

# Joint Distributions (and Exponential)

CS 109  
Lecture 11  
April 20th, 2016

# Review

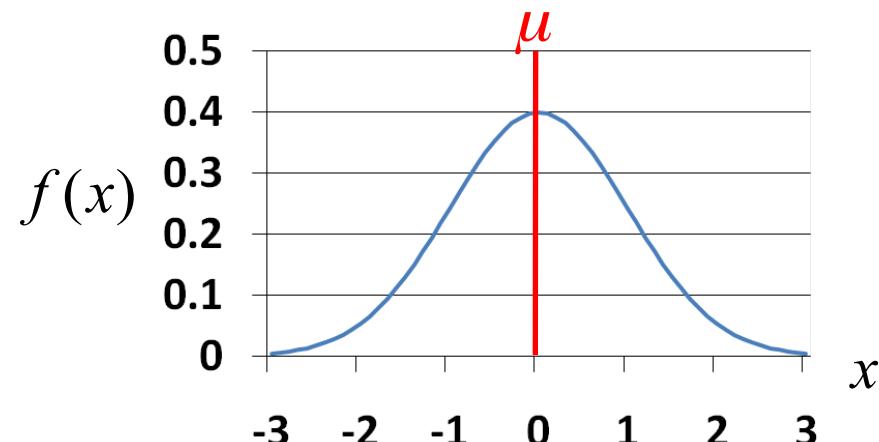
# The Normal Distribution

- $X$  is a Normal Random Variable:  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

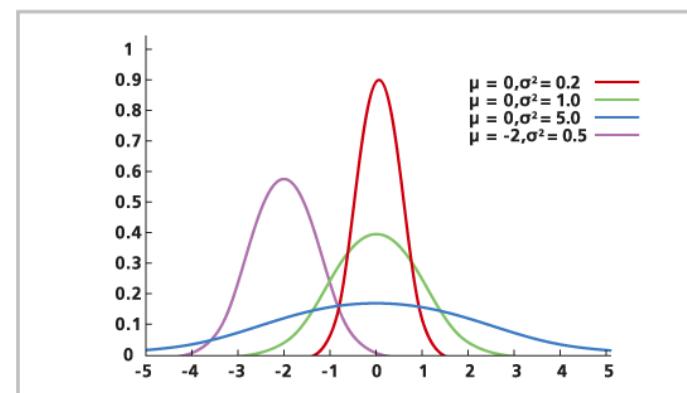
- Probability Density Function (PDF):

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2} \quad \text{where } -\infty < x < \infty$$

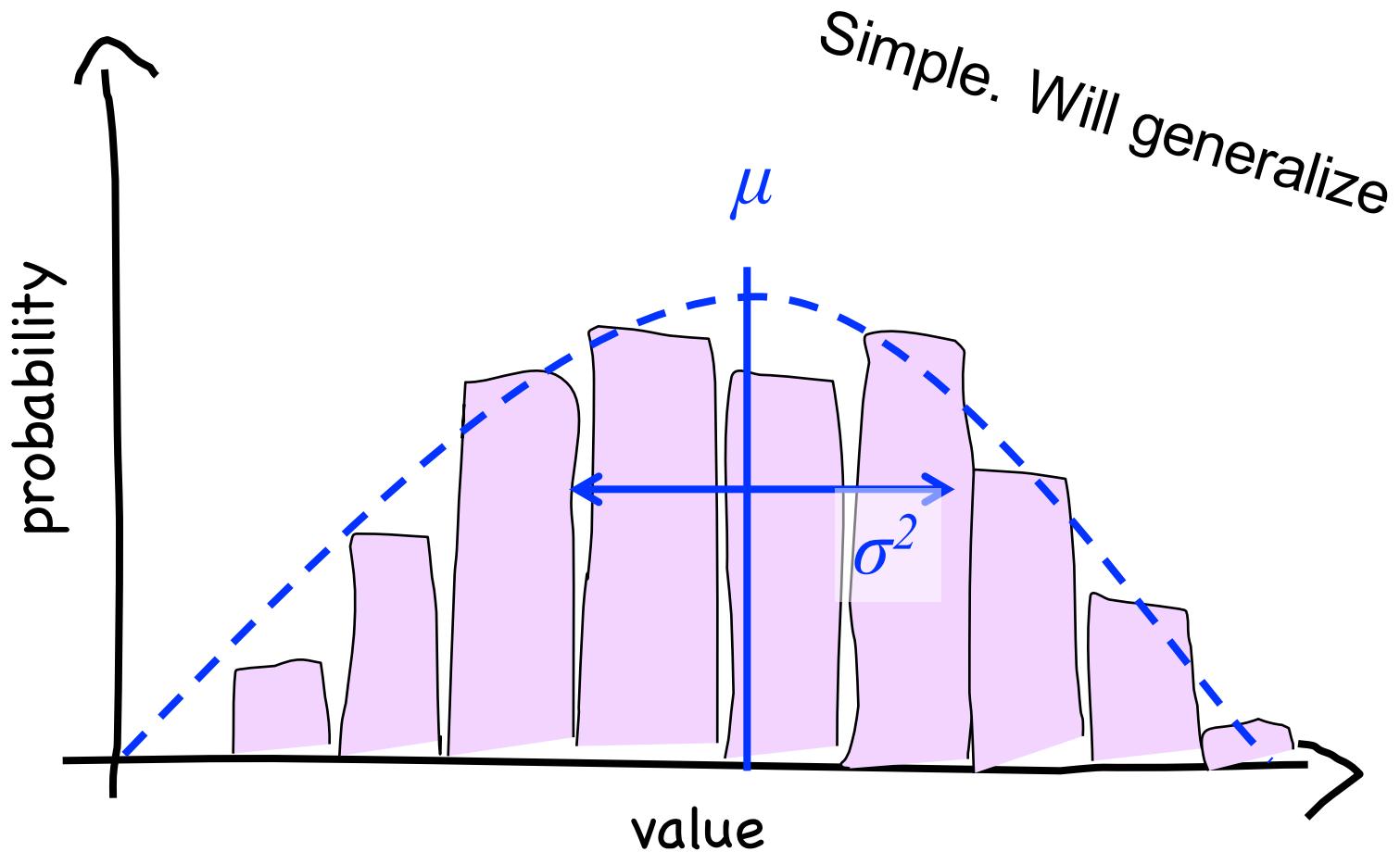
- $E[X] = \mu$
  - $Var(X) = \sigma^2$



- Also called “Gaussian”
  - Note:  $f(x)$  is symmetric about  $\mu$



# Simplicity is Humble



\* A Gaussian maximizes entropy for a given mean and variance

# Anatomy of a beautiful equation

$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

probability  
density at  $x$

"exponential"

a constant

the distance to  
the mean

sigma shows up  
twice

# And here we are

$$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

CDF of Standard Normal: A function that has been solved for numerically

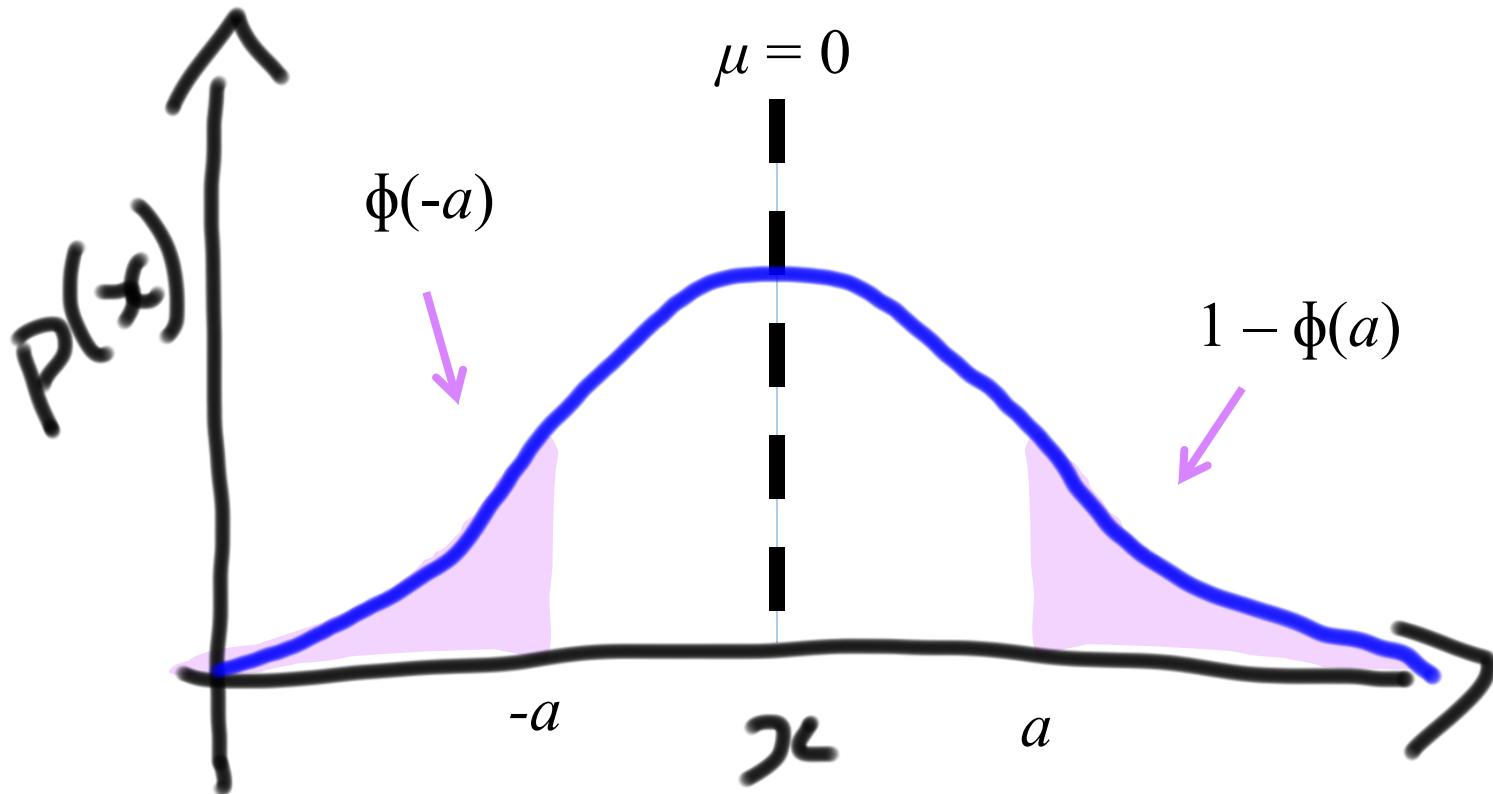
$$F(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

The cumulative density function (CDF) of any normal

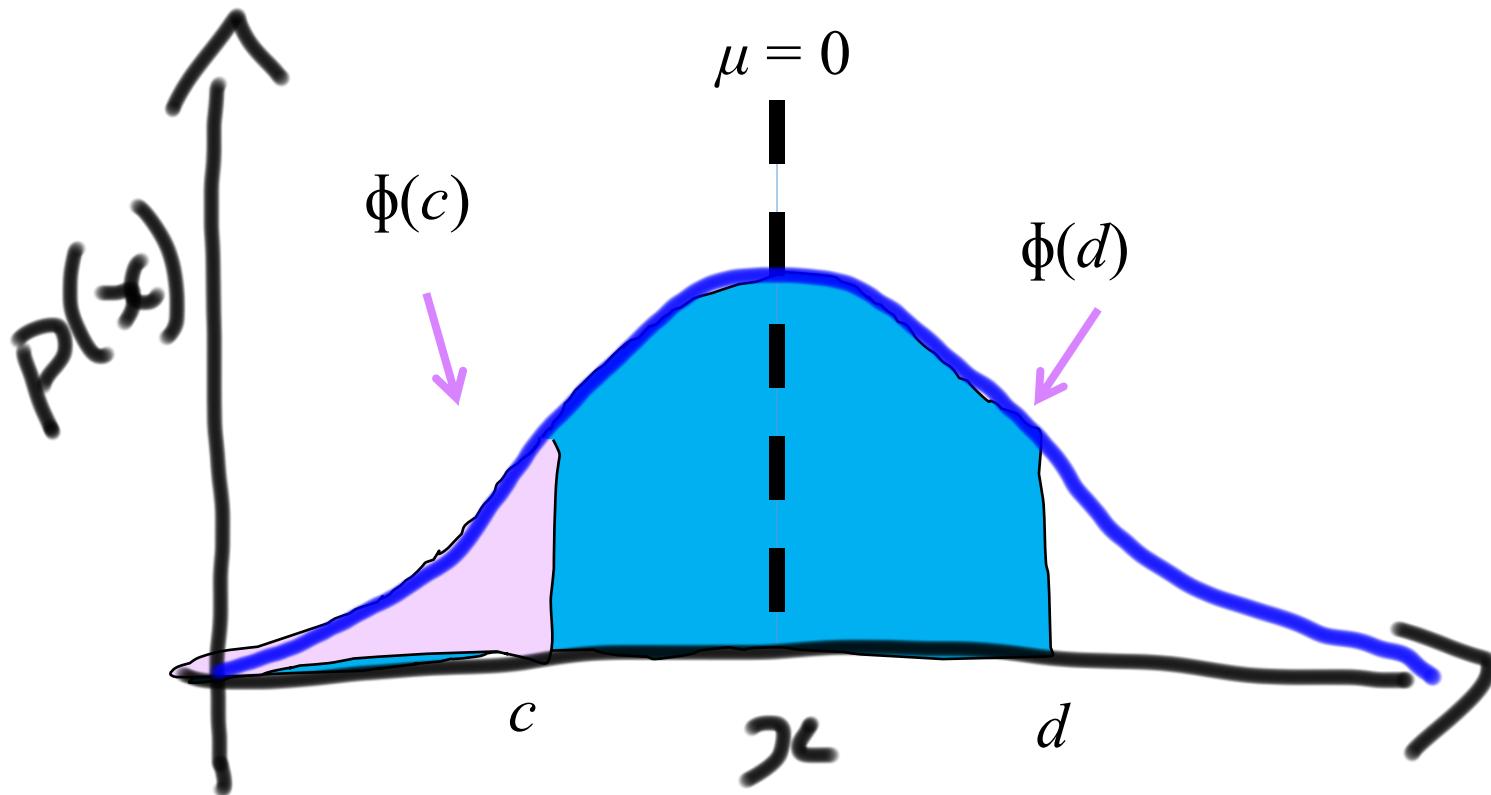
Table of  $\Phi(z)$  values in textbook, p. 201 and handout

# Symmetry of Phi

$$\Phi(-a) = 1 - \Phi(a)$$

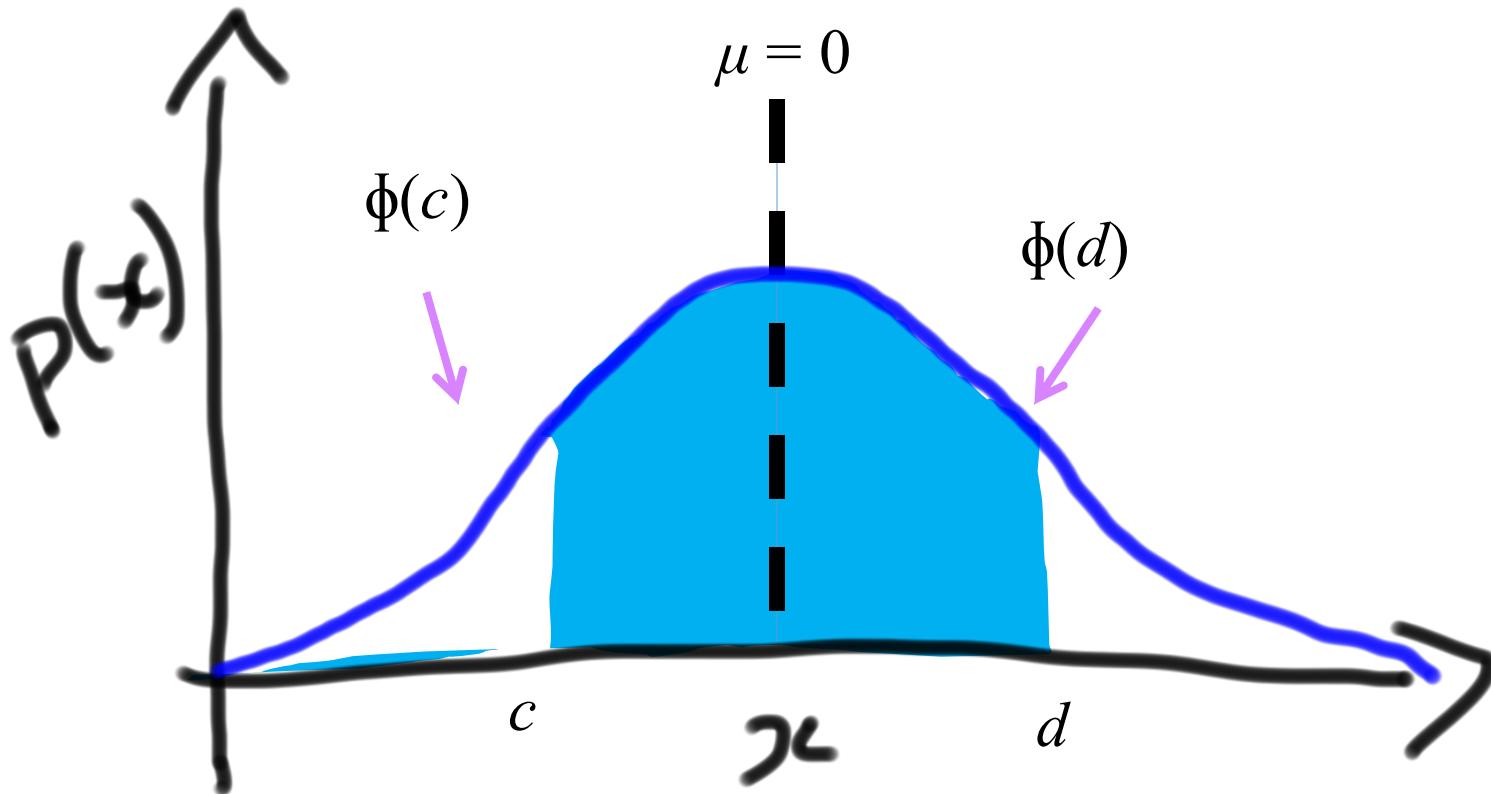


# Interval of Phi



# Interval of Phi

$$\Phi(d) - \Phi(c)$$



Great in class questions

68% rule only for Gaussians?

# 68% Rule?

What is the probability that a normal variable  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  has a value within one standard deviation of its mean?

$$\begin{aligned} P(\mu - \sigma < X < \mu + \sigma) &= P\left(\frac{\mu - \sigma - \mu}{\sigma} < \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} < \frac{\mu + \sigma - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \\ &= P(-1 < Z < 1) \\ &= \Phi(1) - \Phi(-1) \\ &= \Phi(1) - [1 - \Phi(1)] \\ &= 2\Phi(1) - 1 \\ &= 2[0.8413] - 1 = 0.683 \end{aligned}$$

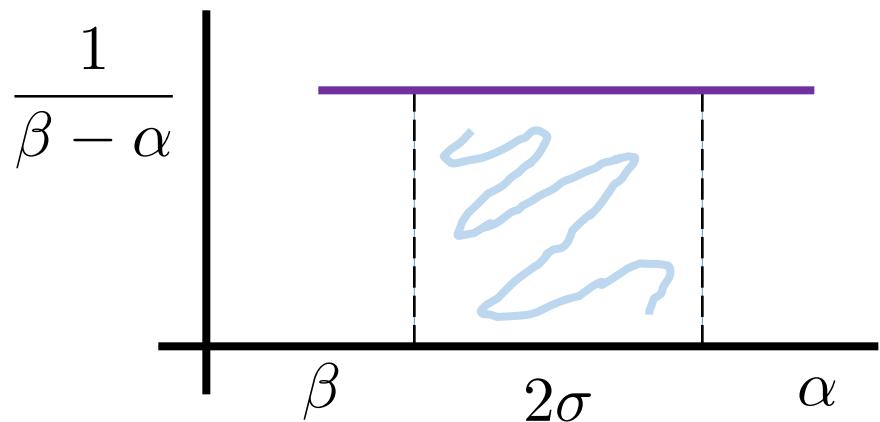
Only applies to normal

# 68% Rule?

Counter example: Uniform  $X \sim Uni(\alpha, \beta)$

$$Var(X) = \frac{(\beta - \alpha)^2}{12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \sqrt{Var(X)} \\ &= \frac{\beta - \alpha}{\sqrt{12}}\end{aligned}$$

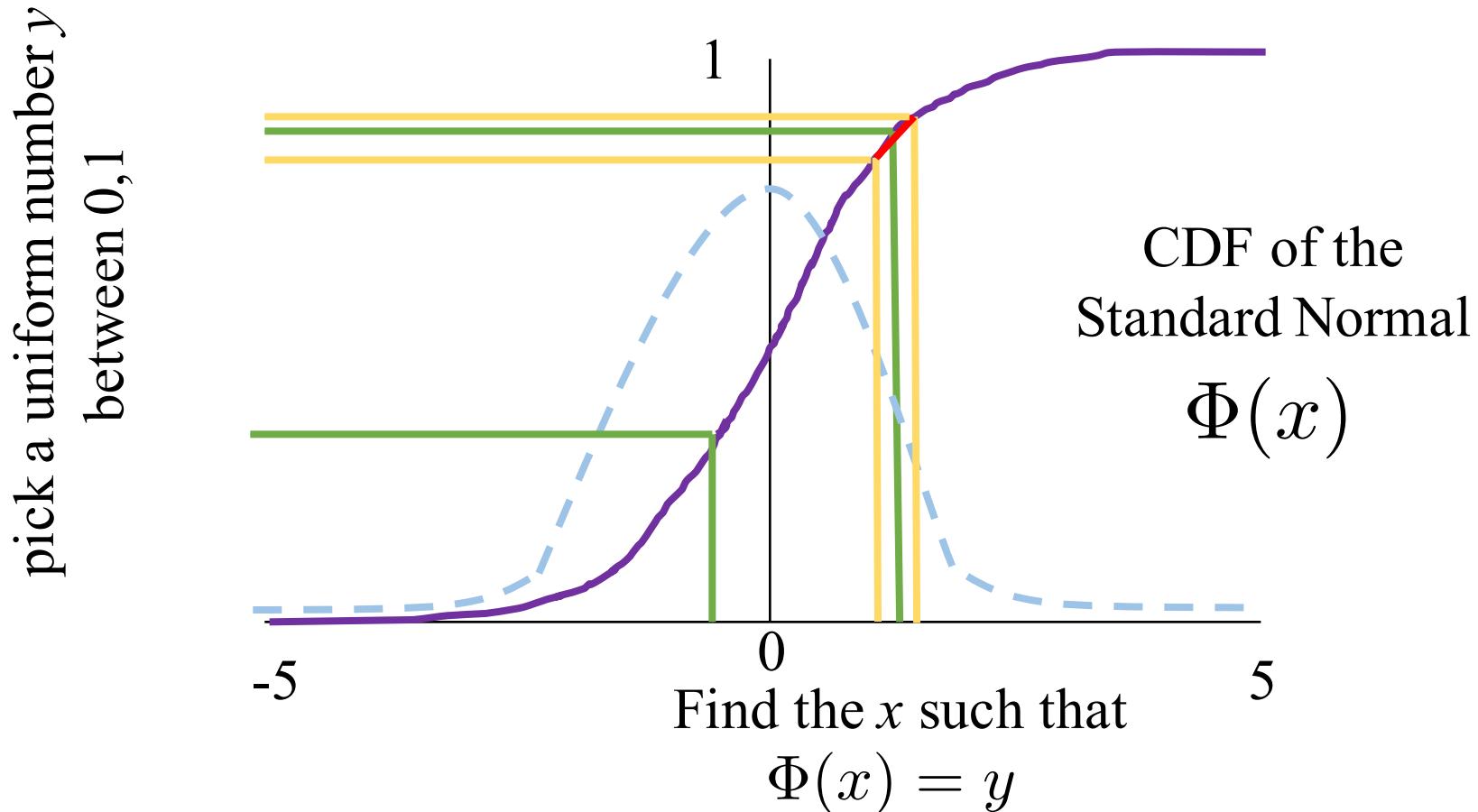


$$\begin{aligned}P(\mu - \sigma < X < \mu + \sigma) &= \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha} \left[ \frac{2(\beta - \alpha)}{\sqrt{12}} \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{12}} \\ &= 0.58\end{aligned}$$

# How do you sample from a Gaussian?

# How Does a Computer Sample Normal?

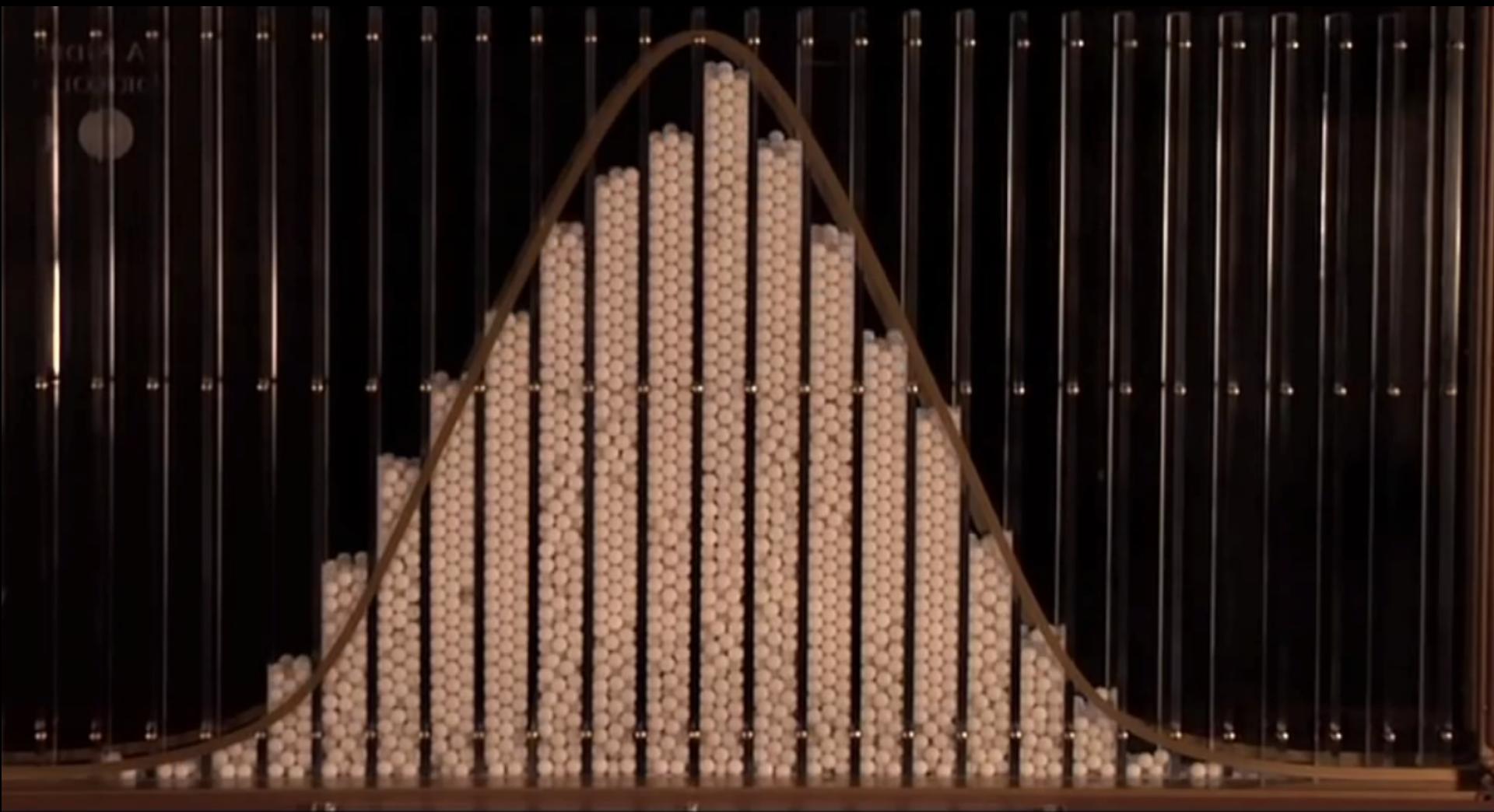
Inverse Transform Sampling



Further reading: Box–Muller transform

Where we left off...

# Normal Approximates Binomial



There is a deep reason for the Binomial/Normal approximation...

# Stanford Admissions

- Stanford accepts 2480 students
  - Each accepted student has 68% chance of attending
  - $X = \# \text{ students who will attend. } X \sim \text{Bin}(2480, 0.68)$
  - What is  $P(X > 1745)$ ?

$$np = 1686.4 \quad np(1-p) \approx 539.65 \quad \sqrt{np(1-p)} \approx 23.23$$

- Use Normal approximation:  $Y \sim N(1686.4, 539.65)$

$$P(X > 1745) \approx P(Y > 1745.5)$$

$$P(Y > 1745.5) = P\left(\frac{Y-1686.4}{23.23} > \frac{1745.5-1686.4}{23.23}\right) = 1 - \Phi(2.54) \approx 0.0055$$

- Using Binomial:

$$P(X > 1745) \approx 0.0053$$

# Changes in Stanford Admissions

- Stanford Daily, March 28, 2014  
“Class of 2018 Admit Rates Lowest in University History” by Alex Zivkovic

*“Fewer students were admitted to the Class of 2018 than the Class of 2017, due to the increase in Stanford’s yield rate which has increased over 5 percent in the past four years, according to Colleen Lim M.A. ’80, Director of Undergraduate Admission.”*

68% 10 years ago

80% last year

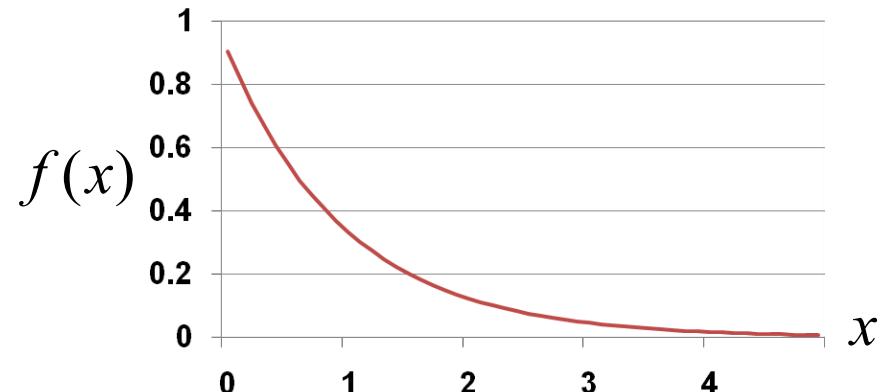
# Next distribution: Exponential

# Exponential Random Variable

- $X$  is an Exponential RV:  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  Rate:  $\lambda > 0$ 
  - Probability Density Function (PDF):

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{where } -\infty < x < \infty$$

- $E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$
- $Var(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$



- Cumulative distribution function (CDF),  $F(X) = P(X \leq x)$ :  
$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x} \quad \text{where } x \geq 0$$
- Represents time until some event
  - Earthquake, request to web server, end cell phone contract, etc.

# Exponential is Memoryless

- $X = \text{time until some event occurs}$ 
  - $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$
  - What is  $P(X > s + t | X > s)$ ?

$$P(X > s + t | X > s) = \frac{P(X > s + t \text{ and } X > s)}{P(X > s)} = \frac{P(X > s + t)}{P(X > s)}$$

$$\frac{P(X > s + t)}{P(X > s)} = \frac{1 - F(s + t)}{1 - F(s)} = \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+t)}}{e^{-\lambda s}} = e^{-\lambda t} = 1 - F(t) = P(X > t)$$

$$\text{So, } P(X > s + t | X > s) = P(X > t)$$

- After initial period of time  $s$ ,  $P(X > t | \cdot)$  for waiting another  $t$  units of time until event is same as at start
- “Memoryless” = no impact from preceding period  $s$

$E[X]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$  for exponential

# A Little Calculus Review

- Product rule for derivatives:

$$d(u \cdot v) = du \cdot v + u \cdot dv$$

- Derivative and integral of exponential:

$$\frac{d(e^u)}{dx} = e^u \frac{du}{dx} \quad \int e^u du = e^u$$

- Integration by parts:

$$\int d(u \cdot v) = u \cdot v = \int v \cdot du + \int u \cdot dv$$

$$\int u \cdot dv = u \cdot v - \int v \cdot du$$

# And Now, Calculus Practice

- Compute  $n$ -th moment of Exponential distribution

$$E[X^n] = \int_0^\infty x^n \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

- Step 1: don't panic, think happy thoughts, recall...
- Step 2: find  $u$  and  $v$  (and  $du$  and  $dv$ ):

$$u = x^n \quad v = -e^{-\lambda x}$$

$$du = nx^{n-1} dx \quad dv = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

- Step 3: substitute (a.k.a. "plug and chug")

$$\int u \cdot dv = \int x^n \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = u \cdot v - \int v \cdot du = -x^n e^{-\lambda x} + \int nx^{n-1} e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$E[X^n] = -x^n e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^\infty + \int nx^{n-1} e^{-\lambda x} dx = 0 + \frac{n}{\lambda} \int x^{n-1} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \frac{n}{\lambda} E[X^{n-1}]$$

$$\text{Base case : } E[X^0] = E[1] = 1, \text{ so } E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}, E[X^2] = \frac{2}{\lambda} \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}, \dots$$

# Visits to a Website

- Say visitor to your web site leaves after  $X$  minutes
  - On average, visitors leave site after 5 minutes
  - Assume length of stay is Exponentially distributed
  - $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda = 1/5)$ , since  $E[X] = 1/\lambda = 5$
  - What is  $P(X > 10)$ ?

$$P(X > 10) = 1 - F(10) = 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda 10}) = e^{-2} \approx 0.1353$$

- What is  $P(10 < X < 20)$ ?

$$P(10 < X < 20) = F(20) - F(10) = (1 - e^{-4}) - (1 - e^{-2}) \approx 0.1170$$

# Replacing Your Laptop

- $X = \# \text{ hours of use until your laptop dies}$ 
  - On average, laptops die after 5000 hours of use
  - $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda = 1/5000)$ , since  $E[X] = 1/\lambda = 5000$
  - You use your laptop 5 hours/day.
  - What is  $P(\text{your laptop lasts 4 years})$ ?
  - That is:  $P(X > (5)(365)(4)) = P(X > 7300)$

$$P(X > 7300) = 1 - F(7300) = 1 - (1 - e^{-7300/5000}) = e^{-1.46} \approx 0.2322$$

- Better plan ahead... especially if you are coterminating:

$$P(X > 9125) = 1 - F(9125) = e^{-1.825} \approx 0.1612 \quad (\text{5 year plan})$$

$$P(X > 10950) = 1 - F(10950) = e^{-2.19} \approx 0.1119 \quad (\text{6 year plan})$$

# Continuous Random Variables

Uniform Random Variable  $X \sim Uni(\alpha, \beta)$

All values of  $x$  between alpha and beta are equally likely.

Normal Random Variable  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

Aka Gaussian. Defined by mean and variance. Goldilocks distribution.

Exponential Random Variable  $X \sim Exp(\lambda)$

Time until an event happens. Parameterized by lambda (same as Poisson).

Alpha Beta Random Variable

How mysterious and curious. You must wait a few classes ☺.

# Joint Distributions

Events occur with other events

# Discrete Joint Mass Function

- For two discrete random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , the **Joint Probability Mass Function** is:

$$p_{X,Y}(a,b) = P(X = a, Y = b)$$

- Marginal distributions:

$$p_X(a) = P(X = a) = \sum_y p_{X,Y}(a,y)$$

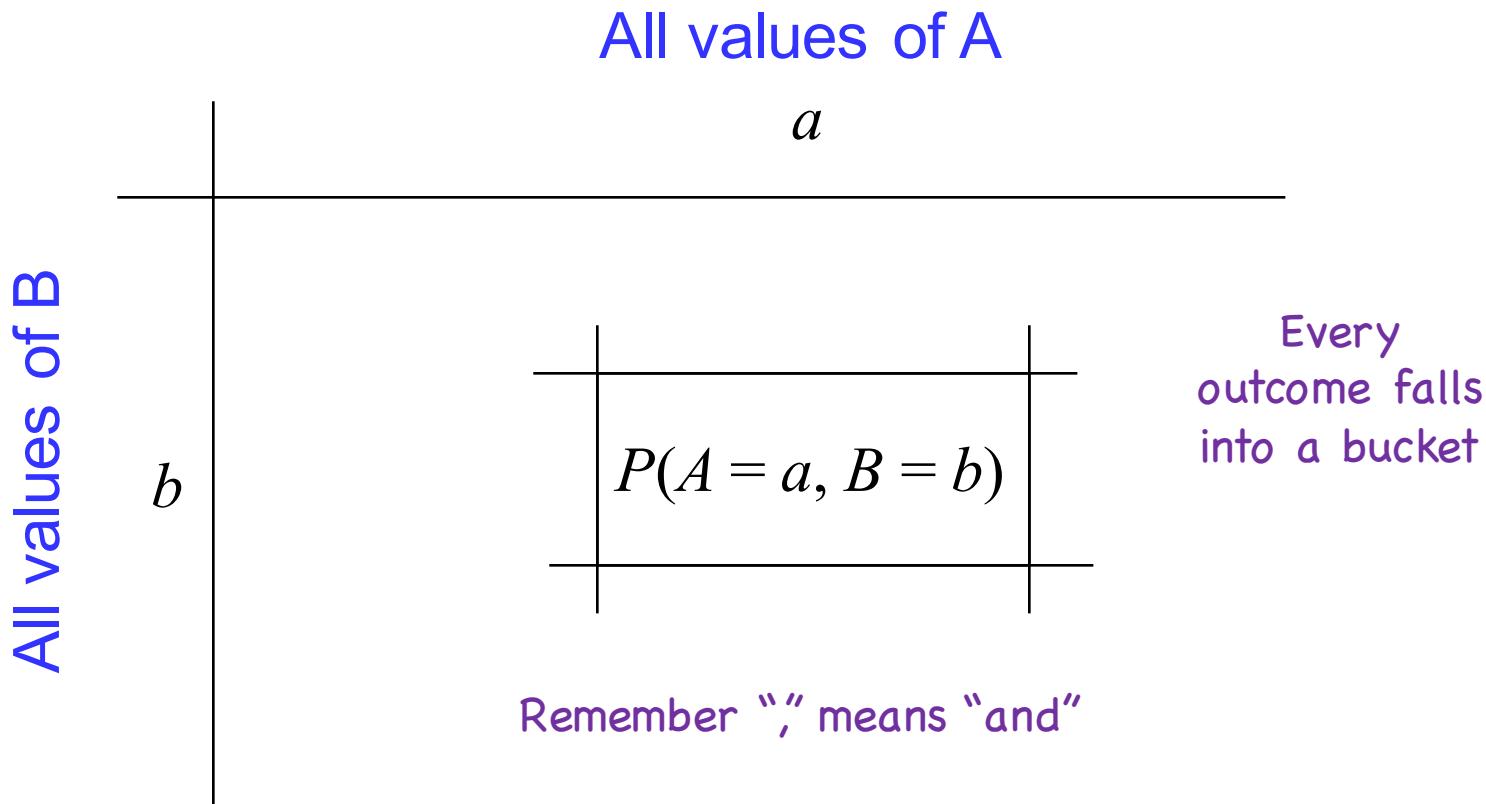
$$p_Y(b) = P(Y = b) = \sum_x p_{X,Y}(x,b)$$

- Example:  $X$  = value of die  $D_1$ ,  $Y$  = value of die  $D_2$

$$P(X = 1) = \sum_{y=1}^6 p_{X,Y}(1,y) = \sum_{y=1}^6 \frac{1}{36} = \frac{1}{6}$$

# Probability Table

- States all possible outcomes with several discrete variables
- Often is not “parametric”
- If #variables is  $> 2$ , you can have a probability table, but you can’t draw it on a slide



# It's Complicated Demo



Relationship Status:

Interested in:

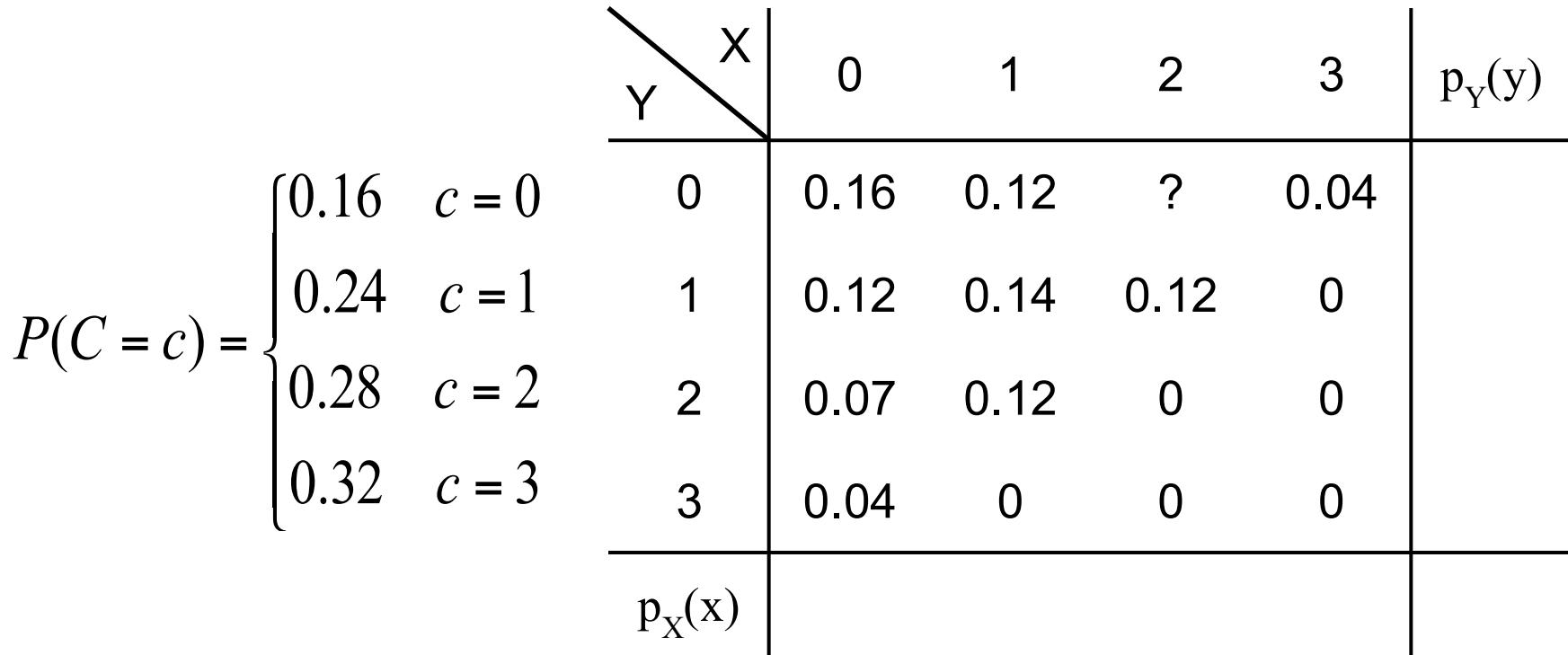
Looking for:

Single  
In a Relationship  
Engaged  
Married  
**It's Complicated**  
In an Open Relationship  
Widowed

Go to this URL: <https://goo.gl/ZNRsqD>

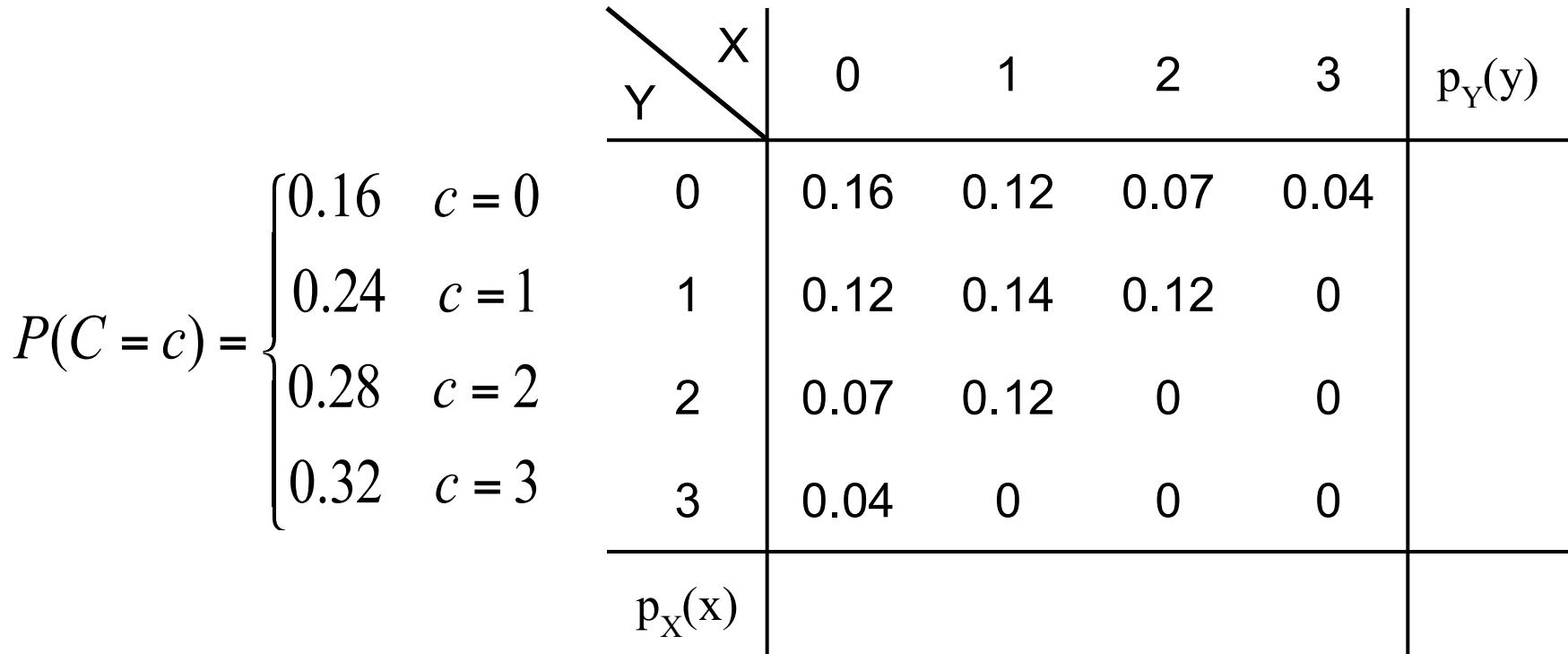
# A Computer (or Three) In Every House

- Consider households in Silicon Valley
  - A household has  $C$  computers:  $C = X$  Macs +  $Y$  PCs
  - Assume each computer equally likely to be Mac or PC



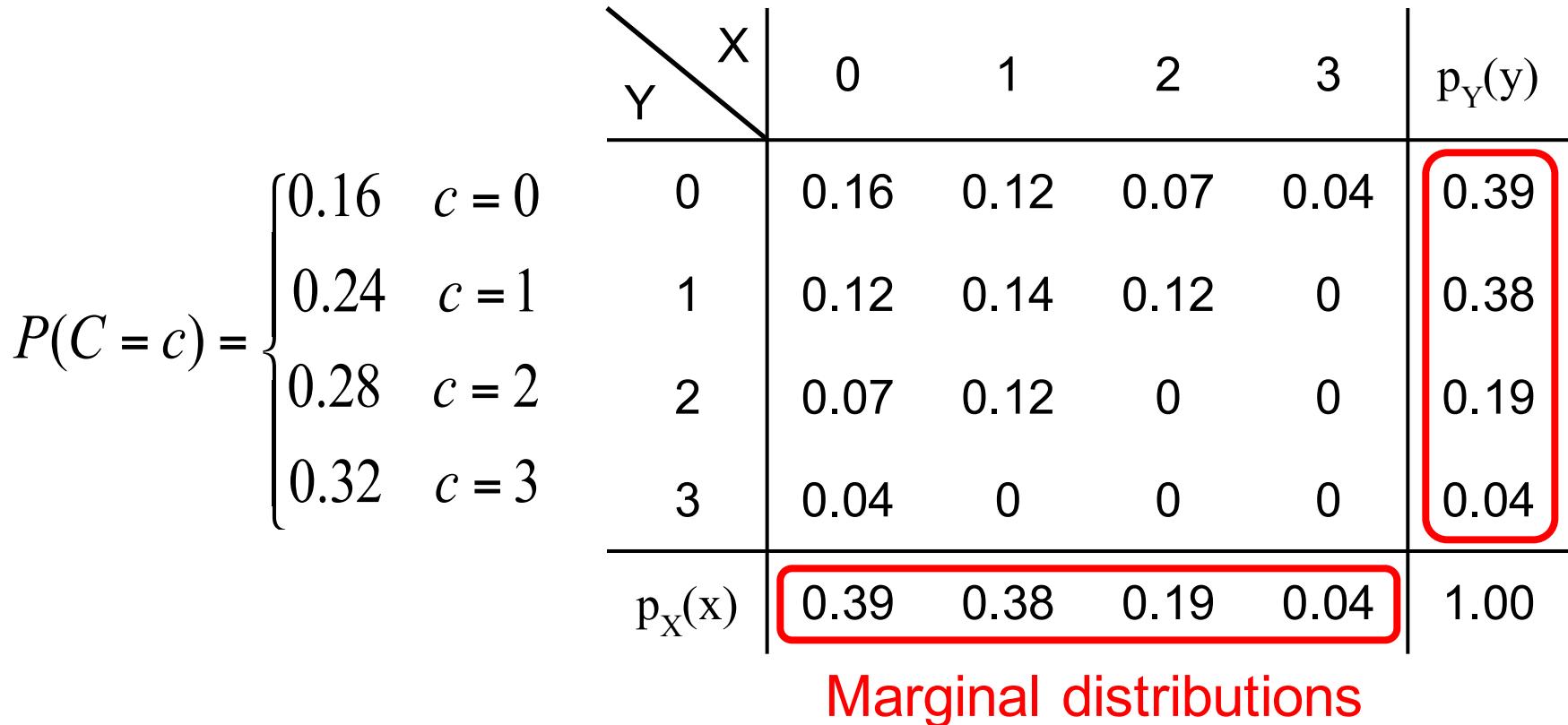
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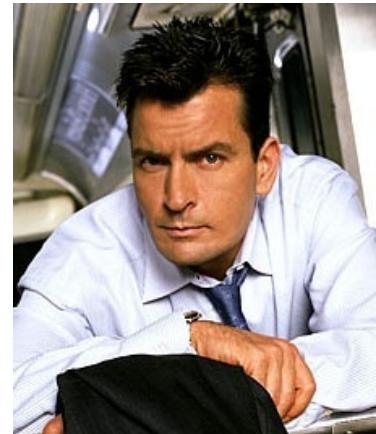
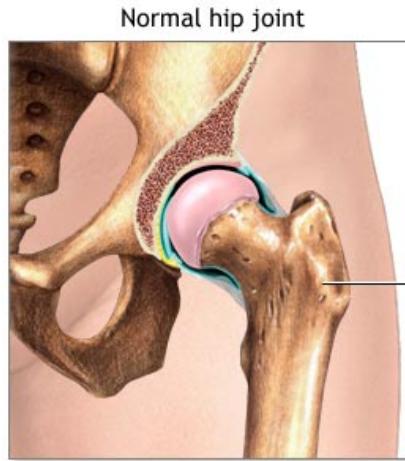
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- Consider households in Silicon Valley
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# Joint

- This is a joint



- A joint is not a mathematician
  - It did not start doing mathematics at an early age
  - It is not the reason we have “joint distributions”
  - And, no, Charlie Sheen does not look like a joint
    - But he does have them...
    - He also has **joint** custody of his children with Denise Richards

What about the continuous world?

# Jointly Continuous

- Random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , are **Jointly Continuous** if there exists PDF  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$  defined over  $-\infty < x, y < \infty$  such that:

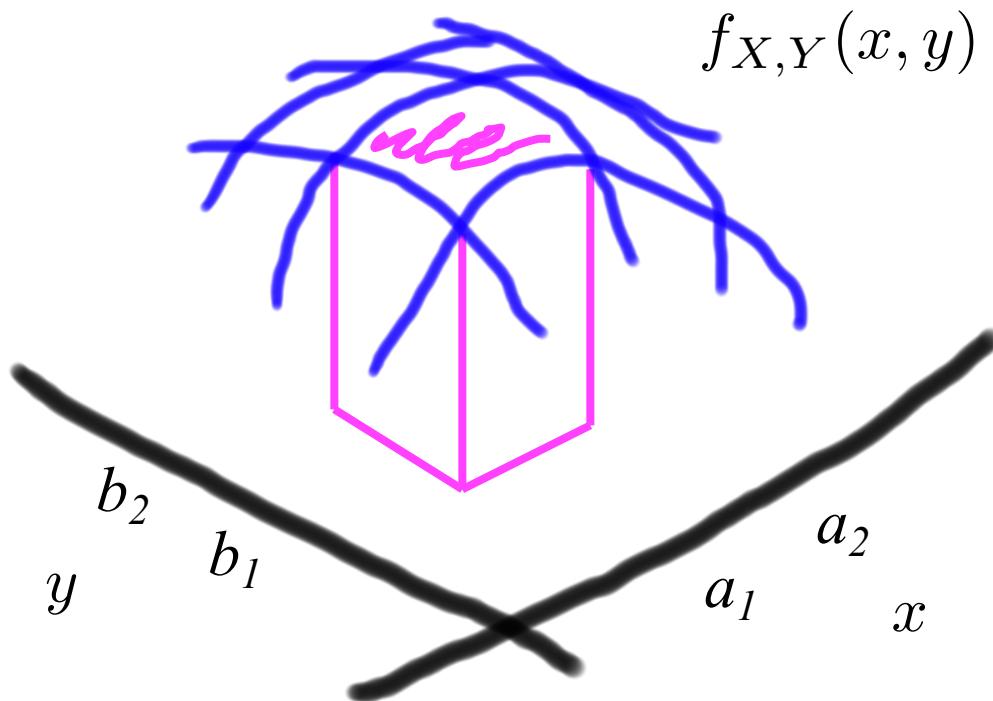
$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \int_{b_1}^{b_2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$

Let's look at one:

[Demo](#)

# Jointly Continuous

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \int_{b_1}^{b_2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$



# Jointly Continuous

- Cumulative Density Function (CDF):

$$F_{X,Y}(a,b) = \int_{-\infty}^a \int_{-\infty}^b f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx \quad f_{X,Y}(a,b) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial a \partial b} F_{X,Y}(a,b)$$

- Marginal density functions:

$$f_X(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(a,y) dy \qquad f_Y(b) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,b) dx$$

# Continuous Joint Distribution Functions

- For two continuous random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , the **Joint Cumulative Probability Distribution** is:

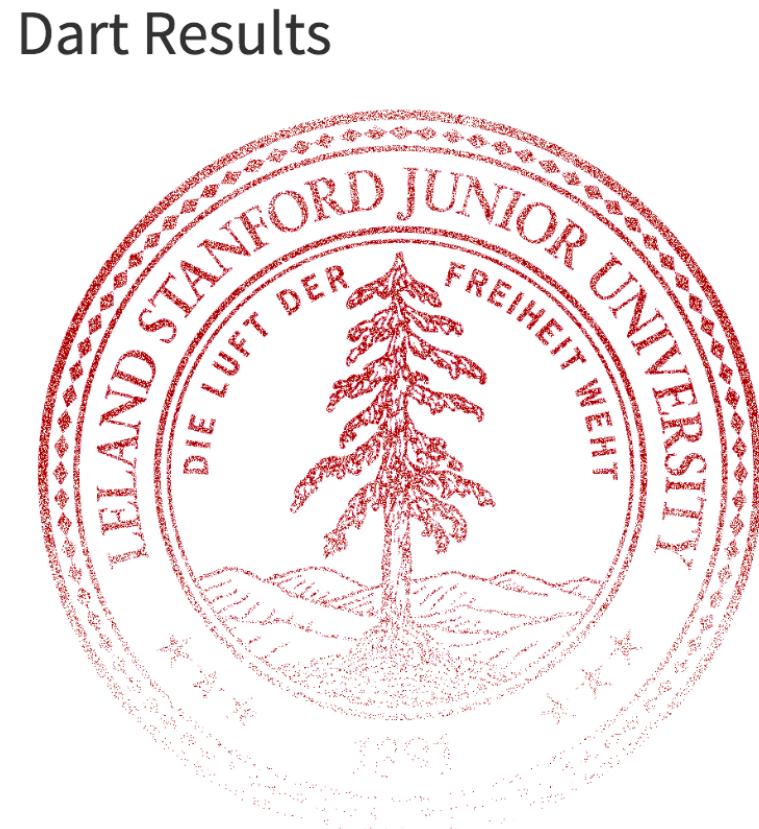
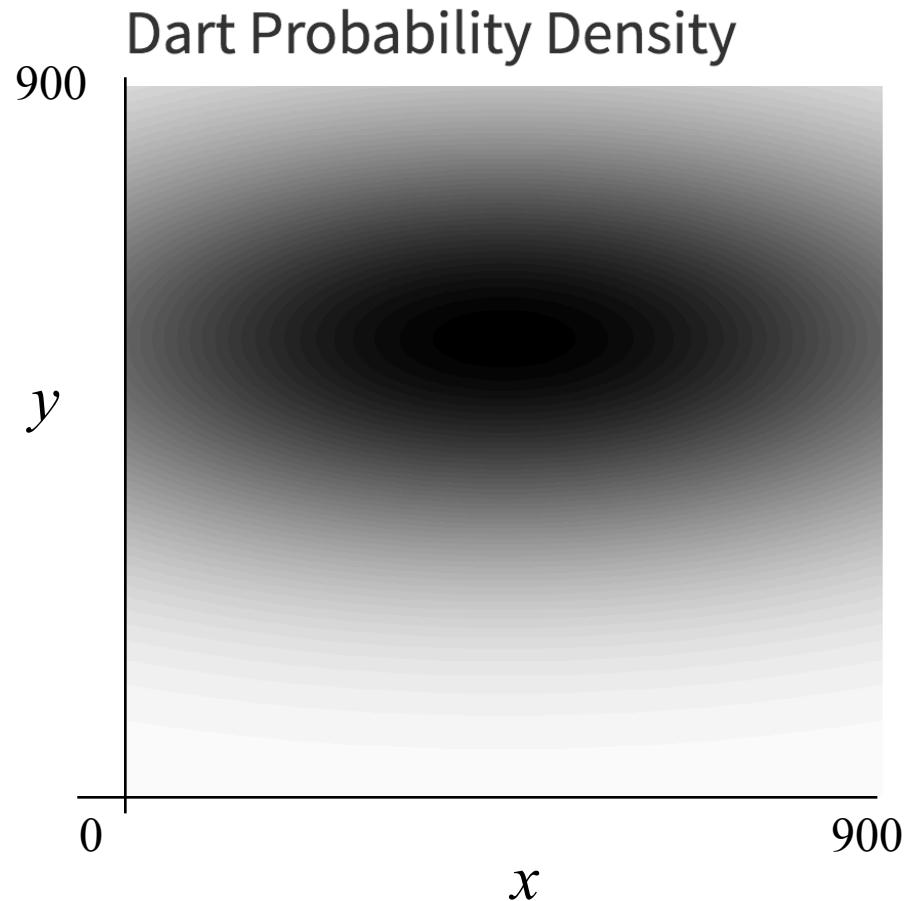
$$F_{X,Y}(a,b) = F(a,b) = P(X \leq a, Y \leq b) \quad \text{where } -\infty < a, b < \infty$$

- Marginal distributions:

$$F_X(a) = P(X \leq a) = P(X \leq a, Y < \infty) = F_{X,Y}(a, \infty)$$

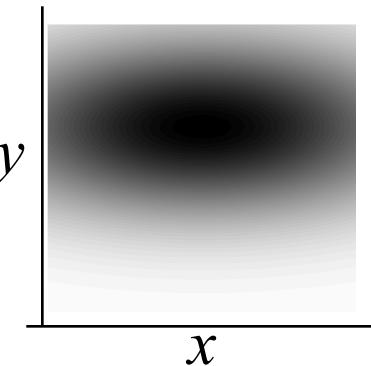
$$F_Y(b) = P(Y \leq b) = P(X < \infty, Y \leq b) = F_{X,Y}(\infty, b)$$

# Joint Dart Distribution

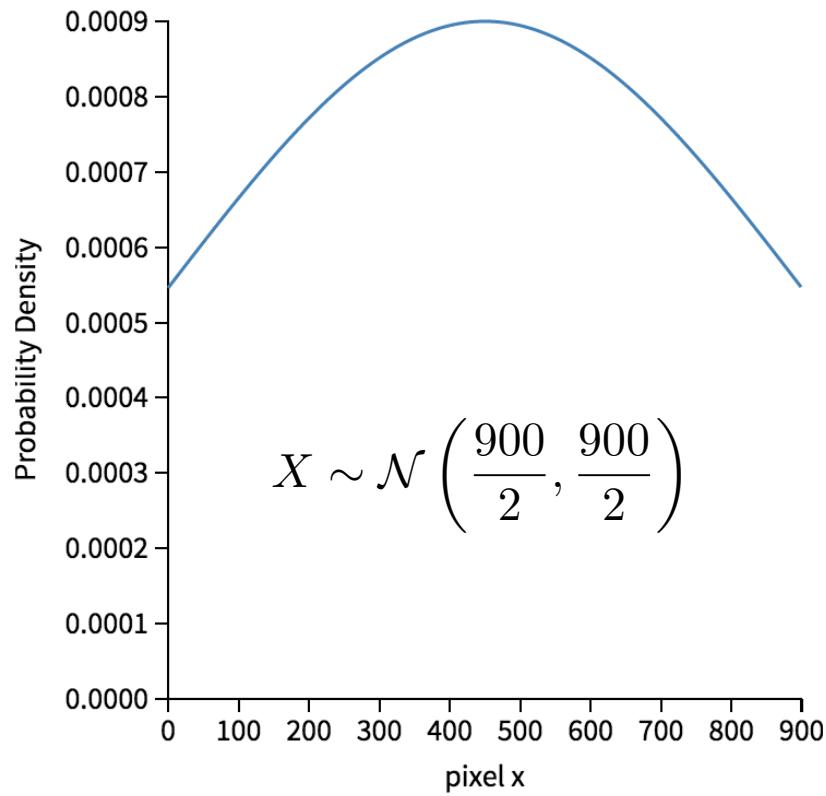


# Darts!

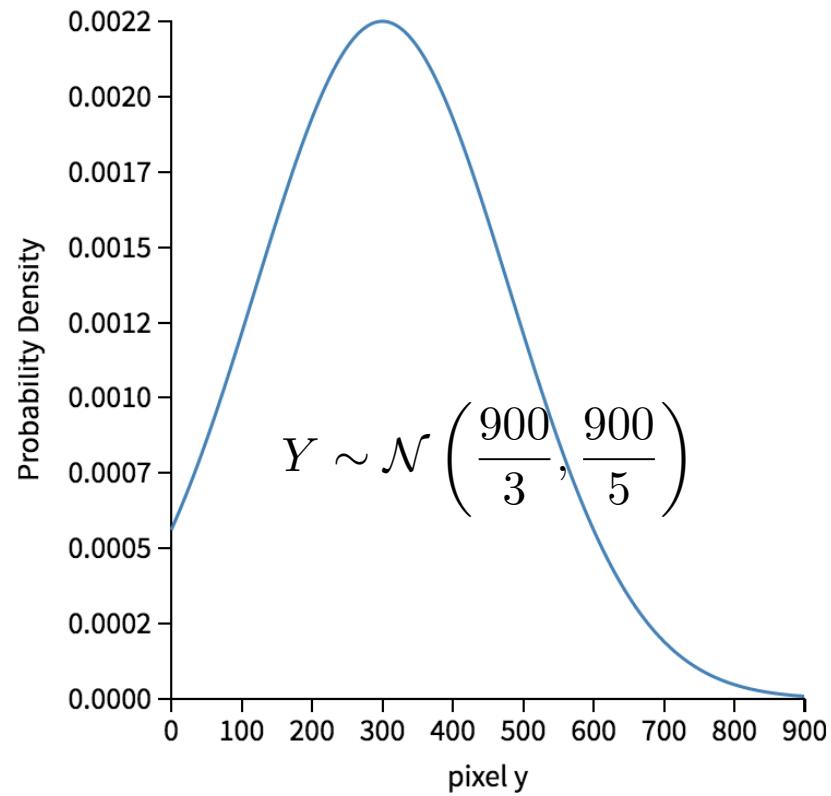
Dart PDF



X-Pixel Marginal



Y-Pixel Marginal



# Multiple Integrals Without Tears

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous random variables
  - where  $0 \leq X \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq Y \leq 2$
- We want to integrate  $g(x,y) = xy$  w.r.t.  $X$  and  $Y$ :
  - First, do “innermost” integral (treat  $y$  as a constant):

$$\int_{y=0}^2 \int_{x=0}^1 xy \, dx \, dy = \int_{y=0}^2 \left( \int_{x=0}^1 xy \, dx \right) dy = \int_{y=0}^2 y \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^1 dy = \int_{y=0}^2 y \frac{1}{2} dy$$

- Then, evaluate remaining (single) integral:

$$\int_{y=0}^2 y \frac{1}{2} dy = \left[ \frac{y^2}{4} \right]_0^2 = 1 - 0 = 1$$

# Computing Joint Probabilities

Let  $F_{X,Y}(x, y)$  be joint CDF for  $X$  and  $Y$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > a, Y > b) &= 1 - P((X > a, Y > b)^c) \\ &= 1 - P((X > a)^c \cup (Y > b)^c) \\ &= 1 - P((X \leq a) \cup (Y \leq b)) \\ &= 1 - (P(X \leq a) + P(Y \leq b) - P(X \leq a, Y \leq b)) \\ &= 1 - F_X(a) - F_Y(b) + F_{X,Y}(a, b) \end{aligned}$$

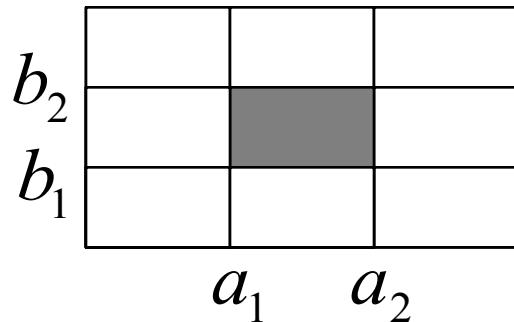


# The General Rule Given Joint CDF

Let  $F_{X,Y}(x,y)$  be joint CDF for  $X$  and  $Y$

$$\text{P}(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2)$$

$$= F(a_2, b_2) - F(a_1, b_2) + F(a_1, b_1) - F(a_2, b_1)$$



# Lovely Lemma

- $Y$  is a non-negative continuous random variable
  - Probability Density Function:  $f_Y(y)$
  - Already knew that:

$$E[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y) dy$$

- But, did you know that:

$$E[Y] = \int_0^{\infty} P(Y > y) dy ?!?$$

- Analogously, in the discrete case, where  $X = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n P(X \geq i)$$

# How this lemma was made

In the discrete case, where  $X = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n P(X \geq i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n P(X \geq i) &= \\ &\quad P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) + \cdots + P(X = n) \\ &\quad + P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) + \cdots + P(X = n) \\ &\quad + P(X = 3) + \cdots + P(X = n) \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &\quad + P(X = n) \end{aligned}$$

Each row is an expansion of

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1P(X = 1) + 2P(X = 2) + \cdots + n(PX = n) \\ &= E[X] \end{aligned}$$

Life gives you lemmas,  
make lemmade!

# Imperfections on a Disk

- Disk surface is a circle of radius  $R$ 
  - A single point imperfection uniformly distributed on disk

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi R^2} & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \leq R^2 \\ 0 & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 > R^2 \end{cases} \quad \text{where } -\infty < x, y < \infty$$

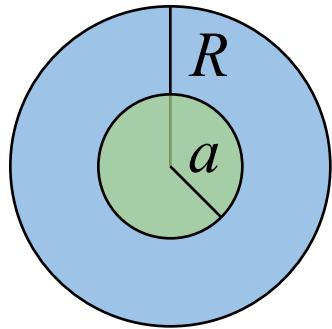
$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy = \frac{1}{\pi} R^2 \int_{x^2+y^2 \leq R^2} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} R^2 \int_{-\sqrt{R^2-x^2}}^{\sqrt{R^2-x^2}} dy \end{aligned}$$


Only integrate over the support range

Marginal of Y is the same by symmetry

# Imperfections on a Disk

- Disk surface is a circle of radius  $R$ 
  - A single point imperfection uniformly distributed on disk
  - Distance to origin:  $D = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}$
  - What is  $E[D]$ ?



$$P(D \leq a) = \frac{\pi a^2}{\pi R^2} = \frac{a^2}{R^2}$$

Because of  
equally likely  
outcomes

$$\begin{aligned} E[D] &= \int_0^R P(D > a) da = \int_0^R 1 - P(D \leq a) da \\ &= \int_0^R 1 - \frac{a^2}{R^2} da \\ &= \left[ a - \frac{a^3}{3R^2} \right]_0^R = \frac{2R}{3} \end{aligned}$$

