

7.2 The moment generating function is defined as:

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) \text{ as} \\ \text{probability} \\ \text{density} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) = \frac{d^k}{dt^k} E(e^{tX}) = E(X^k e^{tX})$$

$$E(X^k e^{tX}) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^k) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} k\text{-th moment} \end{array} \right.$$

moment generating functions:

$$\text{Laplace: } M_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma}} e^{-\frac{|x-\mu|}{\sigma}} dx = \frac{e^{\mu t}}{1 - \sigma^2 t^2}$$

$$\text{Gauß: } M_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dx = e^{\mu t + \frac{\sigma^2 t^2}{2}}$$

$$\text{Uniform: } M_X(t) = \int_a^b e^{tx} \frac{1}{b-a} dx = \left[\frac{1}{t(b-a)} e^{tx} \right]_a^b = \frac{e^{bt} - e^{at}}{t(b-a)}$$

The centered moment generating function:

$$M_{X_c}(t) = E(e^{t(X-\mu)}) = E(e^{tX}) \cdot E(e^{-t\mu}) = M_X(t) \cdot e^{-t\mu}$$

The standardised moments are then calculated as described in the exercise.

	Laplace (μ, b)	Gauß (μ, σ)	uniform (a, b)
$\langle x \rangle$	μ	μ	$\frac{1}{2}(a+b)$
$\langle x^2 \rangle_c$	$2\sigma^2$	σ^2	$\frac{1}{12}(b-a)^2$
$\langle x^3 \rangle_s$	0	0	0
$\langle x^4 \rangle_s$	6	0	$-\frac{6}{5}$