

10. Generating random numbers

| Recap: | method | Physics |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | $\int dx, \frac{d}{dx},$ ODEs | classical mechanics |
| 2. | roots \rightarrow iteration | bifurcation & chaos |
| 3. | eigenvalue problems | Quantum mechanics |
| we are here | 4. random numbers \rightarrow Monte-Carlo sim. | } Statistical physics |
| | 5. Partial Diff. Equations | |

10.1. Random vs. pseudo-random

Computer is deterministic \rightarrow no real random numbers
BUT we encountered deterministic chaos, i.e. in logistic map.

"real" random processes only in QM

\rightarrow Hardware Random Number Generators use thermal noise in semiconductors or radioactive decays.

10.2. Pseudo RNG = PRNG

- Generate sequence of equally distributed numbers r_n from initial value called seed
- same seed same sequence \rightarrow reproducible
- repeat after the period length

\hookrightarrow For cryptography it has to be hard to predict r_{n+1} from r_n .

10.2.1. Linear Congruential generator (LCG)

Iteration of

$$r_{n+1} = (a r_n + c) \bmod m$$

for $a, c, m \in \mathbb{N}$

remainder after $/m$

- period length $\leq m$

- $a(m-1) < 2^{32}$ or 2^{64} to avoid overflow

example

$$a = 7^5 = 16807, \quad c = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad m = 2^{32} - 1$$

Subclass called multiplicative LCG

Quality criteria :

- Speed :-)

- period length $(2^{32} - 2) \sim 10^9$:-)

- no correlation between :-)

Marsaglia-effect

$(r'_n, \dots, r'_{n+k-1})$, normalized to the interval $[0, 1]$ by

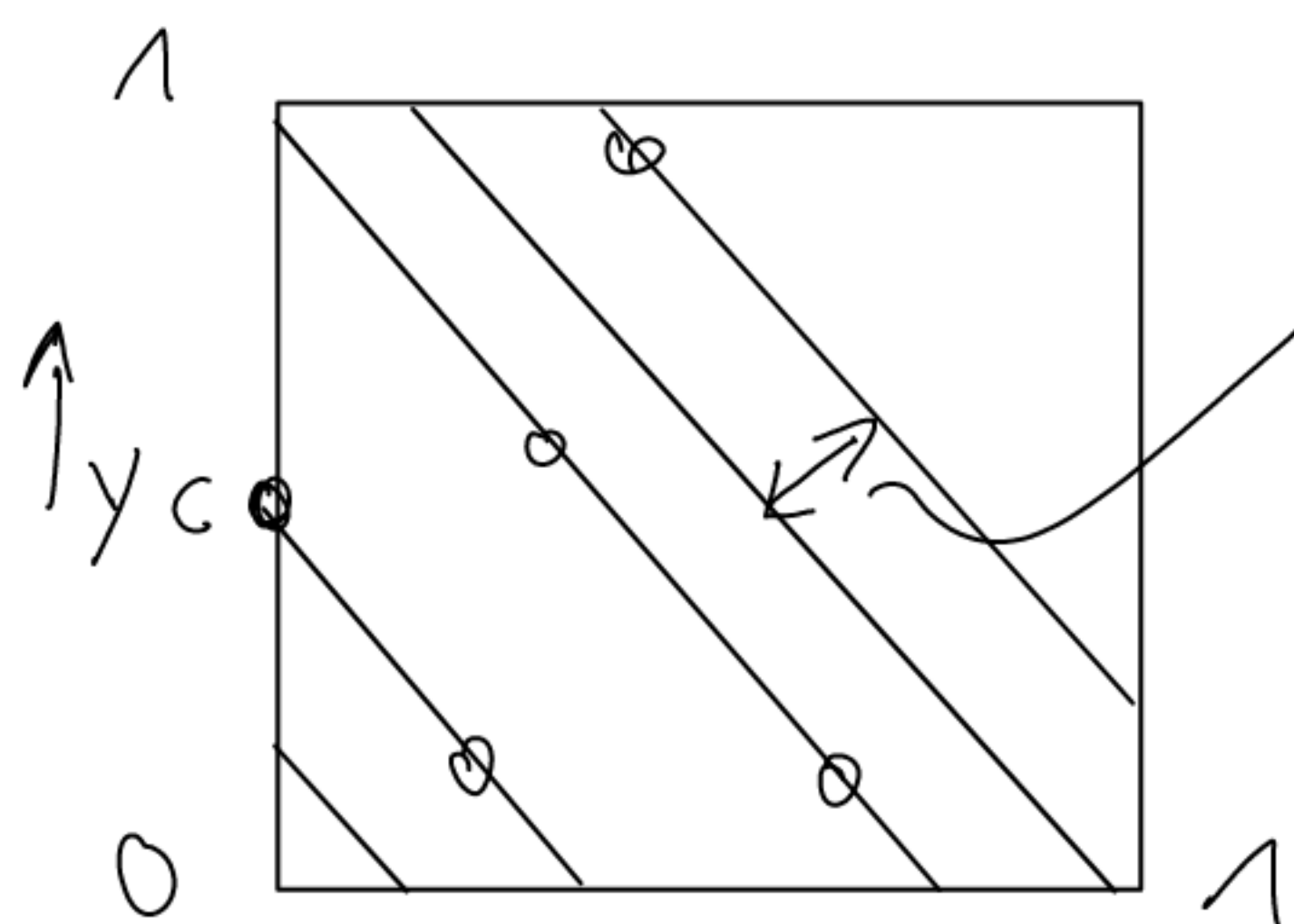
$$r'_n = \frac{r_n}{m-1} \quad \text{are located on Hyperplanes in the}$$

k -dim. unit cube $[0, 1]^k$.

at $k=2$ without mod on line

$$(x, y) = x(1, a) + (0, c)$$

$$(r_n, r_{n+1}) = r_n(1, a) + (0, c) + k_n m(0, 1)$$



max. distance between planes

\Rightarrow define $\mathcal{V}_k = 1/d_k$ (larger is better)

Upper bound $\boxed{V_k < m^{1/k}}$ in differed points in k -cube
but usually much worse.

Trick: combine multiple LCGs \rightarrow Wichmann-Hill gen.

$$X_n = [171 X_{n-1}] \bmod 30296$$

$$Y_n = [172 Y_{n-1}] \bmod 30307$$

$$Z_n = [170 Z_{n-1}] \bmod 30323$$

$$U_n = \left[\frac{X_n}{30269} + \frac{Y_n}{30307} + \frac{Z_n}{30323} \right] \bmod 1$$

10.2.2. Xor-shift generator

• $Xor(a \oplus b) =$

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a | 0 | 1 |
| b | 0 | 1 |
| | 1 | 0 |

 (apply bitwise)

• shift

example xor shift 32

even better, combination of different PRNGs
i.e. output of PRNG₁ as seed for PRNG₂

10.3. Different probability distributions

Output of PRNG is equally distributed, i.e. in $[0, 1)$

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

How to get Gauss, ..., distribution?

10.3.1. Transformation and inversion method

Apply function $f(x) = y$. The

$$|\tilde{p}(y) dy| = |p(x) dx| \quad \text{or}$$

$$\tilde{p}(y) = p(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|$$

examples: • $y = -\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln x \Rightarrow x = e^{-\lambda y}$

$$\tilde{p}(y) = \lambda e^{-\lambda y} \quad \text{exponential distribution}$$

10.3.2. Gauss distribution

1-dim. transformation meth. does not work

$$\leadsto 2\text{-dim.} \quad \tilde{p}(y_1, y_2) = p(x_1, x_2) \left| \frac{\partial(x_1, x_2)}{\partial(y_1, y_2)} \right|$$

with

$$\left| \frac{\partial(x_1, x_2)}{\partial(y_1, y_2)} \right| = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y_1^2/2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y_2^2/2} \right)$$

$$\leadsto \begin{cases} y_1 = \sqrt{-2 \ln x_1} \cos(2\pi x_2) \\ y_2 = \sqrt{-2 \ln x_1} \sin(2\pi x_2) \end{cases}$$