

## **PHP2530 Problem Set 4**

Due April. 21<sup>st</sup> online

### 1. The Importance Sampling Algorithm

- a. Write a function which implements the importance sampling algorithm:

```
# Arguments:
#
# logTargetDensityFunc is a function of one argument:
# logTargetDensityFunc(xVal)
#
# logProposalDensityFunc is a function of one arguments:
# logProposalDensityFunc(xVal)
#
# proposalNewFunc is a function of zero arguments:
# proposalNewFunc( )
#
# Return Value:
#
# This function should return nSamples many samples, the
# corresponding log weights, as well as the estimated ESS.
#
# When the rejectionControlConstant is non-null and a positive
# quantity then perform rejection control and return only the
# accepted samples with their modi_ed log weights, the
# acceptance rate of the samples and the estimated ESS.
#
ImpSampler(nSamples, logTargetDensityFunc,
logProposalDensityFunc,
proposalNewFunc, rejectionControlConstant = NULL)
```

- b. Consider the following mixture of two Normals set up in one dimension:

$$f(x) = 1/3 \text{ Normal}(-2; 1^2; x) + 2/3 \text{ Normal}(2; 1^2; x)$$
$$g(x) = \text{Normal}(0; 3^2; x)$$

- c. Plot the two density functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  on the same plot. Take a look at it and observe that  $g(x)$  is a reasonable importance density function.
- d. Let  $X \sim f(\cdot)$ . Theoretically compute
- $\mu_1 = E(X)$ ,
  - $\mu_2 = E(X^2)$ ,
  - $\theta = E(\exp(X))$
- e. Use the function you wrote `ImpSampler( )`, get the samples and the weights, compute the weighted average of the relevant  $h(\cdot)$  functions and

thus estimate  $\mu_1', \mu_2'$  and  $\theta$ . Use  $m = 5000$  samples without any rejection control and report the estimated ESS from your runs.

- f. Now vary the rejection control constant  $c \in \{1, \dots, 10\}$ . For each such  $c$ , as in the previous part, use the function you wrote `ImpSampler()` and estimate  $\mu_1', \mu_2'$  and  $\theta$  from  $m = 5000$  samples with rejection control. For each  $c$ , report estimated ESS ( $e_c$ , say), acceptance rate of the samples ( $a_c$ , say) from your runs. Let the error in the estimates be  $|\hat{\mu}_1' - \mu_1'|$ ,  $|\hat{\mu}_2' - \mu_2'|$ , and  $|\hat{\theta} - \theta|$ . Now plot  $(c, |\hat{\mu}_1' - \mu_1'|)$ ,  $(c, |\hat{\mu}_2' - \mu_2'|)$ ,  $(c, |\hat{\theta} - \theta|)$ ,  $(c, e_c)$  and  $(c, a_c)$ . Now share your observations on the error in the estimators, acceptance rate, ESS, recommendations on the choice of  $c$ .
2. Chapter 10 Question 5.
3. Chapter 10 Question 8
4. Chapter 11 Question 2
5. Chapter 11 Question 3
6. Chapter 11 Question 4
7. Chapter 13 Question 5
8. Generate / simulate  $n = 120$  observations from a three component mixture Gaussian model with
 
$$(p_1, p_2, p_3) = (0.1, 0.3, 0.6)$$

$$(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) = (0, 1)$$

$$(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2) = (-2, 2)$$

$$(\mu_3, \sigma_3^2) = (3, 16)$$
 Use these  $n$  data points to estimate  $p_i, \sigma_i^2, \mu_i$  using:
  - a. EM: implement EM to find their MLE
  - b. MCMC (Gibbs): use proper diffused prior  $p_i, \sigma_i^2, \mu_i$ , implement Gibbs algorithm to find the posterior distribution of  $p_i, \sigma_i^2, \mu_i$ .
  - c. Summarize the results and compare between the two approaches, any problems observed during the sampling or maximum likelihood estimator.
9. Chapter 15 question 3.