





# Moments

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# Key Definitions

• Definition: k-th moment of  $X \equiv E[X^k]$ 

• Definition: Variance

$$Var[X] = E[(X - E[X])^2]$$
  
=  $E[X^2] - E[X]^2$ 

• Definition: Standard deviation

$$\sigma[X] = \sqrt{Var[X]}$$

### Variance: Binomial

- X: Binomial r v with n, p
- $\bullet \ E[X^2] = \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} \ p^j \cdot (1-p)^{n-j} \cdot j^2$  $= \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{n!}{(n-j)!j!} \ p^j \cdot (1-p)^{n-j} \cdot ((j^2-j)+j)$  $\vdots$  $= n(n-1) \ p^2 + np$
- $Var[X] = E[X^2] (E[X])^2$ = np(1-p)
- More simply, X is sum of n independent Bernoulli r v
- $Var[X] = Var[\sum_i Xi]$ =  $\sum_i Var[X_i]$ = np(1-p)

Generally,  $Var[\sum_i Xi] ?= \sum_i Var[X_i]$ 

### Variance: Geometric R V

#### • Y: Geometric random variable

- We know 
$$E[Y] = 1/p$$

- From 
$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i$$
, we obtain

$$(\frac{1}{1-x})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i \cdot x^{i-1}$$

$$2 \cdot (\frac{1}{1-x})^3 = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} i \cdot (i-1) \cdot x^{i-2}$$

$$-E[Y^{2}] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p(1-p)^{i-1} \cdot i^{2}$$
$$= \frac{2-p}{n^{2}}$$

$$\sum i^2 \cdot x^i = \sum (i+1)(i+2)x^i - 3\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (i+1)x^i + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i$$

$$- Var[Y] = E[Y^{2}] - (E[Y])^{2}$$
$$= \frac{1-p}{p^{2}}$$

### Independence

• Note that E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y] holds even if X and Y are dependent

- How about  $E[X \cdot Y] \equiv E[X] \cdot E[Y]$ ?
  - True only if X and Y are independent
  - Counter example:
    - Flip two coins
    - X: Indicator function of first coin = heads
    - Y: Sum of heads in two coin flips
    - $E[X] = \frac{1}{2}$
    - E[Y] = 1
    - $E[X \cdot Y] = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} i \cdot j \Pr((X=i) \cap (Y=j))$
  - Independent
    - X: Indicator function of first coin = heads
    - Y: Indicator function of second coin = heads

### Independence

Theorem: If X and Y are independent,
 then E[X⋅Y] = E[X]⋅E[Y]

#### Proof

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- E[X \cdot Y] = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} i \cdot j \Pr((X=i) \cap (Y=j))
= \sum_{i} \sum_{j} i \cdot j \Pr(X=i) \cdot \Pr(Y=j)
=
```

### Independence

- Covariance of two r v X and Y
  Cov(X, Y) = E[(X-E[X])·(Y-E[Y])]
- Theorem:  $Var[X+Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2 \cdot Cov(X,Y)$
- Proof:

- 
$$Var[X+Y] = E[((X+Y) - (E[X] + E[Y]))^2]$$
  
=  $E[(X - E[X]) + (Y - E[Y])^2]$ 

• If X and Y are independent,

then 
$$Cov(X, Y) = 0$$
 and  
 $Var[X+Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y]$ 

Proof

- 
$$Cov(X,Y) = E[(X - E[X]) \cdot (Y - E[Y])]$$
  
=  $E[X \cdot Y - X \cdot E[Y] - Y \cdot E[X] + E[X] \cdot E[Y]]$   
= 0

## Moment Generating Function

#### • Function that generates moments

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{tX}] = \sum_i e^{tx_i} \cdot \Pr(X = x_i)$$

$$\bullet \in [X^n] = M_X^{(n)}(0)$$

- where  $M_X^{(n)}(t)$  is n th derivative of  $M_X(t)$ 

#### Proof

True! But omit the proof

- If we (can) exchange expectation and differentiation operands
- Then,  $M_X^{(n)}(t) = \mathbb{E}[X^n \cdot e^{tX}]$
- At t=0,  $M_X^{(n)}(0) = E[X^n]$

### MGF - Example

• Geometric Distribution,  $Pr(X=k) = (1-p)^{k-1} \cdot p$ 

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

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1-p)^{k-1} \cdot p \cdot e^{tk}$$

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

$$-M_X^{(1)}(t) = p(1 - (1 - p)e^t)^{-2}e^t$$

$$-M_X^{(2)}(t) = 2p(1-p)(1-(1-p)e^t)^{-3}e^{2t} + p(1-(1-p)e^t)^{-2}e^t$$

## Properties

• If two random variables X and Y have the same MGF, then  $X \equiv Y$ 

• If X and Y are independent r.v., then

$$M_{X+Y}(t) = M_X(t) M_Y(t)$$

Proof

$$- M_{X+Y}(t) = \mathbb{E}[e^{t(X+Y)}]$$
$$= E[e^{tX} \cdot e^{tY}]$$
$$= M_X(t) \cdot M_Y(t)$$

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