1

PDF and CDF of uniform and gaussian distributions

Kushagra Gupta

I. Uniform Random Numbers

Let U be a uniform random variable between 0 and 1.

A. Q 1.1

Question: Generate 10^6 samples of U using a C program and save into a file called uni.dat .

Download the following files and execute the C program.

wget https://github.com/gadepall/probability/raw/master/manual/codes/exrand.c

wget https://github.com/gadepall/probability/raw/master/manual/codes/coeffs.h

Solution:

\$ gcc exrand.c -lm

\$./a.out

Note: The flag -lm is to tell gcc to include the math library.

This code creates the file "uni.dat" which contains random data points for a uniform distribution.

B. Q 1.2

Question: Load the uni.dat file into python and plot the empirical CDF of U using the samples in uni.dat. The CDF is defined as

$$F_U(x) = \Pr\left(U \le x\right) \tag{1}$$

Download the follwing file for plotting cdf.

wget https://github.com/gadepall/probability/raw/master/manual/codes/cdf_plot.py

Solution:

\$ python3 cdf_plot.py

This plots the numerical part of fig.1

C. Q 1.3

Question: Find a theoretical expression for $F_U(x)$. **Solution:** Given U is a uniformly distributed random variable over the interval (0,1), we have the density function $p_U(x)$:

$$p_U(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in (0,1) \\ 0, & otherwise \end{cases}$$
 (2)

We know that,

$$F_U(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p_U(x) \, dx \tag{3}$$

 \therefore We have the following expression for $F_U(x)$:

$$F_U(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \in (-\infty, 0) \\ x, & x \in (0, 1) \\ 1, & x \in (1, \infty) \end{cases}$$
 (4)

D. Q 1.4

Question: The mean of U is defined as

$$E[U] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} U_i$$
 (5)

and its variance as

$$var[U] = E[U - E[U]]^2$$
 (6)

Write a C program to find the mean and variance of U.

Solution:

We know that
$$E(U) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x d(F_U(x))$$
 (7)

$$\Longrightarrow E(U) = \int_0^1 x dx \tag{8}$$

$$\implies E(U) = 0.5$$
 (9)

$$E(U^1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 d(F_u(x))$$
 (10)

$$\Longrightarrow E(U^2) = \int_0^1 x^2 dx \tag{11}$$

$$\therefore E(U^2) = \frac{1}{3} \tag{12}$$

We know that

$$var(U) = E(U^2) - (E(U))^2$$
 (13)

$$\Longrightarrow var(U) = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \tag{14}$$

$$\therefore var(U) = \frac{1}{12} = 0.0825 \tag{15}$$

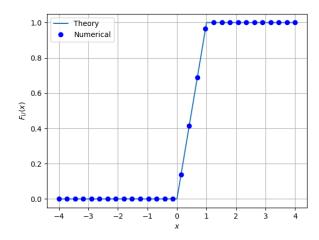


Fig. 1. The CDF of U

Code command are as follows:

\$ gcc exrand.c -lm

\$./a.out

Note: The flag -lm is to tell gcc to include the math library.

using ./code/exrand.c, we get the variance for the uniform distribution as 0.083301 and mean as 0.500007}

E. Q. 1.5

Question: Verify your result theoretically given that

$$E\left[U^{k}\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{k} dF_{U}(x) \tag{16}$$

We are given that

$$E[U^k] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k dF_U(x) \tag{17}$$

$$\Longrightarrow E[U^k] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k p_U(x) dx$$

We know that mean μ is given by E(U). Hence,

$$\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p_U(x) \, dx \tag{19}$$

$$\mu = \int_0^1 x \, dx \tag{20}$$

$$=\frac{x^2}{2}\Big|_0^1\tag{21}$$

$$=\frac{1}{2}\tag{22}$$

$$var(U) = E((U - E(U))^{2})$$
 (23)

This can also be represented as

$$var(U) = E(U^2 - 2E(U)U + (E(U))^2)$$
 (24)

$$= E(U^2) - 2(E(U))^2 + (E(U))^2$$
 (25)

$$= E(U^2) - (E(U))^2$$
 (26)

We can evaluate $E(U^2)$ using (18) as:

$$E(U^2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 p_U(x) dx \qquad (27)$$

$$= \int_0^1 x^2 \, dx \tag{28}$$

$$=\frac{x^3}{3}\Big|_0^1\tag{29}$$

$$=\frac{1}{3}\tag{30}$$

Using (22) and (26) we have

$$var(U) = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{12}$$
 (31)

II. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

A. Q 2.1

Question: Generate 10^6 samples of the random variable

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{12} U_i - 6 \tag{32}$$

using a C program, where $U_i, i = 1, 2, ..., 12$ are a set of independent uniform random variables between 0 and 1 and save in a file called gau.dat

Solution: Code command are as follows:

\$ gcc exrand.c -lm

\$./a.out

(18)

Note: The flag -lm is to tell gcc to include the math

library.

Note: The flag -lm is to tell gcc to include the math library.

This code creates the file "gau.dat" which contains random data points for a uniform distribution.

B. Q 2.2

Download the follwing file for plotting cdf.

wget https://github.com/gadepall/probability/raw/master/manual/codes/cdf_plot.py

Solution:

Code command are as follows:

\$ python3 cdf_plot.py

This plots figure 2

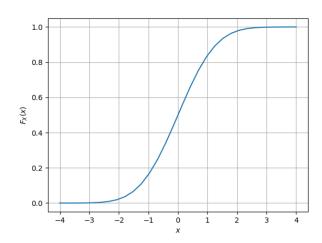


Fig. 2. The CDF of X

The properties of CDF are:

- 1) The CDF never decreases (cumulative)
- 2) $\lim_{x\to-\infty} F_X(x) = 0$
- 3) $\lim_{x\to\infty} F_X(x) = 1$

C. Q 2.3

Question: Load gau.dat in python and plot the empirical PDF of X using the samples in gau.dat. The PDF of X is defined as

$$p_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x) \tag{33}$$

Solution:

Code command are as follows:

\$ python3 pdf_plot.py

This plots the figure 3.

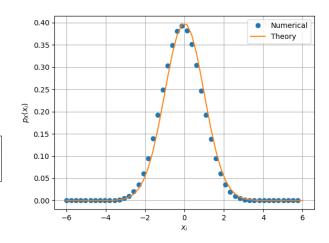


Fig. 3. The PDF of X

D. Q 2.4

Question: Find the mean and variance of X by writing a C program.

Solution:

using code ./code/exrand.c, we get the mean as 0.000326 and variance as 0.000906.

E. Q 2.5

Question: Given that

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right), -\infty < x < \infty, \quad (34)$$

repeat the above exercise theoretically.

Solution::

For random variable X, we have been given the density function as follows

$$p_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \frac{-x^2}{2}$$
 (35)

(36)

For finding μ ,

$$\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x.p_X(x)dx \tag{37}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx \tag{38}$$

As $x.p_X(x)$ is an odd function the above integral is 0, therefore $\mu = 0$

For finding the variance var,

$$var = E(X^2) (39)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx \qquad (40)$$

$$let x^2 = 2t (41)$$

$$\implies var = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt{2t} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t} dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \tag{43}$$

$$\implies var = 1 \tag{44}$$

III. FROM UNIFORM TO OTHER

A. Q 3.1

Question: Generate samples of

$$V = -2\ln\left(1 - U\right)$$

Solution:

Code command are as follows: \$ python3 cdf_plot.py This plots figure 4

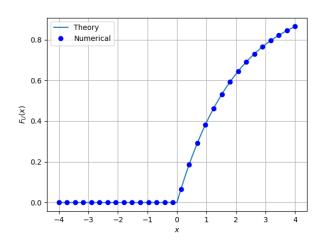


Fig. 4. The CDF of V

B. Q 3.2

Question: Find a theoretical expression for $F_V(x)$. Solution:

We have been given that random variable V is a function of the random variable U as follows:

$$V = -2\ln(1 - U) \tag{46}$$

Note that the obtained distribution function (CDF) for random variable U is:

$$F_U(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \in (-\infty, 0) \\ x, & x \in (0, 1) \\ 1, & x \in (1, \infty) \end{cases}$$
 (47)

We know for any random variable X

$$F_X(x) = \Pr(X \le x) \tag{48}$$

(43) Hence, we can write:

(42)

$$F_V(x) = \Pr(V < x) \tag{49}$$

$$= \Pr(-2\ln(1 - U) \le x)$$
 (50)

$$=\Pr(U \le 1 - \exp\frac{-x}{2}) \tag{51}$$

$$=F_U(1-\exp\frac{-x}{2})\tag{52}$$

(45) Note that the function $f(x) = 1 - \exp{\frac{-x}{2}}$ follows:

$$f(x) \in \begin{cases} 0, & x \in (-\infty, 0) \\ (0, 1) & x \in (0, \infty) \end{cases}$$
 (53)

Hence we can write

$$F_V(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \in (-\infty, 0) \\ 1 - \exp\frac{-x}{2}, & x \in (0, \infty) \end{cases}$$
 (54)