

MATH4/68091 Statistical Computing

Coursework 1

Deadline: 11:00am Monday 28 October 2024

Please submit via Blackboard. Late submissions may be penalised according to the Department's procedures. Note also that I do not have the authority to grant extensions to the deadline.

By submitting the coursework you declare that you are its sole author. In particular, you should not collaborate with your peers.

Your submitted solutions should all be in one “pdf” document. You are strongly advised to produce this document using L^AT_EX, but you will not be penalised if you use other software. Do not include screenshots of the R console. All text should be in a typewriter type font. In L^AT_EX this can be done

```
\begin{verbatim}
R code
\end{verbatim}
```

Plots should be saved to a file using the `pdf()` command with suitable L^AT_EX commands. Examples of this are available in the file “examples.plots.pdf”, available on Blackboard and on my website. You should use the facilities provided by it.

For each part of the coursework, you should show what you completed what is required, show your work, and include graphical results, where applicable. Aim to be concise.

The total marks for the coursework are 100. Each of the individual parts have equal weights.

1. (8 marks)

The standard double exponential distribution has pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \exp -|x|, \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty.$$

- Find the cdf of the standard double exponential distribution.
- Describe in detail the steps of the inverse PIT (inverse cdf) method to obtain a random sample of size n from $f(x)$.
- Write an R function implementing your procedure from part (b) for generating random samples from $f(x)$.
- Run your function from part (c) to generate a random sample of size $n = 5000$ from $f(x)$. Construct a histogram of the generated data, superimpose the pdf $f(x)$ and comment on the goodness-of-fit.

2. (12 marks)

Suppose that we want to simulate random data from the standard Normal distribution, $N(0,1)$, whose pdf is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}, \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty.$$

It is proposed to develop a rejection sampling algorithm, where the proposal distribution is the standard double exponential distribution from Q1 with pdf

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-|x|}, \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty.$$

- (a) Define the constant K by

$$K = \sup_x \left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right).$$

Show that $K = \sqrt{\frac{2e}{\pi}}$.

- (b) Produce on the same plot graphs of the functions $f(x)$ and $Kg(x)$ using the value of K determined in part (a).
- (c) Describe a rejection sampling algorithm using the standard Normal distribution as proposal distribution.
- (d) Theoretically, how efficient is your algorithm in part (c)?
- (e) Write an R function that implements your algorithm in part (c). It should return a random sample from the standard Normal distribution. Your function should provide an empirical estimate of the standard deviation of the sample.

Note: For simulation, you can use your function from Q1. Alternatively, you can use your function from Q1.

- (f) Run your function to generate a random sample from the standard Normal distribution. Graph the sample and compare it to the standard Normal distribution.

Note: Don't go overboard. A simple plot and a few lines of code are sufficient for full marks. The purpose of this question is to see if the answer is affirmative. It is not a test. The purpose of this question is to see if the answer is affirmative. It is not a test. The purpose of this question is to see if the answer is affirmative. It is not a test.