

Maths handout

1. Be $|q| < 1$. Then we have

$$\sum_{s=0}^{\infty} sq^s = \frac{q}{(1-q)^2} \quad (1)$$

Proof: We have

$$\sum_{s=0}^{\infty} sq^s = (q + 2q^2 + 3q^3 \dots) = \quad (2)$$

$$q(1 + 2q + 3q^2) = q(1 + q + q + q^2 + q^2 + q^2 \dots) = \quad (3)$$

$$q[1 + q + q^2 \dots + q(1 + q + q^2 \dots) + q^2(1 + q + q^2 \dots)] = \quad (4)$$

$$q(1 + q + q^2 \dots)(1 + q + q^2 \dots) = q \frac{1}{1-q} \frac{1}{1-q} = \frac{q}{(1-q)^2}, \quad (5)$$

where the last line follows from the fact that $(1 + q + q^2 \dots)$ is a geometric series and converges to $1/(1-q)$.

2. Be x a random variable with normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma)$. Then γx has a normal distribution $N(\gamma\mu, |\gamma|\sigma)$.

3. Be x a random variable with normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma)$. Then e^x has mean

$$E(e^x) = e^{\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}}. \quad (6)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
E(e^x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^x \frac{e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = & (7) \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-x^2-\mu^2+2\mu x+2\sigma^2 x}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-x^2-\mu^2+2\mu x+2\sigma^2 x-\sigma^4-2\sigma^2\mu+\sigma^4+2\sigma^2\mu}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{\frac{\sigma^4+2\sigma^2\mu}{2\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{x^2-\mu^2+2\mu x+2\sigma^2 x-\sigma^4-2\sigma^2\mu}{2\sigma^2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = \\
&= e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2}+\mu} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2-\mu^2+2\mu x+2\sigma^2 x-\sigma^4-2\sigma^2\mu}{2\sigma^2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2}+\mu} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-\frac{(x-\mu-\sigma^2)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} dx = e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2}+\mu},
\end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the fact that the integral of a normal density equals one.