Numerical Methods for Financial Mathematics.

Exercise Handout 3

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Exercise 1

Consider the class

com.andreamazzon.session3.encapsulation.lazyinitialization.LinearCongruentialGenerator of the Java course project. We saw that due to overflows, the number

long congruence = (a * randomNumbers[indexOfInteger] + c) % modulus

can be negative, and to fix this problem we increment it by modulus. However, even if this still produce a (pseudo) random natural number smaller than modulus, this is not mathematically completely correct. To better understand the problem, consider 4 bits, giving 16 integers from -8 to +7. Take the modulus equal to 3. Here 8 % 3=2. But 8 corresponds to -8 due to the overflow, (-8) % 3=-(8 % 3)=-2 and -2+3=1. So our method does not give what we would expect. Indeed, the operations overflow and % do not commute, and one has first to fix the overflow and then to apply the operation %.

Think about a good way to do this in the case when

Long.MAX_VALUE $< a \cdot modulus < 2 \cdot Long.MAX_VALUE$,

and correct the method generate() written in LinearCongruentialGenerator accordingly, changing the values of modulus and a so that the above condition holds. You can first copy and paste the class LinearCongruentialGenerator in your exercise project, and test it as in

com.andreamazzon.session3.encapsulation.lazyinitialization.PseudoRandomNumbersTesting.

Check, for example by Mathematica, that the natural number you get in the presence of an overflow (i.e., in the case when you would get a negative number if the overflow was not handled at all) is indeed

(a * previousRandomNumber + c) % modulus

where previousRandomNumber is the previous number in the list.

Note: possible values are a = 6553590L, modulus = 2814749767110L. Choosing seed = 2814749763100L in the test class, the value of the first random natural number must be 2788469871221.

Exercise 2

Have a look at the interfaces

MonteCarloEvaluationsInterface

and

 ${\tt MonteCarloEvaluationsWithExactResultInterface}.$

you can find in the package

com.andreamazzon.exercise3.montecarloevaluations.

The first interface provides methods to experiment with the Monte-Carlo implementation of a possibly general class of problems, from pricing to the computation of an integral. The second interface extends the first one. For this second interface, we suppose that we already know the exact value of the quantity we approximate by Monte-Carlo, so that we can compute the absolute errors of our approximations.

Write two classes MonteCarloIntegrationPowerFunction and MonteCarloPi implementing this second interface and computing the integral $\int_0^1 x^{\alpha} dx$, $\alpha \in (0,\infty)$, in the case of MonteCarloIntegrationPowerFunction, and π in the way you have seen in the lecture in the case of MonteCarloPi.

Test then your results by running the classes

com.andreamazzon.exercise3.montecarlopi.MonteCarloPi

and

com.andreamazzon.exercise3.montecarlointegration.MonteCarloIntegrationCheck.

Hints:

- Here you have total freedom about the choice of your design. A suggestion is: you can note that the implementation of almost all the methods of the interfaces does not depend on the specific Monte-Carlo computation, as they might use the vectors hosting the computed values, just like the method getPrice(StochasticProcessSimulatorInterface underlyingProcess) in DigitalOption. You can think to implement these methods in some abstract class / abstract classes implementing the correspondent interfaces, and then let MonteCarloIntegrationPowerFunction and MonteCarloPi extend this class / one of these classes. In this way, they would automatically implement the interface.
- Consider that, with respect to the methods of the interface

com.andreamazzon.exercise2.MonteCarloExperiments,

the methods of the present interfaces do not take the number of Monte-Carlo computations as argument. So this should be a field of your classes. You can decide which access modifier to assign it according to the design of your solution (i.e., if you have or not the parent abstract classes, for example).

• You can find some methods to perform your experiments (for example, computing the standard deviation, or the average error, of the Monte-Carlo computations) in the class

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in the exercise project (so you don't have to pull the Java project again).