

Hierarchy of Probability Distributions

A simplified categorization of common probability distributions can be summarized as follows (note that these categories are not always mutually exclusive, but give a sense of how distributions relate to each other):

- **Discrete distributions**

- *Bernoulli family*: Bernoulli, Binomial, Negative binomial, Geometric
- *Poisson*
- *Discrete uniform*
- *Hypergeometric family*: Hypergeometric, Multivariate hypergeometric
- *Categorical family*: Bernoulli (as $K = 2$), Categorical, Multinomial
- Others: Beta-binomial, etc.

- **Continuous distributions**

- *Uniform* (continuous)
- *Exponential family*: Exponential, Gamma, Chi-squared, Beta, Dirichlet, Wishart
- *Normal family*: Normal (Gaussian), Log-normal, Chi-squared (sum of normals²), t , F , etc.
- *Power-law family*: Pareto
- *Extreme value distributions*: Gumbel, Fréchet, Weibull
- *Others*: Rayleigh, Rice (Rician), Beta prime, Logistic, etc.

- **Multivariate or matrix-variate distributions**

- Multinomial, Multivariate hypergeometric
- Multivariate normal, Wishart, Dirichlet
- Others, e.g. Inverse-Wishart, Matrix-variate t -distributions, etc.

- **Conjugate priors** in Bayesian inference:

- Beta (conjugate to Bernoulli/Binomial)
- Gamma (conjugate to Poisson/exponential rate)
- Dirichlet (conjugate to Categorical/Multinomial)
- Wishart (conjugate to inverse covariance of multivariate normal)

Reference Table of Distributions

Below is a reference table covering many of these distributions, with their probability mass function (PMF) or probability density function (PDF), support, mean, variance, and a few extra notes. Some new distributions (e.g. Weibull, Gumbel, Beta prime, Logistic) have been added as illustrative examples.

Table 1: Distributions, their PMF/PDF, support, mean, variance, and further notes.

Distribution	PMF / PDF	Support	Mean	Variance
Normal (Gaussian)	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$	$x \in (-\infty, \infty)$	μ	σ^2
Exponential	$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, x \geq 0$	$x \geq 0$	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$
Log-normal	$f(x) = \frac{1}{x\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), x > 0$	$x > 0$	$e^{\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2}$	$e^{2\mu + \sigma^2}(e^{\sigma^2} - 1)$
Pareto	$f(x) = \alpha x_m^\alpha x^{-(\alpha+1)}, x \geq x_m$	$x \geq x_m > 0$	$\frac{\alpha x_m}{\alpha - 1}, \alpha > 1$	$\frac{\alpha x_m^2}{(\alpha - 1)^2(\alpha - 2)}, \alpha > 2$
Weibull	$f(x) = \frac{k}{\lambda} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^{k-1} e^{-\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^k}, x \geq 0$	$x \geq 0$	$\lambda \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)$	$\lambda^2 \left[\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{2}{k}\right) - \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^2 \right]$
Gumbel	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right)\right]$	$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$\mu + \gamma\beta \quad (\gamma \approx 0.5772)$	$\frac{\pi^2}{6}\beta^2$
Beta prime (Inverted Beta)	$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1}(1+x)^{-\alpha-\beta}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}, x > 0$	$x > 0$	$\frac{\alpha}{\beta-1}, \text{ for } \beta > 1$	$\frac{\alpha(\alpha+\beta-1)}{(\beta-1)^2(\beta-2)}, \text{ for } \beta > 2$
Logistic	$f(x) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right)}{s(1 + \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right))^2}, x \in \mathbb{R}$	$x \in \mathbb{R}$	μ	$\frac{\pi^2}{3}s^2$
Discrete uniform	$P(X = k) = \frac{1}{n}, k = 1, \dots, n$	$\{1, \dots, n\}$	$\frac{n+1}{2}$	$\frac{n^2-1}{12}$
Continuous uniform	$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}, a \leq x \leq b$	$[a, b]$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$
Bernoulli	$P(X = 1) = p, P(X = 0) = 1 - p$	$\{0, 1\}$	p	$p(1-p)$
Binomial	$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$	$\{0, \dots, n\}$	np	$np(1-p)$
Negative binomial	$P(X = k) = \binom{k+r-1}{k} p^r (1-p)^k, k = 0, 1, \dots$	$\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p}$	$\frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}$
Geometric	$P(X = k) = (1-p)^k p, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$	$\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$	$\frac{1-p}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$
Hypergeometric	$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$	$\{0, \dots, n\}$	$n \frac{K}{N}$	$n \frac{K}{N} \left(1 - \frac{K}{N}\right) \frac{N-n}{N-1}$
Beta-binomial	$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} \frac{B(\alpha+k, \beta+n-k)}{B(\alpha, \beta) B(\alpha+\beta, n)}$	$\{0, \dots, n\}$	$n \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}$	$np \left(1 - \frac{n+\alpha+\beta}{\alpha+\beta+1}\right) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}$
Categorical	$P(X = i) = p_i, \sum p_i = 1$	$\{1, \dots, K\}$	—	—
Multinomial	$P(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{k}) = \frac{n!}{k_1! \dots k_K!} \prod p_i^{k_i}, \sum k_i = n$	$\{(k_1, \dots, k_K)\}$	$\mathbb{E}[X_i] = np_i$	$\text{Var}(X_i) = np_i(1 - p_i)$
Multivariate hypergeometric	$P(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{k}) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^K \binom{K_i}{k_i}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \sum k_i = n$	$\{(k_1, \dots, k_K)\}$	$n \frac{K_i}{N}$	$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = -n \frac{K_i}{N} \frac{K_j}{N} \frac{N-n}{N-1}$
Poisson	$P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$	$\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$	λ	λ
Gamma	$f(x) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta x}, x > 0$	$x > 0$	$\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$	$\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$
Rayleigh	$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), r \geq 0$	$r \geq 0$	$\sigma \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}$	$\frac{4-\pi}{2} \sigma^2$
Rice (Rician)	$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2 + \nu^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{r\nu}{\sigma^2}\right)$	$r \geq 0$	No simple closed form	No simple closed form
Chi-squared	$f(x) = \frac{1}{2^{k/2} \Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} x^{\frac{k}{2}-1} e^{-x/2}, x > 0$	$x > 0$	k	$2k$
Student's t	$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{\nu+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\nu\pi} \Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-\frac{\nu+1}{2}}$	\mathbb{R}	0, for $\nu > 1$	$\frac{\nu}{\nu-2}, \text{ for } \nu > 2$

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Distribution	PMF / PDF	Support	Mean	Variance
F-distribution	$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{(d_1 x)^{d_1} d_2^{d_2}}{(d_1 x + d_2)^{d_1 + d_2}}}}{x B(\frac{d_1}{2}, \frac{d_2}{2})}$	$x > 0$	$\frac{d_2}{d_2 - 2}$, for $d_2 > 2$	$\frac{2 d_2^2 (d_1 + d_2 - 2)}{d_1 (d_2 - 2)^2 (d_2 - 4)}$, for $d_2 > 4$
Beta	$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$	$0 \leq x \leq 1$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$	$\frac{\alpha \beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2 (\alpha + \beta + 1)}$
Dirichlet	$f(x_1, \dots, x_K) = \frac{1}{B(\boldsymbol{\alpha})} \prod x_i^{\alpha_i - 1}$, $\sum x_i = 1$, $x_i \geq 0$	= Probability simplex	$\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \frac{\alpha_i}{\sum_j \alpha_j}$	Covariance more involved
Wishart	$f(\mathbf{W}) = \frac{\nu - p - 1}{2} \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{W}))$	\propto Sym. pos. definite matrices	$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{W}] = \nu \Sigma$	Matrix-variate

Notes / Reminders

- **Support:** Domain where the random variable (or vector) takes values.
- Some distributions require certain parameter constraints (e.g. $\alpha > 1$ for Pareto's mean to exist) to ensure mean or variance is finite.
- For Categorical-like distributions (Categorical, Multinomial, etc.), the “mean” is better thought of as a probability vector in one-hot space (multidimensional).
- **Processes vs. Distributions:** Some items (e.g. Poisson process, linear growth, etc.) are *processes* rather than single distributions. For example, a Poisson process has *increments* that are Poisson-distributed, and *interarrival times* that are exponential or gamma-distributed.
- **Absolute values of normal vectors:** yield Rayleigh or Rice (Rician) distributions.
- **Sum/ratios of squared normals:** yield chi-squared, t , and F distributions, etc.
- **Bayesian conjugate priors:** Beta, Gamma, Dirichlet, and Wishart appear frequently in Bayesian updating for binomial/Poisson/multinomial/multivariate-normal models.
- **Extreme value distributions:** Gumbel, Fréchet, and Weibull are common for modeling maxima or minima.

1 Normal (Gaussian) Distribution

The Normal (Gaussian) distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ has

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad x \in (-\infty, \infty).$$

Normal(mu=0, sigma=1)

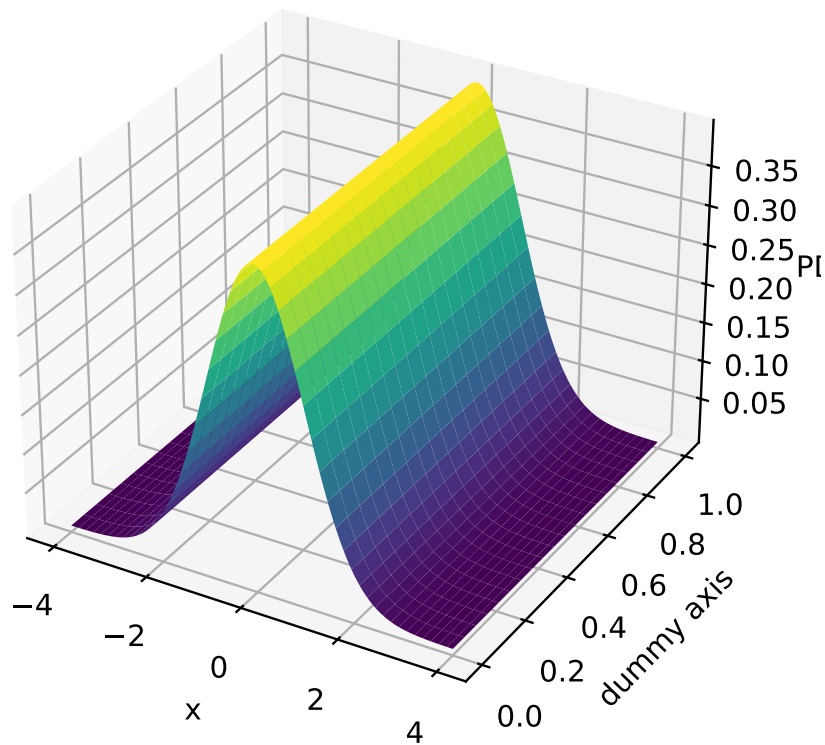


Figure 1: 3D surface plot of the Normal(μ, σ^2) PDF.

2 Exponential Distribution

The Exponential distribution with rate λ has

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x \geq 0.$$

Exponential(lambda=1.0)

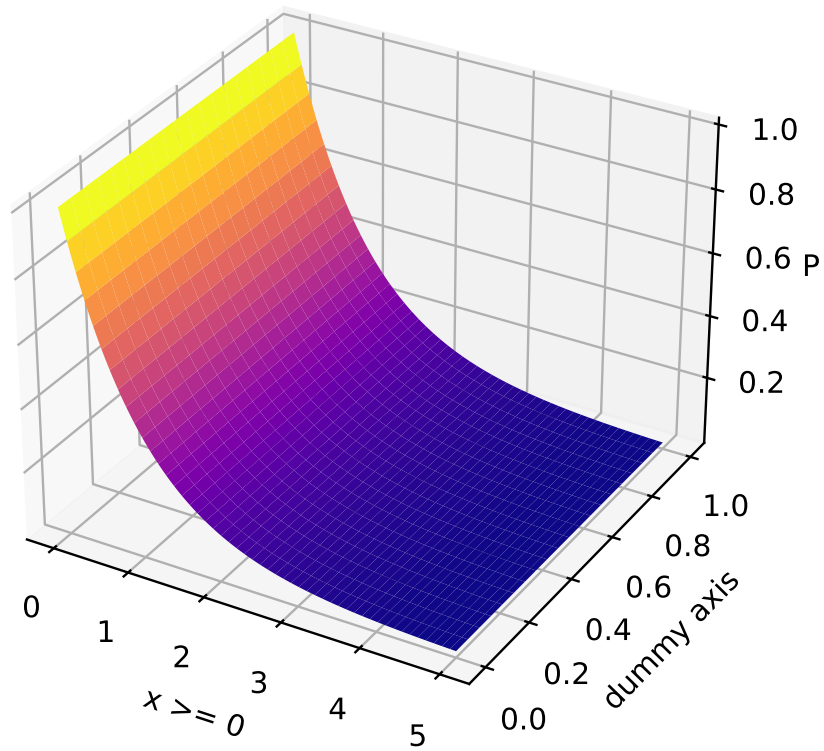


Figure 2: 3D surface plot of Exponential(λ) PDF.

3 Log-normal Distribution

If $Y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, then $X = e^Y$ is said to be Log-normal. Its PDF is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x \sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad x > 0.$$

Lognormal(mu=0, sigma=1)

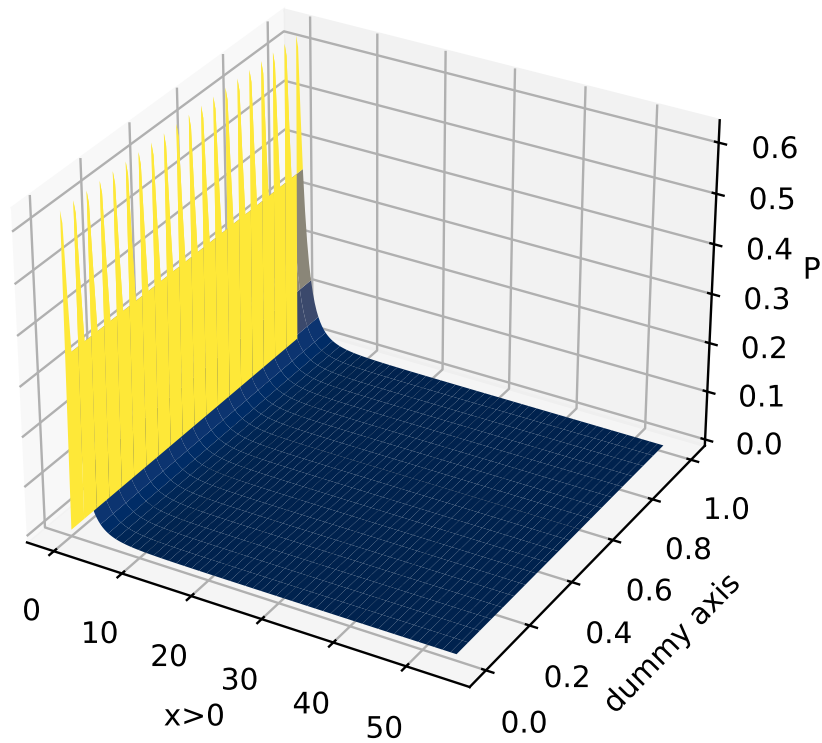


Figure 3: 3D surface plot of the Log-normal(μ, σ^2) PDF.

4 Pareto Distribution

The Pareto distribution with shape α and scale x_m has

$$f(x) = \alpha x_m^\alpha x^{-(\alpha+1)}, \quad x \geq x_m.$$

Pareto(alpha=2.0, x_m=1.0)

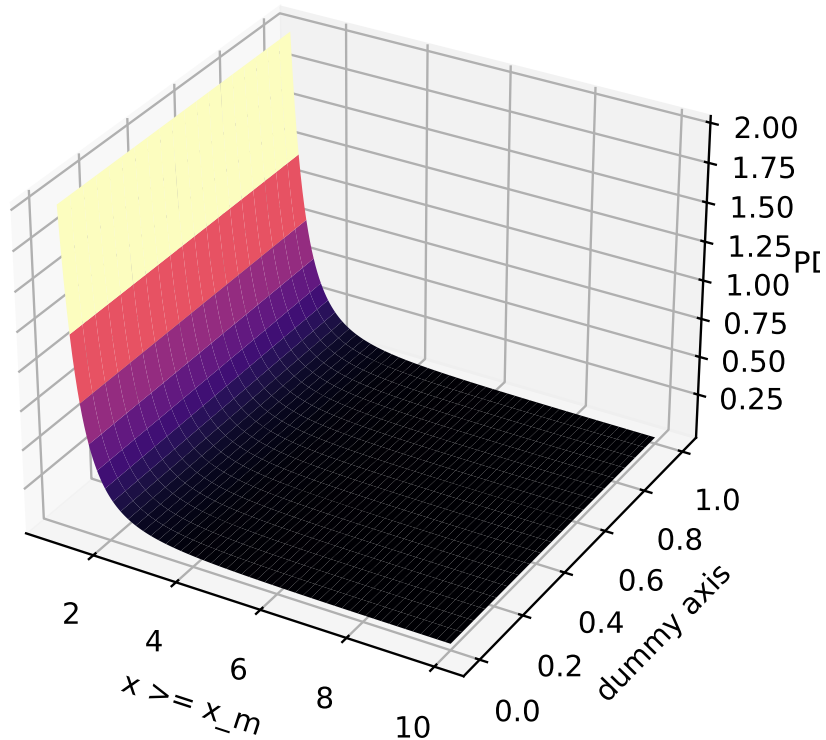


Figure 4: 3D surface plot of $\text{Pareto}(\alpha, x_m)$ PDF.

5 Weibull Distribution

The Weibull distribution with parameters k and λ has

$$f(x) = \frac{k}{\lambda} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^{k-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^k\right), \quad x \geq 0.$$

Weibull($k=1.5$, $\lambda=1.0$)

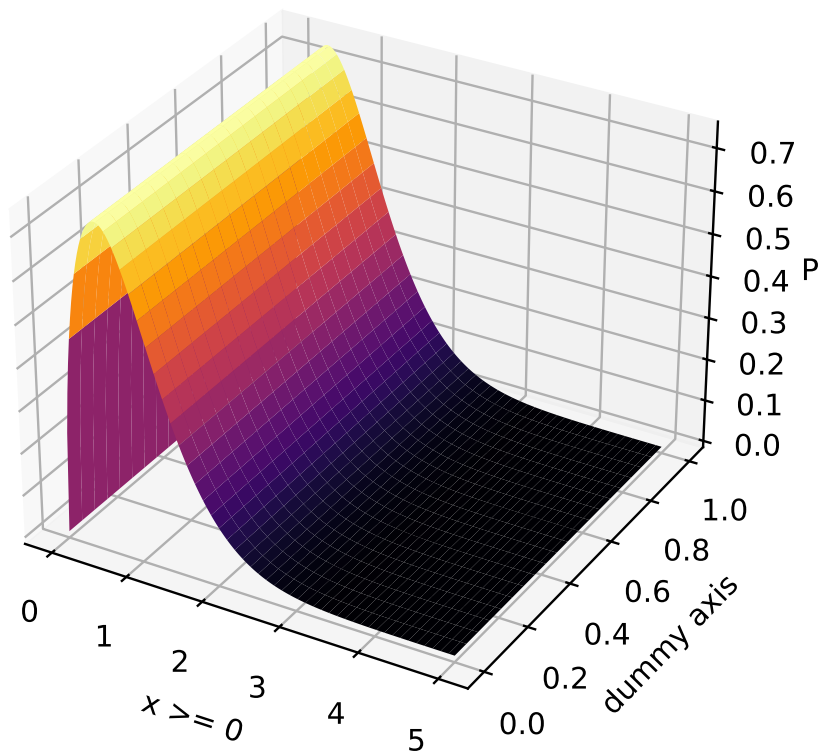


Figure 5: 3D surface plot of Weibull(k, λ) PDF.

6 Gumbel Distribution

The Gumbel (Type-I extreme value) distribution with location μ and scale β has

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right)\right].$$

Gumbel(mu=0.0, beta=1.0)

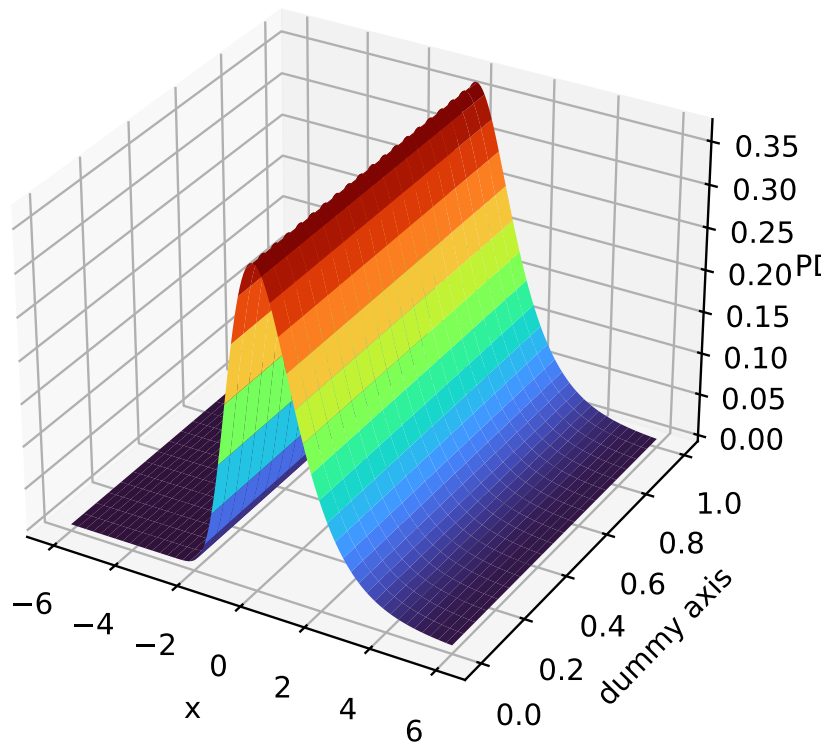


Figure 6: 3D surface plot of Gumbel(μ, β) PDF.

7 Beta Prime (Inverted Beta) Distribution

Sometimes called the inverted Beta distribution, with parameters α, β :

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} (1+x)^{-\alpha-\beta}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}, \quad x > 0.$$

Beta prime($\alpha=2.0$, $\beta=3.0$)

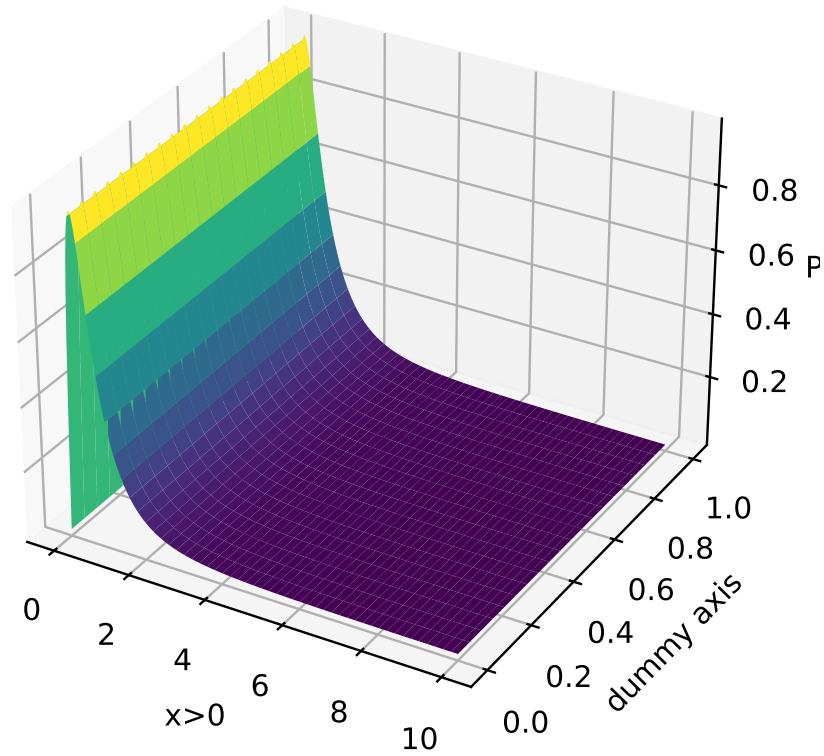


Figure 7: 3D surface plot of Beta prime(α, β) PDF.

8 Logistic Distribution

The Logistic distribution with parameters μ (location) and s (scale):

$$f(x) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right)}{s\left(1 + \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right)\right)^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Logistic(mu=0.0, s=1.0)

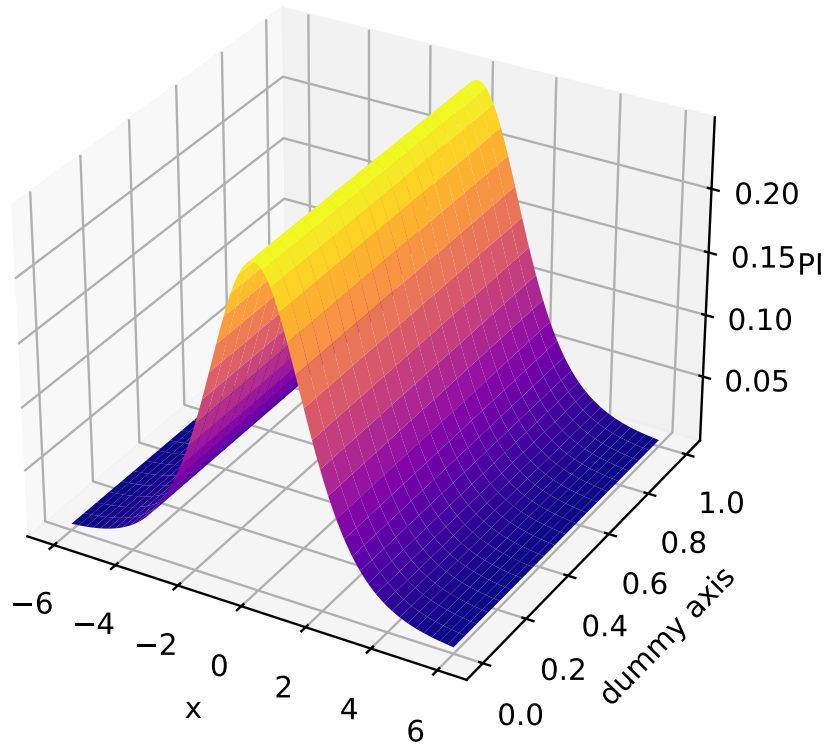


Figure 8: 3D surface plot of $\text{Logistic}(\mu, s)$ PDF.

9 Discrete Uniform Distribution

A discrete uniform distribution over $\{1, \dots, n\}$ has

$$P(X = k) = \frac{1}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n.$$

Discrete uniform(1..6)

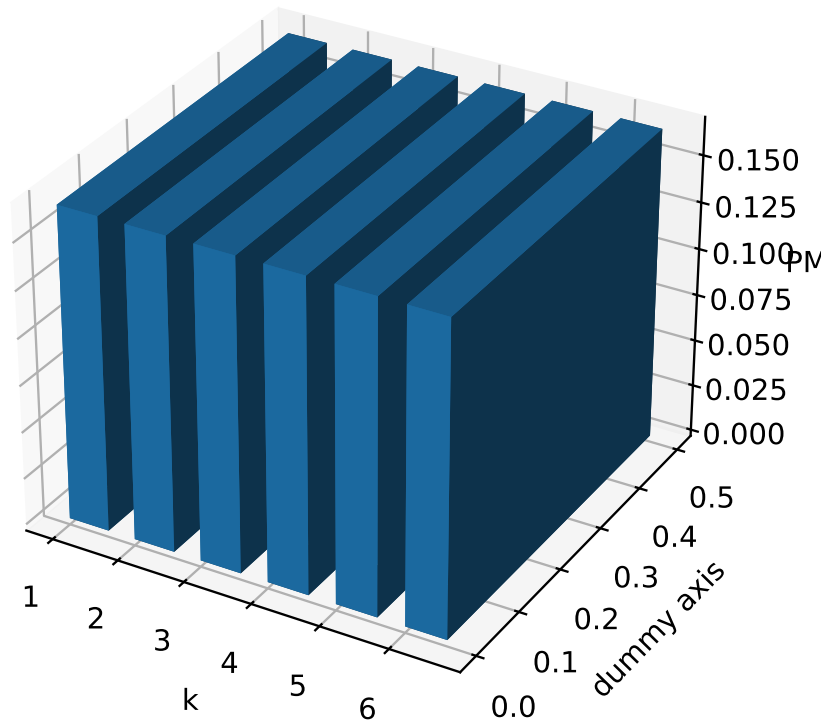


Figure 9: 3D bar chart of Discrete Uniform $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

10 Continuous Uniform Distribution

A continuous uniform distribution on $[a, b]$:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

Continuous Uniform(a=0.0, b=1.0)

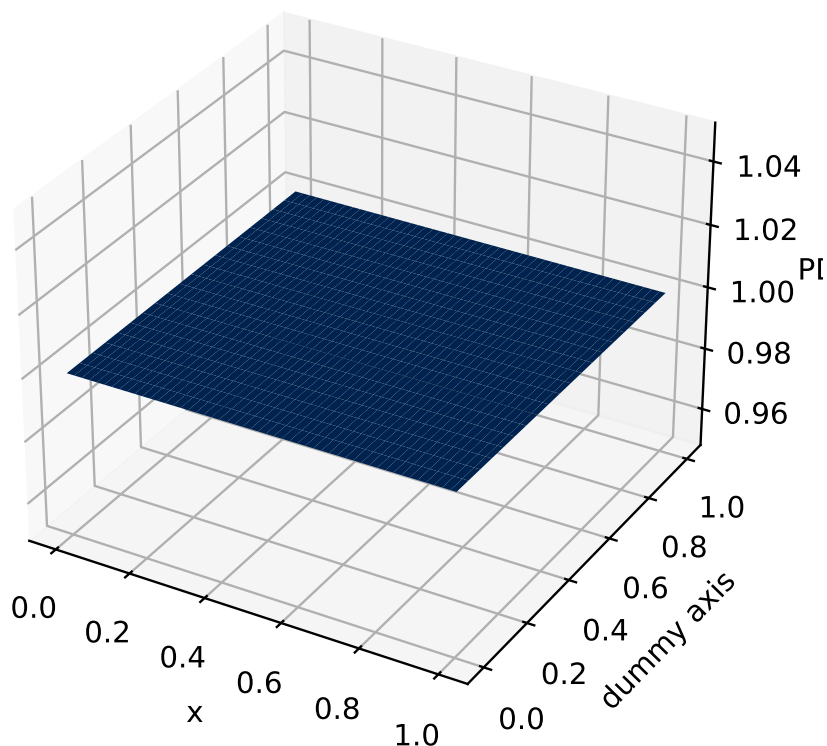


Figure 10: 3D surface plot of Uniform(a, b) PDF.

11 Bernoulli Distribution

A Bernoulli distribution with parameter p has

$$P(X = 1) = p, \quad P(X = 0) = 1 - p.$$

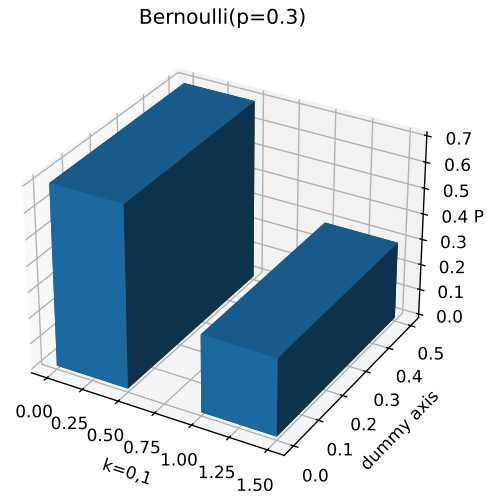


Figure 11: 3D bar chart of Bernoulli(p) PMF.

12 Binomial Distribution

A Binomial(n, p) distribution has

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n.$$

Binomial($n=10, p=0.4$)

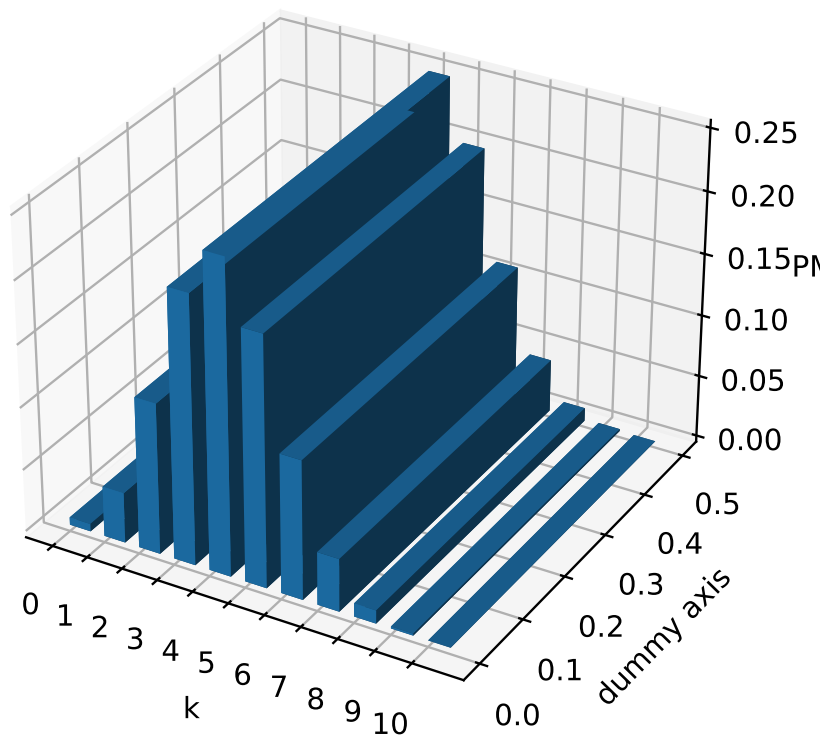


Figure 12: 3D bar chart of Binomial(n, p) PMF.

13 Negative Binomial Distribution

A Negative binomial with parameters (r, p) :

$$P(X = k) = \binom{k+r-1}{k} p^r (1-p)^k, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

Negative Binomial($r=5$, $p=0.4$)

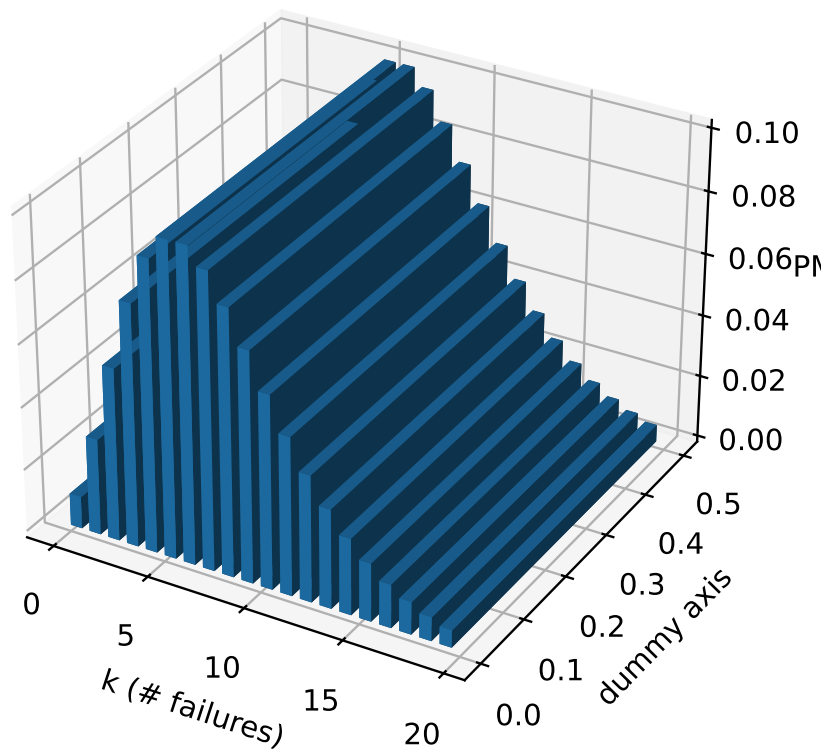


Figure 13: 3D bar chart of Negative Binomial(r, p) PMF.

14 Geometric Distribution

A special case of Negative binomial with $r = 1$:

$$P(X = k) = (1 - p)^k p, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Geometric($p=0.3$)

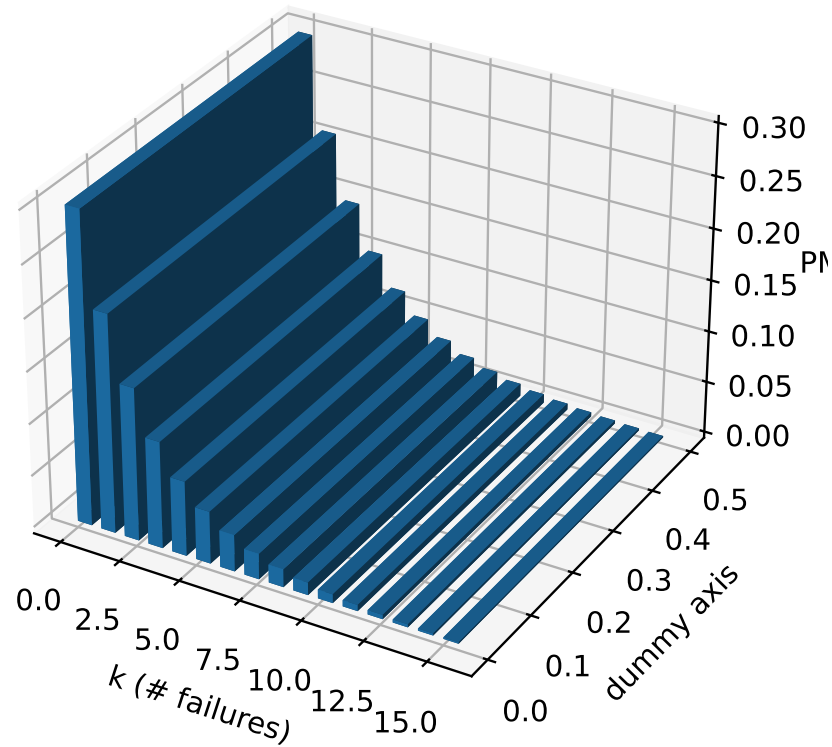


Figure 14: 3D bar chart of Geometric(p) PMF.

15 Hypergeometric Distribution

A Hypergeometric(N, K, n) distribution:

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}.$$

Hypergeometric($N=20, K=8, n=5$)

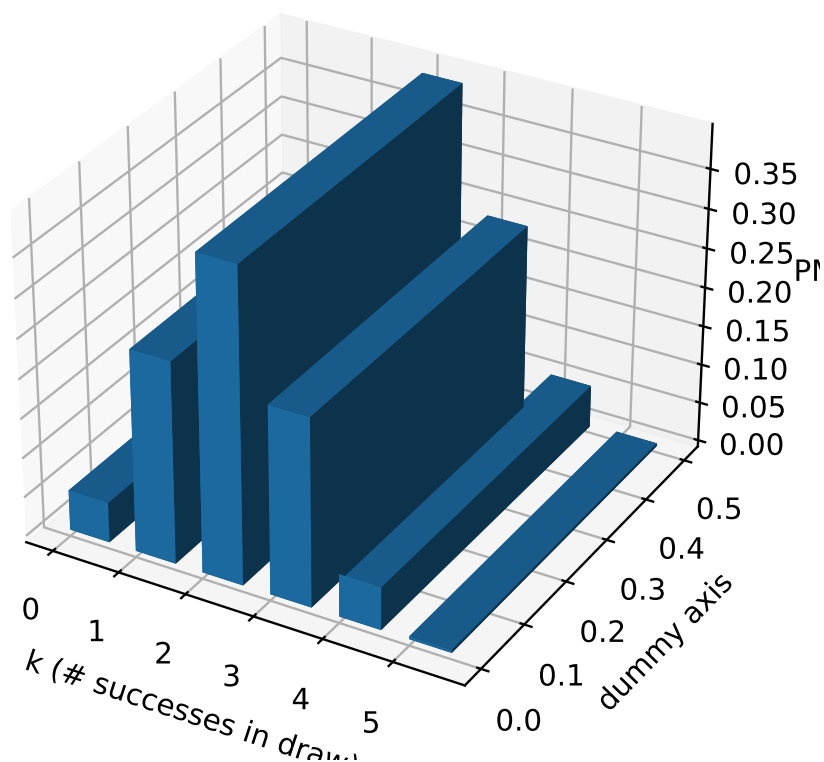


Figure 15: 3D bar chart of Hypergeometric(N, K, n) PMF.

16 Beta-binomial Distribution

A conjugate extension of Binomial with parameters (n, α, β) :

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} \frac{B(\alpha + k, \beta + n - k)}{B(\alpha, \beta) B(\alpha + \beta, n)}.$$

Beta-Binomial($n=10$, $\alpha=2$, $\beta=3$)

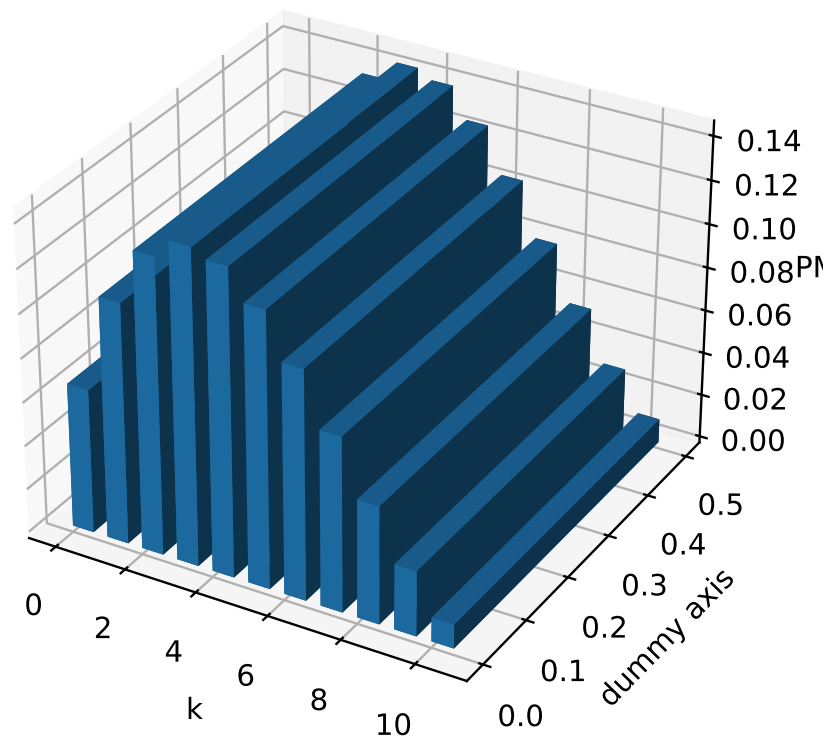


Figure 16: 3D bar chart of Beta-binomial(n, α, β) PMF.

17 Categorical Distribution

For K categories with probabilities p_i ,

$$P(X = i) = p_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^K p_i = 1.$$

Categorical $p=[0.2, 0.5, 0.3]$

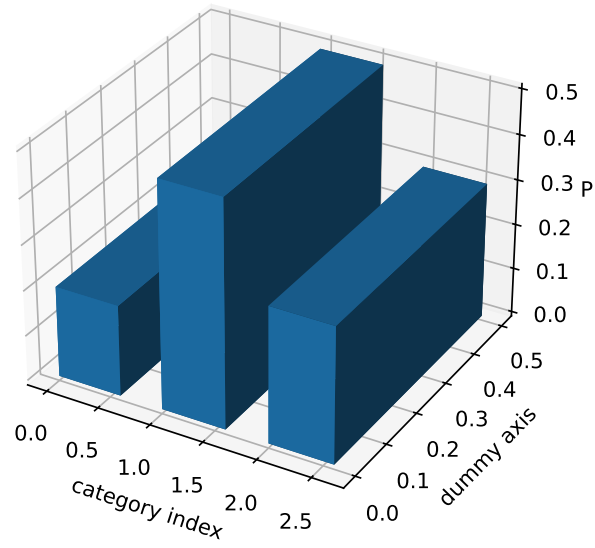


Figure 17: 3D bar chart of a Categorical distribution.

18 Multinomial Distribution

Generalizing Binomial to K categories:

$$P(X_1 = k_1, \dots, X_K = k_K) = \frac{n!}{k_1! \dots k_K!} \prod_{i=1}^K p_i^{k_i}, \quad \sum k_i = n.$$

Multinomial($n=5$, $p=[0.3, 0.2, 0.5]$)

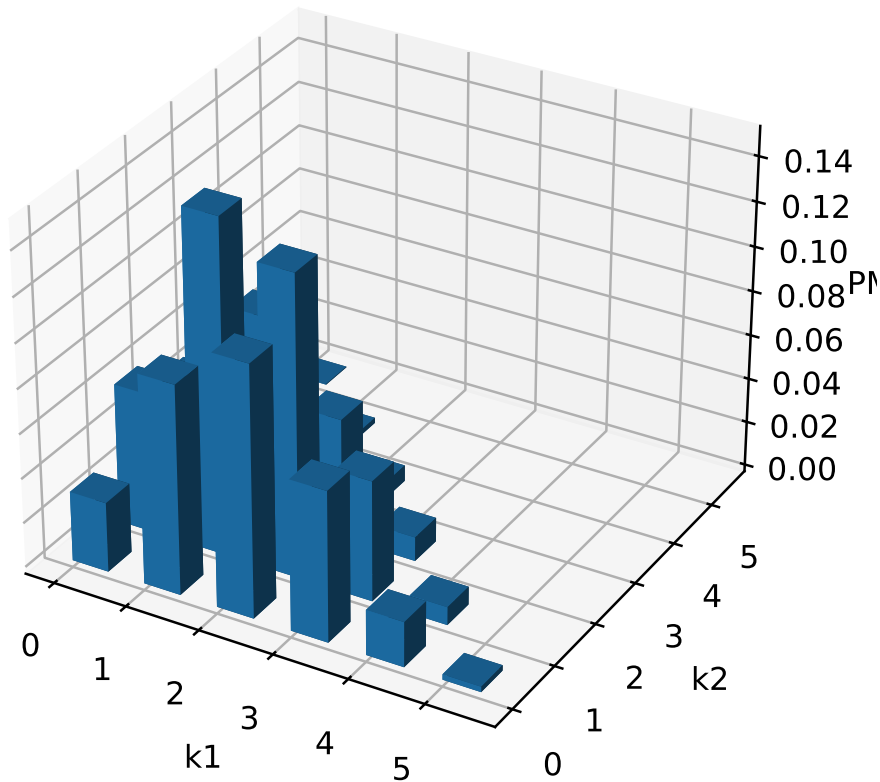


Figure 18: 3D bar chart of Multinomial(n, p_1, \dots, p_K) PMF for $K = 3$.

19 Multivariate Hypergeometric Distribution

A generalization of Hypergeometric to multiple categories. With K_i items in category i ,

$$P(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{k}) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^K \binom{K_i}{k_i}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^K k_i = n.$$

Multivariate Hypergeometric($K=[4, 5, 6]$, $n=5$)

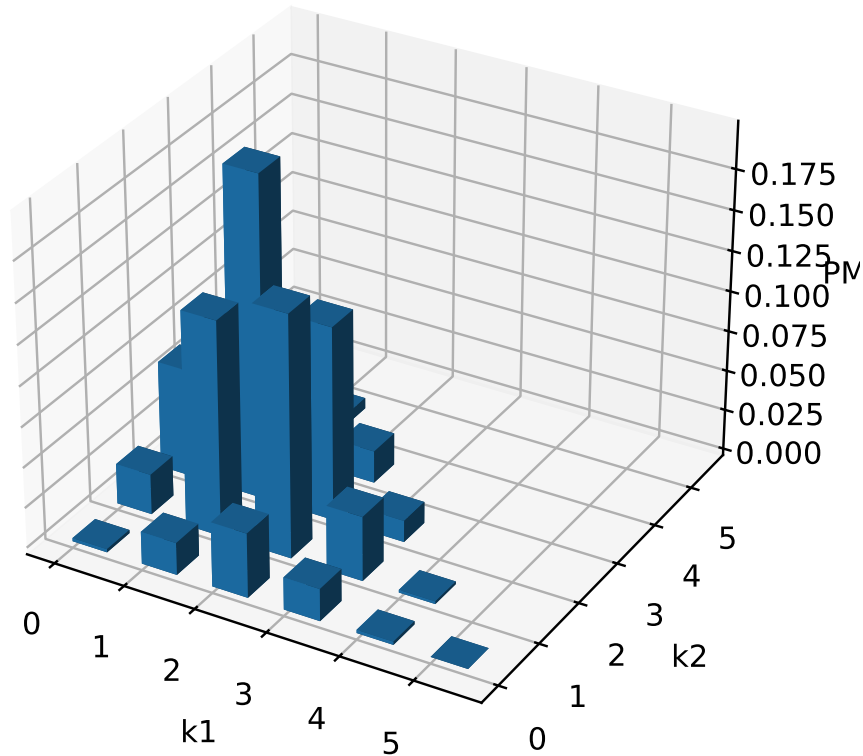


Figure 19: 3D bar chart for the Multivariate Hypergeometric distribution with $K = 3$.

20 Poisson Distribution

A $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ distribution:

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$\text{Poisson}(\text{lambda}=3.0)$

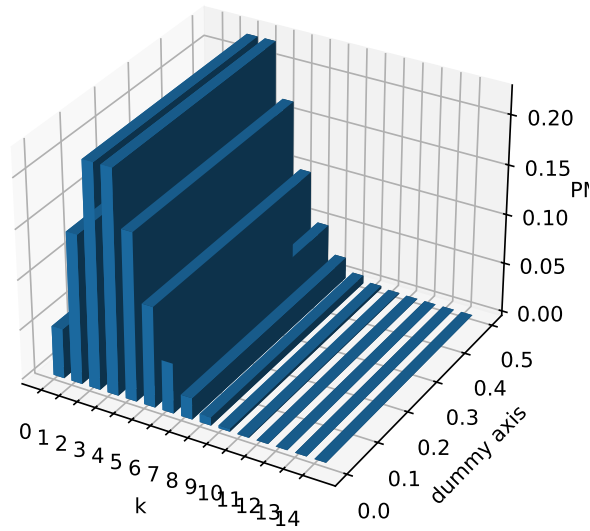


Figure 20: 3D bar chart of $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ PMF.

21 Gamma Distribution

With shape α and rate β :

$$f(x) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta x}, \quad x > 0.$$

Gamma(alpha=2.0, beta=1.0)

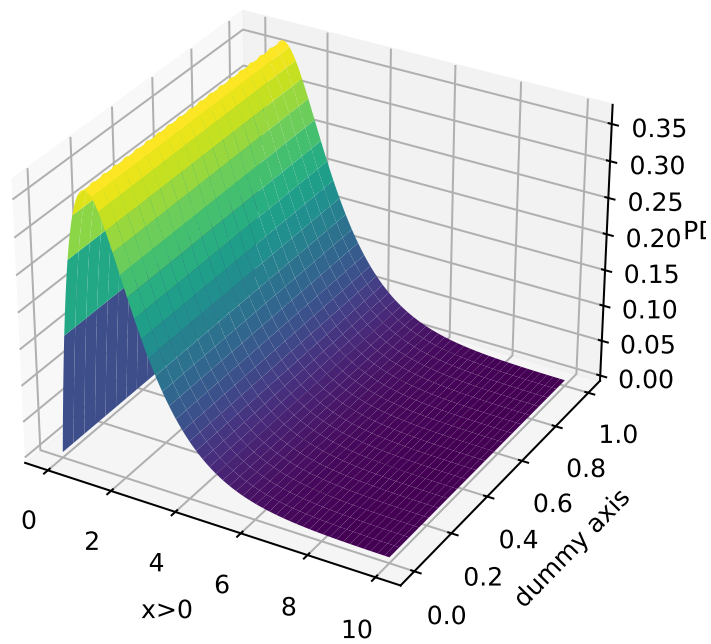


Figure 21: 3D surface plot of Gamma(α, β) PDF.

22 Rayleigh Distribution

Rayleigh(σ):

$$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad r \geq 0.$$

Rayleigh(sigma=1.0)

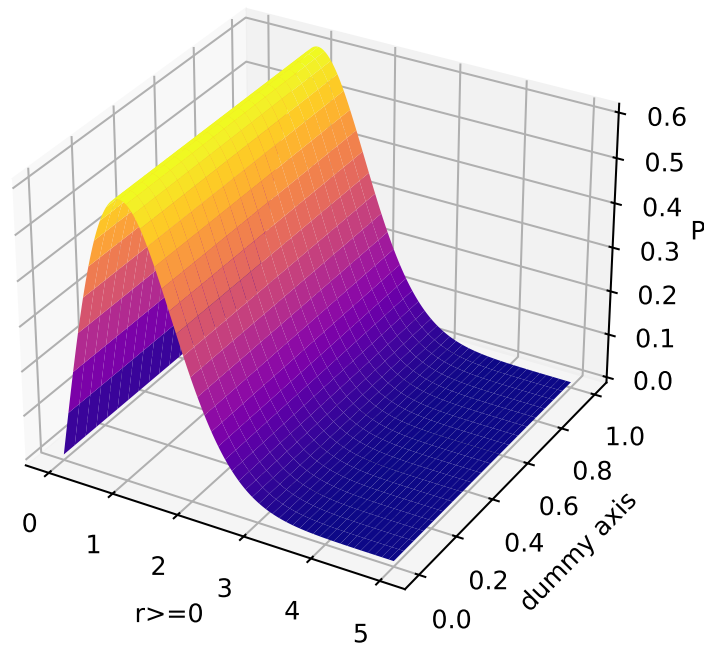


Figure 22: 3D surface plot of Rayleigh(σ) PDF.

23 Rice (Rician) Distribution

Rice(ν, σ):

$$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2 + \nu^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{r\nu}{\sigma^2}\right), \quad r \geq 0.$$

Rice(sigma=1.0, nu=1.0)

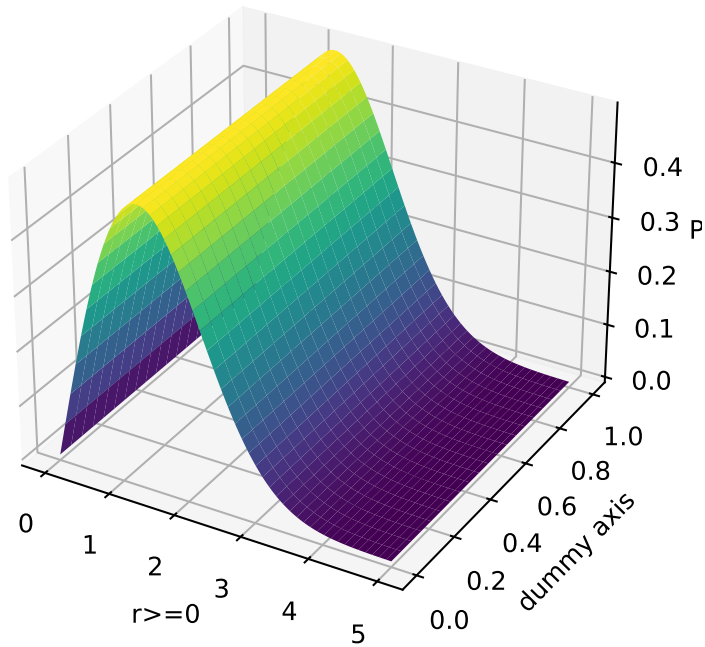


Figure 23: 3D surface plot of Rice(ν, σ) PDF.

24 Chi-squared Distribution

Chi-squared with k degrees of freedom:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2^{k/2}\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} x^{\frac{k}{2}-1} e^{-x/2}, \quad x > 0.$$

Chi-squared(k=3)

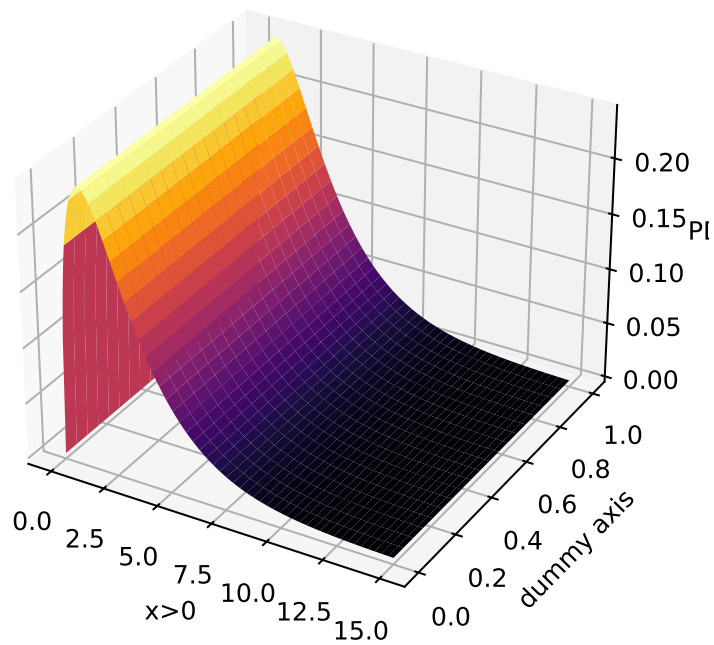


Figure 24: 3D surface plot of Chi-squared(k) PDF.

25 Student's t Distribution

With ν degrees of freedom:

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{\nu+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\nu\pi}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-\frac{\nu+1}{2}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Student's t(nu=3)

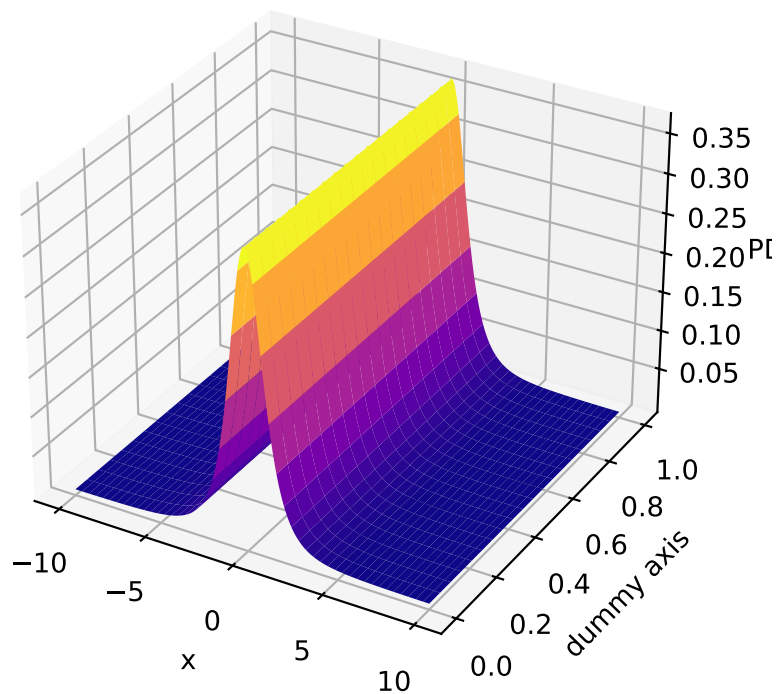


Figure 25: 3D surface plot of Student's $t(\nu)$ PDF.

26 F-distribution

With degrees of freedom d_1, d_2 :

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{(d_1 x)^{d_1} d_2^{d_2}}{(d_1 x + d_2)^{d_1 + d_2}}}}{x B(\frac{d_1}{2}, \frac{d_2}{2})}, \quad x > 0.$$

F-distribution(d1=5, d2=8)

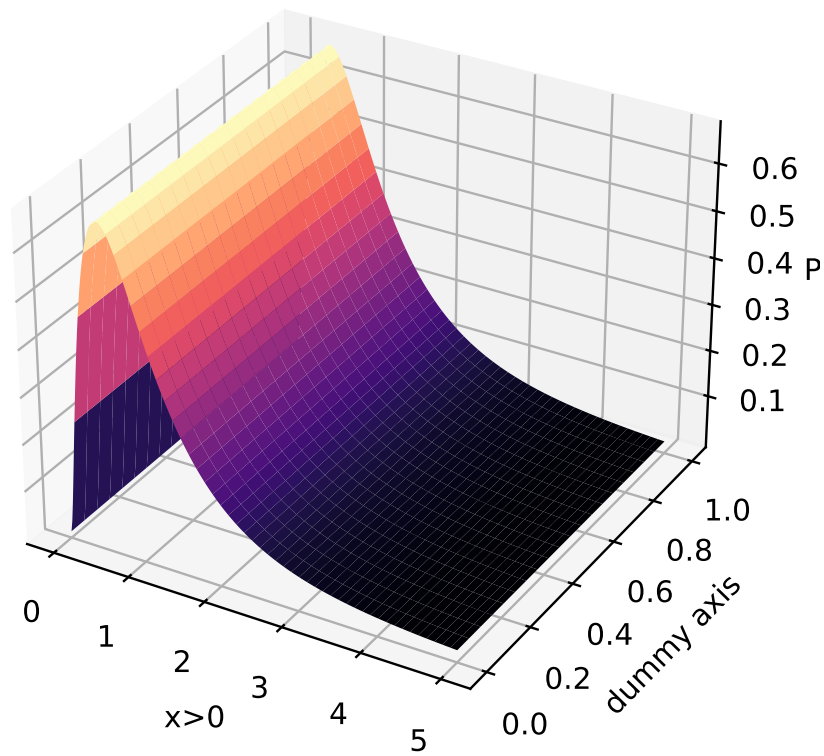


Figure 26: 3D surface plot of $F(d_1, d_2)$ PDF.

27 Beta Distribution

With parameters α, β on $[0, 1]$:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Beta(alpha=2, beta=3)

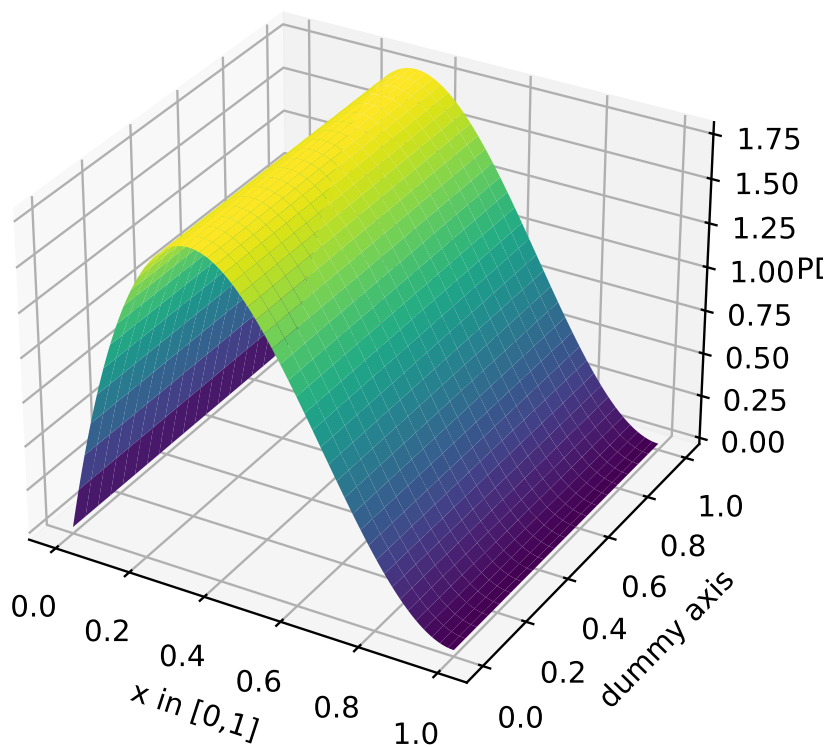


Figure 27: 3D surface plot of Beta(α, β) PDF.

28 Dirichlet Distribution

A distribution over the probability simplex $x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_K = 1, x_i \geq 0$:

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_K) = \frac{1}{B(\boldsymbol{\alpha})} \prod_{i=1}^K x_i^{\alpha_i - 1}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^K x_i = 1.$$

Dirichlet(alpha=[2, 3, 4]), 2-simplex

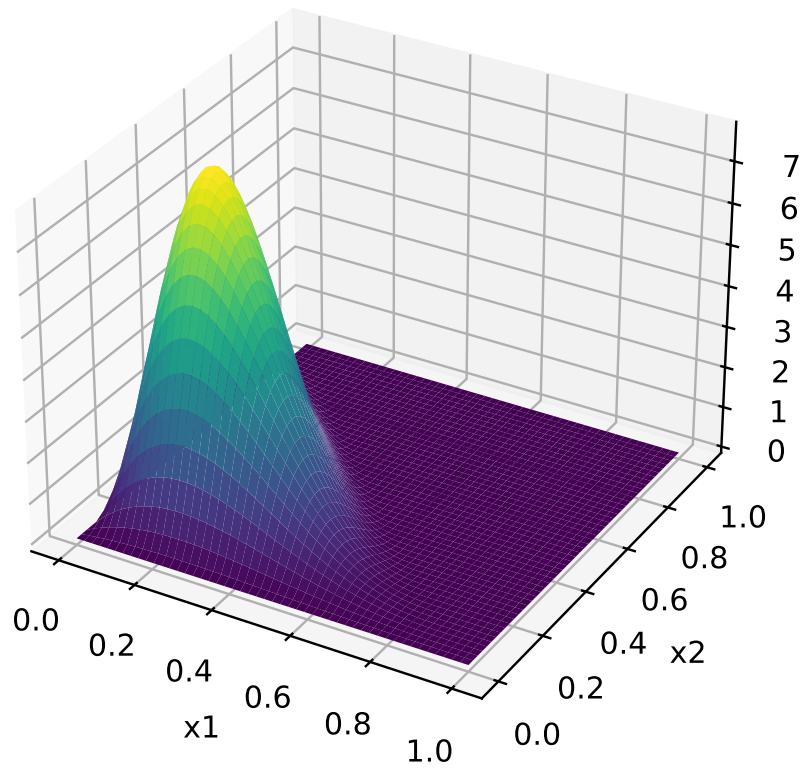


Figure 28: 3D surface plot of $\text{Dirichlet}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ along 2-simplex.

29 Wishart Distribution (Placeholder Slice)

The Wishart distribution is matrix-valued. For a $p \times p$ positive-definite matrix \mathbf{W} :

$$f(\mathbf{W}) \propto \det(\mathbf{W})^{\frac{\nu-p-1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{W})\right).$$

Here, we show a *slice* for a 2×2 Wishart (diagonal only), as a demonstration:

Wishart(2x2, I, nu=3) [diagonal slice]

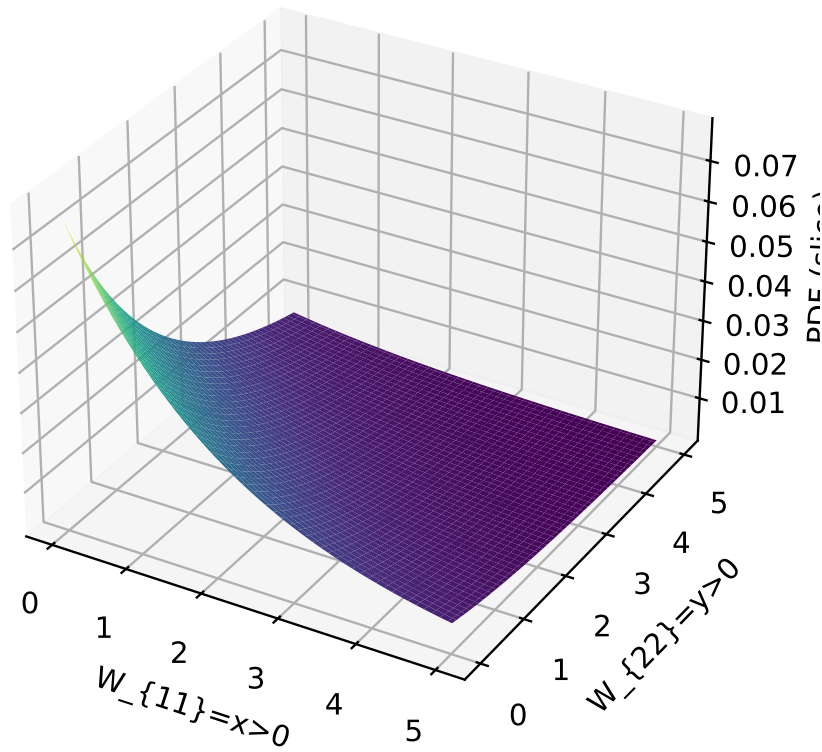


Figure 29: A 3D “slice” of $\text{Wishart}(\nu, \Sigma = I)$ in 2D, restricting \mathbf{W} to diagonal.

30 Normal (Gaussian) Distribution

The Normal (Gaussian) distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ has

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad x \in (-\infty, \infty).$$

Normal(mu=0, sigma=1)

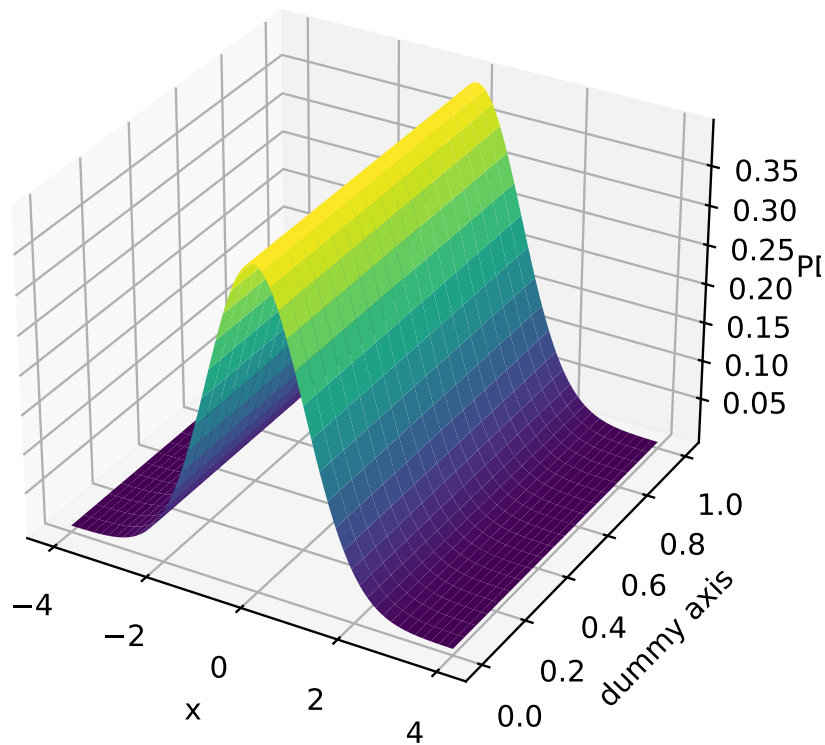


Figure 30: 3D surface plot of the Normal(μ, σ^2) PDF.

31 Exponential Distribution

The Exponential distribution with rate λ has

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x \geq 0.$$

Exponential(lambda=1.0)

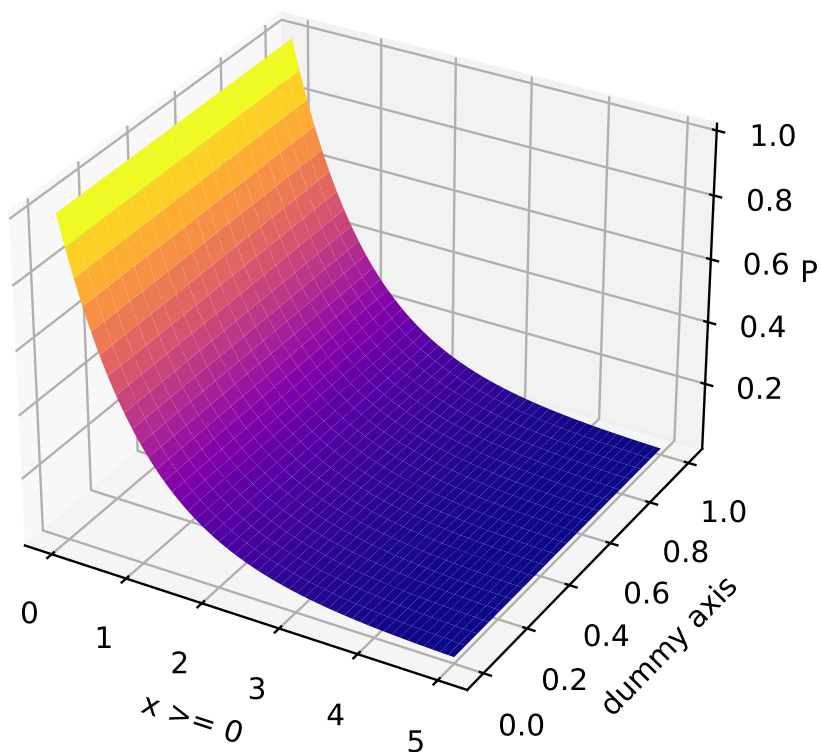


Figure 31: 3D surface plot of Exponential(λ) PDF.

32 Log-normal Distribution

If $Y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, then $X = e^Y$ is said to be Log-normal. Its PDF is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x \sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad x > 0.$$

Lognormal(mu=0, sigma=1)

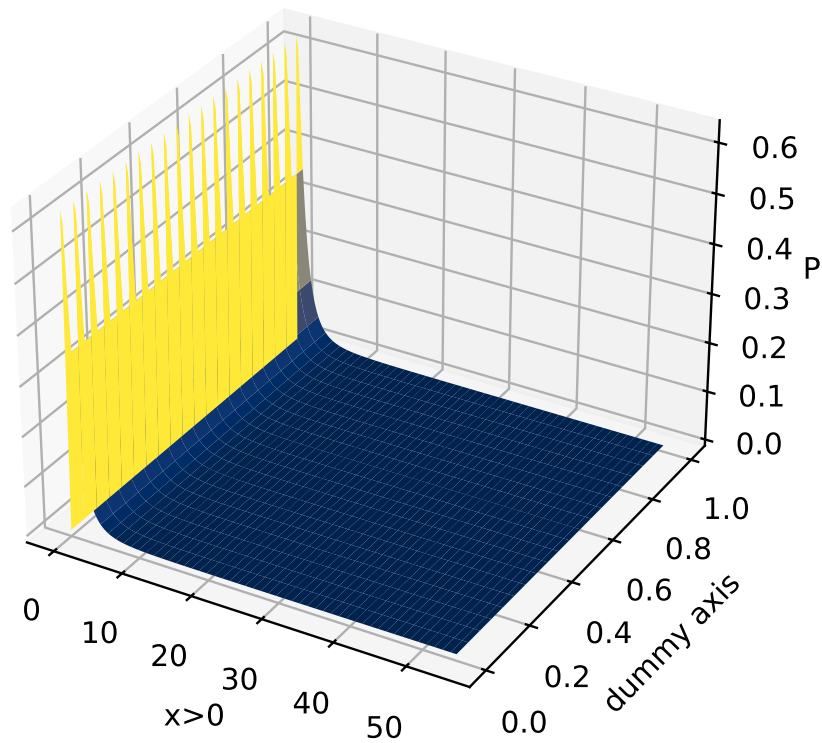


Figure 32: 3D surface plot of the Log-normal(μ, σ^2) PDF.

33 Pareto Distribution

The Pareto distribution with shape α and scale x_m has

$$f(x) = \alpha x_m^\alpha x^{-(\alpha+1)}, \quad x \geq x_m.$$

Pareto(alpha=2.0, x_m=1.0)

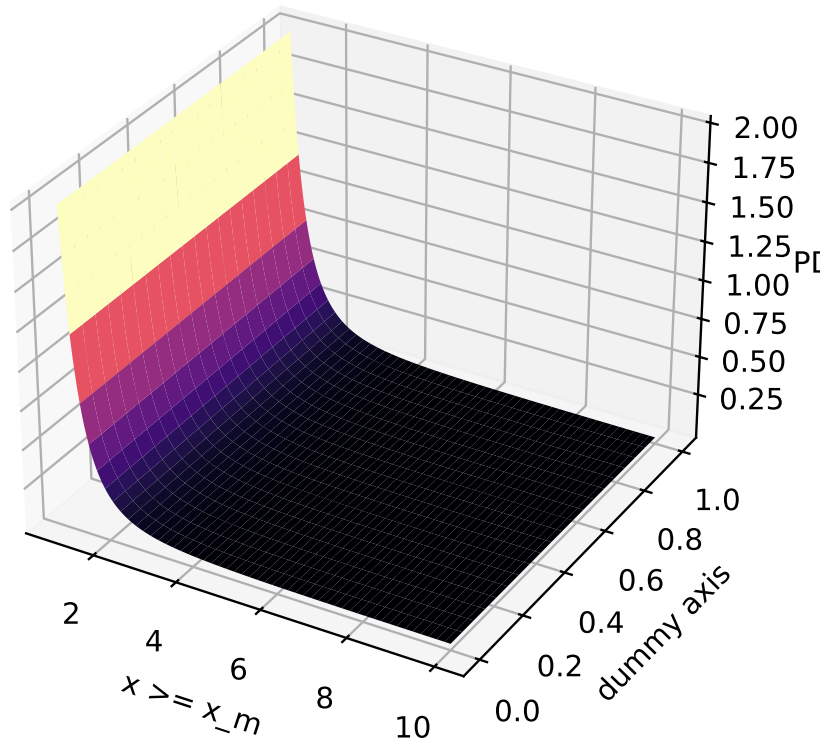


Figure 33: 3D surface plot of Pareto(α, x_m) PDF.

34 Weibull Distribution

The Weibull distribution with parameters k and λ has

$$f(x) = \frac{k}{\lambda} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^{k-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^k\right), \quad x \geq 0.$$

Weibull($k=1.5$, $\lambda=1.0$)

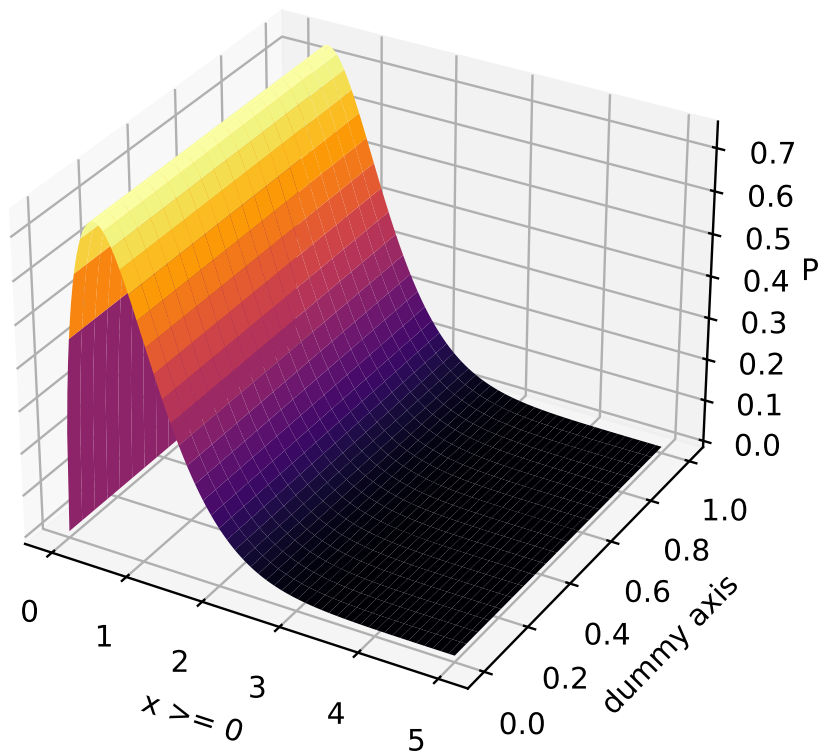


Figure 34: 3D surface plot of Weibull(k, λ) PDF.

35 Gumbel Distribution

The Gumbel (Type-I extreme value) distribution with location μ and scale β has

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{\beta}\right)\right].$$

Gumbel(mu=0.0, beta=1.0)

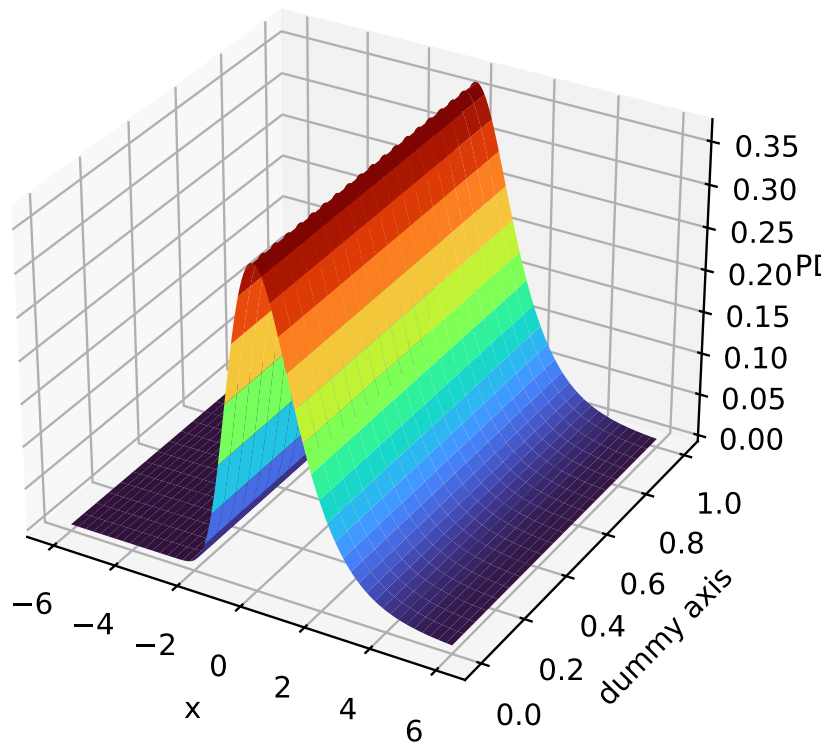


Figure 35: 3D surface plot of Gumbel(μ, β) PDF.

36 Beta Prime (Inverted Beta) Distribution

Sometimes called the inverted Beta distribution, with parameters α, β :

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} (1+x)^{-\alpha-\beta}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}, \quad x > 0.$$

Beta prime($\alpha=2.0$, $\beta=3.0$)

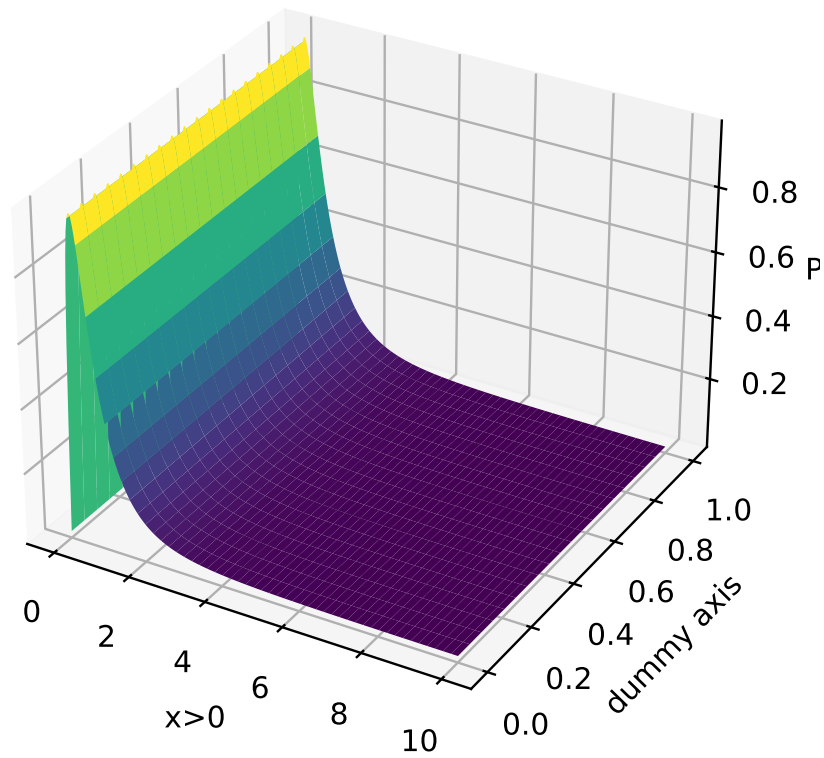


Figure 36: 3D surface plot of Beta prime(α, β) PDF.

37 Logistic Distribution

The Logistic distribution with parameters μ (location) and s (scale):

$$f(x) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right)}{s\left(1 + \exp\left(-\frac{x-\mu}{s}\right)\right)^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Logistic(mu=0.0, s=1.0)

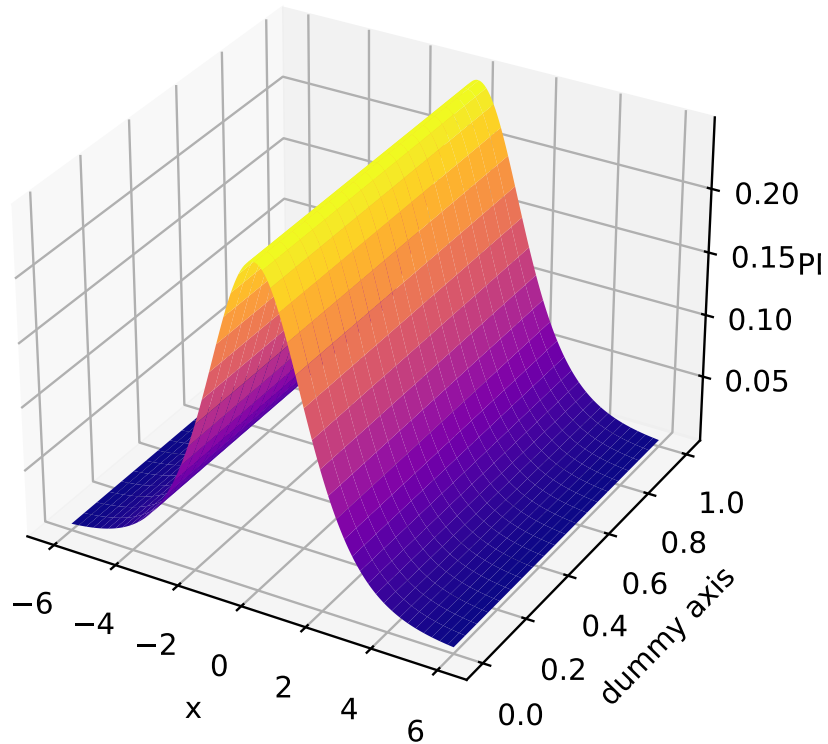


Figure 37: 3D surface plot of $\text{Logistic}(\mu, s)$ PDF.

38 Discrete Uniform Distribution

A discrete uniform distribution over $\{1, \dots, n\}$ has

$$P(X = k) = \frac{1}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n.$$

Discrete uniform(1..6)

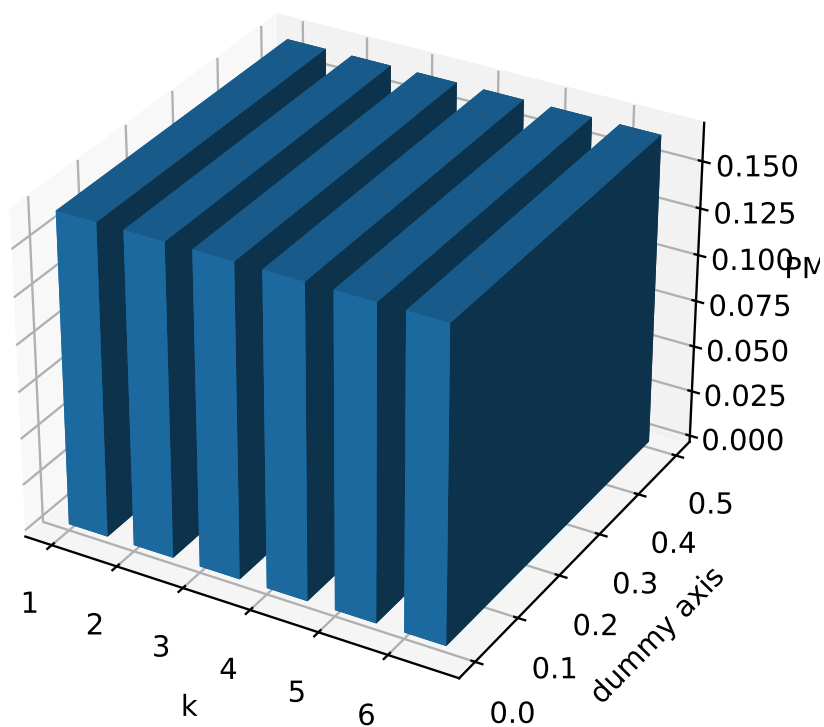


Figure 38: 3D bar chart of Discrete Uniform $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

39 Continuous Uniform Distribution

A continuous uniform distribution on $[a, b]$:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

Continuous Uniform(a=0.0, b=1.0)

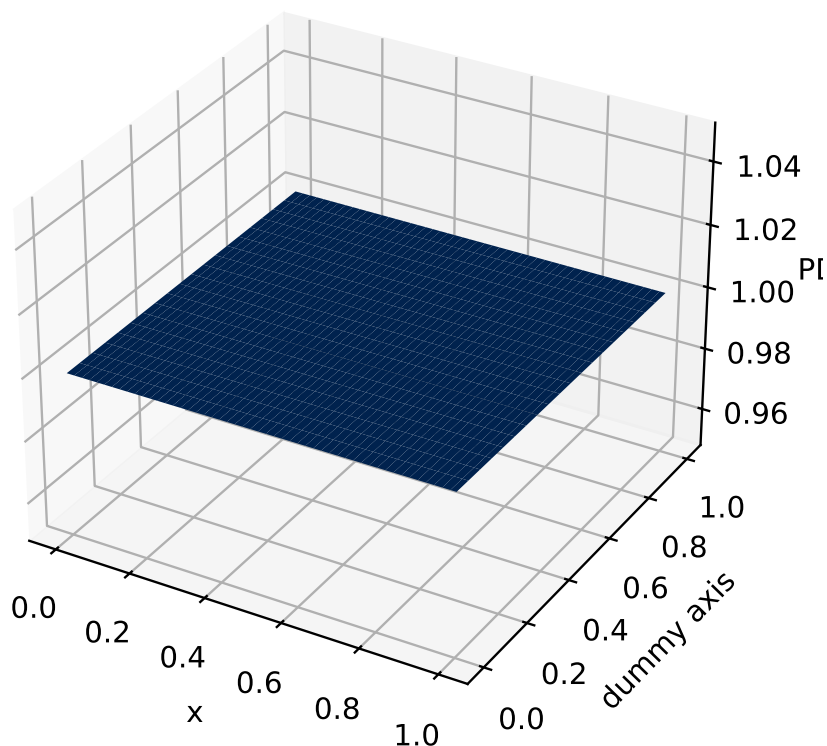


Figure 39: 3D surface plot of Uniform(a, b) PDF.

40 Bernoulli Distribution

A Bernoulli distribution with parameter p has

$$P(X = 1) = p, \quad P(X = 0) = 1 - p.$$

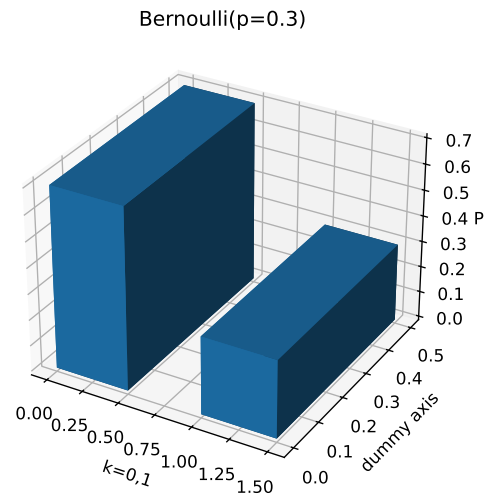


Figure 40: 3D bar chart of Bernoulli(p) PMF.

41 Binomial Distribution

A Binomial(n, p) distribution has

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n.$$

Binomial($n=10, p=0.4$)

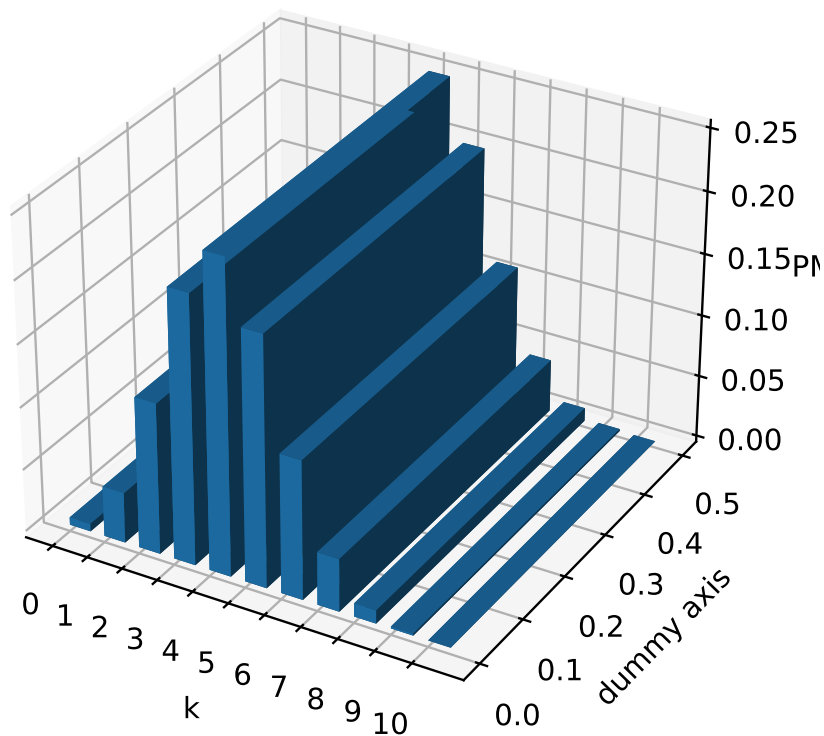


Figure 41: 3D bar chart of Binomial(n, p) PMF.

42 Negative Binomial Distribution

A Negative binomial with parameters (r, p) :

$$P(X = k) = \binom{k+r-1}{k} p^r (1-p)^k, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

Negative Binomial($r=5$, $p=0.4$)

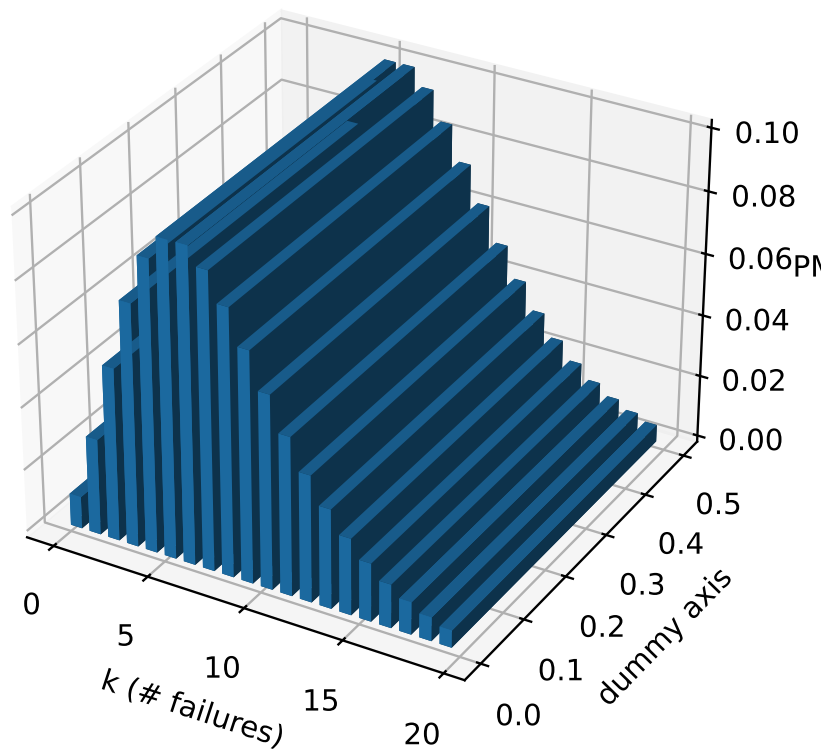


Figure 42: 3D bar chart of Negative Binomial(r, p) PMF.

43 Geometric Distribution

A special case of Negative binomial with $r = 1$:

$$P(X = k) = (1 - p)^k p, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Geometric($p=0.3$)

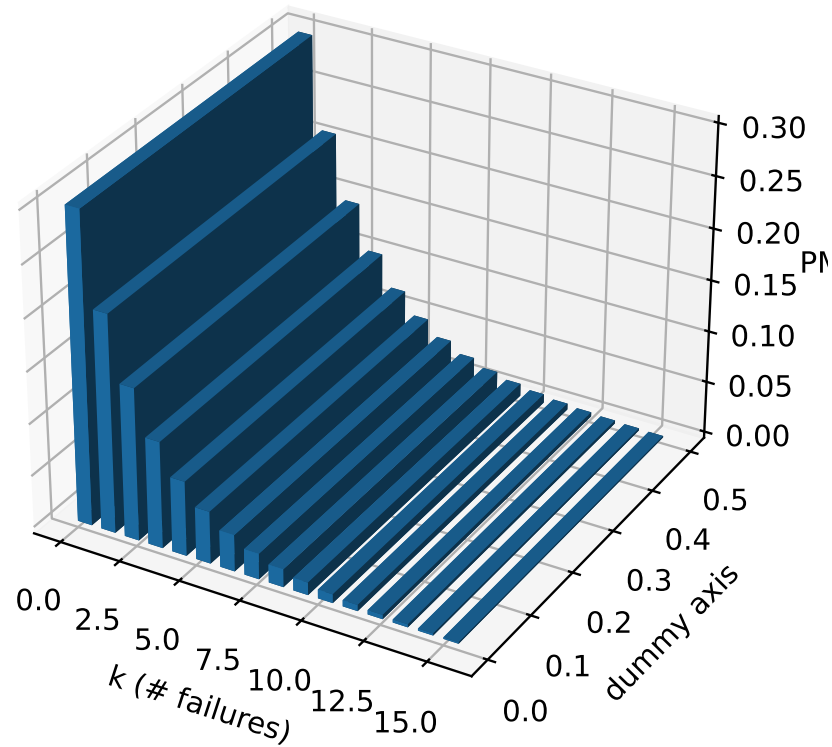


Figure 43: 3D bar chart of Geometric(p) PMF.

44 Hypergeometric Distribution

A Hypergeometric(N, K, n) distribution:

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}.$$

Hypergeometric($N=20, K=8, n=5$)

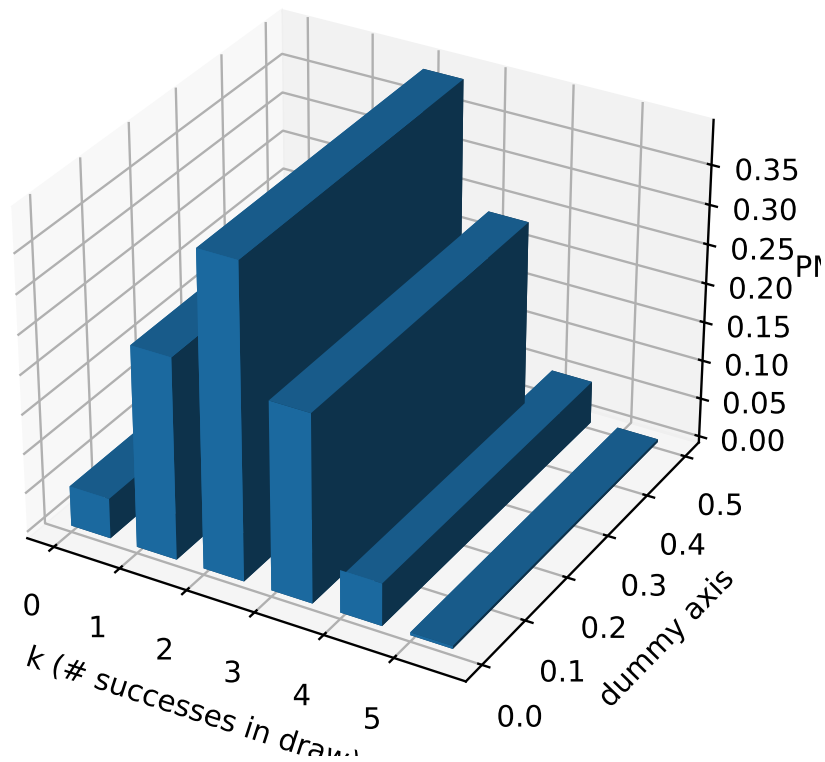


Figure 44: 3D bar chart of Hypergeometric(N, K, n) PMF.

45 Beta-binomial Distribution

A conjugate extension of Binomial with parameters (n, α, β) :

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} \frac{B(\alpha + k, \beta + n - k)}{B(\alpha, \beta) B(\alpha + \beta, n)}.$$

Beta-Binomial($n=10$, $\alpha=2$, $\beta=3$)

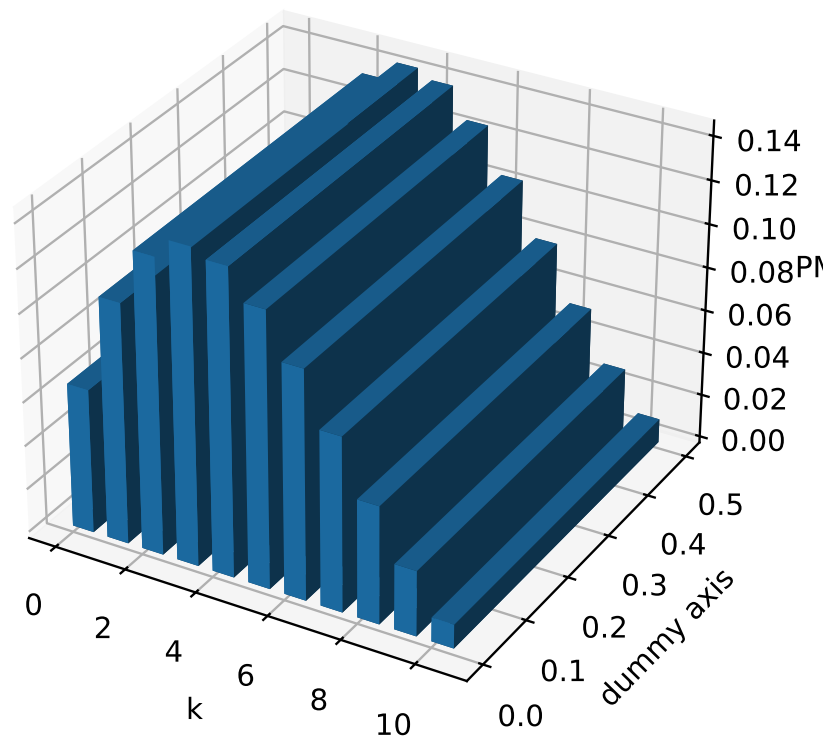


Figure 45: 3D bar chart of Beta-binomial(n, α, β) PMF.

46 Categorical Distribution

For K categories with probabilities p_i ,

$$P(X = i) = p_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^K p_i = 1.$$

Categorical $p=[0.2, 0.5, 0.3]$

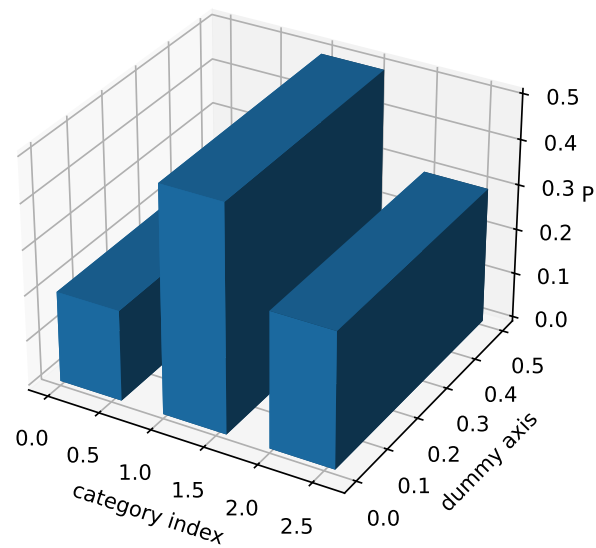


Figure 46: 3D bar chart of a Categorical distribution.

47 Multinomial Distribution

Generalizing Binomial to K categories:

$$P(X_1 = k_1, \dots, X_K = k_K) = \frac{n!}{k_1! \dots k_K!} \prod_{i=1}^K p_i^{k_i}, \quad \sum k_i = n.$$

Multinomial($n=5$, $p=[0.3, 0.2, 0.5]$)

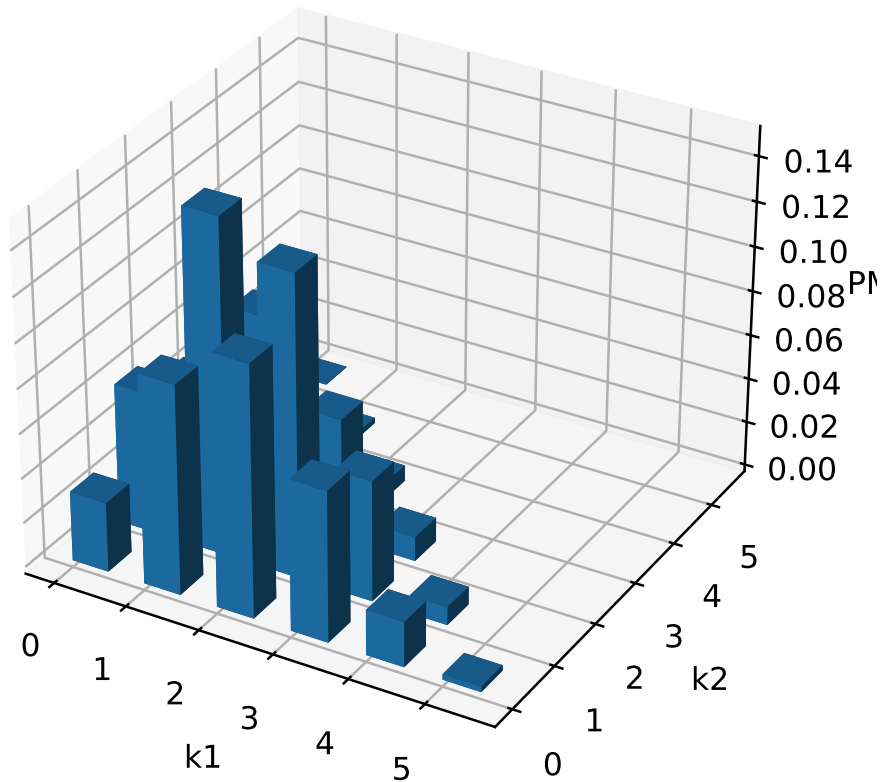


Figure 47: 3D bar chart of Multinomial(n, p_1, \dots, p_K) PMF for $K = 3$.

48 Multivariate Hypergeometric Distribution

A generalization of Hypergeometric to multiple categories. With K_i items in category i ,

$$P(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{k}) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^K \binom{K_i}{k_i}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^K k_i = n.$$

Multivariate Hypergeometric($K=[4, 5, 6]$, $n=5$)

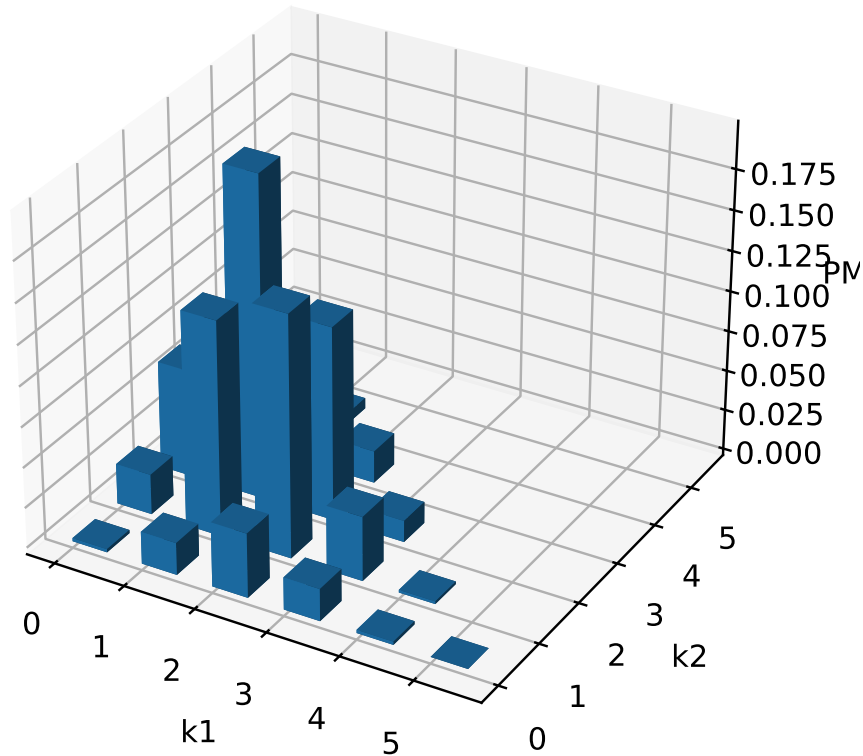


Figure 48: 3D bar chart for the Multivariate Hypergeometric distribution with $K = 3$.

49 Poisson Distribution

A $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ distribution:

$$P(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$\text{Poisson}(\text{lambda}=3.0)$

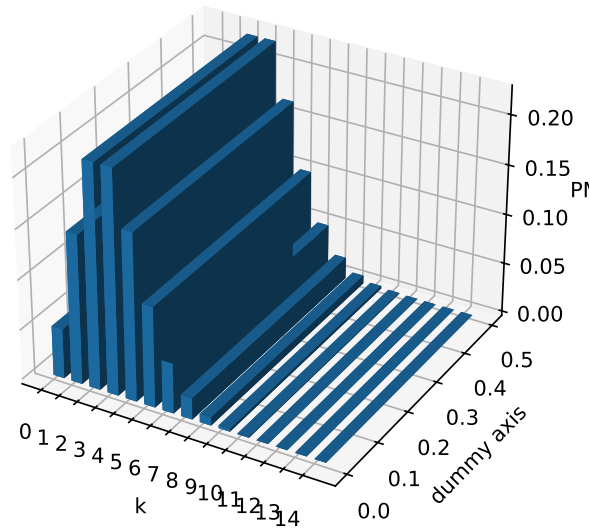


Figure 49: 3D bar chart of $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ PMF.

50 Gamma Distribution

With shape α and rate β :

$$f(x) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta x}, \quad x > 0.$$

Gamma(alpha=2.0, beta=1.0)

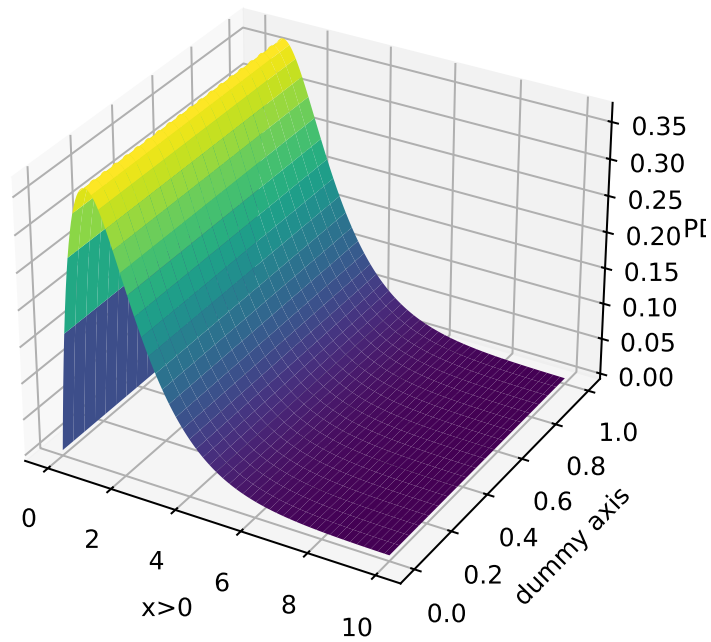


Figure 50: 3D surface plot of Gamma(α, β) PDF.

51 Rayleigh Distribution

Rayleigh(σ):

$$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}\right), \quad r \geq 0.$$

Rayleigh(sigma=1.0)

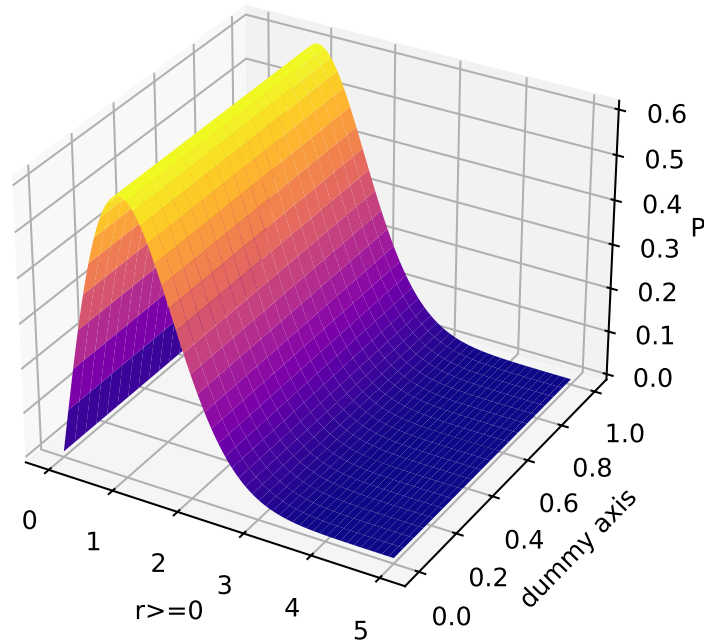


Figure 51: 3D surface plot of Rayleigh(σ) PDF.

52 Rice (Rician) Distribution

$\text{Rice}(\nu, \sigma)$:

$$f(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2 + \nu^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{r\nu}{\sigma^2}\right), \quad r \geq 0.$$

$\text{Rice}(\text{sigma}=1.0, \text{nu}=1.0)$

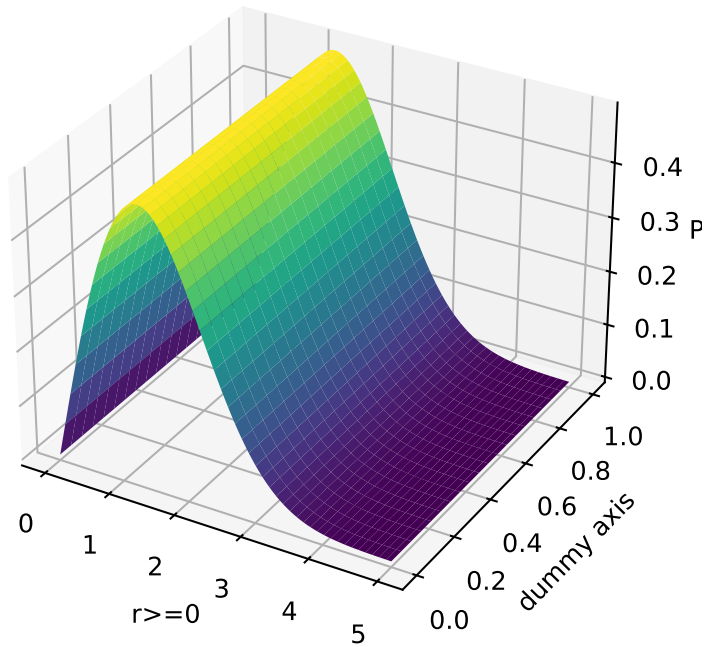


Figure 52: 3D surface plot of $\text{Rice}(\nu, \sigma)$ PDF.

53 Chi-squared Distribution

Chi-squared with k degrees of freedom:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2^{k/2}\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} x^{\frac{k}{2}-1} e^{-x/2}, \quad x > 0.$$

Chi-squared(k=3)

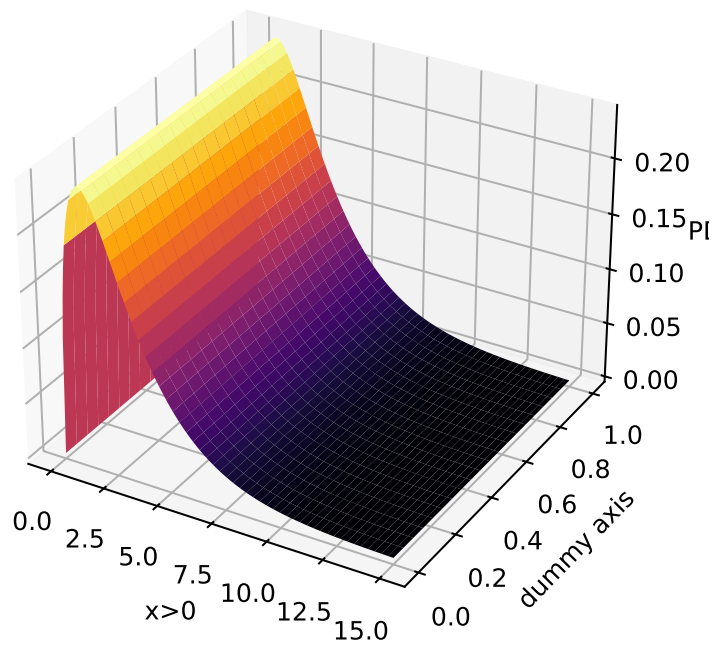


Figure 53: 3D surface plot of Chi-squared(k) PDF.

54 Student's t Distribution

With ν degrees of freedom:

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{\nu+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\nu\pi}\Gamma(\frac{\nu}{2})} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-\frac{\nu+1}{2}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Student's t(nu=3)

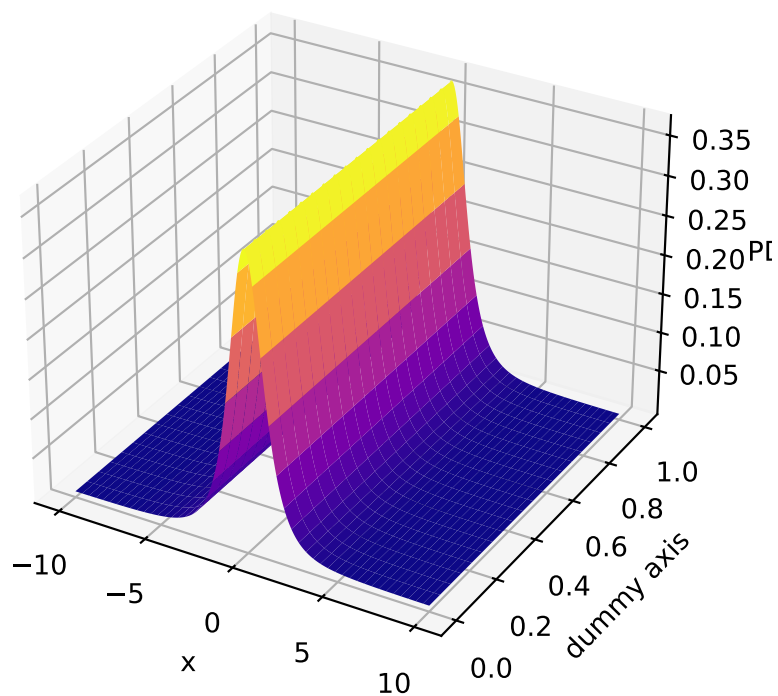


Figure 54: 3D surface plot of Student's $t(\nu)$ PDF.

55 F-distribution

With degrees of freedom d_1, d_2 :

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{(d_1 x)^{d_1} d_2^{d_2}}{(d_1 x + d_2)^{d_1 + d_2}}}}{x B\left(\frac{d_1}{2}, \frac{d_2}{2}\right)}, \quad x > 0.$$

F-distribution(d1=5, d2=8)

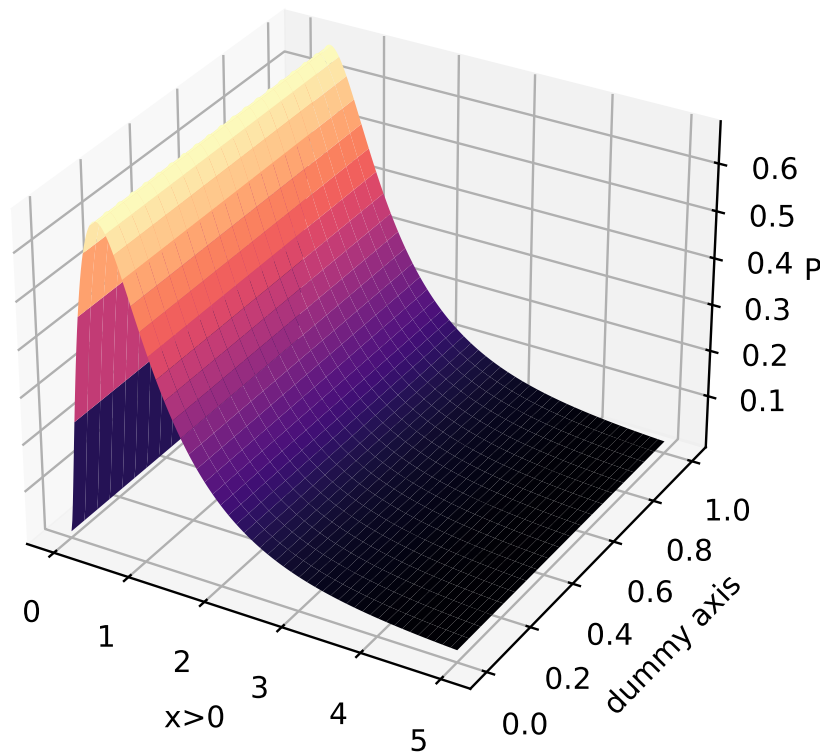


Figure 55: 3D surface plot of $F(d_1, d_2)$ PDF.

56 Beta Distribution

With parameters α, β on $[0, 1]$:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}}{B(\alpha, \beta)}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Beta(alpha=2, beta=3)

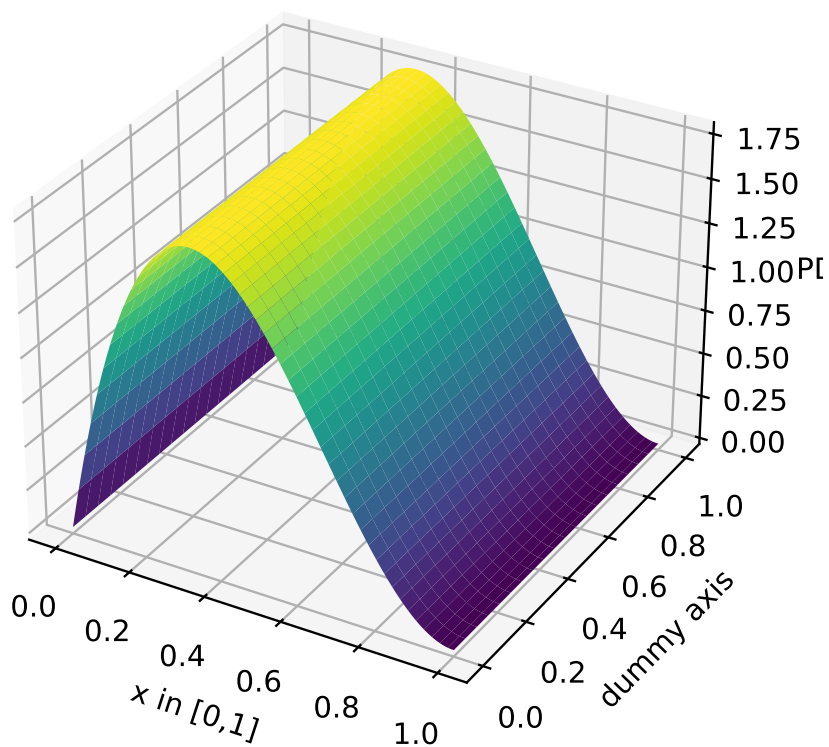


Figure 56: 3D surface plot of Beta(α, β) PDF.

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A distribution over the probability simplex $x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_K = 1, x_i \geq 0$:

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Dirichlet(alpha=[2, 3, 4]), 2-simplex

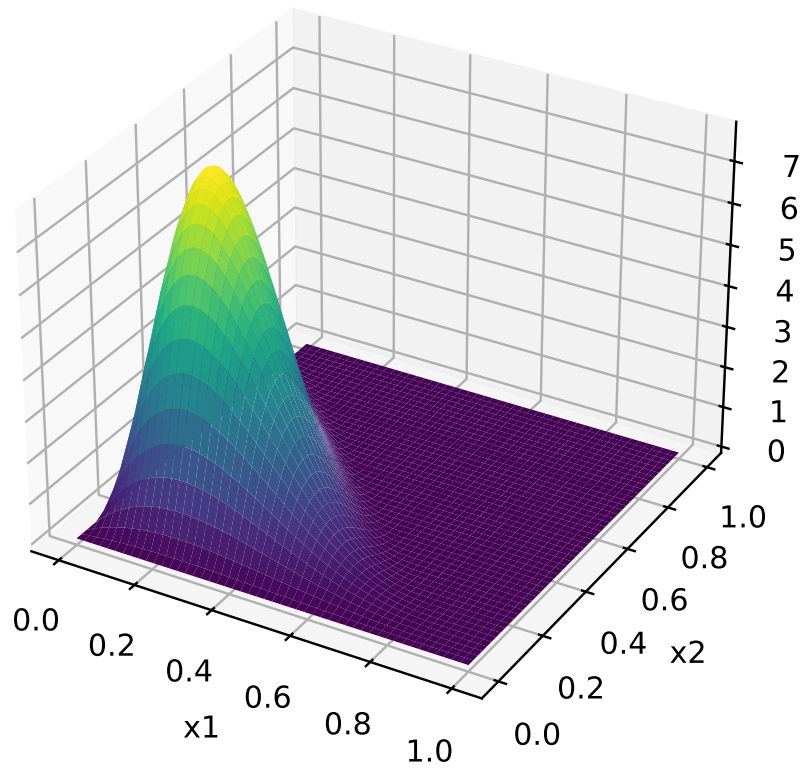


Figure 57: 3D surface plot of $\text{Dirichlet}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ along 2-simplex.

58 Wishart Distribution (Placeholder Slice)

The Wishart distribution is matrix-valued. For a $p \times p$ positive-definite matrix \mathbf{W} :

$$f(\mathbf{W}) \propto \det(\mathbf{W})^{\frac{\nu-p-1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{W})\right).$$

Here, we show a *slice* for a 2×2 Wishart (diagonal only), as a demonstration:

Wishart(2x2, I, nu=3) [diagonal slice]

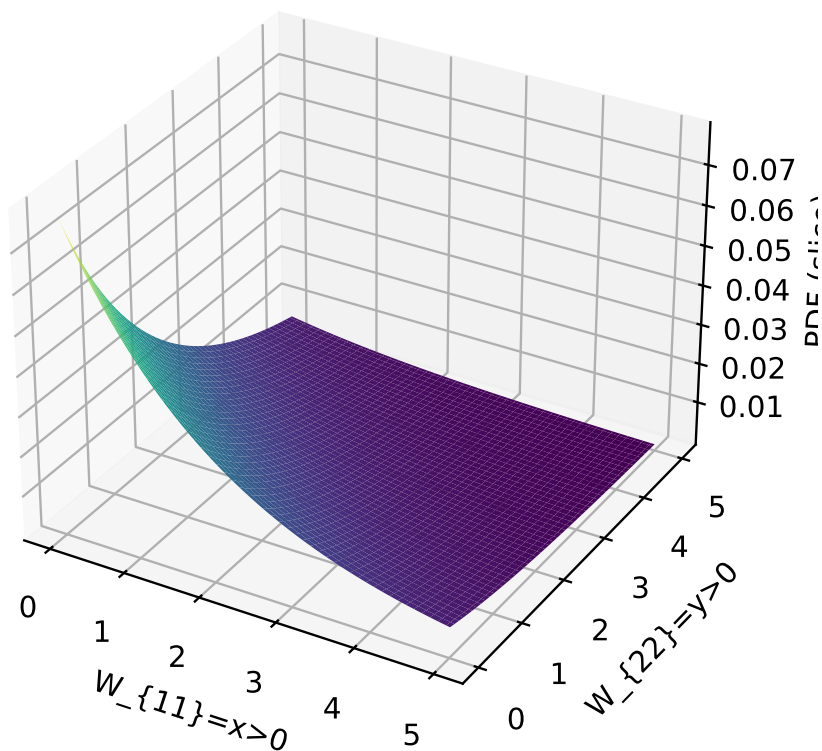


Figure 58: A 3D “slice” of $\text{Wishart}(\nu, \Sigma = I)$ in 2D, restricting \mathbf{W} to diagonal.