

Statistics for Data Science -1

Continuous Random Variables-Uniform distribution

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Learning objectives

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1. Define what is a continuous random variable.

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2. Probability distribution function and examples

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3. Cumulative distribution function, graphs, and examples.
4. Expectation and variance of random variables.

Uniform distribution-pdf

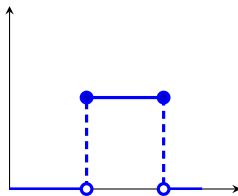
Standard uniform distribution

cdf of Uniform distribution

Expectation and variance of Uniform distribution

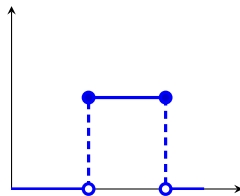
Uniform distribution $U(a, b)$

- ▶ A continuous random variable has a uniform distribution, denoted $X \sim U(a, b)$,



Uniform distribution $U(a, b)$

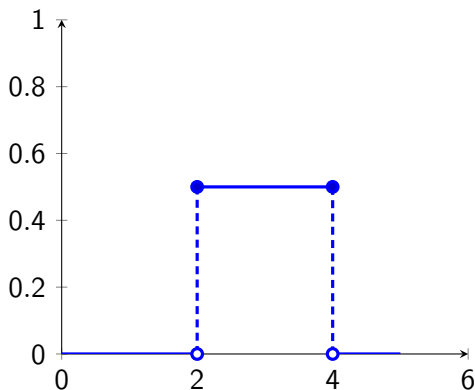
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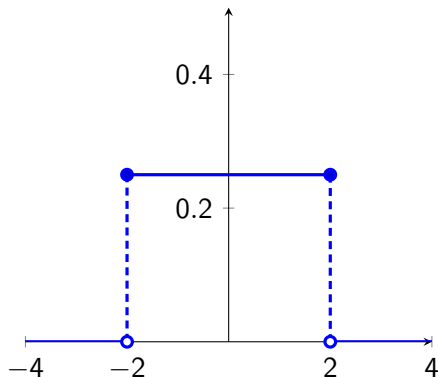
probability density function is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(b-a)} & a < x < b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Graph of pdf of a Uniform distribution $U(2, 4)$



Graph of pdf of a Uniform distribution $U(-2, 2)$



Standard uniform distribution

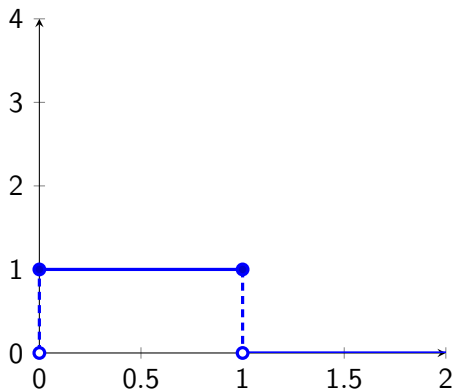
- ▶ A random variable has the standard uniform distribution with minimum 0 and maximum 1 if its probability density function is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The standard uniform distribution plays an important role in random variate generation.

- ▶ Verify $f(x)$ is a pdf
 - ▶ $f(x) \geq 0$, for $0 < x < 1$
 - ▶ $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = \int_0^1 f(x)dx = 1$

Graph of pdf of a Standard uniform distribution $U(0, 1)$

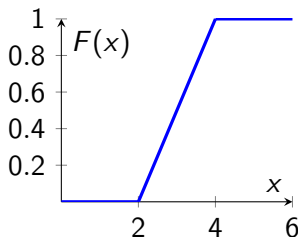


Cumulative distribution of Uniform distribution

For $X \sim U(a, b)$

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < a \\ \frac{x-a}{b-a} & \text{for } x \in [a, b) \\ 1 & \text{for } x \geq b \end{cases}$$

Cumulative distribution of Uniform distribution

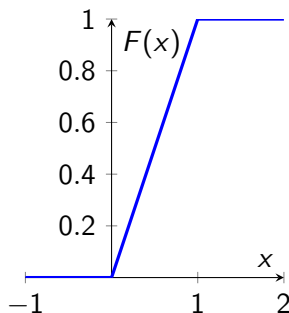


- ▶ When $x < a$ $F(x) = 0$
- ▶ When $x > b$ $F(x) = 1$
- ▶ $a < x < b$ The slope of the line between and is $\frac{1}{(b-a)}$.

Cumulative distribution of standard uniform distribution

For $X \sim U(0, 1)$

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ x & \text{for } x \in [0, 1) \\ 1 & \text{for } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$



Expectation of $X \sim U(a, b)$

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$$E(X) = \frac{a + b}{2}$$

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$$E(X) = \int_a^b xf(x), dx$$

$$= \int_a^b x \frac{1}{b-a} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a} \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_a^b$$

$$= \frac{b+a}{2}$$

Variance of $X \sim U(a, b)$

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$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{(b - a)^2}{12}$$

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$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$$

Variance of $X \sim U(a, b)$

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