

2. PRELIMINARIES

Laplace Transforms, Moment Generating Functions and Characteristic Functions

- 2.1 Definitions
- 2.2 Theorems on Laplace Transforms
- 2.3 Operations on Laplace Transforms
- 2.4 Limit Theorems
- 2.5 Dirac Delta Function
- 2.6 Appendix: Complex Numbers
- 2.7 Appendix: Notes on Partial Fractions

Laplace Transforms, Moment Generating Functions and Characteristic Functions

2.1. Definitions:

Let $\varphi(t)$ be defined on real line.

a. Moment Generating Function (MGF)

$$MGF = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\theta t} \varphi(t) dt$$

which exists if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{\theta t} \varphi(t)| dt < \infty$

b. Characteristic Function (CF)

$$CF = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iyt} \varphi(t) dt \quad (i^2 = -1).$$

which exists if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{iyt} \varphi(t)| dt < \infty$

Since $e^{iyt} = \cos yt + i \sin yt$, $|e^{iyt}| = 1$

CF exists if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\varphi(t)| dt < \infty$

c. Laplace Transform

Let $\varphi(t)$ be defined on $[0, \infty)$ and assume

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x_0 t} \varphi(t) dt < \infty$$

for some value of $x_0 \geq 0$.

Characteristic function of $e^{-x_0 t} \varphi(t)$ is

$$CF = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-iyt} e^{-x_0 t} \varphi(t) dt \quad (\text{sign of } iyt \text{ could be } + \text{ or } -).$$

$$CF = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(x_0 + iy)t} \varphi(t) dt$$

$$s = x_0 + iy$$

$$CF = \varphi^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi(t) dt \quad \text{for } R(s) \geq x_0$$

$\varphi^*(s)$ is Laplace Transform of $\varphi(t)$.

$$\varphi^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi(t) dt$$

Since $\varphi(t)$ defined on $[0, \infty)$, for $\varepsilon \geq 0$

$$\varphi^*(s) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\varepsilon}^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi(t) dt = \int_{0+}^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi(t) dt.$$

Often a script \mathcal{L} is used to denote a Laplace transform; i.e.

$$\mathcal{L} \{ \varphi(t) \} = \varphi^*(s)$$

Suppose $f(t)$ is a pdf on $[0, \infty)$,

$$f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt, \quad R(s) \geq 0$$

Laplace transform is appropriate for non-negative r.v.

If the cdf is $F(t) = \int_0^t f(x)dx = \int_0^t dF(x)$

$$f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dF(t)$$

is Laplace-Stieltjes Transform.

Note: $E(e^{-sT}) = f^*(s)$

$$f^*(0) = 1, \quad 0 \leq f^*(s) \leq 1$$

2.2 Theorems on Laplace Transforms (LT)

a. Uniqueness Theorem.

Distinct probability distributions have distinct Laplace Transforms

b. Continuity Theorem

For $n = 1, 2, \dots$, let $\{F_n(t)\}$ be a sequence of *cdf*'s such that $F_n \rightarrow F$.

Define $\{f_n^*(s)\}$ as the sequence of *LT* such that $\mathcal{L}\{f_n(t)\} = f_n^*(s)$

and define $f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dF(t)$.

Then $f_n^*(s) \rightarrow f^*(s)$ and conversely if $f_n^*(s) \rightarrow f^*(s)$, then

$F_n(t) \rightarrow F(t)$

c. Convolution Theorem

If T_1, T_2 are independent, non-negative r.v. with p.d.f $f_1(t), f_2(t)$ then the pdf of $T = T_1 + T_2$ is

$$f(t) = \int_0^{\infty} f_1(\tau) f_2(t - \tau) d\tau$$

and $\mathcal{L} \{f(t)\} = f_1^*(s) f_2^*(s)$

In general if $\{T_i\} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are independent non-negative r.v., then the Laplace transform of the pdf of $T = T_1 + \dots + T_n$ is

$$\mathcal{L} \{f(t)\} = \prod_{i=1}^n f_i^*(s)$$

d. Moment Generating Property

Suppose all moments exist.

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{s^n t^n}{n!} \right\} f(t) dt \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{s^n}{n!} \int_0^{\infty} t^n f(t) dt \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{s^n}{n!} m_n \quad \text{where } m_n = E(T^n) \end{aligned}$$

e. Inversion Theorem

Knowledge of $f^*(s)$. The inversion formula is written

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} e^{st} f^*(s) ds$$

where the integration is in the complex plane and c is an appropriate constant. (It is beyond the scope of this course to discuss the inversion formula in detail).

Notation: $\mathcal{L} \{f(t)\} = f^*(s)$

$$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{f^*(s)\}$$

where $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ \}$ is referred to as the “Inverse Laplace Transform”.

Example: Exponential Distribution

$$f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

$$E(T) = 1/\lambda, \quad V(t) = 1/\lambda^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt = \lambda \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s+\lambda)t} dt \\ &= \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} \right) \int_0^{\infty} (\lambda + s) e^{-(\lambda+s)t} dt = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} \end{aligned}$$

$$f^*(s) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{s}{\lambda}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\frac{s}{\lambda} \right)^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{s^n}{n!} \left(\frac{n!}{\lambda^n} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow m_n = E(T^n) = \frac{n!}{\lambda^n}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\lambda e^{-\lambda t}\} = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s}, \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s}\right\} = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-\lambda t}\} = (\lambda + s)^{-1}, \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-1}\} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

Note:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} e^{st} f^*(s) ds = f(t)$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} e^{st} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} \right) ds = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} e^{st} (\lambda + s)^{-1} ds = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-1}\} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-1}\} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

Differentiating w.r. to λ

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-2}\} = te^{-\lambda t}$$

again $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{2(\lambda + s)^{-3}\} = t^2e^{-\lambda t}$

\vdots

$(n - 1)$ times $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(n - 1)!(\lambda + s)^{-n}\} = t^{n-1}e^{-\lambda t}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{t^{n-1}e^{-\lambda t}}{\Gamma(n)}\right\} = (\lambda + s)^{-n}, \quad \Gamma(n) = (n - 1)!$$

and $\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\lambda(\lambda t)^{n-1}e^{-\lambda t}}{\Gamma(n)}\right\} = \lambda^n/(\lambda + s)^n$

Note: $\frac{\lambda(\lambda t)^{n-1}e^{-\lambda t}}{\Gamma(n)}$ is gamma distribution.

If $\{T_i\}$ $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are independent non-negative identically distributed r.v. following an exponential distribution with parameter λ and $T = T_1 + \dots + T_n$

$$f^*(s) = \prod_1^n f_i^*(s) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} \right)^n$$

Example: Suppose T_1, T_2 are independent non-negative random variables following exponential distributions with parameters λ_1, λ_2 ($\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$). What is distribution of $T = T_1 + T_2$?

$$f^*(s) = f_1^*(s)f_2^*(s) = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + s} \right) \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_2 + s} \right).$$

$f^*(s)$ can be written as a partial fraction; i.e.

$$f^*(s) = \frac{A_1}{(\lambda_1 + s)} + \frac{A_2}{(\lambda_2 + s)} = \frac{A_1(\lambda_2 + s) + A_2(\lambda_1 + s)}{(\lambda_1 + s)(\lambda_2 + s)}$$

where $A_1 = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}, A_2 = -A_1$

Since $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-1}\} = e^{-\lambda t}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{f^*(s)\} &= A_1\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda_1 + s)^{-1}\} + A_2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda_2 + s)^{-1}\} \\ &= A_1e^{-\lambda_1 t} + A_2e^{-\lambda_2 t} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{\lambda_1\lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} [e^{-\lambda_1 t} - e^{-\lambda_2 t}]} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose T_1, T_2, T_3 are non-negative independent r.v. so that T_1 is exponential with parameter λ_1 and T_2, T_3 are exponential each with parameter λ_2 . Find pdf of $T = T_1 + T_2 + T_3$.

$$f^*(s) = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + s}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_2 + s}\right)^2 = \frac{A_1}{\lambda_1 + s} + \frac{B_1}{\lambda_2 + s} + \frac{B_2}{(\lambda_2 + s)^2}$$

$$\boxed{f(t) = A_1e^{-\lambda_1 t} + B_1e^{-\lambda_2 t} + B_2te^{-\lambda_2 t}}$$

Homework:

$$\text{Show } A_1 = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^{-2} \lambda_1 \lambda_2^2$$

$$B_1 = - [(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^{-1} + (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^{-2}] \lambda_1 \lambda_2^2$$

$$B_2 = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^{-1} \lambda_1 \lambda_2^2$$

In general if $f_i^*(s) = (\lambda_i / (\lambda_i + s))$ $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and

$f^*(s) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_i^*(s)$, then $f(t)$ is called the Erlangian distribution.

(Erlang was a Danish telephone engineer who used this distribution to model telephone calls).

2.3 Operations on Laplace Transforms

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-\lambda t}\} &= (\lambda + s)^{-1} \\ \mathcal{L}\{t^{n-1}e^{-\lambda t}\} &= \Gamma(n)/(\lambda + s)^n\end{aligned}$$

Setting $\lambda = 0$ in above

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{1\} &= 1/s \\ \mathcal{L}\{t^{n-1}\} &= \Gamma(n)/s^n\end{aligned}$$

Homework: Prove the following relationships

$$1. \mathcal{L} \left\{ \int_0^t \varphi(x) dx \right\} = \frac{\varphi^*(s)}{s}$$

$$2. \mathcal{L} \{ \varphi'(t) \} = s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)$$

$$3. \mathcal{L} \{ \varphi^{(r)}(t) \} = s^r \varphi^*(s) - s^{r-1} \varphi(0^+) - s^{r-2} \varphi'(0^+) \\ - \dots - \varphi^{(0)}(0^+)$$

Prove (1) and (2) using integration by parts

Prove (3) by successive use of (2).

Suppose $f(t)$ is a pdf for a non-negative random variable and

$$F(t) = \int_0^t f(x)dx, \quad Q(t) = \int_t^\infty f(x)dx$$

Since $\mathcal{L} \left\{ \int_0^t \varphi(x)dx \right\} = \frac{\varphi^*(s)}{s}$

$$\mathcal{L} \{F(t)\} = F^*(s) = \frac{f^*(s)}{s}$$

Since $Q(t) = 1 - F(t)$

$$\mathcal{L} \{Q(t)\} = Q^*(s) = \frac{1}{s} - F^*(s) = \frac{1 - f^*(s)}{s}$$

2.4 Limit Theorems

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \varphi(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} s\varphi^*(s)$$

Proof:

$$\mathcal{L} \{\varphi'(t)\} = s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)$$

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \varphi'^*(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} [s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)]$$

But $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi'(t) dt = 0$

$$\therefore \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} [s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)] = 0$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s\varphi^*(s)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{L} \{ \varphi'(t) \} &= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \varphi'(t) dt = \int_0^{\infty} \varphi'(t) dt \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t \varphi'(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} [\varphi(t) - \varphi(0^+)]. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathcal{L} \{ \varphi'(t) \} = s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)$

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} [s\varphi^*(s) - \varphi(0^+)] = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} [\varphi(t) - \varphi(0^+)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s\varphi^*(s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t)$$

2.5. Dirac Delta Function

Sometimes it is useful to use the Dirac delta function. It is a “strange” function and has the property.

$$\delta(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t \neq 0 \\ \infty & t = 0 \end{cases}$$

Define

$$U(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t > 0 \\ 0 & t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Let $h > 0$

$$\delta(t, h) = \frac{U(t+h) - U(t)}{h} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t > 0 \\ \frac{1}{h} & \text{if } -h < t \leq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } t \leq -h \end{cases}$$

Define

$$\delta(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \delta(t, h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{U(t+h) - U(t)}{h} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t \neq 0 \\ \infty & \text{for } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) \delta(t-x) dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{U(t-x+h) - U(t-x)}{h} \right] dx \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) U(t-x+h) dx - \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) U(t-x) dx \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } U(t-x+h) = \begin{cases} 1 & t-x+h > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) \delta(t-x) dx \\
&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \int_0^{t+h} \varphi(x) dx - \int_0^t \varphi(x) dx \right\} \\
&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \int_t^{t+h} \varphi(x) dx \right\} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\varphi(t + \theta h) h}{h} \right\} = \varphi(t)
\end{aligned}$$

(by mean value theorem)

for some value of θ $0 < \theta < 1$.

$$\therefore \boxed{\int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x) \delta(t-x) dx = \varphi(t)}$$

Similarly $\varphi(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(t-x) \delta(x) dx$

$$\varphi(t) = \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(x)\delta(t-x)dx = \int_0^{\infty} \varphi(t-x)\delta(x)dx$$

Special Cases

$\varphi(x) = 1$ for all x

$$1 = \int_0^{\infty} \delta(t-x)dx = \int_0^{\infty} \delta(x)dx \text{ for all } t$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^{\infty} \delta(x)dx = 1$$

Suppose $\varphi(x) = e^{-sx}$. Then

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-sx}\delta(x-t)dx = e^{-st}$$

If $t = 0$,

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-sx}\delta(x)dx = \mathcal{L}\{\delta(x)\} = 1$$

Example 1 Consider a non-negative random variable T such that $p_n = P\{T = t_n\}$. Define

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n \delta(t - t_n)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(t) dt = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n \int_0^{\infty} \delta(t - t_n) dt = \sum_1^{\infty} p_n = 1$$

$$F(t_n) = P\{T \leq t_n\} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j U(t_{n+1} - t_j) = \int_0^{t_n} f(t) dt = \sum_{j \leq n} p_j$$

Note: If $t_j < t_{n+1} \Rightarrow t_j \leq t_n$

$$f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \delta(t - t_n) dt = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n e^{-st_n}$$

Example 2

Consider a random variable T such that $p = P\{T = 0\}$ but for $T > 0$

$$P\{t_1 < T \leq t_2\} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} q(x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow f(t) = p\delta(t) + (1 - p)q(t)$$

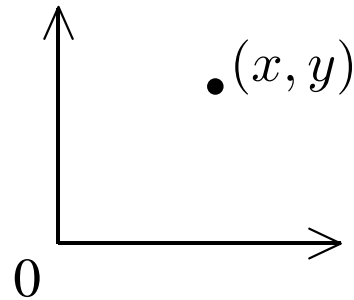
$$f^*(s) = p + (1 - p)q^*(s).$$

Another way of formulating this problem is to define the random variable T by

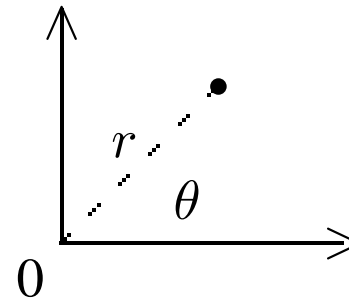
$$T = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with probability } p \\ t & \text{with pdf } q(t) \text{ for } t > 0 \end{cases}$$

This is an example of a random variable having both a discrete and continuous part.

2.6 Appendix
ELEMENTS OF COMPLEX NUMBERS



Rectangular
Coordinates



Polar Coordinates
 $r = \text{Modulus}$
 $\theta = \text{Amplitude}$

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

Complex no. representation: $z = x + iy, r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{y}$$

$|z| = \text{absolute value} = r$

i : to be determined

$$z = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta) = re^{i\theta}$$

Suppose $z_j = a_j + ib_j$

Addition/Subtraction: $z_1 \pm z_2 \Rightarrow (a_1 \pm a_2) + i(b_1 \pm b_2)$

Multiplication:

$$z_j = r_j e^{i\theta_j}, \quad z_1 z_2 = r_1 r_2 e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)} \quad z_1 z_2 \Rightarrow r = r_1 r_2, \quad \theta = \theta_1 + \theta_2$$

$$z_1 z_2 = r_1 r_2 (\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + i \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)) = x + iy$$

$$x = r_1 r_2 \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) = r_1 r_2 (\cos \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2) = a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2$$

$$y = r_1 r_2 \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) = r_1 r_2 (\sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 + \cos \theta_1 \sin \theta_2) = b_1 a_2 + a_1 b_2$$

$$\Rightarrow z_1 z_2 = (a_1 + ib_1)(a_2 + ib_2) = a_1 a_2 + i[a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1] + i^2 [b_1 b_2]$$

$$\text{If } i^2 = -1 \quad \text{Re}(z_1 z_2) = a_1 a_2 - b_1 b_2$$

$$i, i^2 = -1, \quad i^3 = -i, \quad i^4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow i^{4n+1} = i, \quad i^{4n+2} = -1, \quad i^{4n+3} = -i, \quad i^{4n} = 1$$

$$z^n = [r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)]^n = r^n (\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)$$

Exponential function

$$e^{\theta} = \sum_0^{\infty} \frac{\theta^n}{n!}$$

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

$$= \left(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \frac{\theta^6}{6!} + \dots\right) + i\left(\theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} \dots\right)$$

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta,$$

$$e^{-i\theta} = \cos \theta - i \sin \theta, \quad \cos(-\theta) = \cos \theta; \quad \sin -\theta = -\sin \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}, \quad \sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$$

$$\cos 0 = 1, \quad \sin 0 = 0$$

Since $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$; $z = r e^{i\theta}$

If $z = e^{x+iy} = e^x e^{iy}$: e^x : modulus, e^y : amplitude

$$z_1 z_2 = e^{x_1+iy_1} \cdot e^{x_2+iy_2} = e^{x_1+x_2+i(y_1+y_2)}$$

MOMENT GENERATING AND CHARACTERISTIC FUNCTIONS

MGF: $\psi(t) = E(e^{tY}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ty} dF(y)$

$\psi(t)$ exists if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{ty}| dF(y) \leq \infty$

Sometimes *mgf* does not exist.

Importance of *MGF*

Uniqueness Theorem: If two random variables have the same *mgf*, they have the same *cdf* except possibly at a countable number of points having 0 probability.

Continuity Theorem: Let $\{X_n\}$ and X have *mgf* $\{\psi_n(t)\}$ and $\psi(t)$ with *cdf's* $F_n(x)$ and $F(x)$. Then a necessary and sufficient condition for $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(X) = F(X)$ is that for every t , $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi_n(t) = \psi(t)$, where $\psi(t)$ is continuous at $t = 0$.

Inversion Formula: Knowledge of $\psi(t)$ enables the *pdf* or frequency function to be calculated.

Convolution Theorem: If Y_i are independent with *mgf* $\psi_i(t)$, then the

$$\text{mgf of } S = \sum_1^n Y_i \text{ is } \psi_S(t) = \prod_1^n \psi_i(t)$$

$$\text{If } \psi_i(t) = \psi(t) \Rightarrow \psi_S(t) = \psi(t)^n$$

MOMENT GENERATING FUNCTIONS
DO NOT ALWAYS EXIST!

For that reason one ordinarily uses a characteristic function of a distribution rather than the *mgf*.

Def. The characteristic function of a random variable y is

$$\varphi(t) = E(e^{ity}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ity} dF(y) \text{ for } -\infty < t < \infty$$

$$|\varphi(t)| = |E(e^{ity})| \leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |e^{ity}| dF(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dF(y) = 1$$

as $|e^{ity}| = 1$.

\Rightarrow Characteristic Functions always exist.

Relation between *mgf* and *cf*.

$$\varphi(t) = \psi(it)$$

$$\varphi(t) = \sum \frac{(it)^n}{n!} m_n \qquad \varphi^{(r)}(0) = i^r m_r$$

The characteristic function is a Fourier Transform; i.e. for any function $g(y)$

$$F.T.(q(y)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ity} q(y) dy \qquad \text{if } q(y) \text{ is pdf } \Rightarrow \text{ c.f.}$$

RELATION TO LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

Let Y be a non-negative r.v. with pdf $f(y)$; i.e. $P\{Y \geq 0\} = 1$. Then it is common to use Laplace Transforms instead of characteristic functions.

Def.: $s = a + ib$ ($a > 0$). Then the Laplace Transform of $f(y)$ is

$$f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-sy} f(y) dy$$

Since $e^{-sy} f(y) = e^{-iby} e^{-ay} f(y)$

The Laplace Transform is the equivalent of taking the Fourier Transform of $e^{-ay} f(y)$

Ex. Exponential $\varphi(t) = (1 - \frac{it}{\lambda})^{-1}$

$$f^*(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-sy} \lambda e^{-\lambda y} dy = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + s} = (1 + \frac{s}{\lambda})^{-1}$$

MOMENT GENERATING FUNCTIONS AND
CHARACTERISTIC FUNCTIONS

	<u>mgf</u>	<u>cf</u>
Bernoulli	$(pe^t + q)$	$(pe^{it} + q)$
Binomial	$(pe^t + q)^n$	$(pe^{it} + q)^n$
Poisson	$e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$	$e^{\lambda(e^{it} - 1)}$
Geometric	$pe^t / (1 - qe^t)$	$pe^{it} / (1 - qe^{it})$
Uniform over (a, b)	$\frac{e^{tb} - e^{ta}}{t(b-a)}$	$\frac{e^{itb} - e^{ita}}{it(b-a)}$
Normal	$e^{tm + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$	$e^{itm - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$
Exponential	$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t} = (1 - \frac{t}{\lambda})^{-1}$	$(1 - \frac{it}{\lambda})^{-1}$

INVERSION THEOREM

Integer valued R.V.

Let $Y = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ with prob. $f(j) = P(Y = j)$

$$\underline{\text{cf}} \quad \varphi(t) = E(e^{itY}) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itj} f(j)$$

Inversion Formula:

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-ikt} \varphi(t) dt$$

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-ikt} \left[\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itj} f(j) \right] dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} f(j) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{i(j-k)t} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{i(j-k)t} dt &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} [\cos(j-k)t + i \sin(j-k)t] dt \\ &= \left| \frac{\pi \sin(j-k)t}{j-k} + i \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \frac{\cos(j-k)t}{(j-k)} \quad \text{for } j \neq k \end{aligned}$$

$\sin n\pi = 0$ for any integer n .

$$\cos n\pi = \cos(-n\pi)$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{i(j-k)t} dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } j \neq k \\ 2\pi & \text{for } j = k \end{cases}$$

INVERSION FORMULA FOR CONTINUOUS TYPE RANDOM VARIABLES

Let Y have pdf $f(y)$ and cf $\varphi(t)$ which is integrable; i.e.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\varphi(t)| dt < \infty$$

Inversion Formulae:

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iyt} \varphi(t) dt$$

Ex. Normal Distribution (standard normal)

$$\varphi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ity} \frac{e^{-y^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dy = e^{-t^2/2}$$

Replace t by $-t$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} \frac{e^{-y^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dy = e^{-t^2/2}$$

Interchange symbols t and y

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} \frac{e^{-t^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} dt = e^{-y^2/2}$$

Divide by $\sqrt{2\pi}$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} e^{-t^2/2} dt = \frac{e^{-y^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

which is the inversion formula for $N(0, 1)$.

UNIQUENESS THEOREM

Let X be an arbitrary r.v. and let Y be $N(0, 1)$ where X and Y are independent. Consider $Z = X + cY$ (c is a constant).

$$\varphi_Z(t) = \varphi_X(t)e^{-c^2t^2/2}$$

Note that $\varphi_Z(t)$ is integrable as $|\varphi_X(t)| \leq 1$

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-itz} \varphi_Z(t) dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(a < Z \leq b) &= F_Z(b) - F_Z(a) = \int_a^b f(z) dz \\
&= \int_a^b \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-it(x+cy)} \varphi_x(t) e^{-c^2 t^2 / 2} dt dz \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\int_a^b e^{-itx} dx \right] \varphi_x(t) e^{-c^2 t^2 / 2} e^{-itcy} dt
\end{aligned}$$

Let $c \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow z \rightarrow x$ and $dz \rightarrow dx$

$$F_x(b) - F_x(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{e^{-ibt} - e^{-iat}}{-it} \right) \varphi_x(t) dt$$

\Rightarrow The distribution function is determined by its c.f.

\Rightarrow If two r.v.'s have same characteristic function they have the same distribution function.

Examples

Double Exponential $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-|x|} \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

$$\varphi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{itx} \frac{1}{2} e^{-|x|} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\cos tx + i \sin tx] e^{-|x|} dx$$

Since $\sin(-tx) = -\sin tx$ and $\cos(-tx) = \cos(tx)$

$$\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\cos tx) e^{-|x|} dx = \int_0^{\infty} (\cos tx) e^{-x} dx$$

$$\varphi(t) = \left|_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-x} [t \sin tx - \cos tx]}{1 + t^2} = \frac{1}{1 + t^2}$$

as $\sin 0 = 0, \quad \cos 0 = 1$

Double Exponential is sometimes called Laplace's Distribution.

Ex. What is *c.f.* of the Cauchy distribution which has

$$\text{pdf } f(y) = \frac{1}{\pi(1+y^2)} \quad -\infty < y < \infty?$$

Note that by the inversion formula for the double exponential

$$\frac{1}{2}e^{|y|} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} \frac{1}{1+t^2} dt$$

Hence for the Cauchy distribution

$$\varphi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ity} \frac{1}{\pi(1+y^2)} dy = e^{-|t|}$$

PROBLEMS

1. Let Y be any r.v.

(a) Show $\varphi_y(t) = E[\cos tY] + iE[\sin tY]$

(b) Show $\varphi_{-y}(t) = E[\cos tY] - iE[\sin tY]$

(c) Show $\varphi_{-y}(t) = \varphi_y(-t)$

2. Let Y have a symmetric distribution around 0, i.e. $f(y) = f(-y)$

(a) Show $E(\sin tY) = 0$ and $\varphi_y(t)$ is real valued.

(b) Show $\varphi_y(-t) = \varphi_y(t)$

3. Let X and Y be ind. ident. dist. r.v.'s. Show $\varphi_{X-Y}(t) = |\varphi_x(t)|^2$

4. Let Y_j ($j = 1, 2$) be independent exponential r.v.'s with $E(Y_j) = 1/\lambda_j$.

Consider $S = Y_1 + Y_2$

- (a) Find the c.f. of S
- (b) Using (i) and the inversion theorem find the pdf of S . Hint: If $f(y)$ is exponential with parameter λ ($E(Y) = 1/\lambda$), then $\varphi(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - it}$ and $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ity} \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - it} dt = \lambda e^{-\lambda y}$ by the inversion formula.

2.7 Notes on Partial Fractions

Suppose $N^*(s)$ and $D^*(s)$ are polynomials in s . Suppose $D^*(s)$ is a polynomial of degree k and $N^*(s)$ has degree $< k$.

$$D^*(s) = \prod_{i=1}^k (s - s_i) \quad (\text{Roots are distinct})$$

and roots of $N^*(s)$ do not coincide with $D^*(s)$. Then

$$\frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{A_i}{s - s_i}$$

where constants A_i are to be determined.

Since $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-\lambda t}\} = (\lambda + s)^{-1}$, $e^{-\lambda t} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(\lambda + s)^{-1}\}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)}\right\} = \sum_{i=1}^k A_i e^{-s_i t}$$

$$\frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{A_i}{s - s_i}$$

$$\frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k A_i \prod_{j \neq i} (s - s_j)}{\prod_{i=1}^k (s - s_i)}$$

$$N^*(s) = \sum_{i=1}^k A_i \prod_{j \neq i} (s - s_j)$$

Substitute $s = s_r$

$$N^*(s_r) = A_r \prod_{j \neq r} (s_r - s_j)$$

$$A_r = \frac{N^*(s_r)}{\prod_{j \neq r} (s_r - s_j)} \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

Since

$$D^*(s) = \prod_{i=1}^k (s - s_i)$$

$$\frac{dD^*(s)}{ds} = D'^*(s) = \sum_{i=1}^k \prod_{j \neq i} (s - s_j)$$

$$D'^*(s_r) = \prod_{j \neq r} (s_r - s_j)$$

$$A_r = \frac{N^*(s_r)}{D'^*(s_r)}$$

$$r = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

Example:

Let T_i be independent r.v. having pdf $q_i(t) = \lambda_i e^{-\lambda_i t}$ ($\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$) and consider $T = T_1 + T_2$.

$$q_i^*(s) = \lambda_i / (\lambda_i + s) \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$q_T^*(s) = q_1^*(s)q_2^*(s) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 / (\lambda_1 + s)(\lambda_2 + s)$$

$$= \frac{A_1}{(\lambda_1 + s)} + \frac{A_2}{(\lambda_2 + s)}$$

$$N^*(s) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \quad , \quad D^*(s) = (\lambda_1 + s)(\lambda_2 + s), s_i = -\lambda_i$$

$$A_r = \frac{N^*(s_r)}{D'^*(s_r)} \quad , \quad D'^*(s) = (\lambda_1 + s) + (\lambda_2 + s)$$

$$A_1 = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \quad , \quad A_2 = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}$$

$$q_T^*(s) = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \left[\frac{1}{s + \lambda_1} - \frac{1}{s + \lambda_2} \right]$$

Taking inverse transforms gives

$$q(t) = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \left[e^{-\lambda_1 t} - e^{-\lambda_2 t} \right]$$

Multiple Roots

If $D^*(s)$ has multiple roots, the methods for finding the partial fraction decomposition is more complicated. It is easier to use direct methods.

Example: $N^*(s) = 1$, $D^*(s) = (a + s)^2(b + s)$

$$\frac{N^*}{D^*(s)} = \frac{1}{(a + s)^2(b + s)} = \frac{A_1}{a + s} + \frac{A_2}{(a + s)^2} + \frac{B}{b + s}$$

$$\frac{1}{(a + s)^2(b + s)} = \frac{A_1(a + s)(b + s) + A_2(b + s) + B(a + s)^2}{(a + s)^2(b + s)}$$

$$1 = A_1(a + s)(b + s) + A_2(b + s) + B(a + s)^2 \quad (1)$$

$$1 = s^2[A_1 + B] + s[A_1(a + b) + A_2 + B(2a)] + [abA_1 + A_2b + Ba^2]$$

$$A_1 + B = 0, \quad A_1(a + b) + A_2 + 2aB = 0$$

$$A_1(ab) + A_2b + Ba^2 = 1$$

The above three equations result in solutions for (A_1, A_2, B) . Another way to solve for these constants is by substituting $s = -a$ and $s = -b$ in (1); i.e.

substituting $s = -b$ in (1)

$$\Rightarrow B = (a - b)^{-2} \Rightarrow A_1 = -B = -(a - b)^{-2}$$

substituting $s = -a$ in (1) $\Rightarrow A_2 = (b - a)^{-1}$

$$A_1 = -(a - b)^{-2}, A_2 = -(a - b)^{-1}, B = (a - b)^{-2}$$

$$\frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} = \frac{1}{(s + a)^2(s + b)} = \frac{A_1}{s + a} + \frac{A_2}{(s + a)^2} + \frac{B}{s + b}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} \right\} = -(a - b)^{-2} e^{-at} - (a - b)^{-1} t e^{-at} + (a - b)^{-2} e^{-bt}$$

$$= \frac{-e^{-at}}{(a - b)^2} [1 + t(a - b)] + \frac{e^{-bt}}{(a - b)^2}$$

In general if $D^*(s) = (s - s_1)^{d_1} (s - s_2)^{d_2} \dots (s - s_k)^{d_k}$ the decomposition is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{N^*(s)}{D^*(s)} &= \frac{A_1}{s - s_1} + \frac{A_2}{(s - s_1)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_{d_1}}{(s - s_1)^{d_1}} \\ &+ \frac{B_1}{s - s_2} + \frac{B_2}{(s - s_2)^2} + \dots + \frac{B_{d_2}}{(s - s_2)^{d_2}} \\ &+ \dots + \\ &+ \frac{Z_1}{(s - s_k)} + \frac{Z_2}{(s - s_k)^2} + \dots + \frac{Z_{d_k}}{(s - s_k)^{d_k}} \end{aligned}$$