



# Algorithmic Analysis

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# Learning Goals

1. Be able to compute conditional Expectation
2. Solve problems using the Law of Total Expectation
3. Use Conditional Expectation for Algorithmic Analysis



Def: Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x xP(X = x|Y = y)$$

Def: Law of Total Expectation

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)$$

<review>

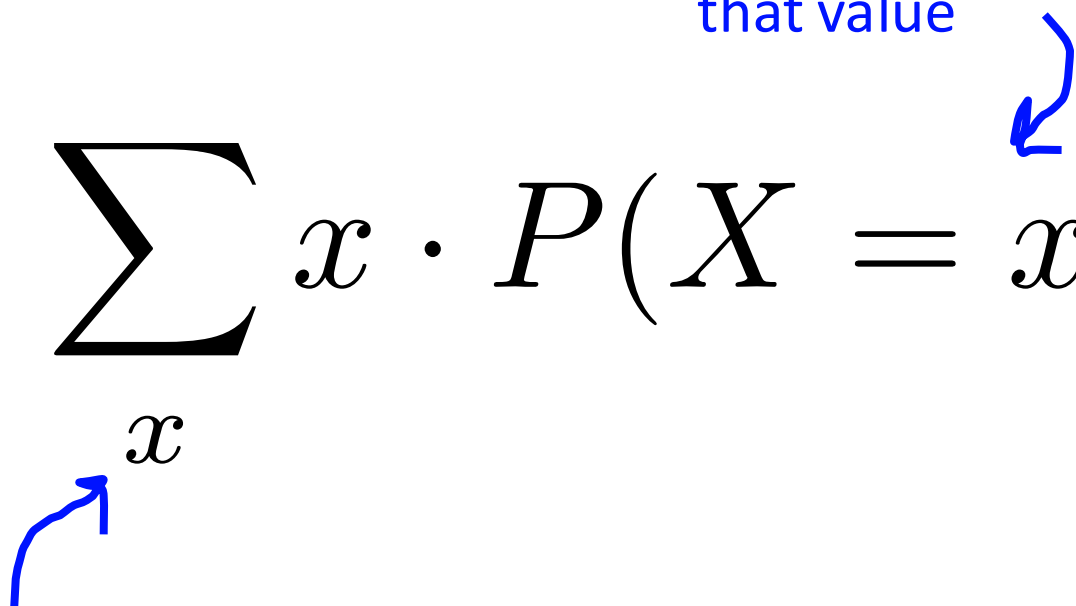
# Expectation

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$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$

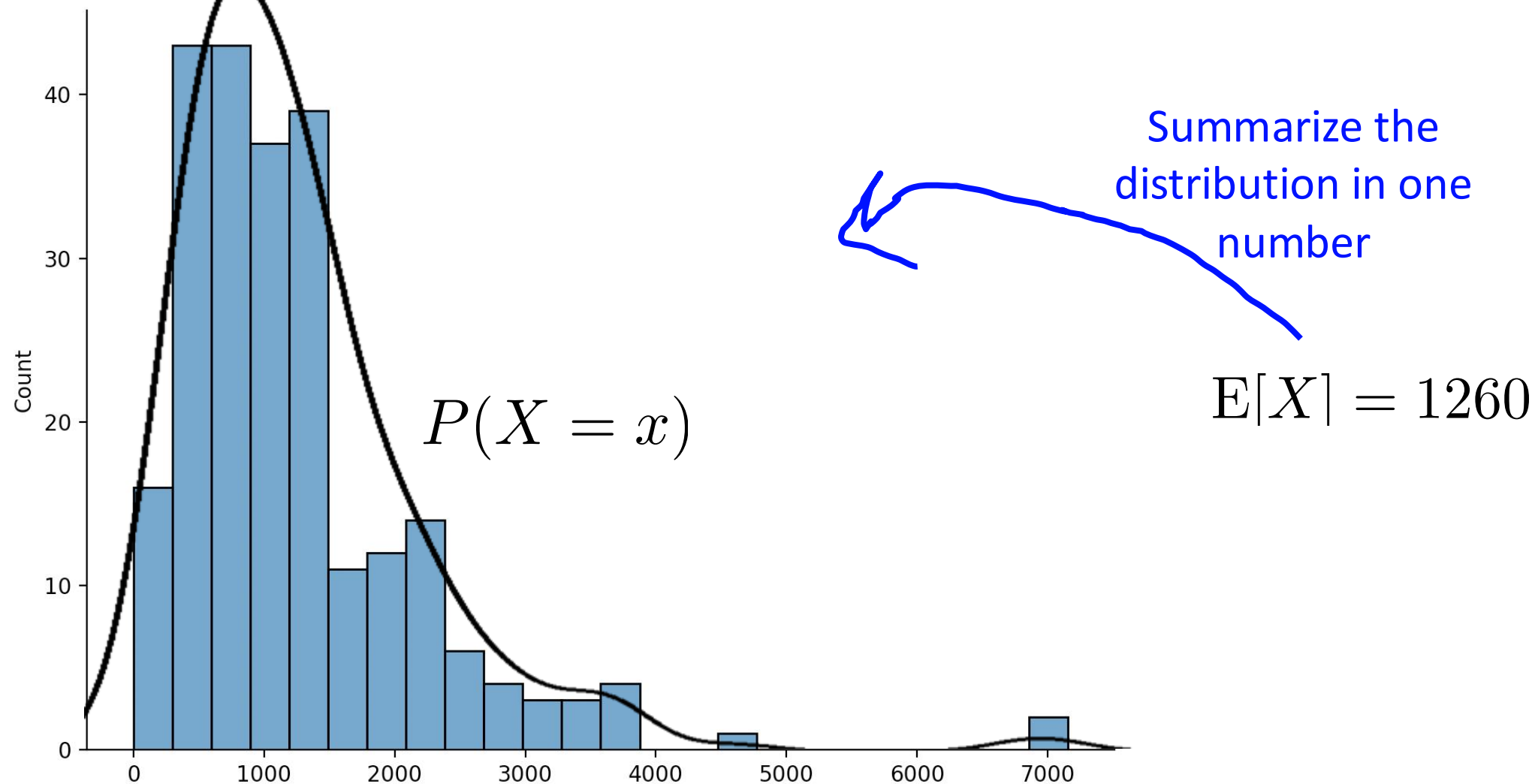
The probability that  $X$  takes on that value

All the values that  $X$  can take on



# Limitation of Expectation

$X$  = time to complete the medical diagnosis problem (in seconds)



# Expectation of a Sum

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$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

**Generalized:**

$$E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i]$$

Holds regardless of dependency between  $X_i$ 's

# Expectation of a Function

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Law of unconscious statistician

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x) \cdot P(X = x)$$

So for example...

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \sum_x x^2 \cdot P(X = x)$$



End Review

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Four practice examples to warm us up



# Bool was Cool

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Let  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  be events with indicator RVs  $X_i$

- If event  $E_i$  occurs, then  $X_i = 1$ , else  $X_i = 0$
- Recall  $E[X_i] = P(E_i)$

- Why?

$$E[X_i] = 0 \cdot (1 - P(E_i)) + 1 \cdot P(E_i)$$

Bernoulli aka Indicator Random Variables were studied extensively by George Boole

Boole died of being too cool





# Differential Privacy

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Aims to provide means to **maximize the accuracy** of probabilistic queries while minimizing the **probability** of identifying its records.



Cynthia Dwork's celebrity lookalike is Cynthia Dwork.



# Differential Privacy

100 independent values  $X_1 \dots X_{100}$  where  $X_i \sim \text{Bern}(p)$

$Y_i$   
What is  
returned

# Maximize accuracy, while preserving privacy.

**def** calculateYi(Xi):

obfuscate = random()

**if** obfuscate:

**return** indicator(random())

**else**:

**return** Xi

random() returns True or  
False with equal likelihood

# Differential Privacy

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What is  $E[Y_i]$ ?

---

$$E[Y_i] = P(Y_i = 1) = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$$

# Differential Privacy

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Let  $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{100} Y_i$

What is  $E[Z]$ ?

$$E[Z] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{100} Y_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{100} E[Y_i] = \sum_{i=1}^{100} \left(\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{4}\right) = 50p + 25$$

# Differential Privacy

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$Y_i$   
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random() returns True or  
False with equal likelihood

Let  $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{100} Y_i$   $E[Z] = 50p + 25$  How do you estimate  $p$ ?

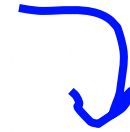
$$p \approx \frac{Z - 25}{50}$$

Challenge: What is the probability that our estimate is good?

# Differential Privacy

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Story which continues to unfold...



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## Generalization in Adaptive Data Analysis and Holdout Reuse\*

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**Cynthia Dwork**  
Microsoft Research

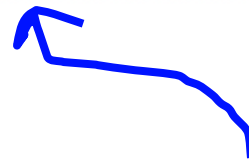
**Vitaly Feldman**  
IBM Almaden Research Center<sup>†</sup>

**Moritz Hardt**  
Google Research

**Toniann Pitassi**  
University of Toronto

**Omer Reingold**  
Samsung Research America

**Aaron Roth**  
University of Pennsylvania



Professor at Stanford



# What is Amazon?

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# Cape Town, 2006



# What is Amazon?

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\* ~~52%~~ 74% of Amazons Profits

\*\*More profitable than Amazon's North  
America commerce operations

<https://www.fool.com/investing/2022/07/07/aws-chief-says-amazons-most-profitable-segment-is/>

# Computer Cluster Utilization

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Computer cluster with  $k$  servers

- Requests independently go to server  $i$  with probability  $p_i$
- Let event  $A_i$  = server  $i$  receives no requests
- $X$  = # of events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  that occur
- $E[X]$  after first  $n$  requests?

Since  $X$  is an expectation,  
can you express it as a  
sum?

- 
- Let Bernoulli  $B_i$  be an **indicator** for  $A_i$
  - Since requests independent:

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^k B_i$$

$$P(A_i) = (1 - p_i)^n$$

$$E[X] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^k B_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^k E[B_i] = \sum_{i=1}^k P(A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^k (1 - p_i)^n$$



When stuck, brainstorm  
about random variables





# Toy Collection

You are trying to collect  $n$  distinct toys

- Each purchase, each toy is equally likely
  - Let  $X$  = # purchases until you have  $\geq 1$  of each toy. What is  $E[X]$ ?
- 

Let  $X_i$  = # of **trials to get success after  $i$ -th success** where “success” is getting an unseen toy.

$$X = X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_{n-1} \Rightarrow E[X] = E[X_0] + E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_{n-1}]$$

After  $i$  successes, the probability of the next success is  $p = (n - i) / n$

$$X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p = (n - i) / n)$$

$$E[X_i] = 1 / p = n / (n - i)$$

$$E[X] = \frac{n}{n} + \frac{n}{n-1} + \frac{n}{n-2} + \dots + \frac{n}{1} = n \left[ \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n-1} + \dots + 1 \right] = O(n \log n)$$





# Conditional Expectation

# Conditional Expectation

---

X and Y are discrete random variables:

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x xP(X = x|Y = y)$$



Analogously, continuous random variables:

$$E[X|Y = y] = \int_x xP(X = x|Y = y)$$



# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

Roll two 6-sided dice  $D_1$  and  $D_2$

- $X = \text{value of } D_1 + D_2$        $Y = \text{value of } D_2$
- What is  $E[X | Y = 6]$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} E[X | Y = 6] &= \sum_x x P(X = x | Y = 6) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)(7 + 8 + 9 + 10 + 11 + 12) = \frac{57}{6} = 9.5 \end{aligned}$$

- Intuitively makes sense:  $6 + E[\text{value of } D_1] = 6 + 3.5$

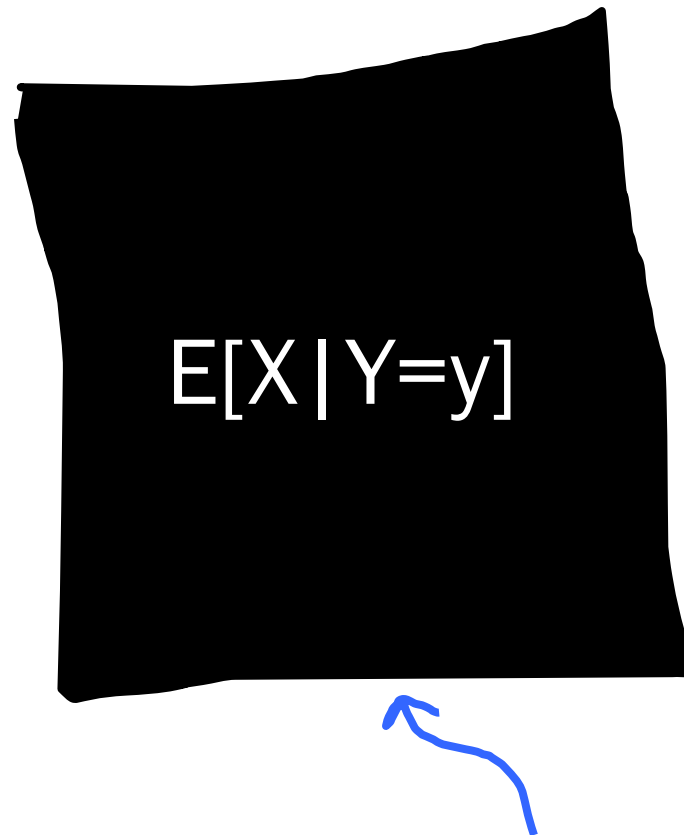
# Conditional Expectation as a Function

# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

Define  $g(Y) = E[X | Y]$

This is a function of  $Y$



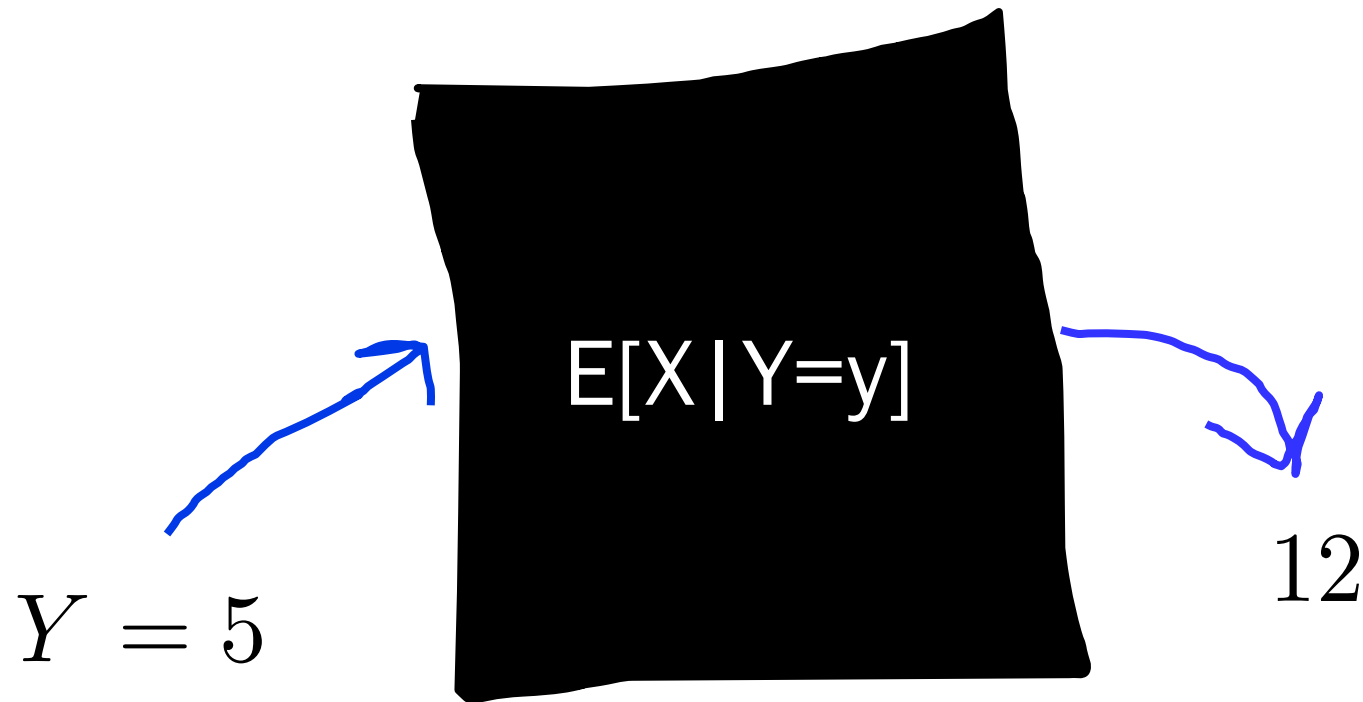
This is a function with  $Y$  as input

# Conditional Expectation

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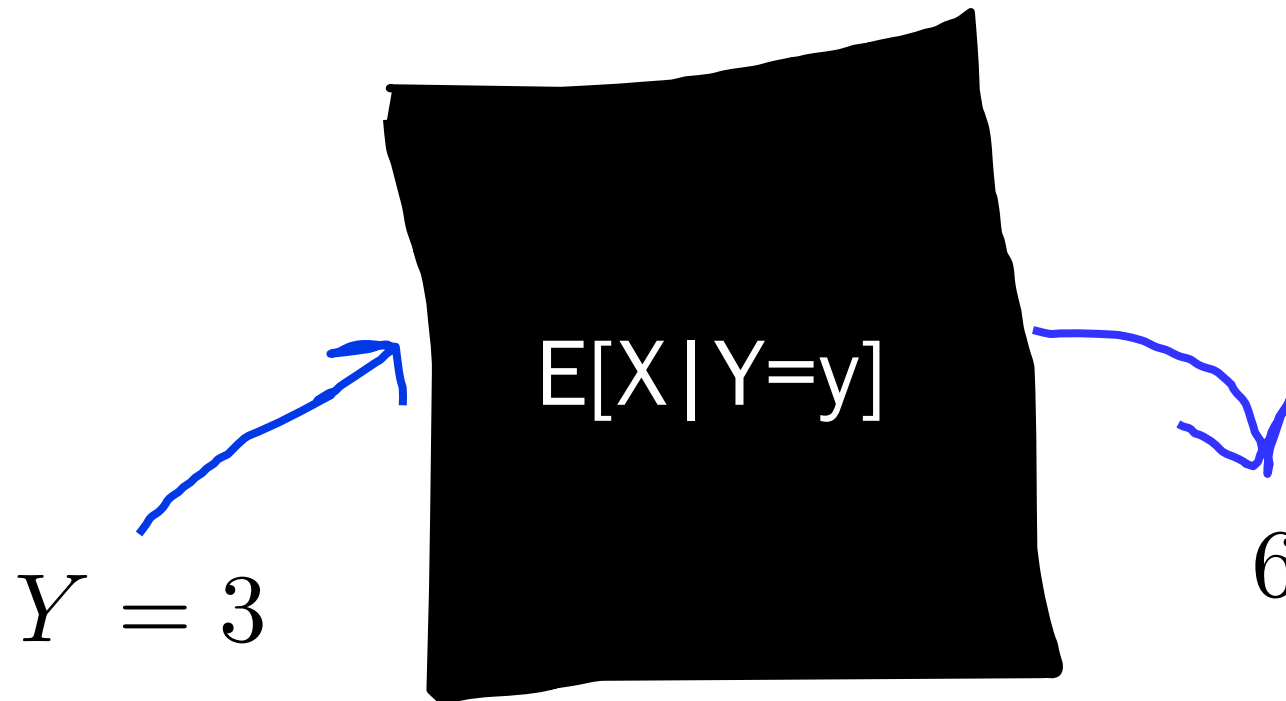


# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

Define  $g(Y) = E[X | Y]$

This is a function of  $Y$



# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

This is a number:

$$E[X]$$



This is a function of  $y$ :

$$E[X|Y = y]$$

$$E[X = 5]$$

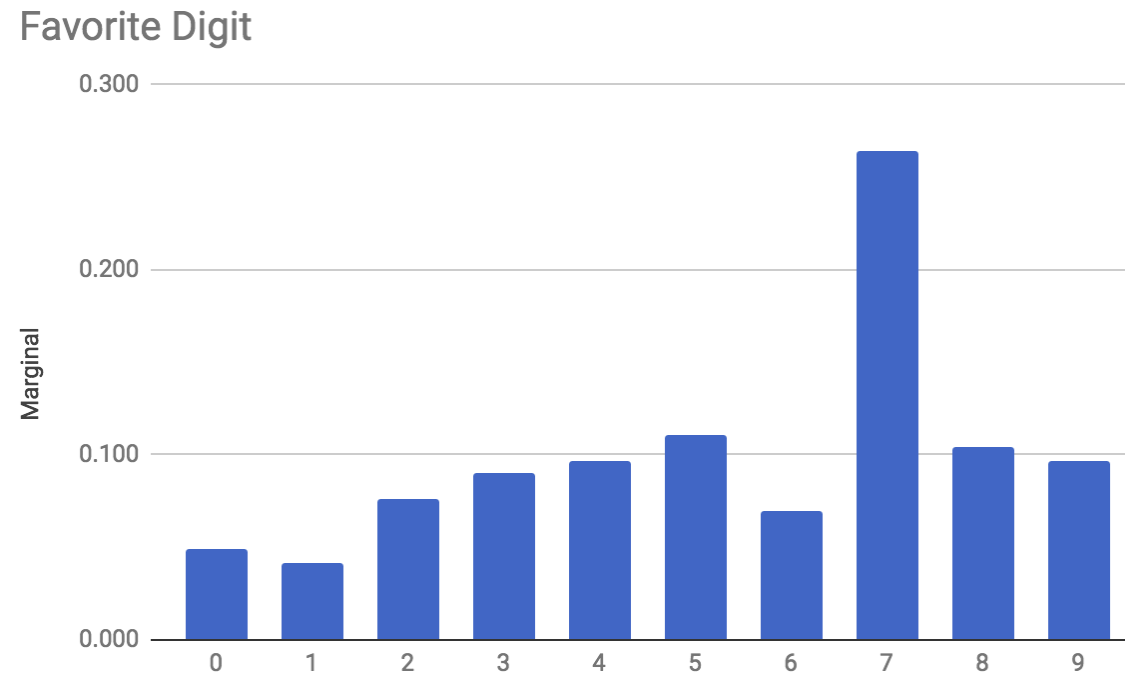
Doesn't make sense. Take expectation of random variables, not events



# Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

X = favorite number  
Y = year in school



$$E[X] = 0 * 0.05 + \dots + 9 * 0.10 = 5.38$$

# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

$X$  = favorite number

$Y$  = year in school

$$E[X | Y] ?$$

Year in school, $Y = y$	$E[X   Y = y]$
2	5.5
3	5.8
4	6.0
5	4.7

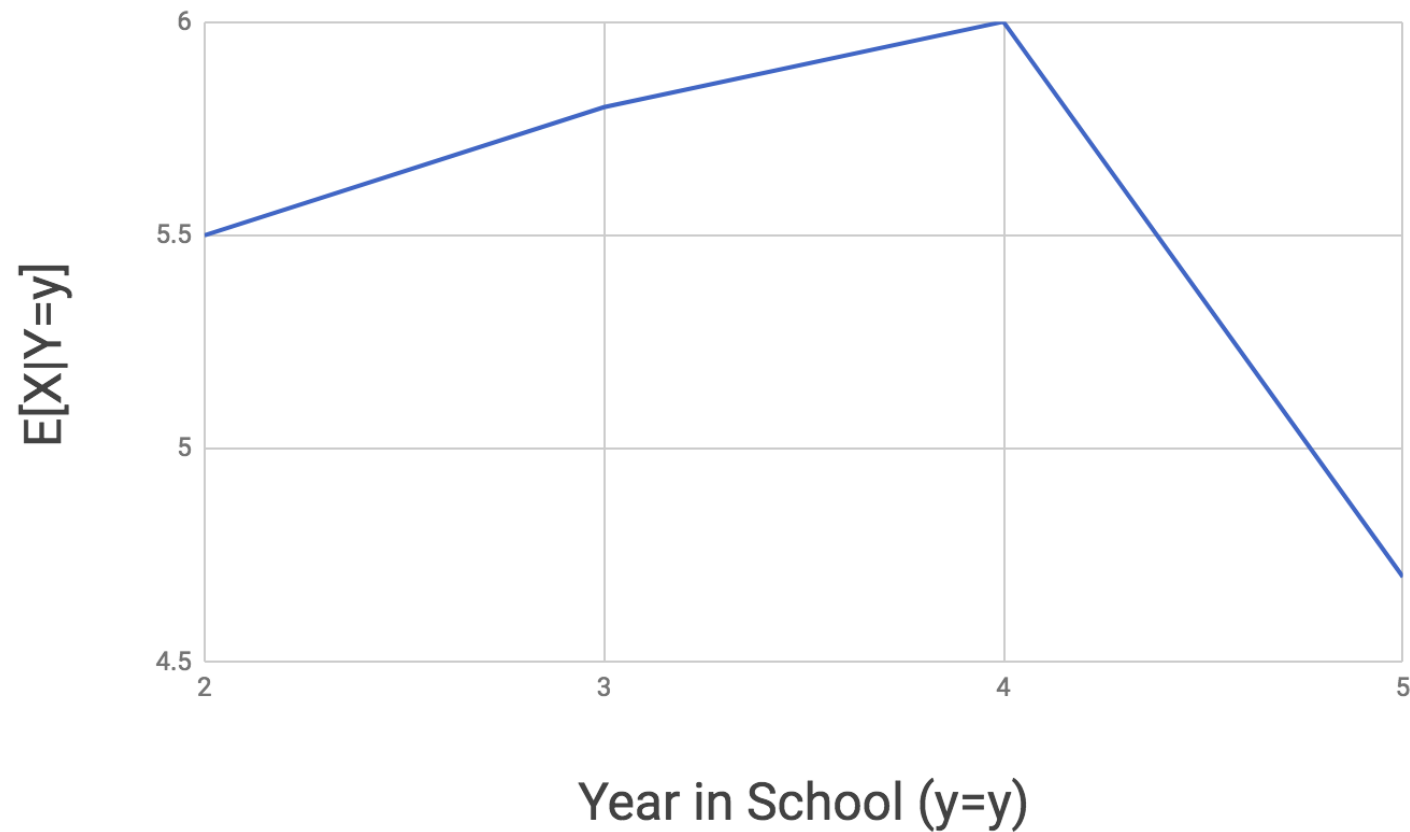
# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

$X$  = favorite number

$Y$  = year in school

$E[X | Y] ?$

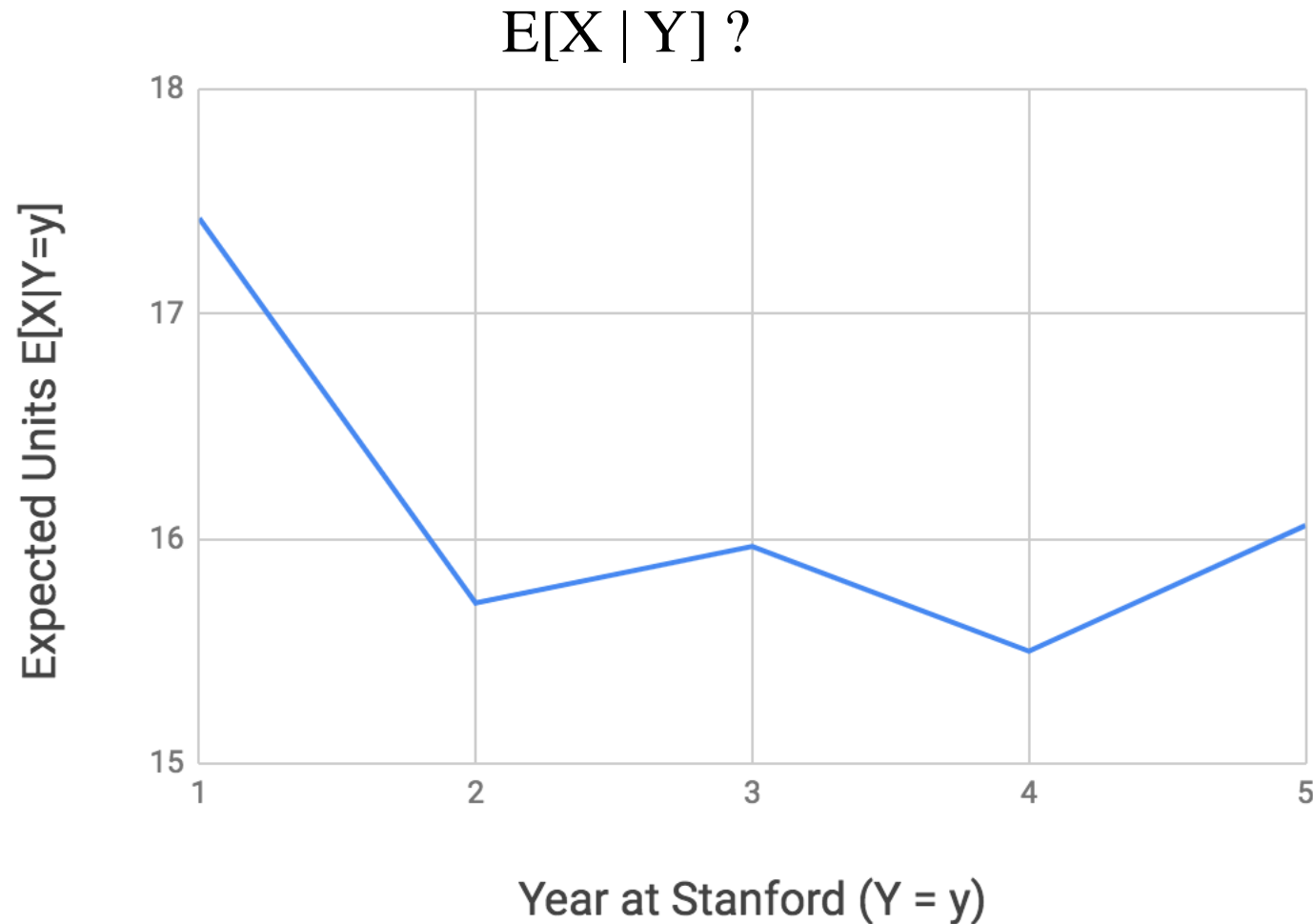


# Conditional Expectation

$$E[X|Y = y] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x|Y = y)$$

X = units in fall quarter

Y = year in school



Want to see something cool?

# What the heck does this give you?

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$$\sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)$$



# Law of Total Expectation

---

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)?$$

$$\sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y) = \sum_y \sum_x xP(X = x|Y = y)P(Y = y) \quad \text{Def of } E[X|Y]$$

# Law of Total Expectation

---

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)?$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y) &= \sum_y \sum_x xP(X = x|Y = y)P(Y = y) && \text{Def of } E[X|Y] \\ &= \sum_y \sum_x xP(X = x, Y = y) && \text{Chain rule!}\end{aligned}$$

# Law of Total Expectation

---

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)?$$

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$$= \sum_y \sum_x xP(X = x, Y = y) \quad \text{Chain rule!}$$

$$= \sum_x \sum_y xP(X = x, Y = y) \quad \text{I switch the order of the sums}$$

# Law of Total Expectation

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$$= \sum_x xP(X = x) \quad \text{Marginalization}$$

# Law of Total Expectation

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)?$$

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$$= \sum_x xP(X = x) \quad \text{Marginalization}$$

$$= E[X] \quad \text{Def of } E[X]$$



# Law of Total Expectation

# Law of Total Expectation

---



For any discrete random variable  $X$   
and any discrete random variable  $Y$

$$E[X] = \sum_y E[X|Y = y]P(Y = y)$$

Recall the Law of Total Probability

$$P(X = x) = \sum_y P(X = x|Y = y)P(Y = y)$$

# NETFLIX

(The Streaming Part)

# How long does this code take to run?

---

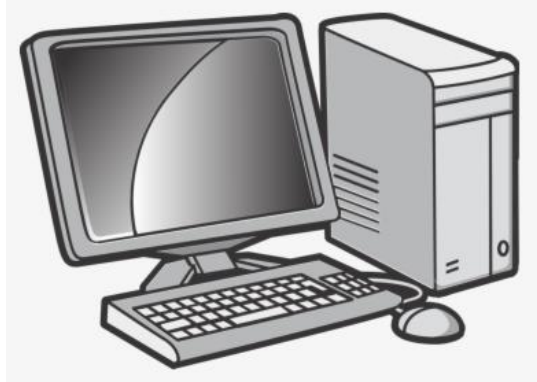
Netflix streams millions of hours of videos per day. They REALLY care about the speed of the following code:

```
database.get_movie(movie_name)
```

How long does this line of code take? Say 512 MB movie.

# How long does this code take to run?

---



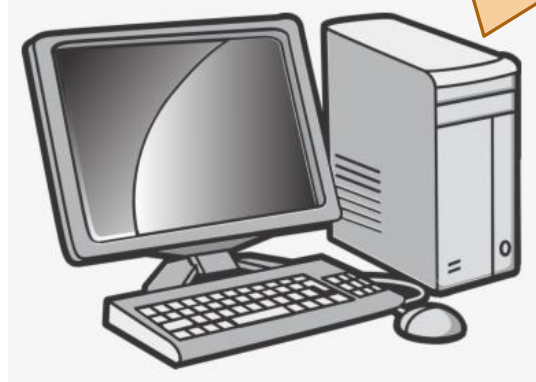
`database.get_movie(movie_name)`

1. 0.3s
2. 1.6 mins
3. 5 mins
4. 2 hours

# Millisecond Latency

---

Its in Palo Alto

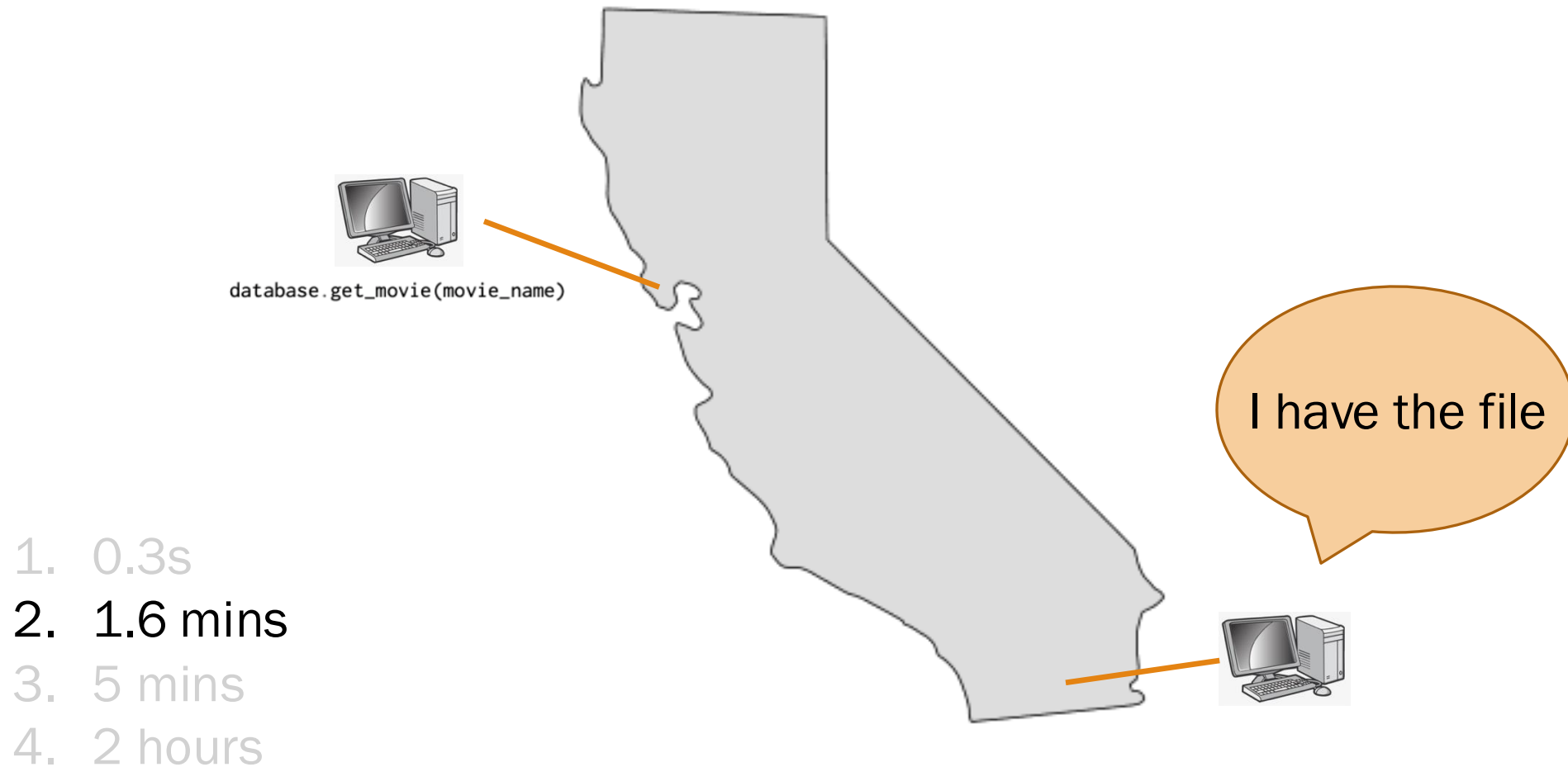


`database.get_movie(movie_name)`

1. 0.3s
2. 1.6 mins
3. 5 mins
4. 2 hours



# Minute Latency



# Many Minutes Latency

`database.get_movie(movie_name)`



私はファイルを持っています



1. 0.3s
2. 1.6 mins
3. 5 mins
4. 2 hours

# Are we done?

---

```
database.get_movie(movie_name)
```



5mins across the world!!!!!!

2 hours



```
database.get_movie(movie_name)
```



Expected Run Time

# Expected runtime

Location, $l$	$E[\text{Runtime} \mid \text{Location} = l]$	$P(\text{Location} = l)$
Palo Alto	0.3s	0.10
SoCal	1.6s	0.50
Japan	300.0s	0.37
Space	7200.0s	0.03

Let Location ( $L$  for short) be the location where the movie file is stored

What is the expected runtime of `database.get_movie(movie_name)`

Using the Law of Total Expectation

$$\begin{aligned} E[\text{Runtime}] &= E[\text{Runtime} \mid L = \text{Palo Alto}] \cdot P(L = \text{Palo Alto}) \\ &\quad + E[\text{Runtime} \mid L = \text{SoCal}] \cdot P(L = \text{SoCal}) \\ &\quad + E[\text{Runtime} \mid L = \text{Japan}] \cdot P(L = \text{Japan}) \\ &\quad + E[\text{Runtime} \mid L = \text{Space}] \cdot P(L = \text{Space}) = 327s \end{aligned}$$



Analyze Recursive Code

# Analyzing Recursive Code

```
int Recurse() {  
    int x = randomInt(1, 3); // Equally likely values  
  
    if (x == 1) return 3;  
    else if (x == 2) return (5 + Recurse());  
    else return (7 + Recurse());  
}
```

Let  $Y$  = value returned by `Recurse()`. What is  $E[Y]$ ?

$$E[Y] = E[Y | X = 1]P(X = 1) + E[Y | X = 2]P(X = 2) + E[Y | X = 3]P(X = 3)$$

$$E[Y | X = 1] = 3$$

$$E[Y | X = 2] = E[5 + Y] = 5 + E[Y]$$

$$E[Y | X = 3] = E[7 + Y] = 7 + E[Y]$$

$$E[Y] = 3(1/3) + (5 + E[Y])(1/3) + (7 + E[Y])(1/3) = (1/3)(15 + 2E[Y])$$

$$E[Y] = 15$$

If we have time...

# Hiring an Engineer

Your company has **one job opening** for a software engineer.

You have  **$n$**  candidates. But you have to say yes/no **immediately** after each interview!

Proposed algorithm: reject the first  **$k$**  and accept the next one who is better than all of them.

What's the best value of  **$k$** ?



Aka The Secretary Problem  
Aka The Optimal Stopping Problem  
Aka The Marriage Problem

# Hiring and Engineer

$n$  candidates, must say yes/no **immediately** after each interview.  
Reject the first  $k$ , accept the next who is better than all of them.  
What's the best value of  $k$ ?

**B**: event that you hire the best engineer

**X**: position of the best engineer on the interview schedule

---

What is the  $P(B|X = i)$ ?

# Hiring and Engineer

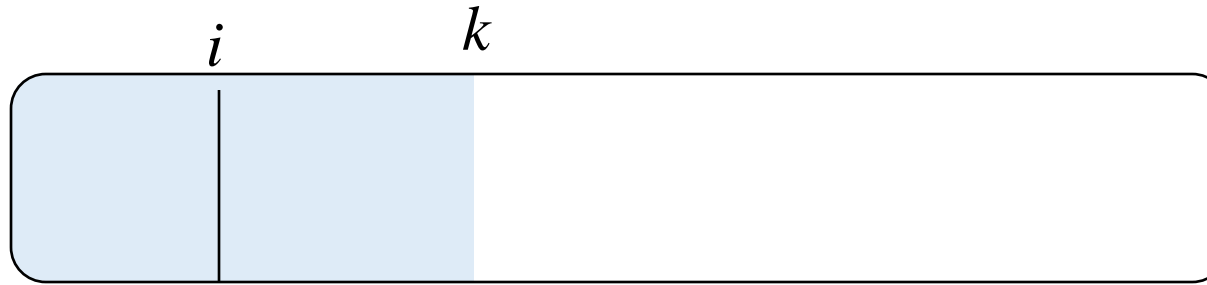
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Hint: where is the  
best among the first  
 $i - 1$  candidates?

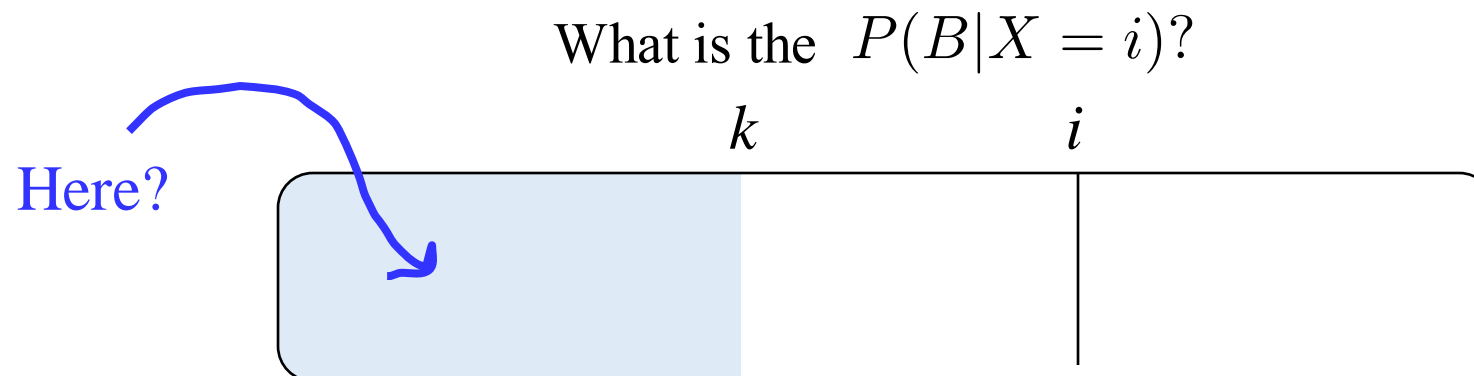


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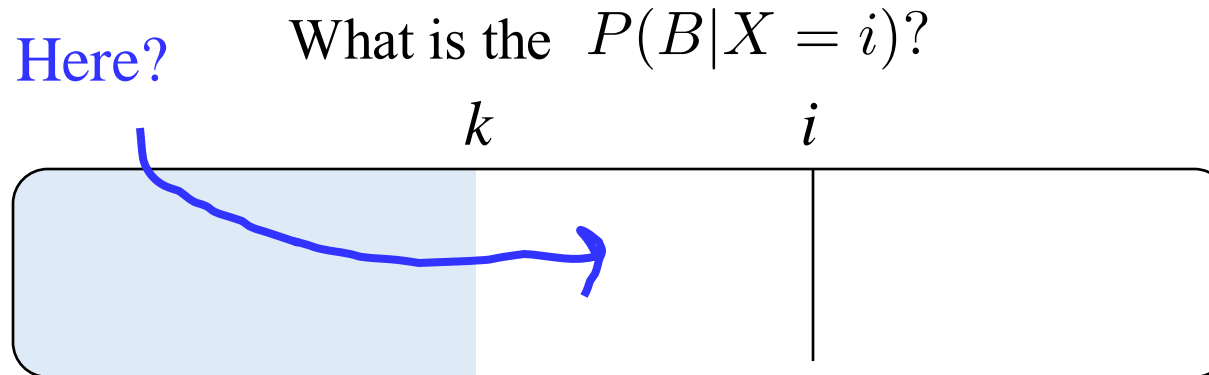


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# Hiring and Engineer

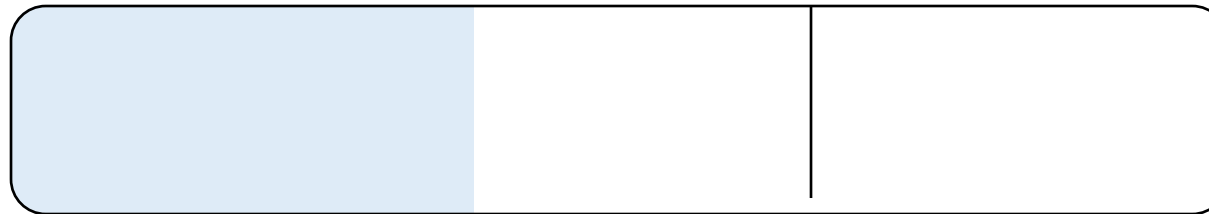
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What's the best value of  $k$ ?

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---

$$P(B|X = i) = \frac{k}{i-1} \text{ if } i > k$$



Hint: where is the  
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 $i - 1$  candidates?



# Hiring and Engineer

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What's the best value of  $k$ ?

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---

$$P_k(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P_k(B|X = i)P(X = i)$$

By the law of total expectation

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n P_k(B|X = i)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=k+1}^n \frac{k}{i-1}$$

since we know  $P_k(\text{Best}|X = i)$

$$\approx \frac{1}{n} \int_{i=k+1}^n \frac{k}{i-1} di$$

By Riemann Sum approximation

$$= \frac{k}{n} \ln(i-1) \Big|_{k+1}^n = \frac{k}{n} \ln \frac{n-1}{k} \approx \frac{k}{n} \ln \frac{n}{k}$$

# Hiring and Engineer

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What's the best value of  $k$ ?

**B**: event that you hire the best engineer

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---

$$P_k(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n P_k(B|X = i)P(X = i)$$

By the law of total expectation

$$\approx \frac{k}{n} \ln \frac{n}{k}$$

Fun fact. Optimized when:  $k = \frac{n}{e}$

# Uncertainty Theory

Beta  
Distributions

Thompson  
Sampling

Adding  
Random Vars

Central Limit  
Theorem

Sampling

Bootstrapping

Algorithmic  
Analysis

Information  
Theory

As requested by CS faculty






# Where are we in CS109?

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On Friday...

  
Counting  
Theory

  
Core  
Probability

$x_2$   
Random  
Variables

  
Probabilistic  
Models

  
Uncertainty  
Theory

  
Machine  
Learning