

Warmup: 11:00-11:10

Let  $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$ ,  $X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with prob } p \\ 0 & \text{with prob } 1-p \end{cases}$

a) Find  $E(X) = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1-p) = p$      $E(X^2) = 1^2 \cdot p + 0^2 \cdot (1-p) = p$     called moments  
of  $X$

$$E(X^k) = 1^k \cdot p + 0^k \cdot (1-p) = p$$

think of  $e^{tx}$  as a function  $g(x)$   
of  $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

b) Find  $E(e^{tx})$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$= e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot p + e^{t \cdot 0} \cdot (1-p)$$

$$= e^t \cdot p + 1 - p$$

$$= pe^t + 1 - p = \boxed{1 + p(e^t - 1)}$$

← for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (E(e^{tx})) \Big|_{t=0} - \frac{d}{dt} (1 + p(e^t - 1)) \Big|_{t=0} = pe^t \Big|_{t=0} = p$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} (E(e^{tx})) \Big|_{t=0} = \frac{d}{dt} (pe^t) \Big|_{t=0} = p$$

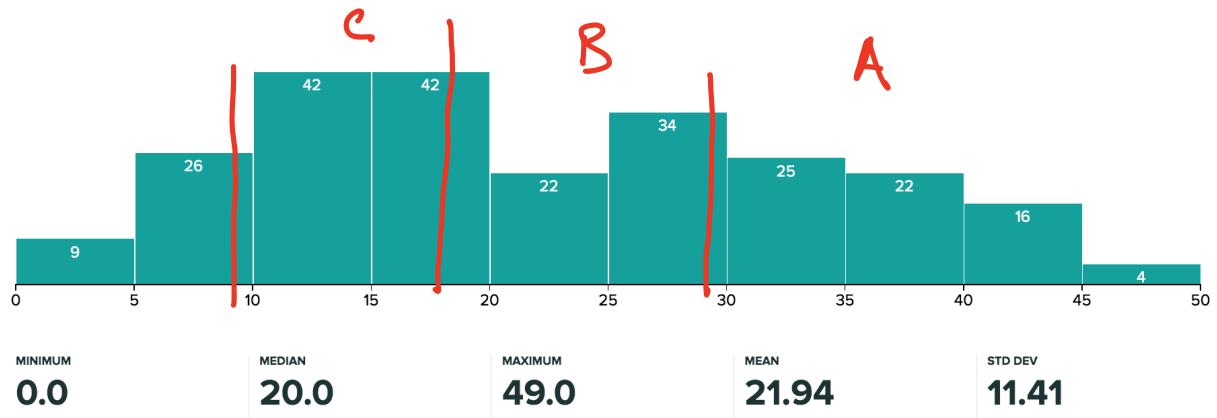
$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{d^k}{dt^k} (E(e^{tx})) \Big|_{t=0} = p$$

To find the moments of  $X$  we take the derivatives  
of  $E(e^{tx})$  and evaluate at  $t=0$ .

For  $X$  a RV,  $M_X(t) = E(e^{tx})$  is called the  
moment generating function (MGF) of  $X$ .

# midterm results



## Special lecture

### Moment Generating Function of $X$

Not in book.

Next time Finish MGF, Sec 4.4, start Sec 4.5

### Moment Generating Function (MGF) of $X$

The  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment of a RV  $X$  is the number

$$E(X^k) \text{ defined for } k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$E(X^0) = E(1) = 1$$

$$E(X)$$

$$E(X^2)$$

} moments describe your distribution  
ex 1<sup>st</sup> moment is mean  
2<sup>nd</sup> moment relates to variance  
3<sup>rd</sup> moment relates to how skewed the distribution is,

$$\text{Note } \text{Var}(x) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

Computing the moments of a RV is sometimes hard, because it involves computing complicated

integrals or sums

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ continuous} \\ \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} x P(x) & \text{if } X \text{ discrete} \end{cases}$$

The MGF allows one to compute the moments by computing derivatives, which is easier.

$$\text{Recall } E(g(x)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f(x) dx$$

We define the MGF of  $X$  to be

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ continuous} \\ \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} p(x) & \text{if } X \text{ discrete} \end{cases}$$

$M_X(t)$  is sometimes written  $\psi(t)$  in HW9

In the warmup we saw for  $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$$M_X^{(k)}(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^k)$$

Let's show that is true for most RV  $X$ .

Recall the Taylor series for  $e^y$ :

$$e^y = 1 + y + \frac{y^2}{2!} + \frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots$$

let  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $X$  RV.

You can do this for the RV  $tX$

$$e^{tX} = 1 + tX + \frac{(tX)^2}{2!} +$$

$$E(e^{tX}) = E(1) + E(tX) + E\left(\frac{(tX)^2}{2!}\right) + \dots$$

$M_X(t)$  ↗

$$= E(1) + tE(X) + \frac{t^2}{2!} E(X^2) + \dots$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = E(X)$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = E(X^2)$$

more generally,

$$\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} E(e^{tX}) \right|_{t=0}$$

Let's not worry about why this step is true. See L'Hopital rule.

$$\begin{aligned} &= E\left(\left. \frac{d^k}{dt^k} e^{tX} \right|_{t=0}\right) \\ &= E(X^k) \end{aligned}$$

Summary, the MGF  $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$  contains info about all of the moments of  $X$ . By taking the  $k^{\text{th}}$  derivative and evaluating at 0 you get the  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment.

Thm If a MGF exists in an interval

around zero,  $M^{(k)}(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^k)$

Note An MGF doesn't always exist in an interval around zero. (see appendix for an example)

ex let  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(r, \lambda)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(r)} \lambda^r x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x}, & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Recall  $\Gamma(r) = \int_0^\infty u^{r-1} e^{-u} du$

Find  $M_X(t)$ .

Step 1 write  $M_X(t)$  as an integral

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^\infty e^{tx} \left( \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^\infty x^{r-1} e^{(t-\lambda)x} dx \quad \text{for } t < \lambda \end{aligned}$$

which converges for  $(t-\lambda) < 0$  i.e  $t < \lambda$

Step 2 Solve the integral

Hint:

make a u substitution

let

$$U = -(t-\lambda)X$$

$$\text{so } X = -\frac{U}{t-\lambda} = \frac{U}{\lambda-t}, \quad dX = \frac{1}{\lambda-t} dU$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^\infty x^{r-1} e^{(t-\lambda)x} dx &= \\ &= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^\infty \frac{U^{r-1}}{(\lambda-t)^{r-1}} e^{-U} \frac{1}{\lambda-t} dU \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \frac{1}{(\lambda-t)^{r+1}} \int_0^\infty u^{r-1} e^{-u} du \\
 &= \frac{\lambda^r}{(\lambda-t)^r} \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} \right)^r \text{ for } t < \lambda \\
 \text{Recall} \quad &\text{If a MGF exists in an interval} \\
 &\text{around zero, } M_X(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^r)
 \end{aligned}$$

ex

Let  $X \sim \text{Gamma}(r, \lambda)$

$$\text{Find } \frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \Big|_{t=0}$$

$$\text{Recall } M_X(t) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} \right)^r \text{ for } t < \lambda$$

$$M_X(t) = \lambda^r (\lambda-t)^{-r}$$

$$M'_X(t) = \lambda^r (-r)(\lambda-t)^{-r-1} (-1)$$

$$M'(0) = \frac{r\lambda^r}{(\lambda-t)^{r+1}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad E(X) = \frac{r}{\lambda} \quad \checkmark$$

Similarly,

$$\text{Find: } \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} M_X(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

$$M''(t) = r\lambda^r (-r-1)(\lambda-t)^{-r-2}(-1)$$

$$= r(r+1)\lambda^r \frac{1}{(\lambda-t)^{r+2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow M''(0) = r(r+1)\lambda^r \frac{1}{\lambda^{r+2}} = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X^2) = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Var}(x) = E(x^2) - E(x)^2 = \frac{r(r+1)}{\lambda^2} - \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2}$$

$$= \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2} + \frac{r}{\lambda^2} - \frac{r^2}{\lambda^2} = \boxed{\frac{r}{\lambda^2}}$$

$\stackrel{def}{=} A \text{ RV } X \text{ takes values } 1, 2, 3$   
 with prob  $\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}$ .

Find  $M_X(t)$ ,

$$= E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=1}^3 e^{tx} p(x)$$

$$= e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + e^{2t} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + e^{3t} \cdot \frac{1}{6}$$

for all  $t$

$\text{Ex } X \sim \text{Geom}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$

$$P(X=k) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{k-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \quad k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{Find } M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^t \left(e^t\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} e^t \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \left(e^t \cdot \frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1}$$

$$\sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \left(e^t \cdot \frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} = 1 + e^t \frac{2}{3} + \left(e^t \frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - \left(e^t \frac{2}{3}\right)} \quad \text{if } e^t \frac{2}{3} < 1$$

or  $t < \log\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow M_X(t) = \frac{1}{3} e^t \cdot \frac{1}{1 - e^t \cdot \frac{2}{3}} \quad \text{if } t < \log\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

### Appendix:

Let  $X$  be a discrete RV with probability mass function  $P(X) = \begin{cases} \frac{6}{\pi^2 x^2} & x=1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

The MGF,  $M_X(t)$ , only exists at  $t=0$ , and hence doesn't exist on an interval around zero.

pf/

It is known that the series

$$\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \text{ converges to } \frac{\pi^2}{6}.$$

Then  $P(X) = \begin{cases} \frac{6}{\pi^2 x^2} & x=1, 2, 3, \dots \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$

is the Prob function of a RV  $X$ ,

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} P(x)$$

$$= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \frac{6e^{tx}}{\pi^2 x^2}$$

The ratio test can be used to show that it diverges if  $t > 0$ . Hence this RV only has an MGF at  $t=0$ .

□