

CSCI 3022

intro to data science with probability & statistics

Octoer 3, 2018

1. Plinko!
2. Variance of discrete and continuous RVs



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Stuff & Things

- **Homework 3** due next Friday. Suggested **milestones**:
 - Probs 1, 2, 3 done before the end of the week.
 - Probs 4, 5 done next week.
- **Midterm** next week. Weds, 6:30-8:00 PM. SEE PIAZZA for details..
- Midterm review *in class* next Monday.

OH today until 4:30
Fri: Ø

M: 4-5
W: 4-6

Last time on CSCI 3022

- **Definition:** The expectation or expected value of a discrete random variable X that takes the values $\underline{a_1, a_2, \dots}$ and with PMF p is given by:

$$E[X] = \sum_i a_i P(X = a_i) = \sum_i a_i p(a_i)$$

values $p(\text{value})$
 ↓
 weighted average

- **Definition:** The expectation or expected value of a continuous random variable X with PDF f is the number:

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx$$

value $p(\text{value})$
 ↓
 x

- **Change of Variables:** Let X be a RV and let $g : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ be a function

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_i g(a_i) f(a_i)$$

$$E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f(x) dx$$

The O'Flaherty Family

- Stella O'Flaherty is having her whole crazy extended family over for dinner. What a bunch! They are considering a random variable X :

$$P(X = -1) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad P(X = 1) = \frac{3}{5}$$

Stella & the O'Flaherties



1. Is X a discrete or continuous random variable?
2. Compute $E[X]$

$$\begin{aligned} & (-1) \frac{1}{5} + (0) \frac{1}{5} + (1) \frac{3}{5} \\ & -\frac{1}{5} + 0 + \frac{3}{5} = \boxed{\frac{2}{5}} \end{aligned}$$

The O'Flaherty Family

- Stella O'Flaherty is having her whole crazy extended family over for dinner. What a bunch! They are considering a random variable X :

$$P(X = -1) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad P(X = 0) = \frac{1}{5}, \quad P(X = 1) = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\sum_i g(a_i) \Pr(a_i)$$

- Oscar O'Flaherty is sleepy from dinner, but considering a new random variable Y .

If $Y = \cancel{X^2 + 2}$, what is the probability distribution of Y ?

Is it a PMF or a PDF?

$$P(Y=3) = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$P(Y=2) = \frac{1}{5} \quad P(Y>3) = \frac{3}{5}$$

- What is $E[Y]$?

$$2 \frac{1}{5} + 3 \frac{4}{5} = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{12}{5} \boxed{\frac{14}{5}}$$

$$g(x) = x^2 + 2$$

$$= E[g(x)]$$

Oscar O'Flaherty



Quinn O'Flaherty.

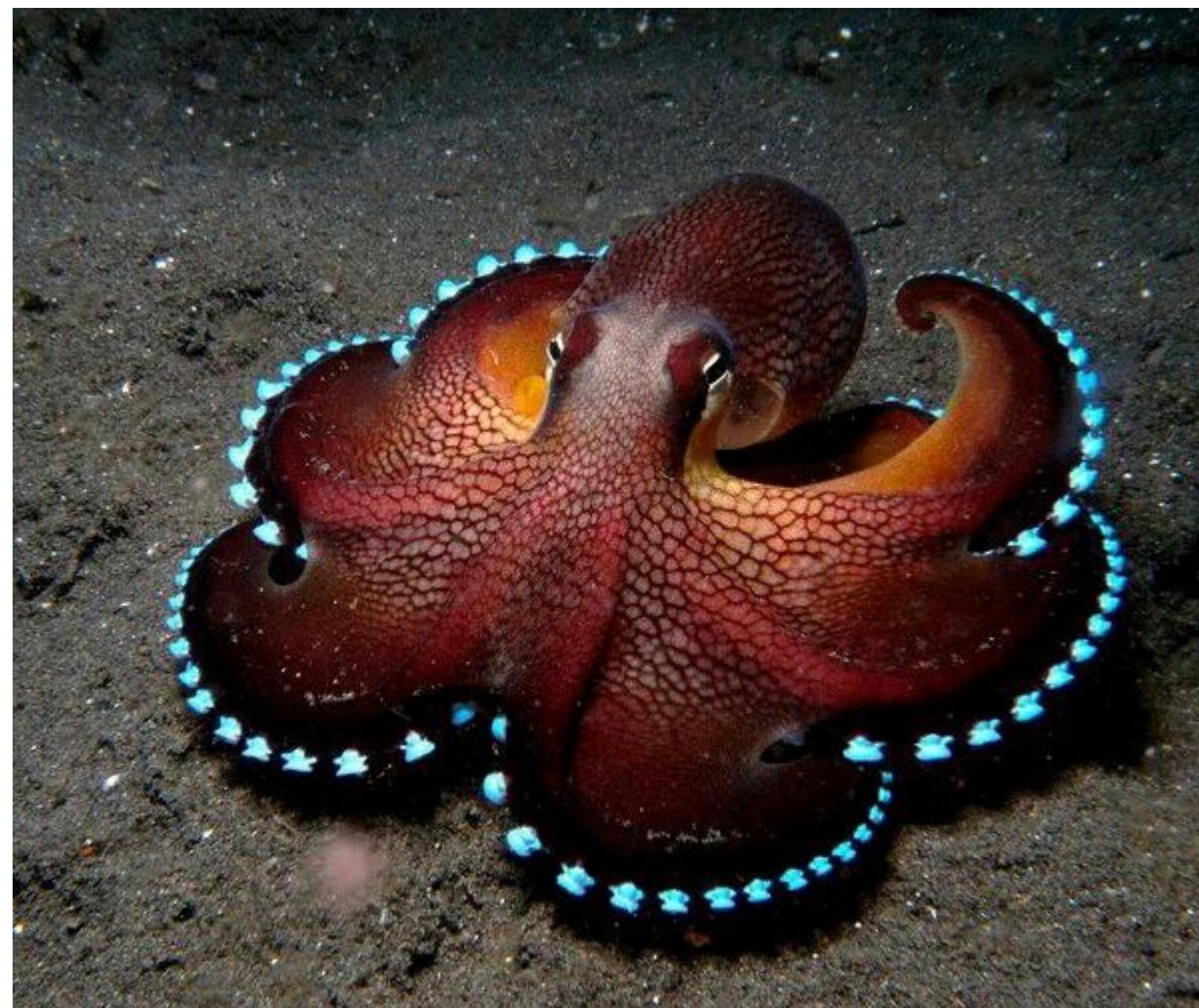
- It is early-October, and Quinn is swimming along the reef, watching the coral change colors. The water is cool. A bird above the water contemplates flying South for the winter. Is it too early? Who can say. Rain falls softly on the water above the reef at an **average rate of 22 drops per minute**. Quinn watches a drop fall and checks her watch. Let **X** be a random variable that represents the time she waits until the next drop lands. Which distribution does **X** follow?

- A. Binomial**
- B. Geometric**
- C. Poisson**
- D. Uniform**
- E. Exponential**
- F. None of the Above**

raindrops in a minute
↓
Poisson.

waiting time between events
is exponential.

Quinn



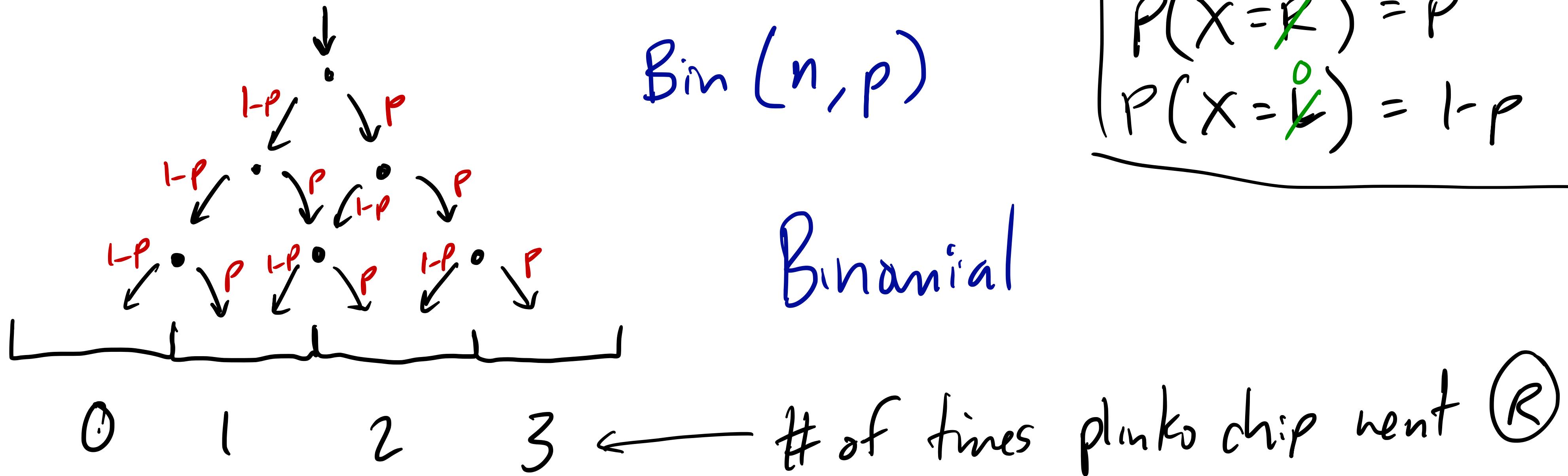
Plinko!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naUppHrHJpl>

Plinko on paper

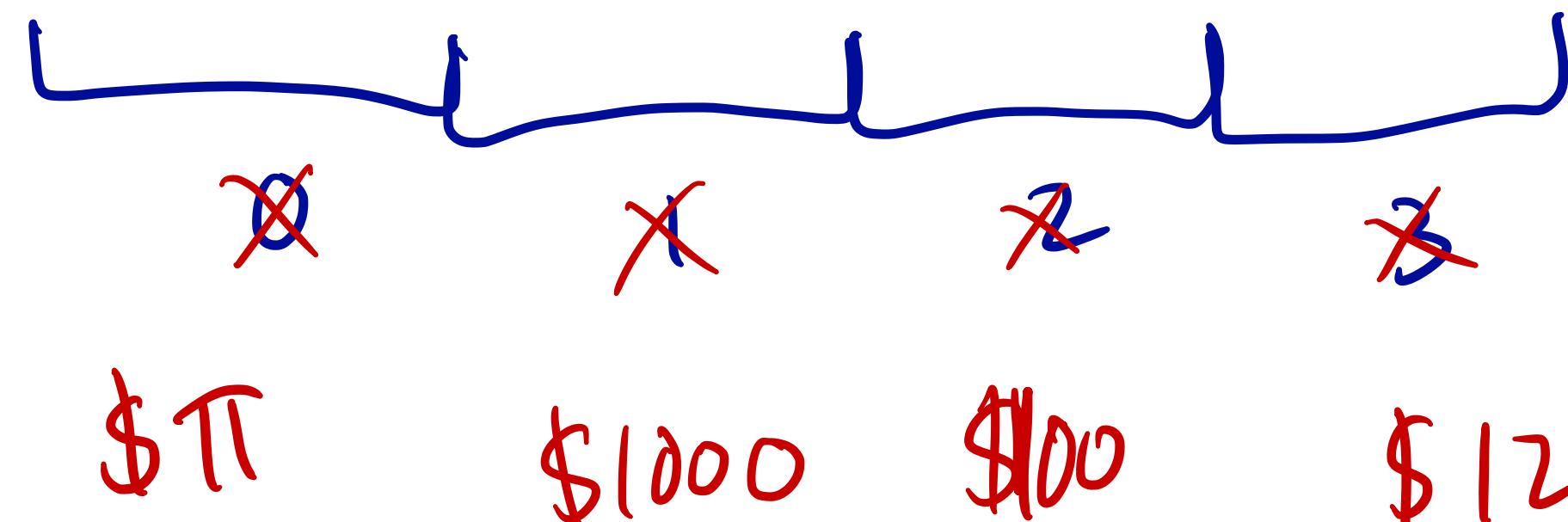
- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what distribution does X follow?



Plinko on paper

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what is the expected value of X ?

$$E[X] = \sum_i a_i p(a_i)$$



$P(a_i)$: $P(X=0)$ $P(X=1)$ $P(X=2)$ $P(X=3)$

$$\binom{3}{0} p^0 (1-p)^3 \quad \binom{3}{1} p^1 (1-p)^2 \quad \binom{3}{2} p^2 (1-p)^1 \quad \binom{3}{3} p^3 (1-p)^0$$

What is $E[X]$, when X is $\text{Bin}(n, p)$?

Plinko on paper

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what is the expected value of X ?
- Pro Tip:** expectation is a linear function!

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$
$$E[X] = E[Y_1 + Y_2 + Y_3 + \dots + Y_n] = E[Y_1] + E[Y_2] + \dots + E[Y_n] = n E[Ber(p)] = np$$
$$E[Bin(n, p)] = np$$

$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$ is highlighted with a green brush stroke.

$E[X] = E[Y_1 + Y_2 + Y_3 + \dots + Y_n]$ is highlighted with a green brush stroke.

$E[Y_i]$ is highlighted with a green brush stroke.

$E[Ber(p)]$ is highlighted with a red box.

$E[Bin(n, p)] = np$ is highlighted with a red box.

Plinko on paper

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what is the variance of X ? $X \sim B(n, p)$

Defined sample variance : $\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$

$\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n\} \leftarrow$ think of these as draws from a R.V.

Plinko on paper

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- **Question:** what is the variance of X ?
- **Well ok but maybe first:** what is variance?

Variance

- Recall that the sample variance of data x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n is given by

$$\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

*avg. of dataset.
like an expected value.*

$$\text{average} \left[(\text{datum} - \text{avg. of data})^2 \right]$$

Variance

- **Definition:** the variance $\text{Var}(X)$ of a random variable X is the number

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

$$E \left[(X - E[X])^2 \right]$$

Variance

- **Definition:** the variance $\text{Var}(X)$ of a random variable X is the number

$$\text{Var}(X) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^2]$$

- **Definition:** the standard deviation of X is the sq. root of the variance: $\sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}$

- How to compute:

- First, compute $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X]$

(from last time)

- Second, use the change-of-variables formula with $g(x) = (x - \mu)^2$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_i (a_i - \mu)^2 p(a_i)$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx$$

Variance

- **Definition:** the variance $\text{Var}(X)$ of a random variable X is the number

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2] \quad \text{start}$$

- **Even better:** Can we use $E[rX+s] = rE[X]+s$?

$$E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[X^2 - 2XE[X] + E[X]^2]$$

$$E[4] = 4$$

$$= E[X^2] + E[-2XE[X]] + E[E[X]^2]$$

$$E[E[X]] = E[X]$$

$$= E[X^2] - 2E[X]E[X] + E[X]^2$$

$$= E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = \text{var}(X)$$

fail

Variance

- **Definition:** the variance $\text{Var}(X)$ of a random variable X is the number

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

- **Even better:** Can we use $E[rX+s] = rE[X]+s$?

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

Binomial Variance

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- **Question:** what is the variance of X , if $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

Bernoulli Variance

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what is the variance of X , if $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$
- How about: what is the variance of Y , if $Y \sim \text{Ber}(p)$

$$\text{var}(Y) = E[Y^2] - E[Y]^2$$

Together: $p - p^2 = \boxed{p(1-p) = \text{var}(\text{Ber}(p))}$

1st $E[Y]^2 = (p)^2 = p^2$

Next $E[Y^2] \dots \sum_i a_i p(a_i) \mid Y^2: \begin{array}{ll} 0^2 & \text{w.p. } (1-p) \\ 1^2 & \text{w.p. } p \end{array} \mid E[Y^2] = 0^2(1-p) + 1^2(p) = p$

Independence & Variance

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p) = \underbrace{\text{Ber}(p) + \text{Ber}(p) + \dots + \text{Ber}(p)}_n$$

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- Question:** what is the variance of X , if $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$
- How about: what is the variance of Y , if $Y \sim \text{Ber}(p)$
- Fact: if X and Y are **independent**, then $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$

$$\text{var}(\text{Bin}(n, p)) = \underbrace{\text{var}(\text{Ber}(p)) + \text{var}(\text{Ber}(p)) + \dots + \text{var}(\text{Ber}(p))}_n \quad \boxed{n p (1-p)}$$

indep. of flips

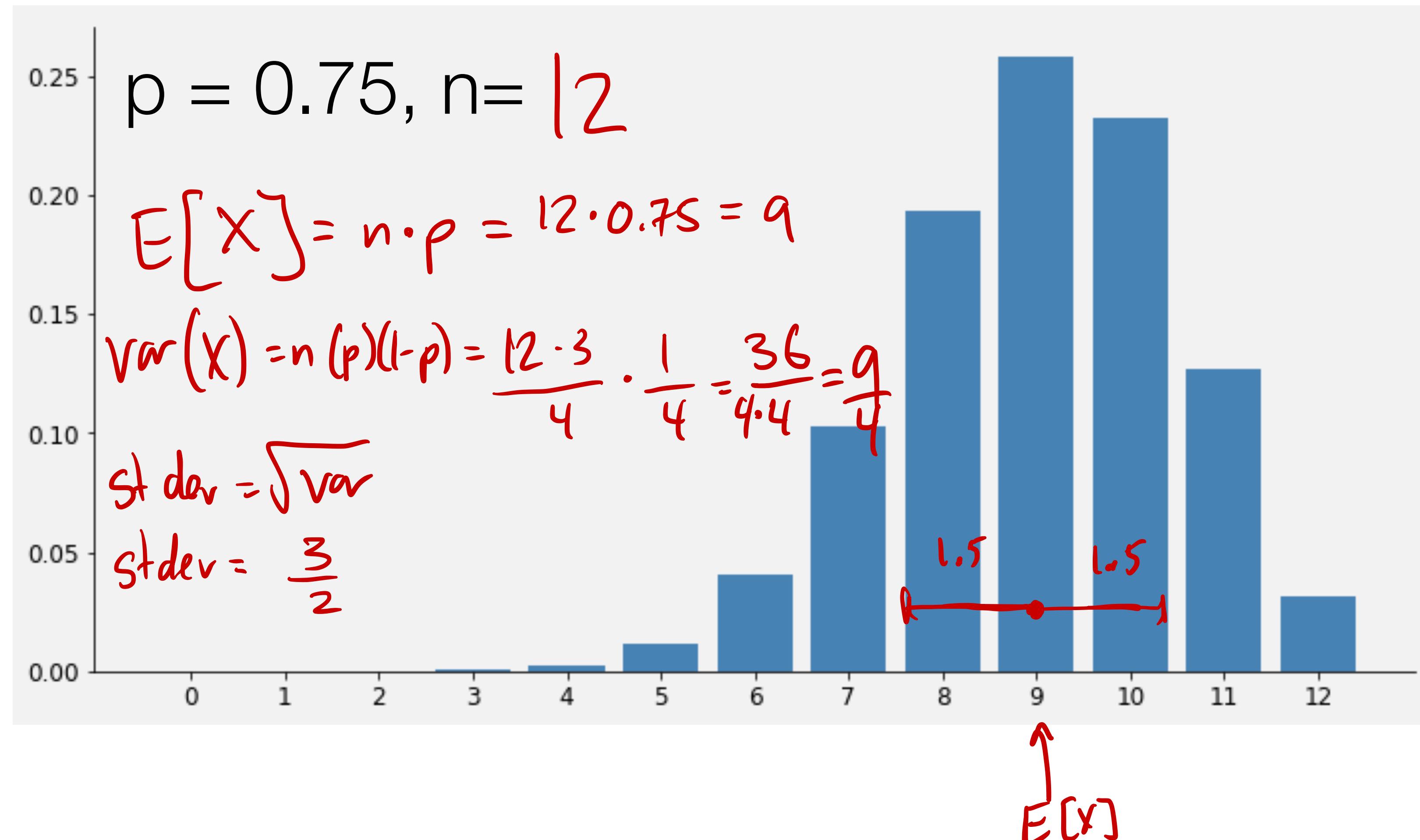
Binomial Variance

- Let X be the RV describing the winnings in each round of Plinko with n rows and a probability p of moving to the right off of each peg.
- **Question:** what is the variance of X , if $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$
- How about: what is the variance of Y , if $Y \sim \text{Ber}(p)$
- Fact: if X and Y are **independent**, then $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$

- **Theorem:** Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$. Then $\text{E}[X] = np$ and $\text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p)$

Plinko on paper

- **Theorem:** Let $X \sim Bin(n, p)$. Then $E[X] = np$ and $Var(X) = np(1 - p)$



Variance Facts!

- **Expectation** is linear:
- What about **Variance**?

$$E[rX+s] = rE[X] + s$$

$$\text{var}(X+s) = E[(X+s - E[X+s])^2]$$

$$\text{var}(rX) = ?$$

$$= E[(X+s - E[X]-s)^2]$$

$$= E[(X - E[X])^2]$$

$$= \text{var}(X)$$

Variance Facts!

- **Expectation** is linear: $E[rX + s] = rE[X] + s$
- **Variance** is not linear: $\text{Var}(rX + s) = r^2\text{Var}(X)$

Mean & Variance: Uniform

- **Suppose** $X \sim U[\alpha, \beta]$. Find $E[X]$ and $\text{Var}(X)$.

Mean & Variance: Uniform

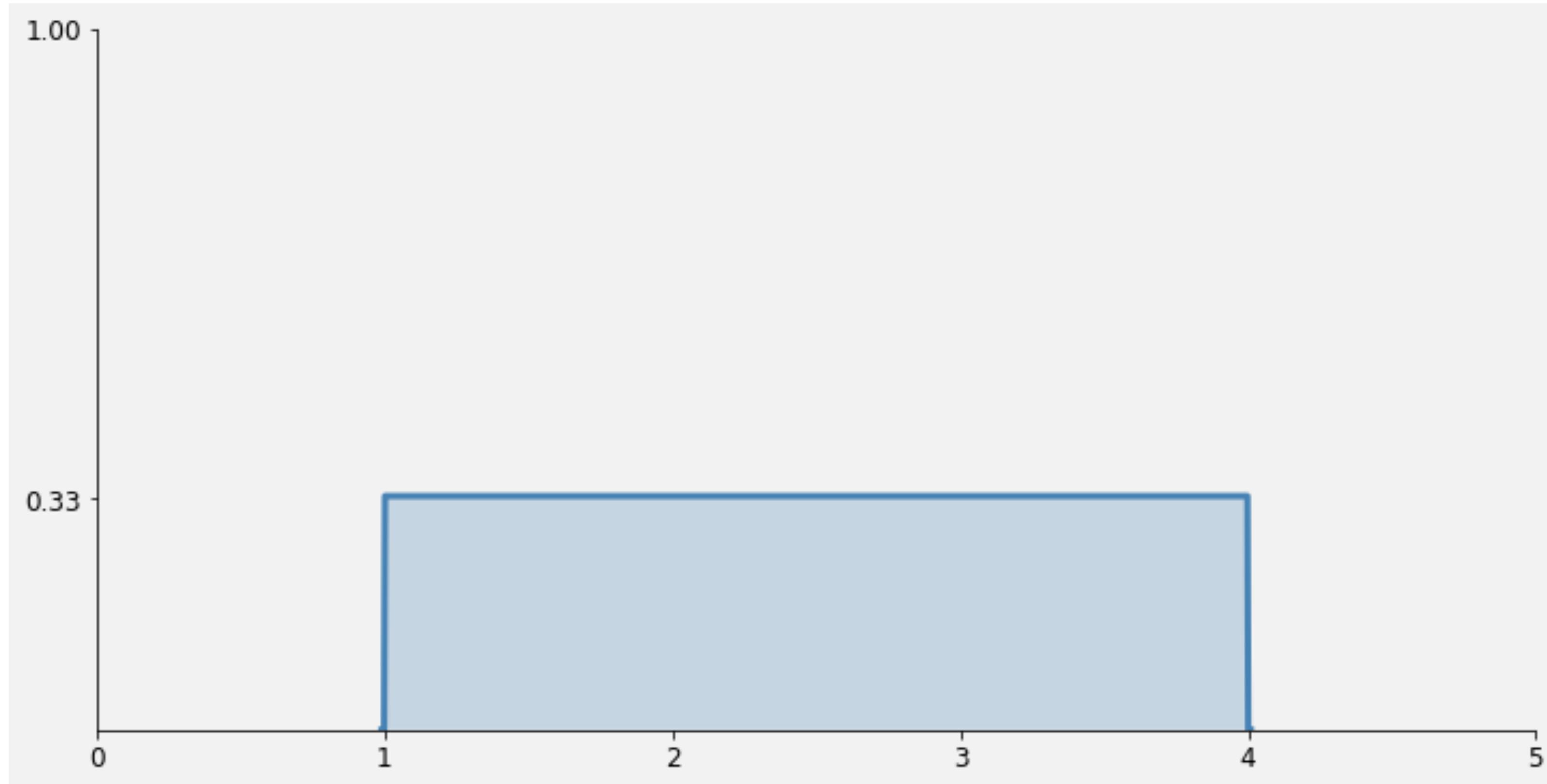
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Mean & Variance: Uniform

- **Suppose** $X \sim U[\alpha, \beta]$. Find $E[X]$ and $\text{Var}(X)$.

Mean & Variance: Uniform

- **Theorem:** Let $X \sim U[\alpha, \beta]$. Then: $E[X] = \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}$ $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{(\beta - \alpha)^2}{12}$



Summary

$$X \sim Ber(p)$$

$$E[X] = p$$

$$Var(X) = p(1 - p)$$

$$X \sim Bin(n, p)$$

$$E[X] = np$$

$$Var(X) = np(1 - p)$$

$$X \sim U(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta)$$

$$Var(X) = \frac{1}{12}(\beta - \alpha)^2$$