List 1

Michał Balcerek Computer Simulations of Stochastic Processes

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Theorem 1 (Central Limit Theorem). What are the assumptions, what is the thesis?

For the following exercises, to calculate cumulative distribution function (CDF), density function (PDF) and characteristic function use Monte Carlo simulations.

Exercise 1 (Rule of 12). Compare CDF's, PDF's and characteristic functions of

$$Z = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{12} U_k - 12\mathbb{E}(U_1)}{\sqrt{12}\sqrt{\text{Var}U_1}},$$

where $\{U_k\}_{k=1}^{12}$ have standard uniform distribution, and standard normal variables.

Exercise 2 (CLT for exponential distribution). Compare CDF's, PDF's and characteristic functions of

$$Z = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} X_k - n\mathbb{E}(X_1)}{\sqrt{n}\sqrt{\operatorname{Var} X_1}},$$

where $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^n$ are i.i.d exponential distribution (with λ of your choosing), and standard normal variables. Use different n's.

Exercise 3 (CLT (or lack thereof) for Pareto distribution). Pareto distribution has CDF:

$$1 - F(t) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + t}\right)^{\alpha}, \quad t \ge 0,$$

for $\lambda > 0, \alpha > 0$.

Compare CDFs, PDFs and characteristic functions of

$$Z = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} X_k - n\mathbb{E}(X_1)}{\sqrt{n}\sqrt{\text{Var}X_1}},$$

where $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^n$ have Pareto distribution (with $\lambda = 1$ and $\alpha > 2$ of your choosing), and standard normal variables. Use different n's.

Furthermore, check the behavior of the distribution of

$$Z = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} X_k - n\mathbb{E}(X_1)}{\sqrt{n}},$$

where $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^n$ have Pareto distribution (with $\lambda = 1$ and $1 < \alpha < 2$ of your choosing).

Hint: To simulate Pareto (or any other distribution with easily inversible CDF) you can use inverse transformation method: to simulate random variable X with CDF F_X you can simulate standard uniform random variable and plug it in the inverse of the F_X .

$$F_X^{-1}(U) \sim X$$
 for $U \sim \mathcal{U}(0,1)$.

Homework 1 (Stable program). Investigate "stable.exe" on Nolan's webpage.