







Q



Econometric Reviews >

Volume 31, 2012 - Issue 3

2.885 194 Views CrossRef citations to date Altmetric

Original Articles

A Survey of Sequential Monte Carlo Methods for Economics and Finance

Drew Creal

Pages 245-296 | Accepted author version posted online: 04 Oct 2011, Published online: 28 Nov 2011

66 Cite this article ▶ https://doi.org/10.1080/07474938.2011.607333

> Sample our Economics, Finance, **Business & Industry Journals** Sign in here to start your access to the latest two volumes for 14 days

Full Article

Figures & data

References

66 Citations

Metrics

Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

Abstract

This article serves as an introduction and survey for economists to the field of sequential Monte Carlo methods which are also known as particle filters. Sequential Monte Carlo methods are simulation-based algorithms used to compute the highdimensional and/or complex integrals that arise regularly in applied work. These methods are becoming increasingly popular in economics and finance; from dynamic stochastic general equilibrium models in macro-economics to option pricing. The objective of this article is to explain the basics of the methodology, provide references to the literature, and cover some of the theoretical results that justify the methods in practice.

Keywords:

Kalman filter Markov chain Monte Carlo

Particle filter

Sequential Monte Carlo

State space models

JEL Classification:

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Charles Bos, Siem Jan Koopman, Michael Massmann, Herman van Dijk, Eric Zivot, participants at the Emerging Methods in Bayesian Econometrics Workshop at Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, and two anonymous referees for constructive comments. I would also like to acknowledge financial support from the Grover and Creta Ensley Fellowship, which funded part of this research while I was a graduate student at the University of Washington. All the computations reported in this article were carried out using the OxMetrix 6.0 programming environment of Doornik (2009). Ox and some Matlab code are available upon request from the author.

Notes

¹The residual and systematic resampling schemes are also known in the genetic algorithm literature under alternative names, see Whitley (1994).

²Matlab code for each of the resampling algorithms can be found at Nando de Freitas' webpage at http://www.cs.ubc.ca/ ~nando/software.html.

³The squared coefficient of variance CV^2 is equal to the estimator of the asymptotic variance for the self-normalized IS estimator (see Geweke, <u>1989</u>, <u>2005</u>), where the function being integrated is equal to one, i.e., $f(x_{0:n}) = 1$.

⁴Keep in mind that the estimator may be poor in some time periods when $g_n(x_n \mid x_{n-1}, y_n; \theta)$ is a poor approximation of $p(y_n \mid x_n; \theta)p(x_n \mid x_{n-1}; \theta)$.

⁵For example, Theorem 5 of Chopin (2004) states that the asymptotic variance (42) will remain bounded if there exist constants C, , such that for any $n \ge 0$:

- a. For any x, x', $x'' \in X$, the transition density satisfies ;
- b. For any x, x', $x'' \in X$, the incremental importance density satisfies;

c. For any $x \in X$, $y \in Y$, the observation density satisfies; where X and Y are the state spaces of the Markov chain.

⁶In a standard particle filter from Section 2, the joint smoothing densities are analogous to the artificial joint densities described here.



Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

Dove Medical Press

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up











Accessibility



Copyright © 2025 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy Cookies Terms & conditions



Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954 5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG