

**Theorem** Random variates from the  $U(a, b)$  distribution can be generated in closed-form by inversion.

**Proof** The uniform distribution has probability density function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \quad a < x < b,$$

and cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = \frac{x-a}{b-a} \quad a < x < b.$$

Equating the cumulative distribution function to  $u$ , where  $0 < u < 1$  yields an inverse cumulative distribution function

$$F^{-1}(u) = a + (b-a)u \quad 0 < u < 1.$$

So a closed-form variate generation algorithm using inversion for the  $U(a, b)$  distribution is

```
generate  $U \sim U(0, 1)$   
 $X \leftarrow a + (b - a)U$   
return( $X$ )
```

**APPL verification:** The APPL statement

```
IDF(UniformRV(a, b))
```

produced the inverse distribution function

$$F^{-1}(u) = a + (b-a)u \quad 0 < u < 1.$$