_{k+1}} = Y_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_2) + \rho \sigma_2 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} + \sigma_2 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \sqrt{\Delta} \tilde{Z}_{k+1} \right) \end{cases}$$

where $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathbb{R}$, $\Delta = 1/n$, $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 > 0$, $\rho \in (-1, 1)$; Z and \tilde{Z} are independent with $Z_k \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0; 1)$ and $\tilde{Z}_k \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0; 1)$.

- 3 Other example: for $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)' \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mu(x)$ and $\sigma(x)$ may be chosen as

$$\mu(x) = \mu \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma(x) = \sigma \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & x_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & x_d \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$, $\sigma > 0$.

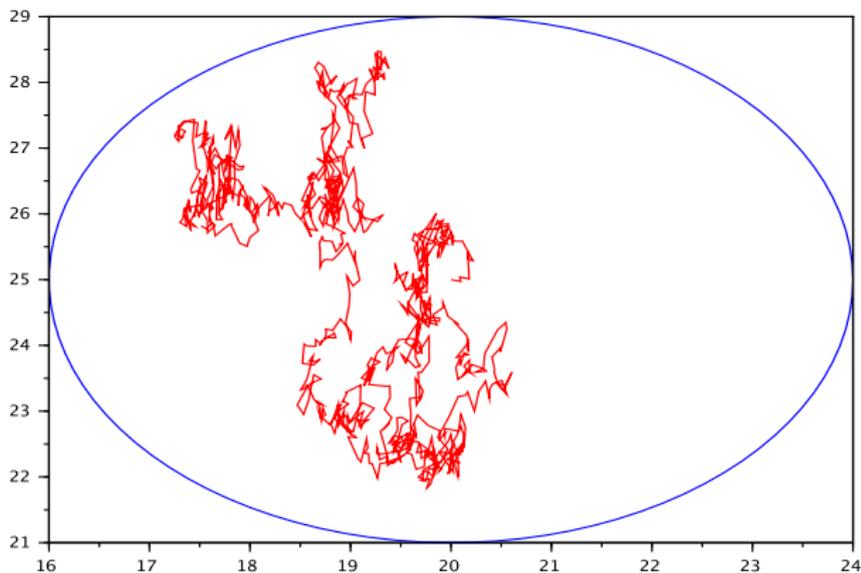


Figure:
$$\begin{cases} X_{t_{k+1}} = X_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_1) + \sigma_1 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} \right) \\ Y_{t_{k+1}} = Y_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_2) + \rho \sigma_2 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} + \sigma_2 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \sqrt{\Delta} \tilde{Z}_{k+1} \right) \end{cases}$$
 where $\gamma = 4$, $[x_0, y_0] = [20, 25]$, $[\mu_1, \mu_2] = [0.01, -0.05]$, $[\sigma_1, \sigma_2] = [0.09, 0.2]$, $\rho = 0.1$, $n = 1000$.

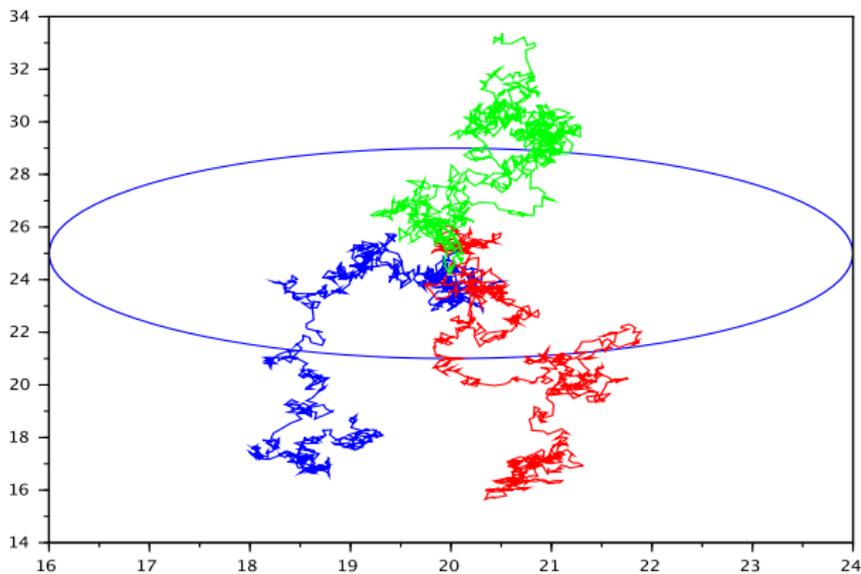


Figure:
$$\begin{cases} X_{t_{k+1}} = X_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_1) + \sigma_1 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} \right) \\ Y_{t_{k+1}} = Y_{t_k} \left((1 + \Delta\mu_2) + \rho \sigma_2 \sqrt{\Delta} Z_{k+1} + \sigma_2 \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \sqrt{\Delta} \tilde{Z}_{k+1} \right) \end{cases}$$
 where $\gamma = 4$, $[x_0, y_0] = [20, 25]$, $[\mu_1, \mu_2] = [0.01, -0.05]$, $[\sigma_1, \sigma_2] = [0.09, 0.2]$, $\rho = 0.1$, $n = 1000$.

In these previous examples, we have to approximate the quantities of interest: $\mathbb{E}(h(X))$, $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$ in general. We may use several methods as

- 1 deterministic methods like rectangular rule, trapezoidal rule, Simpson's rule (which depend on the dimension of the vector X),
- 2 or use probabilistic approximation method like the Monte Carlo simulation method.
- 3 The main advantage of the Monte Carlo method is that
 - 1 it is easy to implement as soon as we may *generate a sample* from X : it is approximated by $(h(X_1) + \dots + h(X_N))/N$ where (X_1, \dots, X_N) is a sample of X of size N
 - 2 it does not depend on the dimension d of X

Our aim is now to say how to generate samples from X in several situations. We will first recall some usual distributions

Plan

1 Introduction

- Aim of the course
- Recall of some usual random variables

2 Inversion method

- Examples of discrete r.v.
- Examples of continuous r.v.

3 Rejection method

- The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
- The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution

4 Transformation method

- The Gamma distribution
- The Gaussian vector

5 Mixed density

6 References

Recall of some r.v.

▷ **Bernoulli distribution**. It models a random experiment with two outcomes: **success** with probability p , **failure** with probability $q = 1 - p$. If $X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$ then

$$\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p; \quad \mathbb{P}(X = 0) = 1 - p,$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = p, \quad \text{Var}(X) = p(1 - p).$$

Loi binomiale with parameters n and p . It is the distribution of the success numbers from a sample of n independent Bernoulli experiment with parameter p . If $X \sim B(n, p)$ then

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = C_n^k p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n.$$

We may write $X \sim B(n, p)$ as $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ with $X_i \sim \text{Bern}(p)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ so that

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = np, \quad \text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p).$$

Poisson distribution

Poisson distribution. $X \sim \text{Poiss}(\lambda)$ if its distribution reads

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

We have

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \lambda, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda.$$

Geometric random variable. A random variable $X \sim \mathcal{G}(p)$ if its distribution reads

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = (1 - p)^{k-1} p, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

and we have

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \frac{1}{p} \quad \text{et} \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1 - p}{p^2}.$$

Recall of some r.v.

Uniform distribution on $]a, b[$, $a < b$. It models a r.v. which behaves uniformly on. If $X \sim U(]a, b[)$ then, its density reads

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \mathbf{1}_{]a, b[}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if } x \in]a, b[\\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $X \sim U([a, b])$ then $\mathbb{E}(X) = (a + b)/2$, $\text{Var}(X) = (b - a)^2/12$.

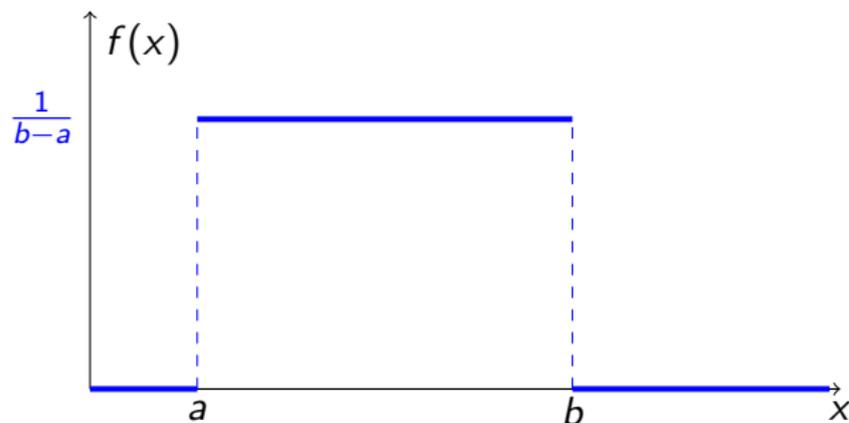
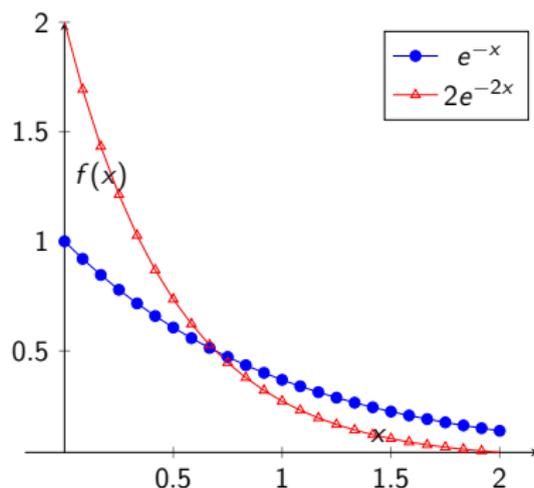


Figure: Density of an uniform distribution on $]a, b[$.

Exponential distribution. It describes phenomena like waiting times, lifetime, etc. If $1/\lambda$, $\lambda > 0$ is the expected lifetime (or the expected waiting time) then, the density of X is defined as

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \mathbf{1}_{\{x \geq 0\}} = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If $X \sim \mathcal{E}(\lambda)$, we have $\mathbb{E}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$, $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$.



Gaussian distribution. (Laplace-Gauss or Normal distribution) One of the more used in applied probability. A r.v. X is Gaussian with expected value $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and variance $\sigma^2 > 0$: $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, if its density reads

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2}}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

It is said standard if $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$. If $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$,

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \mu, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2.$$

Proposition. If $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \quad (2)$$

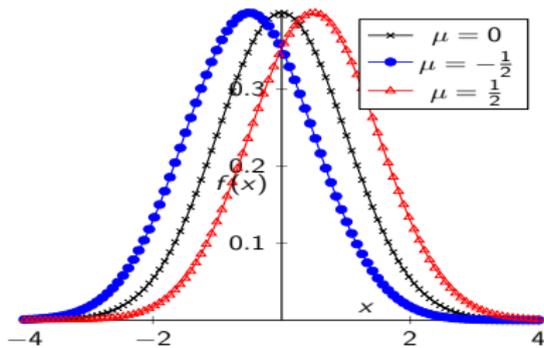
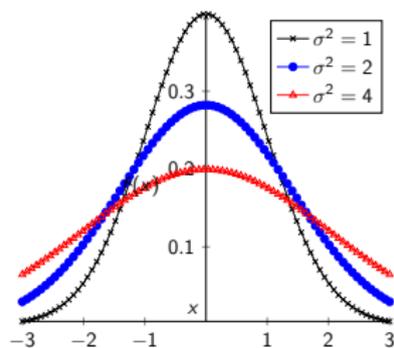


Figure: Density of a $\mathcal{N}(\mu; \sigma^2)$. Figure 1: $\mu = 0$; Figure 2: $\sigma = 1$.

Other usual distributions

Gamma distribution. A r.v. X has a Gamma distribution with parameters $a > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$: $X \sim \Gamma(a, \lambda)$, if its density reads

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^a}{\Gamma(a)} x^{a-1} e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is the Gamma function defined for any $a > 0$, by

$$\Gamma(a) = \int_0^{+\infty} x^{a-1} e^{-x} dx.$$

If $X \sim \Gamma(a, \lambda)$ then

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = a/\lambda \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}(X) = a/\lambda^2.$$

The exponential distribution is a particular case of a Gamma distribution:

$$X \sim \mathcal{E}(\lambda) \iff X \sim \Gamma(1, \lambda).$$

Beta distribution. A r.v. X has a Beta distribution with parameters $a, b > 0$: $X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ if its density reads

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{B(a,b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1} & \text{if } x \in]0, 1[\\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $B(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the Beta function defined as

$$B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}.$$

If $X \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ then,

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \frac{a}{a+b} \quad \text{et} \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}.$$

Other usual distributions

Chi-square distribution with n degrees of freedom. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be n independent $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ -distributed r.v. Then

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$$

has a Chi-square distribution with n degrees of freedom: $X \sim \chi^2(n)$ or $X \sim \chi_n^2$.

The Student with n degrees of freedom. Let $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and $U \sim \chi^2(n)$ be two independent r.v. Then

$$T = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{U/n}}$$

has the Student with n degrees of freedom: $X \sim T(n)$.

↪ The term

Generating a random number x from a r.v. X or

Simulating a realization x of X or

Sampling a random number x from X

consists on mimicking the r.v. in order to generate one possible value (or observation) $X(\omega) = x$ from X .

↪ *Example*. Let X be a Bernoulli random variable with success parameter p : $\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p$, $\mathbb{P}(X = 0) = 1 - p$.

- 1 When we sample a random number x from X , $x = 1$ or $x = 0$.
- 2 When the sample is of size N : $X_1(\omega) = x_1, \dots, X_N(\omega) := x_N$ are iid with $X_i \stackrel{d}{=} X$, it must be in line with the theoretical results as the Law of Large Numbers: $\bar{X}_N := \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N} \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow +\infty]{} \mathbb{E}(X) = p$, a.s.

↪ There are many simulation techniques: the inversion method, the rejection method, the transformation method, etc ...

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Compute the c.d.f F and its generalized inverse F^{-1} defined as

$$F^{-1}(u) := \inf\{x \in \mathbb{R} : F(x) \geq u\}, \quad \forall u \in]0, 1[,$$

for

- 1 the bernoulli distribution with success parameter p ,
- 2 for a random variable X taking the values in $\{-3, 1, 2\}$ with $\mathbb{P}(X = -3) = 1/6$, $\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = 1/2$, $\mathbb{P}(X = 2) = 1/3$.
- 3 for a random variable taking values in $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ with associated probabilities $\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$.
- 4 for a random variable taking values in $\{x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots\}$ with associated probabilities $\{p_1, \dots, p_n, \dots\}$.
- 5 for a random variable X with density (the exponential distribution with parameters λ)

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

Proposition. Let U be a r.v., uniformly distributed on $]0, 1[$ and let X be a r.v. with cumulative distribution function (cdf) F and (generalized) inverse function F^{-1} :

$$F^{-1}(u) := \inf\{x \in \mathbb{R} : F(x) \geq u\}, \quad \forall u \in]0, 1[.$$

Then X and $F^{-1}(U)$ have the same distribution: $X \stackrel{d}{=} F^{-1}(U)$.

Proof. We need to prove that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = \mathbb{P}(F^{-1}(U) \leq x)$. We have

$$\forall u \in]0, 1[, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad F^{-1}(u) \leq x \iff u \leq F(x).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(F^{-1}(U) \leq x) &= \mathbb{P}(U \leq F(x)) \quad (F \text{ in nondecreasing}) \\ &= F(x) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that the cdf of $F^{-1}(U)$ and X are the same.

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - **Examples of discrete r.v.**
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

The inversion method: discrete r.v.

Let X be a discrete r.v. taking values in $E = \{x_0, \dots, x_n, \dots\}$, with cdf F . Suppose that the x_k are ordered in a nondecreasing order and denote, $\forall k \geq 0$, $p_k = \mathbb{P}(X = x_k)$ and $c_k = p_0 + \dots + p_k$. Then, for all $u \in]0, 1[$,

$$F^{-1}(u) = x_0 \mathbb{1}_{\{u \leq c_0\}} + \sum_{k \geq 1} x_k \mathbb{1}_{\{c_{k-1} < u \leq c_k\}}.$$

\rightsquigarrow *When the cardinality N of E is finite*. We stock the values x_k on a table x and those of c_k on a table c . To generate a sample $X(\omega)$ of X we use the following algorithm (rand generate a r.n. from $U \sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$):

```
k ← 0; u ← rand
while (u > c[k]) and (k < N)
k ← k + 1
end
X(ω) ← x[k]
```

The inversion method: example of discrete r.v.

↪ *Bernoulli distribution*. Let X be Bernoulli r.v. with success probability $p \in [0, 1]$: $\mathbb{P}(X = 0) = 1 - p$ and $\mathbb{P}(X = 1) = p$. In this case,

$$F^{-1}(u) = 0 \times \mathbb{1}_{\{u < 1-p\}} + 1 \times \mathbb{1}_{\{1-p \leq u\}} = \mathbb{1}_{\{1-p \leq u\}}.$$

We generate a random number (r.n.) $X(\omega) = x$ from X using the following algorithm:

```
u ← rand
if (u < 1 - p) x ← 0
else x ← 1
```

↪ *Poisson distribution*. Let X be a r.v. having a Poisson distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$, defined as:

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

We remark that

$$p_k = \frac{\lambda}{k} p_{k-1}, \quad \forall k \geq 1.$$

The inversion method: example of discrete r.v.

↪ To generate a r.n. from X , we first stock the values of the cdf $F(n)$, $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$, where N is chosen such that $F[N]$ is high (for example $F[N] = 0.999$)

↪ Then, we use the following algorithm ($pN \equiv p_N = \mathbb{P}(X = N)$):

```
u ← rand
if (u ≤ F[N])
  then
    k ← 0
    while (u > F[k]) do
      k ← k + 1
    end
  else
    k ← N, p ← pN, F ← F[N]
    while (u > F) do
      k ← k + 1, p ← λ * p/k, F ← F + p
    end
  end
end
```

Exercise. 1. Give a program with the following entries

- a vector $x = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$ of values taken by a random variable X
- a vector $p = [p_1, \dots, p_n]$ of the associated probabilities

and with output a random number generated from X .

We set

$$n = 3, \quad x = [1, 2, 3], \quad p = [1/2, 1/3, 1/6].$$

2. Generate a sample X_1, \dots, X_N of size $N = 10$ of X .

3. Generate a sample X_1, \dots, X_N of size $N = 10000$ of X and compare, for $i = 1, 2, 3$, the empirical frequency

$$f_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \mathbb{1}_{\{X_k = x_i\}}$$

and compare it with p_i .

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - **Examples of continuous r.v.**
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

The inversion method: example of continuous r.v.

↪ *The exponential distribution*. If X has an exponential distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$, with density

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \mathbb{1}_{]0, +\infty[}(x),$$

so that its cdf reads

$$F(x) = (1 - e^{-\lambda x}) \mathbb{1}_{]0, +\infty[}(x),$$

then, for any $u \in]0, 1[$, $F^{-1}(u) = -\frac{\ln(1-u)}{\lambda}$, so that if $U \sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, then,

$$F^{-1}(U) = -\frac{\ln(1-U)}{\lambda} \stackrel{d}{=} -\frac{\ln(U)}{\lambda} \quad (\text{since } 1-U \stackrel{d}{=} U).$$

↪ *The Weibull distribution*. Let X be a Weibull distribution with parameters (λ, a) , with density

$$f(x) = \lambda a x^{a-1} e^{-\lambda x^a}, \quad \lambda, a > 0.$$

The inversion method: example of continuous r.v.

Its cdf reads

$$F(x) = (1 - e^{-\lambda x^a}) \mathbb{1}_{]0, +\infty[}(x).$$

It follows that for any $u \in]0, 1[$, $F^{-1}(u) = (-\ln(1 - u)/\lambda)^{1/a}$, so that if $U \sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, then,

$$F^{-1}(U) = (-\ln(1 - U)/\lambda)^{1/a} \stackrel{d}{=} (-\ln(U)/\lambda)^{1/a}.$$

↪ As a consequence, if we want to generate a random number from an exponential distribution or a Weibull distribution we just have

- to generate a r.n. $u = U(\omega)$ from a uniform distribution $U \sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, and
- compute the inverse $F^{-1}(u)$ with respect to the associated distribution.

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - **The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d**
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

R.n. from $U \sim \mathcal{U}(S)$

\rightsquigarrow Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ with $a < b$; $S =]a, b[$ and let $U \sim \mathcal{U}(S)$. Compute $\mathbb{P}(U \in A)$, for any $A \subset S$.

\rightsquigarrow Let S be Borel set on \mathbb{R}^d and let $U \sim \mathcal{U}(S)$ with density (w.r.t. the Lebesgues measure λ_d): $f(x) = (1/\lambda_d(S)) \mathbb{1}_S(x) \lambda_d(dx)$. For any Borel set $A \subset S$,

$$\mathbb{P}(U \in A) = \int_A \frac{1}{\lambda_d(S)} \lambda_d(dx) = \frac{\lambda_d(A)}{\lambda_d(S)} = \frac{|A|}{|S|}.$$

If $d = 2$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(U \in A) = \frac{\text{area}(A)}{\text{area}(S)}, \quad A \subset S.$$

Proposition. Let $(U_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be sequence of iid r.v. with $U_1 \sim \mathcal{U}(S)$. Let $A \subset S$ and $\tau = \inf\{n \geq 1, U_n \in A\}$. Then $U_\tau \sim \mathcal{U}(A)$.

Proof. We have for any $B \subset A$,

$$\mathbb{P}(U_\tau \in B) = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \mathbb{P}(U_k \in B; \tau = k)$$

Now, it follows from the independence of the U_k 's that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(U_k \in B; \tau = k) &= \mathbb{P}(\{U_k \in B\} \cap \{U_1 \notin A\} \cap \dots \cap \{U_{k-1} \notin A\} \cap \{U_k \in A\}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\{U_k \in B\} \cap \{U_k \in A\}) \times \mathbb{P}(\{U_1 \notin A\})^{k-1} \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\{U_k \in B\}) \times \mathbb{P}(\{U_1 \notin A\})^{k-1} \quad \text{since } B \subset A. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\mathbb{P}(\{U_k \in B\}) = \frac{|B|}{|S|} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(\{U_1 \notin A\}) = 1 - \frac{|A|}{|S|}$$

we deduce that for any Borel set $B \subset A$,

$$\mathbb{P}(U_\tau \in B) = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 - \frac{|A|}{|S|}\right)^{k-1} \frac{|B|}{|S|} = \frac{|B|}{|A|}.$$

As a consequence

$$U_\tau \sim \mathcal{U}(A).$$

Example. Random numbers uniformly distributed on the unit sphere. Let X be an uniform distribution on the unit sphere $A = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3, x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1\}$ and let S be the cube $] -1, +1[^3$ on \mathbb{R}^3 .

- We have $A \subset S$.
- If $U_1, U_2, U_3 \sim \mathcal{U}(] -1, 1[)$, are independent then, $(U_1, U_2, U_3) \sim \mathcal{U}(S)$.
- To sample a r.n. from $\mathcal{U}(A)$ we use the algorithm:

```
do u1 ← 2*rand -1
   u2 ← 2*rand -1
   u3 ← 2*rand -1
while (u1*u1 + u2*u2 + u3*u3 > 1)
end
U1 ← u1, U2 ← u2 and U3 ← u3
```

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - **The general rejection method**
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

General rejection method

Let f and g be explicit probability densities in \mathbb{R}^d , $c \geq 1$, and suppose that

- we can simulate a r.n. from the density g but not from f .
- $f(x) \leq c g(x)$, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Example. Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0; 1)$.

- $|X|$ has density $f(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \mathbb{1}_{\{x>0\}}$,
- $\forall x > 0$, $f(x) \leq c g(x)$, with $c = \sqrt{(2e/\pi)}$ and $g(x) = e^{-x}$,
- if $\Theta \in \{-1, +1\}$ with $\mathbb{P}(\Theta = +1) = \mathbb{P}(\Theta = -1) = 1/2$ then $\Theta|X| \sim \mathcal{N}(0; 1)$.
- This is used to sample from a standard normal distribution.

The following algorithm generates a r.v. X with density f :

1. generate a r.n x from the density g and a r.n u from $U \sim \mathcal{U}(]0,1[)$
2. if $c \times u \times g(x) \leq f(x)$, go to 3., otherwise go to 1.
3. return $X(\omega) = x$.

This previous procedure follows from the result below.

Proposition. Let f and g be two densities and let $c \geq 1$ be so that $f \leq cg$. Let $(X_k)_{k \geq 1}$ be an iid sequence of r.v. with density g and let $(U_k)_{k \geq 1}$ be an iid sequence with distribution $\sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, independent from X_1 . Then, the r.v. X_τ where

$$\tau = \inf\{k \geq 1, c U_k g(X_k) \leq f(X_k)\}$$

has density f and τ has a geometric distribution with success parameter $1/c$.

Proof. We have for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_\tau \leq x) = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \mathbb{P}(X_k \leq x; \tau = k)$$

General rejection method

↪ Now, we have (letting $h(x) = f(x)/(cg(x))$)

$$\mathbb{P}(X_k \leq x; \tau = k) = \mathbb{P}(X_k \leq x; U_k \leq h(X_k)) \times (\mathbb{P}(U_1 > h(X_1)))^{k-1}$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}(U_1 > h(X_1)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(t) dt \int_{h(t)}^1 du = 1 - 1/c.$$

↪ On the other hand,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_k \leq x; U_k \leq h(X_k)) = \int_{-\infty}^x g(t) dt \int_0^{h(t)} du = \int_{-\infty}^x g(t) h(t) dt = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt.$$

It follows that

$$\mathbb{P}(X_\tau \leq x) = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{c}\right)^{k-1} = \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt,$$

so that Z has density f .

General rejection method examples

↪ *The Gamma distribution.* Let $\lambda, a > 0$ and let X be a r.v. with Gamma distribution $\Gamma(\lambda, a)$, with pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda^a}{\Gamma(a)} x^{a-1} e^{-\lambda x} \quad \text{where} \quad \Gamma(a) = \int_0^{+\infty} x^{a-1} e^{-x} dx.$$

We want to generate a r.n. from the distribution of $X \sim \Gamma(\lambda, a)$. First note that if $Z \sim \Gamma(1, a)$, then $X = Z/\lambda \sim \Gamma(\lambda, a)$, so that it is enough to say how to simulate a r.n. from Z .

- When $a = n$ is an integer number then $Z \stackrel{d}{=} E_1 + \dots + E_n$, where the E_k 's are iid exponentially distributed r.v. with param. 1: $E_k \sim \mathcal{E}(1)$.
- If $a \in]0, 1[$ (and $\lambda = 1$), we have $f(x) \leq cg(x)$, where

$$c = \frac{e+a}{ae\Gamma(a)} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{ae}{e+a} [x^{a-1} \mathbb{1}_{]0,1[}(x) + e^{-x} \mathbb{1}_{[1,+\infty[}(x)].$$

We can apply the rejection algorithm to generate a r.n. from Z .

In fact, if X has pdf g its inverse function reads for every $u \in]0, 1[$,

$$G^{-1}(u) = \left(\frac{e+a}{e}u\right)^{\frac{1}{a}} \mathbb{1}_{]0, \frac{e}{e+a}[}(u) - \ln\left(\left(1-u\right)\frac{e+a}{ae}\right) \mathbb{1}_{\frac{e}{e+a}, 1[}(u).$$

and $h(x) = f(x)/(cg(x))$ reads

$$h(x) = e^{-x} \mathbb{1}_{]0, 1[}(x) + x^{a-1} \mathbb{1}_{[1, +\infty[}.$$

Then, to generate a r.n. from $Z \sim \Gamma(1, a)$, $a \in]0, 1[$,

1. we generate a r.n. V from $\mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, we compute $X = G^{-1}(V)$ and generate another r.n. U from $\mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, independent from V .
2. If $U \leq h(X)$, we set $Z = X$, otherwise, return to step 1.

General rejection method examples

↪ *The Beta distribution*. The Beta distribution with parameters $a, b > 0$ has pdf

$$f(x) = B(a, b)x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-1}\mathbb{1}_{]0,1[}(x) \quad \text{with} \quad B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}.$$

For $a, b > 1$, we have

$$f(x) \leq cg(x) \quad \text{where} \quad c = \left(\frac{a-1}{a+b-2}\right)^{a-1} \left(\frac{b-1}{a+b-2}\right)^{b-1}$$

$$\text{and} \quad g(x) = \mathbb{1}_{]0,1[}(x).$$

Then, to generate a r.n. from $Z \sim B(a, b)$,

1. we generate a r.n. X from $\mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$ and generate another r.n. U from $\mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, independent from X .
2. If $U \leq h(X)$, we set $Z = X$, otherwise, return to step 1.

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Transformation method: the principle

↪ Some times, the random variable to generate reads as a function of easy simulable random variables. This method is specific to some random variables and we are going to give examples of the Gamma distribution and the Gaussian distribution.

↪ Let $T = (T_1, \dots, T_d) : \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$ be a diffeomorphism whose inverse has Jacobian matrix

$$J(z) = \left(\frac{d}{dz_j} T_i^{-1}(z) \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq d}.$$

It follows that if $Z = T(X)$, where X is an \mathbb{R}^d -valued random vector with pdf f_X , then, the pdf of Z reads

$$f_Z(z) = f_X(T^{-1}(z)) \times |\det(J(z))|, \quad z \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

↪ *Example of the Gamma distribution.* Let $\lambda > 0$ and $a_i > 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Let $X_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \Gamma(\lambda, a_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then, we know that $Z = X_1 + \dots + X_n \sim \Gamma(\lambda, a_1 + \dots + a_n)$. Suppose that $a_i = 1$ for any i .

- Since $\Gamma(\lambda, 1) \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, we can represent $Z \sim \Gamma(\lambda, n)$ as:
 $Z = X_1 + \dots + X_n$, with $X_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Exp}(\lambda)$.
- We know from the inversion method that if $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ then $X_i \stackrel{d}{=} -\ln(U_i)/\lambda$, where $U_i \sim \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$.
- Then, $Z = X_1 + \dots + X_n \sim \Gamma(\lambda, n)$ can be written as

$$Z = T(U_1, \dots, U_n) = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(U_i) = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left(\prod_{i=1}^n U_i \right).$$

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Let $Z = (Z_1, Z_2)$ be a two dimensional Gaussian vector. The following result, known as the *Box-Muller* method, say how to simulate Z from independent uniform random variables.

Proposition. Let $U_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{U}(]0, 1[)$, $i = 1, 2$. Then,

$$(Z_1, Z_2) = T(U_1, U_2) = \left(\sqrt{-2 \ln(U_1)} \cos(2\pi U_2), \sqrt{-2 \ln(U_1)} \sin(2\pi U_2) \right)$$

is a pair of indep. standard Normal distribution: $Z_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, $i = 1, 2$.

Proof. Note that the transformation $T :]0, 1[^2 \mapsto \mathbb{R}^2$ is one to one and if $z_1 = \sqrt{-2 \ln(u_1)} \cos(2\pi u_2)$ and $z_2 = \sqrt{-2 \ln(u_1)} \sin(2\pi u_2)$, we have $z_1^2 + z_2^2 = -2 \ln(u_1)$ and $z_2/z_1 = \tan(2\pi u_2)$. Then $(z = (z_1, z_2))$

$$(u_1, u_2) = (T_1^{-1}(z), T_2^{-1}(z)) = \left(e^{-(z_1^2 + z_2^2)/2}, (2\pi)^{-1} \arctan(z_2/z_1) \right).$$

The Jacobian matrix

$$J(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial T_1^{-1}(z)}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial T_1^{-1}(z)}{\partial z_2} \\ \frac{\partial T_2^{-1}(z)}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial T_2^{-1}(z)}{\partial z_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -z_1 e^{-(z_1^2+z_2^2)/2} & -z_2 e^{-(z_1^2+z_2^2)/2} \\ -\frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{z_2}{z_1^2+z_2^2} & \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{z_1}{z_1^2+z_2^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

It follows that $\det(J(z)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-(z_1^2+z_2^2)/2}$. Then

$$f_Z(z) = f_{(U_1, U_2)}(T^{-1}(z)) |\det(J(z))| = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-(z_1^2+z_2^2)/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z_1^2/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z_2^2/2}$$

so that $(Z_1, Z_2) \sim \mathcal{N}(0_2, I_2)$: $0_2 = (0, 0)$, I_2 is the 2×2 identity matrix.

↪ *Generating a Gaussian vector* $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0_d, I_d)$. One way of generating a r.n. from $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0_d, I_d)$ is

- to call d times the function generating a gaussian pair $(Z_1, Z_2) \sim \mathcal{N}(0_2, I_2)$ (using for example the *Box-Muller* method)
- and to set $X = (Z_1^1, \dots, Z_1^d)$, where Z_1^i is the value of Z_1 at the i -th call of the function generating (Z_1, Z_2) .

↪ Drawing a Gaussian vector $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$, where $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^\ell$ and Σ is a $\ell \times d$ matrix. We can write $Z = \mu + \Sigma^{1/2}X$, where $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0_d, I_d)$. We have seen how to draw a sample from X . It remains to say how to compute $\Sigma^{1/2}$. Several methods exist but we recall here the two main methods.

- 1 In the non degenerated case where Σ is positive-definite we may use the *Cholesky* decomposition: find a lower triangular matrix L so that $LL^T = \Sigma$ and $\Sigma^{1/2} = L$.
- 2 In general (including the degenerated case) we may use $L = UA^{1/2}$ where A and U are obtained from the spectral (or eigenvalue) decomposition $\Sigma = UAU^{-1}$ of Σ . Then, $\Sigma^{1/2} = L$.

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

Mixed density: the principle

↪ Let X be an \mathbb{R}^d -valued random variable with pdf $f = \sum_{n \geq 0} p_n f_n$, where $\mathbb{Q} := (p_n, n \geq 0)$ is a probability on \mathbb{N} and f_n is pdf for every $n \geq 0$.

↪ Let $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be an iid sequence of r.v. such that for every $n \geq 0$, X_n has pdf f_n .

↪ Let $\nu : \Omega \mapsto \mathbb{N}$ be a r.v. with distribution \mathbb{Q} , independent from $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$.

Proposition. The random variable X_ν has pdf f .

Proof. For any Borel set $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(X_\nu \in A) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{P}(\nu = n) \mathbb{P}(X_\nu \in A | \nu = n) \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} p_n \int_A f_n(x) dx \\ &= \int_A \sum_{n \geq 0} p_n f_n(x) dx = \int_A f(x) dx.\end{aligned}$$

Mixed density: example

Example. Let $(p_1, p_2, p_3) = (1/6, 1/3, 1/2)$ and X be a random variable with pdf

$$f(x) = p_1 f_1(x) + p_2 f_2(x) + p_3 f_3(x)$$

where

$$f_1(x) = \mathbb{1}_{]0,1]}(x), \quad f_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(2x - 1)\mathbb{1}_{]1,2]}(x), \quad f_3(x) = \frac{2}{3}(-3x + 9)\mathbb{1}_{]2,3]}(x).$$

Propose an algorithm to generate a sample from X .

Example. Let $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(-3, 1)$ and $X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(3, 1)$ be two independent r.v. with resp. pdf f_1 and f_2 . Let X be a r.v. with pdf

$$f(x) = p_1 f_1(x) + p_2 f_2(x), \quad p_1, p_2 \in [0, 1], \quad p_1 + p_2 = 1.$$

- Plot the graphs of f for $(p_1, p_2) = (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$, $(p_1, p_2) = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4})$, $(p_1, p_2) = (\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$.
- Plot in the same graph (w.r.t (p_1, p_2)) the densities estimates from a sample of f .

Exercise to do in the practical session

Consider the file `ToBeGropuedRandomly.xlsx` and implement a code that compose **randomly 5 groups of 3 individuals** where, at each step $k \leq 5$ and for each group,

- 1 individual of the group is chosen randomly from the uniform distribution among the $5 - k + 1$ first individuals of the file
- the 2 other individual of the group are chosen randomly from the uniform distribution among the remaining individuals

Display the groups with their set of individuals.

Plan

- 1 Introduction
 - Aim of the course
 - Recall of some usual random variables
- 2 Inversion method
 - Examples of discrete r.v.
 - Examples of continuous r.v.
- 3 Rejection method
 - The case of the uniform distribution on \mathbb{R}^d
 - The general rejection method
 - Example: the Gamma distribution
 - Example: the Beta distribution
- 4 Transformation method
 - The Gamma distribution
 - The Gaussian vector
- 5 Mixed density
- 6 References

1. Annie Millet. *Méthodes de Monte-Carlo*: <https://samos.univ-paris1.fr/archives/ftp/cours/millet/montecarlo.pdf>
2. Otten, R.H.J.M., and van Ginneken, L.P.P.P. 1989, *The Annealing Algorithm*(Boston: Kluwer).
3. Gilles Pagès. *Numerical Probability: an Introduction with Applications to Finance*, 587p., Springer, août 2018
4. Matthias Winkel. *Simulation*:
<http://www.stats.ox.ac.uk/winkel/ASim11.pdf>