

Math 5411 – Mathematical Statistics I– Fall 2024

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1. Use the definition of moment generating function (MGF) and show that:

$$V[X] = d^2(M(t))/dt^2|_{t=0} - (d(M(t))/dt|_{t=0})^2$$

In general

$$\begin{aligned} M^{(r)}(0) &= E(X^r) \\ V[X] &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \\ &= M''(0) - (M'(0))^2 \\ &= d^2(M(t))/dt^2|_{t=0} - (d(M(t))/dt|_{t=0})^2 \end{aligned}$$

However, there are distinct definitions of MGF for discrete and continuous random variables.

Discrete Random Variables.

$$\begin{aligned} M(t) &= \sum_x e^{tx} p(x) \\ M'(t) &= \sum_x x e^{tx} p(x) \\ E[X] &= M'(0) = \sum_x x p(x) \\ M''(t) &= \sum_x x^2 e^{tx} p(x) \\ E[X^2] &= M''(0) = \sum_x x^2 p(x) \\ V[X] &= \sum_x x^2 p(x) - \left(\sum_x x p(x) \right)^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \\ &= M''(0) - (M'(0))^2 \end{aligned}$$

Continuous Random Variables.

$$\begin{aligned} M(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx \\ M'(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{tx} f(x) dx \\ E[X] &= M'(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \\ M''(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{tx} f(x) dx \\ E[X^2] &= M''(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx \\ V[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx - \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \right)^2 \\ &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 \\ &= M''(0) - (M'(0))^2 \end{aligned}$$

2. Find the MGF for Uniform(a,b).

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ M(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} p(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^a e^{tx} 0 dx + \int_a^b e^{tx} \frac{1}{b-a} dx + \int_b^{\infty} e^{tx} 0 dx \\ &= \frac{1}{t(b-a)} e^{tx} \Big|_a^b \\ &= \frac{e^{bt} - e^{at}}{t(b-a)} \\ M(t) &= \frac{be^{bt} - ae^{at}}{t(b-a)} \end{aligned}$$

3. Use the definitions of mean ($E[X]$) and Variance ($V[X]$) and find $E[X]$ and $V[X]$ for:

(a) $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(X = x) &= \begin{cases} p & x = 1 \\ 1 - p & x = 0 \end{cases} \\ E[X] &= \sum_x xp(x) = 0(1 - p) + 1p = p \\ E[X^2] &= \sum_x x^2p(x) = 0(1 - p) + 1p = p \\ V[X] &= E[X^2] - (E[X])^2 = p - p^2 = p(1 - p) \end{aligned}$$

(b) $X \sim \text{Uniform}(a, b)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(X = x) &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ E[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^a 0dx + \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} xdx + \int_b^{\infty} 0dx \\ &= \left. \frac{x^2}{2(b-a)} \right|_a^b \\ &= \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2(b-a)} \\ &= \frac{b+a}{2} \\ E[X^2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2p(x) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^a 0dx + \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} x^2dx + \int_b^{\infty} 0dx \\ &= \left. \frac{x^3}{3(b-a)} \right|_a^b \\ &= \frac{b^3 - a^3}{3(b-a)} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ab + a^2) \\ V[X] &= \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ab + a^2) - \left(\frac{b+a}{2} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (b^2 + ab + a^2) - \frac{b^2 + 2ab + a^2}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{12} (b^2 - ab + a^2) \end{aligned}$$

4. Assume the number of Hurricanes have a Poisson distribution with average of 3 hurricanes in the hurricane season (6 months from June 1 to Nov 30). Find:

- (a) Probability of having no Hurricane in a hurricane season.

$$p(k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda} \text{ and } \lambda = 3$$

$$p(0) = \frac{1}{1} e^{-3} = 0.05$$

- (b) Probability of having 1 Hurricane in a hurricane season.

$$p(1) = \frac{1}{1} e^{-3} = 0.15$$

- (c) Probability of having 10 Hurricanes in a hurricane season.

$$p(k) = \frac{3^{10}}{10!} e^{-3} = \frac{59049}{3628800} 0.05 = 0.0008$$

- (d) Probability of having 3 Hurricanes in the first half of a hurricane season (assume the number of hurricanes are distributed evenly over 6 months of hurricane session).

By chopping the interval in half we are effectively changing the λ value in half or 1.5. Thus, our new formula would be

$$p(k) = \frac{1.5^k}{k!} e^{-1.5}$$

$$\text{and } p(3) = \frac{1.5^3}{3!} e^{-1.5} = \frac{3.375}{6} 0.223 = 0.1255$$