

# Bisection ideas in End-Point Conditioned Markov Process Simulation

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$X$  finite Markov jump process  
on  $[0, T]$

**Aim:**

simulate  $X$  conditioned on

$X(0) = a, X(T) = b$

**Applications:**

statistical inference for Markov  
processes

finance

human genetics

genomics

**Aim:**

simulate  $X$  conditioned on

$X(0) = a, X(T) = b$

**Naive algorithm:**

Start from  $X(0) = a$

First jump time exponential( $q_a$ )

new state  $a'$  chosen w.p.  $q_{aa'}/q_a$

( $q_a = -q_{aa}$ )

Repeat until  $T$  passed

Reject path if  $X(T) \neq b$ .

Inefficient if  $P_{ab}(T)$  small

Otherwise hard to beat

**Other algorithms:**

Uniformization

Direct simulation

## Uniformization

### Unconditioned implementation:

Choose  $\lambda > \max_i q_i$

Simulate Poisson( $\lambda$ ) process  
on  $[0, T]$

$N(T)$  Poisson( $\lambda T$ )

Uniform epochs

State changes at epochs  
according to  $p_{ij} = q_{ij}/\lambda$

Dummy transitions

### Conditioned implementation:

$$\mathbb{P}(N(T) = n) \propto e^{-\lambda T} \frac{(\lambda T)^n}{n!} p_{ab}^n$$

Uniform epochs

State change at epoch  $k$ , state  $i$   
according to  $p_{ij} p_{jb}^{n-k-1} / p_{ib}^{n-k}$

Inefficient if  $q_i$  variable

Otherwise often good

## Direct simulation

(Hobolth, 2008)

Start from  $X(0) = a$

First jump to  $a'$

with conditioned probability

First jump time from  $f_{aa'b}(t)$

(conditioned density)

Repeat until  $T$  passed

Messy formulas and r.v. generation

Still often good

## Comparisons:

Hobolth & Stone

*Ann. Appl. Statist.* (2009)

## Bisection for BM in $[0, 1]$

$B(0) = 0, B(1) \sim N(0, 1)$

$B(1/2)$  from conditional normal  
given  $B(0), B(1)$

$B(1/4)$  given  $B(0), B(1/2)$

$B(3/4)$  given  $B(1/2), B(1)$

Go on until desired resolution

## SA-Hobolth:

Bisection algorithm for  
end-point conditioned CTMC  
(resolution not an issue)

Initialization,  $X(0) = X(T) = a$

No jumps w.p.  $e^{-q_a T}$

W.p.  $e^{-q_a T} / P_{aa}(T)$ ,

take  $X(0 : T) \equiv a$

Otherwise at least two jumps,  
go on to recursion

Initialization,

$X(0) = a \neq b = X(T)$

One jump w.p.

$$R_{ab}(T) = \int_0^T q_a e^{-q_a t} \frac{q_{ab}}{q_a} e^{-q_b(T-t)} dt$$

W.p.  $R_{ab}(T) / P_{ab}(T)$ ,

take  $X(0 : T)$  with one jump.

Jump time density

prop. to integrand

exponential  $V$  truncated to  $[0, T]$ ,

jump time  $V$  or  $T - V$

Otherwise at least two jumps,  
go on to recursion

## Recursion, $a = b$

Know  $[0, T]$  has  $\geq 2$  jumps

$X(T/2) = ?$

$$e_a = e^{-q_a T/2}, \quad r_{ab} = R_{ab}(T/2),$$

$$p_{ab} = P_{ab}(T/2)$$

case	number of jumps in $[0, T/2]$	number of jumps in $[T/2, T]$	(unconditional) probability	not
1	0	0	$e_a e_a$	
2	0	$\geq 2$	$e_a (p_{aa} - e_a)$	
3	$\geq 2$	0	$(p_{aa} - e_a) e_a$	
4	$\geq 2$	$\geq 2$	$(p_{aa} - e_a)(p_{aa} - e_a)$	
5	1	1	$r_{ac} r_{ca}$	c
6	1	$\geq 2$	$r_{ac} (p_{ca} - r_{ca})$	c
7	$\geq 2$	1	$(p_{ac} - r_{ac}) r_{ca}$	c
8	$\geq 2$	$\geq 2$	$(p_{ac} - r_{ac})(p_{ca} - r_{ca})$	c

Sample among cases 2-8

Finish intervals with 0 or 1

Go on with  $\geq 2$

$a \neq b$ : very similar.



### CPU time for sample path generation

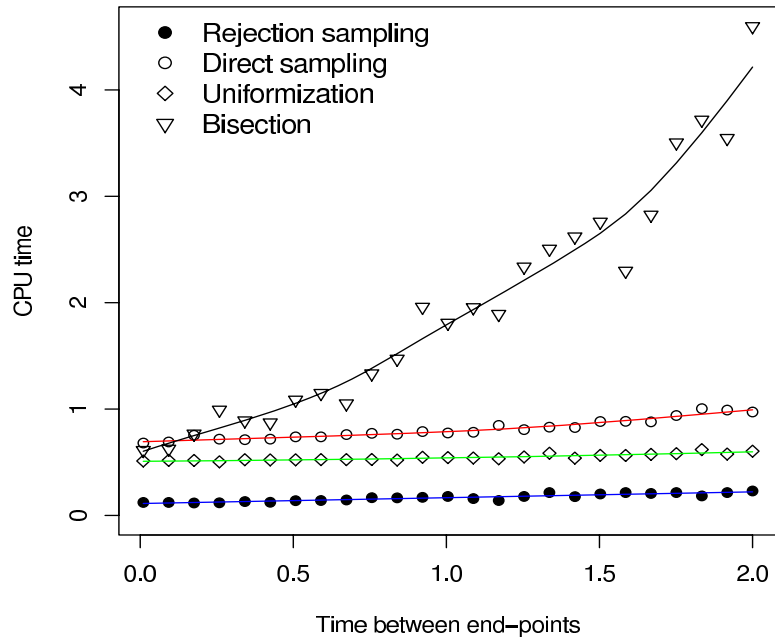


Figure 1:

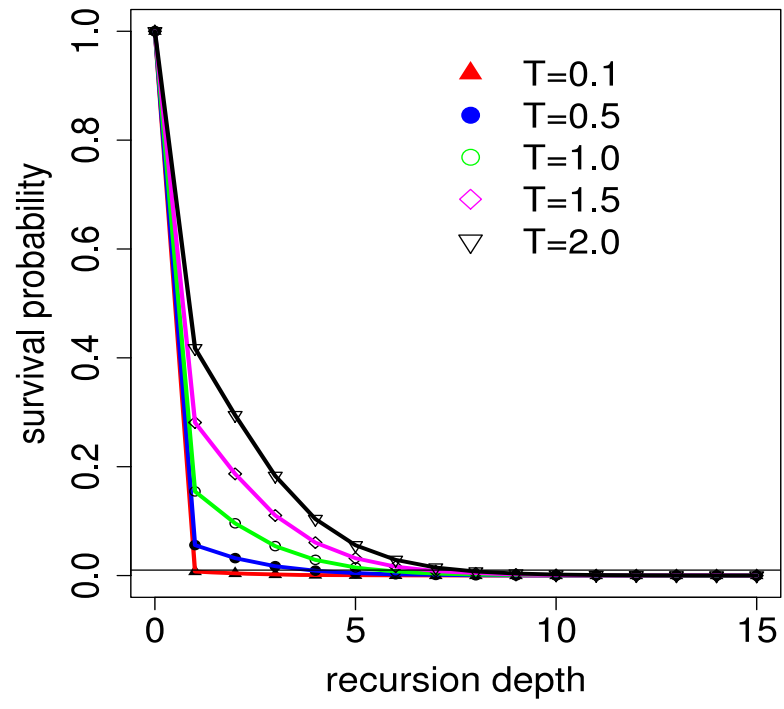


Figure 2:

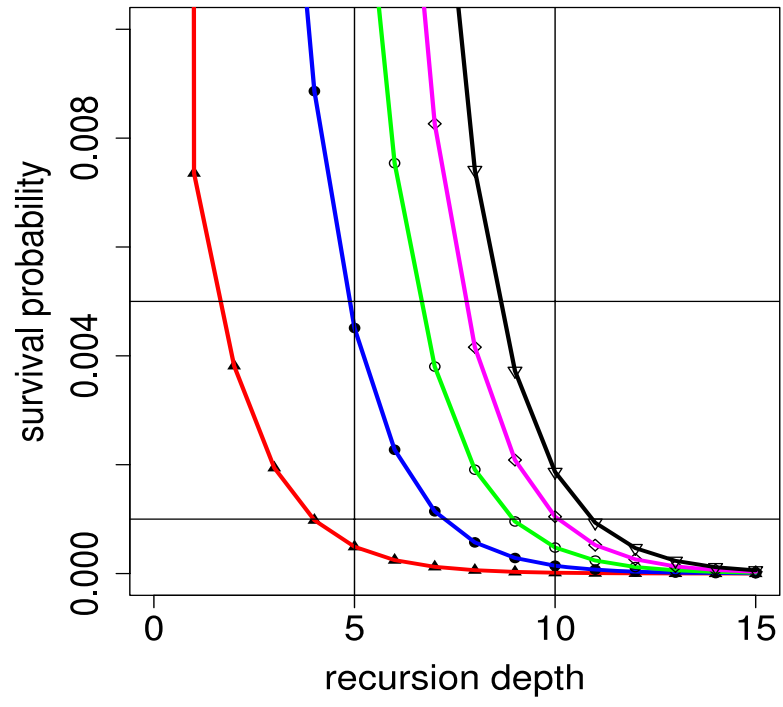


Figure 3: