

**Definition 1.** The general rule of computing expectation (or easier word, mean) of some real values  $g(x)$ , is defined by

$$E(g(X)) = \sum_x g(x)p_X(x)$$

Expectation has a very nice property, it is a linear operator.

**Property 1.**

$$E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i(X)\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i E(g_i(x))$$

Where  $a_i, g_i(x) \in \mathbb{R}, \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i(X)\right) &= \sum_x \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i(X)\right) p_X(x) \\ &= \sum_x (a_1 g_1(x) + a_2 g_2(x) + \dots + a_n g_n(x)) p_X(x) \\ &= a_1 \sum_x g_1(x) p_X(x) + a_2 \sum_x g_2(x) p_X(x) + \dots + a_n \sum_x g_n(x) p_X(x) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i E(g(X)) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 2.** The expectation value of  $X$  is defined by

$$E(X) = \sum_x x p_X(x)$$

Since the expectation value is linear, we easily see that

**Property 2.**

$$E(aX + b) = aE(X) + b, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

This property states that if a random variable  $X$  is transformed linearly to  $aX + b$ , then the expectation value of this new random variable is just the transformed version of the original one, namely,  $aE(X) + b$ .

Geometrically, if all data on the histogram is transformed to some where else, then the measure of location (in this case, mean) will be also transformed in the same manner.

**Definition 3.** The variance of the  $X$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} Var(X) &= E((X - E(X))^2) \\ &= E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 \\ &= \sum_x x^2 p_X(x) - \left(\sum_x x p_X(x)\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Variance also has a meaningful property due to the linearity of expectation.

**Property 3.**

$$\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X), \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(aX + b) &= E((aX + b)^2) - (E(aX + b))^2 \\ &= E((aX)^2) + E(2abX) + E(b^2) - (aE(X) + b)^2 \\ &= a^2 E(X^2) + 2abE(X) + b^2 - a^2(E(X))^2 - 2abE(X) - b^2 \\ &= a^2(E(X^2) - (E(X))^2) \\ &= a^2 \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

□

This property states that if data is being shifted left or right, this spread of the data would not be changed, thus the value  $b$  does not have effect on variance; however, if the scale of the data is shrink or stretched, then the spread of the data would also be changed, thus the value  $a$  has effect on variance.