



Random Processes and Stochastic Control – Part 1 of 2

Exercises

by

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Exercise 1

Using MATLAB generate and plot the sequence of 100 consecutive realizations of 3 random variables: A with uniform PDF, B with Gaussian PDF and C with Laplace PDF. All random variables should have the same mean:

$$m_A = m_B = m_C = 2$$

and the same variance:

$$\sigma_A^2 = \sigma_B^2 = \sigma_C^2 = 2$$

Use the same scale on the x and y axes

$$x \in [1, 100], \quad y \in [-3, 7]$$

Exercise 2

Using MATLAB generate and plot the sequence of 100 consecutive realizations of the Cauchy random variable $D \sim \mathcal{C}(2, 1)$.

Exercise 3

The mean and variance of a random variable X can be estimated using the following relationships

$$\hat{m}_X(N) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_X^2(N) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [x_i - \hat{m}_X(N)]^2$$

Estimate the mean and the variance of the random variables A, B, C and D defined in Exercises 1 and 2, based on $N = 100, 1,000, 10,000$ and $100,000$ samples.

Exercise 4

Using MATLAB plot normalized histograms obtained for 10,000 samples of random variables C and D (defined in exercises 1 and 2) and compare them with the corresponding PDF plots. In both cases divide the interval $[-3, 7]$ (subset of the observation space) into 20 bins of equal width 0.5.

Exercise 5

Write MATLAB procedure generating samples of a random variable E with the following PDF

$$\text{a) } p_E(e) = \begin{cases} 0.50 & e \in [-1, 0] \\ 0.25 & e \in (0, 2] \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{b) } p_E(e) = \begin{cases} -e & e \in [-1, 0] \\ 0.5 & e \in (0, 1] \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Evaluate the mean, median and standard deviation of E .

$$\int_{-1}^0 ep_E(e)de = 0.5 \left. \frac{e^2}{2} \right|_{-1}^0 = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\int_0^2 ep_E(e)de = 0.25 \left. \frac{e^2}{2} \right|_0^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\int_{-1}^0 e^2 p_E(e)de = 0.5 \left. \frac{e^3}{3} \right|_{-1}^0 = -\frac{1}{6}$$

$$\int_0^2 e^2 p_E(e)de = 0.25 \left. \frac{e^3}{3} \right|_0^2 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$m_X = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\sigma_X^2 = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{3} - \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{37}{48}$$

$$\alpha_X = 0$$

Exercise 6

Denote by E_1, \dots, E_{16} the sequence of 16 independent random variables with PDF specified in Exercise 5. Let

$$F = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^{16} \frac{E_i - m_E}{\sigma_E}$$

Using MATLAB plot the normalized histogram obtained for 10,000 samples of F . Compare it with an appropriately scaled plot of a standard Gaussian PDF $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Divide the interval $[-5, 5]$ (subset of the observation space) into 20 bins of equal width 0.5.

Exercise 7

Let X be a random variable that is uniformly distributed over the interval $(1,100)$. Form a new random variable Y by rounding X to the nearest integer. In MATLAB code, this could be represented by $Y = \text{round}(X)$. Finally, form the roundoff error variable according to $Z = X - Y$. Using MATLAB generate 10,000 realizations of Z and estimate its mean and variance. Based on the available data create a normalized histogram. Find the analytical model that seems to fit your estimated PDF.

Exercise 8

Which of the following mathematical functions could be the cumulative distribution function of some random variable?

1. $F_X(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \tan^{-1}(x)$

2. $F_X(x) = [1 - e^{-x}] 1(x)$

3. $F_X(x) = e^{-x^2}$

4. $F_X(x) = x^2 1(x)$

Note: $1(x)$ is the unit step function.

Exercise 9

Suppose a random variable has a cumulative distribution function given by $F_X(x) = [1 - e^{-x}] 1(x)$. Find the following quantities:

1. $P(X > 5)$

2. $P(X < 5)$

3. $P(3 < X < 7)$

4. $P(X > 5 | X < 7)$

Exercise 10

Suppose a random variable has a cumulative distribution function given by

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ 0.04x & 0 < x \leq 5 \\ 0.6 + 0.04x & 5 < x \leq 10 \\ 1 & x > 10 \end{cases}$$

Find the following quantities:

1. $P(X > 5)$
2. $P(X < 5)$
3. $P(3 < X < 7)$
4. $P(X > 5 | X < 7)$

Exercise 11

Which of the following are valid probability density functions?

1. $p_X(x) = e^{-x}1(x)$

2. $p_X(x) = e^{-|x|}$

3. $p_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4}(x^2 - 1) & |x| < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

4. $p_X(x) = 2xe^{-x^2}1(x)$

Exercise 12

The conditional cumulative distribution function of random variable X , conditioned on the event A having occurred is

$$F_{X|A}(x) = P(X \leq x|A) = \frac{P(X \leq x, A)}{P(A)}$$

(assuming that $P(A) \neq 0$).

Suppose that $X \sim \mathcal{U}(0, 1)$. Find the mathematical expression for $F_{X|X < 1/2}(x)$.

Exercise 13

Consider the Laplace random variable with a PDF given by

$$p_X(x) = \frac{b}{2} \exp(-b|x|)$$

Evaluate the mean, the variance, the coefficient of skewness and the coefficient of kurtosis of X .

Note:

$$\int x^n e^{ax} dx = \frac{1}{a} x^n e^{ax} - \frac{n}{a} \int x^{n-1} e^{ax} dx$$

Exercise 14

Consider two independent normally distributed random variables

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \quad Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

and let

$$Y = aX + bZ, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

Determine the coefficients a and b in such a way that $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and ρ_{XY} takes any prescribed value from $[-1, 1]$.

Using MATLAB generate 100 realizations of the pair (X, Y) for $\rho_{XY} = 0$, $\rho_{XY} = 0.5$, $\rho_{XY} = -0.5$, $\rho_{XY} = 0.9$, $\rho_{XY} = -0.9$, $\rho_{XY} = 1$ and $\rho_{XY} = -1$.

Display the obtained results using scatter plots.

Facts about matrices

Fact 1

Given a square matrix $\mathbf{A}_{n \times n}$, an eigenvalue λ and its associated eigenvector \mathbf{v} are a pair obeying the relation

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$

The eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ of \mathbf{A} are the roots of the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A}

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})$$

For a positive definite matrix \mathbf{A} it holds that $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n > 0$, i.e., all eigenvalues are positive real.

Fact 2

Let \mathbf{A} be a matrix with linearly independent eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$. Then \mathbf{A} can be factorized as follows

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^{-1}$$

where $\mathbf{\Lambda}_{n \times n} = \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ and $\mathbf{V}_{n \times n} = [\mathbf{v}_1 | \dots | \mathbf{v}_n]$.

Facts about matrices

Fact 3

Let $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^T$ be a real symmetric matrix. Such matrix has n linearly independent real eigenvectors. Moreover, these eigenvectors can be chosen such that they are orthogonal to each other and have norm one

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{w}_j &= 0, \quad \forall i \neq j \\ \mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{w}_i &= \|\mathbf{w}_i\|^2 = 1, \quad \forall i\end{aligned}$$

A real symmetric matrix \mathbf{A} can be decomposed as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{W} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{W}^T$$

where \mathbf{W} is an orthogonal matrix: $\mathbf{W}_{n \times n} = [\mathbf{w}_1 | \dots | \mathbf{w}_n]$, $\mathbf{W} \mathbf{W}^T = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} = \mathbf{I}$.

The eigenvectors \mathbf{w}_i can be obtained by normalizing the eigenvectors \mathbf{v}_i

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{\mathbf{v}_i}{\|\mathbf{v}_i\|^2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Exercise 15

Consider a vector random variable $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2]^T$ with the mean and covariance matrix given by

$$\mathbf{m}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_X = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Perform eigendecomposition of the matrix Σ_X

$$\Sigma_X = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{W}^T$$

where $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ is a diagonal matrix made up of eigenvalues of Σ_X and \mathbf{W} is an orthogonal matrix.

Sketch the covariance ellipse of \mathbf{X} . What is the correlation coefficient of X_1 and X_2 ?

2. Suppose that $\mathbf{Z} = [Z_1, Z_2]^T$ is made up of two uncorrelated random variables with zero mean and unit variance. Consider the following linear transformation

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{Z}$$

where \mathbf{W} and $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ are the matrices determined in point 1 above. Show that

$$\Sigma_Y = \Sigma_X.$$

3. Use a linear transformation, defined in point 2, to generate two-dimensional Gaussian random variable \mathbf{X} with the mean and covariance matrix specified above. Create a scatter plot based on 200 realizations of \mathbf{X} .

Exercise 16

Consider a zero-mean vector random variable \mathbf{X} with covariance matrix

$$\Sigma_X = E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T] = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{W}^T$$

where $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ is a diagonal matrix made up of eigenvalues of Σ_X and \mathbf{W} is an orthogonal matrix.

Let

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2}\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{X}$$

Show that

$$\Sigma_Y = \mathbf{I}$$

i.e., \mathbf{Y} is the vector random variable made up of uncorrelated components.

Project 1

Record and mix signals obtained from two independent speech sources (30 second long recordings, 2 linear mixtures with different mixing coefficients).

Perform blind source separation using the FastICA algorithm:

1. Center the data to make its mean zero.
2. Whiten the data to obtain uncorrelated mixture signals.
3. Initialize $\mathbf{w}_0 = [w_{1,0}, w_{2,0}]^T$, $\|\mathbf{w}_0\| = 1$ (e.g. randomly)
4. Perform an iteration of a one-source extraction algorithm

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i = \text{avg} \left\{ \mathbf{z}(t) [\mathbf{w}_{i-1}^T \mathbf{z}(t)]^3 \right\} - 3\mathbf{w}_{i-1}$$

where $\mathbf{z}(t) = [z_1(t), z_2(t)]^T$ denotes the vector of whitened mixture signals and $\text{avg}(\cdot)$ denotes time averaging

$$\text{avg}\{x(t)\} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N x(t)$$

5. Normalize $\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i$ by dividing it by its norm

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{w}}_i\|}$$

6. Determine a unit-norm vector \mathbf{v}_i orthogonal to \mathbf{w}_i .

$$\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{v}_i = 0, \quad \|\mathbf{v}_i\| = 1$$

7. Display and listen to the current results of source separation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_1(t) \\ \hat{x}_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}_i^T \\ \mathbf{v}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1(t) \\ z_2(t) \end{bmatrix}, \quad t = 1, \dots, N$$

8. If $\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{w}_{i-1}$ is not close enough to 1, go back to step 4. Otherwise stop.

Literature: A. Hyvärinen, E. Oja. “A fast fixed-point algorithm for independent component analysis”, *Neural Computation*, vol. 9, pp. 1483-1492, 1997.

A special bonus will be granted for writing a procedure that extracts $n > 2$ source signals from n mixtures.

Project 2

Create a noisy audio recording (add artificially generated noise to a clean music or speech signal). The first second of the recording should contain noise only. Then denoise recording using the method of spectral subtraction.

Exercise 17

Consider a sinusoid with a random frequency

$$X(t) = \cos(2\pi ft)$$

where f is a random variable uniformly distributed over the interval $[0, f_0]$.

1. Show that the theoretical mean function of $X(t)$ is given by

$$m_X(t) = E[X(t)] = \frac{\sin(2\pi f_0 t)}{2\pi f_0 t}$$

2. Estimate the mean function of $X(t)$ using ensemble averaging in the case where $f_0 = 0.01$

$$\hat{m}_X(t) = \frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} X(t, \xi_i), \quad t = -300, \dots, 300$$

3. Plot the obtained estimates and compare them with the theoretical mean function.

Exercise 18

Generate 400 samples of the first-order autoregressive process governed by

$$Y(t) = 0.99Y(t-1) + X(t), \quad t = 1, 2, \dots$$

where $Y(0) = 0$ and $X(t)$ denotes Gaussian white noise with mean 0 and variance $\sigma_X^2 = 1$.

1. Depict on one plot 100 realizations of $Y(t)$, $t \in [1, 400]$. Starting from what time instant the process can be regarded as wide-sense stationary?
2. Determine analytically the mean function of $Y(t)$ for any initial condition $Y(0) = y_0$.
3. Estimate the steady-state autocorrelation function of $Y(t)$ using time averaging

$$\hat{R}_X(\tau) = \frac{1}{100} \sum_{t=201}^{300} Y(t)Y(t+\tau), \quad \tau = 0, \dots, 100$$

4. Estimate the steady-state autocorrelation function of $Y(t)$ using ensemble averaging

$$\hat{R}_X(\tau) = \frac{1}{100} \sum_{i=1}^{100} Y(t, \xi_i)Y(t+\tau, \xi_i)$$

$$t = 201, \quad \tau = 0, \dots, 100$$

5. Plot the obtained estimates and compare them with the theoretical autocorrelation function

$$R_X(\tau) = \frac{(0.99)^{|\tau|}}{1 - (0.99)^2}$$

Exercise 19

Consider random telegraph signal governed by

$$X(t) \in \{-1, 1\}$$

$$P(X(t+1) = 1 | X(t) = 1) = 0.99$$

$$P(X(t+1) = -1 | X(t) = 1) = 0.1$$

$$P(X(t+1) = 1 | X(t) = -1) = 0.1$$

$$P(X(t+1) = -1 | X(t) = -1) = 0.99$$

$$t = 1, \dots, 200$$

$$P(X(0) = 1) = P(X(0) = -1) = 0.5$$

Estimate and plot $\hat{R}_X(\tau), \tau = 0, \dots, 100$. To obtain the estimates use a) time averaging b) ensemble averaging. Plot and compare the obtained results.

Exercise 20

Consider a zero-mean Gaussian white noise $X(t)$ with variance $\sigma_X^2 = 1$.

1. Evaluate spectral density function $S_X(\omega)$ of this process.
2. Compute and plot periodogram-based estimates of $S_X(\omega)$ using datasets consisting of $N = 100, 1000$ and 10000 samples

$$P_X(\omega_i, N) = \frac{1}{N} \left| \sum_{t=1}^N X(t) e^{-j\omega_i t} \right|^2$$

$$\omega_i = 2\pi i/100, \quad i = -50, \dots, 50$$

Compare the obtained results with the true spectral density function of $X(t)$.

3. Compute time-averaged periodogram-based estimates

$$\bar{P}_X(\omega_i, N) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M P_X^j(\omega_i, N)$$

$$\omega_i = 2\pi i/100, \quad i = -50, \dots, 50$$

where $P_X^j(\omega_i, N)$ denotes periodogram obtained for the j -th segment of $X(t)$ of length N . Plot the results obtained for $N = 100$.

Exercise 21

$Y(t)$ is a random process observed at the output of the second-order filter

$$H(z^{-1}) = \frac{1}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2}}$$

excited with white Gaussian noise $X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ under zero initial conditions. The poles of the filter are given in the form

$$z_1 = r e^{j\phi}, \quad z_2 = r e^{-j\phi}$$

where

- A) $r = 0.9, \quad \phi = \pi/100$
- B) $r = 0.9, \quad \phi = \pi/10$
- C) $r = 0.99, \quad \phi = \pi/100$
- D) $r = 0.99, \quad \phi = \pi/10$

1. Compute the coefficients a_1 and a_2 in each of the four cases indicated above.
2. Plot the amplitude characteristics of $H(z^{-1})$

$$A(\omega_i) = |H(e^{-j\omega_i})|, \quad \omega_i = \pi i / 1000, \quad i = 1, \dots, 1000$$

What is the influence of r and ϕ on the shape of the amplitude characteristic of $H(z^{-1})$?