

66. The Information Theoretic Proof of Kac's Theorem

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1. Introduction.

The object of this paper is to give information theoretic proofs of the following two well known theorems.

Theorem 1. *Let X_1 and X_2 be independent random variables and let*

$$(1) \quad Y_1 = X_1 \cos \gamma + X_2 \sin \gamma$$

$$(2) \quad Y_2 = -X_1 \sin \gamma + X_2 \cos \gamma.$$

If Y_1 and Y_2 are independent of each other for sufficiently small neighbor of some γ . Then the variables X_1 and X_2 are normally distributed.

Theorem 2. *Let $F(x)$ be a distribution function with mean zero and variance one. If for any positive σ_1 and σ_2 there exists $\sigma > 0$ satisfying the following relation*

$$(3) \quad F\left(\frac{x}{\sigma_1}\right) * F\left(\frac{x}{\sigma_2}\right) = F\left(\frac{x}{\sigma}\right).$$

Then $F(x)$ is normal distribution, where the notation $$ denotes the convolution of distribution functions.*

Theorem 1 was proved by M. Kac 1 in a general form. And Theorem 2 was first proved by G. Pólya. We must assume appropriate conditions, as our proof is based on the information measures of C. E. Shannon, R. A. Fisher and YU. V. Linnik 1.

2. Notations and Lemmas.

We consider one dimensional random variable X with continuous probability density $p(x)$ and satisfying the conditions

$$(4) \quad \sup p(x) < \infty, E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x)dx = 0, \quad \text{and} \\ D(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2p(x)dx.$$

And we put

$$(5) \quad I(X) = H(X) - \frac{1}{2} \log D(X)$$

following YU. V. Linnik 1 where

$$(6) \quad H(X) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) \log p(x) dx$$

introduced by C. Shannon.

Lemma 1. $I(X)$ is invariant with respect to a homothetic transformation, i.e., for any $\alpha > 0$

$$(7) \quad I(\alpha X) = I(X).$$

The proof is in the paper of Linnik 1.

Lemma 2. Let X and Y be mutually independent random variables with probability densities $p(x)$ and $q(y)$ and variances $D(X)$ and $D(Y)$ respectively. Then

$$(8) \quad I(X + \beta Y) - I(X) = \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 D(Y) f(X) + o(\beta^2)$$

for sufficiently small $\beta > 0$, where

$$(9) \quad f(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p'(x)}{p(x)} \right)^2 p(x) dx - \frac{1}{D(X)}$$

Proof. Let $\pi(x)$ be the probability density of $X + \beta Y$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x - \beta y) q(y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left\{ p(x) + \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 y^2 p''(x) \right\} q(y) dy + o(\beta^2) \\ &= p(x) + \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 D(Y) p''(x) + o(\beta^2) \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$I(X + \beta Y) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \pi(x) \log \pi(x) dx - \frac{1}{2} \log (D(X) + \beta^2 D(Y))$$

and

$$I(X) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) \log p(x) dx - \frac{1}{2} \log D(X)$$

And so

$$I(X + \beta Y) - I(X) = \frac{1}{2} \beta^2 D(Y) f(X) + o(\beta^2).$$

The detailed estimation of $o(\beta^2)$ can be done analogously to the paper of Linnik 1.

Lemma 3. Let $f(X)$ be the value defined by (9), then we have

$$f(X) \geq 0$$

and

$$f(X) = 0$$

if and only if X is normally distributed.

It is easy to see that the inequality $f(X) \geq 0$ is equivalent to Rao-Cramér inequality. And so the proof is known. For example see Linnik 1 or H. P. McKean 1.

3. Proofs of Theorem.

Proof of Theorem 1.

For sufficiently small ε , we consider

$$(10) \quad Z_1 = X_1 \cos(\gamma - \varepsilon) + X_2 \sin(\gamma - \varepsilon)$$

$$(11) \quad Z_2 = -X_1 \sin(\gamma - \varepsilon) + X_2 \cos(\gamma - \varepsilon).$$

Then from the assumption, Z_1 and Z_2 are mutually independent.

By (1), (2), (10) and (11)

$$(12) \quad Y_1 = Z_1 \cos \varepsilon + Z_2 \sin \varepsilon$$

$$(13) \quad Y_2 = -Z_1 \sin \varepsilon + Z_2 \cos \varepsilon.$$

By (12) we have

$$(14) \quad \frac{Y_1}{\cos \varepsilon} = Z_1 + \tan \varepsilon Z_2.$$

Hence from Lemma 1, Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, we see

$$(15) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{I(Y_1) - I(Z_1)}{\tan^2 \varepsilon} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{I\left(\frac{Y_1}{\cos \varepsilon}\right) - I(Z_1)}{\tan^2 \varepsilon} = \frac{1}{2} D(Z_2) f(Z_1) \geq 0.$$

By the same reason

$$(16) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{I(Y_2) - I(Z_2)}{\tan^2 \varepsilon} = \frac{1}{2} D(Z_1) f(Z_2) \geq 0.$$

As (12) and (13) are respectively equivalent to the following

$$(17) \quad Z_1 = Y_1 \cos \varepsilon - Y_2 \sin \varepsilon$$

$$(18) \quad Z_2 = Y_1 \sin \varepsilon + Y_2 \cos \varepsilon,$$

we can apply the same argument to (17) and (18). Then we can obtain following relations

$$(19) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{I(Z_1) - I(Y_1)}{\tan^2 \varepsilon} = \frac{1}{2} D(Y_2) f(Y_1) \geq 0$$

$$(20) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{I(Z_2) - I(Y_2)}{\tan^2 \varepsilon} = \frac{1}{2} D(Y_1) f(Y_2) \geq 0.$$

From (15), (16), (19) and (20)

$$f(Y_1) = f(Y_2) = f(Z_1) = f(Z_2) = 0.$$

By Lemma 3, Z_1 and Z_2 are normally distributed.

So X_1 and X_2 are normally distributed.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let X, Y and Z be the independent random variables related to the distribution $F(x)$. By the assumption we have

$$(21) \quad \sigma_1 X + \sigma_2 Y = \sigma Z.$$

Now we may take $\sigma_1 = 1$ and sufficiently small $\sigma_2 > 0$. From Lemma 2

$$I(X + \sigma_2 Y) - I(X) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma_2^2 f(X) + o(\sigma_2^2).$$

On the other hand by (21) and Lemma 1

$$I(X + \sigma_2 Y) = I(\sigma Z) = I(Z).$$

As Z and σX have the same distribution $F(x)$, we have

$$I(Z) = I(X).$$

So it is necessary that $f(X)$ is zero. Hence $F(x)$ is a normal distribution function.

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