

Homework 1 - Deborah Aloisi (249948)

Simulation and Performance Evaluation – University of Trento

Exercise 1

Chebyshev's inequality states that for any random variable X with finite expected value μ and finite standard deviation σ , the probability that X will be a certain number of standard deviations from the mean is given by the following inequality:

$$P(|X - \mu| \geq k\sigma) \leq 1/k^2$$

In other words, the probability that a random variable will be more than k standard deviations from the mean is less than or equal to $1/k^2$. This inequality holds for any random variable, regardless of its distribution.

We calculate the veritable of this inequality for a Poisson random variable and deepen the study by changing the value of k increasing it by 0.5 for each step and plotting it. The results it give us verify the inequality for all the possible values that k assume.

The plot in Figure 1 give us the value of the probability calculated as k increase: we can see that the more bigger the k is the less the probability is.

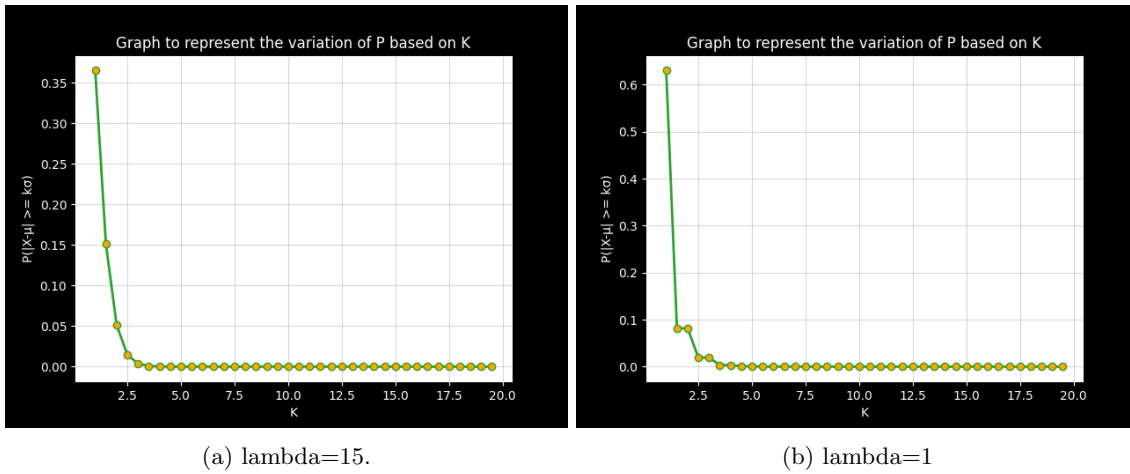


Figure 1: Graph to represent the variation of P based on K

The plot in Figure 2 give us the difference between $1/k^2$ and P : we can see that the difference is never negative so $1/k^2$ will always be greater than P and his lowest value will be 0.

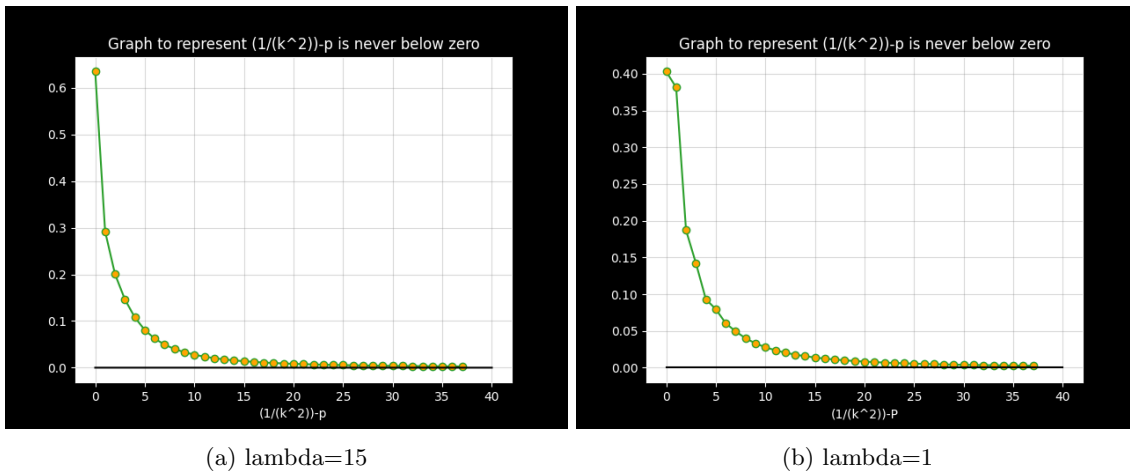


Figure 2: Graph of $(1/k^2) - P$ is never below zero.

The plot in Figure 3 is the curve with coordinate $(1/k^2, P)$: we can see that it never surpass the bisector and as a consequence $1/k^2$ is always grater than P . The more bigger is λ the smaller will be the coefficient of the curve's declivity.

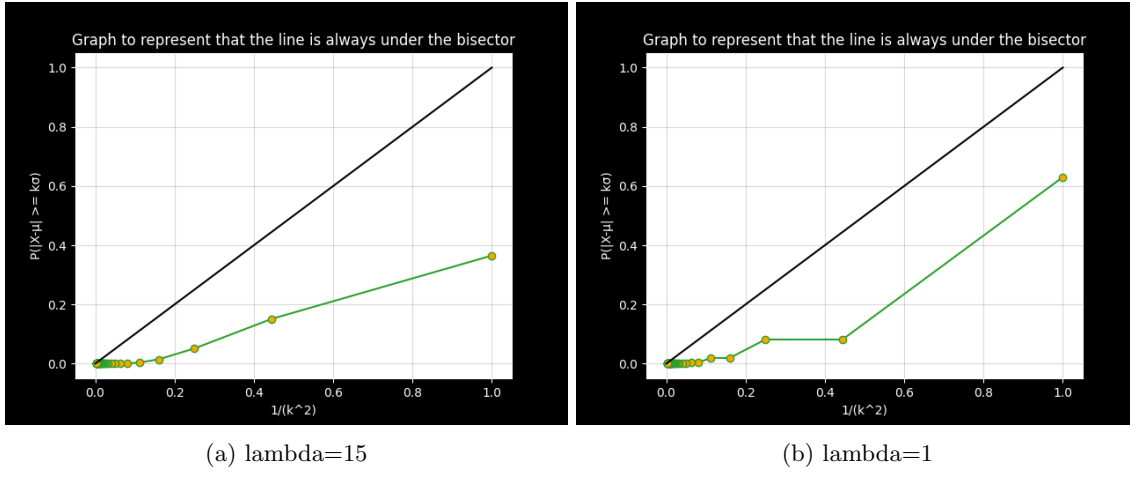


Figure 3: Graph is always under the bisector

The seem apparent duplication of the values two by two present in the graph with lambda=1 that we can see more clearly in Figure 1(b) is due the step used to choose the value k ; the step used is of 0.5 change from the previous one and because sigma is the \sqrt{var} in which $var = \lambda$ and in this case is equal to 1 the $\sqrt{\lambda}$ become an irrelevant calculus that not change the final value which will always be an integer, so the k 's variation of 0.5 do not change from the previous result if k not grow of a whole number.

Exercise 2

The probability that a random variable uniformly distributed in the interval $[3,5]$ is greater than a random variable uniformly distributed in the interval $[2, 4]$ using a simulation resulted to be between 87% and 88%. The simulation was based on random variables uniformly distributed created from a chosen seed to permit the repeatability of the execution. The variable included in the interval $[4,5]$ of the interval $[3,5]$ and the variables in $[2,3]$ of the interval $[2,4]$ can be momentarily excluded from the calculus because these interval do not influence the result seeing as for all value in $X[4,5]$ the condition of $X > Y$ is always satisfied and the same is for $Y[2,3]$

The interested part of the interval is the interval $[3,4]$ because it is overlapped by the two distribution. I calculate all the possible combinations for the couple of numbers $(X[3,4], Y[3,4])$ and counted the case in which the condition of $X > Y$ is the opposite, i.e. $Y > X$ to facilitate the following operations.

The result of this operation will be all the cases in which the event of $X > Y$ do not occur. So the simple operation of all possible event minus the event we don't want to occur give us the events in which the condition $X > Y$ happens. This number divided by all possible events give us the probability of the condition $X > Y$ to happen.

$$P\{X[3, 5] > Y[2, 4]\} = \frac{\text{number of time } X > Y \text{ happens}}{\text{all possible events}} = 0.875$$

In conclusion the probability obtained is 87,5% or 0.875 if expressed as a decimal.

The opposite, $X < Y$ is the entire sample space minus the probability obtained before .

$$P\{X[3, 5] < Y[2, 4]\} = \frac{\text{all possible events} - \text{number of time } X > Y \text{ happens}}{\text{all possible events}} = 0.124$$

This gives us a probability of 12,4% or 0.124 if expressed as a decimal.

Theoretical we can divide the $X[3,5]$ in $X[3,4]$ and $X[4,5]$ and $Y[2,4]$ in $Y[2,3]$ and $Y[3,4]$. Now we try all possible combinations which is 2^2 so 4 combinations. We obtain :

$$P\{X[3, 5] < Y[2, 4]\} = \frac{P\{X[3, 4] > Y[2, 3]\} + P\{X[3, 4] > Y[3, 4]\} + P\{X[4, 5] > Y[2, 3]\} + P\{X[4, 5] > Y[3, 4]\}}{P\{\Omega\} * \text{number of combinations}} = \frac{3,5}{4} = 0,875 \quad (1)$$