

Property tests for squiggle

Here are some property tests for squiggle. I am testing mostly for the mean and the standard deviation. I know that squiggle doesn't yet have functions for the standard deviation, but they could be added.

The keywords to search for are "algebra of random variables".

Sums

$$\text{mean}(f + g) = \text{mean}(f) + \text{mean}(g)$$

$$\text{Std}(f + g) = \text{sqr}t(\text{std}(f)^2 + \text{std}(g)^2)$$

In the case of normal distributions,

$$\text{normal}(a, b) + \text{normal}(c, d) = \text{normal}(a + c, \text{sqr}t(b^2 + d^2))$$

Subtractions

$$\text{mean}(f - g) = \text{mean}(f) - \text{mean}(g)$$

$$\text{std}(f - g) = \text{sqr}t(\text{std}(f)^2 + \text{std}(g)^2)$$

Multiplications

$$\text{mean}(f \cdot g) = \text{mean}(f) \cdot \text{mean}(g)$$

$$\text{std}(f \cdot g) = \text{sqr}t((\text{std}(f)^2 + \text{mean}(f)) \cdot (\text{std}(g)^2 + \text{mean}(g)) - (\text{mean}(f) \cdot \text{mean}(g))^2)$$

Divisions

Divisions are tricky, and in general we don't have good expressions to characterize properties of ratios. In particular, the ratio of two normals is a Cauchy distribution, which doesn't have to have a mean.

To do:

- Provide sources or derivations, useful as this document becomes more complicated
- Provide definitions for the probability density function, exponential, inverse, log, etc.
- Provide at least some tests for division

- See if playing around with characteristic functions turns out anything useful