

Statistics 200
Winter 2009
Homework 2 Solutions

4.6 X is a continuous random variable with probability density function $f(x) = 2x, 0 \leq x \leq 1$.

- (a) The expectation of X is found by integrating $xf(x)$ over the interval $[0, 1]$ on which the density is non-zero.

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_0^1 xf(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 2x^2 dx \\ &= \frac{2}{3}x^3 \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) For $Y = X^2$, we first calculate the density of Y by finding the CDF then differentiating. Note that $0 \leq X \leq 1$ implies $0 \leq Y \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y \leq y) &= P(X^2 \leq y) \\ &= P(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) \\ &= P(X \leq \sqrt{y}) \quad (\text{since } X \text{ must be positive}) \\ &= \int_0^{\sqrt{y}} 2x dx \\ &= x^2 \Big|_0^{\sqrt{y}} \\ &= y, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ \Rightarrow f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(Y) \\ &= 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Then to find the expectation of Y we integrate $yf_Y(y)$ over the interval $[0, 1]$ on which the density

of Y is non-zero.

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= \int_0^1 yf(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^1 y dy \\ &= \frac{1}{2}y^2 \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(c) By Theorem A in Section 4.1.1, we have $E[g(X)] = \int g(x)f(x) dx$, so for $Y = g(X) = X^2$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= \int_0^1 x^2 f(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 2x^3 dx \\ &= \frac{2}{4}x^4 \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(d) The definition of the variance of a random variable X is $\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2]$, so using Theorem A of Section 4.1.1 again with $g(X) = (X - E[X])^2$, we find that $\text{Var}(X)$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= E[(X - E[X])^2] \\ &= \int_0^1 \left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right)^2 2x dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left(x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{4}{9}\right) 2x dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left(2x^3 - \frac{8}{3}x^2 + \frac{8}{9}x\right) dx \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{4}x^4 - \frac{8}{9}x^3 + \frac{4}{9}x^2\right) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{4}{9} \\ &= \frac{1}{18} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem B of Section 4.2 gives an alternate expression for the variance of X as $\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$. We know $E[X^2] = E[Y] = \frac{1}{2}$ from parts (b) and (c), and we know $E[X] = \frac{2}{3}$ from

part(a), so combining these results we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(X) &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{4}{9} \\ &= \frac{1}{18}\end{aligned}$$

4.28 Let X be the number of aircraft hit by gunners, so we want to find $E[X]$. Define X_i to be an indicator variable indicating the event that the i^{th} aircraft is hit, so

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if aircraft } i \text{ is hit} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, and by linearity of expectation we have $E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i]$. Now we must find $E[X_i]$, which will be the same for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ because the aircraft are exchangeable.

$$\begin{aligned}E[X_i] &= 1 \times P(X_i = 1) + 0 \times P(X_i = 0) \\ &= P(X_i = 1) \\ &= 1 - P(X_i = 0)\end{aligned}$$

Now define Z_{ij} to be the indicator that gunner j hits plane i , so

$$Z_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if gunner } j \text{ hits aircraft } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Clearly, the only way that plane i is not hit is if none of gunners j for $j = 1, \dots, m$ hit plane i , so $\{X_i = 0\} \iff \{Z_{ij} = 0 \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, m\}$. We can easily calculate $P(Z_{ij} = 1)$ using the Law of Total Probability, letting B_i denote the event that gunner j selects aircraft i as a target.

$$\begin{aligned}P(Z_{ij} = 1) &= P(Z_{ij} = 1 | B_i) P(B_i) + P(Z_{ij} = 1 | B_i^C) P(B_i^C) \\ &= p \frac{1}{n} + 0 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= \frac{p}{n} \\ \Rightarrow P(Z_{ij} = 0) &= 1 - P(Z_{ij} = 1) \\ &= 1 - \frac{p}{n}\end{aligned}$$

Then since the gunners choose and hit their targets independently, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}P(X_i = 0) &= P(Z_{ij} = 0, j = 1, \dots, m) \\ &= P(Z_{i1} = 0) P(Z_{i2} = 0) \dots P(Z_{im} = 0) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{p}{n}\right)^m\end{aligned}$$

So $E[X_i] = 1 - P(X_i = 0) = 1 - \left(1 - \frac{p}{n}\right)^m$, and therefore, substituting back into the original expression for $E[X]$,

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i] \\ &= n \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{p}{n}\right)^m \right] \\ &= n - n \left(1 - \frac{p}{n}\right)^m \end{aligned}$$

[NOTE: This problem could also be solved by calculating $P(X_i = 1)$ directly, conditioning on the number of gunners who target plane i . This approach will result in a more complicated sum, but it is equally correct and ultimately reduces to the same answer.]

4.42 For $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, we have $E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$, $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$, and the CDF is given by $F_X(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$. We are told that the standard deviation of X is σ , which means that

$$\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

Then we compute $P(|X - E[X]| > k\sigma)$, substituting $E[X] = \sigma$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P(|X - E[X]| > k\sigma) &= P(|X - \sigma| > k\sigma) \\ &= P(X - \sigma > k\sigma) + P(-(X - \sigma) > k\sigma) \\ &= P(X > (k+1)\sigma) + P(-X > (k-1)\sigma) \\ &= P(X > (k+1)\sigma) \quad (\text{since } X > 0, \text{ so } P(-X > (k-1)\sigma) = 0) \\ &= 1 - P(X \leq (k+1)\sigma) \\ &= 1 - \left(1 - e^{-\lambda(k+1)\sigma}\right) \\ &= e^{-\lambda(k+1)\frac{1}{\lambda}} \\ &= e^{-(k+1)} \end{aligned}$$

Using Chebyshev's inequality, we have $P(|X - E[X]| > t) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{t^2}$. Substituting in $E[X] = \sigma$ and letting $t = k\sigma$, we find:

$$\begin{aligned} P(|X - \sigma| > k\sigma) &\leq \frac{\sigma^2}{(k\sigma)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{k^2} \end{aligned}$$

The values of the exact probability and the Chebyshev bound are given below.

k	Exact Probability	Chebyshev Bound
2	0.0498	0.2500
3	0.0183	0.1111
4	0.0067	0.0625

- 4.52 (a) The first security is the better choice because it has a higher expected return and a lower risk.
 (b) The expected return is given by $E[R(\pi)]$ where $\pi = 0.5$:

$$\begin{aligned} E[R(\pi)] &= \pi\mu_1 + (1 - \pi)\mu_2 \\ E[R(0.5)] &= 0.5(1) + 0.5(0.8) \\ &= 0.9 \end{aligned}$$

The risk is the standard deviation of $R(\pi)$, i.e., $\sqrt{\text{Var}(R(\pi))}$ where $\pi = 0.5$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(R(\pi)) &= \pi^2\sigma_1^2 + 2\pi(1 - \pi)\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 + (1 - \pi)^2\sigma_2^2 \\ \text{Var}(R(0.5)) &= 0.5^2(0.1^2) + 2(0.5)(0.5)(-0.8)(0.1)(0.12) + 0.5^2(0.12^2) \\ &= 0.0013 \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{\text{Var}(R(0.5))} &= 0.0361 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The expected return is given by $E[R(\pi)]$ where $\pi = 0.8$:

$$\begin{aligned} E[R(\pi)] &= \pi\mu_1 + (1 - \pi)\mu_2 \\ E[R(0.8)] &= 0.8(1) + 0.2(0.8) \\ &= 0.96 \end{aligned}$$

The risk is the standard deviation of $R(\pi)$, i.e., $\sqrt{\text{Var}(R(\pi))}$ where $\pi = 0.8$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(R(\pi)) &= \pi^2\sigma_1^2 + 2\pi(1 - \pi)\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 + (1 - \pi)^2\sigma_2^2 \\ \text{Var}(R(0.8)) &= 0.8^2(0.1^2) + 2(0.8)(0.2)(-0.8)(0.1)(0.12) + 0.2^2(0.12^2) \\ &= 0.0039 \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{\text{Var}(R(0.8))} &= 0.0625 \end{aligned}$$

- (d) The red line of Figure 1 displays the plot of $(\mu(\pi), \sigma(\pi))$ as π varies from 0 to 1.
 (e) The expected return is unchanged for different values of ρ , and is given by $E[R(\pi)]$ where $\pi = 0.5$:

$$E[R(0.5)] = 0.9$$

The risk is the standard deviation of $R(\pi)$, i.e., $\sqrt{\text{Var}(R(\pi))}$ where $\pi = 0.5$. When $\rho = 0.1$, we find:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(R(\pi)) &= \pi^2\sigma_1^2 + 2\pi(1 - \pi)\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 + (1 - \pi)^2\sigma_2^2 \\ \text{Var}(R(0.5)) &= 0.5^2(0.1^2) + 2(0.5)(0.5)(0.1)(0.1)(0.12) + 0.5^2(0.12^2) \\ &= 0.0067 \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{\text{Var}(R(0.5))} &= 0.0819 \end{aligned}$$

The expected return is unchanged for different values of ρ , and is given by $E[R(\pi)]$ where $\pi = 0.8$:

$$E[R(0.8)] = 0.96$$

The risk is the standard deviation of $R(\pi)$, i.e., $\sqrt{\text{Var}(R(\pi))}$ where $\pi = 0.8$. When $\rho = 0.1$ we find:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(R(\pi)) &= \pi^2\sigma_1^2 + 2\pi(1 - \pi)\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 + (1 - \pi)^2\sigma_2^2 \\ \text{Var}(R(0.8)) &= 0.8^2(0.1^2) + 2(0.8)(0.2)(0.1)(0.1)(0.12) + 0.2^2(0.12^2) \\ &= 0.0074 \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{\text{Var}(R(0.8))} &= 0.0858 \end{aligned}$$

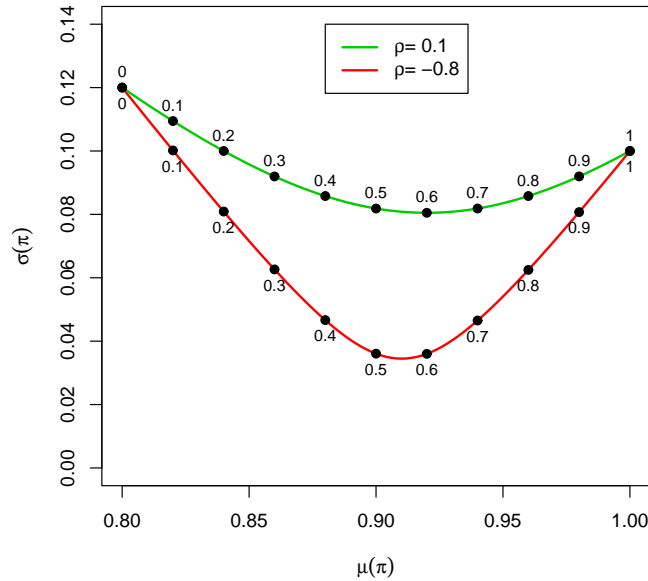


Figure 1: Plot of $(\mu(\pi), \sigma(\pi))$ as π varies from 0 to 1. The red line displays the curve when $\rho = -0.8$, and the green line displays the curve when $\rho = 0.1$. The black points are $(\mu(\pi), \sigma(\pi))$ for the value of π that is printed below or above the respective point.

The green line of Figure 1 displays the plot of $(\mu(\pi), \sigma(\pi))$ when $\rho = 0.1$ as π varies from 0 to 1.

4.58 We are given $X_1 = f(x) + \varepsilon_1$ and $X_2 = f(x + h) + \varepsilon_2$ where ε_1 and ε_2 are independent with mean 0 and variance σ^2 . The derivative $f'(x)$ is estimated by the random variable

$$Z = \frac{X_2 - X_1}{h}$$

(a) The expectation of Z is found using the linearity of expectation property:

$$\begin{aligned} E[Z] &= E\left[\frac{X_2 - X_1}{h}\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{h} (E[X_2] - E[X_1]) \\ &= \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h} \end{aligned}$$

And the variance of Z is found using the properties of a variance of a sum of independent random

variables given on page 140 of the text:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(Z) &= \text{Var}\left(\frac{X_2 - X_1}{h}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{h^2} (\text{Var}(X_2) + \text{Var}(X_1)) \\ &= \frac{2\sigma^2}{h^2}\end{aligned}$$

Clearly, $\text{Var}(Z) \rightarrow \infty$ as $h \rightarrow 0$, so choosing a very small value of h will cause the variance to grow very large.

- (b) The mean squared error (*MSE*) of an estimator X for a quantity x_0 is given by

$$MSE(X) = E[(X - x_0)^2]$$

Therefore, the mean squared error of Z as an estimator of $f'(x)$ is:

$$\begin{aligned}MSE &= E[(X - f'(x))^2] \\ &= E[Z^2 - 2Zf'(x) + (f'(x))^2] \\ &= E[Z^2] - 2f'(x)E[Z] + (f'(x))^2\end{aligned}$$

In order to proceed, we would need to know $f'(x)$, which we do not know. However, using a Taylor series expansion, we can derive an approximation. The Taylor series expansion of $f(x+h)$ about x gives:

$$\begin{aligned}f(x+h) &= f(x) + f'(x)(x+h-x) + \dots \\ \Rightarrow f(x+h) &\approx f(x) + f'(x)h \\ \Rightarrow f'(x) &\approx \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ \Rightarrow f'(x) &\approx E[Z]\end{aligned}$$

Now plugging this approximation of $f'(x)$ back into our expression for the mean squared error of Z , we find:

$$\begin{aligned}MSE &\approx E[Z^2] - 2E[Z]E[Z] + (E[Z])^2 \\ &= E[Z^2] - (E[Z])^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(Z) \\ &= \frac{2\sigma^2}{h^2} \quad (MSE^*)\end{aligned}$$

Thus $MSE^* \rightarrow 0$ as $h \rightarrow \infty$, so we cannot find a value of h to minimize this approximation MSE^* of the mean squared error.

- (c) Now we are given three points, which we will express as

$$\begin{aligned}X_1 &= f(x) + \varepsilon_1 \\ X_2 &= f(x+h) + \varepsilon_2 \\ X_3 &= f(x+h+k) + \varepsilon_3\end{aligned}$$

again assuming that $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$, and ε_3 are independent with mean 0 and common variance σ^2 . Following the example of the first part of this problem, we define

$$\begin{aligned}Z_1 &= \frac{X_2 - X_1}{h} \\ Z_2 &= \frac{X_3 - X_2}{k}\end{aligned}$$

so Z_1 is an estimate of $g(x) = f'(x)$ and Z_2 is an estimate of $g(x+h) = f'(x+h)$. Again, we can analogously define

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{h} \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left(\frac{X_3 - X_2}{k} - \frac{X_2 - X_1}{h} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{hk} X_3 - \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right) X_2 + \frac{1}{h^2} X_1 \end{aligned}$$

which, by the same reasoning used in the set-up of the problem, is an estimate of $g'(x) = f''(x)$. Then we can compute the expectation and variance of Y :

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= E \left[\frac{1}{hk} X_3 - \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right) X_2 + \frac{1}{h^2} X_1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{hk} E[X_3] - \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right) E[X_2] + \frac{1}{h^2} E[X_1] \\ &= \frac{1}{hk} f(x+h+k) - \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right) f(x+h) + \frac{1}{h^2} f(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(Y) &= \text{Var} \left(\frac{1}{hk} X_3 - \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right) X_2 + \frac{1}{h^2} X_1 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(hk)^2} \text{Var}(X_3) + \left(\frac{1}{hk} + \frac{1}{h^2} \right)^2 \text{Var}(X_2) + \frac{1}{h^4} \text{Var}(X_1) \\ &= \sigma^2 \left(\frac{1}{h^2 k^2} + \frac{1}{h^2 k^2} + \frac{2}{h^3 k} + \frac{1}{h^4} + \frac{1}{h^4} \right) \\ &= 2\sigma^2 \left(\frac{1}{h^2 k^2} + \frac{1}{h^3 k} + \frac{1}{h^4} \right) \end{aligned}$$

4.102 We are given $\Theta = g(X, Y) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{Y}{X} \right)$, where X has mean x_0 and variance σ^2 , and Y has mean y_0 and variance σ^2 . Using the approximations given on page 165 of the text, we have:

$$E[g(X, Y)] \approx g(\mu_X, \mu_Y) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_X^2 \frac{\partial^2 g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_Y^2 \frac{\partial^2 g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial y^2} + \sigma_{XY} \frac{\partial^2 g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial x \partial y}$$

$$\text{Var}(g(X, Y)) \approx \sigma_X^2 \left(\frac{\partial g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \sigma_Y^2 \left(\frac{\partial g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial y} \right)^2 + 2\sigma_{XY} \left(\frac{\partial g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial x} \right) \left(\frac{\partial g(\mu_X, \mu_Y)}{\partial y} \right)$$

In this problem, we are told that X and Y are independent, so the terms with σ_{XY} disappear. We

must now calculate all of the remaining partial derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(x, y) &= \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2} \left(\frac{-y}{x^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}g(x, y) &= (-y)(-1)(x^2 + y^2)^{-2}(2x) \\ &= \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial y}g(x, y) &= \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{x + \frac{y}{x}} \\ &= \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}g(x, y) &= (x)(-1)(x^2 + y^2)^{-2}(2y) \\ &= \frac{-2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}\end{aligned}$$

Plugging these results into the approximation expressions, we find:

$$\begin{aligned}E[\Theta] &\approx \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y_0}{x_0}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 \frac{2x_0y_0}{(x_0^2 + y_0^2)^2} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 \frac{-2x_0y_0}{(x_0^2 + y_0^2)^2} \\ &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y_0}{x_0}\right) \\ \text{Var}(\Theta) &\approx \sigma^2 \left(\frac{-y_0}{x_0^2 + y_0^2}\right)^2 + \sigma^2 \left(\frac{x_0}{x_0^2 + y_0^2}\right)^2 \\ &= \sigma^2 \left(\frac{y_0^2}{(x_0^2 + y_0^2)^2} + \frac{x_0^2}{(x_0^2 + y_0^2)^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{x_0^2 + y_0^2}\end{aligned}$$

5.4 For $N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$, we have $E[N] = \text{Var}(N) = \lambda$. Here we are given that $E[N] = 100$, so $\lambda = 100$. To use the normal approximation to the Poisson, we must first standardize the Poisson random variable.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \frac{N - E[N]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(N)}} \\ &= \frac{N - 100}{10} \end{aligned}$$

So Z has approximately the standard normal distribution. Using this fact, we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} P(100 - \Delta < N < 100 + \Delta) &= P(100 - \Delta - 100 < N - 100 < 100 + \Delta - 100) \\ &= P\left(\frac{-\Delta}{10} < \frac{N - 100}{10} < \frac{\Delta}{10}\right) \\ &= P\left(\frac{-\Delta}{10} < Z < \frac{\Delta}{10}\right) \\ &\approx \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{-\Delta}{10}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) - \left[1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right)\right] \end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from the symmetry about 0 of the standard normal distribution, i.e., $\Phi(x) = 1 - \Phi(-x)$. Now we must solve for the value of Δ such that the above probability is 0.90:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) - \left[1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right)\right] &= 0.9 \\ \Rightarrow 2\Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) - 1 &= 0.9 \\ \Rightarrow 2\Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) &= 1.9 \\ \Rightarrow \Phi\left(\frac{\Delta}{10}\right) &= 0.95 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta}{10} &= 1.645 \quad (*) \\ \Rightarrow \Delta &= 16.45 \end{aligned}$$

Here the step indicated by (*) is performed using a table of standard normal quantiles.