

Lecture (6)

Moment generating function
Characteristic function
Theorems and examples

The moment generating function

Suppose that there is a positive number h such that $E(e^{tx})$ exists for some $-h < t < h$, then the function $M_X(t)$ defined by:-

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) \quad \text{for } -h < t < h$$

is called the moment generating function (m.g.f.) of the r.v. X .

$$M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) \begin{cases} \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x) dx \end{cases}$$

theorem (1) :-

$$M_X(0) = 1$$

proofs:-

$$M_X(0) = E(e^0) = E(1) = 1$$

Remark:-

We know that the m.g.f for a discrete r.v. may be written as:-

$$\mu_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f(x)$$

Now $e^y = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{y^k}{k!}$ (by Maclaurian's series)

then $e^{tx} = 1 + tx + \frac{t^2 x^2}{2!} + \frac{t^3 x^3}{3!} + \dots$

Then substitute e^{tx} in the m.g.f, we have:-

$$\mu_X(t) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(1 + tx + \frac{t^2 x^2}{2!} + \frac{t^3 x^3}{3!} + \dots \right) f(x)$$

$$= \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \left[f(x) + tx f(x) + \frac{t^2 x^2}{2!} f(x) + \dots \right]$$

$$= 1 + t \mu_1' + \frac{t^2}{2!} \mu_2' + \frac{t^3}{3!} \mu_3' + \dots$$

Therefore, we can deduce that the r -th moment about the origin is the coefficient of $\frac{t^r}{r!}$ by using the Maclourian's series of e^{tx} .

theorem:-

$$\left. \frac{d^r \mu_X(t)}{dt^r} \right|_{t=0} = \mu_r' \quad \text{for } r=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

proof:-

$$\therefore \text{m.g.f} = \mu_X(t) = 1 + t \mu_1' + \frac{t^2}{2!} \mu_2' + \frac{t^3}{3!} \mu_3' + \dots$$

$$\frac{d \mu_X(t)}{dt} = 0 + \mu_1' + t \mu_2' + \frac{3t^2}{3!} \mu_3' + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{d \mu_X(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = \mu_1'$$

$$\frac{d^2 \mu_x(t)}{dt^2} = \mu_2' + t \mu_3' + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{d^2 \mu_x(t)}{dt^2} \right|_{t=0} = \mu_2'$$

Therefore in general, we have $\left. \frac{d^r \mu_x(t)}{dt^r} \right|_{t=0} = \mu_r'$

theorem:-

Given X as a r.v. and a as a constant then
 $\mu_{aX}(t) = \mu_X(at)$

proof:-

$$\mu_{aX}(t) = E(e^{tax}) = E(e^{(at)x}) = \mu_X(at)$$

theorem:-

$$\mu_{X+a}(t) = e^{at} \mu_X(t)$$

proof:-

$$\mu_{X+a}(t) = E(e^{t(X+a)}) = e^{at} E(e^{tX}) = e^{at} \mu_X(t)$$

Generalization of these two theorems is given in the following theorem:-

theorem:-

$$\mu_{\frac{X+a}{b}}(t) = e^{\frac{at}{b}} \mu_X\left(\frac{t}{b}\right)$$

proof:-

$$\mu_{\frac{X+a}{b}}(t) = E(e^{t(\frac{X+a}{b})}) = e^{\frac{at}{b}} E(e^{\frac{t}{b}X}) = e^{\frac{at}{b}} \mu_X\left(\frac{t}{b}\right)$$

Ex(1):-

Given the p.d.f of X by $f(x) = \begin{cases} e^{-x} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{or} \end{cases}$

Find the m.g.f of X

Sol:-

$$\mu_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{tx} e^{-x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{(t-1)x} dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{1-t} e^{-(1-t)x} \Big|_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{1-t} e^{-0} = \frac{1}{1-t} \quad |t| < 1$$

Ex(2):-

Assume X has the following probability distribution

X	0	1
$p(X=x)$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

Find the m.g.f of X

Sol:-

$$\mu_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=0}^1 e^{tx} p(X=x) = e^0 p(X=0) + e^t p(X=1)$$

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

Ex(3):-

In the ex(1) above, obtain μ_1' and μ_2' then use them to find σ^2 .

Sol:-

$$\mu_X(t) = \frac{1}{1-t}$$

From theorem, we have $\frac{d^r \mu_X(t)}{dt^r} \Big|_{t=0} = \mu_r'$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1' = \frac{d\mu_X(t)}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = -(1-t)^{-2} (-1) \Big|_{t=0} = 1$$

$$\mu_2' = \left. \frac{d^2 \mu_x(t)}{dt^2} \right|_{t=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} (1-t)^{-2} \right|_{t=0}$$

$$= -2(1-t)^{-3}(-1) \Big|_{t=0} = 2$$

$$\sigma^2 = E(X - \mu_1)^2 = E(X^2) - (EX)^2 = \mu_2' - (\mu_1')^2$$

$$= 2 - 1 = 1$$

Ex(4):-

Given $P(x)$ as in Ex(2), Find μ_1' , μ_2' , σ^2

Sol:-

$$\mu_x(t) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + e^t)$$

$$\mu_1' = \left. \frac{d \mu_x(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0}$$

$$\frac{d \mu_x(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} e^t \Rightarrow \mu_1' = \left. \frac{d \mu_x(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \mu_x(t)}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} e^t \Rightarrow \mu_2' = \left. \frac{d^2 \mu_x(t)}{dt^2} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^2 = \mu_2' - (\mu_1')^2 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

H.W.

1) Given the p.d.f of X by $P(x) = \binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x}$, $0 < \theta < 1$ and $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$, Find $\mu_x(t)$ and then use it to find μ_1' , μ_2' and σ^2 .

2) Given the p.d.f of X is defined as:

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Obtain the m.g.f of X and then use it to find μ' , μ_2' and σ^2 .

3) Consider the p.d.f of X is defined as:-

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad x, \lambda > 0$$

Find the m.g.f of X and use it to show that $\mu' = \frac{1}{\lambda}$ and $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$.

The characteristic function الدالة الوصفية او التميزية

The characteristic function denoted by $\phi_X(t)$ exists for every distribution, and is defined as:-

$$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{itx}) = \begin{cases} \sum_{all\ x} e^{itx} f(x) & \text{if } X \text{ is a discrete r.v.} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} f(x) dx & \text{if } X \text{ is a continuous r.v.} \end{cases}$$

where i is a complex number $i = \sqrt{-1}$, and t is an arbitrary real number. It can be shown that every distribution function has a unique characteristic function. Therefore to each characteristic function there corresponds a unique distribution function.

Remark:-

Let X be a r.v. having probability function f .

The characteristic function $\phi_X(t)$ of a r.v. X is also called the Fourier transformation of X .

Remark We can write $\phi_X(t)$ as follows

$$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{itx}) = E(\cos(tx) + i \sin(tx))$$

This definition can be proved as follows:-

By using Maclaurin series to e^{itx} , we get:-

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{itx} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(itx)^k}{k!} = 1 + itx - \frac{(tx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(itx)^3}{3!} - \frac{(tx)^4}{4!} \\
 &\quad + \frac{(itx)^5}{5!} + \dots \\
 &= \left(1 - \frac{(tx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(tx)^4}{4!} - \frac{(tx)^6}{6!} + \dots \right) + i \left(tx - \frac{(tx)^3}{3!} + \frac{(tx)^5}{5!} - \dots \right) \\
 &= \cos(tx) + i \sin(tx).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\phi_x^{(t)} = E(\cos(tx) + i \sin(tx))$

Properties of the characteristic function;

We discuss the properties of C.F by the following theorems:-

1) $\phi_x^{(0)} = 1$

proof:-

$$\phi_x^{(0)} = E(\cos(tx) + i \sin(tx)) \Big|_{t=0} = E e^{itx} \Big|_{t=0} = 1$$

2) $\phi_x^{(t)}$ characterize the distribution function.

3) $|\phi_x^{(t)}| \leq 1$, i.e; $\phi_x^{(t)}$ is bounded and therefore

always exist

proof:-

$$|\phi_x^{(t)}| = |E(e^{itx})| = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} f(x) dx \right|$$

$$\leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{itx}| |f(x)| dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{itx}| f(x) dx \quad \text{since } f(x) \geq 0$$

$$\text{But } |e^{itx}| = |\cos tx + i \sin tx| = \sqrt{\cos^2 tx + \sin^2 tx} = \sqrt{1} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |\Phi_X^{(t)}| = \int |f(x)| dx = 1$$

4) $\Phi_{aX+b}^{(t)} = e^{ibt} \Phi_X^{(at)}$ where a and b are constants

For example

If $Y = aX$

$$\Phi_Y^{(t)} = \Phi_X^{(at)}$$

If $Y = X + b \Rightarrow \Phi_Y^{(t)} = e^{ibt} \Phi_X^{(t)}$

5) Uniqueness theorem

If there is a characteristic function then there is a corresponding unique distribution function which has that characteristic function.

يعني اذا كان هناك دالة كثافة احتمال بدلالة X سوف يكون له
 ايضا دالة مميزة وحيدة يعني $\Phi_X^{(t)} \leftarrow f(x)$

theorem:-

If $E(X^k)$ exist, so does $E(X^j)$ for $j=1, 2, \dots, k-1$
 and $\Phi_X^{(t)} = 1 + itE(X) + \frac{(it)^2}{2!} E(X^2) + \dots + \frac{(it)^k}{k!} E(X^k)$

$+ o(it^k) \rightarrow o(it^k)$ يعني

where $o(u)$ is a function such that $\frac{o(u)}{u} \rightarrow 0$ as $u \rightarrow 0$

$$\Phi_X^{(t)} = \frac{d\Phi_X^{(t)}}{dt} = iEX + \frac{2i^2 t}{2!} E(X^2) + \dots + \frac{k i^k t^{k-1}}{k!} E(X^k) + o(it^k)$$

$$\Phi_X^{(t)} = \left. \frac{d\Phi_X^{(t)}}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = iEX$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = \frac{1}{i} \phi_X'(0)$$

$$\phi_X''(0) = i^2 E(X^2) \Rightarrow E(X^2) = \frac{1}{i^2} \phi_X''(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X^r) = \frac{1}{i^r} \phi_X^{(r)}(0) \quad r \in \mathbb{N}$$

Remark

$$\phi_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu_X(x) e^{itx} dx$$

الملاقة بين μ_X و ϕ_X

proof:-

$$\phi_X(t) = E e^{itX} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu_X(x) e^{itx} dx$$

Example:-

If $\mu_X(t) = e^{2t+3t^2}$ Find $\phi_X(t)$ and then $\phi_Y(t)$, $E(Y)$, $E(Y^2)$, $\text{Var}(Y)$, where $Y = 2X - 4$

sol:-

$$\therefore \mu_X(t) = e^{2t+3t^2} \text{ and } \phi_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mu_X(x) e^{itx} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_X(t) = e^{2it-3t^2}$$

$$\phi_Y(t) = \phi_{2X-4}(t) = e^{-4it} \phi_X(2t) = e^{-4it} e^{2i(2t)-3(2t)^2} = e^{-4it} e^{4it-12t^2} = e^{-8t^2}$$

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{i} \phi_Y'(0), \quad E(Y^2) = \frac{1}{i^2} \phi_Y''(0)$$

$$\therefore \text{Var}(Y) = EY^2 - (EY)^2$$

Ex:- Let $f(x) = \frac{\lambda}{x!} e^{-\lambda}$ $x=0,1,2,\dots$ Find $\phi_X(t)$, $\mu_X(t)$, $E(X^2)$

sol:-

$$\phi_X(t) = E(e^{itX}) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{itx} \lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda e^{it})^x}{x!}$$