#### CS423: Probabilistic Programming

# Denotational Semantics of Probabilistic Programs

Hongseok Yang KAIST

```
(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
y (observe (normal x 1) 2)]
x)
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```
\begin{bmatrix} (\text{let } [x (\text{sample (normal 0 1)}) \\ y (\text{observe (normal x 1) 2})] \\ x) \end{bmatrix} = p(x | y=2)
```

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```
\begin{bmatrix} (\text{let } [x (\text{sample (normal 0 1)}) \\ y (\text{observe (normal x 1) 2})] \end{bmatrix} = p(x, y=2)
```

(or formal)

#### (or formal)

- 1. Specification of inference algorithms.
- 2. Compiler optimisation.
- 3. Detection of ill-defined models.
- 4. Clear meaning of complex models.

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- I. Specification of inference algorithms.
- 2. Compiler optimisation.
- 3. Detection of ill-defined models.
- 4. Clear meaning of complex models.

```
(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
x-pdf (normal-pdf x 0 1)
y (observe (exponential (/ 1 x-pdf)) 0)]
x)
```

```
(def lazy-samples (doquery :lmh example1 []))
def samples (map :result (take-nth 100 (take 500000 (drop 100000 lazy-samples)))))
(plot/histogram samples :normalize :probability)
                                                              5K samples
#'uppsala-pp17/lazy-samples
#'uppsala-pp17/samples
   0.10 -
   0.09 -
   0.08 -
   0.07 -
   0.06
   0.05
   0.04 -
   0.03
   0.02 -
   0.01 -
   0.00
                -3
                     -2
                           -1
                                                  3
```

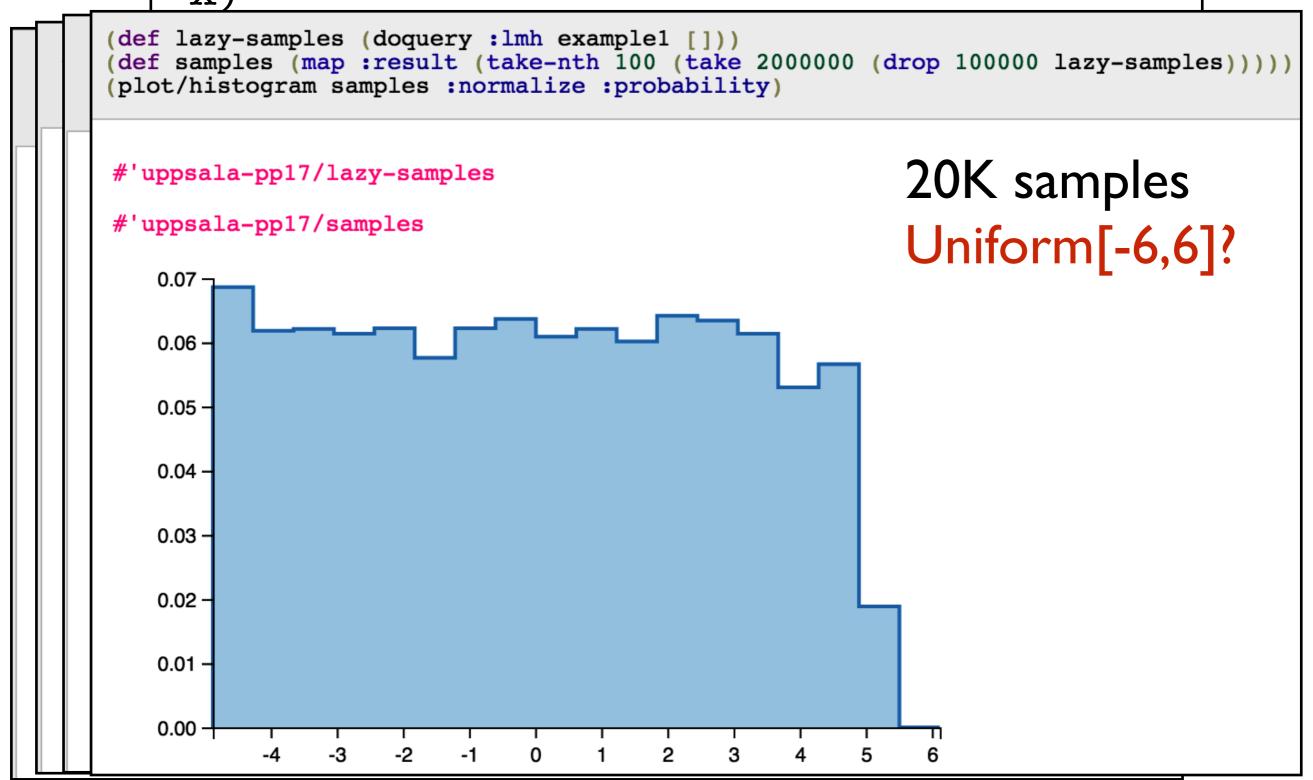
```
(def lazy-samples (doquery :lmh example1 []))
(def samples (map :result (take-nth 100 (take 1000000 (drop 100000 lazy-samples)))))
(plot/histogram samples :normalize :probability)
                                                               10K samples
#'uppsala-pp17/lazy-samples
#'uppsala-pp17/samples
   0.09
   0.08
   0.07 -
   0.06 -
   0.05 -
   0.04 -
   0.03 -
   0.02 -
   0.01 -
   0.00 -
                 -3
                      -2
```

```
(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
x-pdf (normal-pdf x 0 1)
y (observe (exponential (/ 1 x-pdf)) 0)]
x)
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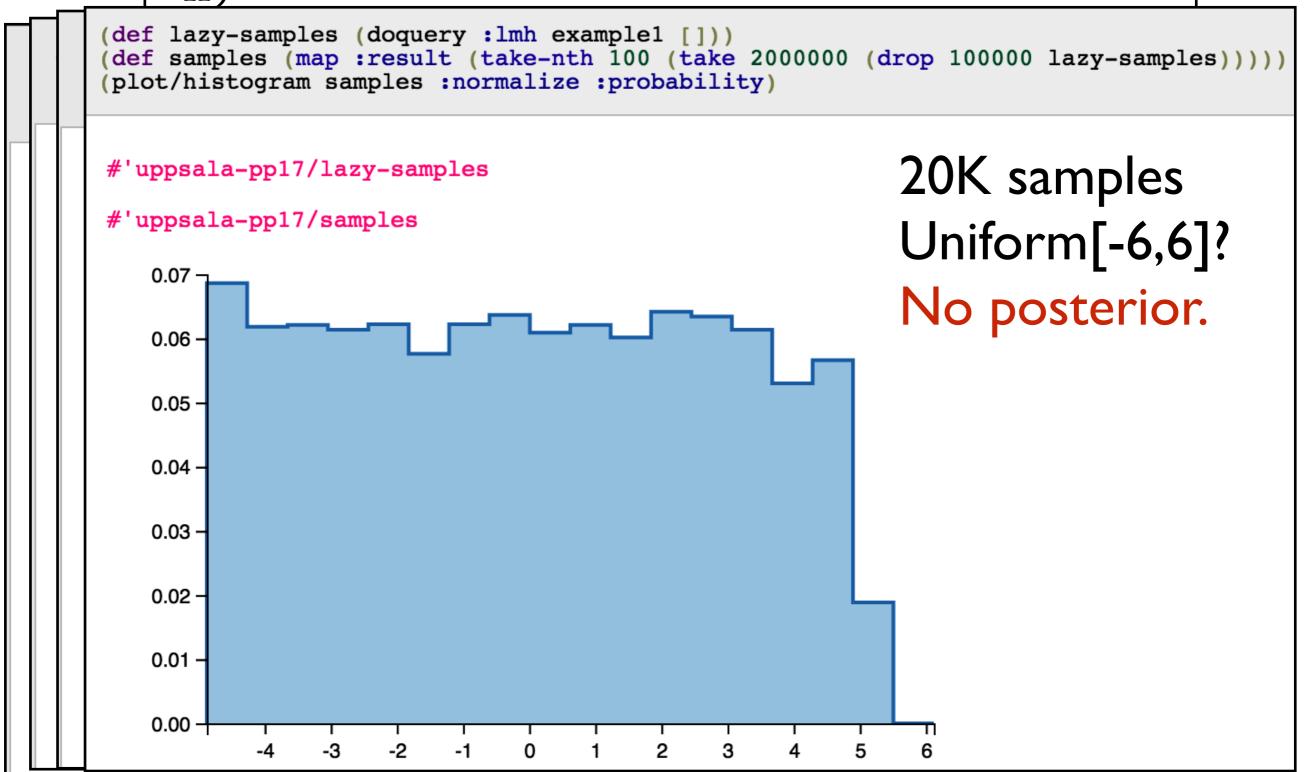
```
(def lazy-samples (doquery :lmh example1 []))
(def samples (map :result (take-nth 100 (take 1500000 (drop 100000 lazy-samples)))))
(plot/histogram samples :normalize :probability)
                                                              15K samples
#'uppsala-pp17/lazy-samples
#'uppsala-pp17/samples
   0.09 -
   0.08
   0.07 -
   0.06 -
   0.05 -
   0.04 -
   0.03 -
   0.02 -
   0.01 -
   0.00 -
```

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(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
x-pdf (normal-pdf x 0 1)
y (observe (exponential (/ 1 x-pdf)) 0)]
x)
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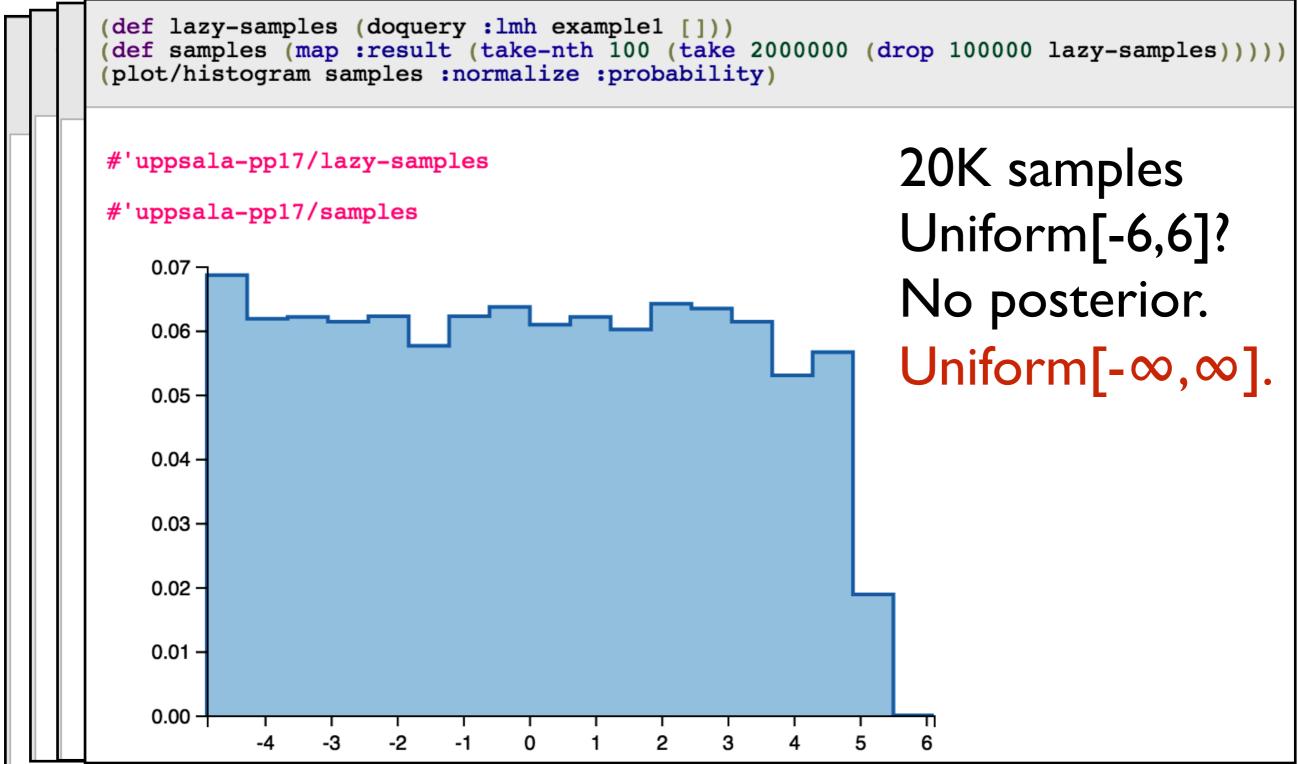
```
(def lazy-samples (doquery :lmh example1 []))
def samples (map :result (take-nth 100 (take 2000000 (drop 100000 lazy-samples)))))
(plot/histogram samples :normalize :probability)
                                                            20K samples
#'uppsala-pp17/lazy-samples
#'uppsala-pp17/samples
   0.07 -
   0.06 -
   0.05 -
   0.04 -
   0.03 -
   0.02 -
   0.01
   0.00 -
                     -2
                          -1
                                0
```



```
(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
x-pdf (normal-pdf x 0 1)
y (observe (exponential (/ 1 x-pdf)) 0)]
x)
```



```
(let [x (sample (normal 0 1))
x-pdf (normal-pdf x 0 1)
y (observe (exponential (/ 1 x-pdf)) 0)]
x)
```



```
p(x) = normal-pdf(x;0,1)
```

```
p(x) = normal-pdf(x;0,I)

p(y=0|x) = exponential-pdf(y=0;I/p(x))
```

```
p(x) = normal-pdf(x;0,1)

p(y=0|x) = exponential-pdf(y=0;1/p(x)) = 1/p(x)
```

```
p(x) = \text{normal-pdf}(x;0,1)
p(y=0|x) = \text{exponential-pdf}(y=0;1/p(x)) = 1/p(x)
p(x,y=0) = p(x) * p(y=0|x)
```

```
p(x) = normal-pdf(x;0,1)

p(y=0|x) = exponential-pdf(y=0;1/p(x)) = 1/p(x)

p(x,y=0) = p(x) * p(y=0|x) = p(x) * 1/p(x) = 1
```

```
p(x) = normal-pdf(x;0,1)

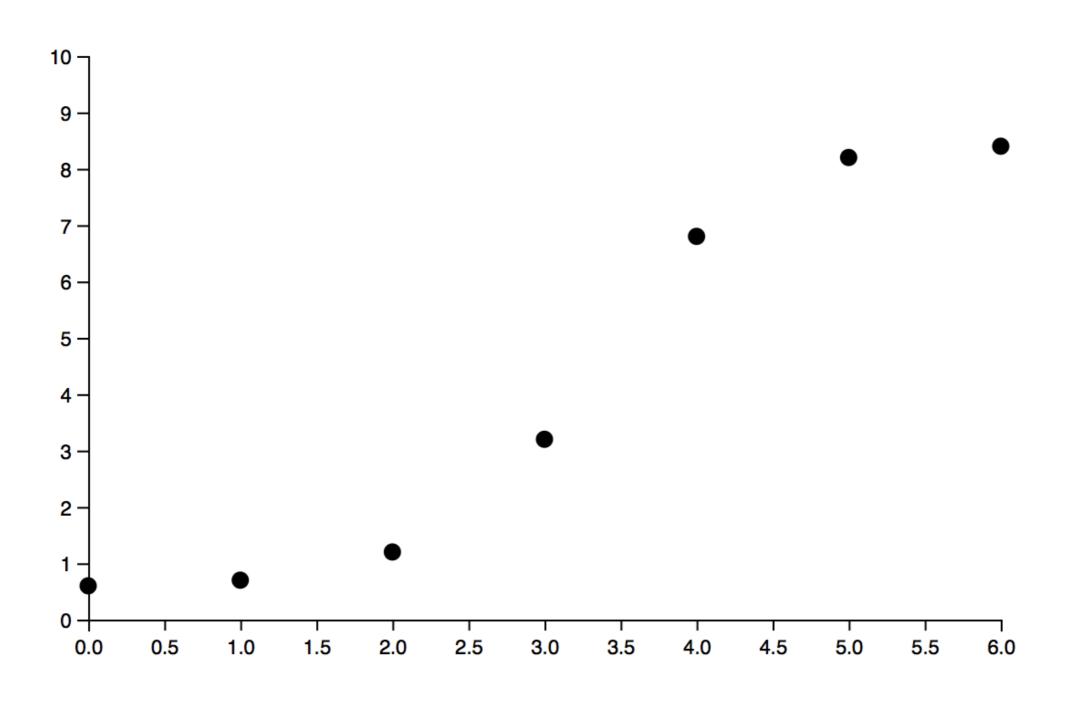
p(y=0|x) = exponential-pdf(y=0;1/p(x)) = 1/p(x)

p(x,y=0) = p(x) * p(y=0|x) = p(x) * 1/p(x) = 1

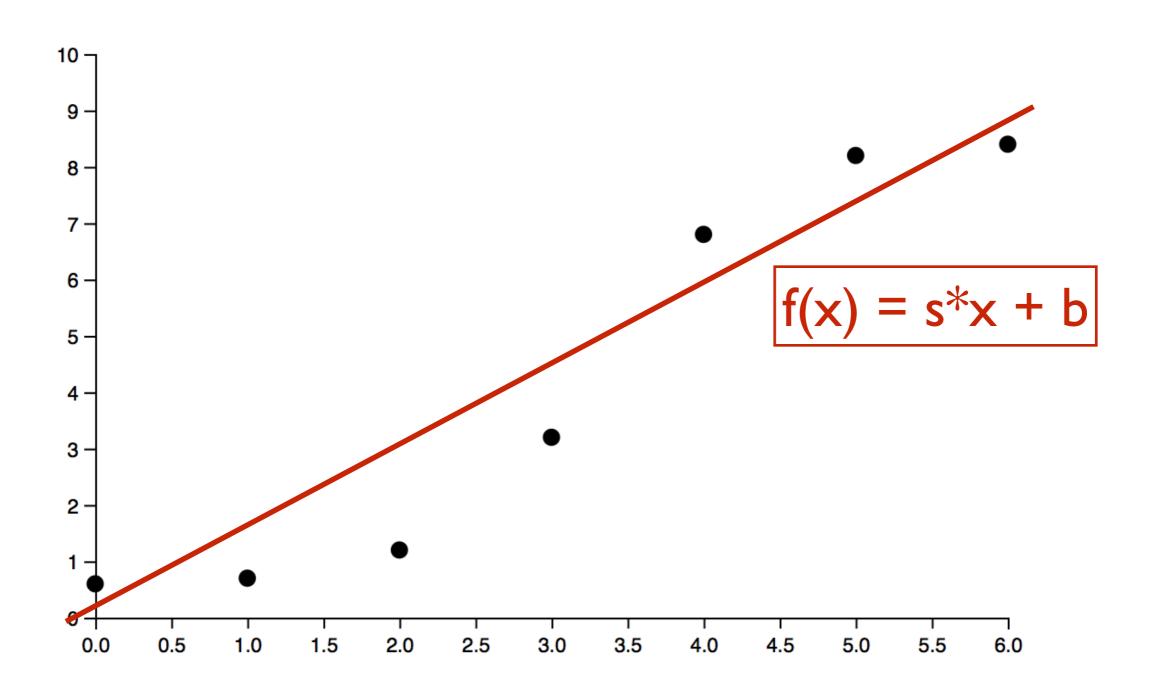
p(y=0) = \int p(x,y=0)dx = \int dx = \infty
```

- 1. Specification of inference algorithms.
- 2. Compiler optimisation.
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## Line fitting



## Line fitting



### Anglican program

(defquery lin-regression []

#### Anglican program

```
(defquery lin-regression []
  (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
        b (sample (normal 0 6))
        f (fn [x] (+ (* s x) b))]
```

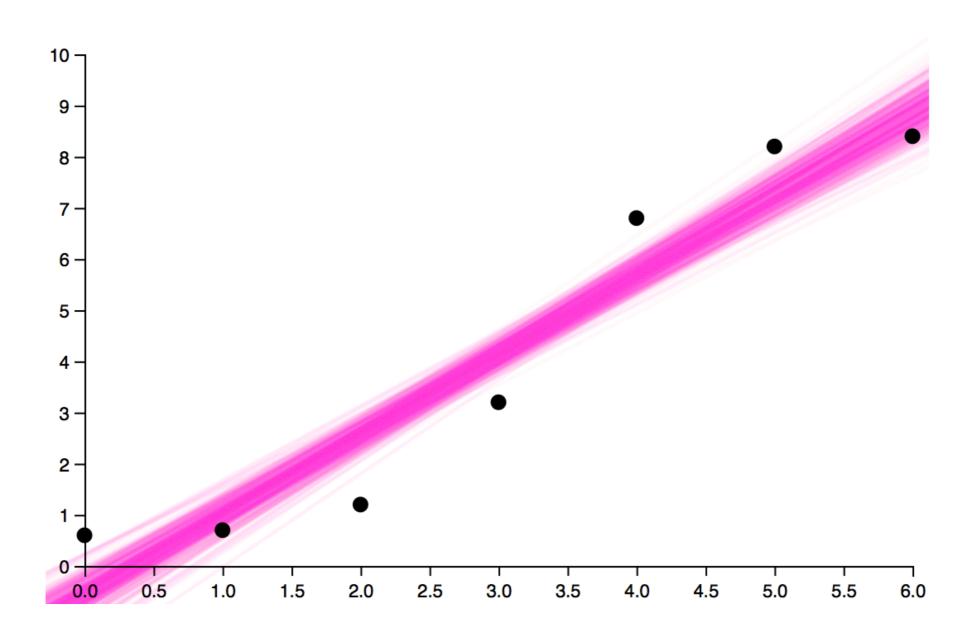
## Anglican program

```
(defquery lin-regression []
 (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
      b (sample (normal 0 6))
      f(m[x](+(*sx)b))
   (observe (normal (f 0) .5) .6)
   (observe (normal (f 1).5).7)
   (observe (normal (f 2) .5) 1.2)
   (observe (normal (f 3).5) 3.2)
   (observe (normal (f 4).5) 6.8)
   (observe (normal (f 5) .5) 8.2)
   (observe (normal (f 6) .5) 8.4)
```

## Anglican program

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(defquery lin-regression []
 (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
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   (observe (normal (f 0) .5) .6)
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   (observe (normal (f 4).5) 6.8)
   (observe (normal (f 5) .5) 8.2)
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```

## Samples from posterior



```
(defquery lin-regression []
 (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
      b (sample (normal 0 6))
      f(fn[x](+(*sx)b))]
   (observe (normal (f 0) .5) .6)
   (observe (normal (f 1).5).7)
   (observe (normal (f 2).5) 1.2)
   (observe (normal (f 3).5) 3.2)
   (observe (normal (f 4).5) 6.8)
   (observe (normal (f 5) .5) 8.2)
   (observe (normal (f 6) .5) 8.4)
   f))
```

#### [Q] Which posterior?

```
(defquery lin-regression []
 (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
      b (sample (normal 0 6))
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   (observe (normal (f 0) .5) .6)
   (observe (normal (f 1).5).7)
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#### [Q] Which posterior?

Inference algo. gives only approximation.

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(defquery lin-regression []
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   (observe (normal (f 4).5) 6.8)
   (observe (normal (f 5) .5) 8.2)
   (observe (normal (f 6) .5) 8.4)
```

f))

#### [Q] Which posterior?

Inference algo. gives only approximation.

Should define distr. on functions. Not easy.

## Foundational question

Measure theory provides a foundation for modern probability theory.

But it doesn't support higher-order fns well.

$$ev: (\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad ev(f,x) = f(x).$$

[Aumann 61] ev is not measurable no matter which  $\sigma$ -algebra is used for  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}$ .

```
(defquery lin-regression []
 (let [s (sample (normal 0 2))
      b (sample (normal 0 6))
      f(fn[x](+(*sx)b))]
   (observe (normal (f 0).5).6)
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   f))
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#### [Q] Which posterior?

Inference algo. gives only approximation.

Should define distr. on functions. Not easy.

Denotational semantics: Compositional method. Answers a deep Q.

### Learning outcome

- Can define a denotational semantics for a simple programming language.
- Can use measure theory to interpret prob. prog. with continuous distributions.
- Can use quasi-Borel space to interpret higher-order prob. prog.

#### References

- I. A convenient category for higher-order probability theory. Heunen et al. LICS'17.
- 2. Commutative semantics for probabilistic programs. Staton. ESOP' 17.
- 3. Reynolds's "Theories of Programming Languages".
- 4. Billingsley's "Probability and Measure".

- Denotational semantics.
   PL with discrete random choices.
- Baby measure theory.PL with cont. distribution.
- 3. Quasi-Borel space (QBS). PL with cont. distr. & higher-order (HO) fns.
- 4. [To be skipped] SFinKer monad on QBS. PL with cont. distr., HO fns & conditioning.

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ill-defined model

- Denotational semantics.
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linear regression example

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#### Denotational semantics

- Defines formal meanings of programs.
- Interprets type and expr. mathematically.
  - Type as space (e.g. set, measurable space).
  - Expr. as good function between spaces.
- Used for justifying compiler optimisation, inference algorithms and language constructs.

#### Denotational semantics

- Defines formal meanings of programs.
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  - Type as space (e.g. set, measurable space).
  - Expr. as good function between spaces.
- Used for justifying compiler optimisation, inference algorithms and language constructs.

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
```

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t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
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No function type.

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No function type.
```

No (fn [x ... x] e) case.

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
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```

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```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (pe...e) | (let [xe]e) | (if eee)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
```

No function type. No (fn [x ... x] e) case. Only primitive functions can be applied.

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
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t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
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t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (pe...e) | (let [xe]e) | (if eee)
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t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
[Q] Denotational semantics of this PL?
```

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e := c | x | (pe...e) | (let [xe]e) | (if eee)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
[Q] Denotational semantics of this PL?
Interpret type as set and expr. as function.
```

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
```

$$[bool] = ...$$

$$[dist[bool]] = ...$$

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
```

```
[bool] = \mathbb{B} = \{tt, ff\}
```

```
[rational] = ...
```

$$[dist[bool]] = ...$$

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
              [bool] = \mathbb{B} = \{tt, ff\}
        [rational] = ...
     [dist[bool]] = \{p: \mathbb{B} \rightarrow [0, 1] \mid p(tt) + p(ff) = 1\}
[dist[rational]] = ...
```

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
              [bool] = \mathbb{B} = \{tt, ff\}
        [rational] = ...
     [[dist[bool]] = \{p: \mathbb{B} \rightarrow [0, I] \mid p(tt) + p(ff) = I\}
[dist[rational]] = ...
```

[Q] Fill in . . .

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
                [bool] = \mathbb{B} = \{tt, ff\}
         [rational] = Q = \{0, 1, -1/3, 1/7, ...\}
     [dist[bool]] = \{p: \mathbb{B} \rightarrow [0, 1] \mid p(tt) + p(ff) = 1\}
[dist[rational]] = \{p: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow [0, I] \mid \sum_{r} p(r) = I\}
[Q] Fill in ...
```

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[t] is the meaning of t.
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         [rational] = \mathbb{Q} = \{0, 1, -1/3, 1/7, ...\}
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[Q] Fill in ...
```

```
[t] is the meaning of t.
            [bool] = \mathbb{B} = \{tt, ff\}
       [rational] = \mathbb{Q} = \{0, 1, -1/3, 1/7, ...\}
    [dist[bool]] = DiscProb([bool])
[dist[rational]] = DiscProb([rational])
[Q] Fill in . . .
```

## Typed expressions

 $x_1:t_1, x_2:t_2, ..., x_n:t_n + e : t$ 

## Typed expressions

typing context  $\Gamma$   $x_1:t_1, x_2:t_2, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t$ 

ullet  $\Gamma$  is a finite map from variables to types.

### Typed expressions

typing context  $\Gamma$ 

```
x_1:t_1, x_2:t_2, ..., x_n:t_n + e : t
```

- ullet  $\Gamma$  is a finite map from variables to types.
- Denotes a t-typed expr. e under  $\Gamma$ .

#### Typed expressions

typing context  $\Gamma$ 

```
x_1:t_1, x_2:t_2, ..., x_n:t_n + e : t
```

- ullet  $\Gamma$  is a finite map from variables to types.
- Denotes a t-typed expr. e under  $\Gamma$ .

```
x:bool, y:bool + (if x y y): bool
```

x:bool, y:rational + (if x y y): rational

x:rational + (sample (flip x)): bool

```
[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t]
```

```
[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t]
= g:[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] \rightarrow DiscProb([t])
```

```
[x<sub>1</sub>:t<sub>1</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>:t<sub>n</sub> ⊢ e : t]
= g : [x<sub>1</sub>:t<sub>1</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>:t<sub>n</sub>] → DiscProb([t])
I. [x<sub>1</sub>:t<sub>1</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>:t<sub>n</sub>] = {map η from {x<sub>1</sub>,...,x<sub>n</sub>} | η(x<sub>i</sub>)∈[t<sub>i</sub>] for all i}
2. DiscProb(A) = {p:A → [0,1] | ∑<sub>a</sub>p(a)=1}
```

```
[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t]
= g:[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] \rightarrow DiscProb([t])
```

- I.  $[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = \{map η from <math>\{x_1,...,x_n\} \mid η(x_i) \in [t_i] \text{ for all } i\}$
- 2. DiscProb(A) =  $\{p:A \to [0,1] \mid \sum_{a} p(a) = 1\}$

[Q] Any problem with DiscProb([dist[bool]])?

```
[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t]
= g:[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] \rightarrow DiscProb([t])
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- 2. DiscProb(A) =  $\{p:A \to [0,1] \mid \sum_{a} p(a) = 1\}$

[Q] Any problem with DiscProb([dist[bool]])?

```
[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n \vdash e:t]
= g:[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] \rightarrow DiscProb([t])
```

- 2. DiscProb(A) = {p:A→[0,1] | ∑ap(a)=1}
   p(a)=0 except for countably many a's and [Q] Any problem with DiscProb([dist[bool]])?

2. DiscProb(A) = {p:A→[0,1] | ∑ap(a)=1}
 p(a)=0 except for countably many a's and
 [Q] Define the interpretation recursively.

 $\{\text{map }\eta \text{ from }\{x_1,...,x_n\} \mid \eta(x_i) \in \llbracket t_i \rrbracket \text{ for all }i\}$ 

### Compiler optimisation

Show the following equations:

```
[\Gamma \vdash (\text{if true } e_1 \ e_2) : t] = [\Gamma \vdash e_1 : t]
[\Gamma \vdash (\text{sample } (\text{flip } (+ 0.1 \ 0.2)) : \text{bool}]
= [\Gamma \vdash (\text{sample } (\text{flip } 0.3)) : \text{bool}]
```

#### Plan for the rest

- Denotational semantics.
   PL with discrete random choices.
- Baby measure theory.PL with cont. distribution.
- 3. Quasi-Borel space (QBS). PL with cont. distr. & higher-order (HO) fns.
- 4. [To be skipped] SFinKer monad on QBS. PL with cont. distr., HO fns & conditioning.

### First-order PL with discrete random choices

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
```

# First-order PL with discrete random choices and continuous

```
t ::= bool | rational | dist[bool] | dist[rational]
e ::= c | x | (p e ... e) | (let [x e] e) | (if e e e)
c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | ...
p ::= sample | flip | poisson | and | + | ...
| normal | uniform-continuous | ...
```

Types as spaces and expressions as functions.

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```
t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real]
```

[Try] Interpret [t] as a set.

Types as spaces and expressions as functions.

```
t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real]
```

[Try] Interpret [t] as a set. Then, we get stuck since [dist[real]] can't be DiscProb([real]).

Types as spaces and expressions as functions.

```
t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real]
```

[Try] Interpret [t] as a set. Then, we get stuck since [dist[real]] can't be DiscProb([real]).

[Sol] Use measure theory. [t] as a measurable space, and  $[\Gamma \vdash e : t]$  as a measurable function.

```
X = \{0, 1, 2\}.
```

Define  $p: X \rightarrow [0,1]$ . E.g., p = [0.4, 0.4, 0.2].

Lifted p:  $2^X \rightarrow [0,1]$  by  $p(A) = \sum_{x \in A} p(x)$ .

 $X = \mathbb{R}$ .

Define  $p: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ .

Lifted p:  $2^X \rightarrow [0,1]$  by  $p(A) = \sum_{x \in A} p(x)$ .

```
X = \mathbb{R}.
```

Define  $p: X \rightarrow [0,1]$ .

Lifted p:  $2^{\times} \rightarrow [0,1]$  by  $p(A) = \sum_{x \in A} p(x)$ .

Uncountable sum. Typically ∞.

```
X = \mathbb{R}. Define p: X \to [0,1] \text{Lifted } p: 2^{\times} \to [0,1] \text{ by } p(A) = \sum_{x \in A} p(x). Define
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Define

Pick a good collection \sum \subseteq 2^{\times}.

Define p: \sum \to [0,1] with some care.
```

```
X = \mathbb{R}
Define by A Tibli
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Deline
                           σ-algebra
Pick a good collection \sum \subseteq 2^{\times}.
Define p: \sum \rightarrow [0,1] with some care.
        probability measure
```

Let  $\Sigma \subseteq 2^{\times}$ .

 $\Sigma$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra if it contains X, and is closed under countable union and set subtraction.

 $(X, \Sigma)$  is a <u>measurable space</u> if  $\Sigma$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

Let  $\Sigma \subseteq 2^{\times}$ .

 $\Sigma$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra if it contains X, and is closed under countable union and set subtraction.

 $(X, \Sigma)$  is a <u>measurable space</u> if  $\Sigma$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

 $p: \Sigma \to [0, I]$  is a <u>probability measure</u> if p(X)=I and  $p(\uplus_{n\in \mathbb{N}}A_n) = \sum_{n\in \mathbb{N}}p(A_n)$  for all disjoint  $A_n$ 's.

 $(X,\Sigma,p)$  is a <u>probability space</u> if ...

# [Q] What are not measurable spaces?

- I.  $(\mathbb{B}, 2^{\mathbb{B}})$ .
- 2.  $(\mathbb{B}x\mathbb{B}, \{AxB \mid A \in 2^{\mathbb{B}} \text{ and } B \in 2^{\mathbb{B}} \}).$
- 3.  $(\mathbb{R}, \{A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid A \text{ or } (\mathbb{R}-A) \text{ finite or countable } \})$ .
- 4.  $(\mathbb{R}, \{ (r,s] \mid r \leq s \})$ .

# [Q] What are not measurable spaces?

- I.  $(\mathbb{B}, 2^{\mathbb{B}})$ .
- 2.  $(\mathbb{B} \times \mathbb{B}, \{A \times B \mid A \in 2^{\mathbb{B}} \text{ and } B \in 2^{\mathbb{B}} \})$ .
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# [Q] Convert them to measurable spaces.

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- 3.  $(\mathbb{R}, \{A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \mid A \text{ or } (\mathbb{R}-A) \text{ finite or countable } \})$ .
- 4.  $(\mathbb{R}, \{ (r,s) | r < s \})$

Closure exists.

 $\sigma(\mathscr{A})$  smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra containing  $\mathscr{A}$ .

 $(X, \Sigma), (Y, \Theta)$  - mBle spaces.

Product  $\sigma$ -algebra:  $\Sigma \otimes \Theta = \sigma\{AxB \mid A \in \Sigma, B \in \Theta\}$ .

Product space:  $(X,\Sigma)_{x_m}(Y,\Theta) = (XxY,\Sigma\otimes\Theta)$ .

Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $\mathfrak{B}$ = $\sigma$ {(r,s] | r<s}.

Borel space:  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathfrak{B})$ .

 $(X, \Sigma), (Y, \Theta)$  - mBle spaces.

$$Pr(\Sigma) = ...$$

Probability space:  $Pr(X,\Sigma) = (Pr(X), Pr(\Sigma))$ 

[Q] What is  $Pr(\Sigma)$ ?

 $(X, \Sigma), (Y, \Theta)$  - mBle spaces.

 $Pr(\Sigma) = \sigma\{ \{p \mid p(A) < r\} \mid A \in \Sigma, r \in \mathbb{R} \}.$ 

Probability space:  $Pr(X,\Sigma) = (Pr(X), Pr(\Sigma))$ 

[Q] What is  $Pr(\Sigma)$ ?

#### Types mean mBle spaces

$$[bool] = (\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})$$

[dist[bool]] = Pr([bool])

```
[bool] = (\mathbb{B}, 2^{\mathbb{B}})
[real] = ...
[dist[bool]] = Pr([bool])
[dist[real]] = ...
```

[Q] Fill in ...

```
[bool] = (\mathbb{B}, 2^{\mathbb{B}})
[real] = (\mathbb{R}, \mathfrak{B})
[dist[bool]] = Pr([bool])
[dist[real]] = Pr([real])
```

[Q] Fill in ...

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, \Sigma)$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, \Sigma)$$

where

$$(X_i, \Sigma_i) = [t_i]$$

$$X = ...$$

$$\Sigma = ...$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, \Sigma)$$

where

$$(X_i, \Sigma_i) = [t_i]$$

$$X = \{ \text{map } \eta \text{ from } \{x_1,...,x_n\} \mid \eta(x_i) \in X_i \text{ for all } i \}$$

$$\Sigma = ...$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, \Sigma)$$

where

$$(X_i, \Sigma_i) = [t_i]$$

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$$\Sigma = ...$$

[Q] Fill in ...

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, \Sigma)$$

where

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 $X = \{ \text{map } \eta \text{ from } \{x_1, ..., x_n\} \mid \eta(x_i) \in X_i \text{ for all } i \}$ 

$$\Sigma = \sigma \{ \{ \eta \mid \eta(x_i) \in A_i \text{ for all } i \} \mid A_i \in \Sigma_i \text{ for all } i \} \}$$

[Q] Fill in ...

 $(X, \Sigma), (Y, \Theta)$  - mBle spaces.

f:X $\rightarrow$ Y is measurable (denoted f:X $\rightarrow$ mY) if f-1(A) $\in$  $\Sigma$  for all A $\in$  $\Theta$ .

 $[\Gamma \vdash e : t]$  is a mBle fn from  $[\Gamma]$  to  $\Pr[t]$ .

 $[\![\Gamma \vdash e : t]\!]$  is a mBle fn from  $[\![\Gamma]\!]$  to  $Pr[\![t]\!]$ .

[y:real + (sample (norm y 1)) : real]

 $[\Gamma \vdash e : t]$  is a mBle fn from  $[\Gamma]$  to  $\Pr[t]$ .

```
[y:real + (sample (norm y 1)) : real]\eta(A)
```

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=  $\int_A density-norm(s \mid \eta(y), I) ds$ .

 $[\![\Gamma \vdash e : t]\!]$  is a mBle fn from  $[\![\Gamma]\!]$  to  $Pr[\![t]\!]$ .

```
[y:real + (sample (norm y 1)) : real]\eta(A)
```

=  $\int_A density-norm(s \mid \eta(y), I) ds$ .

Defined recursively. Complex but doable.

#### Plan for the rest

- Denotational semantics.
   PL with discrete random choices.
- Baby measure theory.PL with cont. distribution.
- 3. Quasi-Borel space (QBS). PL with cont. distr. & higher-order (HO) fns.
- 4. [To be skipped] SFinKer monad on QBS. PL with cont. distr., HO fns & conditioning.

```
t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real] | (t_1,...,t_n) \rightarrow t

e ::= c | x | (fn [x ... x] e) | (e e ... e) | (if e e e)

c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | 2 | and | + | ...

| sample | flip | normal | ...
```

Function type.

Function type.

General fn decl. and app.

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t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real] | (t_1,...,t_n) \rightarrow t

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| sample | flip | normal | ...
```

Function type.
General fn decl. and app.
General constants.

```
t ::= bool | real | dist[bool] | dist[real] | (t_1,...,t_n) \rightarrow t

e ::= c | x | (fn [x ... x] e) | (e e ... e) | (if e e e)

c ::= true | false | 0 | 1 | 2 | and | + | ...

| sample | flip | normal | ...
```

Function type.

General fn decl. and app.

General constants.

Measure theory insufficient due to HO fns.

Use a new foundation of probability theory based on quasi-Borel spaces.

Interpret [t] as a quasi-Borel space (QBS), and  $[\Gamma \vdash e : t]$  as a QBS morphism.

### High-level idea: Random variable first.

#### Random variable $\alpha$ in X

#### Random variable \alpha in X

$$\alpha:\Omega\to X$$

- X set of values.
- $\bullet$   $\Omega$  set of random seeds.
- Random seed generator.

## Random variable \alpha in X in Measure theory

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 $1.\Sigma\subseteq 2^{\Omega}, \Theta\subseteq 2^{X}$ 

### Random variable $\alpha$ in X in measure theory

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1. 
$$\Sigma \subseteq 2^{\Omega}$$
,  $\Theta \subseteq 2^{X}$   
2.  $\mu : \Sigma \rightarrow [0,1]$ 

### Random variable $\alpha$ in X in measure theory

 $\alpha:\Omega\to X$  is a random variable if  $\alpha^{-1}(A) \in \Sigma$  for all  $A \in \Theta$ 

- X set of values.
- $\bullet$   $\Omega$  set of random seeds.
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$$\alpha: \mathbb{R} \to X$$

- X set of values.
- R set of random seeds.
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- $I.\mathbb{R}$  as random source
- 2. Borel subsets  $\mathfrak{B} \subseteq 2^{\mathbb{R}}$

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- 2. Borel subsets  $\mathfrak{B}\subseteq 2^{\mathbb{R}}$
- $3. M \subseteq [\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X]$

 $\alpha : \mathbb{R} \to X$  is a random variable if  $\alpha \in M$ 

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- $3. M \subseteq [\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X]$

- Measure theory:
  - Measurable space  $(X, \Theta \subseteq 2^X)$ .
  - Random variable is an induced concept.
- QBS:
  - Quasi-Borel space  $(X, M \subseteq [\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X])$ .
  - M is the set of random variables.

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  - M is the set of random variables.

$$(X, M \subseteq [\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X])$$

such that M has enough random variables.

I. M contains all constant functions.

- 1. M contains all constant functions.
- 2.  $(\alpha \circ \beta) \in M$  for all  $\alpha \in M$  and mBle  $\beta: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ .

such that M has enough random variables.

- M contains all constant functions.
- 2.  $(\alpha \circ \beta) \in M$  for all  $\alpha \in M$  and mBle  $\beta: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ .
- 3. If  $\mathbb{R}= \biguplus_{i\in \mathbb{N}} R_i$  with  $R_i\in \mathfrak{B}$  and  $\alpha_1,\alpha_2,\ldots\in M,$  then  $(\alpha_i \text{ when } R_i)_{i\in \mathbb{N}}\in M.$

Here  $(\alpha_i \text{ when } R_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}(r) = \alpha_i(r) \text{ when } r \in R_i$ .

# [Q] Pick a non-QBS.

- 1. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  is a constant function}).
- 2. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , [ $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ]).
- 3. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  measurable wrt.  $\mathfrak{B}$ }).

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# [Q] Turn it into a QBS.

- 1. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  is a constant function}).
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# [Q] Turn it to a QBS.

```
\{(\alpha_i \text{ when } R_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mid \alpha_i \text{ constant fn and } R_i \in \mathfrak{B}\}
```

- 1. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  is a constant function}).
- 2. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , [ $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ]).
- 3. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  measurable wrt.  $\mathfrak{B}$ }).

# [Q] Turn it to a QBS.

Standard way of converting a set to a QBS.

```
\{(\alpha_i \text{ when } R_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mid \alpha_i \text{ constant fn and } R_i \in \textbf{2}\}
```

- 1.  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha \text{ is a constant function})$
- 2. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , [ $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ]).
- 3. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  measurable wrt.  $\mathfrak{B}$ }).

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- 1.  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha \text{ is a constant function})$ :
- 2. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , [ $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ]).
- 3. ( $\mathbb{R}$ , { $\alpha:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  |  $\alpha$  measurable wrt.  $\mathfrak{B}$ }).

Standard way of converting a mBle space to a QBS.

# (QBS) morphism

(X,M), (Y,N) - QBSes.

 $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a morphism if  $(fo\alpha) \in N$  for all  $\alpha \in M$ .

Maps random variables to random variables.

We will write  $f: X \rightarrow_q Y$ .

[Th] QBSes support higher-order functions well. (The category of QBSes is cartesian closed.)

- 1. Product:  $(X,M) x_q (Y,N) = (Z,O)$ .
  - $Z = X \times Y$ ,  $\pi_1(x,y) = x$ ,  $\pi_2(x,y) = y$ .
  - O = ???
- 2. Fn space:  $[(X,M) \rightarrow_q (Y,N)] = (Z,O)$ 
  - $Z = \{ f \mid f : X \rightarrow_q Y \}$ , ev(f,x) = f(x).
  - O = ???

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  - $Z = \{ f \mid f : X \rightarrow_q Y \}, ev(f,x) = f(x).$
  - O = ???

[Q] What are the sets of random elements?

- 1. Product:  $(X,M) \times_q (Y,N) = (Z,O)$ .
  - $Z = X \times Y$ ,  $\pi_1(x,y) = x$ ,  $\pi_2(x,y) = y$ .
  - O = {  $r \mapsto (\alpha(r), \beta(r)) \mid \alpha \in M \text{ and } \beta \in N$  }.
- 2. Fn space:  $[(X,M) \rightarrow_q (Y,N)] = (Z,O)$ 
  - $Z = \{ f \mid f : X \rightarrow_q Y \}, ev(f,x) = f(x)$
  - O = {  $g : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{Z} \mid r \mapsto g(\gamma(r))(\alpha(r)) \in \mathbb{N}$ for all  $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \to_m \mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha \in M$ }.

# Why works?

[NO] ev : 
$$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}) \times_m \mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}$$
vs

[YES] ev :  $(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_{q} \mathbb{R}) \times_{q} \mathbb{R} \rightarrow_{q} \mathbb{R}$ 

# Why works?

[NO] ev : 
$$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}) \times_m \mathbb{R} \rightarrow_m \mathbb{R}$$
vs

[YES] ev : 
$$(\mathbb{R} \rightarrow_{q} \mathbb{R}) \times_{q} \mathbb{R} \rightarrow_{q} \mathbb{R}$$

Because the QBS product is more permissive.

 $[bool] = MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})$ 

 $[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])$ 

Conversion of mBle space to QBS [bool] =  $MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2^{\mathbb{B}})$ 

 $[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])$ 

Conversion of mBle space to QBS [bool] = MStoQBS( $\mathbb{B}$ ,  $2^{\mathbb{B}}$ )

```
[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])
```

QBS prob. space

[Q] Fill in ...

```
Conversion of
                             mBle space to QBS
       [bool] = MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})
       [real] = ...
[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])
                   QBS prob. space
[dist[real]] = ...
[(t_1,t_2)\rightarrow t] = ...
```

```
Conversion of
                                 mBle space to QBS
        [bool] = MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})
        [real] = MStoQBS(\mathbb{R}, \mathfrak{B})
[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])
[dist[real]] = Pr_q([real]) QBS prob. space
 [(t_1,t_2)\rightarrow t] = ...
```

[Q] Fill in ...

Conversion of mBle space to QBS [bool] =  $MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})$  $[real] = MStoQBS(\mathbb{R}, \mathfrak{B})$  $[dist[bool]] = Pr_q([bool])$  $[dist[real]] = Pr_q([real])$  QBS prob. space  $[(t_1,t_2)\rightarrow t] = [t_1]\times_q[t_2] \rightarrow_q Pr_q([t])$ [Q] Fill in ...

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, M)$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, M)$$

where

$$(X_i, M_i) = [t_i]$$

$$X = \dots$$

$$M = \dots$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, M)$$

where

$$(X_i, M_i) = [t_i]$$

$$X = \{ \eta \mid \eta(x_i) \in X_i \text{ for all } i \}$$

$$M = \dots$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, M)$$

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$$M = \dots$$

$$[x_1:t_1, ..., x_n:t_n] = (X, M)$$

where

$$(X_i, M_i) = [t_i]$$

$$X = \{ \eta \mid \eta(x_i) \in X_i \text{ for all } i \}$$

$$M = \{r \longmapsto (x_i \longmapsto \alpha_i(r)) \mid \alpha_i \in M_i \text{ for all } i \}$$

[Q] Fill in ...

# Exprs mean QBS morphisms

 $[\Gamma \vdash e : t]$  is a QBS morphism from  $[\Gamma]$  to  $Pr_q[t]$ .

E.g.

$$(X,M) = MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})$$

 $\mu = \text{uniform}(0, I], \quad \alpha(r) = \text{if } (r < 0.5) \text{ true false}$ 

E.g.

$$(X,M) = MStoQBS(\mathbb{B}, 2\mathbb{B})$$

 $\mu$  = uniform(0,1],  $\alpha(r)$  = if (r < 0.5) true false  $\mu$ ' = uniform(0,2]/2,  $\alpha$ '(r) = if (r < 1) true false

**Equate** two QBS prob. measures:

$$(\alpha,\mu) \sim (\beta,\nu)$$

if  $\mu \circ \alpha^{-1} = \nu \circ \beta^{-1}$ .

 $[\alpha,\mu]$  - equivalence class.

# QBS of prob. measures

```
Pr_q(X,M) = (Y,N) Y = \{ [\alpha,\mu] \mid (\alpha,\mu) \text{ is a prob. meas. on } (X,M) \}. N = \{ \lambda r. [\alpha,k(r)] \mid \alpha \in M \text{ and } k : \mathbb{R} \times \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow [0,1] \text{ is a probability kernel } \}.
```

k(r,-) is a probability measure

and k(-,A) is measurable for all r,A

# Completing the definitions

$$[t \rightarrow t'] = [[t]] \rightarrow_{q} Pr_{q}([t'])]$$

$$[\Gamma \vdash e : t] \text{ is a morphism } [\Gamma] \rightarrow_{q} Pr_{q}[t]$$

#### We couldn't cover:

I. SFinKer Monad on QBSes and semantics of conditioning.

If you want to know about them, look at:

- I. A convenient category for higher-order probability theory. Heunen et al. LICS'17.
- 2. Commutative semantics for probabilistic programs. Staton. ESOP' 17.