

Moment generating function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(e^{tx}) &= \sum_x e^{tx} P(X=x) \\
 &= \sum_x \left(1 + tx + \frac{t^2 x^2}{2!} + \frac{t^3 x^3}{3!} + \dots\right) P(X=x) \\
 &= \sum_x P(X=x) + \sum_x tx P(X=x) + \sum_x \frac{t^2 x^2}{2!} P(X=x) + \dots \\
 &= 1 + t \sum_x x P(X=x) + \frac{t^2}{2!} \sum_x x^2 P(X=x) + \dots + \frac{t^i}{i!} \sum_x x^i P(X=x) + \dots \\
 &= 1 + t E(X) + \frac{t^2}{2!} E(X^2) + \dots + \frac{t^i}{i!} E(X^i) + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Coefficient of $E(X^r) = \mu_r'$ is $\frac{t^r}{r!}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) = E(X) + t E(X^2) + \frac{t^2}{2!} E(X^3) + \dots$$

$$\text{So } \left. \frac{d}{dt} M_X(t) \right|_0 = E(X)$$

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dt^2} M_X(t) \right|_0 = E(X^2)$$

$$\left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} M_X(t) \right|_0 = E(X^r) = \mu_r'$$

but this might not exist

Discrete example:

$$\text{let } X \text{ be a RV w pmf } p(x) = P(X=x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}$$

(poisson RV) for $x = 0, \dots$

Find the MGF

$$M_X(t) = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$$

$$\text{so } E(X) = M'_X(0) = e^{\lambda e^t - \lambda} \cdot \lambda e^t \Big|_0 = 1 \cdot \lambda = \lambda$$

Calculating $E(X)$ w/o mgf:

$$E(X) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} x \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} = \lambda \sum_{x=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{x-1}}{(x-1)!} = \dots = \lambda$$

$$\text{so } E(X^2) = M''_X(0) = e^{\lambda e^t - \lambda} \lambda e^t \lambda e^t + e^{\lambda e^t - \lambda} \lambda e^t \Big|_0$$

$$= \lambda^2 + \lambda$$

$$\text{so } \text{Var}(X) = \lambda^2 + \lambda - (\lambda)^2 = \lambda$$

So $E(X) = \text{Var}(X)$ (special about poisson)

Theorem: if a, b constants, $b \neq 0$:

$$M_{X+a}(t) = E(e^{t(x+a)}) = e^{at} M_X(t)$$

$$M_{bX}(t) = E(e^{t(bX)}) = M_X(bt)$$

$$M_{\frac{X+a}{b}}(t) = E(e^{t(\frac{X+a}{b})}) = e^{\frac{a}{b}t} M_X\left(\frac{t}{b}\right)$$

$\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}$: z-score distribution