



# Convolution and Conditional

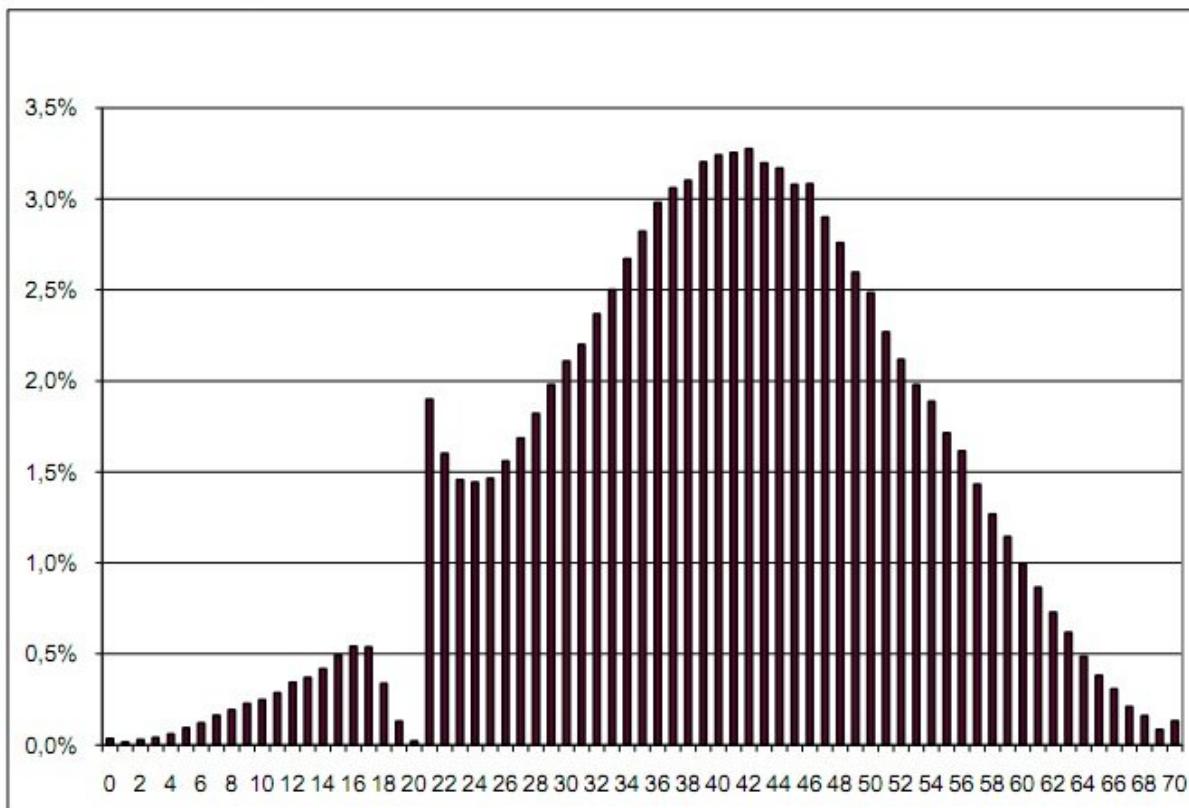
Chris Piech  
CS109, Stanford University

# Altruism?

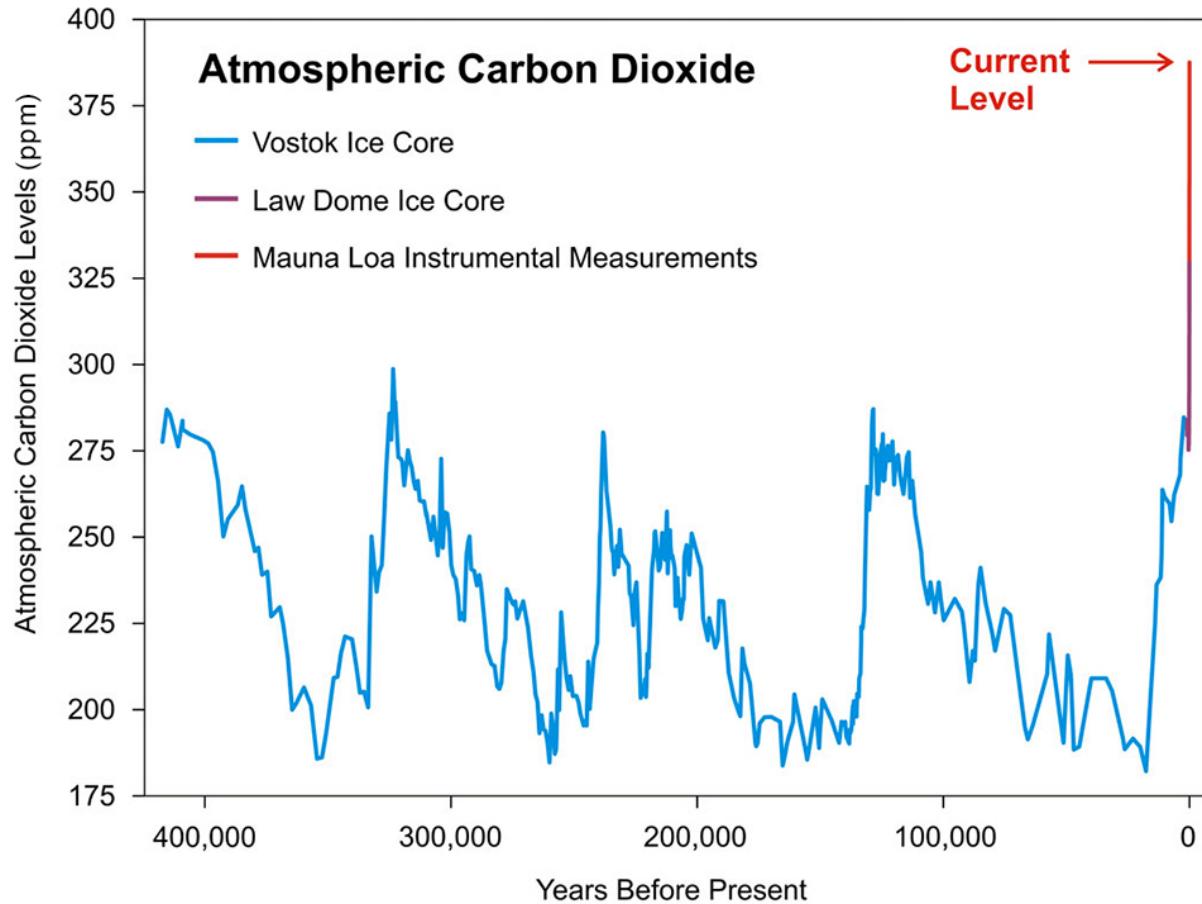
Scores for a standardized test that students in Poland are required to pass before moving on in school

See if you can guess the minimum score to pass the test.

## 2.1. Poziom podstawowy



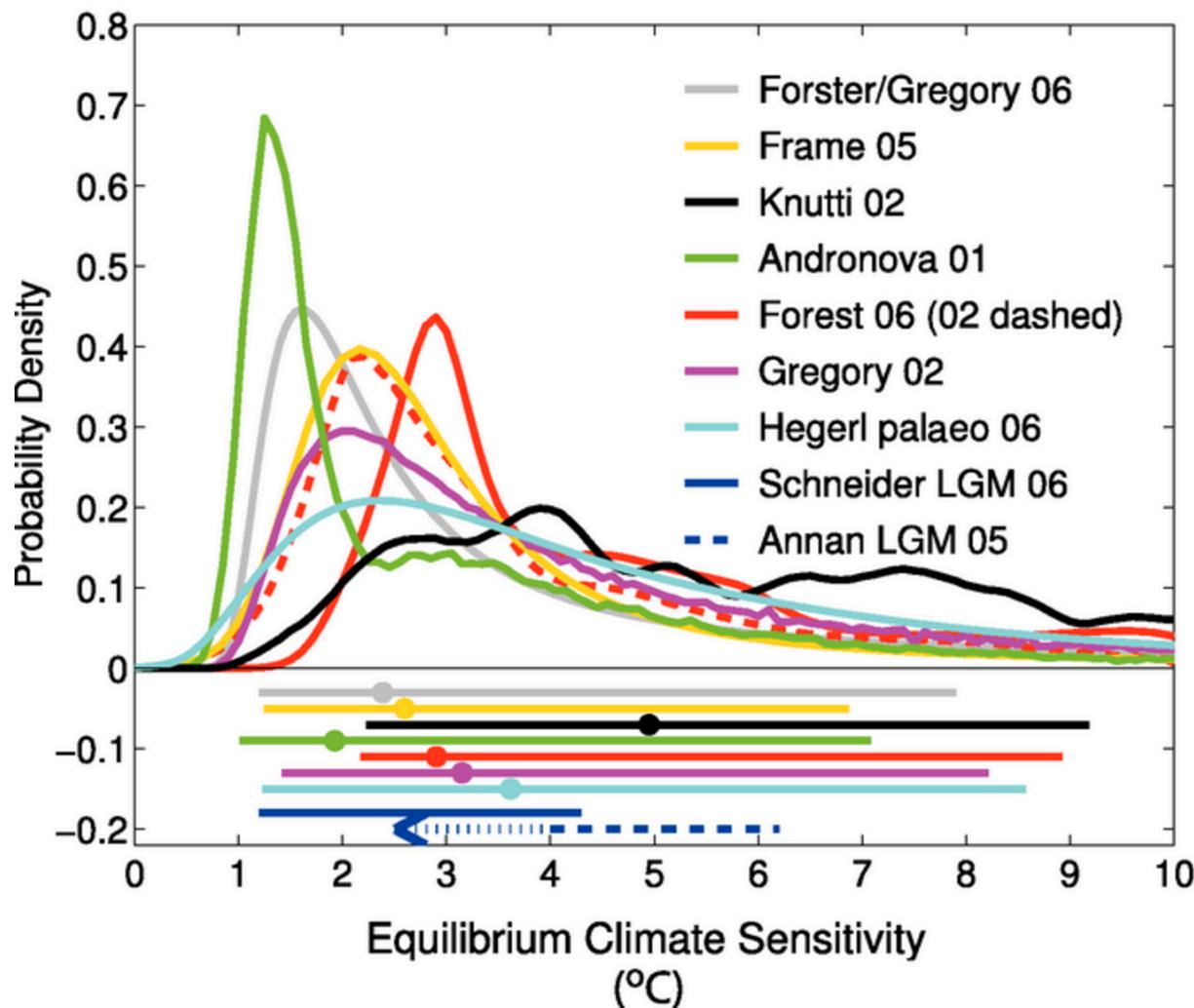
Wykres 1. Rozkład wyników na poziomie podstawowym



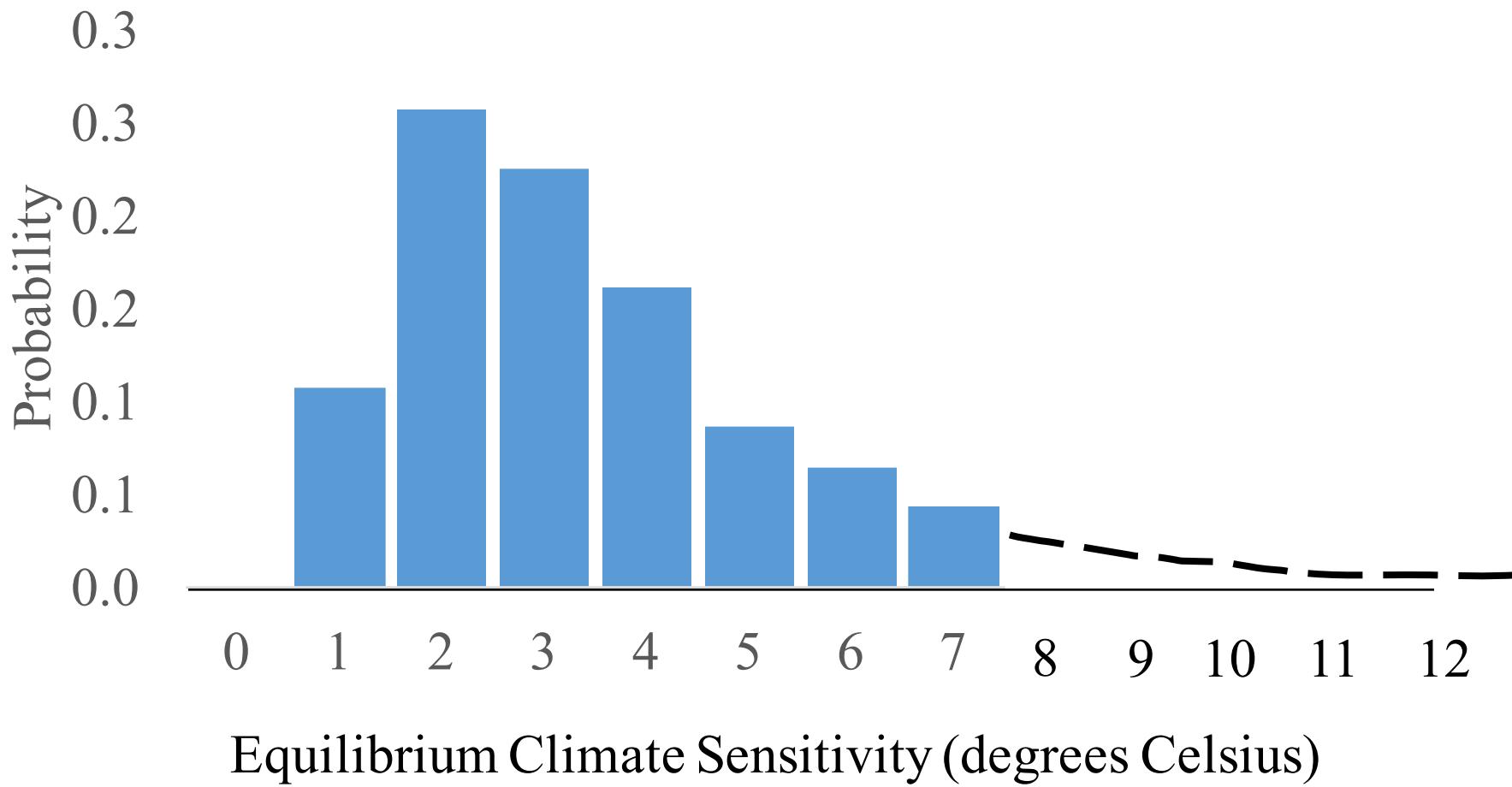
CO<sub>2</sub> Pre-Industrial: 275 parts per million (ppm)

CO<sub>2</sub> Today: 407 parts per million (ppm)

# Climate Sensitivity



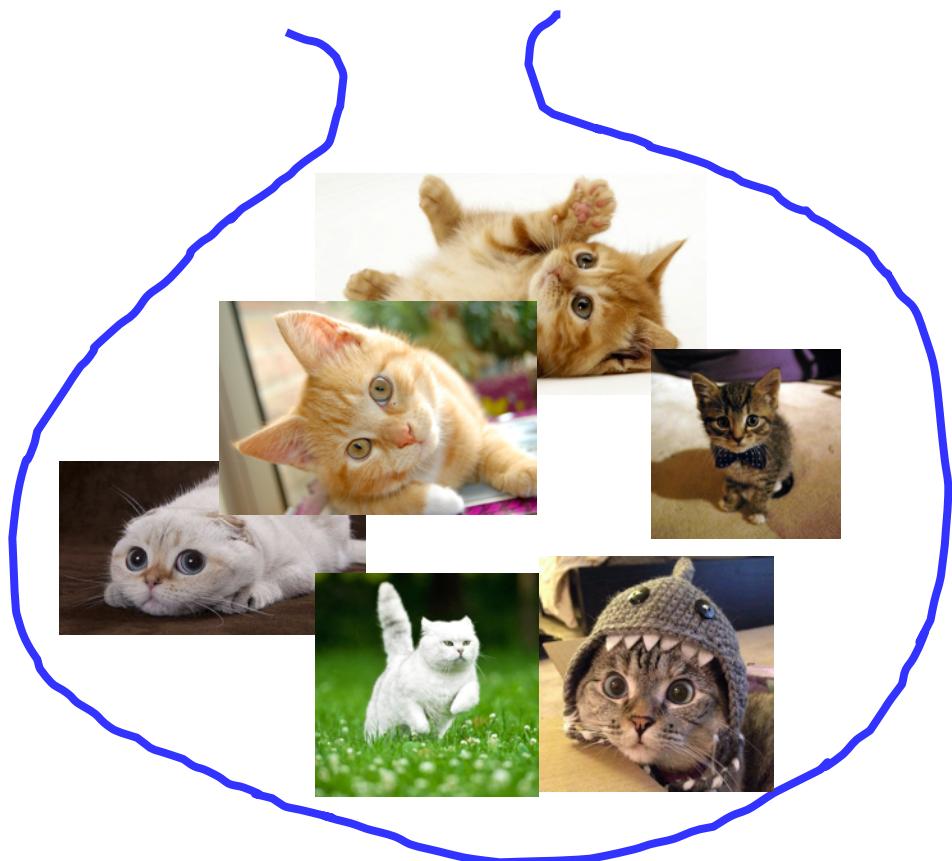
# Climate Sensitivity



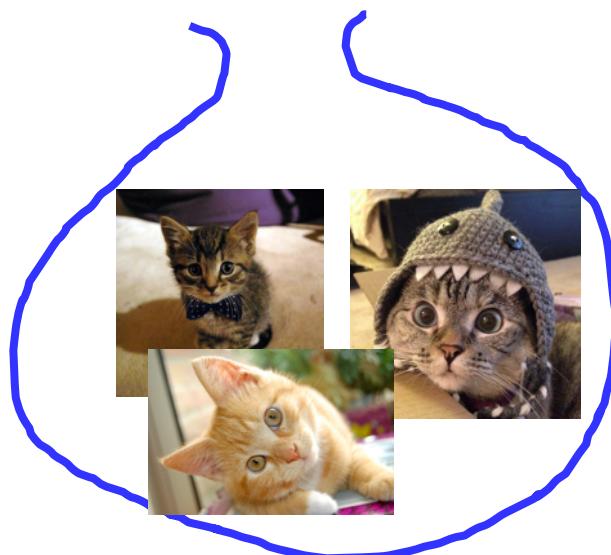
# Algorithmic Practice

# Choosing a Random Subset

Original Set (size  $n$ )



Subset (size  $k$ )



# Choosing a Random Subset

- From set of  $n$  elements, choose a subset of size  $k$  such that all  $\binom{n}{k}$  possibilities are equally likely
  - Only have `random()`, which simulates  $X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1)$
- Brute force:
  - Generate (an ordering of) all subsets of size  $k$
  - Randomly pick one (divide  $(0, 1)$  into  $\binom{n}{k}$  intervals)
  - Expensive with regard to time and space
  - Bad times!

# (Happily) Choosing a Random Subset

- Good times:

```
int indicator(double p) {
    if (random() < p) return 1; else return 0;
}

subset rSubset(k, set of size n) {
    subset_size = 0;
    I[1] = indicator((double)k/n);
    for(i = 1; i < n; i++) {
        subset_size += I[i];
        I[i+1] = indicator((k - subset_size)/(n - i));
    }
    return (subset containing element[i] iff I[i] == 1);
}
```

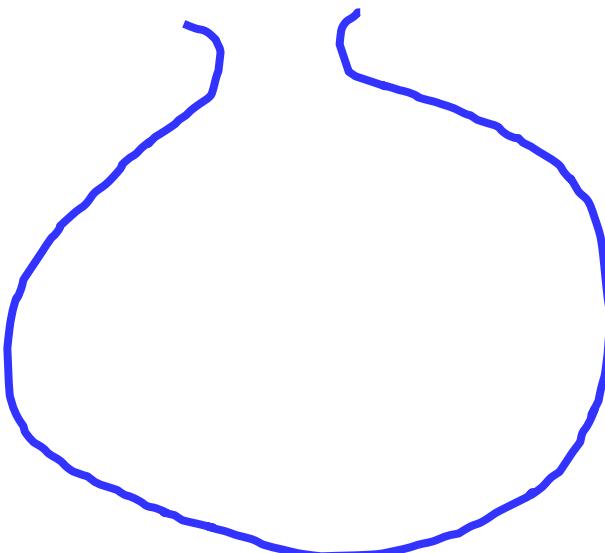
$$P(I[1] = 1) = \frac{k}{n} \text{ and } P(I[i+1] = 1 | I[1], \dots, I[i]) = \frac{k - \sum_{j=1}^i I[j]}{n-i} \text{ where } 1 < i < n$$

# Choosing a Random Subset

Original Set (size  $n$ )



Subset (size  $k$ )



# Random Subsets the Happy Way

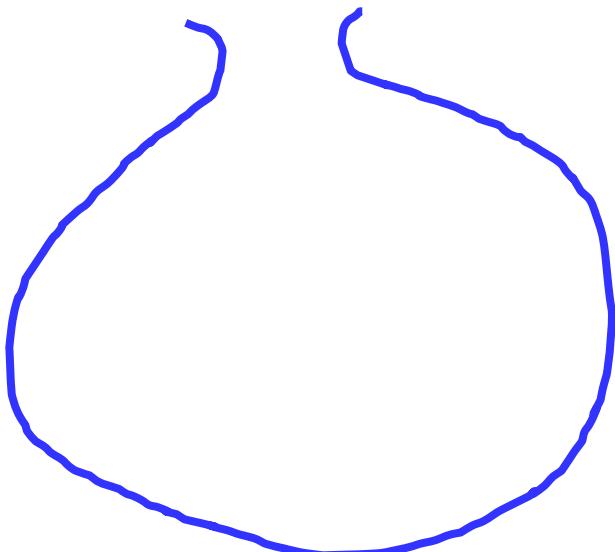
- Proof (Induction on  $(k + n)$ ): (i.e., why this algorithm works)
  - Base Case:  $k = 1, n = 1$ , Set  $S = \{a\}$ , `rSubset` returns  $\{a\}$  with  $p = 1 / \binom{1}{1}$
  - Inductive Hypoth. (IH): for  $k + x \leq c$ , Given set  $S$ ,  $|S| = x$  and  $k \leq x$ , `rSubset` returns any subset  $S'$  of  $S$ , where  $|S'| = k$ , with  $p = 1 / \binom{x}{k}$
  - Inductive Case 1: (where  $k + n \leq c + 1$ )  $|S| = n (= x + 1)$ ,  $I[1] = 1$ 
    - Elem 1 in subset, choose  $k - 1$  elems from remaining  $n - 1$
    - By IH: `rSubset` returns subset  $S'$  of size  $k - 1$  with  $p = 1 / \binom{n-1}{k-1}$
    - $P(I[1] = 1, \text{subset } S') = \frac{k}{n} \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k-1} = 1 / \binom{n}{k}$
  - Inductive Case 2: (where  $k + n \leq c + 1$ )  $|S| = n (= x + 1)$ ,  $I[1] = 0$ 
    - Elem 1 not in subset, choose  $k$  elems from remaining  $n - 1$
    - By IH: `rSubset` returns subset  $S'$  of size  $k$  with  $p = 1 / \binom{n-1}{k}$
    - $P(I[1] = 0, \text{subset } S') = \left(1 - \frac{k}{n}\right) \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k} = \left(\frac{n-k}{n}\right) \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k} = 1 / \binom{n}{k}$

# Induction Cases

Original Set (size  $n$ )

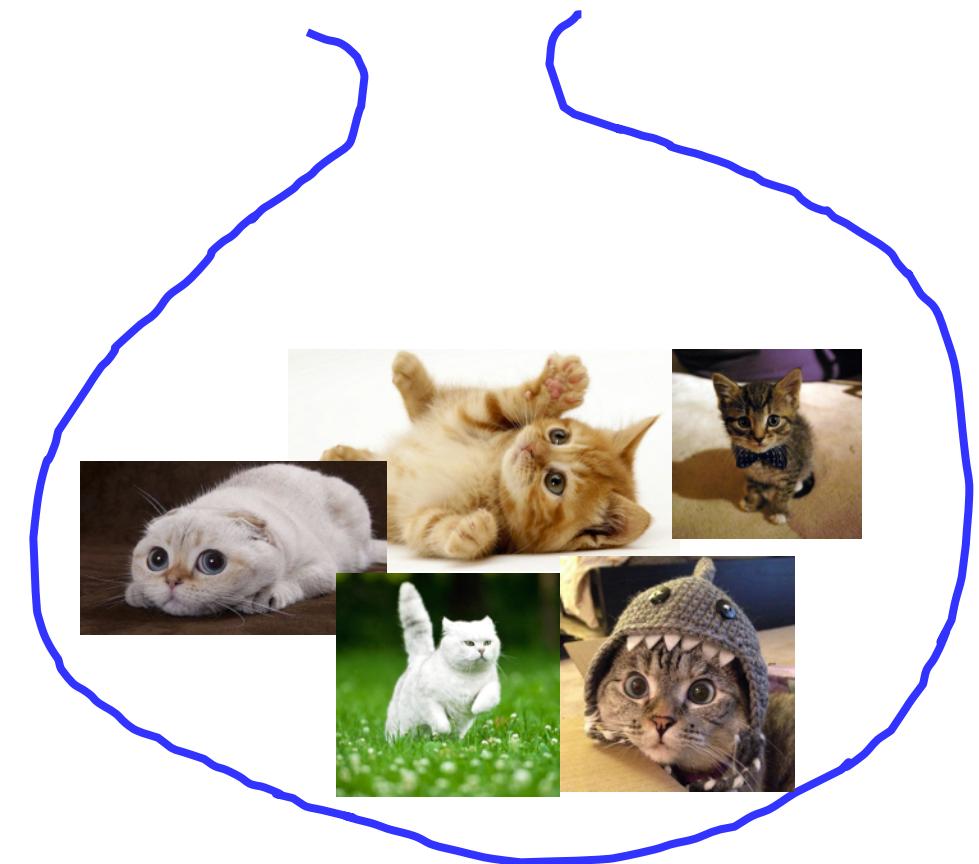


Subset (size  $k$ )



# Case 1

Original Set (size  $n$ )

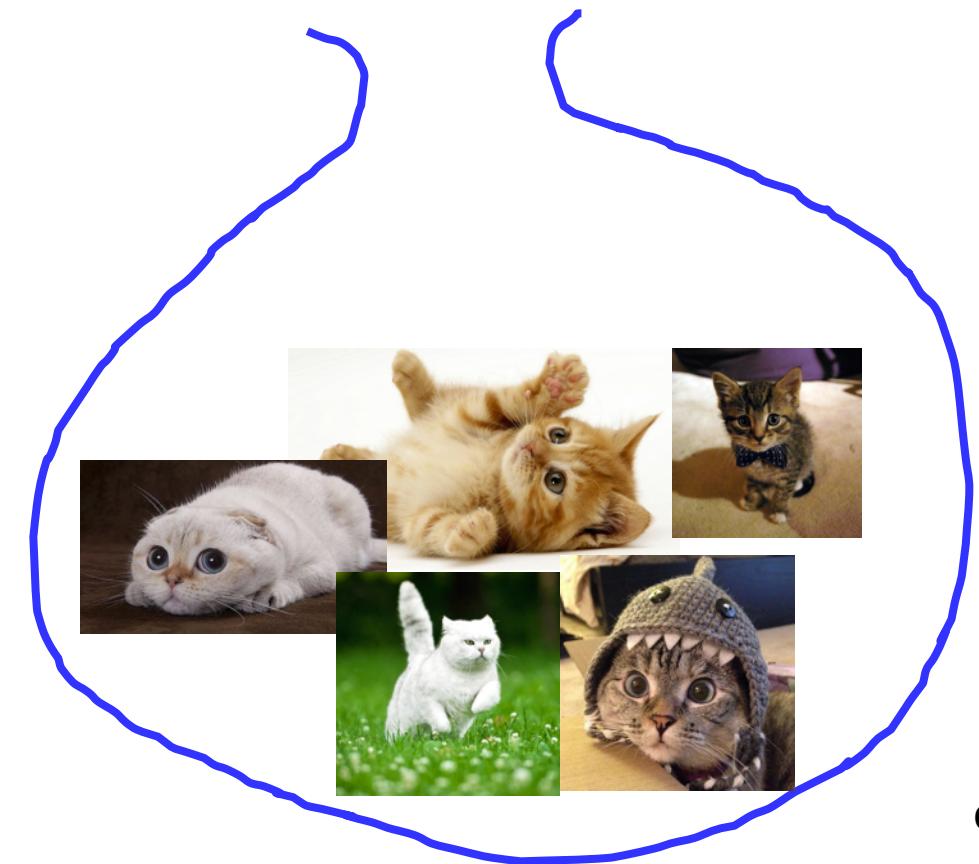


Subset (size  $k$ )

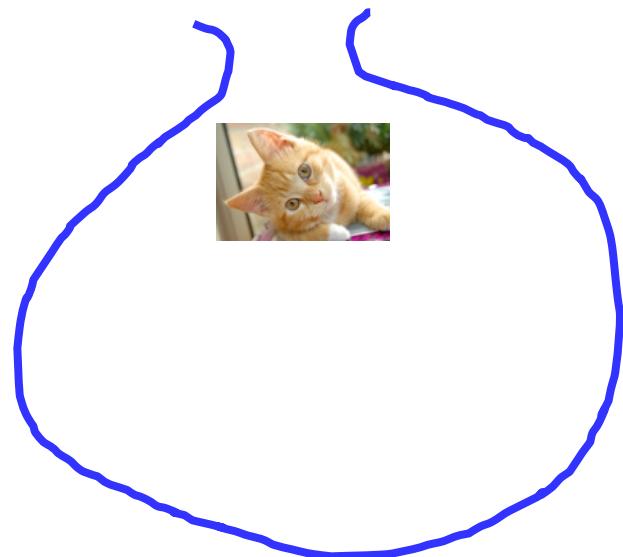


# Case 1

Original Set (size  $n-1$ )



Subset (size  $k-1$ )

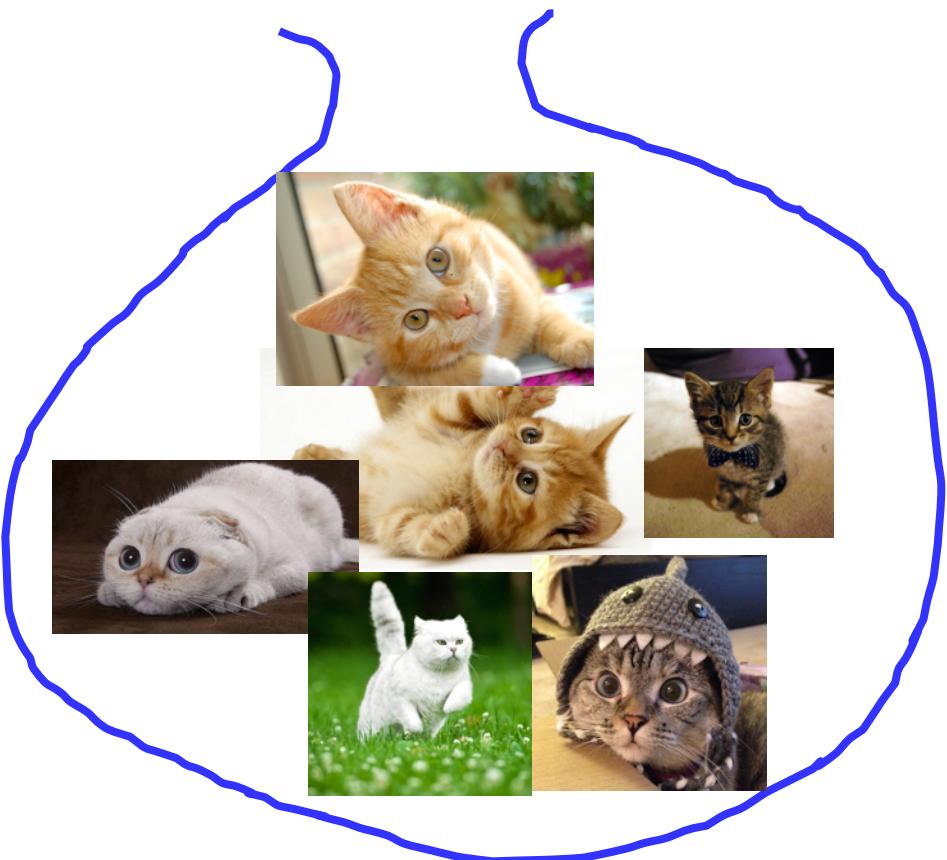


By induction we know that all subsamples of size  $k-1$  from  $n-1$  items are equally likely

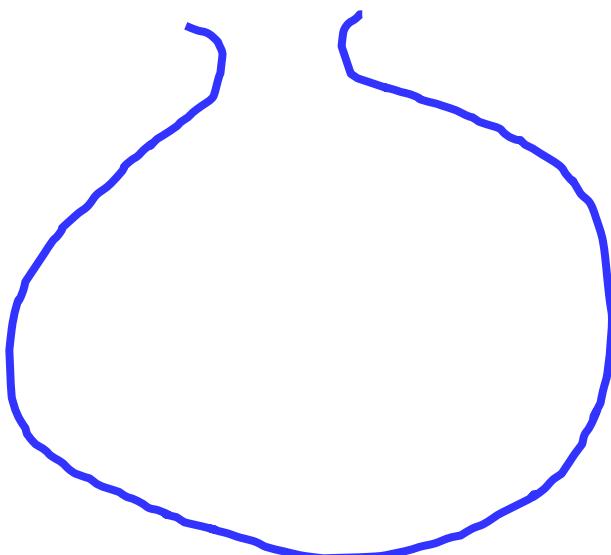
$$P(\text{subset}) = \frac{k}{n} \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k-1} = 1 / \binom{n}{k}$$

# Choosing a Random Subset

Original Set (size  $n$ )



Subset (size  $k$ )

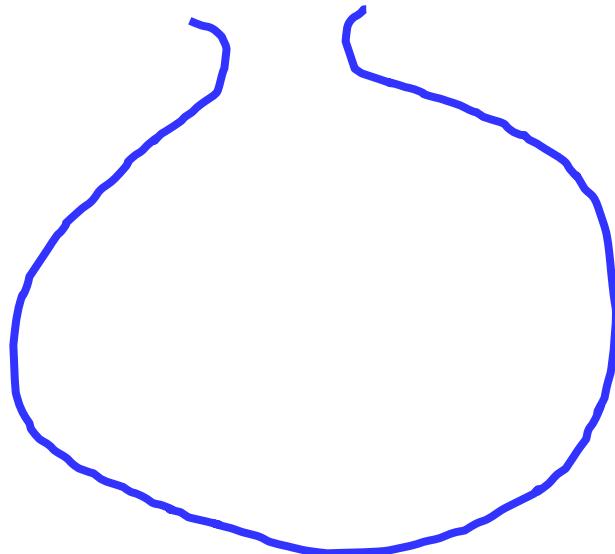


# Case 2

Original Set (size  $n-1$ )



Subset (size  $k$ )

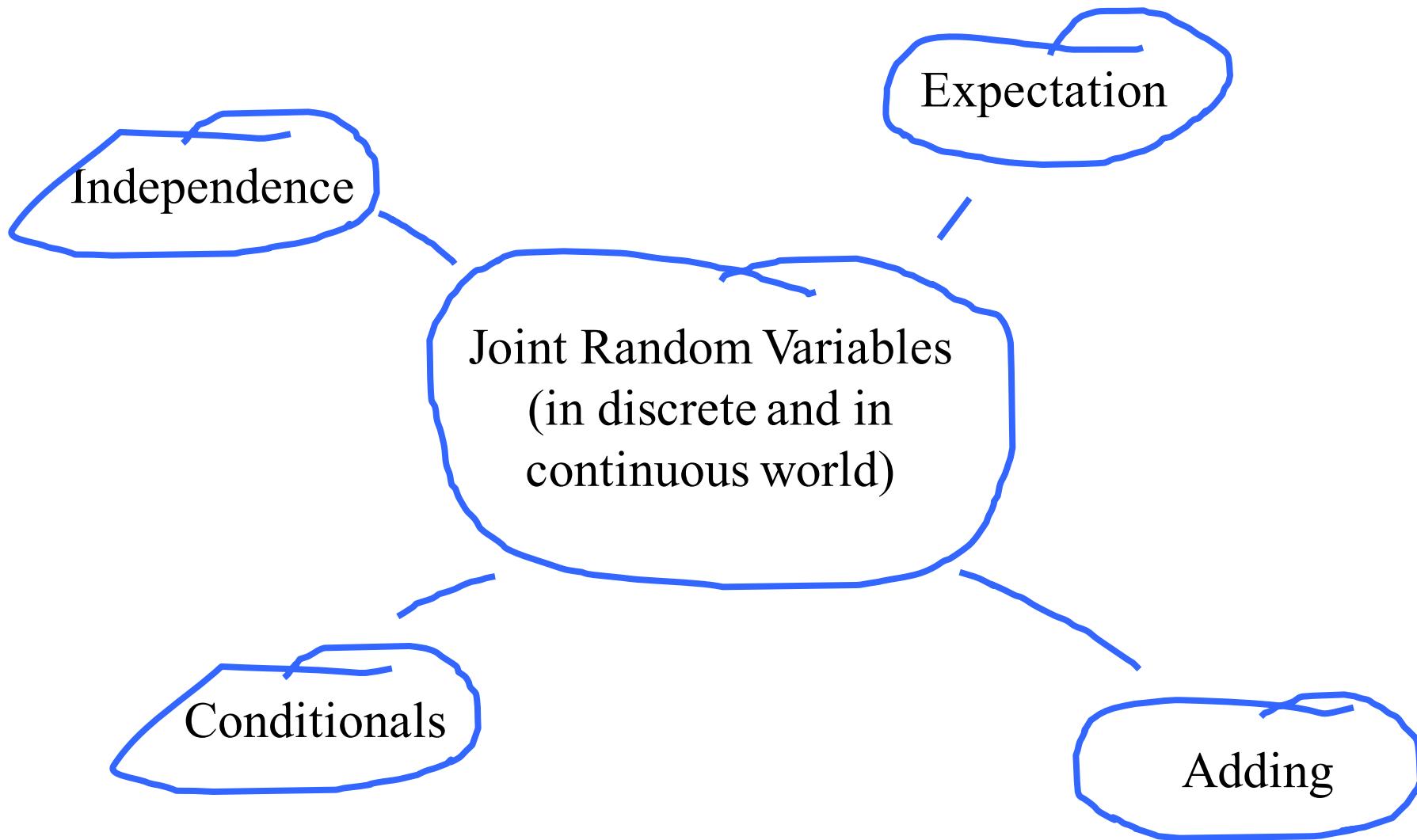


By induction we know that all subsamples of size  $k$  from  $n-1$  are equally likely

$$P(\text{subset}) = \left(1 - \frac{k}{n}\right) \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k} = \left(\frac{n-k}{n}\right) \cdot 1 / \binom{n-1}{k} = 1 / \binom{n}{k}$$

All combinations are in either case.  
Each combination in the cases are  
equally likely

# The Story so Far

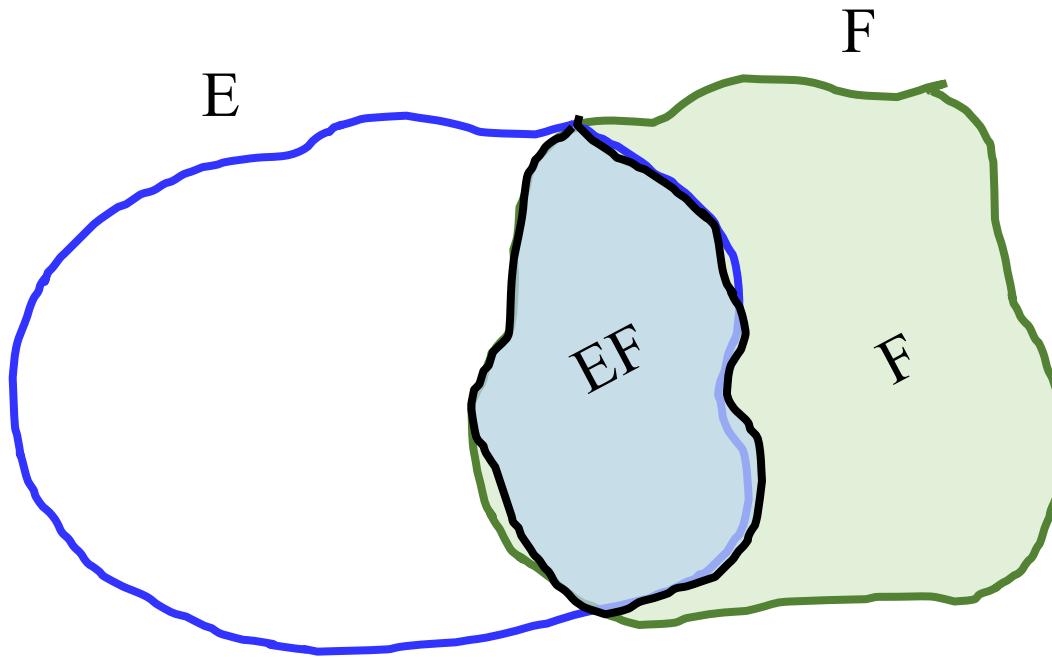


# Conditionals with multiple variables

# Discrete Conditional Distribution

- Recall that for events E and F:

$$P(E | F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} \quad \text{where } P(F) > 0$$



# Discrete Conditional Distributions

- Recall that for events E and F:

$$P(E | F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} \quad \text{where } P(F) > 0$$

- Now, have X and Y as discrete random variables

- Conditional PMF of X given Y (where  $p_Y(y) > 0$ ):

$$P_{X|Y}(x | y) = P(X = x | Y = y) = \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)}$$

- Conditional CDF of X given Y (where  $p_Y(y) > 0$ ):

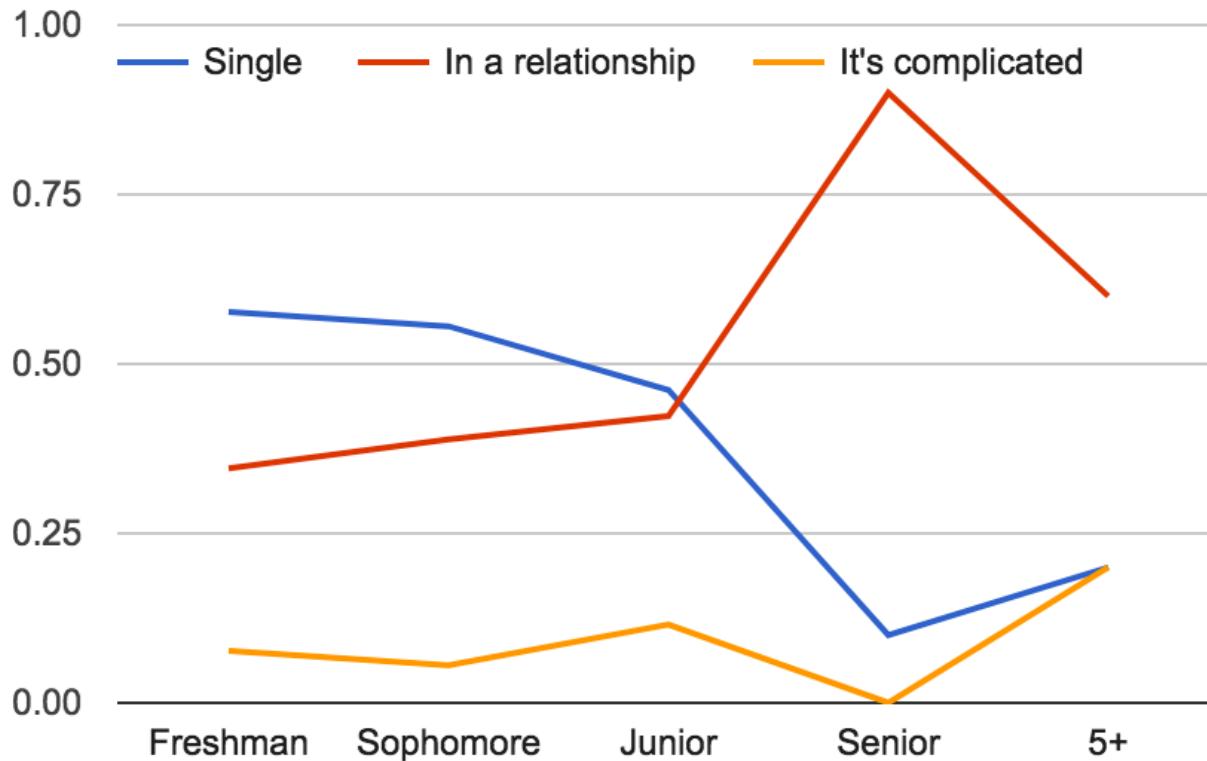
$$\begin{aligned} F_{X|Y}(a | y) &= P(X \leq a | Y = y) = \frac{P(X \leq a, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{x \leq a} p_{X,Y}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} = \sum_{x \leq a} p_{X|Y}(x | y) \end{aligned}$$

# Conditional Probability?

Joint Probability Table				
	Single	In a relationship	It's complicated	Marginal Year
Freshman	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.13
Sophomore	0.21	0.16	0.02	0.39
Junior	0.13	0.06	0.02	0.21
Senior	0.04	0.07	0.01	0.12
5+	0.04	0.09	0.03	0.15
<b>Marginal Status</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>1.00</b>

# Relationship Status

Probability of Status | Year



# Operating System Loyalty

- Consider person buying 2 computers (over time)
  - $X = 1\text{st computer bought is a PC (1 if it is, 0 if it is not)}$
  - $Y = 2\text{nd computer bought is a PC (1 if it is, 0 if it is not)}$
  - Joint probability mass function (PMF):
  - What is  $P(Y = 0 | X = 0)$ ?

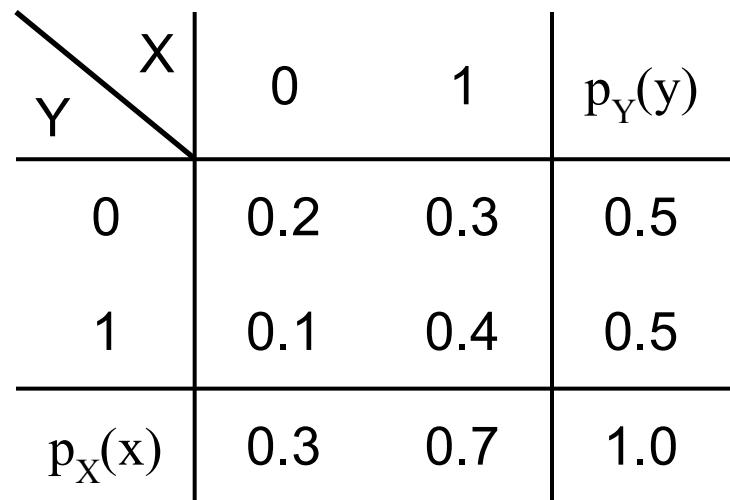
$$P(Y = 0 | X = 0) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(0,0)}{p_X(0)} = \frac{0.2}{0.3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

- What is  $P(Y = 1 | X = 0)$ ?

$$P(Y = 1 | X = 0) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(0,1)}{p_X(0)} = \frac{0.1}{0.3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

- What is  $P(X = 0 | Y = 1)$ ?

$$P(X = 0 | Y = 1) = \frac{p_{X,Y}(0,1)}{p_Y(1)} = \frac{0.1}{0.5} = \frac{1}{5}$$



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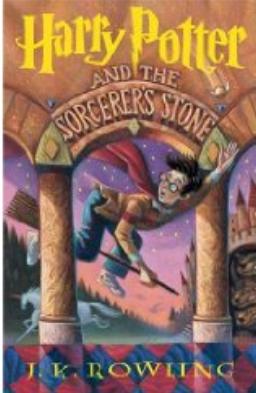
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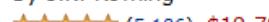
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# Continuous Conditional Distributions

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be continuous random variables
  - Conditional PDF of  $X$  given  $Y$  (where  $f_Y(y) > 0$ ):

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy}{f_Y(y) dy}$$

$$\approx \frac{P(x \leq X \leq x + dx, y \leq Y \leq y + dy)}{P(y \leq Y \leq y + dy)} = P(x \leq X \leq x + dx | y \leq Y \leq y + dy)$$

- Conditional CDF of  $X$  given  $Y$  (where  $f_Y(y) > 0$ ):

$$F_{X|Y}(a | y) = P(X \leq a | Y = y) = \int_{-\infty}^a f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx$$

- Note: Even though  $P(Y = a) = 0$ , can condition on  $Y = a$

- Really considering:  $P(a - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq Y \leq a + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}) = \int_{a-\varepsilon/2}^{a+\varepsilon/2} f_Y(y) dy \approx \varepsilon f(a)$

# Let's Do an Example

- X and Y are continuous RVs with PDF:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) & \text{where } 0 < x, y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Compute conditional density:  $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X|Y}(x | y) &= \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{\int_0^1 f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx} \\ &= \frac{\frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\left[ x^2 - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2 y}{2} \right]_0^1} \\ &= \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{y}{2}} = \frac{6x(2 - x - y)}{4 - 3y} \end{aligned}$$

What happens when you add random variables?

# Sum of Independent Binomials

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables
  - $X \sim \text{Bin}(n_1, p)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n_2, p)$
  - $X + Y \sim \text{Bin}(n_1 + n_2, p)$
- Intuition:
  - $X$  has  $n_1$  trials and  $Y$  has  $n_2$  trials
    - Each trial has same “success” probability  $p$
  - Define  $Z$  to be  $n_1 + n_2$  trials, each with success prob.  $p$
  - $Z \sim \text{Bin}(n_1 + n_2, p)$ , and also  $Z = X + Y$
- More generally:  $X_i \sim \text{Bin}(n_i, p)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq N$

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \right) \sim \text{Bin}\left( \sum_{i=1}^N n_i, p \right)$$

# Sum of Independent Poissons

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables
  - $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_2)$
  - $X + Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
- Proof: (just for reference)
  - Rewrite  $(X + Y = n)$  as  $(X = k, Y = n - k)$  where  $0 \leq k \leq n$

$$P(X + Y = n) = \sum_{k=0}^n P(X = k, Y = n - k) = \sum_{k=0}^n P(X = k)P(Y = n - k)$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^n e^{-\lambda_1} \frac{\lambda_1^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda_2} \frac{\lambda_2^{n-k}}{(n-k)!} = e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)} \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)}}{n!} \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}$$

- Noting Binomial theorem:  $(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}$
- $P(X + Y = n) = \frac{e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)}}{n!} (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n$  so,  $X + Y = n \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$

# Reference: Sum of Independent RVs

- Let X and Y be independent Binomial RVs
  - $X \sim \text{Bin}(n_1, p)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n_2, p)$
  - $X + Y \sim \text{Bin}(n_1 + n_2, p)$
  - More generally, let  $X_i \sim \text{Bin}(n_i, p)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \right) \sim \text{Bin}\left( \sum_{i=1}^N n_i, p \right)$$

- Let X and Y be independent Poisson RVs
  - $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_2)$
  - $X + Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
  - More generally, let  $X_i \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \right) \sim \text{Poi}\left( \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \right)$$

If only it were always that simple

# Convolution of Probability Distributions



We talked about sum of Binomial and Poisson...who's missing from this party?  
Uniform.

Summation: not just for the 1%

# Dance, Dance Convolution

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables

- Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF) of  $X + Y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X+Y}(a) &= P(X + Y \leq a) \\ &= \iint_{x+y \leq a} f_X(x)f_Y(y) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{a-y} f_X(x) dx f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} F_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

*CDF of  $X$*       *PDF of  $Y$*

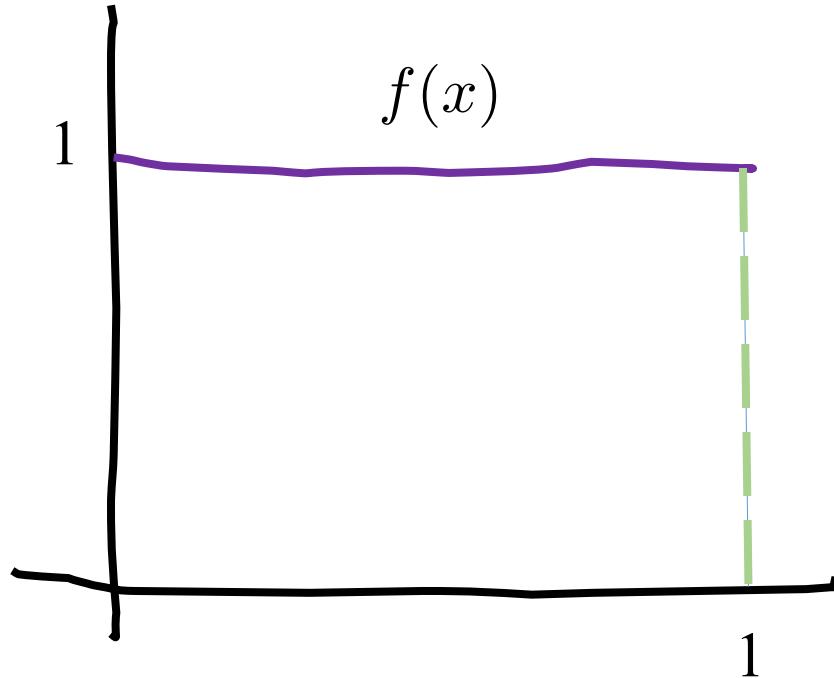
- $F_{X+Y}$  is called **convolution** of  $F_X$  and  $F_Y$
- Probability Density Function (PDF) of  $X + Y$ , analogous:

$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy$$

- In discrete case, replace  $\int$  with  $\sum$ , and  $f(y)$  with  $p(y)$

# Sum of Independent Uniforms

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables
  - $X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1) \rightarrow f(x) = 1$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$



For both  $X$  and  $Y$

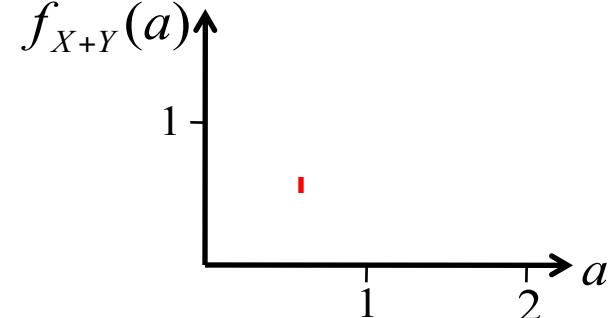
# Sum of Independent Uniforms

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  - $X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1) \rightarrow f(x) = 1$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$
  - What is PDF of  $X + Y$ ?

$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) dy$$

When  $a = 0.5$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X+Y}(0.5) &= \int_{y=?}^{y=?} f_X(0.5 - y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{0.5} f_X(0.5 - y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{0.5} 1 dy \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$



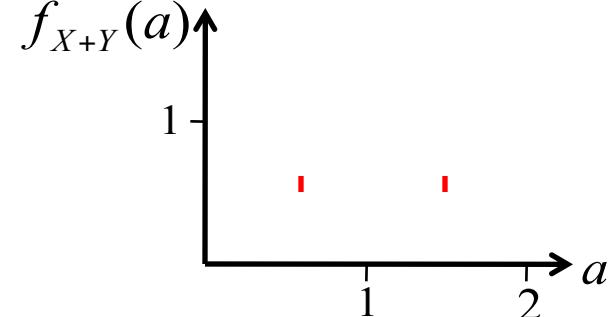
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  - What is PDF of  $X + Y$ ?

$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) dy$$

When  $a = 1.5$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X+Y}(1.5) &= \int_{y=?}^{y=?} f_X(1.5 - y) dy \\ &= \int_{0.5}^1 f_X(1.5 - y) dy \\ &= \int_{0.5}^1 1 dy \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$



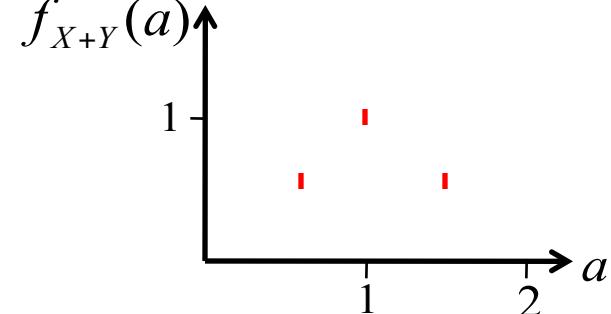
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  - What is PDF of  $X + Y$ ?

$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a - y) dy$$

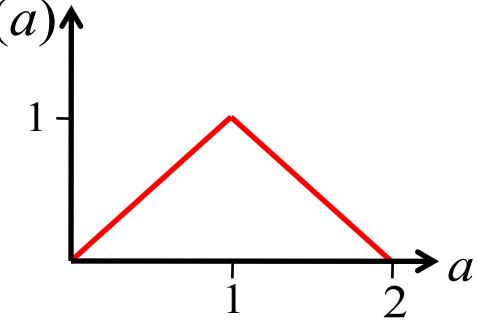
When  $a = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X+Y}(1) &= \int_{y=?}^{y=?} f_X(1 - y) dy \\ &= \int_0^1 f_X(1 - y) dy \\ &= \int_0^1 1 dy \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$



# Sum of Independent Uniforms

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables
  - $X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Uni}(0, 1) \rightarrow f(x) = 1$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$
  - What is PDF of  $X + Y$ ?
$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a-y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_{y=0}^1 f_X(a-y) dy$$
  - When  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq y \leq a$ ,  $0 \leq a-y \leq 1 \rightarrow f_X(a-y) = 1$ 
$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=0}^a dy = a$$
  - When  $1 \leq a \leq 2$  and  $a-1 \leq y \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq a-y \leq 1 \rightarrow f_X(a-y) = 1$ 
$$f_{X+Y}(a) = \int_{y=a-1}^1 dy = 2 - a$$
  - Combining:  $f_{X+Y}(a) = \begin{cases} a & 0 \leq a \leq 1 \\ 2 - a & 1 < a \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



# Sum of Independent Normals

- Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables
  - $X \sim N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $Y \sim N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$
  - $X + Y \sim N(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$
- Generally, have  $n$  independent random variables  $X_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ :

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right) \sim N\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 \right)$$

# Virus Infections

- Say you are working with the WHO to plan a response to a the initial conditions of a virus:
  - Two exposed groups
  - P1: 50 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.1$
  - P2: 100 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.4$
  - Question: Probability of more than 40 infections?

**Sanity check:** Should we use the Binomial Sum-of-RVs shortcut?

- A. YES!
- B. NO!
- C. Other/none/more

# Virus Infections

- Say you are working with the WHO to plan a response to a the initial conditions of a virus:
  - Two exposed groups
  - P1: 50 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.1$
  - P2: 100 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.4$
  - $A = \# \text{ infected in P1}$       $A \sim \text{Bin}(50, 0.1) \approx X \sim N(5, 4.5)$
  - $B = \# \text{ infected in P2}$       $B \sim \text{Bin}(100, 0.4) \approx Y \sim N(40, 24)$
  - What is  $P(\geq 40 \text{ people infected})?$
  - $P(A + B \geq 40) \approx P(X + Y \geq 39.5)$
  - $X + Y = W \sim N(5 + 40 = 45, 4.5 + 24 = 28.5)$

$$P(W \geq 39.5) = P\left(\frac{W - 45}{\sqrt{28.5}} > \frac{39.5 - 45}{\sqrt{28.5}}\right) = 1 - \Phi(-1.03) \approx 0.8485$$

End sum of independent vars

# Web Server Requests Redux

- Requests received at web server in a day
  - $X = \# \text{ requests from humans/day}$      $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1)$
  - $Y = \# \text{ requests from bots/day}$                  $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_2)$
  - $X$  and  $Y$  are independent  $\rightarrow X + Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
  - What is  $P(X = k | X + Y = n)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = k | X + Y = n) &= \frac{P(X = k, Y = n - k)}{P(X + Y = n)} = \frac{P(X = k)P(Y = n - k)}{P(X + Y = n)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda_1} \lambda_1^k}{k!} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda_2} \lambda_2^{n-k}}{(n - k)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)} (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n} = \frac{n!}{k!(n - k)!} \cdot \frac{\lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}}{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n} \\ &= \binom{n}{k} \left( \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^k \left( \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^{n-k} \end{aligned}$$

$$(X | X + Y = n) \sim \text{Bin} \left( n, \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)$$

# Course Mean

$E[CS109]$

*This is actual midpoint of course  
(Just wanted you to know)*