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**CS680:**  
**Monte Carol Integration**

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**Course URL:**  
**<http://jupiter.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/SGA/>**

# Previous Time

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- Radiometry
- Rendering equation

# Two Forms of the Rendering Equation

- Hemisphere integration

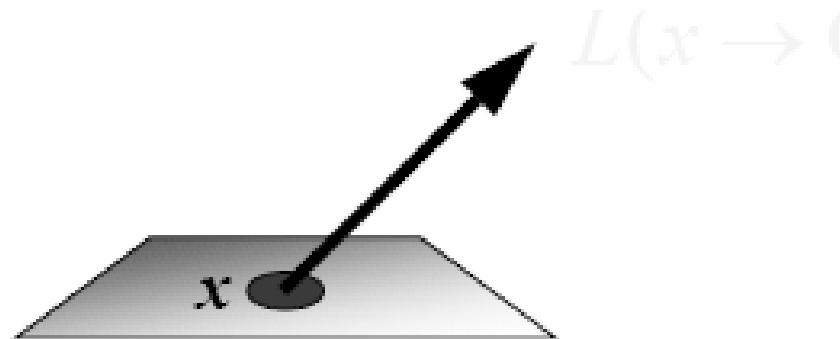
$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\Omega_x} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cdot \cos \theta_x \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$

- Area integration

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_A f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(y \rightarrow -\Psi) \cdot \frac{\cos \theta_x \cdot \cos \theta_y}{r_{xy}^2} \cdot V(x, y) \cdot dA_y$$

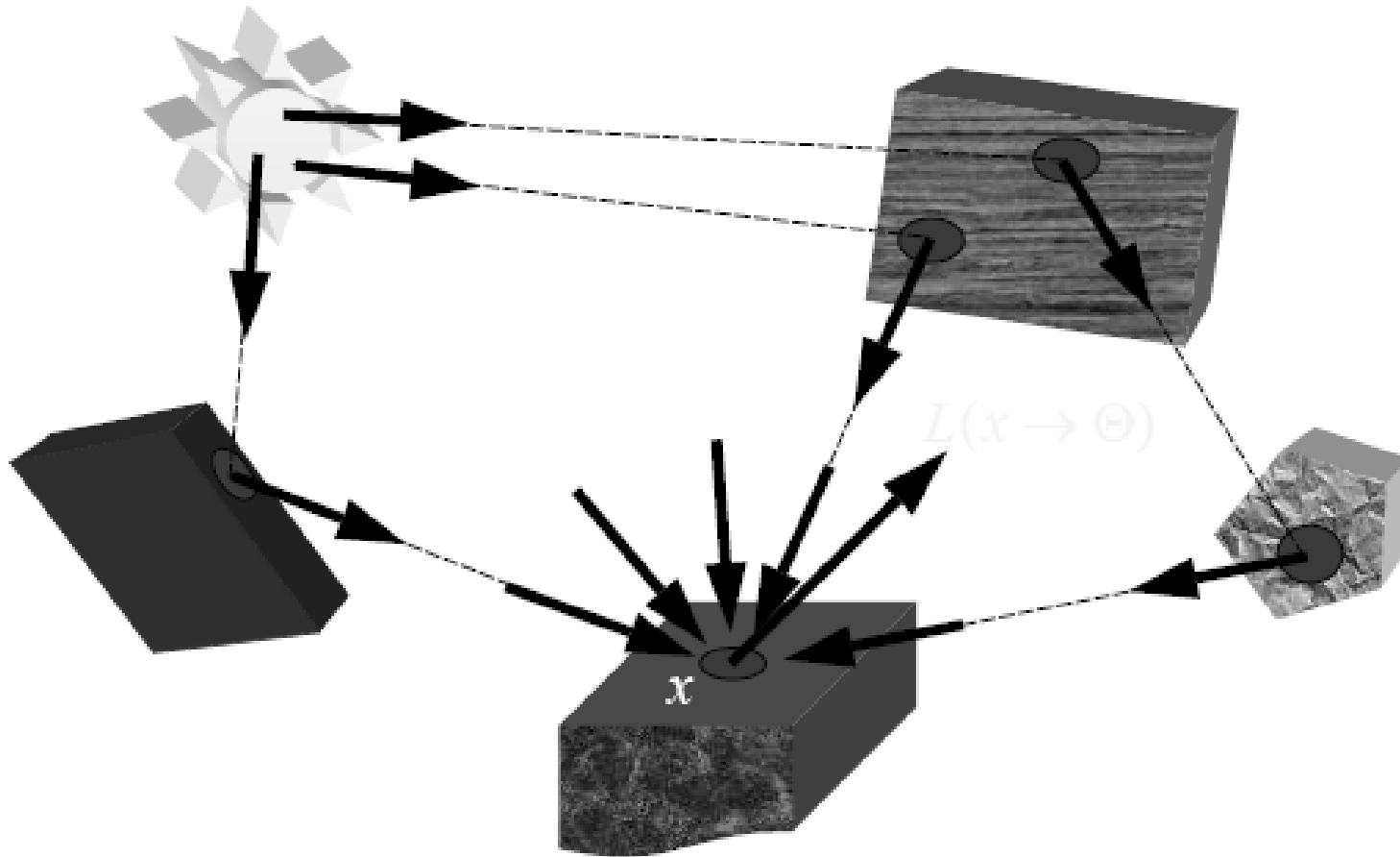
# Radiance Evaluation

- Fundamental problem in GI algorithm
  - Evaluate radiance at a given surface point in a given direction
  - Invariance defines radiance everywhere else



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# Radiance Evaluation

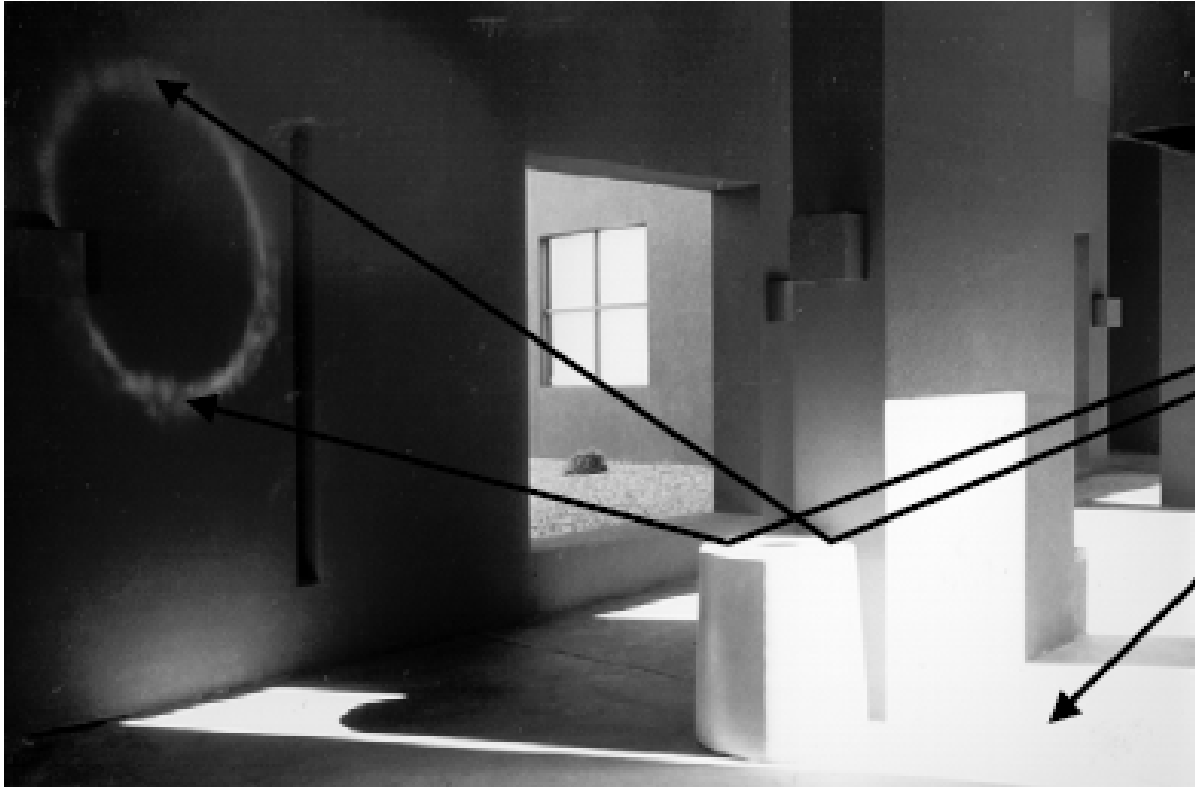


... find paths between sources and surfaces to be shaded

# Hard to Find Paths

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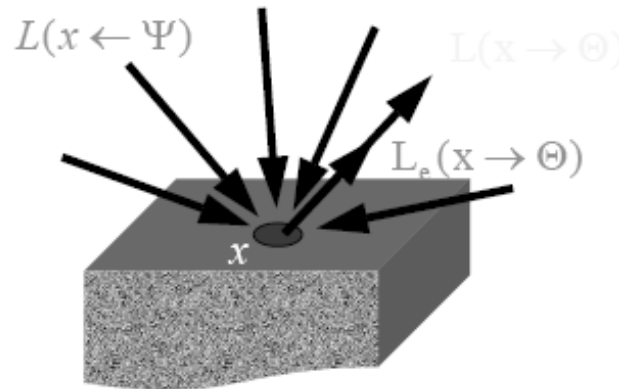


From kavita's slides

# Why Monte Carlo?

- Radiance is hard to evaluate

$$\underline{L(x \rightarrow \Theta)} = \underline{L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta)} + \int_{\Omega_x} \underline{f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta)} \cdot \underline{L(x \leftarrow \Psi)} \cdot \cos(\Psi, n_x) \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$



From kavita's slides

- Sample many paths
  - Integrate over all incoming directions
- Analytical integration is difficult
  - Need numerical techniques

# Monte Carlo Integration

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- Numerical tool to evaluate integrals
- Use sampling
- Stochastic errors
- Unbiased
  - On average, we get the right answer



# Probability

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- Random variable  $x$
- Possible outcomes:  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$ 
  - each with probability:  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_n$
- E.g. ‘average die’: 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5
  - outcomes:  $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 4, x_4 = 5$
  - probabilities:

$$p_1 = 1/6, p_2 = 1/3, p_3 = 1/3, p_4 = 1/6$$

# Expected value

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- Expected value = average value

$$E[x] = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p_i$$

- E.g. die:

$$E[x] = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{6} = 3.5$$

# Variance

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- Expected 'distance' to expected value

$$\sigma^2[x] = E[(x - E[x])^2]$$

- E.g. die:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma^2[x] &= (2 - 3.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + (3 - 3.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + (4 - 3.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + (5 - 3.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} \\ &= 0.916\end{aligned}$$

- Property:  $\sigma^2[x] = E[x^2] - E[x]^2$

# Continuous random variable

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- Random variable  $x \in [a, b]$
- Probability density function (pdf)  $p(x)$
- Probability that variable has value  $x$ :  $p(x)dx$

$$\int_a^b p(x)dx = 1$$

- Cumulative distribution function (CDF)
  - CDF is non-decreasing, positive

$$\Pr(x \leq y) = CDF(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p(x)dx$$

# Continuous random variable

---

- Expected value:  $E[x] = \int_a^b xp(x)dx$

$$E[g(x)] = \int_a^b g(x)p(x)dx$$

- Variance:

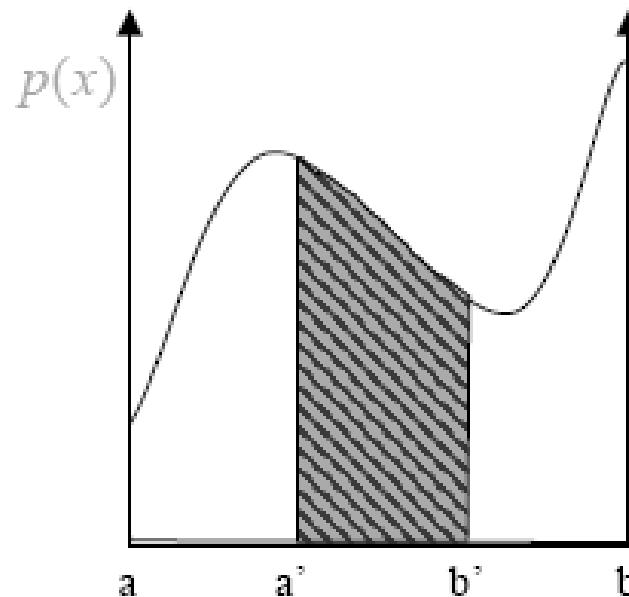
$$\sigma^2[x] = \int_a^b (x - E[x])^2 p(x)dx$$

$$\sigma^2[g(x)] = \int_a^b (g(x) - E[g(x)])^2 p(x)dx$$

- Deviation:  $\sigma[x], \sigma[g(x)]$

# Continuous random variable

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$$\int_a^b p(x) dx = 1$$

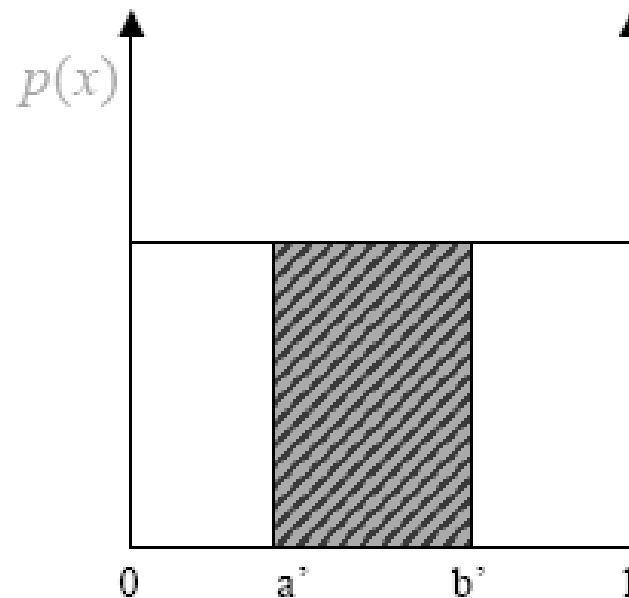
$$\Pr(x \leq y) = CDF(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p(x) dx$$

Probability that  $x$  belongs to  $[a', b']$  =  $\Pr(x \leq b') - \Pr(x \leq a')$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{b'} p(x) dx - \int_{-\infty}^{a'} p(x) dx = \int_{a'}^{b'} p(x) dx$$

# Uniform distribution

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$$\int_a^b p(x) dx = 1$$

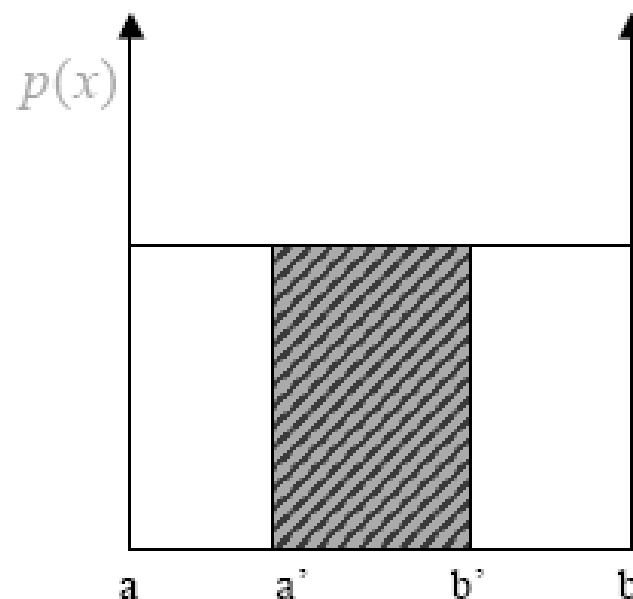
$$p(x) = \frac{1}{1-0} = 1$$

$$\Pr(x \in [a', b']) = \int_{a'}^{b'} 1 dx = (b' - a')$$

$$\Pr(x \leq y) = CDF(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p(x) dx = y$$

# Uniform distribution

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$$\int_a^b p(x) dx = 1$$

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}$$

$$\text{Probability that } x \text{ belongs to } [a', b'] = \int_{a'}^{b'} \frac{1}{(b-a)} dx = \frac{(b'-a')}{(b-a)}$$

$$\Pr(x \leq y) = CDF(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p(x) dx = \frac{(y-a)}{(b-a)}$$



# More than one sample

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- Consider the weighted sum of  $N$  samples
- Expected value  $E\left[\frac{1}{N}(x^1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots x^N)\right] = E[x]$
- Variance  $\sigma^2\left[\frac{1}{N}(x^1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots x^N)\right] = \frac{1}{N}\sigma^2[x]$
- Deviation  $\sigma\left[\frac{1}{N}(x^1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots x^N)\right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\sigma[x]$

# More than one sample

---

- Consider the weighted sum of  $N$  samples

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{N} (f(x_1) + f(x_2) + f(x_3) + \dots + f(x_N))$$

- Expected value

$$E[g(x)] = E\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N f(x_i)\right] = E[f(x)]$$

- Variance

$$\sigma^2[g(x)] = \sigma^2\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N f(x_i)\right] = \frac{1}{N} \sigma^2[f(x)]$$

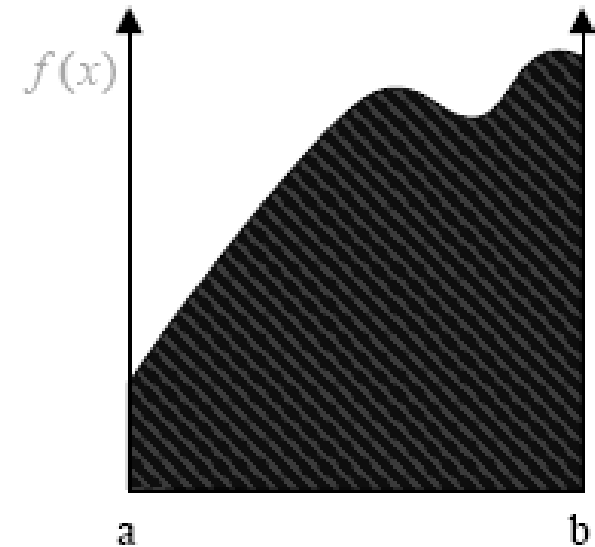
- Deviation  $\sigma[g(x)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sigma[f(x)]$

# Numerical Integration

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- A one-dimensional integral:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

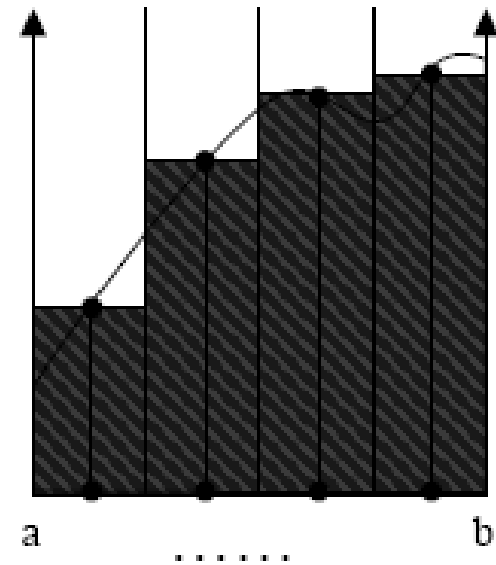


# Deterministic Integration

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- Quadrature rules:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$
$$\approx \sum_{i=1}^N w_i f(x_i)$$



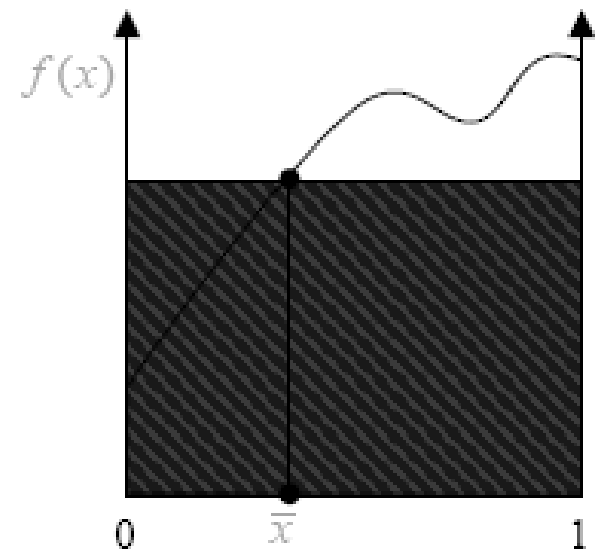
# Monte Carlo Integration

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Primary estimator:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$I_{prim} = f(\bar{x})$$



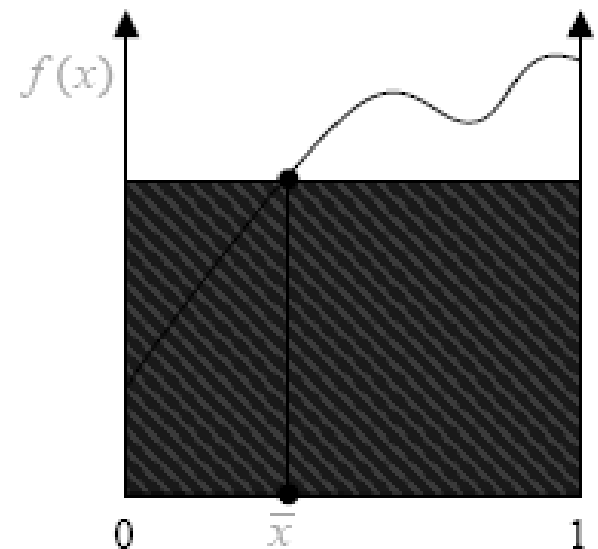
# Monte Carlo Integration

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Primary estimator:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$I_{prim} = f(\bar{x})$$



$$E(I_{prim}) = \int_0^1 f(x) p(x) dx = \int_0^1 f(x) 1 dx = I$$

Unbiased estimator!

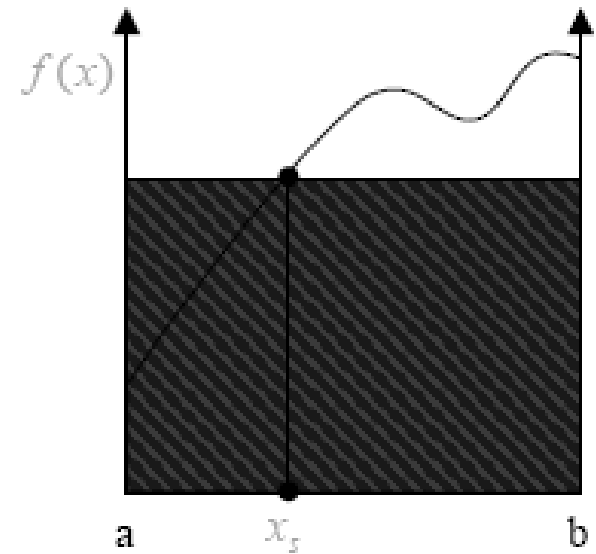
# Monte Carlo Integration

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Primary estimator:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$I_{prim} = f(x_s)(b - a)$$



$$E(I_{prim}) = \int_a^b f(x)(b - a)p(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x)(b - a) \frac{1}{(b - a)} dx = I$$

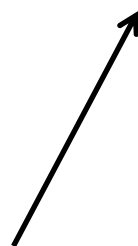
Unbiased estimator!

# Monte Carlo Integration: Error

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Variance of the estimator → a measure of the stochastic error

$$\sigma_{prim}^2 = \int_a^b \left[ \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} - I \right]^2 p(x) dx$$



- Consider  $p(x)$  for estimate
- We will study it as importance sampling later



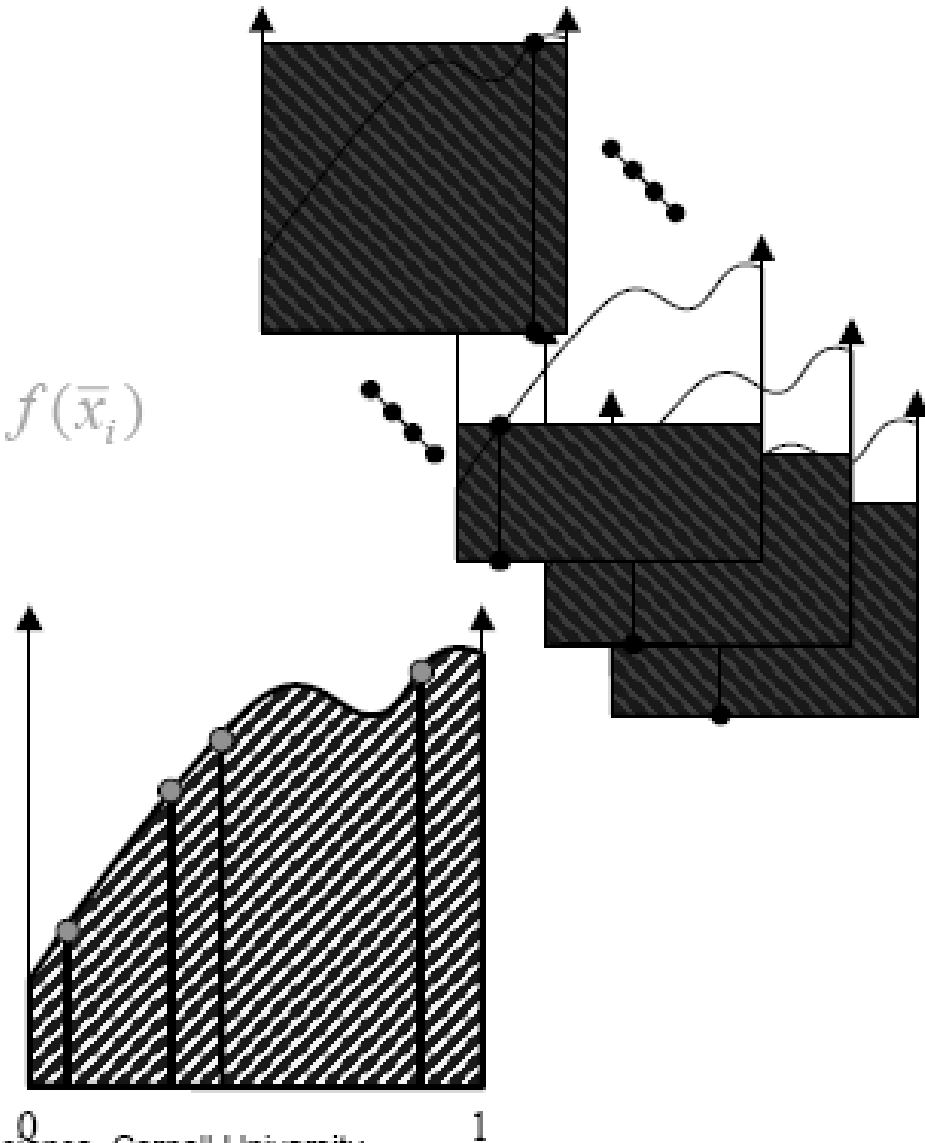
# More samples

## Secondary estimator

Generate  $N$  random samples  $\mathbf{x}_i$

Estimator: 
$$\langle I \rangle = I_{\text{sec}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_i)$$

**Variance** 
$$\sigma_{\text{sec}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{prim}}^2 / N$$



# More samples

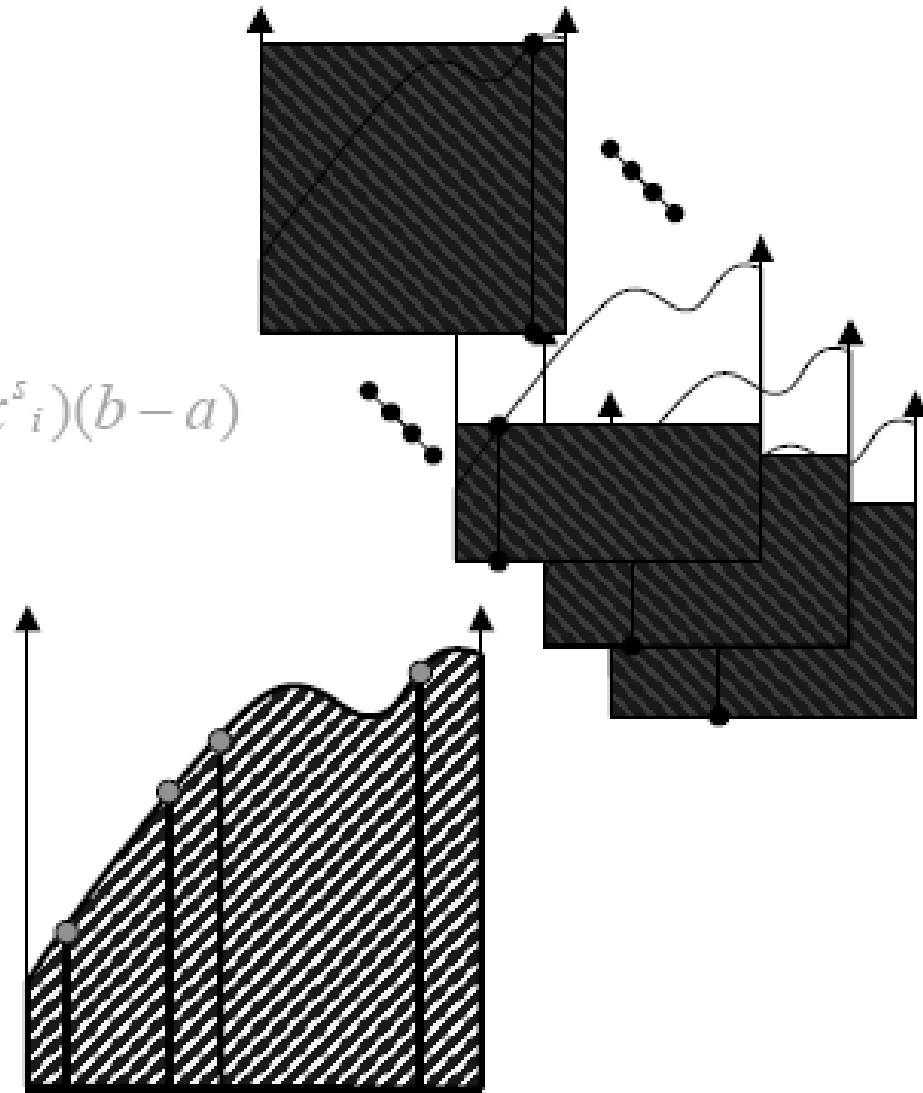
## Secondary estimator

Generate  $N$  random samples  $x_i$

$$\text{Estimator: } \langle I \rangle = I_{\text{sec}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i^s)(b-a)$$

## Variance

$$\sigma_{\text{sec}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{prim}}^2 / N$$



# Monte Carlo Integration

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- Expected value of estimator

$$\begin{aligned} E[\langle I \rangle] &= E\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}\right] = \frac{1}{N} \int \left(\sum_i^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}\right) p(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \int \left(\frac{f(x)}{p(x)}\right) p(x) dx \\ &= \frac{N}{N} \int f(x) dx = I \end{aligned}$$

– on ‘average’ get right result: **unbiased**

- Standard deviation  $\sigma$  is a measure of the stochastic error

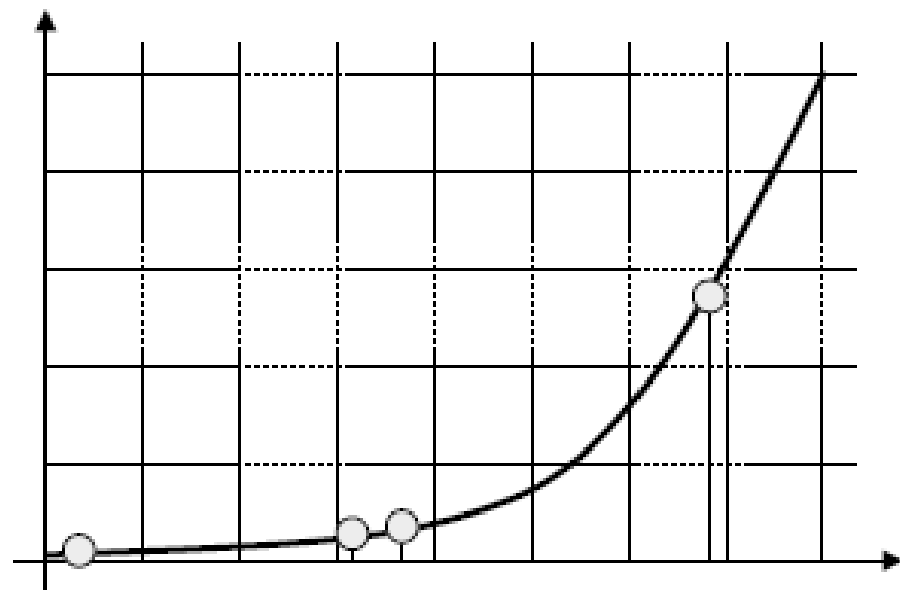
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \int_a^b \left[\frac{f(x)}{p(x)} - I\right]^2 p(x) dx$$

# MC Integration - Example

– Integral  $I = \int_0^1 5x^4 dx = 1$

– Uniform sampling

– Samples :



$$x_1 = .86$$

$$\langle I \rangle = 2.74$$

$$x_2 = .41$$

$$\langle I \rangle = 1.44$$

$$x_3 = .02$$

$$\langle I \rangle = 0.96$$

$$x_4 = .38$$

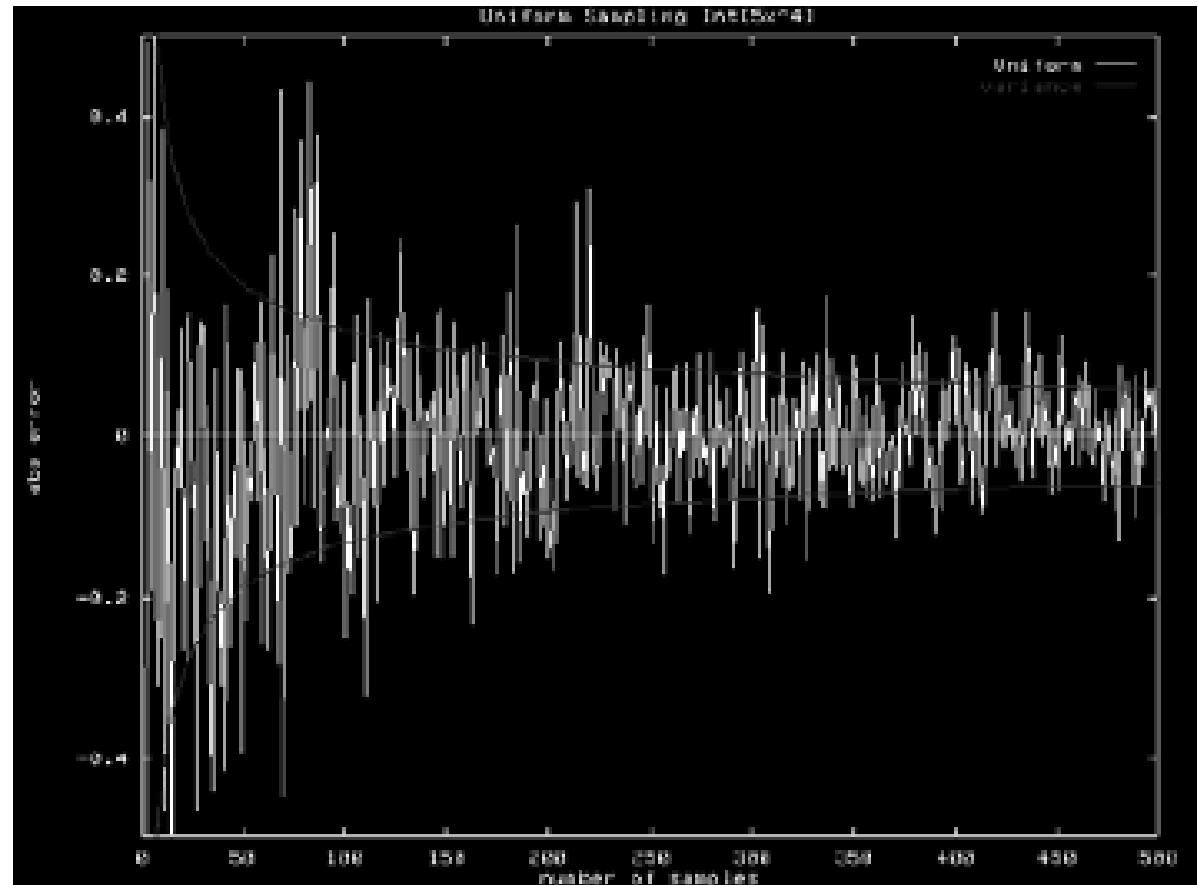
$$\langle I \rangle = 0.75$$

# MC Integration - Example

- Integral

$$I = \int_0^1 5x^4 dx = 1$$

- Variance

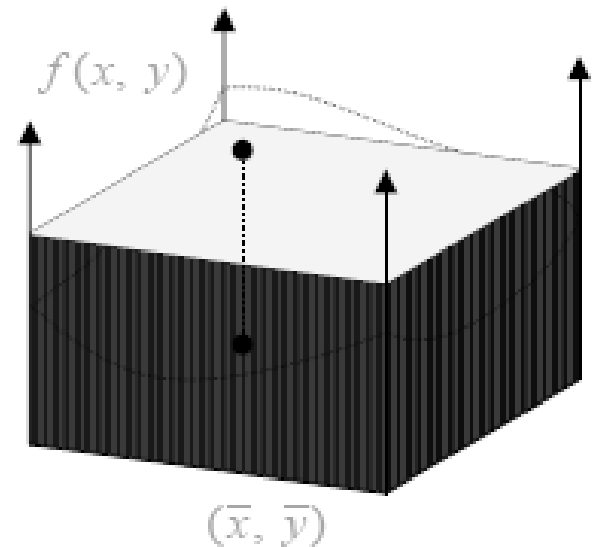


# MC Integration: 2D

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- Primary estimator:

$$\bar{I}_{prim} = \frac{f(\bar{x}, \bar{y})}{p(\bar{x}, \bar{y})}$$

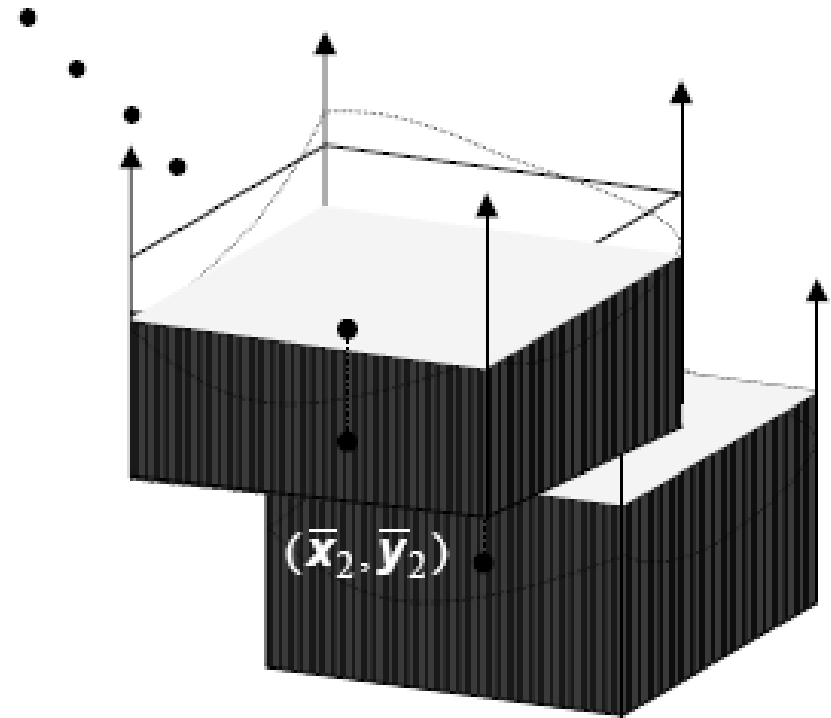


# MC Integration: 2D

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- Secondary estimator:

$$I_{\text{sec}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(\bar{x}_i, \bar{y}_i)}{p(\bar{x}_i, \bar{y}_i)}$$



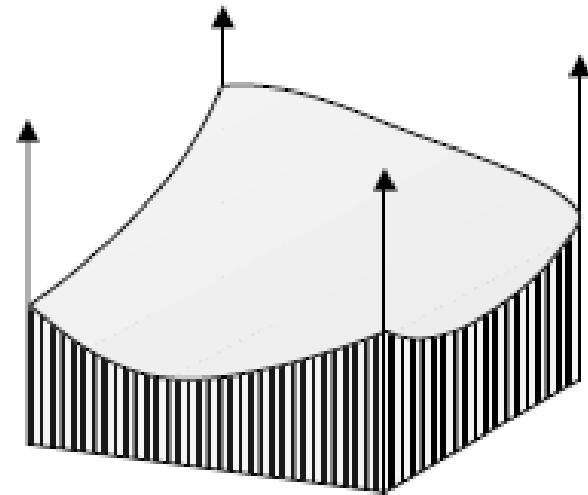
# Monte Carlo Integration - 2D

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- MC Integration works well for higher dimensions
- Unlike quadrature

$$I = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$\langle I \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i, y_i)}{p(x_i, y_i)}$$





# Advantages of MC

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- Convergence rate of  $O(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}})$
- Simple
  - Sampling
  - Point evaluation
- General
  - Works for high dimensions
  - Deals with discontinuities, crazy functions, etc.

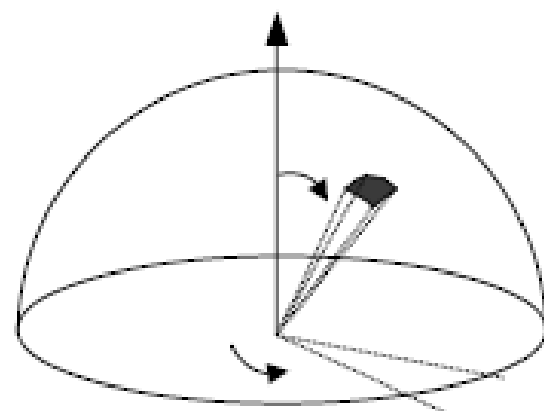
# MC Integration - 2D example

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- Integration over hemisphere:

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_{\Omega} f(\Theta) d\omega_{\Theta} \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} f(\varphi, \theta) \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi \end{aligned}$$

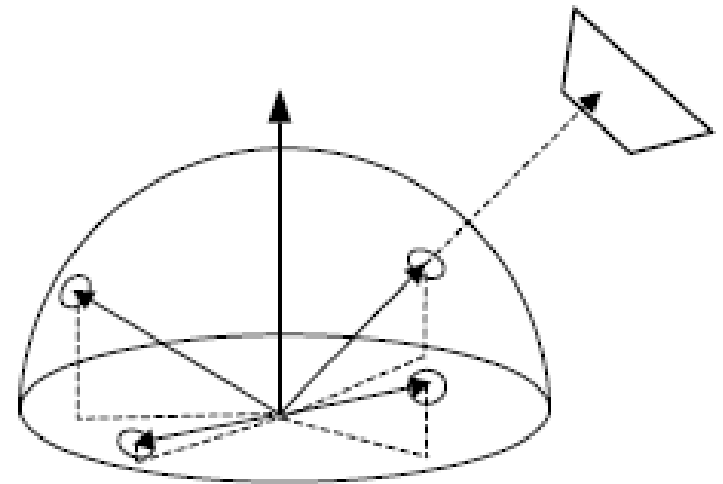
$$\langle I \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(\varphi_i, \theta_i) \sin \theta_i}{p(\varphi_i, \theta_i)}$$



# Hemisphere Integration example

Irradiance due to light source:

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_{\Omega} L_{source} \cos \theta d\omega_{\ominus} \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} L_{source} \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi \end{aligned}$$

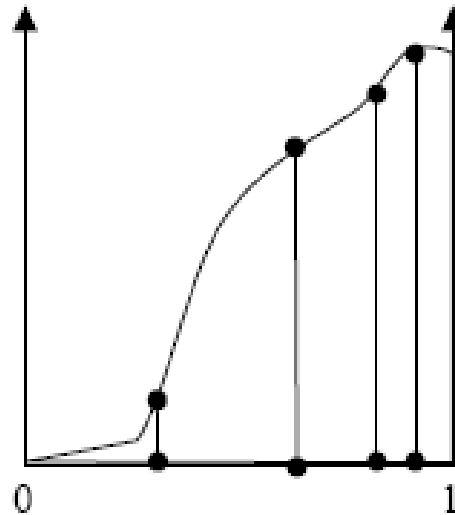


$$p(\omega_i) = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{\pi}$$

$$\langle I \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_{source}(\omega_i) \cos \theta \sin \theta}{p(\omega_i)} = \frac{\pi}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_{source}(\omega_i)$$

# Importance Sampling

- Take more samples in important regions, where the function is large



From kavita's slides

# MC integration - Non-Uniform

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- Some parts of the integration domain have higher importance
- Generate samples according to density function  $p(x)$

$$\langle I \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}$$

- Estimator?
- What is optimal  $p(x)$ ?  $p(x) \approx f(x) / \int f(x) dx$

# MC integration - Non-Uniform

---

- Generate samples according to density function  $p(x)$

$$p(x) \approx f(x) / \int f(x) dx$$

- Why?  $I_{estimator} = \frac{1}{N} \sum \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} = \frac{1}{N} \sum \frac{f(x)}{f(x)/I} = \frac{1}{N} \sum I = I$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \int_a^b \left[ \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} - I \right]^2 p(x) dx$$

- But.....

$$= \frac{1}{N} \int_a^b \left[ \frac{f(x)}{f(x)/I} - I \right]^2 p(x) dx = 0$$

# Example

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• Function:  $I = \int_0^4 x dx = 8$        $f(x) = x$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \int_a^b \left[ \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} - I \right]^2 p(x) dx$$

$$p(x) = \frac{x}{8}, \sigma^2 = 0 \quad I_{\text{estimator}} = I = 8$$

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{4}, \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \int_0^4 \left[ \frac{x}{1/4} - 8 \right]^2 \frac{1}{4} dx = 21.3 / N$$

$$p(x) = \frac{x+2}{16}, \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \int_0^4 \left[ \frac{x}{(x+2)/16} - 8 \right]^2 \frac{x+2}{16} dx = 6.3 / N$$

# Importance Sampling

---

- Generate samples from density function  $p(x)$

$$\langle I \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}$$

- Optimal  $p(x)$ ?  $p(x) \approx f(x) / \int f(x) dx$
- General principle:
  - Closer shape of  $p(x)$  is to shape of  $f(x)$ , lower the variance
- Variance can *increase* if  $p(x)$  is chosen badly



# Sampling according to pdf

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- Inverse cumulative distribution function
- Rejection sampling

# Inverse Cumulative Distribution Function – Discrete Case

- Consider discrete events  $x_i$   
– with probability  $p_i$
- Select  $x_i$  if:

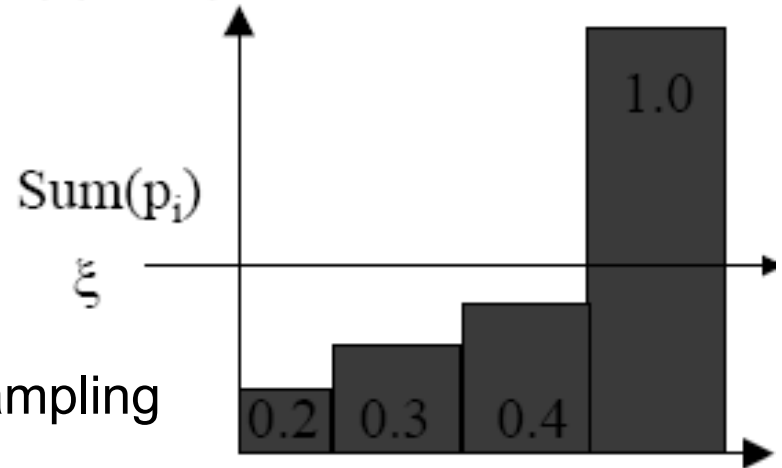
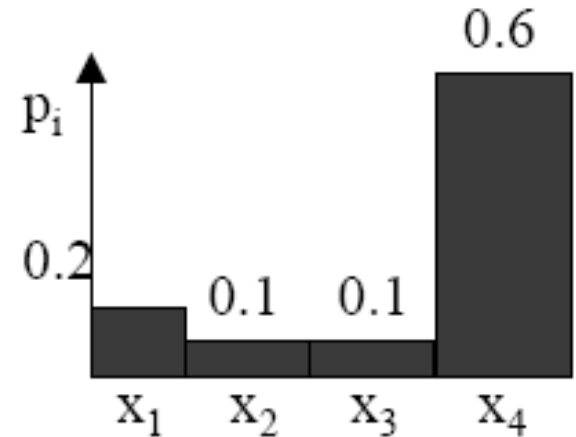
$$p_1 + \dots + p_{i-1} < \xi < p_1 + \dots + p_{i-1} + p_i$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} p_j < \xi < \sum_{j=1}^i p_j$$

$$P(x_i) = P(\xi \in [\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} p_j, \sum_{j=1}^i p_j])$$

$P(a < \xi < b) = (b - a)$  , given uniform sampling

$$P(x_i) = P(\xi \in [\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} p_j, \sum_{j=1}^i p_j]) = \sum_{j=1}^i p_j - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} p_j = p_i$$



# Continuous Random Variable

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- **Algorithm**

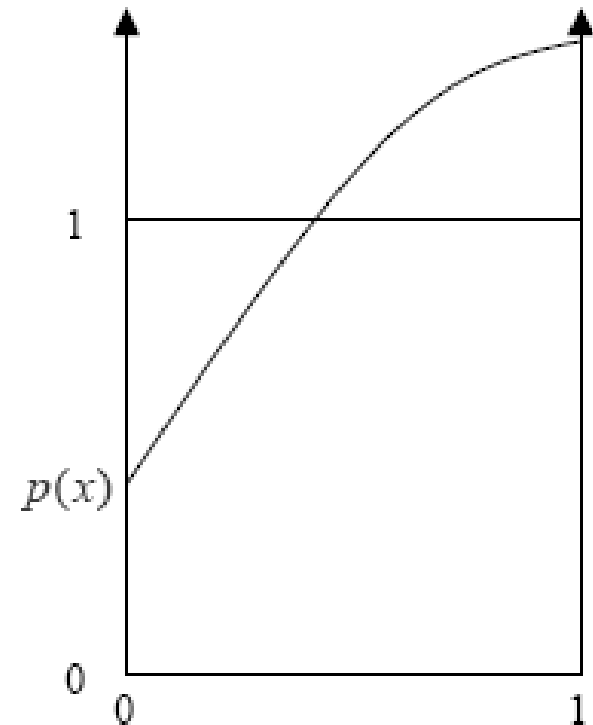
- Pick  $u$  uniformly from  $[0, 1)$

- Output  $y = P^{-1}(u)$ , where  $P(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p(x)dx$

# Non-Uniform Samples

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- 1) Choose a normalized probability density function  $p(x)$

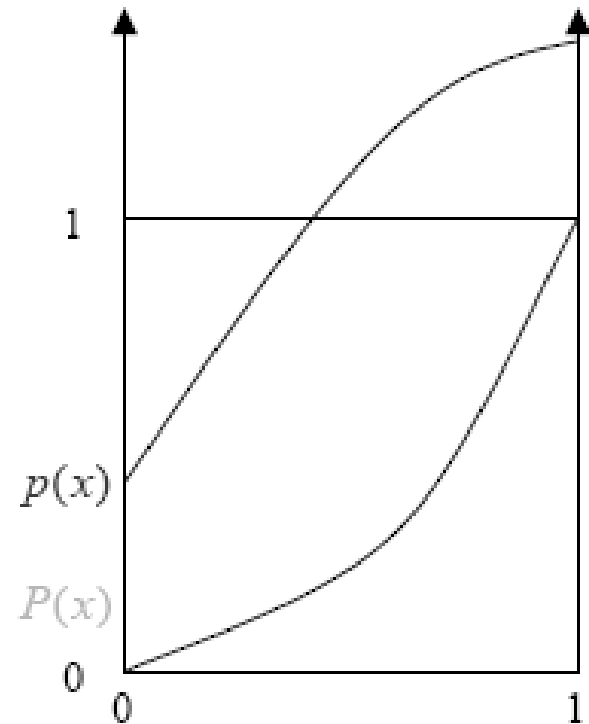


# Non-Uniform Samples

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- 1) Choose a normalized probability density function  $p(x)$
- 2) Integrate to get a cumulative probability distribution function  $P(x)$ :

$$P(x) = \int_0^x p(t) dt$$



Note this is similar to computing  $\sum_{j=1}^i p_j$

# Non-Uniform Samples

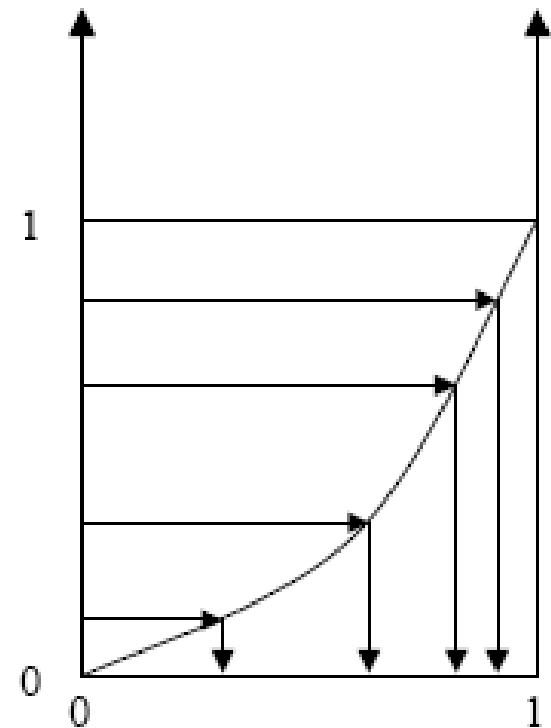
- 1) Choose a normalized probability density function  $p(x)$
- 2) Integrate to get a probability distribution function  $P(x)$ :

$$P(x) = \int_0^x p(t) dt$$

- 3) Invert  $P$ :

$$x = P^{-1}(\xi)$$

Note this is similar to going from y axis to x in discrete case!



# Cosine distribution

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$$f = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$p(\theta, \phi) = \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{\pi}$$

$$CDF(\theta, \phi) = \int_0^\theta \int_0^\phi \frac{\cos \theta \sin \theta}{\pi} d\theta d\phi = (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \frac{\phi}{2\pi}$$

$$F(\theta) = 1 - \cos^2 \theta$$

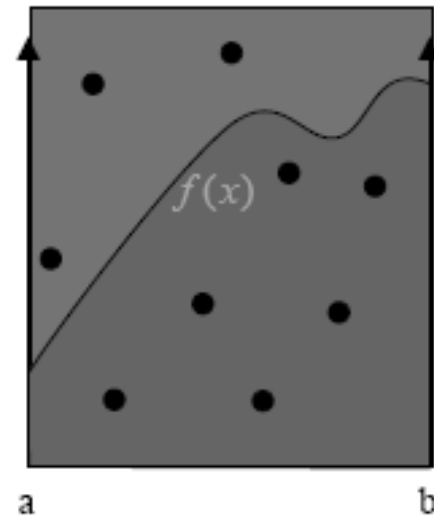
$$F(\phi) = \frac{\phi}{2\pi}$$

$$\phi_i = 2\pi\xi_1 \quad \theta_i = \cos^{-1} \sqrt{\xi_2}$$

# Rejection Method

- Often not possible to compute the inverse of cdf
- Pick  $\xi_1, \xi_2$

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$



From kavita's slides

- If  $\xi_2 < f(\xi_1)$ , select  $\xi_2$
- Is this efficient? What determines efficiency?  $A(f)/A(\text{rectangle})$



# Summary

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- Monte Carlo integration
- Estimators
- Sampling non-uniform distribution

# Next Time

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- Monte Carlo ray tracing