

02/05/04 Simulation of random variables  
w/ continuous state space Kloeden+Platen  
Sec. 1.3

General methods: Inverse transform method

Take uniform distributed  $U \sim U(0, 1)$   
distributed like  $(0 \leq U \leq 1)$

For general random variable with state  
space  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

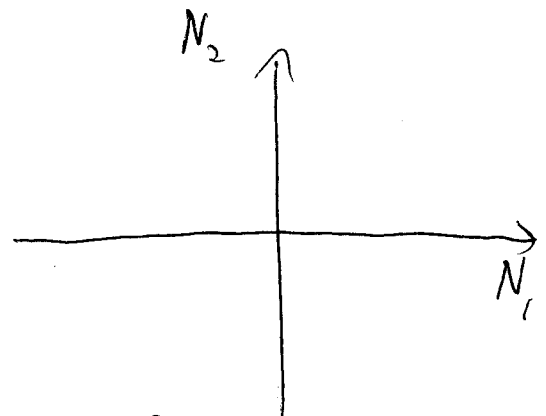
$X_{sim} = F_X^{-1}(U)$  will have same prob. dist.  
as  $X$ .  
cdf

Quicker method for Gaussian random variables

Box-Müller method: To simulate

Gaussian r.v. with mean 0 and variance 1  
(standard Gaussian variable)

$X \sim N(0, 1)$   
mean variance



Better to simulate in pairs  
Generate  $U_1, U_2 \sim U(0, 1)$

$$N_1 = \sqrt{-2 \ln U_1} \cos 2\pi U_2$$

$$N_2 = \sqrt{-2 \ln U_1} \sin 2\pi U_2$$

$N_1, N_2 \sim N(0, 1)$  and independent.

Polar coordinates

$$\theta = 2\pi U_2$$

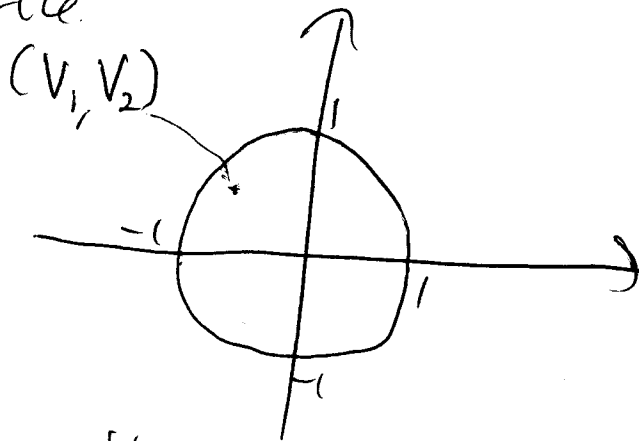
$$R = \sqrt{N_1^2 + N_2^2}$$

has pdf

$$p(r) \propto r e^{-r^2/2}$$

Polar - Marsaglia Method: avoid trig evals

Generate a point uniformly distributed inside unit circle.



You can check that

$$R^2 = V_1^2 + V_2^2 \sim U(0, 1)$$

$$\Theta \sim U(0, 2\pi)$$

$$\text{So } U_1 = R^2, U_2 = \frac{\Theta}{2\pi} \sim U(0, 1)$$

input into Box-Muller and note that

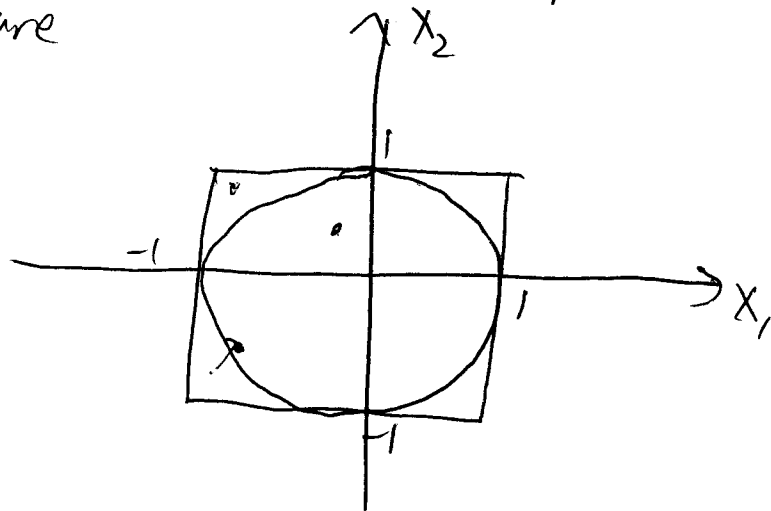
$$\cos 2\pi U_2 = \frac{V_1}{R} \quad \text{and} \quad \sin 2\pi U_2 = \frac{V_2}{R}$$

$$N_1 = \sqrt{\frac{-2 \ln R^2}{R^2}} V_1$$

$$N_2 = \sqrt{\frac{-2 \ln R^2}{R^2}} V_2$$

## Rejection Method:

Simulate a uniformly distributed point in the square



$$X_1 = 2U_1 - 1 \quad X_2 = 2U_2 - 1$$

with  $U_1, U_2 \sim U(0, 1)$

Then  $X_1, X_2 \sim U(-1, 1)$

To generate random point in circle:  
Take the random point generated in the unit square if it's inside the circle.

If the point's outside the circle then throw it away and try again.

If I can simulate  $N_1 \sim N(0,1)$

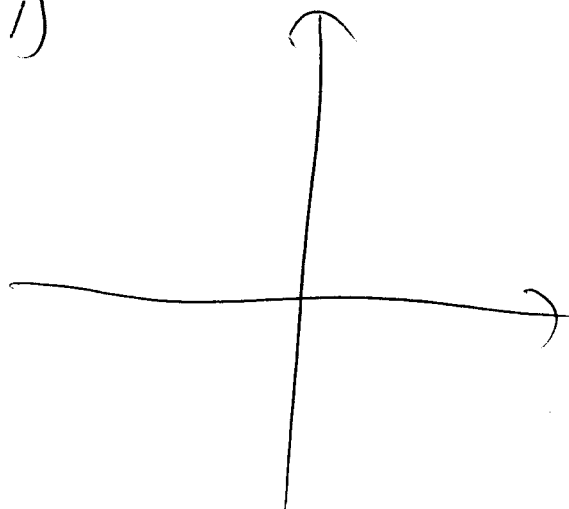
How can I get  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$X = \mu + \sigma N_1$$

~~How~~ How did we figure that, in the Box-Muller method,

$R = \sqrt{N_1^2 + N_2^2}$  has pdf  $\propto r e^{-r^2/2}$

if  $N_1, N_2 \sim N(0,1)$



Two ways:

1) Just rearrange  $\text{Prob}(R \leq r)$

into  $\text{Prob}(U_1 \leq g(r)) = g(r)$

as in proof of Inverse Transform Method

2) Use the rule for how a pdf changes under change of variables,

Let  $X$  have pdf  $p_X(x)$

and  $Y = f(X)$  have pdf  $p_Y(y)$ .

For now, suppose state spaces  $S_X, S_Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

and that  $f$  is one-to-one.

$$\text{Prob}(Y \in B) = \text{Prob}(f(X) \in B) = \text{Prob}(X \in f^{-1}(B))$$

for any  $B \in \mathcal{B}_Y$

$$\text{Prob}(Y \in B) = \int_B p_Y(y) dy = \int_{f^{-1}(B)} p_Y(f(x)) f'(x) dx$$

$$\text{Prob}(X \in f^{-1}(B)) = \int_{f^{-1}(B)} p_X(x) dx$$

This is true for any  $B \in \mathcal{B}_Y$

$$p_Y(f(x)) f'(x) = p_X(x)$$

$$p_Y(y) = p_X(f^{-1}(y)) (f^{-1})'(y)$$

$$x = f^{-1}(y)$$

by inverse function theorem.

More generally:

If  $S_X, S_Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

and  $f$  need not  
be 1-1.

$$\vec{Y} = \vec{f}(\vec{X})$$

~~QED~~

$$P_Y(\vec{y}) = \sum_{\vec{x} \in \vec{f}^{-1}(\vec{y})} P_X(\vec{x}) \det \left( \frac{\partial \vec{x}}{\partial \vec{y}} \right)$$

↑

Jacobian

(Think:  $P_X d\vec{x} = P_Y d\vec{y}$ )

Gets a little trickier if Jacobian = 0, ∞.

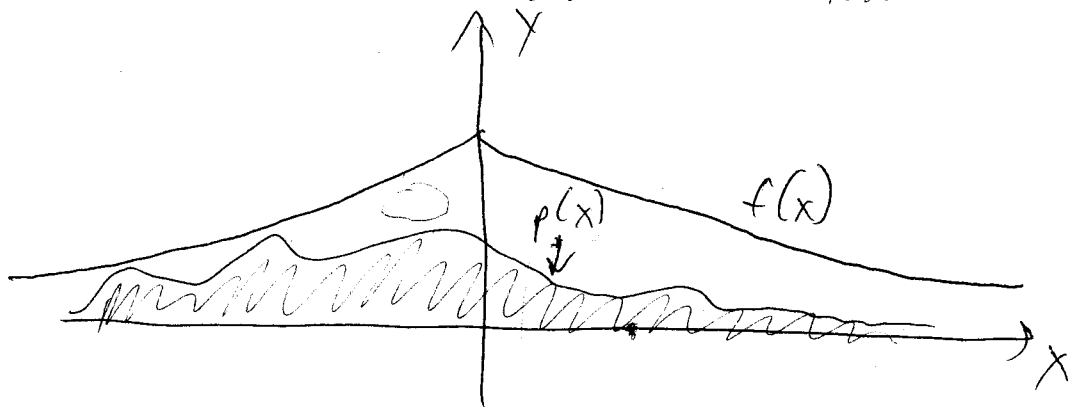
What about simulating other kinds of random variables?

State space  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

Another general trick:

Rejection Method,

Suppose we have pdf  $p(x)$  for  $\mathbb{X}$  and inverse transform method too hard,



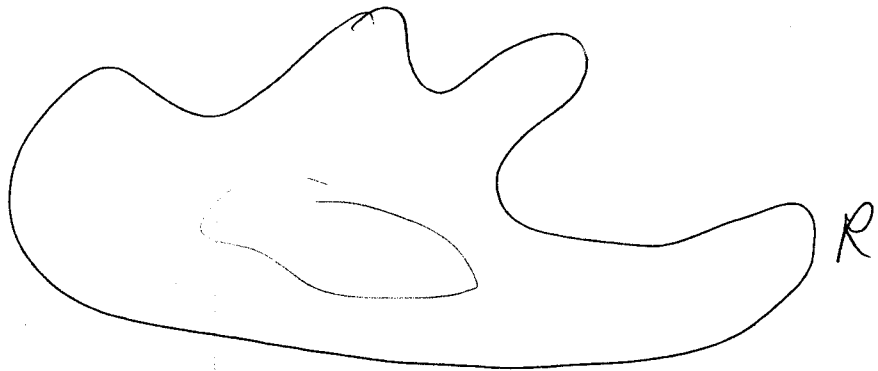
Note that  $\mathbb{X}$  can be simulated by picking a random point uniformly from the region  $0 \leq y \leq p(x)$ .

Now find a function  $f(x)$  such that  $f(x) \geq p(x) \geq 0$  and is easy to simulate a point uniformly below its graph.

(for example  $f(x) \propto$  pdf for a random variable that's easy to simulate)

Generate uniform random points below  $f(x)$  and reject if they're not below  $p(x)$ .

Uniform distribution in a region  
 $R \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$



For any  $A \subseteq R$ ,

$$\text{Prob}(X \in A) = \frac{\text{Vol}(A)}{\text{Vol}(R)}$$

02/05/04 Generating functions and continuous  
~~Gaussian~~ rv's

Usually don't use prob. gen. fn. for  
continuous rv's,

Characteristic function (moment generating fn)

$$\phi(k) = \langle e^{ikX} \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} p(x) dx$$

Cumulant generating function

$$\tilde{\phi}(k) = \ln \langle e^{ikX} \rangle$$

All the formulas same in discrete  
case and so random sums

$$Z = \sum_{j=1}^N X_j \quad \text{with } N \text{ discrete } X_j \text{ continuous,}$$

formulas for  $\langle Z \rangle$ ,  $\langle (Z - \langle Z \rangle)^2 \rangle$  same  
as we calculated (using characteristic fns)  
for discrete case,

Cumulants ~~and Gaussian vs S~~

$$M_n = \left. \left( -i \frac{d}{dk} \right)^n \tilde{\Phi}(k) \right|_{k=0}$$

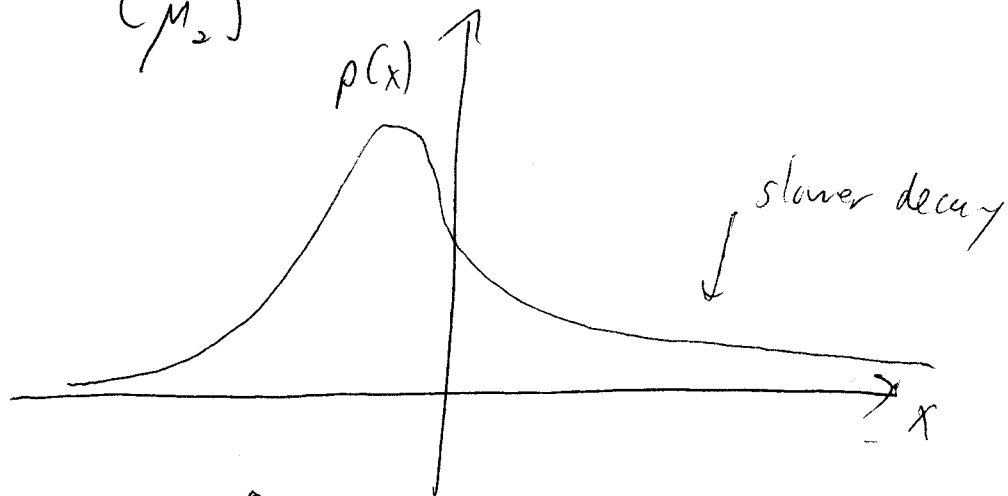
$$\text{III} \\ \langle\langle X^n \rangle\rangle$$

$$M_1 = \langle X \rangle$$

$$M_2 = \sigma_x^2$$

Third order cumulant reflects skewness of prob. distribution.

$$S = \frac{M_3}{(M_2)^{3/2}} \quad (= \text{skewness in some refs})$$



$$M_1 = 0$$

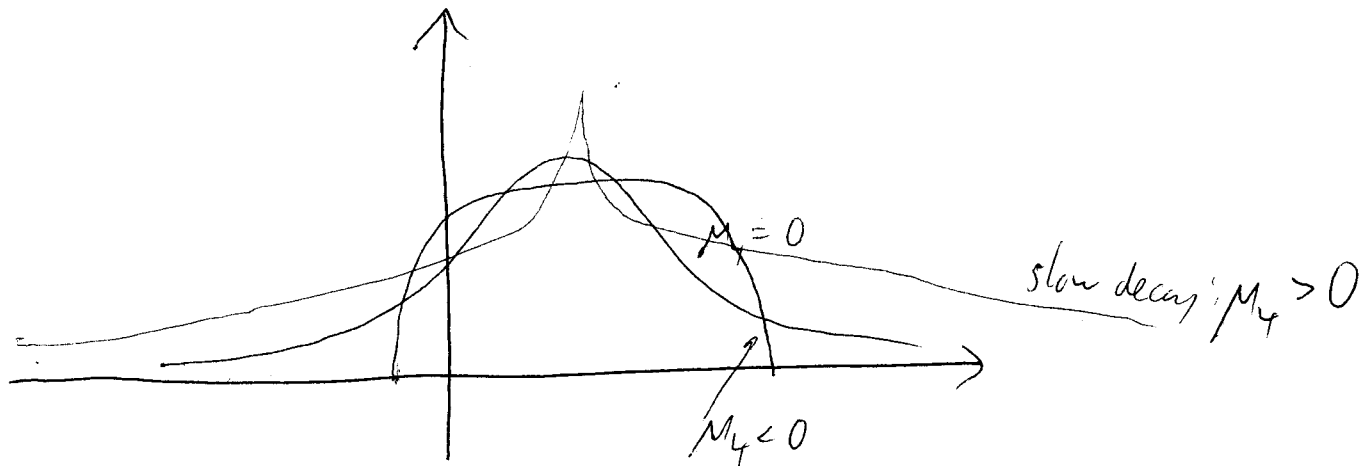
$$M_3 > 0$$

~~M2~~

Fourth cumulant  $\mu_4$ : "peakedness" of a distribution.

Kurtosis =  $\frac{\mu_4}{\mu_2^2}$  : only has to do w/ shape (other defns are used)

Gaussian distribution has  $\mu_4 = 0$ .



Fat tails: large positive kurtosis,  $\mu_4 > 0$ .

Very thin or no tails:  $\mu_4 < 0$ .

- unlikely to have large fluctuations.

Cumulant + Gaussian r.v.s, Risken Ch. 2

$$p(x) = \frac{e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}$$

is pdf for

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\phi(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} p(x) dx$$

$$= e^{ik\mu - \frac{1}{2}k^2\sigma^2} \quad \text{is characteristic fn}$$

Cumulant generating fn

$$\psi(k) = \ln \phi(k) = ik\mu - \frac{1}{2}k^2\sigma^2$$

$$M_n = \left. \left(-i \frac{d}{dk}\right)^n \psi(k) \right|_{k=0}$$

$$M_1 = \mu$$

$$M_2 = \sigma^2$$

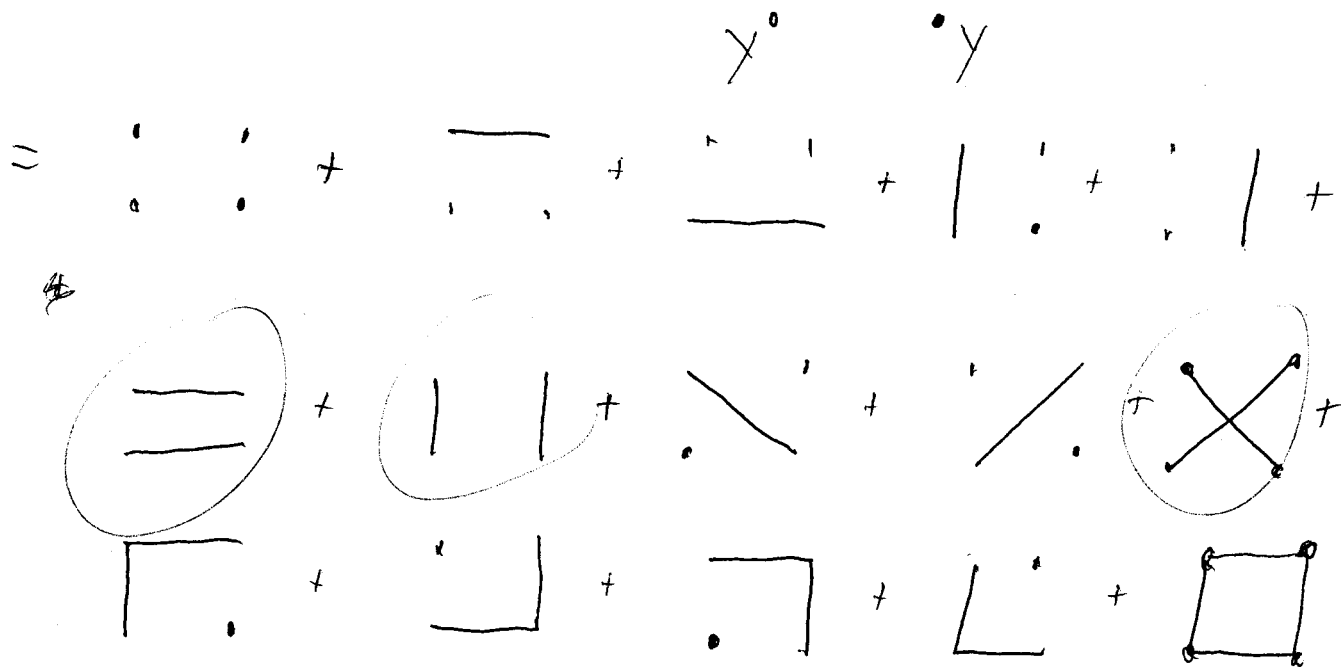
$$M_n = 0 \quad \text{for } n \geq 3$$

This is one reason why Gaussians are easy to calculate with.

Wick's theorem

Diagrammatically: Cumulants are connected diagrams  
 Moments are sums of all diagrams involving  $n$  points  
 ( $n =$  order of moment).

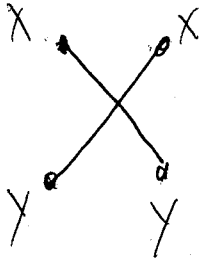
Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are general rvs, not independent.  
 $\langle X^2 Y^2 \rangle$



$$\begin{matrix} X & X \\ Y & Y \end{matrix} : M_{X,1} M_{X,1} M_{Y,1} M_{Y,1}$$

$$\begin{matrix} X \\ | \\ Y \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \cdot X \\ \cdot Y \end{matrix} = M_{XY,2} M_{X,1} M_{Y,1}$$

$$M_{XY,2} = \langle \langle XY \rangle \rangle = (-i \frac{\partial}{\partial k_1}) (-i \frac{\partial}{\partial k_2}) \ln \langle e^{i(k_1 X + k_2 Y)} \rangle$$



$$= (M_{XY,2})^2$$

~~cases~~ If however  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly distributed Gaussian r.v.'s, then all third and higher cumulants vanish

~~$p(\vec{x}) = \exp(\dots)$~~

~~$$p(\vec{x}) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \vec{x} \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \vec{x}\right)}{\sqrt{2\pi \det \mathbf{C}}}$$~~

$$p(\vec{x}) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})^T \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})\right)}{\sqrt{2\pi \det \mathbf{C}}}$$

where  $\vec{\mu} = \langle \vec{X} \rangle$

~~$$C_{ij} = \langle (X_i - \mu_i)(X_j - \mu_j) \rangle$$~~