

Continuous Probability Distributions and Stochastic Dependencies

(Bertsimas & Freund 2004, Chapter 3)

Howard Hao-Chun Chuang (莊皓鈞)

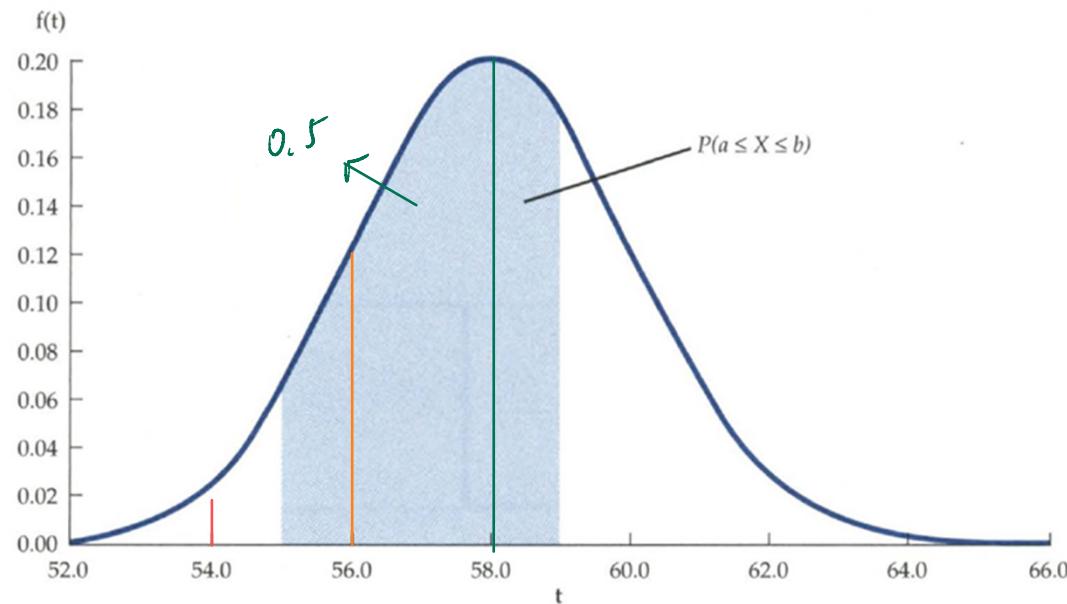
**Professor
College of Commerce
National Chengchi University**

**October, 2024
Taipei, Taiwan**



Random Variables

- For a **continuous random variable (RV) X** , its probability density function (pdf) $f(t)$ has the following characteristics
 - The area underlying the pdf curve is equal to one
 - $P(a \leq X \leq b)$ is equal to the area under the curve between a and b



For any t , $P(X=t)=0$ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Probability_density_function



Random Variables

- For a **continuous random variable (RV) X** , its probability density function (pdf) $f(t)$ has the following characteristics

The area underlying the pdf curve is equal to one

$P(a \leq X \leq b)$ is equal to the area under the curve between a and b

- $X \sim \text{Uniform}(a, b)$ 連續型均勻分布
uniform[loc, loc+scale] in scipy.stats

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq t \leq b, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



e.g., Automobile Life (L) $\sim \text{Uniform}[2, 7.5]$

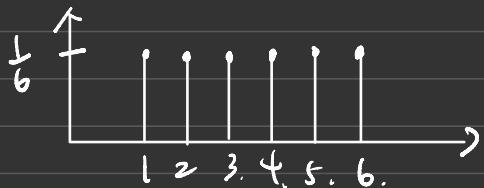
What would the pdf of L look like?

Uniform(0, 1) is extremely important for simulation!



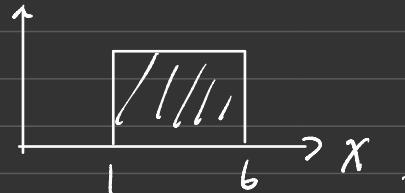
$X \sim \text{Discrete Uniform}$
 $(1, 6)$

$$f(x) = P(x)$$

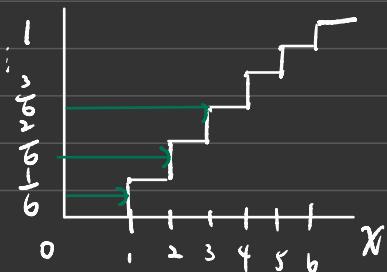


$X \sim \text{Continuous Uniform}$

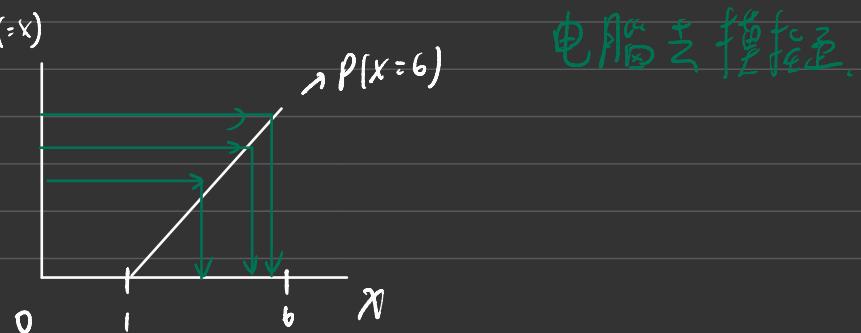
$f(x)$ prob density



CDF: $P(X \leq X^{\text{max}}) = 1$, $P(X < X^{\text{min}}) = 0$ *: CDF 是能往 0. ~ 1.
 $F(x) = P(X = x)$



$$F(x) = P(X = x)$$



電腦去擇桂冠。

Random Variables

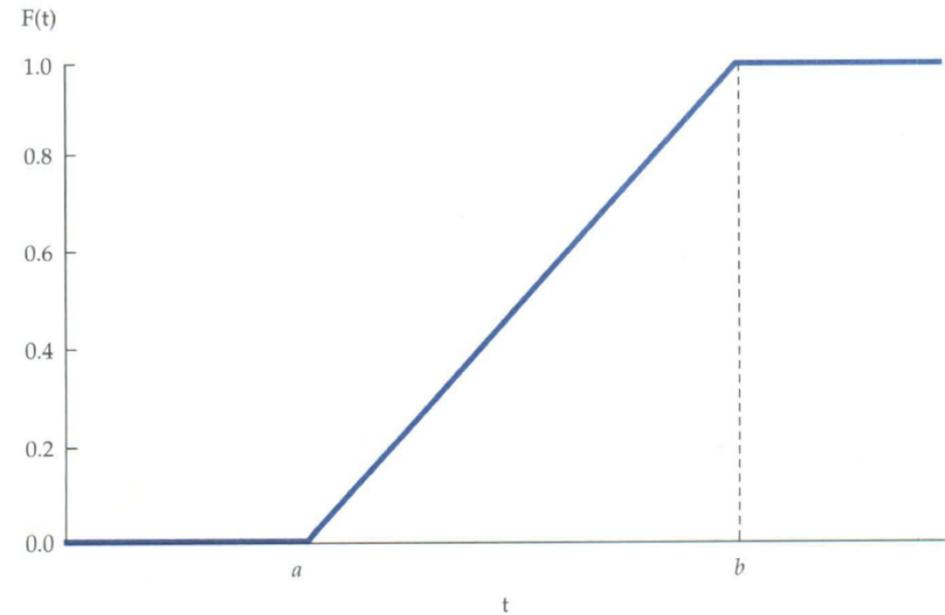
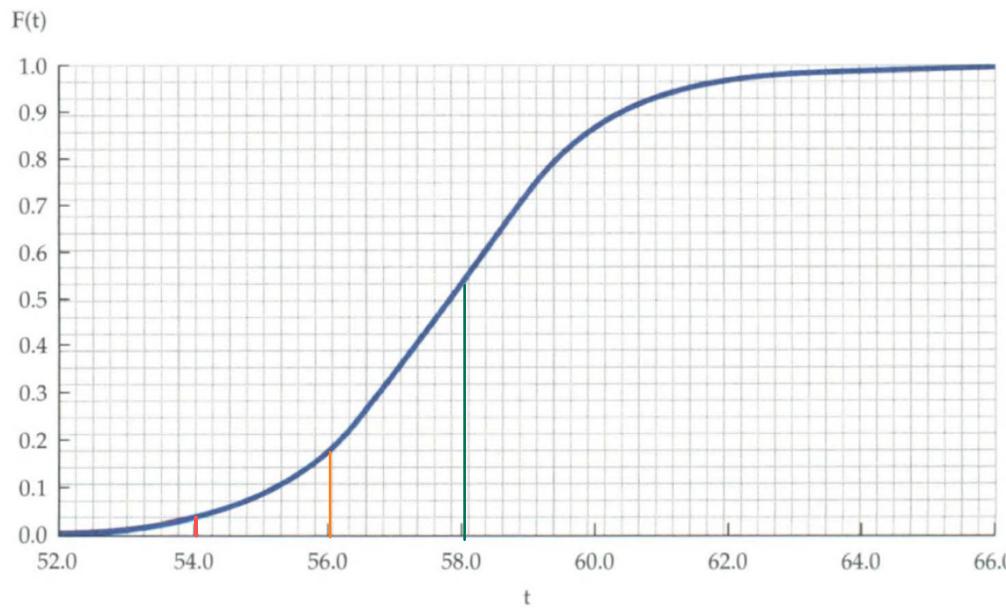
- For a **continuous RV X** , its cumulative distribution function (cdf) of X is $F(t) = P(X \leq t)$

$$P(X > t) = 1 - F(t); P(c \leq X \leq d) = F(d) - F(c)$$

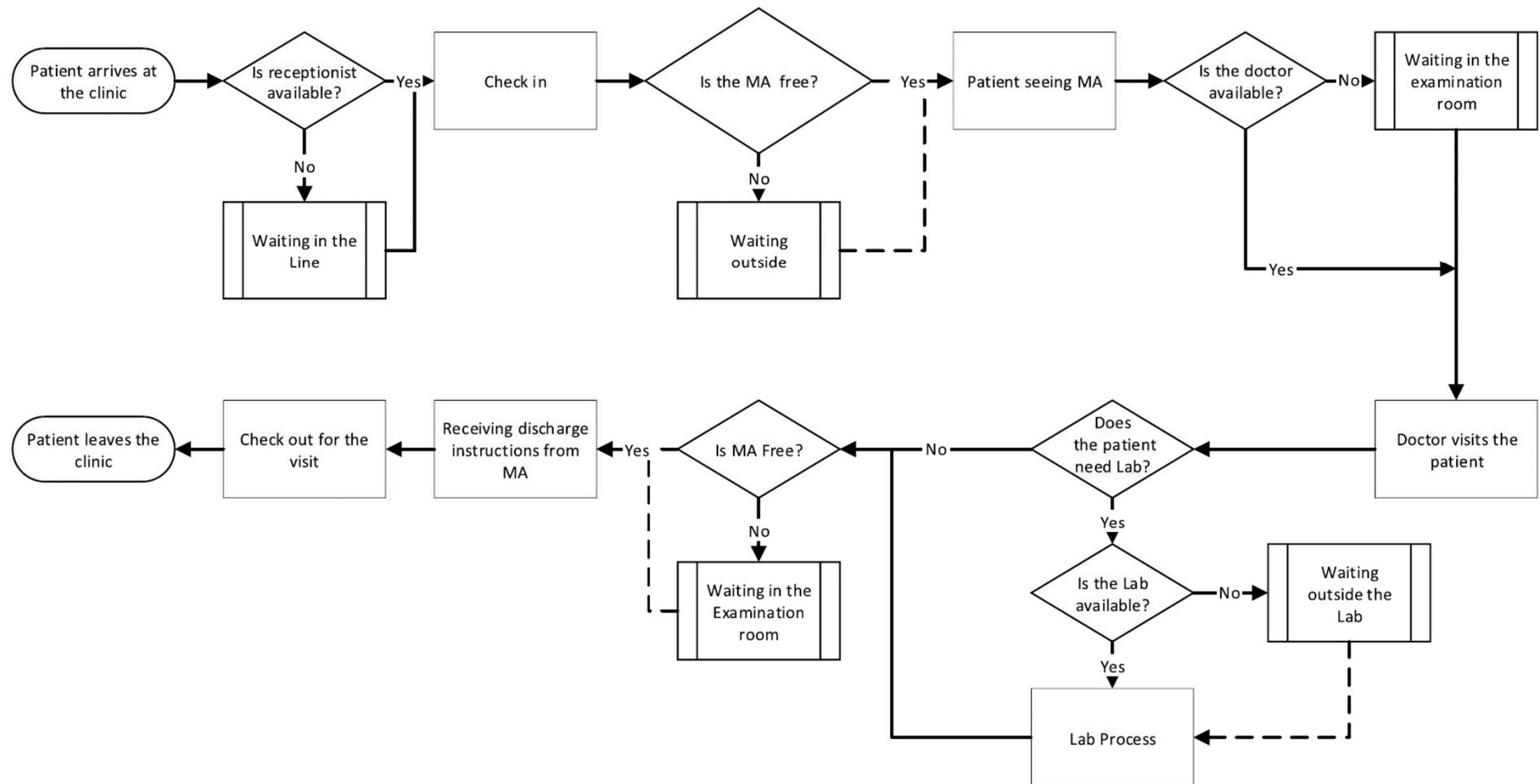
why

1. We can interchange \leq & $<$ in any probability expressions involving X
- X : Width of a steel plate

X : A Uniform(a, b) RV



Continuous Uniform (a, b) in Practice



The process starts with the arrival of a patient with a scheduled appointment. If either receptionist is available, the patient will start the primary check-in process; otherwise, the patient will wait in the registration area. For an established patient, the primary check-in time is set to be $C_1 \sim U(2, 3)$ minutes, that is, a uniformly distributed random variable between two and three minutes. For a new patient, they experience an additional paperwork time $P \sim U(15, 20)$ minutes. As per COVID-19 protocols, all patients will leave the clinic after the primary check-in and wait outside until an MA calls them in. Usually, a primary care doctor has a designated MA during a shift. The MA is responsible for settling the patient in an available examination room. The MA's service time is set as $M_1 \sim U(8, 12)$ minutes, including basic questionnaires and vital measurements. After this, the patient will wait for the doctor to become available. TI's historical data show that service times for primary care doctors fit well with the uniform distributions in Table 1.

After the doctor sees the patient, if the patient needs any laboratory testing done, they will go directly to the laboratory; otherwise, the patient will wait for the MA to give discharge instructions, which is set to be $M_2 \sim U(2, 6)$ minutes. The laboratory service time is set as $L \sim U(8, 12)$ minutes. Finally, the patient will check out, taking $C_2 \sim U(2, 6)$ minutes, and leave the clinic.

	Primary care 1	Primary care 2
Established	$[U(15,20), 24]$	$[U(8,12), 48]$
New	$U(35,45)$	$U(30,40)$
Monday	p.m.	a.m. and p.m.
Wednesday	p.m.	a.m. and p.m.

The Normal Distribution (section 3.4)

$\mu \quad \sigma$

- $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma)$

$f(x)$: norm.pdf (scipy)

$P(X \leq x)/F(x)$: norm.cdf

$$E(X) = \mu$$

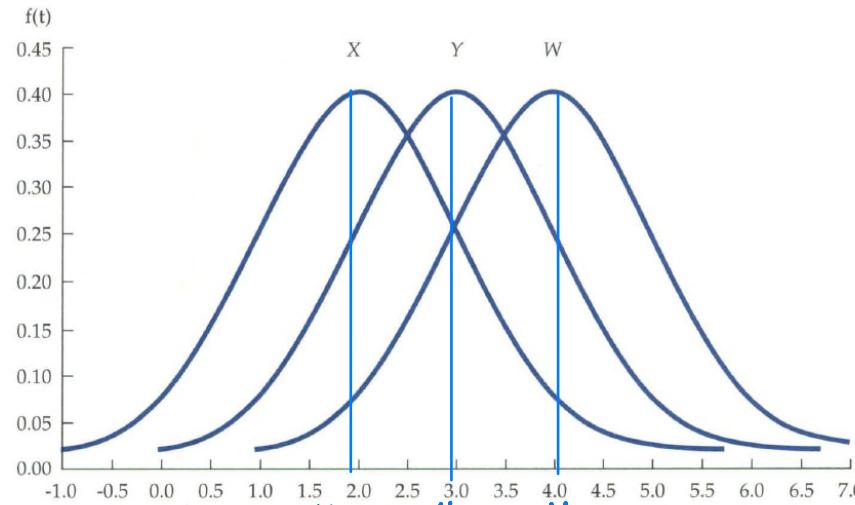
中心在那

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$$

有多分散

Find the smallest k such that $P(X \leq k) \geq q$: norm.ppf

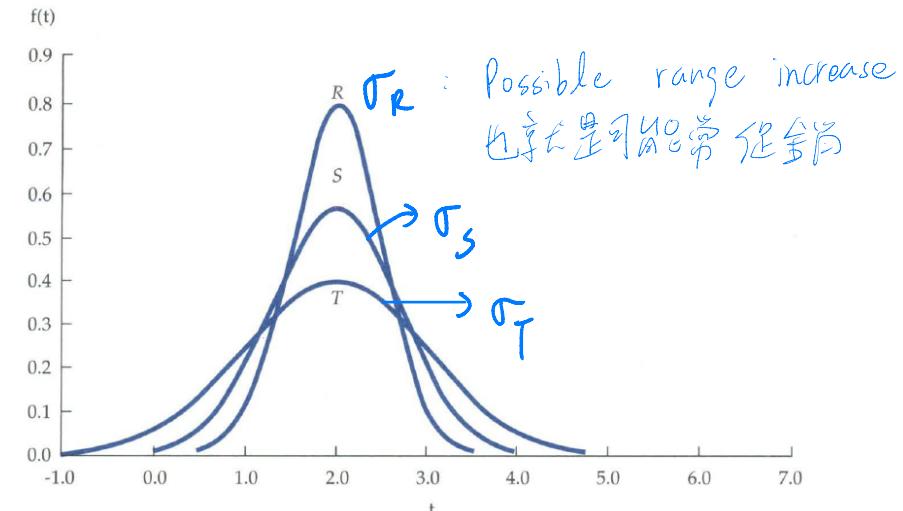
Simulate S random realizations: norm.rvs



$Z = (X - \mu)/\sigma \sim \text{Standard Normal}(0, 1)$

$$Z = \frac{(x - \bar{x})}{\sigma_x}$$

標準化



Normalization

The Normal Distribution (section 3.4)

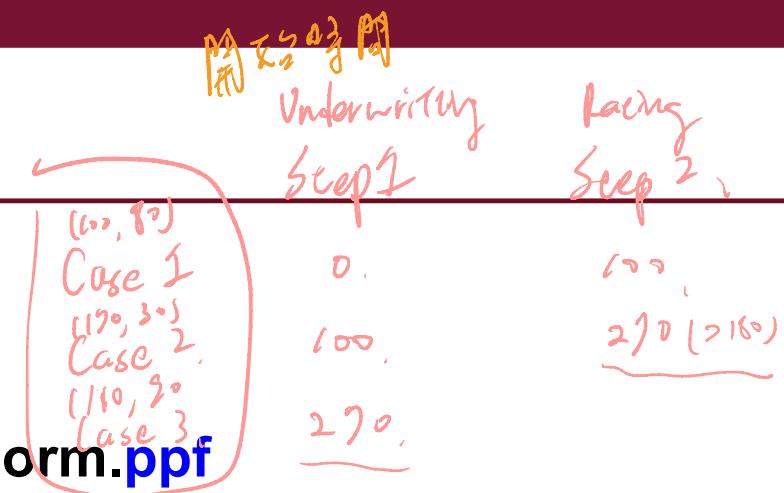
- $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma)$

$f(x)$: norm.pdf (scipy)

$P(X \leq x)/F(x)$: norm.cdf

Find the smallest k such that $P(X \leq k) \geq q$: norm.ppf

Simulate S random realizations: norm.rvs



Example 3.8 in page 130

Issuing an insurance policy requires two steps – *underwriting* the policy with process time (a ~~normal RV X_1 with $\mu_1=150$ mins & $\sigma_1=30$ mins~~) and *rating* the policy with process time (a ~~normal RV X_2 with $\mu_2=75$ mins & $\sigma_2=25$ mins~~).

Assuming X_1 and X_2 are independent of each other.

What is the probability that it takes 180 minutes or less to issue a policy?

What is the 95th percentile of the time for issuing a policy?

What is the probability of issuing three policies in an 8 hour day?

What if X_1 and X_2 are NOT independent of each other?

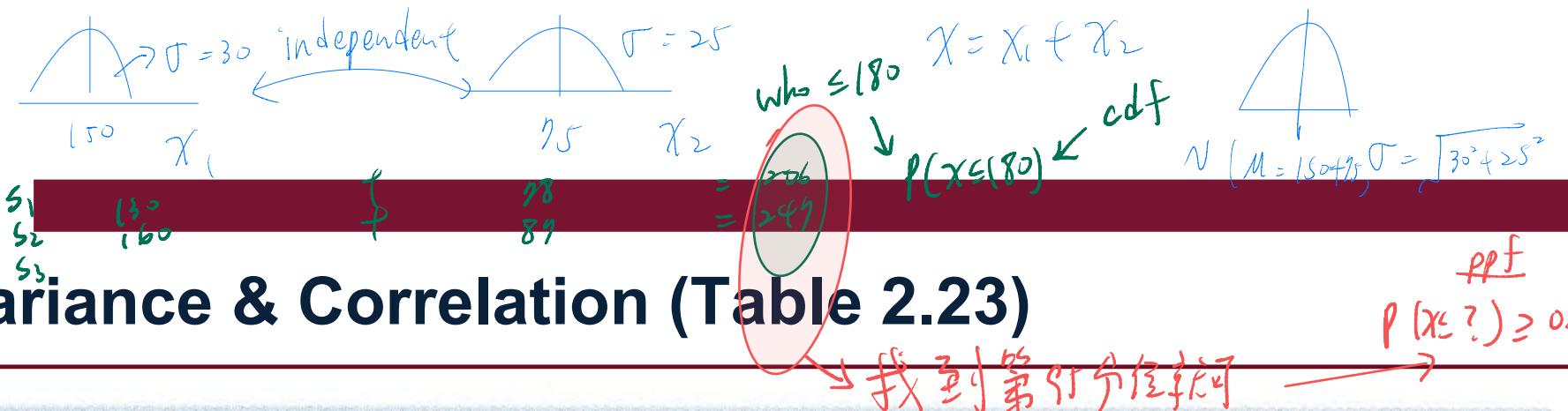


Under



Rating





2.9 Covariance & Correlation (Table 2.23)

→ 我到第 1 行开始就可

$$\underline{ppf}$$

Probability	Number of Sunglasses Sold	Number of Umbrellas Sold
p_i	x_i	y_i
0.10	35	41
0.15	78	10
0.05	81	0
0.10	30	13
0.20	16	42
0.05	29	22
0.10	35	1
0.10	14	26
0.10	52	11
0.05	46	23

$$P(X=x, Y=y)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C_0 \neq 0 \\ \alpha < 0 \end{array} \right.$$

相關條款



2.9 Covariance & Correlation

- Covariance for two random variables X and Y

$$\text{COV}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(x_i - \mu_X)(y_i - \mu_Y)$$

where $p_i = P(X=x_i, Y=y_i)$ is the joint probability distribution function

e.g., outcome of rolling two fair dies

X & Y are independent if $P(X=x, Y=y) = P(X=x)*P(Y=y)$

e.g., study hour (X) & test score (Y)

$X \backslash Y$	Y_1	Y_2	Y_3	Total
X_1	7	5	2	14
X_2	8	3	3	14
X_3	3	5	8	16
X_4	4	9	7	20
Total	22	22	20	64

↓ 獨立：各自相乘！

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} P(X=x_1) &= \frac{14}{64} = \frac{7}{32} \\ P(Y=y_1) &= \frac{22}{64} = \frac{11}{32} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$P(X=x_1 \cap Y=y_1) = \frac{7}{64}$$

$$P(X=x_1) + P(Y=y_1) \neq P(X=x_1 \cap Y=y_1)$$



$$\frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{3}{6} \quad \frac{1}{6}$$

2.9 Covariance & Correlation

~~共變異數：兩個數字的共同變化關係的加權程度，我越大~~

- Covariance for two random variables X and Y

$$\text{COV}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(x_i - \mu_X)(y_i - \mu_Y)$$

where $p_i = P(X=x_i, Y=y_i)$ is the joint probability distribution function

e.g., outcome of rolling two fair dies

X & Y are independent if $P(X=x, Y=y) = P(X=x)*P(Y=y)$



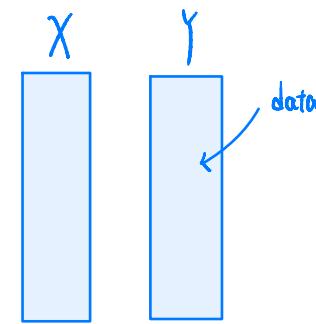
- Correlation of two random variables X and Y

$$\text{CORR}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{COV}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

COV標準化後
的極值，不受
單位影響

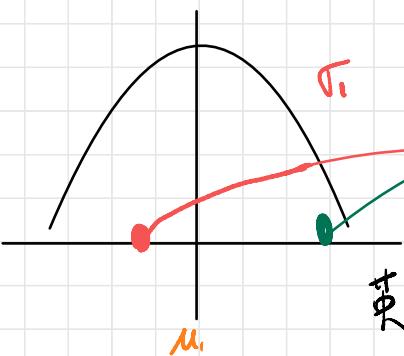
ranging in [-1, 1]. If $\text{COV}(X, Y)=0$, $\text{CORR}(X, Y)=0$

any examples on random variables with positive/negative COV/CORR?



- What are the covariance & correlation of the example above?
see pages 85-86 in Chapter 2

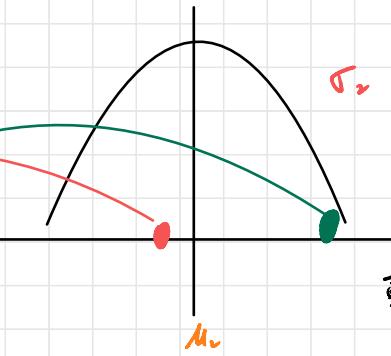




Score

(TSMC)

Demand A



Score

(MTK)

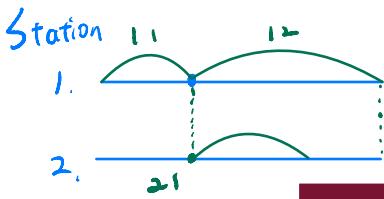
Demand B

$$\begin{cases} \text{Cov}(X_1, X_1) = \sum (x - \bar{x})^2 \\ \sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n} \\ \text{Cov}(X_1, X_1) = n \sigma^2 \end{cases}$$

Σ cov
m by m
keep
 $X_1 \left[\begin{array}{cc} \text{Var}(X_1), & \text{cov}(X_1, X_2) \\ \text{cov}(X_1, X_2), & \text{Var}(X_2) \end{array} \right]$

Σ cov
m by m
if
 $X_1 \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1, & \text{corr}(X_2, X_1) & \text{corr}(X_3, X_1) \\ \text{corr}(X_1, X_2), & 1, & \text{corr}(X_3, X_2) \\ \text{corr}(X_1, X_3), & \text{corr}(X_2, X_3), & 1 \end{array} \right]$

Σ cov
3 by 3
 $X_1 \left[\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Var}(X_1), \text{cov}(X_1, X_2), & \text{cov}(X_1, X_3) \\ \text{cov}(X_1, X_2), \text{Var}(X_2), & \text{cov}(X_2, X_3) \\ \text{cov}(X_1, X_3), \text{cov}(X_2, X_3), & \text{Var}(X_3) \end{array} \right]$



The Multi-Variate Normal (MVN) Distribution

- $X \sim \text{Multi-Variate Normal}(\mu, \Sigma)$

X is an array of **m -dimensional** random variables (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)

Σ is a variance-covariance matrix

Simulate S random realizations: `multivariate_normal.rvs` in `scipy`

都常態

m 個隨機變量

Revisit Example 3.8 in page 130

Issuing an insurance policy requires two steps – *underwriting* the policy with process time (a normal RV X_1 with $\mu_1=150$ mins & $\sigma_1=30$ mins) and *rating* the policy with process time (a normal RV X_2 with $\mu_2=75$ mins & $\sigma_2=25$ mins).

Assuming X_1 and X_2 are NOT independent of each other, and $\text{CORR}(X_1, X_2)=0.37$

What is the covariance of X_1 and X_2 ? $0.37 * 30 * 25$

$$\text{CORR}(X_1, X_2) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X_1) \times \text{Var}(X_2)}}$$

What is the probability distribution of X ?

What is the probability that it takes 180 minutes or less to issue a policy?

What is the 95th percentile of the time for issuing a policy?

What is the probability of issuing three policies in an 8 hour day?

X 是 = 維多元常態分布

$X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$

取決於... 分布情況

$$\mu = (150, 75)$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 30^2 & 277.5 \\ 277.5 & 25^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

協方差矩陣 : covariance of X_1 and X_2

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & \text{cov} \\ \text{cov} & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Multi-Variate Normal (MVN) Distribution

- $X \sim \text{Multi-Variate Normal}(\mu, \Sigma)$

X is an array of m -dimensional random variables (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)

Σ is a variance-covariance matrix

Simulate S random realizations: `multivariate_normal.rvs` in `scipy`

Example: Capturing stochastic dependencies

Below is the end-of-year price for four stock funds from 2007-2017

Fund1: 65, 79, 85, 78, 107, 108, 124, 156, 195, 181, 216

Fund2: 47, 61, 73, 60, 89, 86, 104, 120, 140, 134, 175

Fund3: 38, 37, 39, 40, 47, 46, 57, 71, 74, 72, 87

Fund4: 61, 64, 74, 72, 95, 89, 114, 147, 146, 127, 152

$$\vec{a} = (a_1, a_2, a_3)$$

$$\vec{b} = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$$

What are the annual growth ratios respectively?

How about estimating Σ from data?

Assuming end-of-year price is a RV $X \sim \text{MVN}(\mu, \Sigma)$, how can we simulate 2018 growth ratios for the four stock funds?

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \left(\begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} a_3 & a_1 \\ b_3 & b_1 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \right)$$



if Not Normal ?

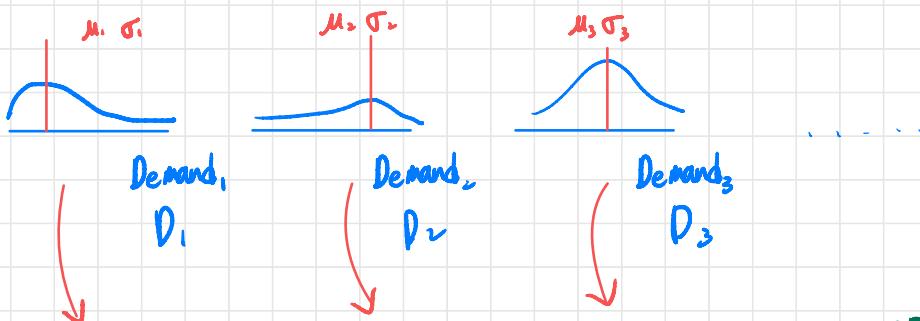
Amazon

Σ

$\{$
m by m

Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_m
 $\text{Var}(Z_1), \text{Var}(Z_2), \dots, \text{Var}(Z_m)$

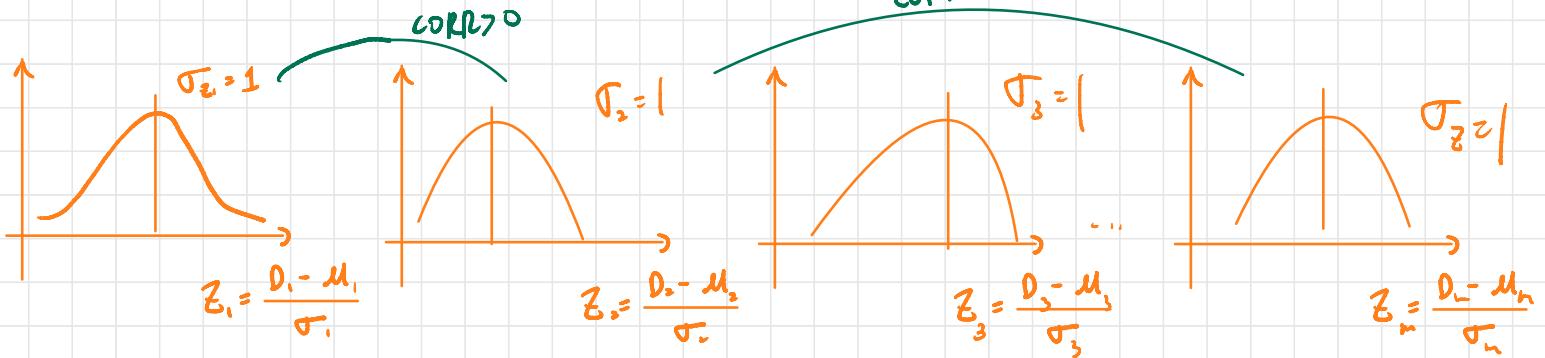
$\text{Var}(Z_m)$



Why (Muhat, Sigmahat, Σ)

J
?

Why Cov v X_j
 Corr



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

Exchange loss 汇損

Put option 賣權



To Hedge or Not to Hedge? 避险

- Company D has \$2.1 billion revenue in 1997
 - see its global revenue distribution below

Region	Revenues (\$ million)	Percent of all Revenues (%)
United States	1,050	50
Germany	420	20
Great Britain	336	16
Rest of Europe	84	4
Asia	210	10

- USD\$420 million (Germany) from 645 million DM (Deutsche Mark)
 - Exchange rate 0.6513 USD\$/DM ; $645 \times 0.6513 = 420$ million ↘
 - If USD goes strong, e.g., 0.6072 USD\$/DM, only \$392 million
- D is considering 賣權(put options) to hedge against strong USD in 1998
 - use guaranteed dollar price for DM-USD exchange in 1998
 - expiration date (98年的到期日)
 - strike price k
 - unit cost c



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- **DM put options** *Random exchange rate in the future*
 - DM1 (DM-USD rate) on expiration date, the **net payoff** for put
$$\begin{cases} k - DM1 - c & \text{if } DM1 \leq k \\ -c, & \text{if } DM1 > k \end{cases}$$
 - equivalent $\max(k - DM1, 0) - c$
 - for a 1-year DM-USD put with $k=\$0.62$ & $c=\$0.0137$
 - If USD strong, $DM1=0.5$ USD\$/DM. The net payoff will be
$$\underbrace{\max(0.62 - 0.5, 0)}_{\text{赚}} - \underbrace{0.0137}_{\text{成本}} = \$0.1063$$
 - If USD weak, $DM1=0.64$ USD\$/DM. The net payoff will be
$$\max(0.62 - 0.64, 0) - 0.0137 = -\$0.0137$$
 - **Uncertainty:** DM Rate (USD\$/DM)
 - suppose $R_{DM} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu=0\%, \sigma=9\%)$
 - 0.6513 USD\$/DM in 1997

$$DM1 = 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{R_{DM}}{100}\right)$$



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- **1989-97 USD\$/DM year-to-year change**

$$\text{Change from previous year} = 100 \times \left(\frac{\text{DM Rate in year } (t + 1)}{\text{DM Rate in year } t} - 1 \right)$$

<i>Year</i>	<i>Average DM rate (US\$/DM)</i>	<i>Change from previous year (%)</i>
1989	0.4914	—
1990	0.4562	-7.16
1991	0.5368	17.66
1992	0.5789	7.84
1993	0.5326	-7.99
1994	0.5542	4.05
1995	0.6285	13.40
1996	0.6394	1.73
1997	0.6513	1.86



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- Company D has \$2.1 billion revenue in 1997
 - see its global revenue distribution below

Region	Revenues (\$ million)	Percent of all Revenues (%)
United States	1,050	50
Germany	420	20
Great Britain	336	16
Rest of Europe	84	4
Asia	210	10

- \$336 million (UK) from 272 million BP (British Pound)
 - What will happen to 272 million, if USD goes strong?
 - suppose $R_{BP} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu=0\%, \sigma=11\%)$
 - 1.234 USD\$/BP in 1997
 - BP1 in 1998

$$BP1 = 1.234 \times \left(1 + \frac{R_{BP}}{100}\right)$$

- historical data suggests $\text{CORR}(R_{BP}, R_{DM}) = 0.675^{770}$



$$\text{COV}(R_{DM}, R_{BP}) = \text{Cov}(R_{DM}, R_{BP}) \times \sigma_{DM} \times \sigma_{BP} = 0.675 \times 9 \times 11$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{byz}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{DM}^2 & \\ \text{cov}(R_{DM}, R_{BP}) & \sigma_{BP}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- D revenue forecast for 1998 = 1997 earning (NO growth)
 - 98 forecasted revenue in Germany is 645 million DM

Unhedged Revenue = $645 \times DM_1 = 645 \times 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{R_{DM}}{100}\right)$

利率的变化

- if D buys n_{DM} (in million) put options (strike price k_{DM} & cost c_{DM})

Hedged Revenue = Unhedged Revenue +

 預回本 + 賺 台約 Number of Options × (Net Payoff of the put option)

- take 1998 for instance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hedged Revenue} &= 645 \times DM_1 \\ &\quad + n_{DM} \times [\max(k_{DM} - DM_1, 0) - c_{DM}] \\ &= 645 \times 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{R_{DM}}{100}\right) \\ &\quad + n_{DM} \times \left[\max \left(k_{DM} - 0.6513 \left(1 + \frac{R_{DM}}{100}\right), 0 \right) - c_{DM} \right] \end{aligned}$$

 選擇權價格

 成本



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- D revenue forecast for 1998 = 1997 earning (NO growth)
 - 98 forecasted revenue in Germany is 645 million DM
 - if n_{DM} 500 million bought
 - $k_{DM} = 0.62$ USD\$/DM; cost $c_{DM} = \$0.00137$
 - 97 exchange rate 0.6513 USD\$/DM. If DM is down by 23.23% in 1998

Unhedged Revenue = $645 \times 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{-23.23}{100}\right) = \322.502 million

Hedged Revenue = Unhedged Revenue

$$\begin{aligned}&+ \cancel{500} \times \left[\max \left(0.62 - 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{-23.23}{100} \right), 0 \right) - 0.0137 \right] \\&= \$322.502 + \$53.148 \\&= \$375.650\text{ million.}\end{aligned}$$

- DM down by 23.23%, but exchanged \$USD is only down by 10.6%
 - From \$USD 420 million in 97 to \$USD 375.65 million in 98



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- D revenue forecast for 1998 = 1997 earning (NO growth)
 - 98 forecasted revenue in Germany is 645 million DM
 - if n_{DM} 500 million bought
 - $k_{DM} = 0.62 \text{ USD}/\text{DM}$; cost $c_{DM} = \$0.00137$
 - 97 exchange rate 0.6513 USD\$/DM. If DM is up by 10.84% in 1998

$$\text{Unhedged Revenue} = 645 \times 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{10.84}{100}\right) = \$465.626 \text{ million.}$$

Hedged Revenue = Unhedged Revenue

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \underline{500} \times \left[\max \left(0.62 - 0.6513 \times \left(1 + \frac{10.84}{100} \right), 0 \right) - 0.0137 \right] \\ &= \$465.626 - \$6.85 \\ &= \$458.776 \text{ million.} \end{aligned}$$

直接換算各級字

獲利降低

- DM up by 10.84%, but exchanged \$USD is only up by 9.23%
 - from \$USD 420 million in 97 to \$USD 458.776 million in 98



To Hedge or Not to Hedge?

- CEO Bill sees high exchange rate risk in 98 in west Europe
 - USD\$756 million from Germany & UK in 97 (most of overseas earnings)
 - he wishes to minimize the chance earnings < USD\$706 million in 1998

- 1-year put options for DM and BP in the market are listed below

Strike Price for DM (in \$)	Cost (in \$)
0.66	0.085855
0.65	0.032191
0.64	0.020795
0.63	0.017001
0.62	0.013711
0.61	0.010851
0.60	0.008388
0.59	0.006291
0.55	0.001401

對沖.

Strike Price for BP (in \$)	Cost (in \$)
1.30	0.137213
1.25	0.082645
1.20	0.045060
1.15	0.028348
1.10	0.016146
1.05	0.007860
1.00	0.003277
0.95	0.001134
0.90	0.000245

不想因匯損
讓其 < 706 million

- suppose D intends to get n_{DM} 500 million & n_{BP} 500 million
 - which put options should be bought to meet Bill's objective?
- suppose n_{DM} and n_{BP} can be bought in one of [100, 300, 500] million
 - which put options should be bought to meet Bill's objective?

why 直接平均而不用看所有組合?

