

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $E(X^n) = 0.8$ ,  $n=1, 2, 3 \dots \infty$ . In the following provide complete derivation and explanations of results.

a) Find the moment generating function of  $X$ .

b) Find the Characteristic Function of  $Y = (-1)^X$

Solution:

a)  $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$ , is the moment generating function of  $X$  by Taylor Polynomial.

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(t) &= M_X(0) + \frac{M'(0)}{1!} t + \frac{M''(0)}{2!} t^2 + \dots + \frac{M^{(n)}(0)}{n!} t^n + \dots \\ &= \cancel{M_X(0)} + \frac{E(X)}{1!} t + \frac{E(X^2)}{2!} t^2 + \dots + \frac{E(X^n)}{n!} t^n + \dots \\ &= \cancel{E(e^{tX})} E(1) + \frac{0.8}{1!} t + \frac{0.8 t^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{0.8}{n!} t^n + \dots \\ &= 1 + 0.8 \left( t + \frac{t^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{t^n}{n!} + \dots + 1 - 1 \right) \\ &= 1 + 0.8(e^t - 1) = 0.2 + 0.8e^t \end{aligned}$$

b)  $\Phi_Y(w) = E(e^{jwY}) = E(e^{jw(-1)^X})$

by  $M_X(t) = 0.2 + 0.8e^t$ , we know

$X \sim \text{Binomial}(0.8)$ , the  $\begin{array}{c|cc} X & 0 & 1 \\ \hline P & 0.2 & 0.8 \end{array}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_Y(w) &= E(e^{jw(-1)^X}) = e^{jw(-1)^0} \times 0.2 + e^{jw(-1)^1} \times 0.8 \\ &= 0.2e^{jw} + 0.8e^{-jw} \end{aligned}$$