

# ENSAE - Computational Statistics

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**Problem 8.6.** Reproduce the comparison of Problem 8.5 in the case of (a) the gamma distribution and (b) the Poisson distribution.

**(a) Gamma distribution**

For any  $\text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ , the density is proportional to :

$$f(x; \alpha, \beta) = x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}$$

$f$  can be decomposed into two terms :  $f_1(x) = x^{\alpha-1}$  and  $f_2(x) = e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}$   
( $f(x; \alpha, \beta) = f_1(x; \alpha, \beta) f_2(x; \alpha, \beta)$ )

We can then suggest the following Slice Sampler :

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**Algorithm 1** Slice Sampler for the Gamma Distribution

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$\forall t,$

- Draw  $U_1^{(t+1)} | x^{(t)} \sim U_{[0, (x^{(t)})^{\alpha-1}]}$
  - Draw  $U_2^{(t+1)} | x^{(t)} \sim U_{[0, e^{-\frac{x^{(t)}}{\beta}}]}$
  - Draw  $X^{(t+1)} | \omega_1^{(t+1)}, \omega_1^{(t+1)} \sim U_{[\omega_1^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}}, -\beta \log(\omega_2)]}$
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Figure 1 show the Gamma distribution cdf for  $10^4$  iterations from the Slice Sampler and R function `rgamma` for  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\beta = 2$ . They are very close.

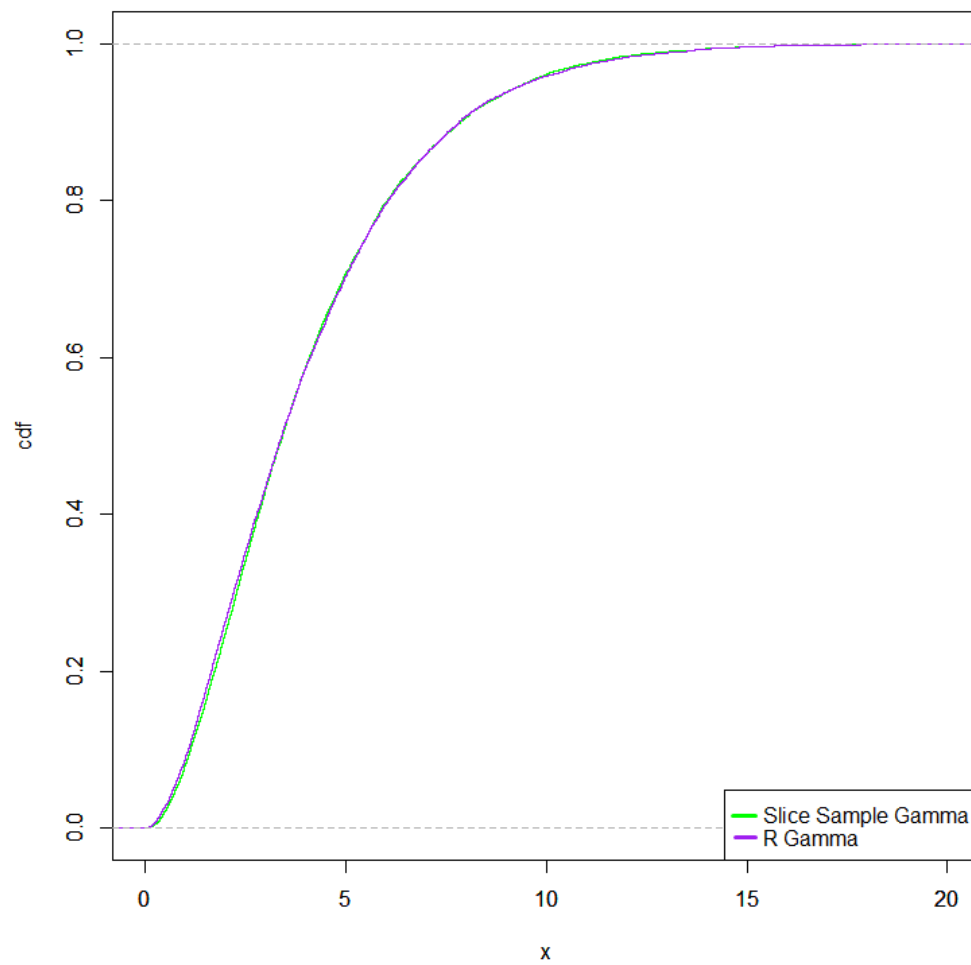


Figure 1: Slice sampler and R Gamma cdf for  $\text{Gamma}(2, 2)$

```
1 # Initialization
2 #set.seed(1)
3 iterations = 10**4
4 #Gamma(shape=alpha, scale=beta)
5 alpha=2
6 beta=2
7
8 #gamma function
9 slice_sampler_gamma ← function(n, x0, alpha, beta){
10   X = NULL
11   Xi = x0
12   for(i in seq(n)){
13     U1 = runif(1,0,(Xi**(alpha-1)))
14     U2 = runif(1,0,exp((-Xi)/beta))
15     lim_U1=U1**(1/(alpha-1))
16     lim_U2=-log(U2)*beta
17     if(lim_U2>lim_U1){
18       Xi = runif(1,lim_U1,lim_U2)
19       X = c(X,Xi)
20     }
21   }
22   return (X)
23 }
24
25 #generate slice sampler and gamma distribution
26 sample_gamma ← slice_sampler_gamma(iterations,0.033, alpha, beta)
27 gamma_distribution ← dgamma(seq(0, 3.5, length=100), shape=alpha,
28   scale=beta)
29
30 head(sample_gamma)
31 length(sample_gamma)
32 #plot
33 plot(ecdf(sample_gamma), xlim=c(0,20), col="green", ylim=c(0,1), main="" , ylab="cdf")
34 par(new=TRUE)
35 plot(ecdf(rgamma(iterations,shape=alpha,scale=beta)), xlim=c(0,20),
36   col="purple", ylim=c(0,1), main="", ylab="")
37 legend("bottomright", col=c("green", "purple"), legend=c("Slice
38   Sample Gamma","R Gamma"))
```

Listing 1: Code for Gamma Slice sampler generation, histogram and cdf

**(b) the Poisson distribution**

We use a similar strategy for the Poisson distribution and we take into account the fact that it's a discrete distribution.

The  $Poisson(\lambda)$  density is proportional to :  $f_1(x)f_2(x)$ , with  $f_1(x) = \lambda^x$  and  $f_2(x) = \frac{1}{x!}$

**Algorithm 2** Slice Sampler for the Poisson Distribution

$\forall t,$

- Draw  $U_1^{(t+1)} | x^{(t)} \sim U_{[0, f_1(x)]}$
- Draw  $U_2^{(t+1)} | x^{(t)} \sim U_{[0, f_2(x)]}$
- Draw  $X^{(t+1)} | \omega_1^{(t+1)}, \omega_2^{(t+1)} \sim U_{\{y, y \geq \frac{\log(\omega_1)}{\log(\lambda)}, \frac{1}{\omega_2} \geq y!\}}$

We get Figure 2 comparison. The cdfs obtained are less conclusive. This may be due to the bounds I had to impose on my computer regarding the upper and lower bounds (see R code in appendix).

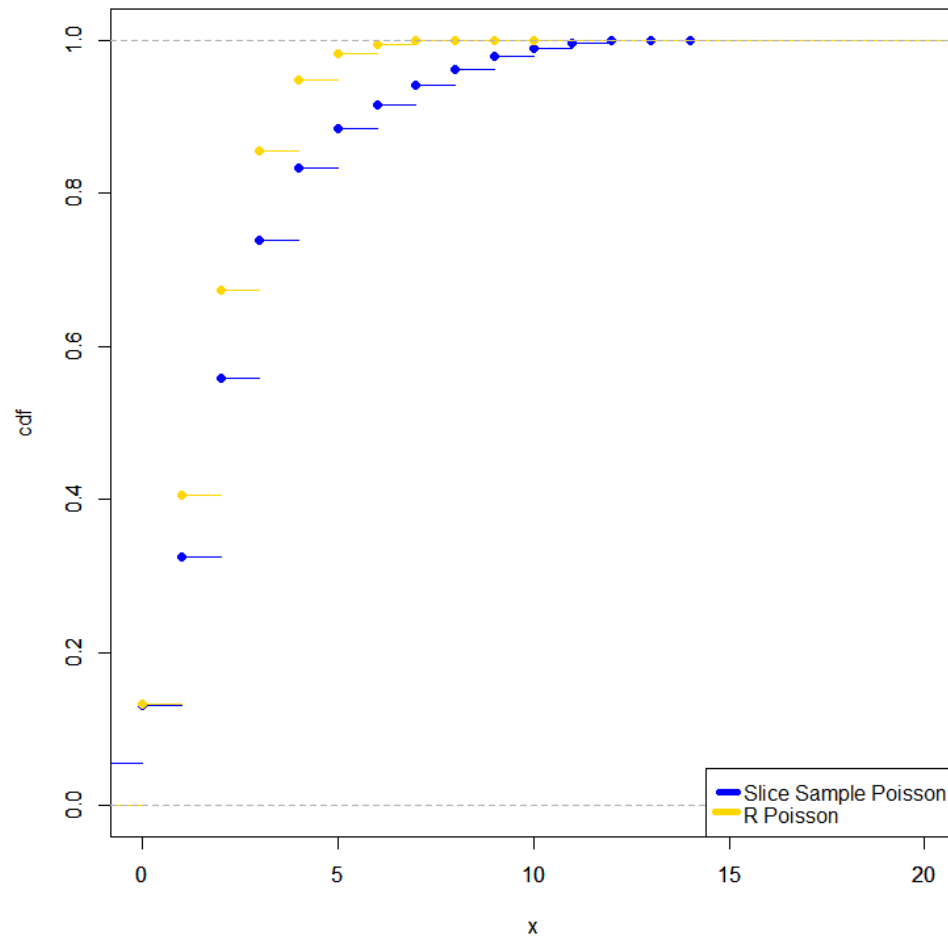


Figure 2: Slice sampler and R Poisson cdf for  $Poisson(2)$

```

1
2 #Poisson
3 lambda=2
4
5 max_factorial = function(max){
6   x = 1
7   factorial_x = x
8   while(factorial_x < max){
9     x=x+1
10    factorial_x = factorial_x * x
11  }
12  return(x-1)
13 }
14
15 #Poisson function
16 slice_sampler_poisson ← function(n, x0, lambda){
17   X = NULL
18   Xi = x0
19   for(i in seq(n)){
20     U1 = runif(1,0,min(10**12,lambda**(Xi)))
21     U2 = runif(1,0,max(1/factorial(Xi),10**(-9)))
22     lim_U1=ceiling(log(U1)/log(lambda))
23     lim_U2=max_factorial(1/U2)
24     if(lim_U2>lim_U1){
25       Xi = runif(1,lim_U1,lim_U2)
26       X = c(X,ceiling(Xi))
27     }
28   }
29   return (X)
30 }
31
32 #generate slice sampler and Poisson distribution
33 sample_poisson ← slice_sampler_poisson(iterations,1, lambda)
34
35 head(sample_poisson)
36 length(sample_poisson)
37
38 #plot
39 plot(ecdf(sample_poisson), xlim=c(0,20), col="blue", ylim=c(0,1),
40      main="", ylab="cdf")
41 par(new=TRUE)
42 plot(ecdf(rpois(iterations,lambda)), xlim=c(0,20), col="gold", ylim=c(
43      0,1), main="", ylab="")
44 legend("bottomright", col=c("blue", "gold"), legend=c("Slice Sample
45      Poisson","R Poisson"))

```

Listing 2: Code for Poisson Slice sampler generation, histogram and cdf