

Monte-Carlo examples in R

Serial vs parallel code

Meelis Utt

Setup

```
# load necessary package
library(magrittr)
library(data.table)
library(ggplot2)
# library(dplyr)
# library(knitr)
library(parallel)
library(foreach)
library(doParallel)
```

```
## Loading required package: iterators
```

```
knitr::opts_chunk$set(fig.width = 5, fig.height = 3)
options(scipen = 1000)
```

Let's source the setup (function, analytical solution, number of iterations).

```
source("Setup.R", echo = T)
```

```
##
## > options(scipen = 1000)
##
## > n <- 10000000
##
## > header <- c("n", "computational result", "analytical result",
## +           "error", "time")
##
## > f <- function(x) {
## +   return(x^2 + x^4 + sin(x) + cos(x) + x^25)
## + }
##
## > analytical <- integrate(f, 0, 1)$value
```

Serial implementations

Let's start with a simple implementation of Monte-Carlo method.

```
MCser1 <- function(n){
  start <- Sys.time()
  i <- runif(n,0,1)
  EX <- mean(f(i))
```

```

end <- Sys.time()
time <- difftime(end,start)
error <- EX - analytical %>% abs
return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n"                "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error"             "time"

MCser1(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000      1.87294669155      1.87296355073
## [4]      -0.00001685919      2.43539118767

```

Let's try a bit more vectorized solution, using the apply function family.

```

MCser2 <- function(n,ncols=1000){
  start <- Sys.time()
  dt <- matrix(runif(n,0,1),ncol = ncols)
  EX <- sapply(1:ncols,function(i,dt){
    EX <- dt[,i] %>% f %>% mean
  },dt) %>% mean
  end <- Sys.time()
  time <- difftime(end,start)
  error <- EX - analytical
  return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n"                "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error"             "time"

MCser2(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000      1.8727003921      1.8729635507
## [4]      -0.0002631586      1.8938279152

```

Let's try an approach using data.table.

```

MCser3 <- function(n){
  start <- Sys.time()
  dt <- data.table(unif = runif(n,0,1))
  EX <- dt[,.(EX = mean(f(unif)))][ %>% unlist %>% unname
  end <- Sys.time()
  time <- difftime(end,start)
  error <- EX - analytical
  return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n"                "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error"             "time"

MCser3(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000      1.8733368159      1.8729635507
## [4]      0.0003732651      1.7508175373

```

Let's try divide-and-conquer approach with data.table.

```
MCser4 <- function(n,ncols=1000){
  start <- Sys.time()
  dt <- matrix(runif(n,0,1),ncol=ncols) %>% data.table
  EX <- dt[,lapply(.SD,f)][,lapply(.SD,mean)][,.(EX = sum(.SD)/ncols)] %>% unlist %>% unname
  end <- Sys.time()
  time <- difftime(end,start)
  error <- EX - analytical
  return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header
```

```
## [1] "n" "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error" "time"
```

```
MCser4(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000 1.87302751896 1.87296355073
## [4] 0.00006396823 1.89381122589
```

Parallel implementations

Let's try different parallel implementations. First let's start with package *parallel*.

```
MCpar1 <- function(n){
  start <- Sys.time()
  # Calculate the number of cores
  no_cores <- detectCores()
  # Initiate cluster
  cl <- makeCluster(no_cores)
  intermean <- parSapply(cl, rep(n/no_cores,no_cores),function(ni,f){
    EX <- mean(f(runif(ni,0,1)))
  },f)
  )
  stopCluster(cl)
  EX <- mean(intermean)
  end <- Sys.time()
  time <- difftime(end,start)
  error <- EX - analytical
  return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header
```

```
## [1] "n" "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error" "time"
```

```
MCpar1(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000 1.87303533481 1.87296355073
## [4] 0.00007178408 1.35661602020
```

Now let's try approach analogous to MCser2.

```
MCpar2 <- function(n){
  start <- Sys.time()
  # Calculate the number of cores
  no_cores <- detectCores()
  cl <- makeCluster(no_cores)
```

```

dt <- matrix(runif(n,0,1),ncol = no_cores)
intermean <- parSapply(cl, 1:no_cores,function(i,f,dt){
  EX <- mean(f(dt[,i]))
},f,dt
)
stopCluster(cl)
EX <- mean(intermean)
end <- Sys.time()
error <- EX - analytical
time <- difftime(end,start)
return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n" "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error" "time"
MCpar2(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000 1.8728338755 1.8729635507
## [4] -0.0001296752 3.8680872917

```

This approach was not very good. But let's have one more try at analogical solution to MCser2.

```

MCpar2_2 <- function(n,ncols=1000){
  start <- Sys.time()
  # Calculate the number of cores
  no_cores <- detectCores()
  cl <- makeCluster(no_cores)
  dt <- matrix(runif(n,0,1),ncol = ncols)
  intermean <- parSapply(cl, 1:ncols,function(i,f,dt){
    EX <- mean(f(dt[,i]))
  },f,dt
)
  stopCluster(cl)
  EX <- mean(intermean)
  end <- Sys.time()
  error <- EX - analytical
  time <- difftime(end,start)
  return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n" "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error" "time"
MCpar2_2(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000000 1.872959927135 1.872963550735
## [4] -0.000003623599 3.687784671783

```

This solution was bit better, but still worse than the previous examples.
Let's try the package *foreach* now.

```

MCpar3 <- function(n){
  start <- Sys.time()
  # Calculate the number of cores
  no_cores <- detectCores()

```

```

# Initiate cluster
cl<-makeCluster(no_cores)
registerDoParallel(cl)
EX <- foreach(ni = rep(n/no_cores,no_cores),.combine=mean,.export="f") %dopar% mean(f(runif(ni,0,1)))
stopImplicitCluster()
end <- Sys.time()
time <- difftime(end,start)
error <- EX - analytical
return(c(n,EX,analytical,error,time))
}
header

## [1] "n"                "computational result" "analytical result"
## [4] "error"             "time"

MCpar3(n)

## [1] 10000000.000000000      1.873372468      1.872963551      0.000408917
## [5]      1.439738750

```