

Probability Distribution (1)

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Variable

- A quantity or characteristic that can take different values or vary in different situations.
- For example: CGPA, Gender etc.



Random variable

- A random variable is a variable
- That can take different values (numerical)
- Determined by the outcome of an experiment



Difference

- The differences between variable and random variable are-
 - a) Random variable always takes numerical values
 - b) There is a probability associated with each possible values



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 - a) Random variable always takes numerical values
 - b) There is a probability associated with each possible values



Example

For example,

A coin is tossed. It has two possible outcomes-Head and Tail.

Consider a variable,

$$X = \text{outcome of a coin toss} = \begin{cases} 1; & \text{If head appears} \\ 0; & \text{If tail appears} \end{cases}$$

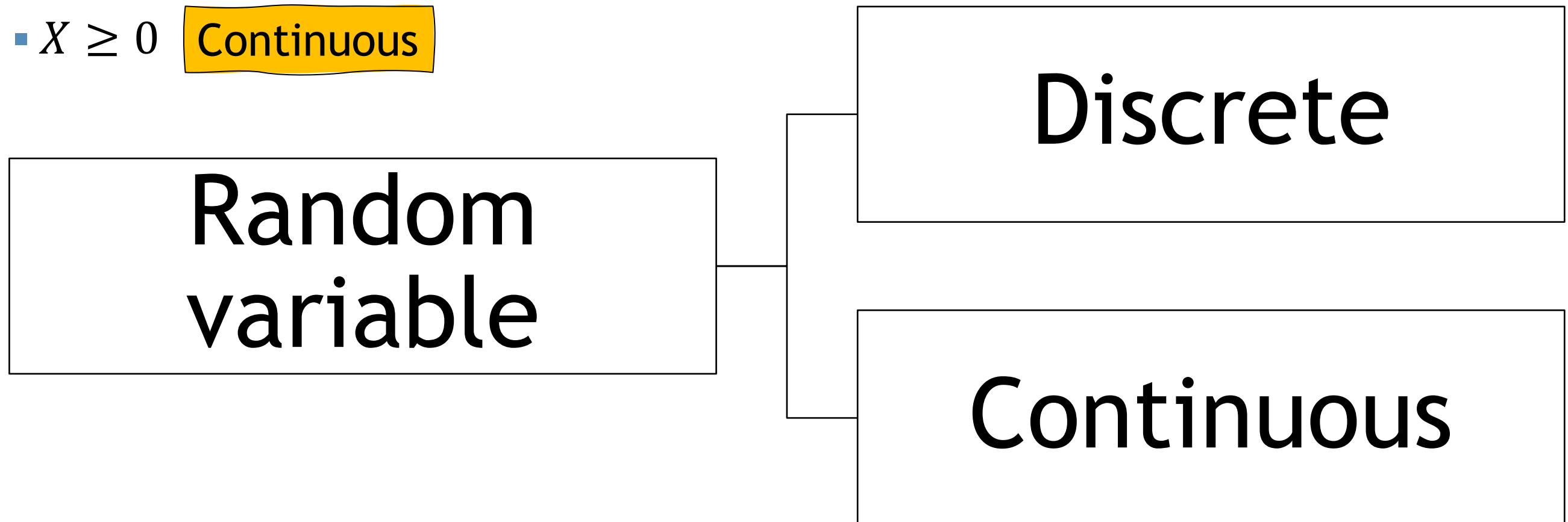
Here, we can write $P(X = 1) = \frac{1}{2}$, $P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{2}$



Types of Random Variable

■ $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ Discrete

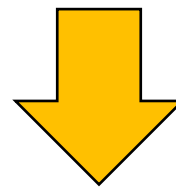
■ $X \geq 0$ Continuous



Discrete RV

- A random variable defined over a discrete sample space.
- For example, $X = \text{Number of cars passing a toll booth in a day}$

$\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$



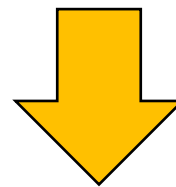
Discrete random variable



Continuous RV

- A random variable defined over a continuous sample space
- For example, $X = \text{Weight of a person}$

$$\{0 < X < \text{finite number}\}$$



Continuous random variable



Examples

Discrete Random Variable:

1. $X = \text{Number of correct answers in a 100 – MCQ test} = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 100$
2. $X = \text{Number of cars passing a toll both in a day} = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty$
3. $X = \text{Number of balls required to take the first wicket} = 1, 2, 3, \dots, \infty$
4. $X = \text{The number of telephone calls received in a telephone booth during one day} = 1, 2, \dots$

Continuous Random Variable:

1. $X = \text{Weight of a person. } 0 < X < \infty$
2. $X = \text{Monthly Profit. } -\infty < X < \infty$
3. $X = \text{Temperature recorded by the meteorological office. } 0 < X < \infty$



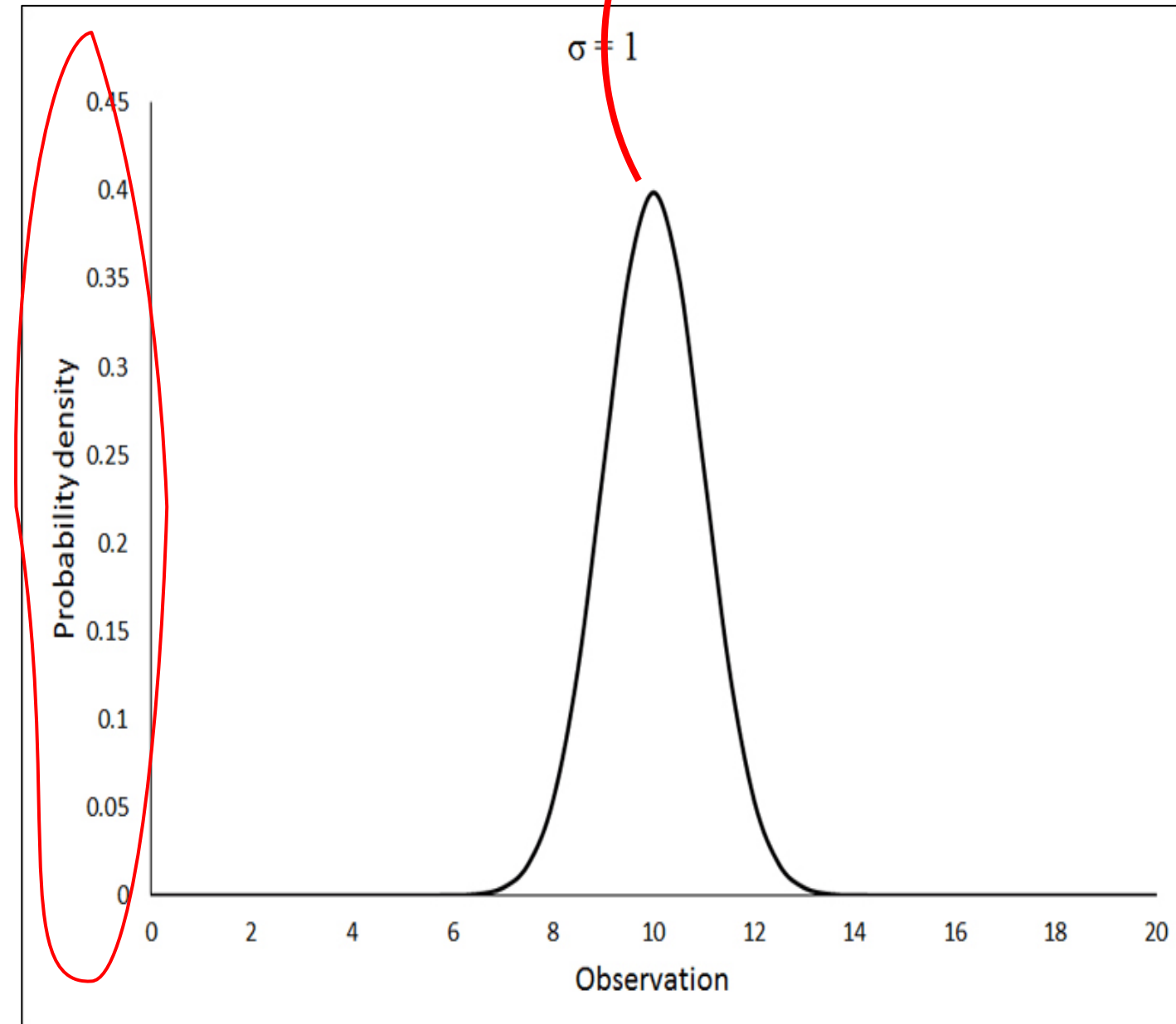
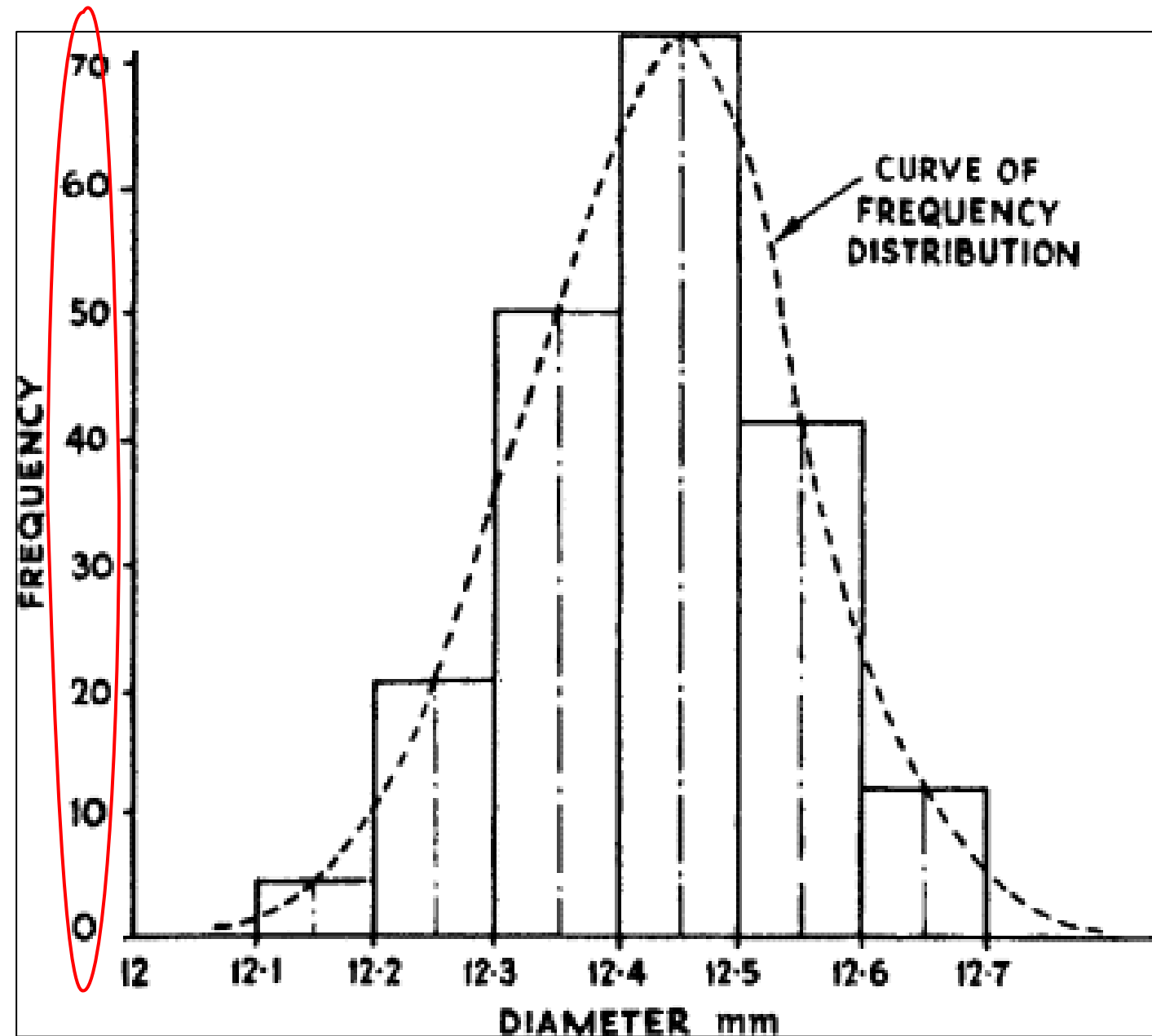
Probability Distribution

- Distribution of the probabilities among the different values of a random variable.



Probability Distribution

Probability
Distribution



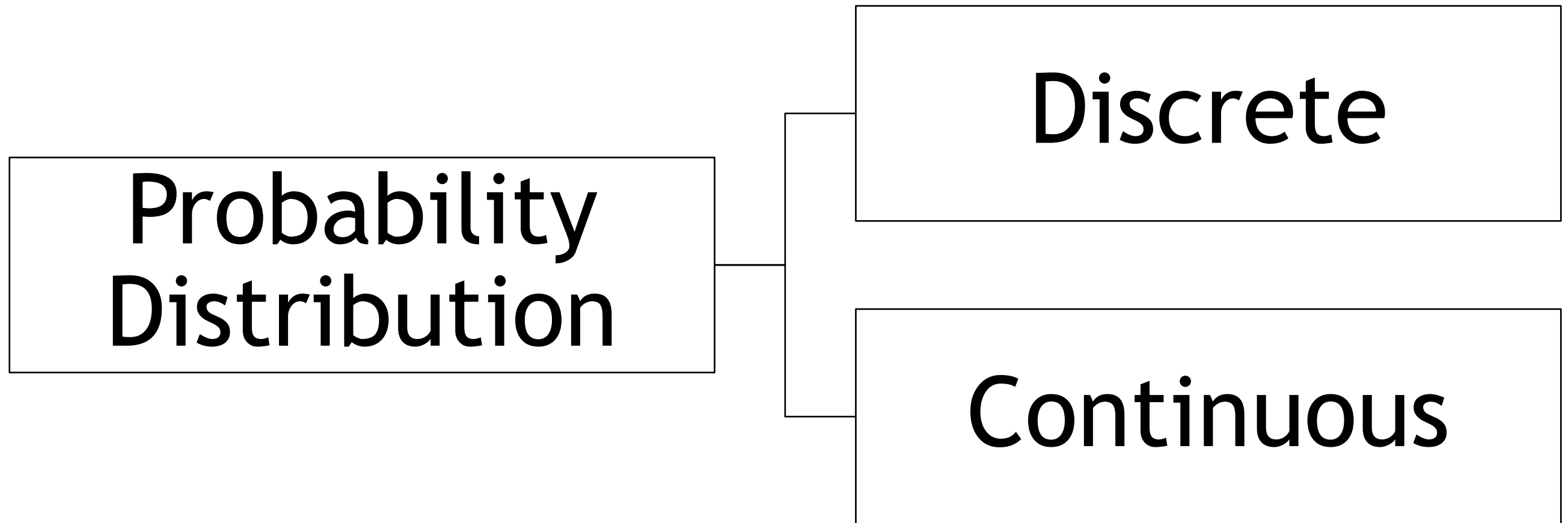
Probability Distribution

- Distribution of the probabilities among the different values of a random variable.
- For example, Here's an example probability distribution that results from the rolling of a single fair die.

X	1	2	3	4	5	6
$P(x)$	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6	1/6



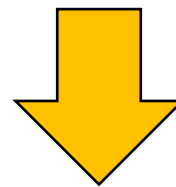
Types of PD



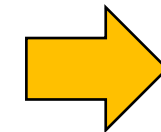
Discrete PD

- Probability distribution of a discrete random variable
- For example, $X = \text{Number of cars passing a toll booth in a day}$

$\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$



Discrete random variable



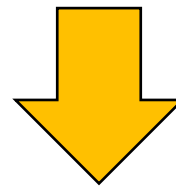
Discrete PD



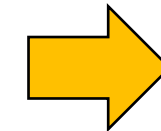
Continuous PD

- Probability distribution of a continuous random variable
- For example, $X = \text{Weight of a person}$

$$\{0 < X < \text{finite number}\}$$



Continuous random variable



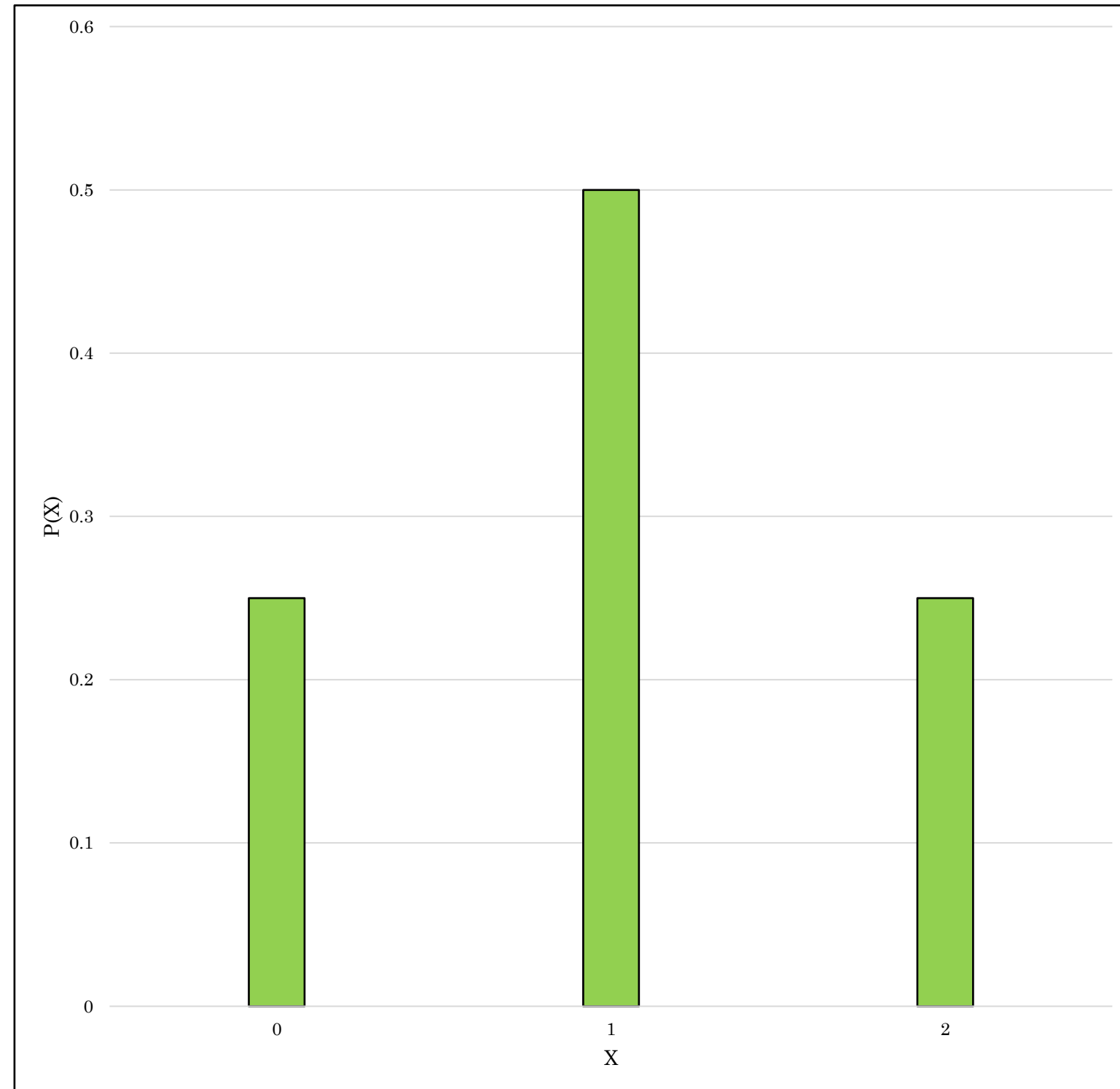
Continuous PD



Example

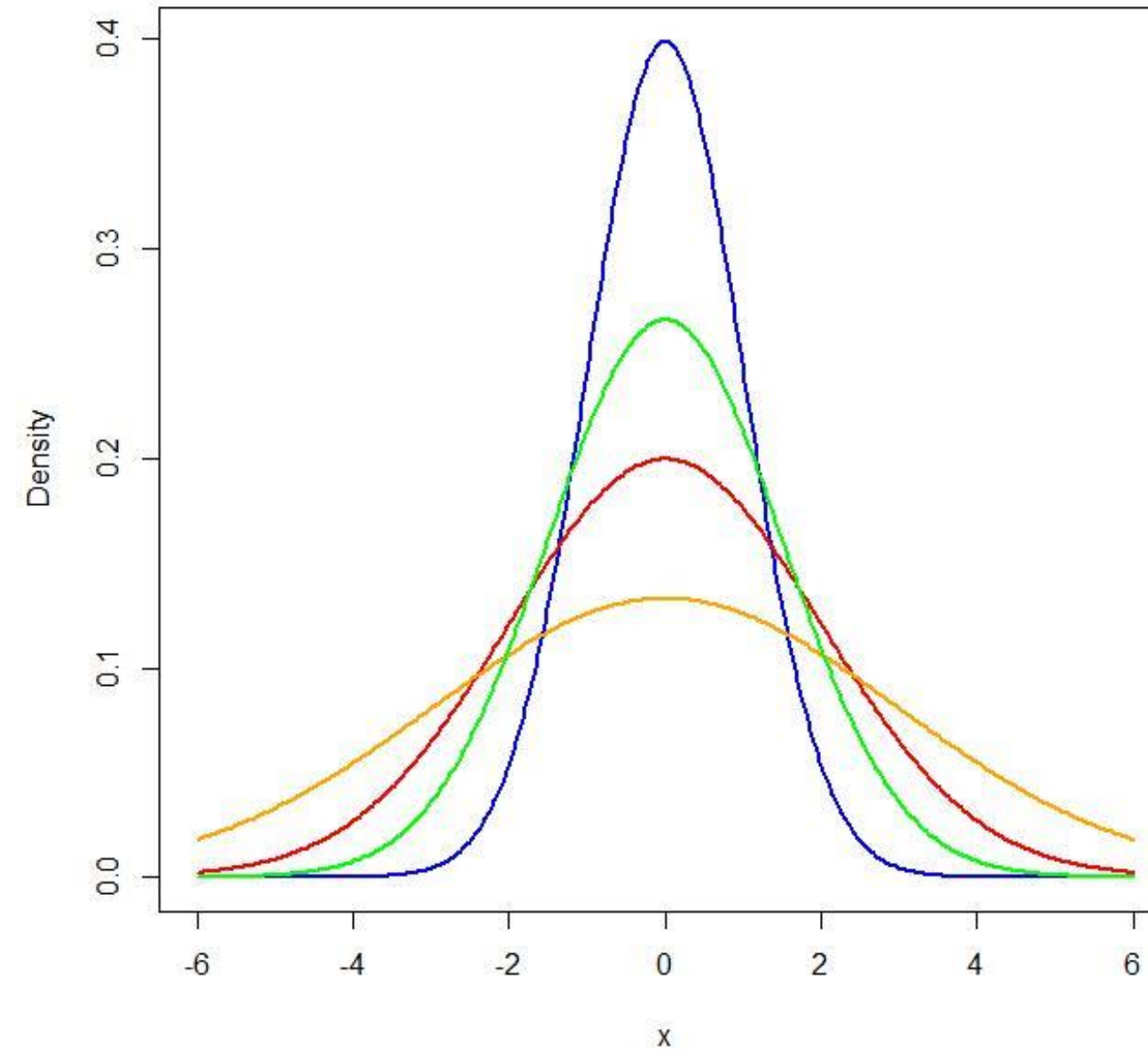
- Tossing a coin 2 times.
- $X = \text{Number of head appeared}$
- $S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4



Example

Family of Normal Probability Distributions



Probability Mass Function (PMF)

- The probability distribution function of a discrete random variable X is called a **PMF** and is denoted by $P(x)$

- $P(x)$ satisfy three properties

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4

a) $0 \leq P(x) \leq 1$

b) $\sum P(x_i) = 1$

c) $P(x) = P(X = x)$



Probability Mass Function (PMF)

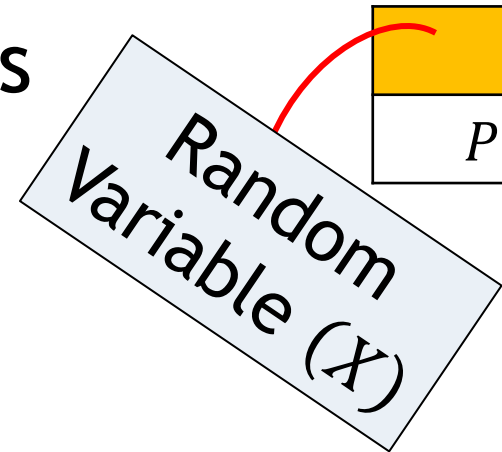
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X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4



Probability Mass Function (PMF)

- The probability distribution function of a discrete random variable X is called a **PMF** and is denoted by $P(x)$

Outcomes (x)

- $P(x)$ satisfy three properties

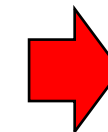
X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4

a) $0 \leq P(x) \leq 1$

b) $\sum P(x_i) = 1$

c) $P(x) = P(X = x)$

$P(2)$



$P(X = 2)$



Probability Mass Function (PMF)

- The probability distribution function of a discrete random variable X is called a **PMF** and is denoted by $P(x)$

- $P(x)$ satisfy three properties

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4

a) $0 \leq P(x) \leq 1$

b) $\sum P(x_i) = 1$

c) $P(x) = P(X = x)$



Probability Density Function (PDF)

- The probability distribution function of a continuous random variable X is called a **PDF** and is denoted by $f(x)$
- $f(x)$ satisfy three properties
 - $f(x) \geq 0$
 - $\int f(x) dx = 1$
 - $P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx$



Example

X	0	1	2	3
$P(x)$	$1/27$	$6/27$	$12/27$	$8/27$

$$P(X \geq 1) \rightarrow P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) \rightarrow \frac{6}{27} + \frac{12}{27} + \frac{8}{27} = 0.96$$

$$P(X \leq 2) \rightarrow P(X = 0) + P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) \rightarrow \frac{1}{27} + \frac{6}{27} + \frac{12}{27} = 0.73$$



Example

- Suppose you roll a fair six-sided die twice. Let, X denote the number of times you roll a three.

a) Summarize the probability function of X .

b) Determine,

a) $P(X > 0)$ Ans: 11/36

b) $P(X \leq 1)$ Ans: 35/36

c) $P(X = 2)$ Ans: 1/36

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	25/36	10/36	1/36



Example

- Suppose that 2 batteries are randomly chosen from a box containing 10 batteries of which 7 are good and 3 are defective. Let X denote the number of defective batteries chose.

a) Summarize the probability function of X .

b) Determine the probability,

a) $P(X > 0)$

b) $P(X \leq 1)$

c) $P(X = 1)$

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	21/45	21/45	3/45



Example

- Let X be a discrete random variable whose only possible values are -1, 2, and 5. Suppose that the probability function of X is,

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}; & \text{for } x = -1 \\ \frac{1}{2}; & \text{for } x = 2 \\ \frac{1}{4}; & \text{for } x = 5 \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the cumulative distribution function of X .



Example

$$P(X > 1.2) = ???$$

$$P(1.2 \leq X \leq 1.6) = ???$$

$$P(X = 1.5) = ???$$

$$P(X > 3.5) = ???$$

- Let, X be a random variable with probability function,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x}{3}; & \text{if } 1 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$P(X \leq 1.2) \rightarrow \int_1^{1.2} \frac{2x}{3} dx \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_1^{1.2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3} [1.44 - 1] = 0.1467$$



Example

- The pressure measured in pounds per cm² at a certain valve is a random variable X whose probability function is,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{9}(3x - x^2); & \text{if } 0 < x < 3 \\ 0; & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the probability that the pressure at this valve is,

- a) Not more than 2 pounds per cm²
- b) Greater than 2 pounds per cm²
- c) Between 1.5 and 2.5 pounds per cm²



Example

- The cumulative distribution function of a continuous random variable X can be written as,

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0; & \text{for } x \leq 0 \\ x^2; & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1; & \text{for } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Find the probability density function and calculate,

- a) $P(X \leq 0.5)$
- b) $P(0.2 \leq X \leq 0.5)$



Mathematical Expectation $E(X)$

- The probability of X contains all of the probabilistic information about X .
- The whole distribution usually too cumbersome for presentation
- Summary measure (Mean, Variance, Median) may be useful

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4



Mathematical Expectation

- For a discrete random variable X with *PMF* $P(x)$, the mathematical expectation of X is-

$$E(X) = \sum x P(x)$$

- For a continuous random variable X with *PDF* $f(x)$, the mathematical expectation of X is-

$$E(X) = \int x f(x) dx$$



Properties

- $E(X) = \text{Mean}(X) = \mu(X)$
- $E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = \text{Variance}(X) = \text{Var}(X)$
- $E(c) = c; c \text{ is constant}$
- $E(cX) = c E(X); c \text{ is constant}$
- $E(X + c) = E(X) + c; c \text{ is constant}$
- $E(X \pm Y) = E(X) \pm E(Y)$
- $E(XY) = E(X) \times E(Y)$



Properties

- $Var(c) = 0$; c is constant
- $Var(cX) = c^2 Var(X)$
- $Var(X + c) = Var(X) + Var(c) = Var(X)$
- $Var(X \pm Y) = Var(X) \pm Var(Y)$



Example

- Find the mean and variance of

X	0	1	2
$P(x)$	1/4	2/4	1/4

$$\text{Mean, } E(X) = \sum x P(x) = \left(0 \times \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(1 \times \frac{2}{4}\right) + \left(2 \times \frac{1}{4}\right) = 1$$

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



Example

- Individuals applying for a driving license are allowed up to four attempts to pass the license exam. An applicant is randomly selected and let X denote the number of attempts made by the applicants. The probability function of X is as follows,

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{10}; & \text{for } x = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ 0; & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find mean of X .

$$E(X) = \sum x \times P(x) = 3$$

The mean number of attempts required to pass the license exam is 3



Example

- Let, X be a continuous random variable with pdf,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x}{3}; & \text{if } 1 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Mean

$$E(X) = \int_1^2 x f(x) dx$$

$$E(X) = \int_1^2 x \times \frac{2x}{3} dx$$

$$E(X) = \int_1^2 \frac{2x^2}{3} dx$$

?????



Mathematical exercise

To access additional mathematical problems,
please refer to the PDF lecture notes.





Thank You

