

# Probability Intro

GA DAT3

# Agenda

Definition

Bayes' Rule

Continuous Probability

Super important distributions

- **Sample space  $\Omega$ :** The set of all the outcomes of a random experiment. Here, each outcome  $\omega \in \Omega$  can be thought of as a complete description of the state of the real world at the end of the experiment.
- **Set of events (or event space)  $\mathcal{F}$ :** A set whose elements  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  (called **events**) are subsets of  $\Omega$  (i.e.,  $A \subseteq \Omega$  is a collection of possible outcomes of an experiment).<sup>1</sup>.
- **Probability measure:** A function  $P : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that satisfies the following properties,
  - $P(A) \geq 0$ , for all  $A \in \mathcal{F}$
  - $P(\Omega) = 1$
  - If  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are disjoint events (i.e.,  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  whenever  $i \neq j$ ), then

$$P(\cup_i A_i) = \sum_i P(A_i)$$

e.g. die rolling

What are the **sample space**  
and **event space**?

Sample vs event space with a k-sided die:

- sample:  $\{ 1 \dots 6 \}$
- event: “odd”  $\{1, 3, 5\}$
- Random variable e.g. “sum of the numbers”

Given two events,  $A$  and  $B$ , we define the probability of  $A$  or  $B$  as follows:

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \& B)$$

$$p(A \vee B) = p(A) + p(B) - p(A \wedge B)$$

$$= p(A) + p(B) \text{ if } A \text{ and } B \text{ are mutually exclusive}$$

joint (= conditional)

$$p(A, B) = p(A \wedge B) = p(A|B)p(B)$$

marginal

$$p(A) = \sum_b p(A, B) = \sum_b p(A|B = b)p(B = b)$$

product rule (= joint)

$$p(X_{1:D}) = p(X_1)p(X_2|X_1)p(X_3|X_2, X_1)p(X_4|X_1, X_2, X_3) \dots p(X_D|X_{1:D-1})$$

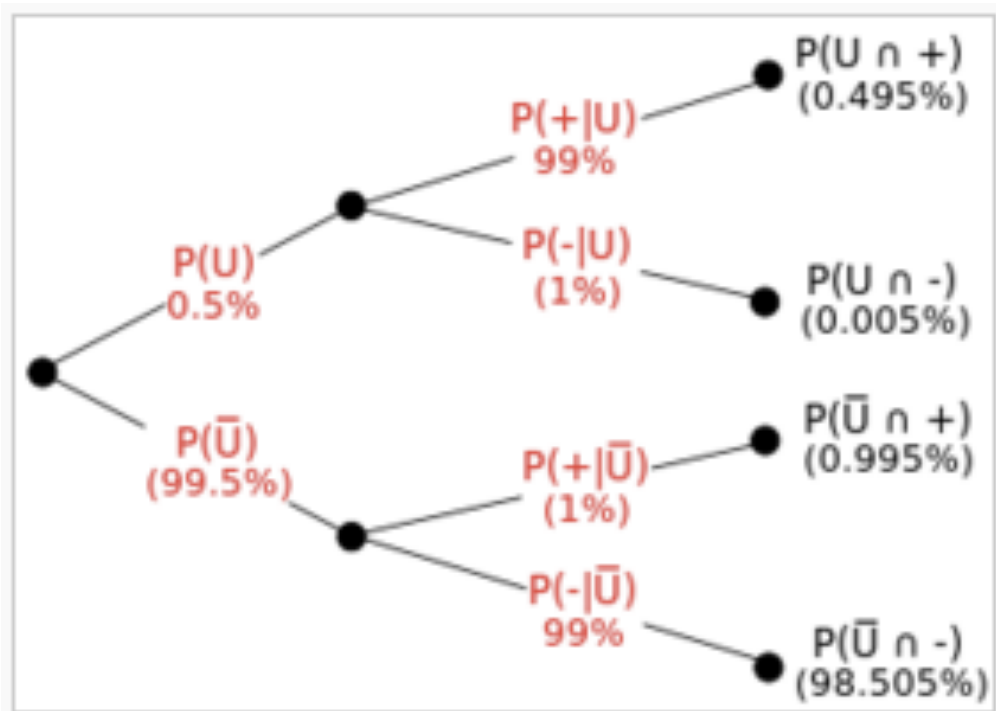
## Bayes' Rule

Suppose a drug test is 99% **sensitive** and 99% **specific**. That is, the test will produce 99% true positive results for drug users and 99% true negative results for non-drug users. Suppose that 0.5% of people are users of the drug. If a randomly selected individual tests positive, what is the **probability** he or she is a user?

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{User} \mid +) &= \frac{P(+ \mid \text{User})P(\text{User})}{P(+ \mid \text{User})P(\text{User}) + P(+ \mid \text{Non-user})P(\text{Non-user})} \\&= \frac{0.99 \times 0.005}{0.99 \times 0.005 + 0.01 \times 0.995} \\&\approx 33.2\%\end{aligned}$$



## Baye's Rule



(conditional) independence

$$X \perp Y | Z \iff p(X, Y | Z) = p(X | Z)p(Y | Z)$$

very fun (easy-ish) challenge - prove this:

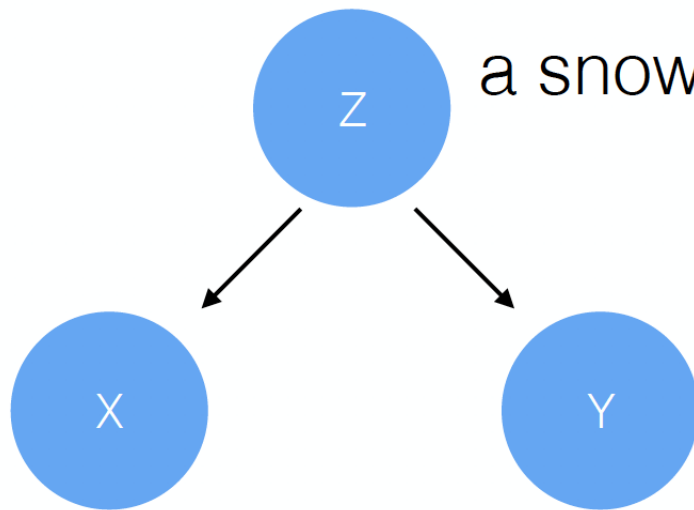
**Theorem 2.2.1.**  *$X \perp Y | Z$  iff there exist function  $g$  and  $h$  such that*

$$p(x, y | z) = g(x, z)h(y, z)$$

*for all  $x, y, z$  such that  $p(z) > 0$ .*

conditional independence: example

I like graphs



a snow storm occurs

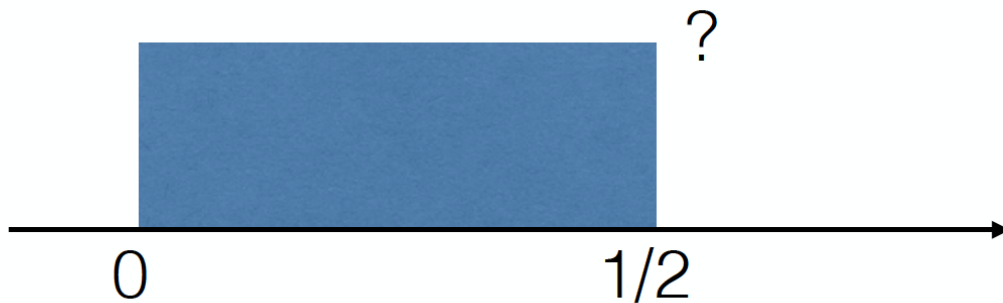
Bob gets home late

Alice gets home late

## Continuous Probability

$$P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x)dx$$

weird stuff - what goes on here?

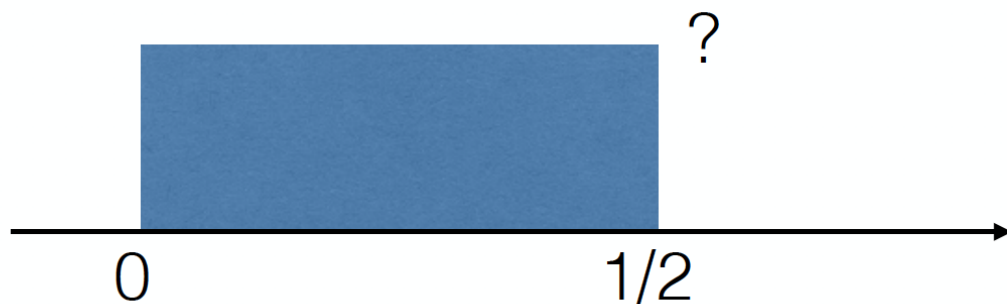


## Continuous Probability

$$P(a < X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x)dx$$

$$\text{Unif}(x|a, b) = \frac{1}{b-a} \mathbb{I}(a \leq x \leq b)$$

If we set  $a = 0$  and  $b = \frac{1}{2}$ , we have  $p(x) = 2$  for any  $x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$

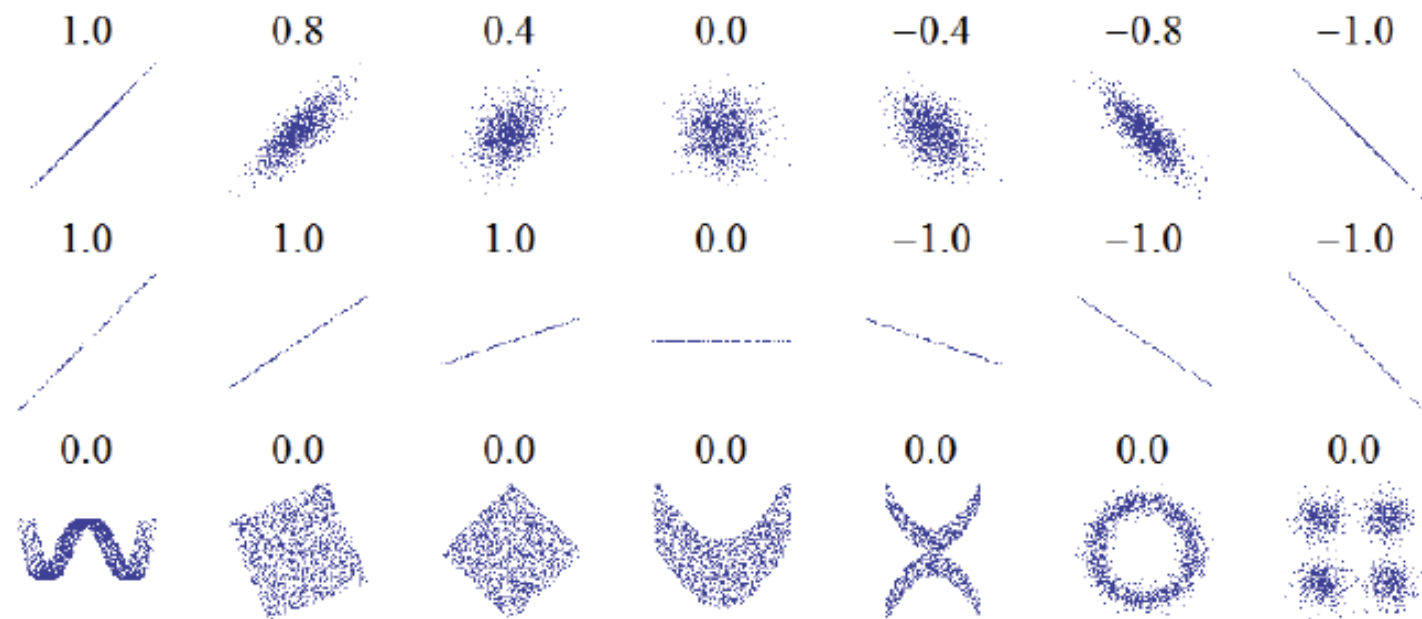


## Mean, Variance, Covariance

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}[X] &\triangleq \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu)^2] = \int (x - \mu)^2 p(x) dx \\ &= \int x^2 p(x) dx + \mu^2 \int p(x) dx - 2\mu \int x p(x) dx = \mathbb{E}[X^2] - \mu^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{cov}[X, Y] \triangleq \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])] = \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$$



**Figure 2.12** Several sets of  $(x, y)$  points, with the correlation coefficient of  $x$  and  $y$  for each set. Note that the correlation reflects the noisiness and direction of a linear relationship (top row), but not the slope of that relationship (middle), nor many aspects of nonlinear relationships (bottom). N.B.: the figure in the center has a slope of 0 but in that case the correlation coefficient is undefined because the variance of  $Y$  is zero. Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Correlation\\_examples.png](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Correlation_examples.png)

## Super important distributions - Bernoulli, Binomial

$$\text{Ber}(x|\theta) = \theta^{\mathbb{I}(x=1)}(1 - \theta)^{\mathbb{I}(x=0)}$$

In other words,

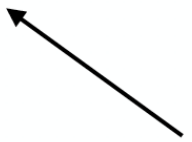
$$\text{Ber}(x|\theta) = \begin{cases} \theta & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - \theta & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Bin}(k|n, \theta) \triangleq \binom{n}{k} \theta^k (1 - \theta)^{n-k}$$

where

$$\binom{n}{k} \triangleq \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$$

why?



examples?



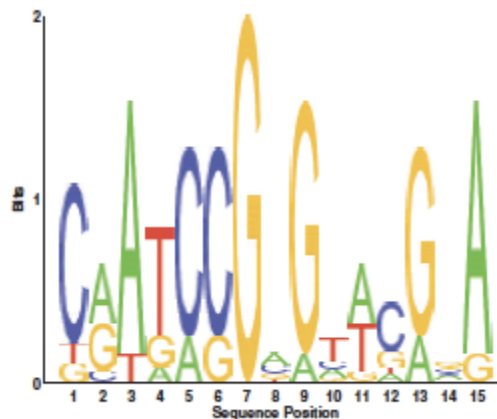
## Super important distributions - Multinoulli

$$\text{Mu}(\mathbf{x}|n, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \triangleq \binom{n}{x_1 \dots x_K} \prod_{j=1}^K \theta_j^{x_j}$$

where  $\theta_j$  is the probability that side  $j$  shows up, and

$$\binom{n}{x_1 \dots x_K} \triangleq \frac{n!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_K!}$$

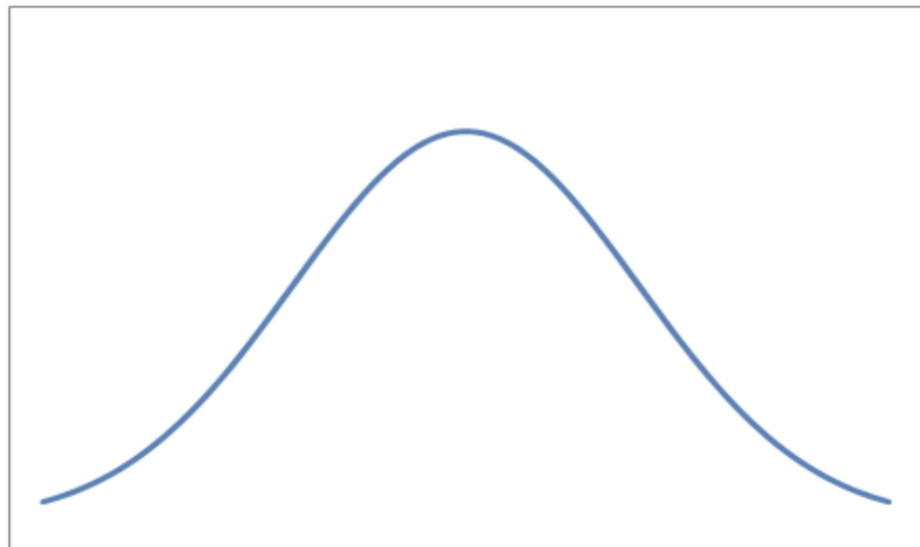
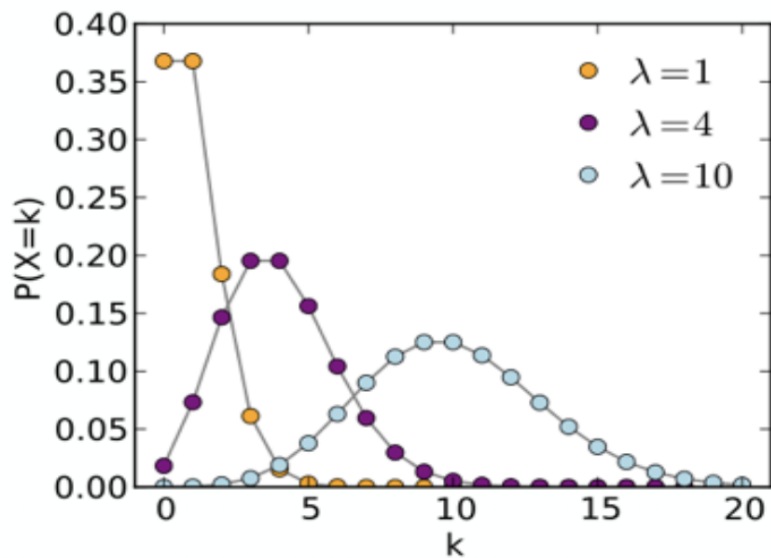
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Super important distributions - Poisson, Gaussian

$$\text{Poi}(x|\lambda) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) \triangleq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2}$$

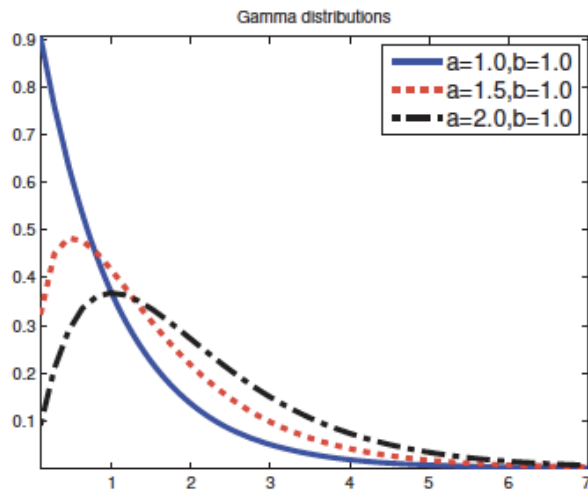


## Super important distributions - Gamma, Beta

$$\text{Ga}(T|\text{shape} = a, \text{rate} = b) \triangleq \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} T^{a-1} e^{-Tb}$$

where  $\Gamma(a)$  is the gamma function:

$$\Gamma(x) \triangleq \int_0^{\infty} u^{x-1} e^{-u} du$$



$$\text{Beta}(x|a, b) = \frac{1}{B(a, b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1}$$

Here  $B(p, q)$  is the beta function,

$$B(a, b) \triangleq \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$$

