

Warmup: 1:00 - 1:10

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

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

} called moments of X

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= e^{t \cdot 1} \cdot p + e^{t \cdot 0} \cdot (1-p) \\ &= pe^t + 1-p \\ &= \boxed{1 + p(e^t - 1)} \quad \leftarrow \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

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

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

⋮

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

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

For X any RV, $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$ is called the moment generating function (MGF) at X ,

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^{th} moment of a RV X is the number

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

$$\mu_0 = E(X^0) = E(1) = 1$$

$$\mu_1 = E(X)$$

$$\mu_2 = E(X^2)$$

:

$$\text{Note } \text{Var}(x) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 = \mu_2 - \mu_1^2$$

} moments describe your distribution
ex 1st moment is mean
2nd moment relates to variance
3rd moment relates to how skewed the distribution is.

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 $X \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$\psi(t) = t + p - pt$

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

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^{th} derivative and evaluating at 0 you get the k^{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 $M_X(t)$.

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^\infty e^{xt} \left(\frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} x^{r-1} e^{-\lambda x} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_0^\infty x^{r-1} e^{(t-\lambda)x} dx$$

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

Substitution

$$u = -(t-\lambda)x$$

$\Rightarrow 0$

$$\text{so } x = -\frac{u}{t-\lambda}, \quad dx = -\frac{1}{t-\lambda} du$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \int_{u=0}^{u=\infty} \frac{u^{r-1}}{(\lambda-t)^{r-1}} e^{-u} \frac{1}{\lambda-t} du$$

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

$\underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{n}$

$$= \frac{\lambda^r}{\Gamma(r)} \frac{R(r)}{(\lambda-t)^r} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t} \right)^r \quad \text{for } t < \lambda$$

Recall If a MGF exists in an interval around zero, $M^{(k)}(t) \Big|_{t=0} = E(X^k)$

ex

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

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

and

$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} M_X(t) \Big|_{t=0} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t}\right)^r$ for $t < \lambda$

$$M(t) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda-t}\right)^r = \lambda^r (\lambda-t)^{-r}$$

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

$$M'(0) = \frac{r}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \boxed{E(X) = \frac{r}{\lambda}}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$\text{Find } M_X(t) = \sum_{x=1}^3 e^{tx} p(x)$$

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

for all t

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

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

$$\text{Find } M_X(t) \equiv E(e^{tx})$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^{tx} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \\ &= \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} e^t \left(e^t\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{x-1} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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 $t=0$.

□