

# Moment-generating function

## Moment-generating function: definition

**Moment-generating function** of r.v.  $X$  is

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E} [e^{tX}]$$

It does not always exist. If it exists and is finite:

- It uniquely defines distribution of  $X$
- $M_X(t) > 0, \forall t$  and  $M_X(0) = 1$
- $M_{aX+b}(t) = e^{bt} M_X(at)$
- For all  $k$  exists a finite moment of  $X$  and is defined as  $\mathbb{E}[X^k] = M_X^{(k)}(0)$  meaning  $k$ -th derivative

The purpose of MGF is to replace computation of expectation with differentiation.

## Example 1: Bernoulli MGF

Consider  $X \sim Be(p)$ . What is  $M_X(t)$ ? Find expectation and variance using MGF.

### Solution 1

MGF:

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E} [e^{tX}] = e^{t \cdot 0} \cdot \mathbb{P}(X = 0) + e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot \mathbb{P}(X = 1) = q + pe^t$$

First and second derivatives are  $pe^t$ , so

$$\mathbb{E}X = M'_X(0) = pe^0 = p = M''_X(0) = \mathbb{E} [X^2]$$

$$\mathbb{V}\text{ar}(X) = M''_X(0) - (M'_X(0))^2 = p - p^2 = p(1 - p)$$

## Example 2: Poisson MGF

Consider  $X \sim Pois(\lambda)$ . What is  $M_X(t)$ ? Find expectation and variance using MGF.

### Solution 2

MGF:

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E} [e^{tX}] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tk} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (\lambda e^t)^k = \exp(\lambda (e^t - 1))$$

First derivative:

$$M'_X(t) = \lambda e^t \exp(\lambda (e^t - 1))$$

Expectation  $M'_X(0) = \lambda$ . Second derivative:

$$M''_X(0) = \lambda e^t \exp(\lambda (e^t - 1)) + \lambda e^t \exp \lambda e^t (\lambda (e^t - 1))$$

Second moment  $M''_X(0) = \lambda + \lambda^2$ . Variance  $\mathbb{V}\text{ar}(X) = \lambda + \lambda^2 - \lambda^2 = \lambda$ .

## Example 3: Gaussian MGF

Consider  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . What is  $M_X(t)$ ? Find expectation and variance using MGF.

## Solution 3

First let's find for  $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ , then apply properties.

$$\begin{aligned} M_Y(t) &= \mathbb{E} [e^{tY}] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} e^{-x^2/2} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2 - 2tx}{2}\right) dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-t)^2 - t^2}{2}\right) dx = \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{t^2}{2}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-t)^2}{2}\right) dx = \exp\left(\frac{t^2}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

## Solution 3 (continued)

From properties,  $M_X(t) = e^{\mu t} M_Y(\sigma t) = \exp\left(\mu t + \frac{t^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right)$ . First derivative:

$$M'_X(t) = (\mu + t\sigma^2) \exp\left(\mu t + \frac{t^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right)$$

Second derivative:

$$M_X''(t) = \sigma^2 \exp\left(\mu t + \frac{t^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right) + (\mu + t \sigma^2)^2 \exp\left(\mu t + \frac{t^2 \sigma^2}{2}\right)$$

Expectation:  $M_X'(0) = \mu$ , variance  $M_X''(0) - (M_X'(0))^2 = \sigma^2$ .

## Random vector

### Random vector: definition

Consider probability space  $(S, \mathbb{P})$ . Then, a **random vector** is a function

$$\mathbf{X} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^\top$ . Every component  $X_i$  of the vector is a random variable. The converse is also true: for any r.v.s  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  a vector  $(X_1, \dots, X_n)^\top$  is a random vector.

### Random vector: distribution

The distribution of a random vector  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^\top$  can be described via **multivariate (joint) cumulative distribution function**:

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(X_1 < x_1, X_2 < x_2, \dots, X_n < x_n)$$

Properties of multivariate CDF:

- $\lim_{x_i \rightarrow -\infty} F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  but  $\lim_{x_1, \dots, x_n \rightarrow \infty} F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = 1$
- $\lim_{x_i \rightarrow \infty} F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) =$  the function  $F$  of everything except  $x_i$
- $F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$  is non-decreasing and left-continuous in every component
- Supermodularity:  $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_i - \varepsilon, \dots, x_n) \geq 0$

### Random vector: distribution

If  $X$  has continuous distribution, then exists **multivariate (joint) probability density function**, i.e. non-negative function  $f_{\mathbf{X}}(\cdot)$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} \in B) = \int_B f_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n$$

PDF can also be found from CDF:

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial^n F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1 \dots \partial x_n}$$

## Random vector: independence

If all r.v.s  $X_i$  are independent, then

$$\begin{cases} F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^n F_{X_i}(x_i), \\ f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f_{X_i}(x_i) \end{cases}$$

## Random vector: moments

**Mathematical expectation** of a random vector is a vector of mathematical expectations of its components:

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}] = (\mathbb{E}X_1, \dots, \mathbb{E}X_n)^\top$$

Second moments of a random vector are described with **covariance matrix**

$\mathbb{V}\text{ar}(\mathbf{X}) = \Sigma$ , where

$$\Sigma_{ij} = \text{cov}(X_i, X_j)$$

$$\Sigma_{ij} = \text{cov}(X_i, X_j) = \mathbb{E}[(X_i - \mathbb{E}X_i)(X_j - \mathbb{E}X_j)]$$

In particular, the diagonal elements are variances:  $\Sigma_{ii} = \mathbb{V}\text{ar}(X_i)$ .

## Random vector: LOTUS

Let  $g(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X, Y)] = \sum_m \sum_n g(m, n) \mathbb{P}(X = m, Y = n)$$

if  $X, Y$  are continuous r.v.s; if they are continuous:

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X, Y)] = \int \int g(x, y) f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy$$

## Covariance

**Covariance** of two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined as

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])] = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$$

Properties of covariance:

- $\text{cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X)$
- $\text{cov}(X, Y) = \text{cov}(Y, X)$
- $\text{cov}(X, c) = 0, \forall c$
- $\text{cov}(aX, Y) = a \text{cov}(X, Y)$
- $\text{cov}(X + Y, Z) = \text{cov}(X, Z) + \text{cov}(Y, Z)$
- $\text{cov}(X + Y, Z + W) = \text{cov}(X, Z) + \text{cov}(X, W) + \text{cov}(Y, Z) + \text{cov}(Y, W)$
- $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2 \text{cov}(X, Y)$

## Correlation

If  $X \perp Y$ ,  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$ . The converse is not true. Regardless, covariance is often used to measure the dependency between random variables. It is not handy to use, so instead a **correlation coefficient** is proposed:

$$r_{XY} = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)}}$$

Note that  $-1 \leq r_{XY} \leq 1$ .

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
import scipy.stats as sts

import IPython.display as dp
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

dp.set_matplotlib_formats("retina")
sns.set(style="whitegrid", font_scale=1.5)
sns.despine()

%matplotlib inline
```

```
/var/folders/33/j0cl7y453td68qb96j7bqcj4cf41kc/T/ipykernel_99751/260074960
0.py:8: DeprecationWarning: `set_matplotlib_formats` is deprecated since I
Python 7.23, directly use `matplotlib_inline.backend_inline.set_matplotlib
_formats()`
  dp.set_matplotlib_formats("retina")
<Figure size 640x480 with 0 Axes>
```

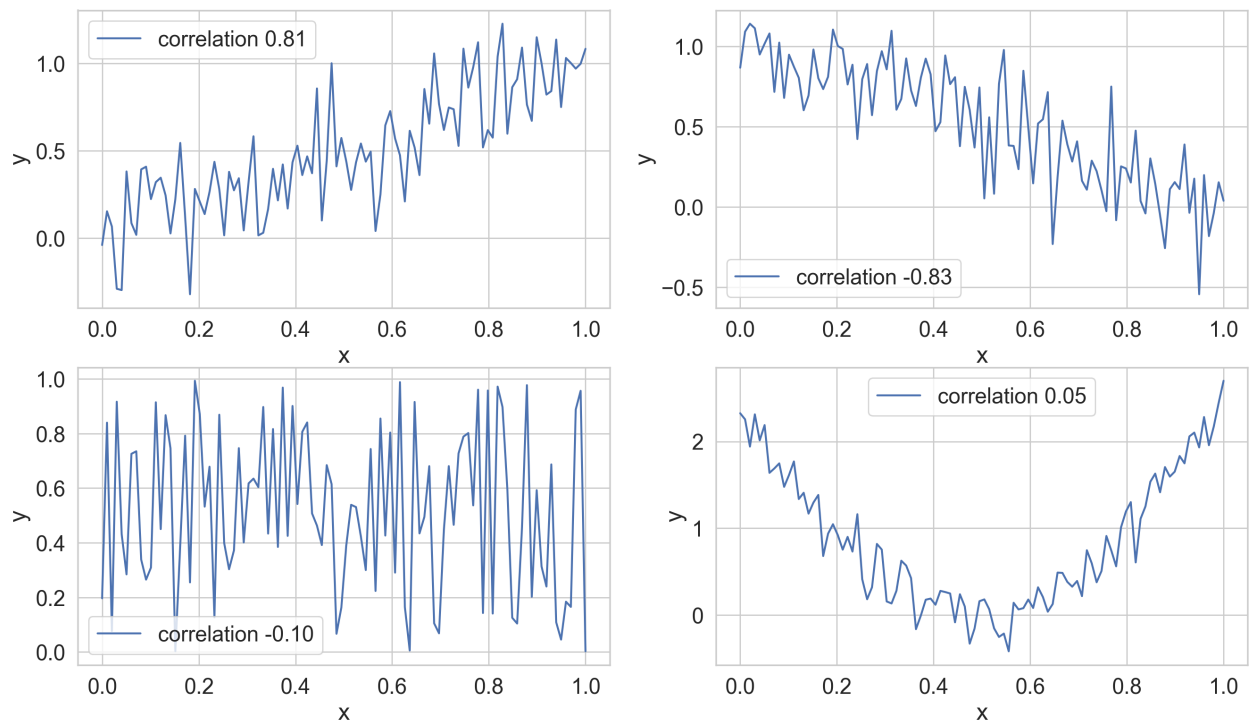
```
In [4]: n = 100
s = 1/5
x = np.linspace(0, 1, n)
```

```

y1 = x + sts.norm(scale=s).rvs(n)
y2 = 1 - x + sts.norm(scale=s).rvs(n)
y3 = sts.uniform().rvs(n)
y4 = 10 * (x - 0.5) ** 2 + sts.norm(scale=s).rvs(n)

fig, axes = plt.subplots(2,2,figsize=(16,9))
for ax, y in zip(axes.flatten(), [y1, y2, y3, y4]):
    ax.plot(x, y, label=f"correlation {np.corrcoef(x, y)[0, 1]:.2f}")
    ax.set_xlabel("x")
    ax.set_ylabel("y")
    ax.legend();

```



## Random vector: covariance matrix

Matrix notation for covariance matrix is  $\text{Var}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^\top]$ .

Properties of covariance matrix:

- Symmetry  $\Sigma^\top = \Sigma$
- Non-negative semi-definite:  $a^\top \Sigma a \geq 0, \forall a$

## Random vector: marginal and conditional distributions

**Marginal distribution** is the distribution of a subset of a random vector. For example, consider r.v.  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and let's view it as two vectors,  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$  and  $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{n-k}$ , stacked:  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{Y}^\top, \mathbf{Z}^\top)^\top$ . The marginal distribution of  $\mathbf{Z}$  then will be:

$$f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{y}$$

In words, we take distribution of  $\mathbf{X}$  and **integrate out** everything not related to  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

We may also define **conditional distribution**:

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}=\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z})}{f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z})}$$

## Example 4: joint, marginal and conditional distributions for discrete case

Let  $X$  be the indicator of the sampled individual being a current smoker, and let  $Y$  be the indicator of his developing lung cancer at some point in his life. Suppose the joint PMF is as follows:

	$Y = 1$	$Y = 0$
$X = 1$	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{20}{100}$
$X = 0$	$\frac{3}{100}$	$\frac{72}{100}$

Find the marginal and conditional distributions.

## Solution 4

	$Y = 1$	$Y = 0$
$X = 1$	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{20}{100}$
$X = 0$	$\frac{3}{100}$	$\frac{72}{100}$

$$\mathbb{P}(X = x) = \sum_y \mathbb{P}(X = x, Y = y)$$

	$Y = 1$	$Y = 0$	Sum
$X = 1$	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{20}{100}$	$\frac{25}{100}$
$X = 0$	$\frac{3}{100}$	$\frac{72}{100}$	$\frac{75}{100}$
Sum	$\frac{8}{100}$	$\frac{92}{100}$	$\frac{100}{100}$

## Solution 4

	$Y = 1$	$Y = 0$
$X = 1$	$\frac{5}{100}$	$\frac{20}{100}$
$X = 0$	$\frac{3}{100}$	$\frac{72}{100}$

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = y|X = x) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(X = x, Y = y)}{\mathbb{P}(X = x)}$$

Example: if the person is a smoker ( $X = 1$ ), then

$$\mathbb{P}(Y = 1|X = 1) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(X=1, Y=1)}{\mathbb{P}(X=1)} = \frac{5/100}{25/100} = 0.2.$$

## Example 5 (unit disc)

Consider a random point on unit disc with random coordinates  $(X, Y)$ . What is the joint, marginal and conditional PDF for the coordinates?

## Solution 5

The joint is

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi}, & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The marginal for  $X$  is:

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy = \int_{-\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \frac{1}{\pi} dy = \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-x^2}$$

The conditional for  $Y$  is:

$$f_{Y|X=x}(y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_X(x)} = \frac{\frac{1}{\pi}}{\frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-x^2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$