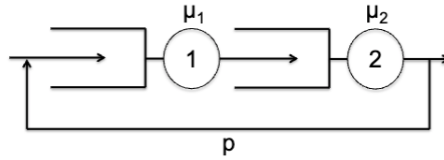


## Homework 9

*Instructor: Henry Lam*

**Problem 1** Consider a queueing system with two servers in series, so that customers have to be first served at server 1 and then server 2. Both servers serve customers according to the first-come-first-serve policy. Suppose now that for each customer that finishes service at server 2, independently with probability  $p > 0$ , he/she is unhappy with the service, and joins the end of the queue at server 1 (and leaves the system with probability  $q = 1 - p > 0$ ). Note that a customer can be served by servers 1 and 2 multiple times, until he/she is happy with the services, at which time he/she leaves the system.



Suppose that customers arrive according to a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$ , their service requirements at servers 1 and 2 are independent exponential random variables with parameters  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ , respectively, and independent from everything else.

- Let  $X_1(t)$  be the number of customers in queue and (possibly) in service at server 1, at time  $t$ , and  $X_2(t)$  the number of customers in queue and (possibly) in service at server 2, at time  $t$ . Show that the process  $(X_1(t), X_2(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a continuous-time discrete-state Markov chain. Specify the holding time distributions for different states, and the transition probabilities.
- Describe a procedure to simulate the Markov chain  $(X_1(t), X_2(t))_{t \geq 0}$  up to time  $T$ . Implement it in a computer by running 100 replications, i.e., trajectories of the Markov chain, and plot the distributions of  $X_1(T)$  and  $X_2(T)$ . Use  $\lambda = 1$ ,  $\mu_1 = 2$ ,  $\mu_2 = 3$ ,  $p = 0.2$ , and  $T = 10$ .

**Problem 2** Consider a  $G/G/1$  queue. More specifically, suppose the interarrival times are i.i.d.  $Exp(1/2)$  random variables, service times are i.i.d.  $Gamma(3, 2)$  random variables with density function given by

$$f(x) = 4x^2 e^{-2x}, \quad x \geq 0,$$

and the interarrival and service times are all independent. The server serves customers in a first-come-first-serve order. Write the pseudo-code for simulating the long-run average waiting time of the customers. Implement the code in the computer by simulating 1000 customers, assuming the system is empty initially, and using a burn-in of 100 customers. You may use the fact that  $Gamma(3, 2)$  can be represented as the sum of 3 i.i.d.  $Exp(2)$  random variables.

**Problem 3** Consider simulating  $P(X > 10)$  where  $X \sim Gamma(2, 1)$ . You are given that  $Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$  has a density

$$\frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta x}, \quad x > 0$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the gamma function. The mean of  $Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$  is  $\alpha/\beta$  and the moment generating function  $Ee^{\theta X}$  is  $(1 - \theta/\beta)^{-\alpha}$  defined for  $\theta < \beta$ .

- (a) Derive the output of one replication obtained from importance sampling by tuning the  $\alpha$  parameter so that the mean of the gamma distribution matches exactly 10.
- (b) Derive the output of one replication obtained from importance sampling by an exponential tilting of  $Gamma(2, 1)$  so that its mean matches exactly 10.
- (c) Consider simply using a shifted gamma distribution to speed up the simulation, i.e., use the random variable  $X+10$ , where  $X \sim Gamma(2, 1)$ , as the importance sampling variable. Is this a legitimate scheme? Briefly explain your answer.

**Problem 4** Consider the problem of estimating

$$\alpha = \mathbb{P}(\min\{X_1 + X_2, X_3 + X_4, X_1 + X_4, X_2 + X_3\} \geq 4),$$

where  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  and  $X_4$  are i.i.d standard normal random variables.

- (a) Consider the joint pdf of  $(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4)$  given by

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \exp\left(-\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2}{2}\right), \quad -\infty < x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 < \infty.$$

Consider the region

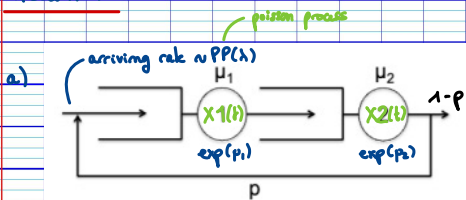
$$A = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) : \min\{x_1 + x_2, x_3 + x_4, x_1 + x_4, x_2 + x_3\} \geq 4\}.$$

Compute the maximizer  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*, x_4^*)$  of the pdf  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  over the region  $A$ .

- (b) By considering simulating  $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4$  that are independent normal random variables with means  $x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*$  and  $x_4^*$  respectively, and variances all being equal to 1, develop an importance sampling scheme to estimate  $\alpha$ . Implement it using 100 replications to obtain a point estimate for  $\alpha$ .
- (c) Explain briefly the reason for computing  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*, x_4^*)$ , the maximizer of pdf  $f$  over  $A$ , and for using  $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4$  with the changed distributions in the importance sampling method.

# HW 9: Simulation

## Problem 1:



The state space  $k$  of the Markov chain is the set of all possible pairs  $(i, j)$  where:

$i \geq 0$ : # of customers at server 1  
 $j \geq 0$ : # of customers at server 2

} queue or served

$(i, j) \rightarrow (i+1, j)$ : new customer arrives at rate  $\lambda$  and joins queue 1.

$(i, j) \rightarrow (i-1, j+1)$ : customer completes service 1 and moves to two at rate  $\mu_1$ .

$(i, j) \rightarrow (i, j-1)$ : customer completes service 2 and leaves for good at rate  $\mu_2$  with probability  $q$ .

$(i, j) \rightarrow (i+1, j-1)$ : customer completes service 2 and joins back the first queue at rate  $\mu_2$  w.p.  $p$ .

For any state  $(i, j)$ , the holding time until the next event is exponentially distributed where:

$$r(i, j) = \lambda + \mu_1 \mathbb{1}\{i > 0\} + \mu_2 \mathbb{1}\{j > 0\}$$

$$\text{Hence: } \begin{cases} P((i, j) \rightarrow (i+1, j)) = \frac{\lambda}{r(i, j)} \\ P((i, j) \rightarrow (i-1, j+1)) = \frac{\mu_1 \mathbb{1}\{i > 0\}}{r(i, j)} \\ P((i, j) \rightarrow (i, j-1)) = \frac{\mu_2 q \mathbb{1}\{j > 0\}}{r(i, j)} \\ P((i, j) \rightarrow (i+1, j-1)) = \frac{\mu_2 p \mathbb{1}\{j > 0\}}{r(i, j)} \end{cases}$$

Since the inter arrival times are exponentially distributed and the transition probabilities only depend on the current state,  $(X_1(t), X_2(t))$  is a continuous-time discrete-state Markov chain.

b) Initialization:  $t = 0$  and  $X_s = X_0 = 0$

While  $t < T$ : { compute  $r(i,j)$

Update  $t = t + \Delta t$  where  $\Delta t \sim \exp(r(i,j))$

Generate  $U \sim \text{Uniform}(0,1)$

Define:  $\begin{cases} P_{\text{arrival}} = \lambda \\ P_{\text{service1}} = \frac{r(i,j)}{p_i, M(X_1 > 0)} \\ P_{\text{service2}} = \frac{r(i,j)}{p_i, M(X_2 > 0)} \end{cases}$

If  $U \leq P_{\text{arrival}}$ :  $X_s = X_s + 1$

Else if  $U \leq P_{\text{arrival}} + P_{\text{service1}}$ :  $X_1 = X_1 - 1$  and  $X_s = X_s + 1$

Else: { Generate  $V \sim \text{Uniform}(0,1)$

If  $V \leq q$ :  $X_2 = X_2 - 1$

Else:  $X_2 = X_2 - 1$  and  $X_1 = X_1 + 1$

Return  $X_1(T)$  and  $X_2(T)$

```
X1_T_values = []
X2_T_values = []

for in range(replications):
    t = 0
    X1 = 0
    X2 = 0

    while t < T:
        r = lambda_arrival
        if X1 > 0:
            r += mu1
        if X2 > 0:
            r += mu2

        delta_t = random.expovariate(r)
        t += delta_t

        if t >= T:
            break

        P_arrival = lambda_arrival / r
        P_service1 = mu1 / r if X1 > 0 else 0
        P_service2 = mu2 / r if X2 > 0 else 0

        u = random.uniform(0, 1)

        if u <= P_arrival:
            X1 += 1
        elif u <= P_arrival + P_service1:
            X1 -= 1
            X2 += 1
        else:
            v = random.uniform(0, 1)
            if v <= q_leave:
                X2 -= 1
            else:
                X2 -= 1
                X1 += 1

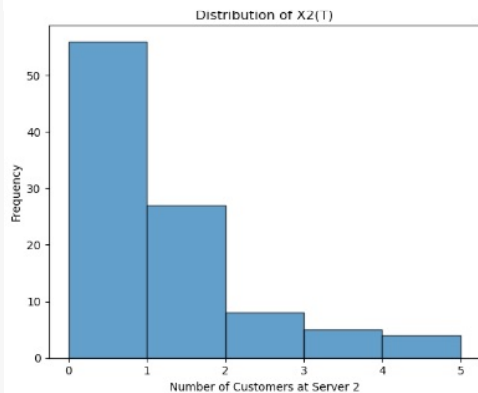
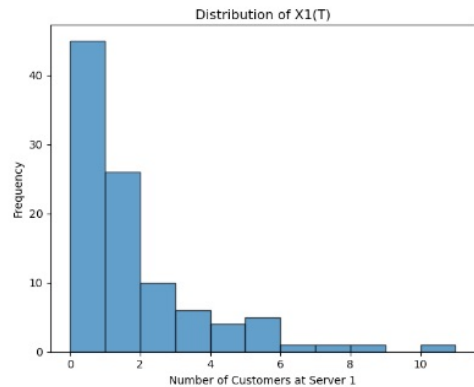
        X1_T_values.append(X1)
        X2_T_values.append(X2)

plt.figure(figsize=(12, 5))

plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
plt.hist(X1_T_values, bins=range(max(X1_T_values)+1), edgecolor='black', alpha=0.7)
plt.title('Distribution of X1(T)')
plt.xlabel('Number of Customers at Server 1')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')

plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
plt.hist(X2_T_values, bins=range(max(X2_T_values)+1), edgecolor='black', alpha=0.7)
plt.title('Distribution of X2(T)')
plt.xlabel('Number of Customers at Server 2')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



### Problem 2:

Set:  $N = 1100$ , burn-in = 100, total wait = 0,  $D_{prev} = 0$

For  $n$  in  $1 \dots N$ : Generate  $T_n \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_a)$  interarrival time

Compute  $A_n = A_{n-1} + T_n$  where  $A_0 = 0$  arrival time

Set  $S_n = 0$

For  $k$  in  $1 \dots 3$ :  $S_n += \text{Exp}(\beta)$  service time with Gamma dist

Compute  $B_n = \max(A_n, D_{prev})$  service start time

Compute  $W_n = B_n - A_n$  waiting time

Compute  $D_n = B_n + S_n$  departure time

Update  $D_{prev} = D_n$

If  $n > \text{burn-in}$ : total wait +=  $W_n$

Return total wait /  $(N - \text{burn-in})$

```
N = 1100
burn_in = 100
lambda_arrival = 0.5
beta_service = 2
alpha_service = 3
num_customers = N - burn_in

arrival_times = []
service_times = []
begin_service_times = []
waiting_times = []
departure_times = []

D_prev = 0

for n in range(N):
    T_n = random.expovariate(lambda_arrival)

    if n == 0:
        A_n = T_n
    else:
        A_n = arrival_times[-1] + T_n
    arrival_times.append(A_n)

    S_n = sum(random.expovariate(2) for _ in range(3))
    service_times.append(S_n)

    B_n = max(A_n, D_prev)
    begin_service_times.append(B_n)

    W_n = B_n - A_n
    waiting_times.append(W_n)

    D_n = B_n + S_n
    departure_times.append(D_n)

    D_prev = D_n

total_waiting_time = sum(waiting_times[burn_in:])
average_waiting_time = total_waiting_time / num_customers

print(f"Average waiting time over last {num_customers} customers: {average_waiting_time:.4f}")

Average waiting time over last 1000 customers: 2.2690
```

### Problem 3:

a) We change  $d$  so that:  $E[X] = 10$

We keep  $\beta = 1$ , originally:  $E[X] = d/\beta = 2$

Now we want  $E[X] = 10 = d'/\beta = d'/1$  so  $d' = 10$

Set new dist to  $Y \sim \text{Gamma}(10, 1)$

With density: old:  $f_X(x) = \frac{1^2}{\Gamma(2)} y^{2-1} e^{-1 \cdot y} = y e^{-y} / \Gamma(2)$

new:  $f_Y(y) = \frac{1^{10}}{\Gamma(10)} y^{10-1} e^{-1 \cdot y} = y^9 e^{-y} / \Gamma(10)$

likelihood:  $L(y) = \frac{f_X(y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{\Gamma(10) y^9 e^{-y}}{\Gamma(2) y^9 e^{-y}} = \frac{\Gamma(10)}{\Gamma(2)} y^{-8}$

So output of one replication:  $\begin{cases} \text{Generate } Y \sim \text{Gamma}(10, 1) & \text{since we must estimate } P(X > 10) = E[1(X > 10)] \\ \text{If } Y > 10: \text{return } L(Y) = \frac{\Gamma(10)}{\Gamma(2)} y^{-8} \\ \text{Else: return 0} \end{cases} \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n g(Y_i) L(Y_i) \approx \int_{\mathcal{X}} g(x) f(x) dx$

b) We must find  $\theta$  so that  $E[X] = 10$  where  $E[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\beta - \theta} \rightarrow \theta = 0.8$  and so  $\beta' = \beta - \theta = 0.2$

Tilting is defined as:  $f_Y(y) \propto f_X(x) e^{\theta x}$

So  $f_Y(y) = \frac{f_X(y) e^{\theta y}}{M_Y(\theta)}$  where  $M_Y(\theta) = (1 - \theta)^{-2}$

normalizing so that  $\int_{\mathcal{X}} f_Y(y) dy = 1$

likelihood:  $L(y) = \frac{f_X(y)}{f_Y(y)} = 25 e^{-0.8y}$

So output of one replication:  $\begin{cases} \text{Generate } Y \sim \text{Gamma}(10, 1) \\ \text{If } Y > 10: \text{return } L(Y) = 25 e^{-0.8y} \\ \text{Else: return 0} \end{cases}$

c) The approach would involve using  $Y = X + 10$  with  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(2, 1)$

This is not legitimate importance sampling scheme because the likelihood cannot be computed because

$f_Y(y) = f_X(y - 10)$  isn't defined for  $y < 10$ .

Also,  $g(x) f_X(x)$  must have the support of  $f_X(x)$ , which is not the case due to the shifting of 10.

$f_Y(x) = 0 \neq g(x) f_X(x) = 0$

#### Problem 4:

a) Maximizing  $f$  over  $A \leftrightarrow$  minimizing  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2$  over  $A$

Let's assume  $x_i = c$  for  $i = 1, \dots, 4$  by symmetry

So  $\min\{2c, 2c, 2c, 2c\} \geq 4$  as  $c \geq 2$

so we take  $c = 2$  and get  $x_1^* = x_2^* = x_3^* = x_4^* = 2$

b) The new sampling distribution for each  $x_i$  is  $\mathcal{N}(2, 1)$ :  $f_i(x_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x_i-2)^2}{2}}$   
Initially, we had:  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ :  $f_i(x_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x_i^2}{2}}$

We compute the likelihood:  $L(x) = \prod_{i=1}^4 e^{-\frac{x_i^2}{2}} = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^4 x_i^2}$

For  $k$  in  $1 \dots 10$ : Generate  $x_i^{(k)}$  w.  $\mathcal{N}(2, 1)$ ,  $\forall i$

Compute  $L^{(k)} = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^4 x_i^{(k)2}}$

Compute:  $\begin{cases} s_1 = x_1^{(k)} + x_2^{(k)} \\ s_2 = x_2^{(k)} + x_3^{(k)} \\ s_3 = x_3^{(k)} + x_4^{(k)} \\ s_4 = x_4^{(k)} + x_1^{(k)} \end{cases}$

Compute  $\min = \min\{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$

If  $\min \geq 4$ : Accept  $L^{(k)}$  same case as problem 3

Else: Reject

Compute  $\alpha = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L^{(k)}$

```
N = 100
estimates = []

for _ in range(N):
    x = np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1, size=4)

    sum_x = np.sum(x)
    L = np.exp(-2 * sum_x + 8)

    s1 = x[0] + x[1]
    s2 = x[2] + x[3]
    s3 = x[0] + x[3]
    s4 = x[1] + x[2]

    min_s = min(s1, s2, s3, s4)

    if min_s >= 4:
        estimate = L
    else:
        estimate = 0

    estimates.append(estimate)

alpha_estimate = np.mean(estimates)
print(f"Estimate of α: {alpha_estimate:.6f}")

Estimate of α: 0.000002
```



c) The maximizer  $(x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*, x_4^*)$  identifies the point in region A where the joint PDF  $f(x)$  is largest, indicating where the probability mass for  $x$  is concentrated. Shifting the means of  $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4$  to this maximizer focuses sampling on the region of interest, reducing variance.

The likelihood ratio ensures unbiased estimation despite the altered sampling distribution.