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In [4]: #draw random sample from an exponential PDF
%matplotlib inline
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib
matplotlib.rc('xtick', labelsize=12)
matplotlib.rc('ytick', labelsize=12)
#parameter of the exponential density
h = 0.2
#define the density function
def exponential(x,h):
    return 1./h*np.exp(-x/h)
#draw 1000 random samples
N = 1000
#rejection sampling
i = 0
k = 0
x = np.zeros((N,1))
while i<N:
    x0 = np.random.uniform(0,5.)
    y0 = np.random.rand()/h
    y1 = exponential(x0,h)
    if y0<=y1:
        x[i] = x0
        i += 1
    k += 1
# analyze the samples in histogram
xgrid = np.arange(0,5,0.1)
xcenter = (xgrid[0:-1] + xgrid[1:])/2.
hx, xedge = np.histogram(x, xgrid)
#calculate the density function analytically
y = exponential(xcenter, h)
#draw histogram and compare with the analytic density curve
fig = plt.figure(figsize=[10,5])
ax = fig.add_subplot(111)
ax.plot(xcenter, hx, 'ko')
ax.plot(xcenter, y/np.sum(y) *sum(hx), 'r--')
fig.show()
print N/np.float(k)
```

0.0419304792654

