STA 4102/5106: Homework Assignment #9

(Wednesday, November 12) Due: Wednesday, November 19

1. Use importance sampling to estimate the quantity:

$$\theta = \int_0^\infty x \frac{e^{-(y-x)^2/2} e^{-3x}}{Z} dx$$

where $Z = \int_0^\infty e^{-(y-x)^2/2} e^{-3x} dx$ and y = 0.5. Plot the convergence of your estimator versus the sample size. (Note: you can consider $3e^{-3x}$ as the density for the importance sampling.)

2. Use the technique of importance sampling via tilted densities to estimate the quantity $\theta = \Pr\{X > a\}$

where X is a standard normal random variable. Generate estimates for a = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

3. (STA 5106 Students Only) Write a matlab program to estimate the following moments of a random variable

$$f(x) = \frac{e^{-|x|^{3/4}}}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|x|^{3/4}} dx}$$

You can use importance sampling (by choosing the standard normal distribution as the sampling distribution) for this estimation. Estimate:

- (a) Mean: $\mu = \int x f(x) dx$.
- (b) Variance: $\sigma^2 = \int (x \mu)^2 f(x) dx$.

In each case, plot the convergence of the estimator.