

# INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS

## LECTURE 4

# LAST TIME

- Continuous random variables
  - $P(X \leq x)$ ,  $P(X > x)$ ,  $P(X = x)$
  - CDFs
- Uniform distribution

# TODAY

- Probability density function (PDF)
- PDF and CDF
- Properties of continuous random variables
  - Mean
  - Variance
- + 1 more continuous distribution

# SHORT QUIZ

CDFs

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**CDF**  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$

**Probability mass function**

1.  $F(5)$

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2.  $P(X > 3)$

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**CDF**  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$

1.  $F(5)$
2.  $1 - F(3)$

**Probability mass function**

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3.  $F(2) - F(-1)$

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4.  $F(-3) - F(-5)$
5.  $F(5) - F(3) + F(-1) - F(-5)$

**Probability mass function**

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5.  $F(5) - F(3) + F(-1) - F(-5)$

**Probability mass function**

1.  $P(X \leq 5)$
2.  $P(X > 3)$
3.  $P(-1 < X \leq 2)$
4.  $P(-5 < X \leq -3)$
5.  $P(3 < X \leq 5 \text{ or } -5 < X \leq -1)$

# PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION

PDFs

# WATCH THE VIDEO

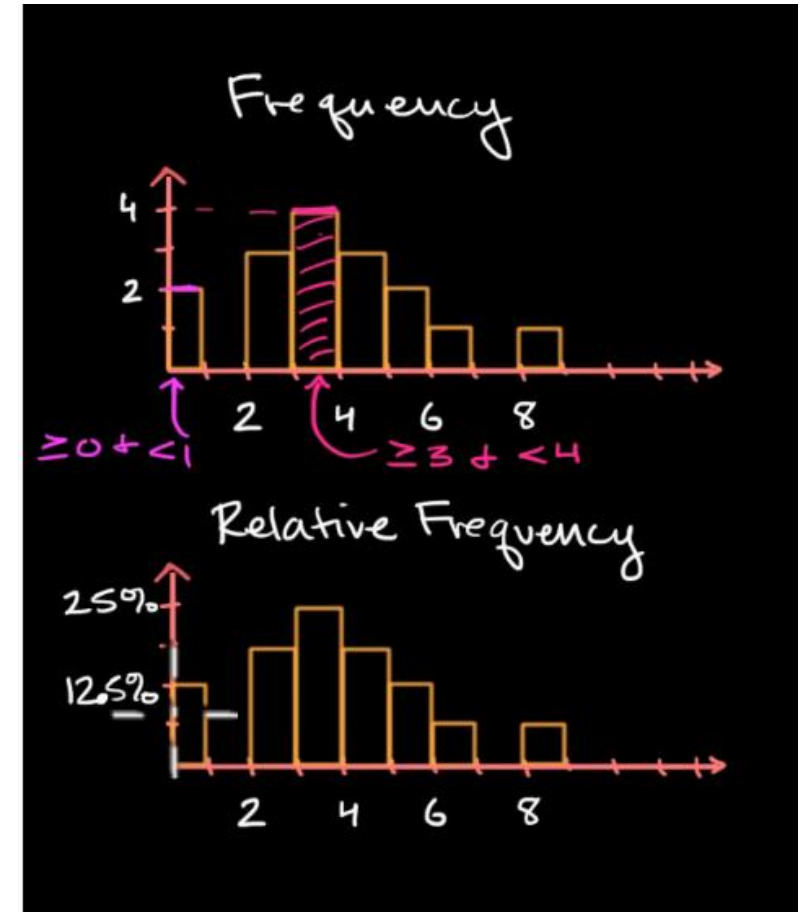
<https://youtu.be/PUvUQMQ7xQk>



**NOW, LET'S DISCUSS IT  
STEP BY STEP**

# HISTOGRAMS

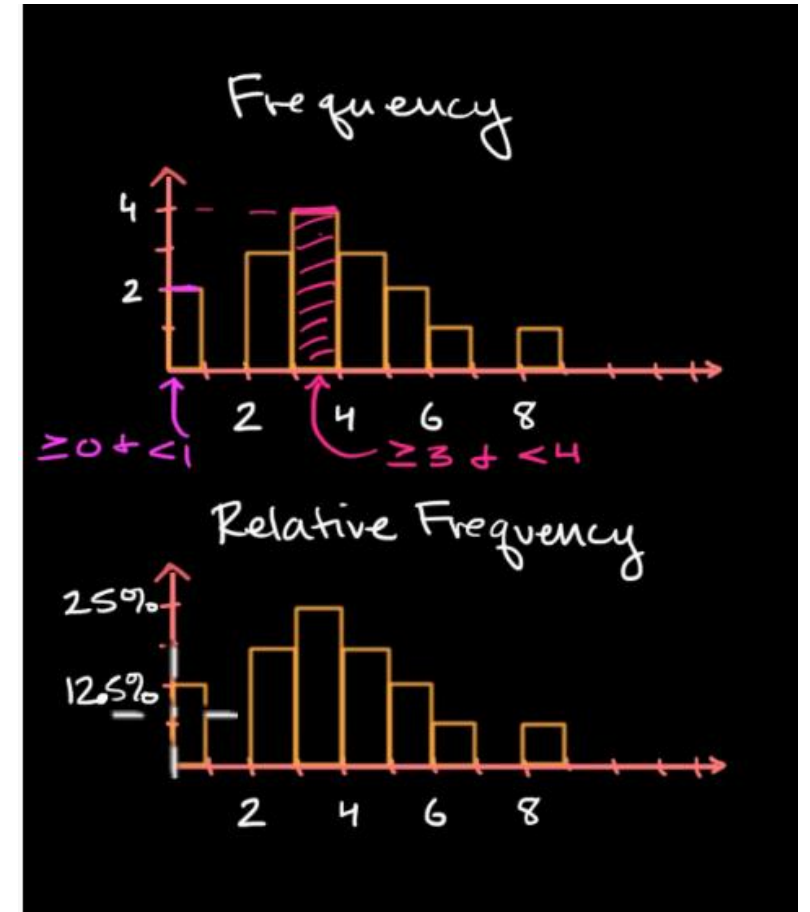
What's the difference between 'frequency' and 'relative frequency' histograms?



# HISTOGRAMS

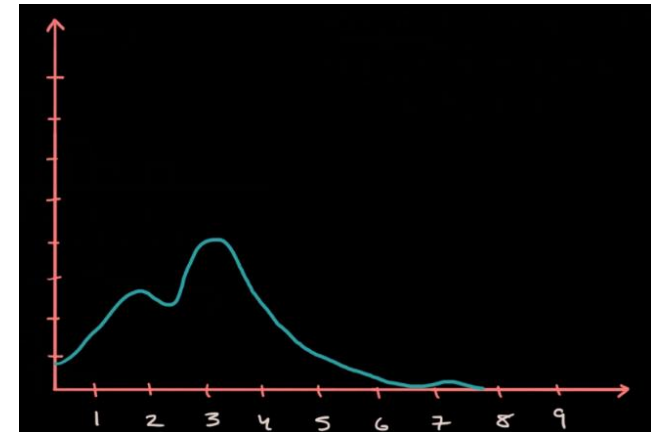
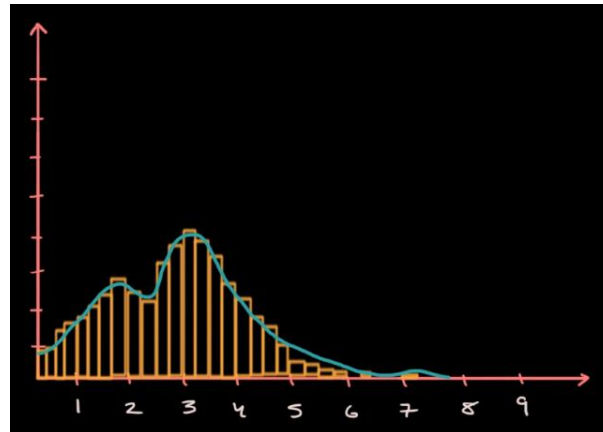
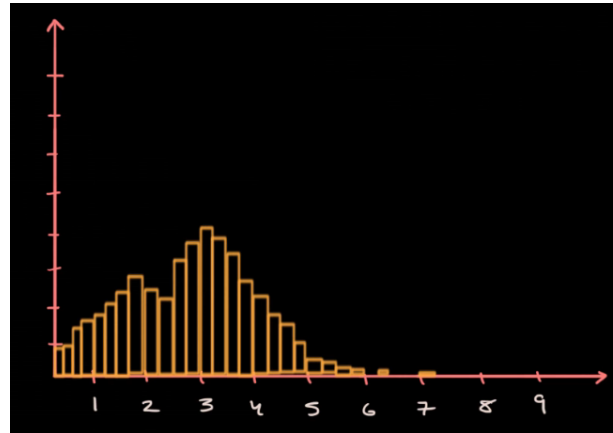
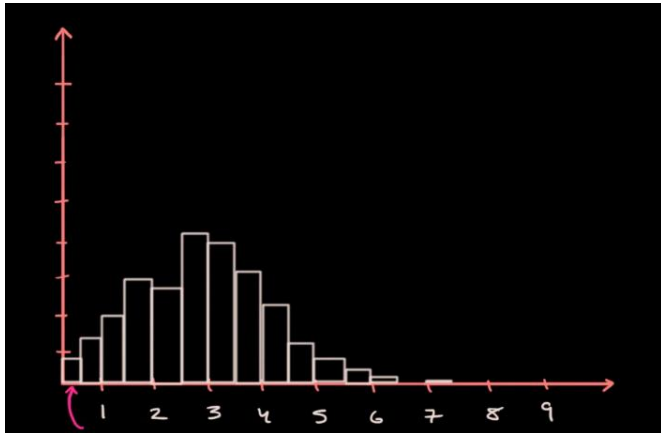
What's the difference between 'frequency' and 'relative frequency' histograms (as stated in the video)?

When one is better than another?



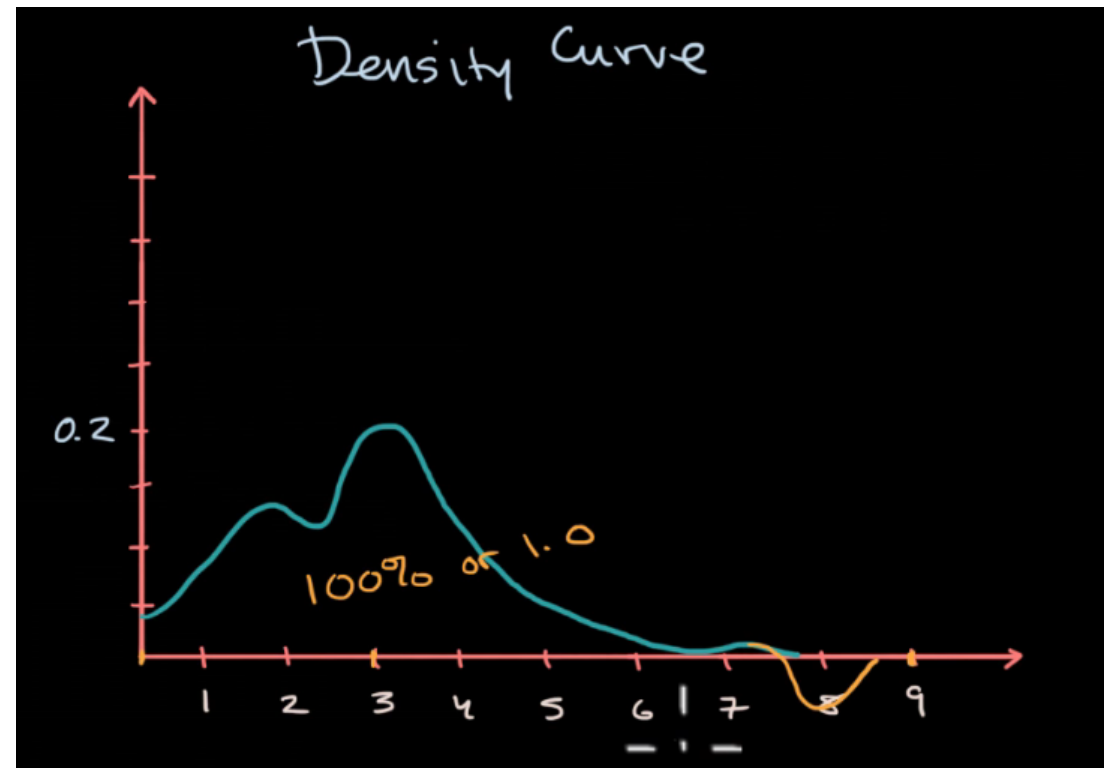
# DENSITY: ESTIMATION

- How did they obtain the density?



# DENSITY: BASIC PROPERTIES

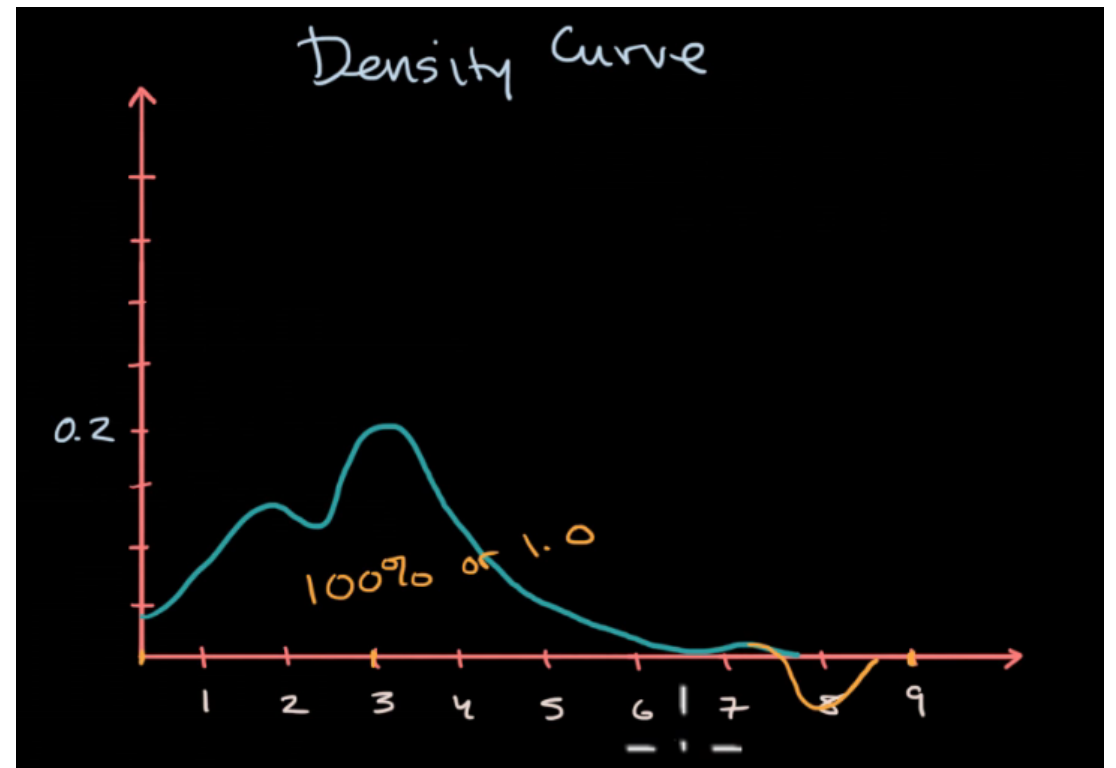
- Which important properties of a density function were mentioned in the video?



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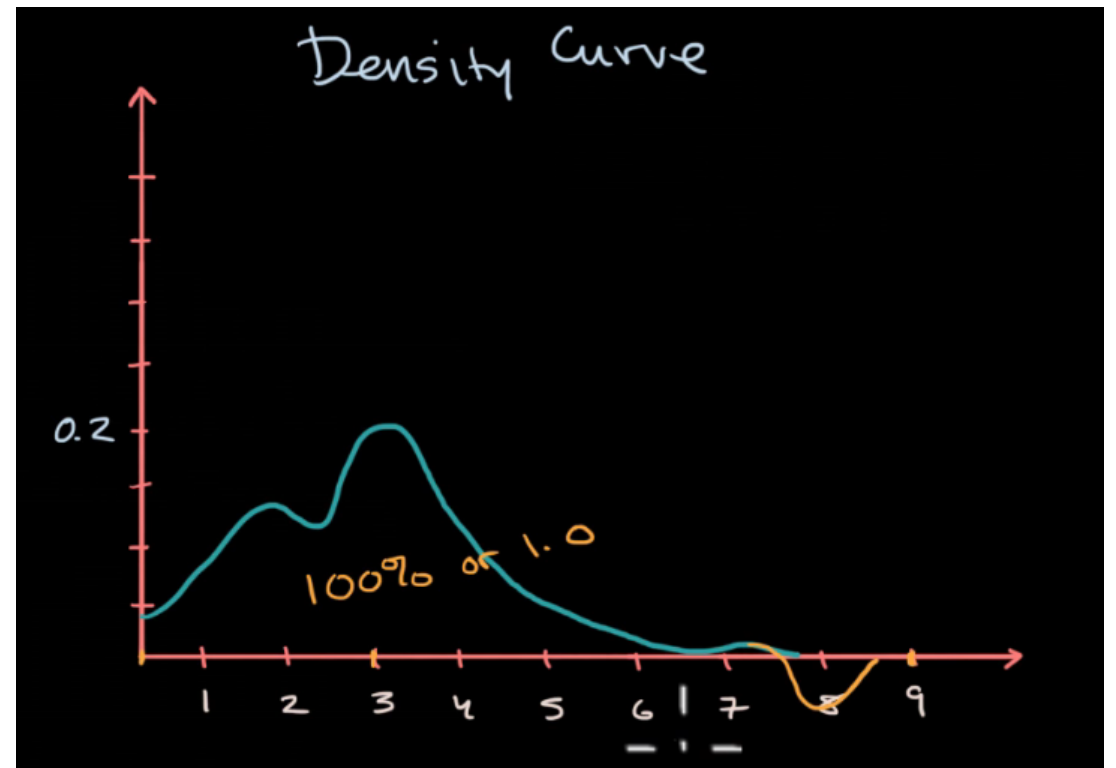
1. area under the curve is 1;



# DENSITY: BASIC PROPERTIES

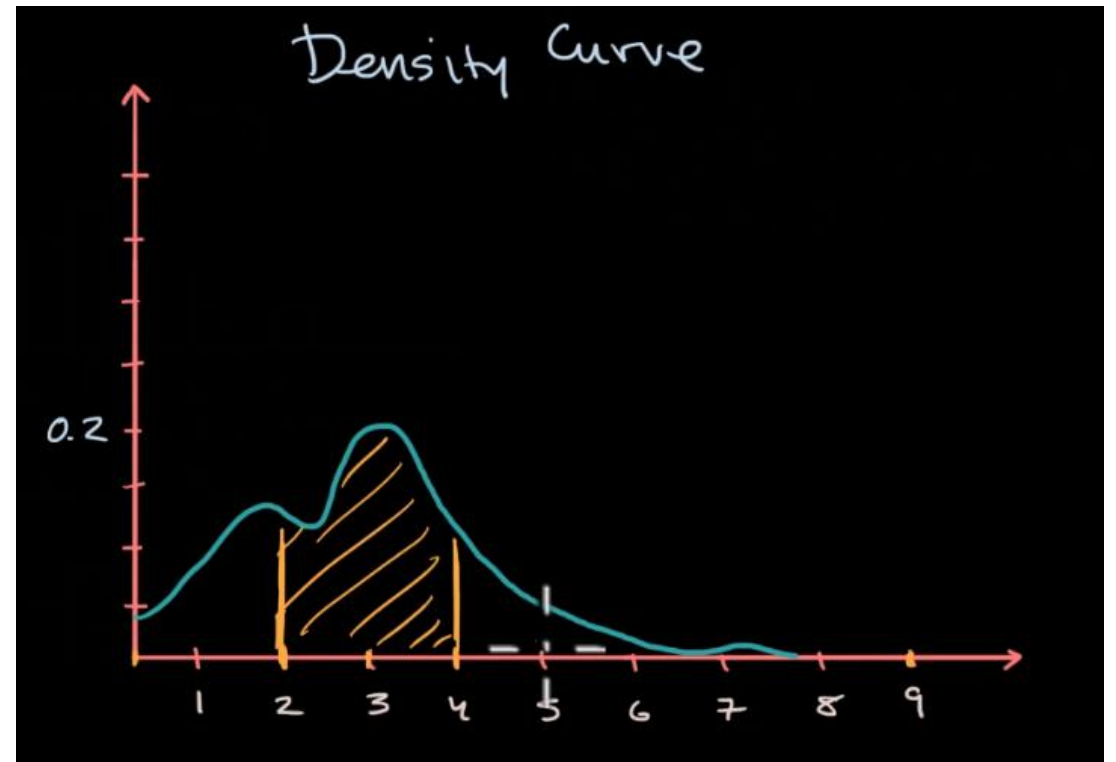
- Which important properties of a density function were mentioned in the video?

1. area under the curve is 1;
2.  $p(x) \geq 0$ .



# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

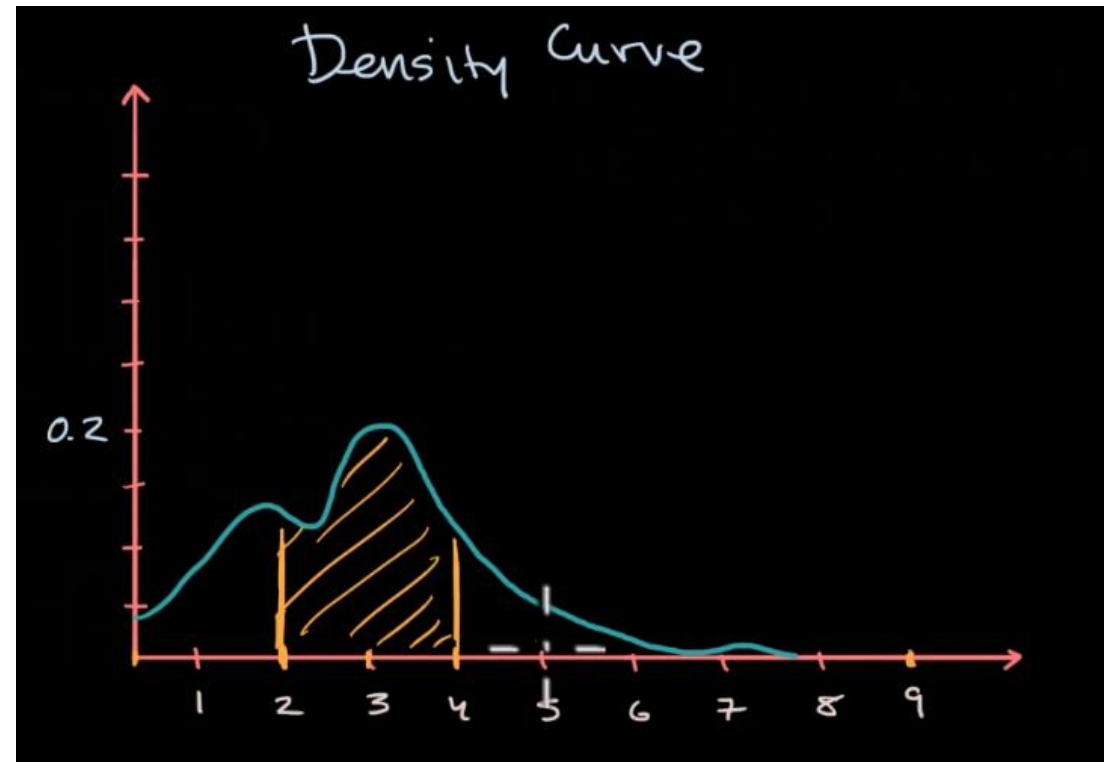




# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$P(2 < X \leq 4)$$

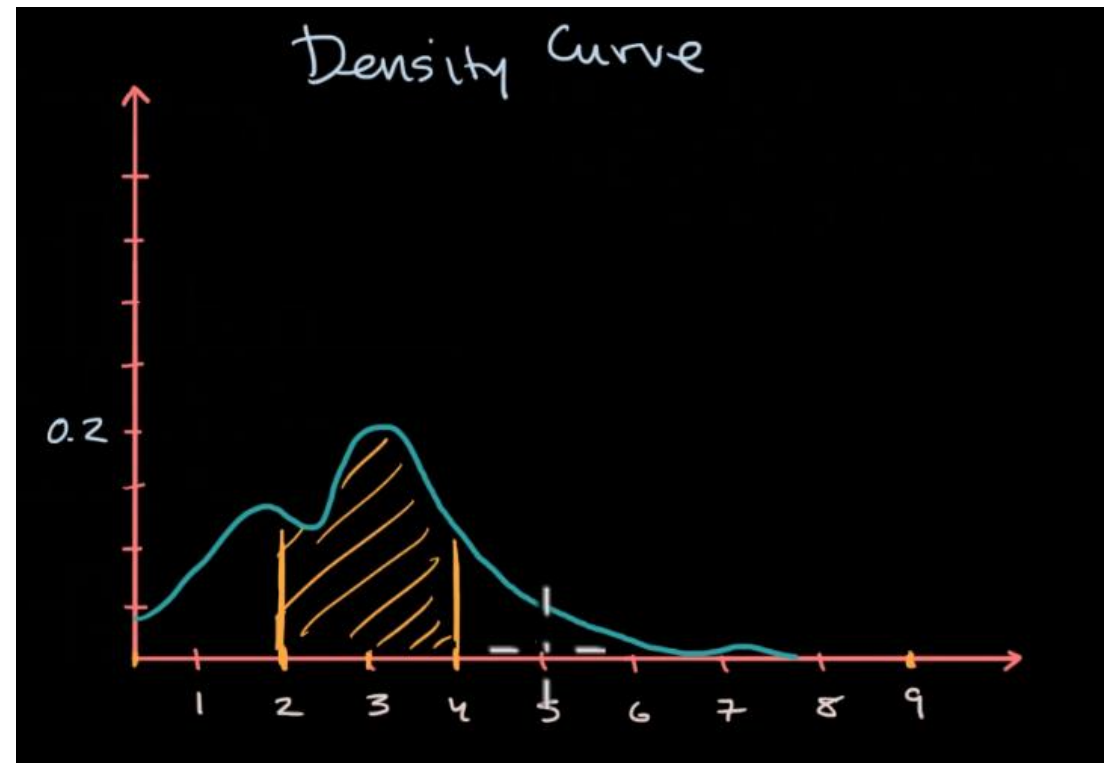


# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$P(2 < X \leq 4)$$

- How to formulate it with CDF?



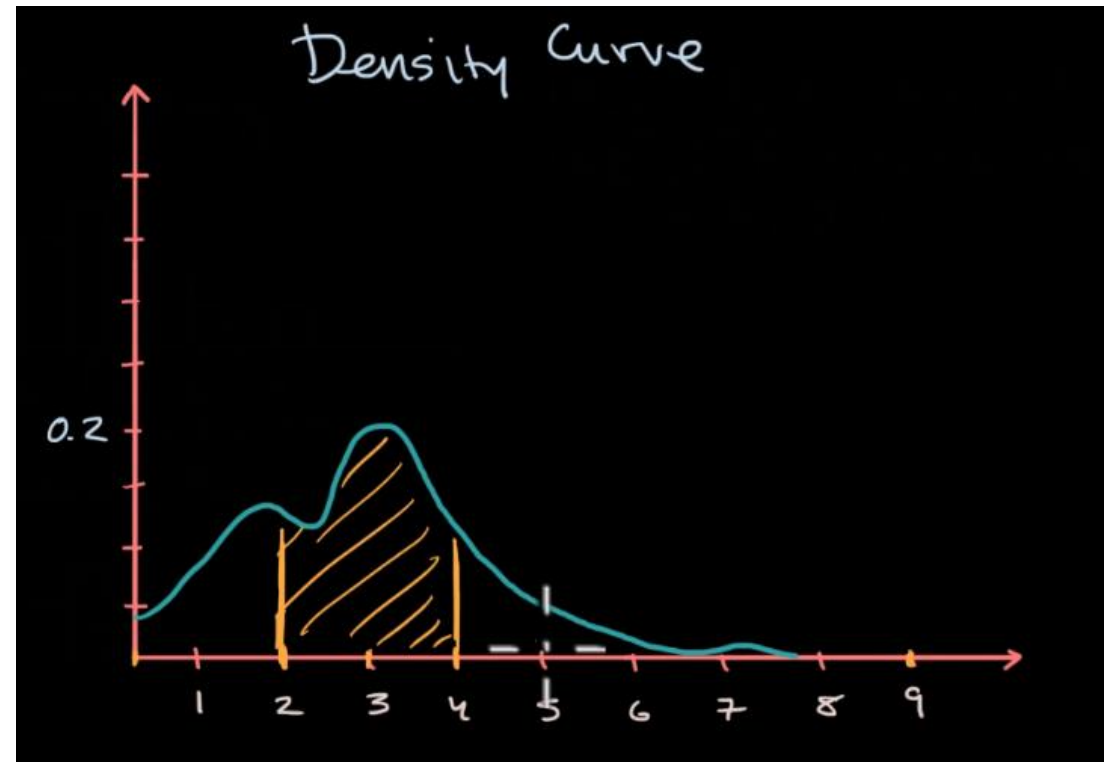
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$$F(4) - F(2)$$



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- How to formulate it with CDF?

$$1 - F(3)$$



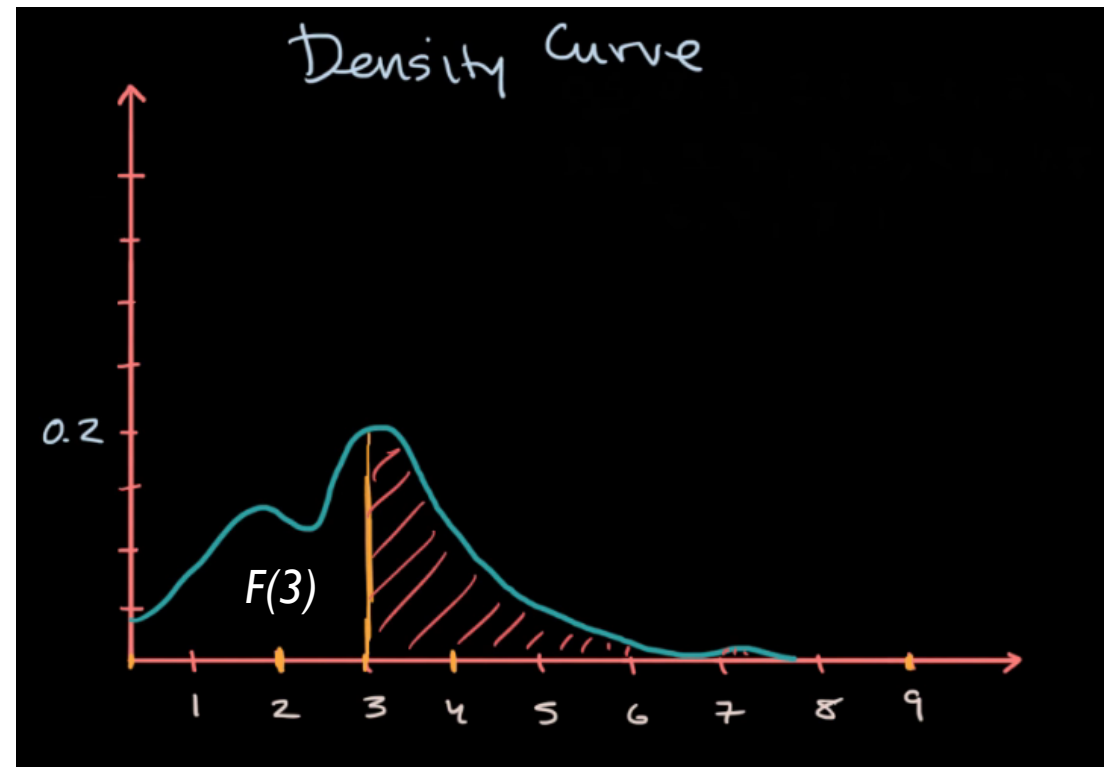
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- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

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# THERE IS A MISTAKE IN A VIDEO THOUGH...

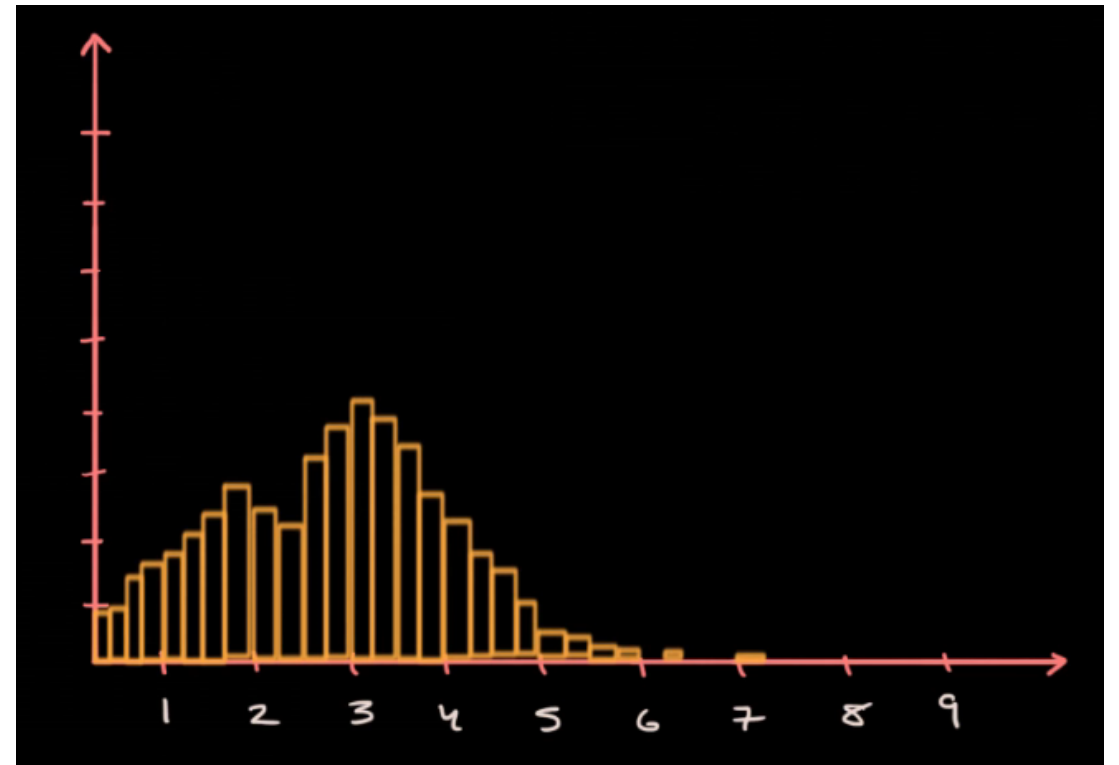
Google Classroom -> [Python] From histograms to density

# NORMALIZING BIN HEIGHTS

- Total area must sum up to 1:

$$\sum_i area(bar_i) = 1$$

- What is the area of each bar for such a histogram?



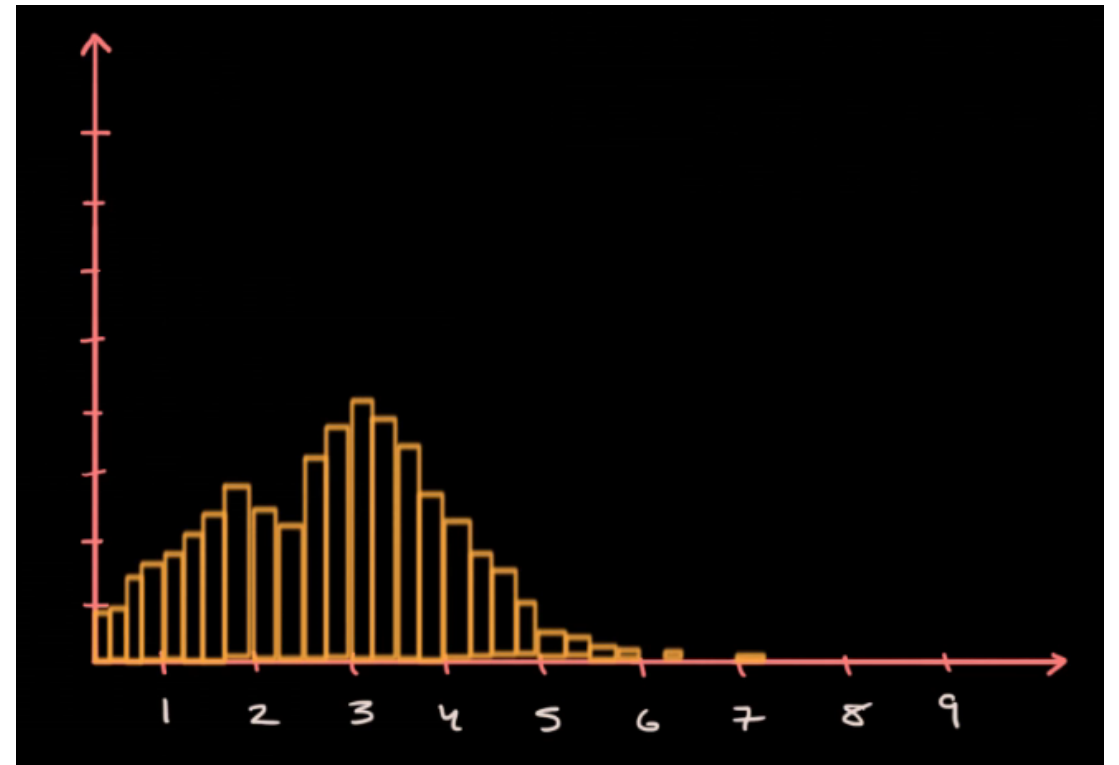
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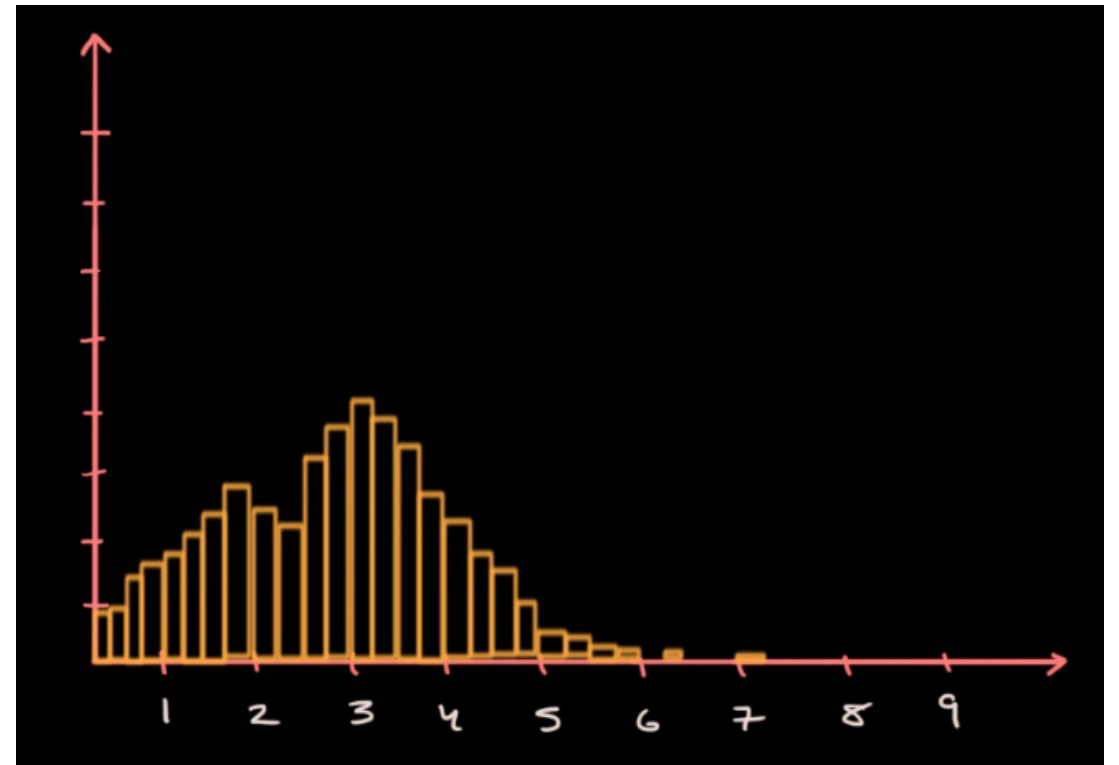
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relative frequency x bin width



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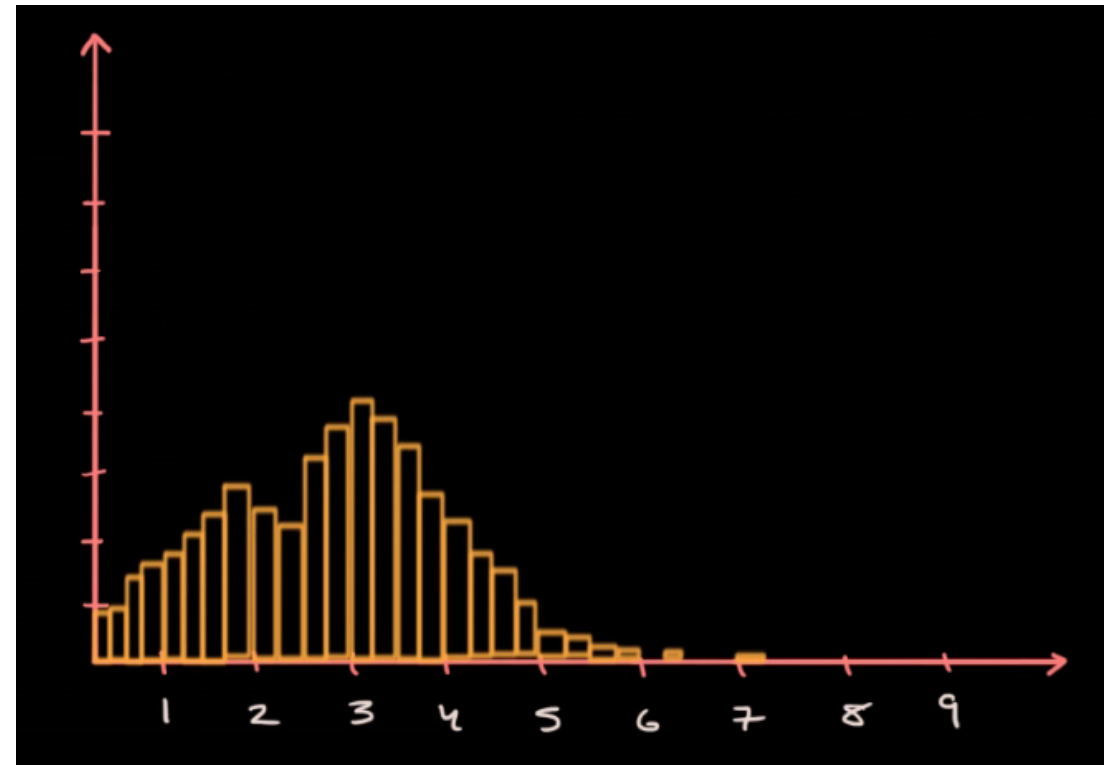
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bin height x bin width

relative frequency x bin width

→ 0

when bin width → 0



# NORMALIZING BIN HEIGHTS

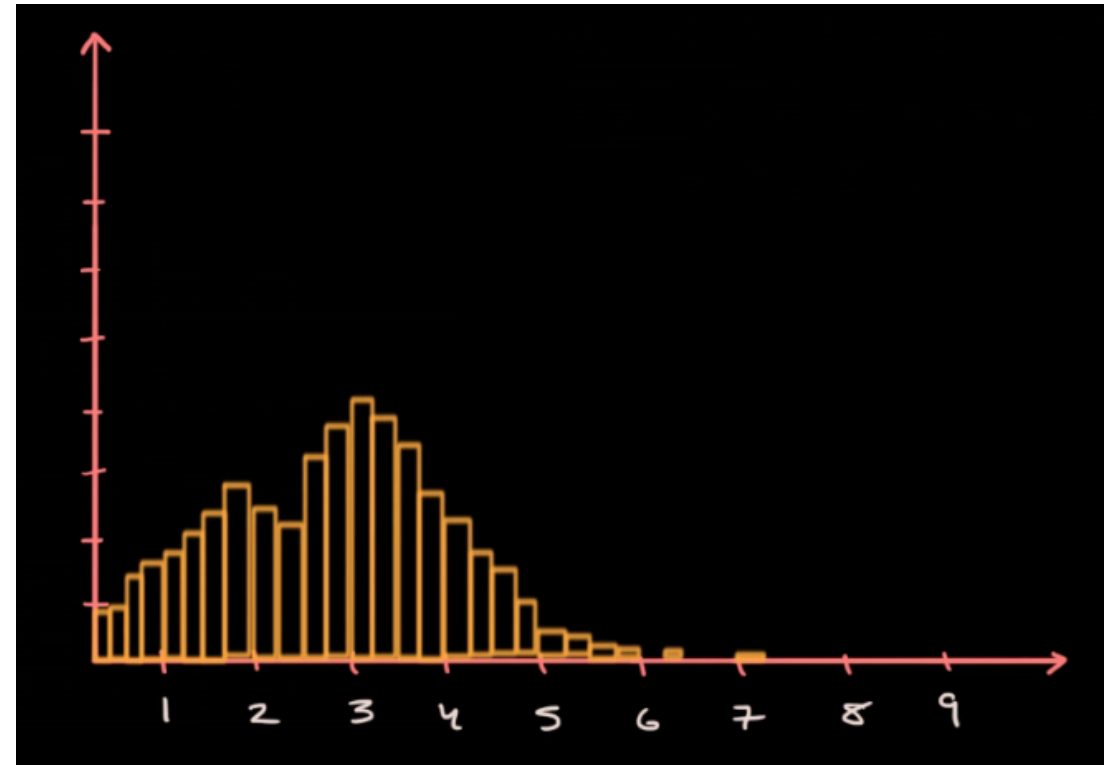
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bin height x bin width

(relative frequency/**bin width**) x  
bin width



# NORMALIZING BIN HEIGHTS

- Total area must sum up to 1:

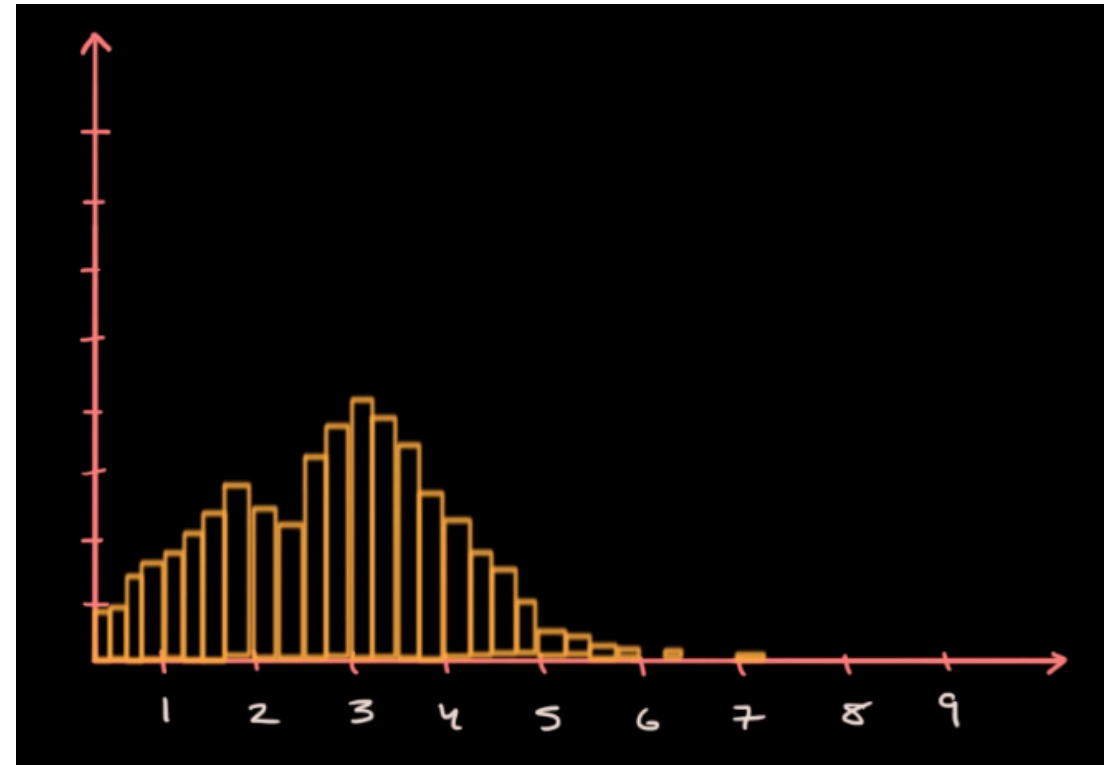
$$\sum_i area(bar_i) = 1$$

- What is the area of each bar for such a histogram?

bin height x bin width

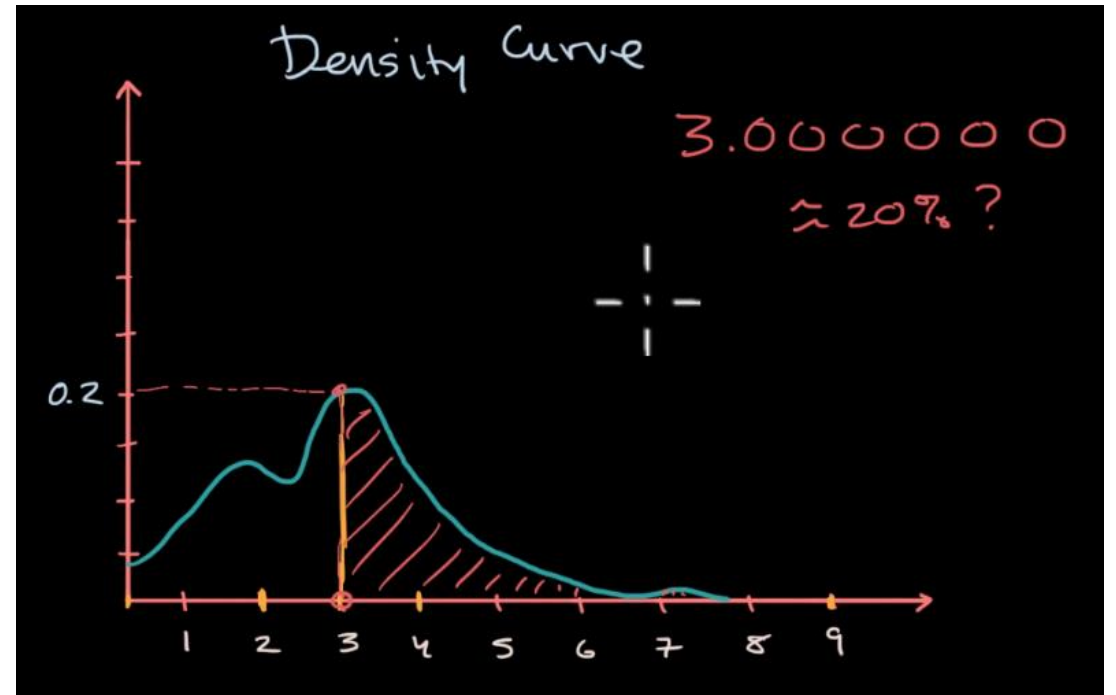
(relative frequency/bin width) x  
bin width

**always sums up to 1**



# DENSITY: INTERPRETATION

What is  $P(X = 3)$ ?

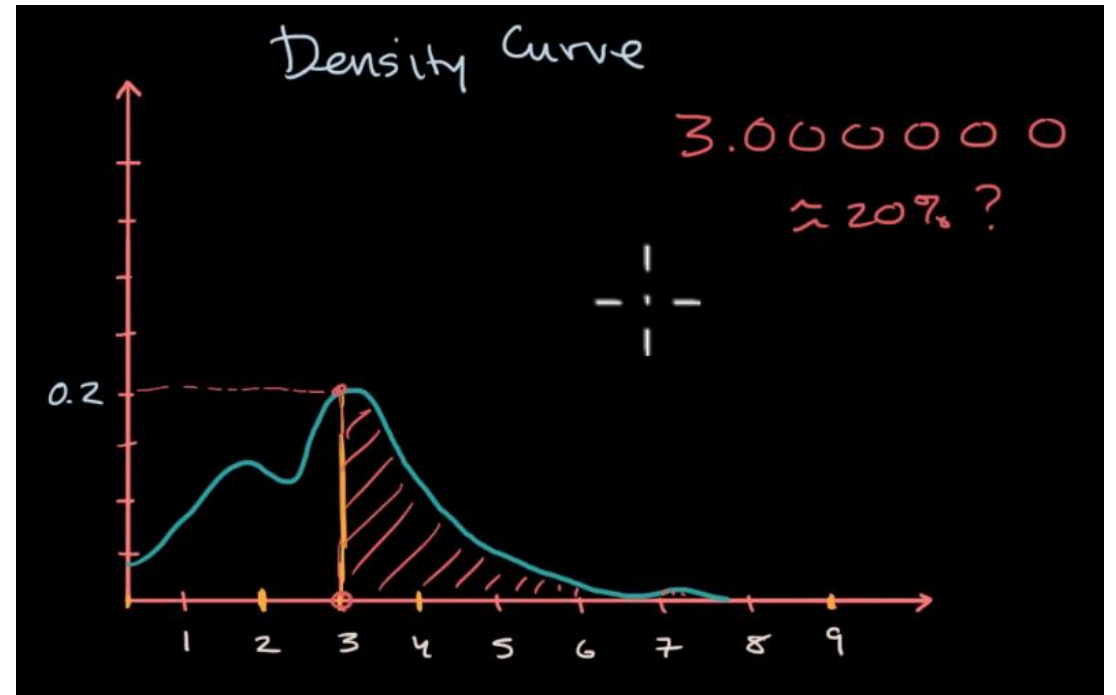




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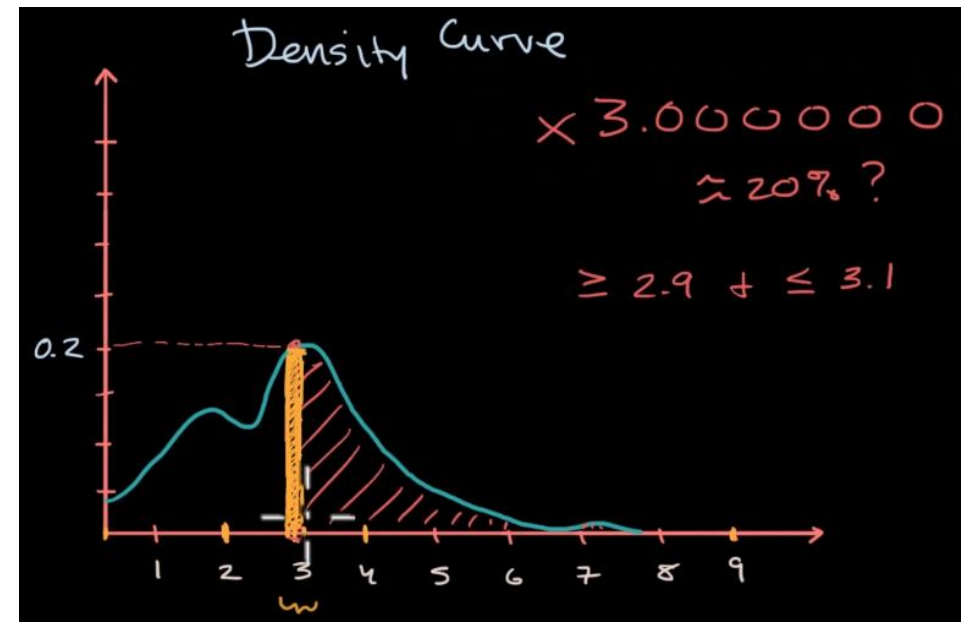
$$P(X = 3) = 0$$



# **RELATION BETWEEN CDF AND DENSITY**

# DENSITY: INTERPRETATION

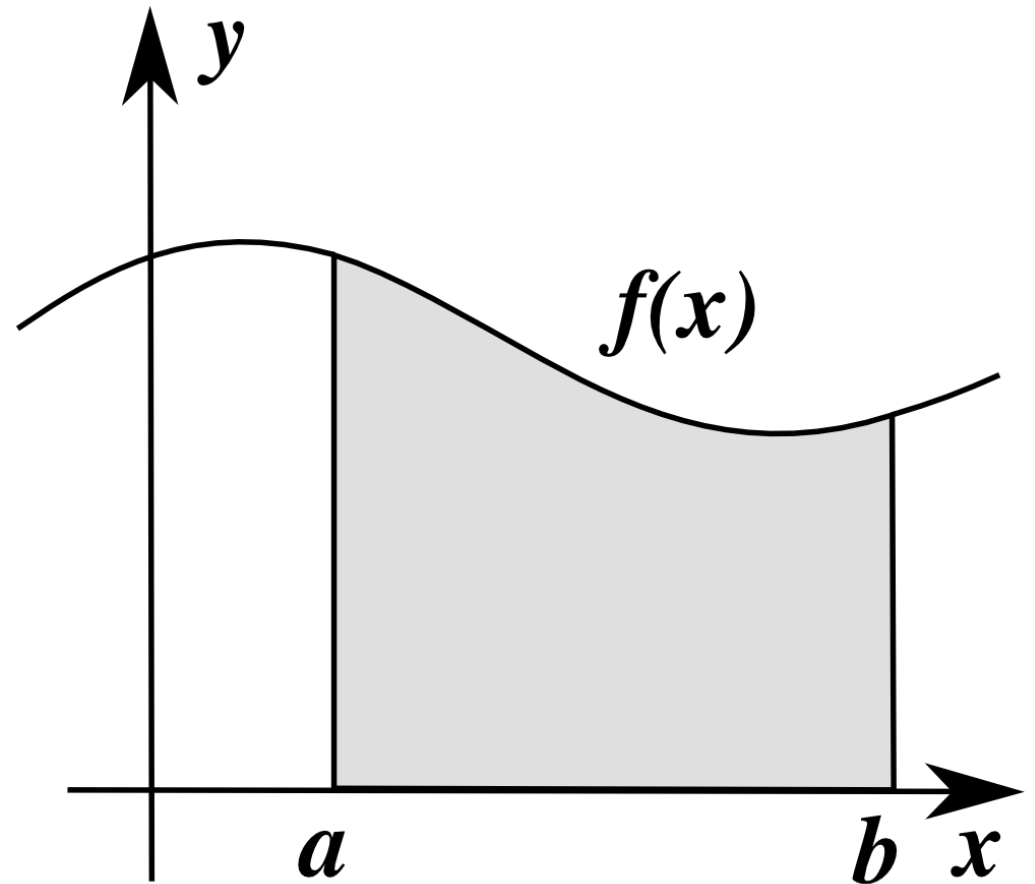
*How did they estimate the area under the curve?*



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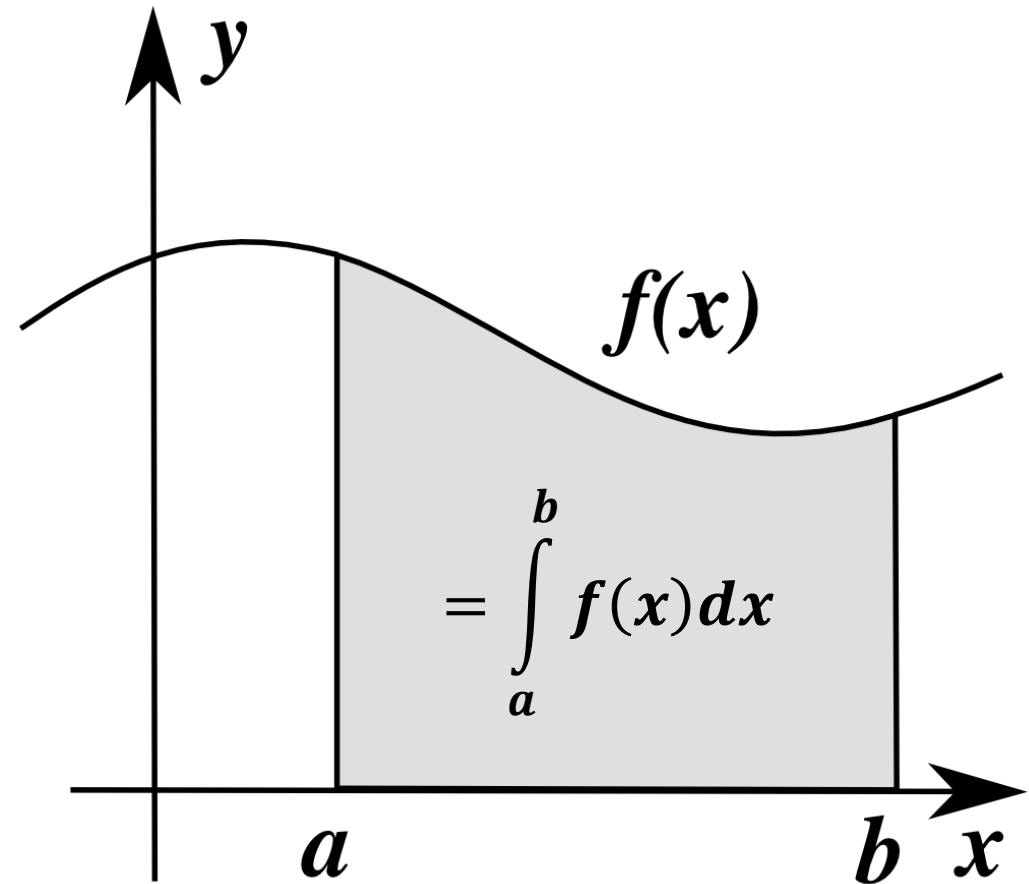
*Do you remember how to compute it exactly?*



# DENSITY: INTERPRETATION

*How did they estimate the area under the curve?*

*Do you remember how to compute it exactly?*



# CALCULUS 101

$$\int f(x)dx = F(x) + C \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}F(x) = f(x)$$

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$$\int \frac{1}{x}dx = \log x + C$$



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$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

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$$\int_0^1 xdx = \frac{1^2}{2} - \frac{0^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

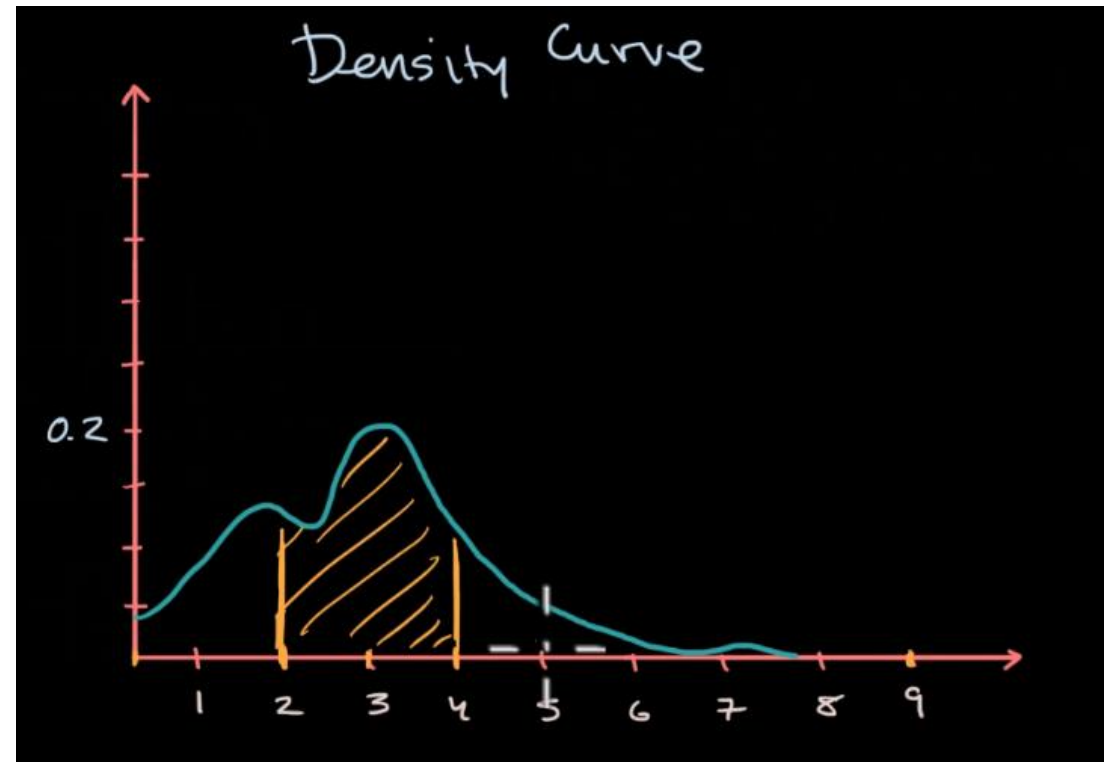
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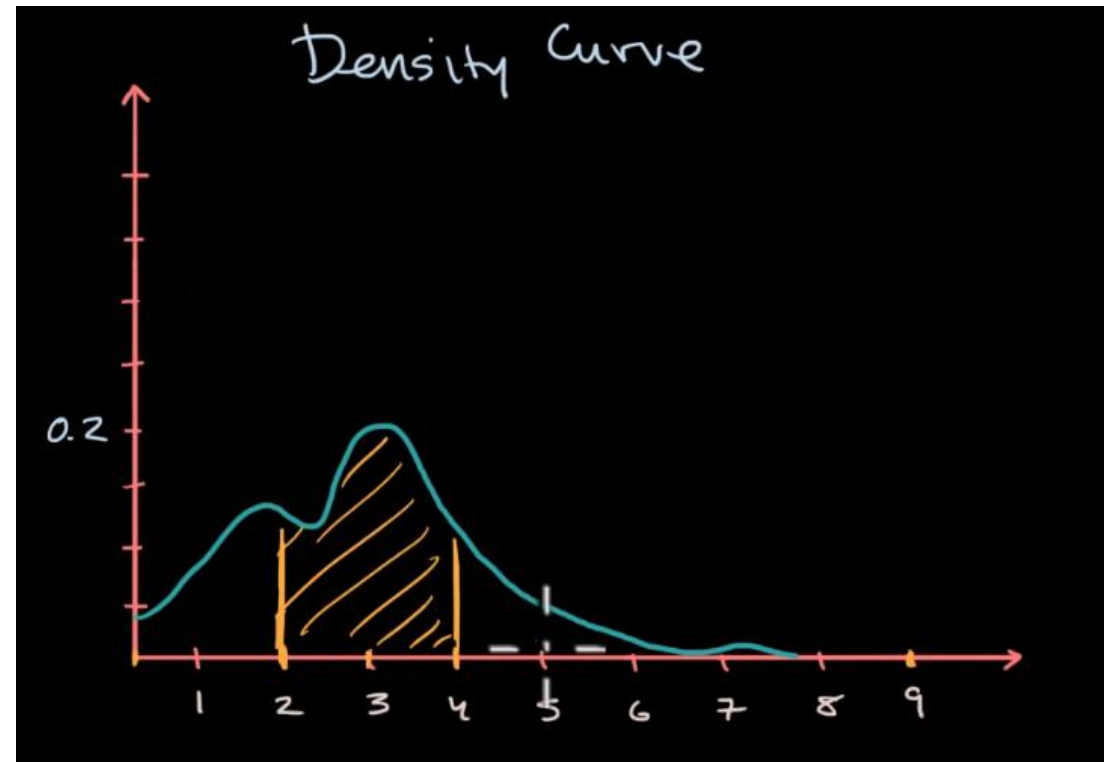
# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$\int_2^4 p(x) dx = P(2 < X \leq 4)$$

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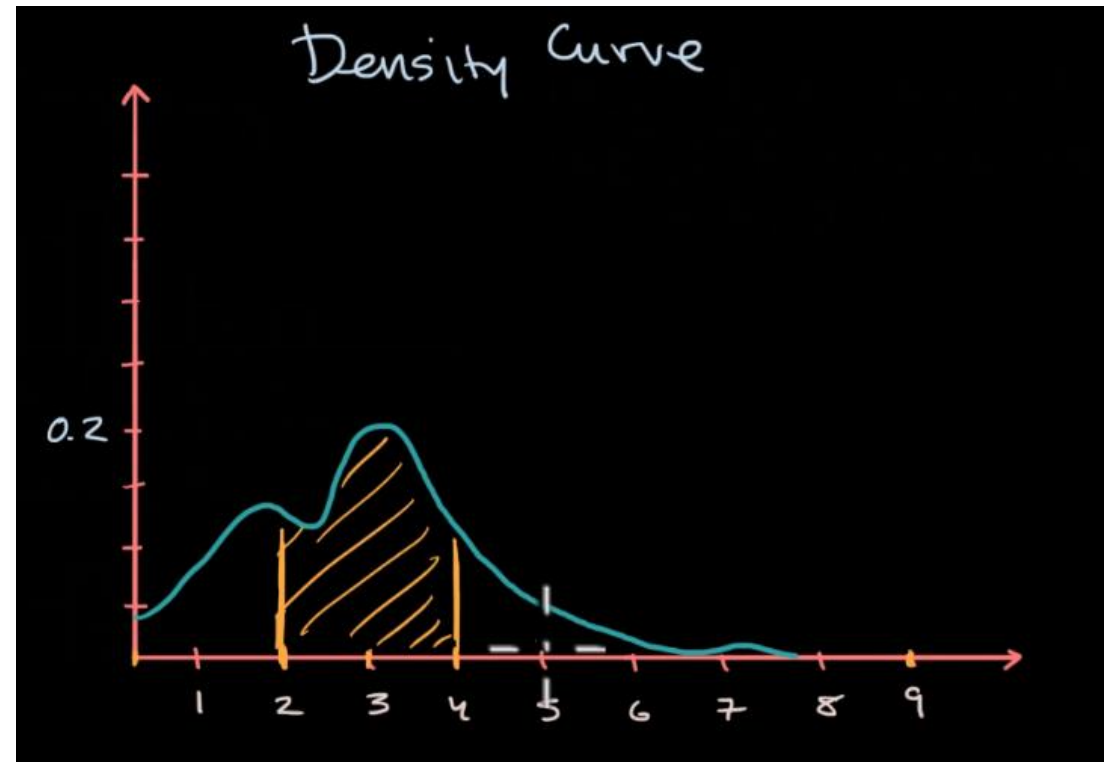
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# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$P(X > 3)$$

- How to formulate it with CDF?

$$1 - F(3)$$



# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$\int_3^{+\infty} p(x) dx = P(X > 3)$$

- How to formulate it with CDF?

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# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

- Which probability does the area of the region corresponds to?

$$\int_3^{+\infty} p(x) dx = P(X > 3)$$

- How to formulate it with CDF?

$$\int_3^{+\infty} p(x) dx = 1 - F(3) =$$





# DENSITY: AREA UNDER THE CURVE

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$$\int_3^{+\infty} p(x) dx = P(X > 3)$$

- How to formulate it with CDF?

$$\begin{aligned} \int_3^{+\infty} p(x) dx &= 1 - F(3) = \\ &= 1 - \int_{-\infty}^3 p(x) dx \end{aligned}$$



# CDF AND PDF

- $\int_2^4 p(x)dx = F(4) - F(2)$

- $\int_{-\infty}^3 p(x)dx = F(3)$

# CDF AND PDF

- $\int_2^4 p(x)dx = F(4) - F(2)$

- $\int_{-\infty}^3 p(x)dx = F(3)$

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p(t)dt$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} F(x) = p(x)$$

# PDF OF THE UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION

$$X \sim U(a, b)$$

**CDF:**  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$

• **PDF:**

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

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$$p(x) = \left\{ \right.$$

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# SHORT QUIZ

CDFs and PDFs

# WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST

1.  $P(X \leq 3)$

2.  $\int_3^{+\infty} p(x)dx$

3.  $F(3)$

4.  $\int_{-\infty}^3 p(x)dx$

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# WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST

1.  $P(X > 5)$

2.  $\int_5^{+\infty} p(x)dx$

3.  $\int_{-\infty}^5 p(x)dx$

4.  $1 - F(5)$

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# WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST

1.  $\int_3^5 p(x)dx$

2.  $P(3 < X \leq 5)$

3.  $F(3) - F(5)$

4.  $\int_{-\infty}^5 p(x)dx - \int_{-\infty}^3 p(x)dx$

# WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST

1.  $\int_3^5 p(x)dx$

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4.  $\int_{-\infty}^5 p(x)dx - \int_{-\infty}^3 p(x)dx$

# **PROPERTIES OF CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLES**



# UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION: WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

- $X \sim U(a, b)$

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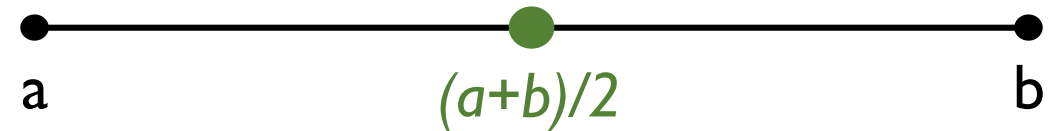
# UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION: WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

- $X \sim U(a, b)$

- $E(X) = \frac{(a+b)}{2}$

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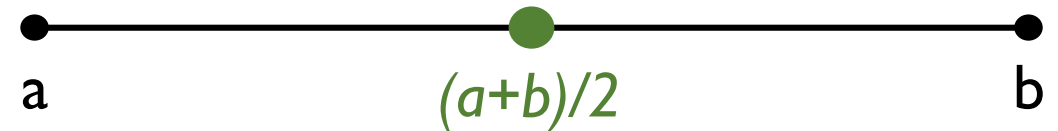
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- **PDF:**

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq a \text{ or } x \geq b \\ \frac{1}{b - a}, & a < x < b \end{cases}$$

- $E(X) = \frac{(a+b)}{2}$

- $Var(X) = ?$



# UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION: WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR

- $X \sim U(a, b)$

- **CDF:**

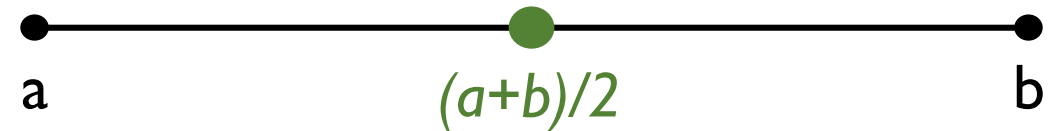
$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a \\ \frac{x - a}{b - a}, & a \leq x \leq b \\ 1, & x > b \end{cases}$$

- **PDF:**

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq a \text{ or } x \geq b \\ \frac{1}{b - a}, & a < x < b \end{cases}$$

- $E(X) = \frac{(a+b)}{2}$

- $Var(X) = ?$



*But how to compute  
expected value and variance  
of a continuous variable?*

# EXPECTED VALUE

## DISCRETE RANDOM VARIABLE

- Sum up all the values a random variable can take, multiplying them by their probabilities:

## CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE

# EXPECTED VALUE

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$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx$$

# MEAN OF UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION

$$X \sim U(a, b)$$

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq a \text{ or } x \geq b \\ \frac{1}{b-a}, & a < x < b \end{cases}$$

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# MEAN OF UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION

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- Imagine that  $X \sim U(0, 10)$
- $E(X) = \frac{10+0}{2} = 5$
- $E(X - 1) = E(X) - 1 = 4$
- $E(2 \cdot X) = 2 \cdot E(X) = 10$

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**To compute mean of some  $f(X)$ :**

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# VARIANCE

## DISCRETE RANDOM VARIABLE

## CONTINUOUS RANDOM VARIABLE

- *Expected squared distance between a value and the mean:*

$$Var(X) = E \left( (X - E(X))^2 \right)$$

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- Same principle.
- $X \sim U(a, b)$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = ?$



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- **MEAN:**

$$E(X) = \frac{(a + b)}{2}$$

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- **Poisson distribution (discrete):**  
#of events that occur in a given period of time.  
# of phone calls received every hour
- **Exponential distribution (continuous):**  
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Time between the two phone calls

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- $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  – rate parameter.

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