

Warmup: 10:00-10:10

Let $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$, $X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with prob } p \\ 0 & \text{with prob } 1-p \end{cases}$

a) Find $E(X) = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1-p) = p$
 $E(X^2) = 1^2 \cdot p + 0^2 \cdot (1-p) = p$
 $\vdots$
 $E(X^k) = p$ } called moments of X

think of e^{tX} as a function $g(X)$ of $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

b) Find $E(e^{tX})$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot p + e^{t \cdot 0} \cdot (1-p)$$

$$= e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot p + 1 \cdot (1-p)$$

$$= pe^t + 1-p = \boxed{1 + p(e^t - 1)} \leftarrow \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} (E(e^{tX})) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (1 + p(e^t - 1)) \right|_{t=0} = pe^t \Big|_{t=0} = p$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (E(e^{tX})) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (pe^t) \right|_{t=0} = p$$

$\vdots$

$$\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} (E(e^{tX})) \right|_{t=0} = p$$

To find the moments of X we take the derivatives of $E(e^{tX})$ and evaluate at $t=0$.

For X a RV, $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$ is called the moment generating function (MGF) of X .

Special lecture

Moment Generating Function of X

Not in book.

Next time Finish MGF, Sec 4.4, start Sec 4.5

Moment Generating Function (MGF) of X

The k^{th} moment of a RV X is the number

$$E(X^k) \text{ defined for } k=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$E(X^0) = E(1) = 1$$

$$E(X)$$

$$E(X^2)$$

} moments describe your distribution
ex 1st moment is mean
2nd moment relates to variance
3rd moment relates to how skewed the distribution is,

$$\text{Note } \text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

Computing the moments of a RV is sometimes hard, because it involves computing complicated integrals or sums

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ continuous} \\ \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} x P(x) & \text{if } X \text{ discrete} \end{cases}$$

The MGF allows one to compute the moments by computing derivatives, which is easier,

Recall $E(g(X)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f(x)dx$

We define the MGF of X to be

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ continuous} \\ \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} p(x) & \text{if } X \text{ discrete} \end{cases}$$

$M_X(t)$ is sometimes written $\psi(t)$ in HW9

In the warmup we saw for $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = E(X^k)$

$\leftarrow k^{\text{th}} \text{ derivative evaluated at } t=0$

Let's show that is true for most RV X .

Recall the Taylor series for e^y :

$$e^y = 1 + y + \frac{y^2}{2!} + \frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots$$

let $t \in \mathbb{R}$, X RV.

You can do this for the RV tX

$$e^{tX} = 1 + tX + \frac{(tX)^2}{2!} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_X(t) &= E(e^{tX}) = E(1) + E(tX) + E\left(\frac{(tX)^2}{2!}\right) + \dots \\
 &= E(1) + tE(X) + \frac{t^2}{2!}E(X^2) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = E(X)$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = E(X^2)$$

more generally,

$$\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} E(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0}$$

Let's not worry about why this step is true. See Leibniz rule.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= E\left(\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} e^{tX} \right|_{t=0}\right) \\
 &= E(X^k)
 \end{aligned}$$

Summary, the MGF $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$ contains info about all of the moments of X . By taking the k^{th} derivative and evaluating at 0 you get the k^{th} moment.

Thm If a MGF exists in an interval around zero, $M^{(k)}(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^k)$

Note An MGF doesn't always exist in an interval around zero. (see appendix for an example)

ex let $X \sim \text{Gamma}(r, \lambda)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(r)} \lambda^r x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Recall $\Gamma(r) = \int_0^{\infty} u^{r-1} e^{-u} du$

Find $M_X(t)$.

Step 1 write $m_X(t)$ as an integral

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{tx} \left(\frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^{\infty} x^{r-1} e^{(t-\lambda)x} dx \quad \text{for } t < \lambda \end{aligned}$$

Step 2 Solve the integral

Hint:

make a u substitution

let

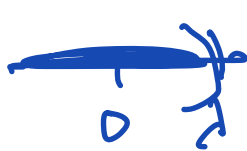
$$u = \underbrace{-(t-\lambda)}_{>0} x$$

$$\text{so } x = \frac{-u}{t-\lambda} = \frac{u}{\lambda-t}, \quad dx = \frac{1}{\lambda-t} du$$

$$\frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^{\infty} x^{r-1} e^{-(t-\lambda)x} dx =$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_{u=0}^{u=\infty} \frac{u^{r-1}}{(\lambda-t)^{r-1}} e^{-u} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda-t} du$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{\cancel{\Gamma(r)} (\lambda-t)^r} \int_0^\infty u^{r-1} e^{-u} du$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{(\lambda-t)^r} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} \right)^r \text{ for } t < \lambda$$


Recall If a MGF exists in an interval around zero, $M^{(r)}(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^r)$

|||

Let $X \sim \text{Gamma}(r, \lambda)$

Find $\frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \Big|_{t=0}$

Recall $M_X(t) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} \right)^r \text{ for } t < \lambda$

$$M_X(t) = \lambda^r (\lambda-t)^{-r}$$

$$M'(t) = \lambda^r (-r) (\lambda-t)^{-r-1} (-1)$$

$$x = \frac{r \lambda^r}{(\lambda - t)^{r+1}}$$

$$m'_x(0) = \boxed{\frac{r}{\lambda}} \leftarrow \text{this is } E(x)!$$

Similarly,

Find: $\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} m_x(t) \right|_{t=0}$

$$m''(t) = r \lambda^r (-r-1) (\lambda - t)^{-r-2} (-1)$$

$$= r(r+1) \lambda^r \frac{1}{(\lambda - t)^{r+2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow m''(0) = r(r+1) \lambda^r \frac{1}{\lambda^{r+2}} = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E(x^2) = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2} - \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2}$$

$$= \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2} + \frac{r}{\lambda^2} - \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2} = \boxed{\frac{r}{\lambda^2}}$$

Ex A RV X takes values 1, 2, 3 with prob $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{6}$.

Find $M_X(t)$.

$$E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=1}^3 e^{tx} P(x)$$

$$= e^{1t} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + e^{2t} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + e^{3t} \cdot \frac{1}{6}$$

for all t

$$\text{ex } X \sim \text{Geom}(\frac{1}{3})$$

$$P(X=x) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \quad x=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{Find } M_X(t) = E(e^{tx})$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^t \cdot (e^t)^{x-1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = 1 + e^{\frac{2t}{3}} + \left(e^{\frac{2t}{3}}\right)^2 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} e^t \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \left(e^{\frac{2t}{3}}\right)^{x-1} = \frac{1}{1 - \left(e^{\frac{2t}{3}}\right)} \quad \text{if } e^{\frac{2t}{3}} < 1$$

$$\text{or } t < \log\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow M_X(t) = \frac{1}{3} e^t \cdot \frac{1}{1 - e^{\frac{2t}{3}}} \quad \text{if } t < \log\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

Recall from Calculus

$$e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} \quad \text{Taylor for all } x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$X \sim \text{Pois}(\mu) \quad , \quad P(X=k) = \frac{\mu^k e^{-\mu}}{k!}$$

$$e^{\mu e^t} \quad // \quad \text{for all } t$$

a) Find $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$

b) Find $E(X)$

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{tk} \frac{\mu^k e^{-\mu}}{k!} = e^{-\mu} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\mu e^t)^k}{k!} \\ &= e^{-\mu} \cdot e^{\mu e^t} = e^{\mu(e^t - 1)} \quad \text{for all } t \end{aligned}$$

$$E(X) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = e^{\mu(e^t - 1)} \cdot \mu e^t \Big|_{t=0} = \mu \quad \checkmark$$

Appendix:

Let X be a discrete RV with probability mass function

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{6}{\pi^2 x^2} & x=1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The MGF, $M_X(t)$, only exists at $t \leq 0$, and hence doesn't exist on an interval around zero.

Pt/

It is known that the series

$$\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \text{ converges to } \frac{\pi^2}{6}.$$

$$\text{Then } P(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{6}{\pi^2 x^2} & x=1, 2, 3, \dots \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

is the Prob function of a RV X ,

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} P(x)$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \frac{6e^{tx}}{\pi^2 x^2}$$

The ratio test can be used to show this diverges if $t > 0$. Hence this RV only has an MGF at $t \leq 0$ and is not differentiable at zero. $\square$