

Ex Let X be an exponential r.v. with mean $1/\lambda$. Find $\varphi_X(\omega)$

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_X(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) e^{j\omega x} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} u(x) e^{j\omega x} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-(\lambda - j\omega)x} dx \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - j\omega}\end{aligned}$$

Uniqueness Theorem of Characteristic Functions:

Let X_1, X_2 be r.v.s with pdf $f_{X_1}(x)$

and $f_{X_2}(x)$, and characteristic functions

$\varphi_{X_1}(\omega)$ and $\varphi_{X_2}(\omega)$. Then

$$\varphi_{X_1}(\omega) = \varphi_{X_2}(\omega) \quad (\text{equivalent}) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f_{X_1}(x) = f_{X_2}(x)$$

Ex The characteristic function of a Gaussian r.v. X

with mean μ_x and variance σ_x^2

$$\varphi_x(w) = \exp(j\mu_x w - \sigma_x^2 w^2 / 2)$$

Find the characteristic function of $Y = aX + b$
(a, b are constants)

$$\varphi_Y(w) = E[e^{jwY}]$$

$$= E[e^{jw(aX+b)}]$$

$$= e^{jwb} E[e^{jwaX}]$$

$$= e^{jwb} \cdot \varphi_X(aw)$$

$$= e^{jwb} \exp(j\mu_x aw - \sigma_x^2 a^2 w^2 / 2)$$

$$= \exp(j(a\mu_x + b)w - a^2 \sigma_x^2 w^2 / 2)$$

$\Rightarrow Y$ is Gaussian with mean $a\mu_x + b$
and variance $a^2 \sigma_x^2$.

Since $f_X(x)$ and $\varphi_X(\omega)$ form a transform pair we would expect $\varphi_X(\omega)$ to contain the same information as $f_X(x)$. The moment theorem gives us a way to find the moments of X from $\varphi_X(\omega)$.

Moment Theorem: Let X be a r.v. with characteristic function $\varphi_X(\omega)$. Then the n^{th} moment of X is given by:

$$E[X^n] = \frac{1}{j^n} \frac{d^n}{d\omega^n} \varphi_X(\omega) \Big|_{\omega=0}$$

EX Use the moment theorem to find the 2nd central moment of a Gaussian r.v. X .

Want to find $E[(X - \mu_X)^2]$

$$\text{Let } Y = X - \mu_X$$

$\Rightarrow Y$ is a Gaussian with mean 0 and variance σ_X^2 .

$$\begin{aligned} E[(X - \mu_X)^2] &= E[Y^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{j^2} \frac{d^2}{d\omega^2} \varphi_Y(\omega) \Big|_{\omega=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{j^2} \frac{d^2}{d\omega^2} \exp(-\sigma_X^2 \omega^2 / 2) \Big|_{\omega=0} \end{aligned}$$

$$= -1 \cdot \sigma_x^2 \exp(-\sigma_x^2 w^2 / 2) (\sigma_x^2 w^2 - 1) \Big|_{w=0}$$
$$= \sigma_x^2$$

Can use same approach to find $E[(X - \mu_x)^n]$, $n \geq 1$

Two Random Variables

Many random experiments involve multiple quantities of interest or ~~quanties~~ quantities that are repeatedly measured.

Ex • Measure temperature and pressure of outdoors

X = temperature in $^{\circ}\text{C}$

Y = pressure in atm

- Throw dart at dartboard (bullseye is origin)

X = x-coordinate in m

Y = y-coordinate in m

R = distance to dart = $\sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}$

- Tossing two dice

(X, Y) be the values rolled.

So far, we have discussed how to calculate probabilities of events involving a single, isolated r.v.

We now discuss tools to analyze the joint behavior of two r.v.s