

CHARACTERIZING THE DISTRIBUTIONS OF THREE  
INDEPENDENT  $n$ -DIMENSIONAL RANDOM VARIABLES,  
 $X_1, X_2, X_3$ , HAVING ANALYTIC CHARACTERISTIC  
FUNCTIONS BY THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION OF  
 $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$ .

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**Kotlarski characterized the distribution of three independent real random variables  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  having nonvanishing characteristic functions by the joint distribution of the 2-dimensional vector  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$ . In this paper, we shall give a generalization of Kotlarski's result for  $X_1, X_2, X_3$   $n$ -dimensional random variables having analytic characteristic functions which can meet the value zero.**

In [3], Kotlarski shows that, for three independent random variables  $X_1, X_2, X_3$ , the distribution of  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$  determines the distributions of  $X_1, X_2$  and  $X_3$  up to a change of the location if the characteristic function of the pair  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$  does not vanish. Kotlarski also remarks that this result can be generalized in two ways. The statement remains true if the requirement that the pair  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$  has a nonvanishing characteristic function is replaced by the requirement that the random variables,  $X_1, X_2, X_3$ , possess analytic characteristic functions. The statement also remains true if  $X_1, X_2$  and  $X_3$  are  $n$ -dimensional real random vectors such that the pair  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$  has a nonvanishing characteristic function. In this paper, Kotlarski's result is generalized to the case where  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are  $n$ -dimensional real random vectors possessing analytic characteristic functions.

1. Some notions and lemmas about analytic functions of several complex variables. Let  $R_n$  denote  $n$ -dimensional real Euclidean space,  $C_n$  denote  $n$ -dimensional complex Euclidean space, and let  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  be defined on some domain  $D$  in  $C_n$ . The function  $f$  is said to be *analytic at the point*  $(t_1^0, \dots, t_n^0)$  in  $D$  if  $f$  can be represented by a convergent power series in some neighborhood of  $(t_1^0, \dots, t_n^0)$ . The function  $f$  is said to be *analytic on the domain*  $D$  if it is analytic at every point in  $D$ . We now list several lemmas concerning analytic functions of several complex variables; for a discussion of these lemmas and further exposition on this theory, see [2].

LEMMA A. *If  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  and  $g(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  are analytic at the*

point  $(t_1^0, \dots, t_n^0)$ , and if  $f(t_1^0, \dots, t_n^0) \neq 0$ , then the quotient  $\frac{g}{f}$  is also analytic at  $(t_1^0, \dots, t_n^0)$ .

**LEMMA B.** (*Principle of analytic continuation*). If  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic on some domain  $D$  in  $C_n$  and if  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = g(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  at every point in some subdomain of  $D$ , then  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = g(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  at all points of  $D$ .

## 2. The main theorem and its proof.

**THEOREM.** Let  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  be three independent, real,  $n$ -dimensional random vectors, and let  $Z_1 = X_1 + X_3$ ,  $Z_2 = X_2 + X_3$ . If the random vectors  $X_k$  possess characteristic functions  $\phi_k$  which are analytic on domains  $D_k$ , with  $\bar{0} \in D_k$ , ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ), then the distributions of  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  determines the distributions of  $X_1, X_2$  and  $X_3$  up to a change of the location.

*Proof.* Let  $t = (t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n)$ ,  $s = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$  denote arbitrary points in  $C_n$  and  $\bar{0} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$  denote the origin in  $C_n$ ; let

$$\|t\| = \sqrt{|t_1|^2 + |t_2|^2 + \dots + |t_n|^2} \text{ and let } t \cdot s = t_1 s_1 + t_2 s_2 + \dots + t_n s_n.$$

Let  $\phi_k = Ee^{it \cdot X_k}$ , the characteristic function of  $X_k$ , be defined on the domain  $D_k \in C_n$ , ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ). Then, letting  $\phi(t, s)$  denote the characteristic function of the distribution of the pair  $(Z_1, Z_2)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(t, s) &= Ee^{i(t \cdot Z_1 + s \cdot Z_2)} \\ &= Ee^{i(t \cdot X_1 + s \cdot X_2 + (t+s) \cdot X_3)} \\ &= Ee^{it \cdot X_1} Ee^{is \cdot X_2} Ee^{i(t+s) \cdot X_3} \\ &= \phi_1(t) \phi_2(s) \phi_3(t+s) \end{aligned}$$

where this function is defined on the domain

$$D = \{(t, s): t \in D_1, s \in D_2, (t+s) \in D_3\} \in C_{2n}.$$

Let  $U_1, U_2, U_3$  be three other independent, real,  $n$ -dimensional random vectors possessing characteristic functions  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$  which are analytic on domains  $D_1^*, D_2^*, D_3^*$ . Let  $V_1 = U_1 + U_3$ ,  $V_2 = U_2 + U_3$  and let  $\psi(t, s) = Ee^{i(t \cdot V_1 + s \cdot V_2)}$ . Calculations analogous to those above yield

$$\psi(t, s) = \psi_1(t) \psi_2(s) \psi_3(t+s)$$

on

$$D^* = \{(t, s): t \in D_1^*, s \in D_2^*, (t+s) \in D_3^*\} \in C_{2n}.$$

Suppose that the pairs  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  and  $(V_1, V_2)$  have the same distribution; we shall show that the distributions of  $X_k$  and  $U_k$ ,  $(k = 1, 2, 3)$  are equal up to a shift. If the pairs  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  and  $(V_1, V_2)$  have the same distribution, their characteristic functions are equal so that  $D = D^*$  and

$$(1) \quad \psi_1(t) \psi_2(s) \psi_3(t+s) = \phi_1(t) \phi_2(s) \phi_3(t+s).$$

Since each of the functions in equation (1) is analytic and equal to 1 at  $\bar{0}$ , there exists a domain  $D^{**} \in C_{2n}$  of the form

$$\{(t, s): \sqrt{\|t\|^2 + \|s\|^2} < \alpha, \alpha > 0\}$$

such that, on  $D^{**}$ ,  $|\phi_1(t)| > 1/2$ ,  $|\phi_2(s)| > 1/2$ ,  $|\phi_3(t+s)| > 1/2$  and similar conditions hold for  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3$ . Then on  $D^{**}$  equation (1) can be rewritten

$$(2) \quad \frac{\psi_1(t)}{\phi_1(t)} \frac{\psi_2(s)}{\phi_2(s)} = \frac{\phi_3(t+s)}{\psi_3(t+s)}.$$

Letting  $\chi_1(t) = \psi_1(t)/\phi_1(t)$ ,  $\chi_2(t) = \psi_2(t)/\phi_2(t)$ ,  $\chi_3(t) = \phi_3(t)/\psi_3(t)$ , Lemma A asserts that each  $\chi_k$ ,  $(k = 1, 2, 3)$ , is analytic for  $\|t\| < \alpha$ . Then on  $D^{**}$  equation (2) becomes

$$(3) \quad \chi_1(t) \chi_2(s) = \chi_3(t+s).$$

For  $s = \bar{0}$ , this equation reduces to  $\chi_1(t) = \chi_3(t)$ ; similarly, setting  $t = \bar{0}$  yields  $\chi_2(s) = \chi_3(s)$  so that, on  $D^{**}$ ,

$$(4) \quad \chi_3(t) \chi_3(s) = \chi_3(t+s).$$

In [1], it is shown that the only nonzero analytic solutions of (4) are the exponential functions,  $e^{c \cdot t}$  where  $c \in C_n$ .

Therefore, for  $\|t\| < \alpha$ ,  $\psi_3(t) = e^{-c \cdot t} \phi_3(t)$ ; since  $\psi_3$  and  $\phi_3$  are analytic on  $D_3$ , Lemma B asserts that  $\psi_3(t) = e^{-c \cdot t} \phi_3(t)$  for all  $t \in D_3$ . Since  $\chi_3(t) = \chi_1(t)$  for  $\|t\| < \alpha$ ,  $\chi_1(t) = e^{c \cdot t}$  so that  $\psi_1(t) = e^{c \cdot t} \phi_1(t)$  for  $\|t\| < \alpha$ . Again, Lemma B asserts that  $\psi_1(t) = e^{c \cdot t} \phi_1(t)$  for all  $t \in D_1$ . A similar argument yields  $\psi_2(t) = e^{c \cdot t} \phi_2(t)$  for all  $t \in D_2$ .

Since  $\phi(-t) = \overline{\phi(t)}$ , the conjugate of  $\phi(t)$ , for any characteristic function  $\phi$  and any  $t \in R_n$ , it follows that  $c = ib$  where  $b \in R_n$ . Therefore,  $\psi_1(t) = e^{ib \cdot t} \phi_1(t)$ ,  $\psi_2(t) = e^{ib \cdot t} \phi_2(t)$ ,  $\psi_3(t) = e^{-ib \cdot t} \phi_3(t)$ . From this it follows that the distributions of  $X_k$  are equal to those of  $U_k$ ,  $(k = 1, 2, 3)$ , up to a change of the location, and the proof is complete.

**3. Applications of the theorem.** The following two examples show how the theorem can be applied to random vectors  $X_1, X_2, X_3$ ,

of the same dimension, which possess analytic characteristic functions and for which the characteristic function of  $(X_1 + X_3, X_2 + X_3)$  assumes the value zero.

Let  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  denote a random vector; then  $X$  has multinomial distribution,  $Mu(r; P_1, \dots, P_n)$ , of order  $r$  with parameters  $P_1, \dots, P_n, 0 \leq P_j, P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_n \leq 1$ , if, for every set of integers

$$\{k_j: j = 1, 2, \dots, n, k_j \geq 0, \sum_1^n k_i \leq r\},$$

$$P(X_1 = k_1, \dots, X_n = k_n) = \frac{r! P_1^{k_1} \dots P_n^{k_n} P_0^{r-k_1-\dots-k_n}}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_n! (r - k_1 - \dots - k_n)!}$$

where  $P_0 = 1 - P_1 - P_2 - \dots - P_n$ . The characteristic function of  $X$ ,  $\phi(t_1, \dots, t_n) = (P_0 + P_1 e^{it_1} + \dots + P_n e^{it_n})^r$ , is clearly an analytic function on  $C_n$ . Notice that, for the choice of parameters  $P_1 = P_2 = \dots = P_n = 1/2n$ ,  $P_0 = 1/2$ ,  $\phi$  has zeros at the points  $((2m_1 + 1)\pi, (2m_2 + 1)\pi, \dots, (2m_n + 1)\pi)$ , where  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n$  are integers. Let  $Mu^*(r_1, r_2, r_3; P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n)$  denote the joint distribution of the pair  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  where  $Z_1 = X_1 + X_3, Z_2 = X_2 + X_3$  and each  $X_k$ ,  $(k = 1, 2, 3)$  has distribution  $Mu(r_k; P_1, \dots, P_n)$ . With these definitions, the above theorem asserts the following result.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  be three independent,  $n$ -dimensional, random vectors and let  $Z_1 = X_1 + X_3, Z_2 = X_2 + X_3$ . If the pair  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  has distribution  $Mu^*(r_1, r_2, r_3; P_1, \dots, P_n)$ , then, except for perhaps a change of location, the distribution of  $X_k$  is  $Mu(r_k; P_1, \dots, P_n)$ ,  $(k = 1, 2, 3)$ .*

As another application of the above theorem, let  $X$  be a 2 dimensional real random vector and let us say that  $X$  has distribution  $U(a)$ ,  $a > 0$ , if its distribution has density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2a^2} & \text{for } |x| + |y| \leq a \\ 0 & \text{for } |x| + |y| > a \end{cases}.$$

If  $X$  has distribution  $U(a)$ , its characteristic function

$$\phi_X(t_1, t_2) = \frac{\sin\left[(t_1 + t_2)\frac{a}{2}\right] \sin\left[(t_1 - t_2)\frac{a}{2}\right]}{a^2 \left(\frac{t_1 + t_2}{2}\right) \left(\frac{t_1 - t_2}{2}\right)},$$

is an analytic function defined on  $C_2$  with zeros at the points  $(t_1, t_2)$  where  $(t_1 \pm t_2) = 2\pi/a m$ ,  $m = \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ . Let  $U^*(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  denote the joint distribution of the pair  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  where  $Z_1 = X_1 + X_3$  and

$Z_2 = X_2 = X_3$  and each  $X_k$  has distribution  $U(a_k)$ , ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ). With these definitions, the above theorem asserts the following result.

COROLLARY 2. *Let  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  be three independent 2-dimensional random vectors and let  $Z_1 = X_1 + X_3, Z_2 = X_2 + X_3$ . If the pair  $(Z_1, Z_2)$  has distribution  $U^*(a_1, a_2, a_3)$ , then, except for perhaps a change of location, the distribution of  $X_k$  is  $U(a_k)$ , ( $k = 1, 2, 3$ ).*

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