

Discrete & Continuous Distributions  
Mixtures  
& Expectations

## ***The Kolmogorov Axioms of probability theory***

- 1)  $\Pr(\Omega) = 1$
- 2) If  $V$  is a **countable** collection of disjoint events:

$$V = \{A_1, A_2, \dots\}, \quad \forall i \neq j, \quad A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$$

Then Probability of the union is equal to the sum of the probabilities:

$$\Pr\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \Pr(A_i)$$

*The uniform distribution over [0,1]*

$$0 \leq x_1, x_2, \dots \leq 1$$

$$P(\{x_1\}) = 0$$

$$P(\{x_1, x_2\}) = 0$$

$$P(\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}) = 0$$

But, if  $0 \leq a < b \leq 1$

$$P([a, b]) = b - a$$

Prob of other sets:

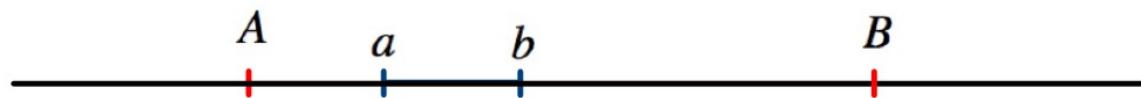
Construct from Countable

Unions & Intersections  
of intervals

**U(A,B)** = The Uniform distribution over the segment [A,B]

$U(A,B)$  is defined by assigning probability  
to every segment  $[a,b]$  where  $A \leq a \leq b \leq B$  ( $A < B$ )

$$\Pr([a,b]) = \Pr((a,b)) = \frac{b-a}{B-A}$$



Lets calculate the probability of some sets with respect to the uniform distribution

Fix the probability distribution  $U(-1,1)$

$$P([-1/3, 1/3]) = (1/3 - -1/3) / (1 - -1) = (2/3) / 2 = 1/3$$

$$P([-1, 0]) =$$

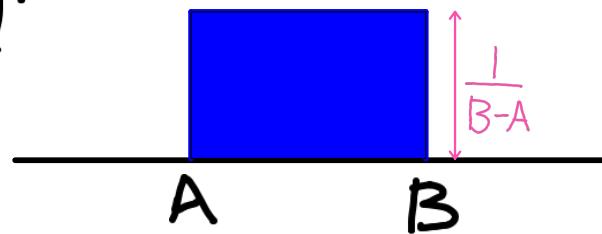
$$P([-2, 0]) =$$

$$P([-3, 2]) =$$

$$P([0, 2]) =$$

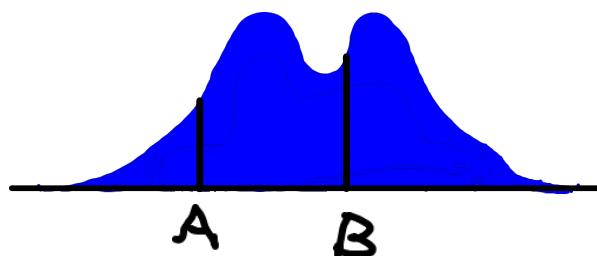
$$P([-2, -1/2] \cup [1/2, 2]) =$$

uniform density:



general density

$$P([A, B]) = \int_A^B f(x) dx$$



$\forall x \quad f(x) \geq 0$  ( $f(x)$  can be larger than 1)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$$

## **PDF and CDF**

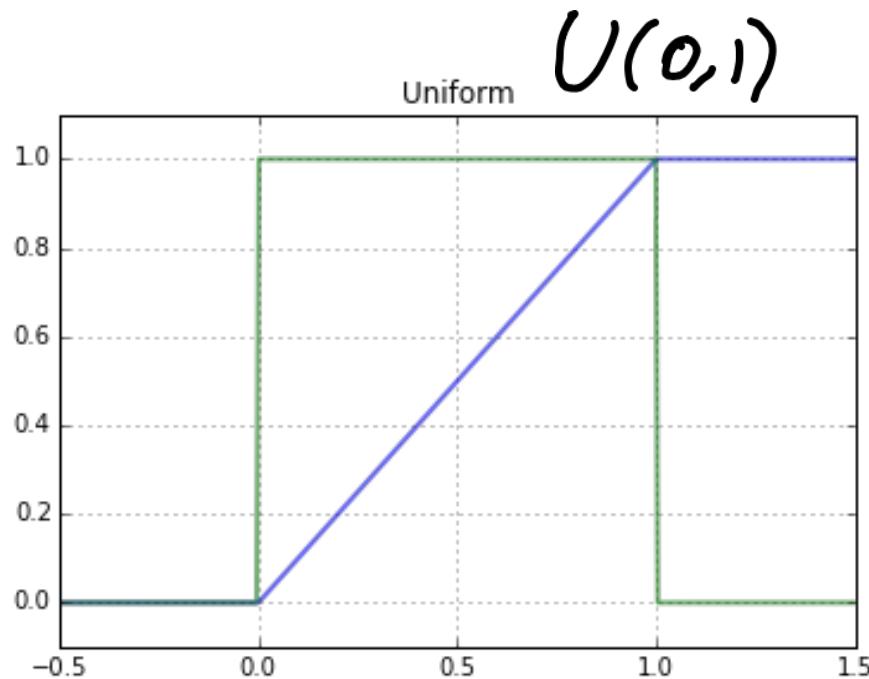
***The Probability Density function is shortened to PDF***

***Another popular representation of a distribution on the real is the CDF: Cumulative Distribution function***

The CDF  $F$  is defined as  $F(a) \doteq \Pr(x \leq a)$

For density distributions, one can translate between PDF and CDF:

$$F(a) = \int_{-\infty}^a f(x)dx; \quad f(a) = \left. \frac{dF(x)}{dx} \right|_{x=a}$$



Uniform Dist.  $U(a,b)$

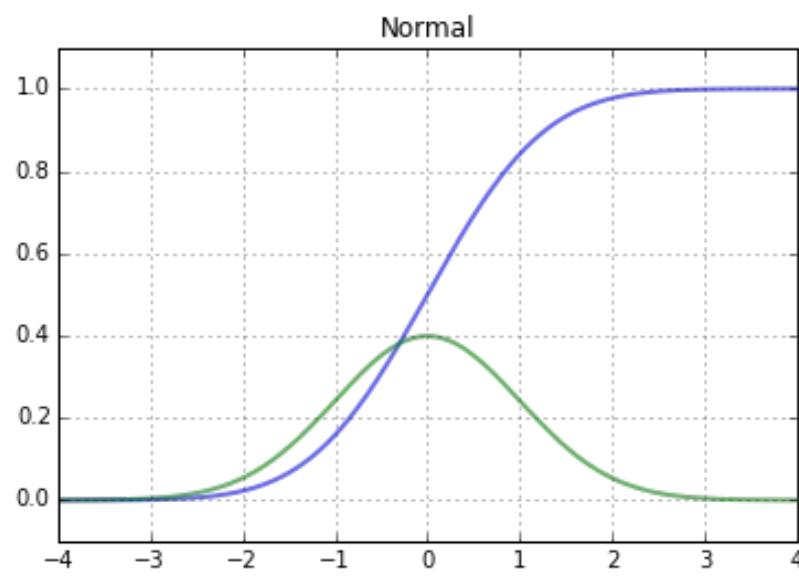
Endpoints:  $a = 0, b = 1$

PDF:

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

CDF:

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(s)ds = \begin{cases} 0 & x < a \\ \frac{x-a}{b-a} & a \leq x < b \\ 1 & b \leq x \end{cases}$$



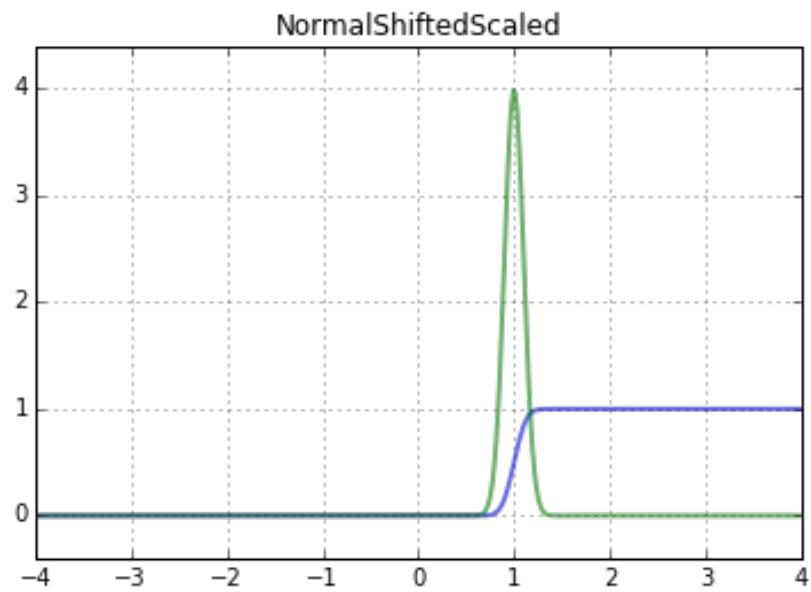
**Standard Normal  $N(0,1)$**

PDF:

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

CDF:

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(s)ds = 1 - Q(x)$$



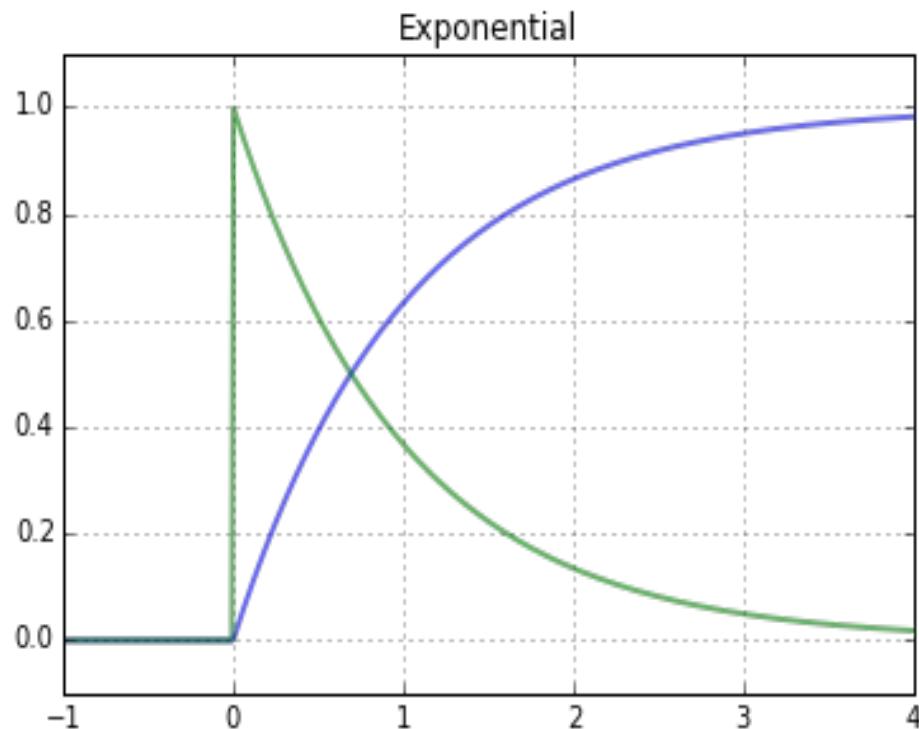
*Shifted and Scaled Normal  $N(\mu, \sigma)$*   
*Shift:  $\mu = 1$  scale:  $\sigma = 0.1$*

PDF:

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

CDF:

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(s)ds = 1 - Q\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$



**Exponential Distribution  $\text{Exp}(a, \lambda)$**

Shift:  $a$  Scale:  $\lambda > 0$

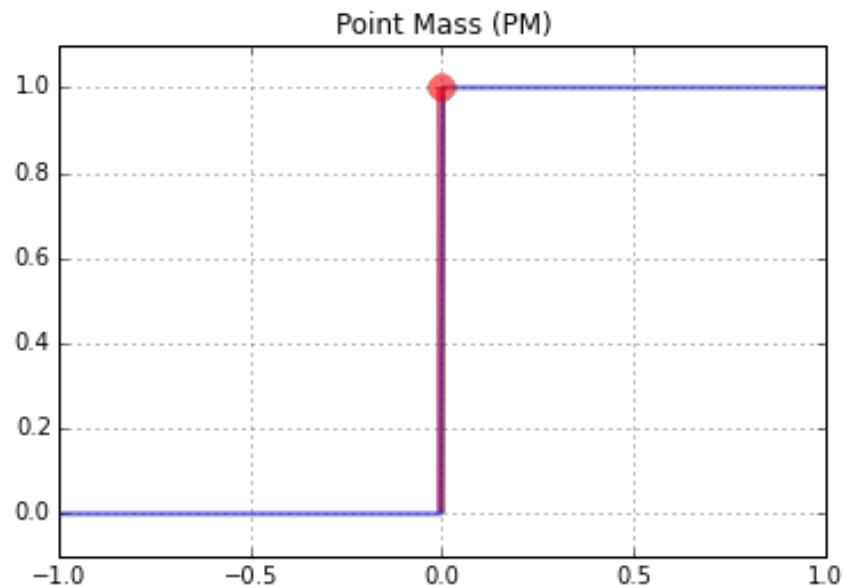
PDF:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a \\ \lambda e^{-\lambda(x-a)}, & x \geq a \end{cases}$$

CDF:

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda(x-a)}, & x \geq a \end{cases}$$

# $PM(o)$



*Point-mass distribution  $PM(a)$*

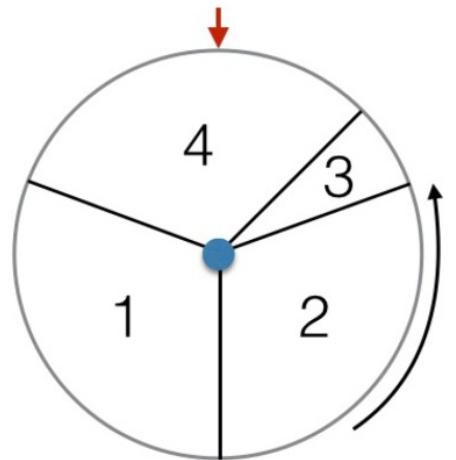
*Shift:  $a$*

PMF:

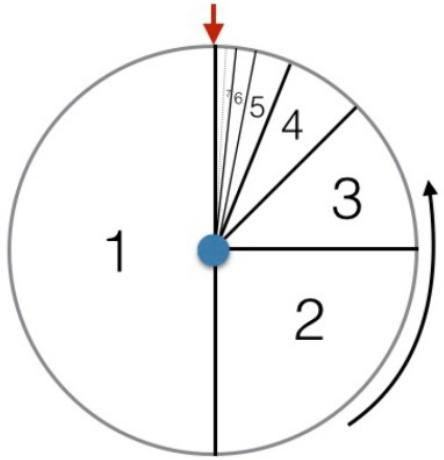
$$P(a) = 1$$

CDF:

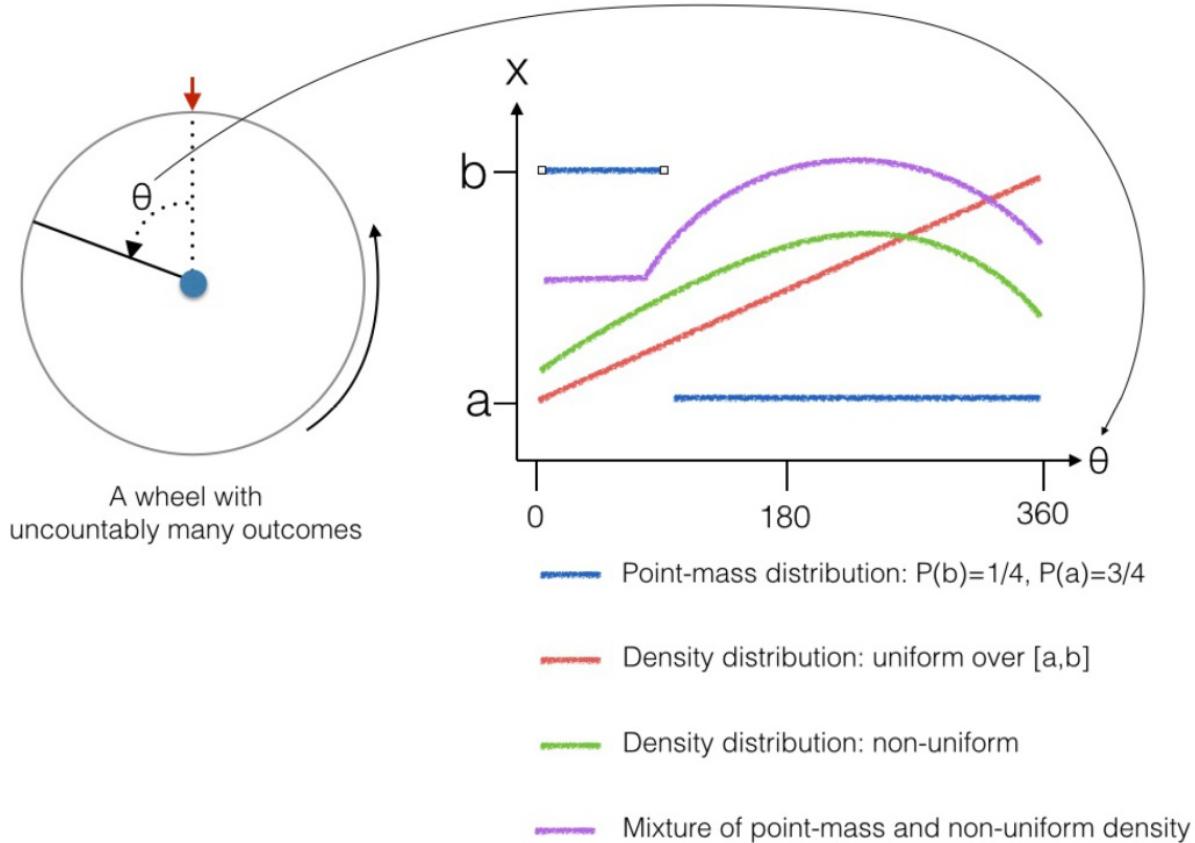
$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(s)ds = \begin{cases} 0 & x < a \\ 1 & x \geq a \end{cases}$$



(a) A wheel with  
four outcomes



(b) A wheel with  
Infinitely many outcomes



## density distributions vs. Point-Mass distribution

Point mass distributions assign non-zero probability to individual points.

$$PM(a) \text{ ---- } P(X=a)=1$$

Density distributions assign non-zero probability to segments.

The probability of any single point under a density distribution is zero.

$$\Rightarrow \text{as a result } P([a,b])=P((a,b))=P([a,b))=P((a,b])$$

$\Rightarrow$  the probability of any countable set is zero.

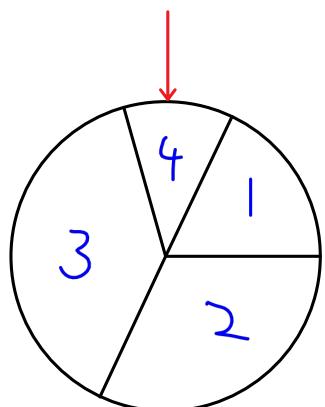
$\Rightarrow$  for example the probability of all rational numbers in  $[0,1]$ , under the uniform distribution over  $[0,1]$  is zero!!!

In other words, if you pick a random number from  $U(0,1)$   
the probability that it is a rational number is zero !!!

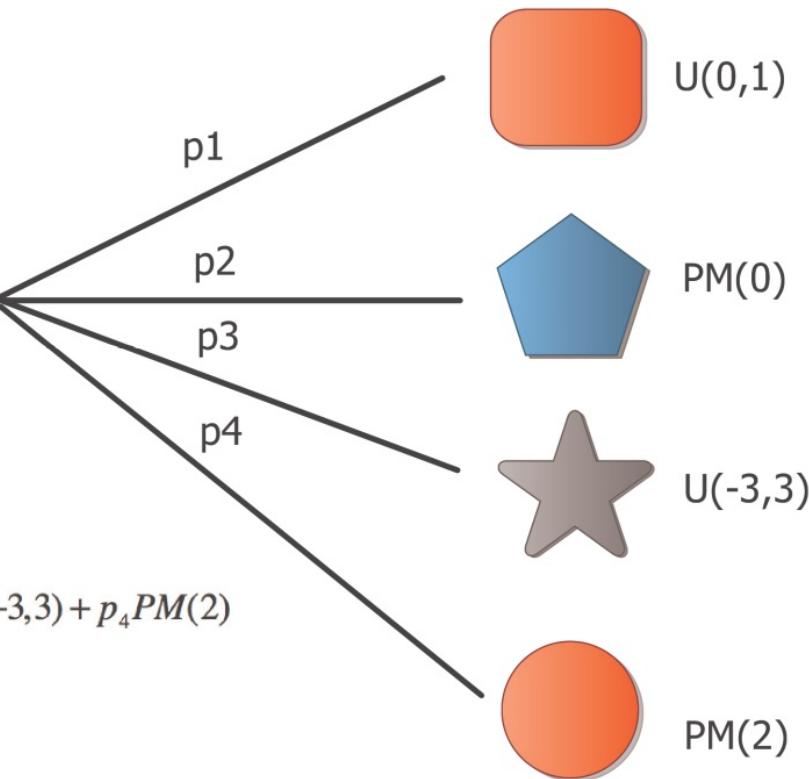
Mixture

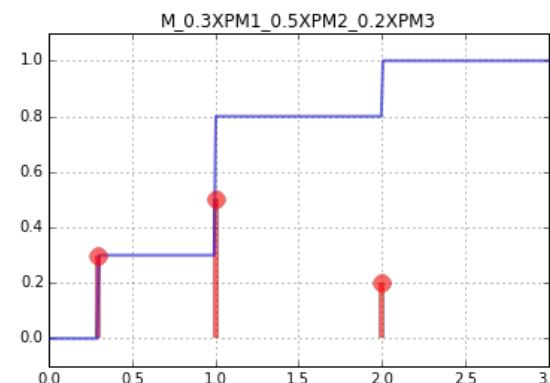
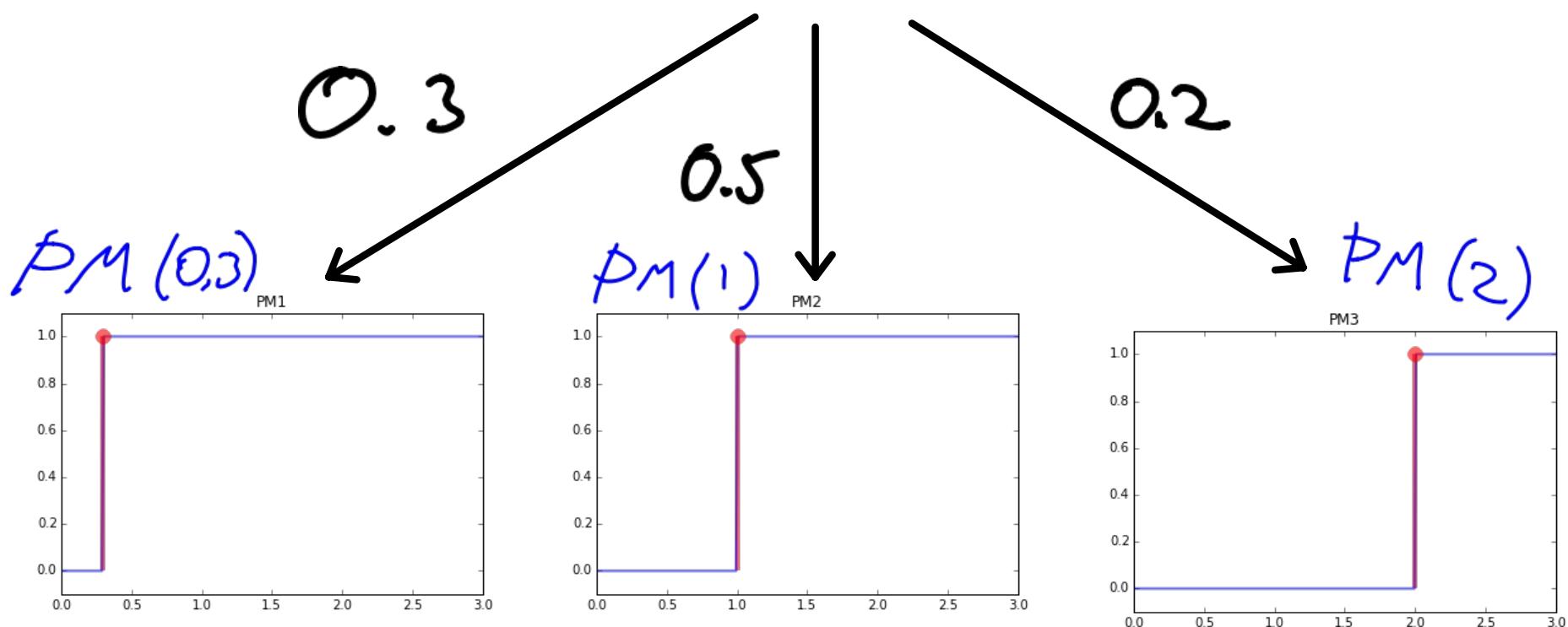
Distributions

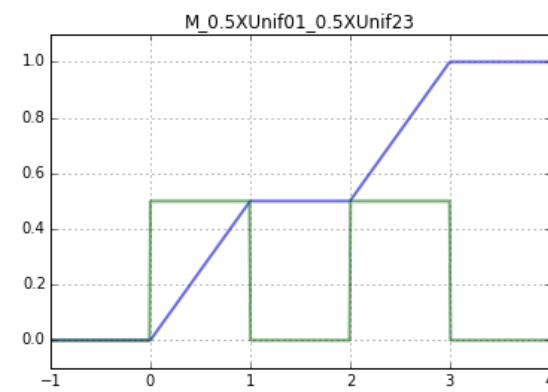
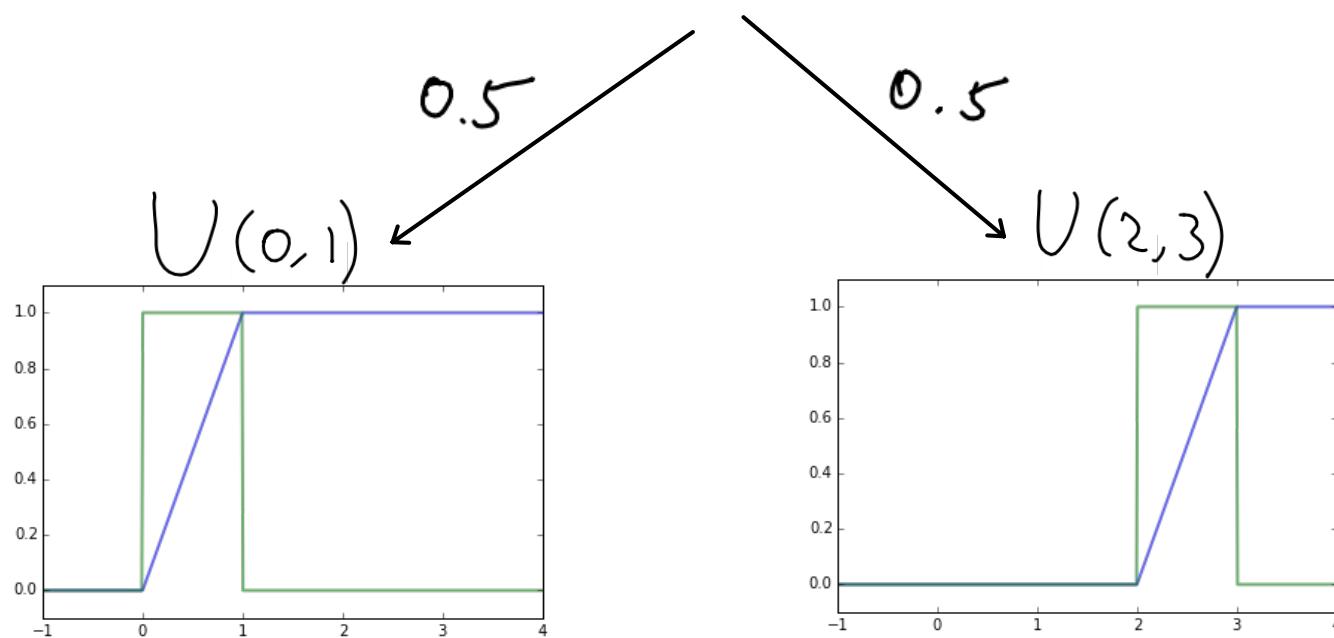
## Mixtures distributions

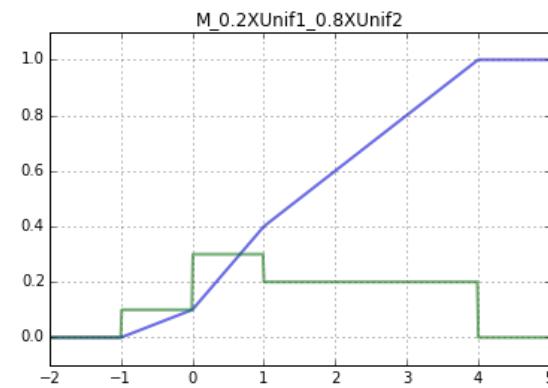
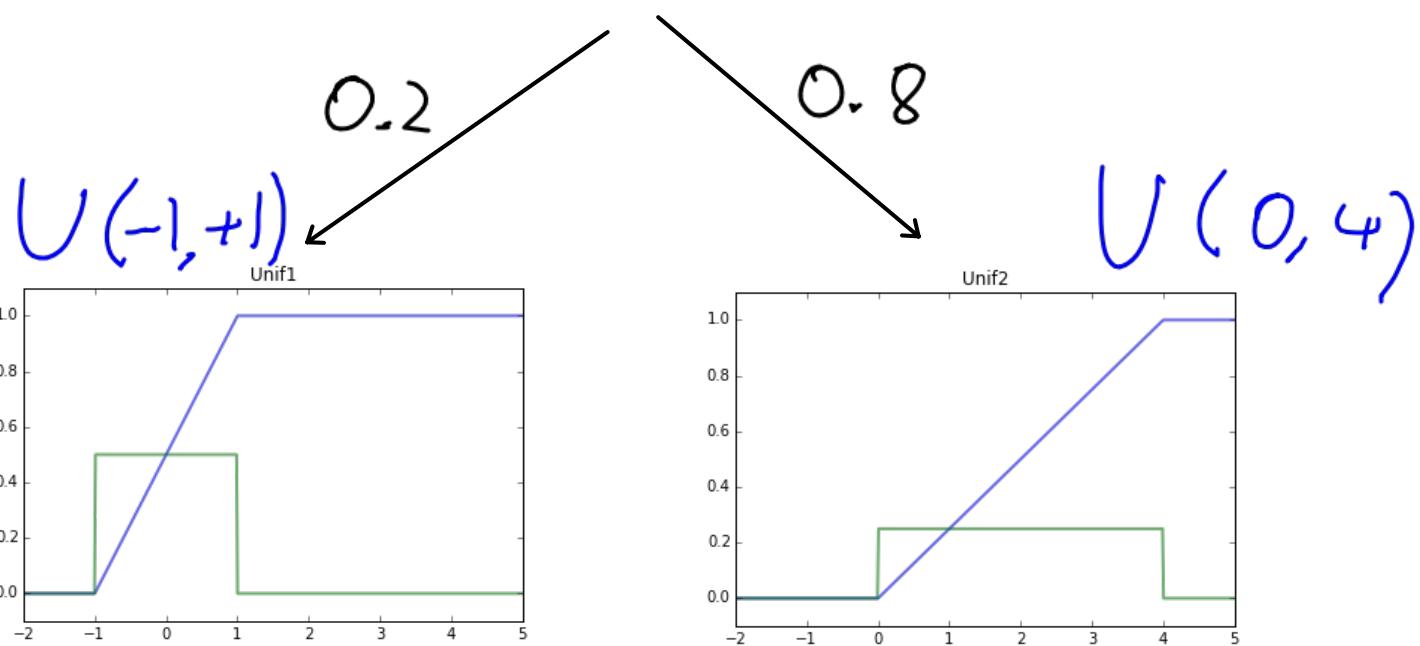


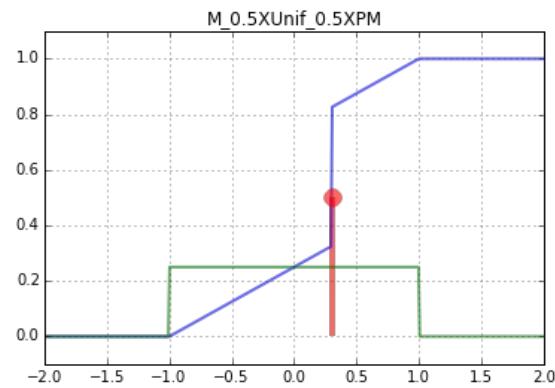
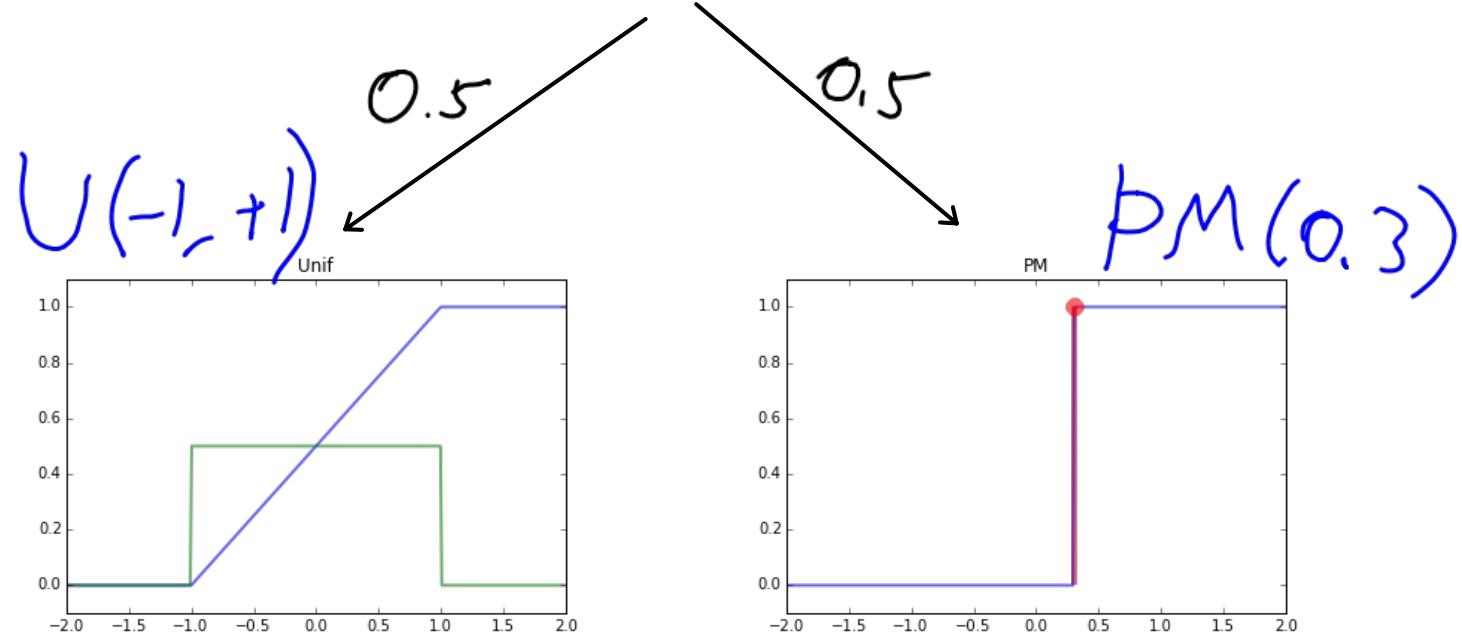
choose  
which  
distribution





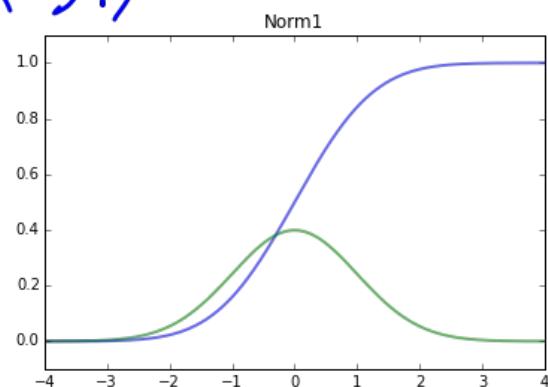






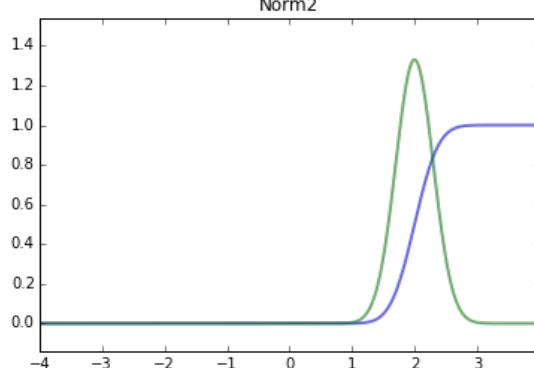
$N(0, 1)$

0.8

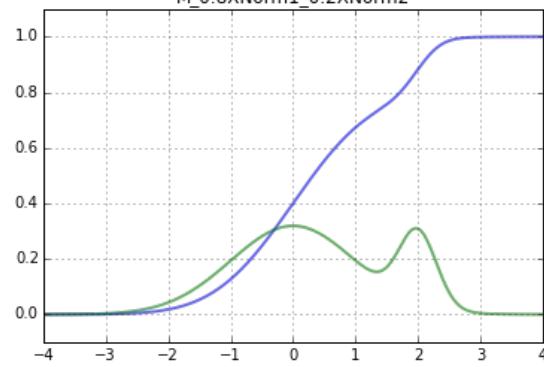


0.2

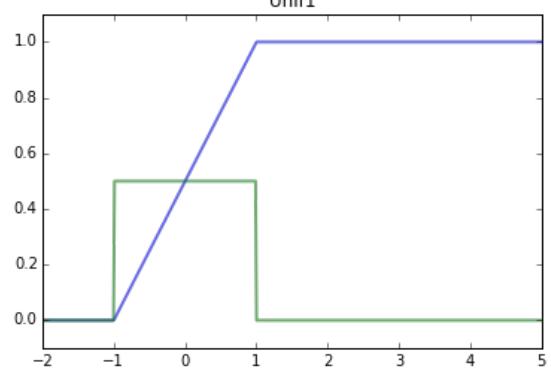
$N(2, 0.3)$



M\_0.8XNorm1\_0.2XNorm2



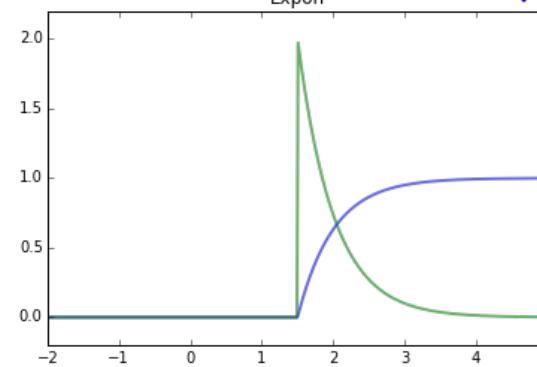
$U(-1, +1)$



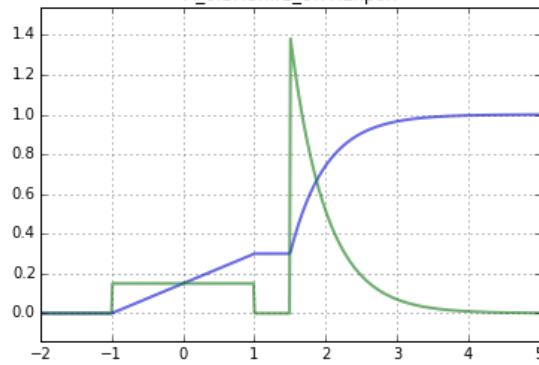
0.3

0.7

$Exp(1.5, 0.5)$



M\_0.3XUnif1\_0.7XExpon



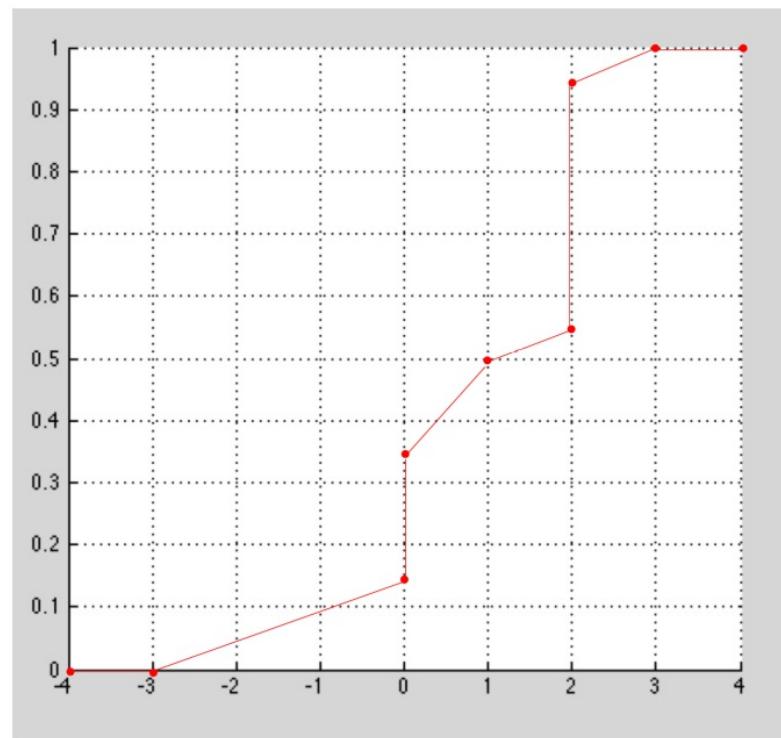
$$.1U(0,1) + .2PM(0) + .3U(-3,3) + .4PM(2)$$

$$F(-3) = 0; F(-.01) \approx .5 * .3 = .15$$

$$F(0) = .35; F(1) = .35 + .1 + \frac{.3}{6} = 0.5;$$

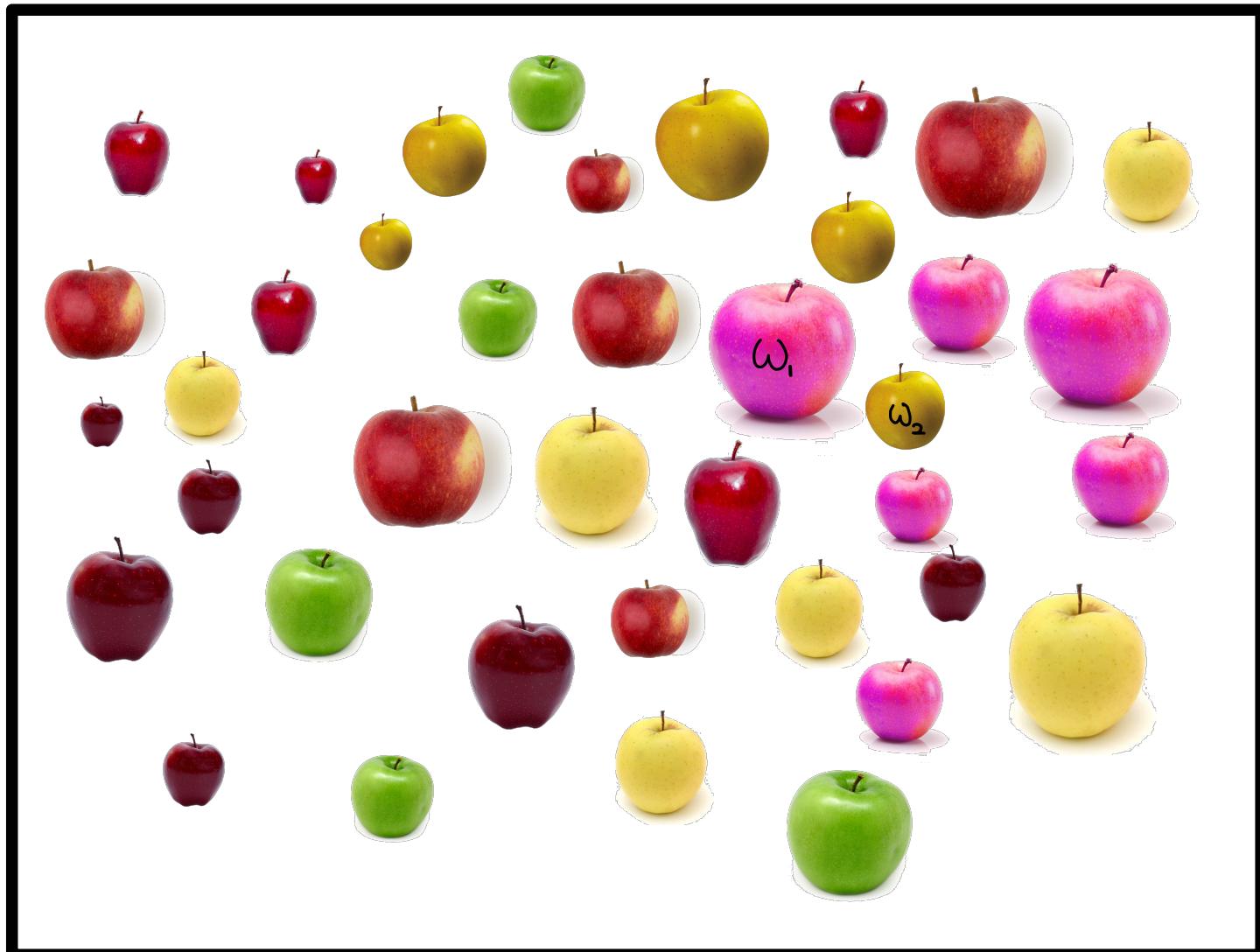
$$F(1.99) \approx 0.5 + 0.05 = 0.55; F(2) = 0.95$$

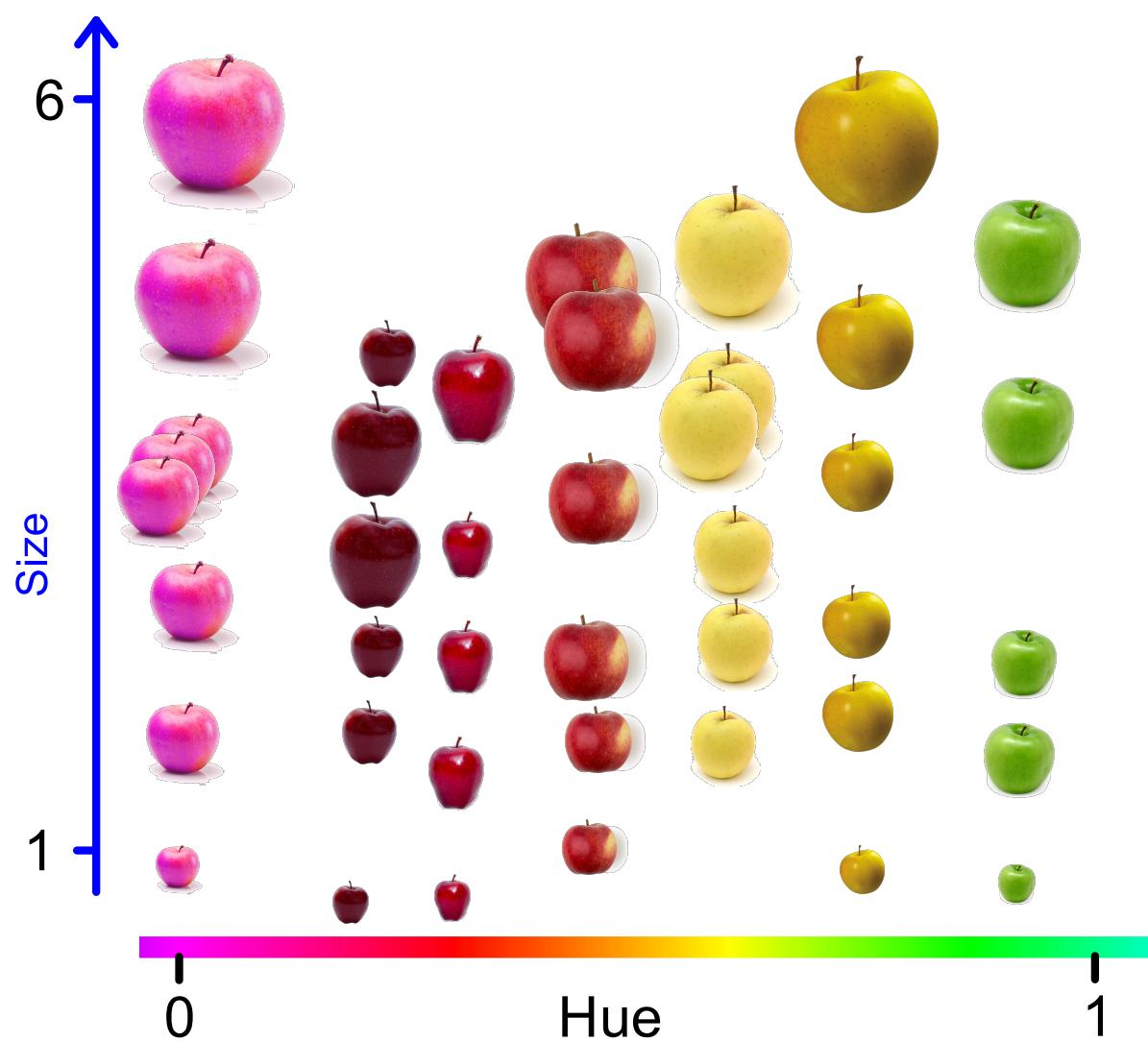
$$F(3) = 0.95 + \frac{.3}{6} = 1.0$$



Random  
Variables  
(RVs)

Sample space = apples  
An outcome is an apple





baseball acronyms  
 G Games Played  
 PA Plate Appearances  
 AB At Bat  
 R Runs Scored  
 H Hits  
 D ?  
 T ?  
 HR Home Runs  
 RBI Runs Batted In  
 BB Bases on Balls (walks)  
 SO Strikeouts  
 BA ?  
 OBP On base Percentage  
 SLG Slugging Percentage  
 OPS OBP+SLG

Player	G	PA	AB	R	H	D	T	HR	RBI	BB	SO	BA	OBP	SLG	OPS
Mike Napoli	17	64	49	13	16	4	0	6	14	15	16	.327	.484	.776	1.260
Josh Donaldson	20	88	72	17	28	8	0	5	15	14	11	.389	.500	.708	1.208
Hunter Pence	21	92	78	19	25	4	0	9	26	13	14	.321	.413	.718	1.131
Matt Carpenter	21	102	88	23	35	11	2	1	11	12	19	.398	.480	.602	1.083
Ryan Zimmerman	21	97	90	22	29	2	0	11	16	7	18	.322	.371	.711	1.082
Freddie Freeman	20	85	73	15	26	3	0	6	17	10	15	.356	.435	.644	1.079
Michael Cuddyer	16	67	62	8	26	4	0	3	14	4	10	.419	.448	.629	1.077
Adam Lind	18	60	55	11	16	2	0	7	17	5	11	.291	.350	.709	1.059
Andrew McCutchen	20	83	66	13	22	5	1	3	8	13	11	.333	.470	.576	1.046
Prince Fielder	20	86	79	11	30	7	0	4	14	6	13	.380	.419	.620	1.039
Shin-Soo Choo	18	85	60	15	18	3	0	4	10	21	12	.300	.488	.550	1.038
Paul Goldschmidt	21	92	80	12	27	6	2	4	19	11	19	.338	.424	.613	1.036
Moises Sierra	19	67	63	8	22	12	1	1	9	4	14	.349	.388	.619	1.007
Josmil Pinto	16	62	58	9	21	5	0	3	9	4	12	.362	.403	.603	1.007
Mike Trout	21	95	71	16	21	5	1	3	10	23	21	.296	.474	.521	.995
Yoenis Cespedes	19	80	77	12	26	2	1	6	19	2	19	.338	.363	.623	.986
Matt Holliday	20	92	76	14	28	6	0	2	20	14	13	.368	.457	.526	.983
David Ortiz	20	91	76	18	21	9	0	5	16	13	16	.276	.385	.592	.977
Chase Headley	17	67	56	8	15	2	0	5	9	10	12	.268	.388	.571	.959
Matt Adams	19	72	69	13	21	1	0	7	14	3	21	.304	.333	.623	.957
Joey Votto	20	94	73	12	22	3	0	4	9	20	17	.301	.447	.507	.954
Eric Hosmer	20	87	78	12	27	6	1	2	12	9	18	.346	.414	.526	.939
Wil Myers	20	84	78	10	24	9	0	4	10	6	18	.308	.357	.577	.934
Giancarlo Stanton	20	85	72	12	19	3	0	6	16	11	27	.264	.376	.556	.932
Desmond Jennings	21	83	68	7	19	6	1	3	13	13	16	.279	.398	.529	.927

**Outcome space:** all possible performances of baseball hitters for a month

**Outcome:** The performance of a particular player

**Random variables:** measures of performance: G, PA, AB ...

**Events:** More than 8 home runs,  
OPS higher than 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, ...

## Event & RVs

from RV to event

$$A = \{\omega \in \Omega \mid X(\omega) > 5\}$$

from Event to RV

$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega \in A \\ 0 & \text{if } \omega \notin A \end{cases}$$

RVs  $X(\omega), Y(\omega)$  are independent

if  $\forall A, B$ , A defined using X

B defined using Y

A, B are independent

# Joint distribution of two independent random variables

	X=1	X=2	X=10	P(Y=y)
Y=-1	1/12	1/12	2/12	4/12 = 1/3
Y=+1	2/12	2/12	4/12	8/12 = 2/3
P(X=x)	3/12 = 1/4	3/12 = 1/4	6/12 = 1/2	

Marginals

The diagram illustrates the joint distribution of two independent random variables, X and Y. The joint distribution is represented by a 4x5 grid. The first four columns show the joint probabilities for combinations of X values (1, 2, 10) and Y values (-1, +1). The fifth column shows the marginal distribution of Y, and the fourth row shows the marginal distribution of X. Blue arrows indicate the transition from the joint distribution to the marginal distributions.

# Joint distribution of two dependent random variables

	X=1	X=2	X=10	P(Y=y)
Y=-1	1/12	2/12	1/12	4/12 = 1/3
Y=+1	2/12	1/12	5/12	8/12 = 2/3
P(X=x)	3/12 = 1/4	3/12 = 1/4	6/12 = 1/2	

Marginals

The diagram illustrates the joint distribution of two dependent random variables, X and Y. The joint probability distribution is represented by a 4x5 grid. The columns represent the values of X (X=1, X=2, X=10) and the rows represent the values of Y (Y=-1, Y=+1). The last column of the grid contains the marginal probability P(Y=y) for each row. Blue arrows point from the bottom row P(X=x) to the first three columns and from the rightmost column P(Y=y) to the last three rows.

Expected  
Value

# Expected Value

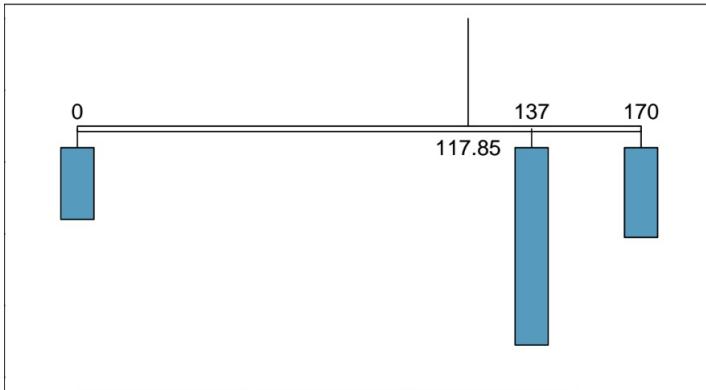


Figure 2.22: A weight system representing the probability distribution for  $X$ . The string holds the distribution at the mean to keep the system balanced.

$i$	1	2	3	Total
$x_i$	\$0	\$137	\$170	-
$P(X = x_i)$	0.20	0.55	0.25	1.00

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= 0 \times P(X = 0) + 137 \times P(X = 137) + 170 \times P(X = 170) \\ &= 0 \times 0.20 + 137 \times 0.55 + 170 \times 0.25 = 117.85 \end{aligned}$$

## Expected value of a Discrete Random Variable

If  $X$  takes outcomes  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  with probabilities  $P(X = x_1), \dots, P(X = x_k)$ , the expected value of  $X$  is the sum of each outcome multiplied by its corresponding probability:

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= x_1 \times P(X = x_1) + \cdots + x_k \times P(X = x_k) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k x_i P(X = x_i) \end{aligned} \tag{2.71}$$

The Greek letter  $\mu$  may be used in place of the notation  $E(X)$ .

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In OpenIntro  
Statistics

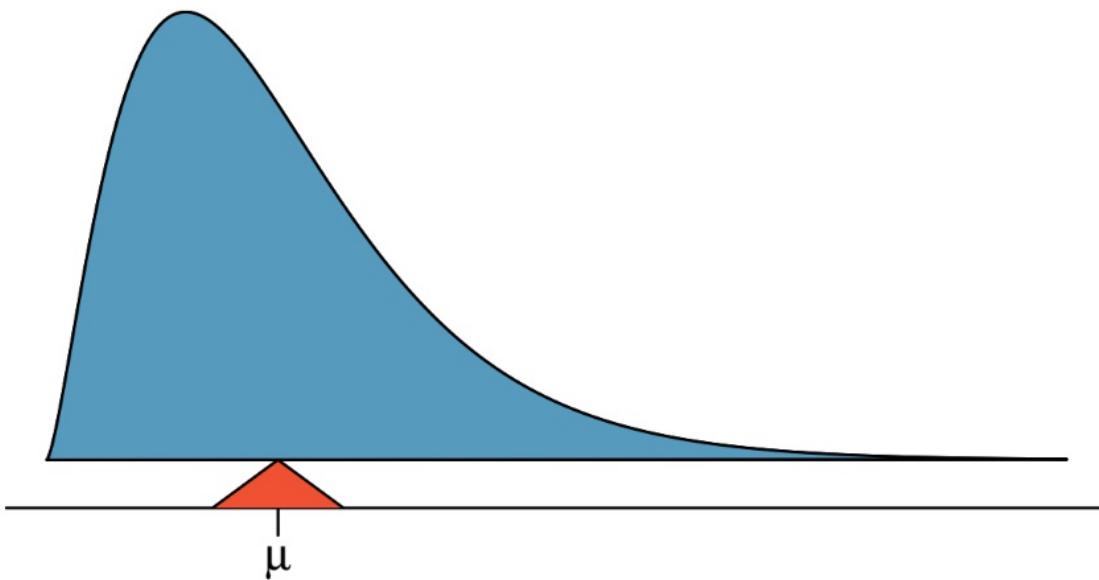


figure 2.23: A continuous distribution can also be balanced at its mean.

$$E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s f(s) ds$$

# Expected Value

- Suppose  $X$  is a discrete random variable  $P(X = a_i) = p_i$ 
  - The expected value of  $X$  is  $E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i a_i$
- Suppose  $X$  is a continuous random variable with density  $f$ 
  - The expected value of  $X$  is  $E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)x dx$
- $E(X)$  is a property of the distribution, **it is not a random variable.**
- **The average is a random variable:**
  - $\text{Average}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \doteq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$
- When  $n$  is large, the average tends to be close to the mean.

Example - Binary random variables:

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{100}$

Be **independent** binary random variables:  $P(X_i = 0) = P(X_i = 1) = \frac{1}{2}$



Let  $S = \frac{1}{100} \sum_{i=1}^{100} X_i$      $S$  is the \_\_\_\_\_,  $S$  is/is-not a random variable?



$E(X_i) = 0 \times \frac{1}{2} + 1 \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $E(X_i)$  is/is-not a random variable?

What is  $E(S)$ ?

Rules for expected value:

1. If  $a, b$  are constants and  $X$  is a random variable then

$$E(aX + b) = aE(X) + b$$

2. If  $X, Y$  are random variables (dependent or independent)

$$E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y)$$

— > what is  $E(aX + bY + c) = ?$

□

3. If the distribution of the RV  $X$  is a mixture of two distributions:

$$P = P_1 P_1 + (1 - P_1) P_2 \quad \text{then}$$

$$E_P(X) = P_1 E_{P_1}(X) + (1 - P_1) E_{P_2}(X)$$

□

So now,  $S = \frac{1}{100} \sum_{i=1}^{100} X_i$ , what is  $E(S)$ ?

Next Class

Expectation & Variance

CDFs Vs Histograms