

2.12 Verifying that the uniform distribution is normalized:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_a^b U(x|a, b) dx &= \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} dx \\&= \left. \frac{x}{b-a} \right|_a^b \\&= \frac{b}{b-a} - \frac{a}{b-a} \\&= \frac{b-a}{b-a} \\&= 1\end{aligned}$$

Finding mean:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[x] &= \int_a^b U(x|a, b) x dx \\&= \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} x dx \\&= \left. \frac{x^2}{2(b-a)} \right|_a^b \\&= \frac{b^2}{2(b-a)} - \frac{a^2}{2(b-a)} \\&= \frac{(b-a)(b+a)}{2(b-a)} \\&= \frac{a+b}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Finding Variance:

$$var[x] = \mathbb{E}[x^2] - \mathbb{E}[x]^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[x^2] &= \int_a^b U(x|a, b) x^2 dx \\&= \int_a^b \frac{1}{b-a} x^2 dx\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{x^3}{3(b-a)} \Big|_a^b \\
&= \frac{b^3}{3(b-a)} - \frac{a^3}{3(b-a)} \\
&= \frac{(b-a)(b^2+a^2+ba)}{3(b-a)} \\
&= \frac{(b^2+a^2+ba)}{3} \\
\implies \text{var}[x] &= \frac{(b^2+a^2+ba)}{3} - \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 \\
&= \frac{(b^2+a^2+ba)}{3} - \frac{(a^2+b^2+2ab)}{4} \\
&= \frac{4(b^2+a^2+ba) - 3(a^2+b^2+2ab)}{12} \\
&= \frac{4b^2+4a^2+4ba-3a^2-3b^2-6ab}{12} \\
&= \frac{b^2+a^2-2ab}{12} \\
&= \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}
\end{aligned}$$