

# MATH 180A: INTRO TO PROBABILITY (FOR DATA SCIENCE)

[www.math.ucsd.edu/~tkemp/180A](http://www.math.ucsd.edu/~tkemp/180A)

Today: REVIEW

Next: REVIEW

CAPEs! Please fill them out.

Lab 7 Due TODAY.

Homework 8 Due Friday, Dec 6.

Final Exam: Monday, Dec 9, 11:30a-2:30p  
in REC GYM

Extra/Extended  
Office Hours

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Thursday  
8:30 - 10:00am

Friday  
10:00 - 11:30am

# Main Topics Covered before Midterm 2

- \* Counting probability
- \* Conditional probability & Bayes' Rule
- \* Independence of Events
- \* Random variables & distributions
- \* CDF, PMF/PDF
- \* Independent trials & sampling
- \*  $E$  &  $Var$
- \* Chebyshev's Inequality
- \* Ber, Bin, Geom, Poisson,  $N$ , Exp, ...
- \* Normal Approximation & Confidence intervals
- \* Poisson Approximation
- \* ~~Poisson Process~~
- \* MGF

# Moment Generating Function

Random Variable  $X \rightsquigarrow$  MGF  $M_X: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, \infty]$

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

$$M_X(0) = 1, \quad = \sum_k e^{tk} P(X=k) \quad \text{if } X \text{ is discrete}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X^k) = \frac{d^k}{dt^k} M_X(t) \Big|_{t=0} \quad \text{or} \quad = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f_X(x) dx \quad \text{if } X \text{ is continuous \& has density } f_X \text{ PDF}$$

Some important examples:  $X \sim N(0,1)$ ,  $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ ,  $N \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

Theorem: If  $M_X(t) < \infty$  for all  $t \in$  some open interval including 0, then the function  $M_X$  uniquely determines the distribution of  $X$ .  
I.e. If  $X, Y$  s.t.  $M_X(t) = M_Y(t)$  for all  $t \in$  a nbhd of 0, then  $X \sim Y$ .

$$M_X(t) = e^{t^2/2}$$

$$M_Y(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}, \quad t < \lambda \quad (\infty \text{ otherwise})$$

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

E.g. (5.17)

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} x/2 & 0 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(a) Find  $M_X(t)$ . (b) Use it to compute  $E(X^n)$  for all  $n$ .

$$(a) M_X(t) = E(e^{tX}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f_X(x) dx = \int_0^2 e^{tx} \cdot \frac{x}{2} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 \underbrace{x}_u \underbrace{e^{tx}}_{dv} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left( uv \Big|_0^2 - \int_0^2 v du \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x}{t} e^{tx} \Big|_{x=0}^{x=2} - \int_0^2 \frac{1}{t} e^{tx} dx \right)$$

$$du = dx \quad v = \frac{1}{t} e^{tx}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2t-1)e^{2t} &= (2t-1) \left( 1 + 2t + \frac{(2t)^2}{2} + \frac{(2t)^3}{3!} + \dots \right) \\ &= 2t-1 + 2t(2t-1) + (2t-1) \frac{(2t)^2}{2} + \dots \\ &= 4t^2 - 2t + 2t - 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{2}{2t} e^{2t} - \frac{1}{2t} \int_0^2 e^{tx} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{t} e^{2t} - \frac{1}{2t} \cdot \frac{1}{t} e^{tx} \Big|_0^2$$

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

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

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

$$= \frac{1}{2t^2} \left( 4t^2 + (2t-1) \left( \frac{(2t)^2}{2} + \frac{(2t)^3}{3!} + \dots \right) \right)$$

Eg. (5.18) Let  $X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ . Compute  $M_X(t)$ .  
 Use it to compute  $E(X)$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

$$0 < p < 1$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{x}{1-x}$$

$$P(X=k) = (1-p)^{k-1} p \quad (k \geq 1)$$

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

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

$$(1-p)e^t < 1$$

i.e.  $t < \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-p}\right)$

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

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



$$E(X) = M_X'(0)$$

$$= \frac{p}{(1 - (1-p))^2} = \frac{p}{p^2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{p}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{p}{e^{-t} - (1-p)} = p \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{e^{-t} - (1-p)} = p \cdot \frac{-1}{(e^{-t} - (1-p))^2} \cdot (-e^{-t})$$

$$= \frac{pe^{-t}}{(e^{-t} - (1-p))^2}$$

# MGF and Independent Sums

If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are independent, and  $S_n = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ , then

$$M_{S_n}(t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tS_n}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{t(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tX_1} e^{tX_2} \dots e^{tX_n})$$

$$\hookrightarrow = \mathbb{E}(e^{tX_1}) \mathbb{E}(e^{tX_2}) \dots \mathbb{E}(e^{tX_n}) = \underbrace{M_{X_1}(t) M_{X_2}(t) \dots M_{X_n}(t)}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{independent} \uparrow}}$$

E.g. Compute the MGF of a Bin( $n, p$ ) random variable.  
Use it to compute the mean and variance.

$$S_n \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

$$P(S_n = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$S_n \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(S_n) = \sum_{k=0}^n k P(S_n = k)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n k P(S_n = k)$$

$$S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n, \quad X_j \text{ indep. Ber}(p)$$

$$\therefore M_{S_n}(t) = M_{X_1}(t) M_{X_2}(t) \dots M_{X_n}(t) = M_{X_1}(t)^n$$

$$= (1-p + pet)^n$$

$$P(X_1 = 1) = p$$

$$P(X_1 = 0) = 1-p$$

$$\therefore \mathbb{E}(e^{tX_1})$$

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

$$= \underline{1-p + pet}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(S_n) = M_{S_n}'(0)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (1-p + pet)^n$$

$$= n(1-p + pet)^{n-1} \cdot pe^t$$

$$\Big|_{t=0} = n(1-p+p)^{n-1} \cdot p = \boxed{np}$$

Ex. (8.13) Suppose  $M_Z(t) = \left(\frac{1}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{10}e^{t/2}\right)^{36}$ ,  $< \infty$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Show that  $Z$  can be written as a sum of iid. random variables  $X_j$ , and describe the distribution of  $X_j$ .

$$Z = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_{36} \quad \text{where } X_j \text{ iid.}$$

$$\text{with } M_{X_j}(t) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{2}{5}e^{0t} + \frac{1}{10}e^{t/2}$$

$$= \sum_{k \in \{-1, 0, 1/2\}} e^{tk} P(X_j = k)$$

$$P(X_j = -1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(X_j = 0) = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$P(X_j = 1/2) = \frac{1}{10}$$

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Ex. Let  $U \sim \text{Unif}[-1,1]$ ,  $X \sim N(1,1)$ , independent.

Find the MGF of  $U+X$ .

$$M_U(t) = \int_{-1}^1 e^{tx} \frac{1}{1-(-1)} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 e^{tx} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{t} e^{tx} \right) \Big|_{x=-1}^1 \\ = \frac{1}{2t} (e^t - e^{-t})$$

$$X = Z + 1$$

$$Z \sim N(0,1)$$

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tX}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{t(Z+1)}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tZ} e^t) \\ = e^t \mathbb{E}(e^{tZ}) = e^t e^{t^2/2}$$

$$\therefore M_{U+X}(t) = M_U(t) M_X(t) = \frac{1}{2t} (e^t - e^{-t}) \cdot e^t \cdot e^{t^2/2} \\ = \frac{(e^{2t} - 1)}{2t} e^{t^2/2}$$