

Def'n.  $Y \dots$  r.v.

$$m_Y(t) := \mathbb{E}[e^{t \cdot Y}]$$

where the expectation exists.

**Theorem 9.8.** If  $m_Y$  exists, then for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$m_Y^{(k)}(0) = \mu_k.$$

**Example 9.9.** Let  $Y \sim b(n=1, p)$ , i.e., let  $Y$  model a Bernoulli trial with the probability of success denoted by  $p$ . Find  $m_Y$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: m_Y(t) &= \mathbb{E}[e^{tY}] = e^{t \cdot 0} (1-p) + e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot p \\ &= \underline{1-p + pe^t} \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 9.10.** Let  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  be independent random variables with m.g.f.s denoted by  $m_{Y_1}$  and  $m_{Y_2}$ . Define  $Y = Y_1 + Y_2$ . Then, for every  $t$  for which both  $m_{Y_1}$  and  $m_{Y_2}$  are well defined, we have

$$m_Y(t) =$$

*Proof.* By definition:

$$m_Y(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tY}]$$

Using  $Y = Y_1 + Y_2$ , we can substitute  $Y_1 + Y_2$  for  $Y$  in the expression above. So,

$$\begin{aligned} m_Y(t) &= \mathbb{E}[e^{t(Y_1 + Y_2)}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[e^{tY_1 + tY_2}] \end{aligned}$$

One of the properties of the exponential function is that  $e^{A+B} = e^A \times e^B$ . Thus, the above becomes:

$$m_Y(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tY_1} \cdot e^{tY_2}]$$

Recall that  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are assumed to be independent random variables. With this in mind, we get:

$$m_Y(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tY_1}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[e^{tY_2}]$$

Finally, using the definition of a m.g.f., we have

$$m_Y(t) = m_{Y_1}(t) \cdot m_{Y_2}(t)$$

□

**Example 9.11.** Let  $Y \sim b(n, p)$ . What is the moment generating function of  $Y$ ?

→:  $m_Y(t) = ?$

$Y = I_1 + I_2 + \dots + I_n$  w/  $I_j, j=1..n$ , all  $B(p)$  and independent

$$m_Y(t) = m_{I_1}(t) \cdot m_{I_2}(t) \dots m_{I_n}(t) = (m_{I_1}(t))^n = (1-p + pet)^n$$

↑  
identically dist'd

$$(1+p(e^t-1))^n$$

**Example 9.12.** Let  $N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ . What is the moment generating function  $m_N$  of  $N$ ?

→:  $m_N(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{t \cdot N}] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{t \cdot n} \cdot p_N(n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (e^{t \cdot n} \cdot e^{-\lambda} \cdot \frac{\lambda^n}{n!})$

$$= e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{tn} \lambda^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(e^t \lambda)^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} \cdot e^{e^t \lambda} = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$$

□

**Example 9.13.** Let  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . What is the moment generating function  $m_Z$  of  $Z$ ?

→:  $m_Z(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{t \cdot Z}] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t \cdot z} \cdot \varphi(z) dz = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t \cdot z} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} dz =$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2} + t \cdot z - \frac{t^2}{2}} dz = e^{\frac{t^2}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(z-t)^2}{2}} dz$$

← 1

density of  $N(t, \sigma=1)$

$m_Z(t) = e^{t^2/2}$

**Example 9.14.** Let the random variable  $Y$  have the mgf  $m_Y$ . Define  $X = aY + b$  for some constants  $a$  and  $b$ . Express the mgf  $m_X$  of  $X$  in terms of  $m_Y$ ,  $a$  and  $b$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: m_X(t) &= \mathbb{E}[e^{tX}] = \mathbb{E}[e^{t(aY+b)}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[e^{taY} \cdot e^{tb}] = e^{tb} \mathbb{E}[e^{taY}] = e^{tb} \cdot m_Y(ta) \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Example 9.15.** Let  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . What is the moment generating function  $m_X$  of  $X$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: X &= \underbrace{\mu}_b + \underbrace{\sigma}_a \cdot Z \quad \text{w/ } Z \sim N(0,1) \\ m_X(t) &= e^{t\mu} \cdot m_Z(t\sigma) = e^{t\mu} \cdot e^{\frac{t^2\sigma^2}{2}} = e^{t\mu + \frac{t^2\sigma^2}{2}} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 9.2.** A random variable  $Y$  is said to be lognormal if there exists a normally distributed random variable  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  such that  $Y \stackrel{(d)}{=} e^X$ . Express the mean and the variance of the lognormal r.v.  $Y$  in terms of the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: \mathbb{E}[Y] &= \mathbb{E}[e^X] = \mathbb{E}[e^{X \cdot 1}] = m_X(1) = e^{\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}} \\ \mathbb{E}[Y^2] &= \mathbb{E}[(e^X)^2] = \mathbb{E}[e^{2X}] = m_X(2) = e^{2\mu + \frac{2^2\sigma^2}{2}} = e^{2(\mu + \sigma^2)} \\ \text{Var}[Y] &= \mathbb{E}[Y^2] - (\mathbb{E}[Y])^2 = e^{2(\mu + \sigma^2)} - e^{2\mu + \sigma^2} = e^{2\mu + \sigma^2} (e^{\sigma^2} - 1) \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Proposition 9.16.** 1. If  $m_Y$  exists for a certain probability distribution, then it is unique.

2. If  $m_{Y_1}$  and  $m_{Y_2}$  are equal on an interval, then  $Y_1 \stackrel{(d)}{=} Y_2$ .

**Corollary 9.17.** Let  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  be independent and normally distributed. Define  $Y = Y_1 + Y_2$ . Then, the distribution of  $Y$  is...

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: m_Y(t) &\stackrel{\square}{=} m_{Y_1}(t) \cdot m_{Y_2}(t) = \\ &= e^{\mu_1 t + \frac{\sigma_1^2 t^2}{2}} \cdot e^{\mu_2 t + \frac{\sigma_2^2 t^2}{2}} = \\ &= e^{(\mu_1 + \mu_2)t + \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)t^2} \end{aligned}$$

$\mu$   $\sigma^2$

Proof.  $\square$

$Y \sim \text{Normal}(\text{mean} = \mu_1 + \mu_2, \text{var} = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$   $\square$



**Corollary 9.18.** Let  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  be independent and Poisson distributed. Define  $N = N_1 + N_2$ . Then, the distribution of  $N$  is...

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow: m_N(t) &= m_{N_1}(t) \cdot m_{N_2}(t) = e^{\lambda_1(e^t-1)} \cdot e^{\lambda_2(e^t-1)} \\ &= e^{(\lambda_1+\lambda_2)(e^t-1)} \end{aligned}$$

Proof.

□

$N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$

□