

Functions of Random Variables

①

→ We have discussed specific types of distribution, both discrete and continuous. Now we discuss the distributions of functions of Random variables.

- functions of R.V.s are required statistical hypothesis test, estimation or even statistical graphics, example sum of random variables, linear combinations of R.V., sums of squares of R.V.

#. Transformations of Variables:-

- We shall first discuss the transformation of discrete random variables.
- X is discrete random variable with probability distribution $f(x)$ and suppose that $Y = u(x)$ defines a one-to-one transformation between the values of X and Y , so that the equation $y = u(x)$ can be uniquely solved for x in terms of y , say, $x = w(y)$. Then the probability distribution of Y is
- $$g(y) = f[w(y)].$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(y) &= P[Y=y] \\ &= P[X=x] \\ &= P[X=w(y)] \\ &= f(w(y)). \end{aligned}$$

Ex:- Let X be a binomial random variable with $X = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ and the probability of success in X as $(2/5)$. Find the probability distribution of the R.V. $Y = X^2$.

~~Note~~ under the transformation the probability is conserved.

Soln:- Since $X = \text{no. of success in the given experiment}$ and max. 3-success are possible

\Rightarrow No. of trials, $n = 3$.

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} {}^3C_x \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^x \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{3-x} & ; x = 0, 1, 2, 3 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}; x = 0, 1, 2, 3.$$

Transformation-

$$y = x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \sqrt{y} \quad \left(\text{we have taken only +ve square root as} \right)$$

$$x \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \Rightarrow y = \{0, 1, 4, 9\} \quad (x \geq 0.)$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y) = f(w(y)) = \begin{cases} {}^3C_{\sqrt{y}} \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{\sqrt{y}} \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{3-\sqrt{y}} & ; y = 0, 1, 4, 9 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}; y = 0, 1, 4, 9$$

For more than one random variable.

Suppose that x_1 and x_2 are discrete random variables with joint probability distribution $f(x_1, x_2)$. Let $y_1 = u_1(x_1, x_2)$ and $y_2 = u_2(x_1, x_2)$ define one-to-one transformation between the points (x_1, x_2) and (y_1, y_2) so that the equations,

$$y_1 = u_1(x_1, x_2) \text{ and } y_2 = u_2(x_1, x_2)$$

may be uniquely solved for x_1 and x_2 in terms of y_1 and y_2 , say $x_1 = w_1(y_1, y_2)$ and $x_2 = w_2(y_1, y_2)$. Then the joint probability distribution of y_1 and y_2 is

$$g(y_1, y_2) = f[w_1(y_1, y_2), w_2(y_1, y_2)].$$

(2)

Let x_1 and x_2 be discrete random variables with joint prob. distribution,

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{x_1 x_2}{18}; & x_1 = 1, 2; x_2 = 1, 2, 3 \\ 0; & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Find the probability distribution of the random variable $y = x_1 x_2$.

Soln → We shall define the second r.v. in the transformed co-ordinate system to solve for $x_1 + x_2$ uniquely, as $y' = x_2$.

$$\rightarrow x_2 = \{1, 2, 3\} \Rightarrow y' = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$y = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$$

as $y = x_1 x_2$
we take all possible
combinations of (x_1, x_2)

→ Solving for (x_1, x_2) in terms of ~~(y, y')~~ (y, y') .

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} x_2 = y' \\ = w_2(y, y') \end{array}} \quad \text{and} \quad x_1 = \frac{y}{x_2} = \frac{y}{y'} = w_1(y, y')$$

$$g(y, y') = f(w_1(y, y'), w_2(y, y'))$$

$$= \frac{1}{18} \cdot \frac{y}{y'} \times y' = \frac{y}{18}$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y, y') = \begin{cases} \frac{y}{18}; & y = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6; y' = 1, 2, 3 \\ 0; & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

→ For calculating distribution of y we sum $g(y, y')$ over all the values of y'

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_1(y) &= \sum_{y'} g(y, y') = \sum_{y'} \frac{y}{18} \\
 &= \frac{y}{18} [1 + 2 + 3] \\
 &= \frac{y}{18} \times 6 = \frac{y}{3} \\
 &=
 \end{aligned}$$

#. Let X_1 and X_2 be two independent random variables having Poisson distributions with parameters μ_1 and μ_2 , respectively.

Find the distribution of the random variable $Y_1 = X_1 + X_2$.

Soln. → Since X_1 and X_2 are independent, we can write

$$f(n_1, n_2) = f(n_1) f(n_2) = \frac{e^{-\mu_1} \mu_1^{n_1}}{n_1!} \frac{e^{-\mu_2} \mu_2^{n_2}}{n_2!}$$

Where $n_1 = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, $n_2 = 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

($\because X_1 + X_2$ are Poisson R.V.)

→ Let us define the second R.V. in new coordinates as $Y_2 = X_2$.

→ Inverse functions are given by

$$n_1 = y_1 - y_2 ; \quad n_2 = y_2 = \omega_2(y_1, y_2)$$

Since $n_1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow y_1 - y_2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow y_1 \geq y_2$.

$$\Rightarrow y_1 = 0, 1, 2, \dots ; y_2 = 0, 1, 2, \dots, y_1$$

(3)

$$\begin{aligned}
 g(y_1, y_2) &= f(\omega_1(y_1, y_2), \omega_2(y_1, y_2)) \\
 &= \frac{e^{-\mu_1} \mu_1^{y_1} y_1!}{(y_1 - y_2)!} \frac{e^{-\mu_2} \mu_2^{y_2} y_2!}{y_2!} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-(\mu_1 + \mu_2)} \mu_1^{y_1 - y_2} \mu_2^{y_2}}{(y_1 - y_2)! y_2!}
 \end{aligned}$$

→ The marginal prob. distribution of y_1 is

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(y_1) &= \sum_{y_2=0}^{y_1} g(y_1, y_2) = e^{-(\mu_1 + \mu_2)} \sum_{y_2=0}^{y_1} \frac{\mu_1^{y_1 - y_2} \mu_2^{y_2}}{(y_1 - y_2)! y_2!} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-(\mu_1 + \mu_2)}}{y_1!} \sum_{y_2=0}^{y_1} \underbrace{\frac{y_1!}{(y_1 - y_2)! y_2!} \mu_1^{y_1 - y_2} \mu_2^{y_2}}_{\text{y}_1\text{'s sum is the binomial expansion of } (\mu_1 + \mu_2)^{y_1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow h(y_1) = \frac{e^{-(\mu_1 + \mu_2)}}{y_1!} (\mu_1 + \mu_2)^{y_1}$$

= Poisson's distribution for y_1 with mean $\mu_1 + \mu_2$.

Transformation of continuous random variables:-

Ques:- Suppose that X is a continuous random variable with probability distribution $f(x)$. Let $y = u(x)$ define a one-to-one correspondence b/w the values of X and Y so that the eqn. $y = u(x)$ can be uniquely solved for x in terms of y , say $x = \omega(y)$. Then the probability distribution of Y

$$\text{is:- } g(y) = f[w(y)] |J|,$$

where $J = w'(y)$ and $= \frac{d(w(y))}{dy}$ and is called the Jacobian of the transformation.

- # The speed of a molecule in a uniform gas at equilibrium is a random variable v whose probability distribution is given by

$$f(v) = \begin{cases} k v^2 \exp(-bv^2) & ; v>0 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Where k & b are appropriate constants. Find the prob. distribution of the kinetic energy of the molecule w , Where $w = \frac{mv^2}{2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solve} \rightarrow w &= \frac{mv^2}{2} \Rightarrow v^2 = \frac{2w}{m} \\ &\Rightarrow w = u(v) \\ \Rightarrow v &= \sqrt{\frac{2w}{m}} = \text{not } u_1(w). \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{since } v>0 \Rightarrow w>0.$$

$$\rightarrow J = \frac{d}{dw} u_1(w) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \times \frac{1}{2} w^{-1/2} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2m}} w^{-1/2}$$

$$g(w) = f(u_1(w)) = k \left(\frac{2w}{m} \right) \exp \left(-b \times \frac{2w}{m} \right).$$

$$g(w) = \begin{cases} \frac{2k}{m} w \exp \left[-\frac{2b}{m} w \right] & ; w>0 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

~~Yours~~

- # Suppose that x_1 and x_2 are continuous random variables with joint probability distribution $f(x_1, x_2)$. Let $y_1 = u_1(x_1, x_2)$ and $y_2 = u_2(x_1, x_2)$ define a one-to-one transformation b/w the points (x_1, x_2) and (y_1, y_2) so that the equations $y_1 = u_1(x_1, x_2)$ and $y_2 = u_2(x_1, x_2)$ may be uniquely solved for x_1 and x_2 in terms of y_1 and y_2 , say $x_1 = \omega_1(y_1, y_2)$ and $x_2 = \omega_2(y_1, y_2)$. Then the joint probability distribution of y_1 and y_2 is

$$g(y_1, y_2) = f[\omega_1(y_1, y_2), \omega_2(y_1, y_2)] |J|,$$

where the Jacobian is the 2×2 determinant,

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_2} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_2} \end{vmatrix}$$

and $\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1}$ is the partial derivative of x_1 w.r.t. y_1 and other partial derivatives are defined in a similar manner.

- # Let x_1 and x_2 be two continuous random variables with joint probability distribution,

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} 4x_1 x_2 & ; 0 < x_1 < 1, 0 < x_2 < 1 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Find the joint probability distribution of $y_1 = x_1^2$ and $y_2 = x_1 x_2$.

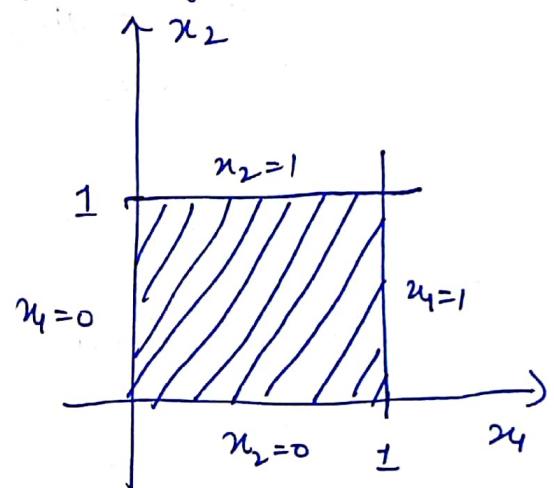
Soln:- The inverse soln. of $y_1 = x_1^2$ and $y_2 = \cancel{x_1} x_2$
 are $x_1 = \sqrt{y_1}$, $x_2 = y_2/\sqrt{y_1}$, and the Jacobian is

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y_1}} & 0 \\ -\frac{y_2}{2y_1^{3/2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{y_1}} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{2y_1}$$

→ Next we find the domain of y_1 and y_2 .

- $0 < x_1 < 1$ and $0 < x_2 < 1$

⇒ The region in the (x_1, x_2) is the interior of square bounded by $x_1=0$, $x_2=0$, $x_1=1$, $x_2=1$



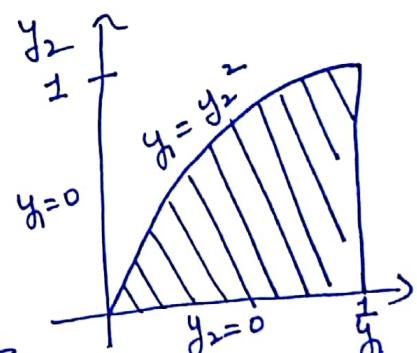
- These boundaries are transformed to

$$x_1 = 0 \Rightarrow y_1 = 0$$

$$x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow y_2 = 0.$$

$$x_1 = 1 \Rightarrow y_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{y_1}} = 1 \Rightarrow y_1 = y_2^2$$



$$0 < x_1 < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < \sqrt{y_1} < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < y_1 < 1$$

$$0 < x_2 < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{y_1}} < 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{y_2 > 0} \text{ and}$$

$$\boxed{y_2 < \sqrt{y_1} \text{ or } y_1 > y_2^2}$$

$$g(y_1, y_2) = f(w_1(y_1, y_2), w_2(y_1, y_2)) |J|$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{y_1} \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{y_1}} \times \frac{1}{2} y_1 = \frac{2y_2}{y_1}$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y_1, y_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{2y_2}{y_1} & ; y_2^2 < y_1 < 1, 0 < y_2 < 1 \\ 0 & ; \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

#

Rather than the above transformation if we have $y_1 = x_1^2$ and $y_2 = x_1 + x_2$. and

$0 < x_1 < 1$ and $0 < x_2 < 1$, let us find the transformations and the region for (y_1, y_2)

$$x_1 = \sqrt{y_1} \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = y_2 - x_1 = y_2 - \sqrt{y_1}$$

→ boundaries transform to :-

$$x_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{y_1 = 0}$$

$$x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow y_2 = \sqrt{y_1} \Rightarrow \boxed{y_1 = y_2^2}$$

$$x_1 = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{y_1 = 1}$$

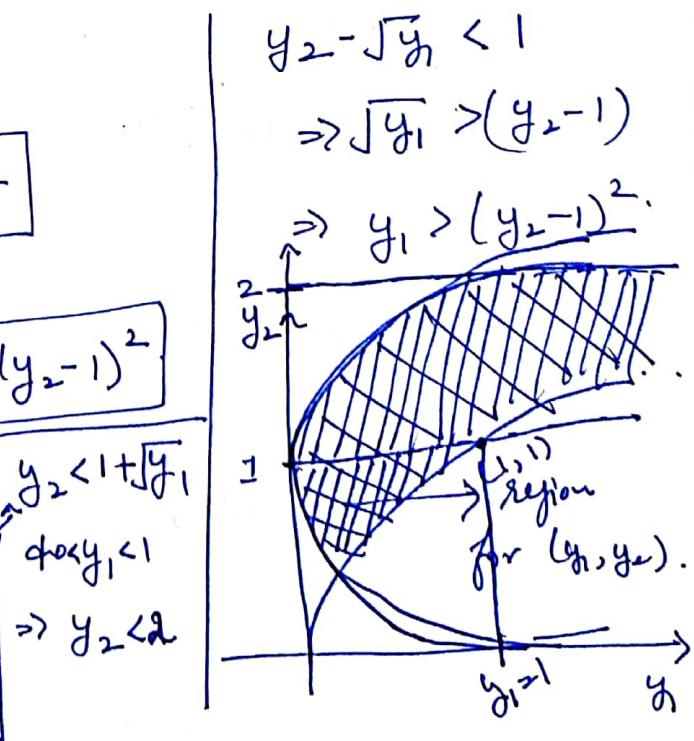
$$x_2 = 1 \Rightarrow y_2 - \sqrt{y_1} = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{y_1 = (y_2 - 1)^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Since } x_1 + x_2 > 0 \Rightarrow y_1 + y_2 > 0.$$

$$\rightarrow 0 < x_1 < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < y_1 < 1$$

$$\rightarrow 0 < x_2 < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < y_2 - \sqrt{y_1} < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow y_2 - \sqrt{y_1} > 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{y_1 < y_2^2}$$



What happens when the transformation $y = u(x)$,
 x is ~~is~~ a continuous variable, is not a one-to-one
transformation?

- Consider $f(x)$ be the distribution fn. of x defined over $-1 < x < 1$ and a transformation $y = x^2$, then the inverse transformation is

$$x = -\sqrt{y} ; \quad -1 < x < 0$$

$$x = \sqrt{y} ; \quad 0 < x < 1$$

$$P[a < y < b] = P[-\sqrt{b} < x < -\sqrt{a}] +$$

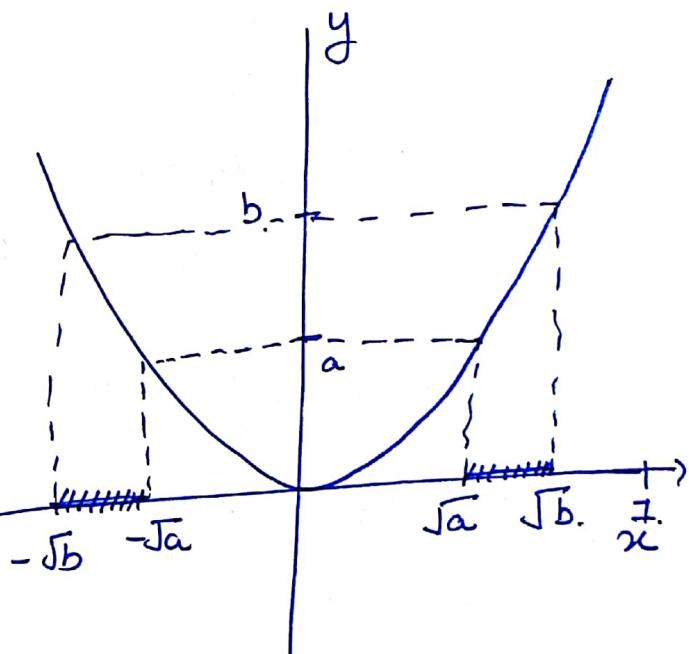
$$P[\sqrt{a} < x < \sqrt{b}] \\ = \int_{-\sqrt{b}}^{-\sqrt{a}} f(x) dx + \int_{\sqrt{a}}^{\sqrt{b}} f(x) dx.$$

→ Changing variable in each integral

$$= \int_a^b f(-\sqrt{y}) J_1 dy$$

$$+ \int_b^b f(\sqrt{y}) J_2 dy$$

$$= - \int_a^b f(-\sqrt{y}) J_1 dy + \int_a^b f(\sqrt{y}) J_2 dy.$$



(6)

$$J_1 = \frac{d}{dy} (-\sqrt{y}) = \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{y}} = -|J_1|$$

$$J_2 = \frac{d}{dy} (\sqrt{y}) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} = |J_2|$$

$$\Rightarrow P[a < y < b] = \int_a^b (f(-\sqrt{y})|J_1| + f(\sqrt{y})|J_2|) dy$$

If $g(y)$ is the distribution function of random variable y , we get

$$\Rightarrow P[a < y < b] = \int_a^b g(y) dy.$$

→ Comparing both we get

$$g(y) = f(-\sqrt{y})|J_1| + f(\sqrt{y})|J_2|$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{f(-\sqrt{y}) + f(\sqrt{y})}{2\sqrt{y}} ; & 0 < y < 1 \\ 0 & ; \text{ elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

. X is a continuous random variable with prob. distribution $f(x)$.

Let $y = u(x)$ define a transformation b/w the values of x and y that is not one-to-one. If the interval over which x is defined can be partitioned in k mutually disjoint sets such that each of the inverse functions

$$x_1 = u_1(y), x_2 = u_2(y), \dots, x_k = u_k(y)$$

of $y = u(x)$ defines a one-to-one correspondence, then
then the probability distribution of Y is

$$g(y) = \sum_{i=1}^k f[w_i(y)] |J_i|,$$

where J_i is $w_i'(y)$; $i=1, 2, \dots, k$.

Moments and Moment-Generating functions:-

→ The r^{th} moment about any point (a) of the random variable X with distribution function $f(x)$ is given by,

$$E[(x-a)^r] = \begin{cases} \sum_x (x-a)^r f(x) & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete,} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x-a)^r f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ is continuous.} \end{cases}$$

→ If $a = \text{origin}$, then the r^{th} moment about the origin of the random variable X is given by.

$$\mu_r = E(X^r) = \begin{cases} \sum_x x^r f(x) & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^r f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ is continuous.} \end{cases}$$

→ The moment-generating function of the random variable X is given by $E(e^{tx})$ and is denoted by $M_X(t)$. Hence,

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

(7)

→ Let X be a random variable with moment-generating function $M_X(t)$. Then

$$\left. \frac{d^n M_X(t)}{dt^n} \right|_{t=0} = \mu'_n.$$

Ex:- Find the moment-generating function of the binomial random variable X and then use it to verify that $\mu = np$ and $\sigma^2 = npq$.

SOLN:-

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} {}^n C_n p^x q^{n-x} & ; x=0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & ; x=0, 1, 2, \dots n \end{cases}$$

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{tn} \binom{n}{n} p^x q^{n-x}.$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\binom{n}{n}}_{\text{binomial exp}} (pe^t)^x q^{n-x}$$

$$\boxed{M_X(t) = (pe^t + q)^n}$$

$$\mu'_1 = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (pe^t + q)^n \right|_{t=0}$$

$$= n(pe^t + q)^{n-1} pe^t \Big|_{t=0} = n(p+q)^{n-1} p$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu'_1 = np \quad \left(\begin{matrix} \text{as } p+q=1 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right).$$

$$\mu'_2 = \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (M_X(t)) \right|_{t=0} = np \left[c(n-1) (pe^t + q)^{n-2} pe^t + (pe^t + q)^{n-1} c \right] \text{ at } t=0$$

$$= np [c(n-1)(p+q)^{n-2} + 1]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1' = np[(n-1)p + 1]$$

$$\text{hence, mean} = E(x) = \mu_1' = np$$

$$\text{Variance} = E(x^2) - (E(x))^2$$

$$= \mu_2' - \mu_1^2 = np[np+1-p] - n^2p^2$$

$$= np[np+1-p-np]$$

$$= np[1-p] = npq.$$

→ • Uniqueness Theorem:-

Let X and Y be two random variables with moment generating functions $M_X(t)$ and $M_Y(t)$, respectively. If $M_X(t) = M_Y(t)$ for all values of t , then X and Y have the same probability distribution.

~~This result is useful in~~

• ① $M_{X+a}(t) = e^{at}M_X(t)$.

Proof:- $M_{X+a}(t) = E[e^{t(X+a)}] = E[e^{ta}e^{tx}]$
 $= e^{at}E[e^{tx}] = e^{at}M_X(t)$

• ② If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are independent random variables with moment-generating functions $M_{X_1}(t), \dots, M_{X_n}(t)$, respectively, and $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$, then

$$M_Y(t) = M_{X_1}(t) \cdots M_{X_n}(t)$$

* These results are useful in finding the distribution of linear combinations of independent random variables.

Ex:- If the moment-generating function of Poisson's random variable (X) with mean μ is $M_X(t) = e^{\mu(e^t - 1)}$, then find the distribution of the random variable $Y = X_1 + X_2$ where X_1 & X_2 are independent Poisson's random variables with mean $\mu_1 + \mu_2$.

Soln.

$$M_{X_1}(t) = e^{\mu_1(e^t - 1)} \quad M_{X_2}(t) = e^{\mu_2(e^t - 1)} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \text{using the given statement.}$$

$M_Y(t)$

$$\begin{aligned} M_Y(t) &= M_{X_1}(t) M_{X_2}(t) \quad (\text{using the result } ②) \\ &= e^{\mu_1(e^t - 1)} \cdot e^{\mu_2(e^t - 1)} \\ &= e^{(\mu_1 + \mu_2)(e^t - 1)}. \end{aligned}$$

L.H.S. is the moment-generating function of a random variable having Poisson's distribution with the parameters $\mu_1 + \mu_2$. Using uniqueness thus, Y is the Poisson's random variable with mean $\mu_1 + \mu_2$.