

**Those who can, do;  
those who can't – use  
Computer Simulation \***



AMATYC S089 – Nov. 16, 2018  
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\* Apologies to GBS, 1902

# Background

- Simulation is imitation to reproduce behavior of a real-world system.
- Useful for some problems when real-world is too expensive, too dangerous, too complicated.



- Other non-mathematical examples?

# Other non-mathematical examples

- Driving, flying training
- Disaster preparedness
- Science, engineering. Virus spreading
- Role playing
- Robotics. Biomechanics
- Games
- These are generally deterministic, not stochastic



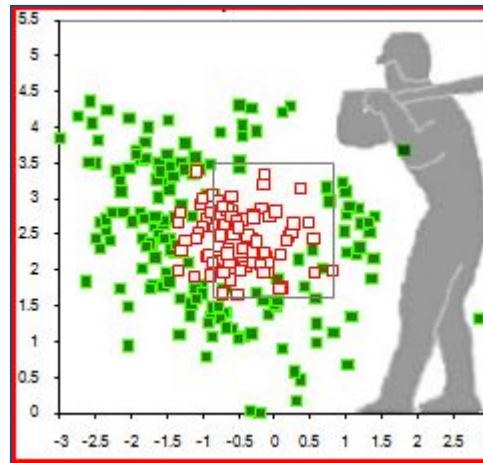
# Stochastic Simulation



- Stochastic simulation is sampling from a probability distribution to reproduce behavior of a system.
- Can help explain and illustrate difficult concepts.
- Can solve problems that are hard or impossible to solve directly.
- Can be fun.

# Stochastic in Other Disciplines

- Modelling the macro economy – inflation, interest rates, govt spending, balance of trade, etc.
- Modelling the longevity of Social Security, and other insurance or business entities.
- Stock market, retirement simulations.
- Individual and team sports. Moneyball.
- Project management, queuing.





# Nice Online Simulations

- Rice Univ: [onlinestatbook.com/stat\\_sim/index.html](http://onlinestatbook.com/stat_sim/index.html)
- Rossman/Chance:  
[rossmanchance.com/applets/index.html](http://rossmanchance.com/applets/index.html)
- Visualizing Statistics – UBC:  
[www.zoology.ubc.ca/~whitlock/kingfisher/KFhomepage.htm](http://www.zoology.ubc.ca/~whitlock/kingfisher/KFhomepage.htm)
- DIGMATH – Farmingdale State Coll:  
[www.farmingdale.edu/faculty/sheldon-gordon/dynamicstatistics.shtml](http://www.farmingdale.edu/faculty/sheldon-gordon/dynamicstatistics.shtml)
- But – let's build our own in Excel !





# Generating Uniform Random #s

- Common algorithm to generate pseudorandom #s is  $x_n = a * x_{n-1}, \text{ mod } m$ , for seed  $x_0$  and large  $m$ .
- Here,  $x_n/m$  is approx a uniform  $U(0,1)$  variable.
- Excel has been criticized over insuff randomness, and is now using Mersenne Twister algorithm whose cycle is Mersenne prime.
- `=rand()` is random #  $U(0,1)$ .
- `=randbetween(min,max)` : integer  $U(\text{min},\text{max})$
- `=(b-a)*rand() + a` is random #  $U(a,b)$

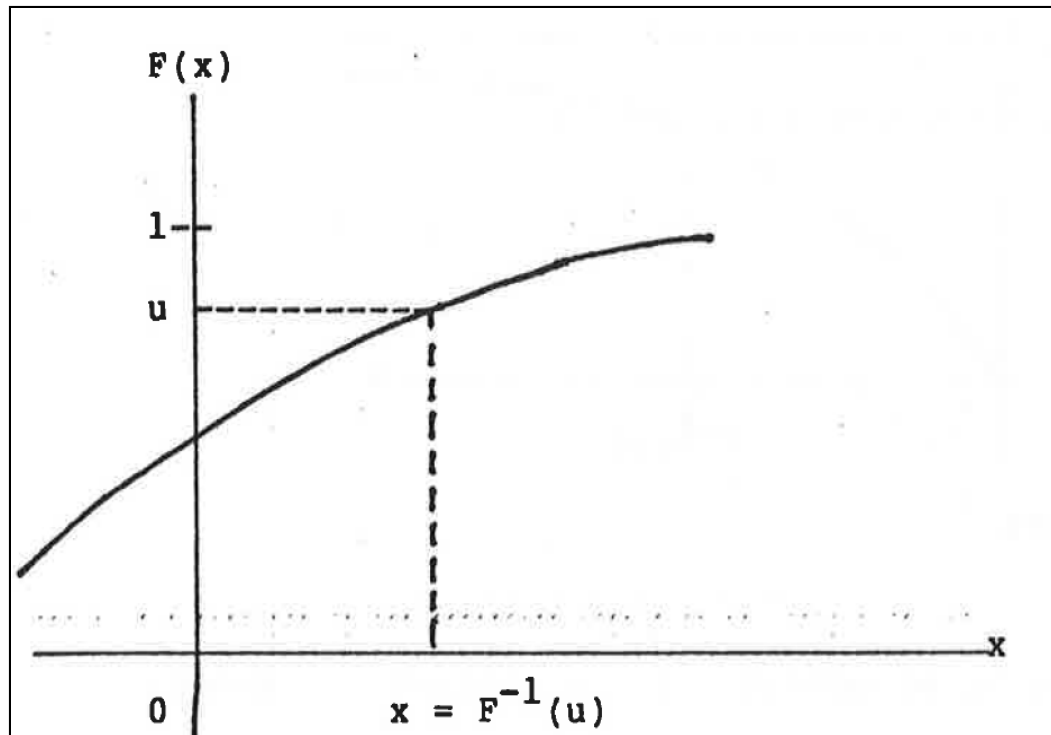


# TI 84 & Random #s



- MATH → PRB
- rand():  $U(0,1)$
- randInt:  $U$  integer (min, max)
- randNORM:  $N(\mu, \sigma)$ ; not  $\sigma^2$ .
- randBIN: Binomial( $n, p$ )
- $(b-a)*\text{rand}() + a$ :  $U(a,b)$

# Generating Non-Uniform Random #s




- A cumulative distribution function  $F(x)$  has inverse function  $F^{-1}(z)$  in  $[0,1]$ .  $F$  can be discrete.
- If  $U$  is uniform random # in  $[0,1]$ , then  $x = F^{-1}(u)$  has cdf  $F$ .
- =NORM.INV(prob,  $\mu$ ,  $\sigma$ ) Also GAMMA.INV, LOGNORM.INV

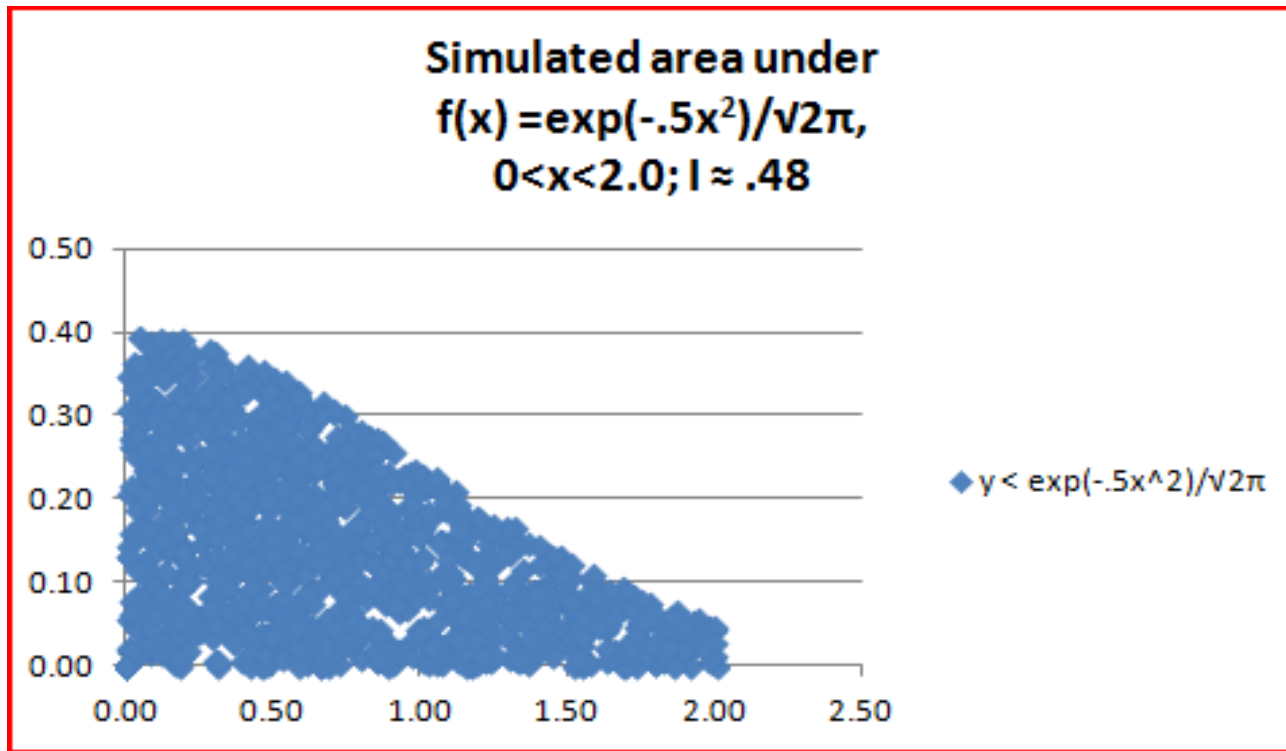


# Some Excel Examples

- Definite integrals
- Coin flip – run of 6 consecutive heads or tails
- Birthday match; Monty Hall; Buffon's needle
- Sampling distribution
- Central Limit Theorem, with Normal & skewed populations
- Confidence intervals
- All Excel files available at [professortuttle.com/amatyc](http://professortuttle.com/amatyc)


$$I = \int_0^2 \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dx$$

- No simple anti-derivative exists from elementary functions. (How do we know that?)
- Usually approximate such integrals with Riemann sums, Taylor series, others.
- If you can evaluate  $f(x)$  at any particular  $x$  value, you can approximate its definite integral with computer simulation.



- Simulate  $(x,y)$ , count proportion of times that simulated  $y < f(x)$ , multiply by rectangle area.
- Here,  $x \in U(0,2)$ ,  $y \in U(\min f, \max f) = U(0,1)$ . Area  $\approx (1196/5000) * 2 = .48$
- Similar problem approx  $\pi$  from circle.



SIMULATION FOR INTEGRATION				$f(x) = (\exp(.5*(-x^2)))/(\sqrt{2\pi})$	
		use x, if	use y, if	Range for x	
rand x	rand y	$y < \exp(-.5x^2)/\sqrt{2\pi}$	$y < \exp(-.5x^2)/\sqrt{2\pi}$	0	2
0.248285	0.19777	0.248285	0.197770	Range for y	0 1
1.962702	0.101583	0.000000	0.000000	Area of rectangle	2
1.448921	0.733594	0.000000	0.000000	Total points	5000
1.90526	0.940105	0.000000	0.000000	Points under curve	1209
1.457725	0.139651	0.000000	0.000000	Simulated area	0.48
0.616879	0.511935	0.000000	0.000000		
0.455571	0.60178	0.000000	0.000000		
1.386689	0.367289	0.000000	0.000000		
0.28517	0.661844	0.000000	0.000000		
1.887179	0.661163	0.000000	0.000000		
1.002119	0.782554	0.000000	0.000000		
0.272148	0.642138	0.000000	0.000000		
0.856317	0.819397	0.000000	0.000000		
1.353089	0.044934	1.353089	0.044934		
0.928526	0.920055	0.000000	0.000000		
0.653388	0.293804	0.653388	0.293804		
0.077484	0.956054	0.000000	0.000000		
0.760549	0.777678	0.000000	0.000000		
0.512969	0.142533	0.512969	0.142533		



### COIN FLIP SIMULATION: RUN OF 6 HEADS OR 6 TAILS

N = 200	RAND #	H or T?	RUN of 6?	#RUNS	19
1	0.893733	T		TOTAL	20
2	0.521595	T		PERCENT	95%
3	0.345944	H		DATA TABLE	
4	0.391363	H			
5	0.031342	H		SIM #	RUN
6	0.638856	T	0	1	
7	0.606769	T	0	2	RUN
8	0.118357	H	0	3	RUN
9	0.802198	T	0	4	RUN
10	0.145905	H	0	5	RUN
11	0.976564	T	0	6	RUN
12	0.450911	H	0	7	RUN
13	0.280225	H	0	8	RUN
14	0.405565	H	0	9	RUN
15	0.353925	H	0	10	RUN
16	0.109392	H	0	11	RUN
17	0.421241	H	1		

# Excel Data Table

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1				DATA TABLE					
2					SAMPLE				
3		n = 10		SIM #	MEAN				
4	n	SAMPLE			=B16				
5	1	97.49		1					
6	2	91.73		2			Highlight desired table range,		
7	3	84.15		3			incl the key formula.		
8	4	96.84		4			DATA > WHAT IF > DATA TABLE		
9	5	121.77		5			Ignore Row Input Cell		
10	6	73.74		6			Choose distant Column Input Cell		
11	7	85.92		7			OK		
12	8	86.91		8			<input type="text"/>		
13	9	105.51		9					
14	10	89.82		10					
15				11					
16	xbar	93.39		12					
17				13					
18				14					
19				15					
20				16					
21				17					
22				18					
23				19					
24				20					





BIRTHDAY MATCH SIMULATION			
N = 30	RAND #	DATE	MATCH?
1	21	21-Jan	
2	293	20-Oct	
3	260	17-Sep	
4	130	10-May	
5	344	10-Dec	
6	233	21-Aug	
7	138	18-May	
8	231	19-Aug	
9	292	19-Oct	
10	70	11-Mar	
11	98	8-Apr	
12	117	27-Apr	
13	86	27-Mar	
14	122	2-May	
15	115	25-Apr	
16	331	27-Nov	
17	49	18-Feb	
18	178	27-Jun	
19	101	11-Apr	
20	121	1-May	
21	31	31-Jan	
22	1	1-Jan	
23	3	3-Jan	
24	124	4-May	
25	17	17-Jan	YES
26	169	18-Jun	YES
27	17	17-Jan	YES
28	264	21-Sep	
29	169	18-Jun	YES
30	358	24-Dec	

#MATCH	15
TOTAL	20
PERCENT	75%
EXPECTED	70.6%

$$= 1 - 365^k / 365^k$$
  

DATA TABLE	
SIM #	MATCH
1	MATCH
2	
3	MATCH
4	MATCH
5	MATCH
6	
7	MATCH
8	MATCH
9	
10	MATCH
11	MATCH
12	MATCH
13	
14	MATCH
15	MATCH
16	MATCH
17	MATCH
18	
19	MATCH
20	MATCH



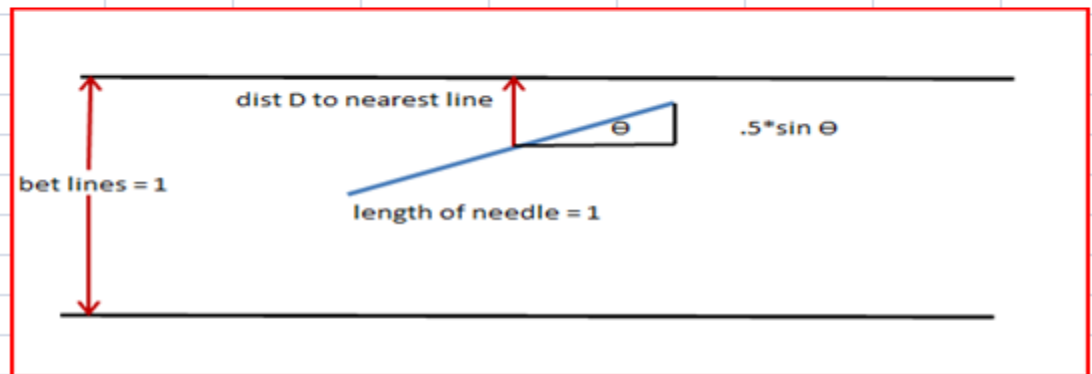


**BUFFON'S NEEDLE SIMULATION (simplest case)**

Length of needle = distance between lines = 1

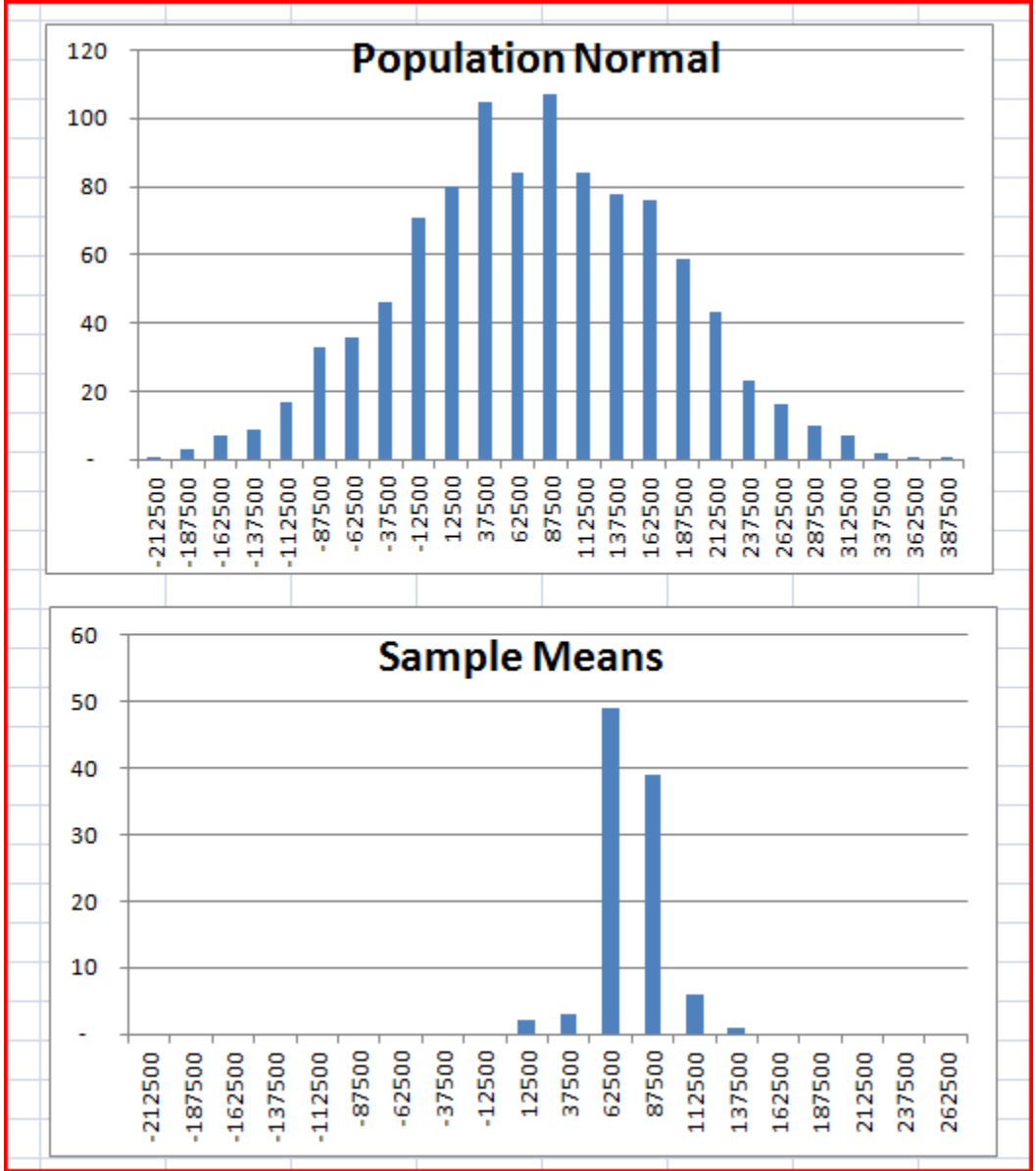
Needle crosses a line if distance  $D$  from center of needle to closest line satisfies  $D \leq .5 * \sin \theta$

	D	$\theta$	HIT ?
N = 100	RAND #	RAND #	$D \leq .5 * \sin \theta$ ?
1	0.112365	100.8203	1
2	0.060878	47.90723	1
3	0.137762	1.938833	0
4	0.115839	88.01797	1
5	0.408763	40.69833	0
6	0.457648	55.44737	0
7	0.496481	131.3166	0
8	0.120049	100.3685	1
9	0.054349	24.39968	1
10	0.21657	159.0576	0
11	0.372209	149.8084	0
12	0.287214	77.13129	1
13	0.14769	52.82085	1
14	0.444877	138.1962	0
15	0.068408	163.7141	1
16	0.472185	137.1671	0
17	0.095532	94.16599	1



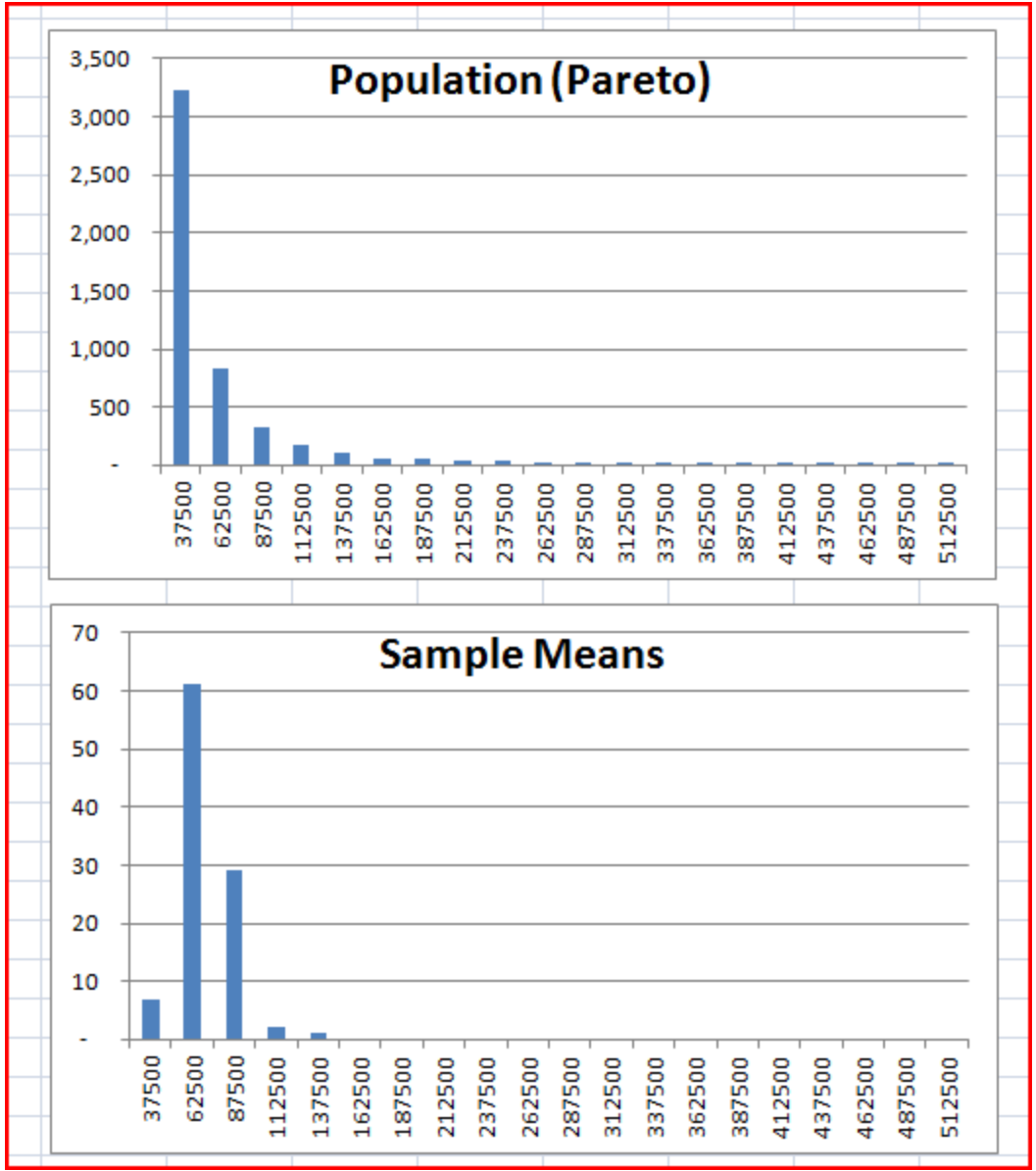
	% HITS
SIMULATE	60%
EXPECTED	64% = $2 / \pi$

CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM SIMULATION (Normal Population)					DATA TABLE			
N = 1000	RAND #	NORMAL POPULATION	RAND #	n = 30 SAMPLE	SIM #	SAMPLE MEAN		
						87,985		
1	0.85788	182,084	938	(72,899)	1	92,248	Pop $\mu$	75,406
2	0.126309	(39,401)	541	(17,603)	2	21,684	Pop $\sigma$	99,140
3	0.974762	270,590	679	185,304	3	126,677		
4	0.491242	72,804	652	233,380	4	81,560	Averages of samples:	
5	0.423971	55,825	469	279,159	5	101,715	xbar	74,026
6	0.447955	61,917	345	120,977	6	51,858	s_xbar	17,819
7	0.819979	166,528	753	146,721	7	89,292	$\sigma / \sqrt{30}$	18,100
8	0.117974	(43,517)	834	140,845	8	79,039		
9	0.448779	62,125	680	147,824	9	67,346		
10	0.622796	106,283	691	(11,049)	10	56,896		
11	0.046078	(93,413)	359	206,375	11	55,205		
12	0.722144	133,922	72	216,899	12	75,005		
13	0.839353	174,180	39	223,517	13	63,372		
14	0.994301	328,028	817	194,669	14	74,686		
15	0.75403	143,723	273	(9,674)	15	76,620		
16	0.884904	194,987	484	(66,185)	16	62,466		
17	0.380568	44,601	464	135,248	17	92,018		
18	0.716793	132,334	819	14,392	18	78,989		
19	0.084864	(62,308)	886	159,094	19	62,635		
20	0.210669	(5,410)	161	(67,573)	20	83,377		



CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM SIMULATION (Pareto Population)

					DATA TABLE			
		PARETO	n = 50		SIM #	SAMPLE MEAN		
N = 5000	RAND #	POPULATION	RAND #	SAMPLE				
		67,528	3,738	36,258		74,654		
1	0.225261	67,528	3,738	36,258	1	76,453	Pop $\mu$	66,674
2	0.741881	30,506	3,222	60,633	2	61,993	Pop $\sigma$	93,964
3	0.522803	38,523	3,210	34,193	3	49,159	Averages of samples:	
4	0.292647	56,717	3,835	35,496	4	83,947	xbar	68,467
5	0.637494	33,751	2,595	34,800	5	75,929	s_xbar	15,119
6	0.147259	89,650	2,742	43,769	6	79,708	$\sigma / \sqrt{50}$	13,289
7	0.571046	36,321	1,193	310,221	7	54,160		
8	0.37536	48,044	4,506	112,600	8	61,553		
9	0.65285	33,220	4,018	674,400	9	56,426		
10	0.187097	76,424	2,461	46,627	10	111,522		
11	0.706413	31,519	2,957	53,212	11	78,826		
12	0.104879	112,412	3,596	45,416	12	58,895		
13	0.585674	35,714	3,136	32,183	13	90,812		
14	0.554942	37,020	3,233	35,179	14	68,255		
15	0.989813	25,171	400	27,282	15	68,513		
16	0.074924	140,668	3,403	28,317	16	55,763		
17	0.661308	32,936	2,331	45,595	17	57,219		
18	0.085989	128,325	3,414	30,255	18	59,265		
19	0.598073	35,218	2,117	31,010	19	81,743		
20	0.239673	64,793	3,780	81,273	20	66,800		



CONFIDENCE INTERVAL SIMULATION (Normal Population)									
		N(100,15)	SIM #	xbar	s	E	xbar-E	xbar+E	Does CI contain $\mu$ ?
N = 30	RAND #	SAMPLE							
				99.02	15.93	5.70	93.32	104.72	
1	0.729505	109.17	1	99.30	13.57	4.86	94.44	104.15	YES
2	0.427737	97.27	2	99.87	16.15	5.78	94.09	105.65	YES
3	0.838603	114.83	3	102.44	17.95	6.42	96.02	108.87	YES
4	0.095694	80.40	4	98.57	12.75	4.56	94.00	103.13	YES
5	0.069778	77.84	5	104.94	15.71	5.62	99.31	110.56	YES
6	0.90101	119.31	6	99.22	13.90	4.97	94.25	104.20	YES
7	0.069013	77.75	7	98.52	15.79	5.65	92.87	104.17	YES
8	0.538799	101.46	8	95.81	13.14	4.70	91.11	100.51	YES
9	0.709483	108.28	9	102.62	17.02	6.09	96.53	108.72	YES
10	0.129084	83.04	10	103.22	17.36	6.21	97.01	109.44	YES
11	0.435723	97.57	11	104.03	13.52	4.84	99.19	108.87	YES
12	0.486013	99.47	12	99.23	14.84	5.31	93.92	104.54	YES
13	0.009452	64.79	13	103.58	14.16	5.07	98.52	108.65	YES
14	0.167338	85.53	14	102.52	17.64	6.31	96.21	108.84	YES
15	0.536354	101.37	15	101.08	14.41	5.16	95.92	106.23	YES
16	0.861084	116.28	16	102.68	13.83	4.95	97.73	107.63	YES
17	0.237989	89.31	17	99.65	12.46	4.46	95.19	104.10	YES
18	0.777641	111.46	18	100.21	12.76	4.57	95.65	104.78	YES
19	0.252453	90.00	19	94.77	12.00	4.29	90.47	99.06	<b>NO</b>
20	0.853521	115.77	20	95.23	15.34	5.49	89.74	100.72	YES
21	0.378229	95.35	21	102.62	14.93	5.34	97.28	107.96	YES

Does CI contain $\mu = 100$ ?		
YES	94	94%
NO	6	6%
	100	



# Two Actuarial Problems

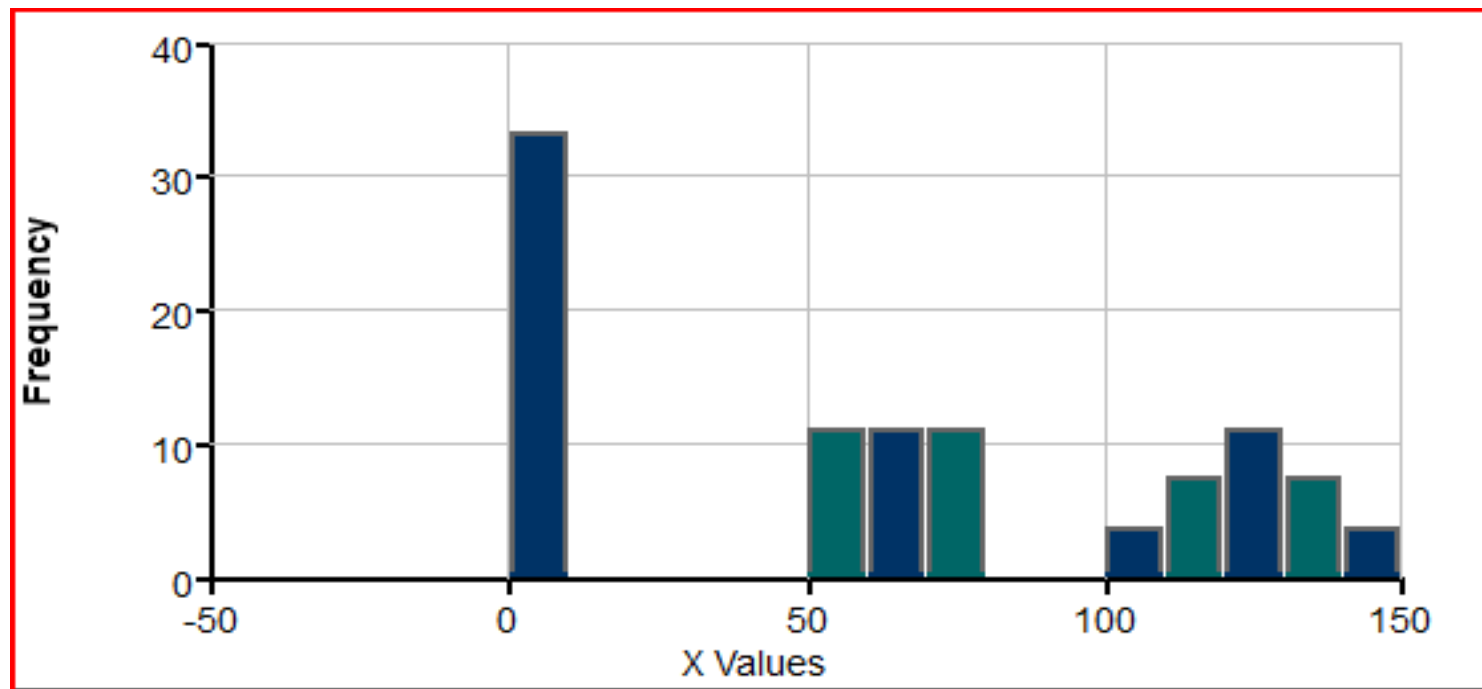
- Suppose I insure 50 insurance policies.
- Each has avg frequency  $f = 1$  claim/yr, and avg claim size  $s = \$60,000$ .
- 1. What is 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of all claims?
- 2. How much should I pay to lay off \$1M in excess of \$3.5M to another insurer (reinsurer)?



# Convolutions

- Problems 1 & 2 require we consider all possible #s of claims & claim sizes, not just expecteds.
- Ex: a. Suppose each policy may have either 0,1, or 2 claims; b. each claim is 50K, 60K, or 70K; and c. everything is equally likely.
- So the possibilities are 0 claims, 1 \$50K claim, a \$50K claim and a \$60K claim, etc.
- List (convolute) all these possibilities and their probabilities. This is called aggregate claim distribution.

# Aggregate claim distribution

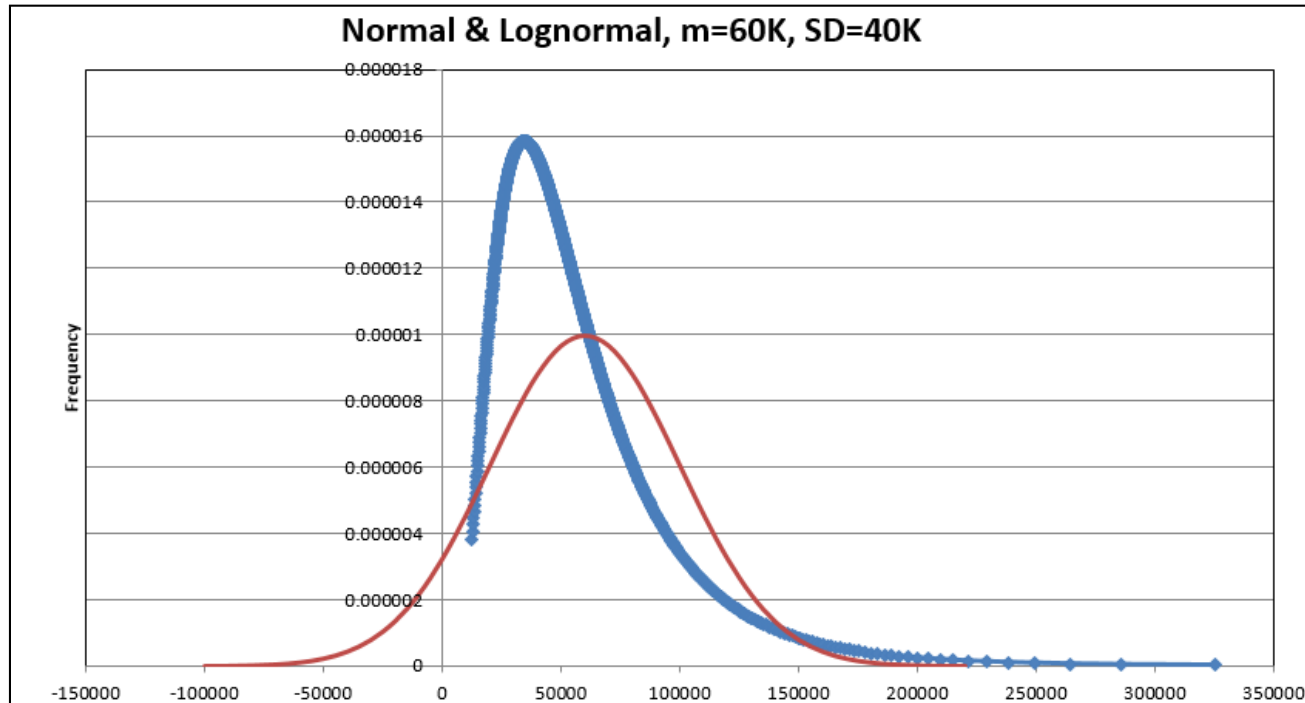


- As number of possibilities increases, listing them becomes unwieldy.
- Would be nice to have formula pdfs  $f(x)$  for number of claim distribution &  $g(x)$  for claim size distribution.

# Few convolution formulas

- There are many common pdfs, e.g., Poisson & Negative binomial for number of claims, Gamma, Lognormal, Pareto for claim sizes. While some convolutions have nice formulas, e.g., Poisson with Gamma, most do not.
- Claim size pdfs in insurance need to be positively skewed (most claims are small, i.e., fender-benders vs. total loss).
- Now we are getting to the simulation.

# Claim Size Simulation



- =NORM.INV(rand(),60K,40K)
- =LOGNORM.INV(rand(), $\mu$ , $\sigma$ ), where here  
 $\mu = \text{LN}(60\text{K}) - .5\text{LN}[(40/60)^2 + 1] = 3.91$  &  
 $\sigma = \sqrt{\text{LN}[(40/60)^2 + 1]} = .61$

# Simulation software result

- Simulate count  $N$ , then simulate  $N$  claims. Repeat 40K times, & sort aggregate claims.
- Neg binomial freq  $M=50$ ,  $SD=10$ ; & lognormal severity  $M=60K$ ,  $SD=40K$ ; 40K simulations:

<b>Percentile</b>	<b>Agg Loss, in K</b>
EL	3,000
50.0%	2,959
80.0%	3,546
90.0%	3,877
<b>95.0%</b>	<b>4,161</b>
98.0%	4,482
99.9%	5,409
Max	6,201
	<b>Expected Loss</b>
<b>1000 xs 3500</b>	<b>90</b>

# Notes

- Gordon, S.P. and Gordon F.S. (Jul/Aug 2009). Visualizing and understanding probability and statistics: graphical simulations using Excel. *Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies*, 19 (4) 346-369.
- Herzog, T.N. (1986). *Intro to stochastic simulation*. Society of Actuaries.
- Melard, G. (Oct., 2014.) On the accuracy of statistical procedures in Microsoft Excel 2010. *Computational Statistics*. 29(5). 1095-1128.  
[http://homepages.ulb.ac.be/~gmelard/rech/gmelard\\_csda23.pdf](http://homepages.ulb.ac.be/~gmelard/rech/gmelard_csda23.pdf)
- Ross, S.M. (2013). *Simulation*. San Diego: Academic Press.
- Verschuuren, G.M. (2016). *100 Excel VBA Simulations*.

# Images

- Die graphic from <https://pixabay.com/en/dice-games-play-1294902/>
- CPR graphic from <https://pixabay.com/en/cpr-dummy-medical-training-course-1255746/>
- Driver simulator graphic from <http://uniquenovelinterfaces.blogspot.com/2014/02/car-driving-simulator.html>
- Simulation graphic from [https://www.hybris.com/medias/sys\\_master/root/h04/h0d/8814979711006/banner-factsheet-pricing-simulation.svg](https://www.hybris.com/medias/sys_master/root/h04/h0d/8814979711006/banner-factsheet-pricing-simulation.svg)
- Baseball graphic from <http://drspikecook.com/files/2012/11/sabermetrics-1xtkzx1.png>
- Tree graphic from <http://www.clipartkid.com/if-you-have-any-questions-with-the-calendar-please-email-6qv4gl-clipart/>
- Excel graphic from <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microsoft.office.excel>
- Calculator graphic from [https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/71RH7Vj8FUL.\\_SY355\\_.jpg](https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/71RH7Vj8FUL._SY355_.jpg)
- Inverse function graphic from Herzog, T.N. (1986). *Intro to stochastic simulation*. Society of Actuaries.
- CAS graphic from <http://www.casact.org/about/index.cfm?fa=contact>