
ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART II A

EIETL

MODULE EXPERIMENT 3F3

RANDOM VARIABLES and RANDOM NUMBER GENERATION Short Report Template

Name:

College:

Lab Group Number:

This is a template suitable for the short report write-up.
Simply edit the Latex or Word document to include your
calculations/ results/ code.

1. Uniform and normal random variables.

Histogram of Gaussian random numbers overlaid on exact Gaussian curve (scaled):

Include your graphic here

Histogram of Uniform random numbers overlaid on exact Uniform curve (scaled):

Include your graphic here

Kernel density estimate for Gaussian random numbers overlaid on exact Gaussian curve:

Include your graphic here

Kernel density estimate for Uniform random numbers overlaid on exact Gaussian curve:

Include your graphic here

Comment on the advantages and disadvantages of the kernel density method compared with the histogram method for estimation of a probability density from random samples:

Text answer here

Theoretical mean and standard deviation calculation for uniform density as a function of N :

Text/maths answer here

Explain behaviour as N becomes large:

Text/maths answer here

Plot of histograms for $N = 100$, $N = 1000$ and $N = 10000$ with theoretical mean and ± 3 standard deviation lines:

Include your graphic here

Are your histogram results consistent with the multinomial distribution theory?

Text/maths answer here

2. **Functions of random variables** For normally distributed $\mathcal{N}(x|0, 1)$ random variables, take $y = f(x) = ax + b$. Calculate $p(y)$ using the Jacobian formula:

Text/maths answer here

Explain how this is linked to the general normal density with non-zero mean and non-unity variance:

Text/maths answer here

Verify this formula by transforming a large collection of random samples $x^{(i)}$ to give $y^{(i)} = f(x^{(i)})$, histogramming the resulting y samples, and overlaying a plot of your formula calculated using the Jacobian:

Include your graphic here

Now take $p(x) = \mathcal{N}(x|0, 1)$ and $f(x) = x^2$. Calculate $p(y)$ using the Jacobian formula:

Text/maths answer here

Verify your result by histogramming of transformed random samples:

Include your graphic here

3. Inverse CDF method

Calculate the CDF and the inverse CDF for the exponential distribution:

Text/maths answer here

Matlab/Python code for inverse CDF method for generating samples from the exponential distribution:

Matlab/Python code here

Plot histograms/ kernel density estimates and overlay them on the desired exponential density:

Include your graphic here

4. Simulation from a ‘non-standard’ density.

Matlab/Python code to generate N random numbers drawn from the distribution of X :

Plot some histogram density estimates with $\alpha = 0.5, 1.5$ and several values of β .

Hence comment on the interpretation of the parameters α and β .