

# Adaptive rejection Metropolis sampling

Dr. Jarad Niemi

STAT 615 - Iowa State University

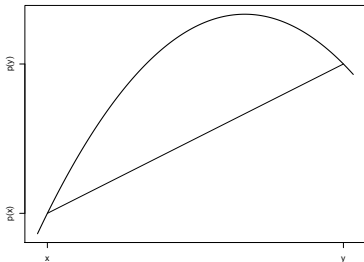
December 8, 2021

# (Logarithmically) Concave Univariate Function

A function  $p(\theta)$  is concave if

$$p((1-t)x + ty) \geq (1-t)p(x) + tp(y)$$

for any  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .



If  $p(x)$  is twice differentiable, then  $p(x)$  is concave if and only if  $p''(x) \leq 0$ .  
A function  $p(x)$  is log-concave if  $\log p(x)$  is concave.

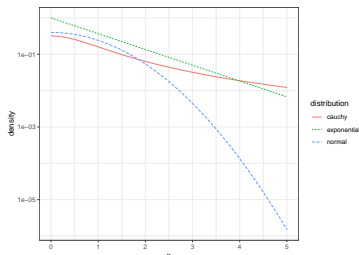
## Examples

$X \sim N(0, 1)$  has a log-concave density since

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log e^{-x^2/2} = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} -x^2/2 = \frac{d}{dx} -x = -1.$$

$X \sim Ca(0, 1)$  has a non-log-concave density since

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \log \frac{1}{1+x^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{-2x}{1+x^2} = \frac{2(x^2-1)}{(1+x^2)^2}.$$



# Log-concave distributions

- Log-concave distributions
  - normal
  - exponential
  - Uniform
  - Laplace
  - Gamma (shape parameter is  $\geq 1$ )
  - Wishart ( $n \geq p + 1$ )
  - Dirichlet (all parameters  $\geq 1$ )
- Non-log-concave distributions
  - Log-normal
  - Student  $t$
  - $F$ -distribution

# Exponential distribution

An exponential distribution has pdf

$$p(\theta; b) = be^{-b\theta}$$

and thus has log-density

$$\log p(\theta; b) = \log(b) - b\theta$$

which is trivially log-concave since

$$\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \log(b) - b\theta = \frac{d}{d\theta} - b = 0 \leq 0.$$

The exponential distribution, or exponential function, is unique in that it matches the bound for the definition of log-concavity.

## Prior-posterior example

The product of log-concave functions is also log-concave since

$$\log \left( \prod_{i=1}^n p_i(x) \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_i(x).$$

Assume

$$Y_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} N(\theta, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta \sim La(0, 1)$$

then the posterior

$$p(\theta|y) \propto \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n N(y_i; \theta, 1) \right] La(\theta; 0, 1)$$

is log-concave since -  $N(y_i; \theta, 1)$  is a log-concave function for  $\theta$  for each  $y_i$  and -  $La(\theta; 0, 1)$  is a log-concave distribution.

## Rejection sampling

Suppose we are interested in sampling from a target distribution  $p(\theta|y)$  using a proposal  $q(\theta)$ .

To use this algorithm, we must find

$$M \geq \frac{p(\theta|y)}{q(\theta)} \forall \theta$$

where the optimal  $M$  is  $\sup_{\theta} p(\theta|y)/q(\theta)$ .

Rejection sampling performs the following

1. Sample  $\theta \sim q(\theta)$ .
2. Accept  $\theta$  as a draw from  $p(\theta|y)$  with probability

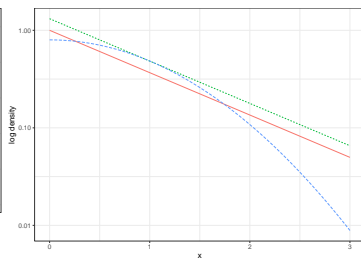
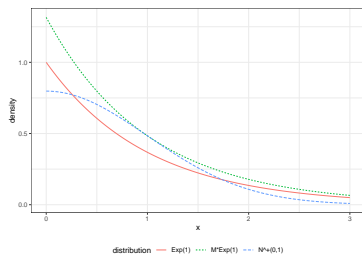
$$\frac{1}{M} \frac{p(\theta|y)}{q(\theta)}$$

otherwise return to step 1.

# Rejection sampling envelope

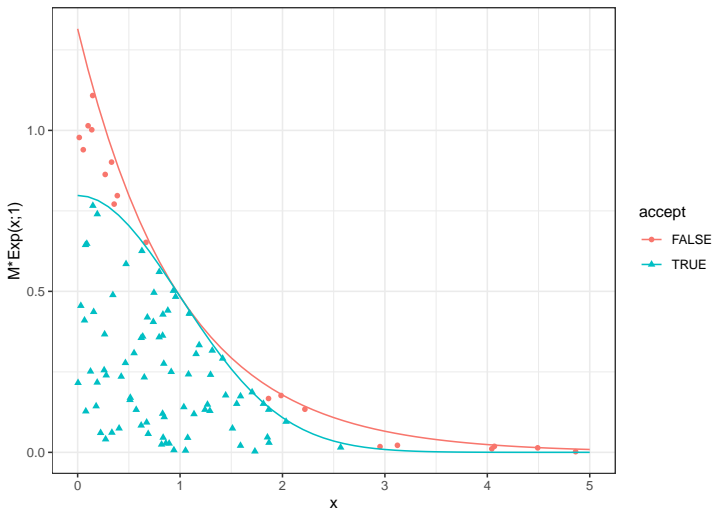
Target  $N^+(0, 1)$  and proposal  $Exp(1)$ .  
Then

$$\frac{\sqrt{2/\pi}e^{-\theta^2/2}}{e^{-\theta}} \leq 1.315489 = M$$



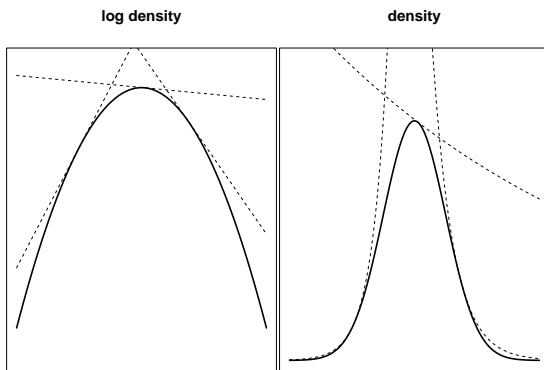


# Rejection sampling example



# Adaptive rejection sampling

Idea: build a piece-wise linear envelope to the log-density as a proposal distribution

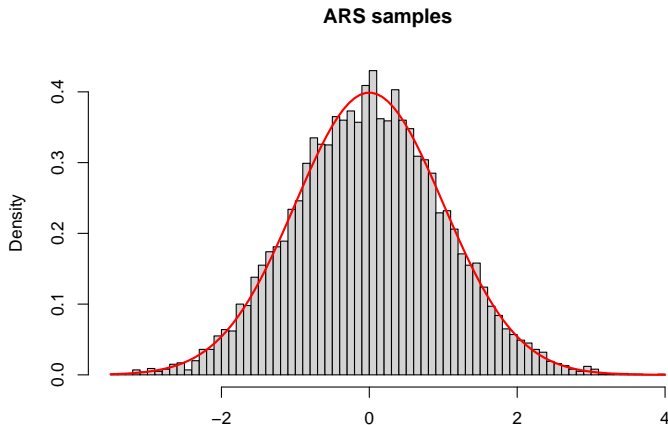


# Pseudo-algorithm for adaptive rejection sampling

1. Choose starting locations  $\theta$ , call the set  $\Theta$
2. Construct piece-wise linear envelope  $\log q(\theta)$  to the log-density
  - a. Calculate  $\log f(\theta|y)$  and  $(\log f(\theta|y))'$ .
  - b. Find line intersections
3. Sample a proposed value  $\theta^*$  from the envelope  $q(\theta)$ 
  - a. Sample an interval
  - b. Sample a truncated (and possibly negative of an) exponential r.v.
4. Perform rejection sampling
  - a. Sample  $u \sim Unif(0, 1)$
  - b. Accept  $\theta^*$  if  $u \leq f(\theta^*|y)/q(\theta^*)$ .
5. If rejected, add  $\theta^*$  to  $\Theta$  and return to 2.

# Adaptive rejection sampling (ARS) in R

```
library(ars)
f = function(x) -x^2/2 # log of standard normal density
fp = function(x) -x # derivative of log of standard normal density
x = ars(1e4, f, fp)
```



# ARS in R - non-log-concave density

```
f = function(x) log(1/(1+x^2)) # log of standard cauchy density
fp = function(x) -2*x/(1+x^2) # derivative of log of cauchy density
x = ars(1e4, f, fp)

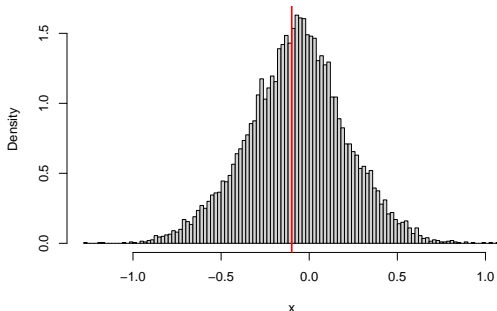
##
## Error in subroutine initial_...
## ifault= 5
```

# ARS in R - prior-posterior example

$$Y_i \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\theta, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta \sim La(0, 1)$$

```
y = rnorm(10)
f = Vectorize(function(theta) sum(-(y-theta)^2/2) - abs(theta))
fp = Vectorize(function(theta) sum((y-theta)) - (theta>0) + (theta<0))
x = ars(1e4, f, fp)
```

Posterior for Normal data with Laplace prior on mean



# Comments on ARS

- Derivative free ARS
- Checking for log-concavity
  - Decreasing derivatives
- Initial points for unbounded support:
  - initial derivative must be positive
  - final derivative must be negative
- Lower bound for multiple samples
  - Connect points
- Probability of acceptance increases at subsequent steps

# Adaptive rejection Metropolis sampling (ARMS)

Adaptive rejection sampling is only suitable for log-concave densities. For non-log-concave densities adaptive rejection Metropolis sampling can be used



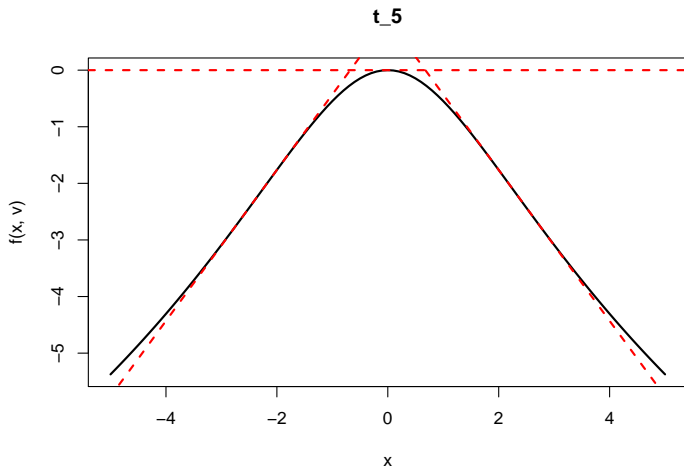
# ARMS algorithm

1. Choose starting locations for  $\theta$ , call the set  $\Theta$ .
2. Construct piece-wise linear pseudo-envelope  $\log q(\theta)$  to  $\log p(\theta|y)$ .
3. Sample  $\theta^* \sim q(\theta)$  and  $U \sim Unif(0, 1)$ .
  - a. If  $U \leq p(\theta^*|y)/q(\theta^*)$ , proceed to Step 4.
  - b. Otherwise, add  $\theta^*$  to  $\Theta$  and return to 3.
4. Perform Metropolis step: Set  $\theta^{(i)} = \theta^*$  with probability

$$\min \left\{ 1, \frac{p(\theta^*|y)}{p(\theta^{(i)}|y)} \frac{\min\{p(\theta^{(i-1)}|y), q(\theta^{(i-1)})\}}{\min\{p(\theta^*|y), q(\theta^*)\}} \right\}$$

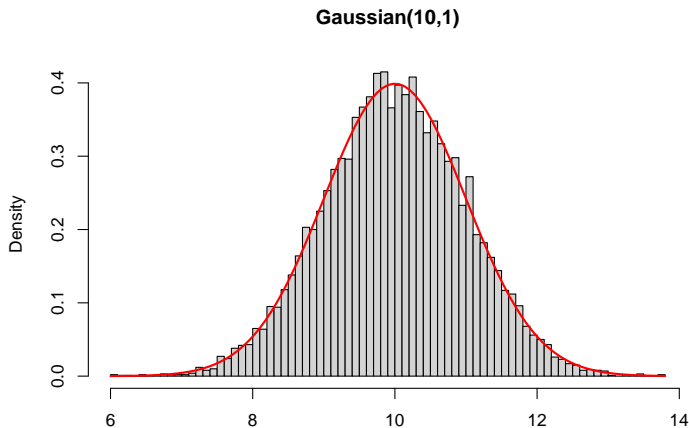
otherwise set  $\theta^{(i)} = \theta^{(i-1)}$ .

# ARMS pseudo-envelope



# ARMS in R

```
f = function(x,mean) -(x-mean)^2/2
x = dlm::arms(runif(1,3,17), f, function(x,mean) ((x-mean)>-7)*((x-mean)<7),
  1e4, mean=10)
hist(x,101,prob=TRUE,main="Gaussian(10,1)")
curve(dnorm(x,10), add=TRUE, lwd=2, col='red')
```



# Theoretical consideration of ARMS

- ARMS is an independent Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
  - Proposal changes, due to updating  $q$ , i.e. adding more points in to  $\Theta$ , thus inhomogenous.
  - We need to stop updating  $q$  at some point to enforce homogeneity.