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# A quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic function and its exponentiation



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#### ABSTRACT

We give a quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic function g(t) such that  $(g(t))^u$  is not a characteristic function for any  $u \in \mathbb{R}$  except for non-negative integers.

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#### 1. Introduction and statement of main result

#### 1.1. Quasi-infinitely divisible distributions

Let  $ID(\mathbb{R})$  be the class of all infinitely divisible distributions on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and let  $\widehat{\mu}(t) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{\mathrm{i}tx} \mu(\mathrm{d}x)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , be the characteristic function of a distribution  $\mu$ . The following Lévy–Khintchine representation is well-known (see e.g. Sato (1999)). If  $\mu \in ID(\mathbb{R})$ , then

$$\widehat{\mu}(t) = \exp\left[-\frac{a}{2}t^2 + i\gamma t + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(e^{itx} - 1 - \frac{itx}{1 + |x|^2}\right)\nu(dx)\right],\tag{1.1}$$

where  $a \ge 0$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\nu$  is a measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $\nu(\{0\}) = 0$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} (|x|^2 \wedge 1) \nu(dx) < \infty$ .

Lindner and Sato (2011) extended stationary distributions of a generalized Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process by defining a sequence of bivariate Lévy processes (see Lindner and Sato (2009, 2011)). What was interesting in their results in Lindner and Sato (2011) is that there appear non-infinitely divisible distributions whose characteristic functions are the quotients of two infinitely divisible characteristic functions. That class is called the class of *quasi-infinitely divisible distributions* and is defined as follows.

**Definition 1.1** (*Quasi-Infinitely Divisible Distribution*). A distribution  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  is called quasi-infinitely divisible if it has a form of (1.1) with  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and the corresponding measure  $\nu$  is a signed measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  with total variation measure  $|\nu|$  satisfying  $\nu(\{0\}) = 0$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} (|x|^2 \wedge 1) |\nu| (dx) < \infty$ .

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It should be noted that the triplet  $(a, \nu, \gamma)$  in this case is also unique if each component exists and that infinitely divisible distributions on  $\mathbb R$  are quasi-infinitely divisible if and only if  $a \geq 0$  and the negative part of  $\nu$  in the Jordan decomposition equals zero. The measure  $\nu$  is called *quasi*-Lévy measure which appeared in some books (see for example Gnedenko and Kolmogorov (1968, p. 81) or Sato (in press, Section 2.4)). Recently, Aoyama and Nakamura (in press-a) treated some multivariable finite Euler products and showed how they behave in view whether their corresponding normalized functions to be infinitely or quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic functions on  $\mathbb R^2$ .

#### 1.2. Statement of main result

For any non-infinitely but quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic function g(t), there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $(g(t))^{1/n}$  is not a characteristic function since if such  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  did not exist, then g(t) were infinitely divisible. The following problem has been proposed by Professor Ken-iti Sato. "Find a quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic function g(t) and determine all 0 < u for which  $(g(t))^u$  is not a characteristic function". This is a special case of the following open problem written in Sato (in press, p. 11), "to find a necessary and sufficient condition for a signed measure to be a quasi-Levy measure".

In this paper, we give an answer of the problem above by using the generalized Dirichlet L distributions defined in Section 2.1. Let p be a prime number and put

$$g(t):=\frac{1+p^{-\sigma-\mathrm{i}t}}{1+p^{-\sigma}},\quad\sigma>0.$$

The function g(t) can be expressed by g(t) = 1 + f(t), where  $f(t) := (p^{-\sigma - it} - p^{-\sigma})(1 + p^{-\sigma})^{-1}$ . One has |f(t)| < 1 by the assumption  $\sigma > 0$ . Therefore  $(g(t))^u$  is uniquely defined by the binomial series for any  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $\mathbb{N}_0$  be the set of non-negative integers. Then we have the following.

**Theorem 1.2.** The function g(t) is a not infinitely divisible but quasi-infinitely divisible characteristic function and  $(g(t))^u$  is not a characteristic function for any  $\sigma > 0$  and  $u \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{N}_0$ .

#### 2. Proof of main result

#### 2.1. Generalized Dirichlet L distributions

The Riemann zeta function is a function of a complex variable  $s=\sigma+it$ , for  $\sigma>1$  given by  $\zeta(s):=\sum_{n=1}^\infty n^{-s}$ . The series is called the Dirichlet series and converges absolutely in the half-plane  $\sigma>1$  and uniformly in each compact subset of this half-plane. Put  $Z_\sigma(t):=\zeta(\sigma+it)/\zeta(\sigma)$ ,  $t\in\mathbb{R}$ , then  $Z_\sigma(t)$  is known to be a characteristic function. A distribution  $\mu_\sigma$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  is said to be a Riemann zeta distribution with parameter  $\sigma$  if it has  $Z_\sigma(t)$  as its characteristic function. The Riemann zeta distribution is known to be infinitely divisible (see e.g. Gnedenko and Kolmogorov (1968, p. 75)).

Let M > 0,  $\sigma$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $s = \sigma + it$ . As a generalization of the Riemann zeta function, we consider the following series

$$D(s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)}{n^s}, \quad \text{where } -M \le a(n) \le M.$$
 (2.1)

We call this series a generalized Dirichlet L series (see e.g. Apostol (1976, p. 224)). When  $\sigma > 1$ , the series converges absolutely for any  $-M \le a(n) \le M$ . In the present paper, we treat only the case  $a(n) \ne 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and the series of D(s) converges absolutely.

Now we introduce probability distributions on  $\mathbb{R}$  produced by the generalized Dirichlet L series D(s) defined by (2.1).

**Definition 2.1** (*Generalized Dirichlet L Distribution*). Suppose  $0 \le a(n) \le M$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or  $-M \le a(n) \le 0$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then we define a generalized Dirichlet L random variable  $X_{\sigma}$  with probability distribution on  $\mathbb{R}$  given by

$$\Pr\left(X_{\sigma} = -\log n\right) = \frac{a(n)n^{-\sigma}}{D(\sigma)}.$$

Note that these distributions belong to a special case of multidimensional Shintani zeta distribution defined by Aoyama and Nakamura (in press-b). It is easy to see that these distributions are probability distributions (see also Lemma 2.2) since  $a(n)n^{-\sigma}/D(\sigma) \ge 0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  when  $0 \le a(n) \le M$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or  $-M \le a(n) \le 0$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)n^{-\sigma}}{D(\sigma)} = \frac{1}{D(\sigma)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)}{n^{\sigma}} = \frac{D(\sigma)}{D(\sigma)} = 1.$$

#### 2.2. Proof

To prove the main results, we need the following lemmas.

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