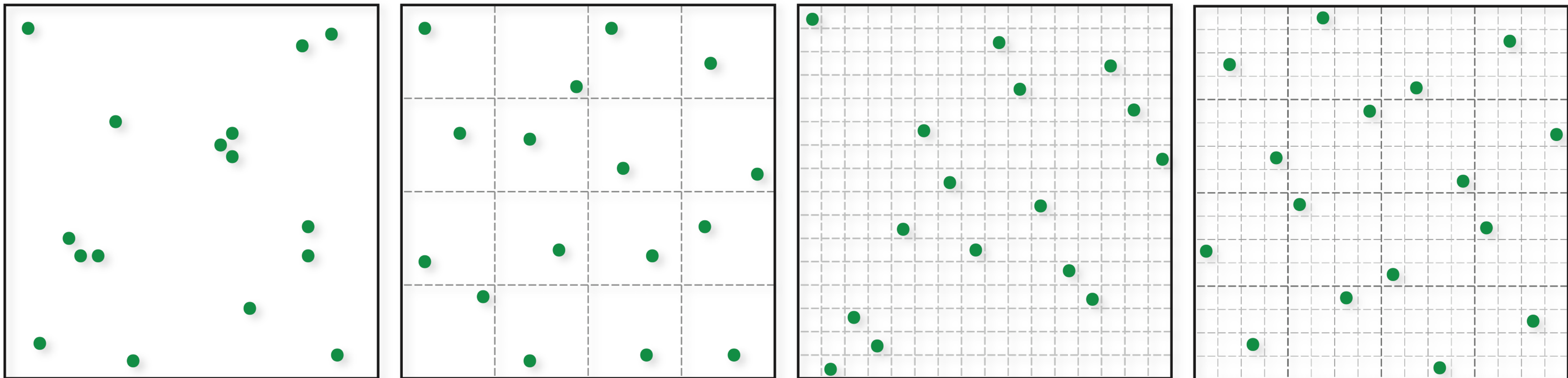


Improved sampling and quasi-Monte Carlo



15-468, 15-668, 15-868
Physics-based Rendering
Spring 2021, Lecture 20

Course announcements

- Grades for take-home quiz 5 available on Canvas.
- Take-home quiz 8-9 available on Canvas.
- Feedback for final project proposals available on Canvas.
- Post on Piazza to propose topics for this week's reading group.

Overview of today's lecture

- Wrap-up scattering.
- Stratified sampling.
- Uncorrelated jitter.
- N-rooks.
- Multi-jittered sampling.
- Poisson disk sampling.
- Discrepancy.
- Quasi-Monte Carlo.
- Low-discrepancy sequences.

Slide credits

Most of these slides were directly adapted from:

- Wojciech Jarosz (Dartmouth).

Strategies for Reducing Variance

$$\sigma [\langle F^N \rangle] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sigma [Y] \quad \leftarrow \text{remember, this assumed uncorrelated samples}$$

Reduce the variance of Y

- Importance sampling

Relax assumption of uncorrelated samples

Independent Random Sampling

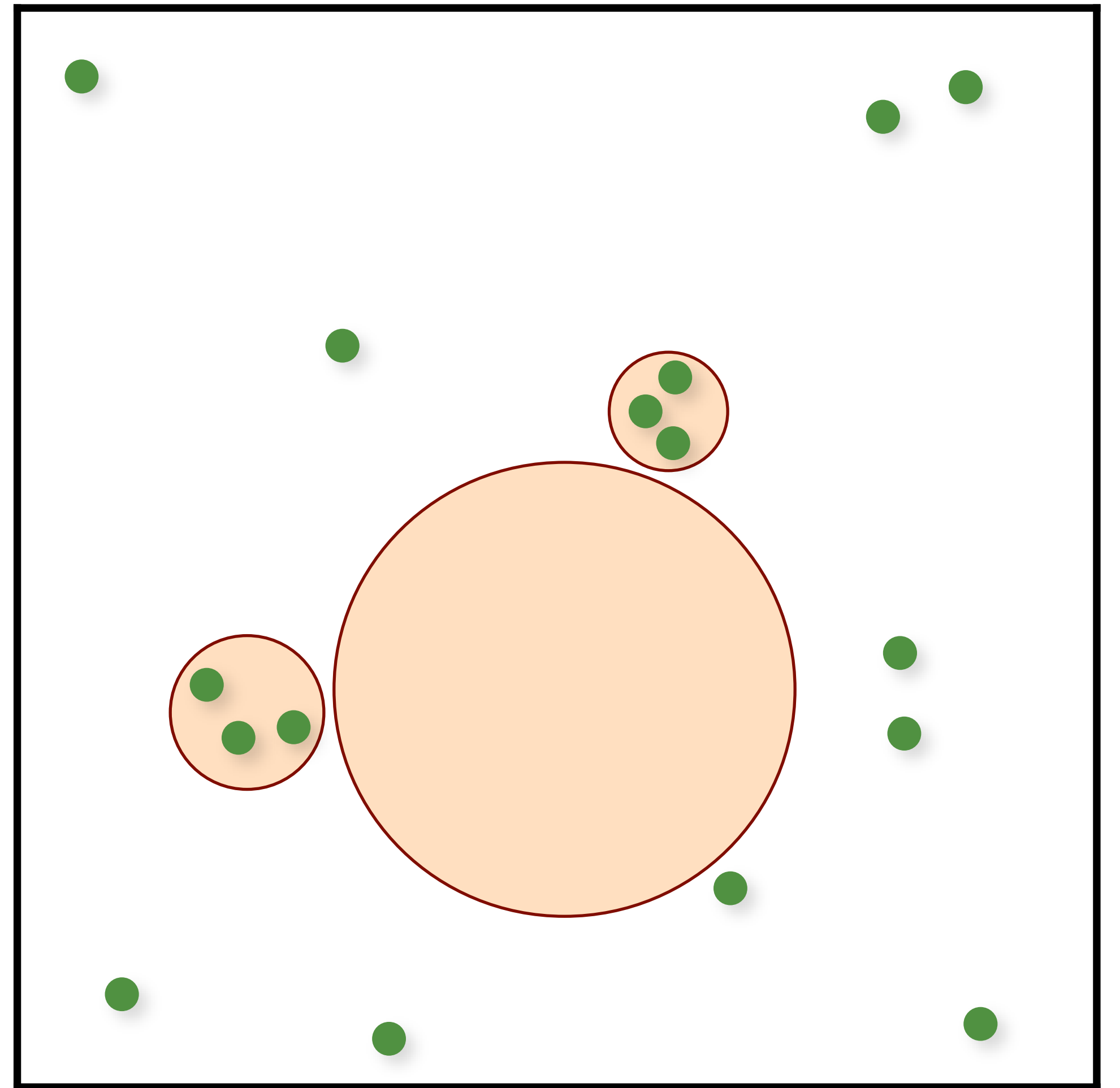
```
for (int k = 0; k < num; k++)  
{  
    samples(k).x = randf();  
    samples(k).y = randf();  
}
```

✓ Trivially extends to higher dimensions

✓ Trivially progressive and memory-less

✗ Big gaps

✗ Clumping



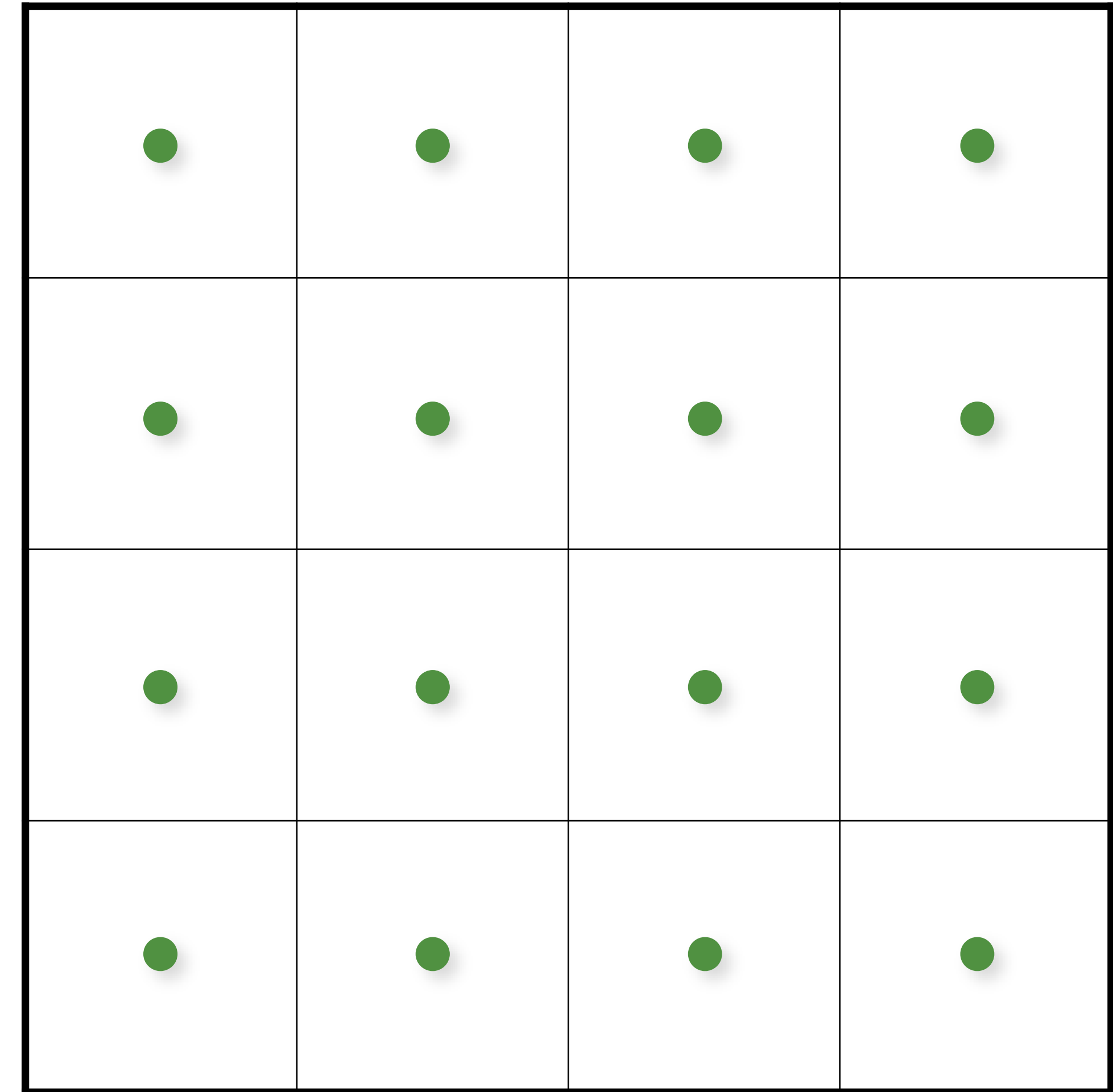
Regular Sampling

```
for (uint i = 0; i < numX; i++)  
  for (uint j = 0; j < numY; j++)  
  {  
    samples(i,j).x = (i + 0.5)/numX;  
    samples(i,j).y = (j + 0.5)/numY;  
  }
```

✓ Extends to higher dimensions, but...

✗ Curse of dimensionality

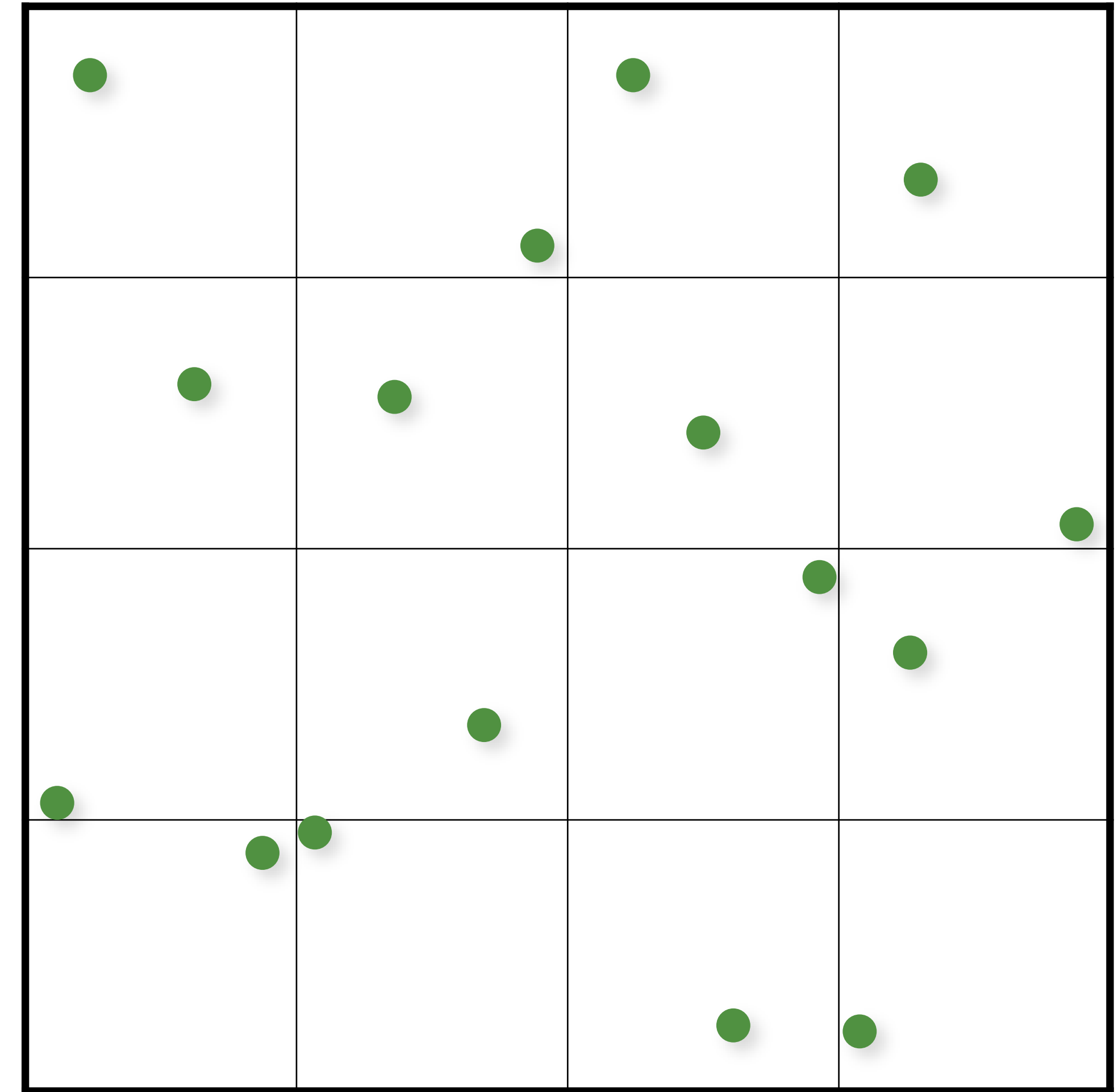
✗ Aliasing



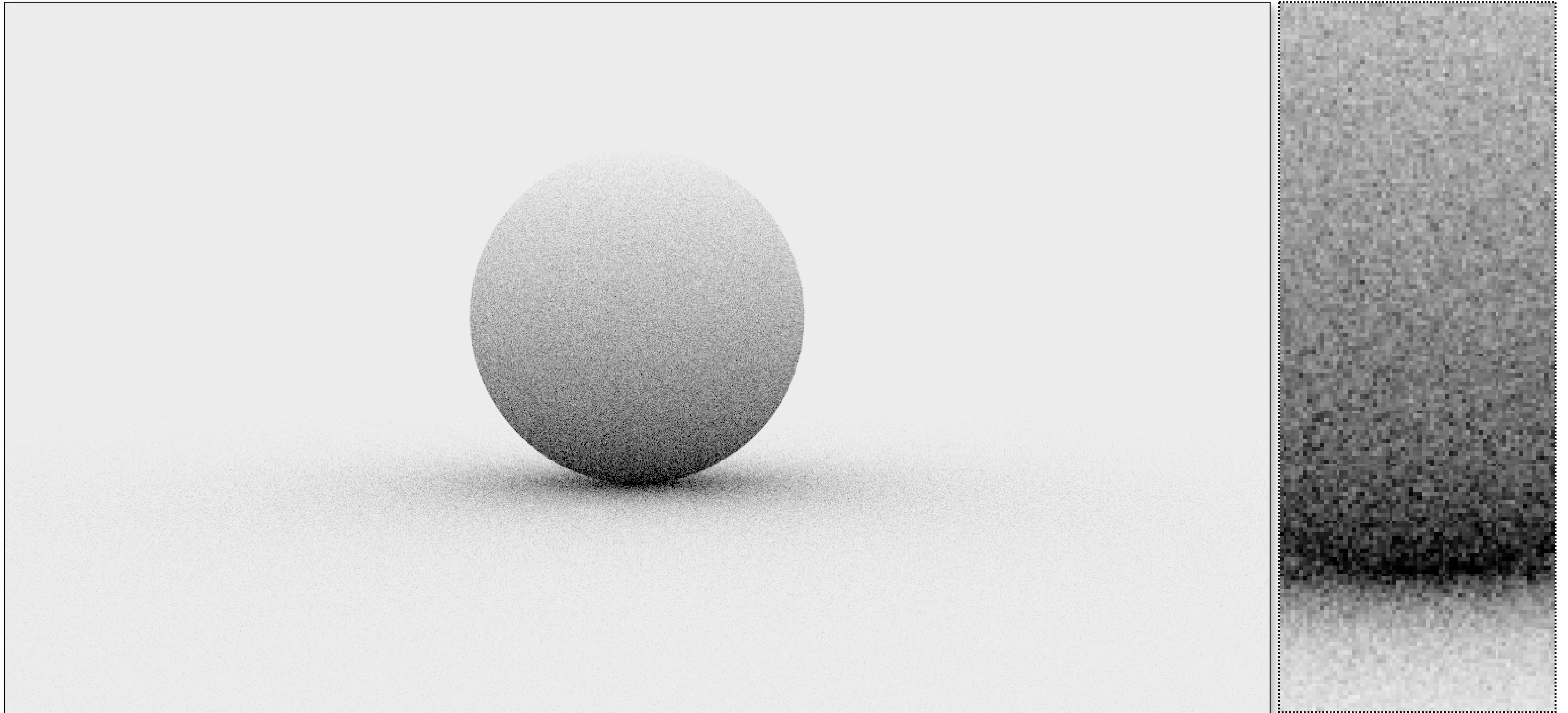
Jittered/Stratified Sampling

```
for (uint i = 0; i < numX; i++)  
  for (uint j = 0; j < numY; j++)  
  {  
    samples(i,j).x = (i + randf())/numX;  
    samples(i,j).y = (j + randf())/numY;  
  }
```

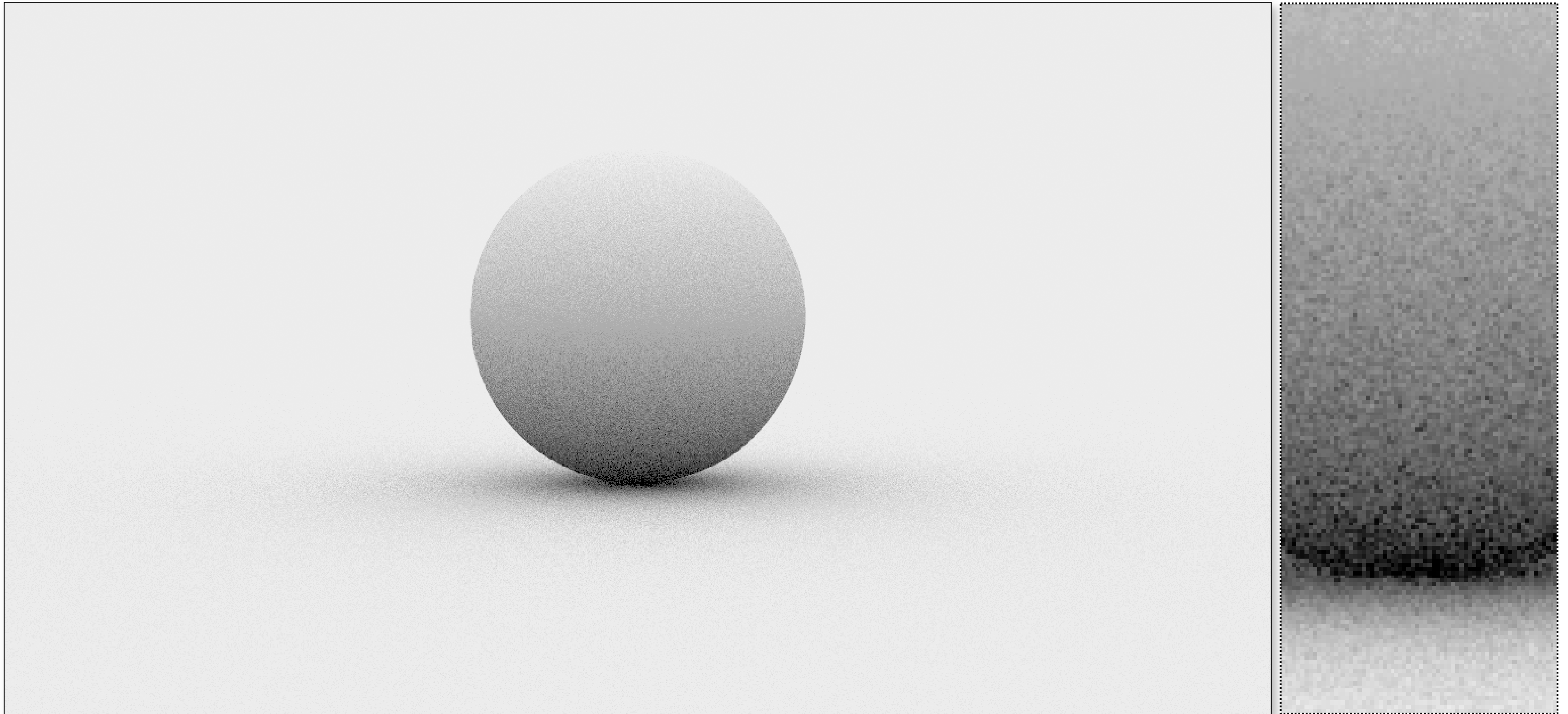
- ✓ Provably cannot increase variance
- ✓ Extends to higher dimensions, but...
- ✗ Curse of dimensionality
- ✗ Not progressive



Monte Carlo (16 random samples)



Monte Carlo (16 jittered samples)



Stratifying in Higher Dimensions

Stratification requires $O(N^d)$ samples

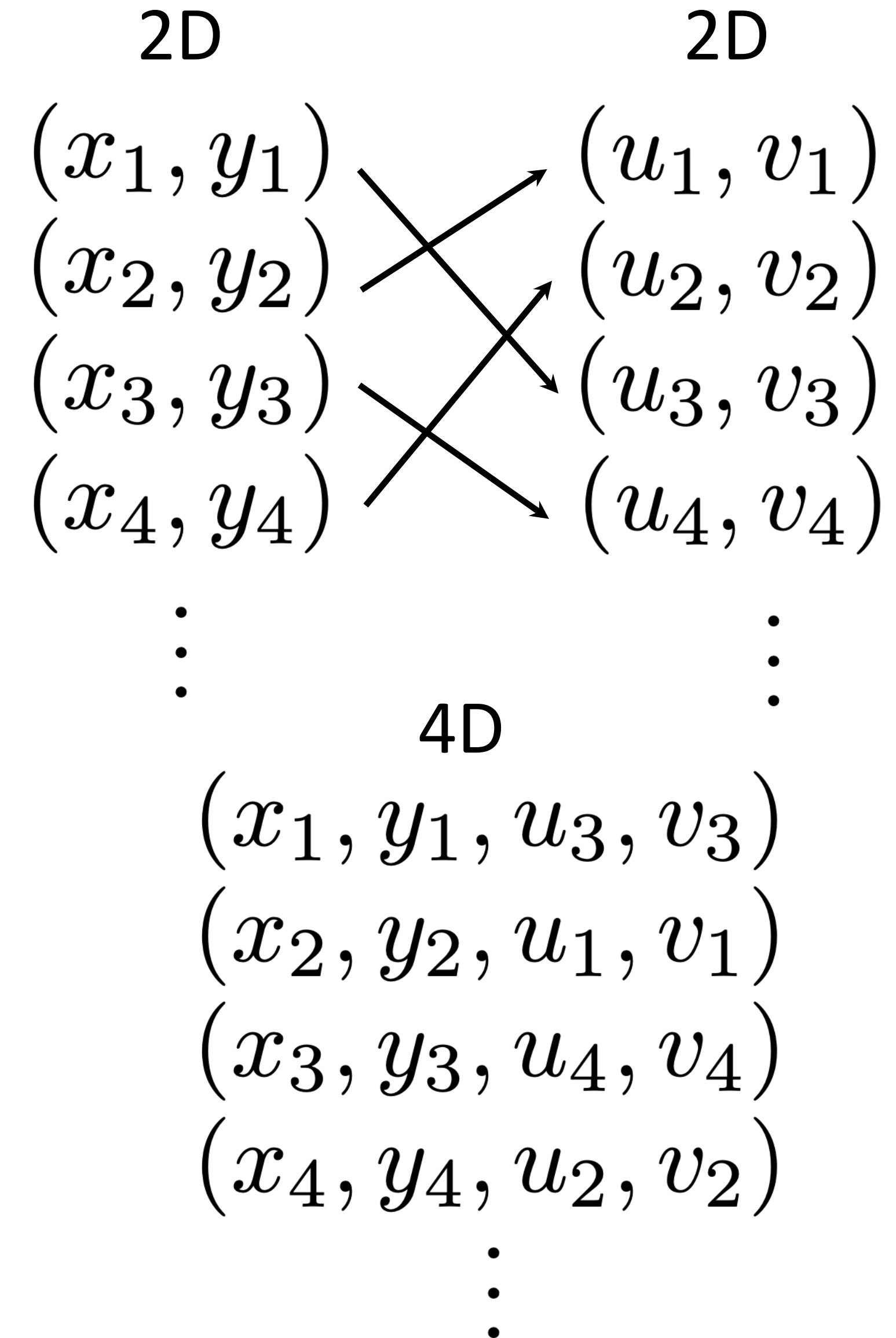
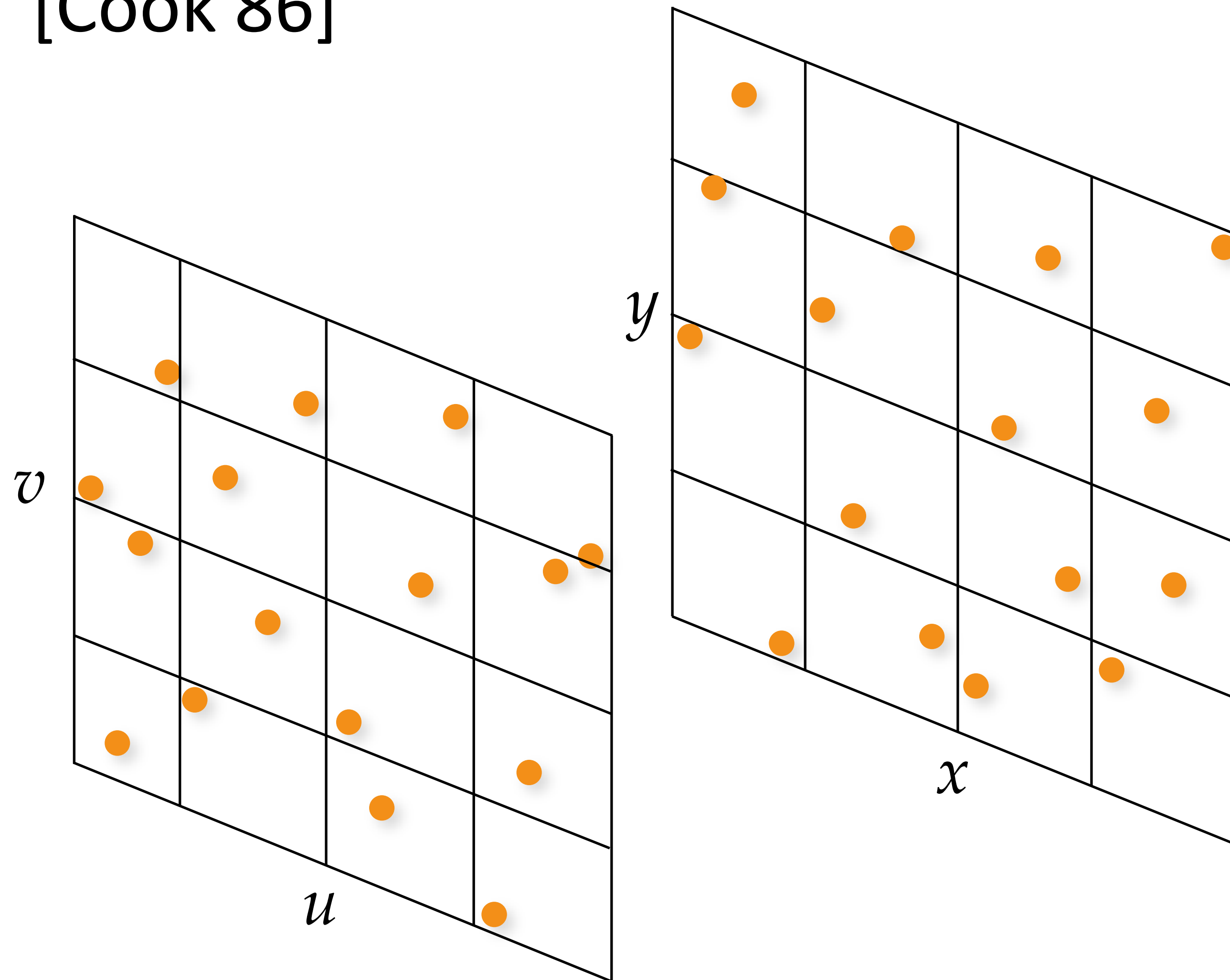
- e.g. pixel (2D) + lens (2D) + time (1D) = 5D
 - splitting 2 times in 5D = $2^5 = 32$ samples
 - splitting 3 times in 5D = $3^5 = 243$ samples!

Inconvenient for large d

- cannot select sample count with fine granularity

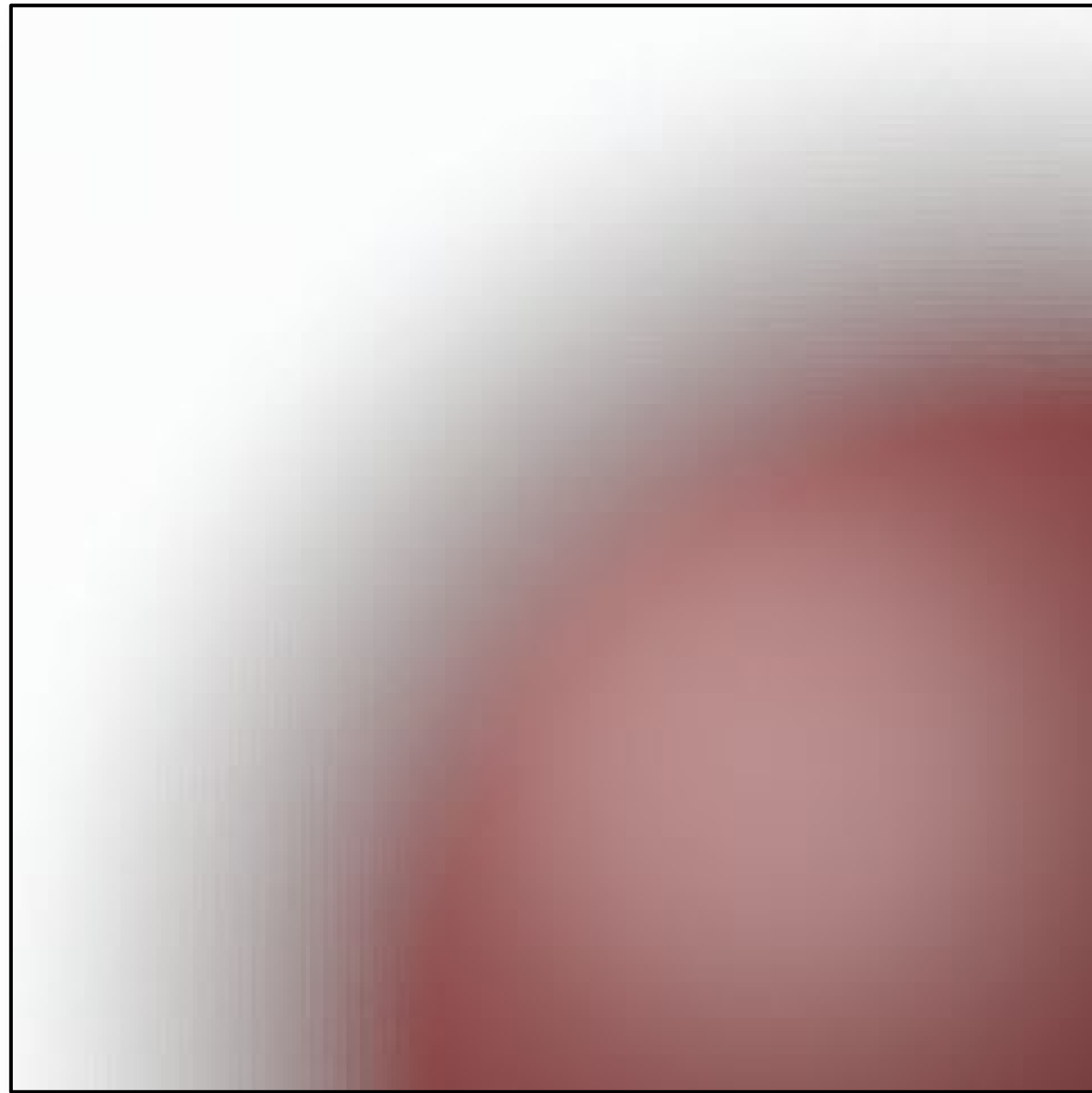
“Padding” 2D points (Uncorrelated Jitter)

[Cook 86]



Depth of Field (4D)

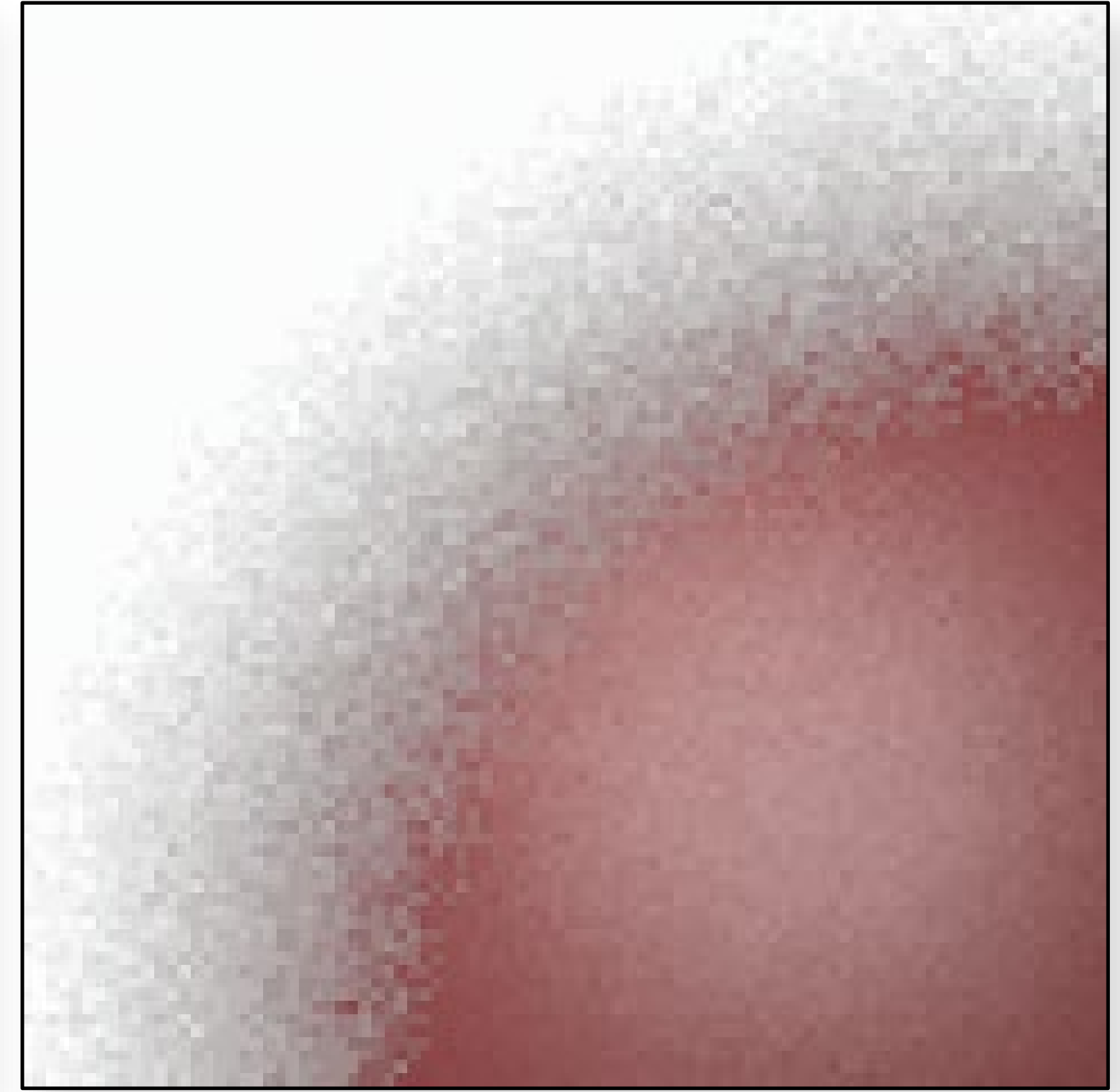
Reference



Random Sampling



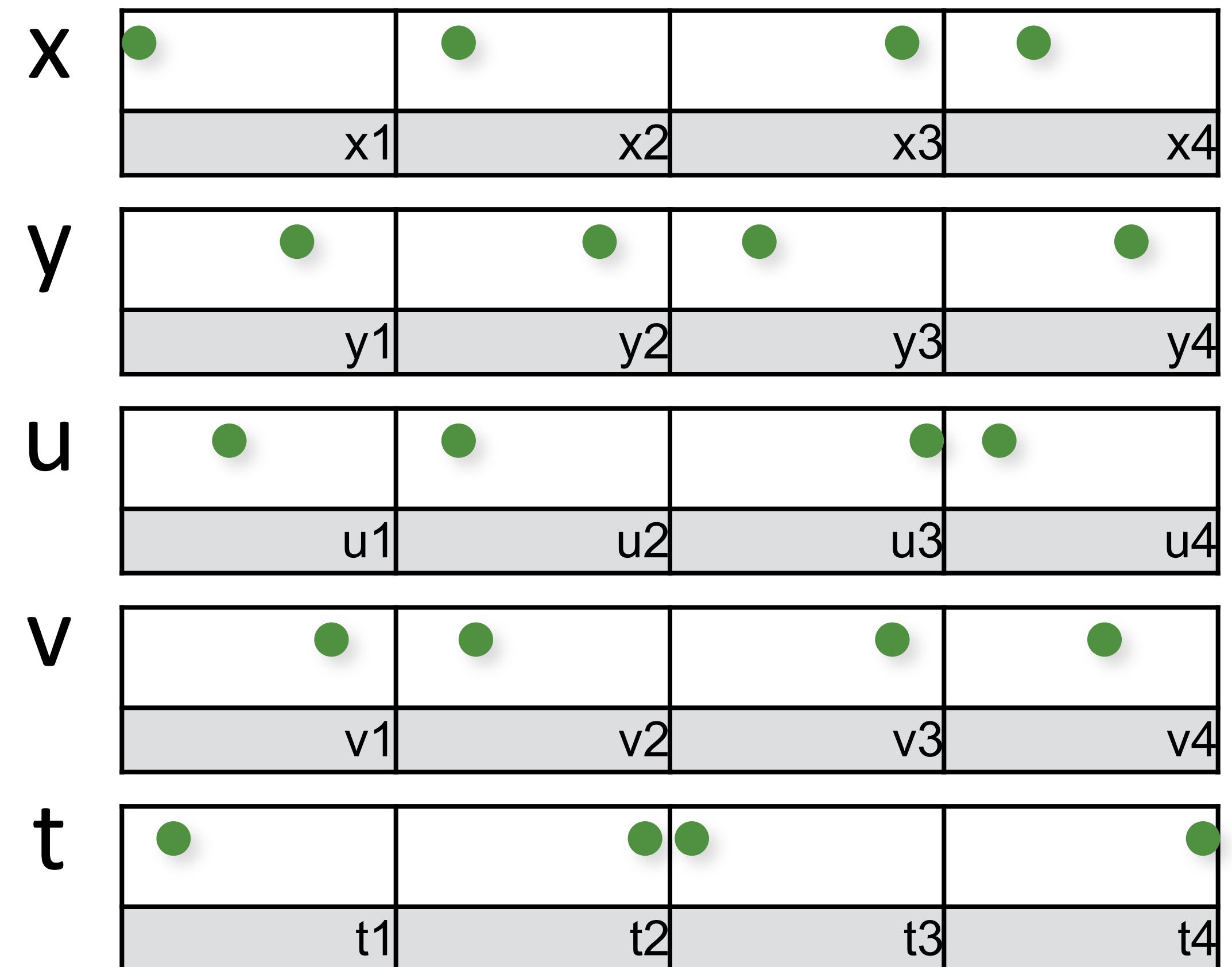
Uncorrelated Jitter



Uncorrelated Jitter → Latin Hypercube

Like uncorrelated jitter, but using 1D point sets

- for 5D: 5 separate 1D jittered point sets
- combine dimensions in random order

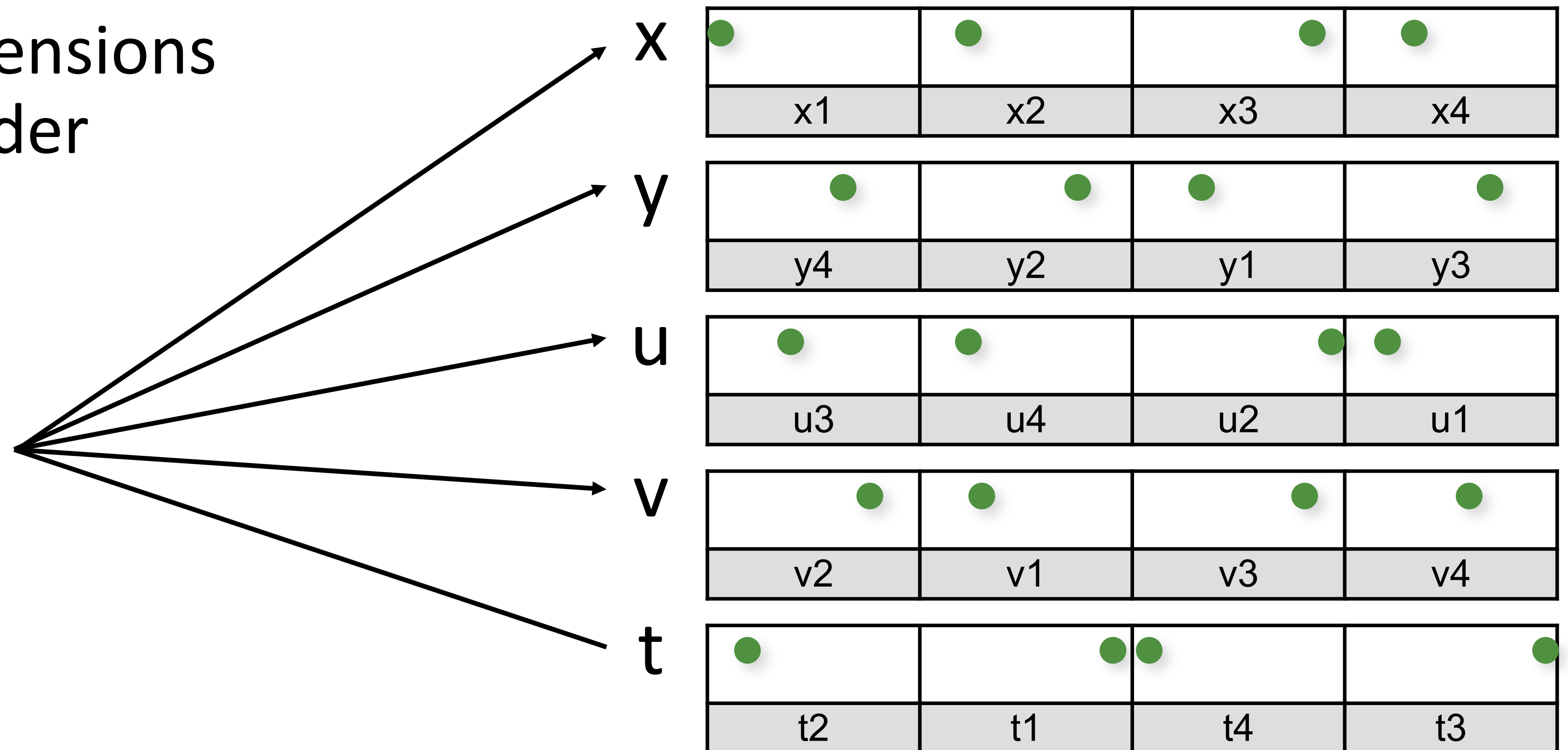


Uncorrelated Jitter → Latin Hypercube

Like uncorrelated jitter, but using 1D point sets

- for 5D: 5 separate 1D jittered point sets
- combine dimensions in random order









Shuffle order



N-Rooks = 2D Latin Hypercube [Shirley 91]

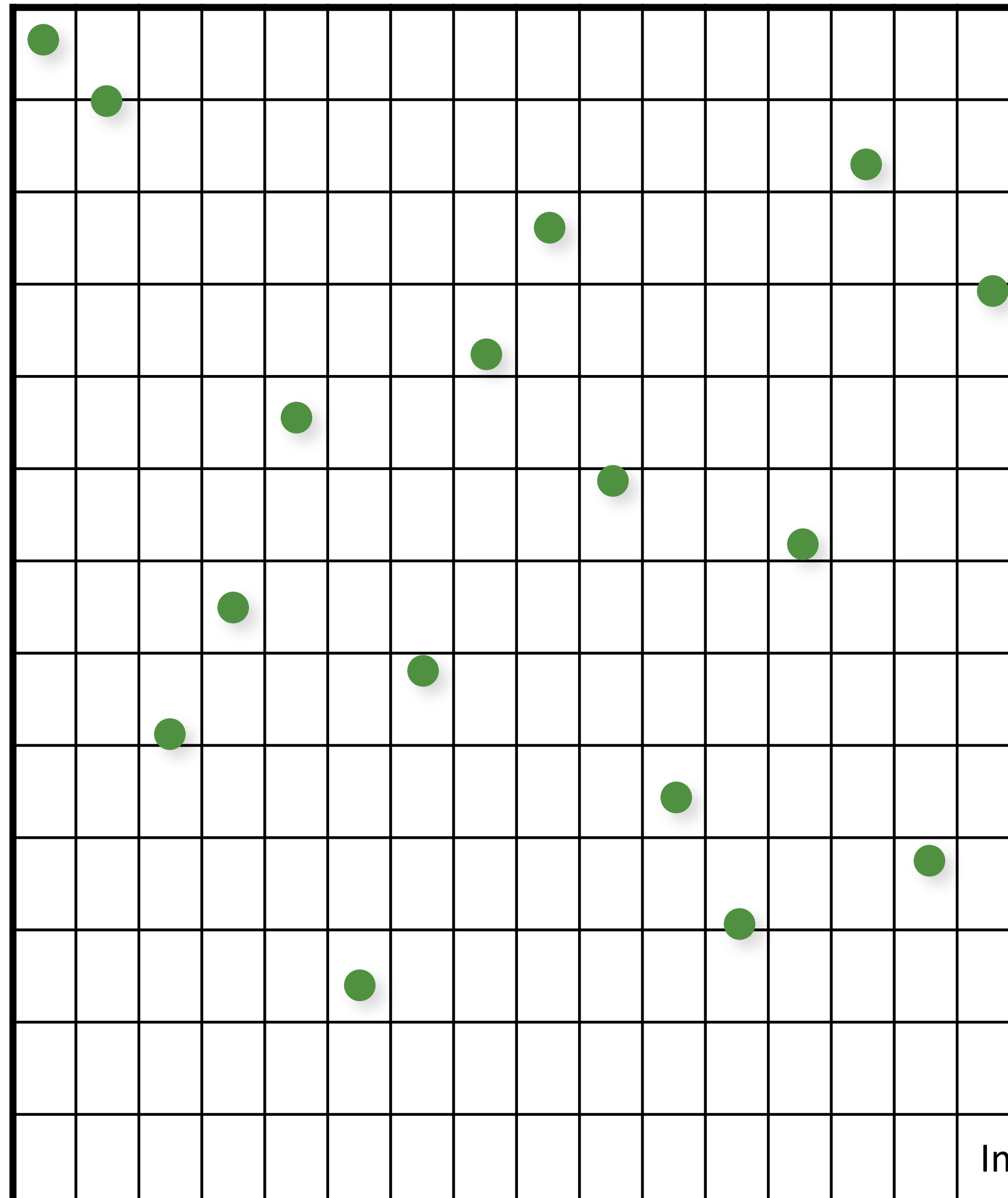
Like uncorrelated jitter, but using 1D point sets

- for **2D**: **2** separate 1D jittered point sets
- combine dimensions in random order

x				
	x1	x2	x3	x4
y				
	y4	y2	y1	y3

Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

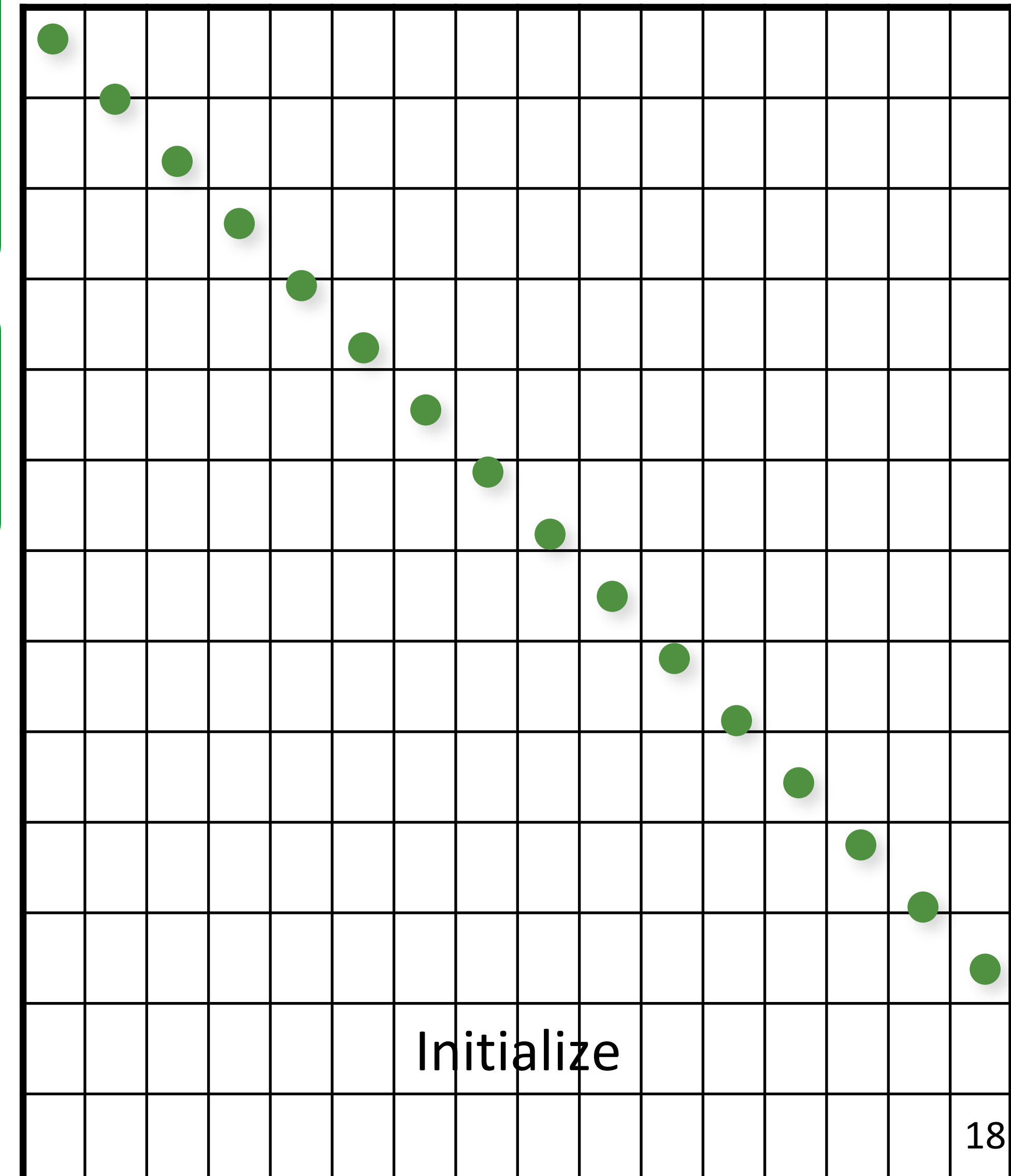
[Shirley 91]



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

```
// initialize the diagonal  
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)  
    for (uint i = 0; i < numS; i++)  
        samples(d,i) = (i + randf())/numS;
```

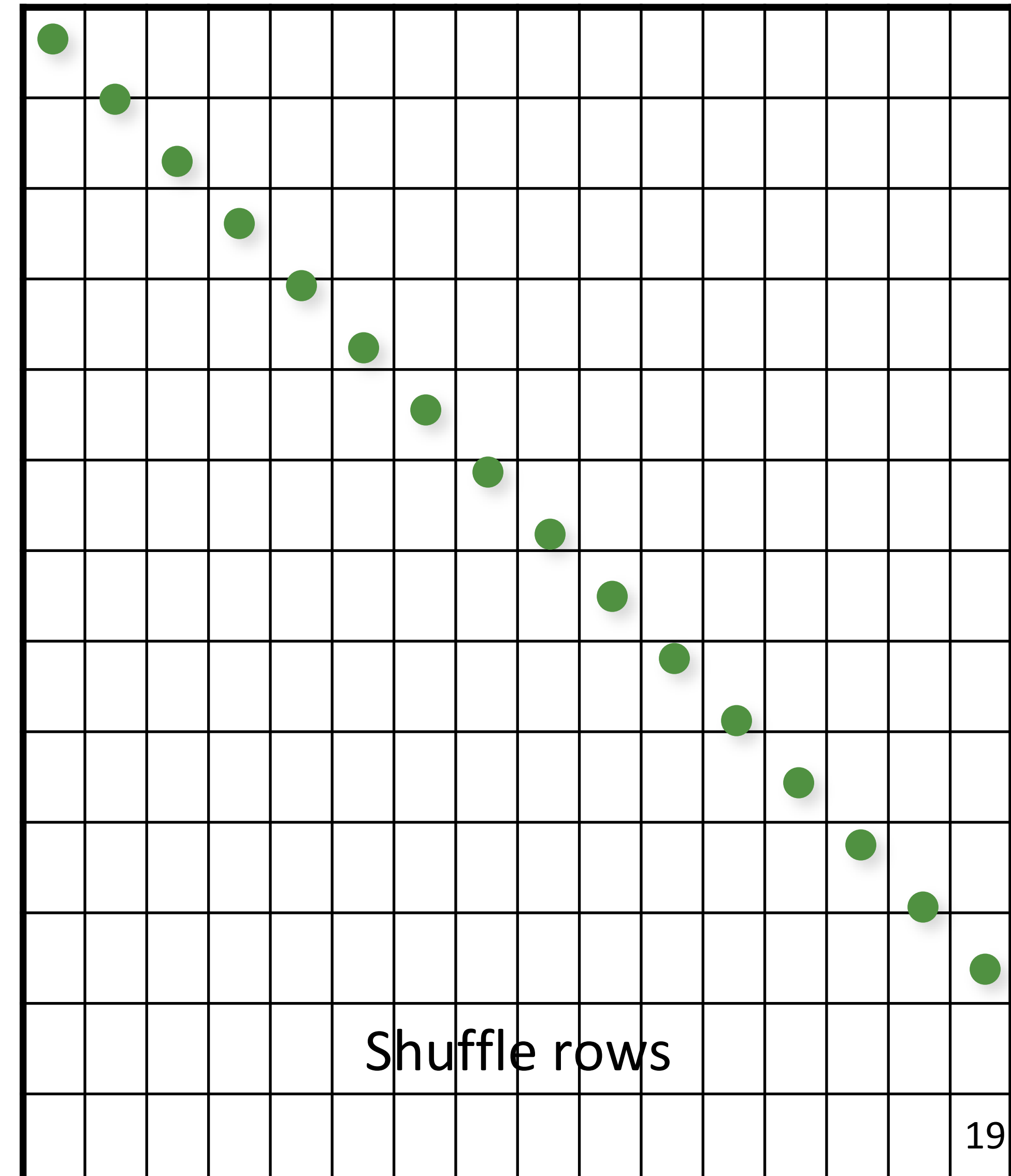
```
// shuffle each dimension independently  
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)  
    shuffle(samples(d,:));
```



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

```
// initialize the diagonal
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    for (uint i = 0; i < numS; i++)
        samples(d,i) = (i + randf())/numS;

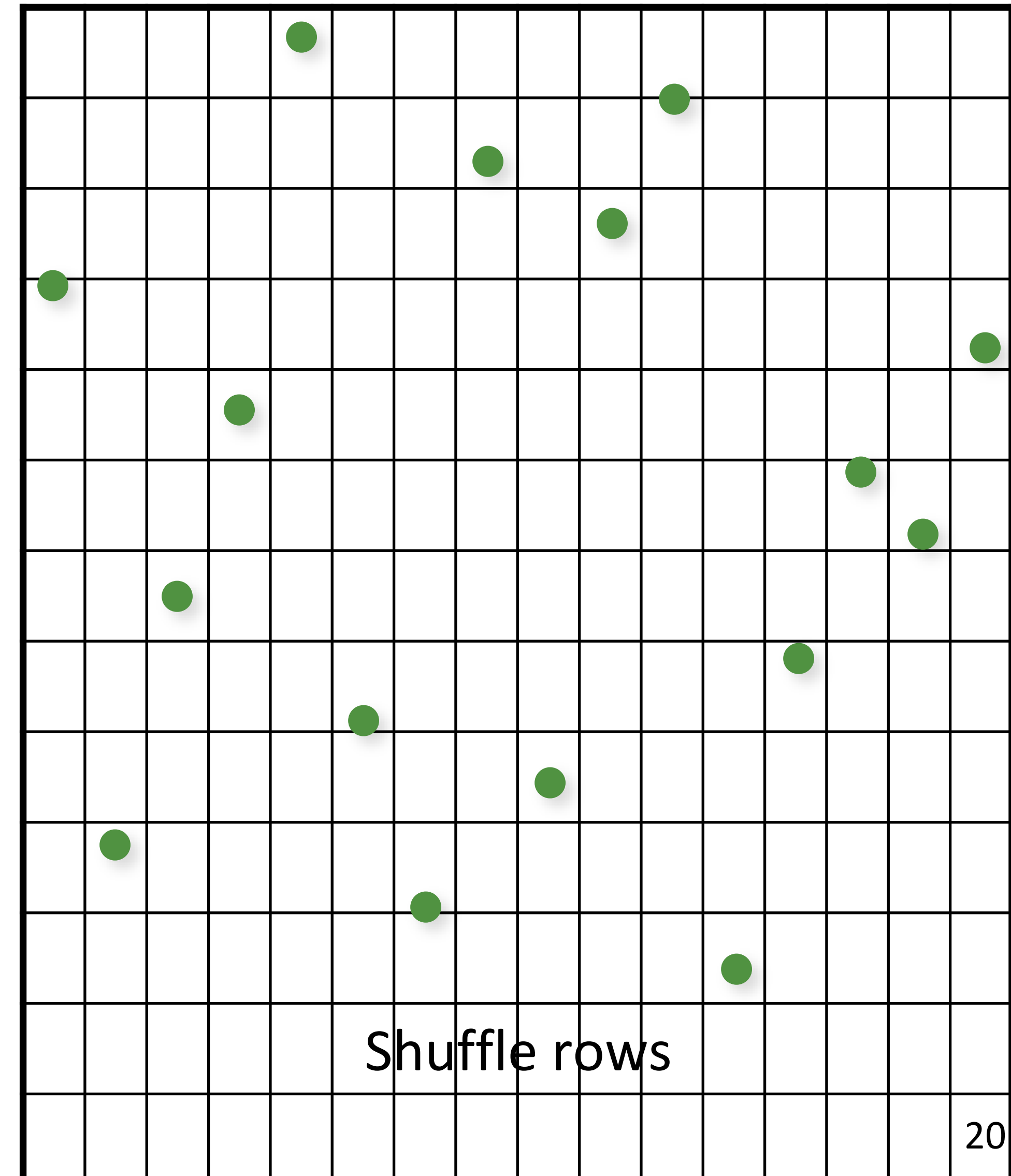
// shuffle each dimension independently
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    shuffle(samples(d,:));
```



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

```
// initialize the diagonal
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    for (uint i = 0; i < numS; i++)
        samples(d,i) = (i + randf())/numS;

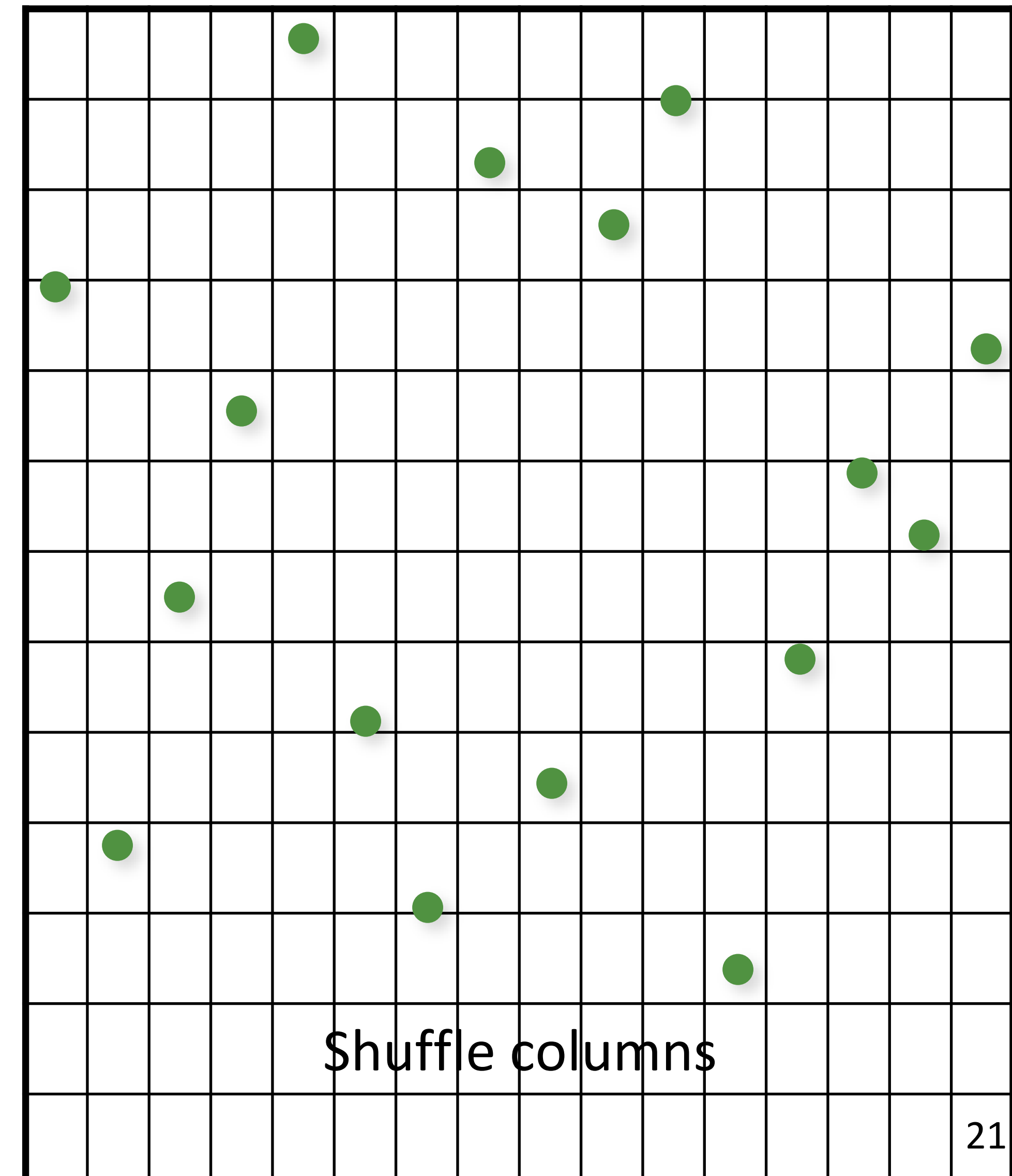
// shuffle each dimension independently
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    shuffle(samples(d,:));
```



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

```
// initialize the diagonal
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    for (uint i = 0; i < numS; i++)
        samples(d,i) = (i + randf())/numS;

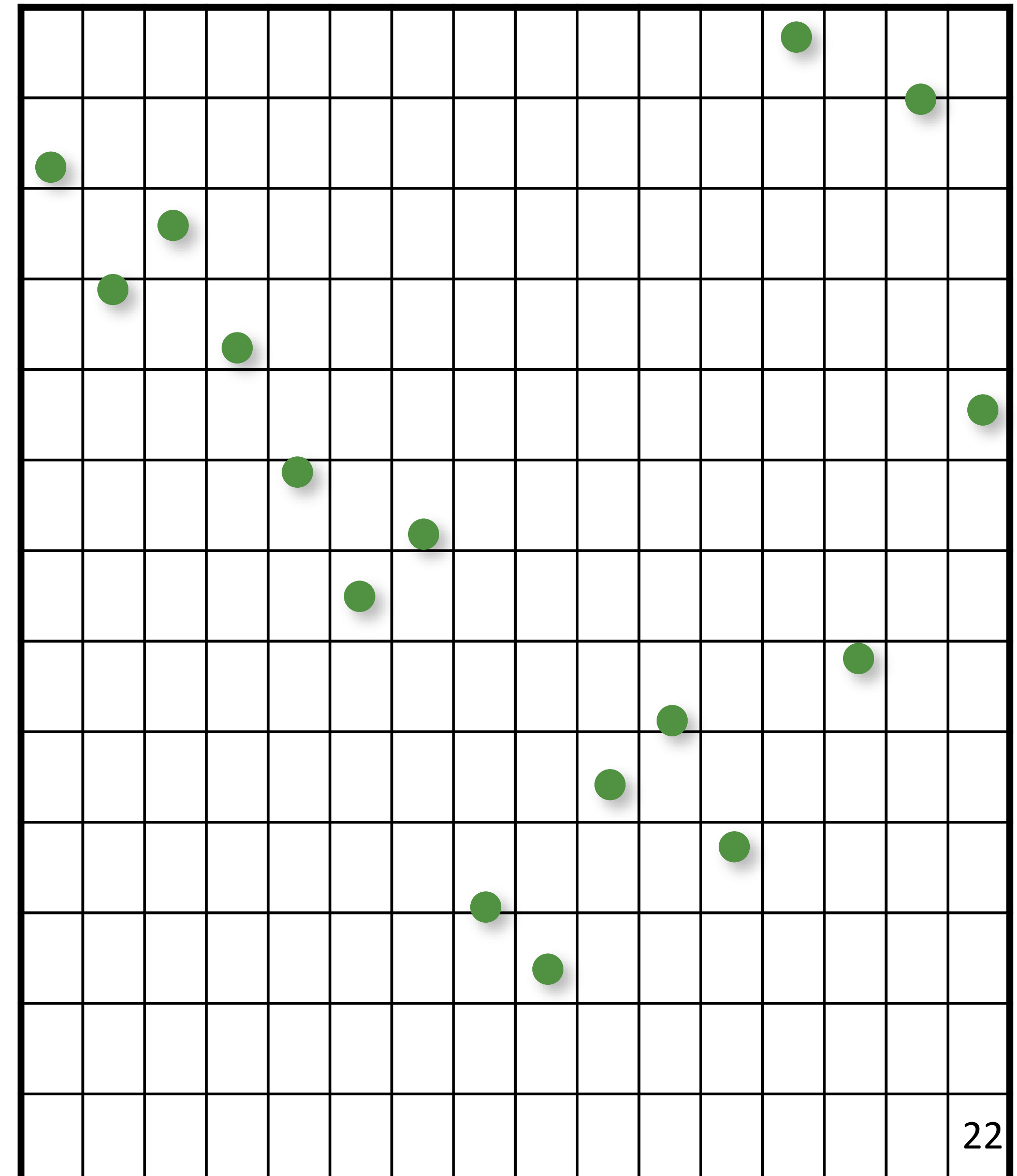
// shuffle each dimension independently
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    shuffle(samples(d,:));
```



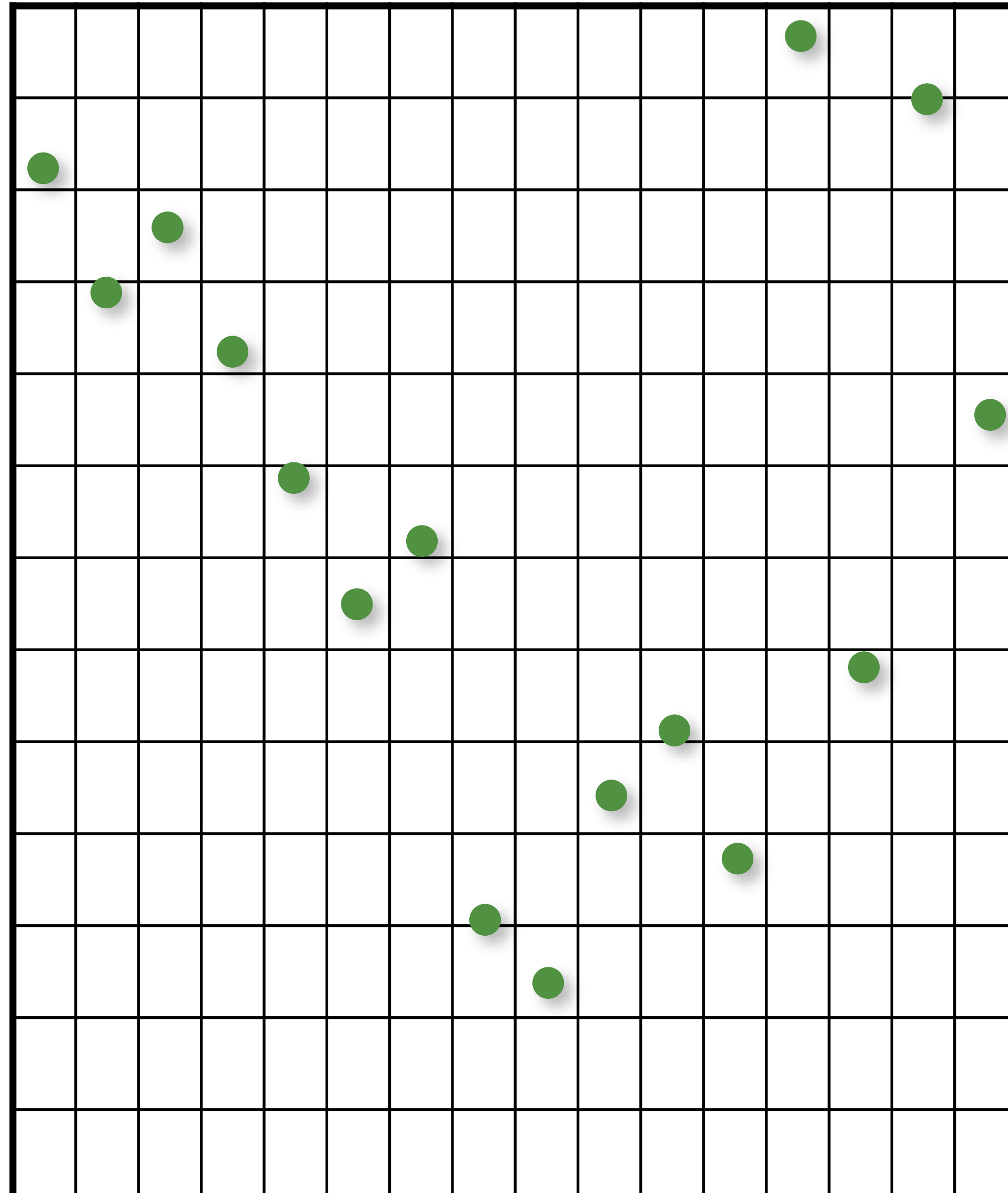
Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

```
// initialize the diagonal
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    for (uint i = 0; i < numS; i++)
        samples(d,i) = (i + randf())/numS;

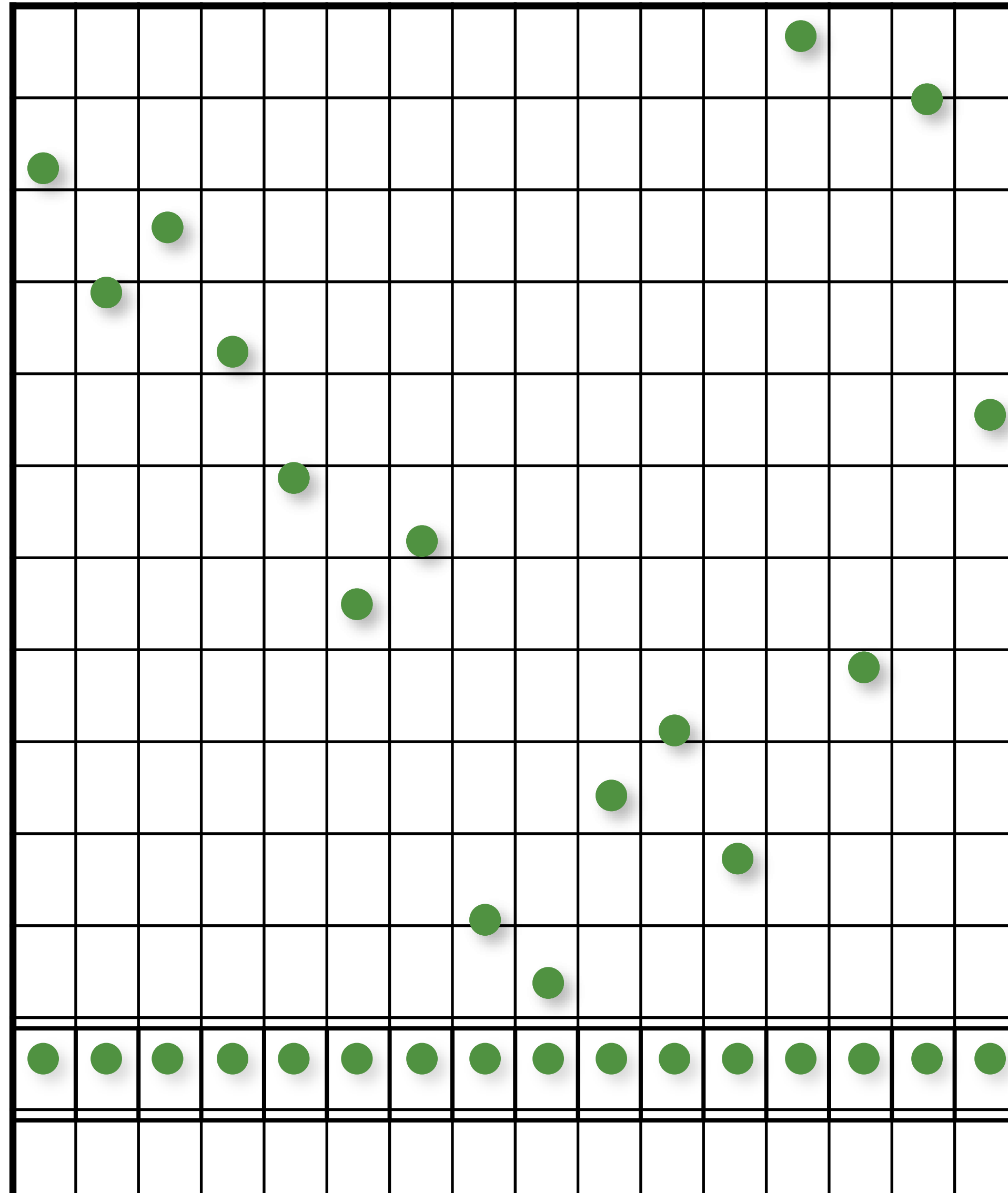
// shuffle each dimension independently
for (uint d = 0; d < numDimensions; d++)
    shuffle(samples(d,:));
```



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

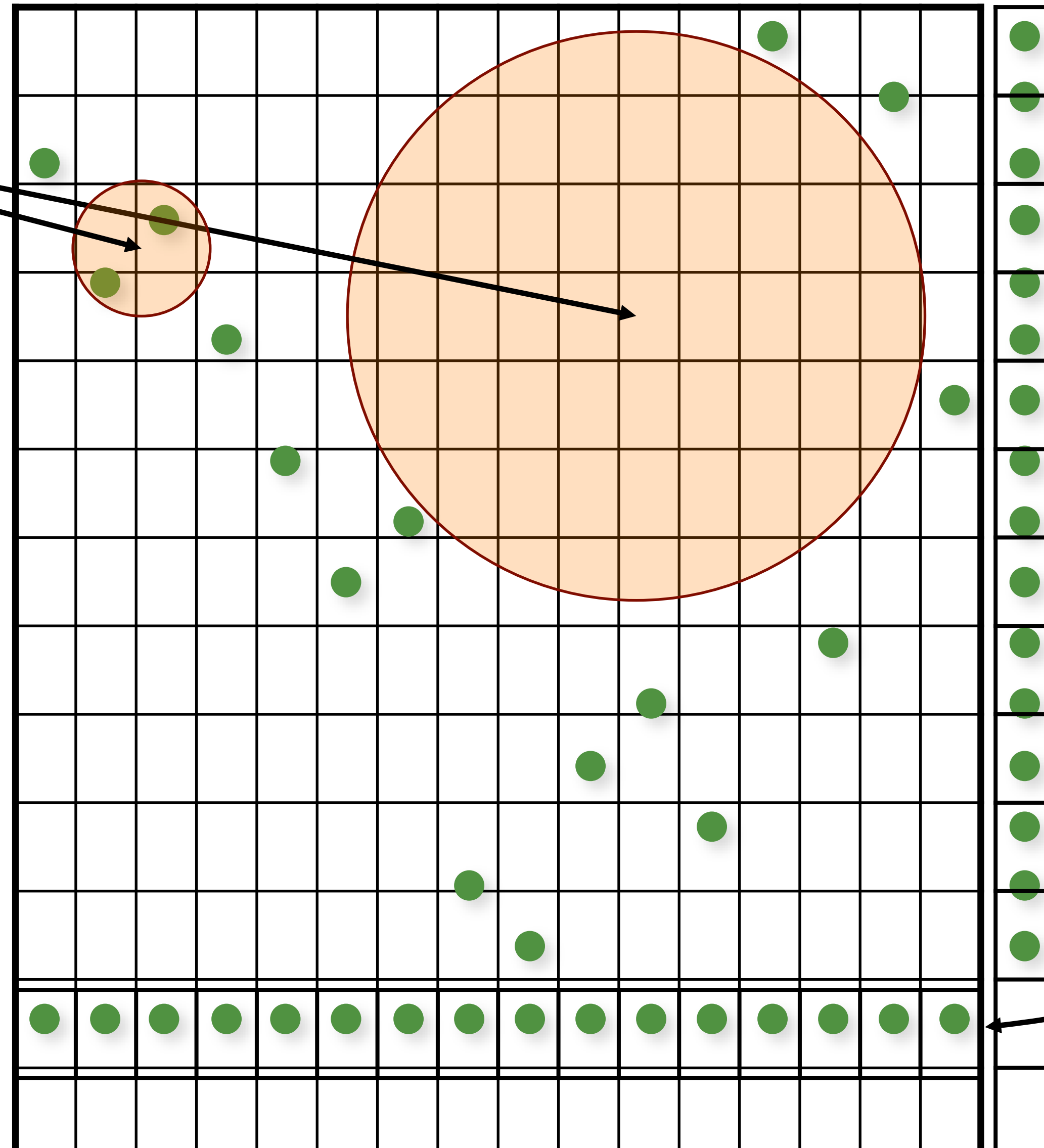


Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling



Latin Hypercube (N-Rooks) Sampling

Unevenly distributed in
n-dimensions



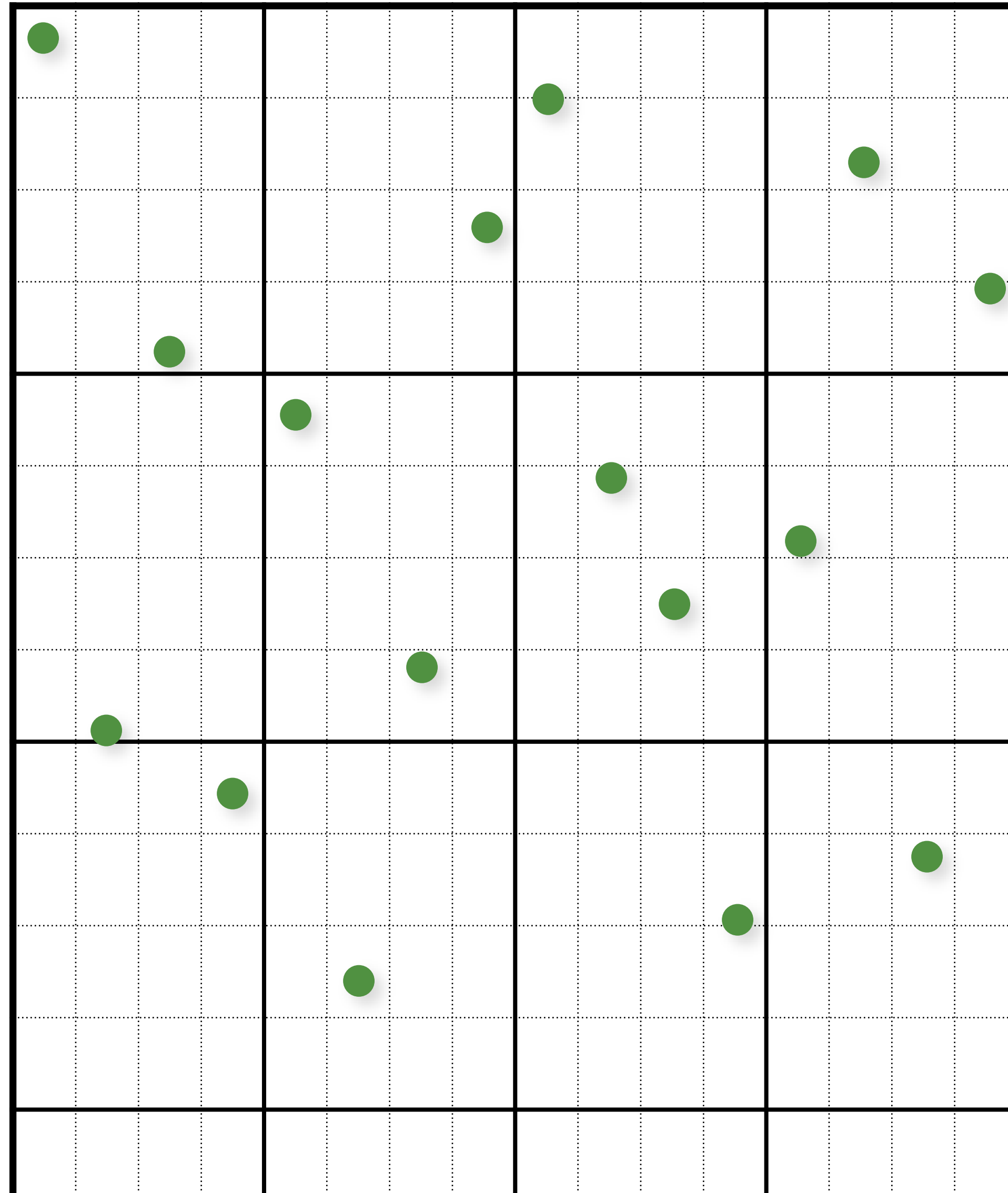
Evenly distributed in each
individual dimension

Multi-Jittered Sampling

Kenneth Chiu, Peter Shirley, and Changyaw Wang. “Multi-jittered sampling.” In *Graphics Gems IV*, pp. 370–374. Academic Press, May 1994.

- combine N-Rooks and Jittered stratification constraints

Multi-Jittered Sampling



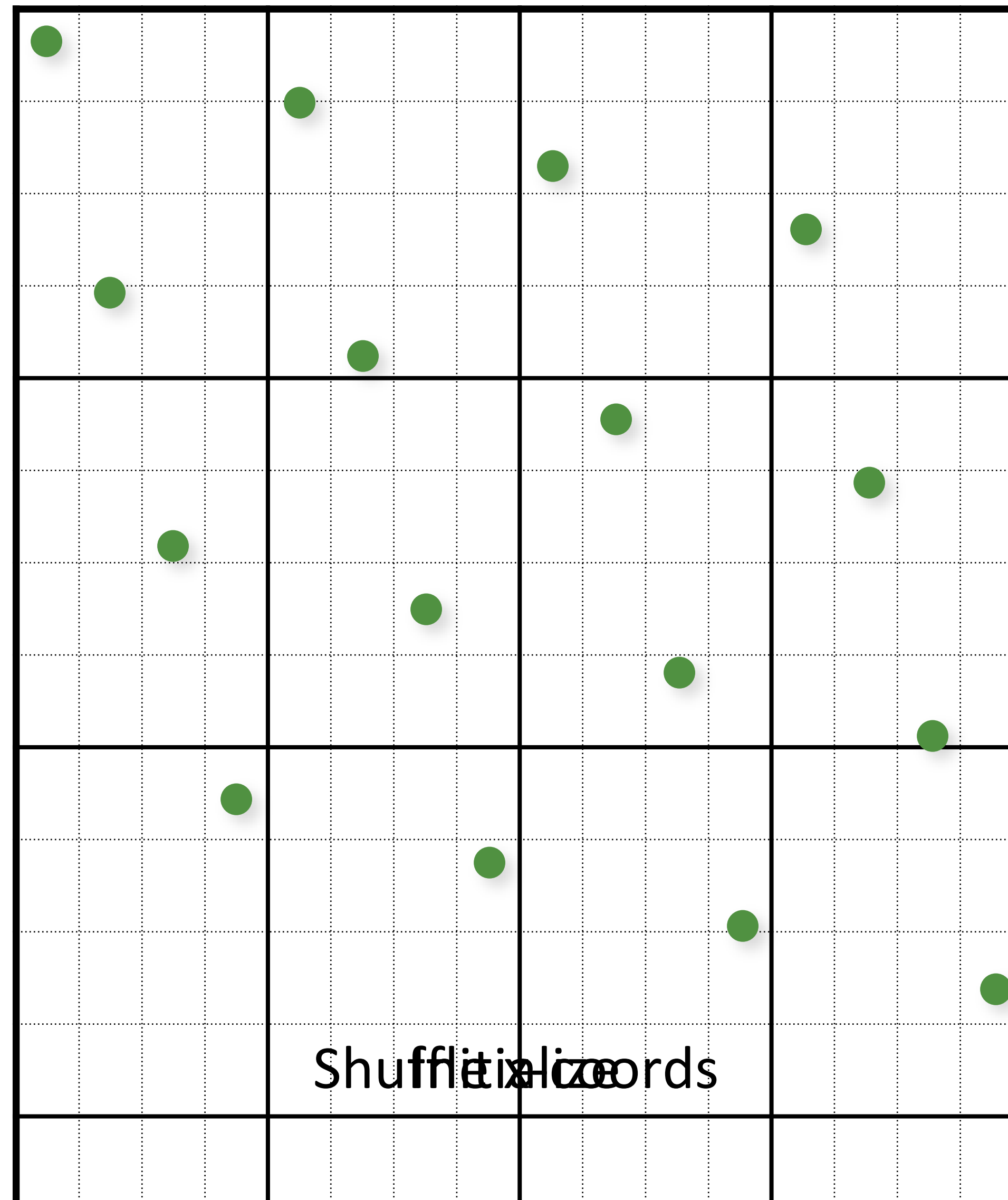
Multi-Jittered Sampling

```
// initialize
float cellSize = 1.0 / (resX*resY);
for (uint i = 0; i < resX; i++)
    for (uint j = 0; j < resY; j++)
    {
        samples(i,j).x = i/resX + (j+randf()) / (resX*resY);
        samples(i,j).y = j/resY + (i+randf()) / (resX*resY);
    }

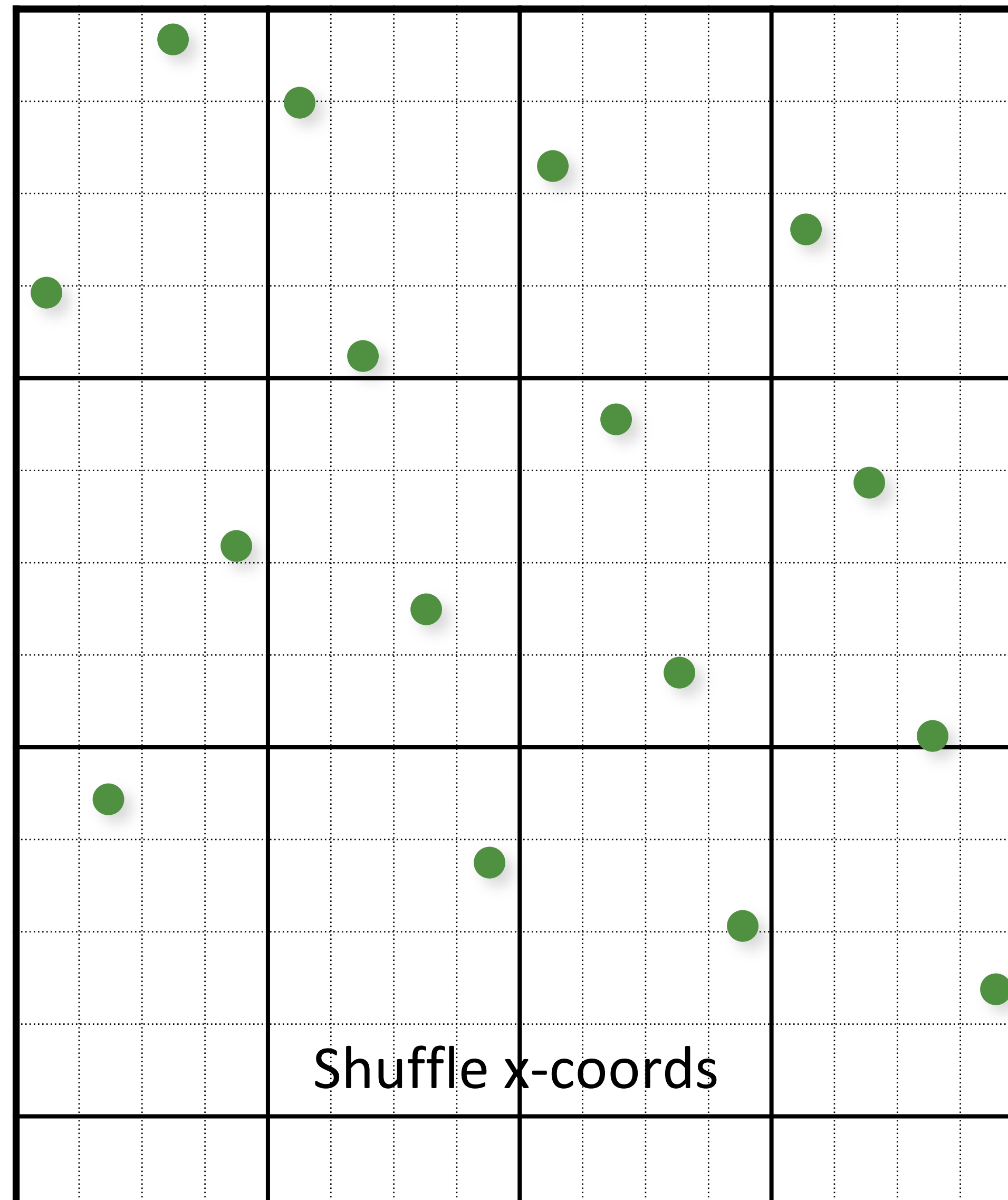
// shuffle x coordinates within each column of cells
for (uint i = 0; i < resX; i++)
    for (uint j = resY-1; j >= 1; j--)
        swap(samples(i, j).x, samples(i, randi(0, j)).x);

// shuffle y coordinates within each row of cells
for (unsigned j = 0; j < resY; j++)
    for (unsigned i = resX-1; i >= 1; i--)
        swap(samples(i, j).y, samples(randi(0, i), j).y);
```

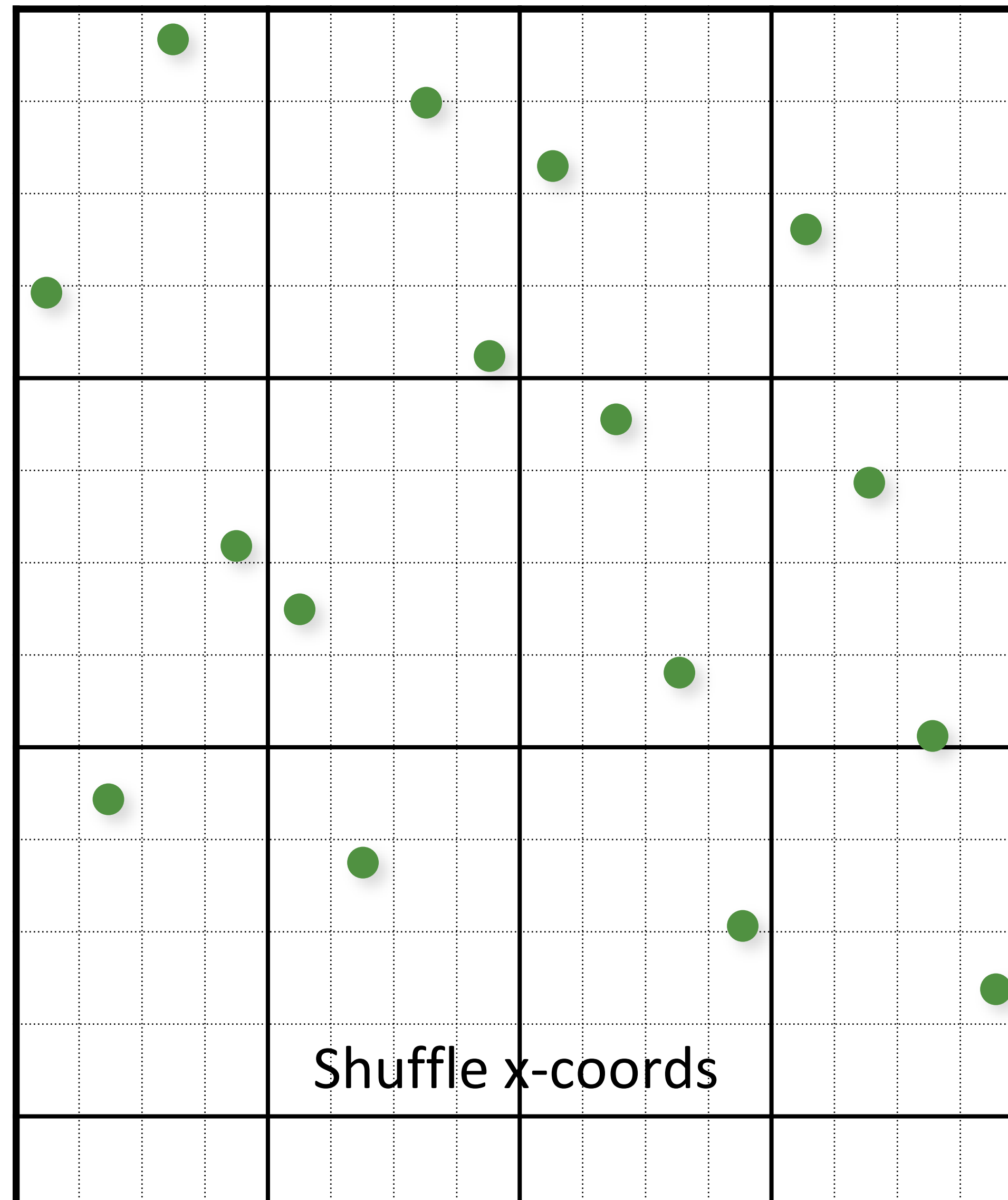
Multi-Jittered Sampling



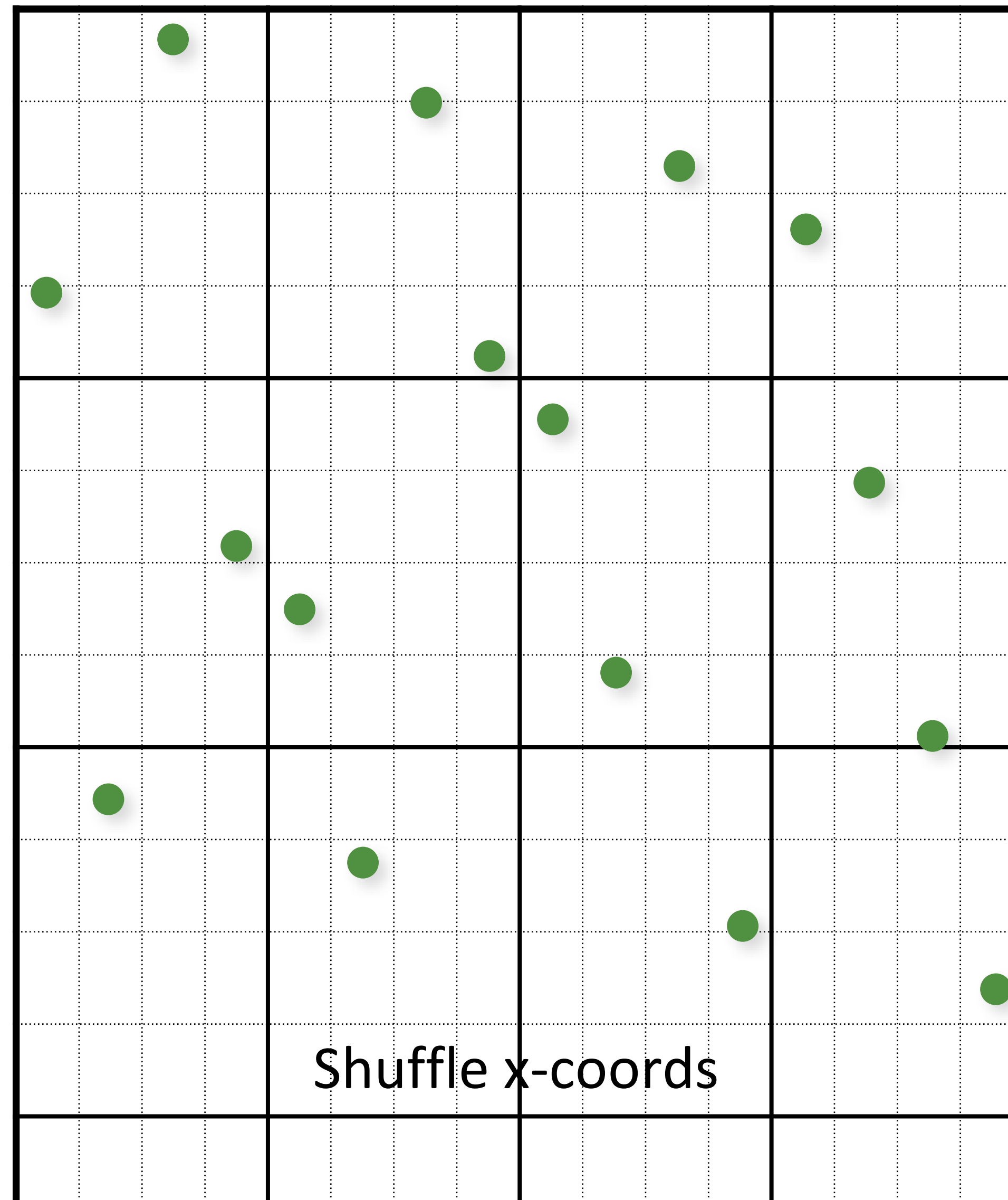
Multi-Jittered Sampling



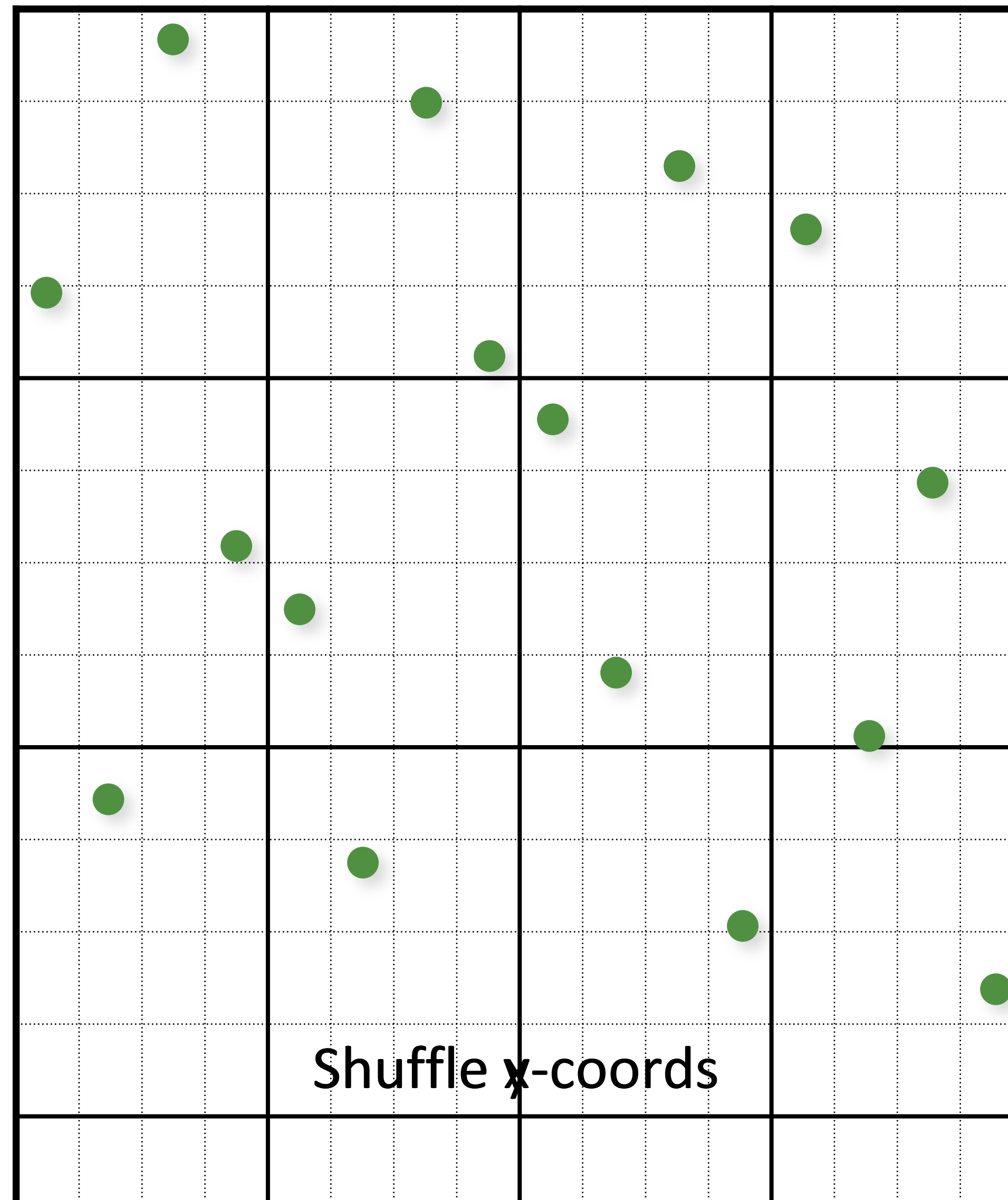
Multi-Jittered Sampling



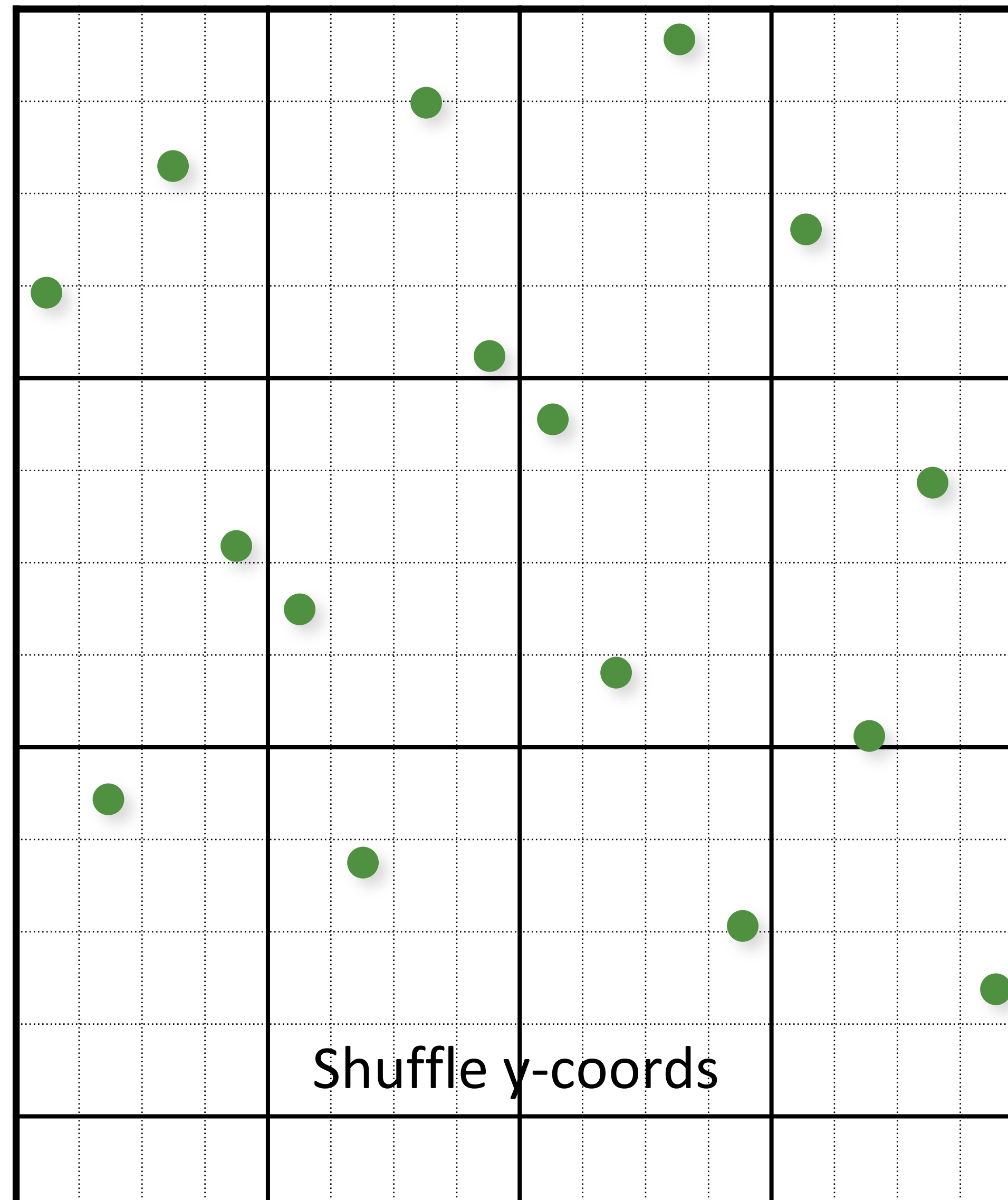
Multi-Jittered Sampling



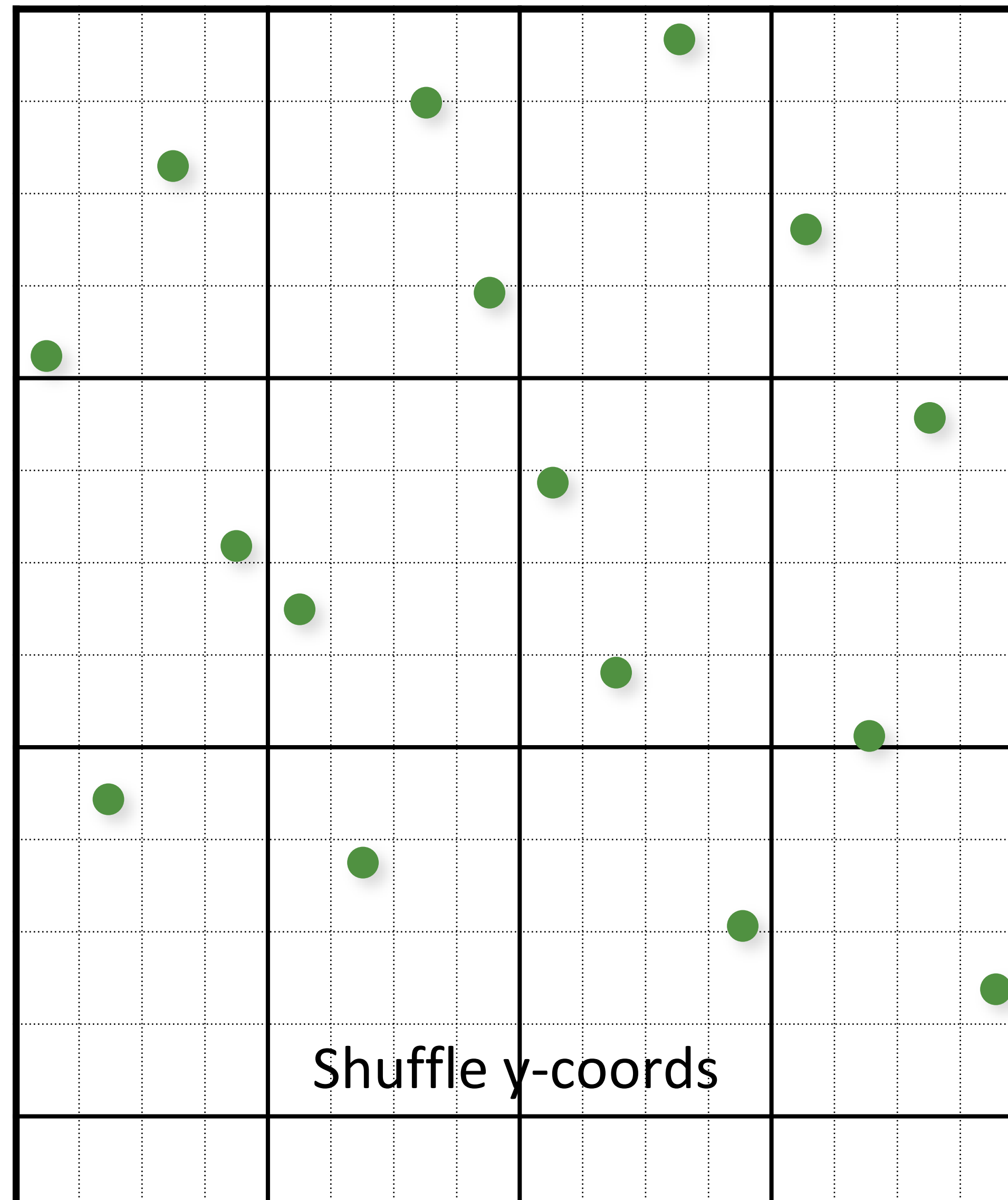
Multi-Jittered Sampling



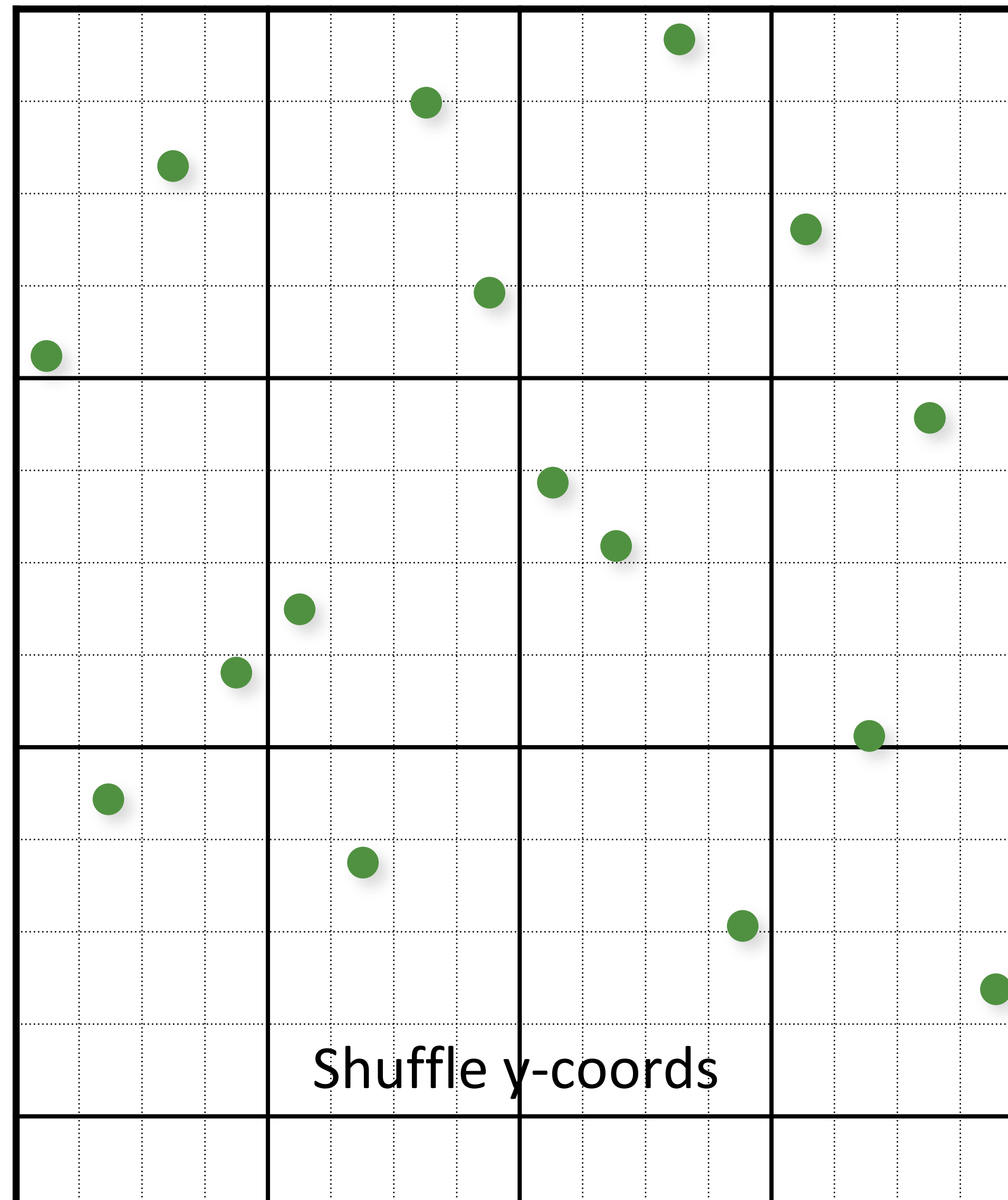
Multi-Jittered Sampling



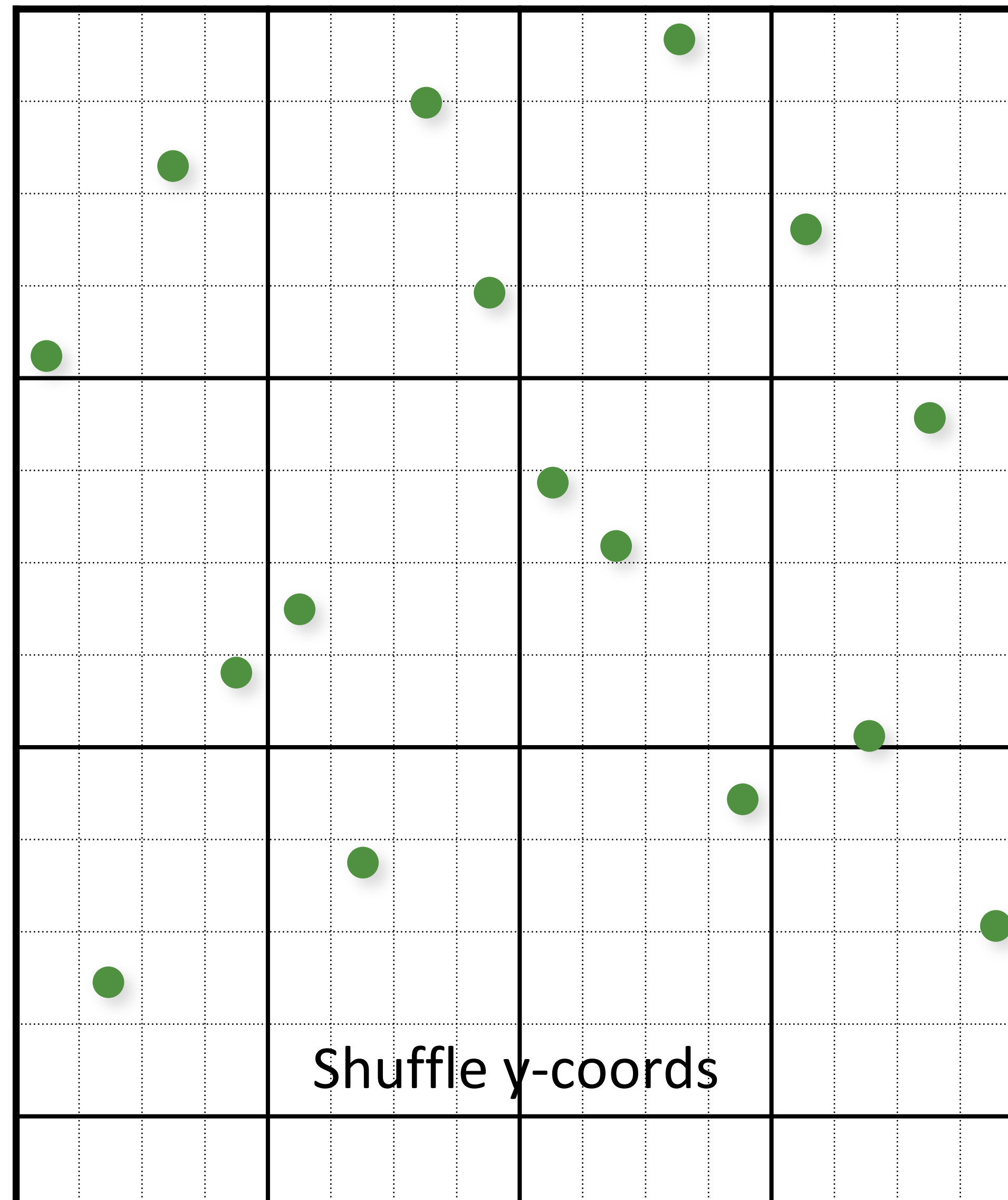
Multi-Jittered Sampling



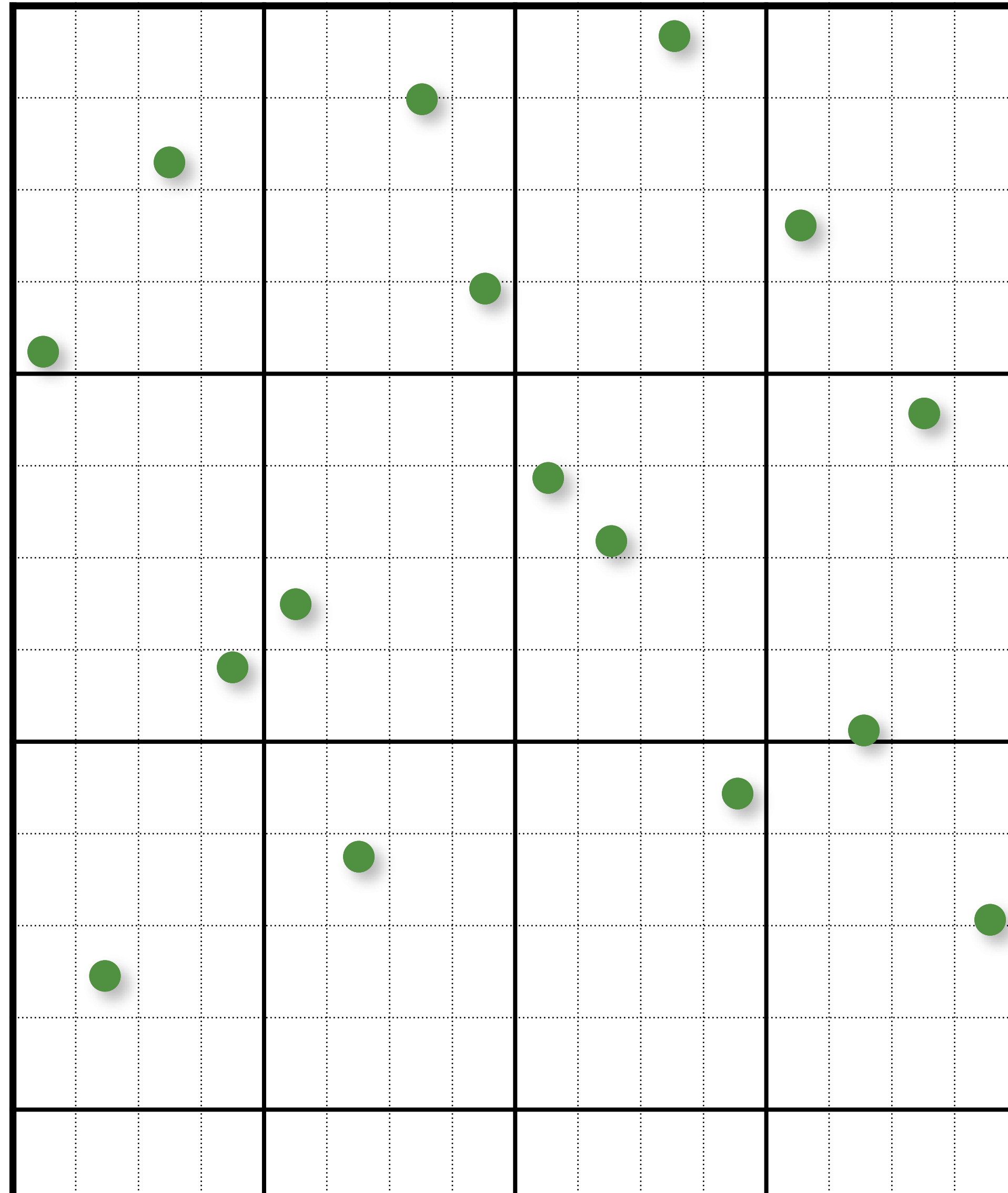
Multi-Jittered Sampling



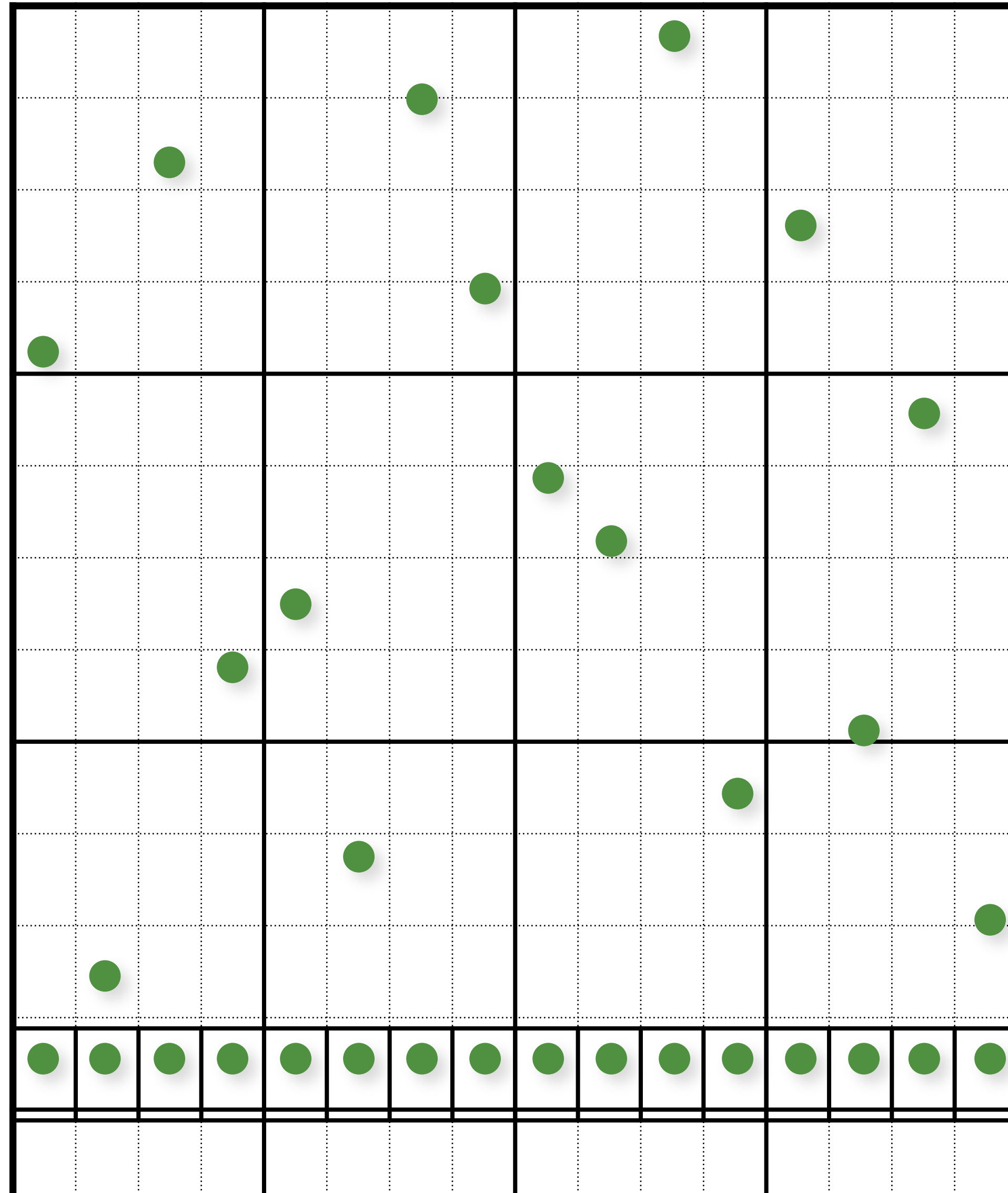
Multi-Jittered Sampling



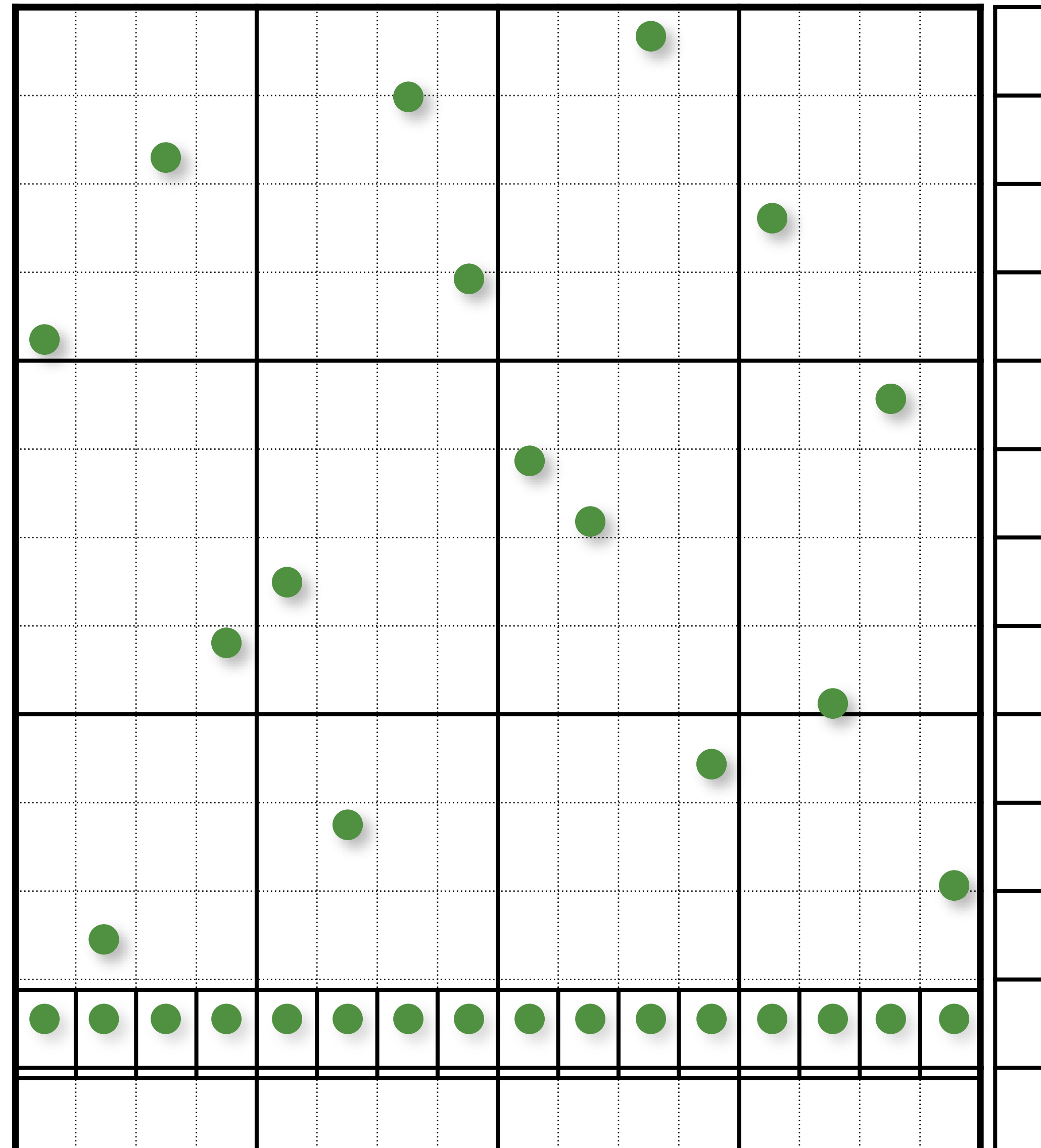
Multi-Jittered Sampling (Projections)



Multi-Jittered Sampling (Projections)

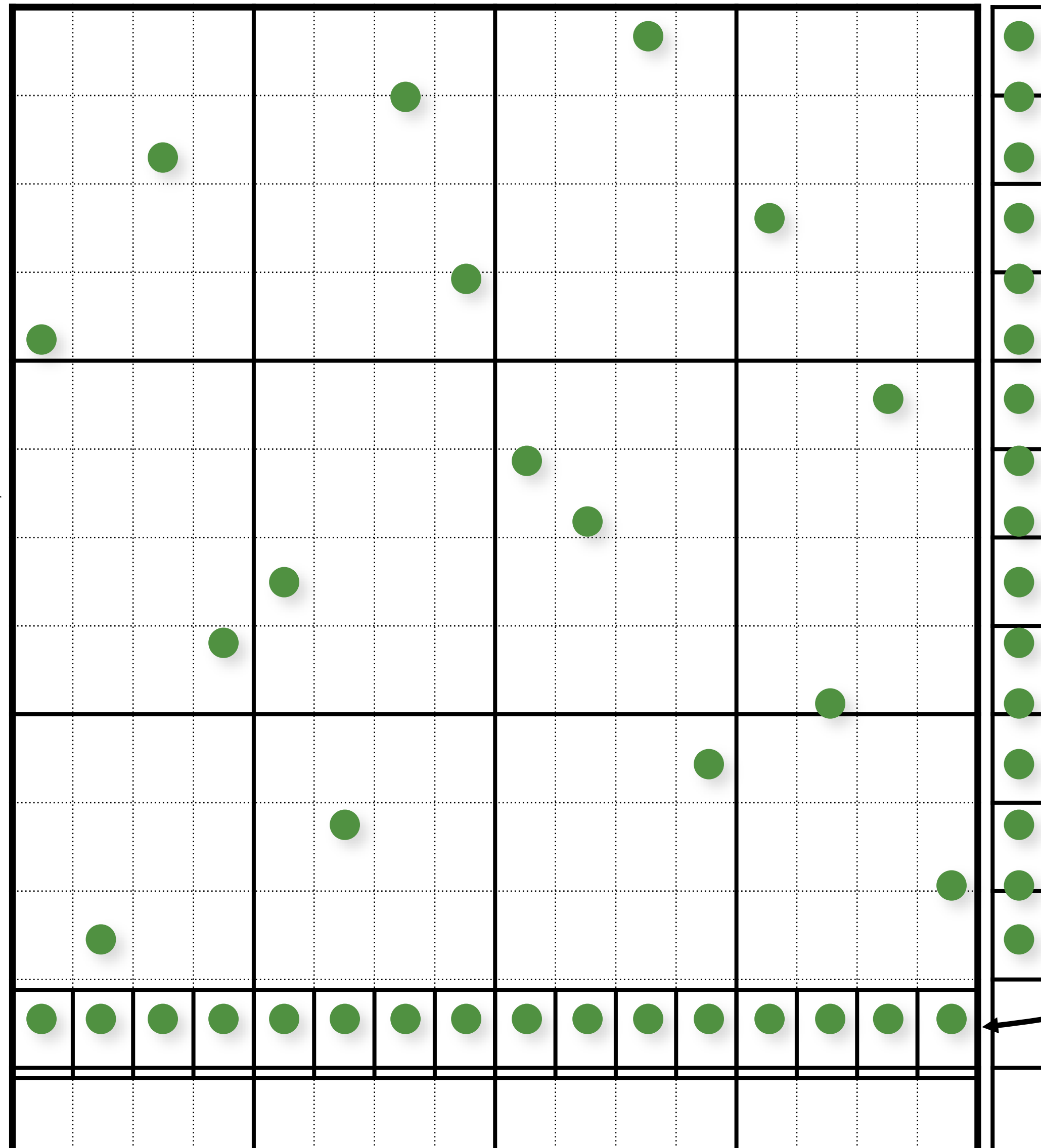


Multi-Jittered Sampling (Projections)



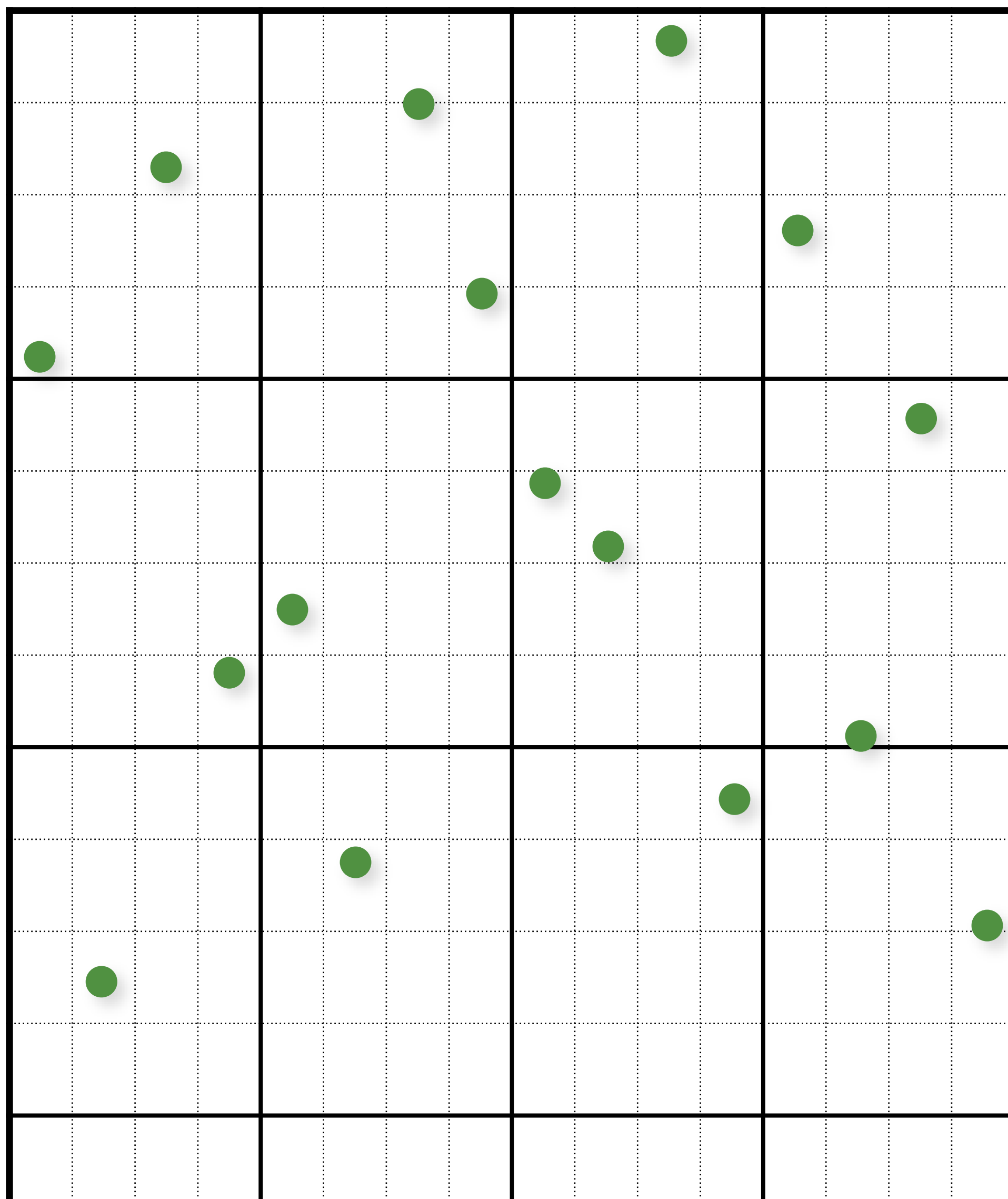
Multi-Jittered Sampling (Projections)

Evenly distributed in 2D!



Evenly distributed in each individual dimension

Multi-Jittered Sampling (Sudoku)



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	13	14	15	16	5	6	7	8
5	6	7	8	13	14	15	16	1	2	3	4	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4
3	1	4	2	7	5	8	6	11	9	14	10	15	12	16	13
11	9	14	10	3	1	4	2	15	12	16	13	7	5	8	6
7	5	8	6	15	12	16	13	3	1	4	2	11	9	14	10
15	12	16	13	11	9	14	10	7	5	8	6	3	1	4	2
2	4	1	3	6	8	5	7	10	15	9	11	12	16	13	14
10	15	9	11	2	4	1	3	12	16	13	14	6	8	5	7
6	8	5	7	12	16	13	14	2	4	1	3	10	15	9	11
12	16	13	14	10	15	9	11	6	8	5	7	2	4	1	3
4	3	2	1	8	7	6	5	14	11	10	9	16	13	12	15
14	11	10	9	4	3	2	1	16	13	12	15	8	7	6	5
8	7	6	5	16	13	12	15	4	3	2	1	14	11	10	9
16	13	12	15	14	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

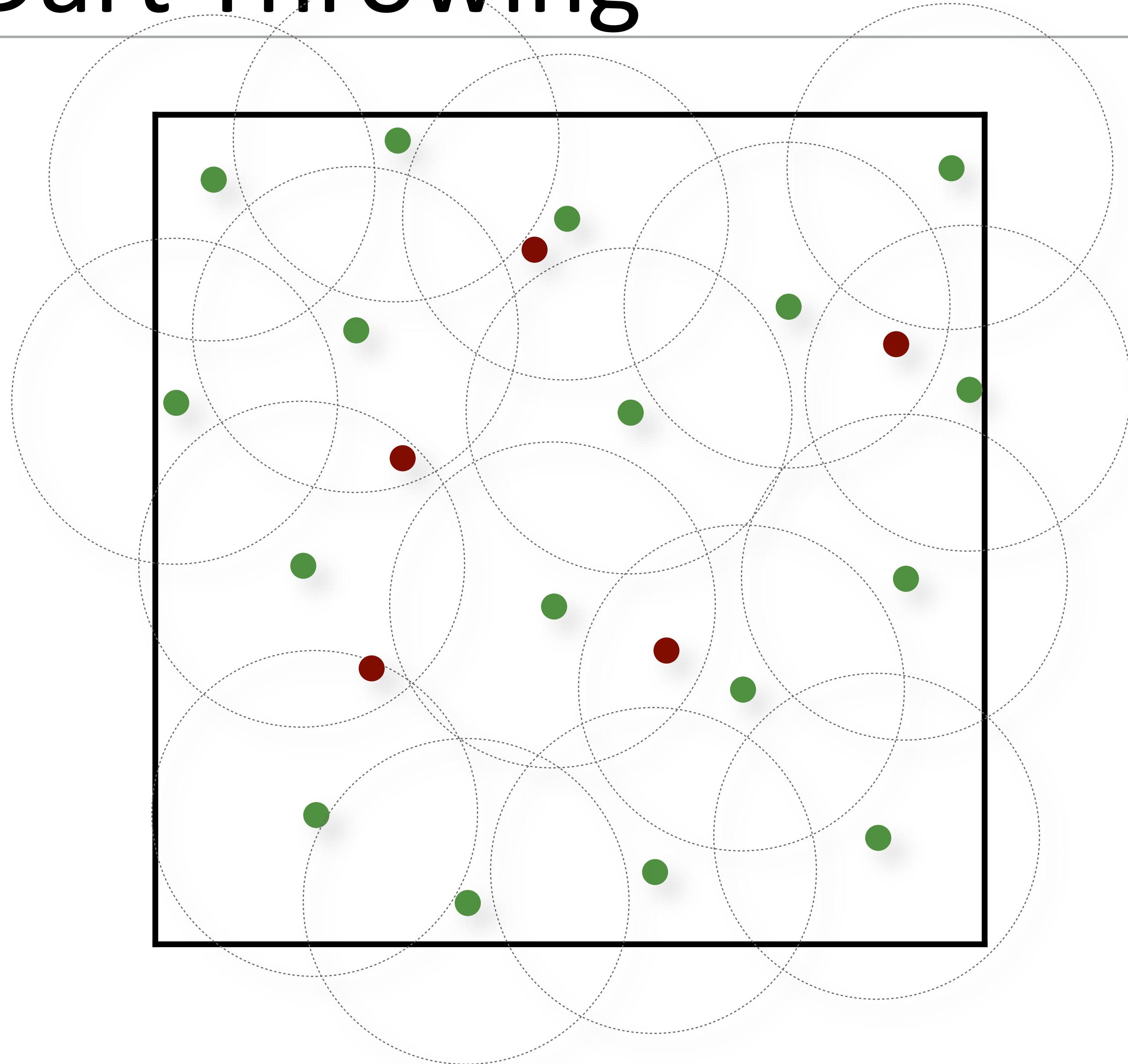
Poisson-Disk/Blue-Noise Sampling

Enforce a minimum distance between points

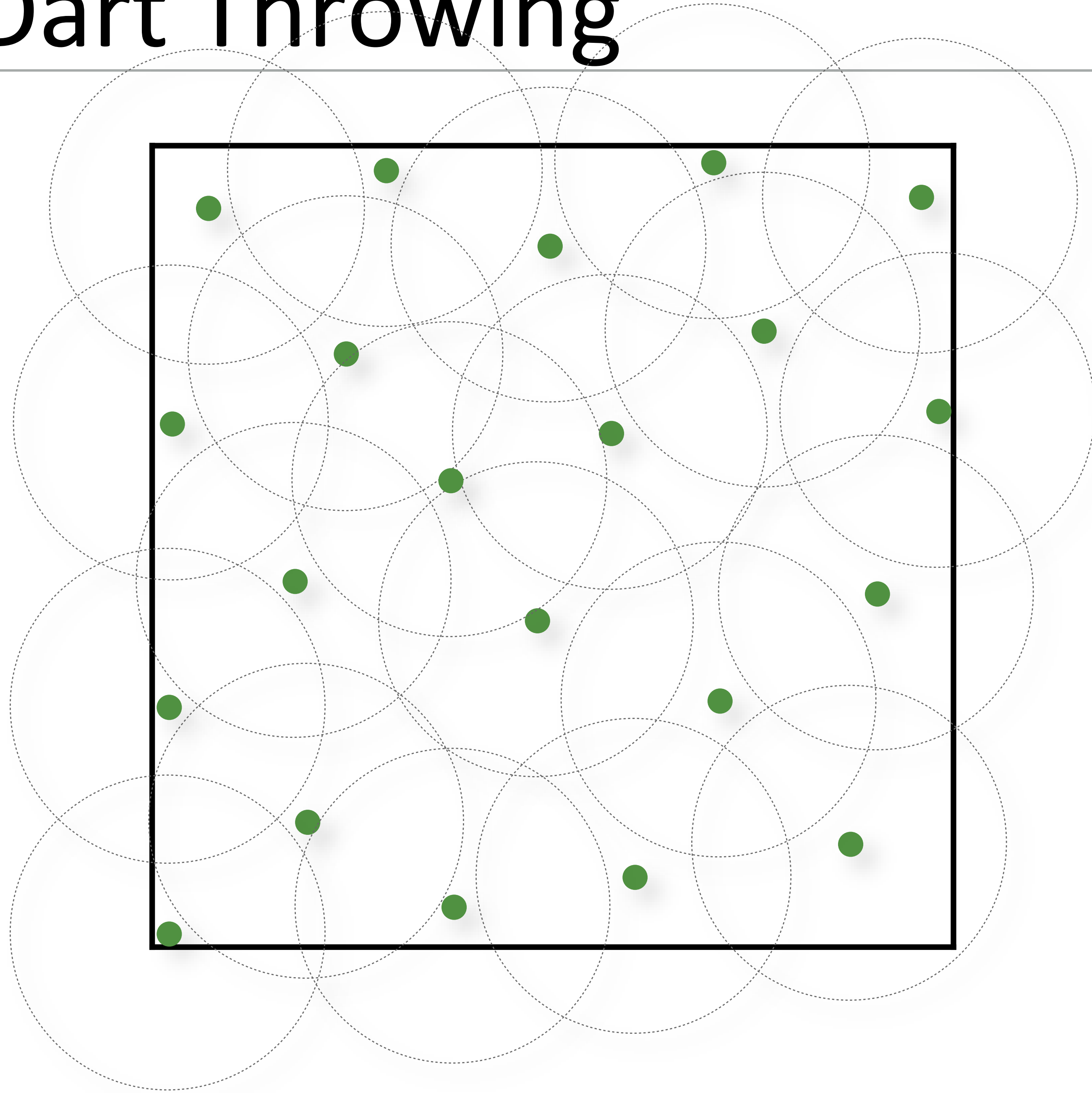
Poisson-Disk Sampling:

- Mark A. Z. Dippé and Erling Henry Wold. “Antialiasing through stochastic sampling.” *ACM SIGGRAPH*, 1985.
- Robert L. Cook. “Stochastic sampling in computer graphics.” *ACM Transactions on Graphics*, 1986.
- Ares Lagae and Philip Dutré. “A comparison of methods for generating Poisson disk distributions.” *Computer Graphics Forum*, 2008.

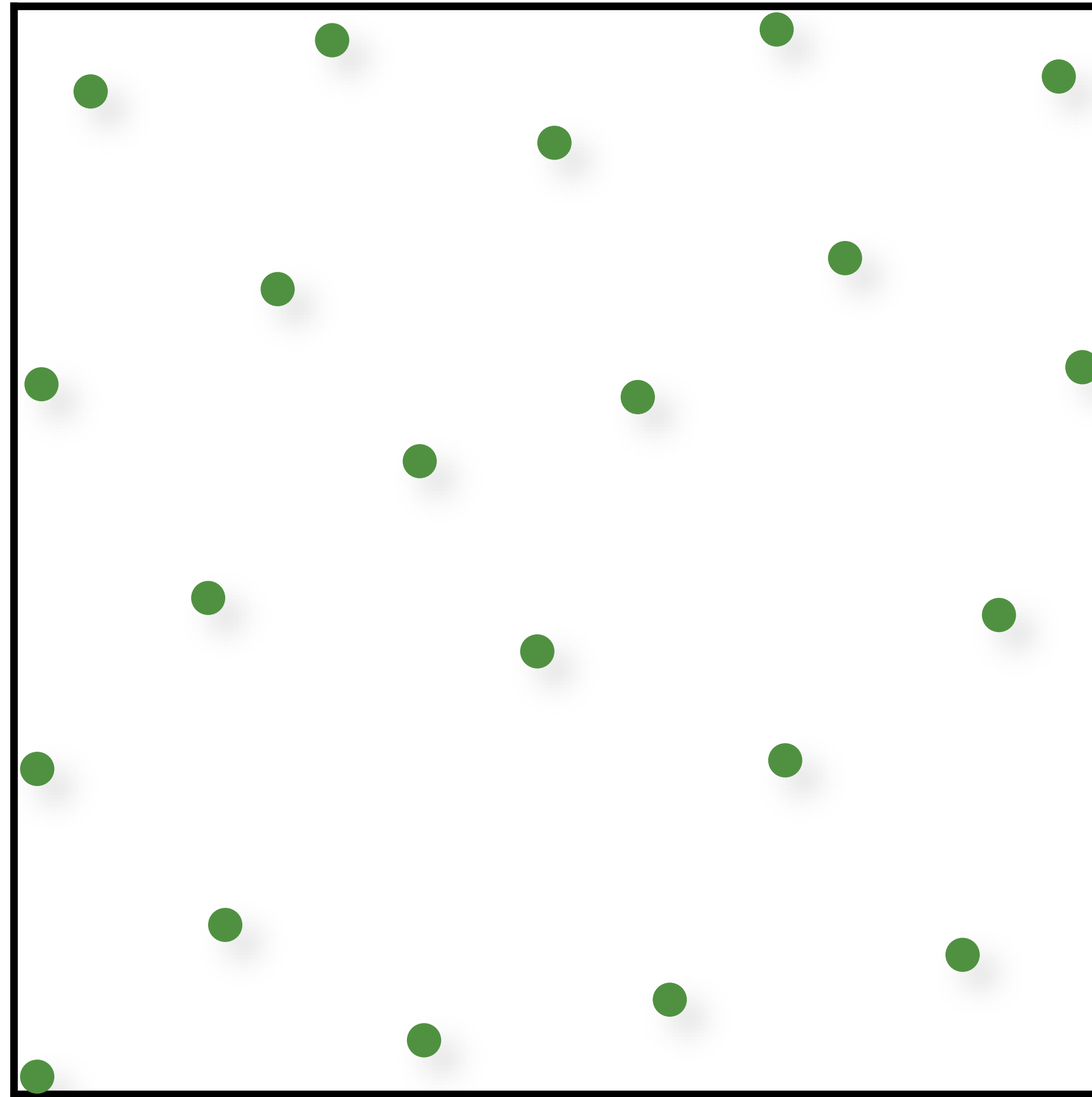
Random Dart Throwing



Random Dart Throwing



Random Dart Throwing



Stratified Sampling



“Best Candidate” Dart Throwing



Blue-Noise Sampling (Relaxation-based)

1. Initialize sample positions (e.g. random)
2. Use an iterative relaxation to move samples away from each other.

Discrepancy

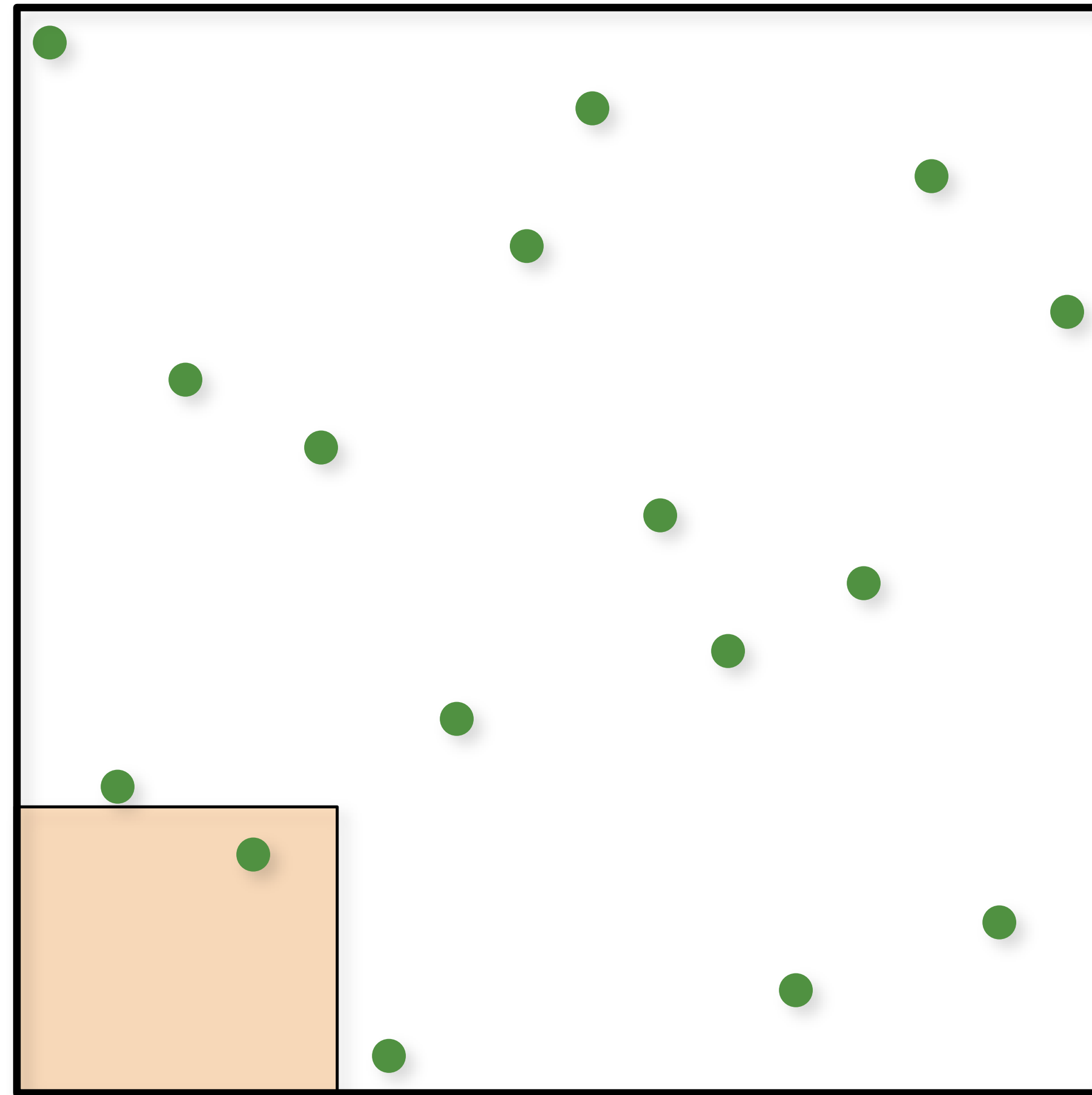
Previous stratified approaches try to minimize “clumping”

“Discrepancy” is another possible formal definition of clumping:

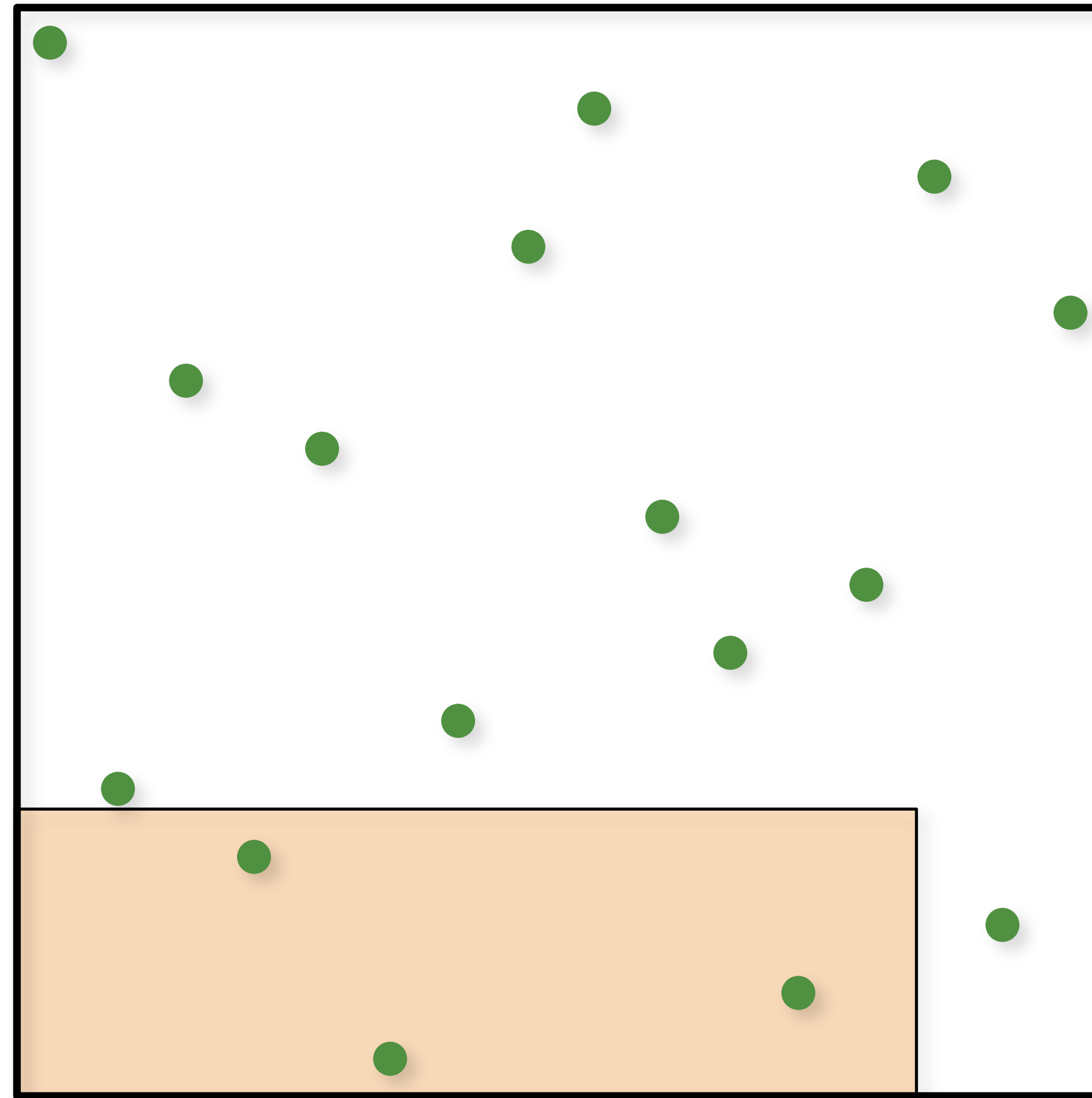
$$D^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

- for every possible subregion compute the maximum absolute difference between:
 - fraction of points in the subregion
 - volume of containing subregion

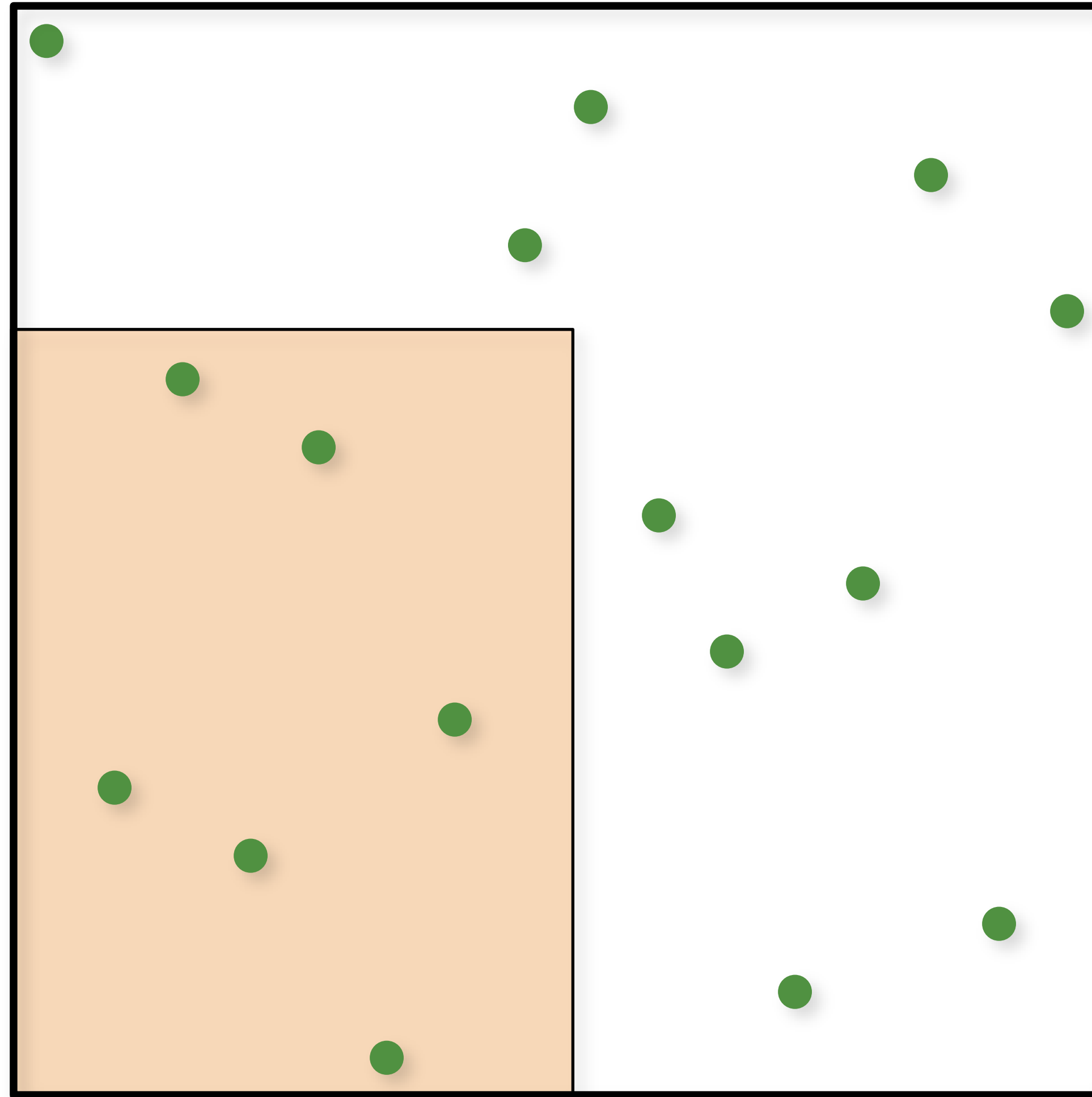
Discrepancy



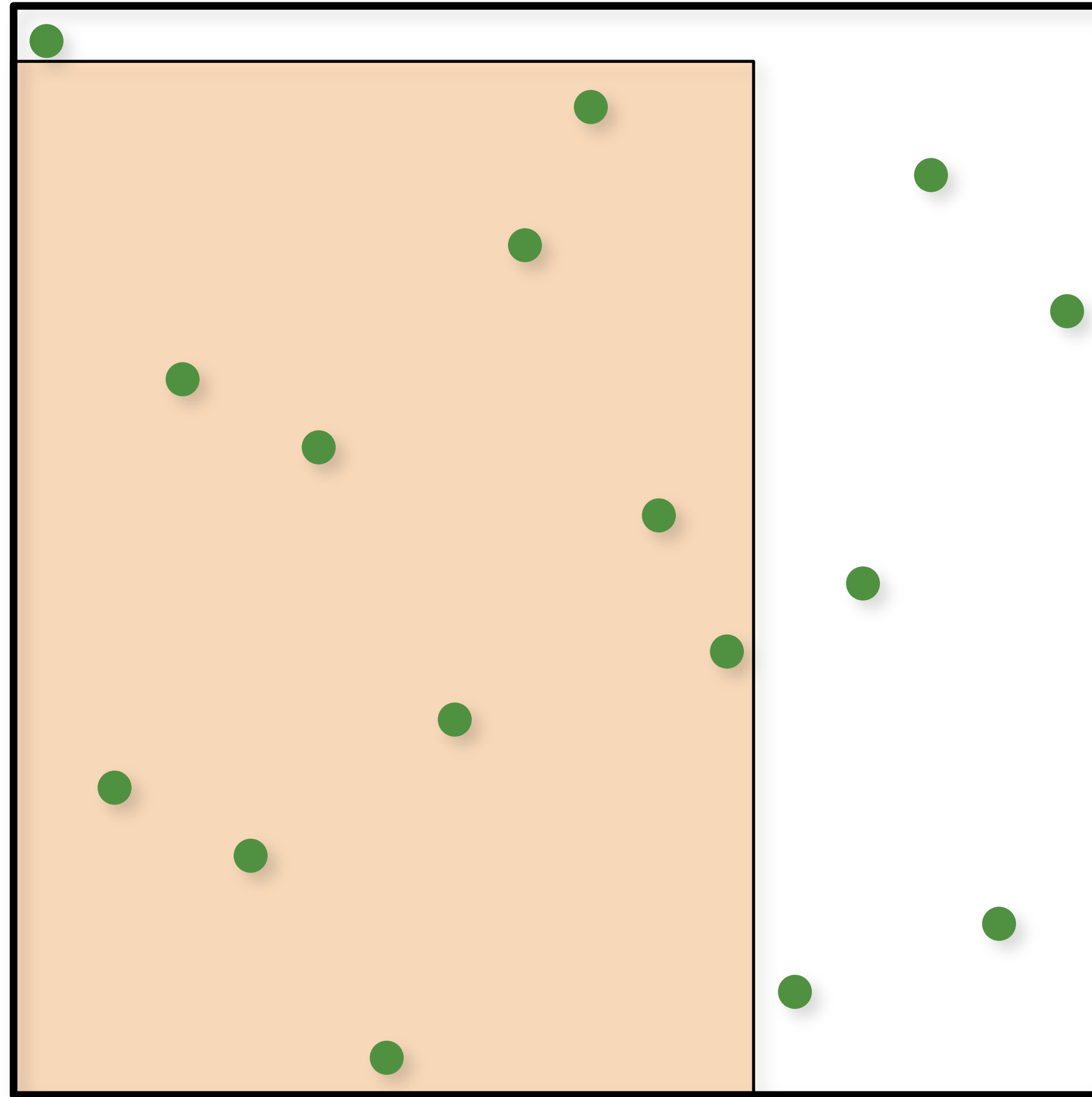
Discrepancy



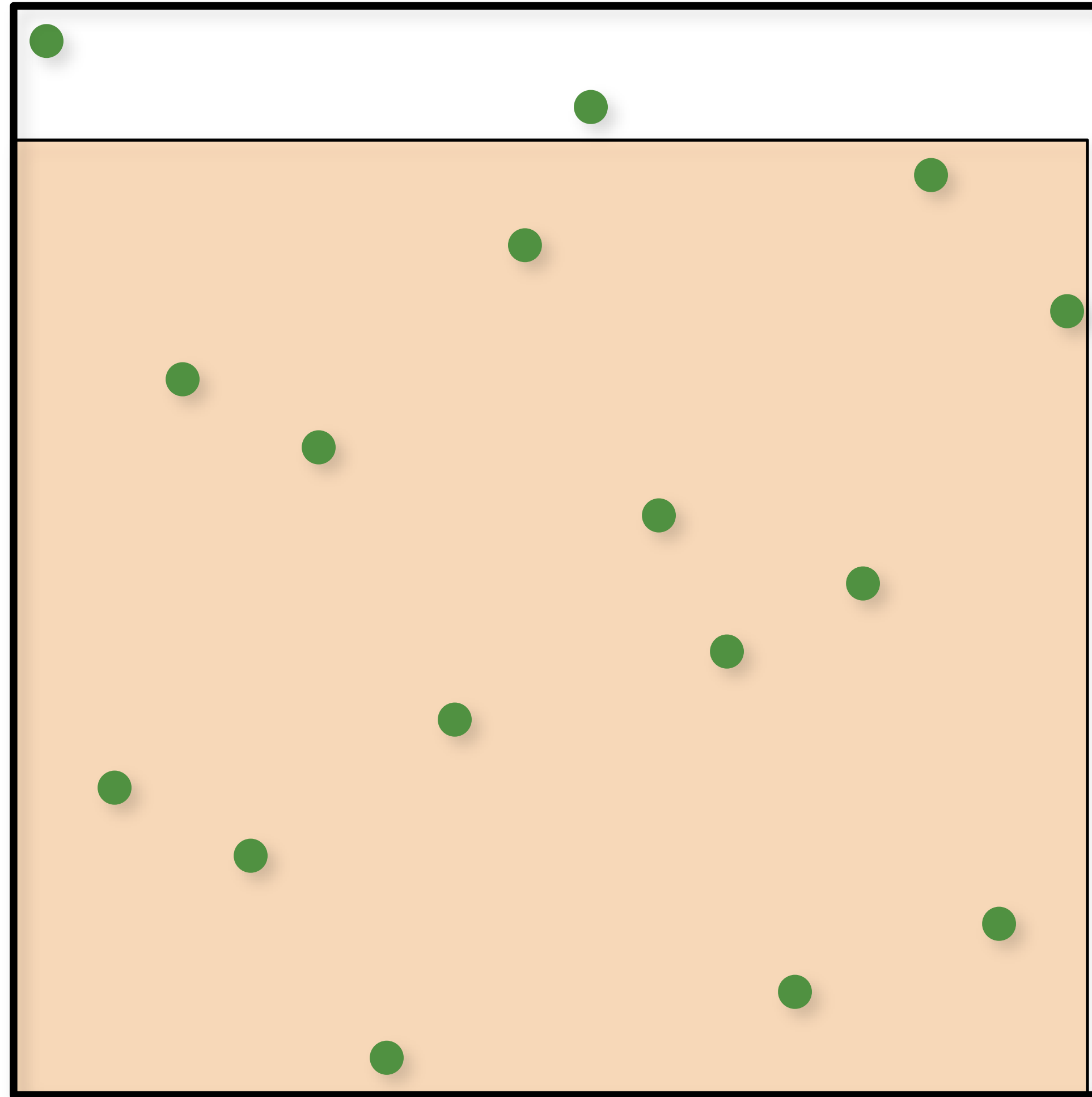
Discrepancy



Discrepancy



Discrepancy



Low-Discrepancy Sampling

Deterministic sets of points specially crafted to be evenly distributed (have low discrepancy).

Entire field of study called Quasi-Monte Carlo (QMC)

Koksma-Hlawka inequality

$$\left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) - \int f(u) \, du \right| \leq V(f) D^*(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

The Radical Inverse

A positive integer value n can be expressed in a base b with a sequence of digits $d_m \dots d_2 d_1$

The radical inverse function Φ_b in base b converts a nonnegative integer n to a floating-point value in $[0, 1)$ by reflecting these digits about the decimal point:

$$\Phi_b(n) = 0.d_1 d_2 \dots d_m$$

Subsequent points “fall into biggest holes”

The Van der Corput Sequence

Radical Inverse Φ_b in base 2

Subsequent points “fall into biggest holes”

k	Base 2	Φ_b
1	1	.1 = 1/2
2	10	.01 = 1/4
3	11	.11 = 3/4
4	100	.001 = 1/8
5	101	.101 = 5/8
6	110	.011 = 3/8
7	111	.111 = 7/8
...		



The Radical Inverse

```
float radicalInverse(int n, int base, float inv)
{
    float v = 0.0f;
    for (float p = inv; n != 0; p *= inv, n /= base)
        v += (n % base) * p;
    return v;
}
```

```
float radicalInverse(int n, int base)
{
    return radicalInverse(n, base, 1.0f / base);
}
```

More efficient version available for base 2

The Radical Inverse (Base 2)

```
float vanDerCorputRIU(uint n)
{
    n = (n << 16) | (n >> 16);
    n = ((n & 0x00ff00ff) << 8) | ((n & 0xff00ff00) >> 8);
    n = ((n & 0x0f0f0f0f) << 4) | ((n & 0xf0f0f0f0) >> 4);
    n = ((n & 0x33333333) << 2) | ((n & 0xcccccccc) >> 2);
    n = ((n & 0x55555555) << 1) | ((n & 0xaaaaaaaa) >> 1);
    return n / float (0x100000000LL);
}
```

Halton and Hammersley Points

Halton: Radical inverse with different base for each dimension:

$$\vec{x}_k = (\Phi_2(k), \Phi_3(k), \Phi_5(k), \dots, \Phi_{p_n}(k))$$

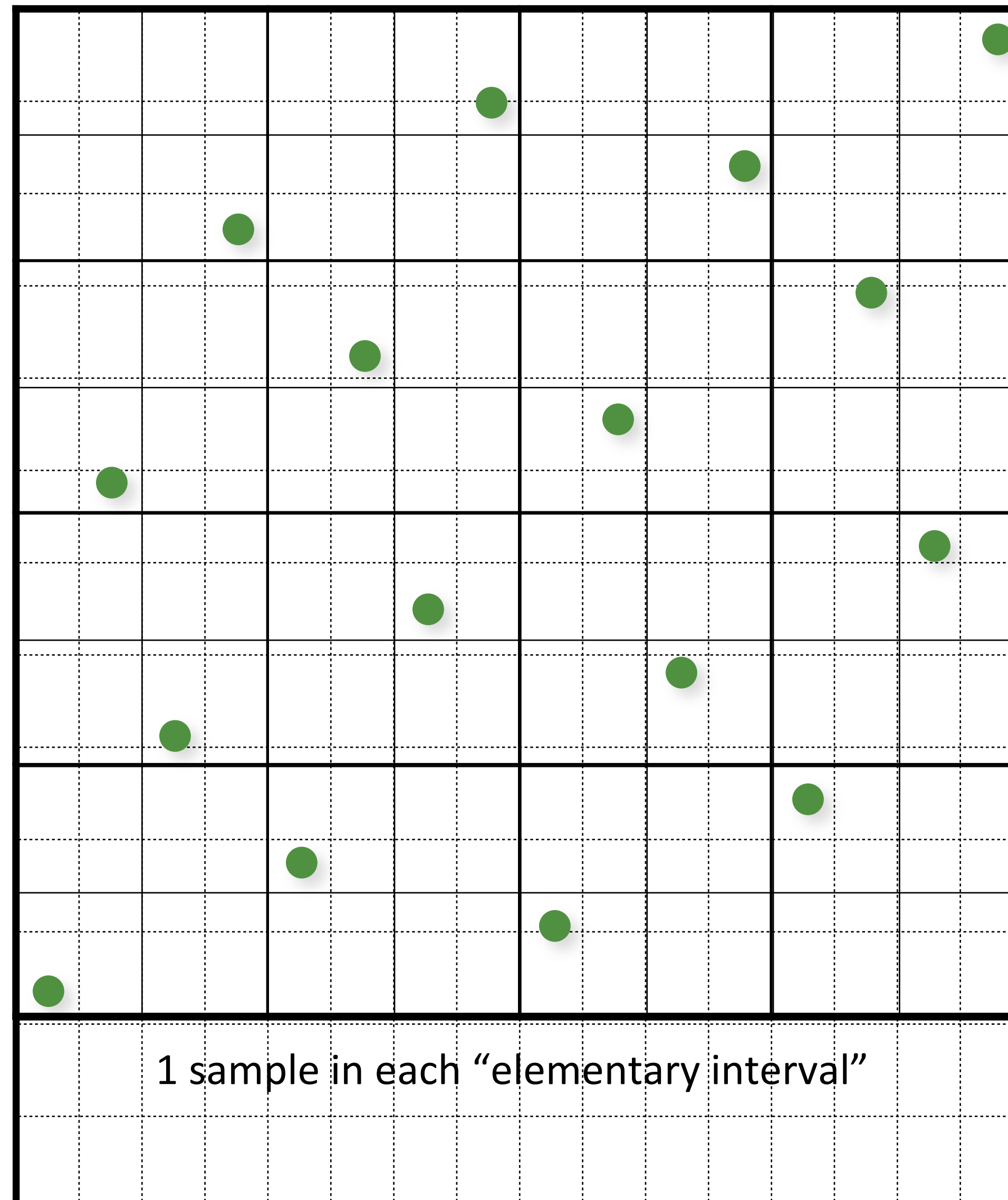
- The bases should all be relatively prime.
- Incremental/progressive generation of samples

Hammersley: Same as Halton, but first dimension is k/N :

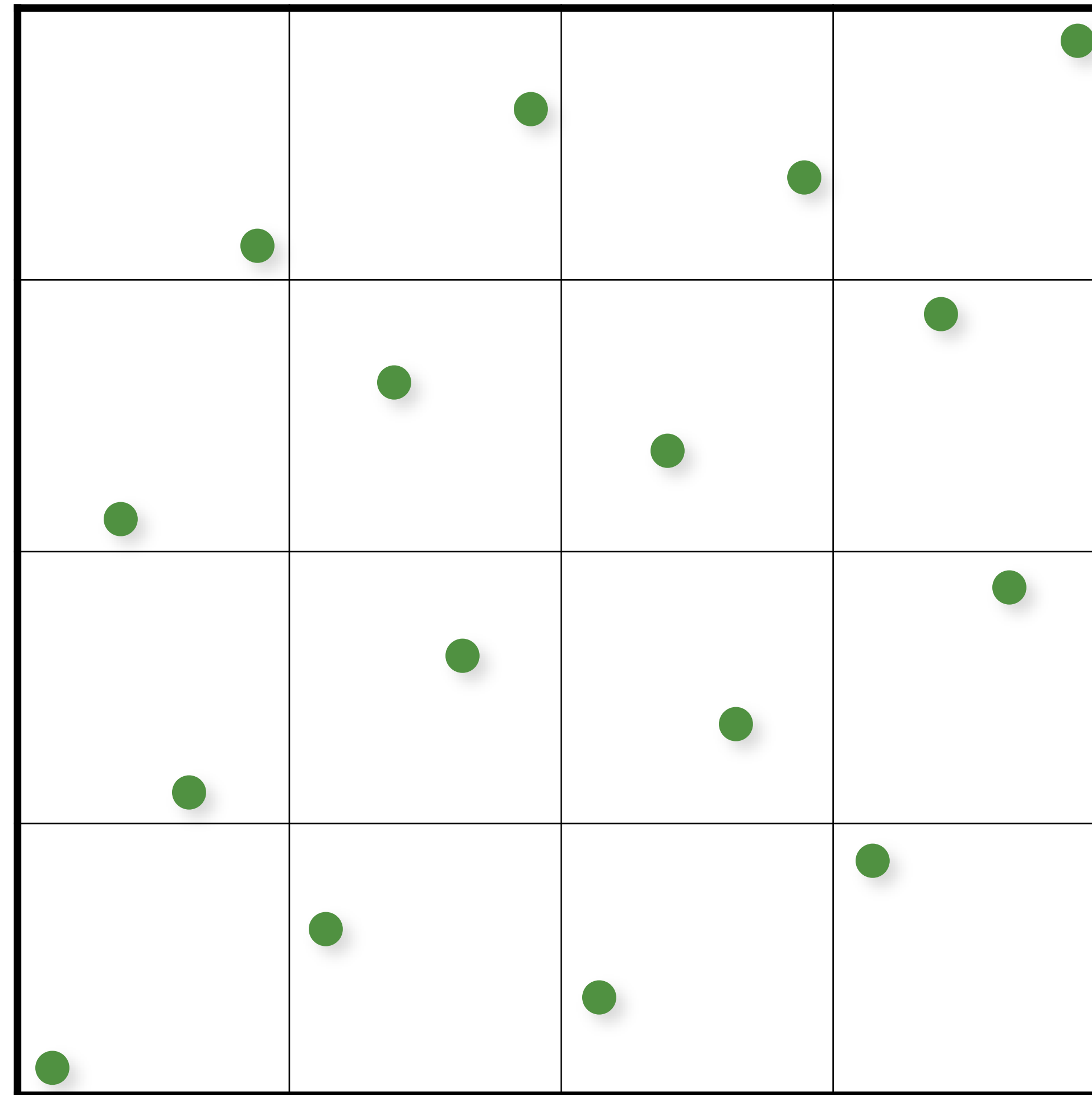
$$\vec{x}_k = (k/N, \Phi_2(k), \Phi_3(k), \Phi_5(k), \dots, \Phi_{p_n}(k))$$

- Not incremental, need to know sample count, N , in advance

The Hammersley Sequence

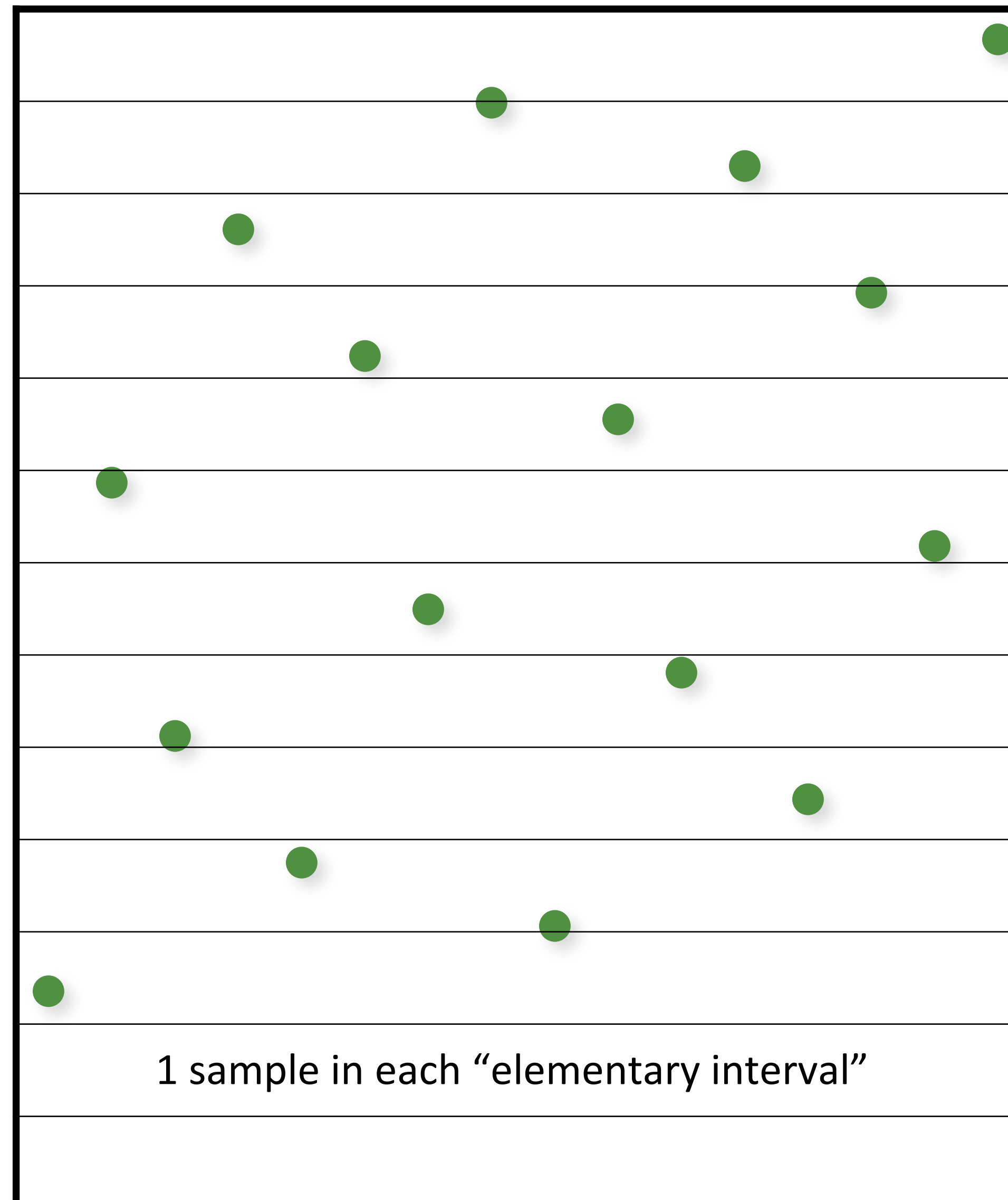


The Hammersley Sequence

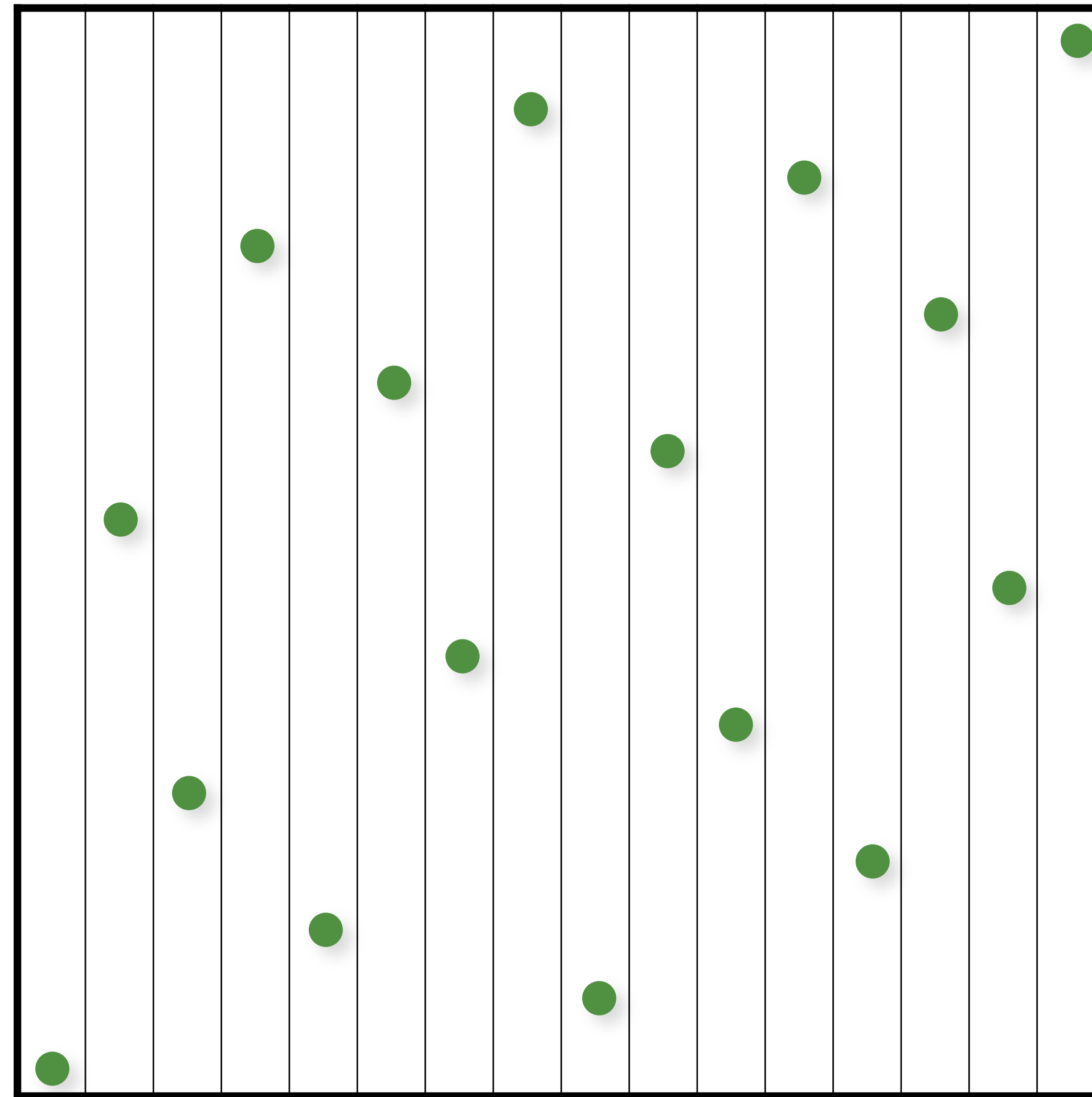


1 sample in each “elementary interval”

The Hammersley Sequence

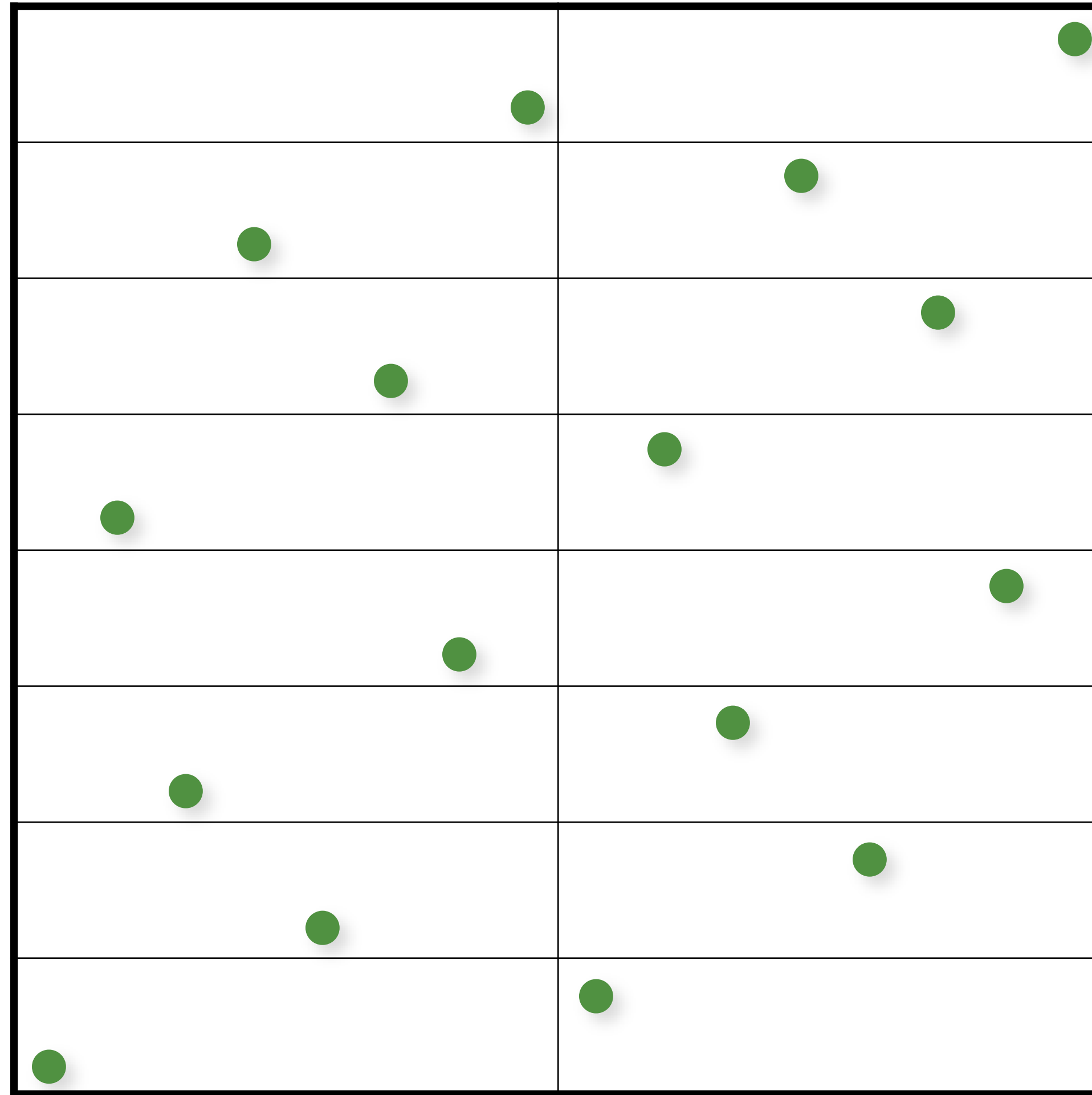


The Hammersley Sequence



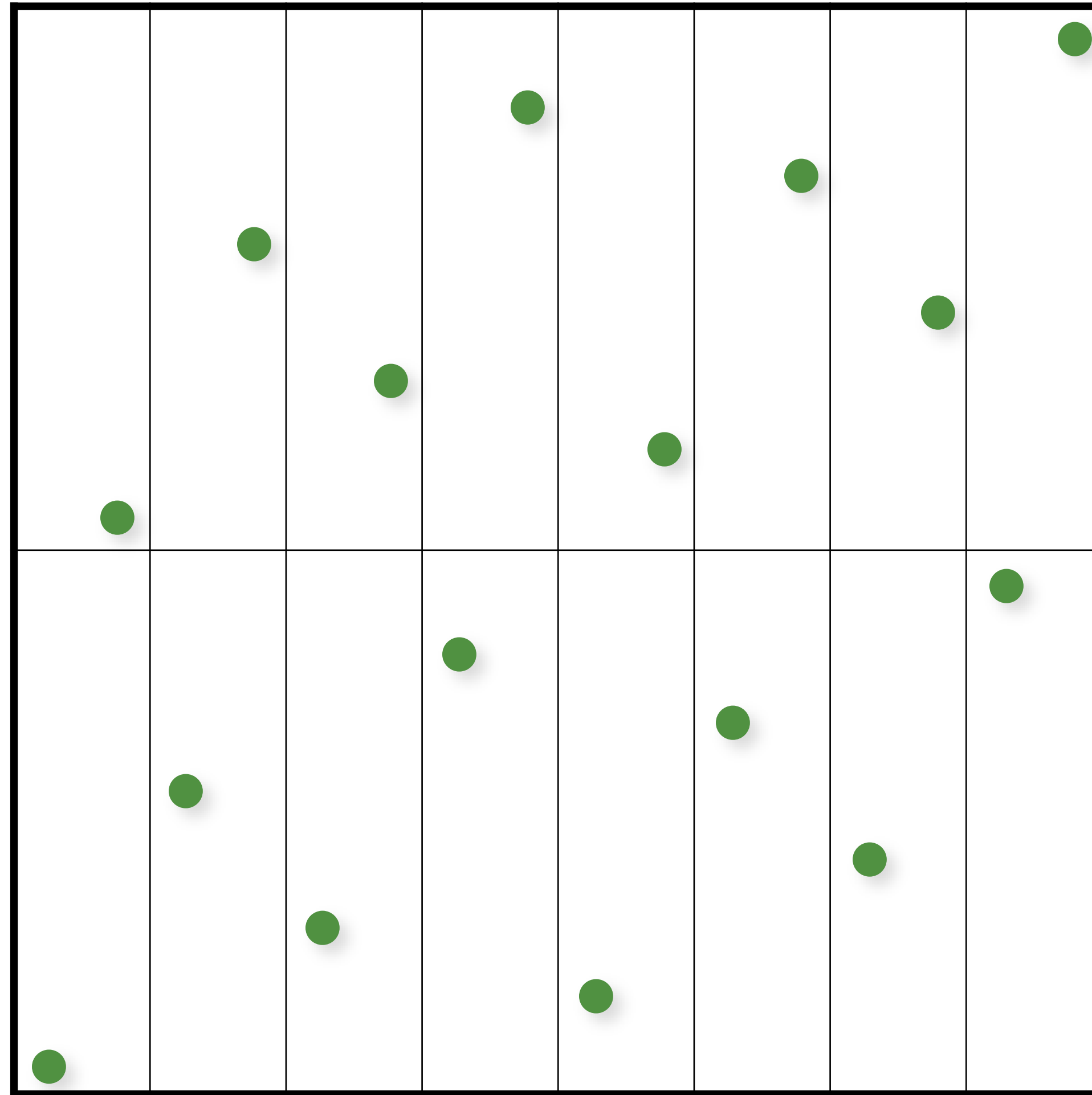
1 sample in each “elementary interval”

The Hammersley Sequence



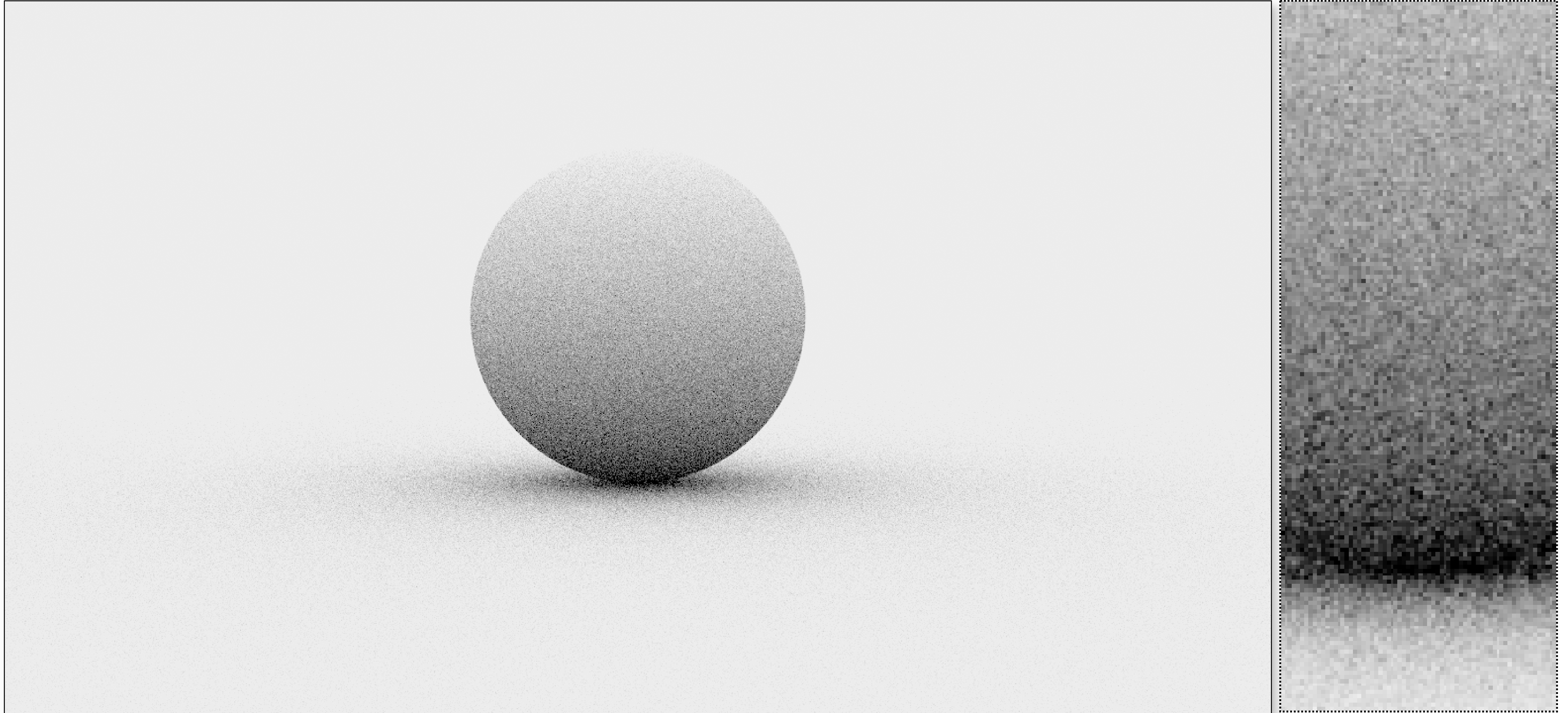
1 sample in each “elementary interval”

The Hammersley Sequence

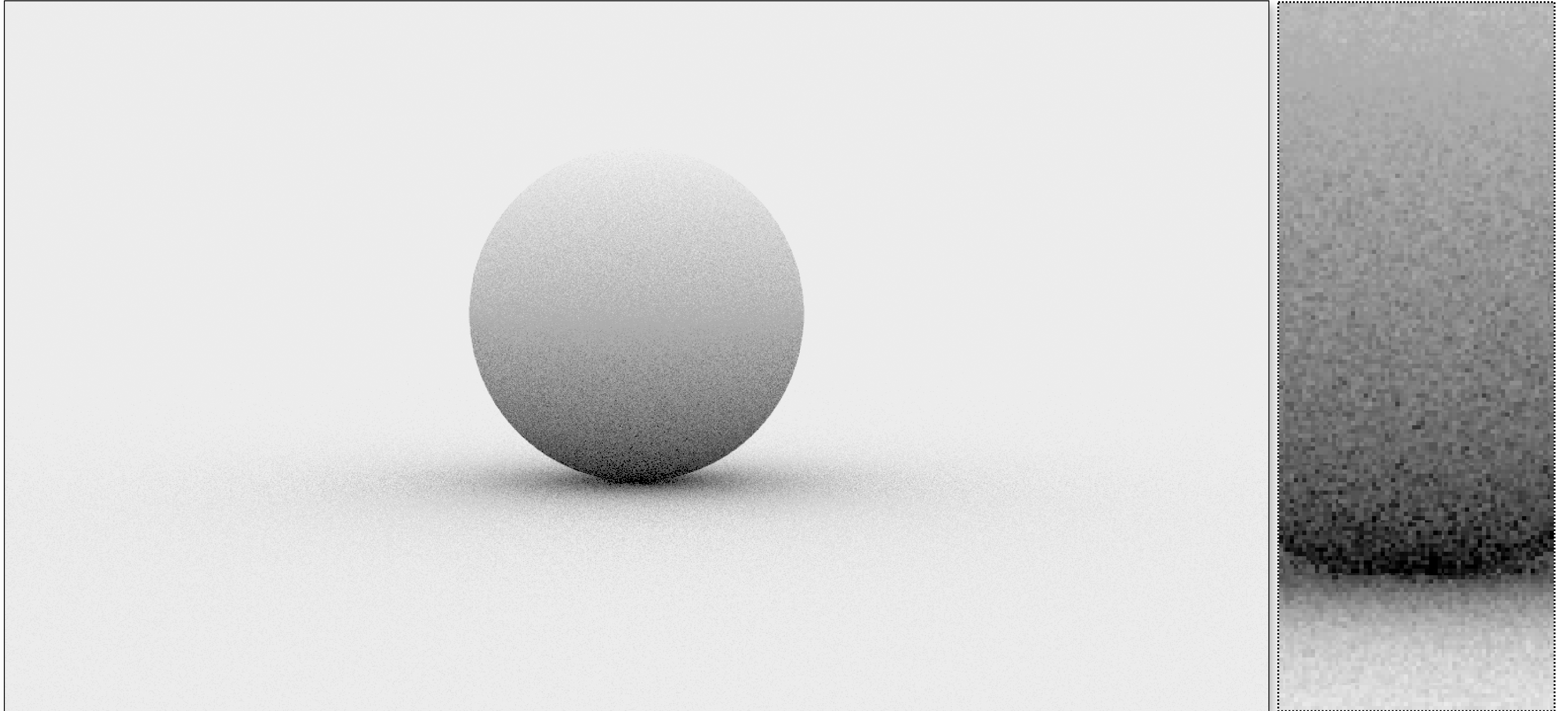


1 sample in each “elementary interval”

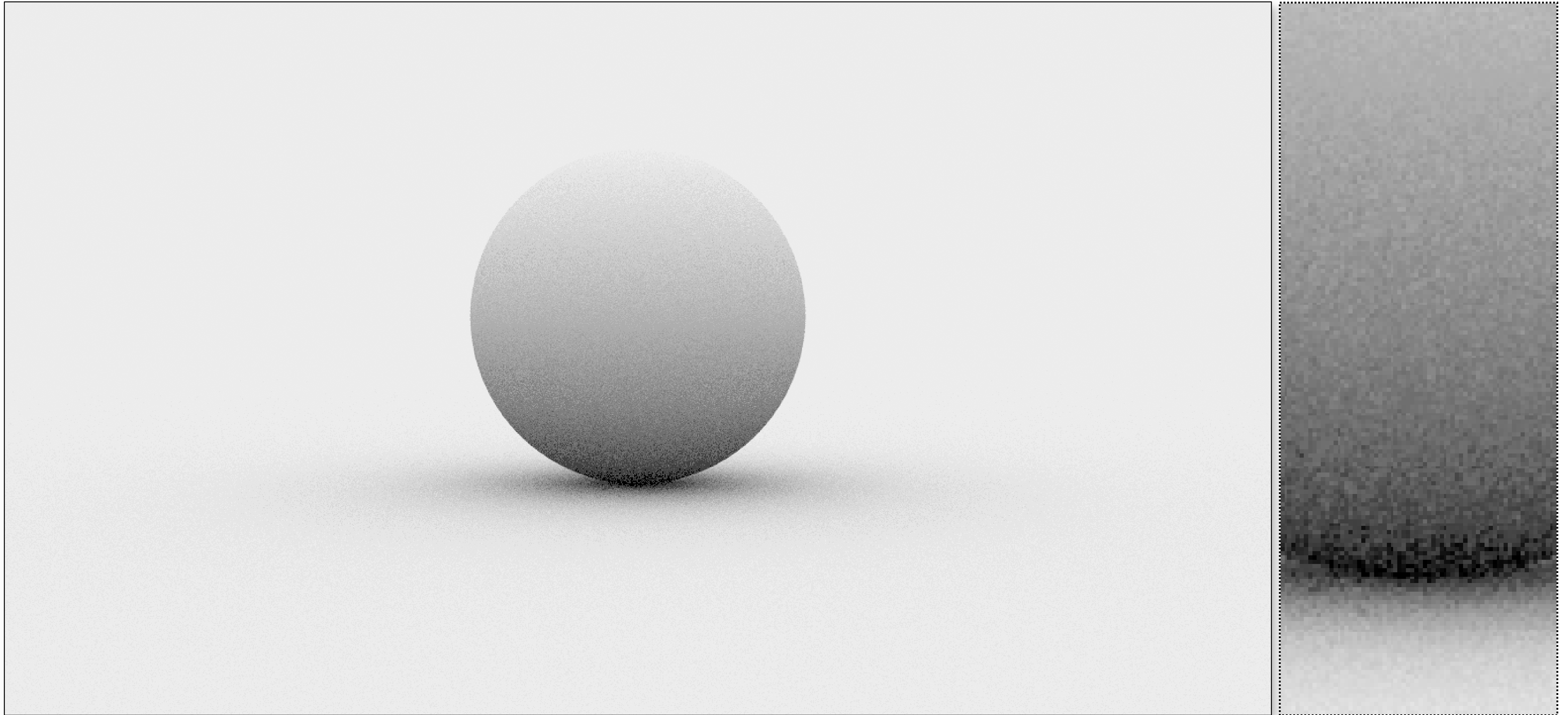
Monte Carlo (16 random samples)



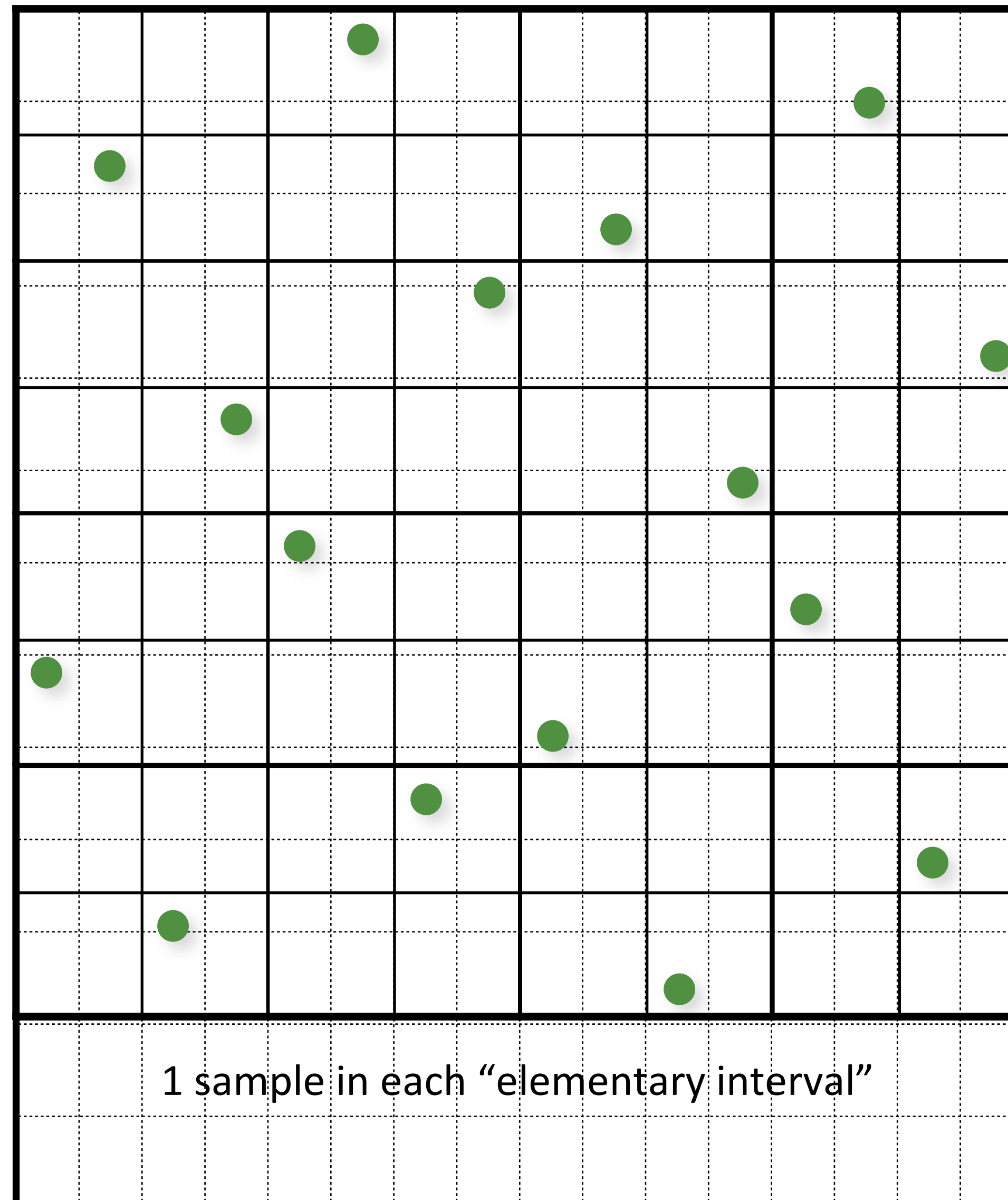
Monte Carlo (16 jittered samples)



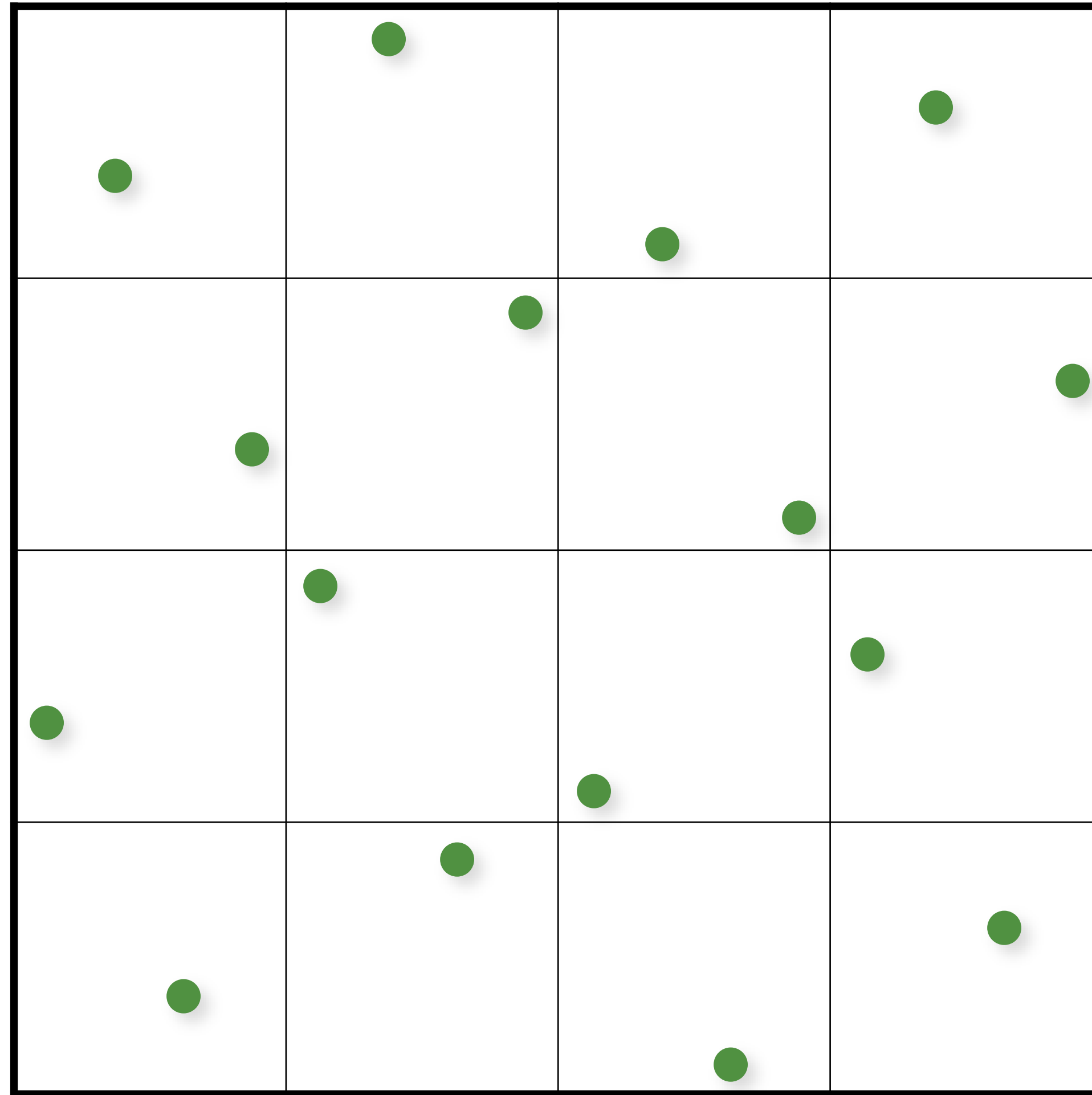
Scrambled Low-Discrepancy Sampling



$(0,2)$ -Sequences

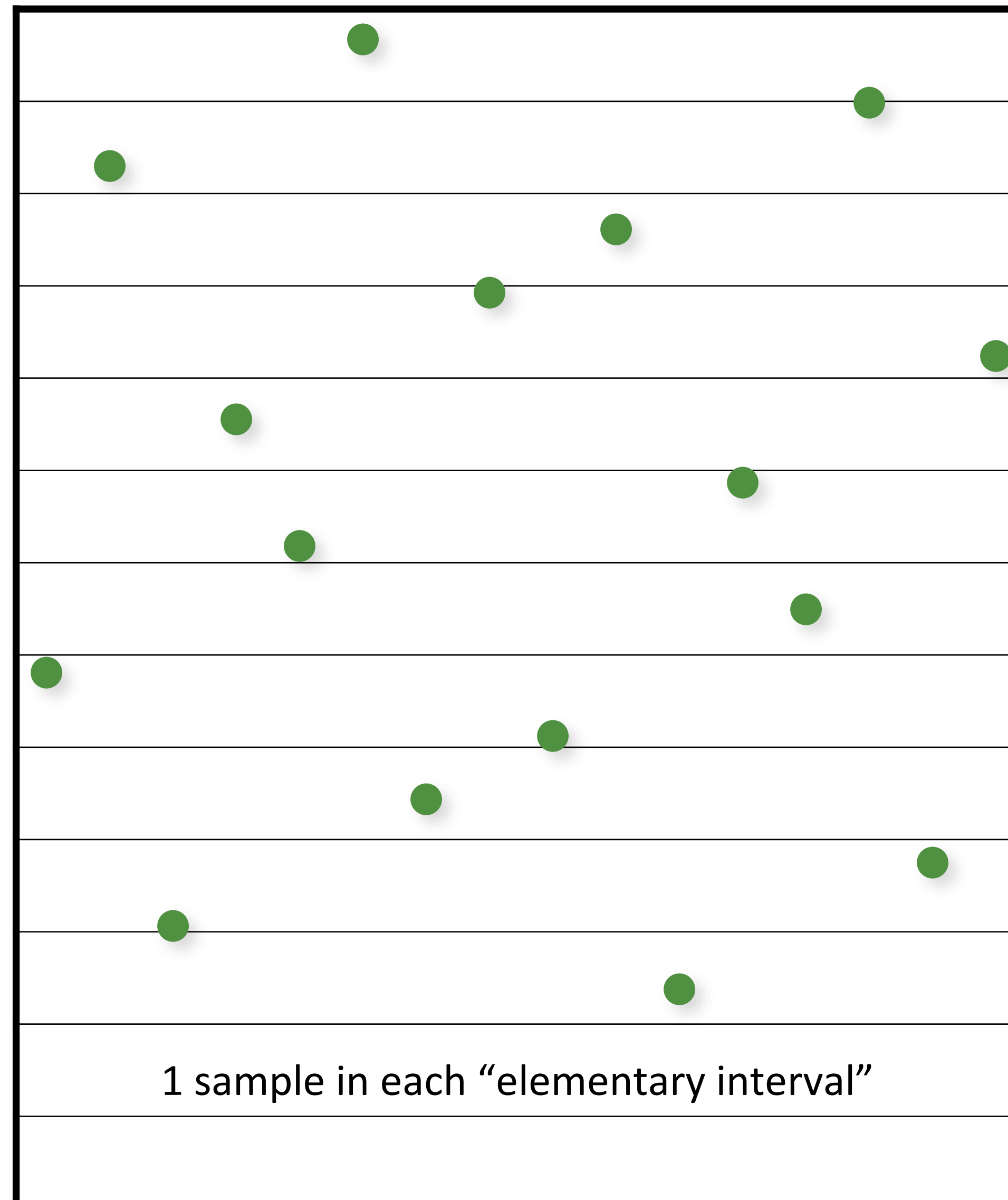


$(0,2)$ -Sequences

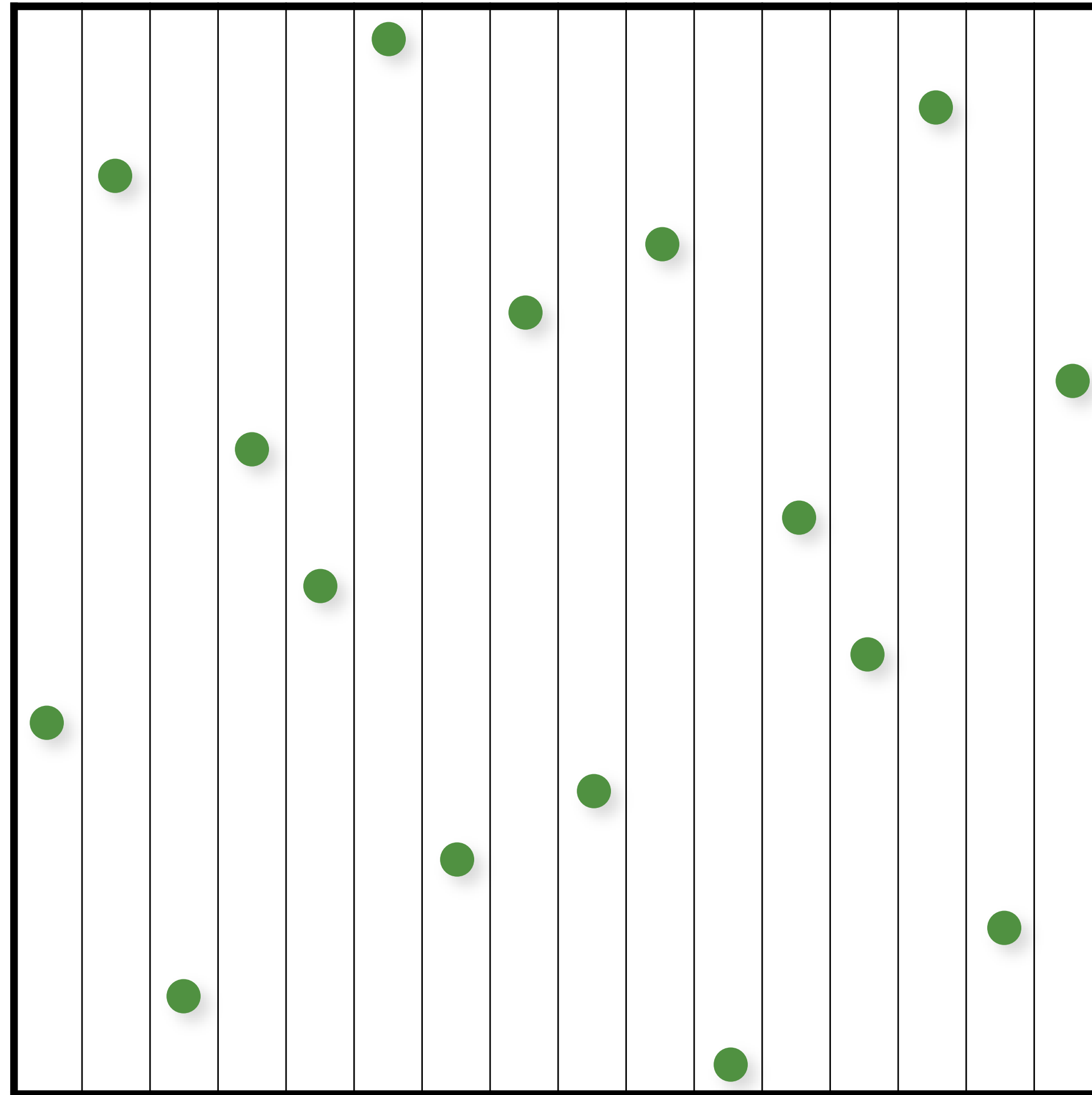


1 sample in each “elementary interval”

$(0,2)$ -Sequences

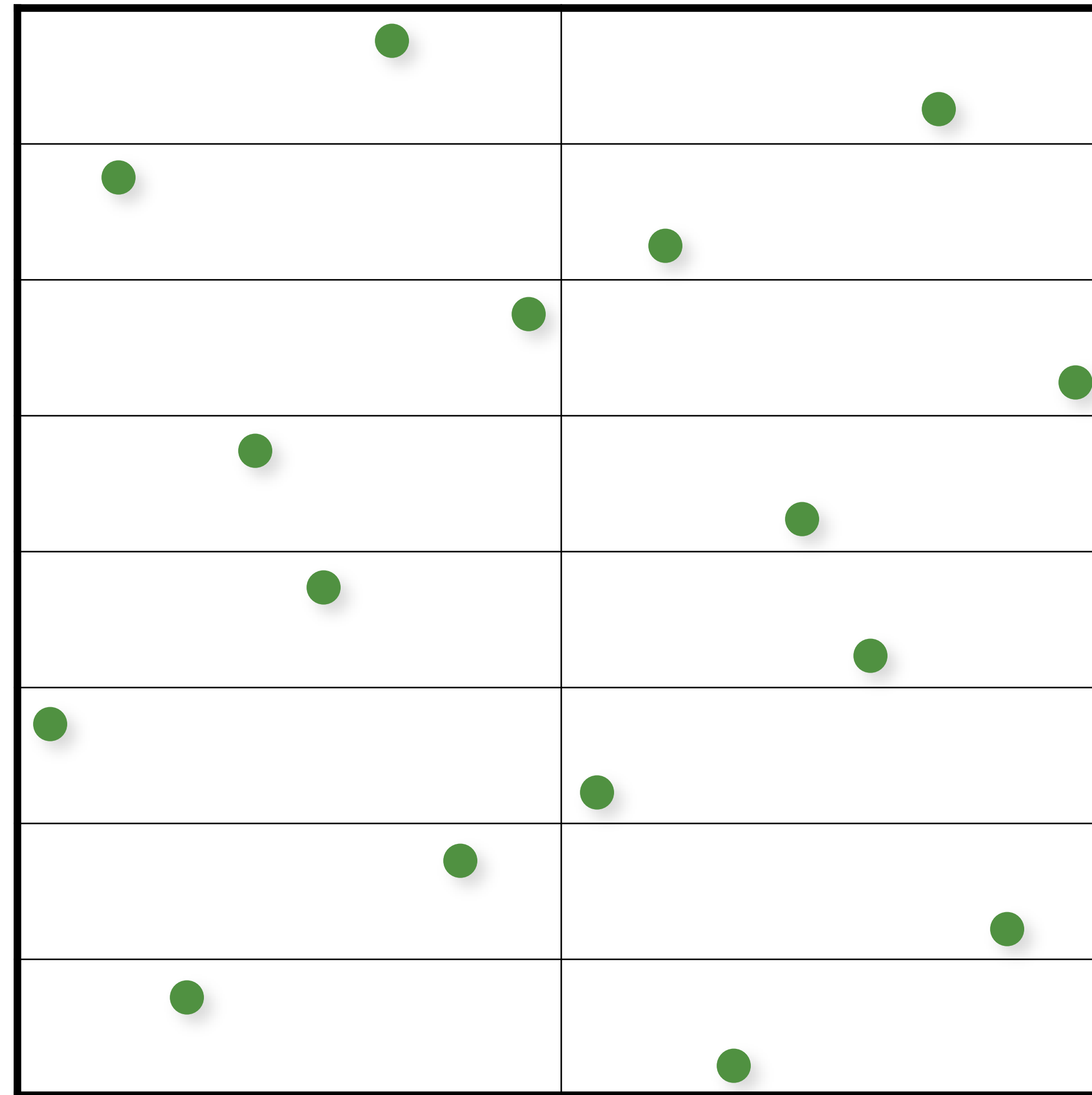


$(0,2)$ -Sequences



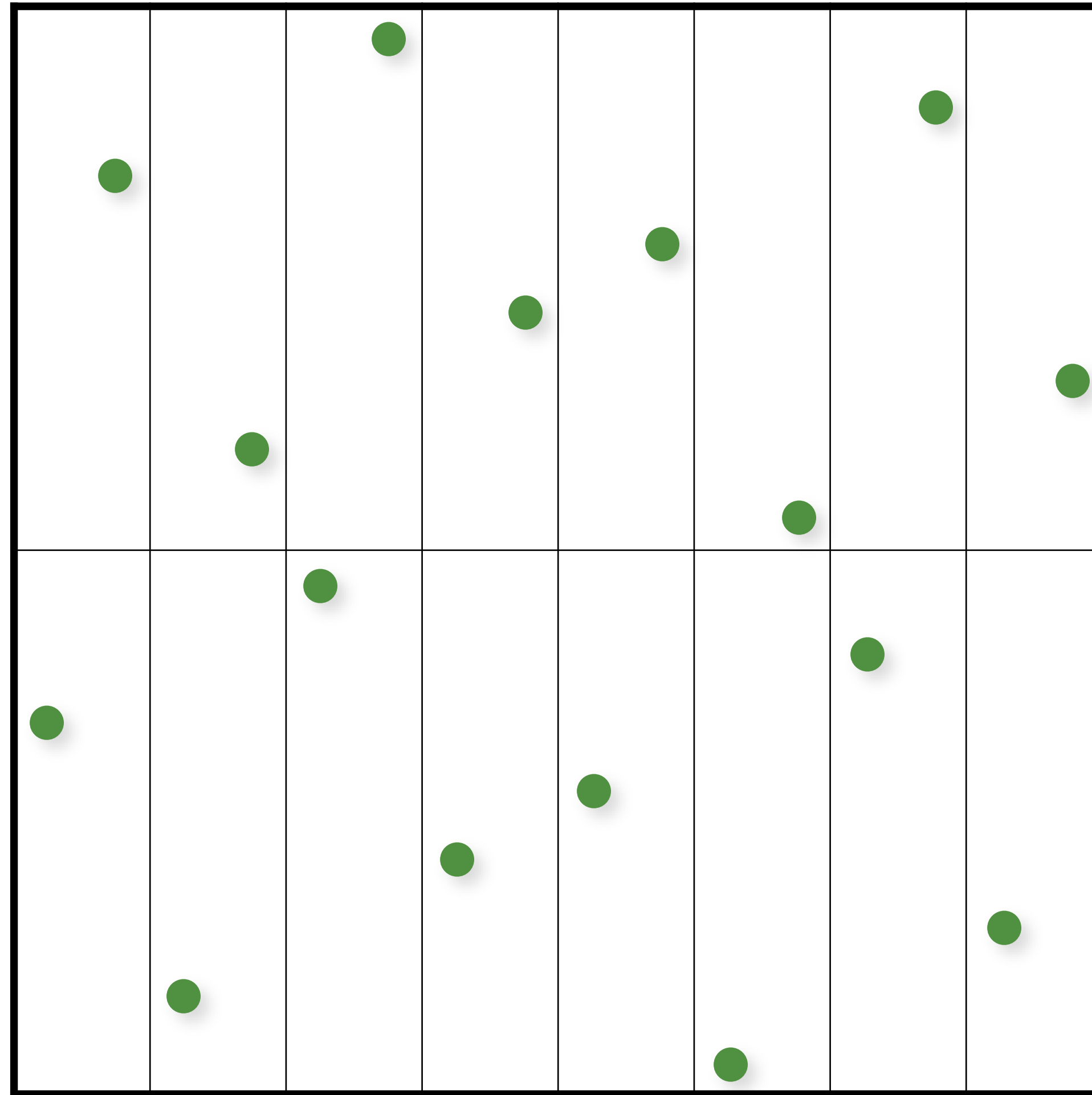
1 sample in each “elementary interval”

$(0,2)$ -Sequences



1 sample in each “elementary interval”

$(0,2)$ -Sequences



1 sample in each “elementary interval”

More info on QMC in Rendering

S. Premoze, A. Keller, and M. Raab.

Advanced (Quasi-) Monte Carlo Methods for Image Synthesis. In SIGGRAPH 2012 courses.

Many more...

Sobol

Faure

Larcher-Pillichshammer

Folded Radical Inverse

(t,s) -sequences & (t,m,s) -nets

Scrambling/randomization

much more...

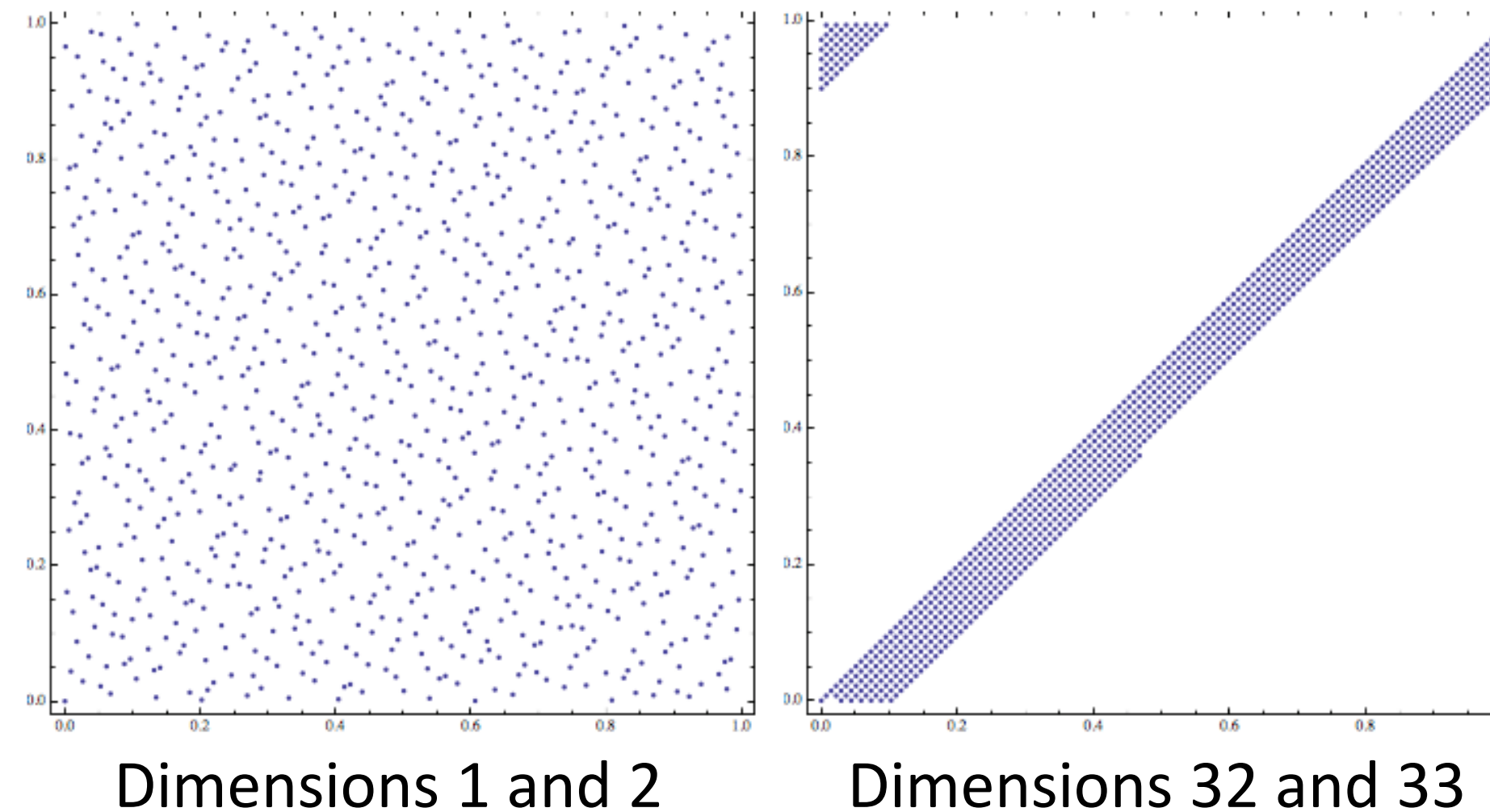
Challenges

LD sequence identical for multiple runs

- cannot average independent images!
- no “random” seed

Quality decreases in higher dimensions

Halton Sequence

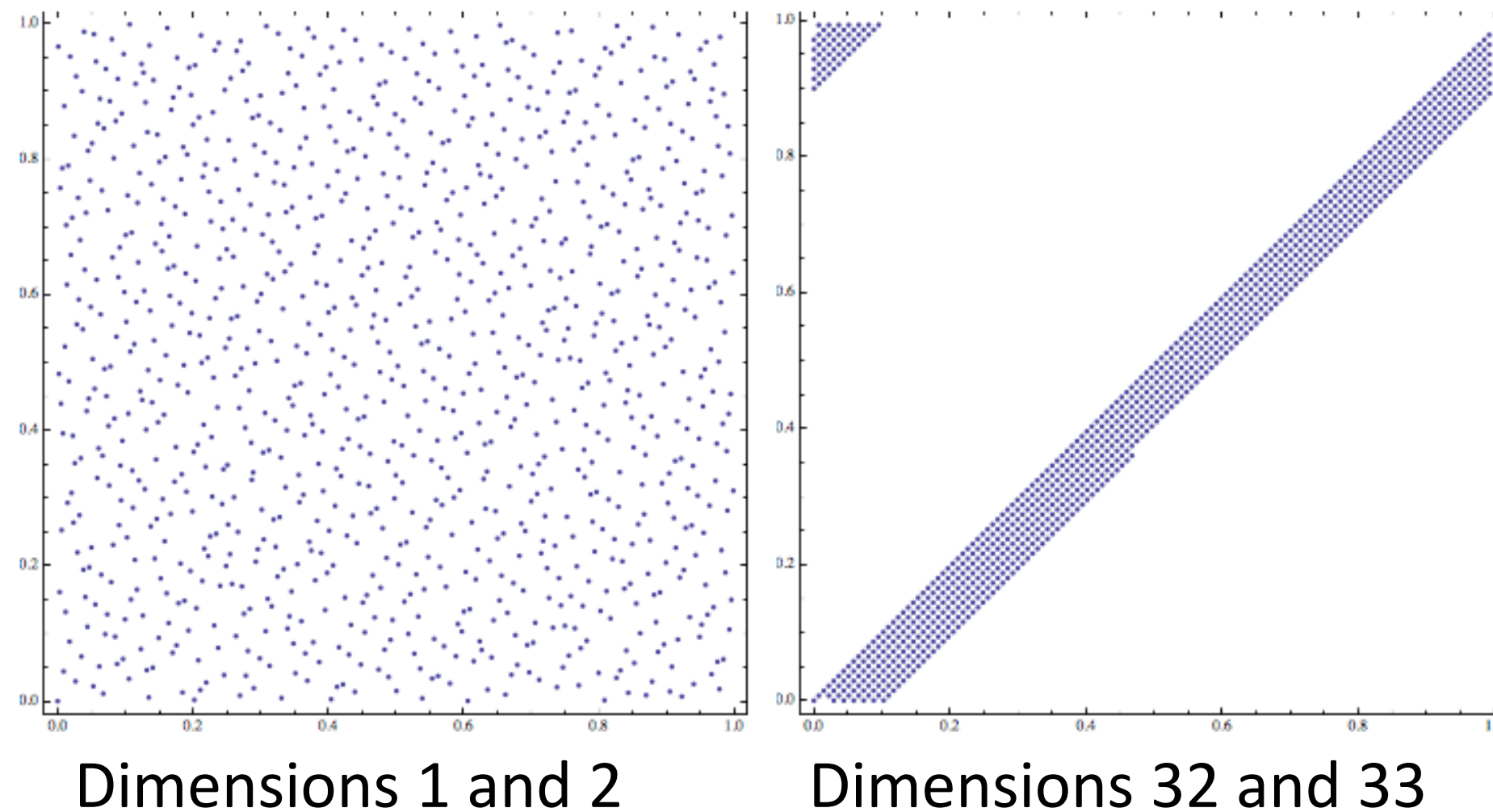


Randomized/Scrambled Sequences

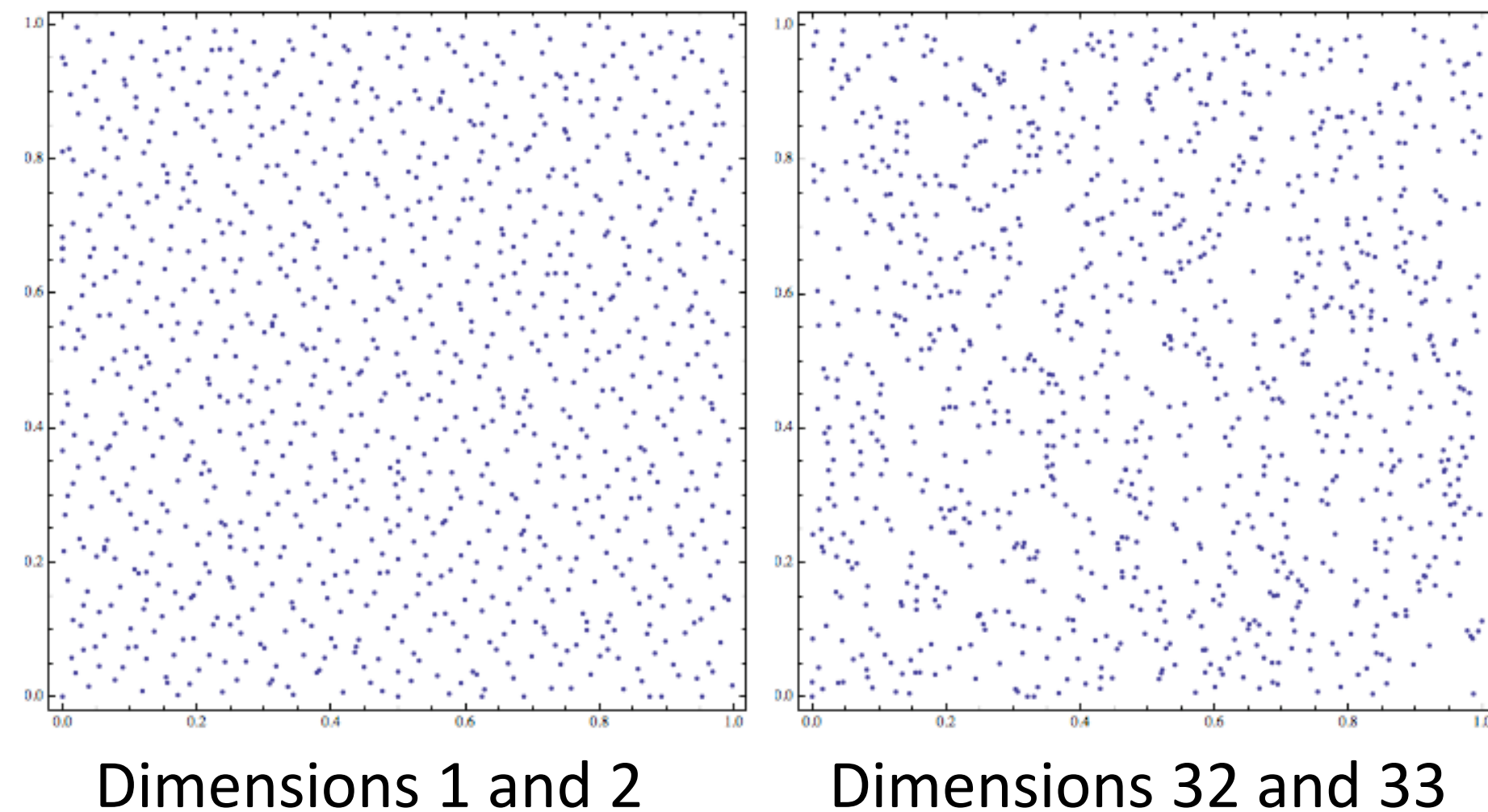
Random permutations: compute a permutation table for the order of the digits and use it when computing the radical inverse

$$\Phi_b(n) = 0.\pi(d_1)\pi(d_2)...\pi(d_m)$$

Without scrambling



With scrambling



Randomized/Scrambled Sequences

Random permutations: compute a permutation table for the order of the digits and use it when computing the radical inverse

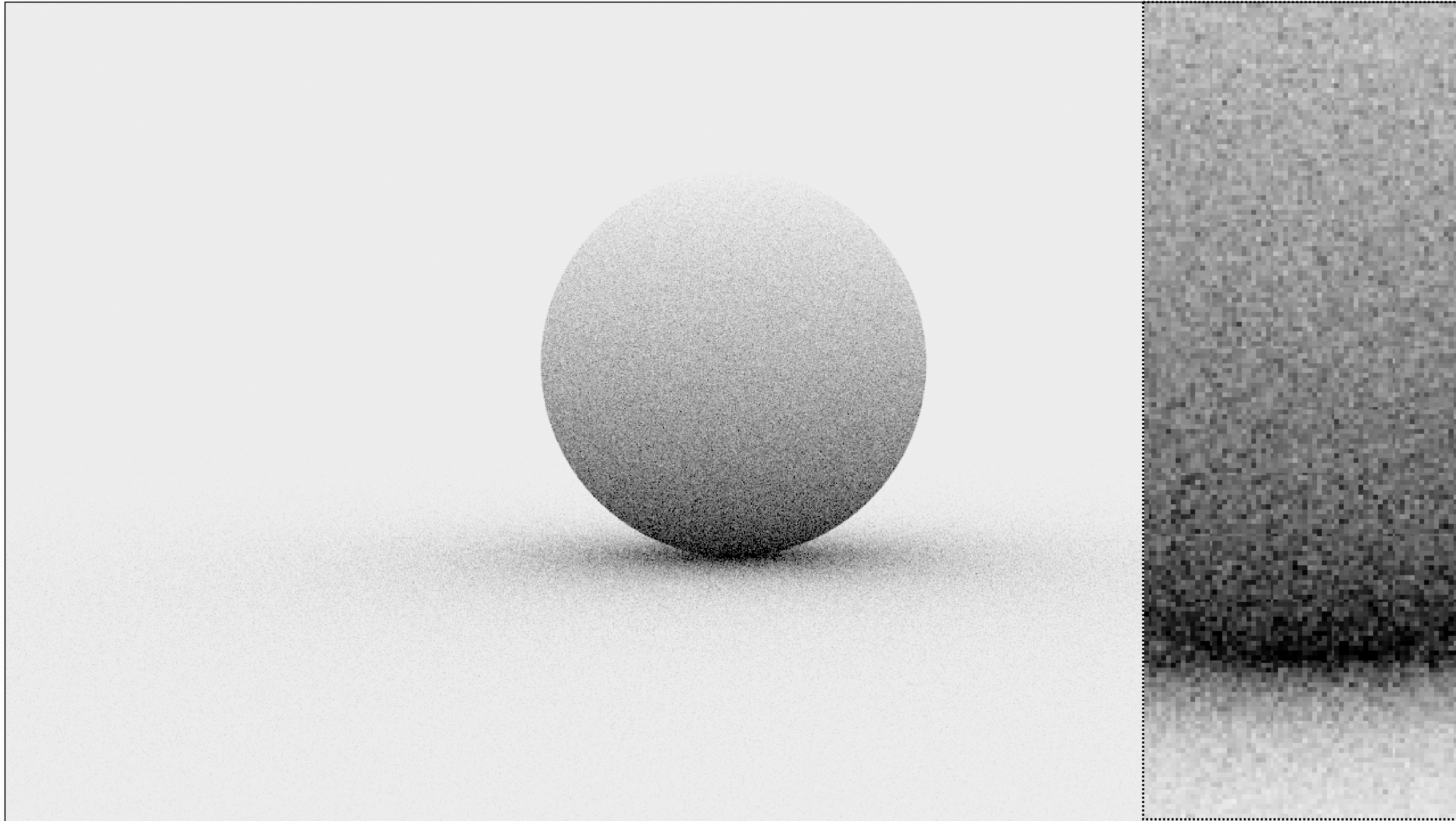
- Can be done very efficiently for base 2 with XOR operation

See PBRe2 Ch7 for details

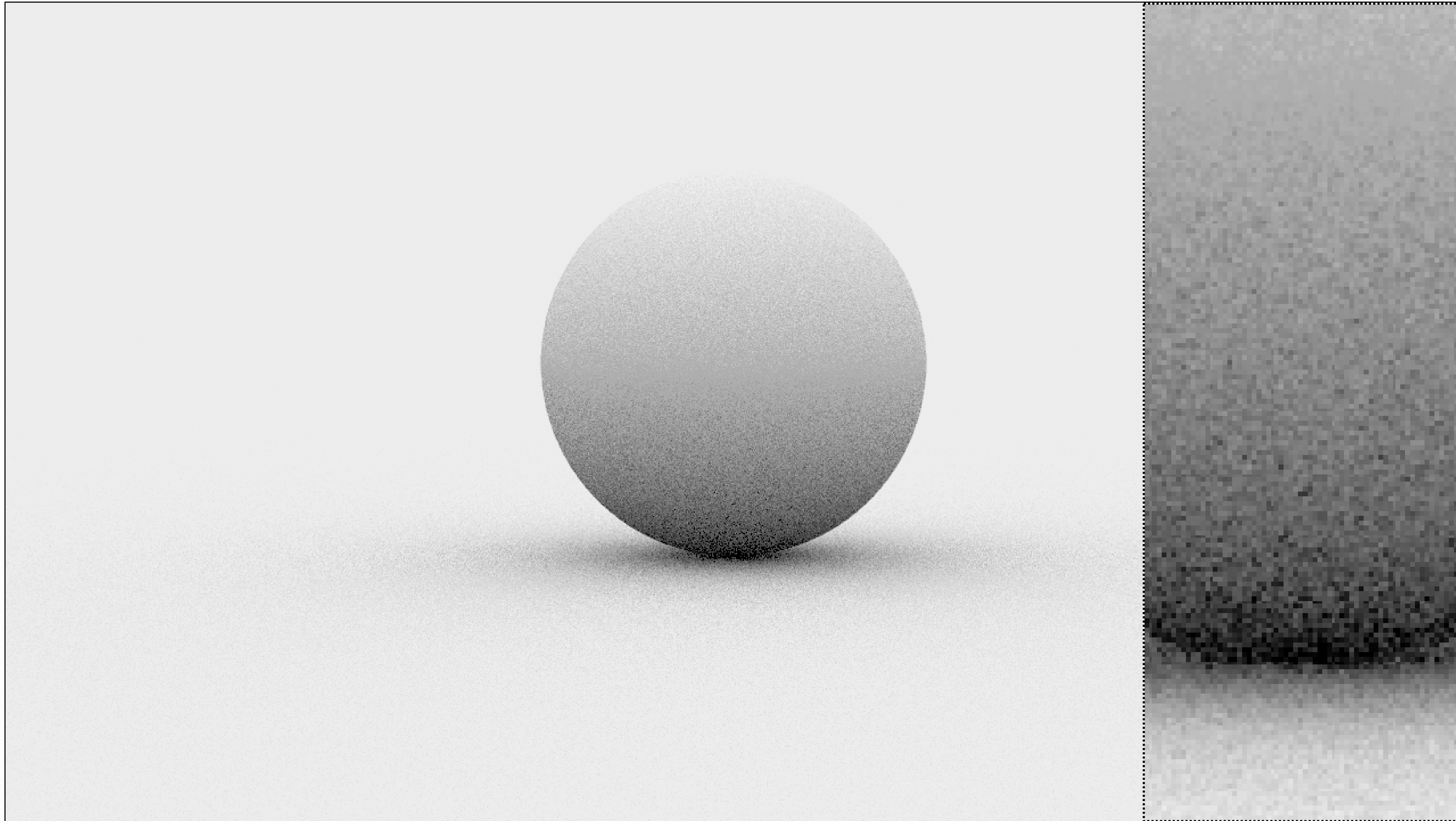
Scrambled Radical Inverse (Base 2)

```
float vanDerCorputRIU(uint n, uint scramble = 0)
{
    n = (n << 16) | (n >> 16);
    n = ((n & 0x00ff00ff) << 8) | ((n & 0xff00ff00) >> 8);
    n = ((n & 0x0f0f0f0f) << 4) | ((n & 0xf0f0f0f0) >> 4);
    n = ((n & 0x33333333) << 2) | ((n & 0xcccccccc) >> 2);
    n = ((n & 0x55555555) << 1) | ((n & 0xaaaaaaaa) >> 1);
    n ^= scramble;
    return n / float (0x100000000LL);
}
```

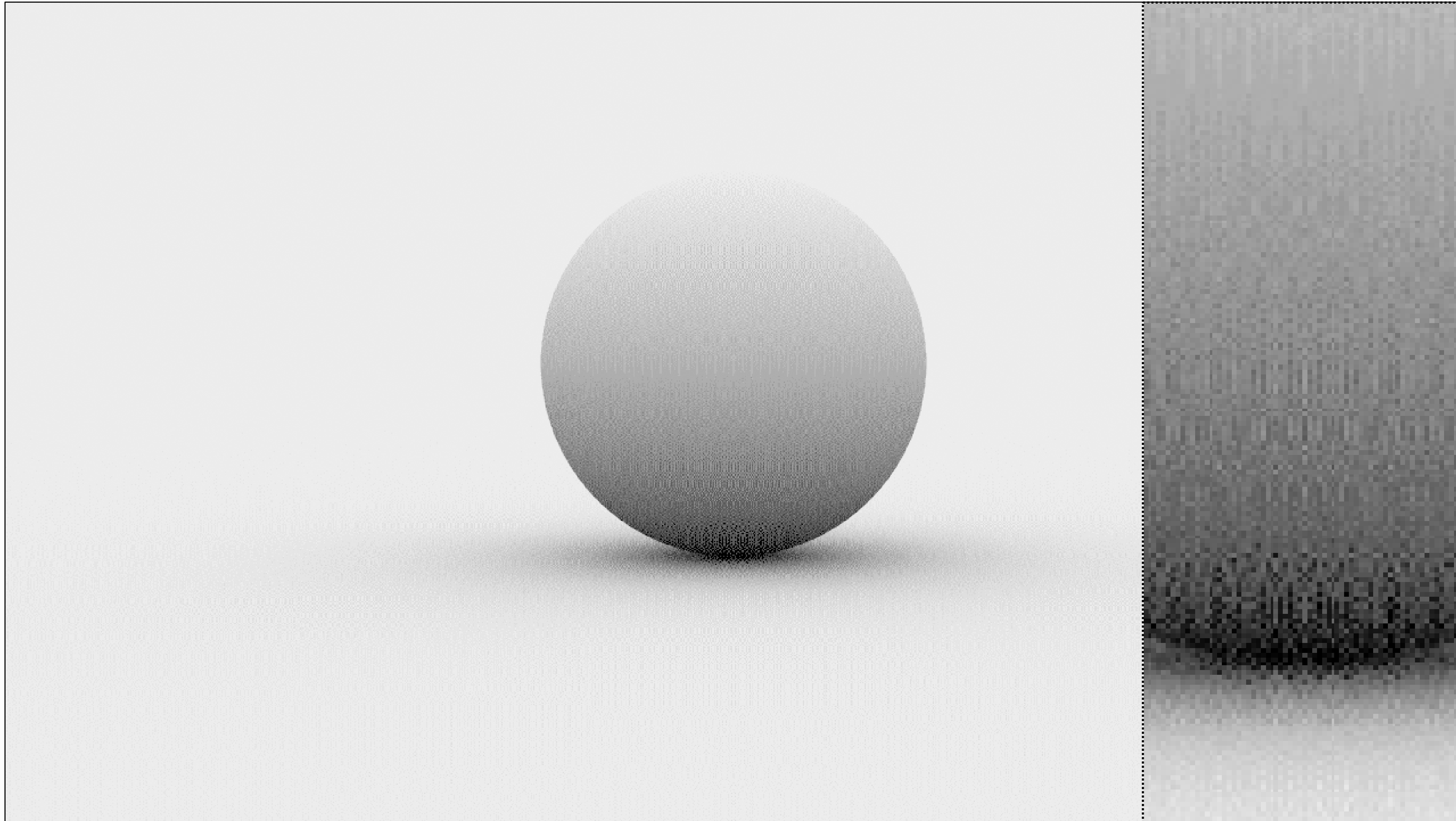
Monte Carlo (16 random samples)



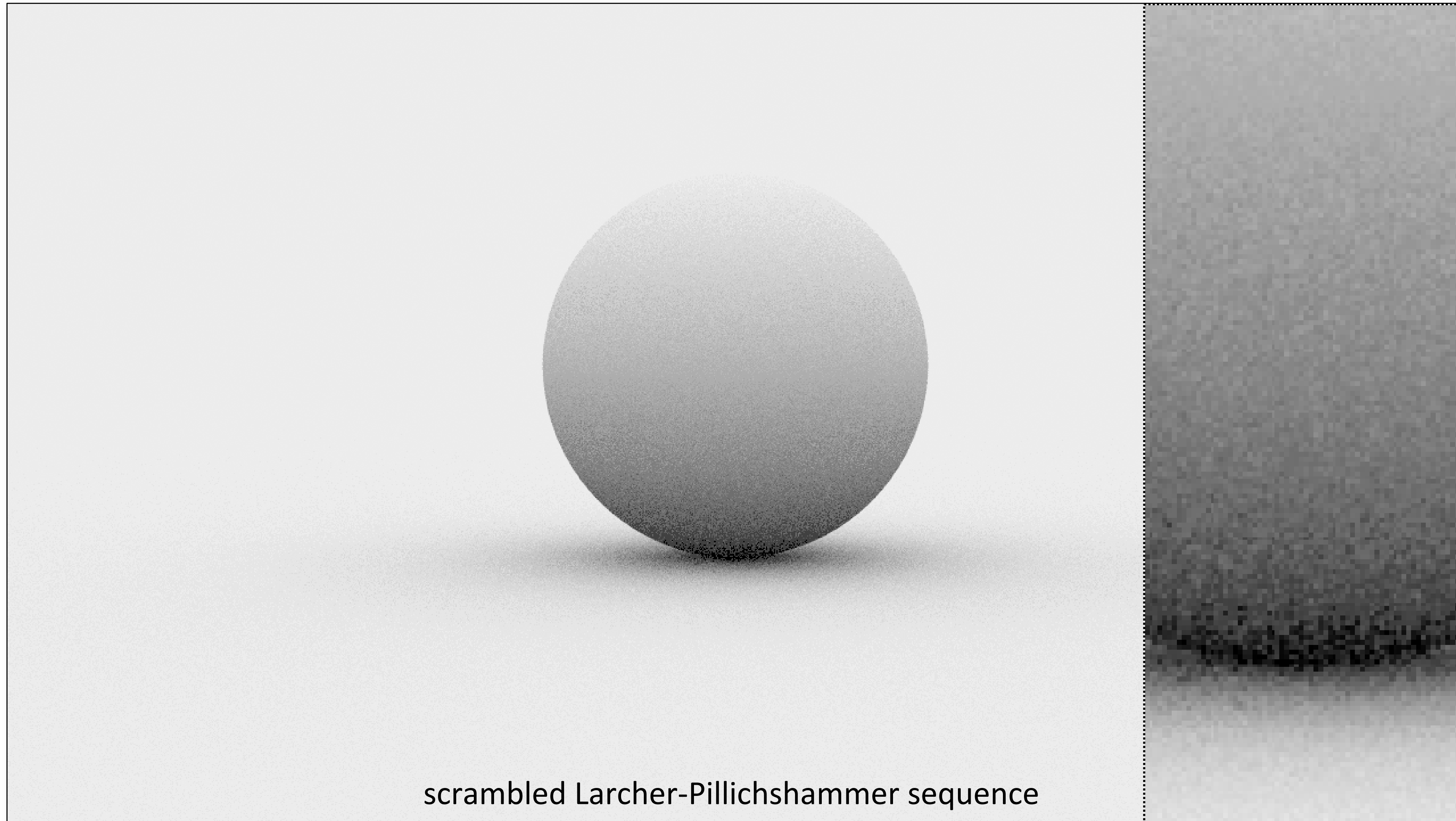
Monte Carlo (16 stratified samples)



Quasi-Monte Carlo (16 Halton samples)



Scrambled Quasi-Monte Carlo



Implementation tips

Using QMC can often lead to unintuitive, difficult-to-debug problems.

- Always code up MC algorithms first, using random numbers, to ensure correctness
- Only after confirming correctness, slowly incorporate QMC into the mix

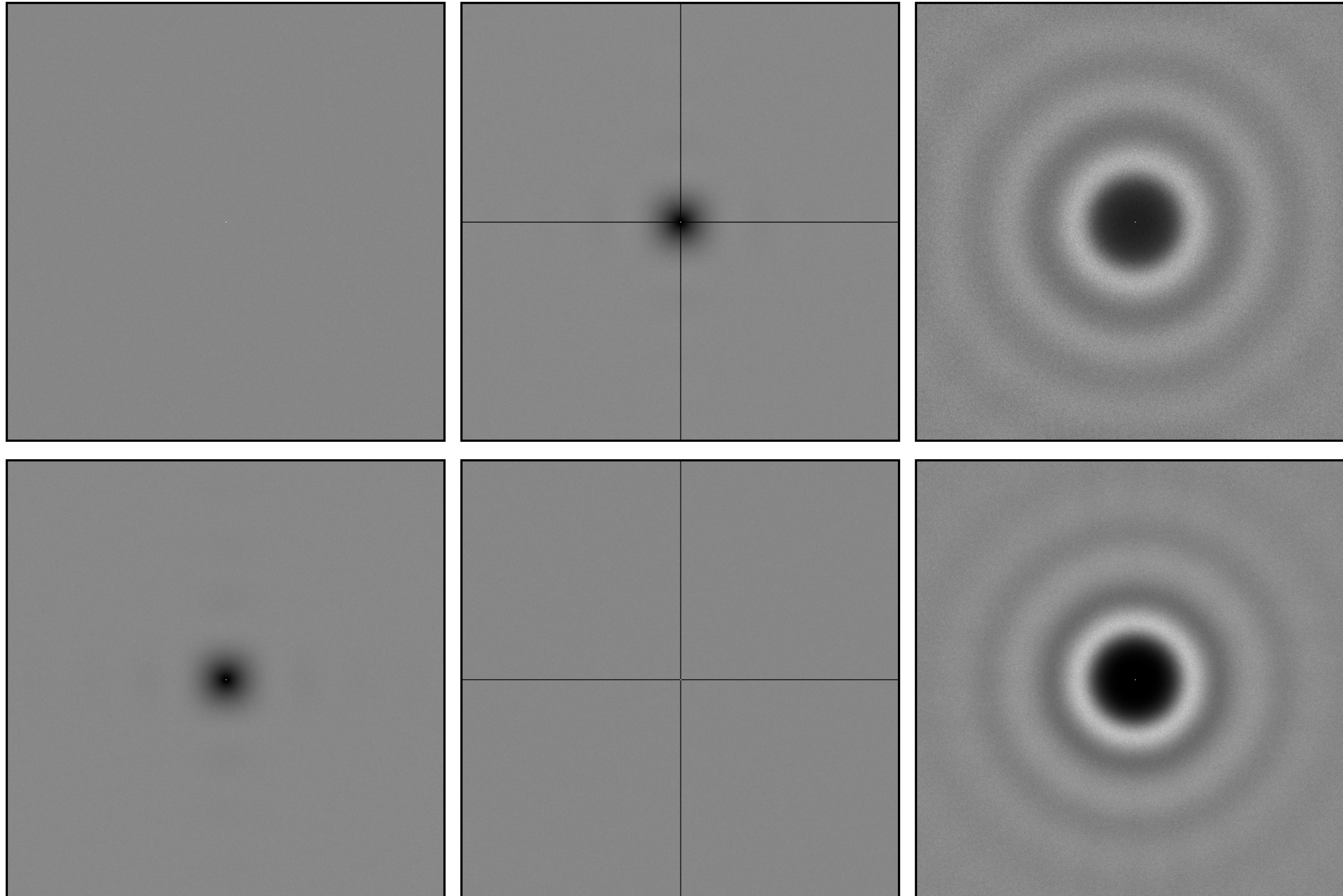
How do you add this to your renderer?

Lots of details in the book

Read about the Sampler interface

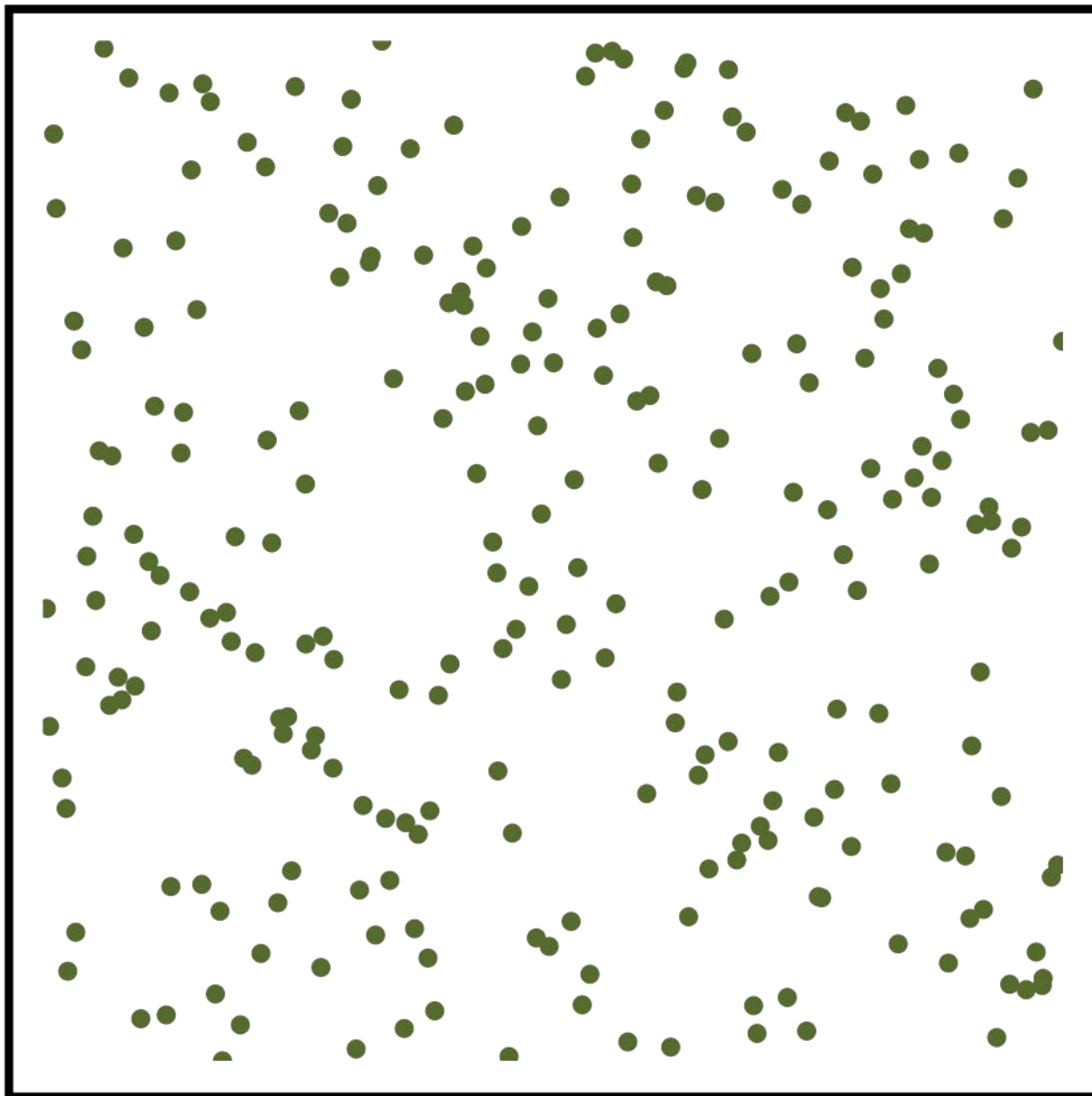
- Basic idea: replace global randf with a Sampler class that produces random (or stratified/quasi-random) numbers
- Also better for multi-threading

How can we predict error from these?

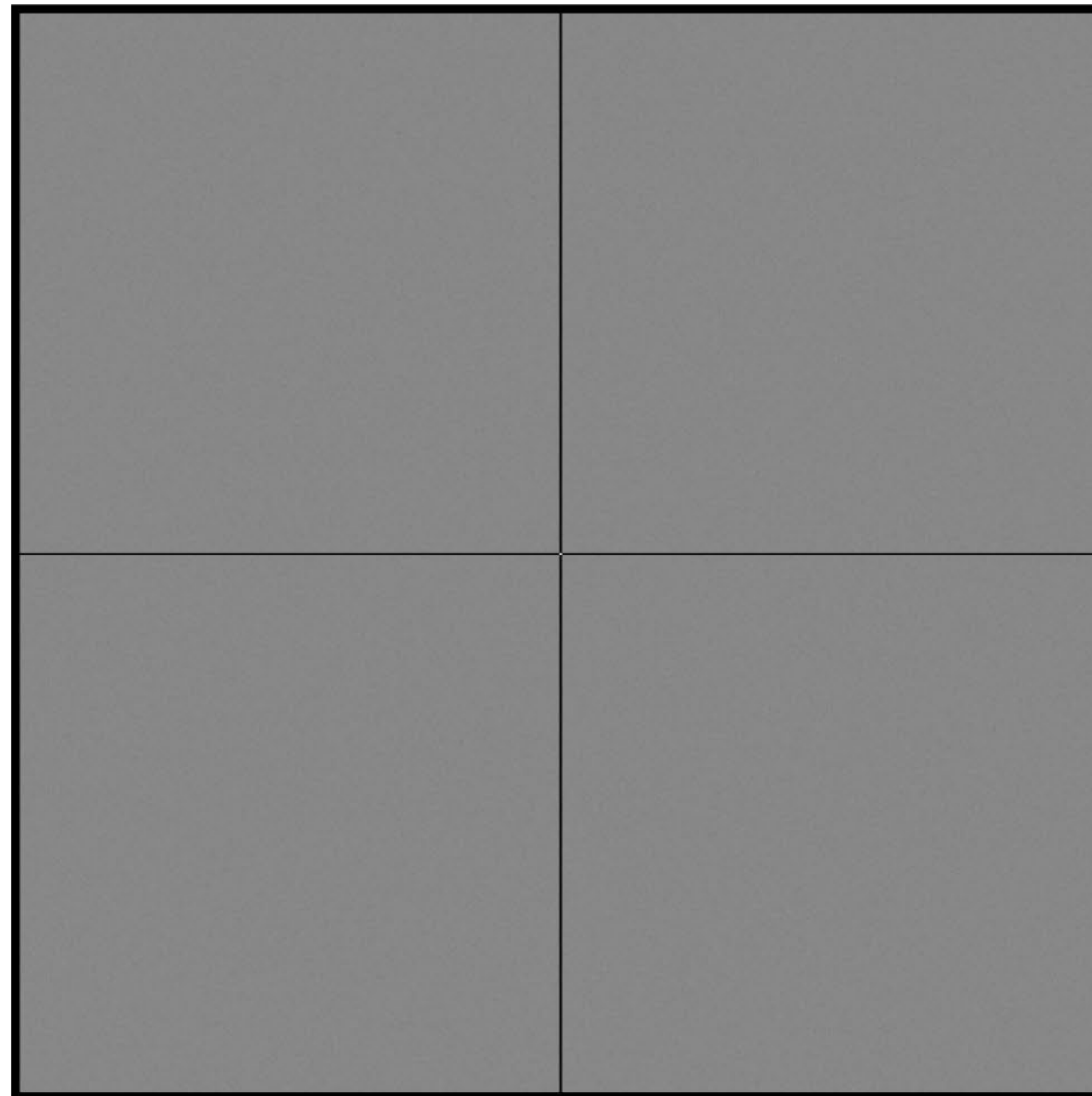


N-Rooks Sampling

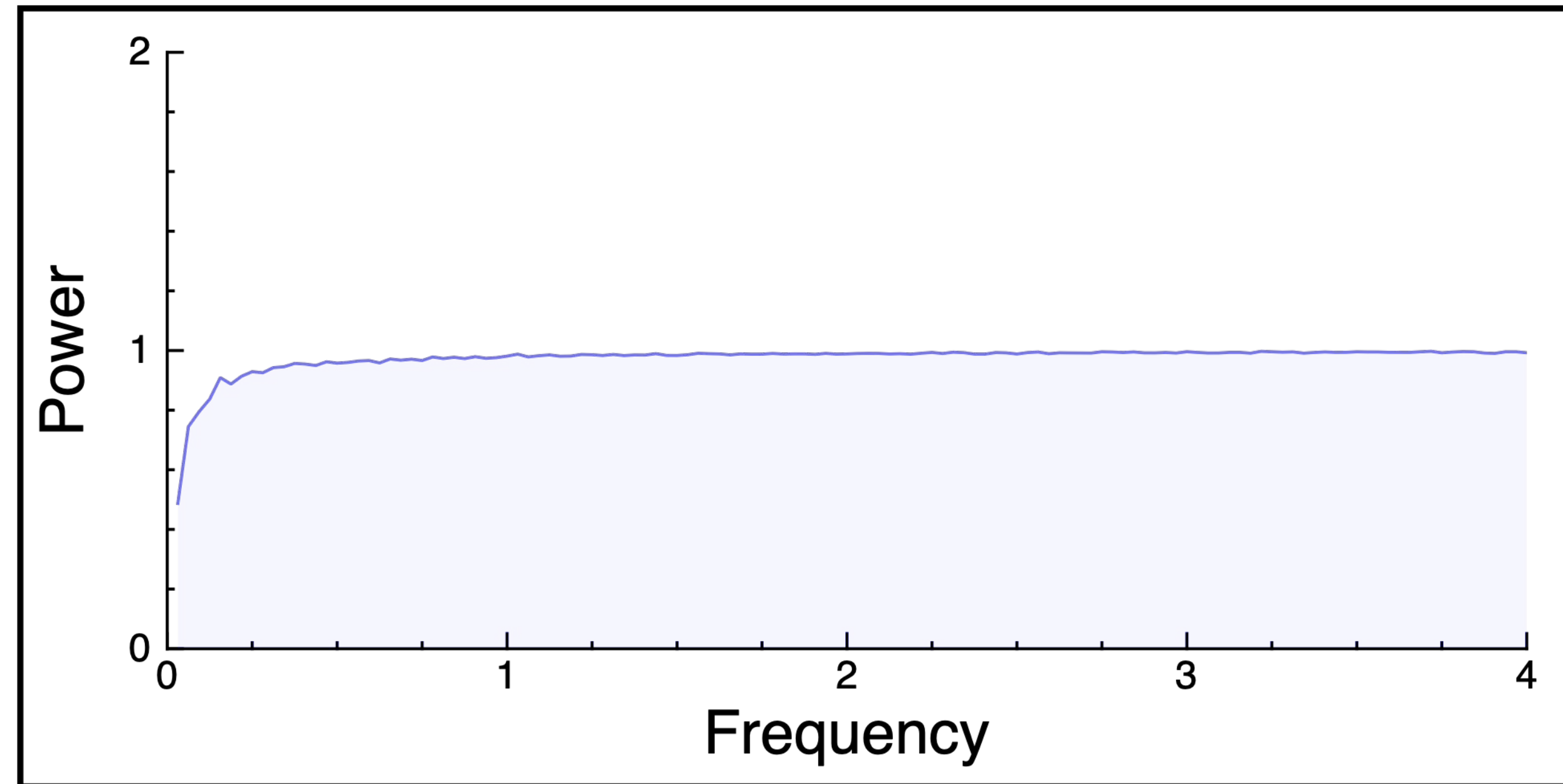
Samples



Expected power spectrum

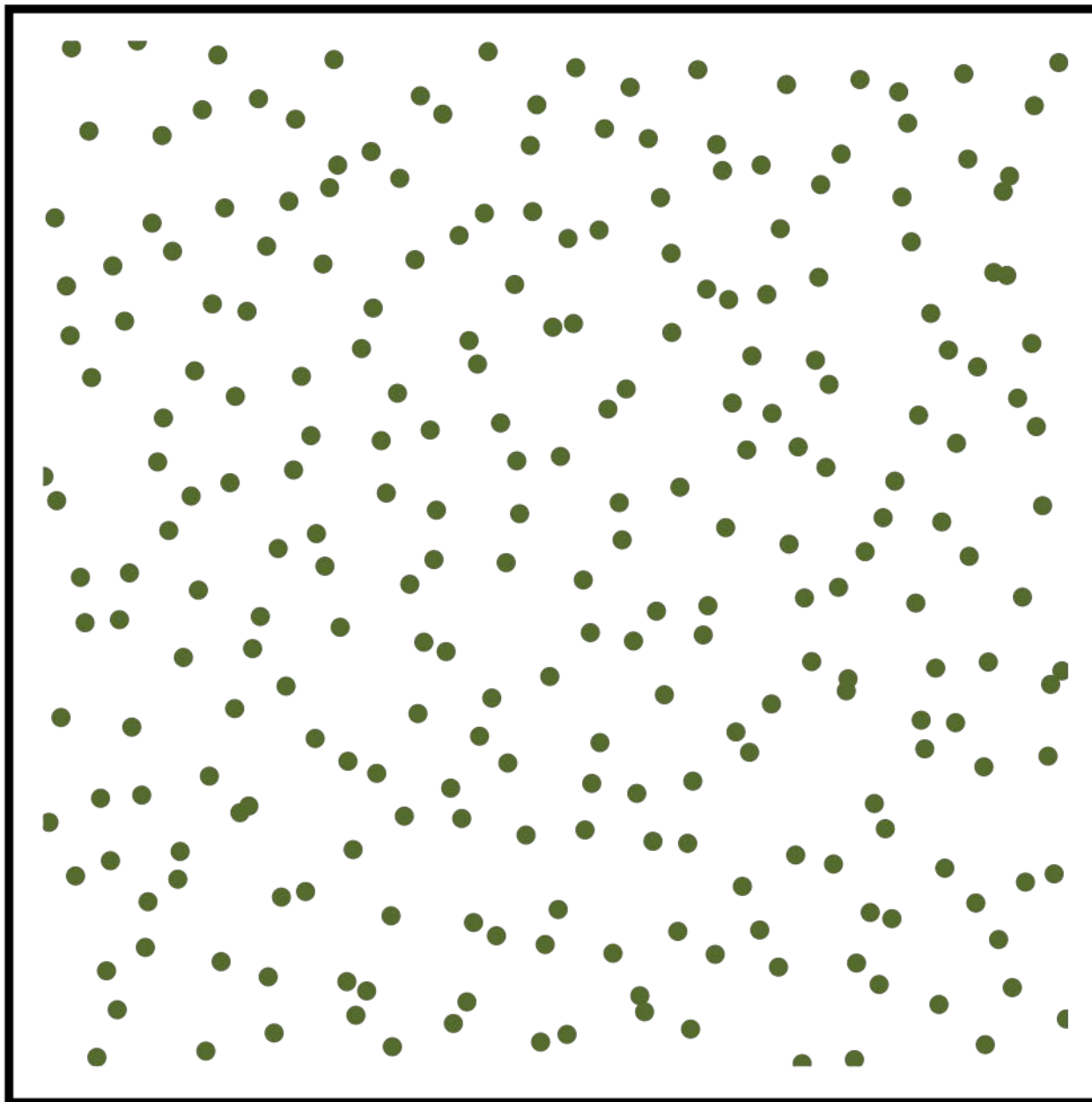


Radial mean

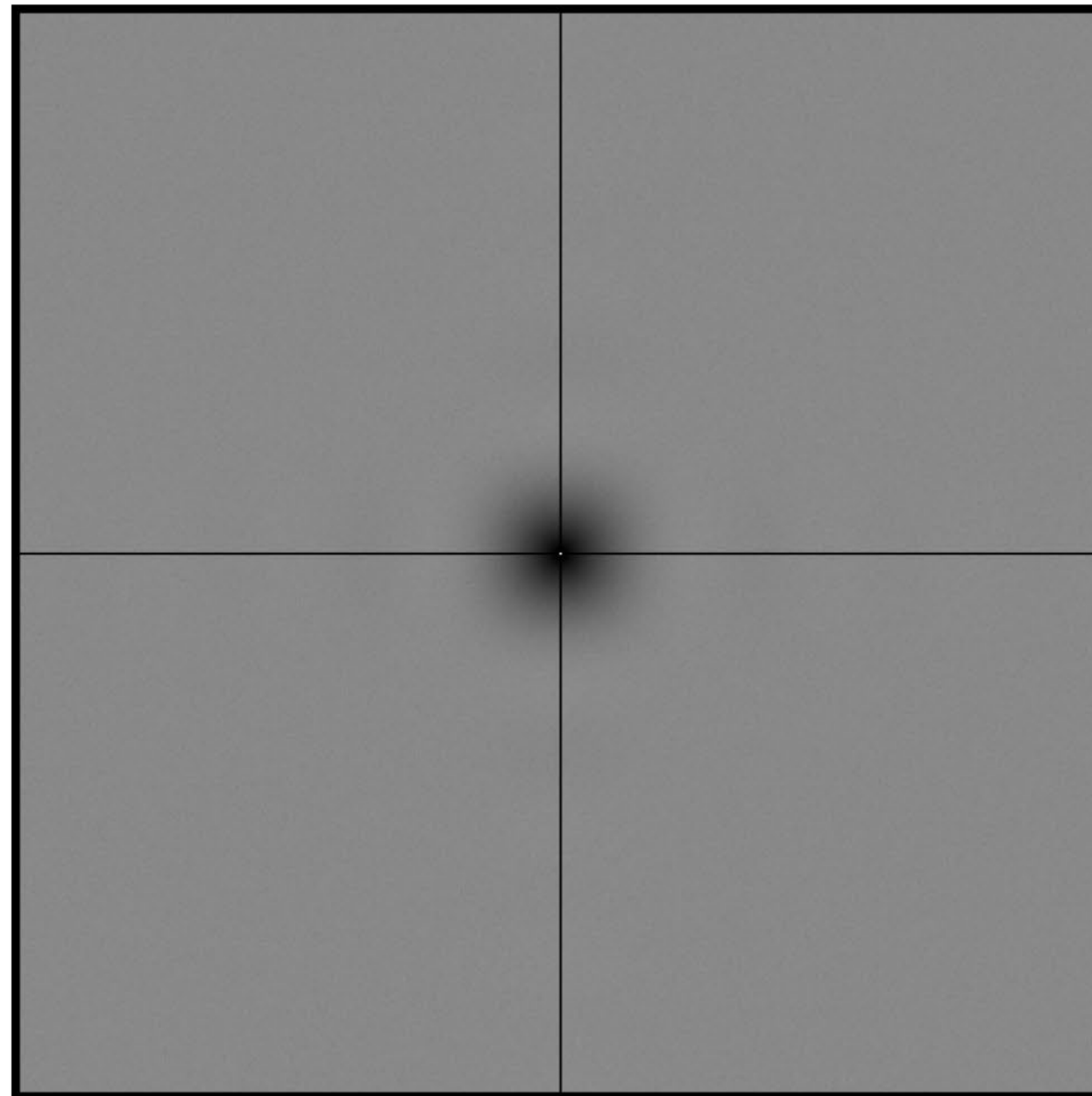


Multi-Jittered Sampling

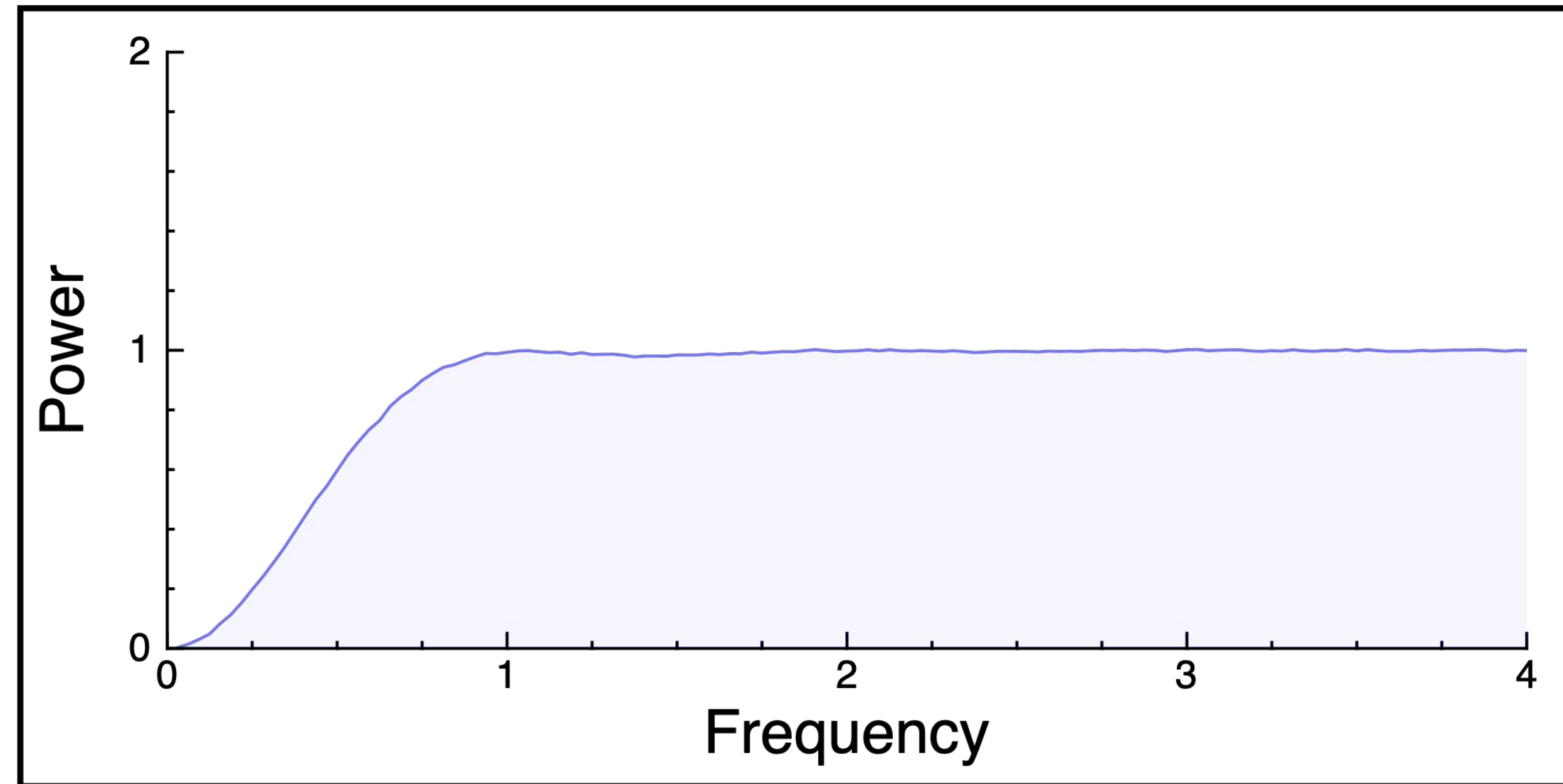
Samples



Expected power spectrum

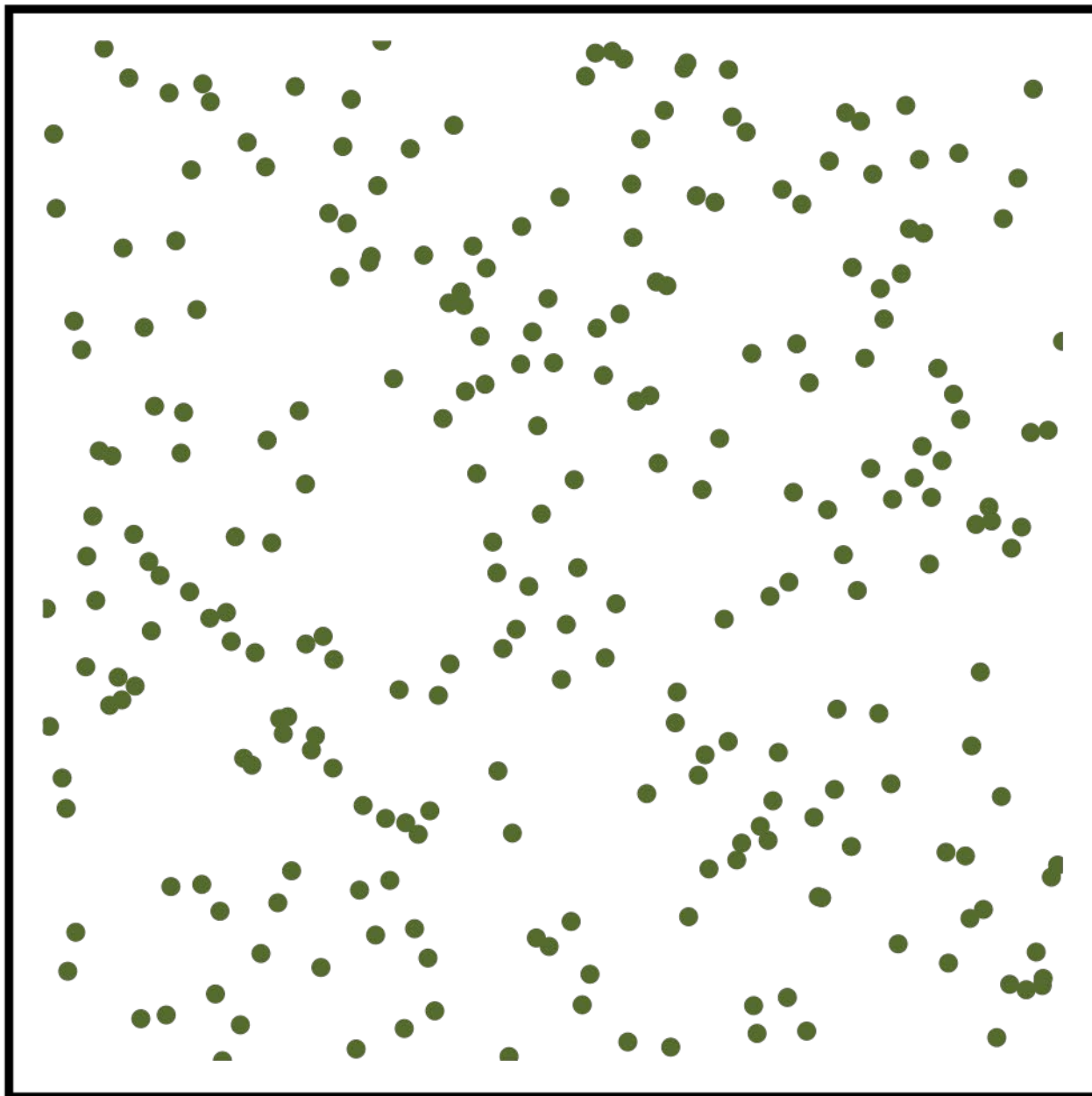


Radial mean

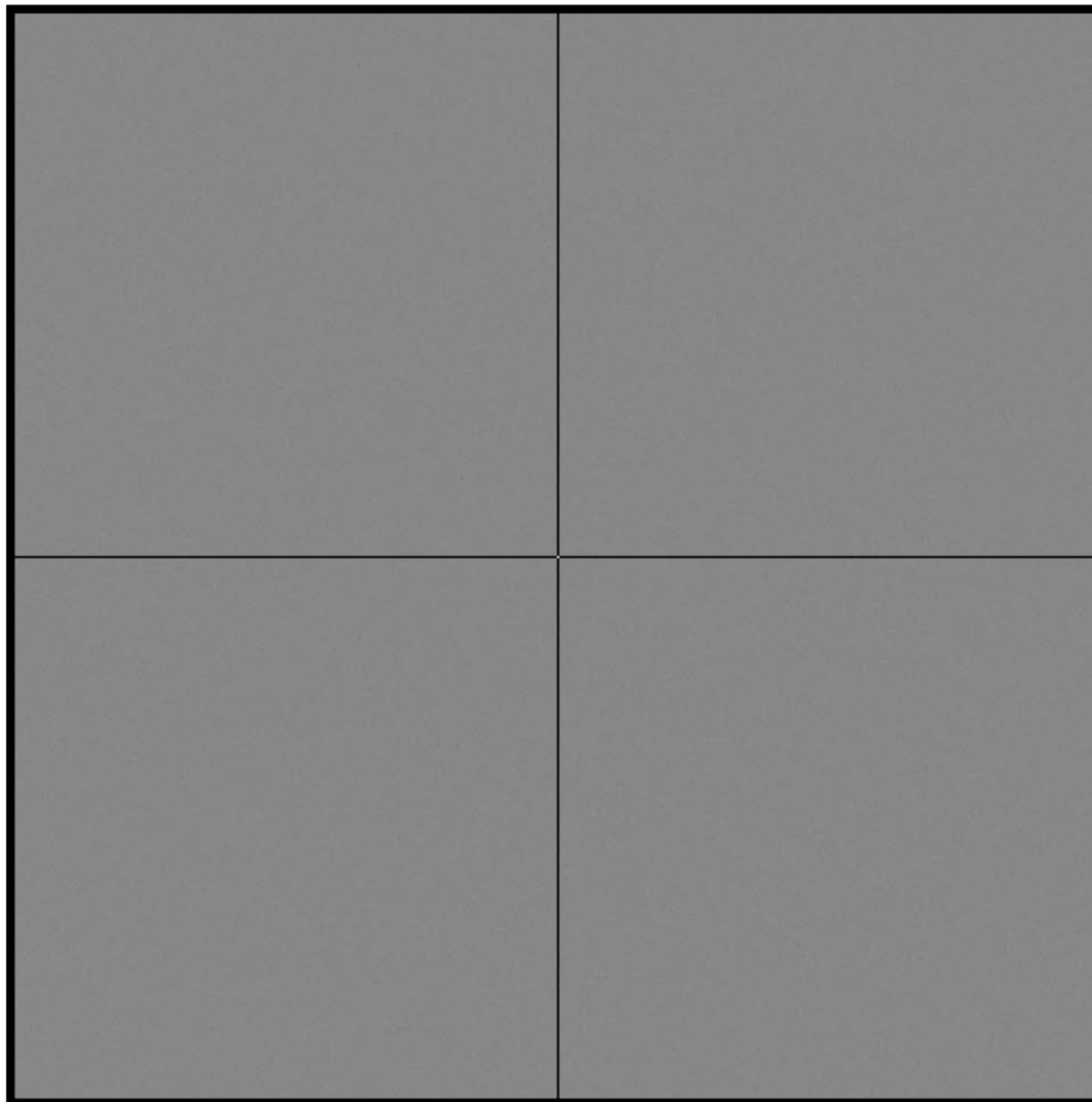


N-Rooks Sampling

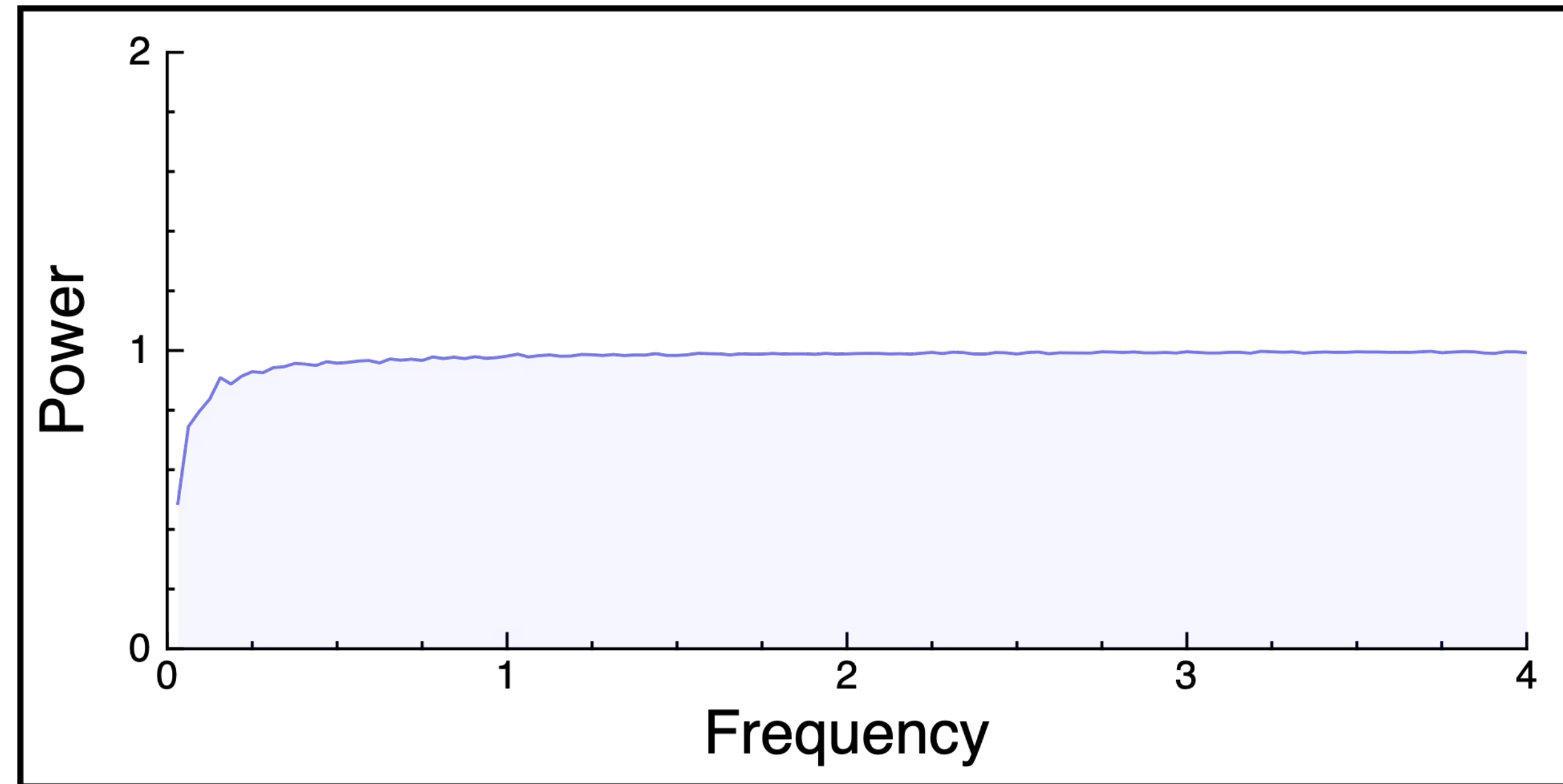
Samples



Expected power spectrum

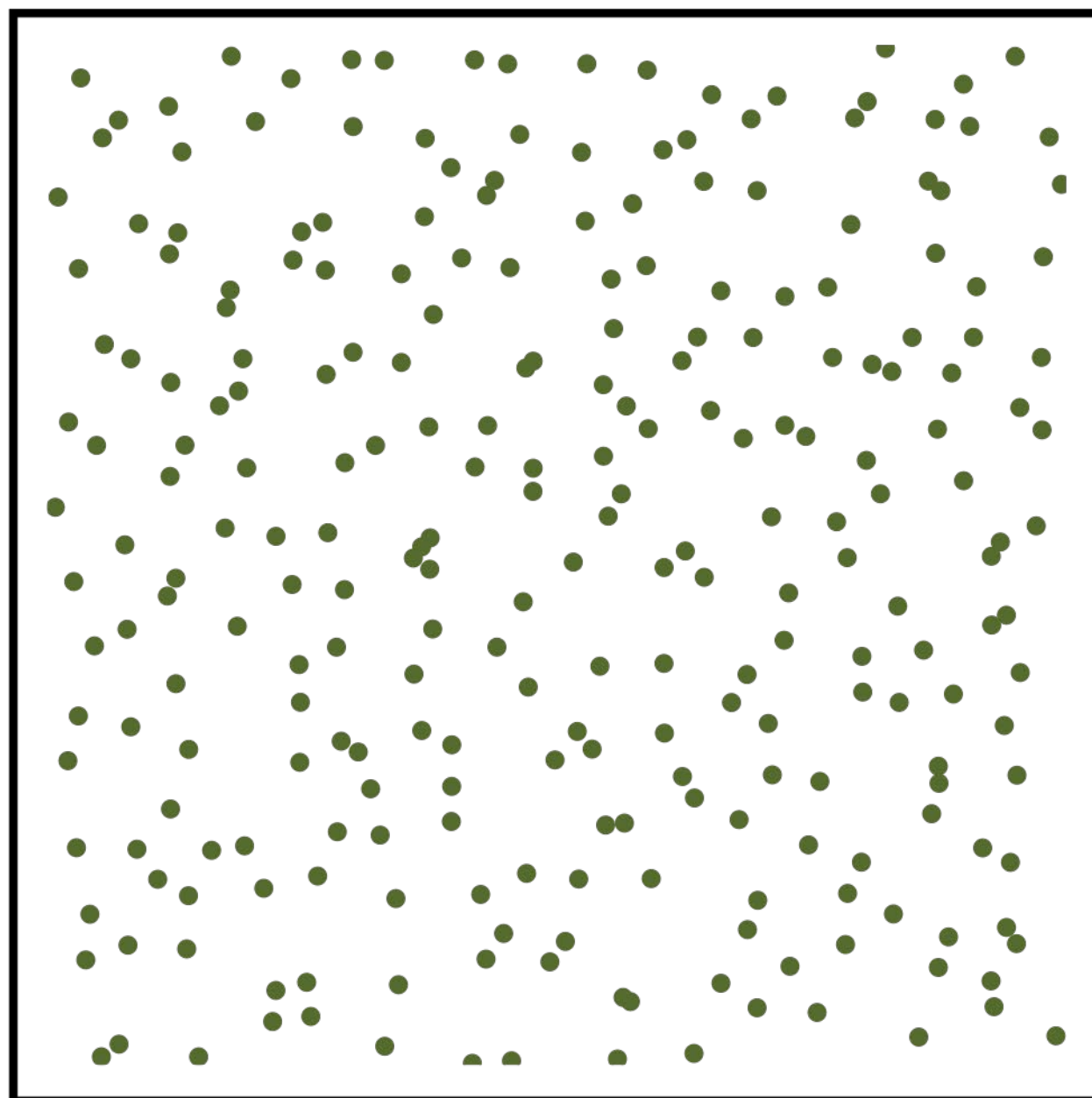


Radial mean

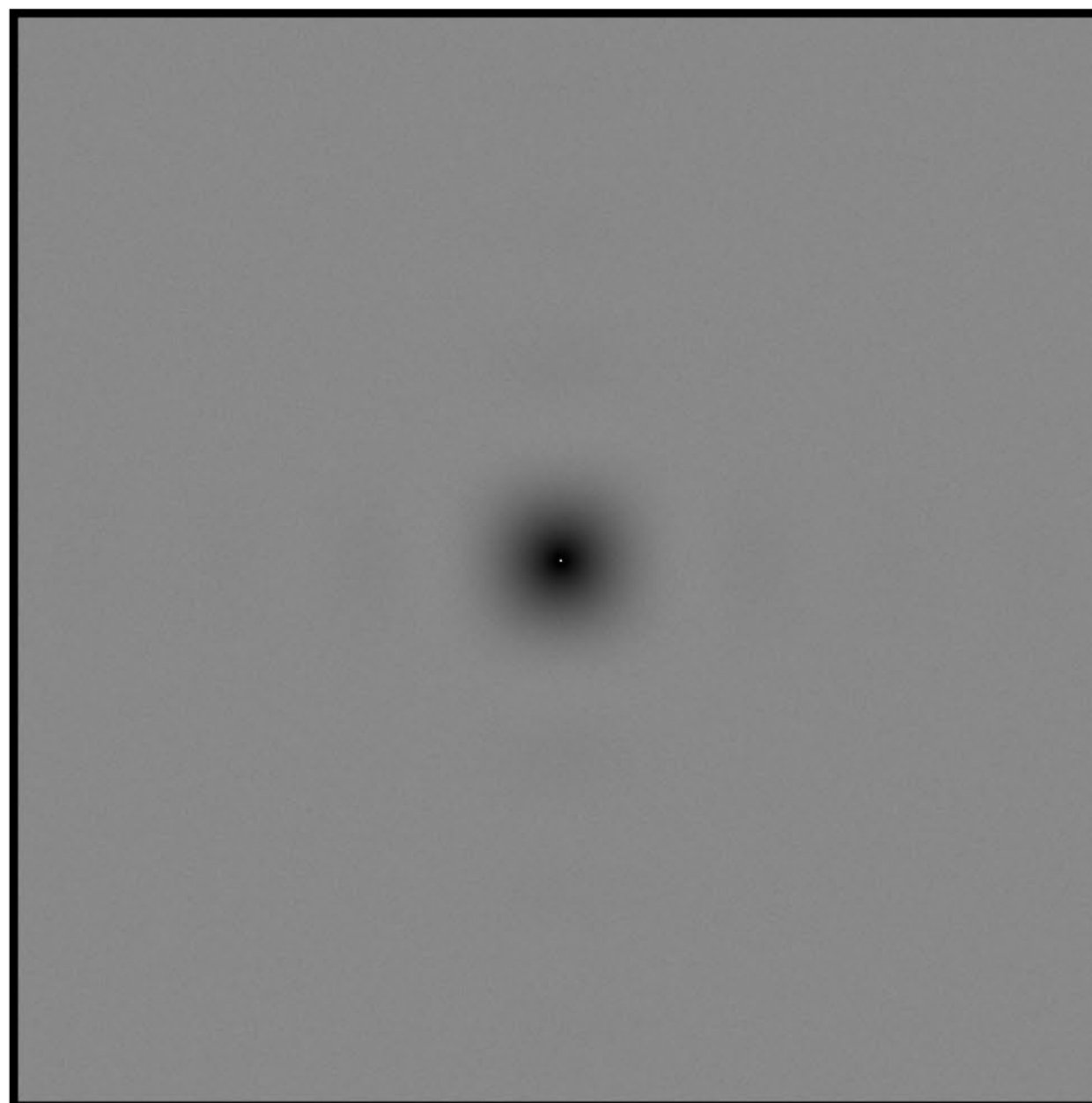


Jittered Sampling

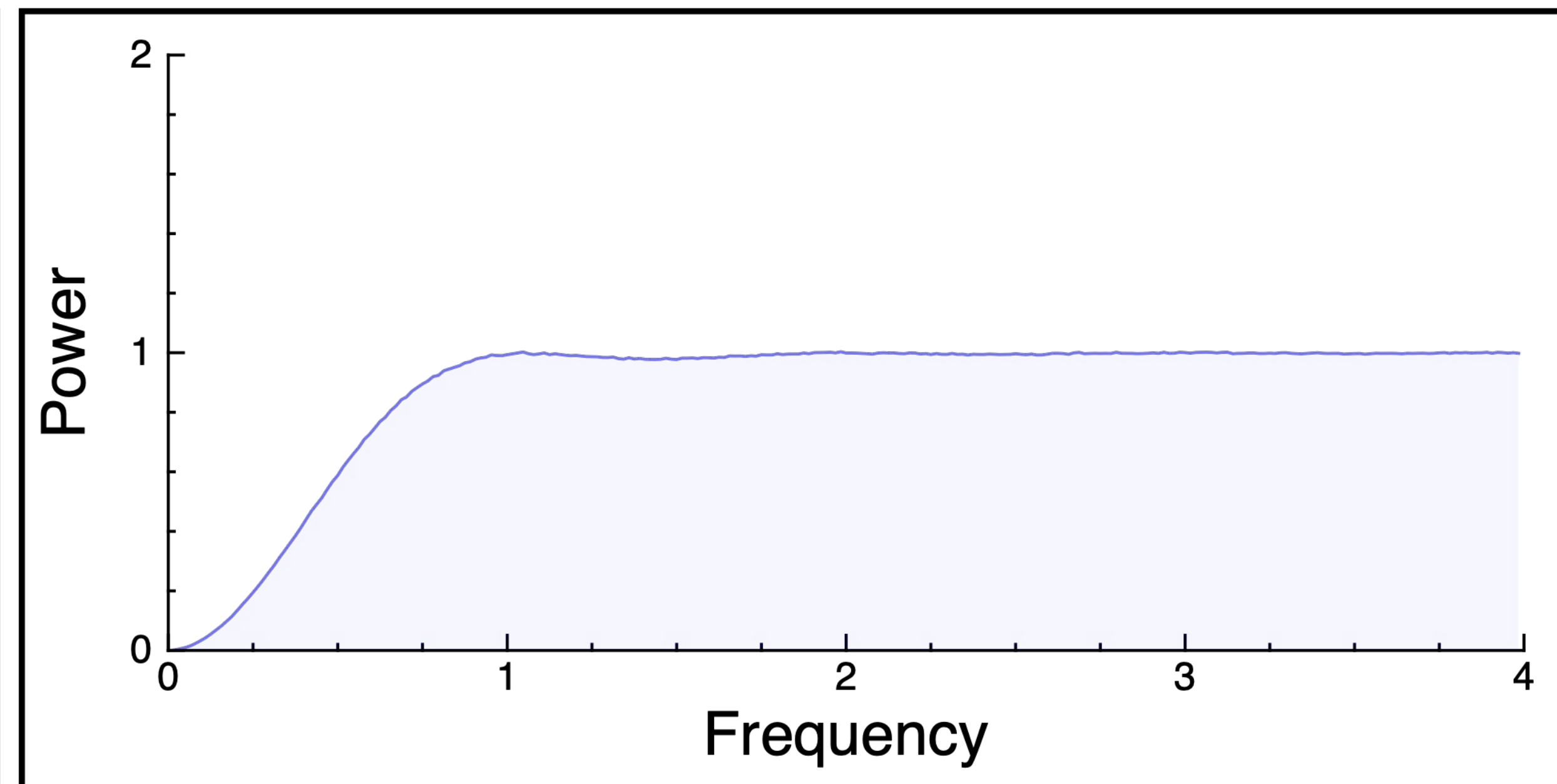
Samples



Expected power spectrum

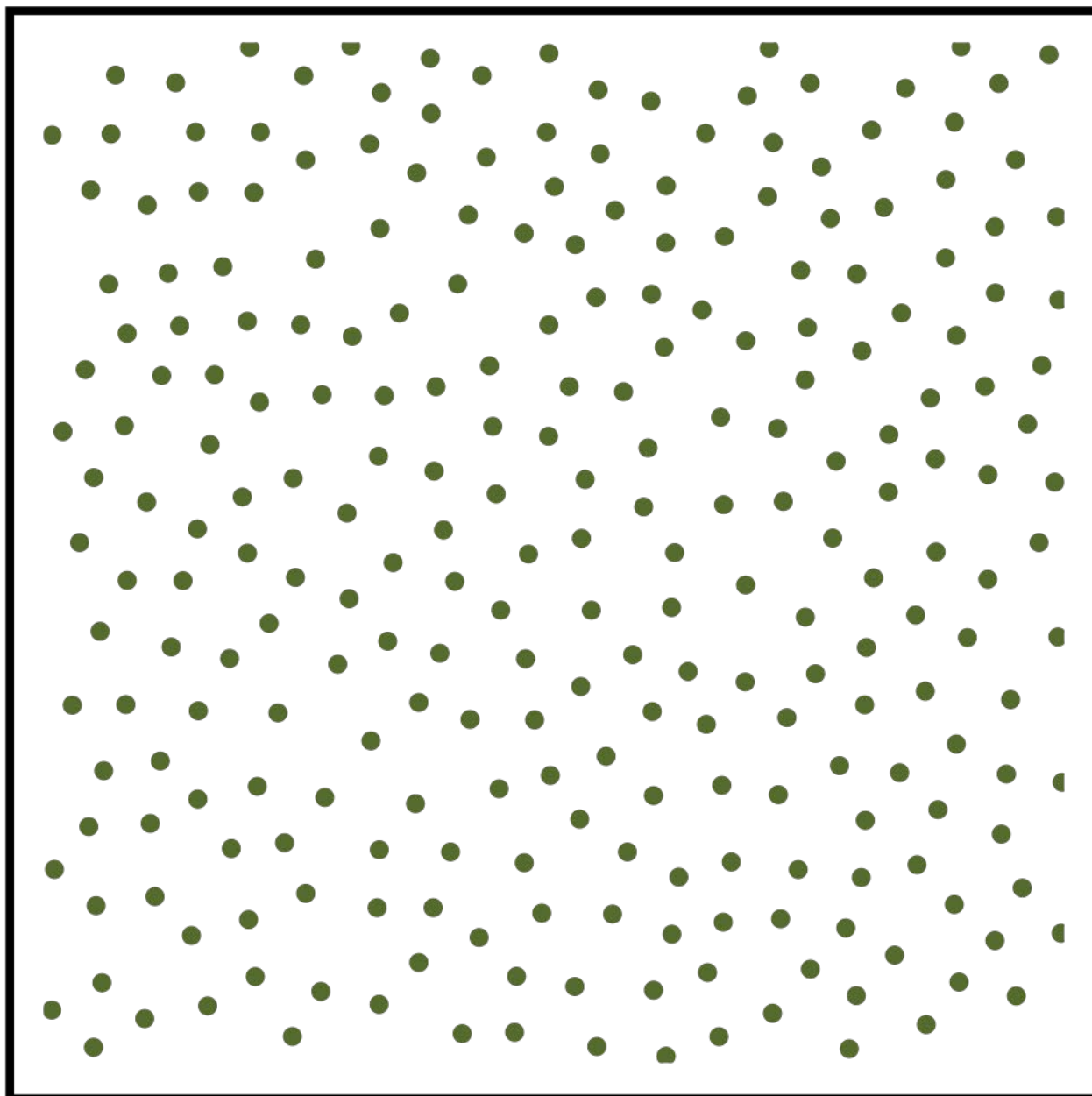


Radial mean

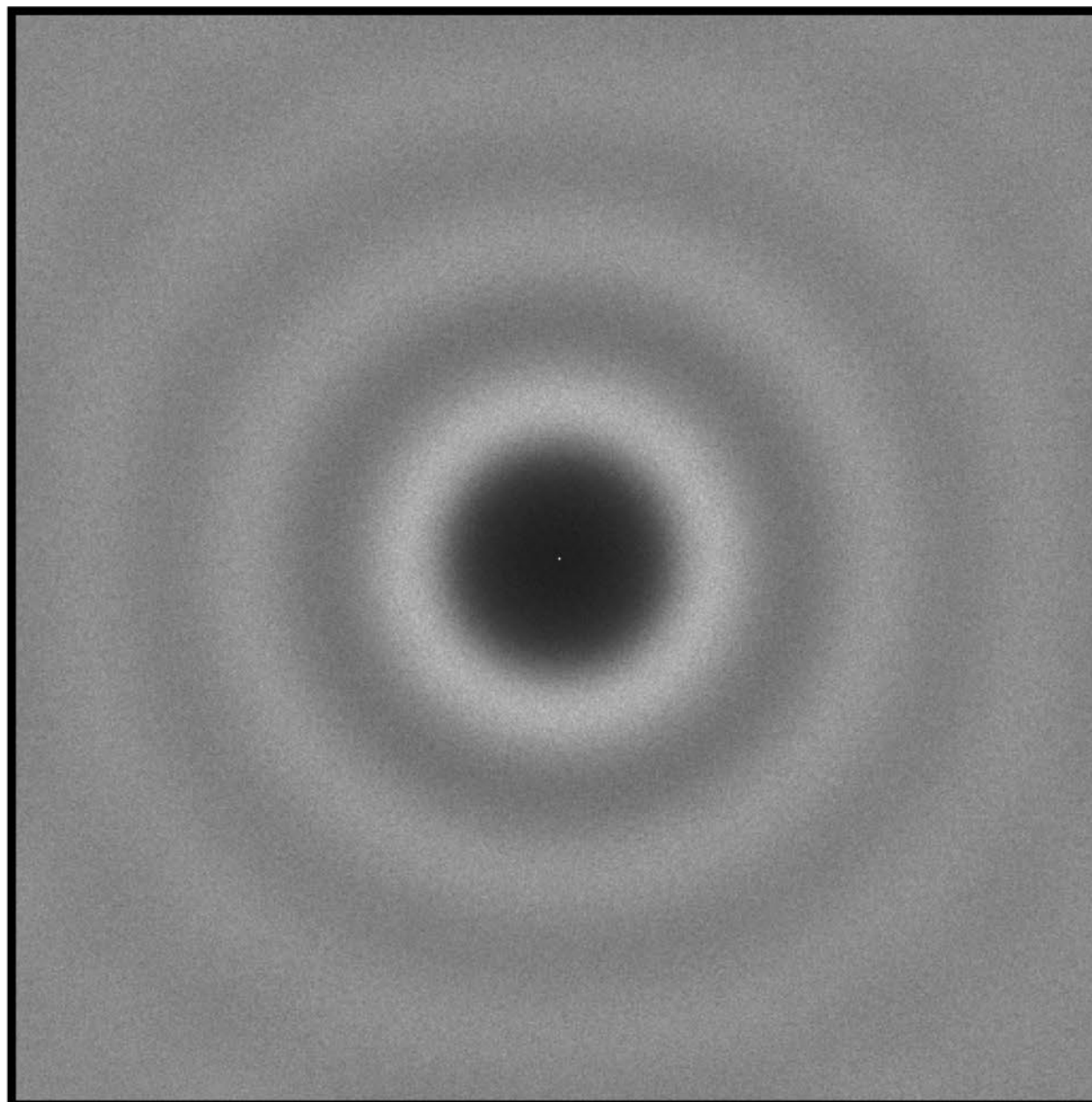


Poisson Disk Sampling

Samples



Expected power spectrum



Radial mean

