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$$\underline{\mu_k} \equiv E(\underline{X^k}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underline{x^k} \, \underline{dF_X(x)}, \quad \underline{k = 1, 2, 3, \dots},$$

are called the  $k^{th}$  moments of X provided that the integral converges absolutely, and

$$\underline{\mu_k'} \equiv E[\underbrace{(X - \underline{\mu_X})^k}_{\text{a constant}}] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{(x - \mu_X)^k}_{\text{d}} dF_X(x), \quad k = \underline{2}, 3, \dots,$$

are called  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment about the mean  $\mu_X$  or <u>central moment</u> of X provided that the integral converges absolutely.

Some notes.

$$\underline{\mu'_k} = \underline{E[(X - \mu_X)^k]} = \underline{E}\left[\underline{\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i}} \underline{(-\mu_X)^{k-i}} \underline{X^i}\right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} (-\mu_X)^{k-i} E(X^i) = \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} (-\mu_X)^{k-i} \underline{\mu_i}.$$

$$\underline{\mu_k} = E(\underline{X^k}) = E\{[(X - \mu_X) + \mu_X]^{\underline{k}}\}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^k {k \choose i} (\mu_X)^{k-i} E[(X - \mu_X)^i]$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^k {k \choose i} (\mu_X)^{k-i} \underline{\mu_i'}.$$

$$\underline{\mu_1} \quad \underline{\mu_2} \cdots \underline{\mu_k} \cdots$$

■ In particular,

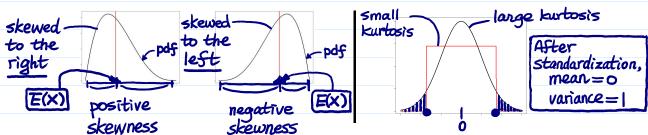
$$\underline{E(X)} = \underline{\mu_X = \mu_1}, \text{ and,}$$

$$\underline{Var(X)} = \underline{\sigma_X^2 = \mu_2'} = \underline{\mu_2 - \mu_1^2}. = \underline{E(X^2)} - [\underline{E(X)}]^2$$

p. 8-32 Recall. The (central) moments give a lot of useful information about the distribution in addition to mean and variance, e.g., mean var, cov, cor

□ Skewness (a measure of the asymmetry):  $\mu_3'/\sigma^3 = E(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma})^3$ defined by

<u>Kurtosis</u> (a measure of the "heavy tails"):  $\mu'_4/\sigma^4 = E(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma})^4$ 



Example (Uniform). If  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ , then

$$\underline{\mu_k} = \int_0^1 \underline{x^k} \, dx = \underline{\frac{1}{k+1}},$$

$$\underline{\mu_1} = 1/2, \text{ and.}$$

therefore, 
$$\underline{\mu_X} = \underline{\mu_1} = 1/2$$
, and,  
 $\underline{\mu_2} \rightarrow \underline{\sigma_X^2} = \underline{\mu_2 - \mu_1^2} = 1/3 - (1/2)^2 = 1/12$ .

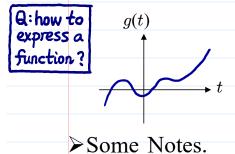
And,  $\underline{\mu'_k} = \int_0^1 (\underline{x - 1/2})^k dx = \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \underline{\underline{z}^k} dz$ 

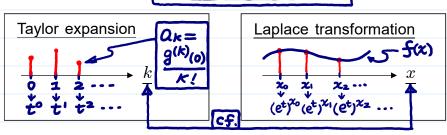
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- Recall. How to characterize a distribution?
  - (1) pdf/pmf, (2) cdf, (3) mgf
- Definition (Moment Generating Function). If X is a random variable with the  $\operatorname{cdf} F_X$ , then

with the 
$$\underline{\operatorname{cdf} F_X}$$
, then 
$$\underline{M_X(\underline{t})} = \underline{E}(\underline{e^{\underline{t}X}}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underline{e^{\underline{t}x}} \, d\underline{F_X(x)}, \qquad \qquad \underline{f_X(x)} = \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\underline{t}x} \, f_X(x) dx}_{\underline{continuous}} \text{ case}$$

is called the *moment generating function* (mgf) of X provided that the integral converges absolutely in some non-degenerate interval of t.  $g(t) = \sum_{\underline{k}=0}^{\infty} \underline{a_{\underline{k}}} \underline{t^{\underline{k}}} \qquad g(t) = \underline{\int}_{\mathbb{R}} \underline{f(\underline{x})} (\underline{e^t})^{\underline{x}} d\underline{x}$ 





- lacktriangle The mgf is a function of the variable t.
- i.e., not all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ■ The mgf may only exist for some particular values of t.
- ullet  $M_X(t)$  always <u>exists</u> at  $\underline{t=0}$  and  $M_X(\underline{0})=\underline{1}$  Thm in LNp.8-36



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- If  $\underline{X}$  is a discrete r.v. taking on values  $\underline{x}_i$ 's with probability  $\underline{p}_i$ 's, i=1, 2, 3, ..., then

$$M_X(t) = E(\underline{e^{tX}}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e^{tx_i} \underline{p_i}.$$

■ If  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ , then for  $-\infty < t < \infty$ ,

$$M_X(t) = E(\underline{e^{tX}}) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \underline{e^{tx}} \times \frac{e^{-\lambda} \underline{\lambda^x}}{x!}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda} \left( e^{\lambda e^t} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} \underline{e^{-(\lambda e^t)} (\underline{\lambda} e^t)^x}_{x!} = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda e^t} = \underline{e^{\lambda (e^t - 1)}}.$$

$$X \sim \text{exponential}(\lambda) \text{ then for } t \leq \lambda \qquad \text{pmf of Poisson}(\lambda e^t) \leftarrow \lambda$$

• If  $X \sim \text{exponential}(\lambda)$ , then for  $t < \lambda$ ,

$$M_X(t) = E(\underline{e^{tX}}) = \int_0^\infty \underline{e^{tx}} \times \lambda \, \underline{e^{-\lambda x}} \, dx$$

$$= \lambda \left(\frac{1}{\lambda - t}\right) \int_0^\infty \underline{(\lambda - t)} \, \underline{e^{-(\lambda - t)x}} \, dx = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t},$$

$$= \lambda \left(\frac{1}{\lambda - t}\right) \int_0^\infty \underline{(\lambda - t)} \, \underline{e^{-(\lambda - t)x}} \, dx = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t},$$

and  $M_X(t)$  does not exist for  $t \ge \lambda$ . This must be >0

A list of some mgfs (exercise)

ullet If  $X \sim \operatorname{binomial}(n, p)$ , we binomial expansion (LNp.5-23)

 $M_X(t) = (1 - p + pe^{\underline{t}})^n$ , for  $t < -\log(1 - p)$ .

